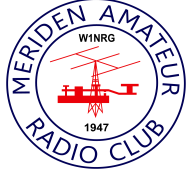


KEY KLIX

DECEMBER 2015
MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS, MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450
PRES W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP N1API AL KAISER SECT KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN
TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK S.A.M. KC1ACN ROB CICHON

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY THURSDAY DEC 10, 2015
ACTIVITY MEETING CANCELLED
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

Elections—Annual Meeting

The November 12 Business Meeting was the “Annual Meeting” and as per our by-laws it was the election night of officers for 2016. The current officers, Pres. Bill W1KKF, Vice Pres Al N1API, Sect Steve KC1AXJ, S.A.M. Rob KC1ACN, and Dave K1WJL as Treasurer were all unanimously (re)elected. A secret ballot for Ham of The Year and Elmer of the Year was conducted and the results will be announced at the Christmas Party.

Christmas Party---Dec 10---6pm at Brothers Restaurant

The December Business meeting and Activity Meeting are replaced by the Annual Christmas Party which will be on Thursday Dec 10 at the Brothers Restaurant. Doors open at 6PM for Social Hour with cash bar. Dinner served at 7PM. Menu: (some items may change slightly as we have used last years menu) Garden salad, Penne w. Marinara Sauce, Baked Sole, Sausage & Peppers, Chicken Marsala, Potato, Vegetable, Bread Basket, Butter, Fudge Roll, Coffee, Tea & Decaf. Cost for the dinner is the payment of your 2016 dues. Significant other cost is \$5.

Dues

The 2016 Dues are / will be due at the Annual Christmas Party on Thursday Dec 10. \$15 per year for Kids (in this club, that's actually anyone under 65) or \$10 for Seniors(65 & over---most of the club) and additional family members at \$5 each. If you can not make the party and wish to send it in, Please make checks out to the MARC and send to M.A.R.C. POB 583, Meriden CT 06450. Multiple year Dues will be accepted. The Editor / Treasurer will now place a year after your call on the last page in the Member List to denote what year your dues are **paid up through**. So if you see a 15 after your call, you owe for 2016 etc....

Non-Payment of dues will incur severe consequences ----Don't make us show you what will happen!!!!

(the “Dues Brothers”---K1WJL & K1VDF)

(Hint--K1WJL will trip and fall on you, accidently of course, and K1VDF will run over you with his walker which is now equipped with metal studs on the wheels for winter)

New Members:

We have received applications from Steve Morley W1LV of Hamden and Jim Suprenant AB1DQ of Cheshire as new members. We have invited them to the Christmas Party and hope we can officially welcome them in to the club.

Sweepstakes

Once again the crack operating teams of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club competed in intra-club competition during the recent Sweepstakes Contests. The CW Team (Beep-Beep boys) versus the SSB Team (Phonies) brought heated efforts, but as Murphies Law (not W1DMM) would have it, a massive Solar Flare of Biblical Proportions occurred during the CW weekend and prevented a clean sweep while conditions were exceptionally good for the Phonies who did manage a clean sweep....Congrats to all and an excellent article by KC1AXJ on the Sweepstakes is inside....

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa
to all and to all a good Night

THE WB1GYZ FILES

ERIC OLLSEN KB1JL



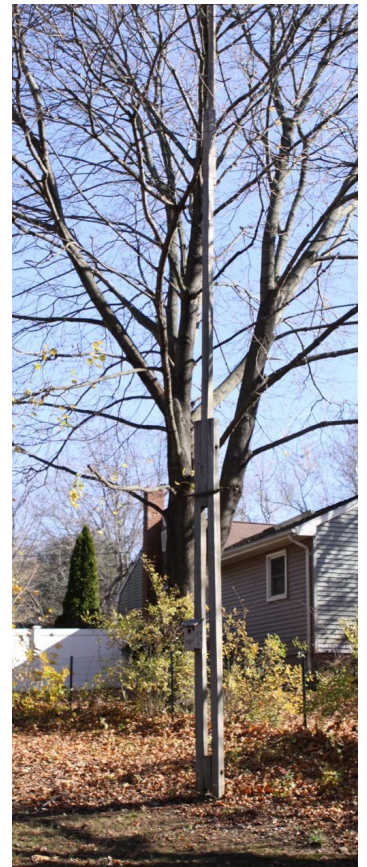
Eric, KB1JL was born at Bethesda, MD, and moved to Wallingford with his family in 1953. His interest in radio came quite early when he, as a youngster, built a Heath Kit GR-91 4 tube general coverage receiver. Soon after, he met John K1LYP, who was running the Civil Defense Radio Group and introduced him to Ham Radio. Eric got his Novice class license in 1964 (WN1CCR) and a few months later took the General class exam at the FCC

examining office in New York City, where he proudly dropped the “N” for an “A.”

His first rig as a ham was a home-brew 50 watt crystal controlled CW transmitter. He recalls having three crystals, sending CQ, and then scanning several KC’s either side of his transmit frequency listening for a reply. “Being rockbound in the CW portion of the band was a good thing, because it forced me to become more proficient with code.” Other early equipment included the Drake C-Line and TR-7. During the 70’s Eric started chasing DX. He also belonged to the Wallingford Amateur Radio Society WARS, and eventually served as its President. He became Area Two Emergency Coordinator and participated in nuclear power and disaster communications drills. He is also a Charter member of the Wallingford Repeater Association, and is one of two surviving Charter members. Eric also served as town Radio Officer for Wallingford. He and Mike KM1R, put Faulkner’s Island on the air for the 1985 and 1986 Field Day, using battery power. His father-in-law, Bill Hannell WA1MCI often operated at Eric’s shack.

In 2001 Eric retired from the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, and 13 days later was assisting with shelter communications for the Red Cross during 9/11, which was his last emergency communications assignment. After six weeks of retirement he decided to go back to work doing security at Midstate Medical Center. He recently retired again after 12 years and now enjoys recruiting youngsters into the radio hobby and learning about the ever changing technical aspect of radio communications. His main rig is an Icom 7200, and Drake MN2700 tuner, and a beautifully restored Zenith Transoceanic receiver occupies a prominent space in his shack. Antennas consist of a ladder-line fed 40 - 10 meter dipole, random 95’ end-fed wire and a HB wire antenna for 2 meters. Eric also built a self supporting 33 foot tilt-over wooden tower using pressure treated 4x4’s, threaded rod and carriage bolts, which still stands ready for service after 25 years.

73’s De WB1GYZ



The business meeting opened at 7:33 PM EDST on November 12, 2015 with 22 people in attendance.

Officers present: Bill (W1KKF), Al (N1API), Dave (K1WJL), Steve (KC1AXJ), Rob (KC1ACN).

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

Announcements – Next meeting is the Christmas Dinner on December 10th at Brother's Restaurant in Wlfd. Cocktails via cash bar are at 6PM and the Buffet Dinner is at 7PM. Bill (W1KKF) has been in contact with the owner of Brothers and everything is all set to go. Elections are tonight for Officers, Ham of the Year and Elmer of the Year. MARC is still looking for a Program & Entertainment Chairman.

Introductions – All in attendance introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – October's Secretary's Report was published on the W1NRG site and is recorded as read. There were no questions.

Treasurer's Report – An abbreviated report was given by Dave (K1WJL). Some finalized figures from accounts need to be retrieved from the web and will be provided by Dave. The figures were reviewed at meeting and accepted.

Contributions – None

Correspondence – Islands QSO card received and given to KE1AU. Vanguard documents received were given to W1KKF last Monday.

Program & Entertainment – MARC is still looking for someone to take this vacant Chairman spot.

Scholarship – Dan (W1DMM) is reviewing the updated Scholarship (the Scholarship re-write that was agreed upon at the August business meeting) guidelines document. Don will query Dan to see where the review process stands. We expect a report at January's meeting.

A motion was made to have Don Mitchel (KE1AY), Bill Wawrzeniak (W1KKF), Dave Swedock (K1WJL) and Steve Allen (KC1AXJ) to have signing power of the Vanguard Fund. These folks will have authority of signing of Vanguard Fund checks and to make changes to the Vanguard Fund selections. Recommendations to keep our investments in the current Vanguard Fund selections were made by Noble Wealth Management.

Club Station & Facilities – Rob provided a 2015 annual report of the station via a detailed write-up with equipment status and club contest status for the year are in this report. Field Day results place our club number one in New England for our class. CW Sweeps had 6 participants at the club, and SSB Sweeps is the weekend of November 21st.

Club Activities & Program (the 4th Thursday of the month) – Proposed January Activity meeting will be N1MM+ usage (this is tentative, Rob (KC1AN) checking with Dave (W1CTN). Proposed February Activity meeting will be MARC reflector and other Club knowledge tidbits.

Nets –

Todd, John and Jim gave a few minutes talk on the Nets. Overall good participation in these Nets is seen.

10M – 10 to 12 check in's this past week.

6M – 6 to 8 this past week.

2M – Todd reported 5 to 6 check ins each week.

Castle Craig –

The first fill weekend in February is the next 10-10 event, and is the 10-10 QSO party.

Hamfests – Bill (W1KKF) reported attendance was down by about ten percent. The cold weather, conflict events and such were possible causes but the weekend chosen was selected to get the maximum number of vendors to come to the event. The year ends at the end of February for the Nutfest group so around March 2016 there will be a Nutfest board of directors meeting for the 2016 Nutmeg Hamfest year.

Key Klix – Dave (K1WJL) appreciates the articles folks are writing so keep them coming for publication.

Membership – 60 total, no new additions.

Interference and Technical – No problems reported

Repeater – Not discussed

Instruction & Testing – Not discussed

Candy Store – Still have hats for \$10, one sold at this meeting.

EmComm – SET is this weekend (November 14/15) and looking for volunteers from MARC to assist with this event. Steve (KC1AXJ) requested folks see him after the meeting if interested. Names will be given to Mike Meadows (KC1AYL). A request was made to use the W1KKF repeater during SET and was granted.

Misc Old Business –

ARIS Space station – Paul (K1SEZ) reported that no progress has been made on this and to place on the back burner for now.

Wallingford Amateur Radio Group banner was received and displayed at tonight's meeting..

New Business –

N1MM+ software is a migration path the club will be taking for logging contests. Interface cables will need to be made to interface from the current club radios and the club laptops.

Rich (WA1TRY) reported the bill for the internet is due the end of November, the amount is \$159. Rich also reported he wants his name removed from the account. Rob (KC1ACN) will replace Rich as the contact person for the site. Mark (K1PU) will remain the webmaster. A motion was made to pay the bill, was voted on and approved. Rich will get Dave (K1WJL) the bill for payment.

T-Mobile has changed their plan T&Cs for Hotspot. In the past we spent \$40 to renew a number and \$10 / month for 3 GB to keep it active. Now the plans is \$40 for 5GB for 30 days, \$50 to reactive a number. We paid the \$50 for the CW Sweeps contest and will cover us for the SSB Sweeps however the 10M contest date will be beyond the 30-day period. A motion was made to pay the \$40 expenditure for the 10M contest. The motion was voted down.

T-Mobile suggested, keeping costs contained, to find a member who has T-Mobile and having that member add the club's line to their contract, this would be \$10 / month. Is there a MARC members willing to do this? This would have to be voted on (for re-imburement to that MARC member), but we are looking for a T-Mobile member who would be interested in doing this.

A motion was made to increase the scholarship to \$600 to keep in line with tax laws. The motion was voted on and approved.

Elections were held for club officers. John (K1VDF) handed out the ballots for the attendees of tonight's meeting. The ballot had all the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Station Activities Manager. There were no nominations for the offices, so the Steve (KC1AXJ) cast one unanimous ballot and current 2015 officers will be the same for 2016.

Nominations

- Ham of the Year – Rob (KC1ACN)
- Ham of the Year -- Mark (K1PU)
- Ham of the Year – Haggie (KB1HCC)
- Ham of the Year – Steve (KC1AXJ)
- Elmer of the Year – Bill (W1KKF)
- Elmer of the Year – Dave (W1CTN)
- Elmer of the Year – Steve (KC1AXJ)
- Elmer of the Year – Dave (K1WJL)

Meeting was closed at 8:40 PM

Meeting Attendees on November 12, 2015

Call Sign	Name	November
K1LYP	John Yusza	Y
WIATV	Walter Yatzook	Y
K1VDF	John Blevins	Y
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	Y
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	Y
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	Y
KB1JL	Eric Olson	Y
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon	Y
WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	Y
KC1AXJ	Stephen Allen	Y
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	Y
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	Y
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	Y
WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	Y
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	Y
N1API	Al Kaiser	Y
N1ZN	James Savage	Y
W1DQ	John Elengo	Y
W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	Y
WA1VXH	Christian Sievert	Y
WA1ZVY	Tony, Jim Martin	Y
WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	Y



**KB1JL OPERATING ANTENNA--
A G5RV**



ARRL Sweeps – November 2015



M W1NRG 47 CT

W1NRG participated as a club for Sweeps for both CW and SSB activities this year, this is quick write up from the SSB event. The equipment setup was in back of Bay One at the club house which made for spacious movement. The USB to RS232 Adapter failed at Rig Control. After a brief troubleshoot, Rob brought his Adapter up from his Shack since he has a TS450SAT. Downloading the drivers was a snap since the HotSpot was still activated. Reboot and the Rig was now all set. N1MM+ was used for logging the events and the normal club rig equipment used was the Kenwood but coupled with the Ameritron 811H and the G5RV antenna. Coffee was on the pot and we were good to go to take on the task of a clean sweep!

The event started Saturday November 21st 4PM Local Time for SSB with the bands in pretty good shape. Haggie (KB1HCC) and John Bee (N1GNV) grabbed the first few hours of the event and by the time Steve (KC1AXJ) arrived for the 8PM slot 38 sections had already been logged! Switching bands with the amplifier was a little time consuming, having to fiddling with the tuner and amplifier settings before working a new band. Our SAM (Rob – KC1ACN) did a good job with cheat sheets and after making two or three band changes the task could be completed in less than a minute. Steve was relieved at 10PM by Rob and activity started to fade by 1AM so Rob called it by 1:45AM and shut down for the evening with 74 Sections in the log. Rob picked it backup Sunday morning and when Steve arrived back for the 10AM slot, ONN, UT, ME and AK were a few of the tough ones but at least ME and AK were being spotted (thank you N1MM+ for the assistance). Some sections were really elusive, so logging more contacts to increase the score was the secondary task. When Bob & Gianne (KB1FYI and KB1TJD) took over the 2PM slot all we needed for a clean sweep was ME and UT. John Bee was back operating later on Sunday and secured the final needed Section for the Sweep. Rob was back at 6PM to 'collect the crumbs'. At 8PM Local he closed the Station. Sweeps were in the books.



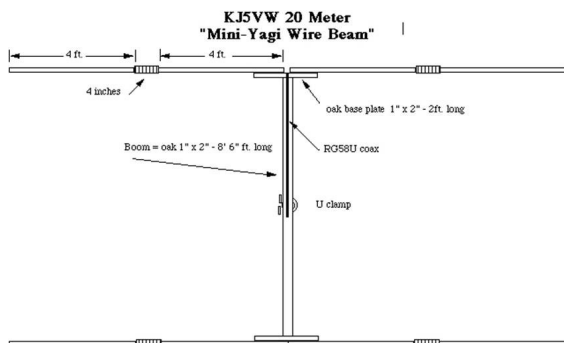
20 Meter Mini Beam Project by Walt Yatzook W1ATV

This project started a couple of years ago. I needed an antenna to monitor 20m while working out in the garage. I found this antenna on the web and it looked like something I could use. My version was an indoor wire antenna stapled to the attic rafter, wide inverted V style. The coils were wound on some 1/2" PVC. With the antenna stapled in place the driven element was tuned, minor cutting was needed. The reflector was tuned 5% lower in frequency. This was done by soldering a RCA jack in the center so as to have a place to attach the MFJ antenna analyzer. After tuning was completed a shorted RCA male connector replaced the reflector tuning spot. A number of contacts were made, I was impressed with how well it worked, being a mini beam and inside an attic. The peak of the garage is only 15' high.

Recently I've had the need for another 20m antenna to monitor the digi part of the band. With another 20m antenna I could work digi stations while still working SSB on the tribander at the other end of the band. This time I need something that I could mount on a rotator. After receiving my tubing from DX engineering I wound the coils and collected the needed hardware. Tuning was done in the backyard on a small tripod, this makes adjustments easy to do. I found that the original 32 turns was a bit too much, I ended up with 30 turns per coil. This version instead of wire used 1" OD for the inner 4ft section, then coil, then 4ft of 5/8" ID tubing. The reflector was tuned the same but this time the RCA female connector was mounted on a piece of Plexiglas that was bolted to the elements. The insulators for the elements to the boom were a simple pine board painted. The boom is three green fiberglass army surplus tent poles.

The SWR center is 14.075 and seems to be working as planned. With the addition of this antenna I can now work the digi bands on the second radio without have to switch over to the tribander. A version for a different band could be made by simply changing the loading coil and spacing. Try building something, its fun.

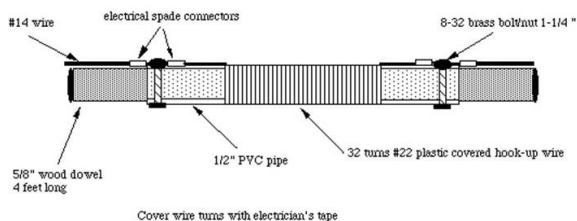
73's
Walt WA1ATV



Materials List

- | | |
|--|--|
| 8 - 5/8" wooden dowels | 8 - 8-32 brass bolts and nuts 1-1/4 inches long |
| 4 - 1/2" PVC pipe cut to 4 inches | 8 - 8-32 brass bolts and nuts 1 1/2 inches long |
| 2 - oak 1" x 2" cut to 24 inches | 12 - electrical spade connectors to fit 8-32 brass bolts |
| 1 - oak 1 1/2" x 2" cut to 8 feet 6 inches | 4 - metal "L" brackets to fit 1" x 2" boom |

Coil Assembly



The original construction article by KJ5VW on this Mini-beam is available from Editor K1WJL..
If interested please email me and I will forward..... dswedock@snet.net

MERRY CHRISTMAS



INFORMATION PAGE

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT....W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK
VICE PRES.....N1API AL KAISER
SECT.....KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN
TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK
STATION A.M...KC1ACN ROB CICHON

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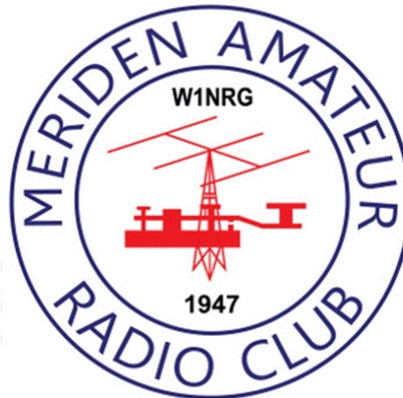
CLUB NETS

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

FORUM/BBS:

GO TO WWW.W1NRG.COM
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CASTLE CRAIG 1010 WEBSITE:

GO TO W1NRG.COM
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

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

MARC MEMBERS

AB1DQ

AB1HB

AF1HS

K1IIG

K1JTH

K1LHO

K1LYP

K1MVM

K1PU

K1RJC

K1SEZ

K1TDO

K1TG

K1THP

K1VDF

K1WJL

KA1NXX

KA1SE

KB1FYL

KB1GWP

KB1HCC

KB1JL

KB1MMS

KB1SIN

KB1TJD

KB1ZMK

KC1ACN

KC1AXJ

KC1BAQ

KE1AU

KE1AY

KJ4PV

Jim Suprenant

Charlie Dudac 15

Art Fregeau 15

Steve Tripp 15

John Hart, Jr. 16

Mike Ash 15

John Yusza 15

Mike Macri 15

Mark Mocoski 16

Rick Castaldo xx

Paul Ciezniak 15

Todd Olsen 16

Roger Kuchera 15

Dave Karpiej 15

John Blevins 17

Dave Swedock 15

Jan Rogus 15

Luke Laurentano 15

Robert W. Carruthers 15

Joseph Rish, Sr. 15

Jonathan Winslow 17

Eric Olsson 16

Ronald Slack 15

Bill Brooks 15

Gaianne Jenkins 15

Dan Busa 16

Rob Cichon 15

Stephen Allen 16

Joseph Hamm 15

Robert Kaczor 16

Donald Mitchell 16

Gary Bleasdale 15

N1API

N1BF

N1GNV

N1GY

N1LGH

N1NAN

N1OKF

N1VTE

N1ZN

NY2HF

W1ATV

W1CTN

W1DMM

W1DQ

W1KKF

W1LV

W1NHS

W1POP

W1SKP

W1VCU

W7FUR

WA1JKR

WA1TRY

WA1VXH

WA1ZVY

WB1GGP

WB1GYZ

WB8IMY

WV2LKM

WY1U

Al Kaiser 16

Patrick Dionne 15

John Bartscherer 15

Geoff Haines 19

Barbara Stone 15

Helen Spokes 15

Bob Parisi 15

Sarah Kaczor 16

James Savage 15

Dennis Lane 15

Walt Yatzook 15

David Arruzza 15

Dan Murphy L

John Elengo 17

Bill Wawrzeniak L

Steve Morley

Fred Ring 15

Fred Liedke 18

Skip Paquette 15

Nelson Denison L

William Spokes 15

John Rogus 15

Rich Aubin 15

Chris Sievert 15

Jim Martin 17

Jerry Sheppard 15

Bob Biancur 16

Steve Ford 15

Steve Waldmann 15

Tim Mik 15