

The Monitor

July 2003



Upcoming Events

TSRC Meeting July 19, 2003, 9:00am
Regency Inn, WRJ, VT

TSRC Meeting August 9, 2003, 9:00am
Regency Inn, WRJ, VT

Shriner's Parade and Football Game

While many of you just finished with The Prouty, and many more will be working with the 100 Mile Ride, this coming weekend, I figured I'd better get a note out, and beg for another "Volunteer" gig.

The Shriner's Parade, and Football Game is coming up, on August 2nd, and I'm looking for a few people, that would be willing to help track the parade, and be liaisons in the football stadium. We have gotten away with as few as 5 people, in the past, but 8 would be great, especially with many people being available for the parade, but not the game.

For those that haven't participated, but would like to ...

The parade starts at noon, but you need to be in Hanover by around 10 - 10:30 to beat the traffic. I can get you a parking pass ... somewhere in Hanover, and a lunch ticket.

The parade will run to around 2 and the football game will run to around 5 or 6.

If you're interested, or if you want more information, you can either call me, or email me.

TNX,
Doug

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Disclaimer

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Reminder

We will be voting on the Constitution and By-laws changes at this meeting. This vote was postponed from last month because we didn't have enough voting members present. If you are a voting member and your dues are paid, please plan to attend.

Field Day 2003 Final Report

I want to thank everyone who participated in Field Day this year. It was a lot of fun, with lots of good company, lots of good food and most importantly, lots of what makes ham radio the great hobby that it is.

Starting at 2pm on Friday, we put up two of the club's AB-577 military towers. One had the Cushcraft A-4 tribander and the other held the 2 element 40 meter beam. A third tower held the 6 and 2 meter yagis. In addition, the 1000+ foot long 160 meter full wave horizontal loop was flying from the trees along with an 80 meter half square.

One station was dedicated to 40 meters. The other station rotated on the other HF bands. Modes were at the operators' discretion. As expected, HF conditions were not good. 20 and 40 meters were the meat and potatoes bands. 80/75 meters was good during the hours of darkness. Ten meters was a complete lost cause and 15 meters was nearly the same. We managed a few VHF QSO's, with central Massachusetts being our best DX.

The GOTA station was ably manned by N1YMQ, N1KDV, KB1GRK and KB1IQD. Congratulations to Alan, Doug, Ian and Nicole on their first contesting experience. That's exactly what the GOTA station is designed to do; light a fire in new or inactive hams to Get them On The Air and see another aspect of the hobby that they probably haven't experienced.

Speaking of other aspects of the hobby, we also had three demonstrations of other, more unusual modes that hams are using. Dave #4 (N1HAC) stopped by and got his ATV station going. Bill Burden demonstrated portable packet and Dave (#?) KA1UAG demonstrated his 10 GHz microwave equipment. It was fascinating to hear the effect of Doppler shift.

Although I don't know our actual score total as of this writing, we had roughly 2,450 QSO's. That's impressive, though not enough to win our category, but it was lots of fun just the same. We could have used a few more hands and

there was lots of time available to operate.

Special thanks go to Doug, N1KDV for once again securing the operating site for us at KUA. Hopefully, he'll continue to work his magic!

We'll get 'em next year!!

73,

Dave – WI1S
2003 Field Day Chairman



HELP WANTED AT VERMONT CONTEST STATION

Perhaps some testers remember the AA6TT contest station in SW Colorado which was operational in the '90s (we still have the CQWW SSB M/M zero division record). That station was disassembled several years ago. I was off the air entirely for 5 years and started rebuilding "contest capabilities" last year at my new QTH in East Topsham, Vermont (located 1 hour north of Hanover NH).

I am looking for a regular "core" crew of operators which will be rounded out from time-to-time with imported ringers like N5OT, K7JA & KL2A. I am also looking for help with antenna construction and maintenance, in particular I would like some help building Yagis over the next 6 weeks—I have about 15 Yagis to build!

I am focusing on the M/S category because (1) M/M is too much work! and (2) KC1XX looks unbeatable (what will it take to beat 'XX, 500-foot towers and stacked Rhombics within sight of the Atlantic ocean?). My goal is to be competitive in the M/S category with super-stations such as K4JA.

I intend to be regularly active in the M/S class starting with the WAE SSB and CQ WW RTTY contests in September with regular CW, SSB & RTTY M/S contest operations thereafter: CQ WW SSB & CW, SS SSB & CW, ARRL 10m, ARRL 160m, CQ 160m SSB & CW, ARRL DX SSB & CW, WPX SSB & CW, New England QSO Party, etc.

Here's the current station set-up including projects to be completed this summer:

** Two permanent operating positions, each with a Ten-Tec Orion/Alpha 87a linked to computers running Writelog. Main operating position can also be operated SO2R with IC-756PRO-II/Alpha 87a connected via DX Doubler. Full band-pass filtering.

** All antennas available to either station via Array Solutions 12pak switching array.

** Full-size 160m Four Square array with elevated radial system and ground screen.

** Full-size 80m Four Square array with elevated radial system and ground screen.

** 142-foot Big Bertha free-standing rotating pole with three stacked OptiBeam OB16-3 tri-band Yagis and two stacked Cal-Av full-size 2L 40m Yagis. This tower will typically be parked on JA/Asia/Pacific during contests.

** 156-foot rotating Rohn 55 tower with three stacked M2 10-30LP8 LPDAs and single Optibeam 2L 40m Yagi. This array will be parked on Europe during contests this season but will be the Carib/SoAm array when the fixed EU tower is built in 2004. This tower will also have a Force 12 2L 80m

Yagi (new design, no linear loading) at the top, which will be directed at EU when the tower is otherwise pointing south.

** M2 7-10-30LP8 skip log on crank-up tower, this will be the primary south 40m & tri-band antenna this season but will be a spotting antenna after the fixed EU system is built in 2004.

** 4L SteppIR Yagi on 85-foot tower for 10m/15m/20m mults.

** Most towers separated by several hundred feet to minimize coupling and inter-station QRM.

** Power-dividing and switching (via Array Solutions StackMatches) set-up so that operators on 40m and 20m/15m/10m can use any combination of or all Yagi stacks pointed at JA, South American and Eu.

** Several guest bedrooms; your family members will be welcome to spend a relaxing weekend at our c.1807 northeast Vermont farm—270 acres of ponds and woods—while you contest.

** My wife Christine is an excellent cook and enjoys preparing meals for guest operators. (Christine is also a professional bartender...)

** For 2004, I am planning a fixed tower dedicated to EU with (maybe, still modeling) six tri-banders and three 40m Yagis plus a 160m rotating dipole up around 195-feet.

If you're interested, please contact me ASAP. While I will welcome people making the odd-jaunt to my place to operate, I'm most interested in finding highly-motivated testers to fill out a regular crew. Please feel free to forward this message to anyone you feel might be interested.

73, Bill AA6TT
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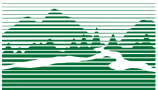
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