



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 66, Issue 7 July, 2019

## JULY 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.  
Contact her: 414-529-3536 or [barbsewsblue@gmail.com](mailto:barbsewsblue@gmail.com).

### Club Meeting

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

July 9, 2019 7:00 pm

presentation

Satellite operations

by Ted Carlson N9KQQ

Premeeting dinner

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

**This year's Award's Dinner date has been selected:  
October 20th.  
Save that date**

**ARRL Foundation letter announcing 2019  
David Knoss Memorial Scholarship  
Winner page 5**

### 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

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## The President's Shack July 2019

Happy 4th of July!!

I'll most likely pick up a parade and then scoot over to see some fireworks at the New Berlin Festival. The warm weather has finally arrived, but by golly someone needs to turn the waterworks down just a bit. On the one hand, the lawn has never looked better. On the other hand, I'm wearing out my mower. Such is life.

We have had a jam packed month of June. Started off the month with a mid-week park activation. Managed to fit in our monthly meeting with ARRL Central Division Director, Kermit Carlson. Tossed in our first ever Sendik's Community Grill Fund Raiser and then finished it off with a traditional WARAC Field Day Operation. That's a lot of club stuff. The unbelievable part is that 3 of the 4 events were held outside...and the weather played nice with us. I hope we didn't burn up our good luck allotment so early in the summer.

Field Day 2019 was a lot of fun. Thanks to all that pitched in, stopped by, operated a station or helped them selves to the food bounty. Chuck, W9WLX will be giving us his usual breakdown of the event at the meeting. Suffice it to say we had something for everyone. Yeah, that includes just a bit of rain, but the temps were excellent this year. The bands were OK too. 6 and 10 meters were alive and that is always a good sign.

Rounding out the program for the club meeting this month is Ted Carlson, N9KQQ. Ted will be sharing his passion for Satellite Operations. Sats are super hot these days and we've been angling for a Sat Guru to give us a presentation on the latest happens and techniques. Ted comes with a solid pedigree and a logbook of experience. Should be a lot of good information.

But wait, we've got a couple more good things to

chat about. The ARRL has announced the scholarship award winners for the year. You can read about that further into Hamtrix and Howard will share the who, what and where information as well.

On the operating end of the hobby there are two favorites that pop up around the 4th of July. The RAC All Canada Contest is on July 1st. The Canadians will be out in force. Go work a few. And the not to be missed 13 Colonies Event is also the first week of July. Bill, N9KPH will have that information also in this Hamtrix edition.

Finally, sort of volunteered Paul, W9PCS as this month's Mid-Week Park Activation host. We will need to press him for a date and location. A lot of us look forward to those get together's. They have proven to be very popular and a lot of fun.

Whew... did I miss anything? We get on down to the meeting and we can keep the ball rolling. Bring a friend, we've got plenty of room.

I did forget one thing: This year's Award's Dinner date has been selected: October 20th. Save that date.

And don't forget Johnny V's pre-meeting dinner at about 5:00 or so.

See you at the meeting....

73's

MJ,W09B

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

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### From the Editor

This week we celebrate the Fourth of July, a celebration of our country and all the people in it. Got me to wonder how hams have been a part of the

Goto page 11

**WARAC Meeting Agenda**  
**June 11, 2019**

Meeting called to order 7:00 pm  
Members: 16 Guests: 4

Get acquainted: Recognize visitors, introduction of members and new members

**Club stuff:**

- May minutes approved
- Next Board meeting is July 23, 2019 at 7:00 pm
- Midweek park activation on June 4 went well.
- Sendik's Brat Sale fundraiser net \$310.00, which included donations.
- The annual awards dinner will be held on 10/20/2019 at New Berlin Hills.  
To be discussed more at July meeting.
- Scholarship Committee of ARRL has not finalized the decision as to the recipients of scholarships.

When they know, we'll know.

- Field Day June 22-23 ready to rock.
- WQSP report from Tom Macon. Numbers down due to snowy weather.

**Program: Kermit Carlson, W9XA, from ARRL**

- ARRL's new CEO is Dr. Howard Michel, WB2ITX. He was CEO of IEEE.
- ARRL is mostly volunteer staff; few paid positions.
- Recent action has been Entry Level License Committee, which seeks to enhance the Tech class to 80/40/15. Awaiting FCC action. Techs need access to HF to help sustain interest in our hobby.
- Official Observer for policing of the airwaves is undergoing revision.
- Amateur Radio Parity Act has been lingering in Congress for several years.  
Main issue is the ability to have antennas in communities. Current effort to be scrapped and redone due to changes that have occurred in the past 10 years.
- New emphasis on Lifelong Learning for hams is in its initial planning stages.
- Wireless power transmission and noise issues being worked on by IARU, ARRL and other Amateur National Organizations.

Meeting adjourned 8:52 pm, refreshments and eyeballing followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Garnier

KD9HPS

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**Sendik's fund raiser get together.**







# ARRL FOUNDATION

Administering Programs to Support the Amateur Radio Community

June 15, 2019

West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.  
c/o Howard Smith, WA9AXQ  
4760 South Woodlawn Place  
Greenfield, WI 53228

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the ARRL Foundation Officers and Board, I am pleased to announce the 2019 recipient of The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2000.

Skylar Dannhoff, KD9JPX of La Crosse, WI has been selected for The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship from an outstanding group of applicants. Scholarship recipients were recently notified of their awards, and we have already had many replies conveying their excitement and appreciation.

Scholarships through the ARRL Foundation would not be available without the support of thoughtful and generous sponsors such as you. Thank you for making The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship possible, and for aiding a student Amateur Radio operator in his/her pursuit of their higher education. I am confident that these young people will be successful in their future careers, and in representing Amateur Radio as well.

Again, many thanks for your support of this award. If you have any questions, please contact ARRL Foundation Secretary Lauren Clarke, KB1YDD at ARRL ([lclarke@arrl.org](mailto:lclarke@arrl.org) or 860-594-0348).

Best 73,

Dr. David Woolweaver, K5RAV  
President  
ARRL Foundation

## Special Event Corner July, 2019

### By Bill Reed/N9KPH

Here's a summary of just a few of the events that may be of interest during July and early August. See this ARRL web page for more information, including proposed operating frequencies, QSL and/or Certificate availability:

[http://www.arrl.org/special\\_events/search/page:1/model:Event](http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:1/model:Event)

### State QSO Parties

Maryland/DC – 8/10 to 8/11

### General Interest Events:

The mother of all patriotic events:

07/01/2019 | 13 Colonies Event

Jul 1-Jul 8, 1300Z-0400Z. This is an excellent, enjoyable event. Check it out! See <http://13colonies.net> for helpful details. In addition to stations representing all thirteen colonies, there are two bonus stations: WM3PEN and GB13COL.

### If you enjoy Whiskey:

07/03/2019 | Whiskey Rebellion Festival

Jul 3-Jul 12, 0101Z-2357Z, W3R, Prosperity, PA. Certificate and QSL information at [www.qrz.com/db/w3r](http://www.qrz.com/db/w3r) or [www.wacomarc.org](http://www.wacomarc.org). See the W3R QRZ page for historical information.

### For Frank:

07/22/2019 | 24th World Scout Jamboree

Jul 22-Aug 2, 0000Z-0000Z, NA1WJ, Glen Jean, WV. NA1WSJ Radio

### For Dave and Barb G:

07/27/2019 | Appalachian Trail on the air

Jul 27, 1600Z-2200Z, W3UU, Halifax, PA. Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club. Certificate & QSL. Transmitting from the Appalachian Trail on Peters Mountain, Halifax Township USA.

### Other Events:

07/06/2019 | World War 1 Centennial

Jul 6-Jul 7, 1500Z-2100Z, WW1USA, Kansas City, MO. National World War 1 Museum and Memorial

There are at least TEN events in mid-July commemorating the Moon landing anniversary. Here are two. Check the link shown above for others.

07/14/2019 | 50 Years - First Man on the Moon

Jul 14-Jul 28, 1700Z-2000Z, N1A, Milford, OH. Milford Amateur Radio Club. [www.w8mrc.com](http://www.w8mrc.com)

07/19/2019 | Apollo Moon Landing 50th Anniversary at Space & Rocket Center

Jul 19-Jul 21, 2000Z-2000Z, W4A, Huntsville, AL. Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Celebrating Man's first steps on the moon 50 years ago. SASE for QSL. [www.qrz.com/db/W4A](http://www.qrz.com/db/W4A) . \_ . \_ . .

# Field Day 2019

By Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Field Day Chairman

Field Day 2019 is in the history books! As we usually do, we tried a few new tactics this year, some successful, others will need further refinement. This year we did 1007 QSOs vs. last year's 965 not including the GOTA station with 34 QSOs. Our overall numbers were up 4% over last year.

Our site was visited by New Berlin Mayor, Dave Ament, and Emergency Management Deputy Director, Jim Burns, KD9CIV. Thanks to Erwin von der Ehe for driving the awareness of Field Day with the New Berlin municipal government. For the fifth year, a Proclamation to officially recognize and designate June 22 & 23 as Amateur Radio Weekend was made by Mayor Ament.

The GOTA station attracted attention again this year. Thanks to Barb and Dave Garnier for hosting the activity. The GOTA tent also proved to be a challenge for the wind but withstood the outbursts on Saturday!

The antenna farm was changed up a bit for the 40/15 meter station, using an off-center-fed dipole vs. a conventional half-wave dipole. A second antenna, a 40 meter circular polarized set of inverted Vs, was used to enable diversity receive, mitigating QSB especially during the overnight hours. CW Skimmer was used with I/Q sampling across the entire CW sub-band supporting a spotting feature. This has the advantage of displaying only CQing stations currently being heard, and avoiding the need for internet connectivity. Coupled with N1MM's history file feature, in many cases, a quick confirmation of section and class was all that was needed to complete S&P CW QSO.

Digital was embraced in a bigger way this year, running a Yaesu FT-891 on a Wolf River vertical. A Raspberry Pi was the computing power behind the station which exceeded expectations. Unfortunately, the site experienced some added QRM from the digital station which will require some investigation and tweaking for Field Day 2020.

The group missed some opportunities on 6 and 10 meters due to changes in operator availability and the simultaneous improvement in band conditions on 10, 15, and 20 meters.

Short description of station setup:

Icom 7600 for the 80/20 station, using 80 meter loop

Flex 6600 for 40/15/10 station, using OCF dipole and circular polarized inverted Vs

Icom 7100 for the 6 meter and digital station, using 6 m Yagi and loop

Yaesu FT-891 for digital, using Wolf River coil vertical

Icom 7300 for the GOTA station, using inverted V antenna design

We worked 79 of 83 sections. The four missing sections were Newfoundland/Labrador, Northern Territories, Nevada, and Ontario North. One of the most interesting contacts was made by Chuck, W9WLX. At 4:14 on Sunday morning he was running on 40 meter phone and was working a nice pile up when VK4ZD was heard Q5. The QSO was easily confirmed and became the only DX entry for the event! Who would have thought that 100 watts and an OCF dipole at 35 feet would offer-up an Aussie on 40 meters? I'm sure the gray-line timing played a role too!



Top 10 QSOs/Sec		Bottom 10 QSOs/Sec	
OH	68	EWA	2
VA	60	ID	2
EPA	54	MB	2
MDC	43	NNY	2
NC	38	ORG	2
WPA	37	QC	2
WNY	33	SD	2
STX	27	WTX	2
MI	23	AK	1
NNJ	22	DX	1
WI	22	MAR	1
		PAC	1
		PR	1
		WY	1

Band	PH	CW	Dig	GOTA All PH	*Total
6M	19	0	30	1	<b>49</b>
10M	0	0	0	7	<b>0</b>
15M	34	27	0	17	<b>61</b>
20M	256	159	5	3	<b>420</b>
40M	174	138	114	1	<b>426</b>
80M	22	29	0	5	<b>51</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1007</b>

\*Total does not include GOTA

Year	Total
2019	1007
2018	965
2017	1115
2016	830
2015	1540
2014	691
2013	875
2012	958
2011	921

Thanks to the entire WARAC team that help made Field Day 2019 a success! Congratulations!  
-73, Chuck, W9WLX



From <http://www.radiomarine.org/>

*Like Denice Stoops, Rick Wahl was a CW operator at the USCG station NMC before coming to KPH. He was an ace operator as can be heard in the KPH recordings he has kindly supplied for inclusion in the Coast Station Recordings section of this Web site. Here's Rick's story of how it was to work Russian ships at NMC.*

Working the Russians at NMC - by Rick Wahl, ex-NMC, ex-KPH

Having logged thousands of hours on 500 kc/s, both at NMC and KPH (and for a brief time on NRLT), I have many fond memories of the experience. Much like CWLindenberg did, in my Coast Guard days, I would bribe and finagle my way into sitting MF as much as possible. It was a good day (or night) when I'd have it all 12-hours to myself.

It was one of those quiet watches at NMC - about the only thing I was logging was the required five-minute entries of NO SIGS or the Silent Periods. I was sitting there chatting with the operator on HF/CW when I suddenly realized I had just heard a faint "SOS DE ABCD" in my phones amongst the static. (I don't recall the exact call sign).

I jumped on the key "QRZ? DE NMC K".... (static) ...cranked the volume and pressed the phones to my ears....(static) ...I sent out the call again and looked at the clock - no, it wasn't the Silent Period (bad habit, always look at the clock and then send!). I yelled to the Chief RO and within seconds about a dozen ears were tuned to 500 kc/s like their own lives depended on it...(static).

Well, as it turned out - we replayed the log tape, and I actually did hear someone sending "SOS

DE ABCD" (just once), and fortunately he had sent his correct callsign, so we were able to find out later that the operator didn't realize his key was live and was just practicing.

They weren't all false alarms though. I remember working a cargo ship all the way to the Golden Gate - they'd had some bad weather and their load shifted - they came thru the Gate at a 30 degree list. Or the time we got a call from one of our own - a Cutter had lost two crewmen overboard in heavy seas. One of them I knew from RM school in Petaluma. They were never found. NMC had the guard for a large piece of the Pacific, so the troubles at sea, especially with small boats to/from Hawaii, were almost a weekly occurrence.

And then there were the Russians.

Opinions differ, but I think they were some of the finest Radio Operators at sea. Your fingers really had to fly on the mill to keep up with one of their fisheries reports and you'd mutter a few choice words in the process.

One night JZ (a fine CW Op who later went to work for KFS) and I were sitting MF. We had one of those old Model-28 teletype machines next to our position that was used to punch out paper tapes for the weather broadcasts. The tapes would be set on a tape reader that converted the punched tape into Morse Code for the broadcast. Naturally, it also had a speed control.

This was during one the fishing seasons when the Russian fleet was out in force. We had become familiar with a few of the Russian Ops and JZ and I always enjoyed working them.

We typed up a short QSO, "UPTO DE NMC QSA?" or something similar onto a few pieces of paper tape, and then cranked the speed control on the Morse converter to about 100WPM.

When the second-hand on the clock hit 12:00, right after the next Silent Period, we let it fly...BREEET!

And you know - as fast that was, the last DIT hadn't gone out before you could hear one of those Russian transmitters tuning up, "NMC DE UPTO QSA5 K"! (almost as fast, but not quite - they tended to slow it down a bit for us, just so we'd know the right ship answered).

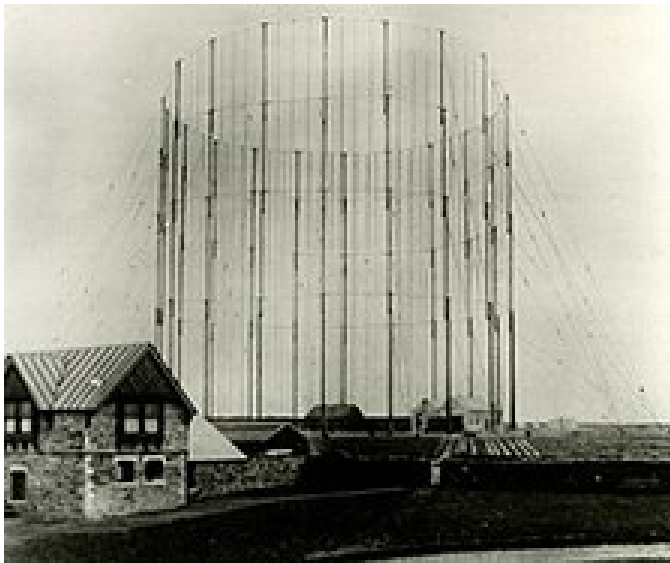
Anyway - those were the days!

I agree with DR - the only way to save 500 kc/s (and the working frequencies 420 to 512) is with the help of the Amateur Radio community. Although I would not like to see it become a Ham band, they should be given the opportunity to hear the way it was and perhaps participate. CW only, and no airplanes, please! (unless floating of course).

When KPH closed, I could not have hoped in my wildest dreams that the station would be preserved today the way it has been, thanks to efforts of the MRHS gang and the National Park Service. You can walk in there today and see it exactly as it was in it's prime. I hope everyone who reads this takes the opportunity to visit the station one day, perhaps take a seat at the MF position, put on some headphones - and listen...

73/88/ZUT

FW



*Marconi's transmitting station at Poldhu, Cornwall, showing the original 400-wire vertical inverted-cone aerial which collapsed*

Editor from page 2

country...

If you say the country was founded 243 years ago and we know the ARRL has been around over a hundred years, we can guess we have been part of the country for almost half of its existence!

Since we are made up of a large cross section of the population (biased to the fixers, designers, tinkerers) we seem to be the people that are in the background keeping the country working.

We should take some pride in our part of making the country what it is. We have been called into service when commutations were needed. We have been the back up system when the normal communications have failed. We have not let grass grow under us. We have more means of communication then ever. While things like the internet seem to make Ham radio no longer important we add it to our bag of tricks making it even better!

Enough deep thinking for me HI HI. Everyone enjoy the holiday. Looks like summer is here so there is hope.

73

Frank KA9FZR

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#### Officers and Board

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## WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

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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.