

# Hamgram

Newsletter of the Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc. – February 2002  
[http://www.jarviscomputer.com/warc/hamgram/active\\_issues.php3](http://www.jarviscomputer.com/warc/hamgram/active_issues.php3)

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## Meeting Notice

The February 2002 meeting of the Winona Amateur radio Club will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2002 at the conference room in the Winona County Courthouse Annex Building.

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### A Different Agenda

To make the meeting more interesting, we are going to try something different. The program will start at 7 p.m., followed by the refreshment break. The business meeting will be held after the break.

### A Program especially for newcomers and infrequent users:

The Club wants to help you get you up and running in Ham Radio, so we'll talk about:

#### The Repeater System

There are several repeaters operated by the Winona Amateur Radio Club. Using them may be a big reason you worked for your license, but making those first calls without embarrassing yourself may be a concern. We will have a session to practice some of the protocols such as:

- Learn how to call your buddy or spouse on the repeater
- How to start a “chat” with someone new.
- How to make calls in an emergency

#### So you bought a new radio?

Learn what the knobs are on your radio and how to use them!

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## Club Meeting Dates

Third Thursday except January & July. 7:00 PM at the Courthouse Annex Building, lower level.  
Third and Washington Streets, Winona MN

January: Club Holiday Party      July: Club Picnic

Friday evenings, a group gathers for dinner out somewhere in the area.

Listen on the 64 repeater in the afternoon for details.

Odd numbered Saturdays – 8:15 breakfast at Prime Steak and Cake

Even numbered Saturdays – Often a breakfast gathering somewhere

10 a.m. most weekdays – coffee at Burger King

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**You are invited!**

**If you haven't already - Join the Club—It's Fun!**

**If you already are a member – Dues are due!**

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**Dues:** Single membership \$25.00

Family membership \$30.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Other family names/Calls:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Send to:**

**Winona Amateur Radio Club**

**Box 1264**

**Winona, MN 5598**

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## The NØQK-1 APRS Node

Russ Marsolek / NØQK ARES District Emergency Coordinator MN Southern District

About 2 years ago it was determined that a node would be needed if we were to link APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) from our area into the northeastern portion of Iowa, as well as south-central Minnesota. Thus, the NØQK-1 Node was developed. This APRS node is located just north of Peterson Minnesota in the SE portion of the state. ARES SEC Gary Peterson (NØZOD) knew of a farmer who had an old abandoned windmill near a brick shed, which had power to that shed. This farm was also on “high ground” in Fillmore County giving the location even more desirability.

I had an old “non-working” refrigerator that I had been using as a cabinet for a packet node however, it seemed that this APRS project was more important. These apartment sized refrigerators work great for projects such as this so hang on to any that you may find! Adding a lock to the door and handles to the side, they become secure, keep the equipment clean, as well as the entire setup being portable, weather proof, and mouse proof! Inside the cabinet we have added a power strip for the Astron Power Supply and KPC-3 TNC. For heat in the wintertime, I installed an electrical plug that has a built in relay so that when the temperature inside drops to 40 degrees, it closes the circuit and the light bulb comes on. This light bulb then heats the area inside to about 50 degrees then the relay “opens”, thereby turning the light bulb off. The vents placed on the sides allow excess heat to escape, especially during the summer months.

The equipment used is a Yaesu FT-212RH running at 45 watts. Kantronics KPC-3 TNC, Astron 11 amp power supply, and a Ringo Ranger antenna. Special thanks go out to Gary Peterson (NØZOD) for finding the location, to Bob Osterlin (NØEST) for programming the TNC, and to the farmer for letting us keep it there. Thanks everyone!

All in all, a simple, inexpensive APRS node that is very portable and effective!

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### Minutes Winona ARC, November 15, 2001

Meeting called to order by Jim, KBØTHN at 7PM.

Clare, KØNY read the minutes from October. Duane, W9HWQ, moved Ken, NØJP, second approval of minutes as read. Passed with Gary, NØOWS, opposed.

Treasurers report was presented by Dick, NØVV. We have \$1055.29 in checking and \$1043.31 available cash. Dick explained the repeater council check was still outstanding. Clare, KØNY moved and Ken, NØJP second accepting treasurers report. Passed with Gary, NØOWS, opposed.

Introduction of members and visitors.

**OLD Business:**

Gary, NØOWS moved and Duane W9HWQ second approaching Bob Reinhard for funding of the club auto-patch on the 64 repeater. Motion passed.

Russ, NØQK, moved and Les, KØBAD, second having a fast id when QSO in progress but slow id if no QSO in progress. Motion failed.

Walt, KEØXI moved and Duane, W9HWQ second that Clare, KØNY extend his creative powers on id's. Motion failed.

Ken, NØJP, mentioned the lighting of the Steamboat Wilke. The DTMF decoder on the old controller is working.

New Business:

Russ, NØQK, announced ham classes 6-9 PM Wednesday nights at the YMCA in December. Russ, NØQK, announced a skywarn spotter booklet is being developed. He brought a sample copy. This book will have maps and aerial photos of good spotting locations. More input is needed. Delores, NØNUO, announced the cost of the holiday party is \$8.50 per person. Gary, NØOWS, asked about a raffle. A raffle was held for an NMO mag mount antenna with tickets of \$1 each. \$11.00 raised. Gary, NØOWS, won.

Walt, KEØXI, said the nominating committee would run the existing officers again.

Duane, W9HWQ, moved and Walt, KEØXI second adjournment at 8:06 PM. motion passed.

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### **Minutes Winona ARC Inc. December 20, 2001**

Meeting called to order by Jim, KBØTHN, at 7 PM. Minutes of the November 15,2001 meeting were read by Clare, KØNY. Motion to approve minutes as read passed. Treasurer's report postponed to later in the meeting.

Holiday part will \$8.50 per person. Payment can be made to Sue, KEØS, or Delores, NØNUO.

Russ, NØQK, moved, second unknown that 911 be programmed into the new repeater controller. Motion passed.

**OLD Business:**

Jim, NØWE, announced a VE session for Friday, 12-21-2001 at 6 PM at the YMCA. Russ, NØQK, explained about the new ham class just wrapping up.

Russ, NØQK moved and Sue, KEØS, second president Jim, KBØTHN, write a nice letter to the YMCA thanking them for the use of their rooms for the class and VE session. Motion passed.

**NEW Business:**

Lance, KBØYJU, announced that the Touchstone Energy Bicycle Race will be entirely in Winona County next year.

Russ, NØQK, moved and Jan, NØWRQ, second that the club participate in the home show again this year. Motion passed. Lance, KBØYJU, will be chairman and Jim, KBØTHN will help.

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Clare moved that speed dial on the new repeater controller be restricted to club members. That numbers belonging to non-members be in-activated. Motion passed.

Walt, KEØXI, moved and Clare, KØNY, second, that membership dues notices be mailed. Motion passed Jennifer opposed.

Russ, NØQK, moved and Sue, KEØS, second allocating up to \$75 for dues mailing. Motion passed Jennifer opposed.

Jim, NØWE, stated that he thought it

would be a good idea to have some club meetings focus on topics of interest to new hams.

**Treasurer's report:** Petty cash up \$11 from last month, cash position is now \$1,044.31. Clare, KØNY, moved and Ken, NØJP, second approval of Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

#### **Nominating Committee Report:**

The committee re-nominated Jim, KBØTHN, President; Adam, KBØVYO,

Vice-President, Clare, KØNY, Secretary; Dick, NØVV, Treasurer; and Russ, NØQK, first-half at-large. Erik, WBØNIU, second unanimous ballot. Motion passed.

Walt, KEØXI, and Steve N9MFH, nominated for second-half at-large.

Steve, N9MFH, elected.

Both at-large will fill in for President and Vice-President, fall 2002 when they head off to college.

Clare, KØNY, Moved and Wally, KBØTYC, second adjourn at 8:02 PM.

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### *Hamgram*

**C/O The Winona Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

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**Winona, MN 55987-7264**