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For Immediate Release

Public can help local Amateur Radio Club earn points in International Contest

(Waco, TX) – The Heart of Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC) will host “Field Day 2013,” an annual 24-hour world-wide HAM Radio marathon to promote awareness about amateur radio in the community on June 22-23, 2013.

The 24-hour fun-filled annual event is slated from 1 p.m. on June 22 through 1 p.m. on June 23, 2012, at Warren Park located at 450 S. Old Temple Road in Hewitt, between Spring Valley and Hewitt Dr.

The event is free to the public, and all ages are welcome.

The marathon provides hands-on HAM radio air time for unlicensed participants, Morse code (CW) demonstrations, educational information, and a chance to visit with local HAM radio operators of all ages, from beginners to advanced levels.

“Field Day is always held the forth full weekend of June. In the Ham Radio community, this is our Super Bowl,” stated HOTARC President Clint Anderson (AE5CA). “All across the country, and around the world, Ham Radio operators use this weekend to make as many contacts as possible and to come together to socialize and enjoy each other’s company.”

Anderson continued, “Technically field day is a contest. As with all contests there is a set of rules we follow and points are awarded accordingly. In order to get the most points, we have to operate from a location in a public setting that we normally do not operate from, use antennas that are not permanently installed, and use a power source other the commercial electric power to operate our radios. We limit the amount of power we transmit with. We also invite public officials and served agencies such as Red Cross and Salvation Army to visit our site.”

Traditionally seen as a gentleman’s hobby, HOTARC has a diverse group of operators, including youth and women. Anderson said the Club also hosts training classes for those interested in becoming a HAM Radio operator.

To learn more about the HOTARC Club or upcoming training classes for new HAMs, visit www.HOTARC.org.