



# Capers

June 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



***CARA Meeting Friday, June 14, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station***

## Special Field Day Prep Meeting June 14 !

### MINUTES

CARA Monthly Meeting  
May 10, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by KB1NYY, Roger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the business of the evening was started.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$10,096.22 in our account. Motion was made and seconded to accept this report and this was unanimously accepted.

A motion was made to accept the Secretaries report as printed. Motion was made and seconded to accept this

report and this was unanimously accepted.

There was a letter from Air Force MARS requesting to have an information table at our Hamfest in Sept. Joe, AB1DO will contact and co-ordinate with them.

Discussion of the future of Capers, our newsletter. The present editor has submitted a request to retire his position. Notice will be given in the next Capers and also on the upcoming CARA nets for a new editor.

N2MWD from Carmel, NY. was welcomed as the newest member of CARA.

Report from the Nominating Committee was given and also noted that they are

still accepting nominations for all positions. Voting will be at the June meeting.

The main business of the evening was given by Dan, W1QK and Harlan, W1QH about Field Day Set-up and Preparations. A slide show was presented with diagrams of the proposed antenna layout as well as the operating tents and stations. Each antenna will have a designated coax that will be clearly marked as to what band it is for. There will be a 600ft rectangle loop, a B&W Folded Dipole, and 2 half-square antennas.

Discussion was given regarding the possibility of having a digital station in addition to the usual SSB and CW. This year there are more points to be gained by having a digital station. One point for SSB contacts and two points for either CW or Digital contacts.

A target was set of making 500 QSO's on each of the modes.

There was an overview of the use of the N1MM logger program that will be used this year, followed by many insightful questions about editing a missed call and individual tracking of the many different operators participating. There should be a master computer with the logger that will track the progress of the entire club QSO numbers.

Oscar Fuller was congratulated on his "temporary" appointment to acting DEC. Oscar reported on the proposed test of the new EOC IC-7000 radios that have been installed at 18 EOC's in our region. These units have been complete installations from power supply to antenna and will be tested for interoperability on August 3, 2013. Further details to follow.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:30

Respectfully Submitted  
Gary S. Adams Sr. N1GSA

*(With thanks from Bill N1TIW, who was out of town.)*

## 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.

## FCC Seeks Small Vanity Call Sign Fee Increase

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on May 23, seeking to raise the fee for Amateur Radio vanity call signs by 20 cents. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$15 and is good for 10 years. The new fee, if approved, will go up to \$15.20 for 10 years.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The NPRM can be found in PDF format at, [http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2013/db0523/FCC-13-74A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2013/db0523/FCC-13-74A1.pdf)

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 15 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as

first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). The FCC said it anticipates some 14,300 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units," or applications, during the next fiscal year, collecting \$217,360 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1993 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, as Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1996. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) and clicking on the "New Users: Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free of charge for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as the ARRL VEC.

Visit the "Call Sign Renewals or Changes" web page at <http://www.arrl.org/call-sign-renewals-or-changes> for complete instructions on how to have the ARRL renew your license for you or for how to do it yourself.

License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the FCC License Renewals web page at <http://www.arrl.org/renewals>. The FCC's

forms page at <http://www.fcc.gov/forms> also offers the required forms.

### Amateur Radio Web Casts

*I received the following note on a local ham reflector and thought its contents may be of interest to others.*

73  
Pete, KZ1Z

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"I would like to bring Three web cast to every ones attention:

1.Ham Nation:  
<<http://twit.tv/show/ham-nation>><http://twit.tv/show/ham-nation>

It was this web-cast that pushed me to get my ham ticket.

The show features k9eid Bob Heil, wb6noa Gordon West, w5jdx George Thomas and a host of other great hams. With over 100 web-cast and a live web-cast every Wednesday at 9:00 pm est with a chat room (possible pre-show 8:30) <http://live.twit.tv/>. They have after the show nets on 80 -40- and 20 meters.

2. Amatuer Logic.tv  
<<http://www.amateurlogic.tv/>><http://www.amateurlogic.tv>

Host: w5jdx George Thomas, n5zno Thomas Martin and vk2pb Peter Berrett (53+ episodes)

3.Ham radio now  
<<http://arvideonews.com/hrn/>><http://arvideonews.com/hrn/>

Host: kn4aq Gary Pearce and ac4zo Jeff Wittich  
(81 + episodes)

*There You have it My three web casts picks about and for Amateur Radio.*

*73 Joe, AK4OO"*

### **CARA Net, Sunday, June 2, 2013: 7:30 PM to 7:50 PM**

CARA repeater, 147.300 MHz, PL 100 Hz

NOTE: Net Script is on the CARA website

Check-ins for the evening:

- 1 Net control N1TIW, Bill
- 2 KO1F, Oscar
- 3 KB1ZAC, David
- 4 W1QH, Harlan
- 5 KB1NYY, Roger
- 6 W1LCR, Frank
- 7 N1GSA, Gary
- 8 KB1ZIR, Eric
- 9 W1SOP, Sander
- 10 KB1LVW, Leslie
- 11 W1QK, Dan

We would like to thank everyone who checked in; this is a good test of our system.

## **Invite a Kid to Field Day**

*By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU*

If you've been around ham radio for any length of time, you'll notice that ham radio operators like to complain. One of the most frequently heard complaints is, "Kids aren't interested in amateur radio anymore." While I'm not so sure that's true, I do know that now is the time for you to do something about it.

How? Invite a kid to Field Day.

Invite them to help you set up antennas.

Show them how you power the rigs with a generator, or even cooler, by charging a battery with a solar panel.

Let them sit in front of the rig, show them how to make contacts, and log for them. To make it easier for them, make up a cheat sheet with the callsign spelled out phonetically and the exchange, also spelled out phonetically.

Let them operate for as long as they're interested. When they're done, thank them on contributing to your club's total score.

Answer every single one of their questions.

This may not win them over immediately, but I can assure you that it will make an impression on them. To increase your chances of success, find a kid that's already technically inclined. Invite a bunch of them from the high school's robotics team, for example.

If you don't have any plans for Field

Day, then make some. Then, go find that kid. If you don't, then you don't have any right to complain that there are no kids in ham radio.

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

## **NOTICE TO CAPERS READERS**

This will be my last issue as editor of the CARA CAPERS.

I have enjoyed being your editor for the past 12 years or so, but it is time for a fresh take and a new set of eyes on this club publication.

Please consider stepping in as CAPERS editor. I will be happy to help the new editor get started. Just let any of the club officers or directors know you are interested.

Many thanks and 73's to everyone.

Enjoy the summer months ahead!

BARRY, KA1JDD



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

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

**TO: Carl Braun**  
**64 Orchard Avenue, Woodbury, CT 06798**

**E-Mail: [carl@braunhome.com](mailto:carl@braunhome.com)**

**Phone: (203) 263-4662**