

The Smokehouse

Where Country Hams Hang Out

June 2021

President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV

Vice President, Tom Buchanan KG4KGY

Sec/Treas, Herb Hess, KJ4CMG



MCARC Meeting May 18th, 2021

The meeting came to order at 7pm in the basement of the City Hall Building located in Glasgow, KY.

KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by K1EG, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

KD4SS gave the financial report. He reported \$xxxx.xx in the checking and the savings remains unchanged. K1EG made a motion, seconded by K1CEH to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Repeater Committee:
K4UOJ and KK4OVW have been adjusting the

settings and have the YSF reflector located in Nashville back up and running. The activity is increasing on the Fusion repeater.

Hamfest Committee:
Contract has been signed for the outdoor hamfest on July 10th, 2021. After discussion, it was decided to leave the hamfest as an outdoor event. K4UOJ brought up about moving the balloon launch from Field Day to the day of the hamfest because there would be a larger crowd present, a more open venue and more overall participation.

Field Day/Special Event Committee: KY QSO Party is coming up on June 5th. Start time will be 9am CDT and run until 9pm

CDT. The club will be participating in this event as KY4X and set up in the club room. K4UOJ posted the rules to the MCARC Facebook Page.

Webpage Committee:
Nothing to report.

Old Business: None to report

New Business: My Old Kentucky Hams will be having their Spring Meeting on June 5th, 2021. Due to renovations at the hotel at Mammoth Cave National Park, the meeting will be held at Gondoliers Restaurant in Glasgow, KY. Meet at 6pm and eat at 630pm.

KD4SS brought up that Yaesu is running a sale on the DR-2X Fusion repeater. The price is \$700

for a bare bones model and \$900 for a setup with the IP board.

No further business to come before the members, KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by K4UOJ to adjourn. Motion passed. There were 20 members present at the meeting.



History of ARRL Field Day

The first ARRL Field Day was held on the second Saturday in June 1933. The winner of the contest was the W4PAW team who scored 1876 points. The initial event, organized by F. E Handy, was such a hit with the amateur radio community that it became an annual tradition, with 1942 through to 1945 being the only years that Field Day hasn't been held, due to World War II.

For many, the big draw of Field Day is the competition—a high-frequency dash to make contact with as many stations as possible. The rules state that if setup

commences before the contest starts then participants have 24 hours to chase their contacts, whereas those who commenced set up as the contest started have 27 hours. In 1968 the rules were changed and it became mandatory for everyone to set up within the 27-hour timeframe, but the change proved unpopular and it was readjusted again in 1969 to the rules that are used today.

Each station will exchange information with other participating stations. For the North American Field Day, the exchange consists of the station [call sign](#); the name of the ARRL-recognized section from which the station is operating (called Grid Square); and a class designator which indicates the type of location (whether in a vehicle, outdoors, or in a home), the number of people operating and number of transmitters being used, plus information about the type of electrical power source connected to (conventional or emergency sources like batteries, solar, generator, wind, etc.). The event is now widely sponsored by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and

has begun to spread its wings overseas in many countries.

The contest portion of Field Day has two purposes: The primary purpose is to test the group's ability to plan operations that can be effective for an entire twenty-four-hour period, including operator endurance and adequate numbers of operators for a shift operation. The secondary purpose is to demonstrate the technical proficiency of the station that has been quickly constructed for the contacts: In theory, a better station will be capable of emergency operations in dire conditions; such a station will also be capable of making more contacts during the contest portion of Field Day. Point systems are structured to motivate emergency preparedness activities, such as designating a safety officer for the station or incorporating auxiliary power capabilities.

Although many amateur radio enthusiasts work hard to win the contest in their entry category, the social side of the event has grown over the years too. Camping and cookouts are commonplace, with those

operating the radios in rotating shifts to keep the stations on the air.

Field Day is frequently used to attract significant publicity for amateur radio, and some clubs simultaneously demonstrate technologies including [single sideband](#) voice, [Morse code](#), older and new digital modes alike (such as [RTTY](#), [PSK31](#), and [FT8](#), among others), and even two-way communication via [amateur radio satellite](#).



Radio Amateurs of Canada Invites Participation in the RAC Canada Day Contest

Here's a chance to enjoy an operating event that is *not* on a weekend. Help Canada celebrate its birthday on the air during the RAC Canada Day Contest on Thursday, July 1 — just a few days ahead of Independence Day in the US. Canada Day is the anniversary of Canada's confederation, when the three colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick united into the Dominion of Canada on

July 1, 1867. The RAC Contest Committee is asking all participants in the 2021 Canada Day Contest to follow guidelines provided by the government and by health officials in their respective areas for any multioperator categories.

The Canada Day Contest begins on July 1, 0000 UTC (the evening of Wednesday, June 30, in North American time zones) and continues through 2359 UTC. Bands include 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters, CW and phone (SSB, FM, AM, etc.). Stations in Canada send signal report plus province or territory. VE0s and stations outside Canada send a signal report and a serial number. Contacts with stations in Canada or VE0s are worth 10 points. Contacts with stations outside Canada are worth 2 points. Contacts with RAC official stations — all have RAC as the suffix — are worth 20 points. Stations may be worked once on each mode on each of the available bands. CW contacts in conventional phone subbands are not allowed, nor are phone contacts in the conventional CW subbands.

Canada's 10 provinces and three territories serve as multipliers for the event.



3Y0J DXpedition to Bouvet Island Cancelled

The Intrepid-DX Group announced over the weekend that it has cancelled its long-anticipated [3Y0J](#) DXpedition to Bouvet Island. The DXpedition team had planned to travel to Bouvet via the *RV Braveheart*, owned by Nigel Jolly, K6NRJ. Jolly has told the DXpedition that *Braveheart* is being sold and he's cancelled its contract for the 3Y0J voyage.

“The global pandemic has impacted the expedition charter vessel business very hard; this includes the venerable *RV Braveheart*, which has provided outstanding safety and service to many DXpeditions,” DXpedition co-leaders Paul Ewing, N6PSE, and Kenneth Opskar LA7GIA, said in announcing the news on June 13. “Today, we were informed that *Braveheart*

will be sold. As a result, Nigel Jolly will no longer be associated with the ship, our contract with the ship has been cancelled, and our deposit will be refunded. This is a very disappointing development to all involved.”

The DXpedition said that it has stopped accepting donations and will refund 100% of the donations using the same method they were received. “This process will take several weeks to sort out, so please be patient,” the announcement said. “We wish to thank our team for putting their trust in us. We wish to thank all of the donors and sponsors that gave generously to this project. We will continue to research other ships and possibly find another suitable vessel for a future project.”

ARRL announced in April that it had awarded a \$5,000 Colvin Grant to the Intrepid-DX Group to help in funding the DXpedition to Bouvet Island, scheduled for January to February 2023. A dependency of Norway, Bouvet is a sub-Antarctic island in the South Atlantic. It is the second-most-wanted DXCC entity, behind North Korea.



International Space Station to be in Cross-Band Repeater Mode for Field Day

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) cross-band repeater will be available for [ARRL Field Day](#), June 26 – 27. Contacts will count toward Field Day bonus points as satellite contacts and Field Day contacts.

Field Day rules limit stations to one contact on any single-channel FM satellite. Note that contacts made during Field Day by ISS crew would only count for contact credit, but not for satellite bonus points. ISS cross-band repeater contacts are also valid AMSAT Field Day satellite contacts.

The ARISS cross-band repeater uplink is 145.990 MHz (67 Hz tone), with a downlink of 437.800 MHz.

ARISS suggests that those unfamiliar with the ISS repeater may want to practice with it prior to Field Day. ARISS had planned to switch modes to the Automatic Packet

Reporting System (APRS) during the second week of June, but this won't happen until after the first ARISS school contact following ARRL Field Day.

The ARISS ham station will be off-air during spacewalks on June 16 and June 20th.

Cave Area Participation Report for May 2021

1. Sessions 34
2. QNI 543
3. QTC 34
4. Time 824/13.7