

The O.A.R.C.



FD 2008 Report

Issue 4
August 7,2008

THE RESULTS

Field Day 2008 has come and gone and as the dust settled I have finalized the point score for VE3HB and our GOTA station,VE3OGP.

CW	738	POINTS	1476
PHONE	419	POINTS	419

TOTAL 1157 for 1895

With the bonus points our claimed total is 4640.
Last year our total was 4968 with 1264 contacts.

FD SUMMARY

It wouldn't be Field Day without something going wrong!

So what happened?

In Milton we had rain early Saturday morning which required me to repack the trailer. This delayed my arrival at the site and slowed the set up.
The Genset failed and we had to borrow one from Derek, VE3DDL, for the CW station while another was obtained for the Phone station, which was off the air for a while.

When we got all the stations on the air some more problems were encountered.

During the night the other generator started to act up which resulted in more down time.

Talking to various participants, it was felt that the CW and Phone antennas ends were too close to each other and there was mutual coupling causing interference to the Phone station. An easy fix for this would be to move the CW station to the center

of the parking lot and adjust the position of the Phone station antenna.

The Phone station also had a problem with RF, likely due to running the ladder line of the G5RV antenna across the top of the tent as well as not twisting this feedline.

The GOTA station only had 1 operator this year so we missed out on a lot of points there.

Bonus points were about the same as last year so I think the difference between this year and last is probably due to the down time caused by the power problems. We can maximize the bonus points next year if we assign the job of coordinating just these points to one person. As Harry, VA3EC, pointed out, 100 bonus points equals 50 hard won CW contacts.

THE COST

For those who like to know “How Much”, the total cost of this years FD came in at \$262.87. This was over the \$200.00 originally budgeted, but that estimate did not include the parts and labour costs to fix the original dirt problem in the genset. A detailed breakdown is available on our web site.

FINALLY

My thanks to all that came out and made this Field Day a success. Don't forget to check out the web site for the pictures! If you need to contact me regarding FD please email me at oarcd@interhop.net.

73's

George, VE3OGP, F.D.C.