

THE SIGNAL

Newsletter of the
Bella Vista Radio Club



Instagram



VOL. 2, NO. 3 – JUNE 2019

Monthly Meetings: 1st Thursdays @ 7 p.m., Highland Christian Church, 1500 Forest Hills Blvd, Bella Vista
Club Call: N5BVA • Repeater: 147.255 +offset, pl 162.2 • Website: www.bellavistaradioclub.org

WEEKLY NETS:

3820 kHz Roundtable - Sundays @ 4 pm

147.255 Repeater Net - Wednesdays @ 8 pm

Wide Area Net - Wednesdays @ 9 pm on the N5UFO NWA Linked Repeater System

In This Issue

- ✱ THE MAGIC MAG-LOOP ANTENNA – MAY MEETING
- ✱ BVRC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – W5HB
- ✱ QUICK START TECH CLASS
- ✱ BVRC HF MOBILE DISPLAY
- ✱ FIELD DAY MEMORIES

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VICE – PRESIDENT

Chris Deibler – KG5SZQ

SECRETARY

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HAM 101

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Glenn Kilpatrick – WB5L

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SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Sheila Katz

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Don Banta – K5DB

NEXT BVRC MONTHLY MEETING

THURSDAY - JUNE 6, 2019 - 7 PM

HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1500 FOREST HILLS BLVD.

BELLA VISTA, AR

JUNE PROGRAM:**DX 101**

Bill Kennamer – K5FUV from Fayetteville, will be our featured speaker for the June meeting. Bill's topic will be "DX 101" – contacting DX stations all over the globe and how to do it. If you're new to HF or plan on getting on HF in the future, this program is for you! Veteran ops will also enjoy Bill's presentation. Coffee and snacks will be on hand as always. We look forward to this excellent program and hope you do too.....C U THEN!!!

MAGIC MAG LOOP ANTENNA

A Hit At BVRC May Meeting

Jay Bromley – W5JAY gave BVRC members a splendid presentation on a topic not discussed that often among radio amateurs – the magnetic loop antenna. Jay lives in Springdale, and is also one of our relatively new BVRC members. Jay brought along a mag loop antenna that he constructed to explain the different parts and characteristics of this antenna.



Jay told the meeting attendees, “The most important item in your ham shack is your antenna. The most important item in your ham radio experience is your Elmer.” Jay has had many excellent Elmers in his ham radio experience and is also a great Elmer himself.

Jay explained that magnetic loop antennas are good for HOA neighborhoods, do not take-up much space, and drastically reduce the amount of band noise.

Jay also brought along devices that can be used to erect dipole antennas including a super-duper slingshot and a huge pneumatic antenna launcher. He then compared a mag-loop with a dipole antenna – dipoles need support (mast, tower, trees, pole, etc.), and are generally not HOA friendly. To be a decent performing antenna, a dipole must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength long.

In contrast, a magnetic loop can be just as effective as a 20-meter beam at 30 feet. A full-size 20-meter dipole would be 66 feet long, whereas a mag-loop is only 6 feet.



Jay also shared that commercial mag-loop antennas are quite pricey, and that building your own homebrew mag-loop will save you lots of money. Commercial magnetic loop antennas generally run between \$400 – 500.

Jay also stated that a mag-loop can also be used as a receive only antenna. They work exceptionally well in this area as they reduce band noise considerably, making it easier to copy weak stations.

Jay, a great presentation and we thank you very much. We are pleased and proud to have you and your lovely XYL Kathy – WQ5T in the BVRC family!!!



**BVRC President Glenn – WB5L
presents Jay Bromley – W5JAY
the Certificate of Appreciation**



From the Desk of the President

Glenn – WB5L

Well, here it is June already, and what do we think about this time of year the most? Field Day, naturally!

I remember my first Field Day, all down through the years to the last. Each one has been an experience that I would never forget. On the first Field day I attended, it was just a bunch of kids getting together to party all night long! We had some old-timers who really pulled us all together, and we made some surprising contacts. I learned a lot and discovered some new aspects of the hobby. The last one I attended, we had well over 50 in attendance! We had friends from all segments of the hobby. The technology has changed, but spirit of Ham Radio lives on!

When I think about Field Day, I can think of four areas of interest: mentoring and learning, discovering, service to the community, and FUN! I put mentoring and learning together, because if you endeavor to teach, you're inevitably going to learn something. A good mentor will listen to understand his mentees. There is always the new ham at Field Day. The 1st time that these new hams get to see all the parts of ham radio come together for a purpose is usually at a Field Day operation. And what a purpose it is, to practice communications and skills for emergencies, and reach out to the community in a yearly open house style event. We often discover more about antennas, propagation, station setup, operating modes and skills, and most importantly about each other. As the public stops by to see what we are all about, they learn that we really can provide a valuable service to the community in times of need. Often, we gain a few newer amateur radio friends as a result of Field Day. And we do all this in a family friendly fun type atmosphere. I look forward to seeing you there!

At our next club meeting on June 6th, following Bill Kenamer-K5FUV's presentation, "DX-101", we will have a short meeting. Since the July 4th meeting falls on a national holiday, we will need to move to another date. After a successful Arkansas QSO Party event, in which we handed out *over 460 contacts* from the club call N5BVA, we should have more 25th anniversary events coming up. Details to follow so stay tuned! And as always, YOU make this club the most popular in the region. On behalf of all the officers of the Bella Vista Radio Club, THANK YOU for all your support!



This month, THE SIGNAL salutes John Robinson – W5HB of Winslow, AR. Since this is Field Day month, John is a very apropos operator to feature, as he has experienced MANY Field Days.

John has worked in Wal-Mart's Information Systems Division since 2001 on Windows servers and various virtualization platforms and environments for servers.

He and his wife also own a full service embroidery business that caters to both small and large customers and businesses. They also attend various hamfests each year as a vendor and offer on site embroidery at the hamfests. Many of us (including your Editor) sport a spiffy topper from John and Kim.

In his main vocation, John works on Windows servers and various virtualization environments for servers. Over the years, he has worked on Walmart's home office servers, Distribution Center servers, and store servers all over the world.

For their embroidery business, John and Kim do just about anything small business and embroidery related. They digitize custom designs, run the embroidery machines, maintain their embroidery machines, work with customers, take orders, package orders, ship orders, inventory replenishment, and you name it.

When John first attained his Technician license in 2001, he was issued the callsign KD5NFX. In 2007 he upgraded to General and then Extra and applied for a 1x2 vanity call so it would be easier and faster for contesting. He is now W5HB. When he was growing up, his two best friends had fathers who were hams and both had Whiskey 5 call prefixes. John says that he always thought that was really cool call prefix so he applied for one as soon as he could.

John discovered ham radio in the 1970's from his friends' fathers that were hams in his neighborhood. He has always been amazed by radio and electronics and when they showed him how a phone patch worked from a 2m radio in the car he was hooked. He signed-up along with a friend and took a Novice class offered by the CAREN Radio Club in Little Rock in 1978. He learned code at about 7wpm and all the theory needed to pass the test, but was unable to take the test at that time. While in high school, he attended a Vo-Tech school half a day for two years for basic and

advanced electronics. After high school he attended college for electronics. Fast forward several years, and John found out in 2007 that the code had been dropped as a test requirement for the Tech ticket and immediately took the test and got his first callsign. He has been loving ham radio ever since.

When asked about any elmers that he's had, John told us, "I have not had a formal elmer of any sort, just ham friends that have helped me over the years, I would consider all of those folks my elmers. Charles Tillotson – W5NX (SK), was a dear friend. He is probably the person that elmered me the most over the years and perhaps never even realized I considered him my elmer. He helped me as ground crew on many tower and antenna jobs, and we attended many hamfests together over the years. I loved walking down the isles of a hamfest and listening to his stories about this radio and that radio, what types of circuits, tubes, and features that each had, and when he owned them and how they had performed for him. He also shared his stories of being a ham, various memorable contacts he had made, and how he enjoyed the hobby and helping other hams."

Concerning his favorite areas of ham radio, John said, "I enjoy HF contesting, although I participate mostly for fun and am not a hard core tester. I like EmComm and portable operations, and am a member of the Washington County ACS team that provides any type of communications (including public service and ham bands, as well as MARS) for our county agencies when needed. Field Day and the Arkansas QSO party are my two favorite radio events of each the year. I truly enjoy all of the friends I have (and my family have) made and most of the people I have met through radio and the clubs I have participated with over the years. This is great family hobby and has so many different aspects, that a person that is truly engaged in the hobby could never possibly get bored with it. Ham radio offers something for everyone and I always enjoy seeing and hearing about new radio niches and technologies. I have tried many of those that I have learned about over the years and have liked most of those things, but some not as much as others.

John's current station consists of a Yaesu FT-1000MP and a backup Kenwood TS950-SDX for HF, and also two portable 12V radios – an Icom 718 and Yaesu 857D. He also has various VHF/UHF base, portable, mobile, and HT radios.

HF antennas currently consist of a Mosley Pro-67 yagi, Hustler 4-BTV vertical, and a 160m and 80m full length Carolina Windom. His VHF/UHF antennas consist of an assortment of Cushcraft yagis and various flavors of vertical omni antennas. John also runs a HF Pactor 3 station, as well as, a 2m Packet station that he has had online full-time since 2002.

One of John's major past times has been the past 13 years in the Boy Scouts with his twin sons.

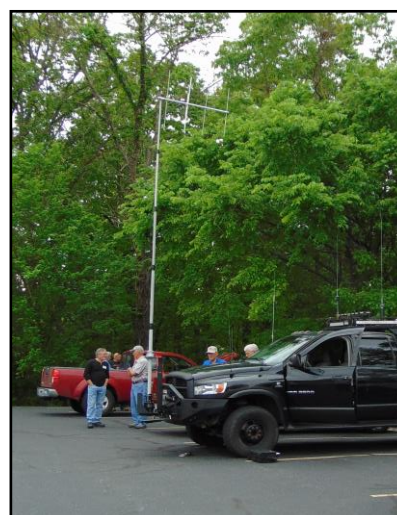
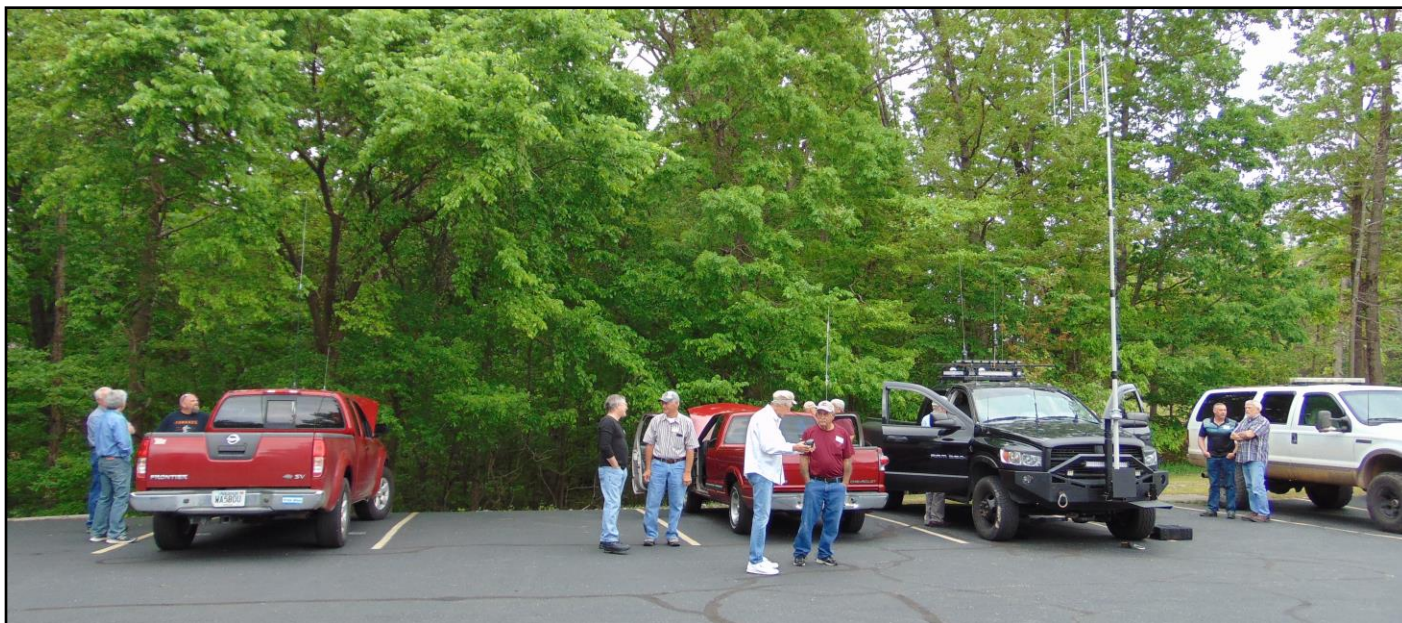
All of John's family are hams – XYL Kim-KD5TVX, and sons River-KG5CDQ and Dawson-KG5CDR.

John, we're pleased to have you in BVR!!!

HF Mobile Display Precedes May Meeting

A special bonus for anyone desiring to come early to the parking lot of Highlands Christian Church prior to the start of the BVRC May meeting, was a static display and demonstration of three BVRC members' HF mobile stations.

Brian – KD8VSD presented his massive mobile installation (first class!). Nick – WA5BDU unveiled his new Yaesu FT-991 (nice rig!). Don – K5DB got a bang out of some of the members' reaction to hearing him work Aruba, Canary Islands, Colombia, and Venezuela on 20-meters from the pickup with 85 watts. The pre-meeting turnout was great and lots of HF mobile topics and questions were discussed. Thanks to everyone who came early!





John – AD5FU conducts the Quick Start Technician class on April 27

BVRC sponsored a Quick Start Technician License class during the weekend of April 27-28. The class was held at the very nice facilities of Ozark Guidance Center in Springdale. John Nordlund – AD5FU from Redfield (s. of Little Rock) was the instructor. John is a regional icon in Technician License classes. He has traveled all over Arkansas and the mid-south devoting his own time and spending his own money to help interested individuals in obtaining their first ham license and launch them into our great hobby.

John's presentation was stellar! He has a high percentage passing rate for his classes and this one was no exception. 15 new Technicians were "born" from the class, one of which also passed his General! Bonner Tindle – KI5DUV who already has his Technician ticket upgraded to General during the mega class test session, along with Jeremy Walker – K9DPT who passed his General at the conclusion of the QS class as well. Congrats Bonner & Jeremy!!!

It was a grinding – but interesting – weekend for all attendees. Most of them said they were exhausted at the weekend's finish line but getting their first ham license made it all worthwhile, and the class was super.

Several other BVRC members also stopped-in at different times during the weekend quick-start class and also voiced their opinion that John and the material he covered was excellent.

A huge "THANKS!" to the BVRC VE testing team headed by Glenn-WB5L and Larry-KD6IRI, which included Doris-KD6WQB, Gregg-KF5ZIM, Robert-WW5RED, and Ken Mummery-K6RLA.

AND.....AN ASTRONOMICAL THANKS TO RON-K5XK AND RICK-KG5MWG. Rick performed outstanding legwork in promoting the class and distributing flyers throughout the area, and Ron coordinated the sign-ups and facilities for this great event.

Thank you, Rick and Ron!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

GRADUATES FROM THE QUICK START TECHNICIAN CLASS

Congratulations!!!

Dennis Walker – KEØVQL – Anderson, MO
Sherman Crosby – KEØVQN – Anderson, MO
Alejandro Smith – KI5EQK – Goshen
Marion Foote – KI5EQM – Bentonville
Molly Behrens – KI5EQO – Garfield
Casey Greenhaw – KI5EQQ – Springdale
Randy Rose – KI5EQS – Prairie Grove

Albert Skiles – KI5EQU – Fayetteville

(Jeremy Walker-K9DPT and Ryan Carter-KI5EQT also passed the General exam!)

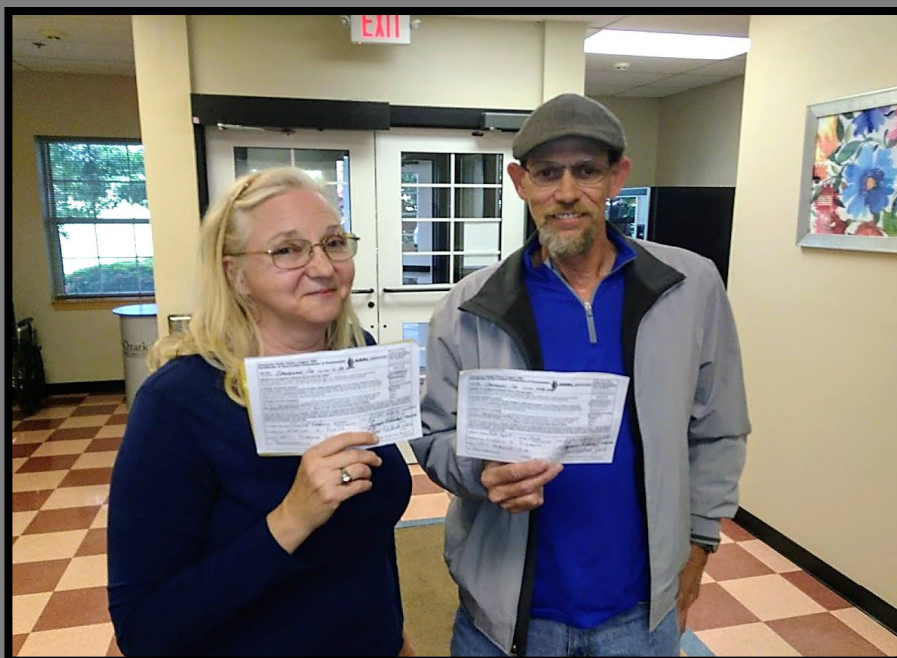
Sheila Katz – KEØVQM – Washburn, MO
Leslie Ridpath – KI5EQJ – Bentonville
Faith Sawyer – KI5EQL – Rogers
Steve Deeds – KI5EQN – Fayetteville
Brian Clevenger – KI5EQP – Gravette
Ralph Ledgerwood – KI5EQR – Springdale
Ryan Carter – KI5EQT – Pea Ridge



The big moment – QS Tech class
taking their exam



BVRC VE Team
grades exams



Marion Foote and Leslie Ridpath of Bentonville are all smiles with their Certificates of Completion after passing the class. They are now KI5EQM and KI5EQJ, as well as being engaged. Congratulations on both counts, you two!!!



**BVRC
FIELD DAY
JUNE 22-23, 2019**

The biggest ham radio event of the year is just around the corner! Mark your calendar and join us for food, fun, fellowship, operating, & hands-on experience in setting-up a portable ham station. We have the preparations for the 4 Field Day stations complete, but still need volunteers for food, drinks, snacks, etc. If you will help, contact Sheila-KEØVQM at:

skatz64@att.net

If you want to help with set-up, tear-down, etc., contact Don-K5DB at:

arsk5db@gmail.com

C U THERE!!!

BVRC VE REPORT

May 11, 2019



Congratulations!

Sonya Dawson – New Technician!!!

Patrick Geels – New Technician!!!

Tristan Hardy – New Technician!!!

Shane Fitzmaurice – W5ZQI – New General!!!

Ryan McGuffin – KW5ARC – New General!!!

Reginal Greenwood – Passed Tech and General!!!

Test sessions are conducted each 2nd Saturday of the month, 2 pm, at the Highland Christian Church in Bella Vista

*Help promote the availability of the Club's monthly test sessions.
Tell your friends and acquaintances!*

**WELCOME
NEW BVRC
MEMBERS!!!**



Faith Tindle – KI5EQL – Rogers

Molly Behrens – KI5EQ0 – Garfield

Randy Rose – KI5EQS – Prairie Grove

BVRC MEMBERS' CORNER



FROM RON - K5XK

BVRC MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

KF5ZIM, KD8VSD – Kudos to father & son team Gregg & Brian for their maiden deployment of Brian's well-equipped mobile into SW AR for the Arkansas QSO Party.

W5AEN, ACØQU – Joe (ex-WD9AEN) and new member Bill teamed-up to operate portable HF during the QSO Party from 'off the beaten path' on the Madison, Newton & Carroll tri-county line.

K5XK – With the help of K5DB's teenage grandson Damien – K5ZB, Ron demonstrated 'live' on-air communications via the NWA Link System during a presentation to teenagers in the Benton Co. 4-H program. The topic was Amateur Radio's usefulness in emergency preparedness. Ron is also pleased to be the very first on-air contact for both Faith, KI5EQL, and Ryan, KI5EQT, both licensed at the Club's accelerated Tech class. Faith is the XYL of Bonner, KI5DUV, and Ryan is a 911 Dispatcher for Benton County.

W5XNA – Tom has been enjoying an 'Anytone AT8uv' HT that he won as a door prize at the Green Country hamfest at Claremore.

K9DPT – New callsign of Jeremy, ex-KCØSYN, Pineville. Added congrats to Jeremy for upgrading to General during the Club's recent VE Session in Springdale. You may also note his vastly improved VHF/UHF signal into area repeaters, thanks to a new antenna and LMR-400 low-loss coax.

W5ZQI – New callsign of Shane, ex-KG5ZBQ, Prairie Creek. Shane and local friend Ryan, KW5ARC (ex-K5UME) have also upgraded to General class license.

KCØDX – After being inspired by W5JAY's program on "The Magic Mag Loop" at the May meeting, Ed built a 40 Meter prototype, which Ed reports is working well.

KI5DJP – Scott is learning CW 'on his own,' and doing a remarkable job of "getting up to speed" quickly, having built a code practice oscillator from kit, and 'printed' a paddle. Scott also acquired a Kenwood TS-480SAT HF transceiver and is enjoying listening on his SDR Play SDR receiver with a longwire antenna.

W5AEN, AB5DD, and KG5SOZ – Joe, Dana, and Mike are some of those looking for assistance with antennas this Spring!

W5JAY – Jay is working with an engineer for Ozarks Electric to solve his electrical line noise issues. Jay and XYL Kathy-WQ5T were also expected to attend the Dayton Hamvention again this year, where Kathy is VP of QRP Amateur Radio Club International.

ACØQU – Bill is working on getting an HF antenna up in the trees at his new Bella Vista QTH.

K5DB – Don has achieved DXCC (100 countries) on FT-8 mode. This is a notable achievement since Don continues to be employed full time. Don's total is now at 267 'Mixed mode,' with 102 countries/entities on 80 Meters, alone.

K5DVT – Jon has deployed a Raspberry Pi to enable the NWA Link Repeater System to be monitored on "Broadcastify." Congratulations to Jon on being a May 2019 graduate from Huntsville H.S.

W5KI – Steve is continuing to remove vegetation, repair and replace wire antennas on his inspiring hilltop NW of Eureka Springs.

K5SAW – when not moving to a new QTH in the BV Highlands, Steve has been experimenting with "Gnu Radio" and Doppler technology.

KEØVQM – This is the new call of Sheila Katz, XYL of Alan-KEØQFO. Sheila is the proud owner of a new YAESU FT-991A.

KG5YJV – Jessie suggests that the Club coordinate with the Bella Vista Historical Museum as a location from which to set-up a portable station and promote both the museum and BVRC's 25th Anniversary.

NOTE: With the influx of new Technician and General class hams in the Club, many are looking for good, used VHF/UHF and HF gear. Please post any excess radios and antennas/accessories in our website's [classifieds](#) by sending details to the [Webmaster](#)!

FREE Tower... must be taken down! Approximately 80' Rohn 25G tower currently standing / in the air. Must be removed by experienced tower climber and helpers with proper gear. Contact [K5XK](#) for details.



Field Day Memories

by Don – H5DB

Next month, THE SIGNAL will have a full feature story on the fun and happenings at BVRC's Field Day 2019 operation.

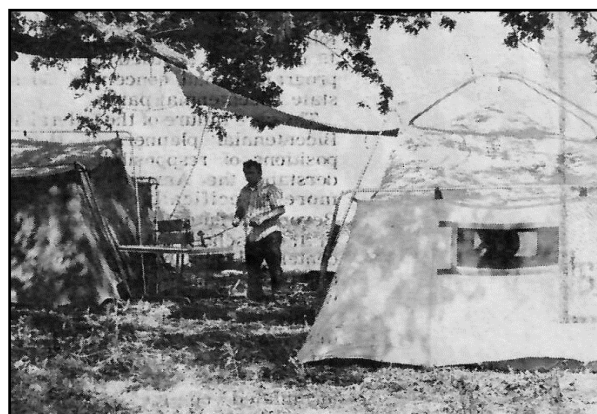
In the meantime, please enjoy this newspaper reprint that I have saved for many years. It is from the June 28, 1973 issue of the Carroll County Tribune (no longer in existence). You will be very entertained as you read the commentary that was written by the Tribune's Editor at that time, who covered our NAARS (North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, Harrison) Field Day of that year. I was but 17 years old and still at home with my folks in Green Forest, but I was totally immersed in amateur radio by then, having had my license for 4 years, and enjoying it to the fullest. What you will especially enjoy is to read his story of what he experienced *from the perspective of someone who had never been around ham operators and didn't know the first thing about the hobby. This was his first ever experience. With his excellent prowess in news story writing, this remains one of the best Field Day stories I have ever read.* Enjoy! :

By Ted Larimer, Jr. – Tribune Editor

Can you imagine anyone in their right mind dragging 3 tents, a number of chairs, tables, some of the oddest looking electronic gadgets, gasoline powered electric generators, portable antennas, an undetermined amount of wire, tools, soda pop and other junk to the shadow of a giant oak tree on top of a hill east of Green Forest, then setting out to wreck body and mind by working a radio station for 24 straight hours?

Well, I can answer that rather lengthy question with a definite "maybe".

At any rate, that in a nutshell is what the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, Inc. did over the weekend in the annual ham radio operators Field Day. Field Day takes place once each year, the fourth weekend in June. And from the outside looking in, it would seem a lot of work for little gain. I must admit that I was dubious about the whole thing when I first drove-up to the station site Saturday afternoon about 12:30.



This was the scene Saturday afternoon as the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, Inc. prepares to go on the air during the 1973 Ham Radio Field Day. Newell Stockslager prepares one of the stations.

Upon arrival – I mean the minute I stepped inside the first tent – I knew at once that it wasn't a Sunday school class picnic....the air was still faintly blue as the club members struggled to get their station – WB5CYX/5 – on the air.

The time to start the contest (that's what Field Day is all about you know...to see how many contacts (QSOs) your station can collect within a 24-hour period) was 1800 Zulu time. (I am still not sure what that is in Daylight Savings Time.)

Well, they were a little late getting on the air, but on the air they went at about 1:30 pm our time, although it's a wonder to me how.

To an outsider ham radio equipment looks like an

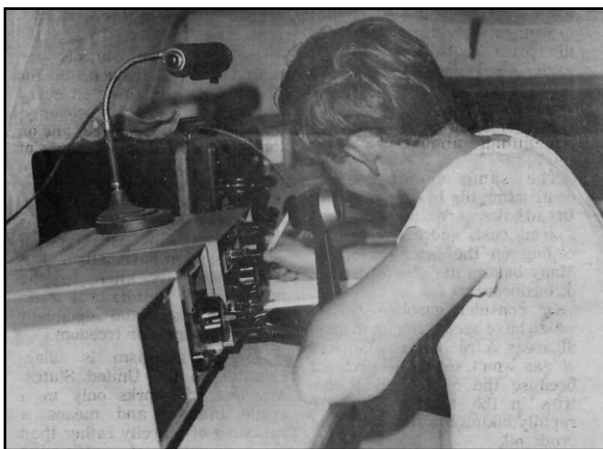
over-educated television set without a picture tube...all the knobs and dials and meters and antenna leads and.....

Speaking of antennas, one of the antennas the club erected on the site, was a sight! – It resembled a refugee from a fishing tackle store with its cane poles: one pointing straight up, four more pointing to each of the points of the compass. To an outsider, it looked like anything but an antenna.

“Oh brother,” I said to myself as I photographed this group of tinkers erecting their stations, all the while I just knew one of them was going to grab hold of the wrong thing and be electrocuted on the spot.

The truth of the matter is, these folks knew EXACTLY what they were doing – and the longer I watched and listened, the more interested I became. Ham radio is like a disease: extremely contagious.

Duty required that I be elsewhere for about five hours...but just as soon as the poor old four tires of my Ford could get me back to that hilltop, there I was. – When I had left, it was still daylight.....when I returned to the scene, night had fallen.



After taking a meal break, Bobby Womac of Harrison, WA5TCL, gets back into the act of working Field Day QSOs. The excitement is highly contagious, and Bobby stood himself in good stead working the 40-meter band.

Imagine, if you will, a beautiful night in the Ozarks – the stars twinkling merrily, a good breeze blowing from the southwest to cool the station tents, electric lights dimming, then brightening, then dimming again. I could hear the constant strumming of two gasoline-powered electric generators...the engines would labor, and the tent lights would dim.....shortly, the generator would relax to a steady chug-a-chug and the lights in the tent were again bright.

There was a large light mounted on the antenna tower. Another, a table lamp with the shade removed of all things, was stuck in the crotch of a nearby tree. From the ceiling of the number one tent hung another bulb, and a nightstand lamp furnished the necessary light for the equipment in the second and third tents.

And then – when I came within earshot – I heard the call of the ham station... *a call I will recall in my next life, I heard it so often repeated:*

“CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day...this is WB5CYX portable 5 and bye for a call.....Hello CQ contest, CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day....here is Whiskey-Bravo-Five-Charlie-Yankee-X-Ray, Portable Five and bye....”

This one-sided conversation would go on intermittently until the radio’s speaker would say something like: “WB5CYX portable 5, this is W2AIA, Whiskey-Two-Alpha-India-Alpha-Portable-Two, over!”

“W2AIA/2, this is WB5CYX/5 you are 59 in Arkansas, old man, go ahead...”

“WB5CYX/5, roger your 59, you are also 59 in Northern New York, great signal. QSL?”

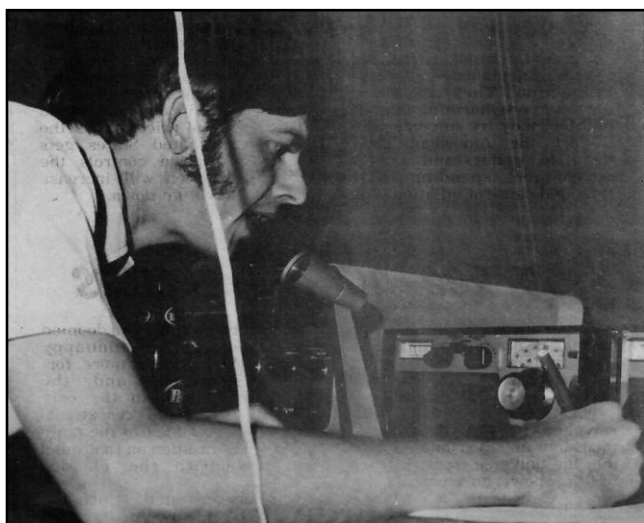
“W2AIA/2, QSL your 59, and good luck in the contest!”

“You too....good luck in the contest!”

And that my friends is the way it went for 1181 contacts.....that's what I said: station WB5CYX portable 5 made 1181 confirmed contacts during the Field Day contest period.

Looking back over the field day, I am reminded of a fishing trip – out goes the bait and you wait. You pull it back in to see if the bait is still there. Out it goes again.

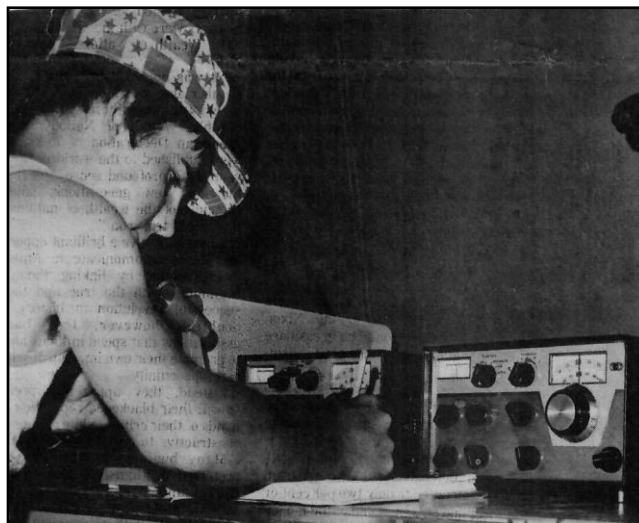
When the WB5CYX/5 signal went out over the air, it was like casting a line...but to my absolute delight, I found Field Day more fun than fishing ever was. It, being a contest, put just the right amount of competition into the affair to make it exciting.



John Allan Jones of Harrison, WA5ZGI, works the 20-meter band for Field Day held over the weekend on a hilltop about 5 miles east of Green Forest and about a half mile south of US-62. Three radio rigs were set up for the Field Day by the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Out would go the bait...no answer...out would go the bait again...nothing. And then all of a sudden, you couldn't reel them in fast enough! Two stations, four stations, and even five stations would be trying to contact you all at once...and the fight is on!

Being careful not to horse the big one (you could never tell how distant the answering station was, and it could be a new multiplier for you and a higher score tally) you would answer any and all stations calling you, even if you couldn't hear all their call...you would hear: "WB3 station come back..." or "W6 Germany question mark Hotel, this is WB5CYX/5, give me your call again...."



Don Banta, WA5ZKE, bedecked in his stars-and-stripes topper, who is president of the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, a ham club, works a contact on 20-meters during the Field Day held over the weekend

This ham radio business is complicated, and the information made available to me by the various NAARS members would fill a book. So, look forward to more stories in the near future on ham radio. It's a fine hobby, and something constructive for people of all ages to do in their spare time.

I would like to thank the North Arkansas Amateur Radio Society, Inc., for the warm hospitality shown me during Field Day. It was a blast. And to answer my own question, posed in the first paragraph of this story: *"Yes! You bet your life! It IS exciting and fun."*

THE SIGNAL newsletter is published monthly for members of the Bella Vista Radio Club. BVRC disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or the content of articles published herein. The opinions expressed are solely those of the authors. BVRC neither necessarily endorses nor opposes said opinions, brand names, products, businesses, organizations, etc. Submission of any amateur radio related articles is encouraged and welcomed. Submit your article to the editor: Don Banta-K5DB, 3407 Diana St., Springdale, AR 72764 (or E-mail to: arsk5db@gmail.com) for publication in THE SIGNAL. The deadline for articles is the 10th of each month.