ALL MEETINGS ARE NORMALLY AT THE EOC HOPE HILL FIREHOUSE 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD HOWEVER THEY ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE	PRESW1YSMED SNYDERVPKB1JLERIC OLSSONSECTK1STMANNE WESTTRESK1WJLDAVE SWEDOCKS.A.M.K1RCTROB CICHON						
KEY KLIX EDITOR DAVE SWEDOCK K1WJL	WEBSITE WWW.W1NRG.COM OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS,						

#### October MARC Business Meeting Thursday October 8 7:30pm ZOOM

DSWEDOCK@GMAIL.COM

203 235-8582

The agenda has been sent out via email and the Meeting ID and pass-code will be made available just prior to the business meeting by email... Due to this unusual Year of the Covid, the normal election process has to be modified as we can not meet in person. Steve KC1SA will be coordinating the electronic procedure and will be explaining the process on Thursday.(for the November meeting) The slate of officers that will be put forward in nomination will be basically the same except for Bart Toftness N1BRL who will replace Anne West K1STM as Secretary, who has decided to step down due to medical reasons.. We thank Anne for her service as secretary and wish her a speedy recovery.

MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

POB 583, MERIDEN CT 06450

#### October MARC Activity Meeting Thursday Oct 22 7:30pm ZOOM

Meet Phil Temples K9HI ,Vice-Dir NE Section ARRL (Town Hall), Phil has taken over for Mike Railsbeck who is now a Vice President at the ARRI Bd of Directors.

#### Welcome to new members.....

Voted in last month was Shawn Warren KC1NQE of Meriden and this month we will be voting in Andrew Paolillo KC1NXP of North Haven ( who just passed his exam a few weeks ago at our VE session.) Congratulations and welcome to the MARC..

Get well soon wishes to Anne K1STM WHO WILL BE GOING IN FOR SURGERY ON 10/7 . WE ALL WISH HER A ASPEEDY RECOVERY

AND ALSO TO STEVE TRIPP K1IIG WHO IS RECUPERATING FROM A RECENT SURGERY....



The President's Podium

### Ed Snyder W1YSM, President



The seasons are changing and soon it will be colder and darker. Despite the change in light and temperature, MARC will always be a source of companionship, friendship and a willingness to provide a welcome of warmth, to all its members. To maintain these positive attributes for Club members, however, requires quite simply, that the member Hams themselves, are healthy. In these times, we owe it not only to ourselves, but to our fellow amateur radio operators to protect each other from viral infection. On a recent Zoom call, I viewed the 16 or so Hollywood Squares images (for younger members – Google it) and realized that due to age, weight, habits, or underlying conditions, almost all 16 members were in a high risk group, and thus, more likely to contract COVID-19 also to become sicker if they became infected.

ACCORDINGLY, I AM ANNOUNCING THAT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AT ALL MARC FUNCTIONS BE THEY OUTDOORS, OR INDOORS AT THE OEM, – <u>COVID-19</u> <u>PRECAUTIONS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED MANDATORY-NOT OPTIONAL</u>. THIS INCLUDES WEARING A MASK THAT PROPERLY COVERS THE NOSE AND MOUTH, AND SOCIAL DISTANCING. ANY MEMBER AT A CLUB VENUE, WHO REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH WEARING A MASK OR SOCIAL DISTANCING AFTER BEING ASKED TO COMPLY – WILL BE ASKED (TOLD?) TO PLEASE LEAVE THE EVENT. DRACONIAN TACTICS – YES, BUT THEY ARE NECESSARY. PLEASE COMPLY - FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF YOU AND YOUR FELLOW HAM AND ALL OUR FAMILIES.

On a brighter note, as recommended by the Officers, MARC soon will formally reach out to other CT Amateur Radio Clubs that may not be as robust and active as we are, to join us in some Nets (TechNet, Coffee Cup Net, etc.). We can also consider a joint Fox Hunt or shared Club VE Session opportunities or other activities as they present and are of interest to all parties. We are considering reaching out to the Club in Norwich to start. These mutual activities might assist our clubs in attracting new members and will also showcase MARC's membership depth and expertise and our Club's leadership. Along these lines, we are fortunate to have as the October Activities Meeting speaker, Phil Temples K9HI. He is the newly appointed Vice Director of the ARRL NE Section. Phil will be holding a virtual Town Hall to exchange ideas with the MARC membership. We can present this concept to him and find out his opinion. I encourage all to tune in on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm. MARC has much to look forward to. Indeed, as 2020 winds down, we are winding up. Part of this expansion requires a desire to enjoy the company of our fellow Hams - those within MARC, those who belong to other Clubs, and those who are licensed, but adrift and looking for a Club to call home. We have much to look forward to in 2021. To do all of this, however, requires that the membership be healthy and be able to work together safely. As pointed out above, - our lives may depend on it.

Stay safe and well.

Ed W1YSM, President MARC



### Secretary Report & Minutes of the Meriden Amateur Radio Club **Anne West K1STM**, Secretary

#### **SEPTEMBER 10 2020 BUSINESS MEETING**

President, W1YSM called the virtual Zoom meeting to order at 19:30. Members present: 35. Attendees: K1WJL, KB1JL, K1VDF, W1KKF, KE1AY, N1IBE, W1EDX, N1LES, W1DQ, KC1HDB, KC1DOY, KC1SA, KC1NQE, N1GNV, K1JCF, WB1GYZ, W1YSM, KE1AU, NZ1J, KC1KQH, K1RCT, N1API, K1LYP, K1STM, N1BRL, KB1EHE, KB1IFZ, AB1DQ, W1AJK, N1YLN, N1ZN, WV2LKM, N1KGY, WA1ZVY, K1LHO.

#### Announcements:

W1YSM is looking for activity suggestions. He has been thinking of a possible YouTube event followed by discussion. The Wallingford Fire Chief authorized limited opening of the OEM, no more than 10 people.

The year in revies meeting will most likely be held virtually on Zoom.

CQ Santa and the MARC Holiday aparty have been canceled.

Three VE exam sessions will be held this fall: September 19, October 17 and November 21. KE1AY will supervise the events.

A COVID-19 voting process was developed and will be discussed later in the meeting. Secretary's report. K1STM:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the August minutes published in Key Klix. Unanimous.

Shawn Warren, KC1NQE, was voted into membership with a passed motion. Unanimous!

There was no correspondence to report.

Treasurer's report, K1WJL:

A detailed financial report was given. Dave's report is available for inspection on request.

Station Activity Manager Report, K1RCT:

VHF/HF Egg beater antennas have been assembled. Some parts have been ordered. When they arrive, the antennas will be mounted on the middle pole. Rob is working on radio room usage protocol.

Groups.io was investigated as a possible email reflector but when tested, it didn't perform. N1GNV offered his but Rob will not change at this time. Rob reported that some ARRL contest rules have been relaxed regarding stations operating from home using a club call. Saturday fox hunts continue to be popular. K1RCT and NZ1J have deployed automatic fox boxes successfully. They are difficult to find and very challenging.

Remote station operation has not progressed due to other priorities.

Committees:

Entertainment/Activities: W1YSM is looking for topics and speakers for activity meetings.

Saturday Mornings: KB1JL presented a proposal developed by leadership and circulated by email to all members. The OEM can be open on a very limited basis.

Fox Hunts: A possible article about the club's success could be developed and submitted to QST. K1RCT suggested that a general interest article be prepared instead of the specific article to promote the club.

Website Update: Updates pertaining to club activities are kept current.

Contest Activation: N1YLN and K1RCT noted the SKCC is happening soon. Participants can use the club call, W1NRG, for extra points. A time slot needs to be scheduled for each participant. N1YLN is working on protocols for the November Sweepstakes.

Club Nets: The Net Managers gave excellent reports. All nets are thriving.

Castle Craig: N1API sent the local report to 10/10. He noted there will be a 10/10 Sprint on October 10.

Scholarship, N1ZN: The W1FD scholarship was presented to Marissa Gabriel in a brief ceremony at the OEM. Some committee members were present.

Membership: The club now has 88 dues paying members.

Interference and Technical: K1VDF noted that possible RF interference from the solar farm being constructed on town property by Ball Street could cause havoc in Wallingford. K1IIG voiced concerns. Collecting noise levels before the farm goes live was suggested.

Volunteer Examiner: KE1AY reported there will be three upcoming sessions with COVID protocols in place. No more than 10 people can be in the OEM at any time. Examiners need to contact KE1AY to be scheduled.

Key Klix: K1WJL stated the next issue will be dedicated to fox hunts.

EmCom/WARG: KB1JL reported there are no new activities except the soft opening of the OEM for Saturday morning activities advertised on the website.

Candy Store: N1ZN noted Bling continues to be available from Gold Medal Ideas.

Old Business: None

New Business: Virtual voting for Ham of the Year and Elmer of the Year was discussed. KC1HDB suggested using Survey Monkey to tabulate votes. K1RCT and KC1SA will investigate. In Person voting procedures were also discussed for election of officers. The finalized procedures will be distributed to members. Recorded votes: Approval of August Minutes: Unanimous

One new member voted into club: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted. Anne West, K1STM. Secretary

### **Product Review**

Eric KB1EHE, Rod Lane N1FNE, and John N1GNV recently found out that QST will be featuring the HybridDX antenna in the October issue. QST / ARRL provided them with the following press proof with ARRL copyright, so they could show it off. Eric said, "Wow. It has been 13 years since the spark of the idea, when I was fidgeting with a twist tie on a flight to Europe. Yep, 2007. And here we are, 2020, with the true honor of a Product Review in QST. The icing on the cake is that John and Quicksilver Radio will be carrying it. There's been so much support and encouragement over the many years. It's great to now be able to help the ham community with a nifty new antenna option."

# HybridDX Antenna for 160 – 6 Meters

Reviewed by Norm Fusaro, W3IZ w3iz@arrl.org

The HybridDX is a 135-foot doublet configured to fit into a smaller space. I wouldn't say it is a revolutionary design, but it does take a different approach to the idea of compressing a full-sized dipole into a tight space. The assembled HybridDX is 79 feet long and designed to work on 160 through 6 meters with an antenna tuner.

The manufacturer designed the bare copper radiating wire to be suspended from a supplied catenary line of heavy-duty dacron/polyester rope. The kit includes large and small spreaders that you attach to the support rope using cable ties (see Figure 13). After attaching the spreaders to the catenary line, you then thread the light-gauge solid antenna wire through the lower portion of the spreaders. In this configuration, the manufacturer claims to have an advantage over a typical doublet antenna.

#### Assembly

The HybridDX antenna is a kit. Assembly was rather easy. The main rope is clearly marked with colored tape at the intervals where you attach the spreaders. The red and white markers show the location of where large or small spreaders get attached to the rope. The instructions say to remove the tape before tightening the cable ties. I believe paint markings would have eliminated the tedious process of removing the tape, but there is no doubt that the premeasured markers made assembly a breeze. I had the entire antenna together in about an hour and a half.

#### Bottom Line

The HybridDX antenna is a 79-foot alternative to the typical 135-foot center-fed multiband dipole for operation on 160 through 6 meters.

The instructions suggest laying the antenna on the ground at the place where the antenna is going to be installed, or suspending it at shoulder height between two supports. I chose the latter because it put the work in front of me and eliminated the need for bending down. The instructions are very detailed and easy to follow. They suggest visiting the website for a diagram of the assembled antenna. It would have been nice if they had included a diagram on the back of the instruction sheet, so I would not have had to refer to the small picture on my phone. As this review wrapped up, Quicksilver Radio told us that an illustration is now included with antennas that are currently shipping.

The instructions offer a standard configuration and a configuration for maximum performance. Minimum suggested antenna height is 35 feet. The standard configuration lets the ends of the radiating wires dangle. These ends are almost 28 feet long, and you will have to use weights or some rope to keep the stiff wire straight and vertical.

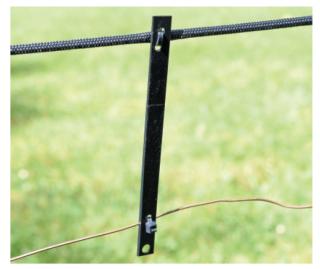


Figure 13 — Sturdy <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub>-inch UV-resistant dacron/polyester rope supports the #18 AWG solid antenna wire. The wire is quite stiff, and it takes some experimentation to get it to look like the photo at www.hybriddx.com.

Reprinted with permission; copyright ARRL.

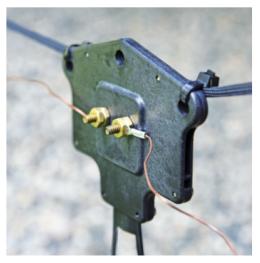


Figure 14 — The center insulator and 75-foot, 450  $\Omega$  feed line are preassembled.

The maximum performance configuration uses plastic clips and nylon fishing line to bring the end back under the element to form "precisely calculated loops created by the wire and fishing line." I configured the antenna for maximum performance not so much for the performance, but to get the ends off the ground. Again, it may take a little work to get the loops to stay in the shape shown in the drawing online.

The design of the antenna is for those with limited space, and many hams in that situation also lack supports of any great height. I was able to get the antenna up just over 40 feet above the ground, which prevented the loops from catching anyone by the neck.

The HybridDX antenna includes a 75-foot piece of 450  $\Omega$  window line preassembled to a center insulator (see Figure 14). Unlike some doublet designs, such as G5RV, the length of the parallel feed line is not important with the HybridDX antenna design, so you may



Reprinted with permission; copyright ARRL.

trim or add to the feed line as needed to fit your installation. I was able to use the feed line as supplied.

#### **Tuner Required**

Antenna systems of this design require an antenna tuning unit (ATU). Most ATUs built inside transceivers do not have enough range to match the broad range of impedances presented by this antenna system, so an external unit is required. In addition to being able to match impedance over a wide range, the antenna tuning unit used must also have a balanced output connection, otherwise an external balun will be needed so that the unbalanced-to-balanced transition is present. If your tuner is not designed for use with balanced feed lines, the instructions recommend connecting the supplied 450  $\Omega$  feed line to a 1:1 current balun, and then connecting to the antenna tuner with less than 20 feet of high-quality coaxial cable.

For this review, I used an SGC-239 automatic antenna coupler located outside on a table in the garden as far as the twin-lead from the antenna would reach, and then I used RG-8X coax to connect the tuner to the radio inside the house. After clearing the memories in the auto tuner, I was able to achieve SWR readings of less than 1.5:1 on all amateur bands from 160 through 10 meters. (The tuner does not cover 6 meters.)

#### **Making Contacts**

On-air performance was what I expected from the doublet antenna when used with my 100 W transceiver. I was able to make contacts on 40- and 80-meter SSB, and I even contacted some European stations on 20-meter CW. Having an automatic antenna coupler made band changes quick and easy.

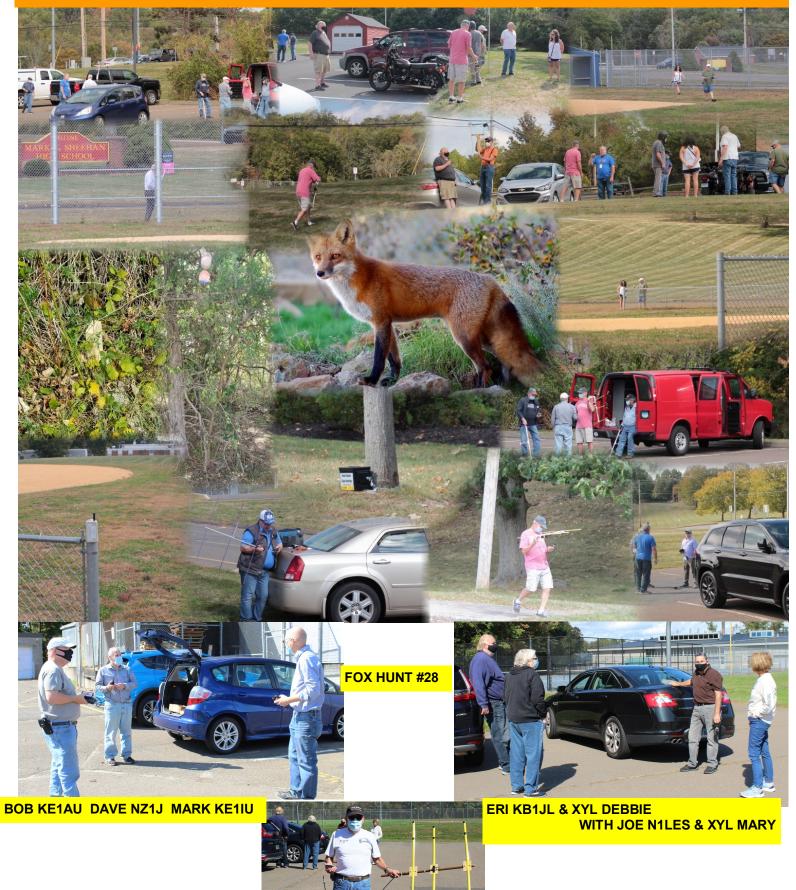
I changed tuners to the ubiquitous MFJ-941 manual antenna tuner. Changing bands was easy by tuning for maximum receiver noise before making final adjustments while transmitting.

#### **Bottom Line**

Time will tell if the HybridDX antenna materials will withstand wind, snow, and ice, but for this test, everything stayed up. I can't say if the HybridDX worked any better or worse than the doublet that I normally use at my site, but if you have a tight space and two tallenough supports, the HybridDX could be a solution to your antenna needs. Support is available online from a Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/ HybridDXantenna.

Available from Quicksilver Radio, **www.qsradio.com**. More information is available from **www.hybriddx.com**. Price: \$119.73.

### A KC1SA ORIGINAL, A COLLAGE OF FOX HUNT # 27



TED KC1DOY

N1GNV & QUICKSILVER RADIO HAVE A NEW LINE OF TESTBOARDS CALLED "QUIK-TINES" ...EASY TO USE, CHEAP, COME WITH AVAILABLE ADD-ONS LIKE UP TO DATE CHIPSETS(POTATO,CORN,DORITO ETC), INSULATING DIPS & EDIBLE WHEN FRUSTRATED....



Condolences to Jeff N1AKN on the recent Funeral of his beloved Jeep..pictured here on the Funeral Hearse.... In lieu of flowers please send Yaesu or Kenwood rigs to his home address.



IT'S MARC'S OFFICIAL *"LITTLE MISS FOX"* JIM N1ZN'S GRANDAUGHTER AUBREY HUGGING THAT TREE JUST LIKE THE FIAB!



IN REALITY JIM TOLD HER SHE HAD TO CLEAN UP THAT COAX MESS. AND SHE CHOSE TO BE CHAINED TO THE TREE...





## FROM S.A.M. ROB CICHON K1RCT Chris Sievert Radio Room

Sanitary Usage Procedure

# This applies to all who use the Radio Room Equipment

- Town of Wallingford pandemic guidance will be followed by All Members while using the Radio Room.
- · Sign-in on the Operator Log as you enter the radio room.
- · One Operator in the radio room side, one person may be allowed on the EOC Office side (Lenny's Office).
  - A temporary barrier is in-place separating the two sides.
  - Access to each side shall be by the door associated with that side.
  - Whomever opens the radio room shall sanitize the radio room common surfaces prior to opening the room to Members such as: • Chair arm-rests, table surfaces, chair back-rests, light switches, door knobs, door jambs, window locking & control surfaces, etc.
- The window on the North side of the radio room must be opened unless weather dictates otherwise (less than 50F degrees outside temperature or actively inclement weather).
- Whether alone or with proper distancing, masks will be in-use while inside the radio room.
- · Whomever opens the radio room shall sanitize the lockout & control surfaces of all power controls prior to power-up.
- · Whomever opens the radio room shall sanitize the control surfaces of all power controls after power-down and lockout.
- During actual on-air use of the gear and computer equipment:
  - Each Operator must wipe-down all radio, computers and their accessories prior to use.
  - Disposable sanitary covers are available and must be used by each Operator to cover all microphones, headsets and headphones prior to using the radios.
  - After each Operator has completed on-air radio use, the Operator must remove the covers & dispose of them.
  - Each Operator must wipe-down all radio, computers and their accessories after-use.
- Sign-out of the Operator Log as you exit the radio room.

# Storage of microphone and headphone covers



### Covers in-use



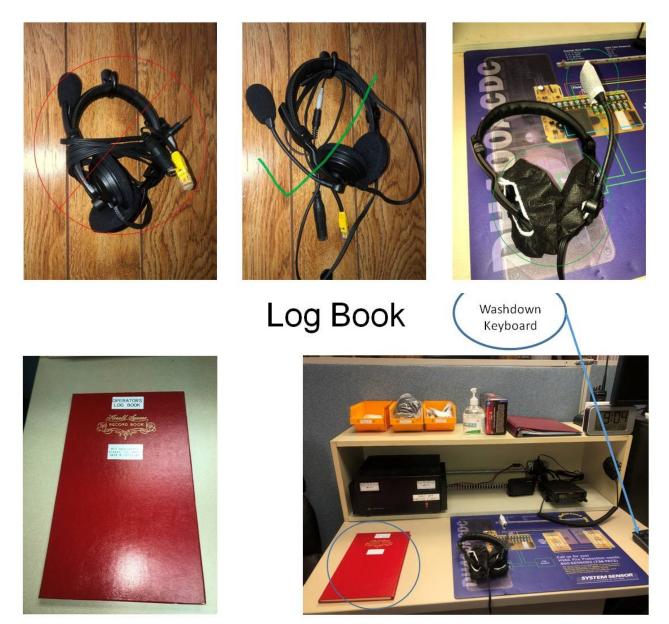


# Covers in-use





# Headsets



# RIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

**OFFICERS OF MARC** PRESIDENT.....W1YSM ED SNYDER VICE PRES.....KB1JL ERIC OLSSON SECT......K1STM ANNE WEST TRES......K1WJL DAVE SWEDOCK STATION A.M...K1RCT ROB CICHON

MEETINGS: NORMALLY 7:30PM ON THE 2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH, UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, THE HOPE HILL ROAD FIREHOUSE / EOC 143 HOPE HILL ROAD, WALLINGFORD ALL MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

> MAILING ADDRESS: MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB POB 583, MERIDEN CT. 06450

CLUB NETS				
6 MTR NET	MONDAYS 8PM			
50.175MHZ	N1ZN JIM			
2 METER NET	TUESDAYS 7:30PM			
	K1TDO TODD			
10 METER NET	TUESDAYS 8PM			
28.375MHZ	K1VDF JOHN			
10/10 CASTLE C	RAIG CHAPTER			
(CONCURRENTL)	Y WQITH CLUB NET)			
28.375MHZ TUESD	AYS 8PM N1API AL			
2 METER TECH NET	Thursdays 7:30PM			
	on-MARC meeting nites)			
	RATED BY VARIOUS			
AMATEURS WITH DIF	FERENT TECHNICAL			
TOPICS AND	Q&A SESSION			
2 METER COFFEE	CUP NET SAT 9AM			
147.36+ NO PL	W1YSM ED			
THE HAC ALCO	A CIMULTANICOUR			

(THIS HAS ALSO A SIMULTANEOUS SECONDARY NET OF SORTS THROUGH THE VIDEO TELECONFERENCING W1NRG JITSI SITE)

WEBSITE:	(USE LOWERCASE)
www	.w1nrg.com

FORUM / BBS: www.w1nrg.com/forum/ or go to website and follow links

**CASTLE CRAIG 10-10 WEBSITE:** go to www.w1nrg.com and follow the links

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

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER									
AB1DQ	James Surprenant	22R	N1BF	Patrick Dionne	21R				
AB1HB	Charlie Dudac	20S	N1BRL	Bart Toftness	20S				
AF1HS	Art Fregeau	205	N1GNV	John Bartscherer	20S				
K1IIG	Steve Tripp	205	N1GY	Geoff Haines	21S				
K1JCF	Joe Farrell	205	N1HCA	Susan South	20R				
K1LHO	Mike Ash	205	N1IBE	Wade Martell	215				
K1LYP	John Yusza	215	N1KGY	Chuck Ayers	20R				
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy		N1LES	Joe Murray	21R				
K1MVM	Mike Macri	205	N1MOB	Dan David	20R				
K1RCT	Rob Cichon	20R	N1NAN	Helen Spokes	20S				
K1SCI	Stuart Isaac	20R	N10KF	Bob Parisi	20R				
K1STM	Anne West	205	N10KR	Frank Ciccone	205				
K1TDO	Todd Olsen	20R	N1POP	Greg Ploski	24S				
K1TGX	Jerry Molaver	225	N1QYB	William Wilecki Jr.	205				
K1VDF	John Blevins	20S	N1YLN	Edward O'Lena	20R				
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	20S	N1ZN	James Savage	205				
KB1CIW	Bob Stephens	20S	NZ1J	Dave Tipping	22R				
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	203 20R	W1AJK	Andrew Kazimer	20R				
KB1FYL	Bob Carruthers	20K	W1DQ	John Elengo	205				
	Jonathan Winslow		W1EDX	Paul Stasieluk	205				
KB1HCC KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews		W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	L				
		20R 20S	W1KPS	Kevin Shields	20R				
KB1JL	Eric Olsson		W1LV	Steve Morley	20R				
KB1MFU	John Ramadei	21R	W1NHS	Fred Ring	205				
KB1SIT	Teresa Stephens	20S	W1NNZ	William Kosche III	205				
KB1SSN	Alex Dills	20R	W1POP	Fred Liedke	215				
KB1TJD	Gainne Jenkins	20S	W1FOF		213 20R				
KB1TMC	Clare O'Lena	20R	W1UFO	Stephen Stimpson Mike Cei	20R				
KB1YFJ	Glen Couture	20R	W10F0	Stan Kugler	205				
KC1DOY	Ted Renzoni	20S	W1YSM		203 22R				
KC1GMD	Ralph Ring	20R	WA1FFT	Ed Snyder	20S				
KC1HDB	Jeff Martin	28R		Ray Irwin	203 21S				
KC1HFO	John Stoidis	20R	WA1JKR WA1SFH	John Rogus	213 20R				
KC1IIK	Scott Mowerson	20R		Douglas Sharafanowich	L				
KC1IIL	Matt Mowerson	20Y	WA1TRY WA1ZVY	Rich Aubin					
KC1ISI	Kristin Olsson	20R		Jim Martin	205				
KC1KQH	John Kasinskas	20S	WB1GGP	Jerry Shepard	205				
KC1MBG	Robert Luby	20R	WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	20S				
KC1NQE	Shawn Warren	21R	WB8IMY	Steve Ford	20R				
KC1NXP	Andrew Paolillo	21R	WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	205				
KC1PU	Bob Woodtke Jr.	21R	W3APC	James Cook	215				
KC1SA	Stephen Allen	21R	W9OTW	Debbie Foss	20R				
KE1AU	Robert Kaczor	205	Ron Rogers 20						
KE1AV	Dave Sanford	20R	MEMBERSHIP STATS						
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	20S	TOTAL MEMBERS88 (89) REGULAR(UNDER65)41 (42)						
KR1U	Bob Eslinger	20S	SENIOR(OVER 65)41						
N1AKN	Jeff Dwyer	20R	LIFE2						
N1API	Al Kaiser	205	STUDE	NT(UNDER 18)1					

CLUB DUES STRUCTURE (JAN-DEC) UP TO 64 YRS OF AGE--\$20/YR SENIOR DISCOUNT 65 & UP--\$15 ANY MEMBER WHO IS A LICENSED HAM, **18 & UNDER WILL BE GIVEN FREE DUES.** 





**20S** 

21S 20R 20S

