

BVRC

*Special
Feature*

Field Day 2019
“The Signal” – July, 2019

N5BVA – November Five Bravo Victor Alpha. You are

“CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, this is



Three Alpha in Arkansas. QSL and

good luck in the contest.....”

From Ron Evans – K5XK, BVRC Public Information Director: “2019 Field Day is ‘in the books!’ Although it was a ‘wash-out’ on Sunday due to strong storms, our “half Field Day” event was truly outstanding. Many agree that it was one of the best we Old Timers can remember.

Much of this year’s success was due to so many of you who participated. Sixty-five members and guests signed-in on Saturday. This year’s event was under the capable leadership of Don Banta, K5DB, 2019 Chairman, who kept things flowing smoothly (see Don’s review, below). Thank you all!



Don – K5DB prepares the MFJ “Big Ears” for raising.



One of the Carolina Windom-80 dipoles used for BVRC Field Day, this one up about 60’

The first 12 hours on Saturday were ‘near perfect,’ as we demonstrated our annual “Open House for the Public.” At its core, Field Day shows how hams are independent of commercial power, cell phones and the internet, and capable of quickly deploying portable stations using emergency power to provide back-up communications, wherever and whenever it is needed.

Several new elements were introduced this year. Joe – W5AEN gathered a crowd when he set-up and demonstrated his portable station powered by inexpensive Solar Panels and charger, along with an ICOM IC-7300 and fiberglass mast. This was very similar to Joe’s NPOTA (National Parks on the Air) activations in 2016.



BVRC President Glenn Kilpatrick -WB5L welcomes Bella Vista Mayor Peter Christie with the official Bella Vista Field Day Proclamation



Mayor Christie broadcasts proclamation over the BVRC repeater and NWA Link System as Ron-K5XK, Tem-N5KWL, and Jon-K5DVT observe

We enjoyed a first time appearance by Bella Vista Mayor, Peter Christie. The Mayor read a proclamation designating this week as Amateur Radio Week, then read it again over the BVRC and NWA Link System repeaters. If you missed it, [here](#) is an .mp3 recording, courtesy of Jon/K5DVT.

A special 'Welcome' canopy was added to greet attendees, furnished by Greg/KF5ZIM & Brian/N5VSD as part of our Ham 101 project. The welcome area was staffed by greeters throughout the day. Proclamations were on display by Benton County Judge Barry Moehring, Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, and Mayor Christie. Also impressive was a 24" monitor playing a loop of informational videos, and a selection of Field Day fact sheets, ARRL flyers, an updated BVRC flyer, and more!



HAM-101 Chairman Gregg Doty-KF5ZIM converses with Molly Behrens-KI5EQO at the HAM-101 booth



Jeremy Walker-K9DPT was phenomenal in helping setup and pavilion arrangement...THANKS JEREMY!!!

From an operational perspective, there were four (4) stations on the air simultaneously, operating HF SSB, CW (Morse Code), FT-8 Digital, and a special 'Get On The Air' (or GOTA) station. Several newly licensed, and other curious non-hams kept the GOTA station busy making their first HF contacts with oversight by licensed control operators.

Although Field Day is somewhat of an informal contest, it's 'not all about the numbers.' However, our stations generated more than 600 contacts, operating only 'half-time,' before the storms forced us off the air. We also earned bonus points for our promotion and publicity.



Scotty-KW5SVB and Jonathan-KØJWG enjoying a BVRC FD eyeball QSO



Joe-W5AEN prepares the solar power station for demonstration – great setup, Joe!!!



Don-K5DB demonstrates the ultimate method in hanging dipole antennas between trees for maximum height – a pneumatic antenna launcher



Brian Doty-N5VSD brought his monster mobile static display for HF, VHF, UHF, and moonbounce – WOW!

The Saturday Potluck Picnic was outstanding, and the fellowship un-matched. Again, Thank You!..for helping in so many different ways throughout the weekend.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend next year's Field Day, on June 27-28th, 2020! 73-Ron, K5XK



Gregg Doty-KF5ZIM manning the HAM-101 booth and BVRC information table



Tem Moore-N5KWL enjoys some technical talk with Bonner Tindle-K15DUV

FROM BVRC 2019 FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN, DON BANTA-K5DB: *This was one of the best all-time Field Day experiences I've had in my 50 years in ham radio. Had it not been for all our dedicated members stepping-up to devote their time and excellent talents to the various positions that they served in, it would have been "just another plain-Jane Field Day". Space does not allow me to thank everyone individually. However, I can collectively thank Sheila-KØETA and all the wonderful YLs and XYLs who brought our scrumptious fare, Glenn-WB5L for the fantastic chicken, hamburger, and hot dogs for the main courses, our fantastic station captains who did such a super job in manning, helping, and operating the 3 main mode stations and GOTA station, the super information booth, our great greeters, the wonderful static displays for moonbounce and solar operation, and ALL the folks who supplied all the essential non-radio related equipment, and especially their hands and their backs!*



GOTA Station Coach Nick Kennedy-WA5BDU assists Keller Castor in making a Field Day contact (Keller – 11 years old – will be getting his Technician License soon!)



Digital Station Coach Paul Dixon-KK5II demonstrates and explains the operation of the new FT8 digital mode. (Paul also brought his microwave and a case of Jimmy Dean sausage biscuits to feed the "Sunday morning hungry hounds". – THANKS PAUL!)

N5BVA worked 46 states (including Hawaii on 40 meters!), 6 Canadian provinces, and 1 DX station. Really excellent for portable station operation. We made a total of 612 contacts between all three main stations. Our total point count for our ARRL Field Day entry this year is 3,292 points which should put us up in the standings when they are tabulated in about 6 months. Who knows score we would have amassed, had we not gotten rained-out!

BVRC members are SUPER-DUPER people, and I count it an honor and a pleasure to know all of you! Only being a member for just over a year, all of you have made me feel like I've been around much longer than that. Being a BVRC member will always be one of my most treasured possessions. 73 – Don, K5DB



Stan Stockton-K5GO pounds-out a contact on the N5BVA CW station. Stan was one of 7 top-notch CW operators who graced BVRC Field Day 2019!



Ken Mills-N5EE and Ed McCarroll-KCØDX enjoy the scrumptious fare at BVRC Field Day. (Sheila Katz-KØETA, Field Day Food and Refreshment Coordinator, is seen in the background right.... Thanks Sheila!!!)



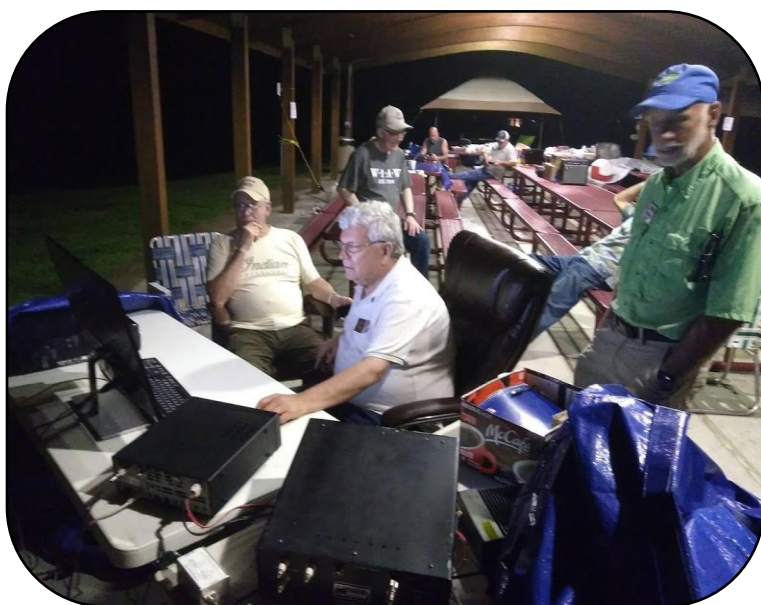
Grillmaster & BVRC Prez, Glenn – WB5L!



John Robinson – W5HB explains a fully contained emergency communications station to BVRC FD visitor. John also did a stellar job in being one of the GOTA station coaches. This year's GOTA station saw the most activity of any BVRC FD in history, and that was due to dedicated elmers such as John, Nick, and all the other GOTA coaches.



Shane Fitzmaurice-W5ZQI and Tom Northfell-W5XNA enjoy an eyeball QSO at BVRC FD 2019



Night falls, and Steve-W5KI (center) keeps the Digital station humming with FT8 contacts as BVRC repeater coordinator Fred Lemley-K5QBX (left) and NWA Link System coordinator Tem Moore-N5KWL (right) look-on.



Also during night operations (and before the storms and downpours came), SSB Station Captain Tom-W5XNA logs for Steve Little-AB9YN as Steve makes one of the many contacts made on the SSB mode, while Jeremy-K9DPT monitors the weather and radar



Sunday morning sunrise, and with it the floods came



BVRC members proceed in FD site dismantling. That's Alan – KEØQFO on the front right of the photo. Alan was definitely one of the unsung heroes of BVRC Field Day 2019. He brought everything and did everything! THANKS ALAN!