



# Capers

July 2011

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT  
Visit us on the Web at <http://www.danbury.org/cara>

President – Roger Mitchell – NG1R – phone- 203-790-9697  
Vice President – John Will – KB1LYP- phone - 203-270-0475  
Secretary – Bill Thoren – N1TIW - Phone – 203-744-5138  
Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536



**Meeting: Friday, July 8, 2011, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station**



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## June 10, 2011 CARA Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by CARA President Harlan Ford, W1QH, with 17 members and guests present.

The program for the evening was a presentation by Harlan detailing the construction and operation of a 6 meter antenna designed by Adri, PA0RDA. The antenna is configured as a square "halo", or Squalo". Do a search on "PA0RDA squalo" for photos of the antenna. The link to construction details does not work so contact Harlan if you have any questions. Harlan brought the completed unit to the meeting and discussed the construction and operation. This is a horizontally polarized antenna, well suited for DX operation. Another version of this type of antenna using aluminum tubing from a discarded lawn chair was written up on pages 33-34 in the January 2002 QST.

Our thanks to Harlan and we will be looking forward to his performance reports for this antenna.

After a short break we went on to the business portion of the meeting.

The Secretary's Report, as published in the May Capers, was accepted.

The Treasurer's report of \$9,620.27 was accepted.

Steve, W1SMS, gave a report on the status of the CARA repeater. It is still running on low power (about 2 Watts) but a work crew is being organized to do site maintenance and get the equipment back to full power. Status information will be posted on the CARA reflector.

Bill, N1PJG, gave a report on Field Day preparations and passed out sign-up sheets for operating times and setup and takedown activities.

CARA has received a request from the Torrington ARES repeater operator for financial

help in purchasing some new equipment. A motion was made to provide \$100 to support this project. After discussion by the members present at the meeting, a vote was taken and the motion failed. The majority view was that other avenues (donation of used equipment for instance) should be looked at first. It may be that Torrington's needs were not expressed clearly enough, in which case the request could be presented at a later time.

The next order of business was the election of club officers for the year.

The slate of officers, as published in the May Capers, was presented to the members. There were no further nominations from the floor. John, W1JMA, made the motion that the slate be accepted. The motion was seconded by Bill, N1PJG, and passed by the members present and the Secretary cast one vote for the slate of officers.

The officers for the year are:

President, Roger Mitchell, NG1R  
Vice President, John Will, KB1LYP  
Treasurer, Bill Webb, W1AFX  
Secretary, Bill Thoren, N1TIW  
Directors: Harlan Ford, W1QH, Dan Fegley, W1QK, Joe de Groot, AB1DO

We would like to thank last year's officers for their service and look forward to a good year coming up.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

-- Bill Thoren, N1TIW, Secretary

## CARA VE session schedule:

### Sessions For 2011

Sessions are held at the Stony Hill Fire Station at 59 Stony Hill Road (Route 6) in Bethel, CT.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. Walk-ins are always welcome; pre-registration is not required.

For further info, contact Frank Sileo, N1PE, in Ridgefield, CT at 203-438-0218 or [frsileo@att.net](mailto:frsileo@att.net).

- **Sept 10, 2011**
- **Dec 3, 2011**

### **OPERATORS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY NET!**

Additional volunteer net controllers are still needed for the 7:30 Sunday evening CARA net. Right now, Bill, N1TIW and Harlan W1QH are handling the lion's share of the work. Some additional volunteers – even for one or two Sundays a month – would be appreciated.

Any licensed club member can handle the net. There's a simple script to guide you and it's excellent practice in net operation for ARES work you may be involved in. Contact Harlan or Bill to see how you can help.



## **REPEATER NETS...**

### CARA Weekly Net:

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

Connecticut Phone Net (CPN) Monday through Saturday, 6 p.m., on 3.973 and Sundays at 10 a.m. on 3.965...

CW Connecticut Net, Nightly, 7 p.m., 3.533 (note correction to 3.533)

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

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

ConnARES Local VHF Net: (now part of Area 5): Second Monday of each month, 8 p.m. on CARA repeater: 147.30+ (PL 100)

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







## CARA Field Day 2011

This was CARA's first year setting up at a new location, Putnam Memorial State Park, which is located near the Bethel/Redding border. The site was nice and open, almost 1000' in elevation, and surrounded by tall trees around a generous open space. Trees in the center of the space provided some welcome shade. There also was a convenient solar panel vented bathroom near the set-up area. A big CARA Thank You to Bill, N1PJG, for planning and executing this year's successful Field Day Event, and another big Thank You to all the club members who helped with setup, operated stations and logged contacts, cooked our meals (yes, we mean YOU, Judy!!) and assisted with take-down and cleanup. We couldn't have done it without y'all!





Sponsored by Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

# Western CT Hamfest



Sanctioned by ARRL

- **Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011**  
(Rain or Shine)
- Edmond Town Hall  
45 Main St (Rt. 6)  
Newtown, CT
- Set-up 7 a.m.
- Doors open 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Talk-in on 147.300+ PL 100**

- Admission \$6 (under 10 free)
- Tables \$15 (includes 1 admission)
- Tailgating \$10 (includes 1 admission)
- Ham Radio Equipment
- Computer Gear
- Door Prizes
- Refreshments
- Free Parking

**Battery Exclusive! Big batteries at rock bottom prices!**

### Commercial Vendors Include (tentative)

- KJI Electronics
- QuickSilver Radio Products
- Sauder Electronics
- Radio Oasis

**Don't Miss the Raffle! Win a New Mobile Rig.**

### Seminars

- Station grounding and lightning protection - Steve Simons W1SMS
- Life of Samuel Morse (incl demo of his sender/receiver) - Bill Thoren N1TIW

### Contact Information

- Joe de Groot - AB1DO: (203) 938-4880
- Email: ab1do@arrl.net
- Web site: [www.danbury.org/cara/Hamfest.html](http://www.danbury.org/cara/Hamfest.html)

### Directions

Take exit 10 off Rt. 84. Go West onto Rt. 6 (west bound make a right, east bound make a left). Approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile at flag pole make a right onto Main Street/Rt. 6/Rt. 25. Edmond Town Hall will be approx. 100 yds on left.

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) Hamfest, Sept. 11, 2011  
c/o Joe de Groot - AB1DO, 30 Sunnyview Drive, Redding, CT 06896. Phone # (203) 938-4880

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ indoor tables @ \$15.00 each. Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I need \_\_\_ / do not need \_\_\_ electricity. **Please make checks payable to CARA**