



# Capers



## October - 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>

---

***Next CARA Meeting: Friday, October 14***

***This meeting will be conducted in - person only at the  
Stony Hill Fire Dept. at 59 Newtown Road, Bethel.  
Doors open at 7:00 pm, gavel at 7:30 pm.***



*you are cordially*  
**INVITED**

Join us for the first-ever ARRL Connecticut Member Social!

**October 29, 2022  
10AM – 2PM**

***RSVP Requested by ARRL members – see page 15 for details***

## *President's Message – de W1NSK*



Time seems to be flying by again. October chill and Fall is upon us! Best complete those antenna projects before the weather turns.

This weekend October 9th is the Annual Nutmeg Hamfest to be held at the Best Western in North Haven. ARRL CT Section meeting at 9AM w/ARRL CEO Dave Minster, NA2AA and other ARRL officials kicks off the event. Other forums include an ARES Forum as well as the Flea Market are included. Our meeting this month is on the 14th at the Stony Hill Hill Fire House. Come and join us. We are looking for Club Members who may be interested in presenting to the club at a meeting a subject of interest. Some possible topics include FT8, RTTY, and others. Let me know if you'd like to present even a recent project to the club.

We are working on a couple of ideas for Club classes for the winter season. If you have an idea, please let me know. We are especially interested in several folks to help put on a Technician Licensing Class.

Contest Season is rapidly approaching with the first of the Majors October 29 and 30th, CQ WW SSB DX. This on-air event "lights up" the entire world. Many new countries to be had. With conditions improving 15 and even 10 meters will be active. All you Technicians can get on 10 and work the world on SSB! Looking ahead, November has three major contest weekends this year including ARRL Sweepstakes.

We will also be holding a POTA activation on Saturday 10/15 at Squantz Pond in New Fairfield. Operation usually runs from 10 AM to 4PM or so. Details at Club Meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at Stony Hill Fire House on the 14th!

73

Bud Kozloff - W1NSK  
CARA President

# October 14 Meeting Agenda

---

Call To Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Business Meeting

Acceptance of Minutes as Published in CAPERS

Treasurers Report

Committee Reports

Repeater:

Web Site:

Membership

Old Business

CARA POTA Event October 15. Squantz Pond, New Fairfield 9-4PM

Spaghetti Dinner October 18, 6:00

New Business

CW Class this winter

Technician Class

Christmas Party

Winter Field Day

Club SS Effort?

News and Views: Round Robin members forum

Adjournment

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



There's a chill in the air, the leaves are turning, and I can smell the evening smoke from neighborhood fireplaces and woodstoves for the first time this fall, which means that October has arrived.

I'd like to again thank all the members of CARA and NARA that supported CARA's 2022 Western Connecticut Hamfest.

Despite the light but short rain, it was a terrific event. In the coming months, we'll be planning the 2023 event - and will need your support again. We've already booked the Danbury PAL building for September 10, 2023 with the ARRL. We learned many facts this year and will implement that experience going forward. I'm sure that everyone is interested in the profits made to the association's treasury. That report

will be presented at the October 14, 2022 meeting.

There have been several fun and successful on-the-air events throughout September. Club members gathered for "New Fairfield Fair Day" and "Masonic Lodges on the Air" as club events and several members did multiple Parks On The Air - POTA activations.

CARA will meet on October 15 at Squantz Pond State Park (K-1719) for another POTA event. This is the third of our 2022 POTA events. Members from New Fairfield's Cub Scout Pack 42 and Pack 142 will join us to learn about Ham Radio. The annual international Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air - JOTA event is happening on the same day, so the scouts will have many opportunities to speak with other scouts. We will be on- the- air at the park from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm and encourage CARA members to participate.

This month, our October Business meeting will be held at the Stony Hill Fire Dept. on Newtown Road in Bethel. Doors open at 7:00 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Plan to join us in-person, as we won't be streaming the meeting on MS TEAMS. Coffee and refreshments will be available. See you there.

73

John Morelli – W1JGM  
CARA Vice-President

## September 9 Monthly Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary, Gary Adams – N1GSA



Our Meeting this month was held at the Danbury PAL building, as this was 2 days prior to the Hamfest.

This being at a new location with nothing being the same as normal it was decided that there needed to be much more coordination and location planning for this to be successful.

There were 12 people present.

We met in the parking lot and designated how the flow of traffic would work, where the tailgate section would be, where general parking would be, and where the wristbands for entry would be sold. John had a list of assignments for everyone. We tried out the cones and

tape to close off certain areas of the parking lot, just making sure that things worked as planned, where the awning for the Welcome table would be set-up, etc. With a game plan in place, we broke up and agreed to meet at 6AM on Sunday morning to get setup prior to (hopefully) an onslaught of vendors and spectators.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

---

## September 23 Monthly Planning Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was held at the Stony Hill Firehouse.

There were 5 people present.

It was noted that we made approximately \$3200 at the Hamfest. There were many donations that made this event more profitable. There could still be some minor outstanding expenses.

Next year we need to have more people to work on set-up for this event. This is far too large an event for one person to set-up. This takes months of planning and communication with vendors and advertising. We also need better control on raffle tickets, 50/50, etc. There were

only 92 wristbands sold for entry. This may or may not have been the actual number of attendees.

We already have the contracts for next year's event to be held again at the PAL building. These will be signed by our president. The date is already set at September 10<sup>th</sup>. This is also posted on the ARRL calendar. Hopefully this will eliminate any conflict with other nearby events.

There was discussion about access to Spruce Mtn. and the need for the fallen trees to be removed from the roadway. John will talk to his contact in the Danbury Fire Dept to check on how this may be accomplished.

John Ahle has been doing a fine job at coordinating the monthly POTA events. The next POTA is October 15<sup>th</sup> at Squantz Pond State Park. We have invited the local Scout Troops to attend. This could be in conflict with the JOTA event for Scouts.

Bud will do some investigating about various places to have our Christmas Party.

There was discussion about giving a program about Amateur Radio at or with the Danbury Library. They do these types of presentations both in person and thru their media programs. We will investigate this.

There is a new grant program from ARRL that we need to investigate. We could qualify for this by hosting events such as Intro to Amateur Radio or sponsoring and running Technician License classes that would be open to anyone. The monies could be used for advertising of the event, supplies necessary, Technician class books, etc.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

---



**CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946 – 76 Years in 2022**

## Recent Events:

### CARA's Western CT Hamfest September 11, 2022

Danbury PAL Building, Hayestown Road,  
Danbury

Photos contributed to Capers by:  
W1QH, W1JGM, WA1JGA & W1QK











## 2022 CARA Western Connecticut Hamfest Personnel

### Site entrance 1:

Thomas Kimball – WA8UNS

### Parking:

John Kerwick -KD2VUP

### Tailgating Admissions:

Stefanie Fuda

Oscar Fuller – KO1F

Marcus Swearingen - AB1WV

Eric Kozlowski – N1RV

### Front Door Admissions Table

Mike Walters - W8ZY

Harlan Ford - W1QH

Dan Fegley - W1QK

### Food Concession:

Bud Kozloff- W1NSK

Susan Mulvey - KC1QVE

### Roving 50/50:

Louis Parascondola - W1QJ

### Roving Raffle Tickets:

Marcus Swearingen – AB1WV

### PA System and Announcer Talent:

Gregory Davis – WR1Z

### Technical support for PA System:

Gary Adams – N1GSA

Asuna Gilfoyle - W2FUR

### Financial accounting:

Charlie Setaro - KC1IBR

### Management:

John Ahle - W1JMA

John Morelli - W1JGM

### Safety:

Marcus Swearingen - AB1WV

### Club Table:

David Coelho – WA1JGA

### POTA Table:

David Teagarden – KB1ZAC

### VE Session:

Jon Bernon – AJ1U

---

## CARA activates W1QI September 17 for annual New Fairfield Day event

---



New Fairfield held their annual New Fairfield Day on September 17.

CARA has been attending each year since 2015.

The station location was changed from the lower field to the upper side for better visibility.

## W1QH and N1GSA activate W1QI for September 24 Masonic Lodges on the Air event



---

### Masonic Lodges on the Air Event to Take Place on September 24

08/26/2022

Masonic Lodges on the Air (MLotA), an amateur radio special event, will be on the air Saturday, September 24, 2022, from locations across the county. The event is open to all amateur radio operators, and the idea for the event grew out of the realization that many Freemasons also have a love for amateur radio.

The Fulton County Amateur Radio Club (FCARC) and the Fulton Lodge #248 in Ohio first hosted the event in 2021. Because of its success, the event has now been scheduled for the next 3 years.

The event will be operating K8BXQ from 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM ET, using SSB only on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Please honor all band plans. All contacts must be in the phone portion of the bands. Stations may be contacted once on each band.

Full contest rules and information can be found at [cqmorelight.com/rules](http://cqmorelight.com/rules).

Bob Holstrom, KD2BKD, said that masons in New York and New Jersey will be setting up stations at the historic museum grounds of The DeWint House, George Washington's Headquarters in Tappan,

New York. The property is owned and operated by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York. The special event call sign for that location will be W2QX, operating from 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM ET.

"Everyone is welcome to visit the historic DeWint house," said Holstrom. "The home has been restored and admission is free."

More information about Masonic Lodges on the Air can be found at their website, [cqmorelight.com](http://cqmorelight.com).

Visit the ARRL Special Event Stations database to find other on the air events and commemorations at [www.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations)

---

## W1JMA and W1QK activate Candlewood Isle for the W/VE Island QSO Party contest



---

### Object:

To promote the U.S. (USI) and Canadian (CIA) islands programs to amateurs worldwide. To promote verifiable amateur radio contacts with stations located on islands in the U.S. and Canada.

W/VE island stations work everyone. Non-island stations work only W/VE islands stations.

Single transmitter only, single or multiple operators. (Multiple operator island expedition may use additional call signs to maintain single transmitter rule).

The use of spotting tools like the Internet, DX Summit and Packet clusters are allowed.

One call sign per log entry. Valid email address must be included. All entries are considered mixed mode.

### When:

Last Saturday in August.  
1200z 27 August – 0300z 28 August 2022. 15 Hours.

### Bands:

160-6 meters, excluding WARC (30m, 17m, 12m) and 60m channels. No repeater, Internet-sourced, MCW, VHF/UHF simplex or cross mode contacts allowed. If clear, normal W/VE island frequencies as outlined in general rules for the island programs are suggested. Band plans of US and Canada must be followed.

### Classes:

QRP (5 watts or less)  
QRO (greater than 5 watts)

### Categories:

#### W/VE Island Fixed:

For single or multi-operator stations with resident amateur operators with an established, fixed, home-QTH station.

#### W/VE Island Expedition:

For single or multi-operator stations who carry all equipment to a single island primarily for QSO Party “Field Day” style. Station shall be established and removed within a 30-day period including the QSO Party weekend.



W1JGM arranged with the Candlewood Isle Board of Directors for CARA to use the space adjacent to the boat docks to set up one station and a 40M/20M Skeleton Sleeve wire antenna. FD-style; generator powered.



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

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



This certificate was issued by NS4J:  
Jay Chamberlain, Fredericksburg, VA  
USI Committee

[www.usislands.org](http://www.usislands.org)

**Upcoming Contests, Hamfests &  
Meetings:**

- Oct. 14: CARA Monthly Business Meeting. Stony Hill FD, Bethel. In-person only, no TEAMS component
- Oct. 15: CARA POTA/JOTA operation at Squantz Pond State Park, New Fairfield
- Oct. 15: Illinois QSO Party
- Oct. 18: CARA Pasta Night dinner at the Italian American Club – Danbury 6:00 pm
- Oct. 19: New England Division Director’s On-Line Town Hall Meeting
- Oct. 24: ARES Region 5 meeting
- Oct. 28: CARA Monthly Planning Meeting
- Oct. 28 – 30: CQWW DX SSB Contest
- Oct. 29: ARRL-hosted CT Section Social at ARRL HQ. RSVP’s required by ARRL members.
- Oct. 19, 26: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)



**Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:**

28.490 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
Net Control: Vinny – N2OHH

W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm  
Net Control: KB1ZAC - David or KC1IBR - Charlie

**November 4: November 2022 Capers input  
deadline to w1qk@snet.net**

*Use this link to access the WA7BNM Contest  
Calendar website:*

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>



*you are cordially*  
**INVITED**

Join us for the first-ever **ARRL Connecticut Member Social!**

**October 29, 2022**

**10AM – 2PM**

- Tour and operate W1AW.
- Enjoy a casual cookout.
- Learn about your neighbor, ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio.
- Chat with other ARRL members.
- DXCC card checking will be available.
- This event will be held outdoors, weather permitting (no rain date).

ARRL staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about ARRL programs and publications.

Use the link below to [pre-register](#). Everyone who pre-registers will be entered into a special door prize drawing. Bring a friend!

<https://www.arrl.org/connecticut-member-social>

---

## **2022 Ham Exam Schedule**



### **Washington Depot CT 06794-1201**

10/15/2022

**Sponsor:** Northville ARA

**Date:** Oct 15 2022

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

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

**Email:** [mikeandletha@charter.net](mailto:mikeandletha@charter.net)

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

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

## Bethel CT 06801-3035

12/03/2022

**Sponsor:** Candlewood ARA

**Date:** Dec 03 2022

**Time:** 11:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

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

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

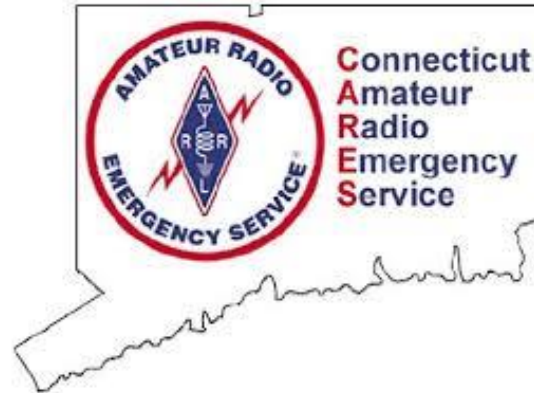
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)

**Location:** Stony Hill Fire House (Public Meeting Room)

59 Stony Hill Rd (Route 6)

Please use side door

Bethel CT 06801-3035



## Upcoming 2022 Amateur radio exams:

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

Next CT ARES Winlink Wednesday:  
**Wednesday, November 2, 2022**



## 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

Hello Region, 5 Amateur Radio Operators:

As indicated below, there will be a region-wide amateur radio exercise on Saturday November 19, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. All Region 5 EMDs have been notified of the date and time of the exercise.

Written guidelines for the exercise will be distributed as we get closer to the exercise date, but there is a general outline of the exercise in the emails below. We may also try an HF contact with Dave Hull, KC1CSG, who will be somewhere out west and may be available during our exercise. We'll see.

I hope you will participate in this year's exercise. If you normally operate from a local EOC, please reach out to your EMD



to see if arrangements can be made to utilize the equipment in the EOC or other public safety building if the local amateur radio station is not in the EOC.

Please let me know if you will be participating so I can develop a list of stations that will be active that day.

More information will be coming in the weeks ahead.

Contact me with any questions or if you are available to operate a station in another town other than the town you live in. As usual, there are a few towns who will need operators.

Thanks, all –

Paul Gibb  
Special Projects Coordinator for the  
Region 5 REPT, 860-459-6801

-----  
**From:** Paul Gibb

**Sent:** Thursday, October 6, 2022 6:44 PM  
**To:** Region 5 EMDs

**Subject:** RE: Region 5 Amateur Radio Exercise - Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Hello Region 5 EMDs –

At its meeting on September 26, 2022, the Region 5 REPT endorsed holding a region-wide amateur radio exercise this fall.

The exercise will occur on Saturday morning, November 19, 2022 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

If you have not already done so, please reach out to your local operator(s) and let me know if your municipality will be participating on November 19. If possible, we would like operators to use the equipment in your local EOC or other building where your amateur equipment may be located.

Contact me with any questions or if you need assistance in locating an operator for your station.

Thanks,

Paul Gibb  
Special Projects Coordinator for the  
Region 5 REPT, 860-459-6801

-----  
From: Paul Gibb

<paulgibb@optonline.net>

Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022  
2:36 PM

To: Region 5 EMDs

Subject: Region 5 Amateur Radio Exercise - Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Greetings, Emergency Management  
Directors –

As in previous years, RESF 2 and the Region 5 Steering Committee have endorsed conducting a region-wide

amateur radio exercise here in Region 5. I anticipate the REPT will also endorse this exercise at its Special Meeting on September, 26th. The tentative date for the exercise will be Saturday, November 19, and it will run from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

The exercise will involve using a digital mode called Winlink at several locations. The number and location of Winlink stations will be finalized at a later date.

Winlink can be used to send email when internet connectivity is lost. Local amateur radio stations with voice only capability (i.e. most stations) will be asked to send information by voice to the Winlink stations. This information transmitted will be simulated blocked roads and shelter reports. Winlink stations will then digitally re-transmit this information to the State and perhaps to the ARC and Eversource as well using the Winlink program.

More information, including written exercise guidelines, will follow as we get closer to the exercise. Please reach out to your local amateur operator(s) at this time to determine if your municipality will be participating on November 19. Please let me know as soon as possible if your municipality intends to participate and if your operator can provide Winlink capability either from the local EOC or from the operator's home station. Use of the local EOC station is preferred if possible, but in an actual emergency home station operators may also play an important role in communicating information across our Region.

If you would like to participate but need help locating an operator for your EOC, let me know as soon as possible and I will see if I can find someone to cover your station on November 19.

Contact me with any questions.

Thanks, all

Paul Gibb  
Special Projects Coordinator for the  
Region 5 REPT, 860-459-6801



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*

## “CW’s Corner”

de W1QK & WA1KRG



### CW

Some comments and pix from Jim - K8MR and Gary - AF8A regarding their Pennsylvania QSO Party adventure.

This is taking HF CW mobile operation to the highest level – Using the Elecraft K3 radio.

Source: CWops Groups IO.



## My Bags Are Packed, I’m Ready to Go!

From: Jim Stahl

Date: Fri, 07 Oct 2022 13:52:51 EDT

See you tomorrow when AF8A and I hit the roads of Pennsylvania!

73 - Jim K8MR

*Editor: Jim’s mobile radio is an Elecraft K3. No surprise there. He’s using the Hustler mobile resonators on a Hustler mast – with some extra home brew support for highway speeds. Looks like instant band-switching for 40M, 20M, 15M and 10M.*

*Your Capers editor chased Jim – K8MR and driver Gary – AF8A, across the Pennsylvania countryside during the PA QSO Party held on October 8-9.*

*Great ops. Thanks, and congratulations guys!*

*From the CWops Reflector with credit to all contributors:*

---

Re: Elecraft  
From: Stephen Bloom  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 21:17:26 EDT  
Hi Rob,

Pretty much agree on all. In my situation (M/M contest station with in-band partner/multi positions), the K3/K3S has been literally the only viable option not requiring external devices, capable of rejecting most of the in-band interference. The newer developments have mostly been on pure SDR radios, and to this point, the technology isn't there, at least at a price that Amateurs will pay, to provide the performance of superhet with roofing filters. Likely the only ones that will be going to be hybrids. Right now the only one I'm aware of in production is the FT101DX. We can't even look at K4 until the K4HD is out.

73  
Steve KL7SB

---

Re: Elecraft

From: Rick Tavan  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 21:25:13 EDT

Elecraft set the bar for HF rigs about 15 years ago. The K3 had better receive performance, lower transmitted phase noise, better QSK, more flexible mic input for SSB ops, a cleaner user interface, modular configurations, true front panel remote control via a third-party interface box, and other advantages over most other rigs at the time. It also was much smaller, weighed much less, had more flexible I/O ports, could be assembled as a semi-kit if you wished, was field upgradeable and field repairable, ... and more. At several WRTC convocations of the world's elite testers, it was the overwhelming favorite, representing

over half the radios in use. The new K4 is even better. (How it's better is a topic for another discussion but you could check out my review and reviews by others on eham.net.) Over time, the "mainstream" manufacturers have caught up to Elecraft in many respects. Now, their flagship radios all have comparable receiver specs and some of them are close in transmitter specs. (The differences are like comparing cars with top speeds of 105 vs 110 MPH - differences that make any difference!) I think the Elecraft user interfaces are still better but I'm not qualified to say that unequivocally because I've spent 90% of my time in front of Elecraft radios for the past 15 years so I'm not expert in the others. Elecraft is still the winner in performance per pound, user interface, and many other factors.

But all that being said, I think the main reason I and many others stay with Elecraft is support. It comes not only from the company Support Department but also, and perhaps more notably, via the various user email reflectors, a global brain trust available 7/24. All radios are complicated, integrating them with other shack devices even more so. Ask a question there (as you just did here) and experts stumble over each other to answer. The company steps in when necessary. I know of no other ham radio manufacturer, or any kind of manufacturer for that matter, that enjoys such a resource. Heck, the founders are there themselves, offering their personal advice and assistance. It's a family and they're open to adopting more members. "C'mon in, the water's fine!"

73, Rick N6XI

---

Re: Elecraft  
From: Rob K6RB  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 21:25:48 EDT

I'm still using my original K3 from 2008. Have not bitten the bullet on K4.

---

Re: Elecraft  
From: Alan AD6E  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 21:48:37 EDT

FYI - The K3 is a heterodyne radio with IF filters (ie.. roofing filters) at 8 MHz. But it's also an SDR (at 2nd IF).

So it's the best of both worlds. The K4 and other new radios are SDR with direct conversion... no IF.

73 Alan AD6E

-----  
Re: Elecraft  
From: Fred ["Skip"] Jensen  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 21:55:49 EDT  
My K3 is #642. Maybe not the oldest on this list, but I'm still pondering ... Give it up and K4, or just keep it, long in the tooth but works super? And best of all, I know how to work most of it.

QNB?: How many knobs does your radio have?

QKB?: How many of those do you know how to use?

73,  
Fred ["Skip"] K6DGW #142  
Sparks NV DM09dn  
Washoe County

-----  
Hi Rob,

Pretty much agree on all. In my situation (M/M contest station with in band partner/mult positions), the K3/K3S has been literally the only viable option not requiring external devices, capable of rejecting most of the in band interference. The newer developments have mostly been on pure SDR radios, and to this point, the technology isn't there, at least at a price that Amateurs will pay, to provide the performance of superhet with roofing filters.

Likely the only ones that will be going to be hybrids. Right now the only one I'm aware of in production is the FT101DX. We can't even look at K4 until the K4HD is out.

73  
Steve KL7SB

-----  
Re: Elecraft  
From: David Mitchell  
Date: Sun, 09 Oct 2022 22:03:54 EDT  
Hi Alan,

I respectfully disagree. My new Yaesu FTdx101MP has a superhet front end followed by direct sampling. The result, according to the numbers, is a very nice receiver. I've used it for the first time this weekend in four state QSO parties and the Makrothen RTTY contest and was impressed by the noticeable improvement in performance from my earlier rig, a FTdx3000, a nice radio in its day and price point. The front end of the 101 is amazing. QRM disappears at the touch of a button.

The bottom line is that there are many good radios out there and I've found that folks tend to stay with the same manufacturer because it's easier to transition to newer models. This is especially true for Elecraft rigs with multi-use buttons and controls, plus the support is first rate and they are American made. I'm looking forward to contesting with a K4D.

Dave WB2PJH  
Frankford Radio Club  
CWOps Life Member #3915

## 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.*



**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.

---



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

**Executive Board:**

President – Bud Kozloff, W1NSK  
w1nsk@hotmail.com  
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM  
w1jgm@w1qi.org  
Secretary – Gary Adams, N1GSA  
Mrclipper69@yahoo.com  
Treasurer – Gregory Davis – WR1Z  
ggdavisct@gmail.com

**Directors:**

Harlan Ford, W1QH - hford01@snet.net  
David Coelho, WA1JGA – davidcoelho52@gmail.com  
John Ahle, W1JMA – w1jma@w1qi.net

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.

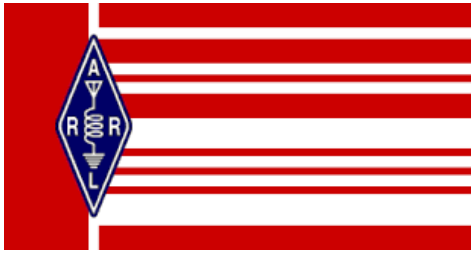
## Subscribe to...

- 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!





## New England Division Town Hall Meeting - Oct 19th, 7 pm

**ARRL Members Only Web site** <memberlist@arrl.org>

Sat, Oct 1 at 9:54 AM

Phil Temples K9HI, our Assistant Directors, and I will hold our next New England Division Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, October 19th, at 7 pm EST. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide you with an ARRL update, get your thoughts on what we should be focusing on, and answer any questions you might have about the ARRL and what we are doing on behalf of ARRL members here in New England.

We plan to spend a good deal of our time together answering your questions. If you'd like to send us a question in advance, you can do so via an email to [ab1oc@arrl.org](mailto:ab1oc@arrl.org), or you can just plan to ask your questions during the Town Hall Meeting.

We will hold our Town Hall Meeting via a Zoom Webinar. You can get your personal link to join the Town Hall Meeting via the following link (paste the link in your browser to register) –

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CGyR0dsJTZu9dqO1LXqtpg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CGyR0dsJTZu9dqO1LXqtpg)

We hope to see you on October 19th!

ARRL New England Division

Director: Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC

[ab1oc@arrl.org](mailto:ab1oc@arrl.org)



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

Re: Quick poll on what's in your electrical panel  
From: Chet, N8RA  
Date: Tue, 20 Sep 2022 11:05:46 EDT  
Hello Rudy,

Last night we had one of those lightning strikes where the light and very loud snap occurred simultaneously and made my MYL scream. She was in a different part of the house and I did not hear her because of the loud sound.

I have not detected any lasting effect from that.



No whole house protection here, one GFCI in the shack has never tripped, no transfer switch.

Our setup:

- Outside ground rods every 8' circle 270 deg around the house, and tie to the underground electrical service entrance's rods that are on opposite side of basement from shack.
- A "single point ground panel" on basement wall where all coax and control lines terminate in protectors that utilize spark gap devices.
- The heavy gauge bond wire from the SPGP to the exterior perimeter ground is about 6' long
- coax and control lines are underground.
- two 60' tall towers have their own ground rods, not tied into the house rods or each other.
- dedicated 120 and 240v power branches first go to the SPGP before splitting off to power the outlets around the room and on the desk.
- the around the room 120v wall outlets are fed from one GFCI. It has never tripped in the 5 years since install. (hmm, maybe I should test it.)
- op desk is plugged into one of the above mentioned wall outlets and distributes power to 10 more outlets along the back of the desk.
- op desk has metal flashing under all equipment surfaces; these and nearly everything on them are bonded together.
- have a few dedicated, non GFCI'd single "appliance" outlets for some old amps that would trip a GFCI because of their line filters.
- computer network connections are wireless
- the state was kind enough to install a heavily grounded freestanding 120' metal communication tower about 150' from the shack to welcome lightning.

Chet, N8RA

-----  
Re: Quick poll on what's in your electrical panel  
From: John W2ID  
Date: Tue, 20 Sep 2022 11:10:06 EDT

>>-two 60' tall towers have their own ground rods, not tied into the house rods or each other.

I always thought everything was supposed to be tied together so everything would rise and fall together in unison, always remaining at exactly the same potential, thereby avoiding any potential difference between components, which would cause an arc.

Thanks,

John W2ID

-----  
1c.

Re: Quick poll on what's in your electrical panel

From: David Robbins

Date: Tue, 20 Sep 2022 11:48:48 EDT

True, however... you can not keep the potentials the same over any reasonable distance. Even ground rods tied together with large conductors will develop potential differences due to inductance and charge propagation speed in the soil. It is nice to say that all towers and the entrance are tied together, but in my experience trying to do so over 50' or more isn't worth it... in most cases there will be more larger conductors tying the towers to the entrance point that consist of coax or hardline shields, above ground messenger cables, etc, than you could run underground... and because of propagation speed differences between above ground cables and below ground conductors the voltages won't be equalized anyway.

David Robbins K1TTT

e-mail: <mailto:k1ttt@arrl.net>

web: <http://wiki.k1ttt.net>

AR-Cluster node: <telnet://k1ttt.net:7373>



## 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/>

*From the CWops Reflector with credit to all contributors:*

CWT Speed, Exchange, Opinions

From: Wayne N4FP

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 18:59:38 EDT

I have found 30 wpm to be a very comfortable running speed for me. I send the other station's call with my right handed paddle while entering it into N1MM with my left hand. Then I use F2 and F3. I still make a few mistakes, but it would be worse at higher speeds.

I was separately certified at 40 wpm receiving and sending back around 1960 when I was 17, but,

after 65 years as a ham, I still don't find that speed to be fun in a contest.

I have the option to send my CWT 1090 number as:

.....

or

.....

Guess which I use. Which would you prefer?

CWOPS is a great organization and CWT and CWA are great activities. We can all be proud our support for CWOPS and the free exchange of individual opinions on operating techniques.

73, Wayne, N4FP Ocala, FL

Re: Monsters

From: Mark N5OT - UAND

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 19:11:41 EDT

> Now, if someone asks me what my favorite computer game is, I say N1MM.

Isn't that the truth! I know what you mean. Now that I'm using it with two radios, N1MM is even more like a computer game. Can I say N2IC (who is responsible for much of that) is brilliant?

Interestingly (and to the point), you can make N1MM translate cut numbers on the fly. So even if you type in letters it logs digits.

Or something. I don't really get how it works nor do I care because it is not important to me.

To make my point about the stupidity (which many of you have made just fine already, thanks), N1MM had a different convention for cut numbers than some other guys, which of course resulted in incorrect digits getting logged in some cases.

Translation: That's stupid.

When I explained this to them, then to fix it, they made it so N1MM now will only do some cut numbers, but not all cut numbers. There remains no convention for cut numbers.

So they didn't really fix N1MM, but that would not be possible anyway as long as there is not a universally accepted convention for cut numbers, which there isn't.

Of course, CWT not being an actual contest, I just asked the N1MM team to put me in the autofill file as UAND to save everyone time and effort. I'm sure some people laugh, and some people curse. Most hit ENTER and move on. Those N1MM guys are good sports. It works great. I get asked for my number over again about once a month, or about once every 300-500 QSOs.

I hope the newbies are not put off by a lively debate about detail, accuracy and efficiency.

Mark, N5OT

-----  
Re: Monsters

From: Douglas Zwiebel

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 19:24:41 EDT

OK....this is now just silly.

Should we "ban" sending TU instead of Tnx? Or maybe ban TNX also and you must send Thanks or even thank you?

And what would happen if someone sends a cut number...are they going to be disqualified from CWT? Or maybe banned from cWT....or even EXPELLED from CWOPs?

People do what they want to do. CWT is a FUN activity. Some get their fun by running SO2R or 2BSIQ or QRP. One guy outdoes most using SO2V, but you wouldn't know that unless you actually go into the scores and read the comments. Maybe we need WA7BNM to add a new category for those who send cut numbers?

I am asking members to think about this discussion....really? I never send cut numbers in CWT except back to Mark...which I don't even do any longer.

I had zero idea he was doing UAND as a protest to using cut numbers. Who knew (besides him)?

Anyhow, it is my opinion that "cut numbers" should never be anyone's raison d'être

Get on, make Qs, have fun. Thinking back to 1992: "Can we all get along?"

de Doug KR2Q 438

-----  
Re: Monsters

From: Mark N5OT - UAND

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 19:42:34 EDT

OM, I have commented publicly on multiple occasions that I use UAND to make a point. Others rib me about it here in public on a regular basis. I'm a good sport, well-versed in being the butt of jokes.

The eleven QSOs in 60 minutes is very real. At one point I joked in this forum about auctioning off "good" member numbers for the advantage they could bring! (Sorry, Vic). Leveling the playing field and ironing out inequalities are continual topics of debate in society. I'm not saying it is good or bad, or right or wrong, but the debate itself helps everyone have a better understanding of more factors.

You are correct, in the context of CWT, it's silly. There are contexts where it is less silly.

A club about CW should promote accuracy.

See you on the air!

73 - Mark N5OT

---

Re: Monsters

From: VE9AA - Mike

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 19:55:44 EDT

It \*IS\* silly....

I secretly wish my member number was 55,so at the end of every QSO when they hear "dit dit" that would be cut for both thank you and 55. (essentially a two-fer)

As I said....silly !

(but Mark, some fellas are silly and some , umm, no so much)

;-)

Re: Monsters

From: Pete Smith

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 21:10:19 EDT

Amen, Mike - and I've changed my mind accordingly - from, now on I \*will\* send my serial number in CWTs, realizing that it just doesn't matter, and with over 100 CWTs under my belt, my serial number is well established in the call history file. However, I will continue to oppose exotic cut numbers in any contest where the number matters.

73, Pete N4ZR

Check out the new Reverse Beacon Network web server at <<https://reversebeacon.net>>.

For spots, please use your favorite

"retail" DX cluster.

---

Re: Monsters

From: Bill N5IR

Date: Thu, 15 Sep 2022 21:36:45 EDT

And don't expect 4 digits all the time. I am a 3 digit, and the really OLD guys are 1 digit.

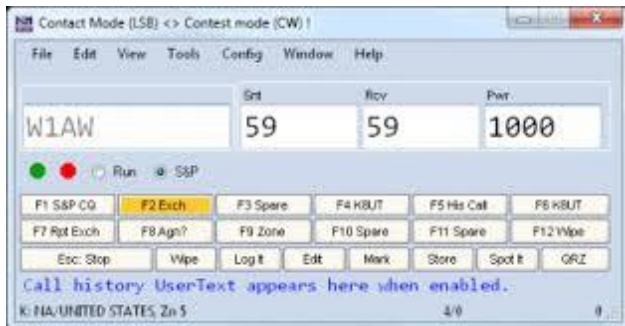
BILL, N5IR

---



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.



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

## Oceana & SS Contest Tip

Tom - N1MM  
Oct 8 #72462

I was calling some over-the-pole stations in the Oceana contest and conditions were not favoring me. I had to call multiple times, so I used a little known feature: Ctl+U. It's perfect for these situations, you keep calling and press Ctl+U to update the serial number until you work him.

Then I remembered the perennial complaint that this works for most serial number contests, but not for SS CW & SSB. So I added that for Tuesday's build. It just appends the new number & prec (if any specified) to the end of the exchange (you

did know you can do that in SS, didn't you?).

It's not a good idea to wait around for other stations to finish working another station in SS, but for antenna-challenged ops, I get it.

Please test before the contest.

Tom - N1MM

---

Robert Edward  
Oct 9 #72471

---

How did I not know that command before? That is exactly what this QRP contester had been wishing for! Thanks, Tom! I think it is time for me to RTFM again. :-)

73/72, Bob NH6O Logger audio instructions  
George VA2EBIOct 10 #72519

I probably asked this question a year ago, but with a 1,029-page user manual I cannot find exactly what I'm looking for. I want to record voice messages for the F1, F2, F3 and F4 keys for CQWW SSB. I found those pages last year and tried--without success at that time--to make and store the recordings. My remote setup has improved in the meantime and I would like to give it another try. Where in the giant manual are the pages describing setting up stored voice messages for SSB contesting?

George VA2EBI

Hi George,  
I think its here:  
<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/setup/function-keys/#special-measures-for-ssb-function-keys>  
My personal experience says that best of all is to record messages with external PC microphone and audio editing program like audacity. You will be able to adjust

amplitude, tempo, cut leading and trailing gaps. Then place wav files to their places, name them accordingly. I can, but never do recording on the fly.

Vytenis LY5T

VE9AA - Mike7:15am #72523

Please note too George, there are 2 ways to record voice messages, depending on your radio and how you wish to approach.

Computer record/playback.

Within the radio itself record/playback.

How you call them up and get them to play is different as well.

GL and CU in CQWW SSB

---



If you didn't find that bargain on computer gear at CARA's Western Connecticut Hamfest, perhaps you could check here:

[www.ctcomputershows.com](http://www.ctcomputershows.com)

---



## 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](mailto:w1qk@snet.net) Capers welcomes and encourages member input.*

## Coming in November Capers:

**W1QK's project to eliminate portable generator hash.  
One effective use of toroids.**



---

**FT-240-43 FT240-43 Toroid Core | Large | 43 Material**

---



## CARA POTA Guidelines

Purpose: To set forth operating guidelines for CARA sanctioned POTA events.

- Those members who plan on bringing their stations shall sign up so the POTA coordinator can set up the operating schedule
- Those members who plan on participating w/o equipment will sign up as an operator
- Multiple stations will coordinate operating conditions and band plan
  - Each station will use the CARA filters for the band assigned
  - Each station shall determine their respective operating mode
  - Stations shall change operating bands each hour, example:
    - First hour of operation: station 1 on 40m; station 2 on 20m; station 3 on 15m; etc.
    - Second hour of operation: station 1 on 15m; station 2 on 40m; station 3 on 20m; etc.
    - Third hour of operation: station 1 on 20m; station 2 on 15m; station 3 on 40m; etc.
    - Repeat
- Use this activation as a means for new or inexperienced hams to get on the air!
- Have fun!!

Approved Friday 8/12/22

