



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

The MARC March business meeting opened at 7:30 PM EST on March 9, 2017 at the Hope Hill Road EOC. There were 27 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 March 23rd (activity meeting).

Introductions – All in attendance introduced themselves.

Secretary's Report – The February 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 – Three membership dues and a QSL card. DX engineering sent a letter explaining a monthly training via Skype that is available to our club. Steve (KC1SA) will forward to Ed (W1YSM) as potentials for future activity meetings.

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

March 23rd – Sorting club old library books
April - Activity meeting is open at the moment
May 25th - Skywarn training.

As a reminder there will be a pre-training session before the normal activity meetings. On March 23rd at 6:30PM to 7:30PM the second part of Packet radio will be presented by N1URO. If you are interested in learning about Packet come to this pre-meeting.

Scholarship – Don (KE1AY) was not present. As a reminder, this year the scholarship is open to Meriden students graduating from Platt, Wilcox or Maloney High Schools and is \$1000. Steve (KC1SA) reported stopping by the three Meriden High Schools and delivered Scholarship information to the Guidance departments. A discussion was had about a club member's child or grand-child would have parity with a student applying from the eligible town school (i.e. A Cheshire member's child/grand-child would have equal consideration to a Meriden or Wallingford student). The scholarship committee will meet in the future to discuss an objective method for scoring applicants.

No scholarship applications have been received yet for this year.

Club Station & Facilities – Rob (K1RCT) presented status for the month. The Club operated the ARRL DX SSB on March 4th and 5th with 12 members participating, 480 QSO, 219 countries, 302k+ points.

John (K1LYP) has given the club a motorized projector screen that will be mounted on the wall above the white board. This will improve the projector resolution for presentations.

Nets –

6M – Jim (N1ZN) reported 11 check-ins at the last net.. This Net is on 50.175 MHz each Monday at 8PM local time.

10M – John (K1VDF) reported 10 check-ins at the last net. This Net is on 28.375 MHz each Tuesday at 8PM local time.

2M – Rob (K1RCT) reported for Todd (K1TDO) and reported 6 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 – The 10M net on Tuesdays is also the requirement of 10-10 to have a weekly net. To become a member of the Castle Craig chapter of 10-10 see AI (N1API).

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. The mailing list Dave uses had some issues lately, keep an eye out for your Key Klix copy and let Dave know if you don't get the email a few days before each business meeting.

Membership – Three new members were added to the roster this evening.

Carl Nilson (KC1GEV) attended our last activity and business meetings and was voted into the club. Richard Nagy, Jr. (KC1FJJ) attended our last activity meeting; Richard was accepted into the club. Glenn Couture (KB1YFJ) also attended our last activity meeting; Glenn was accepted into the club. Welcome folks. Membership is at 80 with these new members.

Interference and Technical – Nothing to report.

Repeater – Not discussed.

Hamfest – Not discussed

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. Douglass (WA1SFH) reported that the Cheshire MS walk is April 23. As in past years MARC usually has a half-dozen or so members assist with communication at the event. This year the MS society policy is that all volunteers must submit to a background check. Douglass is unsure if ARES Region 2 will participate in the event this year. We will hear from Douglass via his Region 2 emails.

Old Business:

Go kit –Chris (WA1VXH) has submitted 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. Chris reported that Len and the town are looking positive on this purchase.

Education – Steve (KC1SA) reported no additional conversations with George Bikakis at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School. Steve will reach out to Choate to see if there is interest in this private school (at one time Choate had a radio club)

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.

Mark (K1PU) is working to have a special operating event. We will have an open conversation at the next activity meeting to determine the details of the event.

Rides to the club: Contact Anne (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 be held at the EOC on May 25th from 7PM to 10PM. Brian Ciemnecki at the NWS will have the training schedule website updated within the next two weeks. Sign up there to attend this training. Watch this webpage for updates: <http://skywarn.org/skywarn-training/connecticut-training-schedules/>

Background check / Survey update: Al (N1API) took pictures of some members this evening and did the same at the last activity meeting. Steve (KC1SA) will deliver the photos to Len. There are 23 photos so far.

New Business:

New venue for Christmas party: Al (N1API) will chair the search for a new venue now that Brothers has closed. Steve (KC1SA), Rob (K1RCT), Ed (W1YSM) and Bob (KC1GLM) will assist Al with the search. Budget is \$25 per person including meal, tax and gratuity.

CW class: Bill (W1KKF) is starting up a CW class and looking for attendees. This will be a class that will run one night each week, probably on Monday from 7PM to 8PM. The duration in the past has been 6 to 8 weeks. If you are interested send an email to w1kkf@arrl.net expressing your interest in attending.

Eric (KB1EHE) has been working on a wire design and will be getting preliminary prototypes from his manufacturer. Eric is looking for folks to help out with trying out this wire in various antenna applications. This wire is manufactured in a zig-zag pattern, jacketed in a polyester sleeve and can be used in various antenna configurations. The zig-zag pattern should offer advantages over regular straight antenna wire. Let Eric or Rob (K1RCT) know of your interest in being part of the beta testing team.

Meeting was closed at 8:45 PM.

Meeting Attendees on March 9, 2017

FirstName	LastName	Callsign
John	Yusza	K1LYP
Mark	Mokoski	K1PU
Rob	Cichon	K1RCT
John	Blevins	K1VDF
Dave	Swedock	K1WJL
Eric	Knight	KB1EHE
Elsie	Mathews	KB1IFZ
Eric	Olsson	KB1JL
Glenn	Couture	KB1YFJ
Richard	Nagy, Jr.	KC1FJJ
Carl	Nilson	KC1GEV
Robert	Steers	KC1GLM
Stephen	Allen	KC1SA
Robert	Kaczor	KE1AU
Ralph	Ring	KE4EYA
Al	Kaiser	N1API
Frank	Cicccone	N1OKR
James	Savage	N1ZN
John	Elengo	W1DQ
Bill	Wawrzaniak	W1KKF
Ed	Snyder	W1YSM
Christian	Sievert	WA1VXH
Tony, Jim	Martin	WA1ZVY
Bob	Biancur	WB1GYZ
Steve	Waldmann	WV2LKM

Note: Douglass (WA1SFH) was a guest at this meeting.