



### Field Day 07

got the summer off to a bang!



**Topsham, ME:** The propagation in the HF and VHF bands may not have been as good as last year but the folks that attended the KS1R field Day site at the Red Cross facility had a great time. Higher attendance and more participation by those that stopped by to help get in some operating time or just see what Ham Radio is all about.



Steve, AA4AK and Marjorie, KX1I are being cheered on by John, KIJJJ

Field Day chairman, Steve Kerchel, AA4AK reported that 51 people attended the two-day event as participants and guests. The final tally had the KS1R 2F team with a total of **518 QSOs** consisting of:

- Phone QSOs
- CW QSOs
- PSK31 QSOs
- 1 SatCom QSO

No VHF or UHF QSOs were made due to poor band conditions on 6-meters and no one listening on 2-Meter and 70cMeter SSB.



**New Ham trying his luck on the HF bands at the GOTA station**

KS1R will earned a lot of bonus points for demonstrating APRS, Solar Power operation, media publicity, attendance by elected officials, VHF/UHF station, GOTA (N1TRC) station, handling message traffic and copy of the ARRL CW Field Day Bulletin to name a few.

**Well done KS1R Field Day Team!**



### Ham Exams for 2007

The following are the dates for the MARA sponsored Amateur Radio license examinations held at the MidCoast Chapter; American Red Cross located at 16 Community Way, Topsham, ME.

- August 04, 2007, 10:00 AM
- October 20, 2007, 10:00 AM
- December 15, 2007, 10:00 AM

In conjunction with this test session, ARRL Emergency Communications Certification Exams will be given with advanced registration (at least one week in advance) with K1GAX.

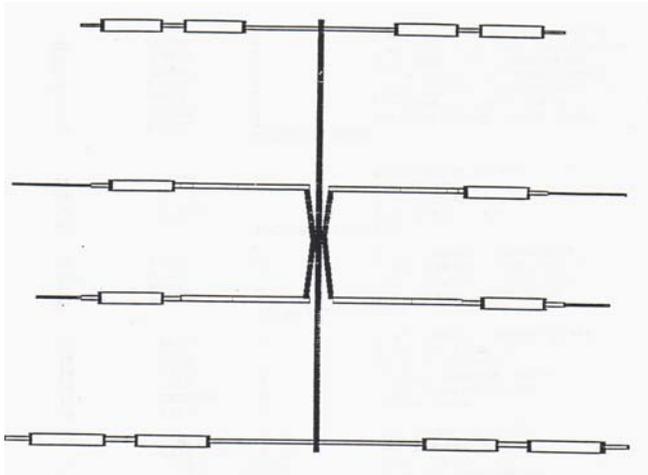
Exam sessions start promptly at 10:00 AM. Please have photocopies of your existing Amateur License, photo ID, and

exam fee (cash only) with you. (Walk-ins allowed). For advanced registration, Contact:

**Bryce Rumery, K1GAX (207) 799-1116**  
or **E-Mail:** [k1gax@juno.com](mailto:k1gax@juno.com)



## For Sale, Mosley TA-53M



## 5-Band Yagi

**The TA-53M has broad coverage of the 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meter bands on a 14-foot boom.**

Like most Mosley products, it's built to last. All you need to do to this antenna is bolt the element to the boom and connect the coax and you are ready to go. New unassembled in the shipping box the antenna sells for \$813, but since I have a yen to buy a new SteppIR, I am willing to let it go for **\$375**, you pick-up in Phippsburg. Antenna comes with original paper manual and on CD. If you are interested, Bruce can be reached at: 207-442-9630 or at [W1ZE@arrl.net](mailto:W1ZE@arrl.net)



# Hamfest & Fleamarket Schedule for New England

1. **July 14<sup>th</sup> Pen-Bay ARC Hamfest in Union, ME**, Thompson Community Center, 51 S. Union Road. Talk-in 145.49 (PL-91.5)
2. **July 15<sup>th</sup> Flea at MIT, Cambridge, MA**, MIT Campus, corner of Albany & Main
3. **Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> Piscataquis ARC, St.Albans, ME**, St.Albans Snowmobile Club, 9 Bryant Rd. Talk-in on 146.52 or 146.85 KQ1L repeater
4. **Aug. 17-18<sup>th</sup> St.Albans ARC, Highgate, VT**, Airport Rd. (Swanton). Talk-in 145.23 (PL-100.0)
5. **Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Northern Berkshire ARC, Adams, MA**, Adams Agricultural Fairgrounds (Bowe Field) Rt.8 (off Columbus St.)
6. **Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> Flea at MIT, Cambridge, MA**, MIT Campus, corner of Albany & Main St.
7. **Sep.15<sup>th</sup> St.Crox Valley ARC, Alaxander, ME**. Alaxander Elementry School, Rt.9 – Talk-in on 147.33 (PL-118.8)
8. **Sep. 9<sup>th</sup> Windsor Hamfest Windsor, ME**, Windsor Fairgrounds, China Rd.
9. **Sep. 16<sup>th</sup> Western CT Hamfest, Newtown, CT** Edmond Town Hall, 45 Main St. Talk-in 147.3 (PL-100.0)
10. **Sep. 16<sup>th</sup> Flea at MIT, Cambridge, MA**. MIT Campus, corner of Albany & Main St.
11. **Sep. 29<sup>th</sup> RASON Hamfest, Ledyard, CT** Gales Ferry Firehouse 1772 Rt.12. Talk-in 146.73 (PL 156.7)
12. **Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> CT State Convention, Willingford, CT**, Mountian Ridge Resort, 300 High Hill Rd. Talk-in 147.36 (no PL)
13. **Oct. 12-13 NEAR-Fest, Deerfield, NH**. Fairgrounds, Highway 43, Talk-in 147.7 (PL 88.5)
14. **Oct. 21 Flea at MIT, Cambridge, MA**, MIT Campus, corner of Albany and Maoin St.
15. **Nov. 3 IRS Flea Market, Londonderry, NH**. Londonderry Lions Club, Mammoth Rd. Talk-in 147.85 (PL 85.4)



# The Astatic D-104 & Rice Box Transceivers

By WIZE

The venerable D-104 microphone has been around since the early 1940s and a favorite of Hams for just about as long. The microphone employed a high-Z ceramic element that was a good match to the old tube type AM transmitters with a high impedance audio input to the modulator. The AMers of today still like and use them.



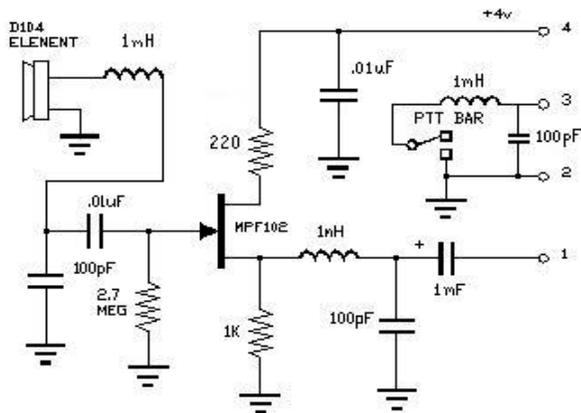
However the newer solid-state SSB transceivers have lower microphone impedance, in the neighborhood of 600 ohms. When you try and use a D-104 with these rigs, the audio tends to be constricted and a bit tinny. Because of this, some hams have replaced the internal ceramic microphone element with a 600-ohm dynamic element. That works well but to the purest, the microphone is no longer a true D-104.

OK, there is a solution for you purists. If you employ the following small Field Effect Transistor (FET) amplifier that will not be much audio gain but it will lower the microphone impedance so that it interfaces well with solid-state transceiver microphone inputs.

pin in your transceiver is closer to 8 volts than 4 volts, you may want to increase the value of the 220-ohm resistor to something close to 440-ohms in the microphone amp circuit.

Most of the parts for this little circuit are available at your local poorly supplied Radio Shack store. However the 1 mH RF chokes are not available there. You could eliminate the chokes feeding the microphone element and in the PTT circuit, but to be safe you do need one in the output of the FET device. You may have a RF choke in that range (.5 to 4 mH) in your junk box or you could obtain one from one of the on-line electronics parts houses.

I have used a D-104 for years and love it. As those of you that were at this years Field Day operation and operated at the HF desk you would have had one in your hands. I got my D-104 years ago at a flea market in W-6 land. In it's long history the ceramic element ribbon broke and I replaced it with a dynamic element and added a one-transistor microphone amp in the mic-stand base. The amp was needed for my IC-736 which requires microphones with high level outputs (amplified), but when I use it with my Icom IC-746PRO I have to set the rigs microphone level control low to compensate. If you see one at a flea market, and it is in good shape, make an offer. You will not be disappointed. **73, Bruce**



The above circuit can be assembled and placed in the base of the D-104 microphone stand. On most transceivers there is a positive 4 to 8 volts on the transceivers microphone (high) pin. If there is the case with your rig, connect pin 4 to pin 1 in the drawing above. If the voltage on the microphone

## News from



## Newington

### WLAW OPERATES 4F IN FIELD DAY

With the 2007 Field Day now a part of history, it's time to begin planning for 2008. With that in

mind, ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Manager and Field Day Coordinator Dan Henderson, N1ND, said, "From the phone calls and e-mails I have received, people all over the country had a great Field Day. It was a blast. Now it's time to get started planning for next year!"

W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, said, "Field Day conditions were weak, but we managed some good contacts, nonetheless. All the W1AW Field Day bulletins were sent without a hitch." Henderson agreed. "Propagation was not the best up here in New England. But we managed to pull through, and had a lot of fun doing so." W1AW made a total of 804 contacts: 317 on CW, 466 on Phone and 21 on the digital modes; each code ran at 100 W. Taking into account all the bonus points available, W1AW's claimed score is 2284. "We ran Field Day as 4F. Since W1AW is an EOC station, we are allowed the 'F' designator. Although we didn't make any satellite contacts, we did demonstrate it to staff and visitors," Carcia said.

W1AW managed to make contacts with 42 of the 50 US states. Unfortunately, operators were not able to make contact with South Dakota, Wyoming, Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon or Kansas. "We're okay with that, because at W1AW, we view Field Day as more of a teaching, or educational, experience. There are times where we are not operating, or not operating that much, because we are showing new or prospective hams what Amateur Radio is all about," Carcia said.

Carcia noted that just as during regular W1AW operating hours, visitors were "more than welcome" to come by W1AW on Field Day. "We had one visitor from Hawaii. He and his family were in Connecticut on family business, and he operated pretty much both days. In addition to visitors, we had 11 ARRL HQ staffers show up to both operating and to conduct a VE test session on Saturday," Carcia said. A total of eight people took exams, with six passing.

Carcia said that the W1AW 60 kW diesel generator suffered "some nastiness" the Saturday before Field Day, but was repaired in the days prior to the operating event. "As near as we can tell," Carcia said, "lightning struck a power line a street over, inducing voltage in the line. We are guessing the induced voltage arced across from the neutral side in the transfer switch and 'whacked' the solenoid coil and control board in

the transfer switch. We think this only because the coil is about an inch away from neutral buss." The generator story, as well as pictures from W1AW's Field Day, are on the ARRL Field Day Web blog: [www.arrl.org/blog/Field%20Day%202007](http://www.arrl.org/blog/Field%20Day%202007)>

### **Kenwood has agreed to merge with JVC**

Matsushita Electric Industrial Company. Japan's Nikkei business newspaper reports that the final details should be worked out by the end of the month, and that under the plan, Kenwood will buy 20 billion yen (\$161,469,466) in JVC shares as early as this summer, raising its stake to 13 percent. Matsushita will also sell part of its 52.7 percent of JVC to Kenwood's top shareholder, the Sparx Group. When JVC and Kenwood integrate operations under the holding company in 2008, Matsushita will sell the rest of its JVC shares to the holding company to complete the transaction. The holding company's stock will be listed instead of Kenwood and JVC, according to Nikkei. Combined, Kenwood's and JVC's sales are \$7.3 billion dollars annually for their fiscal year that ended March 31.

