

Meriden Amateur Radio Club



Welcome

This welcome guide was created to provide an overview of activities at the Meriden Amateur Radio Club. On behalf of our officers and members, welcome!

Club Website

The club website for the Meriden Amateur Radio Club (MARC) WWW.W1NRG.COM is updated regularly with our club calendar, news, and resources.

On the website there are links to contact the club, or to fill out an application to join.

Open House Saturdays at the OEM (9:00am to about noon)

The Hope Hill Road Firehouse located at 143 Hope Hill Rd in Wallingford, CT serves as the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for the Town of Wallingford. MARC shares the facility with the Fire Department, Medical Reserve Corps and Health Dept.

MARC is open to the public every Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to about noon at the OEM.

Meet and interact with club members, including many of our club Elmers who are always available to answer questions on equipment, antenna setup, SSB protocols, digital modes and much more.

Key Klix Newsletter

Key Klix is the MARC monthly newsletter. It Includes Meriden Amateur Radio Club news, special articles, past event photos, meeting minutes and our latest club roster. Check it out on our website!

Anyone is welcome to submit an article to Key Klix at KeyKlix@w1nrg.com. Our club editor will assist in formatting for publication.

Social & Community Channels

Groups.io Reflector - Club forum for announcements and information. See groups.io/g/MeridenARC.

Facebook Group - The club Facebook Group is a forum to share pictures from club events.

Discord Server -The Discord server supports text, voice & video chat w/multiple topic channels.

Weekly Nets

MARC operates several weekly nets offering opportunities to sharpen on-air skills, and to improve on HF and VHF/UHF radio and antenna setups. See the calendar on the club website.

Repeater Access

The MARC club call sign is W1NRG. The club maintains a 2-meter C4FM (Yaesu System Fusion) + Analog repeater in Wallingford.

W1NRG 147.360 MHz +0.6 MHz offset PL Tone 162.2 (Echolink accessible, node: 624952)

Oftentimes club members monitor this repeater and participate in casual on-air information exchange. If you're licensed, give it a try. Just key the repeater, say your call sign, and 'listening'.

Elmer Assistance

In addition to the in-person assistance available on Saturday mornings, every Sunday evening on Zoom, experienced club Elmers are on hand to answer technical questions and offer guidance.

The Radio Shack

The club radio room is maintained by our Station Activities Manager (SAM) and call sign trustee, Rob, K1RCT. Up to date radio and antenna equipment are available for use by any club member to sharpen on-air skills or participation in club sponsored contest events. The SAM also maintains additional transceivers, tuners, bandpass filters, external tuners, amplifiers, antenna analyzers, and antennas.

Licensing and Education

MARC holds ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner sessions for Amateur Radio licensing on the second Saturday of most months at the OEM starting at 9:00 AM. VE Coordinator: Jim, N1ZN.

Technician classes are offered through The Town of Wallingford Adult Education Program. Instructors are a rotating group of MARC club volunteers. Licensing Class Coordinator: Jimmy, AB1DQ.

Nightly Zoom CW classes are held for members interested in learning Morse code. Contact: Bob, WB1GYZ.

Emergency Communications (EMCOMM)

MARC and the Wallingford Amateur Radio Group (WARG) provide staffing, logistics, and communications support to the town through CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). When necessary, CERT has been activated to provide disaster victim shelter at the OEM, and to support for public events such as ½ marathons, bike races, and other town events with radio communications services.

For information contact: Eric, KB1JL.

Many MARC/WARG members who support EMMCOMM are also members of CT Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), consisting of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for public service communications when disaster strikes. See CTARES.org for more information.

Contesting and On-Air Events

MARC is active in several major contesting and special event activities each year. Contesting as a club is an excellent way to learn DX techniques and operate in a team setting. The summer ARRL Field Day in June is the Club's premier operating event.

POTA — Parks On The Air

POTA is a hugely popular program where operators activate radio equipment at state and national parks. MARC members regularly organize group POTA outings to beautiful park settings - making contacts worldwide. POTA is a great opportunity to refine HF equipment and sharpen on-air skills.

Ten-Ten International – Castle Craig Chapter

Many members belong to Ten-Ten International, dedicated to encouraging use of the 10-meter band. MARC is the host club of the Castle Craig Chapter of Ten-Ten International. If interested, contact Castle Craig coordinator: Al, N1API.

Other Activities

Members also participate in SOTA (Summits On The Air), 13 Colonies Special Event, SKCC, Winter Field Day and FT8 digital modes. Fox Hunts (radio direction finding) and satellite operating are also popular.

MARC sponsors a scholarship program called Frank Darmofalski (W1FD) Memorial Scholarship. Annually, a scholarship is awarded to a local high school senior from Meriden or Wallingford. Club members' children & grandchildren are also eligible. See MARC website for details.

The Nutmeg Hamfest is closely aligned with MARC. Held each October, the Nutmeg Hamfest attracts vendors and attendees from across the region. Members are encouraged to attend, volunteer and participate in many valuable information seminars.