



# Hamtrix

Volume 53, Issue 12 December, 2008

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## Meetings & Events



**December 9**  
Club Meeting

**Starts at 7:00 PM**

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**December 12-14**  
**10 Meter Contest**

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**No Board Meeting**  
in December

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**January 3**  
**Midwinter Swapfest**

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**January 4**  
Material Due for Next  
**Hamtrix**

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**January 13**  
Next Club Meeting



## The President's Shack

by Howard Smith,  
WA9AXQ

I am saddened to have to report that Mike Povlich, WB9HGS, has become a silent key. Mike was a club member many years ago. More recently, he participated in the 40 CW operations during Field Day with Ron, N9AU, and Mike, N9ESC. Ron has provided a brief article about Mike in this Hamtrix.

I want to remind all of you that your annual dues are now due. Please see our treasurer, Dick, W9JBE, at the meeting. If you have already paid, thank you. Members who have not paid by the January meeting will be dropped from the membership list and will stop receiving Hamtrix. If you cannot get to the meeting,

you can mail your dues to our PO Box, and your check will get to Dick. Thanks.

All of you should be aware that the 37th Annual Midwinter Swapfest is on Saturday, January 3rd. This is our club's most important event of the year, as it provides the funds to run our club and helps to fund our annual scholarships. This is the one event that every member needs to be there to support. And if you have friends who would like to help, they are welcome, too. Reporting time is between 5:30 am to 6:00 am, at the Waukesha County Expo 4-H buildings. The doors open for vendor setup at 6:00am, and for the general public at 8:00am. Phil, W9NAW, will have a signup sheet at the meeting, so be sure your name is on his list. Our Swapfest is the biggest and the best in the area. This is certainly a reflection of the efforts of our club members, who have always worked hard to make it a success. I think I have one of the best jobs at the swapfest, giving out the complementary meal tickets

*(Continued on page 6)*

Get Ready For

## SWAPFEST 2009

JANUARY 3

By Phil Gural, W9NAW

Swapfest Chairperson

**2 Days After  
New Years**

The end of 2008 is coming faster than you think!! That means a major event for our Club is not far behind. It's the WARAC 37th Annual Midwinter SWAPFEST, to take place just two days after the New Year – January 3, 2009.

Preparations are moving along. We started as early as the 2008 swapfest when we handed out "business cards" to potential 2009 buyers, reminding them that our 2009 date is the earliest our event will

occur. Arrangements for security, caterer and license testing have been completed, and we are processing advance table registrations as they are being received. As we have done for the past several years, we will pre-number all the tables the day before and allow some sellers to set up ahead of time. This will also help to expedite the seller 6:00 A.M. set-up time.

The South and East Halls will remain

*(Continued on page 5)*



**From the Minutes...**

By Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR  
Secretary

**Minutes of the General Meeting  
November 11, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Vice-President Tom Macon, while President Howard Smith went back home to pick up the projector for our program. He returned at 7:35 PM.

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

*New Members* - Dwain Runnells, KC9MJJ, James Wilkins, KC9KEQ, Leroy Hass, KC9NST, and Paul Hass, KC9JET, were voted into WARAC by the membership present. On Air Reports - Dick Wood reported that his 4-element quad seems to work quite well, with front-to-back ranging from S2 to S9, or about 35 db. Chuck Craven reported on recent two meter, six meter and ten meter openings.

*Program* - Ten-Meter Contest and Club Competition. President Howard introduced our ten-meter contest Chairman, Chuck Craven, WB9PUB. Chuck went through the contest rules for the upcoming ARRL Ten Meter Contest, December 13 and 14, basically adding to the article on the contest that he has published in the November issue of Hamtrix, for the membership. Besides talking on the official ARRL contest, he also talked about the internal competition that WARAC has. He indicated that the club competition entry form will be in the December issue of Hamtrix. He went thru a sample form so club members who had not entered before would know the differences between our form and the ARRL entry form. Chuck then went through club competition results for 2004 to 2008, for thirteen club members who had participated, with a graph of each member, showing how they did for the four years. Chuck then went thru a suggested 10-meter contest program, provided by Scott, N3FJP. Version three is now out, available as a download for \$6. During the program specific demonstration, Chuck did some callsign entering to show how easy it is to use this specific program - showing what happens when a call is logged, how dupes show up, and the various hot keys. This program can be oper-

ated entirely from the keyboard. A mouse is only needed to edit a previous contact. Chuck suggested that anyone planning to use the program purchase it ahead of time and become familiar with its operation(s), even though it is very user friendly and should not require a lot of time to master.

*Awards Dinner* - a report on the dinner was made to the membership by Bob Zach, following the program.

*Swapfest* - Chairman Phil Gural also made mention of the annual WARAC swapfest, January 3, 2009, and the need to make a concerted effort to sell as many tickets in advance as possible.

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

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR

**Minutes of the Board Meeting  
November 25, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 PM. by Howard Smith. Board members present: Charles Craven, George Dunco, Tom Macon, Howard Smith, Lynn Tamblyn and Dick Wood.

*Board Chairman* - With a new club year upon us, the first order of business for the new board is to elect a chairman for the next year. By motion, Howard Smith was elected.

*December Board Meeting* - By motion, the Board cancelled this meeting, subject to the call of the chair.

*Audit Of Club Books* - After some discussion, it was decided that the audits for 2007 and 2008 club books should be completed no later than March 2009. Dick and Lynn need to finish the reorganization of the books, and then the Audit Committee can do their audits.

*Meeting Rent* - Howard asked when the annual rent payments are made. He asked that our status be checked soon to make sure we are not behind. Treasurer Dick Wood thought it was in order and indicated he thought he usually paid the annual rent after the swapfest.

*Programs* - The December meeting is to be about swapfest plans for January 3, 2009. Phil Gural will be the

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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: Tom Macon, K9BTQ 3547 S. 95 St Milwaukee, WI 53228 414 543-3878 tmacon@wi.rr.com - - -
Vice President	Thomas W. Macon, K9BTQ	414.543-3878	
Secretary	Lynn C. Tamblyn, K9KR	262.534-9655	
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	

## MIKE POVlich, WB9HGS, SK

By Ron Gorski, N9AU

Mike Povlich, WB9HGS, became an SK on November 22, 2008. Many of you will remember Mike's unique style of directing traffic at our January fests.

Mike was quite active in WARAC years ago when he was on day shift learning the tool and die trade at Allen-Bradley. He later went to second shift where he remained until disability forced his retirement a year ago.

I can remember Mike participating, with me in Field Day for the past 35 years. This was with WARAC, The W/K Club or the "PBR PSE" Field day groups. The latter's name was coined by former WARAC president Roy Hawkins WA9KEC (SK). You can guess what the PBR stood for.

Mike was an Amateur Extra and really loved CW. He was also quite a student of antennas and helped me with every one of my projects over the past three decades.

His untimely passing is a sad thing. I will miss him. ....



Mike operating CW on WARAC Field Day in 1976.

### Ham Happenings

#### Around the area

#### Ozaukee Radio Club

Grafton Senior Center

1665 7th. Ave.

Wed, December 10, 7:30PM

#### CQ3TUE

Old Country Buffet

16750 W Bluemound Rd

Tues. December 16, 11:15AM

#### Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club

formerly Menomonee Falls Radio Club

No meeting in December

#### Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club (MRAC)

Christmas Party

Sat, December 13, 7:00PM

<http://www.w9rh.org/documents/MracXmas2008.pdf>

#### South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club

Wed. January 7, 7:00PM

Legion Post 434

Shepard Ave

Oak Creek, WI.

#### Amateur Radio Testing

Saturday, January 3

9:00AM

WARAC Swapfest/AMF Lanes

901 Northview Rd

Waukesha

#### NOTE

Please do not contact meeting places for information.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

By Tom Macon, K9BTQ

The last club roster booklet was published in 2005 and it's time for a new one.

This time around, the plan is to publish an interim roster now without spending a lot of time verifying everyone's information and, at the same time, request feedback on updates. This will get a usable roster in everyone's hands as quickly as possible. Between now and March, when our 2009 membership has stabilized, I will gather feedback on additions and corrections, then publish a more complete roster booklet as we have in the past.

While our treasurer, Dick Wood, W9JBE, keeps the official records of who has paid dues, I maintain a more detailed membership database that is used for a number of purposes, such as generating the birthday/anniversary list in Hamtrix and determining who is eligible for membership awards each year. It is also used to create the roster, so this database must be updated to publish a complete and correct roster.

Those who receive Hamtrix by email will also get the interim roster by email very soon. Paper copies of this roster will be available at club meetings for those who receive Hamtrix by snail mail.

**So when you receive your roster, please check your information and forward updates to Tom, K9BTQ, at 414.543.3878 or [tmacon@wi.rr.com](mailto:tmacon@wi.rr.com).**

Don't forget . . .

### Club Meetings

Now Start at

**7:00 PM**

Meeting Room Opens at 6:30 -  
Come Early!

Coming Up In One Week . . .

### 10 Meter Contest

December 12, 13, 14

Submit Summary Sheet  
On Next Page

*Swapfest 2009*

## TICKETS TICKETS TICKETS

Sell advance tickets to your  
friends before the 'fest!  
See Phil, W9NAW, for  
tickets to sell.

### Thanks!



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

**Ron Gorski, N9AU**  
**Phil Gural, W9NAW**



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

### Scuttlebutt...

- Please extend a warm WARAC welcome to four new club members  
Leroy Hass, KC9NST  
Paul Hass, KC9JET  
Dwain Runnells, KC9MJJ  
Jim Wilkins, KC9KEQ
- Ray Massie, WB9WNA, will soon be back on HF at his new QTH with a mobile antenna to be installed by John, K9IAC, and Tom, K9BTQ. Ray would like to have visitors and can be reached at 262.490.2850. His new address is  
Linden Ridge, Apt 109  
841 County Road NN, E  
Mukwonago. Wis. 53149
- Lynn, K9KR, completed his homebrew remote tuner for his horizontal loop antenna just in time for Phone Sweepstakes and it sounds like he is very satisfied with it. This tuner is based on the design concepts that Lynn talked about in his Balanced Tuner program in September, 2006. ....

### For Sale

- Forty foot Rohn 45 tower, folds over at about 20 ft. on a hinge plate using winch/cable counterpoise method. Good condition, has rotor plate and mast. Selling price \$300. Contact Phil, W9NAW, 414.425.3649
- Kenwood TS-940S transceiver with MC-60 microphone and manual. \$750. Contact John Zach, K9IAC.
- Ameritron ALS-600 solid state 600-watt amplifier with matching ALS-600PS supply and manuals. \$900. Contact John Zach, K9IAC. ....

### Dues are Due!

If you haven't already done so, please forward your 2009 dues to our treasurer, Dick, W9JBE. You can do this at any club meeting or by mailing it to him at:  
S46 W22328 Tansdale Rd; Waukesha, WI 53189  
.....

### Upcoming Meeting Programs

December 9

#### Prep for Swapfest 2009

by Phil Gural, W9NAW

January 13

#### Modeling Wire Antennas

by Tom Macon, K9BTQ

February 10

#### Setting Up a Contesting Station

by Chuck Craven, WB9PUB and Ron Gorski, N9AU

Have an idea for a program? Something you'd like to hear about?  
Let us know - Contact a Board member!  
.....

## 2008 West Allis Radio Amateur Club 10 Meter Contest

### Summary Sheet for WARAC-sponsored portion of contest

December 13 Saturday 0000Z to December 14 Sunday 2400Z

**ARRL Rules:** <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/10-meters.html>

**See November Hamtrix for more info on the WARAC contest.**

Operator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Used \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Category: CW only: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone only: \_\_\_\_\_ CW and Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (Check one category)

Power level: QRP (5w or less) \_\_\_\_\_ Low power (5w to 150w) \_\_\_\_\_ High power (150w and up) \_\_\_\_\_

### Scoring

CW QSO's \_\_\_\_\_ x 2 = \_\_\_\_\_ **CW Points**

Phone QSO's \_\_\_\_\_ x 1 = \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Points**

**CW Points + Phone Points = \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Points**

**Contact Points \_\_\_\_\_ x Power Multiplier \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Total QSO points**

**Bonus: No. of Club Members worked \_\_\_\_\_ x 5 = \_\_\_\_\_ Club Member points**

**Total QSO points + Club Member points = Final Score: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Send this summary sheet plus a copy of your log and dupe sheet to:**

Chuck Craven, WB9PUB  
W2292 Beulah Heights Road  
East Troy, WI 53120

<b>Power Multiplier</b>		
<b>Class</b>	<b>Power Range</b>	<b>Mult.</b>
QRP	0 - 5w	2.0
Low	5 - 150w	1.5
High	150w and up	1.0

**Deadline: Jan. 15, 2009**

### **Swapfest 2009**

*(Continued from page 1)*

the major selling areas and will be humming with activity. We are still making improvements to the North Hall. The North Hall has been primarily for socializing. This is where visitors can talk to ARRL League officials, relax with a cup of coffee and rag chew with other hams and friends. It's also the area where you can purchase food or chat with representatives from the other local radio clubs. We can even set up an area for organizations to have an informal meeting on an as needed basis. We are also trying to get the major radio manufacturers (i.e., ICOM, Yaesu and Kenwood) to come and display their newest rigs.

As in the past, there will be several avenues for club members to sell their own electronic

Equipment/components. If you want to sell equipment it is suggested that you bring it to the South Hall and make arrangements with John, K9IAC, who will have a table just for that purpose. Otherwise, in the East Hall there will be several tables for electronic parts/components being coordinated by Louie, W9GSV.

Please provide a write-up sheet with information about the unit or parts/components, the selling price and your name/call. Donations, of course, are always welcomed and will benefit the Scholarship Fund.

How can you help? We need every WARAC member to be available and willing to help with the many duties that are necessary for this event to be a success. A sign-up sheet has been started and will be available at the December General Meeting. If you have some friends that are willing to help out, by all means bring them along too.

We are encouraging workers to arrive by 5:30 AM. Please wear your WARAC hat (or one will be provided at the event) and, if available, bring your HT tuned to the WARAC repeater output frequency (145.170 MHz) simplex. All volunteers will be given a door prize ticket and coffee/donuts will be provided as well as a lunch ticket.

The reputation of our Swapfest is well known and we should have another successful event. Your help and excellent efforts at this event make it happen. See you there!

.....



December 7 - Chuck Craven, WB9PUB  
 December 7 - Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR  
 December 10 - Les Peterson, W9YCV  
 December 12 - Dave Schank, KA9WLN  
 December 14 - Mike Wagner, N9ESC

*Wedding  
Anniversaries*

<None to report>



**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)

and personally thanking each one of you for helping. I hope I will be able to extend my thanks to each of you this year too. See you bright and early on January 3rd!

The December Board Meeting, scheduled for December 23rd, has been canceled by the Board.

Don't forget that the meeting time has changed to 7:00pm, and that the doors will be open at 6:30pm. Plan to come a little early for eyeball QSO's before the meet-

ing.

The program for December will be presented by Phil, W9NAW. Phil will provide the latest details on the Swapfest and will be taking names of those who will be there to help.

See you at the meeting.

73,  
Howard Smith, WA9AXQ

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**Minutes**  
(Continued from page 2)

presenter. The Board asked that members plan to attend the December club meeting, to allow Phil to complete assignments in person, so he does not have to spend lots of time on the phone asking members. The Board feels this it is important for all club members to help with our swapfest, as this is our main fund raising event for the club. For our January program, there was some discussion about a program on antenna modeling, possibly on gain antennas. The February program will be on setting up your station for contesting, by Chuck Craven. For March, WIQP will be the subject, as WIQP is March 15, 2009, just a few days after the March regular club meeting. April and beyond have nothing scheduled at this time.

*Repeater* - our annual WAR membership was renewed. The Board then discussed a possible antenna party to finish the repeater tower and antenna installation.

*Awards Dinner* - As an Awards Dinner Committee member, Lynn presented the Board with a list of club members that attended November 9, and then discussed some of the costs. Dick Wood indicated he had paid the restaurant bill and had refunded monies to two members who could not attend, with one yet to be refunded. Dick will get a copy of the bill to the Committee. Lynn then asked that the new Awards Dinner Committee hold a meeting soon so they can get the expected cost numbers

together for 2009 so the Board can use them for budgeting, and then the Committee could begin work on a speaker for 2009's dinner.

*Membership Roster* - Tom led a discussion on whether a new membership booklet should be printed now, or whether an interim roster could be distributed, with a permanent one done later. Tom passed out a sample of what he meant by an interim one. There was also discussion about whether a club member list should be available on the club website, using just names and callsigns. After discussion, the Board moved that Tom should send his interim list to all club members, via the Internet, as a "pdf" document. He should also have printed copies of the interim list available for members who do not use the Internet. After further discussion, the Board decided they will bring the question of posting names and callsigns on the club website to the membership for a decision.

*Swapfest* - Howard asked the Board for their feelings on doing an email list at the next swapfest - this would be a voluntary list of email addresses, for the purpose of mailing out flyers for future swapfests, from those who attend our swapfest. The Board thought it was a good idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Lynn Tamblyn, K9KR

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