

MARA/VARA MONITOR

Published Monthly for Radio Amateurs in the Shenandoah Valley

FIELD DAY ISSUE

June 22-24 is Field Day Weekend. See the information in this issue. Double-check your assignment, and come and have fun!

VARA's New Meeting Location

The Valley Amateur Radio Association has a new regular meeting location. The club now meets at Kathy's Restaurant on US 11 in Verona. From I-81, take the Verona exit (Exit 227), go west 1 mile to US 11, turn right onto US 11, and the restaurant is 2 blocks on your right.

N4DAI Recuperating

Talk about a close call — Dale Showalter, N4DAI, was stricken with a massive coronary while driving to a business meeting in Indiana. Being alert and well-trained, Dale recognized the symptoms and was able to summon help. He was admitted to Cumberland Hospital, where he underwent emergency quadruple bypass surgery. Thanks to Rusty N4YET, and Marshall, N4ZKH, along with Patty, his supportive XYL, he was ferried home

after just over a week in the hospital. While it may be a bit yet before he's on his feet and up and about, his cheerful personality is speeding his recovery. The thoughts and prayers of the ham community were with Dale and continue to support his recovery. It takes an extraordinary person to survive a heart attack, especially being alone and away from help. As 15-year-old Bryan KG4JOE said, "There's one lucky dude."

Ham Classes Scheduled Starting June 5

Ham Radio Classes return to the Valley on June 5th. Sponsored by the MARA club, the course will be held at the Seminary Building on the campus of Eastern Mennonite University. A map is available on the website: <http://cob.jmu.edu/fordhadr/MARA/classes.htm>

The class will meet every Tuesday evening for 10 weeks, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The only cost is for materials: approximately \$30. The materials cost does not include the \$10 license exam fee. A VE testing session will be held at the end of the course.

The classes will be taught by a team consisting of Ellsworth Neff, K4LXG, Charles Vogan, KD5KA

and Gerald Nauman, KN4FM. Dale Showalter, N4DAI, hopes to have recovered enough to make a guest appearance and teach at least one of the nights before the end of the course.

Advance Registration is required. To register for the class, or for additional information, call Gerald Nauman at (540)-434-0859, or e-mail him at kn4fm@arrl.net.

The class will prepare candidates for the Technician exam. There is no minimum age, and no experience is necessary. Tell your friends.

MARA President's Message

I want to thank Dale, N4DAI, for presenting last month's program, and to wish him a speedy recovery. I hope he is doing well after his heart surgery and can soon get back in the swing of things.

This month the program subject is Field Day, and will be presented by the Field Day committee. For those of you that are

not familiar with Field Day, it is a combination emergency preparedness exercise and contest. This is an annual event sponsored by the ARRL. The MARA and VARA clubs combine their talents and spend a weekend together on top of the mountain playing radio. I'll leave the rest of the details for the program.

I hope to see everyone at the June meeting at Ever's Restaurant on Rt. 11 north of Mt Crawford at 6:30 pm for dinner, or 7:30 pm for the meeting. Tell the hostess that you are there for the Ham Radio meeting, and they will show you to our room.

Gerald, KN4FM

VARA President's Message

NEW MEETING PLACE

Greetings fellow amateur radio operators. I am happy to report that we now have a new place to meet, effective Tuesday, June 5th, 2001. VARA will now meet at **Kathy's in Verona**. Kathy's is on Route 11 at the north end of the town. If you are heading north, Kathy's is on the right hand side. If you're heading south, Kathy's is located on your left, just as you enter Verona.

So friends, let have a good showing this June and meet at Kathy's for dinner, fellowship, and our club meeting. A special thanks to Ray, KE4HVR for assisting me in finding a new location for the club.

ARISS INTERNATIONAL TEAM MEETS- (FROM THE ARRL)

Members of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station International Team met this month in the Netherlands to firm up plans to expand ham radio operation from space. The gathering offered an opportunity to involve all ARISS partners in future activities, not primarily the US and Russia.

Attending the sessions May 4-6 at the European Space Agency facilities in Noordvik were delegates from the US, Russia, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Italy, France, Japan, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Portugal and Poland. Those on hand included representatives from AMSAT and the International Amateur Radio Union. The partners reached accord--in some cases tentatively--on issues ranging from the scheduling of international ARISS school QSOs to future hardware plans and the final design of an ISS QSL card.

"Up to now, we've mostly been working on projects by country," said Rosalie White, K1STO, who represented ARRL on the US delegation. "Now, we've realized that we need to learn to adapt together and to get things accomplished as an international group." Other American attendees included ARISS Administrative Committee Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, and Space Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) Working Group Chairman Roy Neal, K6DUE, who moderated the sessions.

ARISS Operations Committee Chairman Will Marchant, KC6ROL, updated the group on the status of school contacts to date. He also reviewed how the crew has been using the ARISS equipment on the ISS since the first crew came aboard in November.

The current "Phase 1" Amateur Radio facility aboard the ISS includes hand-held transceivers for 2 meters and 70 cm, although in its current location aboard the Functional Cargo Block, the station only has 2-meter capability. A packet setup also is aboard and working, but it still needs to be properly configured or replaced.

With a series of successful ARISS US and Canadian school contacts behind them, the ARISS partners have appointed an ARISS School Committee--with representatives from the US, Europe, Canada, Japan and Russia. "In the next few weeks, we'll be coming up with a plan to integrate the European schools," said White, who is among those on the panel. One issue is how to integrate school applications filed more recently with those from schools that have been waiting for several years to have a space contact.

Still outstanding are plans to complete fabrication of and install the four ARISS antennas on the ISS Service Module, the ultimate location of the Amateur Radio station. The antennas could be installed before the end of the year during a space walk, but several issues still need to be resolved.

The ARISS partners also reviewed applications for some Amateur Radio projects, including one for a slow-scan television setup. Another is a proposal from AMSAT-France to deploy a small "IDEFIX" satellite from the ISS, similar to the mini-Sputnik satellites launched from Mir.

The ARISS partners okayed a prototype design for a QSL card. It's expected to be finalized in a few weeks.

IN CONCLUSION

I don't have much else to report. Ray, KE4HVR does a great of recording the minutes of each meeting. The Field Day Committee is doing a great job and Field Day is shaping up. Thank you and see you June 5th at Kathy's in Verona.

73 De Greg, W4GRC

VE Meister's Message

Our test sessions have been successful in the past because we have worked as a team. It will not work unless we all pitch in and help. Many thanks to all those who have made this happen. Keep up the good work.

To those who are thinking about upgrading: the five wpm code CSCE is only good for 365 days as a credit for upgrading. It is good indefinitely for Tech. W/HF. So, if you are planning to go to General, make shore that you do the required elements

in the allotted time. This rule was changed April 2000.

See you at the next session, August 4th.

Gayle, KU4XN

Sam Pickering, KF4EKV, Back on the Air – Thanks to local Hams

Sam Pickering KF4EKV is back on the air, thanks to some of the Valley Hams. Charlie Garner WA4ITY loaned a crystal controlled 2M radio and power supply, Ray Pitsenbarger KE4NNV and Benny Cook N4BCC built a J-Pole antenna, Benny also gave the coax, Ray Colvin KE4HVR gave the antenna mast, mounting bracket and made a drawing of the channel selector

and frequency positions. Durwood WA4ZBP, Benny N4BCC and Ray KE4HVR installed the antenna and radio for Sam on Friday evening 05/18/2001. Sam was really appreciative for all the loaned equipment and installation done by the valley hams. Sam is recovering from a long illness and is in good spirits. If you hear Sam on the air, welcome him back

to amateur radio. This is a good example of what amateur radio is all about.... Thanks to all who helped!!

73
Ray Colvin KE4HVR

Fox Hunting in the Valley – June 14th

The June Augusta County ARES Net will feature a Fox Hunt. The net will be held on 146.49, the simplex frequency for Augusta County ARES operations, and Net Control will be the fox. This will be an easy hunt; many ops (including myself) are new to direction-finding, and so this will be a coordinated effort for all. Get your map out and familiarize yourself with Augusta County and directions. If

you have a beam, practice locating someone using a repeater (beaming in on their signal on the input). If you don't have a beam, consider making one! It's not that hard to make a 2 or 3 element yagi for handheld direction-finding. Even if you don't have a beam, you can use your hand-held and the rubber-duckie antenna: using your body as a shield you can find which direction gives you a null

(minimum signal reception). With several direction reports it should be easy to triangulate the fox to a small area. Direction reports will be relayed by Net Control for all to hear. So be sure to check in June 14th and see if you can bag a fox!

David Tanks AD4TJ
EC for Augusta County

March of Dimes Walk Report

On April 28, 2001 the MARA club began its Public Service events with the March Of Dimes Walk. There were about 475 people who participated in the event. We had 8 Hams who officially helped, and two Hams who were participants in the

walk who also were able to give us valuable support and assistance. The event was a success not only for the sponsors, but also for our support team who gave assistance as needed to the walkers, and coordinators of the event. Special thanks

to **N4DSL, KE4BFF, KN4FM, K4NRA, KG4JAZ, KA4EEN, KU4XN, W4KPM,** and **KG4GCA** who helped with this event. Thanks for making our first event a positive and fun event for all.
— *Doug Alder, N4DUG*

Brighten Your Ground, Before Nature Does It For You!

Lightning can pump *thousands* of amps down the object it strikes. This will light up everything around. Your coax will glow like a light bulb filament.

Now that the summer thunderstorm season is upon us, take the time to check your grounding system. Loosen the connections. Use a wire brush to brighten the copper, and then put them back together tightly. Use silicon sealant.

Double-check the ground wires on your antenna system. Check the connection at the antenna. Test your blitz bug or lightning arrestor. Make sure that lightning has a quick and easy path from the top of your antenna, directly down in a straight line, into the earth, without having to go through your radio shack!

Some hams disconnect their equipment from the antenna when they are not oper-

ating. This is good policy, but even so, they still need a good electrical path from the top of the antenna to the earth. The best course of action is to keep that path completely outside, with no easy way for lightning to get from the outside into the inside!

Don't be caught with a fried hamshack. Check your lightning protection today.

10th Annual Bob's Knob Picnic – August 19th

It's time for you and your family to plan for attendance at the annual "bash in Bergton"!

This will be the 10th annual picnic to raise funds for the maintenance and upkeep of the 146.625 MHz repeater, the Big Mountain Repeater Association. Proceeds (donations, actually) are needed to provide required insurance coverage and other costs necessary to make repairs on the repeater and external power supply. The upcoming project is antenna replacement due to severe mountaintop weather conditions.

As always, attendance and food is free, but donations are gladly accepted.

As in previous years, hamburgers, hot dogs, iron-kettle-cooked beans, and the usual pink lemonade and iced tea will be the main attractions. Guests should bring a covered dish salad and/or dessert and a folding lawn chair or two.

Cups, plates utensils, condiments, and the main dishes will all be provided. Badminton, horseshoes, and maybe even volleyball will keep the kids occupied, no matter what their age. A long walk around the property should also allow spotting deer, ground hogs, grouse, squirrel, and rabbits. If you wish, bring a 2-liter bottle of your favorite soft drink with you.

Don't forget: a picnic working party is needed for Saturday morning, starting around 9 am, to carry 8 or 10 tables from the Bergton Fair Grounds, and another gang to haul them back on Tuesday evening. Help will also be needed at the serving tables, and doing the cooking.

As usual, Bob's Knob hats will be presented to the table working party, and Bob's Knob aprons to the cooks and servers! Pitching in is always so much fun, advance registration is being taken for volunteering to help! Sign up during the

Sunday and Monday ARES nets or telephone Bob at 540-852-3289. A 50/50 drawing will be held this year. The usual donation bucket will be at the sign-in table.

Directions to the picnic are easy: From Broadway, take route 259 (Brocks' Gap Road) west about 14 miles to the flashing yellow-light sign. Turn left onto route 820 (Bergton Road), go past the Bergton Grocery and turn right, staying on 820 (Crab Run Road). Go about 2 miles, cross a metal rail bridge, and turn left onto a gravel road (Mongold Hollow Road). Go 1/2 mile and turn left again onto route 822, Arbuckle Road. Turn right at the 3rd mailbox, onto Bob's Knob Blvd, and drive up to the picnic site.

See you There,
– Bob, W3MMC

MARA Secretary's Report – May 3 Meeting

The meeting began with the folks present introducing themselves. There were 27 present, 2 of which were guests. The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved. We had the privilege of voting in a new member, Erich Lantz, KG4LRE.

Committee Reports.

A. Treasurer: Sandy, K4PZC Amount on hand in treasury is \$2591.05

B. Public Service: Doug, N4DUG There will be a Mothers Day Run by the Happy Trails Running Club. Several members of our club have volunteered their services.

C. ARES: Dale, N4DAI Dale gave us an update on the new van the county has been outfitting for communication purposes. The local amateurs will have a part in this project. A motion was made and seconded for our club to put aside the sum of \$1,000 towards the purchas-

ing of a computer to be placed in the van. The motion was passed and seconded by several members.

D. ARES Net: Norman, KA4EEN A Net Control is needed for June 4 and June 25.

E. VE: Gayle, KU4XN The testing was successful with the addition of 10 new members for the Amateur community.

Old Business:

Arrangements are being made for the holding of a class to train new amateur operators. N4DAI is to be the primary instructor. Others will help. The classes will be held at EMU. Exact date of beginning of class to be announced.

We had a 50/50 drawing. The winner was Sten, KE4SSF with \$9.00.

Other: Ellsworth Neff, JR. Brought in a 12

foot long rocket which he is hoping to be able to launch at a rocket event this Sunday at Culpeper. Hope you make it Ellsworth.

A hamfest will be held on June 3, 2001 at Manassas.

Next month the meeting subject will be Field Day by our Field Day committee: N1QEQ, K4LXG, KG4JOE.

The business section of the meeting closed and was followed by a very interesting program about ARES complete with videos by Dale, N4DAI. Thank you Dale for an informative program.

Submitted by
Phyllis Haxton
MARA Secretary

VARA Secretary's Report – May 1 Meeting

The Valley Amateur Radio Association met at the Staunton Church of Christ in Staunton on May 1, 2001. President Greg Czerniak W4GRC opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. There were 21 members present and 1 guest Ozzie Dillon KD4RD.

At the beginning of the meeting we had a minute of silence honoring Dick Waldmuller WB8GIF who recently became a silent key. Dick will be missed very much here in the valley.

David AD4TJ Needs HELP with the Augusta County ARES Net. Anyone that is willing to be net control and help David out give him a call. Also David has the forms for the DMV ID. Cards if you need one.

The 2001 Field Day Committee of three, Clint KB4OLM, David AD4TJ and Benny N4BCC are asking for anyone who has equipment they are willing to bring to field day to give them a call and let them know what you have so they can get their list started. This includes radios, coax, antennas, towers, masts, power supplies, connectors, rope, shelters, mowing, set up help and OPERATORS.

Jered Weaver KG4EHM & Joe Meek KD4FKT will head up the Novice Tech Station. Thanks to Jered for agreeing to do that with Joe's help.

We are still lacking one shelter for field day and agreed that if one is not available by June 15 we will rent one at the cost of the club.

Friday night will be our pot luck meal so bring your favorite dish and join us for a great meal at the field day site. This is a good time to meet the hams you have talked with and never met, good fellowship and most of all lots of good food on the tables.

We would like to get training classes started for the Technician level. Anyone interested in helping teach the classes please contact Greg W4GRC, Alby AD4KZ or Richard KF4QZG.

Plans are coming together for the SPECIAL EVENT STATION at Natural Chimneys Regional Park on August 17 & 18, 2001 6:00 am until 12:00 Midnight during the jousting tournament weekend. Richard KF4QZG and Greg W4GRC have talked with the park authorities and have the station location checked out. They said it is a great location with power, trees to support antennas and near the Chimneys. Your help is needed setting up the station and keeping the station running for the duration of the event. The Event information has been mailed and will be in the August QST Magazine.

Richard KF4QZG, Program Chairman, asks for anyone that would like to do a program to give him a call and get a date set up to present it.

A motion to adjourn the V.A.R.A meeting was made by Ken Harris KE4GKD and seconded by Ray Pitsenbarger KE4NNV. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

David Tanks AD4TJ did a program on satellite communication using two HT's one for the 2M uplink with a 30W Amp and one for the 440 downlink. David uses a computer program to get orbit information to know what time to listen for the satellite. He also tried to find a satellite from the parking lot but the orbit may have been too low and there was a hill in the direction the satellite would have been. Thanks to David for a great program.

NOTE: Tell a friend about the VARA Club Meetings and invite them to join us this month.

*Submitted By:
VARA Secretary
Ray Colvin KE4HVR*

Overview of Field Day Plans – Come Join Us!

Field Day is the one weekend a year that thousands of hams mobilize to test their ability to communicate under emergency conditions.

Hams all over the country leave the comfort of their homes. They disconnect their radios from the power grid. They erect makeshift antennas, test their generators and batteries, and set up stations under "field" conditions. And they have fun!

In the Shenandoah Valley, the VARA and MARA clubs combine to have a joint activity. It is great to see old friends again.

The fun actually begins a week early, on Saturday, June 16th. A number of hams and their families play "advance scout" and trek up to the FD site for a week of family camping before the FD weekend.

You don't need a camper or RV, tents are fine. Bring your own equipment and

food, and enjoy the peace and serenity of a mountaintop meadow for a few days before the excitement of field day arrives.

On Friday, June 22, most of the field day participants will arrive to "set up camp". They, too, will have tents, RVs, motor homes, trailers, pop-ups, and all sorts of other living facilities. A portable toilet will arrive, as will several communications trailers.

Friday afternoon will see lots of activity as the hams begin preparing for the assembly of the stations. Most of the actual radio stations won't be put together until Saturday, just before operations begin. But there is still plenty of things to do on Friday afternoon to get ready.

A big campfire and potluck dinner will be the center of activity Friday night, as everyone enjoys the FD stories from years past.

Then, Saturday morning, things reach fever pitch. All is hustle and bustle, and everyone pitches in to raise antennas, untangle feed lines, test power, and set up operating positions. Computers are networked and tested. Log programs are configured. Duty rosters are posted to give everyone a chance to operate. Sign up sheets are circulated, everyone selects his or her favorite operating mode, and hopes to get a choice operating time slot.

If all goes well, things will be ready in plenty of time. A general meeting will be held at the campfire ring just before the radios "go live". Then, a station tunes WWV to get the precise time, and at 2 pm sharp, ...

"CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day" begins, and continues for 24 hours. Come join us!

Field Day Information

The Field Day Committee has worked very hard to try to make this year's event a success. As you can see by the tables on the following pages, there is one heckuva lotta things to try to plan for, arrange, and confirm.

The Field Day Committee would like to thank every ham listed on the tables below. Through the cooperation and assistance of these hams, Field Day 2000 will be a fun experience for everyone.

Logistics and General Equipment

Next Committee meeting	June 8 @ 8pm on 146.850 Rpt
Event	Field Day - June 23-24, 2001
Location	Near Flag Pole / Reddish Knob
FD Frequencies	Site - 147.470 Sim. / Talk-in 145.130 Rpt.
Call Sign	N4XU
Station Class	3AVA
FD Committee	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
FD Chairman	KB4OLM, Clint
Assistant Chairman	KG4JOE, Bryan or K4LXG, Ellsworth
Scoring / totaling / Entry	K4PZC, Sandy - W4PJW, Jeff
Pin Committee	AD4TJ, David - N1QEQ, Bob
Welcome Center	KA4EEN, Norman - W3HXX, Dick
Registration	KA4EEN, Norman - W3HXX, Dick
Display Table	KA4EEN, Norman - W3HXX, Dick
Coffee Pot	KA4EEN, Norman - W3HXX, Dick
Tent	KE4GKD, Kenny
Pads / Pencils	KE4FM, Bill
Generator (main) + Ground	WA4FJC, Gordon-5kw on WVA side KE4DFH, Gary-4.5kw on VA side
Gasoline - 20 gal for main	KD4WWF, Pat
Signs for each Station	N4XU, Neal
Signs at road	K4LXG, Ellsworth
Publicity	K4LXG, Ellsworth
Public Official	N1QEQ, Bob
FD Fire Wood - truck load	N4IWI, John on 6/22/01
Fire Wood - truck load	K4EME, Cowles - KE4ASC, Frank - one week early
Porti-John - 1 week early	K4PZC, Sandy
Toilet Paper	KG4JOE, Bryan
Pictures	KD9LA, David
Site Cleanup, Grass, etc.	N4BCC, Benny - KD4WWF, Pat - KE4GKD, Kenny - KE4HVR, Ray - KE4NNV, Ray - N1QEQ, Bob

Station #1 – HF Phone

FD Station #1	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	WA4ITY, Charlie - AD4TJ, David
Location	WV. NE near tree beside road
Shelter	KD4UPL, Mathew - Trailer
1 Table / 3 Chairs	W4PJW, Jeff
Tower / Mast	MARA Club - K4LXG, Ellsworth
Rotor	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	Tri-bander - MARA Club - see K4LXG, Ellsworth
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antenna's	MARA & VARA Clubs
Radio	K4PZC -Kenwood TS-440
Power Supply	K4PZC, Sandy
Computer	K4PZC, Sandy
Computer Log	CT=FD01PH
Power	WA4FJC, Gordon - 5 kw
Power Cable	VARA Club / KE4GKD, Kenny
Lights	WA4ITY, Charlie - AD4TJ, David
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	WA4ITY, Charlie - AD4TJ, David

Station #2 – HF CW

FD Station #2	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	N4XU, Neal - W4PJW, Jeff
Location	WV. NW. in opening near campfire
Shelter	K4LXG, Ellsworth - Denton Truck: Needs Help to Load!
1 Table / 3 Chairs	W4PJW, table - K4LXG, chairs
Tower / Mast	KE4GKD, Kenny
Rotor	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	Tri-bander - KD4FKT, Joe
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antenna's	MARA & VARA Clubs
Radio	N4XU, Neal
Power Supply	N4XU, Neal
Computer	N4XU, Neal
Computer Log	CT=FD01CW
Power	WA4FJC, Gordon - 5 kw
Power Cable	VARA Club / KE4GKD, Kenny
Lights	N4XU, Neal - W4PJW, Jeff
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	N4XU, Neal - W4PJW, Jeff

Station #3 – Digital Modes

FD Station #3	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	N4DSL, Jason - KE4HVR, Ray
Location	VA. South near trees
Table	N4DSL, Jason or WA4ITY, Charlie ?
Chairs	K4LXG, Ellsworth
Shelter	N4DSL, Jason
Mast	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	KE4GKD, Kenny - G5RV
Antenna 2	N4BCC, Benny - Gap Vert
Antenna Tuner	MFJ Versa Tuner II - N4DSL, Jason
Coax for all Antenna's	FD Committee
Radio	Ten Tec Jupiter - N4DSL, Jason
Power Supply	Pyramid 20 amp - N4DSL, Jason
Computer	AMD K6-2 500mhz 128mb ram - N4DSL, Jason
Interface	Home brew to sound card - N4DSL, Jason
Computer	For logging ? - K4PZC - Sandy
Computer Log	K4PZC - Sandy
Power	KF4DFH, Doug - 4.5 kw
Power Cable	KF4QZG, Richard or N4BCC, Benny
Lights	N4DSL, Jason
Info Packet	K4PZC - Sandy
Grounding	N4DSL, Jason
Operating Modes	PSK31, MFSK16, RTTY, SSTV

Station #4 – Novice/Technician

FD Station #4	Call - KG4EHM
In Charge of Station	KG4EHM, Jered
Location	WV. Center beside road
Shelter	Trailer - N4Zfq, Colin
1 Table & 3 Chairs	N4Zfq, Colin
1 Push up Mast	N4Zfq, Colin
Rotor	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	KD4FKT, Joe - 10m Vert
Antenna 2	3 ele 10m Beam - KG4EHM, Jered
Antenna 3	Dipoles ?
Coax for all Antenna's	MARA & VARA Clubs
Radio	KG4EHM, Jered - IC-746
Power Supply	KG4EHM, Jered
Antenna Tuners	N1QEQ, Bob - 300w
Computer	K4PZC, Sandy
Computer Log	CT=FD01NT
Power	WA4FJC, Gordon - 5 kw
Power Cable	VARA Club / KE4GKD, Kenny
Lights	N4Zfq, Colin
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	KG4EHM, Jered

Station #5 – VHF/UHF

FD Station #5	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	KB4OLM, Clint
Location	Va. - East near "Frog Pond"
Shelter	Trailer - KB4OLM, Clint
Table / Chairs	KB4OLM, Clint
Tower / Mast	KB4OLM, Clint
Rotor	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	6m Beam - KB4OLM, Clint
Antenna 2	2m Beam - KB4OLM, Clint
Antenna 3	432cm Beam - KB4OLM, Clint
Antenna 4	2/220/440 vert - KB4OLM, Clint
Antenna 5	2m Quad Pkt Beam - KB4OLM, Clint
Coax for Antenna's 1-5	KB4OLM, Clint
Triplexer for 2/220/440 vert	KB4OLM, Clint
Radio 1	6m/2m/432 FT-726R - KB4OLM, Clint
Radio 2	2m/440 FM TW-4000 - KB4OLM, Clint
Radio 3	220 FM TW-321 - KB4OLM, Clint
Radio 4	2m pkt HT IC-2A - KB4OLM, Clint
Amplifier 1	Mirage 1015 6m - KB4OLM, Clint
Amplifier 2	Mirage 1016 2m - KB4OLM, Clint
Amplifier 3	Mirage 1010 432cm - KB4OLM, Clint
Power Supply	35 amp Astron - KB4OLM, Clint
Power Supply	12 amp Astron - KB4OLM, Clint
Terminal for Pkt	Televideo - KB4OLM, Clint
Pkt TNC	MFJ Pkt TNC - KB4OLM, Clint
Laptop w / Baypac tnc	KB4OLM, Clint
Computer	KB4OLM, Clint
Computer Log	CT = FD01VHF
Generator - 7 kw Honda	KB4OLM, Clint
Power Cable	KB4OLM, Clint
Lights	KB4OLM, Clint
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	KB4OLM, Clint

All Field Day Participants should read the Field Day Policy (on page 9 of this issue) regarding equipment at the Field Day site.

Station #6 – Orbiting Satellites

FD Station #6	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	K4EME, Cowles
Location	Va. - East near "Frog Pond"
Shelter	Trailer - KB4OLM, Clint
Table / Chairs	KB4OLM, Clint
Radio 1	Yaesu 736R 70cm/2m - K4EME, Cowles
Radio 2	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	KLM 435-40CX - K4EME, Cowles
Antenna 2	KLM 145-22CX - K4EME, Cowles
Coax for all Antenna's	K4EME, Cowles
Amplifier 1	70cm, TE System 4450 175w - K4EME, Cowles
Amplifier 2	2m, KLM 160w - K4EME, Cowles
Pre-Amp	SSB Electronics SP-7000 70cm LNA under 1db Noise Figure - K4EME, Cowles
Pre-Amp	SSB Electronics SP-2000 2m under .8db Noise Figure - K4EME, Cowles
Power Meter	Bird Trueline #43 - K4EME, Cowles
Power Supply	Astron RS-70M 70amp - K4EME, Cowles
Rotor and cable	Yaesu G-5400B - K4EME, Cowles
Antenna tripod & base	K4EME, Cowles
Antenna Mast	2 5' and 1 10' sections of pipe - K4EME, Cowles
3 Guy ropes and anchors	K4EME, Cowles
GPS	Garmin 45XL, for Correct time & location - K4EME, Cowles
Compass	K4EME, Cowles
Computer	Pentium Laptop for Satellite tracking (Nova Software) - K4EME, Cowles
Computer	486 w / 14" monitor, running LogSat with Kansas City Tracker (Autotrack) - K4EME, Cowles
Computer	For Logging - KB4OLM, Clint
Computer Log	CT = FD01VHF
Power Strip	K4EME, Cowles
Backup Power Inverter	12 VDC to 120 VAC - K4EME, Cowles
Power	KB4OLM, Clint - N4BCC, Benny
Power Cable	KB4OLM, Clint - N4BCC, Benny
Lights	KB4OLM, Clint
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	KB4OLM, Clint - K4EME, Cowles

Station #7 – Natural Power

FD Station #7	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	N1QEQ, Bob - KF4QZG, Richard
Location	near CW or Phone Station ?
Shelter	CW or Phone Station ?
Table / Chairs	CW or Phone Station ?
Tower / Mast	CW or Phone Station ?
Rotor	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna 1	CW or Phone Station ?
Antenna 2	CW or Phone Station ?
Antenna 3	CW or Phone Station ?
Antenna 4	CW or Phone Station ?
Antenna 5	CW or Phone Station ?
Coax for all Antenna's	CW or Phone Station ?
Radio	CW or Phone Station ?
Computer	CW or Phone Station ?
Computer Log	CT=FD01NAT
Power?	
Gel Cell?	
Power Cable	
Lights	CW or Phone Station ?
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding if needed	CW or Phone Station ?

Miscellaneous Responsibilities

Level Ground / tractor ?	K4LXG ?
Bonus Points	
APRS	K4EME, Cowles
Packet	KB4OLM, Clint
SSTV	N4DSL, Jason
Originate 1 Message to Section Manager	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Originate 10 Messages	AD4TJ, David
Public Official	N1QEQ, Bob
Satellite	K4EME, Cowles
FD Msg	ALL
Rockingham Co. EOC Bus	N4DAI, Dale ?

“It never rains at Field Day. A heavy dew, maybe. A little humidity and dampness, perhaps. Moisture has on occasion been observed falling down from the sky. But it never, ever, rains at Field Day. Even when the thunderstorms roll through, it still, never, ever, rains at Field Day.” — VARA Weather Sage

Backups and Contingencies

2m all-mode Radio	K4NRA, Ray
2m Amp	K4NRA, Ray
6m all-mode Radio	N4BCC, Benny
Antenna Analyzer	N4BCC, Benny
Antenna Tuner	N4BCC, Benny
Antenna Tuner	N1QEQ, Bob
Antenna Tuner	MARA - N1QEQ, KG4JOE, N4DSL, K4LXG VARA - KB4OLM, AD4TJ, N4BCC
Antenna Tuner	KB4OLM, Clint
Anything Else ?	Bring it just in case - All
Coax	FD Committee - All
Computer / Keyboards	K4PZC, Sandy
Deep Cycle Batteries	KB4OLM, Clint
Gas - 5 Gal	
Gas / Oil for generators	KD4WWF, Pat
Generator - 5kw	KD4WWF, Pat
Generator - 3.5kw	W4PJW, Jeff
H.F. Radio - CW	W4PJW, Jeff
H.F. Radio - Phone	K4PZC, Sandy - Heathkit SB-1400
Power Supply	N4BCC, Benny - 35amp
Power Supply	K4LXG, Ellsworth - 25amp
Power Supply	W4PJW, Jeff
Saddles for Tribander	W4PJW, Jeff
String / Cord for Dipoles	W4PJW, Jeff - K4LXG, Ellsworth
SWR Bridge	K4LXG, Ellsworth
Tarps	Bring it just in case - All
Windom	KB4OLM, Clint
Wire	Bring it just in case - All
Screen Room Tent	N1QEQ, Bob
Tent for Main Generator, WV	KE4GKD, Kenny
Wire for Digital Ground	KB4OLM, Clint
Barrel Connectors	Bring it just in case - All

Field Day Equipment Policy

Adopted by the MARA and VARA Amateur Radio Clubs.

Be it understood that:

As a participant in Field Day operations, whether a club member or visitor, you are using equipment that may belong to someone else. Care for it as if it were your own.

No repairs or modifications, no matter how slight, shall be made to any equipment without the owner (or owner's designated representative) present.

Any apparent malfunction of the equipment shall be reported immediately to the owner.

Be it further understood that:

Equipment which is brought to the Field Day site and made available for use is done at the owner's discretion, and said equipment should be supervised by the owner or his/her designated representative.

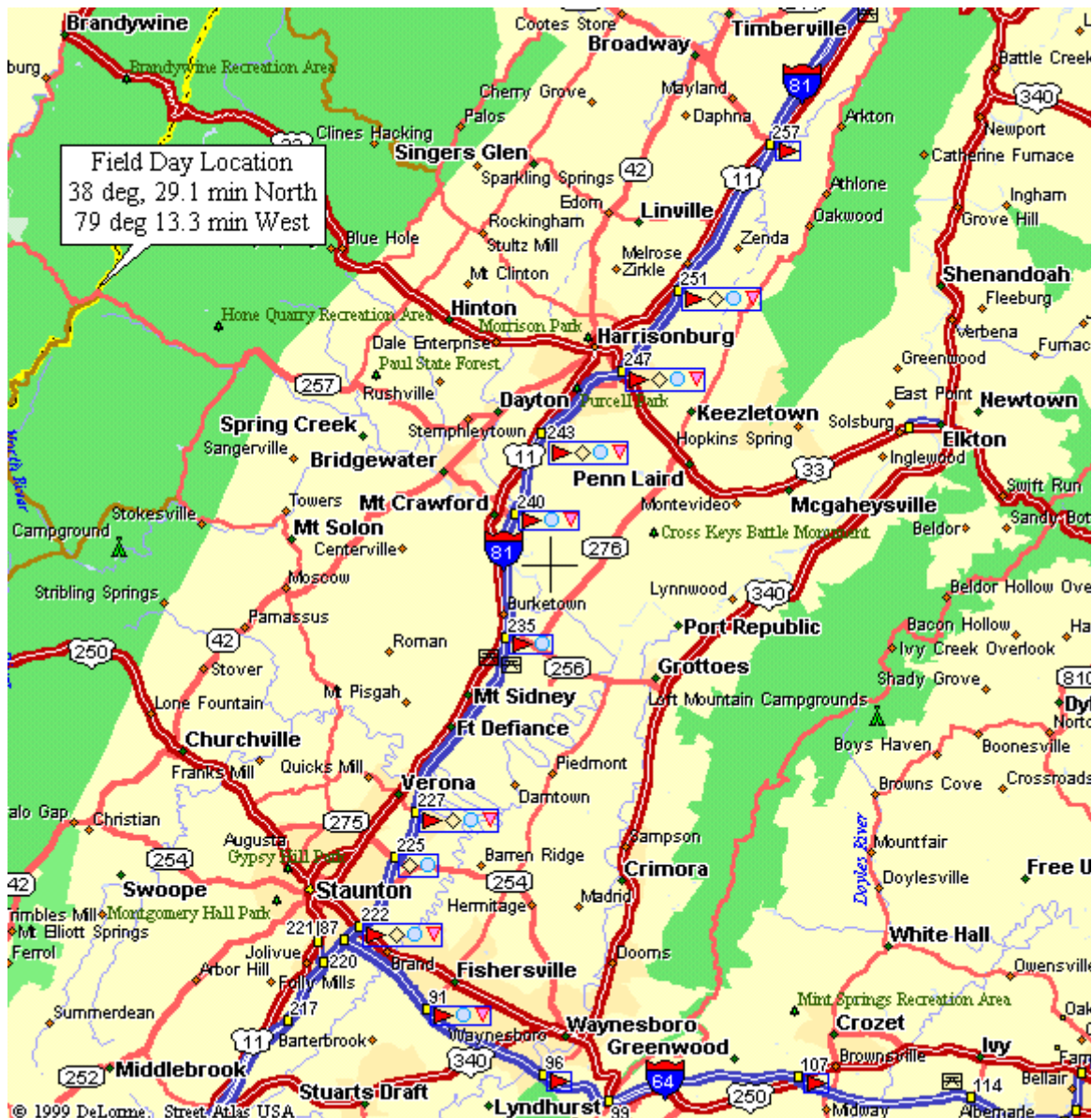
Any damage to, or failure of, the equipment at Field Day will be the responsibility of the owner, and NOT that of the sponsors, organizers, or management of the Field Day Activities.

Directions to Field Day Site

From Interstate 81 take Exit 240 (Bridgewater, Mt. Crawford), and go west on State Route 257 towards Bridgewater. Follow Route 257 straight past the first traffic signal, go 2 miles, into the town of Bridgewater. Turn right at the second traffic signal (Hardee's on the corner) and head north, still on route 257.

As you come into the town of Dayton, Route 257 will make a left turn (one block BEFORE the Dayton traffic light). Follow Route 257 west. Route 257 will make a sharp left turn at Ottobine, and a sharp right at Briery Branch. Keep following Route 257! Go past the Hone Quarry Campground entrance, where route 257 becomes forest road 924. Stay on the paved road as it crosses a bridge and begins climbing the mountain.

Keep going on the paved road up the mountain about five miles. Finally, you'll reach an intersection where the paved road makes a hard left turn and two dirt roads split off, one going left and one going sort-of straight ahead. Keep as far to the right as possible and taking the right fork straight ahead, going another half a mile to the field day site. If you need assistance, call on the 145.130 repeater (transmit down 600 kHz, no PL tone required), or try 147.470 simplex once you get into the mountains.



Calendar Items

The editor pleads with the public service coordinators to please get information in about the upcoming public service events. The sooner the better.

Information about the events below can be obtained from the MARA website. Check out the calendar page. Most events have their own websites, and you can link to them from the MARA pages.

June 5 – Ham Radio Classes begin at EMU Harrisonburg

June 5 – VARA Club meeting, Verona, Kathy's Restaurant

June 5 – Skywarn Basics II class, Sterling VA WFO

June 7 – MARA Club meeting, Harrisonburg, Ever's Restaurant

June 9 – Skywarn Basics Class and Skywarn Hurricane Class, both in Rockville Maryland.

June 9 – Bloomsburg PA Hamfest

June 9-10 – ARRL VHF/UHF QSO Party

June 14 – Fox Hunt, Hidden Transmitter Hunt, Augusta County (see article in this issue)

June 16-21 – Field Day Pre-Event Family Camping begins

June 16-17 – West Virginia QSO Party

June 16-17 – SMIRK (Six Meter International Radio Klub) six-meter contest and QSO party

June 17 – Frederick Maryland Hamfest

June 22 – Field Day Preparations Begin, Covered-Dish pot-luck family dinner at FD site, families welcome.

June 23-24 – ARRL Field Day

June 3 – VARA club meeting

July 4 – Firecracker Hamfest, Harrisburg Pennsylvania

July 5 – MARA club meeting

July 14-15 – IARU HF World Championship Contest

July 28 – ARES Training in Blacksburg, VA

July 29 – Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Society (BRATS) Hamfest in Timonium, Maryland

August 2 – MARA club meeting

August 4 – Ham Radio Exams, Dayton Virginia (VE session)

August 4 – Vinton (Roanoke Valley) Hamfest

August 4-5 – ARRL UHF Contest

August 5 – Winchester (Berryville) Hamfest

August 7 – VARA club meeting

August 11 – Huntington West Virginia Hamfest

August 17-18 – VARA Special Event Station, Jousting Tournament, Natural Chimneys Park

August 19 – 10th Annual Bob's Knob Picnic benefit for the Big Mountain Repeater Association, Bergton Virginia

August 23 – Skywarn Hurricane Class, Sterling WFO

September 1-2 – Shelby (NC) Hamfest

September 22-23 – Virginia Beach Hamfest

Hams are reminded that weekly ARES Nets are held at 8:00 pm, and all hams are invited to check in. Page County ARES on Sunday night, 146.625 repeater, tone PL 131.8. Rockingham County ARES on Monday night, 145.130 repeater, except first Monday on 146.550 simplex.

The monthly Monitor publication deadline is generally the 20th of each month, although this is somewhat flexible, depending on schedule.

MARA/VARA

c/o David Fordham
131 Wayside Drive
Weyers Cave, VA 24486
Phone: 540-568-3024
Email: fordhadr@jmu.edu

Address Service Requested

MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Gerald Nauman, KN4FM
Vice President: Steve Tennyson, KF4ZWK
Secretary: Phyllis Haxton N4VZC
Treasurer: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC
Board (exp 01): David Hughes, KF4SVR
Board (exp. 02): Bob Tennyson KG4CHL

<http://cob.jmu.edu/fordhadr/MARA>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month at Ever's Restaurant on U.S. 11 south of Harrisonburg. Meal starts at 6:30 pm. Business meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:
Sandy Mullins, K4PZC
149 North Street
Elkton, VA 22827

VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Greg Czerniak, W4GRC
Vice President: Richard Huttinger, KF4QZG
Secretary: Ray Colvin, KE4HVR
Treasurer: Joan Pitsenbarger, KF4CWR

<http://www.hamsnet.net/W4MUS>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month At Kathy's Restaurant on U.S. 11 north in Verona. Meal starts at 6:30 pm. Business meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$15 per year) should be mailed to:
Joan Pitsenbarger, KF4CWR
352 Campbell Street
Staunton VA 24401