



Hamtrix

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Meetings & Events



May 12

Club Meeting

Program:

**RF Exposure
Calculations**

by Tom Wrench, N9HR

Starts at 7:00 PM

May 26

Board Meeting

Starts at 7:00 PM

May 31

Material Due for Next

Hamtrix

June 9

Next Club Meeting

June 27, 28

Field Day



The President's Shack

by Howard Smith,
WA9AXQ

Once again I am saddened to announce that a member of our club has become a Silent Key. George Schlessinger, K9ILV, passed away on April 19, 2009. I remember his presentation a couple of years ago about his experiences as a radio and radar operator. George had great stories of WW II, and of his later work with the bus company. George had been coming to club meetings regularly and we all will miss him. Be sure to read more about George in this issue.

Tom, K9BTQ, has held the Field Day 2009 organization meeting. I think we will once again have two HF stations, and

a 6 Meter VHF station. This will give us a 2A classification similar to recent years. The Field Day site will be at Crystal Ridge again. Tom will present the Field Day program at the June meeting. Do you already have the Field Day dates in your calendar? They are June 27th and 28th. I always like to see lots of club members during Field Day.

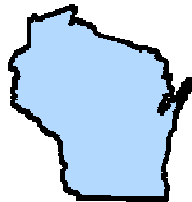
At the last meeting, the WAS challenge was made and I am curious as to how you have progressed. I was out of town for six days, and then on vacation for eight days, all during April, so I have yet to find time for that first QSO. I think May will be better.

One of the requirements that we all must meet is the FCC RF Exposure Regulations. Several years ago Tom Wrench, N9HR, presented this to our Club, and Tom will present this topic again at the May meeting. I encourage everybody to take this requirement seriously and do

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THE MILWAUKEE-FLORIDA NET

By Tom Macon, K9BTQ



At one time or another in the last couple of years, you all

have probably heard mention of the *Milwaukee-Florida Net* - in Hamtrix, on our website or at meetings. Here's a little more information and some history.

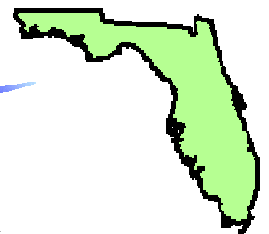
The Milwaukee-Florida Net is a very informal, social gathering of hams, mostly in Wisconsin and Florida. But anyone is welcome and there are regular check-ins from places like Nova Scotia, Texas and Pennsylvania as well. The Net meets

daily at around 7:00AM on 14.290 MHz and lasts until around 8:15. It is

preceded by a few early-bird participants who rag-chew to hold the frequency.

The Net has never been directly associated with any particular ham club, but many early participants were members of the Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club (MRAC). Time has taken its toll on the earlier members and most are now Silent

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From the Minutes...

By Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR
Secretary

**Minutes of the General Meeting
April 14, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by Vice-President Tom Macon.

Visitor – Terry Schima, no callsign. Members then introduced themselves to Terry.

Minutes - the membership approved the minutes as printed in Hamtrix.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WAS Contest - Tom told the membership that the forms needed to participate were now on our club website, courtesy Don, KC9ISS. Tom said that the contest began today, and will run for three months. Future club meetings will include reports from members.

Field Day Meeting – Tom mentioned that a FD meeting would happen on April 21, at 7:30 PM, at St. Mary’s church on Forest Home, for anyone interested.

Club Badges – Tom announced the last call for name badges. He plans to order them after this meeting.

WIQP – Lynn mentioned that deadline for Wisconsin QSO Party logs was April 17, so any club members that did not send in their logs as of yet should do so. He said entries were still being received.

PROGRAM

Wire Antenna Modeling Part II – Tom had presented Part One last January. With Part Two, he was planning on a sort of “live” entry modeling from suggestions he would get from members at the meeting. He began with a brief overview of the computational engines that are used in the various modeling programs.

He indicated he had gotten two suggestions prior to this meeting - Ron Gorski’s half-sloper, and Lynn Tamblyn’s Off Center Fed dipole. He mentioned he had problems with the OCF, due to the feedline being part of the antenna, so he had only modeled the half-sloper before this

meeting. He then went thru the half sloper in detail, with lots of membership questions and discussion.

Then he asked for suggestions from the floor. Chuck Craven asked to have a half wave 10 meter vertical dipole for 29.6 Mhz modeled, basically a 16 foot antenna, with the bottom five feet above ground, fed in the middle of the antenna like a dipole. Tom entered the data, and showed the results. Again, the membership participated in the presentation, with lots of questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM, followed by refreshments and eyeball QSO’s.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR

**Minutes of the Board Meeting
April 28, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM. by Acting Chairman Tom Macon.

Board members present were: Charles Craven, Tom Macon, Lynn Tamblyn and Dick Wood.

Audit Of Club Books – In Howard’s absence, Tom mentioned that Howard had indicated that he would still like to see the audit of the 2007 books completed by the May Board meeting.

Scholarship Name – The Board revisited this item. There is some confusion as to the name of the scholarship. After rather lengthy discussion, during which the Board spoke to the exact name, whether David Knaus’s callsign should be used, and when the WARAC name needs to be attached, Craven made a motion “to keep the name of the scholarship as the West Allis Radio Amateur Club David Knaus Memorial Scholarship, however, it can be shortened to the David Knaus Memorial Scholarship in printed text, as long as it is understood that the West Allis Radio Amateur Club name is the controlling entity.” Vote was 3 in favor and one opposed

Wisconsin QSO Party - Lynn reported that he is slowly progressing with the data entry. He is experiencing some problems with entries, as he is seeing lots and lots of

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WARAC Officers and Board			Hamtrix – Editor & Publisher
President	J. Howard Smith, WA9AXQ	414.425-5626	Submit newsletter material to: Tom Macon, K9BTQ 3547 S. 95 St Milwaukee, WI 53228 414 543-3878 tmacon@wi.rr.com
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Treasurer	Richard M. Wood, W9JBE	262.542-5118	
Director (2009)	George Dunco, AA9SR	262.782-6325	
Director (2010)	Chuck Craven, WB9PUB	262.642-7628	
Director (1 year)	Robert F Zach, KC9AGX	414.427-0333	
Board Chairperson	J. Howard Smith, WA9AXQ	414.425-5626	

GEORGE SCHLESSINGER, K9ILV, SK

by Tom Macon, K9BTQ

With George's sudden passing on April 19, one of our longest standing members has left us. George joined WARAC in late 1955, a little over a year after the club was formed. He soon became K9ILV.

George joined the Marine Corps during World War II and became an airborne radio/radar man. He flew in the South Pacific, participating in the Marshalls campaign and also spent some time in China after the Japanese surrender. He flew on SBD Dauntless dive-bombers, then TBM Avenger aircraft. At the time, SBD's were fitted with one of the first operational airborne radar systems and George went through top-secret training to learn this system. On September 11, 2007, George gave a very interesting program at our club meeting about his WW II experiences.

Ron Gorski, N9AU, entered into the world of ham radio as a result of meeting George. Here's the story in Ron's own words.

"I met George during the summer of 1957 at the old Goodwill store on 5th and Walker. I was looking at floor model short-wave radios, as was he, and we started chatting. George asked me if I had interest in radio. He told me of a club in West Allis where I might learn (I just finished the 7th grade and knew nothing). I took him up on his suggestion and attended the very next meeting.

"As I recall, attendance was nearly 100 at that meeting. I learned that George was starting a Novice class (once or twice a week) and that I was welcome. The class was quite large and consisted of club members as well as a complete Boy Scout troop wanting to learn Morse. George had a paper tape code player as well as a code oscillator and several straight keys. I was lucky as the code was easy to learn. George made it easy (it remains easy after 50 years). Guess he liked my enthusiasm. I showed for every class and practiced at home. Soon after the start of the fall semester, I was ready to take the novice exam.

"George guided me through assembly of my first station. He installed a roof-top dipole for 40 meters and taught me how to tune my first transmitter. In short, K9ILV was my Elmer".

After the war, George and his brother inherited his father's commercial roofing business, Schlessinger Roofing. In the early 1970's he sold his interest in the business to his brother and embarked on a major career change.

He got a job working in an Aladdin's Castle store, one of many arcade parlors that were popping up in shopping centers at the time.

Within a short time he was not only running the store but had leaned to troubleshoot and repair the games in addition. Also, with his construc-

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George 1925 - 2009

Ham Happenings

Around the area

Ozaukee Radio Club

Wed, May 13
7:30PM

Grafton Senior Center
1665 7th. Ave.
Grafton

CQ3TUE

Tues. May 19
11:15AM

Old Country Buffet
16750 W Bluemound Rd

Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club

Wed. May 27
7:30PM

Germantown Police Dept
Germantown

Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club (MRAC)

Thurs, May 28
7:00PM

Redemption Lutheran Church
4057 N. Mayfair Rd

South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

Wed. June 3
7:00PM

Legion Post 434
9327 S Shepard Ave
Oak Creek

Amateur Radio Testing

Saturday, May 30
9:30AM

AES Superfest
Amateur Electronic Supply
5720 W Good Hope Rd

NOTE

Please do not contact meeting places for information.



Don't forget . . .

Club Meetings

**Now Start at
7:00 PM**

Meeting Room Opens at 6:30 -
Come Early!

**WARAC David Knaus
Memorial Scholarship**

Available to licensed Amateurs who are Wisconsin residents pursuing an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree in any course of study. The application deadline is May 1, 2009.

Visit the [FAR website](#) for additional information and application forms.

Join in on the

WARAC

Repeater Net

On the

"Off-Tuesdays"

(1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays)

7:00PM

On the WARAC Repeater
145.17 MHz

Thanks!



Thanks and a tip of the editor's hat to the following contributors to this month's issue of **Hamtrix**

Phil Gural, W9NAW

Ron Gorski, N9AU



Write an Article

This means

You!

Please??

Scuttlebutt...

- How are you doing on the WARAC WAS contest? The only progress report received is from John, K9IAC, who has 5 states remaining to complete his WAS. How are **you** doing?
- Log sheets and a map for tracking progress are available on the club web site at www.warac.org/events/was/waslogsheet.pdf
- Those that ordered **name badges** - they will be available at the next meeting.
- Need machining done for reasonable prices? Lathe work, drilling, tapping, milling? Contact Lou's Machine Shop - 414-453-6368 - W9GSV

For Sale

The following items have been donated to WARAC:

- Spi-Ro MD-80 center fed 1/2 wave 80M dipole antenna. New with balun and instructions, \$10.
- Ameritron RCS-8V remote coax switch. New, no manual, \$75.
- Coax cable, RG-213, 50 ft with PL-259 connectors, new \$25.
- Yaesu G800 rotor with G800SDX control and 100 ft cable with connectors. This is a medium duty rotator in very good condition, no manual, \$200.
- Cushcraft A4S triband beam, very good condition, with manual, \$300.

Please contact Phil, W9NAW, for additional information and availability. Proceeds go to the WARAC scholarship fund.

Upcoming Meeting Programs

May 12

RF Exposure Calculation

by Tom Wrench, N9HR

All about how to determine the level of RF exposure from you station. This is a topic we all need to know something about.

June 9

Get Ready for Field Day

by Tom Macon, K9BTQ

Discussion to finalize Field Day plans plus pictures plus anecdotes of previous Field Days

July 14

**National Conference of
Volunteer Examiner Coodinators**

by Tom Fuszard, KF9PU

Learning about the history of the VEC program and NCVEC in particular. NCVEC prepares the question pools.

August 11

Logbook of The World (LoTW)

by Brian Cieslak, K9WIS

The LoTW is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world that can be used to verify QSO's. Find out how it works.

JUNE 27-28

FIELD DAY 2009 UPDATE



A Field Day meeting was held on April 21.

As most of you know, the big challenge for 2009 is how to deal with the loss of our CW ops. Mike, WA9HGS, became a silent key last fall and Ron, N9AU, has indicated that he will not be available this year.

It was decided that the emphasis this year will be on operator training as opposed to maximum contest point production. We need more operators for future Field Days and with the training emphasis, we hope to increase our operator pool. So **we need people to train!** *Please contact me if you're interested in learning more about contesting, Field Day style.* Non-club members are more than welcome as well as club members. Spread the word!

We are considering holding a class prior to Field Day to

cover the basics. Stay tuned for more information on this.

Plans for food include subs for Saturday lunch and the usual brats along with Jim White's chili for Saturday evening. An extra touch will be Vicki Smith's brownies!

Phil, W9NAW, will provide coffee during the night and donuts on Sunday morning.

Tentative antenna plans are to use two of the club masts for Mike Wagner's 40m station and one mast for the VHF station. The 75/20m station may simplify their setup to a single mast with a rotatable antenna plus one or two inverted V's

- Tom Macon, K9BTQ, FD chairman

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President's Shack

(Continued from page 1)

your homework. The result should be a simple document that is kept as part of your station records. Tom's presentation will discuss these requirements and he can answer questions that you may have. If you want to review this

material before the meeting, it is discussed in The ARRL Handbook. It is in Chapter 3, (Page 3-16 in the 2009 Handbook).

See you at the meeting.

73,
Howard Smith, WA9AXQ

.....

George, K9ILV

(Continued from page 3)

tion background, the management of the rapidly expanding arcade chain found that he was good at coordinating construction and opening of new stores, so he was given the job of coordinating this. This required him and his wife Joann to move and for about three years they lived away from Milwaukee, in Middleburg, NY and Mundelein, Illinois.

A few years later, after George and Joann had moved back to their old homestead on S 11th St in Milwaukee, the arcade business faded. George found himself in need of employment, so he made another career change.

He began working for Lamers Bus Lines as a driver in 1985. But soon Lamers found out he could fix radios and other things, so he did that, too. He was with Lamers for 12 years, then continued working part time for them for several more years until he turned 80. After many years of occasional attendance at WARAC meetings, George "came back home". After his final retirement about three years ago, he once again became a regular at our meetings.

George and Joann celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary the week before he passed away. He is survived by Joann and five children. One son, Jim, is also a ham, KE7SDW, and lives in Vancouver, Washington.

We will certainly miss George's stories, his congenial nature and his laid-back approach to things.

73, George. And see if you can do something about our sunspots from up there.

.....



George teaching code to boys at the old WARAC club station at McKinley Fieldhouse in West Allis. This was probably in the late 1950's.



May 27 - Jim White, W9GLH
 May 29 - Lynn Barcz, N9JAC

*Wedding
 Anniversaries*

May 24 - Jim and Darlene Choroszy



www.warac.org

Mke-Fla Net

(Continued from page 1)

Keys. A number of WARAC members are involved nowadays and a website for the Net is hosted as a “piggy back” on our WARAC website. Simply click on the *Milwaukee-Florida* icon on the left side of the main screen on our website. You will be greeted by mug shots of several dozen Net participants.

The Milwaukee-Florida Net began over 40 years ago when a few retired hams moved to Florida and set up schedules with other ham buddies back in the Milwaukee area. Charles Meyer, W9GVL, was a Milwaukee expatriate who moved to Pensacola in 1966 and became K4HQY. (In those days, the FCC always changed your call when you moved into another call area). In the fall of 1968, Charles began regular skeds with Mel Amidzich, WA9PZU, and George Fields, W9WVL, in Milwaukee. Within the next few years, more Milwaukee area hams began to participate and more retirees and “snowbirds” from the Milwaukee area began showing up in Florida. The rag-chew sessions evolved into a net and

Mel, WA9PZU, was the first net control.

Mel continued running the Net until the 1990’s when ill health forced him to become less active. His backup, Bill Brossmann, W9EQP, took over as net control and continued for about 15 more years. Bill was in his eighties when he took over and he ran the net until shortly before he became a Silent Key at age 99 in April 2008. John, K9IAC, is now the primary net control with backup from Tom, K9BTQ, and Chuck Gianniou, N9DII.

Other WARAC members who participate are John, N9LGD; George, AA9SR; Bob, KC9AGX; Dick, W9JBE; Phil, W9NAW and Gene Wierzbicki, W9RYT, who is the keeper of the Net Roster (also available on the website)..

This historical information is based largely on an article that appeared in the MRAC newsletter, *Hamateur Chatter*, in 1993. The original can be seen at www.warac.org/mke-fla/history.htm . Thanks to Gordy Weiler, W9ZQK, who recently made us aware of the 1993 *Chatter* article.

Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

“computer glifics,” which he had not seen in past years. Scores seem to be running a bit higher than the last several years, although so far, he is not aware of any records being broken. All WI counties are present, as are seven Canadian Provinces, and only Hawaii needed to complete all states. Electronic logs number 233 and paper logs number 56 as of today. He hopes to have a complete report to the Board at the May Board meeting.

Field Day – Tom said we will be doing 2A this year, with emphasis on training. Discussion followed on possibly doing a pre-Field Day contest training session, sort of like an aviation ground school session. There were no conclusions on how to do that.

Programs - The May program will be on RF Exposure by Tom Wrench, N9HR. The June program should be about Field Day. July will bring a program on the national VEC by Tom Fuszard, KF9PU. Logbook of the

World (LOTW), by Brian Cieslak, K9WIS, will be presented for our August meeting. There are no programs contemplated after August

Repeater – no report.

Hamtrix - Tom mentioned he is in need of material.

Jim White – Dick Wood mentioned he had received a note with a dues payment from Jim White. Jim indicated he is ill, and does not plan to be at any future club meetings nor at Field Day.

Scholarship CD – Dick asked the Board for help in determining where to go with the money from the Dave Knaus donation. Rates have dropped. He mentioned several rates he found. After discussion, the Board suggested he go to TriCity, with a 23 month CD at 2.25%.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR
