

MARA NORTH EAST ANNUAL MEETING

Cherry Hill Ward Chapel

Cherry Hill, NJ

17 May 2008

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the MARA North East began at 10:10 am at the LDS Cherry Hill Ward chapel in Cherry Hill, NJ.

Barry, N2PCT, welcomed those present.

Laurice, KB3QLN, gave the opening prayer.

TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

The time was turned over to Bruce, N3IA, for his PowerPoint presentation on [Internet Radio Linking Project \(IRLP\)](#) and [EchoLink](#). Using a mobile 2M radio powered from a gel cell, and a magnetic mount antenna sitting on the open window frame of the meeting room, he connected to a western U.S. repeater via a local IRLP equipped repeater for an effective demonstration. His EchoLink setup consisted of the laptop with a wireless card connecting him to an internet service provider (ISP). He then made various connections to show how it worked.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the 2007 annual meeting were read by Dave, VE1VQ. A motion was made by Steve, K2KEL and seconded by Bruce, N3IA to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Old business arising from the minutes:

1. Installation of radio equipment in chapels. Steve, K2KEL, and Shirrel, N3DIX, reported that several areas have installed equipment. Dan, NE3Z, is doing a great job in getting north eastern LDS hams on the air for HF and VHF storehouse nets on the first Sunday of each month.
2. Art, W1OND – Dave VE1VQ, reported that Sherry, KB2YXI, had found a Social Security death entry for Arthur Ayer of North Windham CT. Dave will contact the Bishop in Art's ward to check on this.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was read by Dave, VE1VQ, in the absence of Stan, N3HS, treasurer. We have \$602.84 in the account. (No money was collected at the meeting). A motion was made by Bruce, N3IA and seconded by Brent, KB3QER to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Barry, N2PCT, had announced some weeks prior to the meeting that he would step down as President because of his recent surgery and on-going recovery.

Dave, VE1VQ, as secretary called for nominations for the office of President.

Bruce, N3IA, nominated Shirrel, N3DIX.
Shirrel, N3DIX nominated Bruce, N3IA.



Figure 1 – Outgoing President and new Net Manager – Barry N2PCT

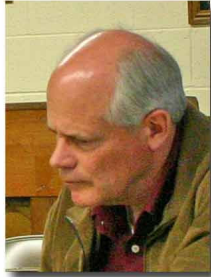


Figure 2 – New President - Shirrel N3DIX



Figure 3 – VP Bruce N3IA

An amicable settlement was reached between Bruce and Shirrel; the latter would accept the position of President while the former would remain as Vice-President.

With Shirrel assuming the role of President, he said that he would be stepping down as HF Net Manager and asked Barry, N2PCT, if he would assume that role. Barry accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Location and date of next year's meeting – Barry, N2PCT, offered to host the 2009 Annual Meeting in the Scranton, PA, Stake at the Nazareth Ward building. This was accepted. Discussion followed about a suitable date. It was finally decided to hold the meeting on the 2nd of May, 2009. All voted in favor.
2. Presentation to the Rostrom and Naylor families.

Steve, K2KEL presented plaques to each of the families of Dick Rostrom, NG2R, and Chic Naylor, WA2USI. Bruce, N3IA, read the biographies of both men. Both were founding members of the Mercury Amateur Radio Association – North East. Those present from the Naylor family were Frances Naylor, Michael Watson, Elissa Naylor, and Dave Naylor. From the Rostrom family: Mark Rostrom, Brenda Rostrom, and Joann Rostrom. Family and MARA members talked about some of their memories of the two men.



Figure 3 – WA2USI's radio equipment, shown in the wooden case, donated to K2AA, the South Jersey Radio Association, of which Chic was a member.

3. Dave, VE1VQ, made a motion, seconded by Steve, K2KEL, that MARA North East donate the sum of \$250 to the Cherry Hill Ward for the Church's Perpetual Education Fund in memory of Dick, NG2R and Chic, WA2USI. Motion carried.

Closing prayer and blessing on the food was given by Steve, K2KEL.

The group was treated to a meal provided by NATALIE & DAVE CATERERS and paid for by the Cherry Hill New Jersey Stake. People socialized and dined.

Our thanks to Steve, K2KEL, for hosting this year's meeting, and for the Cherry Hill Stake for providing the food.

Several of the group left at 1:00 pm to tour the battleship New Jersey and operate from the radio room on board. Others stayed for a short while before leaving for their destinations.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave VE1VQ

Those in attendance:

1. Steve Kelly, K2KEL
2. Bruce Wortmann, N3IA
3. Jeff Niceler, KB3DEY
4. Laurice Niceler, KB3QLN
5. Jack Scheimreif, KC2RDZ
6. Shirrel Young, N3DIX
7. Barry Smith N2PCT
8. Sherry Smith KB2YXI
9. Dave Marling VE1VQ
10. Brent Ruggles KB3QER
11. Elissa Naylor (Family of Chic, WA2USI)
12. Michael Watson (Family of Chic, WA2USI)
13. David Naylor (Family of Chic, WA2USI)
14. Frances Naylor (Family of Chic, WA2USI)
15. Joann Rostrom (Family of Dick, NG2R)
16. Brenda Rostrom (Family of Dick, NG2R)
17. Mark Rostrom (Family of Dick, NG2R)
18. Angela Marling