

Vice-President's Column

While preparing for the ARRL field day, I learned a lot. From aspects on what radios perform best in what areas all the way to where what antenna is best for each mode. In private, outside of the public view, I've worked to obtain the permits, inviting public officials, and planning every detail in extreme detail.

When I originally was given the position for Field Day coordinator I was thinking it would be easy, "It can't be any harder than ordering lunch and setting up for POTA, can it?" Oh boy was I wrong. Next year's field day chairman should know a few things before they step up:

- It's a big event even though it may not seem like it.
 - Don't get tripped up on the little things that go wrong.
 - There is always going to be another opinion for what you chose to do.
- That's at least what I gathered from doing this and can honestly say.

Now, I'd like to spend some time thanking some individuals for their commendable efforts in helping with the events planning and execution; Bob Speakman Jr., Diane Acker, and Paul Johnston for helping organize the invites to public officials, TV and Commercial Radio advertisements for Field Day and getting the club set up with a future partnership including youth involvement. Jimmy Maloney for helping organize the events computer, internet, and technology infrastructure. There are more thank yous and awards to be handed out, but I'll save that for the upcoming meeting.

Amateur Radio isn't a hobby, but an umbrella term of a collection of many different hobbies. Field Day this year was Kent County's time to shine, demonstrating every facet of what Ham Radio is. We pulled together testers, CW machines, rag-chewers, and even people who don't even get on the air at all, just to show the public what we do when all else fails.

73,
Hunter Grier - W3CZ
KCARC Vice President