The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association

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A Message from the President

June 2017

Hello members and associates of ECARA,

I apologize for the location mix up that occurred over the May meeting. Sorry that we had to meet in the basement of the scout camp. The scheduling conflict did not come to light until Monday afternoon. By then it was too late to switch the meeting to Day Kimball Hospital. A lot of club members would not have gotten the location change because not everyone has access to personal email at work.

There have been many complaints about the switching of meeting locations. This will be addressed at the June meeting, which will be at Day Kimball Hospital. There are two proposals regarding the location of the meetings. The first proposal is to have every meeting at the hospital and make sure there is a plentiful supply of refreshments. The second proposal is to alternate meeting locations between the hospital and a restaurant. Please attend the meeting to let us know which proposal you prefer or if you have other suggestions.

Something happened at the beginning of May that has me concerned. ECARA had to back out of a public service event because we could not get enough volunteers. The event was the Jog with Judy. We really let the organizers of the event down. This is the first time we backed out on an event in my 30 years with the club. We have to make sure this does not happen again.

ECARA is not taking part in Kid's Day this June. Last year we set up four complete stations at Camp Waldron. There were about a dozen club members there to help out. Unfortunately no kids showed up. We're going to try to do Kid's Day in September in a more public location, such as the park where Thompson Day is held.

June 23rd thru June 25th is field day. Please check out my field day article for more details.

73,
KA1MPG
Jon Fournier

NEXT MEETING

DKH DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE
320 Pomfret St (Route 44) • Putnam, CT 06260
Main Phone: (860) 928-6541
Get Directions
Monday 7PM, June 12th

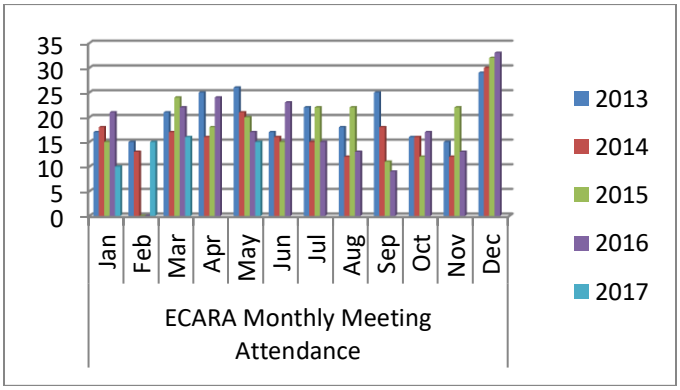
ECARA Monthly Meeting 5/8/17 at Camp Waldron in North Grosvenordale

Meeting called to order at 1904 hours.

Attending Members:

K1CSP, John	N1NNP, Mimi
K1ZE, Ed	KB1YZG, John
KA1KAC, Bill	K1AGL, Al
KA1MPG, Jon	KC1GRH, Karen
KA1MPI, Ron	KB1JQA, Phil
KB1DNO, Frankie	KC1BLH, Tiffany
KE1LI, Paul	
N1MD, Mike	

Visitors, Guests, & Past members: WA1SFH Douglas Sharafanowich



KA1MPG presiding. Quorum established to conduct business.

Secretary's Report:
Motion to accept the minutes as published in the April & May 2017 SinePost seconded and carried. Lack of SinePost distribution due to e-mail problems was discussed. If you know anyone who isn't receiving the SinePost, tell them to check their spam box, or e-mail KC1BLH Tiffany at ecarasinepost@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report: March and April
Beginning Balances: $8055.59
Receipts: +$237.36
Ending Balance: $8292.95

OLD BUISNESS:

- **Jog with Judy** (Frankie KB1DNO) – Frankie helped with parking at the event, no volunteers from ECARA. Race officials talked about getting walkie talkies for next year due to lack of volunteers from ECARA. Great event for newbies, will need to work on getting new hams involved next year!
- **Hamfest 2018:** (Al K1AGL) Rental tables would be $10 per table for 6 ft long tables, therefore the club agreed to have vendors bring their own tables. Need to agree upon a location 3 months in advance. The Elks essentially shut down Al due to the mess of hamfest in general, but could get the location for $150 upstairs and $75 downstairs for VEC test. Great parking lot and grassy area for an outdoor event. Nights of Columbus is being checked into.
- **Radio in the Park:** (Vinny KB1JDX) All bands were up with ample contacts during the New England QSO party. 5 members showed up with nice weather. Discussed finding a site more open in the public for next year.
- **Union Antenna:** (Ed K1ZE) Not active, discussed taking it down.
- **Field Day:** (Jon KA1MPG) 5-6 stations will be set up for field day at the Pomfret Recreation Park. K1CSP John let the club know that his friend in Thompson has offered up his farm for future field day sites. He has an open field that barely gets used with trees available for stringing up antennas. The site is 610 ft in elevation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Breakfast @ 4G's:** (Paul KE1LI) May 13th at 9am
- **Girl Scout Camporee:** (John K1CSP) Girl scouts of Northeast CT to have their Camporee at Camp Laurel Wood in Spencer, MA. Looking to have an Introduction of Amateur radio station set up. Event is September 16th from 8am-4pm. There will be four, hour long classes. Looking for volunteers to help K1CSP.
- **Thompson day:** (Vinny KB1JDX) The event is Sunday, September 24 from 12pm to 4pm.
- **Kid's Day:** (John K1CSP) June 18th event is coming up. Last year's event was a flop, 4 stations were set up and only 1 kid showed up. Publicity would need to be pushed, with the event held on a main street in a park, such as the gazebo in Thompson park. Club discussed holding off for the September event to allow for flyers to be sent out at school to increase publicity.
- **Woodstock 10K Road Race:** (Paul KE1LI) Memorial day May 29th, volunteers are needed. Vinny KB1JDX will be net control, need 6 operators. Meeting at the common across from the Pink House at Woodstock Academy at 8:30am, or from the repeater.

Good of the order: None

Meeting adjourned at 1930 hours.

Amateur Radio Enriches The Lives of Everyone That it Touches!

At the May meeting **WA1SFH, Douglas Sharafanowich**, the ARRL Section Youth Coordinator of CT, gave a presentation on "Share the Magic," Bringing Local Kids into Amateur Radio.

Fun fact, the average age of amateurs today is **61 years old**!

To increase youth participation in Amateur radio, not only must we introduce them to radio, but we must get them licensed. This has been a struggle for the club recently. We have at least one tech class a year, and multiple VE sessions, but are having a hard time getting new hams active in the club. Douglas gave a few recommendations on how to get them involved with the club once they get their license.

1) He recommends having a **mini field day** in the middle of the tech classes to increase hands on experience.
2) Have **two instructors** per class. Students will have a hard time paying attention to the same voice throughout the class, also this adds a different perspective.
3) **Props** are important, such as a bring in a visible spectrum.
4) Bring **food**, like cheese and fruit to increase energy and attention span. Coffee is always great!
5) Include **quizzes** in the class, this will get them to prepare for class and bring in any questions.
6) Throughout every class, club activities need to be promoted!
7) Sell "**elmering**"! This should be student's goals, this will keep them interested in increasing their knowledge in the hobby and make them innovative.
8) Finally, give them a warm welcome!

Thank you WA1SFH! 😊
Contact info:
ConnecticutSYC@gmail.com

Field Day Announcement
By Jon, KA1MPG

The Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association will be holding Field Day this year at the Pomfret Recreation Park. The address is 576 Hampton Road (Route 97) in Pomfret Connecticut.

Setup will begin Friday, June 23 at 2:00 pm and will last for several hours. The contest begins at 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 24 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. All are welcome. If you can make a dish or a dessert item, please do so.

The gate at the entrance to the park will be locked from dusk to dawn. The lock will be a combination lock with the combination of 1472. Please bring the combination with you. We will be monitoring the repeater at all times if you need directions to the park or assistance with the lock.

Jon KA1MPG
2017 ECARA Field Day Chairman

ECARA Calendar of special events 2017: Club meetings held every second Monday of each month at DKH unless otherwise indicated.

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
Breakfast @ Bill's Bread & Breakfast	1/14	Social event to discuss direction of future radio projects and VHF contests	KE1LI	11 attendees
Breakfast @ 4G's Restaurant	3/11	Social event to discuss direction future radio projects and VHF contest	KE1LI	All welcome!
O'Putnam 5K Road Race	3/12	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Dinner meeting @ Golden Greek	3/13	Social event & monthly business agenda	KA1MPG	
VE Session	3/30	Examination for those needing ham license	KB1JDX	
Monthly meeting at QVEC	4/10	Monthly business agenda	KA1MPG	
Radio in the Park	5/7	Social event to promote Ham Radio to the public	KB1JDX	5 attendees
Monthly meeting at Camp Waldron	5/8	Monthly business agenda	K1CSP	15 attendees
Breakfast @ 4G's	5/13	Social event to discuss direction of future radio projects and VHF contests	KE1LI	All welcome!
Sky Warn Class	5/10	Storm spotting & reporting	TBD	Anyone interested
Woodstock Road Race	5/29	Safety & Communications	TBD	
ECARA Field Day	6/24-25	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	
DKH 5K Road Race	June	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
Kid's Day	6/18	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth	K1CSP	
Annual ECARA picnic	August	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	TBD	All welcome!
VJ Day Parade	August	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Brooklyn Fair	August	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Monthly Meeting @ Camp Waldron	9/11	Monthly business agenda	K1CSP	
Thompson Community Day	9/16	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Harvester 5K Road Race	September	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Woodstock Road Race	October	Safety & Communications	TBD	
BSA JOTA	TBD	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth	K1CSP	
Monthly meeting @ QVEC	10/9	Monthly business agenda	KA1MPG	
ECARA Breakfast	TBD	Social event	TBD	All welcome!
Dazzle Light Parade	November	Safety & Communications	TBD	
ECARA election of officers & Xmas party	12/11	Social & administrative event; officer election	TBD	All welcome!

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				