



April 2025

Edited by Brian Battles WS1O

ECARA OFFICERS 2025

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web site: <http://www.ecara.net/>

Repeaters

K1MUJ	147.225 MHz (input +600)	CTCSS 156.7 Hz	Brooklyn, CT
DMR	444.800 MHz	CC1 CT ARES	Brooklyn, CT
DMR Net	KZ1M		South Killingly, CT

Weekly Thursday Night Nets

7:00 PM	ECARA Emergency Net	K1MUJ 147.225 MHz 2-meter repeater
9:00 PM	Flying Saucer Net	28.475 MHz USB

Here's the latest ECARA News...

President's Message

By Brian Battles WS10

Welcome to the April 2025 edition of the *Sinepost*, ECARA's monthly newsletter.

Wow, I believe we set a world record for the shortest business meeting ever, at about 23 minutes on March 10! I'll always try to keep things moving along briskly, and everyone is welcome to linger after we adjourn to socialize.

We've been joined on the Thursday night net by several members of the Middlesex Amateur Radio Society/Connecticut Amateur Radio Emergency Service (MARS/CARES), and a few other hams through the capabilities of Echolink, and it's great to hear people from outside the usual K1MUJ repeater coverage area getting in on the fun! We've also had several ECARA members participate in the MARS/CARES club's Monday night nets at 7:30 and 8:00 PM on K1MUJ as it's linked to the W1EDH 147.09 repeater in Glastonbury. Please check in to these nets, all are welcome!

I got a new toy a few weeks ago, I decided to spoil myself and buy a new Kenwood TS-890 HF/6m transceiver, and it's fantastic.



Paul KE1LI and Marshall AC1TA came by and strung up my 132-foot end-fed half wave (EFHW) wire antenna, and it works great on all bands, it's ideal for 80-10 meters, and I can even make an occasional contact on 160 and 6 meters with the new rig. Also thanks to Jay W1UJ for providing the tennis ball cannon to launch the ropes into the trees.

Have you been on the air lately? The HF bands have been pretty active, especially 10, 12 and 15 meters! I have personally worked about 75 countries in just the past 3 or 4 weeks. There was good hunting on the CQ WPX SSB contest March 29-30. I made more than 130 QSOs in only about 6 or 7 hours of operating between Friday and Sunday. There were tons of stations on the bands and lots of interesting and unusual prefixes to put in the log.

I got the radio just in time, too, since I went in for arthroscopic knee surgery on April 1 to fix a torn meniscus, so I've had plenty of time to sit around the shack and play on the radio. The operation went smoothly, and I'm looking forward to getting back to riding my bicycle and playing softball any day now!

And now our usual nags/reminders:

If you haven't done so already, please join the ECARA club email reflector; sign up at ecara-reflector+subscribe@groups.io (link also on the ECARA web site). Check your email regularly to watch for club news and information.

- Take a few minutes each Thursday evening at 7 to check in to the ECARA 2-meter Emergency Net on K1MUJ.
- Come to the regular club meeting at the East Putnam Fire Department, the second Monday of the month at 7 PM.
- ARRL Field Day 2025 is June 28-29 at Gawron Farm in Thompson.

If you haven't paid yet, please submit your annual club dues for 2025 (just \$20). Pay at the next meeting, or you can pay on line via PayPal, look for the link on the club web site at <http://www.ecara.net/> When you pay via PayPal, remember to include a couple extra dollars to cover the fee PayPal charges!

If you're on Facebook, check out the ECARA page, and log onto the ECARA site on discord.com

We urge you to send in *Sinepost* article contributions. Send along any information or ideas of interest to the club or the general Amateur Radio community, and pictures, too. Please email your contributions to brian@brianbattles.com

73

Brian WS1O

Horse Event 2025

We have been asked to provide support for another Horse Ride event in Thompson on Sunday, May 18. The event is part of the Baystate Trail Riders Association series. This is the same event as we did with them in November, with a 9:00 AM check-in, and should be wrapped by 2:00 PM. This event will be canceled if it rains due to safety concerns for the horses. In November there was a nice buffet after the event that we were encouraged to attend and the food was excellent. We provide eyes and ears around the course monitoring for hazards and providing support for riders if needed.

Please let me know if you are available to help out; if you are available, please send me your name, call sign, and email address.

Thanks and 73

Brian Horne N1BAM
Horne.bt@gmail.com

Technician License Training Course

Coordinated by Ed Shekleton K1ZE

We've completed our Amateur Radio license exam preparation course, and the VE exam session was held, congratulations to Richard KC1UYG who upgraded to General, and welcome to our new Technician ham radio operators Rhondalee KC1WOG, Terry KC1WOH, Mark KC1WOI and Maria KC1WOJ!



We plan to offer an "Elmer" (mentor) session prior to an upcoming meeting, to assist new hams in getting started on the air, all are invited to come, bring your portable radio if you have one, and ask questions. Experienced amateurs are urged to hang out and help the newcomers get their feet wet and find out how much fun it is to get on the air.

For more info get in touch Ed Shekleton K1ZE...he's also easy to reach any Thursday night at 9:00 PM on the 10-meter Flying Saucer Net!

Field Day Planning

The ECARA Field Day committee met at the Woodstock Tavern on April 9 for dinner and discussion, and has begun working out plans for this year's ARRL Field Day June 28-29. Here are the assignments so far:

Stations:

80 Meters: W1HJY Henry Yakey (Camper)
40 Meters: KA1MPG, KA1MPI (Tent)
20 Meters: K1CSP John Szamocki (Camper)
10 Meters: KB1JCF Howard Ranks III
VHF: KE1LI Paul Rollinson (ECARA Trailer)
CW All Bands: K1ZE (Screen house)
GOTA: AC1TA (Easy Up)
FT8(on a set schedule) ECARA Trailer?

ARRL Liaison/Final Reports register site on Field Day Locator: KE1LI, WS1O

Potluck Supper Coordination: KC1UXE

Safety Officer/ First Aid: K1JFT

Insurance Rider:

Porta-Potty: K1JFT

Pig Roast and supplies: K1CSP, Steve, Chelsea

Field Day Operating Schedule, Layout/Drone photos: K1ZE, K1JFT, K1CSP

80 Meter Antenna for Henry: K1ZE

All band antenna for GOTA: K1CSP

Canopy, tables, chairs: K1CSP

Field Day PIO: WS1O/ K1CSP

Generator for Pig Roast: K1CSP

Field Preparation/Rebuild Fire Pit: Steve, W1JAS, K1CSP, K1JFT, W1LTT

Volunteers needed:

Food:

Rolls, condiments etc:

Soda/Water, Cooler:

Trash Barrel and bags:

ARRL Display:

Field Day Set up/ breakdown:

Be sure to offer to help, everybody needs to pitch in a little, and we'll all have a great time as usual!

Secretary's Report (minutes) ECARA Monthly Business Meeting March 10, 2025

As transcribed by Ron Kimball N1LSJ, Secretary.

Opened at 7 PM at the East Putnam CT Firehouse with Brian Battles WS1O presiding.

Members Present:

Brian WS1O President
John K1CSP Vice President
Ron N1LSJ Secretary
Bill KA1KAC
John KB1YZG
Glenn KC1VGS
John KC1WFD
Jon KA1MPG
Jeff W1QL
Ron KA1MPT
Frankie KB1DNO
Marshall AC1TA
Virginia KC1TCL
Karen KC1GRH
John K1JFT

The Secretary's report for February 10, 2025 as distributed via the email reflector was accepted.

No Treasurer's report; Dick KF6UX was not present.

The Memorial Day race in Woodstock and the VJ parade in Moosup are coming up.
We will also be doing the horse event again on May 18. Brian N1BAM is coordinating the event.
Thompson's anniversary events will be next year.

Field day will be June 27-29, 2025 (always the 4th full weekend on June).
We need GOTA operators.
We need a schedule for FT8 operation.
We need band filters.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24

Next Meeting

ECARA meets April 14, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the East Putnam Fire Department on Providence Pike. But come by around 6:00; we'll start gathering an hour early to offer mentoring and orientation to Amateur Radio to any new hams who are interested! Our regular business meeting will be called to order at 7:00 PM.

73 To All!