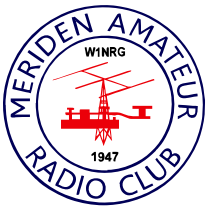


KEY KLIX

NEWSLETTER EST 1947

DECEMBER 2024





CLUB ELECTIONS

President - Ray KC1QLS
Vice Pres - Dave NZ1J
Secretary - James AB1DQ
S.A.M. - Rob K1RCT
Treasurer - Rick KC1OYN

ACTIVITY MEETING

There is no Activity Meeting in December. See you next year! If you have ideas for activities next year or would like to share with the club, let us know.

MEMBER DUES

2025 Membership dues of \$25 are requested by Dec 31, 2024. Check W1NRG.com for your status and to make payment or see Rick KC1OYN.

NORTH POLE ON THE AIR

BY KRISTIN, KC1IS1
Photos By: James AB1DQ
& Jeff N1AKN



Lenny Guercia, Ed W1YSM, Mayor Cervoni, Ray KC1QLS

CQ Santa returned December 8th as “North Pole on the Air”. The OEM was loud and filled with children making reindeer puppets, snowflake bookmarks and some even practicing their morse code skills. **40** children came by to see Santa, and talk to Bernard the Elf at the North Pole on the radio, to find out if they were on the “Good List” or the “Naughty List”. Several families commented how great the event was last year that they were excited to come back this year. Wallingford Mayor Cervoni came by and was pleased to learn that he was on the Good List and received his own official certificate from Santa.

Thanks to the hard work of so many North Pole on the Air has become a magical tradition. Wallingford Emergency Management provided support, helping the event run smoothly, coordinating with the fire department to get fire trucks onsite for the kids. The Wallingford Health Department who provided the goodies in the goody bags and the holiday crafts that were made.

Additional thank you goes out to all the WARG AND MARC members who helped make the magic happen: James AB1DQ, Ellen KC1TSM, Eric KB1JL, Jeff N1AKN, Ray KC1QLS, Iain W1IKW, and Ed W1YSM. Special thanks also to Ron W1TK for making the signs and to Gerry B. (XYL of Bob WB1GYZ), Debbie O. (XYL of Eric KB1JL), and Tracey B. (XYL of Santa Claus), who all lent a helping hand with the event. I would also like to acknowledge the club members who just stopped by to show their support. And of course, the BIGGEST thanks to Bernard the Elf, John K1LYP and Santa Claus himself, Rick KC1OYN for bringing lots of magic and excitement to all who attended.

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MARC Net **see page 13**
Controls

NORTH POLE ON THE AIR



Constantino KA1BMF



Gerry WB1GYZ/XYL



Ellen KC1TSM & Tracey (Mrs. Claus)



Mike WFLD Health Dept



Judy W1BJG



Rick KC1OYN (Santa)



John K1LYP (Bernard the Elf)



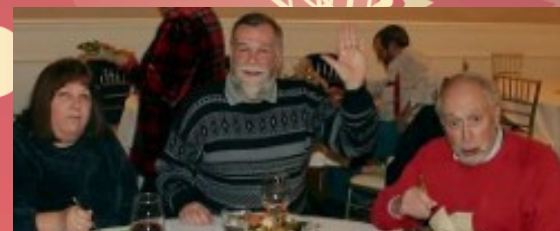
The first CQ Santa 2019



*'Twas the night before CQ Santa back in 2019,
when all through the firehouse,
not a creature was stirring, except for a mouse.
When inside the shack, what should appear
but a giant white snowman holding a child, Oh Dear!
Back at the trailer and with the frequency clear,
the children radioed Santa, who answered with cheer.
After CQ Santa 2022, an idea took flight,
To bring Santa to the OEM, a magical sight!*

-Kristin KC1ISI

AT THE CLUB HOUSE



BY JAMES, AB1DQ

As per tradition, club members and their spouses gathered on December 5 at Serafino's to celebrate the annual Christmas Party. The festive evening was co-hosted by outgoing president Ed, W1YSM, and incoming president Ray, KC1QLS, and was attended by approximately 40 members, including newly licensed graduates of the fall Technician class, such as Michael (call sign pending) and Joel, KC1VVC.



The event began with a lively cocktail hour followed by a sumptuous buffet. After dinner, Ed took the podium to deliver his annual recap, highlighting the club's notable achievements throughout the year. His heartfelt speech was met with a standing ovation, a testament to his dedicated leadership over the past six years.

Ed then handed the microphone to incoming president Ray, who shared an inspiring message of unity and optimism. Ray emphasized the strong sense of community within the club, likening it to a family with much to look forward to in 2025.

Continuing the evening, Ray presented the annual club awards. By popular vote, Ham of the Year was awarded to Shawn, KC1NQE, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to club activities, while Elmer of the Year went to Dave, NZ1J, for his engaging Saturday morning presentations and radio mentorship.



The program concluded with entertainment segment from James, AB1DQ, who presented the last installment in his three year long series on ham radio in popular culture. Titled "Episode Four: Scraping the Bottom of the Barrel," the presentation humorously explored Ham Radio's influence in popular television and movies taking a detailed look at its prominent role in Season 4 of Hulu's Only Murders in the Building. The presentation began with a Star Wars-inspired title crawl parody, "Episode IX - The Rise of KC1QLS," and was a crowd-pleaser, blending humor and nostalgia to wrap up a memorable evening.



AT THE CLUB HOUSE

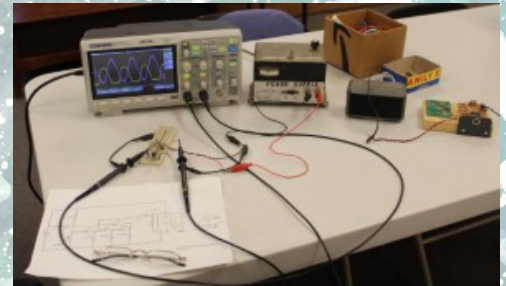
BY BILL, NR1B

Congrats to Don W1BRY. First time POTA activator! He has successfully activated Wadsworth Falls, US-1726, Monday, 10/28 and again on 11/1. All QSOs were made in cw!

Jerry K1TGX, Mike K1LHO and Joel, Don's trusted logger, joined us for the event.



On Saturday, 2 November, Dave NZ1J brought in his antenna rotator control board for a show and tell. He had a small wooden arrow shape set up to demonstrate how the antenna would turn. An interesting project for any DIY ham.



On the 23rd, Dave NZ1J brought in his project code practice oscillator and with the use of an oscilloscope, demonstrated how it produced a sine wave and how various tweaks would affect it.



Foxhunting is still very popular and our president and vice president elects, Ray KC1QLS and Dave NZ1J, along with a number of others in the club had a fun hunt on November 24th.



Congratulations to Andy, N1XXU, for earning the prestigious Kilo Award at Wharton Brook State Park on December 8! This impressive milestone recognizes his dedication and persistence, as he reached 1,000 contacts while activating from the park. After several trips and countless hours of effort, Andy's achievement showcases the true spirit of amateur radio and Parks on the Air. Well done, Andy, and here's to many more successful activations!



Paul "The Great POTA Hunter" W1EDX, has achieved a remarkable milestone in his POTA journey, successfully contacting an incredible 7,000 unique POTA entities from around the world. This accomplishment underscores Paul's dedication and skill as a POTA hunter, reflecting countless hours of listening, calling, and logging contacts with activators across the globe. His achievement is not just a testament to his passion for amateur radio but also an inspiration to fellow enthusiasts in the POTA community. Congratulations to Paul on this monumental success!



GIFT FROM THE HEART

BY SCOTT, CERT CAPTAIN

The WARG CERT group has taken a significant step forward in enhancing its emergency response capabilities with the gift of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). This invaluable piece of equipment, designed to provide potentially life-saving defibrillation to individuals experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, was donated by the In A Heartbeat foundation.

The donation ceremony was graced by several prominent community figures, including Mayor Cervoni, Chief Buck, and Mike Papale, the founder of In A Heartbeat. This foundation is dedicated to raising awareness about sudden cardiac arrest and increasing access to AEDs, making communities safer and better prepared for medical emergencies. Papale's work is inspired by his personal story and a deep commitment to saving lives, as highlighted by his organization's impactful outreach.

The AED will be stationed on EM1, the CERT group's converted firetruck, ensuring it is always available when the team is deployed for emergency operations. Whether assisting with disaster response, public events, or other community needs, having this equipment on hand significantly enhances the group's ability to respond effectively to cardiac emergencies.

This donation symbolizes the importance of collaboration between local organizations, leaders, and foundations. Together, they are making strides to improve public safety and preparedness. To learn more about In A Heartbeat and its mission, visit their website [In A Heartbeat](#).



WALLINGFORD C.E.R.T. BASIC CLASS WINTER 2025

Wednesday February 5th- Wednesday March 12th
6:30 pm-8:30 pm
Saturday March 8th
8:00 am-5:00 pm

The Wallingford Community Emergency Response Team is seeking new members. New member basic training will cover disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact your community and trains you in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue and team organization to assist in your community's response effort.

There will be an informal open house for interested people on Wednesday December 18th at 7:00pm at the Wallingford Office of Emergency Management-143 Hope Hill Rd. During this session, an overview of C.E.R.T., its mission, and the training requirements will be discussed. Please note that all training is provided free of charge.

[Wallingford C.E.R.T. application](#)
can be found here.

For questions or info email
wlfdcert@gmail.com

February Unit 1	5th -	INTRODUCTION & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS Scott Maguder/Len Guercia
February Unit 2	12th -	CERT ORGANIZATION/RADIO OPERATION Scott Maguder/Eric Olsson
February Unit 5	19th -	DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY Holly McNabola
February Unit 8	26th -	CERT TERRORISM & ELECTRICAL SAFETY Eric Olsson/John Yuza
March Unit 3	8th -	*****Saturday March 8th 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM***** MEDICAL OPERATIONS 1 All Instructors & CERT Team
Unit 4		MEDICAL OPERATIONS 2 & PRACTICAL All Instructors & CERT Team
Unit 6		FIRE SAFETY & UTILITY CONTROLS All Instructors & CERT Team
Unit 7		LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE All Instructors & CERT Team
March Unit 9 & Graduation	12th -	6:30-8:00 PM REVIEW, FINAL EXAM & PRACTICAL All Instructors & CERT TEAM 8:00-8:30 PM GRADUATION/ADMINISTRATION OF OATH All Instructors, Fire Chief, Wallingford Town Officials, OEM Teams Members, Town Council Members

December 17th Tuesday 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Webinar - Autism Awareness for First Responders
This webinar will be broadcast at the OEM.
C.E.R.T. Drill Night

DXCC, CONTESTS & QSO PARTIES

BY ROB, K1RCT

THIS MONTH->

Solar Flux

PREDICTED SOLAR FLUX IS 240, 230, 220, AND 210 ON DECEMBER 1-4, 205 ON DECEMBER 5-6, THEN 200, 180, 170 AND 150 ON DECEMBER 7-10, 145 ON DECEMBER 11-12, THEN 149, 145, AND 230 ON DECEMBER 13-15, 235 ON DECEMBER 16-17, 240 ON DECEMBER 18-20, 245 ON DECEMBER 21-22, THEN 240, 245 AND 255 ON DECEMBER 23-25.

CONTEST CALENDAR

WA7BNM the next 5 Weeks of contesting

4 STATES QRP SPRINT

ARRL 10M CONTEST

PODXS CLUB SPRINT (PSK31)

INTERNATIONAL NAVAL CONTEST

RUN FOR THE BACON QRP CONTEST

WALK FOR THE BACON QRP CONTEST

ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP CW

DARC CHRISTMAS CONTEST

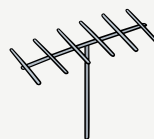
RAC (RADIO AMATEURS CANADA) WINTER CONTEST

ORIGINAL QRP CONTEST

PARKS ON THE AIR

ARRL CONTEST UPDATE

ARRL AWARDS (SEARCH W1NRG OR YOUR CALLSIGN)



ON AIR



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	NEW HAVEN/MIDDLESEX SKYWARN NET 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS 6 METER SSB NET 8:00 PM, 50.175 MHZ
TUE	2 METER FM NET 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS 10 METER 10-10 CASTLE CRAIG NET 8:00 PM 28.375 MHZ
WED	JUST PUSH THE BUTTON NET 7:00 PM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS
SAT	COFFEE CUP NET 9:00 AM, W1NRG/R 147.360 + 162.2 HZ CTCSS
SUN	ELMER NET 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.



DXNews.com DX Calendar December 2024

DXNews.com DX Calendar December 2024. Ham Radio News, DX Peditions, video, articles, images f...

dxnews.com

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 2024 LICENSE CLASS PRODUCES 12 NEW TECHNICIANS



The second annual Meriden Amateur Radio Club's fall Technician License Review Class offered in partnership with the Town of Wallingford Adult Education program and the ARRL, concluded with a VE Session on Tuesday, November 26th.

BY JAMES, AB1DQ

For the second straight year, the program proved successful. By the numbers, from an initial enrollment of 18 students, three withdrew early and fifteen completed the program. Of the 15, four eager students sat for the Technician Exam at the MARC VE Session on November 9, two weeks prior to the end of the course, and another eight took the exam on November 26. We are very pleased to report that all of our students who took the exam passed and earned their first ham radio ticket.

The club will be offering a General Class License Review course again for the spring term, which will start on Tuesday February 25, 2025. Technicians interested in upgrading should watch for announcements regarding enrollment.



KB1EHE, conducts a hands-on antenna demonstration with student Michael on October 15.



New club member Joel observed as Pat, KC1VSO, made a QSO on the WINRG/R repeater at the OEM on Saturday, November 23. Pat was one of four students who took the amateur radio exam early, before the class officially ended. Meanwhile, Joel, who passed his exam on November 26, is currently waiting to receive his call sign.



NZ1J instructs the class on ham radio equipment on October 22

Using the ARRL License Manual and other course materials, the class met on Tuesday nights for ten weeks starting in September and was taught by a rotating calendar of MARC members who volunteered to teach. Program creator and administrator, James AB1DQ, wishes to acknowledge and express his gratitude to the following members for generously giving of their time and talent to make this year's class a success:

- Brian K0OZ; Rob K1RCT; Ellen KC1TSM; Eric KB1EHE; Elsie KB1IFZ; Joe N1LES; Eric KB1JL; Kristin KC1ISI; Stephen KC1QWH; Jim N1ZN; Dave NZ1J; Shawn KC1NQE; John K1LYP; and Charles KC1TSL

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

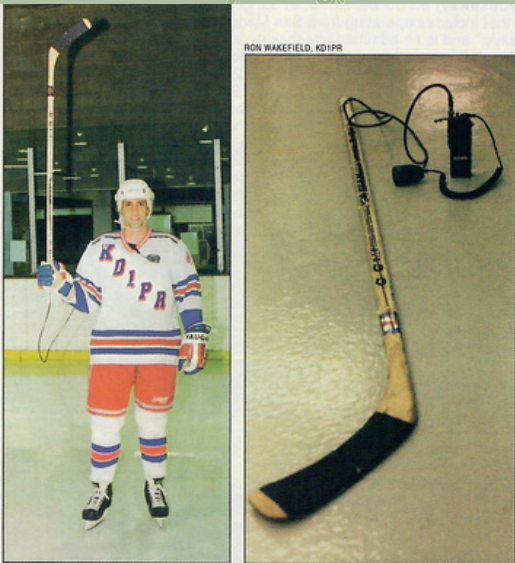
BY BOB, WB1GYZ

Ron Wakefield, W1TK was born in New Britain, and developed an interest in all things technical while still a teen, with a special fascination for radio. Some of his friends were into CB radio, which quickly caught his attention. He acquired a short-wave receiver and discovered that there was much more to radio than CB chatter. Fast-forward some years and Ron continued study of electronics in the Navy. That background plus selfstudy paved the way for his amateur radio license and also proved instrumental for his first civilian job as an electronics technician at Gerber Electronics, a company that specializes in sign making equipment. Ron is currently doing IT work for a social service agency, a facility that specializes in treating adolescents with emotional problems.



Ron has travelled extensively while in service, having completed two Mediterranean/Indian Ocean cruises aboard the USS Capodanno (fast frigate) FF1093 and the USS Dahlgren (guided missile destroyer) DDG43 where he worked as a gunfire control technician. He signed for six years and was honorably discharged as a first-class petty officer.

Ron and his wife, Kate live in Southington, have a son and daughter, one recently graduated and the other soon to graduate college. Ron quips that he and Kate are almost empty nesters.



HT = Hockey Talkie: Combining two hobbies, Ron Wakefield, KD1PR, of Middletown, Connecticut, takes his VHF FM rig onto the ice so that when he raises his stick after a score, he can tell his ham buddies all about it! The expression "penalty for interference" takes on a whole new meaning when you're "skatin' and radiatin'."

July 1994

Ron enjoys DXing and was awarded DXCC and WAS, having earned both awards just this past year. All of his contacts were made with a mix of CW, SSB, and RTTY. His station equipment consists of an Elecraft K-4, Yaesu FT990, Yaesu FT736-R that he also uses for hill-topping. During his early years of amateur radio he defied HOA rules by building a very effective clandestine station while living in a condominium. Ron enjoys hill-topping with home-brewed VHF and UHF antennas (similar to today's POTA) and experimenting with antennas, building small projects, and making improvements to his shack. He looks forward to retiring in the near future and becoming a "full-time ham..." but in the mean time still finds time for ice hockey, bicycling, and adding to his sports card collection; though makes no qualms about ham radio remaining front and center.



INEXPENSIVE VHF/UHF ANTENNAS

◊ Ron, KD1PR, followed the age-old ham paths of doing it himself, of recycling materials, and of doing things inexpensively, is shown with his portable VHF/UHF antennas. He bought a used CB Yagi from a friend at work for \$1 and built three Yagis, for 50, 144, and 432 MHz. Further cost savings were made possible by recycling his old hockey stick as the boom for the 2-meter Yagi (see "Up Front in QST," Jul 1994, p 11). In the photo, Ron is holding a one-dollar bill, making the point of his "antennas for a buck."

48 October 1996 QST

SEPTEMBER 97 VHF/UHF
QSO PARTY

W1TK

Hilltopping Anyone?

50
144
432 MHz

FN31po

SSB CW FM

REACHING ALL COUNTIES

BY AL, N1API



As an active MARC member and contester, I also serve as the Northeast Director for MARAC (Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club), representing members across CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, VE1, VE2, VE9, VY2, and Europe.

One of MARAC's key achievements is administering the prestigious United States of America County Award (USACA), a challenge requiring confirmed amateur radio contacts with all 3,077 U.S. counties. Originally overseen by CQ Magazine, MARAC took over the award in 2023 following CQ's closure.

I earned the USACA Award in 1993 (#806), a process that once required physical QSL cards for verification. Completing each USACA earns a 'star' of which I have five. MARAC has since modernized the requirements, allowing digital submissions while maintaining the award's rigorous standards. To date, 1,275 hams have achieved this milestone. A newly designed certificate honoring the tradition launches on November 1, 2024.



If county hunting intrigues you, visit marac.org. Membership includes perks like the Roadrunner newsletter, discounts, and free PDF certificates. I'm always here to answer questions and help you get started. County hunting is a rewarding way to make the most of your amateur radio journey!

LET'S CONTEST TOGETHER

BY STEVE, KC1SA

Contesting is one of my favorite aspects of Amateur Radio. When summer weather cools and fall begins is when some of the more interesting radio contests happen. Contesting interests started for me at Field Day 2014. While Field Day is not a contest, the comradery and competition of getting more QSOs than other clubs caught my attention. Soon after that June event MARC posted that the club was gathering up folks for Sweepstakes. Again, new to Amateur Radio I had no idea what Sweepstakes (Sweeps) was actually all about. So I did a little research and found both CW and SSB modes existed for Sweeps. The interest in SSB was good and our MARC team formed and operated during the 2014 Sweeps. The team was: John K1VDF, Rob KC1ACN (now K1RCT), Steve KC1AXJ (now KC1SA), Joe KC1BAQ, Al N1API and Jim N1ZN.

That year we claimed a Clean Sweep with Hawaii being the hold out that I think Rob and Joe Hamm made that contact on Sunday night. We all wanted the Clean Sweep Pins and Coffee Cups and we were all proud of achieving the Clean Sweep status. With similar interests in 2015 the club again formed a team: Haggie KB1HCC/sk, Rob KC1ACN (K1RCT), Steve KC1AXJ (KC1SA), and John N1GNV.

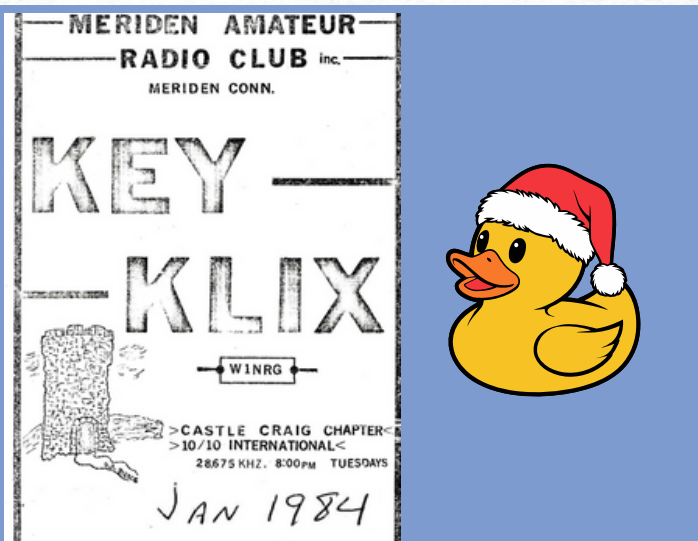
That year I don't think we hit the Clean Sweep status but all fun just the same. Back then the team had to set up and take down all the equipment used for a given contest. Lots of work then and now we have the benefit of being housed at the OEM where equipment stays set up all the time.

The Club (W1NRG) hasn't posted scores for Sweeps, either SSB or CW, since that timeframe. Today most everyone in the club who contests operates from home and submits their scores with a club affiliation (MARC). Currently the list with the ARRL has 36 club members, last updated in October '23:

AB1DQ, K1JCF, K1LHO, K1LYP, K1RCT, K1SMD, K1STM, K1VDF, K1WJL, KB1EHE, KB1FZ, KB1JL, KB1MFU, KB1TMC, KC1KQH, KC1QWH, KC1SA, KE1AU, N1API, N1BRL, N1GNV, N1KGY, N1QYB, N1YLN, N1ZN, NZ1J, W1BOB, W1DQ, W1EDX, W1JAX, W1LV, W1NRG, W1YSM, WA1TRY, WB1GYZ, WB8IMY

For the 2024 Sweeps SSB contest I gathered in 50 sections and 110 QSOs on 40, 20 and 10 meters. Not my best score but respectable considering I was not BIC (butt in chair) for the entire duration of the contest. Sweeps CW I fared a bit better working 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters and capturing 192 QSOs and 69 sections.

Having your BIC for longer than a two hour stretch gets tiring. Worse, for me, trekking off to the Berkshires to be with my Father-in-law on Saturdays and Sunday is football really cuts into the amount of time I can be active on a any given contest. I wouldn't trade either of these two 'tasks' to spend more time in front of the radio, but I always claim "it's a hobby, it's supposed to be fun".



MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - 1984 HIGHLIGHTS

THIS PAST YEAR WAS A GOOD ONE FOR THE CLUB. THE ACTIVITIES THAT WE PARTICIPATED IN WERE VARIED AND ENJOYABLE.

THE SPRING OF '84 BROUGHT US THE ANNUAL MARCH OF DIMES ROAD RACE IN MERIDEN. WE HAD APPROXIMATELY TEN MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE RACE. THIS EFFORT WAS ORGANIZED BY JOHN KAIJFJ WHO WAS ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE RACE.

SUMMER SAW US PARTICIPATE IN THE FIELD DAY ACTIVITY. THIS YEAR WE HAD A SLIGHT PROBLEM IN GETTING ORGANIZED WHICH RESULTED IN A SPLITTING OF OUR RESOURCES. WE HAD THE CLUB STATION OPERATING FROM THE GODEKS' FARM AS USUAL, AND ANOTHER GROUP THAT OPERATED FROM KAIJFJ'S HOME QTH USING THE CALL KT1Y. BOTH OF THE GROUPS DID QUITE WELL GIVEN THE SHORT NOTICE THAT THEY ORGANIZED EACH EFFORT WITHIN THE CLUB STATION USING THE CALL W1NRG PLACED TENTH IN THE 1A CATEGORY AND THE KT1Y OPERATION PLACED TENTH IN THE 1E CATEGORY. CONGRATS TO BOTH OF THE GROUPS AND GOOD LUCK NEXT YEAR.

IN THE FALL WE WERE ACTIVE IN THE BOY SCOUTS JAMBOREE ON THE AIR. WE OPERATED THE CLUB RIG (W1NRG) FROM THE YMCA CAMP WHERE THE BOY SCOUTS HELD THEIR CAMPOUT. A TOTAL OF 17 CONTACTS WERE MADE WITH SOME OF THE BOY SCOUTS GETTING ON THE AIR.

TO CLOSE OUT THE YEAR WE HAD OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ST. MARYS HALL ON WEST MAIN ST. AS USUAL THE FOOD WAS EXCELLENT AND THE TIMES GOOD. ONE OF THE NIGHTS HIGHLIGHTS WAS THE PRESENTATION BY AL NIAP1 OF A TEN-TEN MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE TO JOHN KIVDF. UNKNOWN TO JOHN, AL KEPT TRACK OF JOHN'S TEN-TEN CONTACTS AND SENT IN THE APPLICATION USING THE CALL W1NRG PLACED THERE SAW THE LOOK OF ASTONISHMENT AND SURPRISE ON JOHN'S FACE. ALSO THE PAST OFFICERS OF THE CLUB WERE PRESENTED WITH NICE GIFTS FROM THE CLUB. A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO DAVE K1WJL, JOHN KIVDF, RUBEN KAI1XG, AND MIKE KILHO.

OTHER ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR WERE :

THE CLUB TOOK PART IN THE ARRL DX CONTEST (PHONE AND CW), THE CQ WW DX CONTEST (PHONE AND CW), AND THE TEN-TEN CONTESTS.

A TOUR OF TIMES WIRE IN WALLINGFORD WAS HELD IN OCTOBER. FROM THOSE THAT ATTENDED THE TOUR THE WORD WAS VERY GOOD.

TWO OF OUR CLUB ACTIVITY NIGHTS WERE SPENT VIEWING THE LATEST ARRL MOVIE : SPACE - THE NEW FRONTIER. THIS MOVIE DOCUMENTED THE FLIGHT OF STS-9 AND THE OPERATION OF DR. OWEN GARRIOTT W5LFL FROM SPACE.

WE HAD A NICE TALK BY RALPH N2OK ON THE OPERATION OF ESPN AND THE HOW IT USES MICROWAVE SATELLITE LINKS TO BROADCAST ITS PROGRAMMING.

WE HAD A DEMONSTRATION ON RTTY BY JERRY W1IUF. IT WAS VERY INFORMATIVE.

THE CLUB BOUGHT TWO TABLES AT THE SOUTHWINGTON A.R.A. FLEA MARKET IN JUNE. A FEW OF OUR MEMBERS BROUGHT DOWN ITEMS AND DID QUITE WELL SELLING THEM. WE'LL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT YEAR.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 1985

CLUB PARTICIPATION:
 MARCH OF DIMES ROAD RACE - MARCH
 HARVEST SQUARE FESTIVAL - FALL
 BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE ON THE AIR - FALL
 FIELD DAY - JUNE

OPERATING :

JAN 26/FEB 3	- NOVICE ROUNDUP
FEB 2/3	- 10-10 PHONE CONTEST - PLEASE CREDIT YOUR LOGS TO THE S. N. E. NUTMEG CHAPTER.
FEB 16/17	- ARRL DX CONTEST - CW
MARCH 2/3	- ARRL DX CONTEST - PHONE
MARCH 30/31	- CQ WW WPX CONTEST - PHONE

MISCELLANEOUS :

FEB 16	- S.C.A.R.A. WILL BE HOLDING EXAMINATIONS AT SCSC AT 0900 AM ROOM 109 JENNINGS HALL CONTACT JERRY W1IUF FOR MORE INFORMATION
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The January 1984 club meeting featured an interesting turn of events in the leadership elections. Frank, W1FD, narrowly won the presidency over Al, KT1Y, by a slim margin. However, Frank chose to hand the position over to Al, reflecting a collaborative and supportive dynamic within the club's leadership.

That same meeting also highlighted an engaging guest speaker, Ralph, N2OK, who was the chief engineer overseeing the construction of the ESPN headquarters in Bristol, Connecticut—a project still in progress at the time. Ralph's presentation offered fascinating insights into the cutting-edge technology and engineering challenges behind the iconic sports network's development. Notably, Ralph was so impressed by the club and its members that he later decided to join MARC himself.

Another prominent figure from the club's history is K1TG, Roger (SK), who played a pivotal role outside of MARC as a lead engineer for the new American Stock Exchange. His expertise and accomplishments in the field of engineering further underscored the diverse and skilled talent present within the club's membership during that era.

THE MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAS A LONG, VAST, AND GROWING HISTORY. EACH MONTH A HISTORIC ARTICLE FROM OUR KEY KLIX ARCHIVE WILL BE FEATURED.

ORIGINAL EDITOR OF THIS EDITION - GARY KB1IZ
 SELECTION OF THIS MONTH'S LEGACY BY DAVE K1WJL

DEAR MARC MEMBERS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Last month I sent a message to MARC members and their family and friends, wishing them a happy and joyous Thanksgiving. I now extend this message to include the entire Holiday season that comes at the end of the year and encompasses individuals of all faiths and beliefs. I will combine this message with a variation of President George Washington's Farewell Address to the Nation when he left office in 1796. Although Mt. Rushmore is fully booked-up, perhaps I can squeeze some thoughts into Key Klix.

This is the time of year to look back and be thankful for all the things that have happened in 2024. Alas, being only human, this year we have lost several valued and beloved members who have become SKs. They will be missed and we will remember them in our hearts and prayers, as life inexorably moves on. We remain grateful for the times we spent together with them.

We also have much to be grateful for. Our club is robust, our membership burgeoning, our public image admired, and our club's enthusiasm has not been higher in the 8 years I have been a member of MARC. We are coming off an extremely successful and well received Nutmeg Hamfest. We have an active menu of 30 radio-activities that continue to grow in popularity and enthusiasm. We have a very robust program on Saturday mornings at the OEM, which often requires use of overflow parking at Moran Middle School. We have new members funneling in from VE sessions, FCC license classes 2 and from the popularity of our OnAir Nets. As WARG, our relationship with the Town of Wallingford is solid, growing, and extremely beneficial to both groups.

As 2025 begins we welcome a new slate of officers. With that change will likely come a different approach to club management - one that the Club has voted for. I look back on the six years I have been President with pride and with a strong feeling of accomplishment. However, there still is much more to do as our interests and our influence in amateur radio continues to grow. This will be left to the new incoming President Ray KC1QLS, and the other officers. We have a new Editor of Key Klix and a vibrant Outreach/Communications Committee. Much is changing -while still remaining the same.

Although Washington's advice to the Nation in 1796 is not fully applicable to MARC/WARG in 2025, some aspects, oddly enough are still relevant. While his concerns over regionalism, partisanship and foreign influence are not exactly our biggest problems here on 143 Hope Hill Road, as a club, we should remember the need to walk what I see as a fine line. We must be aware of issues that can spring-up and if not recognized and addressed quickly, could cause destructive splits in the club's membership.

Concentrating too much on growing can lead to MARC becoming too big and too impersonal. As we grow, we need to ensure we maintain a sense of small local-club camaraderie, caring for and about each other. Conversely, if all we do is turn inward and focus only on "having fun" and ignore the bigger and other-directed demands needed to keep amateur radio alive and viable, in the long run we risk damaging MARC and the possibly the hobby -at least in CT. We may coast for a while, but eventually, we will shrink and lose what we have built. I believe it is up to each President to recognize the need to balance these two forces - INNER DIRECTED -- fostering fun and hobbyrelated member happiness, with non-fun OUTER DIRECTED efforts aimed at supporting other clubs in CT that are having trouble remaining viable. I believe we must support the ARRL and its efforts at keeping our beloved hobby alive and relevant. That IMHO, is the key to MARC's survival - balance. Like it or not, we have grown in size and influence - we cannot un-ring the bell, but we can make good radio-music if we are smart enough to use our resources wisely. In the words of the Spidey's Uncle Ben, "With great power comes great responsibility".

I am sure the club will benefit from KC1QLS Ray's vision. With his officers behind him MARC will continue to grow and promote club member activities while maintaining our currently recognized leadership position. There is more to running MARC in 2025 than POTA, Fox Hunts, and Contesting, as the new President will likely become aware. Ray KC1QLS has my full support and as asked, I will help him succeed in any way I can.

It has been a privilege and an honor for me to have been MARC/WARG President for the past six years. I plan to remain active in those areas that I have been involved with: SKYWARN, Coffee Cup Net, and Marconi Project. I am deeply grateful to the officers and advisors I have worked with over these 6 years. Their advice and counsel has been 4 invaluable to me. Being your President has been a joy for me - every day. I also thank all of you, the membership, for your support. In retrospect, I also am grateful for the criticisms and concerns you raised. Likely at times, I did not listen closely enough - for that I apologize.

I wish you and your families, at this time and throughout the coming year, peace, happiness, good fortune, safety, and health. Please take time to remember how important all of our families, friends and fellow club members are to us and to MARC. Let us continue to support the Meriden Amateur Radio Club/Wallingford Amateur Radio Group, each other, our Town, State, and our Country. Thank you again for all of your support and have a Healthy and Happy New Year.

As we close out another year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your support, friendship, and the spirit that makes MARC so special. I am deeply honored to have been recognized as Ham of the Year—a distinction that truly humbles me. Thank you for this incredible acknowledgment, to which I would like to dedicate to Bobcat KB1FYL/sk a MARC member who helped inspire my path in ham radio that I now get to share with you.

Let's carry forward the values that make us strong— kindness, respect, and a willingness to lend a helping hand; traits that Bobcat exemplified. Whether on the airwaves or around the table at our meetings, let's continue to build the bonds that connect us and bring out the best in each other.



Bobcat KB1FYL, 2022

Winter may be cold, but let's keep our hearts warm and jolly as we move into the new year. It is a true pleasure to be part of MARC, where we share knowledge, skills, and passion for amateur radio. Together, we learn, grow, and support one another, and that's what makes our club not just another group, but an strong organization that does great things.

Here's to a bright and prosperous 2025 filled with new adventures, shared successes, and plenty of on-air fun. Stay warm, stay kind, stay curious, and

Keep Creating 1 New Quality Experience

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PARTICIPATING IS THE KEY TO HARMONY: AN OVERVIEW OF THE CLUB NETS

BY MIKE, KC1MJZ

I wanted to write this column to inform newer members, and to remind our more storied members, of all six weekly club nets. So I asked each Net Control in the club to briefly describe the history and flavor of their nets. If you like what you read here about a net, I would encourage the reader to check in and participate.

The most well attended net each week is the Saturday morning Coffee Cup net run by Ed, W1YSM, "The Coffee Cup Net has been OnAir Saturday mornings at 0900 ET, consecutively for about 240 weeks. The Coffee Cup Net was named by K1RCT Rob; W1YSM Ed, offered to be first NCS. An active Net, we average between 17 to 21 check-ins weekly; we have had as many as 33 check-ins some Saturdays. The Coffee Cup Net is basically a general discussion Net and provides an opportunity for people to bring-up issues and talk with other hams including those they may not see very often. There is no special theme. Since inception, we probably have gained a 20-30 new MARC members who have joined after listening to the Net and deciding that this was a club for them. Two members who have stepped-in when I have been unable to be net control are John K1VDF and Jim N1ZN. The Net is welcoming to all hams, members, and nonmembers. Please join us Saturday mornings—and check-in."



When I asked him, W1YSM said this about the Skywarn net on Monday nights, "SKYWARN is part of the ARRL's Shared Services Program with the National Weather Service (NWS). Both are signatories to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organizations. The SKYWARN Amateur Radio Net is OnAir weekly on the W1NRG repeater. SKYWARN weather data for New Haven and Middlesex Counties collected on the Net via amateur radio, are reported to the NWS office in Upton, NY. When there's no active weather, it is considered a Weather Net. As such check-ins provide basic weather data such as temperature, sky cover, wind speed and direction, precipitation, and barometric pressure. During a serious weather event, the emergency SKYWARN Net is activated and in addition to the above data, weather-related damage such as floods, snowfall levels, ice accumulations, road closures, power outages, down trees etc., are reported to the Net and then sent to the NWS at Upton. Ed W1YSM is SKYWARN EC (Emergency Coordinator) for New Haven and Middlesex Counties, and, Bill WB1DQT is the current AEC (Assistant Emergency Coordinator). The Weather/SKYWARN Net logs from 5 to 8 check-ins a week with as many as 20 check-ins, during a major snowstorm. Other Ham NCS operators on different repeaters provide SKYWARN data for the other 6 CT Counties. You need not have expensive specialized meteorological weather devices to participate in the Net. Please check-in and join us on Monday evenings at 1900 ET."



N1ZN Jim has a style as net control that fosters a well directed net. I think this net's familiarity comes from his consistency and punctuality each week. The 6m net is Monday nights at 8pm on 50.175mhz. "I started the net on my own on 10/16/06 after trying a slow speed CW net that gradually petered out. The first net had six check-ins, all club members. (Looking back at the log I see that four of the original check-ins are now silent keys.) The net quickly grew adding check-ins from all over the state and even Massachusetts. We now have a nice mix of club members and non-members. The net is held every Monday, holidays included. I am usually net control. Al, N1API, is my backup should I not be available which is rare. Some of the early check-ins no longer check in but we now have a core group of 6 to 8 with some nights as many as 12 or more. Those checking in are using a variety of antennas and I seem to be able to hear everyone. It's been fun and hopefully more club members will check in. Most new radios include 6 meters and the 6 meter band is open to even Technician class."

Tuesday also sees two club nets occur. The 2m MARC net at 7pm has traditions that have been passed down by club members who regularly check in. It is a friendly net which allowed me the chance to learn about the interests of other club members. It felt inviting to me as a new club member. Here is what Shawn KC1NQE said about the 2M MARC Net: "I'm Shawn, KC1NQE, and I serve as Net Control for the Tuesday Night net on the MARC repeater at 7 p.m. each week. I took on this role in 2021 after our good friend Bobcat, KB1FYL, went silent key, continuing the legacy started by Todd, K1TDO, who ran the net for years. As a directed net, I guide each session, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to check in, share updates, and enjoy the friendship, fellowship and stories of the week that brings us together. Our net has grown, now averaging double-digit check-ins each week, reflecting the strength of our community. Assisting me is Mike, KC1MJZ, who serves as the alternate Net Control and helps maintain the smooth flow of each session. Together, we carry on a tradition from Todd and Bobcat: creating a weekly ham radio trivia question to engage everyone and add a bit of fun. Being Net Control is a rewarding role that allows me to connect with others who share a love for ham radio and community. Every Tuesday night, I'm grateful to help keep this tradition going, fostering a space where we can share knowledge, stories, and support. It's a privilege to be part of something that brings us together each week, strengthening our bonds and growing our shared passion for amateur radio."

The 8pm Tuesday night 10m MARC & Castle Craig net has the familiarity of tradition mixed with the spontaneity that DX can bring on HF. John WA1JKR brings the familiarity of the other club nets to our Castle Craig chapter of 10-10. Every once in a while this net gets a check-in from another country, geographic region or state.

MARC NET CONTROL

WA1JKR would like you to know: "The Meriden Amateur Radio Club and the 10-10 Castle Craig Chapter HF nets are a weekly gathering for ham radio operators. It is open to any technician and above license class ham. You don't have to be a MARC member to check in. We have had check-ins from Texas and other states. The net control station is usually John, WA1JKR in Southington. However, anyone who wants to learn and practice being the net control station, can let me know. Held every Tuesday at 8pm on 28.375 MHz, this net offers a great opportunity for all hams to connect, share information, and enjoy friendly conversation. The 10-10 international net promotes activity on the 10 meter band. Al, N1API is the net manager and has more info if you are interested in joining 10-10. Of all the different MARC nets run each week, I believe the MARC 10 meter net is the most important and useful net. This HF net does not use a repeater like most of the other MARC nets require. VHF/UHF stations do not have the range required to communicate long distances. Your 3.5-30 Mhz HF station has a large advantage over VHF/UHF during a widespread extended emergency. 3.5-30 Mhz HF stations and antennas are more complex to set up and maintain. Therefore, checking in every week ensures that your station is operating properly. At the end of each net, Mike KC1MJZ in Forestville, gives each station a signal and audio quality report. The MARC 10 meter net is the oldest operating net in the club, starting almost 70 years ago. Al, N1API, Rich WA1TRY, John, K1VDF and Dave, K1WJL might have more info about the MARC 10M net history. So make a note to check in next Tuesday and see how well your station is getting out! John, WA1JKR".



The 7pm Wednesday Just Push the Button Net is a friendly mentoring environment. JPBNet is an on-ramp to further club activities and a place for new club members to familiarize themselves with how directed nets are run. Here is what JPB's founder and regular net control, Steve, KC1QWH had to say "There are many reasons why a new ham may not be so quick to pick up the mic and start talking. It could be the fear of talking when you're not supposed to, not saying things the right way, or maybe even not knowing what to talk about. The Just Push the Button (JPB) Net was designed to alleviate any fear that a new amateur radio operator may have about using their radio. This net is for New Hams who are looking to get past the mic fright and jump right into talking. The net also has senior hams on who Elmer new hams. JPB is also a place for hams who have never served as Net Control to get a chance to be a NC operator with a seasoned net control operator on the air with them ready to take over or assist should the new NC need them. New ham or not so new ham, please join us every Wednesday at 1900 on the W1NRG repeater for the Just Push the Button Net. Questions, or Net control requests may be directed to KC1QWH (Steve) via email at KC1QWH@gmail.com" I hope to hear some more of you on that net. It is also a great place to learn how to be an Elmer.

If you want to see what it's like being net control, there is a perfect opportunity. Wednesday's Just Push the Button Net is a training ground, not only for new hams but for new net controls as well. There are regular check-ins on that net who have done NCS duties before and are willing to support those who want to try their hand at learning how to do it. Email the JPB net control, Steve KC1QWH: kc1qwh@gmail.com or me KC1MJZ: michael.berube@yahoo.com and we will get you set up with a scheduled attempt and will put you in contact with people who can support your effort. I look forward to meeting you on a club net further down the log.

Checking into a net for the first time can be a memorable experience. I dove in headfirst and what I have found is that serving as net control has been a great way for me to give back to the club. I believe the club nets are where the rubber hits the road on the air, so to speak. The club repeater is a means for members to participate remotely. It is crucial to the vitality of our club and I want to thank Rob K1RCT and the rest of the repeater committee for doing a fine job upgrading and maintaining it.

EACH NCS MENTIONED IN THIS ARTICLE HAS HIS OWN STYLE AND EACH REPRESENTS A SET OF DIFFERING INTERESTS WITHIN THE CLUB. I WANT TO THANK EACH OF THEM FOR TEACHING ME SOMETHING ABOUT GOOD OPERATING PRACTICE WHILE RUNNING A NET. OUR RADIO CLUB IS FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH GOOD ROLE MODELS IN ITS MEMBERSHIP.

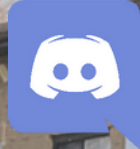
W1NRG MEMBERS

AA1EM	Kas	KC1DOY	Ted	KC1TSZ	Deb	N1YLN	Edward	WA1MAC	PAUL
AB1DQ	James	KC1HF0	Johannis	KC1TTP	Jeff	N1YLO	Andrew	WA1RAB	BOB
AB1HB	Charlie	KC1HQX	Preston	KC1TWA	William	N1ZN	Jim	WA1SFH	DOUGLAS
AB2T	Jordan	KC1IIK	Scott	KC1TYO	Ken	N2TAG	Dave	WA1TRY	RICH
AC1SK	George	KC1ISI	Kristin	KC1UJP	Jason	N7VGA	Dennis	WA1WDN	BOB
AF1X	James	KC1KQH	John	KC1UJQ	Mark	NA1L	Dale	WA1ZVY	JIM
K00Z	Brian	KC1MJZ	Michael	KC1UJT	Michael	NA2AA	David	WB1DMK	WILLIAM
K1BTR	Bryan	KC1NQE	Shawn	KC1VCU	John	NN1DX	Robert	WB1DQT	BILL
K1DMS	Dave	KC1NRD	John	KC1VJS	Anthony	NR1B	Bill	WB1GFI	STAN
K1JCF	Joe	KC1NUX	Steven	KC1VQY	Micheal	NT1S	Tyler	WB1GYZ	BOB
K1LHO	Mike	KC1OCF	Karl	KC1VRG	Robert	NZ1J	Dave	WB8IMY	STEVE
K1LYP	John	KC1OCS	Richard	KC1VRL	Andrew	UT3UY	Anatoly	WJ1B	HAROLD
K1MAL	Chris	KC1OGL	Paul	KC1VUM	Matthew	W1AJK	Andrew	WV2LKM	STEVE
K1MMK	Michael	KC1OWD	Kevin	KC1VVI	Trish	W1BJG	Judy	WX1W	MARY
K1NEG	Nelson	KC1OYN	Rick	KC1VVC	Joel	W1BRY	Donald	WY1U	TIM
K1PET	Debbie	KC1OYR	Brent	KC2MLH	Adam	W1DQ	John		John B.
K1RCT	Rob	KC1OYS	Jim	KC3UKG	Storm	W1EDX	Paul		Michael C.
K1SCI	Stuart	KC1PBQ	Randy	KD0BMW	Marty	W1IKW	Iain		Bill F.
K1SMD	Silas	KC1PEN	David	KE1AU	Bob	W1LV	Steve		Lucas M.
K1STM	Anne	KC1PXX	Dave	KE1AV	Dave	W1NDT	Robert		Spencer R.
K1TDO	Todd	KC1PYT	Jeff	KE2ECC	Phillip	W1PRK	James		Michael R.
K1TGX	Jerry	KC1QHO	Mike	KF6LU	Andrew	W1RCI	Ron		
K1UD	Butch	KC1QLS	Ray	KK7NLS	John	W1RWW	Bob		
K1VDF	John	KC1QWH	Steve	KO1J	Randy	W1TK	Ron		
K1WJL	Dave	KC1RBY	Sergio	KO4EEL	Tom	W1UFO	Mike		
K1XJ	Kevin	KC1RLQ	Eric	KR1U	Bob	W1UKX	Greg		
K2RPM	Bruce	KC1SA	Stephen	KS1WK	Seth	W1YSM	Ed		
K4AVM	Andrew	KC1SDA	Richard	KX1USA	Rob	W2OFR	Mark		
K5ATA	Steve	KC1SEN	Nicholas	N0HIO	David	W2TT	Ross		
K5CYN	Cyndi	KC1SLV	Joshua	N1AKN	Jeff	W3APC	James		
KA1BED	Bill	KC1STF	Julian	N1API	Al	WA1BAR	Michael		
KA1BMF	Constantino	KC1SYU	Jim	N1BRI	Brian	WA1CCQ	Norman		
KA1JTG	James	KC1TAD	Tom	N1FNE	Rod	WA1CJA	Matt		
KA1YZC	Paul	KC1TCO	Dee	N1GNV	John	WA1EXA	Mark		
KB1APO	Jim	KC1TEV	Mark	N1GY	Geoff	WA1FFT	Ray		
KB1CXK	Joseph	KC1THU	Mike	N1HCA	Susan	WA1INC	Roland		
KB1EHE	Eric	KC1TKH	Bill	N1IBE	Wade	WA1JKR	John		
KB1FEX	Ken	KC1TKY	Bob	N1JEO	Joel	WA1K	Jack		
KB1FGC	Cyndi	KC1TKZ	Mark	N1JMX	Jeff				
KB1HAX	Bill	KC1TOV	David	N1JRC	John				
KB1IFZ	Elsie	KC1TPN	Rick	N1LES	Joe				
KB1JL	Eric	KC1TSG	Jim	N1MOB	Dan				
KB1LWS	Jeanne	KC1TSK	Richard	N1NGV	Kevin				
KB1MFU	John	KC1TSL	Charlie	N1NIS	Noah				
KB1RLF	Steve	KC1TSM	Ellen	N1OKF	Bob				
KB1TBL	Dave	KC1TSN	Chuck	N1OKR	Frank				
KB1TGS	David	KC1TSP	Dale	N1OQC	Mike				
KB1TMC	Clare	KC1TST	Mike	N1PQQ	Greg				
KB1TTV	Jonathan	KC1TSW	Charles	N1QYB	Bill				
KB1YFJ	Glenn	KC1TSX	Mike	N1WCL	David				
KC1BQP	Paul	KC1TSY	Daniel	N1XXU	Andy				
KC1CAB	Frank								

WELCOMING THIS MONTH

KC1VRG	ROBERT
KC1VRL	ANDREW
KC1VVI	TRISH
W2OFR	MARK
N1QYB	BILL
KC1VUM	MATTHEW

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



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