
KDØCI's Radio Newsletter

Volume 4 Number 5 - [Supporting Amateur Radio in Eastern Minnesota & Northwest Wisconsin](#) - May 25, 2009

MORA TOWER ORDINANCE APPROVED

Following another informational meeting held on April 27th at Mora City Hall which was attended by Amateur Radio operators, the amended version of the Mora Antenna and Communications Tower Ordinance was approved by the City Planning Commission on a unanimous vote. The ordinance was then forwarded to the Mora City Council, which voted to approve the ordinance on the following Tuesday, May 5th.

The original draft was amended after local amateurs raised concerns about the “open-endedness” of the document in regards to how city officials, and not amateur radio operators, determined what amateur radio tower installations were necessary to establish communications. In the revised document, the language was changed to shift the responsibility to Amateur Radio operators in determining what tower requirements they need to establish effective communications.

Most of the changes made to the original draft of the ordinance were in Section 150.243 of the proposed ordinance, which dealt specifically to Amateur Radio tower installations. A change in Section 150.244 was in regards to General Provisions which specifies that towers and antennas shall be installed “according to manufacturer’s specifications.”

There was also a change involving the locations of Amateur Radio towers, no longer limiting those locations only to the side and rear of a yard. This provision, originally in Section 150.245, was changed and moved to Section 150.243, along with the requirement that the “fall zone” of a tower must not “overlay on any primary residential structure of an abutting property or right of way.” This provision appears to be a protective measure against liability, but nonetheless is of concern as such a restriction might limit the height of towers that might otherwise be placed on smaller property lots in the city. There may be ways to work around this provision, given the design of towers. Other examples include the additional guying or bracing of towers, or the installation of “extending” towers.

An addition to the new document, which would seem to encourage the installation of “extension” type towers, was a provision in which the installation of “extension” towers of over 35 feet, but are collapsible to 35 feet or less would be exempt from the city’s Site Review Planning Process.

News of this proposed ordinance came to light in late February when Randy Nummela, an engineer for the city who was not aware of the existence of an Amateur Radio organization in Mora, contacted the East Central Amateur Radio Club in North Branch, soliciting input from their group regarding the ordinance. Nummela’s request was then relayed by the ECARC to members of the Mora Open Repeater Association [MORA]. Kenny Broshofske, KDØCI, acting on behalf of MORA, established contact with Nummela who then sent him a draft of the proposed ordinance for review.

On Monday evening, March 3rd, the original Antenna Ordinance Draft was presented for discussion at a meeting of the Mora Planning Commission. After some discussion regarding the language in the provisions for Amateur Radio, a vote on the ordinance was tabled for review and subsequent revision.

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All this and more in this issue of the KDØCI Radio Newsletter!

NEWS FROM OUR REGION AND ELSEWHERE

New UPS Power Supply Backup Installed At Ogilvie Repeater

Intermittent power interruptions causing processor malfunctions at the Ogilvie repeater site are hopefully a thing of the past with the installation of a new UPS AC Power Backup.

The UPS device was installed by the repeater's custodian, Kenny Broshofske, KDØCI, and Kanabec County Director of Emergency Management, Lowell Sedlacek, KDØFLQ.

This device has been needed almost from the start of repeater operations last August, when it was discovered that brief interruptions in power did not allow enough time for the repeater processor to reset itself completely. Eventually, the processor would malfunction, causing random codes to be transmitted over the air, usually during the wee small hours of the morning. Power interruptions would almost always without exception take place during thunderstorms, and when the processor malfunctioned, the repeater would have to be remotely disabled until it could be physically accessed, then shut down and restarted on each occurrence. During the past winter there were no occurrences of power interruptions, however a recent power interruption during mid-May put the issue on the front burner once more, and the UPS Backup was quickly purchased, and installed.

There are still a few remaining repeater issues to be addressed, some of which will have to wait as time and resources allow. Among the issues are how to keep the UPS device at normal operating temperature during the winter. With the device located in an unheated building, temperatures inside will likely fall well below the unit's 32 degree Fahrenheit operating specifications.



KDØCI stands by the newly installed Ogilvie Repeater UPS Backup Power Supply. [Photo by KDØFLQ]

NEW AMATEUR CALL SIGNS AND LICENSE UPGRADES ISSUED

Several new Amateur Radio call signs have been issued in the region as a result of recent testing. Among them are the following new Technicians:

Betty Zebrasky, **KDØHLH**, Bruno, Dan McKay, **KDØHLK**, Hutchinson, Dwayne Wieseler, **KDØHLJ**, Glencoe, Chuck Cooper, **KDØHLG**, Milaca, Joe Heggernes, **KDØHLL**, Mora, John Bathgate, **KDØHLF**, Milaca, Tom Bursch, **KDØHLI**, Milaca, and Sam DeGregoire, **KDØHPG**, Ogilvie.

Upgrades from Technician to General include Tim Bokovoy, **KBØHDA**, Braham, and Mark Thomsen, **KCØYBH**, Mora.

VE TESTING IN ELK RIVER SUSPENDED FOR THE SUMMER

The Elk River Volunteer Examining Team will not be conducting Radio Exams during the months of June, July, or August.

Testing will resume again September 26th at the American Legion in Elk River. Further information will be made available if needed.

SUMMER EMESNET SCHEDULE AND TRAINING SESSIONS

May 26 th	Emergency Services Net Session from Kanabec Hospital
June 2 nd	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
June 9 th	Formal Traffic Training
June 16 th	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
June 23 rd	Emergency Services Net Session from Kanabec Hospital
June 30 th	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
July 7 th	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
July 14 th	Formal Traffic Training
July 21 st	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
July 28 th	Emergency Services Net Session from Kanabec Hospital
August 4 th	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
August 11 th	Formal Traffic Training
August 18 th	Normal Net Operations & Open Forum
August 25 th	Emergency Services Net Session from Kanabec Hospital

Reminder - Volunteers Needed For 2009 MS Events

By Dean Blosberg, NØHOY

Radio communications volunteers are requested to assist with the 2009 BikeMS bicycle rides. There are 3 different events. The Twin Cities Ride is a one day tour on Saturday, May 9th starting and ending at Maplewood Community Center. The MS150 is on Saturday June 13 and Sunday June 14. The route is from Duluth to the Twin Cities with an overnight layover in Hinckley. The third tour is the MS TRAM, a week long tour July 27-31 from Ortonville to Welch. Please visit the MS Society website at www.mssociety.org for further event details.

Radio operators are needed to help support the tours. We are seeking riders and volunteers in all capacities to support these events. Amateur radio operators are requested to help with communications in rest stops, first aid stations, intersections, support vehicles and other positions, as well as for the promotion of amateur radio. Please visit our radio communications volunteer's website at www.ms-scram.org for more details.

ARES members, these are excellent opportunities to brush up on your skills and dust off your emergency equipment as these are field operations. These are events that really can test you and your communications equipment under disaster type situations.

If interested in participating as a rider or volunteer, please contact the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Minnesota Chapter at (612) 335-7900 or 1-800-FIGHT-MS. Please let them know you are an amateur radio operator.

CAROL CHRISTENSON PRESENTS.....



Carol Christenson, KCØMAK, shows one of her humorous creations during the Skywarn Seminar at Grand Casino Mille Lacs on May 11th. [Photo by KAØAJF]

..... SKYWARN SEMINARS – INFORMATION SPRINKLED WITH HUMOR

Carol Christenson, KCØMAK, is unapologetic when she confesses to being a weather “geek”. When you attend her Skywarn Weather Training Seminars, you quickly understand why. Perhaps she takes her cue from Frank Sinatra by doing the seminars “her way”.

Besides her duties as Warning Coordination Officer for the Duluth Office of the National Weather Service, she spends much of the spring season traveling to the farthest corners of the Duluth forecast region – jokingly referred to by fellow Wisconsin native KDØCI as her “sphere of influence” – to present Skywarn Training Seminars.

The Duluth forecast region covers Northeastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin, and while she finds the term “sphere of influence” humorous, she has her own humor to spread around during Skywarn Seminars. Jokes, visual overheads, and comic videos are part of a repertoire she uses to entertain her audience, but they also serve as tools to inform. Amid the sprinkling of humor are the facts about severe weather, a responsibility that she takes seriously.

Her presentations usually last no more than two hours, going through everything without a break, and impressing with her depth of weather knowledge. At Grand Casino Mille Lacs on May 11th, she held seminars at 1 PM and again at 4 PM. During the 1 PM session, one gentleman in attendance peppered her with one question and comment after another, which she answered or responded to without hesitation.

Besides presenting seminars, Christenson convenes a meeting of regional Amateur Radio Skywarn Spotters every spring - usually in March - to go over the logistics of the Northland Skywarn group in preparing for the upcoming severe weather season.

Yes, Carol Christenson does things her way, and if Frank Sinatra were around today he'd probably nod his approval.

REGIONAL INFORMATION – Print and post in your shack

TWO METER REPEATERS – Updated April 20th 2009

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>OFFSET</u>	<u>PL TONE</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Aitkin	146.805	Minus	156.7	KCØQXC	
Becker	147.345	Plus	85.4	KØOS	Skywarn Hub [to KØMPX]
Big Lake	146.775	Minus	None	NØRPP	
Brainerd	145.130	Minus	None	WØUJ	
Brainerd	147.225	Plus	None	WØUJ	
Cambridge	146.640	Minus	146.2	WRØP	
Crown	145.230	Minus	127.3	NØGEF	Skywarn
Duluth	146.940	Minus	103.5	WØGKP	Skywarn
Elk River	146.970	Minus	None	KØCJD	Skywarn
Foley	147.075	Plus	85.4	KBØPXT	Skywarn, REACT
Foreston	146.745	Minus	107.2	NØGOI	
Giese	146.865	Minus	146.2	KBØQYC	
Isle	146.610	Minus	141.3	WBØSYO	
Little Falls	147.135	Plus	123.0	WØREA	
Mahtowa	147.000	Minus	103.5	NØBNG	Skywarn [Linked to Duluth]
Milaca	145.350	Minus	None	WBØMPE	
Ogilvie	147.240	Plus	146.2	KDØCI	Skywarn
North Branch	147.315	Plus	91.5	KCØASX	
Princeton	146.895	Minus	203.5	NØRPP*	*Custodial Change Pending
Rush City	145.330	Minus	146.2	KØECM	
Siren	146.625	Minus	110.9	NØPHS	
St Cloud	146.835	Minus	85.4	NØOYQ	Skywarn
St Cloud	146.940	Minus	None	WØSV	
St Cloud	147.015	Plus	100.0	WØSV	Central Region Emergency Net
Superior	146.760	Minus	110.9	K9UWS	

REGIONAL EMERGENCY & SKYWARN FREQUENCIES

Eastern Minnesota [Simplex]: 146.565 MHz

National Weather Service [Duluth KØNWS]:

Northland Skywarn: Mahtowa 147.000 MHz, Ogilvie 147.240 MHz [Link to Duluth pending].

75 Meter Skywarn Net: 3810 KHz LSB, Alternate: 3820 KHz LSB.

National Weather Service [Minneapolis/Chanhasen KØMPX]:

Skywarn: Cambridge 146.640 MHz, Sauk Rapids 146.835 MHz, Foley 147.075 MHz, Elk River 146.970 MHz

Regional [Packet]: 145.670 MHz

MAJOR REGIONAL AMATEUR RADIO NETS

EASTERN MINNESOTA EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET [EMESNET]

Every Tuesday @ 7 PM – 146.565 MHz Simplex [Note: See schedule on Page 4 for individual session details]

CENTRAL REGION EMERGENCY HOSPITAL NET

First Wednesday of every month @ 1 PM – 147.015 [WØSV Repeater – PL 100.0 Hz, St Cloud]

SHERBURNE COUNTY ARES NET

Every Monday @ 7:30 PM – 146.940 [KØCJD Repeater – Elk River]

UPPER MIDWEST TEN METER NET

Every Thursday Evening @ 8 PM – 28.480 MHz USB [Net Control KBØHDA]

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NET –

Every Monday Evening @ 8 PM – 145.330 MHz [KØECM Repeater - PL 146.2 Hz, Rush City]

MINNESOTA SECTION PHONE NET

Twice Daily: @ 12 Noon [Net Manager: WØWVO] and @ 5:30 PM - 3860 KHz LSB [Net Manager: WOØA].

WISCONSIN SIDEBAND NET

Daily @ 5:15 PM – 3985 [or 3982.5] KHz LSB [Net Manager: KB9KEG]

VE TESTING & HAMFESTS – Courtesy of ARRL & Other Sources

EVENTS SHOWN ARE THOSE IN OR NEAR EASTERN MINNESOTA AND NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN

UPCOMING VE TESTING SESSIONS

Wednesday May 27th 2009

Sponsor: Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club

Time: 6:00 PM

Contact: Doug Nelson [218] 626-2590

Email: aa0aw@arrl.net

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Central High School

Room 133 [Conference]

800 East Central Entrance

Duluth Minnesota 55811

Saturday June 6th 2009

Sponsor: St Paul Radio Club

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: David M Buending [952] 486-0836

Email: AD2B@ARRL.NET

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Roseville City Hall

2660 County Road C

NW Corner County Road C & Lexington Avenue

Roseville, Minnesota 55101

Saturday June 13th 2009

Sponsor: Anoka County Radio Club

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Paul K Shepardson [651] 340-0567

Email: N0NMZ@ARRL.NET

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: WWW.CI.BLAINE.MN.US/_DOCS/DIRECTIONS.PDF

Blaine City Hall

10801 Town Square Drive

Blaine, Minnesota 55014

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Brainerd Area Hamfest – Saturday July 18th – Brainerd Minnesota

Brainerd National Guard Armory, 1115 Wright Street

9 AM – 2 PM [VE Testing at 10 AM]

Tickets \$5 at the door. Tables \$10 each [Table Reservations advised]

Prizes, Food, Fun, Raffle!

Talk -In, WØUJ Repeater, 147.225+ [No PL Tone]

More info at www.brainerdham.org

MAGIC Repeater Group Annual Yard Sale – July 25th 2009 – St Paul Minnesota

37 Hatch Street, St Paul

8 AM – 12 Noon

Free Admission for both buyers and sellers. Sellers, please bring your own table[s] and chairs.

Talk-In, NØGOI Repeater, 145.170

More info at www.magicrepeater.net

FLEA MARKET

NOTE: This newsletter is ALWAYS looking for input regarding items available for sale, especially those items that may be of special interest to our newest Hams. If you have an item or items for sale, by all means send me the information so it can be published in this newsletter. The Newsletter will not be responsible for operating defects or failures of the items being sold, relying strictly on the integrity of Amateurs themselves to conduct their business in an honorable way.

FOR SALE ITEMS *****

24 Amp Power Supply Kit & Miscellaneous Parts.

Also:

On eBay: Compact Presario Computer, Desktop Tower, 1.9 GHz, 40 gb hard drive, 256 mb memory

Contact: Terry NØGOI n0goi@amsat.org or visit <http://stores.ebay.com/cmradios-Magic-Electronic-Parts>

Cushcraft A3S Yagi (10-15-20 meters). This antenna has been the work horse for my HF operation for the past 20 years and works as good now as when first installed. It's been well cared for and looks great. I will have it off the tower around the end of May or beginning of June. It comes with the construction and data sheet, but you will need to add a 1:1 balun for the best operation. I'd suggest a Radio Works 1:1 current type balun which should cost about \$50. Come on over and pick this up for **\$125** cash.

HP Deskjet 632C color printer - **\$5**

Envision 17" color monitor - **\$10**

Best Data 56K V.92 PCI modem - **\$5**

Digicom DI3635 56K V.92 PCI modem - **\$5**

Boxer muffin fan 4 3/4" X 4 3/4" 115 volts - **\$5**

QRP antenna tuner kit, 10 watt max, 3.5-30 MHz - **\$5**

Eimac 3-500Z triode amplifier tube – **\$50**

Power supply board from Dentron Clipperton-L amplifier, contains 8 - 1000uf, 500 VDC electrolytic capacitors - **\$10**

Memorex external USB CD rewritable drive, 40X read/write speed - **\$10**

Heathkit HW-30 2 meter AM transceiver, "Twoer" - **\$25**

200 pin DDR SODIMM notebook memory 256 MB X 2 - **\$10**

XM satellite radio - \$10

Spi-Ro VS-64 trapped sloper antenna, 160-10 meters, no antenna tuner needed - **\$50**

Contact: Curt Hewitt - NØOK - 612-382-8991. Located 5 miles S.E. of Milaca.

Panasonic PV-DAC11 AC Adapter & Battery Charger, complete with AC Power Cord and Energizer ER-C630 Heavy Duty Battery for Panasonic Digital Video Camcorder Models PV-GS9, PV-GS12, PV-GS14 or PV-GS15. Battery holds more than twice the charge of stock camera battery. Asking **\$15**.

Contact Kenny Broshofske, KDØCI, kd0ci@arrl.net

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR USE *****

1/2 Wave Ringo Ranger Vertical, fully assembled. Contact Dave KAØEVQ on the Tuesday Night Net.

2006 ARRL OPERATORS MANUAL on CD, From KBØHDA. Contact KDØCI by email if interested.

**CALLING ALL TECHS! GET INTO THE HF BANDS!
CHECK IN THE UPPER MIDWEST 10 METER NET!
Thursday @ 8 PM on 28.480 MHz USB – with Net Control KBØHDA**

CORRECTION FROM APRIL ISSUE

Ben Ramler, KØBLR, advises the Newsletter he was NOT in fact assigned to patrol river dikes in the Red River Flood Zone after all, but instead manned the Clay County EOC in Moorhead.

REGIONAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

NOTE: If you are in our regional coverage area {listed below} and your organization is not listed here, let me know.

EASTERN MINNESOTA -

ANOKA COUNTY RADIO CLUB – www.anokaradio.org

ARROWHEAD RADIO AMATEURS CLUB – www.thearac.org

BRAINERD AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.brainerdham.org

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – info@ecmarc.org

MAGIC REPEATER GROUP – www.magicrepeater.net

MORA OPEN REPEATER ASSOCIATION – morahamradio@gmail.com

SHERBURNE COUNTY ARES – www.shercoares.com

ST CLOUD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.w0sv.org

STILLWATER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.radioham.org

ST PAUL RADIO CLUB – www.stpaulradioclub.org

NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN -

POLK COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION – www.qsl.net/kc9dmy

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN/SUPERIOR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.uwsuper.edu

THIS MONTH IN REGIONAL RADIO HISTORY

Fourteen Years Ago – Mora radio station KBK-FM begins broadcasting at 95.5 Megahertz. With an emphasis on “live and local” broadcasting, the station’s goal is to serve East Central Minnesota communities with local news and sports programming, along with providing listeners with a wide variety of popular music from the past six decades.

KDØCI RADIO NEWSLETTER REGIONAL COVERAGE AREA

The following counties in Eastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin are considered to be within the regional coverage area of the KDØCI Radio Newsletter.

In Minnesota: Coverage area includes all or portions of the following eighteen counties:

Aitkin [Southern Half], Anoka, Benton, Carlton, Chisago, Crow Wing [Southeast Quarter including the city of Brainerd], Hennepin [North and Northwest Suburban], Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison [Eastern Half including the city of Little Falls], Pine, Ramsey [North Suburban], Sherburne, St Louis [City of Duluth and Suburbs], Stearns [City of St Cloud and Suburbs], Washington, and Wright.

In Wisconsin: Coverage area includes all or portions of the following four counties:

Burnette, Douglas [Southwestern Half including the city of Superior], Polk, and St Croix [Northwestern Quarter].

The intent of this newsletter is to provide balanced coverage as much as possible in order to keep interested parties throughout the region informed. Much of that coverage depends on input from individuals and clubs throughout the region. Over the years, this newsletter has grown to where it currently enjoys a wide distribution to individuals and other interested groups in an area ranging from within this region to as far away as the Philippine Islands!

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The **KDØCI Radio Newsletter** is a free, independent Amateur Radio information publication for Eastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin, and is distributed monthly [or more frequently if required] by email to amateur radio operators and clubs, public service officials, and other interested parties. Permission is granted to subscribers to reprint this newsletter for distribution to others. Material herein may be used as long as this newsletter is referenced as the source, or sources within the newsletter are credited.

Your comments, questions, etc for this newsletter are always welcome. Send your comments, as well as any “newsworthy” or “for sale” items for inclusion to either of my email addresses. **Deadline for submitting material for the Newsletter is the 20th of the month** [submittals subject to editing]. **Primary Email Address:** kd0ci@arrl.net [proxy server for kdzeroci@q.com] **Alternate:** kd0ci@yahoo.com

