



# CHEESE BITS

**W3CCX**  
**CLUB MEMORIAL CALL**

ARRL  
Affiliated  
Club



**Volume LXVIII**

**July 2025**

**Number 7**

**PREZ**

(July 2025)

**SEZ:** The June club meeting was a significant event for several reasons. First, it marked the end of the 2024/2025 term for the current board of officers and directors. The outgoing BOD presided over a number of breakthrough accomplishments. The re-establishment of the Pack Rat Family picnic, the first club 10 GHz MDS testing event, new beacons covering 2.304 thru 10 GHz, a re-invigorated meeting experience with current, focused programs by a range of member and remote presenters, the first FT8 activity night, the first Jan Packrat Bowl, and many other familiar activities that make being a member of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club special and memorable. Thanks to the outgoing BOD members and to all of you that participate and help to maintain the Pack Rat spirit!

June is also the month to elect new members of the BOD. While many of the current board members signed up for one more year, we elected two new 2 yr Directors – Phil K3TUF and Stephanie WX3K. Congratulations to all of the new term Pack Rat Officers and Directors!! There are plenty of new initiatives ahead, it's going to be a great term.

The June meeting was also preceded by a brief but powerful storm that included 60 mph+ winds that took down branches, trees, and power lines over an extended area. While the meeting site was unaffected it reduced the number of in-person attendees; but the meeting went on as scheduled with a great presentation by Mike N1JEZ remote from VT describing how to as-

semble the new generation of SMT devices using a toaster oven as a reflow soldering station. We also had a number of W3CCX mountain topers present their reports on the recent June contest operation on Mt Pocono in FN21hb.

The calendar page is now turning to July and that means the club family picnic, the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual MDS testing event, and White Elephant Sale is only a few weeks away. Gary WA2OMY and Dave K1RZ have been busy organizing a 10 and 24 GHz band test venue along with improving the efficiency of the operation. In the meantime, Len N3NGE and his barbeque crew are planning another great picnic lunch. Last years event was great! This year promises to be even better! Clear your schedule!

Another event in July is the annual CQWW VHF contest. This year CQWW VHF will run twice, first as analog (CW/SSB) only on July 5<sup>th</sup> and then as digital only on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Either way this is always a fun, relaxed contest. Hopefully some summer E's propagation will enhance this year's event(s). Thanks to club member John Golomb N2NC for organizing this yearly VHF contest tradition. John was named the director of the CQWW VHF Contest last year.

With 6M open almost every day it's a great time to chase grids and awards. The current sunspot peak won't be around too much longer and waiting another 11 years is becoming a bit ambitious for a number of us ;-). Get on the air and make some noise!

CU on the bands.  
Phil NUF

Packrats **CHEESE BITS** is published monthly by the **Mt. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.** –Abington, PA.

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222.98/224.58 MHz (PL 136.5) Hilltown, PA

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#### **DIRECTORS:**

K3TUF Phil Theis	2 Year Director
WX3K Stephanie Koles	2 Year Director
W2SJ Bob Fischer	1 Year Director
K1RZ David Petke	1 Year Director

#### **PACK RAT COMMITTEES**

January Contest	N3RG, N2NC, W2SJ, AA2SD
June Contest	N3YMS, WA3YUE, W2SJ
Fall Sprints	WA3NUF, W9KXI, WA3EHD, WS3O
Pack Rat Awards	WA3EHD, W2SJ
Quartermaster	Vacant
Membership:	Ray N3RG, W2SJ, WA3GFZ

#### **PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B**

144.300 (FN21be), 222.060 (FN20tk), 432.300 (FN20tk), 903.300 (FN21be), 1296.300 (FN20dh), 2304.300 (FN20tk), 3400.300 (FN20dh), 5760.300 (FN21be), 10,368.300 (FN20tk) See <https://www.packratvhf.com/index.php/on-air> for details

#### **MONDAY / TUESDAY NIGHT NETS**

##### **VHF/UHF Monday:**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
6:45PM	224.580 MHz	KB3MTW Michelle
7:00 PM	Packrat Talk Group	KA3WXV George
		See Packratvhf.com ON AIR for details
7:30 PM	50.150 MHz	N3RG FM29ki Ray
8:00 PM	144.245 MHz	W2KV FN20ok 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](http://www.packratvhf.com) or [www.w3ccx.com](http://www.w3ccx.com)

#### **PACKRAT E-MAIL REFLECTORS**

The Pack Rats have an E-Mail reflector that is open to Pack Rats and friends of the Pack Rats. The intent of this E-mail reflector is to have a convenient means of reaching list members on subjects of general interest to the VHF/UHF and Microwave community.

[Packrats@mailman.qth.net](mailto:Packrats@mailman.qth.net)

The Pack Rats also have a **Members Only** reflector. This list consists of, and is for the use of, **only Pack Rat club members**.

[Packrats-members@mailman.qth.net](mailto:Packrats-members@mailman.qth.net)

See the W3CCX Web page for specific information on joining.

#### **Packrats on Facebook**

Use the browser link "[www.facebook.com/PackRatVHF](http://www.facebook.com/PackRatVHF)", or within Facebook search for the name "Mt Airy VHF Radio Club".

# The June Meeting

June meeting local attendance was sparse but did include Nick from Delaware and Lenny from North Jersey.



There was significant remote attendance including Ed WA3DRC from Preston, MD, the South Jersey gang from a pizza shop in Jersey, Keith KC3NDU from Lake Ariel, PA, Al W9KXI from Horseheads, NY, Dave K1RZ from Damascus, MD, Phil K3TUF from Ephrata, PA and Jim KC3BVL from Philadelphia. This is not to mention our program presenter Mike N1JEZ from Lyndonville, VT.



The main topic of the business meeting was the election of new officers. The ballot from the nominating committee ran unopposed so it was elected by acclamation. The names of the new officers and their positions are listed on page two of this newsletter.

An interesting presentation on home brew surface mounting equipment using a toaster oven as a reflow oven was given by Mike N1JEZ. Mike covered the proper handling of solder paste and some simple hardware that can be used to construct a reflow oven. Another important topic was the concept of temperature profiles to ensure that the paste reflows correctly and that the PCB is not damaged. Mike also pointed that in the reflow process the surface tension of the solder tends to align the components to the solder pads even if they are not perfectly placed on the board.

There was a well stocked Mario table with lots of interesting things to take home.

The July meeting is going to be an extravaganza with a picnic, microwave MDS testing, and the annual White Elephant sale. Not to be missed.

Tom KA3FQS



# The June Contest

## Club Station at Big Pocono State Park

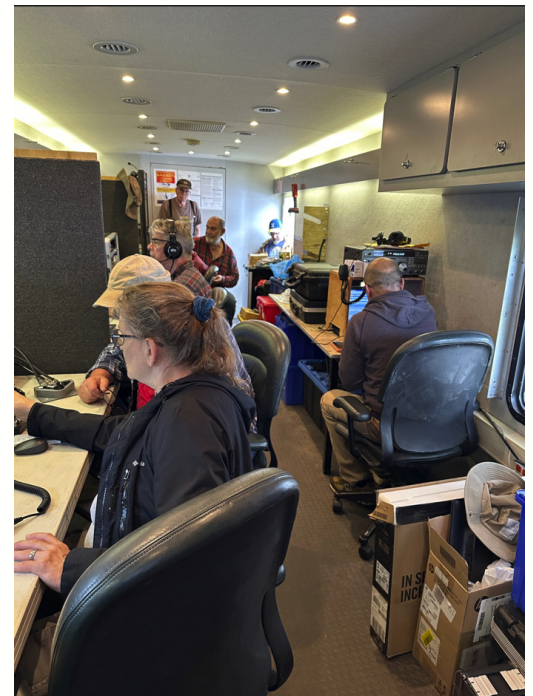
For the most part the weather on the mountain was miserable but the W3CCX crew persevered.







Photos courtesy of Allen Oldfield and Bob Matey



It was warm and dry inside the Bus

Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club, 'The Pack Rats'  
2025 June VHF Contest

Total Logs: 38

Club Claimed Score: 2,167,482

Call	Total			Contacts and Grids per band																10GHz	
	QSOs	Grids	Score	6M		2M		222	432	902/3		1.3GHz	2.3GHz	3.4GHz	5.7GHz						
K1TEO	718	279	325872	317	126	174	42	59	27	88	32	27	18	37	21	6	6	4	4	3	
WN3A	817	298	273564	523	194	197	51	48	26	45	24			4	3						
N3NGE	386	191	102567	177	104	106	33	35	20	35	16	8	4	10	4	8	5	3	2	3	1
K1RZ	331	154	90552	97	39	70	27	44	19	54	21	14	11	25	13	10	8	5	5	4	8
WA3DRC	363	187	89760	214	109	62	27	31	16	33	16	6	5	10	7	4	4	1	1		2
N2SCJ	432	160	79840	248	111	121	30	14	2	45	14			4	3						
WA3NUF	316	130	59280	150	60	73	24	28	13	31	15	9	5	12	6	7	4	6	3		
W3SZ	276	148	58460	182	88	28	15	18	11	14	8	6	4	9	7	4	3	6	4	5	4
N3RG	250	132	52668	109	63	48	22	25	11	27	11	8	4	18	7	1	1	7	6	4	3
WA2OMY	272	108	44172	87	37	95	29	22	10	36	15	5	2	12	5	6	4	6	4	3	2
W2KV	268	95	31920	104	40	96	32	13	3	55	20										
WB2RVX	202	84	27804	92	46	27	6	23	7	28	8	5	2	13	5	4	3	5	3	5	4
K1DS	252	99	27324	223	89	11	4	1	1	11	3			6	2						
N3ITT	236	103	25750	164	71	58	23	9	7	5	2										
N3EXA	260	91	25298	191	65	51	18	7	4	11	4										
W2SJ	221	85	24140	135	58	34	9	18	6	23	6			11	6						
K3MD	189	97	20467	107	54	63	28			16	12			3	3						
W2BVH	168	83	17928	70	39	62	20	12	7	14	8	3	3	5	4	2	2				
W3ICC/R	192	48	16848	36	11	41	7	40	7	41	7			24	6	10	4				
KA3FQS	163	64	16576	60	26	31	9	26	9	27	9	6	3	8	5	4	2	1	1		
WB3IGR	130	78	14118	38	27	51	24	17	11	14	8	4	3	6	5						
K2WB	138	56	8344	80	36	47	17	3	1	8	2										
AA2SD/R	271	34	7700	74	13	144	8	21	5	28	6			4	2						
W3CMP/R	120	55	7590	66	29	36	14			18	8										
WG3K/R	87	59	6195	52	33	22	11	7	7	3	3			1	1						
KE5NJ/R	99	45	4860	44	19	47	17	4	3	3	3			1	1					2	1
W3HMS	91	46	4554	63	29	21	10	4	4	2	2			1	1						
N2DEQ	79	33	2904	53	17	18	10	1	1	6	4			1	1						
K0BAK	64	42	2688	28	22	36	20														
W3GAD	40	27	1944	7	4	13	6	5	4	5	4	3	3	5	4	2	2				
K3WGR	54	32	1728	50	29	4	3														
KC3NDU	35	29	1363	10	9	15	13			8	6			2	1						
NN3Q	48	22	1056	48	22																
N2CG	41	17	697			41	17														
K1RZ/R	24	13	416			16	5			8	4										
NE3I	12	6	72			11	5														

\* K1DS operated in EL96  
\* Score and log count not added to the club totals

Multi-Ops			Total	Contacts and Grids per band									
Call	QSOs	Grids	Score	6M	2M	222	432	902/3	1.3GHz	2.3GHz	3.4GHz	5.7GHz	10GHz
-----													
W3CCX	1032	287	399504	547	151	238	45   70	25   104	31	33	12   20	11  10	5   6   3   4   4
Ops: KB2AYU KB3SIG KB3UWN KC3BVL N3YMS W9KXI WA3GFZ WA3RLT WA3WUL WA3YUE WX3K													
N2NT	966	287	318283	593	187	230	49   64	26   79	25				
Ops: N2NT N2NC WW2Y													



**Pack Rat QSOs and Pack Rats worked**  
**2025 June VHF Contest**  
**Number of logs 37**

Call	Oper Cat	Power Cat	Total QSOs	Total Rats	Call	Oper Cat	Power Cat	Total QSOs	Total Rats
W3CCX	MO	HIGH	241	50	W2BVH	SO	HIGH	52	21
W3ICC/R	RO	HIGH	176	15	W3CMP/R	SO	LOW	51	15
N2NT	MO	HIGH	139	41	WB3IGR	SO	LOW	50	17
K1RZ	SO	HIGH	135	24	N3ITT	SO	HIGH	46	27
N3RG	SO	LOW	135	27	K3MD	SO	LOW	38	19
WA3NUF	SO	HIGH	124	34	W3GAD	SO	HIGH	34	9
N3NGE	SO	HIGH	118	35	KE5NJ/R	RO	LOW	30	15
WA2OMY	SO	HIGH	115	31	W3HMS	SO	HIGH	28	15
WB2RVX	SO	HIGH	106	22	N2DEQ	SO	LOW	24	14
AA2SD/R	SO	LOW	103	19	K1DS	SO	LOW	21	21
KA3FQS	SO	HIGH	102	23	WG3K/R	RO	LOW	20	10
W2KV	SO	HIGH	97	30	K0BAK	SO	HIGH	12	11
WA3DRC	SO	HIGH	96	27	N2CG	SO	LOW	12	12
W2SJ	SO	HIGH	96	28	K3WGR	SO	HIGH	11	8
W3SZ	SO	HIGH	94	24	NE3I	SO	LOW	7	6
N2SCJ	SO	LOW	83	33	KC3NDU	SO	LOW	7	3
WN3A	SO	LOW	77	30	NN3Q	SO	HIGH	6	6
N3EXA	SO	HIGH	56	30	K1RZ/R	SO	LOW	1	1
K2WB	SO	LOW	52	25					

Score tabulations done by Dave W3KM

Thanks Dave

# AA2SD Rover Report



*An Early Morning Fog Sets in at Jim Thorpe on the Way to Penn's Peak FN20DV*

## **June 2025 VHF Contest Summary- AA2SD/R Roves from the Poconos Mountains to Lancaster PA**

**AA2SD/R Rover -June 16 2025** - Thanks to all that worked me from the Poconos and the ride down into Lancaster. The driving was white knuckled for two days, with constant rain, late evening fog and limited visibility in the morning. Despite the setback with travel conditions I was able to make (5) grids in total. I tested a new grid in Lancaster, located at the Linville Hill elementary school set in the picturesque Lancaster County which proved to be a great spot at FM19XX with a 700 foot elevation. The weather was a definite factor in travel time due to the constant rain and mist. I logged a total of 474 miles over the weekend including the drive home.

**Band Condition on 6 Meter with Enhanced Propagation.** The band conditions on Saturday and Sunday were excellent on 6 Meters, and I worked multiple stations from Florida with my Halo Antennas. I was able to work a number of stations on the move from the Poconos to Lancaster while using my digital recorder. The single Halo on the roof rack proved to be effective with this enhanced propagation.

**1296 Mini Looper Test with My Roof Rack** - My 1296 mini looper test proved to be a success with (4) contacts, 3 with W3CCX and 1 with N3RG on 1296. This small looper sits on my roof rack and I watch from my inside sunroof to align the antenna. I also deployed a small ELK beam 2M/440 on the rooftop, which proved to be very effective and kept me dry in the cabin during the rain. The Elk is an ultra light compact log periodic antenna with dual bands. You can learn more about Elk Antennas here <https://elkantennas.com/>



*New Dual Stack Antenna Set up with loopers and a small 2 /440 Elk Beam*

**Water Issues with Connectors Proved to be the Achilles Heel.** - The constant downpours and misting while driving created havoc with (2) antenna connectors. I had double taped these connections, but can use some advice from fellow Pack Rats on how to waterproof N connectors so that they will survive a weekend of rain and driving in the wind at 60 MPH for hours.

**Dual Stacked Halo Set Ups Proved Out** - During this trip I tested (3) sets of Dual Stack Halos from a company named Freqtester. The Dual stacked mini halos were used on 144, 440 and 222 MHz. The dual stacked halos worked well for most contacts as long as I reached higher elevations. This saved me significant time from setting up antennas at each location in the driving rain. I also worked a number of road-side contacts, and on the move contacts with the halo set ups. You can view the Freqtester site here for halos. <https://www.freqtester.com/>





*A close call with a local bridge overhead, I had to get out and check this, good thing I lowered my mobile to 11 feet from prior roves due to this concern.*

## Grids and Rove Summary

474 miles logged in 2 days (5 grids visited)

The Knob FN21hc- (5) miles north of the Pack Rats Set Up (good overlook 1711 ft elevation)

Butler Mountain Senior Living Center FN10xx (good overlook 1677 Feet elevation)

Lookout Motor Lodge FN11wa

Penns Peak Roadies FN20dv 1544 Feet

Linville Hill Elementary School FM19xx

***QSOs in Log : 163 (all phone with only 4 FT8) tota 179 includes testing before contest submitted score 7,700***



50 MHz - 74 Contacts, 144 - 36 contacts, 222 -21 contacts, 420 - 28 contacts - 1296 - 4

(includes all QSO's testing before contest start)

Rover Location	QSO	Location	Elevation in Feet
FN21	46	The Knob Overlook Mt Pocono	1711
FN20	47	Penns Peak Jim Thorpe	1544
FN10	20	Butler Mountain Overlook	1677
FM29	41	Rover Traveing from Lancaster	65
FN11	3	Lookout Motor Lodge	2
FM19	22	Linville Hill Lancaster PA	771

179

QSOs by band ( includes testing QSOs before contest start not submitted)

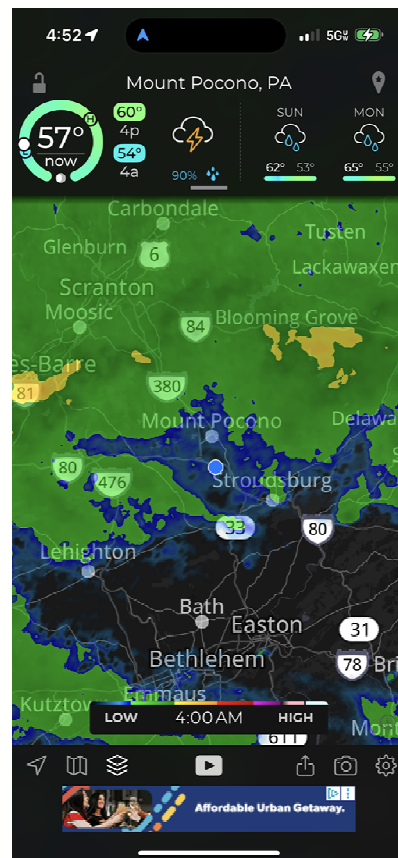
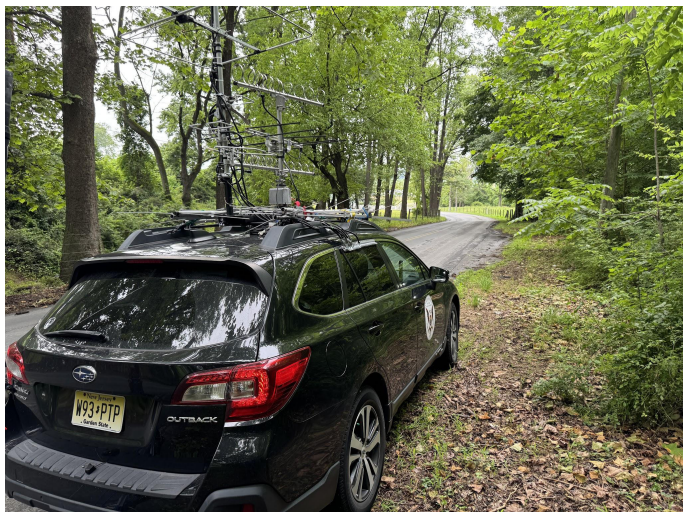
50	86	48.0%
144	39	21.8%
222	21	11.7%
420	29	16.2%
1296	4	2.2%

179

As a Rover it is a challenge to time your overlook locations and get your antennas set up in time for the contest and stay on schedule for contacts. This contest was a major challenge with weather conditions, being especially cautious with driving in mountain fog in the morning and evenings. I was pleased to still make (5) grids out of the planned (6) grids. ***A special thanks to the Pack Rats on the mountain, and to Jim KC3BVL rover coordinator, the burner phone contact and coordination was excellent with W3CCX.***

I look forward to working with you during the upcoming August 222 and Up Contest this Summer with KE5NJ from the 100 Mile Overlook in Jim Thorpe PA.

***AA2SD/R Rover Pulled over and Taking a Break in Lancaster PA***

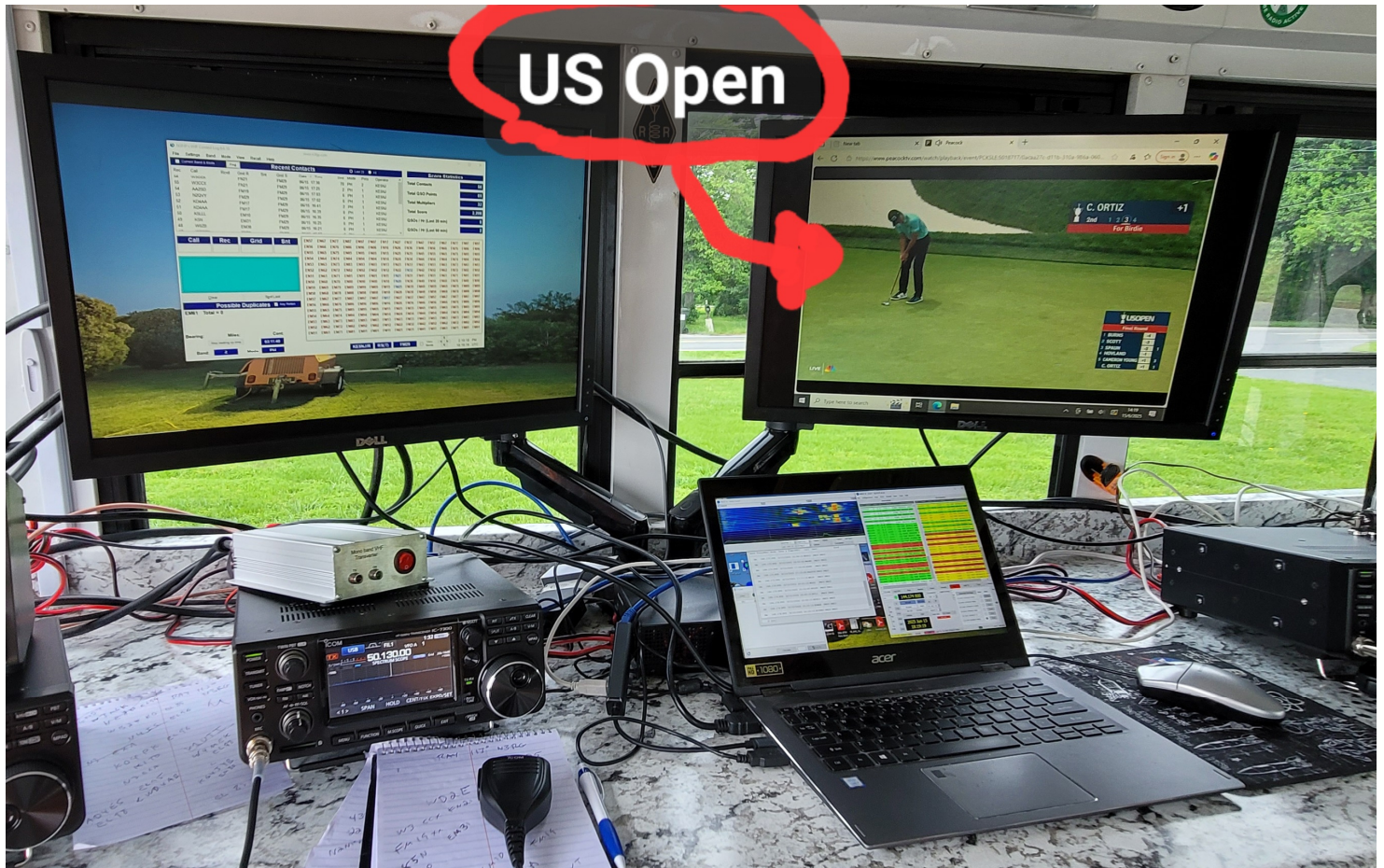


# A diversified approach to Roving

Just because I'm Roving doesn't mean I have to miss the US Open Golf Tournament. Steaming video on the bus via Starlink Mini.

Chris

KE5NJ/R





# A few Soap Box Comments from the June Contest

Here is a short Soapbox for the next Cheese Bits issue. Another will follow shortly for my Fixed operation Sunday.

I actually ROVED as K1RZ/R for my first time ever this past weekend on the Saturday return part of our trip - visiting family this past week in EPA, VT and CT (for the family reunion) in my home town. I entered the Limited Rover Class so my score would count for the Pack Rats. Ruth and I had a good time too. She logged and kept track of what Grid we were in as we Roved the I-84, I-81 and Route 15, and I-70 corridor. Activating four Grids (FN31, FN21, FN10 and FM19 - no one in the FN11 grid was still awake). I put the Maidenhead app on Ruth's phone which provided our (ten character) grid, printed a logging page off the ARRL.org site, and carried a clipboard on the trip in anticipation of a possible Rove. Plus my 50W dual band FM mobile radio and dual band Mag Mount. Used 146.52 and 446 MHz making 24 Q's and 9 Grids for 288 points! And I worked some multi-ops too that we all recognize: W3CCX, W2SZ and WE1P. It was a good time too. And the experience gave me a very basic look under-the-hood about what our K2EZ, KE5NJ, W3ICC, WG3K, AA2SD, NN3Q, K1DS and K0BAK do when they Rove. WoW!! Have I got a lot to learn.

Band	QSOs	Pts	Grd	Pt/Q
144	16	16	5	1.0
432	8	16	4	2.0
Total	24	32	9	1.3
Score :	288			

73 and thanks. Dave K1RZ/R

My score was about average for me. The opening on 6 m provided a lot of new grids but depleted the activity on the higher bands. Nonetheless I find it very exciting to hear new areas of the country open up. PECO decided that it was a good time on Sunday afternoon to pull maintenance on a circuit breaker that serves my neighborhood causing two

power outages. Fortunately we have a whole house generator but that takes about 15 seconds to come on which is plenty of time to dump the logging computer and the computer serving the SDR. Everything recovered nicely and I was able to continue contesting.

Thanks to those ops who suffered through my poor cw capabilities and gave me some needed higher band contacts.

2025 ARRL JUNE VHF CONTEST					KA3FQ FN20
SINGLE-OP		ALL HIGH		EPA Section	
		pt/ QSO			
Band	QSOs	QSO	pts	Grids	= Points
50	60	1	60	26	1560
144	31	1	31	9	279
222	26	2	52	9	468
432	27	2	54	9	486
903	6	3	18	3	54
1296	8	3	24	5	120
2304	4	4	16	2	32
3400	1	4	4	1	4
TOTALS					16576

Tom KA3FQS

# Microwave Group Southern Florida



From L to R: lower Eloy W3ERP, Fabio AC2AC, standing Rick K1DS, Armando K9AJE, Nick NN3Y, David KP4EOR, Buddy WB4OMG, Raul W4AWI and JC N4IS

Raul W4AWI invited the Southern Florida microwave enthusiasts to his Antenna World factory and warehouse in Doral, Florida for a tour and to pick up a few goodies. [www.antennaworld.com](http://www.antennaworld.com). Most of us have capabilities on bands through 1296, some of us operate EME, and a few have capabilities through 10GHz. We picked Tuesday morning, June 10<sup>th</sup>, for the visit and Raul took us in two groups through the warehouse, test area, anechoic chamber, design and construction room, showcase corner, attic storage, and what I call the curiosity center. His business imports various antenna parts, manufactures others, and tests and assembles them into custom designed applications for all sorts of governmental, military, marine, school and commercial applications.

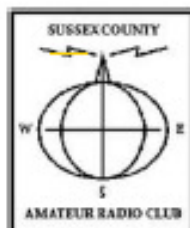
His curiosity area has several examples of Vivaldi antennas that have been used in different microwave applications, including some from vintage aircraft. He also has full-sized horns for most frequencies from 1GHz and up, and unique “dipole” of a pair of conical horns mounted back-to-back. There were many surplus log-periodic etched circuit board antennas like the one you see in the picture, with credit to Kent Britain WA5VJB. These are incorporated into his broad-band single polarization feeds from 600MHz-6GHz, while the Vivaldi designed feeds are dual polarized H & V for higher frequencies. I purchased a single pol feed for a dish I intend to erect at the Boca Raton club station and use for 902, 2304, 3400 and 5760.

C U on the air. 73, Rick K1DS



# 46th ANNUAL SCARC HAMFEST SUSSEX COUNTY ARC

## Sunday July 13, 2025



Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Fairgrounds

Acres of outdoor tailgate space  
and 10,000 sq. ft. of indoor space.

Food, Door Prizes and Ample Parking too!

Gates open at 6:00 am for sellers and 8:00 am for buyers.



Approved

## BUY - SELL - TRADE! Starts 8:00 AM

### Door Prizes

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-891 HF/50MHz all mode
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Yaesu FTM-150 RASP 144/440MHz
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-3165 65W 144MHz
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-2980 80W 144MHz

### WRITE NOW ... RIGHT NOW!

Don't Wait ... get information and advance registration now.  
WRITE TO: Brian Brunsch KC2YON  
PO BOX 312 AUGUSTA, NJ 07822  
Phone: 973-862-8124 - Email: hamfest@scarcnj.org



### Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Fairgrounds

37 Plains Road, Augusta, NJ 07822

Lat. / Long: 41° 08' 10.2" x 74° 43' 01.9"

(decimal 41.136200 x -74.717233)

**NO PETS permitted on Fairground Property.**

**Absolutely NO Food or Drink sales are permitted.**

**Sellers must leave spaces clean.**

- Admission
- Indoor Tables
- Tailgate Space \$ includes One Admission
- Each Additional person
- No electricity outdoors.
- Bring your own table and chair.
- Saturday Setup after 6PM
- Overnight camping fees: RV / Others

**Talk-In is 147.30 (+) PL 151.4**

**For Hamfest information and reservations please contact**

Hamfest@scarcnj.org

www.sussexhamfest.org

www.facebook.com/scarcnj

Phone: 973-862-8124



## 57th Annual Central States VHF Society Conference



On behalf of the Central States VHF society and my conference team, I would like to invite all VHF/UHF and Microwave enthusiasts and their families to attend our 57th annual conference in Lincoln, NE. The conference will be held at the Country Inn and Suites on the weekend of July 24th – 27th, 2025.

The conference weekend will begin with our traditional Thursday night Social followed by our hospitality suite.

Friday's events kick off with our antenna and equipment testing session, vendor display and "Rover/Dish Row" There will also be a day trip planned for the non-ham family members. The conference begins during the in house luncheon and talk by a guest speaker Afterwards the technical presentations will begin and will feature well known VHF and above community members. They will present their proceedings papers addressing today's various aspects of the hobby. When the presentations end for the day, its dinner on your own with friends out on the town or within the hotel restaurant. Make sure to be back in time for our Friday night swap-fest and social gathering to end the evening.

Saturday begins early and is an all day event of presentations, a luncheon, and family programming that ends with our annual society business meeting. For the conference finale you will want to attend our banquet with an entertaining guest speaker for all. The banquet will include our awards program and a door prize extravaganza that is always one of the best that popular Amateur Radio vendors can provide.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra Estevez". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sandra Estevez, K4SME  
President, Central States VHF Society





Country Inn & Suites by Radisson,  
Lincoln North Hotel and Conference  
Center, NE 5353 N 27th Street, Lincoln,  
NE 68521

**July 24 through 27, 2025**

Reservations are now open!

Our contracted rate for Thursday thru Friday is \$124+ tax and includes breakfast. Both King beds and Two Double Beds rooms are available. Rate for Wednesday 23rd and Sunday 27th is \$104.00 + tax.

When you use the link information provided and you know you have two or more people in your room desiring breakfast, then look for the "1 Room 1 Guest" box and click on that to edit to the correct number of people.

One other point of which to be aware, when you use the link it defaults to a 5-day reservation starting on Wednesday night. If you know you want OTHER THAN that, (like a 3-night stay) make a point to edit the reservation before you submit it. Note that the reflected per nite rate will show an average rate which might be less than the contracted \$124.00.

If you have any difficulties with the online registration and are not able to resolve it with a call to the hotel at 402-476-5353, contact CSVHFS staff at [registration@csvhfs.org](mailto:registration@csvhfs.org) and we will do what we can to assist.

The hotel reservation link below takes you to "Choice Hotels" (which the Country Inn and Suites is part of).

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/AE83V6>

Our contracted block of rooms is only guaranteed through Monday June 20th, 2025. Go ahead and make your reservations to ensure you have lodging at the conference hotel. If you have to cancel, consider contacting [registration@csvhfs.org](mailto:registration@csvhfs.org) to see if we can hand off your room to someone desiring a room if our block is full or closed.

#### Hotel Menities:

- Free, Hot Breakfast
- Free Wi-Fi
- Complimentary LNK Airport Shuttle, Available Weekdays
- Indoor Pool and Outdoor Hot Tub
- Fitness Center – Open 24/7
- 24-Hour Business Center

Northeast HamXposition &  
New England Division Convention  
[www.HamX.org](http://www.HamX.org)

**HamX**  
August 21-24, 2025





## HamX - The Northeast HamXposition

August 21 - 24, 2025  
ARRL New England Division Convention

*The Northeast's largest gathering of radio amateurs, featuring in-person experts presenting on timely topics, trends and technologies*



Thursday Night Comedy Kick-Off	Friday Night DX/Contest Banquet 	Convention Keynote Address	Saturday Grand Banquet Presentation
 Featuring Comedian Justin McKinney Thursday, August 21, 2025	 Featuring Ned Stearns, AA7A Friday, August 22, 2025	 Featuring Thomas Witherspoon, K4SWL Saturday Morning, August 23, 2025	 Featuring Nathaniel A. Frissell, W2NAF Saturday Evening, August 23, 2025

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**August 21 - 24, 2025 • Boston-Marlborough MA • [hamx.org](http://hamx.org)**

## Regularly Scheduled On The Air Events

**VHF/UHF Monday** - Every Monday except holidays and contest nights the following nets are held, 224.58 MHz FM Repeater at 6:45, Packrat Talk Group DMR net at 7:00 PM, 50.150 MHz USB NCS N3RG FM29ki at 7:30 PM, 144.245 MHz USB NCS W2KV FN20os at 8:00 PM, 222.125 MHz USB NCS KC3BVL FM29jw at 8:30 PM, 432.110 USB NCS WB2RVX FM29mt at 9:00 PM.

**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 .

**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.

**KC3BVL UHF+ Wednesday Net**—Packrat, Jim KC3BVL conducts a Wednesday 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



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## Editor's Notes

Thank you for the submissions to this edition of Cheese Bits, it is your newsletter and your contributions make it. Please send your submissions to the Cheese Bits email address shown on page two. Sending them to my personnel email results in things getting lost and me spending a lot of time scouring various accounts trying to find things. I am sure that there were some contest summaries that I received but now cant find. Also please do not send files as .pdf's as it makes them more difficult to place in the newsletter and Melanie and I can't correct misspellings and typos. Speaking of Melanie, a big thanks goes out to her for proofreading each edition.

Tom KA3FQS

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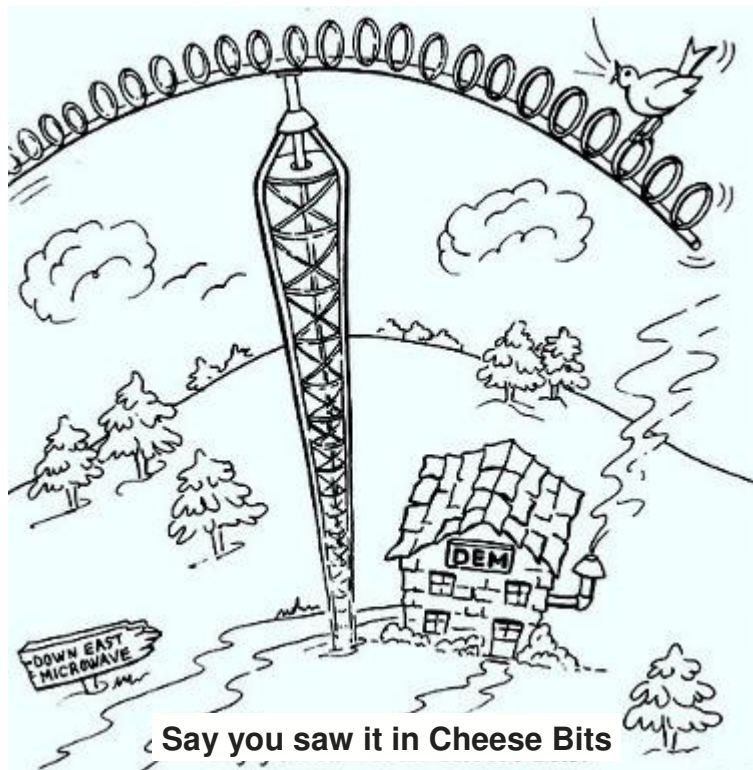
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