



Capers



December - 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, December 9

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



December 9 Meeting Agenda

Call To Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Business Meeting

Acceptance of Minutes as Published in CAPERS

Treasurers Report

Budget and Dues Revision Vote. Permanent Voting Bylaws revision for electronic voting.

Committee Reports

Repeater: Email System, Darker Fonts.

Web Site:

Membership:

Standing Committee Membership

Old Business

Club Contest Roster from ARRL

Pasta Night Dinner - December 20th 6:00 PM

Hamfest Vendor Certificates

New Business

Ham University Ball Pond Fire House January 7, 9-3 PM.

Winter Field Day Ball Pond Fire House January 28/29.

February Skeleton Sleeve Build at Stony Hill Firehouse.

CWOps Beginner Class in Feb - TBD

Technician Class - TBD

News and Views: Round Robin member forum

Adjournment



President's Message – de W1NSK

T'is the season to be Jolly! Yes, it's that time of year folks. Hope you all get that new radio you want for the holidays!

It's been a long year. Covid has slowly become less of an issue resulting in our in-person meetings at Stony Hill resuming, Winter Field Day, Field Day, Our Ham Fest (New Venue), POTA Activations and a resumption of our annual Christmas Party. Soon to come this winter is a CW Class and hopefully a Technician Class.

This Year's Ham University, sponsored by LIMARC, will once again be held virtually. We will gather at Ball Pond Fire House for a live video stream January 7th from 9 to 3 PM. Many interesting classes will be available. Join Us!

This month's POTA Event was held at Putnam Park in Redding on Sunday the 13th, 12-3 PM. The January event will not be held due to winter weather. However, get ready for Winter Field Day the weekend of January 28/29. This will be held at Ball Pond Firehouse in New Fairfield. Ask how you can help. Help with set up or teardown or both. Have a burger and operate some. Much work needs to be done and we need your help!

The ARRL Ten Meter Contest is scheduled for 48 Hrs. 0000Z start Saturday through Sunday. That's Friday evening at 7PM to 7PM Sunday. A great opportunity for all the Technicians to get on SSB and operate HF on the 28 MHZ Band. Band conditions should be excellent if CQWW last weekend was any indication. Look for openings between Sunrise and Sunset with the highest level of activity. Enjoy! A true worldwide event!

Much has been accomplished this year, from a new venue for our Ham fest to a more formal budgeting process being instituted and an updated dues schedule. But there is more to be done. It is your club. Sign on to a committee, get involved, make new friends, and help spread the workload out so we can do what we have and more! I'll be calling everyone to see how you might want to get more involved.

All the best to you and your families this holiday season!

73

Bud Kozloff - W1NSK
CARA President

Vice- President's Message:
de W1JGM



It's December, and here's my final VP 2022 report. This past year, CARA has had some interesting events, with the finale just around the corner.

I believe that we've made some significant improvements by conducting many varied club activities.

Our monthly gathering for Pasta Night at the Amerigo Vespucci lodge on the third Tuesday of the month has been a wonderful way to informally gather for a reasonably priced meal and good conversation.

POTA - Parks On the Air, has become a huge event on the HF bands. CARA has been activating a local State Park for the past several months, where several of us gathered to operate HF for a few hours while sharing radio fun during a three to five-hour outdoor event. POTA has added some interesting contacts to our logs. For more details on how you can become involved, visit the POTA website at: www.parksontheair.com

Our thanks to CARA Director, John Ahle – W1JMA, for organizing these events. The CARA POTA Guidelines are including at the end of this Capers issue.

Contest season is now upon us.

Several of us have recently tried some ham radio contesting – otherwise known as Radiosport. Be careful because it can become addictive. My latest operations were the CQWPX SSB, a worldwide phone prefix contest, and the annual ARRL SSB Sweepstakes, a North American contest. Separate CW and Phone weekends are conducted for these major events. I added several new countries and Grid Squares towards my award goal totals. If you haven't tried operating a contest, spend an hour or so during the next one. Don't be afraid, even if you might catch the "bug" to operate in more. Ask other CARA members who are active testers – especially those who are members of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club, a New England regional group of world-class operators - I'm sure that they'll help you get started.

The WA7BNM Contest Calendar is at: www.contestcalendar.com Many competitors routinely post their scores to:

<https://www.3830scores.com/index.php>

Linking our Repeater System to the KB1AEV statewide system has been a long-range project. It's almost completed - although not fully operational. The CARA 447.775 MHz. repeater was returned to Spruce Mountain site and is working fine. However, there's an issue with the transmit function of the linking radio, and we're working having it fully functional soon.

As the year draws to a close, we'll again celebrate the season with our annual Holiday gathering. I'm wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays - and let's pray for a wonderful and prosperous 2023.

Thanks - and get on the air.

Remember this is your club!

73

John Morelli - W1JGM

CARA Vice-President



November 11 Monthly Meeting Minutes de Stephanie Fuda

Meeting called to order at 7:40pm by VP John Morelli.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed.

There were 10 people present at Stony Hill FD.

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

Motion made by John A. and second by Charlie S.

New member Chris C. was introduced and a group introduction followed.

Treasurer reported Final Hamfest financial net was \$ 3289.99. One last reimbursement from ARRL for the VE session was expected in the post. John A. makes a motion to buy another \$ 1500 ibond seconded by Harlan and accepted by the group.

John A makes a motion that John or John be authorized to lock in the reservation at the PAL

building for 9/10/23 making the assumption the fee doesn't change. Motion was accepted.

Repeater report: Work on the repeater was carried out by Gregory G., Paulo S. and John M. with the following details:

Install Link antenna hardware, Modify Link control connector for Radio port, Prep / Repair 10-32 rack threads, Install Radio & Link gear, Cable connect Link antenna & polyphasers, reconnect duplexer / antenna, Test Link Control & repeaters, Site tidy up as manpower is available, Seal roof rRust spots with epoxy.

Membership:

John M. mentioned there was a prospect of two new members but didn't have details to share at the time.

Budget and Dues review:

John A, gave the following proposed budget and recommended dues structure per the requirements of the review board deliverables:

Base budget for 2023

- Field day - \$250 for supplies and does not include food, food will be self-funding
- Winter Field Day - \$250 for supplies and does not include food, food will be self-funding
- Repeater -\$500 for ongoing repairs and maintenance
- Administration - \$1200 Insurances, post office, printing, donations

Total \$2200

Members: 60

Approximate number of current full members

Proposed Dues: \$35

Associate non-voting membership: \$15

Eliminate and delete section of policy relating to the 50% senior discount.

Discussion regarding the changes focused on three main points:

- How to communicate the changes effectively to the voting body, it's fairness and recognition status.
- The removal of the senior discount for membership.
- Are the annual budgets going to be the driver for dues fees going forward

Voting by email was the proposed method to get these changes in front of as many voting members as possible, with a preliminary email going out to advise members of the upcoming vote and then seven days in which the vote could be cast.

This was the procedure added to the bylaws as an emergency amendment during the Covid pandemic and never rescinded and was felt to be fair.

Also, those present wanted to make sure that those who were not able to physically attend had an opportunity to participate.

John M. then suggested a special email account dedicated for the collection of the votes.

The removal of the discounted membership for seniors saw opposition by some members present as a deterrent to the retention of some of the membership, and it was recognized that we may lose some members based on this change.

John A. did state that the proposed budget did take into account this attrition.

The last question was if the annual budget would drive the dues fees going forward, to which the answer is "yes."

While we strive to keep the dues as low as possible, in order to run the club in a healthy way that provides the same high-value engagement, the dues fees must reflect the cost of operation.

A vote was taken to submit the proposed budget, dues, and policy changes to the larger voting body of CARA:

- 1 against
- 1 abstain
- 8 Yes

The motion carries.

Old Business

POTA – Sunday noon Putnam park
Dan F. and John M. to coordinate on a final design and sending of certificates of recognition to the companies who made donations to the HAM-Fest

Pasta Night – 6:00 pm Tuesday, December 20 at Vespucci Lodge

New Business

CARA holiday party at Armando's with participants from the NARA club, 25 needed to book back room

Winter field day – January, 2023
Ball pond fire dept as the location – good news, the AC was fixed and includes heat.

Dan – Motion to vote on events as part of the club schedule so they are officially sanctioned events to be covered under the club's insurance.

A motion was made and seconded to hold the winter field day at Ball Pond Fire house. Seconded and passed by the attending body.

Followed by Round Robin.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Fuda

Thank you, Stephanie for taking and submitting these meeting minutes – Capers Editor

November Monthly Planning Meeting Minutes – Held December 2

de CARA Secretary, Gary Adams – N1GSA



There were 10 people present. This was a TEAMS only meeting, in place of the regular planning meeting due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

There was discussion about the email voting.

Electronic meetings and voting were included in the Policies and Procedures as of the last amendment. There was some confusion regarding the terminology of temporary status. As this was originally proposed to cover the problems arising from COVID. This has never been removed, neither was it given a timeline or ending date.

There were 27 ballots received with 24 being in favor and 3 against the new dues structure and budget.

The Executive Committee will meet to discuss additional changes to the By-Laws regarding limiting the use of electronic voting.

It was suggested that we update our email addresses that are used. The link that is presently on the website reportedly does not work. There are also emails for the executive officers that are presently being used. Stef will look into this.

Bud suggested that any new applicant for membership given a list of our committees and if they have interest in participating on any of these. This is not to force participation on anyone but to inform them of the possibilities and options available.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary



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

CARA Repeater Work party –
November 12
Pix de Gregory Davis – WR1Z



Massimo Delessandro – KC1OSQ installing the 440 FM link antenna to the side of the repeater equipment container during a recent repeater work session.

CARA POTA Event - November 13
Putnam Memorial Park, Redding
Pix de Susan Mulvey – KC1QVE



CARA POTA operator fuel - de KC1QVE



W1QH – “Just a boy and his radio”

CARA Pasta Night – November 15
Pix de Susan Mulvey – KC1QVE



KB1ZAC's "POTA Pie"





The CW Operators' Club

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/>

CW Training class Opportunity:

CARA members, Dan Fegley – W1QK (CWops Lifetime Member #1506) and Roger Mitchell – NG1R (Cwops Lifetime Member #2087) are attempting to make arrangements with the CWops CW Academy Administration so they can conduct a CW training class based on the CWops Beginner training curriculum. **This proposed class may start in January.**

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

For the beginner

1. Want to communicate with fellow hams around the world using even a modest rig and antenna?
2. Want to stay in touch when on vacation to some remote area where you don't have access to a repeater or cell phone service?
3. Want to meet a whole new community of amateurs that share a common bond?
4. Want to expand your operating capabilities with little or no cost?

If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions, then becoming skilled in CW is the answer. CW Academy is the means for you to learn a new skill that will open a world of fun and opportunity.

For those that want something new but are not confident to take the plunge

1. I love chasing DX and I want to try something new.
2. I like contesting and would like to be better at CW radiosport.
3. I've tried CW learning aids, but nothing seems to work for me.
4. CW intrigues me but I'm worried about the challenge.

If this sounds like you, then this special CWops CW Academy is absolutely right for you and is available to CARA members.

There is no cost or obligation to participate in this special CWops CW Academy class and membership is not required. Enrollment will be open to anyone in CARA with the desire to learn Morse Code.

CWops and CW Academy training and mentoring for Beginners and those with Morse Code experience needing is offered three times a year, in two-month increments: Jan-Feb; May-Jun; Sep-Oct by the CWOps CW Academy. There's usually a waiting list for the publicly-offered classes.

CW Academy is a program put on by the CW Operators' Club aimed at increasing the number of competent CW operators on the HF CW sub-bands. It addresses all levels of enthusiasts: from those aspiring to become licensed operators who want to learn and use Morse code; to veteran operators who are intent on increasing their CW skills, speed and activity.

CW Academy semester description:

Eight-weeks long and held three times per year (Jan-Feb, May-Jun and Sep-Oct).

The proposed CARA Cwops course may be conducted with twice-weekly sessions on Tuesday's and Thursday's each week - starting at 7:30 PM and will run for an hour.

CARA's students will be given daily assignments prior to each meeting, and the twice weekly meetings will be held online using the TEAMS platform.

During these online meetings, students and advisors can all see and hear each other, as well as the Morse being sent by any of them. Using TEAMS creates, in effect, a virtual training room.

CARA CW Beginner Class Participant requirements:

Minimum essentials:

- High speed broadband internet access
- Access to Windows operating system or capable emulation
- Computing device (desktop, laptop)
- Webcam (camera, microphone) either built-in or USB add-on
- Key paddle (single lever or dual lever)
- Keyer with sidetone or radio with built-in keyer and sidetone
- Dedication to 60 minutes of daily practice

Dan and Roger have requested that those who participate and demonstrate acceptable performance will receive a standard CWops Certificate of Completion and be eligible to continue their study as a CWOps CW Academy Student.

There are now four levels of CWops CW Academy courses:

Beginner – Limited or no prior experience with Morse Code

Class Objectives:

- Learn Morse Code characters (letters, numbers, and some punctuation)
- Learn to head copy and send Morse Code
- Learn on-air protocols of a basic QSO
- Use skills for on-air basic QSOs
- Learn Morse Code to 6 wpm plus

The proposed local CARA class will attempt to follow the curriculum and schedule of the CWOps **Beginner** class that's publicly conducted.

After obtaining approval from the CWops CW Academy Administrator, we will announce the registration procedure.

CARA members in good standing (paid dues) will be given first opportunity to register for this 6 - week class, which will be conducted twice per week via MS Teams.

Enrollment in the CARA CWops Beginner class will be on a First Come – First Served basis with a **maximum class size of 10 students** based on the time and date of application.

NARA members in good standing, then CT ARES Region 5 members will have second and third options if seats are available.

No straight keys will be used for this class, since the purpose is to emphasize learning the code by pattern recognition while the elements of letters, numbers and punctuation are electronically created precisely and repeatably.



CWops advises that students must be willing to commit the time and effort to practice

between sessions to ensure progression. Athletes, plus those studying music and dance recognize the importance of daily practice and review to achieve success.



Ham Radio Christmas Card Rudolph... by Brownielocks

Zazzle



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

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

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



- 3830scores.com
- [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)
- [Web-to-Cabrillo Forms](#)
- [Live Scores Distribution Server](#)

Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

- Dec. 9: Monthly Business Meeting. Stony Hill FD, Bethel. In-person only, no TEAMS component
- Dec. 9-11: ARRL 10 Meter contest
- Dec. 12: CT ARES Region 5 South meeting
- Dec. 20: CARA Pasta Night dinner at the Italian American Club – Danbury 6:00 pm
- Dec. 17-18: Stew Perry 160M Top Band Distance Challenge contest
- Dec. 23: CARA Monthly Planning meeting
- Dec. 26: CT ARES Region 5 meeting
- Dec. 31 ARRL Straight Key Night
- Dec. 7, 14, 21,28: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)

January 6, January 2023 Capers input deadline to w1qk@snet.net



Thanks for your support,
Bruce, WA7BNM

Editor:

CARA voted at our November meeting to support Bruce with these websites for the second year with a \$50 contribution.

This is how some of your dues funds and our Hamfest profits are used to benefit the amateur radio community.

Use this link to access the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:

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



Donations

Creating and maintaining ham radio contest-related web sites takes time and can be expensive. It requires purchasing/renting robust servers and paying for network traffic. After retiring in 2016, I decided to accept contributions once a year during the month of December. Unfortunately, they are not tax deductible.

If you'd like to support the web sites listed below, please click on the Donate button. You can elect to make either a one-time donation, or a monthly one. Either will be appreciated.



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

2022 Ham Exam Schedule



Wallingford CT 06492-6232

12/10/2022

Sponsor: Meriden Amateur Radio Club

Date: Dec 10 2022

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

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

Email: mitdon982@gmail.com

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](http://www.arrl.org)

Location: Hope Hill Firehouse
143 Hope Hill Rd
Wallingford CT 06492-6232

Upcoming 2022 Amateur radio exams:

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

[CARA Members] Montana PBS did a very nice program on ham radio

Mark Gilbert via

CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org>Unsubscribe

To: Cara@cararadioclub.org

Fri, Dec 2 at 3:52 PM

<https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham/>

"HAM" - A UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA DOCUMENTARY

NOVEMBER 29, 2022 K0STK COMMENT ABOUT THIS POST
[This 25 minute documentary](#) begins in 1983 with NASA Astronaut [Owen K. Garriott W5LFL \(SK\)](#) calling CQ with an HT over the US West Coast from the Space Shuttle Columbia, a brief pile-up, and his first contact from orbit: WA1JXM from Montana.

The story *fast forwards* to 2022 where we meet four Montana Hams—Lance WA1JXM, Mike [K7MSO](#), Dennis [KR7Q](#), and Keith [NE7R](#)—and learn about their backgrounds and how they are involved in the hobby.

Featuring stunning Montana landscapes and tasteful shack and rig photography, the documentary includes discussions of 6M Moonbounce, POTA, DXpeditions (including footage from Clipperton Island), and FT8, along with many well chosen images. And archival footage of salient quotes from Vic Clark W4KFC, former ARRL President, and a young David Sumner K1ZZ, former ARRL CEO.

There's even the obligatory commentary on CW vs phone operators.

The documentary concludes with a very accurate summarization of Ham Radio from WA1JMX, "[it is] a wonderful way to bring the world together."

Viewers who watch to the end of the closing credits will see that the film makers did understand their subject matter.

📺 [Watch the documentary](#) on the Montana PBS website.

About The Show

This documentary was produced by students in the [School of Journalism](#) and the [School of Visual & Media Arts](#) at the [University of Montana](#). It was presented by [Montana PBS](#) on November 24, 2022.

The Montana PBS page for this documentary says:

Join us as we investigate the culture of Montana Amateur Radio Operators, or "hams", as they recount their admiration for the global Amateur Radio community. This niche hobby has produced long-lasting friendships between radio enthusiasts around the globe, and has been a pastime of choice for much of their lives. Produced as part of a new Certificate in Documentary Film program, by students in the School of Journalism and the School of Visual & Media Arts at the University of Montana, this short film takes an in-depth look at the particular ways in which amateur radio enthusiasts remain active both locally and globally. [1](#)

1. "HAM", Montana PBS, accessed November 29 2022, <https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham/>. ↩
Source: content/post/2022/ham-a-umsoj-mtpbs-documentary.md

FW: Re: [FOC-members] HAM documentary from MT PBS

From: Jim N3JT

Date: Mon, 05 Dec 2022 17:25:02 EST

From: David K1ZZ <dsumner@arrl.org>

To: FOC-members@groups.io

Subject: Re: [FOC-members] HAM documentary from MT PBS

Thanks, Ulis. It's interesting to see that my 30-something self got 15 seconds of fame in Montana.

73,Dave K1ZZ

From: FOC-members@groups.io <FOC-members@groups.io> On Behalf Of Ulis, K3LU

Sent: Monday, December 05, 2022 2:11 PM

To: FOC-members@groups.io

Subject: [FOC-members] HAM documentary from MT PBS

I just stumbled upon a recent 2022 very well made half hour documentary about the culture of amateur radio made by Montana Public Broadcasting. I hadn't seen it mentioned anywhere before but it's definitely worth sharing since it mentions our beloved mode and even features a younger K1ZZ. This is the kind of video you could show anyone who knows very little about amateur radio as it doesn't get lost with a lot of technical mumbojumbo.

Here are two links to watch it on in case it doesn't work outside of the USA

<https://www.montanapbs.org/programs/ham/>

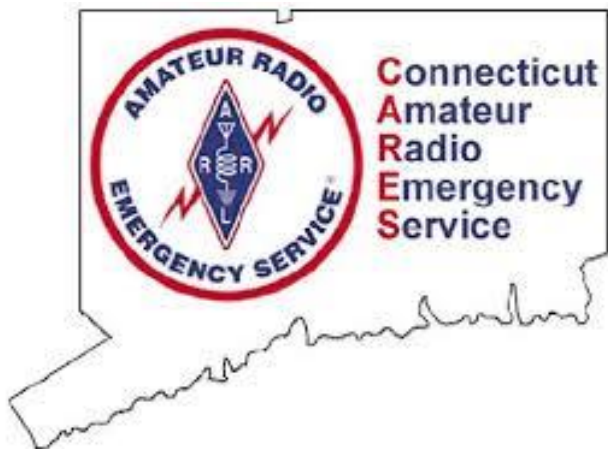
<https://youtu.be/3gc3mewa9gE>

Enjoy!

161,Ulis, K3LU



The CT ARES Region 5 Simulated Emergency Test was held on Saturday, November 19, 2022. Thank you if you participated. Results and comments will be discussed during the next CT ARES Region 5 and CT ARES Region 5 South meetings.



Next CT ARES Winlink Wednesday:
Wednesday, December 7, 2022

George as you know was extremely active—president of NARL, DEC, SEC, active in BEARS of Manchester, attended several cabinet meetings at the Division level even when I was SM; he's done that for years. He was active in the NTS nets and net control on several especially WESCONN and Nutmeg.

George will be very much missed. I'm sure further word will go out soon.

Vy 73,
Betsey Doane
Assistant SM



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

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

Very Sad News

Betsey Doane <k1eic@att.net>Unsubscribe

To:ct-ares@groups.io

Fri, Nov 18 at 12:45 PM

Our SEC George, AB1GL is a silent key. He passed away either last night or early morning; just got word. I have no further details except to say that his medical issues that he referenced on the net a few weeks ago were more serious than he realized.

"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

**MAY Santa
Find A Way**



No worries... Our boys, CW and CQ aren't allowed outside near the antennas nor towers.

Happy Holidays
de W1QK – WA1KRG – CW and CQ.

*Looking forward to a
successful new year for Ham
Radio and CARA.*

*We hope you enjoy these highlights of
previous Christmas Wonderland
Holiday Lighting displays
at W1QK - WA1KRG.*

*The term “Christmas Wonderland”,
was created by Jay Albano - N1NRP
(SK), the first time he viewed it.*

Jay just loved Christmas.

*The name continues in his honor and
memory...*





For Brookfield Residents: Home for the Holidays Light Tour

Let's light up the Town! Join the fun by decorating your home with an outdoor light display for others to enjoy from the comfort of their cars. A map will be created with the locations of participating homes throughout Brookfield. Lights will be on display each evening from 5:00 – 9:00pm, Monday December 12th through Sunday December 25th . To register your home, or to receive a map, email brookfieldartscommissionct@gmail.com or call 203-775-7310 by 12/7. Brought to you by the Brookfield Arts Commission and Brookfield Parks & Recreation. Please consider passing on the kindness of your Brookfield neighbors who decorate their homes by making a donation in support of the Brookfield Food Pantry.



Our *Christmas Wonderland* was inspired by many visits to Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA (just west of Philadelphia) to view their “A Longwood Christmas”. It's well worth the trip to visit this annual spectacle of lights, and waterfall displays synchronized to music. Longwood has one of the world's most renowned pipe organs too.

<https://longwoodgardens.org/gardens/our-seasons/longwood-christmas>



The Art of Christmas

This holiday season, we showcase botanical splendor at its finest. Our horticulture artists use plants as their palette to create an extraordinary display of floating floral designs, festive trees draped in gilded garland, gardens of bold blooms, an extravagant floral shop dressed for the holidays, and so much more.

Outside, gaze upon botanically inspired light displays, explore enchanting treehouses, savor the sounds of the season, and find new imaginative surprises that are sure to delight.

We have Christmas down to an art.



Photos: W1QK

Today's Events

10:00 AM – 11:00 PM

[A Longwood Christmas](#)

10:00 AM – 11:00 PM

[Garden Railway](#)

10:15 AM, 12:00 PM – 11:00 PM

[Open Air Theatre Fountain Shows](#)

2:00 PM – 10:00 PM

[Organ Music](#)



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 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.

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>

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!](#)



About ARRL:

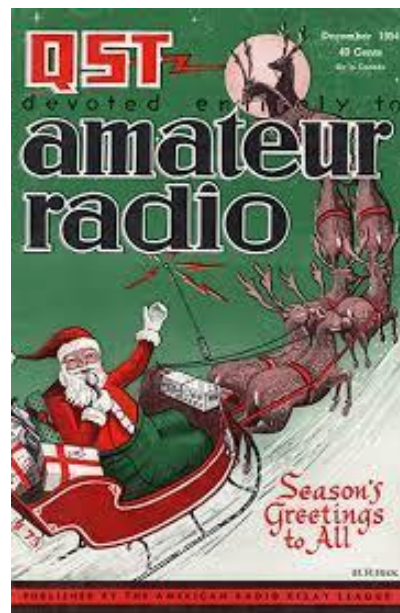
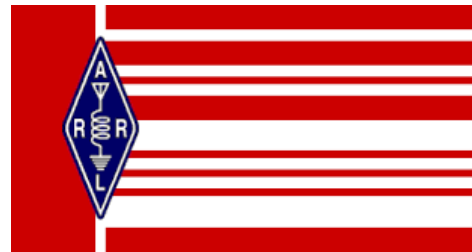
Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with more than 161,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. ARRL's mission is based on five pillars: Public Service, Advocacy,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

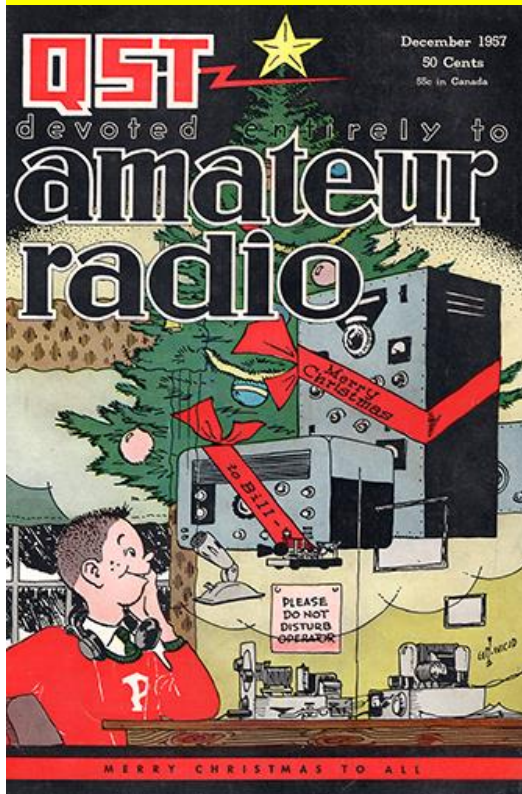
ARRL -- Your One-Stop Resource for Amateur Radio News and Information

- [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





Source: YCCC Reflector – Credit to all contributors

Disappearing DXCC entity

From: N2WQ

Date: Fri, 18 Nov 2022 11:06:50 EST

This is pretty sad.

<https://www.news.com.au/technology/environment/climate-change/we-have-no-choice-nation-forced-into-metaverse-as-it-disappears/news-story/d05b51abda47891ce913041d15741ba2>

1b. Re: Disappearing DXCC entity

From: Dick Lindzen

Date: Fri, 18 Nov 2022 11:41:21 EST

Read the piece carefully. Tuvalu will be around much longer than we will.

1c.

Re: Disappearing DXCC entity

From: N2WQ

Date: Fri, 18 Nov 2022 11:58:03 EST

Sadly Tuvalu is not the only Pacific island that is disappearing. There was another island, the name escapes me, that vanished 2 years ago and the inhabitants had to relocate. Can't do much about sea levels going up.

Rudy N2WQ

<https://www.news.com.au/technology/environment/climate-change/we-have-no-choice-nation-forced-into-metaverse-as-it-disappears/news-story/d05b51abda47891ce913041d15741ba2>



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/>

2a.

Big gun or small pistol?

From: Arthur Bernstein

Date: Fri, 18 Nov 2022 11:35:03 EST

My shack is just beyond. Self-explanatory!
Art., N2KA

Attachments



Editor –

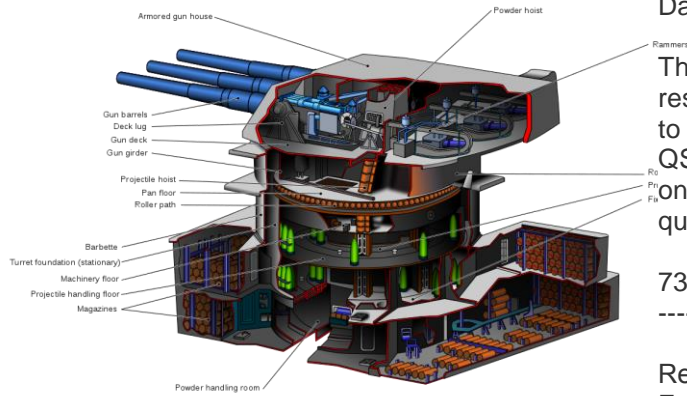
The ham radio community refers to a station with equipment capable of producing a very potent signal on the band as a “Big Gun”, which is the inspiration for the following images and video link.

I was curious enough to search for, then find these pix and link to a short video clip showing these awesome battleship USS Wisconsin guns being fired.

Conversely, a station using minimal equipment and/or compromised antennas is called a “Little Pistol”.

Many amateurs enjoy the extreme challenge that low power (QRP) operating provides and make up the difference in power with highly effective antennas and/or operator skill.





Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2022 21:57:56 EST

The pickup window at these fast food places has a resemblance to our packet pileups: the people too lazy to get out of their cars wait forever in line to make a QSO, er, a purchase, while the old timers who go out on their own to walk into the store get in and out much quicker.

73 - Jim K8MR

Re: McDonald's SO2R
 From: Kirk Kridner
 Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2022 22:20:18 EST
 LoL - great analogy

Kirk Kridner, KV5Q
 Frisco, Texas
 kridner@sbcglobal.net



<https://www.businessinsider.com/uss-wisconsin-last-guns-cannons-battleship-war-2018-1#watch-them-in-action-in-the-short-video-below-9>

3c.
 Re: McDonald's SO2R
 From: Dave K1VUT
 Date: Sat, 12 Nov 2022 00:15:47 EST
 At my local fast food place, going in doesn't help much. I see the workers behind the counter looking at a band map, and my Qso is waiting behind all the others, including the ones who are outside in the auto packet line. Worse yet, I have to stand while waiting, which is murder on my legs after a while - sort of like waiting for net control to say "VUT, make your call now" while I swing the beam away from West to South East.

Dave K1VUT

Re: RFI Faucet
 From: Keith Dutton NM5G
 Date: Mon, 21 Nov 2022 23:27:38 EST
 Who was it recommending type 31 split beads on the faucet power lead. Pat yourself on the back. It works!

Actually, I discovered a minor leak under the ham shack sink this evening and had to make a repair. So, I climbed under there, and while there wrapped the battery wires three times around one bead, then wrapped the single wire attached to the faucet two times around a smaller bead. Voila! No more RFI faucet problem, even running 1500 watts on 40 meters tonight during the 0300 MST. Hooray. Now to fix the faucet in the main house for the XYL.



The CW Operators' Club
cwops.org

From the CWops Reflector:

Re: McDonald's SO2R

From: Jim Stahl

BTW, worked John Crovelli in Aruba (P44W), and later worked Nico Vermeer in the Netherlands (PA4NIC), both on 40 meters.

73, Keith NM5G

Editor: More fun with ferrites.

I do a lot of baking, so decided to purchase and install a new touch operated faucet for the kitchen sink in the ham shack. It works great, allowing washing hands without messing with the faucet handle. However, I recently discovered the faucet turns on when I transmit power on 20 meters. Also, my XYL decided she wanted one of these faucets for the main kitchen and informed me that her faucet behaved erratically one evening when I was operating CW on 80 meters with 800 watts.

Anyone know how to shield a touch faucet? The model I have is Delta Faucet Leland Touch Kitchen Faucet. It is powered by 6 AA batteries. The battery pack is connected to the valve via a pair of wires about 3 feet in length. There is also a single wire about two feet in length connecting the valve to the faucet.

Thanks for any advice.

73, Keith NM5G #2570
Attachments:



Nice QRQ practice app: Ditto CW player

From: Mike M0AGP

Date: Sat, 19 Nov 2022 06:46:51 EST

For anyone out there wants to practice any aspects of their CW copying, Ditto CW Player is a free app that I can recommend.

I have no connection with the app or the developer so not trying to sell it (it is free anyway).

Morse Code Ninja, has a website and YouTube presence and has a giant number of practice files - even one for the CWT exchange!

But when I do my CW practice on the train, I didn't find it convenient to use (internet connection).

Billy WB1LLY created what amounts to an app version of Morse Code Ninja (which I think is fully open source) that is very convenient to use when out and about.

There is no internet connection needed to use the app. Another plus is that Morse Code Ninja materials are limited to 50 wpm, but this app is not.

I can't hold a conversational QSO at 50 wpm (!) but I am exploring my "one word" limits and copy at 90% or higher accuracy at that speed, so it's no longer helpful to practice there.

Fortunately it seems that Ditto can go as high as you want and you can put in any speed (like 200 wpm!) and it will do it.

Support is excellent. The app was initially slightly chopping off the first part of the first character (on my phone at least), and I mentioned it to Billy. This amounted to losing the first dit at 50 wpm. Within 24 hours he added a slight delay at the start and now it sounds perfect to me!

Anyway, I found this very exciting so thought to pass it on.

CW 4 ever!
73, Mike M0AGP

Re: Nice QRQ practice app: Ditto CW player
From: Douglas Zwiebel
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 2022 06:56:18 EST

Just fyi...

According to the National Center for Voice and Speech, the average conversation rate for English speakers in the United States is about 150 wpm. Nov 8, 2022

So at 50wpm, you are way less than normal average conversation. Room to improve!

GL 😊
de Doug KR2Q

Re: Nice QRQ practice app: Ditto CW player
From: Mike, KT5C #3022

Date: Sat, 19 Nov 2022 07:46:27 EST

Just downloaded it. It is excellent. Thanks! And great job Billy
Also, thanks Billy for the Q's I'm CWT

Re: <https://www.3830scores.com>
From: Michael Goltz N8DNA
Date: Fri, 02 Dec 2022 16:47:39 EST
Same here Mike!

I just sent Bruce some \$Christmas cheer! We need that website. We all would be "up the creek" if he shut down the website AND the Cabrillo forms for the various contests (and his other activities). Merry Christmas Bruce--- your work is appreciated!
Mike N8DNA

Re: <https://www.3830scores.com>

From: VE9AA - Mike
Date: Fri, 02 Dec 2022 17:30:03 EST
On Fri, Dec 2, 2022 at 05:47 PM, Michael Goltz N8DNA wrote:
Same here Mike!

CWops donation or no CWops donation I support Bruce every December by giving a nice donation.

I get great value from the WA7BNM calendar.

I enjoy the 3830 reports post-contest almost as much as the contest itself.

Where else could you read about every elses' experience in the contest?
(and where else could I post my sometimes funny, sad or weird stories at? (hi)

Tnx for the bandwidth for once again encouraging any contesters here to give a little \$\$ to support Bruce, his servers, webpages, software and whatever else he needs to support US.

73

AA4WW, SK

From: Dwight, KM4FO

Date: Fri, 02 Dec 2022 13:56:41 EST

I just learned that Matt Hollins, AA4WW, nr 2650 has lost his battle with cancer. Keep his family in your prayers.

Re: AA4WW, SK

From: Douglas Zwiebel

Date: Fri, 02 Dec 2022 14:36:17 EST

I just hate these announcements...not the announcements in and of themselves, but that they are appropriate because of another SK

Makes us all look in the mirror a little more closely.

Re: AA4WW, SK

From: John Paul // AB4PP

Date: Fri, 02 Dec 2022 15:38:45 EST

For sure it makes us think!

I have lost 6 fellow Troopers I worked with just this last month.

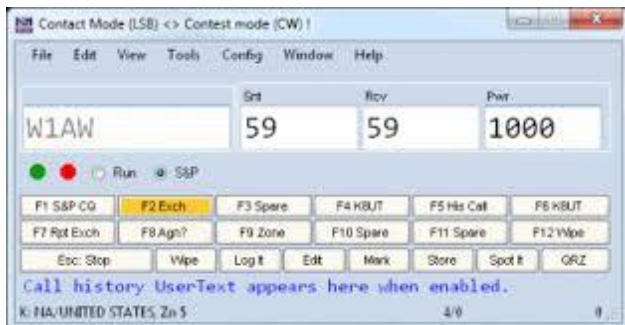
e all need to remember that tomorrow is not promised and make the best of every day we have on this earth. Blessings to all. See you on the air.

de John Paul // AB4PP // CWOPS # 2572-----



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/>

From the N1MM Reflector:

Re: Streamdeck for N1MM

From: Steve K8JQ

Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2022 16:41:04 EST

Harv,

The N1MMLogger+ online manual describes "four (or more, up to 36) programmable message or radio control buttons" near the top of the bandmap.

Can the StreamDeck be used to activate these buttons?

Steve, K8JQ

2c.

Re: Streamdeck for N1MM

From: Harv - K2PI

Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2022 20:17:26 EST

Hi Steve: Absolutely. I just created one that sent "73", and then added it to the bandmap. I then put my cursor on it, and the popup said that the shortcut was CTRL-ALT-SHIFT-0. A button was easily created You can program any key sequence in to this Stream Deck, so that would be a piece of cake. Cool part is you could of course make all 32 across 3 pages on the 15 button version, but could also have some of them that are toggles. One button press it says 73, the next press it says QRZ, so you could probably reduce the number of buttons needed. Worked perfectly. Here is what it looked like on-screen.

Members] pota and n1mn
att.net/Inbox

Vincent Tompkins via CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org>Unsubscribe
To:CARA

Wed, Nov 23 at 5:21 PM

https://groups.io/g/N1MMLoggerPlus/topic/best_way_for_logging_pot/32002575?p=

From: CARA <cara-bounces@cararadioclub.org> On Behalf Of David Teagarden via CARA

Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 4:24 PM

To: CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org>

Subject: [CARA Members] pota and n1mn

Does any one know where you can get a plug for PoTa on n1mn. I normal just use HAMR. but exploring something.

David KB1ZAC

Looks like Vinny beat me to it;

N1MMLoggerPlus@groups.io | Best way for logging POTA

I personally just use a general DX log for logging POTA contacts in N1MM Logger +.

73, W1QK



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

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 Capers welcomes and encourages member input.

Re: [CARA Members] Jim Ritterbusch

Fri, Dec 2 at 1:15 PM

Dear CARA members,

I'm hoping this reaches those responsible for sending the delicious giftbox from Harry & David to me, Jim Ritterbusch's wife Jo.

It was lovely of you all to think of me at this difficult time. Jim so much enjoyed everything ham radio related, whether it involved his new club here in Lexington or still keeping up with the Connecticut hams.

Thank you all so much for remembering my Jim. May you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Jo Ritterbusch

*On Oct 27, 2022, at 4:03 PM, Mark Gilbert <1markgilbert@gmail.com> wrote:
Jo, Let me echo what John is saying below. Jim is a great guy and I always have enjoyed chatting with him at the radio club events. Our best wishes and prayers go out to you. Mark*

*On Thu, Oct 27, 2022 at 3:58 PM John Morelli via CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org> wrote:
Jo, I am so sorry to hear of this. I sent you my prayers that Jim will be in peace. I've only known Jim for about eight years but he has become a mentor and a friend. God bless both of you.*

*John G. Morelli (W1JGM)
VP Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA)
Chairman; Western Connecticut Hamfest
WWW.CARAradioclub.org
203-417-0160*

On Oct 27, 2022, at 15:38

To Jim's friends,

He entered hospice care yesterday. He will be with the angels soon.

Mrs. Jo Ritterbusch

On Oct 25, 2022, at 6:18 PM, Dan Fegley <w1qk@snet.net> wrote:
Oh my!

I'm so very sad to hear this update Jo.

I will advise fellow CARA members.

Our prayers are with Jim and you.

Dan



A package containing this item arrived from the ARRL in early November.
W1QK + NG1R; 2021 New England Division Winner – Multioperator Low Power SSB



de W1SMS:

GXP HF yagi antenna Steve Simons ssimons@manitousys.com

Here is some info on the GXP yagi that I'll install this summer.

The image is looking through the assembled antenna (on its assembly stand) looking up at the top of the rotating tower. This antenna will be attached to the side of the tower just above the top guy ring.

The two yagis already mounted on the top of the tower are 8-element 50MHz and a 33-element 432 MHz yagis.

73,
Steve



The W1SMS station build has picked up speed this fall with a few new antlers gracing the top of the tower.

The yagi lineup in the pix are at the tower top are:

33ele/432MHz @ top

9ele/50MHz @ middle

17ele/HF 3ele/7MHz, 4ele/14 & 21MHz and, 6ele/28MHz @ bottom

Please enjoy the attached pix as the work continues.

de: W1SMS





Newtown Fire house.

John Morelli via CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org>

To: cara@cararadioclub.org

Thu, Nov 17 at 11:42 PM

They took the old fire house down.

Photos from Facebook Newtown Hook and ladder page







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



August 2022 CARA Standing Committees

Repeater Chair: Greg Davis: WR!Z
John Morelli, W1JGM
Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV
Charles Setaro, KC1IBR
Dan Fegley, W1QK

Sunday CARA Net Chair: David Teagarden, KB1ZAC
Charles Setaro, KC1IBR
John Kerwick, KD2VUP

Website John Ahle, W1JMA
Roger Mitchell, NG1R
Stephanie Fuda

Hamfest Chair: John Morelli, W1JGM & John Ahle, W1JMA
Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV
Bud Kozloff, W1NSK

Membership Chair: John Morelli: W1JGM

Programs: Bud Kozloff, W1NSK
Marcus Swearingen, AB1WV

CARA Capers Dan Fegley, W1QK

Social Media Asuna Gilfoyle, W2FUR

Youth Comm: Keith Iwanicki, W1KRI

OPEN Development
Events: Christmas Party, Winter Field Day

CARA Proposed Calender of Events - 2023

January	7th	Ham University, Ball Pond Firehouse (Virtual), New Fairfield, CT 9-3 PM
	13th	Monthly CARA Meeting, Stony Hill Firehouse, Bethel, CT 7:30PM
	17	Spaghetti Dinner. Vespucci Lodge, Danbury, CT 6PM
	23	Planning Meeting, Stony Hill Fire House, Bethel, CT 7:30PM
	28/29	Winter Field Day. Ball Pond Fire House. New Fairfield, CT
February	10	Monthly CARA Meeting. Stony Hill Firehouse, Bethel, CT 7:30PM
	?	Learn CW Class: TBD
	21	Spaghetti Dinner. Vespucci Lodge, Danbury, CT 6PM
	?	Skeleton Sleeve Antenna Build: TBD
	23	Planning Meeting. Stony Hill Firehouse. Bethel, CT
March	10	Monthly CARA Meeting. Stony Hill Firehouse. Bethel, CT 7:30PM
	?	Field Day Planning Meeting: TBD
	?	Technician Class: TBD
	21	Spaghetti Dinner. Villa Vespucci Lodge. Danbury, CT. 6PM
	24	Planning Meeting. Stony Hill Fire House. Bethel, CT 7:30PM
April	14	CARA Monthly Meeting. Stony Hill Firehouse. Bethel, CT 7:30 PM
	?	Field Day Planning Mtg. TBD
	?	Ham Fest Planning Mtg. TBD
	18	Spaghetti Dinner. Villa Vespucci Lodge. Danbury, CT. 6PM
	28	Planning Mtg. Stony Hill Firehouse. Bethel, CT 7:30PM
May	7	NEQP CARA W1AW Operation. ARRL HQ. Newington, CT
	12	Monthly CARA Mtg. Stony Hill Firehouse. Bethel, CT
	16	Spagetti Dinner. Villa Vespucci Lodge. Danbury, CT
	?	Field Day Planning Meeting TBD
	?	Ham Fest Planning Meeting TBD
	26	Planning Mtg. Stony Hill Fire House. Bethel, CT
June	9	CARA Monthly Mtg. Stony Hill Fire House. Bethel, CT 7:30 PM
	?	Field Day Planning Mtg. TBD
	?	Ham fest Planning Mtg. TBD
	20th	Spagetti Dinner. Villa Vespucci Lodge. Danbury, CT
	23-24	ARRL Field Day TBD.
	30	Planning Comm. Mtg. Stony Hill FireHouse. Bethel, CT 7:30PM