The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association

A Message from the President

April 2016

Hello members and associates of ECARA. We have completed another successful Flea Market. I want to thank all the members of ECARA who helped out at the flea market to make it a success, once again. A special thanks goes out to Pete Johnson for his organizational skills in bringing it all together. It takes time and hard work to coordinate with vendors, arrange to secure a facility and get the volunteers needed to bring it all together. In looking around at the flea market, I observed that the place was definitely full, and realized maybe we need a bigger place for next year's event. I had the opportunity to speak with quite a few vendors, and the general consensus was that they were selling their items and were happy with the outcome of the event.

Now it is time to move forward to our next events in the planning. We have ARRL Kid's Day on June 18th at the Waldron Scout Camp in North Grosvenordale, Ct., and Field Day on the weekend of June 25th and 26th. I have begun communications with the Scout Leader regarding participation, and hope to get the Recreation Department on board with it also. The event runs from about 2 PM to 8PM. Volunteers will be needed to operate the stations with the kids participating. I hope to have a dipole up at the Scout camp before then to use for this event. We have decided to have Field Day at the Pomfret Recreational Park. The committee is finalizing plans and we will be discussing details of Field Day at this month's meeting. Please try to attend and help out if possible.

Our monthly meeting will be held at the Quinebaug Valley 911 Communications Center on Rt. 101 in Dayville, Ct. on Monday April 11, 2016 at 7:00 PM. At this meeting John Turner K1JFT will be taking digital photos of club members for Radio Comm. Operator ID's if a member is interested. An ID application form will need to be filled out at this meeting, so please bring a legal form of identification with you (driver's license/ passport etc.) as a copy of your ID will be filed with your ID application. There is no cost for this ID. The goal is to have ECARA Radio Operators who volunteer during an emergency to have credentials. See you at the meeting.

73,
K1CSP
John Szamocki

NEXT MEETING

QUINEBAUG VALLEY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

1249 Hartford Pike, East Killingly, CT 06243

Get Directions

Monday 7PM, April 11

2016 Officers

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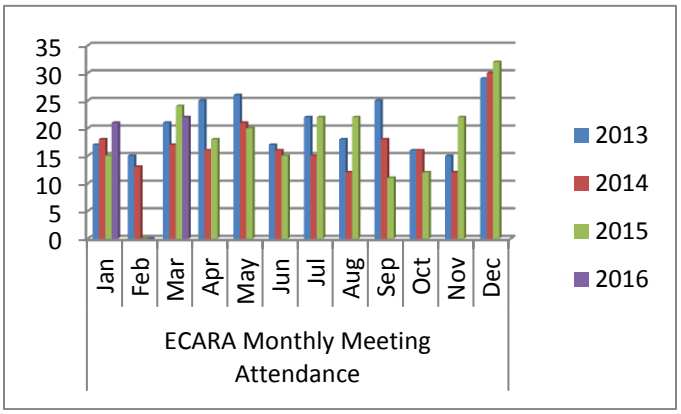
ECARA Monthly Meeting 3/14/16 at DKH, Putnam.
Meeting called to order at 1905 hrs.

Attending Members:

K1AGL, Al	KB1YZG, John
K1CSP, John	KB1ZOZ, Deb
K1JFT, John	KC1BLH, Tiffany
K1NLX, Peter	KC1ESV, Todd
K1ZE, Ed	KE1LI, Paul
N1ROZ, Larry	N1NNP, Mimi
KA1KAC, Bill	KC1ESW, Provi
KA1MPG, Jon	N7BEO,Christy
KA1MPI, Ron	W1TR, Terry
KB1DNO, Frankie	W1YFF, Ray
K1DSK, Devendra	N0FQY

Visitors, Guests & Past Members: none



K1CSP presiding. Quorum established to conduct business.

Secretary's Report:
Motion made to accept the January minutes as published in the February SinePost; seconded and carried.

Treasure's Report:
January Beginning Balance: $$6686.67; receipts – dues $123.24; expenses – Brooklyn Fair reimbursement $10; ending balance: $6799.91
February receipts – dues $28.83; expenses – none; ending balance: $6838.74.
Motion made to accept both January & February Treasurer's Reports; seconded and carried.

Old Business:

- Hamfest/fleamarket discussed as outlined in the March Sinepost with changes as noted below:
  Item C: KE1LI to assist KB1TMP as parking lot attendant;
  Item D: K1AGL to bring PA system;
  Item G: concession inventory review & discussed;
  Item H: no free reaffle ticket to new hams since there were no new classes, and raffle prices to stay the same as last year;
  Item J: K1CSP volunteered to be back-up to open hall doors to vendors at 5:45AM;
  Item L: raffle concession to use registration cash box to make change if needed, and club table to get separate cash box with denominations and quantities discussed (KB1DNO to provide);
  Ctc: K1NLX (fleamarket chairperson)
- BSA/GSA JOTA briefly discussed; W1EQ to provide formalized contact log for the event
- Field Day locations discussed with committee; issues with Tree Farm (motorhome & signs conflict w/other venues at location); application for reservation being submitted to Pomfret Rec Park. Ctc: KE1LI
- KC1BLH reported the the O'Putnam 5K Road Race went wello, no incidents reported; 6 ops were present.
- DEMAS ID card photos will be taken at the meeting at QVEC for those interested in having an official, forrnal identification for providing emergency communications. Ctc: K1JFT

New Business:

- K1CSP attended a Jesse Hay Memorial Association board meeting and received approval for ECARA to set up equipment at the Waldron Camp facility for field use and club meetings. Discussion of possible club functions there, e.g. annual picnic, meetings, field day. Ctc: K1CSP
- K1CSP announced that W1EQ agreed to be the "Public Information Officer" for ECARA.
- K1AGL advised that he was approached by the local Young Marines to have a similar event as JOTA. Discussion followed. It was proposed that Kid's Day on 18 June would be an opportunity to invite the marines. The Fournier family agreed to help setting up for this event. K1CSP to coordinate with scout camp for set up of 2-3 stations.
- Jog with Judy is scheduled for May 7 at 10AM. Volunteers needed for this event. Ctc K1AGL

Good of the order: following this meeting W1YFF to demonstrate two portable, dual band antennas he fabricated out of common materials.
K1CSP advised that he rarely hears any traffic on the club repeater and suggests that members make an effort to use it.

Meeting adjourned at 2010hrs.

A shout out to Ray, W1YFF for his excellent presentation on fabrication of portable dual-band antennas from commonly used hardware!

Public Service Corner

By Vinny Mazarella, KB1JDX

Back when I first got my license, we would post the call signs of those that helped out in the club's public service events. Somehow this fell by the wayside. I'd like to start doing this again in 2016, even if it is just a quick note thanking those who volunteered. That being said, I would like to thank the following operators for helping out for the O'Putnam 5k road race:

Brittany KB1ZOW
Paul KE1LI
Frankie KB1DNO
Tiffany KC1BLH
Jamie K1JSH
Davy K1DSK

Discover the HF Experience

By Bob Garceau, W1EQ

"Discover the HF Experience"
Keefe Technical High School in Framingham, Massachusetts (12:30 until 4 PM EDT),
April 10, 2016

Amateur Radio clubs in Canada and New England have joined forces to invite non-hams, new hams, and even old timers to discover HF radio in the 21st century firsthand, by getting on the air and operating remote stations. A beta test "Discover the HF Experience" event will take place in Framingham, Massachusetts April 10, using the call sign K1K. A major rollout is expected at Dayton **Hamvention**® in May, with four operating positions at ARRL EXPO. The "Discover the HF Experience" concept stresses that "short-wave" Amateur Radio is just as compelling now as it was 100 years ago.

"Amateur Radio is complementary to new technology, not in competition with it," said **Gerry Hull**, W1VE, who came up with the idea and has been working with **Cary Rubenfeld**, VE4EA, in Manitoba to flesh it out into a program. "Ham radio is *so*, experiential," Hull told ARRL, "so a key part of this process is getting hams to experience HF, if they're unfamiliar with it. As part of these events, we are going to

have *remote* HF stations on the air. We will have Elmers to help participants through a contact, so they can see how HF really works," he added.

"Our amateur population is at an all-time high, but most new hams are getting a Technician ticket, getting on VHF and UHF, and hanging out with like-minded friends," Hull said. The limitations on what Technician licensees can do often leads to boredom, Hull said, "and they drop out of the hobby. They never get the exposure to HF ham radio, and as any veteran radio amateur can tell you, that's a lifelong exploration."

The April 10 beta test will take place at Keefe Technical High School in Framingham, Massachusetts (12:30 until 4 PM EDT), following the Framingham (MA) ARA's Annual Spring Flea Market

"Today there are not as many HF Elmers," Hull said. "Who better to be the ambassadors of HF than contesters? We're *passionate* about HF!" Hull said everyone who wants to will get the chance to operate a remote HF station from the New England site. The New England site will offer four station "pods" that can connect with stations in Massachusetts — including K1TTT — as well as in Vermont, Manitoba, Yukon Territory, and Sweden (SK3W).

"Everything from small, residential dipole-type stations to contest superstations, to DX," Hull pointed out. "I'd like to draw upon our initial events to develop a template for others to follow. In addition to the YCCC z (Yankee Clipper Contest Club), the Port City Amateur Radio Club and the Framingham Amateur Radio Association are taking part in sponsoring the New England event.

YCCC members will offer presentations covering such topics as bands and propagation, buying an HF transceiver, building antennas, how the Internet can enhance the HF experience, contesting, collecting awards, and where to find out more about ham radio.

The above information is a reprinted and edited news article from the ARRL website.

Here's my two cents. This event is very similar to Kids day, which will be held in June at Camp Waldron. Instead of kids, it will be for adult kids on steroids. This is a great opportunity for new hams, who have not had an opportunity to operate beyond two meters. There will be no antennas outside of Keefe Technical School. Each operating setup will have a real transceiver interface "pods" that will connect via the internet to a remote station located at the 4 sites mentioned above.

If you plan to attend the Framingham (MA) ARA's Annual Spring Flea Market, stay after and visit the "Discover the HF Experience"

Bob Garceau, W1EQ

ECARA Calendar of special events 2016:

Club meetings held every second Monday of each month.

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
~~O'Putnam Road Race~~	3/13	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	6 attended
~~ECARA Flea Market table set-up~~	3/18	8PM, St Joseph's church hall, Dayville	K1NLX	8 attended
~~ECARA Flea Market~~	3/19	Club fund raiser	K1NLX	~doz attended
~~VE Session~~	3/19	Examination for those needing ham license	KB1JDX	3 VEs
~~ECARA Breakfast #1~~	3/26	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	K1NLX	23 attended
Monthly meeting at QVEC	4/11	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1CSP	
Jog with Judy	5/7	Safety & communications	K1AGL	4-6 ops needed
Sky Warn Class	TBD	Storm spotting & reporting, Location TBD	TBD	Anyone interested
Woodstock Road Race	MAY	Safety & communications	TBD	
VE Session	6/8	Tests for new Techs and license upgrades	KB1JDX	Anyone interested & ready
Kid's Day	6/18	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth (2-8PM)	K1CSP	Half doz or more needed
ECARA Field Day	TBD	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	
Deary Road Race	Aug	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
VJ Day Parade	8/14	Safety & communications	KB1JDX	
Annual ECARA Picnic	TBD	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	K1CSP	Members, family & friends
Brookyn Fair	8/25-28	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Thompson Community Day	Sep	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Harvester 5K Road Race	Sep	Safety & communications	TBD	
Woodstock Road Race	Oct	Woodstock Academy	TBD	
Monthly meeting at QVEC	Oct	Monthly business agenda at 911 facility	K1NLX	
ECARA Breakfast #2	Oct	Social event, Main St Grille, Putnam 0900	K1NLX	Members, family & friends
ARRL 2016 Simulated Emergency Test (SET)	TBD	Exercise in emergency communications	N1CLV	
Dazzle Light Parade	Nov	Safety & communications (rain date TBD)	TBD	
ECARA Election of Officers & Xmas Party	12/12	Social & administrative event; officer election 6PM @ Classic Pizza, Rt6, Brooklyn	K1NLX	Members, family & friends

Membership Application Form:

Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association Membership Application / Renewal				
☐ New Membership; ☐ 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:	☐	INDIVIDUAL ($20/yr)
LICENSE CLASS:	STREET ADDR:	SPOUSE NAME:	☐	FAMILY ($30/yr)
HANDLE (nickname):	CITY, STATE, ZIP:	SPOUSE DOB:	☐	SENIOR ($15/yr)
FIRST YEAR LICENSED: ARRL MEMBER: ☐yes ☐no		DOM:	☐	STUDENT
CURRENT PHONES (home& cell) HOME: CELL:			☐	1st Year ECARA course
CURRENT EMAIL:		Would you like to receive the SinePost? ☐yes ☐no	☐	PROVISIONAL
ECARA Treasurer, PO Box 63 Dayville, CT 06241, Phone # 860 928 5147, Fax # 860 928 3844				