



# The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



## A Message from the President

July 2020

### 2020 Officers

#### President

John Szamocki  
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#### Vice President

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#### Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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#### Permanent Trustee

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K1ZE  
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#### Trustee (2019-2020)

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#### Trustee (2020-2021)

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

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

Peter Johnson  
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K1NLX  
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Hello ECARA members and associates.

June was a busy month for amateur radio. The airwaves were buzzing on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> for the ARRL June VHF Contest. The bands were busy and we experienced some awesome openings on 6 meters. Although I did not spend the entire time doing the contest, I did experience some of the 6- meter openings on Sunday. Florida, Georgia and stations down south were 59, and midwestern states were strong but fading.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> there were some young voices across the amateur bands calling CQ for Kid's Day. I spoke with a few youth stations on 20 and 40 meters. Some of the exchanges included my favorite color, my location, and some of my favorite activities. I spoke with one young lady in Michigan who was extremely proud of her father and how he let her operate his radio equipment.

The big activity for the month was Field Day on June 27-28<sup>th</sup>. On Wednesday June 24<sup>th</sup>, a group of ECARA volunteers met at the Gawron Farm to get the site ready for Field Day. Members present were John K1JFT, Bill KA1KAC, John KB1YZG, Jon KA1MPG, Margaret N1NNP, Ron KA1MPI, Steve Gawron and myself. We cut brush, mowed the field and set up the dining canopy for the weekend. We scoped out our spots and staked claim on them for the weekend. On Friday, K1JFT met me at my house. We loaded his utility trailer up with tables, chairs, the generator, containers of gasoline, coax and a Cushcraft Vertical antenna. The rest of my junk went in my pickup, which was towing my camper. We went to the farm and began to unload and get ready for Field Day. I set up my camper for my sleeping quarters and supply storage. John KB1YZG, John K1JFT, John KC1MME and I set up dipole antennas in the trees using a line gun for the 20 and 80- meter stations, along with my Cushcraft R5 vertical for a backup. Jon KA1MPG, Ron KA1MPI and Margaret N1NNP set up the 40- meter tent. Bill KA1KAC set up his military jeep and trailer for the GOTA Station. John K1JFT and his son John KC1MME set up the 20 -meter tent. Rob Sawyer KB1RS rolled in with his camper and set up in the southeast corner of the Field for the 80- meter station. Eli K1QM set up his tent and camping equipment in the northeast corner of the field to help out as a relief operator and other tasks. Later on, a few other operators rolled in and set up tents for the night.

On Saturday, we were up bright and early for a nice breakfast put together by my XYL Gerri. We finished up some minor set up tasks and were ready to go for the 2 PM start. Steve and Chelsea (Host and Chief

Chef) had the charcoal going and were seasoning the pig for the Pig Roast. Ed K1ZE rolled in and set up way out in the field to run his CW station. There was plenty of food and hospitality and we had a great turnout of operators to run the different stations. Although we experienced some rain, we were able to adapt and overcome the weather problem. Some visitors, both hams and non-hams stopped by to check out our operation. While operating late Saturday night on 20 meters, Tim KB1PRW stopped in to say hello check out the operation. Some relief operators who attended Field Day were: John Turner Jr. KC1MME, Henry W1HJY, Cam KB1JLG, Eli K1QM, and a few others. We operated a good part of the night into Sunday morning.

On Sunday morning, Elaine Turner made us a great breakfast to keep us going through the day. Sunday the weather was beautiful and the bands were in good shape. We added several more contacts to the logs. We broke down our stations at about 1 PM. Overall, I believe Field Day 2020 was a great success. Thank- you to all who participated and made Field Day in these uncertain times a great success. I invite you all back next year.

There will be no July meeting. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 10, 2020 7 PM at Day Kimball Hospital Putnam, Ct.

73

John Szamocki K1CSP

## SECRETARY REPORT

June 8, 2020

Due to the Covid 19 Global Pandemic the June 8, 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,  
Jon Fournier,  
John Turner,  
Frances Rollinson,  
Ed Shekleton,  
William Grovesteen,  
John Jacobi,  
Peter Johnson,  
Paul Rollinson,  
Joseph Honyak,  
Phillip Mazarella,  
Michael Gardner,  
Eliezer Iturrino,  
Terry Glagowski,  
Bernard Dubb,  
Derek May,  
Margaret Fournier,

Ron Fournier,  
Timothy Rogers.  
Others: WB1AOC Charles Weimer III

**Secretaries Report:**

KB1JQA Phil, made motion to accept secretary report as published in the Sinepost. Motion second by Bill KA1KAC. Motion passed to accept as published.

**Treasurers Report:**

Frances Rollinson indicated that they collected an additional \$40.00 in dues bringing the balance for June to \$8747.16

Motion made by John- K1JFT to accept the Treasurer's report as read. Second by Bill KA1KAC.  
Treasurer's Report Accepted

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Paul Rollinson reports the upcoming VHF contest will be held Saturday June 13th to Sunday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

John Szamocki stated Kids Day is Scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> with no formal plans announced. Requested that all members search the bands and try to respond to CQ requests to encourage the kids who are participating.

Field Day: June 27<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>

1. Setup begins Friday June 26<sup>th</sup> at 1400 hours.
2. John Szamocki and John Turner will start preparation by mowing fields, cutting brush, and setting up Dining Canopy.
3. Stations Assigned:
  - a. GOTA- Bill-KA1KAC
  - b. 20 meters -John-K1CSP
  - c. 40 meters- Jon-KA1MPG
  - d. 80-15 meters – Rob-KC1CVO
4. Request for 350.00 dollars made for field day supplies. Motion made by John-K1JFT to allocate 350.00 dollars for supplies. Second by Phil-KB1JQA. Motion approved.
5. Porta Potty ordered by John K1JFT
6. Radio Set-up Begins Saturday at noon.
7. Pig Roast/Pot Luck starts at 1800 hours
8. Bon Fire later in evening

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Club Picnic- Tabled for a later meeting

Motion made and accepted to cancel July meeting

August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting tentatively scheduled for Day Kimball Hospital.

Proposal for membership: A request was made by Bert Gunn KB1ZY? for membership. No application was submitted and more information is needed to further this proposal.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion made by John-K1JFT and seconded by Derek-KB1ZOY at 1947 hours.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**August 10th**  
**7PM At Day Kimball**  
**Hospital**  
**Tentative**

**Field Day Wrap up by Jon KA1MPG**

Field Day 2020 turned out to be an all around success. The days and weeks leading up to the actual event was the most nerve racking lead up to field day that I've experienced, thanks to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Thankfully the number of cases in our general was low and the Governor of Connecticut relaxed things sufficiently so that our field day was legal.

Other than the weather Saturday afternoon and evening there is nothing to complain about. The steady rain was depressing but we did not let it hamper our operating or our potluck supper and pig roast.

The Saturday evening feast was fantastic. Thank you to everyone who made a dish or a desert. The pig was cooked perfectly thanks to Chelsey.

Our score was quite respectable this year despite not having a VHF station. The band conditions were good.

Thank you Rob KB1RS for setting up and running the 80 meter and 15 meter stations, Thank you to Ed K1ZE for setting up and running the CW station. Thank you John K1CSP and John K1JFT for doing the same for the 20 meter station. I would also like to thank Bill KA1KAC for setting up and running the GOTA station. Finally I would like to thank my dad, Ron KA1MPI, and mom, Margaret N1NNP, for helping me setup and run the 40 meter station. I would also like to thank everyone else who helped make this Field Day a success.

Here are out totals for the contest:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total
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80	0	215	0	215
40	181	408	0	589
20	3	265	0	268
15	1	35	0	36
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Total	185	923	0	1,108































### ECARA Nets

<b>Windham County Weather Net</b>	Wednesdays – 8 PM	147.225/R
<b><span style="color: red;">ARES Net</span></b>	<span style="color: red;">Wednesdays – 8:15 PM</span>	<span style="color: red;">147.225/R</span>
<b>Flying Saucer Net</b>	Thursdays – 9 PM	28.475 USB

## Neat link from KR1U, BOB

click on the link below, enter your callsign and see all hams in your area (and beyond)

<https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map?fbclid=IwAR02Wmx4UMwqtwz2xVS9lHiS6BRaKv8udx0L-LuOa0h3eeh0Ql3k6HmrFVQ>

73, Bob

## Ham Radio comes to the aid of an Old Friend

We used to have Field Day on his property before moving to Florida

## Maritime Mobile Service Network Comes to the Aid of Vessel in Distress

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07/06/2020

The Maritime Mobile Service Net (**MMSN**) on 14.300 MHz came to the assistance of a sailing vessel on June 25. MMSN control operator Steven Carpenter, K9UA, took a call on 20 meters from Ian Cummings, KB4SG, the skipper of the *Mystic Lady*, then some 40 miles east of Florida. Cummings reported that his engine had failed as he was attempting to return to his home port of Stuart, Florida. He not only had insufficient wind, but a strong current was carrying the vessel out to sea. Cummings had been unable to reach any station via his VHF marine radio, since he was too far from the coast. Assisting in the call was Robert Wynhoff, K5HUT, also an MMSN net control operator. Cummings said his vessel, with one passenger on board, was drifting northwest toward the South Carolina coast.

"A major concern was that the vessel was heading directly towards a lee shore," the MMSN reported. "Lee shores are shallow, dangerous areas which are a hazard to watercraft. Vessels could be pushed into the shallow area by the wind, possibly running aground and breaking up."

Carpenter contacted Cummings' family, who had already called the Sea Tow marine towing service. Sea Tow advised Carpenter to tell the captain to head closer to shore by sailing west, if possible. Carpenter told Cummings that if he was unable to get nearer to shore, he would notify the US Coast Guard, which was already monitoring the situation.

As the MMSN reported, "The *Mystic Lady* was able to make some headway, but it was very slow. Members of the MMSN made additional calls via landline to the captain's family as to the ongoing status of those on board. The family was concerned but relieved that communication was established and that all were well."

Several hours later, the captain advised that the wind had picked up, allowing him to head close enough to shore for Sea Tow to reach the vessel and take it back to port.

The Pacific Seafarers' Net, which monitors 14.300 MHz from the West Coast after the MMSN secures at 0200 UTC, kept in touch with the *Mystic Lady* into the night while it was under tow.

The tired, grateful captain later messaged the net, "A million thanks to everyone last night who helped rescue us on 14.300. Everyone chipped in as we drifted north in the Gulf Stream 60 miles headed to a lee shore. The MMSN net control and several others stayed with us for hours, phoned people, and were immensely helpful. The situation on board was dangerous. We are now safely under tow home. You folks are amazing!"

In operation since 1968, the MMSN monitors 14.300 MHz 70 hours a week to assist vessels and others in need of assistance. — *Thanks to MMSN Net Manager Jeff Savasta, KB4JKL*

### **Info to share from Bernie, KB1DGY**

<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>

73,

Bernie KB1DGY

### **The History of K1MUJ and VHF contests**

We will start this article with the following quote from Ed, K1ZE:

"My first K1MUJ VHF contest was June 1967 with WA1DWE Dave Sarault (N3XF) and WA1IAV Gary Giambattista (inactive).

I had not received my license in the mail yet but was WN1HYN. We found out I was the only one licensed out of the three as Dave's and Gary's had both expired the month before. We were on 6 and 2 meters using AM!! K1SUB (SK) used to call WA1IAV Goomba."

Ed goes on to say:"I think I used K1MUJ a couple times from R.I.

KA1ZNZ (inactive) operated from my R.I. QTH a few times.

KA1ZNZ is in the pix with Sochon in the last bulletin.

Good guy. Just dropped out of radio when his business got busy."

Ed provided me with a list of K1MUJ activity from 1999 to 2013 which took place in Union FN31VX. Paper logs were used in those early days and I'm sure they are gone.

My task was to research VHF contest activity by K1MUJ.

K1MUJ has never entered any of the CQ VHF contests. I could no find any activity in the CQ contest archives.

3830.com had only 1 listing and that was for the 2015 September VHF contest.

However, K1MUJ is listed in 7 VHF contest results on the ARRL website.

On LOTW, the club has 12,299 QSO's records, with 1,808 QSL records.

The QSO records include FD contacts made over the years.



The VHF Award breakdown is as follows:

A pretty good grid count.

Award	Grids
Fred Fish 50 MHz	101
VUCC 50 MHz	105
VUCC 144 MHz	23
VUCC 222	17
VUCC 432	15
VUCC 1296	3
VUCC 2.3	1

Some of the 6 meter grids were made during FD and contest. From 144 MHz down to 2.3 GHz, I feel confident that they were made during a VHF contests. I don't think we use 2 meters during FD.

Before I dive into each VHF contest results; K1MUJ needs Hawaii and Montana to complete WAS. As for DXCC, we have 16 mixed countries between CW and SSB.

Here is a breakdown of each of VHF contest beginning with the most recent:

**The only log that is not in LOTW is the June 2004 log.**

DATE	Points	QSo'S	Mults	Operators	Position	Position
Sep. 2015	28,044	288	76	W1UJ, N1WK, K1ZE, KE1LI, K1CSP, KR1U & KB1TIM	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	8 <sup>th</sup> W/VE
Jan. 2013	1,425	69	19	K1MUJ, KB1JDX	2 <sup>nd</sup> CT	2 <sup>nd</sup> in New England
June. 2007	98,420	597	133	K1ZE, KA1MPG, N1DGF and N1ROZ	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	2 <sup>nd</sup> in New England
June, 2006	142,848	672	186	K1ZE and N1DGF	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	1 <sup>st</sup> in New England
June, 2005	65,611	487	103	K1CSP, K1MUJ, K1ZE, KE1LI, N1DGF and N1SAX	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	3 <sup>rd</sup> in New England

June, 2004	126,300	569	150	N1DGF, KR1U and K1ZE	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	10 <sup>th</sup> W/VE
June, 2003	84,963	539	127	K1ZE, N1DGF, W1AV, W1JAD	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	3 <sup>rd</sup> in New England
Jan. 2003	56,316	517	78	K1ZE, KZ1M and N1DGF	1 <sup>st</sup> in CT	10 <sup>th</sup> W/VE

Operator information and results were taken from the copy of certificate available on the ARRL contest website. Please note that the certificate for Jan. 2003; state DIVISION RECORD)

Listed below is the breakdown on frequencies used and total QSO/Multipliers

Jan. 2003

K1MUJ	56,316	517	78	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:181/20; 144MHz:173/19; 222MHz:53/16; 432MHz:89/15; 902MHz:6/3; 1296MHz:15/5
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June, 2003

K1MUJ	84,963	539	127	M	CT		50MHz:241/62; 144MHz:178/26; 222MHz:46/17; 432MHz:64/16; 902MHz:6/4; 1296MHz:4/2
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June, 2004

K1MUJ	126,300	569	150	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:146/36; 144MHz:214/33; 222MHz:66/25; 432MHz:90/23; 902MHz:18/12; 1296MHz:24/11; 2304MHz:7/6; 10GHz:4/4
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June 2005

K1MUJ	65,611	487	103	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:189/28; 144MHz:166/27; 222MHz:54/20; 432MHz:63/18; 1296MHz:12/7; 2304MHz:2/2; 10GHz:1/1
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June 2006

K1MUJ	142,848	672	186	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:425/124; 144MHz:151/29; 222MHz:42/17; 432MHz:54/16
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June 2007

K1MUJ	98,420	597	133	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:347/66; 144MHz:134/20; 222MHz:45/14; 432MHz:49/15; 902MHz:9/7; 1296MHz:8/6; 2304MHz:3/3; 10GHz:2/2
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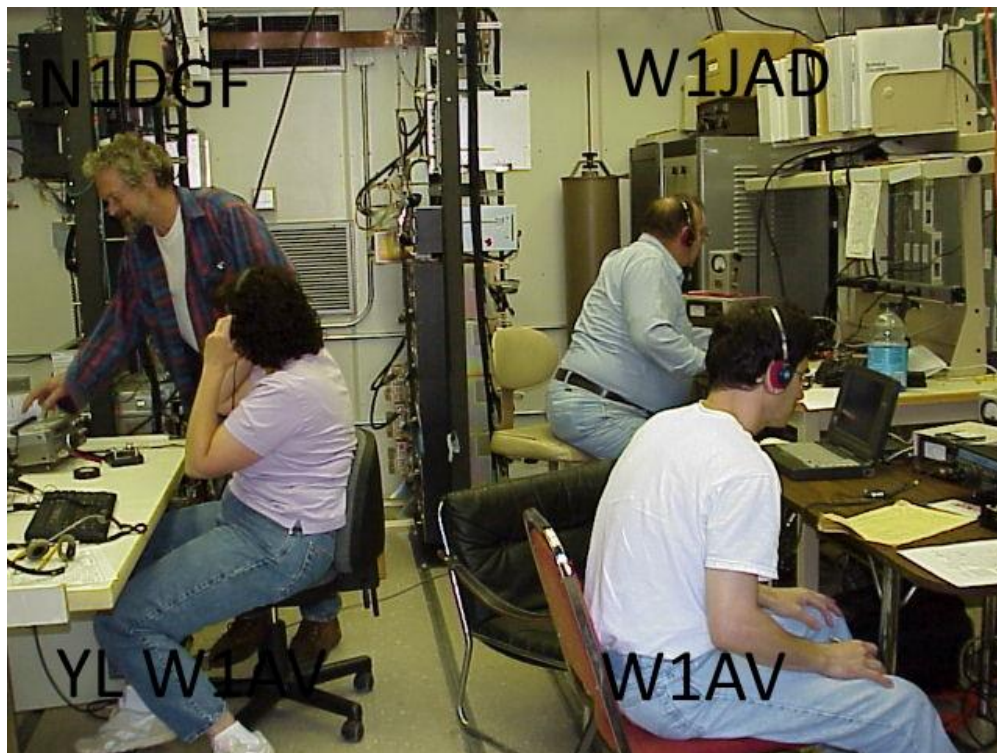
January 2013

K1MUJ	1,425	69	19	A	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:43/11; 144MHz:20/5; 222MHz:2/1; 432MHz:4/2
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September 2015

K1MUJ	28,044	288	76	M	CT	Eastern Connecticut ARA	50MHz:155/29; 144MHz:74/19; 222MHz:21/9; 432MHz:20/9; 902MHz:7/4; 1296MHz:7/3; 2304MHz:3/2; 10GHz:1/1
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June 2003





June 2003, Union Connecticut



FOR SALE: Heath SB-221 Hi Power 2KW 80-10 meter HF amplifier. Looks/works like new. Expertly wired. Xtra 3-500Z. \$749.

Firm Bob/KR1U [oldradiodoc@gmail.com](mailto:oldradiodoc@gmail.com) 860-928-2628

## 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

