

DIRECT CURRENTS

The Official Publication of the Housatonic Amateur Radio Club, Vol XXV Issue VII

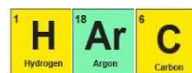
MEETING INFO

Our annual formal meeting is held every Winter Field Day, and our informal meeting is held every Summer Field Day. Both meetings are held during set up time prior to the event start. Our next meeting (informal) is scheduled for Saturday June 27, 2020 during Summer Field Day setup and will have a semi-annual State of the Union (Club) Address. This upcoming presentation will be held on Zoom. It is uncertain at press time whether this presentation will be during Field Day or at our next Zoom meeting. All members are urged to attend this meeting and event. We also hold monthly video meetings the first Monday of every month. Below is a picture of our Zoom meeting held June 1, 2020. The main topics of discussion was Summer Field Day.



Top row left to right: Tom N1UNT, Gary WE1M & Ned KA1CVv.
 2nd Row: Dan N3DAW (in Maryland), Alex N1AK & Sam W1SMF.
 3rd Row: Jeff KB1LZ, Jani KC1MHU & Ken NE1CU.
 Bottom Row: Larry AB1JC & Dave KB1LTW (in North Carolina).

Don't get caught below the KT boundary, rise above with N1KT



NEW MEMBER DAN N3DAW



The members of the Housatonic ARC would like to welcome our new member Dan N3DAW, who accepted our membership invitation on June 2, 2020. When you see Dan, please congratulate him on being in our club!

SUMMER FIELD DAY

We will operate Summer Field Day! Our club, in conjunction with the Westport Astronomical Society will operate a "Social Distancing - Summer Field Day". What do we mean by this? We will set up stations at WAS and be spread more than 6 feet apart. The plan is two stations in the classroom, and one in a tent in the field, and perhaps one in the observatory. Each station will set up their own antennas. This is a small field day with just WAS, HARC and a few others. Additionally, members who wish to stay home can operate their own callsign in Class D or E, and can list our club in their submission. (see picture below on how to list our club). That way our club will get credit for their score and bonus points also! Summer Field Day is June 27-28, 2020. We will scout the field on Friday morning around 9 am. Ned will cook breakfast both Friday and Saturday morning.

If you're operating from home using your own call, we can still get credit for our club. Go to "<http://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>" to submit your score and bonus points. Then, just list the Housatonic ARC in the Club or Group Name. It must be written EXACTLY identical by all members or the ARRL will not allocate it properly. (Their requirement, not mine). So, make sure you write "Housatonic ARC". Thanks. Additionally, **you can win our new award for this year, see below.**

ARRL FIELD DAY 2020

ARRL Home | Field Day Home | Field Day Resources | Field Day Locator | Rules | Entry Form | Entries Received | Results | Soapbox

2020 Field Day Entry

Attention! Entries for the 2020 Field Day are not being accepted until its start at 2020-06-27 18:00:00

Complete this form to submit your Field Day Entry to the ARRL for review and tabulation. You can access a help page by clicking on ⓘ next to an item on the form. **Note:** You can select the documents at a later time. Each document can not be larger than 6 MB.

Call Used ⓘ GOTA Station Call ⓘ Location Select ARRL/RAC section ⓘ

Club or Group Name HOUSATONIC ARC ⓘ

Number of Participants ⓘ Number of Transmitters in simultaneous operation ⓘ

Entry Class (check only one):

- ☐ A. Club or non-club group portable ⓘ
- ☐ B. 1 or 2 person non-club group portable ⓘ List of calls of operators: ⓘ
- ☐ C. Mobile ⓘ
- ☐ D. Home station commercial power ⓘ
- ☐ E. Home station emergency power ⓘ
- ☐ F. EOC station ⓘ

Power Source (check all that apply):

☐ Generator ☐ Commercial mains ☐ Battery ☐ Solar ☐ Other (list) ⓘ

Power Multiplier (check only one):

- ☐ 5 watts or less and battery powered = 5x
- ☐ 150 watts or less = 2x
- ☐ Over 150 watts = 1x





ARRL NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES – STILL AWAITING RESULTS

We operated the ARRL November SSB Sweepstakes as K1WAS on Sunday November 17, 2019. We made 110 contacts, 49 sections worked, 34 remained, 36 states & 4 Canadian Provinces and Puerto Rico worked for 10,700 points. Not bad for our first sweepstakes! We are awaiting ARRL to publish the results.

ARRL DX SSB CONTEST– STILL AWAITING RESULTS

We operated the ARRL DX SSB contest on Saturday afternoon March 7, 2020 for about 6 hours as N1KT. We ran both the Vertical antenna and the OCF dipole and switched between them via a coax switch in the tuner. After 6 hours of operation, we had 60 contacts, with 40 multipliers. Each country worked is a multiplier. We worked 32 countries (USA does not count for points, as it is not DX). We are awaiting ARRL to publish the results.

SEMI ANNUAL CLUB DINNER

It is with a heavy heart (and an empty stomach) that we must cancel the semi-annual buffet dinner for June. We usually meet at Vazanno's Four Seasons Restaurant in Stratford where they offer a Tuesday Night Buffet, but due to the current conditions, we are cancelling this for June. We hope everyone understands.

We will continue this time-honored tradition in December. In the meantime, try not to eat before December and spoil your appetite!

NEW AWARD FOR THIS YEAR'S FIELD DAY

In addition to the Most Valuable Ham at Summer Field Day Award (MVHASFDA), this year we will be offering a NEW AWARD for the member who makes the most contacts from HOME using their class D station (or class E from home) and submits their score, allocated to "Housatonic ARC". Since these points are scored at home and NOT with everyone as WAS, this one-time award is named the **Most Valuable Ham Not At Summer Field Day Award** (MVHNASFDA). A certificate and award can be won! So, get your home stations on the air and make those contacts, submit your scores and bonus points to ARRL via the submission website (and don't forget to allocate your score to our club!) Good Luck!

CALL FOR FIELD DAY PHOTOGRAPHS

We will be operating a "social distancing" operation from WAS during Field Day and members can also work from their home stations. We are asking members who operate from home to submit their scores and add our club name to their submission. If you decide to operate from home, please consider taking a photograph of your home station and sending it to Gary WE1M (WE1M.radio@gmail.com) for publication in next month's newsletter. We'd like to group together all the home station photographs. Thanks.



USIP TO LAUNCH AGAIN

Our team has been asked by University of Bridgeport to launch another USIP balloon. Yes, this will include HAM, the Cybernetic Simian Aeronaut and be like last year's launch. Gary WE1M stated, "This will give us an opportunity to test our updated ATV amplifier we placed on the receiving antenna system."

When asked about his upcoming flight, it is rumored that HAM said he was excited to get back into the wild blue yonder and do the things he was printed to do!



Cybernetic Simian Aeronaut HAM: High Altitude Robotic Monkey

We expect this launch to occur during the summer. Our team is ramping up and refurbishment of the capsule, it's systems and the ground station will take place prior to flight.



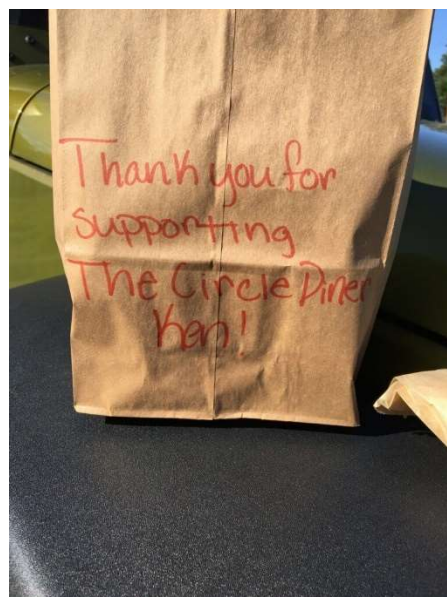
SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

We have officially albeit temporarily canceled breakfasts until further notice. Below is a picture of our recent test of a “social-distancing” breakfast at the Riverdale Diner in Shelton. We decided to test the idea of a “social-distancing” breakfast, where we purchase breakfast and have it delivered curb side and all eat in our cars. This makes breakfast very awkward, and it is still questionable whether this is viable for breakfast. Perhaps breakfast will become easier once the state relaxes its mandates.



Left to Right: Ken NE1CU, Larry AB1JC and Jeff KB1LZ. Gary WE1M was the shutterbug.





Social Distancing breakfast pictures from Chips & Circle Diner in Fairfield June 8 & 13, 2020. Jeff KB1LZ, Ken NE1CU, Ned KA1CVV, Larry AB1JC & Sam W1SMF. Ken NE1CU & Gary WE1M were the shutterbugs.





Field Day Planning Breakfast June 20, 2020

We held a pre field day planning breakfast at the Plaza Diner in Shelton. More precisely, outside the Plaza Diner in Shelton in the parking lot behind our vehicles. Attending were Sam W1SMF, Dave KB1LTW, Jeff KB1LZ, Ken NE1CU and Gary WE1M.



HAMFESTS

NUTMEG Hamfest – The Nutmeg Hamfest scheduled for this fall has been cancelled.

CARA Hamfest – August 23, 2020




Sanctioned by ARRL

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 23, 2020

Sunday, Doors open 8AM

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Annual

Western CT. Hamfest

The BIGGEST, little Hamfest in
Western Connecticut

Indoor tables \$20 each, Tailgating \$15 / spot

Includes 3 admission
Admission at the door \$7 (\$1 discount with flyer)
Children under 12 Free
See you at the Hamfest "73"
CARA is a 501(c)(3) organization

FALL "ARES" FORUM
10:30 IN THE HALL

DEMONSTRATIONS

MAJOR VENDORS

INDOOR TABLES
OUTDOOR TAILGATING

VE SESSION - 9:30
NO APPOINTMENT REQ.

REFRESHMENTS
RAFFLE
DOOR PRIZES
50/50
GOOD TIMES

TO BE HELD AT
Edmond Town Hall
45 Main St
Newtown, CT

Hamfest.cararadioclub.org

Contact: John Morelli
(W1JGM)

Hamfest@cararadioclub.org

203-417-0160





TIP OF THE HAT

- Welcome new member Dan N3DAW who joined our club on June 2nd.

NOTICE

- The Extra Class question pool expired June 30, 2020.

UPCOMING CONTESTS

- July 11-12 IARU HF Championship
- Sept 12-14 VHF Contest
- Oct 24-25 CQ DX SSB Contest (expect to operate)
- Nov 7-9 Sweepstakes CW
- Nov 21-23 Sweepstakes SSB (expect to operate)
- Nov 28-29 CQ DX CW Contest
- Dec 4-6 ARRL 160 meter Contest
- Dec 12-13 ARRL 10 meter Contest (may operate)

OUR SKED

- July 4 Independence Day
- Sept 7 Labor Day
- Sept 19 Talk Like a Pirate Day
- Oct 12 Columbus Day
- Oct 20 Possum Day
- Oct 31 Halloween
- Nov 6, 7 & 8 Boxboro Hamfest in Marlborough, MA (new dates)
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day
- Nov 13 Sadie Hawkins Day
- Nov 26 Thanksgiving
- Nov 21-23 Sweepstakes SSB
- Dec – Resumption of Club Semi Annual Dinner
- Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve





Yes, it's that time. It's our club's Silver Anniversary in 2020. Let's have a party! We will be discussing options among our membership over the next 6 months looking at all the party options. If you have any ideas you wish to implement, let a club officer know and we can discuss it. However, all options are still on the table. So far, going to an expensive restaurant and taking our XYL's is winning in votes. Hold a large picnic and cookout is in second place. Cast your vote soon. Don't delay.

- Go to a Casino
- Buffet dinner
- Gigantic pizza party
- Take a trip to 2021 Dayton Hamvention (too late for 2020)
- Rent a party boat
- Go deep sea fishing
- Go to expensive restaurant (steak and lobster)
- Hold a large picnic and cookout
- Run a Special Event Station

We can decide at any time and hold this celebration at any time.

NECROLOGY IN HONORARIUM

In Honorarium, we herewith list the names and call signs of those members and friends of HARC who are now Silent Keys.

George Grosner – W1ASO SK
 Tony Vena – K1BUI SK
 Neil Lewbel – KA1PJQ SK
 Mark Orner, PhD - KA1RSE SK
 Thomas Wilson, PhD – WV1C SK
 Earl Dugan Sr. – KA1DCL SK
 Jay Albano – N1NRP SK
 Kevin Cellini – N1KGM SK





HARC INFO

The Housatonic Amateur Radio Club was formed in 1995 to foster the development of Amateur Radio and advanced Ham Radio operating techniques, both through theory and on the air practice. To provide a suitable environment of camaraderie and support within which members, spouses and their children can obtain a better understanding of amateur radio, gain a proficiency in the art of amateur radio, and to have some fun.

Club Officers for 2020

President - Lawrence J. Reed, AB1JC
Secretary Treasurer – Thomas W. Moyher ESQ, N1UNT
Technical Officer – Michael J. Miciukiewicz, K1MJM
Youth Coordinator – Jennifer L. Coderre, N1ZZY
Director1 – Kenneth E. Johnson, NE1CU
Director2 – David H. Schadlich, KB1LTW
Webmaster – David H. Schadlich, KB1LTW
Trustee – Gary T. Moyher, WE1M

Website www.N1KT.org/

The club call sign is N1KT. Our annual formal meeting is held on Winter Field Day, and an informal meeting is held on Summer Field Day. Both meetings are held during set up time prior to the event start.

Contact Information

Housatonic Amateur Radio Club
Stratford, CT 06614
USA
HARC.N1KT@gmail.com

Fairfield County
Grid FN-31
CQ Zone 5
ITU Zone 8
10-X 67120
SKCC# 3980

The Housatonic Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club.

QSL N1KT via WE1M, NE1CU or Bureau.

Send a QSL card and we will send our QSL card in return. We prefer an SASE, but it is not necessary. We QSL 100% returned.

“Direct Currents” is the official newsletter of the Housatonic Amateur Radio Club. It is published monthly.

Gary T. Moyher, WE1M Editor

Kenneth E. Johnson, NE1CU Assistant Editor

Contact the Editor at: WE1M.radio@gmail.com

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