

Contest Soapbox

2004 ARRL Field Day

204 Soapbox entries available

N3AWS -- Aug 26, 2004 11:37 ET

I operated mobile from Mayport Naval Base in Jacksonville, FL. Although I planned to be active on Saturday and Sunday, there were severe thunderstorms on Saturday which prevented me from putting up the antenna.

I set up Sunday morning and made a total of 20 contacts, all SSB. There was tremendous QRN. I had three bands available--40, 20, and 15 meters. The rig was an Icom 706 MKIIG at 5 watts. I used Hustler mobile antennas. The computer was my Compaq Presario running QRP Dupe (a nice little freeware program).

Next year I'll be active from Mississippi Section.

73, Jim Walroth N3AWS -- *N3AWS*

AF4NP -- Aug 13, 2004 11:17 ET



Glenn (KE4YZK) gives Luke (W4WCW) a wake up call to get him up and operating...that boy got more sleep than all of us put together...hahaha

This is a continuation from the first one, my internet connection was lost the other day and I didn't get to finish it, so I am going to just post a couple more pics...Everyone enjoy...

73's Fred -- *KF4IZU*



Glenn (KE4YZK) sits down and tries to show everyone how to tear up the 20 meter bands...



We had a lot of unexpected visitors, but we sure enjoyed feeding them...This Mother duck had 8 babies....we made sure that all of them got fed, more than once..



Left to Right: Billy (KG4DXM) and Nathan (KF4VJE) the one operating the radio, trying to show Frankie, our new HAM how it's done... She is going to jump in there next year... was a little bit nervous this year....

W4RW -- Aug 11, 2004 16:58 ET

STERLING PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club held its most successful Field Day in many years on the weekend of June 26th and 27th. After two years at Stone Ridge High School, due to summer construction at our usual site, Park View High School in Sterling, we were able to return to Park View this year. New light poles had been installed on the practice field that we use for our activity. Although they were metal (the old ones were wood), the light structure at the top was not too complex, which allowed for our sling shot technique to easily get a couple of ropes up about 80 or 90 feet to the top of two poles. Much better than the 30 or 40 foot parking lot poles that we used last year at Stone Bridge.

The club purchased two tents this year which were used to house our three HF stations plus our GOTA station. Ray Mullins, KD4RSL, set up the VHF station in his own tent. He had a new mast with rotor and beams for both 6 and 2 meters, and they worked like a charm. Power was supplied by our trusty antique generator ably maintained by Russ Thomason, W3RST. The three HF stations were networked using CT, and the GOTA and VHF stations used hand logging. About 17 club members participated, and visitors brought our total to 25. Visitors included a number of folks that just stopped by, our local school board member, plus a run through by a girls athletic team (without tripping over antenna or tent guys) and a 1:00 AM visit by school security - and we didn't have our permission form on the premises.

After combining the computer and hand logs, we wound up with a net total of 1236 QSOs. This resulted in a claimed score of 3692 from 586 CW QSOs, 24 digital QSOs, and 626 phone QSOs which included 131 from the GOTA station and 42 from the VHF station, with a power factor of "2" for our 100 watt transceivers. This was a significant improvement over last year, due to a number of factors. Not only did the higher poles allow for our wire antennas - a Carolina Windom and G5RV - to be raised to a good height and thus be more effective, but Don Sambol, K7CS, provided a 40 foot mast that we were able to use to support the club's two element tribander. In recent years we've merely hauled the driven element up a lamp post as a trap dipole. And we had lots of operating support, including all night CW operations by Don, and Phone operations by Jim Chappell, AF4MO, who also set up his newly acquired Butternut vertical. Lots of folks provided support for various bonus points, and we only missed a few hundred of those possible. If all 1350 claimed bonus points are allowed, our total score would be 5042.

73, Dick, W2YE -- W2YE



It starts off with everyone standing around watching one person work...Things got done a lot quicker that way...Seriously, everyone pitched in and got all of the antennas up and everything ready to operate.



O.k.who was the GENIUS that gave Luke (W4WCW) the sledge hammer?....

Our Field Day operation was held in St. Clair County, Alabama at the Lakehouse of Bob Hood (KE4QCY) on Neely Henry Lake.

Well...as usual we had a blast again this Field Day..It came off without a hitch, but when you have a bunch of great people working together, what else can you expect...It started off on the wrong foot..hahaha..Bob (KE4QCY) had a broken toe,that is what happens when you let a 5 year old get the best of you..so he wasn't too happy about having to sit and not be in the midst of things, but, as you can see, he did what he could and rested when he was told to..We have won the last two years and are hoping for another win this year...We made alot of contacts, ate a lot of food and had a great time showing a new HAM how to operate..She was not quite ready this year, but she is going to jump right in there next year and go at it full force...Hope everyone had as good a time as we did, enjoyed talking to everyone on the air, and we look forward to it again next year..

73's to all...

Teresa (a.k.a. Fred) -- *KF4IZU*



Every time we turned around, someone was trusting Luke (W4WCW) with a hammer...glad that was not my car sitting there...



From Left to Right..Nathan (KF4VJE), Billy (KG4DXM) and Glenn (KE4YZK) try to put up the 75 meter antenna in the back yard, thank God Luke was not around with his hammer...



Bob (KE4QCY) has to supervise, since that is all that the crew would allow him to do..I think he planned this broken toe just in time for Field Day..hahaha..They really took care of him though and did most of the work for him...We have a really great bunch of people working with us...



Phillip (AF4NP), Bobby (AI4FL), and Luke (W4WCW) work on getting the 20 meter antenna going..They work well together don't they?

KC7Z -- Aug 11, 2004 10:32 ET



KC7Z Base of operation

The North Kitsap Amateur Radio Club once again this year participated in the American Radio Relay League's annual Field Day event from the Vinland Elementary School in Poulsbo, WA. Prior to the actual setup of the antennas and the stations at the site for this event, many hours of preparatory work paid great dividends. The club was awarded 3 proclamations from the City of Bremerton, the City of Poulsbo and Kitsap County proclaiming June 20-27, 2004 as "Amateur Radio Week" to coincide with the Field Day Weekend, June 26-27, 2004. There were contacts made, and personal invitations given to all of the City Council Members of both Poulsbo and Bremerton City Councils and the Kitsap County Commissioners. These led to site visits by Kathryn Quade of the Poulsbo City Council and Jan Angel, Kitsap County Commissioner on Saturday, June 26, 2004.

Steve Finley, West Sound, Emergency Services



**GOTA Station KD7WDG - Kitsap County
Emergency Communications Vehicle.**



**Dave, N7VRZ & Bill, W7ARC at dinner time
for FD 2004.**



**Kitsap County Commissioner Jan Angel
with FD Chair Bill Frazier, W7ARC**

Manager for the American Red Cross and Gary Bolen, Red Cross Volunteer observed the activities at the site on Sunday, June 27, 2004. An invitation was also sent to the Department of Emergency Management and the Salvation Army but neither chose to accept our invitation.

The Bremerton Sun newspaper ran a small announcement about the activity for several days prior to the event. While the North Kitsap Herald ran a story entitled, "Hams to bone up on skills at annual field day," that ran in the June 23rd edition of the paper. The story was written by Carrina Stanton after a lengthy phone interview with the Field Day Chair, Bill Frazier, W7ARC.

On Friday, prior to the actual operation, 13 volunteers arrived at the Field Day site to erect antennas. With the help of potato guns and sure muscle power, the team installed the club's B&W folded dipole antenna, an off-center fed dipole, a tri-band 3-element yagi, a 3 band vertical and a high gain VHF antenna for use with the two primary stations, the "Get On The Air" (GOTA) station and a VHF-FM station. Floyd, KC7EVL and Burren, KC7GFN provided security for the site Friday night. Fourteen club members and invited guest operators took part in the actual operation of Field Day 2004, making 436 QSOs on both CW and phone modes combined over the 24 hour period. We handled 15 pieces of formal NTS traffic including messages to the Section Manager and the Section Emergency Coordinator.

Saturday afternoon, Jere, W7TVA, brought in the Kitsap County Emergency Communications Vehicle to be used as the GOTA station KD7WDG. At which point we shut down the club's hand cart station and transferred the control to the mobile station. He was able to make 10 contacts from this station.

The GOTA station was also visited by the Booher boys, members of a local Scout troop who were each given a turn at the microphone to make a contact on the air. Contacts were made with Bob, KA6ARR of



Poulsbo City Concilwoman Kathryn Quade with FD Chair Bill Frazier, W7ARC.



Susan Johnson, AB7MD, Connie Bruette, N7NVQ and Dave Edgar, N7VRZ



Part of the Field Day Antenna Farm.

Keno, OR who talked to each of the boys in turn. The site also attracted other visitors right up to the time we packed everything up and headed for our individual homes. We had a total of 21 visitors to the site over the two days, many with questions and one with a complaint about the noise of the generator.

Russ, KI7PG supplied pizza, soda, water, and coffee for lunch, while Jerry, K9CCZ, club president, brought in Kentucky Fried Chicken with all the trimmings for dinner. Susan, AB7MD brought in McDonald's Egg McMuffins for breakfast on Sunday.

The weekend was not without incident "Murphy" was hard at work. It was found that the clubs Alinco DX-70 was only capable of producing 30 watts on 75 and 40 meters making it almost useless with the B&W dipole as a GOTA station. The rig worked well on 20 meters but with another station on 20 meters, this only lead to interference problems so contacts were sparse via that station. No contacts were logged via the VHF FM station although we did monitor several of the VHF simplex frequencies.

A neighbor to the school across the road came over about midnight Saturday to complain of the noise from the generator. He stated that his family couldn't sleep with the generator running. We decided to keep peace and harmony with the neighborhood and decided to suspend operation from the generator-dependent station and only operate from the trailer on battery power. We operated this way until 8 AM Sunday morning when we brought the generator and station #2 back on line. All in all it was a pretty good weekend. We all had lot's of fun, ate too much of the wrong things, and stayed up way too late. We are claiming a score of 1,114 points for the weekend and we'll see where that places us with the rest of the folks that participated this weekend.

Thanks goes to all those operators who put up with long shifts, lousy band conditions, bad operators and just plain "Lids".



The Field Day Antenna Setup Team.

I want to thank each and everyone that helped with this weekend; Jerry, K9CCZ, Horace, K7ORY, Dick, W7VS, Ed, AC7H, Malcolm, NF7M, Susan, AB7MD, Connie, N7NVQ, Floyd, KC7EVL, Burres, KC7GFN, Jim, K7LD, Russ, KI7PG, Forrest, WA7EEK, Ed, KA7UJA, Ed, N7NVP, Jere, W7TVA, Dave, N7VRZ, Nick, and Gary. THANK YOU! For helping make this weekend a success no matter how we scored. -- W7ARC

K4US -- Aug 10, 2004 12:43 ET



George, N1BV shooting an antenna in a tree or is that into a tree.

2004 FD by MVARC In The Books by steve, K3IZ

Well, another Field Day has been put into the books of the history of world. MVARC was a big part of it; don't doubt that. We were right there at the top. Yessiree, Bob, at the starting gate with best of them. Straight out the shoot: zip zop zoop. There was no holding us back. We made the starting position right at the top. Ready to go!! God blessed us with just the best weather: No rain, no humidity, some heat. It was a perfect day, well, consider the source. We set up the tents, tables, 'tennas and other accutremments. I saw a deer run through the campsite. That was neat. Bob, KT4KS came first. Mary, N4TCI came by as did, Rick, KG4GFW. He brought doughnuts. She brought lunch stuff. Two very important people were now on site. Uhh... Bob brought the paper. He did help a lot setting up; he really did. A bunch of other folks came. I can't remember the order or exactly who was there but, they are all wonderful people to sacrifice to come out and make FD a super event that it is. All the clubmembers and family who were there did a fantastic job of getting the campsites transformed from rustic overflow camping to a 5 station transmitting and receiving communications center capable of passing health, welfare, emergency and time value traffic to all corners of the globe. Isn't a globe round? We need a DXpedition to a globe corner. Call next week. ...Then there was the picnic.



Steve, K3IZ logging and Keith, N6JWN operating the GOTA station.



Mark, N0NKA, does antenna pushups.



Joan, KI4FYN, operates VHF SSB with her new Tech Ticket, Paul, AA8O is helping.



Mike, KE4ER is at the mic as Carol, WA4GFW assists.

Oh yes, the splendid time that was guaranteed for all coming to the event. The best food this side of Shangra-la. You can bet the rent on that. Just what the doctor ordered but don't tell Dr. Atkins or Mr. South Beach. Diets were put off till Monday. Yessiree, Babs, ooo weeee, them vittles was taste!! Glenn, K4OCC, and Doug, WA3WEP did just a bigtime job of cooking up all them HAMBURGERS, hot dogs and chickens. There was also all the super side dishes. If you missed it, then, well, I don't know I guess then you, well, missed it. Show up next year and help set up or operate or just show up and do something. Be there for the festivities. Just like the young man from Idaho. A fellow was driving across country to see the sites. You know just like John Steinbeck in "Travels With Charlie" or like the old song says "To Look For America". He stops in to see what a "Free Ham Radio Demo" is and soon enough he has a burger and plate o' food in his hand and Bob, KT4KS is showing him around. Now that's the spirit. That's the MVARC way. Everybody's welcome, even from highways and byways. "Love everybody; make them your friend" another old song. Well, then to the point all of this effort: to actually operate and make some contacts, Qs, reports, points, hook ups, you know, Get ON The Air. speaking of which, Carol, WA4GFW; Leila, WN4PP; Glenn, W4OCC and Joan, KI4FYN did a great job with that station. I also saw a bunch of folks over that way, as I saw at all the stations. I know that an expert job was done by Demi and his crew. I do apologize that I didn't catch the names of all the folks with him at the 20 Meter station. I do know that it was humming most of the time. 'Ceptin' when they were downing the grub, which they deserved. John, WQ4L, Bob, KI3O and Dave, AI4FC did a workman's effort on the CW station. That should be the big point getter considering it was going most of the time. The 80/40 phone station was no slough though. There were quite a number of ops sitting in the tent keeping the FT100D burning up the airwaves. I saw the 10/6/2 station keeping up their end of the bargain as well. Julie, KD4WSZ, operated some there. For putting up, getting and keeping that station on the air thanks to Jon, KG4YDD, Paul, AA8O, and George, N1BV. Where was Ringo? I want to thank everyone who



Paul, WC9A says I can't believe I stayed for the whole weekend for my first Field Day in a long time.

of FD. Keep your stations grounded and your antennas in the sky. You will make more contacts that way. 73 -- K3IZ

N7UW -- Aug 9, 2004 14:41 ET



University of Wyoming Amateur Radio Club UARC members assemble the N7UW beam for Field Day

lightning strike prompted the decision to call it a day. Dismantling the camp proved less than comfortable in the drizzle, but everyone pitched in and made quick work of packing up after waiting out the heavier rain.

Saturday night's dinner off the grill was well attended and everyone enjoyed the pleasant evening.

came to Pohick Bay Park to make FD a wonderful event for our club. I hope all had a great time in an effort to put up an emergency ham radio station, operate a contest and put forth work for the good of the MVARC. We want to be near the top of our category, 5A, come the listing in the Dec. QST. Look for it. For those whose time coming out was the first, I hope you have a good story to tell. For those who count this among many, I hope you can add to the repertoire of your stories. I hope everyone learned something about our great hobby, whether it was proper operating, putting up an antenna or a recipe for 7 layer taco salad. If not try again. There will be other operating events. all who came out and put forth effort, I extend a very big TNX. The only thing I can say for next time is lets out do ourselves in all aspects

The University of Wyoming Amateur Radio Club held field day activities at Fox Park in the Medicine Bow National Forest about 40 miles southwest of Laramie, WY. All operations were battery powered. We operated primarily on 15 and 20 meters under the club callsign N7UW.

The primary station included the club's beam and portable tower sections, Kenwood HF rig and a dipole erected by the bow and arrow method. Thanks to Fred KS7Q for transporting the antenna and tower to the site. Wayne NQ7Q started off Saturday with nearly a hundred contacts for a good beginning. We took a relaxed approach this year and did not try to man the station for the full 24 hour period.

Field Day at Fox Park ended with some rain. Paul W7MO and Doris KD7RQX were making some final contacts shortly before noon on Sunday when a near-by

Good conversation continued into the night until about midnight, when fatigue and chilly temperatures prompted us to find our tents and campers. Thanks to Mack WB7K for transporting the grill provided by Tony KD7TA.

344 contacts were logged primarily on the club's single HF voice station. Doug KD7W operated 6 meters on his rig. Other operators included Wayne NQ7Q, Barry AD7CL and Brent KC0FUP. Dave KY7DR tried some 2 meter operating, but band conditions were poor.

Report from UARC club president John KD7NAE -- *KD7NAE*

W7TF -- Aug 7, 2004 13:08 ET



The shelter is up and the beam building crew is busy.



The beam is up and away.

A truly outstanding event. The "QRP is US" group, from western Idaho, has been getting together for Field Day for several years and it just keeps getting better. We set up in a nearby national forest camping area and combine amateur radio with a time out in nature. As usual, nature involved an evening thunderstorm, but that just helps to better simulate an emergency activity. This year was our best yet. Adding a triband beam to the antenna collection was a big help. Jim's, W7TF, little solar setup worked great. Also, John, KD7HGS, brought his portable garage and we went from trying to survive to very comfortable. Operators: Jim W7TF, Bob W7RLS, Mike KC5KKX, Terri (also chief cook) KC5KKY, Aimee KD7UAE, John KD7HGS, Don KK7VM, Steve WB7VEQ, and Hank AC7DV with several other folks helping out. -- *KC5KKX*



Rocks make great anchors.



The solar station on CW.



Doing what you have to do. The only way to read the W1AW message on a laptop screen in early morning light.

WD4NIT operated class 1B from Doll Mountain campground at Carters Lake, Oakman, GA. With wife Sue and grandchildren Samantha and Russell we camped Friday and Saturday nights. Warren WD4NIT also helped the WB4MZO Wedixie ARC operate from the day-use picnic area at the Dam. The dam and campground are about three miles apart by water, much farther by road. I used my pickup battery for power at my 1B site. I found that frequent engine operation was needed to maintain enough voltage for transmitting even though lower voltage was sufficient for receiving. I made 10 contacts Saturday evening and Sunday morning, about the same number I logged for another operator for the Club on Saturday afternoon, in their multi-operator session. In spite of my offer to allow Sue, Samantha, or Russell to speak at my mike -- they all declined. They did help with antenna erection and cooking though. But their main interest was fishing. It was a pleasant time of good fellowship with both my family and my club, even though my personal score was on the low side.

Warren..... Correction October 31. My class was changed to 1A because of the above help with antenna setup and cooking by three additional participants. Guess I will have to come up with a good group name for next year!!! Best wishes to all. Warren -- *WD4NIT*

NE4GA -- Aug 5, 2004 18:10 ET



The North East Georgia Amateur Radio Club had a very successful and rewarding Field Day this year. We ran a 3A operation with GOTA station (KT4Q) and managed to operate all radios continuously for the 24 hours. We operated this year from Victoria Bryant State Park near Royston, Georgia. We had over 20 participants and visitors which is a nice showing given the current membership of our club is slightly over 10. We managed to hang 4 dipoles and 2 verticals for a very simple and quick operating setup. We came to believe that not only did we have significant radio and operating skills, we have culinary experts. If you went away hungry you missed a great opportunity. We managed exactly 1000 contacts nearly doubling our output from last year.

73s de Steve, KT4Q Jefferson GA -- *KT4Q*









W5SSV -- Aug 5, 2004 15:03 ET



Major Owens with the Port Arthur (TX) Police Department and Mike-N5KBT at our Field Day radio room. Major Owens is an Emergency Management official for the City of Port Arthur, Texas.



The Jefferson County Amateur Radio Club, Orange Amateur Radio Club and Beaumont Amateur Radio Club all participated as a group for Field Day 2004. We operated as W5SSV 3A South Texas in a city park located in Nederland, Texas. To kick off Field Day we had lunch (the big feed) with over 80 hams, public officials, other guests enjoying some very good food and each others company. Our FD operations from the Jefferson Co. ARC club house facilities at the city park gave us publicity and demonstrated our emergency communication capabilities. Operating 3A with the transmitters operating off of batteries, our setup consisted of a phone (SSB) station, a CW station and a digital(PSK31)station. We operated 80 Meters thru 10 Meters allowing our 10 operators to make many contacts. We had a great time and always learn something new every year about RFI and setting up a field installation. The Field Day operators were: Mark Gardner - AD5PI, Pat Green – KC5WCC, Brian Cater – KC5YSM, Dan Harriman – KC5GXL, Rocky Wilson – N5MTX, “Tootie” Heintschel – KC5HVT, John Russell – KD5RBY, Scottie Chambliss – W5YUG, Lawrence Kellar – KB5ZZB, and Les Jackson – AD5NS. -- N5MTX

The great cook, J.R. Aarons-K5SUB, on the far right is assisted by John-KB5RBY, Mike-AD5OG and Hollis-KA5JNE. A great cook helps make for a successful Field Day.



Mark-AD5PI making those PSK31 contacts. We more than doubled our number of digital contacts from FD 2003.



Dan-KC5GXL (on the left) operating on 10M phone and Pat-KC5WCC (on the right) banging out the CW contacts on 40M. Pat is using a straight key and is our always faithful CW operator for FD!!



Our batteries used for field day was more than adequate. After the 24 hours of operation the voltage drop was less than one-half (1/2) of a volt!



The Beaumont (Texas) Chapter of the American Red Cross provided their MERV for FD. Timothy St. Peter with the Red Cross was one of the many Field Day quests that our local ARES® groups provides emergency communication services for.

W4ULH -- Aug 2, 2004 11:49 ET

Excellent 6 meter opening and lots of fun on CW. -- *K4DLJ*

K4HRS -- Jul 30, 2004 00:12 ET

The 2004 Harris Intersil ARC (K4HRS) field day was a great success! We set up at Wickham Park in Melbourne, Florida. Heat, humidity and area thunderstorms provided the usual backdrop for a Florida FD. We got a pretty good lightning show but no rain, which was a first in local memory. We had a fantastic antenna: a 5 element 20 meter monoband yagi up 70 feet on a cherry picker! This antenna



Erin prepares the welcome signs

was pointed West and gave us strong reports throughout the contest. An 80 m dipole hung just below the 20 M beam and a 20-15-10 m beam at 20 ft rounded out the antenna farm. Ops: Adam N4ZSM, Shane KI4EZX, Butch WA4VQD, Dick KD4JP, Jim KC7SSW, Al W3QO, Steve N5BGE, Ken N8KH, Bill WA4EMU, Matthew & Michael -- 73s EMU -- *WA4EMU*



Bill and Dick tie 20M beam to bucket



Bill and Steve prepare to launch



We have liftoff. 20 m at 70 ft.



Got im! Future ham Matt snags a contact as extra ears listen in.



Butch "signals" that lunch is ready.



Lone hunter Ken stalks the nocturnal CW contact.



Steve and Jim ham it up



Jim and Matthew enjoy Father and Son night out

W5ZDN -- Jul 29, 2004 23:22 ET



Setup of the W5ZDN main station in the HOTARC trailer proceeded almost according to schedule, despite the pouring rain. K5WAR climbed to the roof to attach the HF triband antenna, while K5YKC and KC5KNI are supervising! (It's a tough job, but somebody has to do it! :-)

(Click on photos to enlarge)

The Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC) located in Waco, TX made it through FD 2004 thanks to the hip waders. Well, maybe it wasn't quite that bad, but we were almost prepared for that. Central Texas was under flood warnings as we received over four inches of rain Saturday morning and early afternoon. We normally run 2A, but were considering dropping to 1A due to the weather. But then someone pointed out: Emergencies don't always happen on bright, sunny days! So we pressed on with setting up our two stations: one in our nice dry and cool Club trailer with a triband beam atop the 40-foot crank-up tower; the second under the Hewitt Park pavilion. For station #2, we had planned to erect a 40-meter quarter-wave vertical made from electrical conduit atop the pavilion's metal roof (a terrific ground plane!!), but decided that—due to the heavy rain and threatening storms—safety was more important than high scores. So, we enacted Plan B (Hint: always have a "Plan B"): we lashed a multiband vertical to the side of the pavilion.

In summary, the wet conditions only served to make us more determined than ever to succeed. We successfully operated the whole 24 hours, proving to ourselves that the threatening weather was not going to prevent us from fulfilling our demonstration of



emergency preparedness. We finished the wet weekend with almost as good a total score as the last couple years (when we were first in 2A NTX). We're hoping for a similar outcome this year! We're watching for the official results! -- AC5CV

More of the "tough-job-but-somebody-has-to-do-it" category, K5WAR is seen here pushing up the crank-up tower that will support the HF yagi, a two-meter vertical, and an 80-meter inverted-dipole as part of Station #1 in the HOTARC trailer. (Ok...maybe he has some help with that mast... :-)



The park where we operated has a normally quiet flowing creek meandering through it. On this occasion, a "raging river" seemed a more apt description. Hmm...what do we do if the creek rises another 6 inches? I suppose that would be "Plan C." :-)



The Mayor paid us a visit (Bam! 100 bonus points! Thank you, very much!) and even made a half-dozen contacts for us! Of course, everyone knows how those gentle feminine voices draw in the QSOs! You go, girl!



Inside the trailer, K5IMC single-handedly operates Station #1 using his high-speed CW skills and logging software.



Station #2 operations are carried on through the long nighttime hours by KC5NT and KD5MLY. At least the rainy weather seemed to keep away the bugs!



"You don't believe me? Here, let me send you a SSTV picture!" says AC5CV.



It wouldn't be a complete Field Day without giving others an opportunity to become a ham. Our VEs KK5KN, KI5QT, KC5WQE, and AC5QQ administered a testing session to recently trained Technician candidates. The local Salvation Army chapter, courtesy of KD5SM provided a tent to make a nice dry test area.



By the end of Field Day, the rain had moved on and we had a beautiful day on which to dismantle our emergency station. We're convinced that the slightly misaligned director on that yagi is what will put us over the top in NTX this year!! *Thanks for all the contacts everyone!!*

W2MAR -- Jul 29, 2004 21:33 ET



Installing a tri-bander on the smoke house

The Middletown Amateur Radio Club, Avaya Amateur Radio Club and Middletown RACES in a combined effort had a great time at Field Day this year. We had plenty of visitors including two newspapers. The food was great I should know I (N2PVP) was the Chef for the weekend. We look forward to next year and another fun Field Day.
-- N2PVP



The generator runs out of gas!



On the Air in the RACES Communications Van



GOTA Station on the air!



CW Station on the air.



Smiling and having fun!

W9TY -- Jul 29, 2004 18:30 ET



The Metro DX Club Field Day Team in front of their First Class operating position.

The Metro DX Club of Oak Forest, IL had a fun Field Day outing this year and the weather's cooperation made things even better! Setup and teardown were really quick and easy, thanks to the preplanning of the Field Day team. Pictured are Dennis-KA9ZZT, Bob-K9MDO, Buggy-K9CJ, Jack-W9NJB, Russ-K9DXR and John-W9ILY. Not pictured is Walt, KA9CBJ. A GREAT time was had by all! -- *W9ILY*



The Metro DX Club Field Day Picture Perfect Location.

K3IVO -- Jul 28, 2004 22:39 ET



K3IVO goes back to the basics: An antenna hung on a transceiver. OP calls "1A MDC", while logger checks for dupes, and a cooler on stand-by. -- *N3DCI*



K9ES/4 -- Jul 27, 2004 23:04 ET



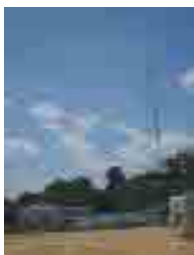
A great field day with no rain for the first time in 15 years (although other areas within 10 miles got severe weather). Operating from the Longpoint Camp Grounds, on the southern tip of the barrier island in Brevard County, we used an IC-756 Pro-2, a TA33 at 22 feet, and a Gap Titan stuck in the Indian River. 40 M and 20M was great, with some qso's on 15 and 10. We were too busy to even try 80 or 75 meters. Operated by Eric K9ES, Chuck AD4ES, and Chuck AA4FX. -- K9ES

Great location to run Field Day

N2XJ -- Jul 28, 2004 00:46 ET



Panoramic view of our site



New Providence Amateur Radio Club (NPARC) operated from atop the Watchung mountains of Union county New Jersey. We had terrific weather for Field day in the NNJ section this year! Nice turnout and real dedication resulted in a good time had by all. See our Web site and more photos at:

<http://www.qsl.net/nparc/> -- K2ESE

Our Crank up Tower and array's



K2ESE's home-away-from-home -- good for those power Naps.



Kb2FCV's cw boat anchor complete with Devil Dog operator fuel!



KB2FCV and W2QF pose for the camera!



K0LBY and N2AUG racking up the VHF points



Dusk approaches and the lanterns go on!



KB2FCV and K2ESE fueling up at the food Pavilion



The Generator and noise abatement system (a tarp)!

KS3H -- Jul 27, 2004 21:37 ET

This year's Soggy Bottom Contestors (KS3H and NX3A) had a great time working Field Day. As far as we are aware, this is the only group of Field Day participants who are also all active Paraglider Pilots (PG-3s) flying from the mountains in Virginia, in the US and around the world. Unfortunately, there probably is not a good way to operate Field Day while flying. Again, we had a fabulous time.

73 -- *KS3H*

KS3H -- Jul 27, 2004 21:32 ET



NX3A (a.k.a. Carl Dennis) of the Soggy Bottom Contestors, working the Field Day night shift in front of the sauna. Since this was in Virginia, we don't believe he spent any time in the sauna, but just spent time pounding out the contacts.

KS3H -- *KS3H*

W6ZE -- Jul 27, 2004 19:34 ET

W6ZE, The Orange County Amateur Radio Club, held Field Day at Portola Park in Santa Ana, CA. The club had good participation, with lots of help for setup, tear-down, logging and operating.

This year's best effort goes to one of our newer members Kenan – N6CCE who, with the help of some visiting ham friends, set up a great 80/10 meter operation. Their ingenuity (and some tall trees) resulted in the 80 meter antenna being up much higher than usual. During the day, with 10 meter propagation poor, they helped out the other stations, with Mike – WK6O adding numerous CW



Members in the 'Blue Room' greeted visitors with demos of ATV, Slowscan and APRS. Luckily, there are no park rules against antennas! Santa Ana officials were extremely cooperative in allowing us the use of the park.



Members help erect the 15 meter beam and tower.



contacts.

When our food chairman had to back out at the last moment, one of N6CCE's friends, Gordon – KE7BIW offered to cook chili. He spent most of the day preparing a mild and delicious chili, with a separate complimentary very potent 'kicker', that allowed each person to 'heat' his chili to taste. Even those who normally don't like chili went back for seconds.

Chris – KJ6ZH, longtime member and past club president, drove down from the Bay Area with his high class satellite station. After failing most of Saturday to get the elusive satellite contact, he found himself outdone when Carl, WA6BSV snagged AC6P on SO-50 on an early morning Sunday pass using a handheld antenna.

The yearly midnight Sushi and Saki party was held around nine PM (it gets earlier as some of our members get older) just as ARRL SWD Director Art – W6XD, and ARRL Honorary VP Fried – WA6WZO and wife Sandi – WA6WZN arrived for a visit. This ritual is held in memory of longtime member Kei Yamachika – W6NGO, who was a mentor, and major contributor to the club.

FD chairman Bob – AF6C declared this year's Field Day a success! -- *AF6C*

Tom – WA6PFA roamed the park conducting ATV demos for park visitors and sending pictures back to the 'Blue Room'.



Chris -- KJ6ZH readies for the next satellite pass.



Gordon -- KE7BIW spoons out some 'kicker' that participants could add to their mild chili to raise the temperature. Does the FD power rules include dinner? The 'kicker' was definitely over the limit!



Each Field Day the club remembers club patriarch Kei – W6NGO with a toast of saki and a taste of sushi.



The Orange Co. ARC group gathers for a photo op prior to tear down.



Bob – AF6C put together this collage from member's digital photos.

W7IS -- Jul 27, 2004 19:35 ET

Myself and K7WQ try to operate FD each year from a different remote location. And this year we



K7WQ busy making one of the 162 QSO's from the Motor Home position. The all band ant had good gain on 20M so we did best on 20M while 40M required more effort for Qso's since we were running 5W. And we had to offer many repeats in order to complete the exchange. The N3FJP program worked very well with the Laptop connected to 12V batteries.



W7IS at the operating position using the 1928 Vibroplex Lightning. For you vintage key fans, 1928 was the first year Vibroplex produced the Lightning Bug. This year was also the first year we used a keyboard for most of the QSO's with the N3FJP program. And it took some getting used to. About half way through the FD it became easier. But I fell back to using the old reliable Vibroplex Lightning Bug more often than not. The only mode we used was CW and if you look close, at the left of the operating position is a March Magnetic iambic paddle. We also had a full sized Hustler 6Btv vertical mounted to the back of the motor home roof but the all band ant high in the trees outperformed it many times over to the east coast stations. So the Hustler vertical didnt

selected a place called 4th of July TrailHead about 20 miles from Tonasket, Wa. Its at an elevation of about 4000 ft and had high trees for putting up the all band ant that was in CQ mag last summer. We were able to get the ant up about 45 ft but it took a big effort using a bow and arrow and fish line. Next year we will have a better method rather than just laying the fish line on the ground :-). We had 7 heavy duty deep cycle storage batteries in parallel and operated 5 watts. Everything was going along pretty well until late Saturday night when the heavy rain and lightning started up. So while the lightning storm passed by we had to disconnect the ant. After 2 hours when it had calmed down a little we started operation again. But about an hour later the lightning got worse and we shut down for the rest of the night. At one point a large bolt of lightning hit the ground about 50 ft from the Motor Home. Very scary :-). Then on Sunday morning the rain the lightning subsided long enough to get in a few more qso's. But it was a hair raising 24 hours. At one point there were lightning strikes in our general area every few minutes and this continued for up to several hours at a time.

-- W7IS

get to make any Qso's.



The Motor Home at the 4th of July Trailhead near Tonasket, Wa. in eastern Wash. We were sort of protected from the lighting strikes by all the tall trees especially to the south where most of the lightning originated.

W4DXA -- Jul 27, 2004 11:55 ET



Ken Boyd, K4DXA, climbed our temporary tower by the light of a "Carolina Moon" to install a trapped 75m/40m dipole for Saturday evening's operation.

Field Day 2004 saw the return of the Carolina DX Association to the list of participants for the first time in probably a dozen years. We enjoyed the event fully participating as a 2E station. Since our members are spread out over the states of North and South Carolina, it offered a chance for some of the participants to have a first-time "eyeball" QSO with their fellow members. We had a few wrinkles, to be sure, but we've learned and expect to be back in 2005.

Attached are a few pictures of the event.

Image P6260054.JPG: Ken Boyd, K4DXA, climbed our temporary tower by the light of a "Carolina Moon" to install a trapped 75m/40m dipole for Saturday evening's operation.

Image IMAGE010.JPG Dick Williams, W3OA, and Ken Boyd, K4DXA, got a good "run" going on Sunday morning on SSB. A splitter on the audio output lets Dick log while Ken keeps the run going.

Image IMAGE015.JPG A homebrew Moxon



Rectangle for 15m sitting atop a 26 foot tall "plumbers delight" tower made from PVC tubing served us well.
-- K8YC

Dick Williams, W3OA, and Ken Boyd, K4DXA, got a good "run" going on Sunday morning on SSB. A splitter on the audio output lets Dick log while Ken keeps the run going.



A homebrew Moxon Rectangle for 15m sitting atop a 26 foot tall "plumbers delight" tower made from PVC tubing served us well.

K7ZC -- Jul 26, 2004 16:26 ET

This year the Mt. Baker Amateur Radio Club, representing all of Whatcom County in NW Washington, operated 2Alpha + VHF + GOTA -- KK7LK



Hovander Homestead Park was our QTH offering plenty of room to spread the stations apart.



Of course the CW station gets the biggest yagi resulting in the most points.



The CW station was well equipped with wireless networking, an FT-1000MP and of course the "Super Yagi".



The SSB station was located in our local ARES~RACES Comm van. WA7HL is pictured operating a faithful IC-735.



6 meters came alive to provide 30+ SSB contacts into the SW. Even 2m provided some regional SSB contacts. Unfortunately we didn't take advantage of FM simplex.



GOTA station had major antenna problems and didn't come to life until 9 PM local time. This non-licensed operator made 70 contacts her first time ever on the air. Give her a license manual QUICK!



Good food was a great motivating factor to keep operators around to make those contacts.



Portable Packet, Satellite, APRS and WIFI attracted lots of interest. Here Jim Kohler, AC7UM and Greg Rehm, KD7RCG are checking out the Packet setup.



Our site was visited by ARRL WWA ARES Section Manager Ed Bruette, N7NVP (left), talking here with our FD Chairman Rodger Alexander, KK7LK



BARC's Field Day Operation



John, N8UR gets off to a good start on 40 CW

Field Day 2004 marked the Bellbrook [Ohio] Amateur Radio Club's 29th consecutive Field Day.

The W8DGN Field Day operation was centered around Shelter #1 of Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Park District's Sackett-Wright Park. This year we had three stations in simultaneous operation on CW, SSB, and RTTY/PSK-31 plus a VHF station.

It was an outstanding year for BARC's Field Day, with great turnout, great weather, and reasonable cooperation from the bands. The largest contributor to BARC's contact total was John Ackerman, N8UR, operating entirely on CW. (John also happens to be president of TAPR—but then, CW is a digital mode!)

We had beautiful weather, clear and sunny with highs only in the 70's and very few mosquitoes. In fact, the night was surprisingly cool for Ohio in June, with temperatures dipping down into the mid-50's. Art Aronson, WA8BXM, operated 75 meter SSB from his mummy bag on the graveyard shift. Art was one of the first members at the site Saturday morning to help set up, then drove to Toledo to attend a wedding. After the wedding and a round trip of nearly 400 miles, he operated from midnight to five o'clock Sunday morning. Now that's a dedicated ham!

Old Field Day hands know that sunrise Field Day Sunday is really "where it's at". The umpteenth pot of fresh coffee is brewing. Eyes are bleary, ears are numb, and "Whisky Eight Delta Golf November, Three Alpha, Ohio" seems permanently etched into the brain. And yet the operators soldier on. The site takes on a surreal air in the early morning ground fog. In the picture at left, John Ferguson, N8FJ works 40 meter SSB in the first light of Field Day Sunday. In a few hours, dawn will go down to day, the generators will go silent, and Field Day 2004 will pass into history.



Art, WA8BXM operating 75m SSB from his mummy bag

Field Day 2004 was a great one! See you next year!

-- *W8QEO*



John, N8FJ working 40m SSB in the early morning fog

N2MO -- Jul 23, 2004 20:09 ET

The Ocean-Monmouth ARC (OMARC) operated as 2A with a GOTA station and VHF station as usual during this years Field Day.

However we really went all out with our tower and antenna setup having three towers, two HF tri-band beams, a 40m beam, and a 40m Half Rhombic and multiband dipole on HF and 6m loop, 6m beam and 2m beam on VHF. The big 40 foot tower had both the A4S and 2 element 40m beam for the CW station, with the 2nd tribander on a 25 foot tower for the SSB station.

The Half Rhombic was strung from the largest tree at the park with the center about 40 feet above ground, the legs were each 67.5 feet long to the 300 ohm NI load resistors to the ground rods which also acted as the end supports, the antenna was 450 ohm ladder line fed to a 9:1 RF transformer with coax then running under the pavillion. Next year we hope to be able to get to the top of that tree and

have a 80m Half Rhombic.

The setup crew, which consisted of most of the operators were really tired after setup, which ran right into the start of on-the-air time !

Also, using high end radios at all the stations this year really helped on receive. We had a Yaesu FT-1000D on CW and TS-930S on SSB and the GOTA station and an FT-736R on 6 and 2 meters. The guys on the GOTA station really had fun, even when the electronic keyer failed and they were forced to make CW contacts using a straight key for a few hours !

We had great local press coverage and turnout of the local officials during the event. Our NNJ SM Bill Hudzik, W2UDT along with with Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF representing the ARRL drove 90 minutes to visit with us as we are the most Southern ARRL Club in the section.

Many non-Amateurs as well as area Amateurs visited our site during the event and learned quite a bit about the Amateur Radio Service. Our public information table was near bare by the end of the day and our various demonstrations caught the interest of many non-hams that visited. -- *N2CKH*

N2MO -- Jul 23, 2004 19:37 ET



All three N2MO towers with all those rotating antennae

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The setup crew, which consisted of most of the



The big tower with the 40m 2 element beam just after being raised, it took a big chunk of effort to get this one up !



Bill KC2CNB putting the final touches on the VHF tower and antennae, the 6m loop at top is used when the band is hoppint as move the beam takes too much time !



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-- N2CKH

Ron WA2HZT and Mike K2CJS at the GOTA station.



Eric, KC2MJC our youngest member at 15 while operating the 6 meter station.



John, W2YR knocking off contacts at the CW station.



Steve, N2CKH running stations while operating 20m SSB.



The SSB station during a break in activity, the old TS-930S receivers held up great during Field Day band conditions.



Although hard to see, the 40m Half Rhombic out in the field coming down from the tree at the left to 8 foot ground rods that are 2 feet into the ground.



The 9:1 RF Transformer under the pavillion eave showing the 450 ohm ladder line to coax with ground rod.



Bill KC2CNB explaining the Doppler RDF system on being demonstrated. Bill is our resident RDF expert, having won a number Fox Hunts sponsored by OMARC and other area groups.



Bill KC2CNB down from towers and operating the VHF station.



Mike, K2CJS operating the GOTA station.



A very old yet still working Singer solar panel used for the bonus point contacts with 5 watts on CW.

WA6WPG -- Jul 23, 2004 14:00 ET

Added a second solar panel and battery and was able to operate all day at 100 watts. Made a big difference. First time operating from a public place. Lots of interest in Amateur Radio. Down side was that I had to tell half the people that I was not a CB'er. -- WA6WPG



K5PAL -- Jul 25, 2004 20:49 ET



GOTA Station

Palestine/Anderson County ARC had 15 participants this year. We operated from the picnic area on Manley Mountain in the Davey Dogwood Trails Park in Palestine, Texas. We did not have a great number of contacts but we had a lot of fun and several visitors. Thunderstorms cut our outing short, but we are looking forward to next year. -- *N5XPC*



WB4WXD



KD5IVO and KB5YUE



W5BTO on 20 Meters



KR5Z and KD5UPG



Judge Carey McKinney, WB4WXD, KD5UPG, and KB5JHW

N0LP -- Jul 25, 2004 13:03 ET



Operating position N0LP

What a great time was had by all. We had 12 active members this year working the contest for the ARES District 24 Franktown Fire group. Several operators came and went thru the event, and two of us chose to stay the entire time. We were at an auxiliary fire station near Franktown, CO. Last year we spent half of the event mired in mud, so we decided to try some paved driveways this year. Setup went well on Friday evening. Several contacts were made to check out equipment. The Saturday start time came and away we went. Rain soon followed, and we even saw a funnel cloud or two, but we stuck with it and survived. Sunday morning was calm and clear, and we finished with a respectable score for the small operation we had this year. The generator worked well, as did the rotating dipole and the wire inverted vee we used. We are all ready for next year. Benjie W0CBH -- *W0CBH*



Did I say it rained?



Sunday morning was great



Had to use a vehilce to help guy the dipole and inverted vee



Please excuse the spelling errors in the captions. Here is the location east of Franktown, before we started setup on Friday afternoon.



Lunch is ready at our club kitchen manned by N3OWM. We have hot dogs and hamburgers, cookies and cake and plenty of drinks for all to enjoy. A full stomach will work well for working the stations.

-- KE3QB



OK..where are the cookies??



Dad and 2 sons on way to 10 meter phone.. "I want to work the mike...NO! I want to!!



Sattellite Station is a GO!!

W3EM -- Jul 25, 2004 10:25 ET



Philmont Mobile Radio Club from Phila.Pa. Antenna Farm is Ready! We were running 6A this year and had all the stations and antennas set up. The weather was on our side and Fort Washington Park rangers even had the lawn mowed at our site. Everything was set, the generator was fueled up just waiting for starting time. We had an injury to our Antenna Guru but the professionally trained EMT's and Doctors took very good care of him. On top of this setback and minor problems, our Field Day was still successful for this year.



PMRC Antenna Go To Guy. Many thanks Steve From the PMRC BandCaptains for FD2004. -- *KE3QB*

KA1VBU -- Jul 23, 2004 20:31 ET

The Winterstown, PA Contest Group

Field Day!! That was the cry of a couple of hams from the White Marsh facility of Collins Radio now



From left to right Tyler Harpster N3SPD, Earl Hooks KB3DDO, Rick Graham AI3W, Dave Zuzin N3HCN, Dan Slaughter KA1VBU



Completed campsite



Soggy generator. Works great!!

known as (Rockwell Collins). The question is who we team up with. After a month worth of consternations we decided we were going to do it our selves! How hard can it be to set up an emergency communications site and make as many contacts in 24 hours? Right?

Our mission was to get a few of the 12 operators at our work involved and see if we could do it, on the fly like might be the case in an emergency, so the mission was on. We had location!! The field behind my house was selected instead of a public place because we wanted to perfect all of the skills with support near incase of a foul up. We notified the BSA troops in the area, sent out 3 press releases and invited our state senator, congressman, and County Commissioner. High elevation no obstructions, everyone had radios, everyone would bring an antenna. I had the generator and tent so we were done! Once the planning was done, about three, fifteen minute sessions. We looked at the cost and split it between 5 of us. My wife made the official T shirts with embroidered call signs and names so we were ready

The day arrives and we set up. The contest begins. Ooops the generator that I ran earlier that morning wouldn't run. So we were off on battery power while I put my mechanic's hat on. It seems that the gas I put in the generator had water in it and that flooded the carburetor. After a half an hour worth of decontamination, we were off and running on petrol. This was the only hang up of the whole day.

The next thing to do was to erect my special antenna. This was the secret weapon. A helium balloon supported vertical antenna. I always like building an antenna and thought it would be fun to make a temporary unit that could be tossed at the end if desired. Yep Red, White and Blue with Old Glory being displayed!

About two hours after everyone was on the air making QSOs I decided I was ready to give it a shot. Wow it worked great. We were able to rule a pile up and I was able to scrape a couple of 160meter contacts. Dave was excited about the 80meter CW performance. We



A new helium antenna.

ran a 3A + GOTA station and managed to grab 725 contacts

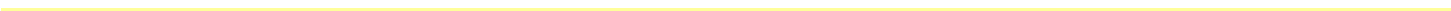
We were able to be on the air for 19 hours, got a newer but less active ham involved again, and our County Commissioner Doug Kilgore was able to attend. We are now brain storming for another round next year. It was great participating with the 2004 Field Day events. -- *KAIVBU*



Operation through the night.



Elected Officials do show up. That is Doug Kilgore on the far right.





Bob, N4CU at the 20M Station

One of Broward County AREC/RACES best. We had city councilman Jerry Fadgen attend and the Mayor announced the FD on Television. The steak dinner by Richard, KG4CHW, and the cook-to-order breakfast by Scott, AF4YS was great. The 40 and 20 stations were operated by several operators new to FD and they had a great time. -- *N4CU*



Dave, N9DTZ and Bryan, N4EBC, at the 40M station



Kai, KE4PT, Bill, ED4FRB, and Randy, K9BCT assembling the SSTV antenna to the mast



20 Meter Quad was open for contacts for 24 hours



40 meter full wave loop really opened the band at night.

K4CMD -- Jul 23, 2004 10:01 ET

Well, I've never operated Field Day in the same place twice since I started out in this hobby in 1980, so this year was going to be no different. Having done Field Day 2002 on a yacht in the Chesapeake Bay and Field Day 2003 in a state park near Farmville, I decided to continue my westward trek across Virginia. Field Day 2004 was at a cabin at 4,000 feet on Pine Mountain in the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area. Not only was this the highest elevation I've ever done Field Day from, it also was the first location to have unheard-of luxuries like running water (albeit from a well), real beds with mattresses, and a real, honest-to-goodness ROOF over our heads. Since I'll be turning 40 next year, I guess this is a sure sign that I'm getting cushy in my old age.



Can you spot the G5RV in this photo?



The Electromotive Force, lined up for Field Day duty



The legendary 20-meter skyhook. This thing performed so well it inductively heated the air above it, creating marvelous wisps of condensed ionization -- no wait -- those are STORM CLOUDS!!! Unplug! UNPLUG!!!

I broke from tradition (since my old partner couldn't make it) and invited my brother Drew, KC4IUP, to do Field Day with me this time. I've always run a 2B station, and this year was no different. After a rainy drive down the Blue Ridge Parkway Friday afternoon (interrupted wholesomely by some incredible corn cakes and ham at Mabry Mill), we arrived at Sunrise Cabin at about 5 Friday evening. It was so rainy, all we did was unpack our stuff and set up the indoor part of our operation. Saturday dawned partly cloudy and humid, so we went outside and erected our G5RV and 20-meter dipole. The cabin was on a good slope and surrounded by an open field, so we were able to anchor one end of the G5RV at the cabin's chimney and the other to the top of a tree across the field, with a little help of my trusty old spin-casting rod. We initially set up the 20 as a sloper, but soon found its performance mediocre so, once again bringing out the old Zebco, we got that sucker wayyyy up between the tops of two trees behind the cabin. That was the best dipole installation I've ever done -- too bad it had to come down when we packed up Sunday.

This year also was a first for a new power source for us. For the past 20 years I'd run Field Day operations from a generator. This year we had three deep-cycle marine batteries at our disposal, and they performed remarkably well. In fact, since we weren't out to set any records (just 509 contacts total), we found that both rigs ran the whole contest fine on just two of them. And it was nice to have some QUIET for a change!

If this was your first Field Day, then welcome to the grandest event in hamdom. Also, be glad you weren't part of last year's with its solar flares and horrible band conditions. We had a great time running mini-pileups on 20 and 40 meters with two brand-new rigs - - a Yaesu Mark-V FT-1000MP Field I picked up back in March, and a Yaesu FT-897D Drew bought about six weeks ago. Drew also brought out the coolest product I've ever seen from the halls of Mississippi -- a brand-new (still in the box, in fact) MFJ-993 autotuner. What a cool little tuner! That display shows



KC4IUP (Drew) beats 40 meters into submission from our 4,000-foot perch in the Blue Ridge



Yours truly illustrates the proper placement of Mountain Dew and logbook



everything you'd ever want to know about your antenna -- almost like having a built-in antenna analyzer -- and tuned the G5RV everywhere he went in less than a second! He'd better leave me that little toy in his will, that's all I can say.

The rest of Field Day stayed dry if a little cloudy, but that's my usual luck with the event. Sure beats Field Day 1986 where yours truly had a first-hand (literally) encounter with a bolt of lightning. Remind me never to set up a 35-foot mast on top of a bald mountaintop in a storm-prone area again, please!

The only thing lacking this year was the public. Except for the yacht operation two years ago, I've always done Field Day in a public place. I kind of missed the welcome breaks now and then when a visitor stopped by and wondered what was going on. But don't worry, we're already talking about swinging our sights north to a more public location next year. See you then!

73 es QRZ, -- K4CMD

What better way to start a ham contest (note the time) than with a ham sandwich?



NEW TOYS!!! What better way to break 'em in than Field Day?



Now that, my friends, is a Field Day location.

KR7Q -- Jul 22, 2004 12:31 ET

The “Curmudgeons”. a group of hams from four counties in NW Washington State mounted their first ever field day effort this year. Most of the group had never participated in field day before. The primary goal of the event was to “have fun”. That goal was achieved. The Curmudgeons set up field day operations at Howard Miller Park on the Skagit River in Rockport, Wa. A 30’ tower and rotateable (triband) dipole, along with a 135’ off center fed dipole , a 80 meter dipole and a 40/ 20 meter delta loop made up the antenna arsenal for HF. Moxin antennas were used in the attempt to make that elusive satellite contact. The curmudgeons worked hard on preparations and the public relations aspect of this event. Two , one half page articles were published in the Skagit Valley Herald. One article was to notify the public of the event. The second article featured front page pictures in the Sunday edition of the paper. The Saturday article can be viewed at



Some of the Curmudgeons on site at Field Day 2004



The Curmudgeons Field Day Banner



The Tower Engineers: WX7J, N7HPE & K7LVJ



The tower at K7LVJ'S RV



The tower is up! A triband rotatable dipole and an 80 meter dipole are installed too.

<http://www.skagitvalleyherald.com/articles/2004/06/25/news/news05.txt> Several of the Curmudgeons brought the special equipment required to demonstrate to the public, APRS and SSTV. A public information table was set up, along with plenty of info on ham radio. A group “teens” camping in the same park expressed interest in the activities of the Ham Radio Curmudgeons and the field day activities. Many of the other campers in the park visited the operating areas and asked questions. The ARRL field day message was copied on CW and on Phone (HF). All the radio equipment was powered by battery or generators. The “RV “ type site, worked well because many of the XYL’s came along and even participated in making contacts on the GOTA station. Just under 300 contacts were made during the two day event. A “night crew” of operators was not available, so all contacts were made during day time hours. The Curmudgeons tallied up nearly 1800 points with a 2A class entry.

Field Day ops: K7LVJ, N7HPE, WX7J, WA7UGB, KD7TJT & KR7Q Curmudgeons on site in support: W7AFY, AA7HQ, AC7SI, N7PZD Repeater support and antenna consultant: WA7NAN- not

able to be present for FD, but provided communications (Via the WA7NAN repeaters) for planning and antenna design ideas. -- KR7Q

W7DK -- Jul 22, 2004 09:45 ET



Hal, W7EC, and his assistant- Soren (a new ham without a callsign just yet) aims the Potato Howitzer to shoot a line over the 100 feet high fir trees.



Rodney, KD7SXZ, aims the Super Slingshot, to drop a line into the tall fir trees.

Radio Club of Tacoma (RCT), W7DK, operated this years FD at the usual location- The Tacoma Rifle and Revolver Club in University Place, WA.

W7DK operated as Class 7A with additional GOTA and VHF Stations. We also operated a Digital Station, PSK-31 and SSTV as an experimental effort. Alternate Power QSOs were made using human power- a bicycle fitted with a DC Generator and regulator circuit. The VHF station made a successful Satellite QSO with AO7, a bird that goes quiet after it goes over the horizon into darkness. A SSTV QSO was accomplished by the digital station amongst the furious contesters. SSTV and APRS was also demonstrated at this event.

The Visitor Log shows that 117 people attended this years FD. A special guest who showed up Sunday morning for breakfast served by our Food Crew... was Ed Bruette, N7NVP, the Western Washington Section Manager. Linda Bird, City of University Place Councilperson and Paul Jones, Pierce County Director of Emergency Services also attended as special guests.

This year the Radio Club of Tacoma had a friendly FD challenge with The Mike and Key Radio Club. RCT scored approximately 10,000 points vs Mike and Key's approx 14,000 points. Even though RCT lost the challenge... many members are saying that this was the most fun FD in a long while.

Many thanks to the amateur operators and their families who supported this years Radio Club of Tacoma Field Day effort.

Rich, Deputy FD Director -- AE7RW



The W7DK tower crew puts the finishing touches on one of the 20 meter Yagis. The Yagis are held up in the air with Army Surplus Crank Up towers.



Carol, K7ROL... and Doug, AD7AV, at the controls of the 20 Meter SSB station.



Rick, W7LKG, operated the 20 Meter CW station. Nearly 600 QSOs were made.



Gary, WG7X, in his "Mobile Command Center" operates his 40 Meter SSB station. This station used a 40 meter Double Extended Zepp antenna 85 feet in the air.



Rich, AE7RW, at the controls of the 40 Meter CW station. This station was set up in a family camping tent that was made in Germany in 1960. This station was a popular gathering place for visitors due to its uniqueness.



Rich, AE7RW, pedals the bicycle powered DC generator which powered the FT-817 QRP transceiver. The Voltage Regulator is in the inserted photo. Bill, W7IJ, is at the controls of the radio. 5 QSOs were made on 40 Meter CW. Interesting note: If the bicycle was pedaled too fast... components in the Voltage Regulator smoked. Also, when the rider quit pedalling... the radio died.



Chuck, AC7QN, the inventor of the bike generator and regulator... surveys the situation while Rich, AE7RW, rides on and on and on. "It'll be better next year", promised Chuck.



Lastly, but certainly not forgotten... Rich, N7ANF, starts to assemble the FOOD station. On Saturday evening a large potluck dinner was had by all... also on Sunday morning Rich and Micheal, KB7ZDR, prepared all of the hearty hams who stayed the night a HAM and eggs feast.

W6YPE -- Jul 22, 2004 03:41 ET



Joe, KE6YHI (AEC) and Dennis, N6IH (EC) supporting the dipole installation.

This year marked the 12th annual Field Day event for Sunnyvale Amateur Radio Emergency Service, again at our site in Raynor Park. Thanks to our two FD captains Roger, AA3AP and Jim, N6WKY for their preparation work and thanks to all participants. 73
-- K6OTT



Just minutes after 1100PDT: Ralph, N6UNE goes on the air.



The banner at the public information table.

K8IAT -- Jul 21, 2004 10:07 ET



Monday, June 28, 2004

Riding the airwaves: Local radio enthusiasts heard Nationwide

By MATT GETTS mattg@kpcnews.net

KENDALLVILLE — People in every state in the continental United States heard from Kendallville this weekend. Amateur radio operators heard from them, too.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) held its

10 year Josh Fry enjoys his first Field Day as Carrie Ryman KC8KXK over sees his techniques.



Jack Fulk N9BCP operates the radio as his wife Kelley logs the contacts. Their son Ted is looking onward for opportunities that he can venture.



Conrad and Ronda White (both non Hams) are getting there interest peaked by operating the radio during this years Field Day.

digitally with the International Space Station.

Touching base with people far away is what draws amateur radio operators to their hobby.

Ryman said, it's all about "meeting new people, realizing how small the world is. At any moment, I could be talking ... to the former Soviet Union."

"It's interesting to hit all over the world," Conrad White of Kendallville said as he sat in front of a microphone, logging contacts. "I've talked on CBs before, that's nothing compared to this."

By noon Sunday, everyone at the camp looked close to exhausted after being up more than 24 hours.

"All of us are kind of tired," Ryman said.

annual contest over the weekend as radio groups across the country tried to log contacts with every state in the union — including Alaska and Hawaii.

Two local groups, the Kendallville Contesters Amateur Radio Club and the 21 Repeater Group, participated at a sophisticated-looking site on the East Side of Bixler Lake.

The contest started at 1 p.m. on Saturday and concluded at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

By noon on Sunday, local radio operators had heard from all 48 states in the continental United States.

"We actually talked to Alaska (Saturday) but it was before we started" the contest, Albion's Tim Ryman said.

According to Ryman, the ARRL competition is more than just a fun quest to see who can record all 50 states. If there was a communication outage in the country, amateur radio operators could be the only link to other states and the outside world.

The radio operators are limited to use of emergency power, so they ran their operation through generators and not through the electricity available at the park.

Local operators were able to communicate beyond Earth on Sunday morning when they linked up

Tired and well connected. -- *K8IAT*

W6GGF -- Jul 21, 2004 02:31 ET



40M Moxon up 25ft

Great fun and better results this year! 40 meter Moxon up 25ft was productive as well as W6RNL's 20M portable moxon design. Lots of participation this year and great results from chief op K6VVA. -- *N7FF*



20M Moxon up 25ft



K6VVA at his best!



KD6CJX, our camp cook, taking a well deserved rest!



NTSer K6WWS and UHFer KA6AUR actively at it on 6 meters!



AD6ID and AA6MV team up on 20M Phone!

W4WRO -- Jul 19, 2004 20:14 ET



The Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society (SCARS), founded in 2004, operated this year's Field Day at Paulding Meadows Park in Dallas, Georgia. Paulding County is a very historic area located about 25 air miles Northwest of Atlanta. SCARS is an organization of amateurs dedicated to helping in time of emergency, and to encouraging and training new hams for the future. We have a wide area of communication interests from CW to Digital, from building and educating, to just PLAIN OLD having fun. We love to eat and show our skills of communications. Did I mention, "We LOVE to eat"? SCARS members took special interest in our 1ST Field Day by demonstrating exotic modes experienced by few amateurs, such as PSK31, ATV, SSTV, and APRS. For many, it was a hands-on introduction to alternative ways of communicating. There was also the use of solar panels to recharge batteries in the field, while operating under emergency conditions. In addition, we tried satellite operations with the help of KG4ARS. Participants with no satellite experience got to hear their own signals coming back through "Amateur Birds" for the first time. Antennas at Field Day can be great fun, but large arrays and towers can take a long time to erect. That's why we kept it simple with dipoles fed with ladder line, into manual tuners. This gave each HF station multi-band capability with a minimum of setup time and effort. Again, an



Our most famous club member, Patty Loveless (KD4WUJ), helped Michael Sparks an up-and-coming Jr. OP at the GOTA station.



ARRL Georgia Section Manager, Susan Swiderski (AF4FO) husband, Mike (K4HBI, OO Coordinator, GA SEC), stopped by to check us out. (Dave K4DMF'S Hummer as backdrop)



Ron WB3ILX making a 2-way SSTV contact with W4UG. This year we set our sites on 2A battery with a GOTA station (KF4RPQ) that scored QSOs using SSTV, PSK31 and SSB.

experience emulating a real emergency situation. Field Day in a public park means you get a lot of traffic from curious folks who may be potentially interested in amateur radio. Often the only invitation necessary is to see hams having fun practicing their emergency preparedness. We also invited guest operators. This gave non-club amateurs in our community a wide selection of operating experiences and fellowship. (It brought out experienced CW folks like K4KB, N4YDX, K4DVJ and KE4GBE). This year we set our sites on 2A battery with a GOTA station (KF4RPQ) that scored QSOs using SSTV, PSK31 and SSB. The main 2A stations were under the banner of W4WRO and operated CW and SSB. We had guest officials like Paulding County Sheriff, Bruce Harris. Also, ARRL Georgia Section Manager, Susan Swiderski (AF4FO) husband, Mike (K4HBI, OO Coordinator, GA SEC) and Chris Wilkie (W1LKE Assistant District Emergency Coordinator for the National Weather Service in Georgia) came by to say hello, and to celebrate the Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society's first public event. Our most famous club member, Patty Loveless (KD4WUJ), helped the up-and-coming youth at the GOTA station. Thanks to all of our operators this year: W4WRO, W4JFL, K4DMF, WB3ILX, WB4QOJ, KF4RPQ, KG4NZA, KG4ARS, K4DVJ, KG4NFL, KD4WUJ, N4YDX, K4KB, KE4GBE, N4JRS, and last but not least BEA WEST (Our Secretary simply known as KMOM). Also, a host of visitor hams and non-hams as well. A GREAT TIME was had by all, and young folks (aka. future hams) were exposed to the fascinating world of Amateur Radio. We're already planning for next year! -- *WB4QOJ*



Elected Official's stopped by; our County Sheriff Bruce Harris dropped by at the GOTA Station. " No Sheriff you cannot call a patrol car on 40 meter SSB ".



Ron WB3ILX and Bea (KMOM) fix up a BIG DINNER on Saturday night. Food is fun after calling CQ FD for hours and hours.





Nigel KG4ARS brought in the Solar Cells to charge up the batteries. He had to hold that solar cell all weekend HI HI.



The " The King of Simplex on VHF " Gill KF4ZNG came by and said; " That Breakfast was Good Eaten "



Sean W4JFL and Al KF4RPQ work hard on the SSB station to rack up points and log.



Ed K4DVJ shows that " 2 fingers make up CW a dit and dah " or are both those fingers just stuck from to much keyer. Emory W4WRO is trying his best to pull one out of the pile-up.



The Silver Comet ARS had a great time for our 1ST FD. Thanks to all that operated and all that just dropped by to say hello. We had a great time and are looking forward to more fun as the years go by. Come and see us if you are in the Atlanta area and stop by our web site at www.silvercometARS.COM

W4IT -- Jul 19, 2004 17:18 ET

Greer Amateur Radio Club, Lake Robinson, Verne Smith Park, Greer, SC

Friday evening set up required mask, fins and snorkels. It rained over 2 inches the first hour. By dark we had the tower up and guyed. Saturday was a different story! Saturday morning we had the TH6DX yagi up along with the dipoles. We worked the satellite on the 2nd pass and had a FB P5 ATV two way transmission with N4AK who was about 20 miles away! We worked all states and ended up with over 860 confirmed contacts. The club and its Field Day participants had a great time. Many non licensed visitors visited and were quite impressed. Thanks ARRL for sponsoring a great contest!

73 de Greer Amateur Radio Club -- *W4IT*

KK4BQ -- Jul 20, 2004 12:52 ET



Gretchen (KG4UXZ) at the mic!

While our operation was quite small this year, (4 ops), we had fun and it was certainly good practice and "radio time". We look forward to a larger and more intense effort next year for the "Salkehatchie Amateur Radio Society" here in Barnwell, SC. 73 to all!
-- *N4TSS*



Fred (AA4FO) raking 'em in!



Tim (N4TSS) trying to stay awake while on 6M!

N2WDS -- Jul 18, 2004 12:07 ET



Another great Field Day. We operated 1B from WNY section. N2WDS and N2XPG made a total of 188 contacts with a little help from our daughter KB2TFB, who dropped by for a few hours Saturday night.

Our rig was a Kenwood TS-50, and the antenna was a G5RV up at 30 feet.

The wx could had been more user friendly temperature wise, with Saturday's high only 60 degrees and a stiff north breeze to boot.

No visits from Murphy, unless he and mother nature were in ka-hoots with the cool wx.

**KB2TFB at the mic...another FD convert!
She already has her calendar marked for
next year.**



N2XPG racking up the contacts!

We are looking forward to 2005, with a strong possibility operating as 1A or 2A with our daughter and may be one of our sons participating.

73, -- N2WDS



**Sadie the "wonder dog" with N2WDS taking
a turn at the mic.**

W4ANK -- Jul 19, 2004 07:11 ET

The Trident Amateur Radio Club (TARC) of Charleston, SC, held it's annual Field Day at a new site:

Northwoods Park North Charleston, SC

This site afforded us the absolute luxury of flush toilets and running water.

TARC operated as a 2A entry with power from generators and a solar charged battery system. 26 Members and Amateur friends participated in this event. We also had exhibits from:

North Charleston Fire Department 2 Fire Engines Fire Safety / Hurricane Safety Trailer



Alex, KR1ST, his XYL Jennifer, KG4KFV and Charles, KG4KCT (no relation) taking a break.



The tower mechanism is of Mac, KF4GLE's design. It utilizes a hinged tower base, anchored by the passenger side wheel. A second platform, anchored by the driver side wheel, holds a pole with an electric winch, for raising/lowering the tower.

Charleston County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

American Red Cross The local chapter provides our Club meeting room

Charleston County Emergency Communications Van

We had visits from TV stations Channel 2, WCBD and Channel 5, WCSC which resulted in spots airing on the Saturday, 5PM news programs of each station. We also had multiple radio announcements from WSC AM 760 along with the Community Bulletin Board of Comcast Cable. Additionally, an article ran prior to Field Day with Amateur Radio as a general theme and included a mention of Field Day.

In spite of low public attendance (first time at this site), we are considering our 2004 Field Day to be a resounding success. -- *KG4RUL*



Mel, W4MEL is preparing the Bobtail Curtain for setup.



Hoisting the tower with the Tri-Band beam into place.



HF CW operations were conducted from the van.



The ATV Transmitter setup focused on the HF Phone operation station.



HF Phone, GOTA, ATV, APRS and VHF/UHF Phone operations were conducted in the main tent.



A look at our Public Information Tent. The Monitor for our ATV Demo was located here.



Long may our banner wave. DARN! One of these days, I've got to get the call changed on the banner.



Leslie, KF4DNX, and her harmonics Miranda and Ariel, made sure that everyone knew where we were!



This is Charles, KG4KCT, on the prowl for more contacts. Oh, to be young and have that level of energy again!



**Mr. Demille, we're ready for our closeup!
Charlie, K4AOT getting it all on tape.**



**Welcome to the TARC Field Day 2004!
Visible at the front is our Information Tent
with the Operating Tent in the background.**



**They say Mac, KF4GLE can snore in Morse:
C snore Q snore C snore Q snore**



**HF Phone in the wee hours of the morning!
Mac, KF4GLE operating and Herschel,
KD4EUT logging.**



Dinnertime! Everyone is chowing down on Mac, KF4GLE's barbequed Chicken.



The Charleston County CERT Team exhibit.



The North Charleston Fire Department, Fire and Hurricane Safety Trailer.



The North Charleston Fire Department trucks.



The American Red Cross exhibit.



Charlie, AE4UX, SEC; John, N4SJW DEC5 and Vince, KI4AOC, EC Berkeley County. Good guys to have on your side if the worst happens!



Ed, W4NSC operating the APRS Demo and GOTA stations.

W2YRC -- Jul 16, 2004 22:56 ET



The Yonkers Amateur Radio Club once again had its Field Day setup at Redmond Field in Yonkers. The weather was perfect and it was great to see such a good turn out of both members and non-members. This year again Rich KC2HZW provided some great antennas that gave our signal a great "footprint". We were also visited by, Frank Fallon N2FF, Hudson Division Director who has always been a good friend to YARC.



Chaos in action

Despite some tricky moments such as our 40 meter beam falling into a tree the antennas were up shortly after 1800 UTC and we were on the way. Good food, laughs and a kinship not only amongst ourselves but with those stations we contacted, was the order of the day. We were proud to see that many of our new hams who do not have HF privileges were so enthusiastic about radio and we hope that soon we'll see them at a VE session upgrading.

Of course Murphy paid us a visit. Besides the antenna falling into a tree there was a small mis-understanding as to the length of our event with the local police department. We explained to an officer who had told us to shut down, because it was after dark and the park was closed on Saturday. Well we explained to the officer that we had gotten permission weeks in



She almost up!

advance and that our permit allowed us to stay. At some point Emily AC2V reminded the officer that she was a taxpayer and there for he was working for us. With that the next thing out of her mouth to the officer was " YOU"RE FIRED".

Well despite that we did prove we were allowed to stay and were able to continue our Field Day event. We hope that Emily AC2V will be on parole during next year's event so she can join us. Thank you to those who participated and look forward to seeing or hearing you folks next year. 73 -- W2CZ



There she is ...God Bless America!



**Johnnie KC2EXA and Lionell KC2LLL
(behind him) put some elbow grease into it**



Efrem W2CZ (me) seems to have gotten a kick out of this



All these old guys sure make a lot of noise



**Where we would we be without the YL's
Anna KC2LJT (standing) and Emily AC2V**



Would you trust a guy with that smile? Tony N2WIE



(from L to R) Johnnie KC2EXA, Darwin KC2CMQ and Steve



What to do after all the antennas, radios and food is done....Johnnie KC2EXA has an idea



Christina (John's NS2M's little harmonic)



(From L to R) Gabe KB2MAR, John NS2M, Lionell KC2LLL and Efrem W2CZ



Rich KC2HZW the antenna man!



N8MDH and W8ZFR wishing you "Peace Out!"

Field Day was a big success. 50 states in 10 hours, 44 minutes -- for a bunch of non-contesters! Check out <http://www.qcen.org/fd2004pics.html> for more pictures! -- *N8TFD*



N8MDH and W8ZFR wishing you "Peace Out!"

WW2DEM -- Jul 16, 2004 19:34 ET



WW2DEM FIELD DAY SITE

THIS IS THE SITE OF THE 2004 FIELD DAY SITE USED BY THE WW2DEM (WORLD WAR 2 DESTROYER ESCORT MUSEUM) CREW. THE USS SLATER IS THE LAST SURVIVING WW2 DESTROYER ESCORT REMAINING AFLOAT. IT IS BERTHED IN ALBANY, NY AND IS OPEN TO VISITORS (SEE WWW.USSSLATER.ORG FOR SCHEDULES). SOME OF THE AUTHENTIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN RESTORED AND IS OPERATIONAL. -- *N2LL*

KC4KFC -- Jul 17, 2004 14:29 ET



The modern station, using IC 706MKII, Heil headset. Antenna was a 80M doublet.



The "old-time" station, using Kenwood TS-599D Twins, Astatic D104 Microphone, Johnson Matchbox, and a 40M loop.



CQ Field Day KC4 Kentucky Fried Chicken!

I haven't participated in Field Day in several years. But this year I decided to do Field Day with my 13 year old son Ian and my brother, Mark, KC4KFC. Using some Frequent Flyer Miles, we traveled from Philadelphia to Nashville on Friday to participate in Field Day.

The next morning we got up and put up a 80M loop, and a 80M doublet, both fed with 450 Ohm ladder line. Stations were prepared. The first station was a modern rig, an Icom IC-706MkII, with a Heil boom mic and headset. The second rig was a throwback to earlier days, using a Kenwood TS-599D Twins, Astatic D104, and a Johnson Matchbox. This station was delegated to 40M only using the 80M loop.

We were logging using the N3FJP Field Day program - excellent program. Easy to use and very intuitive. We tried to set it up using a peer-to-peer network, but Murphy bit, and I locked myself out of my laptop. After a couple of hurried and desperate emails to my companies IT people via my Blackberry, I was able to get into the laptop - but without network capabilities.

My son Ian did logging duties. We tried to get him to operate the rig, but he was a bit shy. He stayed with it the whole time, staying up late until we snagged KL7 and WH6 on 40M (about 4am).

Propagation was excellent on all bands, concentrating primarily on 15M, 20M and 40M. The workhorse band was 40M, where we got most of our sections. The 40M loop worked well, but had an apparent null to the NE. It was fun watching the band lengthen as morning came. We tried 80M, but the QRN was a bit much. We tried for WAS over the weekend, but missed NM and VT. We missed a clean sweep by only those two sections. Where was VT and NM?

We, KB0FHP (me), my brother (KC4KFC) and my son Ian had a great time working Field Day 2004, and

KC4KFC (Mark) and my son Ian working some new sections on 40M (before we got my laptop working).

plan to do it next year - perhaps as QRP. Ian worked hard this year and maybe we will be 3B next year with my son at another rig! -- *KB0FHP*



The end to a good Field Day. See you next year!

W9MKS -- Jul 17, 2004 13:00 ET

This was the second year which the Starved Rock Radio Club dedicated resources during field day to hold a VE session. Also, I was surprised to see 50 bonus points given just for submitting our stats via the web. ARRL, PLEASE consider giving at least 50 points for holding a VE session during the setup or operation time of field day. 73 and thanks Joe kb9ezz -- *KB9EZZ*

W4HAW -- Jul 17, 2004 07:44 ET



Warm Sunday Morning, shot of the tower trailer looking towards Lake Worth.

CQ Field Day,

Hi All, Murphy hit again, guess he doesn't like FD. Our posting just vanished after being here for 4 days (Go Old Murphy LOL).

West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Club is on of the oldest radio clubs in South FLorida starting in the 30s. I have worked many Field Day's since my 20s with Manny W4SS SK and Dover but I never managed one myself (Whew what a Rush!).

We set up 4 towers 2 40ft and a 50ft out in the Mound Circle Field and a 30ft at the GOTA station. The 50ft one is a portable trailer tower setup that we haul our towers and rigging on. Built by Kg4CWC.



Trailer Tower built by KG4CWC

Three RV's with 15-20-40-6-Sat-2-440 MTR. We had a great group of people help out and setup up, operate and tear down.

Our GOTA station had KG4IMS Paula's daughter on there and my daughter's on there making contacts in the Virgin IIs. and Texas and other locations.

There was so much food this year that we could have feed twice the amount of people we had thanks to our great Food Captian and her staff.



Food Setup and Ham Talk, KE4PWE's APRS and WX TRacker in background.

I think the photos show the most, Iv'e forgotten some of what we wrote in here but we all had a great time at doing like we do every year, and Mound Circle is in John Prince Park in Lake Worth, FL. you can see a photo from a plane covering the 1999 or 2000 it's a great shot of the area. <http://www.qsl.net/wpbarc> . And thanks again to the folks that came out a participated at the West Palm Beach ARC Field Day. Check Out the other photos at <http://www.qsl.net/wpbarc/2004>

73 -- *KE4PWE*



Rex KF4FAJ and Paula KG4IMS Daughter on 20 Meter talking to New Mexico, getting fresh operators into the hobby.



Howie BBG operating those Pileups...



Flying the Colors.....73 All

W4MN -- Jul 15, 2004 21:15 ET



Had a great turn out and a lot of fun, best Field Day yet! -- N2IXX

Elizabeth KG4CEZ with the Governor of South Carolina and City of Columbia Mayor's proclamations of Amateur Radio Week!



Paul K4IRT and Robert KF4JOD cooking for a lot of hungry hams



The Columbia Amateur Radio Clubs Emergency Trailer at the Field Day Site.



After setting up we chow down



Elizabeth and Jim N2ZZ our South Carolina SM with the Governor's Proclamation

N2JFS -- Jul 15, 2004 22:45 ET



KC2HQH, Gabe finishing what we did not succeed with bow-and-arrow.

This year was different for the Halifax Emergency Communication Krewes. We decided to visit a nearby mountain top. A marvelous view together with a good radio site were the deciding factors. The fact that there were no driveable road was not considered a hindrance until "feta complee". It took us six hours to log up all the equipment we decided to use. Needless to say, it was a relatively tired krewes that finished the set-up at 6:30PM on Saturday. Another thing we learned was to never put a tent in the open on a mountain top. It is windy, very windy. A clear sky contributed to a record cool night, 40°, which did not sit good in a tent during sleep-over. Now we know for the next year. -- *N2JFS*



N21JFS, Hans and KC2HQH, Gabe after a successful field day.



Our LW nicely hanging in the trees.

K0HW -- Jul 15, 2004 22:17 ET

2004 was another GREAT Field Day. I was unable to get started at 1800Z due to a commitment to church, which is, located about 1/4 mile from our 40 acre farm. I finally got started about 2300Z, took time out for something to eat and then found the going great on 10 Meters.

I set up as a portable location about 200 yards from the home QTH. I had a HyGain HyTower, which was almost 40 years old that I put back together. It was pushed up and guyed with rope in three directions. I added 16 radials cut for 75 Meters and pounded in three ground rods at the base of the HyTower each eight foot long. This was all done late Friday afternoon as I was



Field Day Location on Driveway

busy at the church benefit auction most of the day Saturday.

I only operated SSB this year; as I was not set up to do RTTY and CW from the motorhome. I used an ICOM 706 MK II G hooked to the 12 volt supply in the motor home and then ran the generator in the motorhome to keep the battery charged and provide power for the air conditioner.

I usually try the motorhome generator for half the time and another external 5 kW generator for the other half. That way I know they both work.

It is amazing how many stations drop off the air at 1800Z on Sunday it is really hard to find stations other than 1D. I keep telling myself this year after year but never seem to pull it all together to get the first 24 hours in.

I had wanted to fly my nine-foot delta wing kite with 500 to 800 feet of wire to see how it would work but threatening clouds in the sky when the wind was blowing prevented me from trying it out. I will try again in 2005. -- *KOHW*



HyGain HyTower

K8PI -- Jul 15, 2004 20:28 ET

K8PI Field Day Report

Field day for the Dial Radio Club was a tremendous success. We had the biggest crowd in attendance on Saturday for the picnic and visit. We had the Butler County VHF members joining with us this year and that allowed us work with some new people. And the weather was absolutely perfect. We again located in Smith Park in Middletown, Ohio. This park is filled each weekend with all kinds of sports activities. So we had plenty of visitors



The N8HP 40 meter vertical ladder.



KF8PD getting ready on the phone station



N8HP and N8LRN putting out the big signal on the 40 meter ladder vertical.

The setup on Friday went so well, that we were finished long before dark. We had only minor things to address on Saturday morning before the start. The reduction in number of telescoping towers to the two we set up, helped save our strength and time. The switch to light weight tarp canopies instead of the army tent saved our backs. The radio command trailer that Bob, N8TVU, brought was the center of attention. Wow, did anybody count how many antennas were on top of that trailer. We need one of those. He even had satellite TV. (Bob is the Butler County ARES EC and also into search and rescue.)

The only downside to the event was that we will never know our exact score. At 7 am they were making contacts on the two phone stations, when some glitch happened. They looked at the network log to discover that our number of phone contacts went from 375 to 3. The log database had gotten corrupted. We don't know if the network caused the trouble or what, but the end result is loss of all contacts before 7 am Sunday. So, starting from scratch, we slowly worked our way up to 60+ contacts before field day was over. Most stations we tried to work after 7 am said we had already worked them.

The CW station was an example of how to plan and schedule. This year a hand full of operators were able to keep the station running all 24 hours. They finished with a total of 690 contacts in the log. It's a good thing that they were not networked with the phone stations. Good job.

The VHF station was in a good position this year. We mounted the VHF/UHF beams on N8TVU's pneumatic tower. Mount beams, add air, that's all it took. This got them a great deal higher in the air than in the past. This station made 43 contacts when 6 meters opened up Saturday evening.

We had many visitors to the site and there were some that are now interested in getting their license.

The most interesting thing was the success with the



KD8W and K8CI tuning in the CW tent

'Extension Ladder Antenna'. N8HP built this 40 meter vertical antenna out of a 28' extension ladder. It was standing on a piece of foam insulated wood and guyed with rope. At the top was a short piece of angle stock to bring the length to resonate on 40 meters. Boy that antenna was efficient. We were working stations left and right on 40. Even had a pile up going several times. -- *W8EH*



N8TVU in the ARES command trailer, fully equipped for action.



This is the real reason we all show up at field day -- food



Of course behind the good food is one of the cooks - W8ULC



A shot of the outside of the command trailer. Notice all the mobile whips mounted on the roof....

VE5MA -- Jul 15, 2004 13:52 ET



The home of the 40 meter station

The Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club once again visited the Sukanen Ship Pioneer Village and Museum 8 miles south of Moose Jaw Saskatchewan to enjoy the rigours of Field Day 2004. Two stations were set up, one on 40 mtr was the club system from the Western Development Museum [our home base] and the other system for 20 mtr was from the QTH of VE5TRF. The weather cooperated, well, except for a flash storm that dropped water, hail and electricity from the heavens for abt an hour. Undaunted, as soon as the clouds moved on, we were back on air. The site was visited by many tourists visiting the museum, they all stopped and chated, and were enlightned on the hobby of "ham" radio. Saturday nite we had a BBQ and social time, accompanied by music provided



The beam almost ready for attachment. L>R
VE5TRF, BBBTRY[HIDDEN], LEO

by Kelly VE5KJS. [thanks kelly] To sum things up,
We cant wait till next year! PS WE WISH TO
THANK THE KIND FOLKS AT THE Sukanen Ship
Pioneer Village and Museum FOR THE USE OF
THE BUILDINGS.... -- VE5TRF



The home of the 20 meter station



BEAM AT THE READY



Some last minute tweaks by VE5TRF



**AND ITS OFF TO THE RACES... L=>R
VE5TRF,VE5KJS,VE5LWS,KELLYS MOM
Kelly is a blind amateur who can do circles
around the rest of us when it comes to
amateur radio. THIS LAD IS GOOD!**



**VE5TRY and VE5LEO manning the 40 mtr
station**



One shot of the info booth. The monitor on the left is showing the video "Amateur Radio Today"



some of the old radios in the 40 meter station area



VE5KJS on accordion soothing the masses



And whats field day without the BBQ

KP2AA -- Jul 15, 2004 13:48 ET



View toward the USA from KP2AA.



W1HIJ and N6PEQ lashing down the C19XR.

The Piña Colada Contest Club launched operations under our KP2AA callsign from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, testing out our contest QTH in FD 2004 and having a lot of fun operating in the 4A/QRP/Battery class for the first time. This was the third FD for PCCC, the first being NP4A from Puerto Rico in 2002 and COØUS from east of Havana in 2003.

In making the decision to go QRP, we determined to concentrate on antennas. A full size 3-element 20-meter Yagi, full size 3-element 15-meter Yagi, a 3-element 10-meter Yagi, a 2-element wire beam for 40, and the killer antenna of all time, a rotatable 15-meter double-extended-Zepp, all found their way on top of stackable military mast, despite many interruptions for hourly dips in the pool which was conveniently located (within 20 feet of the operating positions!) on the deck of the QTH of NP2MR/NP2MV, our gracious hosts. The final antenna (which will become a permanent fixture of KP2AA) was a Force-12 C19XR that had just arrived on site and was built and installed on 28 feet of the military mast as a test. Radios ranged from a Yaesu FT-817, through FT-857s and FT-897s, to an FT-1000MP Mk-V Field (which will also become a permanent fixture), all cranked down to a measured 5 Watts.



Chip, K7JA with the 20 CW Yagi. The foreground slope is about 25 degrees!



K6PEQ, K7JA, and W1HIJ racking up QSOs in the evening sans bugs.



Dan, N6PEQ piled up over a thousand QSOs on 20 Phone, thanks to the high-test brownies.

Our advance team consisted of Bill, W1HIJ and Emily, KF6SGV, who went down a week early to ensure adequate supplies (electrical and liquid) on site. We were going to run on batteries, which obviously we would not carry onto an airplane, and Bill reports that the look on the face of the employee at the Western Auto store on St. Croix was priceless when Bill said he wanted eight Group 24 auto batteries! It took several minutes before he sidled up to Bill after the sale was done and asked quietly, "Can I ask what you need EIGHT batteries for?"

As always, Murphy's ugly head was in sight a lot. The most scary occurrence was discovering, three days before Field Day, that the 1100 feet of coax we had shipped down had disappeared somewhere between Florida and St. Croix. Fortunately, with the help of John Ellis, NP2B (SM for the VI) we were able to gather up enough coax to handle the problem, but it made for some nervous moments. The help of NP2B was in the finest tradition of Hams helping Hams, and we were delighted to have him aboard!

Unlike last year, conditions from the Caribbean were superb, with low A and K indices. The contest started, and after a few quick search and pounce contacts on 15 CW, I felt like I was loud despite the five watts. I found a clear spot, called CQ, and started running stations across the United States and Canada! This was our experience on all bands above 14 MHz, although 40 was quite tough with the QRP. Solution: more antenna next year! Twenty meters remained open all night, with 15 only closing for about three hours. Eighty meters was useless; we are just too far from the Mainland to make much of an impact there. And we were disappointed not to have a band opening on 6, because we had been hearing the FY7THF beacon before FD started (of course!).

And because we were so far from the Mainland, there was only one 2 meter QSO. But it was with NA1SS from the International Space Station on a southerly pass, and that was an exciting addition to our log!

In comparing our possibilities in 2004 versus 2003,



Dave, NP2MR picks off QSOs in his first FD as our GOTA operator.



Janet, KL7MF wonders why she ended up on 40 Phone. . .



And W1HIJ wonders what the crew at W2GD is doing at this exact moment!

we had guessed that our location, on the side of a north-facing ridge, had to be at least 10 dB better than our flat inland QTH last year. And conditions had to be at least 3 dB better than the 2003 wipe-out. This 13 dB, we reasoned, would make up for the power difference between 100 Watts and 5 Watts. We ended up with basically the same number of QSOs this year (with 5 Watts!), so it would seem our calculations were correct, to the tune of something on the order of 26,000 points! Location, location, location!!!

Fortunately, we had no insects attacking us this year, we learned a lot, and we believe that this QTH has a ton of potential, especially for ARRL DX, Sweepstakes, and WAE. As W1HIJ observed, any QTH that has frigate birds soaring overhead is a good QTH!

Many thanks to all who heard our peanut whistles, and we look forward to even more FD fun in 2005.

73, -- K7JA



K7JA works NA1SS on 145 MHz FM. It was a dirty job, but someone had to do it.



Next year, we plan on taking advantage of the many Natural Power bonus opportunities on St. Croix!

W4SS -- Jul 14, 2004 22:46 ET



PALMS WEST ARC OPERATES 1st FIELD DAY AT DIVISION OF FORESTRY FIRE TOWER IN WESTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Newly formed Palms West ARC of Loxahatchee, FL held their first FD at the last surviving fire tower in South Florida. Using the call W4SS, honoring the memory of SK Manny Papandreas, courtesy of the Palm Beach Amateur Radio Council, the club operated FD as a 2A entry. Everyone had a great time & learned a lot in the process. Looking forward to FD 2005. -- WA4AW

Jeff, WA4AW, Rob, KS4EC & Tom, W2TMT
at the Public info booth



Florida Division of Forestry Fire Tower at
Loxahatchee Site of Palms West ARC FD
2004



W4SS-Palms West ARC FD 2004

W5YA -- Jul 14, 2004 16:42 ET



Fred, KT5X, explains station capability to
Chama city councilman, Ron Russom.

Two man team (class B) of Steve, WD9FJL, and Fred, KT5X, for our fifth year together set up at 8,600 feet near Chama, New Mexico, on a private ranch. Living amid the clouds can be exciting, sometimes too exciting, as we lost a radio to static discharge. Our modest antennas did stand up to forty mile per hour gusts and we collected lots of CW QSO's. TNX, and hope to work you again next year! -- *KT5X*



Chama Valley below, view is East



Steve, WD9FJL, putting finishing touches on 15 mtr beam



Steve, behind, and Fred workign 20 mtr CW early... B4 the lightning 8-[



Storm changes idealic setting in a moment

W8LX -- Jul 13, 2004 21:43 ET



The W8LX Battery QRP Site (NZ8R, W8LX, K1LT) Boy, thinks sure look a lot wilder out here this year.
-- *NZ8R*

KC2MHF/N2ZWO -- Jul 13, 2004 21:29 ET



Took this picture of Hank KB2VLP of The Fort Herkimer Amateur Radio Association working 6 meters into the wee hours of the night. Club callsign was KB2UYI with 5 transmitters and one GOTA.
-- *KC2MHF*

W7IAG -- Jul 13, 2004 20:21 ET



The Mercer Island Fire Department lending us a much welcomed assist in raising the antenna.



Chris Tubbs, Fire Battalion Chief of the Mercer Island Fire Department, coordinating the arrival of the ladder truck.



Wayne KD7NJW, Bill KF7PB, and Carter W7IAG fueling the generator.

This was the Mercer Island Radio Operator's (MIRO) first Field Day operating under the call of W7IAG. Two of the participants had Field Day experience, but for most it was a new and exciting part of Amateur Radio to enjoy. The City of Mercer Island allowed us to use one of the public parks (Luther Burbank) and even gave us permission to drive our vehicles down on the service road for unloading and loading, and also to camp out overnight so that we wouldn't have to pack up Saturday evening. The Mercer Island Office of Emergency Preparedness loaned us two of their portable tents.

We operated 3A-WWA mostly on 40 and 80 meter phone. We were fortunate to have a two-element SteppIR beam that the folks at FluidMotion loaned us (they being just up the road from Mercer Island in Issaquah). We felt a little nervous about raising the borrowed antenna on our 40 foot telescoping mast, so we asked the Mercer Island Fire Department for some safety assistance. They brought their 128 foot ladder truck and had the antenna airborne in a jiffy. We realize that this is not a convenience we would have in a true emergency situation, but decided in favor of our own safety over playing it "for real".

The mast was too unstable at 40 feet, so we dropped it down to 30 feet for operation. The sad news is that in our rush to get the antenna in the air, so as not to keep the MIFD idle, we were unable to check it out on the ground. As a result, it did not function - probably due to incorrect wiring of the stepper motors. We also had a "shorty" G5RV for 40 meters and up, and an 80 meter inverted vee NVIS (all bands with a tuner).

Power was supplied by W7AIG's 4 Kw generator which we located about 100 feet away from the operation tents. Our claimed score was 312. Not much, but for a first time effort, we sure had a lot of fun. Participants were: Carter Powell W7IAG, Bill Ellis KF7PB, Dave Cook WA0TTN, Deiter Kaetel WA7AWS, Mark Gaponoff N7NQ, Wayne Gardner KD7NJW, Tom Gaffney W7KTO, David Giulliani WA6PXX, Chuck Kovacs NA7SA, and guest



The Field Day site, Luther Burbank Park on Mercer Island, WA.

participant Harry Warner N6VFS from Bellevue. And a very special thanks to Bob Storwick K7RS for the use of his IC-737 transceiver, Don Sandstrom W7VXS for his antenna tuner, and fine folks at FluidMotion for their two-element SteppIR antenna.

Did I mention we had a great time? This was a first for most of the participants, but a wonderful time was had by first-timers as well as the old hands!

-- *WA0TTN*



Dee Totten, Emergency Manager for the City of Mercer Island.



City Councilman Don Grausz and Harry N6VFS.



Dave WA0TTN, Deiter WA7AWS, and Strohm (guest).



Chuck NA7SA.



Wayne KD7NJW and Mark N7NQ.



Dave WA0TTN, Deiter WA7AWS, David WA6PXX, and Bill KF7PB.

W1NVT / W1PU -- Jul 13, 2004 03:44 ET



K1KD looks satisfied after a great hour on 20m SSB.

Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont W1NVT (W1PU) - 2A. Williston, Vermont FN34

Our goal this year was to increase participation and to cut down on the insanity known as antenna setup. We usually have no trouble making lots of contacts and this year was no exception.

Setup was breeze! We had lots of help and two teams worked together to get antennas up quickly. We hauled 3 towers and 13 antennas into the air and had the heavy stuff up and tested by 6 on Friday. And, except for a balky tuner at the GOTA station, everyone was ready to roll Saturday morning, hours before the start.



It was wonderful to have a full complement of phone, CW, VHF and GOTA operators for the entire weekend. Getting the new folks interested in operating at Field Day has been tough over the years. This year, a number of people did some heavy recruiting and their hard work paid off! The GOTA station made more contacts than ever, and had a heavy emphasis on digital modes.

After years of doing Field Day, you would think that you have seen everything. We had a new visitor this

The big signal from W1NVT was the result of 20m and 15m monobanders at 50 and 60 feet.



1. Section Manager AA1SU hard at work promoting ham radio in Vermont. 2. AA1SU demonstrating telepathic CW operating.

year - an intense storm ripped through the area with 40+ MPH winds, taking down trees, knocking out power and even resulting in a fatality several miles away. We kept our emergency power up and continued to make contacts through the storm, although many of us were pressed into service holding tents down! The towers didn't even move. Big guy anchors to hold down the tents are on order for next year!

The final results: 3700 QSO's, 11000+ points, 30 participants, 20 visitors and nobody blew away in the storm (as far as we know...)

After a great Field Day with great conditions, it was topped off with a visit from not one, but two local TV news crews, resulting in some great publicity for amateur radio in our area! -- *WISJ*



N1YWB working the 6 meter opening.



W1SJ scrambling for an SO-50 satellite contact. KB1IWK on 40 meters at left. N1OSJ and W1MAD on VHF at right.



WPTZ News Channel 5's Kelly Reardon interviewing AA1SU at Field Day, with N1OSJ behind the camera.

VA3DF -- Jul 12, 2004 20:11 ET



Operated 1B this year from a local park called Rattlesnake Point. I don't know if their have ever been any rattlers at this location but I can vouch for the fact there is a healthy racoon population! Those little bandits can sure chatter when they want to..

As usual, lots of fun despite the fact that the temperature dropped down on Saturday evening - but that's just an incentive to work harder isn't it?

Only one visit from Murphy this year - could not find my head phones anywhere - until I did the tear down and located them in my laptop's case? See you next year. -- *VA3DF*





Darrell, K9AIH contemplating the A-4S, G5RV, and Homebrew 160 meter vertical.



From the top: 1296, 144, 432, 222, & 50 Mhz Yagis

N9TTX Field Day 2004

Two "veterans", two "newbies", part-time ops/coaches, four portable towers, scrounged coax, a good generator, lots of aluminum, wire, and steel, and plenty of enthusiasm makes for a successful Field Day...and the weather wasn't bad either!

The N9TTX setup crew consisting of Myself (N9TTX), Darrell (K9AIH - ex KB9LVK), and Christian (KC9FVT) arrived at the field at 6 am Saturday and proceeded to assemble the yagis and to erect the towers. Everything went together well, and while Darrell and I were getting the third tower in the air, Chris went to get Mary (KC9FVS) to help put up the portable carport op-station. Once everything was in the air, and guyed down (including the carport), we did an on-air test with the local church (the owners of the field we were using), to make sure we had no public address system interference. The test went well, with no interference across any of the bands (160 meters through 1296 Mhz minus the 902 Mhz band) we were running.

Darrell and I had participated in Field Days before, while Chris and Mary had never done so before, so we were not sure how smooth things were going to go. The planning and on-site organization helped, as we got on the air between 18:00 and 18:30 hours.

The stations consisted of a Yaesu FT-101ZD, a Kenwood TS-2000, and an Icom 730 for multi-band HF. We had a Ranger 2950DX and small amp for a dedicated 10-meter station. The power supply for the amp could only deliver enough juice to drive it to just shy of 150 watts...which was OK as this kept us in the low power class.

The VHF station consisted of a Yaesu FT-736R for the 144, 222, 432, and 1296 Mhz bands. We also ran a Ranger 5054DX for the 50 Mhz band.



The VHF stack up and ready to run...yes, the 144 Mhz is a bit off.



Darrell at the helm of the 20 meter station.



Mary, KC9FVS, and "coach" Steve, KA9OMY, at the controls of the 10-meter dedicated station.

For HF work, the antennas the "farm" consisted of an A-3, an A-4S for triband work. An Antron-99 for the 10 meter station, homebrew 160-meter dipole and vertical antennas, a homebrew 40-meter dipole, and a G5RV.

For VHF, the antennas consisted of homebrew for 50 and 144 Mhz (3 and 14 element respectively), a 25 element K1FO on 432, a 10 element Doppler antenna on 222, and a 35 element M2 antenna on 1296.

I had to run and get the RCI-2950DX (I left it on the table at home), while Steve sat at the site for license class availability. The Field Day shirts came in, and we donned the gear and looked the part for the weekend. All in all, everything seemed to work well, and no other problems were had...other than a few antennas being too close to one another, hence bleedthrough onto the other stations at our site.

Mary was a bit gun shy at first, but Steve (KA9OMY) had stopped up and coached her on what to listen for, and gave her tips on contacting. Afterward, she was jumping into any chair available to make contacts after she got used to operating.

Justin (K9MU) stopped out for a bit of part time work, and "made an opening" on 10 meters. He had a QSO rate of 300 Q's an hour on SSB at one point in time...ouch!

Darrell was pulling in stations on the TS-2000 that the other rigs could not hear. Chris was constantly battling the 10 meter and 20 meter signals blasting through his headphones while he was running the Icom on 15, so he played solitaire for a bit on his computer as well as running around being our photographer with the digital camera.

I ran the low bands on the 101ZD, as well as code on all bands. When Justin came out with his Icom 746 and ran code and phone on the HF bands while I switched to one of the VHF stations and ran that, which worked out well, as six opened up during this



No, I am not grouchy...this is my "trying to pick out code by ear before going to CW-get program" look.



As Chris KC9FVT, dubbed this picture... "The Mini-W0AIH Station."



The Field Day site at Sunset.

time.

Darrell and I worked around the clock, while Chris and Mary left in the early morning hours. Both of them came back on Sunday morning and we finished the day out. Randy (KB9POI) also came out and did some contesting Sunday also. It only started raining right at contest end, so we sat in the carport and talked about the contest until it stopped.

While teardown was happening, the sky cleared, and we had another very nice day...unfortunately we all were tired, so after the homesteads were reached we all slept. We learned a lot, made more contacts than the previous year, had a more organized setup, and we had fun. And that is all that really counts isn't it? See you all next year.

Operators and Helpers:

Dave N9TTX, Darrell K9AIH, Chris KC9FVT, Mary KC9FVS, Justin K9MU, Randy KB9POI, Steve KA9OMC,

See you on the bands. Dave...N9TTX -- *N9TTX*



Justin, K9MU, watching the code scroll by.

W4BKD -- Jul 10, 2004 22:59 ET

The Chipola Amateur Radio Club had an excellent time in the 2004 Field Day activities. We held the event this year at the Jackson Co. EOC in Marianna, Florida, and used the club call W4BKD. In addition to the radio activities, both phone and CW on 80/75, 40, 20, 10, and 6 meters, we had a fish fry for all who attended. Those who operated the most are listed, others came and went. Our Field Day chief was W4ICU Alec, Club President KD4AST Ricky, K4KHV Jimmy, K4WAL Will, WO4J Jeff, K4JSH Scott, Danny KG4NDR, KB4ZJT Bill, KB4AAC Wayne, W4MMA Todd. The weather was rough the first few hours but it cleared and the antennas went up. We didn't set the woods on fire with points, but we had a very good time and are looking forward to next year.

73 Ya'll Jimmy -- *K4KHV*

K4UM -- Jul 11, 2004 10:12 ET

We had a great Field Day! Setup a GOTA station and battery/solar operation.

Check it out here:

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

73! Ed (AD4AX) -- *AD4AX*

NA4K / K4BP -- Jul 11, 2004 07:56 ET

Field Day 2004 broke new ground for the McMinn Co. Amateur Radio Club, Inc. We got to use our new Mobile Communications Trailer for the very first time and it functioned exactly as we had hoped. Also, we made a lot of new friends and renewed a lot of old acquaintances as we had over 70 visitors this year. One of our local volunteer fire department chiefs provided lunch of bar-be-cue chicken, baked potatoes, and baked beans, and a couple of our hams provided breakfast and lunch the



The KF4CFO-MCARC Communications Trailer

next day. Some of our ladies are talking about setting up a club auxiliary to do the "feeding" and fundraising! Many of our folks have said it was the best time they ever had. Looking forward to next year! -- *NA4IT*



Our Field Day Site at Knox Park, Athens, TN



Inside the MCT at 3:00AM!

W9RH -- Jul 11, 2004 02:06 ET

I was able to participate in the Milwaukee Radio Amateur Club Field Day site for a limited time this year, but each successive FD is more enjoyable than the last. I arrived about 6pm on Saturday, and toured the site. We setup on the grounds of Pioneer Village, a re-creation of a village from the pioneering days of Wisconsin and worthy of a visit in its own right even when it isn't Field Day. After looking around at the antennas and stations (we were 5A this year), I noticed that the 10m SSB station had an empty seat but the speaker was alive with signals. It was also conveniently located near the food! I sat down and operated for several hours, filled in a page and a half of log sheets, learned about how to create and use a dupe sheet, and enjoyed myself immensely. Many were surprised at the good conditions on 10m, and how long they persisted (past 10pm). I was able to pause from search-and-pounce and call CQ for about 40 minutes, with never more than 3 minutes between contacts. Hardly qualifies as a pile-up, I know, but it was a first for me. I think I suffered slightly from the orientation of the antenna; lots of 4s in the log. I swear I worked every FD station in Georgia. But also NC, FL, TX, LA and VI. I moved on to 20m later in the evening, but that was harder work even with a rotatable beam. On 10m, I came back to several stations who barely budged the S-meter and was heard, but on 20m even stations that came booming in didn't always seem to hear, and I heard many stations asking for fills. The food was great again this year, and the RF kept the mosquitoes away. I did hear hams talking about bugs .. the VW kind. The only thing missing this year was my daughter Sarah, KB9ZNC, who has been my accomplice at FD but was out of the country this time around. FD has been the highlight of my ham radio year, and I am already looking forward to FD 2005! -- *AB9FH*

WA4UQC -- Jul 10, 2004 10:05 ET



An AWESOME Field Day Location at the Wendell NC public park.

The 2004 TEARA Field Day activities were held in the beautiful settings of the Wendell Public Park. We had 12 operators and the opportunity to demonstrate amateur radio for several new folks from the community. We even had the Wendell Chief of Police's son on the air for his first contacts.

The wx was good for the most part, though we were unable to start setting up on Saturday morning due to rain that was moving out of the area (thankfully!). A COLD wind blew through during the night on Saturday, and made "bundling up" a necessity. We operated 80m through 10m Phone/CW, as well as packet radio on SEDAN and APRS.

The primary station operated under the club call sign of WA4UQC. We used dipole antennas for HF operations, launched up into the trees in the park by AC4UD and his fishing rod. The VHF operations were via a mobile mag-mount antenna stuck to a



Feedline termination being performed by Holt AC4UD and Jimmy K4CMH.

cooking grate from a charcoal grill, and a 2m coaxial dipole that was built 'on site'. The primary operations were powered by 4 deep cycle batteries, that ran us for the entire event without maintenance/charging!

The GOTA station operated under the CSC callsign 'W4EOT', as in W4 Emergency Operations Trailer....pretty neat!. The GOTA trailer is self-contained, so it went on the air quickly. It was powered by a 5kw portable generator, and was very 'miserly' with fuel usage. This is a heck of a portable communications station, built by Ronnie WA4MJF, Sherry KB4EXL, and CSC.



Dipoles being pulled into place by some of the TEARA crew.

We all had a great time, and much was learned for next year's activities. It was a short weekend, and time seemed to pass quickly. As usual, we all had some good laughs, and began to discuss how we could do a better job with emergency communications. Check out our FD info and previous years' FD pictures at <http://www.TEARA.org> . -- *WB4IUY*



Antenna Fishin'



Here's our Operations underway on Saturday evening.



The GOTA Trailer



Ronnie WA4MJF making contacts on the GOTA Station, W4EOT.



Here's our Sherry KB4EXL at the controls in the GOTA trailer.



40m Station



20/80m HF Station



The APRS Packet Station, and the 2m Talk-in Rig.



Lynwood AF4XJ working 20m Phone.



Norm KA4PUV at work on 40 meters.

K5WNH -- Jul 9, 2004 23:28 ET



Modest and simple!

This was another fun Field Day with the added challenge of numerous thunderstorms as North Texas had record rainfall for June. This year, 20 and 40 meters were the best bands for QRP cw on this end...15 and to some degree, 80 meters were a disappointment. Adding a 2 element wire beam for 20 really helped. My only complaint is that Field Day just comes once a year! See you in '2005! -- *K5WNH*



Night fall after a stormy day!



The skies clear on Sunday!

W9XS/BICYCLE MOBILE -- Jul 9, 2004 16:04 ET

Now don't we think that there should be a separate category for bicycle mobile stations? No,eh?
OK,in that case we'll just have to submit as a "1C IL" station.



I've been playing /BM for the last two years and was curious how many QSOs I could make from the bike during contest conditions - I was also curious how long my butt would hold out.

All 163 Qs were from the bike while in motion and 140 of them were on CW. Had to make a few adjustments to the original Trek 830 steel framed off road bike to keep things going that long. The first of which was to swap the bike for a nice Cannondale city bike with shock absorbers and a nice cushy seat. Also had to add a tuner and a steel whip for quick band changing. It worked. Managed to put on 87 miles during the 163 Qs. (Lesse now ... that would be 1.87 Q/mile)



W9XS and v2.1 of the Cannondale "Contest Bike"

I've decided that CW from the bike is more fun than SSB. Watching the pedestrians and joggers snap their heads around when they hear the CW spewing from the radio is priceless. One guy in a car doubled back and asked "Is that GPS?". I told him yes. It's OK to lie about such things on Field Day, right?

My orthopaedic surgeon says the lumbar vertebrae should be good-to-go by next Field Day. Next year's goal: 200Qs/100miles. Oooouch.

www.w9xs.us

73, Ron -- W9XS

WA9EOC -- Jul 8, 2004 19:27 ET



This was our 2nd year in Field Day participation. We operated out of the Anderson Emergency Management Mobile Command Vehicle at Athletic Park (downtown Anderson). We doubled last years contacts and had 15 amateurs participate. Those that participated were: WB9ZBG, WA9JWL, KC9BHY, KC9BHZ, N9GVR, N9XXT, KC9EJE, KC9EJI, KE9XF, WB9UQY, KC9EPS, K9TZJ, KC9DJU, N9HJJ and myself, KC9BHJ. A big thanks to Al - WB9ZBG for being our control operator. -- *KC9BHJ*

Mike Burton, KC9BHY logs his contact while Frank Dick, WA9JWL searches for his next contact.



Future "Hams"? (From l to r) Michael Kinley, son of KC9BHJ, and his friends Toby Tucker and Cody Tucker stop by to visit and of course eat.



Manny Diaz, KC9EJE makes a contact.



CQ, CQ, CQ Field Day, Al Wendling, WB9ZBG grabs another contact and served as control operator over our Field Day.



Jerry Parker, KC9BHZ tunes around to find another contact.



"Home" for the weekend. The Anderson Emergency Management Mobile Command Vehicle was "home" over the Field Day weekend. The tower and antennas store under seats inside the Mobile Command and can be set up in a short amount of time.

W6VIO -- Jul 8, 2004 23:48 ET

The joint Jet Propulsion Lab Amateur Radio Club and California Institute of Technology Radio Club (JPLARC and CITARC) did a 2A operation on top of Mt. Gleason (sort of like having a 6500 foot tower), along with an active VHF/UHF station and a very popular GOTA operation (several hundred Q's, I think). Jay Holladay (W6EJJ) coordinated and did a fine job. We had a 75/80 inverted V, a 40m dipole in the trees, a triband (C3S?) for 10/20 on a 35 foot tower and a monoband 4 el 15m on a 20 foot tower. The GOTA had a triband on a 20 foot (or so) tower as well.

A lot of fun, good food, the weather was gorgeous (85 during the day, 50s at night, clear skies and breeze (but no howling wind..)).

I'm sure there will be others with details, and there will no doubt be more pictures on the JPLARC and CITARC websites. For now, <http://www.luxfamily.com/events/fd2004/index.htm> has some pictures. -- W6RMK

NE7WY -- Jul 8, 2004 16:58 ET



Field Day under the Flag

The Northeastern Wyoming Amateur Radio Club, NE7WY, set up operations at the Campbell County Fire Training Center. We had excellent turnout: ten hams and five visitors including David King, Campbell County Emergency Operations Coordinator. We ran one SSB station, one CW station, one 6 meter station and a GOTA station. Believe it or not this is the first year in many that we did not have to stop operating for 2 or 3 hours because of the threat of lightning. -- WG7Y



The group: Bill WU7Y, Bob, KD7EHG, Bob WG7Y, John K7HLP, Chad KD7RDC, Kyle unlicensed, Gil N7QMP, Dick KD7QDM, (in front) Leo WY7LL



Chad and John hanging antennas



GOTA station with Gil N7QMP and Kyle unlicensed



Chad on fire truck hanging antennas



All three trying to run the SSB station: Bob, John, Chad



Leo's APRS demo



Operations tent with 10/15 Meter Buddiepole and 20 Meter Yagi.

The Amateur Radio Club of Alameda (ARCA) operated from Alameda Point- Alameda, California, the former Alameda Naval Station in San Francisco Bay. As last year, ARCA operated QRP - Battery with three stations. Participating members were Joe (KL7IDY), Jay (KF6YQZ), Sam (KJ6AF), Michael John (KF6YRG), Alexander (KG6DFU), Bill (AE6HP), and Sandy (KO6JF). Propagation was good and we made contacts on 10,15,20,40,and 80 Meters. We had a lot of good QSOs with fellow Hams and face to face QSOs with visitors. Oh yes, to continue another tradition we ate very well. It just doesn't get any better, what a hobby! Please visit our web site at www.arcaham.org -- *KO6JF*



Our 40 Meter "inverted V"



Bill (AE6HP), Sandy (KO6JF), Texx (KG6ATH), Michael John (KF6YRG) and visiting East Bay Section Manager Ti-Michelle (NJ6T).



Joe (KL7IDY) and Alexander (KG6DFU) discuss the 80 Meter "Inverted V".



Jay (KF6YQZ) works HAMBURGERS on the grill.

N9HC -- Jul 8, 2004 09:17 ET



Field Day Cake made by Lisa Wagner KB9RPE for the Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society Field Day (N9HC)

N9HC - Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society in Hendricks County Indiana had a successful field day this year. Attached is a photo of a cake my wife Lisa, KB9RPE, made for our club for Field Day. -- K9TRW

WB2QBP -- Jul 7, 2004 22:55 ET



Eatons Neck lighthouse stands high above Long Island Sound

ARC EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE OPERATES THEIR FIELD DAY ENTRY AT PICTURESQUE COAST GUARD STATION AT EATON'S NECK

Members of the ARCES, took their annual field trip this Field Day weekend. Leaving Queens and driving through Nassau and then into Suffolk County, this group made their temporary radio installation on one of the most northern peninsulas on Long Island, Eatons Neck. With Eatons Neck lighthouse as a backdrop, ARCES used the quarters of the US Coast Guard to operate their 2 station entry. What a breathtaking view. Using a natural rise in terrain, the group set up towers and wire arrays for a very competitive FD installation. Also, the meal menu needs to be noted. Steak and shrimp was served as Saturday's dinner -- a first class feed for a first class effort. ARCECS has been active with the Queens Chapter of the American Red Cross of Greater New York since their inception in 1964.



Eatons Neck Lighthouse was built in 1799 and rises above the ground 50 feet on the same bluff that ARCES uses for Field Day. The CG Station and light continue to safeguard mariners of Long Island Sound.

More information about ARC Emergency Communications Service will be found at: www.arcecs.org

Steve Barreres -- K2CX



K4VIZ -- Jul 7, 2004 21:30 ET



What a great way to spend a weekend. Sailing, eating, a few "807s" and operating CW from maritime mobile. We were out on a friend's (N4VEK) sailboat and operated 40 and 20 meter CW. We used a Yaesu FT-757-GXII with an SGC auto-tuner feeding the 58 ft long backstay. For logging we used an IBM T21 laptop and N3FJP's Field Day 2.3 software. Power was supplied by onboard monster batteries under the after deck. No noisy generators here, just the breeze and lapping of the waves. Great band condx - if we called, they answered. Picture shows the boat and operating station manned by Rob / N5GEN. Regards to all,

Tom Desaulniers / K4VIZ / WWW.K4VIZ.COM / k4viz@arrl.net -- K4VIZ

Mairtime mobile from ALCOR, sailboat
owned by N4VEK/Jack

K1KI/M -- Jul 7, 2004 22:36 ET



AG1P - West Suffield CT - Boy Scout Troop 260. I arrived when they were setting up on Saturday morning while the Boy Scouts were out on a hike.

Had a great time touring Field Day sites around Connecticut this year. I visited 13 FD sites - and missed two others because of bad directions and had to skip one that was too far out of the way. Ended up putting about 475 miles on the car over two days.

Between FD visits I operated CW mobile while driving - but only when the traffic was light and driving was easy... Ended up with over 300 QSOs using my TS-2000 and a couple of whips antennas on a VW New Beetle. The new ARRL Radio Communication magnetic sign on the side of the car generated a lot of good attention.

73 Tom -- *KIKI*



AG1P - West Suffield CT - Boy Scout Troop 260. Nice location in a meadow on a hill with a small pond.



K1BCI - Winchester CT - CQ Radio Club/Wireless Ops of Winsted. Nice location at the local volunteer fire department. This 30' mast supported the 80m folded dipole.



K1BCI - Winchester CT - CQ Radio Club/Wireless Ops of Winsted. Inside the firehouse, an hour to go, things are almost ready!



W1BAA/2 - Millerton NY - Southern Berkshires ARA (two miles inside NY, near NW corner of CT) Arrived just as FD started, located right on main road in town. K1LEE and crew were relaxing with two minutes to go.



W1BAA/2 - Millerton NY - Southern Berkshires ARA (two miles inside NY, near NW corner of CT) The boom truck made it easy to get the tri-bander in the air. That's the K1KI/m VW in the background.



W1QI - Brookfield CT - Candlewood ARA
They have been at this site for many years - in town park right next to Candlewood Lake, great 600' loop up 75' in the trees. Had a good visit with CT Section Manager K1EIC.



W1QI - Brookfield CT - Candlewood ARA
The central tent had the food, a place to relax and the GOTA station.



W1EE - Stamford CT - Stamford ARA QRP transmitters and solar power were the ingredients here - right next to the astronomical observatory.



W1ORS - Stratford CT - Stratford ARC The clubhouse is located in Boothe Park and has been active for 50+ years.



W1ORS - Stratford CT - Stratford ARC The clubhouse is full of old QSLs and interesting memorabilia.



W1NRG - Wallingford CT - Meriden ARC
Nice location next to the Masonic home/hospital. After a great sunset, I had a quick tour of the GOTA station(left).



K1MUJ - Woodstock CT - Eastern CT ARA
Sunday morning started on a nice rural hilltop (was that where I got the nail in my tire?). These guys were all lined up waiting to operate.



K1MUJ - Woodstock CT - Eastern CT ARA
This year they wanted a simpler life. No big towers and beams. Nice ladder support in the middle with several wire quads. The emphasis was on making sure everyone could operate as much as possible.



W1BRS - Manchester CT - BEARS of Manchester Located at an old Nike missile site turned into a town park. Everyone had just finished lunch as I arrived. The GOTA station was nearby in the central tent.



WA1KGQ - Bolton CT - Pioneer Valley RA
Arrived just as Field Day was ending. The set up next to the 300'+ tower on top of Box Mountain. Received a nice tour of the club's repeaters, along with a number of public service and commercial transmitters served by the big tower.

N2YL -- Jul 7, 2004 19:23 ET



Triband on Hill worked very well.

This might have been the most difficult set-up we have had in a few years. Many of our usual operators were busy, but 8 of us put up the triband at 35', the 40 meter delta loop up 45' and the 80 meter dipole. The generator worked very well and all of the rigs performed flawlessly. There were 5 operators, Herb K2GBH, Bob N2BZP, Pat WA2P, Gregg, WA2JPU, and the workhorse himself, Don AA2OI. We had a great time and can't wait for next year. -- *N2BZP*



Don, AA2OI on 75Meter phone

K9DI -- Jul 7, 2004 16:41 ET

Hello, Wayne K9DI and Leader Dog Patriot here. I just wanted to post about how much fun FD 2004 was for myself, Tom KF9HL, our families, and our Leader Dogs Shadow and Patriot. Tom and I are both Leader Dog handlers, and our dogs had a blast playing together in the fenced in lot. Tom and I operated as 2D IL this year at his QTH using my call. While this marks the third year in a row that Tom and I have operated together for FD, this is the first time we'd struck out on our own. The



"CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day from K9DI." My daughter, a future ham, practicing her lines for Field Day 2004



Tom KF9HL and LD Bonsi (retired) with Wayne K9DI and LD Sequoia (retired) on Field Day 2002.

previous 2 years Tom and I had operated with the FD effort of the Lamoine Emergency Amateur Radio Club (LEARC) using the memorial club call W9SSP. Originally we had planned on operating with the club that Tom belongs to, but his club was inactive this year. Tom volunteered his QTH for the K9DI/KF9HL FD 2004 operation. Tom and I had discussed operating 2B battery, but, unfortunately, our code skills weren't quite up to the challenges of operating CW in FD. Instead of using my Elecrafts, K2 es KX1, we used a couple of antiques. Tom was using his Kenwood TS520, and I was using my TS820s with Ol' Betsy my TS520 sitting in reserve in case one of the other rigs broke down. I'm happy to say Ol' Betsy got to rest this year. Although, next year if we work mostly CW the 820s will get to rest as Ol'Betsy has a 500Hz CW filter inside of her...:), unless, of course, I decide to use the K2 because of the SUPER filtering Elecraft has designed into that beauty!! The Kenwoods held their own against all the rigs we heard during the event. Although, those babies disproved the "If you can hear 'em, you can work 'em" maxim. There were a few stations that we heard that we couldn't work....:) Roy KA9MZJ arrived a couple of hours into the event and we fixed him right up with a glass of sweet iced tea and an operating position at the 820s. Roy, operated for awhile then had to go home. I think Roy had fun...:) If there were any other FD operations manned by visually impaired ops please give me a shout at k9di@k9di.org I'd love to swap "War Stories" with you. We didn't score very high, but a high score wasn't our main goal this year. Our main goal was to have fun and we had tons of it.

Except for when we were setting up or taking down antlers we were pretty well protected from hungry insects. We spent time with our families and we ate very well, Tom's XYL made homemade Italian Beef...YUMM!! We even fitted time in for a nap on Saturday evening. The best parts for me, at least, were being able to have fun with a friend I've known since 1987 and leave an antenna in place for him to play radio with between now and FD 2005. Another highlight was Tom's XYL inviting the Scace Clan to come back to the McMahan QTH for FD 2005!! Tom and I have already implemented plans to improve our readiness for next year's event. He and I have challenged each other to try and get at least one CW QSO a day until next year's FD. Our plans for the K9DI/KF9HL FD 2005 operation are still fluid, but I do know whatever we plan to do we're going to have a blast doing it!! Hope to see ya next year!! Vy 73 de Wayne K9DI [k9di at k9di dot org](mailto:k9di@k9di.org) -- *K9DI*



KINGS COUNTY REPEATER ASSOCIATION IS ALLOWED TO USE A REAL FINE LOCATION FOR THEIR ARRL FIELD DAY EXERCISE

At the high point of Staten Island, Kings County Repeater Association operated this years FD station. Located on the St. John's University campus, members used a building's roof for antennas and enjoyed the comfort of an air conditioned operating position.



Cool and comfortable operating positions make FD exercise a breeze.

This writer apologizes for not having a picture of their efforts. It seems that I am a victim of operator error. I did have a change to speak at length with the club's president, Ed Madison - W2SN about a number of amateur radio issues.

For more information about KCRA can be found at: <http://www.kc2ra.org/>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*

Photo courtesy KCRA Web Site

K4S -- Jul 6, 2004 16:27 ET



Jerry KT4ZB racks up the SSB contacts on a Ten Tec Omni D

Great field day here running Class 5A in Savannah, Georgia. The generator ran all night without a hitch at our Southside Volunteer Fire Department command post for the Coastal Area Radio Society, club callsign K4NLX. We had, as our guests, members of the Amateur Radio Club of Savannah. It was nice for a change to have all the radios manned all night by our hard core members. The local news media even showed up twice, which was nice for a change - must have been a slow news weekend. We were also visited by local emergency management officials. The weather cooperated for a change as we did not get our usual severe thunderstorm on Saturday despite the predominant weather pattern for the previous few days. We operated all bands from 80-6m this year. We're looking forward to next year!

73 Philip KA4KOE -- *KA4KOE*



A reporterette takes pictures of our 20m Hex beam



The Hex beam photographed by the aforementioned reporterette.



As usual, 40m CW played a big part of our score.



Wrapping up on Sunday morning, bored members fill a garbage bag with He and send it aloft. The sucker climbed till it was lost from view.



A local organization loaned us a crane from which to hang our 80 meter dipole.



Our local Chatham County Emergency Management Agency rep showed up (CEMA). Usually, the reps are middle aged guys. This was not the case on this occasion!

W6SF -- Jul 6, 2004 15:58 ET



Our 14 year old daughter logged the contacts as I was working forty meters. She copied most of the data without looking at my scratch sheet. Jessica McElroy Kester age 14 with John Kester KD6FVA.

W6SF's FIELD DAY

Once again most of the membership of the Stockton-Delta ARC trooped out to Precessi Ranch to raise their antennas high and toast the 2004 Field Day. Meeting Saturday morning June 26, Charlie WB6NVB's 48 foot mast was erected, guyed, topped with the club's refurbished 4 element beam, repaired on the spot after an element collapsed, and on the air at the 11am starting time. We also got up the club's 80 meter dipole on the same mast, and a 40 meter dipole strung between two trees. Operating 2 HF radios for the full 24 hours, a multitude of SSB, CW and PSK contacts were made. Propagation was not as good as in past years, but even so, contacts were made on 15-20-40 and 80 meters. While we found a few hot spots when contacts came fast and furious, there was also more time to hold brief chats with other testers. It's hard to remember when the contesting bug bites...but the purpose of Field Day is to have fun! The weather cooperated wonderfully, by



Field Day Radio crew from the left KG6SVF Dave, WB6NVB Charles, AB6WN Mike, and KG6EFD Bev.

remaining sunny and warm during the day, with cool nighttime temps. Thanks are in order for so many members who made this year's Field Day come together so well by contributing their time and knowledge and labor. Oh, yes, there was a hardworking group of operators and loggers who spend hours at the radios and computers. All who participated deserve a strong "Well Done -- *KD6FVA*



Bev Kester KG6EFD waiting for her turn on the HF rig. Reading QST. She stacked up 79 qso's within a couple hours on 40 meters.



The club used a military mast, with a Cushcraft A4 Beam, an 80 meter inverted V attached near the top of the mast. The beam was about 45 feet during Field Day.

KU9Z -- Jul 6, 2004 11:58 ET



Our humble operating gazebo. Notice the aerostick on the tripod just outside. This kept us relatively bug free, but the air conditioning was rough that night when we dipped down around 50 deg!



KU9Z looking for that open spot on 40 SSB. Notice the Powerbook also on the table. We used MacDopplerPro to track satellites.

This year a small band of us decided to split from the big club efforts and rough it a bit! Thanks to the Frazel family for allowing us to operate from their beautiful farm location in Hesston, IN. A three hour drive from Chicago, it proved to be just what we were looking for; a great location with trees, open spaces, great scenery, and most importantly a place for Gary (KC4VNU) to launch his Powered ParaGlider!

Due to Medical Murphy it went from a 4 person operation to 2 persons (KC4VNU, KU9Z), but that didn't dampen our enthusiasm. This was probably the most fun I've had in Field Day in 10 years or more. We didn't break any records, but we made some new friends and re-kindled some excitement. I think I might finally have the contest bug nibbling on Gary!

We ran KU9Z 1B IN and had a blast. We also took time out to enjoy the area and introduce some younger visitors to Ham Radio. They especially loved getting on the air and even working RA1ISS and hearing NA1ISS. One of the weekend highlights was KC4VNU flying the friendly skies in his PPG and shooting some great pics of the site.

With any luck we'll be invited back to the same site next year! -- *KU9Z*



Another great aerial shot of the site. We're very grateful to the Frazel family for allowing us to invade their getaway home for the weekend! Hopefully we'll run 2A next year from the same location.



We're thinking a long wire and beverage antenna are begging to happen next year! Hey, are those crop symbols?



Aerial shot of the site. Note the diagonal white rope suspending one end of the G5RV.



Wait Gary! You forgot the longwire!



**OK - so you pretty much have to be a ham to appreciate this, but isn't this beautiful!
The camera tripod mounted satellite antenna parked NNW also doubled as our APRS antenna.**



KC4VNU took to the air during a break in operations.



The 40M vertical ground connections. 8 full sized radials connected together with a spare clamp. The pole was placed over a plastic pipe and bound to an old fence post with a plastic tie. Total improvisation on the spot....I love that about Field Day!



One of the youngsters to operate, Malin (10 years old), made Q's for us on 20M SSB. No mic fright here. She's ready for next year! Her cousins in the background also made contacts...and her sister Reed wants in next year too!



Malin and little Sis Reed pouncing on the next station. Gary and Adam probably had as much fun coaching them along as any part of the entire weekend. It made me think about my first Field Day in 1978.



Gary (KC4VNU) begging for those QRP Solar power Q's on 40M SSB. Five watts to the the homebrew vertical rocked!



Gary working the pileup on SSB. I think the contest bug finally bit him this year! Now if we can just get him to figure out those dit and dahs!



Gary firing up some quick breakfast.



The homebrew 40M vertical. The vertical was designed and constructed entirely on site. We used a 33 foot fiberglass pole, speaker wire, and parts from the parts box to put it all together. It worked great!

N7TWB -- Jul 7, 2004 02:21 ET



N7TWB launching ill-fated balloon #1

The Honeywell radio club of Glendale, Arizona was represented by Bruce Rogers N7TWB, Brent Abbott NA7D and John DeRuiter WM7A. We operated this year from Dairy Springs Campground near Mormon Lake, AZ in the Coconino National Forest. A new experiment was the deployment of a balloon-lofted vertical antenna. Two tries were needed to get the balloon safely past the trees, but the antenna performed well, especially on 15m and 40m.
-- *N7TWB*



N7TWB with the second balloon, which was successfully deployed.



NA7D and WM7A use the classic slingshot method to install a dipole antenna in the tall pines.



NA7D operating station #2

W4TSI -- Jul 6, 2004 14:39 ET



Field Day at Surf City USA!

First Field Day at Surf City, NC was held in the new Soundside Park in Surf City, NC just off N.C. Highway 50 on the Topsail Island side of the swing bridge. Amateur operators that participated were brothers Joe (W4TSI) and Jim (N8JE) Ebner, father and son combination Dan (AG4ZB) and Justin (KG4ZVY) Guyor and Jeff Thigpen (K4SEF). Other hams in the area were helping during the set-up stage.
-- N8JE

Soundside Park in Surf City, North Carolina



Brothers Jim (N8JE) and Joe (W4TSI) Ebner operating together during Field Day 2004



What a view of the sunset over the Intercoastal waterway



The old swing bridge over the inter coastal waterway on Highway 50 in Surf City, NC



Justin (KG4ZVY) along with his father (Gunny) Dan Guyor (AG4ZB) at the operating position



Justin (KG4ZVY) and Jeff (K4SEF) racking up the Q's



As the sun sinks slowly in the west, they are still calling CQ Field Day

K4HSM -- Jul 6, 2004 04:56 ET



Snapshot of many of the participants at K4HSM, taken after Field Day concluded.

This was a great weekend to do Field Day outdoors. The rain that plagued the East Tennessee area and threatened to dampen the mood cleared out the Friday before, and when we arrived Saturday morning, the weather was not too hot, not too cold, just right.

After we got started another group of gentlemen approached our site and said they were going to run their own contest group, but since we had our group set up, they could bring in their CW skills and allow us to use their bus (on loan from Oak Ridge National Laboratory) for power to the site and a place to cool off from the muggy weather. We couldn't have had a more symbiotic relationship, as they hammered out QSO after QSO on CW, and in fact did about as many as the other 3 mostly voice stations combined!

This was our first attempt at PSK31, and we were able to manage 29 contacts before Jim, KE4UHZ had to pack up the station. Plans are already underway to get PSK31 available for the full 24 hours next year.

Bob, KC4URW, had brought along his RTTY setup but unfortunately the TNC failed after setup and another was not available to be configured, so we were unable to log more digital QSOs than what we accomplished on PSK31.



Angela, N4RPR, demonstrating HF



Tim, KE4OTZ, demonstrating APRS

Day in a public locale. -- *K4HSM*

KB1DNI -- Jul 5, 2004 07:14 ET



RON AG1P GIVING POWER POINT LESSON TO BOY SCOUTS

We attempted to make a satellite QSO and contact the ISS while they were passing over, unfortunately the birds and the timing was not in our favor.

We had hoped to use 2m and 440 sideband during this event, but they were unusually quiet. We hope that there will be some changes to re-vamp those VHF/UHF freqs for future Field Days.

Plans are already underway for next year, including use of a 1X1 callsign for the event. The group that helped with CW plan to return next year and we plan to use Melton Hill Dam at least one more year. We had a few curious folks come by and pay a visit, and a former ham operator sold his unused equipment while attending.

Overall I think this was the groups best performance to date, and we learned a lot about how to hold Field

KB1DNI & GROUP FIELD DAY 2004 SUNRISE PARK SUFFIELD CONNECTICUT FIELD DAY CALL SIGN KB1DNI With The Boys Scouts of America

PARTICIPANTS

AG1P W1MJL KB1DNI K1RIK KB1IXQ KB1HCD KB1HCD W1TXT & KB1KGR (SON)

This years field day centered on introducing the Boy Scouts to Amateur radio and helping them get their Radio Communications Merit Badge. This was accomplished by presenting the Scouts with a Power Point presentation which covered everything from electronic components such as capacitor, resistors, tubes, etc. The presentation also included information on the atmosphere regions, propagation, line of site propagation and general amateur knowledge pertaining to a technician level license. Ron AG1P



KA1KNW, KB1KST, KB1HCD

gave the presentation, answered questions and signed off on their merit badge forms. Then all of the Scouts had an opportunity to try some HF contacts on Field Day.

Field Day could not have been better, simple set ups, quality eyeball QSO's, plenty of food and soda and lots of interest by the Boy Scouts! In fact, the troops that were not able to attend because of conflicting schedules want us to do another session; perhaps a special event is in order! Many of the Scouts expressed interest in furthering their knowledge and inquired about obtaining their Technician licenses.



RICK K1RIK

It is our group's mission to enjoy the hobby, promote it well and put Amateur Radio in public view to enjoy and spark interest. Not to mention working public service events! With such a good time had by all I don't think we can wait another year to introduce such a wonderful hobby as Amateur Radio to the public and the scouts. Don't be surprised to hear us again soon along with the Boy Scouts of America!

73 de KB1DNI and Group -- *KB1DNI*



KB1IWX DEMONSTRATING THE RIG TO THE BOYS SCOUTS!



KB1KGR (MIKE) ASSISTING THE SCOUTS WITH THE RADIOS!



KURT KB1IXQ WORKING SOME HF AND HAVING FUN!



KB1HCD (MARK) WORKING A PILE UP!



W1TXT (TOM) WORKING SOME 6 METER OPENNINGS!



KB1DNI (GLEN) ENJOYING WATCHING KB1IXQ (KURT) WORK SOME HF!



KB1HCD WORKING THE RIG WITH ONE OF THE BOY SCOUTS.



BOYS SCOUTS WORKING 80 METERS!



KB1DNI (GLEN) GRILLING SOME BURGERS AND HOT DOGS.



BEAUTIFUL NIGHT FOR RADIO!



2 METERS AND 6 METER BEAMS



KB1DNI (GLEN) CHECKING ON THE BOY SCOUTS



**BEAUTIFUL SUNRISE PARK SUFFIELD
CONNECTICUT**



**W1TXT (TOM) WITH HIS FISHING POLE
PUTTING UP WIRES! TOM'S A NATURAL AT
THIS, HIGHEST I'VE EVER SEEN A WIRE ON
THE FIRST CAST.**



**KB1IXW (LEFT) KB1KGR (CENTER)
KB1HCD (RIGHT) PUTTING UP A WIRE
ANTENNA**



**AG1P (RON) GIVING A POWER POINT
PRESENTATION TO THE BOY SCOUTS FOR
MERIT BADGE TRAINING. THE SCOUTS
WERE VERY INTERESTED AND ASKED
SOME VERY INTUITIVE QUESTIONS
RELATIVE TO ELECTRONIC THEORY.**

W4ATD -- Jul 4, 2004 16:12 ET



**Here's the entrance to the area of Point
Mallard Park where we set up the stations.**

The Decatur (AL) Amateur Radio Club participated in its 51st Field Day and had a club record event! 23 hams came out throughout the day to help out with setup and operating. Our GOTA station made a few contacts to help with the final score, and also helped whet the appetite of a couple of hams to try to upgrade so they can get active on HF. The final score was the largest one in the memory of at least one of the long-time members. Next year could be even better! We can't wait!

The photos were taken by Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt W4OZK on his "official" visit to our site. Thanks, Greg! -- *KB4CAY*



Here's the picnic shelter with the operating positions. The most important station - the FOOD - is on the left.



A tri-bander, a 40-meter rotatable dipole, and 3 wire antennas on a 60-foot man lift provided many options for contacts on different bands through the entire contest.



Club President Bob McKenzie K4MLR checks out the generator provided to us by the county rescue squad.



Greg Richard K4NO worked a lot of CW over most of the 24 hours on the old Yaesu using the tribander. The box on the left shielded the logging computer from both the sunshine and the inevitable rain showers.



Here are a few of the hams that helped with setup and operating. Left to right - Bob McKenzie K4MLR, John Montgomery KD4NID, James Kirkham KD4ERU, Jerry Montgomery K4SAV, Milt Mahaffey W4YXQ, Jerome Pace AI4BI, Roger Hoeft KA9EKJ, Greg Richard K4NO, Richard Matthews KB4CAY

K1PV -- Jul 6, 2004 08:09 ET

Although the number of people at The Mountain Valley ARC Sumner Maine Field Day site was down; those of us that did attend had good food, good company, and more good contacts. -- *NIYIS*



The Site just after set up on Saturday afternoon.



Our equipment setup for Field Day.

W6LDS -- Jul 6, 2004 00:52 ET

The Glendora Emergency Response Communications group held its first Field Day this year at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Route 66 in Glendora, California. We were on the air from 11 am to approximately 4 pm on Saturday June 26, doing our shortened version of the weekend-long ARRL sponsored event.

Hams arrived as early as Friday afternoon to set up their equipment, and the sun shade canopies set up early by Dave, KG6DGM were certainly pressed immediately into use.

There were three stations on the air when Field Day commenced: 20 meters, 40 meters, 220 Mhz, and 2 meter SSB. The fifty foot tall custom crank-up tower built by Andy, W6LDS was an impressive



GERC Field Day Information booth.



The GERC location - It was hot in the parking lot!



This was the first Field Day for KG6TPT and she did quite well on 2 meter sideband!

sight.

Rob, KE6YGF and his family setup an outstanding station using their fifth wheel trailer as a base.

Notwithstanding a small mishap which resulting from one misplaced ground rod (see photo), which we can laugh about now, everything was ship shape by Saturday morning.

Bottom Line - What have we learned?

The real Field Day was not in the number of contacts that were made, not the equipment we used nor the number of visitors we had, but rather in the spirit of camaraderie, friendship, trust, cooperation, and preparation that was evidenced all weekend. Even when things didn't seem to go right, the faith that we had in each other's ability overcame any adversity. We were able to tackle our problems head on. These are qualities that will sustain us in the event of a real disaster. 73 -- *KF6DSA*



Murphy's Law! - Water was discovered by our ground rod! But we fixed it!

K4TDP -- Jul 5, 2004 12:23 ET



Our Setup including 4 Antennas

The 550 DX Club setup for Field Day for a third time this year using our club call, K4TDP. In the spirit of the contest we again setup in the field of AB4DN. Our participants this year were KU4J, K4GU, K4RVH, KD4BJW, AB4DN, KE4YNY, and our newest ham KC0QOP.

Brent (KE4YNY) was a first timer this year and was very energetic and is looking forward to upgrading from No Code Technician before next year.

Jesse (KC0QOP) has been working with us for the past 2 Field Days, but this year he wanted to operate on his own. He passed his Technician test in August of 2003 and his General and CW tests in May of this year. Jesse had made a few contacts during the week leading up to Field Day, but really got his feet wet running the GOTA station. Jesse made 150 contacts during the weekend (6m and GOTA). We are all very proud of his accomplishments and look forward to him helping us out again next year.

This year our theme was to be simple. We were looking to keep our station setup as easy as possible. We did a fairly good job putting up a W5GI Mystery Antenna and a G5RV on two simple masts. The W5GI went up on a 33 foot Fiberglass pole from MFJ



W5GI Mystery Antenna on Fiberglass pole

and the G5RV on a wooden mast built from 2X4s. The motto was “One Man Setup”. While the W5GI succeeded the wood mast did require two people, so we have room to improve for next year.

Over all our performance this year was better than our two previous years. We made more contacts (1388), setup quicker and operated more efficiently. Next year we are going to continue our efforts, but may add some directional antennas to help with the crowded bands. – KD4BJW -- *KD4BJW*



Wood mast and G5RV with Cows



Non-standard APRS Demonstration



KC0QOP, KE4YNY, and K4RVH operating



AB4DN, KC0QOP, K4RVH, and KU4J getting ready for a long night



KD4BJW struggling to hear



Bob (WT0P) and Phil (WX1CT) operating WB2HBO FD.

This was our 1st Club Field Day. All the participants and visitors were quite surprised at what could be worked using a simple wire antenna. Plans are already in the works for next year! -- *WX1CT*

W3EOC -- Jul 5, 2004 12:01 ET



The W3EOC QTH and crew. 80m thru 70cm. Networked stations.

This was our second year as an "F-Class" station. Again, we operated from the Chester County (PA) EOC. The QTH was our ARES/RACES room, next to the 911 room, "in the bunker". Even with a laid-back crew, we still scored 300 CW and 253 fone QSOs.

The roster included 28 hams (25 of whom operated) and 10 visitors. We had great food prepared in the kitchen next door. And the county provided us with a gourmet breakfast on Sunday morning; sausage, egg and cheese croissants!~!~!



Deep Space Howitzer. Made for AO-40, works on the FM birds, too.

The new 75m/60m/40m HF fan dipole, in concert with the R8 vertical and the rotary beams for 20m/15m/10m and 6m on the roof, provided a fine set of transducers for Field Day. Stations were worked from the UK to CA, OR, WA and several VE7s. The county EOC guys were especially impressed with the DX contacts.

Our power was provided via the gigantic EOC UPS system that powers the entire Op Center. 460VAC line current is rectified and pumped into a huge battery bank. The batteries then power heavy duty inverters to supply line voltage to the entire 911 center. A huge diesel alternator stands-by for back-up. A second generator/power supply is used for emergency back-up for the rest of the county building.



Light Reading. Where'd I put those 01As and 6L6s?

Many "Thanx" to VE1FO for our satellite contact with the crew in Halifax. Using our manually-operated "Deep Space Howitzer" on the low-flying FM birds turned out to be quite a challenge. Next year, it's 'egg-beaters' and 'arrows'. The APRS and ATV demonstrations were also well received by the county officials. Light reading was provided; including 1920s Radio News, 1930s QSTs and Gernsback mags, a 1945 ARRL Handbook, and a correspondence course from the Nat'l. Radio and Television Institute c. 1932-1935!~!~!

We were able to stack up 1450 bonus points, and 1706 contact points, for a total of 3156. See ya next year. 73 de W3EOC. -- N3TR

KP4ES -- Jul 4, 2004 22:52 ET



Whoa! Where's the tent? When it was mounted others were deciding to place the antennas

PUERTO RICO AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE (PRARL)

This year we returned to the Bacardi Corporation facilities in the city of Cataño, and was named Field Day coordinator for this year, not without the help of the Activities Committee of the League.

Think every one had their visit of Mr. Murphy, well when we got to the place at 10:30 am, there was no tent! It was supposed to be there a day before, but thanks to Elizabeth Rubio who works there we got it erected at 12:30pm, so we had to move pretty fast. In the mean time others were taking measurements on how to position the antennas (first photo).



By the time of the start we were almost ready, synchronizing the computers, preparing the power generators and mounting the radio equipment. This years we went for verticals which they say works very well. . .

We went again 2A with the addition of a digital (RTTY) station by KP4JRS standing by, VHF and satellite stations by KP4DR as well a demo on Amateur TV as always by KP4IA with improvements made recently. Also there were APRS and SSTV

The Antenna Crew



Jose-KP4JRS (front) with Pedro-KP4SQ on RTTY



Rudy-KP4RAT ready to unpack



Eric-NP3A happy to be operating with his elmer, Renato-KP4U

demos plus a message to the Section Manager by NP3OD and yours truly.

At the beginning the bands were not so good, only CW was the way to go but later into the night 20 meters was the place to be on SSB. NP3A, WP4F, KP4U and KP4RAT had a good run on CW meanwhile KP4JRS waiting for conditions for RTTY went a while for SSB.

Tried to work SO-50 Saturday afternoon and heard the people working on KP2AA and a station W4 that was calling and not sure if he got my exchange.

As always we had visitors, some friends who also operated and others that were interested in what we were doing. During the night I was contacted to see if I could substitute the controller of a local NET, so I said why not? That's part of what we do so from 8 to 9pm I ran the net and there was good participation. . . 30 stations! Even got ATV signal reports. I explained them what is Field Day for and gave info on the launch of ECHO and it's main use (sure for us amateurs).

Then we had our meal courtesy of WP4F who was in charge of our food and soup brought by NP4CQ. Exquisite!

Took a sleep and at 2am Sunday morning did work 20 meters and did have a pile up, then I was with friends and then slept again til 6:30am. QSO's were rolling in on 20 and 40 meters and by the way participated on a local Sunday morning 40m net, by the way testing a square phase half wave antenna erected by NP4D and WP4BD, I was given a 5-9 and stayed for a while until conditions waned.

And the big thrill came when at 14:30 UTC we heard NA1ISS calling and then grabbed the mic and called twice, and Mike Fincke answering the call wow and the present including our Section Manager KP4PQ heard the QSO. Later on the other pass KP4DR and WP3ME worked ISS with their callsigns. Am happy



Angel-WP3GW sending a message to the Section Manager on radiogram form

that Joel-WP3ME did the contact: this was his second Field Day and was expecting something like this; even heard Mike say "Viva Puerto Rico" to him. It was his first "satellite" contact.

Later at noon there was an opening on 15 meters and my friend KP4JRS had a blast racking up on SSB and think we won over CW (sorry NP3A) this time; this was also his first Field Day. It was that good that we finished at exactly 2pm as his father KP4JFR was timing him.

Operators were NP3A, WP4F, KP4JRS, KP4JFR, NP4CQ, KP4DR, WP3ME, KP4U, NP3OD, KP4NNC, KP4SQ, NP3TY, KP4RAT and KP4IA.

Oh! And the verticals did work well. And as you saw the only one with the official Field Day 2004 T-shirt. Again thanks to the Bacardi Corp for lending their grounds and having a good time. Til next year!

For more visit <http://www.prarl.org/FD2004.html>
-- WP3GW



Tony-KP4IA with his ATV demo



Joel-WP3ME having his first flavor on HF meanwhile Angel-NP4CQ tutors him



Younger generation of hams on break



Me running a local net, see the list of stations reported



Morning meal with Danny-WP4F. . . come and get it!



"No, no Eric! Echolink is not in for bonus points"



Antennas that were used



Nice Sunday morning



Francisco-NP3OD assisting visitors



Yes! Jaime-KP4DR and I celebrate after contacting Mike Fincke on the ISS



Danny-WP4F with NP3OD and NP3A on CW



Jose-KP4JRS having the time of his life. By the way he is the only active ham in Puerto Rico participating on RTTY contests worldwide. He made the record for SSB this year for us.



Section Manager Victor-KP4PQ making his second visit to the site Sunday morning



We had our natural antenna and cable testers. . .



. . . and thanks to Bacardi Corporation for another great year. "Hasta la proxima"

W5QX -- Jul 4, 2004 19:36 ET



Field Day 2004 was set up in a city park near the Twin Buttes Reservoir spillway. No worry about the nearly empty reservoir's dam bursting.

The San Angelo Amateur Radio Club had to contend with thunderstorms Friday which made for a soggy FD site for the weekend. But no one in West Texas complains when it rains! And the front that brought us the rain also brought us the coolest FD weekend temperatures in memory--the high was only 84.

Saturday evening's annual feed brought out about 25 members and guests. Only a handful of us overnighted and operated. -- AA5PK



Bob/W7IKT and Carol/N5CBQ loaned their motor home to serve as the SSB station. The tower and tribander were located about 150 feet behind the station.



Bill/WB5ZAM supplied the motor home for the CW station.



Ken/KD5NXV and Elta/KD5NXY brought their 5th wheel for the GOTA station.



Buddy/KA7TLJ and Mike/KD5URW operating the GOTA station Sunday morning.



Bill/WB5ZAM tries to get the last few CW QSOs in before the end of the contest.



Paul/N7SDQ logs for David/KB5FNK in the SSB station Sunday morning.

W1NP -- Jul 4, 2004 08:35 ET



vhf uhf setup

We all had a great time at this years field day from warren ma. Had to send a picture of the vhf uhf antenna array. top to bottom is 432 8 element beam, 2m 12 element beam and 6m 5 element beam. The home built tower worked great as well also the 6 meter opening was awesome. -- *KB1HXO*

AG4HG -- Jul 3, 2004 19:08 ET



Scenic City Amateur Radio Society's Field Day 2004 team. (Front l-r)Walt Stoll-kq4jt,TAG George-KG4OVV,Bill Rule-KG4OKV (Rear l-r) Max Holland-w4mea,Clark Tate-ag4ie,Joe Anderson-wa4mka,Mike Anderson-kg4boe,Grant Clark-kg4kil,Whitten Davis-kg4hyl,John Davis-kg4hyk,Dan Clark-ag4hg

2004's Field Day was the best in the history of Scenic City Amateur Radio Society. This club, just formed in late 2003, pulled together for a wonderful weekend on Signal Mountain near Chattanooga, TN. -- *AG4HG*

K7EAR -- Jul 3, 2004 14:27 ET

Well, K7EAR won't be in the top 10 this year unless, we get points for disaster!!!! We got about 6 hours of operating time before the Forest Service evacuated us. The lightning strike about a mile away is now the number one rated forest fire in the country. For more pictures and maps, go to <http://www.pagebydave.com/fd/> -- *WB7ONJ*



ARRL "Battle Flag" flies from the forestay.

Operating Marine Mobile sure had its advantages and disadvantages. The view was great but the quarters were a bit cramped. -- KA1SVW



Top: HF operating station, ICOM 706mkII
Middle: VHF/UHF station, Kenwood TM-V7A
Lower: VHF marine radio



Calling CQ



That's 2-Charlie, 2-Charlie, QSL?



The counterpoise



Taking care of QRM

W8EDU -- Jul 3, 2004 22:50 ET



W8WTS preparing to launch another antenna support.
Photo by K8MR. -- W8WTS

K8XXU -- Jul 3, 2004 19:11 ET



For the 2nd consecutive year, the Xavier University Alumni Radio Club (K8XXU) operated Field Day as 2A from Johnson Hills Park, a few miles east of downtown Cincinnati in Anderson Township, Ohio. The club includes members of the original XU Radio Club, an on-campus ROTC-affiliated organization. This year's participants included K8WBL, W8GRL, W8TM, W8TSA, WA8ADH, WA8FOA, WA8SDF, WA8ZJL, WB8AXK, WB8NUT, WB8ZCC, KC8VYQ, and a host of "harmonics" and pets.
-- WB8ZCC

K8WBL and WB8ZCC work 20m SSB



WA8ZJL works the 75m GOTA station



WB8ZCC and WA8SDF on 20m



W8GRL straightens out the logging



W8TM and WA8ADH work 40m SSB and CW



WB8NUT with our Elected Official

W5LM/W5T -- Jul 3, 2004 18:13 ET

AD5RS, Matt, and AD5RN, John, upgraded earlier in the month to earn hf privileges. Until Field



Day, however, neither had ever made an hf contact. W5WRE, Ron, took them under his wing Saturday afternoon at the GOTA station, W5T. Later, from midnight until six Sunday morning these young operators, ages 23 and 21 respectively, were seen enthusiastically honing their new skills at W5LM's 2A phone station. What a Field Day contribution to the future of amateur radio!

More pictures:

<http://www.bosshardradio.com/FD2004/> -- KE5C

W8VCK/MM -- Jul 3, 2004 12:47 ET

What a great field day! Laura (W8JUZ) and I setup a station on my 34' Trawler in just under an hour. The boat sure looked funny with an R5 vertical strapped to the side with all manner of hose clamps and tie wraps.

With Lake Erie as our 9,000+ square mile ground plane the performance of the vertical was amazing. Highlight of the contest was a Nigerian DX station telling us we were the loudest signal on 20, and the operator who thought we were on a cargo ship when we told him we were running an R5 marine mobile.

Must give credit to the wife who fed us extremely well, helped lug all that equipment on and off the boat, and gave up her bunk to Laura.

Already thinking how I can get two stations on the boat next year, and how to get on 40/80 with a 34 X 12 foot platform... -- W8VCK

N9BGC -- Jul 3, 2004 08:53 ET

My Field Day experience was 100% positive. I was not out to score points. My goal was to learn more about the radiation pattern of my bi-directional antenna system. What better way than with thousands of stations on the air and wanting to make contact. I could only work about 6 hours as a "1-D". In that time I made contact with 35 states from Maine to Alaska. The "footprint" of my new bi-directional antenna was confirmed, and I re-kindled an enthusiasm for operating. What more could I ask?

N9BGC -- N9BGC

K3MJW -- Jul 2, 2004 23:55 ET

Last year's Field Day was great, but this year was better. We operated from our new pavilion on our clubhouse grounds. For antennas we used a 40/80 meter dipole, a 3 element tri-band beam on just 20 foot of tower, a multi-band vertical, and a Weather balloon vertical long wire! The balloon worked



Weather balloon up about 150 feet. You can see the 3 element tri-band beam just about the roof line. Perfect weather too!



Bob, WB3FXC plays for the media.



Dave, KB3FXI and Steve, KB3EYY working the night shift.

great. It was the first time we tried this. After talking to some knowledgeable people we were going to build a LC network for the base to dissipate the static from wind on the wire and a cap to couple the RF. Well, we should have built this BEFORE Field Day. We landed up just hooking the wire to the tuner and the other to ground through the balun in the tuner. It worked GREAT! We had about 150 feet of wire up and we kicked butt on 80 with it. We had a nice bonfire going all night and everything was perfect. The bands were open and we had enough operators. Some Field Day first timers too!

For power we used our BFB. Big Fat Battery with all power distributed with PowerPoles. Made everything easy. With four radios running full time we only got down to 12.1 volts. Love that ol' battery. Much quieter than the generator...

For food we made a classic Italian dinner with Rigatonis, tomato sauce with lots of garlic and onions, garlic bread, sharp ground cheese, and red wine. We don't mess around... There were also peppers stuffed with cream cheese and wrapped in bacon. Wow! Hot dogs and hamburgers and all the fixins! Isn't Field Day great?

We got two articles in two local news papers complete with pictures and quite a few visitors including the Red Cross lady, Marge. We had four ops sleep overnight and had eggs and bacon with Italian toast, rounded out with fresh ground coffee. Everyone had a really good time and we all are looking forward to next year. Not sure how we can top this one. Hmmm.

More info on www.skyviewradio.net -- WC3O



Mark, W3RRK and George,(CW God like figure)N3GJ stacking the logs.

K6JEY -- Jul 2, 2004 22:36 ET



My Boatanchor FD station 1962/2004. Other gear was used on 6 meters and 10ghz that was more current.

Field Day was a nostalgia trip for K6JEY. He set up a National NCX5 and a 2 meter Gonset Communicator IV. Both radios worked fine. He made a number of HF contacts and one 2 meter AM contact. It was a great trip back to 1962, his senior year in High School.

-- K6JEY

WD9EWK -- Jul 2, 2004 20:13 ET

For the fourth year in a row, I did another 1B/1-op/QRP effort from Flagstaff AZ. With nice weather, 25 degrees cooler than home in the Phoenix area, I enjoyed Field Day 2004.

I made 81 SSB QSOs in about 7 hours, almost half of them on 15m, and even a few up on 10m. I worked as far away as New Hampshire, Puerto Rico, and the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor - all with just 5 watts from an IC-703 and a low 40m dipole. Once again, I'm looking forward to the next Field Day.

I have more information at <http://www.wd9ewk.net/> (click on ARRL Field Day and then Field Day

2004), if you are curious.

73! Patrick -- *WD9EWK*



WD9EWK Field Day site, at Fort Tuthill Park in Flagstaff AZ



Dipole with 450-ohm twinlead, among the trees



A visitor?



IC-703, Dell laptop, KAM XL TNC

W0WOB -- Jul 2, 2004 18:10 ET



Friday evening setup of yagis went well with N0XJ(at tower) K0QP KC0GLA K0BJ Matt N0XNK



Trojan ARC W0WOB 2A KS (Colby, nw) 443 cw
QSOS 265 ssb QSOs claimed score 2302

With reliables KB0LGX and AC0J moved from the area and K0FJ busy with son K0KHP's wedding, our small club was pressed to deploy a full-tilt FD effort. We took the minimal planning approach and ended up having a lot of fun and an OK, if not record-breaking score. We used YP logging software instead of the usual WriteLog and it worked well for us. The crew:

N0XNK Gary setup, photography, SSB

N0XNJ Kathy meals, photography

N0XJ Gregg networking, logs, troubleshooting, SSB

K0QP Jim SSB, Elmering

KC0IWH Mike cw S&P, SSB

KC0GLA Nathan satellites, ssb

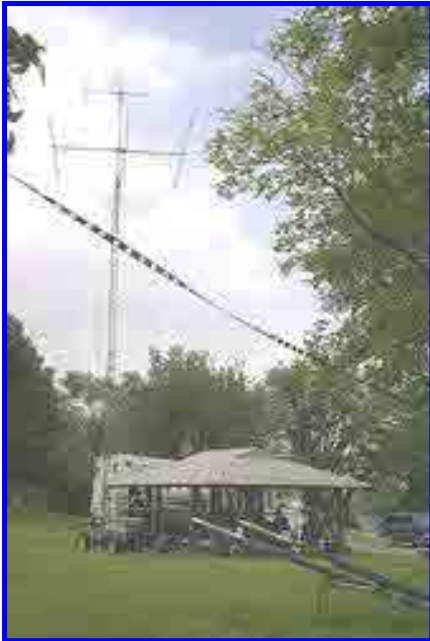
WA0CAL John food, setup

K0BJ Bruce cw rate

SSB station K0QP and Matt

sat/VHF station KC0GLA

cw station KC0IWH



Phillips Park is small but kid-friendly while the responsible adults play radio.

XJ/XNJ's harmonic Matt helped from setup to teardown and was responsible for getting Hawaii, Alberta and some other Qs for the log. He's dusted off his copy of NYT and should be licensed by FD 2005.

Pleasant surprises: Line noise at kid-friendly Phillips Park was much improved over last year. Lovely and amazingly cool wx for setup and daytime operating. Good propagation. No major equipment problems.

Murphy list: Amazingly frigid wx for graveyard shift. Didn't get full-time 6M station deployed and ended up with no 6M Qs.

It was great having KC0IWH travel across KS to join us again and help alleviate the op. shortage.

CU in Field Day 2005 de W0WOB -- *K0BJ*

W4BFB -- Jul 2, 2004 15:43 ET



W4BFB - FIELD DAY 2004 - Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society - Charlotte, NC

With 4 prior terrible weather days, including Thunder Storms, Flood Warnings, and a local Tornado Warning, and in spite of heavy rain showers right up until 9AM on Field Day morning, the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society - W4BFB set up Field Day operations at the Mint Hill Park in Mint Hill, NC just outside of Charlotte, NC.

We had three stations: a phone, a cw, and a digital mode station. The phone and cw stations used beam and dipole antennas attached to towers that were raised. The digital station, using both RTTY and PSK modes, used a GAP vertical antenna. AC power was provided by the club mobile generator trailer and a portable generator.



"Ready ONE!....."

During Field Day, two of our 'Served Agencies' stopped by to inspect and participate in the activities. The Red Cross had a representative visit and observe. MEDIC, the Mecklenburg Emergency Medical Services Agency, brought their Mobile Command Center. It raised up a TV camera mounted on a telescoping mast, established a microwave link, and sent TV pictures back to their Communications Center.

Local and regional ARES officials inspected operations during Saturday operations.



".... TWO!....."

Our Field Day goal was to have fun as well as have visitors and members see traditional and new ways of using amateur radio. Hopefully, this may inspire them to become amateurs or pursue upgrading their licenses.

Many contacts were made on all modes and great fun was had by all. We feel we met our 2004 goal.

Now, on to 2005!



".... THREE!....."

Ben Antanaitis WB2RHM -- *WB2RHM*



The Phone Tent with tower. The Antenna Trailer is in the background



The CW 'Tent' with tower. The Generator Trailer is in the foreground



The Digital Tent with it's vertical antenna.



The setup crew gets a well deserved lunch before 2PM Saturday.



MEDIC arrives with the Mobile Command Center



The camera is up and the microwave link is established... MEDIC TV!



**W4BFB president K4RSG and Area 14 DEC
KD4OZI review the Field Day operation.**



Bill has an eyeball QSO with the sandman :)

WR4MG -- Jul 2, 2004 15:50 ET



This year was a fantastic year for the Middle Ga Radio Association Field Day. Past years it was hot! This year it was very nice weather although we had the possibility of thunderstorms the whole time that luckily skirted us to the south. We made 843 contacts and logged them using a wireless lan and network logging software. We operated as 4A GA and had a lot of fun this year. -- *KC7GNM*

Mike (AF4HS) untagles one of the dipoles while Dave (KB3EQA) and Mark (KR4YH) look on.



Greg (KC7GNM) operates the PSK31 station. Too bad the laptop's serial port went down on us otherwise we would have made more digital contacts.



Jim (WB4SXR) solders an antenna connector while W5ZNX looks on.



Brent (KT4TG) operates the 40m station. We also made about 15 solar powered contacts on this station.



A view of all 4 operating positions plus the 20kw diesel generator.



Tim (KC0PA) working late at night on the 20m SSB station.



Michael (KI4FKL) our youngest ham working 40m late at night.

WA6BGS -- Jul 2, 2004 14:59 ET



AE6AV

This is kg6qco field day chairman for the amateur radio club of El Cajon, we had five stations at our site up in the mountains of Mount Laguna, California, which is in Southern California. we ran 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m which was our GOTA station and 6m. I am very proud of all who attended our site and manned our stations, they were very professional in how they operated their stations. \ We received a visit from arrl southwestern section manager wa6mhz and arrl vice director nz6t which was a very enjoyable visit. we also had a visit from UPI news Roger Williams, who took some pictures of our operation for publication in several major news papers, which added to the way I feel about Amateur Radio and its need to be known to all persons and its advantages in times of emergencies. Thank You, David Cyr KG6QCO -- *KG6QCO*



KF6MPB & N6SZO



N2N -- Jul 2, 2004 09:12 ET

Operated in a 31' RV in the middle of nowhere in NNY...true portable operation!! It went well, with the obvious pluses and minuses. We had Stan, N2RMZ on SSB and myself, Kevin, WA2ISC and Rick KD2A on CW. See group picture here: <http://www.qrz.com/n2n>

We had 300 QSO's in the first three hours and sat on 14.037 the whole time without moving and got a lot of reports that we were the loudest on the band. We were able to run 600w out on 20-15-10 but the hitch came when we went below 20.



Operators (L-R):

**N2RMZ (SSB), KD2A (CW), K2BJ (CW),
WA2ISC (CW)**

worked about 60 stations each. The lions share of the work was done by KD2A and N2RMZ who were kicking butt working about 2 qso per minute as long as we were on high power.

Because we had trouble with the antenna it was hanging a lot lower than it should and we could not get it to take anything more than 200w which seriously cut in to the ability to hold the freq. Once this was the case we went into the search and pounce mode and ran about another 250 qso on 40-80.

All in all we completed about 758 qso about evenly split between SSB and CW, so we had a lot of fun regardless of all of the challenges.

I don't know how many other 1A were running in NNY. But we did not have any other bonus points other than emergency power and so forth. Don't really care that much as far as the standings are concerned although it will be interesting to see them when published just to see who else was out there at the time.

'73 Brian, K2BJ (N2N FD) -- *K2BJ*

WT4F -- Jul 2, 2004 08:50 ET

We did it! Another fantastic Field Day for WT4F, the Foothills Amateur Radio Club (www.wt4f.org)....

Our attendance was down this year due to other activities that were poorly planned to interfere with FD. (What were they thinking!!!?!?!) We bumped ourselves down from 3A to 2A so we would have less transmitters to sit idle.

The event was held at the home of KE4HGX/Gretchen and KS4XQ/Wes, who made wonderful hosts

We were running a 160m Carolina Windom and had an unbelievable time trying to get the ropes up in the trees. We started trying to throw the ropes at 8:30 Saturday morning and didn't get the antenna up until 5:00 pm that afternoon. Along the way we had to go to the auto parts store to buy a replacement air compressor for the air cannon we were using to throw the lines over the trees. Then we lost the projectile we were shooting with the air cannon after the leader string snapped. Scratching our heads for what to use next as a projectile we started going through my extended length sockets, and lost two of those the same way until we finally got the line over the tree.

As you can imagine, by the time we finally got the antenna up we were beat, and Kevin and I only



The A3S going up on the tower. Yeah, that's W5UGD up there. Note the sky. (Don't do this at home kids. Rain/Lightning and metal structures do not mix! SAFETY FIRST)

for us again for the 3rd year in a row!

Almost everything we set out to do we accomplished, with the exception of making more digital contacts and KG4UOY/Christopher failed to make a satellite/ISS contact, which bummed him out, but at least he gave it a try! Maybe next year we will be better prepared to get those contacts. Which is really what it is all about, learning and improving upon what you know!

Looking forward to FD 2005!!!!

73,

W5UGD / John M. Hoyt -- W5UGD



In the south you need a bug zapper. This one was provided by KG4YDC / Jennifer and seemed to work well.



Jennifer can cook! KG4YDC grills some corn.



KG4UPA / Deborah the club president gives a go at operating. Interesting note, WT4F / Foothills Amateur Radio Club has YLs for officers. That's right, FOUR YLs are involved in the club as officers. President, Vice, Sec and Treasurer!



KS4XQ / Wes as he is about to fall asleep after staying up all night as operator and then control operator for KG4UOY / Christopher.



W5UGD / John operates... Yeah, I'm actually doing something other than talking or eating. HIHI!



Here's the whole operation of WT4F. Tower w/A3S beam, G5RV, and off out of the picture is a vertical. The rigs consisted of a TS-570 and a TS-2000. An IC-706 Mk2G was used for natural power and the few PSK contacts we did.

About 5 hours to setup and only 2 hours to tear down. Not bad.

Had a great time, hope to work you next year!

W6MTC -- Jul 2, 2004 02:01 ET

The Morse Telegraph Club's first Field Day (SQ Chapter)

Equipment: a 940 KW (150W), 4 ele beam, and G5RV for 40 and 80.



Gus, WM6J worked CW contacts for the Morse Telegraph Club. He is also the webmaster for the W6MTC web page (coming soon).

Saturday afternoon the power went out for a couple of hours, but that didn't effect the operation of W6MTC as a generator was used to power the radio.

W6MTC was on the air Saturday and Sunday morning on CW only.

Check out our QSL card at www.qrz.com (To receive a QSL just send us your SASE and we'll be glad to mail you a W6MTC QSL card. You have a choice of blue, grey, or yellow.) -- *KS6CW*



Welcome to the Morse Telegraph Club's first Field Day. There was a display and also a guest sign-in table.

KB6EOC -- Jul 2, 2004 00:33 ET

KB6EOC Benicia Amateur Radio Club in California's East Bay section. Our theme this year was "More points than last year", and this being our first in several years the pressure was off early on. We were forced to deploy in the alternate Emergency Operations Center, the Benicia Fire Museum. As it turned out this was the best place to be, with plenty of room a kitchen, bathroom, and cable tv. What more could we ask for? Yes we even made contacts on the radio. With our Elmers around the new ham's had a wealth of information available to improve our skills. We enjoyed QSO's from all over the country, and next year we will get some from overseas. Our thanks go out to all the people of Benicia that allowed us to have our field day this year. 73 -- *K6PMX*



Virginia WA6DOV Shows us the sign-in/information desk



Len KG6SYN operates our station with Ross K6PMX as scribe, next to the fridge full of BEER provided by our hosts. Dick K2GMY and Russ KG6SYK in the background our relief team, warm's up.



Virginia WA6DOV, Colette KG6SYL, SM/East Bay Ti NJ6T, and Ron KC6MTO Standing outside our shack. Behind Ron can be seen the rope that leads to one end of our G5RV dipole.



Len KG6SYN shows the importance of duct tape in the kit.



Russ KG6SYK takes lunch orders from Gerry W6AET and Doug KC6UET. We had it rough!



Gerry W6AET, Dick K2GMY, Rich Call pending, with Art AB6HB helping to translate our Canadian contacts.



Ross K6PMX, Len KG6SYN, and Sue WA6AGP..Between the three of us we are sure to get that call correct.



Let's get this antenna up. Ready, Aim,Fire....Hey this thing really works.



Why isn't this working?



This is my second year with a General class license and my first attempt at Field Day as a single operator portable station. My loyal companion, (my wife Arlene) and I set up my station at Windmill State Recreation Area, about 40 miles from home. It was an extremely cool day for Nebraska in June. The rig is an ICOM 706MKIIg through an MFJ-969 tuner all powered by a marine battery. The first antenna we put up was nothing more than a simple 80 meter dipole fed with ladder line. Couldn't get it to tune up to save my soul. At this point field day was in its second hour and I hadn't made a single contact. Down comes the 80 meter dipole to be replaced with a previously tried 40-20-10 multi dipole. Hurray, got on the air. I figured the problem out on Monday morning after Field Day. The tuner requires a jumper to connect the internal 4:1 balun. I thought the jumper was internal to the tuner. The second antenna I put up was fed with coax. Lesson learned. Never overlook the simplest things. I had never used the tuner with a balanced feedline. We hung it up about midnight local time. I was kind of sad to see it end. Looking forward to Field Day 2005 and trying that 80 meter dipole out.

Roger Hammond -- *KCOMWM*

Jacket, headphones, cup-o-snacks (thanks Arlene), a cool beverage, lots of hams to talk to. Life is good.



Next year we keep "Murphy" away from the tuner and maybe pull an all-nighter. It was a GREAT first year for us.

WR2G -- Jul 2, 2004 11:15 ET



I had a blast operating alone, but its alot of work for one person. -- WR2G





Arts and Crafts



SM Bill Hudzik W2UDT visits Craig's WR2G site

K3NHK -- Jul 2, 2004 09:58 ET



AJ3U and KB3FWW try to find a satellite (that wasn't operating). Bummer!

This year, the St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association used K3NHK as its call sign. Although it does not lend itself to a pretty or easy CW contact, this vanity call sign has very deep sentimental value to those of us at NAS Patuxent River. K3NHK is the ICAO Airfield Designator for the Naval Air Station! K3NHK is the call sign that we are going to use at the Museum for Naval Aviation Test and Development Museum.

SMCARA is located on a peninsula in between the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers, about 65 miles SE of DC. Our location does not lend itself to making large numbers of contacts like Pike's Peak, or MT. Whitney



(if anyone transmits from there!) So we focus on: 1) Eating well 2) Getting as many of the club members out as we can 3) Eating well 4) Trying to get as many of the bonus points as we can 5) Eating well 6) Having fun We try to beat our score from last year (which wasn't hard this year). and hope to make contact with friends across the US like KF4LM who was working with KS0LV. -- *KE4RTJ*

SMCARA traditionally uses the Hollywood (MD) Volunteer Fire Department site for Field Day. Primarily because of the public bathroom. The county provide the REACT van for a little help too.



KB3JLZ works with KE4RTJ's XYL to prepare and NTS message.



KB4QAA helps set up the info table. Sample QSL were provided to visitor's that showed internet hyperlinks to SMCARA, ARRL and the Pax River Museum.

AB0PC -- Jul 2, 2004 02:25 ET

Hamming it Up, Up, and Away!

Although “Field Day” is an important event for Hams to test ones ability to set up and operate under emergency circumstances, and many rewards come thru accomplishing that very task, it is always equally rewarding to be reminded that being a Ham can be fun and exciting too.

After a long and tiring 20+ hours of operating Ham radio under emergency conditions, thru torrential down pours and pounding hail, members of the Park County Radio Club pause for a moment with great anticipation.

Early Sunday morning the weather conditions were perfect for a unique experience. A Hot-Air Balloon was launched with radio operators, and “rig” at hand, to make contacts throughout the country during this annual Amateur Radio “Field Day” event.

Imagine this: An enormous Balloon rises in the early morning blue sky, back-dropped by none other than our beautiful Rocky Mountains, and lifting Ham operators while they make contact with the rest of the world. Radio contacts echo thru the valley. What more can one say than, “Wow, it’s great to be a Ham!”

Many Thanks go to Ted Wilson kb5cnb of Bailey, CO for hosting the Field Day event, and the Aeronautical Grafix Co, for that delightful Hot-Air Balloon experience. -- *WOELF*



Mitch and Dave

Both the space weather and the terrestrial weather cooperated this year. We had good conditions, good food, and good comradery. What more could we ask for. Well.... maybe someone to operate from 3am to 7am. -- *K5CM*



Wayne (AA5JJ) on 20m PSK



Pam (N5KW) and Connie (K5CM)



Pam giving the orders.



Larry (N5LW) and Connie (K5CM) working 15m PSK.



Dave(W5AO) and Ed (W5TM)



Paul (N5GIT)



Dave (KA5IIS) and Hazel



Jeremiah and Jon (N5UUA)



Larry (N5LW)



Wayne (AA5JJ)



Connie (K5CM) and Pam (N5KW)



Morgan and Lucy the Beagle



Ed (W5TM)



Connie on the tower



Mitch (KC5PAC) catching a few zees

K8SCH -- Jul 1, 2004 22:58 ET



Ready for a QSL balloon launch are: Bruce - N8BV, Mike - AC4XS, Emily - K4MLE, and Dale - KC8HQS.



Operating from Cincinnati, OH, the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society operated 3A from Mitchell Memorial Forest. We had a 20/80 meter station, a 15/40 meter station (both SSB), a CW "Tent", and a 6-meter station. All 3 HF stations used pneumatic masts - hook them up to a small air compressor, and watch them go! We had a very nice Public Information Table, complete with personalized buttons with our club logo, your name, and callsign. We also launched balloons with our personal QSL cards attached, along with information about amateur radio, the ARRL website, our club website, and information on how to become an amateur radio operator. We had demonstrations of APRS, 432mhz ATV, and Hellschreiber. NTS traffic was passed from Field Day to friends and family across the country, and also to our section manager, K8QOE. We had a great contester join us this year, but he preferred sitting on tree-limbs instead of the chairs we provided. Looking forward to next year! -- *KA3MTT*

"Rocky" ended up being one of our more avid contesters - once we fed him enough!



First stage of one of our pneumatic masts...



Hook up the tiny air compressor...and we're onto Stage Two!



Stage Three.....



Stage Four! ... CQ Field Day!

WA2GUG -- Jul 1, 2004 19:44 ET

This year the guys of RECWA really pulled together. Two more of our members came through and the Queens EC got to do his first field day [we are all ARES members]. We stayed with the battery power; but this time each HF radio and the packet/APRS station had their own 80 ahr battery. We kept two additional batteries on charge during the day with solar panels just in case.

The antenna system was improved with the addition of a G5. This was positioned 180 degrees out from the 20 and 40 meter dipoles. This antenna came through when 80 meters opened up at about



6 Meter Dipole

2am.

As we did last year we improved and we came up with some more improvements for next year and can't wait to try them. Oh the food was great thanks to N2NSA who supplied 1/2 a cow. The crew WA2GUG, KB2QLE, KC2IXE, and N2NSA and son Mike [who did the packet messaging]. -- WA2GUG



KC2IXE Queens County EC



KB2QLE and N2NSA



Who said you needed fancy mounts for solar pannels



20 and 40 meter antennas



N2NSA on HF and son Mike on Packet station



All the Verticals and the Trucks and the Mountains

K6FQ -- Jul 1, 2004 18:41 ET



Mt. Palomar Observatory

High Seas Rescue Demonstrates the Value of HF to Field Day First Timers

The official on-air activities of our San Diego Skywarn group are normally limited to spotting and reporting significant weather conditions over VHF and UHF repeaters situated near the 5,600-foot peak of Mount Palomar in Northern San Diego County, close to the world-famous Mount Palomar Observatory

(<http://www.astro.caltech.edu/observatories/palomar/>).

In 1934, Mount Palomar was selected by Astronomer George Ellery Hale as site of CalTech's then-revolutionary 200-inch telescope because of the mountain's ideal southwestern location, majestic overviews of the Pacific, year-round Mediterranean climate and easy access by road from Los Angeles and San Diego.

These same factors, it was thought, would make Mount Palomar one of the best locations in the west to participate in Field Day 2004. And thus, Skywarn team leader Steve Smith, WB6TWL, made arrangements to expand our horizons from regional VHF/UHF communications into the world of global HF at a private campground a few miles from the observatory.

This was our first-ever Field Day as a group and the first time that several of our technician-class members had used an HF rig (under supervision). Two modest dipoles, a 20-year old HF transceiver

and a QRP GOTA station put us at a disadvantage to larger California Field Day sites with portable towers, 10-element beams and as many as 14 operating positions. But we were determined nonetheless to have fun and learn more about HF operations.

After a day of successful contacts with New England, Hawaii and many points in between, most of our members had tired and crawled into their sleeping bags by midnight Saturday night. The temperature held steady around 62 degrees with no wind, and it became an extraordinary summer night that you experience only in special places such as Mount Palomar. The skies were so clear and the Milky Way so bright that we could almost write our logbook entries with the starlight alone.

The nighttime HF bands piled up with monotonous automated transmissions of “CQ Field Day” and “CQ Contest” on both SSB and CW. It was hard for us to find an open frequency to send our own CQ, and when we did we were rarely answered. The novelty of tuning up and down the bands and competing with powerhouse operations in Los Angeles, Orange County and San Francisco for acknowledgements from distant contacts started wearing thin. Only a few DX stations were willing answer our hard-to-hear K6, 2-Alpha station. Our night shift decided to do less talking and focus instead on listening and stargazing.

Shortly after 1:00 am local time we began hearing emergency traffic in the top portion of the 20-meter band indicating that a small craft in the South Pacific was slowly sinking 680 miles from land. Over the next few hours, we listened to the drama unfold as the skipper of the sailboat rationed himself to one or two brief transmissions per hour to conserve battery power as he waited for help from a French Navy rescue ship coordinated by amateur volunteers in the Maritime Mobile Service Net (<http://mmsn.org>).

The sailboat owned by Australians John and Kelly Hallows was in route from Mexico to the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia. They had been at sea for 48 days, and when John became seriously ill, a container ship attempted to provide medical assistance, but incredibly, it bumped into the sailboat causing it to lose its two masts, damaging its only lifeboat and seriously injuring Kelly. With both crew members incapacitated, the small craft was in serious trouble.

John Caine, VK4CEJ in Queensland, Australia relayed Lat-Lon coordinates between the Hallows' and the French ship while Bob Botik, K5SIV in Austin, Texas provided phone patches among the sailboat, an emergency physician in the states and the U.S. Coast Guard District 14 Headquarters in Honolulu. Ultimately, the French Navy successfully rescued John and Kelly and transported them to a hospital. The damaged sailboat was abandoned and lost.

We later computed that the sailboat was about 11,500 kilometers from our location on Mount Palomar and was probably transmitting only ten watts or so on a short antenna. Without intending to do so, our antenna team had erected a highly-efficient 20-meter copper-wire dipole and positioned it perfectly on the southwest-facing mountainside for clear reception across the open Pacific, one-third of the way around the world.

With this real-life experience under our belts, several of our VHF/UHF-only operators are now

working on license upgrades to expand their privileges into other Amateur Radio frontiers. Our group's first Field Day demonstrated to us that complex antennas, tall towers, big-buck radios and linear amps aren't essential to participate effectively in Amateur Radio. Innovative, low-cost solutions, used equipment and quiet listening can be equally rewarding.

From Kurt Barnhart, W6WRJ@arrl.net, San Diego Skywarn -- W6WRJ

N0EW -- Jul 1, 2004 13:37 ET



<l>Big Hat</l>



<l>Erik n0ew (left) with Joye n0ocp, Director of Office of Emergency management</l>

Dwayne wb5plj and I operated two-man portable (1B MO). We set up in a public park named Fellows Lake just north of Springfield, MO, which was quite nice. This was our second year at this site. The weather was great! Last year it was very, very hot and the bug count was sky-high. This year almost no bugs were present.

We were visited by our local Director of the Office of Emergency Management, and about half-dozen curious people over the weekend. Many will openly stare while driving by, but not many will come over even when waved at by us. We handed out information about amateur radio in general and each of the local clubs (there are three to my knowledge). One of the items I suggest to others is an area map that shows where each field day site is located. Be sure to include talk-in frequencies. If possible make this one of your hand-outs that visitors may take with them. This improves the chances that people will drive around and visit each site. We are all in this together you know!

This year we waited for the stroke of 1 PM to begin set-up. With just the two of us working and temperatures only in the high 70's it took us 5 hours and 10 minutes to begin operating, including breaks. We have observed a number of improvements that should reduce this amount of time by a wide margin. The biggest area of improvement will be in setting up the 80-M loop. This took us half our set up time. Upon reflection we believe we will be able to do this next year in about 30-minutes, as opposed to 2 1/2 hours. Our two biggest lost-time areas was laying out the placement of the masts and in assembling the masts themselves (which were 5-foot 1.25" gray TV



<l>Our Camp</l>



<l>Mast</l>



<l>Mast Foot and Hoist Rope</l>

mast sections). These mast sections are NOT designed to be used for temporary deployments. They can be difficult to get together and to later separate.

Lubrication is highly recommended on all joints. One could also use the 2" military masts, but I don't think they would be much faster and you will not gain much height above 30-feet (based upon past tests, I only comfortable with about 44-feet and certainly 48-feet maximum with mil-masts).

Speed clips for the guy-ring attachment and small plywood "feet" and a centering spike did help speed up the deployment of the masts as compared to last year. Basically, any knot tying, hammering or use of tools results in lost-time. My advise to others is to brainstorm ways you can eliminate these steps. To the degree you succeed, you will speed up your deployment. This is not overly critical for field day, unless you work under the 27-hour rules, but for real emergencies speed is of the essence! Carefully storing your antenna wires so they will freely spool out is also very important. If you end up with a knot of 300-feet of wire you can lose many, many hours untangling knots!

Next year I will hope to be able to suggest a quick and easy method of deploying a full wave 80-meter loop.

Our phone antenna was a full wave 80-meter loop at 30-foot height, and it worked very well. This is the same antenna we used last year and what we intend to use next year as well. We also attempted a satellite contact, but were only able to hear other stations (we've only been playing with satellites for about one month and apparently need more practice, hi-hi). We used our loop for the 10-meter downlink for AO-7, and a 2m/70cm quagi made from PVC and # 12 THHN wire for other satellite attempts. We did have a 2-meter talk-in station with a roll-up j-pole hung at 20-foot (supported by a fishing pole). The 2M talk-in was set up along side the satellite station. Our primary phone station was set up to the left of these stations.

Communications Equipment: Phone: Icom-756ProII (very nice); Satellite: Icom-706MKiiG and Icom-746;



<I>PVC Guy Tensioner</I>



<I>Phone Station</I>



<I>2-Meter Talk-In Station in an Ammo Can</I>

2-Meter talk-in: Icom-2100H in an ammo can (internal 35-AH battery). We used a generator to power everything except the 2-M talk-in station.

We also had giant hats! These are great for providing personal shade. Along with copious amounts of sunscreen and bug spray a team should be well protected from the elements. Add a rain coat, wool blankets, tarp for the equipment, and an extra pair of shoes and socks and call it good-to-go!

It was great fun, and we both look forward to seeing improvement next year. Should anyone have any questions please feel free to visit my web site or send me an email (www.noew.org / noew@arrl.net).

-- NOEW



<l>Remember the Coffee!</l>



<l>Must have non-melting sugar treats!</l>



<l>450-Ohm Feed!</l>

K4FAU -- Jul 1, 2004 14:33 ET

The combination of the Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association and the Florida Atlantic University ARC K4FAU proved once again to be a successful one. Despite the smaller setup we made more



CW is very much alive!

contacts than in the previous 3 years!

For photos and a more extensive eyewitness account please visit our site at:

<http://www.k4fau.org/>

73 Sjaak -- *W4RIS*

W4CUE -- Jul 1, 2004 14:40 ET



Daryl A. Isbell (W4DAI) retrieving some last minute supplies for Field Day. The list includes bug repellent, electrical tape, sun screen, batteries, emergency medical supplies, etc.

The Birmingham Amateur Radio Club participated in the ARRL Field Day 2004. It was fun. We were located at Oak Mountain State Park in Pelham, Alabama. We had newspaper and TV coverage. We had many visitors. We had a lot of participation from new hams and people wanting to get their license. We had plenty of food and fun. We had a blast and are looking forward to next year. 73 and catch you on the bands. -- *W4DAI*









K7ZD -- Jul 1, 2004 01:20 ET

Considering the world "climate" I decided to see how well I could do in a real emergency situation where I had no access to large antenna arrays, commercial mains, and battery low power.. quick setup.

So.. at the last minute I found a cabin rental up in the Arizona high-country (Overgaard) and got a Buddipole Dipole to compliment the Elecraft K2 I recently built. More than enough power was supplied from a car battery I charged earlier in the week..



How simple can it get?

I was AMAZED! Truly, decent communications can be maintained using a very elementary station setup! I had a great time casually operating and was happy to see CW is still "alive and well"! 73 Gary -- *K7ZD*



Operating position AFTER test (QRO - 10W! - HI) Made a few more Q's for the K2 log - CW lives :-)

VE3SGB -- Jul 1, 2004 08:43 ET



Field Day site at sunrise with 40' tower supporting 40 meter loop, G5RV, and 2 meter beam

This was our third year and we had a blast. The weather was perfect the bands were perfect, and the radios and antennas worked better than ever.

-- *VE3SQT*



Don VE3CBA working 40 CW.



Doug VE3TVD working 2 meter SSB.



The big cheer at the end of the contest for VE3SGB 1A ON and 1006 contacts.

N5WF -- Jul 1, 2004 04:48 ET

The Wichita Amateur Radio Society used a site in Burkburnett's (Texas) Friendship Community Park



A group picture of those present to assist in setting up, less the photographer Fernand Hubert - KC5EOM. Back row (left to right) — Johnnie Murphy - WF5Q ; Mitch Davis - KE5BVC; Dan Caldwell - AD5IP; Glenn Rogers - WA5ZJK; Walter Tyndale - KD5WDS; and Tom White - KE5ASA Front Row (left to right) — Jerry Burns - NB5J; Randy McClain - NB5Z; Louis Thomas - KI5ID; David Gaines - N5DHG; Jascob Jackson - KD5JHW; Jeff Pennycuff - KD5UAZ ; and John Duren - KD5PWT.

for its Field Day Operations this year. We had 15 operators participate and had over 30 visitors, including family members, to the site. The Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator for Wichita County (Texas), the City of Burkburnett's Emergency Management Coordinator, and the ARES District Emergency Coordinator stopped by for a visit.

We also used Field Day as a social gathering for the Society and cooked hot dogs for lunch and hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, and Dutch Oven cobbler (peach, apple, and cherry) for supper. -- *N5DHG*



Mr. Charles T. Byars - W5GPO, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service District Emergency Coordinator for District #1 of the North Texas Section, visited the Field Day site Saturday evening.



Jacob Jackson - KD5JHW set up a demonstration of the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS).



Sergeant Tommy R. Thornton - W5XBK, Burkburnett Police Department, who is also the City of Burkburnett's Emergency Management Coordinator. visited the Field Day site Saturday afternoon. Tommy (right in picture) accepted a WARS Certificate of Appreciation to the City of Burkburnett for their support of Field Day 2004 from David Gaines - N5DHG, the Society's Secretary.



W.A.R.S. Field Day site was the “Rotary Pavilion” located in “Friendship Community Park” in Burkburnett, Texas.



The Public Information Table, holding Society, ARES, and ARRL publications.

W0IVJ -- Jun 30, 2004 18:31 ET



Field day with a Moxon. -- W0IVJ

A Moxon rectangle suspended at 40 feet with interchangeable elements for 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters.

W0IVJ -- Jun 30, 2004 17:37 ET

Tom (W0IVJ), Joe (N0KTA), and Cliff (K8BUG) set up for field day on Tom's sister's ranch just west of Guthrie, OK. We used two masts built from 2x4's and 4x4's to support a Moxon rectangle beam with interchangeable elements for 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. The antenna was suspended between the two masts at about 40 feet and rotated by a small TV rotator. A band change was accomplished by lowering the antenna and clipping on a new element loop. This took about 5 minutes. The antenna functioned very well and the front-to-back characteristics were fantastic. This was really noticed since we were operating between the east and west coasts. -- W0IVJ



Moxon rectangle 40 meter beam suspended at 40 foot level.



The Moxon is up and ready to go.



If you look closely, you can see the wire elements.



No field day is complete without an antenna-sunset photo.



Cliff and Joe operate from the set up in the barn.



The antenna is almost down for an element change. The pulleys above the rotator made it easy to center the antenna between the masts so that it wouldn't hit the mast guys when rotating.



The element loops were arranged concentrically on the ground below the antenna with the highest frequency element in the center. The antenna was then lowered, the old element un-hooked, and the new element hooked in. This is a close up of the hooking arrangement. Hose clamps with small rope loops were situated along the fiberglass poles at the correct positions. Small plastic chain links were cut and tiwrapped into the corners of the element loop. This is a close up of this arrangement.

W2GSB -- Jun 30, 2004 13:54 ET



GREAT SOUTH BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW "CLASS F" CATEGORY AND OPERATES AT TOWN OF BABYLON EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS (EOC)

Being my last stop on Sunday of 2004 FD weekend, I was too late to see this long standing group in action. They were in the knock down mode and I helped load the truck.

It was refreshing to see at least one group in New

York-Long Island Section taking the unique opportunity of working with their affiliated EOC. Also while doing so they racked up extra points toward their FD score too boot. This was a perfect opportunity for the club to keep the capabilities of their amateur radio resource fresh in the mind of the Town's Emergency Services staff. In the long run, this will promote a better working relationship with one of the most important served agency ham radio operators could be called upon to support. No better way to improve their perception of us than to demonstrate our skills to them as frequently as you are able.

Although I my arrival was so late, all was not lost. A repeater problem that had been plaguing the club's 2 meter system for a long time was addressed. After a quick analysis it seems to have been resolved. No better way to end a Field Day – with the smile of success on our all our faces.

More information about GSBARC will be found on: <http://www.gsbarc.org/>

73 Steve Barreres -- K2CX

W2LQO -- Jun 30, 2004 13:07 ET



GRUMMAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OPERATES FIELD DAY FROM BETHPAGE, NY AT THE FORMER FACTORY COMPLEX THAT PRODUCED THE LEGENDARY F-14 TOMCAT IN THE 1970'S

Members of GARC started their FD set up early using Friday evening to get things stated. With the weather getting stormy, members decided to close the site down a little early and resume their labors on Saturday morning. While working at the site they noticed an unusual bird that was acting rather strange. It made a lot of noise and seemed to be injured and stumbling around. The writer informed the group that they were watching the antics of a very precocious as well as crafty bird. I have seen them numerous times upstate NY but it is unusual to find them here on suburban Long Island. It was a female Killdeer protecting her nest. Located on the parking lot pavement it was very close to their radio activities. Club members marked the nest with a safety cone for protection, and the bird resumed sitting on her clutch of eggs. An unusual bird of flight making her home a the special place that made its share of machines that allowed man to fly. I would say the club might have a new mascot.



Killdeer



Her nest could easily be missed as it is well camouflaged

For more info on Grumman ARC go to:
www.qsl.net/wa2lqo

You can check out what Killdeer do at:
<http://www.birdwatching.com/stories/killdeer.html>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*

W5GFC -- Jun 30, 2004 11:24 ET



Gotta be a way to make this work !

Plan B Field Day 2004 Greers Ferry Arkansas

This time we were ready. The Greers ferry Amateur Radio Club W5GFC had thoroughly planned for the ARRL 2004 Field Day. We had secured wire for the dipoles, masts for the antennas, a mile of coax, solder and soldering irons, generators, gas, transceivers, tuners, and 1000 miscellaneous parts. Our site would be a private airport near the top of a local mountain. We had it all, we were going to the top ! A few days before the big event, news began to trickle down from the mountain that "we might not be able to hold our event there this year". It couldn't be, it was destined that this year on the mountain would bring us top

honors. But it was true, the airport was in full operation on that date, and our antennas would constitute a real hazard. It was too late to obtain permission from the Corps of Engineers to use any of their nearby facilities, and from previous experience we knew that time was against us in obtaining other sites. When it looked the darkest, help came by way of Bill Harper, KB4JKQ, and his YL Nancy. They offered the large back deck of their home for our activities. In consideration of the neighbors, we would get on the air as a "D" station, and not use the generators. Sunday morning was also unavailable. Ours is a small club whose average age is "Seasoned Retiree", so undaunted we set upon our strange adventure. Bill, KB4JKQ, had a slight misadventure during a recent storm, and had not yet surveyed his antennas. His G5RV had been annealed and anodized by lightning, and formed into exotic shapes by the wind. The vertical antenna would have been better used as a display on Antiques Road Show. Working with what was available we began transmitting weak signals as long as possible. One of our operators managed a 4 by 4 report from a mobile station. A few hours later we contacted a very patient W1AW operator. By this time our YLs, most of whom are Ham Operators, had heard of our plight and showed up at the site with a buffet meal fit for a king. Two of the members also brought their music and instruments and treated us to some great Blue Grass music. In the early evening the signals began to fade from our fractured antennas, but the fellowship continued long afterward thanks to the generosity of Bill and Nancy and the spirit of the 19 Club members and guests. We may repeat this event, our own version of Field Day, on a more regular basis. Who knows, with healed antennas we may even be able to share the fun with other hams around the world.

George Rohrer KB6FO President Greets Ferry Amateur Radio Club -- *KB6FO*

W9JOZ -- Jun 30, 2004 17:54 ET



Commissioner Oscar Cowen (on left) gets a lesson on how to work a CW contact from Don Smith WA9KRT.

Here are some pictures of our Field Day.

We had two elected officials stop by, with one of them being the Emergency Manager, who's trailer and generator we were using.

Our members achieved 5 times more points this year than last year.

Way to go guys

73 John -- *KA4HWX*



Another Commissioner (on left) stops by to chat about emergency communications with John Poindexter, KA4HWX.



Setting up on Saturday



How many Hams does it take to setup a Vertical antenna? None. The hams are standing around watching the visitor (KA4HWX's son) attach the coax.



Mark shows 4 year old Michael how to work a 2 meter SSB contact.



Club President, KA4HWX looks over the log sheet while Paul, N9QYK (on left) helps a visitor operate the GOTA station.



A shot of the complete layout of our Field Day event. On the tower to the right are the 2 and 440 antennas. The tower on left holds a tri-bander, while the vertical stands out in the open and the 40 meter dipole is off to the right in trees. The rigs were all in the shelter, while the trailer held the generator. We operate a 4A station and tripled our points from last year.



And lastly, the toll of working too hard to its due to Tom WA9NGO.



Two of our big operators, Joe, AA9YQ and Steve, KB9GPW work 20 meters SSB.

N5EOC -- Jun 30, 2004 14:49 ET

The NETARC (Northeast Tarrant County Amateur Radio Club)- N5EOC - again this year set up at the town center gazebo with a 100 foot ladder truck for an antenna support. The open air gazebo helped but didn't totally block the driving rain that commenced just after Field Day start at 1800Z and continued through the weekend. Rig tables were covered with tarps, and operators held umbrellas



Field Day site at Town Center - Southlake, TX

while operating through the storms. Our high public visibility drew the attention of many curious shoppers besides inactive hams that stopped by to investigate. Mainly a good time was had by all, and we creatively solved some of the problems that pop-up in "the field". -- *W5AP*



Its nice to have a good roof.

W1HIS -- Jun 30, 2004 13:49 ET



For Field Day 2004, Chuck Counselman W1HIS (photog.), Lew Merritt WA1HZG (wearing maroon beret, khaki shirt, and suspenders in the first photo), and fellow members of Headquarters Company, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion (Reenacted) <<http://www.1CanPara-HQ.org>>, recreated HQ-Coy's June 1944 "wireless" station with all-original radios, antennas, vehicles, tents, uniforms, weapons and other gear in Cove Island Park, Stamford, CT. Six uniformed para's interpreted both the amateur-radio and the historical aspects of this exhibition to hundreds of enthusiastic visitors, including WW II veterans. -- *W1HIS*

W1HIS, Stamford, CT: recreated "wireless" station of Headquarters Company, 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion, Normandy, France, June 1944



Dave Benson, K1SWL, operates one of HQ-Coy's three, 1943-original, Wireless Sets No. 19. The vibrator and dynamotor power-supply in the module at far left drew 4 A (receiving) to 10 A (transmitting, CW, key down) at 12 VDC from storage batteries under the table. An original WW II gasoline-powered generator recharged these batteries. The 19 Set transmits 10 W on CW and its receiver bandwidth is 9 kHz -- so copy was difficult under the crowded Field-Day band conditions. Nevertheless, confirmed FD exchanges were completed with 60 stations on 40 and 80 meters.



Ace CW op Barbara Lombardi, K1EIR, logs with a Perkins Braillewriter. Barbara's sending with the 19 Set's 1943-vintage straight key sounded like that of a modern electronic keyer.



1st Canadian Parachute Battalion Wireless-Signals Chief Chuck Counselman, W1HIS, set up and maintained the station in addition to operating. This WS 19 belongs to 1CanPara Regimental Sergeant Major William P. Max, who is not yet licensed to operate it; but Chuck is working on that, too.

N4N -- Jun 30, 2004 12:19 ET



There are at least 11 antennas in this picture!

N4N Field Day Group / Paulding County ARC Field Day 2004

2004 marked the fourth field day for the N4N field day group. This effort started out in 2001 with KN6RO, WB8VTK, and KE4UW running 3A. That first year we learned tons about operating in FD. We had so much fun, and talked up the event hoping to do better in 2002. And the effort grew.

This year we ran 9A from the same location in Paulding County (Just Northwest of Atlanta). We were fortunate enough to join efforts with the Paulding County ARC.

Some of the highlites include over 1000 40M CW



12 Amp Solar panel used for Natural Power QSO's.

qso's accomplished single handedly by Jim "the" Nail, WA2MBP, Working the ISS, K5ISS on 2 meter FM, working several satellites, and being visited by our own Georgia Section Manager, Susan K. Swiderski, AF4FO.

The weather was marginal, as we got a typical "Gully Washer" during setup and again during teardown. Welcome to Georgia in the summer.



Sattelite, VHF/UHF, and GOTA tent

Many thanks to the setup and teardown help, the operators and visitors, the GOTA operators, and a very special thanks to Margaret Moss, KG4SKB for the excellent food!

If anyone is interested in joining our effort for 2005, please join the N4N_Field_Day group at Yahoo groups.

73 and Think Field Day! -- *KN6RO*



This was our CW Tent. Jimmy "The" Nail, WA2MBP running them on 40 in the foreground. Gene, N5CE running 20 CW in the back.



Our Phone Tent. WB4SQ, Gary, running 20 phone on the left. Eric, WB8VTK running 40 Phone in the back, and Roger, KN6RO running 15 phone on the right.



KD4SHH and KE4UW working on the SSTV Demo.



A nice view of the site setup. Lots of radiators!



Colored Christmas lights were wonderful at night! No (of fewer) flying pests!

W2DQ -- Jun 30, 2004 09:09 ET



Steve, K2CX receives a certificate of participation from Cathy Pearsall, KC2ACJ SCRC president

SUFFOLK COUNTY RADIO CLUB DOES NOT LET A LAST MINUTE SETBACK RUIN THEIR FIELD DAY PLANS

After plans for a joint effort with the Brookhaven National Labs amateur radio club fell through, this group did not cancel their FD exercise. Setting up their stations in the club president Cathy Pearsall's (KC2ACJ) yard, the club members had the chance to operate their two station entry. Using emergency power and "good ole Yankee persistence" SCRC members displayed a noteworthy efforts this FD weekend.

More information on SCRC regular club functions can be found at: www.scrc.freehomepage.com

Steve Barreres -- K2CX

W8COD -- Jun 30, 2004 07:50 ET

The USS COD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB operated Field Day 2004 from the site of the World War Two Submarine USS Cod SS-224, in Cleveland, Ohio.

The club members and guests usually operate from the radio room of the USS Cod. The radio room is barely large enough for two people so for Field Day we moved operations outside.



The USS Cod 2004 Field Day Crew

The Club is trying to get the boat on the air every weekend this summer so look for us primarily on 20 and 40 meter SSB and CW using the call W8COD. Many of you have already worked us!

The USS Cod is located in downtown Cleveland, Ohio, along the shore of Lake Erie just east of the New Cleveland Browns Stadium and the Rock-N-Roll Hall of Fame.

The USS Cod is open for visitors and tours from 10:00am to 5:00pm until the end of September. If you'd like to operate the radios while visiting contact KA8VIT via QRZ.com



Mike KC8OWL operating W8COD

Welcome Aboard...

Bill -- *KA8VIT*



The USS Cod SS-224. (The beam on the tower in the background was not used for the FD event).



W8COD in operation. Mike KC8OWL at the rig. Left to right, seated, Tom W8ZIP, Mark KA4JVY, standing with the sunglasses Jerry K8CMI.



The sun setting on Lake Erie as seen from the starboard Lookout position above the conning tower.



Sleeping on the submarine was really a cool experience. Here is Mr. Zak (son of KA8VIT) going to sleeping in the "Goat Locker." (Officers Quarters)

WB8RFB -- Jun 29, 2004 23:30 ET



The G5RV atop the 25' mast.



The Ten-Tec Scout - a great little radio!

This year was a solo effort as my XYL (KA9QXI) was in Illinois. I set up a G5RV atop a 25' metal mast with one side anchored by a huge oak tree and the other by a stand of small maples. Ben Gay and I got to be good friends after doing all that antenna work!

I operated 1A and ran from a new Honda 2000 eui generator, which worked great once you remember to leave the air vent on the fuel cap open during run-time! Thank goodness, I had a laptop with a fresh battery in it. When the lights suddenly went out my log would have been history without it.

The mosquitoes were manageable too and the conditions were excellent on the "workhorse" 40M and 20M bands. 15 and 80 meters also provided some new sections for me too.

My main op mode was CW and several times I was able to pick a spot, call CQ and run a string of contacts. That sure helps the QSO rate. I ran with 50 watts from my Ten-Tec Scout, which has been my FD radio for the past 6 years. Simple to operate and tune, it rarely failed to work a station heard, either on SSB or on CW. I love that little radio.

This year, I copied the CW FD bulletin from both the east coast (W1AW) and the west coast (K6KPH) and both signals were solid S7 to S9 on 40M. Good show!

Although I operate in a number of contests during the year just to work DX, Field Day has its own special flavor and stands above all other operating events. It's far removed from being considered a "contest" in my mind.

To me, it's the entire range of experience from getting outside, getting that antenna up, hearing the melodious sounds of good CW being sent at dusk, while sipping on a steaming cup of coffee with a gas lantern hissing near by, to getting that melancholy feeling when it's all over for another year.

Goodbye FD 2004 - you were a great one! Let's hope FD 2005 brings us all back together again.
-- *WB8RFB*

VO1BRK -- Jun 29, 2004 21:30 ET



BARK FD 2004. Representatives of the NL Govt. Baccalieu AR Klub, Poldhu ARC, Marconi ARC, Radio Amaters of Canada (RAC) and the Newfoundland and Labrador Field Organisation.

The Baccalieu Amateur Radio Klub VO1BRK invited several officials to their Field Day operation. Pictured are Mr G. Sweeney from the House of Assembly of the the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Mr Boyd Snow VO1CBS, Avalon West Emergency Cordinator, Mike Ryan, VO1RYN, candidate for the NL Field Organisation, Yours Truly Joe Craig VO1NA, RAC NL Section Manager and Dave Goodwin VO1AU, RAC Atlantic Regional Director. Also in attendance was NL Net Control Carl Milley VO1UL and other members of BARK who cooked crab meat, fish'n'brewis, and socialised between operating. There was also a demonstration of a Low Frequency (LF) experiment and discussions of

repeaters and emergency communications. A great time was had by all.

Reports of other field day operations in Newfoundland and Labrador were received from the Avalon Amateur Radio club and the St Anthony ARA. -- *VO1NA*

K2VN -- Jun 29, 2004 19:35 ET



NASSAU AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OPERATES FIELD DAY FROM THEIR CLUB MEETING LOCATION AT EISENHOWER PARK IN CENTRAL NASSAU COUNTY

Members of Nassau ARC set up for FD at the largest park facility in the County of Nassau. Located adjacent to the Special Activities building near Merrick Avenue, the club had a number of phased wire arrays erected in the fields. The building, as well as a number of tents, were used as operating positions during the exercise.

Additional information about the club can be found at:
<http://www.nassauarc.org/>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*

A verticle antenna mast makes a good place to display "Old Glory" and the ARRL colors

K2RF -- Jun 29, 2004 18:40 ET



Splitrock ARA Who said trees were for dipoles? Check out Dave's hanging 6 meter yagi. Although still near the ground notice the ropes ready to hoist the yagi into the trees. -- *K2EFK*



Getting ready for the tri-bander.



Lets not forget solar power.



A couple of young visitors from the near by camp ground stopped by to operate the GOTA station.



Talk about a talk-in. One of our members took this as he flew over the field day site.

W5NOR -- Jun 29, 2004 18:14 ET

The South Canadian Amateur Radio Society, Norman, Oklahoma had their best Field Day ever this year. We had 30 members participate and over 30 guests. Attending were K5RAV, Vice Director West Gulf Division, WB5SYT, Section Manager Oklahoma, Harold Haralson Mayor, Rachel Butler and David Hopper City Council Members. We operated W5NOR 3A and should score the best we ever have as well. The highlight of the event, equipment-wise was a Mod 28 Teletype machine with which we copied the W1AW bulletin. -- *N5UMH*



K5RAV and Mayor Haralson check out the Teletype Machine



Pres KD5DOB and VP KD5JPL work the phone station.



WB5SYT at the PSK 31 station



Our CW team made over 500 contacts



KD5SRW and the 6M VHF Station



**Whats a Ham event without food! Thanks
N5HZX, N5SOF and KD5JSD**



After a long evening, Frank Moorhus, AA2DR take a well deserved break.

575-LONG ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO SIMPLEX CLUB OPERATES FD FROM FORMER RCA GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS ROCKY POINT

Using the site were Alexander Anderson alternators once generated 200 Kilowatts on 15 Khz., 575-LIARS set up their tents and operated Filed Day. Almost exactly where the main building stood, members of the club installed their temporary antenna and operated their "low power" equipment during this years ARRL competition. A long boom 6 meter yagi gave the club an advantage during enhanced conditions and a number of openings on six meters.

Now over 6,000 acres of wooded preserve, this land was clear cut in the early 1920's and became the home of 2 six tower Alexander Multiple Tuned arrays. In later years, HF transmitters required many dozen Rombic wire arrays for RCA radio traffic. It's sister station in Riverhead was used for reception of traffic.

More info about LIARS can be found at: <http://www.lisimplex.org/>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*

W2RC -- Jun 29, 2004 16:57 ET



Follow the arrow to Field Day

RADIO CENTRAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OPERATES FIELD DAY FROM HISTORIC LOCATION FORMALLY RCA GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER INSTALLATION

Radio Central ARC operated again from the David Sarnoff Preserve, Riverhead, NY. This land was used by the Radio Corporation of America starting in 1920's as their receiver installation in conjunction with their transmitters located around 9 miles away in Rocky Point. This location has a nice open sided shelter that was used by the club for its station installation. They erected a surplus Army Signal Corp 48 foot mast arrangement to raise their Tri-band yagi. This land, more than 2,300 acres, is now a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation preserve and is named after the former president of RCA, David Sarnoff. Written request for use of this



Winter time photo of shelter used for FD

facility is required and a permit is issued authorizing its use.

More info about Radio Central Amateur Radio Club can be found at: <http://www.rcarc.org>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*



Racking up phone contacts, club president Emil Tillona, KD1F operates early Sunday morning solo.



Nothing like an antenna high up in the air
for solid copy

W7UQ -- Jun 29, 2004 15:53 ET



I forgot to mention one of our newest hams,
KE7AHA! She worked the radios and the grill too!
-- KO7C

W1IP -- Jun 29, 2004 15:52 ET

Hey, we had a ball.. the local ARRL Section Leader never showed.. so we ate his steaks..!!(Hi).. 73
-- WIWA

W8COD -- Jun 29, 2004 15:41 ET



Here is the Field Day Crew from the World War Two
Submarine USS Cod SS-224 in Cleveland, Ohio.

On the air as W8COD, the USS Cod Amateur Radio
Club is trying to get the boat on the air every weekend
this summer. Look for us. QSL info for W8COD is
available on QRZ.com by looking me (KA8VIT) up.

73,

Bill -- KA8VIT

**The 2004 Field Day Crew of the WW2
Submarine USS Cod SS-224.**

K9ES/4 -- Jun 29, 2004 15:03 ET

This was the first time in 15 years that rain and thunderstorms stayed away from our site. Other clubs

in Indian River, Brevard County, and Orange county Florida were clobbered by severe thunderstorms, yet we were dry and could see the huge clouds in the distance. Our site was from the Longpoint Campgrounds, just north of the Indian River / Brevard county line, on a small island in the Indian River. The activity on 20 and 40, both CW and SSB was great. We also managed some 15 and 10M QSO's. Who said CW is a dying skill. Long live the contests to keep CW alive! Field day was my first contest over 45 years ago, and it is just as good now. -- *K9ES*

W9VT -- Jun 29, 2004 13:53 ET



Jim, KB9VR playing on top of the Village 80ft Rohn Tower! Jim, you forgot the radio!



CQ, My arms are tired, CQ, hurry it up!

No Murphy this Year! What did we do wrong? No Murphy? No Hot Weather! No Lightning, No Problems! No Cops! Must be the Good Living! Our Club, W9VT has been doing this for many, many decades. This one was just about perfect! How Perfect? We operated 3F from our Village Emergency Command Bunker. What did the Village do the Friday before Field Day to our surprise? ... They put up a 80ft Rohn 45 Tower that they been waiting for the last year to put up... the day before Field Day! Station Manager, Jerry, K9PMV and some of our Club members were out doing some pre-FD clean up and found the tower going up! OH Boy! Our 60+ year young tower climber, Jim, KB9VR just couldn't wait to get up that tower and put a G6 up at the top! It Played, and we Played! Great Field Day! Thanks to the Setup, Tear Down Crews, all the operators, especially our CW Team of Dave, N9LGP, N9LGP, and N9LGP (he did it Solo!), the overnight crazies that stayed all night long! And lastly, Of course Trish, N9WDG (WILD DANCING GIRL) the GOTA Station Captain, Club Vice President, Chief Cook and Bottle Washer! Trish, We all Love You! Great Field Day! till next year! -- *WD9HSY*



Dave, N9LGP CW Captain, Top Point Getter, Top Op, and Most Valuable Operator. What's all that Beep-Beep stuff anyway? Great Job! Dave!



Henry, N9HVB, "What's this button do?" One of the night time Crazy's, Henry's banging them in on 20mtr Phone during the early hours of the morning!



"Why am I in the dark corner?" Brian,
WD9HSY playing on 160 meter phone!

W2LRC -- Jun 29, 2004 12:41 ET



**A sign that can't be missed directed
intrested parties to LARC's FD site**



**Jack, K2JX proudly poses with the clubs
Emergency Power plant**

LARKFIELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S FIELD DAY SITE RECEIVES ELECTRICAL SAFETY HONORABLE MENTION

LARC held their Field Day activities at Suffolk County's West Hills Park. The second highest point on Long Island and a perfect camping style facility gave this group an excellent edge during this years ARRL competitive exercise.

This club had the good fortune in having the safest and most complete Emergency Power plant, bar none. As many other amateur radio do, Jack Fisher, K2JX used his professional expertise to help out the club. As a licensed electrician he built a fully redundant generator system. Complete with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI, formally called GFI) this power plant had two generators that could be switched on and off line without any loss of power. This made it easy to service and allowed for the safe fueling of the gen sets without loss of operating time. GFCI made the possibility of electrical shock injuries most likely impossible.

Congratulations K2JX and the whole Larkfield crew.

More info about LARC can be found at
<http://www.larkfield.org/>

Steve Barreres -- K2CX



This picture speaks for itself

WA5FRF -- Jun 29, 2004 12:26 ET

A strong southerly flow of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico combined with an upper level disturbance provided exceptional propagation for TH9DER (599 +300dB) and L1TNG (599 +1000dB), causing severe all-band QRM to the marine mobile operations of WA5FRF/MM during Field Day 2004. -- *WA5FRF*

N7V -- Jun 29, 2004 12:16 ET



The main tent

A great weekend weatherwise and a new location that turned out to be a great place. Combined effort of three Las Vegas clubs, Las Vegas Radio Amateur Club, Frontier Amateur Radio Society (FARS) and Nellis Radio Club produced many contacts and great camaraderie amongst club members. -- *KL7IPV*



The LVRAC Emergency Comm trailer set up at the FD site



Club members at it early and set the pace for the weekend. Other radio positions are still being set up.



N7HRO set up his portable 40 beam and trailer making 40 a real workhorse for the event.



Other club's members getting geared up. A total of 10 event stations worked over the weekend.

W2VL -- Jun 29, 2004 10:58 ET



Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club

Photo courtesy K2CX



With approaching inclement weather, LIMARC's setup crews quickly erect one of their tower installations.

Photo courtesy LIMARC Web site



LONG ISLAND MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATES FIELD DAY WITH STYLE

LIMARC, with a membership roll of almost 300 members surely know how to put a first class Field Day station on the air. Using the property of the Rosemary Kennedy BOCES Center in North Bellmore, the club set up formidable towers, antenna and radio stations. The support facilities, most notably the food supplies, were equally impressive. This years FD exercise was fun for the club's membership as well as their unlicensed family members.

This club receives high accolades for their practice of proper safety habits. Note the workers wearing proper Hard Hats. SAFETY FIRST especially on FD.

More information about LIMARC is available at:
<http://www.limarc.org/>

Steve Barreres -- K2CX

I can't believe I ate the whole thing.

Photo courtesy LIMARC Web site



Food for all!

WB2JSM -- Jun 29, 2004 09:29 ET



QSL shows home of the club

HALL OF SCIENCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ESTABLISHES THEIR FIELD DAY LINK AT AN EXHIBITION HALL LOCATED ON THE FORMER 1964 - 1965 WORLDS FAIR SITE

HOSARC members worked their Field Day installation at the New York Hall of Science, their namesake. Host for all of the club's activities, this is New York City's only hands on science and technology center. Members of the club operate a working station as an exhibit year round. This provides visitors, both young and old alike, a first hand view of an operating ham station. What a great way to promote our radio sport.

As usual making had ample room to erect the antennas needed to operate FD.

More info about the club can be found at:
<http://www.qsl.net/hosarc/>

Additional fact about <http://www.nyhallsci.org/>

Steve Barreres -- K2CX



Operating in a field behind the main building, members set up station equipment. Not the containers they use to store their equipment for rapid deployment in the event of an emergency deployment.



Bigger is Better, when it comes to antennas. Club members decide to raise their tri-band yagi installation to greater height.

W8SP -- Jun 30, 2004 09:18 ET



Alan W8OP and Greg N8TJD bolt the beam on the tower. -K8UQY Photo

Field Day 2004! Great fun!

Once again the Mountaineer Amateur Radio Association members headed for the W8SP repeater site with antennas, radios, tents, and a whoppin' generator for another super Field Day weekend. Between us on top of the hill with the radios and generator and the Go-Kart track on down the hill, the community named Quit Dell was not very quiet!

Overall we had a successful and fun time. The folks who came out all contributed skill, experience, dedications, enthusiasm, and just plain hard work to make this another great Field Day.

Alan W8OP, JoAnn, Chris K8RUN, and Jenna, Greg N8TJD and Linda N8YNL, Joe WD8EOG and



Club Banner



The THING - "Murphy Repeller" - whatever... has been at every Field Day since the 70's!



Tom K8TW and Steve WB8III on CW

Luveda, Chuck K8UQY, Dawn KA8VHW, and Tom, Jason KB8AVQ and Melissa (callsign coming soon, we hope!) Marshall WG8T, Steve WB8III and Matthew and Tommy, Tom K8TW, THANKS, all of you, for your participation.

Not to forget Trinity and Hairy, who made up the K9 Squad!

Thanks to Bill WA8YCG for the use of the generator. It started on the first pull, and never once burped during the whole time. That 6kw diesel ran flawlessly!

The guys got the tower and beam up pretty easily. The new concrete pad was a help, and I guess they've done this the last few Field Days so they *KNOW* how to do it!

Alan's IC-746 was great. Joe's FT101, may be older but is a workhorse! Thanks guys!

It was good to see Don WB8SCG again. Looking forward to seeing the pics you got and maybe one of these times you'll operate a bit, too! Get that antenna up and get on the air!

Don's FD Pictures can be viewed on the web at:

<http://webpages.charter.net/dgcjr/w8sp/>

Thanks Don for sharing them! You got some really good ones!

The weather was beautiful again this year. Thanks to whoever remembered to arrange that.

It got pretty cold Saturday night. Steve had to work CW with gloves on!

Dinner was great. I checked in to the WV Phone Net at 6PM to pass our bonus traffic to the SM & SEC, but managed to slip out between messages long enough to get a burger and a couple of hot dogs.



Jason KB8AVQ and Chris K8RUN on SSB

I enjoyed "jamming" with Chuck and Dawn. Some of those old songs I remember, and some I've not heard, but y'all do great.

Of course, we're ALL grateful for the "Handi-House" ... that most necessary operating position on the site!

This year we switched to N3FJP logging program. Using the laptops on a wireless network, things worked very nicely! Thanks, Scott!

Our final QSO count was up from last year, and y'all did a great job. From first prep to teardown, THANKS again for your hard work.

Already looking forward to NEXT YEAR!

73 Bob WA8YCD President MARA -- WA8YCD



It was REALLY COLD Saturday night!



While doing clean up, we found a baby Wouff Hong!



Saturday night coming into the site...



Club VP WA8YCG's Diesel Generator ran flawlessly! -WB8SCG Photo



Our info booth was small, but we actually DID have a couple of customers! -WB8SCG Photo



Saturday Dinner is a big part of the Field Day Experience! -WB8SCG Photo



As always, we flew the colors! -WB8SCG Photo

K4GNC -- Jun 30, 2004 09:18 ET



Gaston County Amateur Radio Emergency Service and Gastonia Area Amateur Radio Club combined efforts this year to provide the biggest Field Day Gaston County, North Carolina has ever had. Months in the making, such exhibits as The Gaston County Police Drink, Don't Drive Trailer with free finger print kits for the children and lots of information for the adults, The AG Center VFD with their new 105-foot ladder truck and the City of Belmont with their Smoke House Exhibit demonstrating how to react in a fire. Also attending was an officer from the City of Gastonia, NC Police Department. These exhibits were designed to attract the general public. We also offered

God Bless America



Gaston County Police Exhibit



City of Belmont Smoke House Exhibit



Aerial Shot from AG Center VFD Ladder Truck

a free drawing to attract the Ham population. We gave away an HTX-420 Dual-Band HT. This helped draw a few hams that have been inactive in the hobby and those that make amateur radio a part of their everyday life. Another great feature was to give away free hot dogs and drinks. The drinks were provide by the Pepsi Corporation and were served from one of Pepsi's Trailers on site.

News 14 Carolina a CNN affiliate interviewed Gene Marshall KG4IMC, Gaston County ARES AEC and PIO and filmed operators in action making Voice, Digital and CW contacts.

Field Day was held at the Gaston College Campus a well know and beautiful site with easy access for the public.

The weather looked as though it may play a major role in the planned activities. It had rained for 4 days prior to Field Day and the forecast was not looking very promising. It rained Friday night and into Saturday morning. When we arrived to set up the rain subsided and did not rain another drop until Sunday afternoon shortly after we had packed everything and called it a day. Could it be that our maker is a radio operator?

We were not out to set any records making contacts; we just wanted to get the public involved and introduce them to Amateur Radio. Mission accomplished. -- *KG4IMC*



KE5BNQ makes her first ever hf contact, Tristin is 12 years old. Her contact is being logged by her Dad, Stuart, KD5YIO.

At the urging of the Mayor we held our field day in Pryor this year. We had 3 new hams make their first ever hf contacts, one of which is the youngest (12) ever member for our club. We were also visited by 3 local officials, the Mayor, Former City Judge and the County Emergency Management director. For a small club, 42 members, I think we did well with 130 contacts, although as President I was proudest of the new Hams who made contacts and the way everyone worked together. -- *KD5AFE*

N1EV -- Jun 29, 2004 22:43 ET



Our local newspaper coverage.

The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club - Norwalk, CT - WWW.GNARC.ORG

Field Day this year was not as good as last year, but it was 2nd best ever. The bands were good and we had lots of overnight operators. Not quite as much CW as we had hoped for, but we did have more Phone QSOs. See <http://www.gnarc.org/fd04.htm> for Our results and more photos. -- *K3EIN*



K1RFD and N1ZZ help us out on CW



N1NB does 40 Meter Phone



W1GIG (Grandfather) and KB1KQK (Grandson) on 20 Meter Phone



KA1WYQ and friend Max on our GOTA station



KA1CVV makes sure everybody gets fed



Our Tri Bander once again performed flawlessly



Look at all those Ham Radio plates we found in the parking lot.



Perfect weather, for a change, for the Motor City Radio Club's Field Day at the Centennial Farm, on Grosse Ile, Michigan -- *K8SB*

The Phone Station was located near the pond. A very good ground system!



Boy Scout Mitchell Kittle operating the GOTA station. He is now signed up for the MCRC License Class next September



N8ZLM tending the information booth. The new club equipment trailer serves very well for the booth.



N8ZFH operating the phone station.



K8RDJ logging in the CW station.

W0AA -- Jun 29, 2004 19:47 ET



W0AA Field Day 2004 @ N0FP

What a weekend! Murphy showed his ugly face a couple of times and was summarily escorted out of town! The typical FD snafus, but great fun for certain. No big rotating aluminum antennas, just dipoles and ground plane verticals--pretty simple stuff.

Last year, the same operation was under the N0FP callsign. We decided to activate W0AA, the Minnesota Wireless Association call sign for the 2004

10HP 5600W Generator replaced the one we ran out of oil last year.



Bird's Eye View of N0FP's farm from a few years ago. The towers (not pictured) were out in the field to the West of the buildings. Dipoles to the west, verticals to the east.



Here's Vlad-N0STL (scratching his head) and Tod-K0TO adjusting the tension on the guys of the North Tower.

FD effort. We had to give the old call some use during the summer too.

Here is a bird's eye view of the property. I've noted where we placed the antennas this year for our FD effort. Actually, the 80M and 20M positions were switched this year, and the Windom was a 40M ground plane vertical.

After a spectacular failure of last year's generator (see link to soapbox last year), which we ran out of oil at 17:30Z, a new power source was in order. Everything was powered from a single 10HP 5.6KW generator, which ran continuously for about 28 hours. Check out this spiffy little beauty! 12 hours of operation at $\frac{1}{2}$ power. We used about 8 gallons of fuel. Based on fuel usage and rates provided by the manufacturer, I'm guessing we were burning fuel at about a 2 KW average rate during FD.

We used a pair of dipoles (40M & 20M) mounted to three temporary 46 foot tall towers made of fiberglass, fence top-rail, and rope. We oriented them in a NNE/SSW direction to give a peak response in the WNW/ESE direction from our central Minnesota location. This placed our signals right into the breadbasket of 3 and 8 land out east. At the other end of the property, about 400 feet away, we used a basic set of ground plane verticals for 80M-40M-20M. Besides the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of feed lines, a pretty simple setup really. Logistically, that's a bunch of hardware to place in such a short period of time. The last antennas were not in place until well after the starting gun at 18:18Z.

Great weather really. It started to rain at one point Sunday morning. It was just a light drizzle. But when it did rain, the noise floor would run to about 5dB over S9 for a few minutes. The dipoles were horribly noisy during the drizzle. The ground planes did not get noisy during the rain. Then something started the static 'snapping' sound. All the stations could hear it. I wonder if the whole station was 'floating' electrically above ground. Maybe we should have grounded something. Oops...



A view of the south and middle towers at sunset. 20M dipole visible with one end of the 40M dipole on the right edge.



That's Vlad-N0STL on the left running 20M CW using the IC756PROII. Kelley-W0RK is on the 1000D running 20M SSB.



Tod-K0TO brought us more than just an IC756PROII, he brought with him decades of Field Day experience.

Vlad-N0STL started the show on 20M CW using the IC-756PROII. Vlad's a great CW op. And he LOVES multi-op contests. Although FD is not technically a contest, we do keep score and do compare these scores to one another. What a great opportunity during the last weekend in June.

Tod-K0TO was on hand to lend us more than just his experience—we got to use his IC-756PROII and hand crafted secret weapon. Now THIS is a footswitch! Tod worked both SSB and CW this FD. He started on 20M but we gave him an antenna with 30:1 SWR. You know you have an op when he can still make a rate into an antenna like that with about 300' of feed line! We fixed it an hour or so later.

It was difficult for me (Ford-N0FP) to focus on operating with all the stuff going on around here. As host to a great bunch of guys, things needed tending to that really only I could do. I operated mostly CW of course, but I did bust into 20M SSB towards the end of the contest and enjoyed running some great rates. Here Vlad-N0STL is observing my technique at the CW station.

Bill-AC0W took the night shift on SSB using the FT-1000D. It's tough to make rate in the middle of the night. If anybody can do it, Bill is the man for the job. Bill did a great job at digging out the Qs on 80M and 40M. We only had one 80M antenna operational this year. I was worried Bill and Vlad would be fighting over it at about 3AM local. No problems, but I think both were a bit disappointed with the situation. Something we gotta get solved for 2005.

Kelley-W0RK did a bang-up job on the logging. We used Writelog and had the whole thing networked. I counted 5 computers running. Kelley was also on hand to work the FT-1000D on SSB. He was lucky enough to work the 1700Z-1800Z hour on SSB. We did 100 Qs that hour on 20M SSB alone!

Mitch-KC0JFY used the materials from the ARRL



Using materials provided from ARRL website, Mitch put together this great information table. At the center of the table is a display with a pair of NA1SS QSL cards for QSOs worked on FD a couple of years ago. Nice Trophy.



Vlad-N0STL is checking up on Ford-N0FP's CW technique.



Here is Bill-AC0W, at the "D," pounding the Qs into the log. It's fun to listen to him on phone. "2 Alpha Minnesoota" just like a Minnesota Swede.

website to pull together a nice looking display table for visitors to look at. We had some visitors. Although media was invited, and law enforcement, and the county EM (he was out-of-town on vacation this week), none showed up.

Mitch-KC0JFY was again our GOTA manager. 260 Qs on the GOTA station this year. Great job Mitch! As we stood dazed and exhausted during the tear-down of the station after Field Day I asked Mitch-KC0JFY why we do FD. His response was classic. "Because it is so darn much fun!" And fun it was. Here is Mitch at the GOTA station explaining that Honey the Yellow Lab would NOT be working the GOTA station. Honey was on hand to police the station of stray potato chips, peanuts, and to keep those darn pesky barn cats from invading the shack. She did a great job of it too.

Great food was prepared by Janey, W0RK's wife and daughter Caitlin. (Croissant sandwiches for lunch on Saturday—Beef, Ham, and Turkey; Hoagie style steak sandwiches grilled to perfection on Saturday night; farm fresh eggs, pancakes, and sausage for breakfast Sunday morning; and burgers on the grill during tear-down) The dinner bell would ring and they'd come a runnin'. I saw lots of smiles and heard plenty of laughter around the place.

We got a late start at 18:18Z due to some last minute computer software/hardware glitches with a PROII that Tod-K0TO was good enough to bring along. We fully intended to operate until 18:18Z Sunday. Shortly after 1800Z on Sunday, Kelley-W0RK was unable to continue on SSB due to the hecklers on 20M that seemed to insist that FD was over at 1800Z. Attempts to remind them of the rules only encouraged their jamming. This was too bad—and bad form on their part. 1700 to 1800Z was at a 100/hour rate on SSB alone. Vlad-N0STL was able to continue on CW with a good rate right up to the final gun.

All-in-all, this was a great Field Day. It's great to work with experienced people. 2,381 QSOs, plus 800 bonus points, for a total score of 8,274. Thanks to



everyone for the Qs. -- *NOFP*

Mitch-KC0JFY is the hardest working GOTA op I've seen. That rig was manned most of the time. Honey, the Yellow Lab, just couldn't convince Mitch to let her try 40M for a few minutes. Here is Mitch thanking Honey for keeping those pesky cats out of the shack.

KCOM -- Jun 29, 2004 17:24 ET



Tri-Lakes members (left-right) get down to some serious antenna business. KB0TWH, N0MJP, and KB0RKO. Our WX was great and the food was overwhelming. GL to all -- *KCOM*



This antenna started out as firewood and end up as firewood!

W8VY -- Jun 29, 2004 14:29 ET



<http://pictures.kb8sfr.jinxed.net/Field-Day-2004>

Take this URL for all of the pictures from the joint Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club, and Southwestern Michigan Amateur Radio Team effort. What a great time! -- *KB8SFR*

Big Project graduate Simon, KC8ZYD, and his mentor Dave, W8DO at the 40 meter CW station.

K0NR -- Jun 29, 2004 12:50 ET



I happened to be on vacation in Indiana during Field Day, so I operated in class 1B, portable from the lake country of northern Indiana. The 6 meter opening was great to have on Sunday and I worked a number of the VHF crowd from back home in Colorado. 73, Bob K0NR -- *K0NR*

The picnic table operating position.

K4OO -- Jun 29, 2004 12:42 ET

The Smith Chart Amateur Radio Society K4OO did Field Day 2004 for the fifth year in a row from a remote location near Meadows of Dan, Virginia.

We ran a 2A Low Power Operation with two AB-577 military masts for antenna supports (tri-band



KE4U, this years Field Day CZAR makes sure W4FAL is staying out of trouble in the operating tent.



Proud Dad W4KX with newly licensed son Steve KI4GEG.

KM3E -- Jun 29, 2004 11:33 ET



HF beam, and six meter beam). Wire antennas were used for 40M and 80M.

On Friday afternoon the weather was WET!. Putting up tents in the rain is no fun... On Friday night it really rained but the tents held and everyone got to sleep dry.

We ate all but two meals at the site. We had 14 participants and a the new guys that don't normally do a lot of contesting got to have some fun.

A very special thanks to Arden and Golda Quesinberry, who allowed us to again use this wonderful site on his Patrick County, Virginia farm.
-- *W4FAL*

We operated 2F from the Susquehanna County, PA EOC in Montrose. This was the first group Field Day operation in a long time for our county. We didn't burn anything up, and no one got hurt, so it was a perfect weekend. We did manage to make some contacts after a late start. Put an A3S up on an old lift, and used a 40m sloper off the 100 foot tower here. Took lots of notes for next year. Thanks to all who worked to dig us out of the noise. 73, Kevin
-- *KB3HQX*

Everyones' back as they operate. Tom and Bernie on 40m, and Jeff on 20. Tom's dad is observing. The EOC was a little dark, but better than having the fluorescent light hum on top of all of the electrical noise.



The A3S, 40m sloper off the tower, and a 2m antenna on a pole in the corner of the fence.

W3SW -- Jun 29, 2004 11:20 ET



W3SW Site

KB2ZWZ and I (W3SW) worked Field Day 1B from the back yard again this year. We used solar panels to keep our batteries charged. We ran 100 Watts using my new Kenwood TS-2000. Antennas were a G5RV, 80m dipole, and a 40m dipole. The temperature dropped to 41 deg F! We were wearing winter coats and gloves. It was too cold for the insects to be out, they knew better! It was a fun way for a father and son to spend quality time enjoying ham radio. 73s and see you next year! -- W3SW



Solar Panels



Batteries



KB2ZWZ Andy



W3SW Andy

KF4TLT -- Jun 29, 2004 11:03 ET



fun for all who participated -- *KN4M*

KF4TLT big black mt ky hight 4200 ft

KF4TLT -- Jun 29, 2004 10:59 ET

the bands were to good it was so crowded you had trouble making out some of the qrp hihi stations/ it was a blast Don KN4M trustee -- *KN4M*

XE1KK/3 -- Jun 29, 2004 09:17 ET

There is nothing more motivating than operating an exiting contest from and exiting location: Field Day from Acapulco. My first Field Day participation since the contest was open to DX. Operated category 1B QRP using a FT-817 with an external battery and the ultra practical Buddipole antenna. Rented a room at Las Brisas Hotel and asked for one of the top of the hill villas at 895 feet high overlooking the Acapulco bay. Conditions were great on 15, I even had a small pileup at some points. See you next year! -- *XE1KK*



XE1KK/3 overlooking the Acapulco Bay

W2RAK -- Jun 29, 2004 08:45 ET



A KCRA member prepares a "homebrew" two meter yagi for FD operations

KINGS COUNTY RADIO CLUB OPERATES FD FROM HISTORIC FLOYD BENNETT FIELD

Kings County RC used the old terminal facility once used for commercial air service at this 387 acre area now a National Park Services facility. Open to the public, this location was an excellent opportunity to explain how the club's activities and how amateur radio operators help during communications emergencies.

More information about KCRC can be found at:
<http://www.qsl.net/kcrc/>

Additional facts about Floyd Bennett Field is available at
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/aviation/flo.htm>

Steve -- *K2CX*



Old terminal building as it is today at Floyd Bennett Field.

Photo courtesy of the National Parks Service

W2VA -- Jun 29, 2004 08:06 ET



A WARC member operates a CW station while NLI Section Manager George Tranos, N2GA chats with the troops.

W2VA OPERATES FIELD DAY BY THE BAY

One of the oldest clubs on Long Island, NY, WANTAGH ARC operated their Field Day exercise from Wantagh Park. This facility, operated by the County of Nassau, is the location where the club has operated for many years.

More information about Wantagh ARC go to:
<http://www.qsl.net/w2va/home.htm>

Steve Barreres -- *K2CX*

W7UQ -- Jun 29, 2004 00:51 ET



The W7UQ Field Day crew.

W7UQ, the University of Idaho's club station operated Field Day from high atop Moscow Mountain. Club members participating were KL9A, KO7C, KC7RSO, KD7PHG, KD7YGF, KD7YBZ, and KB5TSS.
-- *KO7C*





K6CU -- Jun 29, 2004 00:26 ET

This is my \$100 qrp station for Field Day. A MFJ-9040 running 4 watts from some Radio Shack batteries. Great fun working 89 stations and 30 different sections. Thanks to the many stations who listened two (and more) times to hear my little signal! -- *K6CU*



K6CU as a 1B (battery) entry

NC4LC -- Jun 28, 2004 22:45 ET



Our youngest operator Alona age 8 made her first two HF contacts.

NC4LC Lincoln County, NC RACES / ARES Field Day 2004

Even with a rocky start with some unexpected antenna “opportunities”, we were able to correct and adapt those initial snafus at the 2PM kick off, and we ended up meeting and exceeding all of our Field Day goals.

From our highly visible location on the south lawn of the Lincoln County Courthouse, we ended up with over 50 names in our visitor sign-in book, fueled in part to a great story in the Lincoln Times-News, previewing the activities. We had several officials of Lincoln County government and emergency management visit our site. Our media coverage continued with the visit of a Lincoln Times-News photographer who came and took some action photos of the event in full swing. Our GOTA station allowed inactive hams and the general public to Get On The Air, you should have seen the smile on the 8 year old girl's face after she made several real contacts on HF.

According the ARRL Field Day rules, eligibility is the number 1 item, the number 2 item and object of Field Day is "to work as many station as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the WARC bands) and in doing so learn to operate in abnormal situations and in less optimal conditions. This year in Lincoln



Steve AG4L operating and Cliff WD4PIC logging on 15M



Sign announcing Field Day at Courthouse.

County, with an unofficial theme of “Field Day is a contact sport”, I am pleased to announce that as a 2A operation with the Bonus GOTA station, and a bonus VHF station we made over 1200 contacts on the 2 HF stations and made more than 100 contacts on our GOTA station to earn the 100 point bonus. In addition to the GOTA bonus we also demonstrated APRS, Slow Scan TV, passed NTS traffic messages and copied the ARRL CW message and earned bonus points. Now to many FD operations that might not sound like many contacts, but based on previous years efforts we had never exceeded 500 contacts before.

New for 2004 were, networked computer logging that showed real time scores and also the hourly rate of contacts, during several hours we were able to achieve rates in excess of 100 QSO's per hour. Another new idea for 2004 was scheduling operator shifts in advance, that allowed us to keep the 2HF and GOTA stations operating from the 2PM kick off on Saturday until the final gun sounded at 2PM in Sunday. After the 2PM ending, even though everyone was hot, tired and ready to relax, everyone helped with the breakdown of the stations, tents, antennas & feed lines and we were packed up and ready to leave in just over an hour.

There are too many people to thank for all their hard work, planning, organizing, and sweat in this forum, but hopefully you know who you are.

I would also like to thank all of the hams from adjacent counties that assisted us with the setup and breakdown of the operation; they also helped with the antenna installations, last minute grounding, and especially making contacts.

It was really refreshing to hear several people making plans and ideas about how to make FD 2005 an even better event, before we had even packed up this year's equipment to head home. We will be meeting later this week for a critique, to hear what we did well, what we need to improve on, and what didn't work to expectations. With this input and information, I can almost assure you that next years event will be even

better than 2004. -- *W4GRW*



Our two HF stations in operation by Bill *W4GRW* (left) and Roger *W4SWT* (right).

WB5LYJ -- Jun 28, 2004 19:21 ET



WB5LYJ and Max team up to make contacts.

2004 ARRL Field Day: *WB5LYJ* 1B NM

We (*WB5LYJ* & *WA5WHN*) had operated from our mountain location near Angus, NM (grid square: DM73ek) @ 6,800 feet asl. Lots of T-Storms nearby and QRN on 40 meters. The temperature was nice and cool and the bugs were busy bothering someone else.

KD5DJ and his *XYL* (Barbara) had stopped by to operate chainsaw portable. Doug and Barbara use the wood from our mountain property for winter heat. After loading their pickup with firewood, Doug & Barbara had departed. Our only other visitor was a doe.

We could hear coyotes howling and wild turkeys gobbling nearby.

Next year, we should set up the SSTV equipment and send the numerous vistas of the nearby Sierra Blanca and Capitan Mountains.

73 and CU all next year. -- *WA5WHN*

K8CPA -- Jun 28, 2004 17:29 ET



Chuck K8CPA at the Operating position at his home. Ugly ol' duffer, ain't he? 8-P

I once again operated Field Day, class 1D from the house here in Lincoln Park, Michigan. and believe it or not, I had a lot of fun this time! There were, however, a few problems. I battled a intermittent antenna problem that seemed only to occur when I was transmitting. and it was worse when I attempted to work SSB or PSK31. So, I stuck to CW. I do need to fix that problem. the hard part is finding the problem, I think a new antenna would fix it too! I mainly hunt and pounced the entire contest. I worked the loud one's and a few weak one's too. I tried my hand at SSB, too many stations! lots of QRM and QRN, A bit of QSB, made things a bit hard too. PSK31 was once again crazy, too many stations working too close together, I got tired of that REAL

quick like. So, I went back to CW and stayed there. I learned that 1.8K CW filters are nice, 500HZ Filters are WONDERFUL to own (which I do!)

All in all, It was a very enjoyable experience. I had alot of fun. The ol' bencher BY-1 Served me very well, without any major problems, other than the ground wire coming off the leg on the bottom of the key, and that's because I never did solder the connections. It was a easy fix, I just wraped the wire around the leg and I was off, the only problem I had was making sure my fingers were doing what my brain was telling them to do, and do it properly! Multi-PSK By F6CTE worked very well for helping me copy CW well.. and running GENLOG by W3KM worked excellent as well. KUDO's to both authors. My Kenwood 950SDX perked right along too. Now the antenna? That's another story...

Next Year, New Antenna, I hope. Maybe a Hybrid Quad from TGM Communcations in Canada. I got the tower, I just need the antenna. and a rotor. and a new wire antenna is in order as well.

The real cool part about Field Day is it always falls 2 days before my Birthday. So, I get to operate Ham Radio for 2 days, then get presents! How can you beat a deal like that?!?!?

Anyhow, 73 to all and see you next year!

-Chuck K8CPA

-- K8CPA

W1IM -- Jun 28, 2004 15:22 ET

For the umpeenth time W1GUA, Rudy and I, K1KU, did our 2A operation for TESARO (The Enlightened Society of Amateur Radio Operators.)

We always operate from Tamarack Trails Campground in East Lempster, NH, which, incidentally, is



W1GUA, Rudy, shows Grandson Collin how it's done at the W1IM 2A operation in East Lempster, NH

owned/operated by Rudy and Doris Adler, WA1THF. Speaking of Doris, where would we be without her assistance setting things up and keeping the chow flowing. As in past years, we had some inquisitive campers stop by to find up what was going on.

It was definitely another great year weather wise and and radio wise, especially with Rudy's two Grandsons popping in now and then to see what the old geezers were up to. (See attached photos.)

73, Darrel -- *KIKU*



W1GUA, Rudy, shows Grandson Garrett how it's done at the W1IM 2A operation in East Lempster, NH

KQ6EE -- Jun 28, 2004 14:38 ET

kq6ee was in action: hiked up to Mt. San Antonio in Los Angeles area (Mt. Baldy -- third highest mountain in Southern California). I took me 4 hours to get to the peak. I operated 1B mostly vhf and uhf. Many curious hikers asked what I was doing. I told them I was doing ham radio field day. They ask "what frequency, how far you can talk???? ". I should setup the information boot at 10064 feet mountain top. But sometime, the wind blow so hard, it might blow everything away. I arrived at the top at about 10:30am, setup my qrp station, late my lunch, CQ FIELD DAY, and enjoy the day at the top of Los Angeles. 73 -- *KQ6EE*



Kq6ee standing at the top of Mt. San Antonio (BALDY) working on qrp



At the top of MT BALDY with the sign, my backpack and other stuffs



antenna setup at the top of the mountain.
There were so many hikers at the
background: eating lunch, talking, enjoying
the day at the top. ONLY KQ6EE DOING CQ
FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY

W1MVY -- Jun 28, 2004 23:46 ET



Another great field day. This year I operated from
home, but with a twist - emergency battery power and
3 watts! Excellent fun! Can't wait for next year! Can
we do Field Day twice a year? -- *W1MVY*

W1MVY 1E SCV

K9JQE -- Jun 28, 2004 22:49 ET

We, W4IJR, K9MAL & my self, setup in a small cabin in the north woods of Wisconsin. Reception is great when your many miles from the noise of civilization. Even though we are on the down side of the cycle we feel the contest was well attended. -- *K9JQE*



Putting up antennas.



L-R K9MAL, K9JQE, W4IJR



One operating position.

AL7LE -- Jun 28, 2004 22:22 ET

The weather was hot but so was the propagation in what may be one of the best Field Days for the



Moosehorn ARC FD crew, AL7LE

Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club, AL7LE.

Propagation on the edge of the auroral zone can be quite challenging but with 85 degree temperatures, hot for Alaska's Kenai Peninsula, brought on by a subtropic pattern, the conditions were rather like more southerly latitudes. Is there a connection? Must of been the sun! A new 40 meter rhombic provided plenty of action on 15 and 40 meter CW along with the 20 meter "work horse" band. Throw in some satellite and psk31 along with a picnic and VE testing session and it's a weekend to remember -- *KL7WP*



KL1OI & KL7P work late night 20 meter SSB



KL7XJ listens for satellite



Tailgate PSK31 KL7RHJ & AL7EB



KL7WP works 15 meter CW



Time out for VE test session



Taking it down to the ground, KL7VIC



KL1OI looks for last minute QSOs during take down.



Hamming it up on the broadcast band.
AL2B, KL7RHJ & KL7XJ on KSRM radio talk
show "Sound-Off" with host KL7WP(behind
the camera)

N6NKO/9 -- Jun 28, 2004 21:21 ET



Here is my Jeep Cherokee equipped with a High Sierra HS-1800 antenna. The stinger is a CB whip. Even fully collapsed, the antenna is 15.6 feet tall. Behind the "Brookfield" water tank is E/W I-94.



I had a guest stroll by my Jeep Cherokee equipped with a High Sierra HS-1800 antenna/CB whip stinger combination but I could not convince her to sign my log sheet.

Never Kill Owls" on a difficult circuit. Asides from the two negative issues, I will be signing "mobile 9" again next year as the solo operation is a real neat way to go!!! -- N6NKO

After visiting three different FD sites in Southeastern Wisconsin in the afternoon, it was my chance to work the contest after feeding the family dinner out. So I put the home station backup battery (72 A/H AGM) into the back of my Jeep to run my 706MKIIG (to not kill the vehicle battery) and proceeded to my spot in Brookfield, WI. This little park is located on the divide between the Great Lakes and Mississippi watersheds. So, I had from 5:45 pm to 10:00 pm to work the contest as the park closed at 10:00pm. The time span was long enough after the driving that I did earlier but I had fun and that was the key to the whole thing. 15 meters was good pickings and had fun working grayline when the sun was going down. 20 meters was an audio wasteland - tight filters and even tighter ears were needed to work here. Of course at night 40 meters was a contest between hams and international broadcast and based on the cacaphony between the broadcast stations, the broadcast stations were winning. About the only detractors that I found to the whole experience were two: Self-proclaimed "band-edge" cops who say that people are out of band (and they aren't) and also not identifying themselves properly and people who had their compressors set to "full burn". One positive aspect to the contest was hearing the people who do not have much "seat time" behind a mic. Yes, they may not have the "swing" down of the exchange but hearing other stations walk them through the exchange to get it right or help them out was so reassuring and it was a pleasure to help out the learners as well. I found that even though using the proper phonetics is the "correct" way to do the process, sometimes using something original makes you stand out from the crowd such as my siging "N 6



THEY'RE LINING UP TO OPERATE EVERYWHERE THEY CAN AT CHERRYVILLE FIELD DAY 2004! (from L to R: Cheryl McLaughlin KB2RWY, Kelly McLaughlin (YL), Bruce Campbell N2SVK, Brian Campbell N2RDL, Elaine Kita N3ODB (Cherryville President). Photograph by Walter O'Brien, W2WJO

Cherryville Repeater Association had another great Field Day - this year we decided to concentrate on the fun and GOTA mentoring over wildcat contest competition but we still ran operators in 3A class across several bands!

Nice local press coverage, a visit from our SM Bill Hudzik, W2UDT and Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF from the ARRL, and general walk ups for GOTA.

Outside of a massive thunderstorm with some serious lightning just as the second tower out of 4 was raised, a collapsing brand new trailer tower for GOTA (of COURSE we had extra dipoles!), and a dead fuel pump on the generator at midnight (of COURSE we had spares!), a great time was had by all.

Even had time for a quick photo session, attached.

73, Walter O'Brien W2WJO for Cherryville Repeater Assoc. II, Flemington, NJ -- W2WJO



Peter, AD6TN built this Human Powered Battery Charger. Tim, WD6AWP, urges him on to see that voltage is high enough to charge the battery pack. Get a good cardiovascular workout, and generate power at the same time! We weren't able to calculate how many VPG (volts per Gatoraide) but it was an interesting source of power. . . .

Huntington Beach (Calif.) RACES Field Day

K6Z returns to the 2002 FD site. This was a TOTALLY different FD, in which the Huntington Beach RACES members were "called out" to an "activation." The FD exchange was the "traffic" and individuals were "deployed" with their RACES "Grab-n-Go" gear. K6Z acted as Net Control, and handed out FD contacts, etc.

Very interesting concept, which may be used with other ARRL contests.

OH BTW - We did SIX contacts on 10GHz - not bad - but it would have been nice to hear more microwave activity during FD. Perhaps FD Rules could change to make contacts over 1,000MHz count as a Bonus Point Multiplier, or count towards the "Non-Traditional Demo Modes"?? !!



K6Z - 6B - Battery, Orange Section -- *KH6WZ*

K6Z takes advantage of the Southern California sunshine with the solar panels and charge controller. This year, we avoided the gas generator, and had a much quieter and lower-budget FD, with gas prices over \$2 a gallon. . .



Laser rig demo at K6Z. Pulse-width modulation distance was about 2 feet in the daylight, but much farther at night. Improvements needed for next year. . .

ND6P -- Jun 28, 2004 15:56 ET

I wasn't able to use my planned field day site, a mountain peak in Los Angeles' Griffith Park because a mountain lion had taken up residence in April. So I operated 1D from my home QTH in Burbank instead. I did get a chance to try out my new contest software and it worked well except my touchpad would freeze during transmission on 40 meters. So I added an optical mouse the next day to resolve that. Hopefully the mountain lion will have moved on before the next FD. -- *ND6P*



Griffith Park Site

KORFD -- Jun 28, 2004 15:54 ET



RFD at the operating position. Note the can of Deep Woods Off! Most important accessory of the day.

Ahh, Field Day. The perfect excuse for a camping trip with the XYL! And what better way to accomplish that than Class 1B, single op?

The camping trip was great. The contest? Eh, didn't make near enough contacts. Had to shut down a couple of times for typical Colorado summer/mountain T-storms. Great campsite, lousy radio site -- down in a bowl but out of the wind and the lightning. Grand Mesa National Forest near Grand Junction, CO. GPS said 10,231 feet. So did our aging hearts and lungs.

It was everything I hoped for and more. Mosquitos the size of quarters, but the deep-cycle battery lasted noon-to-noon.

Life is good. -- KORFD



XYL Cheryl waking up. *I* got up first and made the coffee!

N2BWC -- Jun 28, 2004 13:19 ET



This was a casual operation just to see if the FT817 and "JOEY" antenna would work with five watts from my back yard in Oceanside, Ca surrounded by hills. My first contact was on 15 meters cw with W4VIY in northern Florida. Proof of concept succeeded.
-- N2BWC

W2AMC -- Jun 28, 2004 11:54 ET



**PECONIC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OPERATES
FD FROM HORTONS POINT LIGHTHOUSE**

Holding the night shift down, Len Battista, W2FX and Eric Kehl, KC2KJX operate high above Long Island Sound at the Horton's Point Light House at W2AMC's Field Day site. Len, an "old-timer" and Assistant Manager of the New York City - Long Island Section, joined forces with newly licensed Eric and helped rack-up the club's contact points.

**PARC's Field Day Installation high above
Long Island Sound**



With a elevation of 90 feet above mean sea level the radio clubs antenna installations work well on all bands. Six and two meter openings provided the VHF enthusiasts a chance to log some meaningful points toward this years field day score.

In the attached photo you can see a pair of dogs who's owner was a neighbor. They seemed content waiting for an occasional food treat from the club's members.

More info about PARC can be found at <http://www.peconic-arc.org/>

Steve Barreres -- K2CX

A graphic display was available for visitors explaining what FD was for and how they might become involved in amateur radio as a hobby

W5QGG -- Jun 28, 2004 12:12 ET



N5RZ, W5AJ, K5CFA, KK5ZG, N5ATO, K5KUX, & KD5VPA raising SSB antenna.

This year was one of the best Field Day's the Midland Amateur Radio Club has held. We operated 2A with a GOTA station and VHF station. The soccer pavilion we operated from was an excellent location. Other than a gust front of blowing dust hitting us around 6:30 Saturday night the weather was great. Not too hot. Even had to put a jacket on in the evening. A great time was had by all. Can't wait until next year!
-- *N5NA*



KK5ZG, KD5VOW, KB5RTL, N5ATO, N5RZ, & K5KUX installing the CW station antenna.



KD5VOW & KD5VOU operating the GOTA station with WA5PFJ in the background.



K5CFA cranking out the QSO's on CW.



W5AJ adding a little formality to our FD site!



N5POB, KD5VOU, & N5ATO at the VHF station.

KC4AUF -- Jun 28, 2004 10:54 ET



You're 599 VA Bicycle Mobil

I wondered what I could do different for field day this year so I combined two hobbies. I enjoyed touring and racing bicycles when I was stationed in Wiesbaden Germany with the United States Air Force. I still have my bicycle that was hand made by Wilhelm Grunewald who custom-made bicycles for the European Olympic racing team. I put my Yaesu FT-900 with two small batteries on the rear luggage rack and a 40meter Hamstick antenna at the very end. A miniature straight key was easily strapped to my handlebars and I was ready to go on an ARRL Field Day "Bicycle CW adventure".



With 25watts and a Mobil antenna on 40meters I really didn't expect to get many contacts but I was pleasantly surprised when my cq fd was answered by a booming s-9 signal from KA1NSV Dick Eressy on Cape Cod. We had a pleasant chat once he got over the shock that I was peddling my bicycle down the road near my home in Mineral VA. After a few QSO's and more miles than I was used to riding I headed home for a tall glass of ice tea and a bicycle cw adventure to share with my wife Becky KS4RX.

73 de Tony Day KC4AUF / Bicycle CW Mobil
-- KC4AUF



KC0DEB -- Jun 28, 2004 08:49 ET



The "shack". KC0DEM running the 10 mtr operation

After some needed weed-wacking of the chosen spot for our site, we got on the air fairly fast. (The plentiful previous rainfall had transformed the site into a small jungle...) We enjoyed the great opening on 6M ! These QSO's were my 1st on this band, TNX guys! Next edition we'll add a "real" 6M antenna to the set-up for sure. We used the 10-15-20 dipole to tune the "magic Band" this time, and to our suprise it did work pretty well. This was our 1st "2B" Field Day endeavor, what a great experience! -- *KC0DEB*



**The Site was in a cow pasture, so we had to select our exact location for the tent ;and watched were we stepped; very carefully..
Antennas : 40M 20M 15M 10M 6M 2M**

VE3SGB -- Jun 28, 2004 02:57 ET



Field Day site at sunrise with 40' tower supporting 40 meter loop, G5RV, and 2 meter beam

This was our third year and we had a blast. The weather was perfect the bands were perfect, and the radios and antennas worked better than ever.

-- *VE3SQT*



Don VE3CBA working 40 CW.



Doug VE3TVD working 2 meter SSB.

KL7EP -- Jun 28, 2004 01:23 ET



Charlie, KL7EP, works Tom W7LN, on 2meters while we are working on the antenna problem.

murphy was not kind.. screwdriver failed us before we got on the air, used a 6 meter vert. on 15, hey don't laugh too hard, it worked w/ 1.2swr, finally got 40 and 20 wires up about 2:30pm, shut down operations about 7:00pm, very very fun time for our first ever field day. hope for better times next year. -- *KB0RPJ*



My self, glen, kb0rpj, studies the antenna manual, when all fails, look at the book.



Jon, N0ZSC & Tom, W7LN, in the foreground chat.; while myself, brad-kb0yas, rodney-kc0rse, q-k0qes, and others operate and visit.

WOMAC -- Jun 28, 2004 00:29 ET



KD5TSH digging trenches to channel the water away from our operating position.

Although Mother Nature was not on our side, fun was had by all. Our original site was to be flooded so we had to scramble on Thursday to find an alternate site. We were able to get permission to use Spring Creek Park in Tomball, TX. Many thanks to the park supervisor for giving us the complete north end of the park. On Saturday, we received about 4" of rain and a few more inches on Sunday but this did not stop us. We did not burn up the air waves but we proved we could set up a few stations and antennas during adverse conditions. -- *N5LYG*



The folded dipole in the midst of the down pour.

KU4UV -- Jun 27, 2004 23:45 ET

This was my first real attempt at operating Field Day, so it was a learning experience of sorts. My twin brother (KR4GT) and I set up on a farm our family owns in southern Kentucky and operated as a 1B class station using a generator for power. We primarily operated on 20 Meters using a dipole strung between two trees near a creek, but we were also able to score up about 5 or 6 contacts on 10 Meters on Saturday night using a mobile antenna mounted on my brother's truck. I had dipoles for 15, 40, and 80 Meters as well, but we weren't able to get them set up properly in time, so we mainly concentrated on 20 Meters. 20 was alive and well for most of Saturday. At times on Saturday evening it seemed like there were stations on top of stations, and it was difficult at times to pull out any one

particular station from the chaos. Most of the propagation was toward the South on early Sunday morning. It seemed like we worked a lot of Floridian stations on 20 early in the morning. We managed to snag only around 80 contacts for the entire event, but hopefully we will do better next year. I enjoyed Field Day this year, and we had beautiful weather for both days of the event.
-- *KU4UV*

N8XMS -- Jun 27, 2004 23:14 ET

This was my first attempt at an individual field day effort and I only had four hours - including setup and takedown. I used a little Wilderness Radio SST-40 and an inverted-v dipole fed with TV type ribbon line through a NorCal BLT tuner. A mini keyer/paddle and earbuds completed the equipment list. Power was provided by eight AA batteries and produced about one watt of output. I sure didn't set any records but QSO's came at a fairly steady rate and I had a lot of fun. My most exciting moment actually came from my first contact. It was with WOMA, the Boeing Employee's ARS, and that's the call that my grandfather held before he became a silent key several years ago! -- *N8XMS*

WB8TCT -- Jun 27, 2004 23:02 ET



The tri-bander and tower on a pontoon boat that was "loaned" to us for the weekend

We got some strange looks from those who saw us on the water or at the dock. "Murphy" paid a visit when a lens popped out of my glasses. It is difficult to try and use a pocket-knife blade to tighten tiny screw at midnight, by flashlight, while the boat is being rocked by waves. Ended up using a plastic zip-tie to help hold the lens in so I could get back on a radio. -- *WB8TCT*

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