

# Illinois Repeater Association

Newsletter

Volume 26

March, 2010

Fred Seibold, W9FWS, Editor

## Annual Meeting For 2010 Saturday, April 24, In Bloomington

The annual meeting of the Illinois Repeater Association will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the 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. It is the same location we have used the past several years.

The Conference Center is located at Eastland Drive and Prospect just off Veterans Parkway (Business I55). Exit Veterans Parkway at State 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.** Paying dues in advance speeds the check-in. As in the past we anticipate the meeting to conclude about noon. 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 2010 are needed to vote at the meeting.

Every vote is important so that your association can effectively represent your interest. 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 your 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 IRA Secretary or President. - W9FWS

## Clarification Of Coordination and Maintenance Of Coordinated Status

*-an Illinois Repeater Association Policy Statement, August, 2008*

Receiving a grant of coordination is an authorization to construct and operate a repeater system (a.k.a. Mobile/Portable Relay), based on a specific set of operational parameters, **most of which cannot be changed without applying for and receiving a new coordination grant.**

Some of these parameters include:

Physical location of (In latitude and longitude to the nearest second):

The system transmitter

The system receiver or receivers

Physical Parameters:

Transmitter Frequency

Transmitter Power Output in watts and/or dBm

Antenna System Losses (duplexer and feed line)

Antenna System Gains

RF Power Amplifiers

Receiver Preamplifier

Antenna Gain and Pattern

Antenna AGL and HAAT

System Type Information:

Transmitter Mode/Emission Type

Analog Wide (20/25 KHz Channels)

FM

Analog Narrow (12.5 KHz Channels)

FM

Digital Wide (20/25 KHz Channels)

Digital Narrow (12.5 KHz Channels)

Digital Ultra Narrow (6.25 KHz Channels)

System Access Information: CTCSS, DCS, Digital Access Codes/Access procedures

Owner/Contact Information:

Holder of Coordination or Official Contact:

Name and/or Call Sign

Valid Postal Address

Valid Telephone Number

Valid Email Address (optional)

These are just a few of the major parameters listed in a typical coordination grant. We must stress that the acquisition of a coordination grant is not a license or title of ownership to a frequency or frequency pairs, nor permission to freely experiment with them. **All coordination grants are for a very specific set of operational conditions.**

The changing of any parameter of a system coordination grant, without first requesting and then successfully obtaining approval from the Illinois Repeater Association, constitutes a direct violation of coordination, which if not resolved to the complete satisfaction of the Illinois Repeater Association, will result in the revocation of the coordinated status of the system.

**There are over 400 repeater systems in the state of Illinois alone.** The Illinois Repeater Association staff cannot possibly maintain the status of each and every one of these systems on a daily basis. Therefore, the submission of annual updates is the primary method for determining the operational status of systems. Failing to respond to annual update requests sent out by the frequency coordinator will place a system's coordination into a status of unknown.

Contrary to what some might believe, the Illinois Repeater Association is not a group of self-appointed individuals imposing their will onto repeater owners and operators. **The Illinois Repeater Association is just that, an association of repeater owners and operators who have come together under a mutual agreement to operate in a manner which permits all systems to reap the most benefit for their constituents, by agreeing to follow established policies.** -IRA

## Board Of Directors Meeting

April 24, 2009

The Illinois Repeater Association Board of Directors meeting on April 24, 2009 was called to order by IRA President Rich Ranson at 9:20 PM at the Eastland Suites Bloomington/Normal, Illinois.

### IRA Officers Present:

President: Richard Ranson, N9YAY \*\*  
[VIA PHONE/TELECONFERENCE]

Vice President Tim Childers, KB9FBI

Secretary/Treasurer Larry Schroeder,  
KA9KDC

Directors -

Al Wolfe, K9SI

William Kraus, KA9FER

Stephen Look, KA9SZW

Stephen Craig, WD9CIR

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

President, Richard Ranson, N9YAY, explained the work circumstances that affected his inability to be present at the annual meeting. Through the facilities of the Eastland Conference Center, the meetings will be presided via teleconference/speaker phone.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: KA9KDC moved and KA9SZW seconded a motion to approve the minutes as previously published in the newsletter. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report: Secretary/ Treasurer, KA9KDC, read the treasurer's for the period of April 2008 to April 24, 2009.

As of April 24<sup>th</sup> (before meeting) there were : 123 members (with 54 members still due for renewal from 2008). Note that more renewals and additional new members are expected at General Meeting (tomorrow).

KB9FBI moved and KA9FER seconded a motion that the report be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

v Frequency Coordinators Report : Aaron Collins, N9OZB, IL Frequency Coordinator gave a review of past years coordination and actions.

A motion to accept the coordinator report

was made by KB9FBI and seconded by K9SI

The motion was passed by voice vote.

Technical Committee Report : Bob Shepard, KA9FLX gave a summary of issues and active topics related to coordination. Discussion of a emerging technology, concerns and coordination guidelines for digital repeaters, plans for technologies that utilize narrow FM in terms of separation & coordination. Review of handling for narrowband assignments established last year and systems results of test operations that fit the 2007 allocations & layout. For the "waiting list" there are 6 on the list maintained by the Tech Committee Chairman.

o The official policy is those waiting for repeater frequencies when none are available in a specific area must keep the IL Repeater Assoc technical committee chair informed by direct correspondence and updates on an annual basis. If this annual update is not made to the tech Committee the requestor will be not maintained on the "wait list"

A motion to accept the committee reports was made by KA9FER and seconded by KA9KDC. The motion was passed by voice vote.

### Old Business:

Discussion of Regionalized PLs - do formal plan, Coordinator recommends defacto values in regions, and works where information exists to suggest PL parameters that do not conflict with adjacent coordinated systems.

SNP (shared-NonProtected) Repeaters. Board requests registered letter be sent by N9OZB, coordinator for present coordinated system (Peoria) on the SNP UHF pair to change frequency - per past years proceedings. Coordinator will provide holder of coordination with available frequencies to be coordinated for the systems change.

### New Business :

#### SNP (Shared Non-Protected) Repeaters

Motion by KB9FBI that the use of SNP pairs for repeaters, the Illinois Repeater Association will not provide COORDINATION for such SNP systems on SNP pairs (441.500 & 442.125). Any wording on coordination instructions or documentation will strike the words "to be coordinated" for SNP repeater information.

Motion made by KB9FBI and seconded by K9SI

#### Interworking/support for neighboring State Coordination organizations

Dave Karr, Wisconsin Frequency coordinator who was present at the

meeting discussed with the Board that Ill. Repeater Association might consider working with other neighbor states to strengthen organization and efforts. While productive information sharing occurred, no formal motion or action taken by board at this time.

#### Packet "Digital" simplex systems

Discussion of potential or value in incorporating listings for digital/packet entries to database. Concensus was Illinois Repeater Associations role is coordination of "Repeaters" in FCC defined repeater sub-bands; Coordinator does presently use information when available on any links that exist, to coordinate repeater links, etc.

Adjournment: KA9SZM moved and K9SI seconded that the IRA Board of Directors' Meeting be recessed until after the annual meeting on April 25, 2009. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was recessed at 11:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC

Secretary/Treasurer,

Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

### April 25, 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by IRA president Rich Ranson, N9YAY (via teleconference) at 10:05 am at the Eastland Suites, Bloomington/Normal Illinois. Larry Schroeder KA9KDC, secretary/treasurer, verified that there was a quorum present as required in the constitution to conduct business. ( 44 of 123 members present or represented by proxy)

Introduction of Officers and Attendees: N9YAY asked everyone to introduce themselves and identify the repeater(s) they represent. There were 45 persons in attendance representing 72 unique repeater sponsors.

Also present was Dave Karr, KA9FUR, Wisconsin Frequency Coordinator

Approval of prior meeting minutes: W9XA moved and KA9ZXN seconded a motion that the minutes of the 2008 annual meeting be approved as published in the IRA newsletter. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Secretary/ Treasurer, KA9KDC, read the treasurer's for the period of April 2008 to April 24, 2009. ...

As of April 24<sup>th</sup> (before meeting) there were ....

WA0LIS moved and N9JWI seconded a motion that the report be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote.

Coordinator's report: President N9YAY 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. Aaron noted that the effort taken to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> notice mailing for annual update had beneficial results for getting a number of repeaters to provide more accurate information, as well as reduce the number of systems that are at risk of decoordination for failing to provide annual updates.

Aaron highlighted the value of the "coordinators toolkit" software is in performing coordination work. This is a software package engineered by Dave Karr, WI Freq Coordinator.

A motion to accept the coordinators report was made by KA9ZKN and seconded by WA9WTF.

The motion was accepted by voice vote.

Technical Committee report: Robert Shepard, KA9FLX, reported that details of years technical committee efforts was covered by the Coordinator report. Bob did stress that repeater coordination information needs to be technically correct and accurate to improve the associations efforts in handling coordination actions, in particular he noted that numerous systems have have incorrect ERP calculation/data, and physical specifications for their site.

Wait List policy was stated (requesters must have annual communication and updates with the technical committee to be maintain on the wait list)

Bob discussed the DSTAR and digital coordination plan that was formulated at the 2007 meeting. It was noted that many other states have followed the plan IL had formed when it came to layout of DStar coordinations on 2m and 440.

President's report: Rich Ranson, N9YAY, IRA president summarized his view of 2008-2009 activities of the organization, thanking the board and committee chairs for their work. In particular for Aaron Collins work on frequency coordination. Rich discussed NFCC role. A motion to accept the presidents report was made by W9XA and seconded by W9DWP. The motion was accepted by voice vote.

Special Guest/Presentation: Dick Isley, (W9GIG) ARRL Central Division Director

Dick thanked membership and organization present for their support for his 9 years on the ARRL board. Dick explained the efforts of the ARRL to work with the FCC to properly define "repeaters", as well as significant federal court cases and legislation the ARRL is working to affect.

Dick brought up some concerns he was aware of related to IRA organization responsiveness in individual requests. Dick stressed to the organization, particularly board and committees that inquiries and communication needs to get promptly acknowledged when received.

### Election of Officers/Directors:

For this year: (2 YEAR TERMS):

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

SECRETARY-TREASURER

TWO DIRECTOR SLOTS ARE TO BE ELECTED

Nominations from the floor were:

K9SI for Director, Nominated by W9XA

KA9FER for Director, Nominated by KC9KKO

W9FWS for Director, Nominated by N9RVQ

W9DWP for Director, Nominated by K9WSS

N9YAY for President, Nominated by KA9FLX

KA9KDC for Sec/Treas, Nominated by KB9TVD

KB9FBI for VicePres, Nominated by KA9FER

The motion was made to close nominations by W9XA, seconded by N9RBQ and carried by voice vote.

PAPER BALLOT for election occurred.

Election Result:

President- Rich Ranson-N9YAY

Vice President- Tim Childers-KB9FBI

Secretary/Treasurer- Larry Schroeder-KA9KDC

Directors- (2009-2011)

Al Wolfe-K9SI

William Kraus-KA9FER

Motion by W9XA to approve election & destroy all cast Ballots, second by KC6VVT

### Old Business:

KA9FLX, IRA Technical Committee Chair, explained the clarified definition for SNP (Shared-Non-Protected) Repeaters, that SNP systems are not coordinated, rather information may be included in the coordination database but not given any protection as normal coordinations. SNP UHF PAIRS are 442.125 & 441.5 (2009 newsletter had a error in frequency).

WD9HSY motion to accept SNP Update as presented, second by W9DWP. approved by voice vote. Discussed location for IRA annual meetings. Consensus that the EASTLAND SUITES, Bloomington, IL continues to be a good location. 2010 meeting will be arranged for the same facilities on April 24, 2010).

### New Business:

Repeater Coordination software: W9XA made a motion to donate \$200 to Dave Karr, developer for the coordination toolkit, Seconded by WD9HSY. Motion passed by voice vote.

General discussion topics (no specific motions):

Tracking digital/wide band simplex listing in 1200 Mhz 125Khz channels.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the body a motion to adjourn was made by K9XA and seconded by W9DWP and approved by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM. Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC

Secretary /Treasurer

Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

### **BOARD of DIRECTORS MINUTES**

**April 25, 2009**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Repeater Association was called to order by IRA President N9YAY at 11:50 AM at the Eastland Suites Bloomington/Normal, Illinois.

IRA Officers Present: President N9YAY (\*via phone) - Vice President Timothy Childers, KB9FBI- Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Schroeder, KA9KDC - Directors: Allen Wolfe, K9SI - William Kraus, KA9FER- Stephen Look, KA9SZW, and Stephen Craig, WD9CIR

IRA officers absent: None.

### Committee and Frequency Coordinator

Appointments: President appointed Aaron Collins, N9OZB to serve as Frequency Coordinator for the next year.

KA9KDC moved and KB9FBI seconded that this appointment be confirmed.

N9YAY Appointed KA9FLX, Bob Shepard to serve as IRA Technical Committee Chairman.

K9SI moved and KA9FER seconded a motion to confirm this appointment.

N9YAY appointed Fred Seibold, W9FWS, to serve as Newsletter Editor.

WD9CIR moved and KA9SZW seconded a motion that this appointment be confirmed. All three appointments passed by a unanimous voice vote.

MACC Director Appointments: N9YAY appointed KB9FBI 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: KA9FER moved and WD9CIR 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 K9SI seconded that the IRA Board of Directors meeting be adjourned. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM April 25, 2009. Respectfully submitted,

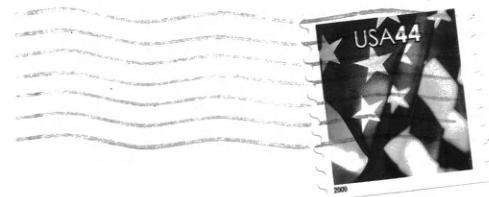
Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC, Secretary/Treasurer,  
Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

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# ILLINOIS REPEATER ASSOCIATION

0 N 490 Evans Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187



**Annual Meeting Notice**  
**Saturday April 24, 2010**

**Are Your Dues Paid??**  
**Check label for "2010"**

**First Class Mail**

N9OZB Renewal due! 2009  
N9OZB  
Aaron A. Collins  
1338 S. Arlington Heights Rd  
Arlington Hts, IL 60005

## Board Members

### President:

Richard E. Ranson, KD9Q  
(formerly N9YAY)  
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### Vice-President:

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### Secretary-Treasurer:

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[k9si@arrl.net](mailto:k9si@arrl.net)

### Frequency Coordinator:

Aaron Collins, N9OZB  
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### Technical Committee Chair:

This position is currently vacant.

### Newsletter Editor:

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**Annual Meeting**  
**April 24, 2010**  
**Eastland Suites**  
**Bloomington, IL**