



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 71, Issue 1 January, 2022

## JANUARY 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

**January 12, 2022 7pm**

**New Berlin Community Center**

**14750 W. Cleveland Ave.**

**New Berlin, WI**

**Between Moorland and Sunnyslope**

**Brief discussion on Field Day**

**Dave Garnier WB9OWN**

### Premeeting dinner

**New Berlin Ale House 5:15pm**

**16000 W. Cleveland Ave**

**West of Moorland Rd.**

**The Club election of Officers will be held at this meeting.**

**Volunteer for any position.**

**We have no candidates for President**

**The Club needs YOU!**

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## Editors Corner.

Another year has passed and we are surviving as a club. I'm sure this year will be as interesting as other ones. Work is still being done on the remote station and it looks like we will have a field day this year.

We will hear more about field day at the meeting. But it looks like it will be a different format, so we will see what is happening.

The remote station is still a possibility but nothing is final.

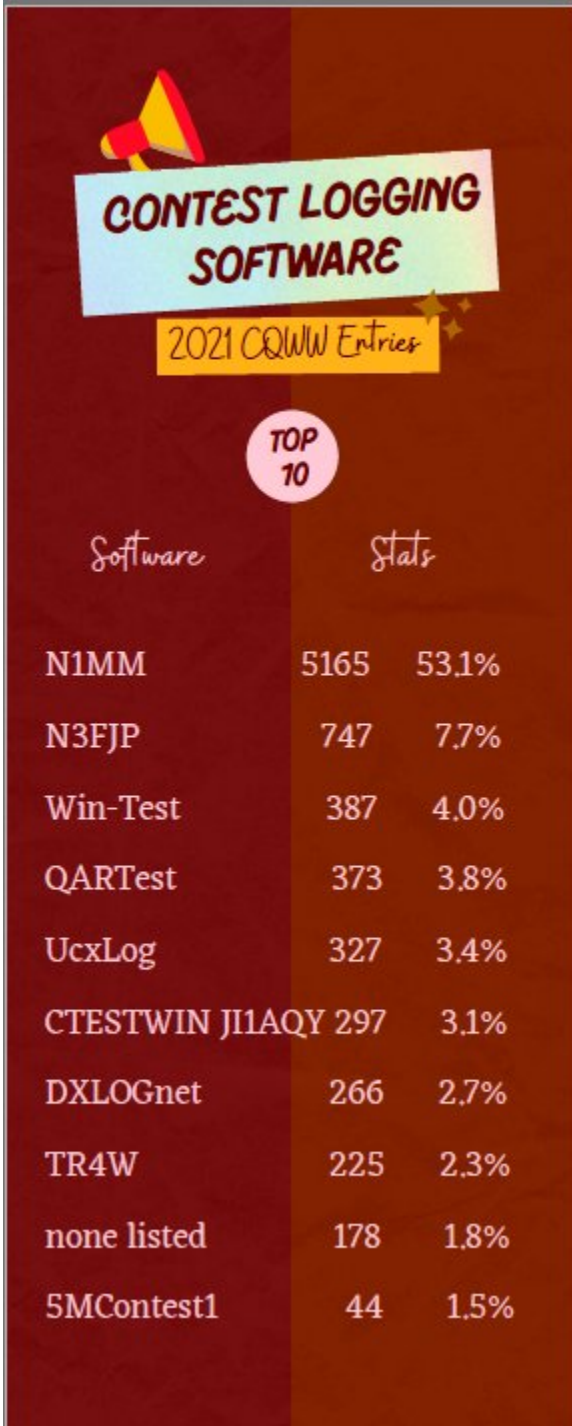
Note the Slow Speed CW QSO net has changed the repeater. See page 11 for details. If you have any interest in CW join us some Monday night even if you're not ready to dust off the Key and try it. You can listen or bring questions, we will be happy to have you.

So what else is happening. It may be time to start thinking about what you are going to do during the Wisconsin QSO party. It will be here sooner then we think!

As always I'm looking for articles for Hamtrix. Even a short line or two about an interesting QSO is fine. Seems the bands are beginning to open up. So who knows what will come up.

73

Frank KA9FZR



A graphic titled "CONTEST LOGGING SOFTWARE" with a megaphone icon, followed by "2021 CQWW Entries" and a "TOP 10" badge. Below is a table listing the top 10 software programs and their statistics.

Software	Stats
N1MM	5165 53.1%
N3FJP	747 7.7%
Win-Test	387 4.0%
QARTest	373 3.8%
UcxLog	327 3.4%
CTESTWIN J11AQY	297 3.1%
DXLOGnet	266 2.7%
TR4W	225 2.3%
none listed	178 1.8%
5MContest1	44 1.5%



# WARAC December Monthly Meeting Minutes

## December 14, 2021

The December Meeting was held at the New Berlin Community Center starting at 7:00 PM

Attendance: 13 members, one new member (Greg KJ4GZX), one returning guest (Rich KD9QLH)

1. Vice President Feroz Ghouse conducted the meeting.
2. All present introduced themselves.
3. Prior month Meeting Notes Approval: Meeting Minutes were approved as published in Hamtrix.
4. Special Board Meeting Minutes: Notes were approved amended to show Board Member Phil was late and in attendance.
5. Annual Membership is Due now. Get those in to Bill, N9KPH, Treasurer
6. Scholarship Proposal: Proposal as published in Hamtrix was Passed
7. Remote Station Proposal: Concept is under review. To Flex or not to Flex. 7300 is being looked at using RemoteHams.com as a software interface. Results of the remote meeting of last week were discussed. A proposal will be forwarded to allow spending some money to commence the station building. This will be in next month's Hamtrix.
8. Field Day: No update.
9. Park Activation: Winter break is in effect. See you in the spring.
10. CW Slow Speed Net: Mike, WO9B, is looking for a new 2-meter repeater. Should not be a major problem.
11. Meeting was adjourned @ 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Mike Johnson, WO9B

## FOR SALE Kenwood TS-2000 All Mode HF, VHF, UHF Radio

The club has received a very nice TS-2000 radio. This was John Zach's transceiver and as such is not just a legendary TS-2000, but JOHN ZACH's Legendary TS-2000!!

The radio is being offered to club members first and, if no one is interested, will be offered on the usual internet sites. So, if you have been on the lookout for a great all-mode radio here is your chance to pick one up with a known history. If the radio is unsold by Jan 15th, off to the internet it goes.

The radio's condition is USED. There are scratches and nicks on the case as one would expect for well used gear. No dents or dings. All buttons and controls work 100%. The display is bright and sharp with no missing pixels (or at least none that I've noticed). Operationally the radio has been tested on various HF and VHF bands in CW, SSB and FM. The 440 band antenna is a N-Type which I could not test. It has performed flawlessly.

The radio was sent to Janke Electronics for a check up and alignment and passed with flying colors.

Sale includes the TS-2000 radio, Kenwood MC-60 Desk Microphone, Power cords with Anderson Power Poles, Manual, Schematics.

**Price: \$900**

Questions/Inspections/Trials: Mike, WO9B Text/Call to 262-923-6194



Date: 12-20-2021

**Janke Electronics**

**Work Ticket**

CUSTOMER		RADIO	
Name:	Michael Johnson	Model:	Kenwood TS-2000
Address:	1400 S. Russell Rd.	Serial Number:	21100143
City / State:	New Berlin, WI	Email:	mjohn@jankeelectronics.com
Zip:	53151	Phone:	262-923-6194

**Description of Trouble:**

1. Check for on transmit  
2. Check alignment and adjust as needed

**Service Precedence:**

Found after reset of the microprocessor the radio would transmit. Replaced memory battery and upgraded to the latest firmware from Kenwood. I cleaned the radio inside and out and did a complete alignment. Did on the air testing with great results.

Optional accessories installed: DBU-3

**Test Results:**

FREQUENCY	USB/LSB/CW/FSK	AM	FM
160 Mhz	4000 - 10.100 Mhz	28.1 Mhz (18.1 Mhz)	
80 Mhz	3.4 Mhz - 3.8 Mhz		
40 Mhz	7.1 Mhz - 11.8 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
30 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
15 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
10 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
7 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
5 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
2 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
1 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.5 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.2 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.1 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.05 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.02 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	
0.01 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	21.1 Mhz - 21.3 Mhz	



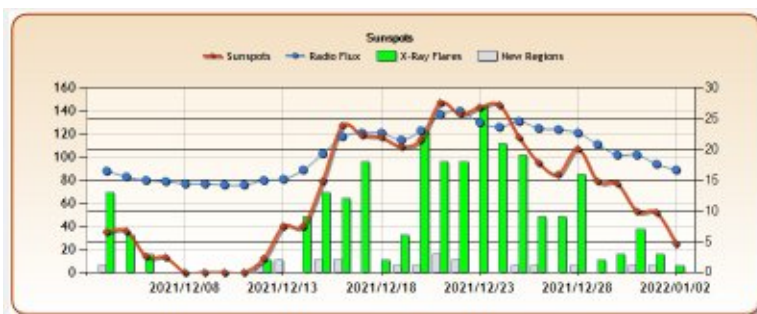
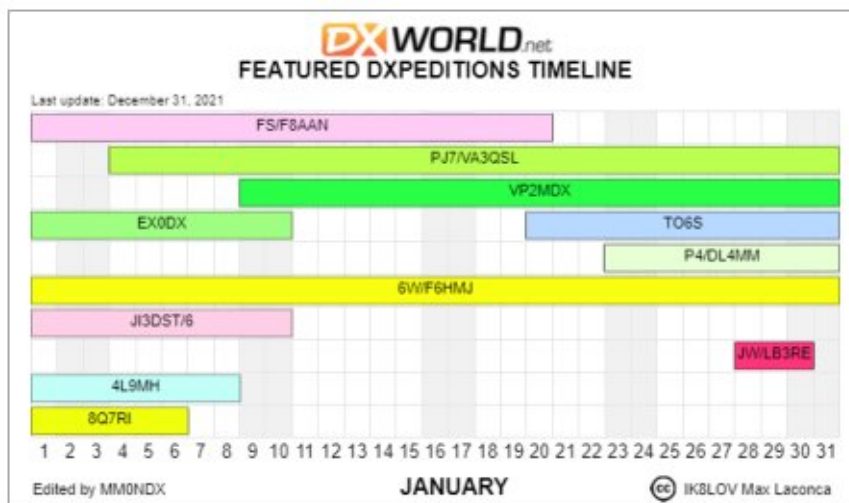
## DXing and Contesting - January 2022

### DX UPDATE:

**DX Operations:** Good news and bad news. The ops are stacking up but the latest COVID round is a head wind. Ah well, the new normal? Expect the typical Caribbean expeditions to proliferate due to winter, BUT at the end of the month, the ARRL DX Contest approaches and so will opportunities.

**The Bands:** Been saying this, but 17, 15, 12 and 10 are producing huge opportunities. It is not just short path, but long path and equatorial scatter are coming into play with the improved conditions.

**Solar:** Last month gave us all a scare as the SS#’s dropped to ZERO. What? This short break was broken by a jump to 120 almost overnight. SFI is expected to be in the 90 to 110 range throughout the month. Fluctuations in SS#’s will remain exciting, but the overall motion is strongly positive. A & K index are predicted to remain at current levels.



### CONTEST UPDATE:

January kicks off the 2022 contest season with some nice “it’s too wicked outside” events to keep you engaged and ham active. First up is the ARRL RTTY Roundup, which despite the legacy name is really a RTTY and FT8 contest which is very popular. This is followed by the ARRL VHF Contest and Winter Field Day. Get ready, the first weekend of Feb is the kickoff of the State QSO Party’s with the MN QSO Party up first on Feb 5th. I can feel the ice cracking already!!

#### Major Contests this Month:

- ARRL RTTY Roundup: Jan 8-9
- North American QSO Party CW: Jan 15-16
- ARRL January VHF Contest: Jan 15-17
- North American QSO Party, SSB: Jan 22-23
- Winter Field Day: Jan 29-30
- MN QSO Party: Feb 5
- EU DX Contest: Feb 5-6



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

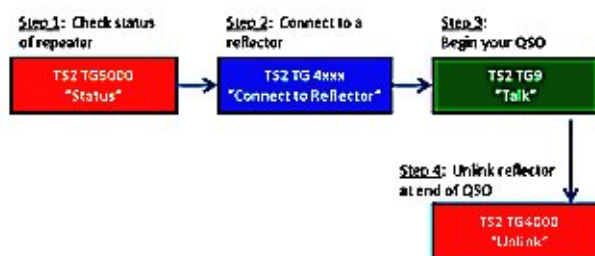
## DMR + Network

Happy New Year!! How's that new DMR radio working for you? It just might be time to venture outside of the BrandMeister Network and start exploring the wilds offered by some of the BM competitors. And there are options. Options that include local Milwaukee area repeaters as access portals. So in this month's column we are going to focus on the DMR Plus (+) Network.

The DMR+ Network, also commonly denoted as the DMR-MARC network, is actually an older network than BrandMeister. The old marketing saying to "Sell the Sizzle" kind of applies here: So why venture into DMR +? The main reason is that DMR+ offers users the flexibility to connect to any TalkGroup (referred to as Reflectors) that you, the user, selects, not what the repeater owner selects for you. It is the same flexibility hotspot users have, only DMR+ offers that through repeaters. Some of the reflectors are unique to DMR+ but there are also cross-mode reflectors and shared DMR network reflectors. I think of it like going to a new restaurant instead of going to the usual place all the time. Try it out. What have you got to lose?

So here is the skinny on DMR+: <https://dmr-marc.net/> The network access via repeaters is a little different than BM. Reflectors are activated by first activating the reflector you want to communicate with by "ker-chunking" the reflector and then you switch to TG9 to carry out your communication. So it is a two step process: Step 1 - Activate the TG/Reflector and Step 2 - Switch to TG9 (Private Call mode) to actually talk on the TG/Reflector.

### Connecting to Reflectors on DMRPlus is Easy



Ready to try it out? Here are some local repeaters to give it shot:

441.4375	+5 MHz	CC1	New Berlin	Waukesha	N9PAY	OPEN	DMR	DMR-MARC
443.41875	+5 MHz	CC10	Hales Corners	Milwaukee	W9EMP	OPEN	DMR	DMR-MARC
444.53125	+5 MHz	CC1	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	WD9IEV	OPEN	DMR	DMR-MARC

Here is a list of current Reflectors: [https://www.pistar.uk/dmr\\_dmr+\\_reflectors.php](https://www.pistar.uk/dmr_dmr+_reflectors.php)  
Dial up DMR+. You never know, it could be just what you are looking for.

**Next Month: Anyone APRS**

**Last count we have 16  
members  
who have sent in their  
dues.  
Who will be next?  
Who will be last?  
Time will tell.**

### **WARAC Members:**

The club's new fiscal year began November 1st, which means that dues for the 2021 to 2022 year are payable now.

### **Life Members**

Please mail the club (PO Box 511381, New Berlin, WI 53151) a completed application so that we can update our membership records.

### **Other Members**

The preferred method of payment would be via PayPal using the "Friends and Family" option. By using this option, the club does not incur the usual PayPal transfer fee. Use this address: [waracpp@warac.org](mailto:waracpp@warac.org).

Mail a check payable to WARAC at PO Box 511381, New Berlin, WI 53151.

If you prefer, you can mail a cash payment to this address as well. A receipt will be emailed to you at your address of record

Whichever option you choose, we would appreciate having a completed application mailed to us so that we can ensure that our membership records are up to date.

Thanks in advance for your help! • —• —••



## West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<b>Name</b>	<b>Call</b>	<b>Handle</b>
<b>Address</b>		
<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>
<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Spouse's Name</b>	<b>Wedding Ann.</b>	<b>Birthday</b>
<b>License Class</b>	<b>Expiration</b>	<b>Licensed Since</b>
<b>Membership In</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ARRL	<input type="checkbox"/> Amsat
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<b>Operational Station</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile
	<b>Bands:</b>	
<b>Would You Be Willing To Serve</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> On A Committee?	<input type="checkbox"/> As An Officer?
<b>Club Activities You Would Like To Participate In</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Sweepst
<input type="checkbox"/> Elmer	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine	<input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/> QSO Party
<b>Class Of Membership:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Full	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	<input type="checkbox"/> New
		<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
<b>Dues Paid:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Full \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$10.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Student \$10.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired \$10.00	

I hereby apply for membership in the West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc. in the membership class indicated above. I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the club and any rules or conditions that may be set forth in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Accepted for Membership</b>	<b>Date</b>

Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at:  
New Berlin Community Center  
14750 W. Cleveland Avenue

Bring your completed application to a club meeting or mail with dues payment to this address:  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club, Inc.  
P. O. Box 511301  
New Berlin, WI 53151-1301





## 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

### Railroad Frequencies (By Area)

Pacific Harbor Line Locomotives - L.A. Harbor, CA

<https://dpdproductions.com/pages/railroad-frequencies-by-area>

This is a list of frequencies compiled according to area. What's shown below is all that's been added for now. This list will grow slowly as information is collected.

Please take a moment to check out our railroad related antenna products.

### Illinois

Chicago Area (By Channel)

Provided by Mac English

08 - 160.230 - CSX - Road (Former B&O/C&O)  
 10 - 160.260 - Elgin Joliet & Eastern - Yard (Kirk & Joliet Yards)  
 12 - 160.290 - CSX - Dispatcher-RB (Calumet City) & BD (Garrett)  
 13 - 160.305 - Amtrak - Terminal Operations  
 14 - 160.320 - CSX - Dispatcher-RA (Calumet City) & SA (Monon)  
 16 - 160.350 - Elgin Joliet & Eastern - Road (Eastern Subdivision)  
 18 - 160.380 - Belt Railway of Chicago (West

Yard)

19 - 160.395 - CSX - Yard (Barr-Westbound)  
 20 - 160.410 - UP - Road (Villa Grove Subdivision)  
 22 - 160.440 - Metra - Road (Southwest Subdistrict)  
 25 - 160.485 - Indiana Harbor Belt - Dispatcher-East  
 26 - 160.500 - Belt Railway of Chicago - Dispatcher-South  
 28 - 160.530 - CN - Road (Elsdon Subdivision & South Bend Subdivision)  
 31 - 160.575 - UP - Yard (Global One/Proviso Tower)  
 32 - 160.590 - CN - Road (Elsdon Subdivision / South Bend Subdivision)  
 35 - 160.635 - Belt Railway of Chicago - Dispatcher-North  
 35 - 160.635 - Chicago Rail Link - Yard / Transfer  
 35 - 160.635 - CSX - Dispatcher-AW (Grand Rapids)  
 36 - 160.650 - BNSF - Road (Chillicothe Subdivision)  
 41 - 161.725 - Elgin Joliet & Eastern - Yard (Gary Mill & Joliet Yard)  
 42 - 160.740 - Amtrak - Yard  
 43 - 160.755 - CN - Road (Freeport Subdivision)  
 44 - 160.770 - CP Rail - Road (C&M Subdivision / Fox Lake Subdivision)  
 46 - 160.800 - NS - Road (Chicago Line)  
 49 - 160.845 - CN - Yard (Gateway Intermodal)  
 52 - 160.890 - UP - Road (Geneva Subdivision / Rockwell Subdivision)  
 54 - 160.935 - Wisconsin & Southern - Road

57 - 160.965 - Belt Railway of Chicago - Hump Yardmaster  
 58 - 160.980 - Indiana Harbor Belt (Dispatcher-West)  
 59 - 160.995 - BNSF - Yard (Corwith)  
 60 - 161.010 - NICTD - Road / Mobile  
 61 - 161.025 - Metra - Road (Electric District)  
 62 - 161.040 - UP - Road (Kenosha Subdivision / Harvard Subdivision)  
 64 - 161.070 - NS - Yard (Ashland / Colehour)  
 65 - 161.085 - Iowa Chicago & Eastern - Road  
 66 - 161.100 - BNSF - Road (Chicago Subdivision)  
 69 - 161.145 - UP - Yard (Dolton)  
 70 - 161.160 - BNSF - Yard (Cicero) Road (Aurora Subdivision)  
 71 - 161.175 - UP - Yard (Proviso)  
 72 - 161.190 - CN - Road (Chicago Subdivision)  
 76 - 161.250 - NS - Road (Chicago District)  
 77 - 161.265 - Amtrak - Car Department  
 78 - 161.280 - UP - Road (Joliet Subdivision)  
 79 - 161.295 - Wisconsin Central - Road  
 80 - 161.310 - CSX - Yard (Barr-Eastbound)  
 82 - 161.340 - Metra - Road (Rock Island District)  
 83 - 161.355 - NICTD - Road / Repeater  
 84 - 161.370 - CSX - Road (Former L&N / Monon)  
 85 - 161.385 - BNSF - Road (Mendota Subdivision)  
 88 - 161.430 - CP Rail - Yard (Bensenville)  
 89 - 161.445 - Belt Railway of Chicago (East Yard)  
 91 - 161.475 - Elgin Joliet & Eastern - Road (Western Subdivision)  
 91 - 161.475 - Manufacturers Junction - Yard  
 93 - 161.505 - Amtrak - Road (Michigan Line)  
 94 - 161.520 - CP Rail - Road (Elgin Subdivision)  
 94 - 161.520 - CSX - Dispatcher-SB (Woodland)  
 96 - 161.550 - Elgin Joliet & Eastern - Yard / MoW (Gary Mill & Joliet Yard)  
 97 - 161.565 - Indiana Harbor Belt - Hump Yardmaster (Blue Island)

## Wisconsin

### Western Area

Provided by Dave Voss & Ray Peacock

### Union Pacific

160.890 - Road (Most of Wisconsin)  
 161.040 - Road (Most of Minnesota. Former CNW Spine

### Line.

160.485 - Road (New Line Sub)  
 160.455 - MofW (Wisconsin & Minnesota)  
 161.175 - Yard (Wisconsin & Minnesota)  
 160.245 - PBX  
 161.235 - PBX

### Wisconsin Central (CN/IC)

160.785 - Road (Fond du Lac - North)  
 160.260 - Yard  
 161.295 - Road (Fond du Lac to Chicago)  
 160.335 - Road (Whitehall Sub)

### BNSF

161.100 - Road (La Crosse to Savanna, IL)  
 160.695 - Road (LaCrosse to St. Croix.)  
 161.160 - Road (C&I to Aurora)  
 161.415 - Road (Peavine to Galesburg)  
 160.620 - Nelson MRAS #4 (PBX Nelson Wisconsin)  
 160.605 - Wisconsin Section Crews  
 160.425 - La Crosse MRAS #8 (PBX La Crosse)  
 161.130 - Northtown MRAS #5 (PBX Northtown Yard-Minneapolis MN)

### Canadian Pacific

161.370 - Road (Minneapolis Area)  
 161.520 - Road (La Crosse to Milwaukee)  
 161.085 - Road (Glenwood to Superior)  
 160.770 - Road (Hopkins to La Crosse & Milwaukee to Chicago)

### Wisconsin Southern

160.575 - Road  
 161.145 - Yard

### ICE

161.085 - Road (Beloit/Janesville Area)



## 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 147.135+ 141.35 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.

Officers and Board  
 President

Vice President  
 Feeroz Ghose WU9N

Secretary  
 Dave Garnier WB9OWN

Treasurer  
 Bill Reed N9KPH

Directors  
 Tom Macon K9BTQ

Phil Tollefson, WA9AQL

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Webmaster past president  
 Frank Humpal KA9FZR

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