

ManCoRad Club Meeting Minutes April 9th, 2008

The April 9th, 2008 meeting was called to order at 1932 (7:32pm) by the club President Carl KA9WYK. Introductions were made by those in attendance at the club shack.

Reports

The first order of business was to make the appropriate correction to the March meeting minutes regarding the USS Cobia Museum Ships Afloat event. So noted, the correct dates for the event should read June 7th and June 8th with June 6th as the set up date. The correct dates will also be reflected on the club calendar. Jerry KC9JNL made a motion to accept the March minutes with the corrections; Dawn KC9JNK second the motion. The motion carried. Feel free to contact Chris KB9VLS if you have questions.

Dan N9NCU gave the Treasurer's report noting amounts in the savings, checking, and petty cash. Theresa KB9KXE made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report; Roger W9NPX seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dan N9NCU than gave the **ARES/RACES** report.

- The first quarter meeting was held March 20th at Lakeshore Technical College, more specifically at W9LTC location. Many thanks are extended to John NZ9Z and to Fred W6BSF for the many hours spent working on the setup. Great job guys!
- Two weeks ago there was the National Weather Sky Warn Training held at the Manitowoc County Office Complex at 4319 Expo Drive in Manitowoc. This training has a history of good attendance and of providing information of what to watch for when severe weather approaches. Along that same theme was the reminder that Thursday, April 24th at 1300 (1:00pm) was the Wisconsin Statewide Tornado drill.
- In keeping with the ARES/RACES mission of providing communication services during an emergency, Dan N9NCU passed around the "General Preventative Maintenance Schedule." This maintenance schedule is used to ensure that the various pieces of equipment (antennas etc.) needed to carry out this mission is functional at all times. These tasks can include visual and/or functional checks and can be performed by most members. If you are interested in helping please contact Dan N9NCU or any ARES/RACES member for more details.

Old Business

The **rotor cable** project is a work in progress.

- This will make for a quick connect; John NZ9Z believes next month it should be set to go.

The club would like to have a list of items prior to the **July auction**

- We can post the items on the club website in advance of the auction for those that would like a sneak peek. If you have items that you would like included in the upcoming auction, let Carl KA9WYK or Marty KC9JGE know as soon as possible. Inventory of club items will take place May 26th along with the Field Day Shake down. There was a hint of a possible fry afterwards. More details will be announced at the May meeting.

Marty KC9JGE gave a **website** update.

- There is a new member site to post information. This operates like a YAHOO group account. If you are interested in creating a new account, Marty KC9JGE can usually have it working within 24 hours. Feel free to contact him with any questions or suggestions. Input is welcomed. Future additions to the site are a Sky Warn module and live radar to help weather spotters. (<http://members.w9dk.com>)

Speaking of **weather**...

- Travis KB9YRC will be conducting a Tri-County Sky Warn presentation May 14th at the Lakeshore Technical College. In the past, this has been a standing room only event. Travis KB9YRC would like to extend this training to interested members. If anyone would like to learn more about severe weather and the technology used to track rain, hail, and tornadoes and severe weather in general, contact Travis KB9YRC with what date(s) work best for you and what area you are interested in – weather spotting, Doppler classes, radar software, etc.

We have a new **Associate member**.

- Ken K9HAG had the motion to accept and it was seconded by Dawn KC9JNL. The club voted to accept Candy Stauffer's membership. Candy has been interested in becoming a member for some time now and is hoping to peak the interest of other family members. A very warm welcome indeed Candy.

We will also be seeing Candy on May 3rd at the **Emergency Preparedness Fair**

- To be held at the Latter Day Saints church on North Rapids Road. This is an indoor event from 10:00am – 3:00pm (1000 – 1500) with set up around 9:00am. We will have flyers and equipment set up with an antenna on a tri-pod. The Red Cross will also be set up at this event. If possible, we would like demonstrate emergency communications between the Red Cross and ARES/RACES at this event. Come prepared to show your stuff. Just look for us under the banner if you can't make it for set. Contact Carl KA9WYK if you would like more information.

The **USS Cobia Museum Ships Afloat** event is scheduled for

- June 7th and June 8th. Set up will be on June 6th. We'll be using a 2 meter repeater for this event. A sign up sheet was sent around so those members interested in helping with is event could select which day and time works best for them. This is a great chance to introduce HAM radio to some of the young folks in our community. Contact Chris KB9VLS for more information.

Field Day is scheduled for June 28th and June 29th.

- The paper work to the County Parks and Recreation Department has been sent requesting the use of Toboggan Hill at Silver Creek Park for this event. As in years past, this looks to be an exciting event with serious undertones i.e. providing critical information during an emergency/disaster. This is a nation wide test of emergency communications. This is great opportunity for members, new and old, to really improve their operating skills and try new forms of emergency communication that they may not have considered.
- To prepare for this event, there will be a shake down May 26th from 9:00am – 10:00am. Let's hope the weather is nice. Carl KA9WYK and Rich KC9LOA are planning a site survey at this time. And there is also the possibility of a fry out. Hint...Hint.

The club has (3) **Brat Fry's** scheduled as fundraisers this year.

- The first of these will be Sunday May 11th at Copps in Manitowoc. This is Mother's Day, so bring your wife and/or mothers out for some great tasting food and help support a great cause. She will appreciate not having to cook for a day and so will you.
- The second fry out will be Saturday May 17th at Pick N Save in Two Rivers. The grills should still be hot for this one. Master grillers (cough, cough) and service with a smile! Plus great food!
- The third Brat Fry will be Saturday August 30th again at Pick N Save. If you would like to help with these fundraisers, if you have a food certificate, or if you are interested in becoming certified in food safety, contact Marty KC9JGE or Carl KA9WYK for details. Training for a food safety certificate is free so give it some thought.

New Business

The club has a new table for our Vintage Station. A Big Thank You to Theresa KB9KXE and Gene KB9KXF for their generous contribution.

There was a good discussion about Echo link for the USS Cobia event. Consideration was given to purchasing and loading IRLP software to tie into the controller as an alternative. The price is around \$150-\$180.

May 3rd there is a Swap Fest at Cedarburg. It runs for 0845-1300 (8:45am-1:00pm) with a 0600 (6:00am) set up time. Tables are only \$10.00 if you are interested in being a vendor.

Vern KB9EME brought in several HAM operator type magazines (ICOM...) and has offered them to anyone who might be interested; these are free for the taking.

John NZ9Z spoke about the 440 repeater originally purchased for Sri Lanke. Unfortunately, with civil conflict in the region, the Department of Defense would prefer that no radio equipment enter the country at this time lest it should fall into the wrong hands. North East Wisconsin DX Association will be reimbursed for their contribution towards the purchase of the repeater as will members who also made contributions. Travis KB9YRC made a motion to pay North East Wisconsin DX Association \$300.00 with the understanding that ManCoRad would purchase the repeater. ARES/RACES will contribute to the purchase. Amounts will be determined at the

AEC-EC meeting. This will be a nice compliment to the other dual banders in the area, Sheboygan and Green Bay. Jerry seconded the motion. The motion carried.

We have our Christmas Party reservations set for Gill's in Whitelaw. More details as time gets closer.

Bob KC9HBA was the lucky winner of the 50/50 raffle and he kindly gave his winnings of \$13.00 to the club treasury. Thank you Bob. A motion was made to adjourn by Gene KB9DQD and was seconded by Jerry KC9JNL.

After the meeting, Carl KA9WYK gave a PowerPoint presentation on antenna safety and inspection. Members shared their personal experiences of close calls and "things not to do."

A wonderful lunch was available after the meeting. A warm thank you goes out to Theresa KB9KXE and Gene KB9KXF for providing should succulent goodies. It is a nice touch to accompany the all the socializing afterward.

Meeting Attendees:

John – NZ9Z Roxanne – KC9KQU Denise – N4WGK
Vern – KB9EME Theresa – KB9KXE Gene – KB9KXF
Marty – KC9JGE Dan – N9NCU Carl – KA9WYK
Mary – KB9GOY Ken – K9HAG Gene – WB9DQD
Dick – KB9KEM Dawn – KC9JNK Jerry – KC9JNL
Travis – KB9YRC Bob – KC9HBA John – N9GJV
Hub – W9OUT Roger – W9NPX Fred – W6BSF
Fran – AA9LV Rich – KC9LOA Candy – New Member

Ustream attendees: (3)

Ken K9HAG shared how he was able to attend meetings while he was snow-birding in Hawaii!! Consider checking in while you're out and about this summer. This could be really fun.

April 5th, 2008 Board Meeting attendees:

Marty – KC9JGE Chris – KB9VLS
Carl – KA9WYK Tim – N7TAL
Roxanne – KC9KQU

Respectfully submitted by:

Roxanne KC9KQU – Secretary

