

# The LARG Radio News - DE K4LRG



Loudoun Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 1004, Purcellville, VA 20134

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**MEETING LOCATION:** The February 21, 2004, LARG meeting will be at 8:30 in the Leesburg Holy Trinity Lutheran church at 605 West Market Street. The church is located at the intersection of Market Street and Catoctin Circle on the west side of town. It is just east of the bypass. From the Bypass, take the Leesburg exit at the west end of town and the church is on the right just past the stoplight. Please enter through the door on the east side of the building where you will see both steps and a ramp by the door.

**February Club Meeting Plans** -- One of the principal topics of discussion at the February meeting will be LARG's participation in the Virginia QSO Party. The rules for the VAQP have changed this year so be sure to take a close look at the attached 2004 rules. Mobile ops beware! We will also begin planning for the 2004 Field Day. Tom, **NA4MA**, has agreed to be the FD Chairman this year and will be organizing things starting this Saturday; be sure to pitch in and help out - FD is a club effort!

**There is still time to pay your 2004 club dues! See our Treasurer at the meeting.**

**January - Meeting Report** -- The big order of business at the January meeting was election of officers for 2004. See the mast head of this newsletter for your new officers. We also want to wish our past-President Larry, **KC1YC**, and his wife Joyce, **KG4SHO**, best of luck in their new QTH in New Hampshire.

**2004 Events** - The ARRL CW DX contest starts at 0000Z on Saturday February 21 (that's 7:00p.m. Friday for us on the east coast) and ends 48 hours later at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, EST. This DX contest is one of the best for US/VE operators because the DX stations can only work US/VE stations and not each other! You can operate the full 48 hours of this contest. The exchange is a signal report and state/province for US/VE stations and signal report and power level for the DX stations. Get on the air and practice your CW. The SSB version of this contest is in the weekend of March 6-7.

#### Calendar of Events:

Every Sunday 8:00 p.m.

Every Third Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Weekday Mornings and Evenings

Club Radio Net, 145.310 MHz duplex

Club Meeting -- February 21, 2004

Commuter Net, 147.480 MHz Simplex

# *2004 Virginia QSO Party*

## **Sponsor**

Sponsored by the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club, Call Box 599, Sterling VA, 20167.

## **Object**

To promote amateur radio activity in the 95 Virginia Counties and 39 Independent Cities.

## **Dates**

March 20 - 22, 2004. Contest times are from 1800 UTC on Saturday March 20 through 0200 UTC on Monday March 22.

## **Entries**

Submit logs, summary and dupe sheets (for greater than 200 QSO's) by April 15, 2004 to the VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167 or by email to nq4k@arrl.net. Include SASE or email address for summary of contest results. A \$1.00 donation to help defray the costs of printing and mailing is encouraged.

## **Contest Rules**

Work fixed stations once per band/mode. Out-of-State stations work Virginia stations only. No cross-mode or repeater QSO's. A Virginia Mobile transmitter must remain on one band for a 15 minute period starting with the first logged QSO on that band for that time period. Work Virginia Mobiles in each Virginia County or Independent City from which they operate. Mobiles and Fixed stations on County or Independent City lines count as one QSO and only one County/Independent City multiplier. Multipliers are only counted once. Contacting the same Virginia County, Independent City, State, Province or Country using a different band or mode counts only as a new QSO, not as a new multiplier. Virginia Mobiles receive a bonus of 100 additional points for each Virginia County/Independent City from which they log a valid QSO. For award purposes Fixed and Mobile operation will be considered separately, please submit separate logs for Fixed and Mobile operation. Spotting nets, DX clusters, etc., may be used to locate other stations - no self-spotting permitted. All operators must observe the limits of their operator's license. Multiple operator stations should indicate all operators by name and call sign.

Paper or electronic Logs, Summary and Dupe sheets (200 or more QSO's) are required. Summary sheet should include name, mailing address, call sign, number of Virginia Counties/Independent Cities in which operated, license class, club name and a signed statement that all contest rules and regulations have been observed. Dupe sheets by band and mode are required for 200 or more QSO's. For Club Competition (minimum of 3 valid club entries), be sure to indicate club name on summary sheet and log. Contestants using computer logging and reporting software are required to verify scoring and duping to ensure contest rules have been followed.

## **Scoring**

QSO's count 1 point per Phone, 2 points per CW, and 3 points per contact made with a Virginia Mobile (Phone or CW). Virginia Fixed Stations multiply QSO points by the total number of Virginia counties, Virginia Independent cities, U. S. States, Canadian Provinces and DX Countries. No extra DX multiplier for U.S. (including Alaska and Hawaii) and Canada. Virginia Mobiles, add to your Virginia Fixed Station score 100 bonus points for each Virginia County or Independent City from which you log a valid mobile QSO. Outside of Virginia, multiply QSO points by the total number of Virginia Counties (95) and Independent Cities (39) worked to obtain final score. All stations add 500 bonus points for a contact with K4NVA the club station of the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club.

## **Exchange**

Exchange QSO number and QTH (Virginia County or Independent City for VA stations; State, Province or DX Country for others). Virginia Mobile Stations log QSO's by Virginia Independent City or County of operation. Identify all QSO's with band/mode, sequential QSO number sent/received and date/time of contact in UTC. Please follow standard contest practices by making and responding to "CQ Virginia QSO Party" calls. Multiple Transmitter stations may maintain sequential QSO numbers Independently for each transmitter.

## **Suggested Frequencies**

160 meters and up, except no WARC band QSO's permitted. Suggested frequencies: CW--1805 KHz and 50 KHz up from band edge on others. PHONE --1845, 3860, 7260, 14270, 21370 and 28370 KHz. Novice/Tech Plus--10 KHz up from the edge of the CW band and 28370 KHz on PHONE. VHF -- 50.125, 144.200 (CW & SSB), 146.580 and 223.50 MHZ. UHF--446.00 MHZ. All frequencies plus or minus QRM and nets. No Repeater or cross-mode QSO's.

## **Information**

Additional information may be obtained by mail at VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167 from the SPARC website [www.qsl.net/sterling](http://www.qsl.net/sterling) or by contacting Gordon Miller, [nq4k@arrl.net](mailto:nq4k@arrl.net).

## **Operator Categories**

Single Operator - One person performs all operating and only one transmitter may be on the air at a time

Mobile - Single or Multiple individuals operating Mobile under a single call sign with only one transmitter on the air at a time. A mobile station is self-contained and capable of legal motion (land, water or air) while operating. Motion is optional, and discouraged, during operation.

Club - Minimum of three valid contest entries each indicating club affiliation.

Multi Operator / Single Transmitter - Two or more operators with one transmitter on the air at one time.

Multi Operator / Multi Transmitter - Two or more operators with two or more transmitters on the air at one time.

Expedition - One or more operators of a single transmitter station that moves between two or more Virginia locations during the course of the contest. All equipment, power supplies and antennas must be transported to each operating site.