



Capers

September - 2017

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

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

President – Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV ab1wv@silverswear.net
Vice President – Jay Albano, N1NRP jjalbano@aol.com
Secretary – Gary Adams, N1GSA mrclipper69@yahoo.com
Treasurer – Tom Coury – WX1T couryt1@gmail.com

Directors:

Harlan Ford, W1QH hford01@snet.net
Roger Mitchell, NG1R roger.mitchell@snet.net
Dan Fegley, W1QK w1qk@snet.net

**CAPERS is the MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK**

Next CARA Meeting: Friday, September 8, Stony Hill Fire Station

Doors open at 7:30 for socializing and conversation. Meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.

Agenda topics:

- ***Pledge of Allegiance***
- ***Reading of Minutes for Approval***
- ***Treasurer's report***
- ***Webmaster's Report***
- ***Repeater Committee and Cleanup Organization - KB1YHW***
- ***Discussion of New Fairfield Day and N1F station - W1JGM***
- ***Report on W1QI US Islands QSO Party activation - W1QH***
- ***Hamfest debriefing and discussion- W1JGM***
- ***New Business***
- ***Presentation "Impedance Matching 101" by Ward Silver W0AX
presented by Marcus, AB1WV***

President's Message - de AB1WV



Photo Credit: KB1YHW

All,

Well it has been another great eventful month here. As a last hoorah before school started, my girls and I made the trek to Nebraska for the total eclipse and it was awesome. At totality, when the daylight dropped to late dusk and a 360-degree red and purple sunset appeared my family was enthralled. I highly recommend it in 2024 when one traverses from Texas through Northern New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

This month, some of our club activated Candlewood Isle in the US Islands QSO Party. They made quite a few contacts and introduced amateur radio to residents of the Isle. I look forward to a report.

We also had a very successful Hamfest this year. The vendors, tailgaters and fest goers had many positive comments. We had more of everything, including how much money we raised. Thanks to all who made it a success, especially John W1JGM. He really did a great job of steering our main annual fund raiser. We will have a debriefing and discussion at the next meeting, on September 8.

Hope to see you all there,

--... ..--
Marcus
AB1WV

Vice-President's Message
de N1NRP

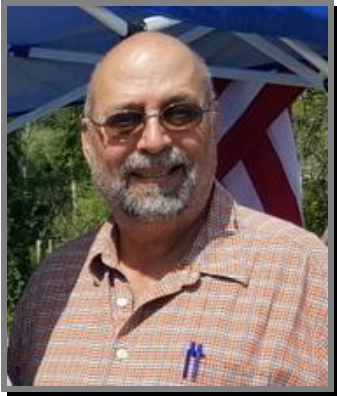


Photo Credit: KB1YHW

Greetings CARA members and friends of CARA:

As I turn the calendar page, I'm reflecting on how quickly time goes by. This year has been what I believe is a good one so far for the club; so a few words about our major accomplishments and activities this year is in order.

There have been lots of activities and some excellent presentations at our meetings. Field Day seems like a long time ago now. But, once again, it was lots of fun- with lots of contacts being made; good food, with CARA members, friends, and visitors stopping by.

CARA members also helped the Boy Scouts with their Radio Merit Badge event at Hoyt Reservation in Redding. The scouts had to hold a 1-minute conversation on the air as one of the requirements to earn their Radio Merit Badge.

The recent CARA Hamfest took much of our attention since then. I would like to thank John, W1JGM, and all other club members who helped make this year's hamfest a huge success. It was good to see so many friends who showed up from many area clubs. I've also finally made the connection from a voice to a face with operators with whom I've spoken with over some time.

Thank you to our friends from NARA, The Northville Amateur Radio Association, for bringing their Communications Bus and invited visitors to inspect all the upgrades and changes that have been done with it.

Thanks also to Mike Walters, W8ZY, CT Section Emergency Manager, for his ARES Forum presentation and to CARA President, Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV for his antenna analyzer project presentation. All these activities helped to ensure a very successful CARA Hamfest by drawing a crowd.

It was very special for CARA to operate during the US Islands QSO Party from Candlewood Isle for the first time on August 25 with 6 members participating. A good time was had by all who attended.

In September, we'll be participating in the New Fairfield Day, N1F operation for the third time. John, W1JGM, spearheads this event, where we set up on the green just across from the Veteran's park in the center of town. More details will be forthcoming, and is yet another

opportunity for ham fun and mingling with the general public. All CARA members and their families are invited to attend.

I'm pleased that the repeater Committee is making head way in getting things squared away.

I'm quite excited that Greg Davis, KB1YHW, our Chairman, is working with Kevin Magloughlin, our Technical Consultant, to bring our 6-Meter repeater back on the air. I'm sure Greg will give us an update at the next meeting. I've got my 6-Meter Alnico all programmed and ready for the mobile. I already have 220 FM in the car now, and have been using it every day on 220 through the Donkey Dusters MEGA repeater system as well as some repeaters in NYC. We are also going to get our 220 machine tweaked and back on the air. So, there's plenty of cool stuff happening - just in time for those cold Winter nights when most folks are inside operating their rigs.

On a sad note, we lost Mark Stern, KC1BJP, in early August - a CARA member and good friend. I'll cherish the wonderful memories that we all made with him during Field Day this year. Julia and I especially enjoyed camping over night with him and his wife, Karin at FD

I hope to see you at this month's meeting.
73 - Jay Albano, N1NRP

August 11- CARA Meeting Minutes de N1GSA

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Marcus Swearingen at 8 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A Moment of silence was observed for Marc Stern who recently became a Silent Key.

Round Table Introductions followed. 4 Prospective Hams were welcomed.

The Minutes were read and amended to read Hospice as the recipient from the Car Show. This was made a motion, seconded and carried.

Treasurer reported checks for Hamfest Door Prizes, Repeater repairs, Postage, Field Day Pins, Flowers for a Silent Key. Deposit made for Dues. This gives us an ending balance of \$4242.52

Jim reported on the website. This has again been updated with more new info to come. The Site will be updated soon using the 3.1 version of software. Our existing template may or may not be compatible with this new software.

Gregory forwarded a report on the Repeater. It has undergone some testing that has gone well with only minor problems that should be simple to fix. This machine will ultimately end up with stand-alone machine capabilities. The deviation will be reset with the

installation of a new board. The 6-meter duplexer still needs attention. The site still needs to be cleaned up and a work party date still must be coordinated.

John W1JGM gave a report and update on the Hamfest. There is a need for people both to attend AND to work at various duties. Workers should start to arrive between 6:15 and 6:30. The doors usually open at 7. Many Vendors have committed to attend. Vintage Radio Society will also have a display. W8ZY is giving a ARES Region 5 Forum. MFJ, DX Engineering, and Radio Oasis have all sent donations for door prizes along with some others. The Hamfest only runs from 8 to 12 noon. This has been announced on Ham Nation as well as posted on many social media sites. Tom has posted info on the Pearl Radio Club Facebook page.

New Fairfield Day is coming Sept 17. This should be another good opportunity to promote our radio capabilities. Radios and antennas will be determined in the future.

John needs the info to put on the Appreciation awards for our various supporters. Marcus will see to that. The date and time for the next License Test Session was announced. This will be Sept 17.

Dan spoke on another event to participate in – the US Islands QSO Party contest. Candlewood Isle is an accepted site for this. Could we participate and operate

from this site???? We need to seek access to this area as it is a private gated community. Motion was made and seconded to make this a club sanctioned event using the club call and antenna equipment on Sept 26. Some discussion followed. Motion passed.

John spoke about building a club go-kit to be used for these type events. This would not be an overnight project but something that would be nice for the club to have. This would also be a good opportunity to utilize our new 501c3 designation. Harlan and John will start working on ideas for this project.

Dan was again commended for his work on the Capers publication.

This month's issue had extensive information regarding our callsign, W1QI, and the beginnings of our club.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:18

Respectfully Submitted:
Gary Adams - Secretary





In Memory of

Mark Stern

January 1, 1954 - August 3, 2017

Obituary

Redding - Mark Stern, 63, passed away on Thursday in Danbury Hospital after succumbing to his injuries sustained from a private plane crash on Sunday morning. A devoted family man, Mark is survived by his wife of 30 years Karin; his son Bryan; daughter Alexis; step-daughter Stacey; brothers; David, Richard, and Glen; sister Donna; and grandchildren Vincent, Emily, and Sarah. He was preceded in death by his parents Leon and Miriam Stern.

Mark attended New York University and graduated from the University of Florida in 1976 then went on to earn his Juris Doctor in 1979 from Loyola Marymount School of Law. He worked at several prestigious law firms before founding his international law practice Mark Stern & Associates in 1986. Mark was licensed to practice law in Connecticut, New York, California and Florida. Mark was a well-respected trial litigator, community leader, teacher, and law enforcement professional. An active volunteer in his communities throughout his life, he served as the Wilton Fire Commissioner, a Culver City California Police Officer, Volunteer Florida State Highway Trooper, auxiliary Police Officer at

Fairfield/Eagle 1 Search and Rescue helicopter program. Mark served as a Fact Finder and Arbitrator for the Stamford-Connecticut Superior Court and a Director of the Fairfield Bar Association. Mark was also a member and volunteered his time with dozens of other organizations focused on law enforcement, emergency management, law, commercial security, and others. He was a lifetime student and teacher who continued exploring new fields of endeavor that seemingly knew no limits including becoming an experienced aviator flying both helicopters and airplanes. Mark's true passions were family, flying, and making a positive difference on those around him.

All arrangements are being directed by Spadaccino and Leo P. Gallagher & Son Community Funeral Home of Monroe, Connecticut (203) 445-8500.

Mark Stern's celebration of life and memorial will be held Wednesday at 10:00 am at the Norwalk Inn located at 99 East Avenue, Norwalk Connecticut.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to either the Wounded Veterans Relief Fund (561) 855-4207 or Blackhorse 4 Heroes (516) 449-9610 in honor of "Mark Stern and Family".

DIY Night – 2014 CARA Meeting





Boy Scout Camporee – Radio Merit Badge



JOTA: Jamboree On-The-Air, Hoyt Boy Scout Reservation - West Redding - 2014



CARA Field Day - 2017





RIP – KC1BJP

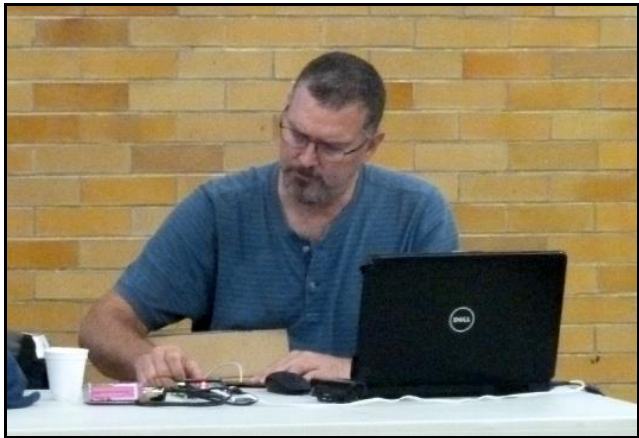
Photos: N1NRP, W1QK

CARA Western CT Hamfest 2017:

Photo Credits: KB1YHW, W1QK, W1JGM





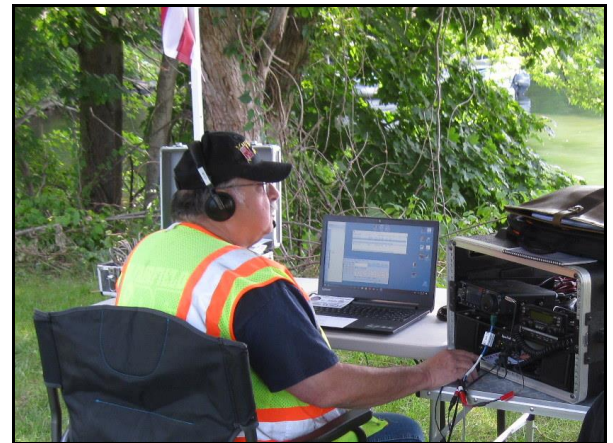


CARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club

CARA Activates Candlewood Isle – CT 022L for US Islands QSO Party



Participants: W1JGM, W1QK, W1QH, W1NSK, N1NRP, N1GSA, KC1EHW.
Contacts: 103 total – SSB & CW
Most interesting DX: V31YB - Belize, Central America
Island contacts: 5 – VA, MI, ON, IL, CA
Equipment: IC-7000, IC-7300
Antenna: Skeleton Sleeve 40M/20M inverted Vee on CARA 28 feet fiberglass mast
Generator: Honda EU-2000i
Operating time: 7 hours.
Setting: Spectacular
Weather: Perfect
Band conditions: Typical late summer
Other contest activity: Ohio and Kansas QSO Parties
Equipment issues: Minor, but annoying
Lessons learned: Many







De K1KI – ARRL New England Division Director:

The Amateur Radio Parity Act passed the US House of Representative in January. The same legislation was introduced in the Senate last month.

We're hopeful that this will be the year that amateurs in restricted neighborhoods (home owner associations and similar) will gain the right to get to the table with their association and have the ability to install a reasonable antenna.

You've probably already seen a request from ARRL President Rick Roderick/K5UR and hopefully have generated a letter to your Senators.

He said,

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL HAMS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS!

- If you want to have effective outdoor antennas but are not currently allowed to do so by your Home Owner's Association, SEND THESE EMAILS TODAY!!

- If you already have outdoor antennas, but want to support your fellow hams, SEND THESE EMAILS TODAY!!

- If you want to preserve your ability to install effective outdoor antennas on property that you own, SEND THESE EMAILS TODAY!!

We need you to reach out to your Senators TODAY! Right away.

Help us in the effort. Please go to this website and follow the prompts:

<https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-us-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>

Please help us get this legislation over the finish line. Many thanks! Tom/K1KI

ARRL New England Division
 Director: Thomas Frenaye, K1KI
k1ki@arrl.org



Photos: W1JGM, W1QK, W1QH



Connecticut ARES Region 5 conducts a weekly net each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

New Milford: 146.730 MHz -600 kHz PL 192.8 Hz
 NARA analog repeaters for this net:

Washington: 441.850 MHz +5 MHz PL 77 Hz

Woodbury: 444.800 +5 MHz PL 192.8 Hz

Warren: 53.970 MHz -1 MHz PL 110.9 Hz

Please check in – All are welcome.

CARA Repeater Committee:

On Fri, Aug 11, 2017 at 3:28 PM, Gregory Davis <ggdavisct@gmail.com> wrote:

An Excellent Progress Report from Kevin below:



Gregory,

Here's the current status of the 6M repeater.

- 1: Tested receiver and exciter for operation.
- 2: Aligned receiver to peak out for best sensitivity. Currently at .3 uv for 20 db quieting. (very good)
- 3: Exciter output is 250mw. (Very good) PL deviation is low. 220 Hz is simply too low.
- 4: The exciter has the wrong channel element in it for base station operation. This will be corrected by adding a 5C ICOM unit to the exciter. This affects temperature compensation. It's add an ICOM to the exciter and the problem is solved. (Note: ICOM = Integrated Circuit Oscillator Module!!)

There is nothing really wrong with this station overall. I have replaced the power amp, to replace the burned-up power amp that was on this station. This will be a continuous duty amp as shown in the picture. It has the heat sink to do the job.

Cable for the controller is built.



I am putting the boards into the station to make it a stand-alone repeater so you can run it any way you want.

I will replace the PL board with the proper versions for a full duplex station. This includes a replacement GE board for the exciter because this aftermarket board simply will not do what needs to be done.

Regarding the box with power amps for the existing VHF and new UHF.

This will go out this weekend.

73

Kevin



YCCC News

The next scheduled meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be at the ARRL New England Division Convention in Boxboro, MA on September 9.

From the YCCC Reflector:

Message: 2
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 2017 06:33:48 -0400
From: Dennis Egan
To: 'Yankee Clipper Contest Club'
Subject: [YCCC] Cleaning Aluminum Tubing

I have a couple of antennas that have been sitting on the ground for a year.
What's the best way to clean the tubing?? I would prefer to avoid any caustic chemicals.

Thanks! Dennis W1UE

Message: 3
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 2017 06:34:48 -0400
From: Dennis Egan
To: 'Yankee Clipper Contest Club'
Subject: Aluminum Tubing

Along the same lines, what's the best way to remove old No-Alox or Penetrox?

Dennis W1UE

Message: 4
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 2017 07:06:09 -0400
From: Bob Wilson
To: Dennis
Subject: Re: Aluminum Tubing

#0000 steel wool will easily remove surface oxidation. To remove dried Noalox etc., use denatured (not isopropyl) alcohol with the steel wool.

Message: 3
Date: Sun, 20 Aug 2017 08:41:16 -0400
From: Whit Carter
Cc: Dennis Egan W1UE
Subject: Re: [YCCC] Aluminum Tubing

Dennis and gang: You may find the residue from the steel wool will rust under the connecting tubes if not properly wiped off. I find Scotch Brite pads, that come in multiple course grades won't leave a fine residue, and if they do, it's not prone to oxidation like steel wool. As well the Emery cloth can leave sand granules. I highly recommend denatured alcohol to wipe all residue off the insert tubing, often used to thin latex paint, as these paints are alcohol based.

Have fun.
73, K1EO

On Aug 20, 2017 7:49 AM, "W1GD--- via YCCC"

I use emery cloth to clean off dried No-Alox as well as to clean aluminum where it will make contact. I usually clamp the tubing and then run a strip perpendicular to the tubing. I find this way I don't need to deal with the fine steel wool pieces.
Gerry, W1GD

Come Celebrate 40 Years of YCCC!
On-the-air Contest Sat Sept 16 0000z - Sun Sept 17 2359z, Week-Long QSO Party Mon Sep 17-23



Contest Event Begin: Saturday Sept 16, 0000Z
Contest Event End: Sunday, Sept 17 2359Z

QSO Party Start: Monday Sept 17 0000Z

QSO Party End: Friday Sept 22 , 2359Z

Purpose:

To help celebrate the 40th birthday of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club on the air. Since we are a contest club, the event will consist of a 48-hour contest event, and a week-long QSO Party.

Exchange:

YCCC Members: Name + QTH + last 2 digits of 1 st year of YCCC Membership

Non-YCCC: Name + QTH

Bands:

160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6M. Stations may be worked once per each band/mode.

Modes:

SSB, CW, RTTY, and PSK31

Power:

QRP < 5W, LP <100w, HP >100-1500w

Suggested Frequencies:

CW: 40KHz from bottom of band

Phone: 40KHz from bottom of general phone band

RTTY/Digital: Follow accepted band plans

Suggested times outside the contest period:

Try to peak activity at 40 minutes past each hour

Spotting, including self-spotting, is strongly encouraged for YCCC stations.

All stations may use whatever spotting assistance they feel is warranted for a radio contest. YCCC stations-include a comment with your spot (YCCC/40).

Single and Multi-op.

Distributed multi-ops are permissible. Multi-ops are HP only.

Points:

1 point per QSO. 4 pts per QSO with W2PV or AJ1I.

Total Score:

YCCC: (QSO Pts) x (# of States/Provinces/Countries worked)

Non-YCCC: (QSO Pts) x (# of different YCCC stations worked)

Mult figures are total numbers, not per band.

Former YCCC Members can choose to be a YCCC station, in which case they would give the YCCC Exchange and enter as a YCCC Member, or they can choose to be a non-YCCC entrant, give that exchange and enter as a non-YCCC Member.

Contest Log Submissions:

Cabrillo file to YCCC40@yccc.org by 2359Z Sept 29.

Awards:

E-certificates to all entrants. For the contest period, Plaques to the highest scoring non-YCCC entrant in USA/Canada and outside USA/Canada. For SOHP, MOHP, SOLP and SOQRP. E-certificates to all YCCC entrants, plaque to the highest scoring YCCC member.

QSO Party:

Same Frequencies, bands, modes

Exchange:

Name and State/Province/DX

Send a Cabrillo log, or, a simple dupe sheet of the YCCC call signs worked to YCCC40Party@yccc.org no later than 2359Z Sept 29 th to receive an E-certificate. Looking forward to a big week!

Dennis, W1UE
President, YCCC



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 “Rag Chew Net”:

28.490 MHz. 7:00 pm Sunday

CARA 2M NET:

W1QI Repeater – 7:30 pm Sunday

CARA PSK Digital NET:

28.100 MHz. 7:00 pm Tuesday

Worked All Connecticut Counties Award, WACC – Sponsored by CARA:

<http://www.cararadioclub.org/activities>

Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

- Sept. 8-10: ARRL New England Division Convention – Boxboro, MA
- Sept. 17 – 22: YCCC 40th Anniversary QSO Party
- Sept. 11: NARA meeting
- Sept. 11: ARES Region 5 South Meeting – Danbury EOC
- Sept. 16: YCCC Anniversary Contest
- Sept. 16: New Fairfield Day Event – N1F
- Sept. 22-24: CQWW RTTY Contest
- Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27; CWT 1300Z, 1900Z, 0300Z
- Sept. 25: ARES Region 5 Meeting

New England and other local hamfests:

<http://web.mit.edu/w1gsl/Public/ne-fleas>

Complete Contest calendar at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

Upcoming CARA Calendar:

- Sept. 8: CARA meeting - doors open at 7:30
 - Sept. 22 : Monthly CARA planning meeting – SHFD – Begins at 8:00 pm
 - Oct. 1: CARA October Capers input deadline
-



NEWS, PRESS RELEASES, AND GENERAL INTEREST

The first-ever NVIS-focused contest will be held September 30, 2017 from 1500 UTC to 2100 UTC. Sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Portable Operator Association, the six hour contest is limited to 80 meters, and includes single and multi-operator classes, with three power categories. For full details, see the MAPOA website. (Larry, W8ANT)

CONVERSATION

Location, Location, Location

So, you want to be competitive with your contest station. Most of the time, talk turns to terrain analysis, tower types and height, and antennas. Before that fun stuff, make sure you've given proper consideration to the real estate aspects of your station project. First of all, zoning and permitting rules by government can affect what type of towers you can erect in general. Many levels of government place different constraints on aspects such as tower height, setbacks, and construction standards.

Landowners should not be surprised by Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (CC&Rs) that a particular property may have, since they are recorded with the property's title. It's prudent to get copies of these before any property is purchased, so that they can be reviewed thoroughly. All manner of things can be in CC&Rs, and it's your responsibility to know what you're allowed and not allowed to do with your property. For example, in our local area, one large development has a CC&R document of over 160 pages. CC&Rs might also require membership and compel compliance with rules created by a home owners association (HOA). Current HOA rules may not mention any restrictions on your hobby, but the rules can change over time by actions of the HOA. It pays to read the HOA rules about how rules are made, and how to get on the HOA to make them.

In an ideal situation, you've done the research, and there aren't any CC&Rs that would prohibit your tower project, there is no HOA that might have sway, you have a good relationship with your neighbors. You've obtained any and all required state/city/county/town permits, you've built to the requirements of applicable codes, and your tower is standing, concrete curing. At

any time, even after the antennas have been installed and are being used, you can still be subject to civil legal suit by someone that does not like your tower and antennas. If you've followed all of the rules to the letter, your building department should back you up, but no law or rule can prevent the filing of suit in the first place. Even in the most optimistic situation, once a suit is filed it's still going to take time and money to defend. There is no magic pill to protect against someone who does not appreciate your tower from taking civil legal action.

Take a layered approach to your tower project: Research all CC&Rs ahead of time. Follow all relevant rules, obtain all required permits. Build to code. Get all required inspections. Nurture excellent relationships with your neighbors.

2017 CARA Ham Exam Schedule:



2017 Amateur radio exams sponsored by CARA at the Stony Hill FD:
September 9, December 2
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

Other upcoming VE exam sessions:

Washington CT firehouse on Bee Brook Road at 9 AM Saturday morning on the following dates:
Oct. 14

Please feel free to direct questions to w8zy@hotmail.com
Walk-ins are welcome and we will be testing for all classes.

Sponsor: Northwest Amt
Location: Litchfield Firehouse, Litchfield, CT
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.



CARA used N1MM+ Contest Logger during the ARRL 2017 Field Day.

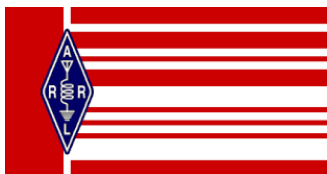
For a free download, visit:

<https://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php>

CT Section Manager's Message:

September, 2017

No CT SM message available.



CARA is an ARRL – Affiliated Club



**CW Ops CW Academy:
Interested in learning CW or improving
your skills?**

Check out www.cwops.org

“CW is an art of incremental improvements over a lifetime, getting ever closer to an ideal of perfection which is always moving and always presents a new horizon to strive for.” Carlo Consoli
CWops “CWT” Every Wednesday Regular Tests:
Full Speed Start: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (+1), 1-hour each session
Exchange: name/number (members)
name/SPC (non-members) Avoid DX pileups!

CWops CW Practice Sessions:

For: On-air practice at 13+ wpm for CWA students, graduates, others wishing to have real-time CW practice with others similarly afflicted with a love of CW and a need to improve proficiency, with a goal of 25+ wpm.

Purpose: To improve CW through on-air practice at a time and place when others are likely available. Time and place: 7035-7045 kHz every Tuesday, Friday and Sunday around 6-8 pm local time. That means possible overlap with other time zones, which may mean 5 pm in Texas and 7 pm in New York. Conditions at this stage of the sunspot cycle make a comparable plan on 20m and higher for international contacts a risky proposal so for now we will limit this to 40m local evenings. 73 Jerry, AC4BT, CW Academy Manager

For Sale:

[Alpha 99 High Performance Amplifier](#)

Alpha 99 high performance HF amplifier. 10-160 Meters including WARC bands. Manual tuning. Wired for 240 VAC. Uses two 4CX800 tubes. Full power (1500 watts) output with 55 watts input. This amp is clean both inside and out. The amp was purchased from Alpha in 2002.

SN 9902240255. There are no scratches, no rubbed-off lettering, or dents in the case. This is a one-owner amplifier. Non-smoking environment. There are no mods. Included with the amp is a factory operating manual. Includes two new spare matched Svetlana 4CX800 tubes in unopened boxes with receipt. Extra spare parts also included. This amplifier will NOT be shipped - however, original cartons are included. Inspection, demonstration, and local pickup in South Salem, NY.
No trades. Being sold by the XYL of WA2EVH (sk).
Call to make an appointment to check out this awesome amplifier.
Pictures available to email.
Serious potential buyers please.
Asking \$3200. (914) 548-2040.



Member and Station News:

Your story could go here in the next Issue of CARA Capers. Contact W1QK, Capers editor

On Monday, August 21, 2017, all of North America was treated to an eclipse of the sun. Anyone within the path of totality saw one of nature’s most awe- inspiring sights - a total solar eclipse. This path, where the moon completely covers the sun and the sun’s tenuous atmosphere - the corona – was seen, stretching from Salem, Oregon to Charleston, South Carolina. Observers outside this path, like us in New England, saw a partial solar eclipse where the moon covers part of the sun’s disk. NASA created this website to provide a guide to this amazing event. Here you will find

activities, events, broadcasts, and resources from NASA and our partners across the nation.

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/>



The SEQP took place on August 21, 2017 from 1400 – 2200 UTC. Partial eclipse began at about 1600 UTC in Oregon and ended at about 2015 UTC in South Carolina.

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse caused the shadow of the moon to traverse the U.S. from Oregon to South Carolina in just over 90 minutes causing dramatic changes in both the ionosphere and HF propagation. The Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP) is a HamSCI-ARRL sponsored operating event to generate data to study ionospheric changes during the eclipse.

Your CARA Capers Editor operated several hours of the SEQP. The most notable contact was with Greg - NA8V, in Emmitt, Michigan on 160M CW.

I usually make contact with Greg during the weekly Wednesday afternoon CWT hour-long contests. The exchange for the SEQP was a TRUE signal report, followed by your grid square. My signal report from him was S3 and I sent him S4. The path distance was 490 miles at a bearing of 286 degrees (WNW).

Half of my 160M Inverted L antenna is about 60 feet vertically-suspended by an Oak tree, and the rest (about 60 feet) is hanging horizontally (but it does sag a bit) and points towards the NE direction to favor Europe.

Normally, I'd be unable to complete this contact due to the high absorption of 1.8 MHz. signals at this time of the day.

A good estimate of radio propagation during the daylight hours is to compare our 160M band to the AM broadcast band, which extends to 1.6 MHz., just below the amateur 160M band.

I also made many contacts on both 40M and 20M, with no real difference noted in the signal reports exchanged with stations that I normally contact during the 1900 UTC CWT Sessions.

There was a fair amount of activity in the SEQP, and it will be interesting to hear about some of the propagation noted and contacts made – especially on 160M.

NA8V

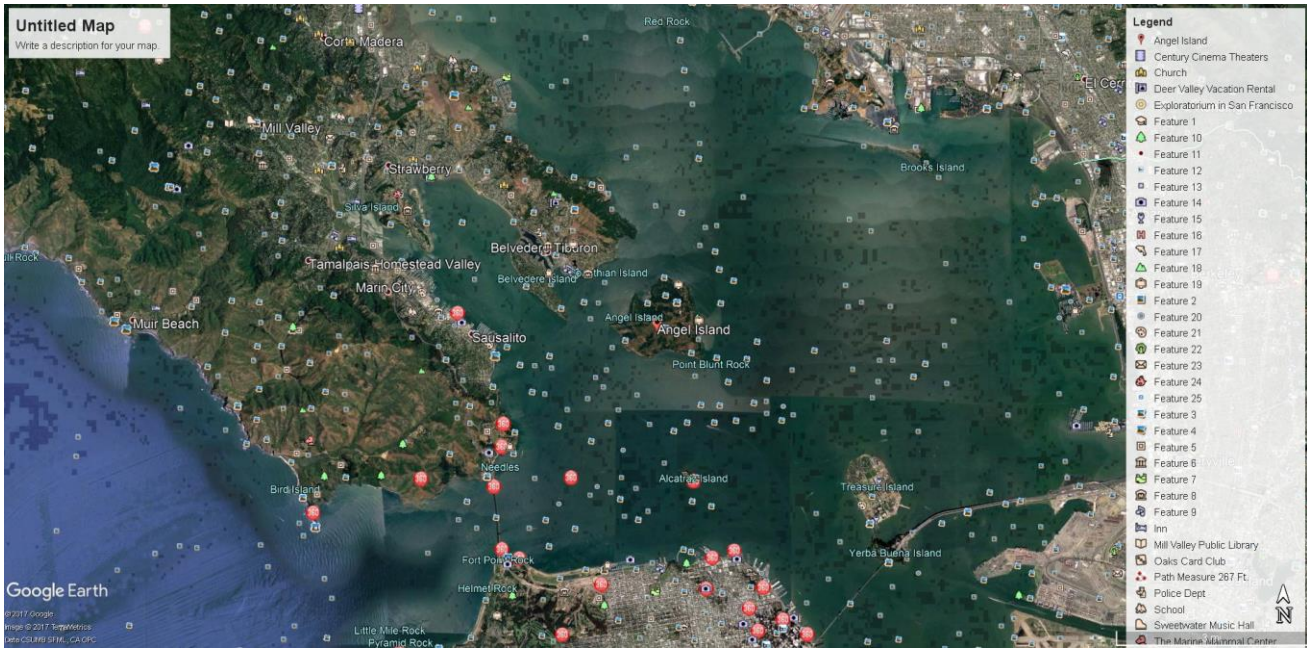
Latitude	43.062124 (43° 3' 43" N)
Longitude	-82.766545 (82° 45' 59" W)
Grid Square	EN83ob
Geo Source	User supplied
US State	Michigan
US County	Saint Clair
Bearing	286.2° WNW (from W1QK)
Distance	490.6 mi (789.6 km)

Source: QRZ.com website

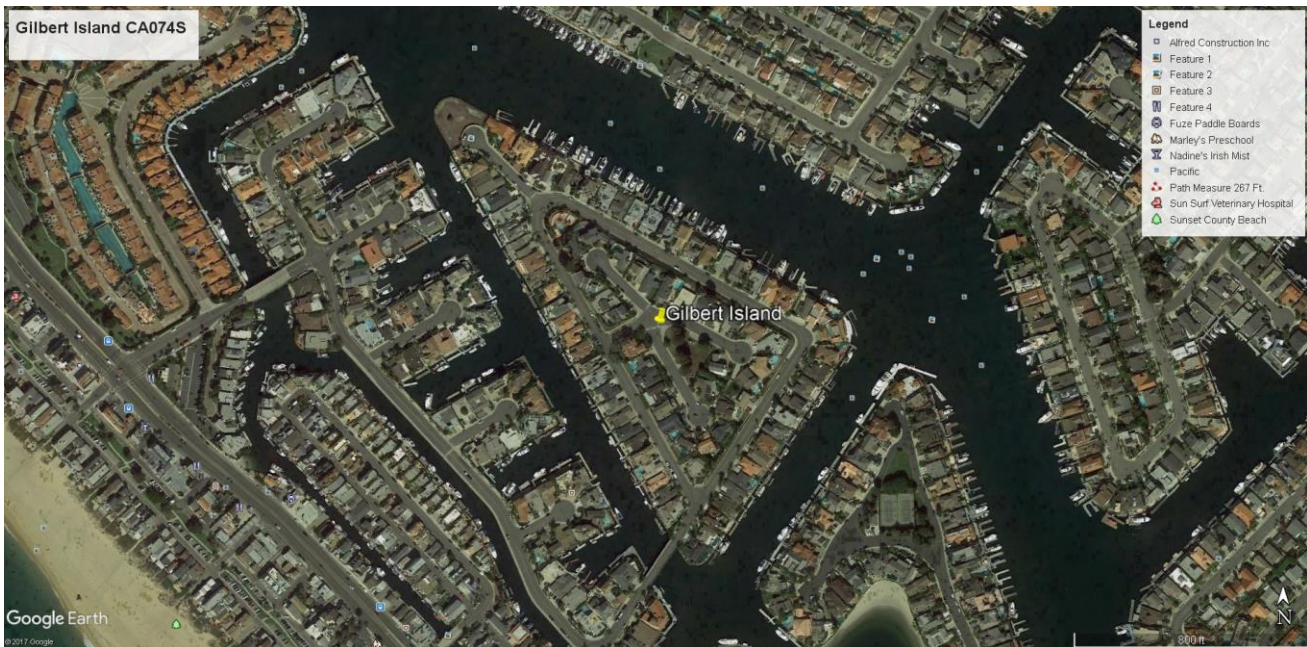
W1QI and the US Islands QSO Party – More to the story...

de W1QK

Last year, NC6Q was on Angel Island, CA 006, which is in San Francisco Bay, just north of Alcatraz Island - yep, home of the famous prison.



This year, we worked him - and he was on Gilbert Island, CA 074S, which is just south of Long Beach - on Huntington Beach; which is quite a congested place.



My XYL, Brenda, and I were in Long Beach many years ago, and we visited the Queen Mary. My father travelled to the WWII European Theatre on the Queen Mary, so there's a personal connection to the ship. He told me how they transformed this luxurious ocean liner into a troop transport ship.

The operator, Robert Grubic, NC6Q, who we worked during the US Islands QSO Party, is involved with the station that's now on the Queen Mary.

NC6Q  USA

ROBERT L GRUBIC
2631 SKYLINE DRIVE
SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755-3803
USA

Email: NC6Q@arrl.net
Ham Member Lookups: 3351



This is a picture of me at W6RO in the Wireless Room of the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California. W6RO is the club station of the ARALB (Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach) of which I am a member. I'm also a member of the FISTS CW CLUB (FISTS # 12429) and a Life Member of the ARRL.

I am active from my home in Signal Hill, CA as well as from the Republic of Panama. From Panama, you might hear me as HP1/NC6Q from Panama City, as HP3/NC6Q from Boquete, HP8/NC6Q from the fishing village of Farallón on the Pacific Coast, or as the rare HP4/NC6Q from Bocas del Toro on the Caribbean side of the country.

I am active on HF, 2 meters, and 440. For contacts with me from any of the above locations, QSL with me direct or via the bureau, including the FISTS QSL Bureau. I'm terribly behind in my QSLing but am working on it. I'll soon be setup on LoTW and other electronic QSLing as well as hustling to get my hardcopy QSL cards out.

Check out my old and simple web site that is badly in need of "modernizing." www.nc6q.com It's been around a while, but I think the information is interesting! --73



ASSOCIATED RADIO
AMATEURS OF LONG BEACH
PO BOX 7493
Long Beach, CA 90807-7493
USA

QSL: POSTAL MAIL ONLY

Email: Use mouse to view..

Page managed by [N6HHR](#) Lookups: 60723



PAINTING AND REFURBISHMENT ALERT! posted July 2017

The Queen Mary has begun substantial refurbishment and painting operations. The entire ship will be re-painted over the next 12-14 months. Access to the Sports Deck (the ship's topmost deck) and the Wireless Room is currently restricted to one stairway, and access routes may change as refurbishment activities progress. If you are planning a visit to the ship and the Wireless Room, it is suggested that you call ahead and inquire about access. The ship's main number is 877-342-0738.

THE QUEEN MARY - PAST AND PRESENT The most luxurious ocean liner ever to sail the Atlantic, the Queen Mary is a piece of floating history. She played hostess to the rich and famous during the 1930's, transported more than 800,000 service men during WWII as the legendary "Grey Ghost", and served as a means of transportation for a bevy of European war brides coming home to the US and Canada before resuming her status as a luxury liner. Today the Queen Mary is an elegant hotel, meeting place, and family attraction on the water in Long Beach, California. In 1993, she was honored with inclusion on The National Register of Historic Places. The Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach, led by the tireless Nate Brightman, K6OSC (now SK), established and operated amateur station GB5QM aboard the Queen Mary during her Last Great Cruise from England to Long Beach in 1967. After her arrival, Brightman worked steadily for the next 11 years to establish a permanent amateur radio station aboard the ship. Space and funds were finally granted in 1978, and W6RO - The Nate Brightman Wireless Room aboard the Queen Mary - was officially opened on April 22nd, 1979.

W6RO currently operates the following radio equipment:

- Yaesu FT-1000 transceiver with Hy-Gain DX-88 vertical antenna (80-10M)
- Icom IC-746 transceiver with Hy-Gain AV-640 vertical (40-10M) and Hy-Gain VB-64DX 4-element yagi (6M)
- Yaesu FT-2500M transceiver with MFJ-1278B TNC and Cushcraft Ringo Ranger vertical antenna (2M packet)
- Jetstream JT222M transceiver with Comet CX-333 vertical antenna (1.25M FM)
- Kenwood TS-950S transceiver with Force-12 yagi antenna and Hy-Gain HAM-IV rotator (20-15-10M)
- Yaesu FT-7400 transceiver with Comet CX-333 vertical antenna (70cm FM)

- Kenwood TM-261A transceiver with Comet CX-333 vertical antenna (2M FM)
 - Kenwood TS-850SAT transceiver with Hy-Gain AV-640 vertical antenna (40-10M)
- All equipment has been generously donated by the various manufacturers / distributors.

The ARALB meets at the American Red Cross Greater Long Beach Chapter on the first Friday of each month. Meeting time is 7pm. Address is 3150 E. 29th St., Long Beach. Talk-in on 145.510 FM simplex.

Come aboard and visit us when in the area. To visit the Nate Brightman Wireless Room aboard the Queen Mary, you will need to buy a ticket to board and tour the ship. We are located on the Sports Deck just forward of the center funnel (smokestack). Ask any ship's crewmember for directions once aboard.

When you are in Long Beach, call us on 145.510 simplex. This frequency is usually monitored when there is a crew member on duty at W6RO.

Mail address is W6RO, P.O. Box 7493, Long Beach, CA. 90807

The web site for ARALB is: www.ARALB.club. The web site for the Queen Mary Hotel and Attraction is: www.queenmary.com .

W6RO QSL Procedure

To receive W6RO's very popular Queen Mary QSL card, just follow these simple steps:

1. During your QSO with W6RO, be sure to copy your **QSO number**. Specifically ask for it during the QSO if necessary.
2. Send your own QSL card, or a report on a piece of paper if you don't have a QSL card, to us. Be sure to include:
 - Your **QSL card** or report (report the contact date & time as UTC)
 - Your **QSO number** (preferably in the report area of your card)
 - A **Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope**. Our new QSL card is standard size (3.5 x 5.5 inches).

(* DX stations see below)

- Mail it all to:

W6RO – QSL
P.O. Box 7493
Long Beach, CA 90807
USA

3. Your W6RO QSL card should arrive in your S.A.S.E. in about 6 to 8 weeks.

* DX QSLs sent via the bureau will be returned via the bureau system. These do not require an S.A.S.E. Please allow the normal extended time for this process. DX stations wishing to QSL by direct mail must include:

- a self-addressed envelope
- **two IRCs** – or two US 'greenstamps' if you have them.

'Greenstamps' (US \$1 bill) are never required but always appreciated. Our QSL Officer uses any greenstamps to help fund the QSL operation only. We thank you for your generosity!

We process a large number of QSL requests every month. Due to the workload, there is no avenue provided to check-up on a pending QSL request. If you did comply with all of the above and we somehow mishandled your request, we apologize. If you have not received your card in a reasonable amount of time, you can either:

- submit a second QSL request, including all of the above items, with info from your log
- work our station on the air again and submit a new QSL request.

Thanks for your attention. 73.

Source: QRZ.com website

More links: <http://www.queenmary.com/stay-aboard/staterooms-suites/>

<http://www.queenmary.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RMS_Queen_Mary



The current Wireless Room aboard the R.M.S. Queen Mary.

Source: Wikipedia

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 Dan Fegley, your Editor:

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 – or earlier if possible.

73- Dan, W1QK



**MT. BEACON
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SUNDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2017**



**FALLFEST
RADIO HAMFEST**

Same easy-to-access location! Non-Ham Spouses & Kids FREE!

Employee's Recreation Center (near Downstate Correctional Facility)
83 Red Schoolhouse Rd (County Route 36), Fishkill NY 12524

(At the intersection of Old Bedford Lane and Red Schoolhouse Road;

Parking on Red Schoolhouse Road is allowed, but be sure to park beyond the white line to ensure traffic safety and avoid ticketing)

Talk-in on 146.97 -600 (tone 100) ; GPS N41 31.755, W73 56.518

Admission

\$5.00 for buyers & and 1 space tailgaters;
Indoor Sellers— \$10.00, includes an 8 foot linear space—
Bring Your Own Table, Limited Spaces
Pre-reservations a Must!

Doors open

8am to 1pm

For More Info Contact

Adam Nowik, KC2DAA
(845) 849-3666
president@wr2abb.org

HOT FOOD & BEVERAGES

Breakfast Sandwiches
Hot Coffee-Hot Tea-Cold Soda-Water
Hot Dogs

Easy to Get to!

From South, East, and West: Interstate I-84 to NY State Route 52 (Exit 12) west to Red Schoolhouse Road (1 mile on right at light, turn right.) 0.5 Miles to Recreation Center entrance on left, just south of I-84 overpass

From North: US Route 9 to NY State Route 9D. Drive 6 miles south on Route 9D. Turn left on Red Schoolhouse Road at light. 1 mile to Recreation Center entrance, on right, just south of I-84 overpass

FCC Exams—All License Classes!

Registration: 9am to 10am

Bring photo ID, original & photo copies of both your amateur radio license and/or any CSCE's, if any.
Contact Andrew W2BOS@arrl.net (845-462-7539)

Use this QR Code for personalized easy-to-get-to directions!



8/8/2017 V1

