

Friends, Romans, Radiomen.....Lend me your earphones. Also, you microphones and digital interface units. Bring out your favorite homebrew antennas, solar panels and antenna launchers, we are ready----->

Field Day is less than a month away. Once again, Field Day will be held at Riverbend Park in Winston. Granted, we still have a few questions due to our old nemesis Corvid-19. We don't know if the restrooms will be open, and we don't know if we will be able to use the pavilion for our potluck.

Some things will happen, no matter what. We will have lots of room for you to set up your Station. If restrooms are not available by then, I will bring a tent and porta-potty. I don't know about the other "old" guys, but I need lots of pee breaks.

ARRL has changed things a little for this year. Because of the virus, you will be allowed to operate from your home radio shack, and still collect points. But judging from our breakfast and lunch groups, fear of the China virus isn't going to keep most of us away from our third favorite club get-together. (Hey, even I know the Ice Cream Social and the Christmas Party are ahead on the list) I listed a summary of the ARRL changes below.

Never done Field Day? I did a quick write-up on the club webpage. Click on Club Information; Field Day; and "What is Field Day". It will give you a quick run-down on what we do. Even if you don't think you can set up a temporary Station, come out and look at what some of the other club members are setting up. I will give you ideas on how you might set up for next year.

Club members have lots of antenna ideas, methods of powering stations, and will give you hints on how to make contacts all over the country. I'm even hearing a lot of interest in people trying some 6-Meter stuff this year.

Keep an eye on the Club website. I will keep you informed about the full status of the park, the restrooms, and potluck. Or you can contact me at KJ7BFQ@gmail.com

Need help or Field Day ideas? Talk to Doug, KW6E; Jim WN7COO; Lynn H7HDU; Steve KB7WDP

Here's the rule changes for this year, from ARRL:

For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

Field Day rule 4.6 defines Class D stations as "Home stations," including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

2) In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be

published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from any Class to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day -- Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station -- both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.