



# Capers

## June - 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: Dan Fegley – W1QK*

*This in-person meeting will be conducted on Friday, June 14 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.*

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Presentation on Connecticut National Guard communications capabilities.



CARA's annual Executive Board and Directors election.



CARA's Plans for the June 22-23 ARRL Field Day event.

# CARA Monthly Meeting Agenda

June 14, 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

**PROGRAM:** National Guard Communications Presentation- Jason Desousa

## **Committee Reports**

- Repeater Committee Reports: Steve, W1SMS
- Website and IT Committee: Stephanie Fuda
- Operating Activities Committee
  - New Fairfield Day Special Event Station- September
  - Field Day-**under new business**
  - POTA June 15 10am to 2pm Wonder Lake (NY)
    - Future POTA's 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Month 10-2 Location TBD
- Fund Raising Committee
  - Laptop ask for donation **under old business**
- Membership Committee
  - 1 new Technician members since last meeting KC1USG

## **Old Business**

- Election of Officers and Directors
  - Any final Floor nominations
- Status of 3 laptop purchases/funding
- July Meeting Program: Elmer night part 2
  - Steve KC1EEQ Fire Extinguisher Video
- Ridgefield July 4<sup>th</sup> Fire Works

## **New Business**

- FTDX1200 Rig Donation and “Lend/Lease” Program
- Field Day June 22/23 at Ball Pond FD
  - Event Coordinator -??
  - Planning Document from W1QK
  - Sign-up sheets Circulating
  - Move antenna stuff from EOC to FD??
- Special Event at Danbury RR Museum Saturday 9/7
  - Dan, N2DGT-Leader
  - Set up 9am 1 20m/10m SSB Stations
  - Operate 10-3
  - Pack up 3pm

## **Announcements**

- Pasta Night Tuesday 6/18 at 6pm Vespucci Lodge
- Marlboro last weekend of August

## **Good of the Order**

## **Adjournment and Next Meeting**

- June Meeting Friday 6/14 at 7:30 in Person
- June planning meeting Friday 6/28 at 7:30 on Teams

The meeting was closed at 8:01pm.



## ***President's Message***

*de W1NSK*

Summer is almost here! While you're outside working on those needed projects after the Winter months, now is a good time to make necessary antenna repairs or contemplate that new antenna. Perhaps a 2 Meter Base antenna or some wire antennas for HF (Or Maybe More!). Try an OCF (Off Center Fed Dipole) or the ARRL end Fed wire (65') for HF.

A Special Congrats to Stephanie for passing her Technician Class License!

Friday June 14th is our is our Monthly Meeting. This month our meeting will be

held at the Stony Hill Firehouse. A Special Presentation by the Army National Guard Communications Group is on the agenda. Also, we will be discussing this year's Field Day event at Ball Pond Firehouse in New Fairfield. Join us at this year's event. Make new friends, operate for some time or just watch/listen to those that are. Setup is Saturday morning at 10 AM and it will run continuously until tear down at 2 PM Sunday. Help is needed for both setup and year down.

This month the club POTA activation will be on Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>. Join us from 10AM to 2 PM. Bring a portable station or assist one of the several club members who will be operating. A good opportunity for newer Hams to learn and see HF stations in operation.

Club elections are upon us. An email vote will be taken. Be sure to vote!

7:00 PM Sunday nights, after our weekly club 2-meter net on our club repeater, is the Elmer MS Teams meeting. Bring those questions you always wanted to ask or listen to and learn something new. Primarily for new Hams, Technicians and those wanting to have a question answered. Nothing is too basic to ask! The focus is getting on the air, antenna setup, operating techniques, and the like. Join Us.

Please sign up for the Club ARES effort at the Ridgefield Fireworks on July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Contact John, W1JGM for details.

Spaghetti Night at Vespucci Lodge in Danbury is the 18<sup>th</sup> of June. \$12 for a Spaghetti and Meatball dinner and lots of "radio talk". Join Us!

If anyone has an idea that they would like to present, or suggestions of what and who to present to the Club at a meeting, get in touch and let's talk about it! Digital Modes, CW, EME and Satellites are all of interest!

As I always say, this is your Club. We encourage active participation in one of numerous committees. Let anyone of the officers know of your interest and what you may want to get involved with.

Remember this is all about fun and our Hobby!

See you on the Air!

Bud – W1NSK  
CARA President



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

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## ***Vice-President's Message:***

de W1JGM



Summer is upon us and CARA on the air activates are in full swing. Our monthly POTA at lover's leap in New Milford was well attended even with the poor band conditions. This month we will meet at Wonder Lake State Park. Wonder Lake (US-2163) is located at 380 Ludingtonville Road, Holmes, NY 12531. It is off the 311 exit off I 84, it is only 15 minutes from Danbury.

<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/wonderlake/maps.aspx>

Speaking of on the air activities, the largest on the air event is ARRL field day, held 2:00 pm June 22 till 2:00 pm June 23. Again, this year we will hold the event at the Ball Pond Vol Fire Company. The firehouse is at 7 Fairfield Dr, New Fairfield. From Danbury take RT 39 to New Fairfield.

About 5 miles from exit 5 of I84. Make a left on Fairfield Dr. The firehouse is 500ft on the left.

We would ask all club members to sign up for operating times. This will help us better prepare.

You can sign up using the link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AA8A923A7F58-49094286-field/167048084#/>

Last month's joint meeting with the Metro North ARC at the rail museum was a very successful event with the tour of the rail museum and the arrival of several Metro North trains to the station.

This month's presentation will be from the Connecticut National Guard. They will present their emergency communication system. The meeting is at the Stony Hill Fire Company June 14, doors open at 7:00 pm , meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

As always, this is your club, be an active part of it.

Be an active member and be proud of it.

Get on the air and have fun.

73,

John Morelli - W1JGM  
CARA Vice-President



**CARA is an ARRL-Designated  
Special Service Club**

**ARRL SSC recognition renewal application  
approved: March 2024**

### **May 10 - Monthly Business Meeting Minutes**

de CARA Secretary/Treasurer, John Ahle - W1JMA



**CARA Meeting Minutes  
May 10, 2024  
Danbury RR Museum**

The joint meeting of CARA and the Metro North Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:31pm at the Danbury Railway Museum.

Bud - W1NSK, CARA President, welcomed the 12 CARA members, 3 Metro North members and 2 guests to the meeting. A round of introductions followed.

The CARA meeting minutes from April, printed in CAPERS, were accepted. John-W1JMA, reported that K1KI had received our letter and donation regarding the NEQSO party. CARA will no longer support the plaque for CT unless K1KI changes the CT classification back to counties.

The CARA Treasurer's report as printed in CAPERS was accepted. John - W1JMA, informed the group that the paperwork to update the I Bond account has not been acted upon by the Treasury Department and the wait could be up to 6 months. There is approximately \$7500 in I Bonds.

Nomination Committee: Dave, WA1JGA, proposed the following Slate of Officers and Directors for the next year:

President:	Bud - W1NSK
VP:	John - W1JGM
Treasurer:	John - W1JMA
Secretary:	Open

Directors: Dave - WA1JGA, Vin - N2OHH,  
Rosty - W2ROS

There were no nominations from the floor.  
The vote will be at the June Meeting.

Repeater Committee: Steve - W1SMS, was not present, he reported to Bud that the 2 repeaters are functioning, w/o any issues.

IT/Website Committee: Stephanie Fuda was not present. John - W1JMA, reported that both the website and reflector are working well.

#### Operating Activities:

- The next POTA is Saturday 5/18 at Wonder Lake State Park. Wonder Lake (US-2163) is located at 380 Ludingtonville Road, Holmes, NY 12531. It is off the 311 exit off I 84, it is only 15 minutes from Danbury. ([Wonder Lake State Park \(ny.gov\)](http://www.wonderlakestatepark.ny.gov)) 10:00 am ~ 3:00 pm)

Membership Committee: John - W1JMA, reported that there are 10 new members so far this year. This does not include any potential members from the Technician Class.

#### Old Business:

Tech Class: John - W1JGM, reported the class has concluded and the license exams have been given. The results of the testing are 9 new Techs and Generals. John thanked Vin - N2OHH, Dan -N2DGT and John - W1JMA for helping with the class.

The June program will be the National Guard Communications Process.

#### New Business:

Field Day needs a committee to organize. Anyone interested in this should contact Bud. There is a planning document that has been distributed and John - W1JMA, has started to complete based on tasks already completed. The sign-up sheet is being circulated via the reflector. Field Day will be held at the Ball Pond FD. We will operate 2A. Rigs have been committed, the Field Day pins have been acquired, and the food is being procured.

Oscar - KO1F, will bring the publicity tent.

John - W1JGM, made a motion that was seconded to purchase 3 new laptops not to exceed \$1000, to replace the aging laptops currently in use for FD and WFD. CARA would repurpose the old laptops to the VE exam team for their use now that the exams are web based. There was discussion about possible grants to fund this and John - W1JGM asked his former employer if they had any laptops that could be donated to the club. Since the proposed expenditure is greater than \$500 and there was not a proper quorum to spend the \$1000, this would have to be an electronic vote of the membership.

The July meeting will be a continuation of the Elmer night program that was held in April.

John - W1JMA, will put out a sign up for the Ridgefield July 4<sup>th</sup> Fire Works communications test. Harlan - W1QH will be net control. This test will be working alongside the Ridgefield CERT team using FRS radios.

There was a discussion about having a Special Event Station at the Danbury Railway Museum to commemorate its 30-year anniversary. After discussing with those present and Museum management, Saturday, August 3 would be a good opportunity for this event. This will be further discussed at the next planning meeting.

#### **Announcements:**

- The Pasta night is Tuesday 5/21 at 6:00 pm Vespucci Lodge
- Dayton is this coming weekend 5/16-19
- Marlboro is the last w/e of August

#### **Adjournment and next meetings:**

- The next planning meeting is Friday 5/25 at 7:30 on Teams
- The June meeting is Friday 6/14 at 7:30pm at the Stony Hill FD

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.  
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### **CARA Treasury Report May 31, 2024**

Income:	Full Member Dues 2024	
	\$1835	
Income:	Associate Member Dues 2024	
	\$20	
Total Income:		\$1855

Expense:	Donation-WA7BNM&POTA	
	\$50	
Expense:	Insurance – Eq & Liability	
	\$305	
Expense:	PayPal Fees	
	\$15.15	
Expense:	Website/Hosting Fees	
	\$30.98	
Expense:	NEQSO Plaque	
	\$50	

Total Expense:		\$451.13
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<b>Net Income for Period</b>		<b>\$1403.87</b>
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Cash: Checking	\$8040.29
Cash: Petty	\$50
Investment: I Bond	\$7343

<b>Unrestricted CASH Balance:</b>	<b>\$15433.29</b>
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**Number of full members: 53**

**Associate members: 1**

**In-Kind Donation: Yaesu FTDX-1200 Est value \$650**

## May Meeting review:



May's business meeting was held on Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:31 pm at the Danbury Railway Museum's Union Station on White Street in Danbury - hosted by the Metro North Amateur Radio Association, which is based at the Railway Museum.



The program was a self-guided museum tour of the station. The yard tour was cancelled due to rain.

CARA's business meeting followed with a chance for members of both radio clubs to mingle and socialize.



## Upcoming June Meeting Presentation:



This month's presentation will be from Jason DeSousa of the Connecticut National Guard.

He will present information about their emergency communication systems.

### *Jason DeSousa – Speaker Bio*

I retired from the Connecticut State Police in 2018, after nearly 21 years of service. I've been a member of the Connecticut National Guard (CTNG) for 22 years, enlisting shortly after 9/11. I served two



combat deployments to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2006-2007 and again 2009-2010. I have also supported several stateside missions to include CTNG's Covid-19 response. I have held numerous assignments within the CTNG and am currently assigned as the J 5/7 (Plans, Training and Exercises) of the CTNG Joint Staff. We work with members of the CTNG (Army and Air National Guard) as well as local, state, federal, Non-Governmental Agencies and other service components. Our focus in the Joint Staff is to develop plans, training, and exercises in support of National Guard Civil Support Operations.

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#### **Weekly CARA Sunday club NETS:**

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**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.

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#### **Upcoming Contests, Hamfests & Meetings:**

June 14: CARA Monthly Business Meeting. In-person at Stony Hill FD, Bethel. Gather at 7:00 pm, gavel at 7:30 pm

June 15: CARA Monthly POTA Activation at Wonder Lake, NY 11:00 am ~ 3:00 pm

June 15: SMIRK 6 Meter contest, ARRL Kids Day, WV QSO Party, Stew Perry 160M Top Band Distance Challenge contest

June 18: CARA Monthly Pasta Night Dinner - Vespucci Italian-American club in Danbury. \$ 12 for bowl of pasta with two meatballs, salad, bread & butter, cash bar for soda, wine, and beer. 6:00 pm.



June 22-23: ARRL Field Day, Ball Pond FD, New Fairfield

June 28: CARA Monthly Planning Meeting on TEAMS: 7:30 pm

June 24: CT ARES Region 5 Monthly meeting via TEAMS

June 12, 19, 26: CWops CWT 1300Z & 1900Z Wednesday, and 0300Z (Thursday)



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

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

**July 5; July 2024 Capers input deadline to [w1qk@snet.net](mailto: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.*

## 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

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## CT ARES Information:

Statewide Weekly ARES Net: KB1AEV/NA1RA (NARA) linked repeaters: 8:00 pm

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

CT ARES Region 5 monthly meetings.:  
Region 5 South TEAMS meeting is held on the second Monday of the month. 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](mailto: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>



*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, July 3**

### The CW Operators' Club

[cwops.org](http://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/>

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Editor: Recent Posts to the CWops Reflector with credit to contributors:

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Article about railroad telegraphers

From: Gary Johnson

Date: Thu, 30 May 2024 20:47:06 EDT

Lots of first-person stories about the life of a RR telegrapher, many moons ago.

<https://thelibrary.org/lohist/periodicals/ozarkswatch/ow702h.htm#:~:text=Commissions%20from%20Western%20Union%20and>

Gary NA6O

Re: Article about railroad telegraphers

From: Zack Widup

Date: Thu, 30 May 2024 21:50:08 EDT

Fascinating story. My grandfather was a railroad telegrapher for the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern (EJ&E) railroad in Plainfield, IL. I have a brass sounder and straight key that he used. Also, a custom-made bug. The bug needs a lot of work.

My grandfather died in 1954. Not a lot was done to the garage at his house for many years. My grandmother lived there until about 1970 and died in 1971 in a nursing home. After she died, we cleaned out the garage. I found unassembled parts for a spark gap transmitter. I guess he had some interest in radio but never was licensed as a ham.

Zack W9SZ

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Great tool for DETAILED tracking of Solar Flares

From: [Doug KR2Q \(438\)](#)

Date: Tue, 07 May 2024 05:56:34 EDT

Check this one out.

Very nice!

[https://www.sidc.be/solardemon/flares.php?min\\_seq=1&min\\_flux\\_est=0.000000001&days=14&science=0](https://www.sidc.be/solardemon/flares.php?min_seq=1&min_flux_est=0.000000001&days=14&science=0)

de Doug KR2Q

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Sperm Whales and CW?

From: Don NA6Z

Date: Wed, 08 May 2024 14:03:59 EDT

"The ABCs of Sperm Whales

"Sperm whales employ a system of communication much more sophisticated than previously believed, researchers revealed yesterday, using the equivalent of a phonetic alphabet that varies depending on context. The new study analyzed nearly 9,000 codas. Short bursts of clicks? Using AI to uncover vocal patterns and potential meanings in how the

animals signaled to each other in their deep-sea environment.

"The team of marine biologists and computer scientists found the phonetic alphabet of sperm whales features 18 rhythms, five tempos, three types of rubato (variation in duration), and two extra clicks called ornamentation, which are modified depending on conversational context. Using machine learning algorithms, the scientists identified 143 regularly used combinations they believe structure a form of phonetic alphabet. They are now exploring whether these signals convey specific intentions, like making group decisions or coordinating hunts.

"Scientists hope, with the help of AI, to eventually be able to communicate with the whales, which would be the first-time humans have spoken with another species."

73 Don NA6Z #2727

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Re: Sperm Whales and CW?

From: N3JT Jim #1

Date: Wed, 08 May 2024 16:27:43 EDT

Same issue appeared in today's Washington Post. Most animals have communications means at varying levels of content. It would seem whales could be trained to make CWT contacts, but they'd have a whale of a time logging.

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No pain no gain. #CWops

From: Jeff Wandling ~ W7BRS

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 00:42:44 EDT

Sked?

I'd like to see if I can keep up with a couple of the CWops but man, it's fast.

Just a question -- is it 25/25 wpm? or 25/n

Anytime just before or after a MST/CWT would work for me, or whenever really. I just need a bit of warning so I can throw back a couple cups of coffee beforehand.

If I crash and burn, then I'll go back and work on it.

Gotta see what happens. Ping me directly, please. I'm good in the QRZ.

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Re: No pain no gain.  
From: Bill G0ELZ  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 02:09:02 EDT

CW speed in CWT well I joined CW Ops on the 3rd Jan 2010.

Started to dip into the CWT a year or two later then in March 2015 my wife had an aortic dissection in her descending aorta, she survived paraplegic left leg amputee and home after eight months in hospital.  
Her right leg went in November last year, but she is ok and happy just not as tall anymore.

As her main career spend a lot of time at home which means more time to get on the air.

Noticed the average speeds of stations in the CWT creep up over the years lots were at about 25wpm then noticed a lot were sending faster on a regular basis up to 30wpm and above. Sharpens the skill set and enjoy the CWT sessions very much.

Ran a Morse class from mid-1986 to mid-2018 great fun and after the Morse test was removed took my class up to 20wpm before saying ok go out and be a CW guy.

Had a saying "There are only two speeds for CW the speed you can comfortably read and Faster." both points are movable.

Practice practice, practice and then practice more.

0707 BST time so now wake Carol and get breakfast done before the 08:00 BST start of CWT.

73 de Bill G0ELZ CW Ops 239.

Re: No pain no gain.  
From: John K4AFE #1560  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 02:30:41 EDT  
Hi Bill,

I have been doing CWTs for about 9 years now. The average speeds have gradually increased over those years. It used to be that you could always find ops at about 22-25 wpm, especially higher in the band.

I have been dealing with a serious autoimmune disease that causes my immune system to attack and destroy healthy muscle. So, I can no longer climb the stairs to my shack easily.

I hadn't done a CWT in a long time until last month, when I did a couple. Boy!! I was amazed at how fast most ops were working, especially in the lower portion of the band. Nearly everyone was running at 34-38 wpm or faster. Even using N1MM and call history, it was still a real challenge, but a lot of fun. However, for those not capable of copying callsigns at that speed, it must be frustrating. Even in the higher portions of the band, the speeds were 30-34 wpm.

Good luck, 73,

John McVey, K4AFE

Re: No pain no gain. #CWops  
From: Bill G0ELZ  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 04:54:50 EDT  
John thanks for the reply and yes CWT best thing ever for upping the CW game do not use keyboard cw just the ETM9C keyer and my ears and Jim N3JT called you several times but conditions were way way down after yesterday's solar flares and CME.

Got 5 for this week's ACAM score now on 211 and looking to beat last year's 228.

Off to U995 29th May to 4th June so will miss the Wed/Thursday CWT but back on Tuesday the 4th at about 2000 ish in time for that week's CWT.

DL0DMB call from U995 for International Museum Ships Weekend and at least 4 of the operators are CW some of the others are SSB so we split the operating up to give both SSB and CW a chance.

Onwards and Upwards Never Give Up.

73 de Bill G0ELZ CW Ops 239

Re: No pain no gain.

From: Pete Smith

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 08:57:09 EDT

I guess my experience is a little different. In the 1300Z session, 30 wpm seems to be about tops, except for the same dozen guys who go faster - around 34-36. At 1900, the baseline seems to be up again to 32 wpm. In both sessions, there are people going 22-26 WPM, and it's not a big imposition to slow down for them.

Since I started CWTs a couple of years ago, my comfortable baseline has gone up from 28 to 32 WPM. I count that as a principal reason for continuing, along with giving me a weekly opportunity to flex my mental muscles hi.

73, Pete N4ZR

Re: No pain no gain.

From: Harve H

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 09:04:59 EDT

Speeds have definitely increased over the past few years. I have slid my speed up as high as 32 wpm but am more comfortable at 28-30 wpm, which is where I usually sit.

I can copy call signs at higher speeds than that, which does help these days for sure!!

73,

Harve / KB3FW

Re: No pain no gain.

From: N3JT Jim #1

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 09:30:30 EDT

I would have assumed that the CWA students would be at 25 words per minute or lower. But in the CWT sessions there often are CWA ops who are apparently capable of copying at 35 wpm or more. Perhaps listening several times to a fast-sent call sign can do it for somebody whose basic competent speed is below 35. That's pushing their copy envelopes, which seems to me great training!

Jim, N3JT

Re: No pain no gain.

From: Tom Hardy NN7O

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 10:02:52 EDT

My perspective as a relatively new member (#3427) is that the very fast speeds of CWT have been extraordinarily helpful in improving my copy skills. I try to do three CWTs per week, but work obligations make 1300 and 1900 an exercise in "get 10 QSOs plus a few to spare and then get to work". I use call history files and most of the time use spotting assistance. And I always use N1MM to send--there is still no way that I can send anything above about 25-27 wpm without slowing everyone else down.

BUT, what I notice is that my copying and sending at more "normal" speeds is vastly improving. My motivation in learning CW originally was SOTA, and now I feel like I can handle pretty much everything that comes my way on a summit (speeds there are about 18 to 22 wpm). More importantly, I was playing on the 7QP and NEQP last weekend and I found that with only a few exceptions I could copy everyone easily and I was able to send everything using

paddles. For me, that was a huge improvement and a major confidence builder.

So, I hope the CWT "pros" keep ripping along. I'll keep on struggling during the CWTs . . . but it's working. And thanks to everyone for all the contacts and practice!

Vy 73,

Tom NN7O  
CWops #3427

Re: No pain no gain.  
From: VE9AA - Mike  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 10:07:03 EDT  
Surely nobody is complaining about CW speeds in excess of 25 or 30wpm are they or am I misconstruing the comments?

This is "CWops" right?

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Mike VE9AA 1347

Re: No pain no gain.  
From: John K4AFE #1560  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 10:32:42 EDT  
I think the general consensus is that working the higher speeds helps tremendously with being able to copy/send at more conversational speeds. I agree!

73, John, K4AFE  
View/Reply Online | Reply To Sender | Reply To Group | Mute Topic | Top ^ | New Topic

CWT speed analysis  
From: Doug KR2Q (438)  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 11:16:33 EDT  
Seems like this topic comes up at least annually. And I always enjoy "the math" (stats).

de Doug KR2Q

I examined the 1900 CWT from this week by downloading the RBN file.

<https://www.reversebeacon.net/>

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The average speed was 33.6 wpm  
The min speed was 7 wpm (really!). I recognize the call and the QRG was in our usual range.  
The max speed was 48 wpm

The data distribution is non-parametric (not a "normal" curve).  
Q = "quartile"

Q1 speed is 30 wpm  
Q2 speed is 34 wpm  
Q3 speed is 37 wpm  
high outlier value is 47.5 wpm

I have all the data, sorted by callsign. If you want a copy, please email me. If I get more than 10 requests, I'll post it.



Re: CWT speed analysis  
From: Gabriel Tudoran  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 11:21:43 EDT  
This is a very FB analysis - thank you!

73 DE YO3HEX/YP3X

Re: No pain no gain. #CWops  
From: Jeff Wandling ~ W7BRS  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 11:57:10 EDT  
With regards to the CWops Mini-contest speeds:

I export a few of the latest efforts I make into ADIF and shove them into a tool that generates a new master.dta which I then Run with in Morse Runner set to 27 wpm. So, on off days I just practice those same call signs. It's somewhat funny when AA3B pops up in Morse Runner at 20 wpm.

The MR approach based only on past ADIF's from CWops helped me a bit.

The original post was looking for sked QSO but maybe that's not necessary. See you next Wednesday.

Re: CWT speed analysis  
From: Pete Smith  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 12:03:39 EDT  
Very interesting, Doug. The only quibble I might offer is that behavior of runners in CWT and that of the people calling them is different. When I run (30 wpm to 32 wpm), I am often called by people going more slowly, and I tend to QRS if they are going enough slower that I think they might have trouble copying at my CQ speed.  
73, Pete N4ZR

Re: CWT speed analysis  
From: Dave Edmonds WN4AFP  
Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 12:23:08 EDT  
I wonder who was sending at 48 wpm? I was dealing with lightning storm during 1900z CWT.

Dave WN4AFP 1208

Very interesting, Doug. The only quibble I might offer is that behavior of runners in CWT and that of the people calling them is different. When I run (30 wpm to 32 wpm), I am often called by people going more slowly, and I tend to QRS if they are going enough slower that I think they might have trouble copying at my CQ speed.  
73, Pete N4ZR

On 5/9/2024 11:16 AM, Doug KR2Q (438) via groups.io wrote:  
Seems like this topic comes up at least annually. And I always enjoy "the math" (stats).

de Doug KR2Q

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Re: CWT speed analysis

From: Dave K1VUT (1878)

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 13:35:42 EDT

Poor Dave WN4AFP, someone is infringing on his territory!

Dave K1VUT

Re: CWT speed analysis

From: Dave Edmonds WN4AFP

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 13:52:22 EDT

I haven't heard "super flyer" KG5HVO, Bryant in a while. It's still a mystery.

Dave wn4afp 1208

Re: CWT speed analysis

From: Doug KR2Q (438)

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 19:26:32 EDT

Pete,

True. But all I have as a data source is RBN data and generally, callers speed is not picked up. And the speed of the runner's reply is probably also missed by RBN. So, we are looking at CQ speed.

Doug

Re: CWT speed analysis

From: K9MA

Date: Thu, 09 May 2024 20:41:57 EDT

I've found that if I run at 34-36 wpm, most of the callers are in that range. If someone calls a bit more slowly, I usually don't slow down, figuring perhaps I'm helping her/him improve copying. If someone calls much more slowly, I slow down. If I'm getting a lot of callers, I sometimes speed up to 38 or even 40 until the pileup thins out. I'm trying to strike a balance between maximizing my score and being considerate of other operators. There are some who seem to do the whole session at 40+ wpm, and post great scores, but I just wouldn't be comfortable doing that.

73,

Scott K9MA

Very interesting, Doug. The only quibble I might offer is that behavior of runners in CWT and that of the people calling them is different. When I run (30 wpm to 32 wpm), I am often called by people going more slowly, and I tend to QRS if they are going enough slower that I think they might have trouble copying at my CQ speed.

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high outlier value is 47.5 wpm

I have all the data, sorted by callsign. If you want a copy, please email me. If I get more than 10 requests, I'll post it.

Re: CWT speed analysis

From: N3JT Jim #1

Date: Fri, 10 May 2024 15:47:13 EDT

Dave and W1QK are my heroes. With them and a few others I know well, I crank up my report (if I am in S&P mode where I can do it more easily) to 60+ wpm. N5TOO and N3QE are among those who often reciprocate! I know there is a smile with those!

Re: Kid at Hamvention copying extremely high speed callsigns

From: Jim N7US #486

Date: Sun, 19 May 2024 22:07:22 EDT

Check out

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Es6rrKTbE7M&ab\\_channel=n2yo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Es6rrKTbE7M&ab_channel=n2yo)

Jim N7US

## What does a telegraph operator do?



A telegraphist (British English), telegrapher (American English), or telegraph operator is an operator who uses a telegraph key to send and receive the Morse code in order to communicate by land lines or radio.

### *When did the railroad stop using telegraph?*

"Railroad" magazine noted that the Eau Claire line of the Milwaukee Road was the location of the last use of railroad telegraph on a regular basis in the U.S., with the agents at Eau Claire and Durand still using it until the mid-1970's.

### *Who were the famous telegraph operators?*

In its early days, the 1840s–1860s, telegraphy had been mythologized as a way to move up in the world. Andrew Carnegie and Thomas Edison started out as telegraph operators, and Horatio Alger wrote three separate novels about telegraph messenger boys making good. Nov 11, 2014

### *What company came to dominate the telegraph industry?*

The Western Union Telegraph Company

One of the most significant was the New York and Mississippi Printing Telegraph Company formed by Hiram Sibley, which was soon consolidated with a number of other start-up telegraph companies into the Western Union Telegraph Company in 1856. Western Union became the dominant telegraph company in the United States.

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## 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.*

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## Capers: Swap and Shop

### CARA Swap & Shop Policies:

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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](mailto:w1qk@snet.net) for placement in the CARA Capers.

### FOR SALE:

Yaesu FTDX 2000. 100 Watts, 160-6 Meters. All Options and Digital Filters. \$900.

2015 Ford AWD Escape, 4Cyl, 80K Miles 2 owners, clean Car Fax.

CARA Club Special: Icom 2 Meter/440 MHZ, 50 Watt Mobile professionally installed. \$8,000

Contact: Bud Kozloff – W1NSK  
203-939-3708

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

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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.

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



**July issue input deadline: July 5**

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**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](mailto: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>

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**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.

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## 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 testers, 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](#)!



June 5, 2024

Editor: Paul Bourque, N1SFE

During Hamvention, members of the upcoming Jarvis Island DX-pedition were talking about using a new variation of FT8, initially called "Superfox Mode." The new mode has the DX station, or the fox, transmitting an approximately 1.5 kHz wide waveform in the same 15-second interval as today. This new waveform conveys a message that can flexibly acknowledge up to nine different hounds at a time and has provisions for additional future functionality. The new constant-envelope waveform with multiple streams has approximately the same receivability as today's single-slot waveform. More "hounds" will be able to hear the fox when multiple streams are being used.

### News, Press Releases, and Special Interest

The Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club announced the fall 2024 VHF and UHF sprints. There are some changes for 2024, including expanded award categories, and the moving of the 50 MHz Sprint to Saturday afternoon, with the potential for improved propagation. Here's the schedule:

- 50 MHz: 1800 UTC to 2200 UTC on Saturday, August 10, 2024
- 144 MHz: 7 PM to 11 PM local time on Monday, September 9, 2024
- 222 MHz: 7 PM to 11 PM local time on Tuesday, September 17, 2024
- 432 MHz: 7 PM to 11 PM local time on Wednesday, September 25, 2024
- 902 MHz and up: 8 AM to 2 PM local time on Saturday, October 5, 2024



In the early days of electrification, there were many standards for voltages, AC vs. DC, and AC frequency. There was distributed generation with windmills or generators, and lack of connectivity. With the advent of the grid consumer power standards settled on 60-cycle AC, and power was generated by large scale generators on the grid. With distributed generation of renewable power and initiatives to strengthen the grid, utilities are implementing distributed storage and generation of power. And there are new companies that are providing equipment and services at scale, using storage and inverters. Let's hope they're not noisy inverters.

Also at Hamvention, the new Airspy HF+ Ranger SDR receiver was being shown, in advance of its release. An RTL-SDR website article lists the frequency range to be 0.5 kHz to 1750 MHz.

### Word to the Wise

A Rover is a station that operates while in motion, or from multiple locations during the contest period. Rover categories are available in many VHF and higher contests, including the upcoming ARRL June VHF Contest from June 8 - 10.

### Sights and Sounds

Contest University 2024 was live streamed via YouTube. If you missed it, you can still watch the eight hours of video. If you're looking for a session, links to the beginning of some of the presentations are below:

It's our Radiosport Game – Let's Play Fair – K5ZD (joined in-progress, audio starts at this point)

Optimizing the Use of Waterfall Displays for Contesting – N6TV

How to Integrate Youth Operators in Multiop Contesting – KE8LQR and KE8RJU

Next Level Contesting; Making the Move to SO2R – K5ZD

Eyeball Sprint exercise, always fun to watch!

The Road to WRTC2026 in the United Kingdom – M0DXR

HF Propagation Tips – W3LPL

"What happened last weekend, although it didn't affect a major contest... could affect us like that again over the next 2 or 3 years or so of this solar cycle peak." – Frank Donovan, W3LPL, discussing the result of the sun's coronal mass ejection and associated radio blackout during his talk (see link above).

The World of QRP Contesting – K8ZT

SO2R and Station Design Q&A – K5ZD

Are you Considering a New Radio? Is My TX Clean? – NC0B

### Operating Tip

Randy Thompson, K5ZD, suggests that on your journey to SO2R skills, you "don't attempt to use two radios at once until you've mastered using one very well." Mastery includes knowing how to make contacts under various conditions using your radio without thinking about how to use radio functions like filtering, attenuation, and so forth. The process of using the radio should be muscle memory.

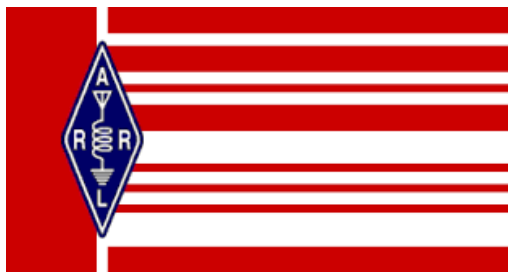
## Technical Topics and Information

The Morse Runner community edition project had a new release in March. There is now support for the IARU HF World Championship, and ARRL Field Day and CQ WPX contests have been improved. Morse Runner is a fun tool that can help improve your CW contesting skills by simulating real contests with your contest logging software such as N1MM Logger+ and DxLog.

A lot of PC enthusiasts and gamers build their own mechanical keyboards by combining a printed circuit board with key switches and keycaps of their choice. Some people prefer silent keys, while some want the definitive clack of vintage CHERRY key switches. There's a wide variety of choices, and if you're designing your own gear, you'll find KiCAD libraries for easy printed circuit board layout.

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting-related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to [contest-update@arrl.org](mailto:contest-update@arrl.org).

73, Paul, N1SFE and Brian, N9ADG



John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, Editor | June 6, 2024

## Announcements

**The 13 Colonies Special Event will take place July 1-7, 2024. Operating times are July 1, 1300 UTC to July 8, 0400 UTC.** Thirteen special call signs will be on the air, each one representing one of the original 13 British colonies that were established in 1607. Three additional bonus call signs will be on the air representing Great Britain, France, and Philadelphia. All HF bands can be used, including the WARC bands, except for 60 meters. Simplex on 2 meters and 6 meters is encouraged. The southeastern stations on the east coast are very close to each other. It will be harder for these states to contact each other so, use of 40-160 meters is encouraged. All modes of operation may be used, including SSB, CW, RTTY, and digital. The mode of operation is up to the individual colony state station. More information about logs, call signs, and QSL certifications can be found at [The Annual 13 Colonies Special Event](#).

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## ARRL New England Division Newsletter: "Beacon":

<https://nediv.arrl.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/New-England-Beacon-January-2024.pdf>

## Historic Field Day results

From: Larry Mitchell KF6NCX 3183  
Date: Mon, 13 May 2024 19:35:21 EDT  
Anyone know how you can access past Field Day results, earlier than 1997? Online I have found an ARRL page with links to yearly results going back to 2001. And I found two pdf links to QST articles for results from 1998 and 1997, but I would like records from earlier than that. I'm going to talk about FD to our local club and want to discuss how the club did in the old days.  
Thanks. Larry

Re: Historic Field Day results  
From: donovanf@starpower.net  
Date: Tue, 14 May 2024 00:32:35 EDT  
Hi Larry,

You can find all of the QSTs through 1969 here:

<https://www.worldradiohistory.com/QST.htm>

Field Day results are easily located by using the annual index at the back of each December issue

73

Frank  
W3LPL



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

There are in excess of 400 testers 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.

CARA has members of the YCCC.

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

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*Editor: Excerpts From the YCCC Groups IO Reflector with credit to all contributors:*

### *10 Habits of Winning Testers: The Contest Crew*

Re: How to handle email QSLs  
From: Gene W3UA  
Date: Tue, 21 May 2024 00:01:53 EDT

Tom,  
Not all e-QSL are created equal. Indeed, there is at least one sort of verifiable QSLs. Take a look at <https://hamlog.online/hqsl/?gve1KMtg01ERA AK8QAWxCg%3D%3D> - then scan the QR code with your smartphone, and you will see how it works. Of course, the sender may make a mistake, then you will get the card for a QSO which never happened -- but it's exactly the same as with a paper card. But at least this card can't be altered -- the QR code contains QSO data and the digital signature, which seals the QSO data. One can photoshop the text on the card, but not the data in the QR code. So it makes HQSL more "verifiable" than even a paper card. To create such cards, you need an account with hamlog.online, but to receive and use, you don't.

73, Gene W3UA

Re: Learn a language option?

From: Chuck, WS1L

Date: Wed, 05 Jun 2024 05:14:30 EDT

---

DXLabs Suite has a translation database that provides that sort of thing for several languages. Also, you may be able to find a used copy of The Radio Amateurs Conversation Guide by OK1BR and OH2BAD. It used to be available as a free PDF as well. ISBN951-99241-8-3.

73 de Chuck, WS1L

[chandlerusm@gmail.com](mailto:chandlerusm@gmail.com)

Re: Learn a language options?

From: Braydon Ebare

Date: Wed, 05 Jun 2024 05:44:35 EDT

If you're just looking to learn some ham radio phrases in a bunch of languages, I'd say that

<https://raisa.blog/how-to/the-radio-amateur-s-conversation-guide> is a good option. Keep in mind that some of the transcriptions are not 100% accurate in the native language, but it will absolutely teach you the basics of a QSO in another language with native pronunciation.

That being said, there are a few smartphone apps designed for language learners.

Among the free ones, there are DuoLingo (great for basic acquisition), Busuu (especially strong in Spanish and Italian), and Mesmerise.

With free apps come paid apps, of course. If you're looking to become absolutely fluent in another language, I'd recommend Babbel, Pimsleur, and Language Transfer (the best for an absolute beginner)

Good luck on your language journey :)

Hope that helps, Bray KC1KUG





## 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](mailto:w1qk@snet.net) Your Capers Editor welcomes and encourages member input.*

---

### OCF Antenna repair work @ W1NSK - June 1







W1SMS & W1JMA @ W1NSK

Photos: W1QK

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### Ridgefield Fire Works Saturday – July 6 6pm-10:30pm

**From:** w1jma@w1qi.org

**To:** caraw1qi@groups.io

Mon, Jun 3 at 9:30 PM

Here is the sign-up link for those who would like to help with communications at the Ridgefield Fireworks. Please mark your calendars. The fireworks are on

Saturday 7/6 at 6:00 pm. Parking at lower field at the Ridgefield High School... Talk in on 147.300. We will use 146.55 on the grounds. Bring a lawn chair, bug spray and food/drink. 73, John - W1JMA

Net Control: Harlan - W1QH, CT ARES Region 5 DEC

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA9A92CA2FCCF8-49971453-ridgefield>



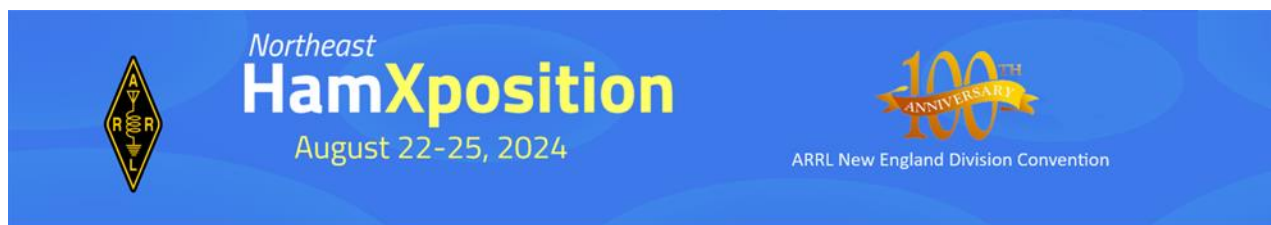
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## WinLink 2M CT Packet Gateways - Submitted by W1QK:

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/>

---



## ***HamXposition Online Ticketing is OPEN!***

**General Admission only: \$15**

**Convention Package PLUS \$139**

*Includes:*

- \* General Admission
- \* **NEW** Thursday Night Comedy Kickoff
- \* Friday DX Dinner
- \* Saturday Grand Banquet

*This is a savings of \$12 versus purchasing these items separately!*

**Online ticketing is available now.**

If you wish to stay overnight, discounted hotel rates are available through July 25th.

Visit our website for all details and to purchase tickets in advance:

<https://hamxposition.org>

73,  
Bob - K1IW  
HamXposition 2024

Comedy Show Thursday 8/22 at 8PM  
Seminars & Forums Fri, Sat, and Sun  
Flea Market Hours: Fri 12-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-1  
Exhibit Hall Hours: Sat 9-5, Sun 9-1

---

**[CARAW1QI] Field Day 2024 Sign Up Link Below 2 weeks from now!!!**

att.net/Inbox

**John W1JMA**

**From:**w1jma@w1qi.org

**To:**caraw1qi@groups.io

**Sun, Jun 9 at 7:40 AM**

Below is the link to sign up for set up, operating times and take down. We will size the event at the 6/14 meeting based on sign ups. Please sign up before the meeting next week. As of now, the doors will be locked at midnight and opened at 8am based on the fact no one has signed up for any overnight shifts. We also have only 3 times where we need two rigs, maybe we should only do one rig and skinny down the antenna farm?? Please sign up... 73 John W1JMA

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AA8A923A7F58-49094286-field/167048084#/>

# CARA 2023 ARRL Field Day Summary

Photos contributed by:  
W1JMA, W1QH, W1JGM, WA1JGA, KB1ZAC, W1QK























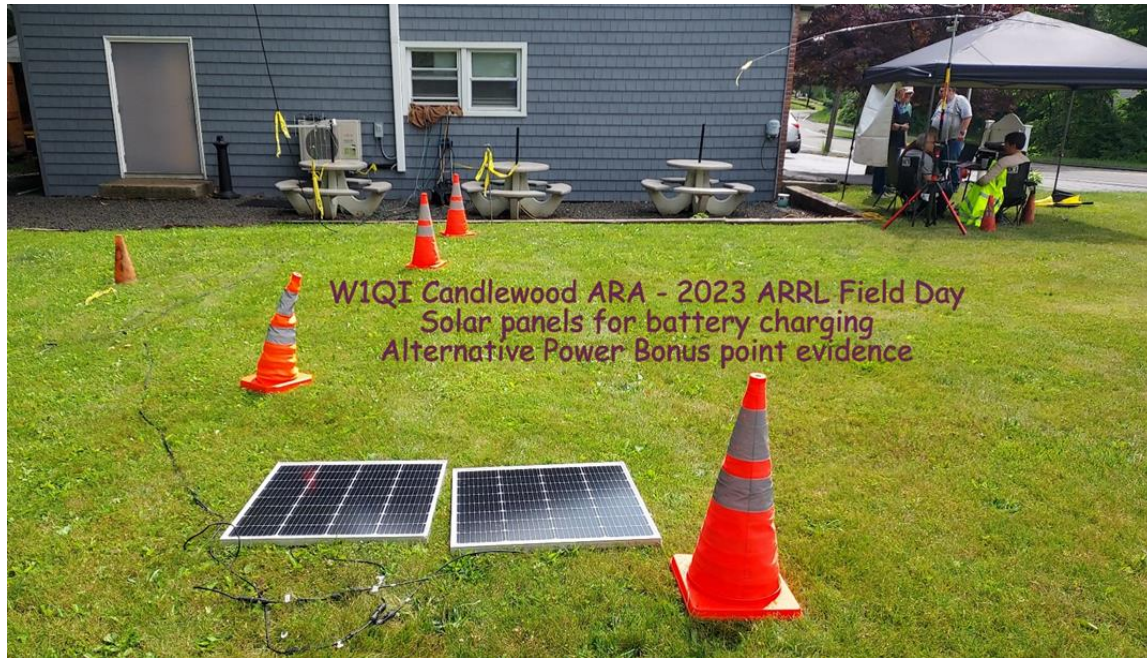








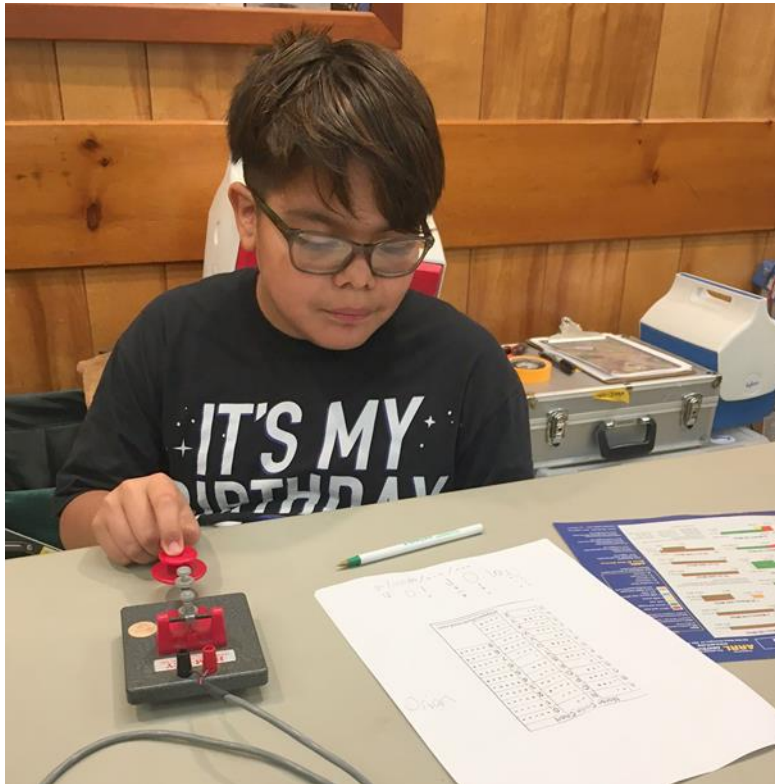












W1QI Candlewood ARA - 2023 ARRL Field Day  
Educational Activity Bonus- Morse Code key basics













# Candlewood ARA ARRL 2023 Field Day



Visit by ARRL CT Section  
Emergency Coordinator, SEC  
Philip Crombie - K1XFC





THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE RADIOGRAM VIA AMATEUR RADIO							
NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
3	R		W1QI	13	NEW FARMFIELD CT		6-24-23
TO			THIS RADIO MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT				
Mike Walters W8EY			AMATEUR STATION				
New Milford			NAME				
			STREET				
			CITY, STATE, ZIP				
TELEPHONE NUMBER							
GREETINGS		FROM		CARA		X	HOPE
YOU		COULD		JOJO		US	FOR
FIELD		DAY		X			
FROM		DATE		TIME			
REC'D		6/23/23		6pm			
<small>THIS MESSAGE WAS HANDLED FREE OF CHARGE BY A LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR. WHERE ADDRESS IS SHOWN IN THE BOX AT RIGHT ABOVE, AS SUCH MESSAGES ARE HANDLED SOLELY FOR THE PLEASURE OF OPERATING, NO COMPENSATION CAN BE ACCEPTED BY A HAM OPERATOR. A RETURN MESSAGE MAY BE FILED WITH THE "HAM" DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. FURTHER INFORMATION ON AMATEUR RADIO MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS, 225 MAIN STREET NEWINGTON, CT 06111</small>							
<small>THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. IS THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SOCIETY OF LICENSED RADIO AMATEURS AND THE PUBLISHER OF QST MAGAZINE. ONE OF ITS FUNCTIONS IS PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATION AMONG AMATEUR OPERATORS TO THAT END, THE LEAGUE HAS ORGANIZED THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM FOR DAILY NATIONWIDE MESSAGE HANDLING.</small>							
PRINTED IN USA							









## Public Demonstration of Emergency Communications, Ball Pond Vol. Fire Co. 7 Fairfield Dr, this Weekend

Interested in Amateur Radio? Come visit the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association (CARA) this weekend, June 24-25 at the Ball Pond Vol. Fire Co., in New Fairfield.



The Last full weekend of June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our nation. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills all in a single event. Amateur Radio Field Day has been an annual event since 1933, and remains the most popular event in amateur radio.

Despite the Internet, cell phones, email and modern communications, every year whole regions find themselves in the dark. Tornadoes, fires, storms, ice and even the occasional cutting of fiber optic cables leave people without the means to communicate. In these cases, the one consistent service that has never failed has been Amateur Radio. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, thousands of radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, *fun*! It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that we might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public.

Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada for amateur radio.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible, the stations can be across town or anywhere in the world. We learn and practice operating our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions. We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities. But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called "hams") are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

We will be available to demonstrate our skills and equipment Sat., June 24, 2-6pm and from 10-2 on Sunday. No appointment needed; all are welcomed.

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association is the Greater Danbury area's general interest amateur radio club. We focus on advancing technical knowledge, operating skills, fraternalism, and public service.

In-person meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at the Stony Hill Vol. Fire Dept., 59 Stony Hill Road, (Rte. 6), Bethel, CT

"When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works"

### Special Service Records to be Destroyed



03.00 USB 10 ME 1 CARALOG1 2

Score - 2,354 Points

Contest: FD

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Pt/Q
3.5	LSB	31	31	1.0
7	CW	304	608	2.0
7	LSB	73	73	1.0
14	CW	77	154	2.0
14	USB	174	174	1.0
21	CW	66	132	2.0
21	USB	3	3	1.0
28	CW	1	2	2.0
Total	Both	729	1177	1.6

Score: 2,354  
1 Mult = 1.0 Q's

Rescore

Statistics for FD - 6/24/2023 6:00:00 PM - Computer Name by Operator

File

Statistics Graph

Operator	CARALOG1	CARALOG2	Tot	Accum
K1RFD		124	124	124
KB1ZAC	64		64	188
KC1RTX		64	64	252
KC1SUG	5		5	257
KC2DJG	2		2	259
KQ4HSM	3		3	262
W1JGM	14		14	276
W1JMA	57		57	333
W1NSK		105	105	438
W1QH	21		21	459
W1QK		214	214	673
WV1V	51	5	56	729
Total	217	512	729	729



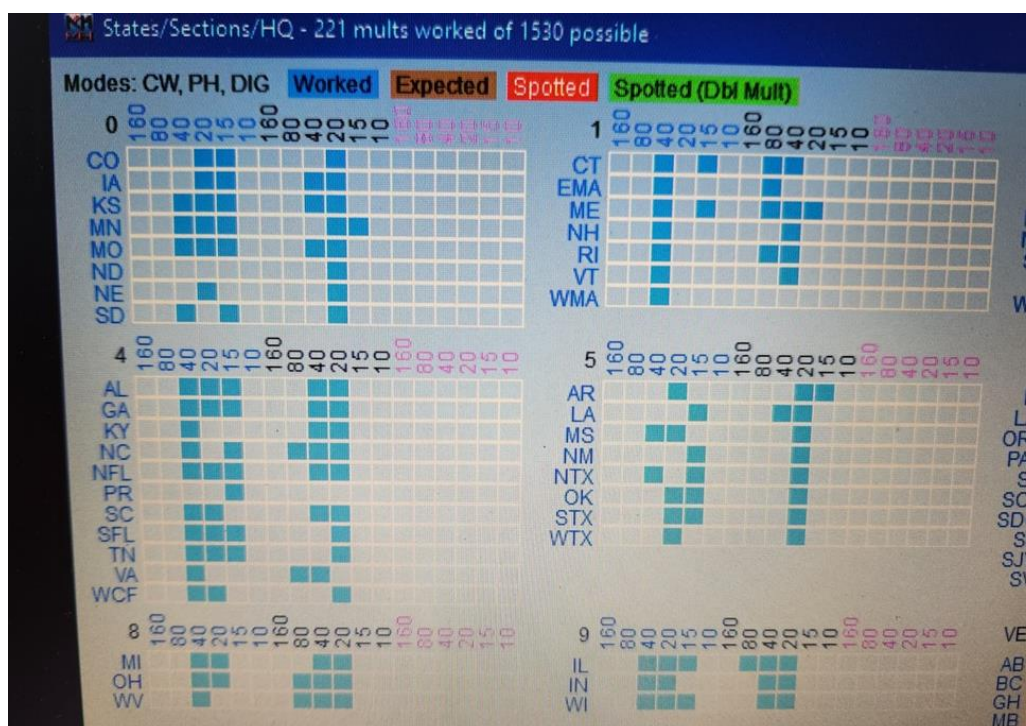
Statistics for FD - 6/24/2023 6:00:00 PM - Mode by Operat...

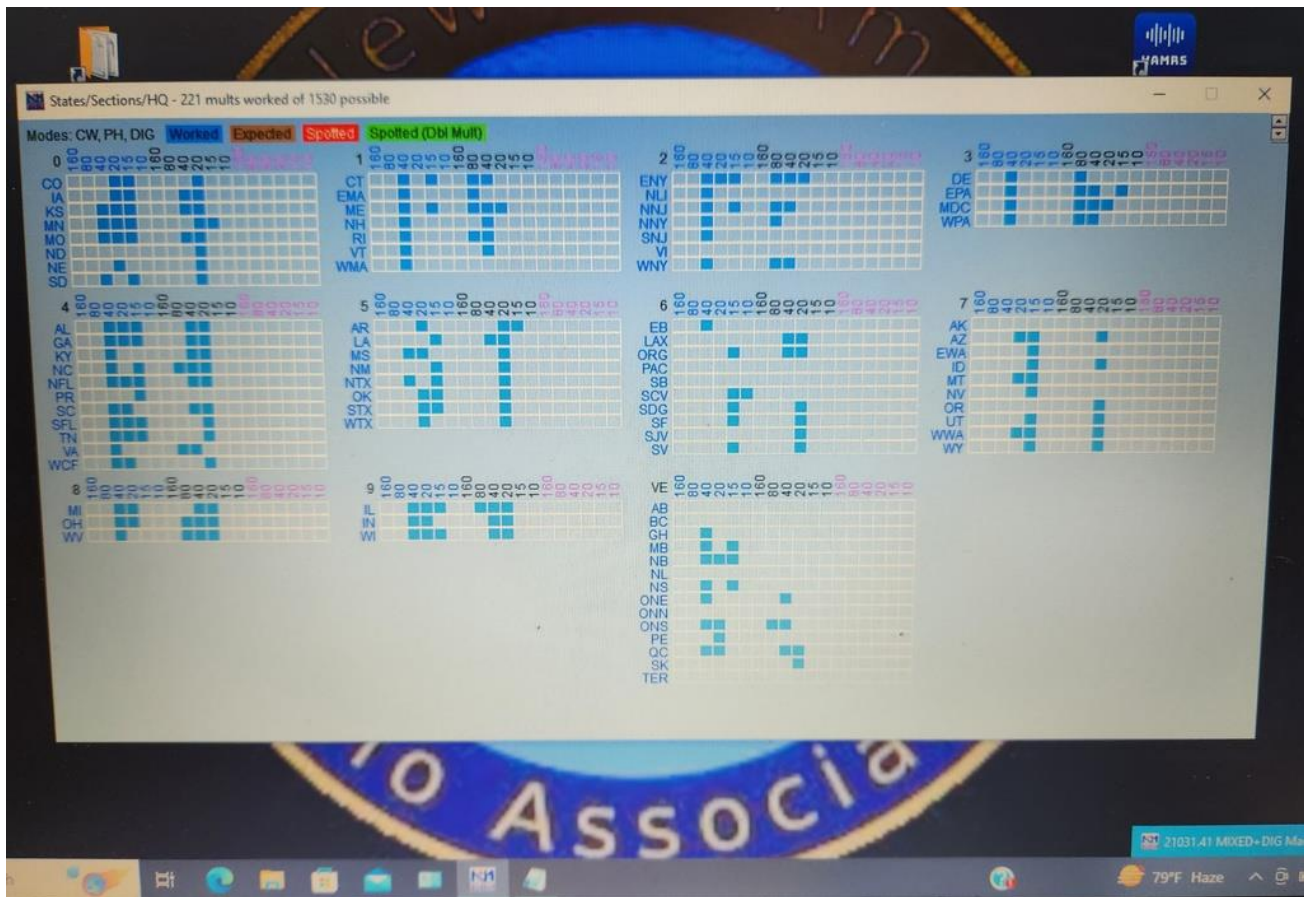
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Statistics Graph

Operator	CW	LSB	USB	Tot	Accum
K1RFD	124			124	124
KB1ZAC			64	64	188
KC1RTX		64		64	252
KC1SUG			5	5	257
KC2DJG		2		2	259
KQ4HSM			3	3	262
W1JGM			14	14	276
W1JMA			57	57	333
W1NSK	105			105	438
W1QH		11	10	21	459
W1QK	214			214	673
WV1V	5	27	24	56	729
Total	448	104	177	729	729

Refresh Rows Operator Column Mode Include Dupes









## CARA 2023 ARRL Field Day Event Summary

de W1JMA & W1QK

We believe it's appropriate to identify those who assisted/contributed with FD to acknowledge their time and efforts, plus this documentation serves as a useful reference for the 2024 FD event. We propose discussing, then implementing changes/improvements concerning this major CARA event as an on-going process.

Permission to use Ball Pond Volunteer Fire Dept. premises: and coordination on behalf of CARA: John - W1JGM

Presentation and explanation of FD planning document created by W1QK at May, CARA meeting: John - W1JMA

Antenna installation session organization and collaboration: John - W1JMA, Dan - W1QK

Site preparation: Brush Be Gone applied to base of trees where antenna ropes will be tied and active nearby Poison Ivy growth: 2 weeks and 1 week before antenna installation: John - W1JMA

Upper field mowed at least one week prior to antenna installation work party: W1JGM

Antenna installation including coax feedline cable connector replacement: and checking with antenna analyzer: Dan - KE2BJG, Suzie - KC1QVE, David - KB1ZAC, Jonathan - K1RFD, John - W1JGM, John - W1JMA, Paulo - KC1RTX, Dan - W1QK

Meeting at Bethel EOC to pick up, transport, then return antenna/feedline/rope bins and CARA banners: David - KB1ZAC, John - W1JMA

Preparing CARA laptop computers including setup of N1MM Logger software: Harlan - W1QH, John - W1JMA, Dan - W1QK

Setting up station equipment at BPVFD: Harlan - W1QH, John - W1JMA, John - W1JGM

Event scheduling including set-up, operating shifts, and clean-up teams via Sign-Up Genius: David - KB1ZAC

Posting of CARA FD site on ARRL FD Locator website: John - W1JGM

Set up and staffing FD Public Information table//canopy: Oscar - KO1F

Creating and submitting FD publicity to New Fairfield Tribune local newspaper for FD bonus points: John - W1JGM

Preparation of formal traffic (messages) and passing them during FD for bonus points: Harlan - W1QH, John - W1JMA

Setting up solar panels and batteries used to enable claiming Alternative Power source bonus points for radios: John - W1JGM

Preparation and posting to Social Media for bonus points: David - KB1ZAC

Impromptu Educational Activity (CW straight key adjustments) to enable claiming bonus points : Dan - W1QK

FD Safety Officer: Ken - KQ4HSM

Ordering and distribution of 20 ARRL 2023 FD pins to CARA participants (CARA supplied): John - W1JMA

Antenna disassembly: Paulo - KC1RTX, Dan - KE2BJG, John - W1JMA, Jonathan - K1RFD, Dan - W1QK, David - KB1ZAC, David - WA1JGA., Victor - WV1V.

Station equipment disassembly: Harlan - W1QH, John - W1JGM, John - W1JMA  
Processing the N1MM Logger FD log, gathering bonus point evidence, preparation of FD summary, submitting CARA FD entry via ARRL web app: Harlan - W1QH, Dan - W1QK

CARA Field Day operators: Johnathan - K1RFD, David - KB1ZAC, Suzie - KC1QVE, John - W1JMA, John - W1JGM, Dan - KE2BJG, Ken - KQ4HSM, Tina - KC1SUG, Dave - WA1JGA, Harlan - W1QH, Bud - W1NSK, Victor - WV1V, Dan - W1QK

Organization/Set up of FD food table: David - KB1ZAC Susie - KC1QVE, Victor - WV1V, Dan - KE2BJG

**Visitors:**

Phil Crombie - K1XFC, South Windsor, CT CT ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator,  
Ball Pond Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief

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**[CARAW1QI] Field Day 2024 Sign Up Link Below  
2 weeks from now!!!**

John W1JMA

From:  
w1jma@w1qi.org  
To:  
caraw1qi@groups.io

**Sun, Jun 9 at 7:40 AM**

Below is the link to sign up for set up, operating times and take down. We will size the event at the 6/14 meeting based on sign ups. Please sign up before the meeting next week. As of now, the doors will be locked at midnight and opened at 8am based on the fact no one has signed up for any overnight shifts. We also have only 3 times where we need two rigs, maybe we should only do one rig and skinny down the antenna farm?? Please sign up... 73 John W1JMA

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AA8A923A7F58-49094286-field/167048084#/>

# CARA 2024 Field Day

## Tasks and Responsibilities – 10 Step Planning Document



The purpose of this document is to provide details of tasks and responsibilities involved with the CARA 2024 Field Day activity, which is scheduled for the weekend of June 22-23, 2024.

CARA members are encouraged to sign-up for multiple items to ensure that all tasks are adequately covered.

This is your



club – it only works with TEAMWORK.



***The level of involvement and commitment will directly affect the planning for, and execution of this event.***

**CARA 2024 FD Leadership Team:**

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***This Team will consult with the Executive Committee concerning decisions based on the membership commitments made and adjust the scope of our annual ARRL Field Day event as required.***

### **1. Coordination with Field Day Site officials:**

Establish contact with site officials. Ensure CARA compliance with site regulations concerning access, times on site, parking, clean-up, and other details.

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### **2. FD Entry class & Radio Equipment:**

Determine FD entry class. Determine/arrange for station locations and shelter(s). Determine station equipment needs & arrange transportation. Arrange and perform set up/take down for stations. Create Excel checklist indicating items and sources. Confirm FD stations are operational before FD begins. Install ground rod(s) for station(s). Provide N1MM Logger + common operating hints (documentation) for both stations. Provide equipment manuals for operator reference.

Station #1:

Station #2:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### **3. Antennas:**

Propose and finalize antennas based on number of stations and related factors. Create setup documentation (diagram of what will be used, and where it will be installed) Antenna selection and placement should allow optimum flexibility in band selection and performance, with minimal co-interference if multiple transmitters are used. Attach labels to each FD station antenna. Attach safety streamers to antenna supports, cables, feedlines and other antenna components to ensure safety compliance. Ensure that CARA bandpass filters are installed correctly and provide information related to their use at FD stations. Install/take down antennas. Arrange for transportation of CARA antenna assets including antennas, rope, and coaxial cable feedlines to/from storage at the Bethel EOC.

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### **4. Operator shifts and event coverage:**

Create a **Sign-Up Genius** format using web application.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F054AA8A923A7F58-49094286-field/167048084#/>

Ensure that the entire time we're committing for is covered. Extent of FD operation based on Sign-Up Genius response by CARA membership. Answer questions and communicate information related to operator shifts. Distribute and update often via

CARA Groups IO, providing timely updates and communications with CARA FD Leadership Team.

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## 5. Logging Computers:

Ensure that CARA logging laptop computers are prepared and configured with N1MM+ Logger program for logging FD contacts during the operation. Establish a **wired Ethernet** network for FD use. Arrange/provide IT support during the event.

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## 6. Supplies/Food/beverages:

All details regarding FD supplies budget, requisition/transportation of supplies etc. Means for on-site cooking, refrigeration, etc. Set up/take down of field kitchen/food preparation. Historically, several members have provided FD food, with a “donations basket” for member contributions to cover expenses. Food/beverages has **not** been included in FD financial planning nor budgeting. However, 20 ARRL Field Day pins are usually purchased via CARA funding as an incentive for member participation. (based on sign-up and completion of tasks and responsibilities outlined in this document)

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## 7. Field Day Public Relations:

Plan and deploy Visitor/Greeter canopy/table during the event.

Set up a canopy outside (preferred & weather permitting) in front of the FD Site. Greet visitors, provide information, conduct station tours, answer questions, hand out CARA brochure, CARA Membership Application & ARRL information, etc.

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CARA member(s) registering the CARA FD site on the ARRL Website and creating a CARA FD Press Release: \_\_\_\_\_

## 8. Safety Officer(s) & Security:

Mark all hazards on the FD site including coax cables, antenna supports, ground rod wires, etc. Attach (tape) cables to floor or tape to walls to eliminate trip hazard(s). Ensure that fire extinguisher locations are known by all. Ensure that a properly equipped First Aid Kit is available during the entire FD event.

**Perform all the requirements listed on the ARRL Safety Officer FD Checklist document.** (from ARRL Website) Provide appropriate security for CARA members,

visitors/guests, equipment and assets. Provide signed ARRL FD Safety Officer Affidavit of Compliance to CARA FD Score Submission Team to claim Bonus Points.

Safety Officer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Safety/Security Assistants : \_\_\_\_\_

### 9. Field Day Bonus points:

Refer to the ARRL 2024 FD Rules & determine which bonus points to complete the requirements for. Provide the ways and means to execute tasks to earn these bonus points. Includes creating and sending the CARA FD message to the ARRL CT Section Manager, creating and handling formal NTS (National Traffic System) traffic (maximum of 10 messages) via the FD station(s) during the event. Making satellite QSO. Writing and distributing the CARA FD Press Release – inviting the media to attend and cover the event. Setting up a CARA FD Social Media Facebook page and uploading content (primarily photos) during the event.

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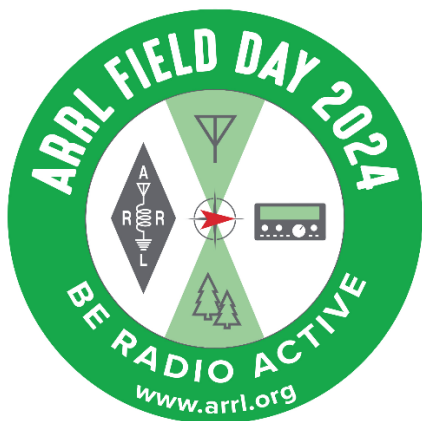
### 10. CARA 2024 FD Score and Bonus points submission, Report preparation

Review the FD log. Compile the N1MM+ log from logging computers. Gather required evidence (documentation/photos) to support claimed bonus points. Submit score, plus claimed bonus points evidence to ARRL via ARRL Web application. Prepare and submit *CARA Field Day Report* to Capers Editor to be published in the CARA Capers Monthly newsletter.

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There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. But a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. It can be very hot, causing burn injuries. Learn simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

- For propane grills, check the gas tank for leaks before use in the months ahead.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Place the grill well away from the home, deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
  - Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grilling area.
- If you use starter fluid when charcoal grilling, only use charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- When you have finished grilling, let the coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container.
  - Never leave your grill unattended when in use.

For additional fire safety information, contact the Brookfield Fire Marshal's Office at (203) 775-7306, or email [fire@brookfieldct.gov](mailto:fire@brookfieldct.gov).

Jack Ciaccia, WM0G,  
Assistant Director for Emergency Communications & Public Service

Once upon a frequency, weary and dreary, I tuned in with a heart so weary, Over  
quaint QSL cards, forgotten, a story to explore — As I nodded, nearly napping, a gentle  
tapping, An enigmatic visitor gently rapping, At my shack's door, I heard it, but nothing  
more. "Tis some DX," I whispered, my heart aflutter, Tapping at my shack's door, a DX  
mutter, Only this, nothing else, I was sure, and sure. In the bleak November, I still  
remember, Each ember's dance, a dying, cold ember, Upon my shack's floor, a dance I  
couldn't ignore. Amid QST magazines, sorrow I bore, For the lost Rare Ones, I did  
implore, The radiant QSL card, "DX" they swore, Nameless here for now and evermore.  
Silken, sad, the Morse code's song, Thrilled my soul, sent shivers along, Fantastic  
terrors I'd never known before. To calm my heart's wild roar, I muttered, "Tis some DX,  
nothing more, Late-night DX at my shack's door, This it is, nothing more."

73, Jack Ciaccia, WMØG [wm0g@arrl.net](mailto:wm0g@arrl.net)



June 6, 20

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## MEMBER BULLETIN

June 6, 2024

Dear ARRL member,

We are writing to inform you of a serious incident that has impacted ARRL's operations. On or around May 12, 2024, ARRL was the victim of a sophisticated network attack by a malicious international cyber group. We immediately involved the FBI and engaged with third party experts to investigate.

On May 16, on the eve of the ARRL National Convention in Ohio, we posted a notice on our website to inform members about the incident. Since then, we have made substantial progress to mitigate the impact of this attack on our organization. We have been posting

regular updates, including the status of restored services. Please refer to our dedicated news post at <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-systems-service-disruption>.

We are aware that certain members believe we should be openly communicating everything associated with this incident. We are working with industry experts, including cyber-crime attorneys and the authorities, who have directed us to be conservative and cautious with our communications while restoring the ARRL network.

Many of our services and programs have been impacted by this attack. We have been diligently assessing each system to ascertain the extent of compromise. For example, while the Logbook of The World® server and related user data were unaffected, we have taken the precautionary measure of keeping the service offline until we can ensure the security and integrity of our networks. Similarly, access to Online DXCC is unavailable, although individual award data remains secure.

Fortunately, some of our key systems, such as the ARRL website and our association membership system, were unaffected. Despite the severity of the attack, no personal information was compromised. Additionally, ARRL does not store credit card information anywhere on our systems, and we do not collect social security numbers.

Our Directors have heard from some members who are concerned about managing their membership renewals. **Members can renew online at [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join) or by phoning ARRL.**

We understand the frustration and inconvenience this incident has caused, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding as our dedicated staff and partners continue to work tirelessly to restore affected systems and services.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

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ARRL  
225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1400  
[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) · 860-594-0200



**CY2024 Membership Form (not valid after 12/31/24)**

Name and Call:

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Email and Cell Phone Number:

--	--

Street Address:

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City, State and ZIP:

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License Class(E,A,G,T), ARRL Member(Y/N)? VE(Y/N)?

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Please mail check payable to CARA, Mail to 120 Fire Hill Road, Ridgefield, CT 06877

PayPal: [paypal.me/CARADUES](https://paypal.me/CARADUES)

**Please scan form to: [Treasurer@cararadioclub.org](mailto:Treasurer@cararadioclub.org)**

Full Membership: licensed Hams over 16 years of age:	\$35
Additional Family Member:	\$15
Associate Membership: Licensed Ham under 16 years or non-ham:	\$20

**CARA is a 501c3 entity, dues are NOT considered a donation.**

This space reserved for additional Member & Station News.

Submit to CARA Capers Editor, W1QK at [w1qk@snet.net](mailto:w1qk@snet.net)  
July issue input deadline: Friday, July 5