



Capers

June - 2025

The Monthly Newsletter of The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Mailing Address: 120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

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

Editor: Daniel Fegley – W1QK w1qk@snet.net

Monthly Program/Activity Meeting: Thursday, June 12

In-person at Stony Hill Vol. Fire Dept., Rte. 6, Bethel

Doors open at 7:00 pm. Meeting begins promptly at 7:30 pm.

ARRL 2025 Field Day Planning



- **Welcome**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Attendee Introductions

Announcements

- Program/Activities Meetings moving to 2nd Thursday of month at 7:30 SHFD
- Business Meetings moving to 4th Thursday of month on Teams
- Good of the Order

- **Tonight's Program/Activity**

- ARRL 2025 Field Day Preparation Planning

Our June Program/Activity meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12 at 7:30pm at the Stony Hill FD.

We are going to discuss Field Day Preparations.

Our annual election of Officers and Directors will be conducted at the June 26 Business Meeting

President's Message

de W1NSK



June is my favorite month of the year in CT! Warm days, cool nights and ARRL FIELD DAY!

This year, CARA will once again hold our annual ARRL Field Day event on June 28-29 at the Ball Pond Fire House in New Fairfield.



Paulo – W1PDS



(L-R) Bud – W1NSK, John – W1JMA, and Stephanie – KC1UZY



I've been participating in this event throughout my 56 years in the hobby! Gone are the days of the massive (and loud) generator dragged up to the South Mountain Reservation in NJ to provide power, a group of teenagers (posing as Boy Scout Ham Radio Explorer Post 12) getting no sleep, burning hamburgers and hot dogs, and tending to a massive bonfire! We also ran a Swan 500C (tubes) into dipoles on 80M, 40M, and 20M. The persistent CW vs. SSB argument prevailed at that time too! After tear down, we were usually home for a shower and bed by 4:00 pm.

For me, one of many things I learned besides "we didn't have a left sky hook" was that many hands make for less work. Join us this year for CARA's ARRL Field Day on June 28-29 at the Ball Pond Fire House in New Fairfield. Have some fun, make some

friends, eat a delicious well-cooked hamburger, stay up late, and make lifetime memories!

We'll start with an antenna-raising work party, station set up – then operating shifts and tear down. Sign up when you see the Sign-Up Genius email come around.

Bring a friend! Especially invite non hams to introduce our hobby to! This is an excellent event to show our hobby to others, learn more about the techniques and operations of ham radio (Field day is not a contest) and contribute to the club.

Our monthly meeting scheduled for June 12th at 7pm at the Stony Hill Firehouse, Rte. 6 in Bethel, will be to make our FD plans Join us and learn how you can help.

Our annual election for the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee (Directors) will be conducted.

Our monthly Pasta Night Dinner will be on June 17 at the Vespucci Lodge in Danbury. We gather at 6:00 pm. \$10 for salad, bread/butter and a generous bowl of pasta with two meatballs and tasty sauce. Cash bar for wine and soda. Bring a friend, family member, or a perspective new ham!

CARA's monthly POTA event will held on Saturday June 21st from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (weather permitting) at Putnam Memorial State Park in Redding.

See you at the June 12 meeting, Field Day, Pasta Night, and on the air!

Bud - W1NSK

CARA President



**CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated
Club since 1946 – 79 Years in 2025**

Vice-President's Message:

de W1JGM



It's June, with ARRL's Field Day - the most anticipated Amateur Radio event of the year - only a few weeks away.

We'll participate once again from the Ball Pond Fire Co., 7 Fairfield Dr. in New Fairfield.

ARRL Field Day is **not** a contest.

Field Day is a learning, practical hands-on, on-the-air operating event with thousands of participants, but most of all a fun event with great food and fun.

Mark your calendar for June 28-29.

FD setup starts at 10:00 am, and we plan to be on the air at 1800 UTC (2:00 pm local). We'll be doing some planning work and will send an e-mail to notify you of work details. FD is a great event and I encourage everyone to put some effort into joining, so we achieve our success again.

We try to have this event be financially self-supporting, so we encourage donations to cover the cost of food and beverages. Based on previous experience - you won't go home hungry.

Plan to attend our next meeting on Thursday, June 14 at the Stony Hill Fire Dept. to participate in 2025 Field Day planning.

Topics will include ARRL FD rules, FD logistics, food logistics, antennas, rigs, computers (including a wired network for N1MM Logger +), FD Public Relations, Safety Officer, FD Bonus Points and score submission, plus on-line sign-ups using Sign-Up Genius.

Our next POTA event is scheduled for Saturday, June 21 at Lover's Leap State Park in New Milford. Check your CARA Reflector emails for more details.

Remember: CARA is YOUR club – be part of it.

John Morelli – W1JGM
CARA Vice-President



**CARA is an ARRL-Designated
Special Service Club
ARRL SSC recognition renewal
application approved: March 2024**

May 22 - Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary/Treasurer, John Ahle - W1JMA



CARA Business Meeting Minutes May 22 , 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm. There were 7 members present, and we had a quorum.

The March and April minutes were accepted.

The March and April treasury report were accepted.

Repeater Committee:

Steve - W1SMS, was not in attendance. There was discussion on the progress on Steve building out the 220 repeater. It is very close to being deployed at the exit 2 site.

There was additional discussion on the 2m/440 situation and some testing to be done at alternative sites.

At this month's POTA, we will be testing the 6m repeater concept at Putman Park. 2 cross band mobile rigs will be deployed and those who have 6m capabilities on the HF rigs can test the concept of a separate receive and transmit location.

Administrative:

Stephanie – KC1UZC, reported the website is running properly and she is gathering statistics on how often it is accessed.

Dan - W1QK, reminded those in attendance that the June CAPERS input deadline is June 5th.

The next VE test date is Saturday, June 7th. There was discussion about approaching a club member to take over the VE team starting in 2026. It was recommended that Bud reach out to this

identified individual and see if he would be interested.

John - W1JGM, reported on the status of the General Class. Charlie - KD2HAP, passed the exam given in Putnam County. The other students will take the exam on June 7th.

John - W1JMA, and John - W1JGM, discussed the status of the "club table" fundraising events. To date the club has netted \$3926 from this endeavor. There was discussion about the issues with both amplifiers sold under the CARA banner. It is likely that CARA and the other owner will have to make refunds. The CARA exposure is \$600. The only piece of equipment of higher value left to sell is a HeathKit tuner.

Old Business:

The nominating committee proposed the following slate of officers:

President, Bud - W1NSK

Vice-President, John - W1JGM

Secretary/Treasurer, John - W1JMA

Directors (3), Steve - W1SMS, Dave - WA1JGA, Rosty - W2ROS.

There were no floor nominations at this meeting. Any floor nominations will have to be made at the June **business** meeting.

New Business: The June program meeting will focus on Field Day Planning. FD is 6/28 and 6/29 at the Ball Pond FD.

The June POTA is Saturday 6/21 at Lovers Leap State Park in New Milford. Start time is 10:00 am.

The June Pasta night is June 17th at 6pm.

The next CARA program meeting is Thursday June 12th at 7:30pm Stony Hill FD.

The next CARA business meeting is Thursday June 26th at 7:30 pm on TEAMS.

The meeting was closed at 8:10pm.

CARA Treasury Report May 31, 2025

Income:	Full Member Dues	\$775
Income:	Interest Income	\$ 132.17
Income:	Donations	\$10
Income:	Sale of Donated EQ (net)	\$628.05
Income:	Club Table at Hamfests	\$3926
Total Income:		\$5471.22
Expense:	PayPal Fees	\$18.30
Expense:	Website/Hosting Fees	\$46.34
Expense:	Repeater Maintenance	\$293.54
Expense:	Insurance	\$305
Expense:	2022 Hamfest	\$ 50
Expense:	FD Supplies	\$77.62

Total Expense:

\$790.80

Net Income for Period \$4680.42

Cash: Checking-Unrestricted \$9702.92

Cash: Checking-Restricted \$425

Cash: Petty \$50

Certificates of Deposit-USB \$10182.32

Total Cash/Investments

Balance: \$20360.24

Number of full members: 52

Associate members: 0

Auxiliary members: 2

CARA Merch: Update

In July 2024, Dan - N2DGT, made a motion to allow JSC Embroidery to set up a CARA website for CARA members to purchase hats, shirts, mugs, etc. with the CARA logo at no cost to CARA.

CARA will notify the membership of this opportunity monthly via CAPERS. The motion was seconded and approved. The link to the website is below.

Dan – N2DGT

<https://www.jse-repair.com/product-category/club-apparel/candlewood-amateur-radio-association/>

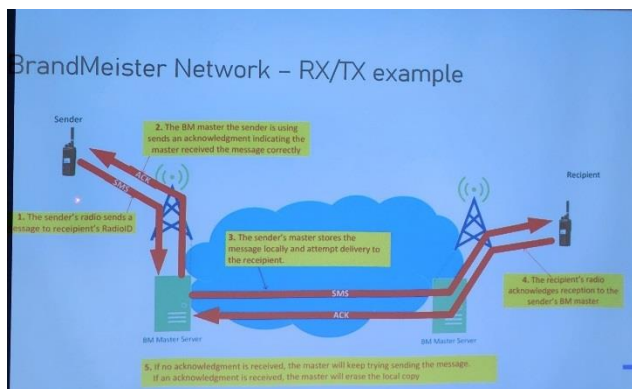
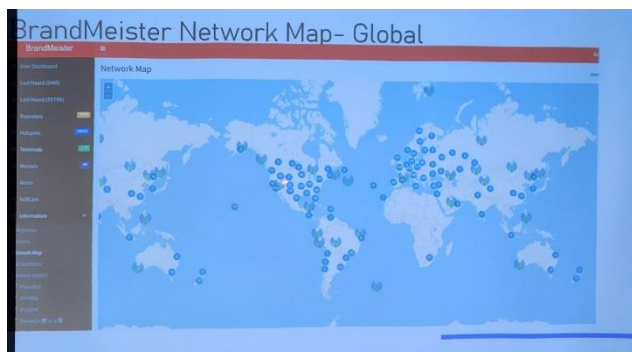


Photos: W1QK



May Meeting Summary

DMR Presentation by Will Tonni – KW1SKY Photos: W1QK



How to get on the air with DMR?

Be a licensed ham

Obtain a DMR ID (callsign needed): <https://radioid.net/account/register>

Register your DMR ID with the Brandmeister network

A DMR Radio (handheld or mobile)

A DMR Hotspot or be in proximity to a DMR FM Repeater

A computer to run DMR radio's manufacturer software to program your radio

Internet connection (wired is better) if running your own hotspot

DMR Repeaters – Fairfield County

Connecticut Amateur Radio Repeaters

40 repeaters found in Connecticut

Legend: On-Air (green dot), Off-Air (red dot), Testing/Rebuild (yellow dot), Unknown (grey dot)

Click on a frequency for additional details. Click on a location to view. Radio listing does not carry through to superior.

FR	FR Access	Location	County	QZ Call	Mode	Priority	Notes
440.7200	CC-1	Wilton	Fairfield	W1SP	DMR	DMR	
440.7625	CC-1	Bridgewater	Fairfield	W1TDE	DMR	DMR	
442.7000	CC-1, 77.6 / 77.0	Bridgewater, Hospital	Fairfield	N1XGN	DMR	DMR	FM DMR DSTAR Echolink W17
442.2000	CC-1	Bridgewater	Fairfield	AG2K	DMR	DMR	
444.4000	CC-3	Monroe	Fairfield	K1AHCK	DMR	DMR	
445.7375	CC-1	Danbury, Spruce Mountain	Fairfield	K1JEDC	DMR	DMR	
447.1250	CC-2	Stamford	Fairfield	W1EE	DMR	DMR	
448.0750	CC-1	Stamford	Fairfield	W1BLK	DMR	DMR	

What Is BrandMeister?

Decentralized Network
BrandMeister operates as a decentralized network, allowing users worldwide to connect their DMR radios seamlessly.

Talk Group Management
The system provides features for talk group management, enabling organized communication among users with similar interests.

Support for Digital Modes
BrandMeister supports various digital modes like DMR, D-STAR, YSF, NXDN and P25, enhancing the versatility of communications over the network.


What are Talkgroups (TG)?

A way of organizing communication in DMR networks like Brandmeister

Think of them as virtual channels or conference rooms that allow groups of users with common interests or locations to communicate without disturbing others on the network

As of May 2025, there are over 1,600 available talkgroups

Category	Description
Public Talkgroups	Open to anyone with a DMR radio programmed to connect to the correct TG. Publicly listed by network/repeater operators
Private Talkgroups	One-to-One Communication (Private Call). Privacy is not guaranteed - the transmission itself is not usually encrypted amateur radio DMR networks



Some Connecticut TGs

Talkgroup ID	Name / Description	Notes
3109	Connecticut Statewide	Primary statewide talkgroup with a typical 10-minute activity timer.
31090	Connecticut TAC	Tactical talkgroup for extended QSOs, used to reduce congestion.
31092	Connecticut Chat	Informal/general-purpose conversations for CT operators.
31093	PVRA (Pioneer Valley Repeater Association)	Linked to the PVRA network serving CT and neighboring areas.
31094	CDRA (Connecticut Digital Radio Association)	Supports CT's digital repeater network.
310995	Hartford County Connecticut	Localized talkgroup for Hartford County.
31360	NJ-TRBO / Tri-State	Regional group linking CT, NJ, NY, DE, and FL repeaters.



Introduction to Pi-Star Software

Overview of Pi-Star

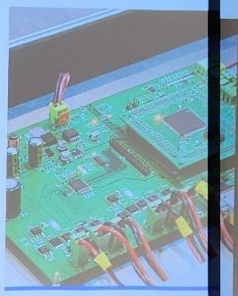
Pi-Star is a versatile software platform designed for Raspberry Pi to facilitate digital communication modes like DMR and D-Star. (<https://www.pistar.uk/>)

User-Friendly Interface

The software features an intuitive user interface that simplifies setup and operation for both novice and experienced users.

Support for Multiple Configurations

Pi-Star supports a variety of configurations, making it highly adaptable to different digital communication systems and user needs.




Pi-Star Dashboard

Pi-Star Digital Voice Dashboard for KW1SKY

Dashboard & Admin | Config

Nodes Enrolled		Gateway Activity				
ID	Name	Time (UTC)	Mode	Calltype	Priority	Target
101	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
102	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
103	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
104	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
105	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
106	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
107	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
108	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
109	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
110	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
111	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
112	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
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196	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
197	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
198	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
199	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA
200	W1JMA	18:18:05	DMR	Talk	Priority	W1JMA

DStar & PiStar demonstration & Open spot 4Pro Hotspot by Dan Thill – N2DGT and John Ahle – W1JMA



Information about last night's CARA Elmer Program Meeting

att.net/CARA Groups IO

John W1JMA

From: w1jma@w1qi.org **To:** caraw1qi@groups.io

Fri, May 9 at 9:17 AM

Thanks to Will, KW1SKY and Dan, N2DGT for their presentation and demonstrations on DSTAR and DMR using the PiStar hotspot and the Open spot 4pro hotspot. I am attaching Will's excellent presentation on DMR. I know based on the questions asked and answered, the CARA members who attended this program meeting learned a lot about both digital modes and ways to access worldwide "chat rooms" using both modes. This is an excellent way for Technician class operators to work stations across the globe.

I also want to thank Oscar - KO1F for putting together a Commemorative Appreciation Plaque consisting of the USPS 50th anniversary ARRL Postage stamp (1964) to recognize one of our club's greatest Elmers, Harlan Ford - W1QH. Look for pictures of this presentation in next month's CAPERS.

73, John- W1JMA Secretary/Treasurer

[CARA Meeting Notes\DMR - CARA presentation \(1\).pdf](#)

Harlan Ford – W1QH receives CARA Elmer Plaque with First Issue Amateur Radio theme stamps





Field Day Planning for Thursday, June 12 Meeting 7:30 Stony Hill FD

From: w1jma@w1qi.org To: S Mulvey, John Ahle, John Morelli, Bud Kozloff, Harlan Ford and 8 more... Mon, Jun 9 at 7:03 AM

Here are proposed assignments for this year's Field Day organization: Please come to the planning meeting on Thursday.

Food logistics: Susie – KC1QVE and David KB1ZAC

Antennas: Dan Thill – N2DGT, John – W1GM, John – W1JMA, David KB1ZAC

Rigs: Ed and Steve, both currently have 756p3

Computers, wired network, logging n1mm: Harlan – W1QH and Dave-K1SZO

FD Public Relations: Bud – W1NSK

Safety Officer: Rosty – W2ROS

FD Bonus Points and score submission: Dan – W1QK, John - W1JGM, Harlan – W1QH

Sign-up Sheet Process: John – W1JMA



Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:

Informal 10M Net: 28.390 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Net Control: John – W1JMA

The CARA Net: W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm.

Net Controls: David - KB1ZAC, Charlie - KC1IBR, Dan – N2DGT

Contact John – W1JMA or David – KB1ZAC respectively if you would like to be a CARA 10M or 2M Net Control Operator.



Upcoming Contests, Hamfests Events & Meetings:

June 12: CARA Monthly Program/Activity Meeting. In-person at Stony Hill Vol. Fire Dept. Rte. 6 in Bethel. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Gavel at 7:30. Topic; Field Day Preparations

June 14-15: ARRL June VHF contest

June 17: Monthly CARA Pasta Night Dinner - Vespucci Italian-American club in Danbury on Vespucci Dr. Price reduced

for 2025 from \$12 to \$10 cash.
Bread/butter, salad, bowl of pasta with homemade sauce. Pasta refill included.
Cash bar for soda, wine, and beer.
Gather at 6:00 pm.

No reservations required.



June 21: Monthly CARA POTA event at Lovers Leap State Park, New Milford 1000 am - 3:00 -pm.

June 21: West Virginia QSO Party, Stew Perry 160M Top Band Distance Challenge, ARRL Kids Day

June 24: CT ARES Region 5 Monthly meeting via TEAMS.

June 26: CARA Monthly Planning meeting on TEAMS – 7:30 pm
ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

June 28-29: ARRL Field Day – Ball Pond FD, New Fairfield

June 11, 18, 25: CWops CWT contest - 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)
<https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>

June 12, 19, 26: Weekly RTTY Test
<https://radiosport.world/wrt.html>

July 3: July 2025 Capers input deadline:
w1qk@snet.net

Upcoming Hamfests:

Raritan Valley Radio Club 2025 Hamfest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

06/21/2025

Start Date: 06/21/2025

End Date: 06/21/2025

Location: Piscataway High School

100 Behmer Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854

Website: <http://w2qw.org/>

Sponsor: Raritan Valley Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.625 PL: 141.3

Public Contact: Adam Green , KD2VWT

8 Brentwood Road Raritan, NJ 08869

Phone: 908-339-2106

Email: kd2vwt@arrrl.net

Sussex NJ Hamfest, ARRL Hudson Division Convention

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

07/13/2025

Start Date: 07/13/2025

End Date: 07/13/2025

Location: Sussex County Fair Grounds

37 Plains Road

Augusta, NJ 07822

Website: <http://scarcnj.org>

Sponsor: Sussex County Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 147.30 +600 PL 151.4

Public Contact: Walter Murphy , N2WM

612 Hemlock Dr. Newton, NJ 07860

Phone: 973-570-5508

Email: Hamfest@scarcnj.org

Northern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/17/2025

Start Date: 08/17/2025

End Date: 08/17/2025

Location: Adams Agricultural Fairgrounds

371 Old Columbia St.

Adams, MA 01220

Website: <http://www.nobarc.org>

Sponsor: Northern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.91- tone 162.2

Public Contact: Eric Mazur , KA1SUN

763 Main Rd. Savoy, MA 01256

Phone: 413-743-9975

Email: k1ffk@yahoo.com

Northeast HamXposition, ARRL New England Division Convention

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/21/2025

Start Date: 08/21/2025

End Date: 08/24/2025

Location: Best Western Marlborough, MA

181 Boston Post Road W.

Marlborough, MA 01752

Website: <http://hamxposition.org>

Sponsor: FEMARA, Inc.

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: MMRA linked repeater system

Public Contact: Bob DeMattia , K1IW

PO Box 2192 Littleton, MA 01460

Phone: 978-572-0712

Email: k1iw@hamxposition.org

MBARC Fall Fest

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

09/14/2025

Start Date: 09/14/2025

End Date: 09/14/2025

Location: Knights of Columbus Hall

339 NY Rt 82 Please consider bringing a donation of a non-perishable can (coffee, dry goods, etc.) for the Veterans Food Bank.

Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Website: <http://wr2abb.org>

Sponsor: Mount Beacon ARC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.97 100 Hz

Public Contact: Adam Nowik Jr , AE2AN
106 Boardman Road Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
Phone: 845-849-3666
Email: AE2AN@aol.com

Nutmeg Hamfest, ARRL Connecticut State Convention

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

10/12/2025

Start Date: 10/12/2025

End Date: 10/12/2025

Location: Francis T. Maloney High School

121 Gravel Street

Meriden, CT 06450

Website: <http://nutmeghamfest.com>

Sponsor: Meriden Amateur Radio Club/Nutmeg
Hamfest Alliance

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: W1NRG/R 147.36 MHz PL162.2 +600
KHz

Public Contact: Edward Snyder , W1YSM
Meriden Amateur Radio Club; POB 583 Meriden,
CT 06450

Phone: 203-214-1745

Email: W1YSM@arrl.net

Editor: Dates, links, and other details for this column
provided by:

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

For current scores, visit:

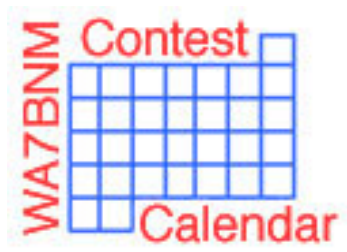
<https://www.3830scores.com/index.php>

150 17,614,109 14,360,565 9,511
42 4,332,334 3,767,550 3,656
710 4,332,334 3,767,550 3,656
458 5,513,832 5,119,488 4,069
630 29,529,080 20,600,646 14,541
000 29,529,080 20,600,646 14,541

3830scores.com
Contest Score Rumors

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

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



Listing of State QSO Parties:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/stateparties.php>

CARA 2025

Ham Exam Schedule



CARA 2025 Amateur radio exams:

Subject: VE Testing dates for 2025 at the
Stony Hill Firehouse in 2025.

All sessions are on Saturdays at 11:30 am.

September 6, 2025

December 6, 2025

Test takers need to register in advance by
emailing aj1u@arrl.net with their name,
the test they wish to take, and a contact
phone number.

Thanks,
73, Jon Bernon - AJ1U
CARA Volunteer Examiner Session
Coordinator

CT ARES Information:



Statewide Weekly ARES Net:
KB1AEV/NA1RA (NARA) linked repeaters:
Sunday @ 8:00 pm

Statewide Weekly DMR Net: DMR repeaters:
Sunday @ 8:30 pm

The CT ARES Region 5 South monthly meeting is held on the last Tuesday of the month – currently via TEAMS. Next meeting is April

Send an email inquiry to Harlan Ford – W1QH, Region 5 DEC if you would like to learn more about CT ARES or be added to the distribution for CT ARES announcements and links to CT ARES meetings via TEAMS.

hford01@snet.net

Visit this website to learn more about CT ARES, the weekly 2M FM nets, and Win Link Wednesday:

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

Next CT ARES WinLink Wednesday:

Wednesday, July 2

de John - KB1LYP

KB1OVQ, Newtown EOC will be hosting Win Link Wednesday, July 2 - the first Wednesday of the month.

We look forward to your submissions.

John - KB1LYP and the rest of the KB1OVQ Newtown EOC Crew.



CT ARES Winlink Wednesday

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly CT ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice session. Try to use the W1SP nodes in our area:

W1SP-6 LITCCT Litchfield
145.650 FN31JR

W1SP-7 NHAVCT Oxford
145.630 FN31JK

W1SP-8 FAIRCT Bridgeport
145.690 FN31JE

KX1EOC-10 Danbury EOC Greater Danbury
Area
145.630



Editor: Rick Palm, K1CE

ARES® Resources

- [Download the ARES Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Field Resources Manual \[PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Fillable PDF\]](#)
- [ARES Standardized Training Plan Task Book \[Word\]](#)
- [ARES Plan](#)
- [ARES Group Registration](#)
- [Emergency Communications Training](#)

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES) consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible to apply for membership in ARES. Training may be required or desired to participate fully in ARES. Please inquire at the local level for specific information. Because ARES is an amateur radio program, only licensed radio amateurs are eligible for membership. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable but is not a requirement for membership.

How to Get Involved in ARES: Fill out the [ARES Registration form](#) and submit it to your local Emergency Coordinator.

Support ARES®: Join ARRL

ARES® is a program of [ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®](#). No other organization works harder than ARRL to promote and protect amateur radio! ARRL members enjoy many benefits and services including digital magazines, e-newsletters, online learning ([learn.arrl.org](#)), and technical support. Membership also supports programs for radio clubs, on-air contests, Logbook of The World®, ARRL Field Day, and the all-volunteer ARRL Field Organization.

Join ARRL or renew today! [www.arrl.org/join](#)

The ARES Letter is free of charge to ARRL members.

Subscribe: [www.arrl.org/subscribe](#)

Find ARRL on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), X ([@arrl](#) and [@arrl_ares](#)), and [Threads](#)

ARRL Store: [www.arrl.org/shop](#)

Support programs not funded by member dues at [www.arrl.org/donate](#)

Contact us to advertise in this newsletter (space subject to availability): [ads@arrl.org](#)

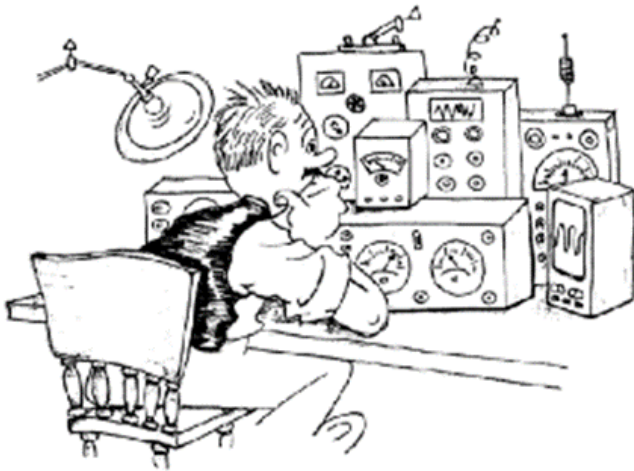
This document lists CT DEMHS Towns by
Region:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Emergency-Management/Resources-For-Officials/Regional-Offices/Towns-by-Region>

Submit CT ARES news to CARA Capers to be included here in next month's issue.

"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



"Tuning in together"

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@w1qi.org
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM
w1jgm@w1qi.org
Secretary – Treasurer
John Ahle – W1JMA, w1jma@w1qi.org

Directors:

David Coelho, WA1JGA
davidcoelho52@gmail.com
Rostyslaw Slabicky – N2ROS
w2ros@w1qi.org
Vacant Director Position

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization.

CARA Mailing Address:
120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

*Capers is the monthly newsletter of the
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Editor: Daniel Fegley - W1QK
w1qk@snet.net*



July issue input deadline: Thursday, July 3

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 if 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.



About ARRL:

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

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

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

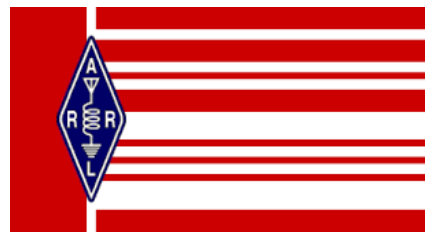
- Listen to ARRL Audio News, available every Friday.

Subscribe to...

- NCJ -- National Contest Journal. Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters. Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...

- Subscribe to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!
- Find ARRL on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter and Instagram!



Official ARRL Flag



Editor: Mike Walters, W8ZY

Important Links

ARRL Home: www.arrl.org

Find an ARRL Affiliated

Club: www.arrl.org/clubs

Find your ARRL

Section: www.arrl.org/sections

Find a license class in your

area: www.arrl.org/class

Find a license exam in your

area: www.arrl.org/exam

Find a hamfest or

convention: www.arrl.org/hamfests

Email ARRL Clubs: clubs@arrl.org



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/>



Editor: Messages from the CWops Reflector with credit to all contributors.

MESSAGES:

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Ken - KN2D
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 07:34:27 EDT
Emailed QSLs are not ok?

ARRL needs to get with the times.

73,
Ken
KN2D
CW Ops #3566

I asked Sharon at ARRL HQ about them, and she said flatly that they are not valid for any ARRL award.

Pete Chamalian, W1RM

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Doug KR2Q (438)
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 07:50:05 EDT
Anybody could make up their own emailed QSL. Zero verification. Zero veracity. Of course, they don't accept them.

de Doug KR2Q

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Victor 4X6GP #5
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 08:01:49 EDT
LoTW confirmations are just electrons. But they count.

Paper QSLs are nice to have, but you have to submit them for credit. This can be a problem when you live outside of the US and there isn't a local card checker. Email QSLs are just electrons, and they don't count. Who needs them?

73,
Victor, 4X6GP
Rehovot, Israel
Formerly K2VCO
CWops no. 5
<http://www.qsl.net/k2vco>

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Doug KR2Q (438)
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 08:05:06 EDT
LoTW is "just electrons," but the process is verified, in that they must have a "match" and neither party "knows" what the other one is submitting (or not). It is

a double-blind experiment, so confirmations are "proven."

But you already know this. LOL
de Doug KR2Q

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Doug KR2Q (438)
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 08:08:06 EDT
And I just don't understand why "DX" does not use LOTW if they are using e-QSO or this new one where you get a "picture" of an old fashioned "printed" QSL. DX can use LOTW for free, right? Makes no sense. And as proof, almost every email QSL I get is also verified in LOTW. It's just junk mail. I sure am NOT going to printout the emailed QSL to hang on the wall.

de Doug KR2Q

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Zack Widup
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 09:04:08 EDT
I've been getting a lot of these recently. They appear to be actual scans of QSL's from DX stations, filled out by hand, going back as far as the late 1980's. I know they don't count for any ARRL awards (and all of the ones I've received I don't need for any awards, anyway). But it's kind of surprising to me.

Zack - W9SZ

That's fine with me, I had not intended to apply for any ARRL award anyway...
Dave (G0DJA)
CWops #266

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: TOM N4LSJ
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 10:08:00 EDT
ARRL is right to not consider Emailed QSLs or GIF/JPG QSLs valid. They're far too easy to forge. But, someone says, "Can't someone just print out a card?"
Yes, but it's a much bigger hassle to do so, and card checkers can probably spot a fake pretty well, having seen all the latest DX from other operators.

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Steve KO4VW
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 10:11:25 EDT
These are from a newer site called QSL World. I've been getting so many of these I see them as spam. I

use EQSL, but at least it doesn't spam everyone's inbox.

Steve
KO4VW

Re: Are emailed QSLs valid?
From: Doug KR2Q (438)
Date: Wed, 07 May 2025 13:40:12 EDT
Yeah...I HATE getting them. I don't even open them, just hit DELETE.

What gets me is that some of them are VERY OLD, like they dumped their entire log from day 1 into the app.

At least they are easy to dispose of.

de Doug KR2Q



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

There are in excess of 400 testers who are members of the club throughout New England, New York, and Canada.

YCCC has members who are some of the most proficient contest operators in the world.

Several CARA members are also members of the YCCC.

More information about the YCCC at:
<http://www.yccc.org/>

Editor: Messages from the YCCC Reflector with credit to all contributors.

MESSAGES:

.
1a.
N1W operator invite
From: Randy Thompson K5ZD
Date: Sat, 07 Jun 2025 13:13:36 EDT
Hello All,

*The World Wide Award 2025 is a global on-the-air scavenger hunt for special event stations with all QSOs tracked in real-time using the Hamaward.cloud platform. The next event is kicking off in July with approximately 60 Special Event Stations representing various continents and countries around the globe. You can explore our website:
<https://hamaward.cloud/wwwa>.*

available so there is no scheduling. You get on when you want and make QSOs.

Let me know by June 17 if you want to be on the team. It is a fun way to get in some running and pileup practice.

Randy K5ZD



I have reserved the callsign N1W as one of the special event stations that will be an activator. Dates for the event are June 30 to July 6, 2025

Anyone can join the team and help activate N1W. It is easy to set up the WWA QSO forwarding tool connected to N1MM, DxLog, and other contest logging software applications. We can only have one station active at a time per band and mode. The platform makes it easy to see what band-modes are



Win Link 2M CT Packet Gateways - Submitted by W1QK:

CALL	COUNTY	LOC./FREQUENCY	GRID	REGION	EMG.	POWER
W1SP-1	TOLLCT	Tolland 145.65		FN31UV	3	Y
W1SP-2	WINDCT	Brooklyn 145.61		FN41AT	4	Y
W1SP-3	NLONCT	Ledyard 145.63		FN31XK	4	Y
W1SP-4	HARTCT	Avon 145.69		FN31OT	3	Y
W1SP-5	MIDDCT	Haddam 145.69		FN31RK	2	Y
W1SP-6	LITCCT	Litchfield 145.65		FN31JR	5	Y
W1SP-7	NHAVCT	Oxford 145.63		FN31JK	5	Y
W1SP-8	FAIRCT	Bridgeport 145.69		FN31JE	1	Y
KX1EOC-10	Fairfield	Danbury EOC 145.63			5	Y
W8ZY	Litchfield	W8ZY QTH 145.610		FN31		

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly CT ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice session. Try to use the W1SP nodes in our area:

Source: <https://ctares.org/data-comms-winlink-packet/>

The W8ZY-10 gateway is back up in New Milford on 145.610.

It is set up for 1200 baud packet and VARA.

Please give it a try if you can and let me know how it works.

Mike Walters W8ZY w8zy@hotmail.com

Dayton Hamvention Contest University Presentations

<https://www.dxengineering.com/search/brand/contest-university-books>

2025 Professors:

[Tim Duffy, K3LR](#)

[Katie Campbell, KE8LQR](#)

[Jim Hall, AD4EB](#)

[Rob Sherwood, NC0B](#)

[Bob Wilson, N6TV](#)

[Bill Fehring, W9KKN](#)

[Ed Muns, W0YK](#)

[Tim Jellison, W3YQ](#)

[Hank Garretson, W6SX](#)

[Joel Harrison, W5ZN](#)

[Frank Donovan, W3LPL](#)

[Doug Grant, K1DG](#)

[Anthony Willard, AB9YC](#)

[Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW](#)

2025 Dayton Contest University "CTU" – COURSE OUTLINE – 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

7:00 ALL ROOMS – Student Registration and Contest Buffet Breakfast – ALL – 60 minutes

8:00 ALL ROOMS – Welcome to CTU 2024 – K3LR, W8CI & N9JA – ALL – 10 minutes

8:10 ALL ROOMS – Contesting – what's it all about? – K1DG – ALL – 40 minutes

9:00 CONTEST TOPIC SESSION #1 – attend ONE of 4 sessions – 60 minutes

ROOM 1 – DXing and Contesting – The Dynamic Duo! – AB9YC

ROOM 2 – HF Propagation During the Next Year of Solar Cycle 25 – W3LPL

ROOM 3 – dB for Free – An Antenna Exercise for Little Pistols – W6SX

ROOM 4 – Tips to Improve Your RTTY Contest Performance – W0YK

10:00 ALL – *CONTEST SNACK* – 15 minutes

10:15 CONTEST TOPIC SESSION #2 – attend ONE of 4 sessions – 60 minutes

ROOM 1 – Youth Radio Organizations that Promote Radio Sporting Activities, How to Get More Youth Involved – KE8LQR

ROOM 2 – How to Improve the Competitive Performance of your Contest Station – W3LPL

ROOM 3 – Success Strategies for Remote & Hybrid Multiop Contesting – W9KKN

ROOM 4 – Tips to Improve Your FT8/FT4 Contest Performance – W0YK

11:20 CONTEST TOPIC SESSION #3 – attend ONE of 4 sessions – 55 minutes

ROOM 1 – Radiosport – Take It on the Road – AD4EB

ROOM 2 – How to Improve the Competitive Performance of Your HF Antennas – W3LPL

ROOM 3 – Everything You Need to Know About USB and Serial Interfaces – N6TV

ROOM 4 – How to Maximize the Performance of Low Band Receiving Antennas – W5ZN

12:15 ALL ROOMS – *CONTEST LUNCH* – ALL – 35 minutes

12:50 ALL ROOMS – 2025 Eyeball Sprint Contest “LIVE” – ALL – 10 minutes – K1DG

1:00-1:35 ALL ROOMS – Solar Cycle 25 – Lessons Learned for Amateur Radio – WX6SWW

***1:45 CONTEST TOPIC SESSION by REQUEST to RERUN – 50 minutes**

ROOM 1 – As determined by *vote 1

ROOM 2 – As determined by *vote 2

ROOM 3 – As determined by *vote 3

ROOM 4 – As determined by *vote 4

2:40 CONTEST OPEN DISCUSSION Q&A GROUPs Attend ONE of 4 sessions – 30 minutes

ROOM 1 – Station Automation Techniques – N6TV

ROOM 2 – The Contesting World of VHF/UHF – W5ZN

ROOM 3 – Remote Station Ideas and Q&A – W9KKN

ROOM 4 – Tower Safety – W3YQ

3:15 CONTEST OPEN DISCUSSION Q&A GROUPs Attend ONE of 4 sessions – 30 minutes

ROOM 1 – Antenna and Propagation Q&A with Frank – W3LPL

ROOM 2 – How to Get the Most Out of Your Contest Station Q&A – K1DG

ROOM 3 – RTTY and FT8 Contesting Q&A – W0YK

ROOM 4 – Antenna/Tower Reliability – W3YQ

3:45 ALL – *CONTEST SNACK* – 15 minutes

4:00 ALL ROOMS – Performance and Feature Differences Among Top Radios
– NC0B – ALL – 50 minutes

4:50 ALL ROOMS – 2025 CTU Survey & Eyeball Sprint Results – K3LR & K1DG
– ALL – 10 minutes

*** 1:45 PM CONTEST SESSION by REQUEST vote to RERUN**
CTU onsite students will vote for 4 topics/classes that they missed
and would like to have presented again – the top 4 WANTED by vote
– will RERUN in this time slot.



What is N1MM Logger + ?



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

<https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/downloads/n1mm-full-install/>

Northeast HamX '25

The ARRL New England Division Convention

Ticketing is now available for HamX '25, to be held **August 21 through 25** at the **Best Western Hotel and Conference Center** in **Marlborough, Mass.**

Tickets to the Friday DX/Contest dinner, as well as the convention, are available [online here](#).

We have special news concerning our Friday DXCC dinner:

DX Engineering ("DXE") has graciously agreed to be the official sponsor for the Northeast HamXposition Friday evening DX/Contest Banquet. According to DX Engineering CEO Tim Duffy, K3LR, the company will donate six \$100 gift certificates toward purchase of products from the company, along with a major prize of an Icom IC-7610 with a retail value of \$3,250.00.



The HamXposition Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Tim Duffy and the DX Engineering team for their generosity! your content.



The IC-7610 will be the major door prize for the Friday DXCC Dinner, which is featuring well-known international DX'er/Contester Ned Stearns, AA7A. Ned will talk about Remote DXpeditioning and the Radio-In-a-Box (RIB) technology.

June 14th Danbury Railway Museum MNRA Special Event Activation

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **DANIEL THILL** <danielgthill@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jun 2, 2025, 10:01 AM

Subject: June 14th Danbury Railway Museum

To: DANIEL THILL <danielgthill@gmail.com>

Hello Amateur Radio Clubs,

Metro-North Railroad Amateur Radio Assoc. would like to invite your members to a Special Event Activation from the Danbury Railway Museum for the 9th annual Steel & Wheels Car Show to benefit HomeBridge Ventures.

We will have a table setup for those interested in selling / purchasing amateur radio gear . You can leave your items for sale on the table as you enjoy the many events going on , we'll sell it for you.

More information regarding the Car Show can be found here;

<https://www.danburyrail.org/carshow>

www.mnrara.org

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you,

Dan Thill - N2DGT
Special Event Committee



DANBURY MENU ≡
RAILWAY MUSEUM



+

**The 9th annual Steel &
Wheels Benefit Car Show is
here!**

**Saturday, June 14, 2025
(rain date Sunday, June 15,
2025)**

10:00 AM to 2:30 PM

**\$15 admission for everyone ages 2 and
up (under 24 months free)**

**Proceeds to benefit
HomeBridge Ventures**



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 220 MHz. Repeater – Back on the air

CARA 220 MHz duplexer tuning verification

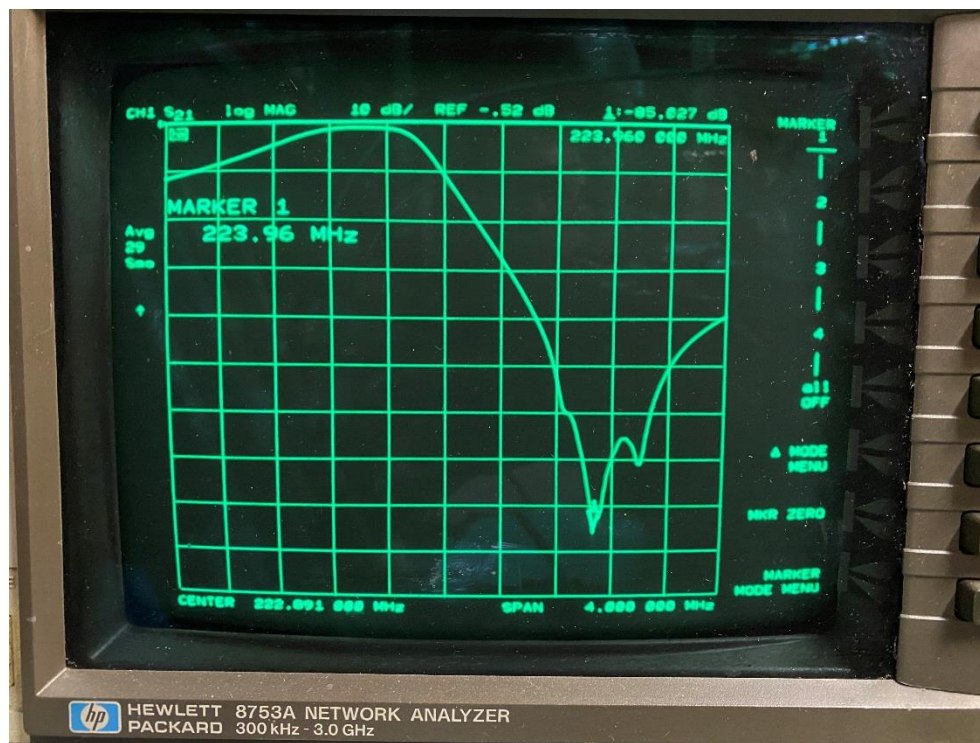
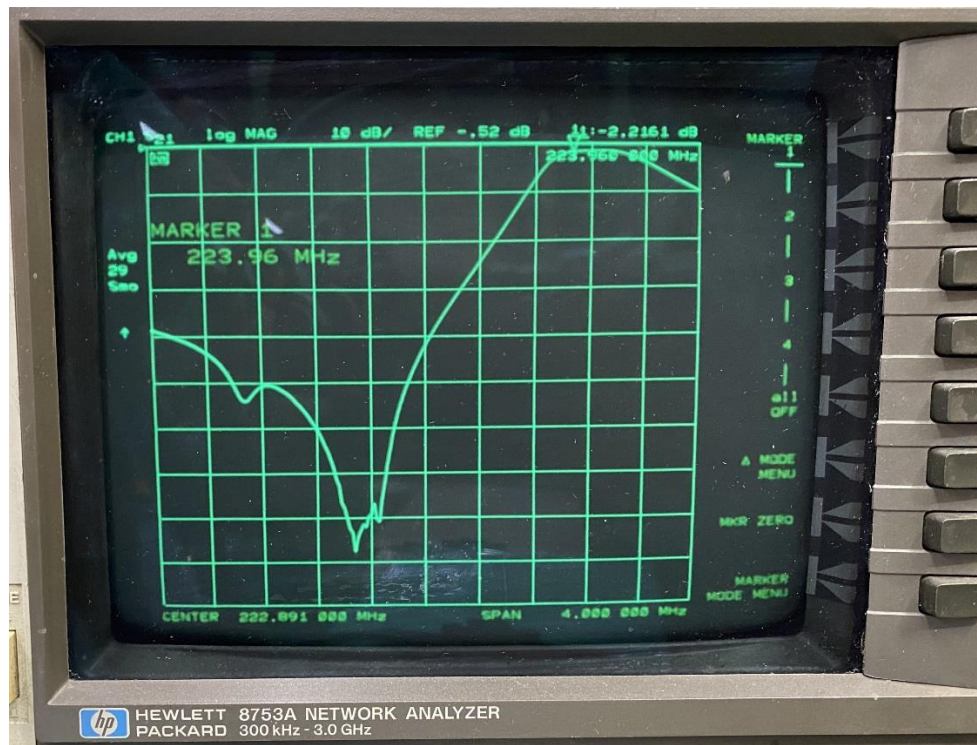
To: CARAW1QI@groups.io Mon, May 12 at 12:59 PM

For those interested in the technical side of repeaters; attached are the results of my testing the club's 220 repeater duplexer.

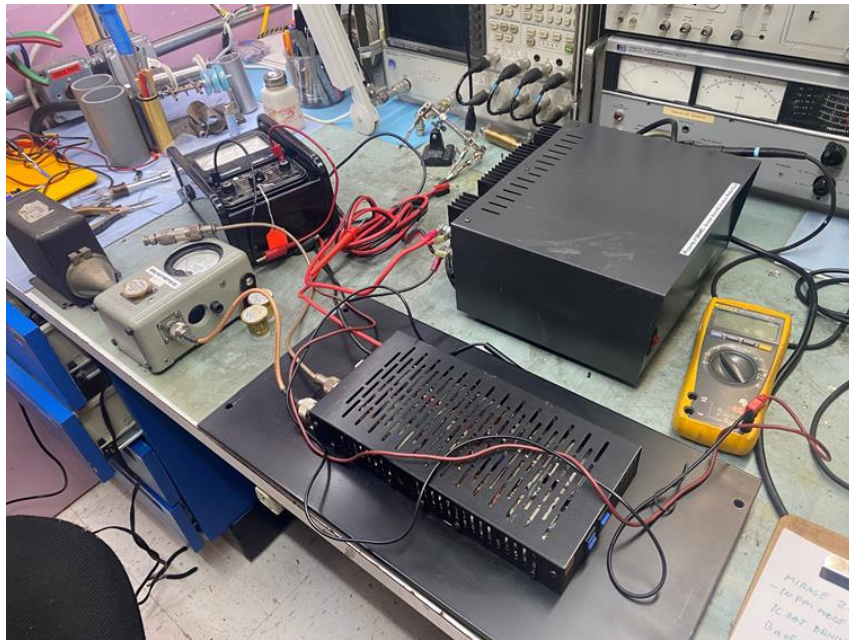
- The PDF files show independent and combined curves of the duplexer's impedances – looking into the (radio) ends either the transmit or receive cables that connect to the duplexer. The antenna port of the duplexer is terminated with a 50-ohm load for these tests.



- The jpg images show the Pass and Reject of the duplexer.



- Both connection cables (radio > duplexer) were also individually tested for impedance and loss.
-



Testing the 220 Repeater Amplifier



- The last image shows the 220MHz repeater cabinet with the duplexer sitting on the bottom. The cabinet will be fitted with wheels, brackets to secure the duplexer and a lightning/surge arrestor.
-

For those who are visual;

Here is the new 220mhz antenna deployed on my test support connected with 100 Ft. of RG213 coax. Not the best feedline as its lossy at 220 but works for this test. W1SMS



Re: [CARAW1QI] **The 220 MHz repeater is now live operating from my QTH**

From:ssimons@manitousys.com **To:**caraw1qi@groups.io Sun, Jun 1 at 4:52 PM

All club repeater frequencies are listed on the CARA website – here is the link to the repeater page:
[Repeaters](#)

de: W1SMS

To:caraw1qi@groups.io Sun, Jun 1 at 4:46 PM

For those who have the capability; the CARA 220 MHz repeater is now operating from my QTH.

Please give a “ker-chunk” and report back ...

Thanks and 73,

Steve



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CARA June monthly Pasta Night Event:
Tuesday, June 17. Gather at 6:00 pm

[CARAW1QI] Published in the July issue of QST

att.net/Inbox

John Morelli (W1JGM)

From: w1jgm@w1qi.org

To: caraw1qi@groups.io

Mon, Jun 9 at 1:07 PM

A year ago we held our first technicians licensing class. The ARRL published the article in the July 20 25 issue. The article on the class in the “Upfront section “ page 20.

Up Front

Stepping Up

John Morelli, W1JGM, shared the many facets of ham radio with his friends, including the process of acquiring one’s license. Interest was high, so he approached his club, the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association, about sponsoring a class. A hybrid approach was decided upon, meeting first in person to go over class expectations, distribute materials, and have a question-and-answer session.

After several online meetings, they met again for in-person demonstrations and hands-on radio experience. The Northville Amateur Radio Association/Candlewood Amateur Radio Association VE Team administered the exam. The class was a success — nine new Technicians and two new Generals! John thanks the volunteers — John Ahle, W1JMA; Dan Thill, N2DGT, and Vinny Tompkins, N2OHH — who helped make his first training class such a success.



Students taking their license exams. [John Morelli, W1JGM, photo]





CARA Membership/Dues Application & Interest Survey for Calendar Year 2025

JOIN CARA!

Full membership rate is \$40 in January – prorated accordingly

An Associate member is any interested non-licensed person or licensed amateur under the age of 16. Associate members are not granted voting privileges.

Family membership is a full membership rate plus \$15 for each amateur within the nuclear family.

<https://cararadioclub.org/join-cara>