



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 71, Issue 7 July, 2022

## 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).

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Meeting

**July 12, 2022 7pm**

New Berlin Community Center

14750 W. Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

Between Moorland and Sunnyslope

Presentations

Review of 2022 Field Day

Dave Garnier WB9OWN

**If you have field day pictures/stories  
please bring them to the meeting**

Mike Johnson WO9B

Field Day SOTA etc. review

Premeeting dinner

New Berlin Ale House 5:15pm

16000 W. Cleveland Ave

West of Moorland Rd.

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## Editor's Corner

All reports I have received say the Field Day activation went well. Thank you to Dave Garnier WB9OWN for being in charge this year. His job was a little harder this year because we changed the whole format! Instead of a 24 hour set up we went with a one day set up and take down. Much simpler antennas and power for the ham radio equipment. Because I wasn't able to get out to the site this year I am looking forward to hearing the stories from the field day. If you participated in any way, bring your pictures and stories to share at the meeting

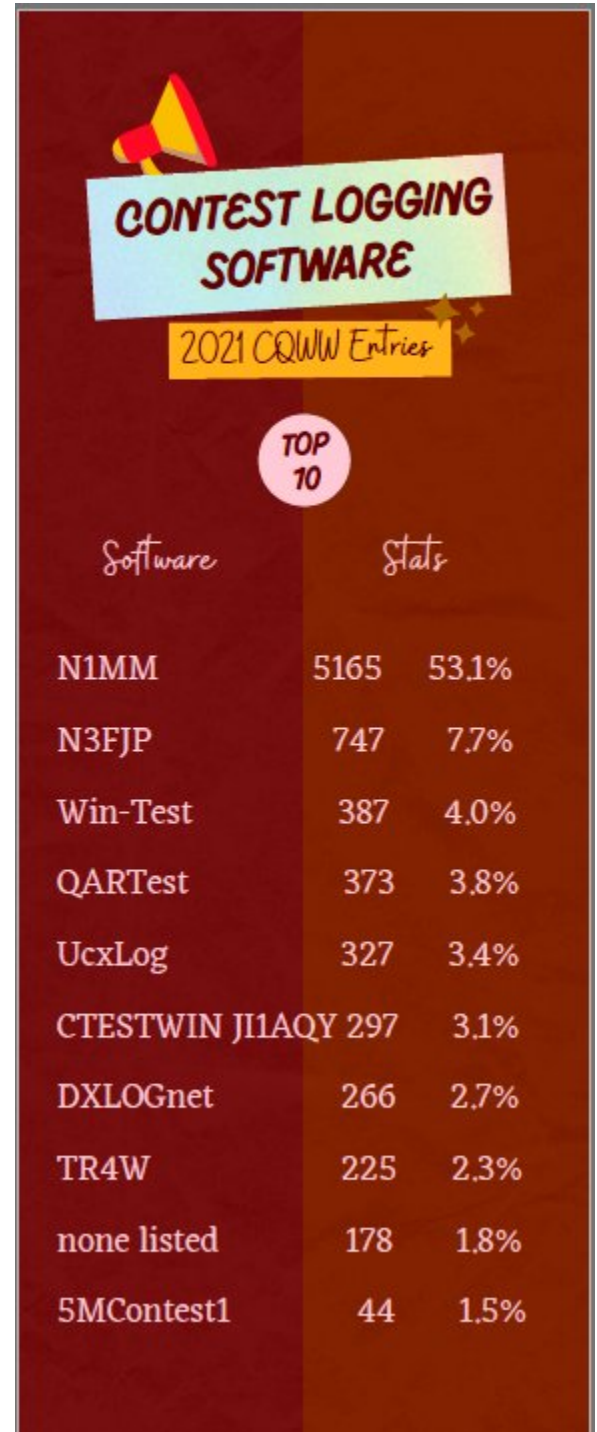
Other things at this end, I have my patio antenna up and tried to make some contacts. Was able to talk to Mike WO9B down the street but haven't made any other contacts yet. I may have to reposition the antenna a little further from the house and the trees. Having a stucco with a metal mesh under the concrete may make the pattern a little different than normal. Given that and the fact I want the antenna to be easy to take down when the winter winds start to blow, adds to the challenge!

Still working on improving my CW skills. Some days it feels like I'm doing good other days not so much but that seems the normal way to learn.

Hope to hear some good stories at the meeting. Til then stay safe

73

Frank KA9FZR



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**The Club election of Officers will be held at this meeting.  
We have NO candidates for President  
The Club needs YOU!**



## WARAC Club Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2022

Club meeting was called to order by Feroz Ghose WU9N at 7 pm.

Attendance was 16 club members with no visitors per, Dave Garnier WB9OWN.

Last months club minutes published in Hamtrix was accepted “as published” and was seconded.

**Treasurers Report**, by Bill N9KPH. Bill was absent, a report will be given at next meeting..

**Field Day Status.** Dave WB9OWN gave an update. At this time we will have 2 stations running on battery and non club member has stepped forward to run the VHF station. Leave no trace behind is how we are going to leave DJ Mackie picnic area when we leave Saturday night. A big Thank You goes out to Chuck Dellis W9WLX for running past field days, I didn't realize how many moving pieces there were in executing Field Day event, Thank You Chuck!

**Trap Development is back on the menu** per Mike Johnson WO9B, working out the details for 50 watts.

**Remote Radio Demo** by Mike Johnson WO9B. Looking for people to log into his station, the remote software can be found here. <https://www.remotehams.com/>  
Mike's radio is Icom 7300. A very nice demo was given by Mike.

**Wisconsin QSO Party update** by Mike WO9B. Two QSO certificates were given for past participation adding up for a clean sweep.

Flex Radio News by John Westimayer N9LGD. “We are not supporting Maestro's anymore” per John. Ouch.

Slow speed CW net is still meeting Mondays at 8pm. WB0AFB repeater 147.045 is being used for net coordination frequency. All are welcome.

Meeting ended @ 8:28pm and coffee and donuts followed.

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted  
David Garnier WB9OWN  
Secretary WARAC, July 7, 2022

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**2022 Challenge for our membership. Have someone you meet, Ham or Ham wannabe come to a meeting this year!**



## 2022 July Notes

Summer has arrived. This past month we've seen all the weather summer has to offer. I suppose we could use a little less rain, but for the most part the winter jackets are permanently in the closet where they belong.

June was spent doing a grand tour of west side parks: Valley View and Gatewood in New Berlin, Greenfield and Root River Parkway in the Milwaukee County clutch. Very well attended and most times we didn't pack up until 3:30 or a bit later.

You would think with all the stations there would be some frequency interference issues. A tribute to the operators, as serenity has reigned. Maybe that is called eyeball frequency coordination. Whatever, it certainly works well.

Everyone is welcome and we always have an extra spot on the park bench. We always have more assistant operators than we have radios. That seems to be part of the charm. We try to accommodate everyone by selecting parks with good shelters, plenty of picnic seating and nearby parking. This is a wonderful place to bring your latest project or solicit opinions on your shack problems. Bringing a radio is completely optional. Most of the folks are there for a bit of sun and conversation.

So come and join the fun. After all, it's only an hour!!

When: Every Wednesday from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM +/-

Where: New Park every week. Announcements are on the WARAC Facebook Page

Join our mailing list to receive the weekly announcement direct to your inbox. To join, send a note to [mike@palomonet.com](mailto:mike@palomonet.com)



## DX UPDATE:

A little sparse on DX this month. Please help contribute to Al's email at bottom of this page. VK0MQ, Macquarie Is., cautions a pirate station has been operating using his call.



6M is hopping. FP/KV1J, Z66X, OJ0MR, MD0CE, JD1BQI. Thanks to Dave KJ9I. Some EME. Get your WAS on 6 with a little bit of DX added for some flavoring. Hi Hi

## Propagation:

Up and down. What more can I say. August will be better.

Thanks to K7RA the prediction shows a solar flux of 140 July 11 to 16, then 135, 130, 125 and 120 on July 17 to 20, and 115, 110, 105 and 100 on July 21 to 24, 95 on July 25 and 26, 100 on July 27 to 29, then 105, 110, 115, 120 and 125 on July 30 through August 3, then 130 on August 4 and 5, and back to 140 again on August 7 to 12.

## Contesting:

No state QSO parties this month. There are more contests in July.

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

## Special Event Stations:

For special event station listings (there are many) check out:

<https://www.425dxn.org/index.php?op=wcal>

If you have further ideas or suggestions for this page please let WA9BZW (Al) know.

[wa9bzw@arrl.net](mailto:wa9bzw@arrl.net)





[https://irishfest.galaxydigital.com/agency/detail/ham-ops/?agency\\_id=136925](https://irishfest.galaxydigital.com/agency/detail/ham-ops/?agency_id=136925)

**Any Questions contact**  
 Roger Heindl (AC9BT)  
 Irish Fest Radio and Shuttle  
 Coordinator  
 rogerh@irishfest.com  
 414-688-1680 cell

Click on Web site above for complete info partial info below.

We are looking for Licensed Amateur Radio volunteers for this year's Irish Fest, a 501(c)3 organization. MCTS will NOT be running free transit buses so it's up to us to monitor, coordinate, dispatch and schedule buses for the festival. We are continuing to monitor COVID-19. Masks and disinfectant will be available upon request in the main office.

#### **When**

We need help during the following times:

August 18th 2022 4:00PM to 11:00PM

August 19th 2022 3:00PM FRI to 1:00AM SAT

August 20th 2022 11:00AM SAT to 1:00AM SUN

August 21st 2022 10:00AM to 10:00PM

#### **Volunteer benefits:**

FREE entry to Irish Fest! As a volunteer you get in free.

"Amateur Radio Volunteers" specifically, may ride the Shuttles for FREE on the day(s) you are scheduled to volunteer.

Free \$5 food coupon(s) for every 4 hours of volunteer work.

Hams have the option to park in lot P near the south gate. Hams that want to park on the Summerfest grounds must be in the database 48 hours in advance so we can distribute LOT P passes for you. Limited availability to Parking Lot P so register early. A \$5 co-pay from you is required to park in LOT P along with the pass that we provide.

Hams may ride the Shuttles from the Park and Rides for free to get to the festival grounds. You may choose, Brown Deer Road Park and Ride, Watertown Plank Park and Ride, State Fair Park and Ride, or the College Avenue Park and Ride (East or West side).

Satisfaction knowing you've helped keep this important cultural festival available to our city and visitors from all over the world!

# Radio is Magic

- If you aren't impressed by the fact that you can wobble a few electrons in a wire and thereby wobble a few electrons in a wire half way around the world, you have no soul.



## Nut Net Breakfast to start, AGAIN

Several years ago there was talk among Nut Net members that we should get to meet each other. A breakfast get together idea was started. It was open to all hams, XYL/partners and anyone who wanted to learn about amateur radio. Even visiting OM/XYL couples joined us.

So, on the fourth Tuesday each month at 8:30 am we will once again meet at Gensis Restaurant, corner of HWY 100 and Beloit Road, Greenfield, WI. Looking forward to seeing you, mark your calendar.

Phil, W9NAW



July 2022 \* Hamtrix \* By Michael Johnson, WO9B

Recently, I had a conversation with Ron Henry, KB9ZB about the local DMR repeater scene. Ron is the owner of the MKE and Pewaukee DMR repeaters connected to the Chicagoland DMR System. If you are not using a hotspot, there is a good chance you are on one of Ron's repeaters. Here are some highlights from our conversation:

- **MKE DMR Repeater:** The machine is operating on all cylinders, well power transistors. Ron is looking for a receive-only site in the Greenfield/Oak Creek area. This will allow for better HT access. If you know of a site, he is all ears. Due to internet/data network changes at this site, possible unplanned/unannounced outages may occur over the next several months.
- **Pewaukee DMR Repeater:** The repeater is still located at a temporary lower elevation on the tower. Once all the coordination with the other tower users is complete, the final elevation should result in better coverage throughout the City of Waukesha metro area. He is thinking Spring '23 to accomplish this.
- **Jefferson County DMR Repeater:** Ron is planning a new repeater for the Jefferson County area. The pieces are coming together but the timing suggests the project is at least a year away. The machine will if you have field day pictures bring to meetingll infill coverage area from Waukesha to Madison along the I-94 corridor.
- **Chicagoland System:** Ron's machines continue to be fully integrated into the Chicagoland Multi-State DMR system. This system provides a well honed network backup along with regional integration not possible with a stand alone system. The system is spread throughout 8 states, and of interest for us, is very strong in the WI, IL, IN area providing seamless repeater coverage throughout the main travel corridors. In our neck of the woods, Chicagoland repeaters provide coverage from Kenosha to Green Bay and west to Madison and Baraboo. That's a large chunk of WI and certainly provides coverage where most of us spend most of our time.

The use of repeaters for DMR network communication can provide significant benefits over the use of hotspots. For the Chicagoland System, the BrandMeister Network is utilized. With BM being the largest DMR network, this serves the DMR community by making that network and its most popular TalkGroups available with no more equipment than a DMR mobile or HT. As you travel throughout the service area, recent radios can be set up to automatically change repeaters providing a seamless experience. Ron made a few additional howto suggestions:

- **Use Local 1, Local 2 and Local 9 TalkGroups:** Local 1,2 and 9 TG's work as Chicagoland Only TG's. Local 1 and 2 are on full time on every Chicagoland Repeater. The 1 and the 2 refer to which TS the TG is active on. Either 1 or 2 will be transmitted to all Chicagoland Repeaters. Local 9, on the other hand is available on either TS and will only activate the repeater you are using. Local 9 effectively operates exactly like the familiar local analog type repeater. **Continued on page 10**

**Next Month: Local Fusion Repeater Update**



## HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### **07/09/2022 - WI9SM South Milwaukee ARC Hamfest**

Location: Oak Creek, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: South Milwaukee ARC

Website: [http:// www.wi9sm.org](http://www.wi9sm.org)

### **07/22/2022 - 07/23/2022**

#### **Central States VHF Society Conference**

Location: La Crosse, WI      Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Central States VHF Society

Website: <https://2022.csvhfs.org>

### **08/27/2022 - Circus City Swapfest**

Location: Baraboo, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://yellowthunder.org>

### **08/28/2022 - Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club HamFest**

Location: Chippewa Falls, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: CVARC - Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w9cva.org/hamfest>

### **09/10/2022 - Ozaukee Radio Club Regional Fall Swapfest**

Location: Cedarburg, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC)

Website: <https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

## **Wisconsin Antique Radio Club Inc.**

**Go to their Web Site at**

**<https://warci.org/calendar/>**

**For Dates Location and info**

- **DMR Expert Assistance:** If you are having issues making DMR all that it can be...ask for some help. Ron monitors TG 3155 regularly and can hook you up with some local experts that can assist with all manner of DMR related problems, from code plugs to programming.
- **DMR Newbie Class:** The Lakeshore Repeater system will be conducting a DMR HowTo class in the near future. This is a great way to get some face to face assistance from the talented DMR guru's. The details will be forthcoming, but it is planned for the fall.

We have a great local DMR infrastructure to play around in. As robust as it is currently, improvements are in the works. Take advantage of this resource. After chatting with Ron, my interest in using the repeaters has been renewed. I've been having a great time on MKE DMR. It's great. Come on out and join the fun.





June 28, 2022

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 2022 recipient of The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$3000.

Gabrielle Nelsen, KC9UVL, Hudson, WI has been selected for The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship from an outstanding group of applicants. Scholarship recipients were recently notified of their award 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 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 Melissa Stemmer, KA7CLO at ARRL ([mstemmer@arri.org](mailto:mstemmer@arri.org) or 860-594-0348).

73,

David Norris, KSUZ  
President  
ARRL Foundation

**Help me fill blank pages like this.  
If you have an interesting project, old ham  
radio story, etc. write it up and send it in.**

**Don't worry if it isn't perfect we can help edit  
it.**

**Frank KA9FZR editor**





**SLOW SPEED CW QSO NET**  
*Monday's - 8:00 PM - WBOAFB 147.045 Repeater*

## CW Practice

One of the best and maybe the only way to get better at CW is practice. Having someone else who also wants to practice also helps. Just makes it more fun.

The West Allis Radio Club is going to try to help. We are running a CW practice net on Monday at 8pm The repeater is 147.045+ 127.3 the CW portion is on HF

Mike WO9B has been joining me and setting up some practice but we are open for suggestions on where to go with this. Come join us.

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