

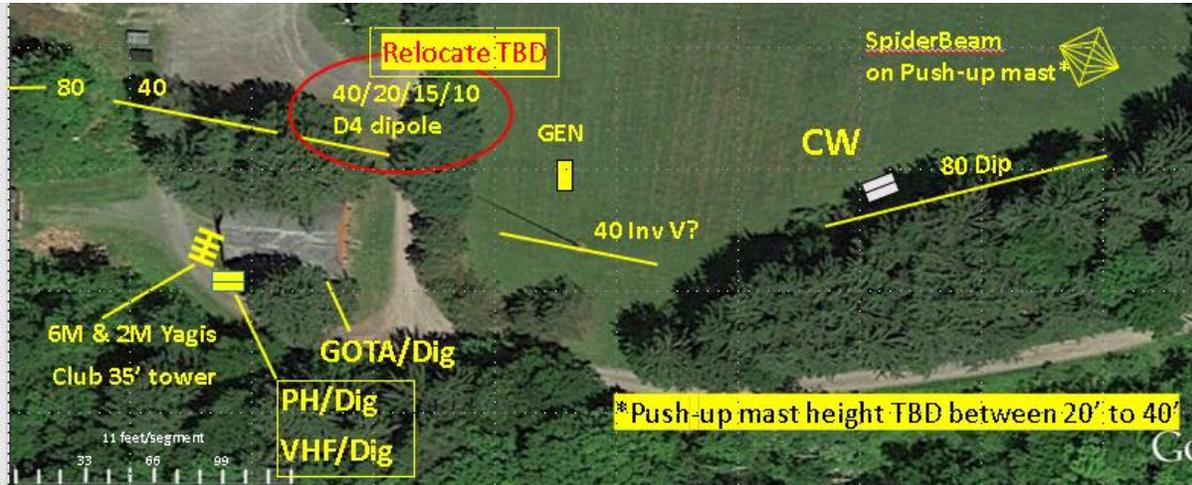
2022 FD PLANING Meeting – UPDATES 5/5/22

Original meeting Tuesday, May 3, 2022 7 p.m. Hybrid Zoom & Group meeting
K1PY, K2CS, K2GC, K2MP, K2MTH, K2TER, KD2TBI, KM2B, N2BEG, W2BSN (10)

ORGANIZATION

- On-site FD major coordinators: N2BEG, K2TER, W2BSN, K2MTH, W3OAB, K2GC
- Station captains coordinate station operating personnel and operations

ANTENNAS



- HF (above layout needs discussion re 40M locations)
 - CW
 - 10/15/20 – Spiderbeam (KM2B)
 - Is Spiderbeam “tunable” for CW vs PH?
 - 40 – CW dipole (K2DB via K2CS) OR 40 Inverted-Vee (@K2MP)
 - Confirm antenna is CW
 - Confirm balun
 - 80 – TBD; confirm cut for CW; confirm balun
 - GOTA/PHONE shared antennas via Dunestar Tri-plexer (K2TER)
 - 10/15/20 – Cushcraft D4 (actually 10/15/20/40) (W2BSN)
 - Balun?
 - “Detuning 40” was mentioned – possible? How/who?
 - 40 – K1PY PH dipole/balun @N2BEG? OR new K2MTH w balun?
 - 80 – K1PY PH dipole/balun @N2BEG? OR ??
- VHF
 - 6M – 5 element Yagi (K2TER)
 - 2M – 7 or 10 element Yagi (K2TER)
- Beverages (one each for PH, CW) – Components identified; being collected (K2MTH, K2TER, K2CS)
 - Located on west side of southerly road to Boy Scout cabins

- To be laid out on-site prior to FD, then stored and reinstalled FD weekend
- **Antenna MISCELLANEOUS**
 - **COAX**
 - Measurement wheel at site (**K2TER**)
 - NEED inventory; prefer RG-8X with attached connectors (**N2BEG, K2MP, others**)
 - Test all prior to installation; on site as needed (**TBD**)
 - **Confirm available VNA**
 - LABEL MAKER for all coax, lines, etc. (**K2GC**)
 - **LINE** (aka rope)
 - 1000-foot spool – for dipoles (**W2LB - confirm**)
 - **Need air cannon (W3OAB, W2LB TBD)**
 - Pushup guy lines – (**KM2B**) (500' being ordered)
 - **K1PY rope bucket – location?**
 - **Flagpole pulley lines – confirmed in place (W2LU)**

LOGISTICS

TRANSPORT (Thursday, Friday a.m.)

- **General**
 - Coordinate with Webster Park supervisor (N2BEG)
 - Chris to inform County coordinator FYI
 - **Holt Rd office 872-0083; Campground 872-5326; Supv (confirm) Cell 509-2828 (CONFIRM)**
 - Site access (confirm with Park); **Confirm** FD area will be mowed prior to Friday
 - Porta-Potty delivery scheduled for Thurs evening; paid and confirmed (KM2B)
 - Need someone to meet delivery truck and point out location (TBD)
- **ADMAR Generator**
 - Request and Cert of Insurance (COI) to Admar (K1PY); **DONE**
 - **Generator CONFIRMED TBD (K1PY)**
 - **ADMAR Contact person** for Friday morning pickup: **Steve Lightner TBD (K1PY)**
 - Transport directly to site by Friday mid-morning (K2GC)
 - Mike (K2GC) has pintle hitch; Pintle hitch (club) backup (KV2X)
- **West side transport**
 - **W3OAB** with **N2JQR** trailer (TBD); **N2CK** truck (TBD)
 - **At W3OAB:** All GOTA station equip
 - **At K2MP:** Club canopies, club tables; coax; N2QKL Generator power panel, electrical cables, extensive other FD items
- **East side transport**
 - **N2BEG** truck (TBD) (with add'l help for loading and drop off during Friday)
 - **At N2BEG:** K1PY dipoles, club coffee urns, EZ-Ups, **Grill?**, Other items (N2BEG)
 - **At AWA:** Pushup masts, guy rings, bases (s), screw anchors (8) (W2BSN)
 - All computer, monitor, and network equipment (plus loads of other stuff!) (K2GC)
 - **Club refrigerator (and/or N2JQR) ??**
- **Storage**
 - Store Thursday equipment arrivals at South side and rear of commissary
 - Trailer available for storage Thursday (owner staying overnight) (KD2TBI)
- **Road crossing "Speed Bump?" – Confirm (Jeff N2JQR via W3OAB)**

SETUP (Friday)

- **TARGET TIMES**
 - **Arrive ON SITE: 8 - 8:30** ("un-locked" prior to that)
 - **Power: Honda generator (K2MTH); ADMAR 3 pm**
 - **Shelters: 3 pm**
 - **Stations on-air capable: 5 pm**
 - **PIZZA 5 p.m. (Who orders and where?) (KD2TBI)**
 - **Computer, network, and on-air testing after Pizza; operators welcome – have some**

fun!

- **POWER**
 - ADMAR Power Team (setup) (**N2CK, AC2RL**); draftees a/r
 - Portable generators (just in case) (**K2MTH**)
 - Use of commissary **AC power OK'd** by park as of 2019
 - Arrange for AC access via commissary back entrance with park supv on site [**N2BEG**]
 - If applicable, for **N2JQR** refrigerator (**TBD**)
 - For any other commissary area AC needs, including lighting; **EXCEPT for transceivers**

- **ANTENNAS & Pushup MASTS (refer to Site Plan)**
 - **Spiderbeam (CW)**
 - **Assembly team:** (**KM2B, W2LU**, plus practice assembly team)
 - **Assembly test scheduled 5/14**
 - **Pushup mast team (W2BSN, on-site draftees)**
 - Guy rings, bases (s), screw anchors (8)
 - **Need 12-foot step ladder**
 - ***** ANTENNA HEIGHT STILL TBD *****
 - **WEAR GLOVES at all times (both test and on-site install)**

 - **CW Wire antenna installation team**
 - **80M CW dipole (W2LB?** on-site draftees)
 - **40M CW dipole or Inv-Vee on flagpole OR other location (W2LB?)**

 - **PH/GOTA Wire antenna installation team**
 - **80M, 40M phone dipoles (W3OAB?** on-site draftees)

 - **Cushcraft D4 40/20/15/10 dipole assembly (W2BSN?)**
 - **Setup location TBD**

 - **VHF 6M & 2M Yagis**
 - Mount on 35' club alum tower attached to commissary mounting bracket (**W3OAB**)
 - **Do we want an additional mast? (No rotator is planned; possibly Armstrong rotator)**

 - **Beverage team (Saturday?) – K2TER? K2MTH?** (Down West side of boy scout cabin road)
 - **Feedlines – ONE SPLITTER:**
 - **CW station** – Feedline under road crossing “speed bump” to south tree line
 - **PH/Digital station -- commissary**

- **SHELTER SETUP -- See Site Plan**
 - **Shelter team:** Canopies (**N2CK?**); EZ-Ups (**N2BEG, K2GC**); draftees as needed
 - **Commissary overhang protects GOTA/Digital station and Food Service area**

- CW station – Club canopy with **sides**
- PH/Digital and VHF/Digital stations (combined) – Club canopy with **sides**
- **SATELLITE (if implemented)** -- Club EZ-Up with **sides** [We bought a new one for 2019)
- Sunday FOOD PREP – EZ-Up Outside grill area on north side of commissary
- Public INFO BOOTH – EZ-Up
- Gathering area in front of commissary –
 - EZ-Ups 10x10 – N2BEG? K2GC (2); Side panels needed

TABLES

- HF CW, plastic table (**Club**)
- HF PH/DIG and VHF, plastic tables (**1 or 2**) (**Club**)
- GOTA HF/DIG, plastic table (**TBD-W3OAB**)
- SAT, table (**what's needed?**)
- Food service, plastic tables (2 6-foot)
- Food prep table at grill (Sunday lunch) (**TBD-N2BEG?**)
- Webster Park picnic tables (3) at Gathering area

CHAIRS

- **All participants responsible for their own chairs;**
 - **PLEASE BRING ADD'L CHAIRS FOR GUESTS**
- **ALL CHAIRS MUST BE LABELED WITH OWNER'S CALLSIGN**

• PORTA-POTTY

- Install light; provide hand sanitizer (**KD2CTZ?**)

STATIONS

Begin station setup by mid-afternoon Friday. Goal is to perform Friday evening network, computer, and on-air testing to check for inter-station interference in time to resolve Saturday morning.

• EQUIPMENT – RIGS

- **Need item-by-item pre-FD checklist for each station to avoid last-minute ad hoc implementations**
- CW: IC-7610 (**K2UA**)
- PH/Digital: IC-7610 (**K2TER**)
- VHF/Digital: (**K2TER**)
- GOTA/Digital: IC-7610 (**K2DH**)
- **TBD: SATELLITE: : IC-9700 – K2DH? ant M2 w tracking controller W2FU??**
- GROUND RODS
 - **Site-wide grounding plan** (Generator, CW, PH/VHF, GOTA, SAT) [**AC2RL?**]
 - **In-line GFCI dongles**; locate at tent end (**AC2RL? purchased 5 2019**)
 - Ground rod driver (post pounder), sledge (**K2GC**)
 - ground rod puller (**TBD; K2GC?**)

- **EQUIPMENT – COMPUTERS/NETWORK**
 - **Computer/Network Team: (K2GC)**
 - **Wired Ethernet, network cabling (K2GC)**
 - **Network hub** at ADMAR generator (**K2GC**)
 - **GPS time standard** at ADMAR generator [**K2GC?**]
 - **VHF and GOTA HF stations are NOT to be on the network.**
 - N1MM+ computer logging for CW, Phone, Digital stations
 - **Logging discussed re whether N1MM+ logs all (HF + Digital) contacts or split between WSJT-X Log and N1MM+**
 - **Does N1MM+ need to be turned off when running Digital?**
 - **If so, need procedure**
 - **MONITORS**
 - 19-inch flat screen preferable
 - BACKUPS – At least two if available; *If extra needed, check with **W2BSN? N2BEG?, K2GC?***
 - **GENERAL**
 - **STAGING: All computers and network, including GPS, to be pre-staged; include as many transceivers as possible**
 - ***No on-site PC configuration changes allowed by operators – network team only; consider PC password protection***
 - Have extra VGA/HDMI monitor cables on site (**K2GC**)
 - **Logging (K2TER, K2GC, someone else?)**
 - **HF: All PCs must run exact same version of N1MM+**
 - **FT8: WSJT-X LOG???**
 - **N1MM+ multi-multi master file must be set up and copied to all units (TBD)**
 - Updated Call History file to be installed (**TBD**)
 - Need knowledgeable N1MM+ users available at least two hours before start to troubleshoot any start-up issues. (**TBD**)
 - USB-Serial cable s/w must be available by user on thumb drive (NO internet access)

FIELD DAY OPERATIONS

- **STATIONS**
 - ***Spectator NOISE ABATEMENT signs need to be posted at all stations (TBD)***
 - Captains responsible for operator training, scheduling, band management, interference reconciliation, etc.
 - Station **OPERATING** captains:
 - **CW: N2BEG**
 - **PHONE: K2TER**
 - **VHF: K2TER, KV2X**
 - **GOTA/Dig: K2MTH, W3OAB**
 - **DIGITAL: K2DH (which stations? Or is it a matter of when?)**
 - **SAT???** **K2DH**

- **Operator scheduling (Station captains)**
 - Assigned ops may request changes with the station captain
- **TRAINING (NOT YET DISCUSSED)**

On-site training **Friday after setup** (after Fri Pizza) and **Saturday noon** prior to start of operating. (TBD)

TOPICS (These should be at a live computer (large monitor if possible) with N1MM+ running):
Where?

- N1MM+/K3 functions for CW
- N1MM+ pre-recorded messages (CW **TBD**, PH **TBD**)
- N1MM+ Inter-station TALK function (Ctl-E) (**TBD**)
- How use Call History (2 minutes! But invaluable if you don't know) (**TBD**)
- Beverage switching (**TBD**)
- FT8 (at Phone and GOTA stations) (**TBD**)
 - Basic CQ "run" operation
 - PH/FT8 switching (both functions are built into each rig)

Consider covering at the regular club mtg the Tues before FD

- **OVERALL STRATEGY (ALL TBD)**
 - **General**
 - **CQ is default** for all stations/modes (including digital)
 - **Emphasize 40 and 20** –each have **4X** more stations than 80 (lots of clubs shut down at night)
 - **Phone/Digital strategy**
 - Maximize phone rate, **CQ only**
 - Convert to FT8 when slow, twice the points
 - **CW strategy** --
 - Band hop between 80/40
 - **GOTA/Digital strategy + VHF/Digital strategy**
 - Regularly check FT8 (if FT8 knowledgeable coaches available)
 - During "off hours," optimize digital as long as possible
- **Gather station QSO data at immediate end for on-site preliminary results (TBD)**

- **FOOD (ALL TBD)**

- **Publish food details on reflector prior to FD and on on-site bulletin board (TBD)**
- **Friday breakfast (7:00) – Nutcracker restaurant on your own**
- **Friday lunch (Noon) – Wegmans wrap tray (TBD)**
- **Friday pizza (5:00) – (TBD); club subsidized**
- **Saturday breakfast (7:00) – Nutcracker restaurant on your own**
- **Saturday lunch (Noon) – Wegmans Sub tray (TBD)**
- **Saturday dinner (5:00) – Pasta dinner (N2JQR?) W3OAB??? Otherwise, what?**
- **Sunday breakfast (7:00) – Bagels, muffins, Danish, coffee (TBD; club subsidized)**
- **Sunday lunch (Noon)– Burgers, Hot Dogs, Condiments, Chips (TBD; club subsidized)**
 - **Grill (TBD); charcoal from KD2TBI**
 - **Condiments likely available from Wegmans trays**
- **Coffee throughout FD (TBD; club subsidized)**
 - **Use club urns to have “regular” coffee available, esp during night shifts**
- **Bottled water, ice throughout FD (TBD; club subsidized)**
- **Repeat item: Do we want/need a refrigerator?**
- **Food orders/payment (where applicable) to be taken on-site (Food captain, assistant)**
- **Food cost reimbursements: submit receipts to treasurer/designee on-site or within a week post-FD**

- **BONUSES (every one of these is equal to 25 CW/Digital or 50 PH contacts!)**

Overall BONUS coordinator: An overall coordinator to oversee all of this from pre-FD planning to post-FD submission would be a huge contribution

- 7.3.1 Emergency Power **K1PY request (DONE), K2GC transport confirmed**
- 7.3.2 Media Publicity **TBD** (Actually published in media)
- 7.3.3 Public location **K2CS (DONE)**
- 7.3.4 Public Info table **KD2TBI (confirm)**
 - *Order ARRL public info brochures; also need, sign-in log, raffle tickets (KD2TBI)*
- 7.3.5 Message to SM **K2MP**
- 7.3.6 Message handling **K2MP**
- 7.3.7 Satellite QSO **K2DH (still TBD)**
- 7.3.8 Alternate power **N2BEG? K2MP?**
- 7.3.9 W1AW bulletin **N1OKL? N8KH?**
- 7.3.10 Educational activity **TBD**
- 7.3.11 Elected Govt. official **W2LU**
- 7.3.12 Agency rep (ARES) **TBD** (Jim KC2KNJ retired)
- 7.3.13 GOTA bonus points **K2DPC, W2FBS, K2GC (all TBD)**
- 7.3.14 Web entry submission **K1PY**
- 7.3.15 Youth operators **K2GC**
- 7.3.16 Social media **K2GC**
- 7.3.17 Safety **W2BSN?**

- **50/50 RAFFLE (TBD)(Need coordinator)**
 - Promote at each meal break, and poster at Info Booth (**TBD**)
 - ***Who has Irv's tickets?***
 - **Must be present at drawing after takedown completion**

- **TAKEDOWN**
 - Start Saturday morning with 80M antennas (CW, PH/GOTA)
 - Upon takedown completion and all items loaded into vehicles, officially close FD
 - 50/50 winning ticket drawing – **must be present**
 - Prelim score announcement (**TBD**)
 - Begin non-club individual refreshments
 - Non-specifically promoted in club e-mail under refreshments:
“Provide some after-event refreshments once FD is ‘officially over’”