



# Capers

## February - 2021



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>

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**Next CARA Meeting: Friday, February 12**

**This meeting will be conducted via Microsoft TEAMS Video Conferencing  
Sign onto TEAMS at 7:00 for socializing and conversation**

**Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.**

**Teams conference invitation emailed to CARA membership.**



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**Meeting Presentation by:**

**President of the Nashua Area Radio Club: Fred Kemmerer – AB1OC:**

**“Working the International Space Station, plus tips for club growth & increasing involvement”**

## President's Message – de W1NSK



Well winter is here and with it the cold crisp nights. Many of the low bands come to life during this time, especially 160 & 80. When I was a kid, I always got excited to get on 80 CW in the dead of winter. Speaking of on-Air Activities, February does not disappoint.

Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> has two State QSO Parties: Vermont & Minnesota. The 10-10 Int'l 10 Meter SSB Contest is at the same time. Techs get on 10 Meter SSB! Plenty to work! For RTTY Fans the 12/13<sup>th</sup> has the CQ RTTY WPX Contest. Call Sign Prefix's are multipliers! That means allot of them! At the same time, The Asia / Pacific Sprint is underway. A good way to work a few new ones in that part of the world! On the 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, The ARRL CW DX Contest is on! This contest brings huge amounts of activity to the HF Bands from 160 to 10! Tech's can get on 10 CW and work some DX now that Cycle 25 is starting to have an effect. Try mid to late morning to early afternoon. The month finishes out with the CQ WW 160 SSB Contest starting 0000Z, the 26<sup>th</sup> for 48hrs. Also, the SC QSO Party. Plenty of activity while we are home to stay warm and hide from COVID-19!

For those who have not, please enroll in MS Office. You will not only get a mailbox @w1QI.net but Word, Excel and the entire Office Suite of applications free for CARA Members. Most importantly, **Our Meetings are now on TEAMS (NOT ZOOM)**. This is available as well to those enrolled and is easily operable. Look for the email on registering for all this!

For those who have not, A reminder that 2021 Dues are now due and can be paid on the CARA Website via PayPal. Your CARA CAPERS Subscription is included in this membership.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is continuing to influence Ham Radio. This years "Hamcation" in Orlando as well as "The Dayton Hamfest" have both been cancelled already this year. Our club meetings will on continue MS Teams for the foreseeable future as the meeting room at Stony Hill Firehouse is not available for the near future. This year's Field Day is again in jeopardy and just prior to this writing, notice was given that Tarrywile Park will not be available for us. The question remains if this year's CARA Hamfest will be held in August. Stay tuned.

Keep your eyes open for online events replacing some of the cancelled real time ones. Word has it something will be cooked up by Contest University (K3LR) for a full day's event as well as one by the organizers for Dayton itself.

Join us for our Teams Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. A robust schedule of speakers is planned for the next several meetings including Bob Heil, Int'l Space Station contacts and more! Stay warm and safe! See you on the Air!

73, Bud – W1NSK, CARA President



**John Morelli (W1JGM) via CARA** <cara@cararadioclub.org>

**To:** Cara@Cararadioclub.org, Gregory Davis, Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Thu, Dec 17 at 9:16 PM

Here is the Team's training given my W8ZY

Thank you, Mike, Greg.

73

*John G. Morelli (W1JGM)*

*VP Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA)*

*Chairman; Western Connecticut Hamfest*

*cararadioclub.org*

*203-417-0160*

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**From:** Microsoft Stream <no-reply@microsoftstream.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2020 9:08 PM

**To:** John Morelli (W1JGM) <W1JGM@w1qi.org>

**Subject:** Your meeting recording is here! — "MS 365 training"

**Your content is ready to stream!**

**MS 365 training**

**[Go to your video now](#)** to publish, view, edit or share!

CJS via CARA [cara@cararadioclub.org](mailto:cara@cararadioclub.org)

To: CARA REFLECTOR

Tue, Dec 8 at 11:45 PM

Hello Fellow CARA Members:

It's that time of year... 2021 membership dues are upon us! Since our membership rates remain the same, we can begin our collection a bit early. **Dues are payable in January.**

Those that choose to mail in your payments keep in mind our mailing address has changed since last year. New address: POB 55 Brookfield CT 06804

**CARA dues rates are as follows:**

Full Member - \$30.

Family Member - \$30 for first family member, \$15 for each additional nuclear family member  
Senior club members (>= 65 years old) and full time students who are members at Full or Associate levels receive a 50% reduction off dues rate

· Associate Member - \$10

**There are three convenient methods to pay your dues;**

- ***Via PayPal*** at <https://www.paypal.me/CARADUES> is probably the most convenient. **Please when submitting payment, in the "Add A Note" area, add your call sign and any other information you may feel pertinent. Please do NOT use a payment tab or checkbox that indicates that the payment would have been for "goods and services" which would result in a fee charged to CARA and result in a rejection of your payment. Thank you**
- ***By check*** Payable to "Candlewood Amateur Radio Assn." by mail (Candlewood Amateur Radio Assoc., POB 55, Brookfield CT 06804).
- ***By Cash...*** Please prepare a slip of paper with the amount presented, your name & Call sign.

Attached also find our updated Membership Application for reference and perhaps we can enlist some new members! The fillable pdf application is also on our website at [click here \(cararadioclub.org\)](http://cararadioclub.org), link also on home page. Should any changes to your name address or contact information you can use this to send to us as an UPDATE.

As a reminder our monthly meeting is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. Friday via Zoom Conferencing (see our web site at [Candlewood Amateur Radio Association \(cararadioclub.org\)](http://Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (cararadioclub.org))). Great time to connect!

Respectfully,

Charlie Setaro KC1iBR, Treasurer [cjset@att.net](mailto:cjset@att.net) or [treasurer@cararadioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@cararadioclub.org)

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# February 12 - Meeting Agenda:

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7:30 PM - Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentation: Fred Kemmerer – AB10C: “Working the International Space Station, plus Club Tips for growth, & increasing involvement”. Fred is President of the Nashua Area Amateur Radio Club, based in Nashua, NH. NARC was the 2019 Dayton Hamvention’s Club of the Year.

Business Meeting:

- Review and Acceptance of Minutes published in Capers

- Treasurers Report

- Committee Reports

  - Repeater: Spruce Mtn., Battery back-up

  - MS Office 365 implementation? : Sign ups & “Meetings” Training. More Needed?

  - Dues.

  - Development Committee: Letter / Raffle

  - Program Committee: Bob Heil March

Old Business: Insurance.

- Grant Monies.

New Business

- CARA Calendar: Conflicts May 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Weekend, December 24

Christmas Eve.

- Temporary substitute Secretary

- Field Day

Motion for end of Business Meeting

Announcements: Any?

Meeting adjournment



**Vice- President's Message:**  
de W1JGM



Welcome to February 2021.

As the first month of 2021 has past, so have several events with the CARA organization. Our rollout to MS 365 to provide a platform to have our meeting, socialize, interact and share information and our first MS Teams business meeting with a great presentation was a success. Winter field Day 2021 is behind us.

At this month's meeting we will have another great presentation on the International space station (ISS) from Fred Kemmerer - AB1OC. Fred is the President of the Nashua Area Radio Society (2019 Dayton Club of the year).

Going forward, we have presentations planed for March, with Bob Heil - K9EID, from **Ham Nation** and **Heil Sound**; April, Steve Szombathy - W7UDI from **100 Watts and a Wire** podcast; and in May with Valerie Hotzfeld - NV9L from **Ham Nation Podcast**. Please try and attend and invite fellow hams. Access to the meetings can be found in the CARA website meeting page.

Please remember that your CARA dues are due for 2021. You will find a link to Pay-Pal on the CARA website. [Paypal.me/caradues](https://www.paypal.com/merchot?cmd=_donations&item_name=CARA+Dues&item_number=1)

\*\*\*DO NOT choose a "payment" tab for a purchase of goods or service. In the NOTE Section include your CALL SIGN! 2021 Rates are \$30/ year. Senior rate for 65 and over is \$15/yr.

You may also send a check to CARA, C/O Treasurer, PO Box 55, Brookfield, CT 06804-0055. If you have not updated your information, please include your updated information on the form fillable membership application from the club site. [www.cararadioclub.org](http://www.cararadioclub.org)

The team is continually working on programs and events for the coming year and help is always welcomed. If you have a friend that is interested in receiving their amateur ticket, joining the club, donating equipment or has an interest in amateur radio contact a club officer and pass on the application.

If you worked Winter Field Day in January, please be sure to submit your logs with "Candlewood ARA" as your club for us to get the credit.

Just a reminder, the club still has back-up batteries for sale. See information in the Capers newsletter. Don't let them slip away.

Check our website as we are updating it on an ongoing basis. [www.cararadioclub.org](http://www.cararadioclub.org)

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me or a club officer.

Stay safe and get on the radio. The original social distancing! Welcome to 2021. May it bring health and happiness to everyone.

73, John G. Morelli - W1JGM

CARA VP  
Chairman; Western Connecticut Hamfest

## January 8 Monthly Meeting Minutes de N1GSA



Meeting called to order at 7:40 by Bud Kozloff.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were 15 people present.

The business meeting was held after the presentation by Bill Acito – W1PA, on satellites and their use by Amateurs.

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as printed in the CAPERS.

Treasurer reported a starting balance of \$5051.20. Ending balance was \$5285.47.

Repeater Committee reported no news is good news. There are several projects scheduled for the Spring. At this point the machines are all working properly. John asked that anyone who wishes to help work on the 220 machine they can meet at his house and do so.

Asset and Insurance Committee has been working on compiling the list and putting numbers together to list this on an insurance policy.

Jennifer needs an itemized list for this.

We will look into the agreement with Café Press concerning any revenue that we may get or may be due for items purchased.

Website Committee has updated the list of changes that could be made to the site. They will now contact Jennifer to talk about these adjustments.

John will need to start working on plans for the Hamfest in the next few months. Of course, this will all be contingent on the progress of Covid. We need to plan for the BEST and hopefully this can go forward in some form.

CARA calendar: May Planning Mtg falls on Memorial Day weekend. Decided to leave as is. Christmas Eve also falls on the night of our Planning Mtg.

Winter Field Day was discussed. We will be operating this year much like June Field Day last year. We will each operate from our Home stations and having Candlewood ARA as our designated club. A few stated that they will be working outside with battery power and newly constructed antennas. This will gain some much-needed points. Dan will use W1QI as his call for this contest.

Emily N1DID, from the Bridgeport Club, has invited us to participate in the weekly Foxhunt that their club runs. This is announced on most of our weekly Sunday night nets.

Grant money was the next topic of discussion. Dan stated that the Mutual Federal Credit Union offers Grants that could be applied for. He and Bud will try to formulate a letter to send to them.

Charlie had the list of all who submitted a letter to the FCC about the drastic fees that were proposed for Amateur Radio Licenses. This was put into a random number generator to get the lucky recipient of the payment of their 2021 dues. The lucky winner was Dan Fegley, W1QK.

Update on Marcus - he is progressing well. He has gone out for a drive the other day and, he is planning on returning to work on a very part-time basis next week. John is going to deliver a piece of coax that he needs to use on a new antenna that has come down in the latest storms.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10.

Respectfully submitted:

Gary S. Adams, N1GSA - CARA Secretary

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### January 22 Planning Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:45 pm by Pres. Bud Kozloff.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were only 5 present.

First order of Business was upcoming speakers: John has a couple possible lined up. He is waiting for confirmations. N1IBQ could possibly do a program on POTA, Parks on the Air. We do have to be careful as to scheduling. Valerie would do something in May or June after they get back from vacation.

Winter Field Day was discussed. John had an idea to operate from his daughters' trailer with battery power. There are many multipliers available when doing this. Dan will be using the W1QI callsign for this event.

Tarrywile Park will NOT be available for our summer Field Day. The city of Danbury has already sent out this notification. This could also affect the use of equipment from the EOC.

There are also many upcoming forums and events that have been cancelled. This includes Dayton. Our Hamfest is also in jeopardy for this year. Even with the COVID vaccinations progressing, it is possible that people will not be willing to gather in large numbers.

We really need to do something to invite new Hams to join the club and get active with the hobby. There are a lot of new Hams that only get their license to qualify for some service qualification.

John has heard from Marcus when he dropped off some coax that was collected from Sander's house. Marcus has a box that contains CARA's framed 50 year ARRL Affiliated Club certificate.

We need to make any updates to our brochure before January 27th. Dan is working on formulating this into a document that can be used.

Charlie, Roger, Harlan, and Dan have gone thru the website and come up with recommendations for updates. The next step will be to contact Jennifer Doyon to get this done. This will be set up as a Teams meeting so that all will be able to see things as they are and make comments at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted.

Gary S. Adams, N1GSA – CARA Secretary



*CARA has been an  
ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946*



## Last Month's program: Getting started with Satellites

de W1QK

Our guest speaker last month was Bill Acito, W1PA, who gave a talk: "Introduction to Amateur Satellites". Bill is an AMSTAT member, ARRL Life Member, has many interests including QRP, plus contesting, and has written many articles for publication.

CARA thanks Bill for his informative presentation.



## This Month's program: Fred Kemmerer – AB1OC

de W1QK & W1NSK

At our February 12 CARA meeting, we will host Fred Kemmerer – AB1OC, President of the Nashua Area Radio Society. He will explain ARISS contacts that were made with the International Space Station and detail how arrangements are made to be part of that exciting program.



Fred will also share information about how the club was recognized as the **Dayton Hamvention 2019**

**Club of the Year** for their many efforts in promoting amateur radio.

NARS set up an elaborate display at the 2019 ARRL New England Division convention exhibit hall related to their award and conducted their one day "Ham Bootcamp" on the Friday preceding the convention.

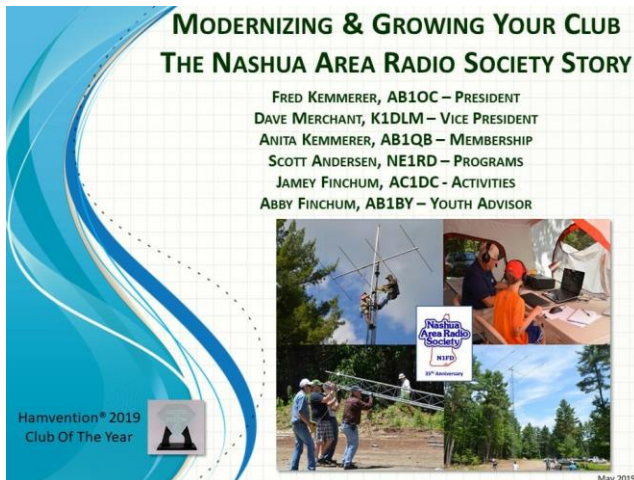


**EDUCATION AND TRAINING, FEATURED, GENERAL, NEWSLETTER**  
THE NASHUA AREA RADIO SOCIETY STORY

**MAY 14, 2019 FRED KEMMERER**

Quite a few Nashua Area Radio Society members are headed for the Dayton Hamvention® this week. The theme of Hamvention 2019 is "Mentoring the Next Generation". We will be receiving some important recognition for our work to bring new Hams into the Amateur Radio Service, for our Amateur Radio related STEM learning programs in local schools, and for our many Ham Mentoring projects. We will be recognized as the **Dayton Hamvention 2019 Club of the Year**. We will also be sharing The Nashua Area Radio Society Story as a forum presentation at Dayton.

Source: <https://www.n1fd.org/2019/05/14/the-nashua-area-radio-society-story/>



We are also being [recognized by the ARRL as a Spotlight Club for our Mentoring work.](#)

The ARRL has dedicated their “**ARRL Spotlight on Radio Clubs and Mentoring**” forum on Friday, May 17th at 11:50 am in Forum Room 3 to us so that we can share The Nashua Area Radio Society Story including ideas and programs that have worked well for us. You can view a copy of the presentation that we’ll be sharing by clicking on the image above. The presentation contains links to the embedded videos so you can enjoy those as well.

*I want to express my deepest appreciation and thanks to all of the Nashua Area Radio Society members who have contributed so much to our many projects, programs, and activities. Without all of you, we would not have been able to do what we have done to help others and to forward the Amateur Radio Service.*

We hope that our readers who will be attending the Dayton Hamvention this year will join us for our Forum Presentation on Friday and will also stop by and see our display in the ARRL Booth at Dayton.

We’ll be sharing highlights from Dayton 2019 in our Forums as we go and Scott, [NE1RD](#) has time planned for us to share our Dayton experience at an upcoming meeting when we return.

Fred, [AB1OC](#)



**Ham Bootcamp**

A beginner-friendly program to mentor new and upgraded hams, developed by the Nashua Area Radio Society.

**Getting Hams On the Air**

**Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC**  
For the last 5 years, the Nashua Area Radio Society (NARS) in Nashua, New Hampshire, has been actively providing licensing classes and training to help new amateur radio operators develop their skills. Our club has helped over 420 people earn or upgrade their licenses.

The Nashua Area Radio Society has spent quite a bit of time trying to understand why so many of the people who earn a license or an upgrade don't get on the air. The number one reason we discovered is that the amateur radio community isn't providing the mentoring that many hams need to get active. Some examples of the necessary mentoring include:

- Help getting a handheld transceiver or base radio programmed for repeater use
- Guided practice making contacts on the air
- Help to overcome "mic fright"
- Help choosing equipment for their first VHF/UHF or HF station
- Help setting up an effective first HF station

Beyond these basic items, the club has also found that mentoring in the following areas helps boost interest in getting on the air among new and upgraded hams:

- An introduction to logging
- An introduction to low-Earth orbit (LEO) satellite operations
- An introduction to operating on the 6-meter band
- Getting set up and learning how to use WSJT-X and FT8/FT4 modes
- A basic introduction to contest participation
- A guide to working DX and confirming receipt of transmissions
- Help with basic physical station-building issues such as grounding, getting cables into a building, and putting up single antennas and feed lines

Above: MacKenzie Prober, KE1NZY, and her father, Dan Prober, AC1EU, mentor hams by explaining how to get started with satellites at Ham Bootcamp.

58 October 2020 G5F [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

<https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/>



Anita – AB1QB, and Fred Kemmerer – AB1OC



## The AB1OC and AB1QB Station:

Source: [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

We are active on the 160m - 6m, 2m, 70 cm, and 23 cm bands. We enjoy working DX contacts on SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK, and JT65 as well as FM and DSTAR contacts via local repeaters. We have added LEO Satellite capability to our station and we've recently built a Digital Amateur TV Station for use on the 70 cm band. We are also active on 2m EME (Moonbounce) using JT65B. We also operate a 2m APRS Digipeater and iGate at our QTH in New Hampshire, USA.

### Home Station Details:

Rigs: Icom 7851, Icom 9100, Icom 9700, Icom 7300, Yaesu FTdx5000, Icom 7610, FlexRadio-6700 SDR, Acom 2000A Amplifiers (1.5KW), Icom PW-1 Amplifier (1KW), 2M-1K2 2m Amplifier (1.2KW), OM2002+ 2m Amplifier (1.5KW), Elecraft KPA1500 Amplifier (1.5KW), Kenwood TH-D710A (APRS iGate)

Base Antennas: 100' Tower with a 4 over 4 array of SteppIR DB36s, M2 Antenna Systems 2m and 70cm Yagis, 80m Delta Loop, 160m Inverted-L, SteppIR BigIR Vertical, 8-Circle Vertical Receive Array for 160m/80m, 2 Element Receive System with NCC-1 Noise Canceler for 160m/80m, Diamond X300NA on 2m/70 cm. Also M2 2MCP14, 436CP30, and Directive Systems 23cm

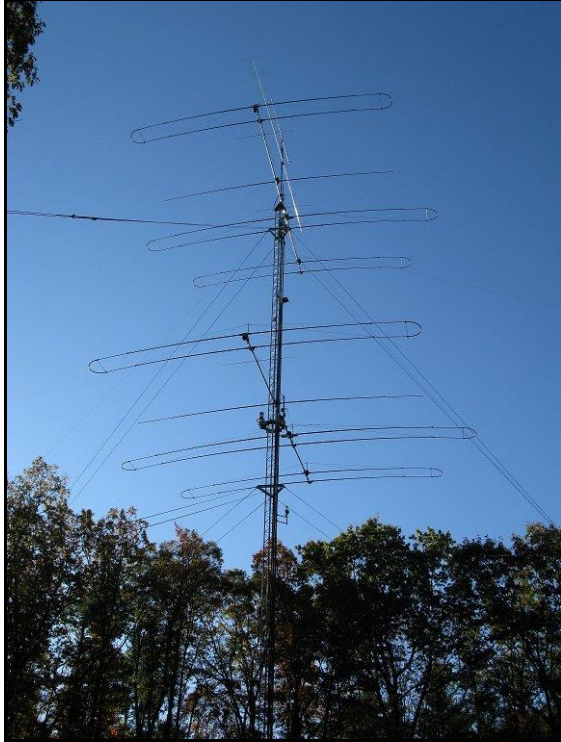
Antennas for Satellites on a 36 ft Tower and four M2 2MXP18 antennas for 2m EME on a 26 ft Tower.

We completed the construction of our new shack and antenna system in the fall of 2012. Our station is multi-op capable - it provides two SO2R positions. It also includes a remote operating gateway which allows us to operate our station over the Internet. This is very useful for GOTA operations, demonstrations in schools, and for our License Training Classes. The heart of our antenna farm is built around a 100' tower with antennas that cover all the bands from 160m - 70cm. You can see photos and details of our station project on our Blog.

See our Blog or the article here on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com) for more information and pictures of our station.







We have also built several portable satellite ground stations and have used these to work a VUCC via satellites. Here is a picture of our portable satellite antenna system 3.0 and a picture of the satellite ground station radio, computer controls, and supporting equipment:

Our latest project is to build a 2m EME station at our home QTH. We are now QRV on 2m EME using a new antenna system:



The equipment in our 2m EME Station includes:

4 X-pol 2MXP28 antennas with a total of 112 elements among the 4 antennas

A MAP65 system which enables JT65B adaptive polarity operation

An IC-9700 Transceiver and 1.5 Kw amplifier

You can read more about our 2m EME Station

here.  
<https://stationproject.blog/2019/10/21/eme-part1-goals-station-design/>

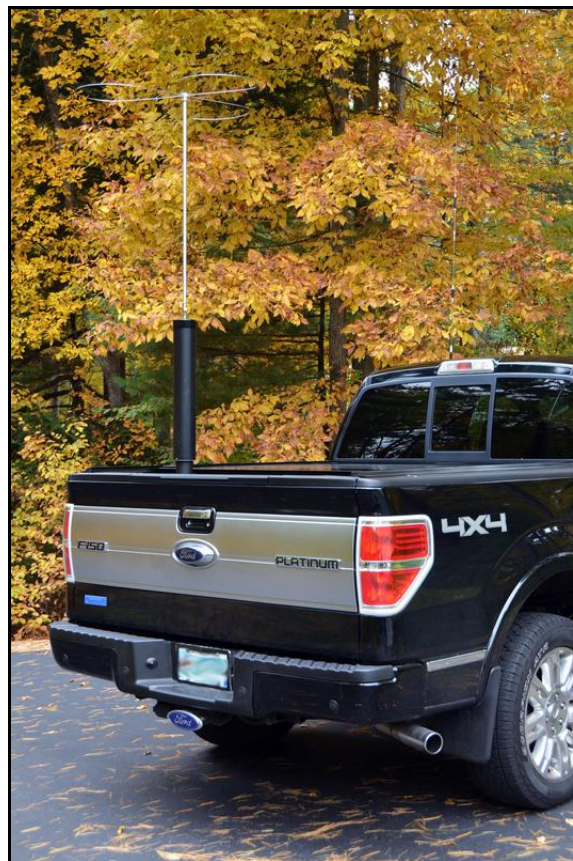




This shows our Scorpion Screwdriver Antenna. For most HF bands, we use a 3 or 4 ft rod and a Cap Hat. This combination improves the overall efficiency of the system by reducing the number of loading coil turns that are required to tune the antenna on a given band.

We use the Satellite Station in our home to support contacts between schools and astronauts on the ISS as part of the ARISS school contact program as well. You can read more about our Satellite Station 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0 on our blog.

We also operate a mobile HF station from our F-150 pickup truck. This station consists of an Icom IC-7000 Transceiver (100w), a Scorpion SA-680 Screwdriver Antenna (80m - 10m), an Ameritron ALS-500M HF Amplifier (500w) and an Icom IC-5100A for FM and D-STAR Repeater access on 2m and 70cm. We also use an Elecraft W2 Wattmeter and a TuneMatic Screwdriver Antenna Controller as part of our Mobile HF setup.







The F-150 is a good platform for a mobile HF station. Our model has a high capacity alternator which supports our mobile amplifier very well. The amplifier and our antenna controller and wattmeter electronics fit nicely under the fold up rear seat.

We have done quite a few NPOTA activations and many of these QSOs are in our log for AB1OC/M or in the log for the Nashua Area Radio Society. We activated Roosevelt Campobello International Park, AA-21 as AB1OC/VE9.

## CARA Winter Field Day Results de W1QK



Image Source: <https://www.winterfieldday.com/>

START-OF-LOG: 3.0  
LOCATION: CT  
CALLSIGN: W1JGM  
CLUB: Candlewood ARA  
CONTEST: WFDA-CONTEST  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP  
CATEGORY-ASSISTED: ASSISTED  
CATEGORY-BAND: ALL  
CATEGORY-MODE: MIXED  
CATEGORY-POWER: LOW  
CATEGORY-STATION: PORTABLE  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE

CLAIMED-SCORE: 1152  
OPERATORS: W1JGM  
SOAPBOX: 1500 points Operated on battery power  
NAME: John Morelli  
EMAIL: [W1JGM@aol.com](mailto:W1JGM@aol.com)

START-OF-LOG: 3.0  
LOCATION: CT  
CALLSIGN: N1IBQ  
CATEGORY: 1H  
CATEGORY-ASSISTED: NON-ASSISTED  
CATEGORY-BAND: ALL  
CATEGORY-MODE: MIXED  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP  
CATEGORY-POWER: LOW  
CATEGORY-STATION: PORTABLE  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE

CLAIMED-SCORE: 3744  
CLUB: Candlewood ARA  
CONTEST: WFD  
CREATED-BY: WA7BNM Web2Cabrillo 2.07  
NAME: Ronald J. Willson  
EMAIL: [n1ibq@aol.com](mailto:n1ibq@aol.com)  
OPERATORS: N1IBQ

SOAPBOX: Alternate Power Bonus points = 1500. Power - one Group 27 Marine Deep Cycle Battery, Rig = Yaesu FT-891, Antenna - Diamond BB7V temporarily set up in back yard, operated from temporary table set up in attached garage. Paper log.

START-OF-LOG: 3.0  
LOCATION: CT  
CALLSIGN: W1QH  
CLUB: Candlewood ARA  
CONTEST: WFD  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP  
CATEGORY-ASSISTED: NON-ASSISTED  
CATEGORY-BAND: ALL  
CATEGORY-MODE: MIXED  
CATEGORY-POWER: QRP  
SOAPBOX: 1,500 points for not using commercial power  
CATEGORY-STATION: FIXED  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE  
CLAIMED-SCORE: 500  
OPERATORS: W1QH  
NAME: Harlan Ford  
EMAIL: [hford01@snet.net](mailto:hford01@snet.net)

START-OF-LOG: 3.0  
LOCATION: CT  
CALLSIGN: W1QK  
CLUB: Candlewood ARA  
CONTEST: WFDA-CONTEST  
CATEGORY-OPERATOR: SINGLE-OP  
CATEGORY-ASSISTED: NON-ASSISTED  
CATEGORY-BAND: ALL  
CATEGORY-MODE: CW  
CATEGORY-POWER: LOW  
CATEGORY-STATION: HOME  
CATEGORY-TRANSMITTER: ONE  
CLAIMED-SCORE: 4704  
OPERATORS: W1QK  
SOAPBOX: Thank you for sponsoring the contest. 1500 Bonus Points for emergency power.  
NAME: Candlewood ARA



## Connecticut Phone Net – CPN

Meets daily: M-W-F 5:00 pm Tue-Thu 5:15 pm 3.973 MHz., Sunday: 10:00 a.m. 3.965 MHz.

CARA Contributions:

Tom Coury, WX1T: CPN manager  
Wednesday Net control: Harlan, W1QH

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:

Feb. 12: CARA February monthly meeting video conference **via Teams**

Feb. 26: CARA February monthly planning meeting **via Teams**

**March 3: March, 2021 Capers input deadline**



Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:

28.490 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm

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

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



## Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

Feb. 12: CARA Monthly meeting **via Teams**

Feb. 12-14: CQWW RTTY WPX contest

Feb. 19-21: ARRL DX CW contest

Feb. 26-28: CQ 160M SSB contest

Feb. 26: CARA Planning meeting **via Teams**

Feb. 27: NAQP RTTY Contest

Feb. 10, 17, 24 CWOps CWT Minitest Regular  
Sessions - 1300Z, 1900Z, 0300Z Thursday

**Mar. 3: March, 2021 Capers input deadline**

## 2021 Ham Exam Schedule



## Upcoming 2021 Amateur radio exams:

Hi everyone,

Hope you are all doing well.

I was just informed that the Stony Hill Firehouse in Bethel, CT will not be available to outside groups through the end of 2020. As a result, I have cancelled our testing session on 12/5/2020.

If and when the firehouse becomes available, I will come up with a testing schedule and e-mail it to you.

As an alternative, if there is interest I may periodically offer testing sessions in Woodbury, CT if I can get access to the Woodbury Firehouse (through Glen - W1GHD).

Thanks and 73, Jon - AJ1U

## Wallingford CT 06492-2327

02/13/2021

**Sponsor:** Meriden Amateur Radio Club

**Date:** Feb 13 2021

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

**Contact:** Donald G. Mitchell  
(203) 239-2077

**Email:** [dmitchell1273@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmitchell1273@sbcglobal.net)

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

**Location:** Hope Hill Firehouse  
29 North Plains Hwy  
Pre-Registration Preferred  
Wallingford CT 06492-2327



The Yankee Clipper Contest Club is a special purpose amateur radio club devoted to the pursuit of operating and technical excellence.

More information about the YCCC at:

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

**Re: UA2FW again**

From: [John Kaufmann](mailto:John.Kaufmann@arrl.org)

Date: Thu, 04 Feb 2021 13:24:19 EST

Dave,

Thanks for that info. During my time on the band last weekend, UA2FW's signal was head and shoulders above everyone else from Europe. That's not easy to do from northern Europe, especially in mediocre conditions, so that's very impressive indeed.

The Spitfire antenna was first described in a 1998 presentation by K1VR and myself. I designed the antenna and Fred was the first person to deploy one. The design has evolved a bit over time and you can find a bunch of material on it on the YCCC Web site: <https://www.yccc.org/Articles/Spitfire/spitfire.htm>. The configuration in use by UA2FW with two side-by-side arrays is described in the original 1998 presentation. UA2FW is the only such installation that I have heard of.

73, John W1FV

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**Arecibo**

From: John Allen

Date: Wed, 13 Jan 2021 18:28:17 EST

A story about Frank Drake, a major player at Arecibo in the early days:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2021/01/why-the-loss-of-an-iconic-radio-telescope-is-painfully-personal/>  
<[https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2021/01/why-the-loss-of-an-iconic-radio-telescope-is-painfully-personal/?utm\\_source=pocket-newtab](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2021/01/why-the-loss-of-an-iconic-radio-telescope-is-painfully-personal/?utm_source=pocket-newtab)>

73, John K1AE  
-----

Re: ARRL on the Purpose of Amateur Radio

From: Dave Sumner

Date: Mon, 18 Jan 2021 20:29:14 EST

A local in DC reports that insurrectionists were using two meter FM simplex on Jan 6. He doesn't report hearing legal call signs.

Dave K1ZZ  
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Pentrox

From: Don/Nc1cc

Date: Thu, 21 Jan 2021 11:18:25 EST

Can Never Seize "copper coat" be used in lieu of Pentrox?

Re: Pentrox

From: Tony Brock-Fisher

Date: Thu, 21 Jan 2021 11:25:33 EST

Yes. [See DX Engineering SS-30](#), contains copper, recommended for assembly of their antennas.

Tony K1KP  
-----

Re: pentrox

From: Greg Zenger

Date: Thu, 21 Jan 2021 13:13:12 EST

Short answer: yes. Slightly longer answer: yes, but maybe you shouldn't.

If you want to dive into my thoughts and experiences... read on for the longer answer.

I spend a lot of my professional life dealing with electrical and electromechanical equipment installed in a marine environment.

Copper-Coat is copper and graphite particles suspended in an oil base  
SS-30 is copper particles suspended in an oil base  
Penetrox-A is zinc suspended in an oil base.

Any of the above are fine for stainless steel joints/copper joints, and should have high conductivity, however I would NOT recommend using a copper or copper-graphite based anti-seize on aluminum connections, regardless of what DX engineering's product sheets say. (Probably one of only a few times I'll disagree with DXE, generally I hold their advice in fairly high regard)

Zinc and Aluminum are both very anodic, and don't have much galvanic potential between them, making them compatible.  
Copper is slightly anodic and isn't a great choice in a joint containing aluminum.  
Graphite is tremendously cathodic and is therefore a poor choice for use with aluminum.

In the short term your copper and graphite is probably the most conductive, but in the long term it is likely to corrode the aluminum. It still is likely to be better than nothing, however. My guess is the petroleum oil that the conductive particles are suspended in is a relatively poor electrolyte and therefore slows the galvanic corrosion that eventually takes place. Perhaps in practice these compounds will last long enough to provide a reasonable amount of protection for the average service life of an amateur antenna (maybe one or two solar cycles?)

When making up aluminum to aluminum connections, your best results will be had if you remove the aluminum oxides from the (too much corrosion between the joint can act as mini diodes which can become a source of intermodulation distortion, making the antennas noisier). Aluminum oxides begin to form instantaneously when exposed to oxygen. For best results sand the mating aluminum surfaces, then immediately apply Penetrox-A (or a similar zinc/petroleum based anti-seize) using a stainless steel brush to again break up the thin layer of oxides that have already begun to form as the anti-seize is applied to protect from further oxygen contact.

I get a variety pack of tube brushes from <https://www.harborfreight.com/tube-brush-set-6-pc-61923.html> or something similar, and I clip off the end of the long handle so that I can chuck it in a power

drill. makes cleaning the inside of telescoping elements super easy. I use a #0 or #1 steel wool for the outer portion. This stuff is messy, use some nitrile gloves.

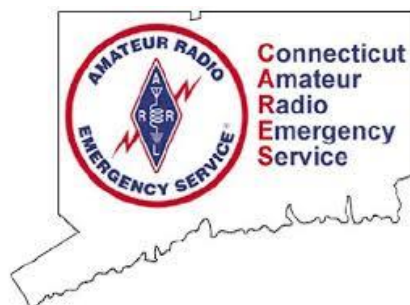
Methanol also helps to dissolve aluminum oxides and can be used to assist with cleaning, though I find mechanical means sufficient enough. Save your Methanol for cleaning circuit boards, or save yourself the trouble of sourcing it in the first place.

Personally, I use Pentrox-A or Noalox on all of my antenna joints and connections. They are formulated for aluminum electrical connections (UL listed) but also do a good job as an anti-seize/anti-gall compound. I have never had a stainless fasteners gall with it (probably only used on sizes 3/8 and smaller). I would not use these compounds on larger or structural fasteners especially where an anti-seize is specifically called out by an engineered document, I would probably default to using a molybdenum disulfide or a copper based anti-seize if the exact formulation was not called out by the engineer.

I think the only copper based compound in use at my station is restricted to protecting field cut threads in metallic conduit and similar applications. I use T&B Kopr-Shield for this application.

Greg N2GZ

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Next CT ARES Winlink Wednesday:

**Wednesday, March 3**

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## **K1CE For a Final: *Winlink Thursday - A Lesson in Training and Practice***

I participated in last November's American Red Cross Nationwide Emergency



Communications Drill, but, frankly, struggled with meeting the task of sending my ARC-213 message form to the Red Cross Southeast Divisional message clearinghouse. I troubleshooted the issues, taking recommendations of expert practitioners, and subsequently downloaded the more robust Winlink VARA HF virtual TNC. (I had been using the old, retired WINMOR HF mode). I installed it on my Winlink Express platform, experimented, practiced, and then enjoyed successful and faster message transfers.

Last Thursday, I participated in *Winlink Thursday*, a weekly messaging exercise. After the exercise, I posted on the RATPAC SEC-ARES reflector, "Thanks to what I learned from my experience in the November 14 Nationwide Exercise, today -- Winlink Thursday -- I was able to efficiently fill out and send the Red Cross ARC-213 message to the Red Cross divisional clearinghouse using my new VARA HF virtual TNC, on emergency power. I was pleased with my new skill set and had fun, too!"

The point is, training and practice *do pay off!* Thanks to Wayne Robertson, K4WK, of the American Red Cross, **Mike Walters, W8ZY, of Connecticut ARES**, and the other organizers of this past Thursday's excellent *Winlink Thursday*. The third nationwide Red Cross Radio Drill is set for May 8, 2021 -- get up to speed on Winlink and the ARC-213 now and plan to participate! - K1CE

## ARRL Statement of the Purpose of Amateur Radio

For over 100 years amateur radio and [ARRL -- the National Association for Amateur Radio®](#) -- have stood for the development of the science and art of communications, public service, and the enhancement of international goodwill. Amateur Radio's long history and service to the public has solidified the well-earned reputation that "Amateur Radio saves

lives."

Amateur Radio Operators, due to their history of public service, their training, and the requirement that they be licensed by the FCC have earned their status as a component of critical communications infrastructure and as a reliable resource "when all else fails."

Amateur Radio is about development of communications and responsible public service. Its misuse is inconsistent with its history of service and its statutory charter. ARRL does not support its misuse for purposes inconsistent with these values and purposes.

### [ARRL Statement of the Purpose of Amateur Radio](#)

- [Statement of ARRL Director of Emergency Management on ARES Connect](#)
- [FEMA 2020 Highlights](#)
- [Letters: The Problem with Complex, Menu-Driven Handhelds, Responses](#)
- [Letters: Equipment Selection Criteria for EOC Installs](#)
- [ARES Communicator Wins 2020 Ellen White, W1YL, Award](#)
- [Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network MESH Comes to Hawaii](#)
- [Mesh Video and Tower Trailers at Prep Exercise for Minnesota Urban Ski and Bike Race](#)
- [K1CE For a Final: Winlink Thursday - A Lesson in Training and Practice](#)

### ARES® Briefs, Links

The Red Cross EmComm Training Group is planning its third nationwide Radio Drill for May 8, 2021. This is also World Red Cross Day and international hams are invited to participate. Practice for the event now with the very popular "Winlink Thursdays," which have resumed, with over four hundred participants in the first event. To receive



announcements and stay informed, please sign up on [main@ARC-EmComm-Training.groups.io](mailto:main@ARC-EmComm-Training.groups.io) | [Home](#). -- Wayne Robertson, K4WK, American Red Cross, Mike Walters, W8ZY, Connecticut ARES; and organizers

Winter Field Day is in 10 days, January 30-31, 2021. [View the rules](#). The Winter Field Day Association (WFDA) "is a dedicated group of amateur radio operators who believe that emergency communications in a winter environment is just as important as the preparations and practice that is done each summer but with some additional unique operational concerns. We believe as do those entities of ARRL organizations such as ARES...that maintaining your operational skills should not be limited to fair weather scenarios." -- WFDA

Source: *The ARRL Letter*, Jan. 20, 2021



N1MM Logger is the world's most popular free ham radio contest logging program. For CW, phone and digital modes, its combination of contest-optimized features is unmatched. The program's features are continually changing.



<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/n1mm-features/>

Get out the... candles? Last week, the N1MM Development Team team announced support for the European DX (EU\_DX) Contest - a new worldwide multi-mode contest to be held February 6-7. This additional marks a milestone within the N1MM community, in that the logging program now supports over 500 contests.

Source: *ARRL Contest Update*: Jan. 20, 2021

## The Amateur's Code The Radio Amateur is:

**CONSIDERATE**...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**LOYAL**...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which

Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

**PROGRESSIVE**...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

**FRIENDLY**...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**BALANCED**...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

**PATRIOTIC**...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

--*The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.*



STRAYS...

## Carolyn Hopkins – the Woman behind the voice at 200 airports

*Editor -*

*Ever wondered who the woman was behind the voice at the airport, or the NYC Subway, or many other places?*

Tnx to Brenda – WA1KRG, my XYL, for this contribution.



CBS 1.83M subscribers

Lee Cowan profiles 63-year-old **Carolyn Hopkins of northern Maine** -- the woman behind the voice at airports telling us to "watch your bags" or "the next uptown train will arrive in... one minute."

<https://youtu.be/ALH5KwR788>



*I then went searching, and found this about Carolyn Hopkins of Maine:*

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



Submit your "strays" to the CARA Capers.

<http://www.hammacho.com/2016/12/the-fabled-red-porcupine-car.html>



**From the CWops Reflector:**

Re: DIT DIT

I was licensed in 1956, and in those days it was "the thing to do" after a CW chat and just a bit of fun to end that way. I support good protocol on the air, but I see nothing at all wrong with finishing this way.

Obviously, it would not be used in a contest nor in the 5nn 73 type of QSO that seems to be all too prevalent these days.

I have noticed some people finishing with "see u" at the very end of a QSO. That sounds quite nice too.

It all helps to lighten people's lives in these dark days.

73 de Roger, G3LDI ..

I use it every day KC9EE.... c yas, CIAO

In one of my weaker moments, while going through the selection of available call signs, I came across one that sounded to me like 'shave and a haircut ... 2 bits', so I took it. I haven't used it yet, but maybe one day during a CWT I'll let loose. It is VE3EFM.

73, Les VE3NNT

That same service just last week cost \$25 .. and didn't include the shave.

73, Alan AD6E

It wasn't confined to the ham bands. In the mid 50's, standing watch on the Holy Frequency at night, someone, somewhere, usually afloat, would send "dit dit". This would be followed by multiple replies, all "dit dit", for me on the left coast, nearly all from all over the Pacific Ocean. Kinda like listening to the NCDXCC

Beacons ... I showed them to my wife back when we had propagation ... a trip around the world. I recall from my Novice days in the early 50's, "shave and a haircut" was the accepted way to end a QSO, with the reply being "two bits". Nowadays, I think it's just a friendly "so long." It's important in the sprint format events.

73,

Fred ["Skip"] K6DGW #142  
Sparks NV DM09dn  
Washoe County

Re: DIT DIT

From: John Huffman

Date: Wed, 27 Jan 2021 07:09:48 EST

My ears are burning.

K1ESE dit dit

Re: DIT DIT

I believe that it was commercial or military (something official!) practice to use "dit dit" to mean "ending transmission here and QSYing" or just "bye." I think this is useful in ham communication today.

I think the shave and a haircut bit came in around 1957 and was thought by many to be liddish.

73,

Victor, 4X6GP - CWops #5  
Formerly K2VCO

Re: DIT DIT

From: k7sv

Date: Wed, 27 Jan 2021 09:20:02 EST

I certainly remember "a shave and a haircut" in 63 when I was first licensed and a few years after. I don't remember .. on Navy or USCG circuits in the late 60s or mid 70s respectively.

I always think of it as a warm salute between CW fans!

Re: DIT DIT

Just a few nights ago I had a rag chew qso on 40cw, and when we ended the QSO, he sent ESE, and that surprised me because I'm not sure I've heard that since my 1975 novice days. The nostalgia brought a smile to my face and I responded dit dit without missing a beat. :-)

73,Carl, K2YR #2567



Re: DIT DIT

In '63, on the novice bands, it wasn't uncommon to hear a QSO get started by someone sending out the Dit-Dit--DiDit-Dit and getting a Dit--Dit reply. Usually, the ops would bounce it back and forth a couple times and then one would throw out his call.

The classic example I'll never forget was the time when after 2 or 3 back and forth Dit exchanges, one of the guys then called CQ. I guess he just didn't want to totally break proper protocols.

K8MP-JOE

-----

Re: DIT DIT

Back in '60 us Novices were rockbound (I was WV2ONO on 7176 kc.) and we used dit-dit as a way to sync up. You'd tune the novice band, hear a dit-dit and send one back. This continued until the originator dit-ditted when you stopped and you were more or less confident s/he was listening to you and one of you would call CQ and the other would reply and a rag chew would ensue, partly because QSOs at 5 – 10 wpm did take some time and partly because we were teens in the basement or the attic by ourselves and talking to a like-minded soul was a pleasure. Didn't always work and there were ops who just called CQ 3x3 and scanned then repeated. We tried many ways to make Qs back then. Those practices ended for me in '61 when I got my General and access to a VFO and zero beating made those strategies unnecessary. I had forgotten the 'shave-and-a-haircut' exchange at the end of the QSO but I think that was a Novice thing and went out of fashion when one graduated to full privileges.

73, Peter W2CDO

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If someday they say of me that in my work I have contributed something to the welfare and happiness of my fellow man, I shall be satisfied.

— George Westinghouse

Source:

[https://todayinsci.com/W/Westinghouse\\_George/WestinghouseGeorge-Quotations.htm](https://todayinsci.com/W/Westinghouse_George/WestinghouseGeorge-Quotations.htm)



Edwin H. Armstrong (1890-1954) was an American inventor who had been fascinated by radio from childhood. He invented the continuous-wave transmitter (1912), the regenerative circuit (1912), superheterodyne circuits (1918) and in 1933 a major invention that remains the backbone of modern radio communication as we know it. Exhausted by nonstop patent battles he died by suicide at night. (The time was unknown, so the date of death differs in sources, being given as either 31 Jan or 1 Feb.)

***What is the familiar name for his major invention for radio?***

[https://todayinsci.com/Newsletter/2/Newsletter2\\_01.htm](https://todayinsci.com/Newsletter/2/Newsletter2_01.htm)



Editor: [Brian Moran, N9ADG](#)

January 20, 2021

The [January-February-March 2021 edition of the Pacific Northwest SOTA Newsletter](#) has an article by Darryl, WW7D, entitled "The Care and Feeding of Chasers," but it really about how to make more contacts more efficiently. His advice is wide ranging: From antenna and band choices to operating techniques, he covers both HF and VHF/UHF operating.

[Bob, K0NR, noted a proposal of 146.58 MHz as a "North America Adventure Frequency"](#) to be used by 'OTA activities like Parks On The Air, [Summits On The Air](#), and so on. The need for an alternative to 146.52 is driven by a number of factors, including that the calling frequency can be busy with non-'OTA traffic, and that 'OTA traffic can be disruptive to "normal" traffic on 146.52 MHz.

The HamCation QSO Party Committee writes: "The HamCation QSO Party has been organized to create a fun way for amateurs to celebrate the Orlando HamCation experience over the air. The QSO party will replicate the camaraderie and social experience of attending HamCation and provide a way to have fun on the radio because HamCation 2021 will not be held due to COVID-19.

"The HamCation QSO Party will be a 12-hour QSO party on the HamCation weekend of February 13, 2021 from 10 am EST Saturday to 10pm EST Saturday. It will be a CW and SSB on-the-air operating event on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, during which anyone can work anyone!" There are multiple single operator categories for various power levels using 80 through 10 meters. The exchange includes Name, State/Province/Country, and outside temperature (scale was not specified; perhaps someone will use Kelvin!). For more information on the event, see the [HamCation QSO Party website](#).

It's more than past time to retire your Microsoft *Windows XP* machine: According to Andy, KU7T, member of the *N1MM Logger+* development team, "Weekly *N1MM+* updates beginning February 1, 2021 will only support *Windows Vista*, 7, 8, and 10. Stated differently, *XP* users will not receive any *N1MM+* updates from that date."

## WORD TO THE WISE

### Latency

From [Wikipedia](#): "(Audio) Latency refers to a short period of delay (usually measured in milliseconds) between when an audio signal enters a system and when it emerges." In the radio realm, latency can be a factor in certain types of filters, in encoding and decoding of signals, and in transmission of information between your remote station and the control point.

Super bonus extra Word to the Wise:

## Experiential Density

A term [coined by Valve Software's Half-Life team](#) to characterize the number of events per unit time that a game player experiences. Too many, and a game can become tedious. Too few, a game may be boring. Different people may prefer different levels of experiential density. This term could be a characteristic of contests, or even certain ways to approach contest operating, for example, S&P vs. running.

## SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

"[Having Fun with VHF](#)" by Bob, K0NR, covers the range of getting started to entering contests (around 24:00) to going portable to putting Summits On The Air (SOTA).

## OPERATING TIP

### Use the Right Mode for the Job

Many contests allow the use of multiple modes as appropriate to make contacts. If you want to maximize your contest score, it pays to be where other stations are to make contacts, and also to make those contacts as quickly as possible. If conditions can support them, SSB and CW modes will probably provide a better rate than the FTx modes. Among the FT modes, FT4, with its shorter transmission time, can have higher rates than FT8. The savvy VHF/UHF contest operator will listen on the calling frequencies for SSB, FTx frequencies for FT8, scan for CW beacons, be watching for spots, and also monitor various contact coordination websites (if allowed by contest rules). They will also likely be ready for opportunistic contacts on FM. They'll be prepared on multiple frequencies, and actively switch modes to make contacts by whatever means possible, maybe even [rainscatter!](#)



## TECHNICAL TOPICS AND INFORMATION

Apple Computer's new computers based on their home-grown M1 chip have been receiving favorable reviews for performance and power consumption. Existing software written for Intel-CPU-based Macs will run on the new models via emulation. Dean, AL7CR, [reports that WSJT-X 2.2.2 for Intel-based macOS worked just fine](#), with a slight adjustment of memory settings: "The only unusual requirement is that the instructions for changing the memory size given in the software instructions will not work for M1-based Macs. Instead you use the following commands in the terminal:

```
sudo sysctl -w
kern.sysv.shmmax=104857600
```

```
sudo sysctl -w kern.sysv.shmall=25600
```

The command `sysctl -a | grep sysv.shm` will verify that the change is made. At the moment the above must be done on each reboot." For more information, see his [post to the Elecraft mailing list](#).

You've probably heard of [Node-RED](#) for station automation. It's compatible with a wide range of devices. Here's a [step-by-step guide](#) by Dave, WO2X, to build an image for a Raspberry Pi computer, and start to experiment with it in conjunction with FlexRadio gear.

[This terminal removal kit](#) with 60 different patterns might have just what you need to pull a terminal out of a connector for replacement. I haven't ordered one yet, however, time and aggravation saved with just one use might be able to justify having the whole set around.

While shopping for an outdoor enclosure, I came across [this one from Amphenol](#), which might suit receiving antennas or outdoor switching gear, also [available in other sizes](#).

There are multiple mounting points for circuit boards or other components.



### **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.

### **ARRL -- Your One-Stop Resource for Amateur Radio News and Information**

- [Join or Renew Today!](#) Eligible US-based members can elect to receive [QST](#) or [On the Air](#) magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: *QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ*.
- Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

### **Subscribe to...**

- [NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- [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 Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!
- Find ARRL on [Facebook](#)! Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!



January 7, 2021

Editor: [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME](#)

## QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo Returning in March

The [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) will return March 13 - 14 for a full 48 hours, QSO Today host Eric Guth, 4Z1UG/WA6IGR, announced this week. [ARRL](#) is a QSO Today Expo Partner. Guth said the inaugural [QSO Today Expo last August](#) attracted more than 16,000 attendees, and he anticipates that the March 2021 event will be even more successful.



The upcoming QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo will feature new speakers and presenters, panel discussions, and kit-building workshops among other activities. Guth pointed out that attendees can log in from anywhere. While he anticipates a good turnout by those who typically attend such ham radio events, the

virtual Expo also offers an opportunity for those concerned about pandemic travel restrictions as well as for those who don't typically attend in-person events.

"At our last Expo, we found that 60% of attendees don't go to in-person national conferences, and 40% don't attend state or local events," Guth said, noting that distance and the high cost of travel and lodging were the most oft-cited reasons.

[Registration](#) is required, and to help cover the costs of staging this event, [there will be a charge to attend. Advance tickets are \\$10 \(\\$12.50 at the "door"\) and include entry for the live, 2-day show as well to the 30-day on-demand period.](#) At the Expo, visitors can:

- Learn from a line-up of such well-known ham radio personalities as Bob Allphin, K4UEE, on "My Favorite DXpeditions to DXCC Top 10 Most Wanted;" Michael Foerster, W0IH, on "Using the Arduino in Your Shack," and Ron Jones, K7RJ, on "3D Printer Basics."
- Take part in live virtual kit-building workshops. (Kits will be available for purchase and delivered to attendees in time for the Expo.)
- Walk through the virtual exhibit hall to visit an array of amateur radio vendors and see live demonstrations of the latest equipment. This show will leverage newer video technology to provide a better experience for attendees to engage with exhibitors.

Those planning to attend the Expo may take advantage of new speaker calendar technology to create their own calendar of presentations in their time zones, which can be saved to a Google or Outlook calendar.



Registrants may return over the 30 days following the live event to catch speakers and presentations missed during the live period,

as well as to explore and re-engage exhibitor offerings.

"The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo has all of the familiar hallmarks of an in-person hamfest, including opportunities to connect and learn," ARRL Product Development Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said. Read [more](#).

## ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the *On the Air* podcast (Episode 12) features a discussion about storm spotting and SKYWARN, with Mike Corey, KI1U.



The latest edition of *Eclectic Tech* (Episode 24) discusses solid-state hard drive failures and features a chat with Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, about receiving signals from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.



The *On the Air* and *Eclectic Tech* podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#).



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

## ARRL Learning Network Webinars

Visit the [ARRL Learning Network](#) (a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions. The schedule is subject to change.

## ARRL Member Designs New Ham Radio License Plate for Kentucky

A ham radio license plate designed by ARRL member Matt Makaveli, KY4GPD, of Georgetown, Kentucky, has received the approval of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC). His design was one of four options, which included retaining the current license plate design. The ham radio community in the Bluegrass State picked Makaveli's design with a 41% plurality.



"It just hasn't sunk in," Makaveli [told](#) the Georgetown *News-Graphic*. "I'm just amazed that it actually went. Somebody in the state government must've liked the idea."

The lengthy approval process involved some footwork on the part of the ARRL Field Organization in Kentucky. After the polling ended, ARRL Kentucky Section State Government Liaison Jack Hedges, KY4TPR, met with the KYTC for final approval on Makaveli's design.

"If there's ever an example of what the ARRL organization can do for the ham radio community, this would be it," Hedges told the newspaper.

The new license plate will not be available until the current stock of plates is depleted, which is anticipated to be next summer.

ARRL Kentucky Section Manager Steve Morgan, W4NHO, told the newspaper that a ham radio license plate is important to build awareness of amateur radio. "The amateur radio license plate is sort of like a billboard saying you're from Kentucky and you're a ham radio operator," Morgan said. Makaveli agreed, saying he thought the current design had become stale and did not stand out.

A ham for 6 years, Makaveli is a certified SKYWARN storm spotter and an assistant Emergency Coordinator for Scott County, Kentucky. "I heard some people already said they like the new design and are going to switch when it comes out," Makaveli told the newspaper.



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## Member and Station News:

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

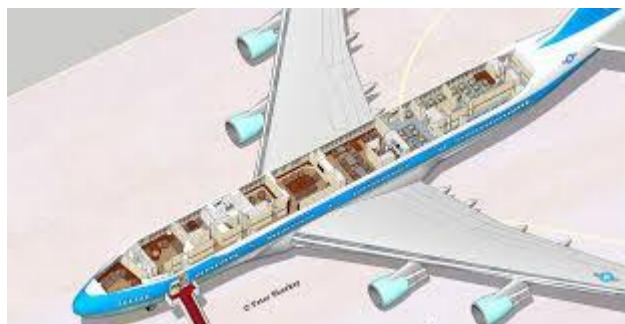
*Just snap a pix of your station, antennas, mobile installation, etc. and send it in!*

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## Inside The \$3.2 Billion Air Force One



<https://youtu.be/Ze1Ku4gkvgE>







## A little history

As one of the original 13 Colonies, Connecticut's place is rich in U.S. history... Nicknamed "The Constitution State" due to the belief that much of the document's writing was derived from "The Fundamental Orders" of the Connecticut colony dating back to 1638-39.

The current [Flag of the State of Connecticut](#) had already been in use before its adoption in the late 19th century... Taken in part from a memorial from the Anna Warner Bailey Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, it was brought to the Connecticut General Assembly in 1895.

The [official flag](#) displays an argent white shield bearing three bunches of grapevines with each bearing fruit sitting in the center of a field of azure blue... The State Motto reads "Qui Transtulit Sustinet" (He who is transplanted still sustains) in a ribbon beneath. The State Coat of Arms and State Seal also use elements of this design.

Source: <https://flagstore.com/products/connecticut-flag>

## Capers: Swap and Shop

### CARA Swap & Shop Policies:

CARA assumes no responsibility for transactions made or inaccuracies in ads. You are responsible for checking your ad and notifying us of any corrections. Swap and Shop listings are open to licensed CARA hams, based on space available. Please submit your list to [w1qk@snet.net](mailto:w1qk@snet.net) for placement in the CARA Capers.

Quantity	Item	Price each
1	IC-706 Mk II G	\$600
1	Ameritron SDA-100 Screwdriver Antenna	\$400
1	West Mountain Radio TARGETuner	\$120
1	440 Cushcraft Ringo Ranger	\$50
1	Camp Chair	\$25
1	ICOM IC-756 Pro III Transceiver	\$800
1	Go-Kit with following Equipment	\$1,200
	ICOM IC-7000 Transceiver, LDG IT-100, Yaesu FT-8900, Kantronics KPC-3+, West Mountain Powergate, West Mountain Rigrunner	

Contact: Roger – NG1R; 203- 241-0478 or [roger.mitchell@snet.net](mailto:roger.mitchell@snet.net)



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

**Executive Board:**

President – Bud Kozloff, W1NSK  
w1nzk@hotmail.com  
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM  
w1jgm@aol.com  
Secretary – Gary Adams, N1GSA  
Mrclipper69@yahoo.com  
Treasurer – Charles Setaro, KC1IBR  
cjset@att.net

**Directors:**

Harlan Ford, W1QH - hford01@snet.net  
Roger Mitchell, NG1R – roger.mitchell@snet.net  
David Coelho, WA1JGA – davidcoelho@gmail.com

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization.  
Consider supporting CARA in your estate planning.

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*CAPERS is the monthly newsletter of the  
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association  
Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK  
w1qk@snet.net*



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**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](mailto:w1qk@snet.net).

Submissions must be received no later than the date indicated in the 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.

The CAPERS is published by CARA Capers Editor. All material contained herein is considered the opinion of the author and not necessarily that of CARA.

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.

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

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**CARA Standing Committees:**

*Updated: January 3, 2021*

Just a reminder to all members that these are the standing committees that help make CARA run and fun.

Our members and their ideas are our strength.

*Please step forward to serve your club with one of these committees. You'll notice that several CARA members serve on multiple committees.*

Talk to any member of the Executive Committee or Director to volunteer!

*We're hoping to see your name on at least one of these important committees.*

**CARA Repeater and Digital Equipment:**

Repeater coordination  
Repeater maintenance  
Other digital equipment

Chairman: Gregory Davis – WR1Z

Committee Members:  
John Morelli – W1JGM

Marcus Swearingen – AB1WV  
Vincent Tompkins – N2OHH  
Charles Setaro – KC1IBR  
Dan Fegley – W1QK

**CARA Operating Activities:**

Winter Field Day, New England QSO Party,  
ARRL Field Day, New Fairfield Day Special  
Event Station, Peter Weinberger New Fairfield  
Car Show Scholarship Fundraiser Special Event  
Station, 2M Fox Hunt (hidden transmitter).

**Chairman:**

**Committee Members:**

**Annual CARA Hamfest Fund-Raising event:**

Chairman: John Morelli – W1JGM  
Committee Members:  
Marcus Swearingen – AB1WV  
Bill Webb – W1AFX  
Charles Setaro – KC1IBR

**Membership:**

Annual dues notification and follow up  
Annual new member drive

Chairman: John Morelli – W1JGM

**Education and Elmering:**

Organize or sponsor class for entry-level license  
Organize Elmer support network for new hams  
Organize two 3-person ARES deployment teams

**Committee Chairman:**

**Committee Members:**

**Youth Committee:**

Committee Chairman: Keith Iwanicki -W1KRI  
Committee Members:

**Program and Activities:**

Organize and arrange monthly program  
Organize activities  
Annual Holiday Gathering  
Summer Pasta Party  
Committee Members:

Bud Kozloff – W1NSK  
Marcus Swearingen – AB1WV

**Weekly CARA Sunday 7:30 PM Net:**

Committee Chairman: David Teagarden –  
KB1ZAC

Committee Members:

Tom Coury – WX1T  
Charles Setaro – KC1IBR

**CARA Capers:**

Monthly newsletter staff  
CARA Capers Editor:  
Dan Fegley – W1QK

**Development Committee:**

Seek and obtain alternative sources of funding for  
club events and activities

**Committee Chairman:**

**Committee Members:**

**Website Committee:**

Maintain the CARA Website

**Committee Chairman:**

**Committee Members:**

Charles Setaro – KC1IBR  
John Ahle – W1JMA  
Roger Mitchell – NG1R  
Dan Fegley – W1QK

*Please advise your Capers Editor of any changes  
to this list.*

**THE POWER OF TEAMWORK:**

Video Motivasi – Kerjasama Team (Team Work)

<https://youtu.be/oqRX02uhicc>





## Preliminary CARA 2021 Calendar

February	12 – Monthly meeting via MS Teams Guest speaker: Fred Kemmerer – AB1OC 26 - Monthly planning meeting via MS Teams
March	12 – Monthly meeting via MS Teams Guest speaker: Bob Heil - K9EID, from Ham Nation and Heil Sound 26 – Monthly planning meeting via MS Teams
April	9 – Monthly meeting via MS Teams Guest speaker: Steve Szombathy - W7UDI from 100 Watts and a Wire podcast 23 – Monthly planning meeting via MS Teams
May	7 – Monthly meeting via MS Teams Guest speaker: Valerie Hotzfeld - NV9L from Ham Nation Podcast. 21 – Monthly planning meeting via MS Teams
June	11 – Monthly meeting via MS Teams 25 – Monthly planning meeting 26-27 ARRL Field Day
July	9 – Monthly meeting 23 – Monthly planning meeting
August	13 – Monthly meeting 27 – Monthly planning meeting 29 - CARA Western CT Hamfest
December	10 - CARA Annual Holiday Party



# For Sale: Backup Batteries

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**Attention Club Members, available immediately for Pickup in New Fairfield.**

**Energys 12HX300-FR "DataSafe" HX batteries.**

Be ready, winter is coming, and with it comes the loss of power.

Now is the time to support the club. I have some batteries that I have donated to the CARA club for fund raising and backup power for our repeater system on the top of spruce mountain. We are making these available to you.

As we were not able to hold our annual Hamfest. and as everyone knows, the Hamfest is our main source of income and support of our organization.

These are **Energys 12HX300-FR** top terminal, Valve Regulated Lead Acid (VRLA), AGM batteries, these batteries are completely sealed.

Please see the attached specification sheet for more information.

Remember there are other uses for back up batteries than our radio equipment, such as: Pellet stoves with 12Vdc back-up power, Inverters for DC to AC, 12Vdc lighting and many more applications. need 24Vdc: series 2 batteries, need more time and power: parallel two or more.

These are fully tested, used batteries that were removed from a critical data center after **two years on an advertised 10-year operating life.**

The Batteries are available for a **Donation of \$100 each** to the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA). payment can be made using the clubs PayPal account, (Preferred) , check or cash. Payment is expected at time of pickup.

Please feel free to pass this notice on to other clubs or individuals.

Support the club now! - Delivery can be negotiated. - Each battery weights 60 LB.

73,  
John G. Morelli (W1JGM)  
VP Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA)  
Chairman; Western Connecticut Hamfest  
[www.cararadioclub.org](http://www.cararadioclub.org)  
203-417-0160



**data safe<sup>®</sup>**  
HX

**12HX300-FR** 12V, 284W/Cell 15 min.  
FLAME RETARDANT

Float voltage / Tension de floating  
13.6 ± 0.1V at 77°F (25°C)

Connection torque / Couple de serrage  
6.8 Nm 60 in lbs

Non-spillable lead-acid battery Made in Mexico

WARNING: Risk of fire, explosion or burns. Do not disassemble, heat above 65°C or incinerate. Ventilate spaces where used or charged.  
 WARNING: Battery posts, terminals and related accessories contain lead and lead compounds, chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and reproductive harm. Batteries also contain other chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer.  
 WASH HANDS AFTER HANDLING.

www.enersys.com

6 35241 13941 9

**EnerSys**

Link to battery data sheet: [www.enersys.com](http://www.enersys.com)





## **2021 Dayton Hamvention Cancelled**

Citing "several setbacks in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic," the Dayton Hamvention Executive Committee has announced the cancellation of the 2021 event, scheduled for mid-May. The announcement cited the slower-than-expected rollout of the COVID vaccine as well as the even-more contagious variant that has emerged in recent weeks.

This is the second consecutive year in which the pandemic has forced cancellation of the world's largest hamfest. The committee says tickets that were deferred from last year will be deferred again, and that plans are in the works for another on-air Hamvention QSO Party on what would have been the Hamvention weekend.

**[Click here](#)** to visit the CQ Newsroom where you'll find more news and information of interest to ham radio operators

*CQ Amateur Radio*  
**[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)**

**CARA Tri-fold Brochure - January 2021 Revision - Graphic design & text: W1QK**  
**Photo credits: KC1IBR, W1QH, W1QK**








Affiliated  
 American Radio Relay League  
 club since 1946.  
 ARRL Special Service club





Welcome to the  
 Candlewood Amateur Radio  
 Association

**W1QI**

Candlewood Amateur  
 Radio Association

[www.cararadioclub.org](http://www.cararadioclub.org)  
 P.O. Box 55  
 Brookfield, CT 06804-055




CARA was established in 1946 and is the Danbury, CT area's oldest general-interest amateur (ham) radio club.

CARA is among the longest established clubs in the Constitution State. Our general interest club focuses on advancing technical knowledge, operating skills, fraternalism, and public service.

CARA hosts the annual Western Connecticut Hamfest as our major annual fund raising event.

CARA sponsors four VHF/UHF FM repeaters that serve the Greater Danbury area.



CARA holds regular meetings on the second Friday of each month at the Stony Hill Fire House on 59 Stony Hill Road in Bethel, CT and conducts many other activities at different times of the year including Volunteer Examination Sessions (VEC) licensing sessions.

Please come visit us at a meeting. You don't have to be a CARA member to attend CARA meetings - everyone is welcome. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the meeting begins promptly at 7:30 pm.

CARA is a 501(C)3 non-profit. Tax deductible contributions are welcomed.

If you're interested in becoming a member of CARA, please visit our club's website at: [www.cararadioclub.org](http://www.cararadioclub.org) for a membership application form.

During this time of COVID-19, CARA is conducting meetings via the Microsoft TEAMS platform. Each member receives TEAMS meeting credentials. Membership includes an annual subscription to the club's Listserv and informative CARA Capers monthly newsletter.



*CARA Celebrated 50 years  
of W1QI as our club  
Callsign: 1969-2019*