



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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Volume 61, Issue 6 June, 2014

JUNE CLUB HAPPENINGS

Club Meeting

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

June 10, 2014 **7:00pm**

Program

Field Day Chuck W9WLX
Dayton debrief

Join us for a pre-meeting dinner
at Johnny V's Classic Cafe
1650 S 84th St at 5:00pm



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



Hunter D. Clark, KC9LGG,

of Pewaukee, WI,

is the winner of the

2014 David Knaus Memorial
Scholarship.

Mark your calenders 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 June 2014

Congratulations to **Hunter D. Clark, KC9LGG**, the 2014 recipient of our David Knaus Memorial Scholarship. We were notified of Hunter's selection just a few days ago by the ARRL, so we have little information about him beyond the fact that he's an Engineering student at UWM. Stay tuned for more information about Hunter.

We have a birthday coming up! Since our club was formed in 1954, **this is our 60th year**. Let's have a party! Past anniversaries have been celebrated at our annual Awards Dinner in the fall with old pictures and talk about the old days. We also have made an extra effort to get older members to attend the event. So what should we do for this year's observance? We'll talk about this at the upcoming meeting, so think about it and bring your suggestions!

The month's meeting will focus on **Field Day**, coming up **June 28 and 29**. Chairman Chuck, W9WLX, will fill us in on this year's plans and will finalize the details. In addition, we will review our infamous rope trick and do the annual screening of our Field Day tower fall video.

The basic Field Day timetable will be the same as recent years. **Setup will begin at 8:00AM** on Saturday and the Field Day "contest" will begin at 1:00PM. It ends 24 hours later at 1:00PM Sunday and we are usually off the site by 3:00PM. Your participation will be appreciated anytime during the entire period, especially for setup, overnight operating and takedown. Again, Chuck will walk us through the details at the upcoming meeting.

Can anyone do a program on **EchoLink** at a club meeting? This topic was suggested at a recent Board

meeting but we need someone willing to present. Please contact me if you, or someone you recommend, would like to do this.

As always, please bring your stories, on-air activities, travel experiences (Dayton?), etc. for the open discussion portion of our meeting. Don't forget – we're back to our usual before-meeting dinner at **Johnny V's Classic Café, 1650 S. 84th St.** at 5:00PM.

See you at the meeting! Bring a friend!
Tom, K9BTQ

From the Editor

June is here and, as usual for the month of June it is Field Day. Field Day is one of events where we get into the public spotlight without the need for a real emergency!

Field Day is a good way to operate under emergency conditions. I think it is a good event for many reasons. As a group we get to work on a project. The project does test a lot of theories we have. Sometimes theories don't work as well in the field as they do on paper.

For me this will be my first time being able to be at Field Day for the whole time. Most years it happens the same weekend as another commitment I have. This year they are on different weekends. I just might have enough time to recover between them!

Not much else going on at home. The grass seems to love the weather. I almost need to cut it again as soon as I'm finished cutting it.

I put some thoughts down on operating QRP. If you have any on QRP or any other Ham subject send them to me. I'll try to get them into Hamtrix.

73

Frank KA9FZR

WARAC General Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2014

Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 26 with 1 visitor.

Program

The evening's program was a pizza party social and an informal Elmering program.

Business

Motion was made and accepted to approve the April meeting minutes as published in Hamtrix.

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.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX
Secretary WARAC

WARAC Board Meeting

May 27, 2014

Howard Smith called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Steve Dryja, NO9B, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Frank Humpal, KA9FZR, Leroy Hass, KC9NST, and Ervin von der Ehe, WI9EV.

WIQP

Results will be available and announced mid-June.

Field Day Planning

Permit has been issued, information on the ARRL site, port-a-john has been ordered, and remainder of logistics will be followed up. The press releases are continuing to be followed up.

Club Liability Insurance

Documentation for Waukesha Expo (Swapfest) and New Berlin (Field Day) has been obtained.

Scholarship

The 2015 scholarship will be funded from the endowment fund. \$38,000 was added to endow the fund.

Awards Dinner, 60th Anniversary

Interest in additional events commemorating the anniversary will be requested at the general meeting.

Programs

June – Field Day, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX; Dayton Debrief

July – Hearing Aids 101, Steve Dryja, NO9B

August – confirming TS990 presentation/review

Future Programs

Echolink

DX Operating

DX Suite Software Demo

Rebuilding Rotators/Bird Wattmeters

Antenna Programs

3 Phase Power Monitors

Tower service presentation

2014 Budget

Budget was reviewed.

Club Operations Manual

No updates.

2011 Audit

No report.

2012 and 2013 Audit

Tom Macon to appoint audit committee.

Other Items

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

Secretary WARAC

2014 Field Day Update

By Chuck Dellis, W9WLX, FD Chairman

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club will be participating in Field Day, 2014. We are returning to the New Berlin site near their recycling center at 3711 S. Casper Dr. Our focus will be on continuing to improve our communication skills and getting everyone on the air. The goal for this year will be to increase the number of operators during the overnight shifts. Recent years has resulted in coverage getting pretty thin during the early morning hours. If you have a specific time and station you would like to cover, be sure to contact Chuck, W9WLX, so your request may be accommodated.

Jim, KC9RNY, will be providing his camper for the 40/15 meter station. The station setup will be done by Chuck Dellis, W9WLX. This station will cover phone and CW QSOs as well as digital modes. The antenna planned for this station is a multi-band dipole.

Tom, K9BTQ will provide the 75/20 meter station setup in a camper. The station will handle phone and CW QSOs and Tom is planning on a ladder line fed 75 meter dipole or loop, handling 75, 20, and 10 meters.

The VHF station will be led by Phil Gural, W9NAW and operate 6 meters. 2 meters has had limited success in recent years and as of this publication, there is no plan to get 2 meters on the air. All stations will be powered off the grid. Thanks Phil, for securing the campers for the 75/20 meter and VHF stations.

Thanks to everyone who has been involved in Field Day so far. If you haven't confirmed your Field Day plans, please reach out to me. Otherwise, I will be contacting you shortly.

73 Chuck, W9WLX



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

<http://twit.tv/>

Ham radio tv style videos

<http://www.hamradio.tv/>

Ham radio tv style videos

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

Thoughts on QRP

Frank KA9FZR

I guess I got into QRP thanks to Heathkit. I wanted to build something and the HW-8 transceiver was in my price range and skill ability. I put it together and it worked. I used it to get my general ticket. My Elmer was kind enough to get on the air many nights and we talked using cw.

I did pass my code test and having my technician license I had my general. I did try for my advanced license at the same time and missed by one or two questions.

Since I was flying to California for a factory school I took the HW-8 along with a 15 meter dipole that I set up in my hotel room. Much to my and my Elmer's surprise we were able to talk from Los Angeles to Milwaukee with the 2 watts output of the HW-8. Conditions must have been just right to do it.

Since then I have tried to get out of motel and hotel rooms with very little luck!

My Ham radio activity slowed way down when I was busy with work and family. As I neared retirement I decided to get more active in it. Although I had older rigs I decided to add to my collection by buying a Yaesu FT-817. I think not only because the price was reasonable but because so much was packed into such a small package. I continue to find it an amazing piece of gear.

Although I'm trying to recover my CW skills I am also operating SSB especially on the Morning Nut Net. Most of the time they are able to copy me. I'm sure there are times I would be much easier to copy if I got my

Collin's KWM-2 with its 30S1 amp going. Of course some of my neighbors might hear me better also. HI HI

Anyway here are some of my thoughts about operating QRP from my experiences.

Although there are dire warnings that SSB and QRP don't mix. When conditions are good it works ok and it is possible to use it for rag chewing.

Although we all know a good antenna is important QRP makes the differences in antenna much more obvious.

If you like to build ham things QRP provides you many options. The powers are low so there is less danger to your equipment and you. Kits are great way to start.

QRP can mean portable. Many rigs will easily fit in a suitcase. Some of the real small ones will fit into a pocket. Antennas can use light weight wire. Batteries generally are small.

RF interference is reduced (less power less interference).

I understand with some of the new digital modes low power really isn't a factor.

I'm sure there are many more pluses and negatives to QRP. It is one more aspect of ham radio to consider. You do get a a lot of QSO's where you will hear people being very surprised that your only running low power. Thats fun in itself.

Ham Trivia

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

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.

In ham lingo, an unmarried female ham is known as a "YL" which stands for "young lady". Once she becomes married, what is she called?

XYL-Ex Young Lady. Again, dating back to the Morse code abbreviations the terms YL and XYL have stuck. You might hear a ham comment that he is "getting ready to take the XYL out to dinner." All guy hams are referred to as "OM", Old Man!

Many countries have a fraternal organization of ham radio operators. What's the name of the largest amateur radio organization in the United States?

American Radio Relay League. Founded in 1914 the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) has over 150,000 members. They publish a monthly amateur radio magazine called QST and provide many services for their members.

What is the ARISS program?

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. ARISS is a program that enables astronauts on the space station to communicate with groups such as school students. Volunteer ham operators set up their equipment in classrooms and the students can chat with the astronauts and ask questions. Even though they are in space, the astronauts still have to have a valid amateur radio license to communicate back to hams on earth; that's why most of the members of the astronaut corps are licensed hams.

Used mostly when communicating with Morse code, what is the name for a group of abbreviations for such things as location or to tell the other ham to move to another frequency?

Q Signals. Q Signals are used to abbreviate a conversation, particularly when sending Morse code. For example instead of sending or saying "my location is in Miami Florida" a ham would transmit "QTH Miami FL".

Officers and Board
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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.