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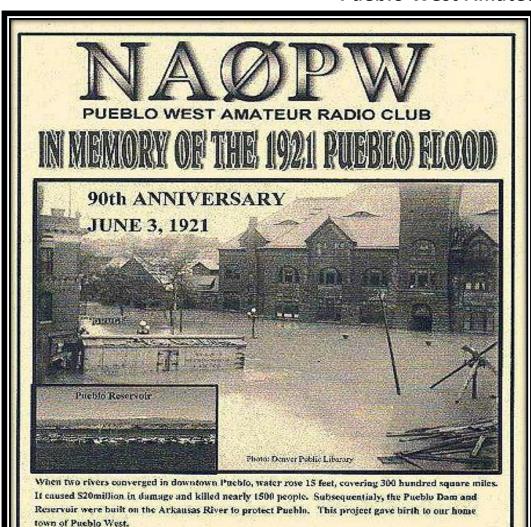


# SPARKS

Newsletter Publication of Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club

2 X MODE

June 2020



NAOPW 2011
"Special Event"
QSL certificate
designed in
memory of the
great flood on
June 3, 1921 in
Pueblo.

Neal N1TEW was host operator.

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# President's Corner

June, Already.
I can barely believe it.



Time has seemed to both crawl and fly by these last few months. Normally, we would be busy planning right now for Field Day 2020. Current events will be changing how we operate this year.

One great option for field day is to get on the air and participate from your home station.

I am optimistic that the worst is behind us, we are starting to see stores and restaurants opening back up. The last information that I have heard from the library is that they are going to remain closed until at least the 30<sup>th</sup> of this month. When I get more information, I will pass it along. Take care and enjoy your radios.

**Editor's Comments:** Once again, I must remind everyone to send their pictures and stories to the Editor for inclusion in the monthly **SPARKS** no later than the 15th of the preceding month. It's always nice to have new features ... not just the Editor digging out archives from years past.

#### Board of Directors

President	Scott Fanning NØELF	Ex-officio	Roger Ashcraft KE5CCJ
V-President	Dan Wantuck W00JW	Director	Dan Broadbooks NG0T
Secretary	Rita McConnell NEØDB	Director	Dan Bassak N3CMG
Treasurer	Randy Linnen KE0GMS	Director	Jim McConnell NE0DA

### Members In The News

#### ... May 2 Ragchew via Repeater 447-450

Dan - N3CMGPhil - KEØJLDDel - KDØRRHTrina - KEØPIEGary - KEØRMWCarlyle - NØARNScott - NØELFNeal - N1TEWPaul - KBØJIT

Dan - W00J0

### May 16 General Meeting via Repeater 447-450 Attendees

Officers/Directors **Members Members** Scott - NOELF Frank - KBOFD JJ - W5RE Dan - W0OJW Randy - KEOYEX Steve - KDOSBN Rita - NEODB Phil - KEOJLD Roger - KEOBAP Randy - KEOGMS Stan - NOOYO David - KD0ZAO Jim - NEODA Trina - KEOPIE Larry - KOLAB Roger - KE5CCJ Carlyle - NOARN Paul KBOJIT Paul - KN4DX Neal - N1TEW Dan - N3CMG

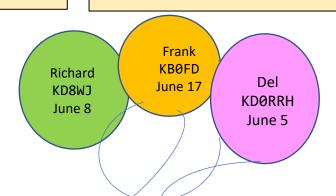
#### New Members

No new or renewing members.

#### VE Session Report

Determined at designated locations.

Jume Birthdays



#### ARRL

As of May 31, 2020, PWARC membership remains at 61%.

See suggestions for ARRL Field Day 2020 at the end of this Newsletter. Rules have changed for 2020. Log into ARRL.org for the latest up-to-date information.

# Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL)



**The YLRL is run by women and promotes women.** It is the longest and oldest **YL** Organization. YLRL is an ARRL affiliated club ... being a member since 1939. 2020 is the **81st** year of the YLRL organization. Five Hundred (500+) worldwide YLs cannot be wrong. If interested in joining, please contact Rita NEØDB, VP of the YLRL. The cost if \$15 per year ... with those wishing to join after July, the dues are prorated to \$7.50 to year-end. Membership includes a bi-monthly *Harmonics* Newsletter.

In 2017, a page was included in the **SPARKS** Newsletter called "Hangin' Out with the PW YLs." Although interest was lost, this month's **SPARKS** will once again begin a monthly article of the club's YLs and other YL information. Pictured below are the YLs at their inaugural YL luncheon held April 2017 at Do Drop Inn. We lost Lori due to lack of interest after Jane KAOUSA moved to Arizona and Susan W9BPP moved to Iowa due to health issues of her OM, Tom Brewer WORPH.

Three original YLs are still radio-active: Phyllis, Rita and Nancy. Since 2017, the club gained three more YLs ... Trina NEOPIE, Dori N5OZX, Geri KEOKSW. Trina NEOPIE started a YL morning net last April. Plans are in the making of a weekly YL net, time and date to be determined. Look forward to hearing the "First Ladies" on Repeater 447.450 soon! OMs are encouraged to join as the YLs venture into our new endeavor.

The PWARC YLs have maintained a consistency of approximately 12% throughout the years. To any ladies reading this newsletter, please consider obtaining your FCC license.



## Sunnincertinge in the Rockies

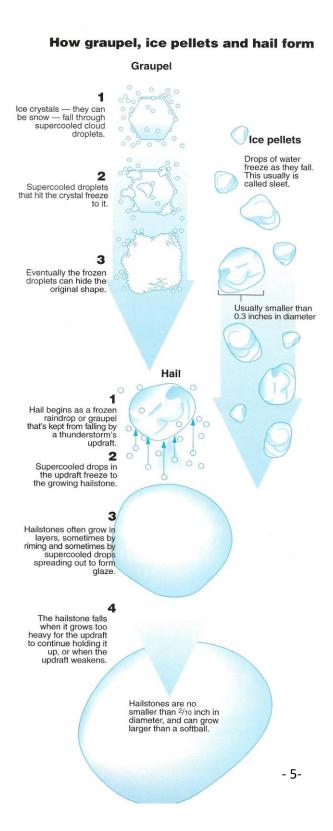
As Springtime turns to Summertime in the Rockies, the hail season is upon us.

In our May SPARKS issue, lightning was featured and it's hail for June. If we don't receive the June hail, surely it will return in late August with the greater power as with the return vengeance.

Hailstones are balls of ice that grow as they're held up by thunderstorms updrafts while supercooled water drops hit and freeze onto them. The faster the updraft, the bigger the stones can grow.

Normally hail falls for a shorter time than rain from same storm. In rare caes, it has been known to fall for an hour or so, leaving several inches of icy balls on the gound. Large hailstones can fall at a rate of 90 mph and in rare cases weigh more than a pound.

[National Weather Service]



## Education

### Types of Nets

#### So, what is an Amateur Radio Net?

Researching the history of PWARC's nets ... starting in 2010, the club began hosting a weekly VHF Tuesday Night Net on 146.445 (Royal Gorge repeater) for the purpose of discussing members' weekly amateur radio achievements or bragging rights during the past week.

#### There are five types of amateur radio nets:

(1) Formal operation (directed), (2) Informal operation, (3) Traffic, (4) DX, -(5) Club or Topic

#### **Formal**

A formal, or *directed* net has a *single net control* (NCS) that manages its operation for a given session. The NCS operator calls the net to order at its desginated start time, periodically calls for participants to join, listens for them to check-in, keeps track of the roster of station for that particular net session, and generally orchestrates the operation of the net.

#### Informal

An informal net may also have a net control station, but lack some or all of the formalities and protocols other than those used in non-net on-the-air operation. Or, it could begin at the designed time and frequency in an ad hoc fashion by whoever arrives first. Club nets, such as ones for discussing equipment or other topics, use a NCS simply to control the order in which participants transmit their comment to the group in round-robin style.

#### **Club Net or Topic**

Amateur radio clubs often organize nets to foster communication between members on a regular basis. These can be clubs based on geographic location or clubs formed around a special interest.

Special interest clubs or non-club groups often organize nets to enable discussions on a particular topic. A wide variety of such nets are in operation. One such example is nets that meet to discuss antique radio equipment. Another example is nets for using and discussing the AM mode of voice transmission.

#### What is a Net Contol?

A Net Control Station (NCS) is an operator responsible for controlling all radio traffic on the repeater during a directed net. The NCS needs to remain professional at all times and needs to maintain a calm collected demeanor.

(see ARRL.org for additional information )

### Net Connections

Tuesday Night Net 7:00 pm - 447.450 Morning Connection - 10:00 am - 447.450

**Note:** A new young ladies net is in the works which will meet weekly.

Time and date to be determined.

The net encourages all YLs to participate ... as well as OMs.

The name is "First Ladies"

#### Greeting, from ol'net manager W00JW!

When you look at the final stats of a ballgame, you can't always tell how good a game it might have been. Same with our nets!

But you can guess, by looking at our mere numbers that an outing might have been fun or interesting in some way.

Between the club nets, the Morning Connection, and general repeater traffic, we're enjoying lots of fellowship. The Morning Connection, on average, last about 20 minutes and has a good eleven stations.

#### May

05/5: NCS W00JW; minutes 28; stations 13 5/12: NCS FB0FD; minutes 14; stations 9 5/19: NCS W00JW; minutes 22; stations 11 5/26: NCS KB0FD; minutes 16; stations 10

A hearty 73 WOOJW

# History of Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club Field Days

### Written by PWARC Founder ... Bill Ewing WAOKAQ - SK

# ARRL Field Day - 2010 - June 26 & 27

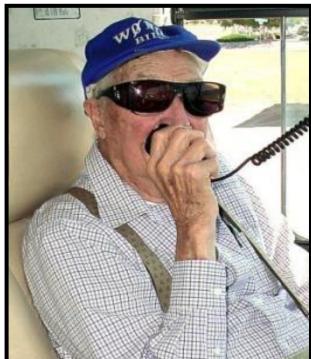


This year Jane and I spent Field Day with the Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club, Pueblo West, Colorado. My son David, KCoRNI, upgraded to General in June joined us.

Our solar-powered trailer was used, as well as a solar-powered motor home owned by the club's president. Everyone seemed to have fun, and everyone wanted to learn about PSK31. The digital station became more of a training station than a competition station, but the operators still managed 65 contacts on PSK31. Altogether, the club accumulated 3,190 points with the bonus points included and should place nicely in Class 2AB nationally. We felt that was a good effort using QRP. More information can be found at the <u>NAoPW website</u>.

This year it was easier to set up my equipment for Field Day. Hauling several pieces of gear around and having to connected them all wastes a lot of time that could be better spent on Field Day morning. While not yet complete, I built a wooden equipment box for the portable rig. It still lacks front and back doors, but it is very usable as it sits on the breakfast bar next to my small computer center. Jane (KAoUSA) said it had to be "pretty," so it will be covered with birch plywood and stained with a pecan color stain. "Pretty" is in the eye of the beholder, I guess, but it passed the test. At least Jane no longer has to contend with wires and coax running across her counter top.





Silent Key - William Fortune, Jr. - WONHF was in amatuer radio since the age of 11 ... so 83 years. He served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam with over 30 years of miliary service. He was an avid participant, along with Bill Ewing and others, in the formation of PWARC.



# NAOPW -- PUEBLO WEST AMATEUR RADIO GLUB

### PUEBLO WEST, GO

Our new club successfully presented its first Field Day exercise on June 26 & 27 in Pueblo West. Twelve licensed club members, one unlicensed member, and two licensed guests contributed to the successful event. Those who attended were:

Bill Ewing ..... WAØKAQ
Jane Ewing ..... KAØUSA
Andy Lloyd ..... NDØP)

David Ewing ..... KCØRNI - guest operator

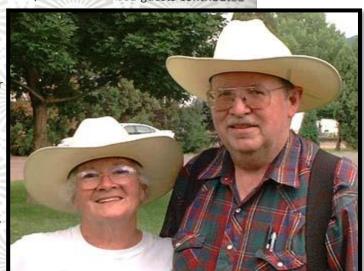
Ralph Schuster ..... KAØRER

David Yeater ..... non-licensed member

Bill Fortune Jr ..... WØNHF
Bill Fortune III ..... KBØRPD
Ed Force ..... NI5R
Kirk Kelley ..... KDØLDH
Neal Tew ..... KDØMBL
Ty Luck ..... KG6WSI

Dennis Watson ..... KBØYLK - guest operator

Jim McConnell ..... NEØDA Dan Broadbooks ..... NGØT



Two stations were set up in the Cheers Plaza shopping center, both using solar panels to charge batteries. NEØDA's motor home used two 75-watt solar panels mounted on the roof. It also featured a propane generator to run the air conditioner and keep the unit cool. This station was used for the SSB and CW modes. The rig was an IC-706 hooked to a vertical for 40-10 meters and made 119 CW and 26 SSB contacts. Dan (NGØT), who enjoys and is very proficient in CW contesting, showed why CW is a preferred mode for low power FD contesting and was responsible for all of this station's CW contacts.

WAØKAQ and KAØUSA set up a station in their 15' travel trailer, and its batteries were charged by three 60-watt ground mounted solar panels. A generator donated by Pueblo West Rental Center ran the air conditioner. The station was used primarily more for teaching members how to operate PSK31 than as a contest station. It consisted of a Yaesu FT-897D transceiver, and MFJ-1279M Deluxe Sound Card Interface, an MFJ-945E mobile antenna turner, and a homebrew jumpered Inverted "V" antenna cut for 40, 20 and 10 meters. At least nine different operators used this station, the majority of them never having used the mode before, and none of them had used the FLdigi software. Depending on the amount of time they had available to operate, all of them made at least one contact, and the rest had several contacts each.

The Pueblo Chieftain Pueblo, Colorado

Sunday, June 26, 2011

# Amateur radio put to the test in 'hamfest'

Pueblo West club practices emergency communications.

By ADRIAN GARCIA THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

The people you would turn to if a disaster cut off communication in the region began a 24-hour practice of their skills Saturday — a field day known as a hamfest. Think such a disaster can't happen? It did this month in Lincoln, Neb., said Paul Sipes, a ham, or amateur radio operator, with the Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club. People were unable to send text messages or call out for nine hours, he said.

Hams stepped in for emergency communication, said Sipes, who was constructing radio antennae on the lawn of the Pueblo West fire station at 51 E. Hahns Peak Ave.

By using code, single

PARTICULARS — Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club

Founded in 2009 by Bill and Jane Ewing.

Thirty-three members, up from 12 two years ago.

More information: Call Bill Ewing at 647-9179.

sideband-voice and digital stations, the Southern Coloradans were able to communicate with hams around the nation, in Canada and some U.S. territories during the practice sponsored by the National Association for Amateur Radio.

"You can get through on code, such as Morse, where as you might not be able to understand a voice," Sipes said.

The radio operators were limited to 5 watts of

power, some of which was generated by solar panels.

"It's harder to get through on 5 watts, but that's the challenge," said Jane Ewing, the club president.

Her husband, Bill Ewing, has been a ham for 47 years and has contacted every county in the United States. Other hams strive to contact peers in every country.

"On my dinky radio, I contacted the Canary Islands and Hawaii the other day," said David Yeater, the club vice president.

When hams make contact with other amateur

ARRL Field Day

www.arrl.org

The Pueblo Chieftain



David Ewing directs an antenna Saturday as his father, amateur radio operator Bill Ewing, tries to establish contact with a low-flying satellite during Saturday's 'hamfest' in Pueblo West.

CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/ MIKE SWEENEY



Dan NGOT & Jim NEODA

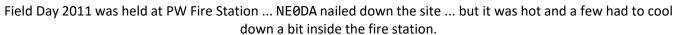
radio operators, they exchange cards that typically have a picture of the operator with their equipment and, on the back, information about their location, call sign and the date they were contacted.

Bill Fortune III, chairman of Saturday's hamfest, was dispatched to help with communications and work with the American Red Cross during current flooding in North Dakota, members said.

In Colorado, hams

were pressed into service in 2002 during the Iron Mountain Fire in Fremont County and the Hayman Fire, mostly in the Pike National Forest of Teller and Douglas counties.

Amateur radio, said Bill Ewing, "is the best back up system in the world."



CHIEFTAIN PHOTOS/MIKE SWEENE

# emergency communication

The Pueblo West View, Pueblo West, Colo., Thursday, June 14, 2012 Page 9A

# day set for 24 h

Have you considered how you would contact someone in an emergency?

Now, what if that method failed?

No cell phones, no

How would you contact them?

You can do a quick Google search today and turn up a staggering number of times this has occurred around the nation.

What if there was simple, proven and reliable to request assistance and help or reach out to tell family or friends that you're OK, coordinate or communicate to large nubmers, especially during an unplanned event where cellular and other service devices taken for granted were interrupted?

There is a group of volunteers in the in the community who eaglery jump at opportunities to communicate around Colorado — or the United States - and even worldwide.

These volunteers are going to go out in the field for 24 hours June 23-24 to test their ability to pass message traffic, relay reports, operate radios, send and receive emails and communicate on every method available.

All of this just to test their ability to support e m e r g e n c y communications in a disaster.

Starting at noon June 23, more than operators nationwide will participate in this event, some will operate strictly on battery and solar power; others have portable generators and mix in camping.

"Some have elaborate trailers with every communications goodie imaginable, but all are

practicing to support communications when disaster strikes," said officials with the Emergency Services Bureau.

One man brought the idea of amateur radio as an emergency device to Pueblo West, and, he was honored recently by the Pueblo West Metropolitan District Board of Directors for his efforts in emergency preparedness.

Ewing was recognized for his dedication in helping others in need putting up antennas. setting up individual radio stations, obtaining and upgrading their licenses and becoming involved in educating students in Pueblo West schools and providing emergency communication. Bill Ewing moved to Pueblo West in 2002 and was active in the Pueblo Ham Radio Club before starting the Pueblo West Amateur Club in 2009.

Since that time, Ewing became active in teaching and helping others join the blue to become better

operators.

On Aug. 2, 2007, Ewing finished working all 3,07 counties in the United States, and, ikn his spare time, he made contact with

foreign stations.
As of Sept. 29, 2009, he topped his goal of 100

countries.

has 180 He now countries worked and of those 168 are confirmed, according to proclamation provided by the Pueblo West Metropolitan District.

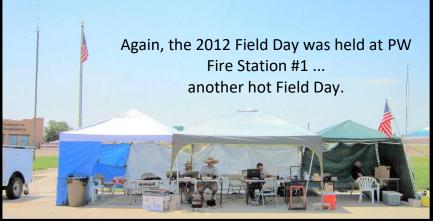


Jane KAOUSA frying up the breakfast bacon.



Metropolitan District Board of Directors Chairman Mike French for his efforts with emergency preparedness and communication. And the Pueblo West Amatuer Radio Club will be participating in the National American Radio Relay League field day exercise June 23-24 at the Pueblo West Fire Station No. 1 on Joe Martinez Boulevard to practice and demonstrate emergency preparedness.







Due to Bill's WAOKAO health, the annual 2013 Field Day was conducted at his home so that he could participate in the event.

This would be Bill's last Field Day ...

he became a Silent Key 23 days later on July 16, 2013.



Pueblo West Ham Radio Club demonstrations natural disaster emergency services

BY CHRISTINE INA CASILLAS
The Pueblo West View

When it comes to mmunication during ime of emergencies, ometimes a cell phone sn't the most reliable

isn't the most reliable source.

The recent fires in the Black Forest and Royal Gorge — and now South Fork — are just examples of natural disasters which shut down electricity and normal means of communica-

tions between all serves.
This is essentially
important for a group of
Pueblo West residents
whose primary focus
is on emergency communications using ham
radios.
The Pueblo West
Amateur Radio Club

The Pueblo West
Amateur Radio Club
played host to an annual
field day" last week for
a National Demonstration of Disaster Communications using ham
radios.
The demonstration

The demonstration

was a special ham radio 24-hour demonstration and operation of emer-gency powered, field radio communications, which began June 22 and ended June 23.

ended June 23.

Demonstrations
showed that when natural disasters occur and
communications' power
disappears, Amateur
Radio Operators prove
ready to provide these
important communications links, all without
relying on electrical

More than 40,000 amateur radio opera-tors participated in this annual national test of

annual national test of emergency communication capabilities. For those who were interested, people were invited to try talking on the radios that were operating at a field station at 676 S. Dante Drive, near the intersection of South Dante Drive and South Joe Martinez Boulevard.

Both CW (Morse code) and voice mes-sages were received an sent during the period the 24 hours of opera-

the 24 hours of opera-tion.

Modern digital com-munications equipments also was used, as well solar power batteries.

For more information about the Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club, contact Vice President Jim McConnell at 647–960 or Paul Sipes, President, at 251-4466.



Jane KAOUSA & Frank KB0FD



At last, shade trees abound. In 2014 due to Lori AH6OS, with her diligent work with the PW Metro Parks and Recreation, the club was able to hold the 2014 Field Day at Lovell Park ... which still stands today. In appreciation, PWARC makes a donation to the Parks & Recreation for its Toy & Food Drive each year.











The weather of the 2016 Field Day started with blue skies ... but by early evening, an uninvited guest, Mother Nature, created her own frequencies with a microburst direct hit ... Field Day 2016 was history with no picnic.

No harm to members or equipment occurred during the sudden ending of FD 2016.



















Jim NE0DA Rita NEODB

Rita NEODB at the YLRL Display



Randy KE0GMS Del KDØRRH Rick KE0MSM

Roger KE5CCJ Dan N3CMG



Jim NE0DA ... Del KD0RRH Randy KEØGMS ... Rick KEØMSM

Nancy NORNA Carlyle NOARN



Chicken Check-ins ... Chicken Check-ins ... Chicken Check-ins Charlene XYL Bob KEØAHM



Dan N3CMG Trina KE0PIE



Rita NE0DB Jim NE0DA



















Photos by Neal N1TEW
"As Saturday morning started and as
Saturday evening ended."

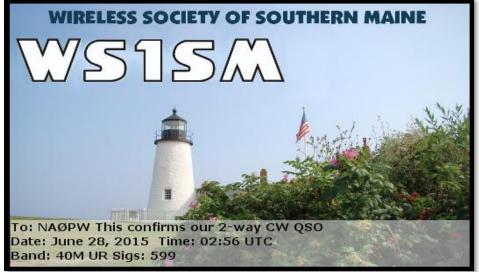


# Past Field Day e-QSL Cards



Do you know that ... PWARC has e-QSL card capability. Many more, but these stood out from the others for past Field Days.

Archives of PWARC





# Take a Trip down Mennory Laine

## Airmed Forces Day 2012

Stan N00YO and Jim NE0DA participating in the 2012 annual Armed Forces Day Communication Test ... an opportunity to exercise two-way communication capability between amateur radio and military stations using a variety of modes, including SSB and CW as well as digital modes and shortwave to demonstrate their technical skills and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station (from the archives of PWARC).

### Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum





### Temporary Rule Waivers for ARRL Field Day 2020



[Attribute - ARRL]

Field Day home | Facebook Group | Field Day T-shirts & Gear | Join ARRL

#### Temporary Rule Waivers for ARRL Field Day 2020

5/28/2020

With one month to go before 2020 ARRL Field Day, June 27-28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

1) 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 <u>any Class</u> 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.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.

ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend. Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the <u>web applet</u>. The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for <u>submitting entries</u> after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

The ARRL Field Day web page includes a series of articles with ideas and advice for adapting participation this year.

On The Air >> Contests >> Contest Rules >> Field Day >> Temporary Rule Waivers for ARRL Field Day 2020

[Attribute - ARRL]

#### News

# Rocky Mountain Vice Director Resigns to Accept Appointment as Colorado Section Manager

05/28/2020

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Vice Director Robert Wareham, N0ESQ, has stepped down from that post to accept appointment as Colorado Section Manager. Wareham would succeed veteran Colorado SM Jack Ciaccia, WM0G, who resigned effective on June 1 after serving since 2011.

"Jack will be moving to the East Coast to be closer to family, and I wish him only the best as he transitions to this next phase of his life," ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director Jeff Ryan, K0RM, said in a message to his Division. "At the same time, I am sorry to lose such an outstanding leader who has been instrumental in the creation and maintenance of the vibrant Amateur Radio community that exists across Colorado today. Jack has been a personal friend and advisor to me for many years, and I shall miss his thoughtful guidance and his quick humor."

Ciaccia, who is relocating to New Hampshire, said his was a bittersweet decision. "I am really proud of our accomplishments in the Colorado Section during the past 9 years," he told ARRL. "I will miss the hams I have met here in Colorado and their friendship. I am looking forward to now being able to just spend the rest of my days continuing with the satisfaction and enjoyment that ham radio has given me over the past 63 years that I have been licensed."

Wareham would complete Ciaccia's current term, which runs until September 30, 2021. An ARRL Life Member, Wareham served as Colorado Section Emergency Coordinator since 2011, prior to his appointment as Rocky Mountain Vice Director in 2018. He previously served in the Field Organization as Colorado's State Government Liaison and as Public Information Officer. An attorney, Wareham assisted in drafting the bill that created the Colorado Auxiliary Emergency Communications Unit (AuxComm) in 2016.

Ryan said that while he's sorry to lose Wareham's counsel as Vice Director, "I'm certain he will provide for a virtually seamless transition."

A new Rocky Mountain Division Vice Director will be appointed.

Facebook

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More

#### **Photo Gallery**



Robert Wareham, N...



Outgoing Colorado...

# June Contests & Special Events

see ARRL for upcoming contests and special events

# Club Events

Cancelled until further notice

# Clurb Calendar

June 20 - General Meeting - 9:00 am via repeater 447.450

Please watch for e-mails via PWARC Google Groups for announcements regarding board and general meetings.