

The Relay

Minden Amateur Radio Association Inc.
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From the Prez.....

Well we have completed another year and a great one it was. All of our endeavors this year have been successful. We were awarded a Plaque for being first in our division for Field Day and we did it with less help than in past years. We also had a successful Hamfest thanks to the efforts of all those who helped put it on. I would like to thank all those who pitched in and helped with all the events. You all know who you are and so do we. I usually refrain from naming people individually for fear of not including everyone who deserves recognition. However I feel it in order to name one person for the outstanding job of selling a large number of prize tickets and above what he bought for himself. I do not have the exact number but Mike Ketchens, KE5DLM sold in excess of around 500+ tickets. Good Job Mike! We all need to follow his lead and try to sell tickets to others in addition to those we get for ourselves.

Although we cleared about the same amount as usual, our attendance was down this year. That cuts into the number of Prize tickets sold at the fest. I feel those who have bought tickets before the fest are a lot less likely to wake up fest day and change their minds about coming.

Now we are starting a new year. This is our Seventeenth year since this club was formed and started having a hamfest. We have never missed a year having a fest in all that time so lets pull together this year and keep the club and the fest going.

73'
Dusty, N5COL

Hamfest Report

As every year it all started Friday afternoon with getting the tables set up and the civic center decorated and set up for Saturday morning. Dealers and swap tables being set up. Starting to get the foods together.

Saturday morning came very early for some of us. After getting the doors unlocked we were off the the races. Gumbo and red beans heating in the food booth, Wayne Hatfield,

KD5JJP on talk in on the 300 machine. Fran up in the lobby taking care of the table rentals and tickets. Thing started out a little slow, but that changed in no time, and we were busy letting people. From my perspective at the ticket table, it seems to have been a good fest with lots of stuff passing through the doors on the way out. We had 9 people either get a license or upgrade, congrats to them. Many thanks to Gary Stratton, K5GLS for doing an ARRL Forum in the afternoon. Dusty was presented with a plaque for the club for placing first in our group for Field Day. Hopefully he will bring it to the meeting. Lots of food was sold and just about every hamburger was eaten, many thanks and all the kudos to Nat Baggett, KD5LSM for cooking all the burgers. All in all the hamfest looked to be a success. So here a salute to all who helped out.

Prize Winners: Grand Prize – Yaesu FT 857D – Russel Sanders, KC5SAZ, Minden, LA
2nd Prize – ICOM IC 208H – Ron Porter, K5AI, Shreveport, LA
3rd Prize – Yaesu FT 60R Dual Band HT – Bobby Mathews, KF5XV,
Shreveport, LA
4th Prize – Dual Band Mobile Antenna – Robert Freeman, K5SOG, Tyler, TX
Palmetto Antenna – Dusty Collins, N5COL, Dubberly, LA
MARA Hamfest Quilt – Elven Gurnea, KC5VIP, Magnolia, AR

Congratulations to all the winners! We hit a wider spread of the area this year!

Help Needed.....

As I have been monitoring the link when Skywarn is up, I have noticed that there is no reporting coming from the eastern parts of the link. That includes everything from Minden and over. If there is nothing to report, you can check in to let NWS Shreveport know you are monitoring and are available if you are. They need all the help they can get sometimes and it sounds as if none has been coming even when they call for report from the east. You do not need to be Skywarn trained but it would help, just check in a give your call sign and location so they know you are out there. Thanks for all that you do!

Net on the Link System every Tuesday night at 8pm. Anyone who is interested and willing to call the net contact Fran Sullivan, kd5lkb.

**Club meeting on the third Saturday of every month at 12:15
at the Exacta Inn in Minden.**

Just a reminder to everyone that it is time to pay your dues for 2009, they can be paid at the meeting or mail to the address at the top of the news letter. Dues are \$15/year.

Up and Coming Events.....

- Testing the 3rd Saturday February, April, June, August and October in Shreveport, Christus Schumpert, Classroom 1 at 9am.
- January 17th Saturday, Hammond Hamfest, Hammond, LA
- January 30-31 Friday/Saturday, Capitol City Hamfest, Jackson, MS
- March 13-14 Friday/Saturday, Rayne Hamfest, Rayne, LA
- April 25, Saturday, Twin City Ham Cub Hamfest/LA State Convention, Monroe, LA

The Relay is published by the Minden Amateur Radio Association
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