

Let's get together
Thursday, Echolink node 286905
at 7:30 p.m
Friday, 3.812 at 8:30 a.m.



Autumn 2015 Newsletter

From the President

Greetings MINOWs!

Before sharing MINOW tidings -- there must be a joke somewhere in there about "minnow" and "tide-ings" -- I will talk about 2016's Annual MINOW Klatch. First, a major question is about dates. PLEASE respond to the survey on the last page of this newsletter!

I'd also like to talk about our tradition of having a Gift Exchange (gifts are no more than \$10) and Silent Auction. The Silent Auction and Club Dues, along with member donations, are our main sources of income. MINOW funds are used for a variety of uses including the postage required for mailings to our computerless members, meeting expenses, making and sending directories, and supporting our two DX members. I believe that MINOW truly NEEDS the Silent Auction. The Gift Exchange, as well as the auction, is rooted in our history. At the first MINOW meeting, a picnic held in 1963, there was a raffle and a bazaar which have morphed into our current Silent Auction and Gift Exchange. I'm going over this history as a means of explaining why I, your elected president, am choosing to retain these events. As one member told me, "MINOW history is rooted in the relationships formed on the radio and reinforced at the get togethers."

And me? Well I've had various health problems none of which are MS related. My radio community service has had to slow down, but my involvement with NET teams

has 'amped up!' My biggest news is that my HF radio is once again properly hooked up! AND, thanks to Dan KF7BHM, Marilyn AF7BI's OM, and our own Margaret AE7MB I can finally connect to Echolink! Darn those late doctor appointments on Thursday afternoons; I'll show up on the Echolink Net one of these days, I promise. Otherwise the garden just keeps giving, even if only Zucchini, Delicata and Kabocha squash, and yellow cherry tomatoes! Oh, and I finally got a real vacation! One of the women in my MS Group has a daughter who owns a home at the Sunriver Resort in Central Oregon. Lois asked her daughter if she could take us to the house, so away we went. I 'm buried under e-mail, but slowly seeing the light at the tunnel's end. I feel so refreshed and rejuvenated; five days away make a world of difference in one's perspective on life! Needless to say, I had a wonderful time with my friends. Each day we went to Starbucks because one woman had to have her afternoon chai, and occasionally each of us joined her. Also on a daily basis we went to Goody's, an ice cream and candy store that has the BEST coffee with chocolate espresso beans ice cream. It was so nice to sit on the porch and read a book, or meditate, or visit singly with the women. Each day we went somewhere in the afternoon; the best outing, in my opinion, was to the lava tubes. They were closed because of a bat virus, but I doubt any of us could have walked the mile to the caves, then the mile back. Each of us walked as much as she could, and I picked up a bag full of black lava rocks, one of which was sheared off showing obsidian on that side. These rocks have been artfully arranged near the pond. I hope I get a chance to take a "vacation" more often. We're already talking about a coast trip.

Already, I'm looking forward to reconnecting with you at the 2016 MINOW Gathering! When will it be in May 2016? Tell us in the survey on the last page.

33/88, Robin KJ7BI

Messages From Our Members

Marietje ZS6CEZ, who hails from South Africa, writes:

We had a heatwave for a few weeks and it was very hot here. 40 Celsius and not nice at all.

We had a hail storm as large as a half brick and it sounded as if people were throwing stones at my house.

My little Freckle guide-dog girl got very sick from kidney failure. My Vet put her to sleep on Monday 12 October and I am broken. Freckle worked for me nine and a half years. She was 11 years old.

I am going to go to the Training Centre on the 7 November to be trained with a new little girl if possible because I ask for a girl.

Hugs to everybody.

Nicole N7XBY tells us that:

I got my General along with the last YL class that was done here recently. (Oct) Currently continuing the study to my Extra. (keeping the knowledge fresh!) Don't know if that is for your presidential report. Just thought I would add that in .. since joining MINOWs.

Editor ' s note: Nicole passed her Extra exam on Halloween—no Trick all Treat for her.

Sara, AB7PS writes:

Hello MINOWS

I'm still here but I move slower. My OM Bob is doing well at the nursing home and I am living alone. Since I have a vision problem (Macular Degeneration) I spend most of my time at home. I'm trying to get rid of some of the stuff I've accumulated over the years and enjoy Genealogy and doing jigsaw puzzles and finding recipes for one. I'm happy my antenna is still up. I enjoy hearing from MINOWS on (and any YLs on the net, on Echolink, by Email and by the Postal Service. (I'm really pleased when I find a letter addressed to ME in my mailbox that isn't a bill, or appeal, or advertisement

Marion, WA7TTL writes:

I received the birthday card from Sara and appreciate being remembered. We did know each other

Lucie, WB6RFE writes:

I 'm in assisted living and have been for six years.
99 at present and still getting around and still have license.

Note from Marion WA7TLL attached to the back of last spring's survey.

I became a ham in 1972 at the same time as by OM (now a SK) and our son Gary, N7IA (now in Alaska) and not active now. We have continued to keep our licenses current, and have interest in ham activities worldwide. I am sponsoring a YL in JLRS in Japan, have met several ham and YLs on our trips there. Gary and I are members of WACRAL in England, also, and have made many wonderful friends throughout the world, as well as here in the U.S.

I joined YLRL and MINOW in 1973 when I learned about them. I was active on The MINOW Net until 1994 when my OM and I moved to a retirement center and unable to operate here.

Regarding MINOW, it was a large (70+) membership in the early years, but gradually declined as the YLs were no longer able (or living) to be on the air. Many of the active YLs lived in Eastern Washington, several of us in the Seattle area and other Western Wash. Areas. Oregon was almost non-existent, with 2 on MINOW Net, but unable to attend the activities. (Thankfully, in recent years more have joined).

The yearly MINOW meeting was well attended and much enjoyed by the YLs as well as their OMs. It was more often held at Richland (Tricities area), midway for central location for all. It had to be a 2-day affair because of travel distance. Sometimes the location was in Seattle area or Coeur de Alene, Idaho where an active YL lived.

MINOW also participated in the Sep. Ham Radio gathering at Milton Freewater across the border from Walla Walla. We had a good turnout and we had a table selling foods, etc. as a money-raiser. It was a fun weekend also.

Gradually the YLs died, etc., so MINOWs has changed. Sara, AB7PS will remember some YLs still active when she joined.

Other YL groups across the country have has similar problems as MINOWs, and do what is best for them.

Times change! - Marion Dixon

Emily WA6YL, sent a wonderful poem:

The Birth of 33

Clara had her ticket
She also had a rig
Because she was just starting
It wasn't very big
She slowly tuned the crystal,
And watched the meter drop.
Then tapped the key a couple times
To be sure it wouldn't stop.
Now everything was ready,
She called a short CQ
And received an answer
On thirty-six sixty-two.
They chewed the fat 'bout stuff and
things.
'bout dresses, work and dates.
They finally called it QRT
the girl sent eighty-eights.
Clara though it might be funny
Whether it be Miss or Mrs.
To end a perfect QSO
by sending "Love and Kisses"
It sounds too sentimental;
Just a little too much "goo"
To be sending "Love and Kisses"
to a girl the same as you.
For an entire week she pondered;
Wouldn't even touch the rig.

She pushed her slide rule by the hour,
Employing "logs" and "trig"
She added and subtracted.
What could the answer be?
To reach a happy medium
Twixt eighty-eight and seventy-three.
Clara finally looked up from her work
All smiles and not forlorn.
Twas July in Nineteen Forty
that thirty-three was born.
There's no real definition
But it's meaning is known well.
It's how a YL says good evening
To another friend YL.

Author Unknown.

Copied from the YLRL web page...

Meeting Minutes May 2, 2015

Meeting called to order by President Robin, KJ7BI, at 3:24 pm.

Attendees:

Vanessa, KE7UBB	Nicole, N7XBY
Marilyn, AF7BI	Claudia, KL0HI
Robin, KJ7BI	Margaret, AE7MB

Co-hostess Marilyn welcomed everyone to Robin 's home.

Robin greeted everyone then asked for a moment of silence for known Silent Keys throughout the past year.

Reports:

President: Robin inventoried the President ' s box and has placed the inventory in the box.

Robin received RSVP ' s from Elizabeth, KK7VO, Rose, KL7FQQ, and Marietjie, ZS6CEZ. All of them indicated that they were unable to come.

Secretary: Claudia reminded us that the Pledge of Allegiance should be on the agenda.

Pledge: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Secretary: Claudia read the minutes from the last meeting. Margaret moved that the minutes be accepted. Robin seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Treasurer: Claudia presented the Treasurer' s report. We have \$404.30 in the savings account and \$174.34 in the checking account. Robin moved that the Treasurer ' s report be accepted. Marilyn seconded the motion. The Treasurer ' s report was accepted unanimously.

Claudia recommended that a new bank be found, since our current bank is difficult to work with and service charges seem to be excessive. Robin suggested that we keep only \$5 (or whatever the minimum is) in the savings account and the balance in the checking account. The vote was 5 aye and 1 nay.

Sunshine Chair: Marilyn was having trouble keeping up with the Sunshine responsibilities. Sara offered to take the job back so Marilyn returned the position to Sara, AB7PS.

Certificate Custodian: Robin reported no activity.

Badgemaker: Claudia took over Badgemaker responsibilities when Kitty, KD7FAS, no longer responded. Nicole volunteered to take on duties for the coming term.

Webmistress: no report

Membership: Nicole volunteered to take on the duties

Nets: Margaret and Sara are co-chairs. Earlier this year a survey was sent to all members asking how they felt about the net. Margaret reports that the basic message was that the few members who returned the survey, want the net to continue, but were unable to participate for various reasons.

Old Business: Marilyn will contact Elizabeth about the webpage.

New Business:

Margaret brought up a suggestion that we change one of the HF nets to a Digital net. While digital nets aren't as reliable as HF nets in an emergency (if the grid goes down the net goes down), they do have the advantage of not being affected by propagation issues, distance issues, or antenna restrictions. Robin proposed that Margaret look into the matter further and report back to the membership. The motion passed unanimously.

Robin suggested that we meet once a year for lunch or dinner instead of a two-day event. We could get together for our meeting, then all go to lunch or dinner. Claudia moved that we change the format to a one-day event. The motion passed unanimously.

Comments: Thanks to Robin and Marilyn for planning this year's meeting.

Elections: Robin and Barbara, AC7UH, remain as President and Vice-President respectively. Margaret was elected the new Secretary-Treasurer. Claudia requested to be removed from the signature list and suggested adding Margaret. Barbara will remain on the list.

Next Year's Invitation: Robin volunteered to host the next meeting at her home.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 pm

Respectfully submitted by Margaret, AE7MB

MINOW FINANCIAL REPORT

2014-2015

**Umpqua Bank
Meeting May 2-3 2015
Bank Account Checking
Savings Account**

Checking Account	Balance May 2014	\$150.34
Income:		
	Meeting Proceeds May 2014	\$ 51.00
	Dues	\$ 23.00
	Transfer to Savings from	\$100.00
Expenses:		
	2 DX Member Dues	\$ 50.00
	Transfer to Checking from Savings	\$100.00
	Check Book Balance	\$174.34
Savings:	Balance	\$ 449.16
	9 month's service charge @\$5.00 per month	\$ 45.00
	Interest Earned	\$ 0.14
	Savings Balance	\$ 404.30
	Savings	\$404.30
	Checking	\$174.34
	Total	\$578.64

**Claudia
KL0HI**

From the Editor

I want to thank Claudia, KL0HI, for the many years that she has served as Secretary-Treasurer, Membership Chair, and Newsletter Editor. She has left a wonderful legacy that I hope to carry on.

Margaret

MINOW Board Meeting

October 21, 2015

NoHo 's Hawaiian Café, Portland, OR

Attendees: Robin, KJ7BI Barbara, AC7UH
 Margaret, AE7MB Sara, AB7PS, Past-President (via telephone)

The meeting was called to order at 1:20 pm.

Margaret had several questions regarding membership issues:

1. How do we handle members that are delinquent?

Answer: They need to remit only the current year 's dues to become current.

2. Do we automatically remove members whom we haven 't heard from and are delinquent in their dues?

Answer: We send them a "final notice " to give them one more chance to become current.

3. Do we drop the requirement that new members have to make 2 HF contacts on one of the MINOW nets to become members?

Answer: Now that one of the nets is on Echolink, we can remove the requirement that the contact be HF, but we feel that the two contact requirement should stand and remain on the Application for Membership form.

4. We have a Charter member, who no longer has a valid Amateur Radio license. Is she still a member?

Answer: Charter members are lifetime members regardless of whether or not they still have an Amateur Radio license. Charter members will continue to receive all MINOW communications and can participate in all MINOW activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Meeting Survey

Previous to this year our annual meeting has been a two-day affair. This year we tried an unplanned one-day meeting. Our question for you is:

Would you be more interested in:

Two-day meeting or One-day meeting

If we decide on a one-day meeting, would you be more interested:

Saturday only or Sunday only

Thank you for your opinions.