



P.O.Box 583

Meriden Amateur Radio Club

Meriden, CT 06450



## Secretary Report & Minutes of Meriden Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.) February 2017

The MARC February business meeting opened at 7:30 PM EST on February 16, 2017 at the Hope Hill Road EOC. This meeting was rescheduled from our normal meeting date due to storm conditions on the 9<sup>th</sup>. There were 20 members and one guest in attendance.

Officers present:

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

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

**Announcements** – Our next meeting is February 23<sup>rd</sup> (activity meeting). Anyone that needs a background check form, see Steve (KC1SA) for a copy.

**Introductions** – All in attendance introduced themselves.

**Secretary's Report** – The January Secretary's Report was published on the W1NRG site and is recorded as read.

**Treasurer's Report** – Dave (K1WJL) gave a treasurers report and was accepted as reported.

**Contributions** – none.

**Correspondence** – Two membership dues, a new member application with dues check, two background check forms, two MFJ 2017 catalogs and a Vanguard tax document were all received. Checks and tax documents were given to Dave (K1WJL) and the MFJ catalogs are in the shack area. The background check forms were delivered to the Fire Chief earlier in the week by Steve (KC1SA).

**Program & Entertainment** – Ed (W1YSM) reviewed upcoming activity meeting dates and topics. Near term activities:

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – N1MM+ demo/training

March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sorting club old library books

As a reminder there will be a pre-training session before the normal activity meeting. On February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30PM to 7:30PM a discussion on Packet will be presented by N1URO. If you are interested in learning about Packet come to this pre-meeting. Next month's pre-activity meeting on March 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the second half of this Packet presentation.

**Scholarship** – Don (KE1AY) was not present. As a reminder, the scholarship is open to Meriden students graduating from Platt, Wilcox or Maloney High Schools and is \$1000. Rob (K1RCT) reported that the Meriden BOE (member Kosienski) advised we get the requirements information to their schools ASAP. Steve (KC1SA) will email Don to see if he can get us that information. Jim (N1ZN) will check documents he may have from past years to see if he can find the suitable doc.

{Note: Don emailed Steve and stated the requirements are on the club web page. Steve will print these and deliver them to the three schools during the week of 2/20.}

**Club Station & Facilities** – Rob (K1RCT) presented status for the month. The Dual band (VHF/UHF) Kenwood station is operational and set for 10W output power. An A/B switch is installed to connect the

dipole / tuner/amp to either HF rig. The 'spider' is nearly operational which will allow for digital operating modes.

CQ WW 160 SSB is next weekend. The shack will be operating in this contest, contact Rob if you want to operate at the station. There is a CPR/AED class that Saturday morning so Operator and Logger only in the building that morning since the building will be pretty full. ARRL DX SSB is March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>; we are looking to operate this event from the club.

### **Nets –**

6M – Jim (N1ZN) reported the number of check-ins. 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 – Rob (K1RCT) reported for Todd (K1TDO) reported 5 check in's for the 2M Net this past week. This Net is on the 147.360 MHz repeater each Tuesday at 7PM local time.

**Castle Craig** – Get your logs from the QSO party onto the 10-10 site. Al (N1API) stated only his and the club's log were posted. For future 10-10 contest events, Al is thinking of adding a second net on Sunday afternoons.

**VE session** – A VE session is scheduled for Saturday May 13, 2017 and is posted on the ARRL site too. Check in with Don (KE1AY) if you can donate the couple hours to help out at the session.

**Key Klix** – Dave (K1WJL) is always looking for articles from members so keep the information rolling into Dave.

**Membership** – KB1TTV, Jonathan Martin, applied for membership and paid his dues. Jonathan is a General and WA1ZVY is his Dad (Jim, thanks for the referral). The club voted and accepted Jonathan into the club. Welcome!

KC1GEV, Carl Nilson, submitted his membership application. Carl will bring dues check to the activity meeting next week and we will vote on Carl acceptance into the club at that time.

Membership is at 77 (78 with Carl).

**Interference and Technical** – Nothing to report.

**Repeater** – Not discussed.

**Hamfest** – Our first Hamfest meeting is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>, all 10 Nutfest Hamfest committee members have accepted the date.

**Candy Store** – Gold Medal Ideas now has several types of shirts and a hat has been added to our landing page for Meriden ARC on their web page. Here's the link to Gold Medal Ideas: <http://stores.goldmedalideas.com/ygs>

**AuxComm** – Chris (WA1VXH) had nothing to report.

### **Old Business:**

Go kit – Committee meeting was held. Chris (WA1VXH) is submitting the proposal to Len to see if the town will fund the build of the Go-box. Basically it's the same Kenwood radio we have for 2M in the station with battery and mag mount antenna.

Education – Steve (KC1SA) reported additional conversations with George Bikakis at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School. At the moment George has indicated he doesn't have a lot of interest with students but will keep trying to spark some interest.

The finance committee formed, chaired by Dave (K1WJL) with Ed (W1YSM) and Eric (KB1JL) and Al (N1API) have not met yet, Dave said they will get together over the next couple weeks. They are to investigate the financial standing of the club. The committee will report its findings and recommendations at a future business meeting. The committee will investigate expenditures and income by the club, review current dues structure, holiday party costs and other costs by the club.

Steve (KC1SA) reported recovering MARC minutes back to 1998 and receiving some nice history from Bob (GYZ). Rich (WA1TRY) has not located the history files he thought he had at his QTH.

Club library – Steve (WV2LKM) reported that we have a lot of books that are very old. Suggested that we have a meeting session to clear out some of the old material and only keep relevant material. That meeting will take place at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> activity meeting. Once the clean-up is done, the library list will be posted on the club web page.

### **New Business:**

Memorial / Anniversary event for the club: Frank Darmofalski would have been 100 years old on June 18, 2017 and our club is 70 years old this year. Mark (K1PU) is working to have a special operating event. All folks working the event would get a printed paper 'plaque'. The event is still in the planning stage but would be a summer event, a few weeks either side of Field Day. Mark is chairman organizing this event with would be a weekend event operating from the station. This special event call sign will use W1FD.

Rides to the club: Anne (K1STM) presented the idea to help folks that are unable to make it to meetings for various reasons. Contact Anne ([K1STM@arrl.net](mailto:K1STM@arrl.net)) if you are able to be a HAM-UBER and help fellow members make it to meetings.

Skywarn session: A Skywarn training session will most likely be held at the EOC in late May / early June. If you are interested in becoming a Skywarn trained spotter mark your calendars and contact Steve (KC1SA) indicating you can make the training.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM followed by some exciting debugging of a Kenwood TS820 that KC1GEV brought this evening for some Elmering. KKF, GYZ, RCT and a few others lent a hand in wringing out this tank. Looks to be working, good luck Carl and hope to hear you on the air.



**Meeting was closed at 8:30 PM.**

**Meeting Attendees on February 16, 2017**

FirstName	LastName	Callsign
John	Yusza	K1LYP
Mark	Mokoski	K1PU
Rob	Cichon	K1RCT
Anne	West	K1STM
John	Blevins	K1VDF
Dave	Swedock	K1WJL
Eric	Olson	KB1JL
Carl	Nilson	KC1GEV
Robert	Steers	KC1GLM
Stephen	Allen	KC1SA
Robert	Kaczor	KE1AU
Ralph	Ring	KE4EYA
Al	Kaiser	N1API
Frank	Ciccone	N1OKR
James	Savage	N1ZN
John	Elengo	W1DQ
Bill	Wawrzeniak	W1KKF
Ed	Snyder	W1YSM
Christian	Sievert	WA1VXH
Bob	Biancur	WB1GYZ
Steve	Waldmann	WV2LKM

Note: KC1GEV was a guest at this meeting.