



# The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



## A Message from the President

May 2015

### 2015 Officers

#### President

Al Lafleur  
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#### Vice President

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#### Member at Large

Christy Johnson  
Danielson, CT  
N7BEO  
[N7BEO@snet.net](mailto:N7BEO@snet.net)

Members All...

A big shout out to QVEC for allowing us to use their facilities for last month's meeting, the Great Turnout of Members, and to Jay W1UJ for the presentation after the meeting.

Update on the South Killingly tower: they have our new antenna and it has already been installed on the new tower.

Progress on The DMR repeater acquisition, also the 440 Antenna is down from the Barn. Hopefully we will have an update at the Monthly meeting.

A big Thank you to the members that worked the Jog with Judy road race this past weekend.

Start planning for Field Day. Will you be there???  
The more the merrier!

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**

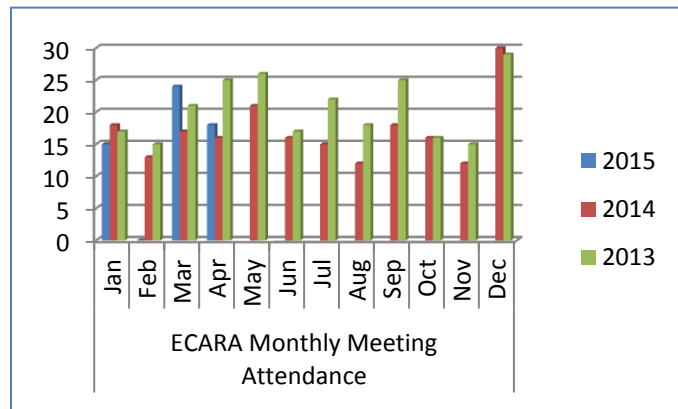
**Monday 7PM, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

ECARA Monthly Meeting 4/13/15 at QVEC, East Killingly.  
Meeting called to order at 1903hrs.

**Attending Members:**

- K1AGL, Al
- K1CSP, John
- K1NLX, Peter
- K1VGF, Kevin
- K1ZE, Ed
- KA0ERL, Ken
- KA1MPG, Jon
- KA1MPI, Ron
- KB1JDX, Vinny
- KB1LYF, Jana
- KB1YZG, John
- KB1ZPD, Eric
- KC1BLH, Tiffany
- KE1LI, Paul
- N1NNP, Margaret
- N7BEO, Christy
- W1UJ, Jay

Visitors, Guests & Past Members: John T (w/K1CSP)



K1AGL presiding. Quorum established to conduct business.

**Secretary's Report:**

Motion made to accept March minutes as published in the April SinePost; seconded and carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Beginning Balance: \$8764.27; Deposits – dues \$300.00, Hamfest \$1527.15; Expenses – SK replacement antenna \$662.28, raffle radio \$194.97, 2<sup>nd</sup> coffee urn \$47.85, hall rental \$150, concession donuts \$23.96, misc supplies \$73.52, new member badges \$161.00; Ending Balance: \$9262.99. Motion made to accept the March Treasurer's Report; seconded and carried.

Old Business:

- K1NLX & volunteers thanked for making the fleamarket & hamfest a success, again this year.
- O'Putnam 5K Road Race was a success thanks to KB1JDX
- KE1LI made name badges available at the meeting for those members needing to claim. Ctc: KB1DNO
- The club's 440mHz antenna at KB1H (SK) property to be removed next weekend, and the repeater to be moved to storage. Ctc: K1ZE

New Business:

- Jog w/Judy event on May 2<sup>nd</sup> (which conflicts with the NEARfest event in Deerfield). Five ops needed (incl net control). Ctc: KB1DNO
- Rail to Trail is asking for radios during event on 17 Oct, however, that request has not been made official yet. Ctc: K1AGL
- It was proposed that some token of appreciation be given to NDDH for frequently allowing the club to use their convenient facility for license classes and licensing examinations. Suggestion made to give them a donation for their radio fleet; another to supplement their existing go-kit. K1AGL appointed KB1JDX to ask NDDH what they may need then present findings to club at next meeting.

Good of the order: tour of the 911 facility

Meeting adjourned at 1931hrs.

A presentation on digital signal processing by W1UJ followed the meeting.

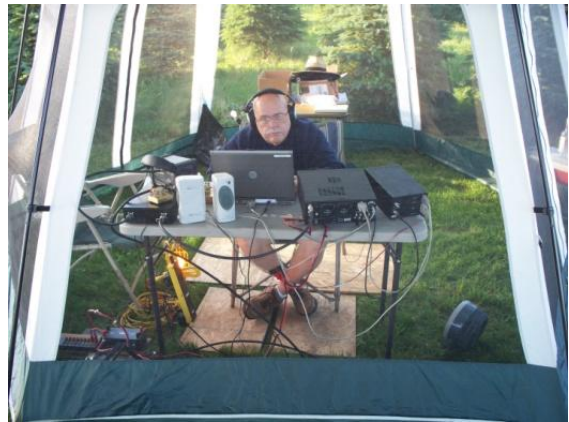
A special "thank you" to W1UJ for an excellent presentation on digital signal processing, and to KB1YZG for the 911 Call Center tour for those interested!

## **2015 Field Day Announcement**

By KA1MPG

The Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association will be holding Field Day once again this year at the Allen Hill Tree Farm. The address is 542 Allen Hill Road in Brooklyn Connecticut.

Setup will begin Friday, June 26 at 2:00 pm and will last for several hours. The contest begins at 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 27 and will end at 2:00 pm on Sunday.



We will need help for the setup and the tear down which takes place right after the contest ends. We will need a lot of relief operators during the entire 24 hours of the contest. If you can only help for an hour or two that would be a big help.

On Saturday evening at 6:00 pm the club will be having a potluck supper. If you can make and bring a dish or a dessert item please do so.

Jon KA1MPG

2015 ECARA Field Day Chairman

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## **Field Day...A Look Back**

By KA1MPG



and setup that went into field day. It amazed me that all of this work was done to

simulate conditions experienced after a major disaster. Five stations were set up complete with radios, antennas, and tents. All stations were powered by a huge World War II surplus generator that had a Jeep engine.

Back in 1985 novice class operators could only use Morse code and I had only just passed the Morse code test by the skin of my teeth. Thanks to a lot of great coaching by Ron K1VSC I was able to make 20 contacts. I operated the entire 24 hours and had a fantastic time. During the weekend I sat and watched the voice and veteran CW contesters operate. I learned a lot and made many friends.

By the next field day I had upgraded to General Class which allowed me to finally operate HF voice. During that field day a veteran member of the club took me under his wing and really became a mentor to me. That operator was Dick KB1H who passed away just a few weeks ago. What has stood out most strongly during all of my field days with the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio



Association is the large number of people who have made it their mission to act as contesting and emergency communications mentors. I have made it my mission to continue the tradition of acting as a mentor and so have many of the veteran club members. If you have never operated before or if you need help improving your skills please come to our field day in June... you will find all of the help you need!

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## New VHF Antenna at SK Tower

By K1NLX



The club recently purchased a Telewave ANT 160D VHF antenna which was just installed on the new South Killingly (SK) tower at the 130ft level. This



antenna replaces the temporary DB220 antenna at that location.

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## QSO Party

By W1UJ

By the time you read this here the [New England QSO Party](#) will have just completed (May 2-3). This annual on-the-air HF event takes place each May and livens up nearly every county in New England. Some of you may recall the HAMCOW, where KE1LI and others would venture to Martha's Vinyard to provide the DUKES County multiplier for this event.

What N1WK and I planned for this year was to activate each of the counties in New Hampshire and Vermont during the two allotted time frames. In 2014, the KB1SBC, N1WK and W1UJ goals were to work folks from all of the Maine Counties. In 2012 the N1WK and KB1SBC goals were to work as many folks from as many counties as possible, hitting all six New England states. APRS beaconing was provided this year, but because the beacon is through a Sprint Mobile air-card, some coverage may have been spotty in the Northern country. I will be providing a more detailed report on this following the next monthly meeting.

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## 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	Cancelled
ECARA Breakfast	Mar TBD	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	TBD	Need coordinator
<del>ECARA Flea Market table set-up</del>	3/13	8PM, St Joseph's church hall, Dayville	K1NLX	10 attended
ECARA Flea Market	3/14	Club fund raiser	K1NLX	~150 attended
<del>VE Session</del>	3/14	Examination for those needing ham license	KB1JDX	~1 doz attended
<del>O'Putnam Road Race</del>	3/15	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	At least 5 attended
<del>Monthly meeting at QVEC</del>	4/13	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1AGL	18 attended
<del>Jog with Judy</del>	5/2	Safety & communications	KB1DNO	5 attended
Sky Warn Class	5/12	Storm spotting & reporting, Ashford Town Hall 7-10PM	KB1JDX	Anyone interested
Woodstock Road Race	5/25	Safety & communications	TBD	
ECARA Field Day	6/26-28	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	Members, family & friends, community
Deary Road Race	8/8	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
VJ Day Parade	8/9	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
Brooklyn Fair	8/27-30	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Annual ECARA Picnic	Sep	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	TBD	Members, family & friends
Thompson Community Day	Sep	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Monthly meeting at QVEC	Oct	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1AGL	Members, guests & visitors
ECARA Breakfast	Oct	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	TBD	Members, family & friends
ARRL 2015 Simulated Emergency Test (SET)	Nov	Exercise in emergency communications	N1CLV	
ECARA Election of Officers & Xmas Party	Dec	Social & administrative event	K1NLX	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
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				