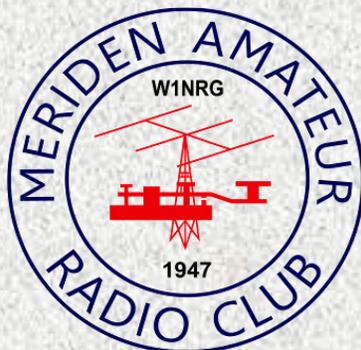


# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# APRIL ?? 2019

(THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES)

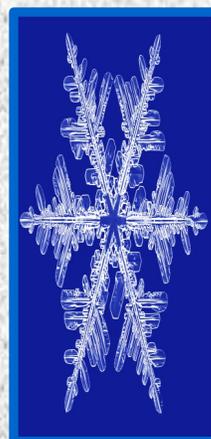


1947 -- 2019



OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS,  
 MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
 POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450  
 PRES W1YSM ED SNYDER  
 VP KB1JL ERIC OLSSON  
 SECT NZ1J DAVE TIPPING  
 TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK  
 S.A.M. K1RCT ROB CICHON

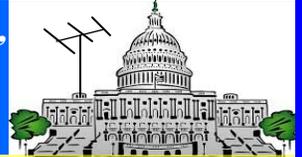
ALL MEETINGS ARE  
 AT THE EOC  
 HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE  
 143 HOPE HILL ROAD,  
 WALLINGFORD  
 KEY KLIX EDITOR  
 DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL  
 DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM  
 203 235-8582





# The President's Net Control Corner

Ed W1YSM, President MARC



## MARC: MOVING INTO 2020 AND BEYOND (PART 1)

Becoming President of MARC is an honor and a responsibility that I take very seriously. Because there have been many changes over the past couple of years, I feel it is important to highlight some of these changes with an eye to the impact they will have on the club's future. Over the coming months I will use this column to address various changes that have occurred, what they are, why they were implemented and what the outcomes have been or will likely be. This month I will discuss 4 of these changes that have occurred.

- **Dues Restructuring:** The club, before I became President, voted to increase dues minimally and to eliminate certain anachronistic categories. This resulted in a more equitable dues structure and a modest increase in dues income into the club treasury. Most recently we also voted to eliminate dues for licensed members under the age of 18. This dues reorganization, I believe, will make the club stronger as we move into the future. Of course, additional changes can be made as and if needed.
- **Separation of Dues from the Christmas Party:** The Christmas party has always been a highlight of the club year. In the past, however, the club's policy of paying for the Christmas party substantially decreased the monies in the club's treasury. While shifting the Christmas party costs from the club to the club attendees, placed an additional financial burden on the club members, it freed up treasury dollars which could be used for essential club activities directed towards enhancing our amateur radio experience. This initiative as well as the first initiative mentioned above has helped bolster the MARC treasury and put the club on a stronger financial footing.
- **Guest Speaker at the Christmas Party:** Having a guest speaker at the Christmas party has enhanced the enjoyment of the party as reported by the members and their significant others (guests). The Christmas party is an end of year celebration of our activity together as a club. It also honors several members who are singled out for their exceptional devotion to amateur radio in general and to MARC specifically. The speakers, the venue and the cuisine have all drawn high marks and I feel enhances the camaraderie we all feel at years end, thus getting the coming year off to a good start. I feel it is critical that the non-Ham attendees, significant others, spouses, etc. enjoy the event as much as the club members do. I hope you all agree.
- **Improved Activity Meeting Speakers/Topics:** Over the last several years we have had an improvement in the club activities meetings as regards quality of speakers, topics and attendance. This has resulted in a resurgence of club interest in this activity. Indeed, we now have what appears to be an insufficient number of sessions for the topics requested. As we go forward, we will need to find a way to accommodate requests for added information on additional topics. Actually, we should view this as a promising sign of growth and interest in club amateur radio activities. This session will no doubt stimulate many exciting discussions over the coming year. I welcome your input and suggestions.

As seen above, we have restructured some of the club's finances to ensure greater financial stability and a stronger club treasury. Further, we have acted to promote club member involvement and camaraderie. All of these key elements are needed for a healthy, active and fun amateur radio club.

All of the activities discussed above as well as those to be covered in future columns are reminiscent of the child's game of pick-up sticks in that every time you move one stick another stick changes in response. Thus, in a sense, changing part of the club affects the whole. Hopefully, this will become more apparent as we move forward. As always, I welcome your comments and thoughts and trust that we will work together to continue to make the MARC of tomorrow even better than it is today.

Part II coming next month.

73,  
Ed W1YSM  
President, MARC  
W1YSM@arrl.net



# ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,

*ED W1YSM (ACTING ACTIVITIES MANAGER)*

# 2019

APR. 25	AMATEUR ROCKETRY / AMATEUR RADIO	ERIC KB1EHE
MAY 8	SKYWARN TRAINING SESSION	
MAY 23	SALEM ARC/EOT— HOW WE OPERATE	CHRISTINA KB1QFW
JUNE 27	PUBLIC SERV. & RADIO COMM.	BOB WB1GYZ/ERIC KB1JL
JULY 25	LARK IN THE PARK	
AUG. 22	DRONES – A PRIMER	STEVE KC1SA
SEPT. 26	JEOPARDY FOR HAMS	JOHN K1LYP
OCT. 24	SUNSPOTS	TBA
NOV 28	THANKSGIVING - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	
DEC. 12	CHRISTMAS PARTY - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	

### April Business meeting....April 11 7:30pm @ EOC

The April Business Meeting will commence at 2130Z (7:30pm EDT) with a bang of the gavel by Pres. Ed, W1YSM. Topics to be voted on will be a motion by Mike K1LHO stating "The members present at a Business Meeting may vote on a motion to authorize one-time expenditures that do not exceed \$100. No notice to members prior to the Business Meeting would be required for this motion and subsequent vote."

### Activity meeting.....April 25, 7:30pm @ EOC Amateur Radio & Rocketry by Eric KB1EHE et al

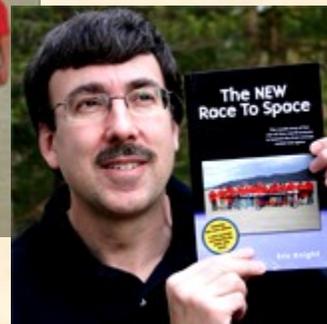
This will be a great presentation by Eric Knight KB1EHE assisted by Rod N1FNE, Don N1HWR and Elsie KB1IFZ (& possibly a few more members of the team) who will discuss their rocket launch into space ON May 17, 2004. More info is below and also on page 4. All are welcome to attend..

### Save the Date... Sunday October 13, 2019 Nutmeg Hamfest at the Sheraton

The committee is looking for ideas on Speakers / Seminars, Activities etc, all constructive criticism will be greatly appreciated..

### Save the Date... Wednesday May 8, 7-9pm SKYWARN training session, info was in the last Key Klix, you must pre-register....Excellent program....

**Eric KB1EHE and the complete Launch Team with their Rocket. Eric also authored his book, The New Race to Space and he proudly holds the Nose Cone from the rocket. An ARRL news story about the event is on page 4.**



## Ham Radio-Carrying Rocket Exceeds Goal; Avionics Recovered Intact

NEWINGTON, CT, May 19, 2004 -- An Amateur Radio direction finding team has recovered intact the ham radio avionics package from an amateur rocket that made history by breaking through the barrier of space May 17. Following its launch from Nevada's Black Rock Desert, the solid fuel rocket easily exceeded its primary goal of attaining an altitude of 100 km -- 62 miles -- considered the boundary between Earth's atmosphere and space. Avionics Team Leader Eric Knight, KB1EHE, told ARRL that the 21-foot, 10-inch diameter Civilian Space Xploration Team (CSXT) GoFast vehicle reached an altitude of 77 miles according to its onboard instruments, making it the first amateur rocket to do so.



*An artist's depiction of the GoFast rocket. Knight said friction encountered during the rocket's high velocity flight burned away most of the paint and decorative decals.*

"We well shattered any definition of space, and everybody's jubilant here," Knight told ARRL from Nevada. "Within two seconds into the flight we were already supersonic." Knight said 75 to 100 people -- many of them radio amateurs -- were on hand to witness the launch. Several others asked how they could become licensed, he said. The launch itself "went like clockwork," Knight said, calling it "an awesome experience."



During the vehicle's descent to Earth, a ballistic parachute deployed to keep it from tumbling, slow its velocity and make it hit the ground nose first. "The avionics package looks pristine," Knight said. "It could fly again." That's not likely however, since the CSXT team is hoping the avionics will end up in the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. "Even though it could fly again, it won't fly again for posterity's sake," he added.

*(LR) CSXT avionics crew members Don Skinner, N1HWK, Eric Knight, KB1EHE, and Rod Lane, N1FNE, work on the rocket's telemetry system in a basement workshop.*

A volunteer aerospace tracking and recovery team of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio operators calling itself Stratofox was able to zero in on signals from the falling rocket, which came down in rugged, mountainous terrain some 25 miles downrange of the launch site. Knight says Merlin Systems -- a project sponsor -- provided the tiny bird tracking transmitters operating in the 224MHz range which were imbedded into the parachute shroud lines solely for tracking purposes.

Knight says that after the rocket's return, the team was pretty quickly able to determine within a mile where it had landed, but it took another 24 hours for the Stratofox team to pin it down and recover the entire payload. "Their passion is to find things," Knight said of the Stratofox searchers.



The avionics team's homebuilt patch-type antennas contributed to the mission's success. "We can make them conform to the surface of the airframe," Knight explained. The antennas served the 33cm telemetry downlink and 2.4 GHz Amateur Television transmitters as well as the onboard GPS units.

A color ATV system was able to provide some photos during the first several seconds of the flight. "We saw some spectacular pictures through liftoff plus about five or ten seconds," Knight said. The rocket's spin -- about nine cycles per second -- caused the video to blur after that, but Knight said the team hopes to recover some individual video frames using computerized techniques.

*(Photo) This 2002 CSXT attempt to reach space failed when the rocket engine exploded three seconds into the flight.*

Because the CSXT team found itself almost exclusively focused on the mission, a launch site HF special event station, K7R (for "rocket"), didn't get on the air very much, Knight said.

The avionics team includes eight Amateur Radio licensees, most of whom also were involved in an unsuccessful 2002 CSXT launch attempt ("Ham Radio Package Survives Launch Disaster; 'Rocket Boys' Regroup"). The entire 18-member CSXT team is headed by CSXT founder and Program Director Ky Michaelson, a retired Hollywood stunt man.

**WHAT IS THIS ??? ANSWER IN NEXT MONTHS KEY KLIX, COURTESY OF JEFF N1AKN**



**THE SAT. MORNING QRP PROJECT NZ1J, KE1AY, & WB1GYZ**



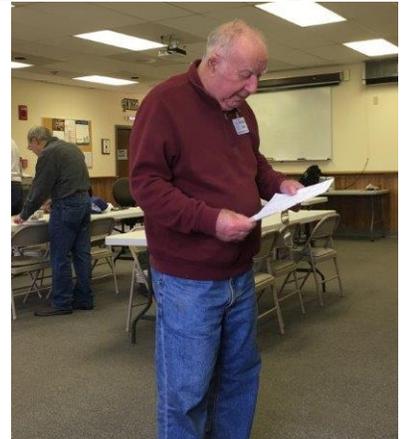
**DAVE NZ1J CHIEF QRP DESIGN ENGINEER**



**BOB WB1GYZ IS ASKING FOR FORGIVENESS FOR RUNNING OVER 100 MILLIWATTS**



On Saturday, March 23, we had another great show and tell at the Wallingford clubhouse. Mark, KB1ORB, brought in his vintage Hammarlund HQ145X receiver. It drew a lot of interest and everyone wanted to see it in operation. It was given to Mark by a relative so he too wanted to see how well it worked. We opened the case and after dusting it off (outside of the building) we connected a long wire antenna and plugged it in. It took about 5 minutes of inspection to find the (unlabeled) on/off switch that was located just under the front panel clock. A quick flick, the dial lit up, the tube heaters glowed and the radio came to life! The HF bands weren't very good that morning but we did hear a number of AM broadcast stations. Not bad for a long wire antenna on the floor of a concrete and steel building. Our resident tech guru Jeff, N1AKN, said that it was in very good shape but a tube or two might be a little weak. Not a big problem. Any one of us would be proud to have this radio as an addition to our shack. It was a fun way to spend a Saturday morning.73,Ted Renzoni KC1DOY



**AL N1API GIVES DEMONSTRATION ON CODE READING PROGRAMS**

**JOHN W1DQ CHECKING THE INDUCTOR FUTURES ON THE CHICAGO EXCHANGE**



**JEFF N1AKN RESTORED AN OLD PHILCO SUPER REGEN. RECEIVER FOR "EL PRESIDENTE" ED W1YSM, MUCH TO HIS DELIGHT....**

THE OLD WLFD. CD BUILDING, OUR HOME FOR MANY YEARS .HAS BEEN DEMOLISHED. YOU CAN SEE THE ROHN TOWER LAYING HELPLESS IN THE FOREGROUND . THE REASON GIVEN WAS EXCESSIVE CODE VIOLATIONS ( MORSE CODE CAUSING EXCESSIVE RF POLLUTION & RF CONTAMINATION) TNX TO STEVE K11IG FOR THE PIX.



NICE THANK YOU NOTE FROM 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

**UConn**  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Dear Meriden Amature Raido Club,

I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of your organization's scholarship last year. I am four weeks into my second semester at UConn and am doing well. As I continue my education at the University of Connecticut, I am very grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness, which will always be remembered.

All the best wishes to All of you,

Sincerely,  
Alex Boman

MATT KC11IL AT A RECENT WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENT.



# A Blast from the Past!

## 1970



Record Photo

DISASTER DRILLERS—Among those taking part in Saturday's disaster drill sponsored by the Meriden Amateur Radio Club were, from left, at coding machine, Mike Macri (call

letters WAILUA); Pat McLaughlin (call letters WN1LSI); Robert Woodtke Jr., student, and Floyd Steiner, code instructor and vice president of the club (call letters WIWEE).

## 50 Participate In HAM Exercise 1970

Approximately 50 members of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club took part in an annual nationwide disaster drill Saturday at 2 p.m. The Ham operators set up their portable stations on the club's property in South Meriden at the Dossin Beach House.

The drill began exactly on time with two emergency frequencies established and in continuous operation in an attempt to contact other stations throughout the 50 states and elsewhere in the world.

Using generators owned by the club, the Radio group made over 300 contacts during the 24 hour period.

Coordinated by the American Radio Relay League of Newington, the competition simulated emergency communications setups necessary during hurricanes and other disasters.

The local group was competing on a point basis against other groups having two stations in the air throughout the country.

**BOB WB1GYZ OUR RESIDENT SK (STRAIGHT KEY NOT SILENT KEY) & QRP GUY FOUND THIS IN THE 1997 NEW ENGLAND QRP NEWSLETTER..QRP FD RESULTS**

### QRP AFIELD-1996

### FINAL RESULTS

Score	Name	Call	NE #	Pwr	Location
17360	Robert Stolzle	AC5AM	--	lo/field	Grant Parish, LA
*****					
14040	Meriden, CT ARC	W1NRG	300	hi/field	Godek's Farm, Wallingford, CT
11352	Peter Beedlow	NN9K	---	hi/field	Nr. I-80, 280, & 74, Henry City, IL
9472	Owen "OJ" Quarles	WA1YIA	---	hi/field	Ranch of KB5YVT, Bedis, TX
9200	Pete Meier	WK8S	292	lo/field	Indep. Oaks Park, Clarkston, MI
8680	Bill Stietenroth	K5ZTY	440	hi/field	YVT Ranch, Bedis, TX
7424	Bob Kellogg	AE4IC	---	hi/field	Backyard, Greensboro, NC



## **Secretary Report & Minutes of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club** **Dave Tipping NZ1J , Secretary**

### **BUSINESS MEETING, MARCH 14, 2019**

Meeting was called to order at 19:30 EDT by President W1YSM

**Introductions / Members Present:** Introductions were made by 28 members in attendance.

**Announcements:**

The club is continuing to investigate updating our liability insurance. W1YSM's Key Klix column this month dove into this topic. There is a SKYWARN training session scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks again to K1WJL for another excellent edition of Key Klix

**Secretary's Report:**

The February Business Meeting minutes were published in the March Key Klix and were accepted. KB1MFU applied for membership and was voted in unanimously. W1YSM donated an ARRL DVD that contains electronic copies of QST, QEX, and NCJ. The DVD is in the club library.

The club received our annual insurance bill.

**Treasurer's Report:** K1WJL gave a Treasurer's Report which was accepted.

The audit committee met on March 12 and found the club's accounting books to be in order.

**Station Manager's Report:**

Upgrading the club website to HTTPS will cost \$35 per year. The new W1NRG email reflector is proposed to go live on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The club is looking for a 2 meter beam antenna to add to the station.

K1RCT purchased a Tigertronics cable & jumper module which will allow the club's Yaesu FT-950 to interface with a computer.

**Activity Committee:** The March Activity Meeting will begin at 8pm due to training that will take place at the EOC.

**Saturday Mornings:** Between 15 and 17 people visit the club on Saturday mornings. N1AKN's troubleshooting and repair bench continues to be popular.

**Station Activations:** N1YLN is planning seven contests this year for the club. There will be CW, SSB, RTTY, and VHF. Coming up is the New England QSO Party on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Nets:** K1VDF's 10 meter net, N1ZN's 6 meter net, and K1TDO's 2 meter net continue to get between 7 and 12 check-ins each week. The Nutmeg Net is currently on the 147.36 repeater five nights per week.

**Castle Craig:** The summer QSO Party will be the first weekend in August. All MARC members are encouraged to join 10-10 International.

**Scholarship:** Scholarship applications have been sent out to the Meriden High Schools. A notice will also appear in the Meriden newspaper.

**Membership:** Most members have paid their 2019 dues. We'd like to see the club grow to 100 members during 2019.

**Interference and Technical:** No issues were reported

**VE and Instruction:** The next VE session is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>. KC1SA is working toward becoming an additional VEC for the club. N1GNV plans to create an outline for the 'Tech in a Day' program.

**Nutfest:** The Nutfest is planned for October 13 at the Sheraton Four Points. The Directors and Officers of the Nutfest will be meeting to begin working out details.

**Key Klix:** K1WJL welcomes any articles and photos.

**EMCOM / AUXCOM:** The Cheshire MS Walk is May 5th.

**Social Media:** Printing of a few hundred Welcome Packets is in the works.

**YL/XYL Committee:** KB1TMC and KC1ISI are brainstorming initiatives for this new committee.

**Candy Store:** The club website has details about Gold Medal Ideas and MARC clothing and badges.

**Old Business:** The local Boy Scouts will need a six month lead time before initiating work on their Radio Merit Badges. Nothing is in the works right now. K1LYP is recruiting Elmers to assist new Hams.

The membership voted on and passed K1RCT's motion: "Resolved: The Wallingford Amateur Radio Group (WARG) is hereby acknowledged as a Standing Committee of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club (MARC). Its charge is to enhance our members' skills in the art and science of emergency radio communications through the study of and, when deployed, for the performance of radio activities for the Town of Wallingford."

**New Business:** K1LHO proposed a motion: "The members present at a Business Meeting may vote on a motion to authorize one-time expenditures that do not exceed \$100. No notice to members prior to the Business Meeting would be required for this motion and subsequent vote."

Meeting was adjourned at 21:11      Respectfully Submitted,      Dave, NZ1J

# INFORMATION PAGE

# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER  
 VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON  
 SECT.....NZ1J DAVE TIPPING  
 TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK  
 STATION A.M...K1RCT ROB CICHON

MEETINGS: NORMALLY  
 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH,  
 UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED,  
 AT THE HOPE HILL ROAD FIREHOUSE / EOC  
 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD

KEY KLIX EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL  
 CONTACT DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM  
 203 235-8582

MAILING ADDRESS: MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
 POB 583, MERIDEN CT. 06450

**CLUB NETS**

**6 MTR NET** MONDAYS 8PM  
 50.175MHZ N1ZN JIM

**2 METER NET** TUESDAYS 7:30PM  
 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

**CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC)**

UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR

SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15

**WEBSITE:** (USE LOWERCASE)  
[www.w1nrg.com](http://www.w1nrg.com)

**FORUM/BBS:**  
[www.w1nrg.com/forum/](http://www.w1nrg.com/forum/)  
 or go to website and follow links

**CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 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)



AB1DQ	James Surprenant	19	KC1IHK	Scott Mowerson	19	W1NHS	Fred Ring	19
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	19	KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	19	W1NNZ	William Kosche III	19
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	19	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	19	W1POP	Fred Liedke	21
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	19	KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	19	W1UFO	Mike Cei	19
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	19	KC1NS	Nancy Tipping	19	W1VCU	Nelson Denison	L
K1LHO	Mike Ash	19	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	19	W1XK	Stan Kugler	19
K1LYP	John Yusza	19	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	19	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	19
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	20	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	19	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	19
K1MVM	Mike Macri	19	KE4EYA	Ralph Ring	19	WA1JKR	John Rogus	20
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	19	KR1U	Bob Eslinger	19	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	19
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	19	N1API	Al Kaiser	19	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
K1STM	Anne West	19	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	19	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	19
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	19	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	19	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	19
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	19	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	19	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20
K1VDF	John Blevins	19	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	19	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	19
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	19	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21			
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	19	N1HCA	Susan South	19			
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	19	N1LGH	Barbara Stone	19			
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	20	N1MOB	Dan David	19			
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	19	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	19			
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	19	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	19			
KB1MFU	John Ramadie	19	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	19			
KB1ORB	Mark Noble	19	N1POP	Greg Ploski	19			
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	19	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	19			
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	19	N1ZN	James Savage	19			
KC1DOY	Ted Renalti	19	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	19			
KC1FJJ	Richard Nagy Jr.	19	W1DJB	Dylan Barrett	19			
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	18	W1DQ	John Elengo	19			
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	19	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L			