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The Monthly Newsletter of the Monongalia
Wireless Association
Morgantown, West Virginia

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President: Bill Jacobs, WA8YCG
Secretary/Treasurer: Norene Arnold, N8TJM

Vice President: Jack Averill, N8NQW
Newsletter Editor: Jack Coster, WF8X

Next Meeting

October 19, 2004, 7:30PM,
Room G084, WVU Engineering Building

Important MWA Business

Nominations of candidates for officers for 2005 will be taken at the October 19 meeting. President Jacobs has informed us that he will not accept nomination for another term as President. So be thinking of good candidates. As a matter of courtesy, nominees should be contacted beforehand to determine their willingness to be nominated.

Skywarn News

- There is one more Skywarn class being offered this Fall. It will be next week in Uniontown as follows:
October 18, 6:30 PM
SWPA American Red Cross - Uniontown Office
108 Morgantown St
Uniontown, PA
- The Summer/Fall Skywarn newsletter is posted on the NWS website.
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/pbz/summer-fal104.htm>. The newsletter notes the record number of weather Watches and Warnings we have had year to date and

about the coming winter weather. The Amateur Radio section was not include in this issue but a separate bulletin should be released in the next month or so with all the radio updates Mark and others have worked on during the busy summer.

- Keep your eye to the sky! Be SKYWARNed!

-- Alan Stumpf KB3DHC

VE Exam This Month

MWA's VE Exam team, headed by Al Heck, W3GEG, will give Amateur Radio license exams at 7:30PM, October 28, Room G084, WVU Engineering Building.

Mandatory Repeater Tone Policy

The Southeast Repeater Association (SERA) Board of Directors has approved an "all tone, all the time" policy for the repeaters SERA coordinates. SERA provides voluntary frequency coordination for amateur repeaters in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi and parts of Virginia and West Virginia. The Board okayed a motion to amend its coordination policy and guidelines to require CTCSS or DCS receive and transmit tones on all new FM voice repeaters. Existing voice repeaters will have until July 1, 2006, to comply. The SERA Repeater

Journal reported the move in its August issue. Repeater Journal Editor Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, said a need to relieve interference complaints led to the Board's decision.

“The point is to stop the ongoing complaints and skirmishes between co-channel neighbors running carrier-access repeaters,” Pearce explained. “The vote was unanimous, but SERA recognizes that tone isn't universally popular nor is it a cure-all. And it causes new problems, particularly for travelers.”

SERA has no plans to automatically decoordinate repeaters that continue to operate without tones, but “SERA would not entertain an interference complaint from the owner of any repeater who chooses to remain carrier access,” the Repeater Journal said. If a carrier-access repeater owner getting co-channel interference complains to the FCC, SERA would tell the Commission that the complaining repeater's owner was opting to operate outside the conditions of coordination. “SERA would expect that to be interpreted as a 'no,’” the Repeater Journal report said.

“If a repeater owner wants to complain about interference, they'll have to incorporate tone first,” Pearce said.

– SERA News

