



Capers

October - 2016

**Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 741 – Hawleyville, CT 06440-0741**

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

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CAPERS is the MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Co-Editors: Jay Albano, N1NRP & Dan Fegley, W1QK

***Next CARA Meeting: Friday, October 14, @ Stony Hill Fire Station
Doors open at 7:30 for conversation and socializing. Meeting begins at 8 p.m.***

President's Message - de AB1WV



Happy Fall to All,

Well, here we are. It has been another month and the leaves on some of my trees are just starting to turn. I will be out with that back pack leaf blower pretty soon. It has been a good month for CARA. We got the antennas for the NFFD site up and installed. Thanks to John W1JGM, and Gregory KB1YHW, and the rest of the repeater committee for making this milestone in the project happen. We also had a fun table set up again at New Fairfield days. Bad bands, but good contacts and a face out in the community is always a good time. The executive committee and the directors have started going through the hard work that Ron did on the constitution, and we hope to have a copy ready to present to the membership soon. That being said, it has also been brought to the attention of the committee that there are several members that are still in arrears on their membership dues. Just a friendly reminder that if dues are not paid, then those people will not be able to vote on the new constitution.

Well, I hope to see you all at the meeting on October 14th,
73, Marcus AB1WV

Vice-President's Message - de N1NRP



Photo Credit: Greg Davis, KB1YHW

Hello CARA Members:

Summer is behind us and we're now going into the Fall. There's nothing worse than turning our clocks back in Autumn. As a reminder; this year's Daylight Saving time ends on November 6. Unfortunately, I missed two recent events due to family issues beyond my control. The first was the Boxboro ARRL Convention, which several club members did attend and had a good time and made lots of deals. The other event was New Fairfield Day - with the Special Event Station N1F. I'm looking forward to the Saturday, October 22 CARA Technical Event at Company A Fire Department in New Fairfield. All members and friends who are interested should contact Greg Davis, KB1YHW, for additional information.

CARA Repeater Committee members along with members of the New Fairfield Fire Department installed the new repeater antenna on the tower in preparation of the TECH Event. There was a good turnout at the September meeting, and I want to express my thanks to Harlan, W1QH, for his Digital mode presentation with lots of member interest.

This month's meeting will be quite exciting with a demonstration of the MCV. Now with Autumn in the air, I suggest bringing a jacket in case it gets

cold. I'll try and have hot coffee and refreshments on hand. Maybe we'll be fortunate to view a pass of the International Space Station that evening.
I hope to see you all at the meeting.

73, Jay N1NRP

September 9 CARA Meeting Minutes De N1GSA

Meeting called to order at 8:00pm by President Marcus Swearingen. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Minutes of the August meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurers Report was read with a balance of \$8784.42

Breakdown of the Hamfest was presented with receipts of \$1989.25 and a net profit of \$1067.69. These figures are not final because of waiting for any additional bills.

John thanked everyone for their participation on the Hamfest. There were 18 members there. Oscar took home the first door prize. An antenna was received AFTER the Hamfest from Radio Oasis. A motion was made, seconded and passed to use this as a door prize for the club Christmas Party. There were many nice compliments about the event.

New Fairfield Day is coming up next Sat. Things are all set to go. KO1F is ready with the Communication Vehicle. John asked for help in setting up the webpage for the event. There will probably not be as many antennas but as the bands are quiet this won't be a problem. Probably 20 and 40 meters will be the bands of choice. Signs, antennas, radios, tables, awnings, etc will be needed. There will be an antenna

party on Fri to shoot ropes. Gary will do the cooking for lunch and also bring 2 radios for the event.

Round table roll call with a special welcome to Scott who was a Ham years ago and is planning to take his test again shortly.

Repeater Committee report was printed in the latest revision of Capers. The Danbury Fire Dept. has requested that we do not proceed with the brush cleanup on Spruce Mtn. until the access road is opened. The link control is ready to be installed to link us with the State repeater system. The New Fairfield system will be the trial for the Motorola repeater and possibly a 200mhz location. The Motorola will be reinstalled to Spruce Mtn. after the testing is done. Echolink was discussed by John with a request for a 2 week trial period for testing from John's location. This would use the W1QI-R call, pending the approval from the Repeater Trustee. Motion was made, seconded and withdrawn until the next meeting waiting for more information.

Motion made to rescind the ban on N1NRP from Echolink and the President would write a letter to clear this problem. Motion was seconded and passed.

Harlan brought up about military poles and tripods for antenna set-ups. They could be used for things like New Fairfield Day, Field Day, etc. These kits usually include 24-4ft sections. These could be used for 2mtr and 440 stick antennas or dipoles for HF bands. These are usually about \$150 per set.

Jay brought up about the Holiday Party Grab Bag that has been done in the past. Discussion about continuing this tradition. The consensus was to reinstate this tradition.

Program by Harlan about Digital Transmissions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16
Respectfully submitted by:
Gary S. Adams - Secretary

October 14 CARA Meeting: MCV Demonstration by KO1F



Photo Credit: Oscar Fuller, KO1F

The Connecticut Region 5 Emergency Communications Vehicle will be deployed to the CARA meeting on October 14th. You'll be able to walk through and see the full range of communications equipment and other capabilities of the MCV. There are 6 MCV's in Connecticut, one in each region and one housed in Hartford. The region 5 MCV is housed in Danbury and serves all of region 5. This vehicle is equipped and capable of providing support for emergencies and planned events. You'll be able to see the MCV in action and ask questions.

**CARA New Fairfield Day – N1F
Special Events Station:
September 17, 2016**

On Saturday, September 17th, the Town hosted its fourth annual New Fairfield Day. The fun began at 11:00 am and continued until 2:00 pm. There were events going on all over the center of Town to promote the “walkability” of New Fairfield and the local businesses and organizations. The Housatonic Area Regional Transportation (HART) provided their trolley, once again, to provide rides within the center of Town.

CARA set up two stations in the field just South of the New Fairfield Veterans Green.

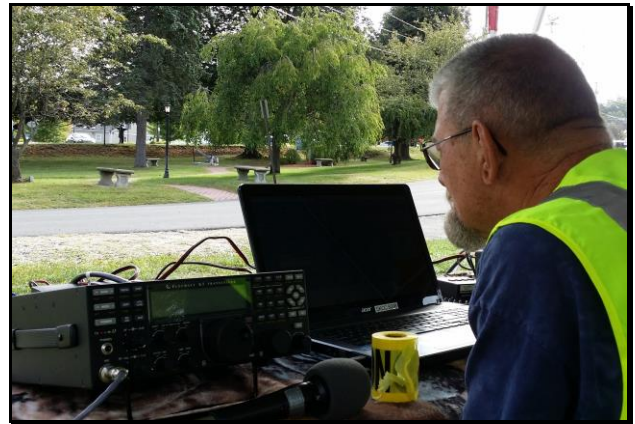




Photo credit: Dan Fegley, W1QK

92 contacts were made on SSB and CW using CARA's 40M, 20M and 15M Half-Square antennas and Gary's Elecraft K3 and IC-718. This event was coordinated by John Morelli, W1JGM.

Other CARA members who participated were: Tom - WX1T, Gary - N1GSA; both New Fairfield residents, and Harlan - W1QH, Dan -W1QK and Marcus - AB1WV.

Thanks to David, KB1ZAC, who helped with access to the ropes, antennas, and coaxial cable in the Bethel EOC storage room.

The CT Region 5 Mobile Communications Vehicle and Civil Air Patrol Communications trailer were also on display.



CARA REPEATER COMMITTEE

October, 2016 Report

Gregory G. Davis, KB1YHW Chairman



Photo Credit: KB1YHW

On September 22, a crew gathered to at the New Fairfield FD to install the new repeater antenna on the tower.

This task was performed by Mike Otool, Assistant Chief, Ball Pond Volunteer Fire Department on the ladder with Captain Chris Gardner on the truck.

CARA repeater committee members on site included Greg – KB1YHW, John, - W1JGM and Jay – N1NRP.

The antenna was connected to some previously installed hardline cable, which will be re-purposed for the W1QI 2M Motorola MSF-5000 machine.

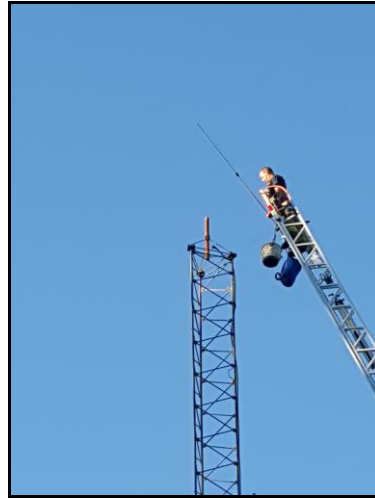


Photo Credit: KB1YHW



Photo Credit: KB1YHW



Photo Credit: N1NRP

Saturday 22 October 2016 – CARA Tech Event Day:

CARA Linked Repeater Configuration & Test-Training Agenda:

Kevin McLoughlin will be assisting CARA with on-site training and commissioning in CT.

CARA Motorola 2m Repeater / Arcom Controller / Motorola Link Radio Test Installation & Training to include Arcom controller programming, Duplexer Calibration, System operation tests and measurements.

Location: Company A VFD 302 Ball Pond Road New Fairfield CT

Time to be announced.

CARA Linked 2m Meter / Motorola Upgrade Project Report:

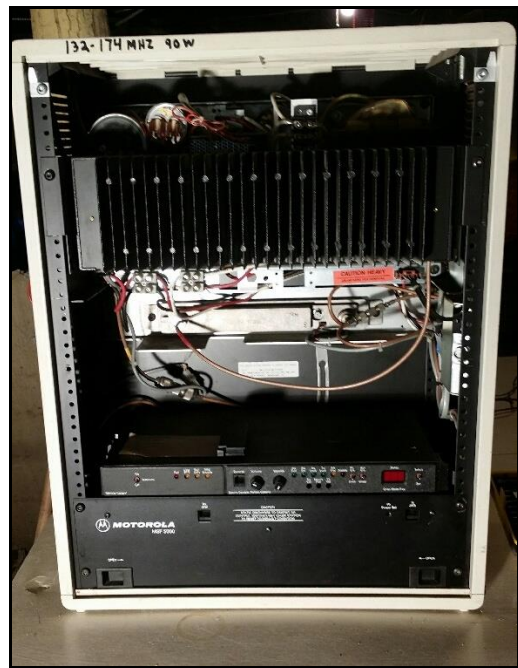
The Motorola linked repeater system will be commissioned at New Fairfield Company A firehouse for initial testing. The Commissioning will be a day-long technical event for interested members of the CARA club, and will include Duplexer calibration, Arcom Controller programming, Repeater test, Link radio test. This activity is next ON-Deck, per availability of the CARA engineering consultant from Philadelphia. Spruce Mtn. 2m will go dark for this test period.

CARA Repeater Committee Members 2016: KB1YHW chair, W1QK trustee, AB1WV, N1NRP, W1JGM, W1SOP.

CARA members interested in serving, please contact the chair.



Kevin McLoughlin checking parameters on the CARA MSF-5000 in November, 2015.
Photo Credit: W1QK



CARA Motorola MSF-5000 2M repeater



Motorola Test & Alignment Instrument



ARES News & Upcoming events:

Region 5 Monthly Meeting – October 31
Watertown FD. Gather at 6:45 p.m.,
meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

CARA and ARES Member, Gary Adams, N1GSA, was presented with an ARRL Emergency Coordinator Certificate by Mike Walters, W8ZY, CT ARES Region 5 District Emergency Coordinator, at the ARES Region 5 meeting held at the Newtown EOC on September 26. Congratulations Gary.



L-R: K1DJW, W8ZY and N1GSA
Photo credit: N1NRP

Emergency Coordinator (EC)

From the ARRL [Emergency Coordinator's Manual](#):

The ARRL Emergency Coordinator is a key team player in ARES on the local emergency scene. Working with the [Section Emergency Coordinator](#), the [DEC](#) and [Official Emergency Stations](#), the EC prepares for, and engages in

management of communications needs in disasters.

Requirements:

Technician class license or higher; Full ARRL membership

Responsibilities:

- Promote and enhance the activities of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) for the benefit of the public as a voluntary, non-commercial communications service.
- Manage and coordinate the training, organization and emergency participation of interested amateurs working in support of the communities, agencies or functions designated by the [Section Emergency Coordinator/Section Manager](#).
- Establish viable working relationships with federal, state, county, city governmental and private agencies in the ARES jurisdictional area which need the services of ARES in emergencies. Determine what agencies are active in your area, evaluate each of their needs, and which ones you are capable of meeting, and then prioritize these agencies and needs. Discuss your planning with your Section Emergency Coordinator and then with your counterparts in each of the agencies. Ensure they are all aware of your ARES group's capabilities, and perhaps more importantly, your limitations.
- Develop detailed local operational plans with "served" agency officials in your jurisdiction that set forth precisely what each of your expectations are during a disaster operation. Work jointly to establish protocols for mutual trust and respect. All matters involving recruitment and utilization of ARES volunteers are directed by you, in response to the needs assessed by the agency officials. Technical issues involving message format, security of message transmission, Disaster Welfare Inquiry policies, and others, should be reviewed and expounded upon in your detailed local operations plans.
- Establish local communications networks run on a regular basis and

periodically test those networks by conducting realistic drills.

- Establish an emergency traffic plan, with Welfare traffic inclusive, utilizing the [National Traffic System](#) as one active component for traffic handling. Establish an operational liaison with local and section nets, particularly for handling Welfare traffic in an emergency situation.
- In times of disaster, evaluate the communications needs of the jurisdiction and respond quickly to those needs. The EC will assume authority and responsibility for emergency response and performance by ARES personnel under his jurisdiction.
- Work with other non-ARES amateur provider-groups to establish mutual respect and understanding, and a coordination mechanism for the good of the public and Amateur Radio. The goal is to foster an efficient and effective Amateur Radio response overall.
- Work for growth in your ARES program, making it a stronger, more valuable resource and hence able to meet more of the agencies' local needs. There are thousands of new Technicians coming into the amateur service that would make ideal additions to your ARES roster. A stronger ARES means a better ability to serve your communities in times of need and a greater sense of pride for Amateur Radio by both amateurs and the public.
- Report regularly to the SEC, as required.
- Encouraged to earn certification in Level 1 of the ARRL Emergency Communications Course.

Recruitment of new hams and ARRL members is an integral part of the job of every ARRL appointee. Appointees should take advantage of every opportunity to recruit a new ham or member to foster growth of Field Organization programs, and our abilities to serve the public.

Connecticut ARES Net - Area 5 (South)

Connecticut ARES Region 5 South conducts a monthly net on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. on the CARA Repeater: 147.300 (+600), CTCSS 100.0

Please come join us - All are welcome.



Connecticut Phone Net – CPN

Meets daily: M-F 6:00 p.m. 3.973 MHz.
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. 3.965 MHz.
CARA Contributions:
Wednesday Net control: Harlan, W1QH
Net Manager: Tom, WX1T



Weekly Sunday CARA NETS:

CARA 10M NET

28.490 MHz. 7:00 p.m.

CARA 2M NET

W1QI Repeater – 7:30 pm

Member & Station News:
de W1QK & N1NRP

WB1DSB – Back on the air !
Whiskey Bravo One Double SideBand

Former CARA member and President, Don Wicks, WB1DSB, recently hosted a reunion at this QTH.

Listen for Don on the CARA repeater, as he now has a 2M HT and would very much enjoy talking with long-time and new CARA members.



L-R: John – N1YV, Jay – N1NRP,
Don – WB1DSB, John – W1JMA



Photo credit: N1NRP

Boxboro 2016



W1QK operating Convention Special Event station W1A – Remote to K2LE in VT.



Jerry – W1VE operating W1A remote to K1TTT.



WA1JGA and WF1K on a lunch break.



L-R: W1JGM, WA1JGA, W1QK, WF1K and former CARA member and officer, Craig Kalley, N1ABY



W1QH and W1JGM sporting their Yaesu 60th Anniversary commemorative hats.



Yaesu FTDX-400 (circa 1973) in nice shape for sale at Boxboro Convention flea market. Asking price: \$ 150.

CARA Ham Exam Schedule:



Upcoming ham radio exams sponsored by CARA at the Stony Hill FD.

December 3.

Saturdays - starting at 11:30 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but it's helpful if candidates call or e-mail Frank Sileo, N1PE, at 203-438-0218, or send a message to frsileo @ att.net.

CARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club



Contesting Hints and tips:

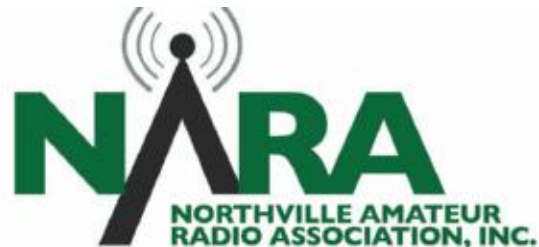
Mark your calendar and plan to attend the combined CARA and YCCC November 11 meeting.

Upcoming CARA meetings:



YCCC/CARA Joint Meeting:

November 11 – Topic: Contesting
December 9 – Annual CARA Holiday Gathering



Special Announcement and opportunity:

New Milford Adult Education will offer 2 courses Amateur Radio Courses this fall.

De Gregory G. Davis KB1YHW

Introduction to Amateur Radio 101 - An Overview Course

This introductory course is a short primer to the intensely interesting and active world of Amateur Radio from the perspective of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The field of knowledge is huge...built upon lifetimes of contributions by thousands of dedicated amateur radio engineers and operators for 100 years and counting. In just one evening , become inspired to join the fraternity of 700,000 plus licensed amateur radio operators in the United States. Thursday 29 Sept 2016 7pm. 2 hours. \$20. Presented by the Northville Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Click here to sign up: <https://newmilford.coursesform.com/category/personal-growth> .

Amateur Radio Technician Class FCC license exam preparation course

Before you can get on the air, you MUST be licensed by the FCC and know the rules to operate legally. The technician class license is the entry-level license of choice for most new amateur radio operators. To earn the Technician class license, a formal written test is given by local Volunteer Examiners (VE's). You must correctly answer 27 of 35 multiple choice questions about radio theory, amateur radio regulations, and operating practices to pass the test. The Amateur Radio Technician License gives access to all frequencies above 30 megahertz, and some limited privileges in short wave radio bands. This license exam preparation course will review the entire pool of 350 questions. A license exam manual from the ARRL.org is highly recommended - Items 0178 (\$17.95), or 0222 (\$29.95) or 0475 (\$32.95). Self study outside of class will be required. The Test and \$15 fee are scheduled separately. Presented by the Northville Amateur Radio Association Inc. (<http://na1ra.org/>). 6 weeks of 2 hour interactive class sessions on Thursday nights, beginning 6 October at 7pm. \$75.00 Click here to sign up: <https://newmilford.coursesform.com/category/personal-growth>.

Upcoming Contests:

Pennsylvania QSO Party : October 8-9
Arizona QSO Party: October 8-9
Worked All Germany CW : October 15-16
NY QSO Party: October 15-16
Stew Perry 160M Contest: October 22
CQ WW DX- SSB: October 28-30

Complete Contest calendar at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>



The N1MM logger program supports many US and Canadian QSO parties. Depending on the complexity of the rules, there may be minor scoring anomalies.

- It is **very** important for proper operation of the program in QSO parties that the program "know" whether you are an in-area (state or province) or out-of-area participant. All QSO parties require different program operation and scoring rules for in-area and out-of-area participants.

The program determines which you are from the ARRL Section that you have entered in the Station Data dialog (under the Config menu). When creating a new log for a QSO party, a message box will inform you whether the program thinks you are an in-state, or out-of-state participant, based on your ARRL section, so that you can correct things if anything is wrong.

Non-US/VE stations should enter "DX" in the ARRL SECTION field. If you enter an ARRL section with a non-US/VE callsign, you will be warned to correct your Station Data before continuing.

N1MM Logger+ offers enhanced support for county-line operations, whether you are the in-state Rover on a county line or an out-of-state station wanting an easy way to log a QSO with a county-line rover. Full details are in the Mobile/Rover Support section.



Nutmeg Connecticut Section Convention

**Sunday, October
16th, 2016
At the Sheraton
Four-Points Hotel
275 Research
Parkway
Meriden, CT 06450**

We're looking forward to presenting Southern New England's Biggest and Best Hamfest including lively and interesting speakers and VE examinations. As always, you'll find a large indoor exhibit hall with new radios and accessories, and informational displays.

We'll have a large tailgating/flea market area too. You never know what treasures you'll find, but there's sure to be something you just can't live without!

General Information:

Gates open 6:00 AM for Tailgating and Inside Vendor Setup
New! Earlier opening -- Building open 8AM to 2PM for the general public

Note: No one except inside vendors and staff will be admitted into the building prior to 8:00

Talk-in 147.36 R, +600, no PL

General Admission \$7.00, Under 12 free
Tailgating \$10.00 per space
Inside Tables \$20.00 each

Our Featured Speakers:

ARRL Section Meeting with our new Connecticut Section Manager Chuck Motes, K1DFS; NE Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, and Vice-Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

Digital Modes are hot. QST editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY will give an overview of JT65 and other modes. Steve is a great speaker and you'll learn a lot from his presentation.

Steve Williams, K1SJW is our CT Skywarn Guru. With increasingly severe weather, Skywarn becomes an ever more valuable resource. Learn about it from an expert.

More information at:
<http://www.nutmeghamfest.com/index.html>

The WX1T Tower Project Story

De Tom Coury, WX1T

Once upon a time in a galaxy far far away...(Oops! Wrong story.)

Once upon a time (7 years ago) in Carmel N.Y. I was fortunate enough to happen upon a ham radio tower (I estimated to be around 40ft. tall) attached to a house belonging to a co-worker of mine (Mark). Not being a ham, Mark had no idea what the tower was for or what was attached to the top of the tower. Keep in mind that Mark had offered the tower and it's appendages to me at no cost. As such, I was very excited to see just what kind of tower and antennas he had in his possession. Also note that there were no identifying markings on the tower so I had no idea about the manufacturer or the model number.

Situated on top of the tower was a mast with a boom attached and what appeared to be a single long antenna element attached to the boom. For a moment I thought I had happened upon a new type of antenna (the horizontal monopole?) but after coming to my senses I realized the single element was probably a part of a tri-band beam antenna. After explaining to my co-worker what I suspected he had, I asked him if he knew where the rest of the antenna elements were. He replied that he had no idea.



At this point I was a little dejected. What good is a tower without an antenna? Then, he told me that there were some aluminum tubes buried under a huge brush pile in the woods behind his house. We dug out the brush pile and there we found what appeared to be the remainder of the beam antenna elements. After doing an element count it appeared to me that this antenna was a 5-element tri-bander. My excitement returned. I then rented a 24-foot truck and with the help of some good friends we succeeded in taking down the remainder of the beam antenna and the tower and relocated the haul to my house here in New Fairfield.





And here the tower sat on the ground for 3 years as I waited for the “proper time” to erect the tower. I decided to mount the tower against the wall of my porch. I and a friend of mine proceeded to dig a 2 x 2 x 4 foot hole behind the porch that was to be filled with concrete for a footing. This chore turned out to be the hardest part of the project as the soil consisted of hardpan and it was like trying to dig a hole through a boulder. But after many days of chipping away the hole was complete and a footing was poured.

And then another two years elapsed before I got around to erecting the tower on the footing. Once again, with the aid of friends we pushed and pulled the tower into position and attached it to the porch structure. And then another two years elapsed before work was started in earnest to make the tower functional.

The first thing that was done was to come up with a winch that could be used to tilt the tower up and down, since this would be key to being able to

complete assembly of the tower and attach antennas (yes this is a tilt over and crank up tower). I purchased a \$40 boat winch from Harbor Freight and when I went to install it on the tower (after a number of months elapsed), I realized this winch was not suitable for tower use. I then did some research and purchased a winch that seemed to be popular with hams for tower use.



After a failed attempt to mount the winch to my tower structure, I was fortunate to be able to get assistance from Lou, W1QJ, who came up with a great suggestion as to how to mount the winch to the porch structure. After another delay of several months, my friend Charlie, WA1YKS, and I succeeded in mounting the winch as Lou had suggested. At last with the aid of a portable drill, I can easily tilt the tower and return it to vertical as I continue to add devices to the tower.

One evening on the Connecticut Phone Net, Dan, W1QK, expressed an interest in my tower project. At his request, I took couple of photos and sent them to

him hoping he could identify the make and model of the tower. He responded that the tower was an EZ-Way RBS-40. Well - this was exciting news, and I found a manual for the tower online, even though they are no longer in business.



At this point in the project, Dan convinced me that the tower could use a new coat of paint. I hemmed and hawed about the color for a number of weeks and decided to paint the tower with a zinc-based paint recommended by John, W1JGM. After tilting the tower to the horizontal position, my friend Art and I then purchased 6 cans of paint and painted the entire tower assembly in a couple of hours. The paint job came out great and I was glad I followed Dan's suggestion to paint the tower. I again consulted with Dan about a proper winch to crank up the tower inner section and he suggested using a worm gear winch, as they inherently do not require a brake mechanism, which makes for a more reliable and inexpensive winch. I ordered a suitable worm gear winch from the Internet and

after the painting phase was complete my friend Art and I successfully attached the worm gear winch to the tower lower section and it performed beautifully. Thanks again Dan for another great suggestion!

The next phase of the project will be to install the re-conditioned rotor I bought on the Internet. This will include disassembling the mast thrust bearing located at the top of tower, inspecting the bearing for damage (keep your fingers crossed) and properly lubricating the bearing surfaces. After the rotor is installed, then I can install the 9-foot stainless steel mast in the rotor and begin the process of reconditioning and install the beam antenna on the tower. Stay tuned...

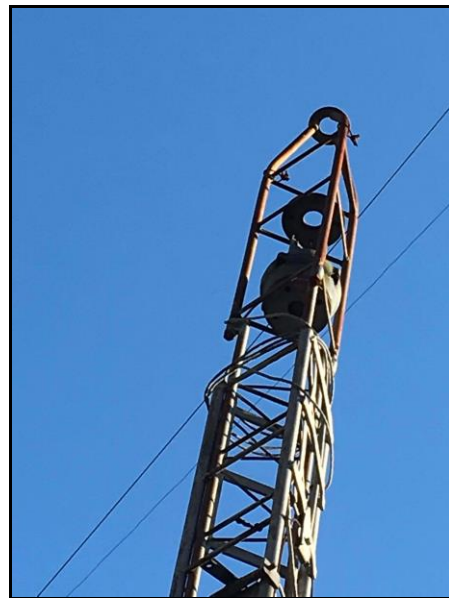


Photo Credit: Tom Coury, WX1T

GL with the completion of this project Tom, and many thanks for sharing with Capers readers.

We're looking forward to hearing you in the pile-ups. - de W1QK

Your antenna, station, operating activity, or story, etc. will go in this space.

Just send it to your CARA Capers Co-Editors:

Jay Albano, N1NRP
jjalbano@aol.com

Dan Fegley, W1QK
w1qk@snet.net

**ARRL CT Section News -
September: Betsey Doane,
K1EIC**

Greetings all!

The first thing I want to say is a big thank you to our Division director Tom Frenaye K1KI and vice director Mike Raisbeck K1TWF for the beautiful plaque on the occasion of my retirement as SM, their kind words and their thoughtfulness. I want to thank all of you for your wonderful notes of congratulations and friendship. Special thanks to the many volunteers who served on my cabinet; I appreciated their counsel, dedication and good work. When any one of us receives an award, we're all uplifted and should share in the celebration because our work depends on the support of others. Our programs in CT continue to be dynamic because of your enthusiasm and teamwork. Thus, you enhance Amateur radio and enjoy the camaraderie our hobby and service provides. The Section has close to 50 active ARRL clubs and strong ARRL programs. As a group, you appropriately demand activities that keep you moving forward with technical and operating training.

It truly has been a privilege to lead this Section

these last 25 years. Together, we have had a lot of fun at both small and large events.

Each of you has your own memories of a variety of Amateur radio experiences. These newsletters are archived on the ARRL site so if you are so inclined, browse through them and read about our involvement in Special Olympics 1995 which involved every program in the field organization (see "The 1995 Special Olympics World Games" QST October, 1995 p. 24), TOPOFF 3 in 2005 (<http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2005-04-08>), "Spring training" (Section news April, 2009) in 2009, very many public service events, excellent simulated emergency tests and work in real emergencies during hurricanes and snow storms, the excitement of new modes including large packet boards prevalent in the early 1990's, Winlink, the rapid rise of DMR in CT, mesh networking, and so much more. I can tell you for sure that each of my SECs and I always enjoyed coming to your field day sites, witnessing your creativity, operating a bit, sharing some food and of course, hamming it up by way of some great in-person QSOs. What fun!

Now, there's even more fun coming. It's time for the Nutmeg Hamfest, our State Convention sponsored by the Meriden Amateur Radio Club. Read about it in this note from John, N1GNV:

"Hi Friends:

The Twenty-Fourth Annual Nutmeg Hamfest will take place on

Sunday, October 16th, 2016

Southern New England's Biggest and Best Hamfest!

Where: The Sheraton 4-Points Hotel, 275 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT.

When: Vendor Setup and Tailgating at 6AM.

Exhibits open at 8AM

What: New and Used Ham Radios, Accessories, Electronics, Surplus, etc.

Interesting Forums and Displays; VE Testing, Connecticut State ARRL

Convention, and much more.

More: As many of you know, Betsey, K1EIC has retired after 25 years as

ARRL CT Section Manager. Take this opportunity to thank her and to welcome incoming SM Chuck Motes, K1DFS at the ARRL forum. Sky warn Coordinator Steve Williams, K1SJW, will offer an overview of Ham Radio's invaluable assistance when severe weather strikes. And Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will have a great presentation on JT-65 and other digital modes. Don't miss this one! Attention Sellers: We still have a few prime indoor tables available. E-mail jbee@qsradio.com for details.

Complete information on our Website, <http://www.nutmeghamfest.com>. Thanks and 73, John Bee N1GNV" You also know that SEC Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV is retiring from this position after eight years of excellent service to the Section. At the RRL Forum, I will be presenting an engraved plaque to Wayne so please come at 9:00 AM and celebrate Wayne's work.

DEC Douglas WA1SFH will be on hand to coordinate the "go kit" competition at the ARES booth so get your kits ready and share your ideas with others. For rules and information, go to [vhttp://tinyurl.com/j7xdcss](http://tinyurl.com/j7xdcss). The day before, Saturday, October 15, is also important. You have all spoken about getting more young people into Amateur radio. Now Section Youth Coordinator Douglas WA1SFH has an opportunity for you to do just that. He needs your help so please read on.

"I have been asked by 3 SEPARATE BSA CAMPS to coordinate support for HF and VHF/UHF Amateur Radio stations for the Boy Scouts to participate in this "non-competition" event at each Camp. This is a "captive audience" for us, and for many scouts this will be their first encounter with Amateur Radio. It is a great opportunity for us to "spark" their imagination and help them to start building the dream about being a Ham. (Have you seen the ARRL brochure

for kids, "22 Things You Can Do"?) We are looking for 3 complete stations (preferably 4), with 3-4 operators for each location. It is a full day of Radio Fun as you introduce 200-250 scouts to our great hobby. Locations: Goshen, New Hartford, Redding. Status (9/20/16) REDDING The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club (GNARC) has graciously agreed to bring 2 full stations and operators here. - Still looking for a Club (or other folks) to bring and operate a 3rd complete station.

Imagine being able to introduce over 200 kids to our great hobby in just one day! But to do that, we need YOUR HELP. The Camps in Goshen and New Harford are beautiful in October and provide a wonderful day 'in the country'. So, no matter where you live, you will have a great experience just by coming out for the day."—WA1SFH To volunteer your Club or to sign up individually, please contact Douglas at: ConnecticutSYC@gmail.com.

Now I will say 73 as the author of these monthly newsletters and want you to know how much I have appreciated your comments about the news over the years. Many thanks to the ARRL staff, especially Steve Ewald who is unbelievably helpful. He is never too busy for leaders in the field. I know that you will give our new SM Chuck Motes, K1DFS your help and support. I'll see you on the air, on the nets and at hamfests.

As I said when I received the award at the Division Convention, I thank my family and close friends for their encouragement and, most of all, God for the ability to lead this great Section.

Vy 73, Betsey, K1EIC SM.

ARRL Connecticut Section
Section Manager: Betsey M Doane, K1EIC
k1eic@arrl.org



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Interested in learning CW or
improving your skills?**

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News from W2-Land de N1NRP:

Let's not forget the 2016 Hudson Division
Awards Luncheon!

The Awards Luncheon, sponsored this year by
the Orange County Amateur
Radio Club (OCARC), will be held on Saturday,
November 5, 2016 from
noon to 4:00 pm at the Ramada Cafe
International in Newburgh, N.Y.

This year we've decided to award one "Amateur
of the Year" and three "Grand Ol Ham" awards.

The recipients are:

Amateur of the Year Lee Hatfield K2HAT
Grand Ol Ham Andy Bodony K2LE
Grand Ol Ham Gordon Shacklett KB2SSZ
Grand Ol Ham Joe Dreifuss W2KQ

Please join me in congratulating them, and
please celebrate their

achievement by joining them at the 2016
Hudson Division Awards Luncheon.

Tickets are \$37.00 per person or a group table
of ten seats can be
purchased for \$333.00.

**TICKETS CAN NOW BE PURCHASED
THROUGH PAYPAL!!!**

Go to the OCARC website:

http://www.ocarc-ny.org/HV_awards.shtml

Tickets can also be ordered by mail. Get the
order form at:

<http://hudson.arrl.org/2016-ticket-order-form/>

All proceeds this year will be donated to the

ARRL Legislative Issues

Advocacy Fund. Donations to this fund are used
specifically to support the efforts to promote,
inform, and advocate to Congress on behalf of
Amateur Radio.

Items for Sale:

Your items for sale will be listed here.

**NOTICE TO CAPERS
READERS**

CAPERS is an important aspect of our club.
It's time for more participation with this
publication.

CAPERS is looking for ANY and ALL input.

Don't be shy, just send a few words, a picture,
link, or short message to Jay Albano, or Dan
Fegley, your Co-Editors, and we'll include it.
jjalbano@aol.com, w1qk@snet.net

CAPERS deadline for input:

LAST Friday of the Month preceding the
meeting.

CAPERS will be released:

Monday before the scheduled Friday monthly
meeting.

Many thanks/ 73- Jay, N1NRP Dan, W1QK

Welcome Autumn and October !