



CARA CAPERS

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
October, 1989

Volume 1, Issue 1



MEETING NOTICE

The next regular meeting of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association will be held on Friday, October 13th at the Danbury EOC office, Danbury Town Hall, Lower level, Deerhill Avenue, Danbury Ct. (See map on page 6.) Talk-in on 147.12 rptr. starting at 7pm. Meeting starts promptly at 8PM.

October Meeting Agenda:

- 1) Elections of CARA Officers. Nominations from the floor will be accepted prior to elections.
- 2) Lou, WA1GSO, will present the "WA1GSO's legend of Crozet Island QSO & QSL story." I'm told you don't want to miss this one!
- 3) A report from the "Move Committee" on the progress of CARA repeater etc.
- 4) A short video will be shown of the new repeater site.
- 5) A Field Day video will be shown (time permitting) by Rick, KA1SWX.

November Program:

Jerry, KA1SNS, will talk about the famous G5RV antenna. All G5RV lovers should stand by for this one!

SEPTEMBER MEETING

On September 9, CARA met for the first time after the short summer break. The following items were discussed and acted upon:

Nominations of Officers for the new 89-90 term

- President: Bob Elton, N12B
- Vice President: Keith Mortensen, N1FNB
- Secretary: Hal Keenan, KB1US
- Treasurer: Craig Kalley, N1ABY

Other nominations were made but were turned down by the nominees.

Also at the meeting, Jon Radder KA1RLX, resigned as Club newsletter writer and editor due to his new job responsibilities. The club members appreciate the fine job that Jon did in this position and thanked him. THANKS, JON.

Len Casacalenda, KV1P, has accepted the position as writer/editor for the new club year.

At the October meeting, floor nominations will be accepted prior to election.

CT. QSO Party

The Ct. QSO Party committee consisting of: W1QK, N1ABY & KC2QF presented the results and handed out the awards to the members present for the recently held CT. QSO PARTY. The following awards were presented:

- Craig Kalley, N1ABY - 1st place overall, 1st place CT.
- Dan Fegley, W1QK - 3rd place overall, 3rd place CT.
- Hal Keenan, KB1US - 4th place overall, 4th place CT.
- Jon Radder, KA1RLX - 5th place overall, 5th place CT.
- George Politzi, KC2QF - 9th place overall, 1st place ENY.
- Dick Carroll, W1ICF - 10th place overall, 6th place CT.

Also, the W1QI club station was in operation and the following are the individual operator positions:

- 1st - W1QK
- 2nd - KC2QF
- 3rd - N1ASU
- 4th - N1ABY
- 5th - KA1RLX
- 6th - KB1US

To all the above mentioned and other contributors to the CT. QSO PARTY, THANKS FOR PUTTING CT. ON THE MAP AND ALSO C.A.R.A. (W1QI)

The Red Cross Swim-a-thon

Rob Waldo, NA10, gave a report on the annual Red Cross Swim-a-thon, which was held this year in July and was supported by CARA club members and others. Those of the CARA club that helped out were recognize. As always, Rob told the club that this will be his last year in charge of the Swim-a-thon. SEE YOU NEXT YEAR, ROB!

Editor's note: Rob has unselfishly given of his time to this worthy cause for the last several years that I can remember and has been a champion at his efforts. Always done in the most professional way. CARA is very proud to have someone like Rob handle this public service operation representing the CLUB as a community helper. THANKS, ROB, and I'm available next year.

Field Day, CARA Style

Craig, N1ABY, gave us a report on the ARRL field day event at Lake Candlewood Park in Brookfield.

We had a good turn out for the event and a lot of fun was had by all. We may not get a lot of points, but we do get the point across. (Field Day Pictures on pages 3 and 4!)

The 1989 CARA Flea Market

George, KC2QF, gave us the final countdown information on the flea market. All the preparations and hard work were coming to an end with the flea market only a few days away. The event took place Sept. 17th at the Elks Club, Main Street Danbury.

Editor's Note: I can report that after attending the flea market, and despite the rain and generally bad weather, I thought the flea market was a great success. I came away with some choice bargains and had a great time. THANKS to George, KC2QF, and all his helpers. I'm sure we will hear a good report from George and Craig in October.

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CARA CAPERS

New Business

Hal, KB1US, presented to the club some exciting news about what the club has been up to during the summer break.

A group of CARA members formed a committee called the "Move Committee" to try and find a better site for the 147.12 repeater. Along with the move, other things opened up for us in respect to the club's involvement in emergency communications for the greater Danbury area.

In working with the Danbury EOC, we were able to get a prime Danbury location to place a VHF repeater. This site was offered to allow us to use it for Emergency Communications and also for CARA's voice and digital operations.

The move committee, consisting of: Hal, KB1US; Len, KV1P; BOB, N12B; Dan, W1QK; George, KC2QF; George, AF1U; and Mark, N9FLY, gave the club some exciting details of the recent accomplishments.

Hal, KB1US, discussed the new site location and the future home of the W1QI voice repeater. Also, the work that is going on at the repeater site including a radio building that will not only house and supply shelter to our repeater equipment, but to other users as well. Drawings were shown to members by Hal.

Dan, W1QK, explained the ongoing negotiations and Proposal with the Perkin Elmer Amateur Radio Society (PEARS) to acquire the repeater equipment and Frequency pair, 145.230 Mhz for the CARA club.

Len, KV1P, introduced to the club a new packet PBBS, W1QI-4, which has been installed at the Danbury EOC. W1QI-4, the club call, is now alive as a packet pbbs and is for CARA use to leave and receive messages, to read bulletins, to get the latest club information and announcements, and to leave information that you want published in the CAPERS.

The W1QI-4 PBBS is on 144.990 Mhz and can be reached directly if your station favors that location or you can use the AF1U-1 digipeater, which is located at our newly acquired repeater site. If you need

any information on the use or operation of the W1QI-4 PBBS, let Len, KV1P, know.

The Move Committee is actively working out the details for our exciting future plans. The committee will be reporting the latest at the October meeting.

In September, the CARA members, with a vote of confidence in what the Move Committee was planning, approved a \$2000 initial allotment, to be used to pursue the goals set forth at the September meeting.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

VIEW FROM THE TOP

As outgoing president of CARA, I must report the past year as being one of my most enjoyable in CARA.

At the beginning of the season I outlined a plan for the year. Much to my surprise, the response was overwhelming to say the least. The membership took up the banner of "commitment," providing us with outstanding programs and community activities. I won't list the many names here for fear of leaving someone out, but I wish it to be known that those who have participated have my deep appreciation for a job well done.

Many new faces, as well as many of the old, have appeared on the scene and we welcome each and every one with open arms. The wealth of talent in CARA is second to none, providing us with the opportunity to become one of the outstanding amateur radio clubs in the region. Over the years, amateur radio seems to have become a mutual admiration society without true regard for carrying out our primary mission of community service. A stance of aggressive mediocrity will no longer suffice to carry the day. Amateur radio needs publicity and public support if it is to grow and attract new blood.

Visible community service is an excellent vehicle for accomplishing this mission. We have made a start in this direction by way of meaningful affiliations with the Red Cross and civil preparedness organizations.

Donations of amateur publications to local libraries, which I hope can be ongoing, and our taking over the management of facility improvements for local emergency services have provided us with a high visibility profile that I expect will return many future rewards. It is my dream that we continue to build on these modest foundations for the benefit of our magnificent hobby and the community.

73, Hal, KB1US
President, CARA
1988-1989

CAPERS CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising in the CAPERS is free to all club members. Ad copy should be submitted to the newsletter address in time to reach us before the deadline. The submissions deadline for the CAPERS is the Monday following each monthly meeting.

Ads will run for three issues unless cancelled by the writer. Ads may be extended beyond three issues by specific request.

Rough copy submitted to the CAPERS will be edited and formatted as we see fit. If you have a specific ad layout in mind, please submit camera ready, column-size copy, using both lower and upper case letters. Ad copy may be sent on packet radio to W1QI-4 PBBS, 144.990 MHz, and/or KV1P PBBS, 145.090 MHz.

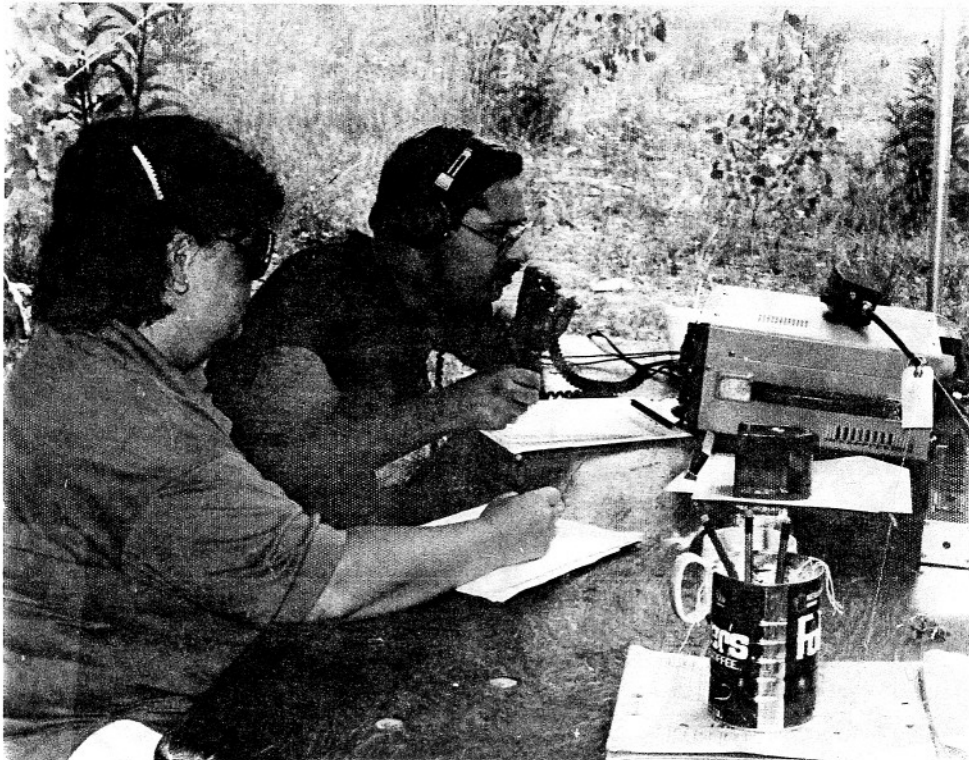
FOR SALE

- 1) YAESU FT747GX HF transceiver with FM module, scanning mike, mobile bracket, QSY'er key pad. Original packing. \$695.00
 - 2) (4) KF10 19 element 432 MHz beans. Aluminum H Frame and RWI Divider. \$300.00
 - 3) (2) Cushcraft 2 mtr Boomers (19 element). \$70.00 ea. Buy the pair and get Phasing Harness FREE!
- Please contact KEITH, N1FNB, at (203) 775-6738.

Advertise your un-needed or wanted items in the CAPERS CLASSIFIEDS! There is no charge for members to place an ad. Why not do it today?

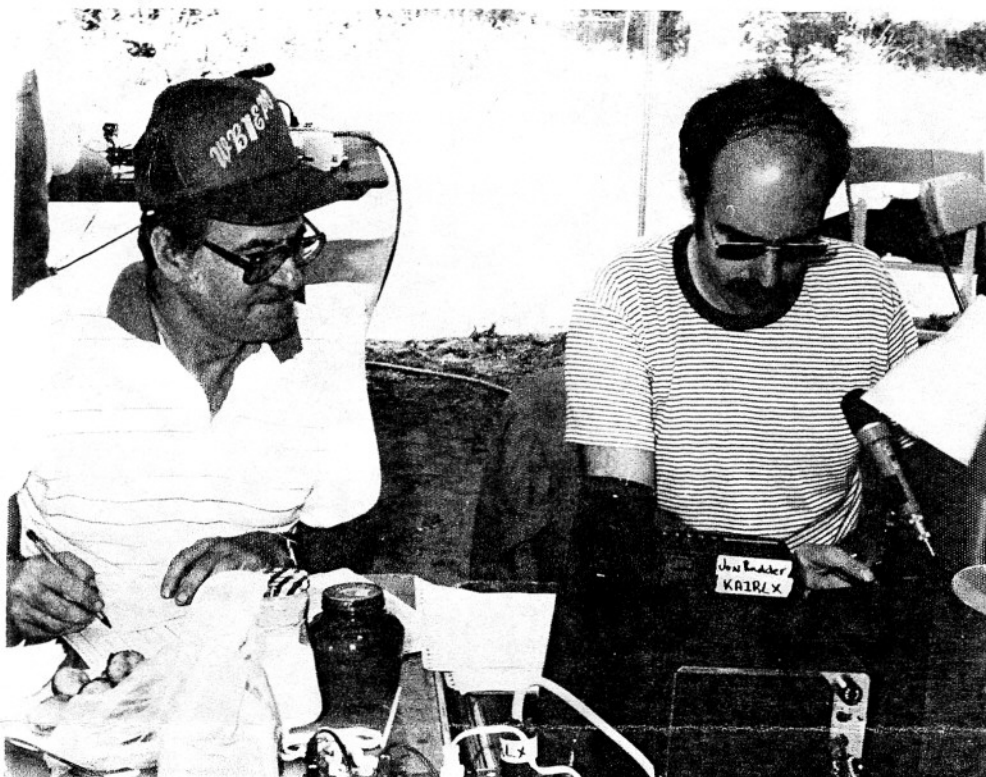
OF5

CARA FIELD DAY PHOTOS



OF 5

CARA FIELD DAY PHOTOS



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ANTENNA INFO

A recent conversation with KV1P on the local repeater centered on the wave angles coming off horizontal antennas. We talked about the effect of antenna height off the ground, and I mentioned some information I had on the effect of the slope of the ground on the wave angles. Lenny thought this might be of interest to others, so here it is.

The table that follows is probably best used as a rough estimate of the main vertical angles coming off the antenna, where horizontal is 0 degrees and straight up is 90 degrees. Ground conductivity within a number of wavelengths, and other factors can change the numbers somewhat. Also, these are the minimum lobe angles; depending upon the height, there can also be lobes at higher angles. The table is probably of most use to someone having a choice of antenna locations, or to someone deciding the type of antenna to use (horizontal wire or array, or vertical element or array) to optimize either local or DX communications. High wave angles tend to favor local communications on HF bands; low angles favor DX communications.

It may be that a good ground plane single element vertical will outperform a multielement Yagi for DX because of the very low wave angles of the vertical, even though the vertical is very low gain and has no directivity.

This table was generated from a program written by ON4UN, and contained on a disc set entitled LOW BAND DX'ING. It's available from ARRL, as are the other antenna references.

The 0 degree column is what is usually shown in the standard publications.

Information (ARRL ANTENNA BOOK, 14th edition, 1983. Table 2, page 1-10.) on the average wave received waveangles, by band, was accumulated over a period of time. 99% of the time, the angles were as follows:

7 MHz, angles were 10 to 35 degrees (over 22 degrees 50% of the time)

14 MHz, angles were 6 to 17 degrees (over 11 degrees 50% of the time)

21 MHz, angles were 4 to 12 degrees (over 7 degrees 50% of the time)

28 MHz, angles were 3 to 9 degrees (over 5 degrees 50% of the time)

Hopefully, this information can be of use in planning for optimum antenna installations. Two other books with a wealth of antenna information are also available from ARRL. They are:

LOW BAND DX'ING; John Devoldere, ON4UN, Published by ARRL

HF ANTENNAS FOR ALL LOCATIONS; L.A. Moxon, G6XN, published by RSGB

Good luck & 73
John Makuch, NC1E

LOCAL NETS

CARA Roundtable Net every Wednesday:

8:00 PM 2 Meter Net 147.12 MHz

EDITOR'S DESK

Do you have an Amateur Radio speciality, or consider yourself an expert in some facet of Amateur Radio? The CARA CAPERS is seeking feature columnists for future issues. Please contact Len, KV1P, if you would like to contribute to the CAPERS.

We also welcome information concerning events such as Flea Markets and/or Hamfests, VE Testing Sessions, Contests or other items of general interest to our members.

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Packet:

W1QI-4 PBBS, 144.990 MHz
KV1P PBBS, 145.090 MHz
K1UOL PBBS, 145.090 MHz
K1LTJ-4 PBBS, 145.030 MHz

**AVERAGE GROUND SLOPE (DEGREES)
IN THE VICINITY OF THE ANTENNA**

HEIGHT, WAVE LENGTHS	-30	-20	-10	-5	0	5	10	20	30
.25	90	90	90	90	88				
.5	5.3	12	20	25	29	35			
.75		1.0	9.8	14	19	24	29		
1.0			4.7	9.5	14	19	24	35	
2.0				2.2	7.2	12	17	27	38

**LOWEST LOBE ANGLE AS A FUNCTION OF
GROUND SLOPE AND ANTENNA HEIGHT**

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