

The KEY

The Newsletter of the Contoocook Valley Radio Club

<http://www.qsl.net/k1bke>

Volume 14, Number 4

August, 2002

2002 Field Day Results Jerry Blanchard, K1BBQ, Field Day Chairman

CVRC/K1BKE Field Day set up started at 2PM on Friday June 21st and was completed Saturday by

Programs

August 10 (Saturday): CVRC Cook-out: From noon till night, the CVRC summer cookout will be held at Lee, AA1YN's house in Hooksett. There will be hot dogs, hamburgers, swimming and radio present, along with possibly horseshoes and softball. Ken, K1MID, will be running the fox hunt, and there may be a demonstration of 10GHz by Lee and Dale, AF1T. Rain date will be the following Saturday at the same time.

Please RSVP (so we know approximately how many people will be showing up) through Don, N1ZIH, at 224-1697. Club members are encouraged to bring soda, chips, salads, or other food--please talk to Don about this also. If you wish to go swimming, bring your own towels--they will not be provided.

September 10: To be announced.

The KEY is published every other month at the beginning of the even numbered months. The deadline for articles and submissions is the fourth Tuesday (coinciding with the usual business meeting schedule) of the preceding month.

2PM when stations went on the air. Then it started to rain, and continued to rain until we were ready to tear down on Sunday afternoon. Never the less we all endured and managed to have a great time and made many QSO's.

Prior to starting on Friday Jim/KB1EJY sent out a press release and Rob/K1CFI mowed the field. When set up started, five towers with beams and GOTA R7, 40 meter wire beam, 80 meter dipole and balloon vertical were erected along with satellite antennas. Each band captain set up their shelter. The generators were started and power distributed. The reception area was set up with Louise/K1LAS and Sonia/K1BBQxyl there to welcome visitors. It was also used for demonstrations of Packet by Rob/K1CFI and Laser by Dale/AF1T. Don/N1ZIH also operated from there to handle NTS messages. And one of the most important uses of the reception area was to house the popcorn machine that Angello operated. The mess hall was set up and Dave/N1KTP, Jason and Sandra/KB1DXD served great meals, especially the filet mignon on Saturday for dinner.

On Saturday NHARRL SM A1/N1FIK, SEC Tom/N1SKZ and ASEC Gary/N3CLZ along with NHOEM representatives Cal/WA1WOK and Mead

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/N1QYS visited and had dinner with us. In addition Dick Macleod from the Red Cross and David Eggleton from the Salvation Army visited.

This year the ARRL had a new category for field day, GOTA (GET ON THE AIR). This replaced the Novice/Tec category from last year. The GOTA station was an opportunity for inactive licensees, and non-licensed persons to experience first-hand the fun of amateur radio. Lee/AA1YN was the Band Captain/Mentor for the GOTA station. Sandra/KB1DXD, Steve/KB1FSK and Kristie/KB1EPM operated the GOTA station.

One highlight of our activities was the balloon. Skip/N1PHZ managed to get a 6 foot balloon donated to CVRC. Al/NS1O along with help from Dale/AF1T and Lee/AA1YN designed and launched an 80 meter 5/8 wave vertical using the balloon. It worked very well.

The QSO's made by the stations along with the bonus points earned exceeded our total score for 2001. The total points earned was 9006. The following is a summary of the QSO's and bonuses:

QSO

80 M NS1O 262 QSO'S
40 M W1VE 629 QSO'S
20 M N1FOJ 1256 QSO'S
15 M AF1T 920 QSO'S
10 M KB1GSA 126 QSO'S
6 M N1JHJ 89 QSO'S
GOTA AA1YN 96 QSO'S
Satellite W1VE 57 QSO'S

Bonus points

100 Emergency power
100 Media publicity
100 Public Information Booth
100 Message to NHARRL SM
100 10 NTS messages
100 Satellite QSO
100 Alternate power
100 100 W1AW Bulletin
300 Non-Traditional Modes
100 Site Visitation

The field day submission package was sent to the ARRL. Copies of it and a picture set of the K1BKE/

CVRC 2002 Field Day will be available at a future club meeting.

Thanks to the Band Captains, Field Day committee members and all who participated and made this a fun time for CVRC.

CAARES Supports 2002 NH Fire Wardens' Drill

**Tom Matisko, N1SKZ
NHARES SEC**

To become truly effective, an ARES unit has to practice their skills in concert with agencies they will find themselves interacting with during an actual emergency. This was the case during a joint exercise in which members of Capital Area ARES (CAARES) supported a Red Cross mass care exercise. In Red Cross terms, mass care refers to the hydration and feeding of victims, and responders, to a disaster. For this exercise the Red Cross, Concord Chapter, provided mass care for firefighters training to fight wild land fires during the 2002 New Hampshire Fire Warden's drill held at Bear Brook State Park in Allenstown. Also supporting the exercise was the NH Office of Emergency Management (NHOEM) who provided a mobil communications vehicle that was used as the communications hub for the event.

Approximately 125 firefighters took part in the event and were divided up into teams based on area of responsibility. A saw team cleared timber and constructed a burn pile, which was ignited by the burn team. The training teams were then dispatched to locate, contain and extinguish the fires. An evaluation was then performed on the training teams' ability to meet the objectives of the drill. While the wild land fire danger was relatively low during the period of the drill, the overall draught condition plaguing the country, and fires burning in New Jersey and out west added to the relevancy of the drill.

The task of the Red Cross was to provide 6 meals, 1 snack and hydration to the firefighters and support personnel. To accomplish this, a kitchen was established

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at Bear Hill 4H camp and a serving line was established in the staging area. A Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) transported the prepared meals across the approximately 1-1/2 miles that separated the kitchen and staging areas. Besides being utilized as the feeding area, the staging area served as the nerve center for the event. This area also served as the staging area for personal and equipment, a briefing area for the firefighters and the location of the NHOEM communications van.

The task of CAARES was to provide communications support to ensure the smooth flow of supplies and food to and from the kitchen and feeding areas. For this, a 2-meter voice and packet station was established in both the feeding and food preparation areas. A third station was established in the NHOEM communications vehicle and was used by CAARES command to monitor the voice and data traffic and to act as a liaison between the ARES unit, NHOEM and fire service communicators.

The goal that CAARES was working toward was multifaceted. First, it was to design a communications plan to support the event and inform the ARES participants of the operating parameters, i.e. frequencies, tactical calls, participants calls, operator assignments and schedules. Second, was to expose the ARES members to the type of communications they would most likely encounter during an actual mass care response with the Red Cross. Third was to learn how to operate within the NHOEM communication van (which was new to the agency and on its second run). And fourth, to gain exposure and experience to a potential new client, the New Hampshire Fire Wardens.

CAARES was well prepared for the task at hand. Prior training and preparation for the drill paid off, as there were no surprises that adversely affected the drill. There were, however, some unexpected results!

As a thunderstorm closed in on the drill area, officials required information regarding the severity of the cell. Attempts were made to contact the National

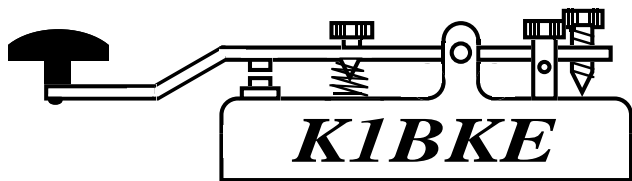
Weather Service, Taunton MA office via cell phone. However, the drill area was located in a depression and cell phone coverage, for three cellular providers, was unreliable. The phone patch on the K1BKE repeater was pressed into service as it provided the only reliable method to communicate with NWS Taunton. A second unexpected use for CAARES occurred when one of the burn teams was having difficulty contacting their dispatcher located in the NHOEM van. The firefighter, who was attempting the contact, was also a ham and came to the event well prepared. The firefighter pulled out his trusty Ham HT and called command on the KA1OKQ/Concord repeater. Luckily the call was routine, but one could readily see the value of our services in this event.

In all, the event was a valuable training exercise that exposed several operators to our served agencies and their requirements. It also provided several operators with their first exposure to packet radio. This digital mode has seen reduced utilization since the onset of the Internet. However, for events such as this drill, it provides a level of security and quality not available on Amateur voice modes. A measure of our success was CAARES being invited back to support ARC and Fire Wardens operations for the 2003 drill. Nice job everybody!

Hats off to K1BBQ, K1CFI, K1CKL, K1CYJ, K1FDD, K1PDY, K1RAB, KB1FAE, KB1GSA, KB1HIJ, N1ASM, N1IIC, N1PHZ, N1ZIH and WA1VVX for supporting this exercise. CAARES wishes to thank the Concord Chapter of the American Red Cross for inviting us to the drill, the NH Fire Wardens and the NH Office of Emergency Management for allowing us the opportunity to train in their communications van.



Left: NHOEM communications van; Above: N1ZIH & KB1GSA in front of N1IIC's communications van



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CVRC CLUB CALL: K1BKE

CVRC operates:

K1BKE/Rptr 146.295/146.895
 K1BKE:CENTNH 145.57 Packet Node

CVRC OFFICERS

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Larry Damour, N1PHV	Vice-President	529-2884
Skip Doughty, N1PHZ	Treasurer	746-3894
Don Curtis, N1ZIH	Secretary	224-1697
Jack Sheehy, W1JS	Trustee of club call	529-5635
	K1BKE Repeater trustee	
Lindsay Collins, K1JY	Packet node trustee	495-3983

ACTIVITIES & COMMITTEES

Flea Market	Jock Irvine, N1JI	225-4248
Programs	Dale Clement, AF1T	428-3840
V.E. Sessions	Dexter Howe, KY1M	938-2955
License Classes	Bob Hadley, K1DWI	783-9294
Field Day	Jerry Blanchard, K1BBQ	
ARES	Rob Farley, K1CFI	
Outgoing QSLs	John Moore, N1FOJ	746-4817
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