



The QUARAE



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Prez

2015 Field Day

Says....



I was on a bike ride today at the Peninsula and stopped at the Presque Isle Lighthouse. I talked to one of the Presque Isle Partnership board members. I was looking for permission to set up a radio station at the lighthouse for the upcoming Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend which is August 1st and 2nd. The partnership has taken over ownership of the lighthouse and they are working on restoring the lighthouse to look like it was when originally built. The lighthouse is open on the weekends for tours for five dollars. You can check out the buildings as well as climb the tower for a great view, so stop by and check it out. The Partnership member I talked to said he didn't see any problem with me setting up in the garage on the property. I have been doing the weekend from the North Pier for years so I am looking forward to being at the Lighthouse this year. It has been many years since we were able to pass out Presque Isle Lighthouse Number 666.

We have the Presque Isle Triathlon coming up on August 22nd so I will be looking for lots of help for this event as well as the other Public Service events still on the schedule. We still have Beast on the Bay, Erie Runners Club Marathon and the Run for Recovery, so check out the schedule on the w3gv.org website and let me know if you can help out. Also Doug AD4UL

PS: I am still looking for anyone interested in a custom license plate with the RAE logo and your call sign. If we can get ten or more the cost is \$8.50 otherwise they are \$12. So far I have 7 so let me know.



Field day this year was good and bad. It was good because we had a lot of visitors. (29) We had a nice dry place to operate and thanks to Kevin McKenna KE3V who operated CW all night from the Igloo and Frank Etzler N8WXQ, we racked up quite a few contacts. We had lots to drink and lots to eat. WJET news came out and interviewed Doug and filmed some video which was aired Sunday night. I learned about something new ; band pass filters. I was on 15 meters and every time the 40 meter



**Radio Association of Erie
Club Meeting at the Club
House on Wagner Rd
Thursday August 6. 6PM
Hotdogs 7PM Meeting**

Program: TBA

WWA Hamfest

station transmitted, it desensed me. Frank told me you can stick a band pass filter on a transmitter and this will reduce interference between stations. This can be done with a $\frac{1}{4}$ wave stub of coax tee'd into the antenna coax. For 40 meters this would be 10 meters long or about thirty feet. This is a lot of



coax to trip over. However you can make a band pass filters with some inductors and capacitors. There is software in the 2011 ARRL Handbook that does the math for you. If you are really lazy you can buy some filters ready made for \$75. The hot band was 40 meters. Now for the bad part. Propagation was really bad. The really hot band was 40 meters. All the bands above that, 20, 15, and 10 meters was riddled with QSB and QRM.



Signals kept fading in and out. It rained pretty much all field day weekend. Actually all things considered, it was a pretty good field day.



The WWA hamfest took place July 11 and the weather was spectacular. WE had a pretty good turn out and even had some dealers from Cleveland. I enjoyed this hamfest very much. I got some capacitors that I needed at very good price. Dave Wellman WX3E and John Lis N3NKV busy recruiting hams for EMS.

Six meter antenna building. Joe Ponchak KA3CPV



putting the finishing touches on his home brew six meter beam.

HamShield turns an Arduino into a VHF/UHF transceiver

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The Arduino seems to be making a big splash in ham radio circles these days. The ARRL has recently published a couple of books about the Arduino and Arduino-based amateur radio projects. And, recently, I purchased a NanoKeyer (nanokeyer.wordpress.com), which is a CW keyer powered by an Arduino Nano.

Now, a couple of enterprising young hams have built the HamShield (<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/749835103/hamshield-for-arduino-vhf-uhf-transceiver>). It's an Arduino shield that turns an Arduino into a VHF/UHF transceiver. With the HamShield, you can transmit and receive on the 2 m, 220 MHz, and 440 MHz bands. According to Casey, KC7IBT, one of the project leaders, "We have both voice and data working on the shield right now and also have a powerful library to control it."

"We also have it talking to the Chrome browser, so any computer that can run a web browser can operate a packet radio station or voice station. We also have another piece of chrome software called "APRS Messenger", a text messaging app for APRS. One of our prototypes is in a neat little case that clips right to the back of your laptop (shown in the video). I will launch these apps in the Chrome Store once we get closer to completion.

"We have 10 working prototypes currently, but need to raise money to fund the production cost and get the unit prices down to acceptable levels. This means buying parts in bulk and reducing production costs."

I think this is a very cool project, and I hope that you'll consider supporting the HamShield Kickstarter project. I plan to get one and see what I

can do with it.

When not playing with Arduinos, Dan operates CW on the HF bands and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. He is also the author of the "No-Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides. His most recent book is *The CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code*. The books are available on his website or on Amazon.

Ham Radio Calendar

August 1 - 10-10 Intl Summer Contest, SSB. See www.ten-ten.org

August 1 - ARRL August UHF Contest. See www.arrl.org/august-uhf

August 1 - North American QSO Party, CW. See www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf

August 4 – Corry Club Meeting

August 6 – RAE Club Meeting

August 8 - 432 Maryland-DC QSO Party. See www.mdcqsoparty.w3vpr.org

August 8 – WWA & RAE Picnic

August 11 – Wattsburg Wireless Club Meeting

August 13 – Union City Wireless Club Meeting

August 15 - North American QSO Party, SSB. See www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf

August 15 - VE Exams

August 16 - CARS 2nd Annual Hamfest. Lakewood, NY. See <http://Chautauqua-ars.org>

August 22 - Hawaii QSO Party. See www.hiqsoparty.org

August 22 - Ohio QSO Party. See
www.ohqp.org/adminRules.htm

August 22 – Presque Isle Triathlon

August 23 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 7th Annual
Tailgate Hamfest. Stow, OH. See
<http://cfarc.org/tailgate2015.php>

August 29 - W/VE Islands QSO Party. See
www.usislands.org

August 29 - Kansas QSO Party. See
www.ksqsoparty.org

August 30 - Western Pennsylvania Section
Convention. New Kensington, PA. See
<http://skyviewradio.net>