

Mound Amateur Radio
March 4, 2009 Meeting

The March meeting of the MARA Club was called to order at 7PM by club President - Steve - K3ERN.

Those in attendance were KM8N-Jack, KB8UEY-Rob, K3ERN-Steve, KD8CXB-Gail, KA8VMA-Joe, WA8VIW-Sam, WD8NHK-Carl, N8NYQ-Larry, KU8A-John, KD8DGE-Brent, W8WGT-Tom, AA8PB-John, N8IPO-Jay, K8WC-Bob and would like to report that KC8TFY-Claude and KC8YZI-Lesile was unable to attend but furnished refreshments.

Secretary's Report - KD8CXB-Gail gave summary of February minutes. Minutes were accepted by those in attendance with no changes.

Treasurer's Report was given by KB8MMW-Dick:

Checking	\$324.50
Savings	\$745.41
Money Mkt	\$858.06

Total: \$1927.97

N8IPO-Jay made motion to accept, KA8VMA-Joe 2nd and all approved Treasurer's Report.

Standing Committee Report:

Equipment Manager - N8IPO-Jay: Reported the 195 Repeater was working fine. 330 Repeater has issues. Believes someone's equipment is coming over ours. Repeater is turned off via phone. Thinks cold weather is affecting it, has been turned off 5 times so far. Suggest we put a tone on the repeater. Also, reported that he needed to do inventory within next month. ESQl cards for the club need to be downloaded. There are over 1200 cards - some discussion about trying to load them on web site and put into folder on W8DYY web site.

Club Activities Chair - KD8CXB-Gail: Reported there were 26 present at the last meeting that was a Dinner Meeting held at the Hacienda Grande. All seem to enjoy the food and atmosphere. There will be another club Breakfast Saturday March 21 at the Golden Coral located on Kingsridge near the Dayton Mall. Should arrive around 9:15 AM. Everyone should mark there calendars for Sept. 12th's Ohio State Park On The Air Camping. More to come. Reminded the club about the generous offer made by W8WGR-Gary and Erica regarding a covered dish cookout event to be held in conjunction with Dayton HamVention. More to come on this at later date.

Emergency Response Chair - KD8AIZ-John: Was not at the meeting. K8MN-Jack reminded everyone about SKYWARN that would be held Saturday, March 7th.

Tower Installation Chair - WA8VIW-Sam: Had nothing to report but KM8N-Jack advised that AC8AV-Ken's contact person for poles was gone. He then reported that he would check with his brother about poles. Sam reported that he talked with someone who told him the cost per pole would be around \$300.00 and they go 7 Foot into ground. K3ERN-Steve advised that Doug with City of Miamisburg said that if we found a contractor to do it the city is willing to work w/ us in getting permission for the contractor to dig and place poles.

Old Business:

Dues - Move to increase!: Steve-K3ERN mentioned the need to raise the dues for the club. Much discussion regarding the subject. Steve advised everyone that we have several expenses that happen every year which are \$500 for Insurance, \$180.00 for the Dayton Hamvention 2 spaces & tickets. Discussion about raising the dues to \$20 a year starting Jan. 2010, also suggested by members that a poll should be taken from the membership to see how everyone felt about perhaps making dues \$20.00 for 18 yr. old and older, and then \$12.00 for 18 and younger. Some suggested \$15.00 in 2010 and then \$20 by 2011. Was decided by members present that KD8CXB-Gail would compose e-mail to members requesting their input. So watch for more regarding dues increase.

Antennas - City: K3ERN-Steve: Advised he had met with the City and submitted the sketches for the placing of the poles and the city was to take it to council meeting. That was two weeks ago and he has heard nothing as of meeting night.

New Business:

MARA Hamfest - Final decision and/or committee: Steve-K3ERN asked members present to decide on whether we would try to do the Hamfest and the members present decided to table the issue. Jack-KM8N had reported that we may be able to get the Mound Lower parking lot. Committee Chair KD8AIZ-John was not present.

DARA Hamfest - May 15 - 17, 2009 - Steve-K3ERN ask everyone present if we wanted to do the Dayton Hamvention this year, applications needed to be in by March 17, 2009. John-AA8PB made motion to go to Hamvention. Bob-K8WC placed the motion before members, Sam-WA8VIW second and members present voted to make Dayton Hamvention this year. As always, John-AA8PB sends in the application and usually takes the lead in obtaining tickets and spaces for the club. Thanks John.

New Member Recruitment - Ideas: Steve-K3ERN asked the club to think about new ways we could recruit members to the club. Suggestions were made as far as sending Post Cards to list of Ham Names that KD8HFM-Dale had put together and furnished Gail. A trifold brochure was suggested so that we could advertise the club at special events i.e. Dayton Hamvention, Tour d'Burg, Field Day and perhaps have a booth

set up at the Dayton Mall with a live radio contest going on. KA8VMA-John volunteered to put together a tri-fold brochure and would put it out for input to other club members. KM8N-Jack would like to have new members volunteer for at least one club event such as Field Day, DX contest, 10 Meter contest or Tour d'Burg and attend at least 4 club meetings before being voted in as new member. Questions were raised about how to handle non active members that have not paid their dues. How long do we keep them on the roster. He will put a survey together to poll the club in a separate mailing.

NEW MEMBER Voted In: Christopher Stukenborg - KD0EES was voted in as a new club member. Chris is the grandson of Ed Stukenborg-W8KRJ-SK. We welcome Chris and understand that he is now going for his General Lic and one day wants to go for his grandpa's call. Hope to see and hear alot from you Chris.

Last I would like to thank Claude-KC8TFY and Leslie-KC8YZI for the coffee and donuts. Also, Cindy - KM8N-Jack's wife sent very delicious and warm cookies. Thanks so much for thinking of the club members. All of us truly appreciate your culinary skills.

Gavel was passed, next meeting will be April 1, 2009. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.