



Official Publication of the
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

Hamtrix

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JANUARY CLUB HAPPENINGS

January Club meeting

January 10, 2012

Manhattan construction by Chuck Craven, WB9PUB
Dues are due! If you haven't taken care of this yet, please see
Howard, our new Treasurer

WARAC 2-meter net
Jan. 17, 31 & Feb 7, 2011 7:00pm
MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset
127.3 Hz CTCSS

Swapfest
Saturday January 7, 2012
Helpers Needed
Arrive between 5:30am to 6:00am.
Bring 2M HT, Simplex 147.40 MHz
Free ticket and Lunch provided
See you there!

Club Happenings

Reminder

The snack kitty provides funds for our after meeting
refreshments.
Help us keep the fund going for all our enjoyment!

Wisconsin QSO party
March 11, 2012

Repeater survey on Page 5
bring to the meeting or
mail or e-mail to George AA9SR



The President's Shack January 2012

From the Editor

A New Year is here and it is time for our annual Swapfest. I don't have a lot of history with the swapfest but it looks like a good year for getting there! Unless the weatherman is very wrong it might actually be snow free and at least warm by January standards. My family and me had a good time over the holidays, I hope it was the same for all of you.

Hope to see you at the Swapfest!

Frank KA9FZR

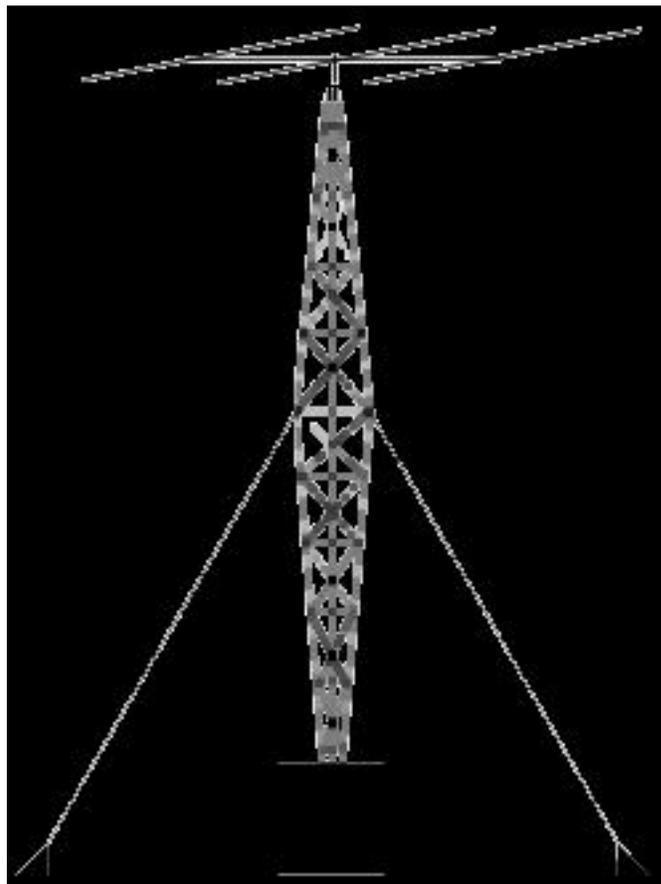
I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year and a prosperous 2012. And, of course, early January means that it's Swapfest time. See last month's Hamtrix for details. We need your help so we'll see you dark and early on Saturday! Remember, free food and admission for all helpers, so bring a friend! At this point it sounds like the weather will be good. Don't forget to send in your log for the 10 Meter contest. Logs must be emailed or postmarked by 0000 UTC Wednesday, January 11, 2012. For our club's contest, you must fill out the summary form in December Hamtrix and get it to Chuck, WB9PUB.

It's not too soon to start thinking about the 2012 Wisconsin QSO Party. Reserve the date now – March 11, 2012.

The program for the upcoming meeting is about Manhattan construction by Chuck Craven, WB9PUB. Have you been frustrated figuring out how to build simple circuits with today's components? If so, this program is for you – come and learn tricks and techniques from Chuck!

If you haven't done so, please submit your 2012 dues to Howard. I hate to be a nag, but we're already three months into this club year and some of you have not paid yet. Have you ordered your WARAC jacket and cap yet? Visit our website to place your order. I'll be wearing my cap and jacket at the Swapfest! Do you have any new toys or things you want to brag about? Bring 'em to the meeting! Or, for that matter, any meeting. We will always have time for short show-and-tell presentations. See you at the meeting!

- Tom, K9BTQ



WARAC General Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2011

Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by President, Tom Macon, K9BTQ. Overall meeting attendance was 26 with 2 visitors.

Program

The evening's program was a three part show, Elmer Q&A Night, Antenna Challenge II, and Swapfest Details. There were 5 antennas projects presented.

WARAC Swapfest date is Saturday, January 7, 2012. Doors need to be manned starting at 6 AM. Bring your HT and set to the WARAC simplex frequency. Green tickets are general admission, orange tickets are vendors, and blue tickets are table reservations. A blue ticket cannot be used for admission. See John Zach if you have any equipment you would like to sell. Volunteers are needed from 12 noon to 4 PM on Friday to monitor setup activities—see Phil Gural, W9NAW. Doors open at 8 AM, Saturday.

Business

Motion was made and accepted to approve the November meetings minutes as published in Hamtrix.

Announcements

Next month's program is Manhattan Breadboard Techniques.

Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club is sponsoring the FM Simplex contest on February 12, 2012.

Club jackets and hats are available from Gold Medal Ideas through a link on the WARAC website, <http://www.warac.org>.

Discussion

Complete the 2 meter net survey published in Hamtrix. Return surveys at the meeting or to George Dunco, AA9SR.

Wisconsin QSO party is March 11, 2012. No updates at this time.

Motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

No board meeting in December

from <http://www.w5bbs.us/category/ham-humor/>

You might be a Ham Radio Operator if
By: Ron Lancaster KB5VDB
Ham Humor

Recent comments on some of the amateur radio web forums have attempted to posit the point that someone is not a "REAL HAM" unless he or she meets certain arbitrary criteria. Those include such requirements as passing a code test to get licensed, using equipment with tubes in it, or being able to build a transceiver from scratch, using only a pie tin, a set of shoe laces, and a handful of grab-bag parts from a swap meet.

With apologies to a certain comedian who has made a gazillion dollars with his "You might be a redneck if..." shtick, here goes my feeble attempt at a similar definition of a "REAL HAM:"

* If you have a ham band antenna on all four fenders of your car, the roof, in the trunk lip, and another one clamped to the trailer hitch with an alligator clip and duct tape...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If your wife...sorry, "XYL"...asks you to help bring in the groceries while you are chasing a rare one and you yell back, "QRX! QRX!"...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you can recite the numbers of every driver, modulator, and final amplifier tube in every Heathkit, Drake or Collins transmitter or amplifier ever made, and name the best idling grid current for 90% of them...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If when you were a teenager, you tore open the cases of your little brother's "Flash Gordon" walkie-talkies just to see if you could modify them to work on 10 meters or used the pans from your sister's Easy-Bake oven to breadboard a code-practice oscillator...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you have ever tried to ker-chunk the repeater while riding in a funeral procession...you might be

a "REAL HAM!"

* If your kids...sorry, "harmonics"...know your call sign, your grid square, and your 10-10 number, but not your middle name...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you have at least a half-dozen different sets of hilarious (at least to you and the guys on your 75-meter roundtable) phonetics for your call letters...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you have more countries confirmed than you have dollars in your 401-K and more bucks invested in your tower, rotor and tri-bander than you have in your retirement annuity...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you have ever taken an HT to church or a scanner to the courthouse while on jury duty...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you painted the walls of the new playroom downstairs in the colors of the resistor color code...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you ever chopped up your wife's...sorry, XYL's...patio furniture to build a Yagi for 15...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you have ever attempted to use a gutter downspout, the hubcap from a '93 Buick, your dog's food dish, your neighbor's rose trellis, the vent hose from a clothes dryer, a wicket from your mom's croquet set, or a one-quart metal Thermos bottle (with or without coffee) as an antenna...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you read the ARRL "Repeater Directory" or the latest catalog from one of the big "candy stores" while taking your daily "constitutional" ...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

* If you know the formulae for Ohm's Law and Kirchoff's Law and can read a Smith Chart from 100 feet but have no idea who Paris Hilton is...you might be a "REAL HAM!"

Club Repeater use Survey

What? WARAC 2-meter net

When? Each First, Third, Fifth, Tuesdays @ 7:00pm

Where? MATC repeater 147.045 standard offset +600KHz
127.3 Hz CTCSS

Send to George
Dunco AA9SR,
Bring to meeting.
Soft copy on Web
site for e-mail

In order to make use of the time and equipment we need your answers and suggestions.

Please answer the following questions:

Do you have an operational 2 meter radio?-Yes No

Does your 2 meter radio have PL encoding?- Yes No

Do you need help checking settings?- Yes No

Would you join the net if it were a different time? AM?PM? __:__ Yes NO

Prefer another day of the week M, TU, WE, TH, F, SA,SU? ____

Topics for the net:

Review questions in preparation for testing ____

Items to trade/give away/sell? ____

I need help with __ (restricted to radio topics)____

Suggestions that you would offer to improve the net? (use extra paper if needed)

West Allis Radio Amateur Club 10 Meter Contest
2011 Summary Sheet for WARAC-sponsored portion of contest

December 10 Saturday 0000 UCT to December 11 Sunday 2359.59 UCT

Rules: See the ARRL General Rules and Rules for HF contests.

Operator's Name: _____ Call Used _____

Entry Category: CW only: _____ Digital CW only: _____ Phone only: _____ Digital Phone: _____
 CW and Phone: _____ Digital modes or Mix of Analog and digital modes: _____ (Check one category)

Power level: QRP (5w or less) _____ Low power (5.1w to 150w) _____ High power (151w and up) _____

Scoring

CW QSO's _____ x 2 = _____ **CW Points**

Phone QSO's _____ x 1 = _____ **Phone Points**

CW Points + Phone Points = _____ Contact Points

Contact Points _____ x Power Multiplier _____ = _____ Total QSO points

Bonus: No. of Club Members worked _____ x 5 = _____ Club Member points

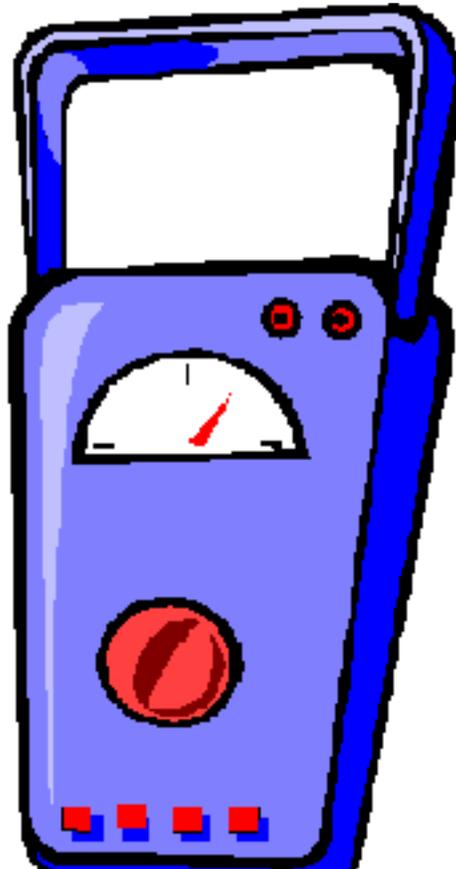
Total QSO points + Club Member points = Final Score: _____

Power Multiplier

| Class | Power Range | Mult. |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| QRP | 0 – 5w | 2.0 |
| Low | 5 – 150w | 1.5 |
| High | 150w and up | 1.0 |

Send this summary sheet plus a copy of your log and dupesheet to:

Chuck Craven, WB9PUB
 W2292 Beulah Heights Road
 East Troy, WI 53120



from <http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=12381>

* If you typically go to hamfests wearing your “Hams do it with frequency” tee-shirt, a “KNOW CODE” belt buckle, at least two HTs clipped to your belt and an earpiece for each in each ear, a pith helmet with a 440 ground plane sticking out the top, and a blinking-LED button with your callsign on it...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

* If you know the prefixes for every DXCC entity as well as their beam headings but you don’t know your oldest kid’s...sorry, “first harmonic’s”...birthday...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

* If you ever flagged down a local utility bucket truck and tried to bribe the guy to hang some ropes and pulleys in the trees in the backyard...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

* If you ever tried to convince your fiancé that Dayton, Ohio, has replaced Niagara Falls as the Honeymoon Capitol of the World and that the first part of May is absolutely the best time for a wedding...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

* Of course, if you MET your fiancé in the flea market at Dayton when she tried to jaw you down on the price of a Hallicrafters HT-37 with a bad power transformer...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

Finally, if you call beers “807s,” money “green stamps,” your house your “home QTH,” your car your “moe-byle,” your base station your “shack,” the FCC “the friendly candy company,” anything a salesman tells you “Bravo Sierra,” the big brouhaha at the last club meeting “a Charlie Foxtrot,” your wife your “XYL,” and your kids “harmonics” ...you might be a “REAL HAM!”

Ain’t it fun?

Howabout “If your friends don’t laugh at your jokes, but say “Hi Hi.”

or when you want to to put a small antenna on your XYL’s car, and she says, “I don’t want that long antenna on my car”, and you tell her, “Honey! It’s the shortest one they make.”

Officers and Board

President

Tom Macon, K9BTQ

Vice President

George Dunco, AA9SR

Secretary

Chuck Dellis, W9WLX

Treasurer

Howard Smith WA9AXO

Directors

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

Dave Schank, KA9WXN

Jim Wilkins, KC9KEQ

Newsletter Editor

Frank Humpal, KA9FZR

fhump@milwpc.com

Webmaster

Tom Macon, K9BTQ



NEW club jackets and hats!

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

For more info

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Milwaukee, WI 53228



WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC.

PO Box 1072
Milwaukee, WI 53201
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.