

KEY KLIX



MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



1947 - 2018

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

HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD

IT'S ELECTION SEASON!



EDITORS DISCLAIMER

JUST IN CASE ONE OR MORE OF THE NOMINEES DOES NOT FIND THIS HUMOROUS AND OWNS AN AR-15 ..

I DIDN'T DO IT!...



VOTE
NOV 8TH
POPULAR VOTE

ELECTORAL COLLEGE
VOTES ON NOV 7 TH
TO DECLARE THE WINNER...



ACTIVITY NIGHTS & EVENTS, 2018 / 2019

November—	Cancelled for Turkey Day	
December—	Christmas Party @ Serafino's	James AB1DQ
	Amateur Radio in Pop Culture	
January 24	N1ZN	Hardline Coax
February 28	K1WJL	– Baluns & Traps
March 28	Salem Amateur Radio Club – how they operate emcom	
April 25	KB1EHE – Amateur rocketry and radio	
May	Open	
June	Open	
July	Lark in the Park	
August 22	K1LYP	Jeopardy for Hams

Election of Officers for 2019

The MARC will elect Officers for the 2019 term at the annual meeting on Thursday November 8. The following Officers will be seeking re-election, Bill W1KKF President, Al N1API Vice President, Dave K1WJL Tres. And Rob K1RCT Station Activities Manager. Steve KC1SA has withdrawn his name for consideration as Sect. due to conflicts with his business schedule. We all Thank Steve for his service these past years... Dave Tipping NZ1J has expressed an interest and his name will nominated for Sect .

We will accept nominations from the floor at that meeting.

The Nominations & Elections for the Ham of the Year & Elmer of the Year will also be conducted, however actual results will only be announced at the Christmas Party....

November Activity Meeting

This event falls on Thanksgiving day, November 22, don't be a Turkey and show up... you will be alone.. But just incase you still don't get it...The meeting is cancelled..

December Business & Activity Meeting Combined in the Christmas Party

The Meetings in December have been combined into the annual Christmas Party on Thursday Dec 13 at Serafino's Restaurant, 72 South Turnpike Road, Wallingford (almost directly across from the Oakdale Theater). Cocktails at 6pm, cash bar, Dinner at 7pm. Guest Speaker and MARC member James Surprenant, AB1DQ will present a program on Amateur Radio in Pop Culture. We will also announce and present the newly elected 2018 Ham of the Year and 2018 Elmer of the Year.

Cost is \$25 per person, payable to Dave K1WJL, checks should be made out to the MARC. Please give your RSVP's to Dave ASAP. We have to give the final head count to the restaurant by Weds Dec 5th.....

Club News

We extend our condolences to John Blevins K1VDF on the recent loss of his father Marshall Blevins, who resided in Milford at the family home until the age of 97.

We extend our best wishes for a speedy recovery to Bob Carruthers KB1FYL who was in the hospital recently and did recovery time at Elim Park in Cheshire, he is now home recuperating.. His good friend and musical partner Todd K1TDO was the prayer coordinator and cheerleader for Bob's recovery. Todd comments that BobCat & the Owl are number 1 at <https://www.reverbnation.com/bobcatandthenightowl> in Country music.

Congratulations to Al N1API who finally got his rig back from a cross country zig-zag path between service shops. This would make a great novel or an episode on Rod Serlings Twilight Zone...



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

OCTOBER 2018

Meeting called to order hours by President W1KKF.

Introductions/ Members present: Introductions of attendees were made.

October 21st: Nutfest and the ARRL State convention.

Minutes of August meeting: Read by KC1SA.

Treasurers report: K1WJL read a detailed report and was accepted as read.

Committees:

Activities: W1YSM reported on the planned activities for the duration of 2018.

9/27 – Electro Magnetic Pulse by Yale professor

10/25 – K1LHO Echolink / IRLP

12/13 – Christmas Party, AB1DQ discussion on Amateur Radio in Pop Culture

1/24 – N1ZN – Hardline Coax

2/28 – K1WJL – Baluns & Traps

3/28 – Salem amateur radio club – how they operate emcom

4/25 – K1EHE – Amateur rocketry and radio

8/22 – Jeopardy for hams

Station Activities: Discussed radio repositioning in the shack. Saturday's continue to be a productive day for members using the shack.

Nets: Reports were given by K1TDO for the 2 meter net, K1VDF for the 10 meter net and a few members reported for N1ZN on the 6m net.

Castle Craig: N1API reported on the 10-10 sprint. Next event is the February QSO party.

Scholarship: KE1AY reported nothing new for the scholarship committee.

Membership: KC1SA reported membership at 80 members.

Interference: K1RCT reported repeater misuse. Offender will be addressed directly before taking a more serious approach.

VE: A VE session will be held at the Nutmeg Hamfest.

Nutfest: Get with N1ZN if you'd like to volunteer. N1API donated some 'stuff' to the Nutfest for door prizes.

Candy Store- Website has details for any club clothing or badges.

Key Klix: K1WJL welcomes any articles and photos.

EMCOMM:

KB1JL reported on SET which was October 6th.

Celebrate Wallingford was October 6th and 7th, good traffic and a lot of interest, in hind sight, we should have had Nutfest flyers handy.

The Fishbein race was the 7th and went off well. Found that all stations could be heard TX/RX at the OEM, so simplex could be used.

Old Business;

October 20th: JOTA – OEM building will be open for the 20 Scouts are scheduled to attend.

New Business: .

Elections – November's business meeting are elections for officers. Incumbents are all running for office except for KC1SA (Secretary). Dave Tipping NZ1J will be on the ballot for Secretary. Floor nominations can be had for all offices.

Meeting was adjourned at 2019 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

KC1SA, October 18, 2018



DAVE & NANCY TIPPING NZ1J & KC1NS

Dave and Nancy Tipping, NZ1J and KC1NS, both earned their amateur radio operator license in 1987. Before the ink was even dry on her new ticket, Nancy participated in a Novice Roundup CW contest and earned her first award. She also enjoys getting involved with nets, such as Nutmeg traffic, and a YL net. Recently, they both got operating awards for WAS on 40 meters using FT-8, though Nancy doesn't think it much of a challenge using that new mode. They are both members of Straight Key Century Club, and are nearing intermediate level. Dave discovered the challenge of low power operating and has joined the Flying Pigs QRP Club. They share an IC-7300 for most operating and are active from 160 to 2 meters, though Nancy admits to preferring FT-8 for much of her operating, while Dave favors pounding brass.

Nancy said the ICOM is an ideal rig for them because they can each store special operating frequencies in their own private memory bank. When first getting on air they had to abide by condo restrictions. To operate they devised a stealth antenna which they deployed after dark by unreeling a random wire to a tree. Afterward, the antenna was unhooked and re-reeled, no one being the wiser. Dave mused, "Fortunately, that was during solar maximum when a compromise antenna was not a big disadvantage." Now they have a full sized 160 meter half-wave dipole with HB ladder line on their private property.

When not pounding brass Dave works at Honeywell as a circuit design engineer. Nancy worked 20 years as a RN, and then taught medical careers classes for 21 years at East Haven High School. She was honored as Teacher of the Year in 2017, the year of her retirement. As a Surprise, honor students dedicated the 2017 Year Book to her. Her daughter Karen N1VSF (November One Very Small Female) got her novice license at age seven, and was the youngest ham in the state at that time. Karen's husband, Dylan W1DJB, is also a licensed ham and both have become MARC members.

Dave enjoys building kits and designs unique circuits. He has home-brewed such things as straight keys, electronic keyers, and is in the process of finishing a crystal controlled VFO, which will tune +20 KHz either side of the fundamental frequency by turning a pot to vary oscillation. When not on the air Dave has been known to take to the air as a private pilot. They also enjoy trekking over hill and dale searching for geocache. Closer to home, Nancy plays the guitar, piano, and sings in a church choir. They live in the quiet town of Northford, CT.

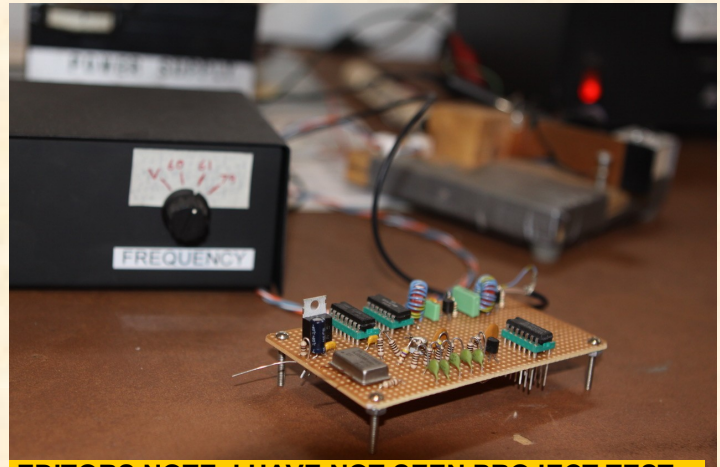
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KB1NS & NZ1J



EDITORS NOTE: I LOVE THE "AMERICANA THEME" ESPECIALLY THE KEYS FROM THE WOOD KEYS COMPANY.



EDITORS NOTE: I HAVE NOT SEEN PROJECT TEST CONSTRUCTION LIKE THIS IN YEARS....EXCELLENT!

THERE REALLY ARE NO WORDS TO DESCRIBE THIS...





“TRY” THIS! A monthly blurb about PC and Ham Radio *Stuff*

Rich WA1TRY

So, did I see you at the Nutmeg Hamfest last month? It's hard to believe that we just celebrated our 26th year! Someone asked me recently why we call ourselves the “Nutmeg Hamfest Alliance, Inc.”?

Going back to around 1976 as a relatively new ham, one of my fondest memories was an annual trip to New Hampshire, to visit the Hoss Traders mega Hamfest which had finally settled at a new location after moving around New England for a few years. Its new home was in Deerfield, NH at the Deerfield fairgrounds. That was, and still is one of the largest ham radio flea markets in New England. There were acres of outdoor tailgating along with many indoor venues. Generally it would take more than a few hours to walk the whole outdoor area.

For a long time several of our club members made the annual trip to both their events held every Spring and Fall. We even rented a van to carry a group of around 12 of our members one year. It became a “thing” for a lot of us who would caravan up to N.H. in the wee hours of the morning to insure we would get there early enough to snatch up the good bargains. I always brought a shopping list and always found some goodies.

Around 1992 a group of us like minded hams fostered the idea of starting something like that here in CT. And we started our search for a fairground somewhere close to our base in Meriden, CT to set up the Nutmeg Hamfest.

Our membership was about half what it is today, and we knew this was going to be a huge undertaking. So we contacted several other Ham Radio clubs in Connecticut to see if they would like to join us in this venture. Two clubs, the ShoreLine ARS and the Middlesex ARS joined us and we formed the Nutmeg Hamfest Alliance. Soon we incorporated and set up our business plan. Each club would contribute a set amount of dollars as seed money to get us started. A fixed number of directors from each club would be represented and they would elect officers for the Corporation. The directors would bring in volunteers from their perspective clubs to help run the event and serve on various committees. The plan was that at the end of each event, the profits would be divided evenly among the three clubs. And so it began.

We ultimately found our dream location and rented the Durham Fairground in Durham, CT. And boy was it a lot of work. Our event date was usually a week or so after the actual Durham Fair which was a large agricultural affair held every Fall. They had the usual stuff you see at those events, like livestock displays and contests, tractor pulls, celebrity guest singers and was a pretty big deal for Connecticut. It usually attracted thousands of people every year.

Now our first years there were not without some problems. We had a large field that was roped off and marked with spray paint with spaces for the outside tailgaters. I can say that we were fortunate to have decent weather prior to our event. Those of you, who have been to the actual Durham Fair event in those early days, might remember having to drive through a rainy day and a quagmire of mud to find parking.

There were a couple times when the barns where our indoor vendors set up had not yet been cleaned out. It was quite a surprise to find hay and uh, other smelly remnants left in temporary stalls where hogs, goats or cattle were on display the week before. And of course we had to set up everything ourselves. Sometimes the large trucks carrying the tables and chairs that we had to rent would show up at the last minute. There were insurance issues, crowd control, and food concessions to deal with. But in the end with a lot of help from our volunteers, we were able pull off a successful event and put a few dollars into each club treasury.

After a while it became more difficult to get enough volunteers to handle the event. The Meriden ARC was in fact providing a larger share of workers every year and eventually the two other clubs opted out of the Alliance leaving only the Meriden Amateur Radio Club as the sole surviving member. The Alliance returned the original seed money to those clubs who left and then decided to find someplace different to hold our event.

That's when we found the Mountainside facility in Wallingford, CT. which turned out to be perfect for our needs. They had a huge inside display area and provided up to 150 tables along with an indoor food concession. There was huge parking areas for outdoor tailgating and even a swimming pool. Plus there was only one gated entrance and our attendees would be directed at that gate to either the regular parking area or the area for tail gating. It was a beautiful resort in its own right and handled many corporate gatherings, picnics and was ideally suited for our Nutmeg Hamfest. It wasn't cheap, about twice what we are currently paying for the hotel we are now using. But we were able to reduce our volunteer needs quite a bit.

continued from last page

No more unloading and loading trucks of tables or sweeping out barns. <grin>

Unfortunately the owner of the resort had some health issues and ended up selling the resort to a local church that changed the name to Mountain Ridge and did not renew our contract.

So the hunt was on again for a new home. We thought a good fit would be the North Haven CT Fairgrounds. It was smaller than the Durham facility but would have been a good fit. However, they told us their venue was only to be used for agricultural events. They didn't host any other kind of corporate or private events. Oh and please no jokes about "hams" being pig related. Yup when we first contacted them they thought we as a "HAMfest" had something to do with hog livestock.

We looked at other areas like schools and convention halls but couldn't find anything that fit our needs at that time. Finally we hooked up with the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Meriden, which is where we have been for the last several years.

As a corporation with Bill, W1KKF as our president we have a pretty smooth running operation. The Nutmeg Hamfest Alliance has always donated funds every year to the last remaining member of the alliance. That of course is the MARC. Here's to many more years to come.

73, Rich – WA1TRY

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE DAY.....

**CAN YOU CORRECTLY IDENTIFY THE YEAR IN WHICH THIS WAS MANUFACTURED??
WINNER GETS UP FRONT FIRST ROW SEATING AT THE INAUGURATION PARADE OF THE MARC
PRESIDENTIAL SWEARING IN CEREMONY. (ANSWER IS ON PAGE 11)**



JOTA JAMBOREE ON THE AIR

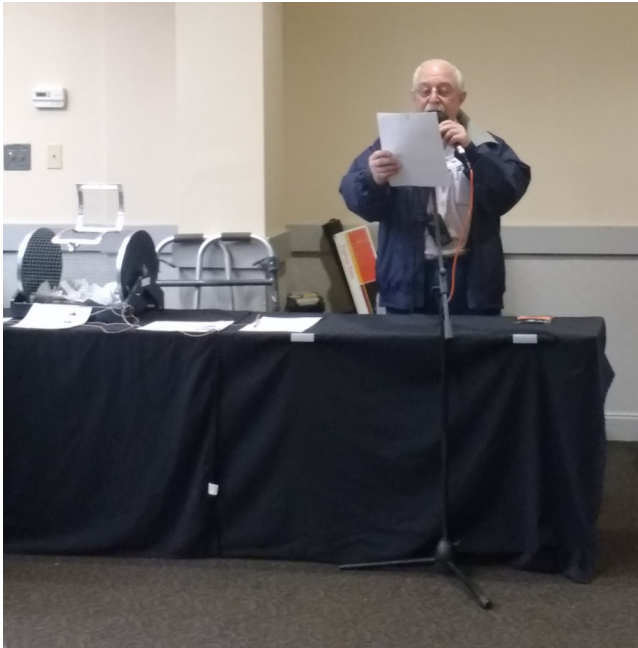
On Saturday October 20, We hosted the Scouting Event with 12 MARC members and 25 scouts with parents / chaperones participating in Amateur Radio operations. While we had a laptop running showing stations on the air worldwide, next to it was the CW setup which drew the most attention. Between both VHF and HF about 24 contacts were made. Most made on VHF to the Goshen site. The group was treated to Pizza and all had a great time. Pictures are courtesy of Jeff N1AKN .





2018 NUTMEG HAMFEST & CONNECTICUT STATE CONVENTION

HERE ARE SOME PICTURES FROM THE 2018 NUTMEG STATE HAMFEST, COURTESY OF STEVE KC1SA. A COMPLETE ARTICLE WILL BE IN NEXT MONTHS KK. PLEASE READ WA1TRY'S COLUMN "TRY THIS" IN THIS ISSUE FOR A NICE HISTORY OF THE EVENT FROM DAY ONE....



CELEBRATE WALLINGFORD & THE FISHBEIN ROAD RACE

ERIC OLSON KB1JL

The weekend of Oct 6-7 was busy for MARC club members. In addition to the nationwide Saturday SET (Simulated Emergency Test), it was the weekend for Celebrate Wallingford, and Sunday morning was the annual YMCA Fishbein Memorial 5K/10 road race. We received authorization somewhat late as we had been told that the communications trailer would be unavailable, and that space was limited for "non paying" vendors. The Celebrate committee opened up another section of Center ST (Rt 150) and we were given late OK for a tent/table.

K1LYP went to work and set up a table, banner and canopy next to the Fire Dept union, near the Co 1 firehouse. We had a VHF Go box, and an HF station set up with the Comet HF vertical on the lawn of the Frontier (former SNET) building. Several HF contacts were made and N1AKN worked Australia on 40 meter SSB Saturday morning. We had brochures, QSL card displays and a couple of straight keys with code oscillators, which the young people seemed to take to. We had several interested parties stop by during the event, including future hams and old hams and old former club members. K1LYP was able to reach out to Boy Scout and Girl scout groups who also had tables at the event.

The weather was cooperative and large crowds attended both days. We already have plans for next year with more informational brochures such as SKYWARN information, and more interactive displays for the kids. In hindsight it would have been a great opportunity to advertise the upcoming Nutmeg hamfest and flea market. Visitors were invited to club meetings and Saturday sessions at the OEM building, and a few have shown up so far. The event gives opportunity to raise the club profile in the community. K1LYP was assisted by N1AKN, N1YLN, KB1TMC, KC1ISI, W1RPN, K1RCT and KB1JL.

Sunday morning was the Fishbein Road race, organized by KC1SA. Net control was handled by K1VDF and assisted by logger KB1JL. participating stations were KC1SA, K1RCT, W1YSM, KC1ISI, KE1AY, N1OKR, N1GNV and N1ZN. All went well. Net control monitored the repeater input from the OEM and was able to hear all of the portable radios across town on the 147.96 input. Pictures courtesy of K1LYP, N1AKN and KC1SA



**ANSWER IS:
2018..
THAT IS A
CURRENT AD...
NEW AUDIO
EQUIPMENT**



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

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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

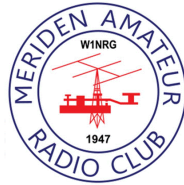
SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15

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	19	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	18	W1RPN	Seth Kolasinski	18
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	18	KC1IYC	John Pancoast	18	W1UFO	Mike Cei	18
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	18	KC1NS	Nancy Tipping	19	W1VCU	Nelson Denison	L
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	19	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	18	W1XK	Stan Kugler	18
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	18	KD1JG	Robert Cartier	18	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	18
K1LHO	Mike Ash	18	KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	18	W7FUR	William Spokes	18
K1LYP	John Yusza	19	KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	18	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	19
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	18	KE4EYA	Ralph Ring	18	WA1JKR	John Rogus	18
K1MVM	Mike Macri	18	N1API	Al Kaiser	18	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	18
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	18	N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	19	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	18	N1POP	Greg Ploski	19	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	18
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	18	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	18	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	18
K1STM	Anne West	18	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	18	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	18
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	18	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	18	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	18
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	18	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	18
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	18	N1HCA	Susan South	19			
K1VDF	John Blevins	18	N1JRC	John Collin Jr	18			
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	18	N1LGH	Barbara Stone	19			
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	18	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	18			
KA1TMN	Steve Hull	18	N1OKF	Bob Parisi	18			
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	18	N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	19			
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	18	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	18			
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	20	N1ZN	James Savage	18			
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	18	NY2HF	Dennis Lane	18			
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	18	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	19			
KB1TJD	Gaianne Jenkins	18	W1DJB	Dylan Barret	18			
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	18	W1DUP	Sherlock Campbell	18			
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	18	W1DQ	John Elengo	18			
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	18	W1NHS	Fred Ring	19			
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	18	W1POP	Fred Liedke	18			

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