



The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



A Message from the President

February 2018

Hello members and associates of ECARA,

I would very much like to thank everyone who emailed suggestions to me about improving attendance at our club meetings. All were very helpful and I'll be sharing them at the next club meeting. Everything is on the table as far as fixing our meeting attendance issue including changing the monthly meeting date and location. Vinny (KB1JDX) will be sending out a questionnaire to all club members in the near future. Questions will include the best day and time of the month to hold our meetings.

There was general agreement at the last meeting that having entertaining programs at every meeting is one way to stimulate attendance. If you would like to conduct a presentation at a club meeting please let me know. At the January meeting I asked those in attendance if we should limit presentations to topics pertaining to ham radio. Everyone agreed that the presentations do not have to be related to ham radio. So at the February meeting I will be doing a presentation on brewing beer. It will be about the process of brewing and a look at the science involved. If anyone else would like to do a presentation on a non-radio related hobby, that would be fine.

Our next really big event will be the club flea market. This will be held Sunday April 29th at the Thompson Raceway Restaurant. We are still ironing out the details. Patt Weimer, who is running the flea market, has been invited to the February meeting to finalize our plans.

The spring is our busiest season for public service events. There is one, or more, every month starting in March. If you have never participated in a public service event, you will be paired with someone who has. They are a great opportunity to learn proper operating practices.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

73,
KA1MPG
Jon Fournier

2018 Officers

President

Jon Fournier
Webster, MA
KA1MPG
jonas217@verizon.net

Vice President

John Szamocki
Thompson, CT
K1CSP
k1csp@arrl.net

Secretary

Currently Vacant

Treasurer

Frances Rollinson
Pomfret Center, CT
KB1DNO
rollinsonf@sbcglobal.net

Permanent Trustee

Ed Shekleton
Willington, CT
K1ZE
K1ZE@sbcglobal.net

Trustee

Paul Rollinson
Pomfret Center, CT
KE1LI
paulrollinson@sbcglobal.net

Trustee

Vincenzo Mazzarella
Danielson, CT
KB1JDX
compuvin@yahoo.com

Member at Large

Ray Thornton
Sterling, CT
W1YFF
w1yff@yahoo.com

Member at Large

Devendra Kalonia
Ashford, CT
K1DSK
devendra.kalonia@uconn.edu

Minutes from ECARA Monthly Meeting
1/8/18 at Day Kimball Hospital, Putnam

Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm

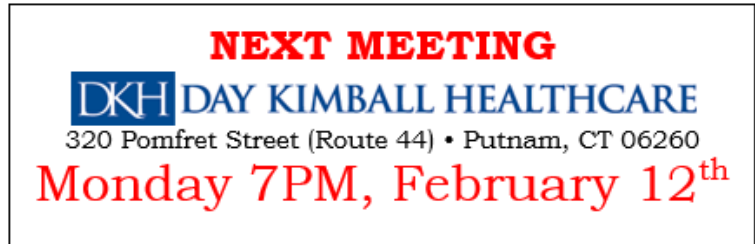
Secretaries report:

Motion to accept report
from the December SinePost

Treasurers report:

Beginning balance \$7355.55

Ending balance \$7154.60



Old Business:

Club Secretary vacancy needs to be filled – There were no volunteers

Flea Market update – Having communications issues with Patt Weimer because she does not have email or a computer. Patt will be invited to the February meeting.

Field Day - Club did great during last year's field day, 2nd in New England and 13th in US.

Meetings - Suggestions for improving meeting attendance included:

- Dinner meetings
- Avoid switching meeting locations
- Having a program every month

It was asked if meeting programs need to be limited to ham radio topics. The answer was no. I will be doing a presentation on brewing beer at the February meeting.

New Business:

Field Day - Jon KA1MPG volunteered to run Field Day again this year.

Ashford School - May not be able to talk to ISS because of orbital mechanics. They asked if club could do a presentation on ham radio. The club agreed.

Meeting locations schedule for the year - Every meeting at Day Kimball except May at QV.

August club picnic at the park we usually have it, and Christmas party at Classic Pizza.

January **club breakfast** will be held the next Saturday

VE session had 2 techs and 3 upgrades.

ARRL VHF contest - Jan 20-21

A **survey** will be sent out asking about preferred monthly meeting day, time, and location.

Radio in the Park - Vinny KB1JDX will organize operating at Wolf Den Park for New England QSO party.

Possibility of having **fox hunts** again?

Meeting closed 7:55 pm

Ed K1ZE did presentation of past field days.

VHF Contest

Hi All

In January, I participated in the VHF weak signal contest. This is a contest that I typically do fairly well in. Especially if the Patriots are NOT in the playoffs.

The contest starts on Saturday and runs through Sunday night, and frequencies are from 50MHZ and up. We usually run a multi-op station. As usual, KB1ORX and myself manned much of the contest with help from Ray, W1YFF on Sunday.

The bands were tough but we did have a couple of highlights. A 2M contact to FN25, near Montreal, and a band opening to Newfoundland (that I missed because of the game) are the type of contacts that keep me coming back for more abuse.

K1BAB, Brad, and his harmonic, played Rover with me on FM giving me 44 points, but at the end of the contest, that added over 3000 points to the total score with other multipliers.

It just shows you that FM is a real way to contest. I know there are many out there that have HTs that I could work. If anyone ever want to test to see if they can work me, inside or outside a contest setting, just give me a call. You'll be surprised how far that 2w 440ht will get you.

In the end, we did +23,000 points, 7,000 better than last year, talked and laughed with friends, and blew up a 6M pre amp. \$25 to fix it. No biggie.

Let me know if I can help you with this aspect of the hobby. The more, the merrier.

73

Paul, KE1LI

FN41AU



AMATEUR RADIO FLEA MARKET



Sunday
April 29, 2018
8 AM to 12 PM
RAIN OR SHINE



ADMISSION: **\$3.00** DONATION
TO BENEFIT: Eastern Conn. Amateur Radio Assoc.
(Previously The Pomfret Hamfest)

VE test session, Limited spaces available, Must Pre-register

Raceway Restaurant at Thompson Speedway

205 East Thompson Rd. Thompson, CT 06277

Tables are **\$15.00** each. For more information and

Talk in on 147.225 Mhz PL 156.7

Info: Contact KA1MPG, Jon at 508-943-4467 or
Jonas217@Verizon.net

WWW.ECARA.NET

ECARA Calendar of special events 2018:

Club meetings held every second Monday of each month at DKH unless otherwise indicated.

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
Breakfast	1/13	Social event to discuss direction future radio projects and VHF contest	KE1LI	All welcome!
O'Putnam Road Race	3/11	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
Hamfest	4/29	Annual flea market and VE Session	TBD	
Radio in the Park	5/6	Social and "Get on the Air" event at Wolf Den	KB1JDX	
Skywarn Class - Hampton	TBD	Storm spotting & reporting	TBD	Anyone interested
Breakfast	May	Social event to discuss direction and future radio projects and VHF contest	KE1LI	All welcome!
Woodstock Road Race	May	Safety & Communications	TBD	
ECARA Field Day	6/23-24	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	
DKH 5K Road Race	June	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
Kid's Day	June	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth	K1CSP	
Annual ECARA picnic	August	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	TBD	Members, family & friends
VJ Day Parade	August	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Brooklyn Fair	August	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Thompson Community Day	September	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	
ECARA Breakfast	TBD	Social event	TBD	Members, family & friends
Dazzle Light Parade	November	Safety & Communications	TBD	
ECARA election of officers & Xmas party	12/10	Social & administrative event; officer election	TBD	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 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				