



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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APRIL CLUB HAPPENINGS

Club Meeting
April 12, 2011 7:00pm
Program: HD Broadcast Radio, Chris Tarr, W9JOL

WARAC 2-meter net
April 19 & May 3, 2011 7:00pm
MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset
127.3 Hz CTCSS

Field Day Meeting
April 19, 2011 7:00pm
St Mary's Hales Corners
9520 W. Forest Home Ave

UPCOMING CLUB HAPPENINGS

Field Day
June 25-26, 2011

WARAC Antenna Challenge

This is a build an antenna, antenna tuner, antenna SWR meter or antenna switch or device related to the antenna for any ham radio band. The antenna or associated equipment should be for transmitting and receiving on one or more bands. It could be a receive only antenna / equipment if the club member is not licensed to transmit on the frequency; used to null interference or to trap an offending interfering output. This challenge is open to all club members. All parts can be purchased (traps, wire, aluminum tubing, insulators or other parts needed to build the device). Used parts can also be used for the device. A commercial antenna can be part of the challenge if it was modified to work on a different band or modified for its' in band operation. If the antenna is new, the club member can give an

extensive product report on the construction and its operation.

The Challenge will start at this April's club meeting and will end at Show and Tell during the Sept. 2011 meeting.

The Show and tell should be a short presentation on building, installing and operation of the device. Digital pictures of the build and installation can be in hard copy or on a digital device that can be shown on a laptop computer and screen. You can use EZNEC plots, as part of your presentation but it is not mandatory. Your hand entered SWR plots should be part of your presentation. Any data you have collected in building the device (like antenna analyzer, SWR, Impedance or other measurements) CONT pg 3



The President's Shack March 2011

Another Wisconsin QSO Party is now in the record books. From what I can tell, propagation was good and our party was well attended. I experienced a lot more activity on 20m than I remember in past years, probably the result of the oncoming sunspot maximum, plus maybe a bit of a boost from the Battleship Wisconsin (N4WIS) promotion. I was surprised a few days later when I got a QSL from N3KN, Kay Craigie, president of the ARRL. I didn't realize who it was at the time she called me on 20m.

Hats off to Ron, N9AU, who reported a score of 102,114 (486 QSO's) on the 3830 reflector. Ron's score, along with some decent scores I've heard from other club members, will hopefully bump us up a couple of notches in the WIQP club standings. Thanks to all members who came to the party! And thanks to Lynn for all the hard work involved in putting on this contest. Last weekend's AES Superfest was fun as usual. Thanks to all who stopped by and helped man our club table.

We have an interesting program coming up next Tuesday – all about High Definition Broadcast Radio. Come find out where broadcast radio is headed. The program will be presented by Chris Tarr, W9JOL, an experienced broadcast engineer. Be there!

Also, at the upcoming club meeting, I plan to have copies of a new club Membership Roster for distribution. If you have any changes in your address, phone or email information, please get them to me by Sunday, April 10. Now that WIQP is behind us, it's time to start thinking about the next big club event: Field Day, June 25 and 26. A Field Day meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19th at 7:00PM. It will be held at St Mary School, 9520 W. Forest

Home Ave, the same place we've had it for the last couple of years. Put this date on your calendar and come help us plan Field Day 2011! Back to QSO Parties – there are no less than eight of them in April, although one is past (Missouri). Of particular note is Michigan on Saturday, April 16 from 11AM to 11PM. There's always lots of activity in our neighbor across the lake – join in! Two more distant ones with lots of activity are Georgia (April 9-10) and Florida (April 30- May1). New Mexico, Montana, Ontario and Nebraska round out the list. See our website, <http://www.warac.org/qp-list.htm>, for more information.

See you at the meeting!

- Tom, K9BTQ

From the editor's desk

Well, another month is here. The program for this meeting sounds interesting. I don't have an HD radio yet but it does sound like a possible purchase. I did participate in the QSO party. My first contest type operating I got 13 counties and 5 states with 37 contacts. Most on 40 meters SSB at 5 watts. Not great by any account but a good start and I had fun! I have to thank the many operators who took the time to dig my weak signal out of the noise.

With a Wisconsin-type spring here, getting outside and working antenna projects will be easier. Don't forget our antenna Challenge. See Chuck Carven's WB9PUB article.

I included a short article from the ARRL's lightning protection website. Having had to repair equipment that was just near a strike I can tell you that solid state devices are not happy about being near lightning. They will appreciate anything you can do to keep it away from them.

I hope to see you at the meeting

73

Frank KA9FZR

<http://www.dashtoons.com/dash!clips1.html>



and made me realize how we come together as strangers and enjoy communicating with our fellow hobbyists.

I was with them for 86 contacts. I had three unexpected QSO's with hams I knew and that was especially exciting. They were Jerry K9FI, Rick AB9XI in Merton, and Glen WA1UJU in the UP of Michigan.

I'm looking forward to the next opportunity. It was fun to be part of the activity. Thanks!

WISCONSIN QSO PARTY

MARCH 2011

FOUR SEPARATE COUNTY BASE STATIONS ON ONE FREQUENCY

by Chuck Kugel, KB9FTI
Colgate, WI

What a fun time! It was beyond my expectations! It has been about 15 years since my last QSO Party.

This year my first contact was on 40 meters at 7159.9. I replied to a CQ by Tom KC9ECI.

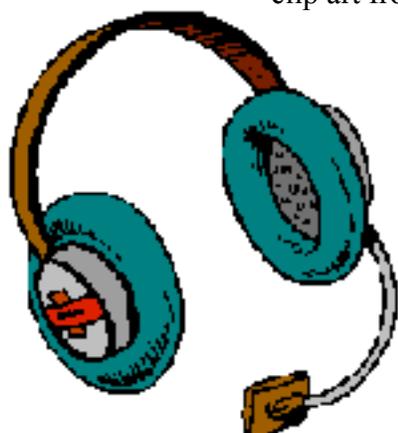
Upon receiving his county location of Trempealeau, he asked me to stand by for second contact from a Brown County ham, Greg W9IKU. In other words, I received two contacts for my one. That was fascinating for me. I waited for the stacked up contacts to be addressed and then made a second call to them asking if they would like to have another distant county, Washington, represented. They said, "yes". Now we had a quartet. A few contacts later a fourth ham, Craig N9ETD of La Crosse County joined us.

So, as a result, I was at the same frequency for 2.5 hours with this wonderful group. I had not made their acquaintance previously. It really made me feel good about our hobby

WARAC Antenna challenge

should be part of your presentation. Tom Macon has volunteered to help anyone in producing their presentation. If you need help, ask your buddy or at the club question and answer club meeting section. I will be the host for the Show and Tell part, so let me know if you want to participate in the Challenge.

Chuck Craven



WARAC General Meeting Minutes March 8, 2011

Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ.

There were 6 visitors. Overall meeting attendance was 22.

Program

History of Ham Radio was presented by Bill Shadid, WA9MXQ. Bill described the evolution of Ham Radio from 1945 to the present.

Part two of the program was presented by Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR. Lynn discussed the Wisconsin QSO party including a general discussion, documents, rules, suggested frequencies, and logging.

Announcements

April program will be HD Broadcast Radio, presented by Chris Tarr, W9JOL.

Chuck Craven, WB9PUB, will be leading a future program, Hombrew Antennas/Antenna Accessories. More information to follow.

Discussion

Motion to accept the February meetings minutes as published in Hamtrix.

Several members shared their good results in the recent DX contest on 15 & 10 meters.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX
Secretary WARAC

Lightning

With spring coming and thunderstorms more frequent I did a web search to look at what's available for checking your antennas and home.

Many good sites out there. The ARRL on there Lighting protection page has many articles listed some of them are.

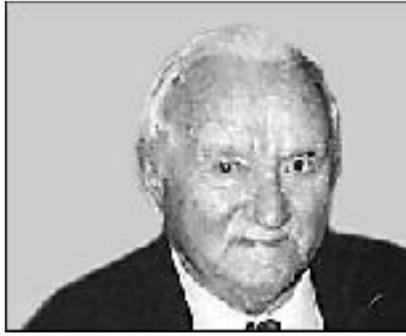
Lighting Protection for the Amateur Radio station -- a three part series that develops a plan for protecting the amateur station

#lab Notes -Lighting protection Part 1 & 2

and others

Consider taking the time to at least comparing your set up with what is recommended and checking the conditions of your grounding. It's a lot less trouble than the alternative!

-the Editor



Zygmunt S. Choroszy **Father of Jim Chorozy, NG9X**

Adapted from a Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Article by Tom Macon, K9BTQ

The father of long time club member Jim Choroszy (NG9X) passed a way on March 7. The Club would like to extend our condolences to him and his family on their loss. Here's some information about his remarkable life.

Zygmunt S. "Ziggy" Choroszy died of congestive heart failure on Monday, March 7 at age 90. He and his wife, Marvel, had long lived in West Allis and Greendale. Survivors include five sons, a sister in Poland; plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Choroszy was born and raised in Rzeszow in free Poland, the son of a municipal judge. He studied languages in high school and began college with the idea of someday becoming a diplomat. He knew Polish, German, English and Latin and, to a lesser degree, Russian and French. He translated clandestine radio broadcasts for the Polish resistance and, as a result, was arrested and sent to the Auschwitz prison camp in June 1940.

He survived five years at Auschwitz and other concentration camps before liberation came May 5, 1945.

"It's hard to believe that out of millions, I am one of those few who survived," Choroszy had often said. His survival strategy included volunteering for any assignment that might involve work indoors or the chance for extra food. "Anytime the guards asked who knew how to do something, he would say he knew how to do that," said his son Joe Choroszy.

"I was weighed by some U.S. doctors and, having 86 lbs. on my bones, was sent for a short time to hospital," he wrote in a memoir for family. "The rations were designed to do that, because Auschwitz-Birkenau was a death factory," he said. "Its purpose was to reduce the numbers of people. Hard labor was designed to kill you."

Time and time again, he survived by his wits or luck or the kindness of someone - a fellow prisoner or doctor or non-German guard in the camp. He returned those favors, in one case, keeping the secret of a Jewish man posing as a Polish Christian.

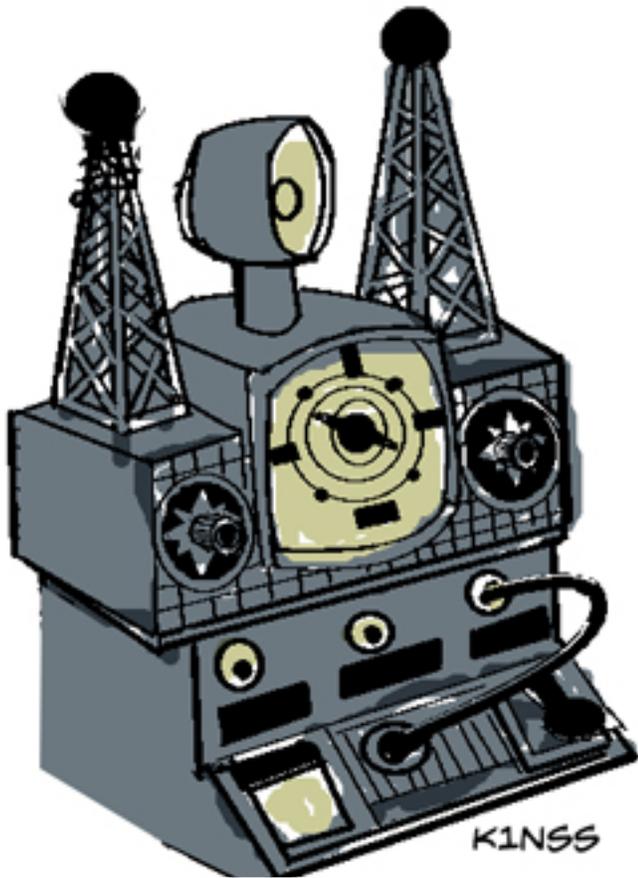
At Auschwitz, Choroszy repeatedly saw Josef Mengele, the doctor known as the "Angel of Death" for his unspeakable experiments. He also once saw Adolf Hitler.

Nothing could compare to the joy of liberation in May 1945.

After the war, Choroszy served as a translator for four years, working with the U.S. Army and other government and relief agencies. In 1949, he came to Milwaukee, and became a U.S. citizen in 1954. He worked as a meat cutter, and later in security at Mitchell Airport.

- The original article was published in the Journal-Sentinel on March 12, 2011.

<http://www.dashtoons.com/dash!clips1.html>



March 22, 2011 Board Meeting

Howard Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Chuck Craven, WB9PUB, Frank Humpal, KA9FZR, and Jim Wilkins, KC9KEQ.

Audit

Audit of the 2009 books is complete and 2008 is in progress. Wrap up of 2008 audit is targeted for next board meeting.

2011 Fiscal Budget

Budget is not ready for review at this time. Migration to Quicken in progress and budget should be available once migration is complete.

Club Operation Manual

The Board reviewed Tom Macon's example for

the WARAC website.

Scholarship

The scholarship check has been submitted to F.A.R. The board will be discussing a change from F.A.R. to ARRL for scholarship administration at a future meeting.

Miscellaneous

Howard Smith submitted the E990 form to the IRS for the club's 501(c) (3) designation.

-Howard Smith provided information from Gold Medal Ideas for hats, patches, jackets, etc. The final decision is pending.

-Tom Macon verified that the WARAC club information is accurate and up to date with the ARRL.

Programs

April – HD Broadcast Radio, Chris Tarr, W9JOL.

May – Weather Service, Dave Schank will confirm presenter.

June – Field Day, Tom Macon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX
Secretary WARAC

Tidbits

Field Day Meeting – Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00PM. It will be held at St Mary School, 9520 W. Forest Home Ave, the same place we've had it for the last couple of years. Come and help put together our club's next big activity!

Those who attend the monthly CQ Tue lunch need to know that the gathering time has been changed to 1:00PM. This is being done to take advantage of discounted prices available in the afternoon. CQ Tue is held at Old Country Buffet, 16750 W Bluemound Road in Brookfield.

How many times have you wondered about the really loud stations that are always heard in contests? You can get details on most contest superstations by entering their callsign at the Contest Stations website:
<http://www.conteststations.com/>

Officers and Board

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Tom Macon, K9BTQ

Vice President

Howard Smith, WA9AXQ

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Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

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Chuck Craven, WB9PUB

Directors

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Dave Schank, KA9WXN

Jim Wilkins, KC9KEQ

Newsletter Editor

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Webmaster

Tom Macon, K9BTQ

West Allis Radio Amateur Club 10 Meter Contest results. 2010

WARAC TEN Meter Contest

place	Category	Name	Call	Contacts	Club members	Points
1st	CW / Phone	Lynn Tamblyn	K9KR	CW 62/ PH 63	7	310.5
1st	Phone	Charles Craven	WB9PUB	277	8	460.5
2nd	Phone	John Zach	K9IAC	183	9	319.5
3th	Phone	Ron Crown	KA9JCP	95	7	177.5
4th	Phone	Dick Wood	W9JBE	30	6	75
5th	Phone	Phillip Gural	W9NAW	22	6	63

West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.
Tom Macon, K9BTQ
3547 S. 95 St
Milwaukee, WI 53228



WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

PO Box 1072
Milwaukee, WI 53201
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.