

## **ECARC – 12/17/2015 Christmas Party-Notes**

The 2015 ECARC Christmas party was held at the Saving Grace Facilities in the Eau Claire East Ridge Center. Folks paid at the door and received a ticket for door prize drawings later. Rolf, KG0KM (club president) made a few announcements just before the meal was served. Jon Case discussed the upcoming license testing on January 9<sup>th</sup> and made an appeal for anyone to assist as a Volunteer Examiner. About 25 members and guests were on hand. Everyone introduced himself or herself.

There was a brief business meeting held. No minutes were read or financial report given. Rolf will be giving up the presidency at the end of his term due to a move from the area. A slate of officer candidates was read: Mark, KB9S and Paul, W0AIH agreed to be “co-presidents; Ron, W9RLL agreed to serve another term as treasurer; and Ron, KC9PKO agreed to serve another term as secretary. There were no other nominations. A unanimous voice vote was cast in favor of this slate of officers. Congratulations to all!

We gave Thanks for the Meal and Good Company. Food (provided by the Men of Grace) was **great** and after eating, we played a game (acronym puzzle) where we had to fill in the name of the organization whose initials were given (such as CIA). Some were easy and there were more than a few tricky ones. Everyone was a winner though! We also had ticket numbers drawn for door prizes. Then we sang a few Christmas songs with lyrics and keyboard accompaniment provided by Mary Bittner. Paul, W0AIH passed out His and Mary’s Christmas letter too. (Very humorous & well done) Overall, we had a wonderful evening. Look for photos on the website.

Thanks so much to Kitty for arranging all of the door prizes, picking them up and handing them out at the party. Some of the prizes were donated by Subway sandwiches, McDonald’s, Culvers, Dairy Queen, Clearwater Car Wash, Burracho’s, Famous Dave’s & Papa Murphy’s pizza. Thanks so much for the donations and I apologize if I missed mentioning one of the businesses that contributed. The money that the club had planned to spend on door prizes was donated to the St. Francis Food Pantry in Eau Claire.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

St. Paul Radio Club Annual Equipment Auction is coming up at our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in St. Paul on January 30, 2016. This is a good local auction and although smaller than ours, it might be a good one to consider for a visit. There is no charge for bidding and sellers pay 10% of total sold. Registration starts about 8:30 AM and auction starts at 9:30 AM. Take I94 West to Hwy 52, exit South (Concord) and the church is on the left after crossing the Lafayette Bridge. More information by calling Dale evenings at (651)777-5309 or email him at [n0pey@arrl.net](mailto:n0pey@arrl.net). Talk in at 147.12 (no tone repeater)

ECARC Equipment Auction is coming up Saturday, March 5, 2016. It will take place here at the Saving Grace Facility. Get your “stuff” ready to bring in. Rolf has secured the services of “Colonel” Severson as auctioneer again this year. He is a big part of the reason for the success of our event. Thanks again Rolf! The “Men of Grace” will

provide breakfast and free coffee. More details will be forthcoming at the January 19<sup>th</sup> club meeting.

Wisconsin QSO Party on March 12, 2016. (more details coming)

SkyWarn seminar for Eau Claire County takes place here (tentatively) on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Ron, W9RLL will follow up to secure the date with the National Weather Service.

**Reminder - Eau Claire County Warning Siren testing** continues all year long in and around Eau Claire. We are encouraged to witness the testing of the Sirens in Altoona, Fall Creek, Fairchild and Augusta as well as the “in town locations. Next siren test will take place at 11:00 AM on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Check in with Dave, KB9WPC beginning at 10:45 AM. The net will be on the 146.910 repeater.

**Next Ham Examination in Eau Claire** is scheduled to be on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 . Jon, KE9KW and Diane are volunteer examiners. Examination will be held at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center at 9:00AM. As always, walk-in’s are welcome! \$15 for each test. More details are on the ECARC website. You can also use the ECARC website to find question pools and many other exam related information. Give that upgrade a try!

**Next scheduled meeting** will be January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the East Ridge Center. Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

We plan to discuss:

2016 Equipment Auction (March 5<sup>th</sup>)

2016 Wisconsin QSO Party (March 12<sup>th</sup>)

2016 SkyWarn weather seminar (April 19<sup>th</sup>).

Hope you can join us.....Ron, KC9PKO