

WOM Recap 2022

June 4th broke a little gray but did not carry the rain earlier predicted. While we could have operated from Fleming Field, CG Fire #3 served as a good base for our special event operations. By my count, the following members helped during the day: N0UC, KBOSED, KEOHAL, KDOI RF, NA0L, W3QLC, KM6ACY, KDOZWM and NOBM.

We had 7 guests/visitors. Included in the group were Leah and her spouse Terry, both now studying for their exams. Leah had met several of us at the REP drill the previous week. Leah and W3QLC had a long talk about ham radio and emergency communications and she decided to jump right in. One other guest, Patrick, KFOOXQ (?) hung around and several of us were quick to recruit him for FD. Leah and Terry got their first tastes of operating and KM6ACY also polished his skills.

KBOSED was gracious enough to bring his trailer with a crank up mast and we hung an off-center wire to be used for the day. It was, to my recollection, a wire belonging to N0UC. KBOSED, N0UC and an antenna crew got the wire up, using the club's Big Shot to drop the wire over an accommodating tree. We left the rope secured to the tree for use at FD. N0UC flew the WOM semaphore flags from the top of the antenna mast.

Even though the bands were spotty, we managed more than 50 SSB and CW Q's for the day. One of us was going to operate FT8 from home to increase our Q count, but I have yet to speak with him about his totals. Highlights for me were: 1) Having Leah operate the mike and make a contact; 2) working a station at the USS Ticonderoga; 3) several POTA contacts and 4) at least one other contact with museum ships who were enjoying their own weekend operating event. Bonus: KEOHAL, using his own call, worked a ND POTA station, leaving him one Q short of WAS by POTA....and KM6ACY working a few Qs.

As a bonus, N0UC crafted a relay for our repeater, using the VHF/UHF antenna at the fire station. He also tested several runs of club coax for integrity and attached PL 259's to the coax. While some of us were having more fun, N0UC, KBOSED and some others finalized a club inventory. It was a productive day and a good operating event.

Thanks to everyone who made the day a successful one.

Brian McInerney NOBM