



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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Volume 65, Issue 12 December, 2018

DECEMBER CLUB HAPPENINGS



NUT NET

3.985mhz

Monday-Saturday

8:15am CT

NUT NET

Breakfast

8:30am fourth

Tuesday

of the month

Milwaukee-Florida Net

Every Day on 14.290 Mhz

7:00AM - 9:15AM ET

6:00AM - 8:00AM CT

Sunshine Committee

If you know of a member who could use a bit of cheer or support,

Barb Garnier (KD9HPS) is now the Sunshine Committee Chair.

You can get hold of her at 414-529-3536 or

barbsewsblue@gmail.com.

Club Meeting

St. Peter's Episcopal Church,
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue, West Allis

December 11, 2018 7:00 PM

Erwin WI9EV Swapfest

Fred LeMere KD9IGO 80 meter loop antenna

Collection of annual Club dues See Page 4

Premeeting dinner

Johnny V's Classic Café, 1650 S. 84th St. at 5:00PM.

WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm

SEWFARS W9TJK Repeater 146.820 standard (-)
offset

127.3 Hz CTCSS

if repeater down try 146.55 simplex

West Allis Radio Club Swapfest

Saturday January 5, 2019

See page 8 for more details

The President's Shack December 2018

This is as close as I come to writing a Christmas letter. While I actually enjoy reading those Christmas card stuffers that are a tradition with some, I've never developed the flair for authorship. So Merry Christmas everyone. It seems very likely we will have a bit of the white stuff hanging around adding seasonal ambiance for the holidays. I do like looking at it, just not shoveling.

It has been another nice year for the club. Playing ham radio at a solar minimum can be a bit challenging. Still, on contest weekends, the activity always picks up A LOT proving the bands still work. Just takes a bit of effort.

If I had to name the one thing that strikes me as the big deal of the year, I've got to go with FT8. 2018 was the first full year for that mode and it does not show any sign of slowing down. If the stats are correct, FT8 accounts for more than half of all QSO's and with the latest version, FT8 contesting is now a reality. I dabbled in the initial FT8 Round Up last weekend and can say it was very different. I'm looking forward to the next event in January, the ARRL RTTY Round Up.

ARRL 10 Meter Contest Alert: Normally we have a friendly club competition, but alas this year we are throwing in the towel given the realities of 10 meter activity. Rising to the challenge, Chairman Chuck, W9WLX has cooked up a new contest opportunity playing off the North American QSO Party SSB event on Jan 19th. That is a really nice contest and hey, it plays on 80 thru 10. Yea. Read about it on the following pages plus Chuck will bring us up to date at the meeting.

Finally, Christmas can only mean that our big Mid-Winter Swapfest is just around the corner. The work of the Swapfest Chairman, Erwin,

WI9EV, continues at fever pitch. Table reservations are coming in and the final preparations are being worked out. Saturday, Jan 5th is the big day. Of course the action starts early. Way early. We need your help to make the event successful.

For the club meeting this month, we have two speakers lined up. Erwin, WI9EV will regale us with the Swapfest Update. Secondly we have a wonderful presentation on the design and construction of an 80 Meter Skywire Loop by our own Fred LeMere, KD9IGO. I'm really looking forward to hearing what Fred has to say.

So with that, one more time, Merry Christmas to everyone. Thanks for making WARAC a part of your ham radio activities. If you are traveling, take care, otherwise make sure the ham comes out of the oven on time.

Don't forget the pre-meeting dinner at Johnny V's See you all on Tuesday.

73's

MJ,W09B

Check out our Facebook page!!! Start Posting!!!!
<https://www.facebook.com/WestAllisRAC/>

From The Editor

This is the last Hamtrix of the year. I want to thank everyone who helped with articles and suggestions. Hopefully the changes I made have made it more readable.

So may everyone have a Merry Christmas and any other Holidays you celebrate at this time of the year.

73

Frank KA9FZR

WARAC General Meeting Minutes

November 13th, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Mike, WO9B

22 members present with three visitors present, Dave, W0AH, Bill, W9MQX, and Paul, AC9TX.

October minutes approved.

Secretary position still unfilled at this time. Barb Garnier, KD9HPS, nominated and elected.

Revision of by-laws for quarterly board meetings approved.

Bill, W9MQX, presented the main program on refurbishing the Collins Gold Dust Twins.

He also provided referral to articles he has written for the Ozaukee Radio Club.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Garnier, KD9HPS

WARAC Secretary

November 27, 2018

West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc

P.O. Box 1072. Milwaukee, WI 53201

Board Meeting, November 27, 2018

Officers

Mike John, WO9B

Steve Dryja, NO9B

Bill Reed, N9KPH

Barb Garnier, KD9HPS

Board Members

Tom Macon K9BTQ

Phil Tollefson, WA9AQL

Guests

Erwin, WI9EV

David Garnier, WB9OWN

ABS: Frank Humpal,KA9FRZ

Meeting Agenda

1. Elect Board Chairman: Mike Johnson
2. Swapfest Chairman Report-Erwin, WI9EV. Consolidated timeline, raffle up for renewal, chore list to be presented at December club meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report-Bill, N9KPH
 - a. Banking: CD Status
 - b. Financial Reports. Discussion of options
 - c. Financial audit reviewer lined up: Fred LeMere KD9IGO
4. Secretary Report-Barb, KD9KPS
 - a. 2018 directory. Bill's wife putting it together for review at December meeting
Still awaiting some applications and dues
 - b. Howard transferred documents to Barb for storage
5. Scholarship Chairman report submitted by Howard for 2019

continualled on pg 9 board
meeting



RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

ALL MEMBERS WHO JOIN ED BEFORE October 1 ST
MUST RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP BY September 30 TH
*****FILL IN ALL INFORMATION PLEASE*****

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
(As you want it to appear on the roster)

ADDRESS: _____ LIC CLASS: _____

CITY: _____ LIC EXP: _____

STATE: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE _____

CHECK HERE: IF YOU WANT THE CLUB NEWSLETTER EMAILED TO YOU?
CHECK HERE: If you are an ARRL member?

Would You Be Willing To Serve On A Committee? _____ Officer? _____

Club Activities You Would Like To Participate In?

Field Day _____ Programs _____ Swapfest _____ Hamtix _____ Elmer Sunshine _____
Education Community Service _____ Public Relations _____ Scholarship _____
QSO Party _____

Class Of Membership: Full Associate New Renewal

Dues Paid: Full \$15.00 _____ Associate \$10.00 _____ Family \$18.00 _____ Student
\$10.00 _____ Retired \$10.00 _____

*****FAMILY MEMBERSHIP *****

A family member ship includes the individual applying and all members of such person's immediate family residing in the same household who possess an Amateur Radio license.

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

LIC CLASS: _____ LIC EXP: _____

Date of Application _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

FOR WARAC OFFICE USE ONLY

Treasurer Received/ Date: _____

Sec. Add Roster/Date: _____

MAIL TO:

West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 1072

Milwaukee, WI 53201

DX / CONTEST UPDATE

<http://www.iz5cml.it/dxschedule>

DX: December tends to be a little quiet, given the Christmas and New Years events. BUT the big news is the Bouvette Island 3Y0I operation. Everything else is kind of a side show. You can follow the antics on Facebook: [Rebel DX Group Facebook](#) They are currently training in Cape Town, SA with an unknown departure date. Fingers crossed for their safety and success.



Contests: Well, we've burned through the big contests of the fall season and we are into the specialty events. These are fun operating events, well attended, and just spoiling for your involvement.

- ARRL 10 Meter Contest, Dec 8th and 9th: <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>
- RAC Winter Contest, Dec 29th: <https://wp.rac.ca/rac-canada-winter-contest-rules/>
- Straight Key Night, Jan 1st: <http://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>
- ARRL RTTY Roundup, Jan 5th and 6th: <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>
- North American QSO Party CW, Jan 12th and 13th: <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

Full Contest Schedule check: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

Special Event Corner December, 2018

By Bill Reed/N9KPH

Here's a summary of some of the events that may be of interest during December. Aside from Christmas events, the pickins are kind of slim..

State QSO Parties

None until January

General Interest Events:

12/15/2018 | WX3MAS Special Event
Dec 15-Dec 16, 1400Z-2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth,

PA. Operations are on 80, 40 and 20 meters. For details and possible electronic certificate, see www.dlarc.org

12/21/2018 | Apollo 8 50th Anniversary

Dec 21-Dec 27, 0000Z-2359Z, numerous. NASA Radio Clubs. These stations have allegedly been on the air off and on for months. Comment: I have personally yet to work one of these stations. Many of the ones I HAVE heard are quite weak. Persistence pays!

12/26/2018 | Battle of Trenton

Dec 26-Dec 30, 1400Z-2200Z, W2T, Trenton, NJ. Work both W2T (Battle of Trenton) and W2P Battle of Princeton) and get a certificate of Commission in the Continental Army Signal Corps. See website for details. www.w2zq.com

Contests:

There are quite a few contests during December and early January - many that I would describe as pretty obscure. Maybe that makes them that much more fun. Check 'em out at:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

Hamtrix Sale Corner

This month we have a listing of antennas available from donations and WARAC members.

- KLM model KT-34-XA tri-band beam, 7 elements with annual, good condition, asking \$200.
- Mosley TA-33 tri band beam, with manual, excellent condition, priced at \$250.
- Mosley CL-33 tri-band beam, with manual, excellent condition, priced at \$300.
- Cushcraft R7 vertical, 40-10 meters, with manual, good condition, asking \$100.
- Comet GP-3 dual band (146/446 MHz) vertical base, good condition, selling for \$50.
- Comet GP-6 dual band (146/446 MHz) vertical base, good condition, listed for \$50.
- Cushcraft ARX-2 Ringo Ranger (2 Meters) vertical base with manual, excellent condition, priced at \$40.
- Club members—do you have anything you want to list in this column?

For additional information about the above antennas, contact Phil, W9NAW, 414-425-3649.
Phil, W9NAW
8 Nov 2018

Changing Up the Friendly Club Competition

By Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

WARAC 10m Contest Chairman

Are you ready for the ARRL 10-meter contest? Unfortunately, the club interest in participating in the friendly competition has waned with the solar cycle. With the low cycle and the contest duration, understandably so.

This year, I'm changing it up a bit. I am picking an alternate contest to foster our competitive spirit. Additionally, you do not have to run the entire contest to compete. Mark your calendars for January 19, 2019, and join in the NAQP/SSB.

It is a world-wide contest with a geographic focus on North America. Here are the highlights:

- 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meter bands.
- Single op can operate a max of 10 hours.
- Max power is either 100 watts or 5 watts QRP.
- Exchange is Name + (state, DC, province, country) or Name for non-NA.
- Work 'em once per band.

For club competition purposes, your best hour will be scored using the standard contest scoring method.

To enter:

- Follow all NAQP rules.
- Work the contest for as long as you want, per NAQP rules.
- Submit your log to W9WLX, electronically submitted cabrillo format preferred.
- The best hour will be selected from the 00 to 59 minute-hour, not an arbitrary 60 minutes.

Watch for additional details in the January Hamtrix. Looking forward to working you on January 19 and be sure to give the 10 meter contest a try. We may be blessed with some E layer activity!

Swapfest is Coming!

West Allis Radio Amateur Club's 47th annual Midwinter Swapfest is coming to the Waukesha Expo Arena January 5th, 2019. It's coming fast, and we need all the help we can get for Friday set-up (11:00 – 16:00) and Saturday Swapfest (05:30 – 13:00). If you have not signed the Volunteer Sign-up sheet yet, please do so. You have a chance at the general meeting this coming Tuesday or by return e-mail to Erwin (WI9EV).

This Swapfest will have more door prizes than ever before as well as raffles, which should add an interesting aspect to the event. We are looking for a Rafflemeister (or Rafflemistress) to work on the details of the raffles before and during the event. If you know anything about raffles, please let us know and we'll volunteer you!

Look for all the latest information, including sponsors and the current flyer, on warac.org. See you at the next meeting and at Swapfest.

/Erwin (WI9EV) wi9ev@wi.rr.com.

Free!
One Admission Ticket
with 2 Tables! (3 max)

Waukesha, Wisconsin
47th ANNUAL MIDWINTER

Table Prices
Same as Last Year

SWAPFEST

Ham Radio, Computer, Electronics

SATURDAY - JANUARY 5, 2019

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

(Seller setup 6:00 to 8:00 AM)



Over 60 Years



MSRP \$200 Merchandise Grand Prize - Drawing at 11:30 AM (must be present to win)
Raffle - \$1/ticket, 6 tickets for \$5

Adult Admission: \$5.00 Advance - \$6.00 at Door
Youth up to 12 Yrs of age: Free at Door only
Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts in uniform - Free at Door only
★ All door sales cash ★

The concession stand will be open to satisfy your gastronomical cravings.
Amateur Radio License exams will not be held at the Swapfest this year. See <https://www.mracvec.org/> for dates & location.

The WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

Sponsors of: Midwinter Swapfest · WI QSO Party · WARAC Scholarships · Worked All WI Counties Award
For more information please contact Erwin (WI9EV@wi.rr.com) 262-271-0630 or visit www.warac.org

Waukesha County Expo Arena
1000 Northview Rd (County Trunk FT)
Waukesha, WI 53188

I-94 west of Milwaukee to Exit 294 (County J)

FREE 1.2 miles south to County FT

PARKING 0.6 miles west to Expo Arena

GPS Coordinates: Lat: 43.03304 Lon: -88.24207

"Thanks" to our Sponsors!

- Bioenno Power (Door prizes)
- Biomoto (Raffle prize)
- CableXperts (Door prizes)
- COMPACTenna (Door Prizes)
- MFJ Enterprises (Door prizes)
- West Mountain Radio (Ticket printing)

Visit www.warac.org/swap for the latest updates & links

R181 103



Swapfest Advance Registration Form

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Dec 28, 2018

Advance Tickets _____ \$5 ea. = _____
8-Ft Tables _____ \$20/24 ea. = _____
Electrical Outlet _____ \$25 ea. = _____
(Advance only) Total Enclosed \$ _____

\$20 ea. before Dec. 29
\$24 ea. Dec 29 or after

NOTE: Table reservation does not include admission. FREE admit ticket with every 2 tables (3 free tickets max).

Name: _____ Call: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ Email: _____

Mail with S.A.S.E. to:
Please use a #10 business size
(9-1/2 x 4-1/8 in.) envelope

WARAC SWAPFEST
P. O. BOX 1072
MILWAUKEE, WI 53201

NOTE: Tables are reserved on a first-come/first-served basis - main floor first, then balconies.
 I will accept balcony tables if no main floor tables are available.

What a FCC action looks like

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-18-801A1.pdf>

Archive of Radio Constructor magazine,
a UK mag that ran from from 1947 to 1981.

https://www.americanradiohistory.com/Radio_Constructor_Magazine.htm

continualled Board meeting

6. Equipment Sales Chairman Report-Steve, NO9B. Donations received.
7. Hamtrix Editor Report-Frank, KA9FZR – Not presented
8. W1QP Chairman Report-Tom, K9TQ. 10M contest canceled for the year. ? Combinations wth Canada contest?
9. Program Committee Recommendations: December 80m loop by Fred Lemere/final Swapfest discussion. January 6:30 New Berlin Ale House Social get together. February Swapfest wrapup
10. Board goals for 2019: 1. Site change 2. Web page 3. Funding

Meeting closed 9:06pm

Officers and Board
President
Mike Johnson WO9B

Vice President
Steve Dryja, NO9B

Secretary
Barb Garnier KD9HPS

Treasurer
Bill Reed N9KPH

Directors
Frank Humpal, KA9FZR
Phil Tollefson, WA9AQL

Newsletter Editor
Frank Humpal, KA9FZR
fhump@milwpc.com

Webmaster past president
Tom Macon, K9BTQ

West Allis Radio Amateur
Club
P. O. box 1072
Milwaukee, WI 53201



WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

PO Box 1072
Milwaukee, WI 53201
W9FK
<http://www.warac.org>

***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.