

Summer Edition
August 1, 2002

The WECAGram

Public Service Events:

- **August 3rd—4:30PM—New York Philharmonic Concert—White Plains**
- **Sept. 27th—Evening—Leukemia & Lymphoma Walk—White Plains**
- **Sept. 29th—American Heart Association Walk—White Plains**
- **Oct. 19th—Boy Scouts JOTA—Pound Ridge**
- **Oct. 20th—American Diabetes Walk—Rye**

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ARRL Receives Homeland Security Training Grant

ARRL—NEWINGTON, CT, Jul 18, 2002—The ARRL will receive a \$181,900 homeland security grant from the US government to train Amateur Radio operators in emergency communication. The League was among several dozen nonprofit organizations designated to receive some \$10.3 million in federal money to boost homeland defense volunteer programs. The grant, from the Corporation for National and Community Service special volunteer program, will provide free ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course training to 5200 volunteers nationwide, starting in 2003.

"ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment on their time at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation," said the announcement today from Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. The ARRL plans to revise and update the emergency communications curriculum to incorporate additional elements of emergency preparedness and homeland security.

The grant announcement said that "expanding the opportunities

for Americans to participate in meaningful volunteer service" is at the heart of President George Bush's USA Freedom Corps, of which the Corporation for National and Community Service is a part.



2002 Field Day a Success!

WECA scored over 8,500 points in this year's Field Day held at Harbor Island Park in Mamaroneck. Our score included 2,168 CW QSOs, 1589 phone QSOs and a number of bonus points.

This year was the first year of the GOTA (Get on the Air) station. Mike, KB2PMD, ran the station and introduced a several people

to the amateur radio hobby.

Jim, N2WQG, did an excellent job coordinating Field Day—his first! Bob, WA2KHR, did his usual excellent job keeping everyone fed and happy.

Many thanks to all the WECA members and visitors who participated in this year's Field Day and made it a success!



Dana and Tom unveil the "secret weapon" for Field Day



Our new president arriving at Field Day

Help!

They need some

hams!

Not just any hams,

but us!

Please participate in

at least one public

service event!



Bob, WA2KHR, made sure no one was hungry!

From the President...

Here we are in the middle of July with a lot of successful WECA activities behind us and a whole lot more ahead. June was a busy month with WECAFest, American Diabetes "Tour de Cure", Field Day, and the WECA Elections.

Speaking of Elections, I want to say thank you to Stan Rothman, WA2NRV, for the time and effort he has put in as President over the last few years. I look forward to working with him as he joins the Board of Directors in the position of Director at Large. I also want to thank the outgoing board members, Sandy Fried, Angelina Morgante, Mike Arrow, and David Weiss for their fine service to WECA.

I am pleased to have the opportunity

to serve as your President; and I welcome, and look forward to working with, the returning as well as the newly elected members of the Board of Directors.

Jim, N2WQG, and his crew did a splendid job of organizing a profitable WECAFest and a successful Field Day operation. And of course, thanks to Bob, WA2KHR, no one lost weight over the weekend.

As always, Robert, N2TSE, had everything under control at the American Diabetes "Tour de Cure". I'm sure he will have a thank you elsewhere in this newsletter.

Speaking of public service, WECA members proved there don't have to be radios involved for them to answer a call for assistance

when they turned out to assist at the County KI tablet distribution centers. We responded and our efforts were noticed and appreciated.

August and September will be busy months at WECA with several Indian Point drills and exercises leading up to a FEMA monitored exercise on September 24th. Watch for details in later editions of the WECAGram. Please volunteer for these important drills as they give us the opportunity to train and prepare for the real emergencies.

See you at the next meeting.

"73's"

Bob, KC2FYZ

From Angelina, WECA's Outgoing Membership Director

Dear WECA Membership,

It has been great getting to know most of you on a personal basis and some on a more broader basis, but none the less, it was a rewarding experience being the Membership Director for the past two years.

I would like to thank my husband, John, N2GGY for being supportive and helping me out with my many projects.

I thank Peter, N2TFC for the many computer tutorials he gave me while I was trying to get situated in my new position. Thank

Peter. I learned a lot!

Thank you to Jim Faulkner for assisting me in mailing the WECAGram out and to Stan Rothman for endless supply of smiles.

Finally, A hats up to our new Membership Director Ron Devenuti! Looking forward into the next year with lots of fun WECA things to get my fingers into.

Thank you,
Angelina R. Morgante
Former Membership Director.



Peter, N2TFC gets the logging computers running at Field Day

Stan Rothman, WA2NRV, Is WECA's Director-at-Large

Greetings fellow WECA members. I am writing this from a different seat this year. That of the WECA Director at Large. The responsibility of this position entails seeing that Good and Welfare greetings are sent to members who are under the weather. I also represent you, WECA's general membership, at the board meetings. In order to fulfill my obligations to you, I need your input. Let me know if you have any questions for the board or would like

to make recommendations that you feel could improve our club. I will take all issues received, to the board on your behalf. I remind you that members may attend the board meetings. They are held at the Fire Training Center on the fourth Monday each month. If you know of a WECA member in the hospital, or a family member with a serious problem, please let me know about it.

Thank you for your support in the

past, I know that Bob will lead our club into the future with gusto, and you will support him 100%

"73"

Stan WA2NRV



Stan and Les are two of the Field Day early birds!

Busy ARES/RACES schedule for August and September

Westchester ARES/RACES has a busy August and September coming up. SEMO and FEMA (the state and federal emergency management agencies) will be evaluating exercises for Indian Point.

If you are an ARES/RACES member, please plan on participating in one of the training exercises and the FEMA evaluated exercises

on August 14th and September 24th. Alan, N2YGK asks that you plan ahead as all these drills are weekday events.

You can contact Alan at N2YGK@weca.org for more information and to sign up.

Date	Description
August 14	FEMA-evaluated exercise at WCC
Sept 5	SEMO-evaluated REP training exercise
Sept 12	SEMO-evaluated REP training exercise
Sept 17	SEMO-evaluated REP training exercise
Sept 24	FEMA-evaluated REP exercise

Mark your calendars!

Next member meeting—Monday, September 9th at the Westchester County Center, 7:30PM.

From the Public Service Director...

Many thanks to N2AMP, KC2GWK, WB2IAE, K2LCA, KC2IRK, KC2CLZ, N2UXJ, KC2GYP, N2YYL, KA2FIQ, KC2FYZ, N2FXU, AND KC2BUV for participating in the American Diabetes Association Tour De Cure on Sunday, June 2nd.

It was a busy weekend for WECA members with WECAfest going

on at the same time. WECA volunteers staffed all the rest stops, and provided communications through all three bicycle rides. We also manned the repair vans and had to fix a lot of bikes!

Mark your calendars with the

upcoming public service events, and plan on participating in at least one event. See page one of the calendar for dates.

73, Robert N2TSE



Robert, N2TSE gives last minute instructions to the riders





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Any questions, comments, items for Swap and Shop, commercial advertising, suggestions, contributions and letters for inclusion should be sent to the editor at wecagram@weca.org or via postal mail at 45 Hamilton Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514. Submissions via e-mail to wecagram@weca.org would be greatly appreciated. Submissions may be edited for style and space.

The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the third Monday of the preceding month. Timely publication relies on prompt submissions.

All submissions are expressly the opinion of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of WECA, its officers, directors or the editor.

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WECA wishes to exchange newsletters with other clubs. All clubs wishing to receive the WECAGRAM in exchange for copies of their publications should contact the editor.

WECA gladly accepts donations of equipment in new or used condition (e.g. from estates). Please contact WECA by e-mail, postal mail or telephone for further information.

WECA operates the following repeaters under call sign WB2ZII/R. All repeaters use PL 2A (114.8 Hz).

147.060(+), 224.400(-) and
447.475(-) MHz

Officers and Directors 2002-3

President	Bob Muller	KC2FYZ
Executive VP	Russ Stevenson	N2AMP
General Counsel	Michael Weitzner	N2EJI
Treasurer	Andy Farber	N4OOX
Secretary	Milt Galamison	KC2GWK
Trustee	Paul Vydareny	WB2VUK
Director-at-Large	Stan Rothman	WA2NRV
Digital	Rich Benda	WB2QJA
Public Service	Robert Kantor	N2TSE
Membership	Ron Devenuti	N2TJE
Public Relations	Efrem Acosta	W2CZ
Newsletter	Lyle Anderson	K2LCA
Education	Jeffrey Steinberg	K2MIT
Emergency Services	Tom Raffaelli	WB2NHC
Engineering	Robert Wilson	N2DVQ
County Liaison	Raymond Albanese	N2FXU
Repeater Operations	Dwight P. Smith	N2FMC
Activities	Jim Faulkner	N2WQG

We're on the web!
<http://www.weca.org>

NOAA Unveils New Method to Warn of Heat Waves



Here's another way to beat the heat—the Good Humor truck visits the field day site

Thanks to Tom Raffaelli and the American Red Cross:

NOAA's National Weather Service announces a new technique called the Mean Heat Index to warn citizens across the nation of advancing heat waves up to seven days before their onset.

The Mean Heat Index is a measure of how hot the temperatures actually feel to a person over the course of the day. It differs from the traditional Heat Index in that it is an average of the Heat Index from the hottest and coldest times of each day. It combines factors such as surface and ambient heat with humidity and other environmental factors.

"Heat waves often turn fatal when the nighttime temperature doesn't drop very much from a high daytime temperature," said Jim Hoke, director of NOAA's Hydro Meteorological Prediction

Center in Camp Springs, Md., where the Mean Heat Index originates. "The Mean Heat Index captures this potentially serious condition by including data from what should be a cooler portion of the day, and factoring that in to give a 'big picture' of the day's temperatures, not just the day's high."

According to NOAA scientists, a Mean Heat Index above 85 degrees is considered dangerous. NOAA Weather Service statistics show heat-related deaths outpace fatalities in other severe-weather categories. For example, based on a 10-year average from 1992-2001, excessive heat claimed 219 lives each year. By contrast, floods killed 88; tornadoes, 57; lightning, 52; and hurricanes, 15.

Alerts and Mean Heat Indices are issued to the public in two ways. One is a daily, graphical representation of the contiguous United States with

color-coded overlays indicating the temperatures the Mean Heat Index is expected to reach or exceed in each area or region of the country. Secondly, the agency issues a more localized, text forecast of the Mean Heat Index, available for 90 cities across the country. These products are sent out in NOAA's National Weather Service suite of extended range forecasts.

Heat waves in America have a deadly legacy. In 1980, a stifling heat wave killed 1,700 people in the East and Midwest; another East/Midwest heat wave killed 454 in 1988; in 1995, a heat wave claimed a total of 716 lives in Chicago, Philadelphia, Milwaukee and St. Louis, and in 1998, a heat wave killed more than 120 in Texas alone.

For more information online about the Mean Heat Index, visit: http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/heat_index.shtml.