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WESTCHESTER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

June 1, 2003

The WECAgram

Public Service Events:

- **Field Day: June 28th and 29th, Harbor Island Park, Mamaroneck**
- **Check future editions of the WECAgram for the fall public service events.**

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WECA Assists in Two Public Service Events

WECA provided support for the March of Dimes Walk on April 27th and the Tour de Cure on June 1st.

The **March of Dimes Walk** opened on a beautiful Sunday morning with more than two thousand people participating on a great looking day. Eighteen WECA members, one YARC member and one daughter helped with communications for the March of Dimes. The helpers were:

N2WQG, N2THE, N2AMP, N2CJN, N2CAV, N2TSE, N2TWN, N2TFC and daughter, WB2NHC, NB2IAE, K2LCA, W2RWR, KA2BRH, KA2KCR, KB2LLV, KC2CLZ, KC2ESU, and N2OMN.

The **American Diabetes Tour de Cure** was more challenging—teaming rain! WECA had big plans this year to help with communications and track all the vehicles using APRS. We were well prepared (as seen in the photo below) but couldn't stop the rain. The sponsors wisely cancelled the event early in the morning.

Here are the people who were available for the tour.

N2TSE, N2WQG, N2AMP, N2YYL, N2YGK, N2XOJ, K2DFJ, K2LCA, WB2NHC, WB2IAE, KC2GYP, KC2FNU, KC2HZW, KC2IRK, KB2PMD & KA2FIQ a member of pearl. Thank you to you all.

PS. next year NO RAIN ! !

Robert Kantor, N2TSE
Public Service Director

Trackers r' Us! The collection of GPS's, APRS radios, Mic encoders and other equipment WECA made available for the Tour de Cure. Five remote stations were ready to go.

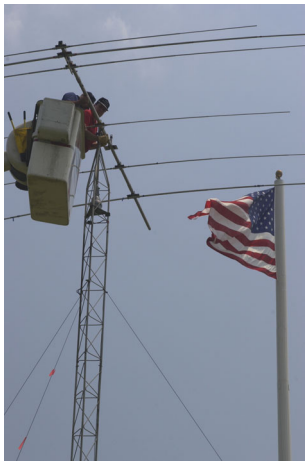
Please Help Us by Keeping Your Email Addresses Up to Date

There are some WECA members who have not kept their email listing up to date with N2TJE or N2TFC. I've tried to contact them for public service bit if they don't keep up to date information I can't do my job.

They are:
WB2TVX, N2OHY, N2RVR, N2QJQ, N2YXX, KB2UKS, KB2SCW, KB2SPC, KC2COM, KC2DHX, KG2KO and others.

Please help by sending in your update!

Robert Kantor, N2TSE
Public Service Director



Mounting Antennas at Field Day 2002

Help!

They need some hams!

Not just any hams, but us!

Please participate in at least one public service event in 2003!

From the President...

First of all let me say congratulations to Sandy, N2SF, who is the proud owner of a new Yaesu HT. He was the winner of the door prize at the May meeting. I'm told he was on the air with the radio the next day. Enjoy the new "toy" Sandy!

The June meeting is just around the corner. It will be on Monday the 9th at the County Center. This is an important meeting for two reasons. First it is election time and the slate of officers for the 2003 – 2004 term will be presented and voted upon. Secondly, it is time to plan for Field Day. Jim, N2WQG, has a great weekend planned with many new changes. Come to the meeting to find out what's new and decide where you would like to work. Volunteers are needed in all areas including set-up, operating, support services (food preparation etc.), and tear down. So come to the meeting, hear what Jim has to say, and put your name on a list.

The June board meeting will be on Monday June 23rd at the Fire Training Center. As I've stated in the past, all members are welcome to attend this meeting which begins promptly at 8:00 PM.

Robert, N2TSE, has a whole slate of public service events coming up in the next few months. Be sure to sign up and use these events as a way to see old friends, make new friends and to test out the readiness of your "go" kit. Unfortunately, the premiere event of the season, the Philharmonic Concert at Valhalla, was cancelled due to budget reasons. Hopefully it will be back next year since so many look forward to working the event.

For those of you looking for something a little different, there is a VHF/UHF contest coming up next weekend. It runs from 2:00 pm Saturday to 11:00 pm Sunday. Tune down to the SSB portion of the 6 meter, the 2 meter, the 440 MHz band or any other VHF/UHF band and listen for the activity. Who knows, you may be able to pick up a few new contacts.

See you at the next meeting.

73's
Bob, KC2FYZ

We're on the web!
www.weca.org

From our Director at Large...

It looks as if we have had our May flowers and our June flowers are on the way. If this weather keeps up we will all be mowing the grass and cutting RF holes in the sky instead of working with Robert on public service events.

We all wish a quick recovery to sandy N2SF. He is in the White Plains hospital for a return visit. I guess he likes the food or the nurses. You can check on the air to see if he is still there when you read this. He should be out and in the Sarah Newman rehab facility in Mamaroneck. He would be glad to speak to members, even via the phone.

Emily, AC2V is home and also would appreciate calls or E-mails from her friends.

With all the plans for field day this year it should be a fun event. Everyone will have an opportunity to learn, operate and as Jim says, EAT EAT EAT.

See you all June 9th for the annual election and field day meeting.

Do not forget that the WECA VE SESSION is Thursday June 12th 7:00PM at the Fire Training Center Dana Road in Valhalla. That's under the repeater tower.

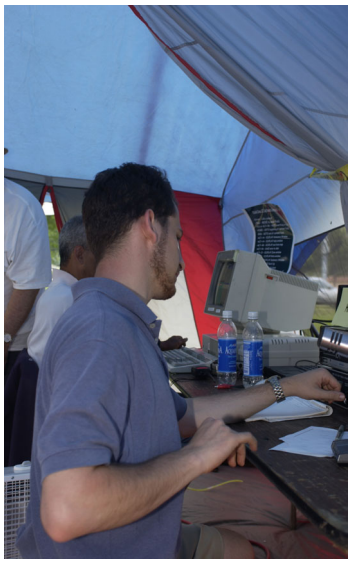
73
Stan WA2NRV

Field Day is Almost Here!

OK,OK,OK!

SO everybody knows field day is the 29th 30th of June and if you have been reading the WECAGRAM on line you will definitely have this by Monday's meeting which is June 9th.

Well, thanks for the people who e-mailed me with suggestions; some of which I've incorporated into field day, such a pita pizzas, special oil for vegetarian cuisine, and where we will cook the lobster roll and freedom fries. Last Wednesday we had the first run through with the six WECA lap tops and the new logging software which will be photographed and videoed for your presentation pleasures at the June 9th meeting.



Mike, KB2PMD, operating the GOTA Station at Field Day 2002.

Don't forget: this year you can pick the time of day to participate and since we are emphasizing fun before contesting and then of course contesting, bring your girlfriends, boyfriends, children, and mothers to participate in our celebration of emergency readiness. The gazebo will be bug free, the food tents will be open to inspection and the first meal of hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages will start at 11 AM on Saturday. Bring an appetite and a few dollars donation which entitles you to unlimited i.e. seconds with each meal.

Bob, WA2KHR, serving some of the great food at Field Day 2002! Jim, N2WQG is in the back assisting.

American power poles, i.e. Anderson connectors will be installed on any power supplies and power cables, male and female free of charge so bring your radio from home and set it up at our experimental station this field day. We will have again to reemphasize the fun part of field day.

Please entertain the thought of staying overnight. Tents for this purpose will be already set up.

Please don't forget to e-mail me at n2wqg@weca.org or faulkner@bestweb.net and if you like to hear my cheery voice please feel free to call me at 914-473-8983.

JIM N2WQG,
your humble but still Irish and graying activities director.

Mark your calendars!

Next member meeting—Monday, June 9th at the Westchester County Center, 7:00PM. The June speaker will be Jim Faulkner, N2WQG, who will update us on Field Day

The social half hour starts at 7:00PM and Jim's presentation begins at 7:30PM.

See you there!

June Board meeting
June 23rd at 8 PM
Valhalla Fire Training Center

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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 Modes	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

New 60-Meter Band to Become Available July 3!

ARRL—NEWINGTON, CT, June 3, 2003--The new five-channel 60-meter amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12:00 AM) local time on July 3. The FCC *Report and Order* (*R&O*) granting the allocation was published in the *Federal Register*, which announced the effective date today. The local time designation means that amateurs in the US territory of Guam likely will be the first to get a crack at the new band.

The new band will be a secondary allocation--federal government users are primary--and the first on which the *only* permitted mode will be upper-sideband (USB) phone (emission type 2K8J3E). The FCC last month announced it would grant hams access five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels in the vicinity of 5 MHz instead of the 150 kHz-wide band ARRL had requested--and which the FCC initially proposed more than a year ago. The ARRL remains optimistic that Amateur Radio eventually may be able to enjoy a band segment with multiple mode privileges at 60 meters, but ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, has said that in the meantime hams will have to be on their best behavior when taking advantage of the limited channelized allocation.

"In terms of Amateur Radio spectrum, we usually say, 'Use it or lose it,'" he said. "The watchword for 60-meter operators should be, 'Misuse it and lose it.'" Sumner has predicted that, over time, amateurs can and will "develop a record of disciplined, responsible use of the five channels in the public interest that will justify another look at these rather severe initial restrictions."

The FCC has granted amateurs 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz--the last channel common to the amateur experimental operation under way in the United Kingdom. The channels will be available to General and higher class licensees. In terms of day-to-day operation, use of the new band is expected to resemble the sort of channel sharing typical on local repeaters.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, says hams hoping to operate on the new allocation need to be very careful if they're considering modifying their current transceiver or transmitter. Hare said that amateurs' willingness to adhere to the channel-bandwidth and power constraints imposed on 60 meters will be an important factor in ham radio's use of this band--now and in the future.