
KDØCI's Radio Newsletter

Volume 3 Number 12 - [Supporting Amateur Radio in Eastern Minnesota & Northwest Wisconsin](#) - December 25, 2008

SKN IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF WINTER HAMMING

The short days and long nights of winter are here. What is one to do? You COULD go outside as many a hearty and brave Minnesota or Wisconsin resident does and indulge yourself in one of many familiar activities – i.e. snowmobiling, downhill skiing, cleaning up from one of our recent snowstorms, trying to start that frozen car, ice fishing, etc. OR you can do as many Amateur Radio operators in our region do - sit in the radio shack and ham it up.

Dialing around the HF bands during the winter finds more activity to be sure. Rag Chewer groups abound on the 75 meter band, especially on weekends. There are the nets of course, where traffic activity is at its peak during the Christmas season.

There is, however, one activity that stands out among the rest – Straight Key Night. Amateurs set aside those fancy electronic keys and paddles and – harkening back to the grand old days – break out those straight keys for a night of fun and frolic working CW just like in the olden days.

Straight Key Night could be considered a contest, well sort of. The American Radio Relay League does not recognize it as a contest since participants do so simply for personal pleasure. However, you might consider it as a contest since there will be recognition given by the ARRL for “Best Fist” and “Most Interesting QSO” heard during SKN. They like to hear from operators about their SKN experience, and they even accept photos submitted for the occasion.

If you're a bit rusty using a straight key, not to worry. There are others out there who are probably just as rusty. In my case, it's probably the one night I have to get on the CW bands where I won't be afraid of being the only one out there using a straight key! That's all I have, and that's all I ever intend to use. There's just something about that old straight key of mine that – well – at the risk of getting sentimental, reminds me fondly of my Novice days. Those were the days [and nights] when I had my best QSL rate, as it seems that CW operators are more serious about QSLing than other hams.

It struck me as rather surprising to learn that activity on SKN has actually increased almost every year despite the fact that the CW requirement was dropped from Amateur Radio testing. According to Dan Henderson N1ND in his article about SKN on the ARRL website, hams use the event for a variety of reasons and not just to “demonstrate their CW prowess.” The biggest reason, according to Henderson, appears to be just old fashioned CW rag chewing. Based on my own Novice experiences, when you are in a groove, rag chewing in CW can truly be just as enjoyable as rag chewing on phone – maybe even more.

Straight Key Night [SKN] begins at 0000Z on January 1st [that would be 6 PM December 31st here in the Central Time Zone], and continues for 24 hours.

For further information about Straight Key Night, check out the American Radio Relay League internet website at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/skn.html>.

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

EDITORIAL – 2008, The [Great] Year That Was

By Kenny Broshofske, KDØCI

2008 – What a year it was for Amateur Radio in Eastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin! For those who made it the successful year it was, we owe a debt of gratitude and appreciation for their efforts. The list of those in leadership roles is rather long, but they deserve recognition for their accomplishments.

At the top of the list is Jerry Whitaker, WBØOFB. As documented in this space back in August, he was primarily responsible for the engineering, building, and deployment of the KDØCI two meter repeater at Ogilvie. There were others who also contributed to the cause. Among them was Art Carlson, WAØNJR, of the St Cloud Radio Club, and Doug Nelson, AAØAW, of the Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club in Duluth, Lowell Sedlacek, KDØFLQ, Emergency Management Director of Kanabec County, Gene McLain, KB9RWF, Emergency Management Director of Pine County, Steve Schulz, Kanabec County Sheriff, all of whom played key support roles in contributing to the successful launch of the Ogilvie repeater.

The list includes the staff and management at Kanabec Hospital in Mora, who has supported every effort to promote the usefulness of Amateur Radio by opening their facility to operators for training purposes, and making every effort to support the maintenance of the Amateur station at the hospital. In so doing, they have set the radio communications standard for every hospital and emergency facility in the region.

Let's not forget the efforts of Jack Maus, WØMBD in St Cloud, and his tireless efforts to operate the monthly Central Minnesota Emergency Hospital Net. The St Cloud Radio Club as a whole is to be commended for their efforts to fix the problems that plagued the Collegeville repeater, without which the Central Minnesota Hospital Net would be severely crippled.

Amateur Radio Clubs in the region must also be saluted. The re-emergence of the Mora Open Repeater Association, under the leadership of Chuck Turner, KAØEVR, appears to be on solid footing and is moving forward. Also helping in that effort was KBK Radio in Mora by its promotion of M.O.R.A. club meetings and activities. Let us also salute the other clubs in the region: the East Central Minnesota Amateur Radio Club, Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club, Brainerd Amateur Radio Club, St Cloud Amateur Radio Club, Magic Repeater Group in St Paul, and Sherburne County ARES, all of whom are very much alive and kicking.

How about a round of applause for the individual efforts of Al Doree, WØRC, and the Brainerd Amateur Radio Club to link the farthest reaches of Eastern Minnesota into Collegeville via the Mille Lacs Tribal Crossband repeater. Then there's Father Jim Cashman, KCØEQE, who continues his efforts in Onamia – just as he did in Foreston – to recruit and train new Amateur operators, thus adding to the growing pool of operators for the Onamia Hospital.

There are all the other local nets such as the Monday evening East Central Minnesota Amateur Radio Club Net on two meters, and KBØHDA's Thursday evening Upper Midwest Net on ten meters. At a more personal level, how about all the operators who have been participating in the regional Tuesday evening simplex net over the past year? As for this little but growing newsletter, the email subscriber list is fast approaching 100, and its readership extends to places as remote on this globe as the Philippine Islands! A hearty thank you goes out to the St Cloud Radio Club and the Magic Repeater Group who have supported our efforts by posting this newsletter on their websites.

I'm sure I left out several other accomplishments worthy of note. However my point is, what happened in Amateur Radio throughout this region in 2008 gives me plenty of reason to be optimistic about 2009. In other words, can you say "**GROWTH**"? Those involved in Amateur Radio activities in Eastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin should be able to reflect on 2008 with a sense of accomplishment. Much has been accomplished, but there is much left to do. Everyone has a role to play, be it running a net, helping with and participating in emergency training, helping our new hams get equipment and get them on the air, participating in a local club, achieving the proposed Skywarn and Hospital Net links. There are many opportunities, and if we see the same kind of growth next year, we certainly will accomplish many more goals.

In closing, let me thank each of you for your efforts. In one way or another, all of you have laid the groundwork for the future expansion of Amateur Radio in our region. May I convey a wish for a blessed Christmas, and the hopes of a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year to you all!

*Editors Note: Equal time is offered to those with opposing views of **NEWSLETTER** Editorials.*

REGIONAL NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

A FUN TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AT THE M.O.R.A CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Mora Open Repeater Association had its first Christmas Party since its resurrection on Thursday December 11th at Bowe's Landing on Knife Lake, north of Mora.

A short meeting was held to conduct business, and dinner featured Bowe's delicious "All You Can Eat" Bar-B-Qued Ribs. The highlight [or lowlight, depending on your point of view] of the evening was the first annual KDØCI "Awards" presentation. Several award certificates were handed out – all of which were suitable for framing.

Among those earning serious recognition awards for leadership roles were Chuck Turner, KAØEVR, Dave Engberg, KAØEVQ, and Jim Slaikeu, KDØBUQ. Awards given in absentia were those given to Jerry Whitaker, WBØOFB and Lowell Sedlacek, KDØFLQ, in recognition of their roles in the establishment of the Ogilvie repeater. Miscellaneous "just for fun awards" given out included the "Experimenters Award" to Dave Winn, KCØYBX, in recognition of his constant experimental successes and/or failures, the "Fox Hunters Award" to Tim Bokovoy, KBØHDA, and the "Entertainment Award" to Len Mattson, KDØBUS. The "Fox Hunter" and "Entertainment Award" were given in fond recognition of the single most interesting and intriguing Amateur Radio story in the region during the past year – that being the mysterious Phantom Radio signal that plagued 146.565 MHz until discovered and put to rest. [Refer to the February 2008 Newsletter for the details on this amazing story].

DATE FOR KANABEC COUNTY SKYWARN SEMINAR & HAM CLASS SET

A Skywarn Seminar for Kanabec County and surrounding areas has now been firmly scheduled to take place on Monday March 9th 2009 at the High School Auditorium in Ogilvie. The date for the seminar was confirmed by Kanabec County Homeland Security Director Lowell Sedlacek, KDØFLQ, the National Weather Service in Chanhassen, and Teri Belsheim, Community Education Coordinator at Ogilvie Public Schools. It will be an evening session, however the exact starting time for the seminar [thought to be 7 PM] has not yet been verified.

Meanwhile in the wake of the Skywarn Seminar, another Ham Radio Technician Class is being planned. The class will consist of two evening sessions on Tuesday March 10th and Wednesday March 11th, both starting at 6 PM. A possible test session is planned for 7 PM on Thursday March 12th. Whether or not this class actually takes place will depend on the number of people who register. The class will be posted by KDØCI on the ARRL website. To register for the class, contact Teri Belsheim, Community Education Coordinator at Ogilvie Public School at 320-272-5050. The cutoff date for registration will be Friday February 13th, this to allow for the ordering and shipment of books for the class.

Details about the Skywarn Seminar and the Ham Radio Class will be passed along as they develop in the January and February Newsletters, on regional Amateur Radio Nets, and on KBK Radio, 95.5 FM, in Mora.

KANABEC HOSPITAL AMATEUR STATION UPDATE

Repairs to the Coax Connector fitting for the antenna at the Kanabec Hospital in Mora still waits completion. You'll recall that after some extensive troubleshooting, the problem causing the erratic SWR back in October was identified. The N-Style Cable Connection at the antenna end of the LMR-600 Ultra Flex Coax Cable had not been properly crimped, causing an open condition between the sleeve and braid.

Repairs to the end of the cable were made using an N-Style threaded fitting, however it is meant to be a short term fix until an N-Style Crimp connection can be obtained. While the station has been operational since the temporary repairs were completed, the facility is still waiting for the repair crew to install a more suitable crimped cable connection. Now that winter has arrived, finding suitable weather may set back the repair date.

HOLIDAY "SCATTER BRAIN" NET

KCØYBX will debut his Scatter Brain Net during the two week holiday period on the KDØCI repeater. The informal net will operate at 7 PM on Tuesday December 23rd and Tuesday December 30th. The Scatter Brain Net is serving as a substitute "fill-in" for the regular Tuesday evening simplex net that operates on 146.565 MHz, which is taking a two week break in observance of Christmas and New Years.

IT'S OFFICIAL - TUESDAY NET NAME TO BE CHANGED

In order to avoid possible confusion with the East Central Minnesota Amateur Radio Club Net [Monday evening at 8 PM on 145.33 MHz], KDØCI is changing in the name of the Tuesday evening simplex net.

The new name for the net is **THE EASTERN MINNESOTA REGION EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET [EMRESNET]**, and will begin on Tuesday January 6th at 7 PM.

The Tuesday evening net has been known as the East Central Minnesota Emergency Preparedness Net since June 2007, when the net name was changed from the Mille Lacs County Emergency Preparedness Net. That change was made to emphasize a regional rather than a local area of coverage.

The purpose of the net remains the same – that being, to determine a wide area of regional communications coverage on Two Meter Simplex in the event that repeater and/or packet systems fail during an emergency, and to provide Amateur Radio operators with prime time opportunities for on-air training.

For the benefit of our Net Control stations, the new Preamble and Format appears below. All previous net Preambles and Formats are obsolete.

EASTERN MINNESOTA REGION EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET -

Revised for name change December 20th, 2008 – Post near your radio for handy reference.

Preamble:

This is [your call sign] calling the Eastern Minnesota Region Emergency Simplex Net. This net meets each Tuesday evening at 7 PM Central Time on a frequency of 146.565 Megahertz for the purpose of emergency preparedness and operator training. This net also provides dissemination of Amateur Radio information and bulletins. All stations are welcome to join the net, and are asked to check in by the use of their call sign only. This is a directed net. Transmit only at the direction of the net control, and please pause between transmissions so others may join our group. Each station will be recognized in the order they check in, and they will be given an opportunity for informal comments. Again, your net control station is [your call sign], my name is [your first name], and I'm located at [your location].

Format:

Standby for Emergency Traffic

Standby for check-ins from Mobile Stations only [Follow by asking for any relays on mobiles]

Standby for Announcements or Bulletins

Standby for formal written traffic

Traffic handling training session on second Tuesday of the month.

Standby for check-ins

Check-ins by County during the Emergency Services & Facilities session on last Tuesday of the month.

Standby periodically for any additional check-ins during the informal session of the net.

Close the net:

Thank all participants; return the frequency to general amateur use.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Milaca area Hams licensed as a result of their passing the November 22nd Amateur Radio Exam Session in Elk River. They are **Will Tomany KDØFUT**, **Mike Boyle KDØFUU**, and **Mitch Murphy KDØFUZ**.

**GET A LITTLE HF GOING IN YOUR LIFE!
CHECK IN THE UPPER MIDWEST 10 METER NET!
28.480 MHz USB Thursday @ 8 PM – with Net Control KBØHDA**

NWS Chanhassen Conducts Successful Path Test To KDØCI/R

Much to the delight and surprise of KDØCI, a successful and direct two meter path test was recently conducted between the National Weather Service Office at Minneapolis/Chanhassen and the KDØCI repeater at Ogilvie.

Jim Richardson, WMØX, a forecaster at the NWS Chanhassen Office, conducted the test from KØMPX during the evening of November 25th engaging in a QSO with KDØCI on the Ogilvie repeater. The QSO lasted some fifteen minutes with propagation between the two sites holding up very well throughout. The path between the two sites measures about 75 miles as the crow flies.

Chanhassen, a western suburb of Minneapolis, serves as the headquarters location for the Minneapolis office of the National Weather Service. While this was only one test, it creates hopes that communications between the two sites might somehow be achieved on a more permanent basis. Until then however, Skywarn Spotters in the region may have to continue relaying information into Chanhassen via the Becker repeater, which serves as a Skywarn Hub.

Plans are for the Ogilvie repeater to have a key role in relaying severe weather information from Kanabec County and surrounding areas to the National Weather Service Office in Duluth, and linking between those two sites is currently in the works. Now Minneapolis is looking for a way to gather the same information, and the November 25th path test suggests that this might be easily accomplished.

Meanwhile, efforts to build up a pool of Amateur Radio operators in East Central Minnesota having Skywarn Training continues. A Skywarn Seminar and subsequent Amateur Radio Classes are being planned for this coming March in Ogilvie [see article on Page 3].

TUESDAY NIGHT NET HONOR ROLL FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2008

The following is a list of stations reported by Net Control stations as having participated in the East Central Minnesota Emergency Preparedness Net during the period noted above. In order for this list to be accurate, Net Controls must submit net reports to KDØCI. This list is based on reports received. In order to be on the list, you must have participated in the net at least once during the specified time period.

ACØLL	Bruce	Milaca	KDØBUT	Joan	Mora
KAØAJF	Mary	Ogilvie	KDØCI	Kenny	Ogilvie
KAØEVQ	Dave	Brunswick	KDØFHL	Peter	Onamia
KAØEVR	Chuck	Mora	KDØFLP	Keith	Onamia
KAØEXL	Carol	Mora	KDØFLQ	Lowell	Mora
KBØHDA	Tim	Braham	KDØFUT	Will	Milaca
KCØDDV	Darryl	Milaca	KDØFUU	Mike	Milaca
KCØEQE	Jim	Onamia	KDØFUZ	Mitch	St Cloud
KCØWEO	Rob	St Francis	KØGWO	Greg	Elk River
KCØWMC	Monte	Isle	KØMJS	Mike	Santiago
KCØYBX	Dave	Milaca	N1ARM	Phil	St Cloud
KCØYUE	Aaron	Milaca	NØGOI	Terry	Foreston
KDØBUO	Gene	Mora	NØYR	John	Big Lake
KDØBUQ	Jim	Mora	WBØOFB	Jerry	Hinckley
KDØBUS	Len	Mora	WØTCS	Tim	Rush City

Stations in **BLUE** served as Net Control stations during the period.

A total of 30 different stations reportedly checked in at least once during October, November & December.

INFORMATION PAGE – Print and post in your shack

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA TWO METER REPEATERS – Updated December 20th 2008

<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	110.9*	WØUJ	*PL Tone Implementation Pending
Brainerd	147.225	Plus	None	WØUJ	
Cambridge	146.640	Minus	146.2	WRØP	
Crown	145.230	Minus	127.3	NØGEF	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	151.4	KBØQYC	
Isle	146.610	Minus	141.3**	WBØSYO	**PL Tone Recently Added
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	Links to St Cloud & Duluth Pending
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	
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

REGIONAL EMERGENCY & SKYWARN FREQUENCIES

Mille Lacs & Kanabec Counties: [Simplex] 146.565 MHz, [Repeaters] Ogilvie 147.240 MHz, Milaca 145.350 MHz

National Weather Service [Duluth KØNWS]:

Northland Skywarn: Mahtowa - 147.000 MHz

Northland Skywarn: Ogilvie - 147.240 MHz [PLANNED]

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

National Weather Service [Minneapolis/Chanhassen KØMPX]:

Isanti County Skywarn: Cambridge - 146.640 MHz

Benton County Skywarn: Sauk Rapids - 146.835 MHz, Foley – 147.075 MHz.

Sherburne County Skywarn: Elk River - 146.970 MHz

Regional Packet: 145.670 MHz

REGIONAL NET INFORMATION

EASTERN MINNESOTA REGION EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET [EMRESNET]

Every Tuesday @ 7 PM – 146.565 MHz Simplex

[Traffic training on second Tuesday, Emergency Services & Facilities Test on the last Tuesday of every month]

CENTRAL REGION EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NET

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

UPPER MIDWEST TEN METER NET

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

NEWCOMERS NET

Every Monday Evening @ 8 PM – 147.015 MHz [WØSV Repeater – PL 100.0 Hz, St Cloud]

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: KØBLR] 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

Saturday January 10th 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

Northwest Corner County Road C & Lexington Avenue

Roseville, Minnesota 55101

Saturday January 24th 2009

Sponsor: Sherburne County ARES

Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: John Smolenski, NØYR [763] 263-8741

Email: n0yr@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Elk River American Legion

525 Railroad Drive

Elk River, Minnesota

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

CABIN FEVER RELIEVER HAMFEST – More details later.

ST CLOUD MINNESOTA – SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14TH 2009

Editors Note: Take your sweetheart to a Hamfest on Valentine's Day!!!!

And don't forget MIDWINTER MADNESS – Saturday March 28th 2009 in Buffalo Minnesota.

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.

24 AMP POWER SUPPLY KIT & MISCELLANEOUS PARTS. Contact Terry NØGOI at n0goi@amsat.org or visit <http://stores.ebay.com/cmradios-Magic-Electronic-Parts>

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR USE

½ 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.

EASTERN MINNESOTA REGION EMERGENCY SIMPLEX NET – 146.565 MHz

PUBLICATION OF UPCOMING SCHEDULES AND TRAINING

The winter schedule for the 7 PM Tuesday Evening EMRESNET is being released so you can plan accordingly.

January 6 th	Normal Net Operations
January 13 th	Formal Traffic Training
January 20 th	Normal Net Operations
January 27 th	Emergency Services Net from Kanabec Hospital
February 3 rd	Normal Net Operations
February 10 th	Formal Traffic Training
February 17 th	Normal Net Operations
February 24 th	Emergency Services Net from Kanabec Hospital
March 3 rd	Normal Net Operations
March 10 th	Formal Traffic Training
March 17 th	Normal Net Operations
March 24 th	Normal Net Operations
March 31 st	Emergency Services Net from Kanabec Hospital

NEW AM RADIO STATION ON THE AIR IN ST CLOUD AREA

A new commercial AM radio station hit the airwaves in St Cloud during December. The station, owned and operated by Tri County Broadcasting, is operating at 1010 kilohertz with the heritage callsign of WMIN broadcasting a nostalgic format that is reminiscent of the late 50's and early 60's. You'll hear songs by Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, and Nat King Cole and others from that era, along with contemporary artists like Diane Krall and Natalie Cole. The station has a very good daytime signal which can be heard as far away as Duluth-Superior, but powers down at night.

Now you might think this is just another "Music of Your Life" station, however from my own personal observations, this locally programmed station sound hauntingly similar to WCFL Radio in Chicago back in the early to mid 1960's with a more solid emphasis on jazz and big band swing. In other words, I have yet to hear any insertions of "soft rock" tunes, usually misconstrued with this genre, mixed in. Ironically, the announcer also sounds hauntingly familiar to WCFL's popular overnight jazz disc jockey of that era, Sid McCoy. At the risk of dating myself, I spent many nighttime hours listening to jocks like McCoy back in that era. Radio like that is so terribly rare these days, so it's quite refreshing to hear this kind of radio station on the air, especially amid the landscape of talk stations that dominate the AM broadcast band.

The WMIN callsign was originally based in St Paul and operated on 1400 kilohertz for many years. Its unquestionable heyday was its run as "The Country Giant" during the 60's, with popular DJ's such as Hank Webb.

In that light, another Tri County AM station worth mentioning here is WVAL. This station, operating at 800 kilohertz, has been on the air since the early 1960's, but has since streamlined itself into a first rate live broadcast operation in becoming a haven for those who enjoy traditional Country-Western music. The point is, Tri County Broadcasting seems to be rebelling against what has become standardized syndicated AM radio, and I say "good for them"!

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The **KDØCI Radio Newsletter** is a free 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. 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.

The deadline for submitting material for the Newsletter is the 20th of the month [submittals subject to editing].

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73, Kenny Broshofske KDØCI