



# CHEESE BITS

**W3CCX**  
CLUB MEMORIAL CALL

ARRL  
Affiliated  
Club



Volume LXVI

June 2023

Number 6

## PREZ SEZ:

Why June Is My Favorite  
Ham Month  
June 2023

Why would I choose June as  
my favorite ham month?

During June, the ARRL hosts both the ARRL June VHF Contest and ARRL Field Day. The June VHF Contest is scheduled on the second full weekend in June (June 10-12, 2023 this year). Field Day is scheduled on the fourth full weekend in June (June 24-25, 2023 this year).

Why are these two ARRL-organized events among my favorites? The tradition for myself and my immediate ham friends is that we participate in these two activities as small groups of local hams. I enjoy group ham activities over solo efforts. I especially appreciate Field Day. Hams are granted use of a significant portion of the radio spectrum in recognition of the public service and emergency service role of hams. Field Day is a public affirmation of this ham responsibility.

I started my Field Day participation in Pennsylvania with the Warminster Amateur Radio Club (WARC) at the 40 meter station at the WARC site in Doylestown. 40 meters remains one of my favorite amateur radio bands. Subsequently, some of my Packrat and other VHF/UHF ham friends thought that we should

set-up a VHF station. Thus "Team VHF" was born. A feature of the Field Day rules is that VHF/UHF transmitters are not used in determining the class of a Field Day site, but the contacts made using the VHF/UHF equipment counts towards the club score.

One year, WARC did not operate a Field Day site, so I operated Saturday at the South Jersey Radio Association (SJRA) site and Sunday from the Phil-Mont Radio Club site in Fort Washington. Last year, Jim KC3BVL was invited by Phil-Mont to captain the 6 meter station so I volunteered to help him and supply any items that were overlooked. This year, I will captain the Phil-Mont 6 meter station.

When we operated both 6 meters and 2 meters from the WARC Doylestown site, we found that very few QSOs were made on 2 meters. Last year, Jim and I operated part of the Field Day exercise using FT8. I suspected that in a real emergency, the operating modes would be SSB and CW because FT8 currently does not allow more than the exchange of the items needed to record a QSO.

When Team VHF started, we had the use of Joe WA3SRU's RV. When the RV was no longer available, I purchased a Coleman Prairie Breeze 10 by 12 foot tent. One of the best features of this tent is that it is tall enough for 6 foot tall

Packrats **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-at-gmail.com](mailto:bobw2sj-at-gmail.com)

**EDITOR:**

Lenny Winfield W2BVH 709 Lincoln Av., Cranford NJ 07016 (908)-272-0559 [lennyw-at-comcast.net](mailto:lennyw-at-comcast.net)

**TRUSTEE OF CLUB CALL - W3CCX**

Mike Gullo WB2RVX (609)-743-6643 [MGullo3-at-comcast.net](mailto:MGullo3-at-comcast.net)

**W3CCX QSL CARDS:**

Bill Shaw K3EGE

**PACKRAT 222 MHz REPEATER - W3CCX/R**

222.98/224.58 MHz (PL 136.5) Hilltown, PA

**OFFICERS 2019-2020**

PRESIDENT KB1JEY Michael Davis [president-at-packratvhf.com](mailto:president-at-packratvhf.com)  
VICE PRES: N2DEQ Mike Andrayo [vicepresident-at-packratvhf.com](mailto:vicepresident-at-packratvhf.com)  
CORR. SEC: WA3EHD Jim Antonacci [correspondence-at-packratvhf.com](mailto:correspondence-at-packratvhf.com)  
REC SEC: KA3WXV George Altemus [secretary-at-packratvhf.com](mailto:secretary-at-packratvhf.com)  
TREAS: W3KM Dave Mascaro

**DIRECTORS:**

K3JJZ El Weisman  
WA3YUE Bruce Loss  
KB3MTW Michelle London  
KC3BVL Jim Huebotter  
Honorary Director Bob Fischer W2SJ

**COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

January Contest OPEN  
June Contest 2020: OPEN  
June Contest Technical Chair Phil K3TUF [phil-at-k3tuf.com](mailto:phil-at-k3tuf.com)  
VHF / MUD Conference: Phil K3TUF / George KA3WXV  
Awards Chairman OPEN  
Quartermaster: Bert K3IUV [bsoltoff-at-comcast.net](mailto:bsoltoff-at-comcast.net)  
Membership Chairman: Michael KB1JEY [kb1jey-at-arrl.net](mailto:kb1jey-at-arrl.net)

**PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B**

144.300 (FN21be), 222.300 (FN20tk), 432.300(FN20tk), 903.300 (FN21be), 1296.300 (FN20dh), **2304.300** (FN20dh—under repair), **3456.300**, **5760.3** (FN21be under repair), 10,368.017 (FM29jw) **Note: red = temporarily off the air**; see <https://www.packratvhf.com/index.php/on-air> for details)

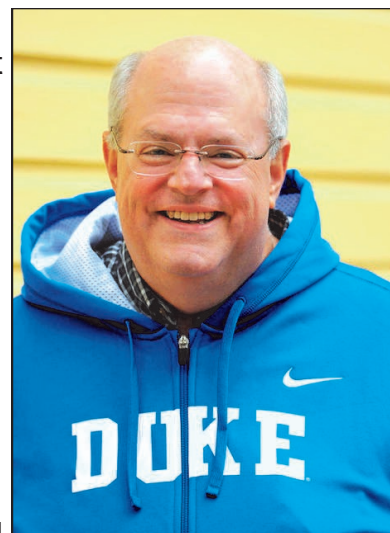
**MONDAY / TUESDAY NIGHT NETS**

**VHF/UHF Monday:**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
7:00 PM	224.58R MHz	WR3P FN20kb Ralph
7:30 PM	50.150 MHz	N3RG FM29ki Ray
8:00 PM	144.150 MHz	K3GNC FN20ja Jerome
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)

people to stand up straight. I have spent the night in the tent, using a combination of sleeping bag and cot. However, I do like my creature comforts. When operating Field Day, my custom is to return home at night and sleep in my own bed. When operating at the W3CCX Packrat site on Camelback Mountain, my custom is to retire to one of the adjacent hotels or motels.



My major contribution to the W3CCX operation? On Sunday morning, I use my slow-cooker to prepare a casserole of scrambled eggs, hash browns, cheese, and bacon. I am also the official “gopher”. Something is always forgotten. I drive back to pick up the item. One memorable trip was to drive up poorly marked roads at night to the QTH of Phil K3TUF. A couple of years ago, I drove to Harbor Freight and Lowes to pick up a well booster pump and fittings so we would have running water.

Field Day and the June VHF contest are best in the company of other hams. I hope that you will join me or visit another Field Day site, and W3CCX on Camelback.

**Michael KB1JEY**

DMM Check

# MAY (ZOOM) MEETING PICTURES



## 2023 JUNE VHF CONTEST Let's Have Some Fun!

W3CCX on Camelback, generally uses the following frequencies:

50.159\* (or 50.133\*)

144.187\*

222.105\*

432.105\*

\* +/- QRM, etc.

## Contact Band Captains

Six Meters - Ray N3RG - (609)828-1330

Two Meters - Al KB3SIG - (484)502-6381

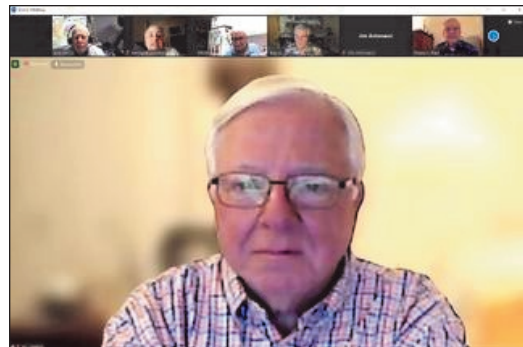
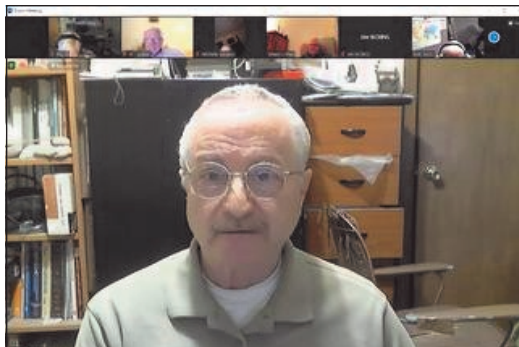
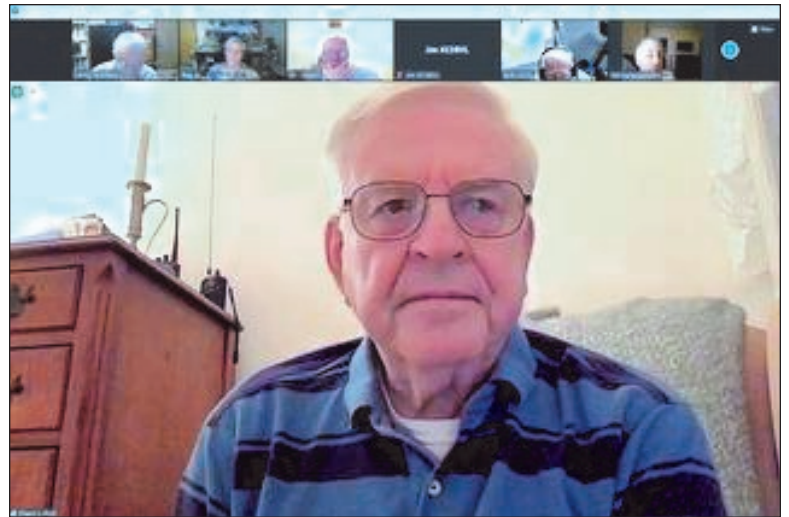
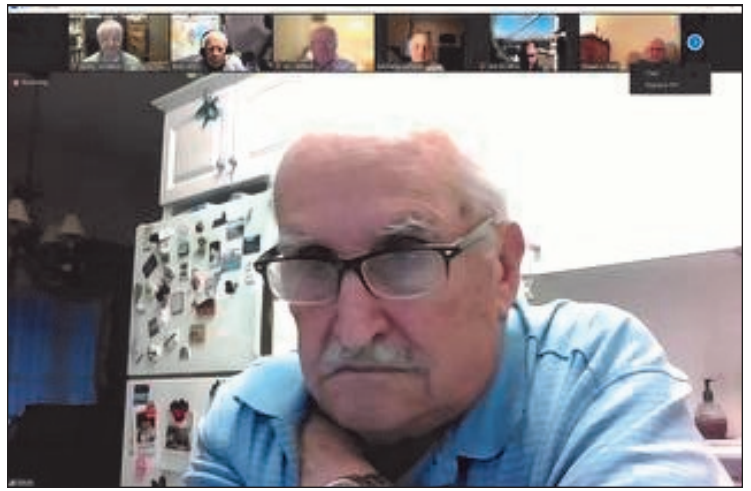
222/432 - Al KB2AYU - (856)285-9164

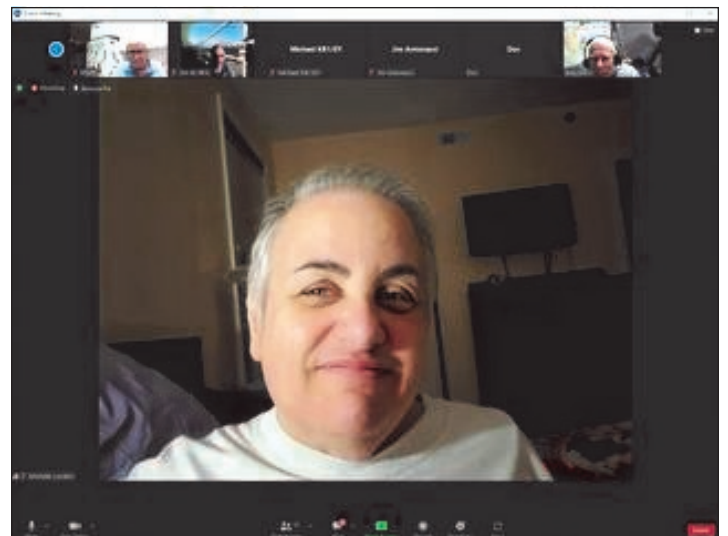
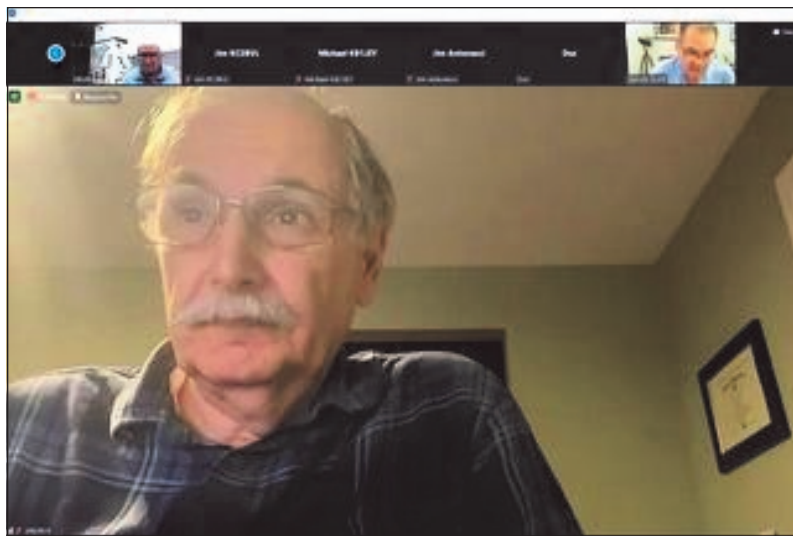
Microwaves - Bob - W2SJ - (609)440-2916

**DON'T FORGET - WORK W3CCX FN21HB  
ON EVERY POSSIBLE BAND !**

**BRING YOUR HEAD SETS AND ADAPTERS**









# SOME PICTURES FROM HAMVENTION

Sent to Cheese Bits by Ray N3RG who got them from Cornell KO4YC



## *K0BAK Rover Van Updates (Some sad news)*

As reported previously, workers at the garage where I keep my former-TV-production rover van unplugged the charger, dropping my station batteries to <9v, and more recently moved the van without opening the garage door high enough. Today I discovered the mast hit completely broke my rotator mast clamps. Don't know whether I can save the batteries (2x200Ah AGM) or if there is additional damage from the mast hit. This was going to be the first year where I could operate in the major contests with a pretty good 4-band rover (30ft mast, 10 ft yagis, medium power) without some compromise. After 6 years of building and some dead ends, it had every feature I hoped for when I bought it. (Except microwaves, which was going to be the next step).

It's so deflating to have to spend a bunch of time again just getting back to even. If I can't bring the batteries back or if I have to replace the whole rotator (not just clamps), I don't think I have the stomach to keep the rusting 21-year-old vehicle on the road. Wish me luck.



Update: Over a period of 6 days where each battery had 4 many-hour sessions on a new high-current charger, the two station batteries appear to be holding charge at normal voltage. Until they're used in a contest with my amplifiers, I won't know how long they'll be usable, but at least they're not totally dead. The rotator appeared to operate without a load. I have started to rebuild the top of mast with new clamps and the old antenna setup with a goal of getting on Packrats nets June 5.

Further update: Subsequent to this report Pete has put the rover van up for sale with all equipment minus the rf items. —W2BVH

# Hands-on Report on the New IC-905 Rig

From the 10 GHz and up reflector 5/23/2023

Just back from Dayton (Xenia), nice to see everyone that stopped by. I received my IC-905 on the 13<sup>th</sup> but no 10GHz module. After checking with DX Engineering, they got one in late on Tuesday so Wednesday on our way to Dayton, we made a 2hr detour to pick it up.

I took a Yaesu G450 rotor and one of our .6cm dishes with dual band feed so we were anxious to hook it up and test. I've also been working with the GREAT folks from N1MM to get it added to their radio list ( it should be released in the coming days). After getting it assembled on the mast, the first contact was with W8BYA in EN71, just over 100 miles away !!

When I first got the unit, I was very disappointed that ICOM did not give a GPS antenna and I had to dig out one of my many "hockey puck" antennas but a kind gentleman from ICOM stopped by and pointed out the GPS antenna was in the parts bag. It's maybe  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" long and about  $\frac{3}{8}$ " in diameter!! I haven't tried it yet but my hockey puck worked fine. The rig was VERY stable and K1RZ carried on a lengthy SSB QSO and never touched the dial.

I'm VERY impressed with the mechanical details. Both remote units are very solid die-cast aluminum and the covers have built in gaskets to keep water out. The mounting brackets are about the best I've ever seen, looks like  $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick stainless steel with many slots and holes for just about any kind of mounting you can imagine. Best of all, you mount the brackets on the mast, start the screws in the modules and they slip into slots on the bracket so mounting them on a tower should present no issues.

I grabbed some SMA cables that were too long (extra loss) but I didn't have time to make others. I'm not wild about SMA's for the RF connections, they are NOT weather proof and SMA's can snap off if you are not careful so make sure you support whatever cables you use (more on this later) and be sure to seal up the connections good. The rig comes with about a 16ish foot CAT5E cable to go between the radio and the remote head and a multi pin cable that goes between the remote head and the 10GHz module. The included cable has a large ferrite on it and a rubber gasket and nut to make the RJ45 connection waterproof. Problem is, how many of us would only put the RF unit 16 feet or so up?? They offer 64ft and 164ft cables which hopefully come with the same gasket and locking nut. I plan to get Shielded CAT6E cable which has 23 gauge wire instead of the normal smaller wire to keep the voltage drop to minimum and make my own cable. ICOM does provide an "accessory" plug which is the same as the cable that goes between the remote unit and the 10GHz transverter, it has ground, PTT and ALC on it according to the manual but there has to be other voltage to run the 10GHz unit when it's connected, I will test this later.

I tested the power output on 2m, 70cm and 23cm, I couldn't test the other bands as my microwave power meter was not available but I'll do that this coming weekend. 2m and 70cm easily did 12.5W and 23cm was right at 10w. Interestingly, the rig uses a NXP AFT05MS031NR1 for 2m and 70cm which is an LDMOS device rated at 30W. On 23cm they use a Ampleon BLP15M9S30 which is also capable of 30w. I assume they limit the power output due to cooling and higher current requirements since it all runs off Ethernet POE+. I couldn't see what devices they are using on 13cm and 6cm, the shielding was all soldered.

The other VERY interesting thing is it "appears" that the communication from the base unit to the remote RF unit is Ethernet. The RJ45 cable that connects the two goes right in to a VP6159M 1000 BASE-T LAN Magnetics device. If this is true, then you are limited to 100m in length which is an Ethernet standard but it also makes one wonder if you could directly remote the unit over the internet with the



IC0905 cont'd...

proper port forwarding set up on your routers – more to test later.

This weekend, once I get to my lab, I'm going to check sensitivity and power output on the upper bands and test stability. Several folks asked if it was the same as the IC-9700 with respect to the GPS. I do not know for sure but it appears to be a GPSDO as it does work as soon as it's powered on even before the GPS sync's but I'll test that later. I'm also going to test several cables to see what kind of real world loss each has in the lengths needed to go from a dual band feed to the RF units.

While the price tag is steep at \$4500 for the entire unit with the 10GHz module, it may be right for you or it may not. If you buy the transverters, IF rig, all the SMA relays for rx and tx and the multi-position SMA relay for IF switching, add in a remote power supply and lots of interconnect cables, time and cussing getting everything going you can probably save \$1000. I've easily built 20 or more remote boxes with 902MHz through 47GHz in them and it's the little things that always get you. For someone that doesn't have the time, patience, test equipment or the know-how, it's a good way to get on the microwave bands.

73, Terry – W8ZN

"Not-ham-related-but-nevertheless-interesting department":

Here is a YouTube video of a lathe tool making a shearing cut in a block of aluminum. Such video's are all over the place on YouTube. What makes this one interesting is it's done under very high magnification in an electron microscope. You can actually see the material shearing away under the pressure of the very sharp wedge of the cutting tool. This is what happens with drill bits, endmills, face mills, hacksaws, chisels, planes etc. etc. Check it out at [https://youtu.be/aF7ltBT\\_atA](https://youtu.be/aF7ltBT_atA)

—W2BVH

The Central States VHF Society invites you to attend our 55th annual conference in Little Rock, Arkansas July 27-29, 2023.

Beginning in 1965 as an informal get-together, the first formal conference was held in 1967 and has grown to one of the most notable and respected VHF conferences in the United States.

Formal events begin Thursday evening with a social gathering. Friday morning will offer a range for 50 through 10 GHz antenna measurements, a noise figure workshop for preamps & transverters, a "Rover Row" display of VHF rover stations and a "Microwave Dish Row" display. Technical presentations begin at noon Friday and continue through Saturday afternoon. A Friday evening swapfest and Saturday evening banquet round out the conference activities.

A ladies/family luncheon has been organized for Friday.

Registration is now open. Details can be found at <http://2023.csvhfs.org/>

73 Joel W5ZN

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

Nibbles from June 1973. Vol. XV Nr 6 de  
K3IUUV Bert  
(*author's comments in italics*)

**“Our Prez Sez”**. Prez Walt, **K3BPP** reminded members to work the club station at Hilltown, during the upcoming June contest (*Still a valid comment today!*) He also recommended a visit to the site “to see what a 2304 station looks like, and to work DX on 432.” He noted that we had “28 visitors to last month’s **ARRL** night meeting.” (*I wish we could do that well today.*) He also noted that the club won first place in the World-Wide VHF Activity contest sponsored by the Itchycoo Park VHF group. (*Yes, that was a real name!*)

**Calendar**. June 9-10, the QSO party at Hilltown. Tony **K1SFF/3** (now **W3HMU**) is the chairman. He reports that we will have a telephone for “health and welfare use.” (*No cell phones then. We paid Bell Telephone to install a phone for the weekend.*) June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be elections, and NASA night with special speakers and displays. July 18, club auction at the QTH of Dave, **W3ZD** (*another club tradition*). August 12<sup>th</sup>, Packrat Picnic at Fort Washington State Park (*another tradition, now downsized and held at member’s property*). And then on August 15<sup>th</sup>, another outdoor meeting at the QTH of **K3IUUV**, Bert (*that’s me*), with movies and refreshments for a social evening.

## **New Products of Interest to Hams.**

**W3NSI**, Lynn’s always interesting article offered up the following new items: 1)

Two high power Varactor Triplers from Spectrum International were announced. The MW432 will take 20 watts in at 144, and produce 12 watts at 432. The MW1296 takes 12 watts of 432 rf and converts it to 5-watts at 1296. Priced at \$69.95 and \$79.95 respectively. 2) SBE Linear Systems announced the SB-50, an SSB transmitter / receiver that operates from 50.050 to 50.280. The unit produces 20 watts peak on SSB. Price is TBA. 3) Midland released the model 13-520 2-meter FM rig. 6-channels, 2-watt output. Price is \$230.

**VHF Report**. Joe, **W2EIF** noted that another good aurora occurred on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Our new member Bill Olson, **K1JDY/3** was working CW and “knocked off quite a few dx contacts including **W8YIO** in Michigan for a new state.” (*Are you reading this, Bill?*) 220 activity has dropped off a bit, with the only active station heard consistently is Pete, **K1PXE** (*there’s a familiar call!*). He notes that “Bert, **K3IUUV** checked out his own and **W2EIF**’s 1296 MHz preamps using a Japanese 25C1336 transistor and both worked extremely well on the 1<sup>st</sup> try.” He has been seeing increased activity on 2300 with one of the activity leaders being Doug, **WA2LTM** (*another long-time friend of the Packrats.*)

## **1296 MHz Delaware Expedition.**

**W3CCX/3** was set up and operated from the highest point in Delaware, on May 19. The location was the 100’ Wilmington, Delaware repeater tower. Tony, **K1SFF/3**, together with **K1JDY/3**, **WA2LTM** and **WA3NGK** assembled the station to give out 1296 contacts. They worked 11 contacts, in 5 states.



Stations worked included **K2UYH**, **K3BPP**, **K3IUUV**, **K1PXE** and **K4QIF**. A good time was had by all.

**Membership.** We had 28 visitors at the last meeting, including future member Rich, **K3ACR**, Marsha, **WA3TEM** (daughter of Harry, W3CL) and Helen, XYL of **W3SAO** (*affectionately known as "Mother Rat" in honor of her starting Cheese Bits*).

**Dayton Hamvention.** A lengthy report on the Dayton Hamvention was authored by Marsha, **WA3TEM**. She described many interesting things about the activities she saw there. The huge flea market area, many lectures, a hidden transmitter hunt in operation, and many well-known hams in attendance. There were 6100 people registered! She attended the banquet with approximately 600 people. An interesting anecdote on her flight home: She carried a TR22 rig. When the flight landed in Pittsburgh for a crew change, she asked the new pilot if she could operate her rig as they approached the Philadelphia area. He "reluctantly agreed," and she proceeded to make several interesting contacts as they flew back to Philly. (*Can you imagine that happening in today's world?*) Many more details are in her article, if you'd like to read it.

**Photos.** This issue was one of the early ones that included photos. Seen in some of the candid shots (*taken at ARRL night*) were Bill Olson, **K1JDY/3**, Harry Brown, **WA3NGK** (later **W3IIT**), and charter member Frankie, **W3SAO**.

**Rochester Hamfest.** Dave, **W3ZD** attended this Hamfest on May 12, and provided a detailed report of the activities. He noted

that 4 other Packrats made the journey to Rochester. Wayne Green, **W3NSD** gave a talk on repeaters, Ed Tilton (Mr. VHF), **W1HDQ** spoke on antennas, and several other well-known Hams presented papers. Flea market offerings were "mind-boggling"! He also described the negative reaction of many attendees at the banquet to the talk by the FCC representative A. Prose Walker. Incentive licensing was a hot topic at that time, and many Hams were very concerned with the FCC actions. (Dave also included a separate article commenting in depth on the issue – interesting reading.)

**Swap Shoppe. By W3ZRR.** (*Always nostalgia. Now we use the club reflector.* A 6-meter, 8-element antenna for \$20, a 2-meter, 8-element Telrex for \$9 and a 220 MHz, 16-element Cushcraft Colinear (*the antenna of choice at that time*) for \$5. All from Will, **WB2OAD**. From Tom, **W3GUC**, a Motorola T51 mobile rig with crystal oven and crystals for simplex and repeater use. Includes all cabling, relays and "disguise" antenna. Asking \$65.

**Electronic Exchange Ad.** An interesting new, full-page ad was included from Electronic Exchange. This was a new store located in North Wales, PA. They listed a large number of new and used items for sale, with prices that seem reasonable. The list included receivers, transmitters, test equipment and a lot of miscellaneous electronic gear.

**Ads.** *The June 73 issue included the half page back cover ad from club member Ham Buerger. (A HAM-M rotor for \$109.95! And a phone patch - remember them - for \$14.95.)* The

usual 23 *business card ads* were included in this issue. I note the current *Cheese Bits Ad complement* includes only 4 small ads, a 1/4 page from *Beko* and a 1/2 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. (7 double sided, 8-1/2 x 11" sheets). (Don't forget, current postage went to 63-cents on January 1st {maybe to 66-cents in July – not yet approved}, and a penny postcard now costs 48-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](http://www.W3CCX.COM)) and read the full issue scanned by **K3IUV** (me), and posted on the website by **WS3O**, 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 yes, you might let me know. Thanks to those that did.

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



This may be a good time to share the following information with everyone regarding the **W3CCX** operation for the June contest...

This year all the stations will be under one roof as well as a coordinator's position making it much easier to set up schedules.

We'll have stations on the following bands with power, decent antennas, and coordination making it much easier to set up schedules to run the bands.

**Look for W3CCX in FN21HB on the following bands**

- Six meters 50.133\*
- Two meters 144.195\*
- 222/432 222.110\* 432.110\*
- Microwaves .080\* up to 10 GHz
- \* ± QRM, etc.

Contact us during the contest to setup schedules:

- Co-ordinators:
- Bill K3EGE... (484)614-1505
- Jim KC3BVL... (267)800-5108 (microwaves)
- Bob W2SJ..... (609)440-2916

also look for **W3CCX-Bill** on the **ON4KST 144/432** Region 2 chat page. **LOOK FOR W3CCX FN21HB**

de  
**N3RG Ray**





# W2DRZ Controllers, Products for the VHF Operator

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 [Overview](#) page. These are assembled and tested. For readers of Cheese Bits, the price is \$199 (mention the Cheese bits ad when ordering).

- 1.The LCD-1 display unit. This is a nice backlit LCD that shows hardware and firmware version details on startup, and then shows current antenna position.
- 2.The ENC-1 enclosure. This is a nice box to hold the CT-2 controller and the LCD display unit. See the picture above, showing the box, LCD, and controller, with the box top off.
- 3.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.
- 4.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.)
- 5.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 \$25 each.

For all products, see the [Products](#) page for prices and shipping.

**To Order, send email to [k2txb@comcast.net](mailto:k2txb@comcast.net), or call 856-866-6611**

# Events

**For inclusion, please direct event notices to the editor.**

**(For contests, see Ray's "2023 VHF and Up Contests.pdf" document at the "Contest Info" tab on the club web site. Many repeated here for convenience)**

**ARRL June VHF Contest**— June 10-12, 2023. See <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf> for details.

**Firecracker - Hamfest** - July 1, 2023. Sponsored by HRAC. Harrisburg PA. Details at: <http://www.w3uu.org/firecracker/> .

**Murgas Hamfest** — July 2, 2023. Plains PA. See <http://murgasarc.org> for details.

**CQWW VHF Contest**— July 15 1800Z - July 16, 2023 2100Z. Details to follow.

**Sussex County (NJ) Hamfest** - July 16, 2023. See <http://scarcnj.org> for details.

**North American Meteor Scatter Sprint - Contest** - August 2023. Details will be found at <https://kv5w.com/na-meteor-scatter-sprint-digital-rules/-digital-rules/>

**ARRL 222 UP Distance Contest**— August 5-6 2023. Details to follow.

**ARRL EME 2.3 GHz & Up Contest** — August 12-13, 2023. Details to follow.

**ARRL 10 GHz & Up (Round 1) Contest**— August 19-20, 2023. Details to follow.

## **Fall VHF Sprints**

**ARRL September VHF Contest** -- September 9-11, 2023. Details to follow.

**ARRL 10 GHz & Up (Round 2) Contest**— September 16-17, 2023. Details to follow.

**ARRL EME 50 MHz to 1296 MHz Contest** — October 28-29, 2023. Details to follow.

## **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+ Wednesday Net**

Packrat, Jim KC3BVL conducts a Wednesday night net with schedule as follows: 7:30PM—903.100, 8:00PM—2304.100, 8:30PM— 432.160, 9:00PM—1296.100

## **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

**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 2023. They're correct for our location in the Northeast. <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/meteor-shower/list.html>

## **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



## Bob Fischer

Uber / Lyft Services  
Serving the Tri-State Area From  
Mullica Hill, New Jersey  
bobw2sj@gmail.com

609 440 2916

Please call, text, or email

Uber promo code ROBERTF1107UE

Lyft promo code FISCHER8865



## G AND G ELECTRONICS OF MARYLAND

JEFF GOLDMAN, K3DUA

PO Box 222  
Lisbon, MD 21765-0222  
EMAIL: k3dua.jeff@gmail.com

(301)258-7373

## 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

## 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



## PLEASE SEND IN 2023 DUES

Club dues are due as of Jan 1st, 2023. Go to  
[https://www.qsl.net/w3km/MtAiryRC\\_Dues.htm](https://www.qsl.net/w3km/MtAiryRC_Dues.htm) and  
use the "check here" link to see if you already paid.  
If not, enter your callsign and click on "PayPal"

**AS OF 6/5/23 9 DUES REMAIN UNPAID !**

Dave **W3KM**

## BEKO ELEKTRONIK

World Class Solid State High  
Power Amplifiers for EME, Meteor  
Scatter, WSJT, FT8, Contest with  
Integrated Power Supplies



Instant ON • Built-In Preamp Sequencer • Overdrive ... Temp. & VSWR Protected

144-148 MHz	430-440 MHz	1270-1300 MHz	70-440 MHz
HLV-1000* 3,100	HLV-550* 2,900	HLV-350* 3,200	All models also avail- able as LPD version with 1 mW P <sub>in</sub> for SDRs
HLV-1400* 4,300	HLV-770* 3,150	HLV-800* 4,950	
HLV-2000* 5,250	HLV-1470* 4,580		

\*P<sub>out</sub> in Watts • WSJT Full Output Rated • 220 MHz and 70 MHz models on request

### Island Amplifier USA

Alpha Service, Panel & Parts

Made in Bavaria/Germany

For BEKO-Elektronik Amplifiers in other areas

☎ 714-412-7399 • <https://islandamplifier.com>  
Sales/Service: USA • Canada • S. America

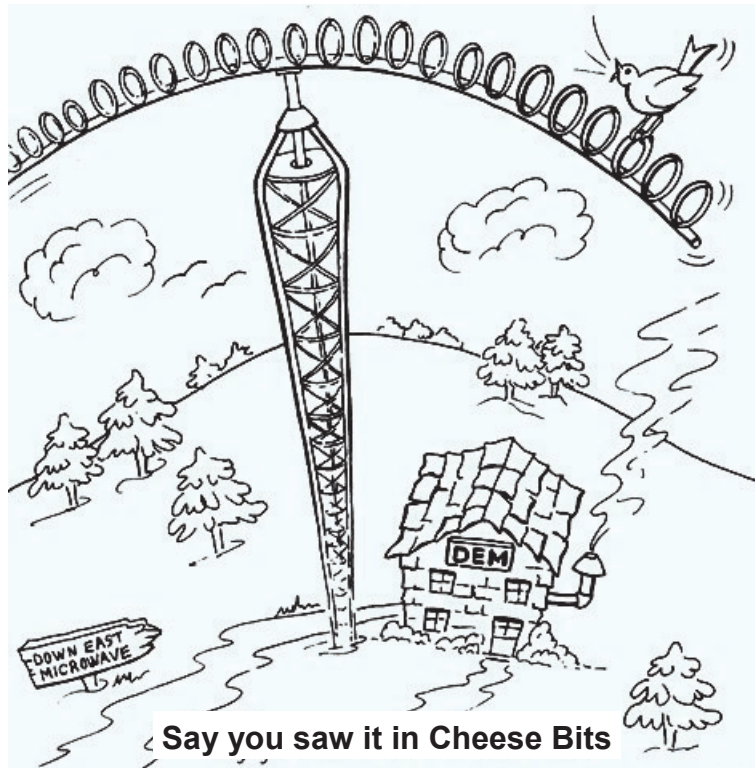
☎ #49 8131 27 61 70 [www.beko-elektronik.de](http://www.beko-elektronik.de)

Cheese Bits  
709 Lincoln Avenue  
Cranford NJ 07016



**TO:**

**MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.**



## **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)