

ARRL Field Day 2018

MARTIN BUEHRING - KB4MG – CLUB PRESIDENT

JOSEPH LADD – N3NNU – VICE PRESIDENT – FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN

Workshop for Field Day 2018

GOAL: Successful Field Day that will be enjoyed by all the participants

Planning makes all the difference. Thanks to those who participated the planning.

Major Roles

Field Day Chairman – Joseph Ladd – N3NNU

Hospitality Committee - James James KE4HMS

Antenna Planning – Bob Cheek N4RFC , Wendell Abernathy N4VLK

Publicity Officer – Jim Millsap K9APD

Site Planning Committee – Bob Chambers, Joseph Ladd, Bob Cheek, Wendell Abernathy

Logging Software & Networking - Stephen Price KK4YQV, Chris Atkinson KM4JER

Logistics – Marty Buehring – KB4MG

GOTA – Joseph Ladd N3NNU



Agenda

- Purpose of Field day
- Review of the Basic Rules, as established by the ARRL
- Contact Exchanges
- Scoring
- Station setup and logistics
- Logging Software
- What to Expect that day
- Committee Breakouts

Purpose

Social Gathering of people with like interests

- Sharing our skills and learning from one another
- Camaraderie and friendship
- Eating and enjoying the outdoors

Emergency Preparedness

- Preparedness training – Not a contest , but let's get as many points as we can!
- Demonstration of capability to the public, government, and served agencies
- Experimentation with antennas, power sources, satellite, and making portable equipment work.

More Purposes



- Chances to try different radios and modes
- Recruiting new Hams to the club
- The sheer challenge of operating in abnormal situations and in less than ideal conditions
- Contest-like part of the event – is competition with other clubs in GA
- Just plain FUN! YOU own Field Day, not the organizers

What's the Object of Field day?



- Contact as many other stations as possible in the allotted time frame
- Use all of our shared skills to accomplish the goal.
- Knowledge transfer between other hams
- Operate within the rules of the event, which is mostly “self-policed”
- Feel accomplished when the event is over!

When is Field Day?



- Always the 4th full weekend in June
 - This year that is June 23-24 , 2018
- Begins at 1800 UTC (2pm EDT) Saturday and runs to 2100 UTC on Sunday
- No one can begin your setup before 1800 UTC on Friday (23rd)
- Setup cannot take more than 24 hours
- Site communications use TAC7
 - 145.580 MHz no PL – Simplex channel

CARS Operations

Location : Barrett Park – Holly Springs, GA (Same location as last year)

Entry Category : 5 Alpha and a TBD call sign being used, except for GOTA station
– Use N3NNU call sign (Joseph Ladd)

Basic setup – Friday afternoon June 22 after 2pm - TBD

- Antenna preparations – ropes and rigging, tables, chairs, lighting, etc

Official Site set up

- Antenna and Station set up Saturday morning starting 0800 EDT
- All transmitters, antennas, and equipment used must be within a circle 1000 feet in diameter
- Food can be outside the Circle.
- Banners and other collateral for the visitors at the most visible spot

Tear down – Sunday afternoon ~12 noon or 1pm



GOTA Station (Get on the Air)

- Must have a different call sign [we will use N3NNU]
- Can be any class A-F, only on the bands permitted for FD
- Same exchange as we use with all our other stations, but using the other call sign
- Open to Novices, Technicians, in-active hams, and even the non-licensed public
- Control operator **MUST** be present whenever the station is transmitting.
- We can make a maximum of 500 contacts
- Not counted as one of our transmitters in our FD exchange

Rules to be aware of , part 1

- No radios can be used for more than one callsign for the duration of field day
- Phone, CW, and Digital modes are considered different “bands”
- **We cannot operate two stations at a time on the same band/mode**
 - **ALWAYS tell the coordinators where you are working –Use the onsite frequencies**
- All voice contacts, whether SSB, AM, FM are all 1 point each
- All digital contacts are worth 2 points
- No contacts on repeaters are allowed, nor is using 146.52 MHz simplex (National Calling Freq)
- Contacts between participants of our club station are not counted

Rules, Part 2



- Digital contacts
 - All are 2 points and equivalent credit for any mode
 - We will have multiple stations equipped for digital mode, so we must make the best use of them.
- For Class A, batteries can be charged while in use, but not from commercial power. We will have generators for this purpose, or use Solar Power.
- ALL stations will use the callsign we assign, expect for the GOTA station. We will use N3NNU call sign.
- Can only work one station per band mode (IE Phone, CW, Digital are all band modes)

Contact Exchange

To get proper credit for the contact we must have a completed exchange

Standard exchange for Field day is

- Number of transmitters at the site, in our case it will be **5**
- Class operation – ‘A’
- ARRL Section (Some states have multiple sections, so listen carefully! CA has 9 sections) Our logging software has all the sections programmed in it. Ours is **GA** for Georgia.

Examples:

Phone: “Please copy WX4CAR Five Alpha , Georgia , Golf Alpha, QSL ?”

CW : “5A GA 5A GA”

Digital : Pls copy 5A GA 5A GA kn (*exchange setup with macros in FLDIGI*)



Example ARRL Sections

Call Sign Area 1	Abbreviation
Connecticut	CT
Eastern Massachusetts	EMA
Maine	ME
New Hampshire	NH
Rhode Island	RI
Vermont	VT
Western Massachusetts	WMA
Call Sign Area 2	
Eastern New York	ENY
New York City - Long Island	NLI
Northern New Jersey	NNJ
Northern New York	NNY
Southern New Jersey	SNJ
Western New York	WNY
Call Sign Area 3	
Delaware	DE
Eastern Pennsylvania	EPA
Maryland-DC	MDC
Western Pennsylvania	WPA

Call Sign Area 6	
East Bay	EB
Los Angeles	LAX
Orange	ORG
Santa Barbara	SB
Santa Clara Valley	SCV
San Diego	SDG
San Francisco	SF
San Joaquin Valley	SJV
Sacramento Valley	SV
Pacific	PAC

Basic Operating Strategies



Hunt and Pounce

- Roam the band and listen for stations calling CQ FD or working a pile up.
- Can be slow going, but good for beginners.

Frequency Sitting – Preferred method

- Call CQ FD on an available frequency and wait for others to come to us.
- Be PREPARED if you create your own pile-up. Fast logging skills will be tested if you do!
 - Suggest a station with two or more people to handle this.
- This approach will work more stations/hour

Example of a good exchange

Us: CQ Field Day ,CQ Field Day from WX4CAR , Whiskey X-ray Four Charlie Alpha Romeo , Field Day

They: WX4CAR here is N1ABC November One Alpha Bravo Charlie (good operators do this)

- *Note: They often just say “November One Alpha Bravo Charlie” to say they are calling you.*

Us: N1ABC , Please copy WX4CAR , Five Alpha Georgia Golf Alpha, QSL?

They: QSL, please copy three alpha North Texas , November Tango (ask for repeats if needed)

Us : 73's and good luck in Field Day (optional closing)

If we have other callers, use QRZ :

Us: QRZ from WX4CAR? (Listen and pick one of the callers you can make out best)

Or

Call CQ again and move on.

Logging: We have N3FJP software

We have license to use this application as well as the server mode.

Stephen Price will talk about the use and setup

Computer and Logging volunteers will be responsible for making this work on Field Day.

Backup is always manual logging, so be prepared to do that too!

The screenshot shows the N3FJP's Field Day Log 2.8 software interface. The window title is "N3FJP's Field Day Log 2.8" and the URL "www.n3fjp.com" is in the top right. The menu bar includes File, Options, Setup, Band, Mode, Graph, Map, Operator, and Help.

Recent Contacts (Find Last 20)

Rec#	Call	Class	Sec	Date	Time	Bnd	Mode	Opr
Click record to edit or delete.								

Score Statistics

Total CW Contacts.....	0
Total Digital Contacts...	0
Total Phone Contacts...	0
Total QSO Points.....	0
QSOs / Hr (last 20 min)	0
QSOs / Hr (last 60 min)	0

Call **Class** **Section**

Select a band and mode from the menu bar!

Possible Duplicates

Sections Worked

1	3	5	7	0
CT RI	DE MDC	AR NTX	AZ OR	CO MO
EMA VT	EPA WPA	LA OK	EWA UT	IA NE
ME WMA		MS STX	ID WWA	KS ND
NH		NM WTX	MT WY	MN SD
			NV AK	
				Canada
				NL SK
				MAR AB
				QC BC
				ON NT
				MB

Band **15** **Mode** **CW** **N8ARA** **3A** **OH** 9:33:43 PM 01:33:43 UTC

Scoring



- ☐ 1 point for each voice contact
- ☐ 2 points for each cw or digital contact
- ☐ Add total points for all QSOs
- ☐ Multiplier is power level
 - ☐ QRP (very low power) without gas generator or commercial mains – 5x
 - ☐ QRP with gas generator or commercial power or batteries charged from either – 2x
 - ☐ Low Power (< 150 W) – 2x
 - ☐ High Power (> 150 W) – 1x

Bonus Points



- 100% Emergency Power – 100 points per transmitter (GOTA, VHF and Satellite not incl.)
- Media Publicity – 100 points
- Public Location – 100 points
- Public Information Table – 100 points
- Originating message to Section Manager – 100 points
- Handling messages (traffic) – 10 points each, max 100 points

More Bonus Points

- Satellite QSO (just 1) – 100 points
- Demo of natural power: solar, wind, methane, water, human powered bicycle, - 100 points
 - Need to make 5 contacts minimum
 - Counts as one of the transmitters
 - Includes batteries charged by alternate power
- Copying special CW FD bulletin on W1AW (must be copied over the air) – 100 points
- Demo of non-traditional modes (APRS, ATV, SSTV, etc., but not PSK31, or packet, unless node) – 100 points each, max. 300 points
- Site visit by elected government official – 100 points
- Site visit by served agency representative – 100 points

Bonus for Youth Involvement

Youth participation:

20 points per youth (18 or younger) who completes at least one contact (max. 100 points).



Final Comments , Questions



- Planning makes things go smoother. Be part of the plan!
- Follow instructions from the Field Day Band Coordinators for band to operate on
- Let newer hams operate as part of the rotation. Coach them on operating procedures.
- Take breaks as often as you like. If you do, let another operator jump in and take your place for a while. Hourly is suggested.
- Switch off tasks between logging and operating on the hour.

Proposed Operating Plan

Band Plan subject to change day of
5 HF Stations + 1 GOTA + 1 VHF

HF Stations

- Station 1 is 15m Day/ 80 m night – SSB/Digital/CW
- Station 2 is 20m Day/20m night – SSB/CW
- Station 3 is 20m Day/20m night – Digital only
- Station 4 is 40m Day/40m night – SSB/Digital/CW
- Station 5 is 10m Day/ 160m night – SSB/Digital/CW



What to expect



- ☐ Organized chaos is generally the rule. Don't be part of the chaos.
- ☐ Know what you volunteered for. Help where asked to do so.
- ☐ If you are unsure how to do something, ASK
- ☐ If you need something to do , ASK
- ☐ If you think something is unsafe, you are probably right. Practice safety first!
- ☐ Be prepared for the weather and harsh environment
- ☐ Be sure to sign in on the official log so we credit for your participation
- ☐ Invite people to visit and experience what we are doing

Other Items you can bring



- ☐ Bring Headphones
- ☐ Personal Care items
- ☐ Headphone splitter, if you have one
- ☐ Headphone Amp (splits and controls)
- ☐ Antenna Analyzer if you have one
- ☐ A Good attitude ;>)



FD Logistics



You **MUST** sign in as a participant for Field Day to operate any stations –List we be onsite the day of the event.

Reserve operating time on the operators sheet.

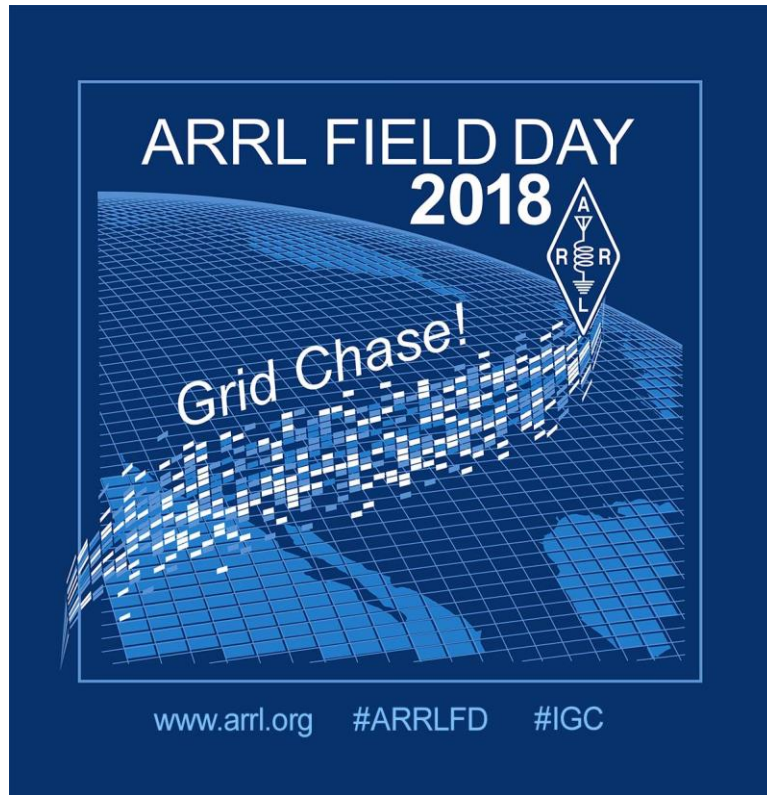
Do not change the band mode of a station without consulting Joseph or other band coordinators.

If you leave the site, let us know.

Have an HT that functions on TAC7 Simplex , for onsite communications

Be Flexible – We may ask you to do something where we need help.

Committee Breakouts



Break out into your teams and discuss what needs to get done prior to and the day-of field day.

Antenna Team – Lead Bob Cheek

- Antenna plan, setup, tuning, maintenance, teardown, antenna safety

Hospitality Team – Lead Joseph Ladd

- All things to do with food
- Greeting guests, GOTA station, Talk-in monitor TAC5

Logistics Team – Leads – Marty Buehring, ?

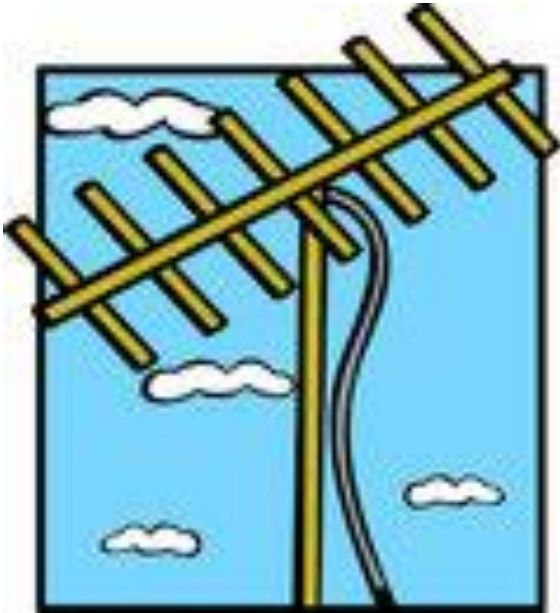
- Setup, teardown, security, safety, band mode coordination, operator schedule, station setup, Logging Software, networking, power setup, lighting, fans, shelters, medical.

Who? Is in charge or what?

Position	Name	Call Sign
Safety Officer	Matt Pesch	KK4NLK
Computer Logging & Network	Tony Yonkers	KM4JKS
Computer Logging & Network	Chris Atkinson	KM4JER
Antenna Planning - Captain	Bob Chambers	KK4JPM
Antenna Planning	Hal Miller	KC4ZYP
Hospitality - Captain	James James	KE4HMS
Hospitality	Joseph Smith	N3NNU
Hospitality	John Ham	WB9GFA
Hospitality	Robin Weiritt	pending
Power & Generators	Hal Miller	KC4ZYP
Power & Generators	Open	
GOTA	David Crandall	W4DTX
Setup & Teardown	Don Coltrane	KJ4UC
Setup & Teardown		
Setup & Teardown		
Band Coordinator	Marty Buehring	KB4MG
Band Coordinator	Tom Olley	KG4VUB
General Logistics	Ken McIntyre	KJ4PQX
General Logistics	Tom Olley	KG4VUB
General Logistics	Bob Cheek	N4RFC
Security Officers	John Lovell	KM4KRK

UPDATE

Antenna Plans



- Have a few possible plans
- No trees, so we will need sufficient push-up poles
- Be sure to tell what antennas you can provide
- Needs are for all bands 80-10 meters
- Optional 160 meter, if we have space and time
- Use “carrier lines” if you have coax fed antennas

Cherokee Veterans Park Field Day Suggested Setup

