



CARA PROVIDING 80 YEARS of AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE

August 2026 edition CARA CAPERS-Lite
W1JMA Content Editor

Next Program Meeting Thursday 8/13 7:30pm at Stony Hill FD

ELMER NIGHT



Club Events: Pasta Night Tuesday 8/18 Vespucci Lodge 6pm

POTA at Lover's Leap 8/22 10am to 2pm

Meshcore Presentation at the June Meeting by Peter K1PCN



**Look for Peter's Presentation on our Elmers Section on
CARA Website**

What is MeshCore? Off-Grid TextMessaging — No License Required

July 14, 2026|Elmer Q&A

Ever wondered how you'd stay in touch if cell towers and the internet went dark? That question has an increasingly popular answer: **MeshCore**, an off-grid, encrypted messaging system built on LoRa radio.

Your phone pairs over Bluetooth with a small, inexpensive radio called a companion, and your messages hop across a mesh of nearby companions and fixed *repeaters* — completely independent of cell towers, WiFi, or the internet.

If one node fails, traffic finds another path. Learn more at meshcore.io.

CARA Monthly Pasta Dinner 😊



Subs, Soda and POTA at Putnam Park

VP Report John W1JGM

While the heat of summer or the rain of summer continues, the activities of the CARA club continue. We had a very successful Sub & Soda at Putnam State Park in July. Several stations were set up, and contacts worldwide were being made. At one point there were 7+ operators on one radio. Contacts were made on several modes, i.e. CW, Digital, and SSB. Lunch was BYO and a good time and continued learning was had by all. Many thanks to the new club members that joined the event. There is a Club POTA event each month; the next event will be a Lovers Leap Stat Park in New Milford. Check the website and your E-mail of the date as it may change due to the Northeast HamXposition in Marlborough, Massachusetts.

The next presentation meeting at the SHFD Thursday the 13th will be an Elmers session. Bring your projects, your questions, and your thoughts.

As always this is your club; it depends on you.

Remember to check the club website for upcoming events.

CARA July Business Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 by John W1JGM, VP. There was a quorum.

There was no June business Meeting.

The May minutes and June treasury reports were accepted.

Old Business:

- The area Subs/Soda/POTA event is this Saturday at Putnam Park
 - Emails were sent to various area clubs inviting them
- The 80th Anniversary Big Eaters dinner is scheduled for September 24th. In August attendance list and reservations will be made.
- The 80th Anniversary shirt ordering process is underway and should be available to club members by August.
- Dan, W1QK, mentioned that the Field Day scores were sent to ARRL. The number of contacts were down from previous years.
- There was discussion led by John W1JGM regarding the use of a new w1qi@w1qi.org email address for all non-financial club business, especially CSMA and the FCC. The new process is being implemented.

Committee Reports:

- Steve, W1SMS, reported out that he intends to put the repeater equipment in a container on his property with a concrete pad that will need to be funded. The container is free to the club.
 - Steve also discussed the need to add solar to our repeater power supply process. More to follow as this gets engineered and costed out.
- Stephanie reported that the website is functioning as expected.
- The CAPERS Blog due date is August 5.
- Next VE test is 9/5.
- No upcoming Hamfests for our fund-raising efforts
 - Jon, K1RFD, donated various miscellaneous equipment to sell.

New Business:

- The August 13th program meeting will be an Elmer's night
- September meeting: Bud lining up a presenter

The next program meeting is Thursday 8/13 and business meeting on 8/27.

Meeting closed at 8:27pm.

CARA Treasury Report

July 31, 2026

Income:	Full Member Dues	\$1175
Income:	Interest Income	\$ 211
Income:		
Income:	Club Table at Hamfests	\$1400
Total Income:		\$2786

Expense:	Field Day	\$182
Expense:	Repeater Electricity	\$191
Expense:	Insurance	\$305
Expense:	Repeater 6m	\$530
Expense:	Admin	\$116
Total Expense:		\$1324

Net Income for Period **\$1462**

Cash: Checking-Unrestricted	\$6350
Cash: Checking-Restricted	\$175
Cash: Petty	\$50
Certificates of Deposit-USB	\$14788
Field Day Food Purse	\$245

Total Cash/Investments **Balance: \$21118**

Number of full members: 60

Associate members: 0

Auxiliary members: 4

CARA Club General Information

Officers

President

Bud Kozloff, W1NSK
W1NSK@Hotmail.com

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 – W2ROS
w2ros@w1qi.org
Steven Simons – W1SMS
ssimons@manitousys.com

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization

CARA Mailing Address:

120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

CARA CAPERS/Elmer's Corner Blog Moderator

John M Ahle W1JMA

W1jma@w1qi.org

CARA routinely accepts donations of ham radio equipment that will either sell to club members or to the ham radio community at large; Sale proceeds to benefit the operating activities and repeater infrastructure of CARA. Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank You.

CARA VE Testing Information

VE Testing at the Stony Hill Firehouse Rt 6 Bethel.

All sessions are on Saturdays at 11:30 am.

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.

Check the CARA website for the scheduled dates!

Thanks,

73, Jon Bernon - AJ1U

CARA Volunteer Examiner Session Coordinator



ARES and Winlink General Information

CT ARES Packet Winlink Local Nodes and APRS Frequency

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly CT ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice session.

W1SP-6	LITCCT	Litchfield	145.650	FN31JR
W1SP-7	NHAVCT	Oxford	145.630	FN31JK
W1SP-8	FAIRCT	Bridgeport	145.690	FN31JE
KX1EOC-10	FAIRCT	Danbury	145.030	FN31
W8ZY-10	Litchfield	New Milford	145.610	FN31 *

AC1DQ-10 Fairfield Weston 145.050 FN31*

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

*VARA FM and Packet Capable

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 Monthly – currently via TEAMS.***

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

APRS Digipeaters operated by CARA Members

144.390

W1JMA-10 Ridgefield/Redding
W1QI-4 New Fairfield
KR1COM-10 Ridgefield Center- EOC
KB1FYZ-3 West Side of Danbury

