

VOX



HUNTSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Huntsville, Alabama

Volume 45, Number 7

July, 2005

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Information

Club Officers

President:

Chris Best, KB3DXR
kb4dxr@yahoo.com

Vice President:

John C. Hilliard, K4JCH
k4jch@aol.com

Secretary:

Rolf Goedhart K4RGG.
k4rgg@arrl.net

Treasurer:

Heath Thorson, KC4HRX, 340-9531
hthorson@bellsouth.net

The club's address is Box 423, Huntsville, Ala. 35804. Meetings are held each Friday night at 7:30 P.M. at the American Red Cross Building, 1101 Washington Street. Dues are \$12.00 per year, family memberships are \$15.00 per year. The club maintains a Web Site at "http://www.harc.net"

The North Alabama Repeater Association operates repeaters on 146.34 / 146.94, 147.78 / 147.18, 223.34 / 224.94 and 448.5 / 443.5. NARA dues are \$16.00 per year and may be sent to NARA at P.O. Box 18941 Huntsville, AL 35804-8941.

The club's packet radio interest group, HUNTSPAC, maintains an extensive packet network for the Huntsville area. Dues for use of this network are \$15.00 per year, and can be paid through the HARC Secretary-Treasurer listed above.

The club's ATV special interest group, TVATV operates an ATV repeater. It's input frequency is 439.25 MHz and its output is 421.25 MHz. A voice coordination repeater is operated with output frequency of 145.33 MHz, input 600 kHz down.

The Vox is published the third Friday of each month except for August. Editor of the Vox is Frank Emens, W4HFU, 3714 Lakewood Circle, Huntsville, Ala. 35811 or femens@hiwaay.net. Material of interest to the HARC membership should be submitted to the editor by the second Friday of the month of publication.

"Vox", Vol 45, Nr. 7, July, 2005

A Newsletter published monthly except for August by the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 423, Huntsville, AL 35804

From The (Outgoing) Prez

Well it looks like payback time. We have a president but we haven't gotten him installed yet. It seems to me we had the same problem last year. Paybacks?

Chris Best is the new president and the other officers have reenlisted.

It has been a pleasure serving as the prez for the last year. I thank the fellow officers and the club members for their support.

As of this writing it looks like we will be supporting the bike ride on Saturday the 17th.

Field day plans are well underway. We will again be operating 5 alfa from Intergraph. We still need help in all areas. so just show up Friday the 23 at !:00 at Intergraph to help set up. We will begin operating Saturday at !:00 and quit Sunday at !:00. Better still contact a Station manager or Tom Duncan or me to let us know what you want to do.

73, Woodie Zeigler K8GNM

Nara Notes:

Last month found me traveling out of country, so I couldn't get a an input to VOX in time for the last issue. I know you missed my ramblings. HiHi.

We've been busy getting the new mid-year newsletter and command sheet ready to mail out. It is a big task to get everything ready to go. We'll email to those that have valid email addresses. For those that don't we will mail it out using the post office. The goal is to have them in your hands before the July 15th mid-year NARA/HARC meeting. We plan on having some flyers down at Gigaparts as well.

We have secured a nice site for the 146.94 remote receiver. In the next couple of months we hope to get some time

to move it from Ron's to its new home atop Green Mountain.

As I write this, today I reactivated the southern half of the 6 mtr 53.21 MHz repeater. It is back up on Green Mountain. This is the UHF link receiver and 53.21 transmitter piece of the repeater. Yesterday I put the northern half of the six meter repeater on the bench. It tested out 100%. So it is ready to redeploy to Monte-sano Mountain. So stay tuned on 53.21 for the repeater to come back alive soon.

I've also reactivated the 444.300 MHz (103.5) repeater on Green Mountain as well. Give it a try some time. It is open to all.

I will be asking each of the technical committee repeater managers to organize some field trips to the various repeater sites. If you are assigned to one

CAVEC License Exams

Exam sessions are held at 9:00 AM the first Saturday of each month unless a holiday causes the session to be delayed for one week.

Upcoming sessions are:

Saturday, July 2

Saturday, August 6

For information contact:

Larry Frost, KR4GU, 864-3244

kr4gu@hamfest.org

Or

Don Tunstill, W4NO, 536-3904

dontunstill@hamfest.org

Exam Sessions are held the 3rd Saturday of each month at 1:00. In even numbered months they are held at the Athens EOC. In odd numbered months they are held in Madison at Intergraph, Building 15

For information contact Bob Hudson, W4RKH, 461-7905

of the repeaters, I hope you can make it for a tour. As it gets organized, I'll send out some email notices in advance.

I've gotten a hold of some software to allow me to create PDF files of the power point training presentations I gave at the first of the year. Those power points were HUGE memory hogs. The PDF versions are much smaller in memory size. If they are small enough, I'm hoping to email those out to the technical committee members soon.

In closing, yours truly is running the HARC 15/80 mtr SSB Field day station again this year. A lot of work by a lot of individuals goes into this every year. I've got some open slots, so if you get this before Field day arrives, drop by and have some fun.

73, NARA President Ralph Hogan W4XE
W4XE@qsl.net

Hello To All That Will...

Boy, time has certainly been moving on since the last Huntsville Hamfest, and it's time once again to solicit help with the various positions we have to work, before, during and after the Hamfest closes.

The Huntsville Hamfest enjoys a great reputation for many reasons, but one of the biggest reasons is because of the most friendly and eager to help group of Hamfest Workers I've ever seen. This same feeling is expressed over and over again by the Dealers and Flea Market Vendors, as well as the many Folks that attend the Hamfest each year.

We need all the help we can get to make the 2005 Hamfest as successful as possible. If you receive The Vox, you'll be mailed a card as usual, to indicate if you can work, and what times and days that will fit your schedule.

A person does not have to be a member of HARC or NARA to work the Hamfest. If you know anyone that is not currently a Member, and is interested in working with the Hamfest, tell him or her to get in touch with me, Charlie Emerson at (256) 882-9137 from 8AM to 8PM or email me at bluzman512@comcast.net

Thank you very much to those that have worked in the past, and thanks in advance to those that will work this year.

73, Charlie Emerson, N4OKL

The 2005 ARRL Southeastern Division Convention!

Get ready! This year the Huntsville Hamfest will host the largest ARRL Convention in the Southeast. You're invited to be a part of this great amateur radio event. There will be wide selection of interesting forums, including Alabama ARRL Emergency

HARC ACTIVITY CALENDAR FOR July, 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	29 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	30 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	1 HARC Meeting	2 *TWIAR CAVEC Amateur License Exams, Red Cross Bldg, 0900
3	4	5 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	6 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	7 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	8 HARC Meeting	9 *TWIAR
10	11	12 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	13 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	14 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	15 HARC Meeting NARA Mid Year Meeting	16 *TWIAR
17	18	19 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	20 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	21 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	22 HARC Meeting Big Stick On Night Help prepare a 20,000 piece mailing.	23 *TWIAR
24 31	25	26 ATV Net 2000 Check In 145.33	27 SE Linked Rptr Net 2000 +442.775/PL 203.5	28 EMERGENCY NET on 34/94 @ 1930 Skywarn Net on 147.24 @ 2000	29 HARC Meeting	30 *TWIAR

*TWIAR -- This Week In Amateur Radio, +442.775 PL203.5 Hz 8 PM Every Saturday
 ATV Net @ 20:00, Check in on 145.33, Tuesdays
 Southeast Linked Repeater Net on +442.775, PL 203.5 Hz @ 20:00, Wednesdays
 Madison County Emergency Net on 34/94 @19:30, Thursdays
 SkyWarn Net on 147.24 @ 20:00, Thursdays

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Come see us next to Chili's!

Communications forum at 12 Noon, guest speaker will be Mr. Jim Walker, Director of the Alabama Department of Homeland Security. Other guests will be Bill Moore, NC1L DX card checking, and Dan Miller, K3UFG, emergency communications training from ARRL HQ.

Plan to come for the weekend and experience all you can at the 2005 ARRL Southeastern Division Convention.

*73, Greg Sarratt W4OZK Alabama Section Manager
American Radio Relay League*

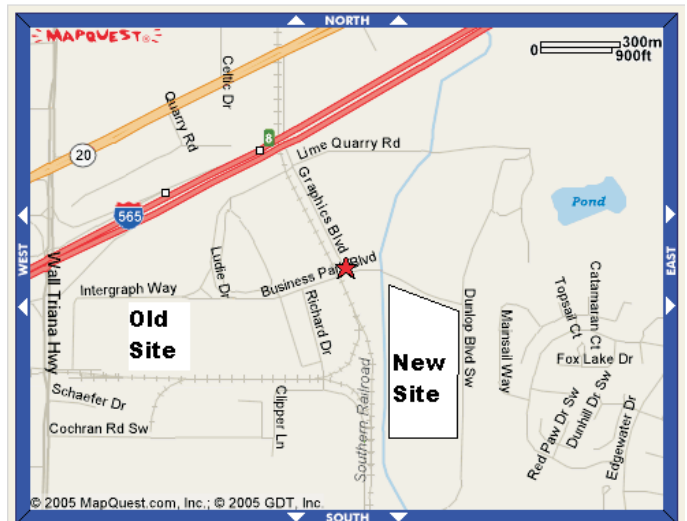
Field Day

This weekend is the most exciting operating event of the year for Amateur Radio. Of course I'm talking about Field Day 2005. Don't miss your chance to be a part of this fun event. Several folks have been working hard to ensure that this year's event will go down in the history books as one of the best. But it gets better, you too could be the proud owner of a.....Umm sorry wrong sales pitch. Sorry for that turn out into left field (pardon the analogy) but you get the picture. We want you to be a part of the action and have fun.

Thanks to Tom Duncan for all of the efforts in preparation for Field Day. He has been sending out regular updates to our Field Day coordinators. You read that correctly, coordinators as in plural. It takes everyone coming together to help and share in the fun. One of the best things about Field Day is

the teamwork that happens that last weekend in June each year. Its just part of been a ham. It is what we do.

The journey to get K4BFT on the air starts as it normally does on Friday. The trailer is loaded with towers, base plates, guys, power cords and the antennas. Everyone convoys to the Intergraph site that will be different from previous years. See attached map for directions. After 1pm, tower assembly begins at the site. A total of Five towers will be raised this year due to the site change. Generators will be placed and cables



ARRL Alabama Section Leadership Team.
Check www.arrl-al.org/officers.htm for address and phone info.

Section Manager: Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, w4ozk@arrl.org
 Affiliated Club Coordinator: Jeff L OBrien, KV4CX, jeffo@zebra.net
 Assistant Section Manager for Youth Activities, Rebekah A. Dorff, WG4Y, wg4y@arrl.net
 Bulletin Manager: William K, Hensley, WG8S, whensley11@comcast.net
 Alabama Frequency Coordinator - Liaison Alabama Repeater Council: Ron Shaffer, W4VM, w4vm@comcast.net
 Official Observer Coordinator: Ken Magnant, WA4WEY, kmagnant@att.net

Public Information Coordinator: James Spann, WO4W, wo4w@jamesspann.com
 Section Emergency Coordinator: Jay Isbell, KA4KUN, sec@arrl-al.net
 State Government Liaison: Richard D. Doll, KU4PY, ku4py@arrl.net
 Silent Key Coordinator: Doc Gordon King, W4XI
 Section Traffic Manager, Randy Cox, AI4FP, ai4fp@yahoo.com
 Technical Coordinator, Tim Winger, KY5R, timky5r@direcway.com

ran to the station locations. Campers will be picked up Saturday morning about 9:30 or so and delivered to the site. Once the campers are in place, Station managers will ready the radio equipment. K4BFT will go on the air at 1pm and stay on until 1pm Sunday making tons o contacts.

Every station needs operators so contact a station manager and offer to operate. Words can't describe how much fun it is to participate in Field Day. You have to experience it for yourself to get the full effect. I hope to see you there calling CQ CQ Field Day This is K. 4. Big Fat Turkey.

73, Chris Reed KF4MMF

The Giggle Box

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE WHO WAS BORN IN THE MONTH OF JULY!!!

Notes from Giggles:

I have been visiting my granddaughters for the past week and half. We have had an enjoyable and busy time. We have laughed, run, played in the swimming pool, went shopping, went out to eat, etc. But it's almost time for Memaw to go back home and work to make more money to spend on the granddaughters. You know that money doesn't grow on trees.

While I was gone, a little bird told me that it seemed like everything happened at the radio club. I'm sure that when I come back, I will be catching on up on all the gossip for weeks.

I really am looking forward to a new experience at Field Day. We will be in a different location at Intergraph and it

should be interesting. We will find out who is tough and who is not. Hey, I might be one of the weak ones. As you know we will be having a Field Day picnic. We will be having the usual hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, etc. We would appreciate it if everyone would bring a covered dish (with food in it.) There will be a donation can somewhere on the tables for any donations. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, contact me, but be careful, I've been known to delegate any suggestions. RIN Don't forget to bring lawn chairs, sunscreen, hats, etc.

While I'm thinking about it, I hope the Dads have a fantastic Father's Day. CUL

A Joke or Two

A man walking along a California beach was deep in prayer. Suddenly the sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, the Lord said, "Because you have TRIED to be faithful to me in all ways, I will send you one miracle."

The man said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can drive over anytime I want."

The Lord said, "Your request is very materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking. The supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific! The concrete and steel it would take! It will nearly exhaust several natural resources. I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of something that would honor and glorify me."

The man thought about it for a long time. Finally he said, "Lord, I wish that I could understand my wife. I want to know how she feels inside, what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment, why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, and how I can make a woman truly happy."

The Lord replied, "You want two lanes or four on that bridge?"

7 reasons not to mess with a child

1. A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah." The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

2. A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

3. A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with

her five and six year olds After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat your brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."

4. One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white." The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

5. The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. "Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, he's a doctor.' A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."

6. A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face." "Yes," the class said. "Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?" A little fellow shouted, "Cause your feet ain't empty."

7. The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A

child had written a note, "Take all you want - God is watching the apples.

Things To Ponder:

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Business conventions are important because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

Scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job.

No one has more driving ambition than the boy who wants to buy a car.

There are no new sins....the old ones just get more publicity.

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 AM. It could be a right number.

Think about this..., No one ever says "It's only a game" when his team is winning.

Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.

Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.

I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.

Be careful reading the fine print. There's no way you're going to like it.

Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?

Money can't buy happiness — but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Corvette than in a Yugo.

After a certain age, if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you are probably dead.

Did you know?

The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.

Thought for July

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.

Puzzle

FI OUY OD TON VAHE A SREEN OF MUHRO, UOY BBROLYPA DO TON VAHE YAN EESSN TA LAL.

73, Peggy Bell (Giggles) K4EGB
pbell@hiwaay.net SEW LONG!

An Author In Our Midst

The Vox received a copy of a press release about the introduction of a book written by Bob Luther, KG4LOQ called "Corporate Space". According to the release, the book describes the politics, intrigue, ego and power that can get involved in the course of a major space project.

Bob has also written a book entitled "Skybolt", an aviation adventure novel. He was intimately involved from the Saturn Apollo program to the Space Shuttle program as a designer and systems engineer before moving into Engineering Management. He is a commercial, instrument rated pilot and licensed aircraft mechanic.

There will be a book signing at Shaver's Books, 2362 Whitesburg Drive in Huntsville from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm on June 21. You'll also be able to acquire the book through the web site www.centurionpublishers.com.

73, Ye Editor

From The Editor's Wstebasket

We are sorry to announce that Bob Johnson, WB4NLJ, became a Silent Key this month. Until he fell ill, Bob was a regular attendee at HARC meetings. He will surely be missed.

Please pay attention to Charlie Emerson's call for help with the Hamfest. It takes a lot of ham-power to put on the Huntsville Hamfest and we all benefit from a successful event. Remember, when you go to a hamfest somewhere else, you are a guest and its you're there to enjoy yourself. When you go to the Huntsville Hamfest, you are part of the host organization and you're you need to make sure the visitors enjoy their experience at the 'fest. That and enjoying yourself are not mutually exclusive. There's a lot of satisfaction in sending

folks home from the hamfest happy with their experience here.

When I get ready to print mailing labels for the Vox, the computer and the database program conspire to check the current date and figure out who is a current member and should get a Vox. I believe it gives folks something like a three month grace period before dumping them from the list.

Today I told the 'puter that it was December 31, 2004 and checked the mailing list — 269 addresses. Then I went back to today's date and checked again — 233 addresses. That means 36 people who were members last year have not renewed their membership for this year. I usually think to print a reminder about that in March, but forgot it this time until the mailing list reminded me.

We are in danger of dropping below the number of mail pieces to qualify for the bulk mailing rate. We have lost the (small) discount that goes with having at least 150 pieces in a single 3-digit zip code. The number of "358" addresses has dropped below the limit.

For this issue only, I'm setting my calendar back to 12-31-2004 just so those 36 folks will get this reminder. Check the "Member Through" line on your mailing label. If it has expired, get with Heath Thorson and get back in the club. If you really do intend not to renew, we'll miss you. Goodbye. If you don't renew or make arrangements with Heath, you'll not get a Vox after this one. A good time and place to get squared away is at the HARC booth at the Huntsville Hamfest.

73, Frank Emens, W4HFU

2005 Annual Cotton Row Run

Huntsville celebrated Memorial day with the traditional Cotton Row Run. In fact it was the 26th time. It consists of a 10 kilometer run and a 5 Kilometer run as well as a 1K run for kids and their parents. From the beginning HARC has supported the Huntsville Track Club with communication support. The same for this year.

Our fearless leader this year was Don K4DRW who was at the start of the

race. One of our tasks is to synchronize the stop watches at the 5 miles posts. The timers are listening to the broadcast of the gun shot. The top runners are usually from foreign countries and are attracted by the prize money, but this year we had some local people score in the top. The runners like to pace themselves and that's why there are timers at the different mile markers.

On mile post 1 was Dick W1TV, mile post 2, Jamie W4LDX, mile post 3 half-way up the steepest hill in the course, Rolf K4RGG, mile post 4, Kevin KG4RCP and milepost 5, Mark AA2MA. All went well, the top runner finished just over 30 minutes...30:50 the top female at 34:33.

Kevin responded to a collapsed runner on the course, who was promptly taken to Huntsville Hospital, Jamie brought a runner back to the finish after a minor injury. We also report the race numbers and times for the first 10 male and female runners back to the start once they pass our milepost.

The weather was excellent, the spirits were high. What is amazing is when you cheer on the runners how many smiles you get back no matter how steep the hill or how tired the runner. The oldest participants were Margaret Hagerty 82 and Jim Howell 83... hope I'm in that good a shape when I'm 80... A total of 1392 people participated in the 10 K run and 732 in the 5 K as well as 213 in the Kids race...

Don, Dick, Jamie and Kevin covered the 5 K race. Thanks all for the great help. We all went home with our reward... a cotton row run T-shirt and knowing we made a difference. Consider helping out next year. It only takes a few hours and is very rewarding.

Check Page 7, bottom left for a shot of our CRR support team.

73 de Rolf K4RGG

From The Section Manager

Hot Off The Press

Hot off the Press! 2005 / 2006 Repeater Directory

Join or Renew your ARRL Membership with the Alabama Section Manager and receive a NEW ARRL Repeater directory!

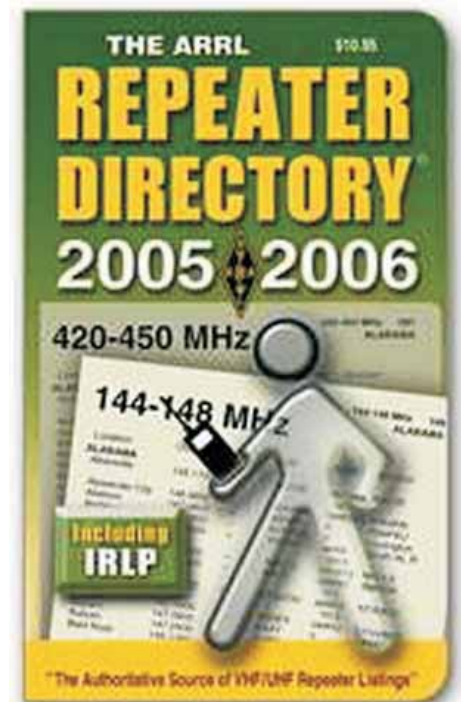
The Section Manager, W4OZK can be found around town, at club meetings at Hamfest and w4ozk@arrl.org. For more Alabama ARRL information see www.arrl-al.org

NALWARN

The North Alabama Weather Alert Response Network (NALWARN) organization is looking for volunteers to provide communications to the National Weather Service during severe weather events. Emergency communications is a valuable public service that amateur radio operators can provide.

If interested, contact NALWARN coordinator, Greg Sarratt W4OZK at w4ozk@arrl.org

73, Greg Sarratt W4OZK Alabama Section Manager American Radio Relay League National Association of Amateur Radio Alabama Section web site: www.arrl-al.org



Field Day Preparation

A team of HARC volunteers spent several hours in W4HFU's back yard checking over the FD essentials stored there. A CD with the pictures on this page appeared at W4HFU's door the next day..



Top Section Tango



Anchor Man



All Laid Out



Father & Son Solution



Cotton Row Support team l to r: Jamie W4LDX, Don K4DRW, Kevin KG4RCP, Dick W1TV and Rolf K4RGG, not pictured Mark AA2MA.



I think it fit last year!

DON'T FORGET
Field Day June 25 & 26
Details Inside

>>ATTENTION!!<<

Before you tear open the “dot” holding this issue together, turn it over and take a look at the address label. Check the “Member Through” line on the label. If your membership is not current this is

**the
 LAST VOX**

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Get right with the Treasurer if you want to stay on the list.

Labels must be parallel to the bottom of the mail piece within 5 degrees. Please affix labels carefully. Cover this block completely.

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