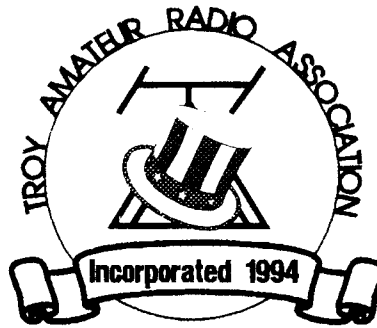


TARA

"Home of the
FULL SERVICE
Repeaters"



147.27/R

145.17/R

444.225/R

NEWS

Volume IV NO. 7 An Award Winning Publication of the Troy Amateur Radio Association, Inc. JULY 1994

"Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer!!! Remember way back in March when we were shoveling the white stuff? No complaints from this QTH.

Field Day is now a memory for the 1994 season, but what a Field Day it was. Special thanks to our Field Day chairman for 1994, Steve Kopecky, N7LOD. It seems that each year just keeps getting better. Although I was unable to spend as much time there as I wanted to, the time I spent was extremely rewarding.

To sit back and watch and listen to the different methods of operating is an experience that everyone should be able to bring back to their own shack and adapt to their own uses. For example, considering different ways to fine tune a signal that is just on the threshold of the noise level, should you use a different filter or will you be able to use the IF shift long enough to make the contact?

What we do during the fun contesting aspects of Field Day may also be necessary skills that will have to be pressed into service on a moments notice.

That's what Field Day is all about, giving us a taste of actual field operating and how we

have to make adjustments to cope with the many problems that are adherent to field conditions. Needless to say, Mother Nature was there again to help with the constantly changing field conditions.

How many truly thought that a piece of wire stretched between two supports was going to be capable of making a contact to the Pacific Coast?

With all the technical aspects of Field Day taken care of, the most important part remains, providing proper nourishment to the participants of the Field Day exercise so that the mission to amass a large number of contacts can continue. If anyone went away malnourished from this Field Day they were at the wrong location, or perhaps they were in another county!

Thanks to all who made this great Field Day possible. Whether helping to set up tarps on Friday, stringing antennas and setting up stations on Saturday, or cleaning up Sunday, everyone's contribution was appreciated and vital to our success!

de N2LBZ, Jack

Inside This Issue:

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Field Day '94 at a Glance

By: Steve, N7LOD

After many years of attending Field Days throughout the United States Steve, N7LOD, finally experienced what it was like being the "Big Field Day Boss." Not only did he survive all three days, but he managed to orchestrate TARA's largest Field Day effort to date.

Well, another field day has come and gone. Now we can sit back and recover, and begin thinking of next year's...NOT! Well, maybe not right away at least. I think this year's field day went off remarkably well, despite the rain on Friday and Saturday, and those winds on Sunday. I want to thank everyone who helped and/or participated in this year's event. I wish I could thank everyone by name, but there were so many who helped that I'd be afraid of missing someone or running out of room.

Instead, let me thank the Friday setup crew for the excellent job getting the tarps up, the Saturday antenna crew for the spectacular job in getting all those wires into the air without a hitch (well, almost), and finally all those who donated equipment and came out to operate during the weekend. Special thanks are in order for the Troy Fire Dept. who came out with one of their trucks and assisted us in getting our anchor ropes in place. My personal thanks to all those who helped with the cleanup effort Sunday afternoon. Finally, special thanks to Jerry, N2QIP, for his unbridled enthusiasm, and for letting me assist him at 5:30 AM

Saturday morning in taking down the 80 meter dipole, redoing the entire feedline, and then climbing the lightweight ladder up the side of the pavilion to wedge myself between the tarp and the roof and reguide it back into position.

Well, with the thanks out of the way, I've finally gotten the logs all cleaned up and we are looking at the following break down of contacts: 15m: 88 CW, 14 Phone; 20m: 169 CW, 348 Phone; 40m: 132 CW, 353 Phone; 80m: 267 CW, 200 Phone; 2m: 76 Packet, 17 Phone; 6m: 71 Phone; 70cm: 4 Phone.

For the novice station, we had 62 - 10m phone contacts. Total contacts for Field Day 1994: 1801. Thanks again for everyone's help!

Editor's Note: The August issue of the TARA News will be a special Field Day '94 issue that you won't want to miss!

Large Turnout for Weather Nets

By: "Mr.Bill," NY2U

It seems the TARA repeater system is proving to be quite the work horse when it comes to weather nets lately. In just four days (July 6 - 9) this repeater system logged in more than 65 stations for either SKYWARN Nets, TARA Weather Spotters or casual inquiries about the weather. We've noticed many new voices checking into our nets and all toll we have been able to cover parts of Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, and Columbia Counties. Not only have the seasoned amateurs been supporting these nets, but the newly

licensed amateurs of the Capital District have made their presence known as well.

The largest of the nets was the evening of July 9, 1994 when a line of severe thunderstorms extended from just south of Warrensburg, right down to the Catskills. These storms included torrential downpours, intense lightning, hail, and heavy winds. Just shortly before sunset on this same date the National Weather Service at Albany posted tornado warnings for Albany County and within a matter of seconds this bulletin was posted on the 145.17,

147.27, 147.18, 147.345, 146.76, 145.37 and 444.225 Mhz repeaters.

In the months to come I hope all of you will continue to support these very important weather nets and become familiar with the format of each net. If any of you ever have any questions about these weather nets please contact Assistant Weather Coordinator for Rensselaer County Bill Eddy, NY2U, at (518) 273-9248.

Election of Club Officers Held at June Meeting

Just about fifty people attended this year's election of officers at the June 21st. meeting.

The following were elected and installed as officers:

OFFICERS

- President: William J. Eddy, NY2U
- Vice Pres.: Kenneth T. Davis, KB2KFB
- Secretary: June Smith, KA2VEK
- Treasurer: John T. Culliton, N2LBZ

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Harry "Bud" Hovey, WF2B
- Rudy Ault, N2JZK
- Steve Watson, N2PZP
- David Pascale, WB2HKR
- Marilyn Davis, KB2JZI

Congratulations!!

VHF/UHF Chairperson Needed

TARA is in need of a new VHF/UHF Chairperson(s) that would enjoy heading up contest efforts for our club.

Last year we had Chris Linck, N2NEH, and Art Ceas, KB2JZJ, that shared responsibilities of this position. However, due to work schedules and other commitments, Chris will be unable to continue at this position. Our club president spoke with Art, KB2JZJ, and he expressed an interest to remain on the committee in a limited capacity.

So what we need are one or two energetic and motivating individuals that enjoy all facets of VHF/UHFing who would like to be our next chairperson(s) for '94-'95.

If this is of interest to you please contact "Mr.Bill," NY2U, at 273-9248.

TARA Hats & T-Shirts

Anyone that ordered either the club T-shirts or hats are asked to pick them up by the next club meeting in July. We still have a few extra T-shirts left for sale. For information please call "Mr.Bill," NY2U, at 273-9248

T.N.T. Trader Net Anniversary

In the Capital District you need only look to one place to find amateurs buying, swapping or selling their amateur related items, the 147.27Mhz. (PLL 110.9) "Full Service Repeater."

It seems quite hard to believe, but come this August we'll be celebrating the 4th Anniversary of the Troy T.N.T. Trader Net. Where did the time fly to. Who can remember who the first net control was? Let me see, was it Bucky, WB2HKR, or Kenny, KB2KFB, or Mark, N2LIJ? Enough of trivia!

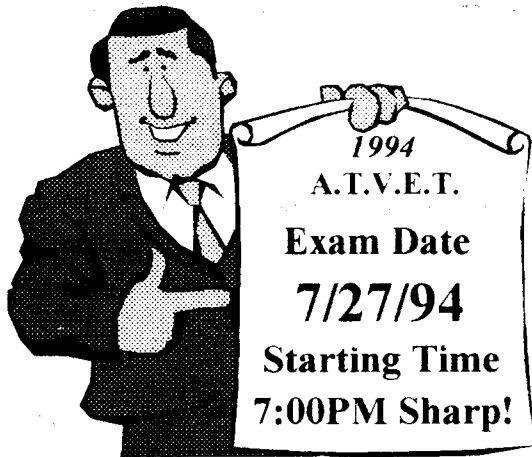
It was none other than Mark, N2LIJ, that ran the first trader net. Mark ran this net every Thursday night for the better part of the first year until the repeater got PLL toned. Then "Mr.Bill," NY2U, picked it up.

We've come a long way since then, and many winter nights there have been 40 or more check-ins. Everything from complete HF stations, right down to used magazines have been listed on the T.N.T. Net. Many of our new amateurs have found their first radio via the net, while others have cleared room in their shacks for newer equipment.

This net is not only the oldest ongoing trader net of its kind, but it's also the ONLY one for miles around.

There are many people to thank for the continued success of this net. One group is definitely the Channel 13 Engineers that allow us to use the WA2SPJ/R each Thursday night at 9:00PM. We would be remiss if we didn't thank the many amateur radio clubs throughout the Northeast for their strong support as well. Also, a hearty thanks to the volunteers that have pitched in on those evenings when "Mr.Bill" couldn't make it. To all the editors of the various newsletters that have continued to place mention of our net in their newsletters we thank you and hope we can return the favor right here in the TARA News.

Hopefully we'll hear you on Thursday nights. Come help us celebrate our anniversary throughout the month of August each Thursday evening at 9:00 PM



Albany / Troy Volunteer Examiner Team

On Wednesday, July 27, 1994, the Albany/Troy VE Team will be administering FCC exams to all candidates Novice through Extra. This exam will be given in the C.I.I. Building (Center for Industrial Innovations), Room 3051, on the Campus of RPI in Troy. The doors will open at 6:20 PM and exams start at 7:00 PM. **NOBODY** will be admitted into the exam room after the 7:00 PM starting time. No pre-registration is required for these exam dates, or for any of the Albany/Troy exams. A test fee of \$5.75 either *cash* or *check*, is required for those taking any elements above Element -2 or Element -1A. Make sure you bring two proofs of identification, with one being a picture I.D.

Also bring your original documents (current license, C.S.C.E.s...etc.) along with photocopies, calculator, pens and pencils to the exam. Our VE Team will provide all FCC 610 forms. Anyone needing special handicap arrangements are asked to call in advance. The following exam dates are part of our summer schedule held on the Campus of RPI in Troy, NY. Cancellations will be announced on both the Capital District Repeater Net (Nightly on 146.94MHz at 6:30 PM) or WGY - 810 on your AM dial.

July 27

August 31

◆ Team Liaison: Bill Eddy, NY2U
(518) 273-9248

◆ Team Contact: Bud Hovey, WF2B
(518) 283-2337

• *Serving the Capital District Since 1984* •

SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN • SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN • SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN

**Rain or Shine
All Under Cover**

**Ballston Spa Hamfest '94
September 10, 1994
7:00 AM until 3:00 PM**

**Food
&
Exams**

This will mark the third year that our club has been invited back to Ballston Spa to sell ARRL publications. In conjunction with the sale of publications, TARA will also sponsor a club raffle which will be drawn on the afternoon of the hamfest. The Grand Prize winner will receive a Icom IC-228H 2mtr. mobile radio or a cash value to be announced. Tickets selling at 3 for \$5.00 will go on sale before the end of July.

We not only need people to sell tickets before the Hamfest, but we'll also need many of you to man the TARA booth during the day on September 10th.

Those wishing to volunteer are asked to contact "Mr. Bill," NY2U, at 273-9248, or Kenny, KB2KFV, 272-0112 (evenings, please).

SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN • SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN • SPECIAL HAMFEST BULLETIN

Federal Communication Commission

Amateur Radio Call Signs

Issued as of May 1, 1994

Radio District	Group "A" Extra	Group "B" Advanced	Group "C" Tech/Gen	Group "D" Novice
0	AA0RB	KG0NH		KB0MX
1	AA1JE	KD1VA	N1RYS	KB1BIA
2	AA2SH	KF2VK	N2YYZ	KB2QZD
3	AA3HV	KE3NE	N3SBK	KB3BCD
4	AD4SJ	KR4SZ		KE4MHX
5	AB5UM	KJ5XX		KC5GWN
6	AC6CM	KO6CP		KE6HQM
7	AB7CN	KI7YS		KC7CQR
8	AA8OX	KG8JB		KB8STD
9	AA9KX	KF9VT	N9XAD	KB9IYE
N. Mariana Is.	KH0D	AH0AS	KH0CR	WH0AA
Guam	WH2D	AH2CU	KH2JL	WH2ANK
Johnston Is.	AH3D	AH3AD	KH3AG	WH3AAG
Midway Is.		AH4AB	KH4AG	WH4AAH
Hawaii		AH6NG	WH6UQ	WH6CRG
Kure Is.			KH7AA	
Amer. Samoa	AH8J	AH8AG	KH8BF	WH8ABB
Wake W. Peale	AH9C	AH9AD	KH9AF	WH9AAI
Alaska		AL7PQ	WL7SN	WL7CHQ
Virgin Is.	WP2N	KP2CC	NP2HM	WP2AHU
Puerto Rico		KP4WU		WP4MPE

Aldabra Island Remains Off the ARRL DXCC Countries List.

Tnx: The ARRL Letter

The ARRL DX advisory Committee has voted 15 to 1 against reinstating Aldabra Island to the DXCC Countries List. Aldabra was once on the list and was deleted in the 1970s.

The DXAC also voted (11 to 2, with 3 abstentions) to approve call area "calling guidelines." The guidelines call on DX stations to operate in a manner perceived to be fair and balanced to all areas, and to work portable stations in specific call area listen(ed) for."

The FCC has proposed to amend its PART 13 rules to allow persons who have passed the examinations necessary to qualify for a commercial radio operator's license, but have not yet received the license, to temporarily and conditionally perform the functions of a commercial radio operator. Commercial radio operator license exams are now administered by nine Commission-certified Commercial Operator License Examination (COLE) Managers. The FCC does not accept an application for a commercial license until the person has passed all the exams elements required.

The Commission said that the total processing time "may be as much as eight weeks." (It is running 12 weeks or more for Amateur Radio License applications).

Mobile Ham Helps Thwart Suspected Thieves

Amateur Radio helped in the apprehension of a suspected auto thief earlier last month in Beaverton, Oregon.

Scott Diamond, KB7ZNB, and his family were asleep the night of Sunday, June 12, when teen-age son Chris observed curious activities across the street. A man and a woman on a motorcycle appeared to be "casing" cars for an unlocked one. At one point the woman got off the motorcycle and entered a car, while the man drove away on the motorcycle.

Diamond's girlfriend, Cathy Dicker, asked the woman what was going on, then called 911

The woman got out of the car and began walking away from the scene. Diamond and Chris decided to follow, taking his hand-held radio along with him in his car.

After the police determined the ignition had been ripped out of the car, they wanted to talk with Diamond. After a few calls Diamond was connected

directly through the 911 dispatch to Beaverton P.D. using Amateur Radio

Eventually Diamond and the police hooked up. Diamond identified the woman he had followed for some eight blocks, and she was stopped and questioned. It turned out that the car the woman had been in had been stolen earlier in the day.

At press time, the woman had been charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

From the Modem Line

By Ken (Stormy) Storm, N2VLS

There are many Amateur Radio files and shareware (you pay the author when you use it) in the public domain. At this time there are two computer landline BBSs available in this area for the serious computerized amateur operator. Access is by telephone line (landline) using a modem. Each of the two systems shown in this article is unique to its own specialty. The files listed here are available on both systems and are made available from the Ham Distribution Network (HDN) at NO CHARGE to you. Don't forget the latest bulletins: The Keplarian Elements, Propagation, DX Bulletins, AMTOR

Bulletins, RSGB Bulletins, RTTY, Skeds, Space News, ARRL News, WICEN Bulletins, etc. While STEAMER ONE does not maintain a working library of bulletins, you will find them on RADIO FREQS. Check it out! Leave a message to the SysOp telling him that you heard about his system in the TARA News.

We now receive new files on a daily basis by satellite. This list shows all files received since May 29, 1994. They are, except as noted in the file description, IBM compatible programs and may be of use to the serious computerized amateur.

• RADIO FREQ'S BBS •

(518) 782-0507

SysOp: Tom Woznack, N2SQO

Latham, NY

14,400bps - v32b

24 Hours - Daily

• STEAMER ONE BBS •

(518) 753-7421

SysOp: Ken Storm, N2VLS

Johnsonville, NY

14,400bps v32b - 21,600bps v32t

24 Hours - Daily

We apologize for not having any listings last month due to modem failure. The following IBM compatible programs were received during the past 60 days, and may be of use to the serious computerized amateur.

- **10MTRFM.ZIP** World-Wide 10 meter FM repeater list, by DL5SAF
- **7PL215E1.ZIP** File compression program for packet, v2.15, by DG1BBQ
- **AK10.ZIP** Amazing Kenwood control program
- **ANTENNAS.ZIP** Complete Antenna Series by Wayne Sarosi, KB4YLY
(Note: Wayne Sarosi, KB4YLY designs antennas for NASA Space Craft)
- **ANTPLOT.ZIP** Side-tower mounted antenna pattern prediction program v5.3
- **APRS503A.ZIP** Automatic Packet Report system V5.03 by WB4APR
- **APRS504U.ZIP** AutoPacket Report Sys V5.04 EXE Update to 503A (Requires both)
- **BM940404.ZIP** Modified/Extended version of Bdale's Mailer BM - 04/04/94
- **CONGEST.ZIP** Network traffic statistics for CT software
- **DIAL-525.ZIP** NRD-525 computer control program
- **DR600T.ZIP** Add 120Mhz(AM) and 800Mhz coverage to Alinco DR600
- **FCC610.ZIP** Latest FCC Form 610 in PostScrip format, by Nick Sayer.
- **FD1200.ZIP** Field Day Logging program, v12.00, by KM3D
- **FORM610.ZIP** Latest FCC Form 610 in PostScrip format, by N6QQQ
- **GEOCLK53.ZIP** GeoClock V5.3
- **HCOMCKT.ZIP** Two hamcom opto-circuits to reduce computer RFI

- ◆ **HMLOG461.ZIP** Ham-Log V4.61 by HB9CQV /English & German DOCS
- ◆ **HOD005.ZIP** Ham on Disk Magazine Issue #5
- ◆ **HOD006.ZIP** Ham on Disk Magazine Issue #6
- ◆ **HP48PACK.ZIP** Source code for HP 48 Packet program, by KC1SX
- ◆ **HTL694.ZIP** Ham_Tech Echo Technical Library Listing by KB4YLY
- ◆ **HURTRK50.ZIP** Hurricane Tracking V5.0 - Atlantic seaboard
- ◆ **J109LXA4.ZIP** (j109lxa4.tar to j109lxa4.tar.gz) Source/JNOS 1.09 Linux
- ◆ **JDOC110.ZIP** JNOS 110 Manuals (laserjet/PostScript)
- ◆ **JNOS110B.ZIP** JNOS V110b by WG7J
- ◆ **JPOLE.ZIP** J-pole Design Program V1.1 for any freq, by WA2ISE
- ◆ **KA9QDR12.ZIP** KA9Q NOS Door for PCBoard V1.2. Reqs KA9Q & Slipp/PPP
- ◆ **LL232EXE.ZIP** Lan-Link v2.32, MS-DOS packet software by W3/G3ZCZ
- ◆ **MB1705.ZIP** WORLI Packet BBS 940523v17.5
- ◆ **MSAT05.ZIP** MicroSat ground station tracking software for Linux/X-windows
- ◆ **MSSOF42B.ZIP** Meteor-scatter v4.2b - by OH5IY - predicts meteor showers
- ◆ **MSYS117.ZIP** MSYS packet software, 940324v1.17 full version UPDATE for 1.16
- ◆ **MSYSB117.ZIP** MSYS packet software, 940324v1.17 BBS-ONLY, UPDATE for 1.16 bbs
- ◆ **MUF.ZIP** E-layer muf predictions by G4PCS
- ◆ **NETM2340.ZIP** TCP/IP [Macintosh] - rename Net Mac2.3.40.sea.hqx, by PA2AGA
- ◆ **NOSINST.ZIP** Program to simplify NOS installation, enhanced copy v0.6b
- ◆ **NPF220A.ZIP** G8NPF message system v2.20a, reqs BPQ405 or later
- ◆ **NPRM9459.ZIP** Automatic Control for HF Digital Communications
- ◆ **OH1AA636.ZIP** OH1AA logging program - by OH1MIE
- ◆ **PATPLOT3.ZIP** Antenna pattern plotting program, by Antenna Specialists, v3.0
- ◆ **PED411I.ZIP** CW contest training program, v4.111
- ◆ **PLUS25_1.ZIP** LOGPlus! V2 DEMO logging program (1/3)- by KD7P
- ◆ **PLUS25_2.ZIP** LOGPlus! V2 DEMO logging program (2/3)- by KD7P
- ◆ **PLUS25_3.ZIP** LOGPlus! V2 DEMO logging program (3/3)- by KD7P
- ◆ **PR93-85.ZIP** FCC PR93-85 redefines term "REPEATER", by N5GAR
- ◆ **PREDICT.ZIP** Satellite orbital prediction software. by KD2BD
- ◆ **PSATOR7.ZIP** KC7WW PC sound card HF DSP modem software 94060
- ◆ **SAT26APR.ZIP** Track 255 satellites, 16 presented simultaneously, 4/26/94
- ◆ **SATRKV17.ZIP** Satellite tracking software for Unix, rename satrkv1.7.tar.Z
- ◆ **SCALL121.ZIP** Sam CallSign Database door
- ◆ **SDI537.ZIP** RSGB IOTA contest logging program, by EI5DI
- ◆ **SMCON140.ZIP** R8 Smart Control Program
- ◆ **TN-X1JR2.ZIP** TheNet X1J, release 2, Total Update
- ◆ **VAILCO.ZIP** Vail, Colo scanner frequencies
- ◆ **VANC.ZIP** Vancouver, BC scanner frequencies
- ◆ **VK3UM702.ZIP** Popular EME Tracking program - updated 04/94)
- ◆ **VPED105.ZIP** Voice pile-up trainer V1.05 by JE3MAS
- ◆ **WM940601.TXT** Info file attached to Wampes NOS 94-Jun-01 for Linus/Unix
- ◆ **WXMAN.ZIP** Receive weather maps using sound blaster card
- ◆ **XHS611.ZIP** Allmode terminal program for OS/2 for PK-232/PK-900, v6.11

Keep tuned to monthly issues of *TARA NEWS* for program updates. 73, *STORMY*

OFFICERS

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Newsletter: Editor-in-Chief: Perry White

Editor: Jack Culliton, N2LBJ 271-6763

Assistant Editor: Bill Eddy, NY2U

Assistant Editor: Ellen Culliton

Copier: REM Printing

Please send all correspondence to Editor: F.A.R.A.

at 3 Oxford Circle, Troy, NY 12180 or via

packet at WA2UMX-5 144.950

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HF Contest Chairpeople: Walt Legowski, WA1KKM

Sue Rothschild, N2LBR

Events Committee: Ken Collis, N2RXO

UHF/VHF Contest Coordinator: Art Ceas, KB2JZJ

Chris Linck, N2NEH

VE Team Contact: Bud Hovey, WF2B

Field Day Committee Chairpeople

Steve Kopecky, N7LOD

John Iutein, WM2Y

Ken Collis, N2RXO

Troy Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 584

Latham, NY 12110

place

label

here

Bill

NEXT MEETING July 19, 1994
Green Island Municipal Bldg
7:30 PM