



Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 2nd, 6pm At Bullock's BBQ.

Program: Voting, By-Laws, and Field Day!

DFMA has a very packed June meeting. We'll be voting for board members, voting to incorporate the new by-laws, and discussing this year's Field Day!

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June 2026 VEC Session

The next VEC session will be held at the Efland Bahá'í Center on June 20th at 10 AM. Have anyone (or yourself) that wants to try for their Technician, or want to upgrade? Here's your chance! Make sure to bring an I.D., \$15 (either cash or check made to "ARRL VEC"), and your FCC Registration Number (FRN).

President's Korner

Greetings fellow club members!

For those of you who are interested in club T-shirts the results are in. The clear favorite was the old logo on the front and new logo on the back. I was a little surprised by the color, or lack thereof. Gray was the winner. We will start gathering orders soon. I have a little matter to get through and will not be at the June meeting.



What else does June bring us? The first day of Summer and the first day of hurricane season. Time check for dangerous tree limbs that may come down in a strong wind. Time to check the generator, it should be done monthly but I know I don't. Check all your other preps as well.

And who can forget about Field Day? I'm sure you will hear more about it at the meeting. I hope you attend the meeting and have fun at Field Day!

Bob Cook, W4FK
President of DFMA

Interesting Items

ARRL Field Day 2026

This year's Field Day is from June 27-28th, and our club's stations will be set up at Willson Lamb W4BOH's house (check QRZ if you don't have the address). Dave Snyder W4SAR is our Field Day Coordinator, and will be giving presentations at the June meeting. He's already sent out several emails about it, check out the groups.io/reflector for more information. This year we're hoping to go from a class Delta to Echo station, which entails working with emergency power such as batteries. I highly encourage everyone to come out, my first Field Day was last year and it really got me hooked. The potluck the Friday before is also delicious!

If you want to volunteer with any job for Field Day, you may join via the Google sheet that will be sent out or reach out to either Dave or me. We need hands to be able to set up antennas, some

yardwork around Wilson's and other needs to make sure everything goes smoothly.

If you're interested in the potluck the Friday before (June 26th), please reach out to John KM4MDR.

Special Worked-All-States Award for America's 250th Anniversary

The ARRL is celebrating America's 250th anniversary by hosting a special yearlong event for the Worked-All-States award. Throughout the year, each of the 50 states will have W1AW/portable stations activate for this event. For example, North Carolina will be activating the week of April 1st and September 2nd. All QSOs must be uploaded to Logbook of the World. More info can be found here:

<https://www.arrl.org/america250-was>

Hillsborough Moth Crawl

Aurora, KN4VXB, is looking for some hams to help out this year's Hillsborough Moth Crawl on June 6th (June 7th if there's rain) from 8pm to midnight. The event is ran by [Backyard Butterflies](#), and plans to have several lights set up in rural/remote areas to attract moths, specifically at the Confluence of the Eno (where DFMA had the picnic in 2025), Blackwood Farm Park, and Brumley Nature Preserve. Communication between the parks is necessary, but cell service is spotty, so that's where hams can help! Aurora is hoping a few people can go the event and use the W4UNC repeater to help with communication.

Aurora plans to have a table and info about ham radio, and encourages any volunteers to do the same.

If you're interested, please let me know or reply to Aurora's message on the reflector from May 11th.

More info about the Moth Crawl can be found here: <https://www.backyardbutterflies.org/moth-crawl/>

Fun at the May DFMA Meeting!

The fun continues at our monthly meetings. At the May meeting, we had a Star Wars themed version of our usual Porch Pirate with trivia questions. For this game, Paul N2XZF was the Imperial Stormtrooper try to catch the rebels. I personally think Paul should be calling up Disney to act in the next movie or tv show, he's a very imposing stormtrooper. Come join us in person to join in the fun!



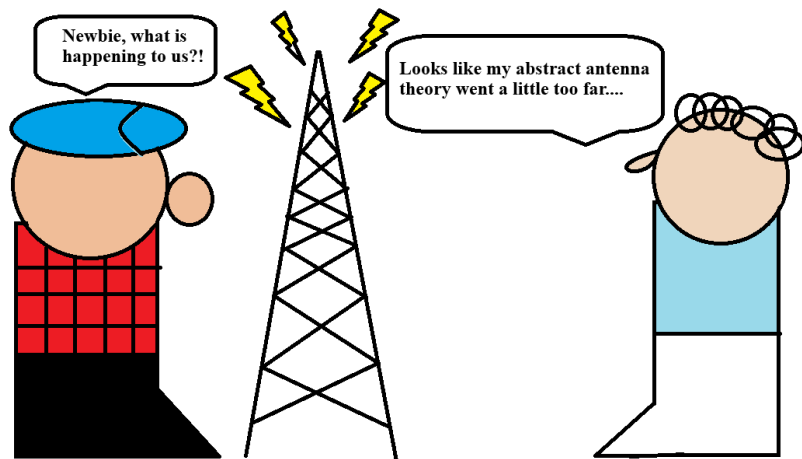
Bits of Humor

This section is called **Bits of Humor**, so what exactly is the baud rate of laughter?

Have you heard about the Ham Radio Operator's kids?

They did-it and did-it 'cuz their dah-dah did-it.

Newbie & Elmer #8 by Matthew KQ4ZYW



Field Day, Fun Day

By Matthew Stafford KQ4ZYW

What exactly is Field Day? That was one of the first questions I had when I joined the hobby back in December 2024. I was used to Field Day from elementary and middle school, a day that was primarily about getting outside, playing games, and having fun. With the certain age demographic of amateur radio and the amount of knee replacements I kept hearing about, I doubted that it would involve an OCRA vs DFMA kickball tournament. I soon learned that while there is fun, no kickballs are involved. Instead, it was an event sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to promote readiness in times of emergency. And that you also got points for QSOs and other categories, which sounded really nice.

The first Field Day was held the second Saturday of June way back in 1933 (which means this year marks 93 years!). An announcement in the June 1933 *QST* edition by F. Edward Handy, W1BDI, stated that for 27 hours starting at 4PM local time, portable stations should try to contact as many stations as possible, to test how well the portable stations work.¹ It was definitely a simpler time back then, as each QSO with another station was 1

point, while a QSO with another portable station was 2 points, and if you made any DX contacts, you could get a whole whopping 3 points! Handy got his wish, and another Field Day was hosted in 1934, and was so popular that in 1936 there were two Field Days: one in June and another in August.

In the 1940s, Field Day was interrupted in the 1940s because of the FCC ordering all amateur radio to cease transmissions following the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941. F. Edward Handy (who started Field Day), wrote in the June 1942 edition of *QST*

about the lack of Field Day because of the war, telling readers that "... business is decidedly not as usual. There's a war on! The way we can help contribute to our country's demands and needs must come first with each of us".²

Field Day would not resume until 1946. The modern classes that we've come to know was established in 1950: A for portable, B for individual portables, C for mobile, and D for home.³ For example, for Field Day 2025 our clubs were 6D (six delta). Now you may ask where is Class E, which is the class we're hoping for this year. Class E for home stations that are on emergency powers wasn't established until 1971!

Ok, so enough about Field Day history, why does it still matter, or why should I care, you may ask. As always, Field Day is to promote readiness in emergency situations, As last year (2025) was my first Field Day, and as a relatively new ham, I learned a lot helping with set up: the different types of antennas, technology, and considerations about antenna placement, what type of transceiver, and how each mode can interact with other stations. For me, it was fascinating watching the different stations work (as well as being annoyed by either the CW crew in the Land of Magic or Dave's digital signals). This was one of the first times I was able to try other HF bands on SSB

since I was a Technician at the time, and was also the first time I saw FT8 in action.



From Left to Right: Dave NA4VY, Sam KJ4VWG, Paul N2XZF, and myself (KQ4ZYW) at the 10m SSB and Digital stations in the barn. Photo credit Joe K4SAR

I was also able to befriend and get to know more of the club members. While it was joking around with Paul and the 10m crew up in the barn, learning about Joe's singing avocations over the Friday night potluck, stumbling over my real first verbal QSOs with Bill at the 80/20m station, freezing JR with AC to avoid the summer heat as we slept over-night in the barn, talking to Dave as he came out our his re-enactment tent ready to start more digital radio over self-made espresso, I had a blast at last years Field Day. I hope you can join us this year, even if it is just to stop by to say hello and chat up a little with your fellow hams.



Friday Night Potluck! Hams, friends, and family enjoy Having Another Meal outside Wilson W4BOH's garage. Photo credit John KM4MDR

It really represents one of the main objects of this hobby: communication. From exchanging station classes on CW, digital or SSB, to talking to other club members, there's a real sense of camaraderie. So whether it's with us or your on station at home, I hope your communications go well this Field Day.

73,
Matthew KQ4ZYW

Citations:

- 1, Anders, Rol. "Field Day: A Mirror of Amateur Radio History." *QST*, December 1999.
2. Handy, F. Edward. "Signal Flags This Field Day?" *QST*, June 1942.
3. "1950 ARRL Field Day Rules." *QST*, June 1950.

Just Ahead in Radiosport from ARRL

- June 1 – OK1WC Memorial
- June 6-7 – Kentucky QSO Party
- June 6-7 – ARRL International Digital Contest
- June 7-8 – Atlantic Canada QSO Party
- June 13-15 – ARRL June VHF Contest
- June 16 – SARL Youth QSO Party
- June 18 – NTC QSO Party
- June 20 – ARRL Kids Day
- June 20-21 – All Asian DX Contest, CW
- June 27-28 – ARRL Field Day

More contest events listed at WA7BNM:
<https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.php>

Buy – Sell – Swap

TenTec Century 21

Another classic. Great little CW transceiver, with antenna tuner, **\$150**, Proceeds to OCRA.
Wilson W4BOH
Contact: infomet@embarqmail.com

<p>Box of Cat.6 LAN Cable</p> <p>I have a near full, I think, box of Cat.6 LAN cable. This stuff is \$125+ at Amazon, so \$50 seems reasonable for this one. Estate stuff, money goes to DFMA. Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>Icom Microphones IC-HM9 and IC-HM14</p> <p>NEW in boxes HM9 has two pin plug, for handhelds. \$20 HM14 has 8 pin plug and 16 key keypad. \$30 Pick up in Hillsborough OR I will mail for \$10 each. Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>Drake MN-2000 Antenna Tuner</p> <p>A classic, built for more power than you can give it. \$250, currently in the LOM Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>ICOM PW-1 Solid State Amplifier Selling for friend, good shape. Price \$2,000.00. Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>Alliance HD-73-1 Rotator Controller SK Stuff</p> <p>Untested, no rotator available, so returnable. Two Speed, six wire controller. Picture available. \$50, in Hillsborough. Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>FS: Nice coax jumper for connecting HTs to antennae.</p> <p>Six inches long, SMA male to UHF female (like SO-239). Coax is very small and flexible, RG-174. Available in the LOM or at DFMA/OCRA meetings. \$4. Financing available. Beat the rush, send email to my QRZ address. Wilson W4BOH</p>
<p>Coax, new and used</p> <p>Check with Wilson W4BOH first regarding length and cost</p>

FS: Estate equipment.
Ameritron AL-80B amp. Single 3-500Z, \$800.
Icon IC-746, \$500.
Ameritron ATR-20 1200W antenna tuner, \$300.
 Contact W4BOH for info.

Do you have something that you need or something you are offering to others?
 There's this spot in The Link set aside just for you. Just email the appropriate info to KQ4ZYW@arrl.net and it will be included with the next issue. Make sure to include contact info, and feel free to include a picture (that is yours—please no copyrighted stuff from the web).
73, Matthew, KQ4ZYW

Website: dfma.org

Upcoming Events (dfma.org for details)

06/02 DFMA Meeting, Bullock's BBQ, 6pm
06/08 OCRA Meeting, Efland Baha'i Center, 7:30pm
06/20 VEC Session, Efland Baha'i Center, 10am
06/27-28 FIELD DAY
07/07 DFMA Meeting, Bullock's BBQ, 6pm
07/13 OCRA Meeting, Efland Baha'i Center, 7:30pm

73 – Matthew KQ4ZYW, Vice-President & Newsletter Editor

Send copy to KQ4ZYW@arrl.net
Deadline: one week before the Club Meeting
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Great News! DFMA Now Has a New PO Box!

The DFMA Mailing Address

Please address any mail you have for the club to:

DFMA
P.O. Box 2494
Durham, NC 27715