



OPEN MIC



A NEWSLETTER OF THE
RUNESTONE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W0ALX

W0ALX RARC, 2301 S Le Homme Dieu Drive NE, Alexandria, MN 56308
www.w0alx.org Alexandria Rpt: 146.790- 442.025+ (88.5) Sauk Centre Rpt: 147.255+

FEBRUARY 2015

RUNESTONE AMATUER RADIO CLUB ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At its regular monthly meeting the RARC elected the following offers for the 2015 calendar year:

President: Wayne Johanson WA0EBZ
Vice President: Norm Priebe W7ISD
Treasure: Norm Yeutter W0KCJ
Secretary: Jim Horn KB0INZ
Trustee: Norm Yeutter W0KCJ

PRESIDENTIAL SPLATTER.....

2015 is now a reality, a change in club officers has taken place. This is my first chance to ramble on in the Open Mic as your new president. We are now meeting on the third Saturday of the month in hopes that the change to a new meeting day will help facilitate club members that were not able to participate on weekday evenings. An informal breakfast get together at the Alexandria Depot restaurant @ 8:30AM will precede the meeting at 10:00AM at the Glenwood State Bank. We are required to end the meeting by 12:00 Noon so the bank can secure the building.

The last couple of years, we have had a few technical and general interest programs, but not enough to stimulate membership attendance at meetings. I would propose to have a program at every meeting. This will require your help. We need a program chair-person and membership volunteers for presenting a program of their choice. If meeting attendance increases, I will request Greg Widin (K0GW) ARRL Dakota Division Director and Skip Jackson (KS0J) Minnesota Section Manager to come up to Alexandria to talk to us about The ARRL.

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This is your club. What do you want from it? We need to contact previous members and invite them back. We need to solicit new members. We need better current member participation (all of the above) to survive. We need your help, without it the club will fail. We need your ideas for what you want to happen at club meetings. I doubt that anyone just comes to a meeting for the business portion. HELP – HELP – HELP! Sorry about the preaching but this is a reality. In all of our busy schedules, can't you find 2 hours once a month to come to a meeting to support your club?

Wayne WA0EBZ

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb 14: St. Cloud Hamfest
Feb 21: 8am Breakfast, The Depot, Alexandria
Feb 21: 10am RARC Monthly Club Mtg
Glenwood State Bank

Mar 7: 8:30am Breakfast Truckers Inn, Sauk Centre
Mar 21: 8am Breakfast, The Depot, Alexandria
Mar 21: 10am RARC Monthly Club Mtg,
Glenwood State Bank

**INFORMATIVE AND INTERESTING PROGRAM
COMING FEBRUARY 21.....YOU GOTTA BE THERE.....**

WAYNE WA0EBZ has promised us another informative program for the February club meeting. He'll present on the following topics which will be of interest to all:

1. "The Acrimony of Acronyms"
2. Installing K0CN's 84' tower
3. How to CAD weld ground rods

Come and hear about the latest and greatest.....

**Minutes of Meeting of the Runestone
Amateur Radio Club
January 17, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Bill Klundt at 10:03AM January 17, 2015 at the Glenwood State Bank in Alexandria, Minnesota

Attendees: Bill Klundt (KG0DX); George Schouweiler (N0RCL); Roger Haffner (KD0UTA); Jim Horn (KB0INZ); Wayne Johanson (WA0EBZ); Norm Yeutter (W0KCJ); Mike Thomas (W0MKE); Norm Priebe (N7ISD); Wayne Johnson (WB0KUG)

There being 9 members present, and the membership being 22, and ¼ or more of the membership must be present for a quorum for elections, a quorum was declared to be present.

Minutes of November meeting were corrected by adding Norm Yeutter as nominee for the office of treasurer. The minutes were then approved. W0KCJ/W0MKE

Treasurer's Report: \$3205.20+\$158.00-\$120.00 = \$3243.20 Coffee Cash is now \$55.86 Report Approved WA0EBZ/KD0UTA

Trustee Report: Equipment insurance premiums are due February 28, 2015

Tech report: The 2m repeater is working well. The Superlink needs to be turned on at Alexandria by someone transmitting to the repeater; it cannot be brought up from the other nodes.

The Peter Jennings Estate has offered the Club an ice fishing shelter which has a value of about \$350. Bill Klundt accepted it for the Club. There was a discussion of how to use it, sell it, raffle it to raise funds, etc.

The "water shed" site was the subject of a discussion between Bill and Officer Egan. Bill and Wayne (EBZ) will do an antenna test there. Mr. Egan wants to get a ham radio license.

VE sessions needed. Advertise in "Echo Press". Several candidates have been identified. Class would be included. Date?--March or later.

Net Controls: Feb W0KCJ, Mar N0RCL, Apr KD0UTA, May KB0INZ, Jun KG0DX, Sep KG0DX, Oct W0MKE, Nov W0KCJ

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Kudos to W0MKE Mike Thomas for his work as the new Webmaster of www.w0alx.org

Elections: Pres. Wayne Johanson, V.P. Norm Priebe, Sec. Jim Horn, Treas. Norm Yeutter were elected on a unanimous ballot. N7ISD/W0MKE

Motion by WA0EBZ/N7ISD: Wayne Johanson will organize a review of the club's constitution, with the Board of Directors to deal with this issue.

Discussion of MN QSO PARTY: Use "Runestone ARC" to credit club for points. Use proper logging software. Frequency of 3855kHz will be used for doing multiple counties as a group.

Meeting was adjourned: W0KCJ/N7ISD

2015 NET CONTROL ROSTER

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
JANUARY	N0CE
FEBRUARY	W0KCJ
MARCH	N0RCL
APRIL	KD0UTA
MAY	KB0INZ
JUNE	KG0DX
JULY	KD0MOM
AUGUST	open open
SEPTEMBER	KG0DX
OCTOBER	W0MKE
NOVEMBER	W0KCJ
DECEMBER	KD0AAA (1 st & 3 rd Mon)

Still looking for help during AUGUST

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REMEMBER, YOUR DUES WERE DUE.....

last month, January. Look at www.w0alx.org click on Members and note if your name indicates Paid 2015 (far right column). If it's open, you haven't taken care of it yet. Dues are \$25 for individual, \$35 for family, \$20 for associate and \$5 for student.

Please send remittances to Norm Yeutter at 2301 S Le Homme Dieu Drive NE, Alexandria, MN 56308. Your club needs your financial support to maintain its activities, and your participation support to sustain its viability. Thank you on both accounts. Better yet, come to the meeting on February 21 and give Norm your dues payment. We appreciate your commitment to the RARC.

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2015 RARC OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT WAYNE WA0EBZ
VICE PRESIDENT NORM W7ISD
TREASURE NORM W0KCJ
SECRETARY JIM KB0INZ

DIRECTOR(2015) NORM W7ISD
DIRECTOR(2016) BILL KG0DX
DIRECTOR(2017) JOHN W0JAR

WA7X of Utah devised this "made in the field" bottle balun for a recent Field Day. They were without a commercial or home-brew balun, so improvisation was the order of the day. Pretty ingenious I'd say. How'd it work? Don't have the foggiest, but it probably reduced the swr sufficiently to make a happy transceiver. Could you call this a water cooled balun? Wonder how it would work filled with water, orange soda or perhaps an adult beverage of some kind?