

W4DW

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

ARRL FIELD DAY



www.arrl.org

ARRL Field Day 2025

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

THIS PRESENTATION

- Field Day: The Purpose, History, and Objective
- Schedule of Events (Time and Date)
- Our Setup and Operation
- The Exchange
- Scoring (One Measurement of Success)
- The Take Away

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PURPOSE

- Radio Skill Preparedness and Demonstration
- Advance Public Awareness of Amateur Radio
- Introduction to Prospective New Hams
- Facilitate Cooperation and Radio Education
- Advance Radio Listening and Transmitting Skills
- Social Gathering and Fun Game/Competition

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HISTORY

- First Field Day was in 1933
- Very Energetic from the Start, Quickly Became Very Popular
- Rules Have Changed Over the Years, Resulting Mostly from Attempts to “Game the System”
- Max 20 Transmitters now, Old Days it Was “No Limit”
- GOTA Started in the 1980’s to Introduce Radio to Non-Hams

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OBJECT (WHAT IS IT?)

- An Operating Event
- Contact Other Participating Stations Over the Air
- Exchange Information and Retain (Log)
- Learn to Execute Radio Operations Off-Grid
- Experience “Less than Optimal” RF Conditions (QRN, QSB, and QRM)
- Show Amateur Radio Goodwill and Public Service to the Folks

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DATE AND TIME (WHEN IS IT?)

- Always the Fourth Full Weekend in June
- QTH: Raleigh Police Club, 3500 Leonard Rd., Knightdale, NC
- Date: Friday, June 27, 2025 through Sunday, June 29, 2025
- Setup: 9:00AM Friday
- Radio Operation: 2:00PM Saturday through 2:00PM Sunday
- Teardown: 2:01 Sunday until Completed (Usually About 5PM)
- Education Class: “Fun With Filters” N1FUA, Saturday Afternoon
- Food: Pizza late on Friday
- Food: Main BBQ Supper 6pm Saturday
- Food: Breakfast Sunday Morning by Oliver (Chef Son of W4MY)

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OUR OPERATION (HOW WE DO IT) RAIN OR SHINE!

- Four Radio Stations (Three plus GOTA) “Off-The-Grid”
- Each Station has a Mode (SSB, CW, Digital -FT4/8)
- Operators pre-signup (Signup Genius)
- Food Provided
- Education, Richard, N1FUA, Saturday
- Public Presence with Info Table and GOTA
- Everyone Helps Out, Can-Do Spirit!

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OUR OPERATION (CONTINUED)

- Class 3A – Club Emergency Power, Three Stations plus GOTA, 100W
- GOTA (Get On The Air) Call Sign is N4RAL
- GOTA: for Non, New, and Generally Inactive Hams to Gain Experience
- GOTA: Requires a Control Operator Present at All Times
- GOTA: Will be using SSB (Voice) Mode Predominately
- GOTA: Help and Mentoring will be Closely Available
- GOTA: Slower Pace, Lots of Time for Questions and Tutoring

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The EXCHANGE (What You Say)

- Relax and Have Fun. There is No “Pressure” to Perform
- Call CQ (Seek out other stations) or “Hunt and Pounce”
- Establish Contact (Tell them our call sign, W4DW, and get/log theirs)
- Swap Information (Get their section and class, tell them ours)
- Our Exchange to TX is, “3Alpha North Carolina” or “3A NC” on CW
- Make Sure its Correct and Ask for Fills and Repeats if Needed
- End with a Cordial Salutation (“73”, “Thank You”, “Good Luck”, etc.)
- There are 83 ARRL Sections plus “DX”. Use the Abbreviations for log

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SCORING (Making Points)

- One Point for Each Voice (SSB) QSO
- Two Points for Each CW QSO
- Two Points for Each FT4/8-Digital QSO
- Power Multiplier for us will be “-x2-” (100W)
- Bonus Points
- GOTA Points as above plus 5 points per op (20 for youth-op)
- Publicity Points

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THE TAKE AWAY

- Radio operating and message handling in a public emergency is stressful and rarely “goes as scripted”. We must be skillful and able to adapt.
- Playing this “Game” in our hobby is a great way to practice our operating. We must have the ability to get along and work together. This “fun” makes it not so much like “work”.
- Showing off and spreading the word about Amateur Radio helps dispel a common belief that “Ham Radio” is not up to date. It’s not just “our grandfather’s” hobby.
- Let’s Get Out and Have Fun! SEE YOU THERE!