

KEY KLIX



MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 1947 - 2019

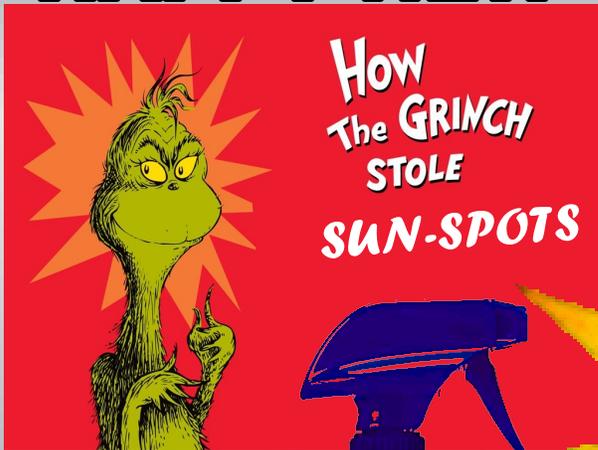


OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS, MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450
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ALL MEETINGS ARE AT THE EOC / HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE
143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD

JANUARY 2019

HAPPY NEW "NO-SUNSPOT" YEAR





The Presidents Net Control Corner

Ed W1YSM, President MARC



Happy New Year to all MARC members and to their family and friends. I am honored to be your new President. I will work hard to make MARC the best Amateur Radio Club in CT and to earn your support. First, I would like to thank all the prior officers: Bill President W1KKF, AL VP N1API, Steve Secretary KC1SA, Dave Treasurer K1WJL and Rob Station Mgr. K1RCT, for their leadership this past year, and for their service over the past several years. Your new officer slate is Ed W1YSM President, Eric KB1JL, VP, Dave NZ1J Secretary, Dave K1WJL Treasurer and Rob K1RCT Station Mgr. The "President's Net Control Corner" will be a new monthly feature in Key Klix. It will provide me with an opportunity to communicate with the Membership and lay-out new ideas for further discussion.

This month I would like to outline my vision for MARC's future, as we move forward. I plan in coming columns to cover: Saturday mornings at the EOC, community outreach opportunities, activities meeting topics, the Nutmeg Ham Fest Convention, VE sessions, member opportunities for involvement and other topics yet to be determined. While I believe MARC is well-run, the change in administration provides an opportunity to tweak some areas that I believe can benefit from a somewhat different approach. One overarching area I will be addressing this year is my desire to increase participation by club members who wish to be more involved in club activities but who either have not been asked, or don't know where to start. The strength of the club is in its diversity. Some of us like contesting, others like teaching CW to school children, participating in field day, providing security for road races or helping at town functions such as a Taste of Wallingford, others might like to attend or lead teaching sessions. Anyone interested in participating further, please contact me at W1YSM@arrl.net, with any ideas or suggestions.

At future meetings, ideas will be sought and considered carefully. I plan to publish the monthly business meeting Agenda on the club website, a week in advance of the meeting, so others can see what we will be discussing that night. Each Business Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month will now have 10 minutes set aside to present and discuss new initiatives and ideas. Thoughts about additional Agenda items are welcome and should be sent to me at the web address listed above. I would like us as a Club to increase our interactions with other CT amateur radio clubs to see how we might cooperate on joint activities. Although I plan to continue as chair of the club Activities Committee (4th Thursday of each month), if anyone wishes to assume that role, please let me know. A calendar of the talks slated for the 2019 Activities meeting is listed elsewhere in this issue of Key Klix. I would plan to potentially add additional topics on different days if the membership is so inclined. This will be another topic of discussion during the year.

I also plan to propose to the membership that we add an additional business meeting on the 1st Thursday in December to ensure we can deal monthly with all our increasing activities and responsibilities but not conflict with our annual Christmas party on the 2nd Thursday in December. Of necessity, some of the changes that I have in mind may possibly cause some concern among those conservative members who would like to preserve the status quo. Alas, change is inevitable. However, I do promise that any changes will be addressed fully by the MARC membership at club meetings. I do not believe we should be locked into doing things because "that is the way it's always been done." We do not want to throw out the baby with the bath water, but I think we may have more bath water than we really need as we move MARC forward into the 21st century. Again, keep in mind that as we do move forward, we will do so together, as a club. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave K1WJL, for his outstanding efforts in producing Key Klix every month. In my opinion, this newsletter, is incredibly well-produced. He clearly puts his heart and soul into each issue. Thank you, Dave for your hard work. In closing, I wish you all a Healthy and Happy New Year – 2019, filled with sunspots and tropospheric ducting. I realize I need to earn your support and your trust each month as we grow MARC into the State's premier amateur club. We have a lot we can do to grow our Club, to encourage young people to become hams and to give back to our community. And we will do it all while having a lot of fun and doing it together.

73,
Ed W1YSM
President MARC
W1YSM@arrl.net



ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,

ED W1YSM (ACTING ACTIVITIES MANAGER)

2019

JAN. 24	HARD LINE COAX – “THE HARD STUFF”	JIM N1ZN
FEB. 28	BALUNS and TRAPS	DAVE K1WJL
MAR. 28	SALEM ARC/EOT HOW WE OPERATE	CHRISTINA KB1QFW
APR. 25	AMATEUR ROCKETRY/AMATEUR RADIO	ERIC KB1EHE
MAY 23	MARC - TOWN MEETING OPEN FORUM	ED W1YSM
JUNE 27	PUBLIC SERV. & RADIO COMM.	BOB WB1GYZ/ERIC KB1JL
JULY 25	LARK IN THE PARK	
AUG. 22	JEOPARDY FOR HAMS	JOHN K1LYP
SEPT. 26	DRONES – A PRIMER	STEVE KC1SA
OCT. 24	SUNSPOTS	TBA
NOV 28	THANKSGIVING - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	
DEC. 12	CHRISTMAS PARTY - NO ACTIVITIES MEETING	



2018 MARC HAM OF THE YEAR POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED TO
CHRIS SIEVERT WA1VXH

at the 2018 Christmas Dinner Dec 13, 2018



CONGRATULATIONS TO
 2018 MARC ELMER OF THE YEAR AWARDED TO
JEFF DWYER N1AKN

at the 2018 Christmas Dinner Dec 13, 2018

2018 MARC Christmas Dinner / Party Dec 13 at Serafino’s Restaurant.

Serafino’s Restaurant provided a great venue for about 47 members, spouses and invited guests as we celebrated the holiday season. The guest speaker was our own James Surprenant AB1DQ who provided an excellent program on Amateur Radio in the Pop Culture. It was very informative on how many celebrities were & still are Amateur Radio Operators... everyone enjoyed the presentation, Well Done, James!

Our invited guests were Chuck Motes K1DFS Section Manager & Betsey Doane K1EIC, Asst SM., Lenny Guerra and the Fire Chief were invited but were unable to attend. Activities Manger & President Elect Ed Synder W1YSM opened the evening by announcing an open bar on his tab, upon which someone promptly ordered a case of Smirnov’s to go. Thank You Ed, that was very generous and was appreciated by all.. Current President Bill Wawrzeziak then proceeded with introductions of all present, followed by an excellent dinner and the video presentation by James AB1DQ.

The highlight of the evening was the award presentation by President Bill W1KKF, with Ham of the Year being posthumously awarded to Chris Sievert WA1VXH and the W1ICQ Memorial Elmer of the Year presented to Jeff Dwyer N1AKN. (more on page 9)

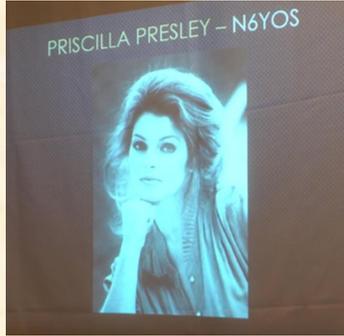
Winter Field Day Jan 26 & 27

Plans are being finalized for this exciting event. MARC Parka’s & hand warmers will be on sale at the next two meetings as well as medical waivers for ay loss of limbs, frostbite, etc that have to be signed and notarized.

Kids Day Sat Jan 5

This was an excellent event and will be reported in entirety in the February issue of the KK.

2018 MARC CHRISTMAS DINNER AT SERAFINO'S THURSDAY DECEMBER 13, 2018







Castle Craig Chapter, 10/10 News Al N1API, Chapter Head

There will be a Castle Craig Chapter Net on Friday February 1st 2019 on the club net frequency of 28.375 MHz . The purpose of this net is to kick off the 10-10 Winter QSO Party. I hope that all club members will join in. Even if you do not have a 10-10 number you are worth 1 point to the rest of us who do and are submitting logs. The QSO party runs from 0000 UTC February 2nd 2019 to 2359:59 February 3rd 2019. If you are a paid up 10-10 member your support of the club, and our chapter would be appreciated. Please make as many contacts as you can, and submit your log for credit. Remember to mention that you would like to credit Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10 with your score.

Log submission must be made by 2/8/2019 and is a simple process using the robot at:

<http://hamclubs.info/scorer/>.

You can also mail your log to the contest coordinator Dan Morris KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645. We will start taking checkins at 6:45 PM local time, (23:45 UTC), and I will be the Net Control. I would like a station to help with relays if needed. The procedure is simple. At 7 PM local time, (0000 UTC Feb. 2nd), we will start from the top of the list, (myself), and I will give my 10-10 information, that is Call, Name, QTH (state), and 10-10 number. The next station will be called and that person will give their information and then stand by. We will proceed to the bottom of the list. The procedure is then repeated from the top to bottom of the list, except you will call all stations that you heard and QSL their information. If you need a repeat on any information this is the time to ask for it. nce the last station is called they should have no calls to make because everyone has called them. I expect that this net should last no more than about 20 minutes.

Also, as you talk to local, (Connecticut), stations on 10 meters and also on the different bands please mention this QSO party and ask them to check 10 meters at times during the weekend to participate. Please remind them that if they are in the local ground wave area and members of 10-10, that The Castle Craig Chapter of 10-10 is their local chapter and we would appreciate their support for the QSO Parties. We've seen a few non MARC club members submitting their score for the chapter. We'd like to see more. Castle Craig usually finishes pretty well in the chapter standings. We'd like to do better. If you have your collected 10-10 numbers sitting *now* is the time to send them in or go to the 10-10 web page at

<http://www.ten-ten.org/memship.html>

and either use the online shopping cart to join or fill out a paper application and mail it in. There is a special three year incentive plan for \$40.00 or you can join for the basic \$15.00 a year. 10-10 has a membership plan with electronic delivery of the 10-10 News and there are special rates for new and rejoining members of \$10.00 for one year and a three year incentive for \$25.00. It takes about three weeks to get your number back via mail but if you apply online your new number will come via email in just a few days.

Remember you need to be a paid up member for your log to count for awards and also toward the club score.

A good incentive for joining is that ALL 10-10 awards are FREE, and most if all do not require QSL cards and can be applied for via email. You will receive award certificates by return mail, (or), for many, you can ask for a PDF certificate to put in your computer or post on your web pages. For those members who are an OM/YL team there is a family membership rate. It is a good way for both to join and get in on the fun. Even if you've decided that you are not interested in becoming a 10-10 member, you can still get on and give contacts out to those who are working the QSO Party. Your point will be welcomed. The 10-10 Officers and volunteers realize that 10 meters is in it's minimum sunspot cycle but they still encourage everyone to work the QSO parties, check 10 meters out and make as many contacts as they can. 10-10 was formed to keep 10 meter band active so that it is not lost to other services and that idea is still paramount in the organization's concepts. Also, you can submit a log as a checklog if you are not a paid up 10-10 member, (though I stress this would be good time to take advantage of the 3 year incentive offer). And if you still decide that 10-10 is not your cup of tea but do get on and pass your information to others, you can also submit a log as a check log. The purpose of 10-10 is to keep the band active and your log is a good way to demonstrate band activity. Please plan to attend and get the Winter 10-10 QSO party off to a rousing start!

-73- Al N1API

Castle Craig Chapter Chapter Head and Certificate Manager

THE NUMBERS

Steve Allen KC1SA

I decided to clean up my logbooks over the holiday. I had a few on QRZ that needed attention; folks trying to match up QSOs with me have been ignored for a few months. I realized that I never submitted my SSB Sweeps from 2017 onto QRZ. So after cleaning that up and sending out a few emails to other hams I was curious how many QSO's I've made since getting my license in December 2013. I didn't become active until March the following year and I've had one call sign change along the way. The SA call sign came about in '16 and from the trend you can see I've spent a bunch more time on CW than SSB since AXJ days. According to QRZ I have a combined QSO count of 7982 with 5122 confirmed QSOs worked 121 countries.

HNY - KC1SA



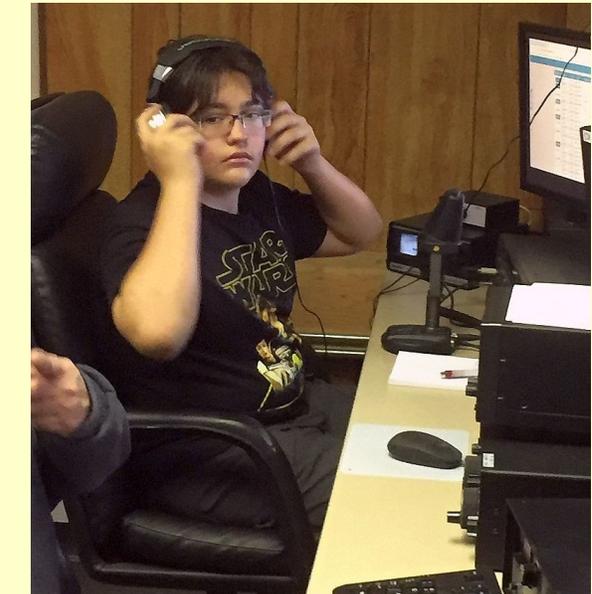
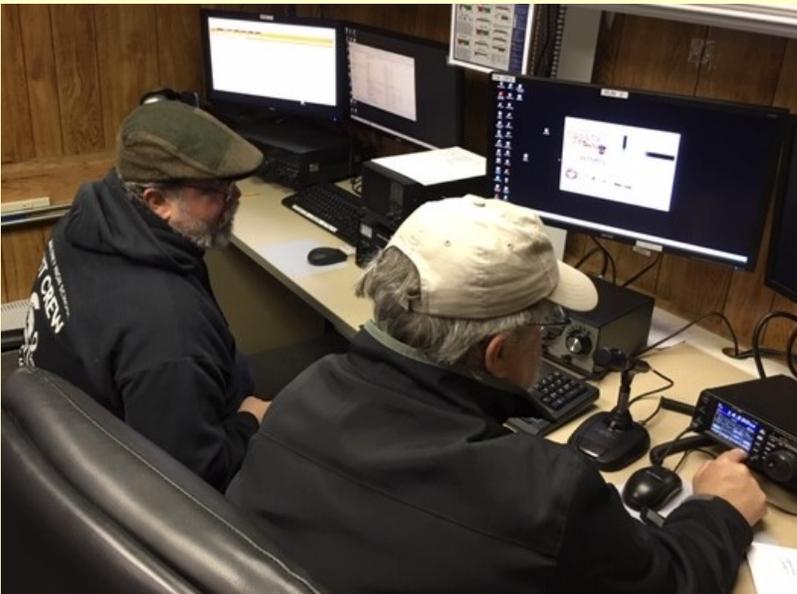
All QSO's (All)		All QSO's minus North America		All QSO's by Call Sign.	
Row Labels	Count of CALL	Row Labels	Count of CALL	Row Labels	Count of CALL
CW	2147	CW	593	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CW	2147
FM	3	FT8	6	KC1AXJ	389
FT8	126	JT65	52	KC1SA	1758
JT65	251	JT9	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FM	3
JT9	42	PSK31	22	KC1AXJ	3
PSK31	243	RTTY	584	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FT8	126
RTTY	1723	SSB	1319	KC1SA	126
SSB	3443	Grand Total	2580	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JT65	251
SSTV	4			KC1AXJ	191
Grand Total	7982			KC1SA	60
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JT9	42
				KC1AXJ	24
				KC1SA	18
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PSK31	243
				KC1AXJ	225
				KC1SA	18
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RTTY	1723
				KC1AXJ	842
				KC1SA	881
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SSB	3443
				KC1AXJ	2694
				KC1SA	749
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SSTV	4
				KC1AXJ	4
				Grand Total	7982

SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE EOC

PICTURES GENERALLY ATTRIBUTED TO N1AKN, K1LYP, WB1GYZ, W1YSM, & A HOST OF OTHERS



LARGE WORLD MAP DONATED TO THE CLUB



N1AKN JEFF DWYER

OUR 2018 ELMER OF THE YEAR HAD A VERY PRODUCTIVE YEAR IN THE MARC, BESIDES BEING A VERY INGENUOUS ANTENNA DESIGNER, SKILLED RADIO TECHNICIAN, A VE (EXAMINER), SATURDAY MORNING REGULAR WHICH INCLUDES EDUCATING AND ASSISTING NEW HAMs, GIVING TOURS AND WORKING WITH KIDS, HE ALSO MANAGED TO BE INTERVIEWED ON A PUERTO RICAN CABLE TV SHOW (WHILE IN KP4-LAND) ABOUT HAM RADIO AND PLUGGED THE MARC. CONGRATULATIONS JEFF..... THE LINK TO THE SHOW IS VERY COMPLEX BUT IF YOU EMAIL THE EDITOR HE WILL EMAIL IT TO YOU.



ARRL MARC Local Contest Operators

In order to submit a log for Meriden ARC in the ARRL contests, you must be listed under W1NRG's group of operators who have expressed a desire to contest for the Club. I have volunteered to maintain the list of operators and submit them to the ARRL. MARC enters in the Local Class, operators within a 35 mile limit of the club. In this class we compete with other local club and small contest groups. There is no limit to the number of members we can list. You can submit for any of the ARRL Contests, SSB, CW or Digital where the rules allow Cub Competition. If you would like to join this distinguished group of operators the procedure is simple, just send me an email with your call and your 6 digit locator grid. You can also leave me a private message in the W1NRG Forum. If you do not know your 6 digit grid or your listed address is a PO Box, (we are all in FN31), I can find it from your street address. It is also listed in your QRZ information under the "Details" tab. The current list of members who are listed as MARC contesters are:

N1API, FN31om, W1NRG, FN31ol, W1DQ, FN31nl KE1AU, Fn31nm WA1TRY, FN31tw K1STM, FN31no
N1ZN, FN31nk K1WJL, FN31om W1KKF, FN31nl K1MVM, FN31mp K1LHO, FN31om

Come join us in the fun!

-73- AI - N1API

FROM DAVE NZ1J

Straight Key Century Club

I'd like to give some free advertising to the Straight Key Century Club

<https://www.skccgroup.com/>

The club is free to join and has about 20,000 members. They hold a weekend 'Sprintathon' and a weeknight 'Sprint' once per month. And, they have awards for WAS, DX, Canadian Provinces, QRP, Ragchewing, and prefixes. It's very easy to find a QSO with an SKCC member. But, you must use a straight key, bug, or sideswiper (which does not use an electronic keyer). Eight members of MARC are also members of SKCC, so you may run into someone you know on the air near one of their suggested frequencies.

Shave and a Haircut

There was a time when it was not uncommon for CW operators to end a QSO with 'Shave and a Haircut' 'Two bits'. That's no longer common, but ending with just the 'Two bits' or 'dit dit' is still common.

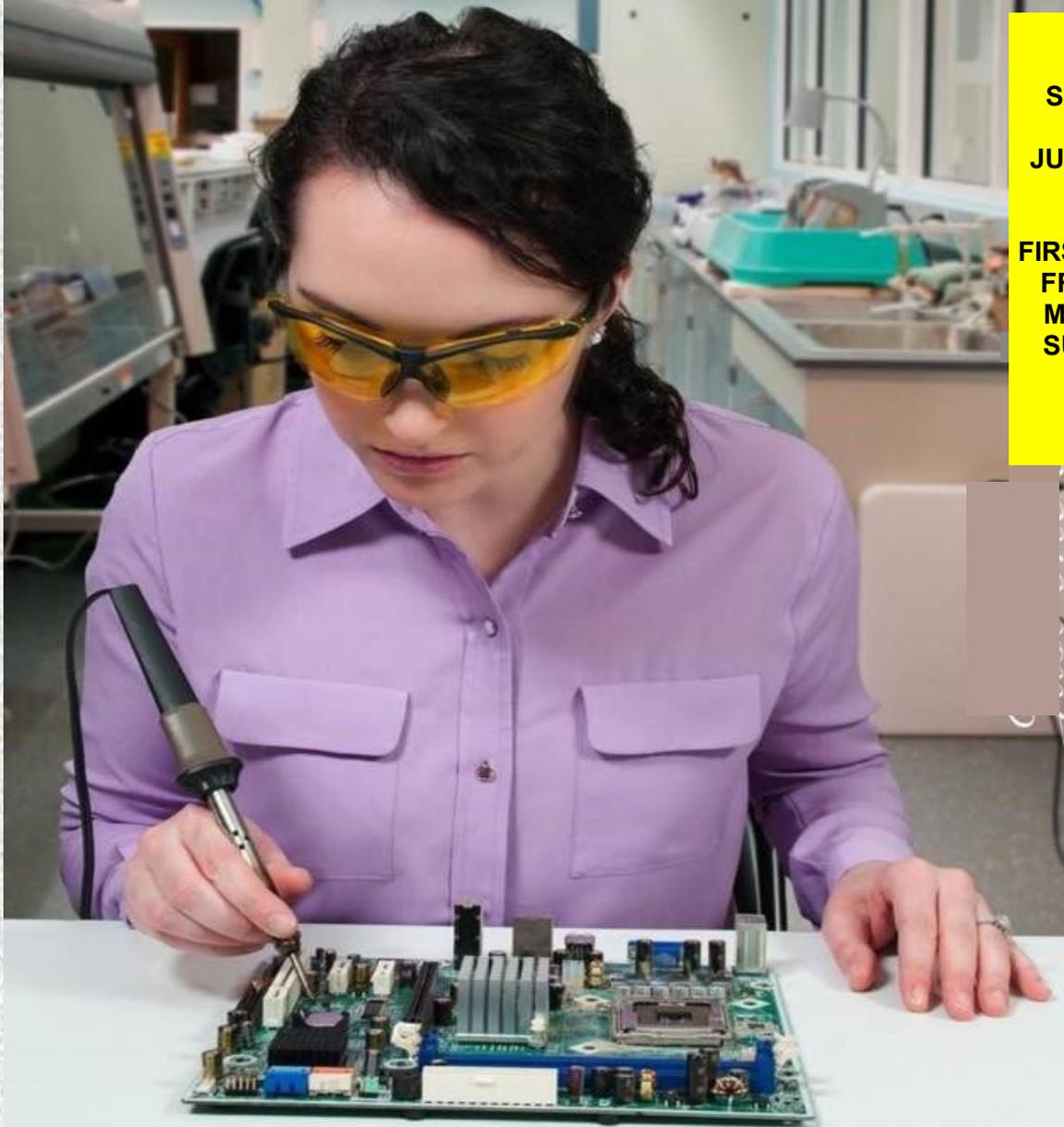
Less well known is 'Bens Best Bent Wire'. Apparently, commercial CW operators would sometimes send this as a warm up at the start of their shift. It has a pleasing sound, whether you can copy Morse Code or not. A search within YouTube will turn up several examples. Maybe it's worth a listen.

73, 88, 72, and 161

Probably every ham is familiar with 73, which translates to 'Best Regards'. Some will say that 73's is improper because it translates to 'Best Regards's'. It's less common to hear 88, which is 'Hugs and Kisses'. Also less common is the QRP operator's 72, which is not quite 73, due to the low power. But, probably the rarest of these is 161. The First Class CW Operators' Club has added the 73 + 88 to get 161, which is their club's warm greeting between members.

EDITORS CHOICE(K1WJL).....36.5 (YOU CAN FIGURE OUT FOR YOURSELF WHAT THAT MEANS)

HOW TO TELL WHEN THEY GET A MODEL FOR THE PHOTO INSTEAD OF A WORKER.



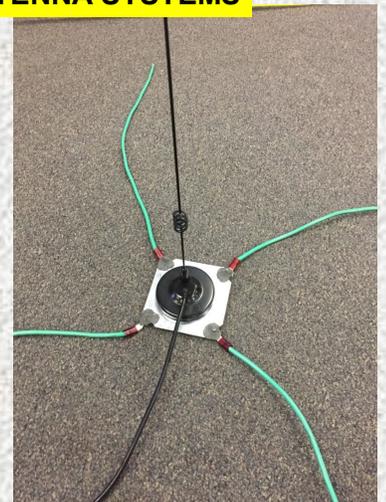
FROM THE EDITOR:

SAW THIS ON THE WEB...

JUST COULDN'T PASS THIS UP....

FIRST ONE TO SEE IT GETS A FREE PASS ON THE ELON MUSK SPACE-X SHUTTLE SUNSPOT TOUR AROUND THE SUN.

JEFF N1AKN IS GETTING VERY CREATIVE ON HIS HOMEBREW ANTENNA SYSTEMS



INFORMATION PAGE

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER
 VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON
 SECT.....NZ1J DAVE TIPPING
 TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK
 STATION A.M...K1RCT ROB CICHON

MEETINGS: NORMALLY
 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH,
 UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED,
 AT THE HOPE HILL ROAD FIREHOUSE / EOC
 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD

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 203 235-8582

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 POB 583, MERIDEN CT. 06450

CLUB NETS

6 MTR NET MONDAYS 8PM
 50.175MHZ N1ZN JIM

2 METER NET TUESDAYS 7:30PM
 147.36 /RPT K1TDO TODD

10 METER NET TUESDAYS 8PM
 28.375MHZ K1VDF JOHN

10/10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAPTER
 CONCURRENTLY WITH CLUB NET
 28.375MHZ TUESDAYS 8PM N1API AL

CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC)

UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR

SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15

WEBSITE: (USE LOWERCASE)
www.w1nrg.com

FORUM/BBS:
www.w1nrg.com/forum/
 or go to website and follow links

CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 WEBSITE:
 go to www.w1nrg.com
 and follow the links

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



AB1DQ James Surprenant 19	KC1ISI Kristin Olsson 19	W1RPN Seth Kolasinski 18
AB1HB Charlie Dudac 19	KC1IYC John Pancoast 18	W1UFO Mike Cei 19
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 19	KE1AU Robert Kaczor 19	WA1FFT Ray Irwin 19
K1LYP John Yusza 19	KE1AY Donald Mitchell 19	WA1JKR John Rogus 20
K1MMK Mike MacKennedy 18	KE4EYA Ralph Ring 19	WA1SFH Douglas Sharafanowich 19
K1MVM Mike Macri 19	KR1U Bob Eslinger 19	WA1TRY Rich Aubin L
K1PU Mark Mokoski 18	N1API Al Kaiser 19	WA1ZVY Jim Martin 18
K1RCT Rob Cichon 19	N1AKN Jeff Dwyer 19	WB1GGP Jerry Shepard 18
K1SEZ Paul Ciezniak 18	N1POP Greg Ploski 19	WB1GYZ Bob Biancur 19
K1STM Anne West 19	N1BF Patrick Dionne 18	WB8IMY Steve Ford 20
K1TDO Todd Olsen 19	N1BRL Bart Toftness 18	WV2LKM Steve Waldmann 18
K1TGX Jerry Molaver 18	N1GNV John Bartscherer 19	
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 19	
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 19	W1NHS Fred Ring 19	
KC1IIL Matt Mowerson 19	W1POP Fred Liedke 18	

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