

NEWS TIP: Field Day station at Larz Andersen Park, June 25-26

6/16/05 1:01:42 AM Eastern Daylight Time

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You and your staff are invited to visit the Boston Amateur Radio Club station in Larz Anderson Park in the centennial year of prebuilt ham radio equipment.

The American Radio Relay League annual Field Day event is an opportunity for the general public to discover ham radio. Think hams aren't part of your life? Ham operators are an essential ingredient in helping major events run smoothly. It takes half a dozen hams to run communications for a 10K charity walk. It took 50 to provide jam-proof secure communications backup for the Democratic National Convention. It takes 80 to manage 45,000 people in the annual Walk for Hunger. It takes nearly 300 to support the Boston Marathon. There are hundreds each day who relay messages into and out of war zones and disaster areas. There were over 1,000 hams who gave their skills for 6 weeks in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. They were paid for none of this: that's why they are called "amateurs"

The Boston Amateur Radio Club Field Day station will be in the most public place in Brookline: at the top of the hill behind the Museum of Transportation, the highest point in Brookline. Signs from the Newton Street entrance to the park will be in place Saturday, June 25, by 10:00 AM. Station setup will begin at 10:30 AM. The station will be in full continuous operation from 1:00 PM Saturday to 1:00 PM Sunday. There will be "guided tours" of the activities from 2:00 to 8:00 PM Saturday and 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Sunday. Among the special features will be:

- A satellite communications station to contact the world through some of over 50 ham satellites and the International space station.
- Visits from the Winn Brook HAMsters, a group of first graders who are learning geography, math, and science through ham radio.
- "Doc" Chamberlin, the man whose car is a worldwide communications center.
- Faculty members and students from the Dexter and Southfield Schools and the Clay Center Amateur Radio Club.
- Possible on-air contacts with Walter Cronkite, rock musician Joe Walsh, King Juan Carlos of Spain, and other well known people.
- A well stocked information table to introduce people to the over two dozen activities that fall under the name "ham radio"

All media representatives are welcome, and interviews will be freely given.

For more information, please contact me at the number below. During Field Day weekend I will also be available by cell phone at: (857) 540-1541. These numbers are for use by media representatives only.

-= Bill McIninch, Jr. KA1MOM / E =-

PR chairman, Boston Amateur Radio Club Field Day

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"We are amateurs just as NCAA star athletes are: we don't get paid for using our skills."