

KEY KLIX

AN OLD CHINESE PROVERBIAL QUESTION

THE YEAR OF THE OPTOMETRIST OR THE OPTIMIST ??



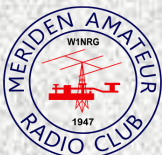
MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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PRES W1YSM ED SNYDER VP KB1JL ERIC OLSSON SECT K1STM ANNE WEST
TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK S.A.M. K1RCT ROB CICHON

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



1947 -- 2019



CONGRATULATIONS

THESE WERE AWARDED AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY BY ELECTION CHAIR JOHN KIVDF. THE VOTE WAS TAKEN AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING AND RESULTS WERE STORED IN A UKRANIAN SERVER AT A "711" IN KIEV.



MARC 2019 HAM OF THE YEAR

President Ed Snyder
W1YSM



MARC 2019 ELMER OF THE YEAR

Don Mitchell
KE1AY





The MARC Renaissance

The Renaissance (French for “rebirth”) was a time in European history that marked the transition from the Middle Ages – (14th – 16th Centuries), to modern times. It was a time of renewed enthusiasm and a rebirth of interest in arts, culture, science, nature, politics and human-human interactions. I believe there has been a renaissance of sorts in MARC regarding greater interest both in the Club and how MARC can provide a greater amateur radio experience for its members.

I base my thoughts on the increased number of members who have been coming to the Business, Activities and Special Club meetings such as Field Day, CQ Santa and the Christmas Party. The growing number of attendees at the Saturday morning sessions (now 15-20 each week) is another barometer of greater member satisfaction. Interest in MARC extends beyond our current membership, too. For example, this past Saturday morning (December 21) a prospective member showed up at the OEM and said he had heard about how active the Club was and he wanted to join. There are at least 4 or 5 new members who joined this past year -a couple of them in their 20-30's.

I attribute this renaissance, in part, to a growing sense of pride in MARC and renewed excitement for its activities. Having a wonderful facility at the OEM with a large antennae farm, new radios and AV equipment helps invigorate the members. The wonderful support from the Town of Wallingford for MARC and WARG adds immeasurably to this dynamic. During this past year (my first as Club President), some members were vocal that perhaps we were trying to do too much. However, as each of these activities came to fruition, it became clear that no one was being asked to do everything. As our menu of activities grew dramatically, so did interest and participation. Heaven knows that there are a myriad of Amateur Radio activity options in MARC today. Members now realize that they can pick and choose to do whatever they are interested in doing.

As an example, Dave NZ1J, sent out an email about having a Foxhunt – something we have talked about several times in the past. This time, however, instead of club members just agreeing we needed to arrange a hunt sometime or ignoring the email, there was a flurry of responses (N~8 at last count) from members asking to be included in the planning process. I was thrilled to see the enthusiastic response.

Many member comments made to me personally over the past few months, relate to how vibrant the club has become and how there is so much activity being planned. I believe the Leadership Team has let it be known that the officers understand that we were elected to facilitate and support the wishes of the membership. If someone believes their views are sought out, listen to and appreciated, they will likely respond with their support and involvement. This prophecy seems to be working. The Leadership Team and myself, will continue in 2020 to promote the MARC Renaissance and guide the Club membership while openly seeking their input. We are all dedicated to making the Meriden Amateur Radio Club the best Club in the State. But please remember, we will need your input, support and yes, even your criticism. We are off to a great start, but like the Medieval Renaissance, growth and change will take time – as the saying goes, Rome was not built in a day.

73,
Ed W1YSM



AS THE EDITOR TYPES

DAVE KIWJL

As Editor in chief, Publisher, Printer, Circulation Manager, Reporter, Graphic Arts Director, Communications chief, Receptionist, Complaint Dept manager and overall Super Hero (in my own mind), I would like to say a few words.....

I enjoy doing the newsletter...after a series of medical adventures (still ongoing I might add) I seem relegated to a sedentary lifestyle of sitting at my computer and letting my fingers get the workout... here again, I have severe carpal tunnel in left hand and spend a ton of time correcting everything typed on the left hand side of the keyboard.. However I just bought a Dragon, Speech recognition software package for the computer and hope that works....I got it very cheap and then found out it translates Japanese to Mongolian text.....Damn Ebay.....

Being editor is easy when you have a great staff & club behind you....I want to Thank the following for great support:

President Ed W1YSM for his monthly Presidential Messages, his dedicated activities calendar and pictures with commentary & Skywarn info with alerts.

Al Kaiser N1API for his 10/10 updates, contesting and especially FT8 articles, Al is also my set of ears for whats happening in the amateur radio community....

Rob Cichon K1RCT for his excellent series on the Club Ham shack, bringing everyone up to speed On the operation and various technical aspects of the club equipment...

Rich Aubin WA1TRY on his "TRY This" series and although we have not seen one in some time due to medical reasons, we hope he will restart those happy fingers...

Dave Tipping NZ1J on his Secretary reporting and also: his hiking series to peaks around the area, His reporting of QRP building of Vacuum tube rigs, construction projects and also Fox Hunting Initiative....

Bob Biancur WB1GYZ on the WB1GYZ Files. Bob has been doing this "forever" and is always looking for new candidates to be interviewed....He does a great job....

John K1LYP for his Saturday morning activity reporting complete with great photo's

Eric KB1JL for his club and WARG updates, articles and also great pictures of various activities..

Jeff Dwyer N1AKN & Ted Renzoni KC1DOY These two are the Saturday morning repair and reporting team that provide us with great pix's and commentary...and excellent pictures

Eric Knight KB1EHE & Elsie Matthews KB1FZ for some really unique and awesome articles on space rocketry, moon travel and new antenna designs....

James Surprenant AB1DQ provided us with some really nice DIY construction projects....

John Elengo W1DQ also provided us with info on DXing, Logbook of the World and some neat high end theoretical topics.....

Douglas Sarafanowich WA1SFH with Boy Scout and ARES reporting.

Steve Allen KC1SA with WARG updates and with some nice articles this year on operating, construction and general interest..

Ed O'Lena N1YLN, John N1GNV on contest schedules & activations

My sincere apologies if I omitted anyone, and I probably did..... But I was also trying to make a point here. I do not author the Key Klix, I assemble it , you do it by sending in these great articles... Keep them coming.

And Thank You for making me look good.....(well..you know what I mean!)



ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,

ED W1YSM (ACTING ACTIVITIES MANAGER)

2020

January Activity meeting Thursday Jan 23 7:30pm at the EOC

John Yusza K1LYP will do a presentation on Tower Installation & Safety. This is an important topic to Hams as there was a ham tower climbing fatality in Connecticut last year.

Fox Hunting

The club will be starting a series of Fox Hunts when we get a break from winter weather, probably in March. Bob, WB1GYZ, and I will be parked somewhere in Wallingford and operating on 2 meters for the first hunt.

Fox Hunts can be fun and they can be challenging. The first hunt will have an emphasis on fun, but the challenge part just can't be completely avoided. You MIGHT find us with a handi-talkie, a rubber duck antenna, and an almost dead battery. But, you'll likely do better with some more specialized equipment and some experience using the equipment. I'll be at the club just about every Saturday between now and the first hunt. We can brainstorm ideas, form teams (not for competition, but for camaraderie and pooling of resources and talent), build antennas, test equipment, and get practice in the art of hunting for a hidden transmitter.

Also, one of our Wednesday Tech Nets in January will be devoted to Fox Hunting.

Good Hunting,
Dave NZ1J



Annual Christmas Party Thursday Dec 12 at Serafino's Restaurant

Another great event with 53 members, spouses and guests attending, the weather cooperated, food was excellent, open bar courtesy of President Ed W1YSM, and an excellent presentation of Ham Radio in the media by our own James AB1DQ. The night was highlighted by the presentation of the Ham of the Year award to Ed Snyder W1YSM and Elmer of the Year to Don Mitchell KE1AY by elections chair John K1VDF.

CQ Santa

Saturday Dec 7th at the EOC started out with the usual high level of Murphy's Law anxiety, causing Ed W1YSM to turn a few more hair follicles white. He even commented that he calmed down by 10:30am and started enjoying the day. Things went great considering this was our first run in this venue. Town Health Dept provided Elves, giant snowmen (if you don't believe this, check out pictures on page 6), Hot Chocolate, Popcorn and crafts, and we had an excellent showing of club members. We processed about 25 kids through to talk to Santa, including the Mayor.... And to all a good night.....

Dues due for 2020

See Dave K1WJL to pay dues or if you have a question....check the last page to see if you have a 19 after your name & call, then you owe for 2020. If there is a question or issue about your dues please contact Dave, sometimes it may take a month or two to update those dues.

Health issues with members

From AI N1API I think I mentioned to some of you that I had a stress test coming up soon because I was having some problems, I went in for my scheduled appointment and had the Nuclear Stress Test. They found a blockage in one of my arteries. They wanted me to get up to Hartford Hospital Cath Lab. They did not even want me to drive. I got my brother to get me home where I packed a quick travel pack and got up to Harford about 2:30 in the afternoon. After sitting in the ER waiting room and an ER exam room until almost 7:30 PM I finally got to a room. They cleaned out an artery that had a 90% blockage and inserted a stent. They found another one 70% blocked which they will, (are) treating with medication. They released me about 12:30 in the afternoon, (guess you could say I got a Stent for Christmas). I caught a taxi to the Amtrak Station and was home by 2:30 or so. I've got a few follow ups and need to schedule a couple of other local test but am back as ornery as ever!

From Dave K1WJL: spent Christmas day in the hospital (and the next) after issues with heart.....ER doctor scheduled a ton of tests and the possibility of going to Hartford for angioplasty(already been there, done that)....my cardiologist came in, asked what I had for dinner the night before, told him Prime Rib ++, he prescribed a heavy duty analgesic and discharged me....I think the ER room doctor is still babbling in his native tongue.....

CQ SANTA AT THE EOC SATURDAY DEC 7TH

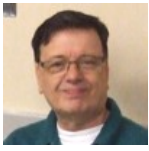


SATURDAY MORNINGS AT THE EOC



**MARC CHRISTMAS PARTY THURSDAY DEC 12 AT SERAFINO'S RESTAURANT
PICTURES COURTESY OF JEFF N1AKN**





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

There will be a Castle Craig Chapter Net on Friday February 7th 2020 on the club net frequency of 28.375. 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 8th 2020 to 2359:59 February 9th 2020. 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 2/16/20 by email to tentencontest@ten-ten.org 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. 8th), 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. Once 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 its 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 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- AI N1API

Castle Craig Chapter Chapter Head and Certificate Manager

INFORMATION PAGE

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER
 VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON
 SECT.....K1STM ANNE WEST
 TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK
 STATION A.M...K1RCT ROB CICHON

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

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 203 235-8582

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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)

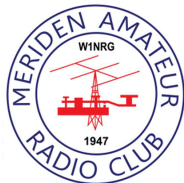
UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR
 SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15

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	22	KC1HFO	John Stoidis	20	W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	20	KC1IHK	Scott Mowerson	20	W1LV	Steve Morley	20
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	19	KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	20	W1NHS	Fred Ring	19
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	19	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	20	W1NNZ	William Kosche III	19
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	20	KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	19	W1POP	Fred Liedke	21
K1LHO	Mike Ash	20	KC1NS	Nancy Tipping	19	W1UFO	Mike Cei	20
K1LYP	John Yusza	20	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	21	W1VCU	Nelson Denison	L—SK
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	20	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	20	W1XK	Stan Kugler	19
K1MVM	Mike Macri	19	KE1AV	Dave Sanford	20	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	20
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	19	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	20	WA1CT	Paul Stasieluk	20
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	19	KR1U	Bob Eslinger	20	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	20
K1STM	Anne West	20	N1API	Al Kaiser	20	WA1JKR	John Rogus	20
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	20	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	20	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	19
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	22	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	19	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	19	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	20	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	20
K1VDF	John Blevins	20	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	19	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	19
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	20	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	20
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	19	N1HCA	Susan South	19	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20
KA1MWX	Paul Stasieluk	20	N1KGY	Chuck Ayers	20	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	20
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	20	N1LGH	Barbara Stone	19		Ron Rogers	20
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	20	N1MOB	Dan David	19			
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	20	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	20			
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	20	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	19			
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	20	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	20			
KB1MFU	John Ramadei	19	N1POP	Greg Ploski	19			
KB1ORB	Mark Noble	19	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	20			
KB1SSN	Alex Dills	20	N1ZN	James Savage	20			
KB1TJD	Gainne Jenkins	20	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	22			
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	20	W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	20			
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	19	W1DJB	Dylan Barrett	19			
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	19	W1DQ	John Elengo	20			
KC1FJJ	Richard Nagy Jr.	19						
KC1GMD	Ralph Ring	20						

THERE MAY BE A MONTH OR TWO
 TIME LAG FOR DUES TO BE SHOWN
 AS PAID. INQUIRE WITH THE TRES.
 K1WJL TO VERIFY...