



WELCOME TO THE

# ARRL-ROANOKE DIVISION

North Carolina · South Carolina · Virginia · West Virginia

Website: [www.arrl-roanoke.org](http://www.arrl-roanoke.org)

Facebook page: ARRL-Roanoke Division

## FIELD DAY—June 22 & 23, 2019

About 150 locations will be listed in the Roanoke Division for Field Day. If you haven't done so yet, register your listing at: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

Here are some tips for Field Day success:

- ♦ Monitor your designated repeater talk-in frequency throughout the weekend, even if you close up early in case Hams in your area are trying to visit you.
- ♦ Wear your badge. It helps visitors feel more at ease to associate a name and a face.
- ♦ Put big, clear directional signage on the roads and intersections near your Field Day location so people can find your site quickly.
- ♦ Put up posters inviting people to your FD site. You can find a great one at [Field Day Poster](#)
- ♦ Photos of kids operating are popular, but legally minors need their parents to sign a [release like this](#) to have their pictures published in QST, newspapers or the web.
- ♦ Consider having a "Kick Off" ceremony Saturday afternoon where a dignitary cuts a piece of old coax cable instead of a ribbon. Have an elected official make the first QSO. If media isn't there to cover it, take a picture to post on social media, and to send later to newspapers and TV stations. Sample public relations material can be found [clicking here](#).
- ♦ Designate 1-2 people to be ambassadors to greet anybody who comes to visit. Never let strangers leave without greeting them.

- ♦ Be sure to send your Section Manager or SEC a Radiogram for 100 bonus points.
- ♦ Don't just do a press release for 100 points. Do a newspaper, radio or TV interview before FD and invite people out. Schedule appearances and send out releases now. For weekly newspapers, send your release by June 12 for publication week of June 19. If you're lucky to get a reporter to come to your Field Day site, be patient. Many do not know what Ham Radio is. Don't lapse into lingo like "SSB", "CW" or "SWR". Download and have copies to hand out of the [What Is Field Day?](#) information sheet.
- ♦ If your club hasn't done it yet, tiptoe into Facebook and Twitter on Field Day using hashtag [#ARRLFD](#). Tips on having social media success can be found at [ARRL's 2019 Social Media webpage](#) and be sure to join the [ARRL Field Day 2019](#)



*Facebook* page.

Look for your Section Managers on Field Day:

- ♦ North Carolina—Karl Bowman, W4CHX
- ♦ South Carolina—Marc Tarplee, N4UFP
- ♦ Virginia - Joe Palsa, K3WRY
- ♦ West Virginia—Dan Ringer, K8WV
- ♦ And Division Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP

*Above All, Have A Safe And Fun Field Day From Bud Hippisley, W2RU, Director and Bill Morine, N2COP, Vice Director*

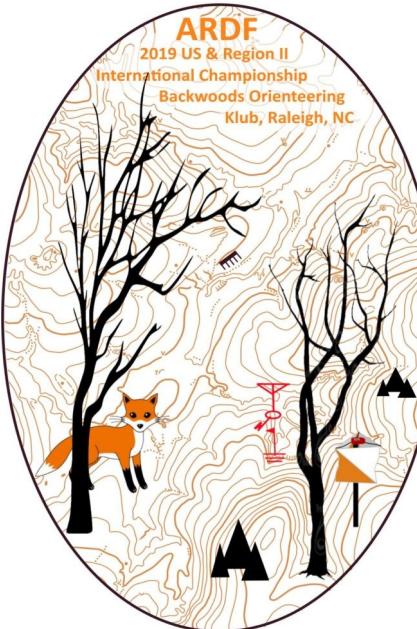
## USA and IARU Region 2 ARDF Championships Come to North Carolina July 27 to August 4

### Roanoke Division Member Named to ARRL's ARDF Committee

**M**any of us have participated in Foxhunts, where a transmitter is hidden and you have to find it using direction finding techniques. Then there is ARDF—Amateur Radio Direction Finding, a specialty within Amateur Radio.

Amateur Radio Direction Finding is an athletic radiosport recognized and organized by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which sets the rules for competition. It is equal parts treasure hunt, foot race, and radio navigation exercise. Competitors carry portable receivers and directional antennas. They compete to find the most transmitters in the least amount of time. Rules describe a variety of events, most of which are held in forests or parks. Maps and compasses are often used for navigation and for recording bearings. Some events accommodate blind competitors (and sighted individuals wearing blindfolds) who compete on a level playing field (literally and figuratively) with only their radios to guide them.

From July 27 to August 4, the USA and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 Championships will be held at William B. Umstead State Park, just west of Raleigh, NC. IARU Region 2 is the Western Hemisphere, and includes the U.S. The upcoming championship is co-sponsored with the Backwoods Orienteering Klub of Raleigh. The first day will feature **Foxoring**, a combination of radio direction finding and classic orienteering. The championships will end with two days of 2-meter and 80-meter competitions.



ARRL has an ARDF Committee, and beginning July 1st, Charles Scharlau NZ0I from Cary, NC will become a member of it. Charles is one of the organizers of the 2019 USA and IARU Region 2 ARDF Championships, along with Raleigh husband and wife team Joseph Huberman K5JGH and Ruth Bromer WB4QZG.

Charles has been involved in ARDF since 2001. He, along with his XYL Nadia, organized the USA ARDF Championships in 2006 in Raleigh, NC. They were involved with course design and setting for the USA Championships in 2013 in Asheboro, NC. Charles was a member of the ARDF Team representing the USA at World Championships competitions in 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008.

In 2017 Charles established the web site [OpenARDF.org](http://OpenARDF.org) and began developing designs for ARDF equipment with the goal of making the sport simpler for organizers. He plans to use his appointment to focus on ways to attract more youth to the sport of ARDF, and to help support ARDF youth training programs. Charles and Nadia are working with the town of Cary, NC to bring beginning-ARDF to the summer activities programs sponsored by the town in 2020. They are also developing modules to use ARDF to help Boy Scouts earn the Radio Merit Badge.

The USA ARDF Championships are an annual event that brings the best radio athletes in America together for competition, fellowship, and just an overall great time. There are training events and practices that make it easy for everyone to get a flavor of the sport by trying it out for themselves. The competitive events are also open for all to participate, even first-timers. Loaner equipment can be arranged by contacting the organizers ahead of time. The results of these ARDF Championships will be used to help determine who is selected to represent the USA at the 20th IARU ARDF World Championships to be held in Serbia, September 2020.

For more information: see page 75 of July's QST, or go to <https://backwoodsok.org/2019-ardf-us-and-region-ii-championships> or <https://openARDF.org>. Shown left: the 2016 USA ARDF team at the ARDF World Championships in Bulgaria, where the team won a total of seven medals.

# Bud's Blog

With ARRL Roanoke  
Division Director  
Bud Hippisley,  
W2RU



Thus far in 2019 I've met League Members at hamfests, conventions, and multi-club "Meet the Director" gatherings in three of the four ARRL Sections comprising the League's Roanoke Division. I look forward to being in contact with many more of you in the months ahead. Please keep in mind that ARRL is a **Membership** organization; while you can quickly learn of decisions by its Board of Directors via the internet or e-mail subscription, we who are on the Board can only learn of our Members' interests and wishes through contact with **you**—whether in person or by mail, e-mail, or telephone.

One of the most encouraging signs I've seen at recent gatherings is a visible emphasis on younger and newer amateurs and potential amateurs. For instance, at the Raleigh NC RARSfest in April I saw three tables in the exhibit area that directly addressed the mentoring needs of newcomers to our hobby.

The ARRL Board is investing heavily with both "psychic energy" and financial commitment in initiatives to identify and respond to the needs of those who have just obtained their first radio amateur license. One example is ARRL's "So Now What?" podcasts produced by HQ Staffer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP. Other examples can be found in books from ARRL at: <https://www.arrl.org/shop/Beginners/>

All of this is good, **but-** in my opinion -to be fully effective it must be accompanied by direct hands-on assistance at the **local** level. This is where the efforts of individual amateurs and local clubs are crucial to the future of our chosen hobby. Watching someone in a *YouTube* video solder a PL-259 connector onto a length of RG-213 coaxial cable is helpful, but the icing on the cake is to actually pick up the soldering iron yourself under the watchful tutelage of a mentor at your side—that's the "real deal"!

Of course, in-person tutelage means you can't "hide your light under a bushel". All the skill and expertise in the world won't benefit a newcomer if s/he has no idea that it exists. How are you or your local group making others in your area aware of the help that is available to them? Does only the "old guard" in your

club know of your organization's monthly meetings and programs? Are you using local media (newspaper "Coming Events" columns, e.g.) and social media and email invites to get the word out? Have you or your group put together demonstrations for schools, service organizations, and other possible pools of people likely to be interested in the STEM or public service aspects of our hobby?

Finally, think back to when **you** became interested in amateur radio. How did you first learn how to erect an antenna and use it for transmitting and receiving? What piqued your interest and caused you to take your very first steps toward learning something about the hobby? Which of those answers or their current analogues can you profitably apply to today's scenario?

As I write these words the ARRL Board of Directors is developing formal positions and policies on many topics having long-lasting impact on our hobby: antenna rights for amateurs living in HOA-controlled areas, enhanced EmComm skills and qualifications, use of modern digital modes on our HF bands, self-policing and the new Volunteer Monitor program, and more. Keep your eye on <http://www.arrl.org/news-feature> for developments in these and other areas as they occur.

73 for now –  
Bud Hippisley, W2RU  
Director, ARRL Roanoke Division  
W2RU@arrl.org

## UPCOMING ROANOKE DIVISION HAMFESTS

- June 15 -Manassas Hamfest, Manassas, VA
- July 6 - Firecracker Hamfest, Salisbury, NC
- July 20 - Midsummer Swapfest, Cary, NC
- July 27 -WCARS, Waynesville, NC
- August 3 –Roanoke HamFun, Vinton, VA
- August 4– Berryville Hamfest, Berryville, VA
- August 10 –Cape Fear Swapfest, Fayetteville, NC
- August 10 - Huntington Hamfest, Huntington, WV
- August 23-25 –WV State Convention, Weston, WV\*
- August 30-September 1 –Shelby Hamfest, Shelby, NC
- Sept. 7 -VA Section Convention, Virginia Beach , VA\*
- October 5 –Rock Hill Hamfest, Rock Hill, SC
- October 5 –Trident Tailgate, Goose Creek, SC
- October 8 –CARES Hamfest, Gaffney, SC
- Oct. 12 - Parkersburg Hamfest, Mineral Wells, WV
- Oct. 12 –W4NC FallFest, Winston-Salem, NC
- Oct. 26 –SC Convention "Beachfest", Conway, SC\*

\* ARRL state or section designated conventions