



Capers

June 2012

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT
Visit us on the Web at www.CaraRadioClub.org

President – Roger Mitchell – NG1R – phone- 203-790-9697
Vice President – John Will – KB1LYP- phone - 203-270-0475
Secretary – Bill Thoren – N1TIW - Phone – 203-744-5138
Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536

June 23-24!



**Putnam Memorial Park
Youth Group Camping Area
June 23, 8 a.m. Site Setup
SUPPORT CARA FIELD DAY!**

NOTE MEETING LOCATION CHANGE FOR JUNE:
Friday, June 8, 8 p.m. @ 4H Meeting Room, Rte 6 (Enter through
door on Western side of white building, facing parking lot.)

CARA Minutes...

Meeting May 11, 2012

The meeting was called to order by CARA President Roger Mitchell, NG1R, with 18 members and guests present.

The program for the evening was a presentation of current rules and past pictures of CARA Field Day by Dan, W1QK, and Harlan, W1QH. The pictures were provided by several people and if you have others please contact Dan. They also had signup sheets for this year's Field Day. Again this year we will be operating from Putnam Park in Bethel. We will follow our usual schedule of antenna setup on Friday, (June 22) with station setup and operation Saturday continuing on into Sunday.

This is a major event for Amateur Radio with many opportunities for you to participate. Dan and Harlan will have the time schedule and sign-up sheets at the June 8th meeting so "come on down". Complete Field Day rules are on the ARRL website.

Thanks to Harlan and Dan.

After a short break we went on to the business part of the meeting.

The Secretary's report, as published in the April Capers, was accepted.

The Treasurer's report of \$9,760.38 was accepted.

Steve, W1SMS, reported that the 2 meter repeater is up and running, for now, but to ensure its long term health we need to do more work, both parts and labor.

Since Field Day is a club event Steve, W1SMS, moved that food money for the weekend be covered by club funds in an amount not to exceed \$400. The motion was seconded by Jim, KD1YV, and passed by a voice vote of the members present. An additional amount for other Field Day expenses, not to exceed \$500, was also passed by voice vote.

The nominating committee is continuing its work and will report to the June 8 meeting

Two CARA members have been doing radio related projects and showed them at the meeting.



Roger, KB1NYY, brought in the Moxon 2 meter antenna that he built. Roger built the 2 meter version, which looks a bit like a cricket bat in size and shape, but the design can be applied to other bands and was first devised by Les Moxon, G6XN. Theory, construction, history etc. are covered on the website for the "Moxon Antenna Project".

Steve, W1SMS, is working with a PIC based remote control system offered by N8LP, LP-Remote. When the software and hardware is in place he will have control of his station both "local remote" (from various places in his house) and "remote remote" (as in from California via the internet). Further information is on the web at LP-Remote and we are looking forward to further reports from Steve on his installation.

Our thanks to Roger and Steve for their reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 PM.

Bill Thoren, N1TIW, Secretary

2012 VE Schedule

All dates are Saturdays; starting time is 11:30 a.m. Walk-ins are always welcome. Candidates may e-mail or call N1PE for any additional info.

June 9th
September 15th
December 1st

73, Frank Sileo N1PE
34 Bryon Avenue, Ridgefield,
CT 06877-4426
Home: 203-438-0218;
Cell: 203-731-7735
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., 3.533 (note correction to 3.533)

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

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 +/- on Thursdays @ approx. 6:15 p.m. (following CT Phone Net.)

Dayton Hamvention 2012: Another great ham radio experience

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

My Dayton experience started at 3:45 am Thursday morning. That's when I had to get up so that I could make it to the Fairborn Holiday Inn in time for the first session of this year's Four Days in May (FDIM) conference. FDIM is a one-day conference put on by the QRP Amateur Radio Club International (<http://qrparci.org/>) and is a great way to start the "Dayton experience."

This year, we were treated to six very fine presentations. They included talks on using microcontrollers for various projects, software-defined radio, VHF and UHF for QRPers, homebrewing with "hollow state" devices (more commonly known as tubes), using open-source electronic design tools, and operating pedestrian mobile. The two talks that I enjoyed the most were "Hollow State (Thermatron) Homebrewing" by Grayson, TA2ZGE/KJ7UM and "Leveraging Free and Open Source Tools in Homebrewing" by Jason, NT7S.

Friday morning, I got up early again, so that I

could make the 7:30am bus to the Hamvention. We arrived about 8:00 am, just as the gates were opening. The first thing that I did was to head to the FAR Circuits tent, which is—as the name implies—at the far end of the flea market. There, I made my first purchases, a board to make a regenerative receiver and one to make an audio breakout box.

The rest of the day was a combination of wandering the aisles of the outdoor flea market, fighting the crowds inside the arena, attending seminars, and meeting people that I know. By the time, 4:30 pm rolled around, I was pretty hot and tired. Temperatures topped 80 degrees, and on the blacktop surface of the flea market, temperatures were undoubtedly higher. I was happy to get on the bus and head back to the hotel.

Saturday, was pretty much the same story, except it was even hotter. The temperature almost hit 90 degrees. I didn't bring any sunscreen, either, so I got a little rosy.

I ran into some people that I knew that had just come down for the day, or perhaps that I'd missed the day before. One guy I ran into at the Ohio Repeater Council booth, pulled out his new Elecraft KX-3 and gave me a quick demo. It's actually quite a cool, little radio. I'm still saving up for a K-3, though.

Around noon, I went to the food court for a slice of pizza and a glass of beer. Seating is catch as catch can, so I shared a table with several other hams. This is great because you get to meet all kinds of different people.

This year, an older gentleman sat down next to me with his beer. We got to chatting, and as it turned out, this was his 55th straight year attending the Dayton Hamvention! He started going before it was even held at Hara Arena, and even after they moved to Hara, they didn't use the entire facility as they do now. I'm really glad that I got to speak with him.

So, what did you buy?

I didn't really go down to Dayton with much of a shopping list. In addition to the PC boards, I did

pick up a bunch of other little stuff including some strain reliefs, more clamp-on ferrite cores, a paddle pad from Vibroplex (\$1) to keep the paddle down at the club station from sliding around, and some tube sockets! One of the vendors there had a box of tube sockets that they were selling for a quarter apiece or five for a dollar. I picked out five and paid the lady, and as I was walking away, I decided that they were such a good deal that I went back and bought five more.

My biggest purchase was NT7S's OpenBeacon QRSS transmitter (www.etherkit.com). It cost me \$40. It looks like a very nice kit, and I'm hoping to be on 30m QRSS shortly with it. The nice thing about this transmitter is that it has a microcontroller that lets it transmit DFCW and Hellschreiber, in addition to CW. It should be fun to both build and operate.

Too rich for my blood
In other news, both Kenwood and FlexRadio both introduced new radios at Dayton. Perhaps the most buzz was around the Kenwood TS-990. All they were showing was a prototype under a Plexiglass cover. In addition to being incredibly expensive, the radio is huge! I heard someone joke that to produce this radio, Kenwood is going to have to corner the market on buttons and knobs. If you've seen the photo in QST (which was allegedly produced with Photoshop), you'll know what I mean.

The other radio with a bit of buzz is the new FlexRadio FLEX-6000. For the past couple of weeks, the FlexRadio website was proclaiming that this radio was going to be a game changer. Perhaps it is, but at \$6,000+, this radio is out of my league, and too expensive for the majority of radio amateurs. That being the case, I really don't know what all the buzz is about.

I'm sure that the TS-990 and the FLEX-6000 are both great radios, but I think that the law of diminishing returns applies here. At some point, are you really getting \$6,000 or \$12,000 of fun out of the radio? I don't think that I would.

Well, that's it. Another Dayton Hamvention is in the bag. It was a lot of fun, and I'm already

looking forward to next year. I've already contacted one of the forum organizers about adding an adult education forum. I think that's something that's both needed and would be popular. I'll just have to make sure to leave enough time to hit the flea market and grab some more tube sockets or coax or whatever.

When he's not tromping around flea markets, or attending conferences, Dan, KB6NU, writes books about ham radio. His latest, 21 Things to Do After You Get Your Amateur Radio License, is available as an e-book from Amazon, Barnes&Noble, or from his website, <http://www.kb6nu.com/>. You can e-mail him with comments, questions, compliments, or brickbats at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

CQ Announces 2012 Hall of Fame Inductees

[CQ magazine](#) announced its 2012 Hall of Fame inductees on May 18, welcoming 16 new members into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame, three new members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame and two new members of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to Amateur Radio, as well as those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to Amateur Radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. The CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of Amateur Radio but who also "give back" to Amateur Radio in outstanding ways.

The 2012 inductees (listed alphabetically) to the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame are:

- **George Badger, W6TC (SK)** -- An expert in tubes and tube circuit designs, Badger was the marketing director of Eimac and later, president of Svetlana.

He was also an active DXer and wrote many technical articles for the Amateur Radio media, [including 26 articles for QST and Ham Radio](#). He [passed away](#) in 2009.

- **Bill Brown, WB8ELK** -- “Father” of Amateur Radio high-altitude ballooning. His [work](#) has blossomed into “near-space” programs not only among hams but at many universities around the nation. The June 1989 issue of *Ham Radio* featured his article “Helium Balloon ATV Launched over Indiana.”
- **Robert Brown, NM7M (SK)** -- A retired physics professor at the University of California, Brown was an expert on 160 meter propagation. He wrote articles for CQ and 12 articles for the ARRL from 1998-2001 that appeared in *QST*, *QEX* and *NCJ*, most of them -- such as this [December 1999 QST article](#) -- dealing with propagation and contesting on the low bands. He also authored an HF propagation tutorial that is [available online](#). He [passed away](#) in 2010.
- **Evelyn Gauzens, W4WYR** -- Named an [Honorary ARRL Vice President](#) in 2002, Gauzens -- a former ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director -- served as the chairman of the Miami “Tropical Hamboree” hamfest for 45 years. She is an active proponent of improved Amateur Radio public relations and was the principal on-site organizer (on behalf of the ARRL as the host IARU Member-Society) of the 1976 IARU Region 2 conference in Miami Beach.
- **Richard Garriott, W5KWQ** -- A video game designer and a civilian space traveler, Garriott was [very active on Amateur Radio from the International Space Station in 2008](#). He is the younger half of first US father-son team to travel in space. His father -- Owen Garriott, W5LFL -- was the first astronaut to operate Amateur Radio from space; he was inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame in 2001.
- **William W. Hansen (SK)** -- Known as the “Father of Microwave Electronics,” Hansen [invented technology](#) such as the cavity resonator and the [klystron tube](#), making microwave communications possible. He was a collaborator in the development of the first linear accelerator and nuclear magnetic resonance, the basis for MRI medical imaging. He passed away in 1949.
- **Richard Kirby, W0LCT/HB9BOA (SK)** -- Director of the ITU’s International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR), 1974-1995, Kirby [helped to develop global standards](#) for HDTV, digital audio broadcasting and mobile and satellite communications. He was previously the Director of the Institute of Telecommunication Sciences, the Associate Director of the US Department of Commerce Office of Telecommunications, the Chief of Ionospheric Research and the Chief of Radio Communications Systems Division (both part of the National Bureau of Standards, now the National Institute of Standards and Technology). He [passed away](#) in 2012.
- **Fred Maia, W5YI (SK)** -- One of the architects of Volunteer Examiner program adopted by the FCC in 1984, Maia was the first FCC-designated Volunteer Examiner Coordinator. A long-time CQ columnist, he was also the editor/publisher of *The W5YI Report*. He [passed away](#) in 2012.
- **Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML** -- Beginning in 1976, Mendelsohn began his tenure as the Communications Director of the New York City Marathon, a post he continues in today. A former ARRL First Vice President and Hudson Division Director, he led the ARRL’s effort to rewrite Part 97 in the late 1980s. Along with his wife Heidi, Mendelsohn serves as the Game Day Frequency Coordinator for the New York Jets and was featured on the cover of the [November 2007 issue of QST](#) for his work in that program.

- **Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI** -- A photojournalist who has covered major news events around the world for more than 50 years, Mulvehill has served as the CQ cover photographer for more than 30 years.
- **Rowley Shears, G8KW (SK)** -- The founder of KW Electronics in the United Kingdom, Shears helped to re-establish Amateur Radio in Germany after World War II. He [passed away](#) in 2009.
- **Mike Staal, K6MYC** - Antenna expert and co-founder of KLM and [M2 Antennas](#).
- **Frederick Terman (ex-6FT, W6AE, W6XH) (SK)** -- Known as the "[Father of Silicon Valley](#)," Terman was a microwave pioneer, who with partner with William Hansen (see above), developed microwave communications and the linear accelerator. He passed away in 1982.
- **Patrick Tice, WA0TDA** – For more than 20 years, Tice has served as the Manager of the [Courage HandiHam System](#). Through this organization, Tice has coordinated a nationwide program to provide training and assistance, helping thousands of people with disabilities become radio amateurs.
- **Louis Varney, G5RV (SK)** -- Varney was the inventor of the [G5RV antenna](#), one of the most popular and widely used "all around" multi-band antennas in the world. He passed away in 2000.
- **William A. Wilson, K6ARO (SK)** – When formal diplomatic relations with the Holy See (the Vatican) were re-established in 1984 (after an almost-100 year absence), President Ronald Reagan appointed Wilson as its first US Ambassador (they had been cut in 1867). Wilson [passed away](#) in 2009.

CQ Contest and DX Hall of Fame

The CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of Amateur Radio, but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways.

The 2012 inductees to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame are:

- **Jim Reisert, AD1C** -- For the past decade, Reisert has maintained and updated the country and prefix files that are used by all of the major contest and general logging programs, as well as software for the major DX clusters.
- **Lothar "Lar" Wilke, DL3TD (SK)** -- In the 1970s, Wilke built a contest station in East Germany that operated over the years as Y24UK, Y34K, DF0HQ, DA0HQ and DL3TD. After the fall of the Berlin wall, he was the driving force in the foundation of a new and independent radio club in the German Democratic Republic and then became its president. Lothar was instrumental in the merger of Radio Sport Verband (RSV) and the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club ([DARC](#)), Germany's IARU Member-Society. Under his leadership, the German national team at DA0HQ won the IARU HF World Championship 11 times. He [passed away](#) in 2011.

The 2012 inductees to the CQ DX Hall of Fame are:

- **Don Chesser, W4KVX (SK)** -- Chesser founded and edited [DX Magazine](#) from 1957-1964. A pioneering DXer and DXpeditioner in the 1950s and 1960s, he was part of the team that first put 4U11TU on the air from International Telecommunication Union headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland in 1962. Chesser also served as CQ's DX Editor from 1957-58. He [passed away](#) in 1985.
- **Carl Smith, N4AA** -- Currently the Editor and Publisher of [DX Magazine](#), as well as CQ's current DX Editor, Smith is following in Chesser's footsteps a half-century later. He also edits the weekly [QRZ DX](#) newsletter and, for the past 15 years, has compiled the [annual "Most Wanted" survey](#) of DX entities needed by hams around the world.

Smith is also a leading force behind the creation of the [Southern Appalachian Radio Museum](#) and has been a long-time Elmer, mentoring many new radio amateurs in the art of DXing.

- **Glenn Johnson, W0GJ** -- A leading DXpeditioner (in addition to his full-time job as an orthopedic surgeon), Johnson has been part of more than two dozen DXpeditions over about as many years. He has been leader or co-leader of many of these trips, most of which have been to locations high on DX Magazine's "Most Wanted: list. In 2000, Johnson was personally responsible for re-introducing Amateur Radio to Bhutan, and has been honored by that country's king as the only non-Bhutanese to hold the "native" call sign of A51B. He is also

vice president of the Northern California DX Foundation ([NCDXF](#)), the leading organization providing financial support to DXpeditions to rare locations.

This year marks the 26th anniversary of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame and the 11th anniversary of the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. The CQ DX Hall of Fame celebrates its 45th year in honoring the world's top DXers. Formal inductions to the CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame are scheduled to take place during the 2012 Dayton Hamvention®.

(Some articles courtesy ARRL Letter)





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

2012 Membership/Dues Application

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Class: _____ Phone: _____ VE: _____ ARRL: _____ Email Capers: _____ (default Yes)

e-mail _____

Full Member
\$30 _____

Family (2 members)
\$52.50 _____

Family (3 members)
\$65.00 _____

Family (4 members)
\$75.00* _____
* \$10 each additional member

Senior (65+)/College Student
\$23.50 _____

Associate Member (Non-Ham)
\$15 _____

Student (Under 18)
\$5 _____

**Send check payable to
CARA**

To:

**Bill Webb, W1AFX
12 Stage Road
Brookfield CT 06804**

w1afx@arrl.net
203-775-0536