

# KEYKLIX



## MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRES —W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP—N1API AL KAISER SECT—KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN  
TRES—KB1HCC HAGGIE WINSLOW S.A.M.—WA1TRY RICH AUBIN



EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL  
CONTACT DSWEDOCK@SNET.NET OR 203 235-8582

## JANUARY 2015

Business Meeting Thursday Jan 8, 2015, 7:30 pm at the Wallingford Medical Reserve Building/  
Cook Hill Firehouse, 37 Hall Road, Wallingford  
Activity Meeting Thursday Jan 22, 2015, 7:30 pm at the Wallingford Medical Reserve Building/  
Cook Hill Firehouse, 37 Hall Road, Wallingford. Jim Savage N1ZN will present program on “Hard  
Line Manufacturing”. All are welcome...

Congratulations to the Meriden Amateur Radio Club's  
2014 HAM OF THE YEAR  
**Joe Hamm KC1BAQ**



Congratulations to the Meriden Amateur Radio Club's  
2014 ELMER OF THE YEAR  
**BILL WAWRZENIAK W1KKF**



CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY, DECEMBER 11 AT THE BROTHERS RESTAURANT



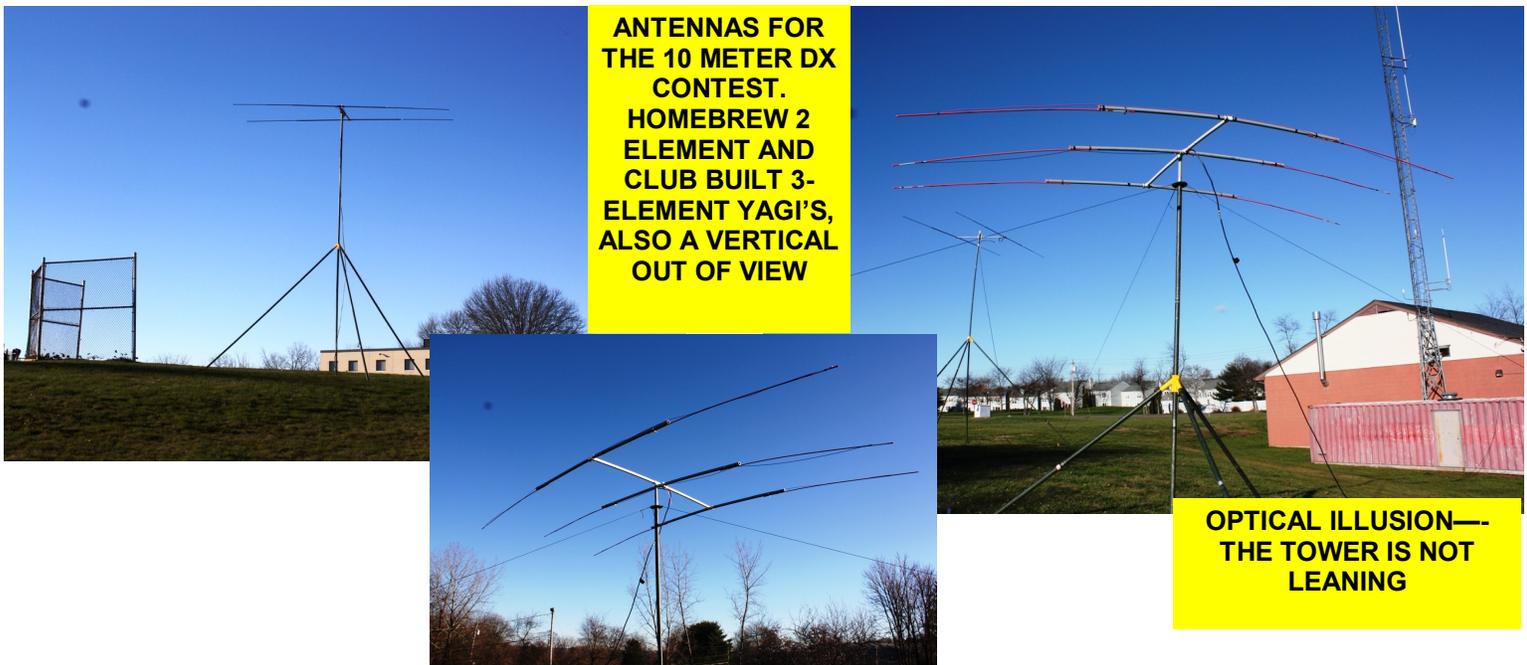
## Ten-Ten QSO Party

There will be a Castle Craig Chapter Net on Friday February 6th 2015 on the club net frequency of 28.375. The purpose of this net is to kick off the 10-10 Winter QSO Party. I hope that all club members will join in. Even if you do not have a 10-10 number you are worth 1 point to the rest of us who do and are submitting logs. The QSO party runs from 0000 UTC February 7th 2015 to 2359:59 February 8th 2015. If you are a paid up 10-10 member your support of the club, and our chapter would be appreciated. Please make as many contacts as you can, and submit your log for credit. Remember to mention that you would like to credit Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10 with your score. We will start taking checkins at 6:45 PM local time, (23:45 UTC), and I will be the Net Control. I would like a station to help with relays if needed. The procedure is simple. At 7 PM local time, (0000 UTC Feb. 7th), we will start from the top of the list, (myself), and I will give my 10-10 information, that is Call, Name, QTH (state), and 10-10 number. The next station will be called and that person will give their information and then stand by. We will proceed to the bottom of the list. The procedure is then repeated from the top to bottom of the list, except you will call all stations that you heard and QSL their information. If you need a repeat on any information this is the time to ask for it. Once the last station is called they should have no calls to make because everyone has called them. I expect that this net should last no more than about 20 minutes. The conditions on 10 meters have been quite good the past few months. I expect that this year's QSO party may have great conditions for this period sunspot cycle.

Also, as you talk to local, (Connecticut), stations on 10 meters and also on the different bands please mention this QSO party and ask them to check 10 meters at times during the weekend to participate. Please remind them that if they are in the local ground wave area and members of 10-10, that The Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10 is their local chapter and we would appreciate their support for the QSO Parties. We've seen a few non MARC club members submitting their score for the chapter. We'd like to see more. Castle Craig usually finishes pretty well in the chapter standings. We'd like to do better.

If you have your collected 10-10 numbers sitting *now* is the time to send them in or go to the 10-10 web page at <http://www.ten-ten.org/memship.html> and either use the online shopping cart to join or fill out a paper application and mail it. There is a special three year incentive plan for \$40.00 or you can join for the basic \$15.00 a year. 10-10 has a membership plan with electronic delivery of the 10-10 News and there are special rates for new and rejoining members of \$10.00 for one year and a three year incentive for \$25.00. It takes about three weeks to get your number back via mail but if you apply online your new number will come via email in just a few days. Remember you need to be a paid up member for your log to count for awards and also toward the club score. A good incentive for joining is that ALL 10-10 awards are now FREE, and most if all do not require QSL cards and can be applied for via email. You will receive award certificates by return mail, (or), for many, you can ask for a PDF certificate to put in your computer or post on your web pages. Please plan to attend and get the Winter 10-10 QSO party off to a rousing start!

-73- AI N1API, Castle Craig Chapter Chapter Head and Certificate Manager



## THE YEAR IN REVIEW BY KC1AXJ

Amateur radio has been a rewarding hobby for me during 2014. I became licensed only to fulfill my aerial photography hobby but soon became hooked on Amateur radio soon after purchasing an inexpensive HT in January and soon after a Kenwood TS-2000 radio. Making several antenna changes and modifications throughout the year, I believe I'm settled for the moment with my most recent changes (credit to all the MARC members giving their welcome input).

I participated in the 2014 Field Day which was my first Amateur Radio contest. Contesting as a club was a great learning experience for me as I picked up so many tips. N1ZN and KC1ACN along with other folks worked SSB and we did a pretty good job at the event. Later in the year I worked 13 Original Colonies, Ohio, California, NJ QSO parties and November Sweeps and 10m contest with the MARC. The ARRL Centennial QSO party has kept me very interested in getting on the air and making contacts. I've made lots of mistakes in the past year while on the air, but most operators are really nice letting you know when you've messed up. Working split was a challenge since I didn't know really what it was, but Google helped and after a fashion got that working on the TS-2000. JT65 and JT9 digital modes I started working in the spring and one of my first contacts was with KB1TJC (SK) after he filled me in during a 2m conversation we had in March. K1SEZ helped me fine tune my JT-65 operation and did a great job during one of the club's activity meetings explaining this digital mode to club members. At another activity meeting W1CTN gave an excellent overview of N1MM logging program. That one session showed all members many tricks and tips that this logging program can do. W1KKF offered a CW workshop for all MARC members' interested. Held each Monday evening for one hour, Bill gave workshop attendees his years' of CW experience to us new comers to the hobby wanting to learn CW. We learned 6 characters per week at 18 wpm, a method which gives each character a unique musical sounds. I'm still learning and can't say I have 100% copy but I'm very close, prosigns and punctuations I mess up and I'm still practicing with the program Just Learn Morse Code which was used during the workshop. Bill encouraged the attendees to start listening to code on the air, and that has been helpful. I worked CW Rookie Roundup on December 21 and scored second in Area 1 (not bad considering only two Rookies entered, hi hi) with my substantial score of 8!

I've nearly completed my 2014 Amateur radio year and on December 21<sup>st</sup> I went to the ARRL HQ to get a tour and operate as W100AW. Operating the ICOM 7700 with 1kW amplifiers and a beam antenna with rotator was a big step up from the home shack, but best of all I didn't need to take the checkbook out! I made about 60 contacts during my 40 minutes on the air. It was great fun and my personal photographer was present (and not bored!).



73's  
Steve KC1AXJ

WALT W1ATV AT XMAS PARTY



JOHN K1VDF & JOE KC1BAQ 10 METER TEST



## UNUSUAL MARITIME MOBILE QSO

10 meters CW was quite open that Monday afternoon of December 1, 2014 when I called CQ a few times on the lower end of the band. After my second CQ, there was an answer from KD6JUI right on my frequency, easy copy at a fair 559 and we exchanged reports, locations and names. My QSO partner's name was Bill Paul, and he was operating QRP from a kayak on the Sacramento River running about 5 watts into a hamstick antenna mounted on the rim of the kayak cockpit. Although Bill lives in Dixon, CA, he was kayaking about 60 miles south on a small tributary of the Sacramento River. On his QSL card, Bill wrote: *"Confirming QSO from kayak in Sacramento River near Collinsville, CA, Dec. 1, 2014 approx. 20:00 hrs UTC 10 m ur RST 579. Rig Elecraft KX3, antenna hamstick w/2 radials in salt water."*

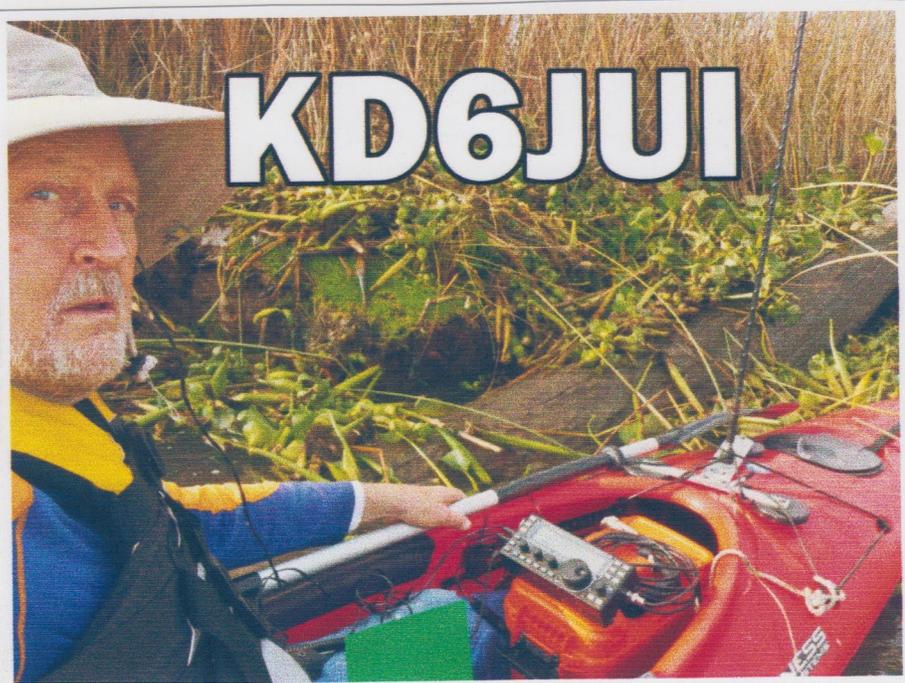


Photo courtesy of KD6JUI, Bill Paul

That would make it my first kayak QSO ever, but to add to the uniqueness of the event, his name is the same as a close friend of mine from Northboro, MA back in the 1980 era! My friend William Paul ran a Radio Shack store in Marlboro, MA for a couple of decades, retiring about 2001 and passing away shortly after. Making this contact rolled back nice memories of the 70s – 80s and a Christian church fellowship in Ashland, MA and my friend with two first names!

73, K1SEZ... Paul Ciezniak

# **Notes on Dayton Ham Convention from John N1GNV**

Every Ham should attend the Dayton Hamvention at least once. Here's your chance! One of the show's largest exhibitors is offering free (yes, FREE!!) admission tickets to this year's event. That's a \$25.00 value right there. But wait, there's more... You also get a free parking pass, and can park in the special reserved vendor parking lot. No slogging through the swamps that pass for public parking, and hiking to the arena; and no need to ride the shuttle buses with the unwashed masses. And still more... Your free (yes, FREE!!) admission ticket will identify you as a vendor. You'll have early access to the flea market and inside exhibits. That means you can scoop up that coveted BandBlaster Mark II transceiver before the undeserving hordes descend on it. Not a good enough offer yet? Read on for the best news of all... As an insider, you'll have the opportunity to spend 2 hours, or even more, on the INSIDE of the exhibitor's booth. Yep, you read that right! While mere mortals are limited to struggling through the crowds, you'll be on the better side of the tables. An incredible chance to learn a lot more about Ham Radio while assisting your fellow Amateurs in the enjoyment of our shared hobby. Their respect and admiration for you will be impossible to calculate, but you'll know that you did make a difference. This is a limited offer. Regrettably, not all who apply can be accepted, so act now. E-mail [i.want.to.go.to.dayton@qsradio.com](mailto:i.want.to.go.to.dayton@qsradio.com) for appropriate consideration.

I've had a few people asking about Dayton Hamvention, so here's some info for you all. Dayton is the largest Ham Radio exposition in the world. ~25,000 Hams attend from just about everywhere you can think of. This year's dates are May 15-16-17. Yes, it is a 3-day show! Yes, it will probably take all three days to see it all. It's huge. Just about every major and minor manufacturer of Ham Radio gear will be there, with full displays of all of their equipment. There will be quite a few dealers, and pricing gets very competitive/aggressive – especially on new radios and similar. On my side of the counter, we call it a bloodbath. On the other side of the counter, they smile. The flea market is equally huge. I'd guess, without exaggeration, it's fifty times the size of our Nutmeg Hamfest. If you can't find it at Dayton, it probably doesn't exist. Plan on doing a LOT of walking. Comfortable shoes are a MUST. One trick is to bring two pairs of shoes, and change them about halfway through the day. Don't forget water and sunscreen. If there are specific things you want to see, make a list. Booth maps are usually available online to help you plan before you leave. Bring plenty of cash. Most Flea Market vendors do not accept credit cards. Only the crazy ones take checks, and you're probably better off not buying from the crazy ones. There are usually quite a few interesting talks, activities, and forums. Take advantage of them to learn. Dayton is about a 700 mile, 11 hour drive from Meriden. Two guys, or one iron man, can easily do that in a day. If you're going to drive, I'll be happy to recommend routes and places to stop along the way. If you're going to fly, here's a tip – consider flying to Cincinnati. Fares may be cheaper and more available (same for rental cars). It's about a 90 minute drive from there to Dayton. And if you're going to fly, and make a major purchase, I can almost certainly bring it back to CT for you. No towers or room sized rack mounts, please! Be aware that if it's something especially cool and expensive, it may be quite some time before I manage to get it to you ;-). If you're serious about going, NOW is the time to make your Hotel reservations. Most of the major chain hotels, and many decent restaurants, are on Miller Lane. They're about the closest to Hamvention, so they fill up quickly. If you delay, you may find yourself quite a bit further away than you may like. Lots more info on the Hamvention Website – [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)

## A TRAINING SESSION AT QUICKSILVER ON HOW TO BUILD BEAMS



COURTESY OF KC1BAQ—JOE

## KC1ACN HOME STATION AND OPERATING AT SWEEPSTAKES



**HF:** TS-450S AT with an MC-60 mic, a 75' Windom that tunes 80-6 M.

**2M/440/220:** TH-F6 mobile & portable, UV-5RE+ connected as a Base with a Mirage B-34-G amp driving a homemade aluminum J-Pole.

**DX 2m/440 (HI):** UV-5RE+ with an Arrow-II for Satellite Op's.

**Satellite Comm's.:** My youngest, Stuart & I love catching 'The Birds'. [SO-50](#) has been a fun Bird to work and reliable. Looking forward to the Fox Series Satellites.

**Portable HF:** Same HF rig but it drives a [Buddistick](#) mounted on a 2" fiberglass tripod, up abt 15m depending on locale.

**Audio Gear:** Speakers are Behringer MS16 Studio Monitors, Headphones are AKG K240 Studio Headphones.

**PC:** is an HP EliteBook 8540P 32 bit, 16Mb Ram, i7 Core Processor, Windows 7 Pro, Satellite Monitor is a Nuovo.

**Software:** N1MM Plus Logging software, FLDigi for Digi Modes with a Tigertronics Signalink USB.

**Restoration Projects {updated 11/30/2014}:** A [Uniden Tempo 2020](#), which I restored about 75%. Hope to commission it in the Spring of 2015 along with a Moseley TA-33 being restored this Winter... keeping my fingers crossed!

## INFORMATION PAGE

# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT—W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK  
V.P.—N1API AL KAISER  
SECT.—KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN  
TRES.—KB1HCC HAGGIE WINSLOW  
S.A.M.—WA1TRY RICH AUBIN

MEETINGS:  
7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH, UNLESS  
OTHERWISE POSTED,  
AT THE COOK HILL FIREHOUSE/MEDICAL RESERVE BLDG,  
37 HALL ROAD, WALLINGFORD

KEY KLIX EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL  
CONTACT DSWEDOCK@SNET.NET  
203 235-8582

### CLUB NETS

6 MTR NET MONDAYS 8PM  
50.175MHZ N1ZN JIM

2 METER NET TUESDAYS 7PM  
147.36 /RPT K1TDO TODD

10 METER NET TUESDAYS 8PM  
28.375MHZ K1VDF JOHN

10/10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAPTER  
CONCURRENTLY WITH CLUB NET  
28.375MHZ TUESDAYS 8PM N1API AL



WEBSITE:  
[WWW.W1NRG.COM](http://WWW.W1NRG.COM)

FORUM/BBS:  
GO TO [WWW.W1NRG.COM](http://WWW.W1NRG.COM)  
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CASTLE CRAIG 1010 WEBSITE:  
GO TO [WWW.W1NRG.COM](http://WWW.W1NRG.COM)  
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CLUB REPEATER W1KKF/R  
147.36MHZ +600 OFFSET  
NO PL TONE (OPEN REPEATER)

### MARC MEMBERS

AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	N1BF	Patrick Dionne
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	N1GNV	John Bartscherer
K1LHO	Mike Ash	N1GY	Geoff Haines
K1LYP	John Yusza	N1HCA	Susan South
K1MVM	Mike Macri	N1LGH	Barbara Stone
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	N1NAN	Helen Spokes
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	N1OKF	Bob Parisi
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	N1VTE	Sarah Kaczor
K1TG	Roger Kuchera	N1ZN	James Savage
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	W1ATV	Walt Yatzook
K1VDF	John Blevins	W1CTN	David Arruzza
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	W1DMM	Dan Murphy
KB1CIW	Bob Stevens	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak
KB1FYL	Robert W. Carruthers	W1NHS	Fred Ring
KB1GWP	Joseph Rish, Sr.	W1POP	Fred Liedke
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	W1SKP	Skip Paquette
KB1MMS	Ronald Slack	W1VCU	Nelson Denison
KB1SIT	Teresa Stevens	W7FUR	William Spokes
KB1TJD	Gaianne Jenkins	WA1JKR	John Rogus
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin
KC1AXJ	Stephen Allen	WA1VXH	Chris Siebert
KC1BAQ	Joseph Hamm	WB1GGP	Jerry Sheppard
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	WB8IMY	Steve Ford
KJ4PV	Gary Bleasdale	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann
N1API	Al Kaiser	WY1U	Timothy Mik