



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 62, Issue 6 June, 2015

## JUNE CLUB HAPPENINGS

### Club Meeting

St. Peter's Episcopal Church,  
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue, West Allis  
June 9, 2015 **7:00pm**

#### Program

Field Day

presented by Chuck W9WLX

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 CT

### Nice Article on the West Allis Radio Club

<http://www.westallisnow.com/news/west-allis-radio-club-tunes-into-local-worldwide-chatter-b99507528z1-305072641.html>

### ARRL Field Day is June 27-28, 2015

Set up 8am operation starts  
at **1:00PM** on **Saturday** ends  
at **1:00pm** **Sunday**

#### WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm  
MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset  
127.3 Hz CTCSS

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



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 2015*

Congratulations to **John T. Peters, KC9HLM**, the 2015 recipient of our David Knaus Memorial Scholarship! We were notified of John's selection just a few days ago, so we have little information about him beyond the fact that he became a ham at age nine and will be studying engineering at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, IL this fall. Stay tuned for more information about John.

The month's meeting will focus on **Field Day**, coming up **June 27 and 28**. Chairman Chuck, W9WLX, will fill us in on this year's plans and we'll finalize the details at the upcoming meeting. In addition, we will review our FD setup process, then take a tour of WARAC Field Days past, going back to the 1960's and before.

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" begins at 1:00PM. It ends 24 hours later at 1:00PM Sunday and we are usually packed up and off the site by 3:00PM. Your participation will be appreciated anytime during the entire period, especially for setup, overnight operating and takedown. Field Day is your chance to get some contest-style operating experience, or you can just get on and make some contacts - whatever suits your fancy. Either way, please have fun!

Besides Field Day, we will have an update on Arduino projects at the upcoming meeting, coordinated by Howard. Various people will do mini-show-and-tell presentations of what they are doing. Please let Howard know if you have something you'd like to present.

Our July meeting program will be a presentation

on **Digital Modes** by Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT. His presentation begins with a basic description of digital communication and digital signal processing before going into the characteristics of the individual modes. Gary's programs are always well-prepared and very informative, so this should be a good one.

In **August**, we will talk about connecting radios and computers, commonly know as "**rig control**". This is an area a lot of us have either dived into or want to dive into. The plan is for members (or anyone) who wishes to relate their experience to tell about it. This should be a good follow-up to Gary's program in July. Please contact me if you want to tell your rig control story.

In September, a visit to the Milwaukee Astronomical Society observatory in New Berlin is planned.

As always, please bring your stories, on-air activities, travel experiences (Dayton?), etc. for the open discussion portion of our meeting.

And 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**

Field day month is always a fun month! We get to see how we can operate away from home and normal nice things to have like (electricity, housing, roomy operating space, and maybe high power). As always everyone who can make it is welcome so even if you don't have a lot of time stop by and say hi.

Other things: I got some time to work on my Arduino Project. For no particular reason I picked a morse code decoder that was in the "Arduino for Ham Radio" book. I decided to change it so I could enter code with a hand key. I got that to work but found that it would be very nice to have sidetone when I was sending with a key. It looks like that can be done. I just have to figure out the code from another sketch so I can borrow what I need to make it work.

**Editor pg9**

# **WARAC General Meeting Minutes**

## **May 12, 2015**

### **Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 27 with 5 visitors.

### **Program**

The evening's program topics included:

Pizza Night

WARAC Member Equipment Auction

### **Business**

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

June's Program will be on Field Day.

Wisconsin QSO Party, Chuck Dellis, W9WLX & Tom Macon, K9BTQ gave a brief update. 285 have been received. They expect to compile results in June.

Field Day: Chuck Dellis, W9WLX conducted the planning meeting on Tuesday, April 21st at St Mary's Parish. Similar set up as last year with the addition of a GOTA Station. Chuck reported that all is confirmed with the New Berlin site. Come on out and spend the weekend.

Reminder for the Wednesday evening 2 meter net. Everyone is welcome

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Johnson, WO9B

## **WARAC Board Meeting**

### **May 25, 2015**

Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Present: Tom Macon, K9BTQ, Steve Dryja, NO9B, Howard Smith, WA9AXQ, Erwin von der Ehe, WI9EV, Frank Humpal, KA9FZR and Mike Johnson, WO9B. Phil Gural, W9NAW was present as a guest.

### **Swapfest 2016**

Phil Gural, W9NAW presented the final 2014/2015 summary. For 2016, leave the pricing structure the same with a limit on complimentary tickets for table purchasing vendors.

### **Radio Merit Badge**

No update.

### **WI QSO Party**

Tom, K9BTQ updated on the WIQP: The analysis and scoring part has begun.

### **Programs**

June – Field Day, Chuck W9WLX, Arduino

July – Digital Modes – W9XT

Aug – Rig Control Presentation

Sept - Milwaukee Astronomical Society

Oct - Elections

### **Future Program Ideas**

Logbook of the World

Spotting – W9XT

FM38 Operations

DSP presentation

Yaesu Fusion System

Kreg Jig Fastener System

Club Operations Manual

No updates this month.

### **2012 , 2013 and 2014 Audit**

2012 & 2013 were packaged to Bill, N9KPH. MJ will deliver the packages. Tom will determine another volunteer.

### **Awards Dinner**

Erwin, Frank and Paul are the Dinner Committee members. October 28th will be the big day.

Venues are being reviewed.

### **Other Items**

2 meter net continues and needs some more check-ins.

Meeting was adjourned 9:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Johnson, WO9B

Secretary WARAC



**ARRL** The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO®

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

## 2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

# HAM RADIO

### Field Day History

Field Day is coming upon us June 28th and June 29th and I thought I would write a bit about how Field Day began.

In 1933, The June 1933 QST announced that the second Saturday in June, for a period of 27 hours, starting at 4 pm local time, that hams would go into the "field" and set up portable stations.

W1BDI F.E. Handy said:

"The real object of this contest is to test 'portables' wherever they may be available.... If successful, we want to make it an annual affair."

The scoring of that first contest was each QSO with fixed stations will count 1 point, contacts with other portables count 2 points, and DX contacts count 3 points. Multiply QSO points by the total number of ARRL sections, plus countries worked

September 1933 QST announced the winner of the 1st Annual Field Day was W4PAW. They made 62 QSOs and had 28 sections for a total of 1876 points.

1934 Field Day #2 is announced.



1936 Field Day was so popular that a second Field Day was held August 22nd-23rd of that year. The highest qso total for June was 143 and the highest QSO total for August was 136.

1937-Field Day #5 is announced for June 19th-20th. The FD message bonus was added. The winning score for this FD was 204 QSO's at a rate of 7.5 qsos/hr.

1938- Field Day period goes from 4 pm Saturday Local time to 6 pm Sunday Local time.

**Field Day PG8**





# Pictures from Dayton

Screen Grabs from the  
W5KUB Dayton  
Hamvention Internet  
Live Feed



May 30, 2015

John T. Peters  
1115 Willowbrook Dr.  
Springfield, IL 62711

The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship  
Howard Smith, WA9AXQ  
4760 South Woodlawn Place  
Greenfield, WI 53228

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am honored to have been chosen for The David Knaus Memorial Scholarship. I appreciate the generosity of the ARRL Foundation and its donors. This scholarship will allow me to focus on my studies, amateur radio and community service while I attend Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, IL.

I became a ham (KC9HLM) in 2005 when I was 9 years old. I enjoy volunteering to help with communications for community events using amateur radio. Some of the events I have supported include the Honor Flight, Tour de Cure bicycle ride, Boy Scouts Lincoln Pilgrimage, Springfield Marathon, Capital City Century bicycle ride and American Lung Association's Fight for Air Climb. I am currently newsletter editor for the Sangamon Valley Radio Club. I will be attending Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville this fall to pursue my goal of obtaining a degree in mechanical engineering. Thanks so much for your support.

Sincerely,



John T. Peters

Thank you Letter from **John T. Peters, KC9HLM**, the 2015 recipient of our David Knaus Memorial Scholarship.

We will be contacting John for more info on him and to invite him to our awards dinner

## Field Day

1939- the first rule to include all station apparatus must fall within a 100 ft radius excluding antennas.

1940-The 100' rule is changed to 500'. Home stations are allowed to work FD.

1941- The ARRL inadvertently forces a nationwide start time by notifying the FCC of the Field day period and the FCC communication 73-D references a single start time for all ham stations for Field Day from 4pm EST June 7th to 6pm EST June 8th.

1942-1945 All Ham activity ceases.

1946-Field day returns and adds a VHF only category

1948- 11 meters (now the CB band) is added for a Field Day Band. FD is shortened to 24 hrs. Battery and Emergency power categories are added.

1949- Mobile category added to FD.

1950- The modern day FD classes are established. The circle is increased to 1000'

1951- To encourage home emergency power, a home emergency power class is added Class D while home stations off power mains are class E.

1957- Simultaneous starts return, starts 4 pm EST and ends 4pm PST the next day. Anyone can operate 24 of the 27 operating period. 10,000th ham participates.

1963-ARRL rules that a FD site can only use one callsign.

1968- Setup within the 27 hr period is mandatory and the start time is moved to 1900z. All home stations are moved to Class D.

1969- The setup rule is hugely unpopular so ARRL changes the rule so that if you wait to set up you can operate the whole 27 hrs, otherwise you can only operate 24 hrs of the 27.

1970- A free Novice station is allowed. Starting time is moved to 1800z.

1972- Battery results are listed separately.

1973- Repeater rule is waived for satellite contacts and a 50 point sat bonus is included for the first time.

1974- A 100 point bonus is added for making contacts solely by natural power. 15 minutes rule for band changes is instituted.

1975- the Explosion of SSB leads the ARRL to institute a 2X multiplier for CW contacts.

1976- 10,000 qso mark is broken by W1VV/1

1977- The natural power bonus disappears and techs are now allowed to operate the Novice station. The 2X CW rule becomes permanent.

1980- RST is replaced with category and class for the exchange. Setup time is changed again, nothing can be set up before the 24 hr period. natural power comes back as a 100 point bonus. Sat and FD message bonuses increase to 100 points.

1981- Due to the popularity of packet radio, a 100 point bonus is instituted for one packet QSO and the repeater rules are waived for qso's through a digipeater. The Yankee Clipper Contest Club W2RQ turn in an impressive 11,201 qso total for Field Day.

1984- power multiplier is changed from 200 watts to anything less than 150 watts.

**field day pg9**



## Ham Radio on the Internet (click on red web address)

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

The Art and Skill of Radio Telegraphy pdf book  
[http://cw.hfradio.org/cw\\_resources/The\\_Art\\_and\\_Skill\\_of\\_Radio\\_Telegraphy-3rd-edition.pdf](http://cw.hfradio.org/cw_resources/The_Art_and_Skill_of_Radio_Telegraphy-3rd-edition.pdf)

Interesting App but might drive people close to  
you crazy if you leave the sidetone on does  
require a Jail Broken iPhone  
<http://iditdahatext.com/iDitDahText.html>

Interesting article on Electronic hobbyits  
[http://www.jameco.com/Jameco/workshop/rollcall/Who-Are-American-Electronics-Hobbyits.html?trk\\_msg=FGUPEJLAUE6KN06SMCKTC3MSR4&trk\\_contact=A784EOJRJJFL8VFGJJ3L7F2S74&utm\\_source=Listrak&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_term=Census&utm\\_campaign=June+Newsletter+2015](http://www.jameco.com/Jameco/workshop/rollcall/Who-Are-American-Electronics-Hobbyits.html?trk_msg=FGUPEJLAUE6KN06SMCKTC3MSR4&trk_contact=A784EOJRJJFL8VFGJJ3L7F2S74&utm_source=Listrak&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=Census&utm_campaign=June+Newsletter+2015)

### field day

1993- Due to the influx of Technicians, a 100  
point bonus is added for making 10 VHF/UHF  
contacts and a free VHF/UHF station is  
allowed class A and B.

1994- The modern FD record is set by K6CAB  
15A by getting 3450 QRP QSO's for a total  
score of 30,150

1998- Free packet station and bonus are  
eliminated, but RTTY/PSK31 are added as a  
3rd FD mode. The 100 point bonus for  
VHF/UHF stations is deleted.

So that is the history of Field Day. We've come  
a long way Baby!

Credit: December 1999 QST

<http://k4sac.blogspot.com/2008/06/field-day-history.html>

### Editor

The next part of the project will be to see if  
I can transmit the characters to my  
computer. Then I will have a larger buffer  
to see how many mistakes I make! I found  
one program that checked some addresses  
in the Arduino and transmitted them to the  
monitor screen of my Arduino program on  
my computer so I think it can be done.

So thats it for this month  
Frank KA9FZR

### Officers and Board

#### President

Tom Macon, K9BTQ

#### Vice President

Steve Dryja, NO9B

#### Secretary

Mike Johnson, WO9B

#### Treasurer

Howard Smith WA9AXO

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Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Erwin von der Ehe, WI9EV

Al Hovey, WA9BZW

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## WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

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W9FK  
<http://www.warac.org>

***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. Meet-  
ings 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.