

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

CQ TCRC, CQ TCRC, DX and Greetings to the members of the Twin Cities Repeater Club.

A lot has happened in the past year. The Tech Committee has made some real progress in getting the improved 147.21 repeater project moving forward. We had a great field day with lots of participation. We put up some surplus antenna masts and tried out a off-center-fed dipole among other things. We had a great time at this new location. The VHF station was on a hill with a commanding view of the horizon in all directions. We were fortunate to be able to use Dale's emergency operations van. The CW station was running under generator power. The pavilion was great with flush you-know-what's and a sink and tables. No air conditioning though. You can't have everything. The SSB station used my camper and all band wire dipole. A birthday cake was made to help celebrate the turning of 60 years for both the president and vice president. A Get-On-the-Air station was set up near the food pavilion and a good BBQ was enjoyed by all. This was a more public location and some parents of soccer and baseball kids stopped by to ask what we were doing. Some people using the park for exercise and recreation stopped to ask about our activities. We have to do this again next year.

Our second annual picnic was held at Casperson park in Lakeville on the first really cold day last fall. As usual I brought tables, chairs, canopy, antennas, tarps, wire, cable, and lots of other stuff. Even with all the MINI-FIELD-DAY setup, nobody actually sat down and worked any DX. Last year we made some contacts to Europe from the picnic. Craig brought the generator and Weber Grill; Tanna brought the food and lots of other stuff. Many brought dishes to share. We also had a number of new people and long time members come by and re-pay their dues. It was good to see everybody again. Many thanks to all who helped out! We did not have a tailgate swap fest at the picnic this year because of the cold and perhaps it was just not well advertised. A number of pictures were posted on Facebook that depict the spirit of the picnic. There is a consensus that having it earlier in September may add 10 or 15 degrees to the ambience!

It turns out that we need someone to be treasurer because Craig, (who works with numbers and computers all day) does not want to continue with that aspect of the job. He wants to devote more time to his membership committee duties. I have asked a member that usually attends the Tuesday night coffee sessions, if he would be willing to take over those duties and he has accepted. Treasurer is a position must be voted upon at the annual meeting, and I do not want to mention his name publically until the actual nomination occurs. (continued on page 2)

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**Annual Meeting
of the TCRC
membership
will be held in
the basement
meeting room
of Burnsville
City Hall at
7:30 PM on
December 4,
2012**

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, FOOD 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

Speaking of the annual meeting, we are required by the TCRC Bylaws, to have one annual membership meeting each year and that meeting must be held in November or December. (We have board meetings every month, and everyone may attend.) That annual meeting will be on December 4th after a brief info net on the 147.21 repeater. The agenda will include election of officers, followed by a program that will synopsize the events of 2012. Following this will be a short holiday party with special refreshments and convivial conversation. It's what we do best, as Hams.

So 73, to all. May you all have Low SWR, and good DX in the coming year!

Artie, WBØJMG, President, Twin Cities Repeater Club, Inc.



TCRC Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

You are cordially invited to join your fellow TCRC hams for our annual meeting on **Tuesday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m.** The annual meeting will be held at Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Pkwy., Burnsville MN 55337.

After the meeting and election of officers, please stay for our first annual TCRC Christmas party. Indulge in holiday treats and beverages and visit with your fellow TCRC club members in a festive atmosphere.

Participants in the TCRC Field Day and the TCRC annual picnic have thoroughly enjoyed visiting at these events. We look forward to seeing you there!



Welcome New Members

KDOOJE	Mr.	Robb	Morin
NOLZB	Mr.	Brian	Soderlund
WA0DUN	Mr.	Howard	Helberg
NOFAU	Mr.	Bryan	Appel
KOSXR	Mr.	Max	Van Riper
NZ9Y	Mr.	Mark	Limbeck
KD0RLL	Mr.	Joe	Reinemann
KD0RRI	Mr.	Jim	Jordan
KD0SBL	Mr.	Brett	Knudson
W0RUJ	Mr.	Bruce	Wilcox
KX0RAB	Mr.	Richard	Banasiak
K9HPT	Mr.	Lars	Hallberg
KD0OKH	Mr.	Ruediger	Held
KD0TIW	Mr.	Rick	Jensen
KD0TOD	Mr.	Chris	Purcell
KBOYMO	Mr.	Mike	Thompson

VARC

What is the VARC? Well, it stands for the Valley Amateur Radio Club. Never heard of it? Don't feel bad, most people haven't. The Valley Amateur Radio Club is an organization with no dues, no membership meetings, and really only one requirement for membership. You must have ARRL VE credentials. Now most VARC members are also TCRC members, but that isn't necessary.

The sole function of the VARC is to conduct ARRL sanctioned VE exams. At the present time exams are conducted at the Perkins located on Interstate 35 at exit 85, in Lakeville. This is the same location where the Saturday morning TCRC breakfasts are held. VE exam sessions are on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM. More details regarding the VARC exam sessions may be seen on the web at <http://www.qsl.net/varc>. Jim Rice, NØOA, is the liaison VE for the Valley VE Team and may be contacted through his TCRC email address (n0oa@tcrc.org) or by telephone at 612-384-7709.

At present a minimum of three VE's are necessary to conduct a session, although this may soon be reduced to two (see page 64 of the December, 2012 issue of QST). Consequently, we are always in need of qualified VEs to help out at exam sessions.

Have you ever given any thought to becoming a VE? It isn't difficult and the exam sessions are a lot of fun. It is also a good way to "give back" to the amateur radio community.

Becoming an ARRL accredited VE is a free and easy three step process. All the details and information needed to complete the process is located on the ARRL web site: <http://www.arrl.org/become-an-arrl-ve>.

Special Event Station NØD

According to the Mayan Calendar, the world will

end on December 21, 2012. To celebrate this, literally, once in a lifetime event, special event station NØD (now zero days) will be activated for three days starting December 20 (they aren't sure about the third day). For details see: www.nowzerodays.com.

Encourage The Hobby

By Craig Larsen, KCØDMF

I want to make a confession. I love this hobby! I have a desire to encourage others to get more involved in amateur radio, but how do we advance the state of the radio art?

We've all heard questions from those outside the ham radio community: Why are you in amateur radio? What can you do with it? Truth is, there is a curiosity about radio -- what can be done with it and who can use it? There is so much that can be done with amateur radio; it is huge! We just need to get the word out, sharing our enthusiasm with others.

A group of friends and I have started to get into contacting DX stations. When we hear of a new DX station in rare or unclaimed location that is about to go live we will email or text the group. It encourages us to see how many ways we can contact the station, which improves our skills. And when it's over we will report back to the group to say how we did.

That's all any of us has to do. Share what excites you about ham radio with other hams and with those who are curious about the hobby. Get involved. Encourage the hobby.

Thank You

You may have heard that I will not be seeking re-election as the club's treasurer. I've been treasurer since April 2005 and I would like to thank the club for the privilege of being your treasurer. I'm glad that I could serve you in this way. It's also been great working with this Board! They are a great group of people who would never give me a hard time for stepping down. Ha! -- Craig, KCØDMF



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)