



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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## MAY CLUB HAPPENINGS

### Club Meeting

St. Peter's Episcopal Church,  
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue, West Allis  
May 13, 2014 **6:30pm**

#### Program

Pizza and Soda  
discussion questions  
and stories



NUT NET  
3.985mhz  
Monday-Saturday  
8:15am central  
time

Milwaukee-Florida Net  
Every Day on 14.290 Mhz  
7:00AM - 9:15AM ET  
6:00AM - 8:15AM CT

### Mark your calanders Field Day

June 28,29, 2014

### 2014 Awards Dinner

November 2,2014



WARAC 2-meter net  
Every Wednesday at 8pm  
MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset  
127.3 Hz CTCSS

**NEW** club jackets and hats!  
Go to club Web site and click on  
The GOLD MEDAL IDEAS block  
[For more info or click here](#)



# *The President's Shack May 2014*

We have something different coming up for our **May meeting** – a plain old social gathering featuring **Pizza!** After we munch, we'll have **open discussion** of any ham radio-related problems, questions or stories that anyone wishes to bring up. Pizza and soda will be on the club. Save up your discussion questions and stories and be sure to come hungry!

Please note that the **meeting will start ½ hour earlier (6:30)** and our regular before-meeting **dinner at Johnny V's is cancelled** – just for this month.

Many of us are saddened by the death of Leon Rediske, K9GCF, who became a silent key on Tuesday, May 6. Leon was well known around the Milwaukee area, both as a ham and as an aviator, having run Rainbow airport on south 76th Street for many years. He was a WARAC member back in the 1970's and more recently was active in the Ozaukee Radio Club and the Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club in Florida, where he spent the winters in recent years. He was also active in the Milwaukee Florida Net and he certainly is missed there. Memorial services are planned for both Florida and Milwaukee and we hope to have more info at the meeting.

Our annual **Field Day organization meeting was held on April 29** and was well attended with about 10 members. Look for a Field Day status report by chairman Chuck, W9WLX, elsewhere in this issue. At our June meeting we will finalize our Field Day plans and focus on other aspects of this event as well. Be sure you have the **weekend of June 28 and 29 reserved** for a weekend of Ham Radio fun!

The log submission period for the 2014 the **Wisconsin QSO Party** has ended and we have 329 logs – just short of last year's 334. The team is working on preparing the results and we're expecting to announce them in June.

Don't forget - **dinner at Johnny V's Classic Café is cancelled for May.** We'll be back in June.

See you at the meeting! Come hungry! Bring a friend!

Tom, K9BTQ

## **From the Editor**

I'm beginning to think we will have a spring or at least we will see summer this year. We just got back from a week long tour of Ireland. The trip was fun but I didn't get to do any Ham radio. I thought I might get to hit a few repeaters but we were in city hotels, had rooms with the windows facing another building so I didn't even try to get out. I'm beginning to think ham radio and a tour really don't work well together. I don't have that much room to carry gear and although you have some time to your self there is always something else to do during the free time.

I'm not saying I didn't have a good time, I thought traveling around the country side I would at least see a few antennas. I wasn't able to spot any! Of course as rocky as the countryside is it may not be that easy. There aren't many trees but lots of rocks!

Note We have set a date for the Awards Dinner November 2, 2014.

Remember this months meeting starts early at 6:30 we will be serving pizza. So we will not be meeting at Johnny V's.

73

Frank KA9FZR

# **WARAC General Meeting Minutes**

## **April 7, 2014**

### **Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 17 with no visitors.

### **Program**

The evening's program was Lightning Protection, presented by Frank Humpal, KA9FZR.

### **Business**

Motion was made and accepted to approve the March meeting minutes as published in Hamtrix. Correction to board meeting minutes: Phil Gural, W9NAW, was a visitor at the board meeting for the Swapfest discussion.

Wisconsin QSO Party update: 305 logs received so far, about 10 behind last year. 135 in state logs, 170 out of state logs received, submission deadline is April 10. About 39,000 log entries for 2014 vs. 48,000 last year, mirroring year to year band conditions. 12 mobiles submitted logs this year, vs. 10 last year. 174,070 total points for WARAC, 5th among in state clubs, 7th among all. For 2013, 334 logs received, 2012, 279 logs, and 2011, 275 logs.

Field Day meeting is Tuesday, April 29, at St. Mary's parish, Hales Corners, conference room 1.

May meeting is Pizza Night and Elmer session. Meeting starts 30 minutes earlier, at 6:30 pm. No pre-meeting dinner at Johnny V's in May.

Swapfest flyers are available for 2015. There is a price change for 2015, \$5 advanced, \$6 at the door. There is a new date, January 10, 2015, one week later.

Stoughton hamfest is this weekend, April 12, and Ozaukee swapfest is May 3.

Anyone interested in license classes, Pat Moretti, KA1RB will be giving Tech and General class classes at the Miller Valley training center.

### **Announcements**

2 meter net every Wednesday at 8:00 pm on 147.045, + offset, PL 127.3. Join in!

CQ Tuesday, 1:00 pm, 3rd Tuesday, in Waukesha at the New China Buffet.

The Nut Net breakfast is at Genesis Restaurant, 8:30 am, 4th Tuesday of the month.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX  
Secretary WARAC

# **WARAC Board Meeting**

## **April 22, 2014**

Howard Smith called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Steve Dryja, NO9B, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Frank Humpal, KA9FZR, and Ervin von der Ehe, WI9EV.

### **WIQP**

Log gathering is complete, 320 logs received. Results will be announced in about 1 month. 42 paper logs processed. 3750 Qs were input manually.

### **Scholarship Endowment Plans**

Waiting on response from ARRL to the question, does the terms of reference need to change with our endowment? Howard hopes to close on this by the next club meeting.

### **Club Liability Insurance**

WARAC's liability insurance transfer to the ARRL's plan with The Hartford is complete. Documentation for Waukesha Expo (Swapfest) is still pending. The club is realizing a \$51 savings annually with twice the amount of insurance.

### **Club Banner Update**

Banner update is complete. For \$35 we have updated the banner content and added two smart codes. We used it at AES Superfest this year. Jim Wilkins is looking into improving the display support.

### **Programs**

May – Pizza Night & Open Discussion  
June – Field Day, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX; Dayton Debrief  
July – Hearing Aids 101, Steve Dryja, NO9B

### **Future Programs**

Tube gear/tube technology  
Tower service presentation

### **2014 Budget**

No update.

### **Club Operations Manual**

No update. On hold, QSO priority.

### **2011 Audit**

Audit in progress by Howard.

*(continued next page)*



## 2012 and 2013 Audit

Tom Macon to appoint audit committee

## Other Items

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX  
Secretary WARAC

## Ham Radio on the Internet

<http://americanprofile.com/articles/radio-active/>

A general interest article on Ham radio  
submitted by Howard WA9AXO

<http://arvideonews.com/hrn/>

Videos on Ham radio

Anyone can submit websites for this column.  
I'll check them out and include them. The editor



**Club  
booth  
at  
Superfest**



## Field Day Info

The Field Day planning meeting took place on April 29th and we are on track for yet another successful experience. The base logistics are similar to last year. We will be at the New Berlin location, 3711 S. Casper Drive, operating 2A with the additional VHF station. Pop-up campers have already been confirmed for all three stations.

Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, will be gathering additional information at the May 13th and June 10th club meetings. Set up will begin at 8:00 AM Saturday morning and tear down at 1 PM on Sunday. Be sure to let Chuck know what your interest is in this year's Field Day. See you there!

## Ham Trivia

<http://www.funtrivia.com/en/subtopics/Ham-Radio-319660.html>

**At the end of a conversation ham operators will say "73" to the person they are talking with. What does "73" mean?**

Best regards.. Although hams use many different modes of communication such as voice, digital and even television the original mode was Morse code. In order to save time many abbreviations were created by Morse users and 73 is used to sign off with a friendly good-by. Of course, if you are talking with that special someone a different number is used, 88, which means "love and kisses"

**In the United States what speed of Morse code must a prospective ham be able to accurately read in order to get their amateur radio license?**

Zero, The Ability To Copy Morse Code Is Not Required. In 2007 the Federal Communications Commission dropped the Morse code requirement for hams. In order to receive an amateur radio license you only have to pass a written examination.

**Using a hand held "walkie-talkie", some hams can talk with another amateur that is 100 miles away by utilizing what device?**

Repeater. Repeaters are usually located at the top of a tall structure such as a building, tower or mountain top. The repeater simply receives the signal from one radio and re-transmits it to another. Because of the height, the repeater can greatly extend the range of a hand held or mobile radio.

**If the election had gone in a different direction this long time amateur radio operator would have probably had a ham antenna on the roof of the White House. Who is he?**

Senator Barry Goldwater. Senator Barry Goldwater lost the 1964 Presidential election to Lyndon Johnson. Senator Goldwater, who was known on the air as K7UGA was a ham for many years and during the Vietnam War provided a radio/telephone link to thousands of GIs and their families. *(continued next page)*

**Usually costing around \$45 to build, this simple wire antenna is used by many hams to communicate around the world. What is it?**

Dipole. The easy to build dipole antenna is often strung between two trees with a feedline running from the antenna to the radio. Cheap and easy to build, it is capable of world wide communications.

**Many US hams participate in a national program to help provide reports and warnings for storms and tornadoes. Not limited to ham operators, what is the name of this program?**

Skywarn. Since the early 1970s the Skywarn program has enabled volunteer storm spotters to communicate information to the National Weather Service about severe weather activity.

## **Humor**

**STOCK:** A magical piece of paper that is worth \$33.75 until the moment you buy it. It will then be worth \$8.50.

**BOND:** What you had with your spouse until you pawned his/her golf clubs to invest in Amazon.com.

**BROKER:** The person you trust to help you make major financial decisions that cause you to become more broke.

**BEAR:** What your trade account and wallet will be when you take a flyer on that hot stock tip your secretary gave you.

**BULL:** What your broker uses to explain why your mutual funds tanked during the last quarter.

**MARGIN:** Where you scribble the latest quotes when you're supposed to be listening to your manager's presentation.

**SHORT POSITION:** A type of trade where, in theory, a person sells stocks he doesn't actually own. Since this works only in theory, a short position is where a person usually ends up. (e.g. "The rent, sir?", "Hahaha, well, I'm a little short this month.")

**COMMISSION:** The only reliable way to make money on the stock market, which is why your broker charges you one.

**YAK:** What you do into a pail when you discover your stocks have plunged and your broker is making a margin call.

-borrowed from "The Tantramar", Westcumb ARC, Amherst, Nova Scotia

Officers and Board  
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Vice President  
Steve Dryja, NO9B

Secretary  
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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.