



# Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club

June 2020  
Edition



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## From The Editor

It's June. You know what event always takes place in June. It's ARRL Field Day time and it is the weekend of June 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> this year. The big question still lingers – will the COVID-19 restrictions be lifted in time? When this newsletter reaches you the beginning of June we still might not know that answer. You can always operate from home either on emergency power (Class "E" station) or regular commercial power (Class "D" station). Hopefully the restrictions ease up enough for an Ogden Park operation. Keep an eye on the club's email reflector for more information. Also read about two important rule changes just announced by the ARRL for Field Day 2020 in this issue.

Have a question you want answered? Curious about something ham related but need some ideas or guidance? Stumped about something and need help? We have mentors that can give you the advice you need. Please see the "Need help? Contact us" link on the home page of [ac4rc.org](http://ac4rc.org).

73!

## Upcoming Important Club Events

**June 16<sup>th</sup>** Monthly club meeting, 7:00 PM  
**No in-person meeting – online using Zoom video conferencing**

**June 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>** Field Day 2020???

**Every Monday** 2 Meter Rag Chew, 9:00PM  
147.18MHz, +0.600 offset, 88.5 tone  
Norman (KI4YSY) is net control



# Shedding a Little Light on VHF Mike Cord Replacement

by Pete (WB3FYR)



Things get old and need repair from time to time. This happened to me with my trusty Yaseu 1802M Mobile VHF transceiver that I have had for many years. The mike cord was disintegrating and needed replacing. Not that the mike didn't work; I needed to replace it for a different reason. It is not widely known but the ARRL has a hush-hush group called the Member Inspection Bureau (MIB). I didn't want to fail shack inspection but I've said too much already. Look at the mike with cord. It's coming apart near the mike and near the 6-pin connector that goes to the radio itself.



Checking the internet I found that I could get a replacement for about \$15 including shipping. Not bad.



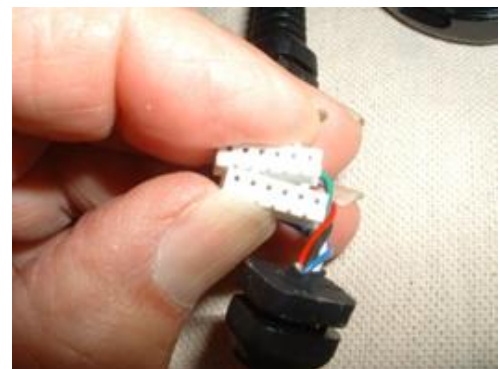
While everything looks good, its always wise to check things over like .....



Check the length...



...disassemble the mic...



...and check the connectors.

The connector itself had a two "keys" so you couldn't put the connector on backwards. The fit was a little tight but went on easy enough. The PTT button was a little difficult to put back on but a little tape helped keep it in place while I worked on button alignment. After that I hooked the mike back on the radio an gave it a quick check. Test OK!



So there it is ready to go. It was easier than I expected. However the proof is when you actually put it on the air and use it several times.

Oh, remember the headlight lens at the top of this story. Well I got them off the internet also. They went on easy and look good. However (here's the catch) there is a clip the holds the parking light lens assembly firmly to the body that wasn't quite what it should be. It would hold as long as I was riding on a road that was pool-table smooth. If I drove on my regular roads the parking lens would pop out. Solution - I went to Lowes and bought something like a spread-type wall anchor that I used to force the clip to hold. It has held for over a year. Moral of the story is that sometimes you have to improvise after buying things off the internet, but not often, and I hope not with my mike cord.



## Temporary Rule Waivers Announced for 2020 ARRL Field Day

*from The ARRL Letter for May 28, 2020*

With one month to go before 2020 ARRL Field Day, June 27 - 28, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee (PSC) has adopted two temporary rule waivers for the event:

**1)** For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.

Field Day rule 4.6 defines Class D stations as "Home stations," including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.

**2)** In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

Ordinarily, club names are only published in the results for Class A and Class F entries, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows participants from any Class to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

For example, if Podunk Hollow Radio Club members Becky, W1BXY, and Hiram, W1AW, both participate in 2020 Field Day -- Hiram from his Class D home station, and Becky from her Class C mobile station -- both can include the radio club's name when reporting their individual results. The published results listing will include individual scores for Hiram and Becky, plus a combined score for all entries identified as Podunk Hollow Radio Club.

The temporary rule waivers were adopted by the PSC on May 27, 2020.



ARRL Field Day is one of the biggest events on the amateur radio calendar, with over 36,000 participants in 2019, including entries from 3,113 radio clubs and emergency operations centers. In most years, Field Day is also the largest annual demonstration of ham radio, because many radio clubs organize their participation in public places such as parks and schools.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many radio clubs have made decisions to cancel their group participation in ARRL Field Day this year due to public health recommendations and/or requirements, or to significantly modify their participation for safe social distancing practices. The temporary rule waivers allow greater flexibility in recognizing the value of individual and club participation regardless of entry class.

ARRL is contacting logging program developers about the temporary rule waivers so developers can release updated versions of their software prior to Field Day weekend.

Participants are reminded that the preferred method of submitting entries after Field Day is via the web applet. The ARRL Field Day rules include instructions for submitting entries after the event. Entries must be submitted or postmarked by Tuesday, July 28, 2020.

***If you use N3FJP logging software go to his website & download the updated Field Day Log v. 6.3 as it reflects the new rule changes.***



## **Battleship USS North Carolina (BB-55) Update**

*by Jeff (W4BIX)*

The Battleship reopened to the public on Tuesday, May 26th with new procedures in place to help ensure the safety of staff and visitors. Some of the safety procedures put in place include:

- \* Installing hand sanitizer and hand washing stations.
- \* Increasing the frequency of cleaning high-touch public areas and restrooms.
- \* Using protective barriers at sales desks.
- \* Welcoming only non-cash (credit card) payments.
- \* Limiting the number of visitors allowed in the gift shop and on the ship itself, and closing the visitors center.
- \* Reconfiguring the tour route to include only the ship's main deck and above, and offering only self-guided tours.

Adult admission will be reduced to \$10, with all visitors offered the group, child, military or ADA rate as applicable. Operating hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day of the week.

Visitors are encouraged to follow the "Three Ws" as outlined by the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services – WEAR a cloth face covering; WAIT at least six feet away from others, and WASH hands frequently or use hand sanitizer. If you are experiencing symptoms of illness, they ask that you postpone your visit.

With the tours restricted to the main deck or above we are still locked out of the radio rooms, therefore no radio operations on the ship for the foreseeable future.

# June 2020 Contest Calendar

From WA7BNM -

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>

+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 1
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 2
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 2
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 3
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 3
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 3
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 4
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 4
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Jun 4 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 4 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Jun 4 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Jun 4 (Dig)
+ UKEICC 80m Summer Series	1800Z-1900Z, Jun 4
+ SKCC Sprint Europe	1900Z-2100Z, Jun 4
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 5
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 5
+ HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest	1900Z-1929Z, Jun 5 (40m) and 1930Z-1959Z, Jun 5 (80m)
+ 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0000Z, Jun 6 to 2400Z, Jun 7
+ PVRC Reunion	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 6 and 0000Z-0200Z, Jun 7
+ DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 6 and 2000Z, Jun 6 to 0400Z, Jun 7 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 7
+ VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 6 to 0600Z, Jun 7
+ Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Jun 6 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 6 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 6 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 6
+ SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 6 to 1200Z, Jun 7
+ UKSMG Summer Contest	1300Z, Jun 6 to 1300Z, Jun 7
+ Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, June 6 to 0200Z, Jun 7
+ RSGB National Field Day	Cancelled
+ IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 6 to 1459Z, Jun 7
+ Dutch Kingdom Contest	1500Z, Jun 6 to 1500Z, Jun 7
+ RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint	1600Z-1959Z, Jun 6
+ Cookie Crumble QRP Contest	1700Z-2200Z, Jun 7
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 9
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 10
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 10
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 10
+ UKEICC 80m Summer Series	1800Z-1900Z, Jun 10
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 10
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 10

+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 11
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 11
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 12
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 12
+ DRCG WW RTTY Contest	0000Z-0759Z, Jun 13 and 1600Z-2359Z, Jun 13 and 0800Z-1559Z, Jun 14
+ SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 13 to 2400Z, Jun 14
+ Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 13
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jun 13 to 2400Z, Jun 14
+ Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 13 to 1200Z, Jun 14
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Jun 13 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jun 13 (432)
+ GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 13 to 1500Z, Jun 14
+ REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 13 to 1600Z, Jun 14
+ ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 13 to 0259Z, Jun 15
+ RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint	1600Z-1959Z, Jun 14
+ 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 15
+ RSGB FT4 Contest Series	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 15
+ SARL Youth Sprint	1200Z-1400Z, Jun 16
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 16
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 17
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 17
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 17
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 17
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 18
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 18
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 19
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 19
+ Battle of Carabobo International Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 20
+ All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 20 to 2400Z, Jun 21
+ Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest	1200Z, Jun 20 to 1159Z, Jun 21
+ IARU Region 1 50/70 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jun 20 to 1400Z, Jun 21
+ Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 20 to 1500Z, Jun 21
+ RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint	1600Z-1959Z, Jun 20
+ West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 20 to 0400Z, Jun 21
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1800Z-1959Z, Jun 20
+ ARRL Kids Day	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 20
+ WAB 50 MHz Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jun 21
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	1900Z-2400Z, Jun 21
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 23
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 24
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 24
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 25
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 25
+ RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 25
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jun 26
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 26

<a href="#">+</a> UFT QRP Contest	0600Z-0900Z, Jun 27 and 1400Z-1700Z, Jun 27
<a href="#">+</a> His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 27 to 1200Z, Jun 28
<a href="#">+</a> Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 27 to 1200Z, Jun 28
<a href="#">+</a> RTTYOPS Weekend Sprint	1600Z-1959Z, Jun 27
<a href="#">+</a> ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 27 to 2100Z, Jun 28
<a href="#">+</a> 10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party	0001Z, Jun 29 to 2400Z, Jul 5
<a href="#">+</a> QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 29
<a href="#">+</a> QCX Challenge	1900Z-2000Z, Jun 29
<a href="#">+</a> QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, Jun 30
<a href="#">+</a> RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jun 30