



Fremont Amateur "HAM" Radio Enthusiasts join National Deployment Public Demonstration of Emergency Communications

FREMONT, California, June 10, 2016 -- On June 25th and 26th, Amateur Radio ("ham") operators across the country will leave the comfort of their home-based radio "shacks" for a weekend of public demonstration and emergency preparedness activity called "Field Day." The event is designed to test operators' skills in setting up and operating radio communication equipment in situations where electrical power is limited or unavailable. The idea is to simulate the conditions that can occur during man-made or natural disasters, such as a hurricane, earthquake, or flood. The event is sponsored by the ARRL -- the national association for Amateur Radio. The first Field Day took place in 1933.

During Field Day, operators set up radio transmitting and receiving equipment in local parks, at shopping malls, on hilltops and in backyards, and get on the air using generators, battery or solar power to run their equipment. This type of exercise, along with the operators' dedication to public service, allows them to step in and help emergency officials and relief organizations when disaster strikes. Cell phones, the Internet and other communications technologies have yet to replace what Amateur Radio operators can do. They have a long track record of getting the message through when all other systems fail! Children and Youth are encouraged to attend with their parents or guardians to see this pastime in operation!

This year, the South Bay Amateur Radio Association (SBARA) will be holding its preparedness exercise at Central Park in Fremont, on Saturday, June 25th & Sunday, June 26th 2016. SBARA will be using the newest capabilities for voice and digital communications as well as historical Morse Code. We also plan on communicating with and through orbiting Amateur Radio Satellites including the International Space Station (ISS). Central Park is located on Paseo Padre Parkway and Sailway Drive in Fremont.

There are 737,135 (as of April 15, 2016) Amateur Radio operators in the U.S., and more than 2.7 million around the world. Through the ARRL, ham volunteers provide emergency communications for the DHS Citizens' Corps, Salvation Army, FEMA and hundreds of state and local agencies, all for free. To learn more about Amateur Radio, go to <http://www.WeDoThat-Radio.org>. The public is most cordially invited to come, meet and talk with the hams. See what modern Amateur Radio can do. SBARA can even help you get on the air!

For more information:

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For additional information: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

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