

# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# KEY KLIX



PRESIDENT—N1ZN JIM SAVAGE    V.P.—N1API AL KAISER    SECT.—K1SEZ PAUL CIEZNIK  
TRES.—KB1HCC HAGGIE WINSLOW    S.A.M.—WA1TRY RICH AUBIN  
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The business meeting of the MARC will be on Thursday August 14, 2014, 7:30pm at the Cook Hill Firehouse, 37 Hall Road, Wallingford.

The activity meeting will be Thursday August 28, 7:30pm at the same location, activity TBA.

John N1GNV announces his Mini Lark in the Park event for Saturday August 23rd, a Lark in the Park is simply a bunch of Ham Radio Operators getting together, having some fun, playing some radio. It's not a contest. No rules, no scores, no nothing except fun with radios and fellow Hams. Hubbard Park in Meriden, 9:00 AM on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. We'll meet by the pavilion near West Main St. And (I hope) set up there. Nothing fancy, a quick and easy HF antenna and radio set up for SSB. You're more than welcome to bring anything you want to set up – VHF/UHF, HF CW, digital modes, whatever. We can share antennas if need be. Simple, quick, easy and most of all fun are the key words to keep in mind. Coffee and doughnuts will likely be there, courtesy of a local Ham Radio business ;-). No decaf, no tea, no double latte half skim half soy, no gluten free anything. Bring something if you'd like to. If the WX is truly god-awful, we may reschedule for Sunday (unlikely). Please let me know if you think you can make it, so I can plan appropriately. Spouses, kids, friends, etc are VERY welcome. Licensed or not.



### W1FD Scholarship awarded to Joseph Bird at July 10 Business Meeting

Scholarship Chair Don KE1AY and President Jim N1ZN present Joseph Bird and his father with a \$500 scholarship check at the July 10th Business Meeting. Joe graduated from the Electronics Program at H.C. Wilcox Tech this past June and plans to attend Western CT. College this fall, majoring in Electronic Engineering. Joe also attended the Field Day Site a few weeks ago and was given the tour of our operations. A bit of trivia.....Joe's instructor in the Electronics Dept. was George Wruck, N1YGN, son of Former MARC member Joyce Wruck N1RMA, both are inactive at this time in Ham Radio.

The editor apologizes for the confusion over the issuance of the Scholarship, Joe Bird was not awarded the check at Field Day as previously reported, but only had visited the Field day operation.

**From AI N1API, Castle Craig Chapter , Chapter Head and Certificate Manager  
Then What Is Castle Craig All About? (Part Three)**

On Tuesday evening you will hear John, K1VDF call the 10 meter net on 28.375. He calls for check ins for the Meriden Amateur Radio Club - Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10 Net. In 1981 the club was getting ready to celebrate the Club's 35th Anniversary in a year. We wanted to have a way to celebrate and give the members something to commemorate the occasion. An idea was presented to have a certificate that the members could frame and hang in their shacks. We wanted something of quality. A committee was formed and the general idea was Meriden and it's most prominent landmark Castle Craig. At the time we had a number of members who were teachers in the State's Technical Schools. A relative of our president at the time was artist named Debbie Pierce and he asked her to do a rendition of the Castle. She created a beautiful Pen and Ink drawing of The Castle and it's surroundings which was accepted by the committee. Another member was an instructor in the graphics department at one of the schools and his students were hired to do the printing of the original run of 500 certificates. Also printed was a informational sheet about the history of the Castle and it's significance in the development of FM Radio. Printable versions of all these are available on the Castle Craig Web Page.

Now that we had our certificate in progress we need a plan of action on who was going to distribute them and how we were going to choose how to number the order of the certificates. Being a 10-10 paper chaser myself I was appointed by the committee as the "Certificate Manager", a job I still hold today 33 years later. The certificates would be given out to any club member who wanted them and the numbers would be drawn by lot at an activities meeting. The exceptions were the first five numbers. Certificate number 1 was issued to the club's Call W1NRG, Number 2 went to W1FD (SK), Frank one of our founding members and the Trustee of the club call for many years. Number 3 went to myself as the certificate manager, number 4 was given to the club's president at the time WA1VHR (SK), Sherm Stiles. Number 5 was given to our own Rich, Aubin, WA1TRY who was a member of the committee, the VP and the SAM at that time.

On June 30, 1981 at our activity meeting we held the drawing for the certificates numbers and we issued certificates to about 34 members who were present and had requested a certificate that evening. Any other members who wanted a certificate could receive one and their number would be the next in sequence. If you are interested in seeing who got what number the current list of Castle Craig Members can be downloaded as a PDF file on the Castle Craig Web Page at <http://www.1010castlecraig.org/downloads/Downloads.html> or just view the list at [http://www.1010castlecraig.org/Chapter\\_Info/Chapter\\_Info.html](http://www.1010castlecraig.org/Chapter_Info/Chapter_Info.html). Even today club members who do not have a Castle Craig Certificate can request one and I'll have it for you at the next business meeting.

Within a year or so later some interest was expressed asking how we could make the club more visible to the ham radio community. We decided that the best way to do this was to associate The Club with the 10-10 Organization as a Chapter. There were some hurdles to get over first. Connecticut already had two other active 10-10 Chapters, The Nutmeg Chapter of Southern New England a long standing Chapter in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and the City of Mums Chapters which was based out of Bristol CT. We agreed that our members would support Nutmeg Chapter in the Winter QSO Party and The city of Mums in the Summer QSO Party and that satisfied the concerns of the two active chapters. At one time there was also a fourth chapter active in CT. and that was the Niantic Bay Chapter. Today, Castle Craig is the only active 10-10 Chapter in the state and if you are a 10-10 member it is your local chapter and we always ask 10-10 members who participate in the 10-10 QSO parties to submit their logs with credit for the Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10.

There was one other local issue we needed to address. Club members who are not members of 10-10 and club members who do not have an Amateur Call. For 10-10 members one of their favorite activities is swapping Chapter numbers and upgrading their certificates if there is a program in the chapter's plans. For club members who were 10-10 members they would go by the published upgrade program. For members with no 10-10 number but an Amateur Radio call they would get a numbered certificate but would not apply for upgrades. If they became interested in 10-10 and paperchasing they could participate in the upgrades. Club members with no amateur radio license would get a certificate with their names on it but no number. They would be assigned a number if they obtained an amateur callsign. We were authorized by 10-10 as a chapter and the rest is history.

In order to keep lower Certificate number available for our club members we reserved numbers under 76 to club members to be issued in order of request. We announced a start date for the Castle Craig Certificate and a net was held on our club frequency of 28.375. The stipulation was made that applications needed to be received by US Mail only in order to keep it fair to all. The first country certificate for the United States, number 76 went to an amateur from Ellijay GA, Jim W4YHF (SK). The ARRL and W1AW was issued number 77. The first DX Certificate went out to PJ2WG, (SK), Willie from the Netherland Antilles who was an active 10-10 member and paper chaser. Over the years the original chapter program was changed to meet the interests of the 10-10 paper chasing community. The original certificate is still available for purchase for non club members and every so often I get a request in the mail for one. But 99.9% of the people who participate in the chapter awards today get a number only by email and do all their upgrades via email too. Today the Castle Craig Chapter is very popular among 10-10ers who collect different Chapters and we get tremendous support from Europeans, especially the German 10-10ers who are voracious paper chasers. So if you get on 10 meters and work a station and have a 10-10 number you just may be asked if you have a Castle Craig Certificate. In conclusion I hope that these three articles have given you a better idea about 10-10, Castle Craig and it's importance and connection to the club. I welcome your questions and comments either at meeting or over the air or via the phone and would be happy to help you if you would like to set up Win1010 on your own computer and give it a try.

## *A Blast From the Past de Bob WB1GYZ*

Not long ago I was casually eyeing the offerings at a Hamfest, when I spotted a portable military CW transmitter and power supply. It was old, musty, and built like a tank; perhaps having been used as a spy radio to send encrypted military intelligence to secret operatives embedded in Southeast Asia. There it sat, weathered and worn, propped up on a rickety table, only one handshake away from an uncertain future. I knew I had to act quickly.

The seller was quite familiar with this transmitter and everything he said about it was music to my ears. It so happened we both did the same kind of CW intercept in military, he in the Army and I in the Navy. He explained its ease of use by watching the brightness of three tiny bulbs that indicate when it was tuned properly. It uses quartz crystal for frequency control, has a built-in CW hand key, and is stenciled with the designation T784/GRC-109. The power supply can operate from a 6 volt vehicle battery, or AC ranging in steps from 260 to 75 volts, and will also digest rough power from a hand-cranked genny.

It now occupies a choice spot on my crowded desk, where it pumps out 12 mighty watts, while keeping secret its clandestine history. I use an operating technique that takes the frustration out of working crystal control in an environment dominated by variable frequency radios. I program the transmit frequencies of my crystals into the memory bank of a transceiver, then hit memory scan and listen for activity. When I hear a CQ, I pause the scan and plug in the appropriate crystal. That may sound a little confusing for those who haven't experienced being "rock-bound" with quartz from back in the day, but it's really a simple and fun way to operate an old transmitter. I enjoy using it for a diversion and think it would add a new challenge for WAS, QRP/ARCI, or SKCC.

For me, there's no sweeter sound on the air than that of a soft CW note with a hint of chirp; the distinctive sassy swagger of a vintage rig.

Bob - WB1GYZ

Browse the following site for more information on this and other military radios:

<http://www.n6cc.com/angrc-109-special-forces-radio-set>



Call For Volunteers! From Joe Hamm KC1BAQ, Volunteer Coordinator KC1BAQ@ARRL.NET, 203 443-0060

**Sept 20th - Wallingford YMCA Walk/Run**

This is a morning event and should be finished around 10:30am. More details to follow. If you can help, please email [KC1BAQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:KC1BAQ@ARRL.NET) or call Joe at 203 440-0060

**Oct. 18th - Boy Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air**

Volunteers needed to operate an HF get on the air (GOTA) station and help scouts kindle an interest in amateur radio. Scout activities will include building dipoles, antenna tuning, and radio operating procedures. If you are interested in helping, please contact Douglas (WA1SFH) at [wa1sfh@optonline.net](mailto:wa1sfh@optonline.net).

2014 Fishbien / YMCA Community Day and Road Race, Sept 20—additional Info

We are looking for 12 amateur radio operators to support this event. This gives our club another opportunity to provide a visible and valuable service to the Wallingford community.

Bring your VHF/UHF "Go Box".

Due to the local topography, a plain stock vanilla 5 watt HT with its original factory antenna may not be able to effectively communicate across the entire course.

Suggested Equipment Options:

- 1) An HT with an aftermarket BIGGER ANTENNA.
- 2) An HT with a mag mount antenna on the vehicle
- 3) A mobile radio and antenna on the vehicle (fixed or mag mount).

DRESS CODE: Casual. If you have any amateur radio emergency service gear (hats, vests, tshirts, etc), please wear them to increase awareness for amateur radio. You may also wear radio club shirts, hats, etc.

**SCHEDULE of EVENTS**

0730: Arrive at YMCA

(Pick up your assignment information, Stop Watch, Enjoy a coffee and donut.)

0745: Briefing (*Mandatory*)

0750: Deploy to your assigned location

0830: Starter's Gun

1035(+/-): Return to YMCA, Turn in your Stop Watch, and get lunch (FREE FOOD!).

This Fishbien/YMCA Road Race is also has a "Community Day" at the town park across the street from the YMCA. It consists of FOOD, Family Games, Magic Show, Obstacle Course, Inflatables, Face Painting, and More.

THE "and MORE":

0805 - 1300 hrs: ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Radio Tent

We also need a couple of volunteers to:

- Set-up an ARES HF Radio Tent
- Help the public to "Get On The Air" (GOTA)
- Talk to the public about Amateur Radio, ARES, and our local radio club

If you can help, please email Joe Hamm (KC1BAQ) at [kc1baq@arrl.net](mailto:kc1baq@arrl.net).

**CONVENTION PIX COURTESY OF N1ZN & N1API**



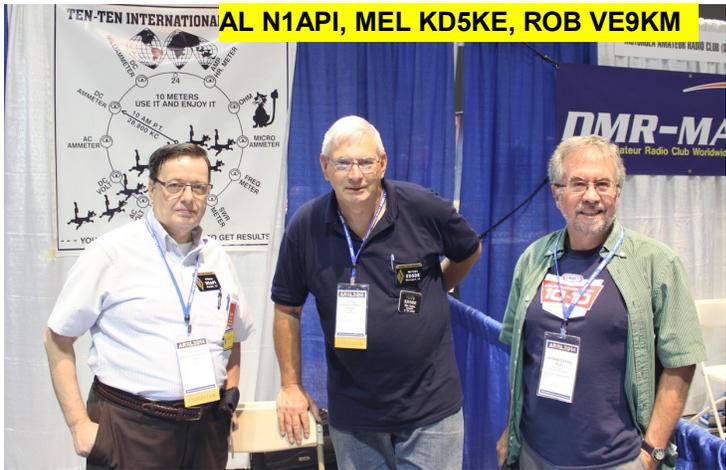
**MARK K1PU**



**AL N1API AND MEL KD5KE  
10/10 PRESIDENT**

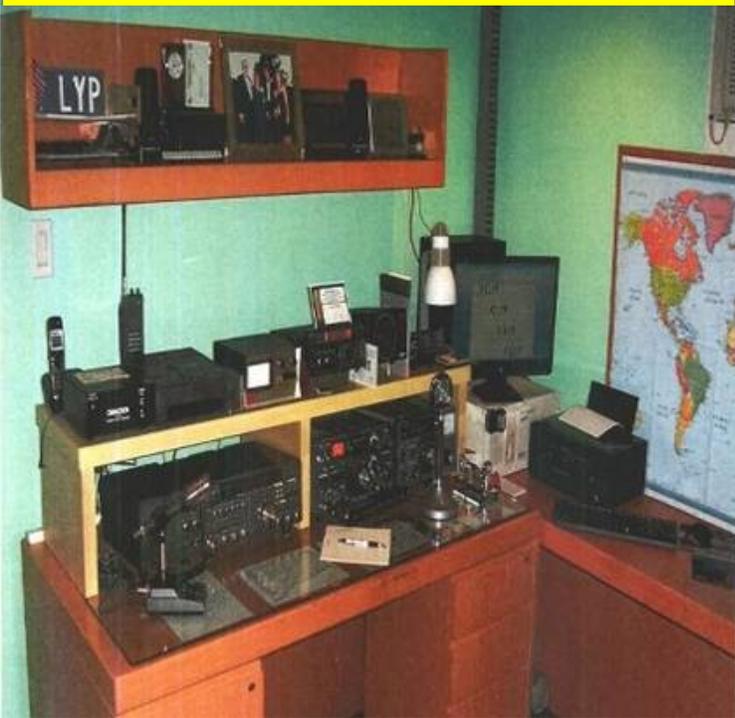


**PRESIDENT JIM N1ZN WITH  
KAYE N3KN AT ARRL BOOTH**



**AL N1API, MEL KD5KE, ROB VE9KM**

**SHACK OF THE MONTH—JOHN K1LYP**



## INFORMATION PAGE

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SECT. —K1SEZ PAUL CIEZNIAK  
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,  
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 [W1NRG.COM](http://W1NRG.COM)  
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

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



## MARC MEMBERS

AB1HB Charlie Dudac  
AF1HS Art Fregeau  
K1EIC Betsey Doane  
K1LHO Mike Ash  
K1LYP John Yusza  
K1MVM Mike Macri  
K1PU Mark Mokoski  
K1SEZ Paul Ciezniak  
K1TDO Todd Olsen  
K1TG Roger Kuchera  
K1THP Dave Karpiej  
K1VDF John Blevins  
K1WJL Dave Swedock  
KB1CIW Bob Stevens  
KB1FYL Robert W. Carruthers  
KB1GWP Joseph Rish, Sr.  
KB1HCC Jonathan Winslow  
KB1MMS Ronald Slack  
KB1SIT Teresa Stevens  
KB1TJC Leonard Butkiewicz  
KB1TJD Gianne Jenkins  
KC1ACN Rob Cichon  
KC1AXJ Stephen Allen  
KC1BAQ Joseph Hamm  
KE1AU Robert Kaczor  
KE1AY Donald Mitchell

N1API Al Kaiser  
N1BF Patrick Dionne  
N1GNV John Bartscherer  
N1GY Geoff Haines  
N1HCA Susan South  
N1LGH Barbara Stone  
N1NAN Helen Spokes\*\*  
N1OKF Bob Parisi  
N1VTE Sarah Kaczor  
N1ZN James Savage  
W1CTN David Arruzza  
W1DMM Dan Murphy  
W1KKF Bill Wawrzeniak  
W1NHS Fred Ring  
W1POP Fred Liedke  
W1VCU Nelson Denison  
W7FUR William Spokes\*\*  
WA1JKR John Rogus  
WA1TRY Rich Aubin  
WB1GGP Jerry Sheppard  
WB8IMY Steve Ford  
WV2LKM Steve Waldmann  
WY1U Timothy Mik