



AREA & STATE NETS:

MONDAY: W5YM Univ. of Ark. Weather Net – 8pm – 147.135 pl:110.9
TUESDAY: NW AR UHF Society Net – 7pm – 443.650 pl:97.4, 147.375 pl:103.5
TUESDAY: Washington Co. ARES Net – 8pm – 443.650 pl:97.4, 147.375 pl:103.5
(2nd Tues. of month)
WEDNESDAY: Bella Vista Repeater Group Net – 8pm – 147.255 No Tone
THURSDAY: Madison Co. ARES Net – 7:30pm – 443.650 pl: PL97.4, 147.375 pl:103.5
(Except 3rd Thurs.)
THURSDAY: Benton County Radio Operators Net – 7pm – 145.290 pl:110.9
DAILY: Arkansas Razorback Net – 6:30pm – 3.987.5

ARKAN

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THE
AMATEUR
SERVICE



The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest ~ JUNE 2013

Northwest Arkansas Calendar

JUNE 3 – ARKAN June meeting,
Monday, 6:30pm
NTI, Springdale
709 S. Missouri Road

JUNE 8 – **ARRL DELTA DIVISION CONVENTION**
Sponsored by BCRO
8am – 1pm
First Church of the Nazarene
4911 W. Pleasant Grove Road –
Rogers
Adm: Advance \$10. Table: \$5
Talk-in: 145.29 (pl 110.9)

JUNE 11 – North Ark. Amateur Radio Society
June meeting
Tuesday, 7:30 pm
Shoney's Restaurant
Harrison, AR

JUNE 11 – Benton County Radio Operators
June meeting
Tuesday, 7pm
Rogers Public Library
711 S. Dixieland Road – Rogers

JUNE 22-23 – **ARKAN FIELD DAY**
Elm Springs City Park
See ARKAN website for info

JUNE 22 – Ozark Wireless Society
June meeting
Saturday, 10am
Shiloh Museum - Springdale

ARKAN ADDRESS

The Amateur Radio
Klub of the Arkansas Northwest
P.O. Box 9701
Fayetteville, AR 72703

From The Desk of the President

Just a short note this month... I've been **OverBusy** getting close to the things that I rave about so often:

1) Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Training coming up, yours truly will be doing the training for the Comm Unit:

NWA Disaster Relief Training: Everyone is asked to update training every 3 years.

Saturday, June 1, Cross Church, Springdale, from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm.

The units scheduled for training are :

Feeding Units: Washington/Madison

Recovery Units: Arkansas River Valley; Northwest; Cross Church, Springdale

Shower Unit: Grand Ave, Ft. Smith, Ozark

Communication Unit: Washington/Madison

Please register by email or call the Washington/Madison County Baptist Association office at 479-521-1295 to let us know in what area you plan to attend training.

(cont. next page)

ARKAN on the web at: www.arkanhams.org

ARKAN OFFICERS

President

Mark Parmer
NW5AR
nw5ar@arri.net

Vice-President

Paul Dixon
KK5II
kk5ii@cox.net

Secretary – Treasurer

Scott Anderson
K5SAA
k5saa@arri.net

Board Member At Large

Don Banta
K5DB
k5db@arri.net

CLUB SERVICES

VE Testing

Darryl Wagoner
WA1GON
wa1gon@wagонер.me

Field Day Coordinator

Billy Hyatt
AE5CP
whyatt@gmail.com

Arkanhams.org Webmaster

Scott Anderson
K5SAA
k5saa@arri.net

Newsletter Managing Editor Arkansas QSO Party Manager

Don Banta
K5DB
k5db@arri.net

2) FIELD DAY!!

Billy Hyatt – AE5CP is our club’s Field Day coordinator. Please reach out to Billy at whyatt@gmail.com and let him know that you will participate....I know he’s still got a place to you! For this year’s Field Day, we will be set up in the great outdoors at Elm Springs Park (http://www.elmsprings.net/Parks___Businesses.html) on June 22-23.

3) Our new station location with the NW Arkansas Red Cross,

at the Center for Nonprofits (Old St. Mary’s/Mercy) in Rogers. Suffice it to say, we will be needing help getting the station(s) going. If you want something to do, just ask me! Opportunities abound! “Opening Day” is June 3rd.

- 4) Graduations!! check
- 5) Plant the garden! check
- 6) Clean Garage!!.....well...

73! – Mark, NW5AR

IN THE NEWS

RADIO POLITICS: PRESIDENT OBAMA TO NOMINATE TOM WHEELER AS NEXT FCC CHAIRMAN

President Obama says that he will nominate wireless telecommunications and cable executive Tom Wheeler as the next FCC chairman. He will also designate Commissioner Mignon Clyburn to act as "acting Chairwoman" once current Chairman Julius Genachowski leaves the agency.

In a press statement, Genachowski said he's known Wheeler for 20 years and he's made strong contributions to the FCC's work. This includes unleashing spectrum for mobile, removing barriers to private investment, and strengthening our cyber security. Genachowski called Clyburn a strong, experienced and thoughtful leader who's distinguished herself as a champion for closing America's digital divide.

ON THE AIR: BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC SPECIAL EVENT

GØELZ and G3UFO have announced that special event call signs GB7ØBOA and GB7ØWA will be on the air between May 20th to the 27th. This to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic.

Operations using all modes will take place on 80 through 10 meters as well as on 144 and 432 MHz. Station operators are hoping to make over 2800 contacts during this period. A special commemorative QSL card will be available. More details can be found on line at: tinyurl.com/cmvdvq8.

ARKAN JUNE MEETING NOTES

The ARKAN May 2013 meeting was held at Northwest Technical Institute on Monday evening, May 6. Topics included:

****President Mark Parmer, NW5AR,** updated the club on our club station move to Rogers. We now have signed a lease with the Center for Non-Profits, and have obtained liability insurance. Currently, the only working radio is the digipeat for APRS. Repairs are in the works for our other radios. Decision has been made to run the coaxes through the window, instead of coming through the roof. We will be working with BCRO on our shack and mission to support emergency communications.

****More use of our local repeaters is needed.** We would like to see an increase in activity in this area. Please try to use them, even if for a short time, such as going to and from work.

****Scott – K5SAA, was the guest speaker.** Scott gave a summary report of the W5T train mobile event from April. Approximately 150 QSOs were made. Our closest contact was KK5II. Our farthest confirmed QSO was with Germany, although we did log a QSO with Australia.

Next month's meeting will be the discussion and final plans for Field Day.

DON'T FORGET THE KIDDOS!!!



Field Day 2013 will take place on Saturday/Sunday, June 22/23. The Saturday preceding Field Day will be June 15, which is ARRL Kid's Day. Kid's Day takes place twice a year in January and in June. The event will run from 1800 UTC – 2359 UTC. Kid's Day is an on-air event to encourage young people (licensed or not) to have fun with Amateur Radio. It is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children, grandchildren, etc.

This event is very rewarding and a good "warm-up" for Field Day. If you would like more info, visit: <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>.

VE REPORT

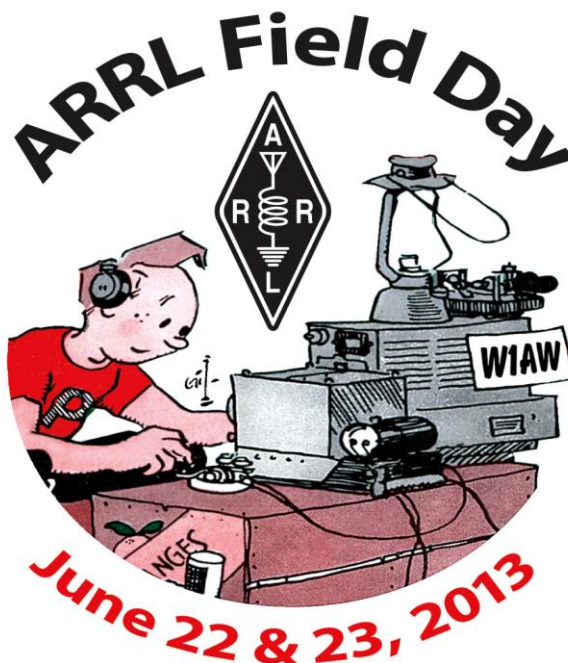
From VE Liaison,
Darryl – WA1GON

Test session: May 6, NTI, Springdale

Congratulations to :

Charles Morris – New Technician!
Nathanael Banta, KF5UUL –
New General!

(VE TEAM MEMBERS: Darryl Wagoner – WA1GON; Tommy Phillips – KC3G; Paul LeBlanc – KA5IOE; Scott Anderson – K5SAA; Paul Dixon – KK5II; Mark Parmer – NW5AR; Joe Dunn – KD5TLH; Don Banta – K5DB)



ARKAN TREASURER REPORT

May 2013:

Previous Balance, April 2013: \$284.79

4/23/2013 - Chk #764 - \$200.00
Hays Companies - Club Liability
Insurance

\$284.79
-200.00
\$ 84.79

Ending Balance \$84.79

VE team box has \$20 change not included above.

-73, K5SAA

**AA5AR :
1st Place**

2012 SSB Sweeps

ARKAN is proud to announce that the results of the 2012 ARRL Phone Sweepstakes have just recently been released and just as we won 1st place in the Unlimited Division for CW Sweeps, we have also taken 1st place for Arkansas in the Multi-Operator division for the Phone competition. This is another major accomplishment for the club in taking a first-place finish in yet another major radio competition. AA5AR made 704 QSOs and worked 82 multipliers for a score of 115,456 points. The overall winner for Arkansas in the 2012 Phone competition was the University of Arkansas ARC, W5YM, which scored 130,974 points – congrats ARCUA! WBØRUR also won the Unlimited Low Power Division with 108,066 points – congrats Gary! It is very thrilling to see such a great showing from these and other fine NW Arkansas stations!!!



<u>DATE</u>	<u>ENTITY</u>	<u>CALL</u>	<u>INFO</u>
May23-27	Greenland	XP2I	Operating during WPX contest. All bands & modes. QSL via LOTW or OZ1BII.
May24-30	Jersey Is.	MJ/ON6NB	All bands & modes. QSL via ON4ANN or buro.
May15-Jun15	Afghanistan	T6JP	160-6m, SSB & CW. QSL via KB2OBQ or see QRZ.com
May15-28	Cyprus	5B4ALV	All bands & modes. Operation by RT9T. See QRZ.com.
May15-Jun15	Marion Is.	ZS8C	40-10m, SSB & DGTL. QSL info on QRZ.com.



2013 ARKANSAS QSO PARTY FULL INFO NOW ON ARKAN WEBSITE

Field Day is upon us and always exciting, but “C’est la vie”, it will be come and gone before you know it, and the 2013 Arkansas QSO Party will be on the horizon for September 14. If you plan to participate (and we hope you do!!!), rules, multiplier list, operating tips, and other helpful information is now available for downloading and/or printing on the ARKAN website: www.arkanhams.org. Projected routes for mobile and rover stations will hopefully be available on the website as QSO Party time nears. Keep an eye on the Arkansas QSO Party section of the ARKAN website for updates.

 **2013** 
ARRL
DELTA DIVISION
CONVENTION!

Hosted by the Benton County Radio Operators, the 2013 ARRL Delta Division Convention will be held from 8am – 1pm on Saturday, June 8 at the First Church of the Nazarene, 4911 W. Pleasant Grove Road, Rogers.

Flea market tables are available for \$5 each. Admission is \$10 per person (credit/debit card accepted at door).

ARRL/VE (FCC) License Testing Sessions will also be available beginning at 10am (no entry fee required for testing only).

Tables are rented for ham radio flea markets for those interested in purchasing used equipment. Associated Radio, 2 regional ham radio vendors, and D&L Antenna will be present for those interested in purchasing new equipment. There will also be a Flex Radio booth. Hams in Space will be on hand also! (www.hamsinspace.com) Additionally, established vendors and flea market tables will also be there.

Talk-in: 145.29 (pl 110.9)

DON'T MISS IT! SEE YOU THERE!

If you have no plans as yet for Field Day this year, please join us at
ARKAN FD 2013!!!

Elm Springs City Park
June 22-23.
See ARKAN website for info & directions!

TALK-IN FREQUENCY:
147.375, pl – 103.5

FIELD DAY COORDINATOR
Billy – AE5CP

Station Captains
SSB – Scott, K5SAA
CW – Don, K5DB
DIGITAL – Billy, AE5CP

Antenna Captain
Paul, KK5II

Electrical & Grounding Captain
Tommy, KC3G

Anyone wishing to assist with setup/take down, is welcome. Please contact Billy, AE5CP if you would like to help.

CONTESTING TIPS

With Field Day 2013 being less than 40 days away, coupled with the annual Arkansas QSO Party shortly thereafter in September, if you love contesting, then be pro-active with the 25 tips below so that you'll be fully prepared when FD or other events you may be planning to participate in roll around!

1.SCHEDULE YOUR CONTESTS – The really great thing about contesting is they are regularly scheduled.

2.CREATE A CONTEST GOAL – Goals are good and help motivate you while participating.

3.CONTEST ON YOUR TERMS – Contest for and be motivated by your reasons. Not everyone is out to win the contest; it could be you want to learn a new mode, work toward an award, etc.

4.HAVE AN OPERATING PLAN – Having a plan provides you guidance for the contest and a baseline to compare against reality in the midst of battle.

5.TEST EQUIPMENT BEFORE THE CONTEST – You do want your stuff to work, right?

6.UPDATE MULTIPLIER FILES – Downloading the latest ensures you won't miss a juicy multiplier during the contest.

7.STUDY THE CONTEST RULES! – You'd be surprised how often this bites you — even experienced testers.

8.WORK A CONTEST ONE MONTH BEFORE THE REAL CONTEST – The sun rotates once a month (27 days)...so work a contest the month before to experience the propagation you will have before the one you really want to concentrate on later.

9.TEST ERGONOMICS – Sitting in a chair contesting a long while will test how well your station is laid out for operating.

10.COMPETE WITH A PARTNER – Work a contest with someone in your club (together or at your individual stations). Discuss what worked and what didn't about the contest.

11.REVIEW NEWSLETTER FOR CONTEST DXPEDITIONS – Lots of people travel for contests. Make sure you take a look at the list from your favorite ham radio newsletter.

(Cont. next page)

Field Day Memories

From Don, K5DB –

Next month, the ARKAN newsletter will have a full feature story on the fun and happenings at ARKAN's Field Day 2013 operation.

In the meantime, please enjoy this newspaper reprint that I have saved for many years. In fact, this year marks its 40th anniversary. It is from the June 28, 1973 issue of the Carroll County Tribune. 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 immensely. What you will especially enjoy is to read the Editor's 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. This still 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".



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

12.HAVE A PROPAGATION PLAN – Propagation programs can suggest what will be open where. Having a propagation plan can give you a guide while contesting.

13.FILTER YOUR PACKET CONNECTION – If the contest allows packet, filter the connection to match up with your station.

14.ULTRA-IMPORTANT: ACCURATE LOGGING - A contest is about working stations — and logging them accurately. If you don't, you get penalized.

15.SEND IN YOUR LOG – Even if you didn't work many stations, you can help the contest by sending in your log to help enable log checking.

16.LOTW (Logbook of the World) – Want to reduce your QSL'ing chores for contests? Submit your log to Logbook of The World for instant confirmations for you and the people you contact.

17.REVIEW UBN's (UNIQUES, BUSTED CONTACTS, & NOT IN THE LOG – It's how your log is viewed for accuracy.

18.HAVE A QSL SYSTEM – Even if you use Logbook of the World, contesters get a lot of QSL card requests. Have a system for processing them.

19.USE A GREY LINE MAP – Grey line propagation is the cat's meow. Having a visual representation of where the grey line is right now can help you point your antennas the right way.

20.LEARN A SINGLE BAND – Want to learn propagation on a band fast? Participate in a contest on a single band. You'll learn.

21.PERFORM A POST-CONTEST REVIEW – Did you achieve your goal, what went right, what could be improved. Record the results for the next contest.

22.IF POSSIBLE, JOIN A CONTEST CLUB – Amp up your contesting knowledge and motivation.

23.LEARN FROM CONTESTING PRO'S – They are out there. They can teach you a lot.

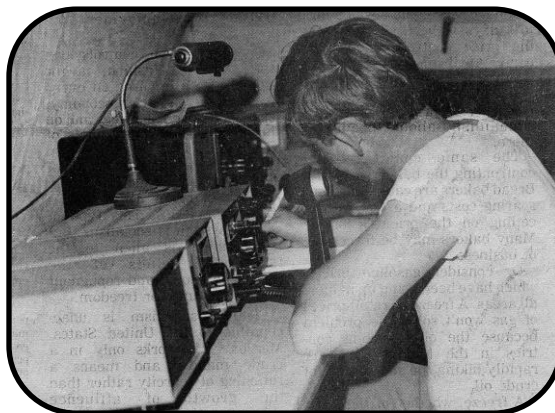
24.LEVERAGE YOUR STRENGTHS – Great CW, SSB, or PSK operator? Great antennas? Whatever your strength, leverage it for the contest.

25.FIND JOY IN CONTESTING – It's there. You know it. Go find it.



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.



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.

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.

(cont. next page)



ARKANSAS TORNADO SEASON UPON US AGAIN

Tornadoes — destructive, violently spinning vortices of air extending from high within severe thunderstorms to the surface of the earth—are more common in the United States than anywhere else on the planet. They are particularly prevalent in the area known as “Tornado Alley,” where the proper ingredients come together: a combination of warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico pulled northward by storm systems dragging strong continental cold air from Canada. While Arkansas is not normally included on maps of the infamous Tornado Alley, which is usually considered to stretch from north Texas northward through Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska, the state has suffered many devastating tornado outbreaks.

In January 1999, Arkansas recorded the most tornadoes on any individual January day in any state (fifty-six on January 21, 1999); the most tornadoes in the month of January; and the largest single outbreak ever to strike the state. The most deadly recent outbreak was on March 1, 1997, which resulted in twenty-five Arkansas fatalities. The deadliest outbreak in Arkansas history, however, occurred on March 21, 1952.

In the first decade of the twenty-first century, about 622 tornadoes in Arkansas killed thirty-nine people, injured approximately 540, and caused more than \$650 million in damage. Notable tornadoes during this period include a historic February 5, 2008, strike in which an EF-4 tornado tore a 123-mile-long path through seven counties in north-central Arkansas, killing twelve, injuring at least 140, and damaging or destroying 880 homes and 100 businesses. This path set an Arkansas record for length: Clinton (Van Buren County) and Atkins (Pope County) were among those suffering severe damage, while a second, shorter tornado devastated the town of Gassville (Baxter County).

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.



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.

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, 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 could 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-XRay, Portable Five and bye....”

(cont. next page)

Other large outbreaks in the twenty-first century occurred on December 18, 2002, May 16, 2003, and November 27, 2005. And while hurricanes usually bring only heavy rain to the state, on September 24, 2005, the remnants of Hurricane Rita spawned seventeen tornadoes that moved from southeast to northwest—an unusual state of affairs. While the average Arkansas tornado is on the ground less than a mile, tornadoes in this outbreak reached path lengths of 75 miles, with others of over 20 miles.

In April and May 2011, 62 tornadoes were reported, killing at least eleven people. On April 25 and 26, 2011, 25 tornadoes touched down, the most deadly of which struck Vilonia (Faulkner County) on April 25, killing four; this tornado had a path length of more than fifty miles. On May 25, 2011, A 47 mile path tornado tore through Johnson and Franklin counties.

The state's fatality rates are also far higher than expected for a state with relatively low population density. From 1950 to 2006, the state ranked fourteenth in both number of tornadoes (1,407) and tornadoes per 1,000 square miles (26.6); it ranked second in the number of fatalities per 100,000 people (13.9), behind Mississippi (19.2). Counts from the Storm Prediction Center may not tell the entire Arkansas tornado story. Many researchers consider this tornado count far lower than the actual number due to Arkansas's rural nature (low population densities) and conditions that make seeing and counting tornadoes difficult (hills, trees, and low cloud decks). If the number of tornadoes counted in more populated areas of the state were extrapolated across the entire area, Arkansas would likely be depicted on maps along with the more well-known Tornado Alley states.

While April suffers the most tornadoes on average (291), late fall and winter tornadoes are not at all uncommon in Arkansas. The state also suffers many night tornadoes, in part due to early sunsets during the winter; this factor could also contribute to the state's fatality rate. Tornadoes in Arkansas occur primarily between the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Considering all the preceding information and statistics on Arkansas tornado activity, the need for amateur radio storm spotters is at a premium, and in northwest Arkansas specifically. Our region of the state already has many fine individuals who do a stellar job in storm spotting, but more are always needed and welcomed – you can't have too much coverage from the field.

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!"

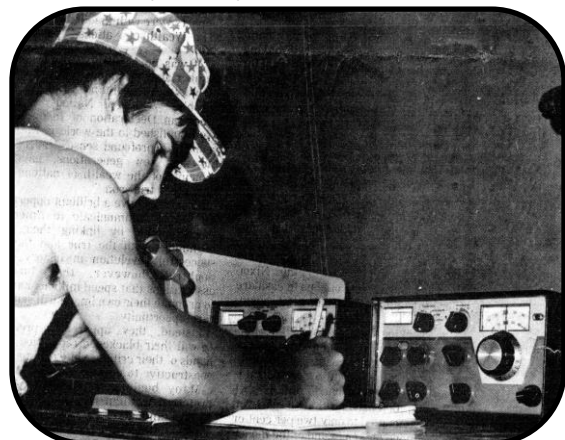
And that my friends is the way it went for 981 contacts....that's what I said: station WB5CYX portable 5 made 981 confirmed contacts during the contest period.

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.

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 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 and bye for you...."



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



Northwest Arkansas is fortunate to be in the jurisdiction of the National Weather Service office in Tulsa. Due to NWS/Tulsa's proximity to "tornado alley" they have one of the best tracking/reporting stations in the nation. They are also in constant need of trained storm spotters to aid them in their collection of information and data when a severe storm event occurs in our area, and extensively hold many storm spotter classes in northeast Oklahoma and northwest Arkansas generally from January – March, the months preceding the severe weather season.



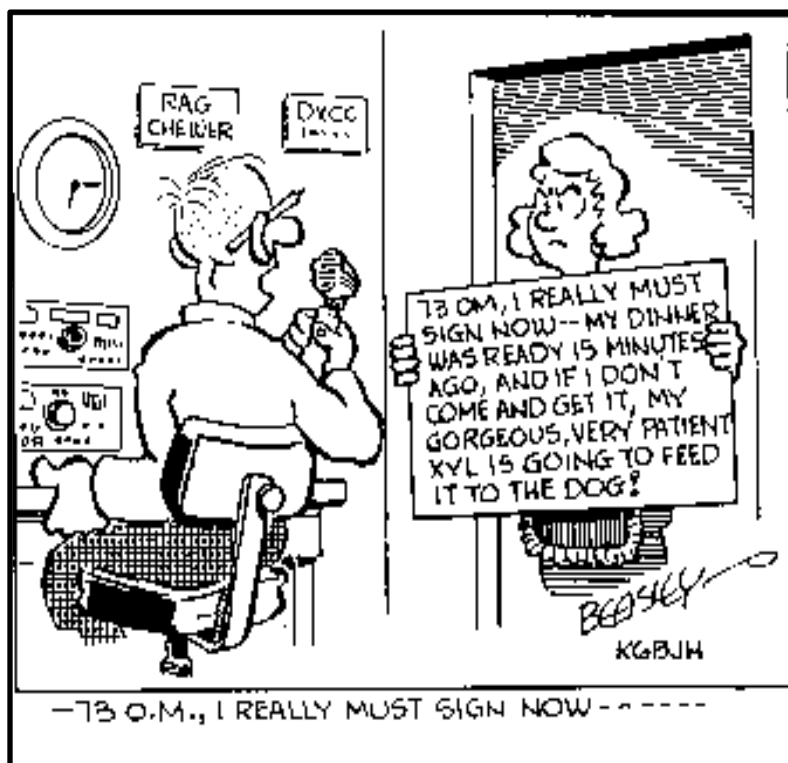
If you are interested in helping with storm spotting and attending a class, please visit this website: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/>. Also, check with your local ham club to obtain information on how and who to contact, to participate in the local area weather nets.

**73 UNTIL NEXT MONTH!
BE SURE AND BE
WATCHING FOR THE
JULY SPECIAL FIELD
DAY ISSUE OF THE
ARKAN NEWSLETTER!!!**

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."*

SEE YOU AT FIELD DAY 2013!



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