

Hamgram

Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Dec 2004

<http://www.winonaarc.org>

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Winona Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday, December 16 at the Winona Courthouse Annex Building downstairs conference room. The meeting will begin at 1900 hours (7:00 p.m.)

MINUTES WARC MEETING

November 18, 2004.

The Club meeting for November 2004 mainly consisted of a tour of the TRW plant near the Winona Airport. Erik, WBØNIU, and Lance, KBØYJU, had arranged a guided tour of the plant for our group starting at 7 p.m. The plant designs and manufactures devices mainly for the automotive industry. Many of these are control assemblies for inside heating and air conditioning used in modern cars and trucks. Multiple tests are done to rigorously test the controllers so they remain functional and stable in all the climate conditions that a vehicle designed for interstate and/or off road conditions might encounter. Circuits are fault tested in special simulators for all permutations and combinations of control settings and sensor inputs. The circuits must not create excess RF noise and they must be immune to relatively high levels of RF and noise spikes from other sources. The controllers and actuators must be relatively quiet when operating and must be stable under conditions of extended vibration and temperature extremes.

After the plant tour a short business meeting was conducted.

Erik, WBØNIU, announced that the Wilkie would be decorated on Friday, November 26 at 9:30 a.m. He also stated that Saturday a group was planning to go to Rooster Ridge to replace the 440

receiving antenna that needed a cable coupling repaired. (Note: This trip to the 835 repeater site was later postponed because of the opening of the Wisconsin deer hunting season.)

Motion by Ken, NØJP, and 2nd by Erik, WBØNIU, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the *Hamgram*. Carried

Dick, NØVV, reported a sum of \$1551.71 in the club treasury after paying \$355.08 for the club insurance and reimbursing two club members for minor expenses. Motion by Lance, KBØYJU, to approve the treasurer's report. 2nd by Erik, WBØNIU. Motion carried.

Ken, NØJP, reported that the annual Holiday Party would be held at the Winona Steak House on the 3rd Thursday of January 2005. The notice would be posted in the December *Hamgram*.

A discussion then followed on the suggestions concerning changes to our constitution and bylaws put forth by Les, KØBAD, in the November *Hamgram*.

Walt, KEØXI, promoted the idea of radio activities instead of a business meeting at our regular monthly meetings. "The stuff done by a board of directors is generally boring."

Ken, NØJP, didn't feel that he would favor such changes and suggested keeping things the same. He feels this is one man's opinion and that we need a constitutional review committee and then a meeting for membership approval.

Darlene, KCØCTH, suggested that the club direct its activities more to community education with projects that help the community. She also suggested more non-profit kids' activities.

Paul, KØZYV, states that to recruit new members, we need personal contact.

Walt, KEØXI, reiterated that our meetings don't attract new members.

Paul, KØZYV, We have to get more people here.

Dick, NØVV, In years past we would visit people's shacks but the group got too large for this and it was no longer do-able.

Ken, NØJP, suggested we have the program first and let persons not interested in the business meeting leave after the program.

Dick, NØVV: It costs \$25 to belong to the club; this makes a difference to some people. There are Saturday morning meetings that do not incur this cost.

Walt, KEØXI, What can't be done at a board meeting?

Lance, KBØYJU, A school, for example, runs with a director of operations and a separate board of directors.

Walt, KEØXI, JCs run with a board of directors.

Ken, NØJP, is puzzled by the two terms used in Les', KØBAD, *Hamgram* editorial: "Board of Directors" and "Executive Board."

Tom, WØMK, said he had talked to Les, KØBAD, about the same point, and Les hadn't noticed the inconsistency and Les felt he was using the terms interchangeably.

Ken, NØJP, suggested we might have quarterly business meetings.

Paul, KØZYV, suggested that we need more members that do something.

Ken, NØJP: Les proposes a club meeting committee---we have radio amateurs and we have in the community a lot of people with licenses. We need to go over the whole suggestion point by point.

Walt, KEØXI, agrees—point by point.

Ken, NØJP: We need good programs, but too many people "let George do it."

Ken, NØJP, and the nominating committee were looking for more members to volunteer to run for office. Our President, Tom, KAØMLO, and our Vice President, Paul, KØZYV, are not willing to run again.

Walt, KEØXI: We need to know if the present chairs of committees are willing to continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Treats schedule 2004:

December: Les, KØBAD

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Wilmot, WØMK, Secretary

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To WARC Members from Darlene Tagliapietra,
candidate for President:

I have been a member of WARC since I was licensed in the spring of 1997. Currently I hold a tech plus license and plan on upgrading in the future. Since I have been a member, I have not held any elected positions, but was the holder of the archives for a few years. My husband Lance and I participate in various activities through the club, as many members can verify. Our children think it is normal to carry a radio and use them, which brings me to writing this introduction to you. I love this club and the people associated with it. I belong to other organizations and hands down, you all are very friendly and a helpful, giving people.

Why then have I not stepped forward to run seriously for an office? Or helped in making this club grow and develop? I have seen in the last few years some positive steps taken to offer our members a quality club like becoming a non-profit organization, wonderful repeaters for all to use and participation in many different communication scenarios (Field Day, bike races, drills). In the same light I have also witnessed lack of growth, less and less community presence and the same few members essentially doing most of the activities. Sunday night WEPNet is an example of that. I really appreciate the dedicated members that do keep this club running as wonderfully as it is. I also believe there is a silent (some not so silent) majority that are not participating for one reason or another. It is my intention to find out why and fix this if

possible. This club is for all members and we all make a difference.

My first priority is education and membership. Without growth and new members there is little incentive to challenge ourselves. I intend to help find avenues in which our members can help teach and outreach to the community. We need to upgrade and review ourselves the cool parts of why we are hams-- whether it is storm spotting, emergency communications, model airplanes, CW, electronics, repeaters, contesting, ATV, education, talking to a friend in a foreign country or across town or just having someone to eat breakfast with a couple of times a month. This is going to take some of us to step out of our comfort zone and give time and talent to the community.

Secondly, quite frankly, our meetings aren't appealing to the majority of the members. Whether it is a scheduling conflict, content or politics, that will be determined by reaching out to all members for feedback. My intention is to gather information and bring to everyone the opportunity to bring the meetings to ones of anticipation. I personally go to about 50 percent of the meetings and if I am expected to go and run them for the next year, believe me, I want interesting.

There are other areas that need a fresh perspective, however, let's start here and see what the future holds. If you are looking for someone to step out of their comfort zone first, then vote for me. I welcome a challenge. If you like what I am proposing, then please step out and join me to make this club all it can be, otherwise please become an opponent and offer all of us the opportunity to have the choice.

I welcome all comments and suggestions.

KCØCTH

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The New Digital Modes

By Leslie Hittner, KØBAD

This issue is getting long enough. I'll tackle PSK31 next month

Editorial

Proposed Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws By Ken Spittler, NØJP

I believe the proposal put forth by KØBAD, (November *Hamgram*) is premature and mostly unnecessary.

POINT: There already exists a mechanism for the operation of an Executive Board. It just hasn't been used. Perhaps under a new group of officers the situation can be changed.

POINT: Les, KØBAD, advocates one meeting a year and gives a tedious procedure to call special meetings. This would certainly "turn off" members. I am incredulous that the membership cannot tolerate a 15-30 minute business meeting 10 times a year. I would be receptive to quarterly business meetings. A Constitution/By-Law change would not be required if other monthly meetings were called and adjourned promptly.

Further, massive changes to the Constitution/By-Laws (These can be combined in one document called the By-Laws) should be studied and presented by a review committee and not be the offering of one person. I think a few of his ideas are OK. Let's not rush off blindly and find we have to make more changes next year as Les says could be possible.

Consider this matter carefully.

Proposed Change to the Constitution and By Laws By Leslie Hittner, KØBAD

As required by the Constitution and By Laws I am presenting a number proposed changes to those two documents for the inspection of club members. I will make a motion to approve these changes at the Annual Meeting in December. It looks like we will have a nice discussion and I will save my comments until the meeting.

Original text that is to be removed has been struck out. New text is in a different color or shade of gray and is underscored. Portions of the original documents that were not changed have been left out of this presentation. These deleted sections are indicated by ellipsis periods (...)

-Leslie Hittner, KØBAD

Proposed Constitution and By Laws Changes (Second publication)

WINONA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Constitution

December 5, 1997

PREAMBLE

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ARTICLE III Duties of Officers

SECTION 1 The President shall preside at all meetings of this club and the Executive Board, and shall conduct the same according to the rules adopted; shall enforce due observance of this Constitution and By-laws; decide all questions of order; sign all official documents that are adopted by the club, and none other; and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office President.

SECTION 2 The Vice President shall assume all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter. In addition, the Vice President

~~shall arrange meeting places for the club and report these arrangements at regular club meetings in advance of the meeting dates, and be chair of the club meeting committee.~~

SECTION 3 The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings, keep a roll of members; carry on all correspondence; read communications at each meeting; and mail written notices to each member and ensure that club and Executive Committee meetings have been properly announced in advance in accordance with these By Laws. ~~of every meeting of the club, except when excused by action under the By Laws.~~ Upon succession, the outgoing Secretary shall turn over all club records to the incoming Secretary.

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ARTICLE IV Meetings

SECTION 1 The By Laws shall provide for the regular and special meetings. At all meetings, one third of the membership shall constitute a ~~a~~ quorum for the transactions of business.

ARTICLE V Dues

SECTION 1 The Winona Amateur Radio Club by majority vote of those present at ~~any regular~~ the Annual Meeting of the membership, may levy upon the general membership such dues or assessments as shall be deemed necessary for the business of the organization within ~~its~~ the objectives as set forth in the Preamble thereof. Non payment of dues or assessments shall be cause for expulsion from the club at the discretion of the membership.

ARTICLE VI Executive Board

SECTION 1 The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers, the club station custodian(s), and ~~a single Member-At-Large~~ two Members-At-Large.

SECTION 2 The chair of the Executive Board shall be the President. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of the Executive Board meetings.

DELETE SECTION 3, SECTION 4, and SECTION 5.

~~SECTION 3 The term of the Member-At-Large of the Executive Board shall be 6 months. The Member-At-Large of the Executive Board shall be~~

electd by voice vote at the Annual Meeting and at a regularly scheduled business meeting six months later. A Member-At-Large may not serve consecutive terms.

SECTION 4 The Executive Board shall be empowered to authorize all routine monthly expenditures for programs and projects cleared by the membership; authorize other one time expenditures for the good of the club, if these expenditures do not exceed a total of \$50.00 in any calendar month; plan, with the Vice President, meeting programs and locations, and discuss and prepare for presentation for the membership approval such plans, projects, and activities as it deems to be in the interests of the club.

SECTION 5 The Executive Board shall meet as required at the call of an Executive Board member. Said meetings should not routinely be carried on "over the air" or by telephone.

INSERT SECTION 3.

SECTION 4 The Executive Board conducts the business of the club by authorizing expenditures for approved programs and projects; planning club activities and programs, and discussing and preparing for presentation to the membership for approval such plans, projects, and activities as it deems necessary.

When the Executive Board desires to obtain membership opinion or approval, one or more of the following methods may be used:

- A special membership meeting may be called.
- A survey may be distributed by means of the club newsletter mailing/email list.

INSERT SECTION 4.

SECTION 4 The Executive Board shall meet monthly at regular times and places determined by the Executive Board and published in the club newsletter at least one month in advance of the regularly scheduled meeting. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called at any time with prior notification of the membership. Prior notification shall consist of one or both of the following:

- Announcement on the club-sponsored VHF net at least three days in prior to the special meeting.

- Announcement to the club newsletter mailing/email list at least five days prior to the special meeting.

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**ARTICLE VII
Amendments**

SECTION 1 This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the total membership members present at the Annual Meeting. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board and published in the club newsletter at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting at a regular meeting and may not be voted on until the next regular meeting. Written proxy votes for changes to this Constitution are acceptable when submitted by a member in attendance at the meeting at which the vote is being taken.

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Winona Amateur Radio Club By-Laws

June 20, 2002

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**Section 2
Meetings**

1. ~~Regular meetings~~ Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly at a regularly scheduled time and place. ~~on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. of each calendar month as such place as the President shall order.~~ Any member of the Board of Directors may petition the President to call for a special meeting of the Board. All meetings of the Board of Directors must be announced to the general membership at least five days in advance of the meeting by one or more of the following:

- The *Hamgram*
- WEPNet
- Announcement sent via US Mail

Notices sent by US Mail must be postmarked at least five days prior to the announced meeting. Notices of special meetings must indicate the business to be conducted at the special meeting. Special meetings are limited to the business specified in meeting announcements.

Such notices shall be so sent that in the ordinary postal delivery they shall arrive at least twenty four hours before the time therein set for the meeting. Only such business as is designated in said notice shall be transacted at such special meeting.

2. The Annual Meeting of the club membership shall be held in the regularly designated business meeting of December at a time and place that has been designated by the Board of Directors at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. Special meetings of the club membership may be called by submitting to the Board of Directors a petition stating the reason for the meeting and signed by at least 25% of the club membership. Such meetings must be scheduled within 3 weeks of the receipt of the petition by any member of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 Dues

The WARC is a non-profit corporation in the State of Minnesota and derives its operating funds entirely from member dues, donations or grants, and special fund raising activities.

Regular annual dues are \$25.00 per member and are payable in December of each year. Dues for ~~new~~ first time members who join the club after March are \$2.00 per month through and including the following December. The dues for two or more related members living at the same address are \$30.00. ~~Dues are for individual memberships, except that two or more members living at the same address may all be members for \$30.00.~~

Annual dues for ~~those~~ Elementary though High School age students whose parents are not club members shall be ~~an annual fee of~~ \$5.00 until they finish High School or turn 18 years of age.

Holiday Party location changed

The WARC Holiday Party is scheduled for January 20, the usual third Thursday meeting date, but because the owners of the Winona Steakhouse recently announced that they will be closing their doors, the location has been changed to Prime Steak and Cake. See the party flyer below for details.

For further information, contact Ken, NØJP.

WARC 2005 HOLIDAY PARTY

Please join us on Thursday, January 20, 2005 at

Prime Steak and Cake

6:00 p.m. for the social hour and 6:30 p.m. for dinner

The meal choices will be:

Broasted Chicken, Batterfried Cod, Ham Steak or Tenderloin Tips @ \$ 9.99

**Meal includes beverages, except alcohol, salad bar, and
strawberry shortcake dessert.**

**Other choices are available from the regular menu.
There is also a kids menu.**

Again this year there will be an **optional** gift exchange. If you want to participate, bring a gift of approximately \$5.00 value marked for a man or a woman.

As in the past we will accept donations for prizes. We will also purchase additional prizes with money provided by the club.

This year we will not collect money for the party in advance.
The restaurant will pass out individual bills.

**All licensed radio amateurs and interested persons
are invited to attend.**

Test Your Amateur Radio Knowledge

by Len Litvan KCØRSX

The following are from the FCC exam pool—Technician, General and Amateur Extra.

#1 - What is parallel-conductor feed line?

- A. Two wires twisted around each other in a spiral
- B. Two wires side-by-side held apart by insulating material
- C. A center wire inside an insulating material that is covered by a metal sleeve or shield

D. A metal pipe that is as wide or slightly wider than a wavelength of the signal it carries

#2 - In an inductor, what causes opposition to the flow of AC?

- A. Resistance
- B. Reluctance
- C. Admittance
- D. Reactance

#3 - How should the filter bandwidth of a receiver IF section compare with the bandwidth of a received signal?

- A. It should be slightly greater than the received-signal bandwidth
- B. It should be approximately half the received-signal bandwidth
- C. It should be approximately twice the received-signal bandwidth
- D. It should be approximately four times the received-signal bandwidth

Answers to Exam Pool Questions:

#1--(B); #2--(D); #3 - (A)

So what's the deal with K1MAN?

By Les, KØBAD

I've been concerned about the "professional" sound of audio newscasts, like Newsline, that are being "broadcast" on other area repeaters. The professional presentation – with "reporters" and "commentators" seems just too much like commercial broadcast media programming. While I can easily see that such presentations are not illegal they nevertheless make me personally feel uncomfortable.

Now I know why.

This past week I encountered K1MAN, an Amateur Radio newsline type "show" that has evolved into a nearly 24 hour per day Amateur Radio "talk show" complete with advertisements (for a not-for-profit Amateur Radio organization), notices of programming schedules, "show hosts", and a slew of other features that remind me of commercial "talk radio." K1MAN appears to be Newsline taken to a ridiculous extreme.

What concerns me is that the format is argumentative, name-calling and repetitive. What could be broadcast in 20 minutes is being spread over several hours by repeating program segments. I would not want my non-amateur friends to run across THIS on the shortwave bands, especially if that friend had expressed an interest in Amateur Radio!

If you did not look at the dial you would believe you were listening to a commercial radio program (except for the missing music). It makes me uncomfortable.

What have YOU heard about K1MAN?

While I hate to encourage people to listen to the station (Some of you might come to believe it's a good thing.), I think we should all be aware of what it is doing to the Amateur Radio Service. As you might expect there is considerable illegal operating activity on the part of people who do not like K1MAN – like intentional interference, etc. The whole thing is rather sad.

Check out 14275 most any time the 20 meter band is open. (The program schedule also includes frequencies on 75 meters SSB and AM.)

What do YOU think? Are such productions good for Amateur Radio (regardless of the content)?



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Secretary: Thomas M. Wilmot
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 Winona, Minnesota 55987

Member At Large: Scott K. Hayes
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Dues: \$25.00 per calendar year per license holder.
 \$30.00 per calendar year per license holder and members
 of the same family within the same household.

Dues should be sent to: Richard Kolter, Treasurer

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Monthly club meetings are held on the third Thursday. The
 submission deadline for the *Hamgram* is Wednesday of the week
prior to that of the club meeting.

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