



**AREA & STATE NETS:**

MONDAY: W5YM Univ. of Ark. Weather Net – 8pm – 147.135 pl:110.9  
 TUESDAY: NW AR UHF Society Net – 7pm – 443.650 pl:97.4, 147.275 pl:103.5  
 TUESDAY: Washington Co. ARES Net – 8pm – 443.650 pl:97.4, 147.375 pl:103.5  
 (2nd Tues. of month)  
 WEDNESDAY: Bella Vista Park Net – 8pm – 147.255 No Tone  
 THURSDAY: M... Net – 8pm – 147.300 PL97.4, 147.375 pl:103.5  
 THURSDAY: ... Net – 7pm – 147.290 pl:110.9  
 DAILY: ... Net – 3.30pm – 3.987.5

# SPECIAL FIELD DAY ISSUE

# ARKAN

SERVING THE AMATEUR SERVICE



The Monthly Newsletter of the Amateur Radio Klub of the Arkansas Northwest ~ JULY 2013

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# ARKAN FieldDay 2013!

**NOTE:** This being a special Field Day coverage issue, all regularly featured monthly departments will be omitted for this month. They will return in their normal format in the August ARKAN newsletter.



ARKAN descended on Elm Springs City Park early in the morning of Saturday, June 22, to begin FD site setup. We had a great turnout this year, and want to thank all who came and participated!!! The story follows on next page! (All photos courtesy K5DB)

**ARKAN on the web at: [www.arkanhams.org](http://www.arkanhams.org)**

After about 4 hours of antenna rope pulling, heaving, walking, running, talking, hollering, setting up radios, running coax, and of course...SWEATING, ARKAN's club station AA5AR went on the air (thankfully without a hitch!) promptly at 1800Z. The PSK and SSB stations were setup in the fantastic trailer supplied by the Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief, in which Joe Dunn, KD5TLH was instrumental in towing the unit to the FD site. We want to graciously thank Joe and our club President Mark, NW5AR, for their efforts in supplying the club with such a fine enclosure for these two stations, as well as the Washington/Madison Baptist Association.



The trailer arrives *early* Saturday morning with Joe, KD5TLH at the helm.

Joe — KD5TLH, President Mark — NW5AR, and Paul — KK5II setup the PSK/SSB trailer.



The PSK and SSB stations interchangeably used a G5RV and Alpha Delta DXCC dipoles. The CW station, which yours truly (K5DB) operated from his trusty ol' tent, fed a Carolina Windom 80 antenna. Most everyone got to see (for most of them the first time) the mighty Singapore Sling antenna launcher in action. Overall, we had very good luck with the device, getting the tie ends of each antenna around 60-70' up into the targeted trees of the park.



**Up goes the Alpha Delta DXCC multiband dipole.**

**Our antenna chief, Paul – KK5II, did a stellar job in coordinating the location, and the raising, of the antennas. Had it not been for Paul, we would have had a severe interference problem between stations, but inter-station RFI was not an issue. Hats off to you, Paul!**

**We then needed to have a good grounding system and for that, our grounding chief Tommy – KC3G came on the scene and installed a superb grounding system for all the stations. THANKS A BUNCH, TOMMY!!!!**

During setup operations, we were very pleased to have Elm Springs City Councilman Kevin Thornton – K5KVN stop by, which gave us a 100 point bonus, but the real bonus was getting to see Kevin and his son! From L-R, back row: Mason-KF5KJV, Scott-K5SAA, Kevin & son, Tommy-KC3G, Mark-NW5AR. To Kevin's right, Phil-KF5RIZ.



Lunchtime before  
the contest  
begins....



....brought to us  
by The Galloping  
Gourmet, our  
esteemed  
President, Mark  
— NW5AR!  
Thanks Mark!

Scott — K5SAA  
readies the Public  
Information Table  
prior to start of  
Field Day 2013.





Mason – KF5KJV,  
Mark – NW5AR, and  
Paul – KK5II align  
and calibrate the  
Outbacker vertical  
for the GOTA station  
antenna.

The next steps were to get the Carolina Windom in the air for the CW station, along with the antennas for the GOTA and VHF stations.

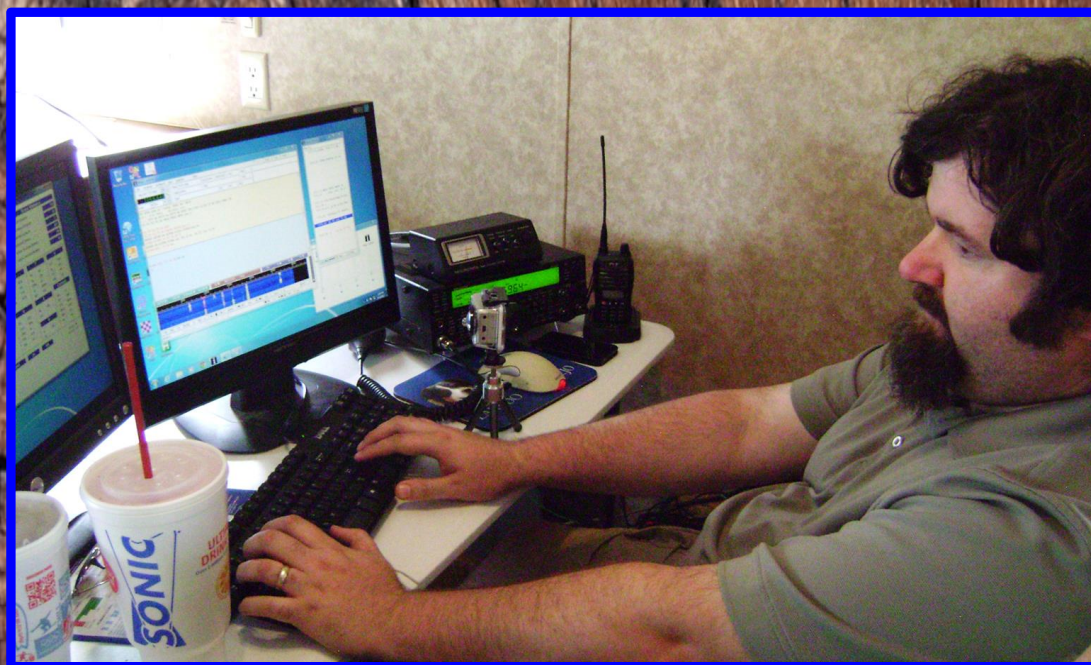
Then, our Field Day Chief, Billy – AE5CP, did a spectacular job in setting up all stations with networked laptops for monitoring each other's progress and of course, logging. We used N3FJP logging software...an excellent program.



The Stars and Stripes waves proudly in the wind as ARKAN awaits the start of FD 2013.

We then enjoyed a superb lunch cooked for us by NW5AR, completed the final setup of the station gear for the 4 stations, and at 1800Z we were off.....

ARKAN Field Day and PSK Station Chief Billy-AE5CP makes a digital contact during FD 2013.



Cheering Billy on was his XYL, Audra. Billy's parents also attended (not shown) and it was a pleasure to make their acquaintance. It was great to have so many family members and other visitors and guests with us this year!



**KF5KJV** takes his turn at the GOTA station, while **NW5AR** makes a QSO on the VHF station.

**Jerry Friend** – **KF50AE** also worked the GOTA station for us, making many contacts. **THANKS JERRY!**

**Scott** – **K5SAA** at the mic during his stint on the SSB station. **Scott** and **Mark-NW5AR** also helped-out **Billy** on the PSK station.



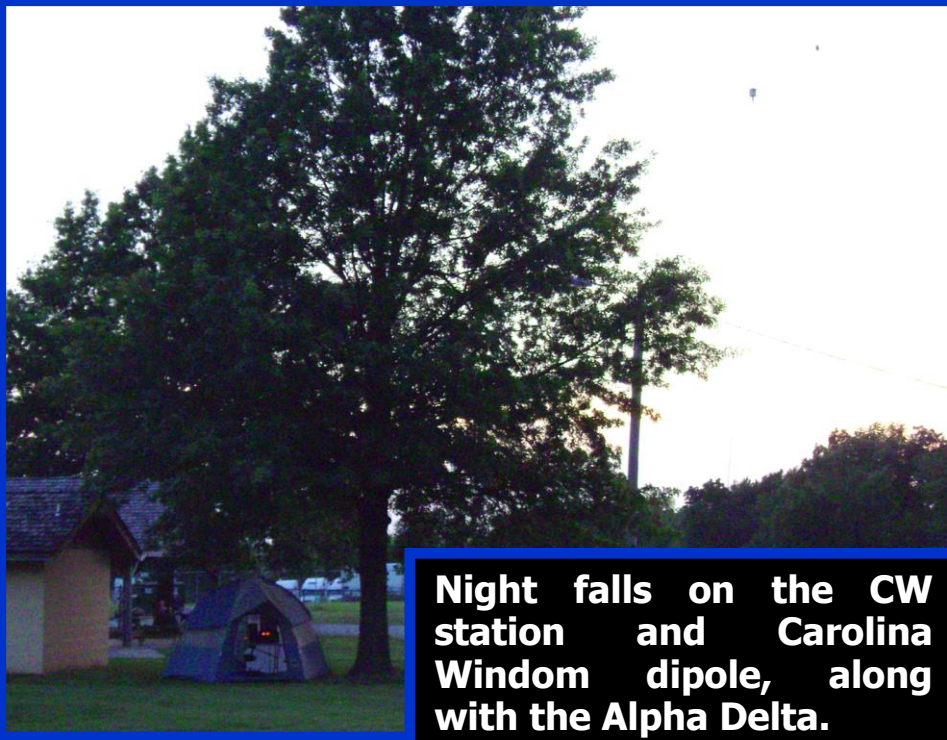
Perhaps the biggest story at this year's ARKAN Field Day 2013, would be these two young gentlemen -----



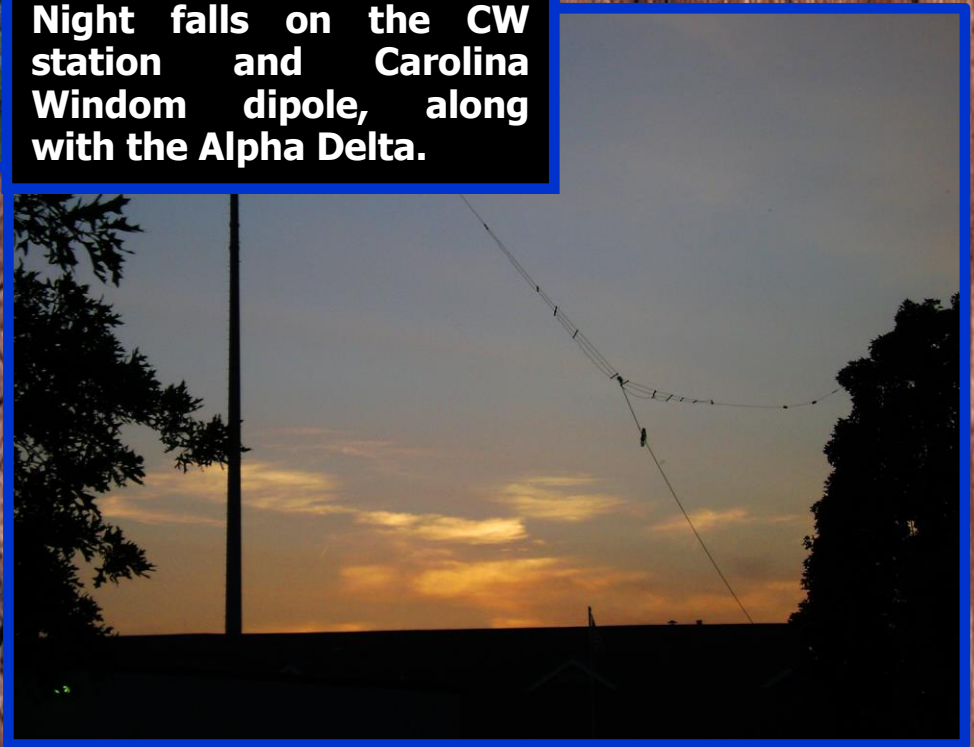
Mason – KF5KJV and Nathanael – KF5UUL had something in common at this year's FD...this was first time that either of them had ever been on HF. What transpired after they sat down at the SSB rig to operate in the early, early hours of Sunday morning, was indeed awe inspiring. In a matter of roughly an hour or so, they began to sound like veteran amateur radio contesters. **THEY LEARNED FAST!!!** As one operated the rig and the other ran the logging program, they began to encounter pile-ups...and handled them with no problem. To say they enjoyed themselves is an understatement. Mason presently holds a Technician license and Nathanael a General. Both of them excitedly (and that's no exaggeration) told this editor that they are going all the way to Extra, and look forward to contesting again, as well as other areas of the hobby.

(Editor's note: It's been a long while since I've seen such enthusiasm and exuberance from young people concerning amateur radio. It certainly was refreshing.)





**Night falls on the CW station and Carolina Windom dipole, along with the Alpha Delta.**



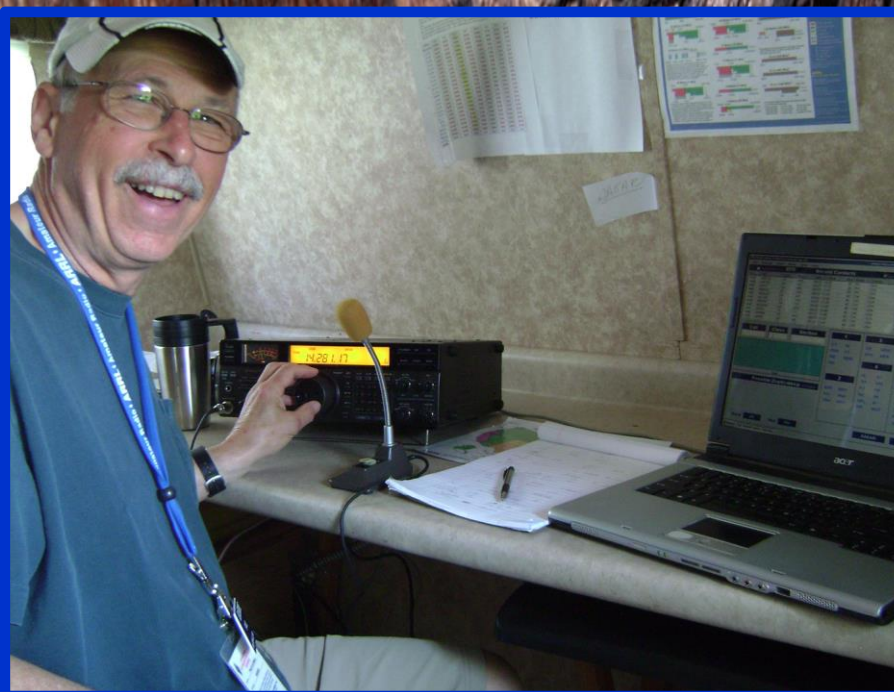
**After a blistering, sultry afternoon, it turned out to be a beautiful night for amateur radioing. We had a great breeze most of the night and the temperature dropped into the upper 70s...just right for pounding-out those QSOs!**

**Members operated, changed shifts, ate, snacked, and visited. Some of the best ham radio fellowship and visitation takes place during Field Day late night!!!**

Two weeks previous to Field Day, ARKAN conducted a VE testing session in Siloam Springs. About 15 or so candidates tested. At the time of the session, we advised them of Field Day and heartily invited any of them to come visit us. Two of them took us up on the invite, and it was a great thrill to see new hams Ray Hines –



KF5WAR and his wife Natalie – KF5WAQ arrive at our FD site Saturday evening. Seen above with President Mark – NW5AR, they had lots of questions about amateur radio (which we like!!!!) and Mark as well as other members of the club did our best to answer them. Ray and Natalie, if you see this article, thanks for coming! We hope your appetites were sufficiently whetted, and that you enjoyed seeing amateur radio in action. Thanks again for coming and we certainly hope to see you again soon!!!!!!!!!!



Paul – KA5IOE has a big ol' time having fun and popping those QSOs as he takes his turn at the SSB station mic.

A rather sizable element of excitement was experienced as the sun came up Sunday morning as two things happened: 1) The CW station hit 1000 QSOs around 8am, and 2) Although not counted as multipliers for Field Day as they are in other contests, we were still hoping for a “clean sweep” of working all 83 ARRL sections, as we had 82 of them in the log. This is where running different modes is so crucial. The PSK station worked Delaware, whereas the SSB and CW stations did not. The CW station worked the Northern Territories (VE8) where the other stations did not, etc. *We only needed Alaska*, which is usually one of the top 3 toughest sections to work during Field Day. At only about 20 minutes before shutdown, the CW station pulled-in KL7AA – Hooray!

Well, another ARKAN Field Day is in the books, and another fun time is over. But as most of us departed Elm Springs City Park, plans and visions for FD 2014 are already churning in a lot of minds.

Here’s the summary of this year’s ARKAN Field Day from FD Chief Billy Hyatt – AE5CP:

Entry Class: 3A(Commercial)

CW QSOs – 1,085

SSB QSOs – 276

Digital QSOs – 218

Total QSOs – 1,579

Total Bonus points – 970

Total Claimed Score: 5,764

(The club record is 6,418 points which was set in 2007. We got close, but maybe next year.)

Note from Billy: The top-scoring club in the 3AC category last year earned 5700 points, so we have a definite chance to place very high nationwide in this division.

***A HUGE WORD OF THANKS GOES TO MARK-NW5AR: Mark served-up burgers and hot dogs for lunch, fried chicken for supper, and bagels and coffee for breakfast, to keep us tanked-up and going. MARK, A HUGE WORD OF THANKS TO YOU!***

***THE BIGGEST THANKS OF ALL GOES TO BILLY-AE5CP. Billy, this year’s Field Day was the most completely organized Field Day for ARKAN in a long time. Your dedication and hard work with all the appointments, check lists, computer networking and all other related items DID NOT GO UNNOTICED!!! THANK YOU, BILLY!!!***

And finally, we would like to thank Elm Springs Mayor Ben Wall and City/Court Clerk Glenda Pettus for the use of the great park. Thank you so much!!!

73 – Don, K5DB, Managing Editor

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