

# KEY KLIX



## MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1947 - 2018



OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS, MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450  
PRES W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP N1API AL KAISER SECT KC1SA STEVE ALLEN  
TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK S.A.M. K1RCT ROB CICHON

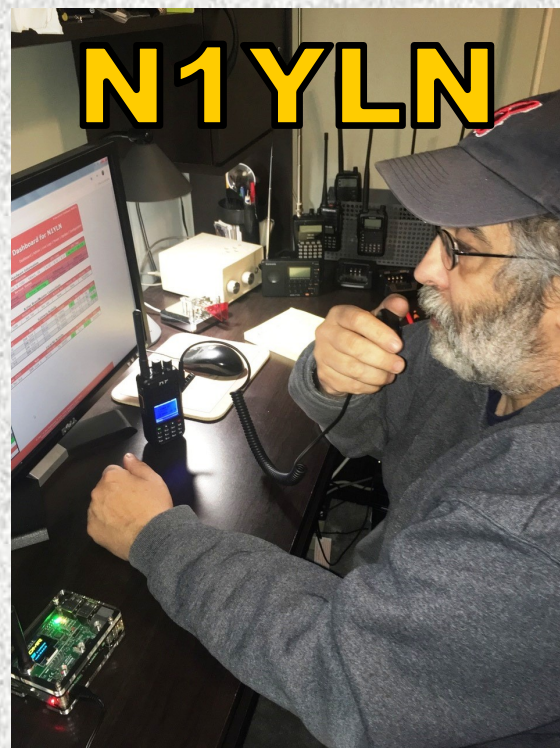
KEY KLIX EDITOR —DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL  
DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM 203 235-8582

ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE EOC / HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE ,143 HOPE HILL  
ROAD, WALLINGFORD

# DECEMBER 2018

*Merry Christmas,  
Happy Chanukah,  
Happy Kwanzaa to all  
and to all a good Night  
—and of course  
Happy **FESTIVUS**  
for the rest of us!!!!*





# ED & CLARE O'LENA

Ed and Clare O'Lena N1YLN, KB1TMC were licensed 1996, 2013 respectively after having discovered SWL and CB radio during the '70s. Ed's uncle introduced him to his ham friends Dave W1BEM, and Ed K1JNH, who both became his Elmers. That meeting spurred Ed to get his amateur radio license. He bought the study guide "Now You're Talking" and was well on his way to becoming a ham. Clare was always a SWL aficionado, having received numerous QSL cards in return for mailing signal reports to foreign broadcast stations. Their mutual interest in radio sparked a lifelong shared hobby, where today Ed holds the Extra class license and Clare is a General. They operate a Ten-Tec Omni VI Plus transceiver and plan to install an all-band vertical antenna soon. They recently acquired a DMR with hot-spot to chat worldwide. Clare is also active with YLRL, Young Ladies Radio League, a world wide net that is almost as old as the ARRL.

Dave is employed as HVAC manager for a Waterbury company. Clare's work involves tariff management; she is responsible for soliciting NAFTA certificates for an American company with international sales.

When asked how they feel about the changing aspects of the hobby, Ed opined that the radio hobby has always been evolving, always technologically driven. "In order for the hobby to grow, it must change, especially if we want to bring in new members. With a nod to the past for keeping old boat anchors alive, we are also frontline communicators and must grow through innovation." Clare agrees, "We need innovation but must always be ready to resort to old ways when modern technology fails."

When asked for a memorable moment while operating, Ed recalled an incident that involved a private pilot whose plane experienced a complete loss of electrical power. His passenger, a ham radio operator, called for assistance on his handheld two meter rig, and Ed just happened to be listening to the national calling frequency of 146.520. The passenger and Ed exchanged pertinent information that was relayed to the Danbury airport control tower. The tower operator then activated runway lights and cleared the pilot for a night landing.

Ed and Clare are volunteer members of VFW auxiliary post 201, and also share another hobby...they are both avid train spotters, an avocation that has taken them to many scenic and historic geographical locations. Their photos can be seen at: [www.flickr.com/n1yln](http://www.flickr.com/n1yln) [www.flickr.com/clareh61](http://www.flickr.com/clareh61). Ed and Clare have three children and two grandchildren, Ned and Harper, aged two and four, to whom they have recently given toy walkie-talkies. Ed says he's a firm believer in kindling early interest for the hobby.

"We wish to express our appreciation for the warm welcome we received when joining MARC; and we especially enjoy the impromptu learning sessions on Saturday mornings."

Ed and Clare make their home in Waterbury, and share space with two friendly felines - Larry and Lazlo.





# ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,

*ED W1YSM*

# 2018 / 2019

December—	Christmas Party @ Serafino's	James AB1DQ
	Amateur Radio in Pop Culture	
January 24	N1ZN	Hardline Coax
February 28	K1WJL –	Baluns & Traps
March 28	Salem Amateur Radio Club – how they operate emcom	
April 25	KB1EHE – Amateur rocketry and radio	
May	Open	
June	Open	
July	Lark in the Park	
August 22	K1LYP	Jeopardy for Hams

### Election of Officers for 2019

The Annual Meeting (to meet State & Federal requirements) was held on Thursday Nov. 8th at the EOC building. In what normally would be a mundane task, the Annual Elections of Officers somehow turned into a full scale political event when nominations from the floor Placed Ed W1YSM versus Bill W1KKF for President and Eric KB1JL versus Al N1API for Vice President.. The remaining officers ran uncontested, including Dave NZ1J for Secretary, replacing Steve KC1SA... Rumor has it PL-259's were distributed without notification to the SEEC (State Elections Enforcement Commission) and one nominee was out for Blood (Literally—rather clever when you think about this....)

When all the precincts reported and all the chads were accounted for, Ed W1YSM and Eric KB1JL were declared the winners by a very small margin. We congratulate Ed W1YSM and Eric KB1JL on their meteoric rise to the top of the MARC food chain... We also extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Bill W1KKF for his many years of service to the MARC. Bill is the most senior member of the club (in terms of membership) having been licensed about 1955 and has been President a good many years, at least 25-30 but our records are missing. Al N1API also is a seasoned veteran of the MARC having joined around 1975 or so and has been an officer in one capacity or another since then.

### December Business & Activity Meeting Combined in the Christmas Party

The Meetings in December have been combined into the annual Christmas Party on Thursday Dec 13 at Serafino's Restaurant, 72 South Turnpike Road, Wallingford (almost directly across from the Oakdale Theater). Cocktails at 6pm, "Open" Bar courtesy of Ed W1YSM, Dinner at 7pm. Guest Speaker and MARC member James Surprenant, AB1DQ will present a program on Amateur Radio in Pop Culture. We will also announce and present the newly elected 2018 Ham of the Year and 2018 Elmer of the Year. Cost is \$25 per person, payable to Dave K1WJL, checks should be made out to the MARC. Please give your RSVP's to Dave ASAP. We have to give the final head count to the restaurant by Weds Dec 5th.....

### VE session on Sat dec 15th....

Don KE1AY will run a VE Session on Sat Dec 15th starting at about 9am..Walk ins are welcome, despite advertising to the contrary...at the EOC 143 Hope Hill Road Wallingford ct.

### Kids Day....Jan 5th...EOC

Rob K1RCT will be the project chair, assisted by Dave NZ1J, Nancy KC1NS, Kristin KC1ISI and anyone else interested should contact Rob K1RCT. Due to holiday timing, we will not have a meeting in between so it is up to the committee to pull this off. This was a great event last year and well worth the effort.

### Bill Spokes W7FUR..Silent Key

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of Bill Spokes W7FUR, having resided in Paulden Arizona for a good number of years. We extend our condolences to XYL Helen N1NAN, Bill Jr. KA1JES of Enfield and the Spokes family. John K1LYP fondly recalls Bill as his Elmer...



Most of you that visit on Saturdays or attend meetings know that the FT-950 is in-operation at the North End HF Station. We have a “Nifty” guide for the FT-950 for those that want to learn how to use it. There also is a studio quality microphone attached. This station can connect to the T6 LP or the 80M Fan Dipole via the coax switch. Please remember these few things while operating:

The T6 LP Beam bands are 6M, 10M, 15M & 20M only.

The 80M Fan Dipole is 10M, 15M, 20M, 40M & 80M. It may also load-up on the WARC bands & 6M.

Be sure you have the Dunestar Band Pass Filter on the correct band prior to using any HF Rig. Be sure the ‘Other HF Rig’ is not on the same band as you are. The HF Rigs must NOT be on the same band.

Tuner: the internal tuner MUST be engaged. You may have to re-tune as you change frequency. It works similarly to the FT-991a machine. Press and hold the Tuner button until the servos engage the mechanism, then release. If SWR is within 3:1, the tuner will find the ‘sweet-spot’. The -991a uses a different algorithm than the -950. You may need to re-tune the -991a repeatedly to find an acceptable SWR sweet-spot.

Be sure you allow the Auto Tuner to complete the tuning sequence prior to switching antennas and/or filters. Remember that when tuning, the rig is transmitting. I observed someone switching to another antenna while the Auto Tuner was engaged. Don’t do this.

Telephone Pole @ North roof peak. After Lenny initially said, “Yes”, Chief Heidgard Et Al thought that the Pole was a little too close to the building & the side hill and may cause problems with the Lawn Service people and gear. However he did approve the installation of a side mount at the peak. This mount will accommodate the 2M Beam, the 6M Beam and a 2M/70CM vertical all mounted on a rotator. This antenna system will be connected to the North End VHF/UHF Station (FT-991a) for VHF Contesting, VUCC and Rag Chewing when not engaged in its primary function of EMCOMM/AUXCOMM for WARG.

Weather Station at the OEM. At Lenny’s request I recommended a Lacrosse Weather Station for the OEM. Only caveat was that the device should be purchased at Home Depot since Town purchases there do not require a PO. Lenny forwarded the recommendation to Chief Heidgard who approved & purchased it.

### *Hints & Kinks*

CW FT-991a (South End HF Station) is connected to the Ten-Tec Tuner. If using the rig to run (call CQ), then use the external tuner. There is a tuning guide on the desk under or on the Tuner. If S&P (searching & pouncing) try to use the internal auto tuner while tuning around the dial. Be sure to use the pass-thru position on the external tuner Antenna Switch when using the rigs internal Auto Tuner.

Anyone know how to use a SDR IQ for panadaptor applications? We have such a device that I’d like to get set-up at the OEM. I thought I’d ask if anyone can assist in setting this up prior to having to research documents, find connecting cables and such first. Please email me at [k1rct@arrl.net](mailto:k1rct@arrl.net) or [r.cichon@cox.net](mailto:r.cichon@cox.net) if you can help.

### Final go-around:

Winter Kids Day 2019 is just around the corner (January 5, 2019). We are fully engaging this event in hopes to present our hobby to the Youth (and their Parents/Grand Parents) in our area. If you are able to assist in any way, please contact me at [k1rct@arrl.net](mailto:k1rct@arrl.net) or [r.cichon@cox.net](mailto:r.cichon@cox.net) . We have a need for Operators to come up to the OEM and be Ambassadors of our Hobby, supervise, lend a hand, guide, instruct, explain, etc. Hopefully Mother Nature will cooperate this time. We had a Nor’easter last time which kept folks inside their houses except for a few of us!





## Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.) NOVEMBER 2018

Meeting called to order at 1930 hours by President W1KKF.

Introductions/ Members present: W1KKF, N1API, K1RCT, KB1EHE, KB1IFZ, KE4EYA, N1GNV, W1YSM, KE1AU, NZ1J, KC1NS, N1YLN, KB1TMC, WA1TRY, N1OKR, K1VDF, K1WJL, KE1AY, K1JCF, KC1ISI, KB1JL, K1MMK, K1TDO, K1LHO, WB1GYZ, AB1DQ, K1STM, K1LYP, W1DQ, N1ZN, WB1GGP.

Announcements: Christmas Dinner at Serafinos on December 13. \$25 per person or guest. Dues also payable at \$20 or \$15. Don KE1AY has resigned at Scholarship committee chairman. W1KKF has appointed N1ZN to replace Don.

Secretaries report: Minutes of October meeting: Not read as KC1SA is absent. October minutes are posted on club website.

Treasurer report: K1WJL reported on funds and accepted by members present.

Committees:

Programs: Ed W1YSM reported on the full 2019 schedule, leading with N1ZN doing a coax presentation for the January meeting. AB1DQ will do Ham trivia at the December Christmas party.

Station Activities: Rob K1RCT reports steady attendance at Saturday sessions and visits from Boy scouts and Brownies.

Club Nets: Reports were submitted by K1TDO, K1VDF and N1ZN for 2 meter, 10 meter and 6 meter nets respectively.

Castle Craig: N1API reported on Castle Craig 10-10 chapter activities on 10 meters.

Scholarship: KE1AY stepping down, to be replaced by N1ZN. A club thank you to Don for his work. No other activity reported.

Membership: K1WJL reported two new members, KR1U from Pomfret and KB1ORB from Southington. Both were voted in. KE1AV, a prior member paid dues and was reinstated. Total membership now at 83.

Interference: No activity

Key Klix: Outstanding work of K1WJL as editor was recognized.

Candy Store: Club bling available at website.

EmComm: KB1JL reported on the October SET, Celebrate Wallingford, the Fishbein road race and a visit to the OEM from the Brownie scouts.

Old Business:

A report on Nutmeg Hamfest was submitted with financial statement. Nutfest is donating \$702.31 to MARC, representing profits from the hamfest, which is down slightly from last year. The Nutmeg committee, which is a separate entity, will meet again in March 2019. A point of order was raised by N1GNV about donations to the Scholarship fund. This will be addressed in the March Nutfest meeting by the Nutfest group.

Elections: Nominations from the floor were entertained and elections were held for club officers. W1YSM was elected President, KB1JL was elected Vice President, NZ1J was elected Secretary, K1WJL was elected Treasurer, and K1RCT was elected Station Activities Manager (SAM). A public thank you went to W1KKF and N1API for their roles as president and vice president respectively over the past years.

Votes were distributed and tallied, along with Ham of the Year and Elmer of the Year, by KE1AY and K1VDF. Ham and Elmer awards will be announced and presented at the December meeting at Serafinos.

New Business: None was proposed

Meeting was adjourned at 2048 hours.

Respectfully submitted

November 9, 2018.

Acting Sect. Eric Olsson KB1JL.



P.O.Box 583

Meriden Amateur Radio Club

Meriden, CT 06450



### **High SWR (aka Reflections)**

I joined the club as a nubee to the hobby in early 2014 and would classify myself as “unconsciously incompetent”. At that time the club had about 55 members. I didn’t know anything about Field Day, Sweepstakes, Contesting (Radiosport for those who like to feel fit). With the help of fellow members I did jump into the club and hobby with both feet and felt very welcome.

In late 2014 K1SEZ decided he wasn’t going to run for club secretary in 2015 and suggested that I run for office, he thought I’d do a good job. I won the election (no one else wanted the office.... that should have been a heads up to me). I stumbled a lot in 2015 since I’ve never held any office. W1KKF was newly elected into the Presidents chair, but had previous years of experience in that office, and so he offered up guidance each month that I wrote up the meeting minutes.

By the end of 2015 I was feeling consciously incompetent. I had two Field Days, Sweepstakes and one U.S. Islands event under my belt and was feeling more comfortable with the club and the hobby. I decided to teach myself new things in 2016. I decided to learn SQL database management and created a database of the MARC membership that tracks many facets of each member allowing for detailed reports to be run without much effort. The database development project took the better part of 2016 to develop and happy to say it’s being passed on to future club secretaries.

2017 was a pivotal year for the club. Wallingford allowed us to move from the Cook Hill facility in late 2016 to the current OEM building we utilize today. Slow going with a lot of volunteer help from the club moving our stuff to the new building. We also finally got a permanent radio room thanks to K1RCT, K1VDF, K1LYP, KB1JL, WB1GYZ, WA1VXH(sk) and a few others. We made it through some of the growing pains of the emergency management portion of MARC (called WARG), but that group has successfully worked with Wallingford most notably during the tornado’s this past spring.

In late 2017 I shifted gears a little since my job required some travel out of the area, a little more than was useful to the club. By early 2018 I realized I couldn’t keep up the pace and relinquished my office of Secretary of Nutfest (now N1OKR). The constitution committee was formed in 2018, which I was the chairperson. The committee met and spent many hours editing the version of the constitution which was last freshend in 2009. After 5 months of work and a few compromises, the new constitution was ratified by the membership and is now in place.

Mid-2018 I contacted W1KKF and informed Bill that I was not seeking re-election as Secretary of MARC. Work had become to unpredictable for me to commit to be at every business meeting. NZ1J stepped up and put his name on the ballot, and now Dave will carry on as Secretary in 2019 I wish all 2019 officers the best of luck in the future and look to support club operation.

I will continue to be a contributor to the success of the club and look forward to working with the entire MARC membership.

73,  
Steve – KC1SA



# KR1U STATION UPGRADE IN PROGRESS

New member Bob Eslinger KR1U in Pomfret, ex WA1BZS originally from Wallingford, did some station upgrades this week. He installed a new Mosley 7 element Pro-57-B beam on his 70' tower, ran new buryflex coax, and is unwrapping a brand new TS890 Kenwood rig and a 160-6 meter 1.5 KW Acom A-1500 amplifier. Paul, KE1LI and Ed, K1ZE assisted Bob with the antenna installation.

The new hardware replaced a Wilson System One installed in 1979 by noted tower men in their day, K1WJL and K1VDF. (Editors note..we also installed the tower, a 70', Rohn Fold-over and a 25 pound bag full of tools slipped out of my hand at about 60 ft. and missed K1VDF by at about two feet.) The System One withstood the New England weather for almost 40 years, until a 20 meter trap failed this summer.

Maybe we can entice Bob onto the 10 meter and 6 meter nets now. He will be heard.

de Eric KB1JL



BOB WB1GYZ DOING HIS INTERVIEW WITH ED N1YLN AND CLARE KB1TMS FOR THE "WB1GYZ FILES" FOUND ON PAGE 2



BOB WB1GYZ CONDUCTING CODE CLASS DURING THE SAT. MORNING SESSIONS.





# THE GIRL SCOUTS COME TO VISIT THE CLUB STATION



On Sunday November 4th, the Club was invaded by a very nice troop of Girl Scouts, Troop 60262, Second Year Brownies from Wallingford.

They were divided into teams of two and given an FRS portable to communicate and had a great time learning about radios, QSL cards, finding locations on a world map, morse code, antenna's including making the antenna rotate and operating the main rigs. K1LYP also demonstrated mobile ham radio with his truck, and showed the girls the communications trailer and OEM truck. John K1LYP coordinated with Brian Rivard of the troop after having a discussion at the Celebrate Wallingford event in early October.

Great time was had by all.... Thanks to John K1LYP, John K1VDF, Eric KB1JL, Kris KC1SI, Dave NZ1J, Nancy KB1TMS Jeff N1AKN and Rob K1RCT for assisting.

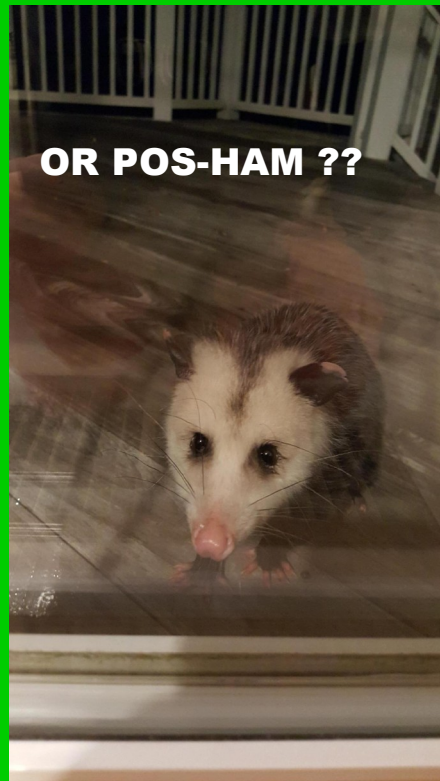


PICTURES COURTESY OF JEFF N1AKN



From Jeff N1AKN:

Here is something you might find interesting : A home made mount with a Hustler system , can be used with ham sticks . I hope to experiment with the HAM stick version and will report on it in a future issue.



Frank N1OKR reports:  
I had a prospective new ham operator show up on the deck of my house looking into my sliding glass doors one evening inquiring about the upcoming VE Session.

If Bigfoot shows up,  
he can have whatever VE session he wants!!



# INFORMATION PAGE

# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

**PRESIDENT.....W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK**  
**VICE PRES.....N1API AL KAISER**  
**SECT.....KC1SA STEVE ALLEN**  
**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**

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

**MAILING ADDRESS: MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**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](http://www.w1nrg.com)

**FORUM/BBS:**  
[www.w1nrg.com/forum/](http://www.w1nrg.com/forum/)  
 or go to website and follow links

**CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 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)**



AB1DQ	James Surprenant	18	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	18	W1RPN	Seth Kolasinski	18
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	18	KC1IYC	John Pancoast	18	W1UFO	Mike Cei	18
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	18	KC1NS	Nancy Tipping	19	W1VCU	Nelson Denison	L
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	19	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	19	W1XK	Stan Kugler	18
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	19	KD1JG	Robert Cartier	18	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	19
K1LHO	Mike Ash	18	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	19	W7FUR	William Spokes	19
K1LYP	John Yusza	19	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	19	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	19
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	18	KE4EYA	Ralph Ring	19	WA1JKR	John Rogus	18
K1MVM	Mike Macri	18	KR1U	Bob Eslinger	19	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	18
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	18	N1API	Al Kaiser	18	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	18	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	19	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	18
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	18	N1POP	Greg Ploski	19	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	18
K1STM	Anne West	19	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	18	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	18
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	19	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	18	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	18
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	18	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	18	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	18
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	18	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21			
K1VDF	John Blevins	19	N1HCA	Susan South	19			
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	19	N1JRC	John Collin Jr	18			
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	18	N1LGH	Barbara Stone	19			
KA1TMN	Steve Hull	18	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	19			
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	19	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	19			
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	18	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	19			
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	20	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	19			
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	19	N1ZN	James Savage	18			
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	19	NY2HF	Dennis Lane	18			
KB1ORB	Mark Noble	19	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	19			
KB1TJD	Gaianne Jenkins	18	W1DJB	Dylan Barrett	19			
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	19	W1DUP	Sherlock Campbell	18			
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	18	W1DQ	John Elengo	18			
KC1FJJ	Richard Nagy Jr.	18	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L			
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	18	W1LV	Steve Morley	18			
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	19	W1NDT	Bob Lombardo	18			
KC1IIK	Scott Mowerson	18	W1NHS	Fred Ring	19			
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	18	W1POP	Fred Liedke	18			

**2019 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE TO**  
**YOUR TRES. K1WJL...IT MAY TAKE**  
**A MONTH OR TWO TO UPDATE THE**  
**LIST...ANY QUESTIONS PSE**  
**CONTACT K1WJL**