



## UPCOMING EVENTS & LOOKING AHEAD

**Ongoing:** WRRRC ARES net...Every Monday at 19:30L, 147.015, positive offset and 100 Hz PL tone.

**Ongoing:** All sorts of Ham Radio celebratory activities for the 100th anniversary of the ARRL. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/centennial-gso-party#QSLs> or <http://www.arrl.org/centennial>

**July 8:** Come out and enjoy a regularly scheduled meeting of the WRRRC. We start at 19:00L in the EMT room of Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend, VT. The program will be .....

There is always a wealth of information at [www.westriverradio.org](http://www.westriverradio.org)—Also check out WRRRC events on the club calendar at [http://www.westriverradio.org/WRRRC/WRRRC\\_Pages/prgmplan.html](http://www.westriverradio.org/WRRRC/WRRRC_Pages/prgmplan.html)

**July 26:** Monthly meeting of the WRRRC Board of Directors at the PanAsian restaurant in Brattleboro, VT by Staples. All our welcome. Bring your ideas for what club activities or suggestions to make your club even better than it is. Everyone present always enjoy themselves.

**July 15:** Saint Swithun's Day. For further information go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swithun> And stop telling people that you can't find anything of worth in this newsletter.

eleventh consecutive Field Day.

In the meantime check out a few pictures of Field Day 2014. There is also a chart of all the operators and guests.



**W1CWB, Chas, the master of flippery**



**N1XSS, Rob sets a wicked good table**



**The CW station**

four began setting up the antennas. We went overboard this year on hanging wire. When all was said and done we had six antennas ready to radiate our signals thither and yon.

We returned to our site again the next day to finish it all up; setting up screen houses, hooking up rigs, and enjoying an excellent lunch.

Now is as good a time as any to thank the people responsible for feeding our hungry team this year. Chas, W1CWB, and Rob, N1XSS did a superb job of purchasing the food and preparing several meals for the famished operators and guests.

Thanks also need to be given to all who devoted their weekend to getting it all set up, operating, tearing it down at the end, or just stopping by for a visit or to enjoy some dining and conversation with us.

The bands were not all that hot this year, but hot enough to keep each of our 3A stations active in dispensing a lot of RF energy. I don't have all the numbers in yet, but there will be more details in the August issue.

Hot bands or not, what's NOT to enjoy about Field Day? Since the 1930s it remains the most popular operating event sponsored by the ARRL. Those of us who take part know what makes it so enjoyable. You can find out, too. Set aside the last full weekend in June, 2015 and come join the other Happy Hams from WRRRC for our

**W1ZS, Burt performing his magic with the dits and dahs**



**Part of the team poses in front of the CW station: KB1J, Rich/K1KU, Darrel/W1CWB, Chas/N1XSS, Rob/K1JON, John/N1TOX, John**



**WK1L, Bro Frank**  
**W1ERE, Irv**  
**KB1J, Rich**

**Log checking at the phone station.**

KB1J, Rich—Op, tear down  
 KB1MQD, Karen—Guest  
 W1CWB, Chas—Op, cook, setup, tear down  
 N1TOX, John—Op, setup, tear down  
 K1JON, John—Op, setup, tear down  
 K1KU, Darrel—Op, setup, tear down  
 W1ZS, Burt—Op  
 KB1OQG, Gaila—Guest  
 WK1L, Bro Frank—Op  
 W1ERE, Irv—Guest  
 N1XSS, Rob—Cook, tear down  
 KB1YCD, Mary—Op  
 K1ZS, Dave—Guest  
 Suzanne, N1TOX YL—Guest  
 Dorothy, W1ERE YL—Guest



[Ed: It's now time to check out the latest happenings in the exciting world of Ham Radio. We turn again to our top notch reporters at [Ham.Hijinks.com](http://Ham.Hijinks.com)

## Little Piggy Kit Will Help New Hams Fit In

By K5KV N on the scene

**WELLSBURG, Missouri** – With the number of new amateur radio licenses on the rise, one company is stepping in to help new hams fit in with seasoned operators at Hamvention.

The "Little Piggy Kit" from Peanut Whistle Transmitters claims to contain the essential items needed to make a brand-new radio operator look like "one of the guys."

Each kit contains the following:

- Trucker hat with antenna mounted on top (available in 2m or 70cm)
- Paracord survivalist belt – suitable for holding accessories such as HT, multi-tool and/or flip phone (accessories not included)
- Flashing LED callsign badge
- "[Game of Rohns](#)" t-shirt
- Sweatpants
- Crocs shoes



"This kit will turn those little piggies into full-fledged hams!" said Erastus Pflemming, Director of Peanut Whistle marketing.

The kits are available now via mail order for \$59.90, and will be available at the Peanut Whistle booth at Hamvention in Dayton, Ohio.

## "Valleys on the Air" Program Created By Acrophobic Ham Operator

By K5PO, on the scene

**Banton, Colo.; March 29, 2013** — Willie Wilcox, 56, of eastern Banton, is an avid outdoorsman and amateur radio operator. Willie was inspired by his daughter Wendy, also an ham, into creating a new on the air activity.

"Lately, Wendy has really gotten into a popular ham activity called 'Summits on the Air', or SOTA." said Mr. Wilcox. "On these SOTA activations, she climbs way up into these mountains and works all kinds of stations. She sends me all these colorful photographs from some of Colorado's highest peaks. Here is one from Pikes P..P...Peak," Wilcox says with a fearful hesitation, as he shows me a picturesque scene he's printed.

As much as Wilcox enjoys spending time with Wendy, he won't be joining her on any SOTA activations anytime soon. Wilcox suffers from acrophobia, or a fear of heights, and the mere thought of Colorado's high elevations makes sweat begin to bead up on his forehead.

"I'm proud of Wendy and her bravery, but I just can't... whew... can't do that!" said a worried Wilcox. "Last week she sent me a video of her operating on Bravado Pass and I fainted while watching it. But when I woke up, I had an idea. Why not flip this up! You see, I like to be low. I mean real low. So what about valleys? Why couldn't we activate those too?"

With that, Mr. Wilcox founded the "Valleys on the Air" program, or VOTA. "The lower you go, the more points. You can even earn extra by trying to activate areas that are underwater!" said Wilcox. He admits the VOTA program lacks some of the excitement of SOTA, and creates some unique challenges.

"In the valley, your signal just doesn't get out. It took us three activations of the Platania Ravine in Cavalara County to have a QSO. And in the end, the only way it worked was Wendy walked to the top of the hill with her HT and aimed her portable yagi down at me. I'm not sure if that even counts for QSO credit, frankly," said Wilcox.



So far, the program hasn't exactly risen to the top. "I've not got much website traffic yet," said Wilcox, and no one has tried to activate any other valleys as far as he's aware. Still, Wilcox is pressing on with the program, mentioning that a VLF activation of the Mariana Trench might just be the ticket to lift the program to new heights.

**CUL es 73 de K1KU SK**

