



The Salvation Army

Emergency Disaster Services

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



28 June 2018

Did YOU Participate In Field Day?

NHQ, Alexandria, VA (06/28/2018) – Field Day 2018 is now history. Everything is done except waiting for the scores to be reported in QST. Your Editor hopes that many SATERN volunteers took the opportunity to visit a Field Day site and participate. Here are some stories from some Divisional SATERN units who participated this year:



Minocqua, WI (06/25/2018)
SATERN for the Wisconsin–Upper Michigan (WUM) Division of The Salvation Army participated in Field Day this year by deploying its communications trailer to the Minocqua Athletic Complex in northern Wisconsin. The SATERN trailer is currently housed in Sugar Camp, WI, which is about halfway between Rhinelander and Eagle River.

The trailer was moved to the park early in the day on Saturday, 23 June, to do some cleaning of the inside prior to set up. Sitting idle during the harsh winter had taken its toll. Once that was complete the generator was started and the participating SATERN operators - Bill Alton (KG9RH), Andy Falkenstern (N9NBC), Kyle Ruesch (AB9AX) and WUM Divisional SATERN Coordinator Scott Ruesch (W9JU) - set up the antennas and other radio equipment. Fortunately, all equipment tested and functioned properly.

The 2018 Field Day was hosted by the Rhinelander Repeater Association (RRA) and the club call sign W9RRA was used for the duration of the day. For the RRA, the emphasis is on the social gathering rather than making a lot of contacts. However, a number of contacts were made to be sure and these were hard earned because of the pile ups on the air.

The highlight of the day was when Thomas Johnson (KA9BDI) and his family arrived. Johnson is 10 years old and is currently studying for his FCC General Class License. Johnson was unable to participate in Field Day with his home club in southern Wisconsin so arrangements were made for him to participate in Field Day with the group in Minocqua. He and his family were given a tour of all the various radio stations present and this included the SATERN communications trailer. He seemed very interested in what the SATERN group had. He asked his dad a

number of times if he thought grandpa would let them use his travel trailer next year for Field Day. Although Dad wasn't too sure about that, Johnson may now have plans to turn grandpa's travel trailer into a ham radio communications trailer. Johnson also got on the air for the Northwoods ARES net the following evening and again expressed his gratitude for having the opportunity to see the SATERN trailer.

Overall the weather cooperated and fun was had by all. What more can one ask for.

Detroit, MI (06/26/2018) – Divisional Communications and SATERN Coordinator Major Bill Heaver (K8EDS) for the Metro Division (Chicago, IL) of The Salvation Army and his wife, Major Michele Heaver (KC8NAI) were invited to participate in Field Day with the Metro-Detroit SATERN Team. They operated a seven (7) station Field Day site from the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) in Mount Clemens, MI, in the Eastern Michigan (EMI) Division. Each station covered a different band or mode of operation. The Heavers operated the 20 meter phone station along with several other operators.

One of those operators was newly licensed Pete (call and last name unknown) who had been invited by a local SATERN member to check out Field Day. Although he initially told everyone he was only there to observe, he soon began to help with logging at the request of Major Michele. After logging for a bit, Major Bill asked him to operate and was soon engaged in his first venture into HF radio. When he left the site, he assured the Heavers that he would join SATERN and be back at Field Day next year.

One of the challenges of Field Day is that there is always something that doesn't go as planned. Heaver reported that the biggest challenge encountered this year was the antenna trailer. Usually it would be raised to about 80 feet with several antennas hung from the apex besides the antenna on top. During last Winter some well-intentioned person removed the trailer from the warehouse to make room for extra toys for the Christmas Toy Shop. While the antenna trailer was sitting outside, the stabilizer jacks and other parts of the trailer were stolen. As a result, SATERN members moved on to plan "B" by making wire antennas and hanging them from the trees adjacent to the corps building. While this did not make for optimal operating conditions, at least they got on the air. Heaver said, "And that is the value of FD. Making the best of what you have to make communications happen. That is how we learn to overcome adverse conditions."

Heaver reports that Metro Division SATERN plans to host a Field Day site in 2019.

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25 June Through 08 July 2018. See SATERN.org

SATERN At Field Day (continued)



SATERN's portion of the joint club Field Day site in Brandon, MS.

Brandon, MS (06/25/2018) - SATERN in the Alabama-Louisiana-Mississippi (ALM) Division deployed the Southern Territory Communications Trailer in support of three amateur radio clubs in the Jackson, MS, area for Field Day. The ALM Division also deployed an office trailer and other communications-related equipment including a 4K Solutions Mobile Broadband Kit that was tested on-scene that weekend.

This year's Field Day site was the Rankin County Safe Shelter in Brandon, MS. Field Day was hosted this year by ALM SATERN, the Jackson Amateur Radio Club (JARC), the Central Mississippi Amateur Radio Association (CMARA) and the Vicksburg Amateur Radio Club (VARC).

The biggest challenge faced by the Field Day participants this year – and not an unusual challenge in Mississippi in late June – was the tremendous heat. Temperatures were in the high 90°s and the “feel-like” heat index temperatures were above 100°. Fortunately, the Communications Trailer, the office trailer and the Safe Shelter, all of which had stations in them, were air-conditioned. But everyone agreed that setting up on Saturday and dismantling everything on Sunday was brutal!

Besides providing support for the Field Day site, the other goal for SATERN was to test a 4K Solutions Mobile Broadband Kit or 4K-MBK. The MBK has the capability of receiving cellular phone signals from distances much greater than a cell phone or ordinary MiFi and then convert that into a WiFi signal which can be transmitted over a greater distance than a regular MiFi unit.

The purpose of the unit is to provide an on-site Incident Command Post (ICP) with internet and VoIP telephone capabilities in an area where cellular phone coverage is limited either due to damage to the infrastructure or system overload.

The Salvation Army Responds To Wild Fire in Florida

Eastpoint, FL (06/25/2018) – The Salvation Army Disaster Response Team from Panama City, FL, deployed a mobile feeding unit (canteen) to provide meals and hydration to residents and first responders impacted by severe fires in Franklin County, Florida.

The fire impacted a reported 40 homes and conditions warranted a mandatory evacuation of the area. Residents received little to no notice as flames quickly destroyed more than 950 acres.

“Our team is prepared to serve meals and snacks and will continue to provide additional services, such as emotional and spiritual care, to help meet the needs of the displaced families,” says Lieutenant Chelsea Fleeman, Panama City Corps Officer.

Canada Day Contest on Sunday 01 July



Ottawa, Canada (06/29/2018)

The Canada Day Contest takes place on Sunday, 01 July. The annual event celebrates the anniversary of Canada's Confederation. Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) sponsors the Canada Day Contest and invites radio amateurs around the world to Canada's birthday party on the air.

This event begins on 01 July at 0000 UTC (Saturday, 30 June, in North American time zones) and continues until 2359 UTC. Available bands are 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meter, on CW and phone. Suggested frequencies for CW are 25 kHz up from the band edge. Look for SSB activity centered on 1.850, 3.775, 7.075, 7.225, 14.175, 21.250, and 28.500 MHz.

Stations in Canada should send their signal report and province or territory. VE0s and stations outside Canada should send the signal report and serial number. Contacts with RAC official stations (RAC suffix) are worth 20 points.

A trophy is awarded for the highest single operator (no power classification), non-Canada participant.

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Attendance For 2018 Hamvention® Holds Steady

Dayton, OH (06/28/2018) - Hamvention® marked another successful year in 2018, General Chair Ron Cramer, KD8ENJ, told ARRL this week. At 28,417 visitors, Hamvention recorded its third-largest attendance ever in its second year at its still-new location at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio.



2018 Dayton Hamvention At Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, OH

“We had a slight decline in attendance, but we think people were waiting to hear about the upgrades we made, and some upgrades did not happen until the very last moment,” Cramer allowed. “Many were worried about the mud.”

The drop in attendance amounted to some 900 fewer visitors from Hamvention 2017. Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669, before the 1996 change in date from April to May while it was still being held at Hara Arena. Attendance in 2016 for the show’s final year at Hara was 25,364.

Cramer said other events in the Xenia-Dayton area cramped lodging availability, but Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) organizers were “very pleased with the results and comments everyone has made this year.”

Hamvention’s 2018 theme was “Amateur Radio...Serving the Community,” and the event highlighted emergency communication forums — many put on by ARRL — plus a big display of emergency communication vehicles including the ALM Command / Communications Vehicle.

This was a year of “fine tuning the event” through critique sessions with committee chairs and evaluating comments, compliments, and criticisms from first-year Xenia attendees and vendors, Cramer said.

“From all the information we have received back already this year, from guests and vendors, we believe we have been successful and are working hard to prepare for Hamvention 2019,” Cramer offered. “We expect new additions to the show and finer tuning to make sure our guests keep coming back.”

Improvements this year at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center included the use of frame tents for some activities. “These were much more stable in the wind and rain — a very big improvement,” Cramer said. “We installed asphalt millings in the Flea Market area to create roads and eliminate the mud we had last year. We will be widening and adding more asphalt millings to the roads this year.” In addition, he said, Hamvention on-site parking eliminated some of the muddier areas and halted the use of tractor-driven people movers, which were creating ruts. “We were not immune to rain, but it took less of a toll,” Cramer added.

Cramer also touted more on-site food options, expanding the variety and number of food vendors and cutting wait times. More seating was added.

Other improvements Cramer cited included:

- More forums and a new forum room.
- Improved parking access by moving the bus drop-off location closer to the main entrance gate.
- More off-site parking with better signage to provide easier access.
- A new Product Showcase to highlight new products.

Central State University opened its dorms for the event, offering inexpensive lodging that included breakfast and dinner.

“There was a shortage of rooms this year with the grand opening of the Memphis Belle Exhibit at the Museum of the Air Force,” Cramer explained, “but the Greene County and Dayton Convention Visitors Bureaus kept tabs on rooms and helped direct those who called.”

Cramer expressed his appreciation to Greene County, Xenia Township, and the City of Xenia, as well as to the nearly 800 volunteers for their assistance. “The Greene County Fair Board has been exceptional in making this our new home,” Cramer said. “We thank all who attended this year’s show and hope to see you again next year.”

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