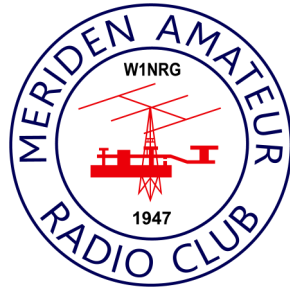


# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



PRES W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP N1API AL KAISER  
SECT KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN TRES KB1HCC HAGGIE WINSLOW  
S.A.M. KC1ACN ROB CICHON

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

## AUGUST 2015

Business Meeting Thursday August 13, 2015, 7:30 pm,  
Activity Meeting Thursday August 27, 2015, 7:30 pm,  
ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 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

### Club News

John N1GNV reports approximately 15 Hungry Hamsters Headed to Hubbard Park on July 23 for our Annual Lark in the Park event. The menu included a Hearty Helping Helping of dogs, burgers, and soft drinks, prepared by a (supposedly) Paris-trained Chef (Paris Island that is), along with notable contributions from members that included salads, fruit, deviled eggs, blueberry pie, and generous contributions to offset a large portion of the cost. Lively camaraderie and bonhomie, plus perfect weather, helped to make an enjoyable evening for all.

W1ATV Walt has constructed a 40/80 meter closed loop antenna on his small property in South Meriden, besides being relatively small, it unfortunately is at the end of the Meriden Markham Airport Runway. Even with his unique restrictions, Walt has done amazingly well on the HF Bands....Bob WB1GYZ has resumed his Interviews with the Hams by starting off with John K1VDF...article with pictures inside....MARC Scholarship coordinator KE1AY, Don presents W1FD scholarship recipient Jason Santiago with a \$500 Check. Jason, a recent Wilcox Tech Grad will enter CCSU and major in Communications. We all wish Jason continued success in his endeavors.

DON KE1AY PRESENTS JASON SANTIAGO  
WITH W1FD SCHOLARSHIP CHECK



### Message from the Editor:

I would really appreciate hearing from members with news on other members and also themselves. Until I get my Quad back up, for however short-lived it may be, I need to have a pipe-line of info from members, John K1VDF, Bob WB1GYZ, Steve KC1AXJ and a few others have been great but need more, especially pix's of stations, activities, etc. In September, my duties as Secretary of the Meriden Lions and president of the Board for the Meriden Hall of Fame will keep me busy so I need more help....Please. Dave K1WJL

# Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.)

## July 2015

The business meeting opened at 7:33 PM EDST on July 9, 2015 with 21 people in attendance and one guest, a quorum was present.

Officers present: Bill (W1KKF), Al (N1API), Haggie (KB1HCC) and Steve (KC1AXJ).

The meeting was opened and chaired by President, Bill (W1KKF).

**Announcements** – The next meeting, an activity meeting, is July 23 which will be our picnic at Hubbard Park.

**Introductions** – All in attendance introduced themselves.

**Secretary's Report** – June's Secretary's Report was published on the W1NRG site. Correction, Rob (KC1ACN) is the Station Activities Manager.

**Treasurer's Report** – Reviewed at meeting and accepted.

**Contributions** – Not discussed

**Correspondence** – Mutual fund financial report and one new membership application from W1DQ.

**Program & Entertainment** – The club is still searching for a replacement for Rich (WA1TRY) for the Program & Entertainment chairman.

**Scholarship** – The recipient, Jeremy Santiago from Meriden, accepted the club's Scholarship award this evening. Jeremy's Dad was present as well. Jeremy will be attending CCSU and majoring in Communication. Good luck Jeremy.

**Club Station & Facilities** – The cabinets need to be re-organized to gain easier/quicker access to equipment. Rob (KC1ACN) is getting cabinets to replace the worn cabinets we currently have. These cabinets are no cost to the club, thanks Rob.

**Club Activities & Program (the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month)** –

The club picnic is July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Hubbard Park. If someone could bring a radio/antenna to this event that would be good (send an email to the reflector ([marc\\_members@meridenarc.com](mailto:marc_members@meridenarc.com)) if you can accommodate. Plan to arrive at the Pavilion by 6PM; tables in the Pavilion are first come/first serve. The Club will provide Dogs 'n Burgers. If folks could bring chips, snacks, salads, desserts or a side dish that would be welcome. Again, send a message out to the reflector if bringing food.

**Nets** –

10M – 10 check in's this past week.

6M – 3 this past week.

2M – 5 check in's this past week.

**Castle Craig** – The first weekend in August is the Summer QSO party. Intent is for Al (N1API) to have a short net to kick this off but that depends on Al's Step-IR back in operation.

**Hamfests** – We do not have a contract with the hotel. John (N1GNV) will check with the hotel to see what the holdup is. Reminder, Hamfest is October 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Key Klix** – Published, great job Dave (K1WJL). Dave's looking for shack/rig/antenna photos for posting in Key Klix, please send pictures to Dave for publication. Also Bob (WB1GYZ) will be restarting the reporter role again. Bob will be calling on members to open their shack for an interview with Bob and these articles will be in future issues of Key Klix. Thanks Bob for doing this.

**Membership** – Prior to new members this evening, total membership stands at 56. This consists of 53 paid members, 2 lifetime members and 1 complimentary membership. This evening we inducted two additional members to the club; John Elengo (W1DQ) is a new member to the club, and Jim Martin (WA1ZVY) was a member and has rejoined. Thanks John and Jim and welcome to MARC!

**Interference and Technical** – Nothing reported, if you do have issues let Rich (WA1TRY) know.

**Repeater** – Not discussed

**Instruction & Testing** – Don (KE1AY) is still waiting for a few folks that wanted a testing session to get back to him. If interested in having a testing session, let Don know.

**Candy Store** – We still have hats for sale at \$10.

**EmComm** – The ARES EC for Wallingford is Mike Meadows (KC1AYL). September is the Wallingford YMCA road race which would be the next event.

**Misc Old Business** –

**Operate W1AW** – Paul (K1SEZ) is checking with Harold Kramer (WJ1B) at the ARRL on July 14<sup>th</sup> about having a Saturday session with our club in the fall.

**Scholarship** – At this point it was decided to keep the scholarship at the \$500 level and not increase it mainly due to the return on the investment being produced by the mutual fund. Don (KE1AY) will complete the changes to the current scholarship wording and send to Dave (K1WJL) for publication in Key Klix. It's planned that we will vote on this at the next business meeting.

**Antenna at clubhouse** – The build of the G5RV is the next step. John (N1GNV) is providing material for the antenna (thank you John!). Haggie (KB1HCC) and Bill (W1KKF) have a meeting with Ernie to show plans of antenna installation and wiring.



Misc. Old Business-----cont.

**New Rig** – The committee came back with three suggestions based on the guidelines of a \$3k spend limit. The rig choices were; ICOM 7600 at \$2900, Yaesu FTDX3000, Kenwood TS-590SG. After a bit of discussion a vote was taken with the majority present voting to table the purchase of a new radio at this time. Tabling the purchase was centered on needing to have a permanent radio location (shack), having permanent antennas installed, and having a contesting agenda for the club. The club wants to thank the committee members who invested the time and effort researching technical specifications, pricing options and availability then presenting the choices to the club.

**Field Day results** – Bill (W1KKF) provided us with the results that we are submitting. Rob (KC1ACN) and Al (N1API), thanks for the help getting field day prep work done at the club house and organizing all the equipment..

In addition to 1050 points for emergency power, publication, message passing, capturing ARRL message, officials present, info booth, etc. which added 1050 bonus points to the 2530 for a total of 3580 points for our 2F class.

Last year we had 844 CW QSOs, 501 SSB QSOs and 1150 bonus points for a total of 5528 points. The solar flare that week didn't help the cause so band conditions weren't optimal this year but we all had fun!

**New Business** –

The Connecticut radio Society will be running Special Event this Sunday (July 11<sup>th</sup>). The call sign is K4U, look up K4U on QRZ for more details. This event commemorates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chance Vought F4U Corsair's 1<sup>st</sup> flight. Thanks Dave (W1CTN) for bringing this up.

Steve (WV2LKM) has a crank up tower for the taking.

This is a two section crank up tower where the longer section is about 19 feet long.

QSO's		
Band	CW	SSB
80	193	
40	185	63
20	187	29
15		17
6		25
2		1
Total QSOs	565	135

**Meeting was closed at 8:50 PM**

Meeting Attendees on July 9, 2015

KC1ACN,N1API,KE1AU,KC1AXJ,KE1AY,W1CTN,KB1FYL,N1GNV, WB1GYZ  
KB1HCC,KB1JL,WV2KLM,K1LYP,K1PU,K1SEZ, K1VDF,WA1VXH,K1WJL,N1ZN  
W1KKF,WA1ZVY,KB1ZMK(GUEST)

Respectfully submitted  
Steve Allen KC1AXJ, Secretary

**Amateur Radio Demonstration at the STEM Summer Camp at the SCOW Facilities**

On Friday July 30th, Paul K1SEZ, Haggie KB1HCC and SteveKC1AXJ gave a one hour presentation on Amateur Radio to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) summer camp at the SCOW facilities in Wallingford. They were an active group of interested kids that learned a bit about Amateur Radio and provided for an interactive question and answer session about Ham Radio. Paul did a talk about the aspects of Amateur Radio and how he became interested in the hobby during the big flood back in the 50's, Haggie had his HF rig set up and talked about it and of the antenna that was set up. Steve did a talk on Morse Code and encouraged the kids to get into the hobby. They were a great bunch of kids and we all came away feeling it was a successful event for all.





More pix are on the next page

John Blevins, K1VDF discovered the magic of radio while tuning across the shortwave band of his father's table radio in 1957. By 1961 he had earned his Novice class license and obtained the callsign KN1VDF. His original station consisted of a Globe Chief 75 watt CW transmitter, Hallicrafters S-120 receiver, and a dipole antenna. It wasn't long before he became president of the Milford Amateur Radio Club. From 1965 to 1967 John attended CT School of Electronics, and after graduating enlisted in the Army where they put him to work repairing microwave equipment. After serving in Germany and Viet Nam, he returned home and found employment with the phone company doing frame wiring, inside repair, cellular engineering, and 911 system integration.

John enjoys contests such as CQDX, ARRL DX, and Sweepstakes; has turned in scores of over two million points, worked over 200 band countries in 48 hours, and managed to earn DXCC in one weekend on one band. His current equipment consists of a Yaesu FT-990, Vibroplex paddle, AmpSupply LK550 amplifier using 3, 3-500's, KT34-A KLM antenna, and a HyGain HD 54' steel tower. Before this equipment he had a TA-33 tribander and tried a 10/15/20 Quad (upon advice of K1WJL) until an ice storm brought it all down. At one point he also had an 18AVT HyGain vertical with 65 radials that he used to work 235 countries.

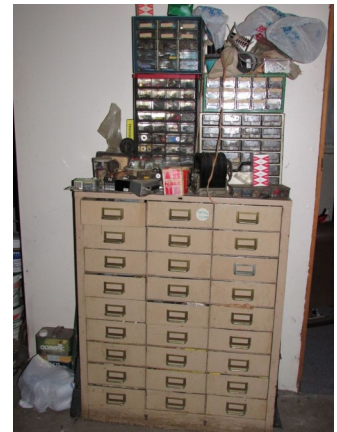
John is a previous President and Vice President of the MARC and has volunteered for every MARC FD for the past 35 years, and presides as the NCS for our club's weekly 10 meter net.

**Bob/WB1GYZ**

(If you would like to be interviewed by Bob WB1GYZ for an article in the KK, please contact him and arrange for mutual time, etc)



# K1VDF ANTENNA ARRAY ON HG54 TOWER, TYPICAL HAM WORK BENCH AND PARTS STORAGE



## ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT

John Bee, N1GNV, came up with an interesting operating event that takes place on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. It is the US Islands QSO Party, sponsored by the US Islands Award Program. Nearly 3000 Islands have been listed by the 21 year old program, and a little more than 2000 of these have been activated. There are many more islands in the USA and its territories that qualify for listing since an Island only need be surrounded by water, at least 100 feet long and at least 50 feet from the main shoreline.

In the North Farms Reservoir there is an island that would meet this criteria. John proposes we bring a small rig, battery and an antenna to the island and put it on the air. This island has no name, as far as I can find, and it would be a new island on the list. The first reported activators of an island have their callsign (W1NRG) shown as the activator of this island on the USI list. Initial activation of an island requires at least 25 QSOs and contacts with at least 2 DX entities (usually the US and one other).

Information about the US Islands, the QSO party, a list of Islands already known go to:

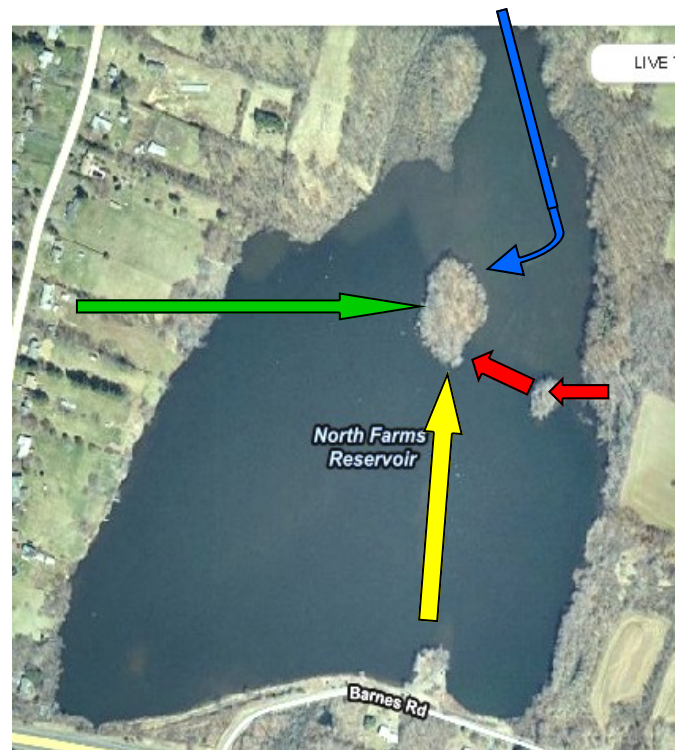
[www.usislands.org/](http://www.usislands.org/)

This all sounds very interesting, however, we have been unable to find a boat. An aluminum flat bottom rowboat would be ideal or any "fishing" type of boat would work. Do you have an Uncle that might loan us his fishing boat for the day? Very soon, I need to get to the island to see if it is a viable island and not a swampy mushy bog.

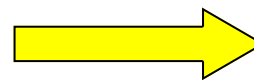
John has suggested we buy two 9 foot rubber raft type inflatable boats, oars and personal floatation devices for a total Walmart cost of \$170. He further suggests our favorite ham radio supplier would sponsor this maritime adventure to the tune of \$85. This sounds good, but first I need to get to the island and see if it is viable.

Anyone have a boat? Give me a call or e-mail.  
73, Bill, W1KKF

203 269-8252  
[w1kkf@arrl.net](mailto:w1kkf@arrl.net)



## SECRET ASSAULT PLANS ON W1NRG ISLAND



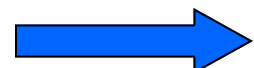
W1KKF LEADS AMPHIBIOUS LANDING WITH LAND-SEA CLASS HUMVEE



KC1ACN & CRACK MARC COMMANDOS ISLAND HOP TO DESTINATION



KC1AXJ SENDS IN EQUIPMENT DROP WITH MILITARY GRADE DRONES



N1GNV OPERATES TWO MAN SUB WITH GRILL, HOT DOGS & HAMBURGS

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

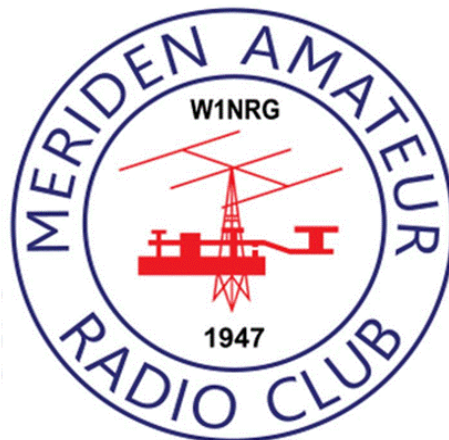
### CLUB NETS

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  
AF1HS Art Fregeau  
K1IIG Steve Tripp  
K1LHO Mike Ash  
K1LYP John Yusza  
K1MVM Mike Macri  
K1PU Mark Mokoski  
K1RJC Rick Castaldo  
K1SEZ Paul Ciezniak  
K1TDO Todd Olsen  
K1TG Roger Kuchera  
K1THP Dave Karpiej  
K1VDF John Blevins  
K1WJL Dave Swedock  
KA1NXX Jan Rogus  
KA1SE Luke Laurentano  
KB1FYL Robert W. Carruthers  
KB1GWP Joseph Rish, Sr.  
KB1HCC Jonathan Winslow  
KB1JL Eric Olsson  
KB1MMS Ronald Slack  
KB1SIN Bill Brooks  
KB1TJD Gianne Jenkins  
KC1ACN Rob Cichon  
KC1AXJ Stephen Allen  
KC1BAQ Joseph Hamm  
KE1AU Robert Kaczor  
KE1AY Donald Mitchell  
KJ4PV Gary Bleasdale

N1API Al Kaiser  
N1BF Patrick Dionne  
N1GNV John Bartscherer  
N1GY Geoff Haines  
N1LGH Barbara Stone  
N1NAN Helen Spokes  
N1OKF Bob Parisi  
N1VTE Sarah Kaczor  
N1ZN James Savage  
NY2HF Dennis Lane  
W1ATV Walt Yatzook  
W1CTN David Arruzza  
W1DMM Dan Murphy  
W1DQ John Elengo  
W1KKF Bill Wawrzeniak  
W1NHS Fred Ring  
W1POP Fred Liedke  
W1SKP Skip Paquette  
W1VCU Nelson Denison  
W7FUR William Spokes  
WA1JKR John Rogus  
WA1TRY Rich Aubin  
WA1VXH Chris Sievert  
WA1ZVY Jim Martin  
WB1GGP Jerry Sheppard  
WB1GYZ Bob Biancur  
WB8IMY Steve Ford  
WV2LKM Steve Waldmann  
WY1U Tim Mik