

**SAMUEL F.B. MORSE**



# MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1947 -- 2018

# MAY 2018



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

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  
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203 235-8582

**Business Meeting Thursday May 10, 7:30pm at the Wlfd EOC**

We will discuss and vote on the newly revised Constitution & Bylaws, per KC1SA committee chair and of course all other sundry items such as Field Day, Field Day Location, etc etc etc....

**Activity Meeting Thursday May 24, 2018, 7:30pm at the Wlfd EOC**

Thursday May 24th will feature Rob K1RCT who will present Digital Modes 101, on JT65 and FT-8. This should be a very interesting and informative evening...All are invited...

Congrats go out to Ed W1YSM for a great job as activities chair. He has already packed in the schedule with an array of interesting and unique activities and is open to suggestions for any in 2019. Rumor has it that he has booked Dr. Sheldon Cooper to speak on the transition of intermolecular RF particle modulation transgression in the G5RV ladder line with and without Baluns.

**SKYWARN Training Session**

There will be a SKYWARN Training Session on Wednesday May 16 at 7p at the Wallingford OEM, 143 Hope Hill Road, Wallingford. It is offered by Upton NWS (nyc). Hosting is the Meriden Amateur Radio Club. Admission is Free. You MUST register. Go to National Weather Service, New York web site [www.weather.gov/okx/](http://www.weather.gov/okx/) and look for SKYWARN Training Schedule.

73,  
Ed, W1YSM [W1YSM@arrl.net](mailto:W1YSM@arrl.net) EC SKYWARN NH/Middlesex Counties



**ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS,  
Ed W1YSM**

May 24-	Digital Modes 101 JT65, FT-8	Rob K1RCT
May 16	Special—Wednesday Skywarn Training session	
June -	Antennae and SWR measurements	John K1VDF
July -	Lark in the Park	John N1GNV
August -	Jeopardy for Hams	John K1LYP
September —	EMP & Faraday Cages—Shocking	K1SKL
October —	ECHOLINK & irlp	K1LHO
November—	Cancelled for Turkey Day	
December—	Christmas Party @ Serafino's	

***WE ARE TAKING REQUESTS & OFFERS FOR 2019***

**EVAN KC1JIV, JEFF N1AKN AND JOHN K1LYP WORKING IN THE TRAILER TUNING THE ANTENNAS**



**MIKE K1LHO, MIKE K1MMK, JOHN K1LYP & EVAN KC1JIV OBSERVE A LIGHT MOMENT WITH JOHN K1VDF HIDDEN FROM VIEW AT A SAT MORNING SESSION.**





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

## APRIL 2018

**Meriden Amateur Radio Club** meeting called to order April 12, 2018 at 19:30 hours by President W1KKF. Introductions of attendees were made.

**Announcements:**

W1KKF announced the next meeting is 4/26 and will be a discussion on SDR.

**March Minutes:**

March minutes highlights were read by KC1SA

**Correspondences:**

Two 2018 dues membership dues received and one Vanguard statement.

**Membership:**

Reminder letters were sent out for the 2017 members that have not paid their 2018 dues.

Membership is 77 for 2018 (members that did pay their 2018 dues).

**Treasurer report:**

K1WJL read the financial report.

**Activity Meetings**

APRIL 26	SDR – Software Defined Radios	[AA6E – Martin]
MAY 16 (Wed)	SKYWARN TRAINING - NEW HAVEN/MIDDLESEX REGISTRATION REQUIRED <a href="http://weather.gov/okx">[weather.gov/okx]</a>  7:00p – 9:30p	[NWS Brian C]
MAY 24	DIGITAL MODES 101 (JT65,FT-8, etc)	[K1RCT – Rob]
JUNE 28	ANTENNAE AND SWR MEASUREMENTS	[K1VDF – John]
JULY 26	LARK IN THE PARK	[WARG-MARC]
AUGUST 23	JEOPARDY FOR HAMS	[K1LYP -JOHN]
SEPTEMBER 27	EMP and Faraday Cages – Shocking!	[K1SKL – Steve]
OCTOBER 25	ECHOLINK and IRLP	[K1LHO – Mike]

**Station**

**Activities:**

- Saturdays continue to be busy. Some new faces and some familiar learning studying, mentoring, assisting and operating the Club
- Memorial Station. Changed the electrical lockout lock one more time, someone had defeated the lock again.
- Tested cross-band operations with the Kenwood VHF/UHF radios.
- Worked on WSJT modes with the CW rig. FT8- JT-65 and JT-9 modes are now operation and created a WSJT menu profile on the computer attached to the CW rig for anyone wanting to use those modes. Found the LP antenna is 50 degrees CCW in error from indicated position on the controller. K1LYP will address this with the bucket truck with the ground firms up.

**Club Nets:**

Reports were given by K1VDF for the 10 meter net on 28.375 and by N1ZN on the 6 meter net on 50-175. Both are active. The 2m net had 5 or 6 check ins this past week

**Castle Craig:**

Nothing new to report, things have been quiet.

**Scholarship:**

- KE1AY would like to meet with the Scholarship committee on 4/21 at 9AM at the club house (OEM building).
- o Committee members are N1ZN, K1LHO, KC1ISI, KE1AY, K1RCT, W1YSM

**Interference:**

WA1TRY is looking for a replacement to chair this committee. No takers yet.

**VE:**

Short discussion on success of our March 24<sup>th</sup> VE session. 8 people attended with 7 passing.

**Nutfest:**

- Awaiting 4-Points to set up a meeting with N1GNV, K1RCT &W1KKF in regards to seminar rooms.
- Date has been set to October 21, 2018.

Tickets will cost \$8 this year.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

**Candy Store:**

N1ZN says no news.

**KeyKlix:**

Keep articles and pictures coming to K1WJL.

**EmCom:**

- KB1JL reported DEC WA1SFH has assigned KB1JL as Wallingford EC.
  - MS Walk is Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Cheshire High School. Contact KB1JL if you wish to volunteer.
  - June 30<sup>th</sup> table top exercise, need radio operator with go box working with Wallingford Emergency Communication.
  - Go box committee to put one of the Kenwood UHF/VHF radios into a ammo can with a single 35Ah battery.
  - A motion was made and passed to spend a maximum of \$250 to do this.
- QuickSilver Radio to performing the integration of the club's Kenwood UHF/VHF radio with equipment that QSR will provide.

**Old Business:**

- WIKKF has secured Serafino's regarding the December xmas party for December 13, 2018.
  - Library being assisted by K1LYP and K1VDF while WV2LKM is recuperating.
  - Treasury Audit. N1ZN reported this was completed and all is in order.
  - Server committee (Internet presence) has not met yet.
  - Constitution revision. Committee met on March 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - Recommended changes will be sent out to each club member for review.
  - May business meeting will have vote on proposed changes.
  - SAM K1RCT is looking for town ARES emergency plan -- KB1JL has drafted a copy for review.
- K1RCT and W1YSM communicate with K1SOX on potential linking of WIKKF repeater with W1WPD repeater for emergency needs.

**New Business**

- Field Day – June 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>
  - Motion made and passed to operate as Class 2F.
- Still looking for a Field Day chairman  
Meeting adjourned at 2035 hours.

***Congratulations to Betsey Doane K1EIC***  
 Former Connecticut Section Manager and retired professor Betsey Doane, K1EIC, has received the Housatonic Community College Foundation (HCCF) Lifetime Achievement Award on April 19, during the college's 50th anniversary community celebration.

Betsey Doane has been on the cutting edge of major industry advancements in teaching techniques for the visually impaired. She has worked toward developing computer literacy courses and has participated as a panelist at national and international conferences. She has served as Connecticut Section Manager from 1991 until 2016, her 25 uninterrupted years of service establishing her as the dean of Section Managers when she decided not to seek another term. Doane and her twin sister, Barb Lombardi, K1EIR, were licensed in 1958, and both began handling message traffic soon after. She has been an Official Emergency Station since April 2010.





# K1SEZ PAUL CIEZNIAK

Paul Ciezniak, K1SEZ, a MARC member since 2005 was born in Scranton, PA. The family relocated to Ansonia, CT in the early '40s. During the 1955 major flood in CT, he saw a ham radio setup for the first time at the Ansonia State Armory where local hams were helping with emergency communications which sharpened his interest into getting an FCC Novice license (WN1IHY) the following year. After a few years of battling TVI (only using a 50' clothesline wire antenna from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor apartment!) and upon graduation from Ansonia High School, Paul attended the Connecticut School of Electronics (New Haven, CT) earning a certificate as an Electronics Technician graduating at the top of his class in June 1959. Having "turned pro", he drifted away from ham radio as his major hobby.

His first job in the electronics field was at MB Electronics (div. of Textron, Inc) in New Haven, CT in their engineering development lab. MB at the time was the world's largest manufacturer of vibration test equipment (electromagnetic vibration shakers) for military and commercial applications. The vibrators (or shakers) were simply very large, electromechanical audio speakers, some weighing many hundreds of pounds and driven by water-cooled amplifiers of up to 100 KW! After 13 years with MB, it was sold and moved to Cleveland, OH in 1972. He declined an invitation to relocate with them, instead finding employment with a local test stand design and manufacturing firm in Wethersfield called Kahn & Co. They build specialized ground support test stands to specification for PWA, Sikorsky, and other local aviation tech manufacturers.

Within a year's time, in 1973 he switched career directions and left electrical tech engineering work for a job as a sales engineer with a New Haven-based firm making OE and aftermarket truck radiators and components (G&O Mfg. Co.). Paul said he had no idea that field sales and engine-cooling radiators could appeal to him as much as it did! He moved from the OEM sales group to their first, aftermarket distribution warehouse and relocated with his family to the Boston, MA area in 1976, moving back to Connecticut in 1986 to Wallingford to work at the G&O corporate office. After 36 years with this company, and with retirement coming up in the mid 2000's, he returned to the hobby of amateur radio, getting his General ticket (KB1LRX) in October 2004 at the Nutmeg Hamfest, changed his callsign to K1SEZ in January '05, and upgraded to Amateur Extra in March '06. He became a tour guide volunteer at ARRL headquarters in Newington, CT in 2008 at the historical W1AW and ARRL buildings.

He enthusiastically resumed the ham radio hobby and started chasing DX primarily using CW. Now, he has logged over 21,800 QSOs, producing 263 DXCC entities confirmed...mostly via ARRL's Logbook of the World system. There are also 2 shoeboxes full of QSL cards, some decorating the wall of his radio "shack". His station today consists of an ICOM 7300, Heil boom microphone, Ameritron AL-811 amplifier, and a G5RV antenna that gets out surprisingly well! The first rig was a Kenwood TS-2000, which is now a backup to the IC-7300 and provides VHF and UHF capability. His only antenna runs perpendicular to the slight east-west slope of his property, and the G5RV antenna has major lobes to the east and west (and does not need a tower or rotator!). Paul has tried many digital modes JT65, JT9, PSK31... including the newest one called FT-8. Logging and digital control duties are handled using DXLab Suite's excellent free software.

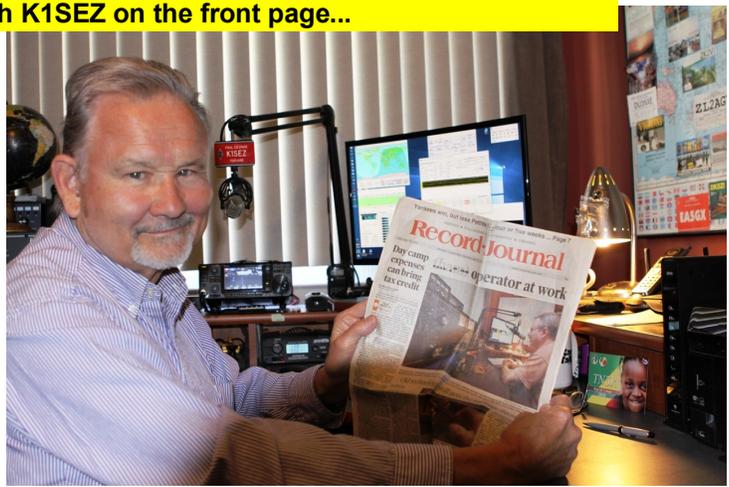
His ham awards include: ARRL Diamond DXCC Challenge in 2012, ARRL Triple Play award (#90 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of its inception), Ham of the Year from MARC in 2013. WAS, several modes, A-1 Operator Club, 2009 DXCC award in January 2006, now at 268 confirmed. In December 2012, he worked with the ARRL Education department and coordinated an MARC ham radio 2 meter band contact through NASA with the astronauts on the ISS and local Wallingford and Meriden school-aged children in a STEM-based program. Just before graduating from the Connecticut School of Electronics in 1959, Paul studied and passed his FCC Radio Telephone Operator License, First Class, and worked part time for a year at the commercial radio station in Ansonia, WADS (dawn to dusk, 500-watt AM) in 1960. In the early 1960s, he considered finding employment in the merchant marine service. Luckily, that idea never materialized!

The ongoing challenges begin with learning all the subtleties of the new IC-7300, especially the digital modes and RTTY, and perhaps this summer replacing the 12-year-old G5RV hanging from the trees in the back yard! This new antenna will include a center ladder line vertical "support" to push the feed line straight up from the ground. The magic of ham radio is still recognizing the marvel of communicating all around the world with using either the antique Morse code from the mid-1850s or the latest digital FT-8 mode.

Paul lives in Wallingford with his XYL Geri.

Continued on next page

Continued from last page Paul K1SEZ map & Paul holding Meriden Record Journal Newspaper with K1SEZ on the front page...



Evan KC1JIV making his first contact as a new Ham...  
Congrats



Evan KC1JIV & Rob K1RCT operating on a sat morning..



GO-Box design committee session



Ed W1YSM and John N1GNV discussing GO-Box design.



# N1GNV & QUICKSILVER RADIO "DAYTON NOTES"

And then comes the Big Kahuna. Numero Uno. The Mother of All Hamfests. **Dayton Hamvention** is May 17-18-19 at their great new venue in Xenia, OH. Of course we'll be there in full force. As always, we'll have **one of the biggest displays** at the show, chock full of Ham Radio goodies and gadgets. We'll have special **Dayton-Only pricing** on some of your favorites. I've had my guys scouring the shelves for closeouts, scratch 'n' dents, and things I forgot we ever had. We're also just this close to having at least **working prototypes of a new product** that you'll want to see. Maybe even some finished units! Visit us in the Marconi Building, booths 3503-3504-3505-3506-3603-3604-3605-3606. Oh -- yes, of course I'll also have my traditional **"special sales staff"** on hand.

No matter what other Hamfest you've ever attended, **there's nothing even close** to the width, depth, and breadth of Dayton. Every important manufacturer and distributor will be there. The Flea Market can seem almost endless -- it's been said that **"if you can't find it at Dayton, it probably doesn't exist"**. The picture at left shows an 800 mile radius



around Xenia. Among the major cities inside the circle are Boston, New York, Washington, Orlando, New Orleans, Dallas, Kansas City, Minneapolis, and even Montreal. In fact, more than 2/3 of the US Population lives within the circle. And I think 800 miles is reasonable for two people to drive in a day. It's about 12 hours or so. Leave at 6:00AM and you're there in plenty of time for dinner. As I write

this, there are still hotel rooms available within about 20 miles of the show. It's not too late to corral a friend or two and get ready for one of the **ultimate Ham Radio experiences**.



## Help Wanted!

**I'm looking for some help in my booth at the Dallas Ham-Com. Setup is Thursday, June 7th. Show days Friday, Saturday, Sunday June 8-9-10. Pack up on Sunday afternoon. You need to be able to lift 50 lb boxes, be on your feet almost all day, and work in a fast-paced environment during the show. It pays well, and you'll have some time to enjoy the show. If you're interested, [click here to send me an e-mail.](#)**

**N1API NOTES THE IMPORTANCE OF TEN METERS (IN GOOD SUSNSPOT YEARS)—LOOK AT THE TOTAL QSO'S IN THE GOOD YEARS, THEY OUTNUMBER 20 AND 15.....GET YOUR ANTENNAS READY THE GOOD TIMES ARE COMING.... RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER AS NEW SUNSPOTS FROM CYCLE 25 HAVE BEEN OBSERVED....**

Year	160	80	40	20	15	10	Total
2017	264,550	800,034	1,288,836	1,300,722	673,433	48,138	4,375,713
2016	257,045	746,942	1,175,005	1,246,638	672,159	77,620	4,175,409
2015	190,221	680,562	1,275,566	1,196,626	1,263,205	421,312	5,027,492
2014	180,075	556,643	1,103,660	1,090,425	1,268,402	1,398,923	5,598,128
2013	172,213	575,476	1,120,665	1,018,929	1,218,080	1,164,558	5,269,921
2012	193,424	600,694	1,016,479	1,057,690	1,193,292	851,780	4,913,359
2011	177,142	554,366	1,108,192	923,714	1,050,597	1,285,808	5,099,819
2010	245,568	743,788	1,181,494	1,146,906	905,123	169,485	4,392,364
2009	240,364	662,676	1,137,014	1,142,339	529,244	49,591	3,761,228
2008	243,704	690,727	1,042,701	1,133,079	284,166	20,966	3,415,343

Year	CQWW CW QSO Percentage Distribution, by Band, per Year					
	160	80	40	20	15	10
2017	6.0%	18.3%	29.5%	29.7%	15.4%	1.1%
2016	6.2%	17.9%	28.1%	29.9%	16.1%	1.9%
2015	3.8%	13.5%	25.4%	23.8%	25.1%	8.4%
2014	3.2%	9.9%	19.7%	19.5%	22.7%	25.0%
2013	3.3%	10.9%	21.3%	19.3%	23.1%	22.1%
2012	3.9%	12.2%	20.7%	21.5%	24.3%	17.3%
2011	3.5%	10.9%	21.7%	18.1%	20.6%	25.2%
2010	5.6%	16.9%	26.9%	26.1%	20.6%	3.9%
2009	6.4%	17.6%	30.2%	30.4%	14.1%	1.3%
2008	7.1%	20.2%	30.5%	33.2%	8.3%	0.6%

## NATHAN HALE Special Event Station Info

Presented by Housatonic ARC & Westport Astronomical Society ARC

N1H Commemorates the life and birthday of Nathan Hale (June 6, 1755—September 22, 1776), a spy for the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War. A graduate of Yale University in New Haven, CT, he taught school for two years, first in East Haddam, CT then in New London, CT. After the British captured him while on an intelligence-gathering mission in New York City, Hale reportedly gave his famous speech: *"I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country!"* His hometown is Coventry, Connecticut and he was officially designated the State Hero of Connecticut in 1985.



### QSL INFO

For PDF certificate, email contact info to [HARC.N1KT@gmail.com](mailto:HARC.N1KT@gmail.com).

For QSL Card, send QSL & SASE to

Ken Johnson - NE1CU, PO Box 421, Stratford, CT 06615

Operating Schedule: Saturday June 2, 12 noon - 10 pm

Sunday June 3, 9 am - 2:00 pm

14.250, 7.250 - SSB, PSK31 - See ARRL Listings for Details

### RELATED SITES

<https://www.ctlandmarks.org/nathan-hale>

<http://www.ctvisit.com/listings/black-rock-fort-and-fort-nathan-hale>

<http://connecticutsar.org/historic-sites/nathan-hale-schoolhouse-new-london/>

Dave K1WJL

I received your email from my good friend and MARC member Bob KE1AU. The Housatonic ARC and Westport Astronomical Society ARC are holding a joint special event station in June. We have the callsign N1H and we are honoring Nathan Hale – Connecticut Citizen, American Patriot. His birthday is June 6.

We would like to contact as many local hams as possible with N1H. I am hoping you can help us advertise this to your membership. Perhaps in your club Newsletter or by word of mouth.

Additionally, since our operation will be fairly close (at WAS Observatory in Westport), please consider this an invitation to all MARC members stop by, operate and have fun. For more information on the Westport Astronomical Society ARC - KB1WLW, please visit <https://www.was-ct.org/kb1wlw/>

For more information on the Housatonic ARC - N1KT, please visit <https://www.n1kt.org/>

Thank you for your time.

Best Fraternal Regards,

GaryM WE1M Sp Event Manager

# Cheshire MS Walk 2018

On April 22, once again the Meriden Amateur radio club provided communications support for the annual MS walk in Cheshire. MS conducts walks across the country to fund raise for Multiple Sclerosis research. The club supports the Cheshire walk each year and provides communications from operations to the various water stations and to the "straggler" bus which picks up tired walkers across the 4.2 mile route around Cheshire High school. The Cheshire event draws on average over 2000 participants. The Cheshire walk raised approximately \$280,000 this year. Participating club members who provided communications this year were K1LYP, KC1SA, N1AKN, KC1ISI, KC1IIL, KC1IIK, WA1SFH, W1YSM and KB1JL.



PIXS COURTESY OF N1AKN, KB1JL & KC1IIK





## ***A Shoe Box of Magic***

Ham radio is a great hobby. Its heritage goes back to the days when the Federal Communications Commission granted us the privilege of being able to communicate with likeminded other people all over the world wirelessly. The Amateur Radio Service rules and regulations are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*
- (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.*
- (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.*
- (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.*
- (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.*

However there is much more to the story than the rules and regulations. There is something called the “QSO” that makes up a large part of that Ham Radio service. The QSO or chat with a fellow ham has always been the cornerstone of Ham Radio operators worldwide. A QSO can be a simple exchange of a few words or a good old fashioned “Rag Chew”. At its essence it can be a meeting of the minds and can expose us to new and exciting things as well as interesting people and cultures.

The other day, while unpacking more of my ham “stuff” I came across several shoeboxes, all stuffed with QSL cards I have collected. I started reading the notes and comments on the cards and slowly the memories started to come back to me. Wow, I have talked with a LOT of people all over the world. Meeting new people and actually engaging in a conversation was the best part of my Ham Radio world experience. Some of my contacts turned out to be very interesting to say the least. I found that if you just asked a few questions out of the norm, you sometimes can get a real dialog going. What we hams call a “rag chew”. Yes, I was pretty big into “chewing the rag” right from the beginning.

It was October 6, 1974 when I made my first contact. And it was magical. I’ve mentioned that first contact WN1ZUI, Bart in a previous article. But I didn’t give you the whole story. Boy was I nervous. I was practicing my receiving and following a QSO between Bart and another ham on 40 meters while trying get up the courage to call someone. Bart’s signal was pretty weak and the guy he was talking to was much stronger. But the guy with the strong signal wasn’t very good and made a lot of mistakes. He was also sending very slowly. Obviously he was a new ham like me. I was ready to jump in when they finished and was going to call the other slow sending ham. They finally ended the QSO. I called the loud but slow ham figuring “I’ll go for the sloppy guy as he is surely not going to make fun of me”. <grin> There I was with a straight key and a handful of 40 meter crystals starting a QSO with another ham. Let the magic begin. After calling him a few times, he never answered. I must confess that I was both disappointed and relieved at the same time. All of a sudden I heard Bart calling me. Oh my! What do I do NOW? Someone is actually calling me. And after a moment of hesitation I made the contact. My first logged QSO. We actually chatted for quite a while. It must have been a real challenge for him, because of my “novice” fist and jitters. He was quite good at sending CW and slowed down enough so I could copy him. I could tell that although he was also a novice, he surely was out of my league as far as CW sending and receiving. I was really happy to finally make my first contact.

And so the “magic” began.

I remember a few months later when I ran into another Novice, WN4GBK out of Tampa, Fla. During our conversation I commented on his beautiful CW sending which was like listening to a code practice tape. It was smooth and perfect. His comment to me was that he had a lot of practice and was using a straight key. I thought to myself, “He’s only a Novice like me and I wish I could send like that”. I asked him how he was able to send such perfect CW with a straight key. I then found out that I was talking with a guy considerably older than me. His name was Butch and he was originally a “ham” in the spark gap days! . He used his CW skills during World War I and World War II and he taught CW in the Navy in both wars. He originally had the call sign 8N in 1912, 8PP in 1913 and 14, and 8PI in 1915. After that he never did anything with Ham Radio until 60 years later when he became a new Novice WN4GBK in 1975 after retiring from a TV business. We chatted for a while and I felt honored to have met him. The whole experience was just “magical”.

Continued on the next page



For me the QSO was and still is the thing. Everyone has a story. And ham radio made it possible for me to enjoy a lot of them. How many Hams, let alone Novices get to work an actual “Spark Gap Ham”. Yeah it’s part of the magic of ham radio.

A couple “notable” QSL cards of interest I found in those magical boxes that made me chuckle. WN1TGG, Roger. Yup long time club member Roger is now K1TG and he and I had our first QSO, Novice to Novice on August 8 1975 on 15 meters. It would come to pass that we would be manning the graveyard shift during CW Sweep Stakes and Field Day events often some thirty years later. How about that Roger !!



W1FD, Frank. I was tuning up my radio one evening, sending a 2 watt signal into a dummy load. Out of habit I grabbed my key and started sending my call while doing some adjusting. Then I got a call from W1FD. He said I had a great signal. I had to check to make sure I was still hooked up to my dummy load. Yup, I was. So I told Frank that my dummy load seemed to be working better as an antenna than a dummy load. Frank replies, “Hey I’m on MY dummy load too!” Two days later I got a QSL in the mail to confirm our “dummy load” to “dummy load” contact.

VP6TC – Tom. I was calling CQ for some time when I got a reply from VP6TC. At first I didn’t recognize the call, but was happy to hear from a DX station. Then he said his QTH was Pitcairn Island. Wow ... for a moment I was at a loss for words. (Yeah you know that wasn’t going to last) He mentioned that he doesn’t often have a chance to have normal conversations because of his notoriety. As always I was apt to ask an unusual question in order to foster an interesting response. So I asked how he handled TVI problems while living on a small Island with other people so close by. His reply was something like, “Everyone on the island loves it when I get on the air. The island has a generator that is only run occasionally. I’m the guy in charge of the generator that supplies all their electricity.” Interesting to know!

When I finally signed off, the frequency erupted into a huge pileup. I realized two things. First I was fortunate to be able to chat a little with Tom, and second, that I was amazed that everyone on the frequency didn’t bother us or try to break into our conversation. There must have been dozens of stations all standing by waiting to jump onto the frequency.

The beauty of Ham Radio is that there is literally something for everyone. We have Digital modes, QRP, Satellite, Contests and everything in between. I enjoy many of those but for me, the best part is the QSO. One on one. All across the globe. Those old fashioned Rag Chew QSOs are where you’ll find the magic.

**73 de WA1TRY – Rich**

# 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  
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 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)**

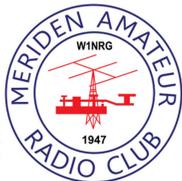
UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR  
 SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15

**WEBSITE:** (USE LOWERCASE)  
[www.w1nrg.com](http://www.w1nrg.com)

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 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 19	KC1NS Nancy Tipping 18	W7FUR William Spokes 18
AB1HB Charlie Dudac 18	KC1SA Stephen Allen 18	WA1FFT Ray Irwin 18
AF1HS Art Fregeau 18	KD1JG Robert Cartier 18	WA1JKR John Rogus 18
K1IIG Steve Tripp 19	KE1AU Robert Kaczor 18	WA1SFH Douglas Sharafanowich 18
K1JCF Joe Farrell 18	KE1AY Donald Mitchell 18	WA1TRY Rich Aubin L
K1LHO Mike Ash 18	KE4EYA Ralph Ring 18	WA1ZVY Jim Martin 18
K1LYP John Yusza 18	N1API Al Kaiser 18	WB1GGP Jerry Shepard 18
K1MMK Mike MacKennedy 18	N1AKN Jeff Dwyer 19	WB1GYZ Bob Biancur 18
K1MVM Mike Macri 18	N1POP Greg Ploski 19	WB8IMY Steve Ford 18
K1PU Mark Mokoski 18	N1BF Patrick Dionne 18	WV2LKM Steve Waldmann 18
K1RCT Rob Cichon 18	N1GNV John Bartscherer 18	
K1SEZ Paul Ciezniak 18	N1GY Geoff Haines 19	
K1STM Anne West 18	N1HCA Susan South 19	
K1TDO Todd Olsen 18	N1JRC John Collin Jr 18	
K1TG Roger Kuchera 19	N1LGH Barbara Stone 19	
K1TGX Jerry Molaver 18	N1NAN Helen Spokes 18	
K1THP Dave Karpiej 18	N1OKF Bob Parisi 18	
K1VDF John Blevins 18	N1OKR Frank Ciccone 18	
K1WJL Dave Swedock 18	N1ZN James Savage 18	
KA1TMN Steve Hull 18	NY2HF Dennis Lane 18	
KB1EHE Eric Knight 18	NZ1J Dave Tipping 18	
KB1FYL Bob Carruthers 18	W1DJB Dylan Barret 18	
KB1GWP Joseph Rish, Sr. 18	W1DUP Sherlock Campbell 18	
KB1HCC Jonathan Winslow 20	W1DQ John Elengo 18	
KB1IFZ Elsie Mathews 18	W1KKF Bill Wawrzeniak L	
KB1JL Eric Olsson 18	W1LV Steve Morley 18	
KB1TJD Gaianne Jenkins 18	W1NDT Bob Lombardo 18	
KB1YFJ Glen Couture 18	W1NHS Fred Ring 19	
KC1FJJ Richard Nagy Jr. 18	W1POP Fred Liedke 18	
KC1HDB Jeff Martin 18	W1RPN Seth Kolasinski 18	
KC1HFO John Stoidis 18	W1UFO Mike Cei 18	
KC1IIK Scott Mowerson 18	W1VCU Nelson Denison L	
KC1IIL Matt Mowerson 18	W1XK Stan Kugler 18	
KC1ISI Kristin Olsson 18	W1YSM Ed Snyder 18	
KC1IYC John Pancoast 18		

PLEASE BE AWARE THERE IS A 2-3 WEEK TIME DELAY FROM WHEN YOUR MAIL ARRIVES IN THE POB AND I UPDATE. IF THERE IS AN ERROR, PLEASE ADVISE AND IT WILL BE CORRECTED ASAP.