



# The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



## A Message from the President

June 2020

### 2020 Officers

#### President

John Szamocki  
Thompson, CT  
K1CSP  
szamocki@charter.net

#### Vice President

Jon Fournier  
Webster, MA  
KA1MPG  
Jonas217@verizon.net

#### Secretary

John Turner  
Putnam, CT  
K1JFT  
k1jft@aol.com

#### Treasurer

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

#### Permanent Trustee

Ed Shekleton  
Willington, CT  
K1ZE  
K1ZE@sbcglobal.net

#### Trustee (2019-2020)

William Grovesteen  
Dudley, MA  
KA1KAC  
begrovesteen@juno.com

#### Trustee (2020-2021)

John Jacobi  
Dayville, CT  
KB1YZG  
jdmjacobi@snet.net

#### Member at Large (2019-2020)

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

#### Member at Large (2020-2021)

Peter Johnson  
Danielson, CT  
K1NLX  
k1nlx@snet.net

Hello ECARA members and associates.

As things begin to open up again, it seems like more and more people are out and about trying to do their thing. We are into June, one of the busiest months for amateur radio. Plans are being finalized for Field Day, people are getting their equipment and antennas ready for the June VHF Contest, and the warmer weather is moving in. I managed to get my camper out from the back field and ready for my first camping trip of the season. We are fortunate not to have to cancel our trip, as the campgrounds are opening up now.

The monthly ECARA Meeting will be held on Monday June 8, 2020 at 7:00 PM on the K1MUJ Repeater. Frequency 147.225 MHz + PL Tone 156.7 Hz. We will discuss plans for the VHF Contest, Kid's Day, and of course Field Day. If your radio equipment can't get in to the repeater, you can access the repeater through Echolink Node 47825.

The first amateur radio event for the month of June is the June VHF Contest on June 13-15<sup>th</sup> 2020. This is an easy contest where you exchange your call sign and grid square. This is a great contest for new hams to get involved in, and your operating privileges allow you to participate in the entire frequency spread for the contest. You don't have to have any special equipment as contacts you make on your 2 meter/ 440 rigs and handhelds on FM count for points in the contest. If you plan on operating for points as part of ECARA, please make sure you notify Paul, KE1LI so you can be added to the list of participating stations with the ARRL.

The ARRL Kid's Day is Saturday June 20, 2020. All of the bands will be filled with chatter of kids calling CQ, and exchanging information with other stations including age, favorite color, location and other general information. If you hear a youth station calling, please come back to them to complete their contact. We need to generate interest in our youth to keep the hobby going.

Field Day Preparations are being planned for the ECARA Field Day on June 27-28, 2020. The porta-potty has been ordered, the fields got their first cut at the farm, and wood has been stacked up for the fire pit. The pig has been ordered for the Pot Luck Supper/ Pig Roast on Saturday night. As President of ECARA, I have sent a letter of invitation to the area town Emergency Management Directors inviting them to stop by the ECARA Field Day Exercise sometime during the 24 -hour operating period to view the equipment and operation in action. We will observe social distancing guidelines, and have hand washing stations available



throughout the Field Day Site area. As part of Field Day this year, the ARRL has made temporary rule waivers that allow Class D stations, (stations operating from home on commercial power) to acquire points from all stations including other Class D stations operating from home. They will also allow these stations to include their results with a single club name. If you have any questions about this, visit the ARRL web site.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone who can stop by for any period of time to attend Field Day. Pot luck supper is Saturday June 27, 2020 at 6:00PM. Please bring a dish or some pastry to share with the group and sample some fresh pig roasted on the barbeque. If you have time to help out on Friday afternoon June 26, 2020, we will begin setting up stations after 2 PM. ECARA Field Day is held at the Gawron Farm 188 Gawron Road Thompson, Ct. Hope to see you there!

73

John Szamocki K1CSP

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#### Trustee (

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Dudley, M  
KA1KAC  
begroveste

#### Trustee (

John Jacol  
Dayville, C  
KB1YZG  
jdmjacobi

#### Member :

Devendra  
Ashford, C  
K1DSK  
devendra.l

#### Member :

Peter John  
Danielson, CT  
K1NLX  
k1nlx@snet.net

### **Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association**

## SECRETARY REPORT

Due to the Covid 19 Global Pandemic the April 13, 2020 meeting was conducted over the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio repeater K1MUJ.

Meeting was called to order by ECARA President John Szamocki at 1900 hours.

A radio roll call was taken with the following members being present:

Members Present: John Szamocki, John Turner, Frances Rollinson, William Grovesteen, Paul Rollinson, Joseph Honyak, Peter Johnson, Elizer Iturrino, Derek May

Non-members: 0

Secretaries Report:

President Szamocki made motion to accept secretary report as published in the Sinepost.

Motion was accepted as published.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Frances Rollinson indicated that \$75.13 was collected in dues bringing total Account to 8707.16 for May 2020.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Accepted

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Woodstock Memorial Day Road Race cancelled
2. Jog with Judy Road Race moved to October
3. Field Day will continue as planned on June 26th thru June 28<sup>th</sup> with:
  - a. Increased Handwashing Stations
  - b. Sanitizing equipment
  - c. Larger seating area in Mess Hall
  - d. Pig Roast as planned June 26<sup>th</sup> at 1800 hours
4. Day Kimball Hospital Radio System repairs to be scheduled when the hospital reopens
5. QV High Frequency antenna installation will be conducted when tower technician/climber can be scheduled

NEW BUSINESS:

1. KE1LI states VHF contest June 13th and June 14<sup>th</sup>
2. ARRL Kids Day June 20<sup>th</sup> with no request for station set-up
3. Proposal for membership made to accept Henry Yakey of Brooklyn, Ct. (W1HJY) as a member of the club. Motion made and accepted

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion made by KE1LI and seconded by K1JFT at 1944 hours.

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**NEXT MEETING**  
**K1MUJ/R 147.225 +, 156.7PL**  
**K1CSP will be Net Control**  
Please adhere to formal net procedures  
**Meeting at 7PM June 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Note from the editor.**

Sorry guys and gals. I had a busy week and the duty of Sine post editor slipped my mind.

Some formatting error in this one but I rushed to push it out.

**VHF Contest** starts on Saturday 6/15 at 2Pm thru Sunday 11PM. Hope to work you.  
&3 Paul, KE1LI

### **Field Day Update by Jon KA1MPG**

Thanks to the Cronavirus this year's field day will be quite unique. Having never lived thru a pandemic such as this before I'm sure none of really know just how the virus situation will impact field day. It all depends on how prevalent the virus will be. Over the past few weeks the number of cases in the area has fallen. Testing has proved that the virus does not do well under warm weather conditions so the number of cases should hopefully fall drastically by field day.

I believe the virus situation should mostly impact the social aspects of the weekend. Probably we should all practice social distancing during the potluck supper and when we're congregating.

We are having field day again this year at the Gawron farm which is located on Gawron Road in Thompson. Gawron Road is off of Route 193. The contest portion of field day runs from Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm until Sunday at 2 pm. We will need a lot of relief operators. If you have not operated a contest before we will have a Get On The Air station to teach you how to operate.

Setup will be Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 2 pm and teardown sill start about noon Sunday and kick into high gear at 2 pm when the contest ends. We will need a lot of help for the setup and teardown.

Starting at 6 pm Saturday we will have a combination potluck supper and pig roast. If you would like to make a dish or a desert please do. I have brewed a batch of Field Day Amber Ale that I will be sharing with everyone who wants some.

Because of the virus situation all details could possibly change. I will posting updates on the club reflector

#### **ECARA Nets**

<b>Windham County Weather Net</b>	Wednesdays – 8 PM	147.225/R
<b>ARES Net</b>	<b>Wednesdays – 8:15 PM</b>	<b>147.225/R</b>
<b>Flying Saucer Net</b>	Thursdays – 9 PM	28.475 USB

### **ECARA activity:**

KZ1M has been active. See notes from Bob below.

I used KZ1M in the CW WPX contest.

Operated 30 hours of the allowed 36.  
1367 Q's, 612 prefixes; Final Score 1,747,872 points

I was low power, assisted, entered in the tribander and wires section.

Bob, W1EQ

### **FOR SALE**

I'm Selling some items to fund a new radio purchase. All items located in Griswold.

Yaesu FT-890AT with XGGCOMMS CAT cable. The 100W transceiver covers 160-10m and is currently setup. Made contacts in South America, Europe, and the West coast during New England QSO party. Includes the internal ATU-2 automatic antenna tuner. \$350.

Diamond X200A antenna <https://www.diamondantenna.net/x200a.html>. The radials are basically stuck in place, but the antenna checks out fine for SWR on 2m (my analyzer doesn't do UHF). \$50

Alpha Delta Fan Dipole for 40, 20, 15, 10m. <https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/alf-dx-ee>. It's already assembled and I checked the SWR (without it fully raised). It needs to be used with an antenna tuner, but that is typical of multiband dipoles (I have one strung up already). \$50

450 Ohm ladder line, 76 feet (<https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-009557>) and WA1FFL Ladder-Loc (<https://www.hamradio.com/detail.cfm?pid=H0-010008>) strain relief/mounting support. Used but in excellent condition. \$30

I also have lots of coax that I will sell in already cut pieces or cut into smaller pieces with new crimped connectors if desired. Prices depend on lengths.

73

Rob Sawyer

KC1CVO

860-884-0110



## 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 <sup>st</sup> 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				

Event	Date	Purpose	Contact/Net Control	Attendance
Radio in the Park	5-May	Social and "Get on the Air" event at Wolf Den	KB1JDX	
Woodstock Road Race	Canceled	Safety & Communications	KE1LI	
Kid's Day	6/20/2020	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth	K1CSP	
ECARA Field Day	6/27-6/28	Contesting & emergency readiness	KA1MPG	
Annual ECARA picnic	August	Socialization, and business related activities (if any), BYOB & soft drinks	TBD	Members, family & friends
DKH 5K Road Race	August	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
VJ Day Parade	August	Safety & Communications	KB1JDX	
Brooklyn Fair	Canceled	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Harvester 5K Road Race	September	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Thompson Community Day	October	Promote Ham Radio to public	KB1JDX	
Woodstock Road Race	October	Safety & Communications	TBD	
Jog with Judy	31-Oct	Safety & Communications	K1QM	
BSA JOTA	TBD	Demonstration and promote Amateur Radio services to youth	K1CSP	
ECARA election of officers & Xmas party	14-Dec	Social & administrative event; officer election	TBD	Members, family & friends

