
KDØCI's Radio Newsletter

Volume 6, Number 10 - [Supporting Amateur Radio in Eastern Minnesota & Northwest Wisconsin](#) - November 25, 2011

TRYING TO GROW A LOCAL RADIO CLUB

The Mora Open Repeater Association of Mora Minnesota has been blessed with a small but loyal and active core of members since its resurrection from dormancy nearly four years ago. However, MORA is facing many of the same challenges other small town clubs and organizations face.

One of the major challenges is the fact that too many other activities are competing for too few people. If other church and civic organizations in the area bidding for people's time and interest wasn't enough, during one such evening this fall a club meeting happened to be scheduled at the same time as a high school football game and a Lutefisk Supper – two major events that are very hard to compete with by themselves, and both were major enough to even draw club members who normally attend meetings.

Another problem facing the group is the advancing age of its active members – most of whom are over the age of 50. Unless there is an injection of younger people, the club could some day face its second – and quite possibly its final – dissolution.

The club, currently comprised of members from Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties, is now trying to reach out to other radio enthusiasts - both active and inactive - in an effort to grow its membership. There is a legitimate argument for 'strength in numbers' in any organization, and there are enough Hams around the area to give the group some real strength. The larger the size of a group, the better it can draw attention to itself and grow. According to the club's own research, beyond the number of inactive Hams in Kanabec County, there are over seventy licensed Hams residing in neighboring Mille Lacs County and – get this – over forty licensed Hams living in Pine County. The latter finding came as a shock, given that the county has had a difficult time locating Amateurs, let alone those who are willing to become involved in emergency training and public service.

The club reached a conclusion at its November meeting that enough inactive Amateurs live close to Mora that if even just a few of them became members, it would certainly help. They decided that the best 'short term' way to try and grow the club would be to send out personal invitations to those inactive Hams in the immediate area to its annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet. If the effort proves successful, the club will expand the effort to a wider area next year. The MORA Christmas Party and Awards Banquet has been the club's biggest and most popular event in every year since it reactivated, and this year promises to be its biggest and best yet.

FIELD DAY RESULTS – MORA posted an official 2011 Field Day score of 556 points, finishing 27 out of 32 in Class 2A Commercial. The results were filed with the American Radio Relay League by Curt Hewitt, NØOK, who worked the event with the club. MORA hopes to improve on that score in 2012, and is already starting to plan ahead.

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

NEWS FROM OUR REGION & ELSEWHERE

SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY

Skywarn Recognition Day, an annual event which recognizes Amateur Radio involvement with the National Weather Service, is scheduled for December 3rd. Amateur Radio operators will be on hand at National Weather Service offices across the United States to make contacts with Amateurs around the world.

The event officially begins at 0000Z on December 3rd [6 PM Central Time December 2nd], and will continue for 24 hours.

For a list of participating NWS locations and their operating plans, follow this link to http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/participating_offices.php

NOVEMBER AMATEUR RADIO CLASS IN ELK RIVER PRODUCES TEN NEW HAMS

Sherburne County Minnesota ARES reports that ten people passed the November 5th Amateur Radio Technician License class in Elk River.

Names and call signs of the students were not available when this issue of the Newsletter was published.

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES SCHEDULED

Ogilvie Minnesota - Registration for another mid-winter Technician License class in Ogilvie scheduled for January 17th & 18th will continue until November 30th.

To register for this class, contact Joell Tvedt, Community Education Coordinator, at 320-272-5003, or by email at jtvedt@ogilvie.k12.mn.us. For the latest updates on this class, please go to www.kd0ci.com

HR-607 UPDATE: BILL NOT LIKELY TO BE ACTED ON ANYTIME SOON

According to the latest information available from sources in Congress, the House Subcommittee for Communications and Technology is not likely to act on the controversial HR-607 Broadband for First Responders Bill anytime soon.

As you might recall, the bill caused a firestorm of protest from Amateur Radio operators across the country when it was learned that it contained a provision to include the 70 Centimeter Amateur Band for auction as part of a massive spectrum reallocation plan to establish an exclusive band for Emergency Services and First Responders.

The good news in all this seems to be that several legislators, including Minnesota's Eighth District Representative Chip Cravaack, have stated that when the bill is acted on by the subcommittee, they will support an amendment to exempt the 70 centimeter Amateur band from being offered up for auction.

DOES YOUR CLUB NEED EMBROIDERY WORK?

WE EMBROIDER HATS, CAPS, SHIRTS, SAFETY VESTS, JACKETS – YOU NAME IT!

We are Flying Fingers Embroidery & More

A small family business, specializing in embroidered “logowear”

You might have seen us at Hamfests in Buffalo & Superior!
Contact Andrea Blosberg, KCØIJP, @ ffembroidery@wwt.net or call 651-208-3999.

OK - WHERE CAN I FIND GREEN BAY PACKER RADIO BROADCASTS???

Note: This article was entered by popular demand, for the enduring benefit of Packer Nation.

If you live in Wisconsin, you're most likely not far from a Green Bay Packer Radio Network station. However, life for Green Bay Packer fans who reside west of the St Croix River can be a bit more frustrating, especially when Packer games on TV are blacked out because of some team down in Minneapolis that can only sell out their games when some corporation steps up and buys out all the remaining tickets.

Even when Packer games are on the tube, some of us prefer to turn down the TV sound and listen to Wayne Larrivee and Larry McCarren on the radio rather than listen to the pathetic play-by-play offered on television. In fact, I'm willing to bet most Viking fans prefer listening to their noteworthy play-by-play guy Paul Allen to what they hear on TV. That's fine - if you are willing to put up with the lack of synchronization between radio and TV coverage. It can get awkward as there can be a five to seven second delay in what you see verses what you hear. In other words, you might know what is happening from what you hear on the radio by up to seven seconds before you actually see it happen on TV.

At any rate, I've been occasionally asked by Packer fans, "Where on the radio dial can I find Packer games?"

Well, unless you can justify the expense for Satellite, subscribe to an Internet source, or travel to Wisconsin [which is really not that far away for most of us] to see the games in some bar or sports venue, the answer for the legion of Packer fans in the Newsletter coverage area of Minnesota [yes, there REALLY are a lot of us] might be in the few Packer Radio Network stations that exist or can be received west of the St Croix. The main problem is coverage, and you have to be in the right location at the right time. Coverage in these parts is dependant on several factors, and it becomes more difficult during the nighttime hours when many AM stations on the Packers Radio Network either power down and/or change signal patterns. Even the big Packer flagship station in Milwaukee, 50,000 watt blowtorch WTMJ, powers down and redirects its signal to the north at night [much to the frustration of one Milwaukee native I know].

In the northern portion of the Newsletter coverage area, WDSM at 710 AM in Duluth is a powerful station that carries Packer Game Day broadcasts. The good news here is, WDSM's 10,000 watt daytime signal has a very wide coverage area - the bad news is, they power down to 5,000 watts at night and their pattern is re-directed northward. That may be OK for folks in the immediate Duluth-Superior area and on the Iron Range, but it leaves a considerable coverage gap to the south - even in parts of northwestern Wisconsin! If you're driving in that area at night, that's frustrating!

In the mid-St Croix Valley, WXCX at 105.7 FM in Siren Wisconsin seems to offer the most reliable signal coverage of Packer games, but that's true for only portions of East Central Minnesota. The problem here is that WXCX is a mere 6000 watts strong, and from Kanabec County westward the signal becomes spotty and harder to receive - unless of course you're at home with a multi-element outdoor beam antenna aimed towards Siren [like one Packer fan I know].

Farther south is KLBB, a 5000 watt station broadcasting from Stillwater Minnesota at 1220 AM. This station has fairly decent daytime coverage, but at night - it's a totally different story.

If you live anywhere else in the Newsletter coverage area and you're a Packer fan, then lots of luck! If I owned a radio station in Eastern Minnesota, you just know that it would be an affiliate of the Green Bay Packers Radio Network.

Cushcraft A3S Triband Beam Antenna – SOLD!

Eimac 3-500Z Tube – SOLD!

Cushcraft 13B2 Beam Antenna – SOLD!

HOW?

By advertising in the **KDØCI Radio Newsletter!**

Place your ad in the Upper Midwest's free trading post – the KDØCI Radio Newsletter

BITS AND PIECES

Radio Website of the Month – By Kenny Broshofske, KDØCI

As you might expect, the Green Bay Packers Radio Network provides coverage of its Game Day broadcasts across most of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. There are also a few stations that are listed elsewhere in the country.

To learn more about the Green Bay Packers Radio Network, follow this link to <http://www.packers.com/media-center/radio-shows/packers-radio-network/station-listing.html>

This Month in Regional Radio History

2007 – On November 17th, the new KDØCI two meter repeater moves a step closer to completion with the installation of its antenna and feedline at the tower site near Ogilvie, in Kanabec County Minnesota.

2008 – Dave Winn, KCØYBX, reports having slain an eight point buck without firing a shot! His weapon? A Chevrolet Z71 pickup traveling on Interstate Highway 35 about three miles north of Barnum Minnesota at 70 miles per hour!

2009 – The KDØCI Radio Newsletter includes a photo of a Hummingbird resting on the Ringo Ranger Antenna at KDØCI's home. In spite of this, there were no reports of any "hum" on his signal.

2010 – On November 23rd, the KDØCI two meter repeater returns to the air after major re-engineering, and a Radio Users Group Meeting is held in Mora to preview the coming 800 Megahertz ARMER System.

NOTE: Archived issues of the KDØCI Radio Newsletter can be found on the St Cloud Amateur Radio Club website. Just go to <http://www.w0sv.org/>, click on Monthly Newsletters in the **Quick Links** column and select an issue from the "Highway 23 Corridor" column. Our sincerest thanks to Phil Jorgensen, N1ARM and the St Cloud Amateur Radio Club for their continued support in this endeavor.

No KDØCI Radio Newsletter in December

For the first time since publication began in 2006, there will be no December issue of the KDØCI Radio Newsletter. The decision was made based on the level of news that has generated during December in previous years, and also to allow the editor more time to enjoy the Christmas and New Years holidays. The Newsletter will resume publication in January.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011 Regional Activity Calendar:

Amateur Radio activities in our region have wound down for 2011. However many of these same activities have already been scheduled for next year. Among them are Hamfests in St Cloud, Buffalo, Brainerd, Rush City, Minneapolis, St Paul, and Carlton in Minnesota, and in Superior and Eau Claire Wisconsin.

See them conveniently listed in the January 2012 issue of the KDØCI Radio Newsletter.

**GOT A NEWSWORTHY RADIO RELATED ITEM TO SHARE?
GOT AN IDEA WORTH TRYING?
ARE YOU EXPERIMENTING? NEED HELP WITH SOMETHING?
PASS THEM ALONG TO US!
LET KDØCI RADIO NEWSLETTER READERS KNOW!**

THE KDØCI NEWSLETTER MARKETPLACE

NOTE: This newsletter is ALWAYS looking for your 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, or if you are looking for a particular piece of gear or accessory, 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 honorably.

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

NEW ITEM: Yaesu FT-530 Dual Band Handheld, all it needs is a Lithium CR1220 Battery for memory storage. Has been tested, has good output power. Asking \$130.

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

Yaesu FL-2100B HF amp 80-10 meters – excellent condition - \$400

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

Heathkit HW-30 2 meter AM transceiver, “Twoer” - \$25 OBO

Heathkit HW-8 QRP CW XCVR 80-15 meters - reconditioned - \$75 OBO

WANTED - Rohn TB3 - 2" thrust bearing, 3 – 10' Rohn 45G tower sections, accessory (rotor) plate for 45G (AS455G) and bearing shelf for 45G (BPL45G).

Contact: Curt Hewitt - NØOK - 612-382-8991 or curt@n0ok.com Located 5 miles S.E. of Milaca.

WANTED – Power supply for a Motorola 2 hole 8560/4CX250B amplifier.

Contact: Arthur Howard - KDØKUK, at kd0kuk@yahoo.com

VE TESTING & ACTIVITIES – Courtesy of ARRL & Other Sources

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

UPCOMING VE TESTING SESSIONS

Wednesday December 7th

Sponsor: Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club **Time:** 5:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Douglas J. Nelson [218] 391-5874 **Email:** aa0aw@chartermi.net **VEC:** ARRL/VEC

Location: Denfield High School, 401 North 44th Avenue West, Duluth Minnesota 55807

Saturday December 10th

Sponsor: St Paul Radio Club **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Leon H. Dill [651] 688-9964 **Email:** lhfill@comcast.net **VEC:** ARRL/VEC

Location: Roseville City Hall Aspen Room, 2660 Civic Center Drive, St Paul, Minnesota 55113-1815

Saturday December 10th

Sponsor: Anoka County Radio Club **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Paul K. Shepherdson [651] 340-0567 **Email:** 3shep@comcast.net **VEC:** ARRL/VEC

Location: 10801 Town Square Drive, Blaine, Minnesota 55014

Thursday January 19th **[NOTE: Visit KDØCI.COM for details and possible updates]**

Sponsor: Mora Open Repeater Association **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Kenny Broshofske **Email:** kd0ci@arrl.net **VEC:** ARRL/VEC

Location: Ogilvie Public School [Board Room], 333 School Drive, Ogilvie Minnesota 56358

REGIONAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB & ORGANIZATION WEBSITES OR CONTACT INFO

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
BEARGREASE AMATEUR RADIO COALITION – www.beargreasearc.com
BRAINERD AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.brainerdham.org
EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.ecmarc.org
ISANTI COUNTY SKYWARN – www.isantiskywarn.org
LAKE COUNTY RACES/ARES – www.n0lcr.org
LAKE SUPERIOR AMATEUR COALITION – www.lisacrepeaters.org
MAGIC REPEATER GROUP – www.magicrepeater.net
MINNESOTA ARES - <http://www.minnesotaares.org/>
MORA OPEN REPEATER ASSOCIATION – www.kd0ci.com/4.html
SHERBURNE COUNTY ARES – www.shercoares.org
ST CLOUD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.w0sv.org
STILLWATER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION – www.radioham.org
ST PAUL RADIO CLUB – www.stpaulradioclub.org
TWIN CITY FM CLUB – www.tcfmc.org

NORTHWESTERN WISCONSIN -

POLK COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION – www.n9xh.org
NORWESCO [BURNETTE, SAWYER & WASHBURN COUNTIES] WISCONSIN - <http://fp1.centurytel.net/norwesco/>
ST CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS – www.pressenter.com/~scvra
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN/SUPERIOR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – www.uwsuper.edu
WISCONSIN ARES/RACES - <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/>

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: Aitkin, Anoka, Benton, Carlton, Chisago, Cook, Crow Wing, Hennepin, Isanti, Itasca, Kanabec, Lake, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Ramsey, Sherburne, St Louis, Stearns, Washington, and Wright.

In Wisconsin: Burnette, Douglas, Dunn, Polk, and St Croix.

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. The intent is to provide balanced coverage as much as possible in order to keep interested parties throughout the region and elsewhere informed. The extent of that coverage depends on input from individuals and clubs throughout the region. Since it began in 2006, the Newsletter has grown to where it currently enjoys a wide distribution to individuals, and any or all interested groups. 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 - including ads, is the 20th of the month** [submittals subject to editing]. Primary Email Address: kd0ci@arrl.net [proxy server for kdzeroci@hotmail.com] Alternate: kdzeroci@kd0ci.com

73, Kenny Broshofske KDØCI

WISHING YOU A HAPPY AND BLESSED THANKSGIVING!
FROM THE KDØCI RADIO NEWSLETTER!