



Capers

August 2012

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT
Visit us on the Web at www.CaraRadioClub.org

President – Roger Strong – KB1NYY – phone- 203-794-1665
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

Friday, August 10, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station

CARA Minutes...

CARA Meeting July 13, 2012

The July and August meetings are informal and no official business is transacted.

There were 24 members in attendance and from the volume of chatter before, during and after the meeting none of them were shy! CW and voice on the radio is great but we need some face time, and I do not mean Facebook.

The program for the evening was a re-cap of Field Day and a discussion of possible changes for next year. In Quality Assurance we called it "Continuous Improvement".

During the meeting there were also some initial comments on the dues structure and the need to review the CARA Constitution, which was last revised in October 2006. These topics will be formally addressed when business meetings resume in September.

Hope everyone is having a good summer, sans poison ivy and sunburn!

Bill Thoren, N1TIW, Secretary



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...

K1ARC American Red Cross Net, on 1st Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., on 3.965Mhz, voice LSB, + or – 5Khz.

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

WestConn Net: Nightly at 8:30 p.m. 147.18+ (PL 141.3). Linked repeater system: 148.850 and 145.410, both PL 141.3.

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

73 from all of us in CARA to **Jamie, KB1MQB** as he moves his QTH from New Milford to the Auburn, Alabama area. We wish you all the best, Jamie, as you get resettled and hope to hear you on the air or on the Sunday night CARA net via EchoLink. It was great counting you a member of CARA and we hope if and when you get back this way you'll feel free to drop in on one of our CARA meetings. Good Luck, Jamie!

FCC Denies Petition for Emergency Calling Frequency

Saying that it believes that the Amateur Service "allows flexibility to provide emergency communications in a way that takes into account channel availability and other local conditions," the FCC [denied a Petition for Rulemaking to create a nationwide emergency calling frequency](#). The *Petition* -- filed by Bryan Boyle, WB0YLE, of Morrisville, Pennsylvania, and Jim Dixon, WB6NIL, of Alhambra, California -- called upon the FCC to designate 146.550 MHz as a "non-exclusive nationwide Amateur Radio Service emergency communications channel using FM wideband modulation."

Doyle and Dixon noted in their *Petition* that other services, such as the Citizens Band Radio Service, the Aviation Service and the Maritime Service have specific channels set aside for emergency communications. They claimed that use of these channels "to good effect by those in distress [and that this] is a testament to the need for individual services to have a readily accessible and publicized" emergency communications channel. In denying the *Petition*, the FCC said in part that Boyle and Dixon "had not shown an existing problem that

would be addressed by a rule change designating a nationwide Amateur Service emergency calling frequency."

The FCC told Boyle and Dixon that the rules of the Amateur Radio Service allow "an amateur station to transmit one-way messages necessary to providing emergency communications," maintaining that these messages may "be transmitted on any frequency authorized [by] the control operator of the amateur stations transmitting the messages. Additionally, the rules require that, at all times and on all frequencies, each control operator must give priority to stations providing emergency communications. Administration of these rules is accomplished primarily through voluntary frequency planning by, and cooperation among, Amateur Radio operators."

The FCC observed that under the current rules of the Amateur Radio Service, operators can use "multiple channels on the same or different amateur band if needed for an event, or use multiple channels in the same band when multiple, but different events occur." It also mentioned that the Boyle and Dixon's proposal "that the channel be a 'non-exclusive nationwide' channel is, substantively, no different from current channel priorities because all Amateur Service channels are shared and may be used for providing emergency communications. If such a 'non-exclusive nationwide' channel is needed, nothing in our rules prevents the amateur community from voluntarily agreeing to designate a channel for this purpose.

We conclude, therefore, that you have not shown an existing problem that would be addressed by a rule change designating a nationwide Amateur Service emergency calling frequency."

(Excerpt from ARRL Letter)

HAMFEST SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Sunday, September 9th CARA Hamfest. This is the club's major annual fundraiser and every member's help is needed to make this event a success. If you have not yet logged an assignment with Joe, AB1DO, the event's organizer, please be sure to contact him at the next CARA meeting on August 10th – or contact him by radio or email.

See the flyer attached to this month's newsletter for more information. This is always a fun event and one not to be missed!

Special Event Olympics Stations in London and Wales



Two special event call signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: **2O12L** from London, England and **2O12W** from Barry, Wales. Both stations will be on the air for the duration of the Games -- July 25-August 12 -- and continuing through September 9. Organizers hope to make at least 80,000 contacts during the seven weeks that 2O12L and 2O12W are on the air.

- The London station – **2O12L** -- will be active on 160-2 meters on all modes. The station is located at the Royal Greenwich District Scouts Activity Centre in Southeast London, in the borough of Greenwich, one of the six "host boroughs" for the Games. A list of planned frequencies is available [here](#). The station will be open to the public from 10 AM to 4 PM each day, and

visitors may operate. Follow 2O12L on [Twitter](#).

- The Welsh station -- **2O12W** -- will be active on 160 meters-23 cm on all modes, including SSTV and satellite, will be based on the [seafront esplanade](#) at Whitmore Beach, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan. The site is located just a few miles south west of Cardiff and the Millennium Stadium, home to the first football match that will open the Games in Wales. The station will be open to visitors. Follow 2O12W on [Twitter](#).

Putnam Park Privy Problem Probed...



At the recent Field Day event at Putnam Memorial Park in Redding, CARA hams couldn't help but notice that the solar powered fan in the outhouse seemed to be pumping odors up and not out. A note to Park Ranger Nathan Hale alerting him to the possibility that the panel had been wired in reverse polarity to the fan led to an investigation and –yes – a fix to the problem. Ranger Hale dropped our club secretary Bill N1TIW a note thanking him for the (no pun intended) "heads up" about the problem, and confirming that the fan had indeed been wired incorrectly but was now fixed – thanks to a little "Basic Electricity 101."



Sponsored by Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Western CT Hamfest

Sanctioned by ARRL



- **Sunday, Sept. 9, 2012** (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

- Almost everything you always wanted to know about antennas - Jay Kolinski NE2Q
- tbd

Contact Information

- Joe de Groot - AB1DO: (203) 938-4880
- Email: ab1do@arrl.net
- Web site: 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. 9, 2012
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