



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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Volume 68, Issue 1 January, 2020

JANUARY CLUB HAPPENINGS

Post Swapfest Gathering

January 14, 2020 6:30pm

New Berlin Ale House
16000 WCleveland Ave
West of Mooreland Rd.

Board Meeting

January 28, 2020 6:30pm

New Location

New Berlin Public Library
15105 Library Lane, New Berlin, WI
Off of National Ave. Just East of Moreland.

Wisconsin QSO Party

March 15, 2020 - 1800Z to 0100Z March 16

(1:00PM CDT to 8:00PM CDT on Sunday, March 15)

(NOTE: Daylight Savings Time starts one week earlier in 2020)

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



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.

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The President's Shack

Another Swapfest is completed and it looks like it went well. We will be discussing it at the next Board meeting: will we continue to run it? Can we run it with the membership we have and all the others who help with it? The board will keep the membership posted. Members are always welcome to attend board meetings!

Remember the January meeting is our new normal post swapfest get together at the New Berlin Ale House. This seems to be a good way to finish the swapfest.

As president I want to thank all the workers who helped in so many ways to make the swapfest a

success.

Mike WO9B has a small article on our winter field day park activation. The way this winter has been going winter may not really have any meaning!

I'll keep this short. If anyone has thoughts concerning the Swapfest and would like to share it with me and board they can be sent to me at KA9FZR@gmail.com

73

Frank KA9FZR



**W5UDX Hi-Fi
ESSB Voodoo
Audio Amateur
Radio Station**

From the Editor

No editorial do to being occupied by the President's Shack

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WARAC Club Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2019

Meeting called to order 7:02 pm

Club meeting held at New Berlin Community Center.

19 club members present. There were no visitors.

Reports:

-Erwin WI9EV, gave a swapfest 2020 update. 47% ticket sales have been via PayPal.

“PayPal works good.” “PayPal improvements are being held off until next year.”

The RF Adapter Guy vendor is not coming, that’s a 5 table loss.

At this point in time we don’t have a grand prize from any of our sponsors.

General comments to Erwin report.

No hands went up for taking Erwin’s job of running the hamfest. Silence.

Erwin will help people get up to speed but he’s not going to do it again.

Erwin was asked “Are there any months that you don’t think about the swapfest?”

Erwin doesn’t have a month off from thinking about the swapfest. The month of December is the most stressful, worrying about vendors, table assignments, etc.

A suggestion was made that Erwin be replaced with a committee.

38 people signed up for last years swap fest duties. The 2020 signup list was again sent around.

Bill looked at the last 9 years of swapfest profits (Quicken’s FY is Jan to Dec 31) and they averaged \$2K Net.

Our attendance for last year was 794.

If we don’t don’t have a swapfest the club will be running at a \$255 loss annually.

“A couple of Sendiks adventures would pay for our club operation.”

Comparison was made to other local swapfests. South Milwaukee is our size but has less overhead compared to ours. (Think about no building or tables to rent.)

“Our \$20 table price is in the middle of other midwest swapfests.”

The swapfest building contract comes up in February of 2021. We don’t have much time to make a decision. The WARAC swapfest ending is becoming a stark reality.

-Renewal of 2020 WARAC memberships was being accepted by Bill Reed, N9KPH.

Presentation: SDR Discussion by Mike WO9B.

This is not an exhaustive review of SDR radio but this is how I inexpensively added a panadapter function to my station. Here are the key pieces.

<https://www.rtl-sdr.com/>

<https://www.sdrplay.com/>

<https://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1708B-SDR>

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Coffee, donuts and conversation followed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Garnier

WB9OWN • — • — •

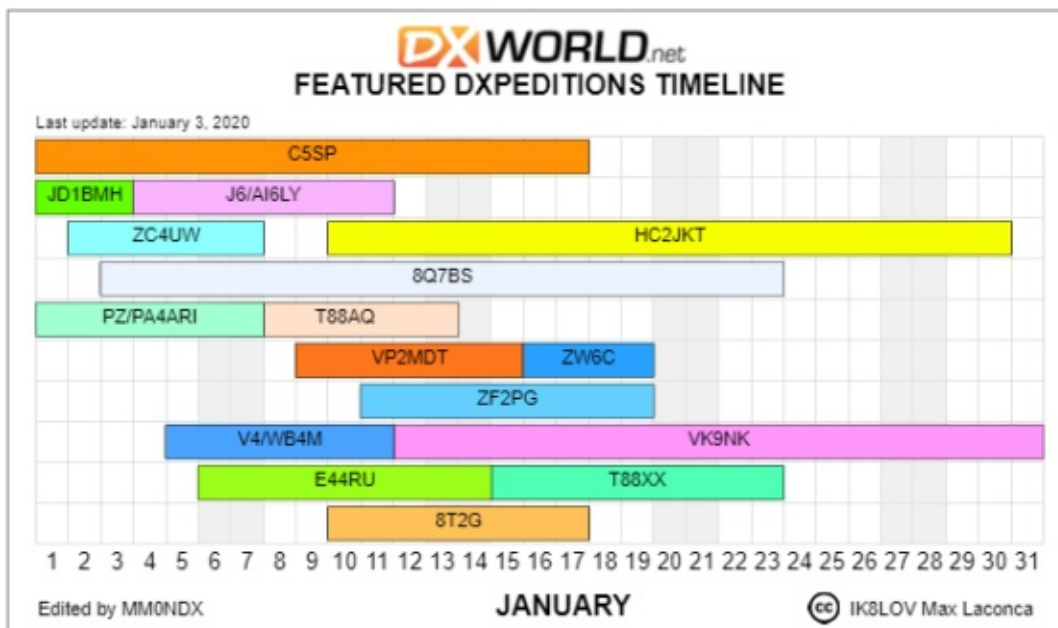
See David Garnier, WB9OWN, to pick up name badges:

WD9EFN	John Tankersley
KD9MFS	Marc Schneider
W9JSP	Jeff Pahl
KD9MUU	Bill Guynn
AA9RK	Michael Falk
KD9NZZ	Max Falk
KC9PQD	Ron Clayton
KA9SY	Bob Schwigel
KD9LCT	Ken Kegley
KD9IGO	Fred LeMere
KC9JET	Paul Hass
KC9REN	Dean Berglund
KF9K	Jim Nickel
W9DC	Conrad Herold
KD9NHK	Tom Massopust
KC9SBN	Darlene Berglund

DX / CONTEST UPDATE

http://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw_timeline_1_1.php

DX: Welcome to Solar Cycle 25!! That's the good news, however, it is going to be a while for old Sol's sunspot engine to get up to speed. I can't say the published list of DX operations below is terribly exciting for us in the Midwest. But, some activities to try.....



Meteor Scatter: The Quadrantids just peaked, but some residual might be hanging around. If you worked the ARRL 10 Meter Contest, then you know what meteor scatter sounds like on that band.

160 Meters: Top Band has been very good this season. My antenna limits DX opportunities, but I can certainly hear other K/W stations working the EU and JA spots. I've been working most of NA/Canada on 100 W's and dipole. Great band.

160/80/40: Adjust your operating time to pick up morning grey line propagation on these bands. In particular, Asian/Pacific opportunities can be surprising. With sun up after 7:00 AM for our area, this is hardly an inconvenience.

60 Meters: Check out operations on the 60 meter band. In particular, the digital options are reported to be active. Also more EU and AF countries are allowing operations on 60.

Contests: Last month proved to be a lot of fun. January offers up some good fun with the NA QSO Party contests and the ARRL Jan VHF contest. The NA events are just fun and popular. The Jan VHF contest has benefited from the FT8 popularity. The CQ 160 event is the last big contest on Topband for the winter season.

- NA QSO Party: CW on 1/11, SSB on 1/18
- ARRL Jan VHF Contest: 1/18 – 1/19
- CQ 160 CW: 1/24 – 1/25
- Winter Field Day: 1/25 – 1/26
- MN QSO Party: 2/1

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Winter Field Day 2020

By Mike Johnson, WO9B



WARAC is heading out for Winter Field Day later this month. I know that sounds exciting and you are asking yourself how you can be part of this festival of ham radio fun-o-la. Well, wonder no more!! Believe it or not we still have room for you to jump in and make it happen.

Dave, WB9OWN and Mike, WO9B will be putting together an operation for the event. We have mentioned this at the last couple of club meetings and well, this is it. So literally, if you want to have some fun with the event via a club operation let us know.

We are doing the final planning and your involvement will make the difference. No matter what the options selected are, we are only planning on working the first day of the event. We will begin on Saturday, Jan 25th late in the morning and wrap things up by 6:00 PM or so at the latest. This is not a sleepless weekend deal. Not at all.

If we can entice enough members, we will set up a couple of stations at Bong State Park in a permanent building which features walls, doors and roof...and also happens to have electricity. We will be warm and protected. Plus, it is really a nice location to set up a couple of wire type antennas.

If participation is limited, Dave and I will go mobile and operate from a vehicle with exterior antennas. Maybe set up in a couple of park locations and drag a number of QSO's out of the ether.

Time is running out. No more sitting on the fence. Let Dave, WB9OWN or Mike, WO9B know. We'd love to have a few hardly ops man the mic and key!!

WO9B email: mike@palomonet.com • —• —••

Membership renewal

“Just a friendly reminder that club dues are payable as of November 1st. We'd also appreciate it if each of you would fill out a new application so that we have up to date information to keep the club directory current. Ideally, these along with dues can be turned in at the upcoming meeting. Dues can be paid three ways – cash, check, or via PayPal using the “friends and family” option. The club email address to use is waracpp@warac.org. You can also mail dues and/or the application to the clubs new address: P.O. Box 511381, New Berlin, WI 53151.” **Form on page 7**



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 fa-
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
P. O. Box 511381
New Berlin, WI 53151-1381

Pictures from the 2020 Winter Swapfest





Most-common Q-codes used in CW (below this is a more complete list of Q-codes)

Q-code	Question	Information
QRA	What is the name of your station ?	The name of my station is ...
QRB	How far approximately are you from my station ?	The approximate distance between our stations isnautical miles (or.... kilometers)
QRG	Will you tell me my exact frequency (or that of...)?	Your exact frequency (or that of...) is ...Khz (or Mhz)
QRH	Does my frequency vary ?	Your frequency varies.
QRI	How is the tone of my transmission ?	The tone of your transmission is ... 1 = good. 2 = variable. 3 = bad
QRK	What is the readability of my signals ?	The readability of your signals is 1 = bad. 2 = poor. 3 = fair. 4 = good. 5 = excellent.
QRL	Are you busy?	I am busy
QRM	Are you being interfered ?	I am being interfered with: 1 = nil. 2 = slightly. 3 = moderately. 4 = severely. 5 = extremely.
QRN	Are you troubled by static ?	I am troubled by static 1 = nil. 2 = slightly. 3 = moderately. 4 = severely. 5 = extremely.
QRO	Shall I increase transmitter power ?	Increase transmitter power.
QRP	Shall I decrease transmitter power ?	Decrease transmitter power.
QRQ	Shall I send faster ?	Send faster (or ... words per minute).
QRS	Shall I send more slowly?	Send more slowly (or ... words per minute).
QRT	Shall I stop sending ?	Stop sending.
QRU	Have you anything for me ?	I have nothing for you.
QRV	Are you ready?	I am ready.
QRW	Shall I inform...that you are calling him on... khz (or...Mhz)?	Please inform...that I am calling him on... khz (or...Mhz)
QRX	When will you call me again ?	I will call you again at...hours (on ... khz (or ...Mhz)).
QRY	What is my turn ?	Your turn is number...(or according to any other indication).
QRZ	Who is calling me ?	You are being called by...(on ... khz (or ...Mhz)).
QSA	What is the strength of my signals ?	The strength of your signals (or those of ...) is... 1 = scarcely perceptible. 2 = weak. 3 = fairly good. 4 = good. 5 = very good.
QSB	Are my signals fading ?	Your signals are fading.
QSD	Is my keying defective ?	Your keying is defective.
QSK	Can you hear me between your signals and if so can I break in on your transmission ?	I can hear you between my signals, break in on my transmission
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt ?	I am acknowledging receipt.
QSO	Can you communicate with...?	I can communicate with...direct (or by relay through...)
QSP	Will you relay to...?	I will relay to...
QST	Is there any message for radio-hams ?	Here follows a message for radio-hams
QSU	Shall I send or reply on this frequency (or on ... khz (or ...Mhz)?	Send or reply on this frequency? (on ...khz (or ...Mhz)).
QSV	Shall I send a series of V's on this frequency	Send a series of V's on this frequency (or on ...khz (or ...Mhz)).

	(or on ...kHz (or ...Mhz))?	
QSW	Will you send on this frequency (or on ...kHz (or ...Mhz))?	I am going to send on this frequency (or on ...kHz (or ...Mhz)).
QSX	Will you listen to...?	I am listening to ...(call signs) on ...kHz (or Mhz).
QSY	Shall I transmit on an other frequency?	Transmit on an other frequency. (or on ...kHz (or ...Mhz)).
QTC	How many messages have you for me ?	I have ...messages for you.
QTH	What is your position ?	My position is...
QTR	What is the correct time (in UTC) ?	The correct time is...(in UTC).

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Officers and Board
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