



Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.) February 2015

The business meeting opened at 7:30PM EDST on February 12, 2015 with 12 people in attendance. A quorum was present. Officers present:

Bill (W1KKF), Al (N1API), Haggie (KB1HCC) and Steve (KC1AXJ).

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

Announcements – Next meeting 2/26 – Activity meeting: Subject – DMR presentation by Steve (K1IIG)

Paul (K1SEZ) has accepted the position of Public Information Officer for our club.

Program and Entertainment chairman is Bob (KB1FYL) is stepping down from this role due to other obligations so the club is looking for a new person in this role. The person in this role coordinates presenters for our activity meetings/field trips/etc.

Introductions – Intro's were kicked off and all 12 present introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – January's report was posted. No comments from members present.

Treasurer's Report – Financial details were discussed.

Contributions – None

Correspondence – One QSL card, Member applications from Dennis (NY2HF) and Eric (KB1JL), both were voted in as members during the meeting.

Scholarship – Recognition and discussion of 2000 recipient letter received last month.

Club Station & Facilities –

Rich (WA1TRY) reported finding old club flag and plaques.

Poles at club house (3 poles at 60 feet apart), work has not begun. Chris (WA1VXH) reported the town needs one more signature to get sign-off for the poles. Work on the office (shack) hasn't started.

Two action items: Dates for work start / completion on the office and the same for the poles.

Club Activities & Program (the 4th Thursday of the month) – DMR presentation on February 26th at the club house.

Nets –

10M – Net is healthy with 10 or so folks participating weekly.

6M - Like the 10M Net, healthy

2M – Light activity. Discussed possibly moving to 7:30PM on Tuesday to help with Net activity

Castle Craig – Band was open this past weekend for the 10-10 contest. One new member added to Castle Craig chapter (Steve – KC1AXJ)

Hamfests – Meeting at the beginning of March with board of directors. Bill (W1KKF) to set that meeting date/time.



Key Klix – Great job Dave (K1WJL). Actively looking for picture to post in Key Klix please send shack pictures, events, etc. to Dave for publication. A vintage photo was found and will be in a future Key Klix.

Membership – There are still a number of past members that have not paid their 2015 club dues. Dues are \$15, \$10 for over 65 and \$5 for additional family members. Payment can be sent to:

Meriden ARC
P.O. Box 583
Meriden, CT. 06450

Brought up during the treasurer's report, there are currently a number of members that have not paid dues. There are 6 members from 2013 that have not paid 2014 or 2015 dues and will be soon removed from the roster. There are approximately 14 to 16 members from 2014 that have not paid 2015 dues. Notifications have been sent via Key Klix to pay dues.

Interference and Technical – None reported

Repeater – Not discussed

Instruction & Testing – Nothing to report. Tabled to see if anyone wanted to start a class but there were no takers.

Candy Store – Jim (N1ZN) reported his investigation into Jackets, Hats, and T-Shirts. Jim will be ordering 10 hats to begin with for purchase by members. The hats will be grey and sport our club's correct color logo and about \$10 each. Jim will further investigate T-Shirts (short sleeve) that will be blue with all white club logo. Badges were also discussed, <http://www.thesignman.com/> and has our logo on file. Rough cost is about \$11.50 with safety pin attachment. Badges will not be ordered by the club, rather members would order their own badges if you'd like one.

1997 (50th Anniversary) Meriden ARC club coffee cups are still available for purchase - \$7

Club Media – Not discussed

EmComm – Joe (KC1BAQ) is leaving Connecticut for his new Parish in the Philadelphia area the Best of luck to Joe. Joe has been a great club member and has done a great job in the EC role for Wallingford. Chris (WA1VXH) has volunteered to step in to this role with Joe's departure.

Misc Old Business – Plaques/Awards discussion was tabled. There are a lot of plaques that need to be re-mounted on a new award board. There are two plaques (1st edition and 2nd edition). Rick (WA1TRY) has taken the lead and getting the current name plates/plaques remounted on to a new board. The new plaque will be hung in the new shack at the club when completed. Suggestion was tabled to put a virtual plaque site on our website. Rich (WA1TRY) suggested having the plaques displayed at the Meriden public library and (Rich) will discuss with Mark (K1PU) about putting a virtual plaque page on our website and with Paul (K1SEZ) about putting plaque at the library.

The audit of 2014 treasury will be conducted by Jim (N1ZD) and John (K1VDF) and Haggie (KB1HCC) to send all needed paper work to Jim and John for review process.



Club search on the ARRL was tabled. Steve (KC1AXJ) explained the response from the ARRL. The ARRL acknowledged search engine is not optimal and is being looked at.

Jim (N1ZN) fixed the ARRL information of club officers. Bill (W1KKF) will look at this as well to add in the addresses and fix up the area served and perhaps would address the club lookup problem.

Rich (WA1TRY) fixed up QRZ or QSL.net the club information on these sites.

K1PU has now registered our logo as Meriden ARC, so now this is reported in more google searches (reported by Rick WA1TRY).

Some discussion / questions about who is the clubs' QSL manager, that contact is Bob (KE1AU).

WiFi – Reported by Rob (KC1ACN): Recommendation is to keep the plan we have which is \$10 / month on a month to month basis which is probably the best plan. Rich stated that there is a dedicated phone line at the club house which could also be used for cluster lookups. This is something that can be checked pretty easily since there are NetZero dial in numbers for Wallingford 203 area code (678-1809, 678-1226, 678-0021 649-0024). Chris (WA1VXH) reported that since the state is leaving the DMR repeater at the club house but that state may require some kind of connection to the cloud for the repeater and the club may be able to have access. Recommend to stay with the \$10 / month (Rob pays and Haggie reimburse Rob)

New Business –

Field Day Flyers / advertising was tabled by Steve (KC1AXJ). Jim (N1ZN) can print up a flyer that can be put in the Library, grocery stores, etc. Steve (KC1AXJ) can check with the local Wallingford Y and with Community Access channel. As Field Day gets closer we can table this for further discussions/action items.

The meeting adjourned by voice vote about 8:34 PM EDST to continue informal discussions around the coffee and cookies.

Submitted: Steve Allen KC1AXJ, Secretary

Meeting Attendees on February 12, 2015

K1LYP	John Yusza
K1VDF	John Blevins
K1WJL	Dave Swedock
KB1HCC	Haggie
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon
KC1AXJ	Steve Allen
N1API	Al Kaiser
N1ZN	Jim Savage
W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak
WA1TRY	Rich Aubin
WA1VXH	Chris Sievert
WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur