



# Hamtrix

Volume 53, Issue 10 October, 2008

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## Meetings & Events



**October 14**  
Club Meeting  
see *October Program* for details

**October 28**  
Board Meeting

**November 2**  
Material Due for Next  
**Hamtrix**

**November 9**  
**Annual Awards Dinner**  
see page 5 to sign up

**November 11**  
Next Meeting



## The President's Shack

by *Howard Smith, WA9AXQ*

At the September Board Meeting, there was a discussion about the upcoming annual election of officers and board members. The Officers have been the same since 2001. The Board Members have a term of two years, so they have changed several times during the same time. While all of the Officers have indicated that they are willing to be re-elected, I would like to see more club members involved. Having new people in the various offices would bring new insight and will help keep our club more vibrant. So, I ask each of you, please consider whether you would like to serve

as a club officer or board member. The commitment is an additional board meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month. If you are interested, you can volunteer for the desired position. If you have questions, please talk with me, another officer, or board member.

As for the elections, there are four officers to be elected, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each of these positions has a one-year term. One board member will be elected, with a two-year term. If I am re-elected as President, then an additional election will be held for the Board position of Past President, which is also for a one-year term. The elections will held at the beginning of the meeting, so please plan to be at the meeting on time.

The Annual Awards Dinner is on Sunday, Nov. 9th at the Machine Shed restaurant in Pewaukee at 5:00pm. Dennis Ry-

*(Continued on page 6)*

## OCTOBER PROGRAM

Television as we've known it for 60 years will disappear on February 17, 2009.

**Get the details! Ask questions!**

This meeting is also Election of Officers.

## Digital Television

by **Dave Schank, KA9WXN**  
Automated Systems Engineer, Ch 10/36

*Don't Miss Our*

## Annual Awards Dinner SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

*Get to know our speaker on page 3*

*Send in your reservation on page 5*



**From the Minutes...**

By Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR  
Secretary

**Minutes of the General Meeting  
September 9, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by President Howard Smith.

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

*Special Election* - due to the resignation of a Board member, and per the club Constitution and By-Laws, a special election was held. Chuck Craven, WB9PUB, received a unanimous vote of the membership present. Welcome aboard, Chuck.

*Special Announcements* - Howard mentioned:

1) that he hoped all club members would be present October 14, for our annual election of officers.;

2) the annual club Awards Dinner, scheduled for November 9, again hoping that all club members consider attending this annual event.

*Program* - Weather Forecasting Models. Mike Falk, AA9RK, who is a meteorologist by profession, presented a very interesting discussion and associated Powerpoint presentation on Computer Forecasting Models, or CFMs. He worked at UW Milwaukee for 4 years, and wrote CFMs, which he said had actually been around for 50 years.

As time progresses, these models are getting better. The first trial was in 1922 and the first success was in 1950. CFMs are based on computers and physics equations. Mike then talked about the models one sees daily on TV. These models are based on a number of items, such as equations, grids, data assimilation, analysis, and time steps, but are not perfect yet. This is due to approximations in models, as well as the data they are based on is only from two sources - either surface data or from balloon data.

Mike then went thru a number of weather type websites, with [www.rap.ucar.edu/weather](http://www.rap.ucar.edu/weather) being his favorite. He

gave us a tour of this site so we were familiar with its features. He then spoke to specific models, such as WRF and MOS, mentioning their features. MOS is just numbers. A Q & A session followed.

*Tuner* - Jackie Jurek, KC9MJO, had brought along an antenna tuner he built, so he did a quick run-thru of the tuner.

Discussion(s) ended at 9:05 PM, followed by refreshments and eyeball QSOs.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR

**Minutes of the Board Meeting  
September 23, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 PM. by Howard Smith. Board members present: Chuck Craven, George Dunco, Tom Macon, Howard Smith, and Dick Wood. No guests were present.

*Elections* - Howard stated that, although all of the current officers have done a fine job, he feels that there needs to be changes since all of the current officers have held their present positions for several years. He suggested that the slate for the election be: President: Tom Macon; Vice President: ??; Secretary: Dick Wood; Treasurer: Lynn Tamblyn. Tom stated that he would agree to running for President only if someone else takes over Hamtrix. There was further discussion but no decisions were made.

*October Meeting* - a motion was made and passed that post cards should be sent to a list of approximately 60 new hams promoting our October meeting. Cards are also to be sent to club members.

*Treasurer not available* - Dick Wood announced that he will be vacationing for much of October and will not be at the club meeting. He will turn over the checkbook and receipt book to Tom Macon so that he can handle the dinner signups and other payments.

*Meeting time* - a motion was made and passed that our meeting time be changed to 7:00PM and that the doors be open at 6:30. Members will be encouraged to come early for eyeballing and there will be demos before the meeting

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2007 WARAC Officers and Board			<b>Hamtrix</b> — Editor & Publisher	
President	J. Howard Smith, WA9AXQ	414 425-5626	Submit newsletter material to:	
Vice President	Thomas W. Macon, K9BTQ	414 543-3878	Tom Macon, K9BTQ	
Secretary	Lynn C. Tamblyn, K9KR	262 534-9655	3547 S. 95 St	
Treasurer	Richard M. Wood, W9JBE	262 542-5118	Milwaukee, WI 53228	
Director (2008)	Robert F Zach, KC9AGX	414 328-3691	414 543-3878	
Director (2009)	George Dunco, AA9SR	262.782-6325	tmacon@wi.rr.com	
Director (1 year)	Wes Andersen, N9YE	414.423.0640	-----	
Board Chairperson	J. Howard Smith, WA9AXQ	414 425-5626		

*Please Meet*

## DENNY RYBICKE, K9LGU

*2008 Awards Dinner Speaker*

**D**enny Rybicke has a long tradition in Wisconsin ham radio circles, having been originally licensed in 1958.

But he's also done a few other things during those years - see his job list to the right. He can tell stories about all of these jobs and we'll be hearing some of those stories at our annual Awards Dinner.

During the last 14 years, Denny and his wife have been operating the La Grange Bed & Breakfast in Fort Atkinson, and he still does substitute teaching at the local high school.

Come to the Dinner and find out what Denny has to say!



Denny and his favorite road sign.

### Denny's Job List

- Adjunct College Professor
- Audio System Supervisor
- Bean Picker
- Beer And Soda Driver
- City Mayor
- Clothing Store Clerk
- Drama Director
- Electrician
- Exterior Painter
- Floral Shop Driver
- Grant Writer
- Grave Digger
- High School Teacher
- Innkeeper
- Interior Painter
- Janitor/Custodian
- Microprocessor Salesman
- Novels And Documents Editor
- Potato Warehouse Worker
- Public Speaking Coach
- Roofer
- Stage Lighting Director
- Tree Trimmer

## Ham Happenings

Around the area

**Ozaukee Radio Club**  
 Grafton Senior Center  
 1665 7th. Ave.  
 Wed, October 8, 7:30PM

**CQ3TUE**  
 Old Country Buffet  
 16750 W Bluemound Rd  
 Tues. October 21, 11:15AM

**Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club**  
*formerly Menomonee Falls Radio Club*  
 Germantown Police Dept  
 N112W16877 Mequon Rd  
 Wed, October 29, 7:30PM

**Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club (MRAC)**  
 Redemption Lutheran Church  
 Hwy 100 & Capitol  
 Thurs, October 30, 7:00PM

**South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club**  
 Wed. November 5, 7:00PM  
 Legion Post 434  
 Shepard Ave  
 Oak Creek, WI.

**Amateur Radio Testing**  
 Saturday, November 1  
 9:00AM  
 MRC Swapfest—Elks Lodge  
 5555 W Good Hope Road  
 (across street from Amateur Electronics)

**NOTE**

*Please do not contact meeting places for information.*

### Swapfest 2009

## TICKETS... TICKETS... TICKETS

In recent years, WARAC members have not been as active in selling advance tickets as in the earlier days of our Swapfest.

This coming Swapfest it will be **very important** that we try to sell as many advance tickets as possible for several reasons: people will have a tendency to forget the event because of the early date **January 3rd**, and then there may be some who will not even come because of the economic situation. To the latter point, advance tickets are a dollar less and some sellers may have more than the usual items to sell to make some extra money.

Therefore, we are asking all members to take some tickets at the next general meeting and do their best to sell them. I will have plenty of tickets with me.

*Thank you for your help and support of this major event,  
 Phil, W9NAW*

# HOW LOW CAN IT GO?

By Tom Macon, K9BTQ

As the graph shows, sunspot numbers are showing a double minimum during this cycle. Numbers have continued to decline in recent months after rising from an earlier minimum about a year ago.

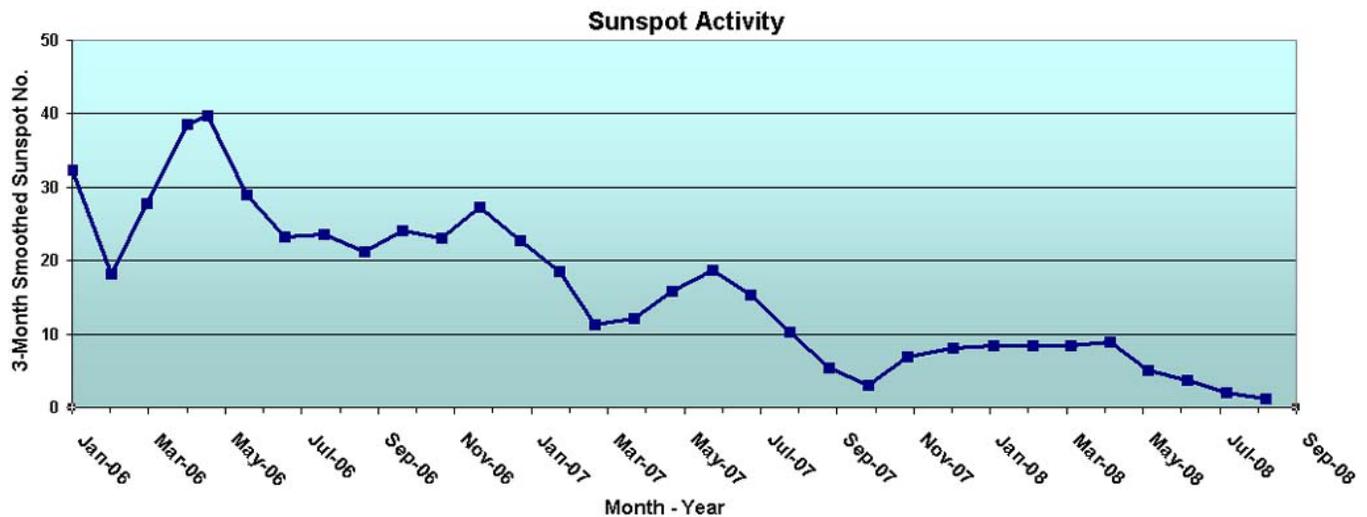
Sunspots appearing recently continue to follow the pattern that has existed most of this year - spots appear for one or two days and then disappear. A few spots have been visible for such a short time that they don't get counted, making the numbers even lower.

NASA announced recently that 2008 is the "blankest year of the space age" with over 200 days without spots.

In comparison, the minimum preceding Solar Cycle 19 in 1954 had 241 days without sunspots. Five years later, Cycle 19 provided the highest sunspot numbers ever recorded.

Whatever the data says, it seems that this minimum has lasted long enough - it's time for the graph to go up!

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## Thanks!



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

**Phil Gural, W9NAW**

**Denny Rybicke, K9LGU**



Write an Article  
**This means**  
**You!**  
Please??

## Scuttlebutt...

- Ray Massie, WB9WNA, is moving to Mukwonago from the campground in Rome where he has been living for a number of years. His new address is  
Linden Ridge, No. 109  
841 County Rd NN, E.  
Mukwonago, WI, 53149
- At the September meeting, the Board passed a motion to thank the Survey committee for the work done to prepare and distribute the survey and summarize the results. Committee members were George, AA9SR, Ron, N9AU, and Wes, N9YE. Thanks, guys!
- Arrangements have been completed for the Annual Awards Dinner, to be held on Sunday, November 9. The club will cover the cost of dessert for everyone. If you haven't already done so, fill out the application on page 5 and turn it in at the upcoming club meeting.
- John, N9LGD, reports progress on his new utility building that will house our club repeater. The tower base is in place and the foundation has been backfilled. John hopes to get the tower completed in October.

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# WARAC ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

5:00PM QSO TIME — 6:00PM DINNER



*THE MACHINE SHED RESTAURANT*  
N14 W24145 TOWER PL  
(I-94 & HWY J, EXIT 294)



<p><b>WARAC Activities</b> <i>the year in review</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swapfest</li> <li>• Field Day</li> <li>• more...</li> <li>• WI QSO Party</li> <li>• 10m Contest</li> </ul>	<p><b>Presentation of:</b></p> <p>2008 Scholarship Certificate Years of Membership Awards 10m Contest Awards Member of the Year Award</p>
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### Dinner Menu

#### Country Fried Chicken and Ol' Fashion Pot Roast

Served 'family style' with potatoes, vegetables, cole slaw, cottage cheese, bread, beverage and dessert. Tax and gratuity included in \$15.00 price. Cash bar.

### Program

#### Experiences of the Old Ham

By Denny Rybickie, K9LGU

Denny has served as a small town mayor, has been a teacher for many years and manages a Bed and Breakfast. He has lots of interesting stories to tell.

Contact Phil Gural or Tom Macon if you need transportation



**Sign-Up sheet below— Fill out and bring to the Club meeting!**



## AWARDS DINNER

### RESERVATION FORM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

5:00PM QSO TIME — 6:00PM DINNER

Name _____	Call _____
Number of people attending _____	Amount (\$15 each) _____

Sign-Up Deadline: November 3, 2008

Bring form and money to club meeting or mail to:

Make checks payable to:  
W.A.R.A.C, Inc.

Dick Wood, W9JBE  
S46 W22328 Tansdale Rd  
Waukesha, WI 53189



October 14 - Don Rohleder, WB9YDU  
 October 20 - Wes Andersen, N9YE  
 November 9 - George Schlessinger, K9JLV

*Wedding  
Anniversaries*

October 16 - Tom and Debbie Liebe  
 October 20 - Wes and Sharon Andersen  
 October 22 - Mike and Victoria Bauer  
 October 26 - Louie and Alice Mae Golembiewski  
 October 26 - Phil and Janet Gural  
 November 4 - Tom and Mary Ann Macon



What do you think of our club's web site? What would you like to see changed or added?  
 - Forward your comments to Tom, K9BTQ

**President's Shack**  
 (Continued from page 1)

bicke, K9LGU, will be the presenter. Please see the Awards Dinner page in this Hamtrix. You can give your reservation form and money to Dick, W9JBE, Treasurer, at the meeting.

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest will be happening on December 13 and 14. Don't forget our Ten Meter contest is based on your score. The November Club meeting

will feature Chuck, WB9PUB, who will present the details.

The October presentation is by Dave, KA9WXN, who will discuss the upcoming conversion to Digital Television. I know this will be an interesting topic, and Dave will answer all of your questions.

See you at the meeting.

73,  
 Howard Smith, WA9AXQ

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**ARRL Year of the QSO Party**

The ARRL has declared 2009 to the *Year of the State QSO Party*. See the *Radiosport* insert in October QST for more information. The *Radiosport* insert is between pages 32 and 33 and is made so that it can be easily torn out and saved.

If you haven't done already done so, be sure to check out this insert. There's a lot of good, basic contesting information in it!

**Minutes**  
 (Continued from page 2)

whenever possible.

*Awards Dinner* - No members of the Awards Dinner committee were present but Tom passed on information from John, K9IAC. The restaurant and food are all set except for the dessert. The plaques and certificates for member awards have yet to be ordered. Lynn took care of engaging a speaker and setting the date as requested at last month's Board meeting.

*Club Survey* - A motion was made by the Howard to thank the Survey committee for a job well done. The motion was passed unanimously.

*Club Books Audit* - Lynn is updating the structure of the club financial records. The Audit Committee can proceed with the 2007 club audit when he has completed this.

*Programs* - Upcoming programs are:

- October Digital Television by Dave Schank
  - November 10-Meter Contest by Chuck Craven
  - December ???
  - January Contesting Hints and Tricks by Chuck Craven
  - February Wisconsin QSO Party by Lynn Tamblyn
- A program is needed for December.

*Club Repeater* - There was no update from John Westmayer as to whether he will have the tower for the repeater antenna up by Sep 30. Howard reported that the repeater seems to be working OK recently but he suspects that there may be some de-sensing of the receiver while transmitting. He plans to check this out as time permits.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

For the Secretary,  
 Tom Macon, K9BTQ

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