



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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Volume 62, Issue 7 July, 2015

JULY CLUB HAPPENINGS

Club Meeting

St. Peter's Episcopal Church,
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue, West Allis
July 14, 2015 **7:00pm**

Program

Digital Modes

by Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT

Join us for a pre-meeting dinner
at Johnny V's Classic Cafe
1650 S 84th St at 5:00pm



NUT NET

3.985mhz

Monday-Saturday

8:15am CT

Milwaukee-Florida Net

Every Day on 14.290 Mhz

7:00AM - 9:15AM ET

6:00AM - 8:15AM CT



Nice Article on the West Allis Radio Club

<http://www.westallisnow.com/news/west-allis-radio-club-tunes-into-local-worldwide-chatter-b99507528z1-305072641.html>

Anniversary Awards Dinner October 25, 2015

WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm

MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset
127.3 Hz CTCSS

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 July 2015

We have another **Field Day** under our belt and I think everything went very well. See Chuck's summary and results information elsewhere in this issue. **Thanks to Chuck** for putting together a successful event and thanks to everyone who participated. And **thanks to Erwin, WI9EV**, whose publicity efforts paid off with the visit of New Berlin mayor Dave Ament on Saturday.

It was a great to see everyone working together and I hope y'all had fun with your fellow club members! It's great to see a lot of participation by members that have joined our club in the last few years. I don't think there's anything magic about the way we've done Field Day over the years, but repetition and experience has taught us a lot. I think the old farts among us are doing a good job of passing this knowledge on to the new farts. This bodes well for future WARAC Field Days.

The program at the upcoming meeting is **Digital Modes by Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT**. We've had presentations on this topic before, but Gary will discuss it from a different perspective. Gary's presentations are always great and this should be no exception. Be there!

After Gary's program, we'll have a **Field Day wrap-up** presentation by Chuck, plus our monthly Arduino update. And, of course, we'll finish up with our open discussion period and refreshments. **Please bring your questions, comments and show-and-tell items, as usual.**

Saturday, July 11 is the South Milwaukee Club's **Swapfest** (Oak Creek). Due to a recent donation, we will have a lot items to sell there. Contact Phil, W9NAW, or Steve, NO9B for details. Thanks in advance to everyone who helped collect

and sell donated material for our Scholarship Fund.

We have a few months until **Sunday, October 25**, the date of this year's annual **Anniversary Awards Dinner**, but these things have a habit of sneaking up. Mark your calendar. This year's committee, Frank Humpal, Paul Hass and Erwin von der Ehe, have started putting the event together. We'll be at a new location: Meyer's Restaurant at 4260 S 76th St in Greenfield.

Don't forget our before-meeting dinner at **Johnny V's Classic Café, 1650 S. 84th St.** at 5:00PM. See you at the meeting! Bring a friend! Tom, K9BTQ

From the editor

Sounds like all had fun at Field Day. This year I wasn't able to make it. My son Steve had his family practice residency graduation banquet in Madison on Saturday.

Not much else is happening with ham radio. I do get on the 80 meter nut net most mornings. A very fine bunch of gentlemen! Much to my amazement I have a very good chance of being heard even with my 5 watt QRP rig SSB. I think it is because the others have very good radios but by luck it seems my 80 meter antenna is in the right position to do a good job of getting out.

The 80 meter dipole antenna is part of an 80, 40, 30 meter fan antenna. The center is about 20 feet or so above ground. One end heads south rising for about half its length then dips down. The other side heads east for about half its length while dropping down 6ft or so, then heads north. It does prove that antennas don't have to be put in nice neat straight lines to work. Some day I'll take the time to do a more accurate measurement and model it and see what type of pattern it is putting out. That might be a idea for an article, I will have to see if time permits.

Hope everyone is having a great summer
Frank KA9FZR

WARAC General Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2015

Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 16 with no visitors.

Program

The evening's program topics included:

- Field Day 2016 presented by Chuck Dellis W9WLX
 - Erwin updated on his publicity activities.
 - New Berlin Mayor will be coming by to issue a proclamation.
 - Chuck laid out the plan for the New Berlin site.
 - Will be doing a 2A Station with a VHF Station and a GOTA station
 - Set up begins at 8:00 AM on June 27th.
- Arduino Project Presentations
 - Tom, K9BTQ, presented his serial monitor display
 - Mike, WO9B, presented his FoxHunt Transmitter.
 - Howard WA9AXQ, discussed serial monitoring and RS-232 interface

Business

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

July's Program will be on Digital Modes by W9XT. August will be computer rig control and September will be Milwaukee Astronomical Society Tour.

Wisconsin QSO Party: Results are still pending.

Scholarship winner for 2015 was announced: John Peters, KC9HLM is this year's winner. He will be attending So IL University this fall and studying Mechanical Engineering.

South Milwaukee Swapfest is scheduled for July 11th.

Reminder for the Wednesday evening 2 meter net. Everyone is welcome

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Johnson, WO9B

WARAC Board Meeting

June 23, 2015

Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Steve Dryja, NO9B, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Erwin von der Ehe, WI9EV, Frank Humpal, KA9FZR, Al Hovey, WA9BZW and Mike Johnson, WO9B.

Scholarship Award Update

ARRL official notification came through. ARRL explained the non-Wisconsin determination.

Field Day

Antenna lines were placed today. Setup begins on Saturday @ 8:00 AM. New Berlin Mayor scheduled for noonish.

Swapfest 2016

Flyer is updated.

Radio Merit Badge

No update.

WI QSO Party

No update.

Programs

July – Digital Modes – W9XT
Aug – Rig Control Presentation
Sept - Milwaukee Astronomical Society
*(editors note; Will be regular meeting
Presentation will be rescheduled)*
Oct – Elections, Panadaptor with Dongle
Nov –

Future Program Ideas

Logbook of the World
Spotting – W9XT
FM38 Operations
DSP presentation
Yaesu Fusion System
Kreg Jig Fastener System
W5KUB –Possible for Nov
SO2R

Club Operations Manual

WAWC operations chapter was updated.

2012 , 2013 and 2014 Audit

2012 & 2013 were packaged to Bill, N9KPH. Tom will determine another volunteer.

Awards Dinner

Erwin, Frank and Paul are the Dinner Committee members. October 25th will be the big day. Venues are being reviewed.

Other Items

2 meter net continues and needs some more check-ins.

Meeting was adjourned 9:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Johnson, WO9B
Secretary WARAC



2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

HAM RADIO

Field Day 2015

By Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Field Day Chairman

In spite of all the recent sun spot activity, Field Day 2015 was a success! Operation was similar to last year, setting up at the same location behind the New Berlin municipal building with similar antennas and station configurations.

The weather could not have been better for operating, cool and dry. Conditions were ripe for rain to impact teardown, but fortunately Sunday was precipitation free. QRN was about what you expect for a summer evening with the usual challenges on 80 meters. This was a welcome change over last year, where regional thunderstorms made the band practically unusable for a time.

Field Day was kicked off by a visit from New Berlin Mayor, Dave Ament, and Emergency Management Deputy Director, Jim Burns, KD9CIV. Their visit was inspired by some hard work by Erwin von der Ehe. Erwin persuaded the mayor to issue a Proclamation to officially recognize and designate June 27 & 28 as Amateur Radio Weekend. Mr. Ament and Mr. Burns paid the site a visit to better understand what Field Day weekend is all about. A special thanks goes out to Erwin for his diligence in making it happen!

Setup and teardown was trouble-free and uncomplicated. Thanks to the group for great teamwork! Antenna configuration was identical to what was used last year. The 80/20/10 meter station ran all three bands on an 80 meter loop fed with ladder line. Two trees and one mast supported the antenna with an average height of about 50 feet. The 40/15 meter station used an Alpha Delta DXCC multi-band dipole in a flat top configuration with a single 40 foot mast and a tree as supports. The VHF station ran a 6 & 2 meter Yagi on a single rotatable mast. Bill Reed, N9KPH, ran a GOTA station on Saturday afternoon using a BuddiPole antenna. Band coordination for the GOTA station presented a challenge because of limited openings on 15 & 10 meters.

This year the club completed its transition to N1MM Logger Plus for all stations, making the data compilation and analysis much easier. All stations used the logging program, taking advantage of the way it integrates with CW and digital modes and the rich feature set it has to offer. N1MM Logger Plus continues to be a great value and the new version is still free!

Total contacts were 1540 this year, up 122% over last year's 694. 15 meters had some openings on Saturday, but 10 & 6 meters remained closed. Many operators QSY'd to 20 & 40 meters, giving way to very crowded band conditions. Nevertheless, a few operators were able to get some good runs in and achieve a pretty good rate. Sunday morning took a turn for the better when 6 & 10 meters popped open and 15 meters sounded like 40 meters did the previous day! 10 operators took part in making QSOs, getting on the air and building the WARAC Field Day team. Congratulations!

Thanks to Tom Macon, K9BTQ and Phil Gural, W9NAW for helping with site planning, to Phil Gural W9NAW for securing campers for two stations, and to Howard Smith for catering the food and coordination of the facilities. Thanks to Jim Kehoss, KC9RNY, for the use of his camper, and generator at the third station, John Westimayer, N9LGD, for the use of his tent, Steve Dryja, NO9B for his help hauling equipment, as well as George Dunco, AA9SR, for his generator.

-73, Chuck, W9WLX

Band	CW	FM	PH	PSK31	Total
2M		1	2		3
6M			138		138
10M	6		53		59
15M	45		156	4	205
20M	133		239		372
40M	153		422		575
80M	78		103		181
GOTA			7		7
Total	416	1	1121	4	1540

roclamation

Whereas, Amateur Radio operators are celebrating over a century of the miracle of the human voice broadcast over the airwaves; and

Whereas, Amateur Radio has continued to provide a bridge between peoples, societies and countries by creating friendships and the sharing of ideas; and

Whereas, Amateur Radio Operators, who are wholly uncompensated, have also provided countless hours of community services both in emergencies and to other local organizations throughout these decades; and

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin also recognizes the services Amateur Radio's people also provide to our many Emergency Response organizations, including the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army; and

Whereas, these same individuals have further demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing free radio communications for local parades, bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, fairs and other charitable public events; and

Whereas, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is the leading organization for Amateur Radio in the USA; and the ARRL Amateur Radio Field Day exercise will take place on June 27-28, 2015 and is a 24 hour emergency preparedness exercise and demonstration of the Radio Amateurs' skills and readiness to provide self-supporting communications without further infrastructure being required; and

Whereas, the West Allis Radio Amateur Club will participate in the ARRL Field Day event from an operation located at the New Berlin Recycling Center; and

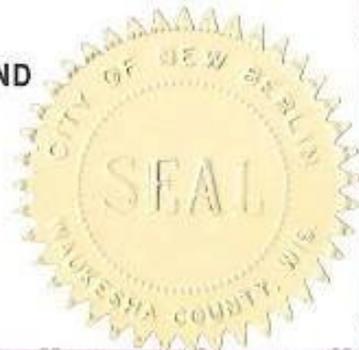
Whereas, the City of New Berlin, WI appreciates the diligence of these "hams" and wishes to draw attention to this worthwhile event and encourages our citizenry to stop by and learn more about Amateur Radio Operations; now

Therefore, I, David Ament, Mayor of the fine City of New Berlin, do hereby officially recognize and designate June 27th & 28th, 2015 as

AMATEUR RADIO WEEKEND



The Honorable Mayor Dave Ament
Dated this 12th Day of June 2015



Field day Pictures

More pictures available on club web site

<http://www.warac.org/fd/2015/pix.htm>



New Berlin Mayor Dave Ament with Erwin WI9EV



Phillip W9NAW, Charles W9WLX, Mayor Ament and Erwin WI9EV



Ham Radio on the Internet (click on red web address)

Anyone can submit websites for this column. I'll check them out and include them. The editor

Some thoughts on commercial grade fall protection:

<https://ohsonline.com/Articles/2015/07/01/The-ABCs-of-Personal-Fall-Arrest-Systems.aspx>

Work on cordless charging of your phones. It sounds as if you get close to this device it will charge it. One has to wonder about efficiency though---

http://www.wirelessdesignmag.com/news/2015/07/omnidirectional-free-space-wireless-charging-developed?et_cid=4662817&et_rid=353748193&type=headline

Interesting story of one of the first computers. The times were right for computers and maybe more than one person saw the way.

http://www.jameco.com/Jameco/workshop/rollcall/first-digital-computer.html?trk_msg=46M5MTRBL37KTDR5K11O9S01AC&trk_contact=A784EOJRJJFL8VFGJJ3L7F2S74&utm_source=Listrak&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=Digital+Computer&utm_campaign=May+Newsletter+2015

Officers and Board

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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.