

## **SIARC MEETING NOTES FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2011**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** At 7:15 by president Scott Teresi N2UMH with 13 in attendance. Scott began the meeting with a very useful and informative video presentation on the introduction to APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System). The video along with Scott's question and answer session afterwards covered the important fundamental basics on how to get started with APRS. APRS is especially important to groups like ours because of its invaluable ability to send and receive critical information on the 2 meter band, such as text messages, current weather systems, and participating station locations pinpointed on your monitor's map. APRS is a non-secure system that anyone can use on the receive level and of course all licensed amateurs on both transmit and receive level. Equipment required is both inexpensive and plentiful. You start your APRS station with as little as a basic HT, lap top computer with at least Windows 7, TNC, \$3-\$6 Radio Shack cord coupled up with an optional GPS receiver; for mobile work; or for base stations a downloaded packet program will turn your sound card into a GPS and eliminate the need for an independent one. Securing all of this equipment on Craig's list or other second hand sources will astound you on how inexpensive you can equip yourself if you are the bargain hunter type. In an emergency situation or community events that we preside in, APRS is an invaluable tool that saves valuable time with the elimination of unneeded communications and as mentioned before it displays critical checkpoints and station locations on maps, that Scott showed how to generate. The National APRS frequency is 144.390. The system that was initially developed in the Hawaiian Islands for communication linking purposes now enjoys a Worldwide usage with over 100,000 base stations. The video we watched on APRS along with related ones can be seen on You Tube.

**SECRETARIES REPORT:** The previous months minutes were read by club secretary Ray Dreimiller AB2UY and accepted.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Treasure Stan Avery reports the payment of \$107.40 for our club website leaving our account balance at \$1427.82. These figures were accepted and entered into record.

**SUNDAY NET:** Tom Sanders KB2NCI reports continued good net participation even in the shadow of Super Bowl Sunday. We are averaging around 12-14 total participants throughout the year. Tom encourages us all to support the Wayne County net after ours. The MT-63 is working well in our net sessions. John Parks mentioned that a message brought in through Winlink also counts as a check-in.

**WAYNE COUNTY NEIGHBORS:** Dave Taylor KB2KBY reported that there will be a POD (point of distribution) drill put on by Monroe County and they would like the participation of any of the adjacent counties. The drill will involve the simulated distribution of medical supplies. Dave also reports that at some time in the future, Wayne County will change to the 146.685 for their net. Dave's group will be having this year's Sky Warn training on April 20<sup>th</sup> and we are all welcome to participate. You can check on their website or Dave will e-mail any further directions upon request. On April 30<sup>th</sup> their group is having a Spring dinner and we are invited to join. Get in touch with Dave if you plan to attend. The Wayne County Hamfest will be on April 16<sup>th</sup> and there will be VE testing there also.

**HOSPITAL REPORT:** Dave Foster AB2WZ reports no new changes. He is waiting for the site work to be done and the location of the radio room. In the future he thought that it would be a good idea to use the hospital stations once a month during the Sunday net.

**VE REPORT:** Dave Foster AB2WZ reports that there were two upgrades to Extra class in this months test session. One participant was from Monroe County and the other from Wellsville, NY. The session was attended by VE s John Park WA2SSJ Russ Dreimiller WA2LTH and Ray Dreimiller SR. AB2UY.

**FIELD DAY:** Don Smith N2VDE reports that the event will be on June 26-27. We are planning on having it at the Geneva City Hall this year, which will be at no charge. We will utilize the conference room and the parking lot or Ball Park for antenna sites, etc.. Scott would like to do a little site survey within the next week or two to gather ideas.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Tom Sanders KB2NCI reports that on March 12 there will be the 4H expo at the Middle School in Phelps NY where he will be showing kids about amateur radio. He could use some volunteers in the event. Also, Sept. 11, is this years Triathlon. Tom Rosicka W2TF suggested that it would be nice if every 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> month that instead of the Wednesday meeting, that we would have a Saturday breakfast meeting. Scott said that maybe sometime in May would be nice and that we could announce and talk about it on the Sunday net.

**GENEVA REPEATER:** John Park WA2SSJ reports that a summary report has been sent to the Geneva County supervisors along with the County Administrators. There has been no feedback as of yet.

Motion to adjourn was carried at 9:25. Minutes submitted by secretary Ray Dreimiller SR. AB2UY

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Ray Dreimiller Sr.	AB2UY
Dale Hansen	KB2TNL
Dave Furber	KE4VAA
Steve Benton	WB2VMR
Vern Kunes	N2YZS
Jay Hamill	KC2TCM
Dave Taylor	KB2KBY
Tom Sanders	KB2NCI
Stan Avery	WM3D
John Park	WA2SSJ
Dave Foster	AB2WZ
Don Smith	N2VDE
Bob Nezelek	W2CNS