

1934

50th ANNIVERSARY

1984

# VIRGINIA FONE NET

WELCOME SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1984  
SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1984  
10 a.m. til --

## VIRGINIA FONE NET

Reservations &  
Additional Info

Tickets  
Bob Martin  
304 248-8275  
or any member  
of the V F N

Hotel Info  
Embassy Lodge  
703 986-0455  
Specify 1st  
Floor if needed



MEETS DAILY  
1600-HOURS  
1930-HOURS  
FREQUENCY  
3947 KHz  
OLDEST · LARGEST · BEST

## CONVENTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1984

EMBASSY MOTOR LODGE  
4525 Melrose Ave., N.W.  
Roanoke, Va. 24017  
Phone (703) 986-0455  
BANQUET TICKETS \$7.90  
(Near Lakeside Amusement Park)

Reservations &  
Additional Info

Picnic Lunches  
Harvey Morgan  
804 237-1624

Camper Parking  
Mc McLeon  
703 366-7399

Banquet  
Marie White  
703 986-0455  
Must have  
reservations

HAMFEST & PICNIC  
SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 1984  
10 a.m. til --

LAKESIDE AMUSEMENT PARK  
On U. S. Route 460  
2 Miles East of Salem, Va — 2 Miles West of Roanoke, Va.  
COVERED SHELTER #1      ADMISSION \$2.00

## PRIZES:

**Kenwood 530-S**



**EL515T Solar Powered  
Scientific Calculator**

**2 Meter ST 144 Hand Held Santee  
White 52 Inch Fan  
2 U.S. Call Books**

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# VIRGINIA FONE NET

WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?

HOW WAS IT STARTED?

WHAT IS THE VFN?

Amateur Radio is a hobby, a means of gaining personal skill in the art of electronics and an opportunity to communicate with people with the same interest around the world, and now with space. Operators are licensed by the government after a very intense examination proving their skills in electronics and the art of sending and receiving morse code. The hobby has progressed from very crude equipment to the most advanced equipment available. Known as HAMS, they have proven their skills in wars, disasters, world-wide communications, civic duties and other interesting feats. They were the first to establish communications between continents and have proven that communications can be maintained between space planets and other objects in space.

Amateur Radio had its beginning around the turn of the century when experimenters began expanding the "coffee can and string" theory to spark gap equipment. Sending code over a distance at first of some 2 to 3 hundred feet, then over miles to transcontinental in the year of 1901. At this point the governments of different contries took notice of what could be done and jumped in with experiments and also control of the permissible operating frequencies to where it is today, tightly controlled by licensing and the allocation of operating frequencies and to some extent the type emissions permitted. The majority of the inovations that we enjoy today such as Broadcast Radio, Television, Micro Wave Communications, Telephone, Telegraph and others can trace its beginning back to Amateur Radio. There are now over 350,000 licensed Amateur Radio Operators in the USA and countless thousands of operators in other countries operating daily.

Within our area of the east coast of the USA, a group of dedicated HAM Operators started the VIRGINIA FONE NET 50 years ago and have made themselves available daily to handle communications when all other means were either destroyed or out of operations. They have done this without the assistance of any government, maintaining their radios with self-supplied power resources and at all hours without any pecuniary interest. They have established a "Net" known world-wide as the VFN and have been operating daily since 1934, except during the time of World War II.

The mission of the VFN is to perform communications daily, training operators to handle emergency communications during times needed by the citizens and governments of this area. Many broadcasters that we hear on the radio today got their beginning from the VFN and Amateur Radio. The VFN is open to any licensed operator interested and is not restricted to the residents of Virginia. There are many operators who participate in the daily operation across the country and often at sea. There is no age limit nor is the VFN bias as to race, creed, sex or color; the only requirement is that a participant must have an operators license recognized by the Federal Communications Commission which regulates the operation of a HAM Radio Station.

(50 year celebration OVER)