



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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Volume 67, Issue 12 December, 2019

DECEMBER CLUB HAPPENINGS



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.

New Location for Club Meeting

December 10, 2019

New Berlin Community Center 7:00pm

14750 W. Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

Between Mooreland and Sunny Slope

Swapfest info Erwin von der Ehe WI9EV

"SDR in the Ham Shack" Mike WO9B

Membership renewal See page 6

Premeeting dinner

New Berlin Ale House 5:15pm

16000 WCleveland Ave

West of Mooreland Rd.

48th Annual Midwestern

SwapFest

Saturday January 4, 2020

8:00am - 1:00pm

Waukesha County Expo Center Arena

WARAC 2-meter net

Every Wednesday at 8pm

SEWFARS W9TJK Repeater 146.820 standard (-)
offset

127.3 Hz CTCSS

if repeater down try 146.55 simplex

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From the Presidents Shack

By now everyone has heard the Swapfest is less than month away January 4, 2020. Hopefully we have many members helping with it. There are lots of jobs, including some just sitting and watching a door or selling tickets.

We will be looking to see if the Swapfest will continue. Erwin the Swapfest chairman will be leaving that position. So number one without a chairperson we can't run it. Second can we keep getting the number of workers that are needed to run a smooth operation. With increasing rentals prices and other cost against attendance are we getting a good bang for our time? Think about it.

Having heard no alternates to the New Berlin Ale house we will hold our post Swapfest gathering/January meeting there. If you have an alternate to consider let me know.

Erwin WI9EV will be talking about the Swapfest at the December meeting. Mike WO9B will be giving us a presentation on "SDR in the Ham Shack" It will be an interesting evening.

What else? There is interest in the winter field day park activation. We are seeing what is available and possible. Stay tuned. More to come.

For now

73

Frank KA9FZR



**W5UDX Hi-Fi
ESSB Voodoo
Audio Amateur
Radio Station**

From the Editor

No editorial do to being occupied by the President's Shack

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WARAC Club Meeting Minutes

Novemeber 12, 2019

Meeting called to order 7:04 pm

Members: 20

Club meeting held at the new location, New Berlin Community Center.

Get acquainted: Introduction of members to the members present. No visitors.

Members present was 20.

Announcements:

-Erwin WI9EV, Swapfest 2020 update, running smothly so far but, Erwin is resigning from swapfest chairmanship in 2020 due to personal issues. The club will be looking for new swapfest head(s) in 2021. The WARARC club swapfest may come to an end if people don't step forward!

-Don K9AQ announced he is resigning his WARAC membership. Don & family are moving up north effectively Dec 2nd. We are welcomed to visit/camp but call first. Don will be missed.

-Renewal of 2020 WARAC memberships was being accepted by Bill Reed, N9KPH.

Presentation, Tower Safety by Mike WO9B. This presentation was in MOV format, the author granted rights for private presentation. <https://blog.thedrivenelement.com/2019/11/amateur-radio-tower-safety-presentation-for-the-billerica-ars/> This was an excellent presentation! Personal stories of close calls were talked about.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.

Coffee, donuts and conversation followed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Garnier

WB9OWN • — • —••

Hamtrix Sale Corner

This month we have a list of “stuff” that several people are trying to sell before the 2020 WARAC Swapfest. Prices are reduced, not as much as you would find at a Black Friday sale, but we don’t want to have to transport these items to the swapfest.

Yaesu FT-920 HF transceiver in very good condition. Full operation on all bands, however it will not transmit on AM—processor chip is not longer available. New hand microphone and power cable included. Instruction manual is available online. Asking price is \$450.

Kenwood TS-570(S)G HF/6m transceiver with mike, power cables, instruction and service manuals. Recently checked over by AVVid: “checked OK, very clean radio, inside and out”. A real good bargain at only \$450.

Rohn 25 tower, 30 feet, good condition and included is a rotator mounting plate. Asking price is \$100.

HP oscilloscope OS-82A/USM-105. It is in excellent condition and comes with probes and manual. Take it home for \$50.

Alpha Delta model DX-LB Plus multi band long wire antenna, 100 ft. long. Excellent condition, for sale at \$100/OBO.

Kenwood TS-2000 HF transceiver with a Kenwood PS-53 power supply. A microphone, power cables and manual are included. It all comes with a Diamond vertical antenna and 100 feet of RG-8 coax. This rig was hardly used and is in like new condition. It is being sold by the seller as a package deal.

Linear amplifier-6 meters, 4CX300, rack mounted with 120 VAC power supply and extra tubes. It is in working order and comes with an additional partial built rack mounted amplifier section. Such a deal for \$75.

Data Instruments oscilloscope, model 555/N. Good condition with probes and manual. How about donating \$30 to WARAC for it?

If any of these items perks up your interest, call for additional information and buyer contact. Just maybe, the price listed could be further reduced.

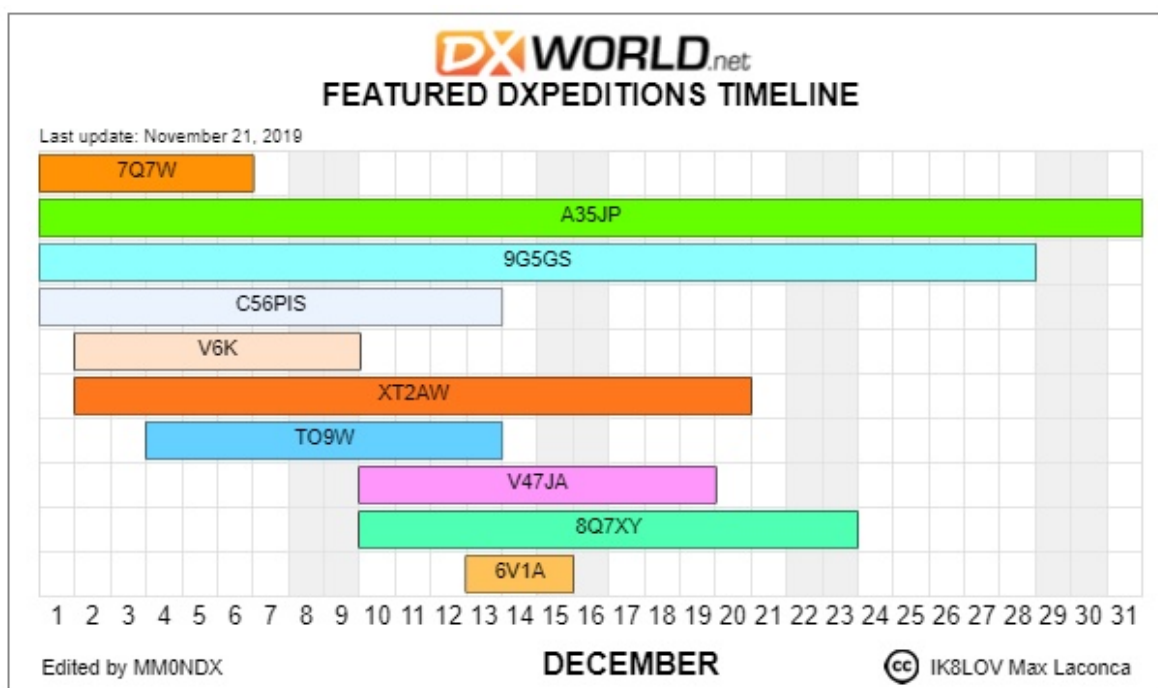
Phil, W9NAW
414.425.3649 (12/2/19)

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DX / CONTEST UPDATE

http://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw_timeline_1_1.php

DX: December DX Peditions are not exciting or epic. It is December and that is pretty much the way it goes. Check out the DX World table below and keep an eye on the prize. Dec/Jan presents opportunities for some Top Band work as well as the Jan VHF contest. Best I can see, no big solar activity news for the next month. Still, seasonal opportunities always exist. ARRL 10 Meter contest brings a lot of attention to that band. While the activity for the past couple of years has been low, openings always pop up. Sporadic E is very surprising for both short and long skip. You never know.



160 has been opening very early with the sun set being at 4ish. Europe is chugging in throughout the evening and the band continues to quiet down with the winter weather. Same for 80 meters. If you get up wee early, the propagation from JA-land is very doable. KH7's come in strong on 40 up to 7 AM. That is my canary in a coal mine.

Contests: We've put the late fall big contests in the bag for another year. Still, we have some very nice contest opportunities throughout December, active contests that attract a very good number of participants. If you can't make a long term dedicated attempt, spending a couple of hours racking up Q's is still a lot of fun. Special call out for the RAC Winter Contest.....this is the book end to the July 3rd RAC Contest. Great time, on phone and CW

ARRL 160 Meter Contest: Dec 7th and 8th.

ARRL 10 Meter Contest: Dec 14th and 15th.

RAC Winter Contest: Dec 28th.

Straight Key Night: Dec 31st

See David Garnier, WB9OWN, to pick up name badges:

WD9EFN	John Tankersley
KD9MFS	Marc Schneider
W9JSP	Jeff Pahl
KD9MUU	Bill Guynn
AA9RK	Michael Falk
KD9NZB	Max Falk
KC9PQD	Ron Clayton
KA9SY	Bob Schwigel
KD9LCT	Ken Kegley
KD9IGO	Fred LeMere
KC9JET	Paul Hass
KC9REN	Dean Berglund
KF9K	Jim Nickel
W9DC	Conrad Herold
KD9NHK	Tom Massopust
KC9SBN	Darlene Berglund • — • —•

Memembership renewal

“Just a friendly reminder that club dues are payable as of November 1st. We’d also appreciate it if each of you would fill out a new application so that we have up to date information to keep the club directory current. Ideally, these along with dues can be turned in at the upcoming meeting. Dues can be paid three ways – cash, check, or via PayPal using the “friends and family” option. The club email address to use is waracpp@warac.org. You can also mail dues and/or the application to the clubs new address: P.O. Box 511381, New Berlin, WI 53151.” **Form on page 7**



RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

ALL MEMBERS WHO JOIN ED BEFORE October 1 ST
MUST RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP BY September 30 TH
*****FILL IN ALL INFORMATION PLEASE*****

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____
(As you want it to appear on the roster)

ADDRESS: _____ LIC CLASS: _____

CITY: _____ LIC EXP: _____

STATE: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

ZIP CODE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE _____

CHECK HERE: _____ IF YOU WANT THE CLUB NEWSLETTER EMAILED TO YOU?

CHECK HERE: _____ If you are an ARRL member?

Would You Be Willing To Serve On A Committee? _____ Officer? _____

Club Activities You Would Like To Participate In?

Field Day _____ Programs _____ Swapfest _____ Hamtix _____ Elmer Sunshine _____

Education Community Service _____ Public Relations _____ Scholarship _____

QSO Party _____

Class Of Membership: Full Associate New Renewal

Dues Paid: Full \$15.00 _____ Associate \$10.00 _____ Family \$18.00 _____ Student

\$10.00 _____ Retired \$10.00 _____

*****FAMILY MEMBERSHIP *****

A family member ship includes the individual applying and all members of such person's immediate family residing in the same household who possess an Amateur Radio license.

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

LIC CLASS: _____ LIC EXP: _____

Date of Application _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

FOR WARAC OFFICE USE ONLY

Treasurer Received/ Date: _____

Sec. Add Roster/Date: _____

Mail to
West Allis Radio Amateur Club
P. O. box 511381
New Berlin, WI 53151-1381

48th Annual Midwinter Swapfest

Swapfest is upon us in less than a month!

The online registration with Paypal is up and running. It's turned out to be quite popular, with 47% of registrations to date being submitted online. You can check it out from our Swapfest web page(www.warac.org/swap).

Dave Engelmann (WB9GZP) has assumed leadership of the Sponsorship program, answering questions and maintaining contacts. Donations are on a pace with last year. Check out the sponsors list on the Swapfest web page. Thanks, Dave!

We'll have a new caterer at the concession stand this year. By popular demand, pulled pork sandwiches are included in the dining options.

As usual, Swapfest heavily depends upon member volunteers to make it a success. W.A.R.A.C. members should have received the Swapfest Volunteer Sign-up sheet for January 03 & 04, 2020. Feedback from previous events indicated that our volunteers were quite experienced in their duties and were able to maintain smooth operation for our attendees when the unexpected happened. Because of this, the Volunteer form has your name in the position which you had for last year's Swapfest. Please review the sheet and confirm that you can perform that function or, if you prefer, indicate a different position. We'll need all the help you can give in order to make this another successful event. Remember that Volunteers get a coffee & donut ticket for the morning as well as a lunch ticket for noon. Please confirm your participation with Erwin (WI9EV@wi.rr.com). We'll discuss this at the December general meeting and prepare for another rewarding time for W.A.R.A.C., our sellers, and attendees.

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RADIO BYGONES- A HISTORY OF THE CALLBOOK

By Jerry Proc VE3FAB

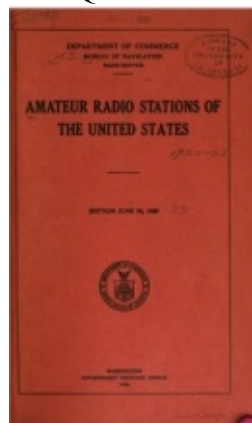
This article is intended to provide a summary about the Radio Amateur Callbook “Flying Horse” series.

The “Flying Horse” Radio Amateur Callbook, in hard copy telephone book format, had been providing listings of amateur radio call signs since the early 1920s. However, modern technology led to its demise in 1997 then its resurrection in a CD-ROM format until 2002 when the plug was pulled on the CD-ROM. The first edition of the callbook appeared some time around 1920 or 1922 until it was discontinued in 1997 by the publisher Watson-Guptil of New York. Watson-Guptil, founded in 1937, eventually became a division of BPI Communications, New York. BPI’s Editorial and Customer Service offices were located in Lakewood, NJ. The hardcopy format of the callbook was the one that would serve the amateur radio community for most of its life. It is not known when Watson-Guptil took over publication after its founding in 1937, but it probably would have been some time afterwards.

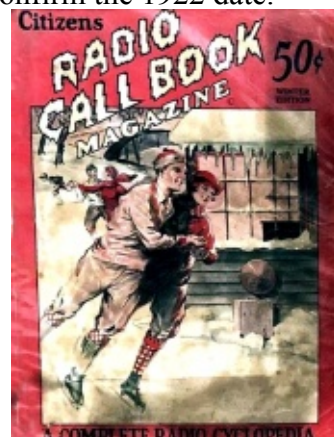
The June, 1929, issue of QST advertises that the first Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine was produced by Radio Amateur Call Book Inc., of Chicago, Illinois. Both the U.S. and Canadian governments were each producing a call book that sold for 25 cents prepaid anywhere, so this new company was up against some heavy competition. Anything that the government normally produced would be so far out of date by the time it was available that this proved to be a blessing for the Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine. The Call Book Magazine became known the world over as “The Callbook”.

It was a bit challenging to find out the actual first year of publication for the Flying Horse callbook. The web site (ITFM) selling the 2019 version of the CD-ROM indicates that 2020

will be the 100th anniversary of the callbook thus making the first year of publication in 1920. However, a cover from the 1997 edition indicates that it’s a 75th anniversary issue thus placing its first year of publication in 1922. The 55th anniversary issue in 1977 also places the first edition date in 1922 so that must be the correct year. Perhaps the Flying Horse callbook published under a different name from 1920 to 1922. That seems to be the most logical explanation. ARRL HQ was not able to confirm the 1922 date.



US Department of Commerce Amateur radio listings circa 1920.



Citizens Call book. The year was not printed on the cover.

The Flying Horse callbook was not without competition. The US Department of Commerce published its own callbook from 1920 to 1931. Another source of listings was “The Citizens Radio Call Book” which published from 1921 to 1932. It listed both amateur (including Canada) and commercial US stations. This call book was published twice per year from 1920 to 1925. Then it ramped up to four issues a year until the publication was absorbed by Radio News. Another player in the game was the “Radio Directory and Publishing Company” of New York. Eventually, most of these callbooks fell by the wayside thus leaving the market open for domination by the Flying Horse callbook. Initially, the callbook was just one publication, however as the number of operators grew, it became necessary to split the callbook into a North American edition and a Foreign edition. The combined callbook likely continued well into the 1950s.

These hardcopy callbooks would persevere for many decades to come, however in 1997, Watson-Guptill phased out its long-familiar North American and

International Callbooks on their 75th edition, citing "rising costs and increasing demand for electronic publishing". One of the services offered to callbook subscribers was a free on-line update service. In order to use this service, the subscriber needed a computer attached to a 28.8 kbps modem and software which could emulate a DEC VT100A dumb terminal.

From 1997 to 2002, the callbook was offered in a CD-ROM format until rising costs and demand for on-line lookups put it out of business in the summer of 2002. That event was reported in an ARRL news release dated February 4, 2003. The callbook however, was not yet ready for burial. It was going to be resurrected but in a different form.

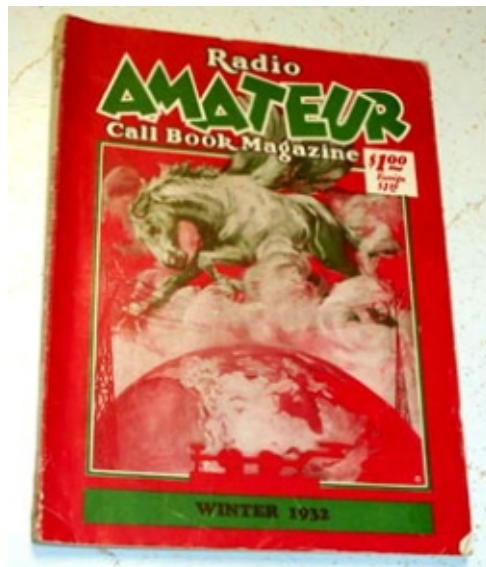
A German firm, ITFM--Informations-Technologie für Menschen (translated: Information Technology for People) purchased the rights to the Radio Amateur Callbook from Watson-Guptil, who had grounded the Flying Horse. The sale included rights to the Flying Horse logo and the Callbook archive. ITFM inked the deal on January 15, 2003. Two German radio amateurs, namely, Heinz Kamper DK4EI and Thomas Gudehus DB3 ZX were the principals who were key in arranging the deal. It took a while to clinch the sale due to some other competition, however the new CD-ROM by ITFM was made ready for the 2003 Dayton Hamvention.

Kamper and Gudehus said their Radio Amateur Callbook CD-ROM for summer 2003, would be a new and improved product, with an offering of twice-yearly revisions. They promised "the most complete and most accurate amateur radio callsign database. Besides data on more than 1.6 million amateurs, there would be information about DXCC entities, DX station QSL managers and even details on recent DXpeditions. The new product would work just as the previous one. Kamper and Gudehus had also left some 280 hard-copy editions (11 boxes in total) of the Radio Amateur Callbook, at ARRL Headquarters to replace worn and damaged copies in the ARRL's Callbook archive and also to fill some gaps..

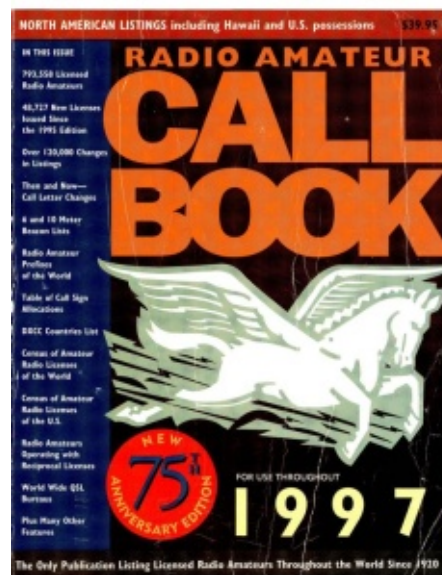
By the time ITFM took over the Flying Horse callbook, they were well experienced with such a product as they produced CD-ROM listings for the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) and for the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC) in Germany. They've also made available, a German logging program called ARMap

that includes detailed map information.

Kamper, a ham since 1969, was general manager for 22 years of DARC Verlag, the DARC's publishing arm. Gudehus is an electrical engineer and programmer. He was licensed in 1986 at age 16. ITFM has contracted with InfoTech Internet Services (WC4H) in Miami, Florida, to be their distributor in the Americas. The CD-ROM callbook is currently available from the ARRL web site as well as from ITFM.



The Winter 1932 edition of the Callbook. It cost \$1 at the time. (Image courtesy ARRL)



According to the ARRL news release of Feb 4, 2003, this was the last edition of the callbook in hardcopy format.

(Image courtesy <http://archive.org>)

As for the Flying Horse logo, it doesn't look quite the same on the new products as it did in the 1920s and 1930s but it remains readily recognizable. As a minor point in spelling, how should the name of the publication be spelled – “call book” or “callbook” ? Both forms are correct. It depends on the vintage of the callbook which is being referred to. “Call book” is the old term. “Callbook” is the new term, the one which has been used throughout this story.

John Gilbert , a historical radio researcher, donated a number of old callbooks to the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa. The

“Amateur Radio Call Book”, published by Radio Directory and Publishing Company of New York, Vol 1, Number 3, December 1922, is perhaps, a predecessor of the Flying Horse series. It contains Canadian listings and some Canadian advertising along with a list of Canadian broadcast stations. Sample publications in the “Flying Horse” series comprise of the following:

Spring, 1932 US and Foreign Listings
 Fall, 1946 US and Foreign Listings
 Summer, 1948 US and Foreign Listings
 Spring, 1949 US and Foreign Listings; Watson-Guptil
 Winter, 1949-50 US and Foreign Listings;
 Winter 1950-51 US and Foreign Listings;
 Fall, 1951 US and Foreign Listings;
 Spring, 1954 US and Foreign Listings;
 1977 Foreign Listings (including Canada). 55th Anniversary Edition.

In 2019, the callbook is being offered in both a CD-ROM version and a USB stick from the ITFM web site at: <http://www.callbook.biz/> . Besides English, it supports listings in Spanish, German and French languages. In 2019, there are 1.6 million listings worldwide.

Hardcopy callbooks from various years can be found at this web site:

<https://archive.org/search.php?query=amateur+radio+callbook&sort=titleSorter&page=2>

To contact the author with feedback: jerry.proc@sympatico.ca

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- 2) John Gilbert jgilbert@ca.inter.net
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- 4) Citizens cover page sample
<https://www.americanradiohistory.com/Citizens-Radio-Call-Book-Master-Page.htm>
- 5) 1997 callbook cover
https://archive.org/stream/1997_Radio_Amateur_Callbook/1997_Radio_Amateur_Callbook_Front#mode/2up
- 6) Spud Roscoe <[spudrvelbc\(at\)outlook.com](mailto:spudrvelbc(at)outlook.com)>

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