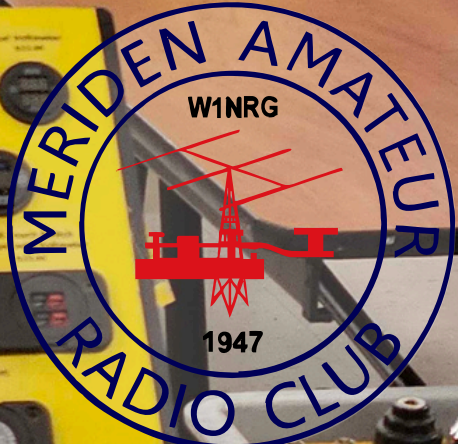


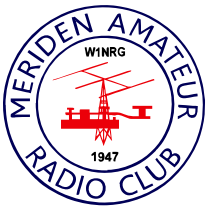


KEYKLIX

NEWSLETTER EST 1947

NOVEMBER 2024





KEY KLIX

NEWSLETTER EST 1947

NOVEMBER 2024

www.W1NRG.com
KeyKlix@w1nrg.com

CLUB ELECTIONS

Voting will be on November 14 for 24 hours via Election Buddy. If a ballot is not received by 11-4, 8a contact the Election Committee: w1nrgelection@gmail.com

ACTIVITY MEETING

There is no Activity Meeting in November. Enjoy your Thanksgiving!

HOLIDAY PARTY

Get your tickets to the club holiday party before you forget. Held this year at Serafino's on Dec. 5 at 8pm

NUTMEG HAMFEST

BY TED, KC1DOY



The 32nd annual Nutmeg Hamfest, sponsored by the Meriden Amateur Radio Club, took place October 13th, 2024 at Maloney High School in Meriden, CT. The event was very well attended with a number of vendors participating with displays, both indoors and out, showing a wide variety of items for sale ranging from the latest in Ham radio gear to vintage radios and equipment.



Outdoor displays of CERT/EmCom equipment were provided by the Wallingford and Hamden fire departments. Representatives were available to explain how the equipment would be used under both emergency situations and in support of various town sponsored activities.

THINGS STARTED AT 8 AM WITH A VE SESSION LED BY JIM N1ZN, AL N1API, BOB W1RWW AND RAY WA1FFT. TWO PEOPLE TESTED THAT MORNING, AND ONE ENTHUSIASTIC NEWCOMER SUCCESSFULLY PASSED HER TECHNICIAN EXAM, JOINING THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY.



Bob WB1GYZ and Bart N1BRL explained the use of Morse code (CW) and had a number of code keys on display of various types. The use of Morse code under adverse atmospheric conditions has proven to be an extremely robust mode and a life saver in times of disaster. It is still a very popular mode for DX'ers as well.

Bill NR1B held a forum on WINLINK, a system for sending and receiving Email via Ham radio. His knowledge and enthusiasm for WINLINK has been most appreciated by all of us in the club. It's use for communicating critical information "when all else fails" is widely recognized. For a comprehensive overview of WINLINK, take a moment and check out www.winlink.org on the net.



Dave NZ1J and Ray KC1QLS answered questions regarding amateur radio balloon launches and satellite radio contacts. Dave displayed his homemade circularly polarized satellite radio antenna proving that you don't have to spend a lot to achieve a lot. He has made a number of successful QSO's with that gear. They also had many photos of previous balloon launches and satellite activations on display.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Feature:
Nutmeg Hamfest

- At The Club House 3
- WARG / CERT 5
- Announcements 6
- In The Community 7
- W1NRG On The AIR 9
- Legacy Klix 11
- Editor's Page 12

Special Reports

Elections see page 13

NUTMEG HAMFEST

Ed W1YSM gave a presentation on SKYWARN and how it provides local observations of severe weather activity to the National Weather Service. Several hundred thousand volunteers across the nation participate in this program, reporting warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods. For more information regarding SKYWARN visit <https://www.weather.gov/skywarn/> on the net.



Another popular activity among hams is POTA or Parks on the Air. An excellent presentation was provided by Shawn KC1NQE and the CT POTA Activators Group, assisted by Conrad N2YCH and Peter K1PCN. POTA consists of activators, who go to recognized parks, set up their equipment and try to make as many QSO's as they can with other hams both in the U.S. and abroad. Hunters are those who seek out POTA activators and made QSO's with them. Hunters need not be in a park to do so. Also since POTA is not a contest it is a fun way to make a lot of contacts and gain experience. No pressure. For more information visit <https://parksontheair.com> on the net.

The ARRL was well represented by Fred Kemmerer AB1OC, New England ARRL Division Director. who gave a presentation about the ARRL, it's current activities on behalf of amateur radio and it's vision moving forward. Not enough can be said about how much the ARRL has done to grow Ham radio and educate the public on its benefits to the nation. In addition to Fred, Douglas Sharafanowich WA1SFH ARRL Section Manager for CT and Mike Walters W8ZY ARRL Field Services Manager were on hand to provide information about the ARRL and to answer any questions about its services to Ham radio operators. <https://www.arrl.org/> Rob K1RCT was there to take video of the various presentations throughout the day. I'm sure that we'll see those on YouTube soon.



Let's also give a shoutout to all those who assisted outdoors, selling tickets, stamping hands, directing cars to parking areas, etc. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made The Nutmeg Hamfest a memorable success!

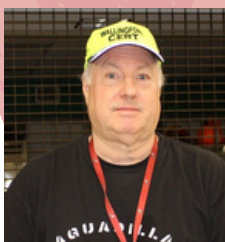
Special thank you to the Maloney High School athletic students that provided a fundraiser breakfast



NAME THE PRESENTER ?

Which knowledgeable ham gave a presentation at the Nutmeg Hamfest?

Email KeyKlix@w1nrg.com with your answer



N1AKN



KB1JL



NR1B



KC1ISI



KB1MFU



K1LYP



N1NIS



STILL MAKING WAVES: 60 YEARS OF HAM RADIO AND FRIENDSHIP

BY KRISTIN, KC1ISI

It was spring 1964 in Wallingford and four Lyman Hall high school students found their way to the Civil Defense office in the basement of the Wallingford armory in what is now known as the soon to be vacated Wallingford police station. Bob KR1U and Eric KB1JL were friends and Andy KF6LU and Norm WA1CCQ were friends. It was here that they met a young John K1LYP, who was older than the four and who was running the Civil Defense group. John took them under his wings and became their Elmer and they soon passed their novice exams.



KB1JL, KF6LU, WA1CCQ, KR1U, K1LYP

Bob got his license a month or so before the others and became WN1BZS. Norm, Eric and Andy tested the same night and became WN1CCQ, WN1CCR, and WN1CCS. The “N” in the call indicated to the world that they were novices, newly licensed, and the license was good for one year, non-renewable. Shortly thereafter they four upgraded and replaced the “N” in their calls with the letter “A”, indicating they had full privileges under a general class license. Obtaining a license back then involved trips to NYC and being tested in front of an FCC examiner. It also involved side trips to the famous Radio Row in lower Manhattan. The five would get together on 2-meter AM with their Civil Defense owned Gonset radios and back then, Lyman Hall had a ham radio club in the science wing with a dipole on the roof.

Over the years the guys kept in touch. Eric and John stayed in Wallingford, Andy moved to California, Norm ended up in Springfield, Mass and Bob landed in Pomfret, 60 miles from Wallingford. This year they decided to have a reunion at the Nutmeg Hamfest. Andy flew in from the west coast and Norm and Bob made the trip down to Meriden. They got to meet with their original Elmer and mentor John K1LYP, who after 60 years continues to teach and mentor new and aspiring hams today.

They are just one example of lifelong friendships that can come from the shared love of amateur radio. Although they all look a tad older than when they started, the love and enthusiasm for the hobby continues.

SAT TEAM SIX



BY DAVE, NZ1J

We had an amazing afternoon at Wharton Brook. Dale NA1L, Bill NR1B, Harold WJ1B, John WA1JKR, Jules KC1STF, and I went to work three satellite passes.

Dale worked the first pass and made 10 QSOs. That may be a club record. Harold worked the second pass, made 6 QSOs, and left enough time for me to make one. John worked SO-50, a lower power satellite, and made 2 QSOs. That's a total of 19 satellite QSOs for this outing. John, KC1KQH, was listening from home with his tape measure Yagi and emailed to congratulate Dale on his outstanding performance.

Between satellite passes, we had enough time for a POTA activation. I'm sure that this was more than any of us had expected.



NA1L, WA1JKR, KC1STF, NR1B, NZ1J, WJ1B



REPEATER ETIQUETTE: BEST PRACTICES, DO'S AND DON'TS

BY ROB, K1RCT



The local repeater is often where new Hams make their first contact. I recall feeling a bit nervous when I tuned in to my local repeater for the first time. Would I “do it right?” Would somebody hear me? How should I tell people I wanted to talk to somebody?

Luckily or by design, we have several weekly Nets. What’s a Net you ask? Simply a gathering of Hams on one frequency to chat about ... anything. Most Nets are controlled by a ‘Net Control Operator’ – someone who starts the net, logs all of the Hams attending (callsigns), controls the sequence of who talks and when, makes announcements and then ‘Closes the Net’. Still other nets are not controlled. The types of Nets are unlimited and are mostly characterized by the organization (Club) and the attendees (You!).

Nets can be an excellent source of Club info, making new friends, rejoining old friends, catching up on chatter, asking questions/getting answers, gaining experience with your rig, etc, etc. Some Nets are formal Traffic Nets and those are excellent sources on how to conduct yourself while contributing. I gained invaluable experience simply listening to a Formal Traffic Net for awhile before transmitting. Eventually, you’ll feel confident enough to make your first transmission.

One of our Nets is called, “Just Push The Button” net on our repeater. An analog net made by a new Ham (Steve, KC1QWH) for new & experienced Hams alike. This net is for many things related to being a new Ham. Especially getting past a thing called ‘mic fright’. Mic fright is simply being hesitant to transmit for fear of doing something wrong. Don’t worry though, even experienced Hams make many mistakes. That’s how we all learn!

Type of Emergency Radio	Frequency
Common National SAR (Search and Rescue)	155.160 MHz
U.S. Navy emergency sonobuoy communications and homing	172.5 MHz
NATO on-the-scene voice and direct finding (DF)	282.8 MHz
Cospas-Sarsat or SAR (satellite-based search and rescue)	406 MHz to 406.1 MHz
Emergency position-indicating radio beacon station (EPIRB)	406 MHz to 406.1 MHz
National Weather Radio (NOAA)	162.400 MHz, 162.425 MHz, 162.450 MHz, 162.475 MHz, 162.500 MHz, 162.525 MHz, 162.550 MHz
Amateur Radio (Ham Radio)	3.940 MHz, 7.250 MHz, 14.300 MHz
Family Radio Service (FRS)	Channel 9 (462.6125 MHz), Channel 20 (462.6750 MHz)
General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS)	Channel 22 (462.7250 MHz)
Multi-Use Radio Service (MURS)	Range from 151.820 MHz to 154.600 MHz
Federal Disaster Frequencies	412.825 MHz (Channel 1)
HF-GCS	4,724 to 11,175 kHz
Aviation Emergencies (Civilian)	121.5 MHz
Aviation Emergencies (Military/NATO)	243.0 MHz
EPIRB for aviation	406.0 MHz
VHF (Very High Frequency) for Civilian Aviation Emergency	121.5 MHz
UHF (Ultra High Frequency) for Military Aviation Emergency	243.0 MHz

TECH TIP...

- Our repeater now offers Yaesu Fusion (a Digital Mode) as well as traditional analog functions. Similar to our previous analog repeater, some repeaters have separate controller and radios. This repeater has one controller embedded inside a unit that has two radios. One radio for receive (147.960) and one for transmit (147.360).
- The new Fusion controller (DR-2X) operates a little different to accommodate digital users as well as traditional analog users. Specifically it can autoswitch from analog to digital and vice-versa depending on which mode is received by the person trying to make contact via transmission (You!).
- If Fusion mode is detected, transmit is switched into Fusion mode. Likewise for analog. Because of this and a few other parameters, it is required to hear the repeater carrier drop before replying to someone with your radio. If not, one runs the risk of ‘timing-out the repeater’. What’s timing-out the repeater?
 - IE; The repeater time-out parameter is set to three minutes. If someone transmits for three minutes, the repeater will stop transmitting via this parameter. The trouble with the time-out feature is that the controller keeps the transmitter off during the remainder of the received transmission. If the person keeps transmitting another 30 seconds, nothing further will be heard by anyone except for silence. Then the repeater controller will reset after a short pause as long as no one else transmits during this ‘short pause’. It does this to protect the electronics from overheating and causing damage.
- The new ‘paradigm’ for our repeater is to allow the repeater to drop the carrier before following up in your reply. That way the repeater timer will reset to three minutes again for the next transmission.

T.I.M. TRAINING FOR WARG



The OEM was closed to MARC activities on October 19, while the Wallingford CERT team gathered for a special training session in Traffic Incident Management (TIM), set up by their captain, Scott Maguder. This training was delivered by Aiden Neely and Rob Derry from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), both of whom bring unique expertise to the field of emergency response and roadway safety.

Aiden is a TIM Coordinator and Highway Operations Planner at CTDOT, and has dedicated his career to improving safety and response times on Connecticut's roads. Since early 2022, Aiden has overseen the training of thousands of first responders statewide. His role includes equipping responders with the tools and protocols necessary for safe and efficient incident response. Aiden's insights gave the CERT team a comprehensive view of how professional responders manage traffic incidents in real-time, reducing risks and coordinating effectively across agencies.



Rob retired as a Connecticut State Police trooper with more than 25 years of service and brought a wealth of field experience. Throughout his career, Rob worked on high-stakes assignments and gained firsthand experience with roadside incident risks. He now applies his knowledge as a TIM instructor, sharing practical tips on how police, EMS, and DOT teams operate together to keep everyone safe. Rob's background in law enforcement enriched the training by highlighting the critical role of communication and precision at accident scenes.

Aiden and Rob, guided the CERT team through comprehensive training on the roles and responsibilities of different first responder agencies. Topics covered included the specific roles of Fire, EMS, Police, and DOT personnel, showing how each agency contributes uniquely to managing traffic incidents efficiently and safely. Their curriculum emphasized responder safety and rapid incident clearance to reduce road hazards, safeguard personnel, and minimize congestion.

The training's practical insights provided WARG members with a deeper understanding of how effective communication and collaboration between agencies can improve safety outcomes. For WARG, known for its emergency communication support, this training enriched their knowledge of road incident protocols and how to best support agencies during traffic-related emergencies.



STRENGTHENING EMERGENCY COORDINATION

The North Haven Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) team held a highly successful Simulated Emergency Test (SET) drill on Saturday Oct 26th, showcasing their readiness and dedication to supporting community resilience. With coffee flowing and spirits high, the team quickly got to work, setting up two VHF/UHF antennas and two HF multi-band antennas in time for the 0900 start. This efficient setup allowed the team to establish essential communications for the drill, fostering valuable experience and practice in emergency preparedness.

During the drill, team members deployed to two critical local sites—North Haven High School and the Quinnipiac Health Center—simulating real-world scenarios in which communication with essential locations is vital. Winlink messages were also sent as part of the exercise, underscoring the team's ability to relay critical information in a crisis. As part of an ongoing effort to improve their Winlink proficiency, Eric (KB1JL) and other team members have been training with VARA Peer-to-Peer (P2P) communications, a software application that allows for direct message transmission between stations. This practice will prove invaluable in situations where cross-team coordination may be required, providing a seamless way to share information with other ARES teams during regional emergencies.

ARES members were excited to welcome Tobio (KA1BMF) and Julian (KC1STF), two dedicated amateurs from Hamden, who joined the North Haven team for the drill. Both brought enthusiasm and skill,

and their participation highlighted an ongoing collaboration between North Haven and Hamden operators. Douglas (WA1SFH), Julian (KC1STF), and other team members are actively working to establish a formal ARES team in Hamden, further strengthening emergency response capabilities in the area.

As ARES teams across the region continue to expand and collaborate, exercises like this one demonstrate the importance of practicing and refining skills that might one day be essential in a real disaster. With coffee in hand and the right tools at their disposal, the North Haven ARES team is ready to tackle any challenge, ensuring that when the time comes, they'll be prepared to keep communities connected and informed.



KC1NXP, KA1BMF, WA1FFT, KA1POF, KB1MFU, KC1STF

November 13 Wednesday 6:30pm - 8:30 pm

CERT Drill Night

There is a new member CERT training coming up in January 2025. If you are interested in joining Wallingford CERT email wfdcrt@gmail.com

MARC ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONTESTS & QSO PARTIES THIS MONTH->

NOVEMBER ARRL

NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES - CW: FIRST FULL WEEKEND IN NOVEMBER, 2100 UTC SATURDAY THROUGH 0259 UTC MONDAY.
NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES - PHONE: THIRD FULL WEEKEND IN NOVEMBER, 2100 UTC SATURDAY THROUGH 0259 UTC MONDAY.

NOVEMBER (NON-ARRL)

K1USN SLOW SPEED TEST
0000Z-0100Z, NOV 4, 2000Z-2100Z, NOV 8,
0000Z-0100Z, NOV 11, 2000Z-2100Z, NOV 15, 0000Z-0100Z, NOV 18,
2000Z-2100Z, NOV 22, 0000Z-0100Z, NOV 25, 2000Z-2100Z, NOV 29

VHF-UHF FT8 ACTIVITY CONTEST

1700Z-2100Z, NOV 6

NRAU 10M ACTIVITY CONTEST

1800Z-1900Z, NOV 7 (CW) AND
1900Z-2000Z, NOV 7 (SSB) AND
2000Z-2100Z, NOV 7 (FM) AND
2100Z-2200Z, NOV 7 (DIG)

WAE DX CONTEST, RTTY

0000Z, NOV 9 TO 2359Z, NOV 10

WALK FOR THE BACON QRP CONTEST

0000Z-0100Z, NOV 7 AND
0200Z-0300Z, NOV 8

HOMEBREW AND OLDTIME EQUIPMENT PARTY

1300-1500Z, NOV 17 (40M) AND
1500-1700Z, NOV 17 (80M)

HAM SPIRIT CONTEST

0800Z, NOV 30 TO 0759Z, DEC 1

(THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE LISTING)

SPECIAL EVENT HIGHLIGHT

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMATEUR RADIO STAMP
AND THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARRL
12.01.24 - 01.31.25

WORK K7S IN WEST JORDAN, UT TO EARN
A COMMEMORATIVE QSL W. SASE

**THE FIRST 200 CONFIRMED CONTACTS RECEIVE A
USED AMATEUR RADIO STAMP.**

W7WES@YAHOO.COM, WWW.UDXA.ORG OR
WWW.QRZ.COM/DB/W7WES



MARC VE SESSIONS

MARC hosts a VE License Exam Session on the second Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 AM local time at the OEM at 143 Hope Hill Road, Wallingford CT.

Appointments are not necessary.

For more information, contact Jim Savage N1ZN at
N1ZN@arrl.net



ARRL VEC

W1NRG Weekly Net Schedule

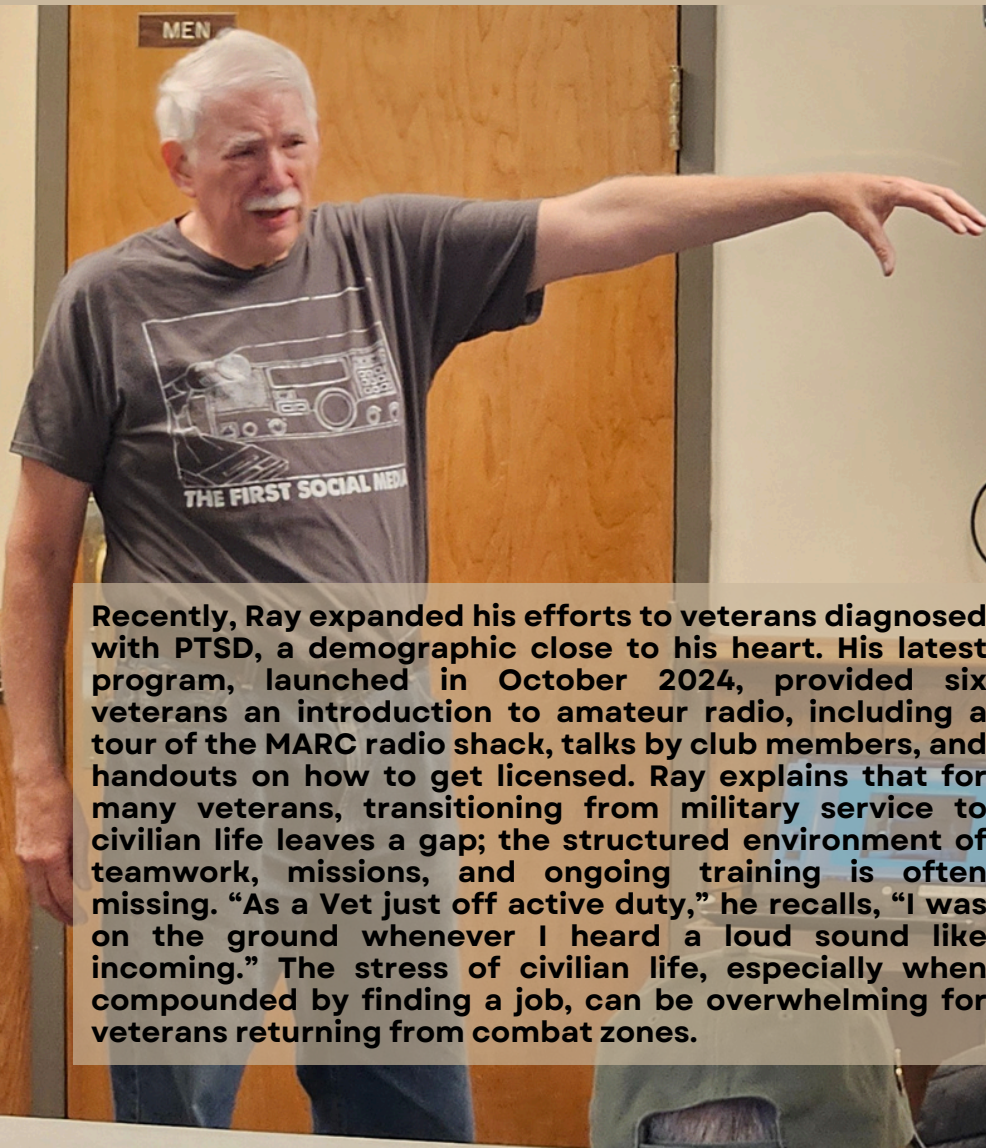
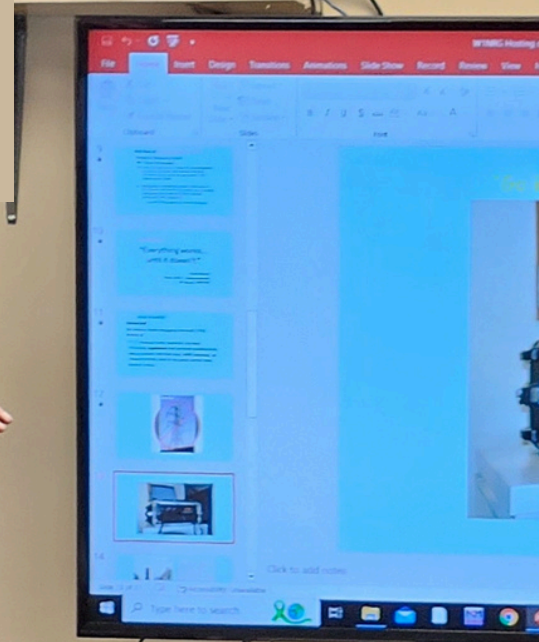
MON	<u>NEW HAVEN/MIDDLESEX SKYWARN NET</u> 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS <u>6 METER SSB NET</u> 8:00 PM, 50.175 MHZ
TUE	<u>2 METER FM NET</u> 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS <u>10 METER 10-10 CASTLE CRAIG NET</u> 8:00 PM 28.375 MHZ
WED	<u>JUST PUSH THE BUTTON NET</u> 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS
SAT	<u>COFFEE CUP NET</u> 9:00 AM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS
SUN	<u>ELMER NET</u> 7:30 PM VIA ZOOM. LOG IN CREDENTIALS IN W1NRG WEBSITE MEMBERS AREA.

COME TO THE OEM AT 143 HOPE HILL ROAD ON SATURDAY MORNINGS FOR THE CLUB WEEKLY OPEN HOUSE. JOIN US STARTING AT 9:00 AM AND MEET FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS IN A SOCIAL SETTING AND PARTICIPATE IN VARIOUS RADIO ACTIVITIES.

SALUTE TO A HOME TOWN HERO

Ray WA1FFT has been a vital force in the Meriden Amateur Radio Club (MARC) and the veteran community in Connecticut, extending his skills and knowledge in amateur radio to help veterans at the West Haven VA reclaim camaraderie, structure, and purpose. A retired Army Signal Corps officer and former Chief Engineer at the Intelligence and Information Directorate at Fort Monmouth, Ray's journey to amateur radio began in 2015 when he obtained his Extra License and became a Volunteer Examiner (VE). Since moving from New Jersey to Connecticut, he's dedicated himself to MARC, the North Haven CERT, and ARES, and currently serves as the North Haven ARES Emergency Coordinator and the Vice President for the VA Radio Club (VARC) at the West Haven VA.

Ray's outreach work for veterans highlights amateur radio as a powerful medium to foster healing, skill-building, and connection. Through MARC and VARC, he has developed and hosted multiple radio programs at the West Haven VA, beginning with a program for blind veterans, showing them that radio can be an inclusive hobby offering technical skills, new friendships, and accessibility for the visually impaired.



Recently, Ray expanded his efforts to veterans diagnosed with PTSD, a demographic close to his heart. His latest program, launched in October 2024, provided six veterans an introduction to amateur radio, including a tour of the MARC radio shack, talks by club members, and handouts on how to get licensed. Ray explains that for many veterans, transitioning from military service to civilian life leaves a gap; the structured environment of teamwork, missions, and ongoing training is often missing. "As a Vet just off active duty," he recalls, "I was on the ground whenever I heard a loud sound like incoming." The stress of civilian life, especially when compounded by finding a job, can be overwhelming for veterans returning from combat zones.

IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SIMILAR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH OR KNOW A CLUB MEMBER THAT IS HELPING TO BRING HAM RADIO TO THE COMMUNITY - LET US KNOW!

TOGETHER, WE CAN SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER AND INSPIRE OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY TO EXPLORE THE FASCINATING WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO.

VETERANS DAY IS
CELEBRATED ON
NOVEMBER 11
BECAUSE IT
COMMEMORATES
THE ARMISTICE THAT
ENDED WORLD WAR I
ON THE 11TH HOUR OF
THE 11TH DAY OF THE
11TH MONTH IN 1918

“I’M PROUD TO BE AN
AMERICAN, WHERE
AT LEAST I KNOW I’M
FREE. AND I WON’T
FORGET THE MEN
WHO DIED, WHO
GAVE THAT RIGHT
TO ME.”

-LEE GREENWOOD

Ray and several other veteran hams at the West Haven VA saw amateur radio as a way to help fill this gap. By connecting veterans with the local radio community, they could rediscover the camaraderie of a “new team,” learn skills, and contribute to mission-oriented activities, whether through contesting, volunteering with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), or simply making new friends on the air. For those struggling with PTSD, amateur radio offers an engaging, supportive outlet that is as therapeutic as it is rewarding.

Setting up these programs at the VA has not been without challenges. VA staff Lisa-Ann and Amanda reached out to MARC for help, and Ray, along with fellow club members, stepped up to the task. MARC, the largest amateur radio club in Connecticut, is enriched with former veterans, police officers, firefighters, Handihams, and members eager to support those who served. Through this collaboration, MARC has become a resource and refuge for veterans, offering them a new community and purpose.

The West Haven VA’s program spans eight weeks, drawing veterans from up to nine states. Thanks to Ray’s leadership, it has become one of the most impactful initiatives within the VA community, offering veterans a chance to learn, connect, and heal. As Ray and his team continue to refine these programs, they are already looking to expand their reach, working on new ways to bring amateur radio into the lives of more veterans at the West Haven VA.

Ray WA1FFT’s work exemplifies the power of amateur radio to connect, heal, and inspire. With each program, Ray and MARC honor the sacrifices of veterans by helping them find strength and purpose anew in amateur radio.




IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN SIMILAR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH OR KNOW A CLUB MEMBER THAT IS HELPING TO BRING HAM RADIO TO THE COMMUNITY - LET US KNOW!

TOGETHER, WE CAN SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER AND INSPIRE OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY TO EXPLORE THE FASCINATING WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO.

DON, W1BRY, AND HIS WIFE JANET ARE PROUD NATIVES OF WATERBURY, SO MUCH SO, THAT HE OPTED FOR A VANITY CALLSIGN THAT REFLECTS HIS HOMETOWN'S FORMER AM RADIO STATION, WBRY. HIS ORIGINAL CALLSIGN WAS KC1SLZ.

Don's current station equipment consists of a Yaesu FTDX-10, Yaesu FTM-6000R for 2 meters and a Chameleon emcom 65' foot end-fed half-wave wire for HF.



Don's first foray into radio began with CB in the 70's, but then work and other commitments took much of his time, and radio was put on hold. In 2023 he learned that he could take a no-code radio exam for the Technician class license at Middlesex Radio Club at Portland. So, with self-study he took the exam, passed, and became a licensed ham radio operator. Elated with his success he began studying for the General class license, took the exam at MRC, and went home a General class operator. Don has been in regular attendance with the MARC CW class ever since, and is well on his way to mastering the art of telegraph.

Don studied auto mechanics at Kaynor Technical school, named after a wealthy Waterbury industrialist who helped establish technical schools for that town. Afterward, he enlisted in the Navy, was assigned to aviation electrician school, and was transferred to the Naval Air Station Norfolk, VA for two years. From there he was sent to Quonset Point, RI for further training on Grumman S-2 aircraft (anti-sub.) Following that assignment he was shipped out to Rota Spain, where he eventually joined his squadron on the USS Intrepid

Don enjoys much of what MARC offers and participates in many club activities. He especially likes learning about electronics and operating various kinds of equipment. Just quite recently he was pleasantly surprised at having made his first DX contact on 12 meters with a ham in Alaska. "That was a memorable moment, or as I like to quip, the first feather in my DX cap."

BY JAMES, AB1DQ

In last month's KeyKlix we joined James, AB1DQ and Ellen, KC1TSM, visiting friends and family in Wisconsin. They stayed at a lake house in Waukesha County with Ellen's college friends and spent time in Price County, where James's father grew up on a dairy farm and where many cousins still live. James brought along his ham radio, particularly enjoying using the Xiegu G90 HF rig, praising its compact design, built-in auto-tuner, SDR receiver, and 20-watt output, which proved effective for making statewide and DX contacts on CW and phone. Here are the parks they visited.



POTA IN THE FATHERLAND

Park 1: US-9846 Rome Pond State Wildlife Area



On Sunday August 25, I drove about 20 minutes from the lake to the Rome Pond State Wildlife Area. It was an ideal location for a POTA activation with a covered picnic area with tables and an adjoining field which provided a great location to deploy the JPC12.

Set up took about 10 minutes from start to finish and I was quickly on the air. I made 39 QSOs on 14.252 MHz in about a half hour's time working stations all across the US plus one contact with a station in France - F5PYI, my first DX station while doing a POTA activation. Not too shabby for 20 watts to a trap vertical out of "9" land.

Park 2: US-4330 Spring Creek Wildlife Management Area

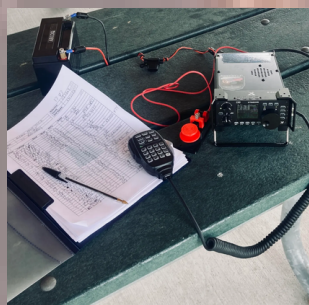
It was a four plus hour drive from Waukesha to the Northwoods. The town of Phillips, Wisconsin, the seat of Price County and a renowned destination for hunting and fishing, has a population of 1,500.

Phillips is also the home to the Wisconsin Concrete Park, a most unique roadside attraction featuring over 200 Americana folk art sculptures built with concrete and adorned with broken glass bottles, automotive tail light lenses and other found objects. Fred Smith, who lacked any formal artistic education, ran a tavern on the site and began building the sculptures in 1948. My dad told me that when he was a boy he recalled visiting Fred and watching him construct his figures.

On Tuesday, August 27, I headed out for my second POTA activation of the trip at US-4330 Spring Creek Wildlife Management Area, chosen solely for its proximity to where we were staying. The park was about a dozen miles southwest from Phillips in the township of Catawba.



As I neared the turn off for the park that morning, I spotted a sign for Cork Road and immediately realized that I was very near the location of my grandfather's dairy farm where my dad was born and raised. The farm, which has long since passed from family ownership, was on Cork Road, a long dirt road cutting through the dense woods. Years ago I had the opportunity to hunt on the property which then still had the farmhouse and the barn which my dad recalled helping build when he was a young boy. Neither the barn nor the original farmhouse stands today.



My trip to the land of the cheese curd and the bratwurst was a great time with family and friends and I truly enjoyed my two POTA activations. I would encourage other hams looking for a compact, inexpensive and easy to deploy HF station to consider the G90 and JPC12 combination.

My activation at Spring Creek was successful, although a bit more challenging than my visit to Rome Pond as T-storms were passing through the area. Spring Creek also lacked picnic tables. Given the inclement weather and the swarms of mosquitoes, I deployed the JPC12 antenna behind my rental car in a parking area within the park boundaries and operated from the driver's seat. Another successful activation, I made 30 contacts on 14.252 MHz working stations all across the U.S.



Key Klix



The Monthly Newsletter of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club December 2008
Supporting Wallingford Office of Emergency Management Communications

CHANGE THE CLUB CALLSIGN?

The family of Frank Darmofalski, W1FD (SK) has offered his callsign to the club. This was mentioned at the last meeting and discussion of this was tabled until the January meeting.

Not only was this offer made so the club could take the W1FD callsign, but also the offer was made to any individual in the club.

The current club call is W1NRG. The club adopted this call around 1960 to honor one of the founding members, Ed Bishert. Ed was a WW2 ex-Navy CW operator, who was also considered one of the best CW operators in the club and it was Frank himself who led the move to have the club take Ed's call.

I feel we should keep the W1NRG callsign because of our club history and traditions using that callsign. Also, it is one of the very few callsigns that do not need phonetics. One downside to the W1FD callsign was made very apparent one year, when the club used it as their Field Day callsign. About half of our contacts kept asking for a repeat on our callsign.

In any case, the discussion will take place on January 8th.
73, Bill, W1KKF

Required FEMA Courses for A.R.E.S & Emergency Management

Starting in January 2009, I will be presenting the ICS classes. These classes are part of the National Incident Command System. NIMS has been mandated by Homeland Security for standardization of all incident responses in the Federal, State and Local jurisdictions.

The way we interact with any served agency has changed over the last few years. Amateur radio has changed over the last few years. Change is good. However, we need to take steps to embrace these changes. I am working on a plan to go through the approximately six to seven FEMA courses over the next few months. At this time, I would like to use the third Thursday of each month for these presentations. We will start at 7:30 PM and run until 9:00 PM. Based upon the number of people that turn out, we may use the downstairs.

The reason that I have used the word presentation, I am far from an instructor. However it is my goal to present the material so that we can all pass the tests and become better qualified in the eyes of our served agencies. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to call me @ 860-263-0000 or on the repeater
73, Chris WA1VXH

SWEEPSTAKES PRIZES

I checked the ARRL website for the rules. We have until January 31st, 2009 to get our order in for the pins or Clean Sweep mugs. The pins are \$6 and the Special Crystal 75th Anniversary Clean Sweep mugs are \$16.

I will take care of the SSCW prizes. The SSCW operators are eligible for the pins only. If you want one get your \$6 to me.

Since they got a clean sweep, the Phone guys are eligible for both pins and the special mug. I think Skip or Bob/CIW will take care of collecting those funds.

As far as the Clean Sweep Whisk Broom and the free magnets. Here is what I found in the rules, "Magnets and Clean Sweep whisk brooms will be shipped without any action required by those who qualify."

So, I take that to mean only one to an entry. Congratulations to all who participated. Nice going.
73, Bill



Communications is often more than a single mode or single method or even a single technology. Communications is often a smorgasbord of modes, methods and technologies. History shows that errors, even a single simple error, are the impetus for many of our great advancements. These platitudes serve as an opening for a global, international, multi-culture, quasi-military arrangement that has an enormous impact on millions of the world's citizens. A small typing error more than fifty years ago is one of those monumental events that still affect the world today.

In 1955, a Colorado Springs-based Sears store ran an advertisement encouraging children to call Santa Claus on a special telephone hotline. Due to a printing error, the phone number that was printed was the hotline for the Director of Operations at the Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD). Colonel Harry Shoup took the first Santa call on Christmas Eve of 1955 from a six-year old boy who began reciting his Christmas list. Shoup did not find the call funny. After asking the mother of a second caller what was happening, he realized the mistake that occurred and instructed his staff to give Santa's position to any child who called in. Three years later, the governments of the United States and Canada combined their national domestic air defenses into the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), but the tradition continued.

The fictional background storyline has changed with the world political situation: during the Cold War when the tracking team provided updates via radio announcements, only North America was mentioned and Santa's approach was described in tense terms with interceptor aircraft scrambled to shoot down the "bogies." Only at the last minute would the pilot realize who he was engaging. Now the Web shows that as Santa approaches Newfoundland, flights of Canadian and United States Air Force fighters rendezvous with him to provide an honor guard and ensure that he has no difficulty transiting the various Air Defense Identification Zones he must enter.

Page 2



THE MERIDEN AMATUER RADIO CLUB HAS A LONG, VAST, AND GROWING HISTORY. EACH MONTH A HISTORIC ARTICLE FROM OUR KEY KLIX ARCHIVE WILL BE FEATURED. ORIGINAL ARTICLE AND THIS MONTH'S SELECTION BY DAVE, K1WJL

As Thanksgiving approaches and winter's chill settles in, it's a perfect time to reflect on the warmth we find in our ham radio community. Amateur radio has always been more than a hobby; it's a powerful tool for connection, learning, and support. In many ways, our radio family resembles the close bonds of Thanksgiving gatherings—where stories are shared, friendships are strengthened, and gratitude abounds. This season, let's embrace these connections and consider how we can use our skills to uplift and inspire those around us.

Ham radio has a rich history of bridging divides and serving others, even during difficult times. Think back to World War II's famous "Thanksgiving Net," when ham operators connected troops stationed overseas with voices from home. It was a powerful reminder that, even in the darkest times, community and kindness could travel across miles of ocean and bring comfort to those feeling isolated. These operators weren't just sharing signals; they were sharing hope and the unspoken promise that they were never alone. This legacy is part of our shared story, and each of us has the opportunity to build on it in our own way.

So, as we celebrate this season of gratitude, let's honor that legacy. Let's go beyond casual QSOs and bring new depth to our conversations on the airwaves. Reach out to someone who may be new to ham radio, share your knowledge and stories, and encourage them in their journey. You might inspire a young operator to try their first CW contact, or maybe you'll help a fellow ham fine-tune their equipment for winter conditions. Small acts of mentorship can have a lasting impact, helping others grow their skills and deepen their passion for amateur radio.

Consider, too, how we can use our skills in service of our communities. Winter brings its own challenges, and emergencies can arise that call for reliable communication. For those of us involved in CERT, ARES, or SKYWARN, this is a time to be ready and willing to help—whether it's reporting severe weather, supporting community events, or simply checking in on someone who may be isolated. Ham radio is unique in its power to connect people across barriers of distance, weather, and even age. We can use it to spread goodwill, share resources, and foster a sense of togetherness.

This Thanksgiving, let's go beyond our daily routines on the air and think about the impact we can make. Reach out to your radio friends, old and new, and encourage them to join you in building this spirit of generosity. It's easy to share technical advice, but it's equally important to share encouragement, kindness, and a sense of belonging. Let's make our nets not just a place for information, but a community that offers warmth and friendship for everyone.

Wishing you all a Thanksgiving filled with gratitude, joy, and good company—both on and off the air. Thank you for being part of this wonderful community, and may we continue to grow together. Happy Thanksgiving, and 73 to each of you from KeyKlix!

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Kristin, KC1ISI | James, AB1DQ

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CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH

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MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MARC) CANDIDATE PROFILES - 2024

MARC elections take place on November 14. Nominations closed on October 31.

Position descriptions can be found in our club's [Constitution and By-laws](#).

Your 2024 Election Committee will continue to be available to you throughout this election cycle.

We ask that you contact us at our special election email address WINRGelection@gmail.com.

PRESIDENT



Ed
W1YSM

I became a Ham and received my Amateur Extra in 2016. Under my 5-year leadership as President, MARC has experienced substantial membership growth; we participate in over 30 radio-related activities. MARC is recognized as the premiere Amateur Radio Club in Connecticut. Thus, I talk not only about what I would do as President, but also about what I have already done for MARC. There are areas of Club life about which some members have voiced concerns. These include: 1) lack of contesting, 2) Business Meeting length, 3) my not listening closely enough to member's concerns, 4) lack of Club programs involving new MARC members. Accordingly, I promise to: 1) promote/increase contesting; 2) limit business meetings to under an hour; 3) ensure all member's voices are heard, 4) increase efforts to reach new club members. As President, and with Stan WB1GFI as Vice-President, we will expand MARC amateur radio activities, and provide necessary leadership. A club with 78 members in 2017 bears little resemblance to one with over 200 members and 30 activities, in 2024. MARC needs the strong leadership that Stan WB1GFI and I will provide. Please consider voting for me (us).



Ray
KC1QLS

I have always believed in the importance of sharing knowledge, experiences, and the love of ham radio. Nothing is more important to me than the relationships we build here, and fostering these connections will be one of my top priorities.

I want to focus on the members growing the club and sharing their knowledge and experiences with other members. We have seen this begin to happen through activities such as Radio Fox Hunting, POTA and most recently Satellites and Balloon launches. I believe activities like these to be the cornerstones of why each of us have gotten into the hobby.

I promise to:

- Foster Goals: Together, charting a course for the future, promoting the interests of club members and their projects.
- Communicate Effectively: Advocating for MARC and making sure our member's voices are heard.
- Strive for Excellence: Aiming for the highest standards in representing our club.
- Be Proactive: Working to ensure we remain a vibrant, welcoming community.
- Bridge and Strengthen Relationships: Fostering open communication within our membership and other local and ham radio community leaders, ensuring MARC remains a place where every member feels valued and our club is well-connected within the broader amateur radio community.

VICE PRESIDENT

Hi, my name is Stan WB1GFI and I am running for the position of Vice-President of MARC I was first licensed in 1967 as a novice and upgraded to General Class a year later.

During my over 40 year career with The Hartford Insurance Group I held a number of insurance underwriting, supervisory and management positions.

I served on the Advisory Board of Fairfield University's radio station WVOF.

Since joining MARC I have been involved in a number of behind the scenes activities. I reviewed and made recommendations regarding the Club's General Liability and Equipment insurance policies.

I was appointed a Director of the Nutmeg Hamfest Alliance where I was involved in the planning for this year's Nutmeg Hamfest. I also had direct responsibility for certain aspects of the Hamfest.

I will listen to all the ideas put forth by the membership and the leadership team and not prejudge any idea.

I know if Ed W1YSM is re-elected as President and I elected Vice-President we would work very well together as part of the MARC leadership team continuing to help MARC move forward.

I am asking for your vote on November 14'th.

I'm Dave, NZ1J, and I'm running for Vice President. I've been licensed 37 years and I'm active on voice, CW, digital, and Fox Hunts, POTA, and satellites. I've earned Worked All States and DXCC. I'm an Electrical Engineer and design and build some of my radios. I maintained the club website for four years. I've served as Vice President of the Shoreline Amateur Radio Club and Secretary of MARC. I'm passionate about ham radio and work to share my passion with other club members. I've taught classes within MARC on radio theory and I've mentored many members when they ventured into Fox Hunting, POTA, satellites, and CW.

I'm running for Vice President in an effort to redirect MARC back to the way it ran up until about 2019. That is, much shorter business meetings, fewer decisions made behind closed doors, and a lot more focus on learning about radio, talking about radio, and using radio. Ham radio has a lot to offer all of us and this club can be a great way to take advantage of it. But, our focus needs to be on ham radio. I hope that I can earn your vote. Thank you.



Dave
NZ1J

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MARC) CANDIDATE PROFILES - 2024

SECRETARY



James
AB1DQ

My name is James, AB1DQ, and I am seeking your vote to serve as Secretary. I am an Extra Class operator, first licensed in 2002. The path to my ticket began in childhood spending hours in my grandfather's workshop, poring over his old DeVry home study radio books, assembling kits, and attempting scratch builds which sometimes resulted in a blown household fuse. As a teen, I was inspired by my parents' service as officers of our community's Civil Defense CB radio club, and spent many evenings monitoring Cold War propaganda stations, collecting QSL cards, and listening for my letters to be read on Moscow Mailbag. Since 2015, MARC has enriched my love of radio and now in gratitude, I seek the opportunity to give back by serving as our Secretary. In recent years, I played an active role as an advisor and leader in Yale's W1YU club revival, and I am now eager to bring my administrative and communication skills developed over a forty-year career in finance and grant management to MARC as we continue along our phenomenal trajectory of growth witnessed over the last six years. I ask for your vote, and I thank you for your consideration.

NOMINATIONS

- Nominations for all five officer positions will open at the October business meeting on Thursday October 10, 2024 at 7:00p (ET)
- At that time all nominations from the floor will be entertained and incumbents will be asked whether they wish to be considered for renomination for their existing position.
- Each individual who nominates another person for an office will be allowed to speak for a maximum of three minutes on behalf of that individual.
- Self-nominations will be accepted, and the self-nominating individual(s) may also speak for up to three minutes
- At the end of the October 10 Business Meeting the NOMINATION PERIOD WILL REMAIN OPEN until 11:59 pm (ET) on October 31, 2024.
- After 12:00a (ET) on November 1, nominations will close and no further nominations will be entertained.
- Between the Business Meeting on October 10 and the close of nominations at 12:00a (ET) on November 1, any additional nominations not made at the October 10 meeting are to be brought by email to the Election Committee, and they will process the request.
- In addition from October 10 through October 31, nominees for HAM of the Year and ELMER of the Year will be similarly entertained.

ELECTION BUDDY SOFTWARE PROGRAM

We will be using the ELECTION BUDDY SOFTWARE PROGRAM to tally the votes for the officers and awards. This Program was used in the past and evaluated by Steve KC1SA and will be used again because it successfully supported our election process in 2023.

BALLOTS

After the nominations are closed on November 1 at 12:00 a (ET), the Election Committee will put together a ballot consisting of individuals seeking to be elected or re-elected, as well as the names of nominees for HAM and ELMER of the year.

VOTING PROCESS

- The Election Committee in conjunction with the Communications/Outreach Committee, will work to ensure that all MARC Members have a valid email on file and accordingly, that the Election Buddy Program can send a ballot to MARC Members in good standing on election day.
- Voting will begin at 12:01a (ET) and end at 11:59p (ET) --- all on November 14. The voting period is thus 24 hours. The Election Buddy Database should ensure that each member will receive a ballot. If a member does not receive a ballot by 8a (ET) on November 14, he/she should contact the Election Committee by email immediately. Details will be provided.
- Voting occurs by email on November 14. In-person, early, or mail-in voting is not permitted
- On November 15 the day after Election Day, by approximately 9a (ET), the Election Committee will announce by email, the winners, i.e., who will be new the 2025 Club officers.
- Elmer and HAM of the year winners will be announced at the MARC Christmas party on Thursday December 5 at 8p (ET) at Serafino's Restaurant.
- Anyone with questions should contact the Election Committee by email
- New Officers take their seats on January 1, 2025.

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Ellen KC1TSM
Elsie KB1FZ
Jim W3APC

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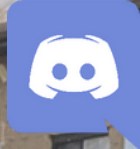
W1NRG MEMBERS

AA1EM Kas	KC1HFO Johannis	KC1TSZ Deb	NA1L Dale	WB1DMK WILLIAM
AB1DQ James	KC1HQX Preston	KC1TTP Jeff	NA2AA David	WB1DQT BILL
AB1HB Charlie	KC1IIK Scott	KC1TWA William	NN1DX Robert	WB1GFI STAN
AB2T Jordan	KC1ISI Kristin	KC1TYO Ken	NR1B Bill	WB1GYZ BOB
AC1SK George	KC1KQH John	KC1UJP Jason	NT1S Tyler	WB8IMY STEVE
AF1X James	KC1MJZ Michael	KC1UJQ Mark	NZ1J Dave	WJ1B HAROLD
K00Z Brian	KC1NQE Shawn	KC1UJT Michael	UT3UY Anatoly	WV2LKM STEVE
K1BTR Bryan	KC1NRD John	KC1VCU John	W1AJK Andrew	WX1W MARY
K1DMS Dave	KC1NUX Steven	KC1VJS Anthony	W1BJG Judy	WY1U TIM
K1JCF Joe	KC1OCF Karl	KC2MLH Adam	W1BRY Donald	John B.
K1LHO Mike	KC1OCS Richard	KC3UKG Storm	W1DQ John	Michael C.
K1LYP John	KC1OGL Paul	KD0BMW Marty	W1EDX Paul	Bill F.
K1MAL Chris	KC1OWD Kevin	KE1AU Bob	W1IKW Iain	Joel H.
K1MMK Michael	KC1OYN Rick	KE1AV Dave	W1LV Steve	Lucas M.
K1NEG Nelson	KC1OYR Brent	KE2ECC Phillip	W1NDT Robert	Spencer R.
K1PET Debbie	KC1OYS Jim	KF6LU Andrew	W1PRK James	Michael R.
K1RCT Rob	KC1PBQ Randy	KK7NLS John	W1RCI Ron	Michael G.
K1SCI Stuart	KC1PEN David	KO1J Randy	W1RWW Bob	
K1SMD Silas	KC1PXX Dave	KO4EEL Tom	W1TK Ron	
K1STM Anne	KC1PYT Jeff	KR1U Bob	W1UFO Mike	
K1TDO Todd	KC1QHO Mike	KS1WK Seth	W1UKX Greg	
K1TGX Jerry	KC1QLS Ray	KX1USA Rob	W1YSM Ed	
K1UD Butch	KC1QWH Steve	N0HIO David	W3APC James	
K1VDF John	KC1RBY Sergio	N1AKN Jeff	WA1BAR Michael	
K1WJL Dave	KC1RLQ Eric	N1API Al	WA1CCQ Norman	
K2RPM Bruce	KC1SA Stephen	N1BRI Brian	WA1CJA Matt	
K4AVM Andrew	KC1SDA Richard	N1BRL Bart	WA1EXA Mark	
K5ATA Steve	KC1SEN Nicholas	N1FNE Rod	WA1FFT Ray	
K5CYN Cyndi	KC1SLV Joshua	N1GNV John	WA1INC Roland	
KA1BED Bill	KC1STF Julian	N1GY Geoff	WA1JKR John	
KA1BMF Constantino	KC1SYU Jim	N1HCA Susan	WA1K Jack	
KA1JTG James	KC1TAD Tom	N1IBE Wade	WA1MAC Paul	
KA1YZC Paul	KC1TCO Dee	N1JEO Joel	WA1RAB Bob	
KB1APO Jim	KC1TEV Mark	N1JMX Jeff	WA1SFH Douglas	
KB1CXK Joseph	KC1THU Mike	N1JRC John	WA1TRY Rich	
KB1EHE Eric	KC1TKH Bill	N1LES Joe	WA1WDN Bob	
KB1FEX Ken	KC1TKY Bob	N1MOB Dan	WA1ZVY Jim	
KB1HAX Bill	KC1TKZ Mark	N1NGV Kevin		
KB1IFZ Elsie	KC1TOV David	N1NIS Noah		
KB1JL Eric	KC1TPN Rick	N1OKF Bob		
KB1LWS Jeanne	KC1TSG Jim	N1OKR Frank		
KB1MFU John	KC1TSK Richard	N1OQC Mike		
KB1TBL Dave	KC1TSL Charlie	N1PQQ Greg		
KB1TGS David	KC1TSM Ellen	N1WCL David		
KB1TMC Clare	KC1TSN Chuck	N1XXU Andy		
KB1TTV Jonathan	KC1TSP Dale	N1YLN Edward		
KB1YFJ Glenn	KC1TST Mike	N1YLO Andrew		
KC1BQP Paul	KC1TSW Charles	N1ZN Jim		
KC1CAB Frank	KC1TSX Mike	N2TAG Dave		
KC1DOY Ted	KC1TSY Daniel	N7VGA Dennis		

WELCOMING THIS MONTH

KC1OYS JIM
KF6LU ANDREW
WA1INC ROLAND
WA1CCQ NORMAN
MICHAEL R.
MICHAEL G.

CLICK THE ICONS BELOW TO JOIN FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE IN CLUB ACTIVITIES



MARC EMAIL FORUM
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