



HARMONICS

1916

South Jersey Radio Association

2020



FIELD DAY ISSUE

President's Message

Ken- K2WB



This year Field Day was very different than all of the Field Days since the start of this event in the 1930s. All because of the COVID-19 situation. Member Safety and Public Safety is the highest priority of the club.

There were a lot of hurdles that needed to be overcome to make Field Day 2020 happen. The short list: Social Distance, Public sites are not available, and the real potential of having less people help. Less help would make our Field Day not as safe as previous ones.

I asked the ARRL if there were going to be any adjustments for Field Day 2020 in

early March. There were several more inquiries, but at that time there would not be any adjustments to accommodate the current emergency. The ARRL did finally make a rule change allow D class stations to contact all stations including other D class stations. And they added the aggregate club competition to the mix.

My suggestion was a pandemic class, this would be the same as the other class with the exception of changing the 1000 ft rule and reverting back to the 175-mile radius rule as in most HF and VHF contests.

With several technical discussions with Bob, KE2D we found it possible to link the N1MM+ logging program over a wide area using a VPN system. With Bob's help we had 17 stations connected at the same time through the internet, synchronizing logs as if we were on a wired network at Savich Field.

We achieved our goal, maintained a 7D presence through most of the 24 hours of Field Day, collected a reasonable amount of Bonus Points and more importantly had fun. Thank you SJRA for your support.

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SOUTH JERSEY RADIO ASSOCIATION

HARMONICS is published monthly and is the official news letter of the South Jersey Radio Association. The SJRA was established on June 12, 1916 and has been meeting continuously since its inception. The club has been affiliated with the American Radio Relay League since 1920.

The SJRA meets each month on the fourth Wednesday, January through September; and usually the third Wednesday, October, November and December; in one of the Meeting Rooms of the Gibson House at 525 East Main Street, Marlton, NJ 08053. Visitors are always welcome at our general meetings. **“Our Meetings are Smoke Free”**

SJRA operates the K2AA Repeater (145.290 - PL 91.5) located in Medford, NJ and the K2UK Repeaters (146.865 and 442.350 - PL 131.8) located in Pine Hill, NJ. The repeaters are open for use without restriction to all licensed amateur operators.

There are currently over 100 SJRA members active in most all aspects of amateur radio. Membership is by application and is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. Club dues are currently \$30/yr. for memberships, \$22.50/yr. for retired-person membership (62 plus 1 yr. membership), and \$15/yr. for additional family members and student membership. Membership information is available on the SJRA website: www.sjra.org or from Art Arnold, N2CPR, Email: membership@sjra.club. SJRA's web page: www.sjra.club

SJRA VE Team: ve at sjra.club is the SJRA/ARRL VUCC card checker

Joe Fisher, KC2TN, is the SJRA/ARRL WAS card checker.

 ★ Harmonics is now available for SJRA members on the WEB in pdf ★
 ★ format at: <http://www.sjra.club> ★
 ★ South Jersey ARRL Section News is available on the WEB at: ★
 ★ <http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/southern-new-jersey> ★
 ★ *****

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Contests: John Doran, W2FDJ
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Programs: Carl Hyde, W2CSH
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Nets: Matt Grohans, N2IDW
Publicity: John Johns, KD2RKA
Picnic: **Vacant (Please Volunteer)**
Ways & Means: Roy Herman, WB2EOD
Property: Frank Longbottom, AA2AW
Web Site: Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB
Harmonics Staff:
Publisher/Editor: Al Ziegler, KD2ST
Alternate Editor: Ted Groke, N8MP
Circulation: Jim Vecchiola, KR2T

LOCAL WEEKLY NETS (See Website for latest updates)

Mondays FM Net	K2AA Repeater, PL: 91.5	145.290 @ 8PM
Fusion on 2 ND & 4 TH Thurs.	K2AA Repeater, DN mode	145.290 @ 8PM, Fusion
6M SSB on 1 st Thurs.		50.150 MHz USB @ 8PM
2M SSB on 3 RD Thurs.		144.260 MHz USB @ 8PM

Harmonics Deadline

Articles submitted for the next Harmonics will be accepted until Monday, August 10, 2020. Email: harmonics@sjra.club

SWAP SHOP - For Sale/Wanted ads are free of charge and are accepted for Amateur Radio related items only. While ads are not restricted to SJRA members, there is only limited space available and members have priority for listings. No items will be accepted for inclusion in the Swap Shop from commercial vendors or traders. All ads must be submitted at least three weeks prior to the scheduled SJRA general meeting date.

GENERAL ADVERTISING - Limited commercial advertising is accepted on a space available basis. Annual advertising rates range from \$25/yr (Min 1/8 page) to \$200/yr (Full Page). Information is available from Ken Botterbrodt, K2WB.

SJRA Field Day 2020 de K2AA 7D SNJ

AI – KD2ST



Logo Credit: ARRL

We just completed our most unique field day operation in the history of the club with great results. It was an interesting event and we creatively operated in the 7D category with the stations operating together via the Hamachi VPN.

OPERATORS

We had good club participation with fifteen operators (plus two youth operators) using the club call sign. In addition, we had five club members that operated under their own call sign and listed the SJRA for their club affiliation.

Club members that participated in this year's field day with K2AA call sign are: AA2AW, K2WB, KD2EPM, KD2JPV, KD2P, KD2SSE, KD2ST, KE2D, N3AVT, NJ2IT, W2CSH, W2FDJ, W2HUV, W2JAZ and W2SJ.

Club members that participated under their own call sign and submitted their results to the ARRL with SJRA as their club affiliation include: K2WJL, KC2SGV,

KD2EPM, KD2SSE and N2SCJ. Their results are shown on page seven of this issue.



John, W2HUV at AI's (N3AVT) Station.



Frank, AA2AW at his home station.

ORGANIZATION

Al, N3AVT and Ken, K2WB had their stations set up for members use at their respective QTH's but the majority of operators worked out of their own shack. All logging computers were interconnected via Hamachi

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(SJRA Field Day Continued from page 3)

VPN. N1MM+ was used for the logging software. Our category was 7D, multi-op, assisted, all band, low power (under 150 watts), with mixed mode plus digital. Digital modes used include FT-4, FT-8 and RTTY. Bob, W2SJ operated the VHF station and had good results on 6 meters.



Holden, KD2JPV operating 40m phone.

RESULTS

We really did not know what to expect since this operation was a completely new innovation caused by the COVID-19 situation. But at the end of the event, the field day committee was happy with the outcome and the fact that we were able to successfully accomplish a complex operation under an actual emergency scenario.

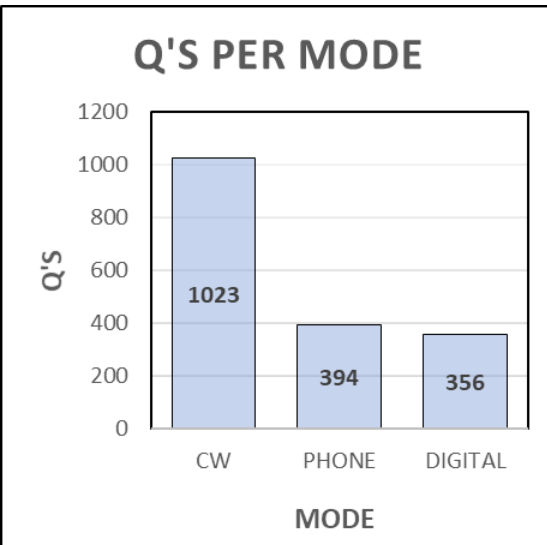
Propagation was not particularly good during the event with K7RA reporting no sunspots during the weekend and an average daily solar flux of 68.6. Conditions were slightly better Sunday than Saturday. Most of our contacts were in the eastern US and Canada.

Also, we do not know how the COVID-19 situation impacted the overall activity level for the event and if there were fewer stations available to contact than previous years.

Overall, the club made a total of **1,773 QSO's** (under the club call sign) for a QSO score of 6,304 points. Last year, under normal field day conditions we had 4,171 QSO's.

The Hamachi VPN software worked flawlessly throughout the event. There were some issues with the WSJT-x software used for the digital modes. On FT-4 there were several software crashes experienced when running in FT4 mode that required restarting the computer. However, when FT4 was working, it was significantly faster than FT8 and provided almost twice the QSO rate per hour. With some tweaking of the WSTJ-x software, FT4 mode shows great potential in future contesting.

The results are shown in the following graphs and tables:



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Q'S PER BAND:	
1.8	5
3.5	381
7	675
14	479
21	107
28	25
50	99
144	2
TOTAL:	1,773

BONUS POINTS

Bonus Points	
Media Publicity	100
Solar Power, Ken, K2WB	100
Educational Activity, Bob KE2D	100
Visit Agency	100
Youth QSO (2 @ 20 Pts. Ea.)	40
Satellite, Rick, W2JAZ	100
W1AW Bulletin	100
Elected Official	100
Social Media	100
Safety Officer, Frank, AA2AW	100
Website Submission	50
Msg to Section Manager	100
10 X Msg	100
Total Bonus Pts	1,190

We earned a total of 1,190 bonus points.

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(President's Message Continued from page 1)

For those who operated as themselves as 1D stations, don't forget to submit your score and put the South Jersey Radio Assn in as your club affiliation. I hope Field Day 2021 is more normal, so we should start making plans.

Field Day 2020 is now a fond memory, much kudos to the band captains and members for their tireless efforts in keeping the club call sign of K2AA on the air for 24 hours. Field Day would not be field day without help. It takes a lot to setup, operate and breakdown the equipment for Field Day. This year we had more help than last year and it really made a difference. We can always use more help. Congratulations to all that participated. I already look forward to Field Day 2021, it is already less than a year away, are you making plans?

I want to thank Art, N2CPR and his team for refreshing the bylaws of the club. It is healthy for the club to assess its activities & practices and to confirm that bylaws are still relevant to us.

As the heat of the summer continues, everyone should be mindful of the staying hydrated. The other bad side of the heat is severe weather. Summer also brings thunder storms, so it is important to monitor the weather especially if you have outside antennas.

Be safe, check on our elderly friends and practice social distancing

73's

Ken K2WB President

Antenna Work Party

John, KD2RKA

Riz, KH7JO; Mark, KD2JPW and Frank, AA2AW helped me assemble my KIO hex beam antenna on Saturday, June 20th. It works on 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters. Then, we tested it with the club's antenna analyzer. It performs really well on all bands but creeps up a little passed 3 on 6 meters. I think those results will get better after it's installed on the roof. Note: The SWR did improve once it was installed on the roof. I would like to thank the club members for coming out and giving me a hand.



The Finished Installation.



Frank, AA2AW; John, KD2RKA; Riz KH7JO and Mark, KD2JPW

Radio Sport aka Contests

John, W2FDJ, johnd152 at Verizon dot net

Member's Activities:

Please send your thoughts and ideas to me at [johnd152 at Verizon dot net](mailto:johnd152@verizon.net) for publication.

ARRL JUNE VHF Contest (was June 13-14)

Operator	# Q's	Multiplier	Total Points
Bob, N2SCJ	212	76	18,392
Dara, KC2THQ	169	68	12,512
Roy, WB2EOD	169	68	12,512
John, W2FDJ	161	72	12,312
Karl, KD2SSE	93	58	5,510
Dom, KD2EPM	72	42	3,024

This VHF contest was a blast because Six Meters, the "Magic Band" opened about 8 PM Saturday night for three hours of fun. The band was open to the Midwest to Wis, IL, MI, MN, IA, and Southwest to LA, MS, AR, MO. But the real fun was on Sunday with the band staying open almost all day (at least 12 hrs). This time adding more states like KS, KY, TN, FL, AL. And even reaching out west to UT and beyond.

ARRL Field Day (was June 27-28)

Individual club members that operated with their call signs and submitted to ARRL with SJRA as their club affiliation:

Operator	# Q's	Total Points
Dom, KD2EPM	83	332
Joe, K2WJL	130	260
Bob, N2SCJ	65	180
Joe, KC2SGV	105	155
Karl, KD2SSE	28	84

Upcoming Contests - see arrl.org or contestcalendar.com for rules and more details. Also check the calendar on SJRA website for the latest and links to the contest rules.

Every Tuesday only

Phone Frey 10:30-11pm. (yes 30 min) (ten weeks - 4 times a year).

Every Wednesday only

CWops Mini-CWT test 9-10am, 3-4pm, 11pm-12am (three one hr. sprints).

Every Thursday only

NCCC Sprint 10:30-11pm. (yes 30 min.).

Every Thursday only

NCCC RTTY Sprint 9:45-10:15pm. (30 min.).

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(Radio Sport Continued from page 7)

North American QSO Party, RTTY: 7/18-19, Sat 2pm - 2am Sunday. HF - RTTY.

North American QSO Party, CW: 8/1-2, Sat 2pm - 2am Sunday. HF - CW.

World Wide Digi DX Contest: 8/29-30, Sat 8am - 8am Sun. HF - FT4/8

Looking Longer Range:

North American QSO Party, SSB: 9/15-16, Sat 2pm - 2am Sunday. HF - RTTY.

50 Mhz Fall Sprint: 8/22, Sat 7pm EDT to Sat 11pm. 6 mtr . Mode not specified.

ARRL Sept VHF Contest: 9/12-14, Sat 2pm EDT to Sun 11pm. 50 Mhz and up. All modes.

VE Report

VE sessions have been postponed due to the Covid 19 situation. The VE sessions will resume once it is safe to do so.

Total New or Upgrades to Date			
Tech	General	Extra	Total
168	82	41	291

The 300th person to obtain an initial license or upgrade with the SJRA VE team wins free SJRA Membership for one year!

Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were not available for this edition.

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(Field Day Continued from page 5)

Adding the bonus points to our QSO score resulted in an overall total score of **7,494 points**.

We will submit our scores to the ARRL and hopefully they will give our application open-minded and fair consideration. The ARRL may let us know sooner if our application is approved, in any case we will need



Chris Cannatella, KC2GNQ and Ken, K2WB at Ken's T-4 Trailer.

SUMMARY

FD 2020 was an interesting event and the participants learned a great deal developing and setting up alternative operations to our normal activity. The Club did get innovative and creative with the procedures used and this should be considered a positive plan considering our success under actual emergency conditions.

to wait until mid-November when the December issue of QST comes out to see how well we did compared to other participating clubs.

The Field Day committee would like to thank all the club members and volunteers that planned, organized, set up and operated in this year's field day. It is this participation that makes our club so great and fun to be a part of.

Items for Sale

Transceiver For Sale:

Kenwood TS-590SG – Mint condition—only 2.5 months old. **\$1,000.**

If interested, please contact **Art, N2CPR. Artarnold at yahoo dot com**

Antennas for Sale:

Cushcraft A3W with 30m driven element. For WARC bands 30/17/12m: **\$150.00**

Hy-Gain TH6DXX – 20/15/10m: **\$150.00**

Hy-Gain 402BA – 2 Element 40m Beam: **\$200.00**

They are marked for easy reassembly and transportation. Price negotiable.

Contact by email: **ken at k2wb dot com**

Cushcraft Model A-3WS 3 element WARC bands beam antenna still in the box never opened. Will accept any reasonable offer for it or willing to trade or deal. If interested please contact **Jack Froehlich, W2AF** at **856-809-2965** or **609-352-9696**.

The antenna can be picked up in Atco, NJ. Thank you for your time.

SJRA is Now on Facebook

For those who have not heard, we have a SJRA group page on Facebook. It allows us to share files/pictures, demonstration videos, announcements, reminders, etc. If you are active on Facebook, please join us and invite any prospective SJRA members to do the same.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SJRA.K2AA/>



New Members

The SJRA would like to welcome the following new member to our Club:

- Todd Agostini, KD2TZF

By-Laws Revisions

AI, KD2ST

A role call vote was held at the June General Meeting and the Bylaws revisions were passed. We would like to thank the ByLaws Committee for their time and effort in updating the club Bylaws.

List Your "For Sale" Ham Stuff in the SJRA Harmonics

Email: [harmonics at sjra dot club](mailto:harmonics@sjra-dot-club) with your listing.

SJRA Jackets, Shirts, Hats

Order NOW - Next order going in soon!



Spring Jacket is \$51 (S,M,L,XL), Fall Jacket is \$58 (S,M,L,XL),
 Shirts are \$28 (S,M,L,XL), Hats are \$20 (one size fits all)
 Name and Call Sign embroidery included....Larger sizes slightly more!
 Email Joe, KC2TN, with orders or additional info: kc2tn at comcast dot net

Amateur Radio FCC License Testing

The SJRA sponsors *FREE* Amateur Radio FCC License testing on the third Wednesday of each month, except Nov & Dec. TBD. The location is: New Brooklyn United Methodist Church; 1336 E. Malaga Rd. Williamstown, NJ 08094. Registration is at 7:00 PM and testing begins at 7:30 PM. Walk-ins are accepted.

VE team members can be reached at *VE at SJRA dot club*. A calendar and more information can be found on the SJRA web site.

July Meeting (On-Line):
Is the **Fourth** Wednesday, July 22, 2020

The meeting commences promptly at 7:30 PM in the convenience of your own home via Webex.

Program For July:

The July Program will feature our Field Day wrap-up.

SJRA Member August Birthdays

August birthdays are: Alfred Chai, KD2ELG; Susan Nagy, KD2QBV; Lou Priestley, N2HQL; Robin Smith, KD2RGI.

Health and Welfare Co-chairpersons: Roy, WB2EOD and Dara, KC2THQ

August Meeting:
Is the **Fourth** Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

First Class Mail

South Jersey Radio Association
15 Pelham Road
Marlton, NJ 08053

