



The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



A Message from the President

July 2014

2014 Officers

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Members All...

Field Day was a great success, is now over, and kudos go to all those who participated, especially to KA1MPG for all his hard work in organizing the event. We also had a visit from the CT ARRL Section Manager, Betsey – K1EIC, and ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne G – N1CLV.

Looking at the attached calendar we still have a couple of parades coming up next month to provide safety & communications. These are excellent venues for new hams to get their “feet wet” with using radios. If any new-bee is interested we can team you up with one of the “pros”. These are fun and relaxing events, just let one of the officers (left) know your interest.

The Brooklyn Fair will need a number of volunteers to man the ECARA display. Probably, as was last year, minimum 3 hour block of time; club reimbursement of entrance fee; on-line schedule & sign-up sheet. No radio experience necessary, just an enthusiasm required.

The remaining events are club socials (breakfast, picnic & Christmas party).

Catch you on the air!

73's
Al, K1AGL
President

NEXT MEETING

DKH DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE

**320 Pomfret Street (Route 44) • Putnam,
Connecticut 06260 • Main Phone: (860) 928-6541**

Get Directions

Monday 7PM, July 14

ECARA Monthly Meeting 6/9/14 at DKH
Meeting called to order at 1900hrs.

Attending Members:

K1JSH, Jamie
K1NLX, Peter
K1ZE, Ed
KA1MPG, Jon
KA1MPI, Ron
KB1DNO, Frankie
KB1JDX, Vinny
KB1JQA, Phil
KB1YZG, John
KB1ZOV, Jim
KC1BLH, Tiffany
KE1LI, Paul
N1MD, Mike
N1NNP, Margaret
N7BEO, Christy
W1EQ, Bob

Visitors, Guests & Past Members:
none

Secretary's Report – KE1LI noted error in reporting that VHF contest to be held on 146.52mHz was incorrect, rather that freq was excluded from use for contesting. Correction to minutes noted. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept May club minutes as posted in this month's SinePost.

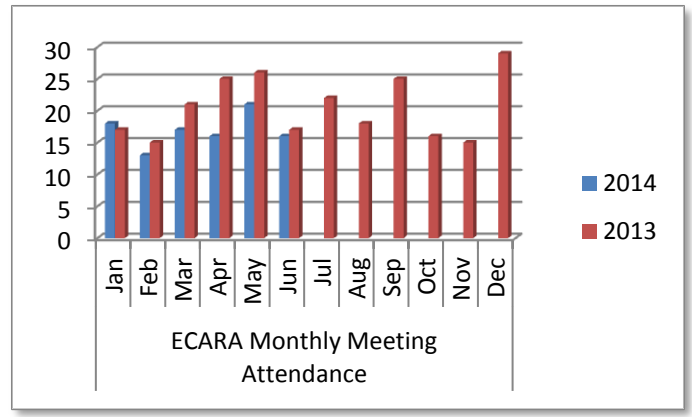
Treasure's Report – No expenses for May reported. Balance still \$9,510.41. Motion to accept the report as posted was seconded, and carried.

KB1JDX presiding. Quorum established to conduct business.

Old Business:

- "Easy-Up" purchase – still nothing done yet
- Skywarn class held on 5/20 at NDDH in Brooklyn was well attended (~50 participants).
- Club website discussion: K1JSH offered to host but concerns raised over access & security issues, e.g. what if K1JSH left club, etc. Argument made that K1AGL is holder of the domain. Motion made to accept the free hosting by K1JSH, accepted & carried. Cts: committee (WB1CCL, Lynn; KB1JDX, Vinny; K1JSH, Jamie).
- K1NLX reported that the Field Day dates on the web site are still showing last year's event, and because the Bulletin announcement referenced the web site for more information, the dates should be updated before the event. KB1JDX to change.
- It was suggested and agreed that Tech Class students should be emailed invitations to attend these club events whether or not they passed the exam. KB1JDX to email invitations to past students for his upcoming digital station open house.

- A reminder of the annual VHF contest on 12-14 June. As noted in the previous minutes 146.52mHz will NOT be used for this contest. Ctc: KE1LI, Paul



New Business:

- ARES emergency drill is scheduled for Sat., 21 Jun in Brooklyn. This will be a "table top" exercise. The ARES command post will be at the Groton Senior Center. Ctc: KB1JDX
- Field Day status from Jon: set-up starts at 2PM Friday, 27 June at the Allen Hill Tree Farm in Brooklyn; K1NLX to forward Bulletin press release for event. KA1MPG to do short classes on traffic handling; W1EQ to contact & invite elected official(s). Youth participation was discussed. Motion made NTE \$200 for field day supplies. KB1JDX to bring Keurig maker for coffee. KE1LI to contract for porta-potty & schedule for drop at farm; KB1JQA to tie ribbon around light pole at farm to mark the drop location. Motion made, accepted and carried for club to pay for potty. Ctc: KA1MPG, Jon
- Advised that KA1KAC had surgery and is doing fine.
- Per K1CSP, K1ZE advised that a new Yeasu P-25 digital repeater is available for loan to club if interested. Discussion ensued. Because these digital repeaters can only talk to other digital repeaters it was felt that it was not worth the cost for subsequent upgrades to use the digital network. Ctc: K1ZE
- KE1LI advised that he is planning a project for this Fall which will result in the installation of about 20 dual band antennas at various area buildings as a stand-by system in case of emergency.
- An election quorum was verified and K1JSH, N1MD, K1CSP were nominated for a six month replacement to the inactive ECARA Trustee removed by vote at the last meeting. Motion made, seconded and carried

to close nominations. Voting by ballot resulted in N1MD being elected to that position. Ctc: KB1JDX

- K1ZE handed out “door prizes” to several attendees
- Presentation of Appreciation was made to KE1LI for his 15 years of service in chairing and managing the ECARA flea market fund raiser.

Good of the order: None

Meeting adjourned at 1955hrs.

A special “thank you” to N7BEO for the homemade brownies, KB1DNO for the lemonade & iced tea, and KB1JDX for additional soft drinks served after the meeting.

RECOGNITION:

At ECARA’s June meeting KE1LI, Paul, was given an appreciation award in recognition of his service of 15 Years as Chairman of the ECARA Flea Market Fund Raiser (1998-2013). During that time an estimated \$22,000 was generated! The award consisted of both a plaque, and a \$50 gift certification to one of his favorite area restaurants.



Thank you Paul for your dedicated service!

Special Report:

Field Day Wrap Up

by Jon, KA1MPG

This year's Field Day was very successful for many reasons. First of all we had plenty of help the entire weekend. There were too many people stopping by at all different times to get an accurate count let alone a full list of all that participated. We had more than enough help for setup and tear down and enough operators. There was a large crowd gathered for the pot luck supper and plenty of wonderful food. The weather was fantastic all weekend.

I would very much like to thank Phil KB1JQA, Vinny KB1JDX, and Jana KB1LYF for setting up 2 complete stations. I would also like to thank Ed K1ZE and Bob W1EQ for setting up the CW station and Mike N1MD for setting up the digital station. Also I would like to thank Al K1AGL for setting up the GOTA station. Finally I would like to thank my dad KA1MPI and my mother N1NNP for helping me setup the phone station.

The only negative comments I could make are about the location. Our stations ended up too close together and we interfered with each other. The tall trees are confined to a small area at the site. Because of this there was only a small area of shade available. It was hot enough where shade was a necessity to those of us in tents. Also our antennas ended up too close together.

The highlight of the weekend was when a couple driving by noticed our field day operation. They stopped and received a grand tour complete with lots of information. Also Betsy K1EIC the Connecticut Section Manager for the ARRL stopped by.

Here is the breakdown of the contacts we make this weekend:

Band	CW	Dig	Phone	Total
160	0	0	4	4
80	119	0	193	312
40	192	7	141	340
20	155	55	169	379
15	206	6	57	269
10	18	0	11	29
6	2	0	47	49
2	0	0	4	4
GOTA	0	0	31	31
Total	692	68	657	1,417

ECARA Field Day Photos – by K1NLX:



KB1JQA trailer (above) & literature table (right). KB1DNO & KB1JDX organizing literature table (below).



K1ZE & N1MD tents.

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Event power provided by twin Honda generators (top left). Solar backup power for KB1JQA trailer (top center). KB1JQA/KB1JDX/KB1LYF tent (top right).



K1AGL RV GOTA station (left).



HF Antennas, one using 40ft support pole rather than a tree.

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K1ZE loading his antenna stringing bazooka (left);
pressurizing the bazooka (lower left); checking line reel
assembly for proper feed (upper right); firing bazooka
over tree-top (lower right).



North facing view of operations area.



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Lots of food & great pot luck dinner.



ECARA Calendar of special events 2014:

Club meetings held every second Monday of each month.

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
Executive Meeting	1/20	define direction for year	K1AGL	9 attended
ECARA Breakfast	3/8	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	K1AGL	~20 attended
O'Putnam Road Race	3/9	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	11 attended
ECARA Flea Market table set-up	3/14	8PM, St Joseph's church hall, Dayville	K1NLX	~12 attended
ECARA Flea Market	3/15	Club fund raiser	K1NLX	19 vendors 184 entrants
VE Session	3/15	Examination for those needing ham license	KB1JDX	12 examinees
HT Battery Project Part 1	3/28	Refurbish battery packs of older HTs for distribution to new members if needed, BYOB	KE1LI	~10 attended
HT Battery Project Part 2	4/11	Complete project, BYOB, 6:30PM	KE1LI	~10 attended
Jog with Judy	5/3	Safety & communications	K1JSH	5 attended
Sky Warn Class	5/20	NDDH 69 South Main Bklyn: 7-10PM	KB1DGY	several dozen
Woodstock Road Race	5/26	Safety & communications	KE1LI	6 attended
Ham Station Open House	6/22	Demo of State of the Art Ham Station	KB1JDX	dozen +
ECARA Field Day	6/27-29	Contesting & emergency readiness		couple dozen
Deary Road Race	8/9	Safety & communications		TBD
VJ Day Parade	8/10	Safety & communications		TBD
Brooklyn Fair	8/21-24	Promote Ham Radio to public		TBD
ECARA Breakfast	9/TBD	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	TBD	Members, family & friends
Annual ECARA Picnic	TBD	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks		Members, family & friends
ECARA Election of Officers & Xmas Party	12/8	Social & administrative event		Members, family & friends

Membership Application Form:

Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association Membership Application / Renewal				
<input type="checkbox"/> New Membership; <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Membership		Today's Date:		
If you are already a "Ham", please complete below then the yellow area:	If you are an aspiring "Ham", please complete below then the yellow area:	ADDITIONAL INFO (not required, but helpful)	PLEASE SELECT ONE:	
CALL SIGN:	FIRST & LAST NAME:	YOUR DOB:	<input type="checkbox"/>	INDIVIDUAL (\$20/yr)
LICENSE CLASS:	STREET ADDR:	SPOUSE NAME:	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY (\$30/yr)
HANDLE (nickname):	CITY, STATE, ZIP:	SPOUSE DOB:	<input type="checkbox"/>	SENIOR (\$15/yr)
FIRST YEAR LICENSED: ARRL MEMBER: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no		DOM:	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDENT
CURRENT PHONES (home& cell) HOME: CELL:			<input type="checkbox"/>	1 st Year ECARA course
CURRENT EMAIL:		Would you like to receive the SinePost? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVISIONAL
ECARA Treasurer, PO Box 63 Dayville, CT 06241, Phone # 860 928 5147, Fax # 860 928 3844				