



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

[click here to go to web site](#)

Volume 70, Issue 10 October, 2021

OCTOBER CLUB HAPPENINGS

October 12, 2021 7pm

New Berlin Community Center

14750 W. Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

Between Mooreland and Sunny Slope
presentation

September ARRL 10 GHz Contest

presenter David Garnier WB9OWN

Premeeting dinner

New Berlin Ale House 5:15pm

16000 W. Cleveland Ave

West of Mooreland Rd.



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.

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

**Volunteer for any position. We have no
candidates for President and Vice-president**

The Club needs YOU

Index

President's shack2

Meeting Minutes3

DX/contest update.....5

Digital Digest.....6

Park Ops.....7

Small amp.....8

Hamfests.....9

Net Breakfast.....9

Slow Speed CW net....13

The President's Shack

Well this is my last President's Shack! I will go back to writing the Editor's Column as I plan to continue putting together Hamtrix.

I want to thank all the club members who made my being president an easy job. There was help in many ways from the members. Just going through the Covid Pandemic has made the last two years very interesting to say the least.

We did see some changes in the club. Swapfest was closed down. A couple Field Days were missed. (We now have a new chairman so field day, in some form may well be back next year.)

We are giving a hard look at setting up a remote station for use by club members who don't have their own shack to operate from.

We are now running a CW practice net and going to parks around the area to have a weekly park activation.

We are still looking for ways to attract new members. That is one thing we haven't found the answer for yet.

For those thinking about volunteering for president or vice-president (both needed) remember you will have a great board to help you run the club. It isn't like you are in it alone.

Thanks again

Frank Humpal KA9FZR



WARAC Club Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2021

Club meeting was held at New Berlin Community Center, Cleveland Room, 14750 W Cleveland Ave, New Berlin, WI. 53151

The club meeting was called to order 7:10 pm by Frank KA9FZR

There were 17 club members and no visitors per secretary Dave WB9OWN.

Oshkosh EAA Fly-In Talk by Paul Sperbeck W9PCS, personal experiences of EAA.

Accompanied West Mount Radio (WMR) as representative for WMR's first EAA visit. 'More lithium batteries are being installed in aircraft, cannot charge lithium's below 32 degrees, but draw some current out of "starter batteries", "then they warm enough for charging." WMR product isn't compatible with aircraft wiring. Aircraft electrical systems are single point ground configuration. Discovered many pilots are also Amateur Radio operators. General audience discussion ensued from other EAA experiences.

September's Minutes were approved with the note that Howard Smith WA9AXQ was misidentified as a board member, (Howard is the chairman of the Scholarship Fund that reports to the board annually or when needed.)

Sendik's Brat & Burger fundraiser event yielded \$242.

WARAC ARRL Scholarship contribution discussion by Howard Smith WA9AXQ.

- Terms of Reference (TOR) is a WARAC document that instructs the ARRL how to handle our scholarship. The TOR was changed to state "Scholarship recipient must be a resident of the state of Wisconsin."
- Motion was made to raise the scholarship award amount 2K to 3K with no immediate cash contribution from the club.
- The Motion was passed by 100% show of hands.

Swap Activities by Steve NO9B.

- "Steve is so good at flea market sales Mike Johnson quipped that Steve monetized trash" everyone laughed (Bravo Steve). This is how a recent "Steve Sale" went. "Hey we are having a box sale, buy a box for \$5 dollars and anything you put in that box is FREE!!! This was wildly successful, "We got rid of a lot of junk."
- Trailer sale. Steve received a cold call offer for the trailer, "I'll give you 3 grand for the trailer, Really? Hey, that's about what we paid for it." The dimensions of the trailer are 12L x 7W x 6T and gross vehicle weight 3000 Lbs.
- Disposition of Trailer materials were discussed. The implication going forward was this sale would greatly impact club activities and everyone understood especially Field Day (FD). Keeping the FD materials were discussed.
- Frank asked "Who is in favor for selling the trailer? No objections were heard so Steve was giving the authority to sell the trailer and club members will be given first dibs to the material including the FD chairman. All monies go to the general fund... Call Steve for access to trailer and this was agreeable by all. Nicely job Steve on taking the leadership role!

Remote HF Station Proposal by Steve NO9B

- Buy a Flex radio, Start out in phases, put up vertical or loop antenna, get the kinks worked out... Conversation with Flex went something like this. Under no circumstances connect the Flex directly to your

home intranet and run it, no way to control it and to shut it down. Need PC as firewall and user account filter, digital mode S/W gets installed here. Yes you can do CW but, to cut down the latency you need separate internet/web box such as Arduino device as a keyer interface for the Flex.

<https://iw7dmh.jimdofree.com/other-projects/remote-morse-key/>

From the CW user end you would need another Arduino device with Morse code key on the your end... The plan is to host the remote on Joe Seifert N9JOS property, Joe has been generous to offer a spot on his property (Thank you Joe!) WARAC would put up 2 towers which Steve is donating. Multi-band vertical on 1 tower, John Zach's tribander beam on another tower and installing a 6 meter beam on third tower. Thank you Phil W9NAW for your donation. ;)

- Question was then posed to the membership, "Would you use a remote HF station?" Almost all of the membership were in favor tho Mike Johnson is our CW guru a "maybe holdout" to this proposal. ;-)

Joe Seifert N9JOS reiterated a conversation with Alberta Canada operator about their ham radio club... "We have over 800 paid members, (Alberta is about the size of Milwaukee,) they have 220 active members, their remote stations are used about 24 hours a day, they have 10 antennas and club members reserve them in 1 hour blocks. Joe asks "Why do they have such a large membership and why do they keep getting new members?" "Joe, we provide for our members what nobody else does," therefor we have active membership and we keep getting new members all the time

Joe speaking, "I was convinced after talking with him that this really is an ideal enticement for younger members to be able to do something that they couldn't afford to do." "I'm older and I can afford a nice radio and antennas but not a lot of younger people can't." "If we want to keep our club from getting older and dying I thought this conversation is a good place to start." "That's why I brought this to Steve NO9B to talk about.

General discussion ensued as to the nuts and bolt of the Flex, how remotes would work, one or two instances of operation, Is 2 instances of full duplex even possible (Thank you Harold WA9AXQ), operational costs, time frame to begin breaking ground, operational costs, specifics to these will be figured out as we go along and every question will be answered.

Secretary Comments. Concerning the transmitting capability of the Flex, All Flex Radios have a single HF transmitter. The Flex 6600 has second ADC which in sense can operate as a truly 2nd independent receiver but remember whomever transmits first has the transmitter. When doing this analysis be-careful of what Flex means by SO2V (Single Operator 2 VFO's) or SO2R (Single Operator 2 Radios.) It is unclear whether the Flex can operate as "arbitrary waveform generator" and generate two simultaneous 20 meter SSB signals, I believe they cannot. The point is the Flex isn't two HF transceivers in one box.

Steve is going to submit an itemized bid for what this is going to cost.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Coffee, donuts, and eyeball QSOs followed the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Garnier WB9OWN
Secretary WARAC, October 3, 2021

Go to page 8 for attendance

DXing and Contesting - Oct 2021

DX UPDATE:

DX Operations: 10-15-17 Meters are very active. With increased solar activity daytime openings are becoming regular. Quite a change. Evening activity on 40-80-160 is at the beginning of the quiet season. FT8 remains a go-to mode with frequent openings to EU and VK even in the mid-evening hours.

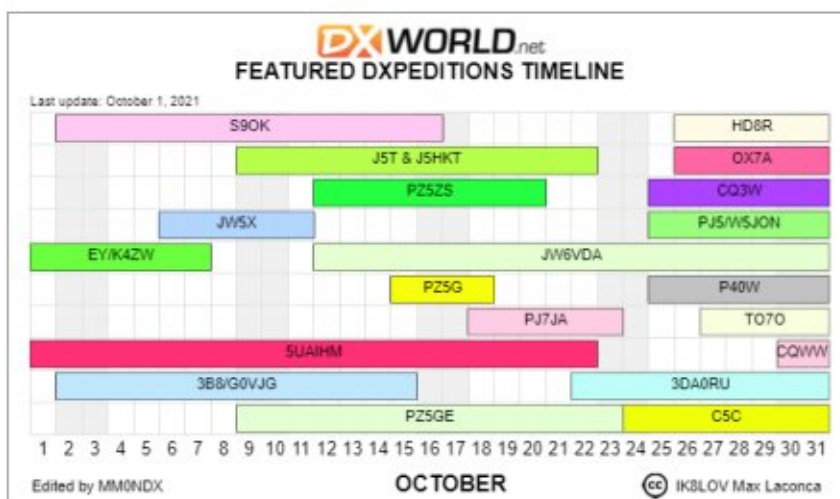
Antarctica Special Event: From Oct to Dec is a Russian lead Antarctica Special Event. Details are [HERE](#). Looks like this could be a lot of fun.

Solar: Check out the Sunspot chart to the right. That is precisely what is heading our way for October. As Cycle 25 continues, we should see consistent propagation on our upper HF bands. This bodes very well for the coming Fall contest season. If you are a QSO Party follower, 40 and 80 will be returning to their normal propagation patterns with 40 daytime being much shorter and 80 daytime being much weaker.

CONTEST UPDATE:

The gates are open for the Fall Contest Season. October is filled with the end of season QSO Party events nearly every weekend. These are smallish affairs easily entered and a good opportunity for some fun. The end of the month kicks off with the first seasonal biggie: CQ WW SSB followed the next weekend with the CW version of ARRL's Sweepstakes. It doesn't get much bigger than that. Can you say CLEAN SWEEP???? Don't forget, KH6's hang out on 40 meters Sunday mornings from 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM (think greyline).

- Nevada QSO Party: Oct 9-10
- Arizona QSO Party: Oct 9-10
- South Dakota QSO Party: Oct 10
- NY QSO Party: Oct 16-17
- Illinois QSO Party: Oct 17
- Zombie Shuffle QRP: Oct 29
- CQ WW SSB: Oct 30-Oct 31
- ARRL SS CW: Nov 6 - 8





Oct 2021

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Hamtrix

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By Michael Johnson, WO9B

Extended ID

Just last week I found myself prepping for a road trip and wanting to incorporate DMR capability. I do not have a cellular hotspot so bringing along my Jumbo Spot and Anytone HT was not an option. I just don't like using repeaters in other states simply because the typical BrandMeister DMR repeater most likely won't have TG 3155 Wisc State as an available talk group. For certain, TG 98003 Reddit will not be listed. I decided to use DroidStar on my cell phone which solves both the lack of Jumbo Spot and the Talk Group availability problem.

DroidStar will be next month's topic, but it is enough to know that it is an app for your cell phone that allows you to use just the cell phone to access a number of Digital Voice modes. DMR and the BrandMeister Network is just one implementation within its wheelhouse. But this being DMR, there is one small problem to deal with which goes back to how DMR tracks and routes the information on it's network. The basic routing function is based on your DMR ID. In the BrandMeister Network, that ID can be tied to more than one Talk Group at a time. If you've been following this series of articles, you know that I follow a number of BM Talk Groups all at the same time. Here is what that implementation looks like:

Active BrandMeister Connections

BrandMeister Master	Repeater ID	Static TGs	Dynamic TGs
BM 3102 United States	3155449	TG3155 TG31268 TG31550 TG31551 TG31555 TG31556	None

So the problem is, to use DroidStar, I need to enter my DMR ID into the credentials. DroidStar is limited in that it can only handle one Talk Group at a time. So, if I enter my standard DMR ID, BrandMeister will have issues since it ties my ID to six TGs, my Jumbo Spot will have issues and well things unravel quickly.

Fortunately the forward thinking network guru's who have set up DMR have anticipated this problem and have incorporated Extended ID's (EESID). The EESID feature allows you to create an additional 99 implementations of your DMR ID by simply adding two digits to the end of your ID. Since my use of the EESID was recent, the BrandMeister SelfCare page is still tracking my "01" extended ID:



In the case of my weekend trip, I entered my DMR ID as 315544901 in the DroidStar application. That allowed me to enter whatever BM Talk Group I wanted (usually 3155 Wis State) into the app. My Jumbo Spot, which was still running back at home, was totally unaffected. No unraveling or network routing confusion.

There are other reasons to use alternate ID's too. Perhaps you are engaged in a net and do not want to be disturbed by other TG chatter. Using an extended ID can solve that problem nicely.

Next Month: DroidStar



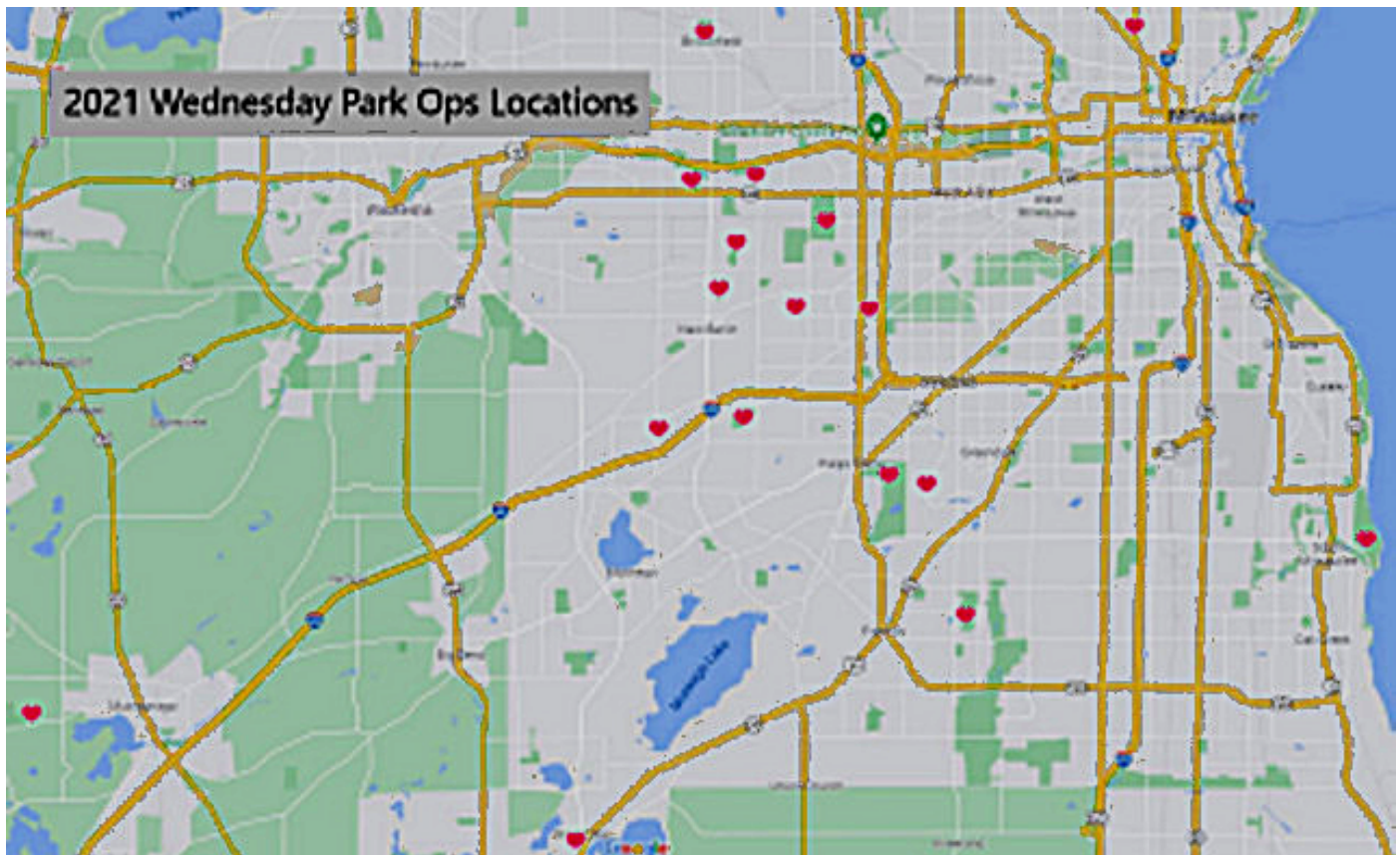
2021 Wednesday Park Ops....What a Year!!

What a year it has been. Frank, KA9FZR, a fixture at the weekly event, remarked at how good the weather has been all season long. And he is absolutely right. For all that has happened in 2021, the string of nice weather Wednesdays has been something you could take to the bank.

First and foremost, Thank You to all those that showed up this year. What started a couple years ago as an occasional outing has morphed into a weekly event that is attended by hams from multiple clubs with varied interests. Some come to talk, others to test antennas and others to operate. Everyone is welcome and it is great to have folks show up.

I did a quick recon through Facebook to see just exactly what we did and where we went. The Pre-Season started March 3rd at Valley View Park. It was quite chilly and snow was still on the ground. Still, five outings were completed before the season kicked off on May 5th. From there we had weekly gatherings right up though the end of September. Well, OK, two weeks were taken off for Field Day, but geez every Wednesday we got together. In total, 25 Wednesday Park Ops were had this year spread out to 19 parks. The parks visited went from Grant Park on Lake Michigan to Minor Park in Mukwonago.

It has been a great year and they will continue in the fall as long as the weather holds. So if you have not made a park as of yet...you still have time. The parks are publized on Facebook, so you do need to check that out.



West Allis Radio Amateur Club – Sign In Sheet

General Meeting Attendance Listing

09/14/21

Name	Call	Member			
Frank Humpal	KA9FZR	Yes	Mike Johnson	WO9B	Yes
Bill Reed	N9KPH	Yes	Tom Macon	K9BTQ	Yes
Steve Dryja	NO9B	Yes	Tom Nickle	KF9F	Yes
David Garnier	WB9OWN	Yes	Jeff Pahl	W9JSP	Yes
Bill Dargis	KD9BJZ	Yes	Joe Seifert	N9JOS	Yes
Feroz Ghouse	WU9N	Yes	Howard Smith	WA9AXQ	Yes
Phil Gural	W9NAW	Yes	Paul Sperbeck	W9PCS	Yes
Chuck Craven	WB9PUB	Yes	Rich Radmer	KC9PEL	
			Ewin Von de Ehe	WI9EV	Yes

Looking for a Small Signal 20 dB RF Amplifier?

A couple China eBay sites are selling an amplifier based upon Qorvo SBB5089 IC.

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/165039463920>

These cute boards measure 1.1" long by 1" wide and runs off 5 Vdc,

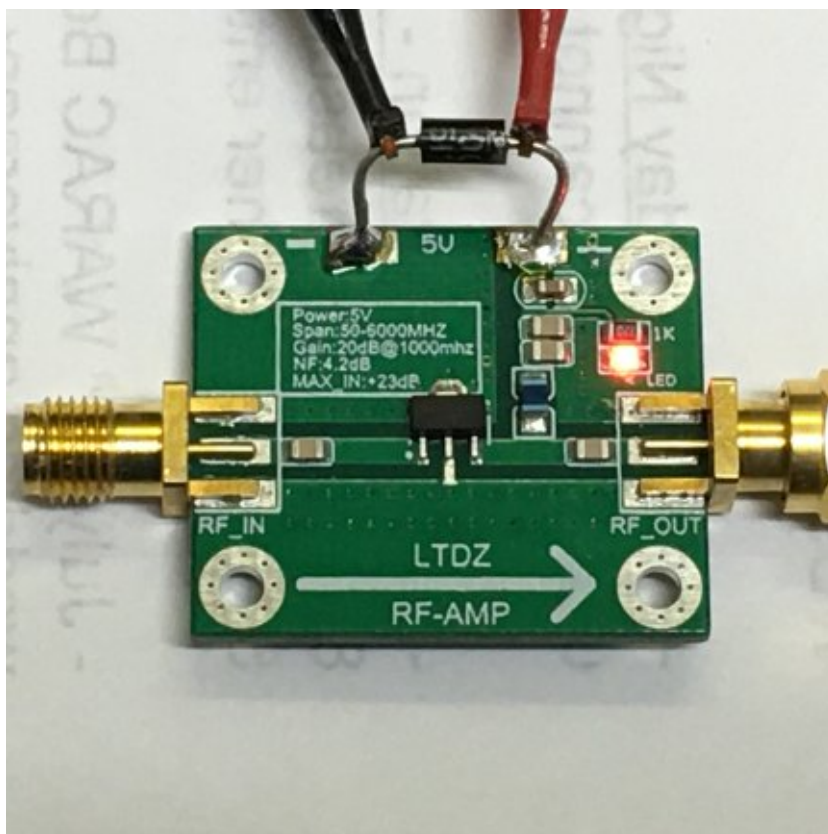
This is an Engineering Evaluation Board design found on page 3 of the SBB5089 Data Sheet.

The amplifier was measured having 15 dB gain at 4.5 GHz, but unfortunately the low end falls off below 2 meters, I don't recommend this for HF, it's deaf, sorry.

Give me more time and I can more accurately measure the bottom end of this amp.

<https://www.qorvo.com/products/d/da001306>

73's de Dave - wb9own . _ . _ .



HAMFESTS

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

10/16/2021 - Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference, ARRL Wisconsin State Convention

Location: Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: WeComm Ltd

Website: <http://www.wi-aresraces.org>



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.

Then COVID-19 showed up on the scene and the breakfast meeting was put on hold.

That was about March 2019 when we stopped this enjoyable gathering. We are now ready to start it AGAIN.

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 . _ . _ .



HAMBOREE 2021



WHEN: Saturday, October 30, 2021

TIME: 8 AM to 1 PM

SETUP: Friday 3 PM to 9 PM
Saturday 6 AM

WHERE: Boone County Fair Grounds
Community Building
1601 Industrial Park Road
Boone, Iowa

Admittance \$7 and includes 1 raffle ticket. No charge for those 14 and younger.

ARRL Sponsored VE Exams and DXCC Card Field Checking

FOOD AND COFFEE WILL BE AVAILABLE

For more information contact:
Clay Conard WØFS
EMAIL: hamboree@3900club.com
PHONE: 515-838-2285
Also check our club website at
www.3900club.com

**Door prizes – Fellowship
Come One Come All!
FOR CURRENT INFO
Check our Website**

Talk in on 146.85 repeater
Minus offset, no tone

Plenty of parking and
handicap access

ADVANCE TABLE REGISTRATION FORM

Table Cost: Advance registration \$10 per table, \$15 at door. Tailgate space is \$5 (limited).

Name: _____ Amateur Call: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Tables: _____ Total Due: _____

Is power required? Y___/N___ (if not marked 'N' will be assumed & commercial vendors will be 'Y')

Advance Reservations must be received no later than October 20th

Make checks payable to 3900 Club Hamboree 2021

And Mail to:

3900 Club Hamboree 2021
C/O Tom Huber WDØBFO
7518 Chandler Hills Dr
Bellevue, NE 68147

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club (W9ZL)
An ARRL Special Service Club

2021 SWAPFEST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 2021



Starlite Club

W2091 County Rd JJ
Kaukauna, WI



The FCARC Swapfest is an inclusive event for enthusiasts of amateur radio, computers, electronics, and other related curiosities and miscellanea. Everyone is welcome to attend!

- **Buy, sell, and trade** electronics, computers, computer games, test & scientific equipment
- **On site VE testing – Walk-ins for testing are welcome from 9:00AM until 9:30AM:** Bring your current license and CSEs (if applicable) and two forms of ID (one must be a picture ID) – cost is \$15 for the testing
- **Enter the raffle for great prizes.** Additional raffle tickets are only \$2 each or 3 for \$5. You need not be present to win the top prizes. One raffle ticket is included with each admission!
- **Great food and refreshments available all day!**
- **Talk-in on the wide area 146.76 pl 100 repeater –** Need directions or just want to say “HI”?
- Admission is **\$5 in advance or \$6 at the door.** Children 12 and under are **FREE!**

Each admission includes one **FREE** raffle ticket! Advance purchase **8-foot** swap tables are **\$10 in advance or \$15 at the door (if available).** Setup starts at 6 AM and general admission starts at 8 AM. Tables and admission tickets can be ordered by mail:

FCARC Swapfest
Anthony L. Mach, AB9IO
773 Yorkshire Rd.
Neenah, WI 54956

DON'T FORGET! PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AND PAY WITH PAYPAL!
VISIT <http://www.fcarc.club/hamfest.php> AND ORDER ONLINE!

GPS Coordinates: N 44.315178 °, W 88.292282°

**Directions: US Hwy 41 Toward Little Chute, WI
Take Exit 146 Toward Hwy N / Freedom Rd.
Drive North on Hwy N / Freedom Rd. for approx. 1.3 miles.
Take a Right onto Hwy JJ / Edgewood Dr.
Drive East on Hwy JJ / Edgewood Dr. for approx. 1.0 mile.
The Starlite Club is on the Righthand Side of the street.**



©2021 Map Data Courtesy of Google

<http://www.fcarc.club/hamfest.php>
<http://www.starliteclub.com>

**FCARC Swapfest Website
The Starlite Club**

Come spend some time with us!
For more information, contact Anthony Mach, AB9IO at: 920.858.6300
or e-mail: hamfest@fcarc.club

Amateur Radio Station
W7FSH
 Phone West 5251 4445 51st Ave. South West
Seattle, Wash., U.S.A.
 7th July 1937.

"TAYLOR TUBES ARE TOPS"
 "Filtering by Sprague Condensers"

To:- W7FFH;
 Tnx for QSO on 40 mtrs today at 4:47 P.M. Ur sigs RST 349 es vy poor keying. U key like a phone man. Rig hr 47X osc 801 final 80 watts input. Revr E.O.S tube as per Rge 2SL.73. Map coming in

SLOW SPEED CW QSO NET
 Monday's - 8:00 PM - N9FSE 147.135 Repeater
Don't Key like a Phone Man!!

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
 Frank Humpal KA9FZR

Vice President
 Steve Dryja, NO9B

Secretary
 Dave Garnier WB9OWN

Treasurer
 Bill Reed N9KPH

Directors
 Tom Macon K9BTQ

Phil Tollefson, WA9AQL

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Webmaster past president
 Mike Johnson WO9B

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