



# Capers

August 2010

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

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.danbury.org/cara>

President – Harlan Ford – W1QH – phone- 203-798-8096  
Vice President – Barry Connolly – KA1JDD- phone - 203-748-1033  
Secretary – Bill Thoren – N1TIW - Phone – 203-744-5138  
Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536



**Meeting: Friday, August 13...Stony Hill Fire Station**

## From the President

*Happy Summer Everyone...*

*I've been pondering what to write for the August Capers. Fall (!) is approaching and with it our annual HAMFEST!*

*Joe, AB1DO, wishes to remind us:*

*Hamfest Sep 12th, will need as many volunteers as possible, especially to man the two ticket sales tables, etc. and make sure Bill has seed cash for both tables and food area.*

*Judy and Bob Keegan have agreed to run the food area as usual and Bob has also agreed to set up and collect the signs.*

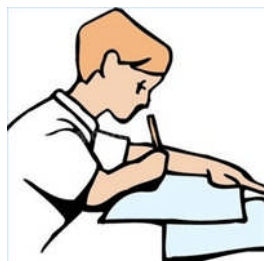
*FYI, all preliminaries have been taken care of: commercial vendors have been informed and agreed to show up (including KJI); letters and emails have been sent to the usual publications; etc., etc."*

*So come to the meeting Friday the 13th ( egad!) and let's plan to make it a great Hamfest.*

*CARA will be 80 next year and we need to start getting ideas now for a special event activity for 2011...put on your thinkin' caps.*

73 QH

## CARA 2010 Exam Schedule



Here is the 2010 CARA-sponsored VE session schedule:

- September 11th
- December 4th

All dates are Saturdays. Sessions will continue to be held at the Stony Hill Fire Station at 59 Stony Hill Road (Route 6) in Bethel, CT.

Registration begins at 11:30 AM. Walk-ins are always welcome; pre-registration is not required.

For further info, contact Frank Sileo, N1PE, in Ridgefield, CT at 203-438-0218 or [frsileo@att.net](mailto:frsileo@att.net).

## Nets



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

Connecticut Phone Net (CPN) Monday through Saturday, 6 p.m., on 3.973 and Sundays at 10 a.m. on 3.965...

CW Connecticut Net, Nightly, 7 p.m., 3.640

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

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

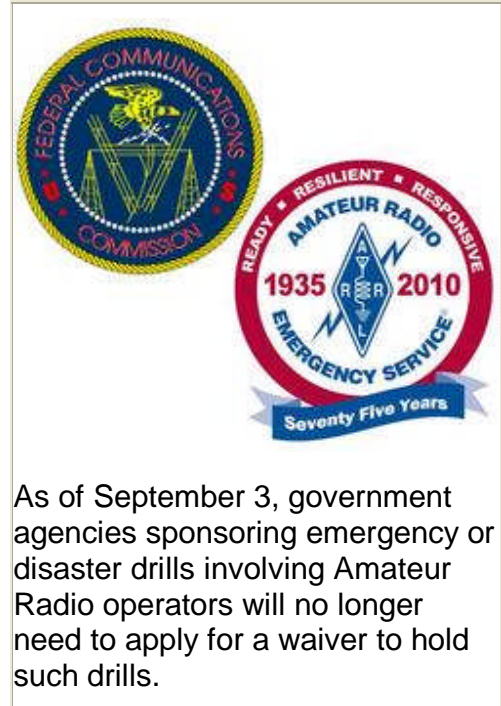
R-Com Weekly Net: 145.47- (PL100) Thursday Evenings, 8 p.m.

ConnARES Local VHF Net: (now part of Area 5): Second Monday of each month, 8 p.m. on CARA repeater: 147.30+ (PL 100)

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

## FCC to Allow Government Drills Without a Waiver as of September 3

In July, [the FCC released a Report and Order \(R&O\)](#) that amended Part 97 -- more specifically [Section 97.113](#) -- stating that government entities sponsoring disaster and emergency drills will no longer need to apply for a waiver to hold these drills. Additionally, employees who wish to participate in non-government-sponsored drills and exercises may do so under certain conditions. Part 97 is the portion of the Commission's rules that govern the Amateur Radio Service. In the August 4 edition of the *Federal Register*, the FCC issued a summary of the R&O entitled *Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Amateur Radio Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills* --noting that [the effective date of these new rules will be September 3, 2010](#).



As of September 3, government agencies sponsoring emergency or disaster drills involving Amateur Radio operators will no longer need to apply for a waiver to hold such drills.

## ARRL Facebook Page Tops 10,300 Fans

With more than 10,000 fans on Facebook, [the ARRL page](#) is the number one spot for hams on the Internet's most popular social networking site. Not only is the ARRL page the most popular Amateur Radio page on Facebook, it is attracting young -- and not-so-young -- hams to share their opinions and ham radio-related news with other hams.

According to Facebook demographics, more than 100 people between the ages of 13-17 are fans of the ARRL's page, with 80 percent below the age of 55 (Facebook breaks down its statistics in age groups of 13-17, 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54 and 55+). The ARRL page also averages about 400 users each week. Users are those who post their own comments, comment on others' posts or "like" a comment. Along with this, the ARRL Facebook page generates more than 3000 page views each week, with the majority of stories generating more than 80,000 "click-thrus."

"We are excited to have such a strong presence on Facebook," said ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA. "Through our page, we try to showcase all the fun that Amateur Radio is by using interactive status updates, articles from the ARRL Web site

and photos from events that are happening all around the world. Personally, I really enjoy seeing what other hams have to say about their love and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.” Keane maintains the ARRL Facebook page that was created by Herman May, KE5HYW.

While US hams make up the majority of users on the League’s Facebook page, hams from all over the world, such as Indonesia, Spain, Greece, Australia, Italy, Argentina, Denmark and the Netherlands, are active, too. “Facebook only gives us the top 20 countries represented that visit our page, but I know from personal interaction with hams that we have more than just those 20 countries visiting us every day,” Keane explained.

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**Mark Your Calendars: Hamfest, Sunday September 12!**

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Sponsored by Candlewood  
Amateur Radio Association

# Western CT Hamfest



Sanctioned  
by ARRL

- **Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010**  
(Rain or Shine)
- Edmond Town Hall  
45 Main St (Rt. 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**

- Admission \$6 (under 10 free)
- Tables \$15 (includes 1 admission)
- Tailgating \$10 (includes 1 admission)
- Ham Radio Equipment
- Computer Gear
- Door Prizes
- Refreshments
- Free Parking

**Battery Exclusive!**  
Big batteries at  
rock bottom prices!

## Commercial Vendors Include (tentative)

- KJI Electronics
- QuickSilver Radio Products
- Radio Oasis
- The Parent Shop

**Don't Miss the Raffle!**  
Win a New Mobile Rig.

## Seminars

- Raising Towers Safely (Steve Simons, W1SMS)
- (to be determined)

## Contact Information

- Joe de Groot - AB1DO: (203) 938-4880
- Email: ab1do@arrl.net
- Web site:  
[www.danbury.org/cara/Hamfest.html](http://www.danbury.org/cara/Hamfest.html)

## Directions

Take exit 10 off Rt. 84. Go West onto Rt. 6 (west bound make a right, east bound make a left). Approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile at flag pole make a right onto Main Street/Rt. 6/Rt. 25. Edmond Town Hall will be approx. 100 yds on left.

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) Hamfest, Sept. 12, 2010  
c/o Joe de Groot - AB1DO, 30 Sunnyview Drive, Redding, CT 06896. Phone # (203) 938-4880

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ indoor tables @ \$15.00 each. Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I need \_\_\_\_\_ / do not need \_\_\_\_\_ electricity. **Please make checks payable to CARA**