

Capers

November 2008

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

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

President – Frank Etzler – N8WXQ - phone - 860-350-3523

Vice President – Harlan Ford – KB1ILY – phone- 203-798-8096

Secretary – Bill Thoren – N1TIW - Phone – 203-744-5138

Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536



**Next Meeting: Friday, 14 at 8 p.m.
Stony Hill Fire Station**

Message From the President

The Holiday Season is almost upon us. I would like to extend Thanksgiving Greetings to all. This year we have had many pleasant club activities. I thank all who have helped get the work done.

This month we will have Al Yerger, WA2EHI, present a program on remote control of your station. Al was first licensed in 1968 and is on the ARRL speakers list. Al is interested in using the internet to advance amateur radio. He also has an interest in crystal radios. As the ARRL approaches its 100th anniversary, it is time to think about the past, present and future of Amateur Radio.

The club is considering options for offering a ham class. Instructors, ideas and logistical support are required. Bring your thoughts to the meeting.

Ken, KD1DD has a large consignment of mostly vintage equipment and a large

amount of ham accessories. Ken is seeking the highest bidder. He will have a truck load at the meeting. Bring your wallet!

The "salt mine" calls me away. So I will miss each of you. The meeting will be none the less exciting.

73 de Frank, N8WXQ

CARA Planning meeting 10/24

The meeting was called to order at 8 PM by Frank, N8WXQ President. Eight CARA members were present.

The December meeting will be our usual party. Please contact Judy Etzler at 860-350-3523 to find out what food items she needs to make our usual scrumptious spread! Also this year there will be a Ham Radio theme Bring One/Take One gift exchange. There is a suggested limit of \$10 to \$15.

John, KB1LYP has the Field Day equipment in interim storage at his place. We have a possibility of a permanent storage area at the Bethel EOC. More on this later. Oscar, KO1F has the Field Day computer equipment and will be testing it periodically to ensure all is well when we need it.

Other items discussed:

The Sunday Net is a training ground for a pool of operators that will be ready when needed, either for a test exercise or for the real thing. There is a script available for those who would be interested in being Net Control but may be uneasy about what to say (such as yours truly, N1TIW). The script is in the October "Capers".

The 440 antenna purchase was approved at the October meeting and a work party will be scheduled to install it at the repeater site.

Possibilities for a more efficient way to do the January QSL card sort were also discussed.

John, KB1LYP, Barry, KA1JDD and others at this meeting had some ideas about offering Technician License classes. This would be a good way to spread the word about Ham Radio and perhaps increase CARA's membership. There will be further discussions on this at future meetings.

As always, this meeting is open and all are invited.

The meeting was closed at 9:15 PM.

Bill Thoren, N1TIW
Secretary

Why is the ARRL in CT?

Every once in a while, ARRL Archivist Perry Williams, W1UED -- a rich source of information about the early days of the League -- runs across a question that really needs an answer. Earlier this month,

someone posed this question to Perry: Why was Connecticut chosen as the site for ARRL?

"To answer that question," Perry explained, "consider a parable: Why did the tree choose to grow in this forest? Because that is where the seed fell on fertile ground. The seed that became ARRL fell on Hartford, Connecticut in 1914. When it sprouted, it was cultivated initially by two men: Hiram Percy Maxim, 1WH (he became W1AW after World War I), and Clarence D. Tuska, 1WD, who was still in his teens when the League began.



"Maxim was an inventor in a family of inventors, an industrialist. He was founder of the Maxim Silencer Company, making devices to keep firearms and engines quiet, as well as a principal in a company involved first in making bicycles and then autos. He was also a writer with an early interest in motion pictures (he was also founder of the Amateur Cinematographic League) and on and on. Most of these activities were in or near Hartford, where he lived with his family.

"Tuska manned the hoe and trowel around the ARRL seedling. Soon after the ARRL's founding, Maxim settled in as President, an office he held until his death in 1936. In those early days, Tuska served as Secretary. Together, Maxim and Tuska founded the magazine QST as a private venture in 1915 out of their own pockets; Tuska was its Editor until the United States got into WWI and amateurs were

taken off the air. Tuska closed down the 'offices' of ARRL and QST -- they were in his mother's kitchen -- and joined the Army." Williams said that the story doesn't end here -- to find out more, please see "Two Hundred Meters and Down," by Clinton B DeSoto, W1CBD (SK) <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=0011>>.



Williams continued: "By the time the Tree had grown to the point to merit relocation elsewhere (this issue has been examined many times by the ARRL's elected, unpaid Board), transplanting it never came out as feasible: The Hartford-area roots were too deep."

ARRL Newsletters Available

Did you know the ARRL offers more newsletters than just The ARRL Letter? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as the ARRL Contest Update (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club News, the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter and the VE Newsletter, just to name a few.

You can also elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manager (keep in mind that not all Divisions/Sections send notices), as well as W1AW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free notification service to members, letting them know when their membership and license are due to expire.

Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html>>.

CARA Still Seeking Net Control Ops

Are you prepared to fill-in from time to time as CARA NCS? We could use a little more "depth on the bench" to pinch hit for Bill, Harlan and others from time-to-time. [You'll find a script attached \(again...\) to this month's CAPERS](#) (courtesy of W1QH) that can help make it easy. Keep it near your 2M rig and you can be ready whenever your help is needed.

CARA Net Script

{ Before starting the net--"Before I call up the weekly Candlewood Amateur Radio Association Net, is there anyone who needs to use this frequency?" -- if no answer, proceed with net. }

"Calling the CARA Net, Calling the CARA Net for [insert Date]

The CARA Net is a directed net. You need not be a member of CARA to join our net as all amateurs are welcome. All traffic will be handled through Net Control. Your Net Control Station this evening is <your call>, my name is <name>, and I am located in <your QTH>. If any station has Emergency or Priority traffic, please call now."

{ if no response, proceed }

"The first part of the net is for check-ins. The second part of the net will be open for questions regarding rigs, computers, or other radio related comments.

At this time we will accept check-ins. To prevent "doubling" please let the repeater drop after you say "this is". Then give your name and callsign.



{ Accept first batch of check-ins...ASK ONE STATION TO ACT AS ALTERNATE NCS!...and acknowledge all who checked-in. }

" <callsign>, Good Evening, <name>. Do you have anything for the net?" {take each station in turn }

{ periodically say , "This is < your call> for the CARA Net are there any additional check-ins, please call now." add additions to the list and acknowledge them. Continue with list. }

{ On to part 2..} "This is <your call> for the CARA net. The second part of the net is for any new business or amateur radio related questions regarding rigs, antennas, or computers. Are there any questions at this time?"

{ Take & moderate questions/answers. }

{ pre-close } "This is <your call> for the CARA Net. Are there any further topics for discussion, your callsigns please. "

{ Assuming no response...} " Nothing heard. "

{ Close } " This concludes the CARA net for <date>. The CARA Net operates on Sunday evenings at 7:30 pm local time on 147.300, with a PL of 100. All Amateur radio operators are invited to participate.

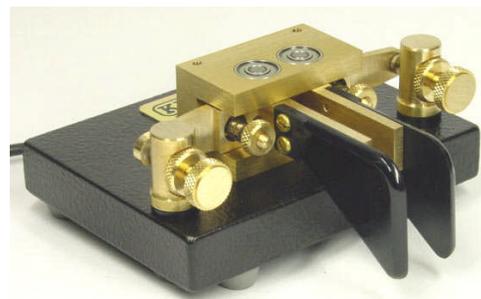
CARA meets the second Friday of every month at 8 pm at the Stony Hill Firehouse in Bethel, CT. All Amateur radio operators are invited to attend. "

" This net is sponsored by the Candlewood Amateur radio Association. Correspondence can be directed to:
CARA
P O Box 3441
Danbury, CT 06813
The Club's website is located at:
www.danbury.org/cara."

(Optional) "All participants are invited to QSY to 28.490Mhz (FM) after this net."

"This is <your call> net control returning the frequency to normal amateur use.
Good Night All..."

* * *



Radio Sale Blowout!

At the November CARA meeting there will be a pile of ham radios, accessories, cb radios, 10 meter radios and other assorted electronics stuff for sale (see partial list below). Manuals for some of the large radios will be included as well as descriptions and suggested prices. This equipment came from an eviction in Danbury (not a ham) and proceeds will go toward repaying debts incurred. If CARA makes a reasonable job disposing of these radios a contribution will be made to the club for its efforts. All items will be priced five dollars and above so bring lots of cash or a blank check if you wish. There are going to be some incredible bargains because everything has to go!

Yaesu FT-101EE hf transceiver-Excellent condition

Yaesu FT-101EX hf transceiver-Excellent condition

Yaesu FT-902DM-hf transceiver-Excellent condition

Yaesu FV-101Z-external vfo-Excellent condition

Yaesu SP-101P-external speaker with built in phone patch

Yaesu external speaker

Galaxy Saturn DX-2517-10 meter base transceiver

Galaxy DX-2547-cb base transceiver-top of the line

Texas Star DX-1600-10 meter 1600 watt solid state amp-WOW!

Hy-Gain Afterburner Plus-10 meter/6 meter 220 watt amp

Hallicrafters S-120-desktop sw radio

Lafayette Explor-Air Mark V-desktop sw radio

Heath GR-64-desktop sw radio

Heath SW-717-desktop sw radio

Assorted CB radios/ssb

Assorted CB walki-talkies

FRS/GMRS radios

Piles of microphones

Watt meters

Antenna switches

This will be the meeting you can't miss-you may not know you needed this stuff but you really do! If you find a bargain you just can't pass up we might put items on hold. Don't miss this opportunity-trust me!

Ken-KD1DD





**Don't miss out
on these great deals!**