

The Westchester Emergency Communications Association

WECAGRAM

AMATEUR RADIO / EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

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The Night Before Field Day

By Tom Raffaelli, WB2NHC (5/17/1999)

T'was the night before Field Day and all through the land,
Hams were preparing, it sure will be grand.
Antennas are hung from the towers with care,
In hopes that DX soon would be there.
Food was prepared for the hungry crew,
Steaks, lobster and lots of Coca-Cola too.
As we cranked up the power and turned on each rig,
We could see that this year again would be big.
Contacts came rolling one after the other,
An opening on six set us all in a flutter.
As night time fell on this joyous scene,
We knew once again we're the big boss team.
So I hope that you can be there too,
It won't be Field Day without all of you.

Okay so it's not Clement Clarke Moore but I just couldn't resist. Its big, its fun, its June 24 and 25 at Harbor Island Park in Mamaroneck. There are lots of opportunities to participate. Rich Kautz, KC2HZW, our Activities Director and Field Day leader and his entire Field Day team have a great event planned so come out early to help with the set up, and please stay around on Sunday to help take down our stations. Most of all, enjoy our annual radio weekend. See you there. 73



Chris Moore Media

2016

Preamble and Beautiful Art

Summer is now upon us and suddenly, it is Field Day 2017. If you are a Ham the beginning of Summer is actually on the 24th-25th of June. For all the rest summer starts on the 21st. What is field day, I think this question is posed every year another Field Day occurs. It is a party, a contest, a dry run of an actual emergency operations, and a chance to go hang in a beautiful place, Harbor Island Park, with people you talk to on the radio.

But most of all like Tom WB2NHC implied in his poem, Field Day is Amateur Radio's biggest holiday, come celebrate this great hobby with all the WECA gang at beautiful Harbor Island Park

AI K2DMV



How-to get to Harbor Island Park and the Pavilion

From the North via 684

Take 684 South to the Hutchison River Parkway
Take exit 23S to Mamaroneck
Continue on Mamaroneck Ave till you reach the Post Road(US1)
Cross the Post road straight into the park.
Pay for parking or show your pass at the gate to enter the park
Proceed to you first right
Follow this down to the parking lot on the Left
Walk across Field
Join the fun

From the North via the Taconic

Take the Taconic south
Continue onto the Sprain Brook Parkway
Take 287 East exit is on left
Take 287 East to exit 9N-9S for Hutchinson Parkway
Take exit 23S to Mamaroneck
Continue on Mamaroneck Ave till you reach the Post Road(US1)
Cross the Post road straight into the park.
Pay for parking or show your pass at the gate to enter the park
Proceed to you first right
Follow this down to the parking lot on the Left
Walk across Field
Join the fun

From the South via I95

Take I95 North
Take exit 18A for Fenimore Rd
Turn right on Fenimore Rd
Turn Left onto Boston Post Rd
Park will be on the right
Pay for parking or show your pass at the gate to enter the park
Proceed to you first right
Follow this down to the parking lot on the Left
Walk across Field
Join the fun



GPS Coordinates 40.948603, -73.732998

For info and assistance on the day of Field Day call into the WB2ZII 147.060

Repeater PI 114.8

How-to get to Harbor Island Park

I am adding a few pictures and some text to help you get here. First a map of the park.

Enter the Park, go past the gate, take the second right, and go all the way down till you reach the parking lot.



Saturday the 24th

9:00 AM Setup begins

Lunch begins somewhere between .12 to 1 PM

1:59 PM Setup is done

2:00 PM Contesting begins

From 2:00 PM until the end make lots of contacts

Dinner will be between 6 to 7 PM

8:00 PM Coffee making begins

9:30 PM 2M Net Traffic

10:00 Overnight Operations begin

Sunday the 25th

12:00 AM midnight madness pizza and team overnight Batman radio ops

7-9 AM Breakfast

Lunch around Noon

2:00 PM Contesting Over

Disassemble, pack up, and depart



March Of Dimes

We made it! Thanks to you all for participating in yesterday's March of Dimes Walk for Babies. Your professionalism and flexibility were key to our success. Even with the last minute adjustments, your willingness to do what is needed to get the job done, separates you from the rest.

The funds raised from this event are used for research to prevent birth defects. I am sure that you noticed different team shirts. Many of those teams are made up of the families, friends and care givers of children born with severe health challenges of all types. To me, these are the people we are there to support. They realize through their every life, the importance of the March of Dimes.

We sure got lucky with the weather!

Thanks again for all your help.

Kathleen-KC2VCT



Photos of Field Day 2016

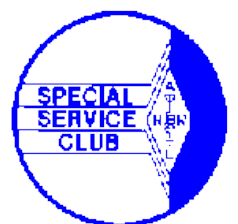




May 2017 Director Reports

Richard KC2HZW Field Day chair reported that:

- a. Field Day is set for June 25-26 at Harbor Island Park
- b. The Field Day Planning Committee met on April 1 at the Executive Dinner and all participants know their assigned duties
- c. We are pleased that Adrian, who is part of the German WRTC Competition Team should be attending and participating with us at FD.
- d. The Permit application has been approved by Mamaroneck Recreation
- e. The Parking Permit issue has been worked out with Mamaroneck Park Officials and Rich will be sending out the PDF for members to print and post in their cars to gain free entrance to the Park.
- f. Bob N2DVQ reported that SOW II will be ready for Field Day. Also both SOW I and II, the Generator and the RACES Truck transport to Harbor Island is being worked out.
- b) Tom WB2NHC reported that with Dwight N2FMC, Bob N2DVQ and Alan the following upgrades to the County RACES truck have been made:
 - a. Installed New Computer
 - b. Moved existing monitors and Added a 30" Monitor for better APRS tracking or other functions as needed
 - c. Installed New OneView and D710 APRS software
 - d. In process of securing cables for all common HTs to provide the programming of needed Frequencies on all RACES event participants
 - e. Moved several radios to different positions in the Truck for better functioning.
 - f. Sorted out the Ham Literature in the Document Cabinet down to 7 or 8 up-to-date Brochures about WECA, RACES and Ham Radio in general
 - g. DMR Radio is mounted in 1st Position
 - h. Gained approval for the RACES truck for the Chappaqua STEM Fest (science fair), March of



May 2017 Director Reports

Dimes and Field Day events

- c) Al K2DMV reported that we will have a Newsletter out by Field Day
- d) Dwight N2FMC and Bob N2DVQ reported on our Repeater and Engineering:
 - a. There have been fewer incidents of jamming our repeater maliciously.
 - b. We have had to turn off the repeater several times, but have tried to get it back on the air as quickly as possible.
 - c. People should report any problems with any of our repeaters to Repeater@WECA.org and one of the system operators will address it ASAP.
 - d. There has been a problem with the Control Receiver which Bob N2DVQ has been working on
 - e. The old one will be replaced this week
 - f. Bob has removed the 1989 147.06 Repeater and made room for the new equipment.
 - g. New Controllers for the 3 Motorola MTR 3000 Repeaters, a Bridgecom 220 and a Qunatia 900 MHz
 - h. New Voice Optimizer has been installed and Bob is tweaking it daily to improve the levels of weak vs strong signal, low vs loud Ham Operators and the required FCC ID which we do in Morse Code which until recently was louder than the voice transmissions
 - i. Bob will be participating with Tom at the STEM Fest
 - j. Help is needed to find someone with LINUX programming skill for Engineering to program some needed functions using a Raspberry Pi .
 - k. Bob and Tom requested input on what we should be requesting in needed equipment for the RAC-ES Truck as the County may have money to allocate to that purpose
- e) Larrie W2UL Education chair reported that:
 - a. The General course has 3 more sessions and ends May 11th with the VE session two days later.
 - b. The Fall Tech course is set and Dates are being confirmed and a Flier made for distribution at Field Day and for publicity. When available, members are encourage to print copies from the PDF file available at WECA.org and use it to invite friends and to post in as many public bulletin boards as possible



Director Reports *continued*

- c. The Tower trailer stored in his backyard is Licensed, Insured and Ready to Go for Field Day if needed and if anyone knows of a place to store it, Larrie would appreciate it finding a new storage location.
- f) WECAware Committee with Tom WB2NHC, Barry Brown K2BLB for the company. and Nina N2AFN reported PDF order form is available on the WECA site and orders can be sent to Nina, who will verify WECA membership with Peter N2TFC and forward to Barry to fulfil.
- g) Kathleen KC2VCT Publicity chair reports Press Release and Invitations to County Dignitaries to attend will be going out and she requested we have the Tech Course Fliers and WECA brochures available to give out on Field Day
- h) Russ N2AMP – The Nominating Committee has approached Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs who will be seeking re-election or not, and all who wish to be nominated should contact Russ. An email will go out to the membership listing the positions that are up for a vote. The Report of the Committee will be presented at the May General Membership meeting.
- i) Peter N2TFC reported that
 - a. We have 184 active members.
 - b. Very few of the emails sent bounce back
 - c. He will coordinate with Nina on verifying member-in-good standing status before she puts in WECAware orders to Barry's company.
- j) Stan WA2NRV
 - a. Good and Welfare – A few cards were sent out. Most members who were ill are recovering and out of the hospital.
 - b. Stan is making WECA meeting and VE session announcements on SDN to encourage SDN members to become active in WECA
 - c. The WECA Kit Building event will be making a 2 meter, hand-held beam/Yagi antenna for use in the Hidden Transmitter event.
 - d. The VE session had 2 General and 1 Tech license passing and they have indicated plans to join WECA,
 - e. Elmer's are being used to mentor members who request help in a number of areas of Ham Radio.





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Www.weca.org or www.weca.club

Director Reports *continued*

- f. Equipment from the WA2NRV loan closet is available for HF as well as VHF and some is out in the field.
- k) Robert N2TSE had no reports or comments.
- l) Bill KA2OFM adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Miscellaneous

Upcoming Meetings:

No meetings until September 2017

If you have an idea for a WECA Meeting or would like to make a presentation to the group, please send email to Meetings@Weca.Org

Upcoming Public Service Events:

Sunday, Oct 15 Harry Chapin Run Against Hunger Croton Pt Park, NY
Sunday, Nov 19 Mamaroneck Turkey Trot Mamaroneck, NY @ 9:00am

Please contact Kathleen PublicService@weca.org

Upcoming VE Sessions:

Exams are given at the Westchester County Fire Training Center, 4 Dana Road, Valhalla, NY (off route 9A). Contact: Stan Rothman (WA2NRV), 914.949.1463 or send email to wa2nrv@weca.org. Call in 147.060 (PL 114.8)

The session test fee as of Jan 1, 2009 is \$15.00 per test although if you pass a test you may take the next exam at no additional cost during the same test session. Two forms of ID are required with copies to send in with the paperwork.

