



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 60, Issue 1 January, 2013

## JANUARY CLUB HAPPENINGS

### January Club meeting

January 8, 2013

#### Program

Swapfest Wrap-up

by Phil Gural, W9NAW

Elmering session

Bring your questions and answers

**Join us for a pre-meeting dinner**

**at Johnny V's Classic Cafe**

**1650 S 84th St at 5:00pm**



WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm

MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset

127.3 Hz CTCSS

## Club Happenings

**Jan 5, 2013 is our club Swapfest**

**Bring your HT tuned into**

**147.40 simplex**

**Wisconsin QSO Party**

**March 10, 2013**

**[click here or see club web page for more info](#)**

**NEW** club jackets and hats!

Go to club Web site and click on

The GOLD MEDAL IDEAS block

**[For more info or click here](#)**



# *The President's Shack January 2013*

Happy New Year, and may 2013 bring you the best!

Chances are you will be reading this right before the 2013 edition of our Midwinter Swapfest. Advance sales have been good and weather promises to be decent, so we should be in for another great 'fest. Again, we need everyone's help to continue our success. CU all there!

The CW Mobile program, originally announced for the upcoming January meeting, has been postponed to the February meeting at the request of the presenter, Pat Hoppe, WW9R. For January, besides our usual wrap-up discussion of the Swapfest, we will have an Elmering session. This will be mainly for our new members, but everyone is encouraged to bring questions or problems that you'd like help with.

Speaking of new members, we have five at last count. They are Dave Garnier, WB9OWN; Dale Webler, KC9SHB; Bob Schwigel, AA9SY; Bill Spellman, W9ASA; and Steve Mueller, KC9WXC. Please welcome them and get to know them! Since some of them are new hams, they will be looking for help getting started in our hobby.

We still do not have a Vice President. We need someone to step up to take this important job. The duties are not demanding – attend Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday, and fill in for the President in the event I'm unable to do it. Please, someone, step up and take this job.

Don't forget to submit your 10 Meter contest logs, both to the ARRL and to Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, for the WARAC portion of the contest. The deadline is January 9.

The Wisconsin QSO Party now has an Internet mailing list (aka email reflector). This is a way to exchange information like operating plans, ideas, suggestions or other banter about WIQP with other list members. Anyone with an interest in WIQP is encouraged to join – see

<http://www.warac.org/wqp/reflector.htm>  
for more info.

For your information, since early December our club website is hosted by QTH.com. You should see no visible changes from this – everything should work as it did before. This was done to make possible the WIQP mailing list and other future Internet features.

Reminder: Dues are due! If you haven't settled up for this year, you need "pay" a visit to our Treasurer, Howard.

Also don't forget our before-meeting dinner at Johnny V's Classic Café, 1650 S. 84th St. at 5:00PM. We have made arrangements to use the private room, located through the doors at the north end of the main dining room.

See you at the Swapfest and the meeting! Bring a friend to both!

Tom, K9BTQ

## **From the Editor**

Another year has gone by. They seem to take less time each year. Remembering how long summers were when we were kids someone stole some of the time from our later years to make the summers seem longer! Just a theory but it explains a lot. Hi Hi. If you're reading this as a pdf on your computer you may noticed I discovered Hyperlinks (the ability to just click on something and bring up a web page). George AA9SR suggest it one day. It is easy to do but when you are thinking paper newsletter you don't always put thing together in your head.

Talking about the Internet, I mentioned in one of my editorials that I had received an MFJ-2286 antenna. I did a search on the Internet for that antenna and Google found it in Hamtrix and I could click on it. (please see **Editor** pg7)

# **WARAC General Meeting Minutes**

## **December 11, 2012**

### **Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 19 with one visitor.

### **Program**

The evening's program, N1MM Contest Logging Program, was given by Tom Macon, K9BTQ, and Chuck Dellis, W9WLX.

Phil Gural, W9NAW, reviewed the logistics of the upcoming WARAC Swapfest on January 5.

### **Business**

Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR, resigned as chairman of the Wisconsin QSO party. His tenure as chairman saw many improvements and growth of the party including short format, computer logging, and instituting the mobile county bonus making mobile operation competitive. Sincere thanks to Lynn for many years of dedication to the party. Tom Macon reviewed the tasks necessary to execute the event and asks the membership to think about the best fit for their participation.

Motion was made and accepted to approve the November meetings minutes as published in Hamtrix.

WARAC dues are due. Please see Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, for your membership renewal form, insuring that the club has your most current information.

It is uncertain if Lynn Tamblyn will be taking over the 10 Meter WARAC contest. Chuck Dellis will follow up with Lynn. Additional information will be sent by email and posted on the website.

If you need a club name badge, please see Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, or indicate your request on the sign in roster. Specify magnetic or pin type. A final inquiry will be made at the January meeting and orders placed.

WARAC has changed its hosting provider to QTH.com. Website visitors should not see any changes. Notify Tom Macon if any unusual behavior is observed.

### **Announcements**

WARAC welcomes five new members: Steve Mueller, KC9WXC, Dave Garnier, WB9OWN, Dale Webler, KC9SHB, Bob Schwigel, AA9SY, and Bill Spellman, W9ASA.

Johnny V's is the place for the WARAC pre-meeting dinner. The dinner starts at 5:00 and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Reminder—the Wednesday night 2 meter net is at 8:00 pm on 147.045, + offset, PL 127.3. Join in!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX  
Secretary WARAC

## December board meeting was cancelled because of Holidays

### QRP 1941 Style Tom “Nick” Nickel—KC9KEP

*Editors note: Tom thought we would like to read his full article as seen in QST. I included the beginning and you can click on or go to this web site to obtain the whole article.*

<http://www.bignick.net/qrp/kc9kep.pdf>

*Wonder if Tom will go portable with his QRP. If he needs a B battery even the commercial ones are now made by putting a bunch of 9volt cells in series. I found that out by taking an old battery apart one day.*

Tom “Nick” Nickel—KC9KEP  
[bignick@execpc.com](mailto:bignick@execpc.com)

If any of you have happened to visit my website,

[http://www.bignick.net/Morgan\\_Radio/Radio.htm](http://www.bignick.net/Morgan_Radio/Radio.htm), you know that I have a real fondness for “hollow state” radio gear from the 1940s. I’m not sure just how I came by that addiction, but I am definitely hooked. My latest “binge” happened when I came across a 1941 ARRL Handbook. It was chock full of really neat old receivers just dying to be built. So, I started with enthusiasm and so far have completed several of the receivers and a transmitter.

The most ambitious of my 1941 receivers is a seven tube superhetrodyne, touted as being capable of “single signal reception.” The first version of the receiver appeared in the October 1938 issue of QST magazine, followed by a “modernized” version in the November 1940 issue. Both articles were written by George Grammer, W1DF, a famous QST author of yesteryear with many articles to his credit. The receiver was then published repeatedly for several

years in the ARRL Handbook issues starting in 1941. This new “modernized” version featured the following upgrades over its predecessor: increase in gain (fivefold), lessened interaction between controls, higher order of stability, calibrated dial with direct frequency readout, AGC, volume control, and internal voltage regulation. According to the author, the cost to build in 1941 was about \$30. This translates to roughly \$460 in 2011 dollars, still not a bad price for a Class A receiver.

Truth be known, I did not give the article title: “Single Signal Receiver” much attention in terms of what the title is telling the reader. My assumption was that a single-signal-receiver must be a good receiver with good selectivity—which is true. But, Single-Signal-Receiver means much more than a “good” receiver. It indicates a filtering system that features selectivity so narrow that it virtually eliminates audiofrequency image response in CW reception. The usual receiver of the day was not capable of eliminating this audio image and so was vulnerable to more interference. Another advantage of single-signal reception is that the background noise is greatly reduced because a narrower part of the RF spectrum is being detected and amplified. So, how can this be accomplished? Insert a DSP and use digital filtering? Not in 1941! A crystal filter could be inserted into the IF strip with similar results, but there is a much cheaper method for accomplishing this improvement. The IF amplifier can be made regenerative in order to greatly boost the IF signal at resonance and narrow its bandwidth by the simple addition of one feedback component. Some of you who have been hams for a while may remember the “Q Multipliers” of the 1950s and 1960s. Well, this receiver employs exactly the same principle. The difference is remarkable.

*continued on*

<http://www.bignick.net/qrp/kc9kep.pdf>

# EQUIPMENT FOR SALE AT THE SWAPFEST

The following items have recently been donated to WARAC. All have manuals unless otherwise noted. All equipment is in excellent condition. Asking prices are included with each item.

--Ameritron model AL-811 HF Linear amplifier with Ameritron ARB-704 Interface Buffer. Asking price is \$600.



--MFJ 962D rolling inductor Tuner. Asking price is \$175.



--MFJ 264 Dummy Load, 1.5 kW capacity. Asking price is \$50.



--MFJ 4245MV 30 Amp. switching Power Supply. Asking price is \$100.



--Hitachi Oscilloscope V650F, 60 MHz. No manual. Asking price is \$150.



--Heathkit SB401 transmitter with D104 mike. Asking price is \$150.



--Heathkit SB303 receiver. Asking price is \$200.



--Eldico SSB-1000F HF linear amplifier. No manual. Asking price is \$500.



Proceeds go to the WARAC Scholarship Fund.

A REWARD OF 500 MICROFARADS IS OFFERED FOR THE INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF HOP-A-LONG CAPACITY. THIS UNRECTIFIED CRIMINAL ESCAPED FROM A WESTERN PRIMARY CELL WHERE HE HAD BEEN CLAMPED IN IONS AWAITING THE GAUSS CHAMBER.

HE IS CHARGED WITH THE INDUCTION OF AN 18 TURN COIL NAMED MILLI HENRY WHO WAS FOUND CHOKED AND ROBBED OF VALUABLE JOULES. HE IS ARMED WITH A CARBON ROD AND IS A POTENTIAL KILLER. CAPACITY IS ALSO CHARGED WITH DRIVING DC MOTOR OVER A WHEATSTONE BRIDGE AND REFUSING TO LET THE BAND-PASS.

IF ENCOUNTERED, HE MAY OFFER SERIES OF RESISTANCE. THE ELECTROMOTIVE FORCE SPENT THE NIGHT SEARCHING FOR HIM IN A MAGNETIC FIELD, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO EARTH. THEY HAD NO SUCCESS AND BELIEVED HE HAD RETURNED OHM VIA A SHORT CIRCUIT

HE WAS LAST SEEN RIDING A KILOCYCLE WITH HIS FRIEND EDDY CURRENT WHO WAS PLAYING A HARMONIC.

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Engineering Conversion Factors you did not know about:

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi

2000 Pounds of Chinese Soup = Won ton

1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond

Weight an evangelist carries with God = 1 billigram

Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour = Knotfurlong

365.25 days of drinking low calorie beer = 1 Lite Year

16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Sterling

Half a large intestine = 1 Semicolon

1,000,000 Aches = 1 Megahurtz

Basic unit of laryngitis = 1 hoarsepower

Shortest distance between two jokes = A straight line

453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake

1 million microphones = 1 megaphone

1,000,000 bicycles = 1 megacycle

*Please see **jokes** pg7*

## **Jokes**

365 days = 1 unicycle  
2000 mockingbirds = two Kilomockingbirds  
10 cards = 1 deckcard  
1 Kilogram of falling figs = 1 Fig Newton  
1000 grams of wet socks = 1 literhosen  
1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche  
1 trillion pins = 1 terrapin  
10 rations = 1 declaration  
100 rations = 1 C Ration  
2 monograms = 1 diagram  
4 nickels = 2 Paradigms

Leon Rediske

## **Editor**

I guess it is wise to assume if you put it on the Internet that everyone can see it.

If you see me at the Swapfest wish me luck. I'm going to try taking the extra test. I have been studying for it for a couple months, I do ok on the pretests but a lot will depend on what questions I get out of the pool . I'll let you know next Hamtrix. Till then enjoy the new year

73

Frank KA9FZR

## **FOR SALE**

WARAC has been donated a crank up pole tower, estimated to be 40 feet extended. The whole tower is rotated by a CDE Ham-M rotator mounted at the base. A winch system allows the tower to tilt also. Antennas mounted on this tower are a 430 MHz. ringo ranger, 9 element rotatable horizontal/vertical 2M beam and a 2M horizontal "square-lo". Tower is in good condition and could be used for a digital TV antenna system "up North", beam antennas or a trailer mounted emergency communications antenna system.

Please contact Phil, W9NAW, for additional information and availability. Viewing pictures will be available at the next club meeting. Sale proceeds go the WARAC Scholarship Fund.

### **Officers and Board**

#### **President**

Tom Macon, K9BTQ

#### **Vice President**

#### **Secretary**

Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

#### **Treasurer**

Howard Smith WA9AXO

#### **Directors**

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Dave Schank, KA9WXN

Leroy Haas KC9NST

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Tom Macon, K9BTQ



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W9FK  
<http://www.warac.org>

***See our Web Page or contact us  
for more information on***

- WARAC Memorial Scholarships
- Wisconsin QSO Party
- Midwinter Swapfest
- Worked all Wisconsin Counties Award
- Amateur Radio Classes

WARAC holds meetings on the second Tuesday of each month and board meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM at:

**St Peter's Episcopal Church  
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue  
West Allis, WI**

Entry is off the alley at the rear of the church.  
A wheel chair ramp and chair-lift are available.