

# CHEESE BITS



**W3CCX**  
CLUB MEMORIAL CALL



Volume XLIII

August 2001

Number 8

Well here goes my virgin voyage into the Prezsez column. First of all we all owe Ed WA3DRC and his board thanks for a job well done. I would like to thank the membership for voting in the new board. I am honored to be part of such prestigious organization, and will work to keep the Packrats name in good stead. As members we all have say in how the club is run. I welcome your comments, suggestions and criticism. By the way feel free to attend board meetings, they are open to all members and the more input the better.

We all have a lot to look forward to, the Packrat Picnic at Al and Carol Shepard's Resort. He must be a busy guy with the 2m net, the June contest chairmanship and the Picnic. After the picnic we will be meeting again at the library and we'll have plenty of events to discuss, such as HAMARAMA, the VHF conference and of course its never too early to think about the January contest.

Ben WA3RLT is our new Vice President. His job is the hardest one of any board member because he must come up with topics for each meeting. Please feel free to give any suggestions to help him out.

It's summer, which means it time for vacations and antenna work. I have a 903 mast mount preamp to install on the tower and thinking about adding 3456 to my lineup. This will bring the total to 8 bands on one tower, not including the FM and low band stuff. Sounds like it time to plan a second tower at the Taylor's Scuffy Acres. What new projects are you working on? Do you need help? Bring your excess parts box and chassis stuff for the Mario Auction. One ham's trash is another ham's treasure.

The August QST just came and its nice to see all those Packrat call-signs in print, not to mention another first place finish. Job well done!

This year at the June contest site, I witnessed a real sound contest effort and wonderful camaraderie among the guys. From what I could see everyone had a good time. At the post contest gathering, everyone had a story to tell, like comments about band conditions, equipment and neat contacts. There were stories about contest past; Hilltown, SpruceKnob and Camelback. I hope we will have more great stories to tell in the future. Have a great month.

73 Brian Taylor N3EXA

OK Pack Rats , the June contest is behind us , we've survived the floods, time to start enjoying the summer , in other words IT'S PARTY TIME!! And what better way to enjoy a Summer day than at the fabulous Pack Rats Picnic! This is the one event that has something for everyone! There will be plenty of food and drink, horseshoes, volleyball, badminton, and swimming in the pool. Make no mistake about it, this is gonna be one fun day!!

**AND NOW HERE IS THE PLAN!!**

**Date : Aug. 4 with Aug. 5 as the rain day**

**Place and Time : QTH of N3ITT (La Casa Loca Resort) Ottsville , Pa.**

**Start about 12:00 noon (or come earlier if you want a good seat in the Beer Hut) Food up by 2:00PM.**

What to bring : Swimsuit, towel, change of clothes, sunscreen, sunglasses, lawn chairs, big thirst and appetite! The club will supply Hot Dogs and Hamburgers and beverages so we ask everyone to bring their favorite side dish to complete the meal. That's it! Piece of cake (yea we'll have that too). So don't forget, mark your calendar, note it in your Palm Pilot, stick Post It's on the fridge. Whatever. Because whether it's enjoying a drink from the pool bar, throwing some horseshoes, swimming, partaking of some great food and beer or just enjoying a day with your fellow Pack Rats, there's just no way to beat the Packrats Picnic for an ultimate day of summer fun!!! Please RSVP as to how many in your party and what you will bring for covered dish.

**HOPING TO SEE EVERYONE AT THE PICNIC!! 73 AL N3ITT**

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222.98/224.58 MHz, Churchville, PA

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June Contest: N3ITT 610-547-5490

HAMARAMA: W3KJ 215-256-1464

VHF Conference: KB3XG 610-584-2489

**PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B**

FM29jw Philadelphia, PA

50.080 144.284 222.065 432.295 903.071 1296.251 MHz

2304.037 3456.220 5763.190 10,368.140 MHz (as of 3/1/01)

**MONDAY NIGHT NETS**

<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>FREQUENCY</u></b>	<b><u>NET CONTROL</u></b>
7:30 PM	50.150 MHz	WA3EHD/K3EOD
8:00 PM	144.150 MHz	N3ITT
8:30 PM	222.125 MHz	W2SJ/N3EXA
8:30 PM	224.58R MHz	W3GXB
9:00 PM	432.110 MHz	W3RJW
9:30 PM	1296.100 MHz	WA3NUF
10:00 PM	903.100 MHz	N3AOG

**THURSDAY NIGHT NETS (1st & 4th of the month)**

9:30 PM 2304.100 MHz W3KJ, & go to 3.4G & up after

## Editor's Column

I was thrilled to have all of my equipment (6m thru light) working during the roving adventure in June. Despite a late start on Saturday while I helped around home with my wife post-op from shoulder surgery, I managed to get out only 2 hours late, and do two grids on Saturday, and another 4 on Sunday. The only glitch was a seemingly balky BNC connector on the 10G xvtr connection from the receive converter to the relay going to the IF. With some gentle persuasion and realignment of the components in the box, it got back to work, and managed to make several QSOs with the mountain station. I guess that I also met every state trooper and local gendarme, as usual. All were very polite and inquisitive. Having dinner on Sunday evening on the mountain with the gang was a treat, and this weekend, the weather was spectacularly cooperative. I was also grateful to the many ops who could easily run the bands. K1TEO had almost as many entries in my log as did W3CCX. Again, my thanks to everyone who contributed a part or technical assistance in getting things working. I am hoping to be able to be active for the CQ WW contest and the UHF weekend also.

I tried to cast an absentee ballot for the club elections, but was reminded at the Board of Director's meeting that you must be present to vote. Business again took me out of town for the event, but I made up for it by having a few beers while I was in DC. I hope that the event at Otto's was successful, and that I'll get another chance to share a pitcher with you all soon again.

For many of you, this will be the first edition that you will receive electronically. I am encouraging the rest of you all to send me an email to verify that you can receive a PDF file on you computer. We are attempting to improve the delivery of Cheese Bits, allow the use of color pictures and graphics, and save money in the process. Over the years, the cost of printing has risen as well as the cost of postage.

I was excited to see that Walt, N3EUV, has taken on the task of further experimentation with the laser communicators by improving the receiver antenna design. We are currently challenged to make our first inter-grid laser QSO from the mountain. Hopefully others will join the challenge, and facilitate the optics part of the transmit-receive pair, along with the stabilization and pinpointing ability of aiming the transmitters. At a frequency of 400 MHz, with a beamwidth of about 10' at a few miles, aiming becomes very critical in both axes.

Of course, we made progress with 24 GHz contacts this year, thanks to the efforts of W2PED and KB3XG. How many of you will have 24G ready for the January contest? Laser? Remember, the rovers can help your grid count with a laser QSO.

In this month's issue, we feature the latest contributions from our member, Joe Taylor, K1JT, who has designed new meteor scatter software. Following the description of the program, there is a Q&A section from Shelby Ennis to help you along with the use of the FREE tool. I am already thinking about how I can put this to use for myself from the rover.

Lastly, I want to say welcome to our new club officers, and wish them several successful terms in office. As we all know, a club is not run by the officers, it is run by the membership. An active and attentive group is of benefit to all. New club members are always welcome at the monthly meetings and the various activities.

I look forward to additional email from those who have not already contacted me about their ability to get Cheese Bits in a PDF file via the web. 73, Rick, K1DS rick1ds@hotmail.com

- **You must send me an e-mail confirming that you can receive a PDF file for future electronic mailings of Cheese Bits. I have only heard from 30 of 200 subscribers so far. Please send your email address now to: rick1ds@hotmail.com**
- **Please let Al, N3ITT know if you are coming to the picnic so that he can get a head count estimate, via Monday night net, phone 610-547-5490 or email alitt@epix.net**
- **Plan to participate in the UHF contest. This 24 hour activity starts at 1800 UTC on Sat, Aug 4th, utilizing 222 and up. Rules on the ARRL website or July QST, p 119. I plan to rove at least 2 grids operating thru 10G + light.**
- **The first weekend of the ARRL 10GHz and up Cumulative contest is Aug 18-19. This is a blast if you've got 10GHz gear that can be taken to a good mountaintop location. Look for K1DS, K2TXB, KB3XG and AA2UK to be out looking for contacts. Remember 144.260 is the scheduling frequency-move off for liaison. Rules on the ARRL website or July QST, p 120.**

## HAMARAMA 2001- SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH

Mark your calendars for this annual super event, a chance to buy, sell, swap and have an eyeball QSO with your amateur radio contacts!  
 Details to follow in next issue, or check the PackRat website

# Radio Action August 2001

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 See changes for Microwave nets dates and times on page 2	<b>Don't miss the Club Mtg/ Picnic on Sat, Aug 4th at QTH-N3ITT, noon, grill open 2 PM, food and drinks, bring covered dish &amp; swimsuit &amp; UHF Contest starts 2PM</b>	
5 Raindate for Picnic UHF contest	6 Monday night nets-check page 2 for freq and times	7	8	9 Board of Dir Mtg at QTH of N3EXA-see map		
12	13 Monday night nets-check page 2 for freq and times	14	15	16 See changes for Microwave nets dates and times on page 2		
19 First week-end 10GHz Cumulative contest	20 Monday night nets-check page 2 for freq and times	21	22	23 See changes for Microwave nets dates and times on page 2	24	25
26	27 Monday night nets-check page 2 for freq and times	28	29	30 See changes for Microwave nets dates and times on page 2	31	

# NEW METEOR SCATTER SOFTWARE

I am pleased to announce general availability of the second beta release of WSJT, a software package designed for amateur radio communication at VHF using the technique of high speed meteor scatter. The software can be downloaded from URL <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT>. It is free and available to anyone for amateur radio use.

WSJT has been subjected to thorough on-the-air testing by a dedicated group of volunteers. Some hundreds of QSOs have been made with it over the past month on the 2 and 6 meter bands, under "dead band" conditions and without benefit of meteor showers. Typical paths for this type of communication are in the 500 to 1400 mile (800 to 2250 km) range.

This second beta release of WSJT carries version number 0.92. It is considered beta-level software because the program contains a number of new features that will surely benefit from wider testing, including a few "quick-and-dirty" programming shortcuts that will be superseded with better code soon. In addition, its user documentation is not yet complete. The program will certainly continue to evolve when and if my time is available.

WSJT is highly usable in its present form. I believe most of the original Beta Test Group consider it to represent a substantial step forward in amateur meteor-scatter capabilities. The program is easy to set up and use, and it does not require proficiency with Morse code.

## OVERVIEW OF FEATURES

- Same hardware and operating system requirements as PSK32, WinMSDSP, and other ham software
- Operation similar to WinMSDSP, but more automatic
- Uses four-tone frequency-shift keying at 441 baud
- Makes highly effective use of SSB audio bandwidth
- Produces a clean transmitted spectrum
- Transmission speed 147 characters per second, or 8820 LPM
- Converts barely audible pings to solid copy on critical short messages
- No requirement for slow playback, copying by ear, or CoolEdit
- You don't need to be proficient in Morse code!

## HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

- SSB station for one or more VHF bands
- Computer running Windows 95, 98 or ME. (Windows NT, 2000, and other versions of Windows may work, but have not yet been thoroughly tested.)
- 75 MHz Pentium or faster CPU
- Monitor running at 800 x 600 or higher resolution
- At least 32 MB RAM
- At least 20 MB of free disk space
- Windows-compatible soundcard
- Station interface like those required for WinMSDSP, PSK31, Hellschreiber, etc. The DTR or RTS line of one COM port is used to key your transmitter's PTT line. Standard connections are required between your radio's audio output and the computer soundcard input, and vice-versa.

If you would like to communicate with me about WSJT, please send email to [k1jt@arrl.net](mailto:k1jt@arrl.net). There are already many active users of WSJT in North America, and they will be happy to help others get the system running. If you need help I suggest looking on the "MS Rocks" web page (<http://dxworld.com/hsms.html>) or using one of the VHF-related reflectors. -- 73, Joe, K1JT

~~~~~  
There have already been several questions asked concerning the digital MS pgm WSJT. I think I remember the answers to a few of the questions; hopefully, the others in the Beta test group can fill in the blanks.

1. The program will not use a period longer than 60 seconds. Can it be CheeseBits

made longer?

A - 60 seconds is the maximum. But 30 seconds is the recommended period. Even at 60 seconds, some pings will not decode as well as when using a 30 second period. Also, it appears that periods longer than 60 seconds would require faster computers with more memory and a faster hard drive than most of us are now using. If you can do 15-second SSB MS, you should be able to do 30-second WSJT transmissions. But some computers will have trouble with 60-second periods.

2. How do you change the transmission speed?

A - You don't. It's fixed at 147 characters per second, or 8820 LPM (1765wpm). This is set by the baud rate and the method of encoding the characters. A higher speed would require a different method of generating the characters.

3. How do I send "bug" reports and comments to Joe?

Send them to [k1jt@arrl.net](mailto:k1jt@arrl.net).

4. I couldn't find the WSJT Web site.

A - It \*should\* be up. However, the URL is case sensitive. Type it in exactly: <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT>

5. WSJT won't receive, and I get a Run time 76 error.

A - Check the Directory where WSJT is, and be sure there is a subdirectory under it called RxWav. If not, make this directory (folder).

6. The CW ID does not work.

A - It has not been completed in this version. It will be added soon. However, you can use the Windows Recorder, Cool Edit, or some other program to make your own wave file with your call as a keyed tone. Name it CWID.WAV, put it in the same directory as WSJT.

7. How do I know what the Parameters are, especially when I've used the little + and - buttons to change them?

A - Look at the bottom right side of the main display.

8. Does WSJT really work?

A - VERY well. Approximately the same as HSCW at 8000-10,000 lpm. WSJT regularly decodes several letters from pings that are too weak to hear. (And yes, I still prefer CW. But this program works).

9. What is the frequency tolerance, and how close is the DF frequency readout?

A - The frequency tolerance can partly be set in the Parameters box. Even without using that, or retuning the receiver (the preferred means), it seems to be about  $\pm 200$  Hz. (See the Help file for more). The DF frequency readout is not exact. If it's reading within  $\pm 100$  Hz, you are probably close enough. But notice what it is reading, as most true pings will give about the same offset reading (helping to separate pings from static crashes).

10. Sometimes, when I start the program and put it into Receive or Monitor, it doesn't even try to decode a file.

A - This is a bug reported by one or two. The program can be forced into record mode by going to File | Open and reading in a previously-saved wave file. After this, it will go into Record.

11. Too many files are being saved and not removed automatically.

A - The last file recorded before hitting Stop, when on Receive or Monitor, will not be removed. These can quickly become a large number. Use the File | Delete Files... to remove them.

12. There is occasionally a 5-second period when no audio is transmitted.

A - Turn off the Setup | Send CW ID.

13. Is there a chance of getting a real-time display and decode? And what are those grayed-out Modes?

A - They, and a number of other additions, are planned. Watch for future versions.

14. Is this a real mode? Is it easy to use?

A - It's as real as RTTY, PSK-31, AmTOR, etc etc.

As for ease of use, it's nearly as easy as using WinMSDSP. Some would say it's even easier, but that's a matter of personal opinion and preferences. And, like HSCW, it can provide contacts on a completely "dead" band (see #8 above).

15. I get a Run time 6 error.

A - This can be caused by several different things. If you have just downloaded a newer version, go to the directory that contains WSJT and delete the WSJT.INI file, forcing the program to create a new one. This

has been the most common cause of this problem.

16. When installing the program, Windows says that some of WSJT's DLL files are older than what I already have on my computer.

A - Keep the newer file.

17. In the transmit text boxes, are upper case letters necessary?

A - Either upper case (capitol) or lower case (small) letters should work OK.

18. What do the 5 numbers on the right side of the screen mean (when turned on)?

A - The first 4 are the strengths of the 4 tones. When receiving a multi-tone ping, it will give a hint as to whether or not it's a true ping or QRN.

The 5th number is the reliability of a single-tone message on a scale of 1 to 10.

19. I received a fair ping, but it didn't decode well.

A - Put the cursor on the ping and click the left mouse button (the "pick-a-ping" function). That small part of the file will be decoded again, sometimes better. You can also change the Parameters with the small + and - buttons near the center to see if that helps. (Save the file if you want to continue checking it, then read it back in). In this version, longer pings and constant signals do not decode as well as short pings. This is one of the things to be improved in future versions.

20. Can Europeans use this program?

A - Unknown. Several from across the Atlantic have said that few are capable of using periods this short and speeds this high. Two or three countries will have to make up their own CW ID (see # 6 above) until that function is completed. Many have been unable to utilize MSDSP or WinMSDSP at its optimum settings, so we will just have to wait and see if a digital MS program is more usable for them.

When all else fails, read the Help file. Also read any other text files on K1JT's Web site. Most of the new functions and procedures are covered there. If you still can't find the answer, put your question or comment on one of these three reflectors - HSCW, WSVHF, or meteor-scatter.

These 3 are monitored by a number of the stations who have helped with the initial testing. At the request of several fellows, I've put 6 sample WSJT wave files at:

<http://www.qsl.net/w8wn/hscw/hscwopen.html#wsjt>

They are Zipped, but are still very long (116 to 435 KB).

4 of them contain multi-tone pings, 2 contain single tone pings (I think).

They may not be the best examples, but will give you something to help you learn the program. Also, I have put at the same URL a revised copy of the most Frequently Asked Questions. **73, Shelby, W8WN**

## 27th ANNUAL EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 1&2, 2001  
RADISSON HOTEL (860) 741-2211  
1 BRIGHT MEADOW BLVD. (OFF RT. 5)  
ENFIELD, CT 06082

The annual conference sponsored by the Eastern VHF Society and the NEWS Group is rapidly approaching. The Conference will include a Friday Night Hospitality suite; Saturday formal talks, lab demonstrations- noise figure measurements to 10 GHz, manufacturers displays, dinner banquet and door prizes. Sunday will host our outdoor flea market and antenna measurements from 2 meters to 10 GHz.

Speakers to date include:

DSP by Roger W3SZ

K8GP Contesting by Owen K6LEW

What's New at SSB by Jerry K3MKZ

2/3 & 5/10 GHz Packaging by Stan KA1ZE

Meteor Scatter by Phil VE3ACK

Dish Construction by Tom WA8WZG

New Products at DEM by Steve N2CEI.

A block of rooms is reserved at the Radisson until August 1, 2001 under the NEWS group for \$85 per night for a single or double room. The phone number is (860) 741-2211. Further conference information and registration forms will be available and downloadable on the NEWS WEB site in about a week @ <http://www.newsvhf.com>. We are attempting to modernize our registration process utilizing Reflector and WEB sites and email. Therefore a very limited mailing will be sent out this year so please consult the WEB site for updated information. Additional information not contained on the WEB site for the conference may be obtained from BruceWood - N2LIV, 3 Maple Glen Lane, Nesconset, NY 11767; (631) 265-1015 (h) or (631) 293-9600 (w) or email at [bdwood@erols.com](mailto:bdwood@erols.com). Information on the flea market may be obtained from Mark Casey - K1MAP, 303 Main Street, Hampden, Mass 01036; (413) 566-2445 or email at: [map@map.com](mailto:map@map.com). Hope to see you all there. Bruce N2LIV

## Movin' Your Cheese (buy-sell)

► For Sale: 144mHz KLM16LBX 28' boom, 432mHz KLM 30LBX 22' boom, 50mHz homebrew 9 el 30' boom. Each in good condition, assembled and on the ground in storage. Prices negotiable-call Jack Power, W2AXU 609-882-8811

► For Sale: 10GHz transverter —1w in @144 mHz for 150mw out on 10G. This SSB transverter is mounted on a copper board and placed in a plastic enclosure. Comes complete with relay switching for transverter and IF., 12VDC operation. \$295

Also, 10 GHz commercial rf amplifier, converted and tested, complete with all control cabling and voltage board. 1 mw (0 db) in for 1 watt out. SMA connectors \$200, both for \$475

Also Kenwood TS700SP 2meter all mode 1 or 10Wout, CW, USB, LSB, FM. Has ARR GaAsfet preamp built-in. 12VDC and 115VAC supplies built-in. I have used this rig as a 2 meter base and mobile rig, as a 2m IF rig for microwave work. It is in good working order, but the digital frequency display does not light up, although the analog dial is reasonably accurate. \$175

Also, 903 MMIC amp, 1w in, 10w out, 12VDC, in box/heatsink with BNC connectors. \$35 Rick Rosen, K1DS 610-270-8884 or email [rick1ds@hotmail.com](mailto:rick1ds@hotmail.com)

► For Sale: YAESU FTV 901R TRANSVERTER. COVERS 6 METERS WITH INTERNAL RECEIVER, PRE-AMP, 2 METERS AND 70CM. EACH MODULE PUTS OUT 10-15 WATTS.CAN BE USED WITH ALMOST ANY HF RADIO ON 10 METERS. CONDITION IS COSMETICALLY IMMACULATE, AND WORKS PERFECTLY. PRICE FIRM AT 400.00, FOB SOUTH FLA. ORIGINAL MANUALS WITH UNIT.LEN, K4LFK AT 561 393 6266 OR E-MAIL AT [K4LFK@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:K4LFK@HOTMAIL.COM)

► **Mario Raffle Items needed: Our Board of Directors has asked that each club member bring items to each club meeting at the library for the monthly Mario Raffle. This is always a fun event and a unique fund-raiser for the club. You can help recycle your surplus parts from that bulging junkbox by bringing some items. Meters, cables, connectors, chassis, tools, components, grab-bags, switches, sockets, computer items, power supplies, antennas, and anything that you have laid aside for too long! Thanks in advance.**

## ARLS011: AO-40 Now in Long-Term, "Safe" Orbit

AO-40's new orbit should be good for at least the next 20 years, according to AMSAT-DL President Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, who heads the satellite's ground team. Following maneuvers to shift the satellite's orbit at perigee, AO-40 perigee now is "oscillating in a safe range between 810 and 1260 km," Guelzow said. AO-40's height at apogee--58,971 km--was unchanged by the orbital adjustment. The satellite's transponders remain off as ground controllers reorient the spacecraft. Still in question is whether ground controllers will be able to deploy the satellite's solar panels.

Ground controllers were able to change AO-40's orbit through successive "cold" firings of the onboard arcjet motor--using only ammonia gas. The move raised AO-40 some 300 km higher than predicted, but it apparently depleted the spacecraft's ammonia supply. As a result, AO-40 likely will remain in its current orbit. Stacey Mills, W4SM, of the ground team said it's "quite possible" that an ammonia leak accounted for the unexpected loss of ammonia. "If we did have a slow leak, it is very fortunate we did not wait any longer to use the remaining fuel," he said. Mills said that AO-40's old orbital configuration, while stable, was too close for comfort at perigee. "I sincerely hope that nothing else malfunctions for a long, long time, but this is, after all, rocket science," Mills said. "Nothing is guaranteed."

Ground controllers plan to fully test AO-40's momentum wheels prior to any decision to deploy the spacecraft's solar panels. The momentum wheels provide three-axis control of the spacecraft. If the momentum wheels are not operational, it's unlikely the solar panels will be deployed.

For more information on AO-40, visit the AMSAT-DL Web site, <http://www.amsat-dl.org/> or the AMSAT-NA Web site, <http://www.amsat.org>. AMSAT-DL now offers an AO-40 "Quick Status" page.

### TidBits

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year. \*\*\* Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live. \*\*\* How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on. \*\*\* Ever notice that the people who are late are often much jollier than the people who have to wait for them? \*\*\* If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy? \*\*\* Most of us go to our grave with our music still inside of us. \*\*\* If Walmart is lowering prices every day, how come nothing is free yet? \*\*\* You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person. \*\*\* Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once. \*\*\* Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened. \*\*\* We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors.... But they all have to learn to live in the same box. \*\*\* Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler. \*\*\* A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. \*\*\* Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open. Have an awesome day, and know that someone has thought about you today! \*\*\* "A friend is someone who thinks you're a good egg even though you're slightly cracked."

## Correspondence

Hi Phil, (WA3NUF)

Congrats to your latest club publication 'microwave update'! Reason I am writing: Due to your nice articles I thought you and your friends might be interested in some more of this stuff. Well, may I introduce you to ROBERT - DK7NT - He is quite a GHz-freak in our club 'Charlie-31' here in Bavaria, he offers a lot of information on his WEB-site: <http://www.qsl.net/dk7nt/> if you like it - pass on the information. ...and if you would like to see where we live, check out our german club site

<http://www.qsl.net/c31/>

Well, I am off now for the ham radio vention in Friedrichshafen, ...look for myself whats new in the upper bands (hi hi). Interested ? - all the dealers etc.

[http://www.messe-fn.de/messen/ham\\_radio/besucher/aussteller.php3](http://www.messe-fn.de/messen/ham_radio/besucher/aussteller.php3)

And sorry for blurting it out so straight forward, I hope you don't mind. Best regards, vy **73 de DL9Gi - Lutz**

### TidBits - part 2

Another great VHF-UHF informational website:

<http://www.homestead.com/wb5apd/vhfuhf.html>

Great opening all day Saturday during the CQ VHF contest. On 6m, I worked 51 grids in 60 some QSO's without even trying. Made occasional bursts of contacts between yard chores, and building up new HV supply. Was open thru what seemed like the entire south out to AZ, XE land and up into MN. Worked guys up north on backscatter. No FN21 though! I think I made 3 Q's on 2. **73 Joe - AA3GN**

I've finally finished the chapter on slot antennas for the W1GHZ Microwave Antenna Book - Online at [www.w1ghz.cx](http://www.w1ghz.cx)

Please let me know if there are any problems or errors. It ended up kind of large, so I split it in pieces for easier download. You can look for a new CD-ROM at Central States; I'm sending a few down for prizes. **73, Paul Wade, W1GHZ**

On October 17, 18 and 19, WCAU will sponsor a technical conference at the Philadelphia Convention Center where Kay Craigie, WT3P, and others will represent the ARRL, affording an opportunity for hams both to make presentations and to give help. Those interested in participating, please contact Paul, WA3GFZ via email at: [dogface@home.com](mailto:dogface@home.com)

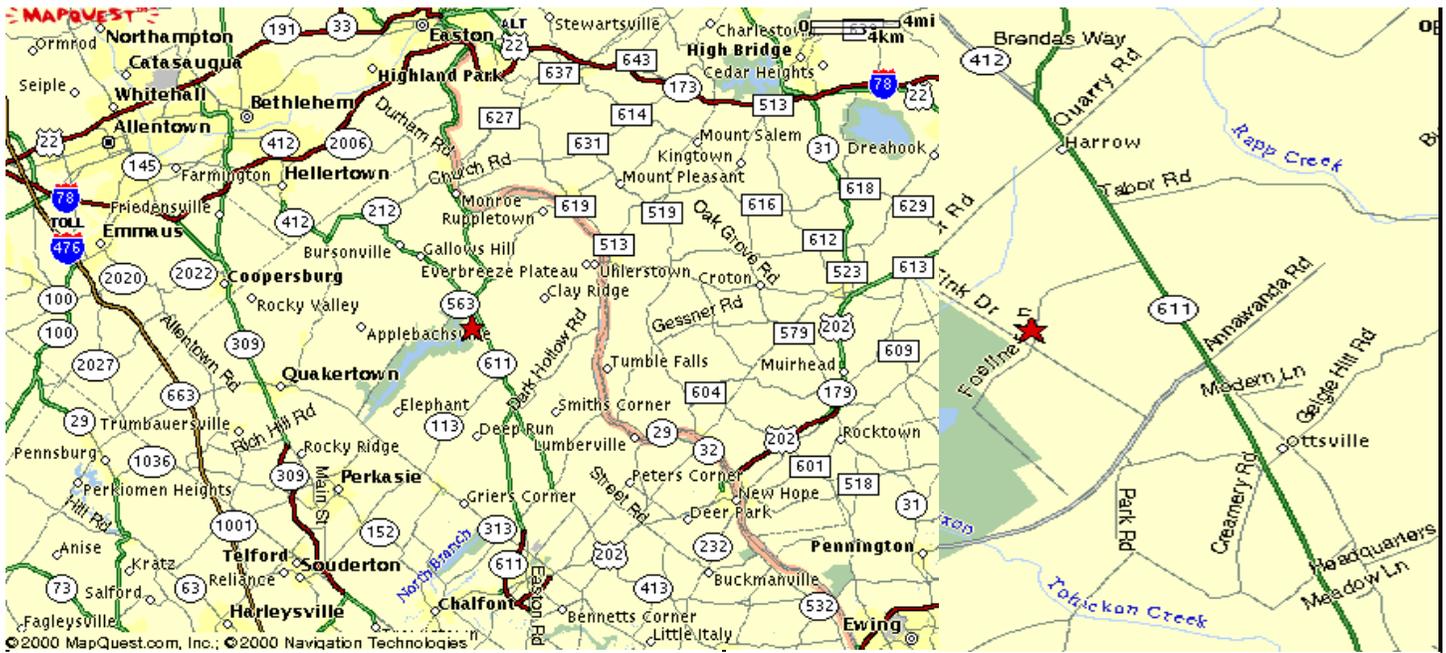
There is a brand new reflector for VHF Contest talk.

[vhfcontesting@contesting.com](mailto:vhfcontesting@contesting.com).

Check out the article at:

<http://www.contesting.com/articles/190>

Thanks to Dave, KM3T for setting it up and to Bill Fisher for hosting the [contesting.com](http://www.contesting.com) reflectors. 73 Warren Walsh - K2BM Trustee - N2NK Normanoch VHF Contest Club



The Picnic at the QTH of N3ITT is best reached by traveling on Rte 611 and turning onto Foellmer Rd  
 ALAN B. SHEPPARD, 77 FOELLNER LN, OTTSVILLE PA 18942



Board of Directors meeting at QTH of President, N3EXA, BRIAN M. TAYLOR, 1634 N 5TH ST, PERKASIE PA 18944

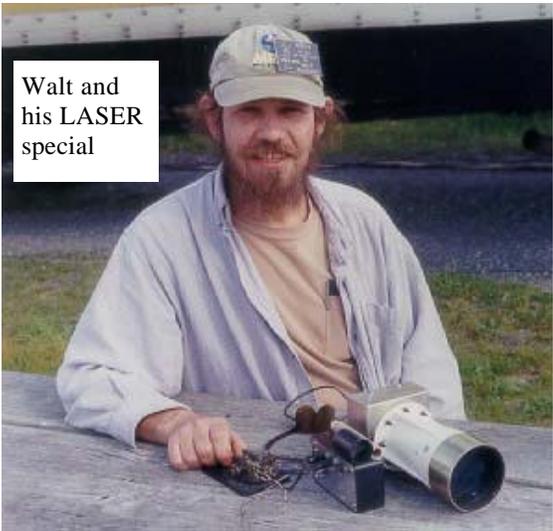


Check out all these 10GHz set-ups from the NEWS picnic during their Minimal Discernable Signal testing. Many of these stations will be out and on the air from mountain-top locations throughout the Northeast for the Cumulative 10GHz and up contest. The Mid-Atlantic is often under-represented in this contest. It's up to you to represent the section and club by getting on for this fun even. (see P3). Picture courtesy of NEWS group.

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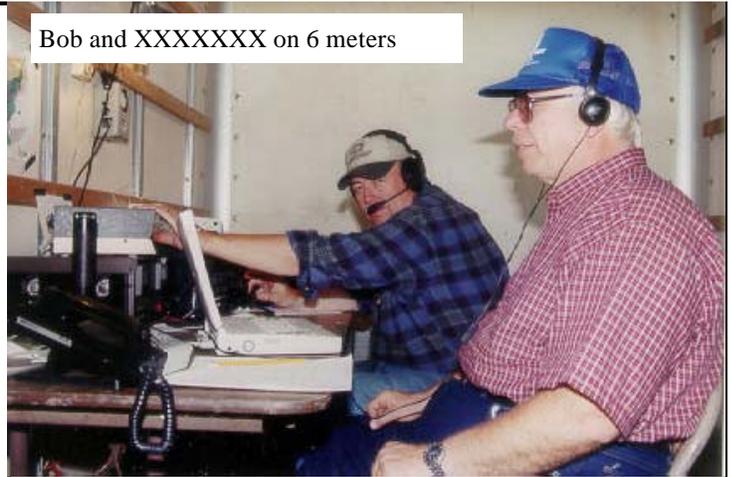
Pat & Ben on the Microwaves



Walt and his LASER special



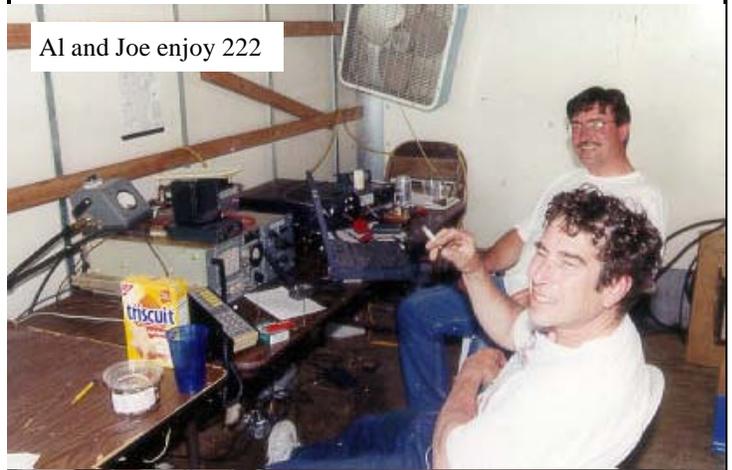
K1DS/R in FN10xx



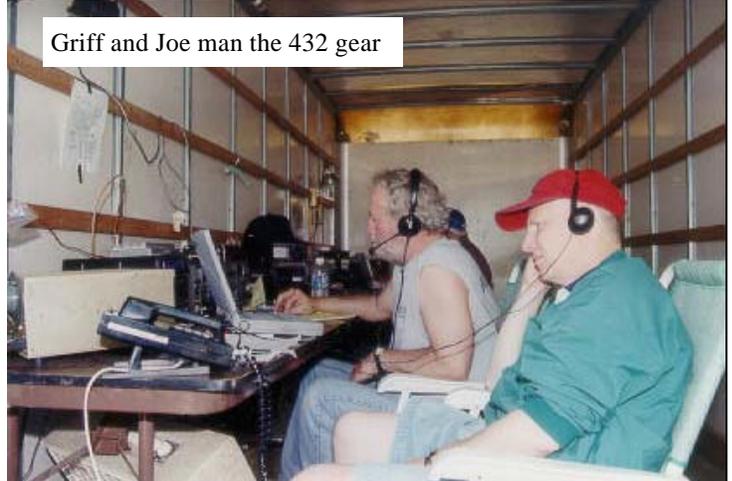
Bob and XXXXXXX on 6 meters



Joe, Brian and Phil handle 2 meters w/HSMS



Al and Joe enjoy 222



Griff and Joe man the 432 gear

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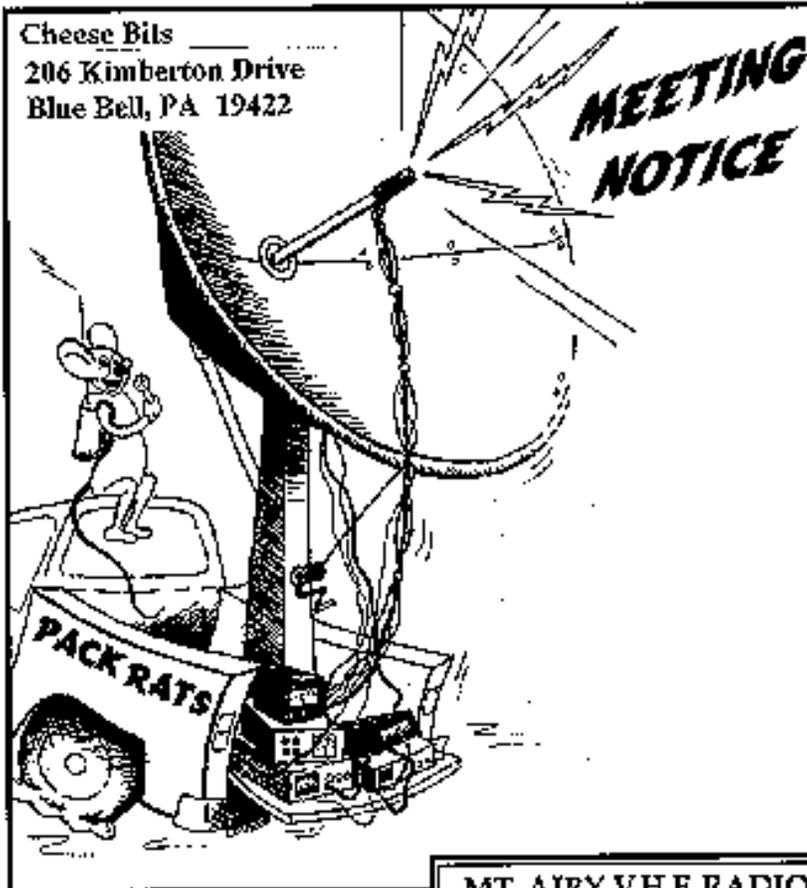


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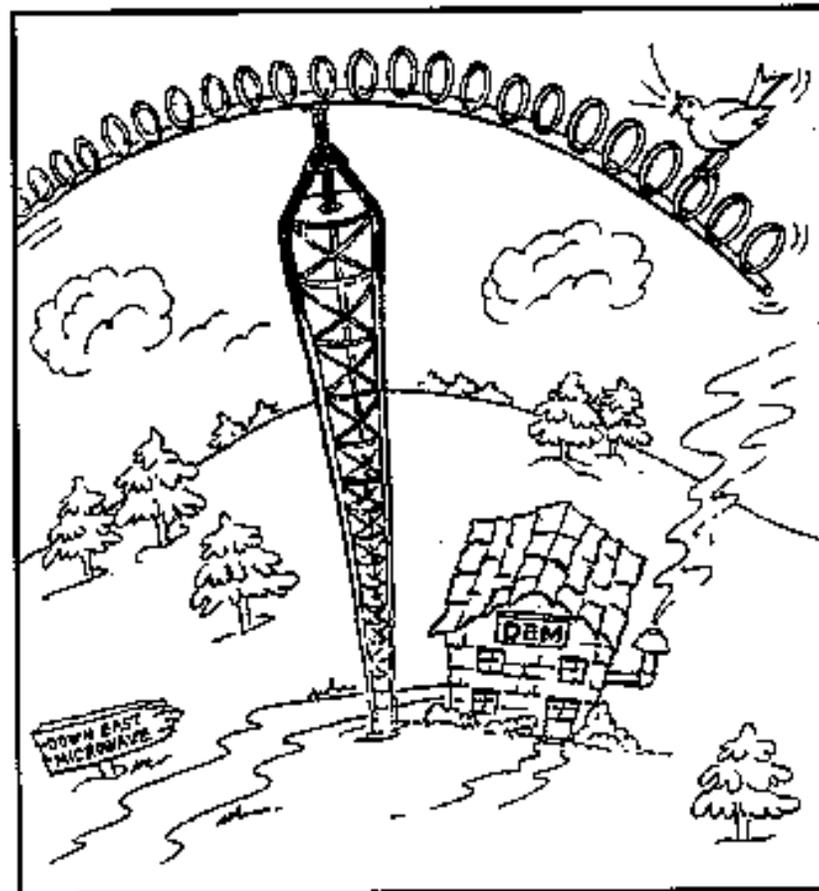
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