



# Capers

June - 2022



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, June 10***

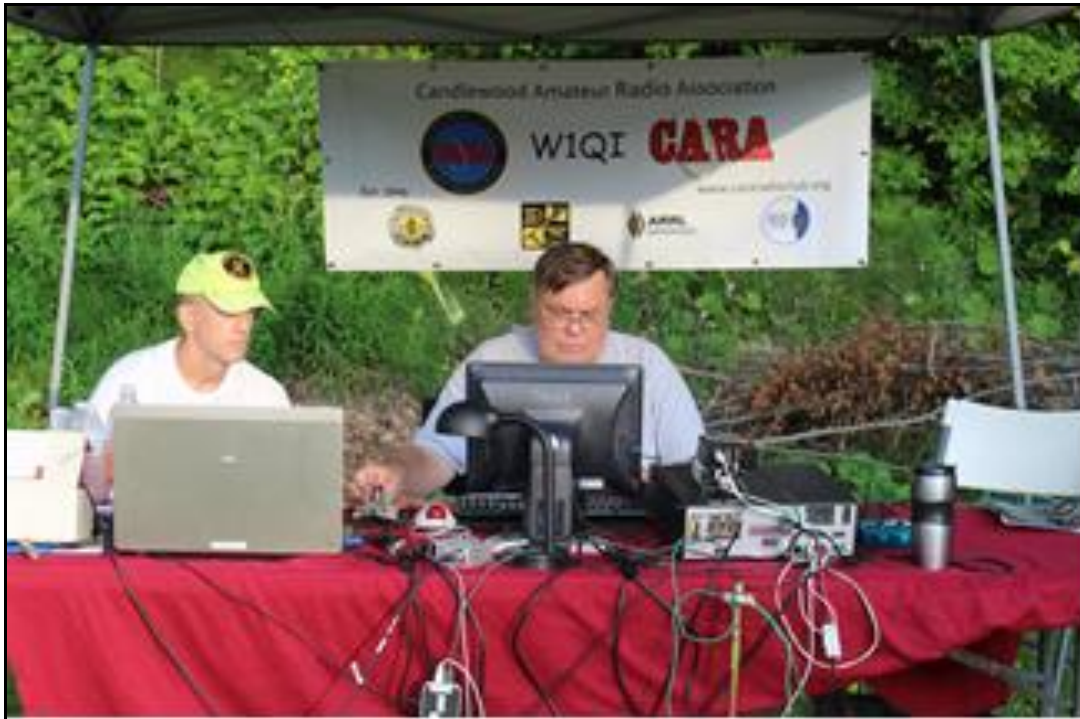
***This meeting will be conducted in- person at the  
Stony Hill Fire Dept. at 59 Stony Hill Road (Route 6) in Bethel.***

***Doors open at 7:00 pm for socializing and conversation,  
meeting begins at 7:30 pm.***

***Annual CARA Officers and Directors Election to be held.***



## *President's Message – de W1NSK*



### **A taste of summer to come was enjoyed last weekend!**

Best yet, is the continued arrival of Propagation Cycle 25. ZL's and JA's regularly on 15 meters - and soon to be on 10M. The HF Bands will really come alive as the Cycle progresses to maximum in a few years. Six meters operators are in for some excitement as well. This is a good time to get an antenna up for 10 meters. If you're a Technician-class licensee, you'll enjoy the fabulous propagation. A simple dipole antenna for ten meters will allow you to work the world when the band comes alive.

### **More good news!**

We've been notified by the Stony Hill Fire Department that **their community room is now available once again for our meetings! So, this month's meeting on June 10th will be held at the Fire House at 59 Stony Hill Rd, Bethel, CT.** Doors will open at 7:00 pm, and our meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Please make the effort to attend - as this is our annual CARA Officers and Directors election meeting.

Additionally, we will be discussing plans for Field Day. Preparations are under way for CARA's 2022 Field Day to be held at Ball Pond Fire House in New Fairfield.



There's Plenty of fun to be had and things to do to make this event successful again.

The four main committees are:

Antenna raising on Friday June 24th.

Station set up Saturday morning 25<sup>th</sup>.

Operators during the on-air period from 2:00 pm Saturday to 2:00 pm Sunday

Tear down Sunday afternoon at 2 PM.

Please join us for at least 2 of these, as this is an "all hands-on deck" event for CARA!  
Of course, as always - things need to be done during the event. Just pitch in!

There's lots to be discussed at our June 10th Meeting.

Field Day is a great event for Technician-class licensees to get some HF experience!

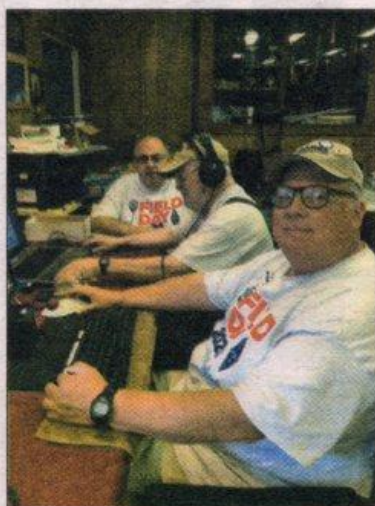


## K'S COMMUNITY NEWS



### NF AMATEUR RADIO

*Continued from front page*



CARA members at the ham radio L-R: John Morelli, Harlen Ford, Dan Fegley.

During quieter times, ham radio operators primarily attempt to make connections with other users. The extent of the connection's distance greatly depends on the user's certification level (which unlocks the frequencies a user is allowed) and the equipment of the user. An entry-level user can get started in the hobby with as little as a \$100 investment and can speak to other ham radio operators worldwide, especially with the capabilities that are made possible when a user taps into the internet's streaming audio technology. While there are hobbyists of all levels, hams can all be involved as much or as little as they'd like. Some users prefer to make and log connections, others may want to try interesting

connections, such as connecting to the International Space Station when it's in their area, and still more may participate in the frequent contests and other personal challenges that are held throughout the nation and worldwide.

There's a large contingent of Amateur Extras--the users with the highest proficiency in ham radio--who often have technological setups that are worth thousands of dollars and who prefer to keep the process traditional. Kozloff, for example, had tapped out morse code for nearly three hours straight when he took a well-deserved break and understandably said, "My brain is kind of fried right now." Morelli explained that the licensing, which used to require morse code training for all levels, has relaxed a bit, allowing for more entry-level users to enter



Ham radio station

the hobby.

For Kozloff--who got started over 50 years ago when he discovered his uncle's short-wave radio and was amazed with the technology after contacting Moscow--and many others, ham radio is far more than just a hobby, it's definitely a way of life.

*For more information on CARA and ham radios, visit [Cararadio-club.org](http://Cararadio-club.org).*



Harlen Ford and Dan Fegley demonstrate ham radio outside Ball Pond FD

CARA's ARRL Field Day article appeared in the New Fairfield Town Tribute, Section 1 on July 1, 2021.

The work has begun on our annual Ham fest on September 11th. This year it is to be held at the Danbury PAL facility, 35 Hayestown Rd. Danbury. This is across from the Danbury Candlewood Lake Town Beach.



Our informal gathering for Pasta Night Dinner is again the third Tuesday of the Month on June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Amerigo Vespucci Italian American Lodge in Danbury, Join us!

There's some talk about restarting the monthly CARA Breakfast. It's been suggested that it should be held as it once was - on the Saturday morning following the Planning Meeting. Location and time to be decided. The Stony Hill Diner (14 Stony Hill Rd.) was suggested. Let me know if you'd like to join us. However, since that specific Saturday this month is Field Day, July 23rd would be the first CARA breakfast. Dutch Treat.

As always, we are looking at folks to be involved helping the club on the various Standing Committees. If you have an interest, please let John or I know, and we'll get you involved. You'll find that the more involved you are, the more you learn, fun you'll have, and friends you'll make!

See you on the Air!

73

Bud Kozloff - W1NSK

CARA President



# June 10 Meeting Agenda

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Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – 7:30 PM

Guest Speaker:

John Field – Ct Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection,  
Division of Emergency Mgmt. and Homeland Security – State of  
Connecticut

Business Meeting

Acceptance of Minutes as Published in CAPERS

Treasurers Report

Committee Reports

Repeater: Identification and sequencing

Website Revision: Status

Hamfest: September 11 - Danbury PAL Facility

Nominating Committee; Annual June Election of Officers – Floor  
nominations and vote – W1QH

Old Business

Hamfest deposit from Edmund Town Hall – KC1IBR

POTA event April 16 - 40M Bandpass filter repair follow up – W1QK

Review of CARA Standing Committees by Executive Committee and Directors  
– W1NSK & W1JGM

Field Day at Ball Pond FD, New Fairfield –

Antenna, rope & coax inventory work session – June 2

FD Planning Document – W1QK

New Business

Proposed POTA July event details & location –

Vote as CARA Sanctioned Event

CARA ARRL-affiliated plaque - presentation review and possible placement at  
SHFD – KC1IBR

Future Speakers: July – December 2022

RSGB IOTA Islands on The Air Contest, July 30-31 –

Proposed operating event proposal

ARRL Grant Committee formation

Offer of CARA communications assistance at civic events – KC1IBR

Pasta Night Dinner – Tuesday, June 21: 6:00 pm, Sons of Italy Lodge, Danbury

News and Views: Round Robin members forum & NARA Sister Club update

Adjournment

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



Welcome to June

With several successful events in the books and temperatures in the 80 and above, I believe we can say summer is here and not soon enough.

**POTA & NEQP:**

We had another club POTA event at "Lovers Leap State Park" In New Milford with stations operating on SSB, CW, and FT8. If you have not tried hunting or activating POTA, you're missing a very popular radio sport. POTA combines Amateur Radio and the outdoors plus a lot of fun.

Also, in the last month was the New England QSP, several members traveled to W1AW and operated the Hiram Percy Maxim station in Newington. I was told they made lots of contacts and had a great time.

We continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Amerigo Vespucci lodge at around 6:15 for their fantastic Pasta Night Dinner. Come join us as each month out participation and camaraderie grow. Dinner \$12 cash Bar.

**Field Day**

Amateur Radio's biggest annual On-the-air event is just a few weeks away. Again, this year we will set up at the Ball Pond Volunteer Fire Company, Fairfield Dr., New Fairfield, CT. 06812. Setup starts around 10:00 AM Saturday June 25. On the air at 2:00 PM till Sunday 1:59 PM. Clean up and done before 5:00 PM. Look for the sign up in your e-mail to "Sign Up Genius" If you have a friend that may be interested - bring them along, or at least tell them about it.

**Hamfest Update**

The committee is entering into contract with the Danbury Police Athletic League as the venue for this year's hamfest. The date is September 11, 2022

**Dues are past due**

There are still a few CARA members who aren't current with their 2022 Dues. If you need to catch up, dues can be sent to the treasurer via PayPal at [www.paypal.me/caradues](http://www.paypal.me/caradues) or by USPS at CARA, P.O. Box 55, Brookfield, CT 06804. Regular member is \$30, Over 65 is \$15, Associate member \$10. Be sure to use the "send" button on PayPal to pay your dues on the site. Do not "Request" payment, as we won't send you any.

Thanks, and get on the air.

73,  
John Morelli - W1JGM  
CARA Vice-President



**CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946 – 75 Years in 2021**

## May 13 Monthly Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary, Gary Adams – N1GSA



Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by Pres. Bud Kozloff

There were 16 people present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Anthony, K8ZT, gave a presentation on N1MM+ logger and it's use for both Field Day and general use. Its main purpose is contest logging although it can be used for other purposes. Like most programs the more you use it, the more comfortable you get with it. There are many files and links to tutorials to help with setup and use of this program. There are constantly new features being added as well as errors being corrected. It is therefore very important to update your Windows program and then be sure that you have the latest update for N1MM+ before starting any contest.

He also is quite a traveler on the trains of both the USA and abroad. He showed a quick viewing of some of his various trips and radio contacts from them.

His website list all of his presentations available as well as any files he has compiled for Amateur Radio.

This presentation was recorded and is available for viewing on our Teams site which is separate from the meeting recording.

Regular meeting was started at 9:10pm.

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

Treasurer reported an opening available balance of \$7,806.35 Ending balance of \$2,120.43. This does not reflect the \$3,000 that was used to purchase bonds for our investment purposes.

The repeater committee showed some pictures of the new upgrades to the system. These included the decoder, encoder, Arcom repeater controller and radio for the linking system. Dana is working on the programming of the linking system and hopes to have this finalized sometime next week. This will allow our system to be linked with NARA and the statewide system.

The website was discussed, and Charlie and I relayed the information that Stef had forwarded to us. I had relayed that we need the forms and PayPal add-ins ASAP.

Field Day will be held at Ball Pond Firehouse this year. We need to formalize antenna setup, operations, setup, and other particulars. John mentioned a budget needing to be approved for this event. Gregory will check last year's expenses.

The Hamfest was discussed. The Edmund Town Hall does not look like a viable option for this year due to their upcoming renovations. The PAL building, in Danbury, is available at a cost of \$80 per hour. There is no problem with the floor as they have had many events in the room with no problems. This would be an increased cost from the Newtown site. There would be a couple hours needed for setup and possibly a couple needed for teardown. Another plus for the PAL building is that it is all on the level with no stairs to negotiate. Motion made to commit to the PAL for this year's event. Motion passed. Motion to have the vendor access at 6am with the doors



opening at 7:30 to noon on Sept 11, 2022. Also, the admission price increase to \$8.00. Booth space will be \$20 for a 10x10 spot with one included admission.

There was a motion for \$1500 seed money for tickets, flyers, prizes, etc. This was seconded, discussed, and passed. There will be no tailgating this year.

#### New Business:

CARA POTA event will be May 22 at Lovers Leap State Park in New Milford. There is no entry fee at this area. The April event was lots of fun and had minor refreshment expenses of \$45. Everyone will bring their own lunches.

Oscar Fuller and John Field will be presenting information regarding the MCV on June 9, 2022 meeting. There will be a query for new operators to be trained on operating this equipment.

The ARRL grant program was discussed. There are 3 tiers available ranging from \$3,000 to \$25,000 available. Each has criteria specific to the tier. Everyone is asked to think about possible requests. All grant requests need to be submitted by June 30, 2022. There will be criteria for utilization as well as follow-ups regarding effectiveness of the expenditures.

There is a young lady from Ridgefield that has passed thru a school radio program that is featured in the On the Air magazine this month. This can be found on the ARRL website.

Nominations are open, at this time for all positions. It is known that we will need at least one new Director this year. There were nominations heard for all the current slate to be nominated for the election.

Nominations will be open until the June meeting. Contact any Director to make these nominations.

CQ WPX contest is Memorial Weekend. This is always a fun contest.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

## May 27 Monthly Planning Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Pres. Bud Kozloff.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were 11 people present.

The Repeater Committee had a meeting just prior to the regular planning meeting. They have made progress with the programming for the linking system. The 2 meter will be stand alone. The 440-system machine will be linked full time with a PL of 151.4. This may be delinked at any time by the committee or Directors.

The Hamfest was next topic of discussion. The PAL has been secured for this event. The deposit needs to be paid prior to the event. The cost is \$80.00 per hour. John and Bud will measure out the hall and get ideas for layout. The seed money of \$1500 was previously approved. John mentioned about some committee meetings that will be needed prior to this event. As this is a new venue there are many details that need to be worked out. John and Marcus are the contacts for this event. There is going to be a completely new adventure. We do need much help for this event to be successful. The raffle needs to be worked on as well as someone to procure the necessary permits at Danbury City Hall. The PAL will need to be named on a form from the insurance company to be submitted to them.

Stef gave an update on the website improvements. She has updated the site to be stable on version 3.10 which is the latest version 3 available. She is in the process of rebuilding the front end of the site. She will need input from members interested in the site to give her information as to the look of the site. Stef will coordinate with Charlie and Dan for this information. She also asked for help with procuring equipment to learn Morse Code which is one of her goals. This will be after the website is up and running.

The Grant program is still available and needs input for ideas and someone to lead the process of

obtaining some of these available funding possibilities. The first due date for this program is June 30<sup>th</sup> which is coming fast. Mike Walters is available as a mentor to move this forward.

Field Day is coming fast. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of June. We can start erecting antennas on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Dan spoke about a need to inspect the totes that are at Bethel EOC and acquire any necessary ropes, wire, connectors, etc. This could be stored at the Ball Pond Firehouse until Field Day. Dave is available only in the mornings to get access to the Bethel EOC. Antennas, food, scheduling operators, work party scheduling. Charlie will put up the schedule on the TEAMS page. We need to think about purchasing a headset and splitter wire for an Icom radio. Also, we might purchase footswitches for events like this.

There is an upcoming meeting for the MCV to be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be having a program about this vehicle at our June meeting.

We are looking at holding another POTA event. We need to look for parks that are free admission and have either no or very few activations.

Elections will be held at the June Monthly Meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> is the deadline for input for the CAPERS.

Meeting adjourned at ???? pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

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### Last Month's Presentation:

N1MM Logger Plus  
by Anthony Luscre - K8ZT.



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 upgraded.



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



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**Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:**  
28.490 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm

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**Worked All Connecticut Counties Award,  
WACC – Sponsored by CARA &  
Administered by CARA Secretary, Gary  
Adams -N1GSA.**

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



## 2022 Ham Exam Schedule



### Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

- June 6: NARA Sister club meeting
- June 10: CARA Monthly meeting via TEAMS
- June 11: ARRL June VHF contest, Portugal Day contest
- June 13: CT ARES Region 5 South Monthly Meeting via TEAMS
- June 18: Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge contest (160M), West Virginia QSO Party
- June 21: Pasta Night dinner at the Italian American Club – Danbury, 6:00 pm
- June 24: CARA Monthly Planning Meeting via TEAMS
- June 25-26: ARRL Field Day at Ball Pond FD, New Fairfield
- June 27: CT ARES Region 5 Meeting via TEAMS
- June 8, 15, 22, 29: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)

**July 1: July 2022 Capers input deadline**

### Complete Contest calendar at:

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

### Washington Depot CT 06794-1201

#### EXAM SESSION

07/09/2022

**Sponsor:** Northville ARA

**Date:** Jul 09 2022

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

**Contact:** Gary Michael. Walters  
(860) 938-2030

**Email:** [w8zy@na1ra.net](mailto:w8zy@na1ra.net)

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

**Location:** Washington Volunteer Fire Station  
109 Bee Brook Rd  
Washington Depot CT 06794-1201

**Jonathan Bernon** <[bernonj@gmail.com](mailto:bernonj@gmail.com)>  
**To:** John Morelli (W1JGM), Daniel Fegley  
Mon, May 23 at 11:13 AM

Hi John and Dan,

I submitted the CARA Hamfest VE session to the ARRL for posting on their website. It is now up.

It is shown below.

73,  
Jon, AJ1U



## Danbury CT 06810

### EXAM SESSION

09/11/2022

**Sponsor:** Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

**Date:** Sep 11 2022

**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Jonathan R. Bernon  
(203) 232-7863

**Email:** [aj1u@arrl.net](mailto:aj1u@arrl.net)

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

**Location:** Police athletic League Western  
Connecticut Hamfest  
35 Hayestown Rd  
Danbury CT 06810

### Upcoming 2022 Amateur radio exams:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>



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/>

**Source:** *YCCC Reflector with credit to all contributors*  
– Editor

### Coax question

From: John Vogel

Date: Sat, 14 May 2022 12:44:10 EDT

Mr. Lawnmower just took a bite out of a feedline and it's given me the chance to inspect inside the middle of a run.

The copper braid has what I'd say is light to moderate green oxidation (?) on it along the entire 3' length. The center conductor strands look great where I can see them.

But I wonder if this green oxidation might be the ordinary result of 15+ years of exposure, or if I simply have a nick in the jacket or poor sealing of the connector and capillary action has done its thing?

I think I'd been told here years ago that air / water molecules could infiltrate the coax jackets over time. This particular coax run is not direct burial rated if that might factor.

One of the to-do's on the summer punch list is to replace all of my older coax runs which are all in about the same 15+ age bracket, so this isn't a question of keep it / replace it. I'm just wondering.

John, N1PGA

### Re: Coax question

From: Mike McCarthy, W1NR

Date: Sat, 14 May 2022 12:58:32 EDT

If it's standard PVC non-burial and in direct contact with the ground, it can and will absorb moisture over time. Polyethylene direct burial jacket will not. Some coax shields are even flooded with a moisture repelling gel. The hard line feeding cell towers is pressurized with dry air to push any moisture out.

Mike, W1NR

### Re: Coax question

From: JAMES REDFIELD

Date: Sat, 14 May 2022 13:45:17 EDT

I would think that surface oxidation would not have a total negative affect on the copper shield wires as you still have the center core of the wires. It is probably not a bonus but I suspect not a total disaster. I just had an opportunity yesterday to remove and replace some outside coax line and connectors. My two meter line to

my slim Jim was too long when I installed it but in my haste since there was already a termination PL 239 on the cable I left it long. On my inverted V, I had connected two lengths of coax with a barrel connector and again left them long rather than cut them to length and add new connectors. I discovered a lot of oxidation in all of the connections even though they had been wrapped with tape and coax seal. After shortening them and adding new connectors, I added a dielectric lube to all components and then taped and added new coax seal. Hopefully they will fair better going forward. My cables run through the air but still are subject to weather. Probably not as bad as cables laying on the ground.

James, W1JSR

**Re: Coax question**

From: Chuck W1HIS

Date: Sat, 14 May 2022 14:31:54 EDT

Water soaks through PVC, and water vapor permeates PVC -- not just the jackets of cheap coax but also the insulation of wire. Polyethylene (PE) is MUCH less permeable to water. PTFE is even better than PE.

The RF resistance per unit length of a stranded wire or a braided shield is GREATLY increased by corrosion. Easily by a factor of five. Maybe a factor of ten. Solid wire suffers much less.

The plasticizer(s) in the PVC jackets of cheap coax also diffuse into and contaminate the polyethylene dielectric, greatly increasing the dielectric loss of the coax. \_Foamed\_ polyethylene also absorbs water and thereby becomes lossy.

Loss in coax due to poor conduction by a corroded copper braid and center-conductor matter at all frequencies from DC to microwaves. Dielectric loss is usually less important at MF and HF. Both losses increase with increasing frequency.

Measure the loss of your coax at the frequency/frequencies you care about, by shorting one end of the coax and measuring complex impedance at the other end. A good instrument such as an AIM 4170 can display return loss (two-way) as a function of frequency directly; or you can convert complex impedance to return loss by means of formulas in handbooks or on the Web.

A simpler and less accurate but still useful test is to short the far end of your coax, to connect the other end to your transceiver, to transmit in CW mode, and to increase power from near zero to at least 30 watts

as indicated by the transceiver's front-panel meter (which indicates forward power). Better would be a Bird directional coupler at the output of your transceiver. Cheap SWR meters (such as those built into most transceivers) are very inaccurate below about 30 watts because their diode detectors have substantial thresholds.

Observe SWR and convert from SWR to return loss. For example (IIRC), SWR = 3.0 corresponds to return loss of 6 dB, or one-way loss of 3 dB.

If the length of your coax is less than about 1/2 wavelength, and especially if it's less than about 1/4 wavelength, then the observed SWR and return loss will vary with frequency in a possibly surprising/confusing way because conduction loss dominates near a voltage node of the standing-wave pattern, whereas dielectric loss usually dominates near a current node. So a very short length of coax will exhibit (almost) only conduction loss; and so on.

In principle, you could test your coax with its far end shorted, and also with its far end open, in order to observe both conduction and dielectric losses. In practice, it is difficult to make the end of a coaxial cable truly "open." Electric field lines diverge from the end of the center-conductor and converge onto the outside of the shield of the coax, and excite the common mode of the coax, creating a messy situation.

Anyway, I expect you to decide to replace all your old coax.

Get new coax that has a (black-pigmented) polyethylene or (better) PTFE jacket.

Chuck, W1HIS

**Re: Coax question**

From: Mike Loukides

Date: Sat, 14 May 2022 15:09:30 EDT

Just out of curiosity, I'd measure the loss on your old coax and see how it compares to the spec. Chet's procedure is good, or you could use an MFJ 259 or equivalent. (Though calibration on MFJs is sort of optional...)

I've measured the loss on coax that sounds much more weathered than yours, and generally found it to be surprisingly close to spec, at least at HF.

Not trying to discourage you from replacing your coax-  
-that's what I'd do, if only to eliminate squirrel damage  
by switching to PE insulation.

Mike Loukides, W1JQ

Re: Coax question

From: David Olean  
Date: Sun, 15 May 2022 00:36:53 EDT  
I just hacked up some old coax that I installed in 1980.  
I used two different types for these many short 12 ft  
runs. They were Times IP8 (a flooded 50ohm RG-8  
type) and some Belden RG-8 type. (It may be 8237) I  
opened the Belden and it had a shiny braid after over  
40 years outside in the weather. If your braid is green,  
I would replace it.

Dave, K1WHS



## The CW Operators' Club

[cwops.org](http://cwops.org)

The CW Operators' Club, commonly known as CWops, is an international organization, in membership and management, for amateur radio operators who enjoy communicating using Morse Code. Its mission is to foster the use of CW, whether for contesting, DX'ing, traffic handling, or engaging in conversations.

Visit the CWops website to learn more about CW Academy and how you can sign up for the popular & free on-line CW training classes.

<https://cwops.org/cw-academy/cw-academy-options/>

To become a member of CWops:  
<https://cwops.org/membership/>

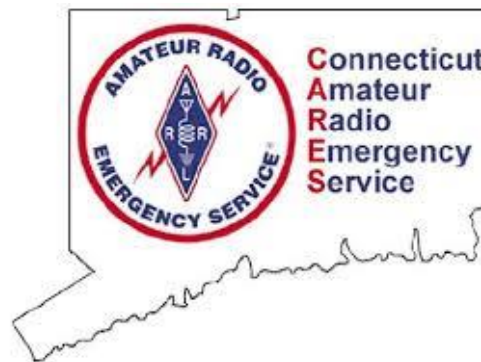
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## Connecticut Phone Net – CPN

This net now starts at 6:00 pm EDT Monday through Saturday on 3.973 MHz. Sunday: 10:00 a.m. EDT 3.965 MHz.

CARA Contributions to CPN:  
Tom Coury - WX1T: CPN manager  
Harlan Ford - W1QH: Wednesday Net control



Next CT ARES Winlink Wednesday:  
**Wednesday, July 6, 2022**





Visit this website to learn more about CT ARES and Winlink Wednesday:

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

*"When Everything Else Fails. Amateur Radio often is our last line of defense...When you need amateur radio, you really need them."*

*The Hon. W. Craig Fugate  
Former Administrator, US Department of  
Homeland Security, FEMA*



Editor: [Rick Palm, K1CE](#)

May 18, 2022

Former FEMA Administrator on The Importance of Ham Radio in Disasters [Blogger Brian Haren, W8BYH, served over 23 years of active duty with the US Army Corps of Engineers as a geospatial engineer and today works as the Geospatial Services Manager for Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta. He is an ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator and is an active Army MARS and SHARES member. Haren is the author of the Georgia ARES Situational Awareness

Web Map and writes about amateur radio and related topics on his PRC-77.com blog. His summary of, and comments on, a presentation made by former FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, are reproduced below with permission. - Ed.]

"On April 9, the Coastal Plains Amateur Radio Club in southeast Georgia hosted a presentation by former two-term FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, titled 'The Importance of Ham Radio in Disasters.' The club subsequently posted the video of the meeting and made it available on YouTube.

"I have to say, Mr. Fugate hit it out of the ballpark: He provided the best insight and guidance I've ever heard regarding disaster communications and amateur radio support. When I watched the video, I came away with a full page of notes that I've distilled here:

• Focus training on low probability/high consequence events -- hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, etc.

• ARES and auxiliary communications are not the same, and ARES still has a primary role at the local level.

• ARES #1 mission needs to be making sure the local EOC can talk to the state EOC. The #2 mission is making sure that the local EOC can talk to its subordinate fire and EMS stations and, by extension, its local medical facilities (hospitals, critical care centers, etc.)

Â· One of the first consequences of any disaster is that all commercial comms systems will be overloaded, particularly cell circuits. The cell sites may be up and functioning, but the demand will overwhelm them.

Â· All comms systems, regardless of how well they are hardened, have multiple points of failure. It's not uncommon for EVERYTHING to fail. In fact, it happens with alarming regularity.

Â· Any comms infrastructure reliant on IP -- cell phones, VOIP, internet, etc. -- is particularly vulnerable. Even commercial SATPHONES at some point tie back to an IP-based ground system, and the connections will fail.

Â· AT&T's FirstNet is IP-based and is not well hardened (he wasn't very complimentary of the whole FirstNet concept).

Â· Supporting local shelters with communications really isn't all that important. Most of them will have all the comms they need.

Â· Focus on developing digital mode expertise. Digital can carry more traffic, more accurately and under more adverse conditions, than voice.

Â· Repeaters will fail, and 2-meter simplex will run into coverage issues very fast. Focus on HF.

Â· Most emergency managers at all levels have no idea what digital capabilities ARES can bring to the EOC. Some have heard of Winlink, few know what it really is or what its capabilities are. Almost none have heard of FT8, JS8, etc.

Â· In a disaster, antennas are more vulnerable than radios. Have spares.

Â· Backup power -- YES! Generators fail with alarming frequency.

Â· Risk. FEMA reimbursement rules don't cover privately owned radio gear if it gets damaged or destroyed while supporting a declared emergency. The point here is to push your local EMA to fund the necessary gear and have the ARES operators fall in on it.

"Craig's strong focus was on the use of HF for both local and long-haul communications -- get the local EOC talking to state ASAP and don't rely on anything that has a high risk of failure (like repeaters). His perspective is interesting - he's seen too many commercial and government communications systems fail during real world disasters, particularly IP-based systems.

"We can distill Craig's guidance down to one simple statement: EMAs at all levels need point-to-point communications systems that don't rely on any infrastructure. This is the key role that ARES is best suited to fill at the local and state levels, and that needs to be our primary mission and training focus.

"I consider this presentation, the lessons learned it discusses, and the advice it provides, to be a critical guide to future ARES and auxiliary communications mission definition and training. Craig's advice is both invaluable and unassailable. If there was a way, I could force every local and state emergency manager to sit down and watch this video and absorb the lessons, I would."

---

## Litchfield Road Race Communications support invitation

On Monday, June 6, 2022, 08:50:04 AM  
EDT, Paul Gibb  
<paulgibb@optonline.net> wrote:

Hello All –

The Litchfield emergency services have again asked for help with communications from the amateur radio community for the road race **which will be held this Sunday, June 12.**

If you are available and can help out, please let me know. We meet behind the Litchfield Fire house between 11:15 and 11:30 and assign people to various locations specified by the Litchfield Fire Department.

After that we take our positions on the course and do some preliminary signal testing.

The race starts at 1 pm and we will stay on the course until 3 pm. After the race everyone is invited for pizza at Hometown Pizza which is located next to the Litchfield Fire Department.

We will run the operation on simplex 146.585 MHz as we have done in the past.

If you know someone who would like to participate, please invite them to come along. Should be fun to get together for an event again.

Thanks, all.

Paul Gibb  
KB1TOR  
860-459-6801

---

## 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.*

---

## *“CW’s Corner”*

de W1QK & WA1KRG



**CW**

### **Birding: Welcoming the return of the ruby-throated hummingbird**

The ruby-throated hummingbird – the only hummingbird to breed in eastern North America – comes to Maine after a winter spent between southern Mexico and western Panama.



Ruby-throated hummingbirds have a significant range, stretching past Maine and into New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.  
Elise Amendola/Associated Press

Source:

<https://www.pressherald.com/2022/05/22/birding-welcoming-the-return-of-the-ruby-throated-hummingbird/>

CW, CQ, and QSL enjoy watching the birds at our seed and nectar feeders – WA1KRG



### **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 items to [w1qk@snet.net](mailto:w1qk@snet.net) for placement in the CARA Capers.

### *This month’s CARA Capers member pop quiz question:*

*What was former CARA member – Steve Grouse’s former callsign, and what CARA Founding Member’s callsign was assigned to him?*

*Answer on page 21.*



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

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President – Bud Kozloff, W1NSK  
w1nsk@hotmail.com  
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM  
w1jgm@aol.com  
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CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization.  
Consider supporting CARA in your estate planning.

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



**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.

The input deadline is announced in the previous issue and again at the monthly planning meeting.

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.

This summary is reprinted as a courtesy of: The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association's Award-Winning monthly newsletter: "Voice Coil" <http://www.mvara.org/News/Current.pdf>



**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

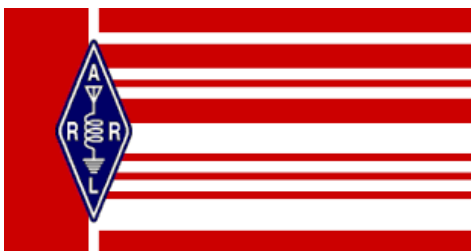
- [Join or Renew Today!](#) Eligible US-based members can elect to receive [QST](#) or [On the Air](#) magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: [QST](#), [On the Air](#), [QEX](#), and [NCJ](#).
- Listen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

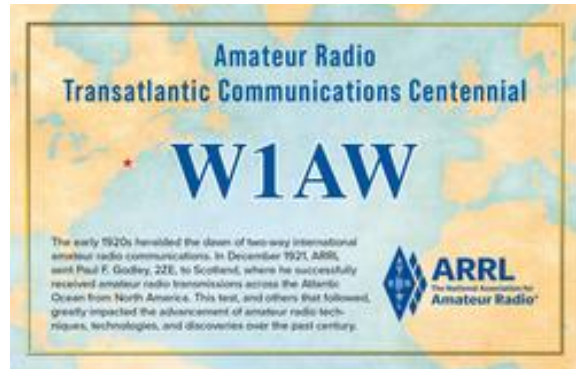
### Free of charge to ARRL members...

- [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!](#)



John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, [Editor](#)

May 19, 2022



## Announcements

W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station located at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, is fulfilling QSL card requests with a commemorative card celebrating the Amateur Radio Transatlantic Communications Centennial.

The special card will be issued for all W1AW QSL card requests for contacts made with the station from December 11, 2021, to December 31, 2022. The historic transatlantic tests of 100 years ago contributed to the dawn of international amateur radio communications.

US amateurs contacting [W1AW](#) who would like a QSL card should send their card directly to the station with a SASE (Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope). International stations may confirm receipt of transmissions directly to W1AW with one IRC or via the W1 Incoming QSL Bureau.

*Answer to CARA Capers Member pop quiz question on page 18:*

*What was former CARA member – Steve Grouse’s former callsign, and what CARA Founding Member’s callsign is now assigned to him?*

*Steve Grouse was KA1ECL before becoming W1ADW, held by Joe Feeley, one of CARA’s Founding members.*

*Steve currently lives in the Phoenix, AZ area.*

*Joe was a proficient CW operator, who won the first-ever ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest.*

*You might remember Joe’s son, Ray - K1CSB. They lived on Stone Street in Danbury.*

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**This month’s Capers Q&A:**

What are some characteristics of RG213 and LMR 400 coaxial cable?



## Coax (Coaxial) Cables

Coax (coaxial) cable is one of the oldest types of cables, having been in use for over 100 years. Like ethernet, coax cables come in both solid and stranded versions, although they are usually solid. Only a few types of coax, namely RG58 and RG8, are available as stranded.



Most coax cables fall into one of two categories, RG (Radio Guide) and LMR. No one is 100% sure what LMR actually stands for. It could stand for a term, someone’s name, or just be random letters. There are many rumors and theories for what LMR may mean but nobody really knows for sure.



Author: Nicholas Watkins



RG cables are labeled “RG#” with the number formerly standing for the diameter of the cable. For example, RG59 cable originally had a diameter of .059”. While these measurements have changed over the years, the names of the cables have stuck. There are many types of RG cables and this article will only review the most common variants. Typically, RG cables have a 50 or 75 ohm impedance. Some off-shoot cables have different impedance, but all the standard RG cables covered here will be one of those two.

LMR cable is owned by the company Times Microwave. While the cables and name LMR are their property, other companies will frequently make equivalent cable, such as ShowMeCables EMR cables. These cables are labeled “LMR-#”, with the number being a rough estimate of the cable thickness. For example, LMR-400 has a 0.405” OD (outer diameter). LMR, like RG, has a few main types that this article will cover but off-shoot versions are also available.

**LMR-400**  
**Double-Shielded**  
**Very Low Signal Loss**



LMR is all 50 ohm cable (with one exception, covered below under LMR-400). Except for LMR-100, all the LMR cables are also made

in UltraFlex versions for situations where extra flexibility is needed. Being newer than RG cable, LMR is better overall and most types of LMR cable were designed to replace specific RG cables.



**Types of common RG cable include:**

RG58, RG59, RG6, RG11, RG8, RG174  
 RG178, RG316,

**Types of LMR cable include:**

LMR-100, LMR-195, LMR-200, LMR-240  
 LMR-400, LMR-600

<https://youtu.be/1dDhYGd6kEw>

Source:

<https://www.showmecables.com/blog/post/coax-coaxial-cables#:~:text=or%20security%20camera.-,RG8,but%20provides%20similar%20signal%20quality.>



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# CARA 2022 Field Day

## Tasks and Responsibilities – 10 Step Planning Document

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The purpose of this document is to provide details of tasks and responsibilities involved with the CARA 2022 Field Day activity, which is scheduled for the weekend of June 25-26, 2022.

CARA members are encouraged to sign-up for multiple items to ensure that all tasks are adequately covered.

**This is your club – it only works with TEAMWORK.**

The level of involvement and commitment will directly affect the planning for, and execution of this event.

### CARA 2022 FD Leadership Team:



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**This Team will consult with the Executive Committee concerning decisions based on the membership commitments made and adjust the scope of our annual ARRL Field Day event as required.**

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#### 1. Coordination with Field Day Site officials:

Establish contact with site officials. Ensure CARA compliance with site regulations concerning access, times on site, parking, clean-up, and other details.

---

2. FD Entry class & Radio Equipment:

Determine FD entry class. Determine/arrange for station locations and shelter(s). Determine station equipment needs & arrange transportation. Arrange and perform set up/take down for both stations. Create Excel checklist indicating items and sources. Confirm FD stations are operational before FD begins. Install ground rod(s) for station(s). Provide N1MM Logger + common operating hints (documentation) for both stations. Provide equipment manuals for operator reference.

Station #1:	Station #2:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3. Antennas:

Create antenna setup diagram. (Determine what will be used, and where it will be installed) Antenna selection and placement should allow optimum flexibility in band selection and performance, with minimal co-interference. **Attach labels to each FD station antenna.** Attach safety streamers to antenna supports, cables, feedlines and other antenna components to ensure safety compliance. Ensure that CARA bandpass filters are installed correctly and provide information related to use at FD stations. Install/take down antennas. Arrange for transportation of CARA antenna assets including antennas, rope, and coaxial cable feedlines to/from the Bethel EOC.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Operator shifts and event coverage:

Create a **Sign-Up Genius** format using web application. Ensure that the entire time we're committing for is covered. Answer questions and communicate information related to operator shifts Distribute often via CARA Reflector and provide timely updates and communications with CARA FD Leadership Team.

_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Logging Computers:

Ensure that CARA logging laptop computers are prepared and configured with N1MM+ Logger program for logging FD contacts during the operation. Establish a wired network for FD use. Arrange/provide IT support during the event.

_____	_____
_____	_____

6. Food/beverages:

All details regarding FD Menu, budget, requisition/transportation of supplies, food and beverage preparation, etc. Means for on-site cooking, refrigeration, etc. Set up/take down of field kitchen/food preparation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Field Day Public Relations:

On site during the event (Visitor/Greeter canopy/table) (May be modified due to COVID Restrictions)

Set up a canopy outside in front of the FD Site (Weather permitting) Greet visitors, provide information, conduct station tours, answer questions, hand out CARA brochure & ARRL information, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Registering the CARA FD site on the ARRL Website. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Safety Officer(s) & Security:

Mark all hazards on the FD site including coax cables, antenna supports, ground rod wires, etc. Attach (tape) cables to floor to eliminate trip hazard(s). Ensure that fire extinguisher locations are known by all. Ensure that a properly equipped First Aid Kit is available during the entire FD event. **Perform all the requirements stated on the ARRL Safety Officer FD Checklist document.** (from ARRL Website) Provide appropriate security for CARA members, visitors/guests, equipment and assets.

Safety Officer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Others: \_\_\_\_\_



9. Field Day Bonus points:

Reference the ARRL FD Rules & determine which bonus points to complete the requirements for. Provide the means to execute tasks to earn these bonus points. Includes creating and sending the CARA FD message to the ARRL CT Section Manager, creating and handling formal NTS (National Traffic System) traffic (maximum of 10 messages) via the FD station(s) during the event. Making satellite QSO. Writing and distributing of the CARA FD Press Release – inviting the media to attend and cover the event. Setting up a CARA FD social media Facebook page, and uploading content during the event.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

10. CARA 2022 FD Score and Bonus points submission

Review the FD log. Compile the N1MM+ log from logging computers. Gather required evidence to support claimed bonus points. Submit score, plus claimed bonus points evidence to ARRL via ARRL Web application. Prepare and submit CARA Field Day Report to be published in CARA Capers Monthly newsletter.

_____	_____
_____	_____

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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 pix of your station, antennas, mobile installation, etc. and send it to w1qk@snet.net Capers welcomes and encourages member input.*

---

On May 12, 2022, at 19:31, Mark Gilbert <1markgilbert@gmail.com> wrote:

As a proud Dad I'm happy to say that N1PNK has been featured in the ARRL magazine "on the air" which targets new and younger hams. She is on all of page 8.

In the article she talks about **how important the Candlewood club has been to getting her going and getting her friends active.** Between Natalie and Keith, W1KRI, there have been about 25-30 new Ham's licensed.



UP CLOSE

## Natalie Gilbert, N1PNK

Age 16, Redding, CT

**Credentials:** First licensed as a seventh grader in 2018.

Upgraded to General class a few weeks later.

### Q: Why did you want to get licensed?

I grew up watching my dad [Mark Gilbert, N1MG] talking to people all over the world on his radios, and the thought of communicating with invisible waves through the air was exciting.

### Q: What were the first things you did after you got your license?

I had a great time at Field Day my first 2 years with the Candlewood Amateur Radio Club. I talked to a lot of stations, and the bands were really busy! I also set up my own portable QRP station on 40 meters SSB for Field Day 2021 using a solar cell and storage battery.

### Q: What kinds of things do you currently do with ham radio?

In September we had a Town Day in New Fairfield, CT and I helped at the portable station that my club set up. We contacted a lot of US stations on 20 meters.

I talk to some of my friends on the local repeater. The most fun for me is helping at special event stations, where I can help young families see that science is practical and helpful for teens.

I like to spend time reading at the beach. I bring my handheld and talk to people across the sound up and down Long Island, NY. The signal travels extremely well across the approximately 10 miles of water.

### Q: Favorite non-radio activities/hobbies?

I really like art, especially drawing, painting, and crochet. I also love baking. I play tenor saxophone in my high school band. I do ballet and contemporary dance, which I really love. I'm on my high school's debate team as well.

### Q: What is your dream job?

I hope to be either a dentist or some kind of scientist. I like environmental science and biology a lot. Growing up, I attended summer science camps and loved walking in streams and along lakes, and studying the creatures and plants in and around the water. Besides science, I would love to own a bakery or make custom wedding cakes.

### Q: Biggest ham-related success?

In eighth grade I got my science teacher interested in radio when I brought in an HF radio and we set up a simple antenna. I talked to people in Europe and everyone was impressed. By the end of eighth grade, my science teacher and seven of my classmates had gotten their license as well!

### Q: What would you say is your best quality?

I always try to be a really good and supportive friend.

### Q: What advice would you give to other young hams?

I would tell other young hams it is important to join a local club. They are always happy to have new younger members, especially at public events like Field Day. You can learn a lot about operating by getting on the repeater.



## Leading By Example

### N1PNK's top three ham radio practices

- 1) A 2-meter handheld is always there to chat with my friends quickly. Most of us can talk on 55 simplex, where there is more privacy than on the repeater.
- 2) Going to hamfests is fun, and you can find odds and ends. When I was 5, we bought a bunch of like-new stuffed animals from a nice couple who were tailgating!
- 3) I like to hear the ham satellites and ISS going overhead. It's fun to see the ISS once in a while when the sky is dark and the angle is right.





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- 3) I like to hear the ham satellites and ISS going overhead. It's fun to see the ISS once in a while when the sky is dark and the angle is right.





*N1PNK operating at CARA Field Day      Photos: Charles Setaro, KC1IBR*





N1PNK operating at the New Fairfield Day W1QI Special Event Station



N1PNK operating ARRL FD from home. *Photos: Mark Gilbert, N1MG*

# SHARE "*THE MAGIC*" OF AMATEUR RADIO

*Amateur Radio enriches the lives of everyone that it touches.*

## FOR IMMEDIATE LOCAL CLUB DISTRIBUTION

CQRC, Winsted, SBERK, ICRC, **CARA**, GBARC, GNARC



**WHAT:** Jamboree **On The Air**(JOTA)

**DATE:** Saturday-Oct.15,2022

**Hours:** 9 AM - 4 PM

## JOTA 2022 is COMING!

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But, few people realize that each year more than a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA).

During the 2014 event, worldwide Scouting participation included **1.1 million Boy Scouts and 200,000 Girl Guides/Girl Scouts**, for a total participation of over 1.3 million--the largest Scouting event in the world.

<http://arri.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

There is nothing as rewarding as seeing scouts get **EXCITED** after an **ON THE AIR** experience, and begin **RESONATING** with the idea of becoming a licensed Ham.

I will be contacting the 3 major Scouting Councils and one single town Council in CT (Housatonic Council, CT Yankee Council, CT Rivers Council, Greenwich Council) this coming week to confirm their desire for us to provide JOTA Activity (GOTA) Stations at their FALL Camporees in:

Camp Strang - Goshen

Camp Sequassen - New Hartford

Hoyt Scout Reservation - Redding Ridge

& Other Sites (TBA)

Based on their responses, I will be looking to **create TEAMS** of licensed Amateur Radio Operators to go to the various locations and operate "**Portable**" (HF/VHF/UHF) and "**SHARE THE MAGIC**" with **GOTA (Get On The Air)** stations.

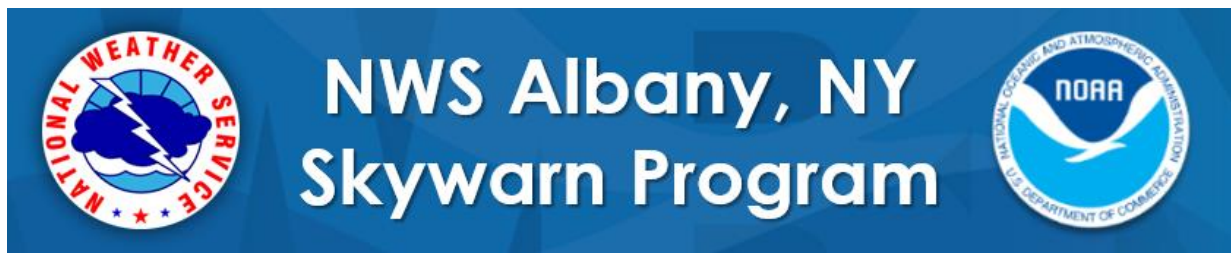
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE & **MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR**  
**SATURDAY - OCT. 15, 2022**

For more information (or to volunteer), please contact me at:  
**CTJOTAham@[GMAIL.COM](mailto:CTJOTAham@gmail.com)**

**Thank you!**

**73,**  
**Douglas Sharafanowich - WA1SFH**  
Section Youth Coordinator - Connecticut  
American Radio Relay League  
[connecticutSYC@gmail.com](mailto:connecticutSYC@gmail.com)  
Cell: 203-494-3885

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- [Becoming a Spotter](#)
- [How to Report](#)
- [What to Report](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Resources](#)
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**What is SKYWARN™?**

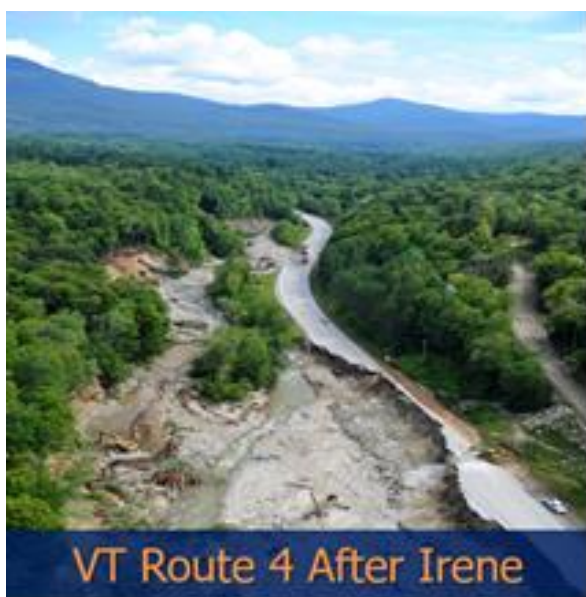
The effects of hazardous weather are felt every year by many Americans. To obtain critical weather information, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), established SKYWARN™ with partner organizations. SKYWARN™ is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their



local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the NWS.

In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States. Eastern New York and western New England are no exception with major weather events such as Tropical Storm Irene, the Mechanicville Tornado of 1998, the February 2019 high wind event, and numerous blizzards including the latest of March 2017. These events threatened lives and property and because of this we rely heavily on our SKYWARN™ volunteers who call the NWS in Albany, NY to report certain weather conditions. Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN™ spotters, coupled with Doppler-radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

SKYWARN™ storm spotters are part of the ranks of citizens who form the Nation's first line of defense against hazardous weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that their efforts have given communities the precious gift of time--seconds and minutes that can help save lives. While the main role of a storm spotter is to be their community's first line of defense against dangerous storms, they also provide important information to NWS warning forecasters who make critical warning decisions. Storm spotters play a critical role because they can see things that radar and other technological tools cannot, and this ground truth is critical in helping the NWS perform our primary mission, to save lives and property.



VT Route 4 After Irene

## Spring 2022 Weather Spotter Training Webinars via GoToMeeting Session:

Date	Time	Registration Link*
Wednesday May 11, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5892111711956826894">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5892111711956826894</a>
Tuesday May 17, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6109050853675192335">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6109050853675192335</a>
Monday May 23, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1415518289188615693">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1415518289188615693</a>
Wednesday May 25, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1600757411166566160">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1600757411166566160</a>
Tuesday June 7, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2365898756842911502">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2365898756842911502</a>
Monday June 13, 2022	7-9 PM	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9087186949158566670">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9087186949158566670</a>

\* Follow the registration link provided.

### Spring 2022 Skywarn Certificate

Forecasters from the National Weather Service (NWS) in Albany, NY conduct storm spotter training sessions each year to help prepare spotters for the upcoming severe and winter weather seasons. These sessions are free and open to anyone who is interested in learning about hazardous weather and the role of a spotter. There are some eligibility requirements to be a spotter: You must be able to observe the weather, be 16 years or older and need access to a phone to call in reports, access to the internet to submit reports via email or social media, or be able to report information through the Amateur Radio Network.

Our live training sessions are approximately 1 to 1.5 hours in length, and once you complete the training, you will be an official SKYWARN™ spotter and given a spotter certificate. This goal of the training is to train spotters to assist local officials and the NWS with early detection of hazardous weather, and provide ground truth during severe and winter weather events. The learning objectives of our live and online webinar training sessions are:

- Understand the how the NWS Integrated Warning System works and how the spotter fits into this system
- Identify the ingredients needed for organized thunderstorms
- Recognize the visual and environmental clues suggestive of severe weather
- Distinguish between legitimate clues and non-significant features associated with severe weather
- Learn about the different types of winter weather and how to measure each
- Learn how to stay safe when storm spotting
- Learn proper storm reporting procedures

Approximately one-third of NWS-Albany's spotters also are amateur radio operators. This dual role can be helpful, especially during a major storm such as a hurricane, when phone and power lines are downed and amateur radio may become the primary means of communications.

SKYWARN™ volunteers also help the NWS by reporting winter weather, flash flooding, etc., according to the established criteria. It must be stressed that we are looking for reliable and objective reports. When snowfall reports are inflated or hail sizes are exaggerated, for example, it can do more harm than

good. While not a requirement, it is preferred that our SKYWARN™ volunteers would be available to receive a call from the NWS, in the event we feel that something suspicious is happening in their area. A questionnaire form handed out at the training sessions allows one to give additional information, such as hours of availability, access to rivers/streams, **type of weather equipment owned (if applicable), etc.**

Training sessions are held throughout **eastern New York and western New England**, typically in the spring and fall months. The latest training dates can be found on the Training Schedule tab just above. One can also find announcements on our website or on social media.



Submitted to the CARA Reflector by Steve McCarthy – KC1EEQ





For Immediate Release

**Electronics and Amateur Radio Hamfest: September 11, 2022**  
**Sponsored by the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association**

**We are back for 2022, In a NEW LOCATION and DATE!**

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) will be hosting the **Western Connecticut Hamfest** and swap meet on September 11<sup>th</sup> from 8 am till 1PM, Rain or shine. This is an IN-DOOR Event.

This annual event will be held at the **Police Athletic League, 35 Hayestown Road, Danbury, CT.** This is "The Biggest Little Hamfest in Western CT" and is sure to have plenty for all electronics, makers, and Amateur Radio enthusiasts.

Every year, enthusiasts from the greater Danbury area and surrounding states gather to swap gear, knowledge, and stories. This year there will be an Amateur Radio License testing session (9:30 am) as well as a presentation by Fred Kemmerer, the ARRL New England Director. We will also have the Region 5 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) forum at 10:30AM. Get studying and take your first FCC Amateur Radio License test or upgrade your license while finding that great piece of tech you can't live without!

There will be electronics, computer and radio equipment vendors, demonstrations, and refreshments as well. Raffle tickets will be sold for some great gear and your admission includes entry for the many door prizes.

Regular admission is \$8 at the door (\$1 discount with the flyer, available at our website). Kids under 12 are free!

Vendor spaces are available for \$20/spot. Each spot includes one admission. Get rid of that gear you don't use anymore. There is sure to be someone there interested in your used/unused computer, electronic or radio gear.

For further information go to [hamfest.cararadioclub.org](http://hamfest.cararadioclub.org) or contact John Morelli W1JGM at [hamfest@cararadioclub.org](mailto:hamfest@cararadioclub.org) or call 203-417-0160.





Sanctioned by ARRL

# SAVE THE DATE

## SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

SUNDAY, DOORS OPEN 8AM  
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association  
Annual

# Western CT. Hamfest

The BIGGEST, little Hamfest in  
Western Connecticut

Table spots \$20 each (All spots inside)

Bring your own table

Includes 1 admission

General admission at the door \$8 (**\$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 RADIO, TECH,  
AND COMPUTER  
VENDORS

INDOOR TABLES

VE SESSION - 9:30  
NO APPOINTMENT  
REQ.

REFRESHMENTS  
RAFFLE  
DOOR PRIZES  
50/50  
GOOD TIMES

TO BE HELD AT  
Police Athletic League  
35 Hayestown Road  
Danbury, CT.  
06810

[hamfest.cararadioclub.org](http://hamfest.cararadioclub.org)

Contact: John Morelli  
(W1JGM)

E-Mail

[hamfest@cararadioclub.org](mailto:hamfest@cararadioclub.org)