

CARA CAPERS

W1QK

JULY 1996

PRESIDENT'S LETTER - JULY 1996

I am sad to report the passing of Evelyn Hantsch on June 14, 1996. Many of you knew Evelyn as the wife of Al, K1EPE. Though not licensed, she was a longtime friend of CARA, assisting Al with setting up the room and making the coffee for our meetings, chatting with us there. Susan and I had the honor to visit her several weeks ago. Her spirits were good, and she had her companion radio at her bedside to keep track of the comings and goings of her ham friends. Ever dedicated, Al stayed at her side during her final illness, providing comfort and strength. Evelyn will be sorely missed. Al, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Field Day 1996 is now a fond memory. It was great to see so many of you out to participate in this annual test of our emergency preparedness. The lightning was brief enough to only shut us down for about half an hour, but other than that, we kept the stations operating for the full period. One station remained on battery power for the duration, while the others worked from the enerator. Thanks to all members who gave of their time, effort and equipment to make this a success. Special thanks go to John, N2DVX, for again organizing the whole shebang, and to Nancy, N1TGM, for her delectable cuisine during the weekend. Thanks also to Station Captains, Dan, W1QK, Rob, NK2Z, and Bob, N1OCM, for providing the loan of radios, computers and accessories to keep us on the air. Thanks again to all of the rest of you, too numerous to mention, who made it happen again.

Editorship of the Capers has passed hands. First I would like to thank Jeannie, N1JZR, for her fine job in the past. Next, please welcome Chris, N1NIQ as the incoming editor. This message is actually a month late, since Chris began editing and publishing with effect from the June issue. As Jeannie was, Chris will always be on the lookout for editorial material to include. If you are a writer-wannabee, here's your big chance. The pay stinks, but you get a great by-line.

Remember that the club constitution and by-laws stipulate that no business will be transacted during the July or August meetings, so our programs will begin earlier, following some brief announcements. We have some exciting things happening this summer. This month, Del, KD1DU will visit us to talk about an Introduction to Microwaves, and what's up at 10 gigahertz. In August, instead of a regular Friday night, we will have a Sunday family picnic, including a hidden transmitter hunt (foxhunt) for any so inclined. Even if you don't want to hunt the fox, load up the family and picnic basket for some fun and camaraderie. This will be on August 11. The location isn't firm yet, but watch your August Capers for the announcement.

Summer is here, and that means that our Western Connecticut Hamfest is just around the corner. Co-sponsors Jacquie, N1SLE and Chris, N1NIQ are still looking for committee heads and volunteers to fill out the staff. Contact either of them to offer your assistance. Do it now!

Regrettably, John, N1NRR has resigned as head of the repeater committee. Chris, N1NIQ, has agreed to fill the vacancy. Thanks, Chris and John, both.

Don't let your equipment or the larger structure surrounding your ham shack (house) be the shortest path for lightning to find to ground. Disconnect those antennas when not in use, before the storm arrives.

As always, very 73 de Jim, KD1YV

NEXT MEETING:

What's Up at 10 Giigahertz presented by KD1DU - July 12th at 8:00PM at St. Paul's Church, Brookfield Center, Route 25.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

CANDLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING JUNE 14, 1996

Meeting was brought to order at 8:00 p.m. by President Jim Ritterbusch KD1YV.

New members welcomed were Les, N1HPS, Glenn N1XYV, and Bill N1XMC. Visitor Fred Simon was also welcomed. Congratulations go to Frank N8WXQ on his upgrade to Extra and Ed N1WMM on his upgrade to General.

Jim KD1YV regretfully announced that Al K1EPE and Evelyn Hantsch will no longer be making the coffee for the meetings due to Evelyn's recent illness. After some discussion a motion was made by Pete KZ1Z that a gift of appreciation be bought for them amount to be determined by Jim KD1YV. Passed unanimously.

Ed Bouley KB1AFW volunteered to take over the coffee making starting with the September meeting.

PVRA Renewals Jim KD1YV and Wayne WA1PMA went to the recent PVRA meeting to find out what had happened with the renewals. It seems that CARA's renewals went missing so they gave the PVRA a current list of members from CARA. PVRA said they would get it straightened out within the week. Anyone needing the autopatch code should speak to Frank N8WXQ. Also the PVRA requests 50 volunteers for the Hartford Run in mid October. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Larry Skilton K1IED at the PVRA.

Upcoming Programs

Tonight Field Day Preparations/signup sheets

July 12 - What's up at 10Ghz? - Guest Del KD1DU

August 11 - Sunday - Picnic and Foxhunt - John N2DVX

VE Exam Frank N1PE announced that 37 elements were given and 26 passed including 4 new no-codes. Frank N8WXQ mentioned that the code test can be taken on computer or typewriter. The next VE session will be on September 7.

Special Olympics Rob N1FTW said that the Special Olympics went well. Six hams provided assistance for communications. The S.O. had rented walkie talkies for communications and soon relegated them to paperweights and took full use of the hams available. The Special Olympics have promised more notice for next years events.

Bike Rallies Recently CARA assisted with two rallies on very short notice. The Bloomin Metric, with 15 hours notice and the MS Bike rally with a couple of days notice. Both went well with few problems. Jim KD1YV suggested looking into taking over communications for the Bloomin Metric with CARA for next year.

Repeater Committee Wayne WA1PMA - Wayne announced that the 2m repeater is doing well. We have a new controller for the 443.650 repeater and the 775 machine is still out for repairs. 223.96 is having SWR problems and needs a new harness for dipole at a cost of \$44-. John N2DVX made a motion that a new harness be purchased for \$44-, seconded by Jerry N1JZQ and passed unanimously.

Field Day John N2DVX said sign up sheets were out for Field Day and that volunteers were needed for set up. We will set up again this year at Cadigan Park on Candlewood Lake Rd with 3HF and 1Vhfstations.

Secretarys Report was accepted as printed in the June issue of CAPERS.

Treasurers Report Frank Etzler N8WXQ - Current expenses consist of routine expenses as well as a new antenna for the CARA packet node (W1QI-1) in Newtown. Current balance is \$3448.06 with 110 renewals.

June Work Meeting will be held at 4p.m. on Sat. June 22 at the Field Day site.

(con't)

New Business

Little Leos - Jim KD1YV read a bulletin from Bill Burden New England Director of the ARRL regarding Little Leos for new members. Jim then read a proposed letter he had drafted for the club regarding this matter and requested that all club members write in regarding this. There was some discussion concerning editing of the draft. Motion was made to send the

edited letter and was passed. Jeannie N1JZR will draft a letter for individuals to send. Seabury AA1MY suggested a committee be formed to go to the legislatures to present our case concerning the bands. John N2DVX recommended the committee be made up of club directors. The committee was accepted as Pete Kemp KZ1Z, John Ahle N2DVX, Jeannie Donais N1JZR and Bob Constantine NK2Z.

JOTA Alex Stockmal N1TIV invited Cara members either as a club or individually to participate in JOTA Oct 18 & 19. The Boy Scouts are looking for support with stations such as packet, HF etc. They plan to operate from either Bear Mountain or Putnam Park.

Elections 1996

The Nominating Committee consisting of Chris Thompson N1NIQ, Judy Etzler N1TGK and Rocco Grosso KD1RY, announced their choice for the slate of officers. The slate consists of:

President	Jim Ritterbusch KD1YV
Vice President	Ken Weith KD1DD
Treasurer	Frank Etzler N8WXQ
Recording Secretary	Susan Ritterbusch N1SLB
Corresponding Secretary	Jacque Ritterbusch N1SLE
Directors	Pete Kemp KZ1Z Dan Fegley W1QK Wayne Millican WA1PMA

Nominations were opened to the floor and consisted of:

Director: John Ahle N2DVX

Wayne Millican WA1PMA withdrew his nomination for director. Recording Secretary Susan Ritterbusch N1SLB cast the deciding ballot for the slate of officers. Officers for 1996/1997 will be:

President	Jim Ritterbusch KD1YV
Vice President	Ken Weith KD1DD
Treasurer	Frank Etzler N8WXQ
Recording Secretary	Susan Ritterbusch N1SLB
Corresponding Secretary	Jacque Ritterbusch N1SLE
Directors	Pete Kemp KZ1Z Dan Fegley W1QK John Ahle N2DVX

After a brief break John Ahle N2DVX presented his program preparing all for Field Day '96.

Respectfully submitted
Susan Ritterbusch N1SLB

COMING EVENTS:

July 12:	What's up at 10Ghz? - Guest Del KD1DU
August 11:	Family Picnic and Foxhunt - John N2DVX (more info to follow)
September 14:	CARA VE Test Session
September 15:	Western Connecticut Hamfest

Words from the Waves

This column is devoted to sharing those unique comments heard on the air that take on a life of their own when heard out of context. This month's submissions are:

"CANADA DAY - SEE AMERICANS HAVE THE FOURTH OF JULY, AND CANADIANS HAVE THE SAME THING, ONLY THEIRS IS ON THE FIRST."

submitted by Michelle, N1PNT.

"THAT PHYSICAL MOMENT STILL REMAINS, WHEN SOMEBODY HAS TO ATTACH THE MILKING MACHINE TO THE COW."

Submitted by Jim, KD1YV

"SORRY, NO, I HAVE NO CLUE."

Submitted by Jacquie, N1SLE

Gates, McCaw Not After Amateur Frequencies

by Jim Ritterbusch

At the June meeting, I reported that one of the Little LEOs that are attempting to take over the amateur 2 meter and 70 cm bands was Teledesic, a company backed partly by Bill Gates and Craig McCaw. This information was based on an Internet article which I had read.

I since investigated this further and learned that Teledesic is not one of the Little LEOs. I questioned Dave Sumner, Executive Vice President of ARRL. Following is his reply.

"Jim, Teledesic is one of the "big LEOs." Their interest is in much higher frequencies; VHF/UHF won't provide the bandwidth they need.

Thanks for the kind words.

73,
David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL HQ"

My apologies for any confusion this may have caused.

VE TEST SESSIONS

The following is a listing of VE Test sessions being held in Connecticut in the upcoming months. I got this list from the internet and have no other information than what is listed here. See the Coming Events section of the newsletter for CARA sponsored sessions.

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT NUMBER
7/16	MIDDLETOWN	CARL KA1DXP	860-635-5020
8/4	MILFORD	TAMMY KA1LIP	203-874-1014
8/8	FARMINGTON	SUE WM1B	203-379-5708
8/13	THOMASTON	STEVEN WJ1T	203-283-1044
8/20	MIDDLETOWN	CARL KA1DXP	860-635-5020
8/24	GALES FERRY	RICK KD1LC	203-376-2216
9/12	FARMINGTON	SUE WM1B	203-379-5708

Newsletter submissions may be sent to the CARA postal address or to the following electronic addresses:

104357.130@Compuserve.com
N1NIQ@K1UOL.CT.USA.NA

Field Day Results

by John Ahle

Thanks to all that helped in this years activity! We had a claimed score of 3900 points consisting of 354 cw and 843 phone contacts, plus 900 bonus points. We operated as 3A with 2 meter sideband and Packet. There are several CARA members who I would like to recognize for their contributions to this sucessful event. First let me thank Nancy Weith, N1TGM for the outstanding food for the event. They say that an army marches on it's stomach; well, so does a radio club. In addition to Nancy, I would like to thank her husband and CARA VP Ken, KD1DD for his help with logistics, food and the 2M sidband station. Rob NK2Z, Bob N1OCM and Dan W1QK provided the stations for the HF operations, thanks. Dan N1RHI came down with his packet rig and provided the club with several contacts and 100 bonus points. Thanks to Wayne WA1PMA and Jerry N1JZQ for the computers.

This year we tried a new 160m loop, yes we made a few 160 qso, and thanks to Seabury AA1MY for putting the loop and the lines for the other wire antennas with his sling shot.

Finally, thanks to all who helped set up, operate and tear down the site, I hope you all had a good time. As for me, it was very satisfying to see CARA members participating and nearly flawless operations.

Thanks to all and my best 73's de N2DVX.

*The following article is from the July 5th edition of the **ARRL Letter** which is published by the **American Radio Relay League***

ARRL OFFICIALS COMBINE BUSINESS WITH FIELD DAY PLEASURE

If you worked WA2DHF during Field Day, you worked one of a group of frustrated FD ops. Finding no other date available, Ad Hoc Repeater Committee Chairman and Rocky Mountain Division Director Marshall Quiat, AG0X, called a meeting of the committee for (gulp!) Field Day. Realizing that all of the League's officials love operating Field Day, First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF, toted his Yaesu FT-990, Bencher key, portable computer and Hustler mobile antenna to the meeting.

Following the committee's deliberations, the multi-op station was set up with the antenna hanging over the 14th floor balcony of the Dallas Airport Marriott. In addition to Mendelsohn and Quiat, operators included ARRL President Rod Stafford, KB6ZV; Vice President Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC; Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ; and League Counsel Chris Imlay, N3AKD.

Operating for four hours on Saturday night, with 40-meter CW the centerpiece of activity, the group managed 135 QSOs before the telling of Field Day stories outweighed the desire to operate. Should a committee chairman call a meeting on Field Day next year, the group decided it would be mandatory that the chairman also bring the generator.

WESTERN CONNECTICUT HAMFEST

HAMFEST UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 15 IS FAST APPROACHING! Preplanning for the Hamfest is going along smoothly but we need volunteers. If you have not signed up yet to volunteer your time at the CARA hamfest please make a point to do so at the July meeting. We need all the help we can get to make sure this event runs as smoothly as it did last year.

Also, If you are planning on attending any hamfests in the Tri-State area over the summer, please contact John N2DVX so that you can take along some fliers and spread the word.

We're on the Web!

<http://www.danbury.lib.ct.us/org/cara/>

WESTERN CT. HAMFEST

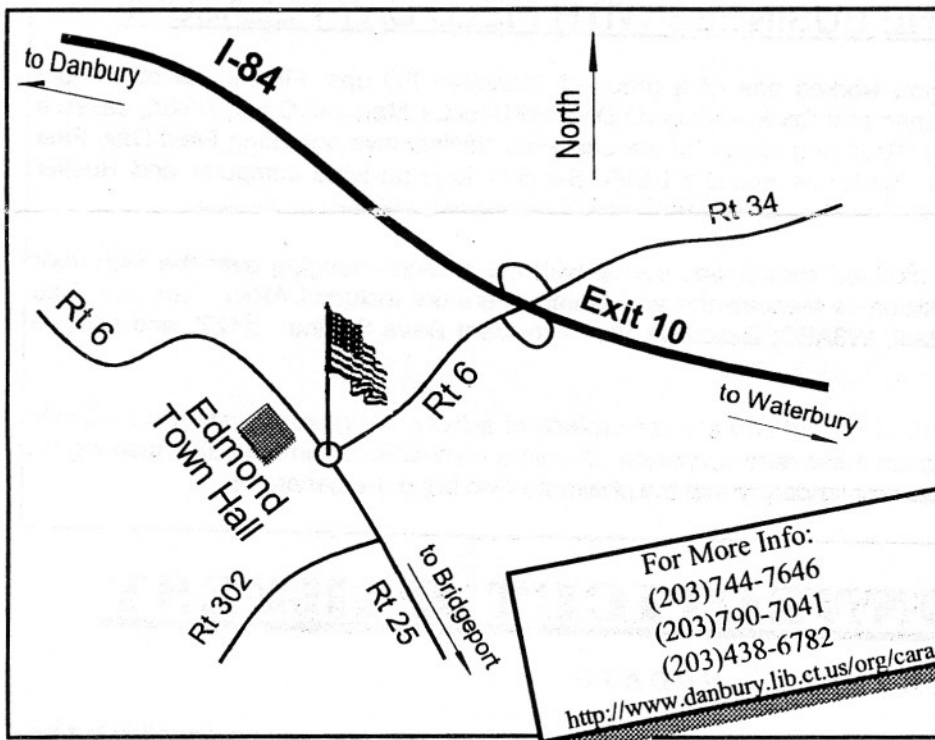


Sponsored by
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
"CARA"



Sunday, Sept. 15, 1996

**Edmond Town Hall, Rt 6
Newtown, Ct. 9am-2pm**



- Admission \$4.00
- Kids Under 12 Free
- Table Set-up at 7am
- Tables \$10.00 (Table Includes 1 Admission)
- Tailgating \$6.00
- ARRL Sanctioned
- Talk-In On 147.12 (+) and 146.55 simplex
- Handicapped Access
- HAM Radio Equipment
- Computers
- Door Prizes
- Refreshments
- Ample Parking
- Rain or Shine

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) Hamfest, Sept. 15, 1996
P.O. Box 3441, Danbury, Ct. 06813-3441

Name _____ Phone #'s, Daytime _____

Address _____ Evening _____

Please Reserve _____ Tables, at \$10.00 Each I Need Electricity I Do Not Need Electricity

Amount Enclosed (\$) _____) Please Make Check Payable To C.A.R.A.