



Capers

July 2012

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

President – Roger Strong – KB1NYY – phone- 203-794-1665
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

See Photos This Issue!



Friday, July 13, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station

CARA Minutes...

CARA Meeting June 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order by CARA President Roger Mitchell, NG1R, with 21 members and guests present. This meeting was held in the Connecticut Cooperative Extension Service building, just east of the Stony Hill Firehouse. The 4H club needed a larger space for an awards ceremony so we exchanged places.

The program for the evening was a continuation of preparations for Field Day presented by Dan, W1QK, and Harlan, W1QH.

This session included a dry run of the logging program we will be using at the Field Day site. We have used the same program for several years but it's good to review the procedure so the logging runs smoothly.

We also discussed the antennas we will be using and went over how scoring will be handled.

We are looking forward to a successful Field Day and thank Harlan and Dan for their work to bring that about.

Note: Bring your own chair(s), the ground may be wet and is lumpy.

The program ended and we took a break before the business portion of the meeting. I looked around the room and everyone was gone. What happened? Turned out the International Space Station was scheduled to go over and everyone was out in the parking lot looking up. There it was, a beautiful sight, passing almost directly overhead.

The business part of the meeting started with the acceptance of the Treasurer's report of \$9,247.73.

The Minutes of the May meeting, as published in the Capers, were also accepted.

Joe, AB1DO, reported that Hamfest plans are on schedule. We have batteries again this year (12 Volts, sealed lead/acid 73 pounds) and to reduce the hauling of large chunks of lead, pre-sales at \$25 each are encouraged. They will be \$30 if you wait until the day of the Hamfest. See the CARA reflector for details on battery specifications and how you too can be the proud owner of one (or more). Also you can contact Joe directly at ab1do@arrl.net. The battery data sheet is on the CARA website at www.CaraRaioClub.org. Click on "Activities", "Hamfest" and then the picture of the battery.

Joe also needs help with the Hamfest food service. Please contact him if you are able to help out in this department.

Steve, W1SMS, gave the repeater status report. All is well and the repeater was used as part of the communications mix during the Ridgefield Triathlon on June 3. We still have work to do, both on the repeaters and at the site; Steve has a list and will be setting up a schedule.

Steve also reported that:

1) Radio station WLAD has donated a 10 Amp float charger that would be suitable for maintaining a backup battery at the repeater site. WLAD has donated equipment before and we thank them. We also thank Steve for working with them to make this happen.

2) EchoLink is disconnected until the new repeater is online and we get a high speed phone line at the site.

Election of club officers for the coming year was the next item of business. The nominating committee, Steve, W1SMS, Carl, W1ZGZ, and Harlan, W1QH presented the following slate of candidates.

President- Roger Strong, KB1NYY

Vice President- John Will, KB1LYP
Treasurer- Bill Webb, W1AFX
Secretary- Bill Thoren, N1TIW

Directors: Dan Fegley, W1QK
Harlan Ford, W1QH
Joe de Groot, AB1DO

There were no nominations from the floor so John, W1JMA, made the motion and Tom, K1TJC, seconded that nominations be closed.

Steve, W1SMS, moved that the Secretary cast one vote for the slate of officers and John, W1JMA, seconded the motion.

The Secretary cast one vote for the slate and the gavel was passed from Roger, NG1R, to Roger, KB1NYY. Congratulations to the officers and thank you for agreeing to serve.

Programs presented at the monthly meetings are important in attracting new members and giving current members a reason to keep coming back. All members are encouraged to suggest a program or give one on a topic they are interested in.

Roger Mitchell, NG1R, has agreed to be Program Chairman for the year but as mentioned above he will need help from everyone. Our thanks to Roger.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 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.

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

New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date.

This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed from the new pool.

The current Technician class question pool that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

(Some News Items Courtesy ARRL)

RFI/Noise Whitepaper Available

(News item courtesy Steve W1SMS)

"This whitepaper is an excellent find. Required reading for those who are experiencing noise as well as those who need to manage your local power/cable company professional (pays to know a little something more than the guy they send out to investigate.)

There are sections on motor control noise (e.g. Danbury City Hall EOC.) as well as tracking techniques, equipment and examples.

<http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/TR/2007/NPS-EC-07-002.pdf>

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...

K1ARC American Red Cross Net, on 1st Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., on 3.965Mhz, voice LSB, + or - 5Khz.

CW Connecticut Net, Nightly at 7 p.m., 3.533 Mhz (note correction to 3.533.)

WestConn Net: Nightly at 8:30 p.m. 147.18+ (PL 141.3). Linked repeater system: 148.850 and 145.410, both PL 141.3.

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

TNX From Field Day Visitor and Former CARA Club President Bruce W1CSM

Following is a copy of a note received by Bill N1TIW, club secretary, from a special visitor to the 2012 CARA Field Day event.

From: [Bruce King](#)

To: n1tiw@arrl.net

Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 9:03 PM

Subject: Thanks for the warm reception at Field Day

Hi Bill,

Thank you (and all the others on-site Sunday) for the warm welcome that you gave Sally and me. The camaraderie Field Day at CARA hasn't changed; still a bunch of friendly folks enjoying the hobby and the company. That's one of the things that makes the hobby great.

I did look for any CARA related items that I might have kept. The only thing I found was a 1st place certificate from CARA for the CT QSO party that the club used to sponsor in those days. I'd be glad to scan it for you if it's of any historical interest.

Sally and I are both native Nutmeggers from the Darien/New Canaan area. We settled in West Redding after we got married (and could afford a house) and lived there until we transferred to Massachusetts in 1972. I was active in the club from about 1965 until we moved. The club used to meet at one of the factories in Bethel, then moved to the Bethel Library. When we moved, I gave them an old Hallicrafters SX-28 Sky Buddy, sure wish I still had it HI.

The only other person that I know of who could offer additional insight into the late 50's early 60's CARA history is Bob Glorioso, W1IS. He grew up in the Danbury area and was a club member. He had gone off to college and work by the time I moved into the area. He lives in the next town over from me here in Massachusetts. You can get his mailing address from grz.com. I don't have a current e-mail address for him.

I did do some reminiscing about FD from 40+ years ago on the drive home. We used a WWII surplus generator that belonged to the City of Danbury or the Fire Department. Joe Feeley, W1ADW, used to borrow it every year and we gave it a good workout. But it was really big, heavy, trailer mounted if I recall, not like those

we have today. We set up at Harriman's on Umpawaug(sp?) Rd. in Redding on a hill top.

In those days there was a significant scoring advantage to not start setting up until the actual start. We would arrive in teams led by someone with a HF mobile rig who immediately started operating. Someone else had the duty to spray the wasps in the old ground observer corps shack.

Another team hauled in a 40 ft extension ladder with a mast/ladder mounting plate and walked it up with a tribander on it pointed west. We put up a couple of 80 and 40M dipoles for each of the SSB and CW positions.

We also had a VHF station for 6 and 2. Rigs were typically Heath SB100's or equivalent. I used to replace one of the 6146 finals in mine with a dummy just to draw filament current so we could keep the power under 100 watts for the entry class. The VHF gear were Gonset "Goonie" boxes. No repeaters in those days, at least not prevalent. Harriman had a big 4 car garage, barn really. The CW station was in the GOC shack, and SSB/VHF/cooking/ragchew site was in the garage.

73

Bruce W1CSM and Sally W1GDW

<mailto:bruce@regis-consulting.com>

www.regis-consulting.com

(See W1CSM Certificate Photo this issue...)



**W1CSM certificate for 1st place in 1967
CARA-sponsored CT QSO Party. Signed by
WA1BSX and W1DDJ.**

Contest Logging Software News...

FYI: From ARRL Contest Update: July 4:

(Courtesy Dan W1QK)

“Scott N3JFP announces that the upgraded November Sweepstakes Log 4.7 is now available. The new version accommodates the new Ontario sections and upgrades the Cabrillo output format to 3.0 (Cabrillo 2.0 is still being accepted). With the new sections going into effect in September, you will definitely need this version for this fall's

contest. Scott will be adding the additional sections to his other major contesting programs including the *Field Day* program in plenty of time for next year.

“While this item is a little late for the 2012 Field Day, it's never too early to start preparing for next year. The N1MM team produced a 12-minute video "Operating N1MM Logger on Field Day". There are other helpful videos on the site, as well, and would be good training for the new operators you helped get started during Field Day. (Thanks, Larry K8UT).

“N3FJP or N1MM? I'll take N1MM.”

■ 73, QK



Sponsored by Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Western CT Hamfest

Sanctioned by ARRL



- **Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012** (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
- Sauder Electronics
- Radio Oasis

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

Seminars

- Almost everything you always wanted to know about antennas - Jay Kolinski NE2Q
- tbd

Contact Information

- Joe de Groot - AB1DO: (203) 938-4880
- Email: ab1do@arrl.net
- Web site: 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. ¼ 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. 9, 2012
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

Field Day 2012



(Photos courtesy Bill, N1TIW)