



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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MAY CLUB HAPPENINGS

Club Meeting May 14th 2013



Program

Personal Weather station on the internet
by Steve Drya NO9B

**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

**2013 Field Day:
June 22-23**



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 May 2013

We're getting some Spring-like weather – finally! And at next week's meeting, you can find out how to monitor that weather. Our May program will be presented by Steve Dryja, NO9B, who will tell us how to set up a personal weather station and make the data available on the Internet. Should be interesting!

The Wisconsin QSO Party log submission period ended on April 11 and we received a record 334 logs. These logs contained over 48,000 entries, which represent roughly 32,000 QSO's. Howard, WA9AXQ, worked on entry of paper logs and fixing some problem electronic logs. Chuck, W9WLX, helped by contacting and encouraging log submissions from stations that were seen frequently in other station's logs. Thanks, guys!

This completes the first phase of processing the WIQP results. We hope to have the results finalized in June. Stay tuned!

Six people attended the Field Day meeting on April 30. Chairman Chuck, W9WLX, will fill us in on the plans for the 2013 edition of this popular club activity. Final details for the Field Day effort will be discussed at the June meeting and the program will also be about Field Day. (See Chucks article on page 5)

Scholarship fund raising has been going great! The proceeds from donated equipment sales at the May 4 Ozaukee Swapfest were more than enough to fund one scholarship, largely because of a sizeable donation from the estate of John Mangerson, KC9GW, of Rhinelander. John's wife, Jean, and his brother Jud, W9IAL, were nice enough to donate his

equipment to WARAC. Another Rhinelander ham, Bill, K9BTP, helped greatly with inventorying and transportation. And our own Phil, W9NAW, and John, K9IAC, handled things on the Milwaukee end. Thank you, all! It is much appreciated!

Also don't forget our before-meeting dinner at Johnny V's Classic Café, 1650 S. 84th St. at 5:00PM. If we have at least ten attendees, we will be able to use their private room, located through the doors at the north end of the main dining room.

See you at the meeting! Bring a friend!

Tom, K9BTQ

From the Editor

Since the last Hamtrix me and my wife went on a nine day vacation to the Netherlands and Belgium. It was part of a small tour group. We had fun. I took my FT-817 along with the thought I might be able to operate with it.

As sometimes happens it didn't work out. I did learn somethings that might help on the next trip. I'll pass along my thoughts. First of all I would suggest making a checklist of what you want to take along. I didn't and of course forgot the cable to connect my radio to my tuner. As it turned out even if I had brought the cable the wire I had might not have work very well, since we stayed in hotels on the town squares. There was really no place to set up an antenna out side my window.

I did try a couple calls on one Belgium repeater with no response. It might well have been me using English.

I took my radio as carry on and had no problems going through security. The only minor glitch was it was swiped and checked for explosive residue at one airport. In the other airports it went through without a problem. I did have a copy of my license and reciprocal agreement available but was never asked for it.

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WARAC General Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2013

Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 16 with two visitors.

Program

The evening's program, VoIP for Amateur Radio, was given by Dave Schank, KA9WXN.

Business

If there are any suggestions for future general meeting programs, please give the feedback to a board member.

License upgrades: Bill W9ASA-Extra, Paul KC9JET-General, and Steve KC9WXC-General.

Wisconsin QSO Party highlights: 294 logs entered so far, 26 paper logs pending, approximate total, 320. 44,250 log entries including all states, all but 2 WI counties, and 119 DX Q's.

80 m 20%

40 m 53%

20 m 26%

CW 46%

Ph 53%

Motion was made and accepted to approve the March meeting minutes as published in Hamtrix.

Call was made for VP nominations with no response from club membership.

The WARAC Field Day planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 30, at St, Mary's parish, Hales Corners.

New member name badges are available at next meeting. Come to the meeting and claim your badge.

Announcements

2 meter net every Wednesday at 8:00 pm on 147.045, + offset, PL 127.3. Join in!

CQ Tuesday, 1:00 pm 3rd Tuesday (4/16) at Country Buffet

The Nut Net breakfast is at Genesis Restaurant, 8:30 am, 4th Tuesday of the month (4/23).

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX
Secretary WARAC

WARAC Board Meeting

April 23, 2013

Howard Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Dave Schank, KA9WXN, Leroy Haas, KC9NST, and Frank Humpal, KA9FZR. Phil Gural, W9NAW, guest.

Wisconsin QSO Party

The due date for log submissions has passed. 334 logs were received, up 20% over last year. There were 158 in Wisconsin, 176 outside Wisconsin with 48,000 + entries. 11 rovers covered 40 counties and only Crawford and Richland counties were not activated. 36 clubs were represented, 8 out of state operators were operating from within Wisconsin, and 139 DX calls were logged. Dane, Milwaukee, and Waukesha counties were most active.

WAWC

Question submitted regarding use of WIQP log for QSL confirmation in WAWC. This will be referred to Lynn Tamblyn as WAWC Chairman. Tom Macon will follow-up with Lynn.

Vice President

Vice President Position remains vacant. No further actions at this time.

Swapfest

Swapfest financials were reviewed. The event was a fiscal success and pricing will likely be held at 2013 levels. Some changes were discussed regarding PA system, door prize awards, and hours of operation.

2013 Budget

No further actions at this time.

Programs

May: Weather spotting

June: Field Day

Future suggestions include Spotting, introduction to new ARRL Section Manager, and an Official Observer program.

Miscellaneous

No updates to the WARAC Operations Manual

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX
Secretary WARAC

FREE COAX

Over the past couple of months, WARAC has been the recipient of a considerable amount of coax cable and several antennas. If you are in need of some jumper coax cables or coax for your antenna, please continue reading.

At the present time, we have a large bundle of “jumper size” coax with PL-259, type N or the combination of both connectors on these cables. I will be bringing these jumper coax cables to the May 14th general meeting. Please help yourself to these cables as they are free for the taking. Of course, if you feel obligated to pay, the treasurer will be glad to collect!

We also have several pieces of longer coax cables, ranging in length from 25 to 100 feet, with PL-259, type N or the combination of both connectors. They are very reasonably priced. Again, if you are interested in learning what may still be available, please give me a call (W9NAW 414.425.3649). I will be more than happy to bring these cables to the meeting.

Finally, we also have a few antennas for sale. One is a Mosley TA-33 Jr. It is a tri-band beam and will handle power up to 300 watts. It is in need of some repair and a few replacement parts.

The asking price is \$75. Please call me about this beam. The other antenna is a Shakespere 45 foot vertical. It is slated to undergo some necessary repairs. The price is negotiable at this time.

Phil Gural, W9NAW

Mosley TA-33 jr.



Field Day 2013

By Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

Planning for Field Day 2013 is underway! The initial Field Day meeting took place on April 30th and the West Allis Radio Amateur Club is on its way to another successful event.

Field Day will take place at the New Berlin location, 3711 S. Casper Drive, as it has the past two years. The terrain, location, and the presence of mature trees are a definite plus. The club will be operating in the 2A category with a “free” (3rd) VHF station. All stations will be accommodated in pop-up campers, providing an above average level of operator comfort.

Set up, tear down, and operating logistics still need to be determined, so be sure to watch for updates in Hamtrix and on the WARAC website. Additionally, a sign up sheet will be circulated at the May 14 and June 11 club meetings. Otherwise, contact Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, and let him know what your interest is. Field Day has been a well attended, fun, event so let’s keep the tradition going in 2013!

FEMA courses. (Federal Emergency Management Agency)

I volunteered to go to the Boy Scout Jamboree this summer. One of the prerequisites is to take a couple of FEMA courses on incident management.

Much to my surprise I found them interesting! They prove to me that it is even possible for the government to learn from their mistakes. A lot of this was developed from some of the botched disaster relief that the government has done.

Since we Ham radio operators have the possibility of actually participating in disasters I thought I would share my thoughts on the courses along with the web sites if you are interested in looking at them.

FEMA has a recommended command structure for any size incident. It recommends one person is in charge and takes on all responsibility. This person should be the best qualified for the job not necessarily the highest rank. With a small incident the person in charge and the workers may be all that is needed. As the incident grows the command structure can grow under the person in charge. So there is a whole structure that can grow as needed.

Some of the interesting thing I found in the courses were:

1. All communication should be in plain English. You have multiple disciplines involved (fireman, police, ham radio operators, etc.) each with their own short cuts for communication. The only common language is English.
2. They suggest that it is wise to have everyone involved report to a staging area to be assigned where to go. That way everyone is kept track of and used where needed most.
3. I was surprised that part of the Logistics command job was not only getting stuff for supporting the operation but, from the beginning, planning how to get the stuff that is not used back to save money and have it ready for the next incident .

There is a lot more in the courses! Both the ones I took were three hours long, including a test. The test gives you a diploma so you can prove you took the courses. But you can sample the courses as you like.

The first course was IS-100.B: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100 at

 [p://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-100.b](http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-100.b)

The other was IS-700.A: National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction at

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-700.a>

Have fun! Frank KA9FZR

Editor

In Europe you can operate for a vacation length of time using your Extra license and putting the country call letters with a slash before your call. The ARRL's site has some good articles and sources of information.

The trip was fun
Frank KA9FZR

New Members

Here is a list of our new members since the beginning of the year.
Say hi to them at the meetings.

New Members welcome, feel free to ask questions and introduce your self. I'm sure us most don't know all the answers but between us I'm sure we can help.

Al Hovey WA9BZW
Bill Reed N9KPH
Ken Secora N9KS
Rock McGowan
Ken Brown KB9EX
Bill Spellman W9ASA
Steve Mueller KC9WXC
Matt Slavik AC9EP
Dale Webler KC9SHB
Bob Schwigel AA9SY
Dave Garnier WB9OWN

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Dave Schank, KA9WXN

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W9FK
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***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.