



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 63, Issue 9 September, 2016

## SEPTEMBER CLUB HAPPENINGS



### NUT NET

3.985mhz

Monday-Saturday

8:15am CT

### Milwaukee-Florida Net

Every Day on 14.290 Mhz

7:00AM - 9:15AM ET

6:00AM - 8:15AM CT



### Club Meeting

St. Peter's Episcopal Church,  
7929 W. Lincoln Avenue, West Allis  
September 13, 2016 7:00 pm

### Program

Elmer night

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

## Awards dinner October 23, 2016

[see page 10 for details](#)

## New Repeater: N9BMH Repeater 146.625 (-)

**PL 127.3**

### WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm

MATC repeater 146.625 standard (-)offset  
127.3 Hz CTCSS

Club jackets and hats!

Go to club Web site and click on  
The GOLD MEDAL IDEAS block

[For more info or click here](#)

**Maker Faire  
September 24-25, 2016  
See page 7 for details**



# *The President's Shack September 2016*

It's September, and with Labor Day behind us, it will be winter before we know it. Time to get those final antenna projects done.

The program topic for the September meeting will be Elmer Night. Bring your questions and also your answers to other people's questions. Also, it would be a great time for show-and-tell mini-presentations. If you have something to present, and want to use the computer/projector, bring your stuff on a USB stick, most any format. Call me if you have questions.

At our October meeting, our guest will be Ray Grenier, K9KHW, and his focus will be on the history of Amateur Electronics, Inc. Ray would like a question-and-answer format for his presentation, so bring your questions. Meanwhile, check out the article by Ray in the West Mountain Radio Beacon newsletter, Spring 2014 issue, at [http://www.westmountainradio.com/pdf/Spring\\_2014\\_Newsletter.pdf](http://www.westmountainradio.com/pdf/Spring_2014_Newsletter.pdf). This article is about Ray's 60 year involvement with ham radio and his many years with AES

As you know, October is our annual election of officers. Although our current officers are all willing to run again, we need some competition. How about you?? In addition to the four primary offices, we will be electing two new Board members, one for a one-year term and one for a two-year term. Please volunteer!

Our Annual Dinner is coming up! Make sure you have Sunday, October 23 on your calendar and look for the sign-up sheet elsewhere in this issue of Hamtrix. And the upcoming meeting is a great opportunity to submit the sign-up sheet.

Our weekly 2-meter net coordinator, Mike WO9B,

has come up with a new repeater for us to use. It's N9BMH/R on 146.625, standard offset and tone (minus, tone: 127.3). It is ideally located in the Hales Corners area so should work really well for our group. And thanks to Marty, N9BMH, for letting us use it!

And, as always, don't forget our 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.**

Another month is gone and we are heading for fall! Summer seemed to have been very short this year. It might have been the over abundance of hot days or just being busy.

A special thanks to Tom K9SKU who put Mike WO9B onto the new repeater we are using on the Wednesday 2meter net.

With NPOTA I have done lots of operating in the outdoors. There is an article on page 5 about our latest activation. What's amazing when I think about it, is you can pack a whole radio station with an amplifier on a couple of light weight motorcycles (including chairs and a table which we didn't have to use but had along just in case).

Also a short article on the up coming MAKER FAIRE coming up at the end of the month. My only exposure to them was a tour of a make building, in Bay View during the Open Door weekend. Seemed interesting but not sure I have the time to put into it. Sure would be a great way to learn all sorts of useful skills.

Other things of interest. My dog who is a new tripod (lost a leg to cancer) is amazing to watch learn the new skills needed to work with her new world.

I haven't been to the new Milwaukee Ham Radio outlet but I plan to go one of these days just to see what they have. That could be dangerous since there might be stuff there that I don't know I need until I see it HI HI.

Have a great September.

# **WARAC General Meeting Minutes**

August 09, 2016

## **Introduction**

The meeting was called to order at 19:02 by President, Tom Macon (K9BTQ). Overall meeting attendance was 19 members, plus 2 visitors.

## **Future Programs:**

- FM-38 Repeater System?
- History of Amateur Electronic Supply?

## **Tonight's Program:**

- Flex 6500 Radio demo by: Chuck Dellis (W9WLX)

## **Business**

- Motion was made and accepted to approve the July general meeting minutes as published in Hamtrix.
- Dues increase is tabled.
- Mike Johnson (WO9B) gave status of the Wednesday evening net repeater status. This week on simplex 146.55MHz.
- Club website – please note any issues to Tom Macon (K9BTQ).

## **Announcements**

- 2016 Knaus Scholarship winner is Vincent Bensch (KC9JVN) of Madison, WI.
- New Central Division personnel were announced.
- Mike Johnson (WO9B) gave National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) club activity update.
- Dave Garnier (WB9OWN) mentioned his contacts with NPOTA hams on his vacation trip.
- Dayton Hamfest will move to a new venue in Green County Fairgrounds in Zenia, OH.
- Maker Faire is September 24 & 25 at State Fair Park

## **Group Discussion**

- Howard Smith (WA9AXQ) has no change in status for Ten-Tec.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:46.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erwin von der Ehe (WI9EV)  
Secretary, W.A.R.A.C.  
2016-08-09

# **W.A.R.A.C. Board Meeting**

## **August 23, 2016**

Howard Smith (WA9AXQ) was absent, so Tom Macon (K9BTQ) called the meeting to order at 19:10.

Present: Tom Macon (K9BTQ), Al Hovey (WA9BZW), Erwin von der Ehe (WI9EV), Frank Humpal (KA9FZR), Dave Garnier (WB9OWN).

The monthly Treasurer's report was not presented due to Howard's absence.

Tom Macon (K9BTQ) gave a review of the club manuals. Still need to review latest versions.

Discussion regarding transferring Club files from ftp to DropBox was discussed.

Next Club officers election was discussed.

Tom (K9BTQ) is working on wrapping up the Wisconsin QSO Party.

Swapfest 2017: Committee is progressing on plans.

Awards Dinner: Date is Sunday, October 23rd. Plaque designs were discussed.

### **Programs**

September, 2016: FM38 Repeater System?

October, 2016: Elections + AES?

### **Future Program Ideas**

Kermit, ARRL

Logger 32 logging software

SO2R Contest operating

WE Energies or Time-Warner Cable noise tracking

**Constitution & Bylaws update is postponed.**

### **Other Items**

Maker Faire – tour or visit Club

2-meter net continues either on the repeater or simplex. This week it will meet at Whitnall Park.

Replacement of the club video projector was discussed. WiFi connectivity is desirable

Meeting was adjourned at 22:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Erwin von der Ehe (WI9EV)

Secretary, W.A.R.A.C.

2016-08-23

## **NPOTA: Mid August Edition**

### **Mike Johnson, WO9B**



Thursday, August 18th turned out to be a pretty good day. Warm, sunny, slightly humid and well, the bands could have been better. Frank, KA9FZR, and I did a little middle of the week trek out to Lapham Peak to see if we could stir up a little Ice Age Trail NPOTA fun with the caveat being to do the trip on our motorcycles. And it turned out to be a great idea.

We headed out about 10:00 AM. I was a bit late, as I needed to figure out a power cord for md Dentron tuner.

At the park, the plan was to operate from the Lapham Peak Tower area. What a difference mid-week makes. Very little activity from hikers and picnic'rs. We commandeered a couple of picnic tables and were off and running.

We ended up with 14 QSO's in about an hour's worth of operating. The bands could have been better, but we made contacts from New Jersey to California and had a great time doing it. Even managed a couple of CW Q's. We had to scrape pretty hard for those, however. Most of the Q's





were on 20 Phone, with 40 Phone and 30 CW filling in the rest.

Keeping with the NPOTA phenomenon on LOTW, all but 3 of the Q's have been confirmed already. That is so cool.

Still have some warm weather left. I'm sure another activation will in the works shortly. The challenge we had was to keep the ham gear to a minimum so that it would fit on our motorcycles. Naturally power was the concern as we did not want to do a QRP phone operation. Frank brought his 817 to the show and I brought my new Hardrock 50 amp. We ended up driving the amp with 1 or 2 watts from the 817, which produced 25 to 30 watts thru the amp. Both were very battery friendly. The rest of the equipment was standard fair: Half-Wave End Fed (tuned up great), SWR meter and Dentron tuner.

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Still have some warm weather left. I'm sure another activation will in the works shortly.

	Call sign	Worked	Date/Time	Band	Mode	Freq	QSL
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KB8GAE	2016-08-18 17:07:00	30M	CW	10.12000	<a href="#">UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</a>
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KR0P	2016-08-18 17:05:00	30M	CW	10.12000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KC0UHP	2016-08-18 16:48:00	40M	SSB	7.27000	<a href="#">UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</a>
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	VA3LBR	2016-08-18 16:44:00	40M	SSB	7.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	W3YNX	2016-08-18 16:40:00	40M	SSB	7.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	K2DSW	2016-08-18 16:37:00	40M	SSB	7.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KD0WVD	2016-08-18 16:36:00	40M	SSB	7.27000	<a href="#">UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</a>
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KD4TTP	2016-08-18 16:28:00	20M	SSB	14.27000	<a href="#">UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</a>
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	WU9B	2016-08-18 16:24:30	20M	SSB	14.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	KB3TEL	2016-08-18 16:24:00	20M	SSB	14.27000	<a href="#">UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</a>
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	N8OQ	2016-08-18 16:23:00	20M	SSB	14.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	WA2HMM	2016-08-18 16:22:00	20M	SSB	14.27000	
<a href="#">Details</a>	WO9B	N4HVB	2016-08-18 16:20:30	20M	SSB	14.27000	



## What You Need to Know!

Maker Faire Milwaukee will take place from 9am to 6pm on Saturday, September 24th, and 10am to 5pm on Sunday, September 25th.

Maker Faire Milwaukee is happening at Wisconsin State Fair Park, at the Wisconsin Expo Center Hall A and Hall B as well as various outdoor locations on the fairgrounds. (The best address for your GPS is: 8200 W Greenfield, West Allis, WI 53214.)

Maker Faire Milwaukee is a FREE event! (There will be some activities that have costs associated with them, but entrance is free. You can also choose to purchase a supporting ticket.)

The Call for Makers is now closed. (If you have questions, please contact [makers@makerfairemilwaukee.com](mailto:makers@makerfairemilwaukee.com))

If you are definitely coming you should pre-register! This will save you time, and instead of waiting in line you can enjoy Maker Faire right away.

We've got a lot of Makers, so make a list of your favorites! You can also find out more about some of our Makers through the Meet the Makers blog posts.

Editors note. For more info on Makers see <https://makerfairemilwaukee.com/>

## Estate Sale

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club has recently received equipment from two estates in the local area. We greatly appreciate that the families of Ambrose, K9UJU, and Gene, K9WFE, decided to give the equipment to WARAC. As usual, all monies received will go to support the scholarship fund.

Steve, NO9B and Phil, W9NAW, have taken on the task of reviewing all of the donations and they are in the process of making sure that all equipment is in good to excellent condition. We have received three transceivers (more about these radios below), a 2 KW linear amplifier, tower, tri-band beam, power supplies, other antennas, coax/rotator cable, tuners/output meter and ARRL publications.

Due to limited time and storage space, we will first make this equipment available to WARAC members and then do a double selling campaign thru QRZ.com and the upcoming CFMC Belvidere, IL. swapfest. Selling prices to members will be less than what would be the average over the internet. So if any of the above items are on your wish list, give Phil a call (if no answer-leave a name and phone number, please).

Now about the transceivers. We have the following: Kenwood TS-940S with speaker and desk mike, Yaesu FT-920 with power cable (no mike) and, finally, Yaesu FT-890 (no mike). Unfortunately, none of the radios were received with an instruction manual. All of them are in good to excellent condition. At this time, they are all undergoing operational evaluation.

Remember at the May auction meeting there was a box of electronics items that were selling for 50 cents each? Well, it is here again at the September General Meeting. A lot of the items are definitely worth more the 50 cents. Please help yourself and pay the club treasurer (honor system applies).

Phil, W9NAW



**KENWOOD  
TS-940S**





**YAESU  
FT-920**

**Yaesu  
FT-890**



# WARAC Annual Awards Dinner

Sunday, October 23, 2016  
5:00 PM QSO Time – 6:00 PM Dinner

Carl's Catering and Banquet  
5110 Loomis Road  
Greendale, WI

## WARAC Activities

the year in review

Swapfest                      WIQP  
Field Day                      *more*

## Presentation of:

2016 Scholarship  
Years of Membership Awards  
Contest Awards  
2016 Member of the Year

## Dinner Menu

*Sliced Roast Beef in au jus and Boneless chicken breast with Honey Dijon glaze*  
Served buffet style with potato, vegetable, assortment of salads, bread, beverage,  
and dessert. Tax and gratuity included. Cash bar.

## Program

Wisconsin Interstate Network by Len Kreyer (N9QIP)

### Awards Dinner Reservation Form

Sunday, October 23, 2016  
5:00 PM QSO Time – 6:00 PM Dinner

Name _____	Call _____
Number attending _____	Amount (\$18 Each) _____

Sign up Deadline: October 18

Make checks payable to:  
W.A.R.A.C, Inc.

Bring form and money to club  
meeting or mail to:

Howard Smith  
4760 S Woodlawn Pl  
Greenfield, WI 53228

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

Interesting site on thoughts about the lack of sunspots and where the sun is in its life

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/brucedorminey/2016/06/27/sun-has-likely-entered-new-evolutionary-phase-say-astronomers/#7bcc2945278e>

Another propagation site. Sort of fun to watch and to see how it matches to what you hear on the radio.

<http://www.bandconditions.com/>

#### Officers and Board

##### President

Tom Macon, K9BTQ

##### Vice President

Steve Dryja, NO9B

##### Secretary

Erwin von der Ehe, WI9EV

##### Treasurer

Howard Smith WA9AXO

##### Directors

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Dave Garnier WB9OWN

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. 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.