



# Capers

November 2012

Candlewood Amateur Radio Association - Post Office Box 3441 - Danbury, CT  
Visit us on the Web at [www.CaraRadioClub.org](http://www.CaraRadioClub.org)

President – Roger Strong – KB1NYY – phone- 203-794-1665  
Vice President – John Will – KB1LYP- phone - 203-270-0475  
Secretary – Bill Thoren – N1TIW - Phone – 203-744-5138  
Treasurer – Bill Webb – W1AFX - phone - 203-775-0536



**Friday, November 9, 8 p.m. @ Stony Hill Fire Station**

## CARA Minutes...

Meeting October 12, 2012

The meeting was called to order by CARA President Roger Strong, KB1NYY, with 20 members and guests present.

The program for the evening was presented by Lee Imber, WW2DX, Ray Higgins, W2RE, and Bobby Higgins, KC2UPN, from Hudson Valley Towers. Their visit was arranged by John, W1JMA, after seeing a demonstration of Remote Ham Radio at the Boxboro Hamfest.

I took a look at the Remote Ham Radio website before the meeting and again afterwards. As I understand it, you have a radio and computer at your end that links to a remote transmitter site. The site is optimized for altitude above sea level, minimum RF interference, antenna design



etc. to ensure the best operating conditions. So far they have four sites, two in New York state, one in North Carolina and one in Maine. The cost is \$3,000 for the first year which includes the radio for your end but you supply the computer and internet access. The cost is \$3,600 for the second and subsequent years.

Access to the various sites needs to be scheduled, sort of like a condo timeshare. There is no program on your computer; all operating parameters are set through their web page.



While the service may not be for everyone, it would work well if you have space and/or antenna restrictions that, for instance, prevent you from operating DX or participating in contests.

Our thanks to Lee, Ray and Bobby for their presentation.

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

The treasurer's report of \$10,097.53 was accepted.

The Secretary's report for September, as published in the CARA Capers, was accepted.

The Repeater Committee report was given by Bill, N1PJG. A repeater site work party has been scheduled for Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. The more the merrier. A call for participants will be put out on the CARA reflector.

Another repeater related activity is the recovery of some equipment from an inactive site. John, KB1LYP, will need help with this on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Once again there will be an announcement on the CARA reflector.

Membership Chairman Carl, W1ZGZ, has been working to promote CARA in the community and by direct mailings to area ham radio operators.

Carl requested \$200 for postage and John, W1JMA, made the motion. The motion was seconded by Bill, N1PJG, and it passed by a voice vote of the members present.

Carl is also working on a member survey and a list of possible programs and club events. We thank Carl for taking on this important project.

Club President Roger, KB1NYY, has again put out a call for Hamfest and Field Day Chairmen. These are key CARA events that should continue so please contact Roger. Thank you.

I will be putting possible changes to the CARA Constitution on the reflector and will be asking for your comments.

Before the November meeting I will put a dues proposal on the reflector and we can discuss it at that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

*Bill Thoren, N1TIW, Secretary*

## **GOT NEWS?**

If you have a news item or an "item to sell or buy" that you want to see in CAPERS, please send it to the editor, Barry KA1JDD, c/o barry dot connolly at yahoo dot com.

# Nets!

- CARA Weekly Net: Sunday nights at 7:30 p.m. 147.30+ (PL100)
- Connecticut Phone Net (CPN) Monday through Saturday, 6 p.m., on 3.973 and Sundays at 10 a.m. on 3.965...
- K1ARC American Red Cross Net, on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., on 3.965Mhz, voice LSB, + or - 5Khz.
- CW Connecticut Net, Nightly at 7 p.m., 3.533 Mhz
- WestConn Net: Nightly at 8:30 p.m. 147.18+ (PL 141.3). Linked repeater system: 148.850 and 145.410 (both PL 141.3.)
- R-Com Weekly Net: 145.47- (PL100) Thursday Evenings, 8 p.m.

## 25, 50, and 75 Years Ago in QST (October 2012)

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

QST publishes a column every month towards the back of the magazine that highlights from issues 25, 50, and 75 years ago. Now that the QST archive is online, it's really worth taking a look at these articles. Here are a few that caught my eye in October:

October 1937

\* Modernizing the Simple Regenerative Receiver  
([http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs\\_archive/19076](http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/19076)) by

Vernon Chambers, W1JEQ. This a nicely-designed and built regen using two tubes, a 6K5 pentode and 6C5 triode. I'm going to keep this design in mind if I ever get around to playing with all the tubes I have. As an aside, I searched on W1JEQ's callsign and found out that he wrote 87 articles for QST from 1936 through February 1958. This was his third article.

\* Concentrated Directional Antennas for Transmission and Reception  
([http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs\\_archive/19078](http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/19078)) by John L. Reinartz, W1QP, and Burton T. Simpson, W8CPC. This article describes two different antennas. The first is a half-wave loop antenna that the author says works on 2-1/2, 5, 10, and 20m. The second is a square loop antenna called a "signal squirter" for 14 Mc.

October 1962

\* In "New Apparatus"  
([http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs\\_archive/46246](http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/46246)) on page 27, a key made by J. A. Hills, W8FYO, of Dayton, OH is shown under the heading, "New Key Mechanism for Electronic Keyers." The photo clearly shows a key whose design was adopted by Bencher for the BY-1 paddle.

\* The Towering Problem  
([http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs\\_archive/46122](http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/46122)) by Jay Kay Klein, WA2LII clearly shows that putting up towers have always been a problem for amateur radio operators. This is a humorous take on the problem. What's notable is that this type of humorous article almost never appears in QST anymore. Amateur radio seems to have lost its sense of humor, or at least its cadre of humorous writers.

October 1987

\* Stalking Those Fugitive Components  
([http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs\\_archive/81357](http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/81357)) by Doug DeMaw, W1FB. Today, we often complain about the demise of local parts suppliers, but this article shows that this was a problem 25 years ago as well. W1FB gives some advice that I gave not long ago on my blog. That is, stock up on parts, especially when you find a good deal on them, and you won't have to scrounge around for them when you want them.

Digitizing all of the back issues of QST and putting them online is one of the things that the ARRL has done right. This is a wonderful resource for members. If you have a favorite QST article I'd love to hear about it. Please send me the title and the month it was published. My e-mail address is [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com). Thanks & 73.

When not perusing old issues of QST, Dan is the station manager for WA2HOM, the amateur radio station at Ann Arbor's Hands-On Museum. He also writes amateur radio license study guides. In fact, by the time you read this, the No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide should be available on Amazon. Just search for "KB6NU."

### **Congratulations to CARA 's ARRL 2011 Sweepstakes Winners**

Congratulations to ARRL 2011 Sweepstakes winners Dan W1QK, Roger NG1R and Harlan W1QH for taking First Place in the Connecticut Section, Multi-operator, High Power, Phone category! The team displayed their award certificate at the October meeting and we're reproducing it here. Nicely done!



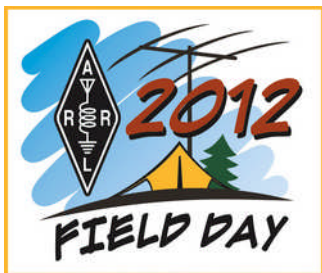
## **WHERE'S ELMER...?**

**CARA would like to start (and publish) a listing of subject matter experts who are willing to "elmer" or coach new and existing hams in specific aspects of ham radio – from antenna construction and setting up your first station to kit building, software defined radio, contesting, digital modes and more.**

**If you have a favorite skill and are willing to help, please send a note to the CAPERS editor.**

**THANKS! -- KA1JDD**

## 2012 ARRL Field Day Results Now Online



If you can't wait for your December issue of *QST* to arrive in the mail to see how you did in the 2012 ARRL Field Day, don't

worry! The results -- including a [copy of the QST article](#) (with line scores) and a [results database](#) -- are now available on the ARRL website. Be sure to also check out the 101 comments in the [Field Day Soapbox](#). It's not too soon to start making plans for next year -- the 2013 ARRL Field Day is scheduled for June 22-23, 2013. Just a note: The results from Wyoming are missing in print edition of *QST*; they will appear in the digital edition of *QST*, as well as online.

## This Week in Radiosport

*This week:*

- November 2 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 3 -- IPARC Contest (CW)
- November 3-4 -- [ARRL EME Contest](#); Ukrainian DX Contest
- November 3-5 -- [ARRL November Sweepstakes \(CW\)](#)
- November 4 -- IPARC Contest (SSB); High Speed Club CW Contest; DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest
- November 6 -- ARS Spartan Sprint

*Next week:*

- November 9 -- NCCC Sprint
- November 10-11 -- Kentucky QSO Party; WAE DX Contest (RTTY); 10-10 International Fall Contest (Digital);

JIDX Phone Contest; OK/OM DX Contest (CW)

- November 10-11 -- CQ-WE Contest
- November 11 -- SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
- November 12 -- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint
- November 14-15 -- CWops Mini-CWT Test
- November 15 -- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

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

## FOR SALE

M2 Orion Rotor, 82 feet of UST1850 with all hardware, guys, mast, and a HyGain Explorer 14 Tri-bander.

\$1200 for all.

Interested parties please contact  
Keith at  
[keithym53@yahoo.com](mailto:keithym53@yahoo.com)