

Name	Steve Kemp
Call	KX4EF
Expectations for the SET	To experience a 'live' event as an 'out of area' radio operator, able to relay messages and provide outside information to blackout area.
What Occured	Late start, had conflicts with other Winter Storm IZZY, events. A key Winlink RMS Gateway was down. A key VARA FM Digi was down. Was able to work with Packet Digi for P2P contact and direct P2P contact and alternate Winlink RMS Gateway for Winlink traffic. Portable, laptop computer was starved for power but had a PWR+ 90 Watt DC-DC Converter to charge it from the battery source for the radio equipment--and it worked very well!
What Went Well and Why	Experience with multi-mode Winlink (VHF Packet and VARA FM) into multiple RMS nodes and sufficient reach for P2P contact, with and without Digipeater. It worked!
Improving Operation and How	Considering the value of Winlink Vara FM Digipeater enabled on mobile unit in vehicle to provide more of a disaster responsive mesh than that with fixed steady-state operations. I use handheld portable radio, mobile driving and relocatable (parked), and mobile fixed as a base station for Winlink during regular weekly exercises into multiple nets, via Telnet, Packet Winlink, Packet P2P, VARA FM Winlink, and VARA FM P2P. Learned the difficulty of being radio operator, scribe, and manager at the same time--and there is room for improvement!
Your Operating Location	Richmond/Henrico, VA Latitude: 37.5975 / 37? 35' 50" N Longitude: -77.5251 / 77? 31' 30" W Maidenhead Grid: FM17fo
Other Calls at Your Location	
Messages Sent	2
Messages Received	13