



Capers

June - 2020



The Monthly Newsletter of The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 55 – Brookfield CT 06804 - 0055
Visit us on the Web at <http://www.cararadioclub.org>

Next CARA Meeting: Friday, June 12

***Note - This meeting will be conducted via Zoom Video Conferencing
Sign onto Zoom at 7:00 for socializing and conversation***

Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

Zoom conference invitation emailed to CARA membership.



This month's meeting topic –
Discussion of and preparation for the
2020 ARRL Field Day Event
Aka: "Challenge Yourself"

President's Message – de AB1WV



All:

Well, here we are again going into June elections. Remember that there is still opportunity to nominate yourself or someone else for an office at our meeting this Friday the 12th. I hope to see everyone there and participating.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the club for their support and confidence in me these last few years. I know that it was a group effort that we got so many things done. I will look upon these last few years fondly, and always remember how our CARA family worked together in many wonderful ways.

I am sure that whomever takes over as President will have everyone's support as I have, and we will continue to move forward with promoting our great hobby and service to our communities.

Thanks again.

Marcus – AB1WV

June 12 - Meeting Agenda:

Socializing & conversation

Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Review of agenda

Review and Acceptance of minutes from last meeting

Treasurer's report

Election

Nominations and Voting procedure

Old Business:

MS 365 Office Essentials Integration project report

Repeater Committee report

Other Committee reports

New Business:

Migration of CARA Reflector to Groups I/O platform

Update of 2020 Preliminary Calendar items - Meetings, presentations, & events

Topics for the "Good of the Order"

Announcements

Discussion: ARRL 2020 Field Day: "Challenge Yourself".

Meeting adjournment

Socializing & conversation

Vice- President's Message: de W1JGM



Welcome to June 2020.

It seems like every day is repeating itself now, just like in the movie "Groundhog Day".

I do trust that all our CARA Family are well and making the best of the situation. As things start to reopen, and more people start to gather, remember to use situational awareness when getting out. It's important to continue to enjoy the nice weather while continuing to stay healthy.

We've installed the new replacement EchoLink radio and made some fine adjustments to the audio quality. It's available via to the ham community 24/7 via our repeater at W1QI-R node 1037. Use it when you're out of the area.

The Hamfest is coming up on August 23, and as of now, it's still a Go! The final decision will be made after a discussion at the July Meeting.

Be sure to check out the updated Field Day rules, which allow making contacts between Class "D" and Class "D" stations. Field Day is June 27-28, 2020.

Stay well - and see you during our June 12 monthly Zoom meeting. The platform opens at 7:00 PM, and the meeting will start at 7:30 PM. The Zoom conference invitation link will be sent to the membership via email.

Stay Safe!

73, John Morelli -W1JGM, CARA Vice-President

May 8 CARA Monthly Meeting Minutes de N1GSA



Meeting called to order at 7:35pm by Pres. Marcus Swearingen

General Protocol was explained

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

There were 19 people present.

Paul Bourque, ARRL Contest Manager, gave a presentation on contesting starting with our upcoming Field Day. There is an update on the ARRL website regarding this event. Class A performance this year could be a problem depending on the state regulations. This is constantly updated to reflect regulations. Groups are encouraged to use either a Class B, D, or E. B being one or two person portable. D and E are for home stations. Club station entries will be problematic with the regular rules. Club names WILL be published with Class D and E stations to enable participation by all. There will be upcoming changes as time goes on. He also mentioned that there may be some upcoming changes to the ARRL Sweepstakes and DX contests.

Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the Capers. Motion passed.

Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$5272.98
Ending balance of \$5342.03

Microsoft 365 progress was reported on by John W1JGM. Mike W8ZY has spoken to his contact at

Microsoft. Jim Ritterbusch is willing to assist John about getting this to work.

John mentioned about John Ahle losing his parents and offered the condolences from the club.

There is no update on the Hamfest, at this time. This event is still in a holding pattern due to the Covid Pandemic.

Dan was called upon about the payment for the 2019 plaque for NEQP to Tom Frenaye. Motion made and seconded to pay the \$50 fee for the 2019 plaque. Motion passed.

Motion made and seconded to pay the \$50 fee for the 2020 plaque when the invoice for this is received. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

Under New Business. Directors have been in discussion for a slate of officers for the upcoming year. This is as follows.

Pres. Bud W1NSK

Vice Pres. John W1JGM

Treas. Charlie KC1IBR

Sec. Gary N1GSA

Nominations are open until the June Meeting.

Dan spoke about an email from Gregory about the NARA Field Day. They will not be using the Northville Firehouse as in years past. They will be using home stations. They will be using N1MM logging software.

The ARRL is sending LOTW signup via email. He explained some thoughts about a friendly competition between CARA and NARA with some rule changes for this event within an event. Also, a ZOOM training session for use of N1MM and contesting in general. There should be an official log of members from each club. Dan, Marcus, Charlie, and Gregory with have a conversation to work out details of our Club challenge.

Dan surpassed his record for previous years during NEQP. He was interested in Bud's score. Bud reported that he had electrical problems.

Harlan mentioned that a Foxhunt could be a good club activity. As most should recall, Jay was instrumental with the Foxhunts that the club ran a couple years ago.

John reported on the Repeater problems. He asked that all listen for unusual tones on the frequency. He was unable to reset the machine until a trip was made to the mountain for a manual power down and reset. There could possibly be some hardening of the input controls to prevent future problems.

John Ahle has donated to the club a 2 meter mobile radio, G5RV senior antenna, an HT with battery pack.

Harlan has donated a new scanner antenna for the Ball Pond Firehouse that has been working exceptionally well.

Charlie brought up about a database of club equipment. We have been acquiring some new machines and donations. This should include locations of this inventory. This would also be something necessary for listing on any insurance policy that we would apply for.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

In attendance were:

N1GSA, N2OHH, N1SFE, W8ZY, W1QK, W1QH, W1JGM, AB1WV, WR1Z, NG1R, KA1JDD, KB1ZAC, W1NSK, W2ROS, WX1T, N1IBQ, W1JMA, KC1IBR, W1NSK, KB1ZAC, and former CT Section Manager, Betsy Doane – K1EIC.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary S. Adams - N1GSA Secretary Pro Tem

May 23 CARA Monthly Planning Meeting

Field day

Consensus was roll to next year due to the current status of the COVID-19. Marcus indicated that Tarrywile was willing to cancel and put us in for next year. Some discussion on whether the City of Danbury has already dispensed funds to Tarrywile for this year. Marcus would be further checking on that.

Hamfest

Steady as she goes hold off buying prizes can hold off any decisions mid-July. John mentioned that he has given Bill Webb the go ahead on the permit applications.

Plaque

Payment was made immediately after last month's regular meeting's motion to pay. Treasurer indicated that check was sent via USB bill-pay and it has been acknowledged as received by recipient.

MS Teams 365

John W1JGM: continuing discussions, vendor price estimate was unacceptable, way out of our projected budget. It was mentioned that it appears as though the vendor was including setting up our emails and additional work that we could do. Mike W8ZY joined and offered assistance, stating he would contact an alternate vendor.

Groups.io vs Reflector

Dan W1QK advanced the proposal to utilize this instead of the current reflector. He volunteered to shepherd the process should the club be inclined.

Attendees:

Dan W1QK, Charlie KC1IBR, Marcus AB1WV, John W1JGM, Vin N2OHH, Mike W8ZY, Bud W1NSK, Greg WR1Z, Harlan W1QH, John W1JMA.

Charles Setaro - KC1IBR, for
Gary Adams N1GSA, Secretary Pro Tem

From: W1JGM <W1JGM@aol.com>
To: CARA via <cara@cararadioclub.org>
Cc: W1JGM <W1JGM@aol.com>
Sent: Tue, May 26, 2020 10:14 pm

Subject: CARA EchoLink

CARA Members:

Out of town? Out of range of the repeater? Want to get to the CARA 2 Meter repeater? Have a friend somewhere outside the area, they can access the CARA repeater for a QSO with you? Try our EchoLink Connection at W1QI-R.

New upgrades have been installed. The recently received 2 Meter Yaesu 2800M donated to the club by John - W1JMA, has been installed and has improved our connection to the repeater. The system now has better clarity and response.

If at any time you notice an issue with the EchoLink system or operation, please notify me by phone or e-mail

The system is accessible from anywhere you can connect to the internet by computer, tablet or cell phone.

You will need to download the program from <http://www.echolink.org/download.htm>. You will need to register and show proof of license. This is not difficult. The program was written by K1RFD - Jonathan Taylor, of Ridgefield and is in use worldwide.

With EchoLink on your system, you can call up repeaters on the system worldwide.

Enjoy the system.

PS: It's the EchoLink system that you hear the voice "W1QI" call from after the main repeater identifies.

CARA Officers and Directors Election: Thank you CARA 2019 – 2020 Officers:

Per the CARA Policies and Procedures document:

“Nominations go to W1QH in May and June. Annual election in June.”

Elections are coming up!

Whom do you wish to be our leaders?

The Election Committee (Directors) has come up with a complete slate of Officers and Directors.

President: Bud Kozloff - W1NSK
Vice-President: John Morelli - W1JGM
Secretary: Gary Adams - N1GSA
Treasurer: Charles Setaro - KC1IBR
Directors: Roger Mitchell - NG1R, Harlan Ford - W1QH, David Coelho - WA1JGA

Additional nominations will be accepted at the June meeting, however - please ensure that the person you nominate has agreed to serve if elected.

W1QH is serving as the collection point for nominations, since we cannot meet in person.

Please e-mail him (hford01@snet.net) with suggestions for additional nominations, and he will post them on the CARA reflector to be seconded as per our policies. A nomination cannot be validated unless it is seconded.

After the postings of additional potential candidates, please e-mail me with those candidates you wish to second.

CARA Directors:
Harlan Ford - W1QH
Roger Mitchell – NG1R
Dan Fegley – W1QK

Last Month's program: de W1QK

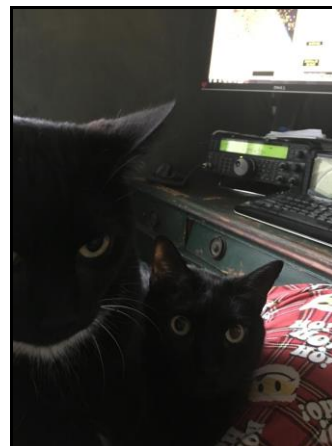
Paul Bourque - N1SFE, ARRL Contest Program Manager, attended our CARA Meeting Friday, May 8 via zoom.



He talked about contesting; and especially this year's Field Day.

Thank you, Paul for attending, and answering our questions.

PS: We also enjoyed a quick glimpse of Humphrey, one of Paul's two shack cats.



This Month:

Discussion of and preparation for CARA's participation in the 2020 ARRL Field Day Event.



No program description by the Program & Activities Committee was submitted to Capers for publication – Editor

Vincent Tompkins via

CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org>Unsubscribe

To: WIQI - CARA

Thu, Jun 4 at 9:15 PM

Just for the record:

<http://www.arrl.org/temporary-rule-waivers-for-arrl-field-day-2020>



[Field Day home](#) | [Facebook Group](#) | [Field Day T-shirts & Gear](#) | [Join ARRL](#)

Temporary Rule Waivers for ARRL Field Day 2020

5/28/2020

With one month to go before 2020 [ARRL Field Day](#), June 27-28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

1) For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

[Field Day rule 4.6](#) defines Class D stations as “Home stations,” including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, **but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.**

2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but **the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from [any Class](#) to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.**

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day — Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station — both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility

in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.



ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend. Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the [web applet](#). The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for [submitting entries](#) after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

Editor: Use Candlewood ARA when submitting your score via the web applet.

The ARRL Field Day [web page](#) includes a series of articles with ideas and advice for adapting participation this year.



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
 CPN Net Manager: Tom - WX1T

Weekly CARA 2M NET:

W1QI 2M Repeater – 7:30 pm Sunday
**Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
 Net Control Log**
 Sunday - 7:30PM Local Time - 147.300MHz - PL
 tone 100Hz

May 17, 2020

Time - Start: 1930L Time End: 2000L
WX1T – Tom, New Fairfield, Net Control

Call Sign	Name	Location
KO1F	Oscar	Danbury
KD2HAP	Charlie	Wingdale, NY
W1JMA	John	Ridgefield
W1QH	Harlan	Danbury
W1LCR	Frank	Goshen
K1RHH	Ken	Danbury
K1SZO	David	Danbury
N2OHH	Vincent	Danbury
W1JGM	John	New Fairfield
KB1ZIR	Eric	Danbury
WR1Z	Gregory	Roxbury
W8ZY	Mike	New Milford
KC2BNW	Jonathan	Mahopac

Total number of check-ins (Including Net Control): 14

May 31, 2020

Time - Start: 1930L Time End: 1951L
WX1T – Tom, New Fairfield, Net Control

Call Sign	Name	Location
KO1F	Oscar	Danbury
W1QH	Harlan	Danbury
N2OHH	Vincent	Danbury
W1LCR	Frank	Goshen
KB1ZIR	Eric	Danbury I/O
KC1NAA	Jeff	Wilton

WR1Z Gregory Roxbury
W1JGM John New Fairfield
W1JMA John Ridgefield
KB1ZAC David Bethel

Total number of check-ins (Including Net Control): 11

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

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

Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

June 8: ARES Region 5 South meeting via Zoom

June 12: Monthly CARA meeting via Zoom

June 13-14: ARRL June VHF Contest

June 20: Stew Perry 160M distance challenge

June 27-28: ARRL Field Day – Challenge

Yourself this year

June 10, 17, 24: CWOps CWT Minitest Slow Sessions - 1300Z, 1900Z, 0300Z

July 1: RAC Canada Day Contest

July 1: July Capers input deadline

Complete Contest calendar at:

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

New England and other local hamfests:

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

Upcoming CARA Calendar:

June 12: CARA May Monthly meeting video conference via Zoom

July 1: July Capers input deadline



Please read this important update from our convention chair, Bob DeMattia, K1IW, regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the 2020 convention:

Hello All,

I hope this message finds you safe and healthy. After long consideration, the convention committee has decided to postpone the 2020 HamXposition to the weekend of November 6th through 8th.

There are several reasons for this, the first and foremost is the health and well-being of our attendees. In addition, there are many logistical problems with holding the convention in July, even under the most favorable conditions of the pandemic emergency being over by then.

We believe it is unlikely that the state's ban on large gatherings will be completely lifted by the end of July.

Even if it were, we believe attendance will be severely impacted due to lingering (and quite appropriate caution).

Almost all of our exhibitors are unwilling to commit to anything prior to June.

The convention is subject to penalties for cancellation. The penalties increase as we get closer to the convention date. By moving to November, we move out the schedule on these penalties. This will allow us to reassess the viability of the convention in early August. By then we will have further insight into prevailing conditions.

The November weekend was the only one available to us - and could be lost to another group if we did not act on it.

We know that many look forward to attending each year, and have probably grown weary of all the cancellations of events like these.

However, given the reality of the situation, we believe it is in everyone's best interest to postpone.

Stay safe & 73,

Bob DeMattia, K1IW

Chairman, Northeast HamXposition 2020/The ARRL New England Convention

<https://hamxposition.org/>



YCCC News

Club members stay in touch through the club newsletter called the [Scuttlebutt](#), and through the Internet.

The value of YCCC membership is the opportunity to work side by side with the best. Cooperation and teamwork spiced with the strong spirit of competition is at the heart of YCCC accomplishments and contest victories. The YCCC is an [ARRL](#)-affiliated club.

YCCC Meeting was held April 11, 2020 via Zoom.

More information on the YCCC website:
www.yccc.org

From the YCCC Reflector:

The 100-year geomagnetic storm 99 years ago today

From: Chuck W1HIS

Date: Fri, 15 May 2020 23:42:03 EDT

I've copied the following from the Army-Radios.groups.io<<http://Army-Radios.groups.io>> reflector. -Chuck W1HIS

Newspaper headlines 99 years ago today:

"Telegraph Service Prostrated" — The Los Angeles Times

"Electrical Disturbance is 'Worst Ever Known'" — The Chicago Daily Tribune

"Sunspot credited with Rail Tie-up" — The New York Times.

These newspapers were reporting the biggest geomagnetic storm of the 20th Century. Nothing quite like it has happened since. It began on May 12, 1921 when giant sunspot AR1842, crossing the sun during the declining

phase of Solar Cycle 15, began to flare. One explosion after another hurled coronal mass ejections (CMEs) toward Earth. For the next 3 days, CMEs rocked the geomagnetic field. Magnetometers went offscale; pens in strip chart recorders pegged.

Then the fires began. Around 02:00 GMT on May 15th, a telegraph exchange in Sweden burst into flames. About an hour later, the same thing happened in Brewster, New York. Flames engulfed the switchboard at the Brewster station of the Central New England Railroad and quickly spread to destroy the whole building. Due to that fire and another one at about the same time in a railroad control tower near New York City's Grand Central Station, the event became known as the "New York Railroad Superstorm."

The fires were caused by electrical currents, induced by geomagnetic activity, heating telephone and telegraph lines to the point of combustion, and by induced e.m.f's breaking down insulation and striking arcs. Such currents and voltages disrupted telegraph systems in Australia, Brazil, Denmark, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the UK and USA. The Ottawa Journal reported that many long-distance telephone lines in New Brunswick were burned out by the storm. On some telegraph lines in the USA, voltages spiked as high as 1000 V.

During the storm's peak on May 15th, southern cities like Los Angeles and Atlanta looked like Fairbanks, with Northern Lights dancing overhead. Auroras were seen in the USA as far south as Texas. In the Pacific, red auroras were sighted from Samoa and Tonga and from ships at sea crossing the equator.

What would happen if such a storm occurred today?

Researchers have long grappled with this question -- most recently in a pair of in-depth papers published in the journal *Space Weather*: "The Great Storm of May 1921: An Exemplar of a Dangerous Space Weather Event" by Mike Hapgood (Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, UK) and "Intensity and Impact of the New York

Railroad Superstorm of May 1921" by Jeffrey Love (US Geological Survey) and colleagues.

The preceding summary is drawn from Hapgood's work. He painstakingly searched historical records including scientific journals, newspaper clippings, and other reports to create a moment-by-moment timeline of the storm.

Jeffrey Love and colleagues found some old magnetic chart recordings that had not gone offscale when the May 1921 CMEs hit; and, using these data, they calculated the "DST" (disturbance storm time) index, a measure of geomagnetic activity favored by modern space weather researchers.

"The storm attained an estimated maximum DST on 15 May of 907 ± 132 nT, an intensity comparable to that of the Carrington Event of 1859," they wrote in their paper.

This result upends conventional wisdom. Most of us have heard that the Carrington Event was the strongest solar storm in recorded history. The estimated DST of the Carrington Event was 900 nT. Now we know that the May 1921 storm was equally strong.

If the May 1921 storm hit today, "I'd expect it to lead to most, if not all, of the impacts outlined in the 2013 Royal Academy of Engineering report led by Paul Cannon," says Hapgood. "This could include regional power outages, profound changes to satellite orbits, and loss of radio-based technologies such as GPS. The disruption of GPS could significantly impact logistics and emergency services."

Food for thought on the 99th anniversary of a 100-year storm....

Re: CAC Report
From: Dick Green WC1M
Date: Sat, 23 May 2020 14:41:52 EDT

On Fri, May 22, 2020 at 01:08 PM, Randy Thompson K5ZD wrote:

Always good to see what the CAC is thinking - even if it is unclear what happens to their recommendations.

Judging from the report, the contest community is lucky to have YCCC's Dennis W1UE Chairing the CAC. So to answer Ed's question, yeah, we have a member on the CAC!

The CAC is a strange beast. It reports to the Programs and Services Committee (PSC), which is a subcommittee of the full Board. Many years ago, the ARRL Board stripped advisory committees like the CAC and DXAC of the power to make policies or change rules. My understanding is that this happened because policy-making at DXAC had gotten out of hand and the elected officials needed to regain control. Now, the CAC and DXAC are asked to study various questions submitted by the PSC and make recommendations. These are called "tasks". The CAC does (or at least did, when I was on it) have the power to create its own tasks, but my sense was that generally this wasn't welcomed by the PSC or viewed as necessary. Although I met in person with the PSC once or twice, it was never clear to me whether the PSC made the final decision to accept or reject CAC recommendations, or whether their own recommendations were passed on to the full Board. It could have depended on how big a change was being recommended. Regardless, the solution to the DXAC problem was a brute-force approach resulting in Board politics being a major factor in what actually gets done in the realm of contest policies and rules. IMHO, less micro-management along with well-defined oversight would have made the CAC and DXAC more effective without losing control of important decisions.

Further, there are a number of problems with the CAC's structure. First, it's very large: one member from each Division, for a total of 16 members. It's hard to make decisions with such a large group, and where you live can greatly influence your opinion on certain issues, like whether distance-based scoring should be used -- a third-rail question if ever there is one, as we found out when there was an uproar in the contest community when it leaked that the CAC had merely discussed the issue. Obviously, those who live on the East Coast, and to a lesser extent the West Coast, may have different opinions about this than those who live in the Black Hole (you can guess where the uproar came from...). Also, CAC members are appointed by their Division Directors, and tend to be reappointed every time their term expires -- probably because it's not easy to find volunteers for a committee that has no power.

There are no term limits, so some members have been on the CAC for a really long time, which tends to discourage fresh thinking, new ideas, etc. "If it ain't broke don't fix it" ought to be the motto inscribed above the figurative marble portico leading to the CAC chamber (and on the PSC's and Board's as well.) While it's important to protect what works well, sometimes this attitude leads to stagnation.

I had mixed results with this structure when I was a CAC member and later Chair. The CAC did really great work on a couple of major issues during that time, namely CW Skimmer and Remote Operation, and our recommendations were ultimately accepted, though with less-precise language in the rules than we recommended. But the rest of what we did during the 6-7 years I was there could be summed up with "meh". Regardless of one's position on change, most, if not all of us were frustrated with not being able to make significant contributions to the activity we love, and I think the prevailing sentiment was that more often than not working on CAC tasks was a waste of time.

I should point out that I left the CAC after butting heads with the PSC over an issue that was only indirectly related to the structure of the CAC and the tasks before us at the time, so my opinions are likely colored by that incident. There have been a lot of changes at ARRL since that time, and Dennis may be having a completely different experience on the CAC than I had.

73 Dick WC1M

Re: CAC Report
From: Ed Sawyer
Date: Sun, 24 May 2020 12:10:20 EDT
I had a couple of observations about that report:

A few of the "members" aren't even contesters. They are basically DXers. I am wondering what the selection process is for the CAC.

Secondly, I don't believe that the CAC asked many experienced LP Contesters their opinion of the 100W vs 150W question. If they had, as a multiple record holder of Low Power Contests including ARRL DX SSB, I would think I would have been on the list for an opinion. Apparently, a group of High Power contesters just know what's best" for the Low Power contesting group. A few on the list have periodically done Low Power (often as a DX station) including Dennis W1UE, but still, it would be nice to ask some opinion of the community before "just deciding".

73, Ed - N1UR

Re: CAC Report
From: Dave Sumner
Date: Sun, 24 May 2020 13:11:28 EDT
Ed, the selection process is spelled out in the Rules and Regulations for Advisory Committees, which is on the ARRL website. An excerpt is below.
73,Dave K1ZZ

Each committee member is appointed by the respective Division Director for a term concurrent with that of the Director. It is recommended that Advisory Committee members shall serve a maximum of six (6) years so as to provide diversity of views within the Division. The Advisory Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Director and shall be responsible to him for the proper performance of their duties. Directors should consider the following in selecting appointees to an Advisory Committee:

- a. Willingness to serve and participate in committee deliberations;
- b. Possession of knowledge and expertise in the committee's field of endeavor;
- c. The ability and willingness to communicate with others in writing and verbally.

Communications includes the use of electronic media;

- d. The ability and willingness to participate in public forums.

YCCC SIG Zoom Meetings
From: Dennis W1UE
Date: Sun, 24 May 2020 08:25:02 EDT

Ahoy, Mateys!

First, I would like to thank Gerry W1VE for his great session on Remote Stations.

Since we can't meet in person for the foreseeable future, and using Zoom allows us to make some presentations that are hard to do in person, I've decided to offer 4 sessions on Operating specific contest modes, as outlined below:

Thur May 28 CW
Wed June 10 FT4
Tue June 23 SSB
Thur July 9 RTTY
?? VHF/UHF

The Zoom Sessions will start at 7PM and plan to end at 8:30pm, although if there is enough interest we could stay on until 9pm.

I am looking for a moderator for the VHF/UHF session, as I don't know enough about it to do so.

There will be some prepared material, but my hope is that members will step forward and we can make this a participatory roundtable. I, of course, have my preferences on how to set up N1MM and operate, but there are others that do it just as successfully.

Some of the topics that will be covered in the CW session:

1. Station Tune-up
2. Operating Game Plan
3. RX Tips
4. Tx Tips
5. N1MM+ Setup/Use
6. Telnet
7. How to Get to Carnegie Hall

If you are interested in preparing some material for any of the above sessions, please feel free to contact me. I hope these will become sessions with a lot of participation and questions answered.

We will also be recording the session, so you can concentrate on what's being said without having to take copious notes. It should be available in the day or two after the session.

Log-in Info for the Zoom meetings will be sent out on Wed or Thurs for the CW session.

Dennis W1UE
President, YCCC

Installing UDC files on Windows 10

Dennis McKinney - May 18 #50759

Sorry if this has been addressed before, but is there something specific in windows 10 that I need to check, turn on, or turn off to get the downloaded UDC file contests to the drop down list in N1MM+ ??? my main shack laptop will not show them. Two other former shack laptops work perfectly. They are all updated windows 10, and latest N1MM+ upgrades. I have compared as many windows settings as I can to compare..

I'm at a loss.

Thanks in advance. Dennis N0SMX, The Villages FL

ve3kiMay 18 #50760

The udc file needs to be installed in the Documents\N1MM Logger+\UserDefinedContests folder that was set up by the installer during the original installation of N1MM+ on the computer. If the downloaded file is a zip file, it needs to be expanded to place the files it contains directly in that folder (not in a subfolder).

The filename extension for udc files needs to be .udc (not .txt). If you did not change the Windows default option to hide filename extensions for known file types, there may be a .txt extension on the file name that Windows is hiding from you. One way this might have happened is if you have opened the udc file in Notepad and made changes to the file. If you have done that, Notepad may have added a .txt extension to the file name.

None of this is specific to Windows 10. The same points apply to older versions of Windows.
73, Rich VE3KI

Steve London
May 20 #50811

On 05/20/2020 02:51 PM, Dick Frey wrote:

I have just completed an analysis of logs submitted for the 7QP. One of the interesting things noted was the number of different versions used. The version is part of the Cabrillo header.

Might I suggest to the group that whenever you have a chance,



CARA used N1MM+ Contest Logger during the 2020 Winter Field Day.

For a free download, visit:

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

tell people to upgrade to the latest version. It takes seconds, and makes life easier for the people scoring the logs. The N1MM+ software nags them to upgrade after 30 days. You can lead a horse to water, but if you push its nose in, it just gets pissed.

73,
Steve, N2IC

Paul K6POMay 20 #50812
On Wed, May 20, 2020 at 02:33 PM, Steve London wrote:
The N1MM+ software nags them to upgrade after 30 days. You can lead a horse to water, but if you push its nose in, it just gets pissed. I suppose some folks have had a bad experience with upgrading N1MM once. Or knows somebody who did or heard of someone. But anyway, a certain amount of general upgrade-phobia is perfectly rational.

Personally, I've upgraded N1MM+ many times over the last few years without a problem, so now I don't think twice about doing it when nagged. But one really bad experience upgrading could change that.
73, Paul K6PO

Ward:
The latest version is v1.0.8408, and can be downloaded here:
<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/mmfiles/n1mm-logger-update-1-0-8408-apr-19-2020/>
-larry (K8UT)
Download that file, and run it. When you next launch N1NN+, go to >Help and report the version number. If you don't get v1.0.8408, you unsuccessfully removed the zombie version from your PC. In which case, repeat my original instructions:

Original instructions:
Right-click on the icon that launches N1MM+
Select >Properties
Take a screenshot of the Properties dialog window
Post the screenshot here.
Your next posting should begin with either "Yippee, it works!" or "Here's the screenshot."

-Larry (K8UT)



N1MM LOGGER NOW SUPPORTS OUR CONTEST:

[27/04/2020](#)

You can find the UDC files for RTTYops Week Sprint & RTTYops Weekend Sprint here

RTTYops Week Sprint Tuesday & Thursday
https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/mmfiles/ry_op_wd_s-udc/
RTTYops Weekend Sprint
https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/mmfiles/ryo_ws_vhf-udc/

Reminder:

*CARA is registered for ARRL Affiliated Club Competition. Use: **Candlewood ARA** when submitting your Cabrillo Log.*

In order to make sure the club results are accurate and fair to all, the ARRL Contest Branch is renewing its effort to help clubs comply with the rules. ([See section 8 of the General Rules](#) for All Contests at www.arrl.org/general-rules-for-all-arrl-contests.)

Here are the three changes:

-
- Online uploading of club "Eligibility Lists",
 - Use of six-character grid locators as locations, and
 - Deadline for submitting eligibility is now the contest start time.
-



CT ARES News:

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 203.5 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.

CT ARES Digital Net

Wednesday (July 1) is the first Wednesday of the month for Winlink practice. This month we return to the folks at the Newtown EOC – KB1IVQ, as our control station. Here are the details for the practice.

Send a message to KB1OVQ

1. Send it before 7:00 PM on Wednesday June 3rd.
2. Message should contain if possible a Red Cross 213 format response to the questions below.
 - a. Your Callsign
 - b. Your Location
 - c. How you connect .. VHF, HF and node if you know

Please send those messages, and remember we want to use the ICS 213 format.

I hope to see lots of folks responding.

Thanks, Mike - W8ZY, CT ARES SEC



<http://www.ctares.org/>

ARES HF Digital Net

In addition to the Winlink event, we will also have another HF digital practice net. We want to practice the HF digital skills in case other ways, like Winlink that still uses some infrastructure, are not available. Here are the details for the net:

HF Digital Net Saturday July 4th Start 18:00

Frequency: 3.59250 MHz.

Mode: MT-63 1K L

Waterfall centered on 1500

Attempt to pass simulated message using FLSMG and the RC-213 format.

- a. Your callsign
- b. Your location

Remember that the Waterfall is to be centered on 1500. That puts us all on the same spot.

Last time we had stations from all over the state joining the net, and I am hoping to see more.

Thanks, Mike -W8ZY, CT ARES SEC



FOCUS: Colorado's ARES Model

Veteran Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WMOG, recently discussed the organization of amateur emergency communications in his state, an ARRL section.

There are nine All Hazards Regions in the large state overseen by the Colorado Governor's Office.

Colorado Section ARES is organized by region that corresponds to the State's



regions: the North Central region is designated as ARES Region 1, South Central designated as Region 2, and the remaining regions numbered in clockwise order from the Northwest Region around the state to Region 9, the Northwest Region.

Each region of Colorado ARES has a Region Emergency Coordinator (REC) appointed who coordinates activities within their All Hazards Region.

Each Region of the Colorado Section is further organized into one to six Districts, typically using county boundaries. District Emergency Coordinators (ECs) are appointed by the Colorado Section Emergency Coordinator upon recommendation and nomination by the respective Region EC.

Functionally, the amateur radio emergency communications community in Colorado looks like a triangle with the tip pointed up.

On the base level are all amateur radio operators. The second tier consists of hams that show an interest in community service, join ARES®, and complete training within their districts.

The top tier of the triangle is hams who show a commitment to emergency communications by an investment in equipment, uniforms, go-kits, and have completed advanced training and the ICS courses.

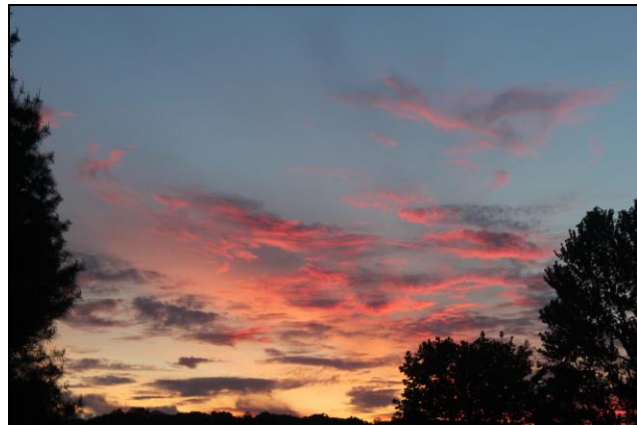
Thus, the farther up the triangle you move, the more commitment and training are required.

Member and Station News:

Your news or story could be included here in the next issue of CARA Capers. Contact W1QK, Capers editor.

Just snap a pix of your station, antennas, mobile installation, etc. and send it in!

Submitted by Harlan – W1QH:





CWops Tests

Rich Ferch VE3KI

Here are the CWT results and Participation Medal standings for 2019.

For the 156 CWT sessions, there were 36,423 scores reported at 3830scores.com, for an average of over 233 scores reported per session. The peak was 288 scores reported for the 1900Z session on January 30. There were 1,992,057 claimed QSOs reported; of course, each QSO was reported twice, but that leaves us with a total of close to a million CWT QSOs made during 2019! More than 1000 amateurs posted CWT scores during the year (1033 by my count), of whom 794 were CWops members as of December 31.

Re: CW is MUSIC to MY EARS!

From: [Joe K8MP](#)

Date: Sun, 10 May 2020 15:32:24 EDT

Jasper the Radio Cat.

Happiness is a warm rig...

Re: CW is MUSIC to MY EARS!

From: Bruce Blain

Date: Mon, 11 May 2020 12:03:06 EDT



As for individual scores, the highest QSO count was 249 (N4YDU at 0300Z on December 12), the highest multiplier count was 214 (AA3B at 1300Z on December 18), and the highest score reported was 52,185 (K3WW at 1300Z on October 30).

Just as in 2018, there were five members who participated in and submitted claimed scores for all 156 CWT sessions. These include perennial "perfect attendees" K0MP, N5PHT and UR5MM, as well as two newcomers to these rarefied heights in the persons of K1VUT and NJ8V.

In total, there were **92 members who qualified for gold medals:**

Vincent Tompkins via

CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org> Unsubscribe

To: WIQI - CARA

Wed, Jun 3 at 7:46 PM

<https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>

4X6GP, AA3B, AB7MP, AC4CA, AH6KO, DJ1OJ(EA8OM), DK5KK, DL6KVA, F6HKA, G3LDI, G3YLA, G4DYC, G4NVR(M2D), I5EFO, K0MP, K0PD, K0PK, K0TC, K1DJ, K1DW, K1GU, K1VUT, K2TW, K3WJV, K3WW, K3ZGA, K4OAQ, K4TZ, K5CM, K7SV, K8JQ, K9ZO, KB4DE, KE4RG, KE8G, KG5HVO, KG5U, KJ9C, KK6M, KM4CH, KT4XN, LZ1HW, N0TA, N3CI, N3JT, N4DT, N4FP, N4ZZ, N5PHT, N5ZO(NT6Q), N8AA, N8BJQ, NA8V,

NF8M, NJ8V, NN4K, NS8O, NW3Y, OH1ZAA(OH2MZA,OH3BCX,OH5ZA), OK1RR, SM0CUH(SE0C), SM0OY, SM1TDE(SD1A), SM4DQE(SE4E), SM5ALJ(SE5L), SM5IMO, M6CUK(SA6G), UR5MM, VE3FP, VE3KI, VE3MV, VE3NNT, VE6JF, W0TG, **W1QK**, W1UU, W2NRA, W2TR, W5TM, W6SX, W6TN, W7IY, W7OM, W8BG, W8FJ, W8MET, W8OV, W9CC, W9ILY, WA3AAN, WA9LEY, and WJ9B.

The silver medal list is even longer – 104 members:

AA2AD, AB1BX, AD4EB, AD8J, AE1T, AF5DM, AF8A, CM8NMN, F6JOE(FG8NY), G4HZV, GM0EUL, I5ECW, IN3FHE, K0VBU, K1EBY, K1SM, K1YY, K2SX, K2WK, K3PH, K3PP, K3SEN, K3SW, K4AFE, K4FN, K4GMH, K4HR, K4ITV, K4IU, K4QS, K4RO, K4RUM, K4WW, K5GQ, K7AZT, K8GT, K8RJW, K9MA, K9WX, KA5M, KA9BHD, KB3AAY, KB3ML, KC8J(WA8KBU), KF8O, KG9X, KJ4M, KK7A, KM4FO, KN4Y, KW7Q, M0DHP, M0RYB, MI0WWB, N0AC, N1DC, N2EI, N2UU, N2WK, N3RD, N4AF, GL(WB2VYK), N5AW, N5KW, N5TOO, N5XE, N6TVN, **NG1R**, NU7Y, OH2BN, PA3DBS, PG4I, SM0HEV(SF0Z,SF1Z), SM5BKK(SI5Y), SM7CIL(SM5CIL), SQ9S, VA3PM, VA3SB, VE2AXO, VE2FK, VE3GFN, VE3MA, VE3TW, W1RM, W1TO, W2NO, W2VM, W3WHK, W4ER, W8CAR, W8DN, WA3AER, WA3GM, WA5LXS, WA6URY, WA8KAN, WA9CW, WA9MNF, WM6Y, WN7S, WO9B, WQ3E, WT9U, and WX4W.

In 2020, there are going to be 159 CWTs instead of the usual 156, making it just a little bit easier to reach the medal levels.

When reporting your scores at 3830scores.com, if you use a different call sign from your home call sign please remember to enter your home call sign in the Operator box.

Enjoy the CWTs in 2020!
We do the CWTs because they're fun; let's all make sure they continue to be fun for everyone.

73, Rich VE3KI, CWT Manager



Contributed by: Fred ["Skip"] K6DGW
Sparks NV, DM09dn, Washoe County

Link contributed by George – N1GS:
<https://morse.withgoogle.com/learn/>

2020 CARA Ham Exam Schedule:



2020 Amateur radio exams sponsored by
CARA at the Stony Hill FD. Bethel:

Note: The June 6 session has been cancelled by AJ1U. – Editor.

Starting at 11:30 a.m.

Walk-ins are welcome, but it's helpful if candidates e-mail Jonathan Bernon, AJ1U, to AJ1U@arrl.net

The following dates (Saturdays) for 2020 have been coordinated with the Stony Hill Firehouse Meeting Room scheduler:

September 19, December 5

Thanks & 73,
Jon – AJ1U
CARA VE Team Coordinator

Other upcoming exam sessions:

Status unknown as of Capers publication date. Check with sponsors. – Editor.

*The following is **not** a paid advertisement. 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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About ARRL:

Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with more than 161,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. ARRL's mission is based on five pillars: Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership.



So Now What? Podcast
<http://www.arrl.org/so-now-what>

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB012
ARLB012 ARRL Seeks Clarification of Amended
Amateur Service RF

Safety Rules

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 12 ARLB012
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT May 15, 2020
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB012
ARLB012 ARRL Seeks Clarification of Amended
Amateur Service RF Safety Rules

ARRL has filed a Petition for Clarification addressing two issues arising from amended FCC RF safety rules that go into effect on June 1 for the Amateur Service and other FCC-regulated services.

Licenses will have 2 years to determine if an RF safety evaluation is now required under the new rules and to perform an evaluation and implement any needed mitigation measures. Current rules already require amateur stations to meet RF exposure limits, but more radio amateurs will have to evaluate their stations under the new rules. The revised final rules, adopted last November, appeared in the April 1 edition of The Federal Register.

"For applicants and licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, we substitute our general exemption criteria for the specific exemption from routine evaluation based on power alone in Part 97.13(c)(1) and specify the use of occupational/controlled limits for amateurs where appropriate," the FCC said. While radio amateurs have always had to comply with RF exposure limits, certain stations have been exempted from having to conduct evaluations based upon power and frequency.

On May 8, ARRL asked the FCC to clarify that using maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits be permitted in the Amateur Service for required RF safety evaluations of 2200-meter operations, just as they are elsewhere in the amateur spectrum. Removal of the exemption for amateurs resulted in a requirement to use specific absorption rate (SAR) limits for amateur frequencies between 100 and 300 kHz.

"SAR evaluations are very complex to directly measure and, we believe, generally exceed the capability of most individual amateur operators," ARRL argued in its petition, asserting that MPE limits correspond to conservative estimates of SAR.

"Near-field calculation of a uniform field applied to a transmitter and antenna operating at 1 W EIRP on 2200 meters would result in a very conservative estimate of specific absorption rate (SAR) and is a valid measurement for determining safety of operation," ARRL told the FCC. "We request clarification that the rules do not intend to preclude the use of MPE as a surrogate for SAR to evaluate amateur operations in the 2200-meter band."

ARRL also wants the FCC to clarify that its amended rules permit the use of near-field regression rates, using the MPE table to compare against the maximum field strength that may occur from a handheld portable device, instead of using the SAR. In its filing, ARRL maintained that SAR data is not available for amateur equipment as it is for equipment used in other services. Before the rules were amended, mobile and portable transmitters generally were exempt from the requirement to perform routine environmental evaluations.

Under Part 97.13(c)(1) as amended, effective on June 1, amateur licensees must ensure compliance with FCC RF exposure requirements spelled out in sections 1.1307(b), 2.1091, and 2.1093 of the FCC rules, where applicable. "In lieu of evaluation with the general population/uncontrolled exposure limits, amateur licensees may evaluate their operation with respect to members of his or her immediate household using the occupational/controlled exposure limits in Part 1.1310, provided appropriate training and information has been accessed by the amateur licensee and members of his/her household."

"RF exposure of other nearby persons who are not members of the amateur licensee's household must be evaluated with respect to the general population/uncontrolled exposure limits." The rule directs radio amateurs to OET Bulletin 65, Supplement B for methodologies and guidance to evaluate amateur radio operation.

OET Bulletin 65 can be found online in PDF format at, https://transition.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Technology/Documents/bulletins/oet65/oet65.pdf

The FCC has provided 2 years - until May 31, 2022 - for licensees to determine if evaluations are now required, to perform such evaluations where necessary, and to implement any needed mitigation measures.

"The amended rules are intended to provide more efficient, practical, and consistent RF exposure evaluation procedures and mitigation measures to help ensure compliance with the existing RF exposure limits," the FCC said. "The amended rules replace the various inconsistent service-specific criteria for exempting parties from performing an evaluation to demonstrate compliance with the RF exposure limits with new, streamlined criteria." The amended rules also allow the use of any valid computational method to determine potential RF exposure levels. The FCC did not amend the actual RF exposure limits that were adopted in 1996. NNNN



May 20, 2020
Editor: [Rick Palm, K1CE](#)

K1CE for a Final

ARRL Field Day is my favorite operating event of the year. For most radio clubs and large groups, it's going to be a different experience this year in light of the COVID-19 environment. With CDC protocols in place, many will not gather in their usual Field Day locations. ARRL offered some tips and suggestions to help you plan this year's operation -- ARRL Suggests Taking a Creative Approach to Field Day 2020. A few of them applied to my own recent operating experiences and thought I would share as possible inspiration.

My personal, longtime Field Day experience revolves around my recurrent entry class: 1E - home station on emergency power, yes, the "couch potato" class. It's easy to look down on us E class operators but every year I learn something new about my station and operation, usually dealing with 12V power management and solar panel efficiency, etc.

"Remember, Field Day is a non-adjudicated operating event and not a 'full speed ahead' contest," says ARRL.

The League also suggests not forgetting about 6 meters: FD is not an HF-only event. Summer propagation on the "Magic Band" can be interesting and sometimes thrilling. This past year, I have used my 40-meter dipole to work local stations on 6 meters. I just ordered a three element 6 meter Yagi. I'm looking forward to trying it for FD (and the preceding June VHF Contest) for openings.

Recently I have had a blast discovering FT8 and the underworld (under the noise-level world, that is) of weak signal work. A suggestion from colleague Mike Corey, KI1U, and the WSJT suite of weak signal software opened this door to excitement for me. I'm not sure how to configure it for Field Day yet, but that will give me something fun to learn and apply before next month's event. The software reportedly does support the ARRL Field Day exchange.

It strikes me that derivatives of FT8 will render high value modes for emergency/disaster response communications when conditions are less than optimal, its essence. See, for example, JS8Call. JS8Call is a digital mode built on the popular FT8 protocol; however, it instead offers real-time keyboard-to-keyboard messaging as well as store-and-forward capabilities and other similar features.

Remember: In Field Day, "a premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio." - ARRL Field Day Rules



Editor: [Brian Moran, N9ADG](#) May 27, 2020

A new release candidate for *WSJT-X*, v2.2.0-rc2, has been placed on [K1JT's website](#). If you want to help the development team by running the latest and potentially greatest, scroll past the GA release, and find the section entitled "Installation packages for *WSJT-X* 2.2.0-rc2." If you're so inclined, join the *WSJT-X* [group on Groups.io](#) to join the discussion or follow [these guidelines if you need to report an issue](#).

Increasing FT8 usage on the popular bands 40, 30, and 20m means that the default 3 kHz sub-bands are often wall-to-wall with signals.

Overcrowding encourages some to turn on their amplifiers, which only makes things worse. We are trying to coordinate the suggested frequencies in *WSJT-X* with updated band plans being considered by IARU, ARRL, and other amateur radio societies.

The *WSJT-X* development team has published additional "overflow" frequencies for FT8 - [see the v2.2.0-rc2 release notes](#), here's an excerpt: "On a trial basis, and in response to numerous suggestions from around the world, we have added a second set of suggested dial frequencies for FT8 on three HF bands and also on 6 meters. The new suggested dial frequencies are 7.071, 10.133, 14.071, and 50.310 MHz."

These frequencies will appear in your drop-down band-selector list after you go to the "Settings | Frequencies" tab, right-click on the frequency table, and select "Reset". Alternatively, you can add the new FT8 frequencies manually.

When the conventional FT8 sub-band on 6, 20, 30, or 40 m seems too full, please try moving your dial frequency down 3 kHz! Be aware that as currently implemented, *WSJT-X* will set your dial to the lowest frequency for the selected mode and band, when you switch bands.

https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/Release_Notes.txt

The results for the [7th Area QSO Party](#) are now available. Here's a link to the [results summary](#). According to the contest sponsors, overall participation was up by almost 50%! Here are a few excerpts from the results summary: "With 1,150 logs received, it is the high water mark for participation," and "the 7QP has more entry categories than any other QSO party and probably too many." Notable among the winners are new appearances. KL7SB in SOHX, K6SRZ in SOHC, and KH6KO in SALC for the non-7 entrants. Among the "locals", W7VO in SOHP, W7YAQ in SOLX, K7HBN in SOLC, and a huge remote effort by the crew at N7A in winning the MM category. The full result for all categories is on the [7QP.org](#) website. Dick, K4XU, noted that 62% of all who submitted logs used some variation of *N1MM Logger+*, followed by 21% using *N3FJP Logger*. 5% of all logs were submitted via the [WA7BNM webform](#).

Sometimes it's just not the right time for your Microsoft Windows 10 computer to have its operating system auto-updated. If you'd like to hold off updates for a time, you can go to the Windows Update Settings > Advanced Options and delay any updates up to 35 days. [Here's an article on the upcoming May 28, 2020 update](#) to Microsoft Windows. (Ward, N0AX)

WORD TO THE WISE

DE-9

The real name for the nine-pin D-Sub connectors that many radios use for RS-232 CAT communications, more frequently called a DB-9. They come in two varieties, male and female. For more information on PC serial and USB ports as they pertain to radio contesting, see [N6TV's presentation from the 2020 Contest University](#).

CONVERSATION

The Power of the Check Log (And How it Can Be a Springboard to New Contests)

"Have Fun!" You've heard it on the air. It's supposed to be the whole point of contesting. But it can be decidedly *not* fun when you're part way through a contest and you've found you've operated outside your chosen category of participation. Sometimes there's another category you can fall into, but another option is to continue operating, and send in a check log. A check log is a courtesy to the contest sponsors to help them score the accuracy of the other logs, but it will not count for any score for you. Submitting a check log can be liberating - the stress of the competition is gone, and you can focus just on operating. On having fun.

Check logs can also facilitate a "contest within a contest" and be a springboard to new contests. For example, the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) events are traditionally held during the IARU HF World Championships in July. The WRTC Teams using two transmitters simultaneously do *not* fall into the IARU rules for categories, yet they take advantage of the large number of participants in the IARU Contest. The exchanges are the same for both competitions. The two contests cooperate at a number of different levels. See the [results article for the 2018 IARU](#) for more information.

By piggybacking on a well-known and popular operating event, anyone could create a new competition. This "NewComp," as we might call it, is thus relieved of one of the biggest burdens of a new contest - getting operators on the air during the contest. NewComp's exchange should be compatible with the underlying event's exchange. But the rules are probably going to be different, otherwise why have a different competition? NewComp can have immediate logging and scoring support by taking advantage of *N1MM Logger+*'s [User Defined Contest](#) feature.

To increase the chances of success out of the gate, the NewComp organizers should probably gain the support of a few large radio clubs. Those clubs will probably want to weigh in on the NewComp contest rules and scoring particulars. The NewComp organizers would have to publicize the contest to their target audience, but that's where the "large radio clubs" can help out as well - getting their members to participate. Targeted emails, club newsletter mentions, and posts to contest-related email reflectors could help get the job done in short order. NewComp's organizers should also send the details of the contest-within-a-contest to contest-update@arrl.org.

The "contest submission" instructions to NewComp participants could be as simple as "post your **check log score of zero** to 3830scores.com for the underlying contest, but put the NewComp-rules category and calculated score in the comments." If a contest-within-a-contest becomes popular enough, or has enough initial support, it could even get its own 3830scores.com contest summary. ***For some events, the 3830-posted scores are already the official results.*** Finally, someone should be in charge of publicizing the results after the contest - a good results write-up provides positive reinforcement to those that operated

the contest, and builds enthusiasm for the next time.



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

A brief word from our editor...

CARA CAPERS is the monthly publication of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (CARA) and is intended to present news, issues, and opinions of interest to CARA members and the Amateur Radio Community.

We encourage contributions of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs from around the country and around the world. Permission is granted to reprint material contained herein as long as proper credit is given to this newsletter and the author.

Ideas for and contributions to the CAPERS should be submitted to: w1qk@snet.net.

Submissions must be received no later than the last Friday of the month preceding month of issue, *unless otherwise specified.*

Submissions should be in MS Word format or ASCII text. Photos should be in .jpg format.

Material received after the deadline will be used in the next month's CAPERS if it's still current and /or newsworthy.

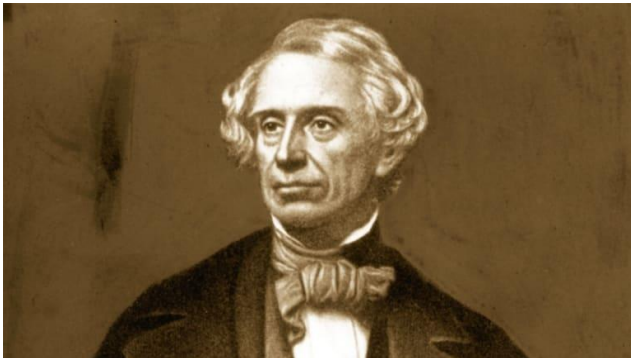
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Announcements of events are for informational purposes and do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by CARA. No responsibility for accuracy is assumed by the CARA Capers editor or newsletter staff.

Courtesy of: The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association's Award-Winning monthly newsletter: "Voice Coil" <http://www.mvara.org/News/Current.pdf>

H

June 10: Semi-official Samuel F.B. Morse Day



1. Morse had an earlier career as an accomplished painter.

The son of a Calvinist preacher, Massachusetts-born Samuel F. B. Morse studied philosophy and mathematics at Yale University before turning his attention to the arts, eventually travelling to England in 1811 to study painting. After his return stateside, he received commissions to paint portraits of former Presidents John Adams and James Monroe, several wealthy merchants in Charleston, South Carolina, and a series of allegorical works depicting the inner workings of the U.S. government to hang in the halls

of Congress. For the ardent nationalist Morse, an offer in 1825 to paint the Marquis de Lafayette—the French nobleman so inspired by the ideal of liberty espoused by the Declaration of independence that he fought alongside the colonial army—was likely the pinnacle of his career.

2. The death of Morse's wife was the impetus for his work on the telegraph.

It was while working on the portrait of Lafayette that Morse suffered the personal tragedy that changed his life forever. In Washington, D.C., for the commission, Morse received a letter from his father—delivered via the standard, slow-moving horse messengers of the day—that his wife was gravely ill. Morse immediately left the capital and raced to his Connecticut home. By the time he arrived, however, his wife was not only dead—she had already been buried. It is believed that the grief-stricken Morse, devastated that it had taken days for him to receive the initial notification of his wife's illness, shifted his focus away from his art career and instead dedicated himself to improving the state of long-distance communication.

4. A teenaged girl selected the words for the first official telegraph message.

In 1835, Henry Ellsworth (a Yale classmate of Samuel Morse's) was appointed the first Commissioner of the U.S. Patent Office, where he quickly became a champion of American inventions, supporting the development of Samuel Colt's revolver among other projects. Morse had received a U.S. patent after the 1838 demonstration of the telegraph, but desperately needed additional funds and government support to make it a viable technology. He sought assistance from Congress for nearly six years, to no avail. Finally in 1844, after an all-night session in which Ellsworth had lobbied forcefully on his friend's behalf, Congress appropriated the money for Morse's work. A grateful Morse, who wanted to show his appreciation for his friend's support, decided to allow Ellsworth's 17-year-old daughter Annie to choose the text of the first formal telegraph message. Annie, a part-time patent employee who was rumored to have a crush on the much older, widowed inventor, chose a passage from the Old Testament's Book of Deuteronomy. On May 23, 1844, Morse, situated in the U.S. Capitol,

tapped out Annie's words to his longtime assistant Alfred Vail. Seconds later, Vail, sitting in a Baltimore, Maryland, railroad depot less than 50 miles away, received the brief message that would usher in a new world of communication—What hath God wrought?

5. Morse spent years in court fighting for recognition of his work.

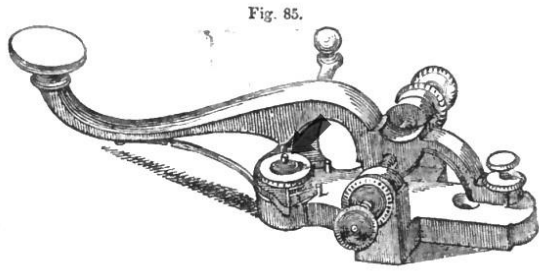
After years of hard work, Morse's telegraph was an immediate success: Within a decade there were more than 20,000 miles of telegraph wire in the United States alone, and by 1866 a transatlantic line had been laid from the U.S. to Europe. Morse probably expected to kick back, relax and reap the benefits of years of hard labor. That's not quite how it worked out, though. Despite the fact that Morse obtained patents and established telegraph exchanges in countries around the world, many governments (including for a time the United States) often ignored his claim to be the sole inventor of the telegraph, refusing to pay the correct royalties due. Eventually, Morse took his case all the way to the Supreme Court, who found that while others had indeed created earlier telegraphs somewhat similar to Morse,

he was the first to make use of a single-circuit, battery-powered machine. Eventually, several governments came around, giving Morse a cash payment worth more than \$2 million in today's money and insisting that he be paid future royalties on time—finally making Morse a very wealthy man.

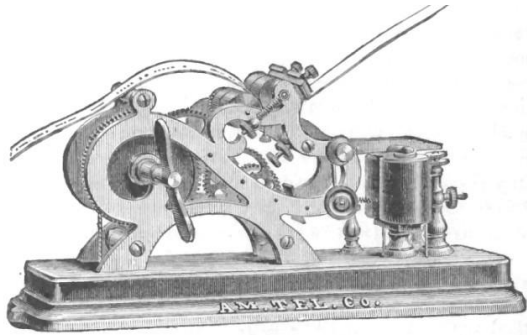
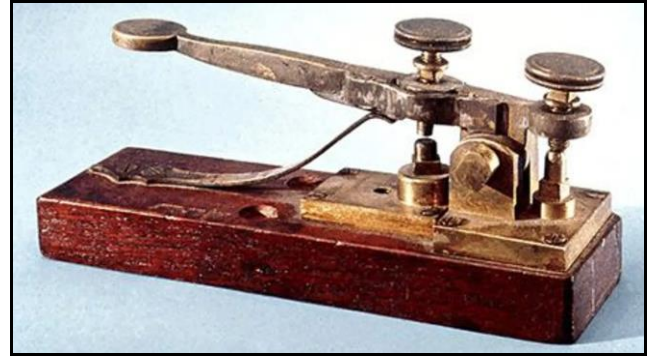
6. Samuel Morse made a memorable exit from public life.

When Alexander Graham Bell died in 1922, telephone lines in both the U.S. and Canada went silent for a full minute to coincide with the start of his funeral. Nine years later, a similar tribute was offered up for Thomas Edison, when President Herbert Hoover asked all Americans to dim their lights in honor of the recently departed “Wizard of Menlo Park.” Few inventors, however, are able to receive the adulation of their adoring public—and bid them adieu—while still alive. Samuel Morse did both: In 1871, a group of Western Union employees began working on a fitting tribute to the man who made their careers possible, selecting June 10 as a semi-official “Samuel Morse Day.” The daylong celebration included a parade, a cruise around New York Harbor and the unveiling and dedication of a statue of

Morse in New York's Central Park, a ceremony that drew 10,000 onlookers. Congratulatory messages poured in from around the world—by telegraph, naturally. At 80 years old, Morse himself was unable to attend many of the daytime events, but he did show up for the grand finale, a reception at the NY Academy of Music held that night. While speeches heralding his accomplishments continued for more than an hour, a secret project got underway. A series of telegraph instruments, hidden from view of the guests, slowly became the hub of a communications network that stretched across the country—with every city and town with a Morse set-up connecting in remotely. When everything was in place, it was announced that Mr. Morse himself would now say goodbye to the American people. A Western Union operator slowly typed out Morse's final message, slightly longer than his first: “Greeting and thanks to the Telegraph fraternity throughout the world. Glory to God in the Highest, on Earth Peace, Goodwill to men.” Morse then took his own turn at the desk, finishing off the message by signing his name, S.F.B. Morse. Morse died 10 months later.



The spring-return telegraph key is quite typical ... from an 1860 publication from Britain. The operator depressed it to make the electrical contact at the arrow. This is given as an example of a 'Morse patent' which had already been invented.



Morse's receiving 'sounder' or 'register' was actually an inkless tape inscriber ... The electromagnets (right) clicked as they responded to the distant telegraph message. There was a winding key for the clockwork tape-regulating mechanism (at the left). The clockwork mechanism drew a paper tape through the tape rollers near the inscribing stylus. There, the stylus, driven by the electromagnets, recorded the official message - pressed into the moving tape in code.



Camelback Key and Sounder on Board
Charles Williams Jr. Boston - 1860's

Source:

<http://members.kos.net/sdgagnon/te1.html>

Preliminary CARA 2020 Calendar

CARA Program and Activities Committee: Marcus – AB1WV, Bud – W1NSK

Last Updated 5/4/2020

May-

8th: Meeting – Presentation on Contesting and the ARRL FD - Paul Bourque, N1SFE
22nd: Planning meeting

June-

6th : VE Testing Session scheduled
12th: Meeting – Elections and FD discussion
No Planning Meeting in June Scheduled
27th – 28th: ARRL Field Day at Tarywile Park - tentative

July-

10th: Meeting – Presentation on Summits On The Air, SOTA - Marcus AB1WV
24th: Planning meeting
26th: US Islands QSO Party

August-

14th: Meeting - Hamfest Prep
21st: Planning meeting
23rd: Hamfest

September-

11th: Meeting – YCCC President, Dennis Egan – W1UE, invited for presentation
19th: VE Testing Session scheduled
19?: New Fairfield Day – W1QI Special Event Station – tentative



CARA Hamfest – August 23, 2020



Greetings fellow CARA members:

I'm writing this on the first day of February - and it's cold and snowy outside. But before we know it, it will be end of summer, and time for our annual Hamfest. The "Biggest Little Hamfest in Western Connecticut".

Although there may not be a lot that's needed to do now by the vast majority, it's **never** too early to get the word out.

As we attend other ham and electronics/computer-related events, please take along some of our flyers for distribution. As you speak to vendors, ask them if they're aware of our event. Give them a flyer, get their information and e-mail address, send it to me and I'll contact them. The more the merrier!

I'm sure we all know how much work that's involved to ensure that we have another successful event, and it won't happen without **your** support and efforts.

This year's flyer is on the next page. Print a few and take them with you.

Our event continues to grow every year!

73,
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM
CARA Hamfest 2020 Chairman

W1JGM@aol.com

THE POWER OF TEAMWORK:

Video Motivasi – Kerjasama Team (Team Work)

<https://youtu.be/oqRX02uhicc>



Sanctioned by ARRL

SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 23, 2020

Sunday, Doors open 8AM

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Annual

Western CT. Hamfest

The **BIGGEST**, little Hamfest in
Western Connecticut

Indoor tables \$20 each, Tailgating \$15 / spot

Includes 1 admission

Admission at the door \$7 (\$1 discount with flyer)

Children under 12 Free

See you at the Hamfest "73"

CARA is a 501(c)3 organization

FALL "ARES" FORUM
10:30 IN THE HALL

DEMONSTRATIONS

MAJOR VENDORS

INDOOR TABLES
OUTDOOR TAILGATING

VE SESSION - 9:30
NO APPOINTMENT REQ.

REFRESHMENTS
RAFFLE
DOOR PRIZES
50/50
GOOD TIMES

TO BE HELD AT

Edmond Town Hall
45 Main St
Newtown, CT

Hamfest.cararadioclub.org

Contact; John Morelli
(W1JGM)

Hamfest@cararadioclub.org

203-417-0160