

### MARA President's Message

Take a look on page 4 of this issue. Right there at the top of the page is an announcement of the tour and orientation for the new RMH ham radio station. Hams like to think we can provide emergency communications in the event of a disaster. Well, we can't do that if we aren't prepared.

There on page 4 is a perfect opportunity for us to prepare. Come out on Monday June 7 and learn how to use this station.

When disaster strikes, the hospital is going to need hams who know how to use this station.

The hardest part of using the station is NOT running the radio. It is knowing WHO in the

hospital to report to, and what their communications needs are going to be. This is the whole purpose of the orientation session on June 7. So come learn what you need to know to handle this station during a disaster.

I'd like to say "Thanks" to the Field Day Committee for all their work. In this issue you will find the FD Plans as they stand at press time. Looks like another great FD is in the works!

I look forward to seeing you at the club meeting on Thursday, June 3. And if you have a disaster "Jump Kit" for your emergency radio operation, bring it. You might have an opportunity to "show off" a little!

David, KD9LA

### VARA President's Message

The Club Name Badge project has been agreed upon by the Club and will be funded by the VARA for all members.

Ray Colvin KE4HVR received an e-mail from Charlie Garner WA4ITY, the Club callsign Trustee. The FCC is requesting an FRN number to continue our request by Memoriam for Joe Moomaw's callsign W4XD as the VARA Club callsign.

We have a public service request from Kathy Stout, Assistant Director for Augusta Co. Parks and Recreation for a Special Event at the New Stuarts Draft Park on Saturday July 24, 2004 beginning at 8:00 am. More at next month's meeting.

If you have items on the swap page and they have been sold send me an email to let me know to remove them.

I would like to thank the Class Committee for their efforts in getting amateur radio classes going here in the valley. The committee is: Gordon Batey WA4FJC, Richard Huttinger AA4RH and Greg Czerniak W4GRC.

I would also like to remind everyone to be prepared in case bad weather should hit. Keep batteries charged and a Go Box on standby. Have your radios programmed for the local repeaters and simplex frequencies.

Richard AA4RH, Program Chairman, is looking for anyone that would like to do a program for the club. Give him a call and set up a date to present it. Our meeting next month will be at Kathy's in Verona, usual time for the meal and meeting.

73's all, - Billy, KG4JOF

# KUDOS PAGE



## Fifty Years of Hamming for K4RBZ

Gerry Brunk, K4RBZ, recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of receiving his first amateur operator's license. (Gerry has previously been recognized for making the DXCC Honor Roll.)



## AD4TJ Scores 5th in Southeast Region in 160m Contest

David Tanks, AD4TJ, scored fifth place in the Southeast Region (which includes the Roanoke, Delta, and Southeastern ARRL divisions, covering the states of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Arkansas) in the ARRL 2003 160m contest.

David earned a score of 42,978 points (which would have ranked him fourth place if he'd been in the West Coast Region!) which represents 372 QSO's and 58 multipliers in class D (single operator, low power).

This achievement is especially noteworthy because this particular contest saw 58 (yep, that's 58!) new section record scores, and 8 new Region records. More and more hams are putting competitive stations on the air on the "top band", making the competition stiffer. This in turn means that scoring in the top five in a region is an even bigger accomplishment.

Congrats to David on this achievement on the Gentleman's Band.

## Valley Hams Hit Top Ten in the Nation in CQWW RTTY Contest

Operating under the N4DSL callsign, four valley hams hit the bigtime by scoring 865,920 points (representing 955 contacts) in the CQ WorldWide RTTY contest last fall, placing them ninth (9th) in the Nation in the multi-operator Single-Transmitter Low Power class. Hats off to these hams for putting the valley on the map!



Jason,  
N4DSL



Bob,  
K4DJG



Bryan,  
K4RMY



Matthew  
KD4UPL

## Public Service – Waynesboro Riverfest Report

Once again, valley hams offer valuable public service communication.

The annual Waynesboro Riverfest features a 3.1 mile run (yes, on your legs!) over a relatively flat cross-country course, followed by a 2-mile canoe or kayak paddling segment on the South River, which in turn is followed by an 11.5-mile bicycle race on a hilly course.

Hams provided support communications for the entire event, relaying observations and progress to headquarters, as well as being on station to call for help in the event of an emergency or accident. It was a beautiful April day, and a good time was had by all.

## KG400N: Way Bigger Than a B-29 Bomber

Like most of us, Mike is a little on the large side. But did you know that Mike is way too big to fit in a B-29 Bomber? Take a look at this photo of Mike standing next to this venerable airplane in South Carolina. And no, this is not some trick photography, either! Photo provided by Ray Colvin, KE4HVR.



## Track K4EME: Bicycle Mobile, Riding in the MS-150

The photo to the right appeared in the Harrisonburg Daily News Record, and shows Cowles Andrus, K4EME, riding his bike getting ready for the 150-mile (that's not a typo – 150 miles!) ride to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Cowles is looking for "sponsors" for this ride. He needs at least \$200 in sponsors to qualify for the MS-150 ride. A small donation of \$10 or \$20 will help out the worthy cause. Cowles has several friends who suffer from MS, and this is his way of helping them out a little.

The ride will take place June 12 and 13, and will cover a lot of territory between the Shenandoah Valley and Charlottesville.

While he is riding, Cowles will be equipped with a GPS position receiver, connected to an APRS transponder. So as he rides the course, you (or anyone with Internet access) can track his location and progress in real-time on his APRS locator home page. Check out:

<http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?k4eme-4>



### Great Weather For A Ride

As the mercury rises and the weather is more suitable for riders than just a few days ago, makes his way around Spring Hill Park in Staunton over the weekend. Today's high temperature is expected to hit 83 degrees, with nearly zero dew.

## RMH Hospital Ham Station Tour and Orientation – Monday June 7 at 7:00 pm

Rockingham Memorial Hospital, (RMH) now has a permanently-installed ham radio station!

Thanks to the efforts of Dale Showalter, N4DAI, the RMH administration recognizes the importance of ham radio in their backup and contingency communications plans.

There is a 2-meter antenna permanently mounted on the roof, and a special room designated as the "ham radio communications station". The best part: the station is already equipped with radio and other necessities. And emergency power is right there!

The station is not open to the public. In fact, as one ham found out (the hard way!), it is not even open to drop-in ham radio operators! It is for official emergency communications use (and training) only.

Now for the good news: EVERY ham in the Shenandoah valley is eligible to learn how to use this station.

All you have to do is attend a short orientation session.

In the orientation, you will learn where the station is located, how to get the key to the room, and how to power up and use the equipment.

**More importantly, the orientation will introduce you to the hospital staff whom you will be working with if you volunteer to man the station during an emergency.**

The orientation takes only a few minutes.

Attending the orientation does NOT obligate you in any way.

It simply adds your name to the list of hams *eligible* to man the hospital during a real emergency.

The first of these orientation sessions will be held on Monday evening, June 7th.

The tour and orientation is open to any and all hams.

There is no charge. In fact, you don't even have to put your name on the list if you don't want to – just come for the tour of the station if you like!

There will be a group meeting in the hospital cafeteria for dinner at 6:30 pm. After dinner, the group will take a tour of the hospital facilities, and the tour will conclude with the station orientation in time to use the radio to check into the Rockingham County ARES Net at 8:00 pm.

Come out and learn about this great station!

## Waynesboro Resident, Visually Impaired, Desires to Take Ham Exam

Robert Wilson, a resident of Waynesboro, has expressed interest in becoming a ham radio operator. He is studying and learning on his own, and is planning to take the VE exams in August.

(He is about ready to take the exam in June, but the testing date conflicts with a prior out-of-town commitment.)

He has always wanted to be a ham since way back when he was still in school, and now, finally, he's ready to get his license.

There's just one catch. Robert is blind.

He needs someone to give him a ride to and from the testing session, and read the test text to him and mark the test with the responses he gives.

Robert is more than willing to pay for gas money for someone to come pick him up at his house, and take him home afterward.

Is there anyone in the Waynesboro or Stuarts Draft area who might be willing to

help this deserving fellow get licensed?

Robert's email address is Robert121571@adelphia.net, and his telephone number is 540-569-0129. You can call him direct to make the arrangements.

You may ask, how can blind person read email? The answer is, he uses a program called "Jaws" which runs the text email through a voice synthesizer to "read" the email verbally to him through the computer speakers.



## Dayton Daze

According to Ken Harris, KE4GKD, there were over 500 exhibits indoors at the Dayton Hamvention this year, with another 2,500 exhibits and stations outside in the weather. Jay W4QDC, and Bob K4DJG, were among the hearty souls who made the trek to Ohio to view the new \$10,000 Icom HF rig! As one XYL put it, "That's a long way to drive just to drool over a radio!" Photo by KE4GKD



### KB4LCI: QRP CW Anyone?

Dave Gordon KB4LCI, just put back into service his Heathkit HW-8 QRP CW rig. With tuned-up output and a really hot and clean receiver, this rig puts out 1 watt on 75 and 40 meters, and 1/2 watt on 20 and 15! Anyone up for a slow-speed QSO?

### VARA Waitress Hospitalized...

Just as this issue was going to press, we received word that Nancy Puffenbarger, the VARA waitress at Kathy's, had some medical problems and was flown in the Pegasus helicopter to U.Va. Medical Center. The entire club sends best wishes for a speedy recovery.

## Icom IC-756-Pro II For Sale: Cheap!

Richard Wilkins, KR4V, still has his Icom IC-756-Pro II for sale for only \$1800, including the computer interface. Get it while you can at this price! This radio covers all 9 HF bands, and has more bells and whistles than the Roanoke railroad museum! Talk about a fantastic bargain! Call Richard at 540-433-5277 during the evenings.



## Estate Sale: Icom IC-756

Gordon Batey WA4FJC is selling an Icom IC-756 with PS85 power supply in nice condition (works great) for \$900. This is from a Silent Key's estate. There are also many smaller items available. Contact Gordon at WA4FJC@arrl.net or telephone him at 540-248-2732 for more information.



## Don't Forget: VE Exams on Saturday, June 12

With all the coverage of Field Day in this issue of the Monitor, it is easy to overlook the fact that "Life Goes On"!

There are a lot of normal, routine events happening in the month of June besides Field Day.

Specifically, Gayle Shull, KU4XN, would like to remind

everyone of the VE examination session scheduled for Saturday, June 12, at the usual place: the Woodmen of the World building on Highway 42, just north of Dayton, Virginia.

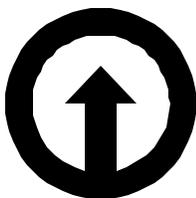
Sign-in starts at 9:00 am, and the exams will be administered as soon as the paperwork is completed.

This is the last exam before the General Text Element Pool is updated July 1, 2004.

If you are an accredited Volunteer examiner and can help out with this session, please call Gayle at 540-828-2132.

If you are not an accredited

VE but would like to be, give him a call. Gayle will tell you how to become accredited. It is easier than it sounds, and you too can help others join the ranks of licensed ham radio operators for just taking a couple of hours out of your schedule once every couple of months.



## Say What?! Internet Access From ... WHERE?

Jason N4DSL, along with Bob K4DJG, Terry KG4MWI, Bryan K4RMY, Gerry K4RBZ, Daryl KG4PRR (and perhaps a few others we don't know about) are working hard to bring high-speed (relatively speaking!) Internet Access to ... the Field Day Site!

You've got to be kidding?

Internet access from a mountain meadow miles from the nearest power lines, telephone lines or cable hookup?

### How do they do that?

Internet access will allow the FD station computers to check weather websites to view the current NOAA radar pictures. Operators can check real-time sunspot and propagation conditions, and even surf the web, all from the Wilderness!

Wow, talk about "taking it with you"!

So let's get back to "how do they do it?" Here's how.

The Field Day computer stations can be networked together using a common Ethernet wired network system. This allows those computers to share data with each other.

The wired network is then patched into a wireless 802.11 "access point", which can take packets off the wired Ethernet and transmit them to a "digipeater" arrangement (actually another 802.11 node) located on a hilltop on Pear Street.

From the Pear Street hilltop, the signal is repeated to another 802.11 access point which in turn is connected to an Internet connection.

The Internet will not be used for any radio communication, schedule arrange-

ments, or any other disallowable activity which might interfere with the spirit of the Field Day activity.

Indeed, putting up Internet access in the wilderness area demonstrates ham operator's ingenuity and versatility!

This is an educational opportunity!

Here is your chance to learn a little bit about modern wireless networking and how it works.

If you have a modern laptop computer which has a built-in Ethernet connection (most laptops built in the last five years have a built-in Ethernet connection!), bring it to Field Day and let Jason or the others show you how easy it is to connect to a network!



## Free — Mountain Meadow Campsites: June 18-26

Looking for a nice relaxing family camping spot?

Check out the Field Day site the week before Field Day!

(See map on page 13 of this issue.)

Bring your camper, your RV, your pop-up, your Class C, your tent, or even your hammock.

Enjoy the peace, quiet, and tranquility of a gorgeous mountain meadow in June.

The field will be freshly cut (see article below), and the porta-potty will be in place, all nice and fresh. Perfect for family camping!

The only requirements are: you must bring your own food, water, and power (there are no hookups, —

this is the wilderness, remember?), as well as your own sleeping accommodations and anything else you would like to have.

Firewood is provided.

There are no camp stores on the mountain. You need to be thoroughly familiar with self-contained camping.

There is no charge for using a campsite in the meadow.

You can set up and enjoy the peace and quiet from Friday June 18, until Friday, June 25.

Then, you will be in the right place to watch the Field Day preparations take off in high gear starting Friday June 25.

And that activity is something to witness! Beginning

with the famous pot-luck dinner on Friday night, hams descend on the meadow en masse.

An entire communications city is put together in just a couple of hours, right before your very eyes. In less time than it takes most people to pack for a long weekend, that quiet meadow is transformed into a bustling village of well over 100 people, all working together to put on one of the most fun events of the entire year!

Plan now to come out and join the fun this year. No reservations are required. Just show up sometime between June 18 and June 25, select an empty spot (all sites are on a first-come, first-served basis), and enjoy the experience.

You don't camp? That's okay, too. Come to the site for a "day trip". Drive up in the afternoon to relax and sit around and enjoy the cool mountain evening. Come back Friday afternoon for the dinner— it is amazing!

And then come back again on Saturday starting at 2:00 p.m. to see the radio operations in action.

Bring a friend. You don't even need a license to get on the air! There will be plenty of licensed operators happy to let you and your friend operate under their direction! Come get a taste of long-distance hamming!

And see what the valley hams can do, and do without! This is emergency communication preparedness at its finest! And it's fun, too!

## Field Day Site Cleanup Party

Ray (KE4HVR) and Nancy (KE4PHP) Colvin went up to the Field Day Site last weekend.

The purpose of their trek was to assess the condition of the site, and determine the nature and scope of any site preparation work necessary.

Their report: the site is in surprisingly good condition!

Earlier reports had led the FD Committee to believe the site was in poor condition. Perhaps the National Forest Service has helped us out?

District Ranger Bob Tennyson (KG4CHL) of the USFS office may have had something to do with the remedial grading and other site work which apparently has taken place over the last few weeks.

But regardless of who we need to thank, the FD site is presently in good condition. Only a few small mud puddles remain, and Ray reports the site is actually in better condition now than it was at FD last year!

The grass is about 15-18

inches tall, so the riding mowers should be able to handle it without problem.

Would you like to help prepare the site? We sure could use another hand or two to pick up the rocks, sticks, and fallen tree branches, or someone to run one of the weed-whackers.

The cleanup party will be scheduled at the convenience of those who volunteer to help. We would like to get the mowing done in time for the early campers to arrive the week before Field Day.

Ideally, the heavy mowing would be done the week of June 14th, one day (Monday through Thursday) weather permitting.

If you are available to help out for a couple of hours, please let us know and we'll put you on the list and contact you to see when you can help.

Call Ray Colvin on the 146.85 repeater (PL 131.8), or respond by email to colvingr@rica.net Thanks!

# FIELD DAY 2004

## Overall Logistics

Event	Field Day - June 26-27, 2004
Location	Near Flag Pole / Reddish Knob
FD Frequencies	Site - 147.470 Sim. / Talk-in 145.130 Rpt.
Call Sign	<b>N4XU</b>
Station Class	<b>2A</b>
FD Committee	<b>MARA</b> - K4DJG BOB, K4RMY BRYAN - KU4XN GAYLE <b>VARA</b> - KG4JOF Billy, KG4OON Mike, KG4MWI Terry
FD Chairman	KG4JOF Billy
Assistant Chairman	N4DSL Jason
Scoring / totaling / Entry	<b>N4DSL Jason</b>
Pin Committee	<b>KU4XN</b>
Band Plan Coordinators	<b>K4PZC</b>
Welcome Center	KA4EEN NORMAN & FIELD DAY COMMITTEE
Registration	NORMAN KA4EEN
Display Table	N1QEQ BOB
Coffee Pot	STEVE KF4ZWK
2 Tables	W4PJW JEFF
Power	N4YET RUSTY
Tent	KE4GKD KENNY
Awning 10' x 20'	MARA Club
Awning 10' x 20'	VARA Club
Pads / Pencils	<b>KF4ZWK STEVE</b>
Generator (main) + Ground	WA4FJC GORDON
Generator (main) + Ground	N4YET RUSTY
Gasoline - 20 gal VA	KD4WWF PAT PAID BY CLUB
Diesel - 20 gal WV	N4YET RUSTY
Signs for each Station	N4XU NEAL
Signs at road	AA4RH RICHARD
Publicity	N1QEQ BOB
Public Official	<b>N1QEQ BOB</b>
FD Fire Wood - truck load	W4PJW JEFF & BOB K4DJG
Fire Wood - truck load	
Porti-John - 1 week early	N1QEQ BOB
Toilet Paper	N1QEQ BOB
Pictures	<b>K4DJG BOB, KG4RMY BRYAN, KE4GKD KENNY (CHAIRMAN MAKES IT HAPPEN)</b>
Site Cleanup, Grass, Repair	<b>N4BCC BENNY, KE4HVR RAY, KD4WWF PAT</b>



“It Never Rains At Field Day” — *KE4GKD*

(All photos are from FD 2003, courtesy N4DSL website)

## Station #1 – HF Phone

FD Station #1	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	<b>KU4XN GAYLE, KD4WWF PAT</b>
Location	WV. NE near tree beside road
Shelter	<b>N4DUG DOUG</b>
1 Table / 3 Chairs	W4PJW JEFF (TABLE) K4RMY(chairs)
Tower / Mast	MARA Club - K4LXG, Ellsworth
Rotor	MARA Club
Antenna 1	Tri-bander - MARA Club - see K4LXG, Ellsworth
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antenna's	MARA & VARA Clubs
Radio	KD4WWF PAT
Power Supply	KD4WWF PAT
Computer	K4PZC, Sandy
Computer Log	CT=FD04PH
Power	N4YET RUSTY
Power Cable	N4YET RUSTY / VARA
Lights	W4PJW JEFF
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	KU4XN GAYLE

## Where is Station #3?

Nope, the newsletter editor didn't overlook it. Station #3 last year was the Digital Station. The Field Day this year probably will not have a separate Digital Station.

## Driving Directions to the Field Day Site

From Interstate 81 take Exit 240 (Bridgewater, Mt. Crawford), and go west on State Route 257 towards Bridgewater.

## Station #2 – HF CW

FD Station #2	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	<b>N4XU, Neal</b> - W4PJW, Jeff
Location	WV. SW. in opening near campfire
Shelter	N4DUG DOUG
1 Table / 3 Chairs	W4PJW JEFF, K4RMY BRYAN
Tower / Mast	KE4GKD, Kenny
Rotor	KE4GKD, Kenny
Antenna 1	Tri-bander - KD4FKT, Joe
Antenna 2	40m Dipole - Clubs
Antenna 3	80m Dipole - Clubs
Coax for all Antenna's	MARA & VARA Clubs
Radio	N4XU, Neal
Power Supply	N4XU, Neal
Computer	N4XU, Neal
Computer Log	CT=FD04CW
Power	N4YET
Power Cable	N4YET/ VARA
Lights	W4PJW JEFF
Info Packet	K4PZC SANDY
Grounding	W4PJW JEFF

Follow Route 257 straight past the first traffic signal, go 2 miles, into the town of Bridgewater. Turn right at the second traffic signal (Hardee's on the corner) and head north, still on route 257.

You will go through a traffic light (cemetery on the corner) and another traffic light (Turner Ashby High School.) Turn left (following the signs for Route 257) at the third traffic light as you begin to enter the town of Dayton.

Follow Route 257 west for a LONG way. Route 257 will make a sharp left turn at the Ottobine stop sign, and will make a sharp right at the Briery Branch Diner.

Just keep following Route 257!

Bear left as you pass the Hone Quarry Campground entrance, where route 257 becomes forest road 924. Stay on the paved road as it crosses a bridge and begins climbing the mountain.

Keep going on the paved road up the mountain about six miles. Finally, you'll reach an intersection where the paved road makes a hard left turn and two dirt roads split off, one going left and one going sort-of straight ahead. Keep as far to the right as possible taking the right fork straight ahead, going another half a mile to the field day site. If you need assistance, call on the 145.130 repeater (transmit down 600 kHz, 88 Hz PL tone required), or try 147.470 simplex once you get into the mountains.



## Station #4 – Get On The Air (GOTA)

FD Station #4	Call - <b>KZ1A</b>
In Charge of Station	<b>KZ1A, Mac</b>
Location	VA. SW near trees
Table	W4PJW JEFF
Chairs	BRYAN K4RMY
Shelter	K4DJG BOB
Mast	N/A
Rotor	N/A
Antenna 1	N4BCC BENNY FULL WAVE 80M LOOP
Antenna 3	KD4FKT 10M VERTICAL
Antenna 4	?
Antenna Tuner	KZ1A MAC
Coax for all Antenna's	BENNY N4BCC
Radio	KZ1A MAC
Power Supply	KZ1A MAC
Computer	K4PZC, Sandy
Computer Log	CT=FD04GO
Power	WA4FJC GORDON
Power Cable	N4BCC BENNY
Lights	W4PJW JEFF
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	KZ1A MAC
Operating Modes	SSB & CW



## Station #5 – VHF/UHF



FD Station #5	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	<b>K4RMY - BRYAN - K4EME COWLES</b>
Location	<b>Va. - East near "Frog Pond"</b>
Shelter	ELLSWORTH K4LXG
Table / Chairs	W4PJW JEFF / BRYAN K4RMY
Tower / Mast	KU4XN GAYLE
Rotor	KU4XN GAYLE
Antenna 1	6m Beam - PURCHASE FROM RUSTY N4YET
Antenna 2	2m Beam - JEFF W4PJW
Antenna 3	432cm Beam - N4DSL JASON
Coax for Antenna's 1-5	KU4XN, N4DSL, K4RMY, AA4RH
Triplexer for 2/220/440 vert	N/A
Radio 1	6m - YAESU 847 - K4EME - COWLES
Radio 2	2m/432 - ICOM 706 K4RMY
Radio 3	2m/440 - ICOM 706 - KU4XN
Radio 4	2M/440 - ICOM 706 - N4DSL
Amplifier 1	MIRAGE 160W 2 M AMP AND PS - N4DSL
Amplifier 2	RAY K4NRA, AMPS FOR ANY BAND
Power Supply	70AMP PS K4EME COWLES
Power Supply	JASON N4DSL 40AMP
Terminal for Pkt	N/A
Pkt TNC	JASON N4DSL
Laptop w / Baypac tnc	JASON N4DSL
Computer	JASON N4DSL
Computer Log	CT = FD04VHF
Generator	GORDON WA4FJC
Power Cable	KU4XN GAYLE
Lights	RICHARD AA4RH
Info Packet	K4PZC, Sandy
Grounding	BRYAN K4RMY

## Station #6 – Orbiting Satellites

FD Station #6	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	<b>K4EME, Cowles</b>
Location	VA. SE near trees
Shelter	ELLSWORTH K4LXG
Table / Chairs	W4PJW JEFF/ K4RMY BRYAN
Radio 1	K4EME, Cowles
Antenna 1	KLM 435-40CX - K4EME, Cowles
Antenna 2	KLM 145-22CX - K4EME, Cowles
Coax for all Antenna's	K4EME, Cowles
Amplifier 1	70cm, TE System 4450 175w - K4EME, Cowles
Amplifier 2	2m, KLM 160w - K4EME, Cowles
Pre-Amp	SSB Electronics SP-7000 70cm LNA under 1db Noise Figure - K4EME, Cowles
Pre-Amp	SSB Electronics SP-2000 2m under .8db Noise Figure - K4EME, Cowles
Power Meter	Bird Trueline #43 - K4EME, Cowles
Power Supply	Astron RS-70M 70-amp - K4EME, Cowles
Rotor and cable	Yaesu G-5400B - K4EME, Cowles
Antenna tripod & base	K4EME, Cowles
Antenna Mast	2 5' and 1 10' sections of pipe - K4EME, Cowles
3 Guy ropes and anchors	K4EME, Cowles
GPS	Garmin 45XL, for Correct time & location - K4EME, Cowles
Compass	K4EME, Cowles
Down Converter	2.4 ghz to 144mhz dcm 2400 to 144rx
Computer	Pentium Laptop for Satellite tracking (Nova Software) - K4EME, Cowles
Computer	486 w / 14" monitor, running LogSat with Kansas City Tracker (Autotrack) - K4EME, Cowles
Computer	Paper Log
Computer Log	
Power Strip	K4EME, Cowles
Backup Power Inverter	12 VDC to 120 VAC - K4EME, Cowles
Power	WA4FJC GORDON
Power Cable	N4DSL, JASON, N4BCC BENNY
Lights	N4DSL JASON
Info Packet	K4PZC SANDY
Grounding	K4EME, Cowles

Planned Satellites for operation	AO-10, 70cm up 2m down Oscar-20, 2m up 70cm down (JA) Oscar-29, 2m up 70cm down (JA) Oscar-27 2m up 70cm down (FM) UO-14, 2m up 70cm down (FM) AO-40, 70cm up 2.4ghz down
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## Station #7 – Natural Power

<b>FD Station #7</b>	Call - N4XU
In Charge of Station	AA4RH RICHARD
Location	?
Shelter	?
Table / Chairs	?
Tower / Mast	?
Rotor	?
Antenna 1	?
Coax for all Antenna's	?
Radio	?
Computer	?
Computer Log	CT=FD04NAT
Power	?
Gel Cell?	?
Power Cable	?
Lights	?
Info Packet	K4PZC SANDY
Grounding if needed	?

## Bonus Points

<b>Bonus Points</b>	
APRS	<b>N4DSL, Jason</b> - K4EME, Cowles
Packet	N4DSL, Jason
SSTV	N4DSL, Jason
Originate 1 Message to Section Manager	AD4TJ, David - N4DSL
Originate 10 Messages	AD4TJ, David - N4DSL
Public Official	N1QEQ, Bob
Satellite	K4EME, Cowles
W1AW FD Msg	AD4TJ, David - & ALL stations
GOTA	<b>KZ1A, Mac</b>
Display Table	N1QEQ Bob
ATV	?

## Backups and Contingencies

<b>BACKUP'S</b>	
2m all-mode Radio	N4BCC BENNY, K4NRA RAY
2m Amp	KU4XN GAYLE, K4NRA RAY
6m all-mode Radio	N4BCC BENNY, K4NRA RAY
Antenna Analyzer	EVERYONE HAS ONE
Antenna Tuner	
Antenna Tuner	
Antenna Tuner	
Anything Else ?	Bring it just in case - All
Barrel Connectors	Bring it just in case - All
Coax	FD Committee - All
Computer / Keyboards	K4PZC SANDY
Generator - 5kw	N4DSL JASON
H.F. Radio - CW	
H.F. Radio - Phone	
KAM TNC multi mode	
PK-232 TNC	
Power Supply	
Rotor - HAM 3 or 4	KU4XN GALE
Rotor Cable	W4PJW JEFF
String / Cord for Dipoles	KE4GKD KENNY
Tarps	Bring it just in case - All
Tent for Main Generator, WV	N4YET RUSTY
Updated ver. Of CT	
Wire	Bring it just in case - All

## Field Day Equipment Policy

Adopted by the MARA and VARA Amateur Radio Clubs.

Be it understood that:

As a participant in Field Day operations, whether a club member or visitor, you are using equipment that may belong to someone else. Care for it as if it were your own.

No repairs or modifications, no matter how slight, shall be made to any equipment without the owner (or owner's designated representative) present.

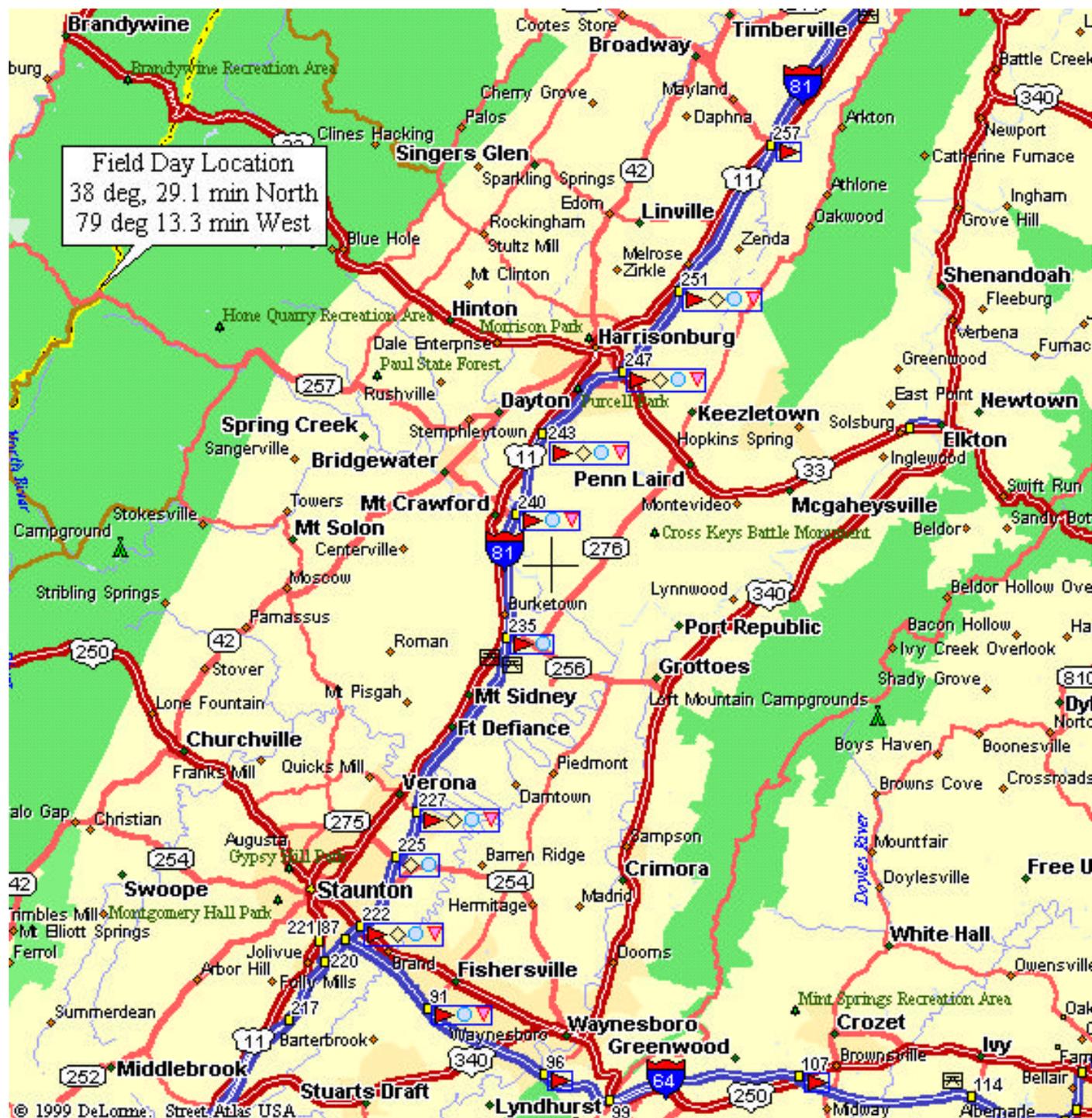
Any apparent malfunction of the equipment shall be reported immediately to the owner.

Be it further understood that:

**Equipment which is brought to the Field Day site and made available for use is done at the owner's discretion, and said equipment should be supervised by the owner or his/her designated representative.**

**Any damage to, or failure of, the equipment at Field Day will be the responsibility of the owner, and NOT that of the sponsors, organizers, or management of the Field Day Activities.**

## Map to the MARA/VARA Joint Field Day Activity Site



*See Page 9 of this Issue for Detailed Driving Directions to the Field Day Site.*

## MARA Secretary's Report – May 6 Meeting

The May meeting of the Massanutten Amateur Radio Association was held at Evers Restaurant in Mt. Crawford, the meeting was opened at 7:30PM by the club president, David Fordham, KD9LA; there were 24 members and 3 guests present.

The secretary's report for the April 2004 meeting was accepted as written in the May MARA monitor.

Two new members were voted into the club, James Stamper, KG4LDY of Woodstock and Chad Allen, KI4DLM of Harrisonburg. Two applications for membership were read and will be voted on at the June meeting.

Gayle Shull, KU4XN reported that the next VE exam will be held June 13<sup>th</sup> at the Woodmen of the World building in Dayton.

Norman, KA4EEN reported that he needs net control operators to volunteer for the Monday Rockingham County ARES nets.

A tour of the RMH ham radio station will be given June 7<sup>th</sup> by Dale Showalter, N4DAI to get familiar with the station. The tentative schedule is to eat at 6:30 at the cafeteria, the tour to begin at 7:00, and for the ARES net to operated from the station at 8:00.

It was reported from the VARA club that if you have items on the swap shop page of their website ([http://](http://www.qsl.net/w4mus/swapshop.htm)

[www.qsl.net/w4mus/swapshop.htm](http://www.qsl.net/w4mus/swapshop.htm)) and the items have been sold or no longer for sale to contact Billy, KG4JOF (kg4jog@arrl.net). Also they want help to cleanup the field day site before mowing occurs. If you are interested contact Ray Colvin, KE4HVR on the 146.850 repeater or by email at colvingr@rica.net.

Steve Tennyson, KF4ZWK reported for the field day committee that they still need someone to work the welcome station. There will be no digital station and that they may need equipment for the VHF station, particularly six meter equipment. Rusty Bowman, N4YET reported that he had multiple VHF yagi's that could be purchased for use by the club at field day, a motion was passed for the field day committee to work with Rusty for the equipment if needed.

Richard Wilkins, KR4V won the 50 / 50 drawing, Richard got \$13.50 and \$13.50 went to the club.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 8:07PM.

The May MARA program was an excellent presentation about EchoLink, presented by Jason Armentrout, N4DSL.

Todd Harrison, K4TMH  
MARA Secretary

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 1: VARA Club Meeting  
June 3: MARA Club Meeting  
June 5: Winston-Salem (NC) Hamfest  
June 7: RMH Hospital Ham Station Orientation (see pg. 4)  
June 6: Manassas Hamfest  
June 12: VE Exams in Dayton VA  
June 12: Franklin (VA) Hamfest  
June 12-14: ARRL-VHF QSO Party  
June 19: Ham Radio Kids Day  
June 19-20: SMIRK Six Meter Contest  
June 20: Frederick (MD) Hamfest  
June 20-26: Pre-Field Day Camping (see page 7)  
June 26-27: ARRL Field Day

*See the MARA Website Schedule page for details on the above events, as well as net schedules.*

July 1: MARA July Meeting  
July 4: Harrisburg (PA) Hamfest  
July 6: VARA Club Meeting  
July 17-18: CQ WW VHF Contest  
July 24: Asheville-Waynesville (NC) Hamfest  
July 24: Stuarts Draft Park Public Service Event  
July 25: Baltimore-Timonium (MD) Hamfest  
July 31: Roanoke Valley Salem (VA) Hamfest

August 1: Berryville (VA) Hamfest  
August 3: VARA Club Meeting  
August 5: MARA Club Meeting  
August 7: 10-10 Summerfest Contest  
August 7-8: ARRL UHF Contest  
August 14: VE Exams in Dayton VA  
August 15: Westminster/Carroll County (MD) Tailgatefest  
August 21: North American QSO Party

September 4-5: Shelby (NC) Hamfest  
September 18-19: Virginia Beach Hamfest

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## VARA Secretary's Report – May 4 Meeting

The **V**alley **A**mateur **R**adio **A**ssociation met at Kathy's in Verona on May 4, 2004. The President Billy Hooke KG4JOF opened the meeting at 7:30pm. There were 20 members present and 3 guests, Bob VanFossen K4DJG, Carol Landes N4JKX and Don Landes WX4C.

Welcome to our visitors, and we would like to see all of you back next month.

The 50/50 winner was Carol Landes N4JKX, congratulations Carol.

Gordon reported that all was going well with the students in the ham radio class. The lessons will end on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and the VE's will give the test on Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our Field Day committee volunteers for 2004 are: Billy Hooke KG4JOF, Richard Huttering AA4RH and Jess Hancock W4PQK. Field Day committee meetings is the second Thursday of the month at Burger King in Mount Crawford at 6:00pm. They will be looking for help during field day such as equipment, shelters, set up and when it's time to take down antennas, towers and gather up extension cords, tarps, stakes and get them all loaded to bring off the mountain. **We would like to have more help with site clean up, mowing and trimming this year. There's a lot of grass to mow at the site and the extra help would be greatly appreciated. While mowing if we have to stop to pick up rocks and limbs it makes the job more time consuming.**

The Club Name Badge project has been agreed upon by the Club and

is to be funded by the VARA for all members. Our contact person was not present for a report so we will have more information at next months meeting.

### **New Club Call Sign:**

Ray Colvin KE4HVR received an e-mail from Charlie Garner WA4ITY the Club callsign Trustee, the FCC is requesting a FRN number to continue our request by Memoriam for Joe Moomaw's callsign W4XD for the VARA Club callsign.

We have a public service request from Kathy Stout, Assistant Director for Augusta Co. Parks and Recreation for a Special Event at the New Stuarts Draft Park on Saturday July 24, 2004 beginning at 8:00am. More at next month's meeting.

### **SWAP SHOP:**

#### **This is for Ham related items only.**

You can send a list of items you have for sale, swap or something you would like to buy, to Billy Hooke KG4JOF at: KG4JOF@arrl.net Also a picture of the item would help it sell. Go to VARA Web Site at: <http://www.qsl.net/w4mus/> **IF YOUR ITEM HAS BEEN SOLD, PLEASE notify Billy so he can take it off the Swap Shop Web page.**

**Highland County ARES Net** will be on the Monterey repeater 147.180+ and tone of 100.0 at 8:30pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. They would like to welcome everyone to check into the Net.

**ADDRESSES!!!** Keep your e-mail address up to date. Please send them to: Billy Hooke KG4JOF, KG4JOF@arrl.net Jeff Rinehart W4PJW, jmrinehart@yahoo.com Ray Colvin KE4HVR, colvingr@rica.net

and David Fordham KD9LA, ford-hadr@jmu.edu Also, it's good to keep QRZ updated when call signs and e-mail addresses are changed.

### **ON THE SICK LIST:**

**Dan James W4DLJ** is getting around without his walker part of the time but not able to join us for the Friday lunches.

**Kenny Harris KE4GKD** has graduated from therapy on his shoulder and doing a lot better.

**Lonnie Czerniak N4WIV** has back trouble again and will have to have her sixth back operation as soon as possible.

*Lets keep these folks in our thoughts and prayers.*

**ARES NET:** David Tanks AD4TJ is looking for Net Controls for the Augusta County ARES Net. The Net will be held on the 146.850 repeater on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 8:00pm. This repeater has a minus offset and a tone of 131.8 when needed.

**PROGRAMS NEEDED:** Richard AA4RH, Program Chairman, is looking for anyone that would like to do a program for the club. Give him a call and set up a date to present it. It does not have to be HAM related.

It could be anything you think the group would find interesting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Submitted By:  
VARA Secretary  
Ray Colvin KE4HVR

# MARA/VARA

c/o David Fordham  
131 Wayside Drive  
Weyers Cave, VA 24486  
Phone: 540-568-3024  
Email: fordhadr@jmu.edu

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Return Service Requested

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## MASSANUTTEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, Inc.

President: David Fordham KD9LA  
Vice President: Bill Karle KG4UPN  
Secretary: Todd Harrison, K4TMH  
Treasurer: Sandy Mullins, K4PZC  
Board (exp 04): Richard Haxton, KC3AN  
Board (exp 05): John Nelson N3JN

<http://mara.ws>

MARA meets the first Thursday of each month  
at Ever's Restaurant on U.S. 11 north  
of the traffic light in Mt. Crawford.  
Meal starts at 6:30 pm.  
Business meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

**Visitors are welcome.**

Dues (\$12 per year) should be mailed to:  
MARA  
PO Box 1882  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

## VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

President: Billy Hooke, KG4JOF  
Vice President: Greg Czerniak, W4GRC  
Secretary: Ray Colvin, KE4HVR  
Treasurer: Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW  
Program Manager: Richard Huttinger, AA4RH

<http://www.qsl.net/w4mus>

VARA meets the first Tuesday of each month  
At Kathy's Restaurant on U.S. 11 north of  
the traffic light in Verona.  
Meal starts at 6:30 pm.  
Business meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

**Visitors are welcome.**

Dues (\$15 per year) should be mailed to:  
Jeff Rinehart, W4PJW  
1344 Hankey Mtn Hwy  
Churchville, VA 24421