



MORE THAN A CLUB, WE ARE FAMILY!



# THE TARA NEWS

Affiliate of the American Radio Relay League

Vol 20, Issue 4



SUMMER 2011

## SPECIAL EDITION



## FIELD DAY 2011



WE HAD IT ALL...

**ANTENNAS!**



**CONTACTS!**



**TROY AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION**

[www.N2TY.org](http://www.N2TY.org)

**FOOD!**



**CONFLICT!**



# Why Field Day?

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>



ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.



Ham operators making contacts early on during Field Day 2011 at the TARA FD site, June 25, 2011

ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For

many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The objective is to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

*For the Troy Amateur Radio Association (TARA, N2TY) it's that and much more.*

*Besides the teamwork involved with setting up antennas, tents, power and lighting, radios, computers and information packets Field Day is a time for club members and family along with visiting operators (hams) and guests to chat, eat and drink, keep cool and most certainly to get on the*

*air to make a few contacts with other Field Day participants from around the USA and Canada. Next Field Day will be on June 23-24, 2012.*



2 meter and 6 meter beam antennas with TARA banner flying on top just before start of Field Day activities, June 25, 2011.



# A FEW WORDS FROM RANDY STEIN, KL7TJZ

**T.A.R.A. VICE-PRESIDENT  
REGARDING FIELD DAY 2011**

Thanks to all who participated in this years TARA Field Day. Setup and tear-down went smoothly, We had a lot of great food, and our operation went very well. With our dedicated digital station we made about 71 contacts (our highest on digital so far) and between that and our great operators on phone and cw, we were able to triple the number of contacts made last year. The number of cw and digital contacts will really add to our final score. I'll let everyone know when that has been calculated and post it on the Field Day page of our website. I think everyone who operated liked our new Yaesu FT-450 hf rigs. Please e-mail me at [rsteino2@gmail.com](mailto:rsteino2@gmail.com) with any comments good or bad or suggestions for next year's effort. As some of you have already done, send me any digital photos you took so I can post those on the website also.



Randy Stein, KL7TJZ



73,  
Randy, KL7TJZ



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
T.A.R.A. AWARD WINNERS**

**Susan Fritts,  
KC2IBI, "Bubba"  
Award Winner 2011**

Thomas M. Remmert,  
Achievement Award,  
presented annually to a  
member for their "positive  
accomplishments and  
attitude towards our club."

This award was first  
presented to Thomas M.  
"Bubba" Remmert, N2TTA (now N2TR), back in  
1994 at the annual Field Day Dinner held at Frear  
Park.



**James  
McKnight,  
K2LM,**



(no picture of recipient)



## Eddy Award Winner 2011

William J. "Mr. Bill" Eddy, NY2U, Community Service Award, in honor of their founding president. This award will be presented to those that have given "outstanding service to the community and his fellow amateurs through participation in the Volunteer Examiner Program, SKYWARN and other public service activities." This award was first presented on June 18, 1996 to William Eddy, NY2U.



Charles Friderici,  
KC2KVZ

### Charles Friderici, KC2KVZ, "Skip" Award Winner 2011

Field Day June 24, 2001: TARA presented Paul "Skip" Wilson, KE2XF, with a new award in his name. Skipper was of one of TARA's founding members. Skip also was one of those hams that always gave his club 100%,

no matter what you asked of him. He was actively involved in many of the functions that our club supports and he was our 1st Field Day Chairman, back in 1991. On December 12, 2001 Skipper passed away after a long battle with cancer. May he rest in peace!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 16, 2011 - Utica Hamfest (AKA RADIOCOMM-2011), Herkimer County Fairgrounds, call-in 145.15-

July 19, 2011 - T.A.R.A. Summer Picnic I, Watervliet Park, starting at 6:00 pm

August 13, 2011 - Rome Hamfest, Westmoreland VFD Field, call-in 146.88- PL 151.4

August 16, 2011 - T.A.R.A. Summer Picnic II, Watervliet Park, starting at 6:00 pm

August 20, 2011 - Utica (CNYARA) Hamfest, Deerfield Fire Department, call-

in 145.21-

August 28, 2011 - NoBARC Hamfest, Bowe Field, Adams MA, call-in 146.91-

September 10, 2011 - Saratoga Hamfest, Saratoga County Fairgrounds, 147.00+ PL 91.5

September 20, 2011 - Regular Meeting of T.A.R.A., Green Island Municipal Center, call-in 145.17- PL

## PICTURES FROM FIELD DAY



June 24-26,  
2011











# FIELD DAY 2011 IN SALT LAKE CITY

Steve Bozak, KB2IQU, Visiting Salt Lake City Utah  
Field day June 25<sup>th</sup> 2011

Amateur radio operators, Hams from around the country set up their transmitting stations to operate from remote locations to test their skills and equipment.

Every club does it different but always enjoyable for all as with this friendly group W7SP on top of Mt. Nebo.



With an elevation of over 8000 feet this was an excellent location for worldwide DXing.

15~20 members brought their own equipment, radios & generators, and antennas, tents, setting up ham radio stations. Then for 24 hours hams from across the USA, try to make as many contact as possible.

Visitors stumble in on these field day operations and enjoy seeing these amateurs radio operators



transmitting short wave to others around the

world.

Here even a CW class was taught to help promote interest in the hobby.

Unique to this club they actually set up a cell for cell phones to make them work in this very remote location.

Maybe the highlight of this club's field day and most all field day operations is the BBQ Chicken serviced to all Saturday night under the clear sky & stars.



With the warm welcome I received from the wUtah club members of W7SP I hope they will come visit our club TARA N2TY.

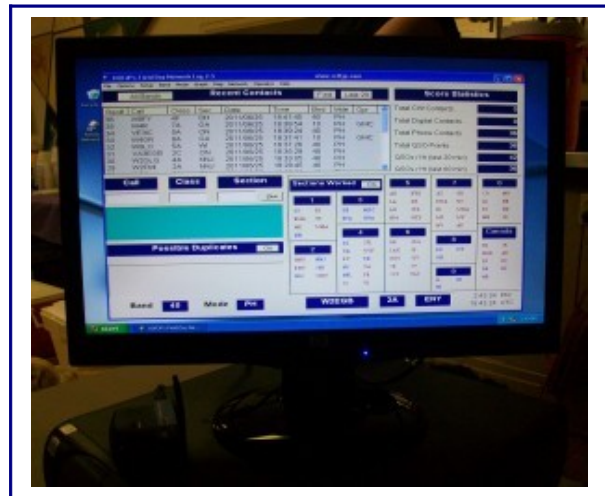
## Field Day Fun in East Greenbush

by "Big" Rich of Q103Albany

<http://q103albany.com/field-day-fun-in-east-greenbush/>

This weekend was a big day if you were an Amateur Radio operator in the U.S. or Canada. It was Field Day, when Amateurs, better known as Ham Radio operators, setup stations without using commercial power and try to make as many contacts as possible. It's held the fourth full weekend in June. While it could be considered a contest, it's actually a way for hams to test their response should an emergency happen.

I spent an afternoon with the East Greenbush Amateur Radio Club on Saturday. This was only the second Field Day I was a part of. The first one was back in the early 90's when I got my license. A couple of local hams that were old enough to be my grandfathers, kind of mentored me and took me to different ham radio events. In ham radio lingo, they're called "Elmers". I have wanted to take part in the fun, but never seemed to be around an area that was doing anything or I wasn't able to go. This year I did.



I got to the Masonic Temple on Columbia Turnpike, a little after 2pm. The calls and contacts had literally just started, and I was greeted by a member of the club. I said HI and told him who I was and then found a spot to settle in for the afternoon. I wasn't there maybe 30 minutes, when I was asked if I wanted to log the contacts. I jumped right in there and logged till the thunderstorm rolled in. We all shut down to the radios to protect them from any lightning strikes or surges of static electricity that might build up.





*Photo does not represent the actual storm.*



## OFFICERS

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 Vice-president: Randy Stein, KL7TJZ  
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 Treasurer: Tom Remmert, N2TR



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During the down time, I just talked ham radio with



the guys there, and talked about some of the stuff I like to do in the hobby. And found out a little more about the club in East Greenbush and some of the events they do as well as about the classes they offer for people who want to get their license. It doesn't take much to get your license. Just pass a multiple choice exam at a testing session and pay a fee to the examiners, which is only \$15, and the license is good for 10 years, and doesn't cost anything to renew.

After the storm had passed, the club got back on the air and made more contacts all over the country. By that time, it was around 5pm and time to head back home. So I said my good buys and headed out. But I will be returning to join the club

on a permanent basis. I love being able to hang out with others who share the same enjoyment i get with pulling out a weak signal from the air and being able to talk to someone on the other side of the state or the world. If you're interested in knowing more, let me know, and I'll hook you up with someone local to you to get you more info.