Mt. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC.



W3CCX CLUB MEMORIAL CALL



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February 2024

Number 2

PREZ

Cardiology Tips February 2024

SEZ: If CheeseBits readers were curious about why they did not find me on the lower four

bands during the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes, it was because I spent most of January in the Abington Memorial Hospital (AMH) as an inpatient. During the first of three stays, my condition was diagnosed as bacterial pneumonia. Several days of treatment with intravenous antibiotics cleared the condition and I was discharged.

No sooner than a friend brought me home, I discovered a continued shortness of breath. The next morning, I summoned an Uber ride. It would have been great if the driver drove to the correct driveway and knew the direction of AMH but an \$18 bill was better than a \$2K bill and blinking lights. My primary cardiologist diagnosed my condition as Congestive Heart Failure (CHF). We decided on a cardiac catheterization to better measure heart pressures and confirm the diagnosis. We also increased the diuretics dosage to help the heart pump better. After some more days, I felt well enough to return home again.

However, at 2 AM that morning, I could tell that I was not going to be able to stay at home. I called 911 and the blinky van took me back to AMH. My primary cardiologist brought in the services of the CHF Group at AMH. They seriously revised my cardiac medications. After more tests, including an MRI and walks down the corridor, we decided to try discharge again.

This time I stayed home for more than a few hours.

What did I learn during January 2024 at AMH? I had thought that there were only two types of cardiologists. There are interventionist cardiologists who perform cardiac catheterizations and keep a general eye on heart function. About three years ago, I visited a cardiac surgeon, who performed a triple bypass on my heart.

The CHF group is a third type of cardiologist. In addition to a tighter focus on CHF, this type of cardiologist also helps arrange for the implant of a *CardioMems* device that helps to proactively monitor pulmonary arterial pressures. The curious feature of the *CardioMems* is that it is a sensor without a battery.



So how does it work? A mystery to non-hams, the answer is obvious to me. If you refer to the picture of the *CardioMems*, there are two loops that must function as antennae. To take a reading, one lays on a triangular pad in the other picture, which must read the resonation of the



loops and the circuit between them.

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PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B

144.300 (FN21be), 222.060 (FN20tk), 432.300(FN20tk), 903.300 (FN21be), 1296.300 (FN20dh), 2304.300 (FN20dh-under repair), 3456.300 (FN21be under repair), 5760.300 (FN21be), 10,368.017 (FM29jw) Note: red temporarily off the air; see https://www.packratvhf.com/index.php/on-air for details)

MONDAY / TUESDAY NIGHT NETS

VHF/UHF	Monday:

TIME	FREQUE	<u>VCV</u>	NET CONTROL
6:45PM	224.900	MHz	KB3MTW Michelle Even Mondays
			K3JJZ El Odd Mondays
7:00 PM	Packrat T	alk Gro	oup KA3WXV George
	See Pac	ckratvh	f-dot-com ON AIR for details
7:30 PM	50.150	MHz	N3RG FM29ki Ray
8:00 PM	144.150	MHz	W2KV FN20os Dave
8:30 PM	222.125	MHz	KC3BVL FM29jw Jim
9:00 PM	432.110	MHz	WB2RVX FM29mt Mike

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

This approach presumes that the CHF cardiologists can maintain adequate blood flow with the existing heart muscle. However, if this turns out not to be the case, there is a good alternative. In the event of end-stage heart failure, one could seek a



Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD). An interesting consequence of the implantation of a LVAD eliminates one's pulse.

In the meanwhile. I feel fine and have started to see a visiting nurse and physical therapist. I am an optimist so I hope that the CardioMems, exercise, and the latest pharmaceutics will keep me "radio-active". By the time you read this column, I hope to have seen many of you at the contest wrap-up meeting and at February "Crying Towel" General Meeting.

Editor's Corner

I want to thank all of the contributors to this month's edition of Cheese Bits especially Bert who is a regular contributor and Scott who has become a prolific regular contributor.

I also want to thank my wife who proofreads each edition a few times. She has no particular interest in ham radio nor does she have a background in electronics but she is very good at finding typos and spelling errors.

I also want to thank the readers for their patience while I learn the publishing software and with my mangled English, Stevens did not have a composition course when I went there. Also thanks to Lenny, AI, and all of the others that have offered their help to get me up to speed.

Tom KA3FQS

N3AOG sk

January 16 I received a phone call from Chris Comly informing me that his father Dick Comly, N3AOG, had died. The fact that Dick had died was not a surprise to me as he had been suffering from dementia for a few years and was living at a facility that takes care of people with this disorder. It was never the less very sad news as it was the death of a very good friend.

Dick owned a tool and die business and was very good at fabricating and modifying things. He built the Alford Slot antenna used by one of the W3CCX beacons and many other gadgets for fellow hams. One of his more noteworthy projects was a microwave rover that was featured in the May 1991 issue of QST.



N3AOG with his frequent collaborator WB3DNI

Dick fabricated this rover by himself from a scavenged eight foot diameter dish, and a telescope mount that one of his sons brought home. Dick fabricated feeds for 903, 1296, 2304, and 3456. In the May 1991 QST there are other pictures of this set up including one of the four transverters each with the corresponding feed. They used 2 meters through a Yagi to coordinate contacts.

Dick's whole family were hams. His wife Janice, N3CFE, and his older son Chris, KA3EAQ . had extra class licenses. His younger son Jim, N3DCR, had an advanced class license. John Sorter provided this photo of the family station. For HF there was a Signal One CX-7A transceiver driving a Heathkit linear. For VHF there was an FT-736. For UHF/SHF there were two IC-211's to drive transverters. The rack to the left contained four TWT's. an AM-6155, and a homemade water cooled 1296 amplifier disguised as a Dentron amplifier. The jug of water on the floor was probably distilled water for the amplifier cooling system.



N3AOG sk Continued

I met Dick in the early 80's when my ham activity was pretty much restricted to chatting on the WARC 2 m repeater. Dick was very active in the Warminster club and was often on the repeater. The details of our first meeting escape me now, he probably offered to help me with a ham radio project. We discovered that we shared interests in other hobbies such as target shooting, ammunition reloading, and camping.

As far as ham radio is concerned Dick worked with me to get my CW speed up to where I could qualify for an advanced class license and helped me with several projects that got me on the VHF and UHF bands. A memorable occasion was when he showed up with an electric cement mixer to pour the pier for my first tower. It was raining and the cement mixer kept tripping the GFCI so Dick decided that we would plug it into an unprotected outlet and told everyone not to touch the cement mixer when it was plugged in.

Dick was known for playing practical jokes on people. One I remember was the evening I got my .45 automatic pistol. Dick stopped over after dinner, field stripped it on the dining room table, and said look at the time I have to go, leaving me to figure out how to reassemble it. Later on he did a spectacular trigger job on that pistol for me.

For several years Dick, Janice, my wife and I went out to eat most Friday nights. We also went on several camping trips.

Dick was also interested in cars. He did a frame off restoration of an MG TD that he later fitted with a supercharger. He also did some work on my old Mustang.

He and his family were dear friends and I miss him greatly. **Tom KA3FQS** Dick was a good friend, a tried-and-true Packrat, and someone that always brightened every room he entered. For those who may not have met N3AOG in the good old days of the club—the drawing on the back page of every Cheese Bits for the past 20 years or more is the N3AOG microwave mobile that Dick built and used for several mini-expeditions. RIP and thanks for the memories. **Phil NUF**

Yes, very sorry to learn of Dick's passing. **Griff NE3I**

Very sad to hear this. Condolences to family and friends. Dave W3KM

Sorry to hear that. I certainly remember Dick, even though it has been a while since the old radio days. Condolences and best wishes to friends and family. Jerome K3GNC

Sorry to hear... Michelle KB3MTW

My condolences as well. **Michael KB1JEY**

I was just thinking of calling his son to see how Dick was doing. It sounds like he's not doing too good. I remember so many times I had tears in my eyes from laughing so hard with he and Janice. This picture is from 2001 at the Dayton Hara Arena bar after a hard day of ham radio shopping. I can't remember all of the times we had so much fun with Dick and Janice. John KB3XG

N3AOG sk Continued



From left to right—Jim Comly N3DCR, Patty Cawthorne, Pat WB3DNI (now W2SK), Janice N3CFE, Dick N3AOG, Celeste KB3IZP

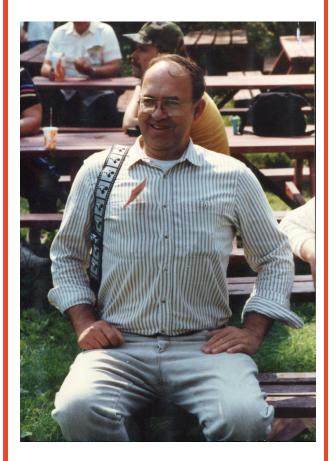
Very sorry to hear this. Dick spent a lot of time in his machine shop assisting Packrats with projects. He was a master machinist, top of his craft. Always has a good outlook. My wife and son were at Shady Maple one day in the smorgasbord line when somebody grabbed our son, my wife was about to scream, when she turned around there was Dick laughing. He was also one of the group giving our son money to buy things that I was trying to sell and get rid of when we had the White Elephant Sales here. I couldn't figure out why this stuff was ending back up in the garage. They were the fun years.... Gary WA2OMY

I am saddened to learn that Dick has passed. I always welcomed chatting with Dick many a late evening as I traveled home from a late work day. Always enjoyed all the birthday ribbing as I was older than Dick by 3 weeks and poor Janice was a full month older than him and said that was a rough month with the jovial comments. Also, he was the kind gentleman that guided me on the upgrade from perpetual technician to get my extra class license. As others have mentioned Dick was always open with a helping hand on those homebrew projects. Rest in peace Richard. **73 Doc W3GAD**

Very sorry to hear that. Dick was one of my sponsors back in 1990. 73 RIP N3 Awfully Old Guy. SK Al N3ITT

Very sorry to hear of Dick's passing. He was a friend. Always giving a helping hand with a smile. We had a fun weekend working into the early morning installing a new boiler in his house. One of many fun projects. Ham note it was his 8 foot dish and pickup truck that made it up to Camelback. That was the cartoon picture on back of the Cheese Bits. He will be missed.

Brian N3EXA



Roving with AA2SD

AA2ASD- I would like to personally thank all of the fellow Pack Rats for your help with your used equipment that I purchased, or was donated to me for the Jan Contest. It's not easy as a newbie to learn a new aspect of the hobby and outfit your Rover set up with all of the costs of antennas and equipment today and budgeting. I have been able to scrape together a very effective 4 lower band Rover with the help of these generous fellow Rats. This contest I am able to upgrade all of my antennas with more gain for my overlook locations on all 4 bands.

I am pleased to report that "**your old antenna has new life on the air**" and will be used during my Rove over Jan 20 and Jan 21st. It will be fun to work your old antenna as you pay it forward with more contacts. Each antenna will be used during different stops based on the set up time and location.

Again, thank you again for helping this "Newbie"; learn the ropes as a new Rover, my scores will also be attributed to the Mount Air VHF Pack Rats. Fellow Rat and Rover

Equipment Contributions

• K3MD John - M2 222-10EZ 222 yagi in excellent condition. Boom set up in 2 sections for quick deployment.

• N3RG Ray - custom K1FO Design (7) Element 2 Mtr antenna "mini rover" and 222 Mhz (12) Element "Attic Boomer"

• N2DEQ Mike - (11) element 440 and Cushcraft A144-11 2 meters antenna (12 foot boom now in 3 sections for roving). Adapted 440 antenna with a quick release mount.

• N2SCJ Bob Cushcraft 2M/70cm (5) element A27010S (excellent smaller 2 band antenna for quicker set up)

• KC3BVL Jim-11 element parts used to create a very effective 222MHz antenna now in my attic.





M2 222 -10 EZ

COMET-NCG CA-52HB4 Custom 11 Element 440 Yagi

N3RG Custom Built

2 Meter	band	dbd	dbi	elements	Weight	boom inches	Power	ERP
N3RG K1FO Design	2m	9.81	12	7	4.3 Lbs	55 Inches	50	431
With amplifier	2m	9.81	12	7	4.3 Lbs	55 Inches	150	1293
6 Meter								
DIAMOND A502HB	6M	4.11	6.3	2	3.75 lbs	24 inches	100	248.5
COMET CA-52HB4	6m	8.21	10.4	4	4.1 lbs	10ft	100	616
440								
DIAMOND A430510	440	10.81	13	10	1.8 lbs	43 inches	50	570.6
222								
M2 222-10EZ 222	222	11.81	14	10	3.9 lbs	118 Inches	35	466.4
N3RG K1FO Design	222	11.81	14	12	5.1 lbs	155 inches	35	466.4

Scott AA2SD/R

SOTA Number 6 Bill WS3O 27 January 2024

The last article I wrote about Summits-On-The-Air was in March of 2021, detailing a visit to Shawnee Mountain in the Poconos. I failed to make the required four contacts for the activation to count for me, and I had stated I would try again the following year. Well, three years later, I finally got back there.



I really wish I got out more often to activate summits. I love the mountains, and they make for great antenna towers.

Shawnee Mountain is summit W3/PO-032, in FN21Ia. The elevation is 351m above sea level, and counts for just 1 point in the SOTA program.

As like last time, this was a ski trip with my daughter's scout troop. However, there was one big difference, my daughter now has her radio license, and would be my fourth contact. Maybe that is stacking the deck, but it's legal.

Shawnee does not allow for hiking on the property. But we were skiing and had purchased a lift ticket. Some purists consider any kind of mechanically-assisted assent to be against the rules. Section 1.4 of the W3 association manual indicates that this is a vague area of the general SOTA rules. I had previously checked with the association manager, and he said that you just can't operate while connected to a vehicle or "shore power", and that you had to carry your station with you. In addition, since we were skiing, we were getting out and being active in the mountains, so it certainly was in the spirit of the program.

The day itself was overcast, quite warm, and the ski conditions were awful. It was a lot of work.

The station, such as it was, was a pair of 2m HTs, one with a standard manufacturer's antenna, the other with an after-market Diamond. Being on top of a mountain certainly helps coverage, and these HTs made full-quieting connections with stations over 30 miles away.

This time, I made my four contacts, and got the point for the activation. My daughter also participated and got activation credit. Thanks for KR1ST and KG4KFV for being on the air for us, as well as W2RES. I also made a contact with a hiker up on High Knob, KC3QPC. Unfortunately, that is not a SOTA summit so it didn't count as Summit-to-Summit. We had to cut our air-time short, as my daughter was senior patrol leader for the troop, and had other duties to tend to.

Bill, WS30

JANUARY CONTEST REPORTS

From Alex KR1ST

For this contest I decided to try working the digital modes only and use no assistance in the form of spotting, skeds, phone, text, email, chat Pages, Slack, PR Finder, and whatever else we can come up with to make sure that making a QSO is no challenge whatsoever. ;Indeed, this made "running the bands" more of a challenge, but in many cases it worked just fine. However, I noticed that many stations do not respond to requests to change bands. Perhaps they are not willing to change bands because there is a sufficient offer of stations still to work on the band they are on, or perhaps have no experience in doing this and maybe just don't pay attention to the request to change bands. To address the no experience challenge, perhaps clubs can organize local operating practice events. One thing I learned is that after sending the FT8 message to change bands, I need to stop transmitting or else the other station may think I didn't change bands and doesn't move either. I have two radios working different bands so I can often keep calling CQ or work another station while working the other band on the other radio. Running the bands on FT8 with some stations went surprisingly fast.

Now if we could just adopt FT4 instead of using this crushingly slow FT8. Folks complain about the low QSO rate of FT8. There's an easy fix for that! :)

It was blistering cold with very strong winds and sub zero wind chills for most of the weekend. I'm very surprised my rotators didn't freeze up. For most of the weekend I only operated towards the north west and south east because I didn't feel I could risk putting the antennas perpendicular to the wind. That meant I was pretty much blocked out of 6m openings were they to occur. I only caught

some flurries of Es too short to take advantage of. The air was also very unstable and there was a lot of multipath distortion. This is the most I have ever experienced. This made decoding of even strong signals a challenge. Thanks for hanging in there with me while I determined at which antenna direction I could actually decode you best. It wasn't until late Sunday evening when things started to settle down.

Even though it was bone chilling cold outside, I had to open a shack window to let the heat out from the amplifiers. FT8 sure causes solid state amps to generate a lot of heat! :)

Despite the various challenges, I'm happy that I was able to score a personal best for a second year in a row, and had a lot of fun while doing it. I experienced no equipment failures. It pays to be on the air a lot and exercise your equipment in order to prevent bad surprises during the contest. I really enjoyed working the contest this way, free of the distractions of the phone and juggling a stack of windows to beg for contacts. Concentrating on just digital modes allows me to listen to music and makes for a lot more relaxed experience for me.

340 QSO's, 384 PT's, 93 Grids, for a score of 35,712.

Thanks for all the Q's! 73,

From George WB3IGR

This was my best January contest from FN-10vi! 138 QSO's, 191 PT's, 58 Multipliers for a score of 11,078.

From Pete K0BAK

Not that it matters much, but I was hoping to use a big 2m rental station today. 2m was disabled there today, so I'm just on 6m from FN31. :-)

From Joe <mark>K1JT</mark>

Hi 'Rats, I'm pretty limited in what I can do any more in the January contest. This year I put in about 4 hours at W2ZQ, where we have a good 1296 MHz EME setup -- currently a 3m dish and about 400 W.

5,180 points. Every little bit helps 2024 APRL Jan. VHF Sweepstakes Looking forward to seeing other PackRat totals! ~ 73 2024 APRL Jan. VHF Sweepstakes Prom Bob N2SCJ Operator Category : SINGLE-OP Assisted Category : NON-ASSISTED Band Band : ALL Power : LOW Dorditati Exchange : FM29 Gridsquare : FM29MW ARRL AFflitated Club: Software : NIM Logger+10.10156.0 Band Mode QSOs Pts Grd PUQ Band Mode QSOs Pts Grd PUQ 6 element LFA @ 34' 50 USB 7 7 0 144 FTS 102 10 144 FTS 102 02 2.0 144 FTS 10 0 1.0 144 FTS 10 0 2.0 144 FTS 10 2.0 2.0 144 FTS 10 2.0 2.0 144 FTS 10 2.0 2.0 120 FM 5 10 2.0 120 FM 5 10 2.0 1240 USB 8 16 1 </th <th>My single-band total was 37 QS0</th> <th>Os in 35 grids, for</th> <th>From Steve N3FTI</th>	My single-band total was 37 QS0	Os in 35 grids, for	From Steve N3FTI
Looking forward to seeing other PackRat totals! -73 From Bob N2SCJ Operator Category : SINGLE-OP Assisted Category : NON-ASSISTED Band: ALL Power : LOW Default Exchange : FM29 Gridsquare : FM29MW AREL Section : SNI Club/Team : Mt Airy VHF Radio Club Software : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0 Band Mode QSOs Pts Grd Pt/Q 50 FT8 114 114 24 1.0 50 USB 7 7 0 1.0 144 FM 13 13 0 1.0 144 FM 5 10 10 0 1.0 222 FM 10 20 2 2.0 420 FM 5 10 0 2.0 420 USB 8 16 0 2.0 420 USB 4 16 1 4.0 Total Both 277 316 59 1.1 Score : 18,644 Rigs : IC-7610 6m; IC-9700 2m, 70cm, 23cm; DR-235 Signal 32cm Anplifers : ACCM 700S 6m; Gemini-2 500 2m; Q5 Signal 32cm Anglifers : Actemas S0LFA5 6m, Directive Systems FO144-15 2m; Directive Systems FO432-25 70cm; DSE45 Looper 23cm; Corret CX-333 2m, 220, 70cm Sorgbox : Got a late start due to computer replacement. Had family event on Sunday. Was not sure I was even going to get on. Had fun. EPA Section EPA Section Sogbox : Got a late start due to computer replacement. Had family event on Sunday. Was not sure I was seven going to get on. Had fun. EPA Section EPA Section			
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Assisted Category : NON-ASSISTED Band : ALL.502011201408040Power : LOW Default Exchange : FM29 Gridsquare : FM29MW ARRL Section : SNJ Club/Team : Mt Airy VHF Radio Club Software : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Claimed score = 8040Claimed score = 8040Software : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Club participation ? Yes ARRL Affiliated Club: Mt Airy VHF Radio Club Software : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Fiex:5000A LARCAN 1.5KW SPA 6 element LFA @ 45 6 element LFA @ 43 6 element LFA @ 43 7 0 1.0Semed like Grows and as aclive as in past years, a couple opping here in FN2On, but three were lost of metoor pings. Saw a few calling a 2L during the test (did anybody work him?), but my best DX was KO6H in CM57 at 2029gmt Saturday. VHF Log calculated I was on for 12.87 hours. Thanks to all that took the time to work me.1240USB41614.0TotalBoth 277 Score : 18.64473From Allen K3WCRRigs : IC-7610 6m; IC-9700 2m, 70cm, Score : 18.644Attennas : EAntennas 50LFA5 6m, Directive Systems FO144-15 2m; Directive Systems FO144-15 2m; Directive Systems FO144-15 2m; Directive Systems FO432-25 70cm; DSE45 Looper 23cm; Conet CX-333 2m, 220, 70cm sure I was even going to get on. Had fun.That plan worked out with no glitches. Primarily on the air to work Packtats on the microwaves that proved to be successful.Soapbox : Got a late start due to computer replacement. Had family event on Sunday. Was not sure I was even going to get on. Had fun.That plan worked out with no glitches. Primarily on th			Band QSOs X pt = QSO pts. X Grids = Points
Instruct energy interviewBand: ALL Power : LOWTOTALS 201201408040Power : LOWClaimed score = 8040Ordiaguare : FM29 Gridsquare : NIM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Claimed score = 8040Band Mode QSOs PtsGrd Pt/QSoftware : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Claimed score = 8040Band Mode QSOs PtsGrd Pt/Q50USB 7750USB 77144FT810144FT810144FT810144FT8101222FM10222FM10222FM10222FM10222FM10222FM10222FM10223FM1240USB 8161240USB 4161240USB 4161240USB 4161241VSB1240USB 4161241VSB1242USB 41243USB 41244USB 501244Portin terview1245Looper 23cm; Comet CX-333 2m, 220, 70cm;205Signal 23cmAntennas: EAntennas 50LFA5 6m, Directive Systems FO144-15 2m;			50 201 1 201 40 8040
Power: LOW Default Exchange : FM29 Gridsquare : FM29MW ARRL Section : SNJDub/Team: Mt Airy VHF Radio Club Software : NIMM Logger+ 1.0.10156.0Club participation ? Yes ARRL Affiliated Club: Mt Airy VHF Radio ClubBand Mode QSOs PtsGrd Pt/Q 6 element LFA @ 34' 50 USB 7 7 0 0 1.0Flax-5000A 6 element LFA @ 34' 58 Wave Vertical144 FM 13 13 0 1.0 144 FT8 102 102 30 1.0 144 USB 10 10 0 1.0Seemed like 6m was not as active as in past years, a couple of short openings but 1 never experienced an extended opening here in FN206m, but there were lost of meteor pings. Saw a few calling a ZL during the test (did anybody work him?), but my best DX was KD6H in CM97 at 2029mt Saturday.222 FM 10 20 2 2.073420 FM 5 10 0 2.0 420 FM 5 10 0 2.0 420 USB 8 16 0 2.0731240 USB 4 16 1 4.0 Score : 18,64414 4.0 From Allen K3WGRRigs : IC-7610 6m; IC-9700 2m, 70cm, 23cm; DR-235 200 FM; FTM-400 2m/70cm. Anmplifers : ACOM 700S 6m; Gemini-2 500 2m; Q5 Signal 23cmA two day rove was set however medical issues and the snow made those plans change.Antennas : EAntennas SOLFA5 6m, Directive Systems FO144-15 2m; Directive Systems FO432-25 70cm; DSE45 Looper 23cm; Comet CX-333 2m, 220, 70cmThat plan worked out with no glitches. Primarily on the air to work PackRats on the microwaves that proved to be successful.Soapbox : Got a late start due to computer replacement. Had family event on Shurder Suppox suppox give og even. Had fun.This was not the roves we did in past years nor was the soophox : Got a late start due to computer replacement. Had family event on Shurder Suppox is or ent was even going to get on. Had fun.Soapbox : Got a l	6.		
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hours. (points per hour of operating is about 2,322 points/hour) Taking more time at each stop would have really helped	-	-	·
points/hour) Taking more time at each stop would have really helped	sure I was even going to get on.	Had fun.	
			Taking more time at each stop would have really helped
the secre out I was not going to drive up and down mins			the score but I was not going to drive up and down hills

with the van at night with the roads snow coated.

Roads in Lancaster county especially the roads adjacent to farm fields, produced lots of slow going due to snow blowing across the road, building up on the road, and a number of drifts the height of the 2003 Ford Club (rover) wagon. The van did fine but, travel was slow.

Thank you to all who we worked.

No FT8, No FM, No EME 73

From Rick K1DS

George WA2VNV, Mike W1SS and Rick K1DS operated the VHF SS from the Boca Raton Amateur Radio Association. This year we used an IC-7600, a KING KW (converted Heathkit KW) and a 7el beam on a 45' tower for 6m. The usual VHF gear in the back room for 144, 222, 432 in the 100W range and 1296 with 50W, all on a 40' tower with modest single Yagis and a looper for 1.2G. Saturday's activity with K1DS operating 6m FT8 was moderate with periodic openings up the coast to the Mid-Atlantic, New England and the Mid-West. Packrats K0BAK, WA3NUF, W0RSJ, WA3QPX and N3FTI made it into our log. Others spotted included K3MD, WA3YUE, K3GNC and one exchange with K1TEO that was not confirmed. It was slow going on the higher bands, but we did manage to make at least a few QSOs on each of the bands and had a reasonable total on 2m with 10 grids. Most all the higher band activity in South Florida seemed to be digital also. I left Sunday afternoon at 3PM to go home and get my neighbor, N2SML to operate my radios for SSB contacts with the club station on 144, 222, 432 & 1296. Read on for the reason to be on-the-air for the complete contest period as the magic band gave George a thrill. Rick K1DS

A little before 7pm Sunday evening, we were getting ready to close up as Mike W1SS, had to leave and bands were pretty dead - no new contacts anywhere. Mike left and George started to shut down 6m and as usual, the band started to

open up to EM area of Texas, then Mexico and beyond. I started running contacts and then ZL stations started showing up - Game On! For the next 1-1/2 hours the band was hopping 'til about 8pm, then in & out as it started to fade. Worked several more in Arizona and Southern California as the band stretched out to the 11pm end. Missed a few Brazil PY stations. Crazy opening. The antenna rotor got a good workout. I added 64 more Q's to Rick's 98 and lots of new grids. I did a final 2 m VHF check at 10:30 and got AB4AB for 4 more bands including 1.2G. He was the only SSB local we worked. So was fun & busy until the end. Got home around 12:30am. During a guiet time on 6m around 4pm, I switched to 12m ft8 and worked the TX5S Clipperton Dxpedition pileup, another new one for me. That's all Folks. 73 WA2VNV George

	2024 /	ARF	RL JAN N4BF	. VHF SW		AKES
Ν	/ULTI	-OF)		SFL	Section
Operator	rs: N	IUL	ΓΙ-OP	WA2VNV	K1DS, V	W1SS
Band	QSOs	X pi	t=QSO p	ots X Grids⊧	=Points	
						-
50	139	1	139	69	9,591	
144	22	1	22	10	220	
222	2	2	4	1	4	
432	4	2	8	2	16	
1296	3	4	12	1	12	

TOTALS 170 QSOs 185pts X 83grids = 15,355Claimed score



We had a bit of an opening on 6m from N4BRF in Florida EL96 where I am operating with George WA2VNV. Managed on FT8 to work K0BAK, WA3QPX, W0RSJ, WA3NUF, N3FTI. Also saw WA3YUE, WA3DRC and WA3GFZ,K1TEO, K3MD. Will look toward north again tomorrow as this is first time we have the KW running on 6m with 7 elements at 45'

73 es GL, stay warm, Rick, K1DS

From Scott AA2SD

Dear Fellow Club Members and Friends

Thanks to all who worked me on the air this past weekend as a Rover in the ARRL VHF Contest... You can follow along with me on this "very cold" Rove with the YouTube Video Link below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EBGMI_gJCSo

Here is my Preliminary Raw Score for my 2 day Rove this past weekend. The colder weather and wind really impacted my ability to put up larger antennas at each site. At Sandy Hook, I did complete Mount Mitchel and the Twin Lights in the Atlantic Highlands of NJ, and I scratched Cape May.

I was able to complete the planned Rove in Lancaster with Welsh Mountain with the following grids. I also experienced much slower drive times, due to the ice and weather. The positive is that I was able to make over 40% of my calls "on the run mobile" with omni directional halo antennas. and digitally record the audio QSO for logging after the drive. The W3SZ.com Database and live map, worked very well for on the move contacts.

- 85 Miles Total Roving
- Average Temperature was 22 Degrees, windy blowing over 15-20 knots at Sandy Hook, at Welsh Mountain, roads were clear and we had a foot of snow with beautiful weather, lots of Snowy Roads in Lancaster

with wind drifts slowed me down.

- Completed Over 193 contacts, of which 70 plus were completed on the move or 40% as a moving mobile Rover with Halo Antennas on the roof rack.
- Saturday Day 1- I covered a total of (4) Grid Squares Sandy Hook Overlooks Atlantic Highlands
- FN30 Twin FN20 one way home and FM29 Lights and FN20 Mount Mitchell and FM29 on the way home
- Sunday Day 2 I covered (3) Grids Wesh Mtn FN10 -
- Gap PA FM 10 FN20 and FM29
- Highest elevation was 1075 feet

I used (4) antenna for this rove on push up poles, and a set of rack mounted Halo Antennas on the mobile

- 4 Element 6 Mtr Beam
- 7 Element 2 Mtr Antenna
- 10 Element 440 Antenna
- 10 Elemen 222 Antenna

Not one FT8 contact - all on Phone

The W3SZ.com Database and live map, worked very well for on the move contacts.

Thank you everyone for contacting me on the Rove!









From Chris W3CMP

Spent a pleasant 6 hours on the radio while driving up the I-85 and I-95 corridor vesterday from Apex NC, FM-05 to Lancaster PA FN10. Station was a Kenwood TM-255A 2 meter multimode and the antenna was a Hustler 5/8 wl mag mount on the roof of the rental minivan. Had no great expectations since antenna was vertically polarized and I was running light bulb power. Surprisingly, I made 11 contacts, and could have had a few more if stations I heard had heard me. Worked Aaron, W4JST/R FM07 while in a number of grids in VA, K3RZ FM19 from two grids and a few other people. Most FM07 while in a number of grids in VA, K3RZ FM19 from two grids and a few other people. Most Surprised at how well the thrown together station worked. Got to Lancaster right before 2:00 p.m. Now I have to convert my napkin log to readable format and submit.

From Dave K1RZ

First Time back since June 2022, now with the new tower, but populated only up to 432 - so far. Soon more bands. Some equipment issues with 432 amplifier blowing up in the first few hours of the contest...and the trouble shooting to follow. Plus some noise source in the computer covering 2m weak signal band (traced to the video boards which I figured out by Tuesday afterwards).

There was a lot of activity as is expected in January. Many Rovers braved the very cold and snowy weather too, to include K2EZ/R, W4JST/R, KM4OZH/R, KE4WMF/R, VA3ELE/R, W3CMP/R and NN3Q/R. You Rovers have amazing dedication to the sport. We all so appreciate the difficulties you overcome to be out there for the rest of us. The "chase" that you Rover's provide keeps us going to the end. "Go Rovers"!!

Good to see so many new folks on the bands and to reconnect with the regulars. Thanks for the QSOs. See you again next contest on more bands. :) 73 All. Dave K1RZ FM19jh Here is the K1RZ Band Score-Mode Summary.

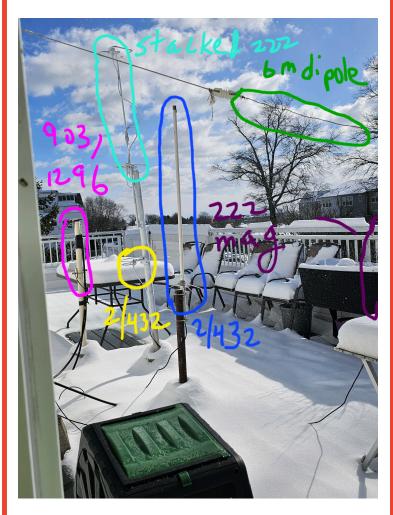
50 50 144 144 144 222 222 222 222 222 420	CW FT8 MSK1 USB CW FM FT8 USB CW FM FT8	QSOs 7 46 5 43 9 10 32 46 10 8 11 39 15 6	7 46 5 43 9 10 32 46 20	2 15 4 11 8 1 12 13 9 2 3 14	1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 1.0 2.0 2.0
420 420	FT8	6 22 39 1	12 44 78 4	1 7 12 1	2.0
	Both core : 6	349 62,750	502	125	1.4

From Tom KA3FQS

I thought that I would miss a good part of the contest due to another commitment that was scheduled for late Sat. Fortunately that commitment canceled just before the contest. Unfortunately a broadband noise source appeared on 2 meters to the north of my QTH which limited a lot of contacts in New England. Each year I try to best my previous year's score, which I did by a few points, but I procrastinated in repairing my 3400 MHz amp so I was limited to one contact, WA3NUF, on that band and did not do other improvements that I had promised myself I would do before the next contest. Time to start a new list for the next contest.

Band	QSOs	Pts.	X Grids	= Points
50	55	55	7	385
144	63	63	10	630
222	34	68	5	340
432	43	86	9	774
903	13	52	3	156
1296	13	52	3	156
2304	6	48	3	144
3400	1	8	1	8
Total	228	432	41	17712

From Michelle KB3MTW





Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club The Pack Rats` 2024 January VHF Contest

Total Logs: 57

Club Claimed Score: 1,330,662

Call ser	QSOs	Total Grids	Score	6M	Contac 2M	cts and Gr 222	ids per 1 432		1.3GHz	2.3GHz	3.4GHz	5.7GHz	z 10GHz	La-
	745 749 349 291 286 278 340 245 234 250 245 277 195 228 208 205 172 136 138 167 82 198 205 172 136 138 167 82 198 205 172 136 138 105 36 111 105 58 89 74 45 89 74 45 89 74 45 89 74 45 89 74 58 89 74 110 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 58 89 74 54 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51		285048 69500 62750 57672 50374 47840 43946 35712 30810 30686 27820 25842 24720 20130 18644 18063 17712 17082 15800 13328 12740 11653 11640 11078 10707 8646 8184 8040 6624 6191 5166 5040 4125 3534 3002 2668 2470 2158 1922 1911 1358 1888 1056 656 570 530 490 210 99 72 45 8	263 60 143 29 101 32 89 32 95 29 98 21 97 22 168 36 50 12 122 25 136 31 93 18 122 25 136 31 93 18 121 32 93 18 121 31 86 28 55 7 96 29 157 12 86 22 55 12 43 16 59 12 124 4 131 6 48 16 59 12 124 3 133 13 50 12 33 13 56 11 24 2 138 15 <td>213 53 126 33 97 34 83 29 71 19 42 10 90 26 128 35 73 16 77 122 78 17 122 32 63 15 1124 29 125 30 81 39 63 10 86 25 67 19 26 7 36 6 57 22 68 21 14 5 75 9 50 13 63 24 87 26 33 13 64 18 40 16 34 6 92 29 126 3 13 4 31 3 27 5</td> <td>76 30 40 11 68 28 35 13 32 8 35 12 24 9 21 10 54 15 30 11 21 6 20 4 21 20 34 5 10 2 24 9 21 10 21 6 20 4 21 6 22 34 5 17 5 16 17 6 19 6 13 7 14 5 16 1 17 4 1 2 14 2 12 14 2 14 2 1 1 2 1 3 2 1 1</td> <td>$\left \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$</td> <td> 8 6 15 4 1 1 14 4 12 5 6 3 6 3 14 5 1 1 14 5 13 3 10 3 10 3 5 2 9 3 10 5 9 3 10 5 9 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 5 2</td> <td>37 15 16 5 15 6 20 7 20 5 16 6 8 3 12 4 12 4 12 4 11 17 5 2 4 1 13 3 15 5 10 4 13 6 2 8 3 1 1 1 2 36 35 1 1 2 36 35 1 4 2 36 35 1 1 4 2 35 1 4 1 1 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 <td>20 10 10 3 10 3 10 3 10 3 1 7 3 9 4 3 1 7 3 4 1 7 3 4 1 7 1 6 3 1 1 6 1 3 1 5 1 3 2 2 1 3 2 2 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</td><td>6 4 2 2 3 3 4 2 1 1 1 1</td><td></td><td> 4 4 2 2 3 3 5 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 2 1 1 3 2 4 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</td><td></td></td>	213 53 126 33 97 34 83 29 71 19 42 10 90 26 128 35 73 16 77 122 78 17 122 32 63 15 1124 29 125 30 81 39 63 10 86 25 67 19 26 7 36 6 57 22 68 21 14 5 75 9 50 13 63 24 87 26 33 13 64 18 40 16 34 6 92 29 126 3 13 4 31 3 27 5	76 30 40 11 68 28 35 13 32 8 35 12 24 9 21 10 54 15 30 11 21 6 20 4 21 20 34 5 10 2 24 9 21 10 21 6 20 4 21 6 22 34 5 17 5 16 17 6 19 6 13 7 14 5 16 1 17 4 1 2 14 2 12 14 2 14 2 1 1 2 1 3 2 1 1	$ \left \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8 6 15 4 1 1 14 4 12 5 6 3 6 3 14 5 1 1 14 5 13 3 10 3 10 3 5 2 9 3 10 5 9 3 10 5 9 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 5 2	37 15 16 5 15 6 20 7 20 5 16 6 8 3 12 4 12 4 12 4 11 17 5 2 4 1 13 3 15 5 10 4 13 6 2 8 3 1 1 1 2 36 35 1 1 2 36 35 1 4 2 36 35 1 1 4 2 35 1 4 1 1 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 <td>20 10 10 3 10 3 10 3 10 3 1 7 3 9 4 3 1 7 3 4 1 7 3 4 1 7 1 6 3 1 1 6 1 3 1 5 1 3 2 2 1 3 2 2 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</td> <td>6 4 2 2 3 3 4 2 1 1 1 1</td> <td></td> <td> 4 4 2 2 3 3 5 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 2 1 1 3 2 4 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</td> <td></td>	20 10 10 3 10 3 10 3 10 3 1 7 3 9 4 3 1 7 3 4 1 7 3 4 1 7 1 6 3 1 1 6 1 3 1 5 1 3 2 2 1 3 2 2 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	6 4 2 2 3 3 4 2 1 1 1 1		4 4 2 2 3 3 5 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 2 1 1 3 2 4 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Multi-Ops Call	QSOs	Total Grids	Score	6M	Contac [.] 2M	ts and Gr: 222			1.3GHz	2.3GHz	3.4GHz	5.7GHz	10GHz	Laser
N2NT Ops: N2NT	669 N2NC	WW2Y									 	 		 I
Ops: N3NGH	E K3EG	GE W2PEI)		154 32 60 16				19 6	11 6	1 1	10 4	5 3	1 1
Ops: WORSJ W3RFC	J W2PV 152	7 52	8008							' 		l		
Ops: W3RF0	с кзос) WA3OFF	7											

Pack Rat QSOs and Pack Rats worked 2024 January VHF Contest Number of logs 49

Call	Oper Cat	Power Cat	Total QSOs	Total Rats	 Call	Oper Cat	Power Cat	Total QSOs	Total Rats
N3NGE WA3NUF WB2RVX N3RG KA3FQS N2NT W3SZ WA3GFZ W2SJ WA3GFZ W2SJ WA3DRC WA2OMY KC3BVL KC2TN W3GAD K3TUF W2KV AA2SD/R WA3YUE K1RZ N2DEQ K3JJZ KR1ST W3KM	Cat MO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO SO	Cat HIGH LOW HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH LOW HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH LOW HIGH HIGH LOW	QSOs 219 200 180 167 164 164 155 152 151 147 147 147 147 147 140 118 113 112 104 103 102 91 90 88 85 85	Rats 54 51 44 38 38 52 43 48 42 37 43 32 47 33 26 38 25 39 30 33 28 38 41	KA3WXV W9KXI WB3IGR K3GNC WA3QPX K2EZ/R K3IUV N3ITT W3HMS K3MD N3FTI WS30 NE3I WX3K N1XKT WB20NA K0BAK W3RJW WA3RLT WA3WUL W3CMP/R W2ZQ	Cat S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0 S0	Cat LOW HIGH LOW HIGH LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW LOW	QSOs 80 67 60 56 51 49 47 42 39 38 35 35 34 24 24 22 19 16 14 10 7 4 1	Rats 28 32 27 37 30 6 23 28 19 25 23 35 21 18 15 11 7 16 14 6 7 3 1
WORSJ	MO	HIGH	85	34	K3EGE	SO	LOW	1	1

Pictures from January Contest Wrap-up Meeting Hosted by Bob W2SJ



The Wayback Machine	VHF Report. Joe, W2EIF reported activity continues low, but he was pleased to see the
In CHEESE BITS, February, 1974. Vol. XVI, # 2 de Bert, K3IUV (<i>author's comments in</i> <i>italics</i>)	expansive operation on two-meters during the contest. SSB and CW stations were active continuously "right up to the end of the contest." He heard Ohio, W. Pa, W. Va, Ontario, Quebec, Maine and all the northeast states, as well as N. Carolina. He reported that Pete, K1PXE who he normally works on 2 through 1296 MHz will only be on for weekends for a while, as he is signed up for a programming course away from home.
 "Our Prez Sez". Prez Dick Huntzinger, W3FQD discussed the recent VHF sweepstakes and thanked the members that participated. Early results indicate we bested last year's winning total, "despite a heavy coating of ice which degraded antenna and rotator performance!" He mentioned a group of 6 members "for their yeoman efforts while under the weather." (<i>I note that I was among the 6</i>!) And he drew attention to the next meeting which will be Home Brew Night, run by Tony K1SFF/3 (now W3HMU). Always a popular topic. Calendar. February 21, Club meeting, topic is "Homebrew" night. Bring and show off your pet project. Prizes for four categories: 1. The most ingenious; 2. Best craftsmanship; 3. Most expansive reproduction of commercial equipment; and 4. Most miserable failure and heartache project (<i>usually won by Doc, K3GAS</i>). March 9-10, Worldwide VHF Contest, sponsored by the ItchykooPark VHF ARS. (The Small Faces? Ed.) New Products of Interest to Hams.W3NSI, Lynn somehow always managed to find at least 3 interesting new items. This issue included:1).A new design by Emergency Beacon Corp, for a two-meter AM, FM, MCW transmitter / receiver. The unit will cover the full band, and is fully synthesized in 5 kHz steps. Priov. at \$9090 	 SIX Meter Report. Rich, K3ACR reported an outstanding opening in the beginning of January. He notes "it included almost every section of the country plus some VE's, and lasted for 8 hours or more." This was followed by a smaller opening during the VHF contest with lots more SSB activity than he expected (<i>Note: this was his first contest with this capability</i>). He noted the crying towel session revealed a number of stations whose equipment failed to hold up for the full contest, and identified three winners as follows: W3SAO won the traditional crying towel, W3ELX won a cup inscribed "For a story so bad, I think we've been had," and W2EIF won a cup inscribed "For a story so funny, it's almost worth money." A good time was had by all. 220 Notes.Doc, K3GAS submitted an article on 220 happenings. He included a list of 47 stations that had previously been active on 220, "using surplus R48 receivers converted for AM reception." I note that Walt, K3BPP, EL, K3JJZ and Bert, K3IUV (<i>that's me</i>) are still active. Sadly, the rest are all SK. He then listed about 15 stations that are now active on the newly introduced Packrat 220-FM repeater, and stated "a tremendous surge is expected on the band." (<i>Well, the surge</i>
fully synthesized in 5 kHz steps. Pricy, at \$999, but full of features. 2). Atlas Radio SSB Transceiver. This is a 4 band (160, 80, 40, and 20 meters) rig with plug-in circuit boards. Cost is \$479. 3).Cush Craft Ringo Ranger Antenna. Cush Craft has introduced a line of higher gain antennas rated at 6.3 dB gain over a ¹ / ₄ wave whip. Now available for 144, 220 and 432 MHz. Cost is \$22.50 for any of the three.	 occurred as many set up equipment, but the weekly activity remains low. Who else remembers that the assigned call initially was WR3ACD?) Contest results. A table of early contest results was included, listing 37 members stations which achieved over 5000 points. (Remember the old scoring was different, and was based on sections, not grids.) Interesting to note

16

....Wayback cont'd recently deceased Stan, **K3IPM** was #1 on the list, as he was for many years. Others I see on the list that are still around after 50 years include Tony, **K1SFF/3** (now **W3HMU** who was number 3), myself, **K3IUV**, Walt, **K3BPP**, EI, **K3JJZ**, and**WA3JUF/3** (now **W3KM**).

- Official Bulletin Nr 463 from ARRL. This bulletin noted that the FCC has simplified application procedures for repeater stations. A number of parameters have been changed from application requirements to logging requirements. Change to certain equipment parameters may be introduced without reapplication. New forms are available.
- Membership.Visitors at the January meeting included Dave, WA3BKP, Joe Trench, WA3OVZ, Ed, WA3MHF and Horace, K3ZAC.
- **Tidbits**. Member Lee, **K3MXM**,had a short appearance on local TV, discussing the Christmas Messages project held at local hospitals. Good publicity.
- Swap Shoppe. By W3ZRR. (Always nostalgia. Now we use the club reflector. Wanted by K2EVW, 3 tower sections, 10' each. For sale by Tom, W3WIJ, a Swan 250C with power supply. Price \$450. Will ship. From Bob, K3JFY, a Heathkit Seneca transmitter for \$45 and an HQ-150 Receiver for \$70. Also wanted by him was a Hustler 4BTV vertical antenna. Lastly, from Harry, WA3NGK (later W3IIT), a Hammarlund HX-50 Transmitter, 10-80 meters (ideal for use with transverters). Price \$150. And a Gonset GSB101 linear amplifier covering 10-80 meters. Price \$175.
- Ads. This issue included 24 "business card". It also included the half page back cover ad from club member Ham Buerger; however, no sale details were included. I note the current Cheese Bits Ad complement includes only 4 small ads, a ¼ page from Beko and a ½ page from Down East. If you'd like to join them, contact the ad chairman, Bob, **W2SJ**.
- **Miscellany.** Postage for this issue was a single 8-cent "Flag" stamp. 7double sided, 8-1/2 x 11" sheets).(**Don't forget**, current postage went to 68-cents in January, and a penny postcard now

costs 51-cents!) As usual, many other "folksy" comments about members. their families. and activities were included in this edition of Cheese Bits. If interested, or for more detail on any of the above items, visit our website (www.W3CCX.COM) and read the full issue scanned by K3IUV (me), and posted on the website by Bill, WS30, our webmaster. I have also posted the club Officers history, club Membership history, and Packrat Inventory (updated frequently) on the W3CCX website. These files are password protected, and only accessible to registered members. Are you registered? I hope you enjoyed reading these bits of nostalgia as much as I did in writing the article. If ves, you might let me know. Thanks to those that did.

thirty, de **K3IUV** (comments or corrections to: **K3IUV@ARRL.net**)



International EME 2024 Conference

August 9th to 11th, 2024

TCNJ Trenton, NJ

https://eme2024trenton.org/

EME101

An Intro to EME

A full day course Friday August 9th, 2024

TCNJ Trenton, NJ

https://eme2024trenton.org/eme101/

1296 MHz Activity Night

There's an informal 1296 activity night in the NY/ NJ/PA/CT region (and beyond) every Monday night starting around 9:30 pm (or so) on 1296.110. No coordination, just jump in and say hello W2BVH

KC3BVL UHF+ Tuesday Net

Packrat, Jim KC3BVL conducts a Tuesday night net with schedule as follows: 7:30PM—903.100, 8:00PM—1296.100, 8:30PM– 2304.100

KC3BVL VHF Friday Net

Packrat, Jim KC3BVL conducts a Friday night net with schedule as follows: 7:30PM-144.160, 8:00PM -50.160, 8:30PM- 222.150, 9:00PM-432.160

Reminder: there are 3 FT8 VHF / UHF Activity Contests each month. For info see: http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/

For those interested in an online "Contest Only" event calendar for VHF+, see https://www.qsl.net/ n2sln/contestcalendar.html

Meteor Shower Calendar

Here's a Meteor Shower Calendar showing the dates for all the Meteor Showers in 2024. They're correct for our location in the Northeast. https:// www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/meteor-shower/ list.html

PLEASE SEND IN 2024 DUES

Club dues are due as of Jan 1st, 2024. Go to https://www.qsl.net/w3km/MtAiryRC_Dues.htm and use the "<u>check here</u>" link to see if you already paid. If not, enter your callsign and click on "PayPal" Dave *W3KM*

222 MHz Activity Night

There's been an informal 222 activity night in the Northeast (and beyond) every Tuesday night starting around 7 pm (or so) Eastern Time. ON4KST is being used by some to coordinate Q's when direct CQ's are weak. W2BVH

Call for Papers and Presentations for the 47th Eastern VHF/UHF/Microwave Conference, April 19 -20, 2024, in Windsor,CT. Sponsored by the North East Weak Signal Group (NEWS).

details at http://www.newsvhf.com/

Presentations or papers are welcome on VHF, UHF, microwaves, and higher. All aspects welcome, technical and non-technical - operating, contesting, homebrewing, roving, software, EME, surplus, antennas, test equipment, amplifiers, SDR, 47 GHz superregen, attracting lightning, whatever.

Your winter project might be a good candidate—take some pictures.

Send submissions and questions to: w1ghz <at> arrl.net

73 paul W1GHZ & Mark K1MAP



	Sussex Amateur Radio Association	
Carlos a service of the service of t	- APRIL 20, 2024 -	۶
Delmar	va Amateur Radio & Electronics	EXPC

Vendor Application

company wa	ne:
Address:	
Phone:	
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Type of Produ	icts:
Number of Ta	bles:
Please list an	competitors that you wish not to be placed next to:
Is AC power r	equired? Yes / No (\$6.00 extra for electricity)
Fees: Indoo Tailgat	equired? Yes / No (\$6.00 extra for electricity) r - \$15.00 for 1st table, \$12.00 each additional table. er - \$15.00 for 1st space (incl. one (1) indoor entrance), \$10.00 each addl. sj - \$20.00 for 2 tables (1@8 foot + 1@ 6 foot)
Fees: Indoo Tailgat Clubs Checks paya	r - \$15.00 for 1st table, \$12.00 each additional table. er - \$15.00 for 1st space (incl. one (1) indoor entrance), \$10.00 each addl. sj
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Fees: Indoo Tailgat Clubs Checks paya Mail checks *Loading & Unlo *Tailgaters: Con	r - \$15.00 for 1st table, \$12.00 each additional table. er - \$15.00 for 1st space (incl. one (1) indoor entrance), \$10.00 each addl. sp \$20.00 for 2 tables (1@8 foot + 1@ 6 foot) ble to: Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO and applications to: Richard Long, 24784 Rivers Edge Rd, Millsboro DE 1991 ading: Vendors may set up Friday, April 19, 2024, after 1:00 PM. (Contact Jamie Akhton at email: delawarehamfest@gmail.com or Tel: 410.202.7690) Doors open for set up a 17:00 AM Sturday, April 20, 2024 (vendor access only).
Fees: Indoo Tailgat Clubs Checks pays Mail checks *Loading & Unlo *Tailgaters: Con cha	r - \$15.00 for 1st table, \$12.00 each additional table. er - \$15.00 for 1st space (incl. one (1) indoor entrance), \$10.00 each addl. sp \$20.00 for 2 tables (1@8 foot + 1@ 6 foot) hble to: Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO and applications to: Richard Long, 24784 Rivers Edge Rd, Millsboro DE 1991 ading: Vendors may set up Friday, April 19, 2024, after 1:00 PM. (Contact Jamie Ashton at email: delawarehamfest@gmail.com or Tel: 410.202.7690) Doors open for set up at 7:00 AM Saturday, April 20, 2024 (vendor access only). Assistance will be available at no extra charge. Must be operating by 7:30 AM on April 20th. the out Rain or Shine. In the event of rain, tailgate space will be provided indoors at no additional



Hello Cheese bits readers. I am working on some new designs for some of our products and will announce them here when they are ready. In the meanwhile, I have some current and some reconditioned items available.



The CT-2 Antenna controller board. See the <u>Overview</u> page. These are assembled and tested. For readers of Cheese Bits, the price is \$199 (mention the Cheese bits ad when ordering)

The LCD-1 display unit. This is a nice backlit LCD that shows hardware and firmware details on startup, and then shows current antenna position.

The ENC-1 enclosure. This is a nice box to hold the CT-2 controller and the LCD display unit.

The LC485-1 and LCD485-IDX level converter boards. These boards can be used to convert quadrature position sensor TTL outputs to RS485 protocol levels for sending over a distance between the sensor and the controller.

The SEQ-2 Station Sequencer. These are assembled and tested, except for mounting of the relays and optional installation of LED indicators. See the Products page for details. (\$55 for Cheese bits readers.)

I also have a few reconditioned and tested SEQ-1 sequencers. These use the older relays that are no longer available. The relays are rated at 10 amps, so they should last a long while in normal usage. These are a bargain at \$35 each.

For all products, see the **Products** page for prices and shipping.

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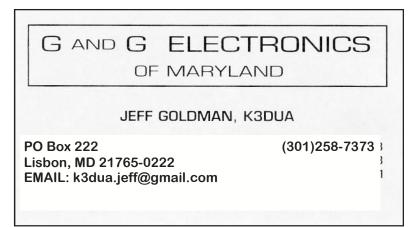
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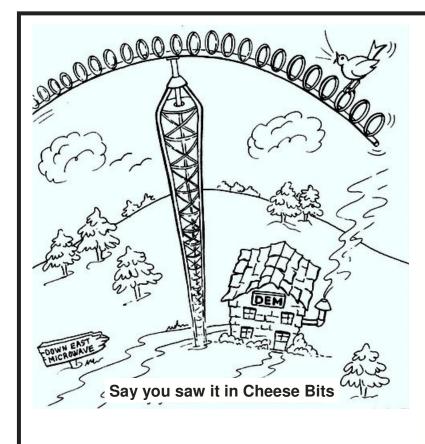
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