

Illinois Repeater Association

Newsletter

Volume 22

January 2006

Fred Seibold, W9FWS, Editor

Annual Meeting For 2006 Saturday, April 22 In Bloomington

The annual meeting of the Illinois Repeater Association will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at the Best Western Eastland Suites Lodge and Conference Center, 1801 Eastland Drive, Bloomington, IL. This is a central location with good Interstate Highway access from all parts of the state.

The Best Western is located at Eastland Drive and Prospect just off Veterans Parkway (Business 55). Exit Veterans Parkway at Route #9, which is also Empire Street. Proceed east approximately one block to Prospect then south to Eastland.

IRA Delegate check-ins and any dues payments will start at 9:00 AM, with the meeting starting at 10:00 AM sharp. When dues are paid in advance the check-in process is quicker and eliminates much of the delay. As in the past we anticipate the meeting to conclude around 1:00 to 2:00 PM. An IRA "Membership Information" form on file listing the delegates (max of two) and signed by the president and/or trustee and showing paid up dues for 2005 are all that are needed to vote at the meeting.

Every vote is important so that your association can effectively represent you in the multi-faceted problems facing the repeater owners of the country and Illinois in particular. Therefore, if you cannot attend this meeting and have no delegate in mind, we suggest that you appoint one of the current officers or directors to be your delegate. If you later decide to attend the meeting the presence of the trustee and/or president suspends any previous delegate appointment and/or written proxy. If you would like an item placed on the agenda, please contact the Secretary or President. -W9FWS

Ranson Elected to NFCC Board Of Directors

Rich Ranson, N9YAY, President of the Illinois Repeater Association, was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Frequency Coordination Council in December, 2005

The National Frequency Coordinator's Council (NFCC) is a District of Columbia non-profit corporation, the membership of which is composed of delegates from recognized frequency coordinators in the United States. The purpose for which the corporation is organized is to establish recognition of Amateur Radio frequency coordination by the Federal Communications Commission, the American Radio Relay League, and all Amateur Radio licensees. This goal is to be fulfilled by the Corporation by the following activities:

(1) To facilitate the exchange of information and general cooperation between members, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the American Radio Relay League, Inc. (ARRL), and any other legislative or regulatory arm of the Federal government pertaining to the Amateur Radio Service, and specifically the coordinated use of repeaters and other relay devices and systems, and amateur stations using shared bands utilized by fixed-station repeater and relay devices and systems. Such information would include such things as lists of frequency coordinators; proposed and current policies, procedures and regulations pertaining to coordinator certification, decertification, and succession of coordinators; proposed and current federal policies affecting Amateur Radio systems operations; pending and current FCC submissions and determinations, including Petitions for Rule Making, Notices of Proposed Rule Making, and Report and Order releases affecting Amateur Radio repeater and relay systems and the cooperative coordination of the same for interference avoidance.

(2) To operate as, or to facilitate, a Single-Point-Of-Contact (SPOC) between the FCC and the Amateur Radio frequency coordinating community.

(3) To promote responsible coordination of the use of Amateur Radio operations in FCC-authorized HF, VHF, UHF, and SHF frequency sub-bands and promulgate proper policies for cooperation and interference avoidance among and between users.

(4) To facilitate arbitration of disputes involving Amateur Radio frequency coordination. This will be accomplished by encouraging local resolution of disputes as well as appointment of arbitrators to conduct binding arbitration in accordance with the American Board of Arbitration procedures; the costs of such to be borne by the parties to the arbitration.

(5) The corporation will define a frequency coordinator in such a way as to address issues of succession, recognition, certification and geographic exclusivity within the bands coordinated, so as to have a recognized coordinator within each geographic area responsible for usage of the allocated spectrum. This may include separate coordinators for the various emission types authorized within the area. The corporation will establish standards for performing the coordination task. It will, using those standards, certify and decertify coordinators to assure continuity and capability in the performance of the duties of the coordinators. -NFCC

**Visit Your Association's
Website For Good Info**
<http://www.ilra.net/>

You can find detailed information about your Illinois Repeater Association such as our By-Laws, a Repeater Directory by Frequency, a Repeater Directory by City, a Repeater Directory by Region, the Coordination Application Form, a current Member List, convenient IRA Contact people, and your Association's Coordination Policies and Guidelines. Please take a moment now to put this bookmark in your browser.

<http://www.ilra.net/>

BOARD of DIRECTORS MINUTES

April 22, 2005

The Illinois Repeater Association Board of Directors meeting for April 22, 2005 was called to order by IRA President Robert Hajek at 8:50 PM at the Best Western, Eastland Suites, Bloomington-Normal, Illinois.

IRA Officers Present:

President Robert Hajek, W9QBH
Vice President Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC
Secretary/Treasurer Robert Koch, KA9FCF
Directors: Richard Ranson, N9YAY - Tim Childers, KB9FBI - Al Wolfe, K9SL
IRA officer Absent: Director: Jack Frank, KE9WS
Staff Present: Aaron Collins, N9OZB, Frequency Coordinator. Robert Shepard, KA9FLX, Technical Committee Chairman. Fred Seibold, W9FWS, Newsletter Editor.

Guests Present: Dave Karr, KA9FUR, Wisconsin Frequency Coordinator; Milt Klingsporn, N9WSZ, Wisconsin Association of Repeaters; Walt Breining, N9WB, Indiana Repeater Council; Charlie Sears, N9MEW, Indiana Repeater Council

Request of additional items to be added to the agenda: President Hajek asked if any items should be added to the previously provided agenda. No items were suggested.

Ratification of actions taken over the past year: KB9FBI made a motion that all actions taken by the Association in the past year be ratified. The motion was seconded by KA9KDC and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: K9SI moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion to approve the minutes as previously published in the April, 2004 newsletter. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary/ Treasurer, KA9FCF, read the Treasurer's Report for the period of April 2004 to April 19, 2005. Last years balance was \$5,130.98. Through the year expense was \$2,891.75 and income was \$3,152.00. Therefore the balance as of 04/19/05 was \$5,391.00. N9YAY moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion that the report be accepted as amended by correction of typographic error. The motion carried by voice vote.

Frequency Coordinator's Report: There is still a problem with annual updates not being returned. It seems that some still do not understand the importance of the updates. Confirmation and/or correction of the technical data are a condition of continued coordination. N9OZB presented a written report of coordinator's activities for the past year. Following are the highlights of that report. There were 44 applications processed of those 35 were granted and there are four still in progress. Additionally there were 22 decoordinations and 4 decoordinations are on progress. The coordinator responded to many NOPCs from other states. Additional activity and/or activity completed by the coordinator: --Revised the repeater application form and link application forms. Both are available on the website.

--Annual updates consisted of 512 pages mailed to 322 addresses of those 9 pages to 6 addresses were returned as not deliverable by the USPS. As of this time 352 pages have been returned leaving 160 pages not returned. N9OZB noted that any that do not return updates for two years WILL BE DECOORDINATED.

Aaron then expressed his thanks to Dave Karr, KA9FUR, for the ongoing support and ongoing technical upgrading of the "coordinators toolbox" a program that is a great assist in coordination. He also expressed thanks to Bob Hajek and Bob Koch for their assistance and support in past years. There was general agreement that the program that Dave has developed, and continues to improve at his own expense, has greatly assisted in coordination. Therefore K9SI made a motion that the IRA help offset Dave's expense by \$100.00. The motion was seconded by N9YAY. The motion carried by voice vote. The Secretary/Treasurer was instructed to care for this matter. A motion to accept the coordinator's report was made by K9SI and seconded by KB9FBI. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Technical Committee Report: KA9FLX reported that there are currently four applicants on the "waiting list", two are waiting for 2-meter pairs and two waiting for UHF pairs. Bob voiced serious concern that some repeaters are not operating within the technical parameters of their coordination. Specifically he suspects that some do not understand ERP and/or other specifics of transmission and as a result the actual output of the repeater is not within the coordinated specifications. In addition there is a feeling that some have changed power, antennas and/or height without obtaining proper coordination.

This could result in interference. Bob would like to see the specifics of antennas such as model and or published characteristics included in the request for coordination forms. There was considerable discussion as to how those recommendations could be implemented. No decision was reached. A motion to accept the report was made by KB9FBI and seconded by KA9KDC. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Old Business:

The status of coded squelch was discussed. A letter from Robert Efland, AI9HI, was read and the current status of a statewide plan was discussed. No specific plan is yet in place and it was agreed to just leave the current policy stand. There was again a discussion of going electronic for the newsletter. All agreed that it was a good idea but there was no agreement as to just how it could be implemented. Some suggestions were to notify all members via E-mail that the newsletter was available on the website. Sending the newsletter electronically was not viable. Notifying by post card is not cost effective when compared to the current system of mailing newsletters. All agreed that we would like to go electronic but currently there is not a workable plan. One consideration was that we presently mail at least some of the newsletters to all coordination holders not just members. Discussion followed as to why we do that. It was agreed that some of the decisions made at the meetings have an effect on all coordination holders and they should therefore be made aware.

New Business :

The need for a slate of officers for the next year was discussed. There was agreement that at least some continuity of experience and knowledge of the operation of the Association was needed with the retirement of the President and the Secretary/Treasurer. Therefore, President Hajek, W9QBH, appointed Fred Seibold, W9FWS, as chairman of a nominating committee. The committee to consist of all IRA members attending the present board meeting. The board meeting recessed at 10:05 PM.

Nominating Committee meeting:
The nominating committee was called to order by W9FWS at 10:05 PM on 22 April 2005. After considerable discussion the following recommendations were agreed on: President Richard Ranson, N9YAY; Vice President Timothy Childers, KB9FBI; Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Schroeder, KA9KDC; Director Allen Wolfe, K9SI. It was noted that current Director Jack Frank, KE9WS, has only served one year of his two-year term and remains as a director. The committee recommends that the other two director positions be filled by nominations from the floor at the annual meeting. The openings will occur if N9YAY and KB9FBI are elected as recommended.

The nomination committee adjourned at 10:15 PM

The IRA Board meeting reconvened at 10:15 PM. The nominating committee presented their recommendations to the board. The board agreed to accept the recommendations and present them to the general membership at the annual meeting. A letter from George R. (Dick) Isely, W9GIG, was read and the board decided to leave the corporation papers with Dick. The new Secretary/Treasurer should contact W9GIG with specifics. Following the reading of Dick's comments on MACC and NFCC a spirited and lengthy discussion followed. This discussion involved the visitors from both Indiana and Wisconsin. All agreed that efforts must be taken to revive especially NFCC. If that organization dies the real probability of coordinators losing recognition exists. Representatives from all three of the organizations agreed to look further into what can be done to reactivate the NFCC.

Adjournment: KA9FCF moved and K9SI seconded that the IRA Board of Directors' Meeting be recessed until after the annual meeting on April 23, 2005. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was recessed at 11:45 P.M. Respectfully submitted,

Robert Koch, KA9FCF
Secretary/Treasurer,
Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

**Plan Now To Attend Your
Association's Annual
Meeting Saturday, April
22, 2005, In Bloomington.**

Annual Meeting Minutes

APRIL 23, 2005

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by IRA president Robert Hajek, W9QBH at 10:00 AM at the Best Western, Eastland Suites, Bloomington/Normal Illinois. Robert J Koch, KA9FCF, secretary/treasurer, verified that there was a quorum present as required in the constitution to conduct business.

Introduction of Officers and Attendees: W9QBH asked everyone to introduce themselves and identify the repeater(s) they represent. There were 40 persons in attendance representing 60 repeaters. W9QBH especially acknowledged the presence of KA9FUR and N9WSZ from the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) as well as N9WB and N9MEW from the Indiana Repeater Council (IRC) as guests at the meeting.

Reading of minutes: N9JWI moved and KI9P seconded a motion that the minutes of the 2004 annual meeting be approved as published in the IRA Newsletter. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Secretary/Treasurer Robert Koch, KA9FCF read the report. Balance at the 2004 meeting was \$5,130.98. Throughout the year income was \$3,152.00 and expense was \$2,289.75. Therefore the balance as of April 19, 2005 was \$5,391.23. W9GG moved and N9JWI seconded a motion that the report be approved as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Coordinator's report: President W9QBH introduced Aaron Collins, N9OZB, Frequency Coordinator, and thanked him for his efforts in the past year. Aaron presented his written report that highlighted the activity in the past year. He also voiced concern that there are still 160 coordination update forms that have not been completed and returned. Also, there were 9 forms sent to 6 addresses that were returned by the Post Office as not deliverable. He found that the addresses that he had were the same as those listed by the FCC. He highlighted that when update forms are unanswered for two years that is grounds for decoordination. A discussion about several aspects of the report resulted in Aaron answering all concerns that were raised. A motion to accept the coordinator's report was made by N9EAO and seconded by WD9CIR. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Technical Committee report: Robert Shepard, KA9FLX, reported that there is currently one reported interference problem pending resolution. Bob reported that throughout the state there are currently two on the waiting list for 2M pairs, two waiting for 70CM and none for 220. He also reminded all that it is the responsibility of those waiting for coordination to renew the request annually. KA9FLX said that he was concerned that there are repeaters operating outside of their coordinated parameters. Changes in antenna, height, call sign or other things that affect the operation of the repeater must be coordinated. Bob wonders if coordination holders understand the difference between transmitter power and ERP. WD9DAU moved that the report be accepted. The motion was seconded by N9JWI and carried by voice vote.

President's report: Bob Hajek, W9QBH, again reported on several comments that he, or the

board, had received objecting to the requirement for coded squelch as approved at last year's general meeting. The main objection seemed to be due to a misunderstanding of the requirement. President, W9QBH, spent some time reviewing the history of the Illinois Repeater Association, how and why it came into existence and what he believes have been rewarding efforts on the part of many to effectively coordinate repeaters throughout the state. He expressed thanks to all for their support and hopes that the Association will continue to be viable.

Election of Officers/Directors: To serve terms of two years. President, W9QBH, discussed the need for continuity in the selection of officers. This becomes especially important this year because two elected officers will not stand for reelection this year. He explained that because of that he had appointed Fred Seibold, W9FWS, to chair a nominating committee to select a list of nominations. KA9SZW moved and KC6VVT seconded that the committee's recommendations be placed in nomination, carried by voice vote. Fred, W9FWS, then presented the nominations. They are as follows: President: Rich Ranson, N9YAY. After three calls for other nominations WD9DAU moved that the nominations be closed; motion seconded by W9GG and carried by voice vote. Vice President: Tim Childers, KB9FBI. After three calls for additional nominations KB9QDA moved that nominations be closed; motion seconded by KF9NZ and carried by voice vote. Secretary/Treasurer: Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC. After three calls for additional nominations KB9APW moved that nominations be closed; motion seconded by N9JWI and carried by voice vote. For Director three to be elected: K9SI nominated by committee no second needed. Steve Look, KA9SZW, nominated by K9SI seconded by WD9DAU. Bill Kraus, KA9FER, nominated by N9JWI seconded by KC6VVT. After three unanswered calls for further nominations, KB9QDA moved that nominations be closed the motion was seconded by N9JWI and carried by voice vote. It was pointed out that two of the Directors were for two years but one was for only one year replacing N9YAY who was elected to President. Steve, KA9SZW, volunteered to take the one year position.

Due to the fact that there were no additional nominations for any of the positions KB9WWS made a motion that all nominees be declared elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded by WD9CIR and carried by voice vote. Therefore:

Your Elected Board for 2005-2006:
President-Richard Ranson, N9YAY
Vice President- Timothy Childers, KB9FBI
Secretary/Treasurer-Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC
Directors- Jack Frank, KE9WS--Allen Wolf, K9SI--William Kraus, KA9FER--Stephen Look, KA9SZW

Old Business: The possibility of distributing the newsletter electronically was discussed. Several options were explored but none seem to be viable at this time. This is an item that should be reviewed due to the increasing cost of printing and mailing out newsletters to all coordination holders.

New Business: A letter from George R. (Dick) Isely, W9GIG was read, in part. Dick addressed

his concern about the demise of Mid America Coordination Council (MACC) and the inactivity of the National Frequency Coordination Council (NFCC). It was generally agreed that it is important to rejuvenate the NFCC. Without that organization, coordination recognition by the ARRL and the FCC will be in serious jeopardy. It has been suggested that the Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin coordination organizations attempt to reactivate interest in the NFCC.

Recognition: KC6VVT made a motion that Bob Hajek, W9QBH, and Bob Koch, KA9FCF, be recognized and thanked for many years of service to the IRA and Repeater Community. All gave a "Standing Ovation" (Thank you from both Bob, 'QBH and Bob 'FCF)
Adjournment: There being no further business before the body a motion to adjourn was made by KB9APW and seconded by N9JWI and approved by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon
Respectfully submitted,

Robert J.Koch-KA9FCF
Secretary /Treasurer Illinois Repeater Association

Board Meeting April 23, 2005

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Repeater Association was reconvened by IRA President Rich Ranson at 12:01 PM at the Best Western, Eastland Suites Bloomington/Normal, Illinois, April 23, 2005

IRA Officers Present: President Richard Ranson, N9YAY - Vice President Timothy Childers, KB9FBI- Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Schroeder, KA9KDC - Directors: Allen Wolfe, K9SI - Bill Kraus, KA9FER- Stephen Look, KA9SZW.
IRA officers absent: Director, Jack Frank, KE9WS.

Committee and Frequency Coordinator Appointments: N9YAY appointed Aaron Collins to serve as Frequency Coordinator for the next year. KA9KDC moved and K9SI seconded that this appointment be confirmed. N9YAY appointed Bob Shepard, KA9FLX, to serve as IRA Technical Committee Chairman. KA9FER moved and KA9KDC seconded a motion to confirm this appointment. N9YAY appointed Fred Seibold, W9FWS, to serve as Newsletter Editor. KB9FBI moved and KA9SZW seconded a motion that this appointment be confirmed. All three motions passed by a unanimous voice vote.
MACC Director Appointments: N9YAY appointed KA9FBI and W9GIG to serve as MACC Directors for the next 12 months, and N9OZB to serve as MACC Frequency Coordinator. KA9KDC moved and KA9SZW seconded a motion that the IRA Board of Directors confirm these appointments. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
NFCC Delegate: KA9KDC moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion that: "The IRA President shall cast all NFCC ballots on behalf of the IRA, and that the IRA Vice President shall do so in the absence or incapacity of the IRA President, or by the direction of the IRA President." Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. **Adjournment:** KB9FBI moved and KA9KDC seconded that the IRA Board of Directors meeting be adjourned. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 PM April 23, 2005
Respectfully submitted,
KA9KDC, Secretary/Treasurer,
Illinois Repeater Association Inc.



Illinois Repeater Association
0 N 490 Evans Road
Wheaton, IL 60187

Annual Meeting Notice
April 22, 2006

Are your dues paid?
Check label for "2006"

First Class Mail

N9OZB **NEW NOW: 2005**
 N9OZB
 Aaron A. Collins
 1338 S. Arlington Heights Rd
 Arlington Hts, IL 60005

60005+3615-3A C06A



IRA Director Jack Frank,
KE9WS, Silent Key

It is with deep regret that we report the death of IRA Director Jack Frank, KE9WS. The funeral was in Peoria July 30, 2005.

At the first Annual Meeting of the IRA held in Bloomington on April 4, 1987. Jack Frank (then KA9AXV) was elected to a one year term as director at that first annual meeting. The one year term was to establish staggered terms for Directors. Jack was re-elected in 1988 for a two year term and was re-elected every two years through 2004, which term would have expired in April, 2006. Jack Frank, KE9WS, was the longest-serving IRA Director, having completed 18 years in April, 2005. He will be missed. -W9GIG

Illinois Repeater Association, Inc.
Board and Appointees, 2005-2006

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