



# The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



## A Message from the President

February 2015

### 2015 Officers

#### President

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Quinebaug, CT  
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#### Vice President

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#### Member at Large

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Members All...

The Executive Meeting to discuss the club direction for 2015, scheduled for 26 Jan, was rescheduled to the following Monday (wx permitting) due to the storm severity predicted. If anyone has any input they would like to provide, please contact any one of the officers listed in the panel to the left.

If you are planning on buying a table at our fleamarket, please make sure you get your reservation to K1NLX sooner than later so that he can better plan space requirements at the hall. If you did not receive an invitation but wish to reserve a table, simply [email](#) him your request.

A presentation on the Propnet Project (digital mapping of radio signal propagation) will be given by Vinny, KB1JDX following the adjournment of the February club business meeting.

Again, if you have any ideas or are willing to put on a presentation after the monthly meeting please let me or any other officer know.

As you can see from the attached calendar, there are many events throughout the year. Your participation in some of these events would be greatly appreciated...after all, this is your CLUB. Get involved in your CLUB.

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**

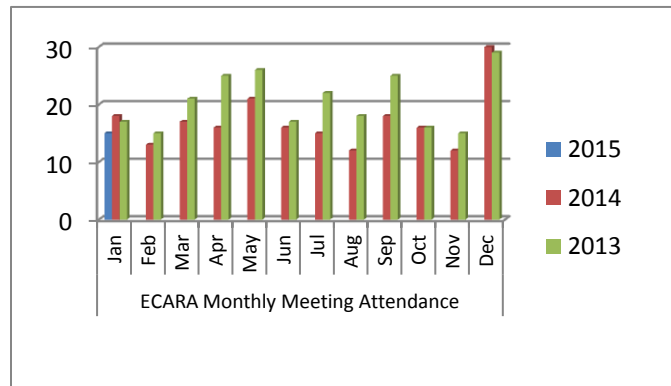
**Monday 7PM, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**

ECARA Monthly Meeting 1/12/15 at DKH, Putnam  
 Meeting called to order at 1905hrs.

Attending Members:

- K1AGL, Al
- K1CSP, John
- K1NLX, Peter
- K1VGF, Kevin
- K1ZE, Ed
- KB1DNO, Frankie
- KB1JDX, Vinny
- KB1JQA, Phil
- KB1YZG, John
- KE1LI, Paul
- N1XAE, Ray
- N7BEO, Christy
- W1UJ, Jay

Visitors, Guests & Past Members: KC1DBZ



K1AGL presiding. Quorum established to conduct business.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion made to accept December minutes as published in the January SinePost, seconded and carried.

**Treasure's Report:**

Beginning Balance: \$8581.73; Deposits – shirt order \$75.00; Expenses – shirt vendor \$47, newsletter postage \$10.08, Brooklyn Fair reimbursements, Xmas party tip \$50.87; Ending Balance: \$8508.78. Motion made to accept December's Treasurer's Report was seconded and carried. An Annual Report for 2014 was presented; motion made to accept, seconded & carried.

Old Business:

- K1AGL commented election results.
- KB1JDX reported that the General License class to begin in January has eleven students so far. Ctc KB1JDX.

- K1NLX reported that the field desk approved for purchase at the previous meeting was not longer available. K1AGL requested a motion to amend the previously approved amount of \$70 to \$100, plus freight, to find and purchase an alternate product. Motion made, seconded and carried.
- KA1MPG (Jon) volunteered to be this year's field day chairperson. Accepted.
- KB1DNO reported that a Hank's Restaurant gift card for \$100 was sent to the owners of the Allen Hill Tree Farm in appreciation for use of their property for 2014 field day.
- Name badge purchase and distribution was discussed and clarified to include all paid and first year 2014 members who have yet to receive one, including any paid new 2015 members. Cut-off date for ordering to be 1 March. Motion officially made to do above, accepted & carried. Ctc: KB1DNO

New Business:

- Discussion regarding upgrading one or both of the two antennas on the new QVEC South Killingly tower. Various models proposed but it was decided that the Telewave ANT150D3 would be best. Motion to purchase one antenna was made, seconded and carried. K1ZE, KB1YZG & KE1LI to get best pricing and report at next meeting. Time is of the essence in procuring for third party relocation of antennas to new tower.
- KB1JDX reported on the Dec 15 WINI Wayne Norman Show which promoted amateur radio. [Audio Download of Show](#)
- KE1LI will not be able to set up the club breakfast at Main St Grille, Putnam in March. Need a volunteer to coordinate this event. To be discussed further at next meeting.
- The requisite new year Executive Board meeting to be held before the next club meeting was discussed. Motion made to authorize up to \$15/person, minus alcoholic beverages, was made, seconded and carried. Ctc: K1AGL
- Discussion about use of the local periodical, Reminder, to promote the club. Fees may apply even for non-profit/public service entities. N1XAE to investigate further and report at next meeting.

Good of the order: none

Meeting adjourned at 1955hrs.

An excellent presentation on digital mobile radio by K1ZE followed the meeting.

A special "thank you" to KE1LI & KB1DNO for the delicious cookies served the meeting!

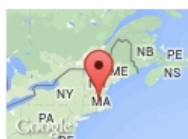
## **ECARA Fleamarket Promotion**

By K1NLX

The ECARA fleamarket on March 14<sup>th</sup> is coming up fast...just five weeks away! I thank those of you who have taken our flyers to distribute and/or post. If at all possible we need to get flyers on the literature tables and community bulletin boards at the two up-coming fleamarkets below. If you plan on attending either of these events please email me so I can make sure you have a couple dozen flyers to take with you.

### **Algonquin Fleamarket**

Click links for more info.



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

**02/14/2015 | Algonquin ARC Flea Market**

**Location:** Marlborough, MA

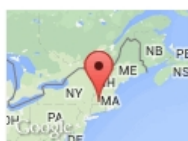
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Algonquin Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://n1em.org>

[Learn More](#)

### **Mt Tom Fleamarket**



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

**03/07/2015 | MTARA's 27th Annual Hamfest**

**Location:** Chicopee, MA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Mt. Tom Amateur Repeater Association

**Website:** <http://www.mtara.org>

[Learn More](#)

Invitations to reserve tables were emailed to all past vendors on Jan 14. As of this writing seven tables have been reserved, five by email response and 2 by phone call. Last year we sold 30 tables, so this is our goal for this year.

As in the past we need help setting up tables at the function hall the evening (Friday) before. We usually start this process around 7:30PM (immediately after the church's fish dinner there). Six to ten people would be helpful. Come earlier if you are interested in buying a fish dinner there (I understand that they offer baked fish as well as the usual fried fish).

## **Propnet Project Presentation**

By KB1JDX

At the February meeting I will be presenting on the Propnet Project ([www.propnet.org](http://www.propnet.org)) and how it can be used to see propagation quality in real time. Propnet uses PSK31 (a digital mode) with an internet backbone to collect and report on stations heard on HF and VHF. From there, results can be plotted on a map, such as this map, which shows 10 meter activity as recorded for 24 hours at my home QTH. The output is exportable in other formats as well. While digital modes might not be everyone's cup of tea, I think that everyone can benefit from

the real time maps provided by Propnet stations. Personally, I use them to spot band openings without having to be in the shack monitoring the radio.



### General Class Session

Photo By KB1JDX

General students meeting at the Barnstormer's station [Barnstormers Contest Group](#):



## ECARA Calendar of special events 2015:

Club meetings held every second Monday of each month.

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
Executive Meeting	Feb 2	define direction for year	K1AGL	
ECARA Breakfast	Mar TBD	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	TBD	
ECARA Flea Market table set-up	3/13	8PM, St Joseph's church hall, Dayville	K1NLX	
ECARA Flea Market	3/14	Club fund raiser	K1NLX	
VE Session	3/14	Examination for those needing ham license	KB1JDX	
O'Putnam Road Race	3/15	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
Monthly meeting at QVEC	TBD	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1AGL	
Jog with Judy	May	Safety & communications	TBD	
Sky Warn Class	Unk	TBD	TBD	
Woodstock Road Race	May	Safety & communications	TBD	
ECARA Field Day	Jun	Contesting & emergency readiness		
Deary Road Race	Aug	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
VJ Day Parade	Aug	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
Brooklyn Fair	Aug	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Annual ECARA Picnic	Sep	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	TBD	
Thompson Community Day	Sep	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Monthly meeting at QVEC	Oct	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1AGL	
ECARA Breakfast	Oct	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	TBD	
ARRL 2015 Simulated Emergency Test (SET)	Nov	Exercise in emergency communications	N1CLV	
ECARA Election of Officers & Xmas Party	Dec	Social & administrative event	K1NLX	



## 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
HOME:	CURRENT PHONES (home& cell) CELL:		<input type="checkbox"/>	1 <sup>st</sup> 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				