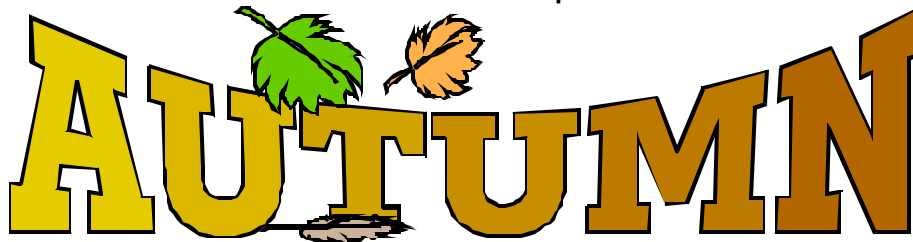




CAPERS

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT

President – Frank Etzler – N8WXQ - phone - 860-350-3523
Vice President – Harlan Ford – KB1ILY – phone- 203-798-8096
Secretary – Martha Babbitt – KB1IES - phone - 860-350-8804
Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536



Meeting: Friday, September 9, at 8 p.m.

Issue: September 2005

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well the fall is upon us. I hope all had a fine summer. My Best wishes for good DX in coming months. The low sunspot numbers at this time in the cycle offer excellent opportunities for DX on 160, 80, 40 and 30 meters. This is an excellent time to sharpen your CW and digital mode skills.

The hamfest is coming up this month. I encourage all to come and enjoy the day. Your help will also be greatly appreciated. I am sure all are aware that the hamfest is the most important fund raising event for the club. Encourage all your ham buddies to attend.

This fall the programs will focus on digital communications. The September program will focus on packet radio for emergency communications - a timely topic, indeed, in light of the recent events in New Orleans.

In October the program will concern software-defined radio and in November

Steve Ford will speak on the HF digital modes.

It is with great sadness that I report that Terry, N1USQ, is now a silent key. Terry passed away suddenly on August 26. Terry was an active user of our repeater and I know we will all miss him. He leaves behind his wife and children. We will discuss a contribution to his children's college fund.

I look forward to seeing each of you.

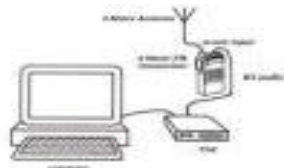
73 de Frank, N8WXQ

Plan Now for September Hamfest!
CARA's annual Hamfest will take place on Sunday, September 18. See the flyer attached to this month's issue of the CAPERS for more details.

We're counting on every member to do his or her part to promote and support this important club fundraiser and major fun

event. We also hope that every club member will find a role to play at the hamfest, whether it's directing traffic, helping with set-up and take down, at the admissions desk, with refreshments, or coordinating tailgate activities at the Edmund Town Hall. Mark your calendar today! SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE FRIDAY SEPT. 9 MEETING!

September Meeting on Packet Radio and CARA Hamfest



Harlan KB1ILY and Oscar KB1LQV will present a program on Packet Radio at the September meeting. Learn more about this exciting aspect of amateur radio and what's involved in getting "on the air" with packet.

At the September meeting, Bill N1PJJ, will review final plans for the September 18 Hamfest. Members will have an opportunity to sign up for specific assignments to help assure that our Hamfest is a resounding success!

Meetings

CARA's regular meetings are held on the second Friday of each month beginning at 8 p.m., at St. Paul's Church Hall, Brookfield Center, CT. Informal "rag chewing" begins at 7:30 p.m.

Terry Lee Geneway N1USQ Silent Key

Terry Lee Geneway, N1USQ, age 44, of Danbury, died unexpectedly on Friday, Aug. 26, 2005, at Danbury Hospital. He was the husband of Lisa (Banks) Geneway.

Terry was born July 14, 1961, in Malone, N.Y., son of Leighton Geneway, of Danbury, and the late Cecilia (Humiston) Geneway. As a young man, he lived on a farm in Burke, N.Y., and attended Chateaugay Central School until 1971 when his family moved to Danbury. He attended Stadley Rough School, Broadview School and graduated

from Danbury High School, Class of 1979. He later attended Henry Abbott Technical School for carpentry. Terry was a self-employed carpenter and general contractor. He owned and operated T. G. Carpentry and Builders.

In addition to his wife, Lisa, and his father, Terry is survived by his three daughters, Sherri, Ashley and Kayla, all of Danbury; two sisters, Susan Bernard and her husband, Michael, of Danbury, and Linda Merrill and her companion, David Thacker, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; a brother, Marvin Merrill and his wife, Tarsia, of Danbury; several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Terry was an active member of CARA and will be greatly missed.

Ham Radio Support for Katrina Disaster

The following comes from the desk of Rod Lane, N1FNE SEC CT:

THIS IS NOT A DRILL

I know what I just emailed out; I told you to stand by but the situation is changing. The need is much more immediate. I just got a "heads up" that 500 hams from all over the country will be requested within 24 hours for immediate deployment to affected areas, possibly in Alabama and Mississippi. NO CONNECTICUT ARES MEMBER IS TO DEPLOY YET!

Your task, right now, is to collect names of those who can respond, their training level, their equipment complement.

Right from the ARRL web site:

Amateur Radio emergency communication volunteers needed! (Sep 2, 2005)
-- The ARRL now is seeking experienced Amateur Radio emergency volunteers to help supplement communication for

American Red Cross feeding and sheltering operations in Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle--as many as 200 locations in all. Special consideration will be given to operators who have successfully completed the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications course training (Level I minimum) to serve as team leaders. These volunteer operators will help to provide communication and equipment for relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. If you're interested and qualified, please send an e-mail message to Katrina@arrl.org, providing name, call sign, contact information and any equipment you're willing and able to take along on a field deployment for an indefinite period. Volunteers may face hardship conditions without the usual amenities and will need to provide their own transportation to the marshaling area. This is what we train for.-- Rod, N1FNE SEC CT

I would ask that if you are deployed, please drop Rod, your DEC, ASM Brian K1BRF or me a note. Thank you.

73, Betsey Doane, K1EIC SM CT

New "Ham Aid" Program Funded

Newington, CT, Sep 2, 2005...The Corporation for National and Community Service (<[CNCS](http://www.nationalservice.org)> [target=externalhttp://www.nationalservice.org/>CNCS](http://www.nationalservice.org)) will provide a \$100,000 grant supplement to ARRL to support Amateur Radio's emergency communication operators in states affected by Hurricane Katrina. The grant will help to fund "Ham Aid," a new League program to support Amateur Radio volunteers deployed in the field in disaster-stricken areas. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, expressed gratitude to CNCS for its generous response. Ham Aid, she said, offers a unique opportunity to support individual radio amateurs helping to bridge the communication gap Hurricane Katrina has caused.

"For the first time in ARRL history, we will be

able to reimburse some of the expenses that hams incur in response to a disaster," she said. "We only wish that we could justify an expense reimbursement program like this every time Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers are called upon to help in a disaster or emergency, sometimes placing themselves in harm's way."

In addition to providing emergency communication within and outside the affected areas, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members and individual radio amateurs are supplementing the communication needs of emergency management and relief agencies, including the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army. Hobart said it's only due to the scope of the unprecedented and tragic Katrina disaster that CNCS agreed to help support dedicated Amateur Radio volunteers.

The CNCS Ham Aid grant is effective for operations established and documented as of September 1, 2005, and the aid is earmarked for Hurricane Katrina deployments only at this point. Guidelines are being established that will permit volunteers who have been involved in bona fide field support operations on or after September 1 to provide communication support to apply for a reimbursement voucher on a per diem basis.

Trained Amateur Radio operators will be on site for the duration of this disaster response, which could run into several weeks or months. "Many will leave their jobs and families and travel on their own expense, using their own equipment," Hobart points out.

The CNCS grant is an extension of ARRL's three year Homeland Security training grant, which has provided certification in emergency communication protocols to nearly 5500 Amateur Radio volunteer over the past three years.

"CNCS grants helped make it possible for the ARRL to train America's hams and make

them the best all-volunteer emergency radio service ever seen," Hobart said. "Now they are making it possible for the hams to use that training."



CARA Standing Committees

Just a reminder to all members that these are the standing committees that help make CARA run. Our members and their ideas are our strength. Sign up for one of these committees if you have not already done so. Talk to any of the club officers at a regular meeting!

Repeater and Digital Equipment

- Repeater coordination
- Repeater maintenance
- Packet cluster maintenance
- Other digital equipment

Operating Activities

- Field Day- June 2005
- New England QSO Party – May 2005
- WACC
- Special event station or fall contest

Hamfest

- Plan and organize – September 2005
- Publicity

Membership

- Annual dues notification and follow up
- Annual new member drive

Education and Elmering

- Organize or sponsor class for entry-level license
- Organize Elmer support network for new hams
- Organize two 3-person ARES deployment teams

Program Committee

- Organize and arrange monthly program
- Staff and Net Control for Sunday 7:30 p.m. CARA net
- CARA CAPERS newsletter

Nets

CARA Weekly Net: Sunday nights at 7:30 p.m. 147.30+ (PL 100)

WestConn Net: Nightly at 8:30 p.m. 147.18+ (PL 114.8)

Tips Net: Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. on 146.73- (PL77) (linked statewide).

R-Com Weekly Net: 145.47- (PL100) Thursday Evenings, 8 p.m.

ConnARES Area One (North) VHF Net: Second Monday of each month, 8 p.m. on CARA repeater: 147.30+ (PL 100)

Conn ARES Issues Net: 3.965 Mhz +/- on Thursdays @ approx. 6:15 p.m. (following CT Phone Net).

(Ed. Note: Our thanks to Bill W1WJB for the following article. Bill hopes it will have special appeal to today's youngsters—particularly those who follow the Harry Potter series of adventure books. You're encouraged to copy and distribute Bill's invitation and challenge.)

THE WIZARD'S OFFER...

AN OFFER AIMED AT KIDS



Here is my Wand. I hold it out to you. It is enjoyable, yet it conveys power and responsibility. Will you accept its challenge? Who is wise enough to take it up? (Do not do so lightly...)

I will reveal all its secrets to you happily. I seek only to pass my arcane knowledge on, because it is Valuable, and was hard-won. It is useful, practical knowledge that on fairly regular occasion is needed most urgently to do some good things for people in very grave danger. At other times it is interesting and educational just for its own pursuit.

It holds century-old, world-spanning personal power, without

gatekeepers or toll-takers. It is free, yet it is also costly in things more important than mere money. Time. Effort. Dedication. Intelligence.

It is easy, yet it will challenge your mind for the rest of your life, and never be finished.

I am 61 years old now, and have far more left to do than I have done so far; and I started over 40 years ago. Along the way, I have held every rating in this Craft from the lowest novice to the highest level of adeptness, and I earned each and every step.

My Brothers and Sisters in this Craft are poorly understood by most people. (We have not done a very good job of explaining ourselves.)

This Craft draws us into some odd ways, not entirely like other mortals. We sometimes do our work late at night, or in the very earliest of morning hours, or in the broad, main daylight. The mysterious and vast energies of The Sun itself power our exploits, and we seek to know its every mood, minor blemish, and major tantrum, because The Sun expands greatly or destroys utterly our power to span thousands of miles instantly with our merest of spoken thoughts.

In basements and in workshops in solitary labor we sometimes make things, special devices, not available anywhere else, with our own hands to our own personal designs, sometimes out of seeming junk, devices that are unique in all the world---and yet things that will become connected to all the world.

I can toss a few feet of common wire over a tree, and by doing, know the exact atomic time in Boulder, Colorado; or I can know at that precise instant what's being heard from Japan; or I can eavesdrop on 10,000 conversations---and join in any of them in less than a heartbeat.

You cannot do these things yet, or many, many others until you study this Craft, and are admitted to the membership of its examined and certified practitioners. For example, there is a precise formula for the length of that wire and the manner of its orientation that you are not schooled in yet, and so do not know yet, and so could not do. I can tell you how. And then you'll be amazed of how really easy it seems, once I give you that simple but arcane secret.

As almost a side-effect of taking up my offer, you'll learn a universe of things you have little idea of now. You'll gain an understanding of many things that is very rare in

today's world. You'll eventually know how almost everything in everyday life works. Not all of it right away, but in a steady gaining over the years, as you grow in this very special Craft.

The Craft's name?

Amateur Radio.

You will learn some physics, some electronics, some chemistry, some basic machine shop and technical construction skills, how to design and execute your ideas for new devices that never existed before. You'll gain understanding few people achieve.

You'll have help. Special guides we call "Elmer". Books. Many books. And you'll have literally millions of fellow students world-wide who you can talk with, learn from, and teach in turn the unique things you've discovered. It's a very, very special global community. And it's open to you---if you'll accept the challenge.

That's Amateur Radio in the 21st century.

W1WJB

(My Wizard name...)

Congratulations to Betsey K1EIC !

Betsey Doane, K1EIC, Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, have been named Mentors/Instructors of the Year (Aug 9, 2005). Connecticut Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC, and former Western Washington SM Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, have been honored as the co-recipients of the Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) 2005 Mentor of the Year Award. The award recognizes excellence in assisting CCE students both online and in the classroom.

Amateur Radio Awareness Day

What makes Amateur Radio unique is its ability to communicate with one another anywhere in the world--and even in orbit--without having to rely on any outside infrastructure whatsoever. Hams can even do this without being plugged into the wall socket. Experienced radio amateurs take this capability for granted, but the general public is far less aware of it. So, an Emergency Power Operating Event (EPOE) on Amateur Radio Awareness Day, Saturday, September 17, will highlight Amateur Radio's ability to communicate worldwide without commercial mains, the Internet or a cellular telephone system.

"What better way to mark Amateur Radio Awareness Day than by calling attention to this unique capability?" says ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "It is particularly appropriate since September is the Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Month."

Amateur Radio Awareness Day activities typically focus on increasing public awareness. Past events have included public demonstrations, talks to community groups and getting local media coverage. According to DHS, National Preparedness Month is aimed at encouraging Americans to prepare for emergencies and to raise public awareness about the importance of being prepared.

This Amateur Radio Awareness Day, September 17, the ARRL will sponsor a 15-hour Emergency Power Operating Event for stations operating off the grid. "It is not a contest," Sumner stresses. "It is simply a demonstration of what we amateurs can do without having to rely on the commercial mains, and what we will do whenever the need arises."

An announcement in September QST (page 49) spells out the details. The event kicks off at 1300 UTC on Saturday, September 17, and wraps up at 0400 UTC on September 18. The ARRL is inviting home stations to operate from generator or battery power. Mobiles and portable stations also are welcome to participate, although unlike Field Day, the emphasis is not on setting up a temporary station, but rather on operating your regular station on emergency power.

There is no set exchange; contacts may be casual, but operators are encouraged to share information on their emergency power sources in addition to the traditional signal report, name and location.

ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air for the event, running on emergency power from its 60-kW emergency backup diesel generator. W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, says the whole point is to showcase that Amateur Radio is prepared during National Preparedness Month--"and any time, for that matter," he adds. A special QSL will be available to stations contacting W1AW while running from an emergency power source. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with all QSL card requests, and indicate on your card the emergency power source used. (Address cards to W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.)

"I hope we can work stations operating on emergency power in all 50 states," says Sumner. "It should be a lot of fun, and we may even learn something!"

The League is encouraging participating

radio amateurs or groups to invite local Citizen Corps leaders to see Amateur Radio installations in emergency power mode.

"The two events offer great opportunities for Amateur Radio to showcase its valued service to the nation," said outgoing ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, K1STO. She urged ARRL-affiliated clubs and Field Organization volunteers to take advantage of the occasion to set up public demonstrations of Amateur Radio and to present or even demonstrate--under the banner of National Preparedness Month--the free services Amateur Radio provides to the community.

ARRL Club/Mentoring Program Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, believes a public Emergency Power Operating Event offers a great opportunity to recruit prospective hams for licensing classes clubs that may be forming this fall.

ARRL Goes to Washington video now available on DVD

A DVD version of the League's 10-minute video *The ARRL Goes to Washington* now is available from the on-line catalog <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9507>>. The cost is \$5.

Produced by Dave Bell, W6AQ, Alan Kaul, W6RCL, and Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, this video documents the League's activities on behalf of Amateur Radio on Capitol Hill and at the FCC. This video offers an opportunity to call attention to ARRL's critical advocacy efforts in an entertaining and informative way.

Featuring ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, and narrated by former CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, the presentation's debut at Dayton Hamvention was resoundingly positive. The video makes a great centerpiece for an Amateur Radio club program or meeting, and it's ideal for showing at hamfests, forums and even civic group meetings. It is not intended, nor

available, for telecasting or broadcasting, however. The *ARRL Goes to Washington* remains available for downloading, free of charge, from the ARRL Web site <." [target=externalhttp://www.arrl.org/pio/VTS-Video.mpg](http://www.arrl.org/pio/VTS-Video.mpg)>. The file is 95 MB, so a high-speed connection is necessary.

CARA VE exam schedule for 2005:

Make a note of the remaining CARA-sponsored Volunteer Exam (VE) schedule for 2005:

Saturday, September 17

Saturday, December 3

VE sessions are held at St. Paul's Church in Brookfield Center, the site of our regular monthly meetings. Registration for these exam sessions begins at 11:30 a.m. There is no pre-registration, but an e-mail in advance of the session, or telephone call, would be appreciated so the examiners know how many potential candidates to expect. The current fee for new license exams or upgrade exams is \$14. Be sure to bring with you two forms of ID – at least one with your photo. Also bring the original AND copy of CSCE's and/or amateur license. The registration form will be supplied at the session.

Questions or comments? Check with Frank, N1PE, frsileo@att.net, 203-438-0218 (Ridgefield CT).

Got News?

Have an article for publication? Want to place a classified ad in the *Capers*? Contact the editor, Barry, KA1JDD, at ka1jdd@arrl.net, or call 203-748-1033.

(Ed. Note: Some articles in CAPERS courtesy of the ARRL Letter and related sources.)

Western CT. Hamfest

Sponsored by: Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Sanctioned by the ARRL

Sunday Sept. 18, 2005 (rain or shine)

Edmund Town Hall, Rt. 6, Newtown Ct.

Set-up 7:00 AM, doors open from 8:00 AM- 12:30 PM

A great start to our commercial vendor list that includes

KJI Electronics- The latest new gear & always brings a great inventory.

QuickSilver Radio Products - All kinds of antennas and accessories.

West Mountain Radio- RIGrunners, RIGblasters and their CBA II.

QRP Labs- Very exciting new QRP kits.

Tail Gate Area with great bargains on both new and "previously owned" rigs,
components and computer hardware.

Once again we will be running several seminars
Free parking, GREAT door prizes, Coffee and sweets

Directions

From Rt. 84 exit 10 go West onto Rt.6 (west bound make a right, east bound make a left). Approx. ¼
mile at flag pole make a right onto Rt. 25. Edmond Town Hall will be approx. 100 yards on the left.
Talk-in 147.300, PL 100 HZ

Admission \$5.00 (under 10 free)

Indoor tables 12.50 (includes 1 admission)

Tailgating \$8.00 (includes 1 Admission)

Contact information- Bill Schaefer- N1PJG

Phone #203.798.2831, Cell # 203.470.1125 or

Ken 203.743.9181, John @ 203.438.6782

E-mail bs7000@hotmail.com, web site www.danbury.org/cara

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) Hamfest, Sept. 18, 2005
c/o Bill Schaefer-N1PJG, 63A Taylor Ave, Bethel, Ct 06801 phone #203.798.2831

Name _____ daytime phone # _____

Address: _____ evening phone # _____

Please reserve _____ indoor tables @ \$12.50 each.. Amount enclosed \$ _____

I need _____ do not need _____ electricity

Please make checks payable to CARA