

# Illinois Repeater Association

Newsletter

Volume 27

March, 2011

Fred Seibold, W9FWS, Editor

## Annual Meeting For 2011 Saturday, April 16 In Bloomington

The annual meeting of the Illinois Repeater Association will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2011 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 1 p.m. 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 2011 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

## Congress To Sell 440

On February 10, 2011, Rep. Peter King (R-NY), Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, introduced H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011," which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee (which handles telecommunications legislation). The bill addresses certain spectrum management issues including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network.

As part of that network, the Bill provides for the allocation of the so-called "D-Block" of spectrum in the 700 MHz range for Public Safety use. HR 607 uniquely, provides for the reallocation of other spectrum for auction to commercial users, in order to offset the loss of revenue that would occur as the result of the allocation of the D-Block to Public Safety instead of commercial auction. H.R. 607 lists, **among the bands to be reallocated for commercial auction within ten years of the passage of the Bill, the paired bands 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz.**

The inclusion of most of the Amateur 70-cm spectrum as one of the replacement bands is a major problem. The 420-440 MHz band is not Public Safety spectrum and should not be included in any spectrum swap of Public Safety allocations.

While the ARRL and all Amateurs support the work of Public Safety and recognize their need for dedicated spectrum which would promote interoperability, the ARRL vigorously opposes HR 607 in its present form. HR 607 is a direct threat to our limited spectrum and the ARRL encourages all amateurs to appropriately voice their opposition to this bill.

Because of lengthy screening and security delays for regular US mail to be delivered to congressional offices, the ARRL asks that when you wish to send a letter supporting the ARRL's position on legislation that you send your letter to our **Washington lobbying firm, Chwat & Co.**

Signed letters to Representatives and Senators may be sent to Chwat & Co.'s offices by one of the following methods:  
By US Mail - Send to:  
John Chwat, Chwat & Co.  
625 Slaters Lane, Suite 103  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
By Fax - Send to: 703-684-7594  
You may also send a signed letter via email to: [arri@chwatco.com](mailto:arri@chwatco.com)

-ARRL

## IRA Officers and Staff

### President:

Richard E. Ranson KD9Q (formerly: N9YAY) 609 E. Front St. Bloomington, IL 61701

309-261-5741  
E-mail = [kd9q@arri.net](mailto:kd9q@arri.net)

### Vice President:

Timothy C. (Tim) Childers KB9FBI

107 West Point Drive  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
217-245-2061  
E-mail = [kb9fbi@arri.net](mailto:kb9fbi@arri.net)

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Lawrence (Larry) J Schroeder KA9KDC  
ON490 Evans Road  
Wheaton, IL. 60187  
630-665-3228  
E-mail = [schroeder@lucent.com](mailto:schroeder@lucent.com)

### Director 2009-2011:

Bill Kraus, KA9FER  
2806 E. 2575 Rd.  
Marseilles, IL 61341  
E-mail = [bkddt@mchsi.com](mailto:bkddt@mchsi.com)

### Director 2009-2011:

Al Wolfe, K9SI  
2266 County Road 1200N.  
Sidney, IL. 61877-9760  
217-688-2790  
E-mail = [k9si@arri.net](mailto:k9si@arri.net)

### Director 2010-2012:

Stephen Craig, WD9CIR  
4112 N Grand Blvd  
Peoria, IL 61614

E-mail = [wd9cir@arri.net](mailto:wd9cir@arri.net)

### Director 2010-2012:

Milt Forsberg, K9QZI  
807 W Charles St  
Champaign, IL 61820-5801

E-mail = [miltf@uiuc.edu](mailto:miltf@uiuc.edu)

### Frequency Coordinator:

Aaron Collins N9OZB  
1338 South Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
847-640-7911  
E-mail = [collins@knowideas.com](mailto:collins@knowideas.com)

### Technical Committee Chair:

For technical issues, contact: Bill Kraus (director)

### IRA Newsletter Editor:

Frederick W. (Fred) Seibold W9FWS  
P.O. Box 140  
Sadorus, IL 61872  
217-598-2555  
E-mail = [w9fws@arri.net](mailto:w9fws@arri.net)

Copyright 2011, IRA, all rights reserved

## BOARD of DIRECTORS MINUTES

April 23, 2010. The Illinois Repeater Association Board of Directors meeting for April 23, 2010 was called to order by IRA President Rich Ranson at 9:00 PM at the Eastland Suites Bloomington/Normal, Illinois.  
IRA Officers Present:

President: Richard Ranson, KD9Q;

Vice President Tim Childers, KB9FBI;  
Secretary/Treasurer Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC;

Directors:

Al Wolfe, K9SI;

William Kraus, KA9FER;

Stephen Craig, WD9CIR;

Stephen Look, KA9SZW, was unable to attend 2010 meeting.

Staff Present: Aaron Collins, N9OZB,  
Frequency Coordinator;

Fred Seibold, W9FWS, Newsletter Editor.

Guests Present: Dave Karr, KA9FUR,  
Wisconsin Frequency Coordinator

Items to be added to the agenda: Items identified for discussion during Committee Reports and New Business.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: KA9FER moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion to approve the board minutes as previously published in the 2009-2010 printed newsletter and website. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report: Secretary/ Treasurer, KA9KDC, read the treasurer's for the period of April 2009 to April 23, 2010. As of April 23<sup>rd</sup> (before meeting) there were : 118 members. KA9FUR moved and K9SI seconded a motion that the report be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Technical Committe Report : Bob Shepard, KA9FLX stepped down mid year. Thus there was no technical report, beyond the coordination status. The board will search for potential replacements. Bob was recognized as having provided some good service during this tenure. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by KB9FBI and seconded by KA9FER. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Old Business: Pending change of Illinois registered corporation agent - transfer of corporate agent from Dick Isely to Larry Schroeder remains to be done. Larry will work this in the 2010-2011 year, with secretary of state transfer of registered agent application.

New Business : ARRL SPECTRUM DEFENSE Fund (proposed by K9SI) - donation will be proposed by board at the next days General Membership meeting for acceptance. Proposed amount would be \$500.00 -- the organization has similar donation in 2008. The value is roughly equivalent to the funding received from ARRL repeater directory contributions. Simplification of certain forms of coordination data changes. The board discussed that some forms of data change should not be

needing adjacent state approvals and "construction" intervals. Specifically ADMINISTRATIVE Change such as a Callsign Change on a repeater/system, where there is NO change to the "Holder of Coordination" (for instance same organization) can be immediately handled without delay by the IRA Frequency Coordinator. Related to above, the board also discussed that various parameters listed in "IRA Guide to Maintaining Coordination" document on the website, is listing too many parameters that would require recoordination. Aaron will revise this document with the simplifications discussed.

Additional topics discussed with no specific motions or actions were:

IRA role in Dealing with Uncoordinated Repeaters.

Actions involving "Paper Repeaters" (repeaters that coordinate with IRA, but in reality don't exist).

Digital Registry "Clearinghouse" - IRA coordinator should maintain data on frequencies in use for digital activity; on non-coordination basis. If such systems provide information to the coordinator, it should get listed in our records, as information. It would not be listed in repeater directories or considered coordinated however.

Shared Non-protected repeaters // IRA has designated SNP pair(s).

Adjournment: KA9KDC moved and KA9FER seconded that the IRA Board of Directors' Meeting be recessed until after the annual meeting on April 24, 2010. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was recessed at 11:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

## Annual Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2010.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by IRA president Rich Ranson, KD9QY at 10:00 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. (77 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 61 persons in attendance representing 83 unique Illinois repeater sponsors. Also present was Dave Karr, KA9FUR, Wisconsin Frequency Coordinator

Approval of prior meeting minutes: WD9HSY moved and KA9ZXXN 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 2009 to April 23, 2010. As of April 23<sup>rd</sup> (before meeting) there were 118 members [91 members paid through 2010; 19 through '2011, 5 thru '12, 1 thru '14 and 2 thru '15]. During meeting checkin an additional 35 membership checks were received. N9JWI moved and

KB9LNK seconded a motion that the report be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote.

Coordinator's report: President KD9Q 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.

Some of the data presented:

58 coordinations in 2009-2010; 8 applications in progress

12 systems de coordinated/ or relinquished

478 annual required-reply repeater "survey forms" mailed.

About 2/3rds of forms were returned from the first mailing.

Waiting List: 10 pending requests for 2 meter pairs; 2 for UHF.

A motion to accept the coordinators report was made by N9RBQ and seconded by WD9HSY.

The motion was accepted by voice vote.

Technical Committee report: Position : VACANCY. (Robert Shepard, KA9FLX, mid-year retired from position)

Interested parties should contact President and board - in mean time a board member will be designated to coordinate any technical issues, that the Coordinator can not handle.

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

President's report:

Rich Ranson, KD9Q, IRA president summarized his view of 2009-2010 activities of the organization.

Presentation summary included:

"Electronic Age" and the ability to handle responsibilities of organization electronically.

Particularly the presidents role, and his interest & engagement from his remote location

Thanking the board and committee chairs for their work.

In particular for Aaron Collins work doing repeater frequency coordination.

Discussed NFCC role. Recent efforts to clarify the NFCC decoordination of entities that are not active or have no real role in repeater coordination.

A motion to accept the president's report was made by KA9KDC and seconded by W9WTF.

The motion was accepted by voice vote.

Election of Officers/Directors:

For this year: only two bard directors require election.

(2 YEAR TERMS):

Current Board is:

President- Rich Ranson-KD9Q

Vice President- Tim Childers-KB9FBI

Secretary/Treasurer- Larry Schroeder-KA9KDC

Directors-

(2008-2010) (Stephen Craig-WD9CIR Steve Look-KA9SZW)

(2009-2011) Al Wolfe-K9SI William Kraus-KA9FER

TWO DIRECTOR SLOTS ARE TO BE ELECTED for the 2010-2012 slots

Nominations from the floor were:

K9QZI Milt Forsberg

WD9CIR Stephen Craig

WD9SHSY made a motion that all nominees be declared elected for the two board member slots.

Accepted by voice vote.

Old Business:

n Discussed location for IRA annual meetings. general consensus that the EASTLAND SUITES facility, Bloomington, IL continues to be a good location. 2011 meeting will be arranged for the same facilities (2011 Meeting will be : Saturday April 16th 2011).

New Business:

Repeater Coordination software: N9JWI made a motion to donate \$200 to Dave Karr, developer for the coordination toolkit. Seconded by KB9APW. Motion passed by voice vote.

Donation to ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund: Board presented their recommendation that \$500. be donated to the fund, similar to donation action in 2008. KA9KDC presented motion, Seconded by WD9HSY. Motion passed by voice vote.

Simplification of some data changes in coordinated repeater parameters: KD9Q/president stated the actions the board took at board meeting for Administration-only changes to repeater data, that will not require adjacent state acceptance and construction intervals before change being made. The administration of call sign changes when there is no change to the "HOC" (Holder of Coordination) will be handled by the Coordinator and not require re-coordination or detailed paper work.

Recognition of former technical committee lead KA9FLX: K9SI proposed recognition be considered by board/amount of funds to be up to board for award. KA9ZXN second. Voice vote passed.

-----  
General discussion topics (no specific motions):

Simplification of some data changes in coordinated repeater parameters: KD9Q/president stated the actions the board took at board meeting for Administration-only changes to repeater data, that will not require adjacent state acceptance and construction intervals before change being made. The administration of call sign changes when there is no change to the "HOC" (Holder of Coordination) will be handled by the

Coordinator and not require re-coordination or detailed paper work.

Online / Electronic coordination updates:

W9XA queried about online interfaces for annual updates

AaronCollins, N9OZB, pointed out the needed front-end work & effort.

KD9Q stated issues on authentication, signatures / account management, etc, would be additional concerns and overhead.

KA9FUR discussed what present software can support, and the current bar code and SW implementations

KA6VVT suggested that a National (NFCC?) discussion be had on electronic coordination communications

v Aaron/coordinator stated that present system does allow for "electronic" communication, such as PDF files of the returned forms, and the use of bar code form reading at his end.

D-STAR Digital registration for Simplex system: presently only repeaters and their related link usages are coordinated by IRA. Other forms of simplex usage may be volunteered to IRA, but is not coordinated.

ARRL Repeater Directory listings/concern over some attributes and their verification: KA6VVT stated that some attributes such as Emergency access, ARES RACES affiliation, emergency power are not accurate. Question those that are listed. KA9FUR pointed out that the ARRL sets the features that can be listed, and issues with the set of features provided should go to the ARRL editor , Steve Ford -- IRA data for such features is what ever the repeater system said they are -- we can not enforce their listing of such codes.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the body a motion to adjourn was made by WD9HSY and seconded by W9XA and approved by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC

Secretary /Treasurer

Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS MINUTES

April 24, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Repeater Association was called to order by IRA President KD9Q at 11:14 AM at the Eastland Suites Bloomington/Normal, Illinois.

IRA Officers Present: President KD9Q - Vice President Timothy Childers, KB9FBI- Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Schroeder, KA9KDC - Directors: Allen Wolfe, K9SI - William Kraus, KA9FER, Milt Forsberg K9QZI, 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.

WD9CIR moved and K9SI seconded that this appointment be confirmed.

KD9Q Appointed <no - one> \_\_\_\_\_ to serve as IRA Technical Committee Chairman.

- as search for candidate is in progress. In mean time Board director: KA9FER will aid in technical consultation when needed.

KD9Q appointed Fred Seibold, W9FWS, to serve as Newsletter Editor.

WD9CIR moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion that these appointments be confirmed.

Passed by a unanimous voice vote.

MACC Director Appointments: KD9Q appointed KB9FBI and W9GIG to serve as MACC Directors for the next 12 months, and N9OZB to serve as MACC Frequency Coordinator.

WD9CIR moved and KB9FBI seconded a motion that the IRA Board of Directors confirm these appointments. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

NFCC Delegate: K9QZI 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.

KA9KDC proposed and motioned that a plaque recognition be provided to Bob Hajek and Bob Shepard for upto \$100.00 each. Second by KA9FER. Voice vote = passed.

Adjournment: KA9FER moved and KB9FBI seconded that the IRA Board of Directors meeting be adjourned. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM April 24, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Schroeder, KA9KDC

Secretary/Treasurer,

Illinois Repeater Association Inc.

**Congress Wants To  
Sell 440 To The  
Highest Bidder  
.....details inside**

**Illinois Repeater Assn.  
Annual Meeting Notice  
Saturday, April 16, 2011  
Bloomington, Illinois**

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

**Annual Meeting Notice  
Saturday  
April 16, 2011**

**Are your dues paid?  
Check address label--**

**First Class Mail**

N9OZB RENEW NOW (2010)  
Aaron A. Collins  
1338 S. Arlington Heights Rd  
Arlington Hts, IL 60005

