



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

The business meeting opened at 7:30 PM EST on July 14, 2016 with 25 people in attendance!

Officers present:

Bill (W1KKF), Al (N1API), Dave (K1WJL), Steve (KC1SA), Rob (K1RCT)

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

Announcements – The next meeting is the activity meeting on 7/28/2016. This is the Lark in the Park event and is at Marcus Cooke Park in Wallingford.

Introductions – All in attendance introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – The June 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 – A Vanguard statement, a QSL card and CT acceptance of Nutmeg Business filing.

Program & Entertainment –

July activity meeting -- Lark in the park at Marcus Cooke Park

August activity meeting - Quad Antenna discussion

September activity meeting -- Raspberry PI discussion

October activity meeting -- Antenna Making

November activity meeting - no meeting

December 7th - Tom Gallagher (NY2RF) will be speaking at the Club House and not the Wallingford Library as was indicated in last month's meeting (The Wallingford Library now has a conflict so we moved the venue to the club house.).

December 8th – Holiday dinner at Brother's Restaurant.

Scholarship – Nothing to report.

Club Station & Facilities – Rob (K1RCT) reported on field day operation. The filter that Ed (W1YSM) donated to the club helped to provide interference free operation between CW and SSB stations. Many thanks to those that helped set up and take down equipment for the event. A problem with the Ten-Tec tuner was found and didn't function correctly. Rob found it had a loose locknut on the band selector switch and a corroded roller inductor. Rob fixed these problems with the tuner and all is back to normal. Also, one of the 20A power supply switch needs replacing. Rob has ordered that switch and will replace once it arrives.

Last week the club operated IARU contest from the club house, there were 4 operators with a mix of CW and SSB operation.

Brought up at the meeting was the topic of needing another key to the building. Bill (W1KKF) advised Rob (K1RCT) to make another key to the facility.

Club Activities & Program (the 4th Thursday of the month) - Next activity meeting is July 28th at Marcus Cooke Park in Wallingford. This is the Lark in the Park event and kicks off at 6PM. Please bring a desert/salad/snack to share with others, the club will provide Hamburg's, Hotdogs and soft drinks. If you'd like to bring along radio equipment that's fine too.

Nets –

6M – Jim (N1ZN) also gave a report on recent Net activity. This Net is on 50.175 MHz each Monday at 8PM local time.

10M – John (K1VDF) gave a report of recent activity. This Net is on 28.375 MHz each Tuesday at 8PM local time.

2M – Todd (K1TDO) usually has between 4 to 8 check in's for the 2M Net. This Net is on the 147.360 MHz repeater each Tuesday at 7PM local time.

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. Net will kick off at 7:45PM Friday August 6th, just prior to the QSO party beginning on 28.375 MHz. Spirit of 76 was at the beginning of the month, Al (N1API) made 46 points for the club.

VE session – Discussion was opened on how to best organize a VE sessions. Don (KE1AY) will give some future dates that will be posted on the W1NRG page for VE sessions. The plan is to have one session every three months.

Key Klix – Excellent job Dave(K1WJL). Dave is always looking for articles and pictures. Keep them coming.

Membership – 6 members were dropped from the roster for non-payment of dues. New members applied for membership; Bob Lombardo (W1NDT), Mike MacKennedy (K1MMK), Anne West (K1STM), John Stoidis (no call sign yet), and Ralph Ring (KE4EYA). A motion was made and voted on to include these new members; a unanimous vote accepted these five new members to the club. Welcome to the club folks.

Dave (K1WJL) reported that we have 71 members with tonight's new additions in the club. As a reminder for old and new members:

1. Dues are to be paid by January 1. Dues are \$15.
2. 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.
3. After July 1 of calendar year, a delinquent dues member can pay \$5 to make membership current **plus** pay next year's dues (total of \$20).
4. 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.

Also, for new and old members there is a Club Welcome Guide PDF document at the following URL:
http://www.w1nrg.com/website/Club_Information/Club_Information.html

Interference and Technical – Rich (WA1TRY) was not present. If anyone has issues with Interference and Technical issues let Bill (W1KKF) know and he'll let Rich know about the problem.

Repeater – Not discussed.

Hamfest - The event is on schedule. Hotel is booked. Bill (W1KKF) indicated that our featured speakers (Balloon Launch and Skywarn) have backed out. Bob (KB1FYL) will reach out to an acquaintance that knows Rick Mastracchio (KC5ZTE) to see if Rick will speak at our event.

Candy Store – Bill (W1KKF) displayed a Jacket and Name badge from Gold Medal Ideas (<http://www.goldmedalideas.com/0>). The jacket patch is embroidered (not an iron on patch). The jackets are \$70. It's is a lined windbreaker type jacket. The name badges are \$12 and are printed (not engraved) and use magnets rather than pins as a means of attaching to your clothes. Eventually Gold Medal ideas will have a Web Page for MARC where we can place orders. There is a winter jacket for \$115 as well. All are very good quality and look very nice.

EmComm – No news. Nothing from Ernie on our move to the new facility, so the August meeting will be at our current location

Misc. Old Business –

Field Day - Field day was a success. There was a lot of Walk-Ins and had a couple of young folks make their first HF contact.

N1ZN is working on submitting the package to the ARRL. There were 530 QSO for CW (1060 points), 0 digital QSO, and 272 QSO for SSB (272 points) 1332 points for QSOs. 2X power multiplier for using less than 150W brings the QSO point total to 2664.

Bonus points –

100% emergency power	- 200 points (100 / transmitter)	– Chris (WA1VXH) to get letter from the Fire Chief
Media publicity	- 100 points	
Set up in a public facility	- 100 points	
Information booth	- 100 points	
Section Manager Message	- 100 points	
Field day message	- 100 points	
Message handling	- 0 points	
Sat QSO	- 100 points	
Natural power 5 QSOs	- 100 points	
Site visit by elected official	- 100 points	
Site visit by served agency	- 0 points	
Educational activity	- 100 points	(using Bob (Kb1FYL) & Gianne's (KB1TJD) Telescope Sun Spot education)
Youth Element achieved	- 40 points	
GOTA bonus	- 0	
E4H app on line submittal	- 50 points	
Safety officer	- N/A	
Social media bonus	- 100 points	
Bonus point total	- 1290 points	
Total points	- 3954 points	

Elmer of the Year

Rob (K1RCT) is nearly complete with this task. Rob will finish up working on the digital interface to the rigs then go back and work on the Award Photoshop file.

New Business –

U.S. Islands Award Program - Fireworks Island, John B (N1GNV) submitted application to the US Islands Awards Program and Fireworks Island has been assigned CT037. The event for operating the W/VE Island QSO party is August 27th (Saturday) from 8AM to 11PM local time. If we make 25 contacts in at least 2 DX entities then the island is designated CT037R, and W1NRG and the operators call-signs will be listed as qualifiers of this island for all time.. Last year's event was a lot of fun from CT035L and this year will be more of the same. Contact John B. (N1GNV) if you want to schedule a time slot to operate. Learn more about the QSO party at the following URL: <http://www.usislands.org/> Fireworks Island is very easy to get to by car from 380 Main Street, Yalesville (Route 150). Access is from "Yalesville on the Green Luxury Condominiums".

Mobile Hotspot – The question of having a hotspot was discussed. Having internet is very useful in QSO parties and contests. The club has a hot spot that costs \$30 / month. The club decided not to keep the hot spot active month-to-month but instead activate the hotspot as needed. The hotspot is with T-Mobile and each time the hotspot is reactivated for a month the club is charged a reactivation fee in addition to the month fee, bringing the total to \$53.65 to activate the hotspot (if it was not activated the month prior). The hotspot was used for the IARU contest and the club will reimburse Rob (K1RCT) for the \$53.65. Steve (KC1SA), Rob (K1RCT) and John (K1VDF) will present to the club next month recommended options for club hotspot activation in the future.

Floor Fans – Al (N1API) would like the club to purchase two floor fans. Al to research cost and bring this up next month.

Meeting was closed at 8:50 PM

Meeting Attendees on July 14, 2016

Call Sign	Name	July '16
AB1DQ	James Surprenant	Y
K1LHO	Mike Ash	Y
K1LYP	John Yusza	Y
K1VDF	John Blevins	Y
K1WJL	Dave Swedock	Y
KB1EHE	Eric Knight	Y
KB1FYL	Robert W. Carruthers	Y
KB1IFZ	Elsie Mathews	Y
KB1JL	Eric Olssen	Y
KC1ACN	Rob Cichon	Y
KC1SA	Stephen Allen	Y
KE1AY	Donald Mitchell	Y
N1API	Al Kaiser	Y

Call Sign	Name	July '16
N1ZN	James Savage	Y
W1ATV	Walter Yatsook	Y
W1DQ	John Elengo	Y
W1KKF	Bill Wawrzeniak	Y
W1YSM	Ed Snyder	Y
WA1VXH	Christian Sievert	Y
WB1GYZ	Bob Biancur	Y
WV2LKM	Steve Waldmann	Y
K1MMK	Mike MacKennedy	New Mem.
KE4EYA	Ralph Ring	New Mem.
	John Stoidis	New Mem.
K1STM	Anne West	New Mem.