



CARA PROVIDING 80 YEARS of AMATUER RADIO SERVICE

May 2026 edition CARA CAPERS-Lite via our CAPERS Blog
W1JMA Content Editor

Next Program Meeting Thursday 5/14 7:30pm at Stony Hill FD

Next Club Event: Club POTA Sunday 5/17 Various Locations

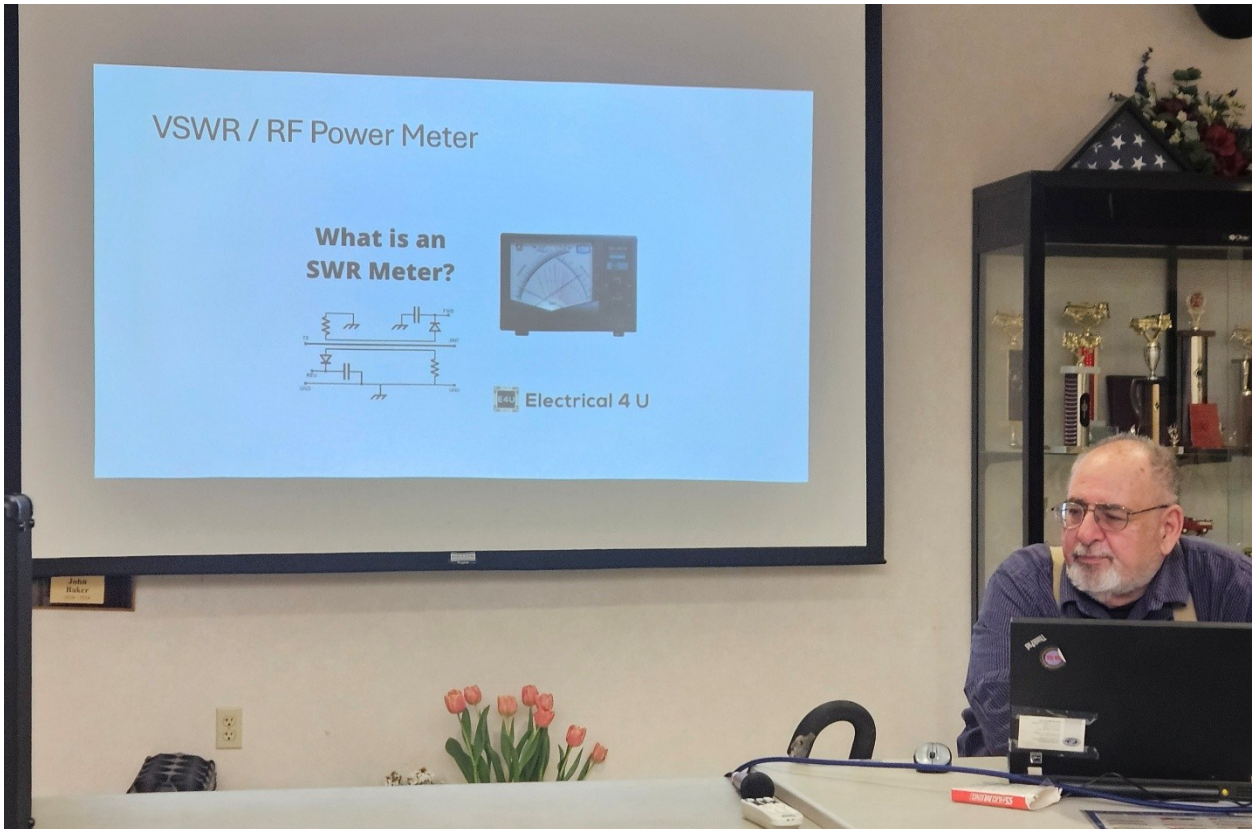
David KB1ZAC our ***POTA Master*** will Discuss this Month's Plan

- Huntington Park
- Wooster Mtn Park
- Squantz Pond
- Putnam Park



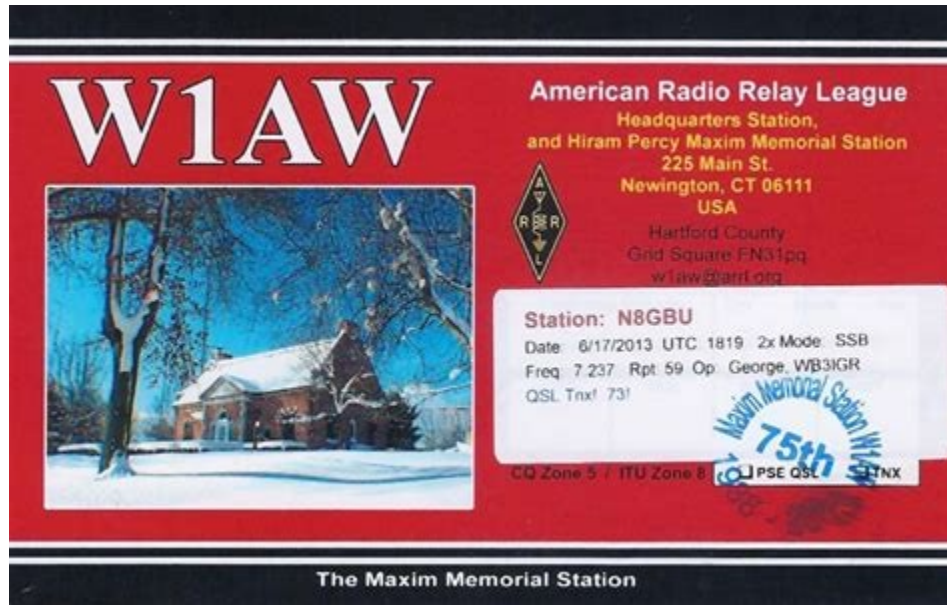
Putnam Park POTA Site

W1JGM Test Equipment Presentation at the April Meeting



W1JGM presentation available on the CARA website Elmer's Blog

CARA "Dream Team" travels to ARRL



NEQP Dream Team: W1JGM, W1NSK, W1QH, KB1ZAC



This year's host at the station was **Max Freedman N4ML**. Max is the ARRL Education and Learning Support Specialist. Youngest member of the recent Bouvet Team!

Presidents Message- Bud W1NSK

Spring has finally sprung as they say, and a myriad of events and activities move into full swing. A group from CARA recently participated in the New England QSO Party from W1AW. An enjoyable time making Q's was had.

Tom Frenaye, ARRL New England Director will be speaking at our club meeting Thursday May 14th at 7:30pm Stony Hill FD. Topics include what's happenings at ARRL, Legislative initiatives and resources will be his focus. Bring questions!

Many CARA events to participate in this month:

On Saturday May 16th, Southern Berkshire ARC will be holding the annual "Goshen Hamfest". We are looking for help to work at our table. Contact John, W1JGM for details.

-Now that the weather is nice, our POTA Activations will be restarting. Sunday May 17th from 11 to 3PM. David, KB1ZAC will discuss this month's club plan.

-Our informal club gathering for the Spaghetti Dinner at Villa Vespucci Lodge in Danbury is 6PM on Tuesday the 19th.

-Our Weekly Net on the CARA Repeater at 7:30. Join Us!

The Monthly Business Mtg. is the 28th of May via TEAMS. ALL are welcome as we plan future events.

Field Day, the last weekend of June is less than two months away. This is a fun weekend for all to participate regardless of license class or skill level. Plan on joining us for antenna raising, operating, a bite to eat as well as making new friends and renewing old ones!

Vice President's Message- John W1JGM

The weather has been mild urging outdoor activities, so I hope you have been able to get outside and worked POTA, SOTA or just set up outside and work around the world or setup or repaired an antenna. Radio is about activities, friendship, technical abilities, and the curiosity of technology. Every time we look at a new and different aspect, every time we turn another page, see another video or speak to

a friend, we find something new and exciting. Ham radio is not just a \$29 HT connecting to the local repeater; it is much more. Using the allotted frequency spectrum we are allotted; the disciplines are endless. From 2200 meters (135 kHz) to above 275 GHz (.11CM) Phone, Digital or the original Digital mode, CW. There are many options. Ask a fellow Ham or search the internet and YouTube; the possibilities are endless.

With that said, members of the CARA club worked our first club POTA at Squantz Pond State Park on the 18th of April. Several of the members took the opportunity to try out new radios and antennas. We all learned a little more about our equipment, including some seasoned operators.

On the 3rd of May, W1NSK, W1QH, KB1ZAC and I, W1JGM operated the New England QSO Party (NEQP) from the W1AW, Hiram Percy Maxim station. Operating from the league superstation always brings a smile to the operators not to forget the contact you made. You can always detect excitement in their voices.

This year's host at the station was Max Freedman N4ML. Max is the ARRL Education and Learning Support Specialist. He is also the youngest member of the 2026 Bouvet Island DX-pedition and a wealth of knowledge for his age.

If you get a chance, try and join club members at the scheduled events, you will enjoy the time. Remember this is your club, it depends on you!

CARA April 2026 Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Bud, W1NSK, president. There was a quorum. 12 members attended via TEAMS.

The minutes of the March meeting as presented in the CAPERS-Lite Blog were accepted.

The Treasurers report as presented in the CAPERS-Lite Blog was accepted.

- The treasurer reported that the CD was purchased for \$7.5k and will mature in December. The next \$5k CD matures in June and will be increased to \$7k for a 1-year duration. We will have 1 CD mature in December and one in June going forward.

Committee Reports

- Steve W1SMS submitted the following update
 - 2m repeater at his QTH is operating well
 - Next plan to build out a new tower that will increase the antenna height and reduce the feedline length, thus improving the signal
 - A 150watt amplifier will be added
 - By end of June, will have 6m/440 and 220 up and running from SMS qth to satisfy CSMA requirements
 - Site search continues for a more permanent home for our repeaters. Another potential site is a water tower off Naby Road near Stew Leonard's.
- Stephanie was not at the meeting, the website is functioning well
- The next VE session is June 6th at 11:30 Stony Hill FD
- Dave, ZAC, discussed the May **CLUB** POTA event; signup sheets have been distributed on groups.IO. This POTA is on Sunday 5/17.
- Fund Raising- Next Hamfest is Goshen on Saturday 5/16 8-1pm. There are a few items left to sell. Help needed. Contact John W1JGM

Old Business

- The CARA 80th Anniversary Celebrations are as follows:
 - Dinner in **September** at the Big Eaters, members and guests to be invited. 4th Thursday of the month. More to follow.
 - A Sub/Soda gathering of areas hams to celebrate will be at Putnam Park on **Saturday 8/1**. Invites will be sent to neighboring clubs.
 - **Dan, QK and John JGM will work on T-shirt/Polo shirt order for the 80th.**
- **The Club QSO party will be held at the Ball Pond FD on Saturday June 20 from 11-4.** We will set up for FD before this event and leave up antennas for the following week's Field Day. **Signup sheets will be distributed.** Both events on the CARA website.
- Mike, ZY, discussed the 2 weeks that club members can operate as W1AW/1 from either their home or a club gathering. The first week is

5/20-26 and 10/7-13. CARA members participated in this several years ago from Ball Pond FD. More to follow.

New Business

- **Tom Frenaye will be at the May Meeting to discuss ARRL issues.**
 - **A motion was made, seconded and approved to fund \$60, the NEQP CT plague for the 2025 winner.**
- The NEQP W1AW operating event is now on Sunday 5/3 in Newington. A sign-up roster will be sent.
- Field Day is June 27 and 28 at the Ball Pond FD. There was discussion about which software to use, N1MM or N3FJP. In addition, there was discussion on what antennas to use this year. We might use a triband Yagi mounted on a ladder.

Announcements

- **Pasta night on 5.19 6pm Vespucci Lodge**

The next program meeting is Thursday 5/14 at the Stony Hill FD at 7:30, the next business meeting on Thursday 5/28 at 7:30 on Teams.

The meeting was closed at 8:33 pm.

**CARA Treasury Report
April 30, 2026**

Income:	Full Member Dues	\$1135
Income:	Interest Income	\$ 136
Income:		
Income:	Club Table at Hamfests	\$1167
Total Income:		\$2438
Expense:	Field Day	\$139
Expense:	Repeater Electricity	\$86
Expense:	Insurance	\$305
Expense:	Repeater 6m	\$530
Expense:	Admin	\$54
Total Expense:		\$1114

Net Income for Period

\$1324

Cash: Checking-Unrestricted	\$7856
Cash: Checking-Restricted	\$175
Cash: Petty	\$50
Certificates of Deposit-USB	\$13061
Field Day Food Liability	-\$162

Total Cash/Investments **Balance: \$21142**

Number of full members: 59

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

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/>



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 Border
W1QI-4 New Fairfield Fire Department
KR1COM-10 Ridgefield Center- EOC
KB1FYZ-3 West Side of Danbury

