



# **Prospect Hill Intermod**

**The News Letter of the Waltham Amateur Radio Association  
and the "Heavy Hitters"**

**Check out our web site at [www.wara64.org](http://www.wara64.org) !**

**Spring / Summer 2006**

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The Waltham  
Amateur Radio  
Association is  
affiliated with  
the A.R.R.L.

## **PHI NEWSLETTER STAFF**

Publisher – Eliot Mayer, W1MJ  
Editor – Karen Russell, N1MSF  
and Steve Russell, WA1HUD

WA1HUD's 2 Meter Antenna  
instructions on how to build  
one will be in the next issue.

If anyone has anything they like to see or say please come to  
our meetings on the last Wednesday of each month.

We could always use a speaker.

Temporary meeting place is at the Waltham Library

2006 Field Day  
June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

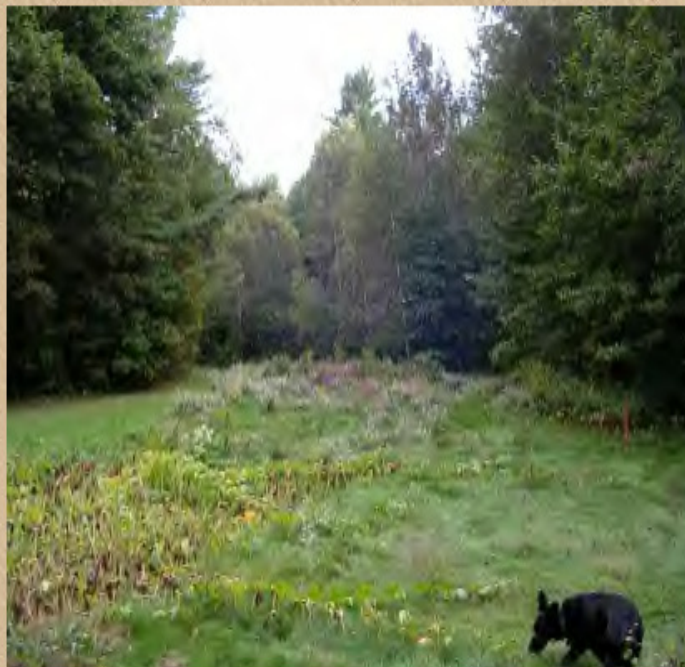
Visit: <http://www.wara64.org/fd>



# Waltham Amateur Radio Association

## Field Day 2006

Last updated 5/11/06 by W1MJ.



The WB5JMJ Upper Field

**When:** June 24 & 25, 2006.

**Where:**

WB5JMJ's Upper & Lower Fields  
5 Kimball Road  
Hancock, NH

The site is about 1.5 hours drive from Waltham in the scenic Monadnock region of southern New Hampshire.

**Directions:** To be added

## The Waltham ARA Field Day Web Site

The 2006 WARA FD Committee consists of W1MJ (general chairman), WA1HUD (stations), and N1HID (food). If you are interested in participating, please get in touch with Eliot at 617-484-1089, [w1mj@arrl.net](mailto:w1mj@arrl.net), or on the air.

Field Day is a lot of fun, so keep June 24 & 25, 2006 free on your calendar.

## WARA Field Day – June 24 & 25, 2006

by Eliot Mayer, W1MJ

In the last issue of PHI, we introduced plans for WARA's planned participation in the 2006 ARRL Field Day. Now the big event is almost here, and the plans are taking shape.

Field Day (FD) is an annual event intended to help hams get their equipment and their operating skills in good shape for emergency communication. It is also a major social event for many ham radio clubs. And though the on-the-air activity sounds a lot like a contest, FD is not considered to be a contest, and participants need no prior contesting experience.

We will be doing FD, quite literally, in a field. Or more precisely, two adjoining fields. Mike Matteson, WB5JMJ, has offered to let us use the fields behind his house in the Monadnock region of southern New Hampshire. This site, in the town of Hancock, is approximately 1.5 hours drive from Waltham.

Some clubs get quite competitive about their FD operation, but the priorities of the WARA FD are to get people on the air regardless of their experience, and to have fun. Since we will have extra- and advanced-class control operators at the site, all participants will be able to get on the HF stations, even if they have a technician license, or no license.

The fun will include food and live music. Even the operating will be fun - the setup will include a "vintage station", courtesy of John KB1FQG. This station will use paper logging, and operate on AM and CW. A second, more conventional station will operate SSB and CW, and use computer logging.

In preparation for Field Day, the May 31 WARA meeting program will be "Contesting 101", with hands-on training for FD operation. Both paper and computer logging will be covered. But don't worry if you miss the meeting – we'll be glad to provide hands-on training during FD itself.

A WARA FD Web Site, <http://wara64.org/fd>, is being used to coordinate the planning, and to provide information to those interested in participating. By the time FD rolls around, the site will include driving directions, carpool offers & requests, a list of who are planning to come and what gear they are bringing, and more.

## • About WARA Field Day 2006

- The ARRL Field Day is an annual event intended to help hams get their equipment and their operating skills in good shape for emergency communication. It is also a major social event for many ham radio clubs. And though the on-the-air activity sounds a lot like a contest, FD is not considered to be a contest, and participants need no prior contesting experience.
- Since the Waltham ARA is known primarily as a repeater club, one might not expect much interest in the ARRL Field Day. But one might be wrong. Last time we did FD was in 1998, and it went very well indeed. It was the club's 60th anniversary, and we had just recovered our old callsign, W1MHL, with the then-new vanity call program. We ran 2 HF stations and a VHF station from Prospect Hill in Waltham (near the repeaters). Organized by Kip Shustak, N1AUP, this operation had 15 participants and made 920 contacts. There was much interest in making FD an annual WARA activity, but the location has been a showstopper. Prospect Hill was very nice, but the cost of requirements placed on us by the City of Waltham, for multiple porta-potties and extra police coverage, could not be afforded on an annual basis. An alternative site has not been located...until now!
- Mike Matteson, WB5JMJ, has offered to let us use the fields behind his house in southern Hancock, New Hampshire. This site, approximately 1.5 hours drive from Waltham, takes the definition of "Field Day" quite literally, as shown on our [Site Map & Information](#) page. Mike doesn't require extra police coverage, and has offered the use of his bathroom so that we won't need to rent porta-poties. There is plenty of parking available about 50 feet from the house. So unlike our 1998 operation, the cost to the club should be very small.
- At the September 2005 WARA meeting, we discussed our FD philosophy and goals, and formed the beginnings of the FD committee. We decided that we are more interested in getting people on the air and having fun than in our score. Since we will have extra-class control operators at the site, all participants will be able to get on the HF stations, even if they have a technician license, or no license. Just for fun, the setup will include a "vintage station", with paper logging.
- One station will use computer logging, for which W1MJ provided hands-on training at the May club meeting, and will provide on-site training at Field Day. We'll be using an excellent free logging program called "N1MM Logger". If you want to try it at home before FD, you can download it from <http://www.n1mm.com>.
- The 2006 FD Committee consists of W1MJ (general chairman), WA1HUD (stations), and N1HID (food). If you are interested in participating in the planning, please get in touch with Eliot, Steve, or Rick.
- Field Day is a lot of fun, so keep June 24 & 25, 2006 free on your calendar.
- [WARA Field Day 2006 Home Page](#) | [Waltham Amateur Radio Association Home Page](#)

Dear WARA Field Day Participants,

Field Day is on June 24 and 25 - only a few weeks away. The plans for our operation from Hancock, NH are shaping up nicely.

Please check out the information on the WARA FD web site, <http://www.wara64.org/fd>. The site has been updated to include directions, a schedule, Contesting 101 (from last week's club meeting), and more.

Please be sure to check out the "The List" (<http://www.wara64.org/fd/list.htm>) to see what we think you've promised to bring. If you have anything useful not listed, let me know. Also, check out the bottom of the list to see **Stuff Everyone Should Bring For Themselves**.

If I haven't spoken to you recently, please reply to confirm that you're are coming, or not coming. And if you're coming, will you be there for the whole time (Saturday 9 AM through Sunday 3:30 PM), or what? We need to give Rick, N1HID, now in serving as Chief Cook and Bottle Washer, a reasonable idea of how many mouths there are to be fed. We also want to make sure that there is enough tent space for those staying overnight. And of course, we need to make sure that we have enough people for setup and cleanup.

Looking forward to seeing y'all on FD.

73,

Eliot, W1MJ

**WALTHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Waltham Amateur Radio Association operates repeaters on 2 Meters (04/64), 6 Meters, 220 MHz, 440 MHz, and 900 MHz. The repeaters are free and open for everyone to use. But repeaters have bills to pay, just as you do. A \$15 annual membership would help support these repeaters, as well as help to keep you informed about club activities and other aspects of ham radio. If you cannot afford \$15, please send what you can. If you are inclined to donate more, we will put it to good use. Please print this form, complete it legibly, and return it to:

**Waltham Amateur Radio Association  
Post Office Box 411  
Waltham, MA 02454**

*If name and address are correct on label on reverse side, you don't need to write them here:*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Call Sign** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #** \_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you an ARRL member?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**This year's donation enclosed (\$15 nominal):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you would like to get involved in any of the following Waltham ARA activities:

\_\_\_\_\_ Repeater Maintenance/ Construction      \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker for Club Meetings

\_\_\_\_\_ Public Service Activities      \_\_\_\_\_ Field Day

\_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter Writing or Production      \_\_\_\_\_ Public Relations for W.A.R.A.

\_\_\_\_\_ Contribute to the W.A.R.A. web site      \_\_\_\_\_ Photographer for W.A.R.A. events

Comments about the club, its repeaters, our web site or the newsletter?

Please check expiration date on mailing label.

**Waltham Amateur Radio Association**  
**P.O. Box 411**  
**Waltham, MA. 02454**

