

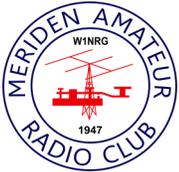
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MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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**CELEBRATING ITS
75TH ANNIVERSARY
1947 -- 2022**

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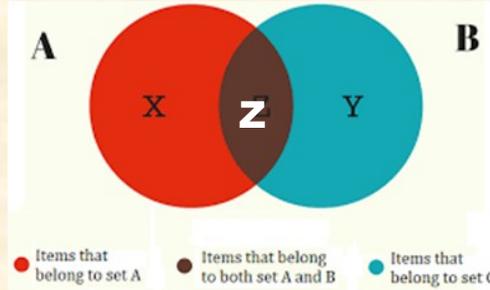
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MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 CELEBRATING OUR
75TH
 ANNIVERSARY
 1947-2022
 WWW.W1NRG.COM
 WALLINGFORD AMATEUR RADIO GROUP



W1NRG and W1YU – A Venn Diagram for Growth



A Venn Diagram is pictured above. Each circle represents a set of entities. Let (A) the **Red X Circle** represent **MARC WINRG** and (B) the **Blue Y Circle** represent **Yale W1YU** (appropriately enough). It is the **Maroon Z** - the inner ellipse, however, that I am interested in discussing. The **Maroon** Figure Z is marked “Items that belong to BOTH Set A and Set B”. The ARRL has undergone multiple changes of late – all good. The new CEO David Minster NA2AA, and the new New England Division Director Fred Kemmerer AB1OC both strongly supporting growth of local amateur radio Clubs as the key to the long-term survival of amateur radio. I agree 100%. As seen above, Venn Diagrammatically each Club has its own skill set and interests. They also have overlapping interests. As I have addressed to MARC before, I see great synergies developing if these two Clubs can work together. Synergies, being defined as the interaction or cooperation of organizations to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate parts.

MARC is good at and is interested in HF, UHF, VHF, SSB, CW, fox hunts, POTA/SOTA, using digital modes for communicating, running Nets and NCS activities, SKYWARN, building antennae, contesting, VE sessions, satellite QSOs, etc., etc. Yale is interested in actually setting up and running EME activities, contacting ARISS, tracking space craft launches, launching and tracking high altitude balloon flights into the near reaches of outer space, examining solar flares, and experimenting with frequencies and bands MARC rarely uses.

My thought is, what if **MARC WINRG members** can interact with **Yale W1YU** to teach basic amateur radio to the Yale students and get them licensed so they can bring their interests discussed above, to fruition. MARC members who choose can thus participate in EME activities and other areas of amateur radio they likely would not be able to do without the expertise of Yale faculty – which via W1YU students can provide. That **Maroon ellipse** would provide entrée to the experimental areas of amateur radio activities MARC members would like to “play with” but lack the ability to access. W1YU students would love to learn about amateur radio so they can get OnAir with a license. Seems like a match made in Meriden (or Wallingford). As I am a member of both Clubs, I can facilitate the interactions. So, too can James AB1DQ, who also has dual Club citizenship. Indeed, already we have already begun. We recruited Tyler N2RTS. He is a new member of W1NRG and a freshman at Yale. He has written an article in this month's Key Klax on his radio-activities. He is recruiting more Yale students some of whom are hams already, looking for an opportunity to get a higher grade license and do more OnAir activities, and some who want and need to get licensed to further their interests and their college careers. In this collaborative manner, W1NRG can do what it does best and find ways to open up opportunities that would otherwise not be available. The same can be said for W1YU. We can hold VE sessions for the Yale students and give them opportunities to experience the joy of amateur radio that they would otherwise not have available at Yale, since amateur radio is “old technology”. Fortunately for MARC, however, they can't access these new technologies unless they come to 143 Hope Hill Road in Wallingford, to take a test using (UGH!) pencil and paper (the horrors!).

I hope MARC will consider applying for an ARRL Grant to foster this interaction between the two clubs. MARC members who wish, can just sit back, and watch this happening from the comfort of their **Red Venn Diagram's Circle**. Or they can dip an electronic toe in the **Maroon Ellipse**. It will cost MARC nothing and many of our members can continue to do what they love and do well, teach the code, Elmer new hams and rag chew about it all. Others may wish to learn more about why the Sea of Tranquility is easier to hit with a radio wave than is the Sea of Serenity. Either way the Club - Club interactions benefit W1NRG – new members and new activities, and for W1YU -- new hams, new experiences and perhaps the makings of lifetime career in astrophysics or radioastronomy. MARC can thus provide stability and guidance to W1YU, and Yale can give MARC another high tech, raison d'être. Not too, shabby an arrangement – I hope the ARRL agrees. Please share your thoughts with me. We will talk more about my ideas in the coming days – as far as amateur radio goes and I am sure the English mathematician John Venn from the 1880's would agree....”everything old is, indeed, new again”.

73,
Ed W1YSM
President MARC

CLUB NEWS & VIEWS

February 10th Business Meeting 7:30 pm on ZOOM
 Check for email from Rob K1RCT for meeting credentials

February 24th Activity Meeting 7:30pm on ZOOM
 Bobcat KB1YFL will have a program on Radio-Astronomy... He is very knowledgeable on the subject and is rumored to have taught telescope construction(visual type) .

New members to be voted in this week at the Business Meeting

We welcome the following candidates:
 WA1EXA Mark Petruzzi West Yarmouth Ma.
 KC1NLE Jose Rodriguez Newington
 KC1QHO Mike Beaudry Guilford

DUES

Dues are expected by March 1st or you will be dropped from the rolls, unless you have some qualified reason and we will consider all on an individual basis.

If your 65 or over, dues are \$15/year if your just a kid, (anyone up to age 64) its \$20 per year.
 We have a PAYPAL acct, please visit our website to et a link.....
 Or you can mail a check to POB 583, Meriden CT. 06450

VE Sessions at the OEM... The Following dates are scheduled for 2022:
 February 12, 2022 March 12, 2022. April 9, 2022. May 14, 2022.
 June 11, 2022. July 9, 2022. August 13, 2022

CLUB NETS BOTH ON THE AIR AND VIA ZOOM

DAY	TIME (ET)	BAND	FREQ (MHz)	NCS	NAME	TYPE	WHEN
MONDAY	2000 – 2100	6M	50.175	N1ZN - JIM	6M NET	OPEN DISCUSSION	MONDAY
TUESDAY	1930 -2000	2M REPEATER	147.36 PL=162.2	K1TDO - TODD	2M NET	OPEN DISCUSSION	TUESDAY
	2000 – 2100	10M	28.375	K1VDF - JOHN	CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 INTL.	OPEN DISCUSSION	TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY	1900 – 2000	6M	50.175	VARIABLE	W1NRG OPEN DISCUSSION NET	OPEN DISCUSSION	WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY	1930 – 2030	2M and ZOOM	147.36 PL=162.2 *ID: 973 7062 5198 *Passcode: 889386	AB1DQ - JAMES	2M TECH NET	TECHNICAL/LECTURE	1 ST & 3 RD THURSDAY
	1930 – 2100	-	ZOOM	W1YSM – ED	MARC BUSINESS MTG	BUSINESS MEETING	2 ND THURSDAY
	1930 – 2100	ZOOM	*ID: 925 1153 2783 *Passcode: 000377	W1YSM – ED	MARC ACTIVITIES MTG	TECHNICAL/LECTURE	4 TH THURSDAY
FRIDAY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SATURDAY	0900 – 1000	2M REPEATER	147.36 PL=162.2	W1YSM – ED	COFFEE CUP NET	OPEN DISCUSSION	SATURDAY
	1100 - 1300	VARIABLE	VARIABLE	NZ1J – DAVID	FOX HUNT POTA/SOTA/OTA's	Tx Hunt Activations	SATURDAY
SUNDAY	1930 – 2030	ZOOM	*ID: 932 5667 9514 *Passcode: 686029	OPEN	ELMER'S SHACK	NEW HAM SUPPORT	SUNDAY
	OPEN SCHEDULE ~ 0800 – 1600	VARIABLE	VARIABLE	K1RCT- ROB	FIAB (FOX IN A BOX)	HIDDEN Tx Hunt	SUNDAY

* values subject to change, see <http://www.w1nrg.com/website/index.html> for current values
 7/4/21 Rev 6

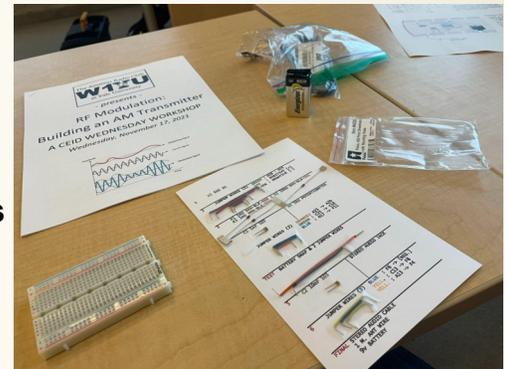


Tyler N2RTS is a newer member of MARC, having joined in September 2021

W1YU is The Amateur Radio Club at Yale University. Our membership is comprised of Faculty, Staff, Undergraduate Students, and community members from the New Haven Area. Join us on the air on Tuesdays @ 2000/8pm ET on the W1SPC repeater (147.505MHz, -1MHz, PL 77) and check in before making your way to the MARC 10 Meter Tuesday Net on 28.375MHz.

The Latest

- **W1YU, The Amateur Radio Club @ Yale University, is starting to revive with on-the-air participation in the ARRL VHF contest earlier this month. We plan to resume group net-check-ins at our station after Feb 7th when the University returns to in-person classes.**
- **We've discovered that there is a small population of students with licenses who are looking for opportunities to get on the air or put their licenses to use. Some school wide promotion efforts attracted two new students, one with their general class as well!**
- **MARC Member James AB1DQ led an RF Modulation workshop on behalf of W1YU for the student body in December 2021**



About the Station



The Yale I-EEE student branch is the main face of current student ham radio at the university. They operate a small station on the northern half of the Yale University Campus. We currently have VHF/UHF capability with an ICOM IC-7300 and a pair of 2MCP14 + 436CP30 M2 Antennas.

How MARC Can Help

The Y-IEEE and W1YU teams plan to submit an ARISS (international space station) contact application in the upcoming months, and pending approval we will need help confirming the station is up to spec to make contact. A portion of that application includes a local radio club that may be able to support the effort, and having MARC's support for that effort would be invaluable. We also greatly appreciate the VE team offering our students spots at Saturday test sessions once they are ready to test.

The W1YU team would also like to explore a possible fixed HF antenna installation in the near future at our station location. We've explored the possibility of building a hex beam or moxon antenna, but aren't really sure where to start on that effort.

Tyler N2RTS

Here is a list of contests and contest-like operating events that we may want to participate in.
Winter FD 1/29-30 ARRL DX CW 2/19-20 ARRL DX SSB 3/5-6 Field Day 6/25-26 13 Colonies 7/4 +/-
CQWW SSB 10/29-30 ARRL SS CW 11/19-21 ARRL SS SSB 11/19-21 CQWW CW 11/26-27
ARRL 10M 12/10-11

Yes, it's a "Hambitious" schedule. But I'm willing to put some effort into it.
One of the keys to success will be for each of us to participate, *FROM THE CLUB STATION IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.*

Your thoughts and comments are welcome. John N1GNV Interim Contest Manager

The Meriden ARC W1NRG will be planning a **Nutfest on Sunday Oct 9th at the Best Western Hotel in North Haven, CT from 6am -1pm.** We will have an associated VE Session, exhibitors, flea market, didactic talks. Of course, **an ARRL forum is a key component.** More info to follow
Ed Snyder, MD W1YSM

The Director of Volunteers at the Hole in the Wall Camp (the camp started by Paul Newman for sick children) is doing a bicycle race fundraiser on May 7, 2022 at Lyman Orchards in Middlefield and would like Ham Radio Ops to help with communications during the race. We are in the preliminary stages of developing a plan to participate with this group. More info to be disseminated as we learn more.

MARC'S NEW BUSINESS CARDS



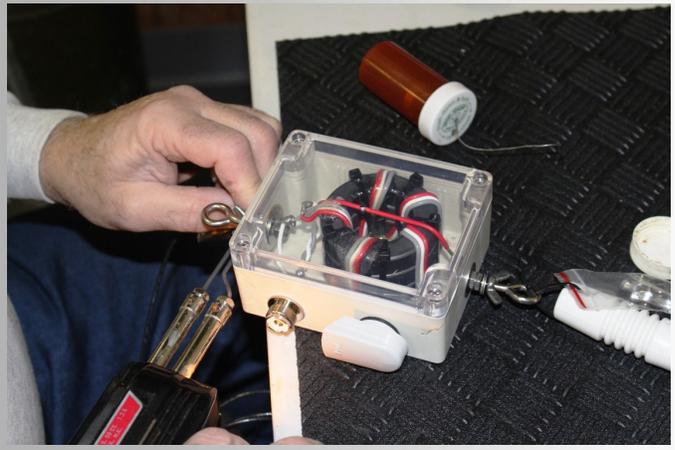
75TH LOGO DESIGNED BY K1TCT



MARC'S NEW 75TH LOGO & BANNER



SATURDAY HANDS ON WORKSHOP AT THE OEM



Here is one about the Saturday Hands On Workshop, 15 Jan 2022.

The M.A.R.C. Saturday Hands On Workshop (SHOW) was open for business on January 15th. John Ramadei, KB1MFU, can be seen working on the balun for his 160 through 80 meter long wire antenna. This is a good example of what SHOW is all about. Everyone is encouraged to bring in their projects to share with others and, when needed, receive assistance and advice from other members. It is also a great venue for "show and tell". Bringing in your projects can be a great educational opportunity for other hams who can watch and learn various building techniques.

Keep in mind that SHOW is for all of us, not just new hams. Sometimes even the best of us can benefit from learning "a better way" of doing a particular step in a project or learning about new methods and materials that are available. Personally, I've learned a lot just watching others and asking questions.

In addition to SHOW, we also have the Sunday night Elmer Shack on Zoom. Together, they are a great resource that we all can benefit from.



Saturday, 22 January was more like it used to be at the OEM. Although the turnout was very light, Jeff N1AKN, managed to hold an impromptu class in radio propagation for one of our newest members, Brian Beegan, KC1QHW. Ted KC1DOY, looked on, camera in hand, and offered an occasional tidbit of information as well. Jeff also managed to throw in a bit of radio history, mentioning Marconi, Hertz, Farnsworth and Sarnoff, to name a few. He also provided coffee and donuts which really gave the morning that "back to Normal" vibe. We filled our heads with knowledge and our stomachs with empty calories but one balances out the other, right?

I hope that more members will return on the coming Saturdays and that we will see a return to project building, radio repairs, station operation and general discussions. It can't happen without you!

Ted KC1DOY

ERIC & ELSIE'S INVITATION TO A DXPEDITION

DXpedition on a Shoestring

From Eric & Elsie:

For \$148/night (less than the price of a night at the Hartford Hilton), you can be playing radio and having a great vacation in Aruba.

We've locked in the contest-conquering QTH of www.p49v.com for the IARU HF World Championship the weekend of July 9 - 10.

On the days before and after, we will stay within steps of **#3 beach in the world**: Eagle Beach (TripAdvisor: <https://www.aruba.com/uk/news/arubas-eagle-beach-again-voted-one-of-the-worlds-best>).

Take a gander at this superb resort -- The Pearl -- that we've stayed at multiple times: <https://www.pearlarubacondos.com>. Base rate in July: \$149/night. An extra perk: They have FREE CANCELLATION up to 24 hours before arrival. So even if COVID throws us another curveball, there is no risk.

We skip fancy, expensive, touristy restaurants and eat at awesome local places like Zeerover. That's where fishermen are continually bringing in their catches. You pick one out. They clean it. Chefs cook it. It's an amazing experience. Check out photos and info here: <https://www.aruba.com/us/explore/zeerover>

And for fun? How about a sunset cruise on a gorgeous 60-foot catamaran: <https://bnbutlers.com/aruba-activities/catamaran-cruises/>

Everyone's welcome. Individual club members. Couples. (But not kids.) This is adult fun on an island playground. We've been to Aruba 22 times. We know every nook and cranny. If you'd like to explore the possibilities -- zero commitment -- let us know.

Eric KB1EHE ericknight@gmail.com

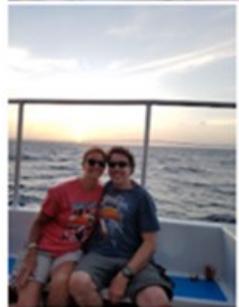
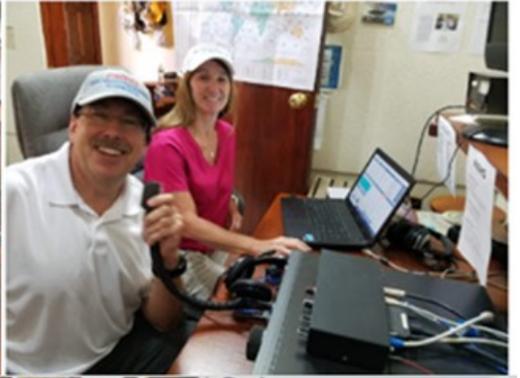
Elsie KB1IFZ elsiemathews@gmail.com

The photos are from our 2018 Aruba DXpedition (also for the IARU HF World Championship at P49V) with fellow MARC club members Rod N1FNE (and his XYL Rhonda KA1WCO) and Ralph KC1GMD (and his XYL Linda).

PICTURES ON THE NEXT PAGE....



**ERIC KB1EHE & ELSIE KB1IFZ PRECISION
"ARMSTRONG" ROTATOR INDICATOR SYSTEM.**





Secretary Report & Minutes of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club

Bart Toftness N1BRL , Secretary

BUSINESS MEETING JAN 13, 2022 ZOOM

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

Normal introductions were omitted as all attendees (35) are self-identified in 'Zoom' , N1LES, N1BRL, KB1JL, KC1DOY, W1IKW, KC1OYM, W3APC, K1VDF, K1JCF, W1WSM, K1LYP, KC1OYN, WA1ZVY, WV2LKM, K1RCT, N1GNV, NZ1J, K1WJL, KE1AU, KE1AY, W1DQ, WB1GYZ, N1API, K1STM, N1ZN, KC1NQE, KB1MFU, W1EDX, KC1SA, KB1EHE, KB1IFZ, KC1PBQ, KC1ISI, KC1KQH and N2RTS.

Announcements (W1YSM), We will continue to follow the OEM occupancy rules as determined by the town. Business Meetings will continue on Zoom at least thru March 2022. Saturday's at the OEM are still in-person. Contact N1BRL for MARC Membership certificates. Fred Kemmerer AB1OC is the new ARRL New England Division Director. The theme for 2022 is MARC's 75th with the Diamond & Gold Challenge, a Commemorative Logo, publicity at town events and an article in QST or ARRL Club News.

Secretary's Report (N1BRL) December activity meeting minutes were approved by majority vote. Returning member Tim Mik, WY1U was approved by a majority vote without objection.

SK's Bill Kosche W1NNZ and Brian Rodgers N1URO were remembered with a minute of silence.

A motion to approve a first year free new membership to those who pass their exams at one of the club sponsored VE sessions was approved by majority vote. 19 for, 13 against, 1 abstention.

Treasurer's Report (K1WJL) was read by Dave. The complete Treasure's report is available to members upon request.

Station Manager's Report (K1RCT) The Station Activity Manager reported on the club usage of the Zoom account over the past year. He continues to update the station's networked computers and repair equipment as needed. John N1GNV, the Contest Coordinator presented plans for winter field day.

The SAM report is available upon request.

Standing Committees and working groups

Entertainment/Activities, January 27 will be KD9IPO on How to Work a Pile-Up. February 24 will be KB1FYL and Amateur Radio -Astronomy. March 24, KC1NQE with a brief history of Amateur radio. Other dates include April 28 A History of W1NRG; May 26 planning for Field Day; June 23 Passing/Taking Traffic.

Technical/Interference, Scholarship, and Publicity had nothing new to report.

Repeater Committee reported an evaluation of the repeater operation/deviation meets specs.

Saturday/Sunday Morning Activities, Saturday and Sunday mornings continue to be packed with activities including Fox hunts, Coffee Cup Net, and SOTA/ POTA activations by club members. A new CW class will be offered by Bob , WB1GYZ on Zoom following the coffee cup net around 10AM.

Website Committee: Discussions are starting around the idea of hiring someone to migrate our website to a contemporary and manageable platform.

Club Nets, Todd's K1TDO 2 meter net will have some backup net control operators. The Tech Net is always looking for additional topics and presenters. There is interest in one of the new transceiver kits as a continuing topic.

Contest Activations: Winter Field Day is coming in January with details to follow.

Castle Craig, Ten-Ten Winter QSO Party will be February 5 and 6th with a Castle Craig Kick off Net on Feb 4th at 8PM using the club net frequency.

Instruction VE /Training, VE sessions are scheduled for the second Saturday each month. The most recent session had 7 applicants with 6 passing their exams. The youngster only missed by 1 question and plans to return.

WARG/EMCOM/Aux Com, The new CERT Class has been postponed and they are trying to get a smaller truck to pull the trailer. Quarterly meetings will be scheduled.

Key Klix Dave, K1WJL appreciates the contributions so keep them coming so he can continue to publish the best club newsletter.

The 'Diamond and Gold Challenge' discussions have been moved to the website forums and the first logs are due by 8AM before the business meeting in February.

Old Business, MARC Business Cards were designed and a test lot was ordered. 75th Anniversary Logos were presented and discussed.

New Business, Items of new business included club support in fall road races and a club presence at the Big E from Sept 16 to 2 Oct including Connecticut Day. The Nutfest Board of Directors will meet to make a 'Go' or 'No Go' determination.

Ed, W1ysm presented the idea of cooperation with the Yale Radio Club/ IEEE group and how both clubs could benefit from common interest and expertise.

Voting Summary for the September meeting

December meeting minutes were approval.

Returning member, WY1U Tim Mik was affirmed by majority vote without dissent.

The motion to provide the first year new membership to those who pass their exams at one of our VE Sessions was supported. 19 for, 13 against and 1 abstention.

Meeting was adjourned at 21:12

Respectfully submitted,

Bart Toftness, N1BRL

Diamond & Gold Challenge

The challenge was kicked off at the beginning of January. With more than 30% of the club wanting to engage in this 75th anniversary event, I look forward to seeing a good number of 'log reports' coming my way. Remember, all logs need to be emailed to me no later than 8AM the morning of the business meeting. So January's results for those engaging in this event are due to me by February 10th at 8AM. I will have a tally of standings for January and will present those at the February business meeting.

As a reminder if you can't get me the excel sheet filled out, then an email describing the number, bands, mode of your QSOs and if they were with members of MARC or not is OK.

This is an on your honor event, no log checking will be done, just have some fun and get on the air.

73,
Steve
KC1SA

The screenshot displays a radio software interface with several windows. At the top, a frequency display shows 14.256.001 MHz. Below it, a waterfall display shows signal activity across a frequency range from 14.254 to 14.258 MHz. The main window is a log titled 'HRD Logbook - [KC1SA_SQ_Log]'. It contains a table of QSOs with columns for QSO date, Time on, Call, Mode, Sent, Rcvd, Band, Name, Country, LOTW sent, LOTW received, and eQSL sent. The log shows several QSOs from January 25, 2022, with various call signs and countries.

QSO date	Time on	Call	Mode	Sent	Rcvd	Band	Name	Country	LOTW sent	LOTW received	eQSL sent
1/25/2022	20:15:30	EA4CPH	FT8	-15	-26	20m		Spain	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	20:18:16	F1FPH	FT8	-13	-16	20m		France	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	20:00:46	EA1LB	FT8	-09	-13	20m		Spain	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	18:06:45	9A4AA	FT8	-12	-13	20m		Croatia	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	18:02:01	537AM	FT8	-10	-06	20m		Slovenia	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	18:00:30	HI8UFT	FT8	-07	-11	20m		Northern Ireland	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	17:57:30	F4JAB	FT8	-03	-10	20m		France	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	16:58:30	PD4MH	FT8	-13	-12	20m		Netherlands	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	16:50:15	941TY	FT8	-02	-07	20m	IAN FUGLER	England	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	16:29:30	9P3G	FT8	-03	+05	20m		Puerto Rico	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested
1/25/2022	16:16:16	LY1CX	FT8	-10	-16	20m		Lithuania	Requested	Requested (Submitted)	Requested

Below the log, there is a 'JTDX - TS2000 - Wide Graph' window showing a waterfall display with frequency on the x-axis (500 to 3000 kHz) and time on the y-axis (20:21:30 to 20:20:45). The bottom window is a 'JTDX - TS2000 by HF community' window showing a list of QSOs with columns for UTC, dB, DT, Freq, Avg, Lag, and Band Activity. The current frequency is 14.074 000 MHz and the time is 20:21:36.



NZ1J DAVE TIPPING REPORTING

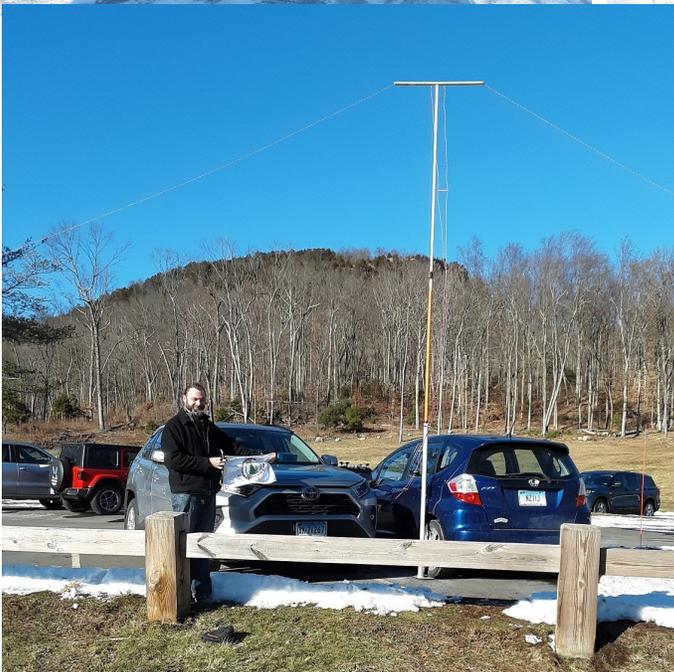
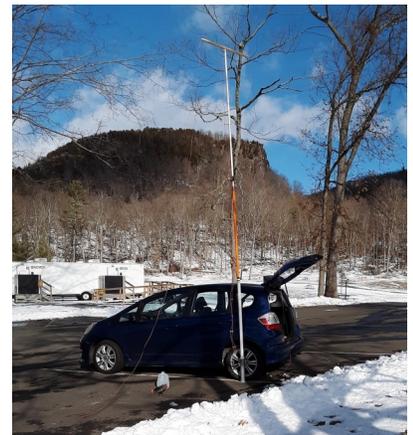
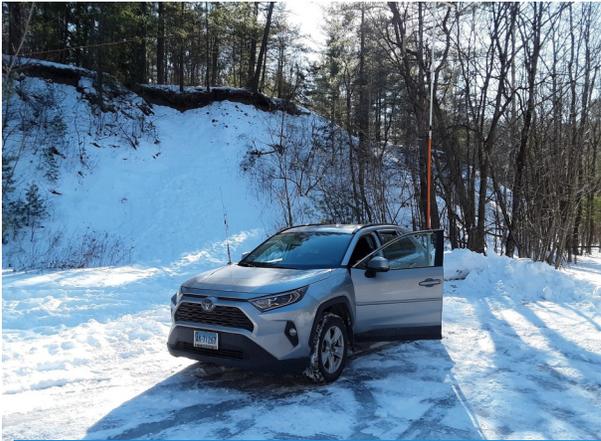
FOX HUNTING & POTA IS ALIVE & WELL IN THE WINTERS OF NEW ENGLAND



Just as we learned that Fox Hunting can continue right through the worst of winter, the same is true for Parks on the Air (POTA) activations. Kristin, KC1ISI, Eric, KB1JL, Shawn, KC1NQE, and I all participated in park activations during January.

Winter is certainly a challenge. The sun sets early, some parks keep their gate closed, getting through snow can be difficult, and the combination of cold and wind can be pretty uncomfortable on the worst days. But, there are days when park activations are easily manageable and fun. On the upside, it's not really very cold when operating from inside a vehicle on a sunny day, there are plenty of QSOs to be made, somewhat rare states such as North Dakota and Alaska end up in our log books, and a POTA activation usually results in a lot of points for Diamond and Gold. For the uninitiated, winter is probably not a good time to tag along or try an activation. But, spring is only about six weeks away. Maybe this is a good time to begin thinking about a park activation. With the warmer weather, there will be lots of opportunities to be part of an activation.

Dave NZ1J



Daily Morse Code Classes with Bob, WB1GYZ

What began a few weeks ago as a Saturday morning Morse Code class on Zoom, has grown into a daily, hour-long class. Most days, ten to twelve club members attend the class. Bob makes us work, but keeps it fun.

Though the class so far has concentrated on listening and copying Morse Code, most students are in the process of acquiring a key and a Code Practice Oscillator.

For anyone interested in stopping by, the class is almost always at 7:30pm. The Zoom link would be difficult to copy from Key Klix, but it will be posted to the club email reflector.

Bob, WB1GYZ, is Published in the 'other' Key Klix

Though they spell it wrong, the North American QRP CW Club publishes their own 'Key Clicks'. In the January issue, Bob's article about restoring a vintage Vibroplex 'bug' appears. With the recent interest by several MARC members in operating CW, this appears to be timely. For those not familiar with a bug, it's a specialized Morse Code key that uses a spring and a weight to automatically create a series of 'dits', when needed. It allows for fast sending, but it takes some practice to master.

NORTH AMERICAN QRP CW CLUB

NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 283 • JANUARY 2022



KEY CLICKS

IN THIS ISSUE

It's a packed issue with three articles on keys—including a DIY two-paddle clothespin creation; The Prez Sez there are minor changes and major events; Three excursion reports from our local chapters; A Deadly Challenge; A double Sprint report; and NAQCC co-founder John K3WWP #2 breaks 10,000 in his QRP CW QSO-a-day streak!

TWO SPRINTS THIS MONTH

A week after our regular Sprint this month is the annual 160 Meter Sprint. A giant antenna is a wonderful thing to have, but NAQCC Sprinters have shown year after year that 5 watts and a wire that will tune is all you need to have fun.

NEW DAILY 80M QRS NET (WYOMING)

A new daily - 13:30 UTC - NAQCC QRS QRP 80M net aimed at new CW operators was launched in December. Thanks to NCS Steve KE7UUJ (#11009) for pulling this together. Please listen for this net and consider a check in.

YOUR ARTICLE NEEDED!

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your latest excursion, that thing you built, your favorite rig, or something funny. As long as it relates to QRP CW. Send it to Paul K2DMX: kd2mx@arrl.net

UPDATE YOUR MEMBER INFO

Any time you change your QTH, email, or callsign, you can update your member info with a simple online form. First, check your information at <http://naqcc.info/memberlist.php> to make sure the rest of the fields are correct and then fill out the member update form here: http://naqcc.info/member_updates.html

IN THIS ISSUE	
Key Clicks	1
The Prez Sez . . .	2
A Bug Refurb	3
Key Dust Cover	4
Polts	5
Sprints	6
Clothespin Paddle	11
Awards	14
10,000 QRP CW QSO Streak	14
Challenge	16
Nets	19
Chapter News & Excursions	21
Sponsors	28
About The NAQCC	29
Contacts	30

JANUARY 2022

3

A BUG REFRUB

BY BOB WB1GYZ #7895

I picked up an older Vibroplex bug recently and got right to work cleaning, polishing, oiling, and adjusting it. Hooked it up to an oscillator and found that the dit side was clean and even, but I got nothing from the dah side. So, I burnished the dah contacts a bit more, but still nothing. What could possibly be preventing this simple circuit from working?



I wondered if the synthetic clock oil applied to the pivot/bushing points created electrical resistance. That was a long-shot guess but I was running out of possibilities. It was time to stop guessing and get an ohm meter to trace the circuit.

The problem revealed itself quickly. During manufacture, the assembler inserted a strip of insulation where two conduct-



ing metal strips joined together. Insulation is necessary to prevent these bare conductors from shorting to the base, but insulating them from each other was cause for the open circuit on the dah side. The fix was to correct the assembler's mistake, which makes me think that this bug has patiently waited about 54 years to operate.

It now resides alongside a restored 1944 Vibroplex Champion, and has a lot of catching up to do.





WELCOME TO MARAC AND COUNTY HUNTING!

Al N1API Board Member of MRAC

Welcome to the fun world of county hunting and the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club! Here are some quick details of what we are all about. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Come join the fun!!

County hunting is an exciting facet of ham radio that is enjoyed by thousands of licensed amateurs. The goal is to make two-way contact with other hams in as many of the 3077 USA counties as possible. Any contact counts, on any amateur band, on any mode of operation, as long as there is no repeater involved. Whether you are a sideband operator, CW op, or enjoy the digital modes you can count the QSOs for your county awards.

CQ Magazine sponsors the USA-County Award which is first obtainable with written confirmation with 500 of the US counties. More info on their website at CQ-Amateur-radio.com/cq_awards. Hams can then get endorsements for each additional increment of 500 until the “whole ball of wax” is reached at all 3077 counties! Confirmation can be in the form of QSL cards, Mobile Reply Cards (MRCs), or eQsl.com. MARAC, or the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, has been around for over 50 years to assist any ham in obtaining assistance, tools, and advice on how to best track your achievements. They even offer dozens of *additional* specialty awards that can be pursued to further enjoy your county hunting efforts. MARAC also offers an incredible software package to members called “Logger” which automatically tracks the many awards offered by the club for you. We highly recommend joining MARAC and obtaining this very valuable piece of software.

Another great way to join in on the fun is to set up your own HF mobile station and “put out” counties along the highways! It’s often like running your own DX pileup from the front seat of your car!

While you can collect contacts from counties via QSO party contacts, contest contacts, or even a rag-chew, there are several frequencies that county hunters and mobile stations monitor almost daily. They can be found on the various websites below and at the bottom of this flyer. The **BEST** way to keep track of activity is to monitor the county hunting spotting page at ch.w6rk.com/. This is where fellow county hunters post counties that are currently on the air and what frequency you can find them. Join in on the spotting, it is easy and appreciated! As a member of MARAC you will receive a monthly copy of the *Roadrunner*, our monthly newsletter with interesting articles and information about upcoming MARAC conventions. Come join in on the fun! Here are some great resources to help you learn more about county hunting and the MARAC club:

www.marac.org – this is the official website of the MARAC club. You might start out by watching the video offered in the lower left hand corner of the home page by longtime member, WY7LL, who provides an excellent overview of county hunting

<http://www.countyhunterweb.org> - this very helpful website is where mobile stations can announce their planned trips, along with what counties they will provide along the way. There is also a helpful Forum for asking questions and getting advice.

ch.w6rk.com/ - is a “spotting” page where you can follow notifications of counties currently up for grabs at any given minute on the airwaves!

countyhunter.com – is another excellent source for county hunting information

<http://chnewsonline.com/> - is a monthly newsletter dedicated mainly to the CW county hunting community, but is full of great info and articles

COUNTY HUNTER POPULAR FREQUENCIES:

20m: 14056.5 CW, 14336 USB *and during higher solar activity:*

30m: 10124.5 CW 17m: 18091.5 CW, 18136 USB

40m: 7056.5 CW, 7188 LSB 15m: 21056.5 CW, 21336 USB

80m: 3556.5 CW, 3901 LSB 12m: 24913.5 CW, 24936 USB

10m: 28056.5 CW, 28336 USB

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

THERE MAY BE ERRORS DUE TO TIMING BETWEEN PAYPAAL AND THE POB PLEASE GIVE US A FEW MONTHS TO GET IT TOTALLY CORRECT..

EMAIL AT DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM IF ANY CONCERNS

AB1DQ	James Surprenant	22R	KC1LNE	Jose Rodriguez	22R	NR1B	Bill Huggins	22S
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	22S	KC1NQE	Shawn Warren	21R	N2RTS	Tyler Schroder	22R
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	22S	KC1NXP	Andrew Paolillo	21R	N2TAG	Dave Taglianetti	22R
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	23S	KC1OCF	Karl Polak	21S	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	22R
K1LHO	Mike Ash	22S	KC1OGL	Paul Randazzo	22R	W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	22R
K1LYP	John Yusza	23S	KC1OMP	Damian Fries	21S	W1BOB	Bob Lobley	22R
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	23R	KC1OSR	Gunnar Steinle	21R	W1DQ	John Elengo	22S
K1MVM	Mike Macri	22S	KC1OST	Bryon Heath	21R	W1EDX	Paul Stasieluk	22S
K1PET	Debbie Purchia	22R	KC1OYM	Brian Boccuzzi	22R	W1IKW	Ian K. White	22R
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	23R	KC1OYN	Ricky Becker	22R	W1JKP	Kenth Astrom	21R
K1SCI	Stuart Isaac	20R	KC1OYR	Brent Moyer	21R	W1KPS	Kevin Shields	20R
K1SOX	Brian Freeman	22R	KC1PBQ	Randy Rivest	21R	W1LV	Steve Morley	21R
K1STM	Anne West	21S	KC1PHK	Lincoln Nichols	Y	W1NHS	Fred Ring	20S
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	22R	KC1PSK	Todd Dibiasi	22R	W1POP	Fred Liedke	21S
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	23S	KC1PXX	Dave Alfredson	22R	W1RCI	Ron Isaac Jr.	22R
K1MTD	Mary Duval	22S	KC1QHO	Mike Beaudry	22R	W1ST	Stephen Stimpson	20R
K1RMA	Don Richards	21S	KC1QHW	Brian Beegan	22R	W1TK	Ron Wakefield	22R
K1VDF	John Blevins	22S	KC1TAD	Tom DiPinto	22R	W1UFO	Mike Cei	23R
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	22S	KC1PU	Bob Woodtke Jr.	22R	W1UKX	Greg Gherardi	22S
KA1KJV	Bob Trussell	22S	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	22R	W1XK	Stan Kugler	20S
KB1CIW	Bob Stephens	20S	KC2MLH	Adam Castracane	22R	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	22R
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	22R	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	22S	W3APC	James Cook	23S
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	21S	KE1AV	Dave Sanford	21R	W9OTW	Debbie Foss	20R
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	22R	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	23S	WA1EXE		22
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	22S	KR1U	Bob Eslinger	22S	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	22S
KB1LWS	Jeanne Gherardi	22S	KX1USA	Rob Messercola	22R	WA1JKR	John Rogus	22S
KB1MFU	John Ramadei	22R	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	22S	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	22S
KB1MZG	Guy Allard	21S	N1API	Al Kaiser	22S	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
KB1SIT	Teresa Stephens	20S	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	21R	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	28S
KB1SSN	Alex Dills	20R	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	23S	WB1GGP	Jerry Sheppard	21S
KB1TJD	Gainne Jenkins	21S	N1FNE	Rod Lane	22R	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	22S
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	21R	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	22S	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	22R
KB1TTV	Jonathan Martin	26R	N1GY	Geoff Haines	22S	WJ1B	Harold Kramer	22S
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	21R	N1HCA	Susan South	22R	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	21S
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	22S	N1IBE	Wade Martell	22S	WY1U	Tim Mik	22R
KC1GMD	Ralph Ring	22R	N1JEO	Joel Curneal	22R		Ron Rogers	20S
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	28R	N1LES	Joe Murray	22R			
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	20R	N1MOB	Dan David	20R			
KC1HQX	Preston Byrne	22R	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	20S			
KC1IHK	Scott Mowerson	20R	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	21R			
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	21R	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	23S			
KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	21R	N1QYB	William Wilecki Jr.	21S			
KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	21S	N1XXU	Andy Purchia	22R			
KC1MBG	Robert Luby	21R	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	21R			

MEMBERSHIP STATS

TOTAL MEMBERS.....	123
REGULAR(UNDER65).....	61
SENIOR(65 & UP).....	60
LIFE.....	1
STUDENT(18 & UNDER).....	2

SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE EOC HAVE RESUMED 9AM-12AM

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.

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 W1NRG/R
147.36MHZ +600 OFFSET
TONE 162,2

MARC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT



W1YSM ED

VICE PRES.



KB1JL ERIC

SECRETARY



N1BRL BART

TREASURER



K1WJL DAVE

STATION
ACTIVITIES
MANAGER



K1RCT ROB