



# Capers

## February - 2018

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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***Next CARA Meeting:  
Friday, February 9, Stony Hill Fire Station***

***Special Guest Presentation on Volunteer  
ARRL Emergency Communications Response  
Team to Puerto Rico***

***By:  
Mike Miciukiewicz, K1MJM***

***Doors open at 7:30 for socializing and conversation.  
Short business meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.***

### ***Agenda:***

- ***Pledge of Allegiance***
- ***Reading of Minutes – N1GSA***
- ***Treasurer's Report – WX1T***
- ***Old Business***
- ***New Business***
- ***Presentation – K1MJM***

## ***President's Message - de AB1WV***



Hello All,

This past month has just flown by. Despite terrible band conditions, Tori made a good showing in the ARRL Kid's Day and had 8 contacts during the 1 ½ hours that she participated after her swim meet. She was happy to get one more contact than in last June.

The CARA Winter Field Day went off well at N1NRP 's QTH. While I was not able to participate this year. The pics look like they had a swell time. I hope I can get in on the fun next year.

We have a great presentation by Mike-K1MJM coming up at our February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. It's all about the ARRL's volunteer Emergency Response Team and their support in September in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. I can hardly wait to learn how an operation like that gets done.

At our March meeting, we'll revive the "DIY Show and Tell" session, so dust off the projects you've completed over the last year or so and get ready to show them off. It's a great way to help others in the club, as well as get some help or questions answered that you might not have considered.

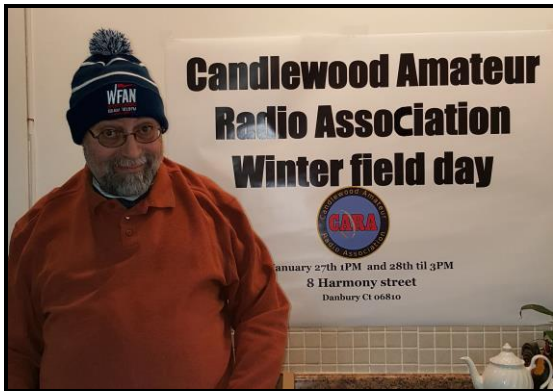
As reminder to all who have not paid dues yet - our March meeting is the deadline for payment. Remember to pay them so you remain on the active roster, plus retain use of the CARA Reflector and continue to receive the Capers. So, let's get those dues in, and support our great club.

Finally, as most of you know, Sander Pool, W1SOP, is now a silent key. I remember Sander as a friendly and helpful member. He served as President in the months prior to my taking over and was a great resource to me. I will keep his family in my thoughts and prayers. 73,

--... ..--

Marcus  
AB1WV

## Vice-President's Message de N1NRP



Hello CARA members and friends of CARA:

As I consider what to write, I'm thinking about Sander Pool – W1SOP, our fellow club member and past CARA president and vice-president, who became a silent key on January 26. He was such a wonderful person and member of the ham radio fraternity, as evidenced by all the support and time he gave to the club. He made several presentations and participated in many activities. He was always willing to help with technical information, as well as serve on the CARA Repeater Committee for many years. I'll miss him in our upcoming year of events. Rest in peace Sander, and may the perpetual light shine upon you.

I want to thank all the members who renewed their dues promptly. As a gentle reminder to those who still need to do so this year - you have three options. Pay in person at the upcoming meeting, mail a check, or log onto <http://www.cararadioclub.org> and click on the PayPal link.

What a great time we had this year participating in CARA's first ever involvement with Winter Field Day using W1QI, our club callsign.

Thanks to all who participated in this event, and those who helped behind the scenes to make it come together. Harlan-W1QH, Marlon-KC1EHW, and Charlie-KC1IBR, helped me to install several ropes over some trees at my house to enable using the second HF antenna for our operation. Harlan also set up the N1MM+ contest logger program User Defined Contest log in both computers for the event, and exported the Cabrillo and .ADIF logs for submission to the sponsors.

I hope everyone involved enjoyed this as much as I did. It was great to see veteran contesters operating side by side with our newest members.

This was a good experience for preparing for the upcoming 2018 ARRL Field Day in June. Thanks go to David- KB1ZAC, for offering to be FD Committee co-chairman, and we look forward to his leadership with this project.

However, this may not happen - unless several members step up to join the committee, identify a FD site, and organize this year's event.

We need some folks to take on some responsibility; and they'll have the complete backing of the club. Full club participation always makes this an awesome event within the next several months.

I want to thank John-W1JGM, for taking on the task of spearheading this year's Hamfest. Thanks to John, last years was a huge success. As you may know, John's recent heart attack incident scared us. Once again, let's step up and give John some assistance. We've got to keep his stress level down.

Thanks to Gregory, formerly KB1YHW, and now WR1Z, for continuing as CARA Repeater Chairman and to all the other committee

members - keep up the good work as we move towards meeting our goals.

I want to thank Dan-W1QK, for editing the CARA Capers. He assists me with editing this Vice-President's message every month. His other recent contributions included several publishing projects - such as re-designing the CARA banner, the certificates and thank you letters for our past Field Day events, and designing the November Fox Hunt Certificates.

More CARA fun times are ahead.

The third "N1GSA Race Day" will be held on Sunday, February 11 at noon at On-Track Karting on Silvermine Road in Brookfield. Everyone is encouraged to participate - either to race and try to beat our two fastest drivers; Eric-KC1EDE, and Harlan-W1QH, or just to cheer on your favorite competitor. Afterwards, we'll gather again for subs and socializing at Jersey Mike's sandwich shop on Federal Road in Brookfield.

73, Jay

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### January 12- CARA Meeting Minutes de N1GSA

The meeting was called to order by President Marcus Swearingen at 8:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moment of silence was held for Don Babbitt KB1IES, a long-time member of the club. His wife, Martha-KB1IET, was club secretary for a few years as well.

The Secretary's report was read and accepted. Dan showed a certificate from the W/VE Islands QSO Party., which was held in August last year.

The club came in 6th place for this event. This was a rather good score for our first participation in this one. Harlan was thanked for assisting to process the logs with Dan during these events. Dan mentioned that to qualify for a plaque award during next year's event, we will need at least 50 contacts. We should try to increase our efforts.

Marcus brought up about initializing the Echolink link on the CARA 2M repeater from John's - W1JGM's QTH.

Harlan spoke about the purchase of a DMR radio or the interest in Echolink access for Martha to be able to participate in the nets and QSO's with the club.

Harlan will get her address so that a condolence card can be sent.

There was an issue with distributing documents with attachments on the CARA reflector, which started with Dan attempting to send latest issue of Capers. Host Gator will be contacted to see if they can resolve this problem.

Eric Williams, Co-chair for ARRL QSL Bureau, KV1J gave a short presentation on the QSL Bureau and the QSL Card Sorting.

The meeting was adjourned, and the Card Sort began with pizza for all participants.

Respectfully Submitted.

Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

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## CARA Holds First-Ever Winter Field Day at N1NRP's QTH – January 27-28.

de N1NRP & W1QK

Photo Credit: N1NRP

### Winter Field Day Association

Winter Field Day Association (WFDA) is a dedicated group of Amateur Radio Operators who believe that emergency communications in a winter environment is just as important as the preparations and practice that is done each summer, but with some additional unique operational concerns.

If you are serious about emergency communications as we are; we welcome you to join us for our yearly event. We are sure you will find this event a pleasant change and challenge to that of a normal summer time field day. <https://www.winterfieldday.com/>



(L-R) KC1IBR & W1HBR



(L-R) N1CWV & KB1ZAC



(L-R) AC2OE, N1CWV, KB1EPA, W1QH, KC1EHW & N1NRP

CARA participated in the 2018 winter field day event on January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the home of Vice-president- N1NRP and CARA member Marlon Henriquez – KC1EHW.

Two stations were set up - and W1QI, our club callsign was used.

A home station is defined as:

**Home:** Operation from a place where an amateur station is already or would normally be established, whether it's your home or another person's, including any enclosed structure **attached** to the home (garage, deck, sunroom).

Use of any pre-existing feed line or pre-mounted antenna system, such as a backyard tower/beam, roof antenna, or previously installed dipole/wire, or previously installed rig renders your station a "Home" operation. A home station may still claim "alternate power" bonus if using non-commercial power.

Operation from another ham's home other than



your own, from a seasonal rental (*..like your Florida/Arizona snowbird condo*), or from a second home you own would still be considered a “Home” operation unless no equipment, antennas, or accessories were present before the stated WFD set-up time (*in which case you’d be an “Indoor” entrant and eligible for the “remote/not at home” and possibly the “alternate power” bonuses*).

Over the past few years, I’ve participated with members from GBARC, the Greater Bridgeport Amateur Radio Club, at the White Hills Recreation Center in Shelton. After last year’s event, I thought about getting CARA involved in the 2018 contest.

Some of you may know that I have ALS, which is making it progressively harder for me to do all the things that I love. One of them is setting up portable ham radio stations outside with tents and using a generator to power the equipment, etc.



*W1QI on the air at 8 Harmony Street in Danbury – Winter Field Day category 2 i; two transmitters, 100 watts each.*

My idea of fun is being outside, watching a campfire, and trying to stay warm while operating the radio.

Compared to the ARRL Field Day rules, the Winter Field Day event scoring system awards many bonus points for operating outdoors, using generator power, and making a satellite contact too.

CARA decided to enter in the Home Station category, 2H, with commercial AC power to run all the equipment.

My wife, Juliana, Marlon, Marlon’s wife Candee, and their daughter, Isabel “kept the home fires burning” with a 24-hour coffee pot, and plenty of snacks to keep us well-nourished.



*Candee and Julie kept the operators and guests well-nourished throughout the weekend operation.*

They also prepared an excellent breakfast, lunch, and dinner for those who attended. We had “all the comforts of home”, including some options for resting if we got tired.

The best part is that the station was all set up without needing to move the equipment into another place, plus set up temporary antennas too.



*Nancy – N1CWV's XYL, KC1EHW, and Julie, N1NRP's XYL*

Of course, there were several challenges to overcome to prepare for this winter event.



About a week before WFD, a storm with high winds took down both my existing G5RV and 15M/10M Skeleton Sleeve folded dipole antennas. They were beyond repair, and my dual-band VHF vertical stopped working with an SWR of over 4:1. On top of all that, the 14 element 2M yagi blew over right before our planned CARA Winter Field Day event.

I called John- W1JGM, who loaned me a brand new G5RV antenna that was donated to the club as a door prize from former member and SK George Pollizi – K2ZZ from Radio Oasis. Then, Harlan, Marlon, and I got together Saturday, January 20 to shoot new ropes over the trees and raise the new G5RV.



Marlon also installed a new mast for the 2M beam. Repairing the vertical would have to wait for another warmer day. Thanks guys for all your help with this; what a team.

Thanks also go to Harlan, who stopped in after work to get the N1MM+ Contest Logger program working, networking the two laptops, and setting up my Yaesu FT-450D for CW.



*KB1IBR, WA1JGA & W1QH*

On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, everything was in place with two stations set up.



*N1GSA, N1NRP & N1CWV*



*WA1JGA & W1QH*

The first group of operators were Dave-WA1JGA, Charlie – KC1IBR and David – KB1ZAC.

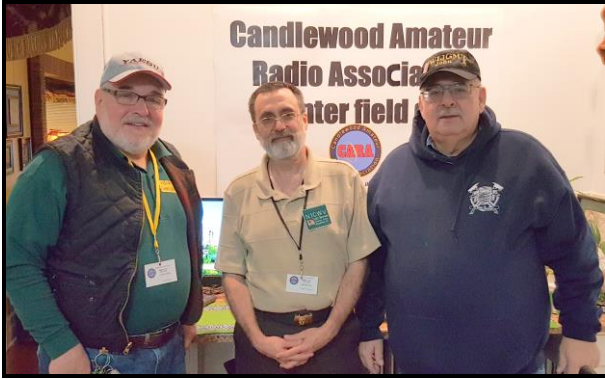
Charlie and Dave teamed up on 40 meters, while Dave jumped on 20M CW. Everything was going well, with both stations making contacts, and racking up the points.



*KB1ZAC, W1QH, KC1IBR and WA1JGA*

The next group that arrived were: N1CWV-Scott, his wife Nancy, and Andy – AC2OE. My daughter, Carolina, John-W1JGM, and I had a meat lover's pizza for dinner with some garden salad.





*KC1IBR, N1CWV & W1JGM*

The next CW operator didn't arrive as we anticipated, so I switched the FT-450D to SSB. Both stations were on phone on 20M and 40M respectively, while checking the other bands for activity.

It seemed only a short time later, and I discovered it was already 11pm.



*N1GSA & KB1ZAC*

Hugh – W1HBR, arrived to make some CW contacts, which are worth 2 points each. I switched the '450 back to CW mode, but encountered some minor difficulty, which was quickly resolved. We lost some valuable time, but W1HBR

improvised and was on the air. I went to sleep at midnight.



*N1CWV & W1HBR*

Charlie-KC1IBR, stayed up all night operating SSB on the Icom IC-706, while Hugh made over 30 CW contacts overnight.



*Foreground: Charlie – KC1IBR and Scott – N1CWV; Background: AC2OE & WA1JGA*

David – KB1ZAC, and Scott- N1CWV were the first to arrive Sunday morning, and took over for Charlie, who got some well-deserved rest. W1HBR went home for the remainder of Sunday.



WA1JGA, AC2OE & KC1IBR

We had both stations on SSB when Harlan-W1QH and Gary N1GSA arrived. Harlan jumped on 20 meters and started to run the frequency – making one contact after another.

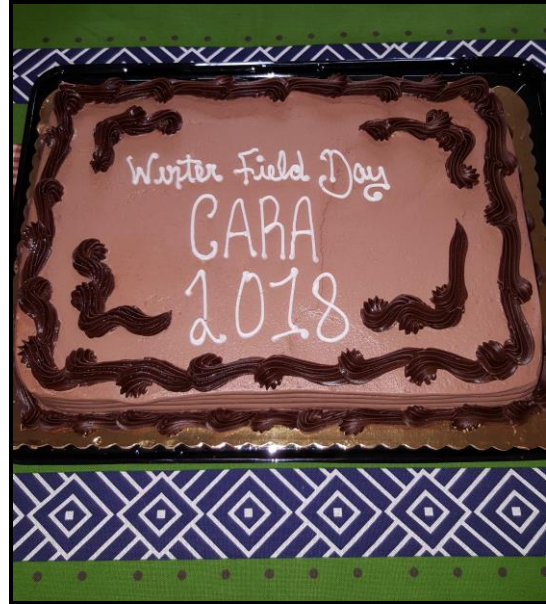
Gary was on 40M SSB.



N1GSA, KB1ZAC & N1CWV

It seemed like such a short time – then the contest was over.

I believe everyone involved had a great time, and I especially enjoyed seeing CARA members operating side by side with the newbies – and getting it done.



This event was a useful learning experience for all – both veterans and rookies; and helpful in conditioning for summer field day, which is right around the corner.

I want to thank everyone who participated and helped to make this CARA event a success.

I can honestly say: “CARA Survived Winter Field Day, 2018”.

Our N1MM+ WFD log was processed by Harlan and Dan and submitted to the contest sponsors. They also uploaded the .ADIF file to the W1QI LoTW account.

*W1QI WFD Score summary:*

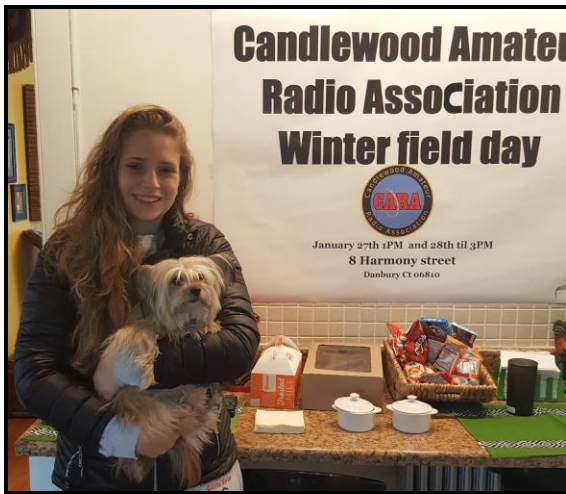
SSB contacts: 80  
CW contacts: 42  
Total contacts: 122  
Total multiplier: 70  
Final Claimed Score: 820 points



CARA Winter Field Day Operators & Guests:

N1NRP, W1QH, N1CWV, KC1IBR, WA1JGA, KB1ZAC, N1GSA, W1HBR, W1JGM, KC1EHW, AC2OE, KC1EPA, KC1EHW.

73 - Jay



Jay's Daughter – Carolina & Princess, who was the life of the party.

Editor:

Thanks to you, Jay, and your family for their hospitality for this enjoyable and successful CARA event.

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### *Just A Friendly Reminder:*

January was CARA's annual dues payment month.

Deadline is the March meeting to remain an active CARA member, which means use of the CARA Reflector, subscription to CARA Capers, plus support of the CARA repeater system.

### *Special Presentation by Michael Miciukiewicz – K1MJM at February 9 CARA meeting:*

Summary provided by K1MJM

Photo credits: K1MJM



Puerto Rico recently experienced its worst storm season in meteorological history. Several small storms set the stage for hurricanes Irma and Maria, which turned into the grand finale.

Hurricane Irma did major damage to Puerto Rico's infrastructure with heavy winds and torrential rain. Several days later, Hurricane Maria hit with sustained winds of 155 mph, gusts to 195 mph, and even heavier rain than Irma. Maria wiped out any power and communications that Irma left behind.

The combined forces of these two storms destroyed thousands of buildings and caused mud slides and flooding throughout the island.





Immediately following, the American Red Cross prepared to deploy several hundred disaster relief volunteers.



Knowing that all communications systems were gone, they asked the ARRL to provide 50 volunteer amateur radio operators. Twenty-two “Hams” were sent there in the first wave. In just a couple of days, the Hams had set up a well distributed HF communication network across the entire island and were providing VHF communications for Red Cross mobile units.



I was fortunate enough to deploy to Puerto Rico with that first wave of volunteers from all parts of the United States. We were on the island for three weeks. It was truly an experience of a lifetime that I’d like to share with you. During my talk, I’ll discuss: Travel, living conditions, logistics, weather, medical concerns, organizational structure, radio gear, pre-existing resources, radio procedures, and much more. I welcome your questions throughout the presentation, because I can’t cover everything -but do want to discuss what’s of interest to you.

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Early on Wednesday, September 20, Hurricane Maria — a powerful Category 4 hurricane with 150 mph winds — made **direct landfall** on Puerto Rico, bisecting the entire island and drenching it with **feet** of rain. What's happened since has been truly **catastrophic** for Puerto Rico.



There's still little power on the island. In many places, there's still no water to drink or bathe in or to flush toilets. There's limited food and cell service, and dozens of remote villages have been completely cut off from everything for weeks.



“Make no mistake — this is a humanitarian disaster involving 3.4 million US citizens,” Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said the Monday after Maria hit.



The initial recovery response from the US federal government has been lackluster, and President Trump's comments have not inspired confidence. After dwelling early in the week on the facts that:

- 1) **Puerto Rico is an island**, and
- 2) Puerto Rico is in massive **debt**, the president and his senior officials then went on the defensive, describing the administration's response so far as a **“good news story.”**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency **still has not authorized** full reconstruction aid to Puerto Rico.



“Help us. Without robust and consistent help we will die,” Carmen Yulín Cruz, the mayor of San Juan, said in a **statement** on October 12. “Mr. President, fulfill your moral imperative towards the people of Puerto Rico.”





*This is still a terrible disaster that deserves more coverage and a better-coordinated response — and both appear to have been impeded by widespread confusion about Puerto Rico’s relationship to the United States and the severity of its current situation.*

*Here’s what every American needs to know:*

*Reference Source:*

*<http://www.esquire.com/news-politics/a14474788/puerto-rico-3-months-after-hurricane/>*

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*Additional resource information:*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1Gt9R1hqoM>*

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## ARRL January VHF Contest

The ARRL January 2018 VHF Contest was held on the weekend of January 20-21. This is a GREAT opportunity for all hams to get on the air to have fun, try operating on VHF/UHF **without** using repeaters, and learn more about VHF/UHF operating. For full details, please refer to: <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>

I. Date/Time: 11AM PST Saturday 20 January until 8PM PST Sunday, 21 January 2018

II. Frequencies: ALL amateur radio frequencies 50 Mhz (6 meters) and up, including 144-148 Mhz (2 meters), 222-225 Mhz (135 cm), 420-450 Mhz (70 cm), 900 MHz (33cm), 1200-1300 Mhz (23 cm), AND all amateur frequencies higher than that. Modes: SSB, FM, CW, AM, Data including FT8. Note: No use of repeaters permitted!

III. Commonly used frequencies:

- a. 6m: 50.125 Mhz USB; 52.525 Mhz FM Simplex; 50.090-50.100 CW; 50.313 FT-8
- b. 2m: 144.200+/- Mhz USB; 146.52, 146.55, 146.58, 146.61 Mhz FM Simplex; 144.200+/- Mhz CW
- c. 135cm: 222.1 Mhz USB/CW; 223.5 Mhz FM Simplex
- d. 70cm: 432.1 Mhz USB/CW; 446.0 Mhz FM Simplex
- e. 33cm: 902.1 Mhz SSB/CW; 902.1, 903.1, 927.5, 927.6 Mhz FM Simplex
- f. 23cm: 1296.1 Mhz SSB/CW; 1269 Mhz FM Simplex

IV. Typical antenna polarization:

- a. USB/CW/FT8 = horizontal
- b. FM = vertical
- c. NOTE!! Use whatever antennas you have available, even if not of the preferred



polarization! (Old adage: a poor antenna is better than no antenna!)

V. A Valid QSO requires exchange of full call signs, grid locator, & acknowledgement. (Note: Almost everyone in Connecticut is in Grid "FN31")

VI. Scoring:

- a. QSOs: 1 point per QSO on 6/2 meter bands; 2 points per QSO on 135/70 cm bands; 4 points per QSO on higher bands
- b. Multiplier: Total of all Grids worked on each band

VII. Log Submission:

- a. Use: [http://b4h.net/cabforms/arrlvhfjan\\_cab3.php](http://b4h.net/cabforms/arrlvhfjan_cab3.php)
- b. Please submit also to the 3830 reflector for contest score rumors: The form for reporting your score to the 3830 reflector will be available as soon as the contest starts at >>>>[www.3830scores.com](http://www.3830scores.com)<<<<;

VIII: Questions?

Send e-mail query to: [N6ZE@aol.com](mailto:N6ZE@aol.com)

IX. Have fun, and spend a bit of time with >>>><http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf><<<< ; <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>

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## ARRL Connecticut Section News:



ARRL CT Section Manager, Chuck Motes - K1DFS.  
No February SM message available.

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## ARRL Board of Directors Commentary - de K1IR – Jim Idelson, YCCC member

from the YCCC Reflector

I am among those ARRL members who feel that the way our ARRL operates must change to meet current and future challenges. Basically, the form of governance that was appropriate for the League a hundred years ago is no longer working. The world has changed. In 1915, with just 600 members nationwide and no tools to communicate and manage an organization in a directly democratic way, the founders chose a purely representative democratic model, empowering a Board of Directors to make all decisions for the organization. It was a compromise, and appropriate at the time. Today, though, with 150,000 members, a strong desire on the part of the membership to be directly involved in defining the future for ARRL, and a readily-available set of modern, powerful tools for instant and effective communication, it is possible - and expected - that ARRL should be a much more member-involved and member-driven association. But, thinking that way and actually making it happen are not the same. A new approach must be defined, codified and implemented. But, remember, putting more power in the hands of the Membership means erosion of the powers of the Board. Our ARRL Boards have clearly enjoyed their exclusive hold on authority and are not likely to easily relinquish such powers. So, we need to influence our existing Directors to adopt this dramatic new perspective and/or seek out new Directors who believe in modernization through reform of governance. Unfortunately, until these reforms are implemented, the only way changes can be codified is by a two-thirds (or three-fourths) majority of our Division-Elected Board members. So, for this purpose, your Board member is my Board member. I need to help elect ten or more who will vote to take us into the 21st century. Please see my video Open Letter to Rick Roderick K5UR <<https://youtu.be/rM0H5BH2n7A>> for additional details. It's a long one, but I think you will enjoy it.

73 Jim K1IR CWOPS #73

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**Change mike element in Yamaha CM500**

From: [Arthur Bernstein](#)

Date: Sun, 28 Jan 2018 17:42:05 EST

Not sure if I saw it here or elsewhere. Someone wanted to replace the Yamaha CM500 electret mike element with something better, such as a Heil. Have been an old Heil headset with HC4 boom element. Due to my hearing, I found the Yamaha clearer, crisper and more comfortable than the Heil. K3 and electret not a great match. Can't open Yamaha mike compartment. Solution: swapped the flexible mike booms out. Now have Heil element on Yamaha headset. Nice. No mess.



**CARA is an ARRL – Affiliated Club**

**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

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

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

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**Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:**

Feb. 3: MN QSO Party

Feb. 9-11: CQWW RTTY WPX Contest

Feb. 12: ARES Region 5 South Meeting –  
Danbury EOC

Feb.16-18: ARRL DX CW Contest

Feb. 24: NC and SC QSO Parties

Feb. 24: NAQP RTTY Contest

Feb. 26: ARES Region 5 Meeting

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28: CWT 1300Z, 1900Z, 0300Z

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**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>

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**Upcoming CARA Calendar:**

Feb. 9: CARA meeting and Special presentation by Mike Miciukiewicz - K1MJM

Feb. 11: 3<sup>rd</sup> N1GSA CARA Race Day

Feb. 23: Monthly CARA planning meeting – SHFD – Begins at 8:00 pm

Feb. 28 March Capers input deadline

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**YCCC News**

The next scheduled meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2018.



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.

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## 2018 CARA Ham Exam Schedule:



## 2018 Amateur radio exams sponsored by CARA at the Stony Hill FD:

March 3, June 9, September 8  
December 1. 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

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## Other upcoming VE exam sessions: Norwalk CT 06854-2164

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### EXAM SESSION

02/03/2018  
**Sponsor:** Greater Norwalk ARC  
**Date:** Feb 03 2018  
**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Paul P. Lavorgna  
(203) 515-7487  
**Email:** [p.lavorgna@hotmail.com](mailto:p.lavorgna@hotmail.com)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)  
**Location:** Greater Norwalk ARC  
100 Fairfield Ave  
Norwalk CT 06854-2164

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## Litchfield CT 06759-3404

### EXAM SESSION

02/13/2018  
**Sponsor:** Northwest Amt  
**Date:** Feb 13 2018  
**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Lawrence S. Polowy  
(860) 283-4089  
**Email:** [lspolowy@snet.net](mailto:lspolowy@snet.net)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)  
**Location:** Litchfield Firehouse  
258 West St  
Park in Rear  
Litchfield CT 06759-3404

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## Bethel CT 06801-9999

### EXAM SESSION

03/03/2018  
**Sponsor:** Candlewood ARA  
**Date:** Mar 03 2018  
**Time:** 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Frank R. Sileo  
(203) 438-0218  
**Email:** [frsileo@att.net](mailto:frsileo@att.net)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)  
**Location:** Stony Hill Fire House (Public Meeting Room) 59 Stony Hill Road, Route 6  
Bethel CT 06801-9999

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CARA used N1MM+ Contest Logger during the ARRL 2017 Field Day.  
For a free download, visit:  
<https://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php>

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## NEWS, PRESS RELEASES, AND GENERAL INTEREST

If you worked digital modes in the [January ARRL VHF Contest](#), know this about your log: 'For Cabrillo file mode definitions, Digital modes can be represented as "RY" (all things digital) or "PH" as digital modes are transmitted via Phone audio.' See the [January VHF Contest web page](#) for more information.

The log submission deadline for the 2018 January VHF Contest is 0359 UTC February 1, 2018.

**Reminder:** The log submission deadline for most ARRL Contests is now FIVE DAYS after the contest end.

Mark, K6UFO, [NAQP](#) RTTY Contest Manager, notes that February's NAQP RTTY is coming up February 24-25, 2018. The July event will be held July 21-22, which is a correction to previously published dates for this contest. This correction will also appear in *NCJ: The National Contest Journal*.

The [44th annual Eastern VHF/UHF/Microwave Conference](#) will be held Friday through Sunday, April 20-22, 2018, in Manchester, Connecticut. Of particular interest to UHF/VHF contesters may be two of the [scheduled talks](#): "WSJT-X MSK144 and VHF Contesting" by K8ZR, and the "222 MHz and Up Distance Contest Forum" moderated by W9JJ. There are plenty of other talks, and the location of the event makes it easy to combine with a visit to ARRL Headquarters beforehand.

During the [January ARRL VHF Contest](#) last weekend, FT8 was the elephant on the bands. Some lauded the mode's ability to make a contact when it wasn't possible on alternative mode; others scoffed at the time wasted making FT8 contacts when conditions would have supported higher rates with SSB and CW. Most agree that the recent contest reflected an uptick in VHF activity. There's quite a discussion occurring on the VHF Contesting reflector, one place to start would be with [this message from Duffy, KK6MC](#).

## OPERATING TIP

### Changing A Window Location to Avoid a Pain In the Neck

This tip was prompted by a story appearing in the Northern California Contest Club's (NCCC) [December 2017 JUG newsletter](#) (PDF): Sometimes just moving a window on the screen of your monitor can change your posture enough to reduce or eliminate operator pain or fatigue. Hank, W6SX, experienced neck pain after a RTTY contest, which he solved by changing his screen layout. He moved his logger's RTTY decoding window to a location higher on this computer monitor, which changed his neck position, and got rid of the ache.

## ARRL Information

### [Join or Renew Today!](#)

ARRL membership includes [QST](#), Amateur Radio's most popular and informative journal, delivered to your mailbox each month.

Subscribe to [NCJ - the National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties.

Subscribe to [QEX - A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

*Free of charge to ARRL members: [Subscribe](#) to The ARRL Letter (weekly digest of news and information), the ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news), Division and Section news -- and much more!*

*ARRL offers a wide array of [products](#) to enhance your enjoyment of Amateur Radio. Visit the site often for new publications, specials and sales.*

*[Donate](#) to the fund of your choice -- support programs not funded by member dues!*

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

Check out [www.cwops.org](http://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”

CW Ops “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!

CW Ops 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.

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

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## 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.



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### ICOM IC-757 Pro III

I'm selling my Icom 756 Pro III. Very Good Condition. I have the original Box. Harlan recently used this radio, and can vouch on its condition. This is the same model radio that CARA uses (from the Danbury EOC) for Field Day. We are in the middle of contest season. I have reduced the price to \$1050. I will also include the Heil HC 5 headset/with mike.

If interested let me know.  
73, John - W1JMA



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### **Member and Station News:**

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

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

#### **Executive Board:**

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

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**CAPERS is the monthly newsletter of the  
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association**

Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK

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## **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. If  
possible, text should be submitted in Microsoft Word  
format, and images in .jpg format. Please use picture  
files that are sized for publication.

**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





## Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 741, Hawleyville, CT 06440-0741

### Membership/Dues Application

	Date: _____
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____
E-Mail: _____	Zip Code: _____
Register on Club Distribution List? Y N (Default = "Y")	Phone: _____
Call Sign: _____	ARRL Member?: Y N
Class: E A G T N	VE?: Y N

#### Membership Rates:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Full Member</p> <p>\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+)/Student (Under 18)</p> <p>\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (Non-Ham)</p> | <p>\$45.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family (2 Members)</p> <p>\$60.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family (3 Members)</p> <p>\$75.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family (4 Members)</p> |
|--|--|

*If anyone wishes to become a CARA member but cannot afford the Membership Rate, Please speak with the President or Treasurer and special arrangements can easily be made.*

**Send Check, Payable to "CARA"**

Mail To: Candlewood Amateur Radio Association P.O. Box  
741, Hawleyville, CT 06440-0741 E-Mail:  
[CQ@CARARadioClub.org](mailto:CQ@CARARadioClub.org)

## Options:

Pay in person at the upcoming meeting, mail a check, or log onto <http://www.cararadioclub.org>  
and click on the PayPal link.

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## Breaking news:

CARA won Sixth Place, USA Portable operation – Multi-operator category in the 2017 W/VE Islands QSO Party; Our first time participating in this contest from Candlewood Isle in New Fairfield.

## US Islands Awards Program

### 2017 Results

Quicksilver Radio is sponsoring a First Place plaque for the Expedition category.

Call	USI#	QSOs	Mult	Pts	Score	Class	Place
K4I	VA069L	190	52	254	13,208	Expedition QRO	EH-1st
VA3TIC	ON023	187	46	234	10,764	Expedition QRO	EH-2nd
WAØDX	IA010R	117	40	158	6,320	Expedition QRO	EH-3rd
NA4GA	GA031L	107	38	155	5,890	Expedition QRO	EH-4th
VE3SCN	ON023	58	37	122	4,514	Expedition QRO	EH-5th
<b>W1QI</b>	<b>CT022L</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>3,861</b>	<b>Expedition QRO</b>	<b>EH-6th</b>
W8RD	FL017S	49	33	77	2,541	Expedition QRO	EH-7th

Call	USI#	QSOs	Mult	Pts	Score	Class	Place
NC6Q	CA074S	31	28	80	2,240	Expedition QRO	EH-8th
N4KGL	FL003S	35	21	47	987	Expedition QRO	EH-9th
W1NRG	CT037R	36	10	47	470	Expedition QRO	EH-10th
VE3FI	ON022	41	21	86	1,806	Expedition QRP	EQ-1st
VA3PCJ	ON295	50	18	94	1,692	Expedition QRP	EQ-2nd
K9QJS	WA004S	46	23	62	1,426	Permanent	P-1st
WA7JT	WA003S	20	13	56	728	Permanent	P-2nd
ND9E	IL019L IL003R MO003R MO006R	172			7,172	Rover	R-1st
WØYJT	KS	19	24	95	2,280	Non-IsI.	N-1st
VE2GT	QC	2	4	10	40	Non-IsI.	N-2nd
WBØIWG	ND	1	2	5	10	Non-IsI.	N-3rd



CARA finishes in Third Place, Nationwide, in the 2017 ARRL Field day category 2AC out of 56 entries. Highest finish for CT and in the ARRL New England Division.

## 2017 ARRL Field Day

Displaying entries for **Category=2AC**

Entries 1 to 25 of 56 listed

Prev · [Next](#)

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#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	KW2O	7,432	2AC	2,173	2		NLI	21	Order of Boiled Owls of New York & Radio Central ARC
2	KP4ES	5,828	2AC	1,319	2		PR	11	Puerto Rico ARL
3	W1QI	4,780	2AC	1,123	2		CT	26	Candlewood ARA
4	K4II	3,962	2AC	1,153	2		SC	35	Spartanburg ARC
5	N0PR	3,560	2AC	724	2	AB0C	MO	14	Macon Co ARC
6	K1CCN	3,160	2AC	914	2		NH	4	Koomer Ridge Contesters
7	W9WAP	3,114	2AC	824	2		WI	20	Waupaca ARES
8	W5WB	2,972	2AC	563	2	W5AUY	NTX	35	Southwest Dallas Co ARC
9	K4PJ	2,516	2AC	540	2		TN	41	Oak Ridge ARC
10	W8USA	2,246	2AC	678	2	KC8KVR	MI	10	Michigan AR Alliance
11	W7EK	1,842	2AC	397	2		WWA	33	Cascade RC
12	W9OB	1,670	2AC	560	2		IN	25	Henry Co ARC
13	N4NE	1,642	2AC	545	2		GA	35	Sawnee Araiton
14	K2WMA	1,388	2AC	299	2	KB2UNZ	NNJ	7	West Morris ARC
15	KG4FJC	1,334	2AC	642	2		VA	4	
16	W3RW	1,327	2AC	1,277	1		EPA	3	Montgomeryville ARC
17	K9GV	1,322	2AC	223	2	K9CWD	IN	22	Hoosier Lakes RC
18	NC9A	1,310	2AC	310	2	NB9Q	IN	9	
19	W8AX	1,294	2AC	222	2		MI	23	Thumb ARC
20	N0S	1,274	2AC	275	2	KC0NRO	MO	25	Sullivan ARC
21	KE5LOT	1,236	2AC	139	2		STX	20	Hays-Caldwell ARC
22	W4GTA	1,144	2AC	150	2		GA	10	Tri-States ARC
23	W5JAS	1,096	2AC	73	2		STX	9	Lakes Area ARC
24	W4AKH	1,064	2AC	85	2		SFL	23	Ft Pierce ARC
25	W4M	1,064	2AC	57	2		GA	20	Milledgeville ARC

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
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26	WA2LQO	1,038	2AC	393	2		NLI	12	Grumman ARC
27	NH5HD	1,014	2AC	82	2		NM	25	Valley HS + High Desert ARC
28	AB7HP	999	2AC	706	1		ID	12	Hewlett Packard Boise ARC
29	KC9SFL	974	2AC	291	2		IN	10	Daviess Co ARC
30	N5BTC	948	2AC	274	2	WB5PG	STX	7	Big Thicket ARC
31	W5WRA	942	2AC	113	2		AR	33	Lawrence Co ARC
32	W4GL	910	2AC	380	2		SC	10	Sumter ARA
33	W0BXR	884	2AC	111	2		IA	15	Davenport ARC
34	W4FAR	882	2AC	216	2		NC	17	Foothills ARC
35	N2HRT	794	2AC	222	2		TN	21	Hawkins-Hancock AR Team
36	KE8CEW	784	2AC	234	1		MI	10	SE Michigan Freinds
37	AI9F	776	2AC	47	2		IL	30	Clay Co Area ARC
38	W7SU	758	2AC	207	2		UT	18	Ogden ARC
39	NC4AR	742	2AC	246	2		NC	10	Tri-County ARC
40	AC6EE	740	2AC	132	2		SJV	29	Tehachapi ARA
41	K6SNY	716	2AC	127	2		SCV	60	Sunnyvale ARES
42	WB8UCD	714	2AC	107	2		OH	15	Champaign Co ARES
43	CG3SDF	682	2AC	66	2	VE3SDF	ONS	3	St Mary's ARC
44	AA7CR	681	2AC	631	1		OR	5	Columbia River DX Club
45	KB9YJH	658	2AC	225	2		IN	4	Sprow Family
46	N4BRC	636	2AC	43	2		AL	17	Bald Rock ARC
47	VE2CRO	580	2AC	150	2		QC	4	Club Radio Amateur Drummondville
48	K5NEA	534	2AC	37	2		AR	8	Northeast Arkansas ARC
49	WB6RER	484	2AC	145	2		AZ	8	Hualapai ARC
50	WF7DX	482	2AC	29	2		WWA	3	

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
51	N7EI	456	2AC	203	2		OR	14	Columbia ARA
52	KE5TRB	288	2AC	19	2		STX	8	Oak Forest ARC
53	WE6AR	286	2AC	104	2		ORG	6	Cedar ARC #1 Club
54	W2VA	272	2AC	94	2		NLI	10	Wantagh ARC
55	WD4WDW	202	2AC	16	2		NFL	6	Disney Emergency AR Service
56	K5JVL	184	2AC	17	2		NTX	10	Cherokee Co ARC

## 2017 ARRL Field Day

Displaying entries for **Category=2AC** and **Division=NE**  
 Entries 1 to 2 of 2 listed

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	W1QI	4,780	2AC	1,123	2		CT	26	Candlewood ARA
2	K1CCN	3,160	2AC	914	2		NH	4	Koomer Ridge Contesters

CARA wins Third Place, USA Multi-operator out-of-state category, in the 2017 Ohio QSO Party.

**2017 Ohio QSO Party**

Sponsored by MRRC

Mad River Radio Club

K8T	Multip Op	465682	
K8V	Multip Op	283877	Delaware Amateur Radio Association
KB80	Multip Op	238632	Mad River Radio Club
N8FLW	Multip Op	191660	Norwalk, Ohio
K8PI	Multip Op	138138	Dial Radio Club
NF80	Multip Op	137942	Medina 2 Meter Group
W8BI	Multip Op	136160	Dayton Amateur Radio Association
W8DGN	Multip Op	101910	Bellbrook Amateur Radio Club
K8BF	Multip Op	69828	Portage County Amateur Radio Service
K8MD	Multip Op	26400	First Place - Minnesota
W8HHF	Multip Op	4464	Toledo Mobile Radio Association
W8HH	Multip Op	4128	Marietta Amateur Radio Club
W9RAR	Multip Op	2562	Second Place - Wisconsin
W8AJT	Multip Op	1012	Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
<b>W1QI</b>	<b>Multip Op</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>Third Place - Candlewood Amateur Radio Association</b>
W4CDA	Multip Op	135	
KG7DMI	Multip Op	4	



***Preliminary CARA 2018 Calendar –  
From Planning meeting on January 26:***

February

- 9 - K1MJM presentation on ARRL Puerto Rico Emergency Response Team 2017  
2018 CARA FD Committee
- 23 – February planning meeting

March

- 9 - DIY Show and Tell
- 16 – March planning meeting

April

- 13 - Chris Vargo - Presentation by his RC Aircraft Club.
- 27 – March planning meeting

May

- 6 – NEQP, CARA operates at W1AW
- 11 - Nominations Open for Elections
- 18 – May planning meeting

June

- 8 – Annual Elections  
FD Preparations
- 23-24 – ARRL Field Day

July

- 13 – Meeting open
- 19 – New Fairfield Benefit Car Show – W1QI Special Event Station
- 25 – W/VE Islands QSO Party – W1QI Candlewood Isle, New Fairfield
- 27 – July planning meeting

August

- 10 – Hamfest Prep, open
- 24 – August planning meeting
- 26 – Hamfest in Newtown

September

- 14 – EMCOMM event
- 16 – New Fairfield Day Special Event Station – N1F
- 21 – September planning meeting

October

- 12 – Open or YCCC/CARA joint meeting?
- 26 – October planning meeting

November

- 9 – Open or YCCC/CARA joint meeting?
- 23 – November planning meeting