



Official Publication of the  
West Allis Radio Amateur Club

# Hamtrix

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Volume 71, Issue 6 June, 2022

## JUNE 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](mailto:barbsewsblue@gmail.com).

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Meeting

**June 14, 2022 7pm**

New Berlin Community Center

14750 W. Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

Between Moorland and Sunnyslope

Presentation

2022 Field Day

Dave Garnier WB9OWN

Premeeting dinner

New Berlin Ale House 5:15pm

16000 W. Cleveland Ave

West of Moorland Rd.

### Field Day

at D. J. Mackie

Picnic area in the Southern Kettle Moraine

State Forest.

**June 25, 2022**

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## Editor's Corner

June hasn't figured out if it will be wet or dry, hot or cold. Still have different weight coats hung by the door.

With warm weather coming I'm trying a simplified approach to operating from my patio. Of course with modern technology there are many approaches to doing it. Remote radio can be done over your computer, be it a desktop or a smart phone. Nothing wrong with that. In many ways maybe even better than my way.

What I came up with was just stringing up a temporary antenna (it will come down when the weather turns cold. Maybe HI HI) The antenna I'm using is one of Mikes WO9B sparkplug antenna set ups. Having it up means just picking up my old Yaesu FT-817, a key, clipboard and maybe a battery or I can use the internal battery.

If I want I can also use the Yaesu FT-891 and my LiFePO4 battery out there. Their size and weight make it easy to move them around. I find being outside does a couple of things for me. It gets me away from a computer screen which I find can easily distract me, and it gets me outside. The patio is under a big oak tree so it keeps the patio in the shade. We will see how it turns out. May even get me operating more on international code.

I am getting more comfortable with the code. Takes a lot of practice and like so many things you don't always see or notice your improvements. Just the other day I caught my self picking a single word or two at 40 wpm what a surprise!

Anyway everyone enjoy the weather.

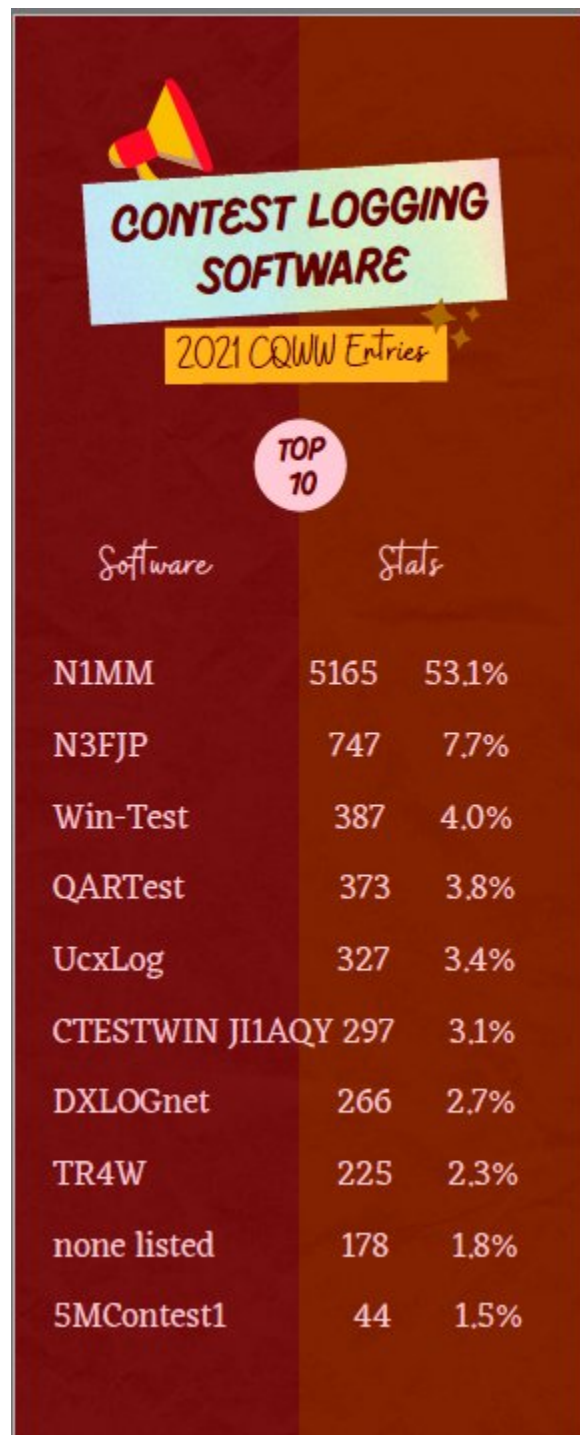
73

Frank KA9FZR

• — • — •

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

**We have NO candidates for President  
The Club needs YOU!**



## WARAC Club Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2022

Club meeting was called to order by Feroz Ghose WU9N at 7 pm.

(Note, the WARAC Secretary was absent so Frank & Howard filled in his duties)

Attendance was 13 club members per Howard Smith WA9AXQ.

The club held it's annual Sendik's fundraiser on May 21, 2022.

**Treasurers Report**, by Bill N9KPH. The only recent financial transactions was the May 21 Sendak's grill fundraiser, which netted the club \$190.54.

**WI-QSO party** – Final Standings by Chuck Dellis W9WLX.

Big Thank you to Chuck, Howard, Tom and Mike for running this years WI QSO party!

**How to activate a park “Parks On the Air”** by Michael AA9RK gave a presentation. A follow up actual park activation will be held at Havenwoods State Forest on May 14, 2022 11 am to noon.

**Field Day Status.** Dave WB9OWN was not present but will give an update at next club meeting.

**Potential Club money maker**, Frank KA9FZR relayed that he and Mike WO9B are working on antenna trap project. More to follow.

Slow speed CW net is still meeting Mondays at 8pm. WB0AFB repeater 147.045 is being used for net coordination frequency. All are welcome.

Meeting ended and coffee and donuts followed.

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted

David Garnier WB9OWN

Secretary WARAC, June 7, 2022 . \_\_. \_\_..

**2022 Challenge for our membership. Have someone you meet, Ham or Ham wannabe come to a meeting this year!**



## 2022 June Notes

The Wednesday Park OPS are in full swing. It has been a bit of a rough go so far. The weather has been cool, no, make that cold and we've had more than our share of rain. I'm glad to say that May is finally over and hopefully June will bring us the warmer temperatures we so much deserve.

The May outings started with a bang on May 4th with an outing to New Berlin's Lion's Park. The tour continued with outings to Calhoun Park in New Berlin, Legend Park in Franklin, Root River Parkway in Greenfield and finally to Greenfield Park in West Allis. Attendance, when the weather was nice, was GREAT. If you have a yen to get out, come and join the group. Hey, it's only an hour!!!

For those thinking about showing up, I underscore that there is always room for one more. On a typical outing two or three HF radios are setup and running.

For the most part these have been QRP type operations, so we can pretty much get away without multiple bands operating concurrently. Bringing a radio is completely optional. Most of the folks are there for a bit of sun and conversation.

So come and join the fun. After all, it's only an hour!!

**When:** Every Wednesday from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM +/-

**Where:** New Park every week. Announcements are on the WARAC Facebook Page

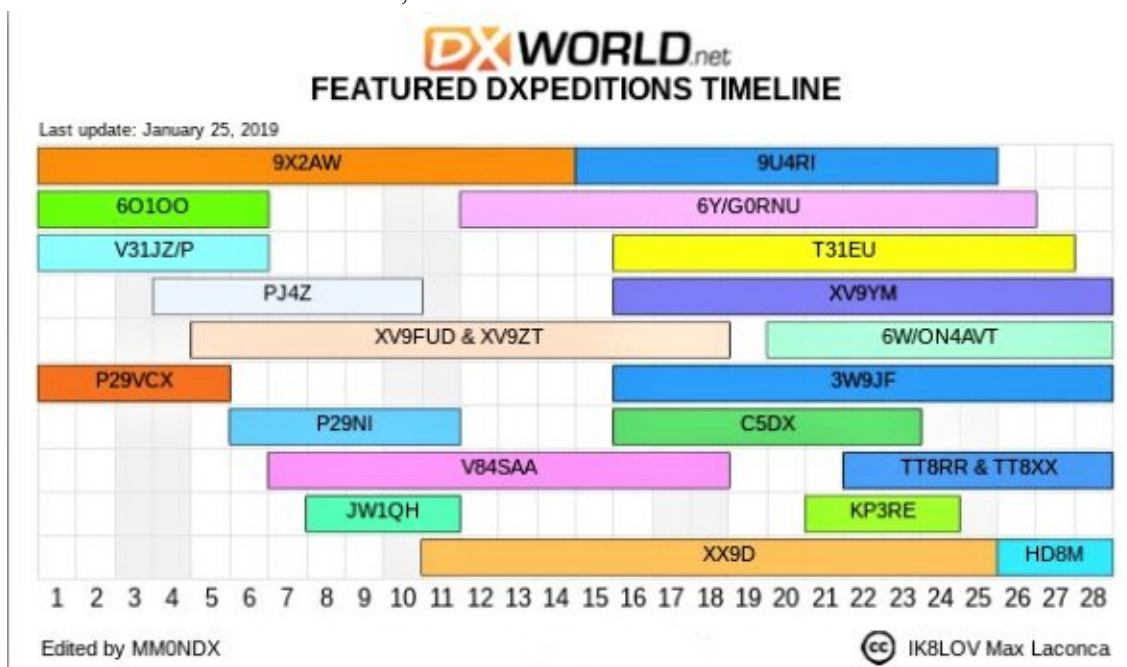
Join our mailing list to receive the weekly announcement direct to your inbox. To join, send a note to [mike@palomonet.com](mailto:mike@palomonet.com)



## DX UPDATE:

CY0S, Sable Island will be activated October/November 2022.

TY0RU, expedition to Benin October 10-25, 2022



## Propagation:

Solar activity has dropped significantly. The return of solar activity can be expected this week. A more significant improvement in propagation can be expected around mid June. Hopefully for Field Day.

## Contesting:

Kentucky QSO Party – 1300Z June 4 to 0100Z, June 5

West Virginia QSO Party – 1600Z, June 18 to 0400Z, June 19

ARRL June VHF Contest – 1800Z, June 11 to 0256Z, June 13

ARRL Field Day – 1800Z, June 25 to 2100Z, June 26

**There are MANY more contests in June. Check the link below.**

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

## Special Event Stations:

For special event station listings (there are many) check out:

<https://www.425dxn.org/index.php?op=wcal>

If you have further ideas or suggestions for this page please let WA9BZW (Al) know.

[wa9bzw@arrl.net](mailto:wa9bzw@arrl.net)



## FIELD DAY 2022 - WE'RE BACK



The 2022 Field Day Event a la West Allis Radio Amateur Club is back in business. After being sidelined for the past two years this annual ham radio extravaganza is finally back on the menu...and no one has to sit at the kid's table this year.

Dave Garnier, WB9OWN, has bravely stepped up to captain the event. At this month's club meeting, Dave will pound through the details and lay out the how, what, when and where for our 2022 effort. Want to operate? Want to hear what a quiet location sounds like? Bring your radio! This time around the club is going with a new one-day format at the truly iconic D. J. Mackie Picnic area in the Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest. The facility includes an all weather cabin/shelter, electricity, picnic tables, toilet facilities and plenty of trees and the space to set up all the antennas you could want.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=42.942569,-88.452753>



# Radio is Magic

- If you aren't impressed by the fact that you can wobble a few electrons in a wire and thereby wobble a few electrons in a wire half way around the world, you have no soul.



## 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.

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





June 2022 \* Hamtrix \* By Michael Johnson, W09B

### Favorite Nets and TalkGroups

So on a Wednesday Park Ops a week or two ago, I got to talking with Brad Smith, KC9UQR about his favorite mode: DMR. Brad is a regular participant at our Wednesday meet ups and is just one of those hams who always seems to be having a great day. A year or so back when Brad first showed up, he was dragging along an HF rig of sorts. Given the number of participants, it can be tough to find an unused HF band to work. Somewhere along the way, he took a hankering to DMR and has gone from rookie to DMR seasoned pro. So now when he shows up, he is packing his AnyTone HT and a Shark OpenSpot3 (soon to be OpenSpot4??) thus avoiding the HF band derby. He also has no issues making QSO after QSO. Such is the way of DMR, the bands are always open!!

With almost no prodding, Brad shared some of his favorite DMR hangouts. For those on the cusp of exploring DMR or those that have yet to venture out into the DMR universe, here are some thumbs-up recommendations from KC9UQR:

Brandmeister TG 2356 Wales:	Active TG that shares a common language (well sort off) so anyone you might talk too you can actually communicate with. Brad recommends the Wales RagchewNet on Saturdays from 1:30 to 3:30 PM. A friendly and chatty TG.
Brandmeister TG 3155 WI	The standard go-to for all of us. Not crazy busy, but it is worth getting to know the group that hangs out here.
Brandmeister TG 3100 USA Bridge	The Bridge started out life as a cross-mode but has fallen back to a national ragchewTG. Activity remains high on this TG, and you can raise QSO's at anytime of the day.
Brandmeister TG 91 World Wide	What? Really? Brad recommends jumping into the moshe pit of TG 91 and having some fun. Maybe not every day, but hey... it works.
TGIF TG 49562 Boredom Net	Note this is the TGIF Network. The Boredom Net is a daily net from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. Lot's of activity. Interesting? Tune in and find out.

The above TG's are all standard fare groups. Not particularly special interest, but general interest / QSO type talkgroups. Talkgroups are trending more toward specialty interests these days. Keeping an eye on the BM or TGIF TG lists can provide good places to check out. That's how you find them. Be like Brad, go out exploring the DMR channels.

**Next Month: Local Repeater Update**



## HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### **06/11/2022 - Lyons Annual "Freefest"**

Location: Lyons, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Lakes Area Amateur Radio Club Inc.

### **06/18/2022 - Sunshine Swapfest**

Location: Kaukauna, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Website: <http://www.fcarc.club/sunshineswap.php>

### **07/09/2022 - WI9SM South Milwaukee ARC Hamfest**

Location: Oak Creek, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: South Milwaukee ARC  
Website: [http:// www.wi9sm.org](http://www.wi9sm.org)

### **07/22/2022 - 07/23/2022**

#### **Central States VHF Society Conference**

Location: La Crosse, WI      Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Central States VHF Society  
Website: <https://2022.csvhfs.org>

### **08/27/2022 - Circus City Swapfest**

Location: Baraboo, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://yellowthunder.org>

### **08/28/2022 - Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club HamFest**

Location: Chippewa Falls, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: CVARC - Chippewa Valley Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://w9cva.org/hamfest>

### **09/10/2022 - Ozaukee Radio Club Regional Fall Swapfest**

Location: Cedarburg, WI      Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC)  
Website: <https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org/>

## POTA part 2

Bright sun, picnic tables, good company, and 20 QSOs for W9FK. We had a successful activation at Havenwoods State Forest, K-5579, on Saturday, May 14th. Four operators contributed QSOs to W9FK's log: Max KD9NZB, Dave WB9SXG, Mike WO9B, and Michael AA9RK.

The magic number is ten. For an activity in a park to count as an official "activation", the activator(s) must make at least ten QSOs. Max chose to operate 40 meter FT8, and got us our ten in less than half an hour. He contacted 8 American and 3 Canadian stations using an FT-991 and a Wolf River Coils vertical. Dave used his portable vertical antenna to make SSB contacts with three stations, including the WW1USA special event station, which was on the air that day to commemorate the Paris Peace Conference of 1919. Mike operated QRP CW into his Spark Plug Gear EFHW, and made three contacts including one with W1ND during a Summits On The Air activation. Michael made one CW and two SSB contacts, including one Park-to-Park contact, to bring the total for the activation to an even 20.

Every activation gets a little easier, as we gain experience with our gear, antennas, and optimal setups. Practice may not make us "perfect" but it certainly makes us better. So let's go out this summer, enjoy our idyllic state parks and forests, and get on the air.

**Pictured from left to right: Michael AA9RK, Max KD9NZB, Dave WB9SXG, and Karen KC9WQJ.**



**Max KD9NZB  
using FT-8 to  
get contacts**



# HAMWORD

Looking for some good old fashioned ham radio fun? So you went and figured out how to setup WinLink and VARA HF and now you need something to hone that effort to a sharp operating edge. Well, [HAMWORD](#) may just be the ticket!!!

If you've heard or played the popular [WORDLE](#) game then you are halfway home. I'm not going to go through the WORDLE rule book, even though it is pretty short, but HAMWORD is a spin off using WinLink as a grading source.

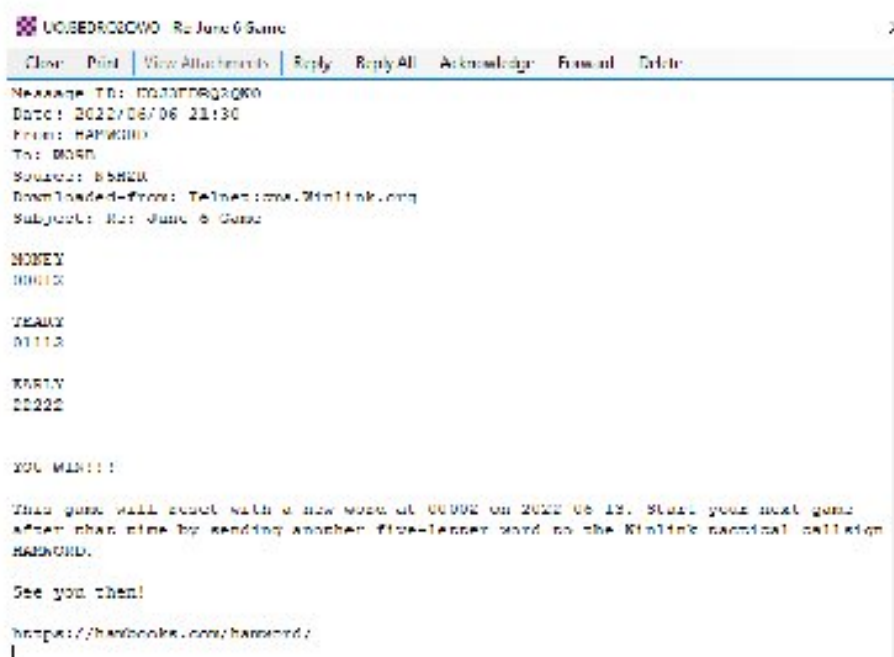
Per the HAMWORD website:

## How to Play

Once you have Winlink up and running, simply send a five-letter word via Winlink to the tactical call sign HAMWORD. The subject line can be anything you wish, and the message body should contain just your guess. Your messages will be graded and returned via a Winlink message at 00, 15, 30, and 45 minutes past the hour.

They reset the word once a week, so there is little danger of overloading the WinLink system. Also, as a hint, you can access WinLink via the internet by selecting Telnet WinLink in lieu of an over the radio method. See, it is easier than you thought.

Here is what it looks like:



**Brian AD9AL sent me a request for help installing an antenna.  
If anyone can help contact him directly email or phone  
[brianganiere@wi.rr.com](mailto:brianganiere@wi.rr.com)  
414-745-5134**

Thanks in advance

Frank KA9FZR

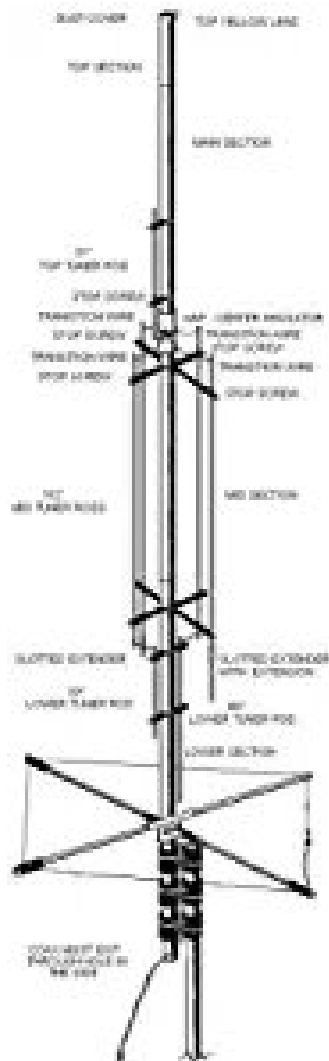
Hello Frank,

Does someone in WARAC know of an antenna installer, preferably insured?

I have taken delivery of a GAP Titan DX vertical that I plan to have mounted on my second story roof in Shorewood.

Thank you,

Brian Ganiere  
AD9AL (formerly KC9LYZ)  
[brianganiere@wi.rr.com](mailto:brianganiere@wi.rr.com)  
414-745-5134





# Worked All Wisconsin Counties Award 2022 Update

It has been a LONG, LONG time since the Worked All Wisconsin Counties Award has actually been AWARDED. Turns out that May, 2022 is a banner month for the venerable WAWC with TWO certificates being issued. Let me tell you, it has been more than 7 years since a WAWC was given out.

For those scratching your head wondering what a WAWC is... As an adjunct to our administering the Wisconsin QSO Party, our club also sponsors the Worked All Wisconsin Counties Award. The particulars are all listed on the [WARAC web page](#). It seems simple enough: Work and confirm a QSO with each WI county. As it turns out, working is one thing, but confirmations are another. In the case of our recent award winners, this is a multi-year endeavor. Congratulations to them for their determination and skill. Well done!!

## Chuck Milan, N9KY



Chuck's story is a lesson in an award certificate gone missing. Seems Mr. Milan was the victim of having successfully applied way back in 2017 and for reasons unremembered, his certificate was never issued. That fault is on me, but that has all been cleared up. Cudo's to Chuck for bearing no ill will to this bureaucratic snafu. Thanks Chuck. Well done!! N9KY despite his WI roots, lives in KY and is a regular participant in the WI QSO Party.



## László Végh, OM2VL



Laci's application came in after this year's 2022 WIQP. OM2VL is a well known County Hunter and certificate collector. His WAWC application included QSO's from 2014. That's dedication!! Congratulations Laci. I look forward to working you again in next year's WIQP!!! Laci lives in Dunajská, Slovakia and is a very active contester.





ILS (Instrument landing system) Localizer Antenna system. Provides horizontal alignment on runway.



Above: ILS glide slope antenna system provides vertical glide path to runway. Normally 3 degrees.

Right: one of the antennas on a glide slope towers





**SLOW SPEED CW QSO NET**

*Monday's - 8:00 PM - WB0AFB 147.045 Repeater*

## 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.

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