

Key Klix August 2025

The Monthly Q-S-T de the

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB & WALLINGFORD AMATEUR RADIO GROUP

"It's the Radio News that's fun to use"



**Is Fox Hunting for the Birds?
Find out on Page 13!**

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Your 2025 Club Officers are:

President	KC1QLS	Ray Cirmo
Vice President	NZ1J	Dave Tipping
Treasurer	KC1OYN	Rick Becker
SAM	K1RCT	Rob Cichon
Secretary	AB1DQ	Jimmy Surprenant





THE PRESIDENT'S POST

by Ray, KC1QLS

We spend lots of time talking about radios and antennas, but what about what connects them? The feedline, usually coaxial cable for many of us, is the vital pathway carrying our precious RF signals. Choosing the right type, using appropriate connectors, installing it correctly, and understanding its limitations can significantly impact your station's performance. Another alternative for your feedline is ladder-line, but I will leave that for another article.

There are many types of Coaxial Cable (Coax). Coax consists of a center conductor surrounded by an insulating dielectric, covered by a braided or foil shield (or both), and protected by an outer jacket. The distance and materials used determine its impedance (typically 50 ohms for amateur radio) and loss characteristics.

RG-58 is thin, flexible, and inexpensive. It has relatively high signal loss, especially at VHF/UHF frequencies or in long runs. It is best suited for short patch cables, mobile VHF/UHF runs, or temporary HF setups.

RG-8X is a step up from RG-58. It is slightly thicker than RG-58, still quite flexible, and offers lower loss. It is a good compromise for many HF stations or medium-length VHF runs where flexibility is needed.

RG-213 / U is a common standard for HF and VHF base stations. It is thicker, less flexible than RG-8X, but offers lower loss and better power handling. A reliable choice for permanent installations.

LMR-400 and similar loss-type cables offer significantly lower loss than RG-213, making them excellent choices for long runs, especially at VHF, UHF, and beyond. They tend to be stiffer and more expensive but preserve more signal strength. Direct burial versions are available for underground runs.

Hardline offers the ultimate in low loss, especially at microwave frequencies; hardline (with solid shields) is used. It is expensive, very stiff, and requires special connectors and handling - typically reserved for serious tower installations.

As important as the cable you chose are the connectors you use. The connector terminates the coax and allows it to attach to your radio and antenna. Your choice usually depends on what your equipment provides.

UHF Connector (PL-259 male / SO-239 female) - Despite the name "UHF" this connector is most common on HF and some VHF gear. It's relatively easy to install (but requires care), it isn't truly 50 ohms, and it offers poor weather resistance unless sealed.

N-Type Connector - Superior performance, especially above 300 MHz. These connectors provide a more constant 50-ohm impedance and better inherent weather resistance (but still should be sealed outdoors). They are becoming increasingly common on quality VHF/UHF equipment and antennas.

BNC Connector - This is a bayonet-style connector offering quick connection and disconnection. It is common on test equipment, handheld radios, and some QRP gear.

Generally good impedance match but lower power handling than UHF or N-types. SMA, etc. - Other connector types exist, often found on handhelds (SMA) or specific equipment.

Once you have picked your cable and connectors, remember that installation matters.

Whether soldering or crimping, follow instructions carefully! Ensure proper stripping lengths, avoid stray shield wires shorting to the center pin, and create a solid mechanical and electrical connection. Here, as with most everything in life, practice makes perfect.

Don't let the connector bear the weight of the cable. Support vertical runs every few feet. Avoid sharp bends (respect the cable's minimum bend radius), which can deform the dielectric and change impedance. Use gentle curves and drip loops near entry points to direct water away.

Keep coax away from potential noise sources like AC power lines (crossing at 90 degrees is better than running parallel).

While rain is great for the lawn and your flowers, water is your enemy. Water infiltration is a primary cause of feedline failure. Moisture wicks into the braid and dielectric, causing corrosion, increased loss, and impedance changes.

It is critical that you seal all outdoor connections. This includes the antenna feed point, any barrel connectors joining lengths of coax, and where the coax enters the building.

Use quality electrical tape tightly wrapped in overlapping layers over a primary sealant like self-amalgamating (self-fusing) tape. Self-amalgamating tape needs to be stretched significantly as it's applied to bond to itself. Adhesive-lined heat shrink tubing can also provide a robust seal.

Don't lose your signal! All feedlines have some signal loss, measured in decibels (dB) per unit length (e.g., dB per 100 feet).

Loss increases dramatically with frequency. A cable acceptable for HF might be terribly lossy at UHF frequencies. As discussed, cables like LMR-400 have much lower loss than RG-58 at the same frequency and length. The longer the cable run, the greater the total signal loss.

High feedline loss means less transmitter power reaches the antenna, and weaker received signals are attenuated before they even get to your radio. You can find coax loss charts and calculators online to compare different types at various frequencies.

Your feedline is just as important as your radio or antenna. Choosing the appropriate coax for your frequency and run length, installing high-quality connectors correctly, ensuring proper strain relief and routing, and meticulously waterproofing outdoor connections are all crucial steps. Evaluating your feedline system might reveal an easy way to improve your station's overall performance! And of course, the club has many members who are happy to help 'Elmer' in this area; all you need to do is ask.

All of the officers are here to serve as caretakers of the club. When you see one of the club officers, make it a point to reach out and give them your comments and ideas to help focus the direction of the club. Every member has an equal say/vote in what you want the club to be.

As I like to say, this hobby is all about fun, education, camaraderie and public service. This is what it should be - after all, it is a hobby.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday October 12, 2025 - Maloney High School

2025 Nutfest ARRL Connecticut Hamfest

BRING your HT & we will program it for FREE

Symposium topics...

THE ARRL Forum ★ Technician Forum

Women Ham Innovators ★ POTA ★ Winlink

Ham Radio & the Law ★ ARES ★ FT8

CERT & Emcomm ★ MARCONI I, II & III



MARC VE Sessions

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

Exams are now paperless and require obtaining a PIN from www.hamstudy.org/ before the test date.

For more info, contact Jim at N1ZN@arrl.net

Minutes of the July 10 Business Meeting

The following minutes from the July 10, 2025, MARC Business Meeting will be moved for approval at the August 14 Business Meeting.

2025.07.10 MARC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

7:00 - 7:55 PM EDT via Zoom

Submitted by AB1DQ, Jimmy Surprenant, MARC Secretary

Quorum

Club secretary AB1DQ Jimmy confirmed a quorum:

- Membership per July 2025 Roster: 202
- Minimum for Quorum: 20 = 18 members + 2 Officers
- In attendance: 26 = 21 members + 5 Officers

In Attendance:

Officers: KC1QLS, Ray Cirno [President]; NZ1J, Dave Tipping [Vice President]; KC1OYN, Rick Becker [Treasurer]; K1RCT, Rob Cichon [Station Activity Manager]; AB1DQ, Jimmy Surprenant [Secretary]

Members: AA1MH, Robert Hurlbut; AC1TY, Andy Rudczynsk; K1LYP, John Yusza; KB1JL, Eric Olsson; KC1DOY, Ted Renzoni; KC1TSG, Jim Drexler; KC1TSL, Charles Vossbrinck, KC1TSX, Michael J Barile; KC2MLH, Adam Castracane; N1API, Al Kaiser; N1BRL, Bart Toftness; N1GNV, John Bee; N1LES, Joe Murray; N1ZN, Jim Savage; NA1L, Dale Clift; W1BRY, Don Chepurna; W1EDX, Paul J Stasieluk; W1HLP, Scott Martin; WB1GYZ, Bob Biancur; WV2LKM, Steve Waldmann. W3APC, Jim Cook.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. EDT by Club President KC1QLS, Ray.

Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: Jimmy, AB1DQ, moved that the June business meeting minutes previously emailed to the club membership be approved.

SECONDED **DISCUSSION:** None **VOTED:** Approved.

Secretary's Report, by AB1DQ Jimmy

MOTION: Jimmy, AB1DQ, moved that the following applicant for club membership be approved:

<u>Call</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>License Class</u>	<u>Home QTH</u>
AA1MH	Robert Hurlbut	Amateur Extra	Enfield, CT

SECONDED **DISCUSSION:** None **VOTED:** Approved.

Membership Report: The club now has 202 members.

Correspondence: None.

Questions for the Secretary: None

Treasurer's Report by KC10YN, Rick:

Approval of the Treasurer's Report:

MOTION: Rick, KC10YN, moved that the June 2025 Treasurer's Report previously sent by email to the club membership be approved.

SECONDED **DISCUSSION:** None **VOTED:** Approved.

Rick highlighted several items from the Treasurer's Report, including:

- Ray KC1QLS and Jim N1ZN presented the 2025 club scholarship award to Noah Kerelejza at Field Day. Thanks to the Nutmeg Hamfest Alliance Board of Directors for donating the \$1000 award.
- MARC received a \$500 donation from Lloyd Saberski, KC1WFB, on behalf of the Ion Cheshire Half Marathon Road Race. The check was deposited in July and will be included in July's Treasurer Report.
- Lenny Guercia, KC1WEX, the Wallingford official in charge of the OEM, has asked the club to help with cleaning supplies and requested that MARC purchase a specific power mop and supplies, and that the club keep the refill kit supplied monthly. Ray, KC1QLS, has purchased the supplies and has been reimbursed \$106.84 from his monthly allotment.

To fulfill the town's request, Rick, KC10YN, made the following motion:

MOTION: To create a new Recurring Cost of \$600.00 for the purchase of cleaning supplies for the OEM with a sunset date of May 2028, as requested by the Town of Wallingford.

SECONDED **DISCUSSION:** None **MOTION TABLED**

The amount of the motion exceeds the established club limit of \$500, requiring the motion be tabled for one month before being called for a vote. KC10YN intends to move the motion for a vote at the August business meeting.

- The membership previously approved a combined Recurring Cost of up to \$500 for Field Day and LARK at the MARC costs. To date this year, we have reimbursed a combined total of \$380.12 for costs related to these events. Members with additional receipts seeking reimbursement are encouraged to submit them to Treasurer Rick, KC10YN, as soon as possible for prompt payment.
- Thanks to the members who donated cash at Field Day to offset the cost of food and supplies. A total of \$213.00 was donated by members. Having spent \$167.12, \$332.88 remains for LARK at the MARC.

Questions for the Treasurer: None

Station Manager's Report by K1RCT, Rob:

Rob highlighted several items from the Station Activities Manager's Report, which was previously distributed to the membership. Items highlighted included:

- Field Day operations at the OEM
(Dave to provide Field Day details in his report below)
- The MARC activation of 13 Colonies K2D by Rob, KC1RCT, Kristin, KC1ISI, and Mike, K1LH0.
- A recap of weekly on-air net activity.

- Steve, KC1SA & Ruth Allen have embarked on the second leg of their Great American Road Trip and will be operating as W1NRG on 20, 15, and 10 meters. Rob will publish the scheduled times of operations, and members are encouraged to try to work Steve.
- Rob, K1RCT, is researching the replacement of the club's Windows 7 computers.

Questions for the S.A.M.:

- Q: As we are planning on replacing the Windows 7 computers, should a motion be made tonight to authorize the expenditure, as it would need to be tabled for a month before voting, if it exceeds the \$500 cap? [de KB1JL]
- A: Rob thanked Eric for the suggestion and stated he wants to get his head around the total cost first before making a motion. Rob thinks this may occur around September [de K1RCT]
- Q: Can the monitor in the trailer be used for the computer upgrade? [de N1LES]
- A: Rob replied that the monitor may not be compatible, but he will look into it. [de K1RCT]

Standing Committee Reports: None

Old Business

- **Cheshire Road Race Donation**
The Ion Cheshire Half Marathon Road Race donated \$500 to the club in gratitude for our communications support provided at this year's event.
[de KC1QLS]
- **Scholarship Award Presented**
Noah Kerelejza was presented the 2025 MARC scholarship at Field Day. [de KC1QLS]
- **New Rules for the use of the OEM**
Members are reminded to abide by the recently published new rules for the use of the OEM. Members are reminded not to leave personal items behind when leaving the facility. The OEM is no longer a holding place for the club, and we are responsible for cleaning the space after use.
[de KC1QLS]
- **MARC Library**
The books from the club library have been removed from the OEM as directed by Lenny and will be auctioned off at Lark at the MARC. [de KC1QLS]
- **LARK at the MARC, Flea Market & Auction**
Rather than holding an Activity Meeting this month on July 24, we shall instead hold LARK at the MARC, along with an auction and flea market on Saturday, July 26. The officers have put together the following plan:
 - Flea Market: Starting at sunup, there will be a flea market for members to sell ham-related items from the parking lot at the OEM.
 - Auction: Starting at 11:00 AM and continuing until the start of the LARK at the MARC cookout, we will be auctioning off the radio books from the former club library and other surplus items the club owns. Members may also place personal ham-related items they wish to sell up for auction.
 - LARK at the MARC: The club's annual picnic social event, aka LARK at the MARC will start after the auction around 1:00 PM and is anticipated to run for 2 hours. We will be grilling hot dogs and burgers in front of the bays at the OEM. [de NZ1J]

New Business

- **Technician Class:** We are now putting together the syllabus for the Fall 2025 Technician License Class, which will be held on 12 consecutive Tuesday nights at the OEM starting September 19. We are reaching out for volunteers to help teach the class. Email james@ab1dq.com to volunteer if you'd like to join us. [de AB1DQ]
- **Election Committee:** Ellen, KC1TSM, has agreed to head the 2025 Election Committee as she did last year. [de KC1QLS]
- **Children's Holiday Event** Ed, W1YSM, will head up this annual December event. [de KC1QLS]
- **Holiday Get Together,** Ray, KC1QLS, and Dave, NZ1J, are planning this year's event. [de KC1QLS]

Ham Radio Club Activities

Field Day Results & Acknowledgements: Dave, NZ1J, shared the following Field Day news, results, and acknowledgements:

- Thanks to all who participated.
- Our unofficial totals per our submission were:
 - 488 QSOs, including GOTA contacts, nearly 3x last year's total;
 - 21 participants, not including GOTA participants; and,
 - 640 bonus points.
 - Combined, we claimed a total of 2,398 points.
- This was a very good showing with a lot of participants, made possible by the combined effort of seasoned hams, experienced CW operators, and many new members. In the waning hours on Sunday, we had a line of members waiting to get on the air. Our CW ops were piling up the contacts, one per minute, and Scott, W1HLP, a returning ham who had been out of the hobby for a while, helped push the score up on CW.
- We were also well-fed, which goes a long way for mood enhancement. [de NZ1J]

Comments & questions:

- Comment: Field Day was all about the participation; we had people on the air throughout the entire event, right up to 2:00 pm on Sunday [de KC1QLS]
- Comment: Jimmy, AB1DQ, expressed gratitude and congratulations to Dave, NZ1J, for a successful Field Day, noting that Dave has been promoting this as the signature event goal for 2025 since January, and did excellent work coordinating and pulling everything together [de AB1DQ]
- Question: What did we get for bonus points? [de N1API]
- Answer: We earned bonus points in the following categories:
- Operating in a public location.
 - Having an information table.
 - Copying the W1AW FD Bulletin (thanks to N1API)
 - Site visit by an elected official
 - GOTA station
 - Web submission of our dup-sheets and score.
- [de NZ1J]

Question: Why are there no bonus points for initiating Field Day Traffic?
[de N1GNV]

Question: I was told we had earned 200 bonus points for messages. What happened to those points? [de KC10YN]

Answer: We did send an NTS message to the ARRL CT Director, which would have produced 100 bonus points, plus we sent another 10 NTS messages, which at 10 points each would have given us another 100 bonus points. However, the ARRL rules for claiming these points require that hard copies of the messages be attached; however, Jimmy, AB1DQ, misplaced the hard copies of the messages required to be submitted as backup for the points claimed. [de AB1DQ]

Question: We made a big push towards operating FT8 at Field Day this year, any word on how we fared? [de AB1DQ]

Answer: We had 205 CW QSOs and 186 FT8 QSOs, nearly a tie, and only 97 phone QSOs, attributable to the lousy HF band conditions throughout the weekend (except 40 M). [de NZ1J]

Question: Do you have the numbers for the GOTA station? [de K1RCT]

Answer: We had 18 GOTA contacts made by 6 operators. [de NZ1J]

Comment: John Ramadei's cooking was acknowledged and praised.
[de N1GNV]

Washington Rochambeau Trail POTA Activation: When the OEM is closed for MARC use this Saturday, we encourage members to join in a club POTA activation of the Washington Rochambeau Trail, starting at 8:00 am at the Southington Park and Ride. [de NZ1J]

Announcements -

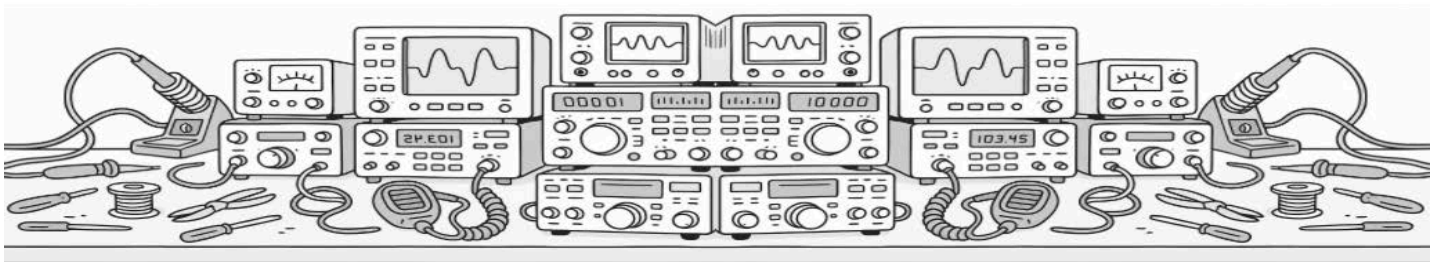
- The 10-10 International Summer SSB QSO Party is coming up on August 2 & 3. [de N1API]
- The Nutmeg Hamfest is on October 12.-[de N1GNV]
- KC1SA, Steve may be able to activate as W1NRG during his road trip crawl [de K1RCT].
- Thank you to John Bee, N1GNV, for authorizing the use of the W1FD call sign for the GOTA station. [de K1RCT]

Adjournment

MOTION: KC1QLS, Ray moved at 7:55 PM EDT that the June 2025 business meeting should now be adjourned.

SECONDED **DISCUSSION:** None **VOTED:** Approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM EDT.





W1NRG *Newsline*



MARC Field Day 2025 by the numbers

by Dave, NZ1J

Here are our final 2025 Field Day numbers as accepted by the ARRL:

Summary:	Entry received at: 2025-07-10 21:13:54	GOTA Station Call:	W1FD
Call Used:	W1NRG	Class:	2F
ARRL/RAC Section:	CT	Club/Group Name:	Meriden ARC
Participants:	21	Power Multiplier:	2X
Power Source(s):	Commercial		

Preliminary Total Score: 2,398

Bonus Points:

Public location:	100
Public information table:	100
W1AW Field Day message:	100
Site visit by invited elected official:	100
Site visit by invited served agency:	100
GOTA Station:	90
Entry submitted via web:	50

Total bonus points 640

Score Summary:	CW	Digital	Phone	Total
Total QSOs	205	186	97	
Total Points	410	372	97	879

Claimed Score = (QSO points x power mult) = 1,758

Submitted by: David Tipping, NZ1J

davidtip100@gmail.com

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

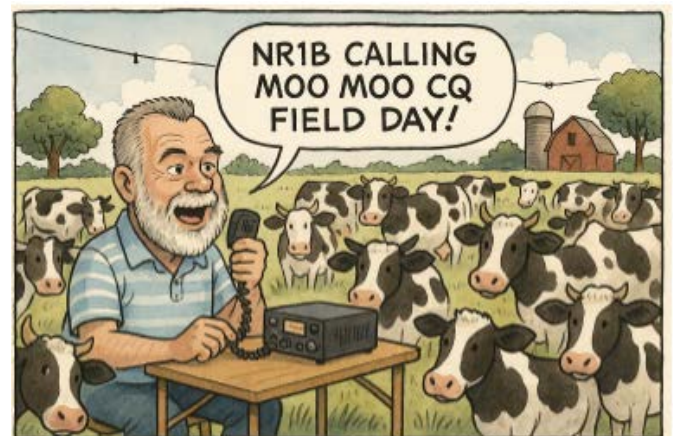
	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
80m	2	100	29	50	3	100
40m	145	100	30	50	10	100
20m	33	100	22	50	39	100
15m	25	100	18	50	23	100
10m			1	50		
6m			86	50		
2m					4	5
GOTA					18	50
TOTAL	205		186		97	

GOTA Bonus: No GOTA Coach

Name/Call	QSOs	Bonus	Point
Reed Hastings, KC1NHE	6		30
Todd Olsen, K1TDO	1		5
Susan South, N1HCA	3		15
Steve Rygiel, KC1QWH	2		10
Colin Cogle, W1DNS	4		20
Paul St Amand, KC1BQP	2		10



MARC member Spencer Rygiel at the GOTA Station



Whilst Bill did keep company with the cows on Field Day there is no truth to the rumor that he used the phonetic

"NOBLE - RUMINANT - ONE - BOVINE"

Activating the Washington-Rochambeau Trail

A very special MARC Saturday POTA Event



About the Washington - Rochambeau Revolutionary Route

Covering 120 miles of trail, Connecticut's first National Historic Trail memorializes the route traveled by French troops in 1781 and 1782.

In 1781, Washington's troops and their French allies led by Rochambeau embarked on a 600-mile journey through nine states, from Rhode Island to Virginia, in a daring bid to gather French and American forces around Chesapeake Bay and capture the British army under Charles Cornwallis at Yorktown. Connecticut played a critical role in the success of the march, supplying both armies. Much of the planning for the campaigns took place here, where Washington and Rochambeau first stood face to face.



On Saturday, 12 July 2025, a group of MARC POTA activators met at Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail US-4582 in Southington. This was a very well-attended event with 11 club members participating.

The group activated the Marion section of the trail along the Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike (Route 322) at a convenient parking lot that provided a place to set up our equipment.

You can learn more about this historic trail [HERE](#).

Our activation lasted from approximately 8:00 AM to almost 1:00 PM. We worked HF SSB, CW, FT8, as well as VHF/UHF. The sun and heat didn't spoil a fun day doing ham radio in the field.

Members participating were: Al, N1API; Andy AC1TY; Bill NR1B; Dale, NA1L; Dave NZ1J; Don, W1BRY; Jeff, N1AKN; Jim, N1ZN; Joel KC1VVC; Jules, KC1STF; and Ted, KC1DOY

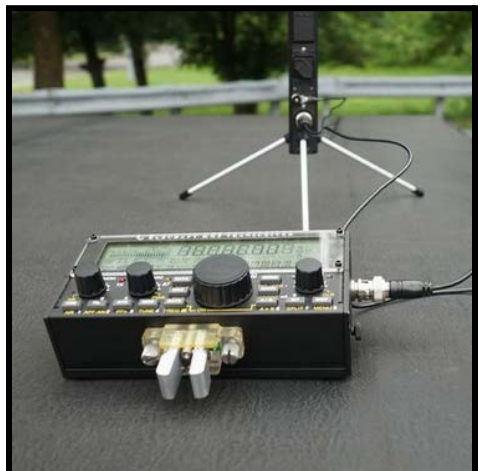
~ reported by Ted, KC1DOY



ABOVE: Jules KC1STF & Dale NA1L at a historical marker on the trail with local man, Karl, who spoke of trees. **RIGHT:** KC1STF at home on the air on "le sentier de Rochambeau."

See page 20 for more **EXCITING** July POTA News!

Photos from the Washington-Rochambeau POTA Activation



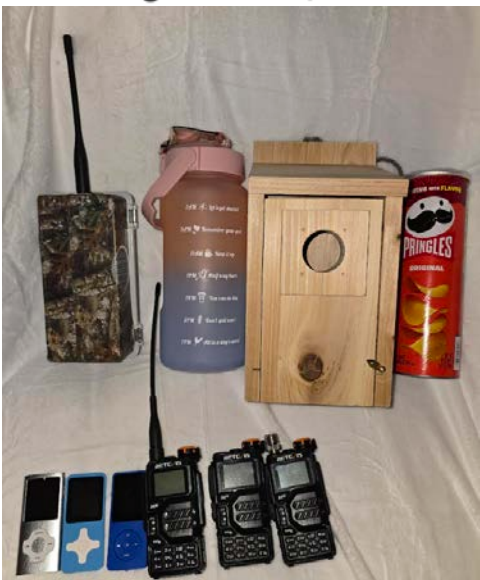
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Dave's ride is a familiar sight at CT parks these days; Jules KC1STF & Joel, KC1VVC; NZ1J & KC1DOY taking a DQ break; the elegant Ellecraft; Bill NR1B & Don W1BRY also partake in cool refreshments at the DQ; Groupie: (Left to Right) W1BRY, AC1TY, KC1DOY, N1AKN, NA1L, NZ1J, NR1B & KC1STF.

Is Fox Hunting for the Birds?



ABOVE: NA1L finds the cleverly camouflaged fox (Photo: Bart, N1BRL)

BELOW: Some of KC1PEN's hides/disguises worn by the transmitters: 3 Retevis RA79/UV-K5 HTs and MP3 audio sources. Sometimes the 1W fox is a UV-5R set to low power, 1-1.25 W without any tuning. (Photo: David, KC1PEN)



On July 20th, members of the MARC Fox Hunting crew were in for a big surprise. David Henry, KC1PEN, cleverly used a birdhouse to disguise the beacon transmitter.

David purchased a pre-constructed birdhouse, which he later plans to stain and 'weather' for future hunts to add to its innocuousness.

Most of David's fox transmitters are modified UV-K5s with a rubber duck antenna and IJV firmware, which allows for output power tuning, aided by a Surecom HT SWR/power meter. They use MP3 players for an audio source, which are acoustically coupled.

This hide was at the Moses Beach school employee parking area, selected for its lack of prior use, high location with clear views, and lack of street visibility by the hunters.

In addition to the fox hidden in the bird house, others were camouflaged as a water bottle and a basic waterproof box with camouflage patterns. One fox was cleverly placed against a metal 55-gallon waste bin to shield the signal from the south partially.

David recommends the UV-K5 with the Egzumer firmware (for the RSSI and s-meter) as a great, cheap radio for a new foxhunter. Thanks to the firmware mod, the S-meter goes over +40 (possibly +50, as he's seen +46 on his own), allowing a user with a relatively high-gain yagi to walk right up to a 1W fox without needing an offset attenuator. So, for about \$40-50, you can get a radio and supplies to build a tape measure yagi antenna!

David is a General class ham, first licensed in 2021 as part of his planning for his honeymoon to the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone. Realizing there was no cell coverage in the parks, and relying on his experience as an Eagle Scout to always 'be prepared,' he got his ham ticket. David has over 20 years of continued involvement in Scouting, and you can find him not only at our Fox Hunts but also on our repeater.

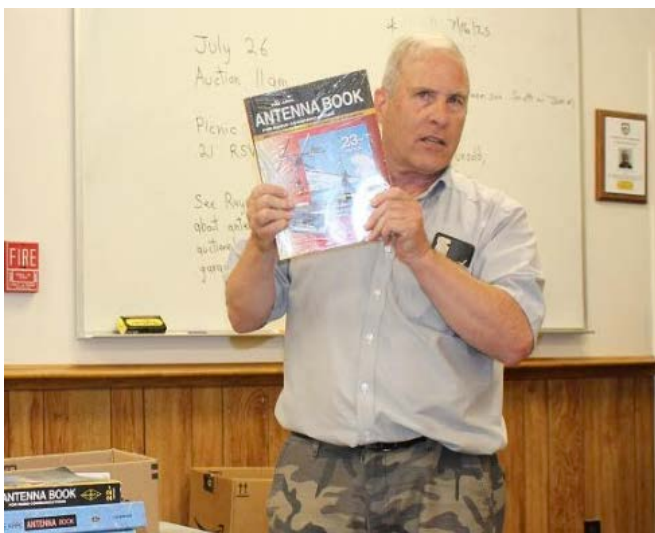
~ reported by Jimmy / AB1DQ

LARK at the MARC *July 26, 2025*



The 2025 Lark at the MARC was a rousing success. The weather couldn't have been better with clear skies and low humidity after the previous night's thunderstorms. The morning kicked off with a flea market offering a variety of ham radio gear, which drew an enthusiastic crowd. Some items were free for the taking, while others were sold after a bit of haggling.

New ham Stephanie Lochowski KC1YBS bought her first HT at the flea market and made her first VHF QSO with John K1LYP. She also came away with a few free ham radio-related books. Congratulations Stephanie!



At 11:00, the flea market ended, and everyone moved inside for the auction. Dave NZ1J presided as auctioneer. Everything from books to radios and meters was available. At times, it was unclear in which direction the bidding was going, but it added to the fun.

Once the auction finished, Ray KC1QLS manned the grill and whipped up a feast of hot dogs and hamburgers. Chips, pickles, potato salad, and macaroni salad were on the table as well as soda and desserts. No one went hungry, that's for sure.



Before leaving, some of the crew pitched in to clean up the kitchen and main room. Everyone is proud of the renovations that the town made to the building and we all want to keep it looking great. 73!

~ Report & Photos by Ted, KC1DOY

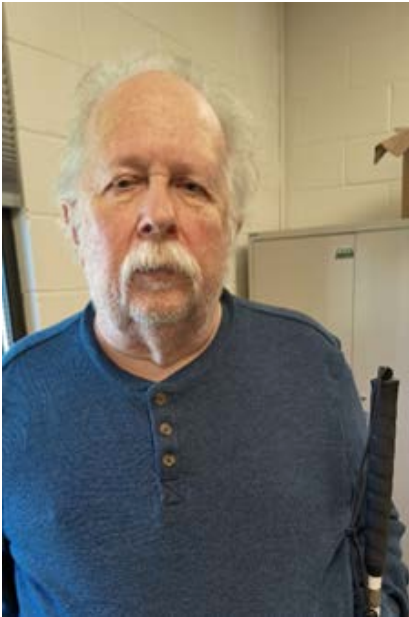
TOP: Stephanie, KC1YBS at the flea market; MIDDLE: Dave NZ1J auctions off MARC surplus books; BOTTOM: Ray, KC1QLS, grilling the weenies & burgers whilst AI, N1API looks on.

More LARK at the MARC photos...

Courtesy: N1API & KC1D0Y



First MARC-sponsored veteran earns ham license



The MARC Program for helping blind and PTSD veterans earn their amateur radio licenses saw its first success on July 19 when Vince Rizzi passed both the Technician and General Class license exams at the MARC VE session.

Vince, KE2GL0, thanks the West Haven VA Recreation Therapist team, especially Recreation Therapist Amanda McQuaid, and Blind Rehab Specialist Shannon De Bortoli, who drove Vince to the VE session at the OEM. All present at the exam session witnessed Vince's joy first-hand.

Vince also expresses his thanks to everyone at MARC who helped make it possible for him to get his amateur radio license. He used the ARRL Technician Study Guide provided by the club along with online practice exams to prepare for his exams. Vince has donated the study guide back to the program, so the mission can continue.

If you would like to donate to the MARC Technician Study Guide fund, please contact Rick Becker, KC10YN, at treasurer@w1nrg.com. Many thanks to all in the club who have contributed to support this program that helped make Vince's ham ticket a reality.

~ Reported by, Ray Irwin WA1FFT



HamX - The Northeast HamXposition

August 21 - 24, 2025

ARRL New England Division Convention

The Northeast's largest gathering of radio amateurs, featuring in-person experts presenting on timely topics, trends and technologies



Thursday Night Comedy Kick-Off  Featuring Comedian Justin McKinney Thursday, August 21, 2025	Friday Night DX/Contest Banquet  Featuring Ned Stearns, AA7A Friday, August 22, 2025	Convention Keynote Address  Featuring Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL Saturday Morning, August 23, 2025	Saturday Grand Banquet Presentation  Featuring Nathaniel A. Frissell, W2NAF Saturday Evening, August 23, 2025
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Over \$14,000 in prizes • Large Outdoor Flea Market • W1XPO GOTA Station

ARRL • ACOM • FlexRadio • Elecraft • Quicksilver Radio • Reliance Antennas • VE2DX Electronics
Gold Medal Ideas • Scanner Master • plus many more!

Talks and Presentations: 2.4 GHz xcvr Build • Kit Building Workshops • MARS • YL Meet & Greet • 3-D Printing • Youth Forum • FEMA Talk • SWR and S-Parameters • Remote Radio
IMD & Clean Signal Initiative • Demystifying Quantum Computing • ARRL Section Meetings • Operating all Bands • Club Forum • Andy's Linux • MESH Update • and more!

August 21 - 24, 2025 • Boston-Marlborough MA • hamx.org

When at **HamX** this month, be sure to support fellow MARC members by attending their sessions!

Ed Snyder W1YSM & Dale Clift, NA1L
MARCONI, a Road Map to Elmering Low Activity..Clubs...
Saturday 10:00 am
Duchess Room E1

Shawn Warren KC1NQE w. N2YCH, K1PCN, and N1BAM
CT POTA Activators Group
Saturday 11:00 AM
Boxboro Room - W5

Eric Knight KB1EHE & Elsie Mathews KB1IFZ
Antarctica, DXpedition of a Lifetime
Saturday 12:00 pm
Salon A - E2

www.hamxposition.org

At the Clubhouse *with Ted, KC1DOY*

Saturdays at MARC are always interesting, and **Saturday, July 5th**, was no exception. Charles KC1TSL brought in his Arduino kit and computer. Dave NZ1J worked with him to try to solve a programming problem. The software download has a training routine to assist the user in learning about Arduino. There appeared to be a problem with the software, so they decided to pick up again at the next meeting.

Arduino is growing in popularity among hams so issues such as this are part of the learning curve. Fortunately, we have several members with experience in this area who can assist.

Reed KC1NHE brought in his uBITX QRP radio. This is a multiband low-power transceiver that fits the bill for POTA, SOTA, etc activations. Add a lightweight battery and an antenna, and you're good to go. Once you get it all set, Reed, let us know how it performs.

Dale NA1L showed us his Elecraft AX3 antenna. The entire thing fits in a small carry bag and works on 10 to 20 meters. A separate coil is available for 40-meter use. A perfect fit for POTA SOTA activations with any radio (it is for low power use) and would probably be a good match for Reed's MuBit radio. Dale, let us know how it performs for you.



LEFT: KC1TSL and NZ1J are debugging Charles' Arduino sketch. RIGHT: NA1L with his Elecraft AX3 antenna.



A HAM RADIO HAIKU

Quiet sun above,
DX dreams drift with the dusk –
noise floor rises slowly



Meet Iain White, W1IKW

Another in a series of fine member profiles by Railroad Bob, WB1GYZ

Meet **Iain White W1IKW**, an immigrant from Ashted, Surrey, England, who arrived in 1998.

His interest in electronics began with his high school physics teacher, but it was a neighbor and amateur radio enthusiast who truly introduced him to the field. Iain is passionate about the technical aspects of ham radio and emergency communications/public safety, recently becoming the emergency management director in Southwick, MA.

In his leisure time, Iain prefers relaxed HF SSB chats rather than participating in frenzied contests. His station equipment includes a Yaesu 8900, a Motorola 1250 for public safety, a Yaesu FT-DX10 for HF, and two dedicated attic antennas for public safety. His gear also includes extensive test equipment for building, troubleshooting, and repairing. Iain is hands-on with both electronics and mechanical challenges and enjoys fixing and rebuilding old cars and machines.

Iain's career began in 1983 when he started programming, working with databases and operating systems for a U.K. insurance company, where he met his future wife, Julie. After relocating to the U.S., he spent three years in San Francisco installing computer systems, with additional work in Dallas, Phoenix, and Chicago. Both Iain and Julie enjoy traveling and have explored much of Europe.

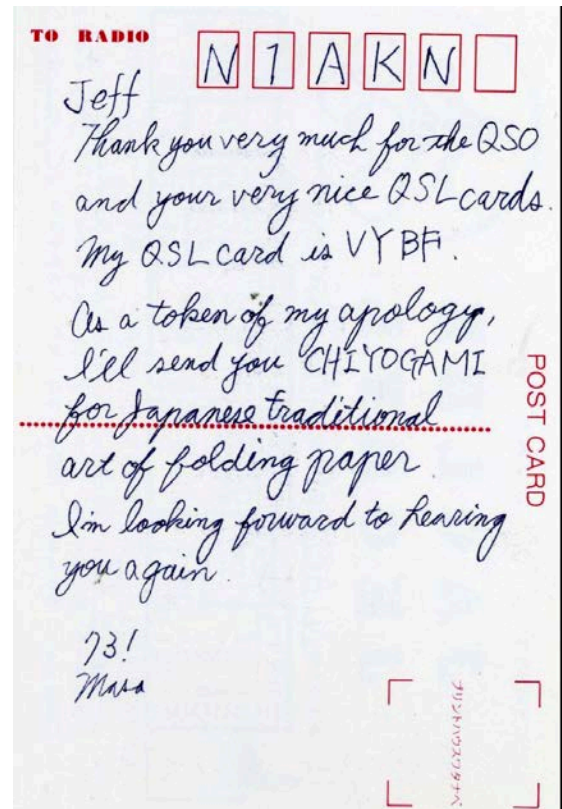
~ article & photo by Bob Biancur, W1GYZ



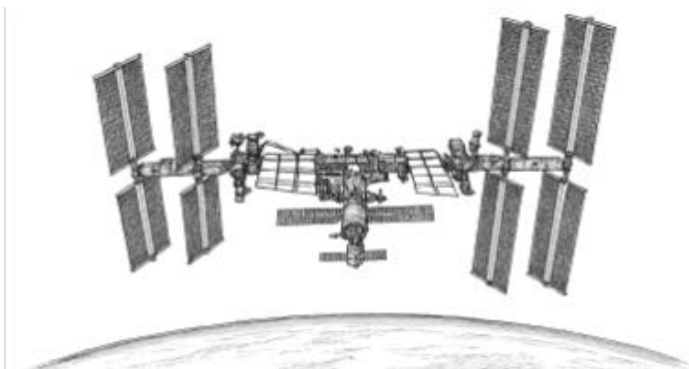
Iain, W1IKW, at the control point of his nicely equipped shack that includes an FT-DX10 for HF work, a Yaesu FT-8900 for VHF/UHF, and a Motorola CDM 1250 for public safety bands.

MARC Radio Active Members

A look back at what our fellow members were up to in July



Jeff, N1AKN, shared in our Facebook group the fine QSL he received from JA0LBE, a ham operator in Japan. Jeff commented that, in his opinion, operators in Japan are some of the best in the world and noted that he made this contact in his car.



Joe, N1LES, reported making contact through the International Space Station from his home QTH using an omni antenna. **Jeff, N1AKN**, shared that he had made 2 QSOs through the ISS while operating mobile, noting "it sounded like a bee's nest."

Frank, KC1CAB, and **Mike, KC1MJ,Z** joined the thread offering means of tracking ISS passes, recommending the iPhone app [ISSDetector](#) and [N2YO.com](#).

Do you operate Satellites? Do you have memorable QSOs working 'the birds' that others might find interesting or advice to share? Drop us a line at keyklix@w1nrg.com to share, and please include photos of your satellite gear too!

POTA July Activations

The club's activation of the Washington-Rochambeau Trail on July 12 was hardly the only MARC POTA activity in July. Our Roving Warthogs, Dave NZ1J and Ted KC1DOY, were back at it on Thursday, 3 July 2025, when they again activated 5 parks in one UTC day. They got an early start at 7:30 AM and reported perfect weather as they set off on their rove, managing to meet their goal of 5 parks in about 4 hours, making 66 contacts.

They activated Millers Pond State Park, Haddam Meadows, Eagle Landing, George Dudley Seymour, and Hurd State Park. Interestingly, G. D. Seymour and Hurd Parks are about each other but are in 2 different towns, with Seymour in Haddam and Hurd in East Hampton.

This was Ted's second Warthog award in as many months, and noted that the real accomplishment was finishing in such a good time. He attributed this to Dave's amazing organizational skills, not only in packing everything needed into a small car but also efficiently setting up and taking down the station at each park.

They discussed the possibility of a 10-park rove for the Rhino award in September when the weather is cooler.

It's no surprise that many club members took the parks last month to activate. Dave NZ1J & Ted KC1DOY led several club activations of US-1728 Wharton Brook State Park each week, inviting club members to join the fun. If you would like to be notified of upcoming activations, drop Dave a line at davidtip100@gmail.com to be put on his POTA mailing list and join the fun.

This month, Jim, N1ZN, has now jumped in with both feet, activating Wharton Brook on July 29 & 31 and making 42 QSOs, while Ted, KC1DOY, has been averaging two activations per week and logged 148 QSOs in July. Scott, W1HLP, newly relicensed, has been out on his own, activating Osbornedale and Southford Falls, making 54 QSOs last month, and Lloyd, KC1WFB, was looking forward to activating northern NY the first weekend in August. Andy, AC1TY, has ramped up very, very quickly. He's newly licensed and made his first POTA activation on July 12. Since that time, he's been at Wharton Brook several times a week.

Bill, NR1B, has been busy activating different parks in July. After joining the club for the Washington-Rochambeau event, he activated another five Connecticut parks over two different days, visiting US-1697 Millers Pond, US-1672 Gillette Castle, US-1670 George Dudley Seymour SP, US-4561, New England National Scenic Trail, and US-1725 Trimountain SP. Operating both CW and phone, Bill logged 75 QSOs at these parks.

~ Report by Dave NZ1J & James AB1DQ

Ted's notes from the club July 29 activation...

The MARC POTA activation of 29 July 2025 was one for the books. We all gathered at Wharton Brook State Park at 8 AM and began setting up. It was a very hot day, but our early start helped us to avoid the worst of the heat. Our group consisted of Dave NZ1J, Ted KC1DOY, Jim KC1TSG, Andy AC1TY, and Jim N1ZN.

Five activators, four transmitters (Dave and Ted at one station), 37 QS0s, and 4 park-to-park contacts. Signals ranged from 59 to 33 in one case, but we made all of them. This was the first time that we've had to say "stand by for four more operators".

I'm not sure if POTA has an award for this, but maybe they should!

~ Ted KC1DOY



TOP: The July 29 crew. left: Jim, KC1TSG; center: Andy, AC1TY; right: Jim N1ZN.
BOTTOM: left: Ted, KC1DOY, and Dave, NZ1J at Wharton Brook; right: a very full log

What is the best antenna?

By Bart Toftness, N1BRL

Volumes have been written on how to build antennas and what the best antenna is for all uses. Everyone's QTH is different with unique limitations unless you just happen to win the POWERBALL Lottery, but that requires buying a ticket. Still, there is a best antenna for each station, and I'm going to let you in on the secret.

My QTH has limitations, starting with no trees and the fact that my XYL considers all antennas unsightly, and we can't make the house ugly. Living on a corner lot makes hiding an antenna difficult if not impossible, so I originally installed an off-center fed dipole on a mast above the house, thinking no one would notice a simple thin wire. Well, the eagle-eyed XYL spotted it immediately on returning home. The antenna survived and I have used it for a few years, but it does have some limitations because it only operates on 6, 10, 20, and 40 meters. It can be coerced into use on 12, 17, and 30 meters with a tuner on some occasions, but efficiency suffers greatly. It works well enough to get WAS and DXCC on several bands, but some goals were still out of reach.



Overcoming my antenna's limitations and finding an alternative has been a nagging issue. Eventually, I decided the better solution was to hide it in plain sight and make it attractive. I announced that I was going to replace my temporary and shabby flagpole with a proper one and make it look nice. (I omitted to part about it also being an antenna).

The plan was to install a 24 ft. flag pole with a remote tuner near the base and hide the 'works' in a flower garden while running the coax underground to the house, voila! The antenna itself would be a vertical off-center fed dipole fed with window line from the tuner. The lower/shorter section would be 4 ft., and the upper longer section would be 20 ft.

The window line runs up inside the lower section, so it's not visible and doesn't detract from the appearance of the flag pole. The remote tuner is capable of providing a good match to the coax on any band and minimizes the feedline losses. The window line is inherently low-loss, so maximum power is delivered to the antenna.

(Continued, next page...)

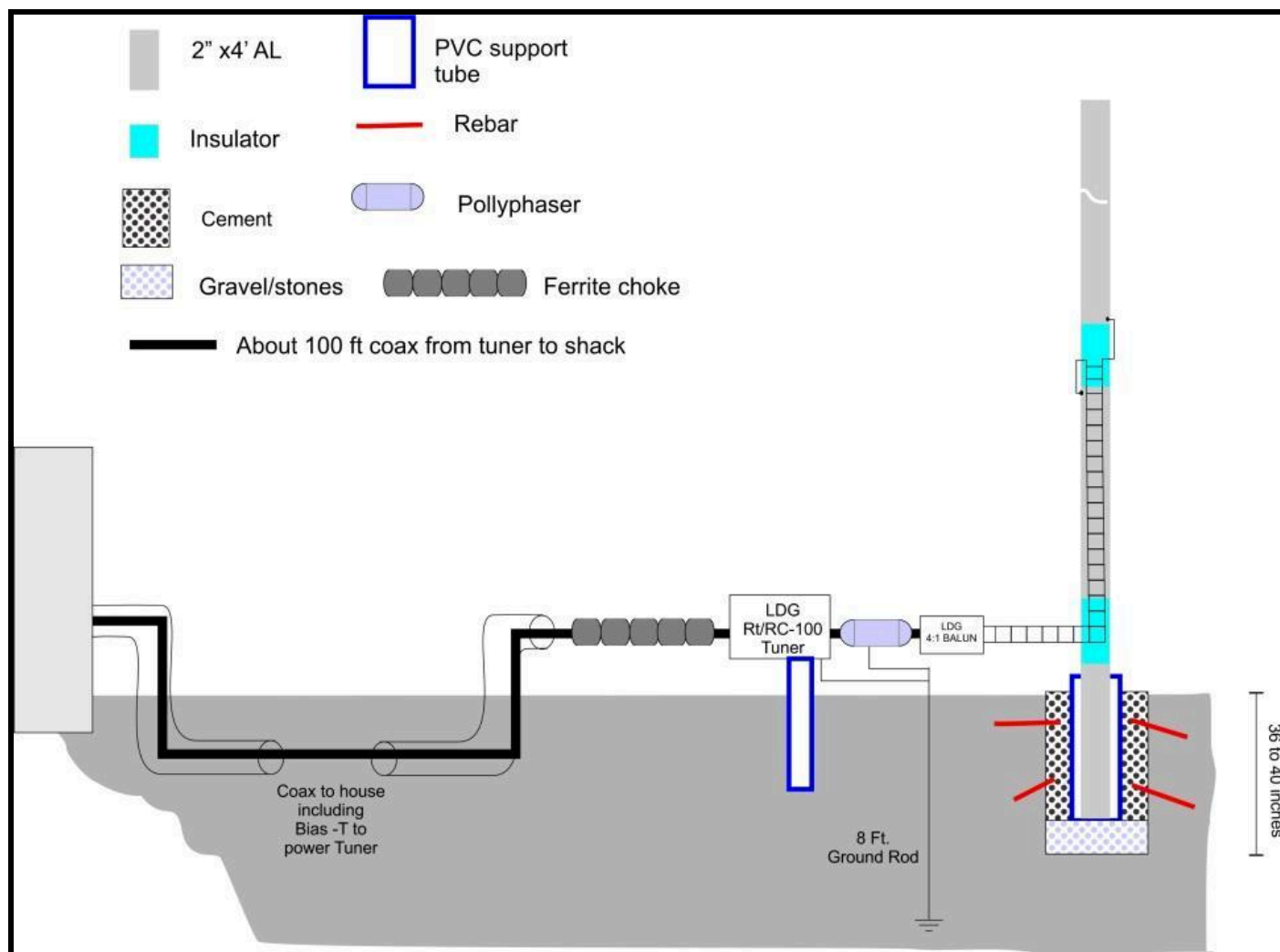


Diagram by Bart Toftness, N1BRL

The gooseneck to the left of the base is where the coax comes from the house. To the right of the antenna is a short PVC mast that mounts the remote tuner with the window line to the base of the flag pole. All of this is only visible in winter and spring before the Zinnias cover them. The flag pole works great, and I have even used it on 160 meters. Yes, it's grossly inefficient on 160 and 80 meters, but I have made contacts. You ask...what about those trees in the background? They belong to my neighbor and are unavailable for antennas. At only 24 ft., it is not the most efficient antenna, but it works and makes contacts. It would work better if it were taller, but 24 ft. was all I could sneak past the resident inspector, whose first comment was It's too tall.

(Continued, next page...)



With the help of this flag pole, I have managed to achieve another goal, the ARRL DXCC Challenge. I currently have 1036 DXCC band-countries and trail behind Harold Kramer, WJ1B, who has 1115. As far as I know, Al Kaiser, N1API, is the club leader with 1817.

At the beginning, I said I would let you in on the secret: what is the best antenna? Without a doubt, hands down, the absolute best antenna is the one you use to get on the air and make contacts.

A compromised antenna that makes contacts provides a great deal more enjoyment than a 'perfect' antenna that doesn't get used or ever installed. Get on the air and grab your slice of the fun.

- de N1BRL / Bart

SCOUTS NEED YOU



Fellow MARC members are helping scouts learn about Radio during Camp Sikorsky on September 20th and they will be getting on the air on HF and through area repeaters (primarily the KB1AEV linked repeater via the Bridgeport node). Expect periodic traffic between 10 am and 3pm. HF is planned to be primarily 20M SSB voice, there will also be periodic VARAC as well. Frequencies will be posted to the club discord and groups.io.

For more information contact
David Henry, KC1PEN
KC1PEN@arrl.net



BECOME A HAM RADIO MERIT BADGE COUNSELOR

Learn more here:

www.arrl.org/merit-badge-counselor

SUMMERTIME and the living is easy...





SKYWARN & MARC - What's the connection?

by Ed Snyder W1YSM & Bill Bacon WB1DQT

*Ed, W1YSM, is the Emergency Coordinator for SKYWARN for New Haven and Middlesex counties, and Bill, WB1DQT, functions as Associate Emergency Coordinator. This month, they launch their recurring SKYWARN feature for **KeyKlix**.*

We host a SKYWARN Net every Monday at 7:00 pm ET on the W1NRG repeater to discuss current weather conditions and other meteorological issues. Whenever a major weather threat, such as a hurricane, tornado, or snowstorm, occurs, a SKYWARN net is activated to deal with the emergency.

Currently, we average about 5 check-ins each week, and we hope this new column might encourage more MARC members to check in to the weekly SKYWARN net. The good news is, you do not need an elaborate weather station at your QTH to participate. Simply looking out the window can provide helpful information.

This column follows a Q&A format. If you have any questions regarding SKYWARN or the net, please write to Ed at W1YSM@arrl.net. If we receive enough questions, we will run future columns. We look forward to hearing from you!

What is SKYWARN?

In most years, thunderstorms, tornadoes, and lightning cause hundreds of injuries and deaths and billions in property and crop damage. To obtain critical weather information, the National Weather Service (NWS) established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with between 350,000 and 400,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service

What do SKYWARN volunteers do?

Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the focus is on reporting on severe local thunderstorms. In an average year, the United States experiences more than 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods, and more than 1,000 tornadoes.

SKYWARN spotters form the nation's first line of defense against severe weather. Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by storm spotters, coupled with data from Doppler radar and improved satellite technology, has enabled NWS to issue timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

Who is eligible, and how do I get started?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service to join the SKYWARN program. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers, and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, and nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others, are encouraged to become a spotter.

Ready to learn more? Use this link to find a class in your area:

<https://www.weather.gov/okx/SkywarnTraining>

Training is free and typically lasts about 2 hours. You will learn:

- Basics of thunderstorm development,
- Fundamentals of storm structure,
- Identifying potential severe weather features,
- Information to report,
- How to report information, and,
- Basic severe weather safety.

What defines the relationship between Amateur Radio and the NWS?

The NWS/ARRL Memorandum of Understanding is the defining document and may be accessed in full at: <https://www.weather.gov/media/skywarn/NWS-ARRL%20MOU.pdf>

Here are the principles of cooperation, as stated in the MOU:

- A. ARRL agrees to encourage its volunteer Field Organization appointees, especially the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, to contact and cooperate with National Weather Service Warning Coordination Meteorologists for the purpose of establishing organized SKYWARN networks with radio amateurs serving as communicators and spotters, consistent with rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.
- B. ARRL further agrees to encourage its Section management teams to provide specialized communications and observation support on an as-needed basis for NWS offices in other weather emergencies such as hurricanes, snow and heavy rainstorms, and other severe weather situations.
- C. The National Weather Service agrees to work with ARRL Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers to establish SKYWARN networks, and/or other weather emergency alert and relief systems. The principal point of contact between the ARRL Section and local NWS offices is the Warning Coordination Meteorologists. Local Warning Coordination Meteorologist contact information is available at: www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.htm. Contact information for ARRL Section volunteer leaders is available at www.arrl.org/sections. The national contact for ARRL is the Emergency Preparedness Manager at ARRL Headquarters, Newington, CT 06111. The national contact for NWS Warning

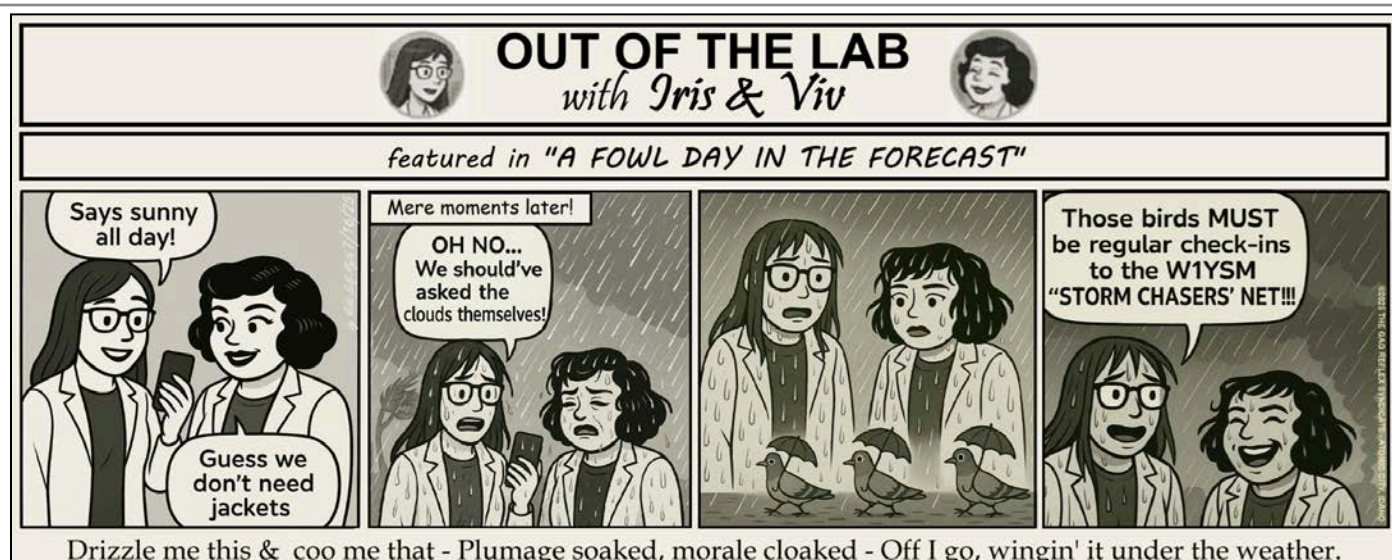
Coordination Meteorologists is the Analyze, Forecast, and Support Office, WCM Program, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

How does MARC/WARG support the NWS SKYWARN program?

There are four ways our club supports SKYWARN:

1. Weekly SKYWARN Weather net to keep in practice
When: Mondays at 7:00 p.m. on the W1NRG repeater
2. Special SKYWARN Weather nets when activated by the NWS office located in Upton, NY, and called by the SKYWARN EC.
The nets will be announced on the W1NRG repeater, and reports collected during the net are promptly forwarded to the Upton office
3. Self-Reporting of significant weather events via:
<https://www.weather.gov/okx/SubmitStormReport>
Important information to provide:
 - > Who is reporting the event?
 - > What event was observed?
 - > Where did the event occur?
 - > When was the event observed?
4. SKYWARN Training
 - a. In-person training has been previously provided, but no classes are currently scheduled for our region.
 - b. Online training may be available, although no classes are currently listed.
 - c. Self-Education: Download and read the NWS's Weather Field Spotter's Guide: [https://www.weather.gov/media/owlie/SGJune6-11\(1\).pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/owlie/SGJune6-11(1).pdf)
A useful NWS online training document is found at:
<https://www.weather.gov/spotterguide/>

Information taken from the NWS website: <https://www.weather.gov/skywarn/>. "SKYWARN" and the SKYWARN logo are registered trademarks of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, used with permission."



Linux and Ham Radio - Part II

Getting started - choosing your distro & installation tips

Second in a series by Jimmy, AB1DQ

In the June [KeyKlix](#) I laid out my reasons for abandoning Windows once and for all, sharing my concerns about push advertising, having my personal information harvested and resold, and my general irritation over Microsoft and Apple's (fake) 'planned obsolescence' strategy of abandoning support for older versions of their OS. The proverbial straw that broke this camel's back was Microsoft's sunsetting of Windows 10 this October 14.

Several YouTube channels demonstrate that modern versions of Linux can run exceptionally well on older hardware as a viable alternative to buying new hardware.

In recent months, I purchased two used "refurbished" laptops online for cheap. One was a Lenovo Yoga Thinkpad, a strippy laptop originally intended for student use for \$80, and a 13" Apple MacBook Air for \$65. I also dug my 2008 iMac, a Xmas gift from KC1TSM, out of the closet, where it had been gathering dust since it no longer could run the current version of Mac OS-X.

Linux is available in many versions, known as distributions, 'distros.' All Linux distros are built on the Linux kernel, but each has its unique qualities in terms of user interface, features, and size. Three of the most popular Linux distributions available today are Linux Mint, Ubuntu, and Fedora.

[Linux Mint](#) is stable, user-friendly, and ideal for Linux beginners. Built on Ubuntu, its key features are the multi-media-ready Cinnamon desktop, and is a good choice for home desktops, casual users, and lightweight systems.

[Ubuntu](#) is renowned for its enterprise-grade reliability, Long-Term Support (LTS) releases, and sizeable support community. It features the GNOME desktop and easy-to-use Snap package support for adding apps and strong cloud/server integration. Ubuntu is popular with developers as well as general users.

[Fedora](#) features cutting-edge tech, Red Hat backing, and frequent updates. It is the choice of developers, testers, and tech enthusiasts.

Other popular distros include [MX Linux](#), [Debian](#), and [Pop! OS](#), all loved for their performance, stability, and customization options.

I initially chose Ubuntu, installing it on the ThinkPad and my iMac. I chose Mint for the MacBook, looking to experience a different environment. I don't have a strong preference yet, but I really enjoy using Mint.

Getting Started - what you must know to begin

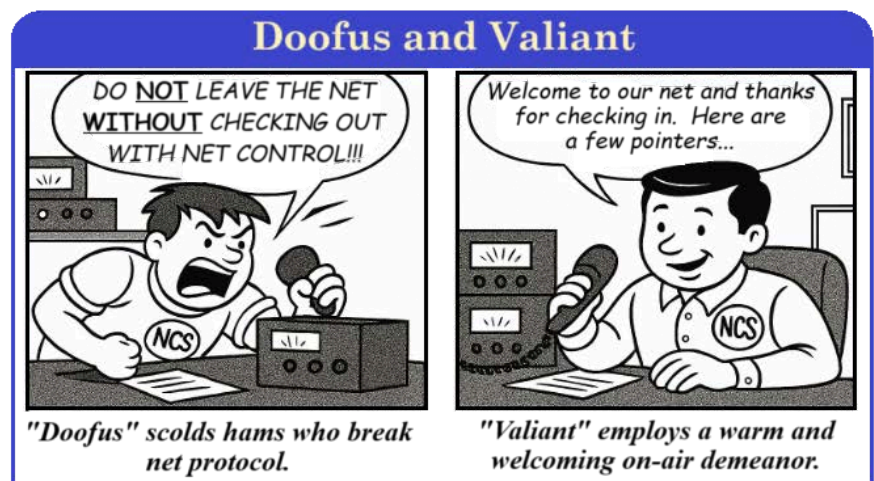
Once you decide which distro you want to try, you start by downloading the ISO image file from the web.

This ISO image is a single file that contains the complete contents of a disk, like a CD, DVD. It's essentially a digital replica of everything on a physical disc, stored in the .iso format. However, you can not simply copy the ISO file to your thumb drive; it must be 'burned' to the USB drive so your computer will recognize it as a bootable device. Software like [Rufus](#), [Etcher](#), or [UNetbootin](#) can be found online with instructions for use to burn the ISO image. I used Etcher - it was simple and worked the first time per the instructions.

Once burned to the thumb drive, you will insert the drive and reboot the computer. You will need to reference your PC's directions for booting from the thumb drive, and most Linux distros will give you the option of loading and running the OS without installing it. This allows you to try it out before formatting and/or partitioning your existing hard drive, a great way to test drive the OS and kick the proverbial tires to see how well it works on your hardware, test drivers, and internet connectivity, and to determine if the user interface is one you like.

Next time, we'll start looking at running some basic ham radio apps on a Linux Box. Stay tuned

~ de Jimmy / AB1DQ



Get On the Air...

SELECTED EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

CONTESTS: Click on hyperlink for more info...

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • ARS Spartan Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, Aug 05 |
| • SKCC Sprint A Thon | 1200Z, Aug 09 to 2359Z, Aug 10 |
| • 4SORP Group Second Sunday Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, Aug 11 |
| • ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest | 0900Z, Aug 16 to 0759Z, Aug 18 |
| • NCJ North American QSO Party, SSB | 1800Z, Aug 16 to 0559Z, Aug 17 |
| • NJORP Skeeter Hunt | 1700Z-2100Z, Aug 17 |
| • Flying Pigs Run for the Bacon | 2300Z, Aug 17 to 0100Z, Aug 18 |
| • SKCC Sprint | 0000Z-0200Z, Aug 27 |
| • WWROF World Wide Digi DX Contest | 1200Z, Aug 30 to 1200Z, Aug 31 |
| • MI ORP Labor Day CW Sprint | 2300Z, Sep 01 to 0300Z, Sep 02 |
| • ARS Spartan Sprint | 0100Z-0300Z, Sep 02 |
| • Wake-Up! ORP Sprint | 0600Z-0800Z, Sep 06 |
| • IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB | 1300Z, Sep 06 to 1259Z, Sep 07 |

STATE QSO PARTIES:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| • Maryland-DC QSO Party | 1400Z, Aug 09 to 0400Z, Aug 10 |
| • Hawaii QSO Party | 0400Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 25 |
| • Ohio QSO Party | 1600Z, Aug 23 to 0400Z, Aug 24 |
| • U.S. Islands QSO Party | 1200Z, Aug 30 to 0300Z, Aug 31 |
| • Colorado QSO Party | 1300Z, Aug 30 to 0400Z, Aug 31 |
| • Kansas QSO Party | 1400Z, Aug 30 to 2000Z, Aug 31 |
| • Tennessee QSO Party | 1700Z, Sep 07 to 0300Z, Sep 08 |

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| • W8AL - Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival | 0400Z, Aug 01 to 0400Z, Aug 04 |
| • KD3KA - KDKA Shortwave Network Centennial | 1200Z-2000Z, Aug 02 |
| • W1C - International Cat Day SE | 0000Z, Aug 07 to 2359Z, Aug 08 |
| • N16IW - US Coast Guard Birthday | 1600Z-2300Z, Aug 09 |
| • K2D - International Dog Day | 0000Z, Aug 20 to 0000Z, Aug 2 |

Hamfests...

- [Northeast HamXposition, ARRL New England Division Convention](#)
08/21/2025 - 08/24/2025 Marlboro, MA

Weekly W1NRG Nets... On the Air all week long!

Sunday:

ELMER NET

SUN 7:30 pm VIA ZOOM

See the MEMBERS AREA of the website for access

Monday:

NEW HAVEN/MIDDLESEX SKYWARN NET

MON 7:00 pm W1NRG/R 147.360+ PL 162.2Hz

6 METER SSB NET

MON 8:00 pm 50.175 MHZ USB

Tuesday:

2 M FM NET

TUE 7:00 pm W1NRG/R 147.360+ PL 162.2Hz

10 M 10-10 CASTLE CRAIG NET

TUE 8:00 pm 28.375 MHZ USB

Wednesday:

JUST PUSH THE BUTTON NET

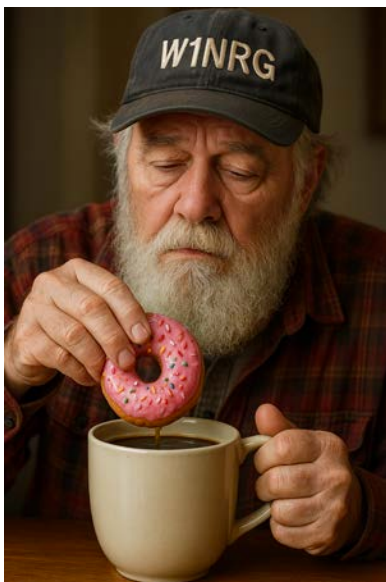
WED 7:00 pm W1NRG/R 147.360+ PL 162.2Hz

Saturday:

COFFEE CUP NET

SAT 9:00 W1NRG/R 147.360+ PL 162.2Hz

OEM Saturday Open House... It's the place to be!



Come to the OEM at 143 Hope Hill Road on Saturday Mornings for the MARC Weekly Open House.

What better way to start your weekend than by gathering with your fellow club members in a social setting and participating in various radio activities.

All are invited to bring in their current project or favorite gear for show & tell, or to operate W1NRG and work some DX.

And, remember... Sometimes we have donuts!

Key Klix *Klassified* - Buy, Swap & Sell...

NOTE: photos below are not of the actual items, but are included solely for reference purposes.

FOR SALE by Dave, NZ1J One Item:

1. **Whistler WS1065 Scanner** **\$100**
Condition: Very good
Contact: Dave, NZ1J at davidtip100@gmail.com



FOR SALE by Don, W1BRY Two items:

1. **Daiwa CN 901HP SWR/ POWER meter** **\$175 OBO**
Will handle 2,000 watts
2. **Kenwood HS-5 headphones** **\$75**
Contact: Don, W1BRY at d.chepurna@snet.net



FOR SALE by Joe, N1LES Two items:

3. **ICOM IC-R10 receiver** **\$200**
Condition: Mint in box
4. **Radio Shack Pro-2096 Digital Scanner** **\$185**
Contact: Joe, N1LES at jmurray407@aol.com



FOR SALE by Todd, K1TDO Two items:

1. **OLED ZUM Hotspot from HRO** **\$50**
Condition: good, working, needs an antenna
2. **A/B one-to-two antenna switch for PL259** **B0**
Contact: Todd, K1TDO at k1tdo@icloud.com



FOR SALE by Rich, KB1FGC Three Items:

1. **Heathkit VF1 VFO** **\$65**
Condition: Very Good
2. **Ameritron ALS 600W Amp** **\$850**
Condition: Good
3. **Bendrix Straight Key** **\$50**
Condition: Good
Contact: Rich, KB1FGC at Marzo7088@yahoo.com



FOR SALE by Jimmie, AB1DQ One Item:

2. **REALISTIC DX302 General Coverage Receiver** **\$ 50 OBO**
Condition: AS IS functional but w. Issues
Contact: Jimmy, AB1DQ at james@ab1dq.com



HAVE HAM RELATED ITEMS TO SELL? LIST THEM HERE FOR FREE!
Email keyklix@w1nrg.com with your listing, asking price and contact information.
LOOKING FOR HAM RELATED ITEMS TO BUY? MAKE YOUR PITCH HERE!
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EDITORIAL PAGE

Letters to the Editor

Want to comment on something you read in KeyKlix? We welcome all feedback, good, bad and ugly (but civil). Write to keyklix@w1nrg.com with your comments with "LETTER TO THE EDITOR" in the subject line. All letters acknowledged and messages deemed to be of communal interest and that advance the conversation shall be printed in this space.

Desperately seeking an Editor

Key Klix has a long and storied history, renowned for consistently providing informative and entertaining content for the local ham radio operator for decades. Now at a crossroads, and to keep this journalistic tradition alive for the long term, we are actively seeking the right person to take on the duties of permanent Editor.

Are you a bona fide radio cuckoo? Do you relish MARC, and are you active in club events? Do you have a creative vision and possess the mad skills to implement your aspirations? Are you willing to make an earnest commitment to serve in the editor's role for a sustainable period?

IF SO, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Submit your letter of interest to president@w1nrg.com

Key Klix is *your* newsletter, and we rely on our fellow members to share their latest radio news to provide engaging content for all. Contributing is a great way to connect with other members who may share or want to learn more about your particular areas of radio interests. Please drop us a line with articles, logs, news of what is happening in your shack, and photos are always most appreciated. Keep Key Klix Kool by sending your news, updates, articles, and photos to KeyKlix@w1nrg.com.

Key Klix August 2025

Has been brought to you by

INTERIM EDITOR	-	JIMMY SURPRENANT, AB1DQ
PHOTOGRAPHER	-	TED RENZONI, KC1DOY
BIOGRAPHER	-	BOB BIANCUR, WB1GYZ

Thank you to all of this month's contributors, including...

AB1DQ - KC1DOY - KC1QLS - KC1QWH - KC1STF - N1API
N1BRL - NA1L - NZ1J - W1YSM - WA1FFT - WB1DQT

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

The Meriden Amateur Radio Club is

AB1DQ	James Surprenant	26	KB1HAX	Bill Reyor III	26	KC1STF	Julian LoRusso	27
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	25	KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	25	KC1SYU	Jim Cosgrove	25
AB2T	Jordan Zarembo	25	KB1JL	Eric Olsson	25	KC1TAD	Tom Dipinto	26
AC1SK	George Bucci	25	KB1LWS	Jeanne Gherardi	25	KC1THU	Mike Zelladonis	26
AC1ST	Louis Brenner	25	KB1MFU	John Ramadei	25	KC1TKY	Bob Hourigan	26
AC1TY	Andrew Rudczynski	25	KB1RLF	Steven Chapman	25	KC1TKZ	Mark Bonitatebus	25
AF1X	James Elliott	25	KB1TBL	Dave Laliberte	24	KC1TOV	David Tomlinson	25
K0OZ	Brian Boccuzzi	25	KB1TGS	David Robinson	25	KC1TPN	Rick Foster	25
K1BTR	Bryan Ragaini	25	KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	25	KC1TSG	Jim Drexler	25
K1DMS	Dave Sack	25	KB1TTV	Jonathan Martin	26	KC1TSK	Richard Pagano	25
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	25	KB1YFJ	Glenn Couture	25	KC1TSL	Charlie Vossbrinck	27
K1LHO	Mike Ash	26	KC1BQP	Paul St.Amand	25	KC1TSM	Ellen Cosgrove	25
K1LYP	John Yusza	29	KC1CAB	Frank DiTerlizzi	26	KC1TSN	Chuck Caron Jr.	26
K1MAL	Chris Altieri	26	KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	27	KC1TSP	Dale Fortin	25
K1MMK	Michael MacKennedy	27	KC1HFO	Johannis Stodis	25	KC1TST	Mike Boccuzzi	25
K1MRE	Mike Easter	25	KC1IHK	Scott Mowerson	25	KC1TSW	Charles Caron III	25
K1NEG	Nelson Goewey	26	KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	25	KC1TSX	Mike Barile	26
K1PET	Debbie Purchia	25	KC1KQH	John Kasinskaskas	25	KC1TSY	Daniel Gessner	25
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	25	KC1MJZ	Michael Berube	25	KC1TSZ	Deb Caron	26
K1SCI	Stuart Isaac	26	KC1NHE	Reed Hansen	25	KC1TYO	Ken Williams	25
K1SMD	Silas Moeckel	25	KC1NQE	Shawn Warren	25	KC1UJP	Jasy Polaski	25
K1STM	Anne West	25	KC1NRD	John Lujick	27	KC1UJQ	Mark Kirschner	25
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	25	KC1NRQ	Bruce Childs	25	KC1UJT	Michael Carfi	25
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	30	KC1OCS	Richard Dewick	26	KC1VCU	John Mandeville	25
K1UD	Butch Chatfield	25	KC1OGL	Paul Randazzo	25	KC1VJS	Anthony Lockery	25
K1VDF	John Blevins	26	KC1OWD	Kevin Van Keuron	25	KC1VQY	Michael Granoth	26
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	25	KC1OYN	Rick Becker	25	KC1VRG	Robert Shemo	25
K1XJ	Kevin Buchanan	25	KC1OYR	Brent Moyer	25	KC1VSO	Patricia Lentz	25
K2RPM	Bruce Torello	25	KC1OYS	Jim McAuliffe	25	KC1VUM	Matthew Erff	25
K4AVM	Andrew Olsson	26	KC1PEN	David Henry	25	KC1VVC	Joel Helfer	25
K5ATA	Steve Goodgame	25	KC1PXX	Dave Alfredson	25	KC1VZI	Joe DePaolo	25
K5CYN	Cyndi Goodgame	25	KC1PYT	Jeff Gazso	25	KC1WEX	Len Guercia	25
KA1BED	Bill Green	26	KC1QHO	Mike Beaudry	25	KC1WFB	Lloyd Saberski	25
KA1BMF	Constantino Tobio	25	KC1QLS	Ray Cirimo	25	KC1WHD	Craig Scully-Clemmons	25
KA1JTG	James Hartzell Jr	25	KC1QWH	Steve Rygiel	25	KC1WUZ	Scott Martin	
KA1YZC	Paul Patnoad	25	KC1RBY	Sergio Frutuosa	25	KC2MLH	Adam Castracane	25
KB1APO	Jim Sintay	26	KC1RLQ	Eric Barbour	26	KC3UKG	Storm Murrell	25
KB1CXK	Joe Clarizio	26	KC1SA	Stephen Allen	25	KD0BMW	Marty Crandall-Grela	25
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	25	KC1SDA	Richard McHugh	25	KD2TLD	Patrick Lacombe	25
KB1FGC	Richard Guerrera	25	KC1SEN	Nicholas Worroll	25	KE1AU	Bob Kaczor	26

KE1AV	Dave Sanford	25	N1PHI	Trish Nitske	25	W1YSM	Ed Snyder	25
KE2ECC	Phillip Gallanti	26	N1PQQ	Greg Cartier	26	W2OFR	Mark Dickson	25
KF6LU	Andrew Buza	25	N1QYB	Bill Wilecki Jr	25	W2TT	Ross Lambert	25
KK7NLS	John Condon Jr	25	N1WCL	David Blasko	25	W3APC	James Cook	25
KO1J	Randy Whitehouse	25	N1XXU	Andy Purchia	25	WA1BAR	Michael Barr	25
KO4EEL	Tom Williams	25	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	25	WA1CCQ	Norman Bliss	25
KR1U	Bob Eslinger	27	N1ZN	Jim Savage	25	WA1FFT	Ray Irwin	25
KS1WK	Seth Kolasinski	25	N2TAG	Dave Taglianetti	25	WA1INC	Roland Hamel	26
KX1USA	Rob Messercola	25	N7VGA	Dennis Hanlon	26	WA1JKR	John Rogus	29
NOHIO	David Koerner	25	NA1L	Dale Clift	25	WA1K	Jack Chapman	25
N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	26	NA2AA	David Minster	25	WA1MAC	Paul Clark	25
N1API	Al Kaiser	30	NR1B	Bill Huggins	25	WA1SFH	Douglas Sharafanowich	25
N1BRI	Brian Beegan	26	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	26	WA1TRY	Rich Aubin	L
N1FNE	Rod Lane	26	UT3UY	Anatoly Kirilenko	25	WA1ZVY	Jim Martin	28
N1GNV	John Bartscherer	25	W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	25	WB1DMK	William D'Agostino	25
N1GY	Geoff Haines	27	W1BJG	Judy Wilkins	25	WB1DQT	Bill Bacon	25
N1HCA	Susan South	26	W1BRY	Donald Chepurna	27	WB1GFI	Stan Hiriak	25
N1IBE	Wade Martell	25	W1EDX	Paul Stasieluk	25	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	25
N1JEO	Joel Curneal	25	W1IKW	Iain K White	29	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	25
N1JMX	Jeff Martin	28	W1LV	Steve Morley	26	WJ1B	Harold Kramer	27
N1LES	Joe Murray	25	W1NDT	Robert Lombardo	25	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	25
N1MOB	Dan David	25	W1PRK	James Procaccini	27	WX1W	Mary Duval	25
N1NGV	Kevin Gallagher	25	W1RCI	Ron Isaac Jr.	25	WY1U	Tim Mik	25
N1NIS	Noah Ludecke	25	W1RWW	Bob Woodtke Jr.	25		Lucas Molloy	Y
N1OKF	Bob Parisi	25	W1TK	Ron Wakefield	25		Spencer Rygiel	Y
N1OKR	Frank Ciccone	27	W1UFO	Mike Cei	25			
N1OQC	Mike Johnson	25	W1UKX	Greg Gherardi	25			



**Summertime is always the
best of what might be.**
Charles Bowden

