

# MARA/VARA MONITOR

Published monthly by the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc., of Harrisonburg, Virginia for radio amateurs in the Shenandoah Valley.

## FIELD DAY June 26-27

### VARA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At the May 12, 1999 meeting of VARA a new President and Vice President were chosen.

KE4JSX Dan Beidler is the new president of VARA. He will be assisted by newly elected vice president, Richard Huottinger KF4QZG. The only discussion regarding these new officers centered around how good it will be to have someone new and younger to lead us. We all look forward to new ideas and new enthusiasm for club activities.

These new officers were elected by unanimous acclamation with no dissenting votes. 20 of our 40 club members were present to cast their votes and lend their support by extending the "right hand of fellowship" to the newly elected officers.

VARA lives on due to the continued dedication of the local hams and we look forward to future activities of the club.

*W4PJW - Jeff  
Treasurer - VARA  
Asst. EC Augusta Co.  
Skywarn - Augusta Co.*

*Meet the new President!*

### VARA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'd like to thank Jeff (W4PJW), Clint (KB4OLM), Pat (KD4WWF) and David (AD4TJ) for their support, understanding, and answers to my endless stream of questions prior to my accepting the position of president.

I'd also like to thank Richard (KF4QZG) for taking the position of vice-president. Having just recently gotten to know him, I couldn't have chosen a better person to give me guidance and help run the club.

Many of you don't know me that well. I still consider myself "green" to the hobby and tend to listen and learn more than talk. I enjoy the easy going nature and friendliness of our club. I didn't want to see it fold so I started asking around. I'm anxious to get to know the rest of you and hope you'll lend me your support and patience.

Although I am inexperienced in many areas of Amateur Radio, I'll do my best to serve the club and our community. Radios have always fascinated me but it wasn't until I talked at length with Dave (KD9LA) & Jerry (KR4EQ) that I got a real interest and desire to get my ticket. We're part of an incredible organization. We each have our own reasons for joining but we're all prepared to serve our community when the need arises.

Special thanks to Clint (KB4OLM) and his committee for getting us ready for Field Day. When it comes down to it, isn't that part of what we're all about?

73

*Dan Beidler - KE4JSX*  
942-2557 or [ke4jsx@juno.com](mailto:ke4jsx@juno.com)

## MARA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer vacation is just around the corner, the VHF/UHF contest is coming up, and right behind that is Field Day. It just doesn't get much better than this! Are you ready? Ready or not, here they come!

We had very good attendance at May's meeting: 31. The video of the Kenwood TH-D7A was very demonstrative of its capabilities: lots of features in a small package.

Congratulations are in order for the VARA club and its members: three hams came forward and presented themselves as candidates for the open positions of president and VP. Dan KE4JSX was elected President and Richard KF4QZG was elected VP. I'm glad to see the Staunton club continue on. Thanks to Dick WB8GIF for presiding over the meetings in the meantime.

I'm still looking for volunteers to present programs for the meetings. If you can give a 5 to 20 minute talk on an aspect of Ham Radio that you are involved in, please contact me and I'll schedule you. You don't have to be an expert; remember: we're all amateurs!

Don't forget: July's meeting has been changed to the 8th, not the 1st, to avoid vacations (and to recover from Field Day!). See you June 3rd!

*David Tanks AD4TJ  
MARA President*

Part of the N4RAG System -- 147.090+

### NEW REPEATER ON THE AIR

Pssst! Pass the word. There is a new repeater here in Pocahontas County, WV, on 147.090, up 600, and the PL is 131.8 .

It is located at Spruce Flat, south of Marlinton, WV. The owner is N4RAG! This repeater is also linked into Virginia to another one of N4RAG's repeaters near Charlottesville, Va.; the 146.895 machine.

Anyway, coverage is super with or without the link. It can be accessed direct or thru the linked repeater. I plan to be monitoring it along with our 145.110 machine.

*David Gordon  
KB4LCI*

## GREENBANK TRIP REPORT

Our annual trip to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in Greenbank, West Virginia was made on Saturday, May 22 by 15 people.

A couple of pit stops were made on the way to ease the trip. We arrived about 10:45am and met up with Rick Fisher, KE8DH, an NRAO employee. Rick has given us a tour every time we have visited (5 times) and we thoroughly enjoyed his knowledge and expertise on Greenbank.

We first visited the Greenbank Telescope (GBT) as it was threatening rain, which it started just as we got to the GBT. We were still able to get in the tour of the GBT as the rain wasn't very hard.

We toured other facilities and laboratories, with a break in between to take in lunch in the cafeteria. We are always fed a good meal and treated royally by the cafeteria staff.

The GBT is anticipated to be completed in about four years. So we will have a few more trips to visit. For those who haven't made the trip, there is still time to go.

Our next trip will be about the middle of May, 2000. Hope to see many new faces next year.

*Submitted by  
Joe Meek KD4FKT*

Still Available

### SKYWARN PATCHES

If you are an active Skywarn member, be advised that official Skywarn patches are available for sewing onto your jackets and caps. Cost is about \$3.00 each, give or take a quarter.

Contact Bob, W3MMC, at 540-852-3289 for more information.

## MARA JULY MEETING CHANGE

The Massanutten Amateur Radio Association's July meeting date has changed to July 8, to avoid conflicting with family events held across the Independence Day holiday weekend. Make a note on your calendar for next month.

Dr. Charlie's Vaccination Recommendation

## **KEEP THE BUGS AT BAY**

With all the virus alerts recently, I thought the ham community might find the following WWW site useful:  
<http://clinic.mcafee.com/>

This site is run by Network Associates who recently purchased McAfee, who in turn make one of the leading anti virus programs. An interesting feature of this site is that the virus scan and other options offered are *completely free* and constantly up-dated!

While it appears to be a great site for anti virus protection, it is not without drawbacks. First, you must have Microsoft's Internet Explorer version 3.02 or newer installed on your computer, although you can use the site with newer versions Netscape after IE is installed. If you do not have a new version of either IE or Netscape, it will direct you to sites where they can be downloaded for free. You can obviously use the site with only IE, without Netscape, if you so desire. Second, it took awhile to download the various components and I had to update a couple of my drivers. All in all though, I thought it was a worthwhile endeavor for those who do not have virus software already (or those who do not keep their software up-to-date).

The site offers a "complete checkup", or you can use whichever of the individual components you wish. I found the Virus Scan and Uninstaller QuickClean to work well and reasonably quickly (after downloading the necessary components). The 2000 ToolBox option left a lot to be desired. It was very slow on my 333 MHz PII and then when it finally finished analyzing my programs, it locked up my computer (a soft re-boot was sufficient to cure the lockup). Others may have better luck.... Also, I did not try the First Aid Advisor.

Finally, I should note that I was unable to successfully access the site the Saturday through Monday just before the CIH (?) virus was supposed to strike; presumably the site was overloaded.

Nonetheless, it would seem to be a worthwhile addition to the Bookmarks of many of us.

*73, Charlie Garner,  
WA4ITY*

Big Mountain Repeater Association

## **BOB'S KNOB BASH**

### **DATE SET FOR AUGUST 15**

You are invited to the 8th annual Big Mountain Repeater Association's Bob's Knob Picnic and Repeater Benefit to be held on Sunday, August 15, 1999 (Rain date the following week).

Hot Dogs; Hamburgers; Iced Tea; lemonade; plates; napkins; cups and silverware will be furnished. You are to bring a covered dish or dessert for yourself and your guests, as well as a couple of 2 liter bottles of YOUR favorite soft drink. Various other items such as buns; ice for the drinks; potato chips and specialty items may be donated by some of the folks attending, and if you would like to contribute any items, call Bob. **BE SURE TO REGISTER (IN THE CHINESE PAGODA) WHEN YOU ENTER.**

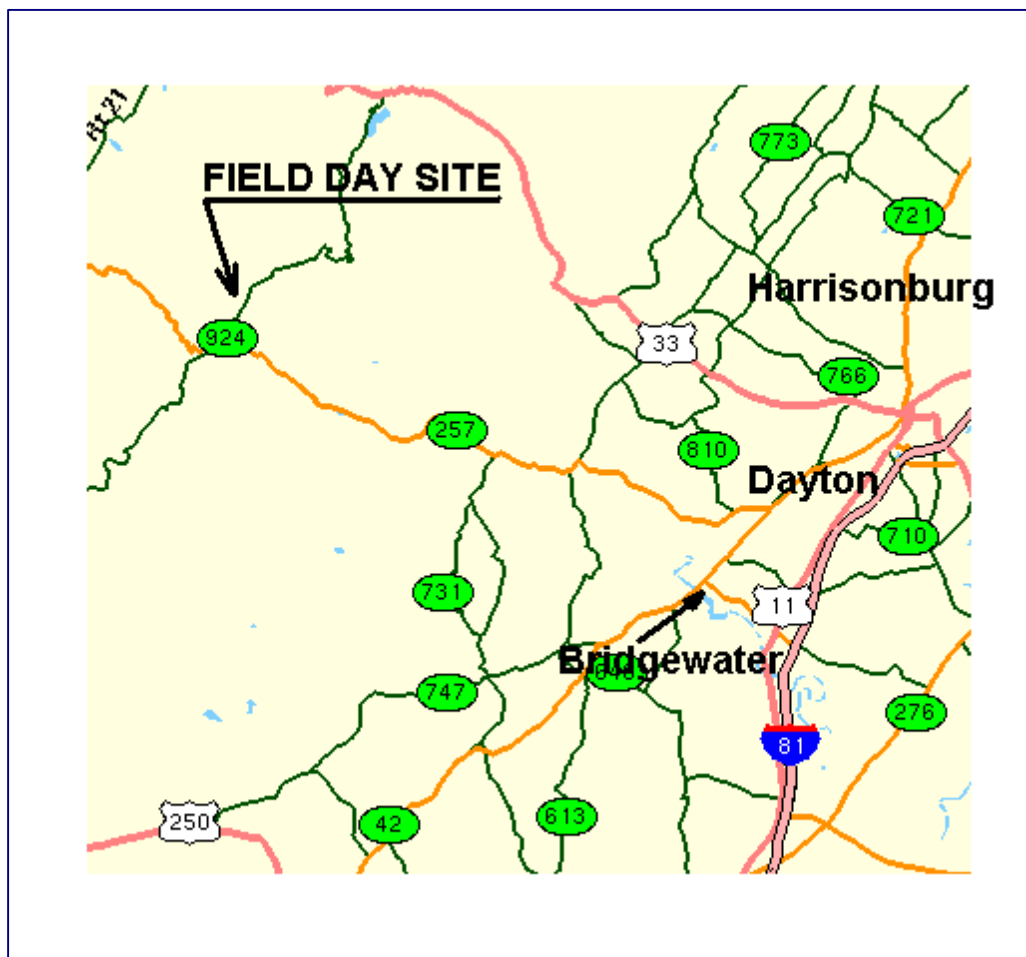
NOTICE: The secret recipe Bob's Knob open fire cooked iron kettle BEANS will be available as in past years. Those beans sure are popular and alone are worth the trip to the knob. We will have (fer sure) a bucket or two asking for contributions to the Big Mountain Repeater Fund, with all proceeds going to maintenance; rental Fees and expenses for the .625 - please note that the repeater operation has been financed by the users for over 20 years. This is a community-based repeater, open to all. If you would like to make a contribution by mail; the treasurer is Carla Worley, (KE4RMB's XYL)

Bring Grandpa and the kids...plenty of room to romp on the knob. Folding chairs for you and your guests would be nice. There will be walks in the woods, badminton, horseshoes and just plain "relaxin" under the shade trees. Parking is at a premium though, so if you can drive the compact car that day, or car-pool, it will help. An "informal" tailgate session will be held, if you want to buy, sell or swap. The official talk-in frequency is 146.55 simplex, after you pass Fulks Run on Rt. 259. Talk-in station will be N4XU, Neal.

Take Rt. 259 (west) through Broadway and continue on until you reach the Rt. 820 Bergton cut-off (at the flashing yellow light) which is Bergton Road. This is 15 miles WEST of Broadway. Continue on Bergton Road; turn right on Crab Run Road. Turn left on Mongold Hollow Road, then left again on Arbuckle Road. Bob's will be the 4th mailbox in, on the right, (Bob's Knob BLVD).

*Bob W3MMC -Licensee and President  
Frank Worley K4RBZ -Engineer  
Carla Worley, Franks XYL -Treasurer*

## MAP TO FIELD DAY



## DIRECTIONS TO THE FIELD DAY SITE

From Interstate 81, take **Exit #240** (State Route **257**, the Bridgewater/Mt. Crawford exit) and go west towards Bridgewater. Follow route 257 straight past the first traffic light about 2 miles, into the town of Bridgewater. Turn right at the Hardee's (second traffic light after leaving the Interstate), and head north on Route 42.

As you come into the town of Dayton, Route 257 will turn left (1 block *before* the Dayton traffic light!). --- Follow Route 257 west forever! Route 257 makes a sharp left turn at the stop sign in Ottobine, and turns right at Briery Branch. At the entrance to Hone Quarry campground, Route 257 bears left (crossing the new bridge), and becomes Forest Road 924. Continue to follow the paved road up the mountain about 5 more miles.

Finally, you will 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, following the right-most dirt road for another half-mile to the Field Day site.

If you need assistance, call on the **145.130** repeater (transmit down 600 kHz, no PL) for talk-in. Once you are in the mountains, you might not be able to raise the repeater, so try **147.470** simplex to talk directly to the field day operators.

# FIELD DAY 1999

Hi folks, its almost time again for Field Day, we had a great time last year and hope that this year will be even more fun, but to accomplish this we need to do a few simple tasks.

1. Invite or bring along one (1) person that has never been to Field Day before.
2. Invite or bring along one (1) person that has not been to Field Day for a few years; Stir up some interest, these people have a lot of knowledge to share.
3. Be open minded. Who knows, you may learn something
4. And most of all, come to have *fun* !

Over the last few years we have placed very high in the scoring. Maybe this year we will be on top. So lets dust out the cobwebs, dig into the closets and find that musty, moldy equipment and put it back on the air.

See you there, 73's

Clint -- KB4OLM

(Field Day Chairman 1999)

## GENERAL OVERVIEW AND LOGISTICS

<b>Event</b>	<b>Field Day - June 26 - 27 1999</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Upslope clearing near Flag Pole Knob - near Reddish Knob</b>
<b>FD Frequencies</b>	<b>Site - 147.470 Simplex / Talk-in 145.130 Rpt.</b>
<b>Call Sign</b>	<b>N4XU</b>
<b>Station Class</b>	<b>2A VA</b>
<b>FD Committee</b>	<b>KB4OLM, KF4QZG, KD4WWF, KB4CNI, KE4GKD, KF4SVR, AD4TJ, K4PZC</b>
<b>FD Chairman</b>	<b>KB4OLM / Clint</b>
Scoring / totaling / Entry Pin Committee	AD4TJ / David - KE4GKD / Kenny - W4PJW / Jeff AD4TJ / David - KE4GKD / Kenny
Welcome Center Registration Display Table Coffee Pot	KA4EEN / Norman - W3HXX / Dick KA4EEN / Norman - W3HXX / Dick KA4EEN / Norman - W3HXX / Dick KA4EEN / Norman - W3HXX / Dick
Pads / Pencils Generator (main) Gasoline - 20 gal for main	KE4GKD / Kenny KE4GKD / Kenny KD4WWF / Pat
Signs at road Publicity	K4LXG / Ellsworth K4LXG / Ellsworth
Fire Wood - truck load Tables for stations Chairs for stations Porti-Potti / 1 week early Pictures Site Cleanup, Grass, etc.	KF4SVR / David WA4ITY / Charlie WA4ITY / Charlie K4PZC / Sandy N3GLZ / John - K4PZC / Sandy - KB2TBL / Daniel KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat - KF4QZG / Richard

## HF PHONE STATION

FD Station #1	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	WA4ITY / Charlie
Location	Wv NE near tree beside road
Shelter	Trailer - KD4UPL / Mathew
1 Table / 3 Chairs	WA4ITY / Charlie
Tower / Mast	MARA Club
Rotor	MARA Club
Antenna 1	Tribander - MARA - see K4PZC / Sandy
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antennas	Clubs
Radio	MARA Club - HeathKit SB-1400
Power Supply	MARA Club - HeathKit
Computer	K4PZC / Sandy
Computer Log	CT = FD99PH
Power	Shared Community Generator
Power Cable	VARA Club - KE4GKD / Kenny
Lights	WA4ITY / Charlie
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding	KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat

## HF CW STATION

FD Station #2	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	N4XU / Neal
Location	Wv NW in opening near campfire
Shelter	Denton Truck - K4LXG / Elsworth
1 Table / 3 Chairs	WA4ITY / Charlie
Tower / Mast	KE4GKD / Kenny
Rotor	KE4GKD / Kenny
Antenna 1	Triband Beam - KD4FKT / Joe
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antennas	Clubs
Radio	N4XU / Neal
Power Supply	N4XU / Neal
Computer	N4XU / Neal
Computer Log	CT = FD99CW
Power	Shared Community Generator
Power Cable	VARA - KE4GKD / Kenny
Lights	N4XU / Neal
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding	KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat

## NOVICE TECH STATION

FD Station #3	KD4FKT
In Charge of Station	KD4FKT / Joe
Location	Wv - Center beside road
Shelter	Trailer - KE4DFH / Gary
3 Chairs	WA4ITY / Charlie
2 Push up Masts	Clubs
Rotor	None
Antenna 1	10m vert - KD4FKT / Joe
Antenna 2	Dipole - Ladder Line - KF4QZG / Richard
Coax for all Antennas	Clubs
Radio	KD4FKT / Joe
Power Supply	KD4FKT / Joe
Antenna Tuners	KF4QZG / Richard - KF4SVR / David
Computer	K4PZC / Sandy
Computer Log	CT = FD99NT
Power	Shared Community Generator
Power Cable	VARA - KE4GKD / Kenny
Lights	KD4FKT / Joe
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding	KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat

## UHF-VHF STATION

FD Station #4	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	KB4OLM / Clint
Location	Va - East near mud puddle
Shelter	Trailer - KB4OLM / Clint
Table / Chairs	KB4OLM / Clint
Tower / Mast	KB4OLM / Clint
Rotor	KB4OLM / Clint
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 Pkt Beam - KB4OLM / Clint
Coax for Antenna's 1-5	KB4OLM / Clint
Radio 1	6m/10m TS-660 - KB4OLM / Clint
Radio 2	2m/432 FT-726R - KB4OLM / Clint
Radio 3	2m/440 FM TW-4000 - KB4OLM / Clint
Radio 4	220 FM TW-321 - KB4OLM / Clint
Radio 5	2m pkt HT IC-2A - KB4OLM / Clint
Amplifier 1	Mirage 1015 6m - KB4OLM / Clint
Amplifier 2	Mirage 1016 2m - KB4OLM / Clint
Amplifier 3	Mirage 1011 432cm - KB4OLM / Clint
Power Supply	50 amp Astron - 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
Computer	KB4OLM / Clint
Computer Log	CT = FD99VHF
Power	KB4OLM / Clint
Power Cable	KB4OLM / Clint
Lights	KB4OLM / Clint
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding	KB4OLM / Clint

## SATELLITE STATION (in conjunction with VHF/UHF Station)

In Charge of Station	KB4CNI / Cowles
Antennas	KB4CNI / Cowles - KB4LCI / David
Coax	KB4CNI / Cowles - KB4LCI / David
Tripod / Mast	KB4CNI / Cowles - KB4LCI / David
Radios	KB4CNI / Cowles - KB4LCI / David
Amplifiers	KB4CNI / Cowles - KB4LCI / David
Power Supply	KB4CNI / Cowles
Computer - sched / pos	KB4CNI / Cowles

## NATURAL POWER STATION

FD Station #5	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	KF4QZG / Richard
Location	Discretionary by KF4QZG

Shelter	KF4QZG / Richard
Table / Chairs	KF4QZG / Richard
Tower / Mast	KF4QZG / Richard
Rotor	KF4QZG / Richard
Antenna 1	KF4QZG / Richard
Antenna 2	KF4QZG / Richard
Antenna 3	KF4QZG / Richard
Antenna 4	KF4QZG / Richard
Antenna 5	KF4QZG / Richard
Coax for all Antennas	KF4QZG / Richard

Radio	KF4QZG / Richard
Computer	KF4QZG / Richard
Computer Log	CT = FD99NAT
Power / Solar	KF4QZG / Richard - W2ZVM / Bill
Gel Cell	KB4OLM / Clint
Power Cable	KB4OLM / Clint
Lights	KB4OLM / Clint
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding if needed	KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat

## DIGITAL STATION

FD Station #6	Call - KF4QZG
In Charge of Station	K4PZC / Sandy
Location	? Va South near trees ?

Shelter	Army trailer - KE4CKJ / Scott
Tower / Mast	?
Rotor	?
Antenna 1	?
Antenna 2	?
Antenna 3	?
Antenna 4	?
Antenna 5	?
Coax for all Antenna's	?

Radio	K4PZC / Sandy
Power Supply	K4PZC / Sandy
Computer	K4PZC / Sandy
Computer Log	CT = FD99DIGI
Power	Generator - KE4DFH / Gary
Power Cable	K4PZC / Sandy
Lights	K4PZC / Sandy
Info Packet	K4PZC / Sandy
Grounding	KE4GKD / Kenny - KD4WWF / Pat

## BACKUPS AND CONTINGENCIES

Generator	KE4GKD / Kenny
Gas / Oil for generators	KE4GKD / Kenny
HF Radio - Phone	KD4WWF / Pat
HF Radio - CW	N4XU / Neal
Power Supply	35Amp - KE4GKD / Kenny
Computer / Keyboards	K4PZC / Sandy
6m allmode Radio	K4NRA / Ray
2m allmode Radio	KB4LCI / David
HF Radio	KB4OLM / Clint ?
Power Supply	KB4OLM / Clint ? - WA4ITY / Charlie
Coax	FD Committee - All
Tarps	?
Wire	?
Gas - 5 Gal	N4ZFY / Colin
Antenna Analyzer	KF4QZG / Richard
Anything Else ?	All

**Organizational Meeting will be held at  
1:00 pm Saturday at the Camp Fire Ring.**

# FIELD DAY

## EQUIPMENT POLICY

Adopted by the MARA and VARA clubs

Be it understood that:

1. As a participant of Field Day operations, whether club member or visitor, you are using equipment that may belong to someone else. Care for it as if it were your own.
2. No repairs or modifications shall be made to any equipment without the owner or owner's designated representative present.
3. Any apparent malfunction of equipment shall be reported immediately to the owner.
4. Equipment which is brought to the Field Day site and made available for use is done at the owner's discretion, and said equipment shall be supervised by the owner or his/her designated representative at all times.
5. Any damage to, or failure of, equipment at the Field Day site will be the responsibility of the owner, and NOT that of the sponsors, organizers, or management of the field day activities.

## “AFTER FIELD DAY” SALE

The following items will be FOR SALE immediately after the MARA/VARA Field Day Operation on the mountain:

- Kenwood TS130S, with VFO 120, 250 HZ CW Filter and 1.8 SSB Filter
- Kenwood TS130S, with 500 HZ CW Filter
- MFJ 941E Versa Tuner II, cross-needle antenna tuner

See Neal, N4XU at the Field Day. site for information and details. All items come with either original or copies of manuals, including service manuals for the TS130's. If more info is needed prior to Field Day, drop me an e-mail at [N4XU@worldlynx.net](mailto:N4XU@worldlynx.net)

*Tnx es 73 – Neal, N4XU*

Available at Field Day

## FREE JUMPSUITS

The American Red Cross recognizes the contribution that ham radio operators made to the community. Our emergency communications services are used not only by the Red Cross, but by many other agencies as well.

As a token gift of appreciation to the ham community, the local chapter of the Red Cross has made available a limited supply of surplus jumpsuits. These are standard-issue, blue cotton/polyester suits worn by the Red Cross disaster response and recovery teams. They are brand new, never worn before, and come in a variety of sizes and styles.

The suits are being given (free of charge) to active local area ham radio operators, one per ham, first come first served, as long as the supply lasts. The only qualification is that you should have volunteered to serve in at least one public service event (it does not have to be real emergency mobilization) in the past three years, or alternatively, make yourself available for a public service event in the coming year.

The suits have Red Cross patches on them which must be removed by the ham before wearing the suit. Once the patches are removed, you are free to wear the suit anytime you like; you are not limited to wearing the suit at ham radio functions or emergency mobilizations.

The suits will be available at Field Day. It is expected that the supply may run out, especially of some sizes, so come to Field Day early. The distribution is being handled by Richard Weaver, W3HXX, telephone 540-867-5600.

Thanks to the Rockingham County chapter of the American Red Cross for this generous gift.



## GOODIES FOR SALE

- Kenwood TH-25AT Handheld VHF (2-meter band) transceiver, includes PL tone encoder/decoder unit already installed, touch-tone pad, memory scan; comes with extended receive capability for NOAA and VHF-hi public service band reception. Also includes new NiCad battery pack, wall charger, belt clip, original box and packing, manual, and schematic. Asking \$95.
- Radio Shack HTX-202 Handheld 2-meter band transceiver, includes PL encode/decode built-in, touch-tone pad frequency entry, two (2) battery holders for AA batteries. Asking \$85, but will let go for best offer.
- Uniden UST 9900 Satellite TV Receiver (C-band). Includes power supply, antenna control box, LNA power supply, handheld remote. VideoCipher-II decoder installed. (Simply add a C-band dish and an LNA and you're ready to go.) Asking \$75 but will let go for best offer.
- Kenwood SM-220 Station Monitor/Oscilloscope. Mint Condition. Frequency Range: 1.8-150 MHz, handles power up to one kilowatt; two-tone generator, sweep frequency range 10Hz-100kHz. Mates perfectly to Kenwood TS-830, TS-530, TS-820, TS-520, and TS-180S series SSB transceivers, but also works with other HF and VHF rigs. Includes manuals and original box and packing. Excellent for someone seeking an affordable oscilloscope. Asking \$150, but make offer.
- Simpson classic antique Model 380 Wavemeter-Modulation Indicator. Collector's item, mint condition! Includes plug-in coils for 80, 40, 20, and 10-meter bands. Uses include wavemeter, field-strength indicator, measure parasitic oscillations and harmonics, SWR meter, percentage modulation. Includes manual, schematic, dial calibration cards, and original box. Asking \$25.
- Lunar Electronics 2-meter linear amplifier model 10-80P, including receive pre-amp. Mint condition. Great companion for HT's. 2.5 watts in produces 20 watts out, 5 watts in produces 50 watts out, 10 watts in gives you 80 watts out. Includes spec sheet, instructions, and schematic. Asking \$50.
- Trunk-lip mount 2-meter 5/8 wave 3 db gain mobile antenna, includes short length of coax and PL-259 connector already installed, ready to mount on your trunk. Asking \$15.

Willing to negotiate on prices, especially for multiple purchases. Call David, KD9LA, daytime 540-568-3024, evenings 540-234-0448, email [fordhadr@jmu.edu](mailto:fordhadr@jmu.edu)

The deadline for the July issue of the Monitor is Sunday night, June 27, 6:00 pm. All articles, for-sale ads, stories, reports, Field Day scores, announcements, editorials, cartoons, pictures, jokes, complaints, lost-and-found and other stuff for the newsletter should be in the editor's hands by 6 pm June 27.

## COMPLETE READY-TO-OPERATE PACKET STATION FOR SALE

- Genuine IBM PS/2 Model 50 computer, (includes hard drive, and both 5-1/2 inch and 3.5-inch floppy drives, keyboard, packet software already installed). \$35.
- IBM 13-inch VGA Color Monitor for above. \$50.
- Kenwood TR-7600 VHF (2-meter band) FM transceiver. Digital synthesized, includes matching Kenwood RM-76 Control unit, hand microphone, quick-remove mobile mounting bracket, operating manuals, service manuals and schematics, original box and packing. \$95.
- Micronta 3-amp 12-volt regulated power supply. \$15.
- Baycom BP-2 packet modem. Asking \$40.
- Larsen Mag-mount 5/8-wave gain antenna. Asking \$15.

**Special Discount: Buy all of the above items together as a complete, ready-to-operate, packet station for only \$199!**

Call David, KD9LA, daytime 540-568-3024, evenings 540-234-0448, email [fordhadr@jmu.edu](mailto:fordhadr@jmu.edu)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 3:** MARA Club Meeting
- June 6:** Ol' Virginia Manassas Hamfest
- June 9:** VARA Club Meeting
- June 10:** Augusta County ARES Net 8:00 pm
- June 12-14:** ARRL VHF QSO Party
- June 15:** Skywarn Basics II class (Sterling WSFO)
- June 19:** Bluefield (WV) Hamfest
- June 19:** VEC Amateur Radio License Exams
- June 19:** Kid's Day on Ham Radio (see article p.10)
- June 20:** Frederick (MD) Hamfest
- June 26-27:** Field Day
  
- July 8:** MARA Club Meeting (note date change)
- July 10-11:** IARU HF Championship
- July 14:** VARA Club Meeting
  
- August 1:** Berryville Hamfest
- August 5:** MARA Club Meeting
- August 11:** VARA Club Meeting
- August 15:** Bob's Knob Bash
- Sept 18-19:** Va Beach Hamfest

## VE EXAMS: JUNE 19

Want more frequency privileges? Looking to upgrade? Know a young person wanting to get into ham radio?

The Shenandoah Valley VE Team will hold amateur radio license exams on Saturday, June 19 at Massanutten Vo-Tech Center in Harrisonburg on Pleasant Valley Rd (off U.S. 11 just north of I-81's exit 243). Check in starts around 9:15 am, the test session will begin a 10:00 am sharp.

Exams are held the third Saturday of each even-numbered month, so the next exam dates are June 19, August 21, October 16, and December 18.

For more information, contact our local VE examination coordinator, Buck Mowbray, N3RIQ, at 540-289-5580.

## ARES NEWS

The Rockingham County ARES net script is now on the web, courtesy of Jay Stewart, KE4OXQ, at: <http://www.vaix.net/~kd4oxq/script.html>

The State of Virginia ARES organization has combined with RACES. The combined organization now has a very good website at: <http://www.aresva.org/>

**Albemarle County** Emergency Coordinator: Dave Damon, K4DND  
Asst Emergency Coordinator: Bradley Risk, N7IVV

**Augusta County** Emergency Coordinator: David Tanks, AD4TJ  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (MARS): Frank Green, KE4ASC  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Nets): Kenneth Harris, KE4GKD  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Skywarn): Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW

**Page County** Emergency Coordinator: Jeffrey Maiden, KE4ZLH  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Tech Asst): Don Essman, KE4SRI  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Operations): Paul Inninger, KD4DDI  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Activities): Robert Watkins, K7ARM

**Rockingham County** Emergency Coordinator: Colin Hester, N4ZFQ

**Shenandoah County** Emergency Coordinator: Jerry Pixton, W6IHG  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Skywarn): Jack Farrance, N3BZ  
Asst Emergency Coordinator (Operations): Ray Williams, N4TRX

**Bath County** Emergency Coordinator: Fred Mercia, N4IF

**Highland County** Emergency Coordinator: Vacant

**Rockbridge County** Emergency Coordinator: Daniel Welsh, KI4ZR

## ARES NETS

**Augusta County:** Second Thursday of each month, 147.075 repeater, (+.600 khz).

**Page County:** Sundays, 8:00 pm local time, on the 146.625 repeater, (-.600 khz)

**Rockingham County:** Mondays, 8:00 pm local time. First Monday of each month on 146.550 simplex, all other Mondays, on the 145.130 repeater (-.600 khz).

*June 19*

## KIDS DAY ON HAM RADIO

Kid's day on ham radio is intended to encourage young people (licensed or not) to enjoy Amateur Radio. The goal is to give young people some hands-on experience on the air. It is also intended to give hams a chance to share their station with their children.

Kid's Day is Saturday, June 19. The hours are from 1800 to 2400 UTC. This is not a contest, so there is no limit on operating time.

Call "CQ Kid's Day". Suggested frequencies for making new friends are 28.350 to 28.400, and 14.270 to 14.300. Be sure to observe all third-party traffic restrictions when making DX contacts.

Suggested exchange: Name, age, location, and any other information. You are encouraged to work the same station multiple times if the guest operator has changed.

All participants are eligible to receive a colorful certificate. Send a 9x12 SASI to the Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009. More details are available from the club at the above address, or on the web at: <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/>

The MARA club May meeting minutes did not arrive in time for inclusion in this month's *Monitor*.

# VARA SECRETARY'S REPORT

May 12, 1999 Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Valley Amateur Radio Association was held on May 12, 1999 at Gavid's Restaurant in Staunton, Virginia. There were twenty members present for the meeting. The gathering began with our normal 6:30 p.m. dinner. The business meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW, did the calling.

The following reports were made and business taken care of:

**ARES REPORT:** David Tanks, AD4TJ, made us aware that ARES needs new members. Currently there are only twenty-three members of ARES in Augusta County. If there is anyone interested in joining ARES in Augusta County, please contact David Tanks, AD4TJ, on the radio, by phone, or by e-mail.

**SKYWARN REPORT:** There was no Skywarn Report for this month.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The Secretary's Report for the month of April 1999 was reported to the club as having been in the newsletter. A motion was made by Pat Smiley, KD4WWF, to accept the report as written in the newsletter. Ray Colvin, KE4HVR, seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** There was no Treasurer's Report for this month.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A proposition was brought before the club by Clint Campbell, KB4OLM, about beginning a Net for the discussion of technical issues related to Amateur Radio on one of the local repeaters not currently used for an Amateur Radio net. The topic was discussed by the members present and tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:** *Field Day Report* - Radio Equipment is needed for use during Field Day. Please contact Clint Campbell, KB4OLM, or David Tanks, AD4TJ. The possibility of working the 3A designation for Field Day by operating a digital station was brought up before the club. The consensus was to continue operating as 2A designation while operating the digital station under a separate callsign as an experiment.

**OLD BUSINESS:** *Club Officers* - As many you know, VARA was facing being disbanded if no one volunteered to complete the vacant terms of President and Vice President. Well, Richard Huttinger, KF4QZG, volunteered to be Vice President for VARA for the remainder of the year. Also, Dan Beidler, KE4JSX, and Pat Smiley, KD4WWF, both offered to fill the position of President for the remainder of the year. It was decided by a unanimous vote of club members to accept both Dan, KE4JSX, and Pat, KD4WWF, as joint Presidents of the club. Congratulations and thank you to all who volunteered to fill these positions.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** A 50/50 drawing was held for this meeting and was won by Kay Cook, KF4CZL. Congratulations to you, Kay! Also a motion was made by Clint Campbell, KB4OLM, to purchase ARRL pins for distribution to all Amateur Radio operators that participate in Field Day as Scheduled Operators. The motion was seconded by Pat Smiley, KD4WWF, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Dick Waldmuller, WB8GIF, and seconded by Joe Archambeault, N4TRH. The motion carried and the meeting was closed at 8:26 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
J. Daniel Farrow, KB2TBL  
V.A.R.A. Secretary*

## MASSANUTTEN ARA

President: David Tanks, AD4TJ  
Vice-President: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC  
Secretary: Wilton Thomas, KF4BFL  
Treasurer: Matthew Huffman, KD4UPL  
Board (exp 99): Bob Hughes, KF4BFC  
Board (exp 00): Walt Lam, KF4BFB

<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/yr) should be mailed to the Treasurer,  
Matthew Huffman, KD4UPL, 5166 Mt Clinton Pike,  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

## THE VALLEY ARA

President: Dan Beidler, KE4JSX  
Vice-President: Richard Huttering, KF4QZG  
Secretary: Daniel Farrow KB2TBL  
Treasurer: Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW

<http://www.hamsnet.net/w4mus/>

VARA meets the second Wednesday of each month at Gavid's Restaurant on US Route 11 South in Staunton. The meal begins around 6:30 and the business meeting begins at 7:30.  
Visitors are welcome.

Dues (\$15/yr) should be mailed to the Treasurer,  
Jeff Rinehart, 1344 Hankey Mtn Hwy, Churchville, VA 24421

The *Monitor* is published monthly by the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association, Inc., a non-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Service regulations. The *Monitor* is distributed to all full current members of the Massanutten and the Valley Amateur Radio Associations under reciprocal agreements of the two clubs. Sample copies are sometimes sent to other hams in the Shenandoah Valley to invite them to join the club of their choice. All change of address, articles, comments, and other material for the *Monitor* should be sent to the newsletter editor, David R. Fordham, KD9LA, 131 Wayside Drive, Weyers Cave, VA 24486-2421, phone 540-234-0448, email: [fordhadr@jmu.edu](mailto:fordhadr@jmu.edu).

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## FIELD DAY ISSUE