

# **ARRL FIELD DAY 2018**

## **RADIO SOCIETY OF TUCSON**

**Weekend of June 23 - 24**

**CALL SIGN: RST Club call sign K7RST**

**GOTA STATION: to be determined**

**ARRL SECTION: Arizona**

**CLASS OF OPERATION: Class A/Club - further determination of our entry class will be determined on-site prior to the event starting time. We will operate using no more than 150 watts output power per transmitter.**

**Field Day Coordinator      Richard Schmidt K7NSW**

**k7nsw@ispud.net**

**Safety Officer**

**Richard Schmidt**

**Trustee**

**Ron Cade W6ZQ**

**Public Relations**

**Photographer**

**Site Inspector**

**Richard Schmidt K7NSW**

**Antenna Launcher**

**Porta-Potty**

**Don Ernle KD7UIZ**

**STATION CAPTAINS AND GOTA STATION: to be announced during Club meetings prior to Field Day.**

**This year our location will be on Radio Ridge on Mount Lemmon - an elevation of 9,240 feet with outstanding propagation if the band conditions are good.**

**Radio Ridge is approximately a one hour drive from Tucson on a paved road. Take the Catalina Highway from Tucson. It takes off from Tanque Verde Road. If you are driving from east Tucson, Houghton Road intersects Catalina Highway. This is the route to Mt Lemmon. Pass the Palisades Ranger Station and Visitors Center at mile post 19.9 and keep going towards Summerhaven. Just before Summerhaven turn right onto Ski Run Road and drive past the skiing area. You will see it on your left. Keep going for approximately 1.7 miles to Radio Ridge area. The road ends. Before the end you will see on your left a big dirt parking area. It is full of heavy equipment and supplies used for erecting ski lifts. Coordinates at the far end of the parking lot :**

**32deg 26' 27" N 110deg 47' 1" W**

**At the far end of that parking lot there is a dirt road running off to the left. Turn left onto that dirt road. Our area of operation will be on both sides of that road. We urge you take a tour of the site BEFORE Field Day weekend. Keep in mind this is an area very popular with hikers and sightseers. As a result, there will be many other people in the area during the days we are there.**

**There is room for tents. If you plan to bring a trailer or RV we STRONGLY URGE you tour the site before Field Day and take a look. There is not as much maneuvering room as there is on Mt Bigelow where we operated Field Day in past years as guests of Catalina Radio Club.**

**Our Field Day on-the-air operating as a club will start on Saturday 23 June at 11:00AM local time/1800 UTC and continue 24 hours ending Sunday 24 June at 11:00AM local time/1800 UTC. If you are a Band Captain or our GOTA Station Captain you can begin set-up of your station no earlier than Thursday 5 PM local time. As a Class A/Club Station entrant we are NOT going to take the 27 hour operating option.**

**If you want to operate with the club using your own equipment you must be an assigned Band Captain or the designated GOTA Station. Otherwise, you are**

**welcome to operate using the station equipment of one of our Band Captains or the GOTA Station. PLEASE DO NOT set up and operate your own equipment on or near our site. Doing so will cause interference with our event and possible damage to equipment we are using.**

**Want to know more about ARRL Field Day? Go here: [arrl.org](http://arrl.org), open ON THE AIR, click CONTESTS, click CONTEST CALENDAR, click JUNE 2018, click 23-24 FIELD DAY and start reading. In fact, surf the ARRL web page under the CONTESTS tab and find all kinds of interesting things.**

**We will be operating on the traditional hf bands 80 - 40 - 20 - 15 - 10 - 6 meters (excluding the 60, 30, 17 & 12 meter bands) plus vhf and uhf bands. Our purpose is to experience operating in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. We place a premium on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness, acquainting the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio, having fun, and generally enjoying ourselves.**

**We invite operation on all modes available to us. If you have a preference for operating a particular band or mode then please express your preferences to the appropriate Band Captain in advance of Field Day**

**weekend so an opportunity can be made available to you if possible. Better yet, in advance of Field Day contact our Field Day Coordinator named above and volunteer yourself and your equipment to serve as a Band Captain on one of the bands which we want to use.**

**BAND CAPTAINS AND GOTA STATION CAPTAIN: we encourage and welcome you to volunteer as a Band Captain. Typically, there will be two modes operating on each band - cw and ssb for sure. An additional mode or modes can be arranged amongst those wanting to operate on a specific band. As a Band Captain you are expected to provide all of the required equipment for your intended operation and band. This includes power supply through antenna(s). During the event, and the Friday before, there will be someone available to shoot lines over trees to support your antenna ropes. Antennas often seen on our Field Day site are wire antennas of various kinds suspend high enough in the air so as to not offer a safety issue, verticals, and vhf/uhf yagis.**

**PLEASE KEEP IN MIND A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF OUR CLUB DURING FIELD DAY IS TO WELCOME PARTICIPATION OF OTHER PEOPLE IN OUR ACTIVITIES. IF YOU ARE A BAND CAPTAIN WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO WELCOME OTHERS TO**

**OPERATE WITH YOU OR UNDER YOUR SUPERVISION. PLEASE INVITE OTHERS WHO SEEM INTERESTED EVEN IF THEY DO NOT APPROACH YOU AND ASK - THEY MIGHT BE SHY OR NOT KNOW THEY CAN PARTICIPATE. ALSO, KEEP IN MIND THE FCC RULES CONCERNING ALLOWING UNLICENSED PERSONS OR HAMS WITH A LOWER CLASS OF LICENSE TO OPERATE YOUR STATION AND EQUIPMENT. YOU HAVE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THOSE RULES AND APPLY THEM.**

**At the close of the 24 hour Field Day operating time (11 AM Sunday local time) we must take down and pack everything brought to the site and leave it as clean and orderly, or more so, than when we occupied it. YOUR HELP will be needed in this endeavor! Please remain through Sunday afternoon and join in this effort. If we fail so to do we could be penalized by the Forest Service and lose future use of any or all Forest Service lands and/or facilities. Operating from Radio Ridge is a very valuable opportunity we do not want to lose. So please join with us in this.**

**Our site on Radio Ridge is in a primitive area. There is nothing there but the trees and the ground. No improvements or facilities of any kind are present or**

**available on-site with one exception. We will provide one commercial port-a-potty at club expense.**

**FOOD: the club is holding a pot-luck dinner Saturday afternoon at 6 PM. The club will provide grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with buns plus the customary condiments. Bottled drinking water will be provided throughout the weekend. Please attend the dinner and bring a pot-luck dish or other appropriate item. What is “appropriate”? You decide - we trust you as long as it is in “good taste” and it tastes good too. For all other meals you are own your own.**

**Our site is on property leased from the Forest Service by a private commercial radio business. In view of this, please keep the following in mind: (1) we are guests of the lease holder. Be considerate. (2) we are not on a Forest Service location open to the public. Our generators can be run throughout the weekend event. (3) the dirt access road to our site from the paved road is controlled by a locked chain barrier. It has a combination lock on it. A person or persons having the lock code will be on site at all times during the event. We understand this is not convenient. But we are instructed by the lease holder that we cannot leave the road open to the general public.**

**Our site is not completely shaded nor is it protected from the elements. You must provide your own shelter, chairs, table(s), etc. Be prepared for rain, breezes or wind, and cool evenings with cooler night temperatures. For a weather forecast try [weather.com](http://weather.com) and look at Mt Lemmon.**

**TALK-IN FREQUENCY: 146.520 Mhz FM simplex.**

**Smoking is not prohibited. We do have some members with asthma. For this reason smoking is not permitted with 50 feet of an operating position or eating area. This includes vaping, electronic smoking devices, and such.**

**We will be in a high risk fire area. NO CAMP FIRES. You are responsible to completely extinguish all tobacco products. DO NOT THROW OR LEAVE LIT OR EXTINGUISHED CIGARETTE OR CIGAR BUTTS ON THE GROUND.**

**IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE A GENERATOR WE REQUIRE YOU TO BRING AN APPROPRIATE FIRE EXTINGUISHER WITH YOU AND KEEP IT READILY AVAILABLE - WE RECOMMEND YOU GET A BIG ONE. A GOOD SHOVEL, RAKE, AND AN EMPTY BUCKET ARE ALSO DESIRABLE ITEMS FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY AS WELL AS THAT OF OTHERS.**



**There will be people around plus things going on - plus generator noise. We recommend you be prepared to operate with headphones if such things will distract you.**

**Sturdy closed toe shoes are required when you are out and about around our site. Flip-flops and other open shoes/sandals can be counted upon to give you grief.**

## **WARNING**

**Please keep in mind that throughout our site there will be all kinds of wires, ropes, cables, hot generators, jugs of gasoline, electrical wires and many other potential personal injury items. This includes trip and fall hazards. You are responsible to be careful in your activities and supervise any and all children you bring with you. Dogs must be on leash at all times. Please understand that uncontrolled pets can easily disappear and end up as food for wildlife in the area. This includes cats. A sad ending indeed. Don't risk it!**

## **STATION PLACEMENT**

**Antenna and station placement are left up to the Band Captains. All equipment including antennas must be**

**contained within a circle the diameter of which cannot exceed 1,000 feet.**

## **BONUS POINTS**

**Public information table at gate**

**Mike W7IJ**

**Copy W1AW Bulletin - Dick Jones W0PZD**

**NTS messages - Dick Jones W0PZD**

**Section Manager Message - Dick Jones W0PZD**

**Media Publicity - Mike W7IJ**

**Served Agency Visit**

**Elected Official Visit**

**Alternate power**

**Satellite QSO**

**Educational activity**

**GOTA Station Captain**

**Emergency power - we will be on generators, etc.**

## **Log Administrator**

### **NTS message handling - Dick Jones W0PZD**

## **LOGGING**

**(1) We will log all contacts on N1MM logging software and submit our entry to ARRL. All Station Captains be sure to download the current copy of N1MM the night before you travel to our Field Day site. Our logging computers will not be networked so you must log your contacts on N1MM and submit them to our Log Administrator immediately following the event. Please save your log frequently during the event so we do not lose any contacts.**

**(2) Field Day Youth Participation - any youth age 18 or younger who makes at least 1 QSO gets us points: 20 points per Youth up to 5 of them for a maximum of 100 points. 20 points per youth, NOT per QSO. Make a log notation for each youth.**

## **LAST BUT NOT LEAST**

**As noted above, the area around us is very popular with hikers and sightseers. We will try to attract them**

**onto our site to acquaint them with Amateur Radio. So take steps to secure your personal equipment - especially at night.**