



Newscaster

The Official Publication of the
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club

June 1997

Field Day Primer & Elections

Last chance for eyeball contact

Date: **June 9th, 1997**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: You all summer to write those articles

WARC: Sep 8 - Meeting

WSC:

ARES: June 17th - Meeting
June 22 - St. Malo Triathlon
July 15 Meeting @ HSC room GH-304

Other: June 16 - Marathon - see VE4YF for details
Jun 28,29 - Field Day at Falcon Lake
July 11-13 - International HamFest
Aug 2-4 Camp 807, Kenora ON
Sep 6-7 - MARM Hamfest, Austin MB
Sep - Roseau Hamfest

WARC: Executive for 1996 - 97			
Past President	Barrett Filbert	VE4ABA	338-2441
President	Richard Kazuk	VE4KAZ	895-4778
Treasurer	Rick Lord	VE4OV	896-0631
Secretary	Roxanne Byron	VE4ZF	388-6114
Vice-President	Jim Ross	VE4AJR	256-6366
Program	Lee Smith	VE4ANC	864-2334
Membership	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692

Words from the President of WARC: by Richard, VE4KAZ

The sun is shining. The temperature is rising. Its about time! I'm sitting back and enjoying my 807. With the month of June comes the Manitoba Marathon, which is always a lot of fun, as well as Field Day which is being held this year at the Falcon Lake Resort Hotel. And don't forget the International Hamfest being held at the Peace Gardens the second week in July.

The Clubs monthly meetings will not be held during the months of July and August but will resume again in September.

On behalf of myself and the Executive, we hope you all enjoy your Summer and have fun in the sun. Remember to use that sun screen.

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club Released by Alf, VE4ALF (President - 96)

No article at this time.

ARES Committee Report by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

Winnipeg ARES Executive, in conjunction with Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Executive, will be specially recognizing the communicators and supporters of WINNIPEG ARES 1997 Spring Flood Operations at the June WARC meeting. Located elsewhere in this edition, of the Newscaster, is a brief report on the Winnipeg ARES Flood Operation - please keep in mind that South Central Manitoba ARES and Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club had their own responsibilities and successes that they will report on separately at a later date.

We have "lost" one member - Ray Eidse VE4HF has moved away from Winnipeg and defected to South Central

ARES. However, a former member has completed his studies in the East and has returned to Winnipeg - Bret Wiebe VE4GLV.

Twenty-four members were involved in providing amateur communications for Team Handball National Championship May 16-18 and May 23-25:

VE4 ACX, AJG, AJR, AND, CDP, DAR, DL, GLV, HAY, HK, KLM, KAZ, MBQ, MJM, MMG, PLG, RST, WTS, WF, YG, YU, SE, VID, SYG.

Thanks also to UMARS for the use of VE4UMR for this operation.

At press time we were getting ready to provide amateur communications for two components of the Teddy Bear Picnic Sunday June 1 at Assiniboine Park. We are providing ten amateurs for Walk-A-Thon communications 0630-1030. Six operators in four hour shifts are providing communications from a satellite parking lot (Kapyong Barracks or Polo Park) to shuttle a bus drop off at the Pavilion.

We are planning to provide amateur communications for the St Malo Triathlon Sunday June 22 at St Malo Provincial Park (if it is still there!). We have already been asked to cover the Corporate Rowing Challenge out of Winnipeg Rowing Club on Saturday, September 6.

The next Winnipeg ARES meeting is Tuesday, June 17 at 1900 hrs at Health Sciences Centre, General Centre, GH-304. In lieu of a guest speaker we will brief the St Malo Triathlon operation. There is a July ARES meeting scheduled for Tuesday July 15 at 1900h GH-304. The August meeting is in question right now but information bulletins will be done as usual on the MRS Net prior to any of our monthly meetings.

'HAM' RADIO OPERATOR'S COURSE

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

Larry R. Burkhardt, VE4LRB

Electronics Engineer

For those interested parties who still wish to take this course, I am pleased to announce that I can now offer a venue and am willing to teach classes of less than 10 students. I would appreciate it if members of WARC who know of anyone who is interested in taking this course would pass on this information and ask interested parties to contact me *PERSONALLY after 6 p.m. at 272.0500*

Election Notice:

June 8th, 1997

7:30 PM

**Sturgeon Creek Regional
Secondary School**

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club (WARC), notice is hereby given for the Annual Meeting and election of officers for the 1997-98 year.

All current members of the board are running again with the exception of Richard, VE4KAZ the current president, and Jim, VE4AJR the Vice-President. The nominations for a board officer are open to any current paid-up member. Should you wish to become a Board member please contact Richard, VE4KAZ who is heading the Nominating Committee. Nominations will close at the June meeting just before the election takes place. If you have ever wished the club was run differently or just want to have a chance to speak your mind now is your chance.

All members are encouraged to come out and cast their vote for the people they feel will best represent your interests in the club.

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. May 12, 1997

Submitted by Norm, VE4EH

Meeting was called to order by Rick lord, VE4OV at 19:45. Fifty-five members attended and all introduced themselves in the usual manner. A warm welcome was extended to Jean Letoumeau VE9PT on military assignment to Manitoba for flood control.

Moved by Vern, VE4VQ, Seconded by Dan, VE4SYG that the minutes be accepted as printed in The Newscaster - Carried

Treasurers Report:

Reported that a profit for WARC was generated by the Flea Market of \$334.00 Bank balance to date \$3440.00

RAC Report:

Rick, OV as our Midwest Director, attended the annual meeting of RAC executive and reported that his comfort factor had increased based on the knowledge he acquired with respect to current issues.

Manitoba Marathon:

Kay, VE4YF has a continuing requirement for volunteers for the subject event to be held on father's Day June 15, 1997. A marathon meeting will be held on June 10, 1997 at 200 Main Street at 19:00 hrs.

Flea Market:

Pat, VE4PLG reported that 297 people were in attendance at the recent flea market. Anticipate the next Flea Market will be held in October 1997.

Field Day

Ed, VE4YU gave a brief report on Field Day to be held at Falcon lake June 28-29, 1997. Ed also indicated a need for the use of a truck to transport a tower from St. Francois-Xavier to Winnipeg.

ARES Silent Action:

Dick VE4HK reported a profit of \$307. Further detail to be published in The Newscaster.

IPG Hamfest"

Dick, VE4HK encouraged all to attend July 11-13, 1997

ARES Flood Operations Report:

Jeff, VE4MBQ presented an overview of flood operations involving both Winnipeg and Manitoba ARES. The reports were well received and Mike, VE4MP congratulated Jeff on a job well done, which was echoed by the membership at large.

Meeting adjourned by Dick, VE4HK @ 20:20

A great presentation on Spark Gap transmitters was given. Sorry to everyone in West Winnipeg, for the interference we cause on all bands at that time. But it was worth it, just to see it transmit

WINNIPEG ARES 1997 SPRING FLOOD OPERATIONS

By Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ, E C

Co-operation within the amateur community was outstanding, both from amateurs involved in flood communications and from amateurs not at all involved who saw the frequencies they might normally utilize be dedicated to flood communications. Winnipeg ARES maintains an amateur station in the City of Winnipeg Emergency Operations Centre (VE4EOC). Although we have run a number of drills and exercises from VE4EOC, the 1997 Spring Flood Operations was the first time that this station was operated (for real), during a Local State of Emergency, as declared by Her Worship Mayor Susan Thompson.

Eighteen Winnipeg ARES members carried out river ice observation at 0730 hrs daily for twelve city bridges April 3-22 on behalf of City Waterworks:

VE4 AND, DAR, DDW, DL, GWB, HAY, HK, MAB, MBQ, MMG, MUD, PLG, RST, SE, SYG, WTS, XYL, ZUF.

Fifty-nine Winnipeg ARES operators (regular ARES members and "flood" volunteers) provided amateur radio communications from sandbag work sites to volunteer staging areas to City EOC approximately twelve hours daily April 18 to May 2 on behalf of City Emergency Program Volunteer Co-ordinator:

VE4 AFJ, AIM, AJG, AJR, AKM, ANC, AND, ARN, CDP, DAB, DAR, DDW, DL, DRC, DRK, EAR, EH, ESX, GHR, HAY, HGD, HD, HK, JNF, JSS, KAJ, KAZ, KEN, KU, LA, MAB, MBQ, MJM, MMG, MUD, PL, PLG, QEW, RA, RBL, RJH, RST, SE, SEM, SJC, SN, SYG, TAJ, TEL, UG, VID, WF, WTS, XV, XYL, YG, YK, YU, VE6PIG.

Thirteen Winnipeg ARES members provided round the clock staffing for the Manitoba Emergency Management Organization radio room (VE4EMO) April 22 to May 4, and sixteen hours daily May 4-7 as requested by ARES SEC Don Mackinnon on behalf of MEMO:

VE4 AND, CET, DAR, HK, KU, MMG, MUD, PLG, RST, SE, SYG, XYL, YU.

Two temporary ARES stations were set up for Emergency Social Services so that they would still have vital communications capability from Reception Centre (St Vital Arena) to ESS HQ (705 Broadway) to City EOC in case of telephone failure or disruption. WARC station VE4BB was utilized at St Vital Arena! Eight Winnipeg ARES members were on standby for ESS:

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John. VE4JNF

VE4 HK, MMG, WTS (St Vital Arena); DAR, GLV (705 Broadway); MBQ (EOC); KAZ, KU (Eric Coy Arena back-up Reception Centre).

Five Winnipeg ARES members provided Selkirk/Interlake ARES with "mutual aid" communications May 3 and one Winnipeg ARES member May 4 in the Selkirk - Petersfield- Breezy Point Area for sandbag site communications as requested by Dave Place VE4PN:

VE4 HK, MAB, PLG, SE, DAR, VE6PIG.

Winnipeg ARES incurred significant expenses to carry out its responsibilities in flood communications of seven hundred and forty-four dollars, mainly additional equipment acquisition. Our costs would have been much higher if not for the generosity and co-operation of those amateurs and non amateurs who were able to loan us much needed equipment:

VE4 ACX, BB (Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club), HK, SE, TCH (Comtelco), TRO, WPG (Manitoba Repeater Society), WNR (Winnipeg North Radio Group), UMR (University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society), Andrew Huhn - Shaw MobileComm.

Press Release: **Amateur Radio Field Day 1997**

Attention! The airwaves will soon be alive with radio signals originating from a field in Falcon Lake MB.

Each year, on the last weekend in June, Amateur Radio operators from all over Canada and the USA take part in an exercise called Field Day. The purpose of this exercise is to test the skills and equipment of the Amateur Radio community for emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public at large with their capabilities.

The exercise takes the form of a 'competition' for individuals or groups to make two-way contacts with as many other participants as possible in a 24 hour period. What makes the exercise unique is that thousands of stations are set up in temporary locations and are powered by non-commercial means i.e.. gas generators, batteries or solar power.

The portability and flexibility of Amateur Radio stations and the capability to communicate effectively over a great distance, under less than ideal conditions, are the prime focus of the event. This, combined with the varied skills and team work of the participants, make this exercise one that is eagerly anticipated by licensed Amateur Radio operators each year.

Emphasis is placed on the use of low-powered transmitters, the ability of operators to accurately record and relay messages and on exposure of Amateur Radio to the public.

On June 28-29, 1997, the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club will take part in the 1997 Field Day, sponsored by the American Radio Relay League. WARC will establish a club station in Falcon Lake Manitoba, adjacent to the Falcon Lake Motor Hotel. About sixty club members will activate several transmitters powered by gas generators. The competition begins at 1PM Saturday and continues non-stop through Sunday at 1PM. Tents will be set up to protect the radio equipment and temporary antennas will be erected to enable communications with Radio Amateurs world-wide. Visitors are welcome anytime.

Manitoba Amateur Radio operators provide communications for a number of local events during the year. These include the Manitoba Marathon, Festival Du Voyageur, walk-a-thons and sporting events. Amateur Radio was utilized by the City of Winnipeg and the Provincial EMO to assist in communications during the 1997 Manitoba Flood.

Amateur Radio provides fun and enjoyment for about 50,000 people in Canada, over 1 million in the USA and millions world-wide. It also serves as a valuable asset to the community with skilled, well equipped volunteers in times of emergency.

Anyone, regardless of age or occupation, can become a licensed Radio Amateur and take part in one of the finest hobbies in the world. If interested write to:

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg MB R2M 3L5

or visit the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club at the above address weekdays 9AM to 3PM or phone WSCRC (VE4WSC) at 233-3122.

The WARC DX SLEUTHS Report **by Ed, VE4YU**

No article available at this time. Keep up the DX'ing and let's all hope that the bands open up by the time summer is over. Don't forget Field Day June 27-28 at Falcon Lake. And remember to bring us all those coveted DX logs in September. 73

ARES SILENT AUCTION SUNDAY

By Dick VE4HK

The Second Annual Winnipeg ARES Silent Auction was held on April 20 at the WARC Flea Market. Attendance at the Flea Market was down about 30 %, compared to most years. This was undoubtedly due to the Flood of the Century which was on its way to Winnipeg.

Many hams were occupied with ARES operations which began that morning. Others were sandbagging or moving their valuables (radio equipment) upstairs. ARES did very well with the Silent Auction, in view of the low attendance.

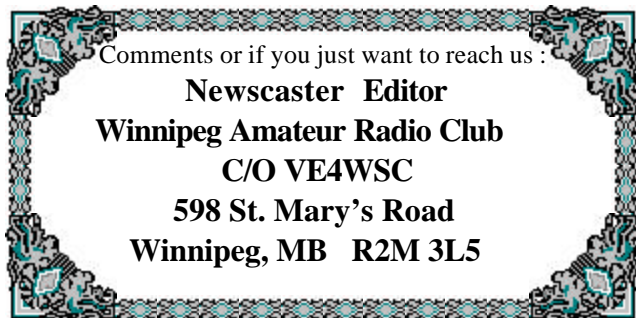
The ARES table was surrounded all morning, with people oohing and ahing at all the exciting donated prizes. Mariska VE4MMG and Paula VE4MHZ did a wonderful job selling tickets. I helped at the table at first, then grabbed a handful of tickets, and went "pedestrian portable" through the building. Most vendors and passers by required only a "little" arm twisting to purchase tickets.

Some prominent members of ARES found novel ways to escape my clutches. Jeff VE4MBQ and Richard VE4KAZ were busy setting up VE4EOC at City Hall. Robert VE4RST, our fund-raising chairman, "very conveniently" was attending a karate convention in The Pas that weekend. They won't get away next year!

Some of the more popular prizes included a back rest, and a 1 hour free massage. Just the thing for an aching back after a hard day of sandbagging.

Each of the lots was worth between \$100.00 and \$150.00 I am deeply grateful to all those wonderful people and companies who donated prizes to our Silent Auction. I ask that all of us patronize our commercial sponsors, and mention that we appreciate their donation.

A special thank you to Paula VE4MHZ and Mariska VE4MMG for selling all those tickets. ARES raised \$307.00 at the Flea Market.



WINNERS AND SPONSORS FOR ARES SILENT AUCTION

By Dick, VE4HK

The Winnipeg ARES Silent Auction featured five different lots to choose from.

Prize Lot 1 - winner Brad Ruptash VE4BAR

Donated by:

24 hour clock - Comtelco (Mike Tomkewich VE4TCH)
 low pass filter - Jack Gannon VE4AJG
 J-pole antenna -Ralph Lavalley VE4RY
 mobile base & speaker - Mariska VE4MMG, Dick VE4HK
 2 x 12 volt adaptors - ID'ers Alex McIlraith VE4AIM
 2 mtr 5/8 antenna - ACE Electronics Gerry Hynes VE4ACE

Lot 2 - winner Mike Mudray VE4OM

Donated by:

copper J-pole - University of Manitoba ARC
 2 meter 5/8 antenna - Micro Hightech George Hill
 tool kit - Probe Electronics Rick Lord VE4OV
 mobile speaker- Fred & Susan Collings VE4TRO,VE4SYM
 battery checker - anonymous
 mouse pad - anonymous
 12 volt adaptor - ID'ers Alex McIlraith VE4AIM

Lot 3 - winner Bill Simm VE4ALW

Donated by:

back rest - Fitness Physiotherapy Service Rob VE4RST
 golf shirt - Falcon Lake Resort Hotel, Derek Hay VE4HAY
 T-shirt - Panduit Arnie Chabluk
 Computer/phone pkg - Parkside Elec. John Foster VE4JNF
 baseball hat - Cantel Art Mantler VE4ART
 duffle bag - anonymous

Lot 4 - winner Ron Proteau VE4OV

Donated By:

RAC membership - Radio Amateurs Canada Rick VE4OV
 1 hour massage - Fitness Physiotherapy ,Rob VE4RST
 duffle bag - Falcon lake resort Hotel, Derek Hay VE4HAY
 golf shirt - Falcon lake resort Hotel, Derek Hay VE4HAY
 Manitoba Moose T-shirt - Cantel Art Mantler VE4ART
 golf head covers -anonymous
 Winnipeg golf pases - City of Winnipeg
 first aid kit - St. John Ambulance Don VE4DWG

Lot 5 - winner Sheila Hauk xyl Norm Hauk VE4CS

Donated by:

Legal will - Don McKinnon VE4DJM

VE'ing around

extraction's from *The OVMRC Rambler* May/97

W5YI - Guatemala has recently passed a new law abolishing the 2M and 6M amateur radio bands. In fact, the UHF bands are now available for commercial use. (Look out! our 2M band here, might be next - VE4TSC)

Monitoring Times mar/97 - Evidence is growing that electromagnetic fields may be linked to Alzheimer's disease. According to a South Calif. U. report, you are more likely to come down with a broad variety of neurodegenerative diseases if you work in a occupation where you are exposed to EMF fields.

ARRL - Ham Radio is slumping in the US. Growth is at a lull and the number of operators is on a decline. Profit margins are less and many smaller operations are out of business.

Ham Radio Online - This web site (<http://www.hamradio-online.com>) now has a classroom page to aid old and new in a variety of hobby related topics. i.e.. General, Propagation, Safety, Etc...

You may be a ham if...

- %o You have used coat hangers and duct tape for something other than hanging coats and taping ducts.
- %o At Xmas, it goes without saying that you will be the one to find the burnt out bulb.
- %o Your ideal evening consists of fast forwarding the latest science fiction movie looking for technical errors.
- %o You modified the can opener to be microprocessor driven
- %o you have taken the back off the TV set to see what's inside.
- %o You thought the contraption ET used to call home was stupid.
- %o You save the power cord from a broken appliance.
- %o you have a habit of destroying things in order to see how they work.

Murphy's Law
By Vern, VE4VQ

The Science of Murphy's Law, R.A.J.mathews, Scientific American, April 1997

"The modern version of Murphy's Law has its roots in U.S. Air Force studies performed in 1949 on the effects of rapid deceleration on pilots. Volunteers were strapped on a rocket-propelled sled, and their condition was monitored as the sled was brought to an abrupt halt. The monitoring was done by electrodes fitted to a harness designed by Captain Edward A Murphy.

After what seemed to be a flawless test run one day, the harness's failure to record any data puzzled technicians. Murphy discovered that everyone of its electrodes had been wired incorrectly, prompting him to declare: 'If there are two or more ways of doing something, and one of them can lead to catastrophe, then someone will do it.'"

Upcoming Radio Events By ARRL

June	
14-16	June VHF QSO Party
28-29	Field Day
July	
11-13	International HamFest
12-13	IARU HF World Championship
August	
2-3	UHF Contest
16-17	10 GHz & up Cumulative Contest
22-24	Dakota ARRL Division Convention, Bismarck
September	
6-7	MARM Hamfest , Austin
13-15	September VHF QSO Party
20-21	10 Ghz & up Cumulative Contest

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RAC Bulletin # 17 & 18

Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

No Bulletin received by press time.

HAMFEST

By Dick, VE4HK

The 1997 International Peace Gardens Hamfest is coming up on July 11, 12, 13. The Hamfest is the perfect opportunity to relax and enjoy after all the problems this spring.

Pat VE4PLG guarantees beautiful, sunny weather, light winds, and NO RAIN. She may guarantee the best tailgate fleamarket ever, with a little coaxing.

The Peace Gardens are a short four hour drive from Winnipeg. Once you arrive at the Peace Gardens, start off by checking out the tailgate flea market in the Field of Dreams,

followed by a visit to the candy store, (better known as Burghardts) in the pavilion.

You can phone, Email or fax Burghardts anytime up to Hamfest time, with your "Christmas in July" wish list. They will bring your goodies up to the Peace Gardens, for your shopping convenience.

Once those formalities are out of the way, be sure to register. The price is only \$13.00, and very worth while. Everyone who registers is entitled to enter all the contests, to be a dancing fool on Saturday night, and to enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast on Sunday morning, and to win prizes at the closing ceremonies. In 1996, the three big winners were from Manitoba. None were on hand Sunday. Each received his prize within days.

Make your plans today to attend the best International Peace Gardens Hamfest ever. I suggest you begin training tomorrow morning for the brand new Olympic calibre contest which will debut on Saturday July 12.

Editors Ramblings BY Derek, VE4HAY

Where has all the time gone. It seems like the year just started. Even though the winter seemed to last forever, It is hard to believe that we are on our tenth meetings already.

This year, like last year, the meetings have been great. Raffle prizes have been worth the trip (sorry about that) to the meetings alone, never mind the added benefit of a presentation and a chance to mingle. The presentations and the topics have been well rounded. Something was there to please everyone. Business at the meetings was tolerable, with the odd flare up on a hot issue or two. But that's what meetings are for. The get-together meetings at Christmas

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time and at the home-brew night are always enjoyable. Nice to be able to put faces to voices, and to have the chance to talk without pressing a PTT.

You should have read by now that there is an election this month for next years board members. If you have ever had the urge to say I could do that, well, NOW's your chance. Call Richard and let him know you are interested in being on the Board of Directors.

What's this big box here. Oh, yeah it's to remind everyone about the Marathon on Father's Day. The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club has been helping out with the communications for the marathon ever since it started. We are a very valuable resource to the organizers. basically the race could still be run without our help, but it potentially could put the runner in a lot of danger. Kay VE4YF, who is organizing the communications for this years marathon still needs volunteers to help out. She has enough

operators to cover each post, but it is preferred to have two operators there, to cover each other off. So if you can spare anywhere from two to six hours, I am sure that Kay can fit you in somewhere. Helping out the community with communications duties, sure does give you a feeling of accomplishment, knowing that you have applied you hobby skills to a worthwhile cause. We may be called Amateurs, but we are truly professional radio operators, who just do it for fun. Speaking of that, once again I want to thank all the operators who helped out in the ARES flood duties, both ARES members and those who just volunteered. See Jeff's article for the callsigns of those who helped.

Remember that the summer is chalked full of activities to keep you busy. Starting with the meeting on Monday. Check out the front page of The Newscaster for a simple

listing. Also tune into the 2 Metre nets on Sundays & Thursdays for updated and new information.

Articles for the newsletter have been getting better and better. Thanks to all who have taken the time to inform us about areas of the hobby that are of interest to you, and to others in the club as well. It is much appreciated, however I am still in need of articles for the September Newscaster. So if you have any time between the various summer activities and the Fall, please put pen to paper, type to ribbon, or keyboard to packet or e-mail. Tell us about a memorable contact on HF, or how it felt to make that first contact with the new antenna of mode of operation. How about articles on ATV, Satellite, Amtor, RTTY, DX, SHF, EME, low band, or the magic of six metres. Articles can be sent to me in any

form. Graphics in most formats can be read or converted. I can also import most word processors. Please send them to me at:

derek@mbnet.mb.ca
a or

ve4hay@ve4kv.#wpg.mb.ca.noam

Manitoba Marathon Volunteers Meeting

June 10th 7:00 PM

200 Main Street

Manitoba Sports Federation Building

Below is a map (crude, but still a map) to the Field Day site. Hope to see everyone out there.

73 to all have a great summer, and hear you on the bands.

