



**Candlewood Amateur
Radio Association Inc.**
P.O. Box 3441
Danbury, CT 06813

**Renew Your
Membership Now!
Application Form
Enclosed**

**Regular Meeting Friday,
January 10th
at 8:00 PM**

Meeting Topic:
QSL Card Sort

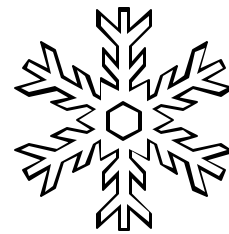


CAPERS

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT

President – Frank Etzler – N8WXQ - phone - 860-350-3523
Vice President – Tom Goodwin - N1GFE - phone 203-792-0381
Secretary - Judy Etzler – N1TGK - phone - 860-350-3523
Treasurer - John Ahle – W1JMA - phone - 203-438-6782

January 2003



Meeting Friday, Jan 10, at 8:00 p.m.

President's Message

I hope all have had a happy holiday season. Perhaps some new goodies have appeared in the ham shack. Happy New Year to all CARA members and all radio amateurs.

It is time to remind all that the 2003 dues should be paid in January. Your support is needed for the various club activities. I hope all are sharing their ham radio adventures over the repeater and are finding new DX to work on the packet cluster.

Over the holidays, I had the opportunity to work a little QRP portable with the Yaesu 817 with the "superantenna" portable antenna. I have had quite good success with my battery-powered setup. CW is easier, but it is quite possible to work stations using SSB.

This month's program will be the annual W1 bureau card sort. This activity is enjoyed by many of the members. Be sure to come join in the fun and the pizza as well.

73 Frank, N8WXQ

See the membership renewal application attached to this month's newsletter!

Partnership Pays Off in Hundreds of Ham Radio Emergency Trainees

The \$33,000 grant from Hartford, Connecticut-based United Technologies Corporation (UTC) announced last spring has fueled a more than 20-fold increase in the number of trained Amateur Radio emergency communicators in Connecticut. In just six months, 258 Connecticut hams have completed the ARRL Level-I Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course tuition-free, thanks to the grant.

"UTC has helped us lay the groundwork for taking this training nationwide," said ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG. "The grant from UTC was worth far more than a dollar amount."

Before UTC offered its support last June, just a dozen Connecticut hams had become certified via the Level I emergency communications course. The number certified now stands at 270.

Some of the Nutmeg State's newest trained ham radio communicators found themselves put to the test November 17, when an early ice storm clamped down on northwestern Connecticut. The ice storm cut off power to more than 130,000 residences and businesses. For Jim Ritterbusch, KD1YV, an ARRL emergency coordinator, the way hams handled themselves in their roles as emergency communicators during the storm was a direct result of the ARRL Amateur Radio emergency communications training subsidized by the UTC grant.

"The value of the training was apparent in many of the operators who had

taken Level I," he said. "The nets ran more accurately and efficiently than we have seen in the past." As an example, he pointed out that during the ice storm, several specific-purpose nets were in operation rather than the single multi-purpose--and sometimes chaotic--nets of the past.

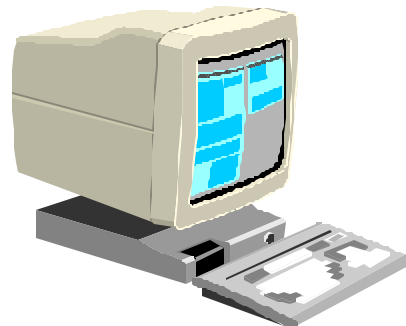
The partnership between UTC and ARRL has served as a model for dramatically expanding Amateur Radio emergency communications courses. So far, nearly 1700 amateurs nationwide have gone through at least one of the three emergency communications course levels since the program's inception in December 2000. ARRL offers three emergency communications courses--introductory, intermediate and advanced.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, said the League hopes UTC now will approve a three-year grant to help fund further expansion of the Amateur Radio emergency communications course program to the national level. "A second grant from UTC for a national scale program will enable ARRL to certify 5000 radio amateurs in Level I, II or III of the emergency communications course, and have an even greater impact on homeland security and disaster relief efforts," she said.

More information on the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program is available on the ARRL Web site
<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>.

Please visit our home page

at <http://www.danbury.org/cara>



Nets

CARA Weekly Net Sunday nights at 7:30 p.m. 147.30+ (PL 100)



WestConn Net Nightly at 8:30 p.m. 147.18+ (PL 114.8)

Tips Net – Tuesday evenings at 7:30 on 146.73- (PL77) (linked statewide)

R-Com Weekly Net: 145.47- (PL100) Thursday Evenings, 8PM

CT ARES Issues Net. 3.965 Mhz +/-, Thursdays @ approx 6:15 p.m. (following CT Phone Net)

Want the CARA CAPERS by e-mail?

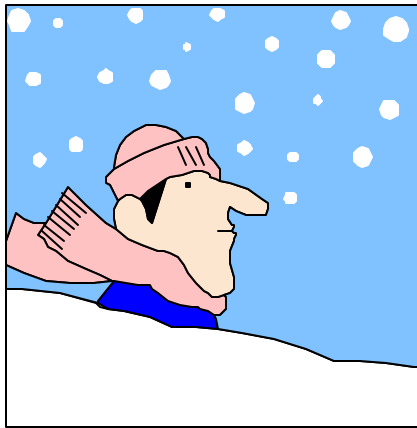
Signing up for the e-Capers is simple. Just send e-mail to KD1YV@arrl.net.

We'll take care of the rest, and your next e-Capers will arrive in your e-mailbox!

Editor's Note:

Just a reminder to our readers that we're always looking for interesting features and news articles for the Capers.

Paid-up members are also welcome to place no-charge classified ads for ham-related items. If you have a jpeg image of the item you may want to include that as well.



Just drop me an email note at KA1JDD@arrl.net, or give me a call: 203-748-1033. Although as early as possible is preferred, our deadline for articles for each month's edition generally is the Friday before (one week before) the regular Friday monthly meeting.

73 de Barry, KA1JDD

Rock Star Gives Major Donation to "The Big Project"

Hoping that his donation will spur others to contribute to "The Big Project," veteran rock star and well-known amateur Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, has given in a major way to ARRL's Education and Technology Fund. ARRL

Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, says the "significant gift" through the Joseph F. Walsh Foundation will fund an additional eight pilot schools in the ARRL Education and Technology Program.

Walsh, best-known as a guitarist, vocalist and songwriter with The Eagles and The James Gang, has been an active Amateur Radio operator for more than 37 years. He's also an avid collector of Collins Radio gear. The amount of his donation was not made public.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, expressed his gratitude for Walsh's dedication and support to The Big Project's goals and aims. "I am particularly pleased with Joe's donation, as it emphasizes his belief in our school project and more importantly, investing in the future of Amateur Radio," Haynie said. "The additional schools that will be brought into the program as a result of this donation represent a big step in increasing the number of students participating in the ARRL Science and Technology program."

The Big Project--as the program is popularly known--highlights Amateur Radio as a significant resource for teachers in classrooms as well as for enrichment and after-school programs. The 40 pilot schools now in the program receive a complete Amateur Radio station, technical library and a curriculum that makes technology fun and relevant for the participating students.

Walsh's contribution was one of 3500 made by ARRL members, who--together--have raised more \$225,000 to fund the Education & Technology Program in 2003.

Special Event, Space Contact to Mark Marconi Transmission Centennial

Special event station KM1CC will be on the air January 11-19, 2003, to mark the 100th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi's inaugural wireless transmission between the US and Great Britain January 18, 1903 (January 19 UTC). On that date, from the sandy Cape Cod cliffs overlooking the Atlantic, Marconi--using a powerful (35 kW) rotary spark transmitter coupled to a massive antenna system-- transmitted a 54-word greeting from President Theodore Roosevelt to England's King Edward VII. The monarch promptly acknowledged receipt of the message via land line and cable, literally igniting the spark of global communication.

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA, and the Marconi Cape Cod Memorial Radio Club, KM1CC, are working in partnership with the National Park Service at Cape Cod National Seashore to organize the celebration. The special event will take place at the former Coast Guard station at Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, Massachusetts, which is near the original Marconi site. Operation will include several amateur modes, including SSB, CW, FM, digital and satellite.

An Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact--the first of the new year with US students--is to be scheduled during the weeklong celebration. Doherty says that selected students from three Cape Cod high schools will speak via KM1CC with a member of the new Expedition 6 ISS crew.

KM1CC QSL card requests from US amateurs (include a self-addressed, stamped envelope) go via Barbara Dougan, KB1GSO, Cape Cod National

Seashore, 99 Marconi Site Rd, Wellfleet, MA 02667. DX stations are invited to QSL via the W1 QSL Bureau.

ARISS Team Discusses Future Ham-Radio-in-Space Projects

Members of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International Team met December 5-8 at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. Delegates represented partner countries, International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-societies and AMSAT organizations in Europe, Japan, Canada, Russia and the US.

"I was extremely impressed with the quality of the discussions at our meeting and the camaraderie of the international team," said ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO. "The ARISS Team really has come together to be a cohesive international team since we first met in 1996."

The delegates heard progress reports on various ARISS equipment proposals, including timing for certification and future delivery. The ARISS Team will begin a review of new project proposals to determine their feasibility as well as their benefits to NASA and to ham radio operators. The ARISS Team must evaluate the work involved in bringing a particular project proposal to fruition and, perhaps equally important, determine if the developers have the required funding.

Among the more unusual Amateur Radio experiments the team plans to consider further are a plasma cloud experiment and another that would

compare the performance of different solar arrays. Details were unavailable. ARISS Team members also expressed concerns about hardware proposals that had been initiated without ARISS knowledge or support, since NASA requires coordination of all ham radio activity via the ARISS team.

(Several articles in this issue are courtesy of the ARRL Letter)



Renew Your Membership Now!

Support the club and assure another great year of membership in CARA! Complete the attached membership application and send it in with your check today!

Previously approved hardware projects are now being completed to make the most of the four Amateur Radio antennas now installed outside of the ISS Zvezda Service Module--the crew's living quarters. Operations on 70 cm could commence as early as next spring, and SSTV (SpaceCam) hardware could be launched later in 2003. Once it's in place, students will be able to see the astronauts via SSTV while in QSO with them. Future add-ons under consideration include enhanced digital 10-meter crossband operation using PSK-31 or full-duplex voice repeater operation.

Delegates re-elected Bauer as ARISS chairman, White as ARISS secretary-treasurer, and Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, as ARISS vice chairman. All will serve two-year terms.

ARRL is an international project, with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.



Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 3441
Danbury, CT 06813

Membership Application

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Class: _____ Phone: _____ VE: _____ ARRL: _____ Email Capers: _____

e-mail _____

Deliver my CARA Capers via e-mail in PDF format: Yes No

DUES:

Associate Member (non-ham) \$15

Full Member \$30 _____

Senior/Student (>65 yrs/ <18yrs)
\$23.50 _____

Family (2 members) \$52.50 _____

Family(3 members) \$65.00 _____

Family(4 members) \$75.00* _____

Send Dues to:

John M. Ahle W1JMA
120 Fire Hill Road
Ridgefield, CT 06877
W1JMA@aol.com

* \$10 each additional member