



SJRA Antenna Field Set up During Field Day

June 2026 ARRL Field Day South Jersey Radio Association

AA2SD/R Savich Field Marlton New Jersey 26-29th 2026 - This Soapbox narrative is submitted in support of our Field Day Activity Event. The purpose of this document is to share equipment details, operating experiences and capture moments from our Field Day Experience. The event is organized by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), and over 1,200 groups in the United States and Canada participate. Field Day was initiated in 1933. This tradition continues every year, and the South Jersey Radio Association has been operating nonstop as a club for 110 years.

Phase One Planning and Preparation for Field Day - Field Day starts every year with a well-executed plan for members to fill, with the overall coordination of our field day **Chairman Ken Botterbrodt K2WB**. Ken's leadership and experience over 25 years of coordinating this event is the most important ingredient to get it done both efficiently and on time. Launching a field day exercise is a multi-faceted task, including personnel coordination, equipment and resource planning, staffing, operating slot scheduling for operators, meal and hospitality planning, publicity and more. The most important thing from a club's perspective is the commitment and the spirit of volunteerism from club members required to pull off this event. We recruit both our newest members and more experienced members to participate in support of this event.

We hold several online web meetings throughout the year and have a final club meeting in person before the start of the event, all coordinated by our Chairman Ken, K2WB.

Here is a short list of a few of the tasks required:

- Assignment of Band Captains for recruitment of operators
- Management of the online field day operator's schedule
- Township Permits
- Publicity with local officials, coordinating with the Red Cross and local Police departments

- Coordination of antenna crews for multi-tower deployments
- Hospitality assignment and meal planning
- Safety Meeting

Field Day Timeslot
Request

Sign Up to Operate Now!

Don't forget to sign up to operate for Field Day!!! Click the box above!

C Q F D D E K 2 A A

SJRA FIELD DAY OPERATOR SCHEDULE

		KD2P									
7:00	7:59	KD2P			KD2JPV	W2CSH	W2JOY	N2LQH		5	
8:00	8:59	KD2P		KE2D	KD2JPV	W2CSH	N2LQH			5	
9:00	9:59			KE2D		KD2JPV	K2DD	KD2ST		4	
10:00	10:59		N2EY	KE2D	K2BL	W2CSH		KD2ST		5	
11:00	11:59	W2JAZ	N2EY		K2BL	W2RF	KD2JPV	KD2ST		6	K2WB
12:00	12:59	W2JAZ		KE2D	KD2WZC	W2RF	KD2JPV	AA2AW		6	
13:00	13:59	W2JAZ		KE2D	KD2WZC	W2RF	N2SCJ	AA2AW		6	
Hours of Scheduled:		22	8	8	18	18	23	22	0		Total
Hours Unscheduled:		2	16	16	6	6	1	2	24		119
											73
									% Scheduled		192
SJRA REPEATER CHECK		145.290 -600 PL 91.5			Site FM Simplex		144.465 MHz				
Target Class		7									

This is our operator schedule which is on a shared drive embedded in our website

Phase II the Move In And Site Set up at Field Day: Day one is the most important day to get the foundation completed for Field Day. This year we had a large group of volunteers to assist in the installation of multiple antennas at the site. Setting up operations for field day is highly reliant on safety and the predicted weather. Assembling the AB577 towers requires the orchestration of three antenna crews simultaneously. Although thunderstorms threatened during the day on Friday, our crews experienced good weather for set up and all of the larger antenna assemblies were completed safely before the rain came the next day.



Field Day Safety Officer - Frank Longbottom, AA2AW working on the 40m SSB tower

Our biggest concern during Phase II is the club's focus on safety and hydration. All crew members are required to wear hard hats during the installation, and a strict protocol is followed for the installation of these massive portable towers. The most experienced members are on these crews that offer the highest level of expertise for this task. Special thanks to our antenna crews for successfully setting up these towers again this year, with no safety issues and on schedule.



Al Witner N3AVT and Pay Doyle KD2P taking a break at Hospitality

Here's a brief summary list of our equipment deployed at Field Day:

- (4) AB577 Towers surplus Vietnam Microwave Relay Towers
- 2 Element 40 MTR Beam for CW
- 2 Element 40 MTR Beam for Phone
- 2 Element 20 MTR Beam Mono band
- 4 Element 20 Mtr Beam Mone Band
- Full Size 40 Mtr Vertical
- 2 each of center fed dipoles for 10/15/80 meters for both CW and Phone
- Satellite Tracking Antennas and rotors
- Multi-band dipole for GOTA operations
- 6 Mtr Moxon and multi-band vertical for VHF
- Dedicated air-conditioned Operation Trailer Shelter for CW Operators
- Dedicated air-conditioned T6 Trailer courtesy of Ken, K2WB for SSB Operations
- Satellite Emergency Trailer Set up courtesy of Joe, KC2SGV
- 600 Sq Ft. Club meeting Shelter and Hospitality area with 3 Tents and Rain Gutters

Phase III Operation and Contest Start - The SJRA operates as "7 A" or seven operating transmitters simultaneously. This task in itself is a challenge, to have the seats filled with operators throughout the contest period. In addition to our seven stations operating, Pete and Patty also operated the popular GOTA or get on the air station this year. This allows new operators to get a chance at making a contact and offers non-licensed younger operators to be exposed to Amateur Radio with supervision. A special thanks to Pete and Patty for providing guidance and direction to all of our Get on the Air participants.



Left to Right - Deputy Mayor Heather Cooper, Field Day Chairman - K2WB, Mayor Jaclyn Veasy and her sister (name withheld)

Phase IV Site Visits from Public Officials - Having public officials visit your ARRL Field Day is an excellent way to demonstrate amateur radio's role in emergency communications and community safety. Hosting an invited elected official or agency official earns your club a 100-point bonus per category for your final submission. The SJRA is pleased to report on the following Official Visits during our Savich Field Field Day operations.

- **Evesham Mayor Jaclyn Veasy**
- **Deputy Mayor Heather Cooper**
- **Councilwoman Krystal Hunter**
- **Councilman Christian Smith**
- **Bill Kelly NB1LL** American Red Cross
- Evesham Township Police Officers
- ARRL Division Director **Marty Newingham, AG3I**
- ARRL State Government Liaison **Chris Cannatella KCGNQ**



Upper Left: Pete Greene N2LVI, Ken Botterbrodt K2WB, and Bill Kelly NB1ILL
Upper Right: Councilman Christian Smith and Ken Botterbrodt K2WB
Lower: Atlantic Division Director Marty Newingham AG3I and Terry Rossi N2LQH

Phase V Hospitality From Terry and Donna - This year we would like to especially thank Terry N2LQH for taking on the role of Hospitality and Donna for providing a Gourmet Sunday Breakfast. Hospitality may be the most underrated part of Field Day. The hospitality tent served as the social hub of Field Day — operators, visitors, and guests gathered here all weekend for great food, and camaraderie. You can read a comprehensive report here from Terry at the following Link <https://n2lqh.com/sjra-field-day-hospitality-2026/>



Donna Dantis and Terry Rossi N2LQH Hospitality at its finest.

Education Training from Our Club President Rick W2JAZ - Despite our inclement weather, Rich was able to conduct a training session on Satellite Set up and Operation. Rick covered the ICOM 9700 and S.A.T. controller set up, along with doppler shift issues and how to deploy the antennas, along with tuning and tracking of Satellites.



SJRA President Rick Lawn W2JAZ and our Satellite Antenna

Conclusion- Congratulations and Thank You to everyone from the SJRA and their families and friends for joining us with another successful Field Day. Field day is so much more than practicing for an emergency event it's about our local community supporting the club, camaraderie within the club, and the new and old friendships that this great hobby provides us with. The SJRA continues with its 110 ten years of activity and support of this hobby and the Field Day tradition. It was so great to see so many new and old faces at this event. And a special thanks to those that could not join us at Savich Field but supported us on the air with contacts and on the SJRA Repeater.



SJRA Field Day Picture 2026 located in Savich Field, Evesham Township NJ