

The Repeater



The Official Publication of the Twin Cities Repeater Club, Inc.

Mission Statement of the Twin Cities Repeater Club, as Adopted on September 20, 1993

The purpose of the TCRC is to facilitate the local communication needs of its members by owning and operating a state of the art wide area coverage two meter repeater system. The club will further involve itself in secondary activities intended to (1) promote the exchange of ideas and information related to amateur radio, (2) strengthen the fellowship and camaraderie among the members, (3) serve the local amateur radio community, and (4) increase local public safety.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello again to the TCRC group. We have had a very good year here at the TCRC. Some equipment was up and down as usual. We had our ups and downs; fun times and not so fun times.

We had a great field day. Good participation and we moved the stations to better utilize the CW station. The CW station utilized the communications truck lent us by Dale Morgan. The phone station used my camper, and the Get On The Air station was in the food tent. Several antennas were built and tried and some people brought their own rigs to try on the antennas. A good time was had by all with no thunderstorms, or other bad weather. We had some good times, alright. Next year we will be at a different location, however.

Later we had a mini-Field day at the new field day site at Casperson Park in Lakeville. This was a club picnic with heavy overtones of Field Day. We had a shelter set up and some makeshift antennas. The grill was on, food was eaten, and some DX was even worked. We met several new friends and some old friends joined up too. We had a mini tail gate hamfest too. It was a lot of work to set up and tear down. We discovered that a canopy that has a peaked roof will act like a wing in just the right wind conditions! A gust made it lift right up and then let it down again, slightly bent but not too bad.

Our tech committee is finding it more difficult to balance ham radio with work and family issues, and since this is a HOBBY first, it makes sense to train a new committee and get them up and running. With a heartfelt THANK YOU to the previous committee, I am looking for bigger and better things ahead. Thanks to the new folks who have stepped up to learn and maintain the repeater systems. We made a pilgrimage to the site and did a lot of fall cleanup and site maintenance. We are still looking for more

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***Please Join Us
For the TCRC
Annual Membership
Meeting and
Election of Officers
For 2012***

***Tuesday, November
29, 2011 at 7:15PM
In the basement
Meeting room at
Burnsville City Hall***

The Repeater is published quarterly by the Twin Cities Repeater Club, Inc. (the TCRC). The TCRC is organized as a nonprofit corporation in the State of Minnesota, with Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The club elects officers annually. These officers are simultaneously elected for a two-year term on the Board of Directors. The Repeater Trustee is a permanent member of the Board of Directors. Unlike the other Officers and Board Members, the Trustee may select a proxy to serve in his place at meetings of the Board. Membership in the TCRC is \$25 per year. The TCRC is an official ARRL affiliated society.

TCRC Officers:

President: Artie Johnson, WBØJMG
Vice President: Dave Ventura, KEØNA
Secretary: Tanna Morse, KCØURO
Treasurer: Craig Larsen, KCØDMF

Board Members:

All of the above Officers, plus...
Chris Buck, WØHO, **Club Trustee**
Past VicePresident: Phil Lefever, KBØNES
Appointed: Ken Lewis, K3FMK
Appointed: Jeff Goodnuff, WØKF
Appointed: Rod Freeborg, KC9HT

Technical Committee (a/k/a Tech Team):

Kevin Uhlir, NØBEL, **Chair**
Phil Lefever, KBØNES, **Vice Chair**
Doug LaBore, NØBIS
Rich Kenney, WØRFK
John Toscano, WØJT
Jeff Goodnuff, WØKF
Art Johnson, WBØJMG

Field Day Committee:

Tanna Morse, KCØURO, **Chair**
Open, **Vice-Chair**
Kevin Uhlir, NØBEL, **Site Setup Manager**
Open, **FØOD Station Manager**

Information Services Committee:

Kevin Uhlir, NØBEL, **Chair and Head Webmaster**
Phil Lefever, KBØNES, **Assistant Webmaster**
John Toscano, WØJT, **Assistant Webmaster**
Jeff Goodnuff, WØKF, **Web Calendar Maintainer**

Membership Committee:

Craig Larsen, KCØDMF, **Chair**
Tanna Morse, KCØURO, **member**
Dave Ventura, KEØNA, **member**

Newsletter Committee:

John Toscano, WØJT, **Editor**

Net Control Operators:

Chair: Larry Jenkins, KØLEJ
1st Tuesday: Jeff Goodnuff, WØKF
2nd Tuesday: Mark Newman, KCØITP
3rd Tuesday: Artie Johnson, WBØJMG
4th Tuesday: Phil Lefever, KBØNES
5th Tuesday: John Toscano, WØJT

Metro Skywarn Liaison:

Jeff Goodnuff, WØKF

Minnesota Repeater Council Liaison:

Chris Buck, WØHO

Emergency Services Coordinator:

Janet Skovran, KBØZFB

TCRC Club Trustee:

Chris Buck, WØHO

President's Letter Cont'd

Tech committee members, so if you feel you would like to learn about repeater systems, with hands on experience, please let myself or other board members know of your interest.

Lastly, our Official Annual Meeting will be November 29th at the Burnsville City Hall Basement shortly after the abbreviated TCRC Info Net at 7:00 PM. We are making arrangements for a program after the meeting.

Since the sun spot cycle is rising and 10 meters is open to Europe, again, I will say 73, de WBØJMG, Arthur C. (Artie) Johnson, President of the TCRC.



Annual Picnic By Tanna Morse, KCØURO TCRC Secretary

On the first blustery day of what has turned out to be a long and pleasant fall season, several TCRC members and new acquaintances braved the cold and wind to attend the first annual TCRC picnic at Casperson Park in Lakeville, MN. Set-up was done much like a Field Day G.O.T.A. station, with a contact-ready station and a second "free" station for set-up of any radio that participants might bring to take for a spin. Our TCRC club president, Art Johnson, WBØJMG, set up his tall copper vertical antenna and a few club members and other guests set up tables of wares for sale or trade, ham-fest style.

The club provided bottled water, hamburgers and brats with all the fixings; everyone brought their specialty dishes to share. We enjoyed visiting with friends old and new, buying and trading, operating and, of course, noshing on good food. The day wrapped up with one of our young hams, Mike, KØHAX, securing a contact from Eastern Europe amidst cheers and congratulations.

Anticipate joining your fellow hams in the TCRC for the Second Annual TCRC Picnic in 2012, and stay up to date with future club happenings and contest information on our web site, our Facebook page and during the TCRC Tuesday night net each week at 7:00 p.m. on the main repeater station, 147.21.

DX CODE OF CONDUCT

By Craig Larsen, KCØDMF
TCRC Treasurer

Do you think operating standards have been declining? A lot of operators think so. And like most everything else, some think it's a lost cause that's just too hard to change.

As I've worked different contests and special event stations I've learned that more and more operators are abiding by something called the DX Code of Conduct. With it they hope to encourage good DX Etiquette with our fellow hams around the world.

The following is the Code for those attempting to contact another station calling CQ.

- I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.
- I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.
- I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
- I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.
- I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.
- I will always send my full call sign.
- I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.
- I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.
- I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.

- I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine.
- When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think they have copied it incorrectly.
- I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.
- I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.

The web site has a wealth of information. To learn more or to show your support, go to: <http://dx-code.org>. There is a ton of additional information on the internet for the ham radio operator. Here are some of the links I find useful.

- * www.dxsummit.fi - Radio Arcala site showing "dx spots" (operators from other countries worked or heard on the radio)
- * www.dxwatch.com - shows dx spots, calendar of "dpxpeditions"
- * www.arrl.org/contests - shows contest calendar
- * www.arrl.org/special-events-calendar - shows special events calendar
- * www.hornucopia.com - shows contest calendar
- * www.contesting.com - shows contest calendar
- * www.dxzone.com - a collection of web sites for ham radio, contesting, and dx resources.
- * aprs.mountainlake.k12.mn.us - interactive map of VHF propagation
- * www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html - announced dx operations

Let's raise the bar on good DX Etiquete!



Twin Cities Repeater Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 11534
St. Paul, MN 55111-0534

**Place
Stamp
Here**

Your Membership Dues Have Expired.
Please Renew your Membership Today!

Join the Twin Cities Repeater Club!

P.O. Box 11534, St. Paul, MN 55111-0534

<http://www.tcrc.org>

There are two ways to register:

- 1) Return this completed application form (to the mailing address indicated above) along with your \$25 check payable to: **Twin Cities Repeater Club**

OR

- 2) You can fill out this form electronically (at the web address indicated above) and pay online using PayPal.

(Please check one) This is New Application Renewal Change Date _____

Name _____ Callsign _____

Address _____ License Class _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Please note: For your privacy, an e-mail alias will be set up using ***yourcallsign@tcrc.org***. E-mails sent to this alias will be redirected to the e-mail address you indicated above.

May we list your address in club publications? Yes No

May we list your phone in club publications? Yes No

Are you available for Emergency Service? Yes No

Are you a member of the ARRL? Yes No

Are you a member of Metro Skywarn? Yes No; (if Yes) spotter ID: _____

Are you a member of ARES? Yes No

Would you like a club ID badge? Yes No (free to new members, otherwise \$5.00)