

SINE WAVES

STONEWALL JACKSON AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
PO Box 752 Clarksburg, WV 26302-0752

HYPERLINK "<http://WWW.SJARA.ORG>"

Monday, July 7, 2008

The Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association Tuesday Night Net is held every Tuesday at 9:00PM on the 147.210 repeater which requires a PL Tone of 103.5 for access. We would like to thank N8FMD for allowing us to use the repeater to conduct the net.

Date	Net Control Operator	Call Sign
Jul 8, 2008	Tom Bell	KB8WRZ
Jul 15, 2008	Bill Williams	K8WWW

2008 FIELD DAY RESULTS

Results reported to ARRL:

CW points **32** x 2 = **64** + PH points **316** = **380** x Pwr 2 = **760** plus Bonus
points **1050**

1810

Total score claimed.

Amateurs participating in Field Day 2008:

KC8RIQ, KC8RIP, K8TPH, K8WWW, KB8WRZ, KC8FWD, KF4DSX, WV3LWC, N8FXH, N8YPE, NW8U, WD8NSC, KA5NYN, KD8IFY, KD8IFX, KD8FDD, KD8FOH, KD8HEG, KD8FLI, N8QYI and Several non Amateurs.

Field Day 2008 will go down in history in the memories of the members of The Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association (SJARA) K8DF as an unforgettable event.

We went to our Field Day site (Lowndes Hill 1400 feet above sea level) overlooking Clarksburg, WV late on Friday evening to erect the 40 foot tower with a Tri-bander and dipoles for 40/80 meters. It was a beautiful evening, with only a slight overcast.

We returned home to start again on Saturday morning. The completion of the set up began promptly at 9 AM. Everything went very smoothly setting up a large shelter for operating a 3A station including one for GOTA. Computers were set up for logging and an extra shelter set up for VE testing and later to be used for rest and dining area. We had a total of 15 individuals tested for Technician or upgrading to General or Extra at 1 PM. Now all they have to do is wait to get their license from the FCC and get into the world of the "Ham". Five of the new hams are members of Harrison County Office of Emergency Services where the SJARA has helped to set up a HF, VHF/UHF station to work with our local EOS for emergency communications. The SJARA with the EOS participated in the CWID held on June 17, 2008.

Operations started promptly at 2 PM with operations running smoothly. Our first notice of any difficulties began when the home

computer on the network went dead. Within just a few minutes a laptop was substituted for the main network computer. CQ Field Day continued on 20, 40 and 80 meters. The next thing occurring was a contact with a Field Day station about 35 miles west of Clarksburg, WV in Doddridge County, WV that they were being hit by a thunder storm with lots of lightening.

We heeded the warning and closed down operations and covered all of the equipment with tarps for extra protection in case of a little wind that could possibly get some equipment wet. The storm hit us at approximately 4:30 PM but it was much more than we had expected from the reports from the Field Day station west of us. We had sustained winds that hit well into the high 50 to 60 mph. We completely lost the shelter set up for the VE testing. The wind crushed it and bent the shelter to the ground and the only reason it did not go with the wind was because it was tied down securely. The attitude in the operation shelter went to near panic when nearly 15 people were hanging onto the structure to keep the wind from taking it. During the storm one amateur braved the winds and rain to take rope and tie the shelter to a couple large maple trees nearby. One large tree approximately 40 feet tall very near the shelter was broken and fell and we almost lost our "Porta Potty", of course, that would have been a tragedy. We finally returned to operations about two hours latter. (believe it or not, our generate ran without missing a beat) After all of the excitement we secured the generator during the time we were getting things going after the storm. By 6 PM we got the damaged shelter repaired and standing again and dinner was started by our outstanding chef.

Prior to the storm we had several visitors. Among them were our

county commissioner with his wife and daughter. Our local newspaper, "The Clarksburg Exponent Telegram", reporter and photographer came by to film and obtain information on our activities.

We continued operations until 8 PM when we received another alert from the Field Day station west of us that they had just had another thunderstorm but there was no high winds accompanying the storm but had a lot of lightening.

We again started securing equipment bracing for the next storm. The first indication of a new storm was the fog came in decreasing the visibility to nearly zero. The rain set in and it rained for the next two hours without a let up. According to the local NWS we had more than 1 ½ inches of rain in a very short time.

Around midnight we made the determination to stop operations until the next morning. A few of us remained at the Field Day site during the night to keep an eye on the shelters and equipment while the others returned home to return the next morning.

The rain had stopped by daylight so we started up operations again. We only operated for a short time and we again received a storm warning from the local NWS so we packed up all of the equipment called it a day around 11 AM. We had just finished unloading the Field Day supplies when it started to rain again. Next year maybe we can ask Noah to use his Ark for Field Day.

Stonewall Jackson Amateur Association will be active again at the ARRL Roanoke Division Convention operating the Special Events

station on August 23rd and 24th. It is the 50th anniversary and we will be operating with the call sign W8V on 20 and 40 meters. For information: <http://www.sjara.org>.

Sorry, there are no pictures. I was a little too busy trying to keep dry and keeping the equipment dry to get my camera out.

We will be back next year and hit it again with the zeal and fortitude that Field Day deserves.

Submitted by K8TPH

TAKEN FROM THE CLUB WEBSITE.

Message from the ARRL West Virginia Section

50TH WEST VIRGINIA STATE ARRL CONVENTION and
ARRL ROANOKE DIVISION CONVENTION
JACKSON'S MILL, WESTON WV
AUGUST 23 & 24, 2008

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

GORDON WEST, WB6NOA, GORDON WEST RADIO SCHOOL;
RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH, K4RDH, FCC SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT BUREAU;
BILL CROSS, W3TN, FCC WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU;
JIM WILCOX, W3WV, TECHNICAL FORUM

VE EXAMS ---- ARRL FORUM ---- DX FORUM ---- SPECIAL EVENT STATION
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS STATION SET-UP COMPETITION
TECHNICAL FORUM ---- ARES® ---- MARS ---- QCWA ---- NTS NET MEETINGS-
FLEA MARKET ---- AUCTION ---- WOUFF HONG

DIRECTIONS:

Traveling South on I-79, Take Exit 105, Turn right toward Jane Lew, 1/2
mile to the intersection of Route 19, Turn left and follow Route 19
South for approximately 7 miles to Jackson's Mill Road (Hickory House

Restaurant is a landmark), Turn right onto Jackson's Mill Road and go approximately 2.5 miles, After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

Traveling North on I-79, Take Exit 99, Turn left toward Weston on Route 33 West and travel approximately 2 miles,
At the fourth traffic light, turn right onto Route 19 North, Follow Route 19 North for approximately 4 miles to Jackson's Mill Road (Hickory House Restaurant is a landmark), Turn left onto Jackson's Mill Road and travel approximately 2.5 miles, After you cross the bridge, the WVU Jackson's Mill grounds are on your right.

Talk-In: 145.390

For Convention Updates, Watch the WV State Amateur Radio Council Website:

<http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc/>

For Questions Contact:

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Weston WV 26452

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VE TESTING RESULTS

The following is from Mike Talkington, KC8FWD.

I want to send you this Report for the Newsletter,

We had 13 People to show up for testing.

We have 8 new Tech's, and Two new

General Class liscensee's. Gongrats to all who

took a test and passed. The club hopes to after

Jacksons Mill Hamfest to have one more testing

session this Year. In 2009 we hope to give tests

at least once every other month. I know there are

a few groups giving classes throughout North Central West Virginia and I have been asked to Give tests for those special sessions.

Thanks and 73 de

Mike Talkington KC8FWD

VE Liason for SJARA

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next club meeting of the Stonewall Jackson Amateur Radio Association will be Thursday July 17th at 7:30 at the St Marks Lutheran Church.

JUNE CLUB MEETING

The June meeting was called to order by the club President Dave Anderson, N8YPE, who then ask for a vote to accept the minutes as listed in the nesletter. Next the Treasurers Report was given by Dick Wilt, K8TPH. Both reports were accepted.

Next a report was given on the 911 Center Net which was conducted on the 147.210 repeater.

The meeting then moved on to the main topic of the evening which was the final plans for Field Day and the times for those participating and who was to furnish what equipment.

Mike Talkington KC8FWD, then gave his plans for VE Testing which was to be held during Field Day activities on Lowndes Hill.

Last on the agenda was a short talk on the plans for club members to assist in communications at the Triatholon to be held at Maple Lake on July 26th.

