

KEY KLIX



NOVEMBER 2015

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS, MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450
PRES W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP N1API AL KAISER SECT KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN
TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK S.A.M. KC1ACN ROB CICHON

EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL CONTACT DSWEDOCK@SNET.NET OR 203 235-8582

**ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2015, 7:30 pm,
ACTIVITY MEETING CANCELLED**

**ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH,
UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED,
AT THE COOK HILL FIREHOUSE / MEDICAL RESERVE BLDG,
37 HALL ROAD, WALLINGFORD**

Elections—Annual Meeting Notice

The November 12 Business Meeting is the “Annual Meeting” and as per our by-laws it is the election of officers for 2016. The process is to present the nominations of officers and also request from the floor any additional nominations. The election is then held by a vote of the members attending. All officer positions are always open to anyone wishing to run. If you are interested in running for any office please let John K1VDF know that you would like to run for an office. Or you can be nominated at the November meeting.

The current officers, Pres. Bill W1KKF, Vice Pres Al N1API, Sect Steve KC1AXJ, S.A.M. Rob KC1ACN are running for re-election and Dave K1WJL is running for Treasurer to replace Haggie KB1HCC who will be relocating to North Carolina in the near to distant future. This meeting will also be for nominations and voting for the MARC Ham of the Year and the W1ICQ Elmer of the year Award.....

The activity meeting for November is traditionally cancelled because it falls on Thanksgiving week and as much as we love the club, to put it in Ham Terminology..... **TU1RKY rules HA1MM that day.**

Sweepstakes

CW Sweepstakes is the first full weekend in November (November 7-9). The SSB Test is the third full weekend in November (November 21-22). There will be both CW and SSB Phone Sweepstakes operations from the clubhouse. They are looking for both CW and SSB operators, please contact Rob KC1ACN for details and requesting an operating slot. Each contest begins at 2100 UTC (4pm EST) Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday . (9:59pm-EST). The rigs, linears, tuners and antenna's have all been checked out and are operational thanks to Rich WA1TRY, Rob KC1ACN, John K1VDF and Steve KC1AXJ.

Christmas Party---Dec 10---6pm at Brothers Restaurant

The December Business meeting and Activity Meeting are replaced by the Annual Christmas Party which will be on Thursday Dec 10 at the Brothers Restaurant. Doors open at 6PM for Social Hour with cash bar. Dinner served at 7PM. Menu: (some items may change slightly as we have used last years menu) Garden salad, Penne w. Marinara Sauce, Baked Sole, Sausage & Peppers, Chicken Marsala, Potato, Vegetable, Bread Basket, Butter, Fudge Roll, Coffee, Tea & Decaf. Cost for the dinner is the payment of your 2016 dues. Significant other cost is \$5.

Dues

The 2016 Dues are /will be due at the Annual Christmas Party on Thursday Dec 10. \$15 per year for Kids (in this club, that's actually anyone under 65) or \$10 for Seniors(65 & over---most of the club) and additional family members at \$5 each. If you can not make the party and wish to send it in, Please make checks out to the MARC and send to M.A.R.C. POB 583, Meriden CT 06450. Multiple year Dues will be accepted.

*Non-Payment of dues will incur severe consequences ----Don't make us show you what will happen!!!!
(the “Dues Brothers”---K1WJL & K1VDF)*

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PRESENTS HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015 NUTMEG HAMFEST



EAR-MUFFS

NERD HEAD-LAMP

COLD & LONELY AT 7:30AM



THOSE WERE THE DAYS!



OUTDOOR VENDORS LOOKING FOR PARKA'S



WAZZUP??



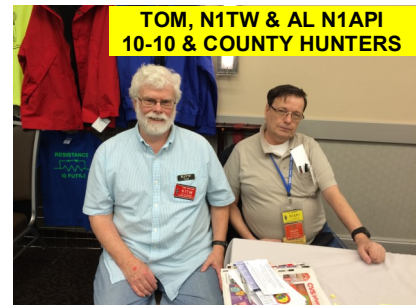
THE TWINS! BETSEY K1EIC AND BARB K1EIR



K1VDF LOOKING ON A MAP OR READING THE NEWSPAPER??



KIND OF SAYS IT ALL!



TOM, N1TW & AL N1API 10-10 & COUNTY HUNTERS

WE HAVE THREE PIX'S RELATING TO THE N1ZN ARTICLE ON THE NEXT PAGE SORT OF LIKE A "BACK TO THE FUTURE" MOMENT



JIM SAVAGE N1ZN

Jim Savage, N1ZN was first licensed as KB1IDK in 2002 and quickly moved up the ranks to Extra Class in 2003. Jim's current equipment consists of an EZ-Way crank-up, tilt over 40' tower, which supports 6m, 2m, and 432m beams and a 40/80 trap dipole.

An R-7 vertical discretely occupies a corner of the backyard deck. His shack is neatly arranged with the following equip. : IC 756 Pro III, IC 746 for 2 meters, Yaesu 857D for 432 meters, IC R-7000 general coverage receiver, and a Ameritron ALS-600 solid state amp. Neatly stacked nearby are several retirement projects, which include Heaths, Drake L-7, and a scattering of other amps and transceivers.

In 1966 Jim enlisted in the Air Force and became an outside antenna installation specialist. That work took him to such exotic places as the Philippines, Korea, Thailand, Greece, Viet Nam, Turkey, Iran and England. After discharge he attended Waterbury State Technical College, University of Bridgeport, and University of New Haven, where he received his MBA and degree in Manufacture Engineering.

Jim is a VE, and served as VP of MARC before becoming President in 2014. He enjoys working all bands, especially VHF contests, and has placed 1st in overall three band category on 6, 2, and 432 ARRL VHF weekend contest. He is also Net Control for MARC's 6 meter net on Monday night, and has served in that capacity since its inception.

Jim also finds time for surfcastering and is Treasurer of the Surfcaster's Association, enjoys playing golf and gardening. He also teaches engineering courses part time at Fairfield University, and has served as Local Chapter 6 Chair for the Society of Manufacturing Engineers for over 30 years.



The Hidden Series R

I recently acquired a vintage Cornell-Dubilier Electronics (CDE) AR40 Series 1 Antenna Rotator and accompanying Series 233 control unit. These were really popular light duty antenna rotors from the 70's. I was able to locate a parts list from the 70's that showed the control unit (complete) was \$29.00 and the rotor at \$41.50 which included all mast supports and hardware, so for less than \$75 the 70's ham operator could have a light duty rotor. A better perspective, in 2015 dollars this rotor cost about \$340 and today a Yaesu 450GX would run you about \$400.

Not working

Plugging the control unit in and connecting the 5-conductor wire to the rotor and control box and then pushing the rotating indicator knob on the control until yielded the 60 cycle hum of a motor that was stalled. Cracked open the rotor, disconnected the motor from the gear box and freed things up (40 years of old grease can be like tar). Things seemed to be good!

Yesterday to Today, A comparison

The simplicity of CDE system is really nice with only three transistors. By comparison the Yaesu 450GX has a number of IC's (more stuff to go wrong). The CDE rotor has no limit switch, so if the unit is set up incorrectly you can most likely burn out the motor. The motor "on" indicator on the control unit is a good thing to watch, if this light is on for more than a minute then the rotor is most likely stalled. Conversely the Yaesu unit has limit switches in the rotor housing to prevent motor damage. Also noted the CDE rotor uses all metal gears except the motor pinion gear which is plastic. I have not cracked open the Yaesu for comparison but I thought the plastic pinion gear could be a big failure point. This particular rotor looks to have had at least one motor replacement (non-factory service was present as noted by the soldering and lack of heat shrink or equivalent to protect the solder connections).

The clean up

The control box had significant oxidation on the brushed aluminum surface. I'm sure when the unit was new it was a good example of 70's electronics. Soap and water nor Windex could touch the oxidation, so out came the Cerama Bryte smooth stove top cleaner. In five minutes the brushed aluminum sparkled like the 70's and the compass indications were untouched. Next was to tackle the actual rotor. Barkeeper friend cleanser worked wonders along with elbow grease and steel wool. Next was to get the 40 year old grease out of the gear box. The motor, gears and all bushings were removed and cleaned with engine degreaser. All were re-lubricated with white lithium grease including the 12 ball bearings and bearing races. Things looked really good.

Final testing (or I thought)

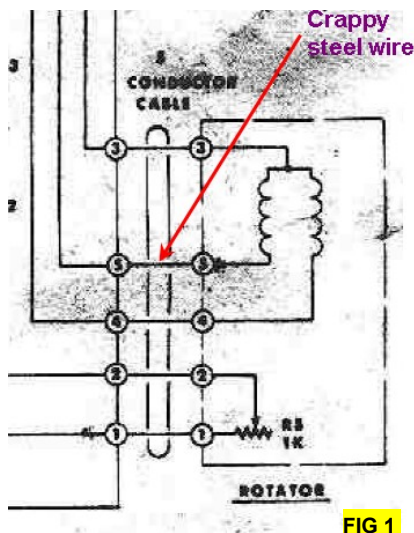
All pieces cleaned and looking like a rotor with light use I plugged the control unit into the AC and connected the 5-wire cable to the control box and rotor. The rotor moved nice and quietly in the CCW direction (perfect), now to check the CW rotation only to find the motor stalled! What did I do wrong?

I disassembled the rotor housing again, disassembled the motor from the gear box and started the debug. The motor would freely run in one direction but really labored in the opposite direction. Take a step further I disassembled the motor, but all seemed fine. I thought perhaps I need to look at the control box, but debugged further swapping motor windings. The conclusion was the motor was fine and decided to assemble the motor and put it back on the gear assembly, but only to find the same results. What could it be? You guessed it crappy steel wire on the 5th conductor had a high resistance. Tried some new cable between the rotor and the control box and all was good. I guess the moral of the story is look for the simple answer before digging.

73's de KC1AXJ

Figure 1: Schematic from original users/repair manual (minus my red line and annotation).

Photo 1: Captured prior to cleaning Photo 2: Captured prior to cleaning up the wiring. Most de-greasing has been done by this time. Biggest "trick" on reassembly is aligning the detent in the housing cover with the copper spring assembly at the top of the potentiometer. Figure 3: Final clean up.



October 2015 Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.)

The business meeting opened at 7:33 PM EDST on October 8, 2015 with 16 people in attendance.

Officers present: Bill (W1KKF), Al (N1API), Haggie (KB1HCC) and Steve (KC1AXJ).

The meeting was opened and chaired by President, Bill (W1KKF).

Announcements – The next meeting, an activity meeting, is October 22nd. Mark (K1PU) will detail his solar power home at this meeting.

Taste of Wallingford has been moved to 10/17 & 10/18 due to weather issues last weekend.

November 2014 Sweepstakes ARRL certificate was shown to those present. Steve (KC1AXJ) is keeping this until we get a file cabinet in the 'shack'.

Introductions – All in attendance introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – September's Secretary's Report was published on the W1NRG site and is recorded as read.

Treasurer's Report – Reviewed at meeting and accepted.

Haggie is stepping down as Treasurer and will be moving to Sanford, North Carolina in the near future. Dave Swedock (K1WJL) has offered to complete this year as Club Treasurer. A motion was made to place Dave in the role; the motion was voted on and accepted. Effective date for Dave as Treasurer is October 8, 2015. The club secretary will draft a letter to the bank to replace Haggie and add Dave as a signatory. Best wishes Haggie.

Contributions – None reported.

Correspondence – November Sweeps certificate from the ARRL, US Islands QSL card, American Cancer Society and Vanguard statement.

Program & Entertainment – The club is still searching for a replacement for Rich (WA1TRY) for the Program & Entertainment chairman. Nothing to report.

Scholarship – Don (KE1AY) reported the document has been re-written. Dan Murphy (W1DMM) has it for final correction then will be placed on the website when completed.

Club Station & Facilities – Rob (KC1ACN) reported via email that nothing to report.

Club Activities & Program (the 4th Thursday of the month) –

Next meeting is October 22nd where K1PU will present his solar powered home.

Nets –

10M – 10 to 12 check in's this past week.

6M – 6 to 8 this past week.

2M – a handful of check in's this past week.

Castle Craig –

10-10 One Day Sprint this Saturday.

Hamfests –

October 18th, next Sunday, is the Nutmeg Hamfest and ARRL State Convention and we are still looking for volunteers. Let Jim (N1ZN) know if you can help out. If you have items you'd like to place on the club table to sell let Al (N1API) know.

Key Klux – Missed this month, Dave will get this issue out prior to Nutmeg Hamfest and ARRL State Convention. Anyone with pictures to be placed in KK, send them off to Dave (K1WJL).

Membership – 60 total, no new additions.

Interference and Technical – No problems reported

Repeater – Nothing to report other than the account was closed out and funds put into the club treasury.

Instruction & Testing – Don (KE1AY) reported some folks pre-registered for the session at the Nutmeg Hamfest and ARRL State Convention.

Candy Store – Still have hats for \$10.

EmComm – Mike Meadows (KC1AYL) and Douglas (WA1SFH) are the coordinators, nothing reported

Misc Old Business –

Operate W1AW was cancelled due lack of interest.

October 21, 2015 – EMCMM statewide test.

November 14 & 15 – Simulated Emergency Test

December 10 – The MARC annual Christmas dinner will again be held at Brothers Restaurant in Wallingford (just across the tracks from the AMTRAK station) on December 10, 2015 at 6 pm. Cash bar at 6PM with buffet starting at 7PM. Cost to attend is your dues, bring your significant other for an additional five dollars.

ARISS – Paul (K1SEZ) was not present so no update.

New Business –

A new flag for the Wallingford Amateur Radio Group has been made, John (N1GNV). This was discussed at the activity meeting last month and will be used in addition to our Club MARC flag.

Scholarship Mutual Fund – An investigation into perhaps funds that would have a higher yield is being done.

Some IRS rules make it that we must use at least 5% of the fund each year (for non-profit funds). Bill (W1KKF), Don (KE1AY), Dave (K1WJL), and Haggie (KB1HCC) will meet next week to decide the best choice for a fund, or funds, and dates when funds should be withdrawn.

Pat (N1BF) reported Conrad Sheldon (K1EC) was in the area for a wedding and said "hi" to the club. Conrad was very active in the club in the past.

Continued on next page

Continued from last page

November is the annual meeting and will be held on November 12, 2015. This is the month to elect officers for 2016, Ham of the Year, and Elmer of the Year.

Meeting was closed at 8:15 PM

Meeting Attendees on October 8, 2015

Call Sign	Name
K1LYP	John Yusza
K1VDF	John Blevins
K1WJL	Dave Swedock
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell
N1BF	Patrick Diorne
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow
KB1JL	Eric Olson
WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann
KCTAXJ	Stephen Allen
K1PU	Merk Mokoski
N1API	Al Kaiser
N1ZN	James Savage
W1DQ	John Elengo
W1KKF	Bill Wawzeniak
W1VXH	Christian Sievert
W1ZVY	Tony, Jim Martin

Station Activity Manager, W1NRG/MARC November 20, 2015

Thursday, October 29, 2015

What's in Your Agenda?

As S.A.M. for MARC, my job in part is to make sure Club Gear is available to You for whatever DX'ing, Contesting, Rag Chewing and other 'pecuniary interests' that may interest you (at MARC) but I cannot do this without your input! I want & need your input. I communicate via Key Klix, MARC Reflector, Forum and directly. Please see me or use any method to contact me to advise your interests. My personal goal is to put W1NRG 'on-the-map' with the guidance of MARC Members. The following is a partial report for the Annual Meeting 2015 (November). Its entirety should be regarded as rumor until I present it.

1) 2015 Field Day report: W1NRG operating as a 2F Station had this result:

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	W1NRG	3,580	2F	700	2		CT	25	Meriden ARC
2	N1EV	3,196	2F	798	2	W1NLK	CT	11	Greater Norwalk ARC
3	KK1PMA	1,154	2F	125	2		RI	21	
4	KB1RDE	1,064	2F	92	2		RI	7	Charlestown EOC
5	W1LAS	1,052	2F	398	2		CT	9	Waterbury ARC
6	NA1RA	556	2F	119	2		CT	50	Northville ARA
7	K1BCI	556	2F	28	2		CT	19	CQ RC & Wireless Operators of Winsted

700 QSO's, 25 participants and #1 in New England, #9 in the US. Congratulations to All Members!

Continued on next page

2) 2014 Sweepstakes Phone report: #36 in New England, #556 in North America with a Verified Clean Sweep!

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Check	Hours	160	80	40	20	15	10	Club	Ops
1	W1CTN	65,238	393	83	U	CT	69	8		109	67	55	78	84	Meriden ARC	
2	W1NRG	51,460	310	83	ML	CT	47	21		79	105	81	28	17	Meriden ARC	(KC1ACN, KC1AXJ, K1VDF, KC1BAQ, N1API, N1ZN, ops)
Totals		116,698	703	166				29		188	172	136	106	101		
556	W1NRG	51,460	310	83	ML	CT	47	21		79	105	81	28	17	Meriden ARC	(KC1ACN, KC1AXJ, K1VDF, KC1BAQ, N1API, N1ZN, ops)

3) 2014 ARRL 10M Contest Report: #60 in New England (Field of 211 Stations), #1220 WW (Field of 5479 Stations).

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Power	Section	Club	Ops
1	N1API	288,028	489	191	F	B	CT	Meriden ARC	
2	K1PU	189,334	412	137	A	B	CT	Meriden ARC	
3	W1NRG	158,688	359	152	E	B	CT	Meriden ARC	(KB1HCC, N1GNV, KC1BAQ, KC1ACN, KC1AXJ, K1VDF, K1MVM, W1KKF, K1LYP, WV2LKM, ops)
4	W1CTN	116,560	452	124	F	C	CT	Meriden ARC	
5	N1ZN	2,800	50	28	B	B	CT	Meriden ARC	
Totals		755,410	1,762	632					

4. W1NRG Memorial Club Station setup and test is underway for the 2015 Sweepstakes (both CW & SSB) including the Amplifier. Operations are ongoing to familiarize myself and others with using the Amplifier with Tuner here at MARC. If interested in helping or operating, please see me, contact me via MARC Reflector or Forum. An Operating Schedule will be posted via both mediums as well as the Social Media/FB medium & eventually, at the MRC Building.

A. We need more CW Operators for Sweepstakes. Right now we have only two committed.

Please consider not only operating from Home but coming here to operate from MARC!

B. That doesn't mean we DON'T need SSB Operators too! Beep-beep or Phonie: we need your help in putting W1NRG "On The Map"!

C. Remember we had a Verified Clean Sweep in 2014. Let's make THAT a trend!

5 The ARRL 10 SSB Contest will also be in-operation for W1NRG. I have discussed resurrecting the 10M Beam that the 2014 ARRL 10M Contest Ad-hoc Committee fabricated (with generous help from John N1GNV). The Beam, G5RV and possibly the vertical that Haggie (KB1HCC) provided will be available. I have not spoken with Haggie about this yet.

6. I'm looking for Membership advice: Which Contests are YOU interested in during 2016? Please contact me via Reflector, Forum, FB media or directly.

In closing, we have an important vote scheduled for the November Business Meeting. You should attend.

73 – KC1ACN, Rob.

INFORMATION PAGE

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VICE PRES.....N1API AL KAISER
SECT.....KC1AXJ STEVE ALLEN
TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK
STATION A.M...KC1ACN ROB CICHON

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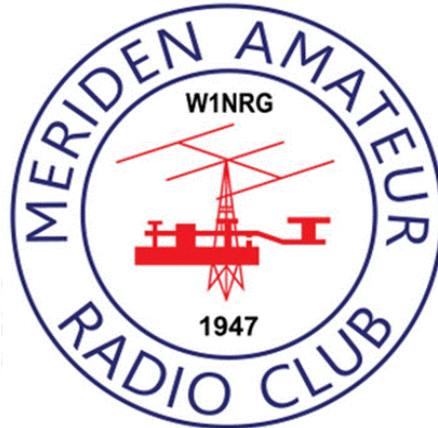
CLUB NETS

6 MTR NET MONDAYS 8PM
50.175MHZ N1ZN JIM

2 METER NET TUESDAYS 7PM
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



WEBSITE:

WWW.W1NRG.COM

FORUM/BBS:

GO TO WWW.W1NRG.COM
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CASTLE CRAIG 1010 WEBSITE:

GO TO WWW.W1NRG.COM
AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

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

MARC MEMBERS

AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	N1API	Al Kaiser
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	N1BF	Patrick Dionne
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	N1GNV	John Bartscherer
K1JTH	John Hart, Jr.	N1GY	Geoff Haines
K1LHO	Mike Ash	N1LGH	Barbara Stone
K1LYP	John Yusza	N1NAN	Helen Spokes
K1MVM	Mike Macri	N1OKF	Bob Parisi
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	N1VTE	Sarah Kaczor
K1RJC	Rick Castaldo	N1ZN	James Savage
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	NY2HF	Dennis Lane
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	W1ATV	Walt Yatzook
K1TG	Roger Kuchera	W1CTN	David Arruzza
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	W1DMM*****	Dan Murphy
K1VDF	John Blevins	W1DQ	John Elengo
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	W1KKF*****	Bill Wawrzeniak
KA1NXX	Jan Rogus	W1NHS	Fred Ring
KA1SE	Luke Laurentano	W1POP	Fred Liedke
KB1FYL	Robert W. Carruthers	W1SKP	Skip Paquette
KB1GWP	Joseph Rish, Sr.	W1VCU*****	Nelson Denison
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	W7FUR	William Spokes
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	WA1JKR	John Rogus
KB1MMS	Ronald Slack	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin
KB1SIN	Bill Brooks	WA1VXH	Chris Sievert
KB1TJD	Gaianne Jenkins	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin
KB1ZMK	Dan Busa	WB1GGP	Jerry Sheppard
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur
KC1AXJ	Stephen Allen	WB8IMY	Steve Ford
KC1BAQ	Joseph Hamm	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	WY1U	Tim Mik
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell		
KJ4PV	Gary Bleasdale		

*****Life Members