





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, February 10

This meeting will be conducted in-person at the Stony Hill Fire Dept. in Bethel. Real door opens at 7:00 pm, gavel at 7:30 pm.



CARA Winter Field Day report on page 22



Bouvet Island DX-Pedition links on page 10

February 10 Meeting Agenda

Pledge of Allegiance

Business Meeting

Acceptance of Minutes as Published in CAPERS

Treasurers Report

Committee Reports

Repeater

Old Business

On Site Meetings at Stony Hill

Sander Pool "Radio Box"

Parks On the Air March?

New Business

Amendment for \$500 voting threshold

Spending vote: \$125 for misc. Field Day Supplies.

Membership Drive Committee

Adjournment

News and Views: Round Robin members forum



President's Message – de W1NSK

As we move into the heart of a New England Winter, I hope everyone is well and warm!

We had a successful Winter Field Day the weekend of the 28/29th. Many contacts were made, good club participation with some seldom seen faces, and an enjoyable time had by all. Special thanks to Susie and Dave for the food provided!

The CW Class for February has been temporarily postponed and the Skeleton Sleeve Seminar delayed. Stay tuned for rescheduling.

Three Big contests this month: CQ WPX RTTY on 11/12 and CQ WW SSB 160 on the 25/26th. The Big one is ARRL CW DX Contest the weekend of the 18th and 19th. Many opportunities to work DX and that DXCC Award.

The popular monthly informal Spaghetti dinner is on the 21st at the Villa Vespucci Lodge in Danbury at 6PM. Join us!

This year's annual Field Day Event is only four months away. We need team captains to volunteer for this big event: Antenna's, Food, Stations/Computers (2), as well as SET Up/Tear Down. Please step up to the plate and pitch in. We need your help to make this a successful weekend of fun and operating! Speak to me at our next meeting or drop me a note.

Committee appointments are wanting. If you want to get more involved in club activities volunteer for one of the committees or speak to us about establishing a new one for the Pet Project, you want the Club to do!

Our regular monthly meeting is February 10th at 7:30. Doors open at 7PM. Please plan to attend as several important issues will be discussed regarding the Sander Poole "Radio Box", an amendment to the constitution regarding dollar voting thresholds, and some Field Day supplies that will be needed.

See you on the Air!

Bud Kozloff W1NSK CARA President

Vice- President's Message: de W1JGM



What a great start to the New Year. Besides the usually mild January, we had a wonderful time at P.O. Box 55, Brookfield, CT. 06804. Be sure to Winter Field Day - WFD, our first event of the year. WFD was held at the Ball Pond volunteer Fire Company in New Fairfield. BPFD offers a high elevation with excellent HF propagation to the west and south - not to mention a warm and inviting place to set up and operate. We had some first-time operators that did guite well including a 10-meter contact to India – prefix VU. The bands were busy on both SSB and CW. Our results are included in this Capers issue starting on page 22.

We've been holding our informal Elmer sessions on Sunday evenings on MS Teams starting at 8:00 pm after the Sunday 2-meter CARA net ends. It's proven to be well received by newbies and veteran hams. We've been reviewing the Technician and General license test questions and answers. It's surprising how much we're all learning. For some, it's been decades since their last exposure to a license exam – proving that we

all never stop learning. Join us, you never know what you don't know.

Moving forward in 2023, please offer your thoughts for activities and events. Don't be bashful about presenting or organizing an activity. Ongoing events include our third Tuesday of the month Pasta Night dinner at the Vespucci Club in Danbury. We plan to resume monthly POTA outings in March, ARRL Field Day in June and - of course our Hamfest in September. Don't miss out.

Remember, CARA's annual membership dues were revised at the December 2022 meeting and are effective and due no later than the end of February. Please handle this as soon as possible. Dues can be paid by PayPal at **PAYPAL.ME/CARADUES**, In person at a business meeting, or by mailing a check to: CARA Dues, include your name, callsign, phone number, and your e-mail address so I can update our records.

The full annual membership rate is \$35. Associate non-voting membership is \$15, which is only offered to unlicensed individuals. We have a \$50 family plan for family licensed members residing at the same address.

In closing, I request that CARA members congratulate our president, Bud Kozloff -W1NSK, on his recent appointment as ARRL Connecticut Section Manager. Bud will be working on many projects to improve Amateur Radio in Connecticut. We all wish him success.

Thanks, and get on the air.

Remember this is your club!

John Morelli- W1JGM **CARA Vice-President**

January 13 Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary, Gary Adams – N1GSA



Meeting called to order at 7:31pm by Pres. Bud Kozloff

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were 11 people present thru Teams.

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

Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$7618.10 Ending balance of \$6680.00.

This does not include the \$4620 in the IBond Account that we have invested.

Repeater Committee reported that the coordination has been updated. Work has been progressing with the linking system.

There was no one present from the Website Committee to give a report.

The Membership Committee reported one new member. There are some corrections necessary on the website regarding the membership application and its new dues structure.

Old Business:

Poole radio box was discussed next. Several suggestions were brought up. 1: to keep the box in the Bethel EOC, 2: to donate this to NARA for

further donation to the New Milford Hospital when they are ready to receive this equipment. It was also proposed that we keep this unit to be used at any CARA Function, possibly Field Day, Winter Field Day, POTA Activations, etc. John A put forth a motion to table this for further discussion at the Executive Committee meeting on January 19th. This is not a light box with it probably weighing more than 100 pounds. It appears that we do NOT have the front and rear cover for this box. This is presently in Oscar Fullers home.

Certificates for the 2022 Hamfest is being worked on by Dan. He has finalized the cover letter for these and will be mailing them as time allows.

Winter Field Day is coming up on January 28/29. Food is going to be individual responsibility. Suzi has offered to bring some food for our use. She also has the third computer that she will bring for backup. We still need to hang antennas. This work party is tentatively set for Tuesday, January 24 at 10:30am. The ropes can be put up at any time although the coax and antennas will need to be erected just prior to the event. All the equipment will need to be retrieved from the Bethel EOC. Dave is available on January 19th at 12:00pm to gain access to Bethel EOC. This included rope, coax, antennas, etc. Harlan has updated Windows and N1MM on the computers as well as topping off the charge for them. There are no keys or Winkeyers for CW. These must be brought by those that wish to use them. A Winkey or Winkey mini may be a good acquisition to be with the 756 Pro radio that we have. This Mini is listed at \$74 with cables. Motion made and seconded to purchase one of these for our club use. Motion passed. John A has placed this order.

Pasta Night dinner at the Vespucci will be on January 17th.

Planning Meeting will be on January 27th for finalizing last minute plans for Winter Field Day.

New Business:

Skeleton Sleeve Build is on hold for now. This may be pushed off until March. The CW class is also on hold. The Technician Class is still in the planning stages. Ham Radio University was well received, and everyone had a good time. John M brought some class tests that everyone took and really had to think about many of the questions. We are having an Elmer discussion after the CARA Net on Sunday night at 8pm on TEAMS. An invite was extended to NARA for their participation as well.

Dave C mentioned that we have in the past always done a QSL Card Sort but this the use of LOTW and the decline of mailed QSL cards there is not much to sort.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary

CARA Planning Meeting Minutes January 27, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm by Pres. Bud Kozloff.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

There were 14 people present.

Pool radio equipment is presently located at Oscar Fuller's home. It has been discussed to keep this and let it out to new Hams that need equipment, use it at New Milford Hospital for emergencies. NARA has on occasion activated the radio room. They have installed antennas and

coax in place. Selling this equipment is another option. We would need a reasonable evaluation as to cost. This is a well-constructed Go-Box system. We will explore pricing on EHam and others to check the going price at this time. John will set up a Teams meeting for Sunday nights at 8:30 to 9PM for us to EELMER anyone needing help with getting or upgrading a license.

Gregory is starting to compile new components for the UHF antennas with new connectors. The container roof had a leak. This HART equipment was covered by Danbury with tarps for the temporary. In the past Danbury covered the cost of material and we supplied the labor. This is not the case with the new EMD so far.

Antenna Build Project is tentatively set for March with another program for the February Meeting.

CW Class on hold for now.

Tech/General Class this could possibly be done locally or online. Elmer program could be a good vehicle to assist anyone with problems with their exams. This could be done thru the TEAMS program on a weekly basis.

Winter Field Day was the next topic of discussion. This will be January 28-29. Food was discussed and decided to keep it simple. Potluck type of meals were a consideration. It was finally decided that we would do ala carte food. We must get the computers from Harlan. He will have them charged and ready. We will try to use the skeleton sleeve antennas that we have. We also have the option to use UHF/VHF contacts as a multiplier. This is different scoring than regular Field Day. Dave T will try contact Charlie to set up the Sign-Up Genius for this event.

ARRL Field Day is coming the last weekend in June. We will start to discuss this at the January meeting. Also, HAMFEST is coming fast.

There will be an Executive Meeting to go over the necessary By-Law revisions. This will be brought up for discussion and vote at a future meeting. This is tentatively set for Thursday the 19th.

We do need presenters for upcoming meetings. February could be a presentation of the materials and construction necessary for a skeleton sleeve build. The actual build could be done in March.

In the past we have always done a QSL Card Sort in January. With the Logbook of the World taking over many of the contact verification, the actual mailing of QSL cards has dropped significantly.

A presentation from ARRL about Volunteers on the Air could be a good event.

The New England QSO Party is coming up on May 7th. We usually make a trip to Newington to use the ARRL Radio Station.

Dues Collection is being worked on by Stefanie and Gregory to have this on the website.

John compiled a list of the sponsors and contributors from the Hamfest. Dan has a cover letter and certificate to be sent out to these people.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Gary S. Adams - N1GSA, Secretary



CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946 – 76 Years in 2022 Constitutional Amendment February 2023 Amendment Language in Yellow

Article VII – Leadership Elections and Voting Requirements:

CARA Officers and Directors will be elected annually or as required to fill a vacancy. There is no limit to the number of times any Officer or Director can serve as long as nominations are held for every position.

Nominations for leadership positions can only be made by voting members.

For any vote involving elections, Constitution or Policy changes or <u>matters related to club funds</u> (more than \$500), a minimum of the following must participate in voting to achieve a quorum:

- President or Vice President
- Secretary
- A minimum of two (2) Directors

• A minimum of ten (10) additional voting club members

Exceptions to the number of Officers and Directors required to achieve a quorum can only be made in the event of the permanent or longterm absence or incapacity of any of these officials and the intention to invoke this exception must be announced to all club voting members a minimum of seven (7) days in advance of conducting the vote.

Spending Resolution submitted to Capers by W1NSK:

After WFD, I bought a new box to store our coax. We have 2 runs of 213 u and many runs of 8x. We talked about the March meeting to be "how to put pl 259 on the TS 2000 to a full or associate club member as coax".

We need 4 Home Depot cord reels at \$14 each for a total of \$60.

We need 4 213u PL 259 from Quick Silver at \$4 each for a total of \$17.

We need bag of 10 pl 259 for 8x Quicksilver for a total of \$38.

> Total \$115

We need to approve a budget of \$125 for this program

RE: Presidents Message, Agenda etc. att.net/Inbox

John Ahle <w1jma@w1qi.org>

To:Bud Kozloff,Dan Fegley,Dan Fegley

Cc:John Morelli, Gregory Davis, Harlan Ford, David Coelho, Gary Adams

Thu, Feb 2 at 7:12 PM

Gents, I am attaching the most recent Pool box resolution and Constitutional amendment. The one attached by Bud were older versions prior to our planning meeting last week.

Remember we are keeping the box and some components and selling off the radios, first the TS2000.

73 John

Pool Box Proposals

Option 1 Sell TS 2000 to club members by silent auction with the intent that the member shall use it for his/her own purposes.

This option would allow the club to auction off defined in the current bylaws.

- Club members will have 30 calendar days from the beginning of the silent auction period to mail their bid to the CARA PO Box.
- The opening bid will be no less than \$750.
- At the end of the auction period, the club Treasurer shall retrieve the bids and they will be opened at the next club regular meeting.
- If there is a tie in bids, those bidders shall enter a revised bid within 5 business days from the meeting to the CARA PO Box. The treasurer shall open the revised bids and notify the club by email the winning bid amount and notify the winner by email that they won the bidding process.
- Once the winning bid is accepted, the bidder shall have 5 business days to pay by check or cash the amount of the winning bid and take possession of the TS 2000

Option 2 The club shall retain the Pool Box and Power Supply and entrust to a club member who will volunteer be the guardian of the equipment.

- The guardian or his/her designee shall:
 - Bring the box to all CARA operating events where HF or VHF might be operated.
 - Shall maintain the box in his/her home QTH.
 - Guardian can use of the box for personal use.

- There is no guarantee that the box will be used at the event but must be there.
- Should the box fail to be brought to 2 consecutive events, the box will be sold as outlined below:
 - This option would allow the club to auction off the Pool Box and accompanying Power Supply to a full or associate club member as defined in the current bylaws.
 - Club members will have 30 calendar days from the beginning of the silent auction period to mail their bid to the CARA PO Box.
 - The opening bid will be no less than \$750.
 - At the end of the auction period, the club Treasurer shall retrieve the bids and they will be opened at the next club regular meeting.
 - If there is a tie in bids, those bidders shall enter a revised bid within 5 business days from the meeting to the CARA PO Box. The treasurer shall open the revised bids and notify the club by email the winning bid amount and notify the winner by email that they won the bidding process.
 - Once the winning bid is accepted, the bidder shall have 5 business days to pay by check or cash the amount of the winning bid and take possession of the Poole Box and Power Supply.



Winter Field Day Association

Winter Field Day Association (WFDA) is a dedicated group of Amateur Radio Operators who believe that emergency communications in a winter environment is just as important as the preparations and practice that is done each summer but with some additional unique operational concerns.

We believe, as do the ARES & RACES organizations, that maintaining your operational skills should not be limited to fair weather scenarios. The addition of Winter Field Day will enhance those already important skills of those that who generously volunteer their time and equipment to these organizations. This is why WFD is open to all licensed amateur radio operators worldwide.

Disasters are unpredictable by nature and can strike when you least expect them. WFDA's goal is to help enhance your skills and ready you for all environmental conditions found in the US and Canada during the spring, summer, fall and winter Preparedness is the key to a professional and timely response during any event and this is what local and state authorities are expecting when they reach out to the emergency service groups that offer their services.

If you are serious about emergency communications as we are, we welcome you to join us for our yearly event. We are sure you will find this event a pleasant change and challenge to that of a normal summertime field day.

CARA 2023 Winter Field Day Report on page 22.



3Y0J RADIO OPERATIONS Band Plans

3Y0J will always listen up (using split) so it will be useless to call us on our transmission frequency. Please be sure to double check your settings to make sure you are not calling us simplex.

- Always give your full callsign. Listening is the key so sure we call you before replying.
- CW MAX 15 kHz split (operators chose QRG within a certain bandwidth)
- SSB MAX 30 kHz split (operators chose QRG within a certain bandwidth)
- Lowest 10 kHz spectrum on regular bands NO TX to allow regular DX traffic
- Lowest 5 kHz on WARC band NO TX to allow regular DX traffic
- We're aware of US band plans for E/A/G/N/T
- FT8 40-10m, with focus on 20-10m Yagis.
- We will transmit:

100W on FT8

0

1500W on CW/SSB (special permit to transmit up to)

https://www.3y0j.no/

Station system diagram and Antennas layout

The setup consist of up to **12 stations** at peak time where **8 K3s radios** will be fixed to human modes SSB/CW and in addition we will use **4** <u>SunSDR2</u> <u>DX</u> as FT8 stations. The 4x FT8 radios can be run from one operator position, or the FT8 radios can be run from any other position individually. Hence, we can run SSB/CW simultaneously with FT8 from every operator position in simplified SO2R like mode, or one operator can run several FT8 radios in parallel from his desk.

There will be NO FT8 robots running unattended at Bouvet, all FT8 QSOs will be initiated by a human operator clicking on the deserving callers. We have a pronounced focus on human modes so to achieve the goal of 200.000 QSOs we will minimize the downtime of all radios and run the FT8 radios 24/7, this also to maximize the ATNO. We will use the **S.P.E Expert amplifier** and we plan bring in total 10 amplifiers and 14 radios with us. Spares and backup has a high priority in all parts in this project, e.g we will bring with us 3 x 160m antennas, 3x80m antennas and so on and have 4xtribanders 20-10m installed.

As an RX antenna system we will use the **LZ1AQ RX loop** which has been tested and proves to be a good tool for us in case of in-band interference or noise. This ground independent omnidirectional loop will be located roughly 250m away from the camp and each of the 8xK3S radio will have the possibility to share the signal and listen to this loop simultaneously.

Volunteers on the air

From: Pete W1RM Date: Fri, 30 Dec 2022 11:08:08 EST

Starting Jan 1, there is a new, year-long, activity called volunteers on the air. Full details can be found here: http://www.arrl.org/volunteers-onthe-air

Part of this activity is the operation of W1AW/x throughout the year, just like the operation during the 100th anniversary.

I am the manager for W1AW/1 in Connecticut. We will be on the air for two weeks, May 10-16 and again September 27 – October 3.

If you are in Connecticut and would like to join the team to be W1AW/1, please fill out the application here: W1AW/1 - CT **Operator Sign Up**

CARA Elmering TEAMS sessions continue

This is a time to ask any of those questions you may have either operating, station setup, antennas, or snything else. Join Us!

On Jan 6, 2023, at 8:24 PM, John Morelli via CARA <cara@cararadioclub.org> wrote:

This time is being set aside at 8 PM Sunday evening to assist anyone interested in becoming licensed or upgrading their license. We are asking anyone interested in revoked. Privileges will be reinstated after full

assisting Elmering (coaching) new Hams get their license or upgrade.

Veteran CARA members are welcomed to join to help our new Hams.

W1JGM – John.

Editor:

TEAMS meeting credentials for this session will be posted to the CARA Reflector. Another benefit of paid CARA membership besides an annual subscription to this CARA Capers Monthly newsletter.

2023 CARA Dues are due:

The full membership rate is \$35.

Associate non-voting membership is \$15; only open to unlicensed individuals or licensed individuals under the age of 16.

\$50 for full memberships of families living in the same address.

CARA Dues:

Club Members renew your 2023 membership with PayPal at> PayPal.Me/CARADUES Please include your call sign when paying your dues.

Schedule:

CARA dues are collected annually in January and due no later than the end of February, after which time membership privileges are payment of annual dues.



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



Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

- Feb. 6: NARA Monthly Meeting on TEAMS
- Feb. 10: CARA Monthly Business Meeting Inperson at Stony Hill Fire House in Bethel.
- Feb. 10-12: CQWW WPX RTTY contest
- Feb. 11-12: OMiss QSO Party
- Feb. 13: CT ARES Region 5 South meeting via TEAMS
- Feb. 17-19: ARRL DX CW contest
- Feb. 21: CARA Pasta Night dinner at the Italian American Club – Danbury 6:00 pm
- Feb. 24-26: CQWW 160M SSB contest
- Feb. 24: CARA Monthly Planning meeting
- Feb. 27: CT ARES Region 5 meeting
- Feb. 9, 16, 23: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)

March 3: March 2023 Capers input deadline to w1qk@snet.net

Use this link to access the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:

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

Editor:

CARA has contributed financial support to WA7BNM for this Contest Calendar and 3830 Contest Scores websites for two years.



NARA sister club information:

<u>www.NA1RA.ORG</u> is not for profit 501(c3) corporation

Analog FM: New Milford 146.730 MHz /- 600 kHz – PL151.4 Hz,

Washington 441.850 MHz / +5 MHz – PL151.4 Hz , Woodbury 444.800 / +5 MHz. PL151.4 Hz,

Warren 53.970 MHz / – 1 MHz PL 151.4 Hz; DMR FM: CT-ARES 440.9625 +5 MHz, CC1

PO Box 354 New Milford CT 06776, email <u>secretary@na1ra.org</u>

Members,

This Monday, Feb 6 is the date for our monthly NARA club meeting.

Attached are the meeting minutes from the January meeting. Please review

them and have any corrections ready for the minutes review.

Also, for those of you who are starting to miss hamfests, there is going to be one on the 18th in MA; here is the info: https://www.qsl.net/n1em/AARC_Flea_Market_F Bethel CT 06801-3035 lyer_2023.pdf

I hope you can all join us tomorrow night for the meeting.

73, Steve - AG1YK NARA Secretary

2023 Ham Exam Schedule



Norwalk CT 06850

02/25/2023 Sponsor: Greater Norwalk ARC Date: Feb 25 2023 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) **Contact:** Jon Perelstein (203) 912-3990 Email: ai1v@arrl.net **VEC:** ARRL/VEC Location: Norwalk Public Library 1 Belden Ave 2nd floor conference room children's dept Norwalk CT 06850 Website: http://gnarc.org/

03/04/2023 Sponsor: Candlewood ARA Date: Mar 04 2023 Time: 11:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead) Contact: Jonathan R. Bernon (203) 232-7863 Email: aj1u@arrl.net **VEC:** 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-radiolicense-exam-session



Connecticut Phone Net - CPN

This net 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



The annual 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, March 1, 2023



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

> CT ARES news: Please submit CT ARES news to

CARA Capers to be included here.

"CW's Corner"

de W1QK & WA1KRG



CW

BUSINESS With rising electricity rates, some CT residents turning to third party providers

Luther Turmelle Feb. 5, 2023

H John Voorhees III/Hearst Connecticut Media

The cost of electricity supplied to standard service customers of Eversource bill either stayed the same or decreased **Energy and The United Illuminating** Co. has increased significantly since the beginning of the year, leaving consumers to wonder if there are any alternatives available to avoid the dramatic increase in their energy bills.

While consumers are often stuck with the Purchasing electricity from a third-party supply fee, or the cost to bring electricity to a home or business, they can buy electricity from a third-party provider that are oftentimes lesser known but offer of the General Assembly's Energy and cheaper rates, at least at the outset. Depending upon a variety of factors, including when consumers made the switch and the terms of the offer they chose, residential customers of UI and Eversource who elected to go with a third-party provider are saving anywhere from 50 to 60 percent over the standard service rate from both utilities.

Taren O'Connor, a spokeswoman for the state's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, said historically speaking, the supply component has accounted for 30to-40 percent of customers electric bills.

"The ranges fluctuate because many of these costs are volumetric and depend on a customer's individual usage, as well as the underlying rates, which are set at different times of the year," O'Connor said. "Because the supply rates that became effective on January 1, 2023, are so much higher than anything seen over the last decade, and because the

components on the delivery side of the on Jan. 1, the percentage of the bill attributable to supply increased compared to historic norms. We are now seeing customer bills where the supply portion of the bill comprises between 50to-60 percent of the total bill."

provider isn't necessarily a one-size-fitsall proposition, said state Sen. Norman Needleman, D-Essex, who is co-chairman Technology committee. While they may seem like a good deal, they require close watching.

"Historically, the standard service rate has been a better deal," Needleman said. "I have friends with residential service who love playing the market, but for anyone who goes with a third-party provider, they are going to have to pay attention to the terms of the contract."

Claire Coleman is Connecticut's Consumer Counsel and represents the interests of rate payers in proceedings before PURA. Coleman said, "while there are clear savings opportunities, we caution that these are longer term rates being compared against rates that will change again in six months."

"You have to commit to re-comparing rates every time the standard service rate changes," she said. "Don't just set it and forget."

Consumers looking to switch to a third party provider can compare rates online. Coleman said once a switch is made, it takes going through a one month's billing cycle before the changes takes effect.

Consumers have had the ability to purchase power from third party suppliers ever since Connecticut officials deregulated electric utilities in 2000. But the overwhelming majority of Eversource and UI customers have elected to go with standard service, an option in which the utilities purchase electricity for their customers and then pass along the procurement cost without any mark up.

As of Dec. 31, only 9.7 percent or 124,528 of Eversource's 1.28 million customers purchased their electricity from third party providers, according to a company spokesman. As of the end of November 2022, 8.6 percent of UI's 341,000 customers had third-party electricity providers, according to data from the OCC.

Coleman said the incentive for more consumers to make the switch from standard service to a third-party electric provider hasn't existed for years prior to this winter's price spike.

"Since polar vortex in 2015, the rates have been fairly stable and fairly low, so the standard service offer has been the more competitive of the two options," she said.

New data on the number of Eversource and UI customers using third party providers will be reported later this month.

Lon Seidman of Essex is a customer of Eversource Energy and he was among those who stuck with the standard service offer until shortly before the current rates took effect. Seidman now purchases the electricity he uses at home from Constellation Energy.

"In the past, I've seen whatever savings were made wiped out when the contract ended and they (third party providers) jacked up the rate," Seidman said. "So, I just stopped shopping after a while and stuck with the standard offer."

For anyone considering switching from standard service to a third-party electric provider, Seidman said "the key things to look for are the length of the rate lock-in and what happens after the lock-in rate ends."

"Sometimes you can save some money especially if you're using a lot of electricity," he said.

Southington resident Matt Bacon said he doesn't see any negatives to using third party providers since Connecticut lawmakers approved the elimination of early termination for residential electric contracts during the 2021 legislative session. Long before the current spike in standard offer rates materialized, Bacon had locked in a rate of 10 cents per kilowatt in March 2022 for a period of 36 *hearing from CARA members about who's* months.

"There isn't a risk if Eversource rates go back down," he said, referring to early termination rates being eliminated. " I feel lucky, my bill didn't change. Honestly, anyone who doesn't shop around for a better rate is leaving money on the table."

Both Coleman and Needleman said lawmakers and state utility regulators have refined the third-party provider process to make it more consumer friendly.

"The state of Connecticut has made it really difficult through policies that have been enacted to do damage to ratepayers," Needleman said.

In addition to the prohibition of cancelation fees that was enacted in 2021. Coleman said lawmakers and regulators have eliminated the ability of third-party providers to offer variable rate electric contracts as well as teaser rates.

Author contact: luther.turmelle@hearstmediact.com

EDITOR-

Your CARA Capers Editor is interested in switched from Eversource and what company they switched to. Your editor is also investigating savings by using Time of Day service by installing a TOD meter.

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 wlqk@snet.net for placement in the CARA Capers.



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

Executive Board:

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

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 w1gk@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: wlgk@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" <u>http://www.mvara.org/Newsl/Current.pdf</u>



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 <u>QST</u> or <u>On</u> <u>the Air</u> 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 <u>ARRL Audio News</u>, available very Friday.

Subscribe to...

- <u>NCJ -- National Contest Journal</u>. Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- <u>QEX</u> -- <u>A Forum for Communications</u> <u>Experimenters</u>. 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...

- <u>Subscribe</u> 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 <u>Facebook</u>! Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>!



ARRL CT Section News

This space reserved in CARA Capers for monthly updates from our ARRL CT Section Leadership.



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

There were two excellent presentations at the YCCC meeting on Saturday.

For YCCC members who can access the Groups IO.

Worth viewing.

File /All-Things-Digital/W0YK-CQ WW RTTY WPX.pdf uploaded #file-notice

From: noreply@groups.io Date: Sat, 04 Feb 2023 14:23:24 EST The following files and folders have been uploaded to the Files area of the yccc@groups.io group.

/All-Things-Digital/W0YK-CQ WW RTTY WPX.pdf By: Ken - WO1N <wo1n@arrl.net>

Description: Ed Muns, W0YK guides the viewer through optimal set ups for RTTY Contesting

4a.

File /All-Things-Telnet/N2WQ-Telnetclusters.pdf uploaded #file-notice

From: noreply@groups.io Date: Sat, 04 Feb 2023 16:36:24 EST The following files and folders have been uploaded to the Files area of the yccc@groups.io group.

/All-Things-Telnet/N2WQ-Telnet-clusters.pdf By: Ken - WO1N <wo1n@arrl.net>

Description:

Rudy, N2WQ provides a good overview of CC User and describes his project to provide telnet cluster services via AWS.



The CW Operators' Club

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-academyoptions/

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

From the CWops Reflector:

Morse code article in Smithsonian Magazine

From: John Fuller K4HQK (#864) Date: Thu, 05 Jan 2023 20:45:58 EST

The Website of the January/February 2023 issue of Smithsonian Magazine includes an excellent article titled, ""Looking to Ditch Twitter? Morse Code Is Back/Reviving a 200-year-old system, enthusiasts are putting the digit back in digital communication." This illustrated article provides an overview of amateur "ham" operations today plus our history with Morse code from radio's beginning till when the FCC stopped requiring it for new amateur licensees. And yet in spite of that, the number who use Morse code today is growing. The article also includes instructions for building a simple code-practice generator. https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/morsecode-back-looking-ditch-twitter-180981309/

73, John K4HQK Alexandria, Virginia

Amateur Radio in today's issue of The Times

From: Duncan G3WZD / M3F (1979) Date: Sat, 28 Jan 2023 08:21:02 EST

Some good publicity for the hobby...

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/ham-radio-tunes-into-a-new-generationsc3ztpgls?shareToken=d9c931520210f3c2bf1cf93702 477453

For CW, phone and digital modes, its combination of contest-optimized features is unmatched.

	View Tools	Config Win	dow Help				
		94	flov		Per		
WALN		59	59		100	0	
F1 S8P CQ	SSP CO F2 Exch		F4 K8UT	F5 HB C	at F	P6 KBUT	
F7 Rpt Exch	F8.Agn?	F9 Zone	F10 Spere	F11 Spor	re F	F121Mpe	
Esc: Stop	Wpe	Logit E	dt Mark	Store	Socth	ORZ	

https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/n1mmfeatures/

73,

Duncan, G3WZD / M3F

FW: Morse Code

From: N3JT Jim #1 Date: Sat, 28 Jan 2023 08:39:55 EST FYI:

You might get a kick out of this.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-11640643/Morse-Code-making-comeback-Childrenyoung-FIVE-learning-it.html



If you didn't find that computer gift under the Christmas tree, perhaps you could check here:



N1MM Logger Plus is the world's most popular free ham radio contest logging program.

www.ctcomputershows.com

Editor-

There is no financial connection between ctcomputershows website and CARA nor CARA Capers.



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 Your Capers editor welcomes and encourages member input.

CARA Winter Field Day Ball Pond Volunteer Fire House, New Fairfield, CT January 28-29, 2023

Photos submitted by: W1JGM, WA1JGA & W1QK



















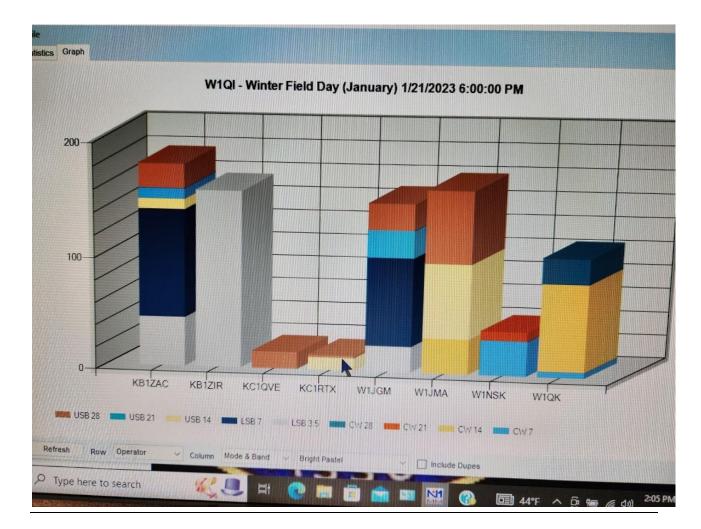




	— — > 🔛 Score - 17,766 Points 🛛 🗙
	E. S Pts Computer + Contest: WFD Band Mode OSOs Pts Mlt Pt/Q
N	
J	File. Help
J	Winter Field Day (January) - 2023-01-28 1800Z to 2023-01-29 2100Z - 8 W1QI - Off Times >= 30 Minutes
Telne	2023-01-28 1800Z - 2023-01-28 1901Z 01:02 (62 mins) (Start lat 2023-01-29 0007Z - 2023-01-29 0039Z 00:33 (33 mins)
M	2023-01-29 0742Z - 2023-01-29 0817Z 00:36 (36 mins)
3	2023-01-29 0850Z - 2023-01-29 1007Z 01:18 (78 mins) 2023-01-29 1118Z - 2023-01-29 1355Z 02:38 (158 mins)
	Total Time Off 06:07 (367 mins)
	Total Time On 18:54 (1134 mins)
6PRO	
Тоо	

er 🖡	Contest	: WFD					-
	Band	Mode	QS0s	Pts	Mlt	Pt/Q	Ľ
G2	3.5	LSB	223	223	1	1.0	
UZ III	7	CW	36	72	1	2.0	
G2	7	LSB	173	173	1	1.0	
~~	14	CW	108	216	1	2.0	
G2	14	USB	86	86	1	1.0	
G2	21	CW	8	16	1	2.0	
UZ	21	USB	33	33	1	1.0	
	28	CW	22	44	1	2.0	
	28	USB	124	124	1	1.0	
	Total	Both	813	987	9	1.2	
	Score:						
	1 Mult	= 90.3	Q's				1
s	1143					Rescore)

File itatistics Graph											
Operator	CW 7	CW 14	CW 21	CW 28	LSB 3.5	LSB 7	USB 14	USB 21	USB 28	Tot	Accum
KB1ZAC					44	95	9	9	21	178	178
KB1ZIR					156					156	334
KC1QVE									15	15	349
KC1RTX							11		2	13	362
W1JGM					23	78		24	23	148	510
W1JMA		31					66		63	160	670
W1NSK	31		8							39	709
W1QK	5	77		22						104	813
Total	36	108	8	22	223	173	86	33	124	813	813



August 2022 CARA Standing Committees

Repeater	Chair: Greg Davis, WR1Z 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	Co-Chairs: 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	Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK
Social Media	Asuna Gilfoyle, W2FUR
Youth	Keith Iwanicki, W1KRI
Development	Open
Events	Open

Submitted to Capers – December 2022 by W1NSK

CARA Proposed Calender of Events - 2023

January	7th 13th	Ham University, Ball Pond Firehouse (Virtual), New Fairfield, CT 9-3 PM 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	
		,
Februar	ту 10 ?	Monthly CARA Meeting. Stony Hill Firehouse, Bethel, CT 7:30PM Learn CW Class: TBD
	21	Spaghetti Dinner. Vespucci Lodge, Danbury, CT 6PM
	?	Skeleton Sleave 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
1-	?	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	
	23-24	4 ARRL Field Day TBD.
	30	Planning Comm. Mtg. Stony Hill FireHouse. Bethel, CT 7:30PM

Submitted to Capers – December 2022 by W1NSK