

# Central Wisconsin Repeater Association, Inc.

855 19<sup>th</sup> Street - Prairie du Sac, WI 53578-1195

Email: [wr9abe@yahoo.com](mailto:wr9abe@yahoo.com) Web: [www.qsl.net/cwra](http://www.qsl.net/cwra)

## March 2025 Annual Newsletter

### Repeater Status

#### **Baraboo 146.280/146.880 (123.0 Hz tone) - WR9ABE**

Was another good year again with 88 and the only work done has been routine maintenance. Just the way we like to see it.

#### **Madison 146.340/146.940 (123.0 Hz tone) - WR9ABE**

Like 88, it was a good year again with 94. The only work on 94 over this last year has been the standard routine preventative maintenance to keep it properly tuned up and functioning.

#### **New 444.250 UHF repeater (123.0 Hz tone)**

CWRA has inherited a 444.250 UHF repeater that is now located on the Baraboo Bluff south of the village of North Freedom. This is the same location that former N9KAN 443.675 repeater was located. It is also a Motorola MSF-5000 series like the existing 2M repeaters we have.

It is currently off the air, but listen for it to be brought back up again soon.

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX graciously donated this new to us UHF machine to CWRA. Thanks Bill.

### Important Organizational Updates

There have been changes made to the By-Laws to revise BoD process. This was done simply to better match the reality of how the world of amateur radio clubs usually work today, and what the CWRA organizations is.

At different times when speaking with some officers of various radio clubs similar to CWRA, and also people involved with various other clubs that are not even involved with radio, there is a common theme across all of them. Namely, getting people to be part of the governing structures of clubs is difficult. Some groups are simply unable to actually fill all of their officer positions reliably. This challenge is actually not entirely new, but has gotten more difficult as the years have marched forward.

At the 2024 BoD meeting prior to the Association Meeting the issue about how to streamline the whole CWRA governing process was discussed. It was decided to proceed with removing the post card based nomination process, and replace that process with the BoD being made up of appointments under normal circumstances. In

addition there is now a specific By-Law provision for the members who are in attendance at the Annual Association meeting to nominate and vote on board members. This provision assures that the membership at large still has a means to affect change with the board's makeup if the members at large feel there is a need to.

And it needs to be noted that if you are interested in being part of the board that just contacting the existing board is also a possible way to become a board member.

Since there are legal requirements for the BoD to exist per the State of Wisconsin for corporations like what the CWRA is, we really can't simplify things much further than what is outlined above. But the By-Laws as now revised will simplify logistical aspects of maintaining the BoD and officers.

Also though it was discussed to possibly reduce the number of board members, it was decided to keep the number of board members required to continue being 5.

In addition to the changes for the BoD process, there have been some changes to the By-Laws to formally and explicitly accommodate holding meetings via electronic means when there are reasons to do so. That will be how most board only meetings will be conducted, though we have very few of those anyhow. However in the case of the Annual Association meeting there are no plans or intentions to replace the in person meeting like it has always been done.

Another thing that we have revised is to shift to more electronic or web based means to communicate with the membership for announcements related to the date, time, and place of the Annual Association meetings, or any other membership communications. And will likely use the web or other electronic means to update the membership of equipment updates or other CWRA items specifically like this newsletter. The costs of the mailings that we were doing each spring have been a big part of the annual operating expenses of CWRA. So definitely some cost savings to be had there.

In summary, all the revisions to the By-Laws are designed to align the very minimal governance requirements of CWRA with the reality of today's radio club world.

### **Other Items**

**Email Address** – CWRA has a dedicated email address of **wr9abe@yahoo.com**. The email is not always checked every day, so responses may not be immediate.

Note that there is a new postal address for CWRA. The old PO box will stop working at some point. Now and going forward this is the new mailing address:

**CWRA**  
**855 19<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Prairie du Sac, WI 53578-0013**

**Annual Dues** - Remain at \$20 for 2025. It is not too late to send your dues in time for the annual association meeting or at the meeting in person.

**Annual Association Meeting** – The annual Association meeting will be on Saturday April 5, 2025.

**Eagle Inn  
655 Water Street  
Prairie du Sac, 53578**

<https://saukprairieeagleinn.com/>

The Eagle Inn is located at the West end of the Prairie du Sac bridge and the intersection of Hwy 60 with Hwy PF and Hwy 78.

A **1:30 PM** lunch, order from the menu as in years past. The short Association business meeting then starts at around 2:00 PM.

### **Groups using the CWRA systems**

Sauk County ARES group has been using the 88 system as the local net repeater for WX spotting when they are activated. Though last summer's activity was very limited. I have not heard any indication from the Sauk ARES if that has changed.

73 to all,  
Duane Grotophorst, N9DG  
President - CWRA

### **BOD Elections**

With the adoption of the revised by-laws we have changed the board of director election process. There is no longer a call for nominations prior to the annual meeting. Board members are now appointed by the existing board. However, per the revised By-Laws the membership at large can nominate and vote on those nomination(s) at the Annual Association meeting.