

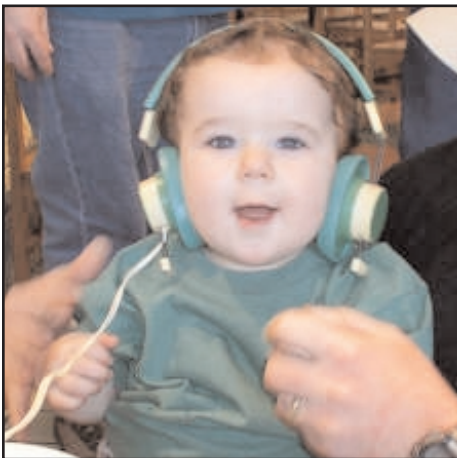
# MAARS participates in ARRL Kid's Day

At 9AM Sunday MAARS members gathered at Manhattan Town Center in order to set up radio's and displays for ARRL Kid's Day. Kid's Day is held twice a year to give youth the opportunity to operate on amateur radio. Kids' are encouraged to get on the air and make contact calling CQ Kid's Day and share their age, location and favorite color.

MAARS members decided Kid's Day was potentially a good opportunity to expose the general public to amateur radio.

Myron Calhoun(W0PBV) devised mounts that fit around the brick pillars outside the Manhattan Town Center food court, to hold up antenna masts. Myron also made a multi-band dipole cut to operate on the suggested Kid's Day frequencies.

Christine Chainey(KC0YJN) designed t-shirts for members attending the event as well as providing ideas for display set up. Christine and Scott Chainey (AC0CY), Sylvia(KC0YJO) and Brian Carter(KC0DWX) worked on ironing on shirt logos, and getting displays ready the night before the event.



Ok, I had to include this picture of Ian



Scott and Christine Chainey help a visitor on the radio

MAARS ordered an exhibit kit from ARRL which included various pamphlets and display stands for the material. The pamphlets were labeled with the club address as well as an e-mail address for people to obtain more information on amateur radio.

In all there were three tables set up, one had pamphlets and information as well as a Power Point presentation, one was the radio set up, and one had various keys and keyers provided by Myron for kids to try there hand at morse code. A map was set up as well so the kids could put pins on the locations they

talked to.

Contacts were made from New York to California and showed that even in a less than perfect location we could have a set up to communicate with. While there was time spent before the event planning and constructing various items, actual set up took roughly 3 hours.

While we would have like to have had more people show more interest we did have several people stop by and talk on the radio as well as pick up information. Some ideas have risen for the June ARRL Kid's Day such as using the Manhattan Sunset Zoo for the location.

Visitors ask questions and discuss amateur radio

