



Yellow Thunder.org Amateur Radio Club

Repeater:147.315 D-Star:145.315 Baraboo, WI



WB9FDZ
PO Box 202
Baraboo, WI 53913

Dec, 2023

Dear YTARC member,

Greetings! Enclosed you will find a membership renewal form. Dues are still only \$20.00. Please continue to support *your* organization by renewing your membership. You can also renew your membership at Ham Club Online. Your dues help maintain the club repeaters as well as other functions of the club. Please make an effort to attend club meetings. A club cannot survive without active participation.

Meetings

We have been able to hold most of our meetings this year in-person. A nice change from the past couple of years. We are still maintaining the club Zoom subscription and provide the ability to attend meetings virtually when technology cooperates.

We are planning to continue in-person meetings in 2023, so long as conditions allow it. Meeting nights are scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm and take place at the Baraboo City Services Building at 450 Roundhouse Ct, however, we plan to meet via Zoom whenever an in-person meeting is not possible.

The meeting dates for 2023 are: Tuesday, Jan. 2nd / Feb. 6th / March 5th / April 2nd / May 7th / June 4th / July 2nd / Aug. 6th / Sept. 3rd / Oct. 2nd / Nov. 5th / and Dec. 3rd.

If you have any ideas for, or would like to do a presentation at one of our meetings next year, please let us know!

Field Day

Field Day was active at the normal spot up at Owen Memorial Park and great efforts to make contacts were made. We're looking forward to Field Day 2024! Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Night Net

At 8:00pm on Sundays, we have the "Sunday Night Net" on our analog repeater - 147.315. We are still running the "ARRL Audio News" on the net each week via the Allstar computer after check-ins and announcements.



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Member Benefits:

The club still owns an Icom IC-718 HF radio, along with an LDG auto tuner and Signalink device for working soundcard digital modes. The radio was purchased for use during special event stations or other club activities, including Field Day. Club members holding general class licenses or higher can check these out for their use. We encourage our new general class holders to check out the radio and get on HF and see the fun in operating SSB and even working DX. A SSB filter has been installed so the radio will perform even better during receive operations. We also have a crimping tool and some connectors for member use. Coax connectors are kept with the kit and are available for purchase as needed.

Important dates:

- Sunday, March 10th - **Wisconsin QSO Party** (1 pm to 8 pm CDT) - We are planning on participating as a club, from our home stations.
- June 22nd & 23rd – **ARRL Field Day**, high atop the Baraboo bluffs at Owen Park, in Columbia County. Set-up and camping starts Friday night the 21st.
- August 24th – **Circus City Swapfest** at the Badger Steam & Gas Engine Show grounds, north of Baraboo
- September 3rd – Nomination of club officers. Election to be held at the October 3rd meeting

Swapfest:

We were able to pull off a good fest in 2022! We saw fairly average numbers of attendees. The VE team did a great job for us in allowing some folks to sit down and take licensing exams. Thanks to some generous donors, we were able to give away some door prizes, including an Icom ID-5100 radio donated by Brad, KB9VMC, of Pointon Communications. We'll see you on August 24th, 2024 for the next one!

Repeaters

The club repeaters were on the air again this year as some of the premier repeaters for the area. The analog repeater provides a critical link directly to the Milwaukee/Sullivan weather office in support of the SULCOM severe weather spotting program. The D-Star repeater is on the air as well. We invite all D-Star users from the area to make use of the D-Star repeater. As a reminder, there is a D-Star net on Sunday at 9:00 pm, and Wednesday at 7:00 pm. The repeater is set up to automatically link to the Wisconsin statewide reflector REF019B after 15 minutes of inactivity. With a lot of the WI Interstate Network nodes being migrated to D-star nodes, our repeater provides local access to a lot of statewide activity. For more information on the D-Star system, or to become a registered user, please visit our website at www.yellowthunder.org



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Website

Visit the website at www.yellowthunder.org for updated content including the current club roster and monthly meeting minutes, and for Zoom meeting information. We have been discussing switching hosting providers as of late as well. If you are interested in giving your input on anything related to the site, please contact Tom at n9pqj@yellowthunder.org.

We are using Ham Club Online as our member management platform for keeping track of the club roster, email and events You can now renew your annual membership online as well. www.hamclubonline.com

Leadership

We had several changes in leadership this year. Our Vice President, Ben Haack (KD9LVQ), relocated to the eastern side of the state, and our Secretary, Matt Noll (KC9UPE) decided to not run for re-election. Daniel Brown (WX9E) was elected Vice President and Ray Sommerfeldt (KD9LNZ) replaced Matt as Secretary.

Here's a reminder that this is your club. You paid for the privilege to join, so your participation is needed and most welcome. An active club is a good club.

Wishing you a happy and safe new year,

Respectfully,

Your Yellow Thunder Board:

Tom Harrison, N9PQJ, President
Daniel Brown WX9E, Vice President
Ray Sommerfeldt KD9LNZ, Secretary
Patrick Kirchenwitz, W9PCK, Treasurer
Dave Spearing, KB9CSW, Member at Large