

Illinois Repeater Association

Newsletter

Volume 17

March 2003

Fred Seibold W9FWS, Editor

2003 IRA Annual Meeting Notice

The annual meeting of the Illinois Repeater Association will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2003 at the Best Western Eastland Suites Lodge and Conference Center, 1801 Eastland Drive, Bloomington, IL. 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 2003 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 have any questions or concerns please contact the Secretary/Treasurer at the address in the next column.

Please note that this year all officers and two directors will be elected.

Again, your votes and thoughts are important.

Robert J, (Bob) Koch-KA9FCF

Secretary/Treasurer, Illinois Repeater Association, Inc.
333 Hubbard Ave.
Elgin, IL. 60123-3431
(847) 888-4641
E-mail-<ka9fcf@arrl.com>

Spectrum Threats Loom As Wireless Consumers Grow

As your Association works diligently to share scarce ham radio repeater space among as many users as possible, threats to entire ham bands and other spectrum space continue to mount from the growing army of consumer wireless technology users. A recent Forbes article, "Best Use of Spectrum Stymied by False Shortage" blames broadcasters for the spectrum shortage. "Broadcasters currently control 15 percent of the prime spectrum that allows signals to travel through buildings enabling radios and cell phones to work indoors. They use the 15 percent to serve 11 million U.S. homes, while wireless companies have access to half as much of the prime spectrum and serve 137 million customers in the U.S." Note the spin: broadcasters only serve "homes" while the wireless companies serve "customers".

A recent Associated Press story told of a new software radio design <http://www.vanu.com> which will seek unused frequencies and use them. The article blasted what it termed "outmoded real estate" concepts of frequency allocation. The recent FCC interest in broad re-examination of long-standing FCC allocation policies

was welcomed in the AP story. By the way, Vanu Bose is the son of the Bose consumer electronics firm's founder. These two articles are examples of the well-financed legal, lobbying, and public-relations effort being mounted by the wireless manufacturers to grab spectrum space wherever they can, like land squatters of the nineteenth century. **Each of us needs to keep the ARRL informed about the uses of our ham spectrum**, especially our repeaters. Each repeater frequency is used by many hams. Each weather spotting episode, each parade coordination, each incident of public service however small, needs to be reported to the ARRL after we have reported it to our local news media and to our individual Senators and Congress members. When the high-priced wireless PR firms are claiming millions of users, every public benefit from ham radio that we can report, is vital in this war for spectrum space.

Then contribute to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. Your contribution of \$1000, \$500, \$250 or \$100 will make a huge difference in ARRL's work on your behalf. In fact, if every ARRL member donated just \$8 we could meet the demands of spectrum defense. This year's campaign goal is \$500,000 from 12,000 donors. Will you help?

Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law, as are all contributions to ARRL above and beyond basic membership. So please respond today by using the handy 2003 Defense Fund online reply form.

Portions of the foregoing are from a broadcast engineering message board, the Associated Press, and the ARRL website. More information about the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund is at <http://www.arrl.org> ...Fred, W9FWS

Missing Update Forms As Of 19 December 2002

Illinois Repeater Association, Inc.

Callsign	Callsign	Callsign	Callsign	Callsign
KB9JVU	KD9FA	KB9ZU	W9GG	W9CEE
N9GUN	N9HUW	W9UVI	W9GN	KB9LXA
N9ASN	W9ANL	K9IHK	KB9YKG	W9DUP
KA9GCI	KA9VZD	N9EZJ	KD9F	N9FU
W9ZGP	N9OSR	W9AXD	W9RNM	W9SRC
W9BIL	WB9AET	WA9KRL	KC9AGC	WB9RFQ
AA9GK	K9JL	K9QAT	W9SEH	WA9ORC
K9JX	W9AIU	KB9ADK	K9IYP	W9AML
WB9ZPE	K9ONA	WB9TAL	W9GWF	WB9AGH
KE9WR	W9AP	K8IE	W9MKS	KB9KDE
N9FID	WB9OTW	KB9JZJ	W9EAR	W9FUL
K9IM	KA9NYN	KB9SZK	K9ILS	N9CXQ
WD9AKO	N9ECQ	WA9ISV	WD9HGH	N9GA
N9TO	W9TMC	W9RA	W9US	KF9OA
W9FN	KA9KDC	WB9PIZ	W9DWP	KD9D
W9LOV	NC9T	N9JYA	W9UHF	WD9IAE
K9WGN	WA9WSL	KB9SZK	K9QKB	KE9FC
KB9RAO	WB9UUS	W9TK	K9IV	N9EM
W9LM	WB9QAH	K9AIR	KE9HB	KA9PMM
KF9PI	KB9WEW	W9WBY	N9ATO	N9NIX
W9OWV	WA9E	K9SI	K9UJH	WA9HIR
KA9ATL	WC9V	WB9TEA	WB9UOF	N9ZDZ
K9CZ	N9BNR	K9PW	N9EUO	W9YH
WI9K	N9OMD	KA9FUR	KF9BN	WA9YDK
W9WRL	WA9IMB	WB9BTZ	N9JYC	

Board and Appointees, 2002-2003

President:

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Notes From The Coordinator...

I have received roughly two thirds of the total update forms so far. Unfortunately, the USPS has misinterpreted my temporary forwarding instructions for my PO box mail to be sent to my winter address in Arizona. For those of you that have had mail to the PO Box returned, I apologize. If you want to mail your forms or other correspondence to me,

you can use the following address: 251 S. Ocotillo Ave, Benson AZ 85602-5001.

This address will be good through March 25, 2003. Alternately, you can send email to me at my regular email address, cberg@svs.com.

Realizing that some of the missing repeater update forms listed below may be due to the forwarding problem, another reason may be that they have not been mailed back at all.

This list was generated on 12/19/2002, so any forms received after that date will not be accounted for. I cannot supply duplicate forms, but can send you most of the data you will need to check, sign and return. Please remember that failure to return signed update forms in 2 subsequent years can result in decoordination. If you no longer operate a repeater, please contact me so the frequency pair may be reused.

-Carl, K9VXW

Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

Treasurer's Report as of 04/19/02

Balance

From last annual report: \$4,539.40

Income

Dues and Donations \$2,396.00
Interest on acct. 69.10
From ARRL for Repeater data 514.00

Expense

2001 Annual Meeting \$1272.52
Coordinators expense 432.93
Newsletter print/mail 466.00
(Sept. 2001 and Feb.2002)
Secretary of State 5.00
Dave Karr for development
Of coordination program 100.00
Internet Solutions for website
Rental 140.00

TOTAL \$2,979.10 \$2,416.45

Balance as of 04/12/02 \$5,102.05

Respectfully submitted

Robert J. Koch, KA9FCF

Secretary/ Treasurer, Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

Search Committee To Report At Annual Meeting April 12th.

The Search Committee appointed last December by Illinois Repeater Association President Bob Hajek, W9QBH, will report prospects who have expressed an interest in serving our Association as officers or directors, at the annual meeting. At press time, committee chair Rich Ranson, N9YAY, reported receiving 3 names. However, biographical information on all three was not available for inclusion in this edition of the Newsletter. If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving our Association as an officer or director, please contact Rich at the address or e-mail in the column to the left of this one.

Are your dues paid up-to-date???

Is this your current, correct address???

Have you sent us your annual update??

(Missing the annual update for two years risks loss of your coordination.)

Please plan now to attend the annual meeting in Bloomington Saturday, April 12, 2003.

Take part in our Association. Thanks.



Illinois Repeater Associaton
333 Hubbard Avenue
Elgin, IL 60123-3431

Annual Meeting Notice

First Class Mail

AARON COLLINS
1338 S. ARLINGTON HTS. RD.
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005

60005+3613 6A



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