

January VHF Contest 2021

Gil Thompson KM4OZH

Limited Rover – 6m, 2m, 1.25 m and 70 cm

March 16, 2021

January VHF Contest 2021 Description

- All Bands above 50 Mhz – 6M and up
- QSOs on bands above 2M count more than 6M or 2M contacts
- All modes including FT8
- VHF contests held January, June and September of each year
- Categories Single op (low power, high power, portable, 3 bands, fm-only) , Rover (classic, limited, unlimited) Multioperator (limited and unlimited)
- Exchange is simple Grid square – FM18 in Manassas

Grid Squares

- Section of earth 1 degree Latitude by 2 degrees Longitude
- About 70 miles by 100 miles
- Longer name is maidenhead squares after a town in England where they were devised
- In the VHF contest, grids are MULTIPLIERS – so you add a lot to your score when you work a new grid. New band contact is also a multiplier.

KM4OZH GOALS

1. win southeast region

2. 10 place or better overall (nationwide)

- KM4OZH in previous VHF contests as limited rover

June 2020 –	23 overall	6360 points
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- January 2020 13 overall 3509 points * first in district *

- June 2109 40 overall 1166 points

KM4OZH EQUIPMENT

- FT 991A
- FT-779 (FM)
- TYT-9000 (220)
- AMP –TOKYO HY-POWER
- AMP –MIRAGE
- MFJ TUNER
- LAPTOP



KM4OZH homebrew Beam Rotator



- Power by Makita drill motor
- Directional indicator is made from Dwell meter – previous slide

Beam Rotator in Action

This is the beam rotator in action. It is rotating a 2M with 14 elements and also a 6M beam.



KM4OZH ROVER ROUTE - START

Contest start – 2pm. Gil started at his farm in Amissville and made contacts from FM18

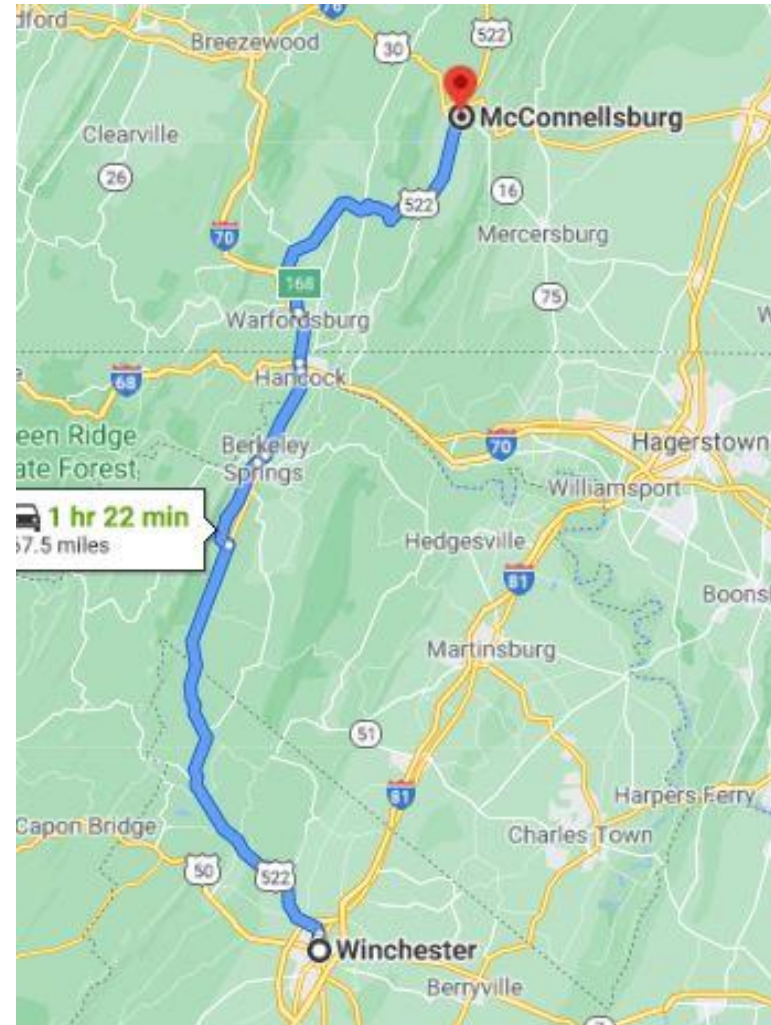
At dark, he drives to Chester Gap on the Route 522. This overlook gives him line of sight to many counties. Chester gap is in FM08. He leaves at 11 pm headed for Winchester, Va



Winchester to Tower Rd in Pennsylvania

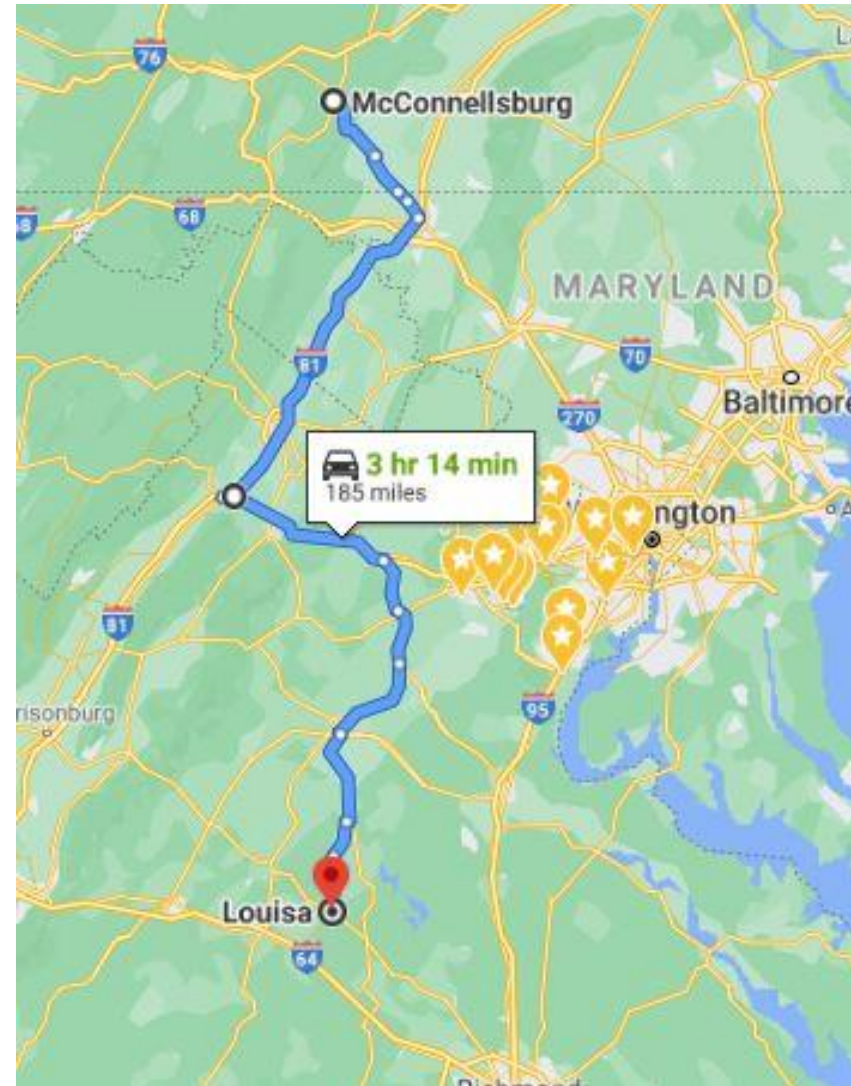
Winchester is FM09, goes to Tower road in Mcconnellsberg, Pennsylvania which is FM19. Nap from 2am to 4 am. He is also able to pick up FN10 and FN00 as a side trip. Gil sleeps at Tower road.

Gil then makes a three hour drive to Lousia, Va.



Long drive to Louisa

Gil drives from McConnellsburg to Louisa on 522. This is a three hour drive. Louisa is in Grid FM17



Lousia to Zion then home

Gill goes to Lousia and operates from Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in FM 17. At 3 pm., he drives to Zion Crossroads, Va giving him FM07.

On Sunday evening, Gil returns to Manassas and goes to the top of the parking garage and works both Manassas Stations and Warrenton stations. Since Gil has his multipliers, each 2M contact was worth 32 points. The 70 cm contacts were worth 64 points. Wayne N7QLK reconfigured his rig from repeater to simples and gave Gil 64 points at the garage.

The Warrenton club gave Gil more contacts from the Manassas Parking garage than OVH contacts.

