

MARA - NORTH EAST

ANNUAL MEETING

18 JUNE 2011

The annual meeting of the Mercury Amateur Radio Association - North East was held at the Nautilus Diner in Crofton, MD on the 18th of June 2011.

Attending

Bruce Wortmann, N3IA President
Steve Kelly, K2KEL VP
Stan Staten, N3HS Treasurer
Jeff Niceler, K3DEY Board Member
Caryl Kelly, KC2QCL Board Member
Charles Bruington, WB4FLM Board Member
Chuck Moore, WD4HXG
Dan Goodson, NE3Z, guest, (briefly, before being called away)

The opening Prayer was offered by Bruce Wortmann

The minutes of the 2010 meeting were not available for acceptance.

The Treasurer reported the Association funds total \$245.51. The Treasurer's report was accepted by voice vote.

The first topic was a discussion of how to move forward on changes to the Mara-NE Constitution and By-Laws. It was thought that the amendment rule would need to be suspended to carry the business with so few able to attend the annual meetings. This became unnecessary as the current constitution provides the means to amend through the use of proxies in the ratification process.

A lively discussion ensued regarding Resolution #1 and edits were made to the originally proposed resolution and are presented later in the minutes.

In order to proceed with the Membership business, it was determined that the correct course of action would be to suspend the "Membership" meeting and convene a meeting of the Board of Directors. The "Membership" meeting was duly suspended, for cause of voting resolution #2 and resolving the need to assess dues to expiring members present to retain membership status for the meeting and then refunding same if the resolution passed.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was convened. A quorum consisting of Jeff, Charlie, and Caryl was present.

Resolution #2 was discussed and voted unanimously in the affirmative.

The resolution eliminates the annual \$5 dues (or more particularly sets the dues at \$0) without modifying Article 5 of the MARA-NE Constitution and provides for mechanisms required to manage the Association.

The Board meeting was then suspended and the Membership meeting resumed.

Board Elections

Stan Staten, N3HS was elected to a 6 year term, replacing Diana Taggart.

Charles Bruington, WB4FLM was re-elected to another 6 year term.

It was determined that Caryl Kelly, KC2QCL had, last year, been elected to fill a remaining 3 year term.

Chuck Moore was conditionally elected to the 2 year remainder of a vacant Board position.

[I have since reviewed the minutes of the 2010 meeting and discovered that "To fill the position left vacant by Shirrel Young (N3DIX/SK), expiring in 2013 – Mike Dirlle was duly nominated, seconded and elected. To fill the vacant position expiring in 2013 – Caryl Kelly was duly nominated, seconded and elected."] My sincere apology to Chuck for my inept management - N3IA

The membership voted to accept the modified Resolution #1 and have the amendment presented to the general membership for a vote at next year's meeting.

The membership also presented a resolution of commendation to Dave Marling, VE1VQ for being the glue which has held the Association together and provided tireless service in the production of the monthly news letter. The resolution was passed by enthusiastic voice vote.

The membership meeting was then adjourned, and the Board meeting resumed.

Election of Officers

The board re-elected Bruce Wortmann, N3IA as President, and Dave Marling, VE1VQ as secretary. The Board also



Prior to the annual meeting several members gathered at the radio room in the DC Bishop's Storehouse. From left to right - Charlie WB4FLM, Bruce N3IA, Caryl KC2QCL, Jeff K3DEY, Steve K2KEL, and Frank KB3PDT. Photo by Dan NE3Z

voted, conditional on his acceptance, the election of Dave Marling as Treasurer, as the resolution provides no Treasurer action and Stan had, last year, requested not to be re-elected.

Acceptance of new members

Memberships were accepted from Michael Hall KJ3HAL and Robert Lucas W4WBG

Next year's annual meeting

The 2012 annual meeting was discussed and the suggestions included: Stan's place or a historic site (a ship or fort, etc.). No location was selected but it was decided it needed to be chosen and announced by 1/1/2012.

The Board meeting was adjourned and the closing prayer was offered by Steve Kelly.

RESOLUTION #1

Whereas the membership of MARA-NE desire to retain our mutual association as church members, and

Whereas no direct relationship should be purported or implied that MARA-NE has a direct support role for the LDS Church,

Therefore, be it resolved that the MARA-NE constitution

Preamble be amended as follows:

We, the Membership, wishing to secure for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of an association of persons in the LDS Church or otherwise commonly interested in Amateur Radio and in developing and maintaining emergency communications skills, constitute ourselves the Northeast Mercury Amateur Radio Association (hereafter known as "the club") and enact this constitution as our governing law. It shall be our purpose to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members; to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency; to conduct programs and activities to advance use of Amateur Radio for emergency communications; and to provide training, support and encouragement for those who would serve in emergency communications.

Therefore further, be it resolved that the MARA-NE constitution "Article I – Membership" be amended as follows:

All persons interested in providing emergency communication services by Amateur Radio shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be by application and election upon such terms as the club shall provide in its By-laws.

Approved for Presentation to the Membership 6/18/2011

RESOLUTION #2

Whereas, the membership of MARA-NE desire to

simplify the operation of the club, and

Whereas the Club incurs no regular expenses, and

Whereas, the Club still requires a mechanism for maintaining a membership roster.

Therefore, be it resolved to eliminate the current \$5 per year dues and further, therefore empower the Secretary to annually poll, by mail or electronic means, the then current club members, prior to the regular meeting or regular meeting of the Board of Directors, and thereby ascertain the desire of the club member to retain membership.

Therefore further, resolve to empower the Board of Directors to make a request for voluntary donation from the membership to cover any ad hoc expense.

Therefore further, resolve to empower the treasurer to determine from any member currently with dues paid into the future, their desire to be refunded or the club retain the said future dues funds and document and as requested refund such dues.

Approved by Board vote 6/18/2011

RESOLUTION #3

Whereas, the membership of MARA-NE desire to express appreciation for service rendered and

Whereas Dave Marling, VE1VQ, is a Charter Member of the Mercury Amateur Radio Association – North East, and

Whereas he has served as a faithful and devoted officer of the club, and

Whereas he has tirelessly produced the monthly newsletter for these many years, and

Whereas he has maintained regular radio contact with the membership through the Saturday morning net (as such propagation and noise conditions permit) and

Whereas he has to the best of his ability attended meeting of the club at great distance from his home QTH.

Now therefore: Be it resolved by this special commendation the membership, in the highest terms and with great appreciation hereby bestow the title of “Chapter Glue” upon Dave Marling, VE1VQ as the key element which holds our association together.

Approved by voice vote of the membership this 18th Day of June, Two Thousand Eleven.