The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association

A Message from the President

June 2018

Hello members and associates of ECARA,

We will be holding field day again at the Pomfret Recreation Park. Please check out my "What is field day article" for more information about the location and dates. If you have never been to field day, it is well worth attending. Field day is the event that got me most hooked on ham radio. I experienced my first field day a few months after I was first licensed. That one experience began my passion for emergency communications and contesting. If you have never operated before, the Get on the Air station is the perfect place to learn. That is exactly why the GOTA station was created.

The 2019 club flea market has been scheduled for Sunday April 28th at the Raceway Restaurant at the Thompson Speedway. We voted on this at the May meeting and I've already booked the hall. If you check out the ARRL website you'll see we are already listed and I sent out an email to the person who runs the MIT flea market list.

Our next public service event will be the VJ Day parade at the beginning of August. The Brooklyn Fair will be August 23rd thru August 26th. Vinny (KB1JDX) and Phil (KB1JQA) will be setting up their trailer to demonstrate ham radio to the fair goers. They will need a lot of help for this event. Eli (KC1IJX) will be running an emergency communications exercise the Saturday and Sunday of the fair.

Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting and at field day.

73,
KA1MPG
Jon Fournier

NEXT MEETING

DKH DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE

320 Pomfret Street (Route 44) • Putnam, CT 06260

Monday 7PM, June 11th

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Minutes from ECARA Monthly Meeting
5/14/18 at **QVEC Dispatch Center, East Killingly**

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Secretaries report:
Motion to accept minutes from the April SinePost

Treasurers report:
The treasurer was not present

Old Business:

Club Secretary - Still no new club secretary

Flea Market went well:

- 40 tables sold
- Good attendance
- Everyone liked the hall
- Club took in $1506 with $460 in expenses leaving a profit of $1046
- 3 people passed tests at the VE session

Jog with Judy - 4 radio operators participated plus net control

Radio in the Park – the event was a success even though the weather was not great

Woodstock Road Race - Memorial Day. Jon K1CSP will be net control and 6 operators are needed

Signal exercise at the Brooklyn Fair - Saturday and Sunday at the fair from 9am to 6pm

New Business:

2019 flea market – Scheduled for Sunday April 28 at the Raceway restaurant. $250 was authorized for the hall

Field Day - June 23 thru June 24 with setup on Friday the 22nd at the Pomfret Recreation Park. Next year we will probably hold field day at a location in Thompson

ARISS Contact - Week of September 17 at the Ashford School. The ARRL will provide us with a loaner satellite station

Operation plans are being put together for our public service events

Meeting ended at 8:00 pm.

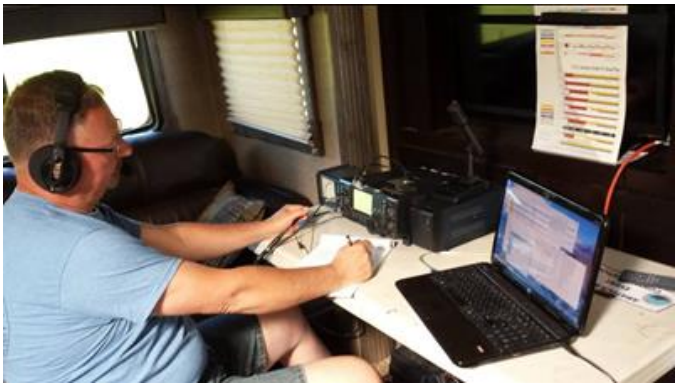
What is Field Day by Jon KA1MPG

Field day is the single largest emergency communications exercise in the United States. Every year 30,000 ham radio operators gather at remote locations across this country to practice the skills necessary for successful emergency communications and to test their equipment. This practice is done under far from ideal conditions. All of the equipment, including radio equipment, antennas, tents, trailers, and generators, is brought to the remote locations. The radio stations are manned for 24 hours. Then everything is torn down. Field day is such a large event and is conducted under less than ideal conditions because emergency communications is such an essential component of ham radio. Every time there is a major disaster, such as a hurricane or an earthquake, the only communications into the devastated area is through ham radio.

To make things more fun and challenging, field day is also contest. The object is to work as many other field day stations as possible and exchange information. This exchange of information simulates the exchange of information that takes place between ham radio operators and agencies such as the Red Cross, Homeland Security, and other disaster agencies during a major disaster.

Educational activities are also a major component of field day. One station, the Get on the Air station, is devoted entirely to teaching hams how to operate a station and how to contest. The GOTA station is staffed the entire weekend by a dedicated coach. We get bonus points for other educational activities.

Field day is also a major social event. Hams and family members congregate at the field day site the entire weekend. Some come just for the socializing. At 6 pm Saturday evening there is always a pot luck supper. If you would like to contribute a dish or a desert item for the feast please do so.



This year the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association will be holding field day at the Pomfret Recreation Park located at 576 Hampton Road (Route 97) in Pomfret Connecticut. Setup begins at 2 pm on Friday, June 22 and should last for several hours. We will need a lot of help to get the tents, antennas, and other equipment setup. The contest portion of field day begins at 2 pm on Saturday the 23rd and runs for 24 hours straight. 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.

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.

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	
Dinner Midway restaurant in Ashford	5/17	Social event to discuss direction and future radio projects and VHF contest	KE1LI	All welcome!
Skywarn Class - Hampton	5/23	Storm spotting & reporting	KC1CVU	Anyone interested
Woodstock Road Race	5/28	Safety & Communications	K1CSP	
ECARA Field Day	6/23-24	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	
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
DKH 5K Road Race	8/11	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
VJ Day Parade	8/12	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
Brooklyn Fair	8/23-26	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Harvester 5K Road Race	September	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Thompson Community Day	10/6	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
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				
☐ 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				