



The SinePost

The Monthly Newsletter of the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association



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A Message from the President March 08

Hello Members and Associates of ECARA

It is hard to believe that another month has just gone by! The fact that it was the smallest month of the year makes me feel a little better but then it still went by way too fast.

The club's biggest (and only) fundraising event is this month... The ECARA Hamfest!!! Paul has informed me that he has sold 30 tables already. Only another 10 or so and it will be a sell out! In fact, Paul is looking for some more folding tables that we can use for the event. If you have any tables lying around that you wouldn't mind us using for the day, let Paul know. As for the hamfest itself, be sure to pass the word around. As always, we will be conducting a VE session, selling coffee, donuts, and this year we will also be raffling off a Yaesu FT-1802M 2 Meter mobile. This radio boasts 50 watts and 221 memories (I wonder why they decided on that number)! I hope to see you all at the hamfest. Be sure to stop by the club booth to see what we've got for sale and to say "hi" to KB1JDY and myself.

Looking ahead, the next event after the hamfest will be our foxhunt. I don't think that we really decided on a time but the date will definitely be the 22nd of March. The "hunt" will take place in Plainfield, CT and there has been talk of meeting for breakfast before the event. After the next meeting, I will have to send out an e-mail with the rest of the details of the event.

The club has also been contact to provide radio communications for the Woodstock MS Walk, the Woodstock 10k Run, and the Deary Road Race. Your support for these events is always greatly appreciated.

I don't know about the rest of you but I can't wait for warmer, dryer weather! I have some big plans for this spring/summer. My dad and I have a 50 ft tower that we are planning on putting up with some sort of HF Beam (we haven't decided which one yet). I would also like to put up another dual band vertical for my packet setup and possibly another one for my TS-2000. It seems like 2 more vertical antennas plus the 4 I already have would be a little bit too much but then again, any ham will tell you that you can never have too many antennas. I would also like to put up another dipole but that one doesn't count. ☺

Have a great month! I hope to hear you on the air!

73,
Vinny Mazzarella KB1JDX
ECARA President

Calendar

March:

Hamfest March 15 Rt. 169 & Rt. 101

Fox Hunt March 22, Plainfield

Breakfast March 22

April

ECARA Minutes for 2/11/08

Members Present

KB1JDX	Vinny
KB1JDY	George
W1EQ	Bob
KB1PRW	Timothy
AB1DX	Oliver
KB1PYI	Cliff
KB1TIM	Tim
KB1DNO	Frankie
KA1KAC	Bill
KE1LI	Paul
KA1MPG	Jon
N1NNP	Margaret
K1ZE	Ed
K1NOX	PETE

President KB1JDX (Vinny) called meeting to order at 7:33 PM

Old Business

The treasures report was read and accepted

Repeaters

We have secured a location on the American Towers tower for our digital repeater. The possibility of adding D-Star was discussed. Would a D-Star repeater carry any traffic? Would a D-Star repeater have any real value? As long as we are thinking broadly: Do we need a second speech repeater? We can have a

second antenna at location but do we need another general-purpose repeater? We will need to work with the frequency coordinator. Any antenna is a "foot in the door" regardless of the application. Vinny will send the repeater frequency to Lojak.

Hamfest

The ARRL listing for the Hamfest session is corrected per Paul. The Hamfest is going well. 14 tables have been sold.

Flying Saucer Net

The flying saucer net is receiving 5-30 check-ins per session. The Flying Saucer Net is on every Thursday at 09:00 PM (02:00 GMT) at 28.475 MHz.

Website

The webpage is out-of-date. Several members are familiar with web programming. We have the depth.

Killingly Tri-Centennial

No new information regarding the Killingly 300 year anniversary special event. This will happen in the summer.

BSA Presentation

Paul will make the presentation to the boy scouts.

MS Walk May 3

No response yet from the Multiple Sclerosis walk. This is scheduled for May 4

Field Day

The field day committee needs to meet and make recommendations.

Fox Hunt

The Foxhunt is in Plainfield on March 22.

New Business

Constitution Amendment

The President needs wider discretion for the use of petty cash. The current limits date from 1999. Current limits are \$100 maximum for use at the

discretion of the president. Spending is limited by the constitution and provides a procedure for amending it. The proposed new language must be published prior to the action of the club.

From the constitution:

“Section 4.2 — Emergency Expenditures — The Association Treasurer shall, with the consent of the President, approve payment of all bills and/or authorize emergency expenditure not to exceed \$100.00 between regular general membership meetings of the Association.”

The maximum limit for the use at the discretion of the president shall be raised from \$100 to \$200.

Breakfast Social

We will meet for breakfast on March 22. Several locations have been suggested.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM

Education Class

Norm N1RFK, Dottie KB1PRY and Ron K1VSC are teaching a tech class in Ashford for 12 students. This is the largest class we have in years.

Birthdays

March Birthdays:

Charles W1HFC, Lealand KE4VUC, Ron KA1MPI, Margaret N1NNP, Ian KB1SG, Paul KE1LI, Dean N1SXL, Tim KB1TIM, Jason N7PRD

April Birthdays:

Robert N1GE, Bill KB1MTM, Bernard KB1DGY, Paul KB1ENX, Jason N1GKI, Jana KB1LYF, Chris KB1FUO, Brian N1VSX

If I missed you, please let me know and I'll add you to the list

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Public Service through amateur radio

To join ECARA or update our records please fill out the form below and bring it to the next meeting or mail to
ECARA Treasurer
PO Box 63 Dayville, CT 06241

**Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association
Membership application / renewal**

Call sign _____ License Class _____ New (\$20/Yr) Individual (\$20/Yr)
Name _____ Renewal (\$20/yr) Family (\$30/yr) (1 Sine post)
Address _____ Senior (\$15/yr)
City/State/Zip _____ Birth date (MO/day/yr) _____
Phone number _____ Spouse name _____
E-mail Address _____ Spouse Birth day _____
Year first licensed _____ ARRL Member? Y N Anniversary (MO/day/yr) _____