



Capers

July - 2018

The Monthly Newsletter of The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 741 – Hawleyville, CT 06440-0741
Visit us on the Web at <http://www.CaraRadioClub.org>

Next CARA Meeting:
Friday, July 13, Stony Hill Fire Station



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

Agenda:

- *Special Presentation by DX Engineering via Skype:
– Tim Duffy, The K3LR Station and Story
Begins at 8:00pm sharp*
- *Pledge of Allegiance – Introductions – AB1WV*
- *Reading of Minutes – N1GSA*
- *Treasurer's Report – WX1T*
- *Old Business*
- *Field Day Report*
- *New Business*

President's Message - de AB1WV



All,

We had a great Field Day again this year; and hats off to Charlie, and the rest of the Field Day Committee for a job well done.

Thanks to the City of Danbury Office of Preparedness, and Paul Estefan for providing our venue this year as well. We look forward to the wrap-up report, and some suggestions for next year.

The July 13th meeting will start with a presentation by Bob Naumann, W5OV, of DX Engineering at 8:00 pm sharp. His presentation will be about Tim Duffy, *The K3LR Station and Story*, and will be delivered via Skype. It promises to be an interesting and entertaining presentation. Visit his QRZ.com listing for links to pictures, videos, and fascinating information about Tim and his Contest Super Station located in Western Pennsylvania.



Business will follow, to include a few operations opportunities and further prep for our main fund raiser of the year; our hamfest. As always, refreshments will be provided.

Hope to see you all at this month's meeting.

--... ..--
Marcus
AB1WV

Vice-President's Message

de N1NRP



Hey there CARA Members and Friends of CARA:

How about that field Day! Charlie-KC1IBR and David-KB1ZAC did a super job this year on their first time as Field Day Chairmen. They had a tough act to follow up after Dan-W1QK, Harlan-W1QH, and Roger-NG1R spearheaded this event for the past several years.

I'd like to extend my thanks to club members who were involved with FD.

It was nice to see all the active club members enjoying the weekend.

I heard we made a bunch of contacts. I'm looking forward to hearing the FD Committee's summary and the results.

Gary - N1GSA, and Eric- KC1EDE, kept us well nourished. This year's fare didn't disappoint. I especially enjoyed Eric's delicious venison roast.

See ya at next year's FD; Ooops - let's not rush it.

I hope everyone enjoyed their 4th of July celebration with family and friends.

God Bless America.

73 - Jay

June 8 CARA Meeting Minutes

de N1GSA



The meeting was called to order by President Marcus Swearingen at 8:05 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A Round Robin introduction was performed.
21 People were present.

The minutes of last meeting were accepted with one correction.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$5837.34.

The Repeater Committee reported on the Yaesu repeater offer. The new machines would be available for \$500 each instead of the retail price of \$2400. This does come with the latest technology as well as a full 3-year warranty. There are many features that are too numerous to list. Motion by the committee to move forward with this purchase for a total cost of \$1400. This includes money for new cabling, voice card, and other miscellaneous items. Discussion followed. Motion made to amend this motion to purchase only one machine at this time. More discussion followed regarding the benefit of this. This amendment was defeated. Original motion was then voted on and passed.

There should be work parties over the summer to improve our antennas and system. The 6-meter

system will be analyzed at this time. The existing machine will be turned back down to 20 watts output.

Hamfest progress was discussed. There have been numerous flyers distributed. Thanks to all who have helped with this. Still time to distribute more. There are 3 or 4 commercial vendors who have committed to attend. The ARES presentation and VE session are scheduled.

New Fairfield Day will be Sept 16th.

The Car Show is July 28th.

There will be areas available to activate the Appalachian Trail coming up.

W/VE Islands on the Air QSO party is August 27th. We should be at the Candlewood Isle tennis courts again this year. We are waiting for confirmation.

ARRL VHF contest is this weekend. There is an FM only category. Starting Saturday afternoon and ending Sun night.

Nominations and elections followed. There were no nominations from the floor. It was moved to elect the present Officers and Directors for another year. This passed easily with the Secretary casting one ballot for the entire slate.

Charlie reported that ARRL Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 23 through Sunday, June 24th. Preparations are well under way.

COSTCO has a donation program for 501c3 organizations. This has been applied for.

Manpower signup has moved forward well with a few spots still needed for equipment pickup and overnight operations.

Dan will investigate antenna placements.

Parking overnight will require a permit.

A short break was followed by a presentation about the use of N1MM+ logging program which will be used on Field Day.

Respectfully Submitted
Gary S. Adams *NIGSA*
Secretary

CARA Planning Meeting Minutes

No June Planning meeting was held.



CARA Repeater Committee:

No update submitted from this committee.

ARRL Connecticut Section News:



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



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 CARA NETS:

CARA 10M “Rag Chew Net”:

28.490 MHz. 7:00 pm Sunday

CARA 2M NET:

W1QI 2M Repeater – 7:30 pm Sunday

CARA PSK31 Digital NET:

28.100 MHz. 7:00 pm Tuesday; 1500 Hz.

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

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

Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

- July 9: ARES meeting – Danbury EOC
- July 10: Summer Pasta Party – Amerigo Vespucci Lodge, Danbury
- July 13: CARA Monthly meeting with special presentation via Skype by DX Engineering: “*The K3LR Station & Story*”
- July 14: IARU HF World Championship – WRTC 2018 from Germany
<http://www.wrtc2018.de/en/>
- July 21: CQWW VHF contest
- July 21: North American QSO Party – RTTY
- July 23: ARES Region 5 Monthly meeting
- July 27: CARA July Planning meeting
- July 28: New Fairfield Car Show – W1QI

special event station
July 11, 18, 25: CWOps CWT 1300Z, 1900Z,
0300Z

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:

- July 13: CARA Monthly meeting
- July 27: Monthly planning meeting – SHFD
- Aug. 3: August Capers input deadline



YCCC News

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

From the YCCC Reflector:

Fwd: Solar Panel RFI Case in Kings Park, N.Y.
From: Larry Banks
Date: Thu, 28 Jun 2018 17:11:48 EDT
FYI, Larry / W1DYJ

All:
Some of you may recall that I've been dealing with RFI generated by a neighbor's solar panel installation since the day it was installed in August of 2016. I promptly notified Solar Edge, the manufacturer, about the noise and they acknowledged (eventually) that their components were the cause of the RFI.

Solar Edge: <https://www.solaredge.com/us/home>

Update:
Last week, on June 21st, Solar Edge sent a contractor (Solar City) to install RFI suppression to eliminate the RFI. The engineers from Solar Edge

told me that they guaranteed it would work and that they've installed this type of RFI suppression many times before.

Unfortunately, it had little to no effect. They used small clamp-on ferrite cores at the optimizers (noise generators) with one turn of cable around each core. The reason they gave for not using a large ferrite with multiple turns was that multiple turns could damage the cables -- go figure.

They apologized for not solving the problem and are now flying their engineers in from the west coast to New York to inspect the work done by the installer. Once again, they assured me that problem will be solved.

In my case, my neighbor's installation is 150 feet from my antennas yet the RFI is strong at that distance. It's heard on 30 through 10 meters so HF is essentially unusable during the day while the system is active.

My advice to my fellow hams is this: take a good look around your neighborhood and notice the number of solar panel systems popping up everywhere. Imagine trying to figure out which system among them is causing RFI and the task of knocking on doors to find out who manufactured the system or who the responsible party is.

Solar panel systems are not going away so the potential for RFI issues are likely to become widespread. In fact, California plans on making solar panels mandatory on new homes beginning in 2020.

I think most would agree that it's time for the ARRL and other advocates to make a serious effort to let the FCC know how serious a problem this is. Signed petitions by the 160,000 members of the ARRL sent to local congressmen might be a good place to start.

Or, we can sit on our asses and say goodbye to HF.

Tony -K2MO



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:

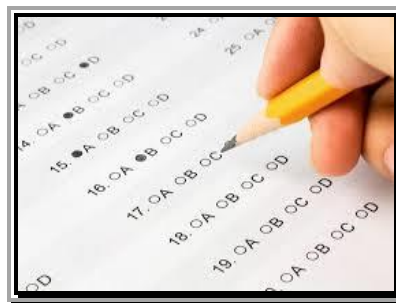
Washington: 441.850 MHz +5 MHz PL 77 Hz

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.

2018 CARA Ham Exam Schedule:



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

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](mailto:frsileo@att.net)

Other upcoming VE exam sessions:

Litchfield CT 06759-3404

07/10/2018

Sponsor: Northwest Amt

Date: Jul 10 2018

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Lawrence S. Polowy

(860) 283-4089

Email: lspolowy@snet.net

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Litchfield Firehouse
258 West St
Park in Rear
Litchfield CT 06759-3404

Trumbull CT 06611-1944

07/12/2018

Sponsor: CT Regional Testing Center

Date: Jul 12 2018

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Kevin W. Cellini

(203) 209-6495

Email: kevin.cellini@gmail.com

VEC: [W5YI VEC](#)

Location: <http://441700.org/CRTC/crtc.htm>

49 Sunrise Ave
VE's Residence
Trumbull CT 06611-1944

Washington Depot CT 06794-1201

07/14/2018

Sponsor: Northville ARA

Date: Jul 14 2018

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Gary Michael. Walters

(860) 938-2030

Email: w8zy@outlook.com

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Washington Volunteer Fire Station

109 Bee Brook Rd
Washington Depot CT 06794-1201

Norwalk CT 06854-2164

08/04/2018

Sponsor: Greater Norwalk ARC

Date: Aug 04 2018

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Tom J. Alessi

(203) 253-7745

Email: k1ta@arrl.net

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Greater Norwalk ARC

100 Fairfield Ave
Norwalk CT 06854-2164



CARA used 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

The following 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.



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- [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 [ARES E-Letter](#) (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the [ARRL Contest Update](#) (bi-weekly contest

newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!

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

Check out 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.

For Sale:

Send ads for sale items to your CAPERS Editor.



CARA is an ARRL – Affiliated Club

Member and Station News:

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



Breaking News:

ARES Region 5 members & Ridgefield CERT Team assist with July 4th Ridgefield Fireworks
de Charles Setaro, KC1IBR

I responded to Harlan-W1QH’s email on his request for assistance by Ridgefield’s EMD - Dick Aarons, and Sean McEvoy, their CERT leader.

We met at 5:45 pm at the Ridgefield High School’s Ridgebury Road entrance near the soccer fields.

Harlan was setting up a command tent there with others from Ridgefield, including George - N1GS and Anthony Markert, newly appointed Ridgefield ARES EC.

We discussed the plan with Dick and Sean.

The Ridgefield HS fireworks venue is a huge multi-level area of many acres with three separate gathering areas. The Lower Level

football & soccer fields; the Upper Level with two baseball fields; and the High School HS level with a grassy area and parking lot.



Other hams involved were Tony- KB1YNB and Ken- KD1DD. They covered a sector together on the west side of the upper level.

Harlan was Net Control for the ARES hams. The Ridgefield town portables were issued to their CERT operators, and the CERT net control operator was Kim Manzi.



COMMUNICATIONS LIST (ICS 205A)		
1. Incident Name: Ridgefield Fireworks		2. Operational Period: Date From: 07/04/20 Time From: 1730
3. Basic Local Communications Information:		
Incident Assigned Position	Name (Alphabetized)	Method(s) (phone, pa)
	HAMS	
IS, G	CHARLIE KC4BR	
F.G.M, G	GEORGE N1GS	
LCS	HARLAN W1QJH	
LOWER FIELD	KEN KD1DD	
UPPER FIELD	TONY KB1YNB	
LCS 2	SEAN KC1BK3	

We all did radio check-ins on the half hour with net control.

We were assigned grid sectors. My sector was grid I-5 and I-6, which was at the east side of the upper level area.

We were dressed in our lime green safety vests and armed with our HT's.

Other CERT Team members were assigned to the lower level.

Vendors and DJ's were at both levels providing snacks for sale, and music entertainment before the fireworks display began.



I chatted briefly with a Ridgefield PD Officer, who was very pleasant, and thanked me for helping.

This was yet another opportunity for ham radio and ARRL ARES to serve our local communities.

We were told that the crowd gathered was a bit smaller than usual, because of the forecast for possible showers.

It was a wonderful show, and a well-behaved audience.



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

*CAPERS is the monthly newsletter of the
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK*



CARA is an ARRL Affiliated Club

CARA 2018 Calendar – Updated at May 25 Planning meeting:

July

- 13 – Skype presentation from DX Engineering, Bob Naumann, W5OV, of DX Engineering
- 19 – New Fairfield Car Show – Special Event station: W1QI
- 25 – US/VE Islands QSO Party – Candlewood Isle, New Fairfield - W1QI
- 27 – July Planning Meeting

August

- 10 – Hamfest Prep, open
- 24 – August Planning Meeting
- 25 – W/VE Islands QSO Party with W1QI operating from Candlewood Isle, New Fairfield
- 26 – CARA WCT Hamfest – Edmond Town Hall, Newtown

September

- 14 – EMCOMM - ARES event – still in the planning phase
- 16 – New Fairfield Days – Special Event station: N1F
- 21 – September Planning Meeting

October

- 12 – YCCC/CARA Joint meeting – Still in the planning phase

November

- 9 – Open

CARA Program & Activities Committee:

Marcus – AB1WV, Jay – N1NRP, Dan – W1QK, Bud – W1NSK.

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:

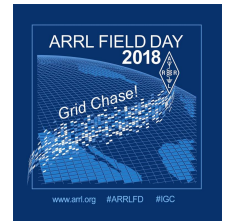
Monday before the scheduled Friday monthly meeting
– or earlier if possible.

73- Dan, W1QK – CARA Capers Editor

CARA Field Day: 2018 - Another Success

Charles Setaro - KC1IBR, CARA 2018 Field Day Chairman

Photo Credits: KC1IBR, KC1IBQ, W1JGM, W1QK, W1QH, KB1ZAC



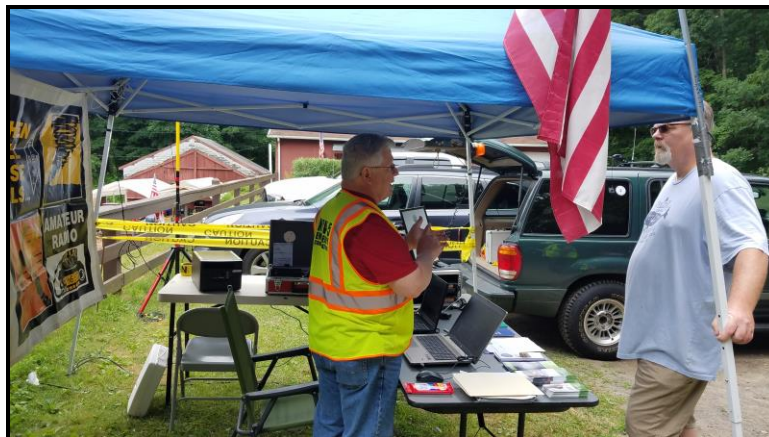
Let me start by thanking some of the many people who made “Field Day”, “Field Day”.

The committee: Vice-Chairman, David - KB1ZAC, members: Marcus-AB1WV, Jay-N1NRP, and Safety Officer; Joe-KC1IBQ. Thank you all!

Of course, I’d be wholly remiss if I didn’t mention, what I have come to know as the “trinity” of CARA’s Directors; Dan - W1QK, Harlan - W1QH, and Roger - NG1R. They were invaluable in helping such a “newbie” like me find a way to get this done. Each one of them could run the whole shebang in their sleep. Decades of experience and knowledge surround them. The antenna installation and setup was a sight to behold; never having seen it before “in progress” was amazing.

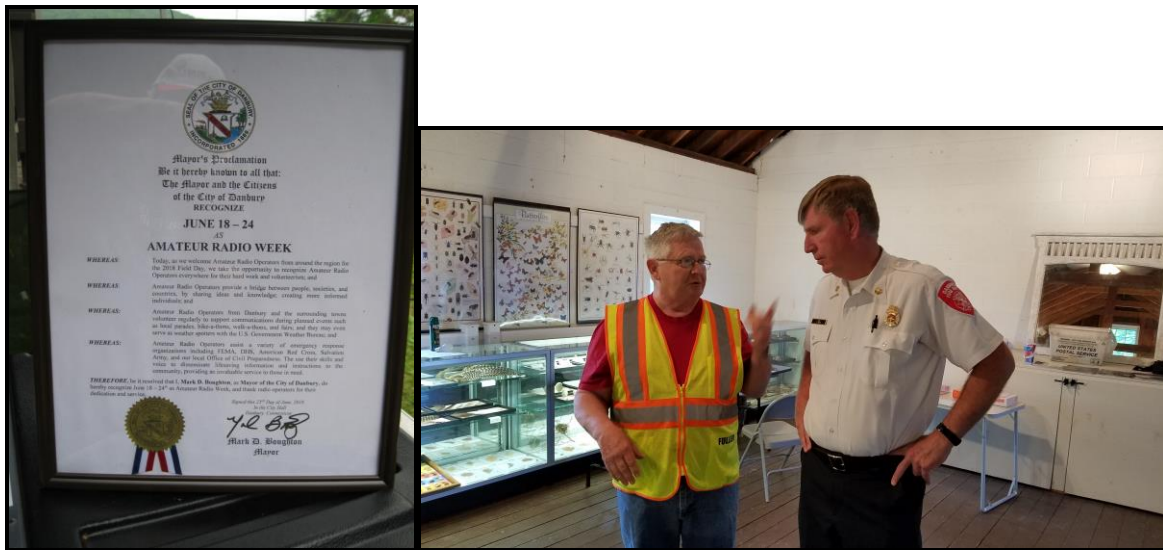


Then... there were the background people... What I came to refer to as “*The A to Z*” people. Food and refreshments were, as always, a huge part of FD. One gentleman who has handled that task flawlessly again (from A to Z) was Gary - N1GSA. Gary was assisted by his son, Eric - KC1EDE. They put on a show with the full portable kitchen setup. Yummy. My favorites again this year were venison, plus the sausage and peppers! Great job guys for taking on such a huge task so amazingly. I might add, what chef sleeps overnight in his kitchen? Answer: N1GSA! Now that’s dedication!



Another “A to Z man” was Oscar- KO1F, who had all bases covered regarding the Welcome and Information table setup. Again, not a worry was had since he was in total command of the task. Ranging from friendly, professional appearance, greeting all visitors and passersby, he was the face of CARA! Displays of radios and

a repeater surely enticed visitors to come into “the shack” areas. He also transmitted ten FD originating messages for bonus points. Thanks also go to Oscar for his instrumental work in getting our wonderful venue of Tarrywile Park again this year; with the sponsorship by EMD Paul Estefan, and the City of Danbury. Early on, FD seemed doomed because of unaffordable costs associated with the venue. Alas, the City of Danbury and EMD sponsorship to the rescue!



While the City of Danbury is on the list; a shout-out goes to Mayor Boughton for issuing a formal Proclamation declaring the week as *Amateur Radio Week*. Further complementing our municipal base... Danbury Fire Chief, T.J. Wiedl, was kind enough to visit twice! Interfacing with him at our information table along with Oscar yielded some ideas that can future benefit coordination with CARA and the DFD. The Chief took a sincere interest in touring all of our operations.



Along the same lines, compliments go to Tarrywile Park, for the immense dedication of their staff in providing a perfect venue. George - park caretaker, whose dedication to his job is an inspiration, had our area manicured to the tee. Just 48 hours before the start, a huge pile of wet hay bales loomed over the “kitchen platform” area. George came to the rescue. We hope that George accepts our invitation to attend our next meeting!



CARA President Marcus - AB1WV who's support, and console got me through the tough times, displayed his wonderful "people skills" in quelling "hot spots" that crop up suddenly in such a large undertaking as FD. Assistance in dealing with Tarrywile, the mayor's office, and other issues took off a burden from my shoulders. Thanks!



What field day would be complete without the presence and enthusiasm of CARA V.P., Jay N1NRP? I can vividly recall Jay saying... **"I WANT YOU TO BE CHAIRMAN OF FIELD DAY"** [author's note... the capitalization is to emphasize the firmness that the "request" was issued to me! ☺] The rest is history... after a couple of weeks of being appointed; I began to know the gravity of the task before me. Having my ticket for less than six months at the time, with no electronics experience, the jump to understanding the club workings, the names, call signs, email addresses, phone numbers, ARRL FD rules, antenna setups and high expectations of Field Day, was overwhelming at times. Thank you for your confidence Jay, however misguided it may have been! My goal was to not embarrass CARA and to have a safe event. I think we did that.

Jay's mini fox hunt blended in nicely as a bit of fun amidst all our hard work. The plastic trophies cups- hand inscribed trophy cups presented to the first three finishers was a sight to behold. The fact that the fox was hidden near our plot allowed for the hunters to use their HT's shielded by body at times to track down the fox. No Yagi's needed! Good call Jay Thank you!

Jim KD1YV helped with copying the ARRL FD Message for bonus points, providing internet website posting, establishing a specific on-line email address for FD. We also setup for the first time an associated FD phone number with message taking.



**ARRL FIELD DAY
2018**

Grid Chase!

www.arrl.org/FieldDay

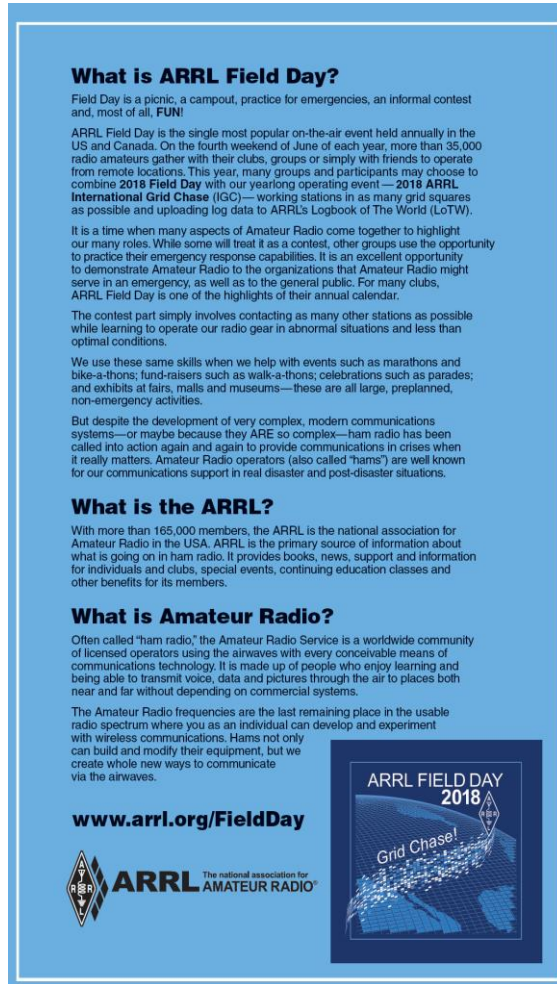
The most popular on-the-air operating event in Amateur Radio. Gear up and get in on the action!

**Participate in your local
ARRL Field Day June 23-24, 2018
All are Invited!**

Sat 2:00 -5:00 p.m & Sun 9:00 a.m. - Noon

**Rain or Shine!! Tarrywile Park
70 Southern Blvd
Danbury CT 06810**

Hosted by:
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA)
www.cararadioclub.org
email: fieldday@cararadioclub.org



What is ARRL Field Day?

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, **FUN!**

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. This year, many groups and participants may choose to combine 2018 Field Day with our yearlong operating event — 2018 ARRL International Grid Chase (IGC)— working stations in as many grid squares as possible and uploading log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW).

It is a time when many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as to the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part simply involves contacting as many other stations as possible while learning to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums—these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems—or maybe because they ARE so complex—ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio operators (also called "hams") are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?


With more than 165,000 members, the ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio?

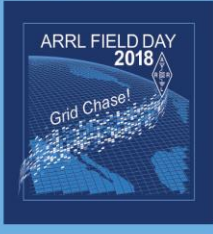
Often called "ham radio," the Amateur Radio Service is a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. It is made up of people who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to places both near and far without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can build and modify their equipment, but we create whole new ways to communicate via the airwaves.

www.arrl.org/FieldDay



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®



Preliminary "scoring" on this "non-competition" event yielded: ~1,089 QSO's (431 CW, 654 Phone, 4 digital) with multiplier = 1,498. Bonus points for 1,100 (Media, Visit by served agency rep by invitation, copy ARRL FD Message, ten origination messages, electronic web submission, public information table, formal message to ARRL SM/SEC, public venue, youth participation, educational activity, social media, safety officer). Total claimed score submitted after multipliers: a respectable 2,996.



Our setup and breakdown crew worked with diligence and efficiency. It was like a choreographer's dream. Friday evening preliminary rope launching was accomplished by Dan-W1QK, Harlan-W1QH, Marlon-KC1EHW, Joe- KC1IBQ, David-KB1ZAC, Charlie-KC1IBR. Saturday morning setup crew, in addition to the above group were joined by Hugh-W1HBR, Roger-NG1R, John-W1JMA, John-W1JGM, Jim-KD1YV, Jay-N1NRP (and Princess), Bud-W1NSK, Eric-KC1EDE, Gary- N1GSA, Marcus-AB1WV and Tom-WX1T. The Cleanup crew in addition to all above was buttressed by Dave-WA1JGA, and Scott-N1CWV. It was a team effort and display of unselfishness; aiming to "Get 'er Done" attitude.



We managed to cover both stations 24 hours. Particular praise goes to Eric, KC1EDE for extending his operator scheduled time by an additional four hours taking us round the clock for station one. He was on a real run and just kept going, with some periods logging in at two a minute... (Yours truly was logging so he kept me very busy). Hugh-W1HBR, our resident "night owl" manned Station Two over six hours in the overnight period, Wow! Coffee became the order of the night... My main goal was to keep Eric-KC1EDE and Hugh-W1HBR, "fueled" with caffeine and ready to rock n' roll. Being the coffee run guy was my privilege!



Anyone faced with supervisory oversight of such a project seeks to follow “past practice” successful advice. Dan-W1QK, was the man of the hour. He provided me with so much detailed documentation, photos... especially, as we all know... ANTENNAS. Since I’m no electronic nerd; most of all Dan’s advice went over my head... I figured following his guidance was a given, even though I hadn’t a clue on the technological end of things! Thank you, Dan!





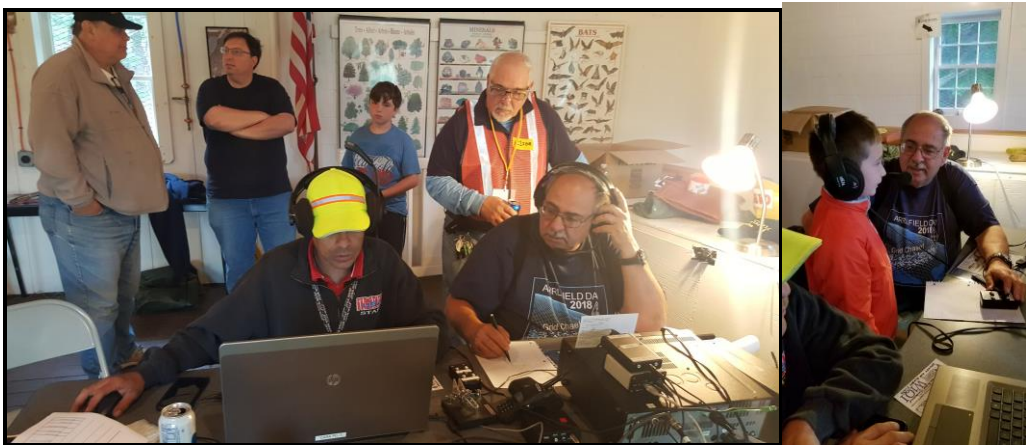
Most importantly; our fun event was accident free. The safety aspect, as we all know, is paramount in the mind of our club and the ARRL. Offering a hefty 100 bonus points for a Safety Officer is no accident. We fulfilled that important duty by appointing Joe-KC1IBQ as SO. Joe, who was like a hawk... all over the venue, checking and rectifying any safety and security issues. Thanks Joe! Honorable mention to our long-serving Safety guru Jay-N1NRP ... Jay deserved a day off this year; hopefully to enjoy and relax. Thanks Jay.



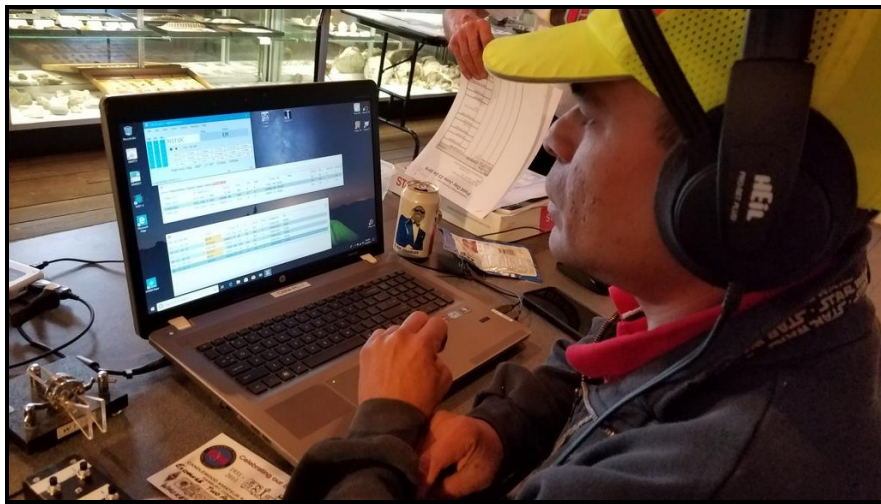
Harlan-W1QH, was our IT guy who set up our computer network, logging software, and radio equipment on loan from the Danbury EOC. A wizard at all that!



My Vice-Chairman was David-KB1ZAC; who we all know accomplishes things in a quiet manner. No fanfare; he just gets it done! David managed the sign-up work and operator schedule, and setup our bonus educational CW activity, plus coordinated the transportation and storage of the CARA FD bins at the Bethel EOC.



Last but not least we all owe a debt of gratitude to Mother Nature, who fooled the weather forecasters. The forecast was for a high probability of rain during the event. As we all know... we scooted by, and even got through cleanup before 3:30 pm, when the skies opened up! What better luck could we have asked for?






AB1WV's daughter, Tori, made five contacts; her cousin made a few... and my Godson, Alex made one. Thanks to all, once again.
73 – KC1IBQ





ARRL FIELD DAY
2018

Grid Chase!



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