The History of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club Inc.
2016 Edition

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Introduction
(2016)

This book is a brief compilation of the history of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club with a bit of local and international history thrown in just to tie things all together. In this spot there used to be an introduction which started small but continued to grow until it became rather long all by itself, so we decided to make it a chapter and call it the History of the History. That sounded good as a way to explain how all the chapters came into being.

The total history of the club cannot be told without bringing in the few thousand pages of documents that we have covering the business of the club from the beginning. Of course asking anyone to actually read all of that is a bit much, but to really dig into things feel free to have a look, the real story is in there.

Hopefully we can keep this a living document so future amateur radio operators can fully appreciate the long and illustrious (and sometimes not so stellar) story of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club. The plan is to still try update this document every year with at least the important events of the past year (both for MRAC and the world). With each passing year more club information is uncovered and additional articles will be added as discovered. If anyone has any information (or comments) on important topics as well as any information for the officer list, member list, or any other topic from our past (including the desire to write an article yourself) please contact us. More general electronics, radio, and technology news and history will be added to the timeline. This is so more people can be informed of the history and significance of technology and amateur radio’s place in that history. Also many new hams may find this document as one of their first exposures to this information. Over the years a lot of new hams get into the hobby to just talk. While there is nothing wrong with that, there is much more to the hobby. From the beginning, MRAC has always been interested in the education of its members and all hams in general. Maybe this book can help with that too.

Something which may be noticed while reading the book. MRAC is not afraid to air its occasional dirty laundry. The club is not about to hide or distort the truth just to make itself look good. Only a proud, vibrant, and professional organization can operate with full and honest disclosure.

This book of club history is really not the whole story. There is also a photo album/scrapbook which overflowed 2 - 3 ring binders on paper and makes up a large slide show presentation. Recently, the slide show has been turned into a series videos. At this time the videos are 99% silent, but a soundtrack of music and narration and more is high on the list for future enhancements. Finally, there is a never ending project of scanning all the collected club documents (or collecting electronic versions from recent computer generated documents) from the beginning of the club to current. Currently there is over 1GB of Adobe Acrobat files in the electronic archives (over 2000 files). All of this information is available to any club member or anyone interested in the club. We are investigating trying to get much of that information available on-line for all to access at any time.

For a number of years the club touted itself as the oldest continuously active amateur radio club in the world. In recent years we have discovered information that contradicts that. However, while a number of clubs actually started before MRAC. Only a handful remain and few have remained continuously active. So MRAC is one of a very few of the world’s oldest continuously active amateur radio clubs. Interestingly, as one of the newly discovered documents show, MRAC was not the first club formed in the Milwaukee area. The
Milwaukee Radio Association was formed previous to MRAC. That club died out during World War I and its membership was absorbed into MRAC. (Maybe we should change our start date?). According to a letter from ARRL in 1969, MRAC at that time (50 years of affiliation) appeared to be the oldest continuously active radio club affiliated with ARRL. But why not read the story for yourself.

Why should you care about the history of a lowly radio club? If you are an officer of the club it is good to know what has been done before or maybe not done before. What worked and what did not. If you are a member of one of the many other local radio clubs, discover that just about everything any other local club does or has done was done first by MRAC. If you are a member of MRAC or just a visitor to the history, why not read about some of the lives of the people who were involved with amateur radio and the MRAC over the last almost 100 years. Recently, a newer club member and recent board member told me that every board member should be required to read the history to understand the heritage of the club. While that makes me feel good, I won't go that far (sometimes board members do not even know what's in the by-laws, sorry, editorial)

Amateur radio is a very unique hobby. Why not learn everything you can about this strange and fascinating pursuit. After all, like it or not, you are carrying on the tradition started by the people listed in this document. Even though many are gone now, make them proud of what has come of their work and passion and don't let them down!

So let's travel through the years and see the highlights of MRAC, amateur radio and the world around us.

Credits/Revision History
(2016)

2000 – Initial creation including timeline and Past Presidents. Created a 8-1/2 x 5-1/2 printed booklet with photo montage on back cover and distributed to all club members.
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU – initial and continuing research and text
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP – document formatting, master printing, photo montage for printed book, back cover
John Merkl WB9PSE – hard copy printing and member distribution

2003 – Continuing timeline enhancements and general corrections. Reformatted for 8-1/2 x 11 page and published only electronically in PDF form.
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP – “Introduction”, and lots of other stuff
Hans Schroeder AE9G – proofreading

2005 – Continuing timeline additions and enhancements. Expanded the Introduction. Added articles on the early years of the club, the communications van, MacArthur Parade, and the W9RH Repeater.
Loy Schell Hillegas-Baird 9HO – “The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club” – the beginning
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP - “The W9RH Repeater”, and lots of other stuff
Dave Karr KA9FUR – Proofreading and approval of the article “The W9RH Repeater”
Mark Tellier AB9CD – Proofreading and master printing

2006 – Continuing timeline additions and enhancements - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU - “A Brief History of MRAC By-Laws”
Yvonne Robel (daughter of Clarence Crapo W9VD) – letter to MRAC

2007 – Continuing timeline additions and enhancements – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP

2008 – Continuing timeline additions and enhancements, Beginning of All Members List.
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU – “The All Members List” initial data collection.
Mark Tellier AB9CD – proofreading

2009 – Continuing timeline, member list, officer list additions and enhancements. Added the beginnings of articles on the VEC, Field Day, FM Simplex Contest and lists of officers of national organizations and Silent Keys.
Ray Adams W4CPA – VEC history portion of VEC Story
Tom Fuszard KF9PU – Various parts of the VEC Story and proofreading of whole chapter.

2010-2011 – Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions and miscellaneous enhancements – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.

2012 – Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions and miscellaneous enhancements (enough so you have to read through everything). The introduction of the article on the MRAC / MAARS Interclub hamfest – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
Starting for this year, any chapter/section of this book will contain the year of the latest revision to that chapter/section beneath its title.
2013 – Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions and miscellaneous enhancements – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
A reprint of a newsletter story on Emil Felber W9RH.
L. S. Hillegas-Baird x9HO - letter from the club founder to a later club President.
Dan Workenaour N9ASA – Master printing.

2014 - Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions and miscellaneous enhancements. The addition of a chapter (just the beginning) on the history of club meeting programs. The timeline is greatly enhanced with information on various electronic and other technology items as well as more general ham radio history – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
Dan Workenaour N9ASA – Master printing.

2015 - Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions and miscellaneous enhancements. The timeline is greatly enhanced with information on various electronic and other technology items as well as more general ham radio history. Added the Amateur’s Code and the beginning of meeting program history – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
Dan Workenaour N9ASA – Master printing.

2016 - Continuing timeline, member list and Silent Key additions, officer list additions meeting history additions and miscellaneous enhancements. The timeline is again greatly enhanced with information on various electronic and other technology items as well as more general ham radio history as well as some local history. New introduction and made old introduction The History of the History chapter – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
Added Set Another Place for Sister Margaret chapter.
Theodore J. Cohen N4XX – “Set Another Place For Sister Margaret”
Duane Meyer KX9N – Some early name / callsign research
Bob Roske N0UF – Missing name / callsign info for member list

Past Officer Listings started by - Emil Felber W9RH, Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Member list started by - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

And also thanks to the members of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club Inc. since 1917 who helped create all this history…

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The History of the History
(2016)

For a group in existence as long as the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club, no effort was made to compile an official history of the group until 2000. I mentioned at a board meeting that we should undertake a project to create a written club history. I was hoping to form a committee of 2 or 3 people but Jim Tromblay, WB9LNU, the club Secretary, Custodian, Historian, Trustee, etc offered to give it a shot himself. As Custodian and Historian, he had most of the club historical records in his possession. A couple of months later Jim handed me his take on the club history written in an outline form, year-by-year. As is the case when sifting through 80+ years of documents, there were some gaps in the timeline. Some of those gaps were filled with general world news headlines (taken from newspaper clippings found in the club archives by Jim). Those headlines serve to add to the ambiance of the MRAC story.

I dug through some pictures (while working on the club photo album/scrapbook), and added them to Jim’s text to create a 5-1/2 x 8-1/2 booklet which we had printed and handed out to all members. I then created a “normal” size 8-1/2 x 11 document with some color added (because we can) that was published on the club Internet site for download.

Shortly after publication, Hans Schroeder, AE9G, asked if I would mind a critique of the document (after all, Hans was a recently retired college professor). I said sure, go ahead, and at the next club meeting Hans handed me a marked up document with corrections in punctuation, grammar, and some other comments. I put this in the pile for future work and in 2003, incorporated Hans’ comments, added info for the years 2000-2003, filled in a few other bits and pieces and published the 2003 version of the history on the club Web site (we did not offer a printed version due to costs). I was then Historian as Jim Tromblay had retired and moved out of town.

In 2005 the history was updated to pick up information of the years 2003 on, and even add some additional history information. In 2003 Ed Seruga KE9JJ produced a box of photos and papers he had. In 2005 the club received from Robert Felber, the son of Emil Felber W9RH SK, 2 boxes of club papers, a scrapbook of newspaper clippings about the club and still more photos. The recent finds produced a number of documents that were written by club members over the years that covered some of the milestones of the club. Those documents have been included in versions of the MRAC History since 2005 in their entirety. I also added a written history of the club repeater before those details are lost and forgotten. All those articles appear following the history timeline as originally developed by Jim. Some of the articles have appeared in past club newsletters. Also the beginnings of a complete list of club officers was added (from a list compiled by Emil Felber).

The 2006 edition marked the first in annual updates. Of course those updates include recent news items about amateur radio and the club and the world around us as listed in the timeline. Also included in 2006 is a letter from Yvonne Robel, the daughter of Clarence Crapo W9VD SK (the second President of the club), which accompanied a collection of 75 glass mount slides of club activities from almost the beginning through the 30’s. Jim Tromblay, WB9LNU while cleaning up his stuff from moving to northern Wisconsin, presented me with a continuing list of club officers (picking up from where the Emil Felber list left off through 1997) as well as a brief write up of by-laws history he prepared for a by-laws change in the mid nineties. I have added to the officer list and the by-laws history to sort of bring
them up to current time. I say sort of as the officer list is a big project and is not yet 100% complete. The repeater story was also approved by one of the principles in the project, Dave Karr, KA9FUR, and I added some additional new information.

For 2007, the officer list was added to greatly. It is still not 100% but much closer. Besides additions to the timeline for 2006 and 2007, there were additions and corrections to entries from earlier years. Of course, 2007 marked the 90th birthday of the club.

For 2008, new items include the beginning of a complete member list. It is only a beginning (started with around 800 names, currently over 1300) as with almost 100 years of members it will take some time to get everyone in the list. Once again, some work by Jim Tromblay was the genesis of this project as Jim gave me a list he started compiling while he still had the club archives (an entire note pad filled with handwritten calls, names and dates). In the very early years, full names were not used in lieu of first and middle initials and last name. Also call signs were also not always listed with a person’s name, so very early data compilation requires a lot of work. In recent years the constantly changing call signs make things difficult. Of course, the timeline picks up recent information as well as more information added to past years, including more on the beginning years of radio and radio clubs. Some data has been expanded where more detail is found.

2009 brings a couple of new articles, including the FM Simplex Contest, the club’s involvement with Field Day, and the club’s involvement with the VEC testing program. As usual the timeline has additions and enhancements and more info is added to the officer and member lists.

Currently the Field Day story is just a small beginning, dealing with recent operations and little bits of info from previous years. The FM Simplex Contest story will of course have additions each year as the contest continues. Also new is the beginnings of a listing of club members who have held elected or appointed positions with national organizations (ARRL, NCVEV, etc). We are also adding a list of Silent Keys. At some point everyone who is a member would probably appear in this list. I started the list as for a few years in the 2000s the club kind of neglected to mention / honor members who recently passed. For a time this was the only mention of them. It is being included not just to take up space, but to act as a final tribute to a club member and is listed by the year a member passes.

For 2010 thru 2012 there are no new major articles/stories, but there are updates and additions to the timeline, the officer list, the total member list and the silent key list along with additions to some of the existing stories. Officer duties have kept revisions low. Nonetheless, the book has grown to 113 pages.

2013 brings the usual additions and updates to the timeline and other date sensitive sections (Field Day, FM Contest, etc.). Of course there are more additions to the all member lists and unfortunately the Silent Keys list. In recent years the timeline has seen additions relating to some of the pioneers of the amateur radio equipment field as well as general electronics and audio electronics. After all, amateur radio is a technical hobby and over the years many hams have been involved in and certainly been a consumer of audio equipment and other types of electronic equipment. Also, any reprints of existing documents are printed exactly as found. There may be misspelling, wrong grammar, slang from a particular era. Things are left as they were originally written.

For 2014, there are significant additions to the timeline covering more general amateur radio history along with more general technical, electronics science and consumer electronics history (remember, Amateur Radio IS a technical pursuit). More members are added to the all-time members list. There is also the beginning of a chapter listing meeting programs
through the years. With the number of new hams entering the hobby, we would like to present as much history relating to the hobby as possible. Yes much of the information can be found elsewhere (information is culled from numerous sources), but often only in bits and pieces.

The 2015 edition as usual adds items to the timeline both new and past news. The usual chapters have additions like Field Day, FM Simplex Contest, Hamfest, Officers, Members, etc.

The date of last revision of a chapter is also now added below chapter titles. Doing so makes it easy to find a chapter which may have had some changes since the last book publication.

During 2015 Duane, KX9N sent me a series of emails discussing some of the missing calls for the names of very early members. He came up with some first names (where we just had initials) and possible call signs and you will see them in the member lists. That's what this book is all about, getting club members involved (of course we get more correspondence from non-members than members)!
The Amateur’s Code
(2015)

For many years, MRAC reprinted “The Amateur’s Code” in rosters and other printed material. It has also been printed by the ARRL, QCWA and various other publications. It is reprinted here for your future reference.

The Amateur’s Code

ONE
The Amateur is Considerate… He never knowingly uses the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

TWO
The Amateur is Loyal … He offers his loyalty, encouragement and support to his fellow radio amateurs, and his local club and to the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio is represented.

THREE
The Amateur is Progressive … He Keeps his station abreast of science. It is well-built and efficient. His Operating practice is above reproach.

FOUR
The Amateur is Friendly … Slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others; these are marks of the amateur spirit.

FIVE
The Amateur is Balanced … Radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school, or his community.

SIX
The Amateur is Patriotic … His knowledge and his station are always ready for the service of his country and his community.

-PAUL M. SEGAL W9EEA (first printed 1928)
A Historical Timeline
(2016)

1836
- Samuel F. B. Morse (an artist), Joseph Henry (a physicist), and Alfred Vail (an inventor) developed a system of sending electrical pulses along a wire controlling an electromagnet to generate clicking sounds representing a “code” to transmit messages.

1837
- William Cooke and Professor Charles Wheatstone patent a multi-wire landline telegraph system using multiple batteries along the wire’s path. Their system also did not use sound but a series of needles which pointed to the alphabet printed on charts.

1848
- Friedrich Clemens Gerke created what was known as the Continental code or Modern International Morse code which was a variation of the original Morse and Vail developed code. Gerke changed half of the alphabet and all of the numbers from the original code. The original form of Morse code became what is known as American Morse (and was primarily used on landline telegraphs, not radio).

1859
- “The Carrington Event” The largest geomagnetic solar storm occurs. It was named for astronomer Richard C. Carrington who observed and recorded the event along with his fellow astronomer Richard Hodgson.

1865
- May 17 – The International Telegraph Union (ITU) is established as a standards organization for landline telegraphy. It would later become the International Telecommunications Union.

1870
- The US establishes the Weather Bureau (later to become the Weather Service).

1876
- March 7 - The first US patent for a telephone (an "apparatus for transmitting vocal or other sounds telegraphically") was granted to Alexander Graham Bell. Over the years there have been disputes over who actually "invented" the telephone. March 10 - Bell transmits the sentence "Mr. Watson, come here! I want to see you!" using a liquid transmitter and an electromagnetic receiver to his assistant Thomas Watson.
- The International Telegraph Union (ITU) begins branching out from landline telegraphy by drafting international rules for the new telephone service.

1877
- Thomas Edison applies for a patent on a carbon (graphite) transmitter (microphone).
1882
- The Milwaukee Journal newspaper is founded (November 16).

1892
- Due to litigation, Edison’s patent on a carbon (graphite) transmitter (microphone) is finally granted.

1896
- The first public presentation of a projected motion picture takes place at Koster and Bial's Music Hall in New York City.

1901
- The Victor Talking Machine Company was formed as a creator of phonographs and phonograph records.
- December 12 – Radio signals received in St. John’s Newfoundland, Canada, from Poldhu, Cornwall, England.
- The College Board administered the first college admissions test which was the forerunner to the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test).

1902
- Horace G. Martin patented an electro-mechanical sending device, the Martin Autoplex (which used batteries). The reason for the invention was to help prevent “glass arm” (carpal tunnel syndrome in today’s terms) in telegraph operators using a straight key for long periods of time.

1903
- Oscar Werwath forms The School Of Engineering (later to become the Milwaukee School Of Engineering – MSOE).
- Italy suggests the use of “SSDDDD” as an international distress call using CW.

1904
- The United Electrical Manufacturing Co. was formed by Horace G. Martin and a group of others. Martin also received another patent for another electro-mechanical sending device. This version did not need batteries. This was the first version of a Vibroplex (bug).
- J. A. Fleming develops the 2 element vacuum tube (diode).
- Commercial shipping in the Atlantic Ocean began employing former landline telegraph operators for the new “wireless”.
- The British Marconi Company adds the letter “D” to the general call “CQ” to signify a distress call (“CQD”).

1905
- Germany suggested “SOE” as a distress call as its ships had been using this for some time. Meanwhile the United States suggested “NC” which was a call for help in flag signaling.
1906
- Lee deForest develops the 3 element vacuum tube (triode).
- The suggestion of “SOE” for distress is changed to “SOS”. That proposal is adopted by the British Marconi Society and the German Telefunk organization at the Berlin Radio Convention in October.

1907
- The Junior Aero Club of U.S. was founded in New York City.

1908
- The United Electrical Manufacturing Co. went out of business. Horace G. Martin then partnered with J. E. Albright to sell the Vibroplex, a new mechanical telegraph key, eventually earning the nickname of “bug”.
- Dutch physicist Heike Kamerlingh Onnes liquefies Helium making it possible to study matter at extremely low temperatures. In 3 years he will advance to the discovery of superconductivity (materials conducting electricity at extremely low temperatures).

1909
- The Junior Wireless Club Limited was formed by members of the Junior Aero Club of the United States.
- Radio Society of the Institute for Geographic Exploration is formed at Harvard University. One year later the group changes its name to the Harvard Wireless Club.
- The San Francisco Radio Club forms.
- William T. Purdy and Carl Beck write the song “On Wisconsin” and premiere the song at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

1910
- The Wireless Institute of Australia is formed.
- The Georgia Tech Amateur Radio Club is formed at Georgia Tech University.
- The Hammarlund Manufacturing Co. is formed in New York City by Oscar Hammarlund to produce variable capacitors and other electronic components.

1911
- Clarence Crapo 9VD begins on the air operations in Boston.
- The Junior Wireless Club Limited changes its name to the Radio Club of America.
- The first Indianapolis 500 race is held.
1912

- Congress passes the Radio Act of 1912, licensing amateur radio operators and restricting them to wavelengths shorter than 200 meters (frequencies greater than 1500 KHz). This was in part to prevent hams from interfering with government radio stations.
- Per the Radio Act of 1912, the Department of Commerce will oversee radio (and amateur radio) operations.
- Amateur Radio call signs will now be government assigned. Previously, hams made up their own call signs (often a person’s initials).
- The Amateur Radio service is created with two classes of licenses, First Grade and Second Grade. First Grade required a written essay examination and a code test of 5 words per minute. The test was administrated before a “Radio Inspector” at a Commerce Department Field Office. The Second Grade license was for people who could not appear at a Commerce Dept. Field Office. An existing Amateur Radio First Grade licensee would administer the test.
- The Hamilton Radio Club is formed in Hamilton Ohio.
- Texas A&M University Radio Club is formed.
- The Albany (New York) Amateur Radio Association is formed.
- The Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE) is formed in New York.
- April 14 - The British steamship Titanic hits an iceberg and sinks during its maiden voyage from Southampton, England, to New York. Prior to this event, ships were not required to have radiomen on duty throughout the day. After the accident 24 hour coverage was required as well as the establishment of a maritime distress frequency (500 Kc).

1913

- The Wireless Association of Cambridge (Ohio) was formed – December 4. It later changed it’s name to the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association.

1914

- The School Of Engineering (later to become Milwaukee School Of Engineering – MSOE) amateur radio club is formed. The call sign was 9SO (later W9SO and then W9HHX).
- January 14 – The Radio Club of Hartford (Ct.) is formed.
- May 18 - The American Radio Relay League was formed by Hiram Percy Maxim 1AW and Clarence Tuska 1WD who was the Secretary of the Radio Club of Hartford.
- The University Of California, Berkeley Amateur Radio Club is formed.
- The National Toy Company was formed. It would later become National Radio Company.
- War breaks out in Europe (the start of World War I).
1915
- The first issue of QST is published by the ARRL.
- The Vibroplex Company was incorporated in New York.
- Alexander Graham Bell and his now former assistant Thomas Watson complete the first coast to coast long distance telephone call.

1916
- January - The San Francisco Radio Club reforms after disbanding earlier.
- The South Jersey Radio Association is incorporated (June 12).
- The Radio Club Of Tacoma (Washington) is formed (October).

1917
- January—The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club was formed by Dr. Loy Schell Hillegas-Baird 9HO, A. C. Kletzsch Jr., J. B. Hitz, and Alonzo Pawling.
- The first MRAC meetings were held in the Trustee’s Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- Clarence Crapo 9VD moves from Boston to Milwaukee. Clarence will become one of the first crop of club members, and will become the clubs first Vice President and then second ever President.
- The U.S. declared war on Germany.
- Radio Amateurs are ordered off the air due to the war.
- ARRL closes down for the war.
- Hammond Manufacturing is founded in Canada. Over the years Hammond will manufacture radio receivers, metal and plastic enclosures (which it still does), audio and power transformers and amateur radio equipment.
- Congress passed the Espionage Act, providing a $10,000 fine and 20 years in prison for anyone who encouraged disloyalty or interfered with the draft.
- U.S. purchases the Virgin Islands from Denmark.
- UW-Madison professor Earle M. Terry founded the university's broadcast radio operations using the call letters 9XM. This would turn into the radio station WHA and Wisconsin Public Radio network.

1918
- The Milwaukee Radio Association disbands. It’s membership is absorbed by MRAC.
- March 13 – The Federal Government decides to legislate time. This was the start of daylight savings time.
- October—the Influenza Epidemic strikes 1/4th of all U.S. citizens. War assembly plants were shut down and panic spreads from coast to coast.
1919

- MRAC became affiliated with the ARRL (December 5). Request letter was sent October 24, 1919. MRAC was the seventh organization affiliated. By 1970 the six prior affiliated clubs had disappeared, making MRAC the longest affiliated club.
- Herbert Tautz forms the Delta Specialty Company in his garage in Milwaukee to manufacture small tools and later light industrial machinery. The company would later become Delta Machinery and then Delta Power Equipment Company (makers of the Unisaw among other power woodworking tools).
- The Austin Amateur Radio Club became affiliated with ARRL also on December 5. They were founded around the same time.
- Ban on amateur radio because of World War I was lifted (October).
- Hiram Percy Maxim, founder of the ARRL, made the first major push to affiliate radio clubs across the country.
- January 3, 9XM in Madison, Wisconsin begins radio broadcasts of weather reports. 9XM would eventually become WHA radio.
- The Radio Corporation of America (RCA) is formed by General Electric (GE) after negotiations with the US government to have GE buy the American Marconi Company (the US based affiliate of the British Marconi Company) and create a company to develop long distance radio communications for use exclusively by the US Army and Navy.
- Ratification of the 18th amendment to the constitution on prohibition outlawing liquor, created turmoil.
- Captain John Alcock and Lt. Arthur Whitten Brown fly the first non-stop flight from Newfoundland to Ireland across the Atlantic Ocean.

1920

- MRAC holds meetings in a lecture room in the OLD Insurance Building through the courtesy of the School Of Engineering (later Milwaukee School Of Engineering).
- MRAC dues are $0.50 per month for Member and Associate (not licensed) members and $0.25 per month for Junior (under 18) members.
- All MRAC members must join ARRL (ARRL dues were $2).
- The Wisconsin Radio League folds and its membership is absorbed by MRAC.
- The South Jersey Radio Association becomes affiliated with ARRL (April 9, 1920).
- The MIT Radio Society of Cambridge Ma becomes affiliated with ARRL (April 14, 1920).
- October, commercial (corporate, not amateur) radio broadcasting begins when Dr. Frank Conrad applies for a commercial broadcasting license. On October 27 a license is granted to the Westinghouse Broadcasting System.
- Nov. 2, 8ZZ in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania broadcasts the results of the Harding – Cox presidential election. Later the call sign would be KDKA, often reported to be the first commercial broadcast radio station (but not entirely true, see 1919 for one example).
- Tucson, Arizona inaugurates the first municipal airport in the country.
1921

- MRAC meets almost every Monday (except for the 3rd Monday of each month) in the Trustee’s Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- First ARRL National Convention is held in Chicago.
- Harold H. Beverage receives a patent for a radio receiving system utilizing a "wave" antenna (a very long wire – at least one or two wavelengths long). The antenna subsequently was named for Beverage (and not for liquid refreshments).
- The Master Lock Company is founded in Milwaukee by locksmith and inventor of the laminated padlock, Harry Soref and two friends, partners, and investors, P.E. Yolles and Sam Stahl.
- Theodore and Milton Deutschmann open the retail store and mail order business, “Radio Shack” in Boston to sell parts and equipment to radio amateurs and maritime radio operators. The store was named “Radio Shack” after the ship board room where radio officers operated.
- Professor Albert Einstein introduced "Time" as the fourth dimension to his theory of relativity.

1922

- MRAC starts its first code and radio building classes.
- MRAC members are still using spark transmitters but agree to stay off the air until after 10:30 PM to minimize interference to new broadcast stations.
- MRAC dues are $0.50 / month (that’s equal to $69.00 for a year in 2007 money or $82.92 in 2013 money) with a $1.00 ($11.50 in 2007 money or $13.82 in 2013 money) initiation fee.
- Broadcast radio station WIAO goes on the air at the Milwaukee School of Engineering on a frequency of 833.3 Kc (or 360 meters as was custom at the time) with a power of 100W.
- The Lincoln Memorial was dedicated in Washington D.C.
- Daily radio broadcasting of music and news was scheduled in New York City. Crystal headphone receiving sets were selling rapidly.
- April 4 – New broadcast radio stations will be assigned a 4 letter call sign beginning with the letter “K” if west of the Mississippi River and “W” if east of the river. 3 letter call signs were in use earlier and were grandfathered in.
1923

- March 10 – MRAC is incorporated in Milwaukee County (with the state of Wisconsin).
- 97 new members joined MRAC during the year.
- The South Side Radio Club and the West Allis Radio Club were formally asked to merge into MRAC. Both declined (primarily due to the distance required to travel to downtown MRAC meetings and the requirement to join ARRL to be an MRAC member, both requirements cited as hardships) and both would soon dissolve (West Allis would reform in 1954). Individual South Side club members would however join MRAC.
- May 15 – All amateur licenses issued after this date would bear the words prohibiting transmission in the evening between the hours of 7:30 PM and 10:30 PM.
- Department of Justice officials asked all amateurs to voluntarily change from spark to CW transmissions.
- Another new license class was created, the Amateur Extra First Grade. This license conveyed additional operating privileges, after passing a more difficult written examination and a code test of 20 words per minute.
- E.F. Johnson company was founded as a mail order supplier of electronic parts.
- The Navy Research Lab (NRL), a research laboratory operating under the command of the US Navy, begins operations at 11 AM, July 2.
- Time magazine was founded.
- The first Schick electric shaver was sold.

1924

- The Milwaukee Journal started a regular column in their newspaper called "HamChatter" dealing with amateur radio and specifically MRAC news.
- MRAC has CW classes and radio theory classes weekly.
- The Milwaukee School Of Engineering Amateur Radio club changes its call sign to W9HHX, still in use today.
- MSOE’s broadcast radio station WIAO changes frequency to 1220 Kc (246 meters) and its call letters to WSOE. At this point the Wisconsin News, a local newspaper owned by the Hearst Corp. began part time programming of the radio station.
- Amateurs using phone transmissions were warned to stop or they would loose their license, only CW was legal at the time.
- Amateurs are given the 80, 40, 20 and 5 meter bands. 40 is the second harmonic of 80 and 20 is the second harmonic of 40.
1925

- MRAC starts its own newsletter following the format of a small magazine. The publication is called the Badger ARRL News. Hams from all across the country joined the club to receive the ‘News.
- MRAC has first QSO Picnic. Location was Delafield.
- The Milwaukee Journal presented medals to 3 MRAC members (Fred Catel 9DTK – Gold, C. E. Miller 9SR – Silver and Carl Hatch 9BBY – Gold) for the highest traffic totals for the month of May.
- IARU – International Amateur Radio Union founded in Paris. Hiram Percy Maxim W1AW becomes the first IARU President (Maxim organized the Paris meeting where IARU formed).
- The Army Amateur Radio System was formed. This is what would become “MARS”.

1926

- MRAC has members in all 48 states due to the popularity of the "Badger ARRL News" newsletter. The newsletter contained diagrams on crystal oscillators and other up to date radio circuits that could be built.
- MRAC dues were $5 for residents and $1 for non-resident ($58.69 and $11.74 in 2007 dollars)!
- MRAC sponsors the “Badger Ham Roundup” on June 12. Most activities take place at the Journal Building with a luncheon at Gimbels Grill Room and banquet at the Hotel Maryland (4th and Sycamore St). $2 admission covers everything except the luncheon.
- Herb Wareing 9NY was made an Honorary Member of MRAC
- General Billy Mitchell begins to establish a modern military air power.
- Henry Ford starts offering his cars in other colors besides black. He also introduces the 8-hour work day and 5 day work week to the auto industry.
- The first multiple choice SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) for college admission testing was administered.
- The “mechanical television” or “televisor” was demonstrated by John Logie Baird (no relation to any MRAC Bairds (I think – ed.), in England.
- NBC organizes the first nationwide radio broadcast network.
1927

- MRAC organizes two baseball teams, the "Key-Klickers" and "Brass Pounders".
- The Racine (Wisconsin) Megacycle Club (amateur radio club) is formed.
- President Calvin Coolidge signs the "Radio Act of 1927 creating the Federal Radio Commission. The commission would have five people.
- The existing Amateur First Grade license is renamed the Amateur Class license.
- The International Radiotelegraph Conference as held in Washington DC (11/25/27) resulted in a new 10M amateur band covering the frequencies of 28.0 – 30.0 MC.
- Also at the International Radiotelegraph Conference the call sign prefixes of W, K, N, and partial use of A are assigned to the United States for use in identifying ALL radio stations (commercial as well as amateur).
- Radio station WSOE changes frequency again (this time required by the new government agency, the Federal Radio Commission) to 1110 Kc (270 meters). The station is also now required to share time with WHAD and to reduce power from 500 to 250 W. In November the station is purchased from the school by the Wisconsin News newspaper. The school continues to operate the station after the purchase.
- Radio station WTMJ ("The Milwaukee Journal") goes on the air.
- The first iron lung is used.
- Charles A. Lindbergh reaches Paris by air in 33 hours and 29 minutes.
- Philo Farnsworth files for a patent on the first all-electronic television system.
- The first talking motion picture is produced.
- TV's first successful transmission is made.
- The Victor Talking Machine Company of Japan, Limited, (JVC) a subsidiary of the United States' Victor Talking Machine Company, was formed.
- There were approximately 30,000 licensed radio amateurs in the US.

1928

- MRAC installs a club station at the Coast Guard Station at McKinley Beach.
- MRAC sponsors the first ARRL Central Division Convention at the Milwaukee Republican Hotel, Friday thru Sunday, May 25 – 27 (April 21 – 22 was the preliminary planned date).
- The MRAC membership committee headed up by E. G. Nickel, W9ETO reports 29 new members joined during the year.
- The Radio Commission starts testing for "Amateur First Grade" licenses.
- Radio station WSOE changes frequency again to 1120 Kc (267 meters) and changes its call letters to WISN.
- The Allied Radio Corporation is formed in Chicago as the radio parts distribution division of Columbia Radio Corporation.
- Paul V. and Joseph E. Galvin started Galvin Manufacturing Corporation in Chicago to produce battery eliminators to power portable battery powered radios on AC.
- Commander Byrd Expedition is in progress to the South Pole. Byrd had amateur radio equipment along.
- Walt Disney releases the first Mickey Mouse cartoon called "Plane Crazy" and also the first cartoon with sound.
1929
- MRAC buys code practice equipment to teach large classes.
- Construction is started in Milwaukee on one of 25 airport projects across the country by new airplane manufacturer Curtis-Wright.
- January – The US Government issues new regulations for amateur radio covering frequency accuracy and distinct amateur bands with an ultimatum – meet the new regulations or surrender frequencies and privileges.
- The Radio Corporation of America (RCA) acquires a controlling interest in the Victor Talking Machine Company.
- Al Capone's infamous St. Valentine's Day Massacre takes place.
- The U.S. Stock Market crashes (for the first time).
- The first public broadcast television transmission to the general public took place in Crystal Palace, London, England by the BBC using an electro-mechanical TV system.

1930
- MRAC continues with annual picnics and code & theory classes.
- The Chicago Northwestern Railway asked for a list of club members who could be called if they had an emergency. Seven MRAC members volunteered.
- Herb Wareing W9NY joins the Milwaukee Police Dept. as head of the department’s radio section. At the time the department had radio receivers (no transmitters) in 16 squad cars.
- ARRL Official Observer Stations were established to watch for Hams operating outside the bands.
- July 6 – The new airport constructed by the Curtis-Wright Corporation in Milwaukee is dedicated. It is initially known as Curtis-Wright Field (WC in airport code). In 1959 the airport will be renamed to Lawrence J. Timmerman Field.
- Galvin Manufacturing Co. introduces the first automobile broadcast radio receiver with the brand name of “Motorola”.
- Galvin Manufacturing Co. also begins selling specialized car radios to Police departments (November).
- Albert Einstein arrives in the U.S. from Germany.
- The existence of the planetary body Pluto is confirmed.

1931
- MRAC members start building 5 meter equipment, 56 Mc (i.e.: 56 MHz).
- The Milwaukee Journal ends "HamChatter" in the newspaper. However, they granted the club time to broadcast information over WTMJ-AM radio.
- The I.R.E. (Institute of Radio Engineers) held a convention June 4-6 in Chicago. Club members were encouraged to attend.
- Herbert Hoover signed an Act making "The Star-Spangled Banner" the national anthem.
- The C. F. Martin Company released the model D-28 dreadnaught style acoustic guitar, the first dreadnaught style guitar ever produced.
- Thomas Edison dies.
1932
- MRAC begins using motion pictures for training and entertainment at meetings.
- The Amateur Class license class is renamed the Amateur First Class license.
- William Halligan founds the Hallicrafters Co. in Chicago, Illinois.
- The Polaroid camera is invented.
- Franklin Roosevelt is elected president, he pledged the "New Deal" for all Americans.
- The School Of Engineering becomes a non-profit corporation and changes its name to the Milwaukee School Of Engineering (MSOE).

1933
- MRAC sponsors a 5 meter QSO party for Friday Oct. 13 between 6 PM and Midnight.
- MRAC sponsors a 40 meter QSO party for Nov. 17 between 7 PM and 11 PM.
- MRAC sponsors a 10 meter QSO party Dec. 10 between Noon and 10 PM.
- ARRL starts the contest / event Field Day. MRAC participates in the very first and has ever since.
- Many MRAC members attend the "Chicago World’s Fair" for radio demonstrations.
- MRAC also works with the Chicago
- In conjunction with the Chicago World’s Fair, Chicago (via the World’s Fair Radio Amateur Council) is hosting the World-Wide Amateur Convention. MRAC’s own Herb Wareing will be giving a technical presentation at the convention.
- Arthur Collins W0CXX (also 9CXX and W9CXX) incorporated the Collins Radio Company in Cedar Rapids Iowa (moving the company out of his basement) producing shortwave and AM broadcast equipment.
- The U. S. Government offered training programs in radio and other fields in an effort to get people to sign up for the "Army or Navy Volunteer Reserve".
- Prohibition is repealed.
- Adolph Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany.

1934
- The first “Hamfesters” hamfest takes place in Illinois.
- Congress creates the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) replacing the Federal Radio Commission. At this time the new FCC also gained regulatory power over common carriers (telephone and telegraph companies) which previously were regulated by the Interstate Commerce Commission.
- The first federal prisoners are assigned to Alcatraz prison located in San Francisco Bay.
1935
- MRAC's founder (Dr. L. S. Hilegas Baird) gets tuberculosis and is confined to a sanatorium.
- MRAC begins on the air code practice on 160 M. These continue until 1941.
- Bootleg 5 meter stations become a problem.
- ARRL creates the “ARRL Emergency Corps”.
- National Radio Company introduces the HRO receiver.
- The Hammond Model A electronic tonewheel organ is introduced.
- Congress enacts Social Security.

1936
- Hiram Percy Maxim, ARRL founder dies.
- Walt W3NPS and Bill W8IFD Good (identical twins) developed and flew the first radio controlled model airplanes.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt is elected President of the US for a second term.
- The Olympics are held in Germany. Hitler expected the games to be a show place to prove the superiority of the Nazi system. As a result the Olympics featured the first live television broadcast of a sporting event.

1937
- At the 14th annual MRAC QSO Stag Party, held at the Milwaukee Athletic Club, attendees were offered the opportunity to “enlist” in the US Naval Communication Reserve. Wisconsin has 280 spots available. Qualifications include be between the ages of 17 and 35, possess an amateur license or ability to copy 16 words per minute of Morse code.
- ARRL introduces the DXCC awards program. When 75 countries are worked an amateur was listed in QST. When they had 100 countries worked a certificate was awarded.
- Howard Hughes established a transcontinental flight record.
- The Golden Gate Bridge is dedicated in San Francisco.
- Amelia Earhart makes her last flight.

1938
- Amateurs gain the 2.5M and 1.25M bands (US only). However amateurs worldwide loose the exclusive use of 40M which is opened up to shortwave broadcasting.
- Nazi Germany takes over Czechoslovakia.
- Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is the top money making movie of the year.
- William Hewlett and David Packard begin working together part time in a rented garage in Palo Alto California developing electronic equipment.
1939

- MRAC sets up a booth at the Wisconsin Hobby Exposition at the Auditorium.
- MRAC Dues at $0.25 / month (yes monthly).
- MRAC Meetings are held at the Milwaukee Public Museum.
- Prior to each MRAC meeting code classes were conducted by Fred Lambrecht W9YEG.
- MRAC has 72 members.
- The 16th annual MRAC sponsored “QSO Party” at the Milwaukee Athletic Club had over 300 Wisconsin hams in attendance.
- MRAC sponsors a 5 meter hidden transmitter contest.
- MRAC provides communications between the official timers for the September Curtis-Wright Airport Air Races.
- Galvin Manufacturing Co. begins selling a line of AM mobile two-way radios for use by public service agencies.
- FDR is the first President on TV over the NBC experimental channel.
- Scientists split the atom.
- Germany invades Poland.
- August 12 – The movie “The Wizard Of Oz” starring Judy Garland, has its world premiere at the Strand theater in Oconomowoc Wisconsin, 3 days before premiering in Hollywood. The producers wanted to test the movie in the Midwest and Oconomowoc was selected.
- William Hewlett and David Packard decide to make their partnership official. They form The Hewlett Packard Company (the exact name – which name would come first – is determined by a coin flip). The first product is the HP200 audio oscillator. The first major customer was the Walt Disney Company which wanted the oscillators to help theaters setup their facilities for the showing of the movie “Fantasia”.

1940

- MRAC sponsors the Wisconsin State ARRL Convention at the Schroeder Hotel (June 15,16).
- Any MRAC member who conducts the code classes prior to MRAC meetings will not have to pay dues for the year.
- ARRL creates the DXCC Honor Roll for those with the most countries worked.
- Dr. Vladimir K. Zworykin demonstrates the first electron microscope.
- Women’s Nylon stockings go on sale.
- U.S. cipher experts use a technique they called "Magic" to break the Japanese secret diplomatic code.
- FDR is elected for his third term.
- The first helicopters are flying.
1941

- With a number of members going into the armed forces due to the war, MRAC members still in Milwaukee record a series of 78 rpm records to send audible greetings to members overseas.
- MRAC organized a bowling party for December 6.
- December 8—MRAC worked with the Mayors office to set up a state-wide and local civil defense program.
- MRAC withdraws from the Chicago Area Radio Council.
- MRAC investigates the possibility of Life memberships.
- MRAC-UHF Emergency Corps has their first meeting with a topic of the defining of equipment connector standards for portable equipment interoperability in time of emergency.
- The ARRL is flooded with requests from the government for technical men needed on National Defense projects. Special registration blanks were included in the December QST. The government was looking for specialist with radio experience to replace civilian workers that have been called into the service or to a defense post.
- Galvin Manufacturing Co. introduces the first FM two-way radios for public service agencies.
- December 7—the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor.
- The Red Cross suggested that club members form a group to take First Aid instructions ASAP.
- Rubber tires are the first items to be rationed due to the war.
- FCC licensed 10 commercial television broadcast stations (May 2). The first commercial television station, WNBT began broadcasting July 1. WNBT eventually changed it call letters to WNBC.
1942

- MRAC members start the War Emergency Radio Service in Milwaukee. Stations required a special license to operate on 2 1/2 meters with a maximum input power of 25 watts. Stations were located at all city of Milwaukee Police stations.
- MRAC has 74 members (12 in the Armed Forces).
- MRAC sends one carton of cigarettes to each member in the Armed Forces.
- MRAC member Sid Rose W9VKC is working at a FCC monitoring station in Ferndale, Michigan.
- After years of lobbying by Herb Wareing W9NY, the city of Milwaukee approves $49, 651 to begin installing 2 way radio equipment in police vehicles. Milwaukee is the last US city with a population of more than 500,000 to do so.
- Jan. 15—All amateurs go off the air. (The military has sole use of the amateur frequencies).
- February 5 - Signal Corps is looking for radio operators.
- March 15—Marine Corps offered a qualified radio man a rank of Staff Sergeant and $72 per month to join up.
- April—Raytheon tube company is recruiting radio men for training on microwave radio defense systems. (Radar).
- June – Per ARRL suggestion, the FCC creates the War Emergency Radio Service. MRAC will get heavily involved with this.
- “Radio City”, the studios and headquarters of WTMJ radio is constructed on Capitol Dr. and Humboldt Ave.
- Col. Doolittle’s Raiders bomb Tokyo.
- Gasoline rationing goes into effect.
- U.S. wins battle at Midway Island.
1943

- MRAC buys 5 Series F war bonds.
- Club meetings were held every Thursday at the Milwaukee Public Library. Many times only 6 - 8 attended (due to members being in military service for the war), but it kept the club active.
- MRAC’s Erwin Kreis W9HRM, Tommy Gettelman W9IZO, and Charlie Meyer W9GVL create and send out monthly newsletters to club members in the armed forces to let them know what is going on at home.
- Robert Lloyd Drake Sr. founds the R. L. Drake Company in Ohio to produce low pass and high pass filters for the US government and the amateur radio market.
- January 7 – Nikola Tesla, inventor/engineer passes away.
- A new form of mold on cantaloupe is discovered that yields 10 times the amount of penicillin as previous sources.
- Roosevelt and Churchill decide that "Unconditional Surrender" will be demanded from all enemies.
- The IRS created the W-2 form for tax withholding.
- Incendiary bombing starts a new phenomenon, the "Intense Fire Storm" warfare is born.
- The 100th year anniversary of the first practical electric telegraph. A commemorative postage stamp was issued for the occasion.
- The 75th anniversary of the first transcontinental railroad line.
- The 125th anniversary of the first ship to cross the Atlantic under steam power.
- Paperback books are introduced.
- Hitler starts using the Buzz Bomb (Over 9000 were used).
- The V-2 rocket began use. The first V-2 went out of control and landed in Sweden. Its remains were quickly recovered and sent to the British.

1944

- MRAC members construct and install 23 fixed stations for the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) throughout Milwaukee. Stations were “sponsored” by various hams with Tom Gettelman W9IZO providing wood for antenna supports for all stations.
- WERS stations are tested every Wednesday by sending simulated traffic.
- MRAC sends a poem to ARRL Secretary K.B. Warner in congratulations of his 25 years of service to the ARRL.
- MRAC newsletters (called Bulletins) are mailed to 55 club members in the armed forces stationed in various locations throughout the world during the war.
- MRAC Bulletins regularly reported on the situations and locations and deployments of members stationed away from Milwaukee.
- The Post Office issues a commemorative stamp marking the centennial of Samuel Morse’ successful demonstration of the electric telegraph. MRAC newsletters (Bulletins) for the month of June were mailed using the limited supply stamps.
- MRAC has only one Life Member, Don Seibel xW9ESF.
1945

- MRAC members terminate their efforts with the War Emergency Radio Service and take the antennas down.
- Amateurs can go back on the air – gradually. The 2.5 meter band is opened up August 21.
- CQ Magazine publishes its first issue in January with a cover price of $0.25. John H. Potts is the first Editor and Sanford R. Cowan is the Publisher.
- Amateur license terms are extended from 3 to 5 years.
- November 15 – ARRL creates a new DXCC program, forcing all amateurs to start over with their countries worked totals.
- Japan starts using Kamikaze pilots.
- Hitler commits suicide.
- The atomic bomb is dropped on Japan, effectively ending the Pacific war.
- Akio Morita founds the Sony Corporation in Japan.
- The Federal Government drops control over the sale of radio tubes.
- The new FM broadcast system is relocated to 88 through 106 MHz.

1946

- Erwin Kreis W9HRM passed away. In 1947 MRAC will apply for a club license with his call.
- The city of Milwaukee celebrates its 100th anniversary with the Milwaukee Centurama. MRAC operated a special event station handling messages for the public using the call W9USA.
- The ARRL holds the first Simulated Emergency Test (SET).
- Most pre-war amateur bands are opened up for use. The previous 5 meter band moves to 6 meters and the 2.5 meter band moves to 2 meters. 160 meters remains reserved for LORAN use.
- Lt. Colonel John D. DeWitt Jr (N4CBC) points an Army radar antenna array (3000W at 112 MHz) at the moon and receives the reflected signal marking the first time a radio signal was bounced off the moon.
- The Army Amateur Radio System (AARS) resumes operation after being suspended at the start of World War II.
- June 17 – Mobile telephone service (calls from automobiles) begins in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Calculation by computer begins. The ENIAC computer had over 18,000 vacuum tubes.
- The first bank drive up window is used.
- Paul W. Klipsch founds Klipsch and Associates in Hope Arkansas to build high fidelity loudspeakers.
- The Kasuga Radio Co. Ltd. Is formed in Komagane City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan. This is the company which would become Trio Electronics and then Kenwood (and then Kenwood-JVC).
1947

- MRAC applies for its first club call. W9HRM, from deceased member Erwin Kreis. Aldrich Krones, W9UIT, will be the first club license Trustee.
- At the International Radio Conference held in Atlantic City NJ the upper 300 Kc of the 10M band was removed from ham use (the band now being 28-29.7 Kc) being turned over to fixed and mobile service (public service). In addition parts of 80, 40, and 20 meters are removed from amateur use. In return the 15 meter band is opened to amateurs. Also granted was access, on a shared basis (with industrial, scientific, and medical devices) to the 11 meter band, 26.96 Mc – 27.23 Mc.
- Transequatorial Propagation was first observed on 50 MHz when W7ACS/KH6 worked VK5RL.
- CQ magazine takes over the Worked All Zones (WAZ) award from Radio magazine.
- Norwegian explorer and writer Thor Heyerdahl and a crew of 5 cross the Pacific Ocean in a 45 foot raft constructed of balsa wood and bamboo named the Kon-Tiki. The purpose was to prove South American people could have reached Polynesia in pre-Columbus times. The trip took 101 days. Amateur radio was used to maintain communications using the callsign LI2B.
- ARRL starts the “new” DXCC Honor Roll for those with the most countries worked under the new, restarted program.
- The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) becomes a United Nations Agency
- WTMJ-TV goes on the air as the first commercial television station in Milwaukee.
- Galvin Manufacturing Co. changes its name to Motorola.
- The first tubeless tires are introduced.
- Chuck Yeager breaks the sound barrier.
- The germanium based point contact transistor is invented by John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, and William Shockley at Bell Labs.
1948

- MRAC sponsors the ARRL National Convention at the Milwaukee Auditorium (September 4-6) resulting in an $8000 profit (equivalent to $64,829.88 in 2005 dollars or $73,525.84 in 2007 dollars or $77,648 in 2014 dollars)! The convention includes welcoming speeches by then Milwaukee Mayor Frank Zeidler and Wisconsin Governor Oscar Rennebohm.
- MRAC gets its first demonstration of SSB from W2KUJ of General Electric R&D (at the ARRL national convention).
- MRAC meets every Thursday at 8 PM in the Conference Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum (except the months of June, July and August).
- Commander Fred Catel, W9DTK, a club member, arranges a tour of the USS Tautog submarine docked at the Broadway bridge downtown.
- The Army Amateur Radio System joins with the Air Force to become the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS).
- The FCC establishes the “Citizens Radio Service” in the 465 MHz frequency range with two categories, “Class A” and “Class B”. Class B used radios with simpler technical standards.
- Religion is abolished in public school classrooms.
- The first solar heating system is installed.
- The first 33 RPM records come out.
- The Berlin Airlift starts.
- Varian Associates is founded in California. One of its first products was a device to measure the gyro-magnetic ratio of certain atoms. The effect would later become known as nuclear magnetic resonance.

1949

- MRAC’s Jack Doyle W9GPI begins a two year term as ARRL Central Division Director
- Florida becomes the first state to issue Amateur Radio automobile license plates
- U.S. born "Tokyo Rose" gets 10 year sentence for treason.
- Frank McIntosh founds McIntosh Laboratories to produce high quality audio amplifiers.
- The first woman’s bikini is sold.
1950

- MRAC starts an official membership drive to get all hams in the county to become members of the club,
- MRAC purchases a new International 1-1/2 ton “Metro” panel truck, trailer, and associated radio and electronic equipment at a cost of around $4000 ($38,500 in 2013 money). The purpose of the truck is for club activities as well as emergency operations in conjunction with local civil defense authorities. There were 2 complete operating positions with equipment by Collins, National and Harvey-Wells. There was also a Motorola receiver crystalized for Milwaukee Police frequencies. The truck towed a matching trailer with a 2.5 KW generator. The truck was distinctively marked with the clubs call, W9HRM (at the time).
- MRAC resumes code practice on the air, this time on 10M (29.1 Mc). Sessions are Tuesdays, Wednesdays (handled by Jim Ott W9LCD) and Fridays (done by Joe Thompson W9LJT – a resident patient of the V. A. hospital).
- MRAC sponsors a VHF/UHF contest on February 12 from 10 – 11 PM. The contest is open to all hams, but only MRAC members are eligible for awards.
- Harry Paston W9DJV, editor of the MRAC newsletter “Hamateur Chatter” resigns his position to move to Connecticut to become Assistant Secretary of ARRL.
- MRAC Mobile Wing provides communications for the Milwaukee Soap Box Derby.
- MRAC (the Mobile Division of the club) provides communications for the “Good Neighbor Community Fund Drive” parade on Sunday Oct.1. 20 Mobiles with 35 club members worked the event. This was the first time a parade had used the services of radio amateurs to help coordinate the parade operations as well as provide first aid communications (2 ambulances were called). MRAC was congratulated for its work by Mayor Frank Zeidler over the air using the mobile radio of W9FTY. There was also a Milwaukee Sentinel story of the ham activities with the headline “City Hams Blanket Parade Win Praise From Zeidler.”
- MRAC officially forms a local Amateur Radio Emergency Corps (AREC, the forerunner of the current Amateur Radio Emergency Service – ARES). The first meeting of each month (the first Thursday) will be devoted to AREC operations and discussions. The AREC operations will be headed by a committee consisting of 2 AREC members and 2 MRAC directors.
- MRAC exchanges correspondence with Lee de Forest regarding triode tube applications.
- The third annual ARRL VHF Sweepstakes had 400 entries which included 7 MRAC members
- The 16th annual ARRL CW Sweepstakes had 925 entries. The Central Division was won by the Wisconsin Section Communication Manager, Reno Goetsch W9RQM.(seventh overall) Second place was the MRAC secretary Art Vahovius W9VSO (eleventh overall) and Third was MRAC member Russ Greenwood W9LVR (16th overall). 5 Other members also entered logs.
- The Korean “war” starts. China sends 850,000 troops to help North Korea resist our Police Action.
1951

- The guest speaker at the April 19 MRAC meeting was Ed Handy W1BDI, ARRL Communications Manager.
- MRAC adds the office of Second Vice-President. 1st V.P. was Travis Baird W9VQD and the 2nd V.P. was Ken Eggert W9MOT.
- The club’s Articles of Incorporation are changed to institute a change to the method of electing officers (going to a direct election with a nominating committee, instead of the membership just electing a board of directors and the board selecting who is what officer).
- MRAC meets every Thursday evening (except for summer months) at the Milwaukee Public Library in the second floor conference room 8:00 PM.
- MRAC installs Civil Defense amateur radio stations in area police departments and some fire departments. This was similar to the War Emergency Radio Service installations during World War II.
- September – MRAC Communications van is officially dedicated at the club picnic at Kletzsch Park. Festivities were attended by Captain Michael F. Phillips, Director of Milwaukee Civil Defense and Disaster Committee and Karl Werwath President of Milwaukee School of Engineering.
- The MRAC communications van appears at the Milwaukee Auto Show. Club member Jack Doyle W9GPI was a member of the Auto Show management committee making the appearance possible.
- Wisconsin gets Amateur Radio callsign license plates.
- FCC creates the Novice, Technician and Extra class licenses to join the Advanced (formerly class A), General (formally Class B) and Conditional (formerly class C) licenses. Licenses terms were now 5 years except Novice which was 1 year, non-renewable. Novices were limited to 75 watts input with crystal frequency control of CW on portions of the HF bands. Novices also had CW and Phone privileges in the 145-147 MHz segment of 2 meters. All Novice call signs were 2x3 with the second letter being an “N”. The Novice test was a 20 question written and 5 wpm CW test originally administered by FCC examiners. Also, a person could only hold a Novice license one time. The Technician license as created had all amateur privileges from 220 MHz and up (No 6 or 2 meters). The intent was to get a bunch of people experimenting on the then new (their first use was during WWII) “UHF” frequencies.
- Over 3 million Koreans are dead in one year due to the “war”.
- National Engineers Week is created. The date is selected to coincide with Washington’s birthday President Washington was an engineer who was the first to call for an engineering school in the United States.
- The 22nd amendment is added to the Constitution - No person can be a U.S. President for more than two terms.
1952
- MRAC has 250 members.
- MRAC provided communications for an auto race at Elkhart Lake. Twenty-five members stationed in their cars strategically parked around the 7-1/2 mile race course funneled their observations of the race's progress to the net control.
- MRAC ladies auxiliary is started.
- The cover of the May 1952 Issue (Special Mobile Issue) of CQ magazine features the MRAC communications van. A one column story appears on page 80 (as written by Charlie Kaetel W9SNK).
- March 22 – The first South-Western Ohio Hamvention was held at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Dayton Ohio. 600 people were in attendance with 7 exhibitors and 6 forums. The next year the name of the convention would be changed to the Dayton Hamvention.
- US Amateurs are allowed access to the 15 meter band.
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is formed.
- December—FCC stopped issuing new Advanced class licenses and took away unique Advanced and Extra privileges, everyone General and up had the same privileges (after changing license classes and rules 1 year earlier).
- The first UHF TV station goes on the air.
- Denver TV station is the first to go on the air with more than 5KW of power.
- Vice President Richard Nixon goes on live TV to address allegations of improper fundraising in a speech which became known as the “Checkers” speech due to references to the family dog named Checkers.

1953
- MRAC starts an achievement award program for making contacts and participating in contests.
- 1x3 “K” prefix calls begin to be assigned where 1x3 “W” call signs ran out.
- January—The first amateur radio signals reflected from the moon were heard.
- Novices were given the use of a small portion of the then new 40M band (CW only).

1954
- The West Allis Radio Club is formed (again).
- Novice license testing was turned over to volunteer hams who would administer the code test, send paperwork to the FCC who would then return a written test which the volunteer would administer and then send to the FCC for final grading.
- Inoue Corp (now Icom) is founded by Tokuzo Inoue in Osaka, Japan.
- Edwin Howard Armstrong, the real inventor of FM and related FM broadcasting committed suicide by jumping from his 13th floor New York apartment window after suffering the emotional and financial effects of his legal battles with RCA over FM patents (the suits were eventually settled in Armstrong’s favor, well after his death).
- Jim Wilson of the Milwaukee Braves pitches a no hitter against the Philadelphia Phillies at Milwaukee County Stadium winning 2-0.
- The first silicon transistor is produced by Texas Instruments.
1955

- MRAC establishes TVI technical staff to help all Milwaukee amateurs that are having TVI problems.
- MRAC Old Timers Nite (December 29) was held at Pabst Blue Ribbon Hall with 103 in attendance.
- A membership drive during the year results in 40 new members.
- MRAC has 260 members (paid and Life).
- MRAC meetings are changed to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month (except June, July and August).
- MRAC meetings average attendance for the year is 62.
- A Waukesha Amateur Radio Club is formed.
- Technician class licensees receive 6 meter privileges.

1956

- MRAC meets every Thursday evening at 8 PM at the Lutheran Center 1113 W. State St. except during the months of June, July, and August.
- For one hour prior to every MRAC meeting Al Belanger W9MDG taught code practice.
- MRAC sells its communications van to the City of Milwaukee Civil Defense Organization due to increasing insurance and maintenance costs as well as lack of easy accessibility (being stored in the City of Milwaukee garage which allowed access only during weekday normal business hours). The price the city paid was $3500 including the installed radios.
- May 21 – WITI-TV goes on the air as an independent TV station in Milwaukee.
- U.S. starts the Interstate Highway System.
- The Nobel Prize in Physics is awarded to the 3 inventors of the transistor - John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, and William Shockley.
- One of the inventors of the transistor, William Shockley starts a company, Shockley Semiconductor, in Mountain View California to pursue his visions of the future of silicon devices.

1957

- MRAC’s very own Jack Doyle W9GPI begins another term as ARRL Central Division Director (having previously served from 1949-1951). He will serve 2 more terms until 1963.
- MRAC meets every Thursday evening at 8 PM at the Milwaukee Central Library 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. except during the months of June, July, and August.
- Collins radio introduces the KWM-1, the first amateur transceiver. It was also the first SSB transmitting device. It covered 10, 15, and 20 meters.
- Russia launches the first satellite, named Sputnik (October 4).
- The R. L. Drake Co. introduces the model 1A receiver. It possibly is the first receiver designed specifically to receive single sideband, then a new voice mode.
- The Milwaukee Braves baseball team wins the World Series, beating the New York Yankees 4 games to 3.
- Fairchild Semiconductor is formed from 8 engineers who left Shockley Semiconductor. Among the 8 engineers are Gordon Moore and Robert Noyce who would later form Intel Corporation. The engineers are sometimes referred to as “the gang of 8”.

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1958

- MRAC meets the first 3 Wednesdays of the month at the ESM Building 3112 Highland Ave. except during the months of June, July, and August.
- MRAC members participate with and supervise a drawing for a Hallicrafters receiver at Amateur Electronic Supply’s Christmas Party.
- 27 MHz taken away from hams and the Citizens Radio Service created.
- Every amateur station was required to have a receiver capable of receiving possible emergency broadcasts of the CONELRAD (Control of Electromagnetic [or Electronic] Radiation) broadcast system (on either 640 Kc or 1240 Kc) and to monitor it any time their station was transmitting (so they could immediately shut down in case of an enemy attack).
- Cosmos Industries introduces the Cosmophone 35 SSB transciever. Over the next couple of years a total of only 100 of 3 different Cosmophone models 35, 50 and 1000), were ever produced including the model 1000, a kilowatt version of the transceiver.
- Harmon / Kardon introduces the first Hi Fi stereo receiver (Tuner, preamp, and power amplifier in one package).
- The Milwaukee Braves baseball team again won the National League pennant but this time lost the World Series to the New York Yankees 3 games to 4.
1959

- MRAC Sponsored the Wisconsin QSO Party. First place winners in 5 divisions receive engraved gold cups made possible by commercial sponsors.
- Clarence Crapo W9VD received a plaque for 40 years of membership and service to the club.
- MRAC will begin sponsoring a Contest Cup Award to be first awarded in 1960 for members active in on-air contesting.
- Amateur Electronic Supply starts demo's of new equipment at MRAC meetings courtesy of Terry Sterman W9DIA (AES owner and MRAC member).
- MRAC members go on a field trip to the Hallicrafters plant in Chicago.
- MRAC meets the first 3 Thursdays of each month at the Lutheran Center 1113 W. State St. except during the months of June, July and August.
- MRAC member Carl Rohde W9ROM is selected as the winner of a regional completion for a slogan for the Hallicrafters Corp new VHF SSB equipment. He won a $100 gift certificate.
- The 9th Midwest YL Convention is held in Milwaukee (May 22-23 at the Polly Valley Motel, 12700 W. Blue Mound Rd). The group has members in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.
- Collins Radio introduces the KWM-2 80-10 Meter SSB/CW transceiver.
- Technician class licensees are given a portion of the 2 meter band (145-147MHz).
- ARRL petitions the FCC to expand the 20 meter band from 14.300 MHz to 14.350 MHz.
- Alaska becomes the 49th state.
- Hawaii becomes the 50th state.
- Fidel Castro takes over Cuba as dictator.
- America’s first 7 astronauts are selected.
- There are 159,000 licensed amateurs in the U.S.
1960

- MRAC still runs Civil Defense Emergency drills (latest in May 1960).
- MRAC meets the first 3 Thursdays of each month at the Milwaukee Public Museum. except during the months of June, July and August.
- MRAC together with the West Allis Radio Club hold 2 10 meter “phone” contests (Feb 10 and Nov 16) which run for 1 hour. There were approximately 50 participants. There are also a CW only contest on Wed evening April 6.
- MRAC sponsors the Wisconsin State QSO Party on the second Sunday in December. 38 logs were submitted with a few more stations participating.
- MRAC holds a picnic at Kletsch Park on Sunday July 17.
- With spearheading by MRAC, The Wisconsin Council Of Radio Clubs is re-activated with its first new meeting held Feb 25 in Fond du Lac and presided over by MRAC’s Jack Doyle W9GPI.
- July—The first amateur radio moonbounce 2 way contact takes place.
- U.S. Hams received an additional 50 KC at the top end of the 20 meter band.
- October - The first issue of “73” magazine is published. It was 68 pages long. A subscription was $3 per year, $5 for 2 years and $7 for 3 years with DX subscriptions going for $1 per year more. The cover price was 37 cents (73 backwards).
- The U.S. signs a treaty with Japan to defend them against future attacks. U.S. builds first military bases in Japan.
- President Kennedy makes a speech which commits the U.S. to putting a man on the moon before the end of the decade (“We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard; because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one we intend to win.”).
- U2 spy plane is shot down over Russia.
- U.S. launches first reconnaissance satellite.
- FDA approves the first oral contraceptive (birth control) pills, $10 for one month supply.
- The U.S. atomic sub "Triton" circumnavigates the globe in 84 days, 30,708 miles.
- Lew Burdette of the Milwaukee Braves pitches a no hitter against the Philadelphia Phillies again at Milwaukee County Stadium (August 18), beating the Phillies 1-0, missing a perfect game by only a hit batter (who was erased on the bases by a double play) soon followed by Warren Spahn who threw another no hitter on September 16 also against the Phillies winning 4-0.
- The Kasuga Radio Co. Ltd. Of Japan changes its name to Trio Electronics. It would later change its name to Kenwood Corp.
1961

- MRAC meets the first and third Thursday evenings at 8 PM at the Milwaukee Central Library 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. except during the months of June, July, and August.
- MRAC sponsors a CW only 10 meter contest on Thursday evening Feb 16. There were 20 participants.
- Milwaukee Amateur Radio Emergency Corps meets monthly at the Police Station at 47th and Vilet under the direction of Bob Goldstein K9KJT, Milwaukee County Emergency Coordinator (and MRAC member).
- December 12 - OSCAR 1, the first amateur radio satellite and the first non-government sponsored satellite is launched.
- Heathkit introduces the DX-60 AM / CW crystal controlled 75 / 90 watt transmitter. There will be a DX-60 and a "A" and "B" version over the years. The transmitter will be very popular with Novices and new Generals. There will be a matching VFO (HG-10) and receiver (HR-10).
- The Mosley Company, maker of antennas, introduces its one and only ever electronic product, a receiver, the CM-1. Few were sold and after one year the receiver was discontinued.
- Kenwood USA is created as a distribution company for Trio Electronics products sold in the US. The company was formed by William “Bill” Kasuga, George Aratani and Yoichi Nakase.
- President Kennedy creates the "Peace Corps".
- Russia puts the first man into space.
- Congress passes a bill making it a Federal crime to hijack an airplane or ship.
- The Berlin wall is built dividing the city into West and East (Communist run).
- The 1st U.S. military companies arrive in South Vietnam.
- Warren Spahn throws his second no hitter on April 28 at County Stadium beating the San Francisco Giants 1-0.
- The Green Bay Packers win the NFL championship.

1962

- January 5 - Emil Felber W9RH takes over as trustee of the club license (W9HRM) from Tom Gettleman W9IZO.
- MRAC Meetings are at 8 PM on the first and third Thursdays (except June, July and August) at the Central Library in downtown Milwaukee.
- MRAC has 170 members including 36 Life and 6 Honorary (no dues from those).
- June—OSCAR 2, the second amateur radio satellite is launched. It transmits on 2 meters (there is no receive).
- Navy-Marine Corps MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) is formed.
- John Glenn orbits the earth in Friendship 7. The event was televised on TV and watched by 135 million Americans.
- The first privately owned satellite "Telstar" relays TV programs.
- U.S. blockades Russian ships delivering missiles from reaching Cuba. The U.S. threatens to invade Cuba not knowing that the Russians already had 12 small nuclear missiles in Cuba. The Russians fortunately back down.
- The Green Bay Packers again win the NFL championship.
1963

- To help raise money for the ARRL building fund, MRAC holds a “Jack Doyle Testimonial Dinner”.
- MRAC has 191 members.
- MRAC meetings move to the Milwaukee School of Engineering in the Allen Bradley Hall Of Science, still the first and third Thursdays except for June, July and August.
- MRAC member and past and future officer Carl Rohde W9ROM puts a combined base station and repeater on the frequencies of 146.34 MHz input and 146.94 MHz output into operation. This is one of the first repeater systems in the upper Midwest. Eventually the system becomes the 146.82 repeater.
- ARRL proposes the famous Incentive Licensing program to the FCC.
- The first Russian woman orbits the earth.
- The IRE (Institute of Radio Engineers) merged with the American Institute of Electrical Engineers to form the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers).
- Race riots are becoming common in the U.S.
- 115 countries sign a World Treaty banning nuclear test in the atmosphere, except France and China.
- The international telecommunications conference designates “SOS” and “Mayday” be accepted for distress situations in space (having been designated for use in maritime situations previously).
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. starts his civil rights marches in Washington.
- November - President John F. Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas, Texas.

1964

- MRAC proposes a merger with the Milwaukee Amateur Radio Emergency Corps (AREC). AREC was formed by MRAC some years earlier. It appears no action was ever taken.
- U.S. Post Office releases Ham Radio stamp on the 50th anniversary of the ARRL.
- The Beatles make their first live US television appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show as well as released the movie “A Hard Day’s Night”.
- China explodes their first atomic bomb.
1965

- MRAC contributes $192 to the ARRL building fund.
- During the weekends of July 3 and July 24 the radio telescope (1000 foot diameter dish) at Arecibo, Puerto Rico is put on 432 MHz EME (moon bounce) by KP4BPZ (500W on SSB and CW).
- GE ceases the publication of the GE Ham News – a newsletter which covered various technical topics of interest to radio amateurs.
- OSCAR III is launched. It is the first 2 way amateur satellite with both uplink and downlink on the 2 meter band.
- Palm Sunday – an outbreak of 48 tornados cuts a path across Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. By the end of the storms, 260 people are killed and up to 3400 people are injured.
- After a study and report from the National Weather Service following the Palm Sunday tornado outbreak, the terms “Tornado Watch” and “Tornado Warning” are introduced.
- Merle Kachenmeister WA8EWW a National Weather Service employee in Toledo, Ohio organizes the “Tri-State Weather Network” (based on the southern “Skywatch” program) to increase the number of trained severe weather spotters. The program evolves into the nationwide “Skywarn” program.
- National Radio Company introduces the all solid state HRO-500 receiver.
- The Chicago FM Club (CFMC) is formed.
- U.S. bombs North Vietnam as the first troops land in DaNang.
- The first cigarette packages to have health warnings on them are produced.
- National attention is brought to ban the use of the drug LSD.
- Ralph Nader, a young lawyer, fights for safety regulations on all cars.
- The Treasury Dept. reports the Vietnam war is costing America $1,200,000,000.00 per month.
- A folk singer named Bob Dylan performs an electric guitar based 3 song set at the Newport Folk Festival shocking festival goers and changing the course of music to come.
- The Green Bay Packers win the NFL Championship.
1966

- MRAC Meetings continue at the Milwaukee School Of Engineering but move to the Broadway Building on the first Thursday of each month except for July and August.
- MRAC receives a donation from WISN-AM of their old 5000 watt AM transmitter. The transmitter will eventually be sold to another broadcast station with the proceeds going to establish Milwaukee County AREC Inc. (the board which handles the capital equipment for ARES).
- Amateur Radio Emergency Corps Inc. (basically a board of directors for AREC) is formed as a tax exempt corporation to receive donations and own equipment. The entire board first consists of MRAC members.
- The South Milwaukee Radio Club is formed by Vern Teske W9RYA, an MRAC member. Vern learned the plan of two auctions per year (spring and fall) from MRAC at the time. He would remain club President until his death in March 2010!
- OSCAR IV is launched. It is the first amateur satellite to utilize different uplink and downlink frequency bands. 2 meters up and 70 cm down.
- The R. L. Drake Co. introduces the R4A receiver.
- The Hallicrafters Co. is sold to Northrop Corp.
1967

- MRAC sponsors its second Central Division ARRL Convention. The West Allis and Menomonee Falls clubs join to help at the convention. Advance sale tickets are $5.50 and include convention entry and banquet. The club made a profit of $170 (their share of the total profit).
- MRAC Meetings move to the second Thursday of each month except for July and August (still in the B Building of the Milwaukee School Of Engineering).
- MRAC has 160 members.
- MRAC dues is $7 per year and includes ARRL membership!
- The Wisconsin Nets Association sponsors the Wisconsin State QSO Party.
- Dave Theophilus W9KWG and Sherm Carr W9NGT (who was Section Emergency Coordinator) begin working with the National Weather Service on a system of storm spotting and weather info transfer using hams (modeled after the new Skywarn program...)
- Allied Radio stops selling ham equipment in its stores. The stores had a dedicated space called “The Ham Shack”.
- The Pontiac Motor Co (division of General Motors) has a program to provide QSL cards to any licensed radio amateur. Up to 100 cards per year per person are available.
- “Incentive Licensing” takes effect, returning the Advanced class license and taking privileges away from Generals, effectively stopping growth of Amateur Radio and causing a lot of bad feelings among the amateur community for the ARRL who originally proposed the program (see 1963). The plan was implemented in 3 “phases” taking a total of 3 years to appear.
- Chicago TV Station WFLD installs a working ham station in its news studio and broadcasts live public service communications during the blizzard of 1967.
- "Hippie" and "Flower Children" movement (mainly in areas of San Francisco) attracts national media attention.
- There are race riots in 127 cities across the country, including Milwaukee. The National Guard is called out.
- The Green Bay Packers beat the Kansas City Chiefs 35-10 to win the first Super Bowl.
1968

- MRAC (in conjunction with the West Allis, Ozaukee, and Menomonee Falls clubs and AREC) operates a demonstration station at the then fledgling Summerfest. The tent housing the station blew down during severe winds causing some damage, but a new tent was erected and a station was put back on the air.
- Numerous discussions occurred during the year as to how to increase club membership and meeting attendance.
- MRAC conducts code practice on 10 meters every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening (beginning April). Walt Glish W9YYW, Bob Stuckert WA9SYD, and Ray Weeks WA9JOV conduct the sessions.
- MRAC applied to the FCC for a new club call of W9RH (from W9HRM) call formally held by Emil Felber (recently deceased).
- FCC authorizes slow-scan television as an emission mode.
- The first teaser ads appear for a new transceiver from a company called Signal/One. Signal/One was a division of Electronic Communications Inc (ECI) which was a division of NCR doing contract work for the Navy. The head of the Signal/One operations was Dick Ehrhorn WA4NGO (later W4ETO). The company was formed one year earlier in 1967.
- The R. L. Drake Co. introduces the R4B receiver.
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated.
- President Johnson orders a complete halt to the bombing of North Vietnam.
- Robert Noyce and Gordon Moore leave Fairchild Semiconductor and found NM Electronics (their initials). Later in the year they purchase rights to the use of a word from a company named Intelco. The word became their new company name – Intel.
- October, local radio station WZMF strays from its beginnings as a MOR (Middle Of the Road) music station to become one of the first freeform / underground / progressive radio stations in the Midwest.
- The National Basketball Association awards Milwaukee an expansion basketball team – the Milwaukee Bucks.
- The Green Bay Packers beat the Oakland Raiders 33-14 to win Super Bowl II.
1969

- Publication of the club newsletter “Hammateur Chatter” resumes (October).
- The Milwaukee-Florida Net is founded by Mel Amidzich WA9PZU (in Milwaukee) and Charles Meyer K4HQY (former W9GVL) (retired and now living in Pensacola, Florida). Both hams were MRAC members.
- The use of radio amateurs as storm spotters and relayers of severe weather information to and from the National Weather Service in Milwaukee becomes official (after 2 years of developing the procedures).
- The Milwaukee School Of Engineering creates yet another radio station using the call letters WSOE (again). At the time the station is just a carrier current AM station broadcasting mainly to the school campus area.
- Radio Amateur Satellite Corp. (AMSAT) is formed (incorporated in Maryland) to aid radio amateurs in space communications.
- The Inoue (now Icom) FDFM 2M FM transceiver is the first official offering of amateur equipment in the US by a Japanese company (under their own name, previous efforts were OEM radios rebranded by US manufacturers).
- Jim Fisk W1DTY and Skip Tenney W1NLB form a company to produce a new technically oriented ham magazine entitled “Ham Radio” February is the first issue published, one month after the company is formed.
- The Signal/One CX-7 Transceiver is finally introduced at a price of $2195.
- Another group of executives from Fairchild Semiconductor leave to start another company. This time it is Advanced Micro Devices.
- July 20 approximately 9:56 PM (CST) - Astronaut Neil Armstrong is first human to set foot on the moon as part of the Apollo 11 mission. 20 minutes later he was joined by fellow crew member Buzz Aldrin.
- The Woodstock Music and Art Fair takes place August 15-18 (actually at White Lake, not Woodstock, NY). 32 folk and rock music acts perform outdoors before an estimated 400,000 people, the largest such gathering up to that time.

1970

- Many club members participated in a open house program where they invited members of the club to come see their Ham Shacks.
- Per a letter from ARRL of February 28, 1970, MRAC is identified as the longest affiliated club of the ARRL still operating.
- SEWFARS (Southeastern Wisconsin FM Amateur Repeater Society Inc.) – the 146.82 repeater is formed.
- Dick Ehrhorn W4ETO leaves Signal/One and starts Erhorn Technological Operations to produce high power RF amplifiers (the Alpha brand).
- The National Radio Company, after declaring bankruptcy, introduces the last of the line of the “HRO” receivers, the HRO-600. It is sold mainly to government and commercial customers (at a price of $5600). Possibly fewer than 200 were ever manufactured.
- The US has nationwide protests for the end of the Vietnam War.
1971

- The Kantronics Company is formed. Their first products include CW decoders. They will be at the forefront of packet communications in the 1990’s.
- National Radio Co. files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and ceased to manufacture radio equipment. Their HRO receivers were ham favorites.
- 18 year olds get the right to vote.
- President Nixon has audio recording equipment installed in the White House.
- The Mariner 9 spacecraft is launched from Cape Canaveral on a mission to orbit Mars. It became the first spacecraft to orbit another planet (planet, not moon) beating the Soviet Union by 1 month.
- Intel produces its first microprocessor the 4004.
- The Milwaukee Bucks, taking advantage of the talents of Oscar Robertson and Lew Alcindor (shortly to become Kareem Abdul-Jabbar) won the NBA championship in only their third season.
- There are about 285,000 licensed amateurs in the U.S.
1972

- The West Allis Amateur Radio Club proposed a winter hamfest. Area clubs including MRAC are invited to participate in the planning and operation of the hamfest with profits and costs to be divided accordingly. MRAC eventually declined to participate (we made a lot of wrong moves in the early 70’s).
- Novice hams were allowed the use of VFOs instead of only crystal control for frequency. Their 2M operating privileges were removed.
- Technician licenses are granted access to the complete 2 meter band (up from just 145-147 MHz).
- FCC creates specific repeater rules leading to specific to repeater callsigns (with a “WR” prefix). This was the result of a number of amateurs around the country asking for more details in the rules regarding repeater construction and use (“be careful what you wish for”).
- The first 6M moonbounce (EME) contact was completed between Joe Muscanere W5HNK and Richard Allen W5SXD in Houston Texas and Connie Marshall K5WVX and Sam Whitley W5WAX in Muskogee, Oklahoma (July 30).
- The first meteor scatter contact on 432 MHz was completed by John Fox W0LER and Carl Scheideler W2AZL.
- MFJ Enterprises is formed by Martin F. Jue in Starkville, Ms. Its first product was an audio CW filter kit that sold for $9.95.
- Roland Stordahl (now AE5E), a college student working on his PhD in electrical engineering, assembled a kit of parts to build an electronic keyer and began selling the kit via mail order. The name of the company formed to sell the kit was Digi-Key, and was based in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. The company would go on to become one of the largest distributors of electronic components in the world.
- Allied Radio exits the mail order business.
- Atari Inc. is incorporated and the company introduces the arcade video game “Pong”.  
- President Nixon makes first China visit by a modern day president.
- While campaigning for President, Alabama Governor George Wallace is shot and paralyzed from the waist down.
1973

- MRAC member George Ruger W9DVD (and former city of Milwaukee Alderman), organizes the CQ3TUE (CQ Third Tuesday) lunch gathering for area hams (January). There were 27 hams in attendance.
- The West Allis Radio Amateur Club begins a hamfest which continues to this day. First year attendance was over 400. The date was February 3.
- R. L. Drake Co. introduces the R4C Receiver. The “C” has a completely different architecture compared to the previous models in the R4 series. It would be the last in the series, remaining in production until 1980.
- April 3 – Martin Cooper, a Motorola engineer made the first mobile telephone call from a handheld phone (there already existed mobile telephone service) to Dr. Joel Engel of Bell Labs. This was done in front a number of news reporters.
- Rockwell International purchases Collins Radio Co.
- The Vietnam war ends with US troops leaving and the north overtaking South Vietnam.
- The Watergate break-in cover-up/scandal comes to light.
- Gerald Ford is appointed to the position of Vice President of the US. He was the first VP appointment under the 25th amendment. He replaced Spiro Agnew who resigned.
- May 14 – The first orbiting space station – Skylab is launched by a modified Saturn V rocket. The station was damaged during launch and deployment necessitating the first in-space repairs ever attempted to any space craft.
- March 1 - The British rock band Pink Floyd release their album “Dark Side Of The Moon”. It would set a record by remaining on the top selling album charts for over 14 years (741 continuous weeks).
1974

- Chet Sakura W9CTI who was the MRAC newsletter editor moves out of Wisconsin leaving a new editor to be found.
- FCC begins issuing “WR” prefix callsigns for repeaters as part of new, repeater regulations.
- The DenTron Radio Company is formed by Dennis Had K8KXK. Their first product is a 160 M transverter. They would become a manufacturer of RF power amplifiers and antenna tuners.
- The ETO company ships the first 74 series no-tune Alpha amplifiers.
- Arab oil embargo happens. Long lines and waits for gas as big oil corporations limited supply to raise prices. OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) limited supplies and forced the price of oil to increase greatly as the value of the dollar was diminishing. The government starts printing gas-rationing coupons in case the gas shortages get out of hand.
- President Richard Nixon is ordered to release 64 audio tapes in the Watergate investigation.
- President Nixon reveals cover-up of Watergate office of the Democratic National Committee break-in and later resigns from office (August 9, 1974).
- Gerald Ford becomes the 5th person who was never elected to become President. He was the first person to become President to have never won any national election (having been appointed to the Vice President position the previous year).
- President Ford pardons Richard Nixon of all crimes.
- The U.S. movie rating system starts.

1975

- The Novice and Technician licenses get major changes. Among the changes are an increase in power for Novices from 75 to 250 watts. Technicians are also given full Novice privileges on the HF bands.
- A repeater autopatch is used to call 911 for the first time. This was in the city of Chicago.
- Tokyo High Power Labs is founded in Japan by Nobuki Wakabayashi, JA1DJW to design and manufacture HF antenna tuners and power amplifiers for the amateur and industrial markets.
- The January issue of Popular Electronics features a cover story on building the Altair 8800 microcomputer kit. This is the first real “personal computer” and the start of the “Computer Revolution”.
- Northrop Corp. sells the Hallicrafters name but keeps the factories, bringing non-military product manufacture to an end.
- Sony releases the Betamax video cassette tape recorder to the Japanese home market.
- Unemployment in the U.S. reaches 6.5 million.
- Friday, October 2, after a bomb scare caused a 3 hour delay after the show had already started, Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band returned to the stage at the Uptown Theater to perform an additional 3 hour set that stretched past 2 AM.
1976

- MRAC offers code and theory classes at Wauwatosa East High School, to boost membership. Classes are taught by Dick Oberholzer W9ZPV, Walt Glish W9YYW and Dave DeFebo WB9BWP. The classes run at least one session per year for 9 to 12 weeks. Some years there will be two or three 9 to12 week sessions. This would begin a run of 20 years offering classes on a continuous basis.
- MRAC has 138 members.
- MRAC publishes no newsletter on its own, instead supporting a southeastern Wisconsin radio club newsletter (9 clubs in total) called The Hammateur (with our permission) published by Larry McCalvy WA9JMO.
- ARRL Central Division Convention held in Milwaukee, July 9 and 10, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club. MRAC sponsors a hospitality suite on Friday evening, July 9.
- “WN” prefixes for Novice licenses were eliminated.
- Hams no longer need to change their callsigns when moving to another call area.
- Heathkit stops production of the DX-60 AM / CW transmitter.
- The VHS (Video Home System) video cassette tape recorder is sold by the Victor Corporation of Japan (JVC) in Japan. JVC would eventually merge with the Kenwood corporation.
- Bob Reitman, radio DJ at local station WQFM, broadcasts from a trailer at State Fair Park continuously for 222 hours and 22 minutes setting a record and being listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for 1978 and 1979.

1977

- MRAC begins having meetings at Wauwatosa Savings and Loan (having moved from the Milwaukee School Of Engineering) thanks to the efforts of Al Belanger W9MDG.
- Radio station WOKY has a call in show (10 pm – 1 am) dealing with amateur radio (August 14).
- FCC suspends all Amateur Radio license fees.
- John Fluke Mfg. Co. releases the model 8020A handheld digital multimeter. It becomes the first successful handheld digital meter (and at a reasonable cost too).
- The first fiber-optic telephone circuits are put into service.
- August 3 -Radio Shack introduces the TRS-80 microcomputer.
- Commodore Business Machines, after passing on buying the rights to the Apple II computer from Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, introduces the Commodore PET microcomputer.
1978

- MRAC membership is 195 (including 80 Life members).
- MRAC charged $5.00 for license classes and gave free membership for the balance of the year.
- The MRAC Board had discussions on the club setting up a repeater. The discussion ended with the subject being officially tabled (what did we say about bad decisions in the 70’s?).
- MRAC license classes had 100 total enrollees, 25 for the General class and 75 for the Novice.
- The March meeting of MRAC had an attendance of 74 members and visitors.
- MRAC along with Milwaukee ARES stage an amateur radio show at Mayfair Mall covering an entire weekend (March 4 and 5). Flanner & Hafsoos audio store provides overnight (Saturday night) storage for our equipment, thanks to Gordon Weiler W9ZQK.
- Bird Electronics (the wattmeter people) sent a representative (at their cost) to present a program for the club at the April meeting. Meeting attendance was 51 members and 32 visitors – 83 total!
- MRAC holds a spring luncheon, this year with an emphasis on the club’s 60th anniversary.
- MRAC Field Day operations move to Nike site in Lannon owned by radio station WQFM. Arrangements by Jack Krause W9JK
- The September MRAC meeting consisted of a discussion and demonstration of fast scan amateur television. It included receiving pictures from one of the participant’s home TV station.
- The October meeting of the club was a tour of the TV channel 6 studios and transmitter (and included being able to watch the 10 PM newscast “live”).
- The Novice license becomes a renewable license (following the example of all other license classes).
- The FCC stopped (February 23) the Extra-class only vanity call sign program due to internal mishandling and maybe some corruption.
- The ability of a person to hold multiple station licenses (having multiple callsigns), known as a secondary callsign, at different addresses is eliminated by the FCC.
- As of March 24, the FCC will be assigning call signs automatically, in sequential order. This is the start of the “Group” call sign assignments.
- The FCC bans the manufacture of RF amplifiers capable of operating between 24 and 35 MHz in order to try to stem the use of illegal high power on the 27 MHz CB band. The ban applies to ALL manufactured amplifiers. This required manufacturers of ham amplifiers to come out with new models that had 10 meters removed from their bandswitches. Most amplifiers could be modified by licensed amateurs often with factory supplied parts upon proof of license (and at extra cost of course).
1979

- MRAC has 204 (198) members.
- Besides its monthly meeting, MRAC offers a tour of Midwestern Relay Company in Rubicon (west of Hartford) – Thursday evening, June 7.
- West Allis Amateur Radio Club again sponsors a Central Division Convention at (what was the) Red Carpet Inn – June 15 and 16. MRAC Sponsors a hospitality suite the evening of June 15 (Friday).
- MRAC along with Milwaukee ARES once again stage an amateur radio show at Mayfair Mall covering an entire weekend (September 8 and 9). As before, Flanner & Hafsoos provides overnight (Saturday night) storage for our equipment, thanks to Gordon Weiler W9ZQK. The show, coming at the start of a series of license classes, results in a large number of people signing up for classes.
- MRAC adds a dinner to the annual Old Timers’ Nite / Christmas Party to celebrate 60 years of affiliation with ARRL. ARRL Vice-President/General Manager (and future IARU President) Dick Baldwin W1RU, attends along with Central Division Director Don Miller and Vice Director Ken Ebneiter. 125 members and visitors attend.
- MRAC changes rules for life membership from 20 years continuous membership to 20 years continuous membership and 60 years of age. Also life members are urged to pay at least ½ of the current dues to continue to receive newsletters by mail.
- The Milwaukee Journal publishes a 6 page article (including the cover illustration) in its Sunday supplement section “Insight” on amateur radio. MRAC is prominently mentioned as well as some members and photos of some members.
- Hams are granted privileges on 10 MHz, 18 MHz, and 24 MHz at the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) held in Geneva Switzerland. It would take some years before FCC rules were changed to allow use of these frequencies.
- The Vibroplex Company was bought by Peter Garsoe and moved from New York City to Portland Maine.
- Two hams buy CQ magazine from Cowan Publishing.
- July 11 – The abandoned space station Skylab re-entered the earth’s atmosphere and began to break apart southeast of Perth, Western Australia.
- March 23, local radio station WZMF, one of the first “underground / progressive” radio stations in the Midwest signs off, after a few hours of on air partying / goodbyes.
- Three Mile Island (Pennsylvania) nuclear accident occurs. The core reached 5000 degrees before it was brought under control.
1980

- MRAC Meetings change to the first Thursday of each month (except July and August). The change was the result of Wauwatosa Savings date assignments.
- MRAC adds a General class license class to the Novice class the club has been running. Al Bellanger W9MDG is the first instructor of the new class.
- MRAC suffers through a brief political turmoil with the removal of a director from the board – Russ Burss W9RKP, (for the first time in club history?), the resignation of a President, alternative, semi-secret meetings, and general turmoil (including letters from lawyers from both sides of the issue). One club meeting consisted of nothing but members shouting at each other for almost 3 hours. It was at least 6 months until things began to return to a “normal” state. Some members, including life members, never returned to the club, leaving in protest. This also marked the beginning of a period of contention between some members as to what the club should be doing and how to do it.
- MRAC “Old Timers Nite” (not yet called a Christmas party) on December 11, featured ARRL Vice President/General Manager (and future IARU President) Dick Baldwin W1RU (once again) as well as Acting Central Division Director, Ken Ebneter K9EN, Director Elect, Edmond A. Metzger W9PRN, Wisconsin Section Communications Manager Roy Pederson K9FHI, , and former division Director Phil Haller W9HPG. The party continued the recent addition of a dinner for a cost of $8.50 per person.
- Governor Lee Dreyfus signed documents proclaiming May 17th Amateur Radio Day in Wisconsin. This notice was displayed on a sign on City Hall. QST magazine runs a picture of Milwaukee City Hall with Amateur Radio sign in the December issue.
- May – The Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS – 145.13 repeater) is formed.
- FCC allows the use of ASCII code for teletype and other digital transmissions (previously restricted to 5 level Baudot code).
- The Dentron company is sold. Soon to disappear.
- Ted Turner of Atlanta, Ga, starts the first all-news / 24 hour news television channel in the United States – Cable News Network - CNN. The sign on was 5:00 PM June 1.
- December – John Lennon of the Beatles is murdered by a crazed “fan” outside his home in New York City.
1981
- MRAC meetings return to the second Thursday of every month at Wauwatosa Savings and Loan on 75th and State St.
- MRAC has a booth at the International Science & Engineering Fair (5/11-5/16) at MECCA.
- The Milwaukee City Hall photo of Amateur Radio Day (May 17) appears in a Norwegian Radio Relay League magazine. In Norway, May 17th is a national holiday similar to our 4th of July.
- The club is polled by the ARRL about a new code free license proposal.
- Thanks to a gift by a school alumni, radio station WMSE, a public FM broadcast station, owned by the Milwaukee School of Engineering begins operation (March 17) on a frequency of 91.7 MHz at a power of 1000 W (replacing the WSOE AM station started in 1969).
- The first space shuttle, named Columbia, goes into space.
- There are about 433,000 licensed radio amateurs in the U.S..

1982
- MRAC adds an Advanced/Extra class license class to the Novice and Technician/General classes the club has been running. Al Belanger W9MDG teaches the first Advanced/Extra class and Walt Glish W9YYW moves over from the Novice class (leaving Dave DeFebo WB9BWP to teach Novice) to the General class.
- The FCC votes to retain the Morse code requirements for all grades of license.
- Dick Baldwin W1RU retires as ARRL VP/General Manager and becomes IARU President (a position he will hold for 17 years).
- President Regan signs into law a bill that allows the FCC to authorize licensed hams to create and administer amateur radio license tests.
- The Milwaukee Brewers become American League Baseball champions but lose the World Series to the St. Louis Cardinals in 7 games.
1983

- MRAC acts as QSL manager for Space Shuttle flight STS-9.
- MRAC demonstrates 10 foot earth station satellite antenna to all Milwaukee area hams at a meeting.
- MRAC creates the Herb Wareing Memorial Book Fund to buy books for area libraries. The fund was created from a donation by the widow of Herb Wareing W9NY. The fund was set up to only spend any interest the principle monies generated resulting in few books actually ever being donated.
- MRAC charges 25 cents for a for sale listing in the newsletter.
- MRAC May auction/elections meeting has attendance of 84 including 15 visitors!
- Television station WISN (ch 12) tapes a feature at MRAC Field Day for the 5 and 10 pm Saturday news.
- MRAC again provides communications for an across the state bike event lasting an entire week, sponsored by the Milwaukee Sentinel called SAAGBRAW – Sentinel Active Americans Great Bike Ride Across Wisconsin, including staffing the net control point in the lobby of the Journal/Sentinel Building.
- FCC creates the Volunteer Examiner program (September 22). Anchorage Amateur Radio Club (Alaska) becomes the first Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.
- MRAC begins to administer amateur tests locally (as a Volunteer Examiner – VE) working under DeVry Institute of Technology, a VEC in Chicago.
- FCC maintains code requirements, there are many requests to reconsider.
- W5LFL becomes the first amateur radio operator to operate from space aboard the Space Shuttle during flight STS-9.
- ETO (Alpha amplifiers) begins supplying RF amplifiers to GE Medical for MRI machines.
- IBM scientists J. Georg Bednorz and K. Alex Müller achieved superconductivity in an oxide material at a temperature of -238°C (as opposed to the temperature of absolute zero of -273.15°C.
- In November, Chrysler Corporation introduces the first “Minivan” (even though GM commissioned a study in the 1970s which suggested they introduce a vehicle like a minivan, but they decided it would cut into station wagon sales so they decided not to do the minivan). There were other European and Japanese models introduced earlier, but none had the name of “minivan”.

1984

- MRAC goes into full operation as an independent Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC). Charlie Kaetel W9SNK applied for and received VEC approval from the FCC without prior club discussion or approval. Jack Krause, W9JK is the first MRAC VEC manager (taking over from our VE group which was working under DeVry VEC). See the complete story elsewhere in this document.
- H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK becomes the first Honorary Member of MRAC in at least 40 years (he had been a Life Member).
- FCC creates PRB-1 rule issuing a limited federal pre-emption over local tower laws.
- Amateur licenses go from a 5 year term to 10 years.
1985
- Japan reports more than 1 Million licensed radio amateurs in that country.
- Herb Kohl pays 18 million dollars to purchase the Milwaukee Bucks basketball team.

1986
- MRAC is QSL manager for Tony, W0ORE, on Space Shuttle Mission STS51-F.
- MRAC field day operation makes over 1000 contacts.
- MRAC operates a special event station at Polish Fest.
- The membership votes to have the club picnic on the same day with Field Day.
- Packet radio takes off.
- The Space Shuttle Challenger explodes on liftoff killing all aboard.
- The Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame Foundation begins the Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame inducting performers and others involved in rock music in yearly ceremonies (Foundation actually formed in 1983 but no inductees happened until 1986).
- Trio Electronics which has been producing amateur radio and consumer audio equipment under the Kenwood brand changes the name of the company to Kenwood Corp.

1987
- MRAC provides communications for the Tri-County YMCA Races.
- MRAC sends $200 to the Clements Michigan Leance-Cruze Amateur Radio Club to help fight a lawsuit to defeat a ban on amateur radio antennas.
- Under the direction of Harry Cieszki KD9AJ, an amateur radio demonstration was conducted for the students of Madison Elementary School in Wauwatosa.
- MRAC bylaws again revised.
- MRAC changes legal name with the state of Wisconsin from Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club Inc to Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club Inc (adding the s followed by an apostrophe).
- March 21, Novice Enhancement is put in place which results in Novices gaining privileges on the 10M band. CW and data is allowed from 28.0 – 28.3 MHz and SSB voice from 28.3 - 28.5 MHz.
- Juan Nieves throws the first no hitter for the Milwaukee Brewers against the Baltimore Orioles on April 15 in Baltimore Memorial Stadium winning 7-0.
- Russian nuclear power plant disaster at Chernobyl.

1988
- MRAC starts a 10 meter net on 28.400 MHz (the frequency was chosen to allow Novice licenses to check in). The time of the net was Fridays at 9PM. It would later be changed to 8:45 PM (the time confused many possible check-ins) to accommodate the 2M net. The club previously had a 10 meter net in the 60’s and early 70’s.
- The Global Maritime and Distress Safety System was put in place by the International Maritime Organization providing satellite and digital maritime distress signaling (instead of using CW).
1989

- MRAC did a demonstration of amateur radio at the Wilson Park Senior Center (March 2). Participating were Roger Zaun W9UVV, George Philbert KA9MXM, Travis Baird W9VQD, Ed Seruga KE9JJ and Harry Cieszki KD9AJ.
- MRAC operates a demonstration ham station at Discovery World in the Milwaukee Public Library on Tuesday and Wednesday September 19 and 20. Kelly Schaefer N9HBN and Harry Cieszki KD9AJ oversee the operations.
- MRAC Continues the occasional spring party (sometimes lunch, sometimes dinner party) on Thursday May 11 at Kuglitsch’s Hall and Bowling, (44th and Greenfield). Cost was $10.00 per person for buffet dinner and beer and soda.
- MRAC Christmas Party takes place at Tanner Paull Hall, Restaurant and Lounge in West Allis on Thursday, December 14. Cost was $10.00 including food buffet and beer and soda.
- Ten-Ten International holds its second Biennial International Convention in Milwaukee. The featured guest speaker is Dave Sumner K1ZZ VP ARRL.

1990

- MRAC meetings continue on the fourth Thursday of each month.
- MRAC starts purchasing Field Day radio equipment and antennas (including a Kenwood TS-430 from the estate of George Philbert KA9MXM).
- MRAC officers move to 2 year terms.
- MRAC has 175 members as of January.
- MRAC conducts Amateur Radio demonstration at Discovery World Museum (August).
- Ham Radio Magazine is sold to CQ Magazine and the June issue is the last for Ham Radio as an independent magazine.
- Jim Wills N5HCT (an Extra class license) petitions the FCC to implement some sort of user selectable callsign at an additional fee. The FCC denies the petition. Wills then writes his Congressman with his desires.
- Hubble Space Telescope is launched. Focus doesn't work due to a mirror problem. To be corrected by a historical spacewalk in later years.
- Gulf War to rescue Kuwait from Iraq invasion, begins.
1991

- MRAC members provide communications at the Channel 10/36 wine tasting event at Mayfair Mall.
- Jim Harrington N9FPG (a past member) donates a Heathkit SB-104 transceiver to MRAC for Field Day use. The radio was in need of some repairs. Jim Tromblay WB9LNU brought it back to life. The club now has 2 radios for Field Day and other special use.
- The club purchases a Cushcraft A3S 3 element tri-band beam for Field Day use.
- MRAC License classes move to Marquette Electronics R&D Center (thanks to Dave DeFebo WB9BWP and Michael Cudahy, Marquette CEO) after Wauwatosa recreation department (operators of Wauwatosa East High School after normal school hours) raised rent paid by the club for using Wauwatosa East High School (to a rate of $7/hr per room/night which would have been up to $126/room for a 9 week session We sometimes used up to 4 rooms for multiple classes).
- TV station WISN (Channel 12) has a daily, afternoon, 1 hour talk and call-in show on a variety of topics. One show spent the entire hour discussing amateur radio (with an emphasis on the Gulf War) with local hams as guests.
- FCC creates a new Technician license without a Morse code requirement. This was based on a proposal by QCWA.
- April – Steve Nagel N5NAW commanded the first all-ham Space Shuttle crew aboard Atlantis with Kenneth Cameron, KB5AWP; Jay Apt, N5QWL; Linda Godwin, N5RAX, and Jerry Ross, N5SCW, during the SAREX (Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment) program.
- 220Mhz – 222MHz was reallocated from amateur radio use to the Land-Mobile radio service based on a proposal from UPS for amplitude compounded speech mode. The UPS proposal was filed after the comment date passed creating much controversy. UPS never utilized the spectrum.
- Trevor Bayless of Twickenham, England invents the wind-up (crank) radio (te Bayless Freegen was the first model) where a crank mechanism runs a small generator to power a shortwave radio. The invention was instrumental in bringing radio and the prospect of information to people in underdeveloped countries where large numbers of the population do not have electricity.
- Jeffrey Dahmer was discovered to have killed, dismembered and eaten parts of a number of young men (at least 12) in his north side Milwaukee apartment.
- There are about 494,000 licensed amateurs in the U.S.
1992

- October—MRAC finally gets a repeater of its own. The frequency is 147.045. It is temporarily (being about 8 years) located at Ed Wille’s house (read the complete repeater story elsewhere in this book).
- MRAC sells personalized coffee mugs in an effort to raise money for the recent repeater purchase (to repay Ed Wille). The mugs were available for a donation of at least $20. There were a number of donations of more than $20 including some at $50 and at least two at $100.
- MRAC holds its last Field Day at the old Nike Missile site in Lannon (due to site sale to a private party). Thanks to the permission of the new owner of the property for the last year.
- MRAC VEC holds tests at a church (sorry I don’t know the name) on 117th and Cleveland on the third Tuesday of each month from 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM.
- Rear Admiral Grace Hopper passes away at the age of 85. She retired from the Navy at the age of 79 after 41 years of service. She then became a consultant to Digital Equipment Corp (a job she held until her death). Besides being the only woman to achieve that rank, she is credited with coining the term “debugging” (after removing a moth from an early computer), developing the first compiled computer language, COBOL, and for using the phrase, "It's easier to ask forgiveness than it is to get permission".
- Heathkit exits the amateur radio market.
- The ITU undergoes a restructuring. Among other things, future conferences formally called “World Administrative Radio Conference” (WARC) will be called “World Radio Conferences” and more frequently than the 10-20 years as in the past.
- William Halligan W9AC founder of Hallicrafters Co., one of the early manufacturers of amateur radio (as well as shortwave and commercial radio equipment) passes away at the age of 93.
- Bud Selig, owner of the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team is named acting Commissioner of Baseball.

1993

- MRAC classes for all grades of amateur license and VE testing move to Village At Manor Park thanks to Phil Lehman, KB9FOQ.
- MRAC Field Day takes place at Indian Mounds Boy Scout Camp thanks to Wayne Schrubbe N9RXB.
- Harold H. Beverage W2BML, developer of the “Beverage” antenna passes away at the age of 99 (see 1921).
- Hytera is founded in Shenzhen, China to produce communications equipment.
- President Bill Clinton signs a law allowing the FCC to charge amateurs for the privilege of selecting a custom callsign and having that fee directly applied to the FCC budget (the actual law covered the collection of annual regulatory fees). This established the legal means to create the vanity callsign program.
1994

- MRAC dues raised to $15 in large part due to newsletter publishing costs.
- MRAC Field Day moves to the Railroad Museum at Pioneer Village in Ozaukee County, thanks to Fred Linn, W9NZF (original Cedarburg railroad depot building).
- MRAC provides communications for Mount Mary College and a fund raising art sale. Six members participated and the school was thankful and impressed with our services.
- MRAC offers an award to the person(s) who contacts club members on the club repeater (other than during the club net). Byron Bye N9RTL is the only certificate winner having contacted 22 members within a one month period.
- MRAC conducts an amateur radio demonstration station at Discovery World.
- MRAC operates a 75th anniversary of ARRL affiliation special event station at Pioneer Village (our new Field Day site). 23 members come out to participate and make 75 phone and CW contacts. The event also doubles as a surprise 70th birthday party for Ed Wille W9PWG the club President.
- Various MRAC events receive publicity through various “Bargain Express” area newspapers thanks to the work of Byron Bye N9RTL.
- Amateur Electronic Supply has its first “Supercert” with MRAC having a club table and conducting license exams.
- FCC grants Novice licenses full privileges on the 222 MHz band (except repeater ownership and at a 25W power level).

1995

- Position of MRAC board Chairman (which was a non-voting position filled by the immediate past-President) is eliminated and new By-Laws are written.
- MFJ Enterprises begins acquiring companies with the purchase of Mirage (VHF amplifiers and wattmeters).
- U.S. Coast Guard eliminates the use of CW on maritime frequencies.
- The FCC proposed guidelines for the reassignment of amateur callsigns. This would lead to the vanity callsign program.
- The non-amateur operations of ETC (Alpha amplifiers) is merged into Applied Science and Technology. The amateur operations become Alpha/Power.
- Sidney Shure, the founder of Shure Brothers Inc. of Evanston Ill. maker of microphones, turntable cartridges, and other audio electronic products passes away at the age of 93.
- Radio station WMSE increases its power to 3,200 W.
1996

- MRAC establishes weekly Friday night net on 2 meters (using the club repeater) joining the existing 10 meter net. 10M was at 8:45 PM and 2M was at 9:15 PM confusing everyone who wanted to check in to either net.
- MRAC has last meeting at Wauwatosa Savings Bank (due to bank remodeling eliminating the meeting room). Wauwatosa Savings makes arrangements with Mayfair Mall for groups who had been using the bank to get free use of the Mayfair Community Room. MRAC declines the offer.
- MRAC continues as VEC with Ed Wille W9PWG taking over from Jack Krause W9JK who ran it for 12 years (Ed being President did not search for anyone else to run the VEC, he just took it over himself, a trend he would continue with other club jobs).
- MRAC holds the last license class of current 20 year continuous run. It is held at the Village at Manor Park and is a Technician Class. Over the 20 years, over 500 different people took at least one grade of class. At least 20 different people took turns teaching the classes.
- J. Travis Baird W9VQD passes away (1/24). Besides holding numerous club offices, running the auction for many years, and always willing to donate time and even money for the club throughout his life, an award will be created in his name to be given to members “who have demonstrated a long term commitment to promoting the amateur radio service” (from club web site). The award is established in 2002.
- MRAC had 179 members as of July.
- The FCC issues the first callsign of the current vanity callsign program on May 31.
- David Packard passes away. In 1939 Packard and Bill Hewlett form the Hewlett Packard company, which became one of the premier electronic test equipment and computer companies in the world.
- Pabst Brewing Co., now owned by out of state concerns, closes the Milwaukee brewery and office complex.
- Arthur Jones becomes the first African-American police chief of the city of Milwaukee.

1997

- MRAC has a new meeting location at Redemption Lutheran Church after Wauwatosa Savings eliminates their community meeting room to add more office space. Ed Wille W9PWG was a church member as well as the church being a customer of Ed’s business. MRAC ends up being the only non-church group to use the church building. The bank had made arrangements for groups who had used the bank for meetings to have access to a community room at Mayfair Mall at no charge, but Ed decided not to pursue the matter (never bringing it to the board – following the trend of Ed just handling things by himself).
- MRAC VEC stops testing at Village At Manor Park on Wednesday evenings mainly due to space issues.
- The Green Bay Packers beat the New England Patriots 35-21 in Super Bowl XXXI. This is the Packers first Super Bowl appearance and win since 1968.
1998

- Ed Wille W9PWG completes a record (at the time) 8+ continuous years as club president. Unfortunately, people get used to a long term President and don't feel the need to volunteer for club work.
- The club VEC ceases testing at Wauwatosa Saving Bank in Oak Creek (on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Saturday of each month) due to diminishing attendance (and this was a second monthly test date).
- The club Christmas party ran $800 into the red primarily due to the practice of giving flowers to all couples / single attendees (and an unexpected number of single attendees).
- MRAC has 141 members.
- The PSK31 digital mode (the first of the "soundcard" digital modes besides teletype, packet, SSTV and CW – all which existed before personal computers) is developed by Peter Martinez G3PLX. It is introduced to the world in December.
- President Bill Clinton becomes the first President to be impeached since Andrew Johnson (marks only the third time in US history a President has been impeached).
- The first pieces of the International Space Station are assembled in space by astronauts from the space shuttle Endeavor.
- Bud Selig is named the official commissioner of baseball after having been the acting commissioner since 1992.
- The Green Bay Packers loose 31-24 to the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXXII.
1999

- January – Ed Wille W9PWG, currently a director of the club, has his fourth heart attack and passes away at his desk. It took two entire board meetings and one entire club meeting to discuss all the things Ed did/had done for the club and to make plans for others to take over those functions. Ed had a habit of taking things on himself and never asking for anyone else’s help. As a result, many club functions were performed by Ed alone and no one else knew anything about what it took to perform those functions. People got used to Ed handling everything and not having to get involved themselves. That was something that had to change.

- John Kraak KF9XL and Tom Fuszard KF9PU take over VEC duties after the death of Ed Wille W9PWG. It was discovered at this time that many people especially non club members had signed up as Volunteer Examiners (VEs) during Ed Wille’s term as VEC manager, only to never be asked to participate in a testing session.

- The March MRAC meeting features Bart Jahnke W9JJ a Wisconsin native who works for the ARRL (among other duties, he is their VEC manager). MRAC pays air fare to bring Bart to the meeting. This was originally set up by Ed Wille who unfortunately passed away before he could see the program happen.

- MRAC adds an email address for communicating with the board.

- The MRAC phone number changes from 466-HAMS to 797-MRAC.

- The FCC proposes major changes to amateur rules, cutting license classes from six down to three with a single 5 wpm code test for the two highest classes – General and Extra (new Novice and Advanced class licenses are eliminated).

- The Global Maritime Distress and Safety System becomes a requirement for emergency and information communications for all ships at sea worldwide.

- A reference design for a future “Cubesat” is developed by professors at California Polytechnic State University and Stanford University.

- The Hewlett Packard Company (HP) decides to spin off the test and measurement equipment operations into a separate, stand-alone company (Agilent). That would leave HP as solely a computer company. HP’s first products were electronic test equipment in 1939.

- Jean Shepard K2ORS passes away at the age of 79 in Florida. “Shep” as he is sometimes known was a writer, actor, radio host, TV personality, storyteller, etc. He is perhaps best known for co-writing, narrating, having a bit part in and having the story based on his auto-biographical short stories, for the movie “A Christmas Story” about young Ralphie and his quest for a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas. In later years the movie will achieve “classic” status and will be run in 24 hour marathon sessions on cable TV channel WTBS.

- During construction of a new baseball stadium in Milwaukee, a very large crane, nicknamed “Big Blue”, being used to lift retractable roof panels to cover the stadium, collapses due to high side winds while lifting a heavy load, killing 3 construction workers.

- The number of amateur radio licenses in the US was 677,392
2000

- MRAC’s first written history as compiled by Jim Tromblay, WB9LNU is published.
- A budget prepared for the coming year (the first time a budget has been prepared in many years) shows the club operating at a significant loss (projected to be around $1300). Looking closely at expenses for the past few years show the Chatter (newsletter) publishing and mailing costing more than dues income. Throw in Christmas Parties costing the club $1600 (money the club had to pay above ticket sales) over the past 4 years, and $1400 spent on printing, scanning and FAX equipment in the production of the Chatter in the mid 90’s. All that spending in addition to gross repeater equipment costs (over $3000 for just the Icom repeater alone) has cost the club thousands of dollars over the past 5 years that has not been replaced (or really planned for).
- MRAC again offers license classes, starting with a Technician class, now at Amateur Electronic Supply.
- MRAC creates its own World Wide Web site. Actually the club took over a site created earlier but not updated by a former member.
- MRAC VEC processes over 300 people in the first 4 months of the year in anticipation of license changes on April 15.
- MRAC Repeater is relocated atop the Eaton Corporation building (7+ stories) at 27th and Hope Streets (1 block north of Capitol Dr). It was located at Ed Wille’s house on a 50’ tower since the club acquired it. It took Ed’s passing for the club to finally get a reasonable location for the repeater.
- The MRAC club auction is revived after about 5 years of absence. Dave DeFebo, WB9BWP, tries to follow in the tradition of Travis Baird W9VQD as auctioneer. New auctions feature a number of member donations to the club of equipment which helps to boost the club treasury.
- The MRAC newsletter begins being published in electronic form for email delivery to members with email capabilities. This has the potential of cutting some of the newsletter production costs which have been running greater than dues income for a number of years. It also may have helped bring some members into the computer age. Over the next few years all other area clubs go to electronic publishing of newsletters.
- MRAC has 120 members as of January.
- April 27 is a special pre-release screening of a movie titled “Frequency” in which ham radio plays an important part. MRAC via the ARRL is offered a number of free passes from the PR organization of the movie’s production company. Unfortunately, we have only a few days’ notice and it is on a meeting night, so the passes are distributed to various people not attending the meeting.
- April 15—Code speed for General and Extra license reduced to 5 wpm. No new Novice, Technician Plus or Advanced class licenses will be issued. Novice and Advanced class licenses can continue to be renewed. All Technician Plus licenses became converted to Technician (on the license), but retained their HF (equivalent to Novice) privileges. In a few years when all code tests were eliminated, ALL Technician Licensees then have HF (Novice) privileges.
• November—The largest and most expensive amateur satellite (Phase 3D or AMSAT-OSCAR 40) is launched. Some problems are discovered after launch (possibly due to a fuel explosion) and the satellite never fulfills its promise.
• The first ham activity from the International Space Station takes place.
• Hy-gain antennas and rotators are purchased by MFJ Enterprises from Telex Corp.
• Actress Heddy Lamar dies (Jan 19). Besides being an actress, she held a patent (issued in 1942) for the development of a frequency hopping technique which would become spread spectrum communications. Her method was developed to prevent jamming of radio controlled torpedoes.
• FCC creates the “Multi Use Radio Service” – MURS in the VHF business band (5 channels in the 151 MHz band).
• Radio Recyclers goes out of business (at least the storefront business). The inventory is auctioned off.
• Jack Kilby receives a Nobel Prize for his work in the invention of the integrated circuit. Jack did his work at Texas Instruments. Before joining TI he was employed at Centralab in Milwaukee (in the late 1950’s) and actually started his pioneering work there but was told to stop and get to work on something more important to the company. What if he was allowed to continue his work on the IC while still in Milwaukee?
• Due to a close election and some possible voting irregularities, it took 37 days after the Presidential election to formally declare a new President of the US (George W. Bush).
• There are 682,240 licensed radio amateurs in the US.
2001

- Regular meeting start time is moved to 7 PM (starting in January) to be sure to be done by a reasonable time.
- Dick McNew WB9PTC moves his on-air code practice from 2M simplex to the MRAC repeater (now that the repeater has a reasonable signal).
- MRAC Newsletter, “Hamateur Chatter” goes to a 6 week circulation period to keep costs down (printing and postage).
- Tom Czaja KG9EE and Mark Tellier AB9CD step up to be “assistant VEC managers” backing up John Kraak KF9XL and Tom Fuszard KF9PU. This marks the actual creation of a self sustaining operating committee for a club function.
- MRAC Field Day features a telescope for actual viewing of sunspots, live.
- MRAC Field Day features first ever satellite contact (by Brian White K9LCQ).
- MRAC raffles a donated 10M radio and antenna with winner selected at the Christmas Party - winner was Ted Stiller WA9RDI - raffle brought in $170.
- MRAC finishes year operating in the black for the first time in years (as a result of some strong belt-tightening and begging for donations the last few years).
- MRAC eliminates the positions of 2nd Vice President and one Director due to continuing difficulty to get people to run for office. Plus the board was really too big.
- MRAC has 125 members as of July.
- Bill Orr W6SAI passes away at the age of 81. He authored numerous articles and books on amateur radio topics (especially antennas) and was maybe most famous for editing the “Radio Handbook” (NOT the ARRL Handbook). He also was involved in the original Project Oscar creating the first amateur satellite.
- The first “space tourist” goes into space for a stay aboard the International Space Station (after paying Russia 20 million dollars).
- September 11 - Middle Eastern terrorists hijack 4 commercial airplanes and crash two into the World Trade Center towers in New York City and one into the Pentagon in Washington D.C. The fourth plane crashes in a field in Pennsylvania (possibly brought down by passengers trying to retake control of the plane). Both World Trade Center towers collapse within hours. Only military air traffic is allowed over the U.S. for 3 days.
- The US invades Afghanistan, the center of much of the world’s terrorist activity and home to the organization potentially responsible for the September 11th attacks on the US.
- Rockwell International spins out the avionics division to form Rockwell Collins based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
- There are 683,037 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2002

- MRAC Newsletter, “Hamateur Chatter” goes to a bi-monthly circulation to keep costs down (and because some people didn’t really understand a 6 week schedule).
- Budget for 2002 estimates actually not losing money but coming out around $700 ahead. This has been due to massive belt tightening, electronic publication of Chatter and decreasing the number of issues of the Chatter from 11 to 7 and then to 6 per year.
- MRAC celebrates its 85th birthday with a special event station resulting in 534 contacts being made world-wide.
- MRAC repeater receives a new Decibel Products commercial antenna (April) and new GE commercial receiver/transmitter hardware (July) and changes frequency to 145.39 MHz (swapping frequencies with the MATC repeater). The new repeater radio and antenna cost ¼ the amount spent on the last “new” batch of repeater hardware and work magnitudes better (honestly, actually work compared to the last batch of hardware).
- MRAC conducts an Extra Class license class for the first time since the early 90’s (spring).
- MRAC license classes start from a second, alternate location - Brown Deer United Methodist Church.
- MRAC Field Day features not one but two telescopes (beating last year) as well as the first ever movie showing (Frequency) during evening break.
- The first J. Travis Baird award is presented to Dick McNew WB9PTC in recognition of his never-ending Elmering of prospective and new hams in learning amateur radio and especially Morse code.
- On-air code practice on the club repeater taken over by D.J. KC9AYO, after many years by Dick McNew WB9PTC having run the on-the-air practice.
- The Central States VHF Society holds its 36th annual convention in Milwaukee. This is the first convention held in the upper Midwest since 1989 and first held in Wisconsin.
- Paul W. Klipsch, founder of Klipsch and Associates (speaker manufacturer) and designer of the Klipschorn loudspeaker (the longest running production loudspeaker) passes away at age 98.
- The annual baseball all-star game, played this year in Milwaukee and the brand new Miller Park, ends in a tie after 11 innings after both teams run out of players and the baseball commissioner, Milwaukee’s own Bud Selig declares the game over in a tie.
- There are 685,308 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2003

- MRAC dues go to $17 per year to bring the newsletter back to a monthly circulation.
- MRAC sponsors its first VHF/UHF FM Sprint contest. MRAC is the winner in the club category. By the way, the club had a VHF/UHF contest in February starting in 1950.
- MRAC Repeater moves to another new location now sharing space with receivers for other local repeaters and a Navy MARS repeater on the channel 18/10/36 TV tower (receive antenna at 730 feet, transmit antenna at 630 feet). MRAC provides an antenna and cavities for the community repeater project. Thanks to MATC/Channel 10/36 for their technical work getting things running. The repeater now has coverage from Sheboygan south to the Illinois border and west through Walworth, Waukesha, Washington County (with some holes in the center of Waukesha). Quite a change from Ed Wille’s 50 foot tower. See complete story elsewhere in this book.
- MRAC Field Day features the showing of another movie (Contact).
- Tom Fuszard, KF9PU, one of the MRAC-VEC managers, is elected to the position of Chairman – National Council of VECs (NCVEC) at their annual meeting in Gettysburg, Pa. (7/03)
- MRAC offers for sale (donation) the first CD-ROMs of a club photo album / scrapbook in an effort to raise money for the club. Only 12 copies were sold.
- Due to some disagreements on the board, Mark Tellier AB9CD resigned as VP. He was replaced by Kevin Reemes KC9BZU. Soon after, MRAC President Patrick Moretti W9UQ resigns which prompts a shuffling of officers with Kevin Reemes KC9BZU (who was VP) taking over the job of President. Shortly after that occurred, his day job had him traveling worldwide resulting in him missing most regular and board meetings until his term expires. For over 1 year the club operated without a real club President or club leader, having board and regular meetings presided over by a revolving door of various remaining club officers. Regular meetings suffer the same fate. During all this, the first signs of personality conflict in the club in over 20 years appear including more officer resignations and remaining officers again shuffling duties.
- MRAC has 114 members (as of May).
- September – The final issue of “73” magazine is published.
- The space shuttle Columbia breaks apart during re-entry over the southern US killing all aboard including 3 hams. This is the first time there has ever been a loss during a landing.
- The first flight of a radio controlled model aircraft over the Atlantic Ocean takes place with the same start and end points (Newfoundland to Ireland) as the first trans-Atlantic aircraft flight.
- At the World Radio Communications conference of 2003, the Morse code requirement for an amateur radio license was made optional – up to individual countries.
- Nannette Hegerty is named the first female police chief for the city of Milwaukee.
- The first “Cubesat” satellite (not a ham satellite) is launched by a Russian Eurockot spacecraft.
- The US invades Iraq.
- There are 684,059 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2004

- MRAC sponsors its second VHF/UHF FM contest again winning the club category.
- For the first time in modern club history, MRAC elects officers but no one runs for President (at the normal election meeting in May). Eventually Patrick Moretti, W9UQ volunteers for the job after an earlier resignation. A special election was held at the July meeting (instead of the normal June election). The exact process of this election was questioned by many members (since there was no official advance notice of a “special” meeting as required by the by-laws) resulting in some continuing contentions. Due to work commitments, Patrick misses over half of the club meetings and many board meetings (which he said would be the case in advance of the “election”). This continues the trend which has been in place since 2003 where board and regular meetings are run by whichever officer in attendance steps up. As a result, club activities and actions dwindle to a minimum due to a lack of general leadership and organization. Meeting attendance starts declining.
- The MRAC repeater is used as a secondary net repeater for the Miller Ride for the Arts in June.
- Tom Fuszard KF9PU is re-elected Chairman – National Council OF VECs (NCVEC) at their annual meeting in Gettysburg, Pa.
- The Ozaukee County Historical Society allows MRAC to install cabinets and shelving in the basement of the train depot at Pioneer Village (which MRAC has been using as its Field Day site) to store club radio equipment and antennas – primarily for Field Day use.
- MRAC has 115 members.
- George W. Bush wins re-election to a second term as President of the United States in a bitterly contested election (following the election debacle of 2000).
- There are 671,837 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2005

- Robert Felber, the son of the late Emil Felber W9RH (the original), donates 2 boxes full of club and amateur radio memorabilia as collected by his late father. The collection includes an apparently never used 1954 Wisconsin automobile license plate for W9RH.
- MRAC sponsors its third VHF/UHF sprint contest and for the first time did not win the club category (Badger Contesters did).
- After a hiatus of a couple of years, MRAC offers a Technician license class. It is held at Amateur Electronic Supply on Saturdays in the fall.
- The repeater is again used as a secondary repeater for the Miller Ride For The Arts as well as being used as the primary net repeater for the Great Midwest Relay event as the event passed through Waukesha and Milwaukee Counties.
- MRAC License classes also occur at another and a new location, ITT Technical Institute in Greenfield.
- Dick McNew, WB9PTC, once again returns to conducting code practice on the repeater (Mondays and Fridays). By September of 2005, health problems caused Dick to not continue with the code practice.
- Tom Fuszard KF9PU is re-elected Chairman of the National Council of VECs (NCVEC) for a third (and he says final) term at their annual meeting in Gettysburg, Pa.
- The club is contacted by Yvonne Robel of Florida. Mrs. Robel is the daughter of Clarence Crapo W9VD who was the second President (as well as holding other offices) of MRAC (1921). She donated a collection of 75 slides covering numerous club activities of the early years. Her accompanying letter appears elsewhere in this history.
- MRAC adds a Yahoo Group emailing list for members (October).
- MRAC gets its own Internet domain name – www.w9rh.org (October) and revised web page (December).
- After being given space for equipment storage, and as part of maintaining good relations with Pioneer Village (where MRAC holds Field Day), a number of members get together for a Saturday work session painting some of the village buildings.
- A new repeater controller allowing computer based programming (locally and remotely) and real voice messages is installed (October). The controller is produced by S-Com Inc. of Colorado. S-Com is owned by Robert Schmid WA9FBO who attended MSOE from 1968-1973 and was a MRAC member during those years.
- The community repeater site, which MRAC is a part of, goes online with 1200 Ahr battery backup (October).
- The Drake R8B receiver is discontinued, ending Drake’s involvement with amateur radio and shortwave listening. The company will concentrate on satellite television and related equipment.
- A contest is held on the NBC Tonight Show between cell phone text message record holders and 2 hams operating CW to see who can send a message faster. The hams sending CW won.
- FCC releases NPRM regarding the elimination of Morse Code tests for all license classes.
• Robert A. Moog passes away at the age of 71. Moog developed the first popular line of electronic music synthesizers (using the first voltage controlled subtractive oscillator type of synthesizer controlled by a conventional musical keyboard).
• The first video is uploaded to a new internet service called YouTube (April 23).
• There are 662,600 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
January – Dick McNew, WB9PTC once again returns to conducting code practice on the repeater (returning home from an extended hospital stay at 4 PM on a Friday afternoon and conducting the code practice at 6 PM). However he is hospitalized again within a couple of weeks. Helmut “Buck” Buchwald, K9RYW assisted by Bob Immekus W9CYI takes over in Dick’s absence and expands practice to 3 days per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1 hour each day).

The MRAC VHF/UHF sprint contest has some new rules and new co-coordinators, Joe Schwarz, N9UX and Jeff Annis, K9VS. Badger Contesters again wins club category.

The club history book achieves its first (of hopefully continuing) annual updates.

The March meeting features guest speaker Gordon West WB6NOA. He was in town for Superfest beginning the next day. There were 71 people in attendance (including 18 who had never attended an MRAC meeting). The meeting was videotaped and DVD copies (with the addition of still pictures from the meeting) were created and made available. Pictures of the meeting are posted on the ARRL Wisconsin Section web site (thanks to Don Michalski W9IXG, Wisconsin Section Manager).

John Kraak KF9XL steps down as VEC Chairman after 6+ years at the helm (January 1999 – April 2006). The committee management (Tom Fuszard KF9PU, Tom Czaja KG9EE, and Mark Tellier AB9CD), fill in resulting in no downtime, a first for a MRAC activity.

New club announcements and repeater voice IDs were added to the repeater utilizing the capabilities of the new controller. Among the voices were Gordon West WB6NOA who recorded some announcements when he attended the March meeting. Another voice was that of Julie Cudahy, engineer and DJ for WMSE FM, the radio station owned by the Milwaukee School Of Engineering. A few people complained of the voices on the repeater but they were in the minority (and most complaining were not even members).

April 1 (notice the date) – the repeater runs voice IDs as the “N9LKH repeater” (the CW IDs remain correct as W9RH). The 145.13, MAARS repeater (the real N9LKH) runs voice IDs as W9RH. All this was done after discussions between all the technical people and Trustees of both repeaters. After a confusing uproar (confusing as to the reasons given why the joke was not proper including things like “the same call cannot be used on 2 different transmitters” and “the call can’t be used at a different address”) the MAARS repeater returned to “normal” at 9 AM. MRAC held out but also returned to “normal” at 10 AM. April 1, remember – lighten up.

At the May meeting, among others, Charles Grady KC9IIV was elected Secretary (after putting his name in to run for every office) and Sarah Parks KB9ZNC was elected Treasurer and her father Howard AB9FH was elected President. Due to health issues Charles never served as secretary and resigned. Sarah then switched over to Secretary leaving the Treasurer position open (she really didn’t want to be Treasurer anyway). While waiting for President Howard to appoint a new Treasurer, he took on the acting Treasurer duties. While this could look like a bit of a conflict (the person in charge also being the one to write checks), it could be acceptable if very short term. Unfortunately, no replacement Treasurer is found until almost one full year later! (Mark Tellier AB9CD)
• After repeated recruiting, no one steps up to be Field Day Chairman until just weeks before the event Jim Tromblay WB9LNU agrees to help Pancho KA9OFA run this year’s Field Day. This is noteworthy since Jim does not even live in the area any longer (but he has traveled to Field Day each year). The club manages to come in last place for their category (5A) in scoring.
• Dick McNew once again returns to code practice, this time sharing duties with K9RYW and W9CYI (Dick does Wednesday nights).
• MRAC again returns to having a table at local hamfests starting with the Milwaukee Repeater Club Friendly Fest (October).
• Terry Sterman W9DIA (SK) Founder of Amateur Electronic Supply (and former life member of MRAC) is inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall Of Fame.
• January 27 – Western Union discontinues its telegram and commercial messaging services.
• The space shuttle returns to regularly scheduled flights, most to the International Space Station.
• The “social media” internet site Twitter is established (#is this less than 140 characters?).
• November - FCC releases a wide ranging Report and Order covering refarming of Novice CW sub-bands turning much of that frequency space over to voice mode. The actual changes take effect on December 15.
• December – Coming just before the end of the year (like the license restructuring of 1999/2000) FCC releases first a confusing press release and then a few days later the official Report and Order eliminating Morse Code testing requirements for all license classes. The FCC also opens the door for a possible reconsideration of some of the voice frequency allocations announced just 1 month previously.
• There are 656,068 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2007

- January – MRAC celebrates 90 years of continuous operation.
- MRAC VEC lowers the fee for testing to $5.00 (the lowest since the program began) due to a budget surplus (for the VEC only, not the club in general). Paperwork upgrades (as a result of the coming code test changes) are free.
- Dick McNew WB9PTC continues code practice on the club repeater, adding additional discussions about operating procedures and electronic theory to the code practice. Theory discussion led by Peter Chiu KC9IJH, with related documentation posted on the club web site.
- Again the March meeting falls immediately prior to AES Superfest and as a result MRAC is able to have Gordon West return as a guest speaker this time also joined by ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R. There were 54 people in attendance.
- The test session at AES Superfest, March 31, had 100 people take a test for the largest turn out in MRAC VEC history. The large crowd was due to the recent rule change eliminating CW testing and Superfest being a popular event.
- June, Jack Krause W9JK passes away (at the age of 93). Besides holding numerous officer positions over the years, Jack was the first official manager of the MRAC VEC a position he held for 12+ years.
- June – MRAC enters the 20th century with computerized logging for Field Day as well as a PSK31 station operating for the full contest time. Also for the first time in a number of years, a CW station operated almost full time.
- July – For the first time in many, many years, a number of directors got together and performed an audit of the club’s financial records and Mark Tellier AB9CD then took over as Treasurer (which should have happened about 6 months earlier).
- August (after some late planning) – MRAC holds an on-the-air special event marking the 90th anniversary of the club. While not as successful as the 85th Anniversary event, a number of HF contacts were made.
- At the insistence of the President and Acting Treasurer Howard Parks AB9FH, the MRAC VEC moves it’s finances out of the hands of the club Treasurer and opens their own bank account. This was in violation of the club’s by-laws which specified the club perform accounting functions for the VEC. The President, Howard, as well as some board members plead ignorance of the article of the by-laws in asking the VEC to take their money out of club accounts. VEC money was never part of the club general funds (per FCC rules) but due to problems with normal club accounting methods and misunderstanding, the VEC was told it best to handle the money themselves. This would result in the VEC having to independently incorporate, effectively becoming a separate legal entity from the club. They would retain the MRAC-VEC name (by their own choosing). This process would be complete in 2008. As a result of this whole situation, there were numerous hard feelings between the VEC and the board. All this transpired without the general club membership’s knowledge.
- November – Dick McNew WB9PTC passes away, putting an end to on-the-air code and theory classes for at least the foreseeable future. Over about 30 years Dick was responsible for many, many hams learning the Morse code.
• Ken Hahn WK9H, a club member and VE becomes ARES Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Milwaukee County, taking over from Dan Workenaour N9ASA, also a club member.
• A decision is made to charge people who receive the Hamateur Chatter newsletter by conventional postal mail a $10 fee in addition to the $17 dues beginning for the 2008 club year due to immense costs associated with the printing and mailing of the newsletter (which runs at least $1 per person per issue = $11 per year). Email and web recipients are not charged an additional fee. This would remove the burden of printing and mailing the newsletter from the normal club finances.
• The average meeting attendance for the year was 26!
• MRAC had 117 members.
• February 24 – Code tests for all amateur license grades are eliminated.
• Victor Company of Japan (JVC) and Kenwood Corp agree to combine corporate management and home audio electronics into a new company (JVC-Kenwood). Kenwood commercial and amateur radio equipment will continue with business as usual.
• November – Motorola agrees to buy 80% of Vertex Standard (the parent company of Yaesu) for approximately $108 million.
• October 28-29 – Using the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) facility near Gakona, Alaska, the lowest frequencies ever bounced off the moon were received at the Naval Research Lab facility in New Mexico. The frequencies used were 7.4075 MHz and 9.4075 Mhz.
• With the purchase of Marketronics Corp., Hytera America Inc. is formed.
• Due to poor health, Fidel Castro passes control of Cuba over to his brother Raul who would be “officially elected” as President of Cuba in 2008.
• There are 655,842 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2008

- January marks the start of sunspot cycle #24 (Friday, January 4) - Maybe. A number of weeks later show zero sunspots leading to speculation that we still at the bottom of cycle 23. In fact in September there are still zero sunspots occurring (not occurring?) on a regular basis, leading astronomers to speculate if cycle 24 has actually started at all by the end of 2008.

- MRAC partners with the Ozaukee Radio Club to conduct license classes, first with a General class held in Cedarburg.

- Larry Noldan NZ9I joins the MRAC VEC management team bringing the management committee back up to 4 (after John Kraak's KF9XL retirement in 2006). This also marks the first time VEC management handles their own appointments as they are no longer officially part of the club (previously the club President would appoint VEC management).

- A budget prepared by our Treasurer shows the club has a good chance of breaking even for the coming year.

- Amateur Electronic Supply allows the MRAC VEC to install a contractor style tool box containing testing materials, at the store to make things easier for our regularly scheduled testing sessions at the store. Thanks AES!

- Once again, the March meeting of the club falls immediately prior to AES Superfest and the club is able to get a return appearance by Bob Interbitzen NQ1R, Marketing Manager of ARRL (who is in town for Superfest).

- At the March meeting Bob Interbitzen NQ1R presented the club with a plaque from ARRL recognizing the contributions and longevity of MRAC (2009 will mark 90 years of ARRL club affiliation).

- Larry Nolden NZ9I receives an appointment to become the new Emergency Coordinator of Waukesha County ARES.

- As of June, MRAC had 81 members.

- MRAC VEC receives its own incorporation as “MRAC VEC INC”. This is due to board action in 2007 which resulted in the VEC being asked to remove its finances from those of the club in general which naturally leads to its own incorporation. Is MRAC the club no longer a VEC? This spawned a flurry of email communications, special board meetings, and more to try to resolve the issue. The original “issue” was confusion and misunderstanding on the part of just 1 or 2 people on the board as to the status of the VEC monies (which were never really income for the club but an accounting liability). Plus, the existing by-laws specified the relationship of the VEC which the board seemed to ignore. The end result is MRAC-VEC Inc. becomes an independent legal entity. The membership is finally filled in on all the goings-on regarding the VEC situation at the August meeting (the membership was never told anything when all this started) which included a by-laws change to reflect the club no-longer being a VEC (the article/paragraph defining the VEC operation was simply removed). Before the smoke clears, one of the VEC management resigns his club membership, one VE resigns his position and hard feelings result among some board members and others – all because the “acting” Treasurer (and then current President) couldn’t figure out the separation of VEC funds.

- Due to escalating work demands, Ken Hahn WK9H resigns his position as Emergency Coordinator (EC) of Milwaukee County ARES (May).
• Bill Brossman W9EQP passes away at the age of 99. Bill was President of MRAC in 1938 and ran the Milwaukee-Florida net for many years.
• In July, Pancho Doneis KA9OFA resigns the board and his position as editor of the club newsletter after 15 years.
• At the August meeting Ted Stiller WA9RDI resigned from the board of directors after having just been re-elected in May. His resignation speech, which was given at the last second of the club business meeting while people were preparing to leave and generally not paying attention, included some questionable comments personally attacking other directors (and would be grounds for dismissal if he wasn’t already resigning).
• The August and September meetings feature programs dealing with the Softrock kit SDR receiver. The club purchases one kit and offers it to a club member on the condition that they will build the kit, get it working, and discuss their trials and tribulations at least one club meeting. After a couple of months of asking, Pancho KA9OFA offers to be the Softrock experimenter. He eventually built the kit but never got it working (a single program on his progress came 1 year later – no later progress report was ever heard).
• After some last minute arrangements, the club Christmas Party, scheduled to take place Saturday December 13 ends up being cancelled due to a lack of advance reservations. This is the first time that happens since the dinners were added to the old “Old Timer’s Nite” in 1979 becoming the Christmas Party.
• Richard Garriott W5KWQ, a video game developer, entrepreneur, and son of astronaut Owen Garriott W5LFL (who was the first person to operate an amateur radio station from space, aboard the space shuttle STS-9), became the sixth private citizen to pay for a trip to the International Space Station. He was to be the first person to pay for the space flight but amid some financial issues sold his seat.
• In the interest of eliminating consumer confusion and help acceptance of a new format, the HD DVD camp shuts down leaving Blu-Ray as the format for high definition DVD recording (for now at least).
• Sir Arthur C. Clarke noted author/inventor passes away at the age of 90. Clarke was the author of 2001: A Space Odyssey (and its sequels, 2010 and 2069) as well as a number of other fiction and non-fiction books. Clarke is credited with the concept of the communications satellite (1945). A satellite geosynchronous orbit is referred to as the Clarke orbit. Clarke was also a life member of AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation).
• September 28, the first privately developed liquid fuel rocket to orbit the Earth was launched. SpaceX was the company who developed, built and launched the rocket named the Falcon 1. The launch site was on Omelek Island at the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) in the Central Pacific, about 2,500 miles southwest of Hawaii.
• The Milwaukee Brewers win the National League Baseball Wild Card position putting the team in the post season playoffs for the first time in 26 years. The team lost to the Philadelphia Phillies in the divisional playoff series 3 games to 1. Philadelphia would go on to win the World Series beating the Tampa Bay Rays 4 games to 2.
• Barack Obama (Senator from Illinois) is elected the 44th President of the United States, the first African-American person to serve as President.
• Through a series of business and financial mishaps (and maybe some criminal activities) the world real estate and financial markets (including the U.S.) collapse. Billions of dollars are lost on various stock markets and real estate. Thousands of people are forced into foreclosure on their homes. A small handful of the largest “banks” in the US are given billions of dollars to prop up their businesses as a result of their bad investments and loans. The federal government coins the term “too big to fail” in relation to their giving money to the “banks” and other investment companies.

• There are 663,564 amateur radio licenses in the U.S.
2009

- MRAC purchases a table at the West Allis hamfest for a club exhibit but the current President fails to make arrangements to staff the table leaving it empty for the hamfest (except for the paper on the table identifying the table as being for the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club).

- Due to increasing demands outside of the club, Howard Parks AB9FH resigns as President of MRAC. Almost like 2003, the VP, Brian Bieger KC9HEK has been sent traveling by his job making him unavailable for most meetings. Brian (Bieger) then appoints Brian White, K9LCQ the new VP and that Brian will run meetings until a new, 1 year term President is elected at a special election called for the May meeting (to coincide with the normal election of 3 directors). Mark Tellier AB9CD runs for and is elected (with no opposition) to the special 1 year term as President. Now a new Treasurer is needed. 2009 will end and MRAC will still not have a formal Treasurer (with Mark AB9CD doing Treasurer duties as well as President – not good).

- For the first time in many years, the club operates Field Day totally off generator power. Also no “general” club picnic is scheduled for Field Day.

- The July meeting is Pancho KA9OFA discussing his progress with the Softrock SDR receiver kit the club offered in November 2008. Construction is complete but the receiver is not working (and will never be - ed).

- At the September meeting (featuring a presentation on mobile CW operating by Pat Hoppe WW9R) an unexpected visitor shows up, Harald (Al) Kjode, LA9SN from Norway. Harald also operates mobile CW but using 1000 Watts!. He is also at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll, having worked 344 countries (there are 338 at this date). Harald happened to have a flash memory drive with him with a number of pictures of some of his one man DX-peditions which added another hour to our already excellent program.

- The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) changes its name to the Military Auxiliary Radio System (still MARS).

- The Vibroplex Company was purchased by Scott Robbins W4PA former Ten-Tec engineer, and relocated to Knoxville, Tennessee.

- RF Concepts acquires Alpha/Power.

- All broadcast television must go to digital transmission on February 17. Most TV stations will be assigned new operating frequencies (most on UHF). Also channels from 60 on up will no longer be used for TV and the frequencies will be auctioned off. The government offers up to 2, $40 coupons per household for the purchase of digital TV converters for those who own old “analog” TVs.

- Congress extends the date for broadcast television conversion to digital from February 17 to June 12. This was to allow more time for the general public to either purchase new TVs or converters for old TVs.

- February 11 – In a first time event, two in-tact satellites collide in space. A Russian Cosmos 2251 satellite (presumed non-operational) crashed into an operating Iridium communications satellite (one of 66 in orbit) creating at least 500 pieces of space debris.

- A historic series of 5 spacewalks is used to basically “rebuild” the Hubble space telescope, extending its useful life by years.
• Due to the poor economic conditions which began late in 2008, Chrysler and General Motors both declare bankruptcy after accepting billions of dollars from the American taxpayer. Chrysler is subsequently sold to Fiat of Italy and with taxpayer dollars, the government becomes the owner of GM.
• Michael Jackson, the self-proclaimed “King of Pop” dies under mysterious prescription drug circumstances.
• August 12 - Lester William Polsfuss (known as Les Paul) guitarist, inventor, performer, born in Waukesha, Wi, died in White Plains New York at the age of 94. He is one of a handful of people who have a permanent exhibit at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and also has an exhibit at Discovery World in Milwaukee. He is responsible for the invention of the solid body electric guitar (Gibson guitars named a guitar model after him) as well as numerous audio recording techniques including multi-track and “sound-on-sound” recording.
• There are 682,497 licensed radio amateurs in the U.S.
2010

- The MRAC board decides to add a late payment penalty to dues paid after May 1. For now, the penalty will be $3.00 making late dues $20.00. This was done to avoid a rush of people trying to pay dues at the May meeting which is usually an auction besides elections. Also, it helps to get people to pay somewhere near the time dues are actually due (January), so the club has money to operate.
- Besides late dues penalty, a decision was made to make dues for any new member who joins after September 1 essentially free for the remainder of that calendar plus $17 for the next year (so someone who joins in September gets 16 months of membership for $17.
- MRAC gets business cards for PR purposes.
- No one steps up to be Field Day Chairman.
- At the May election, no one runs for Vice President or Treasurer. The board will formulate a plan at the June board meeting. The club has not had an official Treasurer for 3 of the last 4 years.
- MRAC finds a local vendor for name badges and tries again to get members to buy badges.
- Due to a real Field Day (a tornado which struck the town of Eagle requiring hams to assist in disaster assessment, security and Red Cross communications), MRAC Field Day operations had no digital station. This also prevented at least 2 regulars from attending Field Day. With no Chairman and the tornado needs, Field Day is only a 2A operation by a small handful of people.
- MRAC does not meet during July and August. That is how the club operated until the early 1990’s.
- MRAC finally, again has a Christmas Party, this time in association with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS), owners/operators of the 145.13 repeater. The majority of attendees are MAARS members.
- The West Allis Radio Amateur Club shuts down their repeater due to a lack of control operator support. They begin having a club net on the MATC repeater on 147.045 MHz (the old frequency of the MRAC repeater and also located at the community repeater site, but on the Channel 10 digital tower).
- West Mountain Radio, a company which produces digital radio and computer interface products and DC power control products becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of Custom Computer Services Inc. which is located in Waukesha Wi.
- Dr. H. Edward Roberts passes away. Dr. Roberts was the owner of MITS (Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems) producing electronic calculators. He then became the developer of the Altair 8800 microcomputer as featured on the cover of the January 1975 issue of Popular Electronics effectively starting the personal computer revolution. He also gave Bill Gates and Paul Allen their start in the computer business (they wrote the BASIC interpreter for the Altair). Roberts sold MITS in 1977 to study medicine and become a medical doctor. He was 68 when he died.
- The weekend of April 16, 17, 18 sees the use of the 1000 foot diameter radio telescope at Arecibo, Puerto Rico on 432 MHz moonbounce using the call sign KP4AO. The antenna has a gain of approximately 60 dbi, making it easier than normal for modest stations to make a moon bounce contact. 242 people made successful moonbounce contacts with the observatory that weekend.

- City of Milwaukee Police move their primary communications to the Open Sky system, a proprietary digital, encrypted communication system. It will take years and millions of dollars before the system is even partially useable.

- Dr. Fritz Sennheiser passes away at the age of 98. He was the founder and Chairman of Sennheiser Electronic GmbH & Co a German maker of headphones, microphones and related equipment.

- There are 696,041 licensed amateurs in the US.
2011

- MRAC votes on changes to the by-laws re-creating Student membership (this time with free dues) and changing the officer election process to that used from 1917 – 1951 – electing directors only and then the directors select officers from those on the board. The changes are approved only after much discussion and a number of dissenting votes.

- MRAC attempts a Hamfest partnering with the Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS), just like the Christmas party. The Hamfest is held at the Channel 10/36 Friends Auction building (due to Dave Schank KA9WXN) in Brookfield on Saturday, February 19. Amazingly, it turns a profit in its first year based on more than 40 vendor tables and 220 tickets sold (about $500 for each club).

- MRAC secures the use of Redemption Lutheran Church (where meetings are currently held) for a Saturday morning pancake breakfast open to all area hams. This is also held in conjunction with MAARS. They had their first pancake breakfast in 2010 at a person’s house. Unfortunately, due to a number of circumstances, the turnout is light.

- The late dues penalty is shifted to April 1 since elections now take place in April instead of May.

- Gordon West WB6NOA makes his third appearance at a MRAC meeting. This was because the March meeting fell immediately prior to AES Superfest again.

- Once again, no one steps up to be Field Day Chairman, so in continuing our working relationship with MAARS, Field Day planning is turned over to them. Dave Schank KA9WXN and Al Maahs KC9IJJ MRAC board members and MAARS members do the job.

- MRAC Field Day operations move to Konkel Park in Greenfield in partnership with MAARS (Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society - 145.13 repeater club). In order to maintain relations with Ozaukee County Historical Society and Pioneer Village, a secondary, un-official Field Day operation is operated at Pioneer Village in Ozaukee County under the call sign of AB9CD, Mark Tellier.

- CQ Magazine sends a photographer (Larry Mulvehill WB2ZPI) to spend Field Day weekend with MRAC. Besides our Field Day operations, he also takes pictures of the community repeater site, WMVS and WMVT TV transmitters, and the Gateway Technical College Field Day operations (advised by MRAC’s own Pat Hoppe WW9R). Pictures of WMVT TV transmitter with MRAC member and Director Dave Schank KA9WXN appear on the cover of the October 2011 issue of Popular Communications magazine. Two of the Field Day pictures as well as one picture from the Gateway Tech College Field Day and one picture from the community repeater site also with Dave Schank KA9WXN appear in the 2012 CQ Amateur Radio Calendar including the front cover. The cover image is also used in ads for the calendar over a number of months in numerous CQ publications. More of the pictures taken that weekend will appear in various CQ publications in future years.

- For the first time, the forums as presented at Superfest are streamed live over the Internet. The technical manpower behind this is MRAC’s own Dave Schank KA9WXN and Al Maahs KC9IJJ.

- Leo Meyerson W0GFQ founder of World Radio Labs, maker of the Globe and Galaxy lines of amateur equipment as well as the World Radio Labs retail store passes away in April at the age of 100.
• May 24 marks the debut episode of the Internet based video ham news and features program called Ham Nation. The program is hosted by Bob Heil K9EID (of Heil Sound) and Gordon West WB6NOA. The program appears weekly, Tuesday evenings at 8 PM Central time. It is hosted on the T.W.I.T. (This Week In Technology) web site operated by Leo LaPorte a technology broadcaster who subsequently became a ham himself with the call W6TWT.

• Dr. Sidney Harman founder of Harman/Kardon (1953) a manufacturer of audio electronics and the developer of the first stereo receiver (incorporating preamp, power amp, and radio tuner), passes away at the age of 92.

• Edgar M. Villchur passed away at the age of 94. Mr. Villchur was the developer of the acoustic suspension loudspeaker (1954) and cofounder of Acoustic Research along with Henry Kloss. The company’s model AR-3 speaker is on display at the Smithsonian Institution.

• Steve Jobs, who founded Apple Computer along with Steve Wozniak (a former ham) in 1976 and served as the company’s CEO, passes away at the age of 56.

• The last Space Shuttle flight takes place, signaling a temporary (hopefully) end to US manned space flights.

• The Green Bay Packers beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 31-25 in Super Bowl XLV.

• The Milwaukee Brewers Baseball team win the National League Central Division title. They lose the league championship to St. Louis who then go on to win the World Series. St. Louis was the team which beat the Brewers in the 1982 World Series (when the Brewers were in the American League and were league champions).

• There are 702,056 licensed radio amateurs in the U.S.
2012

- The FM simplex contest featured a 95th club anniversary certificate to all who contacted the W9RH station in the contest. MRAC once again wins the club category of the contest (but Badger Contesters are still ahead overall by one win).
- MRAC and MAARS held our second joint hamfest at the channel 10 auction site. Prizes were offered for the first time this year including a donation of the N3FJP logging software suite (donated by N3FJP) and a mobile VHF/UHF antenna donated by the RF Adapter Guy. 55 tables and 300 admission tickets were sold, an increase over 2010. The two clubs each pocketed $766 profit (that was after providing pizza and soda to all volunteers who cleaned up after the fest on Saturday afternoon). That was almost a 50% increase in profit over 2011!
- The February MRAC meeting acts as a late holiday / 95th Anniversary / successful hamfest / club member celebration party along with MAARS featuring free food (courtesy of Hamfest profits as well as Al Maahs KC9IJJ and Dave Schank KA9WXN).
- The March MRAC meeting again falls immediately prior to AES Superfest which allowed Gordon West WB6NOA to make his fourth appearance at an MRAC meeting. Gordo was joined by his book publisher Pete Trotter KB9SMG.
- MRAC operates a special event HF station for its 95th anniversary during Superfest at Amateur Electronic Supply. The demo radios at the front of the store are offered for our use and the club table is also located there, making us the first thing people see when entering the store. 6 members as well as Gordon West operate the radios for 2 hours Friday and 6 hours Saturday making over 200 contacts with stations all over the world.
- In time for the annual auction, 2 non-members donate a large amount of radio and audio equipment which along with other donated items for auction brings the total club income from the auction to just under $1600! With plenty of PR and the amount of donated equipment, there were 42 people in attendance which included 16 visitors.
- The MRAC repeater is once again used as a secondary repeater for the Miller Ride For The Arts.
- MRAC once again participates in Field Day along with MAARS. This year Amateur Electronic Supply provides a brand new Icom IC-9100 (about a $4000 HF/VHF/UHF radio) for our operations.
- In June the first set of officers under the new bylaws (modeled after those in place prior to 1951) step up from those directors elected in the general election. Dave Schank KA9WXN takes over the job of President. This is in addition to being President of MAARS, Chairman of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters, and being on the board of the West Allis radio club.
- In August MRAC joined in hosting a picnic with MAARS. Over 65 people attended. At the picnic a low key special event operation for the club’s 95th anniversary was also held (sort of part 3 for the year) including making special event contacts on the club repeater.
- October 9 – Weekly on the air license classes / discussion begins on the club repeater every Tuesday and the MAARS repeater (145.13 MHz) every Thursday. The classes start with General class and will continue with Extra. The classes are conducted by Erv Roman N9YNU (while he himself was studying for his General – and then passed Nov. 24).
November 4 - The MRAC repeater is used as a backup frequency (simplex was the primary) for the Jingle Bell Run at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The run is a fund raiser for the Arthritis Foundation.

December 1 – The State of Wisconsin issues a proclamation designating January 17, 2013 as Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club Inc. Day in the state to commemorate the completed 95th anniversary of the club.

Some of the programs at club meetings during the year included the first ever all-encompassing party (with free food), part 2 of show us your antenna farm, the annual auction (which made a record profit for the club), TWO appearances by representatives of West Mountain Radio – one covering their digital mode products and one their power products, astronomy and telescope building.

Motorola spins off Yaesu Munsen (January 1, 2012) which will produce amateur radio, marine, and aircraft equipment while keeping the Vertex and Standard commercial land-mobile business for themselves.

Fred Maya W5YI, the man behind one of the first VECs, the founder of the National Council of Volunteer Examiners (NCVEC), writer of numerous amateur radio magazine articles, book publisher and all around amateur radio legal and historical expert passes away at the age of 75 (3/28/12).

Dick Baldwin W1RU passes away (6/21/12) at the age of 92. He was General Manager and VP of ARRL from 1975-1982. He was Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) from 1976-1982. He then retired from ARRL and became President of IARU from 1982-1992 overlapping with ARRL International Affairs VP from 1982-1986. Dick attended not one but two MRAC Old Timers Nite / Christmas Parties in both 1979 (for our 60th anniversary of ARRL affiliation) and again in 1980.

Jack Tramiel passes away at the age of 83. Jack was the founder of Commodore International, the company which produced the first personal computer to pass the 1 million units sold (in 1982) milestone with the VIC-20 computer.

Larry Mulvehill WB2ZPI is inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall Of Fame. Larry is the photographer for CQ magazine and its related publications for 30 years. CQ sent Larry to Milwaukee to photograph the MRAC / MAARS Field Day operation in 2011. His work resulted in the club and its members being featured on the cover and 4 months of the CQ Amateur Radio Calendar for 2012 and a cover of Popular Communications for October 2011 (and even more, see 2013 entries).

The unmanned mobile exploration vehicle, “Curiosity” lands perfectly on the surface of Mars.

Heath Educational Systems (the former Heathkit) filed for bankruptcy after defaulting on its loans and abandoning its office space.

Walt Maxwell W2DU passes away at the age of 92. Walt was the author of a series of QST articles. “Another Look At Reflections” and the book “Reflections: Transmission Lines and Antennas” which both fully described the effects of SWR, line loss, baluns, and antenna tuners.

The Milwaukee Fire Department joins the Milwaukee Police Department on its OpenSky radio system.

There are about 709,575 licensed amateurs in the U.S.
2013

- Thursday January 17 is designated the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club Inc. Day in Wisconsin by Governor Scott Walker (in recognition of our 95th anniversary in 2012).
- Due to the recent trend of people bringing radios to Field Day, the club decides to sell the two radios it owns (and have not been used in the last 3 Field Days) and use the money for antennas and related equipment. As part of that focus, the club purchases a Cushcraft MA-5 mini-beam from the estate of a silent key (the estate being handled by Mark Tellier AB9CD and the items being sold at our hamfest in February). MRAC sells one of its radios (Heath SB-104) and power supply to club member Mark Tellier AB9CD. The Kenwood TS-430 is sold to Ron Crown KA9JCP, as well as a tri-band beam (Cushcraft A-3S) to Charles Merten W9CHD.
- MRAC and MAARS hold their 3rd annual hamfest. Each club pocketed a profit of about $650.
- Once again, the February MRAC meeting acts as a late holiday / Anniversary / successful hamfest / club member celebration party along with MAARS featuring free food (courtesy of Hamfest profits as well as Al Maahs KC9IJJ (doing most of the cooking) and Dave Schank KA9WXN).
- DVD-ROMs of the club history distributed to members and other interested parties now contain a series of short (5-15 minute) videos of the photo album / scrapbook instead of a Microsoft PowerPoint slide show. Currently the videos are 99% silent. Proper soundtracks are currently on the to-do list.
- The April issue of CQ magazine (page 57) contains a picture of Al Maahs KC9IJJ operating his station portable, as taken by CQ photographer Larry Mulvehill WB2ZPI at the MRAC / MAARS Field Day in 2011. This picture joins others which previously appeared in the CQ 2012 calendar and Popular Communications magazine.
- The CQ 2013-2014 calendar contains yet more pictures from the MRAC / MAARS Field Day of 2011 – 4 months and both the front and back covers. Subjects were Jim KB9KBK, Pat Hoppe WW9R, Al Maahs KC9IJJ and the garaged cars of Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.
- The second ever J. Travis Baird award (the first was in 2002) is presented to Dave DeFebo WB9BWP in recognition of his years of service to MRAC and amateur radio (not to mention his paying more membership dues that any previous member – ed. Just had to say that).
- The Gateway Technical College (GTC, of Racine) radio club, under the guidance of MRAC member Pat Hoppe WW9R, joins MRAC and MAARS at this year’s Field Day. This year also marks a return of the GOTA (Get On The Air) station at Field Day (absent since 2008).
- Amateur Electronic Supply once again loans a new radio to the MRAC / MAARS / GTC Field Day operations. This year it is a Yaesu FTDX-1200.
- Due to some questionable actions and communications on the club repeater by just a couple of people, the club creates a written policy for the use of the repeater.
- For the first time since Superfest was started (1994) by Amateur Electronic Supply in Milwaukee, Gordon West WB6NOA does not make an appearance (due to a scheduling conflict).
• It is announced that 2013 was the last year for the current version of AES Superfest. Hopefully it will return under the guidance of a number of local clubs and include a flea market. But ...(see next year).

• William “Bill” Kasuga, founder of Kenwood USA passes away at the age of 98.

• July – Bob Grove W8JHD founder and publisher of Monitoring Times magazine announces his retirement and the ceasing of publication of the magazine with the December 2013 issue.

• Wayne Green W2NSD (“Never Say Die”), who was RTTY columnist for CQ Magazine from 1951-1955 then editor of CQ magazine from 1955-1960 and then founded and ran 73 magazine for its entire run from 1960-2003 passes away at the age of 91. He was also the founder of Byte and other computer magazines during the 1980s.

• Jack Althouse K6NY President of Palomar Engineers, a distributor of ferrite and antenna products passes away. He was also “technical consultant” to the Kurt N. Sterba column in World Radio magazine.

• October 9, the NASA exploration satellite JUNO on its way to Jupiter circles around the earth in the slingshot effect to launch it to Jupiter. During this time radio amateurs around the world are asked to send the message HI in very slow CW (and synchronized using the internet) on the 10 M band in an effort to test some of the RF sensors aboard the spacecraft. The test is successful with the spacecraft “hearing” the message sent.

• Dr. Amar Bose, founder (in 1964) and CEO of the audio company Bose Corporation passes away at the age of 83.

• Due to budget issues the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) operation in Alaska is shut down.

• The Eastman Kodak Company emerges from bankruptcy as a company involved in commercial imaging. Gone are cameras, film, photo printing and all consumer business. The new company will have about 8500 employees, down from a high of 145,000 in the 1980s.

• CQ Magazine, just before the end of the year, announces it is “realigning” its roster of magazines, eliminating print editions of CQ VHF, World Radio, and Popular Communications, and adding content from those magazines to the digital version of CQ Magazine (not the print version).

• Ryan Braun, Milwaukee Brewers outfielder is suspended 62 games for the use of performance enhancing drugs.

• There are about 717,201 licensed amateurs in the U.S.
2014

- MRAC is selected as one of about 100 test installations of the new Yaesu Fusion Digital Voice / Data Repeater. It replaces the GE Mstr II Repeater. The repeater is installed in time for live demos during AES Superfest. This is one of only 2 installations of a Yaesu Fusion system repeater in the state of Wisconsin. MRAC is also given a System Fusion HT and mobile radio by Yaesu for use with the repeater.

- AES Superfest takes place as in the past, but this time as a single day event with less space available for club tables and no Gordon West. One of the technical forums is “The History Of The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club, 97 Years and Counting” by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP.

- MRAC is involved in a high altitude balloon launch. The W9RH call is used on the APRS tracker aboard the balloon.

- To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ARRL, each state will have W1AW portable operations at least twice during the year. For the first Wisconsin W1AW/9 operations in February, the Society of Midwest Contesters will have some of its members operate. Pat Hoppe WW9R, MRAC member as well as Gateway Technical College Radio Club advisor will be one of the operators. He also checked into the MRAC Friday night 10M net to make W1AW/9 available to net check-ins.

- For the second round of Wisconsin operations for W1AW/9, Pat Hoppe WW9R will again be one of the operators. Again he will give contacts on the MRAC Friday night 10M net.

- MRAC is named in the will of Jim Fischer W9LPF to receive his radio equipment.

- Starting during the month of July, a new net starts on the MRAC repeater (Saturday nights at 7 PM), this one covering the growing usage of the Yaesu digital radios. This may be the first Fusion digital voice net in the country. The net was the idea of Steve Sundquist N9FSE and is being run by Leroy Skalstad WD9HOT.

- July 18-19 The ARRL sponsors a special National Convention to celebrate 100 years in operation. The convention includes a special day (Thursday July 17) of day long specialized topic conferences. At least 3 MRAC members are in attendance.

- September sees the second high altitude balloon launch with some MRAC involvement. Joe Schwarz N9UX is the project leader with Erv Romans N9YNU serving as mission control. Steve Sundquist N9FSE and Mark Tellier AB9CD are part of the chase / recovery team. Unfortunately, the balloon lands in a marsh making recovery impossible at this time (it will be recovered early next year).

- The March/April issue of CQ Magazine contains an article by Theodore J. Cohen N4XX (previously WN9VZL) entitled “Set Another Place For Sister Margaret” detailing his experiences as a Jewish teenager (starting in 1953) handling CW traffic between Madison and Milwaukee for the Catholic Church (who had contacted MRAC). Mr. Cohen was a MRAC member at the time and the article mentions then MRAC President, Ken Eggert W9MOT.

- The September issue of CQ magazine contains yet another picture from the Field Day 2011 photo work of Larry Mulvihill WB2ZPI, CQ photographer. Once again Dave Schank KA9WXN is the subject of the picture (at his home station. There is also a single column article within the magazine with MRAC getting a mention of course.

- The Milwaukee Maker organization puts on the first Milwaukee Maker Faire at State Fair Park. 35,000 people attend.
• Tokyo High Power Labs, a manufacturer of antenna tuners and RF power amplifiers, files for bankruptcy.
• William Moerner, WN6I a professor of chemistry at Stanford University in California is awarded a Nobel Prize (shared with 2 other non-hams Eric Betzig and Stefan Hell) for their work in high-resolution microscopy or nanoscopy.
• Alpha Amplifiers (RF Concepts) and Ten-Tec merge. They will retain their respective manufacturing facilities, but management will consolidate.
• Agilent Technologies, the test equipment company spun out of Hewlett Packard in 1999 announces that by the end of 2014 the electronic test and measurement equipment operations will be spun off into yet another separate company, Keysight Technologies. Agilent’s products will be medical and scientific instruments and life science materials. Keysight begins operations in August.
• JVC-Kenwood purchases EFJ Technologies – E.F. Johnson Company, to broaden the Land Mobile offerings of Kenwood Communications in the P25 Digital radio and systems area.
• The state of Colorado begins the legal commercial sales of marijuana for personal, recreational use.
• After leading the National League Central division for 150 days, the Milwaukee Brewers collapse in August and September to fall out of first place (finished 3rd) and do not make the playoffs (ending up 6 games behind for a wild-card playoff spot). Their final record was 82-80 after going 9-22 during the last month of play..
2015

- MRAC applies for a special price promotion for the new version of the Yaesu System Fusion repeater. We may also be able to keep the “beta” version of the repeater which has been in operation for 1 year.

- The March meeting is held one week early to accommodate representatives from Yaesu who are in town for AES Superfest and some other business. Besides doing a presentation on new Yaesu equipment including System Fusion, Yaesu donated a Fusion capable HT ($400 value) which was given away via a drawing at the meeting. Charlie Kremer KC9CEQ won the radio.

- At the 2015 AES Superfest another MRAC member, Dave Schank KA9WXN, puts on a presentation, this time on the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (which Dave is Chairman of besides being MRAC President, and MAARS President, and probably other officers too).

- Gordon West WB6NOA is made an honorary member of MRAC to recognize his promotion of amateur radio as well as his activities with the club (attending 4 meetings and operating in the club’s 95th anniversary special event operation at AES).

- As a result of some freezing weather, freezing the marsh, the balloon launched last September was recovered intact. The payload is displayed at the MRAC / MAARS hamfest. The Baofeng HT which flew in the balloon is auctioned off at the MRAC auction in May complete with a certificate of authenticity for the radio.

- The MRAC FM Simplex adds an extra half hour of operation for all types of digital voice methods, currently D-Star, Yaesu C4FM, P25, DMR. Is this the first mixed mode (analog and digital) voice contest anywhere?

- The MRAC repeater is again used as an auxiliary net control frequency for the UPAF Ride For The Arts Bike Ride Sunday May 31. The main net frequency is the MAARS repeater of 145.13 MHz.

- Field Day for MRAC sees the first use of a mobile pneumatic mast for the main HF antenna. The mast was purchased by Dave Schank KA9WXN at Dayton Hamfest and has additional outriggers fabricated by the Field Day chef, Barry Sprifke W9BLS.

- Amateur Electronic Supply once again loans MRAC an HF radio for Field Day use, this time a Kenwood TS-590SG.

- MRAC has a booth at the second Milwaukee Maker Faire. The fair runs for 2 days at state fair park during Harvest Fair. AES loans an ICOM 7600 HF transceiver for the exhibit. The Maker Faire drew 45,000 people.

- Due to problems with the MATC repeater (147.045 MHz), the West Allis Radio Amateur Club uses the MRAC repeater for its weekly net for a few weeks.

- The FCC following government logic removes the fee for amateur vanity call signs because the fee does not cover the processing costs, so it’s better to not charge any fee at all.

- CQ Magazine announces the ceasing of a “CQ Plus” digital magazine which was CQ plus content from the previous publications CQ VHF, Popular Communications, and World Radio. The digital version of CQ will be identical to the print edition.

- A DX-pedition activates Navassa Island for the first time in 32 years. Over 100,000 QSOs have been made.
• QSC Technologies, the contract design and assembly company which has been assembling Alpha amplifiers purchases RF Concepts, the company behind Alpha Amplifiers and also recently, Ten-Tec. The amateur equipment company will be under the design operation RKR Designs.
• Bill Pasternak WA6ITF, co-founder of the Westlink Report (with Jim Hendershot, WA6VQP) which became Amateur Radio Newsline, as well as creator of the Young Ham of the Year Award passes away at the age of 73. He was also the only person to ever receive two awards from the Dayton Hamvention, the Special Achievement (1981) and Radio Amateur of the Year (1989). Bill was also the author of numerous magazine columns and articles over his 56 year ham career.
• September 30 – Navy / Marine Corps Mars (NAVMARCORMARS) operations shut down leaving Army and Air Force MARS operations remaining. The Navy MARS repeater which shares the community repeater site with MRAC (being the only other VHF transmitter there) becomes an Air Force Mars repeater (and property).
• Wes Schum W9DYV the founder and creator of Central Electronics passes away.
• CQ Magazine announces availability of CDs of back issues for 2014 and 2015. A first for the magazine.
• Rockwell / Collins announces that mechanical filter production will be ending at some future unannounced date.
• After an absence of many years, The Milwaukee Journal / Sentinel reintroduces the “Green Sheet” to the daily paper in May.
• After a number of years of losses as well as a loss of respect, Radio Shack declares bankruptcy. Half of their stores are sold to the parent of Sprint, to be (nobody knows yet). The other half are closed.
• There are 735,405 licensed amateurs in the US at the close of the year.

2016
• MRAC holds a contest to have a new logo for the club’s 100th anniversary.
• 2016 AES Superfest sees yet another MRAC member put on a presentation. This time it is Joe Schwarz N9UX and the subject is high altitude balloon launches.
• The assets of Ten-Tec are purchased by Dishtronix from RKR Designs. Dishtronix produces solid state power amplifiers for the amateur market. They are also an electronics design and consulting firm. RKR had purchased the combined Alpha and Ten-Tec from RF Concepts in 2015. One of the first steps taken under the new ownership is the ending of free service consulting. Ten-Tec service had been operating at a loss. Now there will be a charge just to diagnose a problem (it seems some hams would send in a radio, get the problem diagnosed for free, have the radio returned and make the repair themselves or by other means).
• ARRL CEO Dave Sumner K1ZZ retires from ARRL after 40+ years of service. Also, ARRL COO Harold Kramer WJ1B retires after 11 years of service.
• Milwaukee born guitarist Steve Miller is inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio..
The Beginning as Told By Someone Who Was There

(2005)

Editor’s note: The following is a reprint (with exact spelling and grammar) from a copy (dated October 1956 by Emil Felber W9RH) of a document entitled “The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club by L. S. Baird, Past President”. Other copies of this document have also been found proving it is authentic. The exact date of original publication is unknown though some documents point to sometime in 1923. L.S. Baird was one of the four founders of the club and the first president.

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club
By L.S. Baird, Past President

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club was founded in January 1917, by L. S. Baird, A. C. Kletzsch Jr., J. B. Hitz, and Alonzo Pawling. In its prewar existence it could have been characterized as the junior amateur radio organization of the city. This existence being one of but a few months, all the early members were drawn from but a limited section of the city.

Previous to the founding of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club two of the local high schools had organized radio clubs, and one or two other attempts were made to found local wireless clubs, but with one exception none endured long. This exception was the Milwaukee Radio Association, which at the time of the founding of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club constituted the senior radio association of Milwaukee. This association did not survive the war period of government ban on amateur radio activities. Its post-war membership was absorbed by the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club. Among these members were Robert Miregler, C. F. Bates, L. J. Prahl, and L. A. Degner. The Milwaukee Boy Scout Radio Club was founded at about the same time, but existed for only a short period while its members were receiving instruction in elementary radio from a member of the faculty of the School Of Engineering. Some of its members joined the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club.

In the spring of 1919 and shortly after the government ban on amateur radio activities was removed, a meeting of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club was held and plans were made for the coming club season of 1919-1920. A careful survey of the city was made and a list of all amateurs was compiled. This list was the nucleus of the complete record of all amateurs in the city that the club now keeps. The Trustees’ Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum, which has a seating capacity of about one hundred, was secured as a hall for the Club to convene in.

At the first meetings in the fall of 1919 a new constitution was adopted and officers elected and installed. The officers were L. S. Baird, President; C. N. Crapo, Vice President; R. A. Teschan, Secretary; T. V. Weston, Treasurer; and R. A. Pelishek, Business Manager. Others prominent in the direction were: C. S. Polacheck, C. M. Prinslow, A. C. Kletzsch, Jr., and A. B. Lord.

The club became affiliated with the American Radio Relay League, Inc. and L. A. Degner, a member, was appointed City Manager. Many other events, both business and social, took place this year.

The club opened the season of 1920-1921 with L. S. Baird, Chairman of the Board of Directors; C. N. Crapo, President; A. B. Lord Vice President; Louis Heyman, Secretary; and E. W. Ruppenthal, Treasurer and Business Manager. Mr. Crapo succeeded Mr. Degner as City Manager for the American Radio Relay League, Inc. Meetings were held this season in
a lecture room in the Old Insurance Bldg. obtained thru the courtesy of the School of Engineering of Milwaukee. The Milwaukee membership of the now defunct Wisconsin Radio League, which had been founded by M. B. Grogan and R. F. Laidlaw, was absorbed by the club. Mr. Grogan became the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club publicity manager. Before the organization of the Milwaukee Radio Executive Council, the Club became affiliated with the Chicago Executive Council (Radio). The “Chicago Plan” for control of radio traffic was adopted and enforced first by the Club and then by the Milwaukee Council. It was thru the efforts of the leaders of the Club that the Milwaukee Radio Executive Council was formed. This Club and several others are represented in the Council. The season was closed by a successful social and dance held in the dining room of the St. James Episcopal Church.

The season of 1921-1922 was opened with the following officers: L. S. Baird, Past President; C. N. Crapo, Chairman of the Board of Directors; D. J. Gellerupt President; H. F. Wareing, Vice President; L. W. Klingbiel, Secretary; and E. W. Ruppenthal, Treasurer and Business Manager.

The club meets weekly at 8:00 P.M. on Monday evenings, except the third Monday of each month, in the Trustee’s Room of the Milwaukee Public Museum. Visitors and prospective members are welcome at all meetings. At meetings when outside speakers are not present, members present papers and informal discussions take place. Previous to the hour of opening the meeting, half an hour is devoted to code practice for those who desire it. Members are encouraged to present before meetings both radio traffic and technical problems. It is the hope of the direction of the club that in the near future a plan will be inaugurated whereby a certain period of the meetings will be devoted to giving instruction in elementary electricity and radio communication.

This year the club has embarked on an extensive lecture program. An attempt has been made to secure from the ranks of employees of Milwaukee’s electrical industries a number of men who could lecture on some subject that has points in common with radio communication. Some of the lectures that have been given and some that remain to be given are: December 8, 1921, “The National Electrical Code and Its Application to Radio Signaling Apparatus”, by A. C. Schultz, Electrical Inspector, Wisconsin Inspection Bureau; January 23, 1922, “Serving the Radio Amateur” by W. S. Wilder, Sc. B., E. E., Electrical Testing Division, The Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Co.; February 13, 1922, “The Theory of the Electron Tube” by R. C. Siegel, Sc. B., The University of Wisconsin, 1921; February 27, 1922, “Some Possibilities in the Development of Electron Discharge Apparatus” by Arthur Simon, member I.R.E., Electrical Engineer, Cutler-Hammer Mfg. Co., March 13, 1922, “Storage Batteries” by J. P. Schroeter, Electrical Engineer, formerly Consulting Engineer, American School of Correspondence, Chicago, Ill. All radio men and other interested persons are invited to attend.

The club has several committees thru which much of its work is accomplished. Membership in one or more of these committees entitles the radio amateur to become actively engaged in the solution of the problems of local radio organizations. There is a Committee on Interference and Relay which has for its duty to cooperate with the A.R.R.L. City Manager in the solving of problems of local radio traffic. Some other committees, the work of which is obvious from their names, are the Committee on Papers and Publications, Program Committee, Publicity Committee, and the Committee on Research and Development. The work of the last-named committee is shortly to be transferred to a radio laboratory founded by several radio club members.

Membership appeals alike to the “DX” man, the radio experimenter, the beginner, and
to those who have only a set for the reception of radio broadcasts. There are three classes of membership viz: Member, Associate, and Junior. Dues for the first two classes are fifty cents a month and for Juniors, twenty-five cents. An initiation fee of one dollar is charged. The Direction of the Club is especially desirous of having for members all local members of the A. R. R. L., making the Club a real local section of the League.

There are several other radio clubs in Milwaukee and its suburbs, three of which are affiliated with this club thru the Milwaukee Radio Executive Council. They are as follows: Wauwatosa Radio Club, meeting on Monday evenings in the Wauwatosa High School; West Allis Radio Club, meeting on Friday evenings in the West Allis Public Library; South Side Radio Club of Milwaukee, meeting on Wednesday evenings in the South Side Branch of the Public Library. Although the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club has a centrally located meeting hall and embraces a city-wide membership, its direction realizes the expediency of having additional radio clubs in the suburbs and various sections of the city. The Milwaukee metropolitan district is large enough and boasts a sufficient number of amateurs to make it a multi-club one. The Direction of this club does not view these contemporary clubs as competitors but as organizations striving with this Club to make Milwaukee’s radio organization a success.

Milwaukee’s radio traffic organization and traffic conditions will be discussed in another article under the heading of the Milwaukee Radio Executive Council.

The executive office to which all Club correspondence should be addressed is: 601 Enterprise Building, Second and Sycamore Streets, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
From Dollars To Doughnuts
(The MRAC Communications Van)
Unknown – First appeared in July 1951 Hammateur Chatter

This piece could be captioned in many ways - “Out of little acorns, big oaks grow,” would be an apt description. Or perhaps, “There’s no substitute for work.” Wise men through the ages have said countless things and historians have preserved the best for posterity. But the guy who coined the phrase, “From Dollars to Doughnuts,” hit it right on the button when he gave us those few words to tell the story of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club mobile radio truck, W9HRM.

The Dollars part of the story, goes back to Jack Doyle, W9GPI, when he started the ball rolling and then put his shoulders behind the A.R.R.L. national convention staged here a few years ago. The club realized a tidy sum from the three day affair. Being a non-profit organization it was necessary that the M.R.A.C. take steps to put the money earned to the best possible use as soon as possible. Not being a frivolous group, after the first big affair at the Milwaukee Athletic Club, leading members and the board of directors hit upon the idea of a mobile radio truck owned, fitted out and operated by the club, and its members.

The ball was set in motion again. Arrangements were made to purchase a new international ton-and-a-half truck with a Metro van type, body. Radio gear was procured at the best possible prices with the help of Radio Parts Co., Amphenol, Motorola, and others. The Forrer Equipment Co. donated the operating chairs, for example.

A first class job of installation was the next step as the $5000 “ball of-wax” took form. H. Charles Kaetel, W9SNK, a WISN engineer, and Gene Wille, W9EKU, a sound engineer, seized the, opportunity to be of service and took charge of putting the equipment in operating shape. They were ably assisted by Clarence Burke, W9KEU, who handled the mechanical installation, and W9IDW, W9GLA, and W9LCD. The Gettelman Brewery electricians put in the AC wiring.

In a little more than a year we have come from the Dollars to the Doughnuts.

A newcomer to the club lists, Bob Posanaki, no call yet but a ham through and through, handled the doughnuts. It came about at the A.R. R.L. Field Day, just concluded. Travis Baird, W9VQD, and his crew of operators wheeled the completed W9HRM onto the field day location the Robert J. Kieckhefer estate in Brookfield and friend Posanaki wheeled in the doughnuts. Some thirty members participated in the exercises, and they all came away raving about the terrific job of gratis baked refreshments that Baker Posanski kept rolling from his Beloit Road emporium to the Brookfield headquarters.

Baird and his outfit using the truck rigs as a nucleus rang up 411 contacts in the 24 hour period. Most of the QSO’S were made on 40 meters, with ten meters showing up badly due to the condition of the band. Truck equipment used were the Collins and Harvey-Wells transmitters and the HRO and NC 57 receivers with RME 152A preselector. All power was supplied from the trailer two-and-a-half KW generator.

The truck carries two men in the front section and can seat four in the rear. It can be used in motion and carries two whip antennas as well as a collapsible antenna for use from a fixed location.
The MacArthur Parade

Unknown – First appeared in July 1951 Hammateur Chatter

Milwaukee mobile radio amateurs’ added another laurel to their rapidly growing list of achievements during the mid-April visit of Gen. Douglas MacArthur to his home town.

After it was determined that the hams could be of assistance in transmitting information on the progress of the MacArthur motorcade, as it entered Wisconsin from the south on Highway 42, two mobile units were officially assigned to the parade itself. Along with relay stations set up en-route and the base station used to transmit bulletins to the agencies requesting pertinent information, the operation functioned with little Interference and a minimum of difficulty. Under the direction of Charley Kaetel, W9SNK, the mobile group arranged to furnish information to the “MacArthur Network”, a group of local stations (WEMP, WFOX, WISN, WMAW, WMIL), the Journal Radio Stations, WOKY, and the Journal and Sentinel newsrooms In addition to the Milwaukee Police department.

Control was established at W9AYX, just off highway 41, on 3873 kc and 3950 kc, with W9IZO, W9GPI and W9WK operating the mobiles, and W9VQD and W9NEM trouble shooting along the route in other mobile cars. The staff at W9AYX Included W9IZH and W9VVLK, in addition to W9SNK. All bulletins were relayed to the Shorewood emergency station, W9IH, and then telephoned downtown. The staff at W9IH included W9EBJ, W9AMB, W9DR and W9HWO. After the motorcade reached Milwaukee and started its whirlwind tour through the city during the afternoon the frequency shifted to ten meters and 29640 kc with W9EKU, W9MNI, W9MOT, W9UMX and W9RH participating as mobiles.

Jack Doyle, W9GPI, best describes the day’s crowded activity in a story he has put down for posterity called, “The Daylight Ride of the Mobileers”. Space in this issue does not permit a detailed account of the harrowing experiences Jack, Tommy Gettelman, Tommy Thomas and all the other faithfuls underwent. But his tale of the pushing, the shoving, and most of all the …but... let him tell it… “As we moved into position behind the Governor's Cadillac, the big number ONE on his license became our target. Our speedometer suddenly was up to 55-60-70-whee 75 miles per hour and our driver froze solidly into the alert position of a person driving down a steep mountain grade his right foot pushing on the accelerator and his left one poised above the brake pedal.

“Within what seemed like seconds we plunged into the outskirts of Kenosha and people were everywhere including the roadway. Then Racine, the Milwaukee County line, the city and. in less time than it takes to tell about it, we arrived at the Plankinton Hotel after the wildest drive of your reporter’s career.

W9JOX and W9GIL attempted to get some snapshots and movies. We nearly lost two good hams in the mission. Gettelman needed a vacation to restore his shattered nerves, and Billy Sanger, our driver, wears an elastic bandage on his wrist after qualifying for the ‘500’ race.

In the records the MacArthur motorcade can well go down in M.R.A.C. history as the ‘Great Rat Race’ and a revelation on amateur operations mobilewise at speeds and under conditions that NEVER again will be equaled. Nobody could get that nuts!”
Emil Felber W9RH
(2013)

(Editor's note – Emil Felber was a club member from 1924 until his death in 1967. During that time he served in various capacities of the club including President, other board and officer positions and was instrumental in the club’s participation of the War Emergency Radio Service. He was also an ARRL Assistant Director for the Central Division. Shortly after his passing the club changed its license from W9HRM to W9RH. This was years before the vanity call sign program as most current hams know.)

Reprinted from February 1951 Hamateur Chatter

W9RH—OLDFAITHFUL

He’s not the oldest oldtimer. 1923 isn't as far through the years as a lot of still active local amateurs can look back to.

He never had the highest power. Kilowatts came and kilowatts have gone, but he's had only a consistent middle-of-the-road wallop.

His station could hardly be called commercial. But his HRO was one of the first to grace receiving positions among Milwaukee amateur radio stations.

This fellow has never been an ARRL director, but through the years there have always been the regular line ARRL appointments up to SCM.

What then is his claim to fame. That's it! He isn't famous. But Emil R. Felber, W9RH, is consistent.

Now in his seventh term as MRAC treasurer, and in his fifteenth term as a MRAC Director, W9RH has been hammering in Milwaukee for 28 years. And in that 28 years his forte has been service; amateur radio as typified by the MRAC has received the bulk of his service.

W9RH was on the air before the first broadcasting station here. In the days when radio parts could be purchased only at Dewey's Sporting Goods Store and Waukesha was DX, W9RH and his spark coil used to badger for position with the handful of other local spark gap devotees on the band around 240 meters.

Later Emil spent "six-fifty" of his hard earned high school day money for an audio detector tube and heard a Detroit broadcasting station. He was really branching out.

Then, using his flat top and counterpoise he hooked stations in upstate New York, Ohio and all through the east on the old 200 meter band.

In 1925, W9RH experimented with radiophone in the most primitive of fashion. He loop modulated his final tank and with a telephone mike worked a couple of blocks over to W9LJU, Ray Peschek. Ray, a present day MRAC member, also, was then attending Boys' Tech while Emil was about to graduate from West Division. The story is told about W9IJU's
"slop jar" rectifiers freezing up regularly in his unheated bedroom "shack" rendering his station inoperative.

W9RH joined the club in 1924, and a decade later was elected president. It was during this period, too, that Emil Felber made a name for himself as a DX man, working such well known amateurs as Archduke Anton Hapsburg of Austria, among others. He twice led the state in the ARRL sweepstakes contest, and that at a time when it used to last for nine grueling days as against the present two weekends.

Emil gets the lion's share of credit for publishing the fine MRAC roster. In 1948 and again in 1951 he compiled the roster himself.

The United States Postal Department claims his daylight endeavor, and Emil Felber can be found almost any week-day trudging the west side streets, delivering the mail, but always ready to "knock off" and hash over the latest news or innovation in his hobby, amateur radio.

(This is another in a series of feature stories about MRAC members who have been active over a period of years on behalf of the club.)

Editor’s note: The list of all officers appearing later in this book was based on a list compiled by Emil Felber which was current right up until his death in 1967.
Set Another Place For Sister Margaret

(2016)

(Ed note: While turning the pages of the March / April 2014 issue of CQ magazine the first sentence of the article with the above title caught my eye. I contacted the author and sent him a club archive DVD (he maintains regular contact with Tom W9VBQ), which brought back many memories of his time with the club. I made contact with him through his web site which provided the following info:

(The author’s web site: http://www.theodore-cohen-novels.com )

Theodore J. Cohen, PhD, holds three degrees in the physical sciences from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and has been an engineer and scientist for more than forty-five years. He has been an investor for more than fifty years and most recently, has focused on investigating and reporting on corruption in US financial institutions and agencies of the US government. His latest novel, Wheel of Fortune, brings back NYPD Homicide Detective Louis Martelli, the hero he introduced in Death by Wall Street: Rampage of the Bulls, who later reprised his role in House of Cards: Dead Men Tell No Tales, Lilith: Demon of the Night, Night Shadows, and Eighth Circle: A Special Place in Hell.

From December 1961 through early March 1962, Dr. Cohen participated in the 16th Chilean Expedition to the Antarctic. The US Board of Geographic Names in October, 1964, named the geographical feature Cohen Islands, located at 63° 18' S. latitude, 57° 53' W. longitude in the Cape Legoupil area, Antarctica, in his honor. Dr. Cohen's Antarctic Murders Trilogy describes what happened following a robbery of the Banco Central de Chile in Talcahuano in May, 1960. The robbery and the events that took place primarily between May 1960 and March 1962, are described in Frozen in Time: Murder at the Bottom of the World (Book I). Unfinished Business: Pursuit of an Antarctic Killer (Book II) reveals the events that unfolded between March 1962 and March 1965. End Game: Irrational Acts, Tragic Consequences (Book III) takes place in 1965 and resolves most, but not all, of the issues raised in the series.

Dr. Cohen's first novel, Full Circle: A Dream Denied, A Vision Fulfilled, which is based on his life as a violinist, was published in 2009. Dr. Cohen at one time was a violinist with the Bryn Athyn (PA) Orchestra and particularly enjoys the music of Gustav Mahler.

Finally, Dr. Cohen has published more than 400 papers, articles, columns, essays, and interviews, and is a co-author of The NEW Shortwave Propagation Handbook (from CQ Communications).

Dr. Cohen served in the US Army Corps of Engineers from March 1966 through March 1968, leaving the service with the rank of Captain.

That should make it obvious Mr. Cohen is no ordinary club member (OK, former club member). Anyway, on to the CQ Magazine article.

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Easter is on April 20th this year, right in the middle of Passover, which extends from the evening of April 7th through the 22nd. Thus, we thought it would be particularly appropriate this month to share this story from Ted Cohen, N4XX, on how ham radio became the common bond more than 60 years ago between a young Jewish boy, Ted, and a Roman Catholic priest.

Set Another Place for Sister Margaret

BY THEODORE J. COHEN,* N4XX

According to Ken Eggert, W9MOT, then-president of the Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club, the call came from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. "They need someone to act as a go-between for the Queen of Apostles Seminary in Madison and St. Anthony's in Milwaukee. Your contact in Madison, Ted, would be a priest... Father John Haas. His callsign is W9UJF."

It was easy to understand why the church might want such an arrangement. After all, the year was 1953. Those were the days when AT&T was the only long-distance telephone company in the U.S. Calls to distant places were extremely expensive. Even calls between Milwaukee and Madison, if placed on a frequent basis, produced high monthly bills. A free communication link to pass messages between parties in distant cities was something out of a dream!

I had received my Novice amateur radio license with the callsign WN9VZL just four months earlier in November 1952, so it came as a surprise that the club's president thought of me as the person to help.

"This requires someone who is available every weekday," he continued. "All you have to do is get on the air after school for about 10 minutes, copy any messages Father Haas has for St. Anthony's, send him whatever 'traffic' St. Anthony's has for the seminary, and that's it. I know you can do it. Waddaya think?"

"But I only can use code," I protested. At that time, Novices on the shortwave bands were limited to using Morse code (strictly speaking, the International Morse code). Plus, my receiving speed was 5 words per minute, just enough to pass the code.


* c/o Media-Tech, 122 Shady Brook Drive, Langhorne, PA 19047

Photo A. The author at the controls of his amateur radio station in Milwaukee, WI, 60 years ago this month. (Photos courtesy of the author)

Photo B. This unique QSL designed by the author was based on what then was considered a mid-century modern style. QSO data were entered on the reverse using a rubber stamp to provide the template.
test required by the FCC at the time. "If I'm going to do this, Father Hass will have to use code as well. I hope he's a patient man."

Ken laughed. "I've already spoken to Father John. He's looking forward to working with you."

Thus began a friendship that extended throughout my high school years and beyond. Our on-air schedules, at 4:30 p.m. sharp, were conducted with military precision:

'WN9VZL de W9UJF Hi, Ted. Pis cl St A. Hv Sister Mary set place 4 Sister Margaret at dinner. She wl arrve Milw 6 pm 2nite via Badger Bus. AR K"

'W9UJF de WN9VZL RR Nil frm St A. AR K"

'WN9VZL de W9UJF Tnx es 73AR SK"

"73 CL"

And with that farewell, we both closed our stations.

When school was not in session, we met Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

On it went for more than three years, two hams communicating, day in and day out, without ever having met. This was and still is the magic of ham radio. It mattered not that one was a Pallottine priest (visit <http://www.pallottines.org/> for more information) and the other a Jewish high school student. We were, simply, John and Ted. Our common bond was ham radio. Our "language" was the Morse code.

Then one Saturday afternoon in late winter 1956, the doorbell rang. Peering out, to my great surprise I saw a priest. He smiled and waved. Instantly I knew it must be John. Once inside, we sat in the living room eating cookies while hurrying to catch up on the previous three years of our lives.

Talk ranged from our daily contacts to our equipment and antennas, to the sunspot numbers and the improving radio conditions, and ... to the matzoh ball soup my mother was cooking for Passover.

"I love matzoh ball soup!" John proclaimed. "I can't get food like that in the seminary." Hearing that, my mother presented him with a bowl of hot soup and matzoh balls, forever cementing the relationship between the House of Cohen, Milwaukee, and Queen of Apostles Seminary, Madison. The look on Father John's face said it all, and only after he had a second helping did talk again tum to our first love-radio.

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A Letter From The Founder
(2013)

Editor’s note: The following is a letter from the MRAC founder Dr. L.S.H.Baird to J. Travis Baird (no relation) dated December 19, 1961. A copy of the original letter is contained in the club electronic archives in PDF form.

December 19, 1961

Dear Travis,

What gives?

On a card just here from Crapo is a note, which. Sounds like “old rocking chair's got him”, he says he isn't chairmaning the O. T. meet this year--told you he couldn't handle it.

I thought I had an equity in it this year. I've written around for a couple of years trying to locate the half dozen who started the Club in 1917, and I have been proposing to Crapo and Folly that this year they feature a "Founder's Night" with as many of the old boys on deck as possible.

Last year I had already dug up Art Faukner, and he was there. Now I have located Oscar Miller--he's a banker in Miami, Fla., and any day now I still hope to discover the whereabouts of the last of the Pawlings, Al-an acquaintance of mine rents their big old shack up on 20th & Grand. I think Crapo has all addresses I turned up.

Then I thought olly would write the publicity, for he was in the old ARRL publicity dept. with me. I sent him a sample release, as enclosed. But I haven't heard from him lately, since right after he was going to see Junior Kletzch, one of us, he said.

I've got one foot in the grave myself, have had for twenty-five years. I can't come, much as I would like to. I was going to personally write all of the founding members, after I knew they had received their official invite, but it seems late now for that. I particularly wanted to write Hitz.

Or maybe you have entirely different plans. I have been away a long time; I may not know what’s hep.

I believe I have it' on authority of my aunt that you gave up E.E. in favor of a manufacturing biz. Right?

Wareing was out here last Summer. Crapo was supposed to see me, too, but he says now, next year. There is always a chance, I see, we aren't going to wait for each other. Hi. I am not going to live as long as my aunt and my late ma.

I have rooted for it to all those I have written, Oscar, Jun'on et al. Folly knows 'em all, too, by their first names, and what you can get 'em up for to reminisce. I would surely like to see old C. M. Prinslow, my first wireless pal, who could tell about Gernsback's 10¢ detector he got stuck with.

Let me hear. 73 ex-9HO
A Brief History of MRAC Bylaws

Jim Tromblay (1995)
(revised where noted Dave DeFebo December 2005-2011)
(2011)

Jim Tromblay, WB9LNU while he was secretary of the club and prior to some further by-laws revisions (1995), wrote the following to bring the board up to speed on bylaws changes.

3/8/23 – The first MRAC by-laws were approved

10/17/33 – The first changes to the original by-laws.
Drop the requirement for an Associate or Junior member to be a member of the ARRL.
Only Regular members must have a license and be a member of the ARRL.

5/17/34 – Amendment change to Article 4 paragraph 2 and 3. The amendment changed the time of the year that elections would take place and on what days meetings would take place.

9/4/41 – Amendment change to the by-laws.
Change the location of the normal meeting place.
Change the supplied a member was required to have such as a copy of the Radio Communications Laws.
Changed the requirements to be a club member.
Changed the dues to 50 cents per week.
Drop the power of the club to control a persons operating times. This control over members was used because of the early spark transmitter interference problems.
The meeting of the board of directors could be held whenever they want based on mutual agreement instead of the club meeting hall.

3/2/42 – Amendment change to the by-laws. 5 levels of membership were established along with a complete description of each level of membership.
Regular Member
Associate Member
Life Member
Honorary Member
Non-Resident Member

6/11/46 – Add the club’s first Trustee to the bylaws for the club station call W9HRM. That was Aldrich Krones, W9UIT. Each new President would become the new Trustee. This was later changed so one person would be Trustee until a change was deemed necessary by the Board Of Directors.

4/8/48 – Atty. Paul Leeb W9TKY and Emil Felber W9RH totally amended the bylaws to try and update them to match the times.

3/29/51 – New Articles Of Incorporation were written.

12/16/54 – Amendment change to the bylaws. The first proxy vote was used.
Change the regular meeting time from every Thursday to twice per month.
The meetings shall be held on the first and third Thursday of each month.

1965 – A highly condensed and simplified bylaws were written.
1966-1970 – A complete reprint of the 1965 bylaws were included with the yearly club roster.

1979-1980 – Very controversial bylaws were written (*including procedures for removal of a director – DBD*) causing dissention among the club and the board. Unusual wording changes and many mis-prints in the bylaws when they were published caused the controversy. The new bylaws were approved by a quorum vote but it appeared the members did not know exactly what they were voting for (based on information published in the Chatters of that time). A printing correction sheet was eventually sent out to all members.

1983 – The 79-80 bylaws were changed to remove all the controversial items. Special attention was given to who has the right to vote and constitutes a quorum.

1985 – In September of the year, the club receives a letter from the State of Wisconsin stating all old corporations are required to re-incorporate.

1987 – New, restated Articles of Incorporation were made and the new bylaws were examined by Atty. Fennig. Quorum and proxy changes were made to be sure there could always be a vote (using what constitutes a quorum and allowing again, the use of proxy votes – DBD).

1988-1989 – Members were sent copies of the 1987 bylaws with changes to Article 5 Section 2.

1995 – New simplified bylaws based on a study of club history, tensions and communications problems over the last decade were created (by a committee of Ken Eggert, W9MOT, Fred Linn, W9NZF, and Rodger Zaun, W9UVV). The highlight of the new bylaws was they were written in plain English.

*Story additions by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP…*

1995 - Besides the basic rewrite, the position of board chairman (made up of the immediate past President) was eliminated. The chairman was a non voting position (except in case of a tie).

7/2001 – At a board meeting Dave DeFebo WB9BWP, proposed eliminating the position of 2nd VP. It seems we have a hard enough time getting people to run for office. This is one less position we have to worry about. Surprisingly no one objected. Jim Tromblay WB9LNU suggested we eliminate a director position in order to keep the board at an odd number of members (with changes, 9). The changes were presented to the club in September and approved. Copies were distributed at the following meetings.

4/2004 – Bylaws converted to electronic format (from typewritten). In the process some wording was cleaned up (as is always the case) and the references to MRAC made consistent. New bylaws submitted for membership approval at the April meeting.

8/2008 – Eliminate references to club being a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) since VEC is now spun off into a separate legal entity (see VEC story). Submitted for membership approval at the August meeting (with an unusual amount of discussion taking place).

1/2011 – Reinstate Student member classification this time with free dues. Change annual meeting for elections to April (so as to miss the May auction meeting crowds of visitors). Change to eliminate specific references to club activities like Field Day and Picnics. The biggest change was to return to the method of electing officers practiced prior to 1951 where only directors are elected and the actual officers come from those elected as director. Submitted for membership approval at the January meeting (with an unusual amount of discussion taking place and actual dissenting votes).
MRAC and Field Day
(2016)

In 1933 the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) established the annual operating event/contest Field Day. Field Day is a contest/operating event where the idea is to set up equipment outside of a traditional home based station and to make as many contacts with others in the United States and Canada. Besides the contest aspect, the event is supposed to help test our emergency preparedness (being able to set up and operate a station not in the comfortable confines of someone’s home). MRAC has participated in every Field Day since the first. In this space we will attempt to gather information on club activity in Field Day over the years. As is often the case in this book, this is an early pass at gathering and listing information on Field Day over the years. As a result there is a lot of information currently lacking. Stay tuned for more info coming in future editions of the club history.

Some Field Day Statistics through the years:

1941 – Empty field at the intersection of hwy 100 and Capitol Dr.
1946 –
Total Contest Score – 2536
1947 – Ill Steel Co., E. Bay St. at Lake Michigan
1948 – Ill Steel Co., E. Bay St. at Lake Michigan
Total Contest Score – 6412.5 (yes, 0.5)
1951 – Robert J. Kieckhefer estate, Brookfield (Brookfield Rd & North Ave.)
Operators/Visitors – 30
Category - 5A?
Contacts – 411
1952 – Overlooking the lake, ½ mile north of Milw Cty line, Ozaukee Cty
Operators/Visitors – 60
1956 – Virmond Park
Total Contest Score – 4626
1961 – Lapham Peak, Delafield
Operators – 14
Contacts – 668
Total Contest Score – 6237
1978 – Nike Site, Lannon
1979 – Nike Site, Lannon
1980 – Nike Site, Lannon
Operators/Visitors – 32
Category - 4A
Total Contest Score – ????
1983 – Nike Site, Lannon
Operators/Visitors – 23
Total Contest Score – 3313
1984 – Nike Site, Lannon
1985 – Nike Site, Lannon
1986 – Nike Site, Lannon
1987 – Nike Site, Lannon
1988 – Nike Site, Lannon
1989 – Nike Site, Lannon
1990 – Nike Site, Lannon
Operators/Visitors – 16
Category - 3A
Contacts – 391
Total Contest Score – 1544
1993 – Indian Mounds Boy Scout Camp, Waukesha County
1994 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
1995 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
1996 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 41
Total Contest Score – 1118

1997 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 34
Category - 4A Commercial
Contacts – 241
Total Contest Score – 1016

1998 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 38
Category - 4A Commercial
Contacts – 465
Total Contest Score – 1428

1999 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 43
Category - 3A Commercial
CW Contacts – 40
Phone Contacts – 522
Total QSO Points – 1204
Total Contest Score – 1404

2000 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 25
Category - 3A Commercial
Contacts – 463
Total Contest Score – 1506

2001 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 47
Category - 4A Commercial
CW Contacts – 71
Phone Contacts – 494
Contacts – 565
Including first club Field Day satellite contact!
Total Contest Score – 1972

2002 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 24 / 15
Category - 4A Commercial
CW Contacts – 23
Digital Contacts – 24
Total Contacts – 384
Total Contest Score – 1462

2003 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators – 18
Category - 5A Commercial
Contacts – 341
Total Contest Score – 1180

2004 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 36
Category - 5A Commercial
Contacts – 515
Total Contest Score – 1616

2005 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators – 15
Category - 5A Commercial
Contacts – 441
Total Points – 1410

2006 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 41
Category - 4A Commercial
Contacts – 313
Total Contest Score – 1012

2007 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators – 27
Category - 6A Commercial
Contacts – 341
Total Contest Score – 1888

2008 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators – 26
Category - 6A Commercial
CW Contacts – 162
Digital Contacts – 123
Phone Contacts – 500
Total QSO Points – 1070
Total Contest Score - 3098
ARRL Sections Worked – 72 (missed Maine, Virgin Islands, Nevada, Wyoming, South Dakota, Northwest Territory, Manitoba, Labrador/Newfoundland)

2009 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators/Visitors – 12/14
Category - 3A
CW Contacts – 288
Digital Contacts – 133
Phone Contacts – 206
Total QSO Points – 1048
Total Contest Score – 3434

2010 – Pioneer Village, Ozaukee County
Operators – 3
Category - 2A
CW Contacts – 186
Phone Contacts – 120
Total QSO Points – 492
Total Contest Score - 984
2011 – Konkel Park, Milwaukee County
Operated in conjunction with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS)
Operators – 14
Category - 2A
Digital Contacts - 1
Phone Contacts – 352
Total Contest Score - 1360

2012 – Konkel Park, Milwaukee County
Operated in conjunction with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS)
Loaner radio (Icom IC-9100) provided by Amateur Electronic Supply
Operators/Visitors – 15/27
Category - 2A
CW Contacts - 10
Phone Contacts – 428
Total Contest Score - 1748

2013 – Konkel Park, Milwaukee County
Operated in conjunction with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS) and the Gateway Technical College Radio Club
GOTA station using Gateway Tech Radio Club call – N9GTC
Loaner radio (Yaesu FTDX-1200) provided by Amateur Electronic Supply
Operators/Visitors – 15/30
Category - 3A
Total Contacts – 622
Total Contest Score – 3000

2014 – Konkel Park, Milwaukee County
Operated in conjunction with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS) and the Gateway Technical College Radio Club
GOTA station using Gateway Tech Radio Club call – N9GTC
Operators/Visitors – 15/40
Category - 4A
Total Contacts – 759
Total Contest Score - 3262

2015 – Konkel Park, Milwaukee County
Operated in conjunction with Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society (MAARS)
Loaner radio (Kenwood TS-590SG) provided by Amateur Electronic Supply
Operators/Visitors – 20/60
Category - 3A
CW Contacts - 205
Phone Contacts – 411
Total Contest Score - 2392
The Story of MRAC VEC
(2009)

Dave DeFebo, WB9BWP with Tom Fuszard, KF9PU (with contributions from others as noted)

This article is an attempt to document the history of the MRAC and its involvement with volunteer amateur license testing. I am writing it due to my involvement in the beginnings of the official programs of MRAC first being a VE and then becoming a VEC. Some of the details may be missing at this, the first attempt at documenting the story. As always if you have additional information please let us know. The history of volunteer license testing is also covered to help show our place in that story. I was hoping to have the complete story up to the current time in this version of the history but events transpired to make that difficult. The main event was the action by the acting Treasurer at the time of removing the VEC funds from the club treasury and insisting the VEC handle its own money and accounting. This was in direct violation of the existing club by-laws of the time. The result was a lot of bad feelings, the VEC separating from the club (into a legal entity of its own) and even one of the VEC management resigning his club membership over the handling of the situation.

First a little background on the VEC program,

The following is an email received by Tom Fuszard, KF9PU from Ray Adams, W4CPA, covering a brief history of the actual VEC program.

From: WCARS VEC Inc.
To: Tom Fuszard
Cc: Win Guin W2GLJ
Date: Wednesday, July 26, 2000 8:09 PM
Subject: How the VEC program started

Good meeting you over the weekend, and I hope we benefitted all by the meeting. In any event, it seemed to go smoothly enough, at least no one came to fisticuffs!

Win tells me you want a thumbnail history of the VEC program for inclusion in a newsletter. The below is my off the cuff memory of the way it happened, most of which I am sure will stand the scrutiny of examination by more experienced individuals.

The Communications Act of 1033 was amended in 1983, at the FCC's urging to provide acceptability for the FCC to use "unpaid employees" for the administration of license examinations. There had been an opinion by an FCC attorney that the Novice license testing, as it had been handled for years by volunteer examiners of General of higher class licenses was in fact not legal, as the opinion held that the administration must be by an FCC employee.

The Amateur community breathed a sigh of relief, as it had been rumored that the Novice license test would have to be folded into the FCC's testing program, etc.

DID WE EVER HAVE A SURPRISE COMING!

By the time the ink was dry on the amended federal statute, the FCC announced that 1984 could be the final year in which they would administer ANY license tests for the Amateur Service, and that hereafter all such tests would be administered by volunteer examiners, already licensed, who would need to be screened and accredited by Volunteer
Examiner Coordinators that would need to meet acceptability by the FCC by signing a letter of agreement with them.

The first truly functioning VEC was, I believe, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, who administered but a single session, at the 1984 Dayton Hamvention. The actual first VEC was here in Knoxville, but, upon finding there really was not any money to be made in the program, never tested a single session.

The American Radio Relay League [ARRL] held back on signing a letter of agreement unless and until there was a provision for the program to finance itself by charging a cost recovery fee from the applicant. In the meantime, Fred Maia W5YI, became the first "national" VEC followed by DeVry Electronics School of greater Chicago. An errata to the Communications Amendment did in fact make such a provision, and the ARRL became the third national VEC on [I believe] September 1, 1984.

Of the 39 VECs originally organized, many found there was more work than glory and soon surrendered their letter. Others, at the urging of the ARRL surrendered their letter and coordinated their testing through the ARRL. I'm sure some to the VECs had help from the FCC itself in surrendering their letters, as there were in fact a few rotten apples, as in any barrel.

Today we have 14 VECs remaining, and at the inception of electronic filing, I don't think there was any screening or qualification procedure used to determine that we were of the character that could be trusted to actually feed processable data in ASCII form into the FCC's computer for automatic issuance or upgrading of Amateur licenses. I don't consider that delegation lightly.

In the twelve years we had been working with them, I firmly believe they had already accepted all remaining VECs at face value. That causes a very relaxed atmosphere to prevail over the entire program today to the point that it has become the federal government's guiding light as to how to privatize a governmental function.

I take some pride in thinking I helped bring that accomplishment to reality.

73
Ray W4CPA

OK, how and where did the MRAC fit in? The club discussed becoming involved with the whole volunteer examining program even before it began. After all we had been conducting license class for a number of years and had been handling Novice testing (as that was a volunteer situation – not FCC conducted) so the VEC/VE thing would be the next step. At first we felt that becoming a full blown VEC would be a lot of work, and elected to work under an existing VEC. We chose DeVry Institute of Technology in Chicago, one of the first VECs to be established.

Sylvester Janczak, WD9JKZ stepped up to help manage the MRAC VE operations. Sylvester was to receive help from Harry Ciezski, KD9AJ and Ed Serruga, KE9JJ. As this was the early ‘80s, that meant Charlie Kaetel, W9SNK would also be involved.

Charlie was extremely active in club business affairs (even holding the self-appointment as Business Manager). Charlie did a lot of work on club business. However, Charlie did have one major flaw, that things had to be done his way, whether anyone else agreed with that or not. This became a large stumbling point in MRAC operating as a VE under DeVry VEC and during the beginnings of MRAC as a VEC itself. Charlie did not like having to play by rules he did not set up (in this case FCC rules and DeVry rules) and this lead to the breaking point with our
association with DeVry (specifically DeVry stating they would not consider room rental as a reimbursable cost) and almost costing us a couple of club members. After Charlie constantly complaining to the board about the “problems” working with DeVry, the board began considering the club’s relationship with DeVry. In an effort to make sure the board voted to cease operating with DeVry, Charlie began withholding receipts for testing expenses and then telling the board DeVry was refusing to reimburse us (unfortunately, we did not discover Charlie’s manipulating of the situation until sometime later). Based on the apparent un-cooperation between DeVry and the club, the board voted to end the relationship and the club was no longer a VE.

Charlie would also voice his displeasure with having people other than himself handling all the paperwork for the VE and then VEC operation. Charlie was an Advanced class ham. FCC rules specified that only Extra class hams could hold and administer Extra class exams. Again, this did not sit well with Charlie as it was not his rule. In fact at one point Charlie had his lawyer send a letter to the FCC accusing them of discrimination by not allowing an Advanced class ham (like Charlie) to handle Extra class examinations.

In 1983 there was limited discussion at a board meeting about the club becoming a VEC themselves (instead of working through any other VEC). In early 1984 (actually at the April board meeting), there was brief discussion of operating under the ARRL VEC but that was rejected. Charlie Kaetel then applied to the FCC for the club to become a VEC (without prior club approval). In the early days of the program, as was mentioned above there was not a lot of FCC scrutiny of VEC applicants, so our application was quickly approved. The board then voted to accept Charlie’s actions (at the November 1984 board meeting) and MRAC become a VEC. The board then moved quickly to appoint Jack Krause, W9JK to manage the VEC. Charlie liked Jack and went along with the appointment. Over time Jack needed help and Les Peterson, W9YCV joined in to help. Unfortunately the board never made it official with Les as assistant manager.

In the mid ‘90s, Jack Krause asked club President Ed Wille, W9PWG to find someone to take over as VEC manager. As was Ed’s custom, when someone asked Ed to find someone to help with some task, Ed wouldn’t really look for anyone but would take on the job himself. Of course that resulted in Ed taking on a tremendous amount of work as well as the club being vulnerable to having one person doing everything.

That vulnerability came to a head in January 1999 when Ed Wille passed away. We were forced to cancel the January and February test sessions. That concerned me. Fortunately, two members stepped forward to take on important roles in the VEC. John Kraak, KF9XL, who by his own admission was not much of a “computer guy,” said he could take care of basic administrative matters such as exam session planning. About the same time Tom Fuszard, KF9PU, approached me and said he'd be happy to take the filing duties. He couldn't commit to assisting on Saturdays, he said, but would have time to do the filing. Putting these two guys together couldn’t have been more perfect. Finally, after about 14 years, a VEC committee.

So our VEC was back in business with the March session. John took over as session manager, and Tom--after a little trial and error--filed that first session successfully. He had to teach himself the process because Ed used a different method for filing the applications. By the mid ’90s the FCC started requiring VECs to file electronically. Most groups used e-mail to send their information. Ed struggled with this process a bit. His boat anchor of a computer--it had a B drive on it!--wasn't set up for a regular e-mail program. If memory serves, he used MCI Mail for e-mailing. The process for filing applications was long and laborious, mostly because he had to make sure there were no errors.

Fortunately Ed had saved a floppy he received from another VEC that contained data entry software. The software was recorded on an A drive floppy, which Tom grabbed during a visit to Ed’s house. There were no instructions with the program, but Tom managed to teach
himself the process in a relatively short period of time. (A version of that software is still in use today.)

In August 1999 the Universal Licensing System was incorporated into the amateur radio service. Under ULS, VECs had to start collecting Social Security Numbers. To help protect candidates’ privacy, the application files (known as "batches") had to be encrypted. The most common form back then was PGP (for Pretty Good Privacy). It was available for free from a number of sources; Tom grabbed his copy off a Web site.

When an application was filed, the licensee would receive a unique identifying number which could be used in place of a Social Security Number for a future applications. (ULS was the forerunner to CORES, which generates the FCC Registration Number.) Years later the FCC revised its Web site to include a secure page for uploading the batch files. VECs no longer have to encrypt the files before sending.

During the year 2001, Mark Tellier, AB9CD started backing up Tom Fuszard with electronic filing when Tom was unavailable. So I officially made Mark a third member of the VEC management team (with John and Tom’s permission, of course). Finally I asked John Kraak who would make a good backup to him, meaning the 2 major tasks, exam prep and planning and electronic filing and final paperwork handling would each have 2 people versed in those jobs. John suggested Tom Czaja, KG9EE. I confirmed with Tom that he would like and accept the appointment and then made it official. The VEC management was now at 4 and they could take care of themselves (During my time as President, John would report to the board almost every month on the activities of the VEC).

With a new VEC management team in place, they could once again consider attending the annual NCVEC conference in Gettysburg, Pa. Tom Fuszard started attending in 2000; he was accompanied by John Kraak in 2000 and 2001. In 2003 Tom was elected chairman of NCVEC, a position he held for five years. During his term Tom asked VEs to accompany him as official representative of MRAC VEC. Yours truly (WB9BWP) fulfilled the role for the 2005 conference; Ken Hahn, WK9H, did the honors in 2007. Tom is also a member of the Question Pool Committee, and he has invited Mark Tellier to join him for the 2009 conference as official representative of the VEC.

In 2006, John Kraak, KF9XL decided to step down as VEC manager. In one of my few successes as President during the time 1998-2002, having an official committee with recognized committee managers meant a change in VEC management did not disrupt normal VEC operations. In fact, most people did not even realize anything had happened. That was a big change from past operations when the coordinator/manager of some activity would leave and the operation would be in chaos. Larry Noldan, NZ9I was asked and accepted the offer to become the new 4th member of the VEC management team in 2008.

In March 2007 the VEC was incorporated as a separate entity. Known officially as MRAC VEC, Inc., the group continues to serve the needs of the amateur radio community throughout southeast Wisconsin. The VEC continues to hold 10 test sessions in the greater Milwaukee area, and many of its managers and VEs remain members of Milwaukee Radio Amateurs" Club, Inc. In fact, little has changed, save for the incorporation.

MRAC VEC continues the tradition started by Charlie Katel and Jack Krause in 1985. Its managers are proud to represent one of 14 VECs in the United States today, and look forward to serving the amateur radio community for many years to come.
FM Simplex Contest
(2016)

In 2003 MRAC decided to create and sponsor a “sprint” style contest to generate FM simplex operation on the "normal" VHF and UHF bands (6M, 2M, 1-1/4M, 70CM). Sprint means the contest runs for only a short period of time. The contest was the idea of Sherm Swanson KB9Q who was the contest administrator for the first few years (see the officer lists for contest coordinators over the years). The idea was to generate interest and ability of operating simplex on the VHF bands. Many new Technician licenses buy an FM radio and jump on repeaters and never really experiment with what is all out there in amateur radio.

A number of award categories were created including mobile, HT (hand held), and club (individuals could designate their scores as also counting to a club total). A wooden plaque with engraved plates bearing the name of the club category winner for each year is kept on display at Amateur Electronic Supply.

A Sunday afternoon in February was chosen as the contest date. In following the sprint style of contesting, each band is used for 30 minutes (1 hour for 2M starting about 2007), so the entire contest lasts for only a couple of hours. That should work for non-contesters as well as seasoned contesters. Looking through the category winners over the years bears this out. Also, the exact rules have been tweaked over the years to reflect participant suggestions.

Interestingly, the club sponsored a VHF sprint style contest taking place on a Sunday in February in 1950! For that contest, only club members were eligible for an award and the contest was on a Sunday evening.

Just for information, starting in 2010, Dave Schank KA9WXN, who came in first place for 2008 and 2009 began operating a station for the club as W9RH which offered bonus points for contacting and was not a station to be included in the club score, leaving it up to the rest of the membership to pick up the slack. For the 2012 contest anyone contacting W9RH also received a 95th anniversary special event certificate.

Starting with the 2015 contest, there is a digital voice category covering Yaesu C4FM, D-Star, P25 and DMR modes. For a first try, an extra 30 minutes is added at the end of the contest time for all digital voice contact on any band. Is this the first integration of digital voice into an existing voice contest (not a stand-alone digital voice contest)?

Over the years of the contest, other areas of the country have adopted the contest for their area. So far, the east coast seems particularly interested.

Following is a list of all category winners over the years. There have been other areas running similar contests with many pretending it is an original idea of theirs and giving MRAC no credit. That’s OK, we know what we did (by the way, look up some 1950 and 51 club newsletters to read about their version of the same contest).

2003
1st Place Overall – Tom Schulte AB9EK
2nd Place Overall – Patrick Moretti W9UQ
HT 1st Place – Gary N9MGJ
2M 1st Place – Jeff Annis K9VS
70cm 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV
6m 1st Place – Patrick Moretti W9UQ
1.25M 1st Place – Tom Schulte AB9EK
Club 1st Place – MRAC

SWL 1st Place – Mark Jahnke N9LBN
Special Award – Mobile Operation - KB9WMJ

2004
1st Place Overall – Gary Barqholz N9UUR
2nd Place Overall – Jack Huebschen N9XRO
HT 1st Place – Gary Grant N9MGJ
2M 1st Place – Jeff Annis N9VS tie
2M 1st Place – Gary Barqholz N9UUR tie
70cm 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
6m 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
1.25M 1st Place – Mark Tellier AB9CD tie
1.25M 1st Place – Gary Barqholz N9UUR tie
1.25M 1st Place – Jack Huebschen N9XRO
Club 1st Place – MRAC
Club 2nd Place – Badger Contesters

2005
1st Place Overall – Joe Schwarz N9UX
2nd Place Overall – Ken Boston W9GA
HT 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
HT 2nd Place – Milan Levrich N91DX
2M 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX tie
2M 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA tie
70cm 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
6m 1st Place – Jack Huebschen N9XRO tie
6m 1st Place – Don Farrell KC9AYO tie
1.25M 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
1.25M 2nd Place – John Wilke K9RZZ
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters
SWL 1st Place – David Hoffmann KC9GPJ

2006
Base 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Mobile 1st Place – Warren Schall K91ZV
HT 1st Place – Charles Grady KC9IIV
2M 1st Place – Jeff Annis K9VS
70cm 1st Place – Larry Noldan NZ9I (KC9IJA)
6m 1st Place – Jack Huebschen N9XRO
1.25M 1st Place – Warren Schall K91ZV
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

2007
Base 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Mobile 1st Place – Larry Noldan NZ9I (KC9IJA)
HT 1st Place – Kayla Waltemath KC9KPW
2M 1st Place – John Wilke K9RZZ tie
2M 1st Place – Jeff Annis K9VS tie
2M 1st Place – Larry Noldan NZ9I (KC9IJA) tie
70cm 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
6m 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
1.25M 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Club 1st Place – MRAC

2008
Base 1st Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
Mobile 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
HT 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
HT 2nd Place – Gary Grant N9MGJ
2M 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
2M 2nd Place – Joel Kluender W9JFK
70cm 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
70cm 2nd Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
6m 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK tie
6m 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK tie
6m 2nd Place – Joel Kluender W9JFK
1.25M 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
1.25M 2nd Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
Special Award – Gordon Phoon KC2SRY (1st place 2nd call area)
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

2009
Base 1st Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
Mobile 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
Mobile 2nd Place – Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
HT 1st Place – KX9M
2M 1st Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
70cm 1st Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
6m 1st Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
1.25M 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
1.25M 2nd Place – Dave Schank KA9WXN
Special Award – Gordon Phoon KC2SRY (1st place 2nd call area)
Special Award – Maycee Campano N2KDK (1st Place HT 2nd call area)
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

You may notice in the results for 2009 and 2010 there were certificates issued to New York area hams. The following email was received by the club in January 2010.

From: Barry G. Cohen  
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 10:20 AM  
To: 4  
Cc: Paul F. Campano; Frank McAneny; Dave Barr; Bill Hudzik; Al Hanzl; Jim Stekas  
Subject: FM Sprint Contest  

To all MRAC Members  

If "Imitation is the Sincerest Form of Flattery," then please accept this e-mail as a sincere commendation.  

A couple of "Kid Members" of the New Providence (NJ) ARC (NPARC) have participated in your FM Sprint Contest during the last two years, and you have been so gracious as to issue them Certificates (first place in W2) for their activity. This year I have decided (imitation) to run a contest of our own modeled after yours. That way they will submit their logs to us and we will issue every entry a suitably inscribed certificate (more imitation). Indeed, I have also decided that plagiarism is a sincere form of flattery, but I do ask for your permission to circulate here in New York/New Jersey a slightly modified version of your Contest Rules.  

We intend to hold our contest in tandem with yours, same time (GMT) same frequencies, essentially same rules. If conditions are good on 6 meters during that period we might even be able to contact W9RH and you might be able to hear N2XJ our Club Station. But even if that doesn’t happen you can be assured that the seed you have planted, in order to make it easy for kids and new hams to get on the air, has taken root here on the east coast and will doubtless spread.  

I'll appreciate an answer regarding the Contest Rules, and if anyone is interested I will be happy to send you copies of our Flyer and other materials including the certificate which has been commissioned from a professional graphic artist (club member).  

73 es CUL de Barry K2JV  

Dr. Barry G. Cohen  
Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922  
(Email addresses, addresses and telephone numbers removed)
2010
Base 1st Place – Jeff Annis K9VS
Mobile 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
HT 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
2M 1st Place – Larry Noldan NZ9I
70cm 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
6m 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
John Kalenowsky K9JK (Tie)
1.25M 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
John Kalenowsky K9JK (Tie)
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

Club Entries:
Badger Contesters – 5010
MRAC – 3786
Milwaukee Repeater Club – 1350
West Allis Radio Amateurs’ Club – 1154
Black Diamond Radio Group – 901

2011
Base 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Mobile 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
HT 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
2M 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
70cm 1st Place – John Kalenowsky K9JK
6m 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
1.25M 1st Place – Mike Metroka WB8BZK
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

2012
Base 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Mobile 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV
HT 1st Place – Bill Pulvermacher KX9M
2M 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV
70cm 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV and Ken Boston W9GA (tie)
6m 1st Place – Bill Pulvermacher KX9M
1.25M 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Club 1st Place – MRAC

2013
Base 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Mobile 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV
HT 1st Place – Bill Pulvermacher KX9M
2M 1st Place – Warren Schall K9IZV
70cm 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
6m 1st Place – WB9TFH and Phil W9NAW (Tie)
1.25M 1st Place – Ken Boston W9GA
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

Club Entries:
Badger Contesters – 2070
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club – 1283
Black Diamond Radio Group – 1115
West Allis Radio Amateurs Club – 1104
Milwaukee Repeater Club – 910
Miller Valley Radio Club – 186

2014
Base 1st Place – Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Mobile 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
HT 1st Place – none
2M 1st Place – Tony KC9UDS
70cm 1st Place – Jerry Reidel K9FI
6m 1st Place – Jerry Reidel K9FI
1.25M 1st Place – Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Club 1st Place – Badger Contesters

2015
Base 1st Place – Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Mobile 1st Place – Joe Schwarz N9UX
HT 1st Place – none
2M 1st Place – Tony KC9UDS
70cm 1st Place – Jerry Reidel K9FI
6m 1st Place – Jerry Reidel K9FI
1.25M 1st Place – Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Club 1st Place – Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club

Club Entries:
Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club – 5034
Milwaukee Repeater Club – 269
The W9RH Repeater
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
(approved by Dave Karr KA9FUR)
(2015)

This is a long article covering the complete history of the MRAC repeater. Many of these
details have only been known to a select few parties. Usually that was due to some sensitive
negotiations and arrangements with the people supplying the sites or even some of the
equipment. Now is a good time for people to know the real story to clear up some of the
misconceptions about all that has gone into the repeater construction. The story is long
because it covers over 12 years and a number of people and a bunch of equipment. Other than
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU, I am the only other person who has been at least somewhat involved
with this project since the beginning, so before the facts slip away…

Starting around 1991, the board of directors started talking about constructing a repeater.
After all, for a club with the heritage we had, we should have been one of the first in the area to
have a repeater, but alas, we were asleep at the time. At first the discussion was on getting a
220 MHz repeater as Novice licenses had access to 220 and not 2M and officially there were no
2M frequencies available. There was not a lot of equipment available for 220 but we were
looking into that possibility. Ed Wille W9PWG, the club President at the time even bought a 220
MHz hand held for himself to experiment with the band.

In 1992 Ed Willie found a ham in Germantown with a repeater for sale. Ed used $750 of
his own money to buy the system (and then some). The money got a late sixties vintage
Motorola commercial repeater consisting of a receiver, transmitter, power amplifier, 4 Tx/Rx
cavities, an ACC RC-85 repeater controller (vintage early 80’s), Motorola rack cabinet, Hustler
antenna as well as some non-functioning GE repeater parts and a smaller GE rack cabinet (the
GE stuff was “free” but had to be taken with the Motorola repeater otherwise no deal). To
everyone’s confusion the sale also included the frequency of 147.045, which is the frequency
the repeater was operating on at the time (from the ham’s house in Germantown). I say
confusion as repeater frequencies as coordinated by the Wisconsin Association Of Repeaters
are not transferable. In fact, if an existing repeater relocates more than a certain distance it is
subject to frequency change/re-coordination. No one seemed to be paying attention and by the
time someone said something it was agreed to let us go ahead as our signal was so weak we
would pose no threat to any existing repeater.

The reason we did not have much of a signal was that Ed brought all the stuff home and
with the help of Jim Tromblay WB9LNU installed the repeater in his (Ed’s) garage and the
antenna on his 50 foot tower. This was in the area of 79th and Lisbon Ave. Ed told the club
what he did (he was President at the time) and asked if it was OK. That may sound kind of
foolish and irresponsible but the deal had a time limit and had to be done when it was. There
was no time to contact the membership or the board in advance. There was certainly no time to
have numerous discussions about the plan. Everyone said “Good job Ed” and then pretty much
left things up to Ed to run.

Of course Ed put his own money into the repeater so the club had to pay him back.
While we did have money in the treasury, it was decided to try some sort of fundraiser to see
how much we could get. Orv Stewart, KA9ONQ, came up with the idea of a personalized coffee
mug. He knew a place that could screen on your name and call so we could take orders for and
sell personalized mugs. Of course as is custom with the club when we try to have ID things
made, the mugs are screened on the wrong side if you are holding the mug in your right hand
(the lettering is then facing you). We recommended a $25 minimum donation and received a
number of $25, a few $50 and even a couple of $100 donations. We were able to pay back Ed Wille no problem. We had a working repeater.

The phrase working was relative. Over the next few years there was a lot of tinkering, a lot of money spent and while we did make progress it was very slight. More details later in the story.

OK, now we had a repeater, so what? In order to generate some activity, it was decided to add a 2 meter FM net to compliment the existing 10 meter net (which had been in operation since 1988). Since Ed Willie W9PWG had the idea and was going to be net control, the 2 meter net was scheduled to immediately follow the 10 meter net. At the time the 10 meter net was at 8:45 PM on Friday nights. Ed decided the 2 meter net would start at 9:15 PM or later depending on the activity on the 10 meter net. Of course many people were confused about a 9:15 start time so sometimes the net started early with someone else being net control or people would look for the net at 9:00, hear nothing and then go about their business and miss the net completely. Eventually, the 10 meter net was moved to 8:30 PM and the 2 meter net moved to 9:00 PM. Ed was very good at twisting arms. He would often call and prod people he knew well to get on the net. At other times the repeater saw very little use. Maybe it was just the club membership, but the fact that unless you lived within a couple of miles of the repeater you needed a good antenna and a fair amount of power to access it so it sort of made the point of a repeater kind of needless. In fact, when I would check into the Friday night nets I could usually hear almost everyone direct on the input frequency since they had to use good antennas and power. Ed was the only person who could really get in with a hand held, but that was because he was about 50 feet away from the tower.

To try to further boost repeater activity it was decided to have a contest with certificates awarded to the people who made the most contacts with other hams and club members on the repeater. The certificate would be awarded first to a person who contacted 5 other members on the repeater, not during the Friday night net. There would be endorsements for additional club members worked (in increments of 5). Only one certificate was ever issued, that one went to Byron Bye N9RTL. There were never any endorsements ever issued.

There were some technical issues with the repeater also. It was installed in Ed's detached garage. That meant in winter the cabinet was very cold and in summer it was very hot. Electronics do not generally like very hot. To compound things Ed's garage was very packed with stuff for Ed's business (it was a 2 car garage with room for barely 1 car). As a result the cavities (large tuned filters to allow 1 antenna to be used with a receiver and transmitter operating simultaneously) had to be placed horizontally on top of the repeater cabinet. Cavities for 2 meters are 6 inch diameter cylinders about 3 feet tall. Inside the cylinder are a number of sensitive mechanical parts. Mounted horizontally, the workings of a cavity can droop causing the adjustments to be incorrect. Couple this with the temperature extremes which also affect the metal parts (expanding and contracting) and we had a devil of a time keeping the cavities in tune. That plus Ed liked to tweak to try to make things better. As a result he eventually needed to send some of the cavities in to the manufacturer for factory adjustment.

All the problems with the cavities also lead to problems with the repeater transmitter desensing the receiver. Since the transmitter and receiver operate simultaneously, that was definitely a problem. In an effort to solve the problem we ended up buying another cavity (placing 3 on the receiver and 2 on the transmitter. Unfortunately after spending an additional $300 that did not seem to help.

Along the way the few tubes used in the transmitter and amplifier started showing their age and required replacement (even more money). So far this repeater thing is costing a lot of money and time, but it is something we need to have to prove we are not just a bunch of old guys (wait, we are!). By this time Ed was spending a good deal of time in his garage tweaking
the repeater and then calling in Jim Tromblay WB9LNU (who worked with Ed) to help out (or maybe re-tweak after Ed was done).

We decided we should upgrade the repeater hardware. One way to do it was a piece at a time. First to go was the Motorola tube amplifier. So we purchase a Mirage 100 watt “repeater” amplifier. Repeater is in quotes because what Mirage did was take their normal 100 watt amp, remove the receive preamp and add a bigger heatsink. It sounds like we were not overly pleased. Well as with our other attempts it took a couple of years to figure out that we should not have spent the money. First, in order to use the amp we needed a power supply. Only the controller was 12V and that was powered by a small open frame power supply. We purchased a 50 amp Astron rack mount power supply to run the amp and the controller.

Ed was getting tired of all the tweaking (and Jim all the re-tweaking) and the board started discussing updating the equipment. It was decided to buy some brand spanking new repeater hardware and $2600 was spent on an ICOM repeater. That should solve the desense problem and maybe even improve performance. Well…not quite. We were all fairly new at this repeater stuff so we trusted equipment to be designed and built as we needed. Looking back on things and knowing what we know now, the ICOM purchase was not a good one. In some instances it actually performed worse than the 25 year old Motorola equipment. It turns out ICOM repeaters as sold in the ham markets at that time were not considered very good. But that could be another story. As a footnote to the ICOM purchase, the transmitter was rated at 25 watts, but the Mirage amp wanted an input of not more than 10 watts. Ed didn’t know, realize, discover, whatever that the ICOM had an adjustable power output. It could have been turned down to 10 watts and the amp used, but he never did that and the amp sat in the rack collecting dust. The 50 amp power supply was now used to power the controller only (with about a 1 amp max drain).

OK, we have a new repeater receiver/transmitter but coverage is still not that great. Let’s try a new antenna. Up to this point we were using the Hustler that came with the original repeater purchase. $270 was spent on a Diamond dual band antenna (dual band being 2 meters and 70 cm). It was thought having 70 cm available would make a remote receiver possible. Again it turns out we were not totally correct. I have since had some experience with a couple of other repeater systems which used dual band ham antennas and in all cases their performance was not as good as with a single band commercial quality antenna. Oh well, we’ll get this right yet.

Over the years there was discussions about getting a real site for the repeater. We didn’t want to end up spending a lot of money on rent so were looking into free sites. Unfortunately we were never able to come up with anything.

In 1999 Ed Wille passed away. The repeater was still located in his garage and the antenna on his tower. While his daughter would be living at the house it was a good idea to go ahead and find a new home for the machine (and hopefully one with better coverage). A lot of talking and dreaming took place but no progress was made. Matt Planning KB9PRC was a relatively new ham (having been in the last Technician class in 1996) and a new officer in the club (Vice President). He also recently started a new job at Eaton Corp R&D on the north side of Milwaukee. I also worked at Eaton along with a number of other hams. One day Matt asked me what I thought the chances were of moving the repeater to the Eaton building. I said it couldn’t hurt to ask. We recently got a new manager (Yolanda Holton) who was very receptive to amateur radio. In fact she was based in the Eaton R&D facility in Southfield Michigan which had an amateur radio club (W8ETN) with a dedicated office and their own equipment. With her blessing we talked to the building manager, a non-ham named Bob Chappie, and asked him if we could have some roof space. It turns out one of his reports was a ham. Nick Broncotti KA9LUW, (later K9TNN) was the building electrician. He had been dropping hints to his boss...
(Mr. Chappie) about wanting some roof space too. After some discussion, Mr. Chappie asked what all this would cost him. We said there would be no cost to him. He said we were free to do whatever we wanted. He even said he would throw in a few hours of Nick’s time to work on the install (Eaton required all employees to account for every minute of their workday). We all shook hands and proceeded to make plans and arrangements to get the repeater installed on top of the Eaton Corp. building at 4201 N. 27 St. The building is a 7 story office building with a 2 story elevator penthouse. The repeater would be located in the penthouse and we would try using 2 antennas, with the transmit antenna on the main roof (7 stories up) and the receive antenna on top of the elevator penthouse (slightly more than 9 stories up). Since our boss was pro ham radio and also wanted to foster a positive work environment (a relatively new concept at the company at the time), she volunteered to cover our time working on the machine as well as pay for the necessary feedlines (about $1500 in hardline). In fact, plans were underway to form an Eaton ham club and we did get a license (W9ETN), but business conditions forced the elimination of a number of us from the company and that idea died away (that’s another story not related to MRAC).

Jim Tromblay, WB9LNU, and John Merkl, WB9PSE, removed the repeater and antennas from Ed Wille’s garage and tower and Jim loaded up a trailer and delivered the equipment to us at Eaton. We temporarily set up the machine in a 4th floor laboratory (including the antenna) and proceeded to learn the equipment especially the system controller. While the antenna was indoors, it was slightly higher than it was at Ed’s house and the coverage was about the same (poor). So far Matt and I were doing the playing. We got Nick involved (being the building electrician he had easy access to the entire building) to scout out antenna locations and mounting possibilities. Nick enlisted the Eaton model shop to fabricate brackets for antenna mounting and we then made plans for a November antenna and repeater install.

Finally on Saturday, November 18, 2000 we moved the repeater hardware up to the elevator penthouse and installed the Hustler antenna (the original repeater antenna) as the transmit antenna on the main roof and the Diamond antenna on the elevator penthouse roof for a receive antenna. Getting all this equipment up there was not as easy as you may think. The building has two elevator penthouses, one for the freight elevator (which does go to the roof) and one for the passenger elevators (which go to the 7th floor, not the roof). The passenger elevator penthouse where the repeater hardware is going is a 2 story structure upon the roof. That means the rack and all RF equipment must be carried up a tall flight of concrete stairs and then up another flight of fairly steep and narrow metal grate stairs to get to it’s resting location. That meant all equipment had to be disconnected from each other and removed from the rack to be carried up. To get the receive antenna mounted on the roof of that penthouse meant climbing up a steel ladder mounted flush against one wall and crawling through a roof hatch. Do that with tools and a 17 foot antenna! That work was accomplished by Matt Planning KB9PRC and myself along with the assistance of 3 non-club members, Nick KA9LUW, Jim Hansen, W9AQN, and Mark Tellier who was not yet licensed (working on the repeater gave him the push he needed after wanting to become one of us since he was a teenager) but is now AB9CD. We were all Eaton employees and could get in the building at any time. That was why no other club members were involved. Actually a few more Eaton hams helped haul stuff up to the penthouse during the week previous so we could save time on Saturday. They were Keith Shilavy, KY9P, Joe Zuercher, KF9CB, Jean-Matthieu Stricker F5RCT (yes, in from France).

Eaton also provided the telephone line for repeater control. Actually the phone up in the elevator penthouse happened to be an old fashioned analog phone which was a direct line. It was not a digital phone going through the building PBX. So with the addition of an extra jack and some wire we had a control phone (the elevator penthouse phone saw use about once or
twice a year so we could easily share it without conflict) without anyone else knowing what we had done.

Anyway we now had a reasonable repeater installation. We actually had coverage beyond the city of Milwaukee and you didn’t need a beam to get in. Dick McNew, WB9PTC brought his on-air code practice to the repeater after a number of years on simplex. That’s how much better the system coverage was than before. We were on the Eaton building from Fall 2000 until Spring 2003. During that time we did try various experiments with antenna and equipment configurations (1 antenna, 2 antennas, different numbers of cavities, bandpass filter and more) to improve the system performance. What we finally discovered was a major flaw in the ICOM repeater. Due to something inherent in the design of the unit, if the input signal was not very strong, the repeater transmitter would overload the repeater receiver. This would happen within the repeater box itself, so no amount of external filtering could fix it. This did limit our coverage somewhat (but we were still ahead of what we had at Ed’s house). We even tried to do some mods to the repeater box to see if we could at least minimize the problem, but after a number of tries, it appeared it would require too much work (almost a complete redesign of the ICOM packaging). This got us to thinking about maybe some new hardware - yet again.

During some of our experiments we began to question the effectiveness of the Diamond antenna. It was showing some signs of wear and may have taken a couple of lightning hits both at Ed’s house and at Eaton. We mentioned our concerns and soon Jerry Wahlen, WA9CGE, produced a copper pipe J-Pole antenna which we put into service as a receive antenna (with Matt Planning single handedly removing the Diamond and mounting the J-Pole after a full day of normal work). Now before you laugh at a repeater using a J-Pole, let me say that while it may not have been the best repeater antenna, it was performing at least as good as the Diamond and maybe even a bit better.

Speaking of lightening, one day I received a telephone call from one of the other hams that worked in the building (Eaton) asking if the repeater was OK. He said he tried to bring it up on the way into work and couldn’t. I grabbed my HT that I had with me and brought it up with no problem. We didn’t have any wattmeter handy so I took a walk out of the building and through the parking lot west of the building. By the time I was about 100 feet away from the building, and with the repeater antenna in plain sight (still the Diamond at this time) I could no longer hear the repeater. This was not good. Matt, Mark and I made plans to go up to the penthouse the next day and check things out (and bring along some test equipment). The next day we went up there and hooked up a wattmeter and found the repeater putting out much less than 1 watt (the meter was not that good to give an exact number). Pull the ICOM out of the rack cabinet and haul it down to one of our labs where we could be more comfortable checking things out. We opened up the box and began to look around. One of the lab techs (not a ham) came by and asked what we were doing. We explained the situation to him and he peeked inside the box and pointed to a corner of the transmitter circuit board and asked, “Is that black spot and broken cap the problem?” It appeared we took a lightening hit from a storm that happened 3 days earlier. The hit blew a ceramic capacitor and a ¼ inch section of circuit board trace which led to the transmitter antenna output connector. We replaced the cap, added a wire to the board, gave the area a close inspection, applied power and made some measurements and everything seemed OK. Boy were we (the club) lucky!

On a Sunday in late 2001 during one of our experiments to improve the repeater operation (trying running the ICOM at low power and using the Mirage amp to bring the power output up), it was discovered that when the transmitter would key up it would generate a spur (actually the Mirage amplifier would generate the spur) that would start low in the band and move up the band. As it moved up the band it happened to frequently hit the frequency of 146.31 MHz. That is the input frequency for a very busy wide coverage repeater in town. This
was when we made contact with Dave Karr, KA9FUR. Dave was the frequency coordinator for the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters (WAR) as well as all around repeater technical guy. Dave drove around town with test equipment looking for the offending signal screwing up the 91 repeater and he found it at the Eaton building. Having found the problem, Dave returned home (to Waukesha) and ended up calling Mark Tellier. All this happened on a Sunday and by now it was around 6 pm. Mark said he would be happy to go to the repeater to get things fixed but Dave lives quite a distance away. Dave said we needed this thing fixed now so he would drive back in (having already been there an hour or so ago). Mark lives in Brown Deer and was only about 15 minutes away from the repeater but for Dave it was around 45 minutes. Anyway, Dave brought his test equipment and knowledge and he and Mark were at the repeater on Eaton’s roof until 11 pm. Now the spur was gone (and the Mirage amp turned off) and we even got some free tweaking from Dave (who could just have told us to fix things or turn it all off). It turns out after talking to Jim Tromblay, we had some problems with the amp before. It seems the fancy repeater amplifier did not like the load presented to it by the necessary for repeater operation cavities (so much for it being a “repeater” amplifier) that caused the amplifier to go into oscillation. Oh well, we’ll do without the amp.

While we did get the immediate problems fixed, this occasion was really the key to making contact with Dave Karr (who was not a club member and did not have to do anything for us but I did know him professionally from some past lives of both of us, plus he is an MSOE alumni as Mark Tellier AB9CD and myself are also) which would set the stage for all future upgrades and getting us a well functioning good coverage repeater. How did that happen? Well we somehow convinced Dave we really didn’t know anything about all this repeater stuff (that was not too hard) and we were all really good guys in need of help (the in need of help part wasn’t too hard either) so for some reason he decided to help us out. First, we asked him his opinion of our hardware. He told us what we already knew about the ICOM and recommended we replace it. But first, he recommended a new commercial antenna. When asked about the details, he said he often bought stuff from a particular supplier and he would order us one if we wanted. The board decided yes and we told him to go ahead and get us one. What he purchased was a Decibel Products 6 db gain antenna that was about 22 feet tall, weighed 32 pounds and cost about $550. On April 21, 2002 in about 40-degree weather and freezing rain and 20+ mph wind we of course put up the new antenna. It’s not the easiest thing to lift and keep vertical a 22-foot long pole that weighs 32 pounds especially in cold rain and wind but we somehow managed to do it. We now had a good antenna but we were not done yet.

The ICOM repeater was still a sore point with us and Dave. When asked his opinion of what to buy he recommended his current favorite, GE Mastr II repeaters. He said he would keep an eye out for one during an upcoming Dayton Hamvention trip. Well in May of 2002 at the Dayton hamfest, Dave was successful in finding a GE repeater he was happy with and purchased it for the club. That cost was about $500. Not bad for a real commercial repeater (not a converted mobile radio). It was now May and Dave had not billed the club for the antenna he purchased previously that we installed in April and he just spent another $500 for the club. Well he did eventually bill the club for the antenna and repeater but we essentially received a 6 plus month loan for no interest from him. Thanks Dave.

Toward the end of June the new repeater was installed but that was not all that happened. At the time of the new hardware install we also changed frequency. This was not significant just for changing our repeater frequency but for some additional good relationships we would build. It seems that the MATC repeater which was on 145.39 MHz was going to move to the new digital TV tower built for Channel 10/36. It would be higher than it’s present location on the channel 18/10/36 tower (a few hundred feet to the north of the new tower). That would give the repeater a larger coverage footprint than it had and would place it in potential
interference with a repeater in Illinois. At a MRAC board meeting early in 2002 Dave Karr asked if we would be willing to swap frequencies with MATC since 147.045 had a larger clearance zone into Illinois than 145.39. Just off the top of my head (I was President at the time) I said sure that would be no problem and what could we get in return. That surprised Dave and we just passed it off as a joke and proceeded to go along with the frequency change. With the installation and tune up of the new repeater hardware the frequency change would take place (and we would have to change the club banner and numerous printed material with the club logo on it – never, repeat, never design a logo with too much detail…).

Well the new repeater was installed and the ICOM repeater, Mirage amp, and Astron power supply were removed from the cabinet. I donated a small open frame power supply to again power the controller. With the new antenna and new repeater which did not suffer from internal overload we suddenly increased our coverage area. Something else happened with the new hardware and the adjustments by Dave Karr, we no longer had to play with the system, either to fix some problem or to improve operation. Wow! By the way the ICOM was listed on eBay by Mark Tellier and the club was able to recoup $750 of our investment in it. It was sold to a ham in the southeast US – Dave Karr insisted it be sold to someone outside Wisconsin! The other items (antennas, power supply, amplifier) all were auctioned off at the annual MRAC auction.

By this time only Matt Planning from the installation and maintenance crew was still employed by Eaton. The company was floating ideas about selling the building. We then decided we should start looking for a new home on our own schedule, before the building was sold and we would have to move things out with very short notice (during this time the 30th Street facility belonging to one of Eaton’s divisions was sold, actually the entire division was sold – the interesting thing about that was the 30th St facility actually provided the heat for the 27th St building, but that’s another story not radio related).

As before we were not really getting anywhere looking for a new home when Dave Karr called again. Since we seemed to be good guys and we did help him out with the frequency issue with no problems (as opposed to some other groups who have been approached over the years about changing frequencies), would we be interested in a new location which would be much better than our current location. Not wanting to sound totally stupid we said sure. We did not know details yet but were told to stand by. By the end of 2002 some details were starting to come out. There would be a group repeater/remote receiver site. It would involve 2 antennas for VHF and 2 for UHF. On VHF would be our repeater and a Navy MARS repeater and some remote receivers for other repeaters. On UHF would be additional area repeaters and remote receivers. As part of the deal we would provide our antenna as one of the VHF antennas. In return we would have a receive antenna at the 730 foot mark and a transmit antenna at 630 feet. The antennas are fed with 2-1/4 inch hardline. All equipment is housed in a concrete block room with it’s only entrance through a door from the outside. The location is the Channel 10/36/18 transmitter building. The tower is the Channel 18/10/36 analog TV tower. The receive antenna is slightly above the half way point of the tower. The top of the tower has the Channel 18 antenna and just below is a mounting arm with the channel 10 and 36 antennas. For the location we have to thank David Felland, WB0AFB, former Director of Engineering for WMVS/WMVT TV, Dave Karr, KA9FUR, Wisconsin Association of Repeaters Frequency Coordinator, Dave Schank, KA9WXN, engineer WMVS/WMVT TV (and MRAC member and current President). All antenna work was performed by Skywave Tower Service. For those who do not know, the location is Humboldt Ave just north of Capitol Drive bordering the Milwaukee River (really, the river is about 100 feet from the repeater room door and one of the tower guys actually goes over the river).
As of this writing we are approaching the 10 year mark of operation from this new site. In October of 2005 the controller was replaced with a state-of-the-art unit which allows programming by computer as well as digital voice playback (not recording as some mistakenly announce) for realistic and customizable messages. We are a long way from exercising the capabilities of this controller. The controller was produced by a company named S-Com based in Colorado. It turns out that the owner of S-Com, Bob Schmid, WA9FBO attended Milwaukee School Of Engineering from 1969-1973. During that time he was also an MRAC member! Also late 2005 saw the installation of a bank of 1200 AHR batteries so the entire site now has emergency power. That was thanks to Dave Karr (and no cost to us!). With all the new hardware there has only been two “service” calls necessary at the site. If we do need access, Dave Karr or Dave Schank need to be there, so extra thanks to them (and they also make sure things work well so they don’t have to go there). Our coverage now extends from Sheboygan to the Illinois state line and west throughout Washington and Waukesha counties and southwest to just outside Delavan in Walworth county. All locations are for mobile radio coverage. Base stations can do better. When the band is open it is not unusual to have stations from north of Green Bay to access the repeater. We have even had people from Iowa use the machine. There are some holes in Waukesha County that only a second receiver could fix (hint). The repeater has also seen use as a secondary frequency for some city of Milwaukee public service events including two Miller Lite Rides for the Arts events as well as others. I can even hear it on an HT from my house in Muskego. Quite a change from when it was at Ed Wille’s house when I had to use an outside antenna just to hear it and had to run at least 25 watts just to get in. We made a lot of mis-steps (mistakes?) and spent way more money than we needed to, and we certainly undertook the project about 20 years too late, but we got there. Thanks to all the people who helped us get there, many of them not even club members who could have told us to get lost. Be sure to thank them when you can and be sure to use the repeater, it took a lot of work to make it work.

What’s new? Not much. Everything is working well. There was a small problem with an adjustment control in the summer of 2007 which resulted is some stations not being able to satisfy the PL needs of the machine – thus they could not reliably access the repeater. Within a few days, that was fixed. A new version of controller audio board software was loaded and the memory for the controller was upgraded in the fall of 2007. It helps that the developer of the audio board is the same person who put the system together (Mr. Dave Karr KA9FUR). Performance continues to be great. Now if only we had a secondary receive site in Waukesha county to cover some of the holes in coverage we have there...

During 2008 a DSL internet connection was added to the equipment room. Stay tuned to the repeater for some interesting new items hopefully sometime soon (could have been done earlier if the technical committee wasn’t busy taking care of club business by being officers).

For the years since 2007-to 2014, there is nothing really to report. Everything is working, nothing has broken. There are a few items which we would like to implement, but due to other demands and the limited availability of the technical people, those items have not happened. While some of those ideas would be neat, everything currently works, so why mess it up. We are always open to suggestions.

In the spring of 2014 the club was approached to participate in the beta testing program for a new digital voice system produced by Yaesu. A handheld and a mobile radio have been available for the new mode, and a repeater is finally being released. Yaesu wanted an existing analog repeater system with a single site to try out the new repeater. A single site, existing system was desired so the new repeater could just drop in, replacing the existing analog repeater and results compared. The Yaesu repeater (opposed to other digital voice repeater
systems) can handle both analog and digital voice signals, using an automatic mode select feature. In the weeks prior to AES Superfest 2014, the repeater is installed. Everything looks good. In September, a new net for Yaesu digital voice users was started (Saturday evenings at 7 PM) to help people get accustomed to the new technology. In the spring of 2015, a newer, updated version of the repeater is made available and a special pricing promotion is in place (about 1/3 the normal retail price) for both new users and existing beta users. Application was made to Yaesu and we finally took delivery of the new system. We did get to keep the existing beta version hardware to experiment with. For the initial run of repeaters Yaesu also offered a batch of polo type shirts with the club name embroidered. The Milwaukee Area Digital Operators Group (MADOG) ordered a repeater with MRAC and there were to be 2 batches of shirts one for each group. Instead all the shirts came in one way, that of MADOG. Maybe we can shame Yaesu into giving us something …
In 2010 Michael Harris KC9CMT the club Secretary (and newsletter editor, meeting room key holder, refreshment chairman, etc) suggested we do a hamfest to get club members to work together on a project. Saturday February 19, 2011 became the date for the first MRAC / MAARS Interclub Hamfest. Basically our advertising didn’t start until the West Allis Hamfest on Jan 8, 2011. Flyers were handed to every seller at that hamfest. That means we did advertising for about 6 weeks. With that short period of time we still sold 35 advance tables. The final results were 40 tables and 220 tickets sold. That produced a net profit of approximately $1000 divided between MRAC and MAARS.

For the 2012 hamfest we started advertising at the South Milwaukee Hamfest, July 9, 2011. Flyers were delivered to hamfests in Cedarburg, Belvidere Il, St. Charles Il, even St. Louis Mo. And once again we handed flyers out to all sellers at the West Allis Hamfest in January 2012. The result was 40 advance tables with another 10 sold at the door. A majority of sellers were from Illinois. Ticket sales came in at 300, up from 220 in 2011. The result was a net profit of approximately $1600 to be divided between MRAC and MAARS. As a result of the good turnout, all those who helped out at the ‘fest and stuck around to help clean up were treated to pizza and soda courtesy of the clubs. The successful hamfest also contributed to a free food joint meeting of MRAC and MAARS at the February MRAC meeting time and location.

2012 was also the debut of prizes. ARRL and Don Michalski W9IXG (Wisconsin Section Manager) provided some. The RF Adapter Guy (that is the business name) donated a dual band mobile antenna and N3FJP software donated a download version of their complete software logging suite (a $40 value). Luckily, so far, both years have had fairly good weather. 2011 was very cold, but there was no snow on the ground. That is always a risk for anything in February.

2013 included prizes once again from RF Adapter Guy and N3FJP Software besides the ARRL gift certificates provided to all sanctioned hamfests. Oh yes, we also received about 20 tickets to the Shrine Circus the next weekend (which no one wanted). American Science and Surplus also had 2 tables. Final profit for each club was around $650 ($650 to each club for a total of $1300 profit). The profit was down a bit as expenses crept up as we try to figure out what works.

For 2014 in addition to N3FJP Software, ARRL, and RF Adapter Guy providing prizes, MRAC provided a cheap Chinese HT, as well as Dan Worknahuer N9ASA providing one (he received it as a gift and didn’t need it) and AES provided a $50 gift certificate. The final profit for each club was $631.82.
Reminiscences of The Daughter Of Our Second President
(August 2005)

One day in July, 2005, Tom Schulte, AB9EK, the club Treasurer (2005) retrieved a message on the club answering machine from a Yvonne Robel, who it turns out, is the daughter of Clarence Crapo 9VD (later W9VD) who was the second President (1921) of MRAC. He was also President again in 1931 and 1940 besides holding other offices over the years. He passed away in 1973. Tom passed the information to me and I proceeded to contact her. She had found a collection of her father’s slides of MRAC activities and thought the club would be interested in having them. I said sure and gave her my information. She offered to ship them at her expense. A few days later I received a package containing 75, glass mount, photographic slides, almost all with hand written notes along the slide mount detailing what the picture was. Also enclosed was the following letter. It was read at the August 2005 general club meeting and is reprinted here.

My father, Clarence N. Crapo enjoyed many years with your organization. I’m glad to have found these slides, contacted you, and returned them to your membership where they’ll be enjoyed. His other passion was photography. He was a master of stereo images. I have been active in photography as a profession and as a hobby (holding offices in camera clubs) for many years, influenced by my exposure to his work.

Some of these slides are in very poor condition as they were rescued from years of shed storage in Florida. The heat and humidity distressed some of the emulsion, but enough recognizable images remain to send along. He mounted his slides by hand, and after 60+ years the mountings are disintegrating. His precise small printing still amazes everyone in our family.

If even one of these old slides finds an interested relative or old friend it was worth the effort.

You may share these anecdotes of growing up with a-ham-for-a-dad with the membership if you like.

My dad was extremely fluid in Morse code. His fingers flew as he tapped out his message. I recollect, at the age of 4 or 5, sitting next to him on a stool, fascinated by the rhythm, squeaks, and static.

A standout in my memory of his voice contacts was about 1950. It was a Johannesburg chicken farmer who had 13 daughters, no sons. The British voice was clear from a “skip”(?). I remember them communicating more than once, and after my Dad knew how interested I was to hear the “voice from around the world”, he would take me into the attic when he started calling him to see my delight when there was an answer.

The Shorewood police department was familiar with our address. W9VD used to clear the cobwebs out of television speakers for miles. There were many times my prim and proper Mother fielded their phone calls and blushed red with embarrassment. Once an officer showed up at our door to “Speak to Mr. Crapo” since the polite phone calls hadn’t worked. It was probably during Elvis on Ed Sullivan.

In 1954 we custom ordered a brand new Oldsmobile 88 to replace the spotless 1941 Pontiac. My Mother carefully selected the classic turquoise and white, color matched the stripped upholstery, and most importantly, my Dad wanted it without a radio. She was so pleased as she considered radios in cars to be distracting. The day after we brought the new car home, he parked it in the driveway, just outside the garage, with an extension cord to the power drill. He was preparing to cut the hole in the dash for the Civil Defense Radio. Then he attached the long antenna. Of course the antenna was removed for family travel, and for their
trips to the supermarket, but my Mother never got over it.

After I graduated from Shorewood High School in 1961 and left Milwaukee, the giant 60 ft. wood pole and antenna in the backyard fell with a thundering blow, narrowly missing two garages.

Sincerely,
Yvonne (Crapo) Robel
Wellborn, Fl
Meeting Program History

(2016)

Over the years MRAC has had a number of interesting and informative meeting programs. Coordinating meeting programs is not an easy task. For many years it supposedly was the task of the First Vice-President. That actually kept many people from running for office – they were afraid they would have to find 9 or 10 meeting programs per year (more when the club met weekly). During the 1990s that official requirement was removed and the entire board became involved with setting up programs. Over the years some special guests have made presentations to the group including a number of ARRL officials, representatives of various manufacturers and even amateur radio celebrities. Some of the organizations and companies represented have been:

Amateur Electronic Supply
ARRL
   Ed Handy W1BDI Communications Mgr.
   Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R Marketing Mgr.
   Bart Jahnke VEC Mgr.
Bird Electronics Corp.
C. Crane Company
Centralab
Chicago Radio Laboratories
Electro Voice
Jewell Electrical Instrument Co.
McMurdo-Silver Inc.
Shure Bros.
Telrex Corp.
Gordon West
Wisconsin Electric Co.
Wisconsin Telephone Co.
Yaesu

The following is a list of some programs held over the years (and over time this list will grow to be sort of more complete).

1922
October 13 – RF Transformers as used with Loop Aerials.

1923
April 5 – A film by GE titled “The Wizardry of Wireless”.
May 17 – The Component Parts of a Receiver by R. H. C. Matthews. Also a second discussion of Three types of Transmitter Filters by Ed Howell 9CVI.
May 31 – The Zenith Tuner as well as a discussion of spark interference during designated quiet periods.
October 4 – J. H. Hiller of Jewell Electrical Instrument Co. on chemical rectifiers.
November 15 – Rev. John B. Kremer S.J. Professor of Physics, Marquette University on Magnetism
November 22 – Leroy E. M. Clausing 9XN, Chicago Radio Laboratories on the design and construction of radio station WJAZ
December 13 – Karl E. Hassel 9ZN, Research Engineer, Chicago Radio Laboratories on the underlying characteristics of receiver design.
1926
January 26 – Power Line Interference by Mr. Baily of the Electric Company.

1933
May 18 – Harold M. Detrick (filling in for Mr. Silver) of McMurdo-Silver Inc. discussing the company’s new superheterodyne receiver.
June 6 – Diversity Antenna Reception by Frank Moore W9BVB
August 7 – Discussion of ARRL activities and amateur radio news by xxx Herbert.

1942
August 2 – Picnic at Breezy Point at Lake Oconomowoc.

1943
December 30 – “Old Timer’s Nite” – Gettelman Brewery Rathskeller

1944
May xx – “Jamboree” – Gettelman Brewery Rathskeller
September 21 – Various discussions and a presentation on facsimile equipment by Wendell Ciganek W9SYT
October 12 – War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) discussion
October 19 – informal party again at Gettelman Brewery Rathskeller

1949
December 22 – Speech amplifier and driver unit with with amplitude clipping and audio bandwidth limits by Roger Zaun W9UVV.
December 29 – Old Timer’s Nite in the conference room of The Milwaukee Public Library with a demo of a Spark transmitter.

1950
January 5 – Show and Tell night.
April – Ceramic capacitors, printed circuit boards ad their applications by J. B. Holtz, and H. E. Moore of Centralab. Their presentation utilized 3D slides which required the use of special glasses provided by the David White Co.
April – The construction and theory of operation of microphones as well as applications of photo pickups by J. H. Morin of Shure Bros. of Chicago.
April – “Stepping Along With Television” - covering communications during the last 100 years by L. W. Butler and Herb Zwarra W9MQA both of the Wisconsin Telephone Co.
May – Speech amplifiers, clipping, and microphones by Webster Soules of ElectroVoice Corp, Buchanan, Mich. Mr. Soules QTH is Chicago. A special demonstration of a differential microphone for Army tank use was made.
May 18 – Elections.

1951
April 19 – Ed Handy W1BDI, ARRL Communications Manager

1955
December 29 – Old Timers Nite held at Pabst Brewery

1956
January 19 – 2 Films on general electronics with discussion to follow
February – Mike Ercolino of Telrex with a presentation on the company’s beam antennas
February – Oscilloscopes by John Jacobsen
April 26 – Lew McCoy W1CP ARRL Technical Assistant, QST Staff, Author
May 3 – J. Stuart of Collins Radio on “The Big Difference Between AM and SSB”
May 17 – Elections
May 24 – Member Party hosted by Don Merton W2OUL of Eldico (former club member)
May 31 – Installation of Officers and Field Day Planning

1960
April 21 – Discussion of club activities and policies.
April 28 - “The Story of DX” a film by ARRL.
May 19 - Auction
1965
September 9 – Discussion of club activities and business.

1968
March 7 – Auction
April 4 – General MRAC and AREC activities were discussed.
May 2 – General club business / projects discussions.
November 7 – Auction
December 5 – Slide shows of Radio Row, Tokyo Japan, local ARES activities, and more member pictures

1972
May 11 – Miles Cundy K9HMQ of Amateur Electronic Supply on 2 Meter Transceivers.
June 8 – Dick Kopplin WA9EOO on 13 months in Antarctica.
October 12 – Frank Seeboth W9NLY on automatic, self-checking telephone systems.
December 14 – Bob Goldstein K9KJT on Milwaukee Amateur Radio Emergency Corps (AREC)

1974
February 16 – Valentine’s Day Dinner / Dance
March 14 – Presentation by Al Malkasion of Wisconsin Electric on Power Grid Synchronization
April 11 – Amateur Radio in Japan by Sus Musashi WB9BGJ
May 9 – Elections / Solid State Morse and RTTY Keyboards by Milt Krauthoff W9BTQ
June 13 – Teletype Converters by Al Belanger W9MDG
September 12 – Home Brew 2M Transceiver by Walt Glish W9YYW
October 10 – Stan Nawrocki W9HHF/W8LOA of MATC on “Electronics of the Future”
November 14 - Auction

1976
January 8 – Old Timers Nite

1978
April 20 – Paul Cornell of Bird Electronics talks about RF power measurement and a bit about his personal interest in old time radios.
May 18 – Auction.
September 21 – A discussion on amateur television (ATV) by K9KLM, K9YGZ, WB9HDG, and K9ZSR including a live demonstration having a video QSO with WA9ZIG who was at his home.
October 12 – Special meeting consisting of a tour of the new Channel 6 studios and facilities, including watching the 10 PM newscast live.
October 19 – Bob Paquette of Select Sound talks about some of his microphone collection. He will also discuss his trip to the National Historical Radio Conference. Also Charles Dettman discussed his personal old radio collection and Fred Linn also discussed some old receivers and some old radio company history.
November 16 – Frank Seymour of Dynascan Corp talked about industrial control products in use at Telemotive Co. in Chicago.

1979
May 17 – Auction and elections.
June 7 – Field trip to Midwest Relay, a satellite relay station located in Rubicon (Washington Cty).
June 21 – Wisconsin State Patrol Communications Overview by John LaBlonde W9FZC.

1982
April 8 – Via AES, Dick Brainard W9KTN of Brainard-Wilson Marketing with a slide show on oscilloscopes and their applications along with a display of B&K oscilloscopes (which Brainard-Wilson represents and AES sells).
May 13 – Auction and Elections.
July 25 – Picnic at Jacobus Park.
1983
November 10 – The care and feeding of a 50KW AM broadcast transmitter for WISN radio by Frank Lorbecki Chief Engineer of WISN radio.
December 8 – Christmas Party at Pabst Blue Ribbon Hall.

1989
February 23 – Old communications receivers by Fred Linn W9NZF
May 11 – Spring Dinner Party at Kuglitsch’s Hall and Bowling
May 25 – Auction.
September 28 – Navy MARS by Fred Linn W9NZF
December 14 – Christmas Dinner Party at Tannen Paul Restaurant ($10.00).

1992
April 30 – Radio Controlled Aircraft by Gordy Stahl of Milwaukee Simitar Squadron.
June 25 – Video Tapes - “Amateur Radio – The Early Years” and “The Mysterious Tesla”.
November 27 (Friday due to scheduling conflicts) – More Video Tapes, this time on ATV balloon launches.
December 19 (Saturday) – Christmas Party at Maxims II Restaurant (1657 S. 108 St).

1993
January 28 – Tour of Channel 18, 10 / 36 TV transmitters at the transmitter building.
February 25 – Dick Scarvaci K9CAN on the planning and installation of the Ozaukee repeater.
March 25 – Digital Multimeters.
April 29 – Another Tesla Videotape.
May 27 – Fox Hunting by Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
June 24 – Elections and Auction.

1994
July 28 – CQ Magazine video “Getting Started in Amateur Satellites” (35 in attendance).
August 25 – CQ Magazine video “Getting Started in VHF”.
September 29 – Lots of club business and Video on Outbacker mobile antenna (45 in attendance).
November 23 – 1914 Spark Transmitter w/Demonstration by Jim Tromblay WB9LNU (49 in attendance).
December 11 – Christmas Party Dinner – Alioto’s Restaurant, $17.00 per person. 84 people in attendance.

1995
January 25 – Video of Peter I Island Dxpedition.
February 23 – Amateur Satellites (by unknown)
March 30 – CRTs as used for TV picture tubes by Ed Wille W9PWG. Also new TNC (Terminal Node Controllers) also by Ed.
May 25 – Off site meeting at Crites Field (Waukesha Cty Airport) at the hangar of the Confederate Air Force for a program on who they are as well as a WWII airplane restoration.
June 29 – Video on the story of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. This along with numerous discussions including a WWII gyroscope produced by A-C Spark Plug of Milwaukee and the FCC form 610 by Jack Krause W9JK and electronic filing by the MRAC VEC.
July 27 – Radio Control of models (of all types) by Jim Tromblay WB9LNU along with Jim Jr. N9UNT.
September 28 – Video “Code Breakers” is shown dealing with WWII code breaking.
October 30 – unknown video.
November 30 – No program, just general discussion.

1998
Feb 26 – Basic Digital Electronics by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
March 26 – Basic Radio Math and Calculator Use by Ed Wille W9PWG
October 29 – Weatherproofing Solutions by Matt Planning KB9PRC (39 in attendance).
November 19 – MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) with emphasis on Navy MARS by CPO Craig Stundahl NNN0ASG (32 in attendance).
1999

January 28 – Milwaukee and Waukesha ARES by John Leekley WB9SMM Emergency Coordinator and MRAC member. Also 3 Kenwood radio promo video videos provided by AES.
February 25 – The new operations of the MRAC VEC by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP, John Kraak KF9XL, and Tom Fuszard KF9PU.
March 18 – Slide show tour of ARRL Headquarters by Bart Jahnke W9JJ ARRL VEC Manager (63 in attendance)
April 29 – The history of video tape recording by Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
June – APRS Part 2 by Brian White K9LCQ (34 in attendance).

2000

January 27 – How I got started in Ham Radio by the membership.
February 26 – How I Got Started In Ham Radio Part 2 (37 in attendance).
March 30 – Don Michalski W9IXG on What Is An ARRL Section Manager.
April 27 – General member discussion
May 25 – Auction
June 29 – Decibels by Matt Planning KB9PRC
July 27 – Bill Lubitz W9EMC on Kit Building and and Personal Experiences Building an Elecraft K2.
October – Member Antennas a roundtable led by Matt Planning KB9PRC (40 in attendance).
November 30 – Building a Wire J-Pole Antenna for 2M by Matt Planning KB9PRC and Jim Tromblay WB9LNU. Includes members building antennas on site (some with help) (44 in attendance).
December 3 – Christmas Party at

2001

January 25 – The new home of the club repeater by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
February 22 – Discussion on contesting and various operating practices (38 in attendance).
March 29 – Severe Weather spotting by Skip Voros WD9HAS (49 in attendance).
April 26 – Amateur Satellites by Gary Bargholz N9UUR.
May – Auction and Elections (43 in attendance).
June 28 – Off site meeting at the Confederate Air Force hangar at Crites Field (Waukesha County Airport). Program by Bill Tromblay N9UNS (son of Jim WB9LNU) and officers of the Confederate Air Force on their work restoring a PV-2D Harpoon aircraft.
August 30 = Lightning damage to the repeater – finding it, and fixing it. Also video of Field Day 2001 by Roger Zaun W9UVV (42 in attendance).
September 27 – Video presentations of the new Kenwood TS-2000 transceiver and proper soldering techniques (40 in attendance).
October 25 – Presentation by Matt Planning KB9PRC on direction finding antennas for 315 MHz used in locating people with automotive remote key fobs. The technique was used in survivor searching at the World Trade Center attack on 9/11 (49 in attendance).
December 2 – Christmas Party at The Machine Shed, Waukesha

2002

January 31 – Possible Ham Exhibit at Discovery World by Don Doss K9QEN and Vertical Antenna Installation and Testing by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP (36 in attendance)
February 28 – FCC Website and ULS / CORES numbers by Matt Planning KB9PRC (39 in attendance)
March 28 – How I Got Into Ham Radio by everyone! (38 in attendance)
April 25 – How I Got Into Ham Radio Part 2 (36 in attendance)
May – Auction (38 in attendance)
June 27 – PSK31 Demo by Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
July 25 – Field Day in Pictures as Well as Past Field Days by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
August 29 – NCVEC Conference by John Kraak KX9XL and Tom Fuszard KF9PU and New MRAC Repeater System by Mark Tellier AB9CD
September 26 – ARES Van by Phil Rebensburg KC9CI
October 30 – Model Rocketry by Brian While K9LCQ and Jeff Annis K9VS
November 22 – Power Pole Connectors by Patrick Moretti W9UQ
December 1 – Christmas Party at The Machine Shed Restaurant

2003

July 31 – Mark Tellier AB9CD on the process of his tower install in the city of Brown Deer.
2005
May 26 – Auction and elections.
June 30 – Field Day review.
August 25 – The new club web site by Howard Parks AB9FH.
September – Contesting by Dick Wood W9JBE.

2006
March 30 – Gordon West WB6NOA makes his first appearance at an MRAC meeting.
May 25 – Auction and Elections

2007
March 29 – Gordon West WB6NOA makes his second appearance at an MRAC meeting sharing the program with Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R ARRL Marketing Manager.
May 31 – Auction and Elections

2008
March 27 – A return appearance by Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R ARRL Marketing Manager.
May 29 – Auction and Elections
August 28 – The Softrock SDR receiver by Tom Macon K9BTQ.
September 25 – Videos from Amateur Logic TV on Softrock receiver kits and club providing one for someone to build for future programs.

2009
January 29 – Digital (Broadcast) Television by Dave Schank KA9WXN
March 26 – MRAC VEC by Tom Fuszard KF9PU
April 30 – Automatic Antenna Tuners by Jerry Kraczek K9HXA
May 28 – Auction and Elections
July 30 – The SoftRock receiver SDR Project (paid for by MRAC) by Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
September 24 – Mobile CW by Pat Hoppe WW9R and Special Guest Harald (Al) Kjode, LA9SN from Norway
November 19 – DStar by Dave Schank KA9WXN

2010
January 21 – VHF Contesting and Weak Signal Work by Todd Sprinkmam KC9BQA
February 25 – Fox Hunting by Paul Gruettner WB9ODQ
March 25 – Logbook Of The World by Brian Cieslak K9WIS
April 22 – Member Show and Tell
May 27 – Auction and Elections
June 24 – Field Day, Past and Present
September 30 – First Robotics
October 28 – Solar Power by City of Milwaukee
November 18 – Do It Yourself Electric Car

2011
January 27 – FM Simplex Contest, MRAC / MAARS Hamfest, By-Laws changes and other boring business
February 24 – Fox Hunting by Paul Gruettner WB9ODQ
March 31 – Gordon West WB6NOA made his third appearance, along with his book publisher, Pete Trotter KB9SMG.
April 28 – Member Show and Tell
May 26 – Auction
November 17 - Show and Tell of member antenna installations

2012
January 26 – Show and Tell of member antenna installations – Part 2.
February 23 – Post Xmas, post Hamfest party (Free Food)
March 29 – Gordon West WB6NOA made his fourth appearance, along with his book publisher, Pete Trotter KB9SMG.
April 26 – Darren Rook KC9 of West Mountain Radio on their digital operating mode products and Elections.
May 31 – Auction.
September 27 – Darren Rook KC9SSL of West Mountain Radio on their DC power control products.

2013
January 31 – The Arduino – An open source microcontroller design by Gary Sutcliff W9XT
February 28 – Post Xmas, post Hamfest party (Free Food)
March 28 – HD Radio by Chris Tarr W9JOL radio station engineer / consultant
April 25 – HF Digital modes and operating by Joe Schwarz N9UX and Al Maahs KC9IJJ
May 30 – Auction
June 27 – An APRS Overview by Steve Sundquist N9FSE
September 26 – Group discussion on new radios for new hams
October 31 – The Repair of the Club Field Day Antenna by Dave Schank KA9WXN
November 21 – A Homebrew Tilt Over Telescoping Mast and Antenna Tuning by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP

2014
January 30 – Upcoming club events (FM Contest, Hamfest, etc.) and NASA Video on Juno Satellite
February 27 - Post Xmas, post Hamfest party (Free Food)
March 27 – Antenna Modeling on a computer by Jeff Annis K9VS
April 24 – Report and show and tell of balloon launch one week earlier by Sam Turner and his dad Lee
May 29 – Auction
June 26 – Field Day Plans, Member Show and Tell, Field Day Past
September 25 -
October 30 -
November 20 – Basic Oscilloscopes by Mark Tellier AB9CD, Dave Schank KA9WXN, and Dave DeFebo WB9BWP

2015
January 29 – Wisconsin QSO Party by, MRAC history of Wis QSO Party by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP, FM Simplex Contest by Joe Schwarz NU9X
February 26 – The Post-Holiday and other things party (free food).
March 19 – Chris Wilson NOCSW Yaesu National Sales Manager discussing Yaesu products and new company operations – (38 in attendance).
April 30 – High Altitude Balloon recovery and results by Joe Schwarz N9UX
May 28 – Auction – (48 in attendance).
June 25 – Field Day Info and favorite phone / tablet / PC applications roundtable
September 24 – Discussions on upcoming Maker Faire and Amateur Radio booth, new club logo contest, getting new hams / new members – (26 in attendance)

2016
January 28 – USB Microscope and SMT Hot Air Soldering by Dave DeFebo WB9BWP, Some MRAC history bites leading up to 100th Anniversary.
February 25 – Post holiday, hamfest, Simplex Contest food
Past Presidents Of MRAC
(2015)

1917 Committee headed by L.S. Baird
1918 L.S. Hillegas Baird 9HO
1919 L.S. Hillegas Baird 9HO
1920 Clarence Crapo 9VD
1921 Daniel Gellerup 9AOE
1922 Herbert Wareing 9NY
1923 Edward T. Howell 9CVI
1924 Edward T. Howell 9CVI
1925 Charles Polacheck 9DTK
1926 Fred Catel W9DTK
1927 Freemont D. Schunck W9AFZ
1928 Donald Seibel W9ESF
1929 George Ward W9DCE
1930 Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
1931 Clarence Crapo W9VD
1932 Frank Moore W9BVB
1933 Dr. Charles A. Rosenbaum W9GHN
1934 Emil Felber W9RH
1935 Erwin Kries W9HRM
1936 George Ruger W9VWG
1937 Charles Meyer W9GVL
1938 William Brossman W9EQP
1939 Norbert J.(Dick) Richard W9OUB
1940 Clarence Crapo W9VD
1941 Joseph Kircher W9NRX
1942 Norman Barnes W9CDY
1943 Norman Barnes W9CDY
1944 Norman Barnes W9CDY
1945 John Scarvaci W9GIL
1946 Ralph Koenig W9RUF
1947 Fred Catel W9DTK
1948 George Bowen W9DWI
1949 Ralph Koenig W9RUF
1950 Fred Zolin W9ONY
1951 Fred Zolin W9ONY
1952 Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
1953 Ken Eggert W9MOT
1954 Elden Belanger W9MDG
1955 Emil Felber W9RH
1956 Raymond Peschek W9LJU
1957 Richard Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1958 Douglas Pavek W9FDX
1959 Ken Eggert W9MOT
1960 Arlan Bowen W9QYW
1961 Russell Burss W9RKP
1962 J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1963 Royal Miller W9CJO
1964 Carl Rohde W9ROM
1965 Carl Rohde W9ROM
1966 Bernard Tower K9ZPP
1967 J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1968 J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1969 Richard Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1970 Richard Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1971 Richard Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1972 Jack McLeland W9ATK
1973 Jack McLeland W9ATK
1974 Lee Mushel K9WGU
1975 Elden Belanger W9MDG
1976 Elden Belanger W9MDG
1977 Elden Belanger W9MDG
1978 Robert Glamm W9UGN
1979 Robert Glamm W9UGN
1980 C. Reid Whipple K9IWU
1981 C. Reid Whipple K9IWU
1982 Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1983 Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1984 Chris Welton WD9GZL
1985 Ted Stiller WA9RDI
1986 Ted Stiller WA9RDI
1987 Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
1988 Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
1989 Ed Wille W9PWG
Start of 2 year terms...
1990 Ed Wille W9PWG
1992 Ed Wille W9PWG
1994 Ed Wille W9PWG
1996 Ed Wille W9PWG
1998 Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
2000 Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
2002 Patrick Moretti W9UQ
2003 Kevin Reemes KC9BZU
2004 Patrick Moretti W9UQ
2006 Howard Parks AB9FH
2008 Howard Parks AB9FH
2009 Brian Bieger KC9HEK
2009 Mark Tellier AB9CD
2010 Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
New term structure...
2012 Dave Schank KA9WXN
2013 Dave Schank KA9WXN
2014 Dave Schank KA9WXN
Past Officers and More of MRAC  
(2016)

In 2005 while pouring through recently donated archives of Emil Felber W9RH, a list of club officers from 1922-1966 was found. The list covered officers, but not necessarily directors. Later in the year, Jim Tromblay WB9LNU presented me with a list he worked on which covered through the years 1997. This list included directors and some committee chairmen and members. Using those lists as well as past rosters the following list has been compiled. For 2008 the list is still not complete, but more additions have been made including the 1948 ARRL National Convention committee chairmen. We keep uncovering new information every month. Maybe the list will be finished someday. We are not trying to leave anyone out. Committee chairs are listed where that information was available. Committee members may be listed also. If anyone was missed, we are sorry. Every effort has been made to ensure correctness. If you were an officer or on a committee and not listed here please let us know. One thing you can see is it takes a lot of people to run a club. You can also see some people keep stepping up to lend a hand to the club. Whose name appears most in this list? Is your name on this list? Will it be? If not, why not?

1919-1920
Pres - L. S. Baird 9HO  
VP - Clarence Crapo 9VD  
Secretary - R. A. Teschan  
Treasurer - T. V. Weston  
Business Mgr - R. A. Pelishek  
Sergeant At Arms – Cornelius Prinslow 9OV  
Chairman - L. S. Baird 9HO  
Directors:  
A. C. Kletzsch Jr.  
A. Bertram Lord  
R. A. Pelishek  
C. S. Polacheck 9CMP  
Rudolf Tischan  
Thomas Weston  
Publicity Mgr – M. B. Grogan  
ARRL City Manager - L. A. Degner

1920 – 1921
Pres - Clarence Crapo 9VD  
VP – A. B. Lord 9  
Secretary – Louis Heyman  
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal  
Chairman - L. S. Baird 9HO  
Business Mgr - E. W. Ruppenthal  
Publicity Mgr – M. B. Grogan  
ARRL City Manager - Clarence Crapo 9VD

1922-1923
Pres - Herb Wareing 9NY  
VP – Edward T. Howell 9CVI  
Secretary - H. G. Fawcett  
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal  
Sgt At Arms - J. G. Montague  
Publicity Mgr – M. B. Grogan  
Chairman - Clarence Crapo 9VD  
Directors:  
Dan W. Gellerup 9AOE  
Edward T. Howell 9CVI  
E. W. Ruppenthal  
A. J. Sinandl  
I. H. Strassman  
Herb Waring 9NY  
Membership Committee - Klingbiel  
Meetings and Papers Committee: L. S. Baird 9HO  
Technical Committee - Edward T. Howell 9CVI  
Relay and Interference Committee – the City Manager  
Publications – R. W. Stone  
ARRL City Manager – I. H. Strassman

1921-1922
Pres - Daniel Gellerup 9AOE  
VP – Herb Wareing 9NY  
Secretary – L. W. Klingbiel  
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal  
Chairman – Clarence Crapo 9VD  
Past Pres - L. S. Baird 9HO  
Business Mgr - E. W. Ruppenthal
1923-1924
Pres - Edward T. Howell 9CVI
VP - M. F. Szukalski Jr. 9AAP
Secretary - C. S. Polacheck 9CMP
Secretary - Fred Catel 9DTK
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal
Assistant Treasurer - Fred Catel 9DTK
Business Mgr - L. S. Baird 9HO
Directors:
  Edwin A. Carey 9ATO
  Clarence Crapo 9VD
  Mark H. Doll 9ALR
  G. Forrest Metcalf 9DXQ
  Erwin G. Nickel 9ATO

1924-1925
Pres – Edward T. Howell W9CVI
VP - C. S. Polacheck
Secretary - Fred Catel W9DTK
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal

1925-1926
Pres - C. S. Polacheck
VP - Fred Catel 9DTK
Secretary/Treasurer - John Meyer
Treasurer - E. W. Ruppenthal
Directors:
  Fred Catel 9DTK
  George Coates
  Malcomb Jameson
  Erwin Nickel 9ATO
  Fremont Schunck 9AFZ
  Sam Snead
Business Mgr - E.T. Howell 9CVI
Papers (?) - R. Knoff
Badger ARRL News:
  Fred Catel 9DTK
  Robert Knoff 9DXH
  Ben Chromy 9CJO
  George Coates
  Fremont Schunck 9AFZ
  Sam Snead
  John Meyer 9BKR

1927-1928
Pres - F. D. Schunck W9AFZ
VP - R. Knoff
Secretary/Treasurer - Don Seibel W9ESF
Business Mgr - Fred Catel W9DTK
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Clarence Crapo W9VD

1928-1929
Pres - Donald Seibel W9ESF
Secretary/Treasurer - F.J. Jutrash W9ALL
Secretary/Treasurer (11/15/28) - Harold R. Reiss W9ERS
Publicity - Fred Catel W9DTK
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Clarence Crapo W9VD

1929-1930
Pres - George Ward W9DCE
VP - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Secretary/Treasurer - Otis Stomer
Business Mgr - Donald Seibel W9ESF
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Clarence Crapo W9VD

1930-1931
Pres - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
VP - O. E. Zander W9DIJ
Secretary/Treasurer - G. E. Woodward
Secretary/Treasurer (5/21/31) - Herb F. Wareing W9NY
Business Mgr - Clarence Crapo W9VD
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Clarence Crapo W9VD

1931-1932
Pres - Clarence Crapo W9VD
VP - Charles Meyer W9GVL
Secretary/Treasurer – H. G. Barnes
Chairman - Clarence Crapo W9VD
Directors:
  Fred Catel W9DTK
  Charles Meyer W9GVL
  Donald Seibel W9ESF
  Herb F. Wareing W9NY
  G. F. Ward
  Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Clarence Crapo W9VD
1932-1933
Pres - Frank Moore W9BVB
VP - Dr. Charles A. Rosenbaum W9GHN
Secretary/Treasurer - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Publicity - S. Michaels
Committees
Technical:
Herb F. Wareing W9NY
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Publications – Bernard Phillippsen W9CRG
Program & Publicity - Donald Seibel W9ESF
Traffic - Emil Felber W9RH
Legal – Leo Topolinski
Membership - O. E. Zander W9DIJ

1933-1934
Pres - Dr. Charles A. Rosenbaum W9GHN
VP - Erwin Kreis W9HRM
Secretary - Herb J. Parish W9CCD
Treasurer - O. E. Zander W9DIJ
Business Mgr - Donald Seibel W9ESF
Chairman - Frank Moore W9BVB

1934-1935
Pres - Emil Felber W9RH
VP - C. Sennef
Secretary - Hal Kurth W9FSS
Secretary (9/6/34) - George J. Wood W9DII
Treasurer - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA

1935-1936
Pres - Erwin Kries W9HRM
VP - Oliver E. Zander W9DIJ
Secretary - Herb Baker W9GSP
Treasurer - Raymond Peschek W9LJU
Directors:
Emil Felber W9RH
Charles Meyer W9GVL
C. A. Rosenbaum W9GHN
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Business Mgr – C. A. Rosenbaum W9GHN
Papers and Publications:
Charles Meyer W9GVL
Robert Moser W9NPS
Membership Committee – Irvin Berens – W9DFJ
Publicity Committee – Emil Felber W9RH
Sgt At Arms – George Ruger – W9DVD
Technical Committee – Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Traffic Committee –
Code Class Instructor -

1936-1937
Pres - George Ruger W9VWG
VP - H. Peschek W9LJU
Secretary - Charles Meyer W9GVL
Treasurer - Al Krones W9UIT
Publicity - Fred Seifert W9EFX

1937-1938
Pres - Charles Meyer W9GVL
VP - William Brossman W9EQP
Secretary/Treasurer - Fred Seifert W9EFX
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM

1938-1939
Pres - William Brossman W9EQP
VP - N. J. Richard W9OUB
Secretary/Treasurer - George Ruger W9WG
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Directors:
Lambrecht
Siefert
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
H. Peschek W9LJU – Alternate
Program Committee - N. J. Richard W9OUB
Picnic – Wilkenson W9EEL
ARRL Central Division Assistant Director – Fred Catel W9DTK

1939-1940
Pres - Norbert J.(Dick) Richard W9OUB
VP - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Secretary/Treasurer - George Bowen W9DWI
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Publicity - Emil Felber W9RH
Interference Committee - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Code Instruction – Fred Lambrecht W9YEG
Wisconsin Hobby Exposition Demo Chairman –
Oliver Zander W9DIJ
ARRL Wis. Section Communication Mgr. – Al Krones W9UIT

1940 Wisconsin ARRL Convention:
General Chairman - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Co-Chairman - Oliver Zander W9DIJ
Secretary - George Ruger W9VWG
Commercial - George Bowen W9DWI
Publicity - Joe Kircher W9NRX
Ex-Officio - N. J. Richard W9OUB
Program - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Prizes:
Clarence Crapo W9VD
Herb Reinke W9ESO
Roman Hudzinski W9IPS
Robert Schmidt W9DY
Fred Seifert W9EFX
Registration:
Ray Peschek W9LJU
Emil Felber W9RH
Ladies:
Mrs. R. S. Porth, XYL W9IZT
Miss M. F. Gale, YL W9ESO
1940-1941
Pres - Clarence Crapo W9VD
VP - Joseph Kircher W9NRX
Secretary/Treasurer - Herb Reinke W9ESO
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Field Day - Oliver Zander W9DIJ

1941-1942
Pres - Joseph Kircher W9NRX
VP - Jack Doyle W9GPI
Secretary - Reid Burrows W9JCW
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Directors:
Al Krones W9UIT
Charles Meyer W9GVL
Picnic - Emil Felber W9RH
Historian - Emil Felber W9RH
Code Instruction-Tony Barszcz W9HPZ

1942-1943
Pres - Norman Barnes W9CDY
VP - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Secretary - John Scarvaci W9GIL
Treasurer - Ray Behmke W9DJC
Treasurer (11/3/42) - Emil Felber W9RH
Business Mgr - Erwin Kries W9HRM
AREC EC – Wendell Ciganek W9SYT

1943-1944
Pres - Norman Barnes W9CDY
VP - John Scarvaci W9GIL
Secretary - Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Bulletin Editor – Erwin Kries W9HRM
ARRL Section Communication Manager (SCM) –
Emil Felber W9RH

1944-1945
Pres - Norman Barnes W9CDY
VP - Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Secretary - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Directors:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Charles Meyer W9GVL
Ray Paechek W9LJU
John Scarvaci W9GIL
Bulletin Editor – Erwin Kries W9HRM

1945-1946
Pres - John Scarvaci W9GIL
VP - Ralph Koenig W9RUF
Secretary - Erwin Kries W9HRM
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Directors:
Norman Barnes W9CDY
Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Charles Meyer W9GVL
Irving Jackson W9CID

1946-1947
Pres - Ralph Koenig W9RUF
VP - Dr. J. F. Wyman W9SZH
Secretary - Cyril V. Shallow W9SQK
Treasurer - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Directors:
Charles Meyer W9GVL
Al Krones W9UIT
Emil Felber W9RH
George J. Pfister W9IZQ
License Trustee - Al Krones W9UIT

1947-1948
Pres - Fred Catel W9DTK
VP - George Bowen W9DWI
Secretary - Lester Reinmund W9PTE
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Directors:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Charles Meyer W9GVL
George J. Pfister W9IZQ
License Trustee - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
ARRL Central Division Director - Clyde C.
Richelieu W9ARE
1948 ARRL National Convention:
Chairman - Jack Doyle W9GPI
Vice Chairman and Program Co-ordinator – Fred Catel W9DTK
Secretary Les Reinmund W9PTE
Audit:
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
George Toppe W9QFL
Finance – Wes Correll W9FY
Housing Fred Morton W9AMB
Registration – Joe Collins W9PYM
IRE-BCE – Joe Kircher W9NRX
Publicity – Sidney Rose W9VKC
Decorations – Cy Wysocki W9DOS
Exhibit Manager – George Bowen W9DWI
ARRL Booth – H. Wilson W9NAV
MRAC Booth – H. H. Devendorf
Prizes – Travis Baird W9VQD
Ladies Activities – Mrs. George Toppe W9AYX
Entertainment – Tom Gettelman – W9IZO
Wouff Hong – Charlie Meyer W9GVL
Program – Emil Felber W9RH
Printing – John Scarvaci W9GIL
VHF – Frank Maiorana W9TPT
Technical Talks and Speakers – George Pfister W9IZQ
Hidden Transmitter Hunt – Clarence Burke W9KEU
Historical – Clarence Crapo W9VD
C.A.R.C.C. – Art Kraatz W9HPX
Chicagoland Mobile Club – Harry Harrison W9LLX

1948-1949
Pres - George Bowen W9DWI
VP - Ralph Koenig W9RUF
Secretary - Curtis Schultz W9LZU
Secretary (11/30/48) - Joseph Collins W9PYM
Treasurer - Leonard Benson W9BNN
Directors:
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Joseph Collins W9PYM
Hugh Wilson W9NAV
John Scarvaci W9GIL (alternate)
Chatter – Harry Paston W9DJV
AREC EC Milw Cty – Ralph Koenig W9RUF
ARRL Central Division Director - Clyde C. Richelieu W9ARE

1949-1950
Pres - Ralph Koenig W9RUF
VP - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Secretary - Art Vahovius W9VSO
Treasurer - Leonard Benson W9BNN
Treasurer - George Bowen W9DWI
Directors:
George Bowen W9DWI
Joseph Collins W9PYM
Clarence O. Wahner W9YYY (alternate)
Business Manager – Joe Collins W9PYM
Contests – Doug Kluge W9NKK
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Chatter:
Harry Paston W9DJV
George Bowen W9DWI
Fred Zolin W9ONY
ARRL Milwaukee County Emergency Coordinator - Ralph Koenig W9RUF
ARRL Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator - Clarence O. Wahner W9YYY
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

1950-1951
Pres - Fred Zolin W9ONY
VP - Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Secretary - Eugene Wille W9EKL
Secretary (9/28/50) - Les G. Thelaner W9HDW
Treasurer - Emil Felber W9RH
Directors:
Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
George J. Pfister W9IZQ
John Scarvaci W9GIL
Gildea Hutchinson W9FTY
Business Manager - H. Ellis Saxton W9UMX
Chatter:
Sid Rose W9VKC
Jim Fischer W9LPF
Mobile Wing – H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI
1951-1952
Pres - Fred Zolin W9ONY
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Secretary - Art Brown W9EZP
Treasurer - Lynn Lewis W9UH
Treasurer (2/21/52) - Emil Felber W9RH
Directors:
H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Emil Felber W9RH
Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Douglas Pavek W9FDX
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Field Day Chairman - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

1952-1953
Pres - Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
1st VP - Ken Eggert W9MOT
2nd VP - Carroll Thomas W9WK
Secretary - Will Herzog W9LSK
Treasurer - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
James K. Douglas W9DR
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Emil Felber W9RH
Raymond A. Thompson W9IRZ
Louis Wollaeger W9ANA
Chairman - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Field Day – Doug Pavek W9FDX
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Leanore Zavadnik
1st VP - Mrs. Mary Meyer
2nd VP - Mrs. Jeanne Pavek W9OMZ
Secretary - Mrs. Louise Kaetel
Treasurer - Mrs. Anita Thomas

1953-1954
Pres - Ken Eggert W9MOT
1st VP - Frank Seeboth W9NLY
2nd VP - Carroll Thomas W9WK
Secretary - Will Herzog W9LSK
Treasurer - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
James K. Douglas W9DR
Emil Felber W9RH
H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Raymond A. Thompson W9IRZ
Chairman - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Mary Meyer
1st VP - Mrs. Jeanne Pavek W9OMZ
2nd VP - Mrs. Louise Kaetel
Secretary - Mrs. Pauline Herzog
Treasurer - Mrs. Evelyn Dawson

1954-1955
Pres - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
1st VP - Frank Seeboth W9NLY
2nd VP - Eugene Wille W9EKU
Secretary - Edward Buchholz W9VBZ
Treasurer - Roman Hudzinski W9JPS
Directors:
Ken Eggert W9MOT
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
James K. Douglas W9DR
Emil Felber W9RH
Will Herzog W9LSK
H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Chairman - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Evelyn Dawson
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Irene Buchholz
Secretary - Mrs. Betty Eannelli
Treasurer - Mrs. Marian Schweda
1955-1956
Pres - Emil Felber W9RH
1st VP - Ken Eggert W9MOT
2nd VP - Ray Peschek W9LJU
Secretary - Vernon Fabishak W9HDH
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW

Directors:
Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Edward Buchholz W9VBZ
Gordon J. Fedder W9YFW
Will Herzog W9LSK
Douglas A. Pavek W9FDX
Dr. Irwin J. Waldman W9RXS
Chairman - Fred Zolin W9ONY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Field Day - Edward Buchholz W9VBZ

Women's Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Evelyn Dawson
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Irene Buchholz
Secretary - Mrs. Betty Eannelli
Treasurer - Mrs. Marian Schweda

1956-1957
Pres - Raymond Peschek W9LJU
1st VP - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
2nd VP - Ray Peschek W9LJU
Secretary - Vernon Fabishak W9HDH
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Emil Felber W9RH

Directors:
Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Edward Buchholz W9VBZ
Gordon J. Fedder W9YFW
Will Herzog W9LSK
Douglas A. Pavek W9FDX
Dr. Irwin J. Waldman W9RXS
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

Women's Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Evelyn Dawson
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Irene Buchholz
Secretary - Mrs. Betty Eannelli
Treasurer - Mrs. Marian Schweda

1957-1958
Pres - Raymond Peschek W9LJU
1st VP - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
2nd VP - Sigmund J. Wysocki W9DOS
Secretary - Vernon Fabishak W9HDH
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Emil Felber W9RH

Directors:
Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Gordon J. Fedder W9YFW
Douglas A. Pavek W9FDX
Dr. Irwin J. Waldman W9RXS
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY

Women's Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Evelyn Dawson
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Irene Buchholz
Secretary - Mrs. Betty Eannelli
Treasurer - Mrs. Marian Schweda
1958-1959
Pres - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1st VP - Clarence Crapo W9VD
2nd VP – Sigmund Wysocki W9DOS
2nd VP – Douglas A. Pavek W9FDX
Secretary – James Buth K9CJK
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman -

Directors:
Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Ken Eggert W9MOT
Gordon J. Fedder W9YFW
Fred Zolin W9ONY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Bylaws Chairman - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Public Relations, Publicity, and Editorial Communications:
Fred Zolin W9ONY
Sid Rose W9VKC
Larry Zentgraf K9CAG
DX and ARRL Activities:
Fred Borcherdt W9DYG
George Zurbuchen W9UDK
John Coleman W9HAT
Doug Pavek W9FDX
Mobile Activities:
Gordon Fedder W9YFW
Richard Sandborn W9FTE
John Coleman W9HAT
Don Drengenberg W9PST
Field Day – Richard Scarvaci K9CAN
Chatter:
Fred Zolin W9ONY
Jim Buth K9CJK

ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Eve Koehler
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Mary Meyer
Secretary - Mrs. Lois Borcherdt
Treasurer - Mrs. Anita Thomas

1959-1960
Pres - Ken Eggert W9MOT
1st VP - Arlan Bowen W9QYW
2nd VP – Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Secretary – Charles Porch K9ENB
Treasurer – Donald Gross W9KQD
Chairman - Douglas A. Pavek W9FDX

Directors:
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
James Buth K9CJK
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Ray Peschek W9LJU
Sigmund Wysocki W9DOS
Fred Zolin W9ONY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
License Trustee – Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
Field Day – Charles Porch K9ENB

DX Committee:
James E. Buth K9CJK
Jack Kunath W9OMY
TVI Committee – Ken Reger
Radio Officer – Ralph Koenig W9RUF

License Classes:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Arlan Bowen W9QYW

ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Jeanne Pavek W9OMZ
1st VP - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
2nd VP - Mrs. Mary Meyer
Secretary - Mrs. Lois Borcherdt
Treasurer - Mrs. Anita Thomas
1960-1961
Pres - Arlan Bowen W9QYW
1st VP - Eugene Strzyzewski W9ZAN
2nd VP - Donald J. Gross W9KQD
Secretary – Russell C. Greenwood W9LVR
Treasurer – Erwin Reiser K9CUI
Chairman - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Directors:
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Fred Borcherdt W9DYG
James E. Buth K9CJJK
John Halser K9MTM
Jack Hughes W9ULA
Sigmund Wysocki W9DOS
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Radio Officer - Bob Goldstein K9KJT
TVI Committee – Ed Bucholz W9VBZ
License Trustee – Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI
Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres - Mrs. Florence Belanger W9WYJ
1st VP – Mrs. Anita Thomas
Secretary – Mrs. Evelyn Dawson
Treasurer – Mrs. Marilyn Reger

1961-1962
Pres - Russell E. Burss W9RKP
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP – Russell C. Greenwood W9LVR
Secretary – John Czarnecki Jr. K9PSU
Treasurer – Gerald Kraig K9MZJ
Chairman - Arlan Bowen W9QYW
Directors:
Fred Borcherdt W9DYG
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
John Halser K9MTM
Fred Krause W9VLK
Patrick Shanahan W9UNJ
Bob Wilson W9ZB
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
TVI Committee - John Halser K9MTM
Field Day – Art Vahovius W9VSO
Chatter:
Don Gross W9KQD
Fred Borcherdt W9DYG
James Buth K9CJJK
License Trustee – Thomas Gettelman W9IZO
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI
Women’s Auxiliary Officers:
Pres – Ellen Porch
VP – Evelyn Dawson
Secretary Irene Buchholz
Treasurer – Anita Thomas

1962-1963
Pres - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1st VP - Royal Miller W9CJO
2nd VP - Carl Rohde W9ROM
Secretary - John Korns K9WGN
Secretary - Bernard Moores K9KLM
Treasurer - Tony Kuntz K9CJP
Chairman - Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Directors:
Arlan Bowen W9QYW
John Czarnecki K9SUB
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Don Street W9KJW
Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Robert Wilson W9ZB
License Trustee – Emil Felber W9RH
ARRL Central Division Director - Jack Doyle W9GPI

1963-1964
Pres - Royal Miller W9CJO
1st VP - Carl Rohde W9ROM
2nd VP - Walter Prichard W9CUS
Secretary - Bernard Moores K9KLM
Treasurer - Tony Kuntz K9CJP
Chairman - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Directors:
Arlan Bowen W9QYW
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Donald Street W9KJW
William Thompson K9JGT
Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Custodian – Emil Felber W9RH
License Trustee – Emil Felber W9RH
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT
Radio Officer – Ralph Koenig W9RUF
1964-1965
Pres - Carl Rohde W9ROM
1st VP - Jack Doyle W9GPI
2nd VP - Bernard Moores K9KLM
Secretary - George Greeson K9KLK
Assistant Sec – Harold Engelke K9CMX
Treasurer - Dick Scarvaci K9CAN
Chairman - Royal Miller W9CJO
Directors:
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
William Fake W9BLQ
Frank Seeboth W9NYL
Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Fred Zolin W9ONY
License Trustee – Emil Felber W9RH
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Chatter:
Fred Zolin W9ONY
Jack Doyle W9GPI
AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT
Radio Officer – Ralph Koenig W9RUF

1965-1966
Pres - Carl Rohde W9ROM
1st VP - Jack Doyle W9GPI
2nd VP - Robert W. Price WA9JLU
Secretary - Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Treasurer - Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
Chairman - Carl Rohde W9ROM
Directors:
Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
William J. Fake W9BLQ
Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
Russell C. Greenwood W9LVR
Frank J. Seboth W9NLY
Fred H. Zolin W9ONY
License Trustee - Emil Felber W9RH
Field Day – Don Evenson K9JYX
License Trustee – Frank Seeboth W9NLY
License Trustee – Carl Rohde W9ROM (7/66)
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chatter:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Bob Goldstein K9KJT
Carl Rohde W9ROM
Bob Price WA9JLU
Ted Willet W9NHE
Custodian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT

1966-1967
Pres - Bernard E. Tower K9ZPP (resigned 1/20/67)
1st VP – Tom Hamilton K9WIG (resigned 10/6/66)
1st VP - Donald A. Evenson K9JYX
2nd VP - Robert W. Price WA9JLU
Secretary - George Greeson K9KLK
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Carl Rohde W9ROM
Directors:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
Russell C. Greenwood W9LVR
Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
James H. Ott W9LCD
Frank J. Seboth W9NLY
Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Field Day – Don Evenson K9JYX
License Trustee – Frank Seeboth W9NLY
License Trustee – Carl Rohde W9ROM (7/66)
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chatter:
Jack Doyle W9GPI
Bob Goldstein K9KJT
Carl Rohde W9ROM
Bob Price WA9JLU
Ted Willet W9NHE
Custodian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT

1967 Central Division Convention
Chairman - Bernard E. Tower K9ZPP
Vice Chairman - Jack Doyle W9GPI
Program Chairman – Lynn Tamblin WA9KRF
Ham Relations Chairman – Don Evenson K9JYX
Financial Chairman – Paul Krueger WA9OQZ
1967-1968
Pres - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1st VP - Frank J. Seboth W9NLY
2nd VP - Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Bernard E. Tower K9ZPP
Directors:
   Jack Doyle W9GPI
   Donald A. Evenson K9JYX
   Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
   James H. Ott W9LCD
   Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
   Radio Officer - Herbert Zwarra W9MQA
   Custodian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Historian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
   Field Day – Bob Stuckert WA9SYD
   Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Chatter:
   Jack Doyle W9GPI
   Bob Goldstein K9KJT
   Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Bob Price WA9JLU
   Ted Willet W9NHE
   AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT

1968-1969
Pres - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
1st VP - Frank J. Seboth W9NLY
2nd VP - Lowell Warshawsky W9NGV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Bernard E. Tower K9ZPP
Directors:
   Donald A. Evenson K9JYX
   Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
   James H. Ott W9LCD
   Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Robert Stuckert WA9SYD
   Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
   Radio Officer - Herbert Zwarra W9MQA
   Custodian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Historian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
   Legal Counsel Paul A Leeb W9TKY
On Air Code Practice:
   Walter J. Glish W9YYW
   Robert Stuckert WA9SYD
   Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
Chatter:
   Bob Goldstein K9KJT
   Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Bob Price WA9JLU
   Ted Willet W9NHE
   AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT

1969-1970
Pres - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
VP - Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Directors:
   Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
   Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
   James H. Ott W9LCD
   Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
   Lloyd W. Wantland WA9JKD
   Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
   Historian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
   Legal Counsel - Paul A Leeb W9TKY
   Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
   AREC EC – Bob Goldstein K9KJT
1970-1971
Pres - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1st VP - James H. Ott W9LCD
2nd VP - Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Directors:
Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
Emmett Koeble K9DD
John Hopwood W9KYT
Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
Lloyd W. Wantland WA9JKD
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Historian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
Legal Counsel - Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI

1971-1972
Pres - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
1st VP - James H. Ott W9LCD
2nd VP - Raymond W. Weeks WA9JOV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Directors:
Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
Emmett Koeble K9DD
John Hopwood W9KYT
Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
Lloyd W. Wantland WA9JKD
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Historian - Carl Rohde W9ROM
Legal Counsel - Paul A Leeb W9TKY
Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
License Trustee – Frank Seboth W9NLY
AREC EC – Dave Knaus WA9POV

1972-1973
Pres - Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
1st VP – Jim Taylor K9YYS
2nd VP - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Directors:
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Harold A. Engelke K9CMX
David J. Knaus WA9POV
George Ruger WN9EHA
Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
Lloyd W. Wantland WA9JKD
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
License Trustee – Frank Seboth W9NLY
AREC EC – Dave Knaus WA9POV

1973-1974
Pres – Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
1st VP – Emmett H. Koeble K9DD
2nd VP – David J. Knaus WA9POV
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Directors:
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
George Ruger W9DWD
Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
Ray O. Truemner W9ITD
William V. Witt Jr. W9LUR
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
License Trustee – Frank Seboth W9NLY
ARES EC – David J. Knaus WA9POV

1974-1975
Pres – Lee Mushel K9WRU
1st VP – Emmett H. Koeble K9DD
2nd VP – Howard Traxler WA9RYF
Secretary - Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Treasurer - Charles C. Dawson W9CUW
Chairman - Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
Directors:
David J. Knaus WA9POV
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Ralph Parker WA9MLY
Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
Ray O. Truemner W9ITD
Gordon H. Weiler W9ZQK
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chatter - Chester Y. Sakura W9CTI
License Trustee – Frank Seboth W9NLY
ARES EC – David J. Knaus WA9POV

1975-1976
Pres - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
1st VP - Gordon H. Weiler W9ZQK
2nd VP - Ralph Parker WA9MLY
Secretary - Ray O. Truemner W9ITD
Treasurer - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Chairman - Jack W. McLeland W9ATK
Directors:
Florence Belanger W9WYJ
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Robert A. Glamm W9UGN
Jack C. Krause W9UJM
Sus Musashi WB9BGJ
Picnic – Ralph Parker WA9MLY
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
License Trustee – Frank Seboth W9NLY
AREC EC – Dave Knaus WA9POV
1976-1977
Pres - Robert A. Glamm W9UGN
1st VP - Gordon H. Weiler W9ZQK
2nd VP - Ralph Parker WA9MLY
Secretary - Jack C. Krause W9JK
Treasurer - David DeFebo WB9BWP
Chairman - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
Florence Belanger W9WYJ
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Sus Musashi WB9BGJ
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Howard Traxler WA9RYF
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day - Howard Traxler WA9RYF
License Classes - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Class Instructors:
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW

1977-1978
Pres - Robert A. Glamm W9UGN
1st VP -
2nd VP - Steve Schwednetter WB9ZKT
Secretary - Jack C. Krause W9JK
Treasurer - David DeFebo WB9BWP
Chairman - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Glenn Rearick WD9GZM
Business Manager - H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day - Howard Traxler WA9RYF
License Classes - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Class Instructors:
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Chris Welton WD9GZL

1978-1979
Pres - Robert A. Glamm W9UGN
1st VP - Chris Welton WD9GZL
C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
2nd VP - Steve Schwednetter WB9ZKT
Secretary - Jack C. Krause W9JK
Treasurer - David DeFebo WB9BWP
Chairman - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
Florence Belanger W9WYJ
Russell E. Burss W9RKP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Glenn Rearick WD9GZM
Howard Traxler WA9RYF
Business Manager - H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
License Classes - Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Class Instructors:
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW

1979-1980
Pres - Robert A. Glamm W9UGN - resigned
Pres - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
1st VP - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
1st VP - David DeFebo WB9BWP
1st VP - Steven Schwendtner WB9ZKT
2nd VP - Steven Schwendtner WB9ZKT
Secretary - Jack Krause W9JK
Treasurer - David DeFebo WB9BWP (became VP)
Treasurer - Chris Welton WD9GZL
Chairman - Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Directors:
Russell E. Burss W9RKP (removed)
Florence Belanger W9WYJ
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
Glenn Rearick WD9GZM (resigned 11/79)
Howard Traxler WA9RYF
Business Manager - H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Sgt At Arms - Dick McNew WB9PTC
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
License Classes - H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
Class Instructors:
Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
**1980-1981**

- **Pres**: C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
- **1st VP**: David DeFebo WB9BWP
- **2nd VP**: Ken Eggert W9MOT
- **Secretary**: Jack Krause W9JK
- **Treasurer**: Ted Stiller WA9RDI
- **Chairman**: Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
  (resigned/retired)
- **Directors**: Florence Belanger W9WYJ (resigned/retired)
  Walter J. Glish W9YYW
  Richard H. Oberholtzer W9ZPV
  Glen Rearick WD9GZM
  Howard Traxler WA9RYF
- **Business Manager**: H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
- **Auction**: J. Travis Baird W9VQD
- **Field Day**: Mark Brueggemann KA9LXP
- **License Classes**: H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
- **Class Instructors**: Eldon J. Belanger W9MDG
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Walter J. Glish W9YYW
  John E. Lorbiecki KA9DNL
  Vern Petersen W9PGL

**1982-1984**

- **Pres**: Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
- **1st VP**: John E. Lorbiecki KA9DNL
- **2nd VP**: Vern Petersen W9PGL
- **Secretary**: Jack Krause W9JK
- **Treasurer**: Ted Stiller WA9RDI
- **Chairman**: C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
- **Directors**: Walter J. Glish W9YYW
  Jerry Melotik KC9EV
  Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
  Duane K. Mitchell WD9HBZ
  Ed Vetter N9ARC
- **Business Manager**: H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
- **Auction**: J. Travis Baird W9VQD
- **Field Day**: Pat Hoppe KA9OIZ
- **License Classes**: H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK
- **Class Instructors**: Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Bill Fulhart KA9GVX
  Walter J. Glish W9YYW
  John Lorbicheck K9WUF
  John E. Lorbicheck KA9DNL
  Vern Petersen W9PGL
  Jack Krause W9JK
- **VEC**: Jack Krause W9JK
- **Mailing List/Membership**: Lillian Wunsch WA9EMJ
- **Auction**: J. Travis Baird W9VQD
- **Field Day**: Pat Hoppe KA9OIZ
  Ted Stiller WA9RDI
- **License Classes**: Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
- **Class Instructors**: Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Walter J. Glish W9YYW
  John Lorbicheck K9WUF
  John E. Lorbicheck KA9DNL
  Vern Petersen W9PGL
  VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
1985-1986
Pres - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
1st VP – Bill Witt N9KY
2nd VP - Emerend Bude K9HJH
Secretary - Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
Treasurer - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
Chairman - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
Directors:
Walter J. Glish W9YYW
Jack Krause W9JK
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
George Philbert KA9MXM
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Sgt At Arms - Dick McNew WB9PTC
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
John Lorbiecki K9WUF
Terry Kohler KA9RFM
Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day:
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
Legal Counsel - Bob Fenning

1986-1987
Pres - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
1st VP - Emerend Bude K9HJH
2nd VP -
Secretary - Chris Welton WD9GZL
Treasurer - Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
Treasurer - Fr. William Kidd NE9W
Chairman - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
Directors (?):
J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Jack Krause W9JK
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
George Philbert KA9MXM
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Roger Zaun W9UVV
Sgt At Arms - Dick McNew WB9PTC
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
John Lorbiecki K9WUF
Terry Kohler KA9RFM
Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day:
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
Legal Counsel - Bob Fenning

1987-1988
Pres - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
1st VP - Emerend Bude K9HJH
2nd VP -
Secretary - Chris Welton WD9GZL
Treasurer - Fr. William Kidd NE9W
Chairman - C. Reid Whipple K9IWC
Directors (?):
Jack Krause W9JK
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
George Philbert KA9MXM
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Roger Zaun W9UVV
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
John Lorbiecki K9WUF
Terry Kohler KA9RFM
Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day:
Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
Legal Counsel - Bob Fenning
1988-1989
Pres - Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Emerend Bude K9HJH
Secretary - Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Treasurer - Fr. William Kidd NE9W
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
  Jack Krause W9JK
  George Philbert KA9MXM
  Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
  Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
  Ed Wille W9PWG
  Roger Zaun W9UVV
License Classes:
  Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
  Fred Krause W9VLK
Class Instructors:
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Vern Petersen W9PGL
  Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Chatter - Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
Auction - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
Field Day - Jerry Reidel KA9AJF
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK

1989-1990
Pres - Harry Cieszki KD9AJ
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Emerend Bude K9HJH
Secretary - Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Treasurer - Fr. William Kidd NE9W
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
  Jack Krause W9JK
  George Philbert KA9MXM
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Marv Rutishauser WB9PKL
  Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
  Ed Wille W9PWG
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Jack Krause W9JK
Chatter: Joe Rayome KE9LL (mailing)
Field Day:
  Tom Fuszard N9MGZ
  Ted Stiller WA9RDI
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA

1990-1991
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Fred Linn W9NZF
Secretary - Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Treasurer - Dean Kiefer KB9DNE
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
  Jack Krause W9JK
  Marv Rutishauser WB9PKL
  Kelly Schafer N9HBN
  Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
  Roger Zaun W9UVV
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Jack Krause W9JK
Chatter - Joe Rayome KE9LL
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK

1991-1992
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Fred Linn W9NZF
Secretary - Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Treasurer - Dean Kiefer KB9DNE
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
  Paul Boese KB9FBM
  Jack Krause W9JK
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Orv Stewart KA9ONQ
  Marv Rutishauser WB9PKL
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
  Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Orv Stewart KA9ONQ (mailing)
Chatter:
  Joe Rayome KE9LL
  Orv Stewart KA9ONQ (mailing)
Field Day:
  Tom Fuszard N9MGZ
  Ted Stiller WA9RDI
VEC - Jack Krause W9JK
Les Peterson W9YCV
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
1992-1993
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Roger Zaun W9UVV
Secretary - Fred Linn W9NZF
Treasurer - Dean Kiefer KB9DNE
Treasurer - Orv Stewart KA9ONQ (10/92)
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
Paul Boese KB9FBM
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA (extra added by Ed Wille W9PWG)
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Bill Jones KF9FA
Kate Kedney KA9MWT
Jack Krause W9JK
Joe Rayome KE9LL
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Joe Rayome KE9LL
Field Day:
Tom Fuszard N9MGZ
Archive Custodian - Fred Mikolajewski WD9IYA
Chatter - Joe Rayome KE9LL
VEC:
Jack Krause W9JK
Les Peterson W9YCV

1993-1994
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD
2nd VP - Roger Zaun W9UVV
Secretary - Fred Linn W9NZF
Treasurer - Orv Stewart KA9ONQ
Chairman - Ted Stiller WA9RDI
Directors:
Paul Boese KB9FBM
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Tom Fuszard N9MGZ
Bill Jones KF9FA
Kate Kedney KA9MWT
Jack Krause W9JK
Joe Rayome KE9LL
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Vern Petersen W9PGL
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Ed Wille W9PWG
Field Day:
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Wayne Schrubbe N9RXX
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
VEC:
Jack Krause W9JK
Les Peterson W9YCV
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

1995-1996
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - J. Travis Baird W9VQD (SK)
2nd VP - Roger Zaun W9UVV
Secretary - Fred Linn W9NZF
Treasurer - Orv Stewart KA9ONQ
Treasurer – Ken Eggert W9MOT (10/94)
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Ken Eggert W9MOT (became Treasurer)
John Merkl WB9PSE (replaced W9MOT)
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Jerry Thompson WA9SFH
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Field Day - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Chatter Mailings:
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Jerry Thompson WA9SFH
VEC:
Jack Krause W9JK
Les Peterson W9YCV
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Ed Wille W9PWG
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Repeater – Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
1996-1997
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
2nd VP - Kate Kedney KA9MWT
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Directors:
Carlos Barron KG9FC
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Fred Linn W9NZF
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Jerry Thompson WA9SFH
Roger Zaun W9UVV
Field Day:
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
John Merkl WB9PSE
VEC:
Jack Krause W9JK
Ed Wille W9PWG
License Classes - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Class Instructors:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Ed Wille W9PWG
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Roster and Member Database:
Jerry Thompson WA9SFH
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

1997-1998
Pres - Ed Wille W9PWG
1st VP - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
2nd VP - Kate Kedney KA9MWT
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Directors:
Carlos Barron KG9FC (resigned)
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Rick Kissell WB9GYT
Fred Linn W9NZF
Matt Planning KB9PRC
Don Virlee KG9II (replaced KG9FC resigned)
Roger Zaun W9UVV
Field Day:
Richard Schlatterer KA9MTY
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Repeater:
Ed Wille W9PWG
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
VEC - Ed Wille W9PWG
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

1998-1999
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1st VP - Matt Planning KB9PRC
2nd VP - Brian White KB9LCQ
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Directors:
Mark Bye KB9LDX
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Al Drobac AA9XH
Rick Kissell WB9GYT
Dick McNew WB9PTC
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
Ed Wille W9PWG
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Field Day:
John Merkl WB9PSE
Matt Planning KB9PRC
VEC - Ed Wille W9PWG
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

1999-2000
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1st VP - Matt Planning KB9PRC
2nd VP - Brian White KB9LCQ
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Ken Eggert W9MOT
Directors:
Barbara Brewer KB9TIV
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Al Drobac AA9XH
Dick McNew WB9PTC
Jerry Melotik KC9EV
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Kate Kedney KA9MWT (replacing KC9EV SK)
Field Day - Jerry Melotik KC9EV
Christmas Party – Vern Teske W9RYA
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Repeater – Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
2000-2001
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1st VP - Matt Planning KB9PRC
2nd VP - Brian White K9LCQ
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Lester Hundt KB9QZQ
Directors:
Barbara Brewer KB9TIV
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Ken Eggert W9MOT
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Kate Kedney KA9MWT
John Merkl WB9PSE (replaced AA9XH resigned)
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
License Classes - Ken Caruso KS4NX
Class Instructors:
Ken Caruso KS4NX
Brian White K9LCQ
Sherm Swanson KB9Q
Barbara Brewer KB9TIV
On Air Code Practice - Dick McNew WB9PTC
Repeater:
Matt Planning KB9PRC
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Field Day – Brian White K9LCQ
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU

2001-2002
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
1st VP - Matt Planning KB9PRC
2nd VP - Brian White K9LCQ
Secretary - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Treasurer - Lester Hundt KB9QZQ
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Ken Eggert W9MOT
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Kate Kedney KA9MWT
John Merkl WB9PSE
Tom Schulte KB9RLB
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Repeater:
Matt Planning KB9PRC
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Repeater Advisor - Dave Karr KA9FUR
License Classes - Ken Caruso KS4NX
Class Instructors:
Ken Caruso KS4NX
Bill Lubitz W9EMC
Brian White K9LCQ
Barbara Brewer KB9TIV
Field Day - Matt Planning KB9PRC
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Web Site - Howard Parks AB9FH
2002-2003
Pres - Patrick Moretti W9UQ
VP - Mark Tellier AB9CD
Secretary - Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Treasurer - Lester Hundt AB9EY
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
John Merkl WB9PSE
Brian White K9LCQ
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Repeater:
Matt Planning KB9PRC
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Repeater Advisor - Dave Karr KA9FUR
License Classes - Mark Tellier AB9CD
Class Instructors:
Patrick Moretti W9UQ
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Brian White K9LCQ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Historian - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Web Site - Howard Parks AB9FH
85th Anniversary Special Event:
Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Brian White K9LCQ
85th Anniversary Special Event Operators:
Mark Bye KB9LDX
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Sherm Swanson KB9Q
Mark Tellier AB9CD with Matt Planning KB9PRC

2003-2004
Pres:
Patrick Moretti W9UQ resigned
Kevin Reeme KC9BZU acting
VP – Kevin Reeme KC9BZU
Secretary - Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Treasurer - Mark Tellier AB9CD
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
John Merkl WB9PSE
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Brian White K9LCQ
Dick Wood W9JBE
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Dave Karr KA9FUR
License Classes - Mark Tellier AB9CD
Class Instructors:
Patrick Moretti W9UQ
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Brian White K9LCQ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Web Site - Howard Parks AB9FH
2004-2005
Pres - Patrick Moretti W9UQ
VP - Howard Parks AB9FH
Secretary - Brian White K9LCQ
Treasurer - Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Joe Sturmberg KA9DFZ
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Dick Wood W9JBE
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Chatter Email – Joe Schwarz N9UX
Chatter Mailing – Dick Wood W9JBE
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Mark Tellier AB9CD
License Classes - Howard Parks AB9FH
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Brian White K9LCQ
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Dave Karr KA9FUR
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Sherm Swanson KB9Q
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Field Day - Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
ARES DEC – Gary Payne N9VE
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Web Site - Howard Parks AB9FH

2005-2006
Pres - Patrick Moretti W9UQ
VP - Howard Parks AB9FH
Secretary - Brian White K9LCQ
Treasurer - Tom Schulte KB9RLB
Directors:
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Joe Sturmberg KA9DFZ (resigned 9/05)
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Dick Wood W9JBE
Charles Grady KC9IIV (Jan 06–June 06)
Chatter - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA
Chatter Email – Joe Schwarz N9UX
Chatter Mailing – Dick Wood W9JBE
VEC:
John Kraak KF9XL
Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Question Pool Interface: Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
License Classes - Howard Parks AB9FH
On Air Code Practice:
Dick McNew WB9PTC
Milan Levrich N9IDX
“Buck” Buchwald K9RYW
License Trustee - Jim Tromblay WB9LNU
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Brian White K9LCQ
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Dave Karr KA9FUR
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Sherm Swanson KB9Q
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Field Day - Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
ARES DEC – Gary Payne N9VE
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Web Site - Howard Parks AB9FH
### 2006-2007

**Pres:** Howard Parks AB9FH  
**VP:** Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
**Secretary:**  
Charles Grady KC9IIV (resigned)  
Sarah Parks KB9ZNC (1/07-)  
**Treasurer:**  
Sarah Parks KB9ZNC (6/06-12/06)  
Mark Tellier AB9CD (3/07-)  
**Directors:**  
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
Tom Liebe WI9TOM  
Ted Stiller WA9RDI  
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE  
Dick Wood W9JBE  
**Chatter:** Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
**VEC:**  
Tom Fuszard KF9PU  
Tom Czaja KG9EE  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**License Classes:** Howard Parks AB9FH  
**On Air Code Practice:**  
Dick McNew WB9PTC  
“Buck” Buchwald K9RYW  
Bob Immekus W9CYI  
**License Trustee:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Repeater:**  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
Brian White K9LCQ  
Jerry Wahlen WA9CGE  
Dave Schank KA9WXN  
Dave Karr KA9FUR  
**FM Simplex Contest:**  
Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
Jeff Annis, K9VS  
Sherm Swanson KB9Q  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**Field Day:**  
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU  
**Auction:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Raffle:** Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ  
ARES DEC – Gary Payne N9VE  
ARES Milw Co. EC – Dan Workenaour N9ASA  
**Historian:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Yahoo Group:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Web Site:** Howard Parks AB9FH  

### 2007-2008

**Pres:** Howard Parks AB9FH  
**VP:** Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
**Secretary:**  
Sarah Parks KB9ZNC (1/07-)  
**Treasurer:**  
Howard Parks AB9FH (1/07-6/07)  
Mark Tellier AB9CD (6/07-)  
**Directors:**  
Brian Bieger KC9HEK  
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
Tom Liebe WI9TOM  
Al Maahs KC9IJJ  
Ted Stiller WA9RDI  
**Chatter:** Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
**VEC:**  
Tom Fuszard KF9PU  
Tom Czaja KG9EE  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**License Classes:**  
Howard Parks AB9FH  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**On Air Code/Theory Instruction:**  
Dick McNew WB9PTC  
Peter Chiu KC9IJJ  
**License Trustee:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Repeater:**  
Mark Tellier AB9CD  
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
Dave Schank KA9WXN  
**FM Simplex Contest:**  
Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
Jeff Annis, K9VS  
**Field Day:**  
Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
Jim Tromblay WB9LNU  
**Field Day Computer Operations:** Larry Noldan NZ9I  
**Auction:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Raffle:** Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ  
ARES DEC – Gary Payne N9VE  
ARES Milw Co. EC – Dan Workenaour N9ASA  
Ken Hahn WK9H (11/07-)  
**Historian:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Yahoo Group:** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Web Site:** Brian White K9LCQ
## 2008-2009

**Pres** - Howard Parks AB9FH  
**VP** – Brian Bieger KC9HEK  
**Secretary** - Sarah Parks KB9ZNC  
**Treasurer** - Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**Directors:**  
- Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
- Pancho Doneis KA9OFA (resigned 7/08)  
- Bob Fetterly N9HWB (appointed 8/08, SK 9/08)  
- Mike Harris KC9CMT (appointed 1/09)  
- Al Maahs KC9IJJ  
- Dave Schank KA9WXN (appointed 1/2009 till 2010)  
- Ted Stiller WA9RDI (resigned 8/08)  
- Brian White K9LCQ (1 yr term remaining of Brian Bieger who became VP)  
**Chatter** - Pancho Doneis KA9OFA (resigned 7/08)  
- Brian White K9LCQ (1/2009-)  
**VEC:**  
- Tom Fuszard KF9PU  
- Tom Czaja KG9EE  
- Mark Tellier AB9CD  
- Larry Nolan NZ9I  
**License Classes:**  
- Mark Tellier AB9CD  
- License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Repeater:**  
- Mark Tellier AB9CD  
- Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
- Dave Schank KA9WXN  
**FM Simplex Contest:**  
- Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
- Jeff Annis, K9VS  
**Field Day:**  
- Pancho Doneis KA9OFA  
- Jim Tromblay WB9LNU  
**Field Day Computer Operations:**  
- Larry Noldan NZ9I  
**Auction –** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Raffle –** Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ  
**National DEC –** Gary Payne N9VE  
**ARES Wi SEC –** Gary Payne N9VE (1/1/09)  
**ARES Milw Co. EC –** Dan Workenour N9ASA  
**Ken Hahn WK9H (11/07-5/08)  
**ARES Waukesha Co. EC –** Larry Noldan NZ9I  
**Historian -** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Web Site –** Brian White K9LCQ

## 2009-2010

**Pres** - Howard Parks AB9FH (resigned 3/09)  
**Pres** - Brian Bieger KC9HEK (3/09)  
**Pres –** Mark Tellier AB9CD (by special election 5/09)  
**VP** – Brian Bieger KC9HEK  
**VP** - Brian White K9LCQ (appointed 3/09)  
**Secretary -** Sarah Parks KB9ZNC (resigned 5/09)  
**Secretary -** Mike Harris KC9CMT  
**Treasurer -** Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**Directors:**  
- Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
- Mike Harris KC9CMT (became Secretary)  
- Al Maahs KC9IJJ  
- Hal Newton KB9OZN (appointed 1/2010)  
- Howard Parks AB9FH (resigned 9/09)  
- Duane Runnells KC9MJJ (appointed 11/09)  
- Dave Schank KA9WXN (appointed 1/2009)  
**Chatter:**  
- Brian White K9LCQ  
- Mike Harris KC9CMT (4/09)  
**License Trustee -** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Repeater:**  
- Mark Tellier AB9CD  
- Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
- Dave Schank KA9WXN  
**FM Simplex Contest:**  
- Joe Schwarz, N9UX  
- Jeff Annis, K9VS  
**Field Day:**  
- Mark Tellier AB9CD  
**Auction –** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Raffle –** Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ  
**Meeting Refreshments -** Mike Harris KC9CMT  
**ARES Wi SEC -** Gary Payne N9VE (1/1/09)  
**ARES Waukesha Co. EC –** Larry Noldan NZ9I  
**Historian -** Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP  
**Web Site:** Brian White K9LCQ  
**Joe Schwarz, N9UX (10/09)
2010-2011
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
VP –
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer -
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Duane Runnells KC9MJJ (resigned 9/10)
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Chatter:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Jeff Annis, K9VS
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Mike Harris KC9CMT
ARES Wi SEC - Gary Payne N9VE (1/1/09)
ARES Waukesha Co. EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN

2011-2012
Pres - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
VP –
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer – Joe Schwarz N9UX (1/2012)
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dan Workenour N9ASA (2/2012)
Chatter:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Jeff Annis, K9VS
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Mike Harris KC9CMT
ARES Wi SEC - Gary Payne N9VE (1/1/09)
ARES Waukesha Co. EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Mark Tellier AB9CD (1/2012)
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN
2012-2013
Pres - Dave Schank KA9WXN
VP – Dan Workenaour N9ASA
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer – Joe Schwarz N9UX
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Mark Tellier AB9CD (resigned 1/2013)
Chatter - Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Jeff Annis, K9VS
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Hal Newton KB9OZN
Special Projects Committee:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
ARES Wi SEC - Gary Payne N9VE
ARES District EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN

2013-2014
Pres - Dave Schank KA9WXN
VP – Dan Workenaour N9ASA
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer – Joe Schwarz N9UX
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Chatter - Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Pat Hoppe WW9R
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Hal Newton KB9OZN
Special Projects Committee:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
ARES Wi SEC - Gary Payne N9VE
ARES District EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Mark Tellier AB9CD
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN
2014-2015
Pres - Dave Schank KA9WXN
VP – Dan Workenaour N9ASA
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Mark Morgan KB9RQZ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Chatter - Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Dave Schank KA9WXN
FM Simplex Contest:
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Pat Hoppe WW9R
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Hal Newton KB9OZN
ARES District EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN

2015-2016
Pres - Dave Schank KA9WXN
VP – Dan Workenaour N9ASA
Secretary - Mike Harris KC9CMT
Treasurer – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Directors:
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Mark Morgan KB9RQZ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Chatter - Mike Harris KC9CMT
License Trustee - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Repeater:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
FM Simplex Contest:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Joe Schwarz, N9UX
Field Day:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Al Maahs KC9IJJ
Auction – Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Raffle – Tom Sherlowsky N9UFJ
Meeting Refreshments - Hal Newton KB9OZN
ARES District EC – Larry Noldan NZ9I
Historian - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Yahoo Group - Dave DeFebo WB9BWP
Member / Mailing list – Mike Harris KC9CMT
Web Site:
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Web Wiki
Scott Smith W9MBL
Hamfest:
Mike Harris KC9CMT
Dave Schank KA9WXN
Members Holding Positions with National Organizations

(MRAC) 2015

MRAC members over the years have also held elected positions or appointments with national amateur radio organizations. The following list is an attempt at listing them all in one place. We are still digging out the details. As usual, if you have any information for this list, please let us know. And as always, can any other local amateur radio organization boast anything like this list?

Clarence Crapo W9VD – Assistant Division Manager, Wisconsin Section ARRL 1925, ARRL Section Communications Manager (SCM) 1926-1932
Al Krones W9UIT (K9AA) – Wisconsin Section Communications Manager (SCM), ARRL 1939
Emil Felber W9RH – Wisconsin Section Communication Manager (SCM), ARRL 1944, Central Division Assistant Director ARRL
Rich Regent - Wisconsin Section Manager ARRL 1980s?
Fred Catel W9DTK – ARRL Central Division Assistant Director 1938-?
R. H. G. Matthews W9ZN – ARRL Central Division Director 1937 - 1941
Clyde Richelieu W9ARE – ARRL Central Division Director ARRL 1947-1949
Jack Doyle W9GPI – ARRL Central Division Director 1949-1953, 1957-1963
Roger Nielson N9DAA – ARRL VUCC Awards Manager 1983
Harry Paston W9DJV / W2OAA – Assistant Secretary ARRL 1951

Wendell Ciganek W9SYT - Emergency Coordinator Milwaukee County 1942
Ralph Koenig W9RUF - Emergency Coordinator Milwaukee County 1949-1951
Clarence O. Wahner W9YYY – Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator 1949-1951
Bernie Tower K9VPP - Wisconsin Section Emergency Coordinator 1964-1967
Dick Oberholtzer W9ZPV – Emergency Coordinator Waukesha County AREC 1966
Carl Rohde W9ROM – Emergency Coordinator Waukesha County AREC 1967
Bob Goldstein K9KJT – Emergency Coordinator Milwaukee County AREC 1960-1971
Dave Knaus WA9POV (NQ9A) – Emergency Coordinator Milwaukee County AREC 1971-1973
Ken Hahn WK9H – Emergency Coordinator, Milwaukee County ARES 2007-2008
Larry Noldan NZ9I – Emergency Coordinator Waukesha County ARES 2008-2012, Southeastern Wisconsin District Emergency Coordinator 2012-present

Bernie Tower K9VPP – Emergency Communications Chief Navy MARS - 1960s?

All Members of Milwaukee Radio Amateurs’ Club
(2016)

While working on the 2007 version of the club history one day I got to thinking about maybe trying to list everyone who was ever a member of the club. While I was digging through some materials I had at home I came across a list which Jim Tromblay began listing members and the year they maybe first appeared in a roster. I say maybe as rosters were not always timely (especially in the early years and after 1980) and digging through Treasurer’s records could take forever. Early records often did not list a call sign with a person’s name. If no call is listed below, it does not mean the person did not have a license. In the 1940s and 1950s there were often references to call signs without a name. You will see results of both of those practices in the list. A lot of cross referencing needs to be done. But it is a start. My work had begun (and was nowhere near being finished). Following is the list as it began in 2008 with additions for each year since (It’s a big list, this will take some time). Thanks Jim.

It would be nice to have the last year they were a member, but that data would be impossible to come up with. The year first joined is shown (to the best of our knowledge). There are some blanks here as well as question marks. There is usually no indication as to if the person remained a member as many dropped out only to return at some later date. In some instances there are 2 dates for year first joined, as we do know the person dropped out only to later return. Some people were a member for just one year. In fact at various times over the years, attending a license class also brought a one year membership which sometimes would inflate actual membership for that year. At least this provides some idea of who may have passed through the club over the years. As always, if you see any errors or know of any missing data (no offense is meant to anyone) please let us know. Currently 1347 past/current members appear in the list with many more to come!

(The list is presented in alphabetical order by last name. * after the last name as well as bold type (and red for those who can see it) denotes charter member, (Hon) signifies an Honorary Member).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Sign</th>
<th>Year Joined</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1960?</td>
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<td>W9EIH</td>
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Silent Keys
(2015)

For a club in existence as long as MRAC a Silent Key list would obviously be as long as the all time member list. For now, it is just a beginning and is very short covering mainly the last 25 years along with some notable entries from years earlier. You may ask why list the people again? The list of Silent Keys is the last bit of respect the club can pay to past members (even if they were not members at the time of their passing). It may also try to make up for perhaps not mentioning the people through normal club channels when they did pass.

The following list includes the year joined the club in parenthesis (where known). Hopefully, the year the person passed is correct.

As always, if you have any information for this list please let us know.

1946
Erwin Kreis W9HRM (1933)

1962
Carroll Thomas W9WK (1937)

1967
Jack Doyle W9GPI (1937)
Emil Felber W9RH (1924)

1968
Walter Prichard W9CUS (1961)
W9OVW (????)

1972
Anthony Barszcz W9HPZ (1937)

1973
Clarence Crapo W9VD (9VD) (1918)
Louis Wollaeger KX6DC, W9ANA (1929, 1942)

1978
George Ruger W9DVD (1934)

1980
Norbert J.(Dick) Richard W9UOB (1937)

1983
Herb Wareing W9NY (9AEX,9NY) (1922)

1986
Daniel Gellerup 9AOE (1917?)
Ray Klinkosh KA9GVW (1978)
John Toennessen W9KFM (1956)

1987
Don Seibel W9ESF (9ESF) (1925)
Walter Glish W9YYYW (1957)
Raymond Weeks WA9JOV (1965)

1988
H. Charles Kaetel W9SNK (1946)
William Thompson K9JGT (1955)

1994
Aldrich Krones K9AA (W9CM, W9UIT, W9ELD)
(1931)

1996
J. Travis Baird W9VQD (1932)

1998
Fred Kraus W9VLK (1938)
Phil Lehman KB9FOQ (1991)

1999
Raymond Gabik N9VME (1993)
Elmer Gutknecht (1982)
Jerry Melotik KC9EV (1980)
Sam Safro K9OXH (1961)
Dick Schatterer KA9MTY (1982)
Terry Sterman W9DIA (1957)
Orv Stewart KA9ONQ (1990)
Ed Wille W9PWG (1938, 1977)

2000
Carl Rohde W9ROM (1941)
John Scarvaci W9GIL (1933)

2001
Jack McLeland W9ATK (1964)

2002
Donna Cieszki N9INT (1991)
Norm Russell KB9GQX (1993)
Clifford Staeven AA9VL (1996)
2003  
Thomas Gettelman W9IZO (1931)

2004  
George Pfister W9IZQ (1939)  
Fred Recklies KB9JBG (1994)

2005  
Lester Gerlach W9UPM (1937, 1995)

2006  
Jack Pierce N9HIP (1988, 2000)

2007  
Harry Cieszki K4VKW (KD9AJ) (1983)  
Jack Krause W9JK (W9UJM) (1948, 1971)  

2008  
Bessie Beider N9QIT (1991)  
Bill Brossman W9EQP (193?)  
Bob Fetterly N9HWB (1989, 2007)  
John Koehler W9DGB (1950)  
Brad Reeves N9KXA (2005)  
Bob Tisdale AA9VO (1996)

2009  
Delbert Clark KA9ZMK (1987)  
Dave Knaus N9QA (WA9POV) (1971)  
Valorie Noldan WI9VAL (2005)  
Walter C. Schlaugat, Jr W9SD (W9NVH) (1940)  
Bill Witt N9KY (1970)

2010  
Robert Denneay KA9AAB (2008)  
Joe Rayome KE9LL (1987)  
Edgar Smith W9DYO (1941)  
Vern Teske W9RYA (1964)

2011  
Sylvester Janczak WD9JKZ (1980)  
Les Peterson W9YCV (1972)  
Roger "Ken" Rogers W9NUE (1977)  
Richard Scarvaci K9CAN (1956)  
Bruce Weitermann K9ISI (1969)  
Roger Zaun W9UVV (1978)

2012  
Jan Dunham K9JLD (2010)  
Roman Hudzinski W9JPS (1938)  
Fred Linn W9NZF (as well as over the years W9ZOL, W2HWI, W2LTS, W0NZF) (1975)  
Kimbel Nap WB9AUE (1969)  
Brian White K9LCQ (1996)  
John Wilhelm N9JFA (1991)  
Martin Zavodnik W9BPR (1945)

2013  
Robert Schefke W9FFC (1978)  
Ken Eggert W9MOT (1948)  
Jerry Thompson W9SFH (WA9SFH) (1992)  
Roland Marks KD9Y ()  
Donald Uecke WA9ERI ()  
Ken Jaeger KC9MXZ (2010)  
James Fischer W9LPF (1935, 1944)

2014  
Terry Koller KA9RFM (1984)  
James A. Markstrom KB9MMA (2012) 7/3  
Leon Rediske K9GCF (19xx)  
Herb Stich KA9LDT (1984)

2015  
Everett Hokanson K9PSX (1964, 2001)  
John F. Lorbiecki K9WUF (1946, 1984)  
Gerald Wahlen WA9CGE (2000)