



Capers



August - 2024

The Monthly Newsletter of The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association

Mailing Address: 120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

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

Editor: Daniel Fegley – W1QK

*This in-person meeting will be conducted on Friday, August 9 at the
Stony Hill Fire House on Rte. 6 (Newtown Road) in Bethel.
Gather at 7:00 pm. Meeting begins promptly at 7:30 pm.*

Third Elmer Q&A Format Meeting



Links & photos from our Second Elmer Q&A July meeting begins on Page 8

Elmer Night Meeting #3 Topics list begins on Page 12

CARA Monthly Meeting Agenda

August 9, Stony Hill FD

Meeting call to order.

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome new members and guests!
- Members introduction

Secretary Report:

- Acceptance of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes as Published in CAPERS
- Correspondence if any

Treasurers Report:

- Acceptance as Published in CAPERS
- Updates if necessary

Committee Reports

- Repeater Committee Reports: Steve, W1SMS
- Website and IT Committee: Stephanie Fuda
- Operating Activities Committee
 - Winter FD January 2025
 - POTA August 10th 10am to 2pm Putnam Park Redding
 - Future POTA's 3rd Saturday of Month 10-2 Location TBD
- Fund Raising Committee
- Membership Committee

Old Business

- Status of Lend Lease Program
- Special Event station Sat 9/7 at Danbury Railway Museum 10-3
 - N2DGT Leader
 - 1 W1QI Station
 - 1 Metro North ARA Station
- Special Event station Sat 9/7 New Fairfield Days
 - Application filed for location
- General Class Status January-March 2025
 - Study books have been acquired

New Business

- Future Programs
 - YCCC
 - CW Class?
 - ARES Presentation

Announcements

- Pasta Night Tuesday 8/20 at 6pm Vespucci Lodge
- Marlboro MA last weekend of August

Good of the Order

PROGRAM: **Elmer Night #3**

Adjournment and Next Meeting

- August planning meeting Friday 8/23 at 7:30 on Teams
- September meeting Friday 9/13 at 7:30 Stony Hill FD

President's Message

de W1NSK



The “dog days of August” are upon us! Thunderstorms and Heat/Humidity are the order of the Day. I for one am taking advantage of the AC in the shack and getting on the air! Hope you will too.

A major ARRL effort is underway with both a Senate and House Bill to preclude restrictive antenna zoning in City/County Zoning, HOA's as well as deed covenants. We as a Club are being asked to endorse the a letter which will be hand delivered to District 4 & 5, Congress men/women and Senators from CT. We also are being asked on a individual basis to endorse the same letter. See the file I have circulated on the CARA Reflector. Print it out and then scan back in to send to me. I will be sending it on to the Legislative Affairs people at the League for

Hand Delivery. Your support for this important legislation is very much appreciated.

I call your attention to the new CARA Lend Lease Program for HF Transceivers. We have two available for a maximum 6 months. Our aim is to help new Hams get the on the air, try out a rig to see what they may like to buy, and try the “HOT” HF Bands at the top of the Cycle. Contact John, W1JMA for details and application.

One of our fun CARA Monthly Events is our POTA activation. This month it will be held at Putnam Park, August 10th from 10AM-2PM. We usually have 3-4 stations on the air and often club members are invited to operate. Further details will be announced at our August meeting.

We are looking for new ideas for club meeting presentations. If you have something you would like to share with the Club or just an idea, let me know and we'll see what we can do.

We are a group of volunteers. If you haven't yet joined a committee, please let one of the officers know what your interests maybe and we'll get you involved!

This month's Spaghetti Dinner is August 20th at Vespucci Lodge, Danbury. Unofficial casual club event. Join us!

The New England Ham Expo is August 23rd, 24, 25 at the Best Western Convention Center in Marlborough, Mass. A great time with a Contest University Friday all Day (Sign up in advance), Forums all day Saturday and Sunday morning as well as three dinners. A comedian Thursday Night, the Contest/DX Diner Friday Night and Convention banquet Saturday evening. All details can be found on the event web site.

See you on the Air!

73, Bud - W1NSK
CARA President

Vice- President's Message:

de W1JGM



Mid-summer's here, and the temperature and humidity have been extreme. However, CARA still held our successful monthly POTA (Parks On The Air) activation on July 20 at Lovers Leap State Park in New Milford. Several club members operated, and we were visited by guests from the public and NARA (Northville Amateur Radio Association) Several CARA members tried out new HF rigs and antennas for the first time – even operating at QRP power. Many contacts were made on 20 meters and other bands - both phone and CW. I encourage

all club members to try to join us for these POTA. outings. They're certainly a good chance to view a variety of field setups, learn new techniques, promote amateur radio, and socialize with fellow club members. Plan to join us for our next outing on August 10 at Putnam Memorial Park in Redding from 10:00 am to around 3:00 pm.

Other on-the-air events of interest coming soon are the joint Special Event Station operation between with the Metro North Railroad Amateur Radio club (W2MNR) and CARA, which will be held September 7 at the Danbury Railroad Museum on White St. in Danbury. This event will celebrate DRM's 30th anniversary. Mark your calendar for this very exciting fun-filled day at the railyard and museum. Dan – N2DGT has stepped up to lead CARA's W1QI station activities. Contact him for details and to volunteer.

On September 7, CARA will hold another on - the-air event during the New Fairfield Fair Day from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at New Fairfield's Memorial Field, located at the intersection of Route 37 and Route 39 in the center of New Fairfield. Come see and meet representatives from the town's businesses and a variety of civic organizations. Contact me for details and to volunteer.

Our next in-person meeting will be held at the Stony Hill Fire Dept meeting room on August 9. Doors open at 7:00 pm; meeting starts at 7:30 pm. The topic this month will be our Third Elmer Q&A Session. Bring your ham radio related questions to this open forum to hear answers and opinions from experienced hams (CARA's

Elmers). These have been extremely popular sessions. We'll also have a portable station setup, so that you can view, operate, and investigate an operating station. Please bring your questions.

Over the last several weeks John - W1JMA, Dan- N2DGT, Steve- W1SMS, Dan- W1QK and John- W1JGM have helped fellow CARA club members with wire antenna installations and repair. If you need help, ask one of us and we'll do our best to assist. Now is the time to replace the rope that's been holding up your wire antennas for several years – or maybe it's time to try a new and different RF radiator.

Remember this is your club. Be active and help to make it the best.

73,
John Morelli – W1JGM
CARA Vice-President



CARA Has been an ARRL Affiliated Club since 1946 – 78 Years in 2024



CARA is an ARRL-Designated Special Service Club
ARRL SSC recognition renewal application approved: March 2024

July 12 - Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

de CARA Secretary/Treasurer, John Ahle - W1JMA



CARA Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2024 - Stony Hill FD

The meeting was called to order at 7:37pm. Bud - W1NSK, CARA President, welcomed all to the meeting. A round of introductions followed. Ed - KC1URY is our

newest general class member. There were 19 people present including one guest.

The CARA meeting minutes from June, printed in CAPERS, were accepted.

The CARA Treasurer's report as printed in CAPERS was accepted.

Repeater Committee: Steve - W1SMS, reported that the new 2m antenna approved at the last meeting has been delivered to his qth. Steve noted the recent issues with the 2m machine and plans to get to the site to assess and repair. It was suggested that we swap the 440 machine for the 2m machine if repairs require removal from the site. Steve will take this under advisement.

IT/Website Committee: Stephanie Fuda - KC1UZZ, reported that both the website and reflector are working well. She and Dave are looking at the various IT services we buy today to determine what can be eliminated.

Operating Activities:

- The July POTA is Saturday July 20th at 10am. Lovers Leap is the location.
- The August POTA is Saturday August 10th at 10am. The location TBD.

Membership Committee: We have 2 new members since field day. Our membership stands at 56.

Old Business:

- John - W1JGM, said he has not heard if his former employer would donate funding toward the 3 replacement laptops that a motion was made to replace at the May meeting. He doubts this will happen.
- Dan - W1QK, reported that the FD results have been submitted to ARRL. The final tally etc. was reported in the July CAPERS.
- John - W1JMA, noted that Techs can now apply for the lend/lease program.
- Dan - N2DGT, reported that the September 7th Special Event Station at the Danbury RR Museum to celebrate its 30 years of operations is in the works. This is a joint event with the Metro North Radio club. More to follow at the August meeting.
- The General license class is scheduled for January 2025. Bud - W1NSK, will get the needed study guides from ARRL before his term expires.

New Business:

- John - W1JGM, made a motion to donate \$250 to the Ball Pond FD for use of its facilities for FD, WFD and license classes. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Dan - N2DGT, made a motion to allow JSC Embroidery to set up a

CARA Bling website for CARA members to purchase hats, shirts, mugs, etc. with the CARA logo at no cost to CARA. CARA will notify the membership of this opportunity monthly via CAPERS. The motion was seconded and approved.

- LOTW is now back in operation at ARRL after some IT issues. The data is secure.
- Bud-W1NSK and Dan-W1QK informed the group that the CAPERS was entered into a club newsletter contest in New England.
- Bud - W1NSK, mentioned that he is coordinating a joint YCCC/CARA meeting for the fall. He asks what other programs would the membership like to see.

Announcements:

- The Pasta night is Tuesday 7/16 at 6pm Vespucci Lodge
- Marlboro is the last w/e of August

Adjournment and next meetings:

- The next planning meeting is Friday 7/26 at 7:30 on Teams
- The August meeting is Friday 8/9 at 7:30pm at the Stony Hill FD

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 and the **Elmer Night program commenced.**

CARA Treasury Report July 31, 2024

Income:	Full Member Dues 2024	
		\$1940
Income:	Associate Member Dues 2024	\$0
Total Income:		\$1940

Expense:	Donation-WA7BNM&POTA&BPFD	\$300
Expense:	Insurance – Eq & Liability	\$305
Expense:	PayPal Fees	\$15.60
Expense:	Website/Hosting Fees	\$30.98
Expense:	NEQSO Plaque	\$50
Expense:	Event Banners	\$120
Expense:	Repeater Repairs	\$979.90

Total Expense:	\$1801.48
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Net Income for Period	\$138.52
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Cash: Checking	\$6774.94
Cash: Petty	\$50
Investment: IBond	\$7343

Unrestricted CASH Balance: \$14,167.94

Number of full members: 57

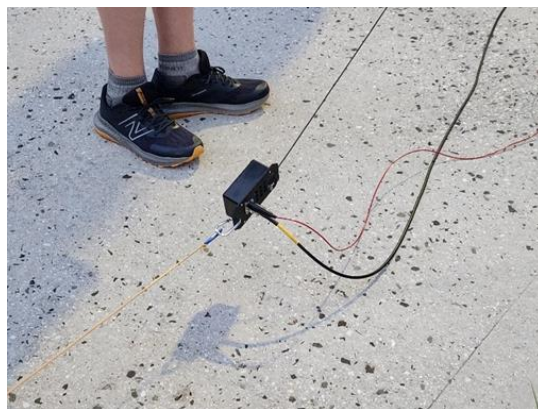
Associate members: 0

July Meeting Program – Elmer Night #2 Summary:

de W1QK:

John – W1JMA, set up and explained his end fed wire antenna supported by his DX Engineering portable fiberglass telescoping mast and drive-on base that he uses for POTA activations.

He also set up the CARA Yaesu FT-1200DX HF transceiver inside for on-the-air demonstrations.





Dan – N2DGT explained and demonstrated his recently acquired lightweight “Extend-A-Reach” telescoping mast with “screw-on hook” accessory for portable SOTA and POTA activations.



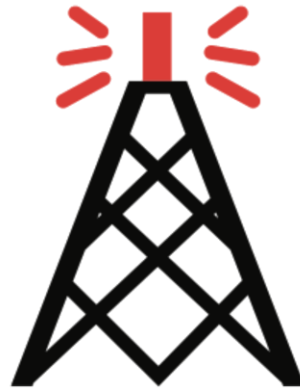
<https://www.extend-a-reach.com/>



<https://www.extend-a-reach.com/products/utility-hook-christmas-light-hanger-tool-attachment>

Dan - N2DGT, also made a motion to allow JSC Embroidery to set up a CARA Bling website for CARA members to purchase hats, shirts, mugs, etc. with the CARA logo at no cost to CARA. CARA will notify the membership of this opportunity monthly via CAPERS. The motion was seconded and approved.



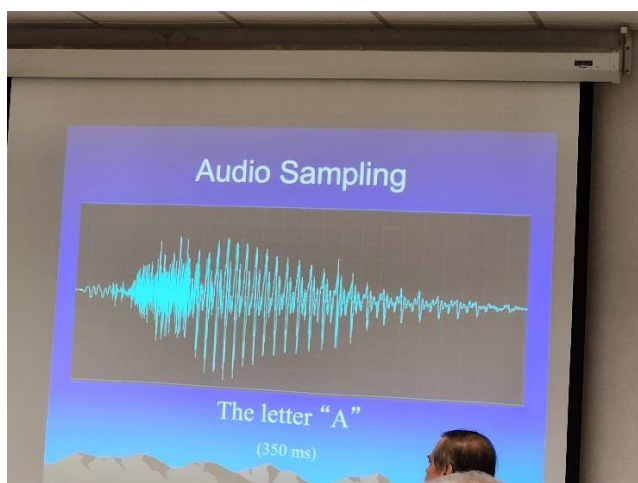
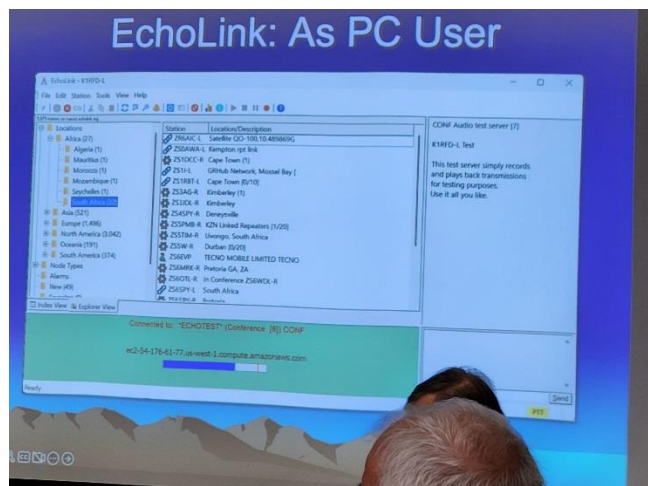
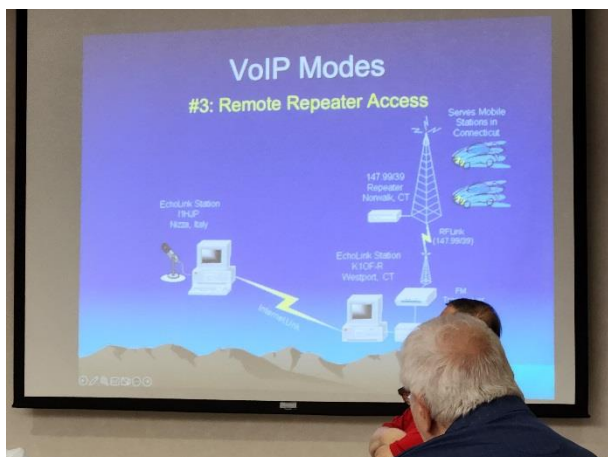


CARA member, Johnathan Taylor – K1RFD, presented an overview PowerPoint of his EchoLink program followed by a Q&A session about its background development, use and features.

CARA's W1QI repeater is one of the first machines to offer EchoLink.

https://www.echolink.org/repeater_tips.htm





Upcoming August 9 Meeting

Friday Meeting Program: Elmer Night Part 3

John W1JMA

This Friday is our August monthly meeting at the Stony Hill FD. The doors open at 7pm and meeting will start promptly at 7:30. At the conclusion of the meeting we will have our **Elmer Night Part 3**. This is an ideal opportunity to ask questions about radios, antennas, logging software, operating modes, POTA, DX, Etc. Great learning experience for both new and seasoned hams. **We will have a HF station set up for demo purposes.**

Please send your questions or topics you would like to discuss by hitting **reply to this email** and I will begin a list.

w1jma@w1qi.org

73, See you Friday

John - W1JMA, Secretary

CARA Elmer Night #3 Questions as of August 6 CARA Capers release :

- Operating Questions
 - FT 8
 - How does Fox/Hound work?
 - What is TX even/1st in FT8?
 - WinLink- What is it?
 - What is needed for HF?
 - What is needed for VHF/UHF FM?
 - What is the difference between a TNC and a signal link?
 - POTA for Technicians
 - 10M SSB 28.300 to 28.500
 - 10M FT8/4
 - 10M Antennas for POTA
 - Logbook of the World
 - Benefits, setting up an account, awards
 - Why should you join and support ARRL?
 - Contest introduction
 - State QSO parties
 - VHF contesting for Technicians
 - Learning CW and its benefits
 - DX opportunities especially on 10M
 - Online CW training via CWops

- CWT CW weekly practice contests
- K1USN slow speed events (less than 20 WPM)
- Medium Speed Test (MST maximum 25 WPM)

- Rig Questions
 - Station EQ grounding and bonding in basement or 2nd story shack location
- Antenna Questions
 - How to ground an antenna, even wire antennas
 - Resonant single or multiband wire antennas
 - How to bring feedline into the house



Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:

Informal 10M Net: 28.490 MHz. USB 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Net Control: Vin – N2OHH

The CARA Net: W1QI 2M FM Repeater – 7:30 pm.
Net Controls: David - KB1ZAC, Charlie - KC1IBR.

Contact Vin – N2OHH or David – KB1ZAC respectively if you would like to be a CARA 10M or 2M Net Control Operator.



Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:

Aug. 6: CERT Webinar – Overview of Amateur Radio 7:00 – 9:00 pm Registration required:

<https://www.train.org/connecticut/course/1120854/compilation>

Aug. 9: CARA Monthly Business Meeting. In-person at Stony Hill FD, Bethel. Gather at 7:00 pm, gavel at 7:30 pm. Elmer Night session #3

Aug. 10: CARA monthly POTA activation – Putnam Memorial Park – Redding, CT 10:00 am ~ 3:00 pm, W1JMA coordinator.

Aug. 10: Worked All Europe CW contest

Aug. 13: CARA Monthly Pasta Night Dinner - Vespucci Italian-American club in Danbury on Vespucci Dr. \$ 12 cash for bowl of pasta with meatball and/or Italian sausage link with delicious sauce, salad, bread & butter. Cash bar for soda, wine, and beer. 6:00 pm.



Aug. 18: ARRL RTTY Rookie Roundup, International Lighthouse and Lightship – ILLW Weekend

Aug. 23: CARA Monthly Planning Meeting on TEAMS: 7:30 pm

Aug. 24: W/VE Islands On The Air contest. HI, KS, OH QSO Parties

Aug. 26: CT ARES Region 5 Monthly meeting via TEAMS

Aug. 7, 14, 21, 28: CWops CWT contest - 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)

<https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>

Use this link to learn about the **K1USN Radio Club's SST** slow speed CW contests: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

September 6: 2024 Capers input deadline to w1qk@snet.net

Editor: Dates, links, and other details for this column provided by:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

For current scores, visit:

<https://www.3830scores.com/index.php>

Use this link to access the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

Editor:

CARA has contributed financial support to WA7BNM for his Contest Calendar and 3830 Contest Scores websites for two years.

HAWAII QSO PARTY

From: joetabrah@gmail.com

Aloha, Please join us for the Hawaii QSO Party!

The HQP will run from 0400Z 24 August thru 0359Z 26 August 2024.

The objective is to work as many Hawaii stations as possible on the HF bands, 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, and 160 meters. Hawaii stations can be worked only once per band per mode (CW, SSB, digital). Digital modes include ALL digital modes (RTTY, PSK, QPSK, FT-x, VarAC, etc) as "digital".

The use of spotting networks is permitted and encouraged. Remember that operation must conform to home country regulations.

This is a great opportunity to work Hawaii stations, especially for those looking to achieve a WAS or DXCC award, whether in general, band specific, or mode specific.

Please see our website (<https://www.hawaiiqsoparty.org/>) for complete information. Questions or comments can be addressed to AD6E@[arrl.net](mailto:AD6E@arrl.net).

Join us and have fun!

With Aloha,

Alan AD6E / KH6TU
HQP Chairman

PUTNAM MEMORIAL STATE PARK *Connecticut's Valley Forge*



The oldest public park in Connecticut, this site commemorates the Revolutionary War winter encampment set here in 1778-9. Remnants of the encampment are still visible today.



The park is open to cyclists and pedestrians all year from dawn to dusk. Buildings are open Thursday through Monday, 10a - 5p, from Memorial Day to Veterans Day.

CARA's next club Parks On The Air (POTA) Activation will be held in the pond area at Putnam Memorial State Park in Redding on August 10. 10:00 am ~ 3:00 pm. Bring your Go-Kit and antenna(s).

Pse coordinate your plans and intentions with John – W1JMA to share bands and modes.

<https://parksontheair.com/>



Museum

The museum was built in 1921 to house the park's growing collection. Its external plan is based on George Washington's headquarters in Newburgh, NY. Pay a visit to see artifacts found at the park, dioramas, paintings, and antiques donated by the local community. Open 10am - 5pm, Thursday - Monday, from Memorial Day to Veterans Day.

Source: <https://www.putnampark.org/>

2024 Ham Exam Schedule



Upcoming CARA 2024 Amateur radio exams:

I have scheduled the following times for ham radio testing at the Stony Hill Firehouse.

All sessions are at 11:30 am on Saturdays.

September 7, 2024

December 7, 2024

73, Jon Bernon - AJ1U

CARA Volunteer Examiner Session Coordinator



CT ARES Information:

Statewide Weekly ARES Net:

KB1AEV/NA1RA (NARA) linked repeaters:
8:00 pm

Statewide Weekly DMR Net: DMR repeaters:
8:30 pm

The CT ARES Region 5 North & South monthly meeting is held on the last Monday of the month – currently via TEAMS but may be conducted in-person in 2024.

Send an email inquiry to Harlan Ford – W1QH, Region 5 DEC if you would like to learn more about CT ARES or be added to the distribution for CT ARES announcements and links to CT ARES meetings via TEAMS.

hford01@snet.net

Visit this website to learn more about CT ARES, the weekly 2M FM nets, and WinLink Wednesday:

<http://www.ctares.org/>

This document lists CT DEMHS Towns by Region:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Emergency-Management/Resources-For-Officials/Regional-Offices/Towns-by-Region>

Upcoming Free CT CERT Webinar:

August 6: 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Overview of Amateur Radio

Register at:

<https://www.train.org/connecticut/course/1120854/compilation>

Submit CT ARES news to CARA Capers to be included here in next month's issue.

"When Everything Else Fails. Amateur Radio often is our last line of defense...When you need amateur radio, you really need them."

The Hon. W. Craig Fugate - Former Administrator, US Department of Homeland Security, FEMA

CT ARES Winlink Wednesday

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly CT ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice. Try to use the W1SP nodes in our area:

W1SP-6 LITCCT Litchfield
145.65 FN31JR

W1SP-7 NHAVCT Oxford
145.63 FN31JK

W1SP-8 FAIRCT Bridgeport
145.69 FN31JE

Next CT ARES WinLink Wednesday:
Wednesday, August 7

WinLink Wednesday

Mike Walters W8ZY

From:w8zy@hotmail.com

To:Announce@ct-ares.groups.io

Hello,

This week is the first Wednesday of the August and time again for Winlink Wednesday. Summer is always hard as many have vacations and other activities, so your participation is greatly appreciated.

Here are the particulars for this month.

The first request is for you to try a different gateway, not the one that you normally use. Try a new one.

Send your message by WinLink to KB1OVQ no later than 7PM Wednesday August 7th.

Include in your message the following information:

Your name and callsign

Your location

Your power (Commercial, battery, mobile)

Your connection type (VHF, HF, VARA, Telnet)

The question of the month is - Do you have the ability to do WinLink portable if needed?

Get the messages in and as always make it fun.

Thanks, Mike, W8ZY



The CW Operators' Club

cwops.org

The CW Operators' Club, commonly known as CWops, is an international organization, in membership and management, for amateur radio operators who enjoy communicating using Morse Code. Its mission is to foster the use of CW, whether for contesting, DX'ing, traffic handling, or engaging in conversations.

Visit the CWops website to learn more about **CW Academy** and how you can sign up for the popular & free **on-line CW training classes**.

<https://cwops.org/cw-academy/cw-academy-options/>

To become a member of CWops:
<https://cwops.org/membership/>

The Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

-- The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928.



Capers: Swap and Shop

CARA Swap & Shop Policies:

CARA assumes no responsibility for transactions made or inaccuracies in ads. You are responsible for checking your ad and notifying us of any corrections. Swap and Shop listings are open to licensed CARA hams, based on space available. Please submit your items to w1qk@snet.net for placement in the CARA Capers.

FOR SALE:

[CARAW1QI] [For sale ad] AnyTone AT-D878UVII Plus

- **John W1JMA**

From: w1jma@w1qi.org
To: caraw1qi@groups.io
Sun, Aug 4 at 7:29 AM

Hello,

I'm selling a brand new AnyTone AT-D878UVII Plus (VHF, UHF, DMR) I got from a sweepstake held by BridgeCom Systems 2 weeks ago, as I already have one and am looking to buy a HF radio. Had to open box to take pictures of radio and accessories, radio may need to have its firmware updated (instructions provided in the box).

Specs and more details in [this link](#).

Retails for \$329.99, asking price is \$300.73,

Will Tonini, KW1SKY
WhatsApp: 203-326-1350



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

Executive Board:

President – Bud Kozloff, W1NSK
w1nsk@w1qi.org
Vice President – John Morelli, W1JGM
w1jgm@w1qi.org
Secretary – Treasurer
John Ahle – W1JMA, w1jma@w1qi.org

Directors:

David Coelho, WA1JGA
davidcoelho52@gmail.com
Vincent Tompkins – N2OHH
n2ohh@w1qi.org
Rostyslaw Slabicky – N2ROS
w2ros@w1qi.org

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization.

CARA Mailing Address:

120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

*Capers is the monthly newsletter of the
Candlewood Amateur Radio Association
Editor: Dan Fegley, W1QK
w1qk@snet.net*



**September issue input deadline:
September 6**

A brief word from our editor...

CARA CAPERS is the monthly publication of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (CARA) and is intended to present news, issues, and opinions of interest to CARA members and the Amateur Radio Community.

We encourage contributions of articles, letters to the editor, etc. and welcome newsletter exchanges with other clubs from around the country and around the world. Permission is granted to reprint material contained herein if proper credit is given to this newsletter and the author.

Ideas for, and contributions to the CAPERS should be submitted to: w1qk@snet.net.

Submissions must be received no later than the date indicated in the preceding month of issue, *unless otherwise specified*.

Submissions should be in MS Word format or ASCII text. Photos should be in .jpg format.

The input deadline is announced in the previous issue and again at the monthly planning meeting.

Material received after the deadline will be used in the next month's CAPERS if it's still current and /or newsworthy.

The CAPERS is published by CARA Capers Editor. All material contained herein is considered the opinion of the author and not necessarily that of CARA.

Announcements of events are for informational purposes and do not necessarily constitute an endorsement by CARA. No responsibility for accuracy is assumed by the CARA Capers editor or newsletter staff.

This summary is reprinted as a courtesy of: The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association's Award-Winning monthly newsletter: "Voice Coil"

<http://www.mvara.org/News/Current.pdf>



About ARRL:

Founded in 1914 by Hiram Percy Maxim, ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is the national association for Amateur Radio in the US. Today, with more than 161,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of radio amateurs in the world. ARRL's mission is based on five pillars: Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology, and Membership.

ARRL -- Your One-Stop Resource for Amateur Radio News and Information

Join or Renew Today! Eligible US-based members can elect to receive QST or On the Air magazine in print when they join ARRL or when they renew their membership. **All members can access digital editions of all four ARRL magazines: QST, On the Air, QEX, and NCJ.**

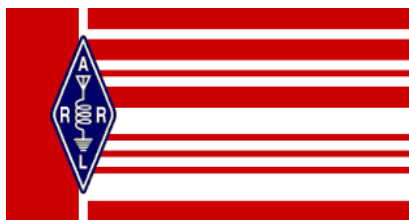
- Listen to ARRL Audio News, available every Friday.

Subscribe to...

- NCJ -- National Contest Journal. Published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSO parties.
- QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters. Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.

Free of charge to ARRL members...

- [Subscribe](#) to the *ARES Letter* (monthly public service and emergency communications news), the *ARRL Contest Update* (biweekly contest newsletter), Division and Section news alerts -- and much more!
- Find ARRL on [Facebook](#)! Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!



Official ARRL Flag



The Yankee Clipper Contest Club is a special interest amateur radio club devoted to the pursuit of operating and technical excellence.

There are in excess of 400 contesters who are members of the club throughout New England, New York, and Canada.

YCCC has members who are some of the most proficient contest operators in the world.

Several CARA members are also members of the YCCC.

More information about the YCCC at:
<http://www.yccc.org/>

Editor: Excerpts From the YCCC Groups IO Reflector with credit to all contributors: Refer to page 35.

Re: The Rich History of Ham Radio Culture
|The MIT Press Reader
From: Jim Idelson
Date: Sat, 03 Aug 2024 11:12:08 EDT

Hi Rudy,

Thanks for pointing this out. This is an article by author Kristen Haring to give her 2008 book, *Ham Radio's Technical Culture*, a fresh marketing boost.

She focuses on the culture of ham radio from 1930 to the mid-70s - perhaps a period we could call the Golden Age of amateur radio. She has some interesting observations and commentary on ham radio in the context of society-at-large. There is precious little material about ham radio targeted towards general audiences, so the existence of this book is a good thing. That's the good news.

Haring is not a ham. She builds her perspective primarily from what she's been able to gather from a wide range of archived written materials, including large and small publications (magazines and newsletters). She does not include direct interviews with actual hams who 'lived it'.

The excerpt has a lot of correct observations, but gets some things clearly wrong. Given the author's lack of direct exposure to the topic, the book would have benefited greatly from conversations and editorial review with real hams.

Probably more important are the facts that a) the focus is on that quaint period 50 to 75 years ago and, b) the perspective is from 2008.

A lot has been learned since 2008, which probably makes the analysis less informed than it would be if written today. And, the

focus on a period ending in the 1970s may create and reinforce some of the unhelpful stereotypes that hold us back in the 21st century.

At \$19.95, I might still buy a copy!

73, Jim - K1IR

MiniCTU at HamXpo

From: Doug Grant

Date: Sat, 03 Aug 2024 22:52:39 EDT

If you missed Contest University at Dayton in May, here is a chance to attend a "mini-CTU" in August at the Northeast HamXposition <https://hamxposition.org/> on Friday, August, 23 in Marlborough, MA.

This is an all-day program that is included in your HamXposition registration at no extra charge. You can pre-register here. Door prizes will include a DX Engineering Gift Certificate and a signed copy of "Amateur Radio Contesting for Beginners".

The agenda is as follows:

9:00 AM Introduction – K1DG and Tim Duffy, K3LR

9:15 AM Getting started in Contesting – Randy Thompson, K5ZD.

10:00 AM coffee break.

10:15 AM Station Setup for Contesting, Paul Young, K1XM

11:00 AM Antennas for Contesting, Mark Pride, K1RX

11:45 AM Contest Operating Strategy, John Dorr, K1AR

12:30 PM lunch break

1:30 PM Eyeball QSO Party, Doug Grant, K1DG

1:45 PM Remote Operating in Contesting
101 - Gerry Hull, W1VE

2:30 PM Coffee Break

2:45 PM Digital Mode Contesting - Dennis Egan. W1UE

3:30 PM Choosing the Best Radio for Contesting, Rob Sherwood, NC0B

4:30 PM prize drawing

73, Doug - K1DG

Here's some useful dialogue for beginning contesters:

Youngsters on the Air 2024

From: KC1SDD - Devon

Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2024 19:34:22 EDT

Hi everyone,

My name is Devon. I am thirteen years old and have my Extra. I have been learning about contesting from Mr. Pride, K1RX.

I am planning to compete in Youngsters on the Air 2024. This contest runs on Saturday from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

I have some questions about how to most effectively work this contest:

There are three band and all band categories- which should I choose?

Which bands are best at different times?

I am planning to operate for at least six hours- what are the best times to be on air?

How should I plan my operating strategy considering the solar weather forecast?

Thanks for your advice,

Devon Francis - KC1SDD

Hi Devon,

Maybe you remember me from field day :)

As for number one, I would tend to say that it depends on what you're looking for. Personally, I'd do the 3-band option, due to the fact that 10 is incredibly spotty this time of year, and that 80 and 160 (if 160 is even included... can't remember) will be almost useless.

The way you want to look at propagation is by following the sun. This is a gray line map:
<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/greyline.html>
The dark area is where it's dark, and the light portion is in daylight.

During summertime in high-sunspot years like 2024, you'll find that 10m will be almost useless all day (excluding shortly after sunrise, for a few min).

15m will be okay during the day — more than enough to get a decent number of Europeans — but you'll find that it will start to get better to Europe, peaking around 3pm (rough estimate).

20m is essentially a night or late afternoon band right now. Expect to start hearing guys in the late afternoon, and then it will start to really open when the sun is going down in Europe.

40m is a night band. At this point in the solar cycle, don't expect anything until dusk — same goes for 80 and 160.

I will say that doing the first few hours maybe VERY slow. This contest is pretty much designed for Europe to have the best conditions. Personally, I'd say the last 6 hours will be better.

Do keep in mind this is all very rough advice. Don't use this as law, and you're

better off to still check the bands and see what you hear.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: this contest is VERY strict on the log checking. If they cannot directly confirm your QSO with another entrant's log, it doesn't count.

Don't hesitate to email me anytime you have some questions.

CU this weekend!

Re: Youngsters on the Air 2024
From: Mpridesti
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2024 20:04:53 EDT

Rare that I am addressed as Mr. Pride - Thanks!

Devon

Check the rules and how points per QSO are awarded. Maximize the point generation if there is a different point schedule for different modes, bands or parts of the world.

Build your strategy around the strengths of your station. If working Europe generates more points than another part of the world, then focus on EU. If one antenna works better than another, push hard there.

Try to be everywhere all the time! Consider all the bands as one continuous band, always checking the activity and work the bands that have the most activity.

Don't worry about the solar conditions - go where you find activity. Call CQ on those "dead" bands once in a while - you might be surprised.

Most all, have fun!

I encourage my fellow YCCers to add your thoughts.

Regards, Mark - K1RX

Re: Youngsters on the Air 2024
From: Doug Daniels
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2024 20:08:34 EDT

Hi Devon,
I do a lot of Parks on the Air (POTA) and have been making a lot of contacts on 40m (both CW and SSB) in the mornings until around 10:00 local (1400 UTC).

Best of luck! Doug - K1RDD

Re: Youngsters on the Air 2024
From: Dave Sumner
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2024 20:19:37 EDT

Hi Devon,

Good luck this weekend! I was at the YOTA Contest awards ceremony in Friedrichshafen three weeks ago. It was inspiring to see so many young European operators.

Because the contest is sponsored by IARU Region 1 and the Hungarian national society, most of the activity is in Europe. I agree with Braydon that the three-band category makes sense. Most of the 12-hour period of the contest 15 meters is likely to be the best, with 20 coming into its own late in the afternoon.

I will be on for the first few hours and hope to work you!

73, Dave - K1ZZ

Re: Youngsters on the Air 2024
From: Andrew KC2G
Date: Thu, 18 Jul 2024 20:41:01 EDT

You don't have to choose between 3-band and all-band before you start.

You can go into it assuming you'll do 3-band, and keep working your 3 bands for as long as they're productive. If you get to a point where you've mined out everything on those 3 bands, then you can check the other bands for activity and decide whether you

think you'd be better off going to those bands for more mults and more points, or sticking to your guns with 3-band. If people are using live scoreboards that might help you make the decision.

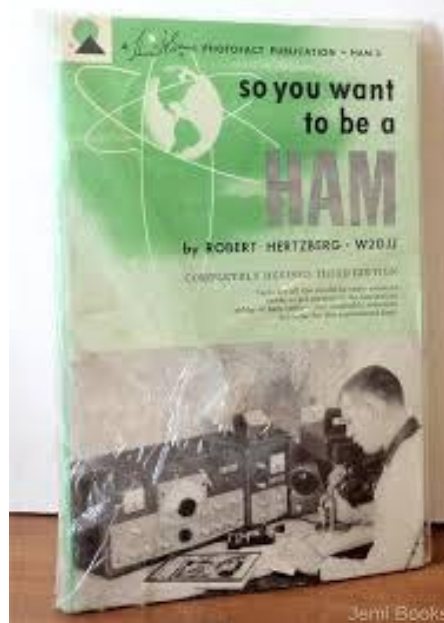
If you make a few QSOs on a fourth band and then abandon it there's no prejudice either: the rules just say that if you enter 3-band they pick your best three bands for computing your score, and QSOs on other bands will only count as check log. So even if you work all bands and decide to submit 3-band at the end, all you've lost is the time that you could have spent working those three bands harder.

Hope that helps,

Andrew KC2G

Editor:

Now, for a brief trip down Memory Lane for some OT's. Circa 1966, your Capers Editor bought "so you want to be a HAM" (Third Edition) via mail order from Allied Radio/Electronics (Chicago-based purveyor of electronics components and ham radio kits) and read it from cover to cover dozens of times.



so, you want to be a HAM

By Robert Hertzberg, W2DJJ

RF Cafe - December 1954 Popular Electronics Cover Table of Contents

Wax nostalgic about and learn from the history of early electronics. See articles from Popular Electronics, published October 1954 - April 1985. All copyrights are hereby acknowledged.

Being able to pass a 5 words-per-minute (wpm) Morse code test at one time was a primary requirement for obtaining the lowest level amateur radio operator license - Novice Class - in addition to passing a written test. Many more people failed the code test than failed the written test. In fact, the code portion kept many aspiring amateur radio operators from ever even taking the test. It was a barrier which anyone worthy of the brotherhood must overcome. The intimidation factor was pretty significant. As time marched on and the ranks of amateur license holders was dwindling quickly, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 1990 dropped the code requirement and created the Technician Class license that required only the passing of a 35-question true/false written test. Amateur license holders began increasing immediately. This story from the pre-no-code days describes the preparation for earning a General Class license. It is the last of a 3-part series published by Popular Electronics during its first three months of publication in 1954.

Your First Trip to the FCC

Part 3. "Buck Fever" is a common ailment among prospective license applicants - don't let it get you.

Hunters who are anxious to bag a good trophy during the Fall season will practice on a target range all summer to perfect their hold, their trigger squeeze, their judgment of the wind, etc. Then what happens when they actually get into the woods? In many cases, the first time they see a vulnerable animal they can't make the sights stand still, they jerk the trigger off badly, and they virtually collapse into a state of nervous prostration. There's an old name for this affliction: buck fever.

Exactly the same thing seems to happen to many prospective hams. They'll practice the code until they can copy as fast as they can write. But when they get down to the nearest Federal Communications Commission field office for the 13 words-per-minute test for the general class license, their ears block up and their fingers freeze on their pencils. In most cases this condition is common nervousness, but sometimes it isn't.

Listen to the advice of a man who is in a position to give it: Charles Finkleman, radio license clerk in the New York office of the FCC, who gives the tests to as many as 500 applicants each month. He says:

"Too many people rush down after the first time someone checks them off at what they think is thirteen-per-minute. They don't make enough allowance for timing errors, or for the fact that they take the test in strange surroundings. They should protect themselves by becoming really proficient at full fifteen words-per-minute before they try our thirteen. We don't depend on uncertain hand sending. We use an automatic tape machine that is periodically checked for timing accuracy. When it's adjusted for thirteen, it sends at thirteen, no more, no less. When a failing applicant grumbles a little and infers that the sending sounded sort of 'fast,' we just smile."

One nice thing about the FCC code test is that an initial failure doesn't wash you out completely. Just wait thirty days, practice in the meantime, and try again. Three or four attempts before success is achieved are not unusual, says Mr. Finkleman, and he can recall some slow but persistent learners who made it after nine tries!

An important fact to bear in mind is that you wear earphones for the test. Many would-be hams do group practice with a loudspeaker working off an audio oscillator. This is fine, but the signals are likely to sound somewhat different when you put on a strange pair of "cans" (as hams call earphones). It is therefore advisable to do your final practice with phones, to get their feel on your head. Actually, you'll find them an advantage, because they shut out room noises.

The FCC tape runs for five minutes without interruption. The words of the text are "clear" (that is, real words), but they aren't necessarily connected to form completely understandable sentences. This is done to prevent you from guessing at words and filling them in. You don't

have the time for this anyway. The instant the tape machine stops, an FCC man rushes by and picks up all the papers. Contrary to the general impression among applicants, you don't have to copy the entire text correctly. You pass if anyone minute of the transmission is copied down properly. Don't get into a lather, therefore, if you stumble over the first groups of words. Don't attempt to backtrack on them, but relax and concentrate on what's coming. You can afford to spend the first minute or two just listening, getting onto the swing of the transmission, and calming down the butterflies in your stomach. Then when you start copying, make it good.

If you flunk the code receiving test, you're finished for the day, right there. You cannot take the written and hope for a passing mark based on a good average. If you pass, the FCC inspector will listen to your keying for a few seconds, and then give you the papers for the written test. By this time you'll be completely at ease. It's comforting to know that very few people who pass the code fail to make the written.

The latter consists of 45 multiple-choice type questions, each of which has five choices. To answer a question, you merely identify by number one of the five possible answers. Some of the questions, usually about five of them, require you to draw diagrams of simple radio equipment. The questions are mostly technical but involve nothing that you won't find in any ham manual. There's no particular time limit, but you must finish the test at one sitting. You can't go out for lunch, look up some of the answers you don't know, and then come back and check them off! An hour is good average time, and many people breeze through it in thirty minutes.

The written test is usually graded immediately, and you are notified if you passed or failed. If you passed, you have nothing to do but wait for your papers to be processed in the main FCC office in Washington. The license is issued and mailed from there, not from the regional FCC office in which you appeared for the examination. This may take a month or more, so just be patient. You cannot go on the air until the ticket arrives, and you won't know what your call letters are until you see the license. It's a waste of time to ask for specific combinations of letters to match your initials, nickname, or anything else. The calls are issued in rotation, and one is as good as another.

If you failed the test, you can return in 30 days for another go at it.

As mentioned in the first article of this series, you are required to take the test in person at an FCC office if you live within 75 miles of it. If you live farther, or are physically disabled, or are serving in the Armed Forces, you can take the test before a volunteer examiner exactly as prescribed for the Novice and technician grade licenses in that article.



Charles Finkleman, radio license clerk in the New York FCC office, adjusts speed of automatic tape sending machine to 13 words-per-minute.



Two ham license applicants take the code receiving test at the New York Office of FCC.



If applicant passes receiving test, he is required to demonstrate his "fist" for examiner.

In some states you can get special automobile license plates to match your radio call letters. Your license is all the documentation you need. The list of states offering this privilege is growing rapidly. Inquire at your nearest motor vehicle bureau. There is usually a small extra fee for the plates, but it's certainly worth it.

Posted October 7, 2021
(updated from original post on 1/23/2014)

Source: <https://www.rfcafe.com/references/popular-electronics/you-want-be-ham-dec-1954-popular-electronics.htm>

The CARA Lend/Lease Program – Icom, Kenwood and Yaesu rigs available

John W1JMA

Fri, Jun 28 at 8:43 AM

Attached please find the manual for the Icom 756p3 and in blue the link to the FTDX-1200 manual. We encourage members to borrow any of the 3 rigs available. 73 W1JMA

<https://www.manualslib.com/manual/814077/Yaesu-Ft-Dx-1200.html>

I have a Kenwood TS 440 I am not using and may be willing to donate for this lend lease program. Last known in working condition and I have mic and power cord. Last tested a few months ago and checked OK. I should have the operators manual some place if I can find it. The TS 440 as I recall has the 100% duty cycle and is all mode.

https://www.qrzq.com/pub/RADIO_MANUALS/KENWOOD/KENWOOD--TS-440S-User-Manual-.pdf

On Mon, Jun 24, 2024 at 8:25 AM John W1JMA via groups.io <w1jma=w1qi.org@groups.io> wrote:

We have an Icom 756p3 and Yaesu FTDX-1200 currently available. Both rigs were used at field day this past weekend. Members are encouraged to participate in this new program. A great way to see if you like Icom or Yaesu. Gives members a chance to try before they buy!! It would be nice to see the rigs in use rather than sitting waiting for the next Field Day! Experienced members are available to help install antennas, grounds, etc....

CARA HF Transceiver

Lend/Lease Program

Policy and Procedure

Policy: CARA through generous donations of HF transceivers from members past and present, has several HF transceivers to lend to qualifying club members in good standing.

Procedure: The lend/lease program shall be adjudicated by the CARA Officers. Interested members please email your request to: Treasurer@w1qi.org.

1. Qualifying members may apply for an initial lease of 6 months.

a. Qualifying member definition

i. Current in Dues Payment

ii. General Class license or higher

iii. Member has ability and adequate real estate to install an HF antenna and proper ground system.

b. Members may apply for a second and final 3-month term.

i. No member shall have use of the transceiver for more than 9 consecutive months.

2. Prioritization Criteria for selection should we have multiple interested members:

a. First come first serve basis or

b. Member employed in Middle or High School Teaching setting.

i. Encouraged to start or help with an existing school club.

3. CARA will supply:

- a. HF Transceiver
 - b. Power cord
 - c. PDF instruction Manual
-

4. Member will supply:

- a. Power Supply- minimum 30amp
 - b. Microphone/Headset
 - c. Key/Keyer paddles.
 - d. Necessary cables to interface with member's computerized logbook/computer.
-

5. Members agree to send an ADIF log file or copy of paper log to the club secretary on the first day of each month for the previous month to prove the rig is being used. CARA secretary will confirm receipt of and report on the activity of the transceivers in lend/lease program.

- a. CARA may ask for the return of the transceiver should it be determined it is not being used on a frequent basis.
-

6. Members will return the transceiver and power cable one week prior to June Field Day and Winter Field Day for club use. Members shall take possession of the transceiver immediately after FD for the remainder of their lease term.

7. Members shall return the transceiver and power cable in good working condition at the end of the lease term.

8. CARA can cancel the lease at any time with 30-day notice.

6/24/24

WinLink 2M CT Packet Gateways - Submitted by W1QK:

CALL	COUNTY	LOC./FREQUENCY	GRID	REGION	EMG.	POWER
W1SP-1	TOLLCT	Tolland	145.65	FN31UV	3	Y
W1SP-2	WINDCT	Brooklyn	145.61	FN41AT	4	Y
W1SP-3	NLONCT	Ledyard	145.63	FN31XK	4	Y
W1SP-4	HARTCT	Avon	145.69	FN31OT	3	Y
W1SP-5	MIDDCT	Haddam	145.69	FN31RK	2	Y
W1SP-6	LITCCT	Litchfield	145.65	FN31JR	5	Y
W1SP-7	NHAVCT	Oxford	145.63	FN31JK	5	Y
W1SP-8	FAIRCT	Bridgeport	145.69	FN31JE	1	Y

Source: <https://ctares.org/data-comms-winlink-packet/>



**The ARRL New England Division Convention
at the Best Western Hotel and Conference Center
Marlborough, Massachusetts**

Thursday Evening through Sunday Afternoon | August 22 to 25, 2024

Flea Market: Fri 12 PM to 5 PM, Sat 9 AM to 5 PM, Sun 9 AM to 1 PM

Exhibition Hall: Sat 9 AM to 5 PM, Sun 9 AM to 1 PM

Online [ticketing](#) for Northeast HamXposition 2024 is available. You can order General Admission, Flea Market Spaces, and tickets for the Friday and Saturday dinner events.

Order Tickets Now

Exhibitors | Flea Market | Forums | VE Exams | W1XPO GOTA Station
NEQRP Symposium | Mini Contest University | Kansas City DX Pileup
EmComm Track | POTA Track & POTA Activation (Sunday afternoon) | Prizes

Some featured items below – see our [website](#) for the full program:



Thursday Night Comedy Kick-Off

Featuring Comedian Juston McKinney | Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 8 PM

Friday Night DX/Contest Banquet

Featuring international DXer/Contester Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ | Friday, August 23, 2024

Convention Keynote Address

Featuring Steve Goodgame, K5ATA | Saturday Morning, August 24, 2024

Saturday Grand Banquet Presentation

Featuring Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW | Saturday Evening, August 24, 2024

Preliminary Talks and Seminars Include:

- Mini Contest University
- Youth Forum
- PSKReporter: Then & Now
- Getting on EME
- MARS Forum
- Flex Radio: Not Your Dad's Old Radio
- AREDN: Another EmComm Tool
- Using the tinySA
- Elecraft K4 Update
- POTA Program Track
- Andy's Ham Radio Linux
- Choosing the Best Contest Radio
- New England Sci-Tech Kit Building
- ARRL Forum
- Winter Field Day: Embrace the "Chill"
- New England QRP Program Track
- STEAM and Teacher's Institute
- EmComm & Public Service Track

HamXposition is the Northeast's largest gathering of radio amateurs, featuring in-person experts presenting on timely topics, trends, and technologies.

The Rich History of Ham Radio Culture

Drawing on a wealth of personal accounts found in magazines, newsletters, and trade journals, historian Kristen Haring provides an inside look at ham radio culture and its impact on hobbyists' lives.

This Capers Feature Article was posted to the CARA Reflector by George – NIGS:



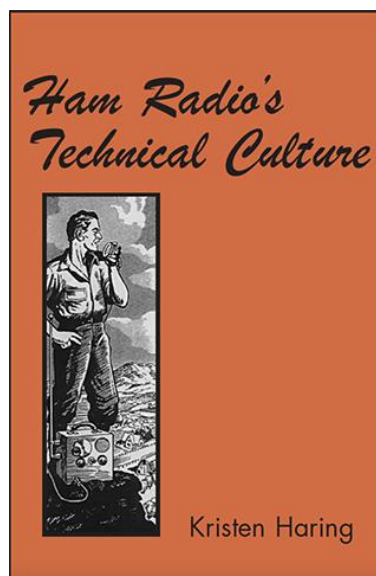
Kristen Haring is a historian of science and technology, and the author of [*“Ham Radio’s Technical Culture,”*](#) from which this article is excerpted.

By: Kristen Haring

Every night thousands of men retreat to radio stations elaborately outfitted in suburban basements or tucked into closets of city apartments to talk to local friends or to strangers on the other side of the world. They communicate by speaking into a microphone, tapping out Morse code on a telegraph key, or

*typing at the keyboard of a teletypewriter. In the Internet age, instantaneous, long-distance, person-to-person communication seems ordinary. But amateur radio operators have been completing such contacts since the 1910s. The hobbyists often called “hams” initially turned to radio for **technical** challenges and thrills. As the original form of wireless technology became more reliable and commonplace in the 1930s, ham radio continued as a leisure activity. Hams formed a community through the same general practices of other social groups. They set conditions for membership, established rules of conduct, taught values, and developed a specialized vocabulary known only to insiders. What made hams’ culture different was its basis in technology. In her book “[Ham Radio’s Technical Culture](#),” excerpted below, historian of science and technology Kristen Haring draws on a wealth of personal accounts found in radio magazines and newsletters and from technical manuals, trade journals, and government documents to illustrate how ham radio culture rippled through hobbyists’ lives.*

Learning the group culture was essential to becoming a ham, and ham radio publications taught behavioral expectations to new hobbyists right along with technical lessons. The “ABC’s of Ham Radio” welcomed readers to “the ranks of the grandest hobby in the world — the great international fraternity of radio hams!” then indicated in the very next sentence that “To really belong, you’re going to have to go along with the standard operating procedures universally accepted by radio amateurs.”



This article is excerpted from Kristen Haring’s book “[Ham Radio’s Technical Culture](#).”

Most manuals devoted a chapter to operating a wireless station, including an overview of on-air etiquette. One author noted that “a sense of courtesy is important” and told hams not to transmit on frequencies already in use. With surprising regularity, handbooks also endorsed general personal “qualities of the true amateur” such as “inquisitiveness, persistence, improvisation, imagination and an open mind.” The exchange of technical ideas through magazine columns was cited on one occasion as a testament to the fact that “The amateur spirit has always been characterized by friendliness, helpfulness and an eagerness to share one’s knowledge, tricks and pet circuits with others.” The constant stream of brief prescriptions of norms and values in hobby publications served as a powerful source of enculturation into the ham community.

Code of Behavior

A concise, and the best known, list of good hobbyist conduct was the “Amateur’s Code” distributed by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). “The amateur” portrayed there is “gentlemanly,” “loyal,” “progressive,” “friendly,” “balanced,” and “patriotic.” The League has printed these six traits prominently in the front of its annual “Radio Amateur’s Handbook” since the 1920s. Underscoring the instructional nature of the code, a didactic explanation followed each adjective. A ham’s progressivism, for instance, meant that “He keeps his station abreast of science. It is built well and efficiently. His operating practice is clean and regular.” The League’s role as a lobbying agency shone through in deeming a hobbyist “gentlemanly” for abiding “by the pledges given by the ARRL in his behalf to the public and the Government.” The ARRL’s “Amateur’s Code” provided a model for hams to live up to and presented a favorable image of hams to outsiders. Given how frequently the popular press reprinted the standards as if they offered a neutral description of hobbyists, the “Amateur’s Code” succeeded as a form of public relations.

The social ties of the ham community exerted peer pressure to enforce the rules set for members’ behavior. Praising the effectiveness of “self-policing” within hobby radio, a *CQ* magazine article called “The weight and influence of amateur approval [. . .] a very strong element in forcing the amateur to abide by the rules.” A handbook instructed, “At all times keep your conduct beyond reproach,” and tried to win compliance by reminding the reader,

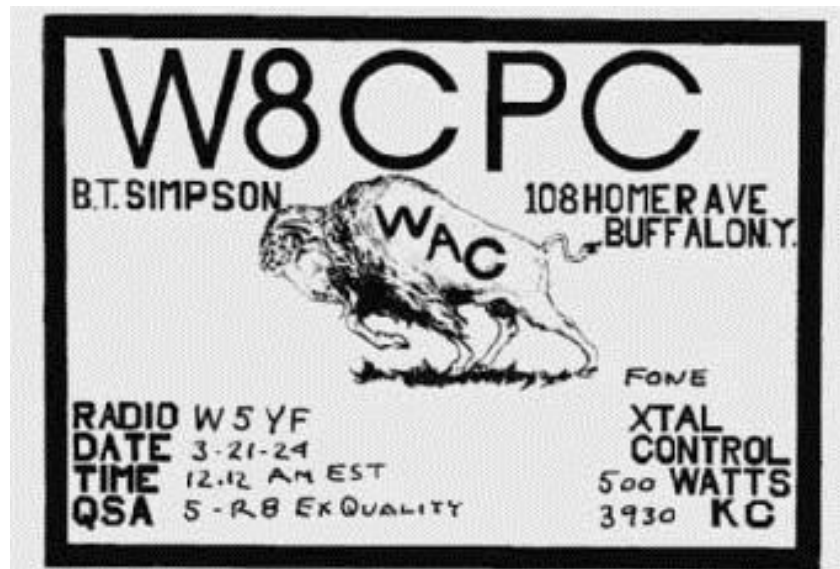
“You represent the amateur fraternity — any action on your part, good or bad, will reflect on all other hams.” When the “fraternity” roster had swelled to more than a quarter million in the United States alone, another manual stressed that the “number of stations in our crowded bands poses a serious threat to our enjoyment of ham radio if we do not all operate courteously and intelligently.” Hobbyists who did not meet community expectations were subject to criticism, punishment, and in extreme cases expulsion.

Hobbyists who did not meet community expectations were subject to criticism, punishment, and in extreme cases expulsion.

The strategic potential that set wireless communication apart from most hobbies subjected it to a level of state scrutiny unheard of for other leisure activities. The power of the federal government stood behind the only official barrier to entering the ham community: obtaining a license to operate two-way radio. Licensing of ham radio began under the Radio Act of 1912 and varied little over the next 80 years. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) required prospective hobbyists to demonstrate knowledge of electronics theory and radio regulation in a written exam and the ability to send and receive Morse code in a test performed with wireless apparatus. The FCC contained amateur conversations to particular bands of the radio spectrum, restricted the power of transmitting equipment, required hobbyists to log all contacts, and monitored the airwaves for infractions. Because they regarded state control as a tribute to their strength, hams accepted federal licensing and communication regulations as the first level of hobby radio rules.

In the early 1940s, wireless hobbyists trying to change their image from tinkering pranksters to upstanding citizens volunteered to help the FCC track down unlicensed operators. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) spoke of lending assistance with enforcement as a tactic to keep hams on good terms with regulators. When the FCC caught a notorious “unlicensed punk” in 1941, the ARRL chided members for not having found him and called for improved “policing” within the hobby. The League reasoned that “our interests require that we show no tolerance either to bootleggers or to violators of the FCC’s special orders.” Defense of community boundaries further motivated hams to turn in illegal operators.

Monthly club bulletins offered a timely format for calling attention to mischievous on-air behavior. The newsletter of the Northern California DX Club, for instance, exposed an operator suspected of using false credentials after confirmation cards a member sent to him had been returned marked “addressee unknown.” Joining together in this way to ostracize rule-breakers from the on-air community increased solidarity among upstanding wireless operators.



The confirmation postcard of W8CPC, a ham from Buffalo, New York, carried a drawing of a buffalo and the initials “WAC,” indicating he had “worked all continents.”

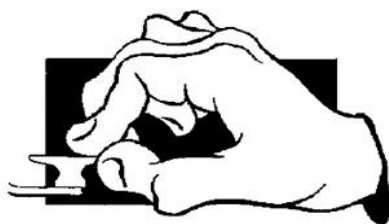
Ham radio licenses functioned as membership cards signaling inclusion in a technically elite club. Like station licenses for commercial radio and television broadcasters, all hobby licenses in the United States began with “W” or “K.” On amateur licenses, the initial letter was followed by a numeral — designating which of the nine FCC geographical districts the operator lived in — and two or three additional letters. The alphanumeric “call signs” lent hams legitimacy and, in some cases, reflected the duration of the holder’s radio activity. When the FCC first issued amateur licenses, all began with “W” and contained three letters total. The creation of calls that began with “K” and of calls containing four letters only occurred once the number of short “W” calls was exhausted. After the FCC introduced these new calls, a ham with a short “W” call like W3CT could be recognized immediately as a longtime license holder compared to a ham operating

under W8JBH or K2MJW. Call signs became hobby community nicknames, and club newsletters frequently referred to members by license number instead of name. Even many outsiders learned to recognize the basic form of FCC licenses, so that a car with a call sign vanity license plate stood out as belonging to a ham radio operator.

Although hobbyists enjoyed being distinguished as more technically adept than average citizens, many objected to the technical hierarchy imposed within their ranks by the FCC's "incentive licensing" program. Beginning in the 1920s, the FCC offered various amateur license grades. Hams who passed an advanced theory test and exhibited faster Morse code sending and receiving skills earned additional operating privileges and bragging rights in the form of "Extra" or "Technician" licenses. An editor at *CQ* magazine in 1966 blamed the internal division of hobbyists according to ability for provoking "fierce in-fighting," and the Commission's expansion of the incentive program a few years later angered hams. Letters of protest poured in to *CQ*, accusing incentive licensing of undermining the "unity" of "the radio fraternity." One writer argued that with "the old days of major electronic breakthroughs by amateurs" a distant memory, it made sense to "bring back the fun of amateur radio" and "junk the snob appeal of incentive licensing." Based on the negative reaction, *CQ* estimated that if "a vote had been taken of *all* licensed amateurs" on whether to expand the incentive licensing program, "it would have been defeated by an almost three to one margin."

Morse Code

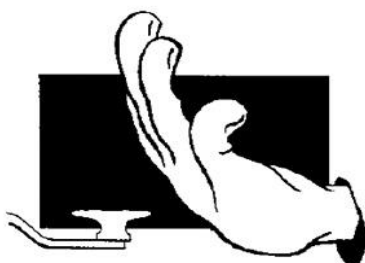
One way hams displayed their technical identity was by using Morse code. Their admiration for the code as the ideal form of communication stemmed from the importance granted to coding skills in the FCC licensing examination and from hobbyists' appreciation of how the code transformed language. Tapping out sequences of short and long electrical pulses on a telegraph key required human synergy with machinery and gave words a technical feel. Still, the sender's personality transmitted through the machine. "Code operators quickly learn one another's 'touch,'" wrote an Army radio specialist. "The way a person sends code is almost as distinctive as his voice." Hams referred to this human accent detectable in code transmission as the sender's "fist."



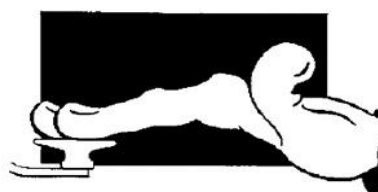
THE NIBBLER



THE TEA DRINKER



THE SLAPPER



THE HITCH HIKER



THE TAPPER



THE JITTER



THE CLUTCHER



THE POUNDER

An illustration in an article on “Proper Sending Techniques” caricatured several undesirable styles for tapping out Morse code on a telegraph key. From MARS Bulletin, March 1952.

In the early days of wireless, Morse code was the only way to transmit a message. Long after it became possible to speak over the airwaves, numerous articles in radio publications and speeches at club meetings extolled the virtues of Morse code. Hobbyists praised the code as reliable and versatile and also called attention to “a special beauty in perfectly sent code and a certain emotional rhythm” to some words. The further claim that Morse code was “a widely understood international language [. . .] that links hams together throughout the world regardless of their individual, indigenous languages” was a gross —but not uncommon — exaggeration because Morse code encoded the alphabet, not words or concepts.

Tales of getting a fellow ham’s attention across a crowded room by speaking his call sign in Morse code were frequently and fondly recalled.

The code set adept hams apart from confused outsiders. The written “key” that assigned a combination of dots and dashes (representing short and long electrical pulses) to each letter of the alphabet was widely available, but the challenge of applying Morse code kept it somewhat at the level of a cipher. Only with practice and, according to hams, patience, dedication, and attentiveness was it possible to transform thoughts fluidly into tapped electrical pulses or to hear phrases emerge from patterns of short and long tones. Communicating by Morse code created privacy in public. Tales of getting a fellow ham’s attention across a crowded room by speaking his call sign in Morse code — substituting the syllable “dit” for each short pulse and “dah” for each long pulse — were frequently and fondly recalled. One hobbyist described secret exchanges he had with his brother while double-dating as teenagers, Morse code giving them the freedom to discuss “the characteristics of our dates in their presence without their knowing it!”

Spoken Operations

The main alternative to wireless communication by Morse code was voice or “phone” operations. In this case, hams with the proper equipment could just speak. Phone transmitters fell within financial reach of the average hobbyist after World War II. Surveys about operating habits conducted by radio magazines found that the typical postwar ham split his time between coded and spoken operations, spending about twice as much time using phone as code. A small portion of hams, about 5 percent in 1957, worked

only in code. The simplicity of voice operations led to continuous, passionate debates that code better suited a technical hobby. When the FCC dropped knowledge of Morse code from the requirements for a basic amateur radio license in 1991, fierce opposition to “no code” licensing included a “know code” movement among Morse-loyal hams who insisted that the code remained vital to modern operations.

Preference for code over spoken communication reflected a desire to rationalize language. Transmitting by Morse code processed words through technical apparatus and removed the voice from communication. Advocates of the code claimed that translation into its binary system of electrical pulses eliminated vagueness. “Communicating by dot and dash,” Howard Pyle contended, was “far more accurate than the spoken word.” Since the complexity of Morse operation made it unlikely that the code would be perfectly sent and received, and in light of hams’ acknowledgment that the “fist” inflected Morse with the sender’s personality, arguments that the code assured clarity sounded like appeals to its pure technicality. Attempts in hobby publications to establish a beneficial association of hams with the military by pointing out that both used the code only made the code seem more disciplined. With encrypted, systematized language, hams also reduced the risk that radio conversations would be associated with what they saw as women’s idle chatter. The explanation by a female hobbyist in 1948 of her preference for Morse code suggests the existence of a gendered spectrum of wireless communication with women talking as the most feminine mode, men coding the most masculine, and men talking and women coding falling somewhere in between. The intrusion of what she called “too many \$%&’()* unlicensed wimmin [*sic*] (wives, gal friends, etc.) cluttering up the phone bans with chin music,” led Carol Witte to conclude, “any self-respectin’ licensed gal wouldn’t be caught dead blabbin’ fer [*sic*] hours on a mike — nor a good OM [male] operator, either.”

Morse loyalists battled phone loyalists for territory on the airwaves. It is difficult to document these feuds, which usually were limited to a heated exchange of words, but a few escalated to the point that regulators became involved and left a paper trail. The FCC counted Myron Premus among the “considerable number of amateurs in the Buffalo and upstate New York area” who fought to eliminate code operation from portions of the radio band in the early 1950s. After receiving “complaints regarding the manner in which he has operated his radio station,” the Commission evaluated whether to renew Premus’s license. The subsequent investigation found that Premus had “caused willful interference” to hams using Morse code by

making “one-way communications consisting of disparaging remarks either about the operator or his manner of operations.” Opposition by Premus and others to Morse code may have disturbed hams’ conversations, but it did not threaten ham identity.

Secret Language

The hobby radio community made language its own and clarified group membership by adopting jargon and abbreviations known only to insiders. In a few cases, jargon arose from the desire to convey non-words through Morse code, such as when hams indicated laughter or sarcasm by signaling “hi hi.” Hobbyists used abbreviations to shorten Morse code transmissions and carried these into their regular writing. Substituting “vy fb” for “excellent” in a hobby publication reduced keystrokes. The symbolic efficiency of abbreviations further supported hobbyists’ portrayal of radios as efficient devices and radio operators as efficient people. Even more significant, the abbreviation lent the text a bit of technicality by associating it with Morse code. Many of the abbreviations used by hams came from a system devised by telegrapher Walter P. Phillips in 1879. Hobbyists also took up telegraphers’ “Q signals,” three-letter combinations beginning with the letter “Q” that represented common phrases. “QTH” served as a quick way to ask a station location, for example, and even functioned across language barriers. Only the hobby community expected members to be fully conversant in jargon, with the FCC licensing examination merely testing the essential Q signals.

Annoyed with “hams who abuse the ears of their listeners,” Don Fox wrote a guide to help hobbyists determine whether they suffered from “mumble-itis.”

When hams peppered spoken and written language with abbreviations intended for efficient Morse code transmission, they gave all forms of group communication the flavor of ham radio. This propagation of hobby culture accounts for the persistence of awkward habits such as interrupting the flow of conversation with another ham by saying “hi hi” instead of simply laughing. A few sticklers insisted that the Phillips code and Q signals could be used “properly” only within the Morse system. During phone conversations, in person, or in print, this minority said, it was “more natural” to just say or write the complete phrase rather than the abbreviation. In response to “several years” of what it called “weak and

withering attacks against that traditional amateur workhorse: The Q-Signal” by those who favored normal, full words, *CQ* magazine defended spoken codes as more than a linguistic convenience. The Q signals, according to the editorial, “catch the imagination of the newcomer” and formed part of “amateur radio’s character.” In the late 1960s, “the radio amateur’s most individualistic jargon” also helped separate hams from Citizens’ Band hobbyists, who the *CQ* editor described as using “mundane and lackluster phrases.” Asking “What’s your QTH?” instead of “Where are you located?” indirectly inserted Morse code into plain English, signified membership in the ham community, and left outsiders scratching their heads.

Hobbyists valued clear, standardized speaking during phone operations. They gave the practical justification that distant communicators had trouble understanding each other’s accents, especially when reception was poor. Extreme language regimentation appeared to represent an attempt to strip away the individuality of human speech and replace it with a mechanical uniformity. Annoyed with “hams who abuse the ears of their listeners,” Don Fox wrote a guide to help hobbyists determine whether they suffered from “mumble-itis.” Fox described ham radio as focused on “getting a thought to somebody else by way of intelligently combined sounds.” He harped on “proper enunciation” and directed mumblers to “books on the subject of proper speech and the training of the speaking voice.” While calls for such broad corrections of speaking style were rare, all hobbyists agreed on the need for linguistic precision in certain situations.

Hams coped with the similar-sounding names of letters of the alphabet — crucial for conveying call signs — by associating distinctive words to each letter. “KB3DF” would read out his call as “kilowatt bravo three delta foxtrot,” for example. Several supposedly “standard” phonetic systems circulated among hobbyists, with none dominant and each freely varied in application. KB3DF’s preferred rendering of his call broke from the International Civil Aviation Organization’s phonetic list only in substituting “kilowatt” for “kilo.” This particular customization of an outside template to the hobby was quite common and related to the special meaning that a kilowatt held in ham radio as the maximum legal operating power. Disdainful of other “cute” alphabet-word pairings that “have no business being used on the air,” an ARRL handbook reminded readers that “there is a definite advantage in using a standard phonetic alphabet.”

Surveillance and Self-Policing

Speaking habits, transmitting practices, and even the content of radio exchanges were disciplined through surveillance. The FCC monitored the airwaves mainly for operating violations. In 1946, *CQ* compelled readers to obey regulations with the threat that the Commission's "mobile units are continually patrolling the country, stopping in cities to observe local activities, and listening from vantage points for unlicensed stations."

Hobbyists meanwhile handled the policing of the community's internal communication rules. If they did not like what they heard in the course of scanning the amateur band, hams freely critiqued operators and occasionally passed matters on to federal authorities. It was the verbal reprimands Myron Premus had issued to fellow hams, for instance, that prompted his investigation by the FCC. When Premus "noticed off-frequency operation, over-modulation, or other operations not in accordance with the Commission's rules," he called the offenders "lid," "louse," "jerk," and "hollow head." One ham found Premus out of line for using such language on the air and alerted the FCC. In defense of Premus, other hobbyists expressed their own frustration with the "many dopes on that band that should not be on." They sympathized that "We cannot take away their licenses" and that derisive name calling was the strongest punishment that could be meted out by the ham community. The FCC agreed with the assessment that Premus had been incited to speak out, though its report cited improper operating procedures as the provocation rather than a breach of hobby standards.

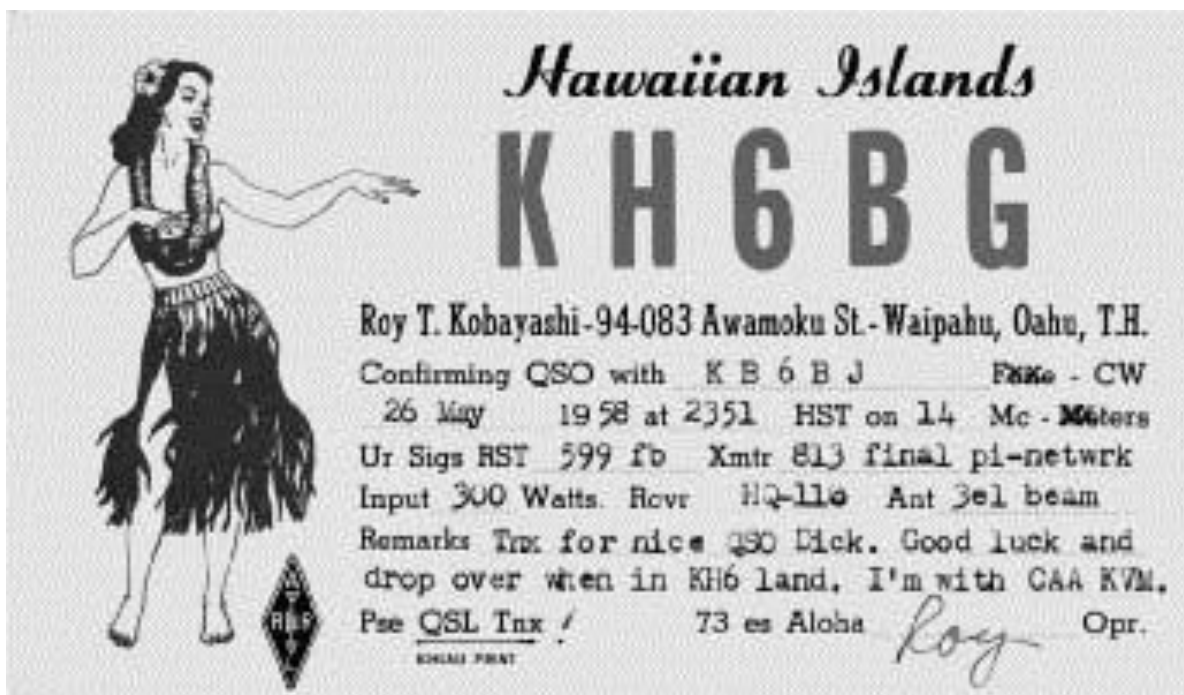
A gentlemen's agreement protected wireless discussions exposed to all ears. Claiming that those who only listened to the radio lacked the discretion of two-way radio operators, a tale in *CQ* magazine directly linked the attributes of a technology with the character of its users. The author described his teenaged neighbor as fascinated by what hams revealed to anyone who might tune in with a shortwave receiver. On meeting a ham in person, the shortwave listener repeated embarrassing personal information he had heard disclosed over the air. To stop this impolite behavior, the author helped the teenager study for a ham license because "no ham dares tell what he knows about another." The community believed that two-way communication made hobbyists discreet through a control mechanism absent from shortwave listening. What kept hams from gossiping was the risk of retaliation, the fact that "the other knows as much about him."

State control of the airwaves further disciplined radio operators by effectively squelching political conversations. Hams recognized they were

“involved with, formed by, and regulated by politics.” Yet fear that ideological battles would result in tighter regulation by the federal government led hobbyists to pragmatically refrain from political activity “unless it is something for the good of amateur radio,” stipulated a 1935 club bulletin, “and then, only when it is absolutely necessary.” The ARRL hired professionals to lobby for radio rights, and many smaller organizations and individuals spoke with their representatives in Washington whenever competing forms of communication encroached upon amateur bands or when international tensions threatened to silence the hobby. Otherwise, ham radio culture dictated that there was to be no discussion of politics on the airwaves, at club meetings, or in hobby publications.

Confirmation Postcards

The hobby community fostered a particular kind of sociability by endorsing selected forms and styles of off-air communication. The first non-radio contact between two hams usually was the exchange of postcards called “QSLs.” (“QSL” is a Q signal for “I acknowledge receipt.”) Through these cards, ethereal, fleeting, auditory conversations took on a material, enduring, visual reality. It was common for a ham to customize his confirmation cards with images and text that conveyed something about himself, his locale, or his relationship to the hobby and to create a card “truly representative of the sender.” One article offering design suggestions for QSLs instructed that the overall appearance should be “workmanlike” and warned against color combinations that “would lack strength” or “appear garish and cheap.”



A hobbyist in Hawaii included a drawing of a hula dancer on his radio contact confirmation card, along with a logo designating his membership in the American Radio Relay League.

To satisfy curiosity about “what kind of face goes with the voice or fist” heard over the radio, hobby publications often recommended putting photographs on confirmation cards. Traditionally such postcard photos showed a ham seated alone at the operating position in his radio shack. The subject matter of photographs hobbyists sent separately varied from this pattern. Amid dozens of snapshots, mostly from the 1940s and 1950s, that one ham received following on-air exchanges, just a few included radio equipment and shacks. The vast majority depicted only human subjects — the hobbyist, and sometimes his wife and children. Enclosing a family photo in a letter had the potential to broaden a budding friendship from its initial focus on radio and at the same time confirmed the sender’s heterosexuality, clarifying the limit of this new relationship between men.



K3UOC sent confirmation postcards in 1964 that showed what he looked like while operating his amateur radio station.

The space on confirmation postcards was largely reserved for technical data and limited hams' correspondence on QSLs. To make up for this, one handbook explained, many hobbyists sought "personalized and expanded communications." Another guide suggested that hobbyists include "letters describing their station in more detail and setting up schedules [for future conversations] with the other operator" when sending QSLs. "The desire to truly communicate with distant lands rather than merely logging countries and exchanging QSL cards" inspired some to send magazines and other small gifts to friends they knew only from talking by radio. This type of contact, according to one hobbyist, constituted "meaningful" communications and brought "additional pleasures" to ham radio.

"Eyeball Contacts"

Meetings in person, which hams called "eyeball contacts," solidified friendships begun on the air and through correspondence. The Sandia Base Radio Club in Albuquerque, New Mexico, sponsored a "Friendship Award"

that functioned much like an off-air analog of the ARRL's award for "rag chewers." To be eligible, a ham had to contact 25 local hobbyists and follow these on-air meetings with eyeball contacts, documented with the new friends' signatures. Handbooks encouraged visits between distant hams by pointing out that staying with a fellow hobbyist when traveling "cuts down on expenses, and the hospitality is always first rate."

Since mid century, hundreds of radio clubs have existed simultaneously in the United States, formalizing in-person gatherings between hams who lived near each other, worked together, or shared particular radio interests. The Los Angeles area alone had more than 30 clubs active in the 1950s. Clubs grounded hobbyist values in a visible social unit and provided vital mechanisms for enculturation. Hobby publications described clubs as offering the structure that individuals needed in order to feel connected to the ham community. Of the eight benefits of membership the Rochester Amateur Radio Association advertised in 1953, five focused on the pleasures of being part of a group. The club offered "Participation in club events open *only* to club members" and "Enjoyable monthly meetings." For \$3 a year, the hobbyist was told he could expect "Fraternity with fellow hams from all walks of life" and a sense of "Belonging, knowing you're associated, being a part of things." Should anyone question his inclusion in this community, the club member could answer the challenge by presenting his "Billfold-size membership card." Similar comforts of community could be found in looser affiliations, too. Specializing in a certain type of radio operation, according to one hobbyist, offered "a new sense of identity — a sense of belonging" by defining a smaller sphere of interaction. In the relaxed atmosphere of clubs, hams were gradually socialized into the hobby community. *CQ* magazine called clubs "the seat of true democracy in amateur radio" and charged each to "keep 'working on' its new Novice licensees and help to make *good hams* out of them." This process required "a lot more than [lessons in] technical and operating proficiency, and includes indoctrination into organized amateur activity [. . .] and in the traditions of our game." As part of their cultural instruction, hobbyists learned and practiced radio jargon in clubs. A handbook for new hobbyists described the typical meeting as "mostly informal — much 'rag chewing' goes on, coffee and doughnut breaks are common, and ham jabber fills the air, much of which will rub off on you." Once the "gibberish" of hams' language began to "form a pattern," a newcomer could become "an enthusiastic participant" in meetings and other hobby activities.

Newsletters captured the casual, friendly interaction of clubs. Typically these were monthly publications produced inexpensively by a volunteer editor. They were intended as “extremely personal publications in contrast to the commercial jobs,” according to one editor, and aimed to “deal directly and personally with each and every member of the club, in name as well as in activities.” Because hams took pleasure in “reading about themselves and about the folks they know,” the audience for club bulletins tolerated amateur publishing efforts. The ARRL reassured editors intimidated by literary responsibilities that it was all right to “know more about gamma than grammer [sic]” since newsletters were “just another means of communication among friends — like ham radio.” Club publications deliberately retained a local flavor and plain language. Every page, in style and content, displayed the culture of ham radio.

To explain the basis of that culture — from the expectations for behavior to the preferred manner of speaking — radio hobbyists always pointed back to their chosen leisure technology. Certainly many ham values derived pragmatically from wireless apparatus. Audible transmissions depended on precise operations, and open exchanges required discretion. Admonitions in ham publications against faults such as messiness had a more tenuous technical connection, though might still be plausibly justified with claims that, for instance, electronics performed more reliably when constructed tidily. But some characteristics of two-way radio operators came to be perceived as based in the technology only as a result of considerable effort expended by hobbyists.

Kristen Haring is a historian of science and technology, and the author of “*Ham Radio’s Technical Culture*,” from which this article is excerpted.

<https://www.amazon.com/Radios-Technical-Culture-Inside-Technology/dp/0262582767>

Fire Marshal's Office

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- **NEVER** use aftermarket (or generic) batteries or chargers
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- **NEVER** charge a battery or device under your pillow, on your bed, or near a couch
- **NEVER** leave e-bikes or e-scooters unattended while charging
- **NEVER** block your primary way in or out of a room/space
- **NEVER** place batteries in Trash or Recycling bin
- **ALWAYS** purchase and use devices certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory such as UL (Underwriters Laboratory)
- **ALWAYS** follow the manufacturer's instructions for charging and storage
- **ALWAYS** use the correct battery, cord and power adapter
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Member and Station News:

Your news or story could be included here in the next issue of CARA Capers. Contact W1QK, Capers editor.

Just snap pix of your station, antennas, mobile installation, etc. and send it to w1qk@snet.net Your Capers Editor welcomes and encourages member input.

2024 HamXposition Club Newsletter Award

Open to all New England Amateur Radio Clubs

- Each club submits:
 - Club newsletter from the 2nd quarter of 2024 (April, May, or June)
 - Email newsletter to: cq-newsletter@hamxposition.org
 - Deadline to submit: Friday, July 5
- Judging by someone impartial who resides outside of New England on the following:
 - Layout design
 - Content
- The top three get a digital sticker they can use on their newsletter for the next 12 months showing that they are #1, #2, or #3 best club newsletter in New England for the period September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025.
- The top three winners for the 2024 HamXposition will be ineligible to participate in the 2025 HamXposition competition to allow other clubs to win.

Editor: The CARA Capers June issue has been entered into this competition. Results will be included in the September issue.

From today's Town Tribune

John Morelli

From:wljgm@wlqi.org

To:caraw1qi@groups.io

Danbury Railway Museum's 30th Anniversary and First Responders Day, Sept. 7, 10am-4pm



On September 7th, from 10 am to 4pm, the Metro-North Railroad Amateur Radio Assoc. with the Candlewood Amateur Radio Assoc. would like to invite you to help commemorate the Danbury Railway Museum's 30th Anniversary and First Responders Day. The museum is located at 120 White Street, Danbury CT.

The radio clubs have two amateur radio stations active and will be showcasing what amateur radio can do. The public can and are encouraged to get on the radio with our experienced radio operators to make contact with other amateur radio stations in the United States and worldwide.

For more information please visit the links below,
danburyrail.org, mnrara.org, cararadioclub.org

