



# Capers

April 2013

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT  
Visit us on the Web at <http://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, April 12, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station**

## MINUTES

### CARA Meeting, March 8, 2013

The meeting was called to order by CARA President Roger Strong, KB1NYY, at 8 PM with 22 members present.

The Treasurer's report of \$10,631.22 was accepted.

*The Secretary's report dated February 15, 2013, as published in the March 2013 Capers, was accepted with the understanding that the following corrections will be made.*

*Joe, AB1DO, pointed out that when using the DX Lab Suite you are **not** required to interface your radio to the program; you may if you wish but it is not required.*

*He also clarified a second item about several of the more popular logging programs in use: "A brief discussion also ensued on Cabrillo and ADIF, the two logging formats used. Most programs can convert one to the other".*

*I would like to thank Joe for his corrections which are hereby added to the minutes.*

The program for the evening was an introduction to the Art and Science plus the Options and Possibilities of antennas by Roger Mitchell, NG1R. There is no way to exhaust this topic in such a short time but it is instructive to keep going over what is out there and to discuss what our members are using or planning to use.

Antennas are to Amateur Radio what clubs are to people who play golf; we are always on the lookout for something different. There are a number of antenna types out there and Roger covered some of the ones we are most likely to come across. The listing will give you a start as you figure out what fits your operating style, your site, and your pocketbook.

Dipoles, also called Doublets. If anything could be called a "basic antenna" this is it. Vertical Monopoles

Large Loop antennas  
Near Vertical Incidence Skywave antennas  
(NVIS) Dipole or inverted V  
Half-Square Monoband  
Yagi  
G5RV

There are computer modeling programs available so you can compare antenna designs before starting to cut metal. Of course it all comes down to whether it works for you at your site.

Thanks to Roger for leading this discussion.

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

Membership Chairman Carl Braun, W1ZGZ, passed out packets of 3 X 5 cards advertising the presence of CARA in the area. I volunteer at the Bethel Library and will see about having them put a card on one of the bulletin boards. Carl even included pins to stick the cards up with!

Sander Pool, W1SOP, reported that work is continuing on the repeaters and when the weather improves we will once again be scrambling over the rocks and up the hill to work at the site.

Since there are five weekends in June, Field Day will be held on the fourth rainy weekend (June 22-23) instead of the last rainy weekend.

I am working on revising the CARA Constitution and will put proposed changes on the reflector for your comments. The revision process given in Article V of the Constitution will be followed but I will use the reflector to keep you informed and ask for your suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM

Bill Thoren, N1TIW, Secretary

## **W8P Spreads the Word about End Polio Now**

*By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU*

On Saturday and Sunday, February 23-24, 2013, amateur radio operators gathered at WA2HOM, the amateur radio station at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. We were there to operate special event station W8P to commemorate the founding of the Rotary Club on February 23, 1905 and spread the word about Rotary International's End Polio Now Campaign ([www.endpolio.org](http://www.endpolio.org)).



The goal of the End Polio Now program is to rid the world of this terrible disease. Rotary International launched this program in 1985, and with the aid of UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has cut the number of cases by more than 99.9%. In 1988, polio was endemic in 125 countries. In 2012, polio is endemic in only two regions. We like to say that we're "this close" to eradicating polio.

The unique part of the special operating event is that stations all over the world took part in it. Rotary is an international organization, and its amateur radio fellowship, Rotarians on Amateur Radio (ROAR), includes members all over the world. In Australia, a group operated the

special event station VI4POLIO. In Europe, Pertti, past president of ROAR, operated his station, EA7GSU. Here in the States, a group that included yours truly; Jack, N8PMG; Jameson, KD8PIJ; Dinesh, AB3DC; and Mark, W8MP operated W8P.

Since the museum is only open from 1500Z – 2200Z, we were only able to operate for seven hours on Saturday. We spent all of our time on 20m phone, with our beam pointed southwest, concentrating on working mostly U.S. stations. We had originally intended to operate on 14.287 MHz, but quickly had to change frequencies, as that portion of the band was occupied by participants in the Mississippi QSO party.

We finally ended up on 14.227 MHz and made a total of 110 contacts on Saturday. This included 29 states and four DX contacts.

On Sunday, we only operated for a couple of hours and made another 27 contacts. While we made fewer contacts on Sunday, the contacts that we did make were more poignant than the ones on Saturday.

My first contact on Sunday was with a gentleman who was spending the winter in Florida, but whose hometown was Standish, Michigan. He told me that his mother had polio, and in the late 1930s and early 1940s, they would put her on a bus for Ann Arbor, where she would receive treatments. While there's no way to be sure, I think that this ham's mother was taking part in some of the research leading to the Salk vaccine in 1955. That research took place right here at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

I also talked to hams that had direct experience with polio. One was a polio survivor himself. Another's wife was a polio survivor. A third was a physician who had been to Africa and had treated polio victims there.

It was a real treat to combine two activities that I enjoy so much—amateur radio and Rotary—and it felt good to know that in some small way I was furthering the work of the End Polio Now campaign. I hope that next year we will once again operate this special event and get even more Rotarians and amateur radio operators to participate.

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When he's not trying to save the world, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

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**CARA Net March 24, 2013: 7:30 PM (DST) to 7:55 PM (DST)**

CARA repeater, 147.300 MHz, PL 100Hz  
NOTE: Net Script is on CARA website.

Check-ins for the evening:

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1 | N1TIW, Bill     |
| 2 | KB1ZAC, Dave    |
| 3 | KB1ZIR, Eric    |
| 4 | KB1YHW, Gregory |
| 5 | N2OHH, Vin      |
| 6 | W1LCR, Frank    |

7	KB1NYY, Roger
8	W1SOP, Sander
9	N1MG, Mark
10	N1PJJ, Bill
11	W1QH, Harlan

alternatives for use in their respective regions.

We appreciate the active participation of the user community as we work to complete our update of these band plans.

-- 73,  
Rick Roderick, K5UR  
Chairman, ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee

Our thanks to all who checked in.

-- Bill, N1TIW, Net control

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### ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee Seeks Comments on Draft 5 and 10 GHz National Band Plans

Last year, the ARRL UHF/Microwave Band Plan Committee prepared -- and the ARRL Board of Directors approved -- [updated national band plans for the amateur bands between 902 MHz and 3.5 GHz](#) after receiving extensive and helpful input from the user community. Last year, after the ARRL Executive Committee extended the Committee's charter to include the 5 and 10 GHz bands, it [solicited additional input](#) concerning usage on those two bands.

The Committee has prepared draft band plans for 5 centimeters (5.650-5.925 GHz) and 3 centimeters (10-10.500 GHz). Please look over the drafts (*see below*) and let the Committee know if you have any major concerns. Please submit your comments via [e-mail](#) by April 30, 2013.

As a reminder, the purpose of these band plans is twofold: To share information about how our bands are being used, and to suggest compatible frequency ranges for various types of applications. The Committee recognizes that local conditions or needs may necessitate deviations from a band plan, and regional frequency coordinating bodies may recommend

### Upcoming Events in Radiosport

- April 6-7 -- SP DX Contest; EA RTTY Contest
- April 7 -- Missouri QSO Party
- April 10 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
- April 10-11 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the [ARRL Contest Branch page](#), the [ARRL Contest Update](#) and the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#) for more information. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the [ARRL Special Event Stations web page](#).

### 2013 Ham Exam Schedule...

Here are the dates for upcoming ham radio exams at the Stony Hill FD:

**June 8, September 7, December 7.**

All are Saturdays, starting at 11:30 a.m. Walk-ins are welcome, but it's helpful if candidates call or e-mail Frank Sileo, N1PE, at 203-438-0218, or send a message to frsileo at att.net.



**Candlewood Amateur Radio Association**  
**P.O. Box 3441, Danbury CT 06813**

**2013 Membership/Dues Application**

<b>Name:</b> _____		<b>Date:</b> _____	
<b>Address:</b> _____			
<b>City:</b> _____		<b>State:</b> _____	
<b>E-Mail:</b> _____		<b>Zip Code:</b> _____	
E-Mail Capers? (CARA News Letter): <b>Y</b> <b>N</b>		<b>Phone:</b> _____	
(Default = "Y")			
<b>Call Sign:</b> _____	<b>ARRL Member?:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Class:</b> <b>E A G T N</b>	<b>VE?:</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>N</b>

**Membership Rates:**

<b>\$30.00</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Full Member</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Family (2 Members)</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Senior (65+)/Student (Under 18)</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Family (3 Members)</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Associate Member (Non-Ham)</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Family (4 Members)</b>

**Send Check, Payable to "CARA"**  
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