

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



ALL MEETINGS ARE AT 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS
OF THE MONTH, UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED,
AT THE COOK HILL FIREHOUSE / MEDICAL RESERVE BLDG
37 HALL ROAD, WALLINGFORD



OFFICERS

PRES W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK VP N1API AL KAISER SECT KC1SA STEVE ALLEN TRES K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK S.A.M. K1RCT / KC1ACN ROB CICHON

July Business Meeting...

Thursday July 14th 7:30pm at the clubhouse/ Medical Reserve Center/ Old Cook Hill Firehouse Activity Meeting / Event

Thursday July 28th Annual MARC Lark in the Park Picnic 6:00 pm at the Marcus Cooke Park Pavilion (Where the "Real" Hams used to have Field Day). The Club will provide burgers, hot dogs and drinks. Please bring your favorite salad, desert or snack to round out the menu. (Editors comment---I would also suggest a generous supply of your favorite Insect Repellent) CU there.

A huge Thank You to Ed W1YSM who volunteered to be the new Activities Manager of the MARC. He can use your help in finding Speakers and activities, please give him a hand if you know of any activity.

Welcome to New Members

Harry Shaefi, KC1CYC and Matt Huskes, KC1FOK were voted in at the June Business meeting... Bob Lombardo W1NDT and Anne West K1STM will be voted in at the July Business meeting.... with maybe a few more, per Steve KC1SA....

Club News

If you have any info on club members, please pass it along to K1WJL for inclusion into this section...

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!

Wednesday Dec 7, 2016, Wallingford Public Library, Tom Gallagher NY2RF, Gen Manager of ARRL Will speak to the club and all interested parties. More to followBill W1KKF

MARC FIELD DAY 2016

CONGRATS TO ELSIE KB1IFZ AND ERIC KB1EHE FOR A GREAT "GOTA" PRESENTATION







































































FIELD DAY COMMENTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES....

I like to extend my thanks to everyone who participated in Field Day this year. The contributions of all is what makes an event successful and this year's Field Day was certainly that. I'll be putting together the required information for sending in our score. It was great to have so many visitors this year. I think the location and publicity is what drew them in...Jim N1ZN

The GOTA station was so much fun. Seeing the very first QSOs of two youngsters -- Maddie (9 years old) and Chris (10 years old) -- was one of the weekend's true highlights for us. All of the GOTA operators were non hams, except for one. And the one ham was long inactive (about 15 years, I believe). Kudos to everyone for a great Field Day! Eric KB1EHE & Elsie KB1IFZ

Kudos to John N1GNV for brewing Red Eye Crew Coffee (I used your Infra Red Gear for one more burger around 3AM too!), Ed W1YSM for bringing breakfast sammiches along with Jim AB1DQ donuts and boxes of fresh Joe. Well received Sunday morning!! I know Steve and I were HUNNN-GRY! And to John K1YLP and the rest of the Beep-Beep Crew. The Phonies mop you guys up during the remainder of the year. Don't get used to your 'winning ways in FD'!!.............Rob KC1ACN /K1RCT

Field Day 2016 was a bunch of fun. Nice to see so many new faces at the event. Just tallied up the sign-ins. Nearly 60 Folks came to the event and 31 were MARC members.

Congrats....Great Club Participation...Steve KC1SA

Leave us not forget the donuts and coffee AB1DQ James provided too. As my Elmer he sat by my side and guided me through my first SSB contacts. For better or for worse he got me ON AIR and helped introduce me to HF -- or it to me. No stopping me now! From bringing coffee and donuts to helping me call CQ W1NRG, AB1DQ was there for me and the club. Thank you James and thanks to all the club members - it was a truly great experience for me. And Bill -- I will NEVER EVER say dot dash again. ..Thanks also to N1ZN, K1LYP, KC1SA, KC1ACN, K1VDF, W1KKF -and W1DQ for helping me so much this field day. I am so very grateful for your guidance and friendship. But, I guess, that's what hams do! Nice to know it's true.... Ed W1YSM

John and Ed, thanks for the props, I had fun and was happy to contribute where I could this year. What I gave was minuscule compared to what everyone else did, but then again, that's how a ham radio club works - all giving what they can to make Field Day a success. Although I've been a ham since 2002 and have attended Field Days in the past with other clubs, this was the first time I actually operated and I had a ton of fun just being with everyone. Like Ed, I enjoyed the time I was able to spend with the club members and being able to get to know everyone a bit better. I'm hesitant to call out and thank individuals because I know I'll forget folks - and my hats off to everyone who participated. I am very grateful to John feeding us - the RoadKill™ was particularly good! I salute N1ZN for coordinating everything this year -top job, sir, and as always my appreciation to KKF for his steady leadership. I also enjoyed my shared on air time with Steve last night and it was thrilling to see the kiddos making on-air contacts on the GOTA station, so props to Eric and Elsie for that. And yes, it does my heart good to see Ed on HF - I believe he's been bitten by the 'HF' bug...Great time everyone, thanks to everyone who made it happen & I can't wait until next year.....James AB1DQ

Well gang, we did it again. Another Field Day in the books, and it was a great one! We had perfect weather, which helped a lot. But we had many hands pitching in to make it all happen. I had many nice QSOs at the "infrared station"... thanks to those who brought goodies to make it better, including Ed W1YSM, John W1DQ, and Steve WV2LKM. And thanks to all who planned, set up, operated, and tore down. It was great to see so many new faces at the GOTA station. Nice job, Eric KB1EHE and Elsie KB1IFZ. John K1LYP "sent the effin message" – if you're a newer member and haven't heard that story, ask Bill W1KKF about it.... I think the Phonies might have set a new record for FD contacts, and the Beep-Beep Boys were going strong through the whole event. SAM Rob KC1ACN had all the equipment ready to go. FD Chairman Jim N1ZN pulled it all together. Steve KC1SA seemed to be everywhere at once. Thanks again to all who participated in any way.

It was great to see Joe, KB1GWP at FD. He even brought his little brother Tony along to see the setup. Tony is only 94, three years younger than Joe, and was a radar/radio operator in the China/Burma/India theater in WWII. Both guys were, as always, fun and interesting to talk with......John N1GNV



Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.) June 2016

The business meeting opened at 7:30 PM EST on June 9, 2016 with 14 people in attendance.

Officers present: Bill (W1KKF), AI (N1API), Dave (K1WJL), Steve (KC1SA).

The meeting was opened and chaired by President, Bill (W1KKF).

Announcements – The next meeting is 6/23/2016 for Field Day preparation.

Ed (W1YSM) has volunteered to be the Program & Entertainment Chairman. Thanks Ed!

There was to be a VE session on June 16th at the Firehouse but the folks needing that session tested early so there will be **no session this Thursday June 16th**.

Introductions – All in attendance introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – The May 2016 Secretary's Report was published on the W1NRG site and is recorded as read. There were no corrections or questions on the minutes.

Treasurer's Report – A report was given by Dave (K1WJL) and accepted.

Contributions – None reported

Correspondence – Islands award was received for the event the club participated in last August. This was for Island CT035L. Also receive a Vanquard prospectus (junk mail).

Program & Entertainment – Ed reported that the MARC will be sponsoring a presentation by the current CEO of the ARRL Tom Gallagher (NY2RF) will be speaking at the Wallingford Public Library on December 7th from 6:30PM to 8:30PM. The will be "<u>The ARRL</u>, <u>Second Century</u>". We will invite other local radio clubs to the discussion. The library will advertise this and the event is open to the general public.

A Raspberry PI discussion is being planned for one our activity meetings in the near future.

Scholarship – Nothing to report.

Club Station & Facilities – Rob (KC1ACN) has been working to repurpose two Dell towers for rig controllers. Rob pulled one together from the graveyard where he works while the other is a donation from Al (N1API). Long term these two towers will be mated to the rigs for rig control. For Field Day the Toshiba laptop will be used for the CW station.

Club Activities & Program (the 4th Thursday of the month) - Next activity meeting is June 23rd and prepping for Field Day at the Firehouse.

Nets -

10M – John (K1VDF) reported check ins are down a bit.. Net is on 28.375 Tuesday at 8PM local time.

6M – Jim (N1ZN) was on vacation for the meeting but the Net is at 50.175 8PM local on Mondays

2M - Todd (K1TDO) has good turn outs, meets 7PM on Tuesdays on the W1KKF repeater

Castle Craig – The summer 10-10 QSO party is August 6 and 7th, Steve (KC1SA) has volunteered to have a kick off net prior to the QSO party and will issue out the Castle Craig 10-10 number during the QSO party. Al (N1API) and Steve will meet prior to the event to iron out the details

VE session – A session was scheduled for Thursday 6/16/2016 but an email from the folks needed the session this weekend stated they tested at HQ on 6/11 so the **session has been postponed**. If anyone needs a testing session let Don (KE1AY) be aware of your needs.

Key Klix – Excellent job Dave. Dave is always looking for articles and pictures.

Membership – Harry (KC1CYC) and Matt (KC1FOK) applied for membership. A motion was made and voted on to include these new members; a unanimous vote accepted Harry and Matt to the club. Welcome to the club folks. Dave (K1WJL) reported that we have 61 members in the club.

A reminder about dues (excerpt from the March 2015 business meeting minutes);

Dues are to be paid by January 1. Dues are \$15.

New members (haven't been a member in the past), who join after July 1st, get current year and following year for the fee of \$15.

After July 1 of calendar year, a delinquent dues member can pay \$5 to make membership current <u>plus</u> pay next year's dues (total of \$20). Seniors, student and additional family membership rates still apply.

The above was voted on and accepted; effectively this is the dues payment rules moving forward.

Interference and Technical – Rich was not present.

Repeater – Not discussed.

Hamfest - The event is on schedule. Hotel is booked. John (K1LYP) is confirming the speakers for Balloon Launch, Skywarn and the ARRL speakers.

Candy Store – Not discussed. Anyone wanting apparel other than hats or T-Shirts, you can contact Gold Medal Ideas (http://www.goldmedalideas.com/0) since they have the club logo on file.

EmComm – Mike Meadows (KC1AYL) needs and additional 5 folks to help out with communication for Tour de Cure on Sunday June 12th. The 147.360 repeater will be used for this event.

Misc. Old Business -

Field Day

Jim (N1ZN), chairman for Field Day, was on vacation for this meeting. The CW station has all 24 hour operating time slots booked. The SSB station will be scheduled by Jim (N1ZN). Let Jim know if you want to operate SSB on Field Day. In the spirit of Field Day we want to have 24 hour coverage for both CW and SSB operation.

GOTA is headed up by Eric and Elsie (KB1EHE and KB1IFZ) with their equipment. Thanks folks!

John (K1LYP) will setup and operate the VHF station for message passing.

Rob (KC1ACN) will operate/coordinate the satellite pass QSO.

Bill (W1KKF) will set up the solar setup on 40M for making the 5 contacts to get an additional 100 points.

Steve (KC1SA) will set up the information table, blog site, and copy the W1AW message.

Jim (N1ZN) is taking care of publicity.

Public Elected official – Al Adinolfi and John LeTourneau have been invited.

Site Visit by served agency – Ernie St.Amant is invited and Bill is inviting Eloise Hazelwood.

. The club will operate as 2F.

Elmer of the Year

The Elmer of the year certificate is being updated with the new wording. Rob (KC1ACN) is nearly complete with this task

Incorporation

Connecticut Incorporation status of the Nutmeg Hamfest and the MARC; Rich (WA1TRY) is changing the Agent of Record for the Nutmeg Hamfest to Bill (W1KKF). The charge for the AOR change was \$20. Dave (K1WJL) will be updating the Tax Incorporation records for the club this summer. No AOR change will be made for the MARC (W1DMM is the AOR).

New Business -

The ARRL Library presentation by Tom Gallagher, see Program and Entertainment for details.

No news on the move to the new facility.

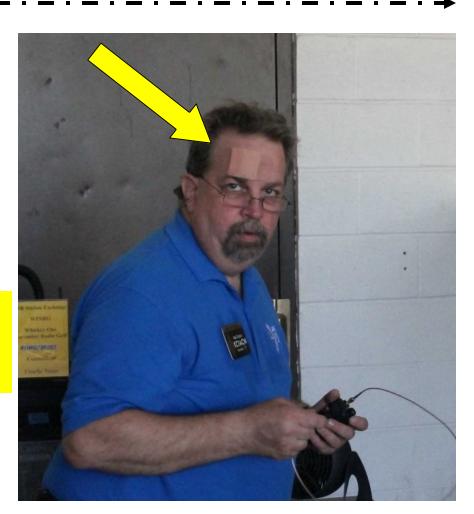
Steve Waldmann (WV2LKM) has volunteered to be the club librarian. Our current books are in the SCOW building. When we get to the new facility we will set up the library at that time.

Meeting was closed at 8:26 PM

Meeting Attendees on June 9, 2016

Call Sign 🔻	Name ▼
K1LYP	John Yusza
K1VDF	John Blevins
K1WJL	Dave Swedock
KB1JL	Eric Olson
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon
KC1FOK	Matt Huskes
KC1SA	Stephen Allen
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell
N1API	Al Kaiser
W1DQ	John Elengo
W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak
W1YSM	Ed Snyder
WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann

MARC'S VERSION OF "WOUNDED WARRIOR" KC1ACN





First in a (hopefully long) series, I'm writing this to keep club members advised on the operating conditions of our club station. And maybe to grouse a little!

1) Interface.

The W3YY Interface is fabricated and in-debug as I write this. I found one issue so far, the Kenwood ACC2 port specifies pin nine (9) as the FSK connection but the print specified by Bob W3YY is pin 13 which is how I wired it. The software would not key the Rig. After reviewing the prints, I posed a query to Bob about this. He said, "...it should work on either 13 or 9...". As I am preparing the club station for IARU HF Championship, this will take a back seat until after that log has been submitted. And I will reconnect the plug for pin 9. Some other observations:

While using FLDigi, I could see printed text on RTTY and I could also hear the chirping of the audio when I tried sending our callsign so I feel the audio connections are correct.

Once I get the software to key the rig, it's a simple matter of configuring N1MM+ F-Keys with the correct data for sending macros and/or Enter Sends Message mode for True RTTY, other Digimodes and CW.

2) TS-690S & Tuner.

I went to The Club to test the gear last weekend after the Beep-Beep Boys experience problems during Field Day. After connecting the Rig to the dipole (sans Tuner), I tried 20M since that band needs no tuning. Made three contacts with 100W. I reconnected the Rig thru the Tuner and tried tuning. The meter on the Tuner does not work so well at low power (100W). In fact, after reading several reviews of this Tuner, I discovered that others have had this same condition: inaccurate Tuner Meter readings at low power.

I connected the Heater (AL-811H) in the circuit. The Tuner performed as it did previously with better accuracy and more realistic readings (vs low power). I made three more contacts, all with a request for a "real RS report". 59 every time. One contact was with a Milford guy that I had contacted previously. He advised a "much improved 59+" (of course while using The Heater).

3) IARU HF Championship

It's Friday July eighth as I write this. Going up to the MRC tonight about 7PM to set up the gear for tomorrows Contest. I plan running more than I have in previous contests. Hopefully the gear will hold up and the lightning will stay away. I may be able to sneak some debugging time in for the Interface but my focus will be the setup. John N1GNV will kick off at 8:00AM. Our guest Anne West K1STM (thankfully promulgated by Eric Knight KB1EHE) will arrive with Eric & Elsie about 9:30AM followed by Eric at 10AM, then Anne at 11AM (CW, Eric logging) then Eric again at 12PM until 1PM. Eric will be SSB or CW his choice or maybe Anne will want all of his Chair Time! That'll be between those two!! I'll pick up 2PM to 5PM when Steve KC1SA will be on until 9PM. No one else is scheduled after 9PM so I may go back up to operate after 9 unless someone else wants to operate. Anyway, that's the plan.

4) Hints & Kinks

A) N1MM+: 'Operator Login'. When operating our Club Station, remember to log your callsign prior to making contacts. Press [CTRL] + [O], a popup window appears. Type your own callsign, press [ENTER]. All of your contacts will be recorded as W1NRG but if the QSL Manager or Contest Organizer has a question about a specific contact, we can ask the Operator about it. Also N1MM+ keeps tabs on rate by Operator if anyone were interested.

B) N1MM+: 'Enter Sends Message Mode'. While Running and upon hearing a Caller; type the Callers callsign, press enter once to answer his call, enter again to exchange, enter again keys TU, logs the contact and re-enters CQ mode with the callsign. Works similarly for S&P. We'd have to set up your favorite or usual F-Keys (voice files for SSB, text files for CW/Digimodes). This feature dovetails with 'Operator Login' above. Once the voice files or text files are complete, we drop those in a folder named with your callsign. Once you log in with your callsign.

the files in your named folder will be in-use until you log off.

I first tried this during the 2016 CQ WW RTTY test. For a 4 numeral callsign, that's 7 keystrokes!!





CT-ARES REGION 2

Douglas Sharafanowich – WA1SFH

District Emergency Coordinator, Region 2 WA1SFH@optonline.net

Tour-de-Cure 2016 Report We Done Good!

Our Amateur Radio operations for Tour De Cure (TDC) 2016 was without a doubt "challenging", especially with only ten operators covering 4 Bike Routes - ranging from 15 miles to 100 miles, and one person interfacing between TDC organization officials and NCS. But, what are amateur radio operators good at?

We Improvise, Adapt, and Overcome obstacles that come our way to accomplish the Mission in front of us.

Example:

Our operators were placed at some precarious locations throughout the southern portions 64 and 100 mile routes. These locations presented a real challenge for our VHF/UHF antennas given the hilly terrain we have throughout this part of the state. We made it through these challenges without too much fuss.

Our outstanding TDC 2016 ARES Communications Team included:

Levon Frndjibachian - KB1ZVT, John Yusza, Jr. - K1LYP, Robert Schwartz - N1RGS, John F.Tary - KB1SIC, John E. Barrett - KC1ADT, Kevin Sanders - KB1CYA, Michael Goldweber - KB3IXO, Rob Cichon - KC1ACN, Ralph Krohne -KB1ZYI, Ed Rhodes-WA1LEI (NCS), Mike Meadows - KC1AYL (ARES Event Coordinator)

The TDC 2016 kicked off with a few hiccups early on affecting the Tour de Cure Organization, but transitioned to a smoother operation as the day wore on. Due to unforeseen circumstances and late arrivals, the TDC staff needed to adjust Start Times for the 4 Bike Rides. This year was a little different in the way we ran our communications operation. Our team worked quickly to adapt to these TDC changes - with less personnel and more planned positions along the routes. As a result, we were able to keep everyone rolling along smoothly - with no lost riders and providing timely SAG response to stranded bicyclists.

Playing Leap-Frog

Given the limited number of hams participating this year, we needed to improvise for full coverage. To do this, we incorporated a Leap-Frogging technique to move our course Observers down the courses - jumping ahead to another pre-determined Observer location in advance of the riders, once the riders had gone past their present Observer position.

The Net Control Station (NCS) was located at the Medical Building of the Durham Fairgrounds. We received positive compliments from Bill (TDC Bike Route Manager) and many of the staff who stopped in to watch our operators work their magic. Compliments from both riders and TDC staff expressed their amazement with our Team's demonstration of professionalism, flexibility, adaptability, and friendliness.

Our Team provided several suggestions for improvements for next year's event, and we will be looking into those. After having wrapped up an After Action Review with Michele (our TDC Point of Contact), our ARES Team of operators was asked to return for next year's event. This was the biggest compliment we could have received! "Great Job"- the resounding words coming from the TDC 2016 staff!

Thank you to all who helped make it happen! 73's

Mike Meadows-KC1AYL

Your Region 2

We have TWO NEW Team Members in CT ARES - Region 2.

Please welcome these newest additions to our ARES Team.

Gregory Hanson - KC1BWR (Milford: Zone West 2), George Mancini - KA1MJ (New Haven: Zone Central 2)

Doug WA1SFH

INFORMATION PAGE

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT....W1KKF BILL WAWRZENIAK
VICE PRES.....N1API AL KAISER
SECT......KC1SA STEVE ALLEN
TRES.....K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK
STATION A.M...KC1ACN/K1RCT ROB CICHON

KEY KLIX EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL CONTACT DSWEDOCK@SNET.NET 203 235-8582

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MAILING ADDRESS: MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

POB 583, MERIDEN CT. 06450

CLUB NETS

6 MTR NET MONDAYS 8PM 50.175MHZ N1ZN JIM

<u>2 METER NET</u> TUESDAYS 7PM 147.36 /RPT K1TDO TODD

10 METER NET TUESDAYS 8PM 28.375MHZ K1VDF JOHN

10/10 CASTLE CRAIG CHAPTER CONCURRENTLY WITH CLUB NET 28.375MHZ TUESDAYS 8PM N1API AL

CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC) UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$15/YR SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$10 ADDITIONAL FAMILY MBRS---\$5



WEBSITE:

WWW.W1NRG.COM

FORUM/BBS:

GO TO WWW.W1NRG.COM AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CASTLE CRAIG 1010 WEBSITE: GO TO W1NRG.COM

AND FOLLOW THE LINKS

CLUB REPEATER W1KKF/R 147.36MHZ +600 OFFSET NO PL TONE (OPEN REPEATER)

MARC MEMBERS

		INITIO INITINID	LING	
AB1DQ	James Surprenant	16	KE1AY	Donal
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	16	N1API	Al Kai
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	16	N1BF	Patric
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	16	N1GNV	John
K1JTH	John Hart, Jr.	16	N1GY	Geoff
K1LHO	Mike Ash	16	N1HCA	Susan
K1LYP	John Yusza	17	N1LGH	Barba
K1MVM	Mike Macri	16	N1NAN	Helen
K1PU	Mark Mokoski	16	N1OKF	Bob F
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	16	N1VTE	Sarah
K1RJC	Rick Castaldo	16	N1ZN	James
K1SEZ	Paul Ciezniak	16	NY2HF	Denni
K1STM	Anne West	**	W1ATV	Walt \
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	16	W1CTN	David
K1TG	Roger Kuchera	16	W1DMM	Dan N
K1THP	Dave Karpiej	16	W1DQ	John
K1VDF	John Blevins	17	W1KKF	Bill W
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	17	W1LV	Steve
KA1SE	Luke Laurentano	15	W1NDT	Bob L
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	16	W1NHS	Fred I
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	16	W1POP	Fred I
KB1GWP	Joseph Rish, Sr.	16	W1SKP	Skip F
KB1HCC	Jonathan Winslow	17	W1VCU	Nelso
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	16	W1YSM	Ed Sn
KB1JL	Eric Olsson	16	W7FUR	Willia
KB1MMS	Ronald Slack	15	WA1JKR	John
KB1SIN	Bill Brooks	15	WA1TRY	Rich A
KB1TJD	Gaianne Jenkins	16	WA1VXH	Chris
KB1ZMK	Dan Busa	16	WA1ZVY	Jim M
KC1AYL	Mike Meadows	16	WB1GGP	Jerry
KC1CYC	Harry Shaefi	16	WB1GYZ	Bob E
KC1EVI	Gerard Carriera Jr.	16	WB8IMY	Steve
KC1FOK	Matt Huskes	16	WV2LKM	Steve
KC1SA	Stephen Allen	16	WY1U	Tim N
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	16		

Donald Mitchell	16
Al Kaiser	17
Patrick Dionne	16
John Bartscherer	16
Geoff Haines	19
Susan South	16
Barbara Stone	16
Helen Spokes	17
Bob Parisi	16
Sarah Kaczor	16
James Savage	16
Dennis Lane	16
Walt Yatzook	16
David Arruzza	15
Dan Murphy	L
John Elengo	17
Bill Wawrzeniak	L
Steve Morley	16
Bob Lombardo	**
Fred Ring	16
Fred Liedke	18
Skip Paquette	15
Nelson Denison	L
Ed Snyder	16
William Spokes	17
John Rogus	16
Rich Aubin	L
Chris Sievert	16
Jim Martin	17
Jerry Sheppard	16
Bob Biancur	16
Steve Ford	16
Steve Waldmann	16
Tim Mik	15