



# KEY KLIX

## MERIDEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



PRESIDENT—N1ZN JIM SAVAGE V.P.—N1API AL KAISER SECT.—K1SEZ PAUL CIEZNIK  
TRES.—KB1HCC HAGGIE WINSLOW S.A.M.—WA1TRY RICH AUBIN

## APRIL 2014

### April Meetings

Business Meeting Thursday April 10, 7:30 pm

Activity Meeting Thursday April 24, 7:30pm

President Jim will conduct a MARC member tour of stations via pictures, please get your pix to him asap

### Member News

K1VDF John is now retired and adapting to being an official olde timer, we just need to get a work party at his QTH to repair antenna's.....N1API Al is retired but working 24 / 7 as a professional county hunter, working on his 25th round of Worked All Counties .... KB1HCC Haggie, is back from Florida but only to replenish a set of clean underwear before his next jaunt, this time to Jamaica, for Jerk Chicken or Jerk Ham??...Congratulations to new professional Hamfest Organizer John WA1JKR who ran the Southington Hamfest...Rich WA1TRY is preparing for his move to Ellington... K1LHO, N1API, N1GNV, K1MVM & K1WJL were heard skulking the bands on the WPX test recently....WB1GYZ Bob is getting back on the air with a new wire antenna...K1THP Dave & K1TG Roger, were spotted at the Southington Hamfest... N1GNV John ran a contest station for all interested participants at his shop during the WPX Test.

### 10-10 At The ARRL National Convention

10-10 will be represented by Mel, KD5DE and at least one other Director at the ARRL National Convention to be held in Hartford at the Connecticut Convention Center on July 17 through July 19th 2014.Mel, KD5DE has asked for Volunteers from the Local Connecticut 10-10ers and also The Castle Craig Chapter to spend some time at the 10-10 Booth assisting in handing out flyers, talking to the attendees about 10-10 and just being there to present a local face on 10-10 and the activity in the state.You do not have to be there full time. If you have a couple hours to you can give one of more of the days, please let me know and I will pass the information on to Mel. The more that volunteer the less the load on everyone else and also gives the President and other Directors time to see the show, visit other exhibitor and time to relax.I plan to be there most of the weekend myself. I do not have the full schedule of when Mel plans to have the 10-10 booth occupied but Mel will provide me with more information as it becomes available. I don't expect that the 10-10 exhibit will be open the full three days of the convention.

AL N1API CH / CM Castle Craig Chapter of 10-1010-10 Planning Committee Member

### Propagation & The Sunspots:

Being a Ham since 1962 and gone through a few sunspot cycles, I can tell you with a good degree of certainty that the bands are HOT!!!!!! Especially `10 meters and here is a great example.... I have been running a 34 foot, 40 meter vertical with tuned radials and a tuner on each band. On Tuesday April 1st, I checked into the club net on 28.375 at 8pm local time, K1VDF was running a S-2 and barely readable along with N1ZN, K1LYP, and a few others, , They were getting wiped out by some side splatter, only to find out after the net was over that it was a JA station from Japan.

Yeah the bands are smoking.....

Editor.....K1WJL

## Field Day

At the March Business Meeting it was agreed upon by the membership that we will again be using The Marcus Cook Park on Rock Hill Road in Wallingford for our Field Day Activities this year. The dates and location have been added to the Calendar.

## Meet your new members section.....Joe Hamm KC1BAQ

Joe Hamm, KC1BAQ is featured this month as newcomer & rookie of the month. Joe received his Technician License in January and upgraded to General in February. He purchased an old Kenwood TS-430 on eBay "for parts" and after some innovative repairs is now on the air. The heat cycling in these older Kenwood radios cause them to eventually fail, so He decided to re-solder the entire IF and PA boards and modified the internal fan to come on at a lower temp so it runs cooler. He also modified the rear remote port to be used with a Signalink USB for modern digital modes, which required building a special interface cable. Thankfully there is a lot of information on the internet concerning these radios. This station is used with an MFJ-949E antenna tuner and an MFJ-931 artificial ground (he lives in a second floor apartment so its hard to get good ground). The artificial ground tunes out the ground line reactance and by doing so it tunes for maximum ground current (the ground line now conducts rather than radiating RF). For an antenna, He built a 16' 10 Meter dipole, strung it up on the balcony, and has been able to work the world with it including the Winter Olympics Special event station RG22RQ on 15M....Japan on JT-65....even have made low power digital contacts on 80M. Small antennas can still get out! He gives a special thanks all of his local Elmers including W1KKF (Bill), WA1JKR (John), and KB1MMS (Ron).



Next month....Steve KC1AXJ

## Note from the editor

We are still gearing up and it will be slow but please feel free to send me anything you have on your activities, station or personal notes relating to Ham Radio.

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