



CARA PROVIDING 80 YEARS of AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE TO
WESTERN CT

October 2026 edition CARA CAPERS-Lite
W1JMA Content Editor

CARA Members celebrate 80 years at the "Big Eaters"



CARA Program Meeting 10/8 7:30pm Stony Hill FD

**Todd KB1FYZ will discuss his adventures in 3D
Printing**



Next Subs, Soda and POTA at Putnam Park

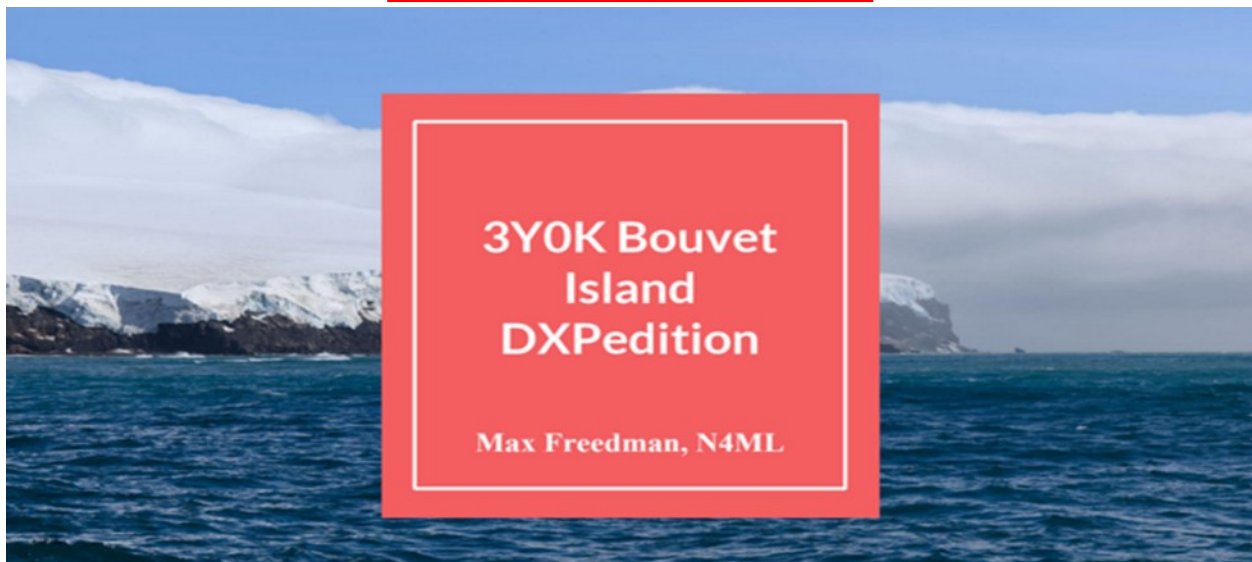
Saturday 10/17 10-2pm



At the September meeting, Max Freedman, N4ML presented information about his adventure on the Bouvet DXpedition.



Max's presentation is



on the CARA website [Candlewood Amateur Radio Association](#)

Steve, W1SMS, our repeater chair, in front of the newly constructed temporary home for our repeaters



We continue to search for a permanent home!

We have plenty of ideas for locations, what we need are members with connections to local politicians, school boards, etc, in the Danbury or Bethel area!

Presidents Message -Bud WINSK

As the evenings become chillier, and fall is in the Air a plethora of Operating Events are coming; Now is the time to get that Antenna work completed or you'll either be without or wanting till Spring. If you need help let Club members know, and we may be able to assist.

The biggest operating events of the year are ARRL Sweepstakes, both CW and SSB (on separate November weekends). This domestic contest is the oldest contest that is still annually held. CARA will again hold an operating event at Ball Pond FD in New Fairfield. Come see what it's all about, have some Pizza and even try your hand at operating. This will be replacing our monthly POTA event.

The other two biggest events are International DX Contests where the world lights up the HF Bands with an incredible amount of activity Again two separate events for with SSB and CW. Last weekend in October and last weekend in November (CW). Try your hand at working a new country for DXCC or just make a few Q's to get the hang of it. Either way get on the air; see all the activity....

As you all know CARA is celebrating 80 years this year. We are putting together a history of the Club from its founding. Any stories and photos from over the years are highly sought after. Stay tuned for more info.

See you at Spaghetti Night at Villa Vespucci on the 20th and on the Air!

CARA VP Report- John W1JGM

Welcome October and the start of fall foliage to the Western Connecticut area, yes, I have seen some vibrant photos of the foliage in Northern Vermont and New Hampshire, hold on it's coming. But we still have

several weeks of very nice outdoor weather to get out and operate on the radio.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the CARA members and others that attended the 80th anniversary dinner. I know no one left to go home hungry. This was a very successful dinner event. There will be more of these events in the coming months including a Christmas dinner, so please watch your e-mail and calendars and join us at the next event.

Coming up is our last parks on the air event, the autumn, support your parks weekend. We will operate on October 17th from Putnam Park in Reading from 10 to 2 pm At the pond area parking lot. Bring your Lunch and enjoy the afternoon on the Radio in the great outdoors.

There will be several indoor activities In October, For the week of October 7th through October 13th Connecticut again gets a go at the ARRL 250 on the air event. Operators can operate under the callsign of W1AW/1. For more information on this event check out the arrl.com website and to sign up check out the [NA1RA .org](http://NA1RA.org) website.

On October the 11th the Nutmeg ham fest in Meriden Connecticut, this hamfest is the Connecticut State convention and CARA's last fundraising event of the year. This is done by manning a flea market table to sell excess and donated amateur radio and electronic equipment. There will be many other vendors and presentations at this event.

CARA We'll also have our normal pasta night and presentation meeting upcoming.

Pease join us each Sunday evening at 7:15 pm on 3.965-megahertz LSB +- 5, For our weekly HF net. the net is followed by our VHF Net on the CARA 2m repeater; this is followed by our weekly Elmer's session on Teams. The link for our Elmer's session can be found in your weekly e-mail. Remember this is your club support it.

CARA September Business Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Bud, W1NSK, President. There was a quorum.

The August minutes and treasury reports as presented in the CARA Capers-Lite Blog were accepted.

Committee Reports:

- Repeater: Steve, W1SMS:
 - Steve working on the new repeater box, eventually the 2m Motorola repeater and the 220 repeaters will be housed there.
 - John, W1JGM, noted no progress on the New Fairfield Site.
 - Steve reported that the 2m and 440 repeaters were in “trial coordination” mode from CSMA
 - Steve reported that the 6m and 220 repeaters were cancelled by CSMA
 - Steve and John JGM will work on site planning from the potential New Fairfield Site.
 - Steve and John JMA will call and discuss our status with CSMA
 - CSMA annual meeting on 10/18 at 10am via video
 - The FCC databases have been updated to CARA FRN. The W1QI license expires in July 2029.
 - The W1QI@w1qi.org email address has been updated to the FCC and CSMA
- Website and IT: Stephanie reported the website is up to date. John and Steph will remove all references for Danbury from our Website and rebrand to Western CT.
- The CAPERS Blog due date is October 2nd.
- Next VE test is 12/5.
- Fund Raising: The Nutmeg Hamfest on October 11th and a table has been secured inside for CARA to run a club table.
- POTA: Saturday October 17th 10am to 2pm.
 - There will be one station, and we will pass the microphone around.

Old Business:

- The 80th Anniversary Big Eaters dinner was a huge success, and we had 19 people in attendance, most of the attendees were wearing their new CARA anniversary shirts.
- 80th Anniversary shirts remain available. See website or CAPERS.

New Business:

- October 8th meeting presentation was discussed. Bud will reach out to a YCCC member to see if they can do a program on packet clusters.
- New Fairfield Day is Sunday 10/4 from 12-4
- NF Car show is on Sunday 10/25
- The November 12th meeting will be on NTS from Harlan W1QH
- The club will operate the SSB November SS on Saturday 11/21 from 4-10 at the Ball Pond FD
- The February Program meeting will be held via TEAMS, and the discussion will be the history of CARA.
- The next W1AW/250 CT station sign up is out and being circulated on the groups.io

Announcements:

- Pasta Nite is Tuesday 10/20 at 6pm Vespucci Lodge
- The CARA Christmas Dinner will be on Thursday 12/17 at the Big Eaters

The next program meeting is Thursday 10/8 at 7:30pm Stony Hill FD and business meeting on Thursday 10/22 at 7:30pm on Teams.
Meeting was closed at 8:18pm.

CARA Treasury Report September 30, 2026

Income:	Full Member Dues	\$1175
Income:	Interest Income	\$ 334
Income:		
Income:	Club Table at Hamfests	\$1965
Total Income:		\$3474
Expense:	Field Day & Program	\$212
Expense:	Repeater Electricity	\$191

Expense: Insurance	\$305
Expense: Repeater 6m	\$530
Expense: Admin	\$140
Total Expense:	\$1378

Net Income for Period **\$2096**

Cash: Checking-Unrestricted	\$6861
Cash: Checking-Restricted	\$175
Cash: Petty	\$50
Certificates of Deposit-USB	\$14911
Field Day Food Purse	\$245

Total Cash/Investments **Balance: \$21752**

Number of full members: 60

Associate members: 0

Auxiliary members: 4

CARA Club General Information

Officers

President

Bud Kozloff, W1NSK

W1NSK@Hotmail.com

Vice President

John Morelli, W1JGM

w1jgm@w1qi.org

Secretary – Treasurer

John Ahle – W1JMA

w1jma@w1qi.org

Directors:

David Coelho, WA1JGA

davidcoelho52@gmail.com

Rostyslaw Slabicky – W2ROS

w2ros@w1qi.org

Steven Simons – W1SMS

ssimons@manitousys.com

CARA is an IRS 501(C)3 Organization

CARA official email address: W1QI@W1QI.org

CARA Mailing Address:

120 Fire Hill Road Ridgefield CT 06877.

CARA CAPERS/Elmer's Corner Blog Moderator

John M Ahle W1JMA

W1jma@w1qi.org

CARA routinely accepts donations of ham radio equipment that will either sell to club members or to the ham radio community at large; Sale proceeds to benefit the operating activities and repeater infrastructure of CARA. Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank You.

CARA VE Testing Information

VE Testing at the Stony Hill Firehouse Rt 6 Bethel.

All sessions are on Saturdays at 11:30 am.

Test takers need to register in advance by emailing aj1u@arrl.net with their name, the test they wish to take, and a contact phone number.

Check the CARA website for the scheduled dates!

Thanks,

73, Jon Bernon - AJ1U

CARA Volunteer Examiner Session Coordinator

CARA Club Merch



1Embroidery.com – Custom Embroidery & Printing — No Minimums, Just Your Vision.

80th Anniversary Polo Shirts now available

ARES and Winlink General Information

CT ARES Packet Winlink Local Nodes and APRS

Frequency

Put your 2M FM Winlink Packet station on the air to participate in the monthly CT ARES Winlink Wednesday message practice session.

W1SP-6	LITCCT	Litchfield	145.650	FN31JR
W1SP-7	NHAVCT	Oxford	145.630	FN31JK
W1SP-8	FAIRCT	Bridgeport	145.690	FN31JE
KX1EOC-10	FAIRCT	Danbury	145.030	FN31
W8ZY-10	Litchfield	New Milford	145.610	FN31 *
AC1DQ-10	Fairfield	Weston	145.050	FN31*

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

***VARA FM and Packet Capable**

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

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

***The CT ARES Region 5 South monthly meeting
is held Monthly – currently via TEAMS.***

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

APRS Digipeaters operated by CABA Members

144.390

W1JMA-10	Ridgefield/Redding
W1QI-4	New Fairfield
KR1COM-10	Ridgefield Center- EOC
KB1FYZ-3	West Side of Danbury

