# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1947 - 2020



AUGUST 2020











## The President's Net Control Corner



## Ed W1YSM, President MARC

As hard as it is to believe, President Ed is speechless or in this case column-ness this month... Ed came down ill this past week and is recovering (and he assures us it was not the Covid). We wish him a speedy recovery so he may continue to Captain the USS MARC through these turbulent seas & lack of sunspots.

We are sad to report that Geraldine Ciezniak XYL to Paul K1SEZ (SK) has passed away recently. Our condolences go out to the Ciezniak family and also to Fred Ring W1NHS, her brother in law..

## A message from Anne K1STM

Within the past few weeks I received a diagnoses of stomach cancer. Needless to say, my head is spinning with fear, thoughts and anxiety. At this time, I am seeing many doctors and digesting many things. However, I'm feeling mostly well but for constant discomfort in my stomach. Life goes on as usual for now but that can change in a heartbeat.

I am not keeping the cancer a secret so the entire membership can know anytime. Il will keep you posted as time goes on but I know I'm in for a long road of surgery and treatment.

Anne West K1STM@frontier.com

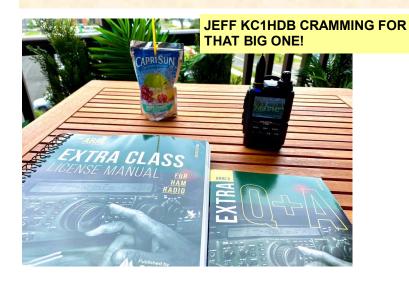
We all wish Anne a Speedy recovery and hope to see her back at meetings once they resume.

August Business meeting on ZOOM Thursday August 13th 7:30pm....

The ZOOM meeting ID and password will be disseminated via Rob K1RCT Email & club reflector just prior to the meeting. Telephone log-ins are also welcome....

#### FIELD DAY ACTIVITY

The MARC had 22 entries in the special 1D category operation this year, Logs from K1JCF, K1LHO, K1LYP, K1RCT, K1VDF, K1WJL, KB1EHE, KB1JL, KC1ISI, KC1KQH, KC1SA, KE1AU, N1API, N1BRL, N1YLN, N1ZN, NZ1J, W1DQ, W1EDX, WA1FFT, WB1GYZ, and WV2LKM were received at the ARRL. Rob K1RCT would like to receive the full report, that you entered to the ARRL so he could declare a winner for the special award he has.







## **ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

ED W1YSM (ACTING ACTIVITIES MANAGER)

W1NRG CLUB ACTIVITIES										
DAY	TIME (ET)	BAND	FREQ (MHz)	NCS	NAME	WHEN				
MONDAY 2000 – 2100		6M	50.175	N1ZN - JIM	6M NET	EVERY MONDAY				
TUESDAY	1930 -2000	2M (R)	147.36	K1TDO - TODD	2M NET	EVERY TUESDAY				
	2000 – 2100	10M	28.375	K1VDF - JOHN	10M NET & 10-10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAP.	EVERY TUESDAY				
WEDNESDAY	1900 – 2000	10M	28.375	W1YSM - ED	W1NRG OPEN NET	EVERY WEDNESDAY				
THURSDAY	1930 – 2030	2M (R)	147.36	AB1DQ - JAMES	2M TECH NET	1 <sup>ST</sup> & 3 <sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY EACH MON				
	1930 – 2100	-	-	W1YSM - ED	MARC BUSINESS MTG	2 <sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY EACH MONTH				
	1930 – 2100	-	-	W1YSM – ED	MARC ACTIVITIES MTG	4 <sup>™</sup> THURSDAY EACH MONTH*				
FRIDAY	-	-	-	-	-	-				
SATURDAY	0900 - 1000	2M (R)	147.36	W1YSM - ED	COFFEE CUP NET	EVERY SATURDAY DURING COV				
	1100 - 1300	VAR	VAR	NZ1J – DAVID	FOX HUNT	EVERY SATRUDAY DURING COV				
SUNDAY	-	-	-	•	-	-				

The August 27th Activity is still being determined at this time.... Stay Tuned...

ALL MEETINGS ARE NORMALLY AT THE EOC HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE
143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD HOWEVER THEY ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

PRES W1YSM
VP KB1JL
SECT K1STM
TRES K1WJL
S.A.M. K1RCT

ED SNYDER
ERIC OLSSON
ANNE WEST
DAVE SWEDOCK
ROB CICHON

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#### MARC TECH NET GURU JAMES AB1DQ

#### TECH NET - The Next Phase

The Meriden Amateur Radio Club's Tech Net has gotten off to a strong start in the past year and is going through some exciting changes. At the July Club Business Meeting it was agreed to move the net from Wednesday nights where it had been called on a weekly basis, to the first and third Thursdays of the month, occurring on the weeks that MARC does not usually meet.



Our Tech Net is intended to provide a dynamic forum where club members can share their areas of expertise across a broad range of ham radio technical topics including antenna modeling, test equipment, electronic fundamentals. troubleshooting, operating, and license question reviews. It is a place where new hams (and not-so-new hams) can come to learn more about our technical hobby and have their questions answered. James, AB1DQ, has volunteered to take the reigns and to serve as a coordinator of the net. He will be responsible for recruiting net control operators, seeking feedback from the club for topic ideas, and scheduling and promoting the net. When asked why he had v olunteered. James replied, "I've gotten a lot from my MARC membership over the last five years, it's time for me to be more than a barnacle on the hull of our metaphorical ship." James' plans also include a broader promotion of the Tech Net, seeking to advertise throughout the local ham community to garner more participation and he is exploring ways to incorporate internet resources so presenters can share diagrams and other material live online during the net. James also envisions publishing regular net reports via the MARC reflector which will include a summary of the topic presented and a list of additional resources for further exploration. Right now, we are looking for feedback, including ideas for future net topics, and volunteers. All MARC members have something to offer, as our knowledge base is broad and diverse like ham radio itself. Do you have an idea for a topic? Are you willing to serve as an NCS? Can you help in any other way? You are invited and encouraged to respond to the current Tech Net Survey which can be found at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TechNetSurvey">https://tinyurl.com/TechNetSurvey</a>. James also welcomes direct feedback via email at <a href="james@ab1dq.com">james@ab1dq.com</a>. Please spread the word as you are able and plan to join us for our next Tech Net, on Thursday August 6, 2020 on the 147.360 repeater at 7:30 PM and watch for a listing of upcoming net topics soon!

#### HAM RADIO RESOURCE PAGE DE AB1DQ JAMES

### **UPCOMING HAMFESTS & FLEA MARKETS...**

Online Hamfest Announced! Check ARRL News. QSO Today has announced a "virtual" Hamfest that you can participate in online next month (August 8 and 9). This is an ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest and there are speakers and presentations planned. Check it out and register at https://www.gsotodayhamexpo.com/

The Northeast HamXposition, ARRL NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE convention has been rescheduled to November 6 – 8 2020 and has moved this year from tired old Boxboro to wired new Marlboro, being held at the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel. http://hamxposition.org

Cancelled local hamfests.

Due to the ongoing travel restrictions related to the Covid-19 Pandemic the 2020 Connecticut Nutmeg Hamfest and ARRL CT State Convention has been cancelled. Nutmeg plans to return in October 2021. http:// www.nutmeghamfest.com

NEAR-Fest 28, originally scheduled to happen in October at the Deerfield Fair Grounds in Deerfield, NH has also been cancelled. NEAR-Fest 29, is scheduled for April 30, and May 1, 2021. https://near-fest.com/

## **Partial List of Ham Radio Educational Resources**

## YouTube:

**BiaCliveDotCom** The trashiest electronic channel on YouTube. Big Clive tests and uses affordable electronic soldering equipment and tools to build, teardown, modify (and sometimes destroy) random electronic stuff. **CBRadioMagazineDotCom** CBradiomagazine.com is an online magazine with CB radio related articles and reviews. We test radios, explain modifications, and provide in depth information for CB radio users.

David Casler Dave loves and he loves bringing it to others! He creates ham radio training videos as well as videos on other ham radio topics, including technical and operating topics. His goal is to help those new to ham radio progress through the ranks and enjoy the hobby to its fullest.

Fran Blanche Geek Girl Makes Stuff! Fran is a pedal designer, engineer, artist, musician, seamstress, occasional radio DJ, subpar singer, and full time goofball.

Making vacuum tubes and making things with vacuum tubes.

HamNation Share in the excitement and importance of ham radio - from tossing an antenna wire into a tree allowing you to talk to the world, to the importance of ham radio operators in time of disasters with hosts Bob Heil, Gordon West, George Thomas, Don Wilbanks, Valerie Hotzfeld, Amanda Alden, and Dale Puckett.

**K6UDA** Elmer with Attitude. Not to serious, not to in depth and its funny and fun to watch.

**K7AGE** Randy, K7AGE, has many videos about amateur, ham, radio. Learn how to operate and program your 2 meter FM radio, operate PSK-31 and how to build antennas. Many of his videos are aimed at beginners with learning about the basics of amateur radio.

Mr. Carlson's Lab Electronic "how to's," and random project descriptions.

Official SWL Channel Everything about Shortwave radio

**QRP School** Cliff Batson (N4CCB)'s companion YouTube channel, QRPSchool.com, a blog he started in order to share my experience and my ongoing adventures in low-power amateur radio.

<u>The Radio Mechanic</u> Self described as "random radio tips" but really, so much more for anyone interested in radio restoration.

<u>The Radio Shop</u> KC4UMO's channel dedicated to Ham and CB related. He repairs lots of vintage Ham and CB gear.. Publications:

**QST** Each month, QST delivers product reviews, construction projects, fascinating activities and stories, news and happenings, and more--all from the world of Amateur Radio.

**QEX** Each issue of QEX brings a variety of practical and theoretical articles, covering RF techniques and equipment--digital and analog, HF through microwaves; antennas and propagation; components and building blocks; design and analysis software; power supplies; oscillators and synthesizers; and much more. QEX strives to maintain a balance between theoretical and practical content. Articles range from simple construction projects to progress in radio theory.

NCJ The best news and information for contesters! Each issue of NCJ features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties. Whether you're a big gun or small, NCJ provides a valuable source of information on the active world of competitive radio.

On the Air The ARRL's newest publication, On the Air magazine covers a range of ham radio interests and topics, delivering introductory techniques and stories to help anyone with a beginner-to-intermediate-level of experience <a href="QRP Quarterly">QRP Quarterly</a> The quarterly journal of the QRP Amateur Radio Club International, each issue is packed with projects, theory and tips & tricks – a useful resource, even if you're a QRO!

**CQ Magazine** This is the magazine for active hams, with a focus on the practical.

<u>Practical Wireless</u> Aimed at the licensed radio amateur and caters for the amateur radio hobby, Practical Wireless is a 'doing' magazine focusing on the practical and constructional side of amateur radio and appeals to all ages. Podcasts:

<u>Ham Radio Workbench</u> The Ham Radio Workbench Podcast serves as a means to introduce hams of all ages to the excitement and creativity of making in amateur radio. George and Jeremy educate and inspire hams to explore electronics, software, and radio through experimentation with things such as Arduino, Raspberry Pi, and custom built projects for the Workbench listeners.

100 Watts and a Wire This podcast features topical conversation, interviews and news. Join Christian, K0STH at the intersection of life and amateur radio and follow a journey of discovery through this important pubic service and hobby.

Amateur Radio Newsline An essential weekly audio news bulletin called a "QST" or "bulletin of interest to radio amateurs"

ARRL Audio News A summary of the week's top news stories in the world of Amateur Radio, along with interviews and other features.

Ham Radio 360 No longer producing new episodes, there is an extensive archive created for the "New Guy". Hosted by Cale Nelson, K4CDN, the show chronicled his journey with over 3 and a half years of interviews and projects for all things Ham Radio. The show ran from 2014-2018.
Books:

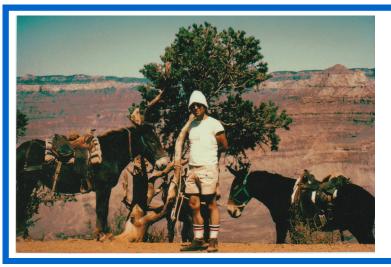
ARRL Handbook The Handbook needs no introduction, it continues to be the definitive source for all technical things in the realm of RF.

<u>ARRL Antenna Book</u> a single resource covering antenna theory, design and construction, and practical treatments and projects. This book contains everything you need to understand how radio signals propagate, how antennas work, and how to construct your own antenna system.

ARRL Repeater Directory The 2020 Repeater Directory® includes "crowdsourced" listings contributed by users, repeater owners, and volunteer frequency coordinators. This means more listings, and updated more often. Public service volunteers: include this printed directory with your emergency 'go kit.'

<u>ARRL Operating Manual</u> A comprehensive guide to Amateur Radio operating — things you can do on the air with your gear. In some cases, you may need to pick up new software or another radio, antenna, or accessory, but in many cases you already have the tools you need to get started.

**RSGB Radio Communications Handbook** Published by the Radio Society of Great Brittain, their equivalent of the ARRL Handbook is comprehensive and worth owning as a reference guide.



I've been a Ham for 5 years now and while looking through some old photos I realized that I may have missed an opportunity. Back in my younger days when I went on adventures I took a trek in the Grand Canyon. I had a great time but had I been a Ham back then I could have combined both interests, outdoor adventures and Ham radio. I could have pioneered an entirely new activity. Mules On The Air! But maybe it's not too late and we could make this a new club activity.

So, does anyone in the club know where we can get some mules? 73 and hee-haw Ted KC1DOY



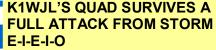
KR1U recently refurbished and upgraded his VHF/UHF antenna farm.
3 elements on 6
13 elements on 2
20 elements on 432
Isopole on 220.

FOR SALE: KC1AMJ is selling all his HF stuff. Yaesu FT757 with 2 mics and Astron 30A supply \$450 negotiable.

Heathkit SB201 Linear with matching meter and switching relay.

New power supply board and other internal parts . \$450

Contact Jeff N1AKN 203-525-1526







Thursday July 23, K1LYP, W1KKF, and KB1JL completed the installation of the new back up battery for the W1KKF repeater, replacing a battery that was 10 year old or more. The new 85 Ah battery replaces a 55 Ah battery. Should power fail, the repeater will revert to battery power, running 8 watts. In normal ops a trickle charge maintains battery charge status at all times.

From the top, Power supply, amplifier, repeater, duplexer with yellow bat-phone for control.



## Tales of the Non-Sanctioned Fox Hunts FROM THE NON-SANCTIONED CHAIR, DAVE NZIJ









On Sat, Aug 8, 2020 at 3:14 PM David Tipping < <a href="mailto:davidtip100@gmail.com">davidtip100@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

I set the Fox Box out in my yard again. This time the test is from now until 8:30pm Sunday. We'll see how the battery holds up for almost 30 hours. You're going to need to squint to see the box this time. It is chained to a tree at the edge of a wooded area and painted a shade of brown-green that is sometimes called Olive Drab.

Dave NZ1J

We had Fox Hunt #20 today at the Wallingford Parks and Rec Center. The traffic in Wallingford was bad and we had more multi-path than we've seen before. Rod, N1RUU, and his XYL joined us again from Enfield. This time, we got his photo. We've also got the Fox Box moved into John B's Hammo Can and deployed for its first overnight test. This is a great team project. Rob had custom made signs created which are a perfect fit on the Hammo Can. John B supplied the Hammo Can and some good technical advice. Bob, WB1GYZ, supplied the HT and monitored the box during last week's deployment.

### Dave NZ1J



ROD N1RUU & HIS XYL CAME DOWN FROM ENFIELD TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR FOXHUNT, MULTIPLE TIMES..

















NA1CN CHUCK FROM NORWICH CAME DOWN TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR FOX HUNT

Sixteen hams found their way to Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in Wallingford for today's Fox Hunt. A few weeks ago, we expanded our search area to 40 square miles, which has made the hunts a bit more challenging. Nevertheless, we had our biggest turnout and 100% success today. Though like everything else it must be done virtually, we've now got several teams in the hunt, as well as individuals. And, we've all had no trouble following the social distancing rules while hunting. Even if you're not set up to hunt, everyone is welcome to stop by and see how these hunts work. I can swear you to secrecy and email you the week's location just before a hunt.

Dave NZ1J #19

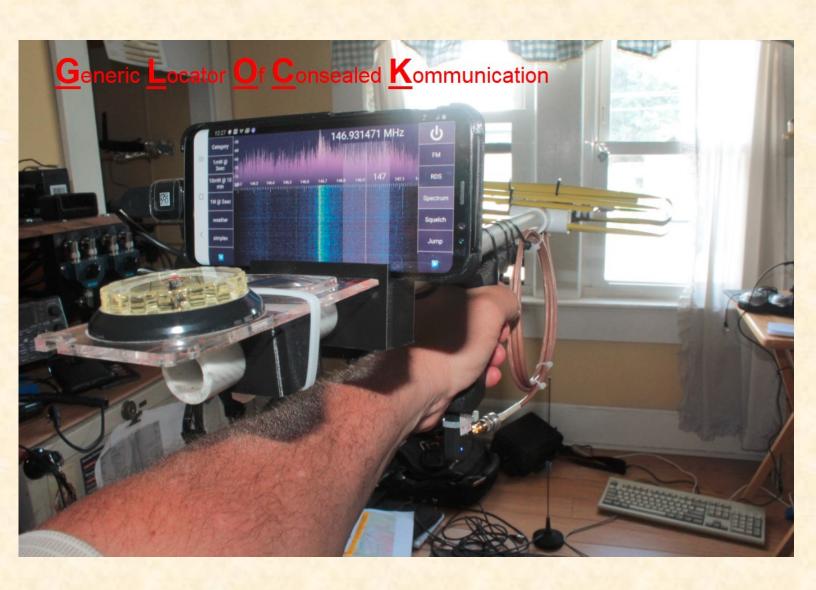


## The GLOCK – V DE STEVE KC1SA

The fox hunting bug bit me about week 9 of the COVID shut down. Everyone in the club was search for the fox but I was reluctant to join in since I didn't feel I had the hardware to effectively search for the furry creature. Then one Saturday the XYL urged me to try so I did. Armed with only my Baofeng HT I failed. The following week I tried again using my Baofeng HT and a small SDR dongle with the stock wideband antenna and I found the fox in about 40 minutes. Future hunts I primarily used just my SDR dongle and had pretty good success.

N1ZN offered up an extra tape measure antenna he had made up and I jumped at the offer. Last weekend, using the tape measure antenna I found the fox in a little less than 20 minutes. My mapping techniques need improving but my rough estimates worked ok. This past week I've improved on the antenna setup and installed a compass and cell phone holder complete with a 3D printed handle. Armed with SigTrax on my phone for mapping and the new antenna addition I hope to get even better results. Only time will tell.

73- KC1SA



## RIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLU

#### **OFFICERS OF MARC**

PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON SECT.....K1STM ANNE WEST 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, THE HOPE HILL ROAD FIREHOUSE / EOC 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD ALL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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

#### **CLUB NETS**

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

2 METER NET TUESDAYS 7:30PM 147.36 /RPT NO PL

K1TDO TODD

10 METER NET 28.375MHZ

TUESDAYS 8PM K1VDF JOHN

10/10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAPTER (CONCURRENTLY WQITH CLUB NET) 28.375MHZ TUESDAYS 8PM N1API AL

2 METER TECH NET Thursdays 7:30PM 147.360+, no PL(on non-MARC meeting nites) **WEEKLY NET MODERATED BY VARIOUS AMATEURS WITH DIFFERENT TECHNICAL TOPICS AND Q&A SESSION** 

**2 METER COFFEE CUP NET** SAT 9AM 147.36+ NO PL W1YSM ED (THIS HAS ALSO A SIMULTANEOUS SECONDARY NET OF SORTS THROUGH THE VIDEO TELECONFERENCING W1NRG JITSI SITE)

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)

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER										
AB1DQ	James Surprenant	22	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	21					
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	20	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	20					
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	20	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	20					
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	20	N1GY	<b>Geoff Haines</b>	21					
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	20	N1HCA	Susan South	20					
K1LHO	Mike Ash	20	N1KGY	Chuck Ayers	20					
K1LYP	John Yusza	20	N1LES	Joe Murray	21					
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	20	N1MOB	Dan David	20					
K1MVM	Mike Macri	20	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	20					
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	20	N10KF	Bob Parisi	20					
K1SCI	Stuart Isaac	20	N10KR	Frank Ciccone	20					
K1STM	Anne West	20	N1POP	Greg Ploski	24					
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	20	N1QYB	William Wilecki Jr.	20					
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	22	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	20					
K1VDF	John Blevins	20	N1ZN	James Savage	20					
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	20	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	22					
KB1CIW	<b>Bob Stephens</b>	20	W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	20					
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	20	W1DQ	John Elengo	20					
KB1FYL	<b>Bob Carruthers</b>	20	W1EDX	Paul Stasieluk	20					
КВ1НСС	Jonathan Winslow	20	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L					
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	20	W1KPS	Kevin Shields	20					
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	20	W1LV	Steve Morley	20					
KB1MFU	John Ramadei	21	W1NHS	Fred Ring	20					
KB1SIT	Teresa Stephens	20	W1NNZ	William Kosche III	20					
KB1SSN	Alex Dills	20	W1POP	Fred Liedke	21					
KB1TJD	Gainne Jenkins	20	W1ST	Stephen Stimpson	20					
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	20	W1UFO	Mike Cei	20					
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	20	W1XK	Stan Kugler	19					
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	20	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	22					
KC1GMD	Ralph Ring	20	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	20					
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	28	WA1JKR	John Rogus	21					
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	20		Douglas Sharafanov						
KC1IIK	Scott Mowerson	20	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L					
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson		WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	20					
KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	20	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	20					
KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	20	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	20					
KC1MBG	Robert Luby	20	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20					
KC1PU	Bob Woodtke Jr.	21	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	20					
KC1SA	Stephen Allen	21	W9OTW	Debbie Foss	20					
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	20		Ron Rogers	20					
KE1AV	Dave Sanford	20	552		527					
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	20	The second secon	MEMBERSHIP STATS OTAL MEMBERS8	5500					
KR1U	Bob Eslinger	20		GULAR(UNDER65)4						
N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	20		NIOR(OVER 65)4						
N1API	Al Kaiser	20	LIF	E	2					
		1353	ST	UDENT(UNDER 18)	195					

**CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC)** UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15 ANY MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED HAM. 18 & UNDER WILL BE GIVEN FREE DUES.

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



