



CHEESE BITS

W3CCX
CLUB MEMORIAL CALL

ARRL
Affiliated
Club



Volume LV

November 2014

Number 11

PREZ
SEZ:

The January Contest emails are going out now; it's time to make sure everything is working for **The Contest**. I have taken my system out of service for maintenance. It's hard to believe what several years of exposure to the weather can do to hearty stuff, but everything is screaming for attention. Several improvements are planned, but not sure if they will all be implemented, it's a busy time.

We have plenty of gear for your next band; borrow it and see how things work, then purchase your own gear for that band and make it permanent. If I'm not mistaken Jim, WA3EHD will be on 10g this contest. For those of you with access to the Philadelphia bowl, that should be an easy exchange and another eight point contact.

The beacon projects are still keeping the committee busy; the next step is to fashion an antenna for 2304 and we're getting close to completing that challenge. We're starting to plan for the next band and also exploring some ideas for a great permanent location. More on that when all of the plans are finalized. It will be good to have a solid set of beacons again and it's hard to believe that most of our current beacons are doing what they have done for such a long period of time.

This past month has been a busy one with Sprints, PA QSO Party, W3VIR Tower removal, MUD and CQ WW SSB contest. The sprints seemed to come and go so fast, and so long ago, but indeed it was

October. I like the new method of recording your score on the 3830 website, it's nice to have feedback on how everyone experienced the event.

Then there was the PQP which several of our members participated in. It's a fun local contest that occurs from HF through the lower VHF bands. This year I operated only on 40 and 80 and came within three counties of a full 67 PA county sweep.

As was reported, a brave crew of Packrats showed up early on the 13th of October to remove the tower from the W3VIR estate and by 2 PM all were on their way with the job accomplished. Thanks for the help. Bill's gear will be a nice addition to the June effort and to some who would like to venture out and rove.

Microwave Update was graced by the presence of 6 of our membership (ONA, LIM, SMS, PED, GFZ & TUF) who enjoyed a great time of technical and social interaction with about a hundred of like minded microwave enthusiasts. Next year's MUD will be on the west coast, so it was good to catch one while it was on this end of the country.

While we're talking conferences, next years' Mid Atlantic Conference looks like it will be the October 2-3-4 weekend. Pencil it in now and when all is firmed up we'll get the word out. Seems our normal weekend will be occupied by the throngs who are coming to town to see the Pope. While you have your calendar out, go all the way to 2016 and carve out April 15, 16 along with a few days on either side, for auxiliary events of the East Coast VHF+

Pack Rats **CHEESE BITS** is a monthly publication of the **Mt. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.** -Abington, PA.

We operate on a .PDF exchange basis with other non-commercial publications. Anything that is printed in CHEESE BITS may be reprinted in a not for profit publication, unless stated otherwise, provided proper credit is given. Deadline for articles and swap-shop is the monthly meeting date. Non-commercial swap-shop items free of charge.

Pack Rat Web Site: <http://www.packratvhf.com>

SUBSCRIPTION/ADVERTISING MANAGER:

Bob Fischer, W2SJ 23 Morning Glory Circle, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
(609) 440-2916 bobw2sj@gmail.com

EDITOR:

Lenny Wintfeld W2BVH 709 Lincoln Av., Cranford NJ 07016
(908)-272-0559 lennyw@comcast.net

CLUB TREASURER:

Dave Mascaro, W3KM 1603 Mink Road Ottsville, PA 18942
(215)-795-2648 w3km@verizon.net

TRUSTEE OF CLUB CALL - W3CCX

Brian Taylor N3EXA
(215)-257-6303 n3exa@verizon.net

PACKRAT 222 MHz REPEATER - W3CCX/R

222.98/224.58 MHz (PL 136.5) Hilltown, PA

OFFICERS 2013-2014

PRESIDENT K3TUF, Phil Theis phil@k3tuf.com
VICE PRES: WA2OMY, Gary Hitchner talgarth@comcast.net
CORR. SEC: WA3EHD Jim Antonacci jjantonacci@verizon.net
SEC: KA3WXV George Altemus ka3wxv@yahoo.com
TREAS: W3KM Dave Mascaro w3km@verizon.net
DIRECTORS:
KC2TN Joe Fisher kc2tn@comcast.net
KA3FQS Tom Frederiksen
KB1JEY Michael Davis Michael.Davis@alumni.duke.edu
K1DS Rick Rosen rick1ds@hotmail.com
PAST PRESIDENT: W3GAD Doc Whitticar w3gad@arrl.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

January Contest K3EGE billk3ege@gmail.com
June Contest: N3ITT & K3TUF
HAMARAMA: WA3DRC & KA3WXV
VHF Conference: Rick K1DS rick1ds@hotmail.com
CoChairs
George ka3wxv@yahoo.com
Michael kb1jey@arrl.net

Awards Chairman

KB3GJT

Quartermaster:

K3IUV bsoltoff@comcast.net

PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B

FM29jw Philadelphia, PA
50.080 144.284 222.064 432.286 903.072 1296.245 MHz
2304.043 3456.207 5763.196 10,368.062 MHz (as of 1/08)

MONDAY NIGHT NETS

TIME **FREQUENCY**
7:30 PM 50.145 MHz

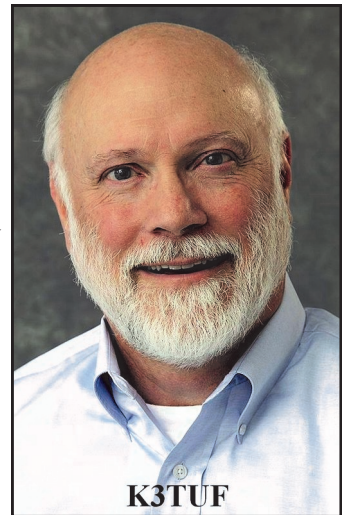
NET CONTROL

K3EOD FM29II
WA3QPX FM29di
N3ITT FN20KI
KB1JEY FN20je
W3GXB FN20jm
WB2RVX FM29mt
K3TUF FN10we
WA3SRU FN20le

Visit the Mt Airy VHF Radio Club at: www.packratvhf.com or www.w3ccx.com

Super Conference. It will be a monumental event that you will not want to miss.

Last month also had several crews emptying out the equipment stored at Cotner. Now all of our “inside materials” for June are in a temporary storage facility just down the road. Soon we will pick up our new 20 foot cargo trailer, load it up with the outside gear, pick up the inside gear from storage and haul it off to it's temporary location until next June. **We are still in need for a permanent location to keep the trailer from year to year.** Ideas are welcome.



In less than a week I will be in Haiti on my first of two excursions to erect an AM radio tower for Radio Lumiere. **Please pray for safety** for all concerned in making this project a reality for the Haitian people.

Until then, lets work on lots of bands,

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Phil, K3TUF

TAKING DOWN THE W3VIR (SK) TOWER

A great Packrat team effort this morning (10/13/2014) brought down W3VIR's 60' tower safely. Lots of WD40, some experienced climbers, wrench and socket men and the proper tools (gin-pole, pulleys, rope, bolt cutters, etc.) made the job go easier, but there were still a lot of sore muscles at the end.

—K3IUUV



Your task, should you choose to accept it.....



W2BVH, W2KV, W3GAD, K3IUUV disconnect the coax cables.



K3TUF led the crew through the take-down. Here at the hinge he lubricated the hinge bolts to ready it for tilt over and antenna and upper section removal.

K3TUF directing upper section lowering — the most critical point. Once the gin pole was attached, the lever arm was separated from the upper section and lowered to the ground. Then the hinge bolts could be driven out and the upper section carefully lowered. Lowering in stages kept the operation (relatively) safe.





Leon N1XKT slacks off a guy wire

KB1JEY completes the work on the top of the lower section prior to it being lowered.



I was sorry to hear about Bill W3VIR. He did not live far from me (I'm in East Amwell) and I would work him on 10 GHz a lot. He was a good guy and we had many eyeballs at hamarama. He would take his 10 G dish to the local HS parking lot overlooking a busy highway. It would only take a few minutes before someone would call the cops about terrorist activity. Eventually the cops knew him and it was no problem.. He was close enough to me that I could work him out his second floor window.
W3VIR, RIP. de Dave W2KV

Tnx to K1DS for Pictures

A Rover “Clean Sweep” with W3CCX from FN00 in June

By John Jaminet, W3HMS

Joe, WA3PTV and I have been trying to work W3CCX in many June VHF contests for many years to no avail on the microwave bands.

Various coordination schemes have been tried but 432 MHz seems to have been the highest we could do from FN00 near Breezewood, PA.

As in 2013, we were joined by Don, WA3RGQ, so from a CCX perspective this was a somewhat rare grid now available on 6m through 10 GHz for **three QSOs per band**.

It was pleasant news when Don rather casually mentioned on Sunday 15 June 14 that he had worked W3CCX. Joe and I immediately found W3CCX on 6m then 2 meters thus beginning the long trek upward in frequency. I had an

added incentive, for the slick- talking Packrat President had convinced me that the loan of my K-3 and P-3 was in the best interest of the nation...or close, (Hi) thus I wanted to work CCX using my radio.

When we got to 903 MHz we were in new, unexplored territory, but we had the advantage of having excellent guidance from Paul Sokoloff, WA3GFZ, at the W3CCX end. But we still wondered whether our bad luck streak, (a.k.a. Murphy), would enter the fray and end the QSOs.

Next came 2.3 in SSB no less, and 3.4 was in CW.....again all OK without Murphy! Dare we try 5.7? We did it with Paul in CW. And finally, the big one: 10 Ghz...could we do it? Don, Joe and myself in turn all worked CCX in CW for the first time ever: a clean sweep !!! I was so happy I called Phil, K3TUF, but he was running the band so he passed his cell phone to Paul.....and it was only then that we learned that Paul was the MW operator. Even though we had no champagne to uncork **it was a sense of accomplishment after trying for several years**. Maybe it was the K3s? The distance is 158 miles between FN21hb and FN00wc.73, John



K2EVW, SK

I got a call from Richard's neighbor today. Richard died on the morning of Sept 12th. The mailman delivered mail on Fri, Sat, and Mon and saw the mail piling up with all the vehicles in the yard. He called the Sherriff and they found Richard had died. Evidently he had a massive heart attack 20 days shy of his 76th birthday. His Mother just died about 3 years ago at age 101 so I figured EVW had another 25 years left. His neighbor Steven reports that his ham station looked like he had used it the previous night and that Richard was not ill and he was very physically active constantly working on his house and tower.

I am just finding out about this now because Richard's next of kin could not be located. They finally got in touch with his brother in New Jersey a month later. The authorities then entered his house to look for his will. His will stated that his neighbor was to carry out his last wishes. Part of his wishes was to give Steven his address book to contact his friends. Celeste (IZP) and I were the first people on his list of hams in his book.

There was no obituary and at this point in time there has been no memorial service. Richard had an interesting life to say the least. He spent his Vietnam time shuttling munitions across the Pacific as a Merchant Marine. He attended U of P and was a working dentist for a while. He taught dentistry at U of P for a while and then decided to become a RF technician. I met Richard at AEL in Lansdale when I worked there in the mid 80's. He left AEL and went to Virginia Tech where he earned a degree in electrical engineering. I can't remember the actual year but I'm going to say that 20 years ago he went back to being a Merchant Marine because the money in 6 months of work far exceeded a year's pay as an engineer. He would often call me when his ship was being unloaded in Philly but the ship's schedule did not allow him time to stop and say hi.

I was never with Richard when I was not crying from laughter. I know a lot of the newer Rats never met him but those of us who did know him would agree with me. His neighbor was very serious and well meaning and told me something that had Richard's personality written all over it. Part of his last wishes was to have a Buddhist Monk preside over the memorial service. The neighbor was concerned that he might have trouble finding a Buddhist Monk in Floyd Virginia so if any of the current Pack Rats are practicing Monks please contact me. 73, John, KB3XG

PS: This one really hit me hard Rick. I was pretty close with Richard over the years. I hate to see the fun guys go. xg

Sad indeed. He was with us on Camelback for a few years with his dog. It was nice to have him participate in those years. — K1DS

He was indeed a fun and exotic guy. I had the pleasure of knowing him as we worked often and always met at several annual events: Dayton, MUD, etc. He will be indeed missed. You just never know about this heart disease stuff. I know, as we age, more of our friends move over to the other side.

RIP Richard, Phil K3TUF

LuxSpace Lunar FlyBy

LuxSpace, (in Luxembourg) launched a ham radio beacon, piggybacked on a Chinese lunar flyby probe in late October. It is a short term mission of less than 200 hours to fly to the moon and back to earth. Probability is very high that it will contact the Earths atmosphere (at some level) when it returns. It has a JT65 modulator on its 1 watt transmitter.

As of the publication of this issue of Cheese Bits, It is back in Earth orbit and expected to keep transmitting for a few more days.

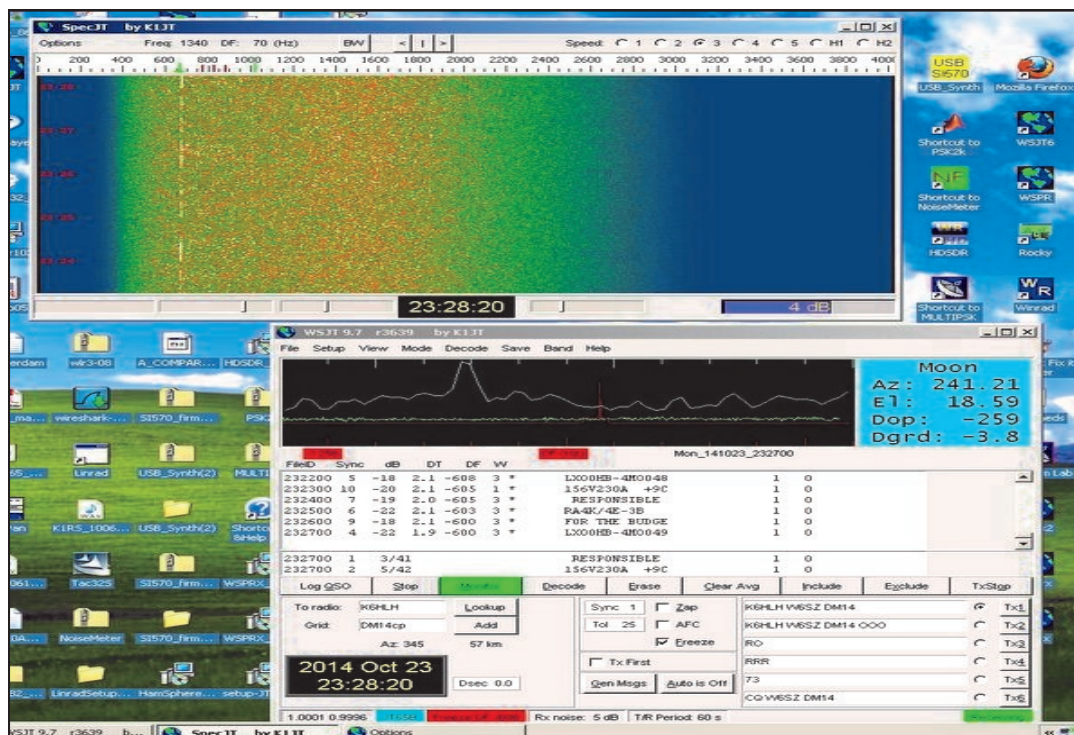
If you get a chance give a listen. Further info can be found at <https://ukamsat.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/lxs-4m-eme2014.pdf> and especially at <http://moon.luxspace.lu/blog/>

Rein W6SZ reported the following on 10/25/14:

I was able a few hours after the launch yesterday to receive the probe:
Hearing 4 M JT65B in DM14ed (206, 20 degrees) yagi horizontal polarization.

This evening I detected the probe again with a 16 el LFA yagi, unfortunately too late as the probe was just at 3 degrees elevation which means a lot of ground noise here to the west.

And here is a screenshot of the probe on way to the moon:



its

Solar News

Extracted from Chris, W3CMP's 6 Meter Report
 October 2014 Solar Report to Six News
 KH6/K6MIO
 10/04/14 -Solar Cycle 24

The Sun's southern hemisphere remains the dominant player in the overall solar activity. As Figure 1 shows, the twelve-month smoothed data, which now ends with last March, reached a peak of about 81. The short-smoothed data since then seems to suggest that the southern hemisphere is weakening a bit, but the northern hemisphere is holding surprisingly steady. However, the more recent monthly data (not shown) could suggest that the south may be bouncing back up a bit.

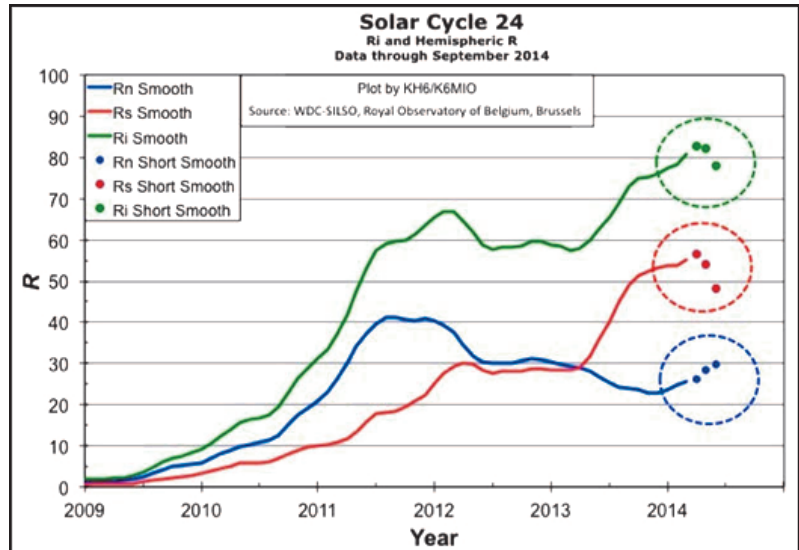
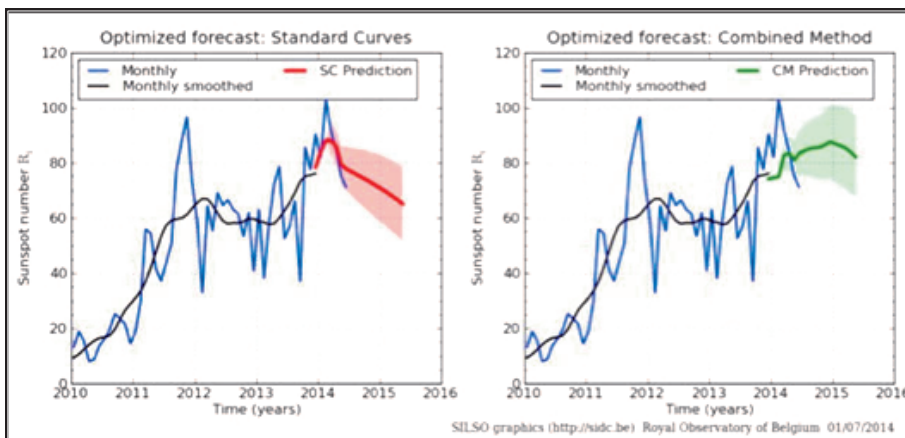


Figure 1. Chart showing overall solar activity Ri, and activity peaks for northern and southern solar hemispheres.

So far, this is at least consistent with some predictions that the peak might have occurred around March 2014. Given the bizarre nature of this cycle, it still could be going up some more. In any case, it will not be clear for several months yet, if only for the math involved in the averaging process.



Optimized Forecasts of Solar Activity

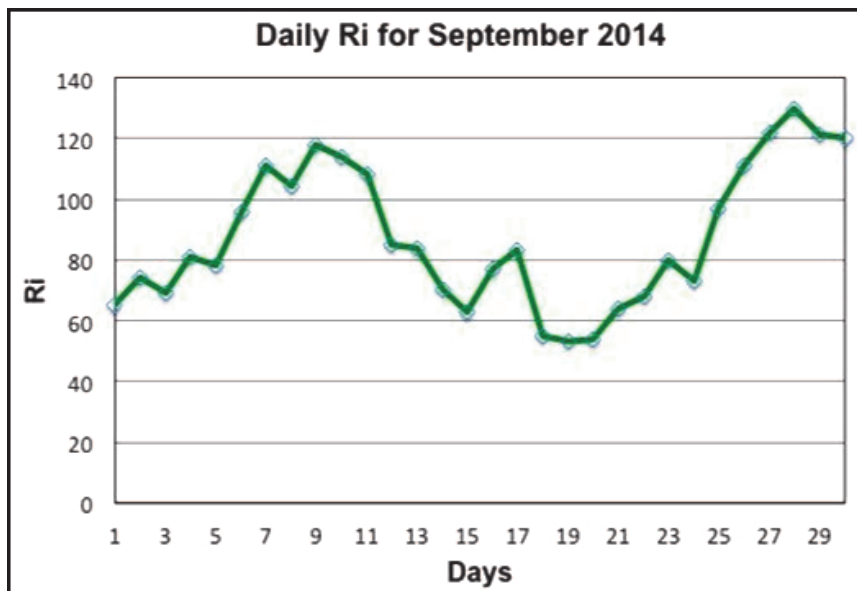
Nevertheless, in my last report, I mentioned the various different prediction models that the Royal Observatory of Belgium's SILSO project computes and publishes. Actually, there are two basic models, each of which has three variations based on the statistical handling approaches used on the program outputs. Figure 2 shows the results of these two models using their "optimized" approach.

The "Standard Curves", with the Kalman output approach, predicts that the maximum occurred about March 2014 with a maximum Ri value of about 88. The fully smoothed March Ri value was

several points below 88, but the value is within the stated error range. The “Combined Method”, with the Kalman output approach, calls for a slower Ri development, reaching a maximum of 87 in January 2015. The Ri-value error bars in both methods are ± 12 to ± 14 range. As noted above, only time will tell.

Notwithstanding the numbers game, the TEP season got off to a good start in September. At this writing, the Sun’s southern hemisphere has had two

fairly active areas about 180° of longitude apart, as identified by various spacecraft and reflected in the ground-based SILSO September R values. In the meantime, the northern hemisphere has been showing a slow increase, which may also be cyclical on a longer time base. As a net result, Figure 3 shows that there has been a recent twice a month peak in the *daily* total Ri numbers, with high values reaching as much as 130, and low values down to as little as 53. So, it would not be surprising if we see a twice a month modulation of the propagation for a bit.



Daily Solar Activity for September 2014

WA3SRU: New Winches

Joe send along a couple of pictures of his new tower winches:



ARRL EME - Microwave Contest At K2UYH's

Several hams assisted Al, K2UYH, with his moonbounce station this weekend (10/11 –10/12) for the ARRL EME Contest. The first weekend is reserved for contacts on bands from 2.3GHz and up. It's a challenge to **change feeds and transverters and amplifiers** for each band change. Al has engineered a system whereby he is able to have the **transverters, preamps, amplifiers and feed horns for each of the bands set up on a dedicated platform**. In order to change bands, he clamps each of the platforms to the center ring structure at the focus of the feed of his 28' Kennedy dish, then connects the myriad cables that provide power to the gear at the focus and bring the transmitted signals out and the received signals into the shack.

John, KB3KWJ and I traveled up on Sunday morning to catch the last of the weekend activity. John had asked me if he could see what EME was about, and this was a good opportunity to show him one of the best US EME stations in action. We arrived at 8AM to find Al up on the 14 foot ladder, installing the 2304MHz gear at the feed. Once it was all hooked up, cables in the shack were adjusted and the dish aligned to the moon to detect maximum moon noise. This was tricky, as the focus of the beam is sharp, and the incremental movement of the dish, even with auto-tracking can miss the sweet spot. Once the auto-tracking was calibrated, we heard the transmitted echoes and sent out a CQ, using the call K1JT for the multi-op group. The band was quiet for quite a while, with the moon setting in the west, this was the last opportunity to work Japan. The added difficulty is that in order to work Japan on 2GHz, we need to operate "crossband" as the Japanese frequency window is at 2424MHz. After a few more minutes, we heard the CQ of JA4BLC and responded to him on 2304. Al completed the exchanges of 559 reports, and another 13cm QSO was in the log! It was the culmination of a very successful microwave weekend on the moon, with several contacts logged on 2.3, 3.4, 5.7 and 10.3GHz.



The second and third weekends of the ARRL EME Contest take place on Nov 8-9 and Dec 6-7. The bands for those weekends are from 6m through 23cm (1296MHz). I was hoping that I would have been able to operate my own 2.3GHz gear this weekend, but with so many other commitments, I couldn't pull all the needed gear together in a timely fashion. I do hope to be on bands 2m, 3/4m and 23cm for the next 2 contest weekends. I know that many other Packrats will be active on the moon for these weekends also. Join in the fun.

73, Rick, K1DS

V60EME - WA3QPX EME

Here is a screen shot of the V60EME QSO from Paul's QTH. V60EME is at Pohnpei Island in Federated states of Micronesia. On 10/12/2014 - 2 Meters. Actual QSO is enlarged (below).

The screenshot displays a radio software interface with several windows. The main window shows a QSO log with the following entries:

Time	Band	Mode	Power	Rate	Grid	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call	Call
134600	4	-21	4.4	272	3	#	N8PR	V60EME	QJ96	OOO	1 0
134800	1	-22	1.8	272	3	#	WA3QPX	V60EME	QJ96	OOO	0 10

Below the log, there is a window titled "Moon" showing the Moon's position:

- Az: 279.33
- El: 16.61
- Dop: -80
- Dgrd: -4.5

The interface also shows a "Log QSO" window with the following details:

- To radio: V60EME
- Grid: QJ96mm
- Az: 299
- 7733 mi
- 2014 Oct 12 13:50:37
- Dsec 0.0

At the bottom, there is a status bar showing: 0.9848 0.9869 1765B Freeze DF: 266 Rx noise: 0 dB T/R Period: 60 s

FYI—NTSD

NTSD consists of a cadre of fully automated store and forward bulletin board type systems known as Mail Box Operations (MBO) or hubs operating on HF using high speed **Pactor 3** protocols on a 24/7 basis moving formal message traffic. The goal of NTSD is to move that traffic via digital means to the closest point of delivery at which point it is then removed from the automated system by operators known as Digital Relay Stations (DRS).. The DRS then take this traffic to the nets at region, section, and local levels for any additional necessary relay and ultimate delivery.

There were a total of 8912 pieces of message traffic handled by Eastern Area NTSD during September. This was accomplished by 6 automated MBO stations representing NTS areas 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 and a total of 48 individual Digital Relay Stations reporting at regional, section, or local NTS levels. A similar level of activity for September also existed in both the Central and Pacific Areas of NTSD.

During the month additional content was added to our new NTS Digital web page. It is a ready source of information for all three NTSD areas. Register with your callsign and select a password.

<http://nts-digital.net>

73 Dave WB2FTX, Eastern Area Digital Coordinator, NTS Digital

“OPEN THE DOOR AND LET THE MICROWAVES OUT”

By John Jaminet, W3HMS

During the Sep VHF 2014 Contest, I decided to operate as a lower profile rover so I put my key 4 band MW rig on the seat of my van. The intention was to work rover partners WA3PTV and WA3RGQ in the same grid a short distance away. The normal dish feeds were mounted on the rig in a fixed position that **let them look out the door**. The van was parked with the door hence rig looking east. From FN00wc, I was surprised to work Terry, W8ZN, at about 15 miles in FM19. We worked in

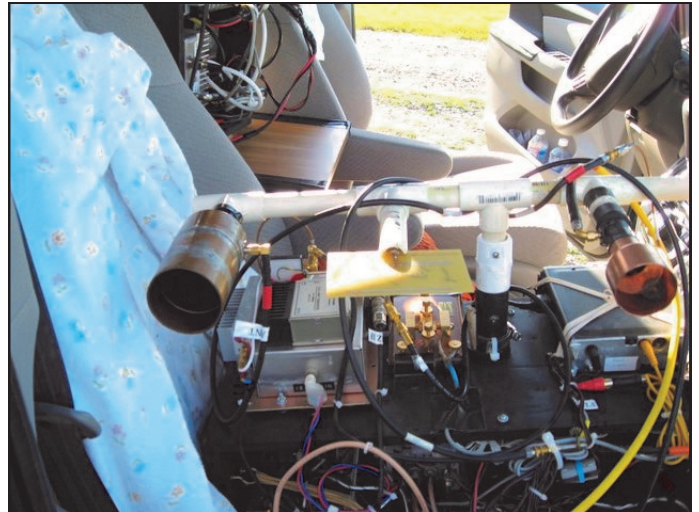


SSB on 1.2, 2.3, and 3.4 GHz. 10 Ghz was offset about 45 degrees and did not work.

Then Joe worked Phil K3TUF, at 106 miles on 6 m. through 903. When Joe went to 1296 to continue with Phil, I opened the front van door to....let the microwaves out...and put my rig on the air. My feed was a WA5VJB 3 element PCB Yagi and 20 watts. The intention was for me to piggyback on their QSO. But instead, I worked Phil, easy copy, in SSB before Phil and Joe worked each other !!

Lifted up mentally by this, I called Phil on 2304.100 CW and back he came about 569. Again this is on a patch feed (horizontal polarized) with 10 watts at

106 miles. So, we next tried 3.4 Ghz and we again made it in CW and copy was ROUGH!!!...but a legal QSO. The power there was 4.7 watts to a copper plumbing HB feed like a soup can.



I should also mention how pleased Joe, WA3PTV, Don, WA3RGQ, and I were to work W3CCX from our same FN00wc site during the June VHF Contest. For us, it was our very first “Packrats clean sweep” on 6m through 10 GHz. Paul, WA3GFZ, and Phil, K3TUF were most responsible for this and their efforts gave us this first sweep!! **Thanks guys!!!**

Smel A. Rhatt

Our occasional correspondent, Smel A. Rhatt has the following to report:

Heard recently at some meetings:

"If your neighbor complains because the RF you are generating is irradiating his body, turn off the transmitter and let him cool down."

"Hurricane Irene gave me a chance to start over with tower and antenna construction."

"I live in an XYL restricted community."

"I am going to spend the time and learn the code this year."

"I'll never need one of those." "Wait!!!!!!....." (a true Packrat [Ed.]

The Wayback Machine **In CHEESE BITS, 50** **Years Ago**

(Nibbles from November, 1964. Vol. VII, # 8)

de Bert, K3IUV (*author's comments in italics*)

- “Our Prez Sez” captured the cover page. Prez K3GAS (“Doc”) reminded us that winter was coming, and those that traveled to the Syracuse VHF Roundup got a taste of it with rain and snow for the occasion (*I was there, were you?*). He requested all members to offer their help to the January Contest chairman, W3LHF, Dave.
- ARRL Bulletin 975 reminded League Affiliated clubs of the availability of training aids to enhance club education and interest. The material includes films, slide collections, quizzes and tape recordings of amateur radio techniques and history. (*Anything now available that we would like to see / hear?*) (*I have a copy of the VHF training tape narrated by W1HDQ, Ed Tilton [Mr. VHF], if anyone wants to borrow and listen to it.*)
- ARRL Bulletin 976 commented that the annual ARRL cross indexed Net Directory is now ready for distribution. Available by request to the ARRL.
- Silent Key. Member W3AYG, John Harris died. He was also president of

the Delaware Valley Council of Radio Clubs

- New Products, by W3NSI, Lynn. Sylvania released a miniature T2 pilot light that operates on 110 VAC, with a life of 3000-hours. Stainless Steel hardware now available from “Star Stainless Screw Company” (*an apropos name!*) in Paterson, NJ.
- Two Meter Report. W3LHF, Dave bemoans his own inactivity due to personal conflicts. He reported that W3IBH, Charlie has a new antenna on his mobile rig that works great. (*Charlie was our mainstay on two meters, working 300 contacts and 10 sections every contest. He had a bodacious signal from his QTH in Germantown.*)
- UHF Report. K3IUV, Bert reported the 220 net now attracts 15 or more stations weekly. On 432, W3HIX, John in Quakertown is available for schedules for anyone wanting to check their gear. (*John designed the Transistorized converter that many of us used for quite a few years. Still have mine in the shack!*). 18 “Link” taxicab transceivers were picked up in NYC by a caravan which included K3UJD, Mario, and K3IUV, Bert. Pointers on the xmtr mods were included. Next month, receiver mod info.
- New York Times article, October 12, 1964. “Citizen Band Radios Disrupt TV in Thousands of Homes in NY”. The

full article was included (*1-1/2 pages on legal size paper!*). The article did point out that amateur radio could also cause interference, but noted that Hams are usually quick to respond to such problems. Details can be read on the W3CCX.com web site. Another full page detailed the FCC's comments on the problem, reprinted from "Broadcast" magazine.

- It was noted that club member K3CIV, Ralph held the oldest issued driver's license in PA. (*Didn't say what year.*)
- A list of the 6-meter nets in our area showed 12 active nets, including the Packrats on 50.2 at 9:00 pm on Monday night (*another Packrat tradition.*)
- K3UN. To commemorate United Nations week, the club set up a 6-meter station at the Gimbels store in Cheltenham (another "things that aren't there anymore"). Equipment consisted of a Clegg Zeus and Interceptor on loan from Ham Buerger (*member W3BAH*), and a halo from K3GAS, Doc. 131 contacts were made in 6-hours of operation, ranging from Albany, NY to below Baltimore.
- A little squib described some of the aspects of recent member K3UJD, Mario (*yes, of the Mario table fame*). It mentioned his technical competence and prolific home-brewing. (*The Mario table was originally set up as a memorial to Mario. The intent was to have "Bright and Shiny stuff" as he called it for members to build gear. Some of the recent "stuff" unfortunately doesn't fill that bill.*)
- Packrat Certificate. Rules for getting a certificate were republished. Working 30

Packrats on any one band earned you a fancy certificate. (*I suggest we should reinstate the certificate.*)

- Swap Shoppe. Wanted: Control Box for an Alliance U-98 rotator. Contact K3JJZ, El (*El, I have one if you still need it!*).

As in previous editions, many "folksy comments about members, their families, and activities were included in this edition of Cheese Bits. If interested, or for more detail on the above items, visit www.W3CCX.COM and read the full issue posted there by our Webmaster, Ron, W3RJW.



thirty, de K3IUUV

Get ready for the Super Conference coming in 2016

It will be a joint conference of SVHFS, NEWS and Packrats.

The venue is right near the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum: **The Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, VA** <http://airandspace.si.edu/visit/udvar-hazy-center/>

This is lining up to be just as the name suggests: a Super Conference. Mark your calendar now while there is still plenty of time, the dates are: April 15-16, 2016

And you might as well mark off the 14th and 16th to enjoy all of the extra activities that will accompany this event.

—K3TUF

WA3SRU CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 2014

Class: SOAB LP
QTH: PA

Band	QSO's	Zones	Countries
160:	1	1	1
80:	4	2	1
40:	11	4	8
20:	103	12	47
15:	146	17	55
10:	288	17	71

Total:	553	53	183

Total Score = 377,600

Club: Frankford Radio Club

Murphy Visits W1SMS

I returned to the QTH and turned on the HF radio to see what I can hear on the CQWW SSB contest - I did not hear much so I decided to take a walk up the hill and check my lonely G5RV antenna. Well, another dead ash tree on the upper property line came over, (took out the AC power) and landed a few feet above the ground supported by the CATV coax line and its steel tag line. Funny thing was that the electrical line above was untouched - a call to my neighbor and he informed me that he did loose power and the utility guys re-attached the wires... (and left the tree dangling in mid air for me to deal with). Uggg, more lumberjack work to be done.

SO, I got decided to do a bit more fabrication work on the new EME elevation mount. The day should not be a total loss.

73 **W1SMS, Steven M. Simons**

K3IPM Trailer Tower Crane Videos

Cheese Bits recently had a brief article detailing the recent addition of a crane to Stan's (K3IPM) Tower Trailer. In the article, I mentioned a Youtube link to be available shortly. I just added the two links shown below.

The first link is for a short video at the start of the tower crane being used on the Trailer Tower.

The second link is for a longer video, showing the full erection.

Pretty spiffy.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCf17t6-P3I&feature=player_detailpage

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=U4kgEPeTwGQ

Now we need similar arrangements on the Rohn towers that we use at Camelback!

K3IUUV, Bert

The Rover



Missing a few antennas

Lunar-Link International

VHF & UHF amplifiers
for demanding modes

50 - 144 - 222 - 432 MHz

EME - Digital - Contesting



www.lunarlink.com

info@lunarlink.com

33 Ball Pond Road Danbury, CT

Events

For inclusion, please direct event notices to the editor.

EME Contest 6M - 23 cm Contest -
November 8-9, 2014. See <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest> for details.

EME Contest 6M - 23 cm (round 2) Contest -
December 6-7, 2014. See <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest> for details.

ARRL 10 Meter - Contest - December 13-14, 2014. See <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter> for details. A good warm-up for January and a fun event on its own.

Say Good Bye to the Last Vacuum Tube Product

Well not exactly (TWT's and Klystrons will be with us for awhile longer) but tubes are fading from the scene as described in "Electronic Design" magazine.

See <http://electronicdesign.com/blog/say-good-bye-last-vacuum-tube-product?eid=forward>

Tnx K3IUV, Bert, for this link

G AND G ELECTRONICS OF MARYLAND

JEFF GOLDMAN, K3DUA

PO Box 222

Lisbon, MD 21765-0222

(301)258-7373

EMAIL: k3dua@erols.com

-Dealers in New and used electronics-



Bob Fischer Company, Inc

Eastern Van Ladder Sales Representative

*Ask Me: "How can I reach
45ft high from my Van"?*

283-B Egg Harbor Rd. #125

Sewell, NJ 08080

(800) 852-0120

Cell: (609) 440-2916

bobfischercompany@gmail.com

Bob Fischer

DESTINATIONS TRAVEL

A Full Service Travel Agency

HARRIET SOLTOFF

Travel Consultant

XYL, K3IUV

229 Fairway Dr

Warminster, PA 18974-3797

Phone: 215-957-6084

Fax: 215-957-6085

E-Mail: BSoltoff@Comcast.net



Joel Knoblock W3RFC

www.therfc.com

The R.F.Connection

213 N. Frederick Ave. #11WWW

Gaithersburg, MD 20877 USA

World wide shipping via FED-EX or US Post Office

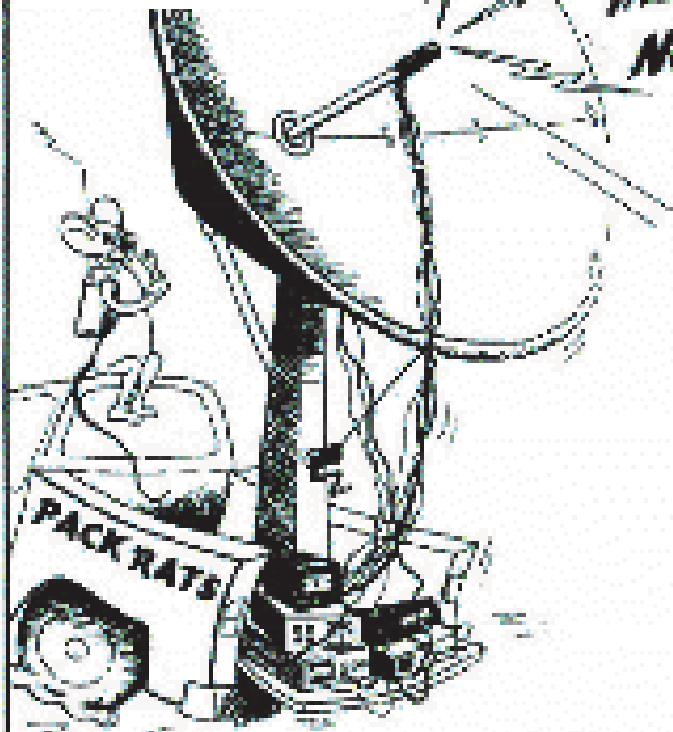
Tech Line 301/840-5477 Order Line 800/783-2666

Fax Line 301/869-3680

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30am-5:30pm Eastern
All major credit cards accepted

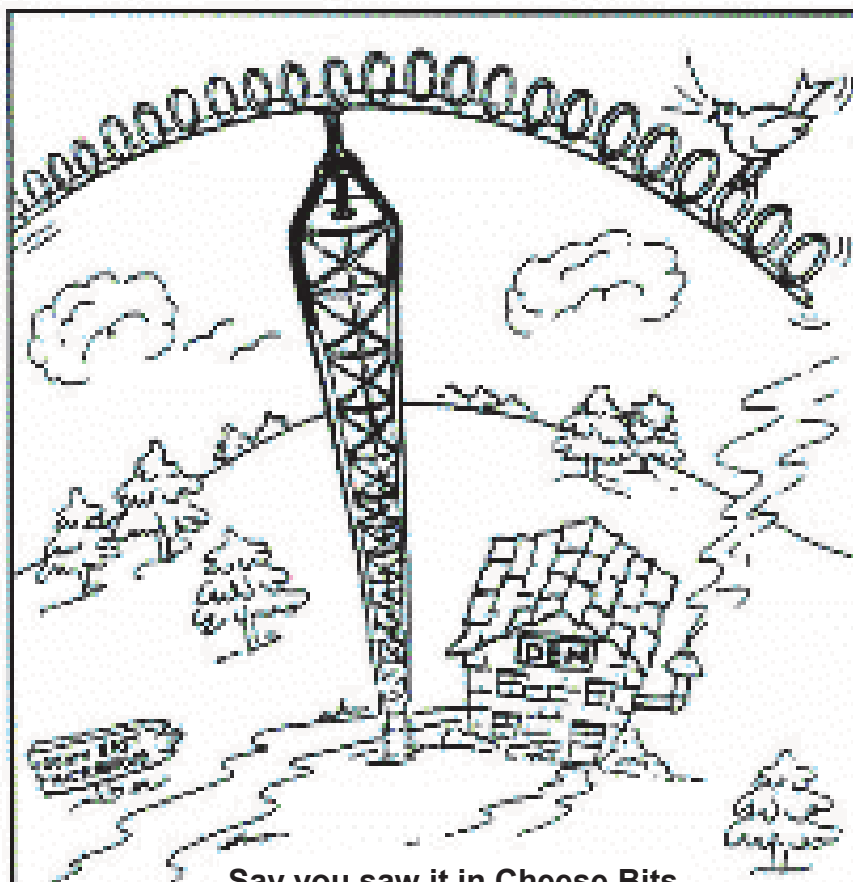
Cheese Bits
709 Lincoln Avenue
Cranford NJ 07016

**MEETING
NOTICE**



FIRST CLASS

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.



Say you saw it in Cheese Bits

DOWN EAST MICROWAVE

Manufacturers and Distributors
Of VHF/UHF/SHF Equipment and Parts
50 to 10,368 MHz

- No-Tune Linear Transverters
- Linear Power Amplifiers
- Low Noise Preamps
- Coax Relays, Coax Cable, Connectors
- Crystals, Chip Capacitors, MMICs, Transistors, RF Modules

For All Equipment
Steve Kostro, N2CEI

<http://www.downeastmicrowave.com>

19519 78th Ter.
Live Oak FL 32060
Tel. 386-364-5529 (Voice)