

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1947 -- 2019

AUGUST 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

August Business meeting...Thursday August 8 7:30pm @ EOC

The August Business Meeting will commence at 2130Z (7:30pm EDT) at the EOC with Pres. Ed, W1YSM presiding.

August Activity meeting..... Thursday August 22 7:30pm @ EOC

A Special Event indeed with another round of Jeopardy for Hams presented by our own John Yusza K1LYP (our in-house version of Alex Trebek), who will moderate with questions/answers of varying degrees of complexity on topics relating to Ham Radio

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..

Club News

Rich WA1TRY continues to slowly recuperate from a very serious blood Infection. We wish him a speedier recovery...

VE Session...

Our last VE session yielded two successful candidates who passed their tests. We do not have their names at this time....but will investigate and send club info to them and invite them to join...

Community Day

Late word is that we are doing a demo at Wallingford's Community Day On August Saturday 24....More info to follow



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The President's Net Control Corner

Ed WIYSM, President MARC



HOSTING A NEW W1KKF TRAINING/EDUCATIONAL NET – A Plan for Outreach

The complaint most often heard from new hams is “I have my license, but I do not know how to get on the Air”. This concern is also expressed by the ARRL and other Amateur Radio groups. Truth is, that many Hams once they have received their new ticket, never get on the air. They lose interest and their license languishes in a drawer until it expires – a missed opportunity indeed. It seems to me that since the MARC Repeater W1KKF is underutilized and often is just sitting there waiting to be of assistance, it presents a golden opportunity for W1NRG to address this issue and better utilize this valuable resource. I am not attempting to ‘boil the ocean’, but maybe we can boil just our part of it, here in Wallingford.

The W1KKF repeater is used formally on Tuesday - one day a week - with Todd K1TDO as the NCS for his half hour 1930-2000 ET Net. If one listens to the 147.36 MHz frequency other times and on other days, – occasionally one hears some conversations, but generally the frequency/repeater is quiet. I propose that W1NRG (MARC) consider using the W1KKF repeater as a home for a new MARC Net to be named: The **MARC Training/Educational Net**.

I envision this Net as a closed net operating with a formal NCS for either 30-60 minutes a week. The NCS position would/should rotate among club members. Time would be 1930 – 2000 or 2030 ET. I believe the best day of the week for the Net would be Wednesday. This time/day choice would avoid interfering with other OnAir nets and activities including Nets for K1TDO, SKYWARN, Yale W1YU, N1ZN, K1VDF, WesCon/Nutmeg NTS, as well as MARC Business and Activity Meetings.

The Net's Agenda should cover of a range of practical How-To topics and activities and could include:

- **Practice and training for new hams wishing to get OnAir and overcome ‘mike fright’**
- **Practice and training for Hams wishing to become a Net Control Operator**
- **Review of SKYWARN Net OPS**
- Review and explanation of questions/answers from FCC License exams
- Discussion of various Amateur Radio topics- antennas, contesting, digital modes, etc.
- Review of traffic handling and how to pass messages
- CW code practice sessions
- Review of VE exam questions
- How to plan, set-up, run, and participate in a Fox Hunt
- Review of OEM or CERT issues
- Review of how one manages communication OPS coverage for a road race or other event

The activities/topics **NOT COVERED OR ALLOWED** would be rag chewing, information about one's day or their pet's habits, their gardens, their visiting relatives or other personal/medical/health issues. It would be up to the NCS and the Net Manager to monitor the On Air content.

This Net would need to be part of, and held in conjunction with, an active club recruitment effort and could, as I envision it, incorporate members from other amateur radio clubs in the area, who can access the W1KKF repeater.

Of course, I have formed a Committee to address these issues and report back to the MARC membership after they have a clearer idea of whether such a new Net is feasible, desirable, sustainable and useful. Current Committee Members are: Rob K1RCT; John N1GNV; Frank N1OKR; Ed N1YLN and W1YSM (*ex officio*). Others are welcome to join – just let me know if interested. One person should act as Net Manager who would ensure ongoing NCS coverage, help choose content and in general, manage the Net.

A MARC Training/Educational Net would improve our visibility and leadership in the State and among other Amateur Radio clubs as well as the ARRL. I think it is a topic worthy of consideration. I would be happy to take a turn as NCS. Again, it needs to be in conjunction with other MARC out-reach activities such as recruiting new entry-level hams who would want to get OnAir, etc. Also, it could provide a model for other clubs.

I am sure the nature, range of topics and quality of net content will improve over time as this Net evolves. We will discuss this proposal at an upcoming Business Meeting. I will be addressing a number of other MARC-expanding initiatives moving forward. This one is exciting to me as it gets MARC OnAir, will provide an opportunity for multiple MARC members to participate, and perhaps will provide other groups a template for improving their Clubs' activities, or join ours.

As always, let me know your thoughts.

Ed W1YSM



Secretary Report & Minutes of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club
Dave Tipping NZ1J , Secretary
BUSINESS MEETING, JULY 11, 2019

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

Introductions / Members Present: Introductions were made by 23 members in attendance.

Announcements:

WA1TRY is in the hospital, but reports that he is making progress toward getting well.

Field Day went very well, but we'd like to see more visits by the public.

The process to purchase a 65" television is moving along.

We'll try some 2.5 gallon jugs of drinking water to replace the old water cooler.

We'll discuss the possibility of a December Activities Meeting.

A high priority for the rest of the year is generating publicity for the club and recruiting new members.

We're considering creating a new weekly net on the repeater to cater to newcomers.

We'll consider moving Lark in the Park to the EOC in 2020.

W1YSM is getting a 1930 Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge book scanned into electronic format.

Secretary's Report:

The June Business Meeting minutes were published in the July Key Klix and were accepted.

The club replied to an inquiry from a prospective member via email.

Treasurer's Report:

K1WJL presented the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted.

Station Manager's Report:

The Dune Star repair will cost \$43.55

Club members worked as the K2D Thirteen Colonies Special Event Station and logged 4423 QSOs.

Activity Committee:

The July Activity Meeting will be Lark in the Park.

Saturday Mornings: Twenty people visited the club last Saturday morning.

Station Activations: We earned more than 2700 points on Field Day.

The 10-10 contest is the 3rd and 4th of August. W/VE Islands is August 24th and 25th.

Nets: K1VDF's 10 meter net, N1ZN's 6 meter net, and K1TDO's 2 meter net continue to get between 4 and 14 check-ins each week. The Nutmeg Net is currently on the 147.36 repeater four nights per week.

Castle Craig: The summer 10-10 SSB QSO Party will be the first weekend in August.

Scholarship: The annual scholarship was awarded last month.

Membership: We have 76 members paid through the end of 2019. We're working on a letter to send to prospective new members.

Interference and Technical: There have been several reports of interference caused by LED bulbs.

VE and Instruction: Exam sessions are scheduled for July 13 and September 14.

Nutfest: The Nutmeg Hamfest is planned for October 13 at the Sheraton Four Points.

Four speakers are scheduled and there will be a VE session.

Key Klix: The July Key Klix has been distributed. Articles and photos for upcoming issues are always welcome.

EMCOM / AUXCOM: We'd like to have more members involved in WARG for 2020.

Anyone interested can contact KB1JL or KC1SA.

YL/XYL Committee: No new activity.

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

Christmas Party: This year's party will cost \$23 per person.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business:

A discussion has begun to hold an activity Meeting on December 1st. That meeting might include pizza and soda, review the club's activities during the past year, and discuss plans for the year ahead.

A discussion has begun to form a Newcomer Training Net that might meet at 8pm on Wednesdays. The focus would be on helping new hams get comfortable and proficient on the air.

A discussion of rules for taking photos and videos at the club was tabled until next month.

A discussion of relocating Lark in the Park to the EOC in 2020 was tabled until next month.

A motion was passed to authorize the club to buy food for all meetings and activities.

A motion was passed to authorize the purchase of two Technician and two General class study guides.

Meeting was adjourned at 21:10

Respectfully Submitted, Dave, NZ1J July 21, 2019



ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,

ED W1YSM (ACTING ACTIVITIES MANAGER)

2019

AUG. 22	JEOPARDY FOR HAMS	JOHN K1LYP
SEPT. 26	DRONES – A PRIMER	STEVE KC1SA
OCT. 24	SUNSPOTS	MIKE KC1KRC
NOV 28	THANKSGIVING - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	
DEC 5	MARC YEAR IN REVIEW + YEAR AHEAD PIZZA / SODA	
DEC. 12	CHRISTMAS PARTY - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	

This advertisement will go into the Boxboro Convention Booklet courtesy of President Ed W1YSM.

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

W1NRG
WALLINGFORD CT.
1947-2019
WWW.W1NRG.COM





Emergency Communications for town of WallingfordActive weekly nets on 10, 6 and 2 Meters including Ten Ten Chapter net Active in: National Traffic System.... Skywarn.... Amateur Training Classes, VE sessions & Saturday morning club activities..... monthly newsletter.... Website & Forum.... Field Day.... Kids Day.... JOTA.... Contesting.... W1FD Memorial Student Scholarship

MARC is proud to sponsor the
Nutmeg Hamfest & 2019 ARRL Connecticut State Convention
Sunday October 13, Four Points Sheraton , Meriden Ct.

AI N1API reports the receipt of two certificates from our recent involvement in TEN-TEN activities , doing our part to keep Ten Meters alive and well..

Certificate of Achievement

TEN-TEN INTERNATIONAL NET, INC.
AWARDS THIS **SPIRIT OF 76** CERTIFICATE TO
W1NRG - Castle Craig ARC - #29650

*First Place
Club
July 2019*




Dan Morris
Dan Morris, KZ3T— #41015
Certificate Manager 10-10 International Net, Inc.

Certificate of Achievement

TEN-TEN INTERNATIONAL NET, INC.
AWARDS THIS **SPIRIT OF 76** CERTIFICATE TO
- Castle Craig Chapter -

*Second Place
Chapter
July 2019*




Dan Morris
Dan Morris, KZ3T— #41015
Certificate Manager 10-10 International Net, Inc.



WARG Committee update from KC1SA

Trying to put together an 'ice breaker' for this Key Klix column brought to mind perhaps not everyone knows how the WARG Committee formed or what WARG is all about.

Chris Sievert, WA1VXH (SK), was the Wallingford EC (Emergency Coordinator) in the 2016 time frame which is about the time MARC was moving from one firehouse to another. Chris had lots of contacts with local police and fire department due to his work at Motorola which benefitted our organization through the years. When MARC moved from Cook Hill to our current OEM location, Wallingford Emergency Management personnel asked Chris 'what can your organization (MARC) do to aid Wallingford'. Chris referred to this as MARC 'paying rent' or being 'good tenants' while we are using the OEM building. The idea of how can we help Wallingford and surrounding towns morphed into what is now the WARG Committee.

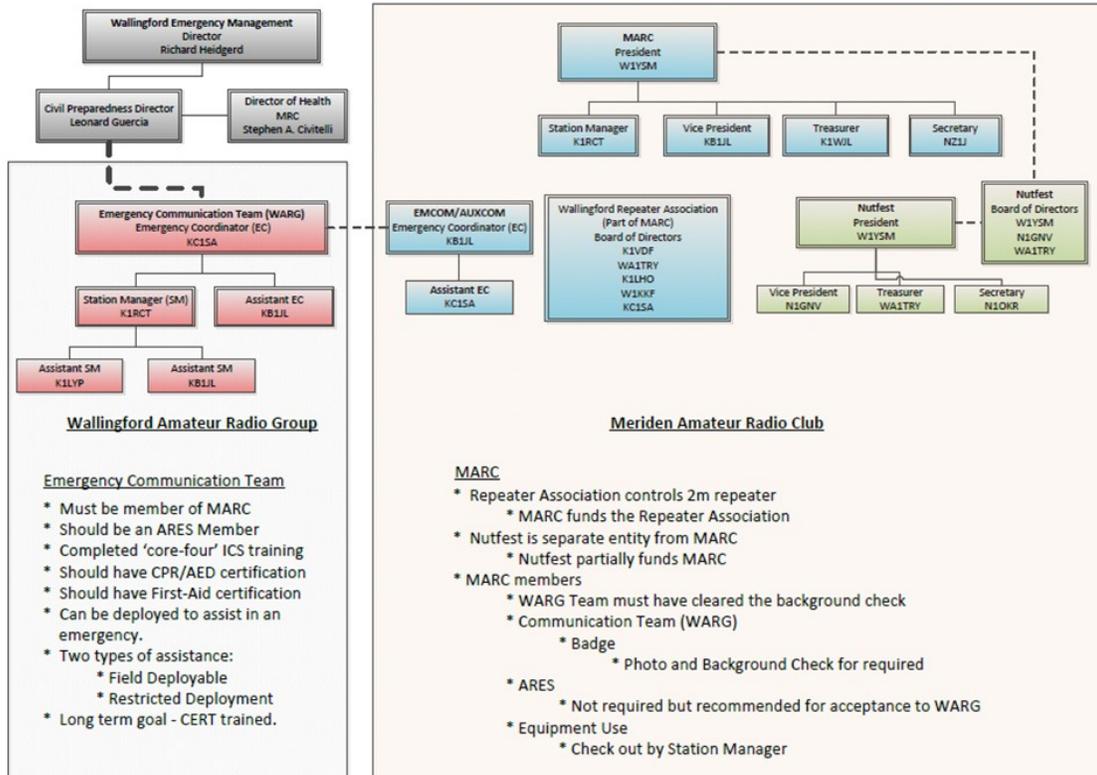
WARG is a standing Committee within the Meriden Amateur Radio Club (MARC). Below is the current ORG chart which shows the communication paths from Town Officials into WARG/MARC. WARG workings more or less follow Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) type structure. The group goal is to meet four times per year with town Emergency Management for planning purposes and once or twice per year for drills. In the event of an emergency, Wallingford Emergency Management would activate our group to provide communication assistance. The structure of activation, providing assistance during an event, and closing down operations after an event, is all outlined by the FEMA ICS documents.

You've probably seen my emails asking for more MARC members to be part of the WARG committee. We are going to need help. During the Wallingford 350th Jubilee celebration the WARG group will be activated to provide communication assistance and we'll need about 16 people manning stations in the town. If you're interested in joining the team, start by beginning the ICS training journey. This link gives a good background on ICS and where to go to start the the training;

http://www.d1south.org/auxhumanresources/new-member-resources/21_incident-command-system-exams.pdf

Next month: Equipment, ICS, CERT

MARC – WARG Organization Chart



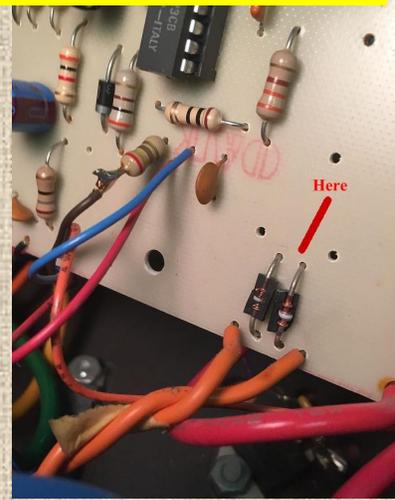
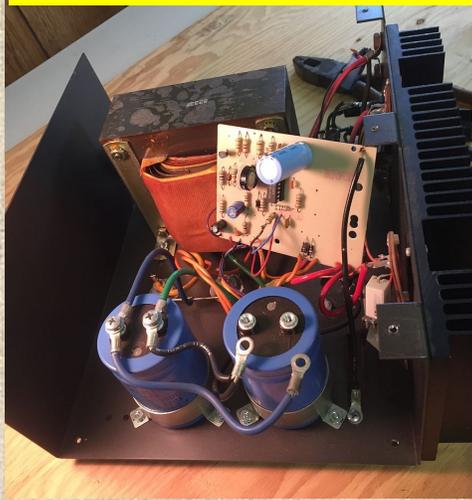
SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE EOC

Saturday mornings at the EOC involves a myriad of activity, from operating the station, getting tutorial help for your license(or advancement), VE sessions, repairing equipment or getting evaluations, general BS'ing or helping with station improvement. All are welcome.... Thanks to Ted KC1DOY, Jeff N1AKN, John K1LYP, Ed W1YSM, Eric KB1JL and many others who provide the KK with pix's of activities...

TED KC1DOY ON THE BENCH



REPAIRS TO AN ASTRON POWER ASUPPLY / BLOWN DIODES



JEFF N1AKN REPAIRING AUDIO CONNECTION ON A BEARCAT SCANNER



JEFF N1AKN & DAVE NZ1J ASSEMBLING A 220 METER BEAM





The Shack

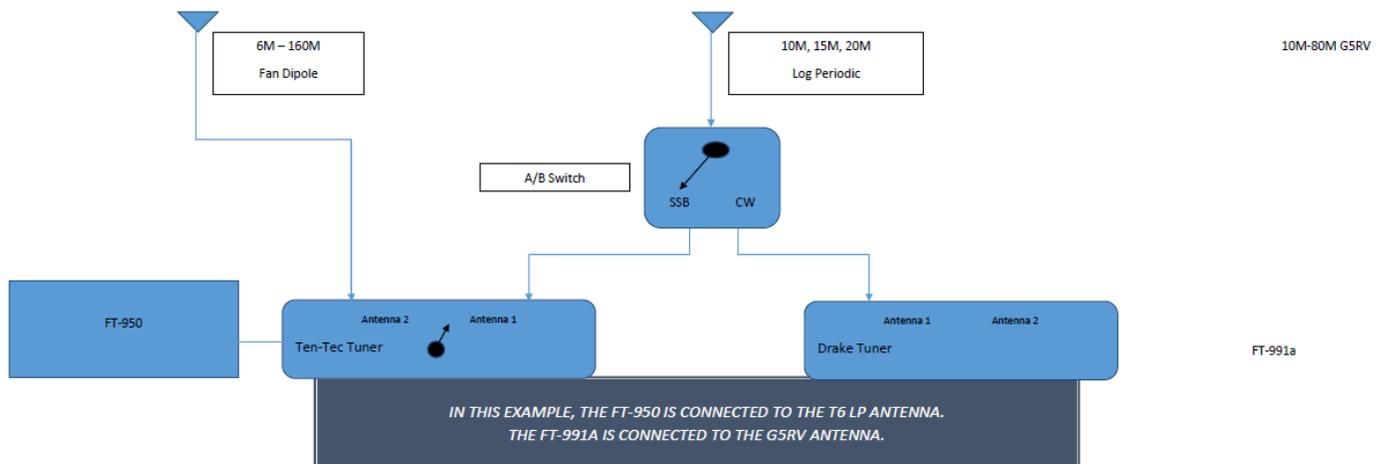
STATION ACTIVITIES MANAGER ROB CICHON K1RCT

The 6 Meter .3 element was beam installed at the Firehouse Saturday. Very flat across the band, less than 2.0 SWR without tuning 50.1 to 54.0 MHz.

It is connected to the FT-991a on the VHF North Station (nearest the window). 100W on 6M. Connected through the grounding system with a polyphaser in-line. It will be connected to the VHF-PC for rig control and logging as well as (eventually) transmission recording for EOC use.

I am planning an orientation meeting soon with all of the Station Improvements and new operating conditions. FYI we also are now sharing the LP between both HF Stations. There is an A/B Switch mounted on the wall.

Each Station must use the manual Tuner Antenna Selection Switch AND the manual tuning system. No more internal tuner use for either HF Station. There will be a block diagram near the Tuners soon explaining how to use the gear.



Both stations have access to the directional T6 LP Antenna now.

The FT-950 is connected to the Ten-Tec Tuner. The FT-991a is connected to the Drake Tuner. *Internal Tuning is no longer used.* It is disabled on each rig. Use the **External Tuner only** on each.

Ten-Tec: Antenna port #2 is the Fan Dipole. Drake: Antenna port #2 is the G5RV.

Tennadyne T6 L.P., is connected to each Tuner on Antenna port #1 via an A/B Switch.

Either station may use the T6 by selecting Antenna Port #1 on THAT Tuners Antenna Selector.

You must also select the correct Station on the A/B Switch. The T6 may not need manual tuning.

Select the correct Band on each Tuner in-use! Consult the tuning chart for each Tuner in-use!

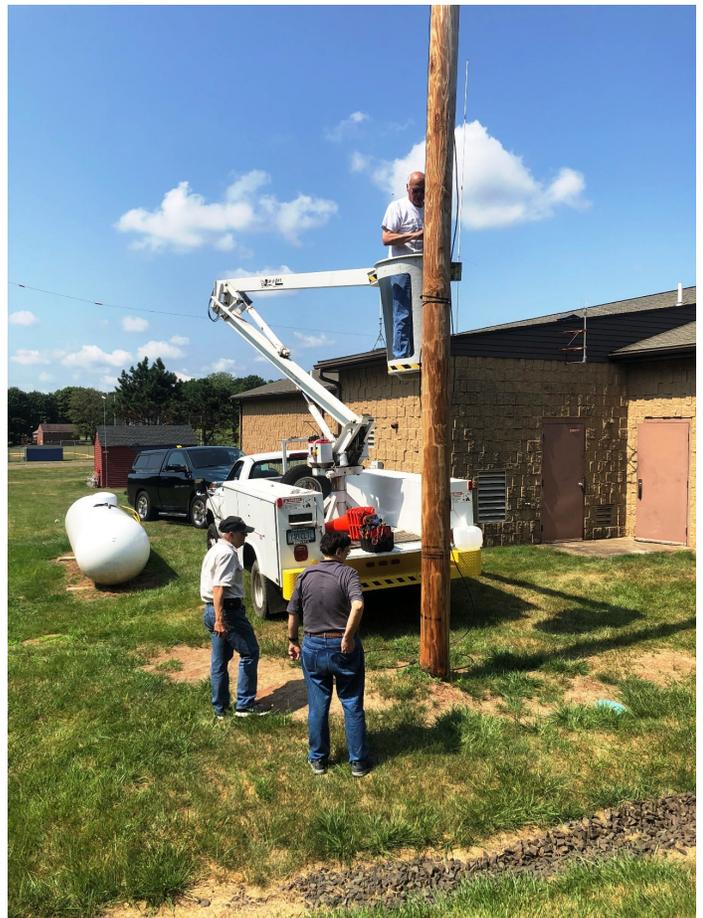
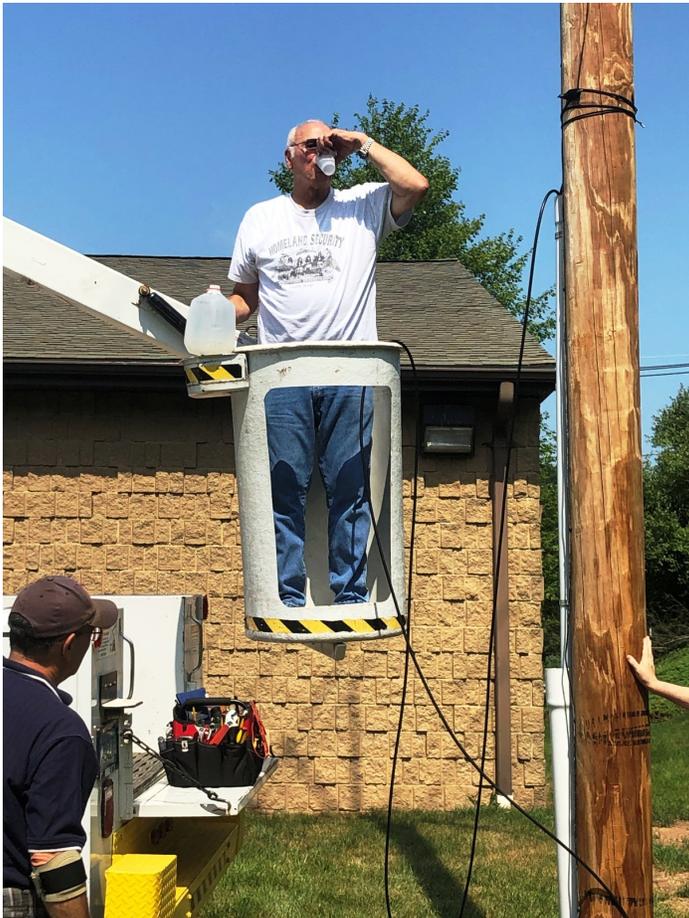
Use low power while manually tuning, 5W maximum! Observe SWR as you tune around.

!> Failure to adhere to this could damage a Transceiver <!

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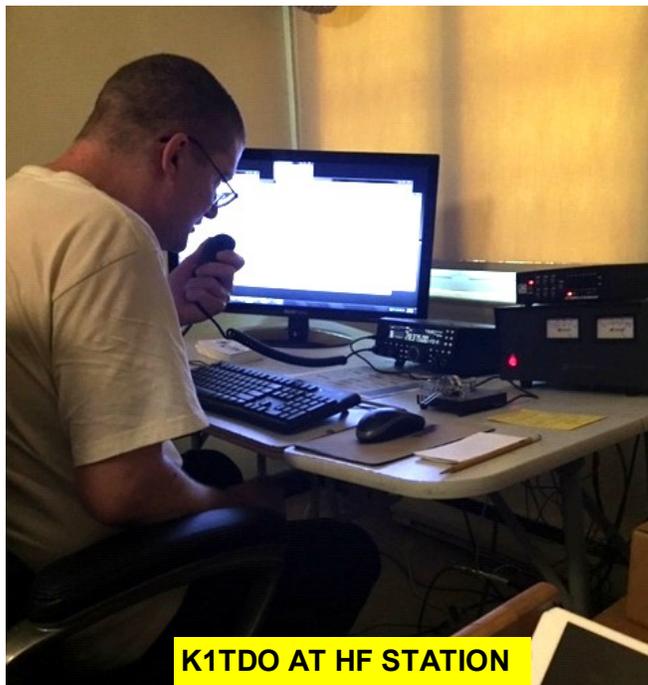
K1RCT SAM Column continued

Attached are pix of K1LYP in action, erecting the 6 meter beam at the firehouse Saturday morning. Rob was supervising and he and Ed, N1YLN brought the coax into the shack and hooked it up to the VHF station... Installation was successful with QSOs with club members N1ZN, W1DQ, and KR1U, 55 miles away in the northeast corner of CT.





K1TDO TODD OLSEN



K1TDO AT HF STATION

K1TDO Todd David Olsen, was born 1969 in New Haven, CT. From an early age he developed a penchant for learning computers and associated devices. He credits his father, an electrical engineer, for opening the world of electronics to him. He was 15 when he got his first computer, a tape driven Commodore 64 with 300 baud modem. From computer BBS Todd went on to packet radio and then to various ham radio modes.

He was first licensed as KA1WYH in 1990 and steadily progressed to where he now holds the esteemed Extra class radio license. His early radio equipment consisted of a Kenwood TS-430, manual tuner, and G5RV antenna, which was later upgraded to a Yaesu FT-450D and an LDG AT-200 Pro II automatic antenna tuner. His present antenna is a Rocket 88.

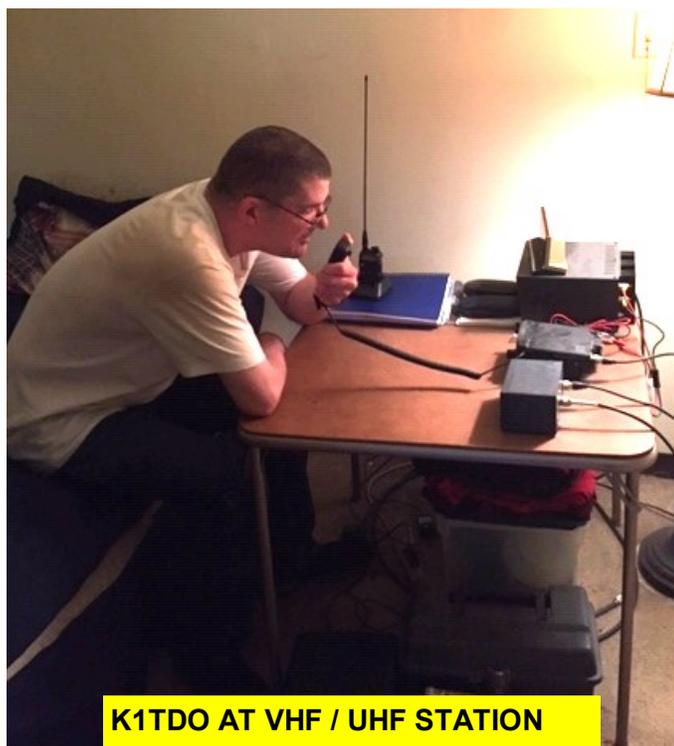
Todd has 30 years experience in Karate, a martial art he feels has kept him grounded and disciplined. He holds a 2nd degree black belt in Tang Soo Do, and a 1st degree black belt in Rossi Kun Tao International, both earned under the same master, Eric Breur. Todd has found that practitioners of martial arts come to realize that the body follows the mind, and that there is no enlightenment beyond self.

In 2012 MARC voted Todd "Ham of the Year." He enjoys MARC's yearly Field Day and is also Net Control for the 147.360 two-meter net which meets every Tuesday at 7:30pm. He is also Net Control for the KB1AEV linked repeater, two-meter SARA net on Wednesday at 8:45pm.

In 2003 Todd teamed up with Bob Carruthers, KB1FYL, to form the musical duo called "Bob Cat and the Night Owl" a country/folk/blues genre; or what Bob calls a salty taste of the blues. They rank #1 on the Southington reverb-nation chart, and got a Garage Band 3 star rating for "Bustin' My A.." They can also be heard on KIAC internet radio.

Todd is also a certified audio engineer with ProTools recording software and operates his own recording studio. He has also launched a private label studio for musicians and records under Silent Flute Production Company.

Todd prefers SSB operating and has 24 countries confirmed and 22 states, so far. He primarily operates 20 and 40 meters.



K1TDO AT VHF / UHF STATION



**K1TDO PIX'S
TO THE LEFT I HIS
RESIDENCE WITH GP-1
ANTENNA ON THE ROOF
TO THE RIGHT HIS G5RV**



LARK in the PARK 2019

July 22nd at Marcus Cooke Park..another great Lark in the Park enjoyed by 28 members and their families. Weather was perfect, mosquitoes were lost in the woods, no Bear or Moose sightings, just plenty of Hams. Food was excellent And a good time was had by all. Rob K1RCT awarded Commemorative 13 Colony Mugs to the operators of the very successful recent 13 Colonies operation at the club station.



LARK in the PARK 2019



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

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 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
FORUM/BBS:
www.w1nrg.com/forum/
 or go to website and follow links
CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 WEBSITE:
 go to 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	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	19	KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	19	W1LV	Steve Morley	19
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	19	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	19	W1NHS	Fred Ring	19
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	19	KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	19	W1NNZ	William Kosche III	19
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	19	KC1NS	Nancy Tipping	19	W1POP	Fred Liedke	21
K1LHO	Mike Ash	19	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	19	W1UFO	Mike Cei	19
K1LYP	John Yusza	19	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	19	W1VCU	Nelson Denison	L
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	20	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	19	W1XK	Stan Kugler	19
K1MVM	Mike Macri	19	KE4EYA	Ralph Ring	19	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	19
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	19	KR1U	Bob Eslinger	19	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	19
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	19	N1API	Al Kaiser	19	WA1JKR	John Rogus	20
K1STM	Anne West	19	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	19	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	19
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	19	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	19	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	19	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	19	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	19
K1VDF	John Blevins	19	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	19	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	19
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	19	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	19
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	19	N1HCA	Susan South	19	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	19	N1KGY	Chuck Ayers	20	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	19
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	20	N1LGH	Barbara Stone	19		Ron Rogers	20
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	19	N1MOB	Dan David	19			
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	19	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	19			
KB1MFU	John Ramadei	19	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	19			
KB1ORB	Mark Noble	19	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	19			
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	19	N1POP	Greg Ploski	19			
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	19	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	19			
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	19	N1ZN	James Savage	19			
KC1FJJ	Richard Nagy Jr.	19	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	20			
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	18	W1DJB	Dylan Barrett	19			
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	19	W1DQ	John Elengo	19			