

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

January 2014

The business meeting opened promptly at 19:30 EST on January 9, 2014 with 16 people in attendance. See call sign listing on next page. A quorum was present. The meeting was chaired by President, Jim N1ZN.

Announcements - none

Introductions – All present at the meeting verbally introduced themselves and signed the log sheet.

Secretary's Report -

- December's minutes accepted as read by Paul, K1SEZ, with one correction for Al, N1API's name. Several printed copies were given to members of the executive group present.

Treasurer's Report -

- Treasurer's report given by Haggie, KB1HCC was read, with several questions from the floor. Comments were made by the Ad Hoc audit review committee and after a few positive comments by the executive committee and suggestions about expenditures being annotated more, a general acceptance of the 2014 financial report was stated. There will be no formal written audit committee report, and general kudos was offered to our treasurer for his consistent, accurate efforts in keeping the club's books. Don, KE1AY seconded the motion by Jim, N1ZN to accept the report.

Contributions

- None

Correspondence

- None, but after a general discussion, Rich, WA1TRY, volunteered to visit the Meriden post office box at least once a week for any letters or other correspondence coming to our P.O. box.

Scholarship – Don, KE1AY announced that MARC letters were sent to the Guidance Counselors' offices at the Cheshire, Meriden, and Wallingford high schools announcing this year's scholarship offering, with a deadline of May 1, 2014. A discussion evolved about the improved financial position of MARC and the possibility of offering a larger annual grant in the future, but action was deferred at this time. The possibilities discussed were one \$1,000 or two \$500 amounts.

Club Station & Facilities – Rich, WA1TRY reported that all equipment was OK, and we needed to decide and work on installing several local HF and VHF antennas at the fire house. Some approvals are still needed from the town in doing this installation. Some discussion ensued recognizing our solid financial position and whether we should consider replacing our old Kenwood transceiver. It was noted that the town of Wallingford owns one of the two radios that we now use.

Club Activities & Program – Bob, KB1FYL, was given another round of applause for his work last year in this area, and he was presented with his two Elmer-of-the-Year award certificates.

- Upcoming activity meetings- a friend of Andy Poniros who has been an adventurer and journalist, Jim Clash, may be available for the MARC Activities meeting on January 23rd. To be announced.

- Potential future activities: LOTW by ARRL, trip to W1AW, spec event on MARC 60+ Anniversary, and Tune-Up Night

- Always looking for ideas and presenters.

Nets - All nets are doing well considering the season.

- HF-SSB 28.375 Tuesdays at 8:00 PM, Primary NC John K1VDF.
- VHF-FM 147.36R Tuesdays at 7:00 PM, Primary NC Todd K1TDO.
- VHF-SSB 50.175 Mondays at 8 PM, Primary NC Jim N1ZN.

Castle Craig – Al, N1API remarked on the 10 meter band activity due to the recent higher solar spot numbers

Membership – Haggie, KB1HCC reported on the number of MARC members. A sheet to confirm everyone's Email address was passed around for our use in contacting everyone.

- Fifty (50) 2013 members more or less.

Interference and Technical – Rich, WA1TRY

- No reported problems.

Repeater - Bill, W1KKF, no problems evident

Instruction & Testing – Don, KE1AY, reported that there was no currently planned VE session.

- Next VE session at Nutmeg Hamfest in October
- No additional testing and classes scheduled at this time. Paul, K1SEZ, brought up the interest offered by the town's **Parks & Rec department** to offer us a listing in their upcoming spring activities guide for either an **introduction to ham radio** or **basic radio & electronics course** at their building. This will be discussed separately among the MARC executive group and other interested members.

Candy Store - See Jim N1ZN for availability and details.

Club Media - An open discussion of the club's old website brought recognition for the nice work currently being done by Mark, K1PU, a veteran web creator. He is working with the new MARC executive group to move our old existing web images and files from the old website.

Field Day (June-fourth full weekend) – This year will be **June 27, 28, 29th** at Marcus Cooke Park. Chris, WA1VXH will send in a note to the Parks & Rec department with our request and requirements.

EmComm – Chris, WA1VXH noted that Douglas, WA1SFH, our Section 2 Coordinator is still looking for a Wallingford ham to be the RACES local town coordinator.

Key Klix – Rich, WA1TRY discussed the need for a new editor to take over the task. Distribution would be strictly limited to PDF file sent by Email to all club members. Several members said they would make a paper copy for the few who cannot receive Email. Mark, K1PU said Key Klix could become a simple one or two page item and become an adjunct of the new website.

New Business – Don, KE1AY said that additional names were needed for the mutual fund documentation. He will pursue this goal with the new executive members of the MARC.

-Paul, K1SEZ discussed the upcoming ARISS contact via a "telebridge" arrangement with a ham radio ground station, K6DUE, in Silver Spring, MD on January 18, 2014. This will culminate the ARISS work to assist the local STEM Academy kids at the SCOW center (Wallingford) begun last spring '13.

50/50 – None

Meeting Adjourned by voice vote about 21:00

Submitted: Paul Ciezniak, K1SEZ, Secretary

Meeting Attendees on January 9, 2014 (16 members)

AF1HS, Art

K1LYP, John

K1MVM, Mike

K1PU, Mark

K1SEZ, Paul (secretary)

KB1FYL, Bob

KB1HCC, Haggie (treasurer)

KE1AU, Bob

KE1AY, Don

N1API, Al (vice president)

N1BF, Pat

N1ZN, Jim (president)

W1KKF, Bill

WA1TRY, Rich (station manager)

WA1VXH, Chris

WV2LKM, Steve