



OPEN MIC

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
RUNESTONE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, W0ALX

FEBRUARY 2016

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+

[PRESIDENTIAL SPLATTER...](#)

Valentine's Day News

Alexandria, Mn. — Mr. Harold “Butch” Nelson of Douglas County is nursing a gunshot wound to the upper thigh, after presenting his wife with an outstanding Valentine’s Day present: an Alpha 9500 amplifier!

“She’d been hinting around that she wanted something really special this year,” says the 63-year-old civil engineer. “So I thought about it for a while... and chose the amp. It’s a great piece of equipment!”

Nelson, a ham radio operator since 1988, purchased the amplifier from a Twin City dealer and had it delivered to the St. Cloud Hamfest taking place one day before the traditional “love-bird” holiday.

“I didn’t even have a chance to gift wrap it before she ripped into the packaging. We’ve been married for 32 years,” says Nelson. “And I’ve got to be honest. I’m about out of creative gift-giving ideas.”

According to a spokesman for the local ham radio club, Mary Jane Nelson (the ham’s wife) was so excited upon un-boxing the amp that she retrieved her husband’s shotgun to fire celebratory gunshots into the air.

Apparently one of the blasts caught Butch in the upper thigh.

“I’ll be alright eventually,” he says philosophically. “But I won’t be climbing my tower anytime soon, that’s for sure.”

A year ago, Mr. Nelson presented his wife with an RG -58 coax bouquet, complete with silver and gold Teflon connectors, which he says “shimmered like my wife’s eyes.”

Local hams may recall the freak accident last year, when the coax bouquet twisted around Nelson’s left forearm broke his fall from a 2nd story balcony.

Happy Valentines Day – 73; wa0ebz

[RUNESTONE ARC MEETING MINUTES](#)

January 16, 2016 10:00AM Glenwood State Bank, Alexandria, MN

Persons Present: Jim Horn(KB0INZ); Mike Thomas(W0MKE); Roger Haffner(KD0UTA); George Schouweiler(N0RCL); Wayne Johanson(WA0EBZ); Andrew Ring(KC0SAL); Dave Bartlow(W0XPC); Bill Klundt(KG0DX); Norm Priebe(N7ISD); Jake Saverynski(KC9CRM); Alden Mattocks(N0MIC); John

Ross(W0JAR); Wayne Johnson(WB0KUG); Tom Kilian(KD0MOM)

Meeting called to order at 10:00AM by Wayne Johanson

President Johanson read a memorial of Norm Yeutter (W0KCJ) and we had a moment of silence in his memory. A motion was made (N0RCL/KD0MOM) to purchase cut flowers for Norm Yeutter funeral; George Schouweiler to purchase the flowers. Passed.

Minutes of Nov. 21, 2015 meeting were read and approved (W7ISD/KD0UTA)

Treasury report by President Wayne Johanson: \$3362.03 - \$35.63 = \$3326.40 Approved.

Repeater behavior has been OK except for a short term blackout at Tom Killian's station during a net. No cause was determined.

Officers were elected by paper ballots and mailed absentee ballots:

Results: Directors -Norm Priebe (3yr term) and Mike Thomas (2yr term) [terms decided by coin toss]

Technical Director – Wayne Johnson

Trustee – Jim Horn

President – Wayne Johanson

Vice President – Norm Priebe

Secretary – Bill Klundt

Treasurer – John Ross

Education Director – (No Candidate)

Public Information Officer – Andrew Ring

Program Chair Proposal for each member to do a program for a meeting – Passed

Discussion: The Christmas Party in December went well.

Motion: Possible special event to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the Club by putting us on the air. February meeting will deal with details and coordination rules. (KC0SAL/KD0UTA) Passed

M.S. Tram (bicycle) Tour needs ham radio support July 24-24, 2016. This includes use of our repeaters.

W0ALX.org web hosting expenses need to be reduced by finding another web hosting service.

The Directors decided to end our participation in the "Superlink". Wayne Johanson will inform those who are responsible for the Superlink of this decision and determine what to do with the equipment.

Norm Priebe will talk to Dick Fjeld about the Alex 2m repeater controller, cables, and software to help us determine whether to install the old controller or find out how to program the present controller.

Sign-up sheets were passed for volunteers for meeting programs and net controls for the months in 2016.

Discussion of upcoming radio events and on air experiences.

Adjourned (W0MKE/KD0MOM)

Minutes by Jim Horn – KB0INZ

DID YOU KNOW that Winston Churchill loved paraprosdokians, figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is ... surprising or unexpected. Read on.....

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but now it's getting harder and harder for me to find one.

2016 MONDAY NITE NET CONTROLS (we sure could use some Net Control assistance, don't be bashful, let Bill KG0DX know that you can help out)

January	Tom KD0MOM
February	Jim KB0INZ
March	Bill KG0DX
April	Mike W0MKE
May	Roger KD0UTA
June	
July	
August	
September	Jim NN0Q
October	George N0RCL
November	
December	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 15,22,29: 7pm W0ALX 2 Meter Net, NC KB0INZ

Feb 20: 8am Breakfast, Brass Lantern, Alexandria

Feb 20: 10am Runestone Monthly Club Mtg, Glenwood State Bank, Alexandria

Mar 5: 8am Breakfast Truckers Inn, Sauk Centre

Mar 7,14,21,28: 7pm W0ALX 2 Meter Net, NC KG0DX

Mar 19: 8am Breakfast, Brass Lantern, Alexandria

Mar 19: 10am Runestone Monthly Club Mtg, Glenwood State Bank, Alexandria

2016 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Wayne WA0EBZ PRESIDENT

Norm W7ISD VICE-PRESIDENT

John W0JAR TREASURE
Bill KG0DX SECRETARY
Wayne WB0KUG TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
John W0JAR DIRECTOR (2017)
Mike W0MKE DIRECTOR (2018)
Norm W7ISD DIRECTOR (2019)
Andy KC0SAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

DO NOT MISS THE RUNESTONE CLUB PROGRAM ON FEBRUARY 20.....

Bill KG0DX promises something of interest to those who come to the meeting....come and see.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AT THE NEXT CLUB MEETING. If you cannot be there please remit dues to John Ross W0JAR, 11577 Maple Springs Drive SE, Alexandria, MN 56308. Make checks out to Runestone Radio Club. Individual \$25, Family \$35, Associate \$20, Student \$5. Thank you for supporting your local amateur radio club.

WE NEED TO SEE YOU at the next monthly breakfast and club meeting: February 20, breakfast at 8am at the Brass Lantern followed by the 10am club meeting at the Glenwood State Bank.

SOME PICS FROM THE ST CLOUD HAMFEST:

Wayne WA0EBZ, Wayne WB0KUG and Keith NA0T appear to be having a good time.



Thief River Falls hams were there doing what vendors do.....



Lots of stuff to browse through.....books, boxes, look at that tuner, and more stuff.....



