

# *The Relay*

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Minden Amateur Radio Association Inc.  
PO Box 1292  
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## **From the Prez.....**

Time seems to fly these days and it is time again for the MARA monthly meeting. We had great attendance last month and i hope we will be able to keep that up this year. There is an Emergency Communications training meeting in Ruston on our meeting day this month, and I know many of our regular attendees will be going to that , so we need as many members as possible to come to the meeting this Saturday to make up for those involved in emergency communications that will be there. I am still getting good reports on our Hamfest on the HF bands ans some wanting to know when we will be having it this year. Again thanks to all who helped make the 2008 fest a success. Have a good day and we will see you all at the meeting Saturday February 21 at the Exacta Inn starting around 11am and meeting at 12:15 pm.

73'  
Dusty, N5COL

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## **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!

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

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

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**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.**

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## **January Meeting Minutes**

The January meeting of MARA was called to order at 12:15 by Dusty Collins, N5COL president, he welcomed everyone including 15 members and 2 guests. Wayne Hatfield, KD5JJP gave the opening prayer.

No Treasurer's report by Bonnie W5TEB, to be made during Dusty's report.

In the Secretary's report Fran KD5LKB, reported that the Relay's went out on time, incorrectly the first time but fixed by both myself and John Beck. Asked that anyone wanting to put anything in the Relay to let her know.

Virginia KA5KBP had nothing new to report in the vice president's report

In his President's report Dusty reported on the hamfest, that it did pretty well, then he gave the intake and outputs.

In old business, Dusty reported that at the hamfest, Gary Stratton K5GLS presented the club with a plaque for First Place in the LA ARRL section Field Day competition in 2-A category. We have won this for the third year in a row, all the while having a great time. Edwin KD5ZLB reported that he had heard some very good comments on the hamfest, he also stated that the prizes helped. Dusty reminded everyone that it is time to pay your dues.

In new business, the club unanimously voted in Mark Robertson KE5WQI as a new member, and welcomed him! Edwin KD5ZLB informed the club that we should be donating money to the ARRL Foundations LA Scholarship Fund. He informed the club about this and then Wayne

Hatfield made a motion to donate to fund \$200 with a second by Edwin. The motion passed  
Dusty informed the member that our next big event would be Field Day.

In more business Wayne informed that club that Rolling Hill Ministries would be holding a disaster training session on Saturday with the possibility to license some new hams. Mike KE5DLM made a very insightful comment that we are getting new hams all the time and that if you can pay more attention to the radio so answer if someone calls out on th radio, make the new ham feel welcome.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Virginia KA5KBP with a second by Edwin KD5ZLB at 1:08 pm.

Fran Sullivan, KD5LKB  
MARA Secretary

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### **Up and Coming Events.....**

- Testing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday February, April, June, August and October in Shreveport, Christus Schumpert, Classroom 1 at 9am.
- March 13-14 Friday/Saturday, Rayne Hamfest, Rayne, LA
- April 25, Saturday, Twin City Ham Cub Hamfest/LA State Convention, Monroe, LA
- May 2, Saturday, ARCOS Swapmeet, Cypress/Black Bayou Recreation Area
- May 9, Saturday PHARA Tailgate/Hot Dog Social, Cook Park, Ruston

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The Relay is published by the Minden Amateur Radio Association  
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