



# Capers

## March - 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, March 9, Stony Hill Fire Station**

### **Return of the Annual CARA “DIY Show & Tell – Q&A Night”**

**Share some knowledge and experience.**

*What’s your latest project?  
How did you snag the latest DXCC country?  
How are you using the latest FT8 mode?  
What’s new in your shack?*

*We’ll try to have a computer available to use  
with the projector – so pictures are a plus!*

*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**
- **Member Project and Activities Presentations: Show and Tell – Q & A**

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



Hey all,

It's been a busy month, and I can report that my radio activities have picked up; just a little bit, - but I'm happy with it.

I participated in a couple of contests this month, and I've improved my skills ever so slightly. Contests are a great way to hone those skills and get a slew of new contacts to boot.

Our next meeting is on March 9th and it's one of my favorites.

We'll have a business meeting to start. I know, I know. But, we've got some great things to discuss including Field Day, CARA's Western CT Hamfest, and operating the New England QSO Party from W1AW, just to name a few.

Then, we'll have our radio/tech project "Show and tell". Bring your projects from the last year (or even before) and get ready to show them off.

I love this meeting, because it not only gets me thinking about how others have accomplished tasks that I want to tackle, but motivates me to dig into my work bench again. Simple or complex, they are all cool and inspiring!!!

I personally will be bringing my Elecraft K1 transceiver that I built a couple of years ago. I haven't publicly shown it off and thought others might like to see it.

I may bring another tech gadget that I designed, built and programmed too. Here's the hook: you'll just have to attend to see what it is, and if you'll want to do it too!!!

I hope to see you all there.

--... ..--  
Marcus  
AB1WV

## Vice-President's Message de N1NRP



Greetings CARA Members and Friends of CARA:

I hope all of you are well and have avoided getting the flu. How about that crazy storm that we had this past Friday – I hope your antennas survived the high winds, like mine did.

Wow!

We had a great time at the “Second N1GSA Race Day”. Congratulations to Eric- KC1EDE, who once again was the first-place winner. Congratulations go to Harlan-W1QH. For second- place, with Gary- N1GSA, finishing third.

By the time you read my message, the attenuator building session that we held at my house this past Saturday, will be history. I hope everyone had a good time building them, and especially some of you who built the Tape Measure Yagi too - just in time for the FOXHUNT in April. The date will be discussed, then announced soon.

I'd like to recognize and express my thanks to both Charlie- KC1IBR, for accepting the task as Field Day Chairman; and to David- KB1ZAC, as co-Chairman. The other current members of the CARA 2018 FD Committee are: Marcus-AB1WV, and Joe-KC1IBQ. The previous CARA FD leadership team consisting of Dan-W1QK, Roger-NG1R, and Harlan-W1QH, are sharing their knowledge and experience with the FD

committee. Check your E-Mail for periodic FD updates and PLEASE volunteer to do something to support this event. David already sent out a signup sheet for operating times - so let's fill it up soon along with all the other tasks that will be identified.

There's plenty of opportunities to contribute to this major annual CARA event if we want to ensure that it's the success that we've come to anticipate and enjoy.

I'm personally looking forward this year with one goal - improving last year's score, which we doubled from the previous year. We also finished third in the country out of 63 stations in the 2AC category; doubling our score from the previous year.

I also realized that I need to acquire a larger tent before this year's FD – because the one I had last year was easy to setup, but it was just a bit too small for Julie - my XYL, and me.

See you at the meeting.

73 – Jay, N1NRP

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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.

A moment of silence was observed for Sander Pool, who became a Silent Key this past month.

A Round Robin introduction was performed.

The minutes of last meeting were accepted with one correction of call signs.

Treasurer reported a balance of \$6788.14. W1JGM made a motion to make a \$100 donation to New Pond Farm in the name of Sander Pool. This follows the family's wishes. There was no discussion. This Passed.

W1QK made a motion to give a \$10 donation to 3 clubs who support various QSO parties. This motion passed.

The Tarrywile Park has made a prohibitive increase in their rate for the use of the facilities for our Field Day event.

NARA club president Gregory gave an open invitation to join them in Northville.

NG1R mentioned our possible participation at W1AW during the NEQP in May. This has been a tradition of the club for many years. This will be a single transmitter with multi-ops, but other non-contest stations will be available to operate too. Dan made a motion to again sponsor the plaque for the highest scoring Connecticut station in this event. This motion passed.

Dan presented a short photo montage about Sander's participation with the club.

Formal meeting adjourned at 8:35, when the guest speaker made his Puerto Rico presentation.

Respectfully Submitted.  
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA,  
Secretary

## **January 23 - CARA Planning Meeting Minutes** de N1GSA

Meeting called to order at 8 PM by President Marcus Swearingen.

Dinner bills were presented for reimbursement. This was for the dinner with our presenter for our last regular meeting.

Jay brought up about a budget for meeting refreshments. He will start bringing in receipts for this.

Summer Field Day was discussed. There is a sign-up sheet for people to reserve their positions.

The Stony Hill Firehouse is available for our use, should we want it. Charlie – KC1IBR, the Field Day Chairman, will finalize the details of our use and facility availability with Millie. Signage, kitchen, overnight, antenna placement, ground Rods, etc. will all be brought up.

There also could be a good possibility for a coordinated effort between the Firehouse and the Club for information and membership.

Also, a possibility for a Technician Class to follow this event.

It will be brought up to make a donation to the Firehouse for this event.

John – W1JGM, reported on the Hamfest application to ARRL. He is working on a new flyer update. Would it be possible to negotiate for a half day price on the Edmund Town Hall?

The date will be Aug 26. Would it be possible to have a VE session during the Hamfest? Mike Walters will do another ARES forum at the event. Updates are necessary on Social Media for all these events.

John Ahle- W1JMA, stopped by and brought 3 computers that were donated by his company to replace those used with our radios.

The Secretary will write a letter of receipt and thanks for these.

Progress on the repeater has been stagnant. It has been many months since anything has been done to get the Motorola machine back online.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40  
Respectfully Submitted  
Gary S Adams S – N1GSA,  
Secretary



### *February CARA Meeting Flashback:*

## *Hurricane Maria Hits Puerto Rico & K1MJM explained how Hams responded:*



*CARA President – Marcus Swearingen- AB1WV, presenting Michael Miciukiewicz- K1MJM, with a Certificate of Appreciation from CARA for his ARRL Emergency Response Team deployment presentation.*

*Photo Credit: W1QK*

CARA was honored to have Michael Miciukiewicz – K1MJM, of Trumbull, at the February meeting to present his images and summary of his experiences as a volunteer with the ARRL-sponsored amateur radio communications team deployed for *three weeks* to Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, which ravaged the island on September 20, 2017.



From: Michael Miciukiewicz, K1MJM

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 completely 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.

Mike was fortunate enough to deploy to Puerto Rico with that first wave of volunteers from all over the United States. He was there for three weeks. It was truly an experience of a lifetime that he was pleased to share with us.

During Mike's talk, he discussed: Travel, living conditions, logistics, weather, medical concerns, organizational structure, radio gear, pre-existing resources, radio procedures, and much more.

He welcomed and answered our questions throughout the presentation and discussed what was of interest to us – especially those ARES members in attendance.

## *CARA Holds Second "N1GSA Race Day" on February 11* de N1NRP

*Photo Credits: N1NRP*

First Place: Eric – KC1EDE: 39.124 seconds also fastest average at 42.190; plus Overall winner – received a free lunch at Jersey Mike's.

Second Place: Harlan – W1QH, aka "Quick Ham": 39.386

Third Place: Gary – N1GSA, aka "Lead foot": 43.053

Fourth Place: Marlon – KC1EHW, aka "Hot Rod": 44.294



Marlon – KC1EHW, aka "Hot Rod"

Fifth Place: Keresa – Eric's sister: 44.713

Sixth Place: Carolina – Jay's daughter: aka "Go Speed Racer": 47.026

Seventh Place: Jay – N1NRP, aka "Jay Bird": 49.351



Eighth Place: Tom – WX1T. aka “Ace Rogers”:  
50.480



Last race results - lap times:

1. Eric - KC1EDE: 40.243
2. Harlan - W1QH, Quick Ham: 40.524
3. Carolina Albano, Go Speed Racer: 43.145
4. Isabel - KC1EHW’s daughter: 45.585
5. Gary – N1GSA, Lead foot: 48.727
6. Jay – N1NRP, Jay Bird: 48.875
7. Marlon – KC1EHW, Hot Rod: 49.549
8. David - KB1ZAC: 52.407
9. Tom – WX1T, Ace Rogers: 55.717.



## *HP Probook Laptops Donated to CARA: de W1QH*

*Thanks to John, W1JMA, for arranging a donation of 3 Laptops to our Club.*

*They are HP Probook 4730s models, with 17-inch screens.*

*Windows 10 Pro 64bit OS, 4 Gb Ram, with Intel i5 2.4 GHz processors.*

*I’ve activated them, and loaded them with the following Ham software:*

- N1MM+ Logger*
- Fldigi and full NBEMS suite (for digital work)*
- Flwnkey ( CW Winkeyer programmer)*
- MMTTY ( RTTY program )*
- MMSSTV ( SSTV program )*
- WSJT-X ( FT65 and FT8 and more )*

*I have also procured 3 wired mice for them (NOT wireless as historical interference )*

*I recommend that the Club also purchase 3 Laptop cases, 3 USB Hubs, and FTDI chipped CI-V cables.*

*Suggested from Amazon:*

- Amazon Basics 17.3 Laptop Bag \$16.99*
- Sabrent 4 port USB hub \$6.99*
- Valley Enterprises FTDI USB CI-V cable 3 ft. \$29.97*

*New CI-Vs due to old ones will NOT work in Win 10.*

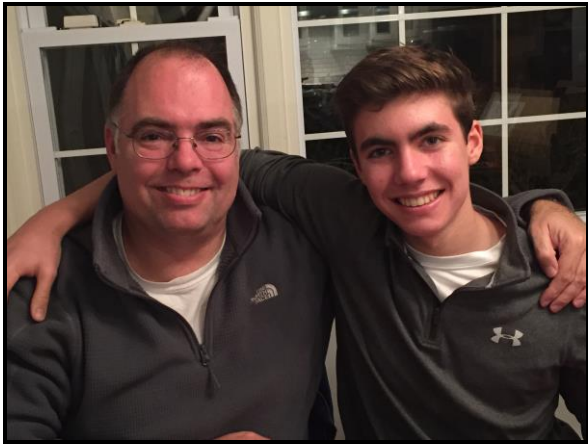
*73  
Harlan Ford  
W1QH*



*In Memory of:  
Sander O. Pool – W1SOP  
Mar. 7, 1967 – Jan. 26, 2018  
CARA President & Vice-President  
Photo contributions by the Pool Family,  
Gregory, WR1Z & Thomas, WABUNS*







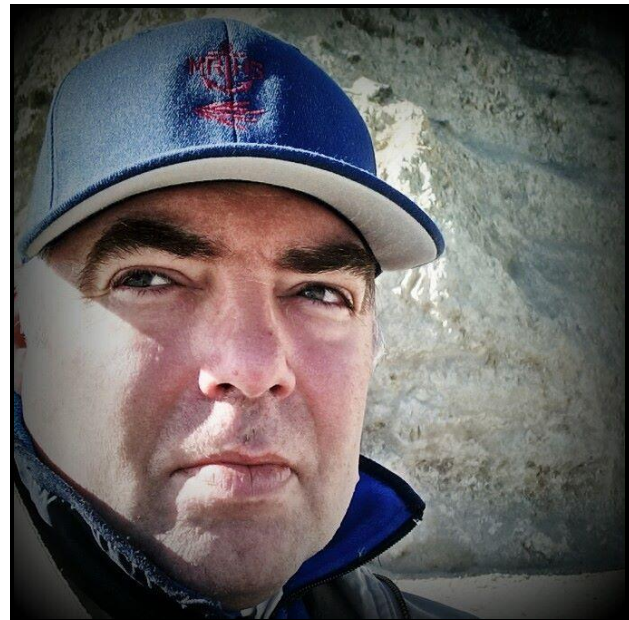














## CARA Extends Thanks

de W1QK

Photo credits – W1QK

CARA recently presented certificates and letters of appreciation to Tarrywile administrators and to the City of Danbury Emergency Manager for their support of CARA’s 2016 & 2017 ARRL Field Day events.



(L-R) Roger Mitchell – NG1R, CARA Director and CARA 2016-2017 FD Co-Chairman, Ann Marie Sholtes, City of Danbury – Tarrywile Mansion Event Coordinator, Becky Petro, Executive Director, City of Danbury - Tarrywile Park Authority, Marcus Swearingen – AB1WV, CARA President.



At 722 acres, Tarrywile Park is the largest municipally owned town Park in the State of Connecticut and the answer to any nature lover’s dream. The Park offers fields and meadows

giving way to spectacular views, dense forests of hemlock, oak and maple, steep hillsides punctuated by dramatic outcrops of granite, and glistening streams and ponds. There are twenty-one miles of cleared hiking trails and several picnic areas. The Park allows opportunities for observing wildlife and enjoying the scenery or an aggressive workout on rugged terrain.

Source: City of Danbury website



(L-R) Harlan Ford – W1QH, CARA Director and CARA 2016-2017 FD Co-Chairman, Paul Estefan, City of Danbury Emergency Manager, Roger Mitchell – NG1R, CARA Director and CARA 2016-2017 FD Co-Chairman.



The certificates and letters of appreciation were designed and created by CARA Director, Dan Fegley, W1QK. See pages 34 & 35.



Paul Estefan – KB1SOY

The Office of Civil Preparedness for the City of Danbury continuously receives support and updates for our Emergency Operations Plan from the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Events throughout the last decade have redefined emergency response needs and planning at all levels of government. Being proactive in our approach and response to potential emergency events, both natural and man-made, is our priority. Our primary mission continues to be the development of plans, protocols, and procedures that assure the safety of our citizens. The department, with input from local, state, and national agencies, has made significant strides in preparedness, and has created a strong foundation for emergency management in our community.

Source: City of Danbury website

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## Offset Attenuator Building Session at N1NRP's QTH

de N1NRP & W1QK

Photo Credits: N1NRP

On Saturday, March 3, CARA members and friends gathered at N1NRP's QTH in Danbury to assemble their Offset Attenuator kits and Tape Measure Yagis in advance of the next CARA Fox Hunt, which will be held on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 2PM in Danbury.

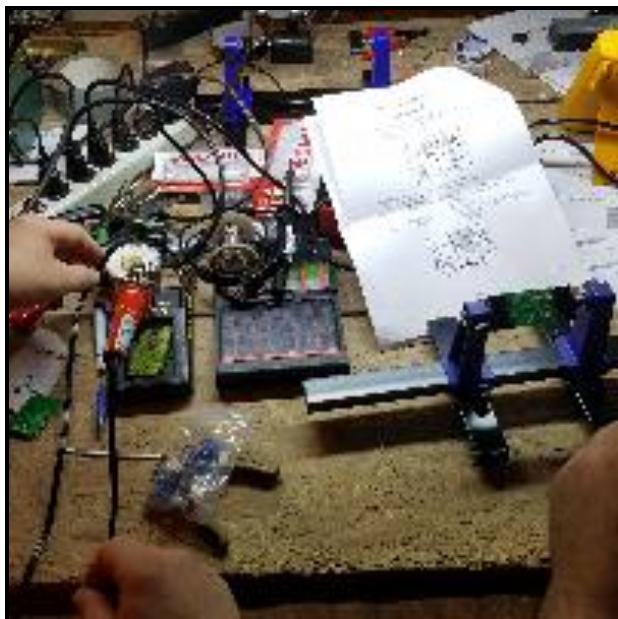




To prepare for the hidden transmitter search, CARA members and friends from GFARA, GBARC, WECA, PCARA, and PEARL met at Jay's mancave to build offset attenuators to go along with the tape measure Yagi's that the club sponsored a building session for last year.



Stanley-WA2NRV, WECA Director at Large, spearheaded the yagi portion of the event, while Jeff- KB1MZL, helped with the attenuator assembly.





Marlon-KC1EHW assisted Jay with preparing the work area by installing an exhaust fan and drill press – plus arranging for generator AC power back-up in the event of a power outage. Jay's wife, Juliana, prepared and cleaned the workspace tables and chairs.



Work was performed while listening to a Wayne Newton CD. A good time was had by all.







Nancy, Scott- N1CWV's wife, and their daughter helped serve lunch and drinks to everyone.



The crew was getting hungry, so at 2:30 PM Sal's Pizza delivered some pizza and garden salad.

Jim - KD1YV's wife made homemade brownies that were out of this world.



Andy supplied hot coffee and donuts. There were other goodies throughout the day.



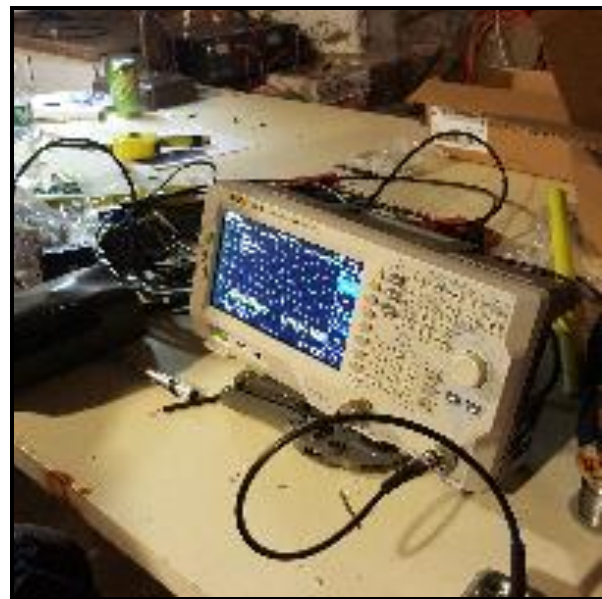
After lunch Joe-KC1IBQ, pulled a name out of the box for the drawing.

Jeff-KB1MZL, won a brand new dual-band HT. Congratulations Jeff.

Everyone received a CARA logo sticker to put on their finished project.



A huge thank you goes to John-W1JGM for bringing his Spectrum Analyzer to test the performance of the completed offset attenuators and the SWR of the yagis.







Marcus - AB1WV, CARA President  
 Scott - N1CWV & family  
 Harlan - W1QH, CARA Director  
 Andy - AC2OE  
 John - W1JGM

My good friend, Freddy – KD2GJJ was unable to attend because he was dealing with issues that were caused by the nasty storm on Friday.

Thank goodness that he wasn't hurt when a tree fell in his driveway and took out his antennas too.

Al- K2DMV was dealing with obtaining propane for heat because of the power outage. Both you guys are key players in these events and were missed.

We'll see how it's all going to work at the upcoming CARA Fox Hunt on Sunday, April 29th in Danbury; and The PCARA Fox Hunt May 12th in Peekskill, NY.

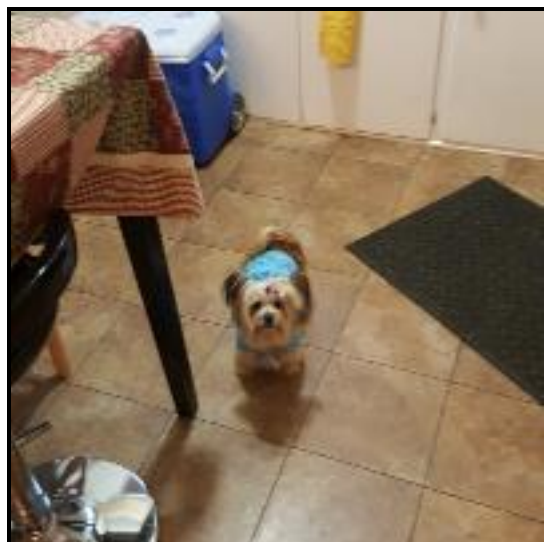
More details and information to follow via email.

Happy Fox Hunting.  
 73 - N1NRP

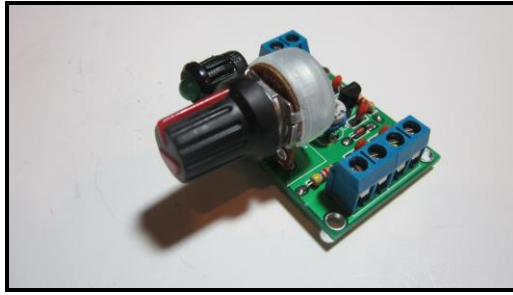


Those attending:

- Jay - N1NRP
- Marlon - KC1EHW & Family
- David - KB1ZAC
- David - KB1LTW
- Ken - NE1CU
- Joe - KC1IBQ
- Larry - AB1JC
- Stan - A2NRV
- Sam - W1SMF
- Vin - N2OHH
- Charlie - KC1IBR
- Jim - KD1YV
- Ned - KA1CVV
- Jeff - KB1MZL



### The KC9ON Offset Attenuator Kit:



So - just what is an offset attenuator? Joe explains it on his “Homing in” site as:

An RF attenuator is a device that goes between antenna and receiver to reduce the signal strength down to within the range that the receiver S-meter can handle. Without one, you may think you’re close to the fox when you’re still far away. You won’t be able to get close enough to a camouflaged hidden T to identify it. The amount of attenuation should be adjustable so that you can add just a little when your S-meter first pins,

Special ARDF receivers used by champion foxhunters have electronic attenuation built in, but ordinary hand-talkies don’t. Adding it would require major micro-surgery in the HT.

<https://www.amateurradio.com/foxhunt-gear-%E2%80%93-offset-attenuators/>

<https://kc9on.com/product-category/amateur-radio-kits/>

## Fox Hunt Offset Attenuator

\$8.00 – \$12.00

*When your closing in on the fox you may find the signals to be strong enough you can no longer find a peak or null with your antenna. Sometimes the signal is so strong that the RF will leak straight into the radio, connections and other equipment making the antenna useless. The solution is to use an offset attenuator. The circuit consists of a small RF generator, in this case 4MHz, which will mix with the incoming fox signal (such as 146.52MHz) and produce new signals at plus and minus the fox signal (142.52Mhz and 150.52Mhz). A potentiometer on the board changes the injection level of the RF generator which in turn attenuates the incoming mixed signal to your radio to a level where tracking can continue.*

Click [here](#) for more information on fox hunting and the offset attenuator.





# ARRL Receives Byrd Antarctic Expedition Morse Key, Historical Materials

02/15/2018

ARRL has received from Lynn Burlingame, N7CFO, the donation of a Kilbourne & Clark Morse key that the late Howard Mason (11D, 7BU, and K7QB) used to let the world know that Rear Admiral Richard Byrd and his crew had overflowed the South Pole for the first time during Byrd’s 1928 – 1930 Antarctic expedition.

Mason and his 80 colleagues were awarded Congressional Gold Medals for their efforts in establishing the Antarctic outpost “Little America,” the first of a series of bases bearing that name.



Mason was a lifelong radio amateur from Seattle who was an active ARRL National Traffic System participant and manager. In 1923, he relocated to Connecticut to serve as an editor of the ARRL’s journal, *QST*.

Mason’s first polar experience was as a radio operator with the Wilkins-Detroit News Arctic expedition that traversed the North Pole by air in 1928. This led to his selection by Byrd to be a radio engineer with his first Antarctic expedition. Mason was co-operator of Little America’s base radio station, WFA, used to keep in contact with the rest of the world.



Mason continued to use the key in his ensuing and varied endeavors. Prior to his death in 1996, he gave the key to Burlingame of Bellevue, Washington, a collector and biographer who generously donated it to the ARRL Heritage Museum.

The museum plans to display the key as part of an exhibition tentatively scheduled to open on April 15. The exhibition also will include a large wooden key, engraved with “WFA” and bearing the signatures of some expedition members.

Also, on display will be a first edition of Admiral Byrd’s book *Little America: Aerial Exploration in the Antarctic, the Flight to the South Pole* and an album of contemporary newspaper clippings, both part of the Burlingame donation.

A complete narrative will be posted to the Heritage Museum Section of the ARRL website.

The key and the Little America radio operators can be seen in action in an [original film](#) available on YouTube, which offers a first look of the towers erected there (at the 15:00 mark). —

*Thanks to Michael Marinaro, WNIM,  
ARRL Volunteer Staff Historian/Archivist*

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## ARRL Connecticut Section News:



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



**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:

Mar. 3-4: ARRL DX Contest - SSB  
Mar. 10: ID QSO Party  
Mar. 10: Stew Perry 160M Contest  
Mar. 11: Daylight Savings Time begins  
Mar. 11: WI QSO Party  
Mar. 12: ARES Region 5 South Meeting –  
Danbury EOC  
Mar. 17-18 BARTG RTTY Contest  
Mar. 18: Southington Hamfest and CT ARES  
Spring meeting  
Mar. 23: CARA Planning meeting – SHFD  
Mar. 23-25: CQWW WPX SSB Contest  
Mar. 26: ARES Region 5 Meeting  
Mar 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>

March 18: Southington Hamfest and CT ARES  
Spring Meeting

<http://www.chetbacon.com/sara/>

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### Complete Contest calendar at:

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

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### Upcoming CARA Calendar:

Mar. 3: CARA Offset Attenuator Build session  
at N1NRP's QTH  
Mar. 3: CARA VEC Test session at SHFD  
Mar. 9: CARA Annual “DIY Night”  
Mar. 23: Monthly CARA planning meeting –  
SHFD – Begins at 8:00 pm  
Mar. 31: April Capers input deadline



## YCCC News

The next scheduled meeting of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be held on Sunday, April 14.

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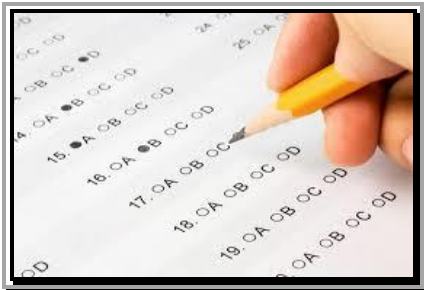
Connecticut ARES Region 5 conducts a weekly net each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

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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## Upcoming VE exam sessions:

### Bethel CT 06801-9999

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#### 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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### Litchfield CT 06759-3404

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#### EXAM SESSION

03/13/2018

**Sponsor:** Northwest Amt

**Date:** Mar 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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### Southington CT 06489-9999

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#### EXAM SESSION

03/18/2018

**Sponsor:** SARA

**Date:** Mar 18 2018

**Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Harold Chet. Bacon

(860) 922-4312

**Email:** [chetbacon@cox.net](mailto:chetbacon@cox.net)

**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](#)

**Location:** Southington High School  
Tremont Street  
Southington CT 06489-9999

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CARA will be using N1MM+ Contest Logger during the ARRL 2018 Field Day.

For a free download, visit:

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



## NEWS, PRESS RELEASES, AND GENERAL INTEREST

During the ARRL International DX Contest, CW & SSB, some Puerto Rico Amateurs were sending zero, usually using the cut-number 'T', as their power. Why? To raise overall awareness that significant portions of the island are still without commercial electrical power even now, and that recovery operations are still continuing in the aftermath of September's Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria.

For a limited time, the CQ WW Contest Committee [has made available a new tool for examining logs](#) in the CQ WW Contest. With this Tableau-based tool, different metrics of various logs can be examined and compared. This is **not** a 'GO/NO-GO' type of tool. It is a visualization and data exploration tool that can assist in analyses of various aspects of logs to identify areas for further investigation.

## OPERATING TIP

**Always include a Space at the end of your RTTY messages**

It's accepted practice to put a space at the beginning of RTTY messages to separate

valid characters from any spurious decodes preceding them, and to take advantage of the **Unshift on Space (USOS)** feature of many modern RTTY decoders. It's also wise to put a space **AFTER** each message, so that any subsequent spurious decodes are separated from the messages. This improves readability and makes copying message text by mouse movement or clicking easier for the receiving operator. **Bonus:** Don't use too many LINEFEEDs which can cause the other operator to chase the text around the screen. (Inspired by Dave, K2YG, and others via the [RTTY email reflector](#))

Dave, NK7Z, has added a second chapter on finding and identifying RFI sources using SDRs to his website: "[RFI Site Survey - Part II, Interpretation](#)." Dave discusses his setup, and provides real-world examples of certain types of signals that can be found, including over-the-horizon RADAR, switching power supplies, etc. (Jim, K9YC, via RFI mailing list)

## CONTESTS

An expanded, downloadable version of QST's [Contest Corral in PDF format](#) is available. Check the sponsor's Web site for information on operating time restrictions and other instructions.

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*The following information is included as a courtesy to the ARRL, and for CARA member information.*

*This is **not** a paid advertisement nor endorsement. CARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club, and an ARRL Special Service Club, and we encourage you to consider joining the ARRL to support the programs that the organization sponsors – Editor.*



## 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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This is a novelty item made in San Francisco in the 60's. It isn't a real key, but a stapler that looks like an old straight key. A bit dirty, but all there. Included is the magazine advertising page for information. Would make a nice addition to a collection. \$30 shipped CONUS Ck. or MO please. NO PAY PAL. please reply to [wb8lzg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wb8lzg@sbcglobal.net) . thank you Gregg WB8LZG. **SOLD!**



## Breaking News: de W1QK

**Re: Reserving a portion of CWT bandwidth for slower CW**

FYI: To recognize the completion of the latest CW Academy Course, CWOPs will be requesting and recommending that everyone

who participates slow it down to no greater than 20 WPM.

Also, take note of the new "gentleman's agreement" for a slower speed "window" between .46 to .48 on each band.

So – get on for the CWT's this Wednesday, March 7 at 1300Z, 1900Z and 0300Z next

*CAPERS Editor: I'll be on the air with 20 wpm CW. PSE call me for a QSO, and I'll be listening for you too!*

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

Check out [www.cwops.org](http://www.cwops.org)

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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**From the CWOps Reflector:**

From: [Jim Noe](#)

Date: Fri, 02 Mar 2018 20:43:13 EST

Is there a thread here for FD?

Last year at Friedrichshafen I talked to several EU hams who told me that Field Day there is organized as a contest and competition is between clubs – to me that sounded like FD of old, and I thought the concept should be revived in the US somehow.

ARRL won't call FD a contest. What about CWops? Conform to the ARRL FD QSO “exchange” and report our Results to 3830scores.com. Something similar to how WRTC is within the IARU HF contest.

As it is in Europe, it would be a great way to expose and encourage contest style operating to budding contesters/CW operators in a participatory and collaborative setting – where there is competition!

Jim K6AR

**Re: Reserving a portion of CWT bandwidth for slower CW**

From: [Jim Jordan](#)

Date: Fri, 02 Mar 2018 19:09:02 EST

Is that like FD isn't a contest? If score is kept it's a contest.

**Re: Reserving a portion of CWT bandwidth for slower CW**

From: [Rob K6RB](#)

Date: Fri, 02 Mar 2018 19:13:09 EST

With FD, don't you have to submit a log? With CWT, you report a summary via 3830Scores. No logs. No log checking. It's honor system.

Rob K6RB

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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.



### ICOM IC-756 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 will also include the Heil HC 5 headset/with mike. Just updated: the package to include a second Heil desk mike. Asking price is \$1050. John W1JMA w1jma@aol.com 203-610-5335.

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.

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

### 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

# Obituary: Sander Olivier Pool, 50, of Ridgefield

By [The Ridgefield Press](#) on February 6, 2018 in [Obituaries](#) · [0 Comments](#)



## *Sander Olivier Pool*

Sander Olivier Pool, 50, of Ridgefield, passed away on January 26th, 2018. He was a loving husband and father to Jennifer and their two children Alec and Rachel.

Sander was born on March 7, 1967 in Apeldoorn in the Netherlands. He grew up in Holland but had a dream to move to the US once he spent a year here as a child. Sander got his degree in Computer Science at HIO Enschede in the Netherlands. After doing an internship in San Francisco he was offered a job in Silicon Valley. He worked at various companies in the valley his most recent being as a Senior Staff Engineer at Delphix.

Sander and Jennifer married in 1998. They lived in California until 2006 when they then moved to Ridgefield. Sander volunteered for many positions in Ridgefield. He was part of the CERT team, was the president of Westmoreland Homeowners association and his biggest love was volunteering at New Pond Farm for their astronomy program. Sander's favorite hobby was astrophotography. He also enjoyed being part of the amateur radio club especially when it came to Emergency Services. He was always prepared and ready to help.

Sander loved to learn. He was a avid documentary watcher and loved history. He was very concerned about the environment and was always talking about ways he could contribute to making things better in the world.

Sander will be missed by many. He is survived by his wife Jennifer and their two children, Alec and Rachel. His parents Astrid and Fred Pool, his siblings Laura Pool and her husband Johan, brother Maarten Pool and his wife Miranda. His nieces and nephews Twan, Huub, Jacob and Leah. Mother and father-in-law Carol and Stan Cohen and his sister and brother-in-law Adam Seiden and Abigail Rose. His dogs Bandit and Annie and his cats Mango and Cassie. He will be in all of our hearts forever. In his memory contributions can be made to New Pond Farm, [101 Marchant Road, Redding CT 06896](#)



# Thomas Cheslock

## Obituary



### Thomas Joseph Cheslock – K1TJC (SK)

Thomas Joseph Cheslock, age 69, of Hickory, NC, passed away on Monday, February 19, 2018. Born July 14, 1948, in Hazelton, PA, he was the son of the late Joseph Cheslock and Jane V. Cheslock.

A graduate of Penn State and Norwalk Community College, he received an Associate degree in computer programming. Thomas was employed with Pitney Bowes and retired at 61. He attended St. John's Episcopal Church in Marion, NC and St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Bethel, CT.

He was a past member of Bethel Volunteer Fire Department, Norwalk Volunteer Fire Department, a prior volunteer with The Red Cross, Danbury area Computer Club, Rocking Roosters square dance club, Candlewood Amateur Radio Association and Marion Amateur Radio Association.

Those left to cherish his memory is his wife of 32 years, Carol Cheslock of Hickory; son, Doug Griffin II and wife Stephanie; and sister-in-law, Dolly Normand and husband Gerry.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Condolences may be sent to the Cheslock family at [www.drumfh-hickory.com](http://www.drumfh-hickory.com).

Drum Funeral Home in Hickory is honored to be serving the Cheslock family.

+++++

de W1QK:

I met Tom when he was working in the model shop at Perkin-Elmer in Norwalk in the late 1970's. He also worked in the Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy Department for several years when it was located at 901 Ethan Allen Hwy. in Ridgefield.

Tom and Carol were members of the Rocking Roosters Square Dance Club when Brenda and I were also members.

Tom was an active CARA member for several years, and a former Treasurer.

He and Carol lived in Bethel before moving to his second home in North Carolina.

RIP Tom.



Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV  
President - Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Ann Marie Sholtes  
Event Coordinator - Tarrywile Park & Mansion  
City of Danbury

Dear Ms. Sholtes,

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) would like to express our gratitude for your support of our club.

Your assistance in coordinating our use of the exceptional Tarrywile facilities for our annual ARRL Field Day Event helped to make it a success for the past two years.

As you're aware, Field Day is an annual National emergency preparedness and communication exercise, sponsored by the American Radio Relay League – ARRL, based in Newington, CT.

We were happy to welcome many visitors and describe our Field Day operations to them, and explain how this event enables us to become better prepared to supplement communications during times of disasters.

We wanted you to know how much we appreciate your support.

With gratitude,

Marcus Swearingen

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcus Swearingen". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV  
President - Candlewood Amateur Radio Association





Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV  
President - Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Paul Estefan  
Airport Administrator / Director of Civil Preparedness  
City of Danbury

Dear Mr. Estefan,

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) would like to express our gratitude for your ongoing support of club activities.

Over the years, you have provided excellent guidance, EOC and meeting space, access to Spruce Mountain and facilities for our repeaters, up to date hardware in the EOC, loaned equipment for field day - the list goes on and on.

Yours, and the City of Danbury's support has been vital to the success of numerous CARA actions and activities.

As we begin a new year, we just want you to know how much we appreciate you and your support. We look forward to continuing our partnership in 2018 and beyond.

Thank you so much for your leadership and support.

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcus Swearingen".

Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV  
President - Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

