

The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association

December 2022

A Message from the President

Greetings Fellow ECARA Members!

Not a lot to add this month, other than to hope you enjoy the holiday season, wrap up 2022 on a high note, and start the New Year in a positive way!

I'm hoping we have some more operating activities in 2023, and perhaps have a couple of interesting presentations at our monthly meetings.

We're trying to organize a "work party" to go inspect the emergency management ham-equipped trailer in Waterford, so we can get an idea of how to design and equip our own trailer, which we'll be acquiring and setting up this year. There is grant money available, and we're going to see if we can request a couple of HF and VHF/UHF rigs plus power supplies, antennas, possibly a generator, etc, to get started. Ideally we want our trailer to be set to operate on all the usual ham bands at any time and from any location. It will be a terrific asset for emergency operation, drills, parades, walkathons, community events, demonstrations, contesting, perhaps we can bring it to fairs, schools...and offer members the use of it if they don't have adequate home stations. Not to mention the public relations benefit of having a rolling ECARA billboard when we bring the trailer out and about. We're planning to begin this project sometime in January and I hope you'll volunteer to help.

We didn't get a chance to join in and assist at the Putnam Holiday Dazzle Light Parade in 2022; for next year we should have representatives from ECARA meet with the parade's planning people ahead of time to find out if they want and need us there and what we are going to be asked to do. It may be that we are no longer needed; nowadays with ubiquity of cell phones and commercial radios, it may seem that hams are superfluous. However, it's important to note that even if organizers have their own hardware, we hams offer trained, disciplined communicators and possibly additional event help, *eg*, coordinating parking, directing people to parade officials, and so forth.

A reminder, if you have not yet done so, please subscribe to the ECARA reflector at <https://groups.io/g/ecara-reflector/> so you can be sure not to miss any messages or announcements.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our holiday party at Classic Pizza in Brooklyn on December 12. Bring family, friends, new hams, neighbors, strangers, etc...

Happy Holidays and 73!

Brian Battles WS10
ECARA President

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SECRETARY REPORT

November 14, 2022

The meeting was held at Putnam Municipal Complex Community Room

Members Present:

John Turner-K1JFT, John Szamocki-K1CSP, Jon Fournier-KA1MPI, Ron Fournier-KA1MPG, Margaret Fournier-N1NNP, John Jacobi-KB1YZG, Brian Battles-WS1O, Karen Carr-KC1GRH, Bill Grovesteen-KA1KAC, Michael Gardner-K1MLG, Ed Shekleton-K1ZE, Richard Kopplin-KF6UX, Robert Garceau-W1EQ, Brian Savulis-AC1NN, Cameron Chandler-KB1JLG.

Club President Brian Battles opened the meeting at 1900 hours and asked for a summary of the Secretary's report for the March 2022 meeting. Secretary Turner provided a summary of last month's meeting and updated the membership on the status of the ongoing Antenna and Trailer projects.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Frankie Rollinson was not present due to illness but reported the current club account balance for November 14, 2022, was 8151.59.

OLD BUSINESS

Frankie had suggested at the October meeting that a gift card in the amount of 100.00 dollars be given to both Steve Gawron and his friend Chelsea for providing the field day site and cooking the dinner for members participating in the event. John Turner purchased the cards for a total of 211.90. The receipt will be given to Treasurer Rollinson. John Szamocki and John Turner presented the cards to Steve and Chelsea on 11-30-2022 on behalf of the membership.

John Turner advised that the State of Connecticut is looking at training CERT teams for the Northeast Connecticut area. These classes are approximately 26 hours long and cover subject matters such as Emergency communication, first aid, search and rescue, disaster preparation, etc. On November 8, 2022, during a scheduled meeting, the NE Ct. Emergency Management Group decided that the classes would start in the spring of 2023. John Turner presented a proposal for purchasing a trailer that was owned by Chuck Kelleher. That proposal was approved by the membership. Szamocki contacted Chuck Kelleher, who stated that the trailer will be available in March 2023.

John Szamocki presented a proposal for ECARA membership to be extended to GMRS License holders. John Szamocki currently runs the Stateline GMRS radio repeater with a tower in Dudley, Ma. and Killingly, Ct. This is a closed system that currently has approximately sixty members. GMRS License holders could become associate members under the by-laws. Associate members would be charged ten dollars yearly for dues. A discussion was held, and the membership agreed to allow GRMS License holders into the club as associate members.

John Szamocki stated he would contact current users of the Stateline GMRS system and offer them associate membership in our club.

John Szamocki and Paul Rollinson dropped off a 52-foot crank-up tower to the Gawron Farm where we currently hold our Field Day exercise. This tower could be permanently

mounted on the site for use by members on any day other than Field Day. On 11-6-2022 John Szamocki, John Turner, Steve Gawron, and John Shaw excavated the site for the tower and assembled a form for the concrete base. On 11-9-2022 concrete was poured securing the base and making it ready for assembly in the spring.

Brian Battles discussed preparations for the Christmas party. Karen Carr made reservations at Classic Pizza in Brooklyn for 12-12-2022 at 1800 hours.

John Fournier stated that he would contact Thompson Speedway and secure the location for the ECARA flea market in April. As of this date he has not been able to contact the venue.

NEW BUSINESS

The Putnam Holiday Light parade committee has requested the assistance of the club to assist with communications. John Szamocki and Brian Battles will coordinate.

The Club's web page was discussed because it needed some updates to the financial areas. Jon Fournier stated that he had the passwords to the account but needed access to google documents to update the financial areas in question. Brian Battles stated that he would contact Vinny Mazarella who currently has those permissions.

On the advice of Cameron Chandler, a sub-committee was formed to coordinate the layout and design of the new communications trailer. The committee would also provide a list of equipment for submission to the ARES Coordinator for purchase.

The sub-Committee consists of.

Brain Battles, John Szamocki, John Turner, Cameron Chandler, Michael Gardner John Jacobi and Ed Shekleton agreed to consult on the project.

Brian Battles led a discussion on ways to attract new members to the club. Brian suggested we reach out to schools as an area to recruit new members. Brian also suggested inviting other area radio clubs to our meetings to share expertise in programs we do not have.

Nomination of Club Officers was held, and the following people were nominated for the open positions.

President- Brian Battles

Vice-President- John Szamocki

Secretary-John Turner

Treasurer-Francis Rollinson

Member-at-Large- Michael Gardner

Trustee-William Grovesteen

All those nominated are running unopposed.

The club voted in a new member, Brain Savulis-AC1NN-Welcome Brian

Meeting Adjourned 2015 hours

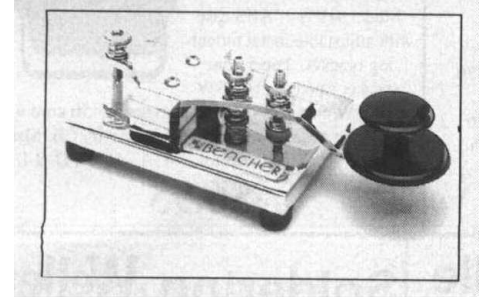
The 2022 ECARA Christmas Party will be Monday December 12th at Classic Pizza in Brooklyn Ct. The Start time is 6 pm. The address is 597 Providence Rd Brooklyn, CT .

AMATEUR RADIO

LEA MARKET



Sunday
April 23, 2023
8 AM to 12 PM
RAIN OR SHINE



ADMISSION: \$5.00 DONATION

TO BENEFIT: Eastern Conn. Amateur Radio Assoc.
(Previously The Pomfret Hamfest)

Raceway Restaurant at Thompson Speedway

205 East Thompson Rd, Thompson CT 06277

Tables are \$15 each. Please reserve in advance

This year we have a limited number of
outdoor spaces in the parking lot for \$10.
Please reserve in advance.

For more information and table reservations
contact Jon KA1MPG Jonas217@verizon.net or 508 943-
4467

WWW.ECARA.NET