



Direct Currents

AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM

AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

E-MAIL EDITION

Volume 12, Issue 2

Serving Southern Connecticut and the Housatonic River Valley

Summer 2006

**The Housatonic
Amateur Radio Club**
PO Box 331
Stratford, CT
06615-0331

President

Neil Lewbel, KA1PJQ

Secretary Treasurer

Barbara Moyher,
KA1SHN

Technical Officer

Tom Davis, W1TFD

Youth Coordinator

Tom Moyher, N1UNT

Trustee

Gary Moyher, WE1M

Direct Currents is the official publication of the Housatonic Amateur Radio Club and is published quarterly. Our callsign is N1KT. N1KT is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. Our mailing address is Housatonic Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 331, Stratford, CT 06615. Please direct inquiries to the Editor.

Inside this issue:

<i>Annual Meeting</i>	1
<i>HARC Assists in ARES Drill</i>	1
<i>DXCC Awards</i>	2
<i>CT Regional Test Center Test Session</i>	3
<i>I TAPPA KEY</i>	4

2006 Annual Meeting Held in Dublin, Ohio



President Neil Lewbel, KA1PJQ

With memories of our 2005 Annual meeting in Orlando, FL still fresh, the Housatonic ARC 2006 annual meeting was held in Dublin, Ohio which is just outside the Columbus Ohio

city limits. Attending this years meeting were Neil Lewbel, KA1PJQ, First Lady Martha Lewbel, former Jr Club member Jesse Lewbel, Secretary Treasurer Barbara Moyher KA1SHN, Youth Coordinator Tom Moyher, N1UNT and Trustee Gary Moyher, WE1M.

In 2005, our Annual Meeting was held at a buffet restaurant near Seaworld. This
(Continued on page 2)

HARC Members Assist in Stratford ARES Drill



On Tuesday August 1, 2006 members of HARC assisted in an ARES drill at the Stratford PD. This was in conjunction with the new ARES group, SC ARES. Assisting were Ed Cellini N1KGN, Kevin Cellini N1KGM, Tom Davis W1TFD and Gary Moyher WE1M. Other members of SC ARES who also took part in the drill were John Massi N1TNV, Mike Abramowitz KA1EOU, Rich Ducksworth KB1IWX, Brian Beuershausen WA1RUS, Aaron Beuershausen KB1NTO. and Al Silberstein W1AHS. The host was Scott Corner, Stratford Emergency Management Director.

Manning the Stratford EOC at the Stratford Police Dept were John N1TVN, Mike KA1EOU and Al

W1AHS. HARC members Ed N1KGN and Kevin N1KGM were stationed in a mobile at F. S. Bunnell High School. Technical Officer Tom W1TFD, who is also the AEC for the Southwestern Chapter of the Red Cross, was stationed at the Red Cross building in Bridgeport. Trustee Gary WE1M was stationed at Wooster Middle School. Rich KB1IWX (not a HARC member) was at Flood Middle School.

Tests were run to evaluate communications between the Stratford PD Emergency Operations Center and Stratford's shelters and the Red Cross. Flood Middle School, Wooster Middle School, Stratford High School and Bunnell High School are designated shelters for Stratford.

2 meter and 440 simplex was used and then the 441.700/R, 441.500/R, 146.895/R and 146.445/R.

DXCC Announces Accreditation Criteria Rule Change

NEWINGTON, CT, Aug 14, 2006 -- ARRL's DXCC program has added language to its Accreditation Criteria to minimize difficulties stemming from online DXpedition logs. The change, recently approved by the ARRL Board of Directors Programs and Services Committee, limits the level of QSO detail that DXpeditions may provide on Web-based log sites, search engines or other public forums and still qualify for DXCC accreditation. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, notes that it's become accepted practice for DXpeditions to post QSO information on the Web.

"Although this information is generally limited to call sign, band and mode, it has been useful in reducing the number of duplicate contacts in the DXpedition log," Mills points out. "Publishing complete QSO information or information from which full QSO information can be derived, on the other hand, threatens the integrity of the QSLing process, and is unacceptable."

Mills says at least some key information a station provides when submitting a DXpedition contact for DXCC credit must be obtained solely by actually making the QSO. "If complete contact information can be derived from information based on the DXpedition log, the QSL manager's job can be much more difficult if busted calls are involved," he says.

Section III, Accreditation Criteria, Rule 5, of the DXCC rules states:

"The presentation in any public forum of logs or other representations of station operation showing details of station activity or other information from which all essential QSO elements (time, date, band, mode and call sign) for individual contacts can be derived creates a question as to the integrity of the claimed QSOs with that station during the period encompassed by the log. Presentation of such information in any public forum by the station operator, operators or associated parties is not allowed and may be considered sufficient reason to deny ARRL award credit for contacts with any station for which such presentations have been made. Persistent violation of this provision may result in disqualifica-

tion from the DXCC program."

"In almost every case, the new accreditation rule will change nothing," said Mills, calling the new rule a "reasonable compromise" in terms of its impact on the program's integrity. "Publishing band and mode information for each call sign -- as is now done -- is perfectly acceptable. It is only the rare case where complete QSO information is published or can be derived from published data that we are concerned about."

(Thanks ARRL.ORG)

2006 Annual Meeting *Continued*

(Continued from page 1)

year, HARC business was discussed over a Chinese buffet with a Mongolian grill.

It was decided that the club is moving in the desired direction and that no "mid-course corrections" are needed. It was also decided that the club officers have done a great job in the past and are currently doing a great job.

Future endeavors should include the involvement of more of the member's children and additional outside activities other than ham radio.

With a whole-hearted "here-here" to all the members, the meeting was adjourned on July 22, 2006.



DX and Awards

	Worked	Confirmed
10-X	20	7
WAS	48	43
DXCC	37	21

Ready to Test for your new License?

The CT Regional Test Center is located at 49 Sunrise Avenue, Trumbull, CT 06611.

Test sessions are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

SEPTEMBER 14TH
OCTOBER 12TH
NOVEMBER 9TH
DECEMBER 14TH

Contact:

N1KGM at (203) 268-5015
W1AHS at (203) 287-9836
KA1JXW at (203) 640-7938

Or visit the website at www.441700.com.

tennas and many other exciting technologies?

- You can easily meet and interact with some of the best and brightest technicians and operators in amateur radio?

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club invites you to attend it's first "Introduction to Radiosporting - Amateur Radio Contesting" seminar at this year's New England Division Convention in Boxboro, MA.

All are welcome to enjoy a taste of radio contesting. Get the scoop on what contesting is all about. Learn how you can get started and enjoy your first contest. Mingle with others who are just getting started. Hobnob with winners of the biggest international competitions. Learn about the simple and inexpensive equipment, antennas and software that will get you started in contesting.

What: Introduction to Radiosporting - Amateur Radio Contesting

Where: Holiday Inn, Boxboro, MA in the Federal Room

When: Saturday, August 26, 2006 1:00-3:30PM

Additional information about the convention, the seminar and YCCC can be found at www.boxboro.org and www.yccc.org

A Message from YCCC

Dear Fellow Northeastern Area Club Officer or Contact,

- * PLEASE PASS THIS ALONG TO YOUR MEMBERS
- * FORWARD VIA EMAIL TO YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP
- * POST TO YOUR CLUB WEBSITE
- * PUBLISH IN YOUR CLUB NEWSLETTER
- * TALK ABOUT IT AT YOUR CLUB MEETINGS AND ON YOUR CLUB REPEATER

Attention all Northeast Area hams!

Did you know . . .

- You can work 100 countries or all 50 states in a single weekend?
- There's a way you can compete with other hams locally or on a global scale?
- You can quickly gain new knowledge about radio, an-

There's plenty of room for all who wish to attend. Come alone or bring a friend! Experienced contesters welcome, too. No need to pre-register, but let us know if you think you'll be there. RSVP to contestingintro@yccc.org You are also invited to join us for a YCCC general meeting at 3:30pm in the Federal Room following the seminar.

73 and we'll look forward to seeing you at "Introduction to Radiosporting - Amateur Radio Contesting" in Boxboro!

Mark Pride, K1RX

President

Y C C C - The Yankee Clipper Contest Club

PS Questions or comments? Please email contestingintro@yccc.org



Bob Kaczor,
KE1AU

VUCC & WAS

HARC member Bob, KE1AU can check your cards for ARRL awards WAS and VUCC.

Contact him at KE1AU@arrl.net

What happens if a big asteroid hits Earth? Judging from realistic simulations involving a sledge hammer and a common laboratory frog, we can assume it will be pretty bad.

- Dave Barry



HOUSATONIC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PO Box 331
Stratford, CT 06615-0331

Email: N1KT@ARRL.NET



**Don't Get Caught Below the KT
Boundary.
Rise Above with N1KT!**

We're on the Web at
[www.housatonicarc.
homestead.com/](http://www.housatonicarc.homestead.com/)

About Us

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 enjoy a suitable environment for fun and growth.

President - Neil Lewbel, KA1PJQ

Secretary Treasurer - Barbara Moyher, KA1SHN

Technical Officer - Tom Davis, W1TFD

Youth Coordinator - Tom Moyher, N1UNT

Trustee - Gary Moyher, WE1M

HARC Homepage



You can find our club homepage at www.housatonicarc.homestead.com/. Turn your speakers on, as this site does have a musical accompaniment. If you visit, don't forget to sign our guest book.

I Tappa Key

Here is the FALL 2006 contest calendar. It contains ARRL contests and CQ contests. HARC does have plans to operate in some of these.

September 9 - 11 ARRL Sept VHF QSO Party
16 - 17 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest
16 - 17 ARRL International EME Competition
CQWW RTTY DX Sept 4th full weekend

October 14 - 15 ARRL International EME Competition
CQWW DX / SSB Oct Last full weekend

November 4 - 6 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes (CW)
11 - 12 ARRL International EME Competition
18 - 20 ARRL November Sweepstakes (Phone)
CQWW DX / CW Nov Last full weekend

December 1 - 3 ARRL 160 Meter Contest