



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

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

**Regular Meeting  
Friday, March 14th  
at 8:00 PM**

Meeting Topic:  
YCCC Joint Meeting  
DXCluster and Contest  
Operating Software



# 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**



*Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day*



March 2003

*Meeting Friday, March 14, at 8:00 p.m.*

## **President's Message**

I hope all are surviving the harsh winter this year. It's now March, so spring is coming!

The Equinox months are excellent for DX. I hope all with HF privileges are looking for the DX. It's also a heavy contest month so there's no excuse. Lots of DX will be on the air.

This month's program will be presented by Dan, W1QK, and will concern the use of the DX packet cluster. He will also demonstrate the use of CT, one of the more popular contest logging programs. Both the cluster and a good contest

logging program are essential tools for contesting as they speed up the process of making QSO's.

With your sharpened knowledge, there is no excuse not to have a decent score during the CQ WPX contest at the end of the month. Maybe you can work DXCC during the contest.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

**73 de Frank, N8WXQ**

## Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> is CARA/YCCC Joint Meeting!

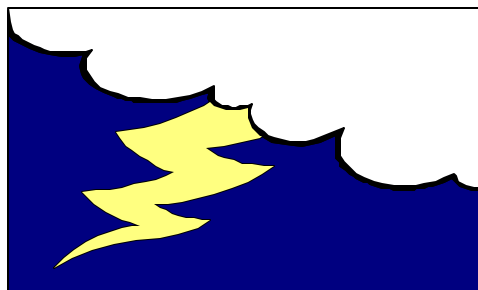
Friday is a joint meeting of the CARA/YCCC clubs. Dan (W1QK), Ken (W1NG), and Rich (K1CC), will present a live demo of the Packet Cluster using the W1QI YCCC/CARA node in New Milford. They also will review the CT contest software and basic functions that will be used for Field Day, and discuss WRTC 2002.

The joint meeting will be held at 8 p.m., at St. Paul's Church, near the intersection of Rts. 25 & 133 in Brookfield.

**{private information for club members only not shown in this public issue}**

## Amateur Radio Conference Looks Ahead to Storms in '03

The upcoming 2003 hurricane season was the focus earlier this month as Amateur Radio volunteers, the National Hurricane Center's W4EHW Amateur Radio Group, representatives of the Hurricane Watch Net and emergency officials gathered for the eighth annual Amateur Radio Hurricane Conference.



ARRL Public Service Team Leader Steve Ewald, WV1X, highlighted the latest news in emergency communication training from ARRL through the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications courses <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>. He also explained how the federal Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) grant was expanding opportunities for hams nationwide to take the Level I Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course.

Attendees were brought up to date on the latest news and activities of the 36-member team of Amateur Radio Station W4EHW, including the news that the station will adopt a new call sign, WX4NHC, on June 1 at the start of the new hurricane season.

Ripoll said the new call sign would give "better on-the-air recognition, as WX is understood to mean weather, and NHC is well-known for National Hurricane Center."

W4EHW celebrates its 23rd year of continuous service this year. Calling upon a staff of trained volunteers, the NHC's amateur station activates during tropical storms or hurricanes and gathers and disseminates real-time, surface-level weather data from hams and other volunteer observers.

### **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)

## **FOR SALE**

For Sale, MFJ 941 tuner \$25, Vectronics HT 1500 Tuner (not MFJ) \$250, Rigblaster nomic \$25. Call John W1JMA at 438-6782 or email W1JMA@aol.com



### **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. Just drop me an email note at [KA1JDD@arrl.net](mailto: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 the regular Friday monthly meeting.

73 de Barry, KA1JDD

### **Want the CARA CAPERS by e-mail?**

Signing up for the e-Capers is simple. Just send e-mail to [KD1YV@arrl.net](mailto:KD1YV@arrl.net).

### **Coming Attraction: CARA Hamfest Slated for Sept. 14**

Believe it or not, it's NEVER too early to begin planning for the CARA Western CT Hamfest! This year's premier club

fundraising event is scheduled for Sunday, September 14, at Edmund Town Hall, Newtown CT.

The announcement flyer for this year's hamfest is part of this month's newsletter. It includes snapshots from previous year's events. Feel free to copy and share it with fellow hams and everyone interested in Amateur Radio.

Please contact John, W1JMA, today, ([W1JMA@aol.com](mailto:W1JMA@aol.com)) and sign up to help.

## CT ARES Needs You!

Check out the handy CT Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) form in this month's CAPERS!

If you have completed Emergency Communications training, can operate battery or emergency power, or have other skills and capabilities that could help your neighbors and your community in a communications emergency, please complete and send in the registration form to your local ARES organization.

Current ARES members are asked to renew/update their registration form annually. For more information, check out the [www.ctares.org](http://www.ctares.org) website.

## Help Needed at CPTV Family Science Expo April 3-6

Amateur radio will again have a booth at the CPTV Family Science Expo in the CT Expo Center in Hartford, April 3,4,5 and 6.

Connecticut amateur radio clubs and amateurs around the state are once

again being asked to help staff the event to help tell the story of Amateur Radio to 20,000 Connecticut children, teachers and parents. Last year, more than 30 hams turned out to help.

This year's program will feature the new ARRL video on Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, two hands-on audio/visual Morse code demos, a voice pattern display with microphone and oscilloscope, a PSK-31 demo, a display of QSL cards from around the world, and more.

Some 30-40 volunteers are needed to staff the booth in half-day shifts.

A steering committee meeting will be held at noon, March 15, at ARRL HQ, 225 Main Street, Newington. All are welcome. Talk-in on the 145.45 W1AW repeater.

For more information, please contact:

Bob Stanwood, [KB1EYZ@arrl.net](mailto:KB1EYZ@arrl.net),  
860-242-2784

Dan Miller, [K3UFG@arrl.net](mailto:K3UFG@arrl.net)  
860-206-3379

Al Cohen, [W1FXQ@arrl.net](mailto:W1FXQ@arrl.net)  
860-667-2864.

**Reminder: Renew your CARA membership and send your dues check today. Use the handy form, attached...**



**Candlewood Amateur Radio Association**

P.O. Box 3441,  
Danbury, CT 06813

***CARA 2003 Membership Application***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ VE: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ email CAPERS 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\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* \$10 each additional member

**Send Dues to:**

**John M. Ahle, W1JMA  
120 Fire Hill Road  
Ridgefield, CT 06877**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_



## AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE



Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Pager: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Radio Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

IF OPERATING PACKET, THE CALLSIGN OF YOUR HOME PBBS IS:

\_\_\_\_\_

Indicate bands/modes you can operate: H = Home, M = Mobile, P = Portable, A = All Three

	160	80/75	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	2	220	440	Other
CW														
FM														
RTTY														
SSB														
PACKET														
PSK-31														
OTHER DIGITAL														
MOBILE														

Can your home station operate without commercial power  Yes  No

If yes, what bands ? \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL EMCOMM CLASSES COMPLETED  LEVEL 1  LEVEL 2  LEVEL 3

OTHER Emergency Communications Training *in the past year* \_\_\_\_\_

Activities **in the past year** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of your EC or DEC or STM \_\_\_\_\_

Registration is for one year.

ACTIVE members are required to participate in 1 training and 1 event or ARES meeting per year.

(Simply checking into a net does not count as participation in an event for this purpose)

RESERVE members are encouraged, but not required, to have continuing education or participate in events/meetings.

All registrations should be turned into and signed by the EC or DEC for your locality or unit or the STM.

EC, DEC or STM will verify and send copy to SEC for inclusion in the database listings.

Listings can be seen at [www.CTares.org](http://www.CTares.org) website

# Western CT Hamfest

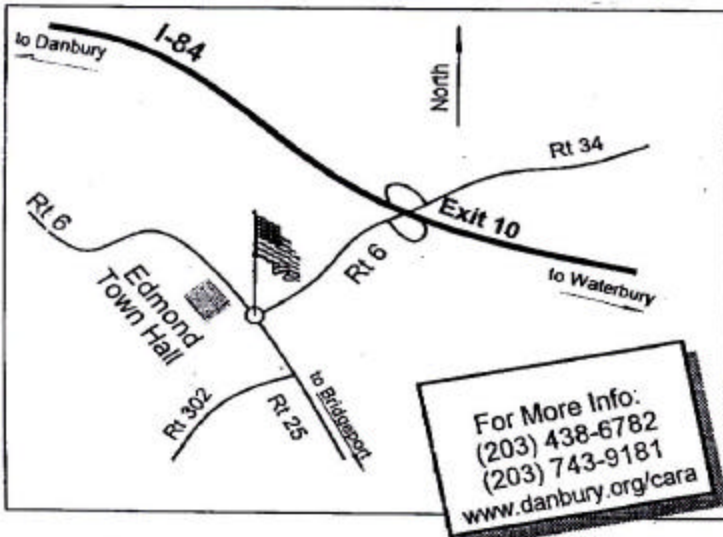
- **Sunday, September 14, 2003**
- **Edmund Town Hall, Route 6, Newtown CT**
- **Set-up 7 a.m.**
- **Doors open 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**



Talk-in on 147.300+ PL 100



Sponsored by Candlewood  
Amateur Radio Assoc.  
(CARA)



- **Admission \$5 (under 10 free)**
- **Tables \$12.50 (includes 1 admission)**
- **Tailgate \$8 (includes 1 admission)**
- **Ham Radio Equipment**
- **Computer Gear**
- **Door Prizes**
- **Refreshments**
- **Ample Parking**
- **Rain or Shine**



**Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) Hamfest, September 14, 2003**  
c/o John Ahle – W1JMA, 120 Fire Hill Road, Ridgefield, CT 06877

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (daytime) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_ tables, at \$12.50 each. I need \_\_\_\_ do not need \_\_\_\_ electricity.

Amount enclosed: (\$ \_\_\_\_\_). Please make checks payable to C.A.R.A.