

EXTRA!

Zero Beat



Hampden County Radio Association

Special Field Day Edition

June 2011

FD-2011 Schedule

24 June - Friday

12:00 PM Lunch at Brown Baggers, *Common Ground, West Springfield*

1:30 PM Arrive at Site

2:00 PM Start Work: • Locate & mark tower and station positions • Verify & point out markings • Locate support trees for wire antennas • Shoot support lines

5:30 PM VE Team leaves for Holyoke

8:00 PM VE Team returns with beverages and pizza!

8:00 PM-11:00 PM Copy FD Bulletins

25 June - Saturday

6:00 AM • Arrive at Dufresne to continue setup. • Meet and signoff with the park officials for the park.

9:00 AM • Erect AB-577 launchers • Assemble beam antennas • Mount beam antennas to towers and raise to 50' • Erect 40M Phone Moxon • Erect 40M CW Moxon • Erect 75M Dipole • Locate generators and run power cables

11:00 AM • Band Captains erect their housing & install radios, power supplies and all creature comforts. • Hand out bandpass filters & verify N1MM on computers.

12:00 PM Antenna work completed, station housing work completed. Lunch time! Finish setup, fire up generators and test stations

1:00 PM • Install computers & software—test for proper operation • Determine class of operation and notify all band captains • Label outside of all stations with band/mode info for visitors. • Test all radios and check for inter-station interference

2:00 PM Operation Starts

5:00 PM Supper

26 June - Sunday

7:00 AM Breakfast

Field Day Setup Crew to crash *Brown Baggers!*

A long standing tradition is for the Field Day setup crew to drop by *Brown Baggers* for lunch prior to heading out to the field to start setting up antennas. This year we'll be there once again. We just thought we would put this 'warning' out so the regulars can warn the restaurant to expect a crowd on June 24th! *Brown Baggers* meet regularly every Friday at noon at:

Common Ground Restaurant
25 Park Avenue
West Springfield, MA 01089

<http://commongroundrestaurant.com/web/>

(413) 736-9424

Conveniently located, great food and drink and the camaraderie of fellow hams will make for a fun and relaxing lunch prior to heading out to do the hard work of setting up Field Day. Won't you join us?

'73...

Jim/KK1W

(Sunday, continued)

12:00 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Start tearing down non-operating stations

2:00 PM Operation Stops, Raffle is held & teardown starts. Clean park, dispose of trash, police all the grounds. Notify park maintenance to check site and sign us out

4:00 PM Teardown completed, park condition signed off, all leave site

From the 'Field Day' Shack—2011

Hey gang! We're only days away from Field Day. Are you ready to get out of the house and have some fun? Field Day plans are coming together as always and our expectations are this year's effort will eclipse many of our past ones, perhaps by a long shot.



Before I go into some of the “gory details” that (hopefully) will entice you to join fellow club members during the last weekend of June I'd like to take a minute of your time to emphasize a big difference about Field Day 2011. No, it isn't sunspots, propagation indices or the food menu, even though those are pretty important items. What is different this year is we are showcasing amateur radio's emergency communications potential just scant weeks following the destructive tornado of 2011. While commercial communication channels proved quite resilient after the first few hours of the storm amateur radio provided much needed *immediate* communication that was not available through the normal channels. Skywarn spotters on the ground, ham operators with handheld radios in the affected areas and the tireless efforts of the amateur radio volunteers at MEMA and other sites, amateur radio once again showed it was *the* method of communication *when all else fails!*

Perhaps your first Field Day and you're not sure if you want to join in, or you're an “old hand” but were thinking of sitting out Field Day 2011? All I can say is, “Don't do it”! Field Day was created to train and prepare amateur radio operators to be ready when disaster strikes and to educate and demonstrate to the general public how effective we can be when the chips are down. This is the year when we can demonstrate our capabilities while fresh in the public's mind. And you know what? You'll have fun doing it, too!

Now on to some of the ‘gory details’ I promised. We're

pulling out all the stops this year and expanding our operation with additional bands and modes. More CW and phone stations, a digital station and the addition of VHF/UHF are all part of HCRA FD2011. We're also greatly excited about the participation of MTARA members this year and hope it becomes a habit in the years to come.

Finally, food is once again free to all HCRA members and a guest, all day Saturday & Sunday. (*Editor's Note: Contributions are welcome!*) Jim/NN1Y is a great cook and has whipped up a tasty menu that should please everyone's palate. And of course we end our operation with the Field Day raffle drawing at 2:00 PM Sunday afternoon. Will you be the winner of either a nice HT or mobile rig?

If you've read this far you're almost bored to death so I'll stop typing soon! I do urge you to visit us for Field Day, for ten minutes, a few hours or a day and help make our hobby shine to all that come and visit. See you there!

Jim/KK1W



Band Captains and Station Descriptions

John, KX1X: 20m SSB: Monoband Beam on 50ft AB-577 tower using a 746, very competitive station. Longstanding rivalry with our 15/40 CW station.

Bob, W1SQ: 15m/75m: Monoband Beam on 50ft AB-577/ Dipole using an FT-2000. More laid-back station with A/C in trailer.

Marty, W1MJB: 40m SSB: Moxon using a 756PRO. More laid-back station and has a few operating slots left.

Jeff, N1BMX: Digital Station. Cushcraft R7 using an FT-950.

Frandy, N1FJ: 20m/80m CW 20m Monoband Beam on 50ft AB-577/80m Dipole using a K3. Semi-competitive, depends on who's operating :)

Jim, KK1W: 15m/40m CW Monoband Beam on 50ft AB-577/Moxon using a 756ProII. Very competitive station with A/C in trailer. Longstanding rivalry with 20m SSB.

Al, KB1XG: VHF 6m & 2m All mode: FT-897D, still working on Antenna decisions but will be located on 50ft tower.

OPERATORS/LOGGERS

John/Kx1x Marty/W1MJB Jim/KK1W
Bob/W1SQ Jeff/N1BMX Al/KB1XG
Sue/WA1SJG Dave/AA1YW Rory/N1RNR
Steve/N1SR Tom/N1MUV Earl/KD1UU
Kelly Ed/KB1NWH Ed/KB1UEG
Sam/KB1UYH Mary/N1TOY Frandy/N1FJ
[+ you?]

GOTA STATION: Not planned for 2011

NATURAL POWER STATION

Frandy/N1FJ - Part of the 20/80 CW Station

SATELLITE STATION

Gary/AA1UE

MESSAGE HANDLING & SECTION MANAGER

MESSAGE

[Your name could be here!]

COPY ARRL FIELD DAY MESSAGE

Mary/N1TOY

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY LEADER

Rich/N1KXR. Attend a class on using Anderson Power-Poles: Saturday, 11:00 AM; Sunday at 1:00 PM.

SET-UP & TAKE-DOWN CREW

Ed/KB1NWH Frandy/N1FJ Jim/KK1W
Matt/W1MSW Steve Dave/AA1YW
Tom/N1MUV John/Kx1x Bob/W1SQ
Larry/KD1RV Rory/N1RNR Ed/KB1UEG
Sam/KB1UYH

GENERATORS & POWER DISTRIBUTION

Bob/W1SQ
Dave/AA1YW

FOOD MANAGEMENT

Jim/NN1Y

FOOD ASSISTANTS

Dave/KB1VPM

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Marty/W1MJB

INFORMATION TABLE

Gary/AA1UE

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jim/KK1W
Frandy/N1FJ
Earl/KD1UU

GREETERS

Gary/AA1UE

VISITORS & MORAL SUPPORT

[List your family and friends here]

FIELD DAY CHAIRPERSONS

Matt, W1MSW & Jim, KK1W

FIELD DAY COMMITTEE

Marty/W1MJB Station Signage & PIO
Steve/N1SR Antennas & Site Planning (more ->)

Jim/NN1Y Food
Matt/W1MSW Logging Software & Scorekeeping
Bob/W1SQ Generators
Ed/KB1NWH Tower Erection, Road Signs
DONORS - Equipment, Food & \$\$
[Your name here]

How-to: Anderson Powerpole® Connectors

Richard H. Wheeler, N1KXR, will give a presentation and workshop on the use and installation of Anderson Powerpole® Connectors on amateur radio equipment during ARRL Field Day at Dufresne Park in Granby. This free class is open to the public. Participants will be allowed to bring one power-cord with them to have an Anderson Powerpole® Connector 30 amp set attached to it at no cost. [12 to 16 AWG insulated wire only.]

Powerpoles® are widely used by hams as a standard 12 volt DC configuration to allow easy setup and sharing of power sources.

There will be two presentations, Saturday, June 25th at 11:00 AM and on Sunday, June 26th at 1:00 PM. For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact N1KXR: n1kxr@comcast.net.

ARRL Field Day is

- A. An emergency preparedness exercise
- B. A contest
- C. Not a contest
- D. A cookout
- E. A campout
- F. A place when inexperienced hams can learn good operating practices.
- G. A place where experienced hams can share their knowledge with other hams.
- H. A competition
- I. A chance to see and use some great equipment
- J. Where you can learn all about setting up a ham station from rigs to masts and antennas
- K. Lots of fun with some work
- L. Some work with lots of fun

Take your pick!

For full information on HCRA's Field Day, go to

<http://www.hcra.org/fd2011.htm>

My First Field Day, June 21-22, 1952

I have missed many Field Days, notably during the twenty-some years between WN0KFH and WB1DZR/N1FJ. But I have always felt that Field Day epitomizes the best of ham radio events. I definitely look younger in the QST picture, but some of you may recognize me in the foreground of the picture below. (That's my dad on the far right.) Field Day has been around a long time. Here are some quotes from the December 1952 QST, describing the sixteenth FD:

“Down through the years we have heard it said many



times ‘There’s nothing like an ARRL Field Day!’ To hams who have never experienced an ‘FD,’ this expression may well seem meaningless. However, to those who have taken part in this annual exercise dedicated to emergency preparedness it is plainly a superlative that calls to mind a June week end spent afield setting up radio gear and operating in an activity that is without peer for sheer enjoyment.” *On left is N1FJ who almost looks like he knows what he is doing at a recent Field Day!*

Frandy, N1FJ

P.S. SOTA comes close, though!

A Boy Scout camp at Crete, Nebraska, was the scene of operations for the Crete Amateur Radio Club, whose members are shown winding up operations of W0YHN/Ø. HQ-129X and NC-100X receivers, a Temco 75GA transmitter and a 130-foot end-fed antenna comprised the station layout.



indicates power up to and including 30 watts (multiplier of 3); B indicates power over 30, up to and including 100 watts (multiplier of 2); C indicates over 100 watts (multiplier of 1). More than one letter indicates that at times power inputs fell within different classifications.

One Transmitter

WØTKX/Ø	Twin City Contest Club	464-	A- 6-	4401
W1TX/1	Connecticut Wireless Assn., (nonclub group)	455-	A-13-	4296
W8IL/8		455-	A- 9-	4230
W1EH/1	South Lyme Beer, Chowder and Propagation Society	439-	A- 7-	4176
W8HQ/8	Tusco Radio Club	344-	A- 4-	3231
W9JKV/9	New Albany Amateur Radio Club	314-	A- 4-	3051
W5IX/5	San Leon Gumbo, Grouper & Grounded Grid Radiation Society	300-	A-10-	2925
W8GQ/8	Dayton Amateur Radio Assn.	282-	A-12-	2763
W3FLY/3	Beacon Radio Amateurs	261-	A- 7-	2574
W8RTR/8	Canton Amateur Radio Club	261-	A- 7-	2574
VE3TM/3	Frontier Radio Assn.	259-	A- 5-	2566
W2WER/2	Oswego County Amateur Radio Assn.	258-	A-15-	2547
W6ILP/6	(nonclub group)	279-	A- 3-	2511
W8CEA/8	(nonclub group)	413-	B- 6-	2478
WØZWY/Ø	Sioux Falls Amateur Radio Club	397-	B-13-	2472
W1INM/1	Providence Radio Assn. (nonclub group)	254-	A-13-	2421
VE3AF/3	Frontier Radio Assn.	263-	A- 4-	2367
WØSO/Ø	Jayhawk Amateur Radio Society	392-	B- 9-	2352
W2CGK/2	Amateur Radio Society of Queens	234-	A- 7-	2331
WØTIU/Ø	Central Iowa Amateur Radio Club	231-	A- 9-	2304
WØWML/Ø	Newton (Iowa) Radio Club	229-	A-10-	2286
W2ODP/2	Irvington Radio Amateur Club	226-	A-10-	2259
W3GAG/3	Philadelphia Wireless Assn.	346-	AB- 5-	2235
W6HDT/6	Fullerton Radio Club	223-	A-12-	2223
W3EDU/3	York Amateur Radio Club	241-	A-14-	2169
WØZS/3	Deep River Radio Club	215-	A- 7-	2160
		237-	A- 4-	2133
				2070

W1QMF/1	Newington Amateur Radio League	149-	A- 9-	1566
WØDVL/Ø	Northeast Iowa Radio Amateur Assn.	148-	A-15-	1557
VE1DN/1	Dartmouth Amateur Radio Club	146-	A- 7-	1548
WØCOZ/Ø	El Paso Radio Club (nonclub group)	251-	B- 7-	1506
W4SKT/4		210-	B- 3-	1422
KH6WO/KH6	Honolulu Amateur Radio Club	204-	B-25-	1374
VE2BB/2	Lakeshore Amateur Radio Assn.	126-	A- 6-	1359
W4VT/4	Mid-South Amateur Radio Assn.	197-	B-15-	1332
W5ND/5	Orange Amateur Radio Club (nonclub group)	148-	A- -	1332
VE3RA/3	(nonclub group)	123-	B- 4-	1332
K5NBL/5	(nonclub group)	199-	B- 4-	1194
W3BLA/3	Old Timers of York, Pa.	172-	B- 7-	1182
WØNSN/Ø	Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club	106-	A- 8-	1179
VE1JV/1	Pictou County Amateur Radio Club	100-	A- 5-	1125
W8HKT/8	Southwest Michigan Radio Club (nonclub group)	159-	B- 4-	1110
W9IZE/9	Shywy Radio Club	155-	B- 8-	1080
W7OZK/7		153-	B- 6-	1068
W8HDQ/8	Morgan County Amateur Radio Assn.	100-	AC- 9-	1029
W8CIA/8	Louisville Amateur Radio Club (nonclub group)	109-	A- 4-	981
W7PZ/7	(nonclub group)	133-	A- 4-	972
K5NAW/5	(nonclub group)	159-	B- 4-	954
WØYHN/Ø	Crete Amateur Radio Club	151-	AB- 4-	909
W2QXE/2	Oncida Amateur Radio Club	98-	A- 3-	882
W8VP/8	Cambridge Amateur Radio Club	98-	A- 4-	880
KH6RS/KH6	Maui Amateur Radio Club			