



OPEN MIC

WØALX- RUNESTONE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA
WWW.WØALX.ORG

-----NEWSLETTER-----

APRIL 2013

THE NEXT MEETING of the Runestone Amateur Radio Club will be on April 16 at the Glenwood State Bank in Alexandria beginning at 7:00pm. CU there and bring a guest if you like. Roger KD0UTA will be providing goodies!

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE RUNESTONE ARC

MARCH 19, 2013 7:00PM CDT

AT GLENWOOD STATE BANK, ALEXANDRIA, MN

Attendees: Bill Klundt (KG0DX), Jim Horn (KB0INZ), Wayne Johanson (WA0EBZ), Jim Molkenthin (NN0Q), George Schouweiler (N0RCL), Norm Yeutter (W0KCJ), Vlad Michtchenko (N0STL), Pete Jennings (KD0UVA), Jason Ebacher (KD0UDS), Rick Lukanen (KC0UTN), Norm Priebe (N7ISD), Roger Haffner (KD0UTA), Maggie Van Havermaet (N0NYV), Tom Kilian (KD0MOM)

Minutes of Meeting (on the air) of Feb. 19, 2013 were accepted as printed in Open Mic email:
Moved NN0Q/ Seconded KD0MOM

Treasurer's Report: W0KCJ (Norm) \$3425.05 + \$489.00 - \$472.00 = \$3441.05

Note: Shouldn't this be \$3442.05?

Approved: Moved N7ISD/ Seconded KC0UTN

Yearly dues are due. Pay Norm (W0KCJ)

Technical Report: None

Repeater Council will meet April 20, 2013

Dick (N0CE) talked about Digital Voice, which may be the "wave of the future".

Education Report: Rick (KC0UTN) has a PowerPoint presentation on LF and MF propagation and DX-ing. Rick needs ideas for educational programs.

Public Info. Officer Report:

5-20 minutes of amateur radio news could be obtained from the Amateur Radio News website and either read live over the repeater, or as a recorded audio message which could be played back through the repeater.

Jim (NN0Q) recommends "Ham Nation". It can be found by Googling.

Jim sent notices of VE testing to several area newspapers. The Morrison County Record printed it. The Ham Jam event had a walk-in who had heard about it from a ham in Brainerd. The Brainerd ham may have read about it in the M.C.Record.

"News Line" is available as MP3 files.

Douglas County Ham Station Update:

The radio room has a desk, a computer, and a large monitor for WX NET and the Douglas County Map System. There is a phone connection to D.C. Dispatch using a 4-digit code. There are many AC outlets. The grounding system is good

Antennas: 800MHz, HF Vertical (3.5-57MHz), and two 2m/440 Verticals. These have polyphasers (lightning protectors). The coax cables were not connected at the antennas as of when Wayne and Bill visited. Each antenna has a coax and there is an extra one for future use.

There is 50Amp power supply.

Radios: There are two FT-897s, one for the station and one for mobile use. They have the battery packs. There are also two 2m/440 transceivers.

Much of the money to pay for this station has been provided by FEMA, which has mandated the inclusion of Amateur Radio in the Douglas County emergency management plan.

Douglas County needs an EC (emergency coordinator). KC0TAF (Mike Wisnewski) may be recruiting for this position(?). A trained person is required for an amateur radio team to serve in an emergency.

SKYWARN will be done in the radio room, using the Club Repeater (146.790)

W0ALX Website: Casey wants more pictures. To add picture, the person wishing to do so must create an account.

CRAM JAM Study and Testing: Two persons came. After training and practice tests, both persons passed.

New Business:

W0ALX QSL cards were given to N0RCL.

George (N0RCL) is the administrator of the W0ALX page in www.qrz.com

Field Day June 22-23, 2013: A coordinator is needed.

Bill (KG0DX) suggested running the EOC station as Class "1F"

Nobody volunteered to be the coordinator.

Club Logo: The choice of the club logo going forward needs to be resolved before we do another set of club shirts and jackets.

Contests: Bill wants a committee to study W0ALX relative to contests.

Board Meeting: This will be announced in the near future.

Use of W0ALX for the EOC station: This was approved by trustee Norm Yeutter (W0KJC) at this meeting.

Doing meetings on the repeater: It went well, but the social interchange was missed.

Ham Notes: NN0Q noted that that a video "Last Man Standing" featured an unlicensed person using amateur radio frequencies. Tom (KD0MOM) invited those going to Brainerd Hamfest April

20th to have breakfast at his QTH at about 7AM. WSPR beacons were discussed.

Meeting Adjourned: Secretary does not remember who motioned and seconded, but there were no "No" votes.

PRESIDENTIAL SPLATTER.....

How many times have you heard another ham say the number 73 at the end of a communication, or perhaps you've uttered those well known numbers yourself. Hundreds I'll wager, may thousands. Well, Dr. Sheldon Cooper on the TV comedy "The Big Bang Theory" explains that the number 73 is the best number of all. According to Dr. Cooper, "The best number is 73. Why? 73 is the 21st prime number. It's mirror (37) is the 12th and its mirror (21) is the product of multiplying 7 and 3...In binary, 73 is a palindrome, 1001001 which backwards is 1001001." (Source: Popular Communications, March 2013, p. 5) Just thought you'd like to know.....mmmmm1

Read a news item recently on Yahoo news stating that Google was contemplating making high speed internet available over the entire United States, and free too. How would they do that? Satellites? Another series of towers across the county? I wonder.....mmmmm2

Here's a challenge for you. Don't know if you're the type to poo-poo collecting wallpaper but here goes. Every year there are literally hundreds of Special Events commemorating something "special" and sponsored by radio clubs for the most part. The challenge is to collect a Special Event certificate or QSL card from all 50 states. Think you can do it? With a little time and effort and some thoughtful planning I'm sure you could. So who'll be the first RARC member to achieve this benchmark?

RUNESTONE CALENDAR NOTES:

April 15,22,29: Monday Night Net, 7pm, 146.790, NN0Q NC
April 19: 7pm, Monthly Club Meeting, Glenwood State Bank
April 20: Brainerd Hamfest

May 6,13,20,27: Monday Night Net, 7pm, 146.790, KB0INZ NC
May 17,18,19: Dayton Hamvention
May 21: 7pm, Monthly Club Meeting, Glenwood State Bank

2013 NET CONTROL AND MEETING GOODIES:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>	<u>GOODIES</u>
January	KC0UTN	KG0DX
February	W0K CJ	W0K CJ
March	N0CE	W0JAR
April	NN0Q	KD0UTA
May	KB0INZ	KB0INZ
June	KD0MOM	KC0UTN
July	N0RCL	W7ISD
August	KG0DX	Picnic
September		KD0UDS
October	N0RCL	N0RCL
November	KG0DX	WA0EBZ
December	KC0UTN	Christmas Party

(W7ISD available for Net Control for one-time emergency substitute)

2013 RUNESTONE ARC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

KG0DX Bill	President
W7ISD Norm	Vice-President
W0KCJ Norm	Treasure / Trustee
KB0INZ Jim	Secretary
KB0KUG Wayne	Technical Director
KC0UTN Ric	Education Director
W0JAR John	Director (2014)
W7ISD Norm	Director (2015)
N0QXM Nick	Director (2016)

FROM THE SHACK OF N0RCL:

Around my house, it is a known fact that I don't know how to cook.

It was highlighted last Valentines Day. I offered to get Mary breakfast in bed.

Now she agreed to a simple coffee and toast fare.

I managed to get the coffee to her because it was instant even if it was pretty strong.

Now , I must have spent 10-15 minutes looking through Mary's files, but I finally went back to her. I just had to ask where she kept the recipe for TOAST.

73's de NORCL George in the shack