

# THE MAINE TELEGRAPH

NEWSLETTER FOR MAINE  
AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS



## Field Day for Everyone

WRITTEN BY CORY GOLOB, KU1U



June is here and as a ham radio operator, we all know what is in store... Field Day! It is probably the biggest and most well known activity for clubs or individuals. This is an opportunity to get folks on the air, promote their club, be an ambassador for the hobby and network with others. Take advantage of the season and get set up outside, hopefully at a location that is in the public eye. Set up Public Information Table so that others can see what ham radio is all about. Not only can they learn what this wonderful hobby can offer, it can be an invitation to future club meetings and events. What better way to learn about the hobby than to offer a third-party control operator who can help somebody make a contact on the air.

While the internet has made it difficult to get people fascinating about talking to people all over the country or world, can their devices get them connected when the world wide web has decided to take an abrupt siesta? Hams are a self-sufficient group. They can build their own radios, craft their own antennas and provide their own power sources. For the cost of a brand new iPhone or Android, one can get a simple station on the air.

I have known some people who enjoy going to Field Day because of the cookout. Field Day is more than racking up the contacts, it is about the whole immersive experience: Setting up, greeting passersby who many be interested in the hobby, catching up with friends around a grill or campfire, hosting an educational lesson directly related to amateur radio, coaching a fellow ham with making contacts or offering to log for them or just being part of a group that wants to have fun. Amateur radio should be welcoming and open its doors to the public, showcasing different facets the hobby has to offer.

Field Day is a perfect opportunity for a Public Information Officer (PIO) to earn some experience. Media is not one dimensional; A PIO can work on reaching out to print, radio and television media outlets to get the word out. Social Media also has a profound effect on promoting activities (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Mastodon, etc.). Your club PIO can work on sending press releases, perhaps adding some local flair to templates they may find. Additionally, they can also exercise some interpersonal relationship skills by reaching out to local elected officials and representatives of agencies.

As you can see, Field Day is an event and experience that provides ample opportunity for others. Be sure to read up on the [rule changes](#) and above all, have a fun and safe field day. To find a Field Day site near you, please visit the [ARRL Field Day Station Locator](#).



Bass Hill Repeater Group & Franklin ARES  
Field Day Setup in 2022



Maine Game Warden Cody Louder visiting  
Androscoggin ARC Field Day Site in 2020

# 35th Annual Hermon Hamfest June 3rd

COURTESY OF THE [N1ME.ORG](http://N1ME.ORG) WEBSITE

Hermon High School  
2415 US-2  
Hermon, ME 04401

Rain or Shine!!! 7:00 AM for tailgaters & 8:00 AM for all others  
Admission is \$5.00 (12 & under FREE) -- Exam fee is \$15.00. Just coming for the Exam? No admission needed unless you plan to stay before or after testing.

- Planned Events:
- - License testing: all classes at 10:00 AM \*\*\*No Walk-Ins for ham testing\*\*\*  
Register at [hamstudy.org](http://hamstudy.org)
- 
- Email Pete Bither -A1IQ to pre-register [redbeard104@aol.com](mailto:redbeard104@aol.com)
- - Great Food--
- - 50/50 raffle--
- - Door prizes --
- - Tailgaters --
- - QCWA meeting after Hamfest at a local restaurant -- (1:00 PM)
- - Antenna launcher competition --

Talk-in is on 146.940 -0.600 offset and a 136.5 tone.

This venue has a huge parking area for easy distancing!

Contact Jerry - K1GUP if you have any questions. [k1gup@roadrunner.com](mailto:k1gup@roadrunner.com)  
We look forward to seeing everyone in 2023.



## Dave Hawke, KQ1L, SK

COURTESY OF NEAR-FEST FORUM POST BY MICHAEL CRESTOHL, W1RC



Dave Hawke (KQ1L), Gene Giddings (AA1XD) and Paul Doucette (KB1OLK) pictured during Tower work day at Dave's house May 2022.

Dave Hawke, KQ1L, became a Silent Key on Wednesday May 10th 2023. He was 82. A remarkable individual, Dave was from Boothbay Harbor Maine. He spoke with that delightful "Down East" brogue. A humble, unassuming man, Dave told everyone he always lived in Maine except for the years he "went to engineering school in Massachusetts". It was only later we found out that "engineering school" was M I T. From what I gather he was involved in several high level projects while he was there but, of course, he never spoke of this. Dave was a repeater guy. He built an analog repeater network that covered most of the state of Maine which is no small task when you understand how big Maine is. With the advent of digital radios Dave did it again, so now there are both FM and DMR networks covering the state. Dave paid for this equipment out of pocket and refused to accept donations.

During his long career Dave worked for the Maine State Police and Central Maine Power building their repeater networks. Later he was the Kennebeck County computer guy and ran a server farm from his cellar on Cony Street in Augusta. Any amateur radio club or organization could have space on his server at no cost. That included NEAR-Fest. I offered him the same amount that any other company would charge but Dave wouldn't hear of it. I finally was able to get him to accept hotel rooms so he and his XYL Brenda, K1YFY, could



stay in comfort at Deerfield and Boxborough MA ARRL conventions every year. It made me happy to see them attending these events and having a good time, Dave worked into his eighties and even continued to ride his beloved motorcycle taking trips all over the Northeast with Brenda. He only stopped when his illness became debilitating. He beat it the first round but it reappeared last fall and claimed him yesterday. It is a great loss for the many who knew and loved him. I miss him already. May he rest in peace.

NEAR-Fest XXXIV will be dedicated to Dave's memory. There will be a celebration of Dave's life at Deerfield on Friday, October 13th 2023 at 5:00PM. Please visit our web site for details.

Sadly submitted,  
Michael Crestohl, W1RC

From Brenda Hawke, K1YFY:

Dave's Celebration of Life is scheduled for 6/17 @ 1 pm @ North Monmouth Community Church, 151 N Main St, North Monmouth. Finger sandwiches, sweets & drinks to follow at the church. Zoom is available for those who request link. Obituary still pending

# Folded Dipole HF Antenna Work

COURTESY OF [WIRELESS SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN MAINE FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

We want to thank the volunteers that came out Saturday to the Cumberland County EMA to help rehang our folded dipole HF antenna.

The rope tethering a leg of the antenna to the mast near the entrance to CCRCC snapped during a particularly windy winter storm, and the dipole got itself wound around it's mast, the foot pegs, and the ropes and cables running along it. With a bit of luck and a collapsible painter's pole, we got it untangled and replaced the worn rope with something much heavier.

More rope is on order so that we can replace the older rope on the other leg before it, too, comes down. We'll reach out again when we're ready.



# ARES/RACES Drill in Aroostook County

COURTESY OF AROOSTOOK COUNTY EMERGENCY RADIO TEAM FACEBOOK PAGE

Today [May 20] our ARES/RACES communication team held a drill today to practice message handling, to include a few units in the field simulating local shelters. This team trains monthly and runs drills 3-4 times a year.

Interested in HAM radio? Message us for details on how to get involved with the team that works all over Aroostook County and communicates with the world!





# Packet Alive and Well in Downeast Maine

COURTESY OF [EAWA FACEBOOK PAGE](#) (POST BY RICHARD SMALL, W1KRP)

Yeah, packet is still plugging along in Downeast Maine. I noticed the other night my mail alert light was flashing so I checked to see what was up. I was surprised when I looked at the initial line showing contact information and the callsign was RK3KPK, "Andy" in Moscow...no, not Maine, Russia. Steve, W1DTX spotted the contact and is checking on the route. Even if internet link used it's kinda cool to see DX contacts!





# VE TEST SESSIONS

COURTESY OF THE ARRL MAINE SECTION WEBPAGE

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Hermon Hamfest

06/03/2023

Sponsor: Pine State ARC

Date: Jun 03 2023

Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Peter Bither

(207) 944-2616

Email: [redbeard104@aol.com](mailto:redbeard104@aol.com)

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Hermon HS (Hermon Hamfest)

2515 Route 2

Hermon ME 04401-0609

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Whitefield

06/24/2023

Sponsor: Lincoln Cty ARC

Date: Jun 24 2023

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Contact: Joseph G. Devonshire

(207) 549-0061

Email: [trainbee@aol.com](mailto:trainbee@aol.com)

VEC: [ARRL/VEC](#)

Location: Whitefield Fire and Rescue CALL AHEAD

26 Townhouse Rd

Space is limited!

No walk-ins allowed

Whitefield ME 04353-3437

Website: <http://k1lx.org/>

## BUY – SWAP – SELL

**FOR SALE:** \$375 Fully functional Kenwood TS-830S rig, covering 160 meters up to ten meters, including all WARC bands, CW and SSB. The power supply is built-in. This rig has been recently serviced (invoices available) and include a new antenna change-over relay and new electrolytic capacitors in the HV power supply.

Matching Kenwood MC-50S noise-cancelling microphone included. Pick up in Kennebunk, or you ship. If the latter I will bring the TS-830S to Mail-It Unlimited and you select how you want it packaged, insured, and shipped (i.e. UPS, FED-X, DHL, etc.) Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex ai2q@roadrunner.com

**FOR SALE:** BTech DMR 6X2 DMR HT. This is a clone of the Anytone 868, but with enhanced firmware that gives it features found in the 878, plus addition of a digital simplex repeater, unliited ad-hoc hold time, full info here:

<https://baofengtech.com/product/dmr-6x2/> Comes with all original items: 2 batteries, manual, charger, wrist strap, earphone/mic, manual, program cable, antenna. \$130. Email: W1MTW.is.now@gmail.com



**Have something for the Buy - Swap - Sell section?**

**LINK TO SUBMIT ITEM(S) TO BUY/SWAP/SELL (WITH ABILITY TO UPLOAD AN IMAGE)**

What are *you* or *your* club doing with amateur radio??

Consider sending an article our way to highlight all the good work that is being done in amateur radio.

Have a VE test coming up? Let us know the details so it can be published here and on the Maine ARRL Section Website

*To submit articles for the Newsletter please use the following links:*

**[LINK TO TYPE OUT AN ARTICLE THAT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER \(WITH ABILITY TO UPLOAD IMAGES\)](#)**

**[Link to be added or removed from the email distribution list](#)**