



N.E.W.S. LETTER



The Publication of the North East Weak Signal Group

MAY 1996

VOLUME FOUR

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President: N2LIV Bruce Wood
Vice President: WZ1V Ron Klimas

CURRENT OFFICERS

Secretary: N1LZC Mark Casey
Treasurer: NC1I Frank Potts

NEXT MEETING

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON JULY 20TH, 1:00 PM AT THE QUALITY INN, VERNON, CT.
THIS MEETING WAS RESCHEDULED FOR THE CQWWWVHF CONTEST ON THE 13TH
THE NEXT MEETING WILL FEATURE A 10GHZ SHOW AND TELL SWAP MEET
WITH N2LIV, AND N1BWT CONDUCTING 10GHZ SUN NOISE MEASUREMENTS
ALSO, DON'T FORGET, BRING YOUR PREAMPS, STAN, KA1ZE WILL HAVE HIS N.F. METER**

FUTURE MEETINGS

AUG. 24,25 MEETING & CONFERENCE PLUS NOV. 9.

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MEMBERSHIP in the N.E.W.S. group is \$10 per year. Apply through Frank Potts, NC1I, at 65 Hastings Road, Southwick, MA. 01077 (413) 569-0314 You may download an application from our web page <http://uhavax.hartford.edu/newsvhf>

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SECRETARY'S REPORT **MAY 25, 1996 MEETING**

Though it was Memorial Day weekend, a turnout of 30+ members were present at the May N.E.W.S. meeting. Bruce, N2LIV, convened the meeting at 1:15 PM with a summary of agenda items including meeting themes, events and guest speakers.

Upcoming events and future meeting highlights were outlined: June 8, 9 - VHF/UHF Contest W2SZ/Mt. Greylock and W1TKZ/Mt. Equinox called for participants. Stan, KA1ZE, announced his plans to be a rover in FN 32, 36, 46 and possibly additional grids north of Montreal. Chip, W1AIM, and Emil, W3EP, planned to be in Prince Edward Island. July 20 - 10GHz. Show and Tell/Swapmeet To be held at the Quality Inn Parking Lot (rain or shine). Indoor meeting room to also be available. August 17, 18 - EME Conference and 10GHz. Contest Walt, WA2ALV, informed that this conference possibly conflicted with the first weekend of the 10GHz. Contest. Chip, W1AIM, plans to be in FN 54 for the 10GHz contest. August 23, 24, & 25 - 22nd Eastern VHF/UHF Conference Stan, KA1ZE, offered updates on the 22nd Eastern VHF/UHF Conference. Slots were still available to chair Band Sessions and articles could be contributed for the Annual Proceedings. November 9 - "Home Brew Day" Bring your "home brew" equipment and projects. Certificates to be awarded.

Emil, W3EP, was to be contacted as to the status of the Trans-Atlantic Beacon near Chatham on Cape Cod. The proposed sign-on date was June 1, 1996.

Jeff, WA2TEO, and Fred, N1DPM, followed with an "Introduction to VHF/UHF Weak Signal Operating". Though this talk is scheduled for the VHF/UHF Conference in August, it was given at this time to create member awareness. Volunteers, could in turn, present it at their local area radio meetings with the goal to educate on VHF/UHF weak signal. Topics covered were bands, grids, propagation modes, equipment, and operating practices/events. Fred could be contacted for electronic copies, since only one master copy of slides was available at this time.

After a short break, the meeting reassembled with Hank, N2MSS, speaking on "How to Play with Gel Cell Batteries". Highlights of his talk included operating with them, how to buy/use/care for them, charging techniques, manufacturers and prices. He also managed to bring an assortment of his own collection of batteries to demonstrate their applications when going portable.

Noise figure measurements were conducted by Stan, KA1ZE, Ron, WZ1V, and Zack, KH6CP, following the conclusion of the meeting at 3:45 PM.

Many thanks to Hank, N2MSS, Jeff, WA2TEO, and Fred, N1DPM for contributing their time to speak during the holiday

weekend. The material they presented was very educational, informative, and valuable.

The next N.E.W.S. meeting, July 20th, will be the 10GHz. Show and Tell/Swapmeet. Bruce, N2LIV, and Paul, N1BWT, are to provide equipment to perform 10GHz. sun noise measurements. All are encouraged to bring their 10GHz. antennas and other items for show and swap.

Respectfully submitted,
Lili Lopez, N2RDN, for Mark Casey, N1LZC, Secretary

THERE'S LOT'S TO COME **DE N2LIV**

It has been quite some time since I have not been able to operate a contest, such was the case this June. Work, and a prolonged wisdom tooth extraction problem curtailed my operating time and quelled my ambition to operate. This along with some non operational equipment really took its toll. Tales of excellent six meter conditions are being told by K1WHS in Maine down to N5JHV in New Mexico. Also, increased tropo ranges have been noted after the contest from 2 meters and up. Time to start watching the bands again after the winter doldrums.

The upcoming, July, annual, outdoors show & tell- swap shop is coming and proves to be another major event. Two years of natural disaster, first we were flooded out, last year we were fried in 100 degree plus temperatures. But we survived, so what next? 10 GHz Sun noise measurements to help please the gods, by N1BWT and N2LIV. All you need to do is bring your 10 GHz antenna, no rig is required only a means to support your antenna pointing at the sun. Tweaking time will be available for those who desire. So load up your car and show us your newest creations and applications thereof, whether homebrew or factory manufactured. Leave some space though, to bring swap shop- flea market items and also room to take some new goodies home. And as always, bring plenty of money.

In less than two short months the annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference will be held. Register at the July NEWS Group meeting with RAE BRISTOL, book a hotel room if required and contact STAN, KA1ZE to see if he needs any last minute help.

Special-Special low cost mountain trips. If you feel like an August trip to the mountains contact DICK WA2AAU of the W2SZ group about joining them for the UHF Contest. It's a great place to see microwave equipment in use from a premier operating location.

Our September meeting will bring us something new and exciting - Homebrew Day. The Pack-Rats have held this unique event for numerous years now. This event will help to praise our master builders and help along those attempting masterhood. So complete your project for this new and exciting time to be had by all.
See you all on July 20.

SOME JUNE '96 ARRL VHF CONTEST RUMORED SCORES: BY WZ1V

MULTIOPS

CALL	W2SZ/1	N8FMD	AA9D	K3YTL	W3ZZ	W4IY	W0UC/9	N0HJZ	N2NCU	K1TR	WB2IEY	KD5RO	NC7K
GRID	FN32	FM08	EN52	FN11	EM98	FM08	EN44	EN34	FN12	FN44	FN21	FN12	DM18
CLASS	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U
6	815/178	598/192	667/236	654/167	670/219	627/200	795/239	721/234	350/126	406/116	??	261/113	490/186
2	615/51	586/73	342/58	570/57	371/75	534/55	253/57	149/55	342/50	319/35	??	182/40	126/55
222	198/33	118/43	74/41	116/33	92/45	87/35	46/29	48/25	77/33	77/23	??	44/26	12/10
432	322/45	250/49	182/47	115/31	103/45	113/33	79/30	74/32	136/38	120/27	??	61/30	24/16
903	88/24	37/22	25/17	22/14	18/13	14/11	8/6	15/13	18/11	18/9	??	29/19	
1296	113/23	36/18	40/20	42/21	24/16	14/10	15/11	25/16	39/18	24/11	??	34/20	3/3
2304	64/18	1/1	14/8	10/7	8/7	4/4	5/4	3/2	7/5	4/3		16/11	
3456	50/14		12/6	6/5			1/1		6/5	3/3		7/5	
5760	45/11		11/6	4/4					4/1	2/2		6/6	
10G	30/7		7/5	1/1		1/1		1/1	1/1	1/1		4/3	
24G	10/5		2/2	1/1								2/1	
LAS		14/1	5/1					1/1					
TOT	2350/409	1640/399	1380/447	1541/341	1286/420	1394/349	1201/377	1036/378	981/289	974/230	??	646/274	655/270
Scor	1.58 Mil	877,401	857,346	670,406	667,380	581,085	524,407	472,500	393,907	295,550	290,840	269,068	188,190
CALL	W2SZ/1	N8FMD	AA9D	K3YTL	W3ZZ	W4IY	W0UC/9	N0HJZ	N2NCU	K1TR	WB2IEY	KD5RO	NC7K

CALL	W3IP	KF7NP	N0XX/7	N5UYI	K3MQH	W5KFT	N2XTX	W1TKZ	N6OPR	C6AFR	VP5H	N1GPY	WB2ELB
GRID	FM19	DM35	CN83	DM06	FM19	EM00	FN02	FN33	DM04	FL06	FL31	FN43	FN03
CLASS	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/U	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L
6	309/120	388/166	237/131	178/97	715/188	1160/267	??	323/99	304/127	655/151	584/191	238/74	216/94
2	194/34	75/27	115/34	91/23	791/67	64/17	??	240/35	246/25	47/13		250/22	174/41
222	43/20	15/13	12/8	29/16	172/49	6/4	??	81/26	52/12		68/16		
432	45/17	40/19	28/15	49/17	302/53	16/6	??	115/27	81/11	23/10		110/14	83/29
903	2/2												
1296	22/12	7/5	11/7	11/6									
2304			1/1										
3456			1/1										
5760													
10G	1/1			2/2									15/2
24G													
LAS													
TOTAL	617/207	594/230	405/197	360/161	1980/357	1246/294	800/250	759/187	683/175	725/174	584/191	666/126	488/166
Score	160,000	136,620	93,969	75,026	876,078	372,792	200,000	178,585	142,800	130,152	111,544	106,344	102,256
CALL	W3IP	KF7NP	N0XX/7	N5UYI	K3MQH	W5KFT	N2XTX	W1TKZ	N6OPR	C6AFR	VP5H	N1GPY	WB2ELB

CALL	WB1FLD	NW7O	CO0FRC	N0YKR	KH6CP/1	WB2DNE	W2XL	NO0Y
GRID	FN42	DM27	EL83	EM08	FN33	FN00	FN22	EM18
CLAS	M/L	M/L	M/L	M/L	QRP/P	QRP/P	QRP/P	QRP/P
6	185/73	339/137	351/105	??	??	133/61	177/72	282/138
2	196/27	49/49	91/15	??	??	102/29	126/24	20/12
222	48/16		2/2	??	??	47/22	35/19	
432	71/19	6/6	7/6	??	??	65/24	50/23	1/1
903				??	??	20/14	16/12	
1296				??	??	26/16	16/12	
TOTAL	500/135	381/192	451/128	298/200	486/147	393/166	420/162	303/151
Score	83,565	69,200	57,728	52,000	129,000	99,102	92,178	45,904
CALL	WB1FLD	NW7O	CO0FRC	N0YKR	KH6CP/1	WB2DNE	W2XL	NO0Y

ROVERS

ROVERS	SCORE	TOTALS	GRIDS	BANDS	REMARKS
ND3F/R	96,000	451/126	8 GRIDS	ABCD9EF	co/op=K6LEW/R
WB9SNR/R	66,465	306/105	8 GRIDS	ABCD9EFGHI	
AA7QZ/2/R	44,820	450/78	5 GRIDS	ABCDE	
KC4ZRH/R	37,492	306/103	4 GRIDS	ABCD	
KA1ZE/R	35,854	299/91	11 GRIDS	ABCD	1100+ miles
WA3WJD/R	34,671	250/91	9 GRIDS	ABCD9E	
WB1GQR/R	28,903	293/79	5 GRIDS	ABCD	WB2JSJ+KA1NRR
N3KKM/R	27,846	293/70	8 GRIDS	ABCD	
KA7YOU/R	18,886	266/71	9 GRIDS	ABCDE	co/op=N7TIN
N1QDQ/R	15,517	218/51	8 GRIDS	ABCD	co/op=N1QVE
KK5DK/R	11,285	185/55	6 GRIDS	ABD9	
N1ISB/R	6,509	234/19	4 GRIDS	BCE	

SOME JUNE '96 ARRL VHF CONTEST RUMOURED SCORES: BY WZ1V

SINGLE OPERATOR

CALL	WB5IGF	WA8WZG	WA2TEO	N5HHS	N0LL	N2WK	KE8FD	KD1DU	WD5K	AA4ZZ	K0GU	N5JHV	W2CRS
GRID	EM45	EN81	FN31	EM10	EM09	FN03	EM89	FN31	EM12	EM86	DN70	DM62	DM78
CLASS	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
6	546/196	346/130	410/140	1028/232	686/208	232/111	167/79	194/63	847/231	523/209	781/199	706/235	598/178
2	201/52	158/46	378/50	39/16	67/35	168/43	247/69	356/43		67/30	35/18	19/9	57/21
222	54/39	70/27	87/32		15/13	48/23	68/42	69/26		20/15			9/7
432	110/43	110/34	108/31	16/9	25/17	71/26	101/45	107/30		35/22	15/5	8/4	33/16
903	23/12	36/18	31/19			26/16	7/7	23/14				10/6	
1296	23/12	62/27	39/17		9/8	29/17	24/18	32/15					
2304	18/14	18/8	8/5			9/7							
3456	8/5	12/9				5/5							
5760	8/4	12/8				4/3							
10G	4/4	7/6				5/2							
LASER						2/1							
TOTAL	995/381	831/313	1062/294	1083/257	798/281	599/254	614/260	781/191	847/231	645/276	831/222	733/248	707/228
Score	520,065	430,180	417,774	278,331	240,536	229,362	219,700	203,797	195,657	193,200	187,812	181,784	177,612
CALL	WB5IGF	WA8WZG	WA2TEO	N5HHS	N0LL	N2WK	KE8FD	KD1DU	WD5K	AA4ZZ	K0GU	N5JHV	W2CRS

CALL	W1GCI	K5AM	AA2UK	AA7A	N8UM	K6KLY	WB3ARZ	N1DPM	WA6YDI	WB2VVV	KU8U	KJ6FP	KB0PYO
GRID	FN42	DM62	FM29	DM43	EM85	CM87	FM19	FN32	DM05	FN21	EN72	DM24	EN24
CLASS	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
6	341/111	659/218	107/47	503/190	274/137	340/140	328/113	142/86	195/71	189/66	174/99	195/103	212/102
2	160/25	16/7	158/40	68/30	117/39	135/18	158/29	105/29	185/27	180/27	156/44	137/27	9/31
222	42/18		56/24		43/22	50/7	32/18	46/23	70/19	52/19	40/29	33/15	28/18
432	62/19		63/24	17/12	50/22	75/12	48/21	52/24	73/19	51/18	56/30	56/20	43/23
903	18/10		26/15		2/2	2/2		17/10		18/11			
1296	27/12		41/20		12/3	8/3		22/11	35/14	22/12			
2304			13/7					9/6					
3456			6/4					3/2					
5760			5/4										
TOTAL	650/195	675/225	475/185	588/232	498/225	610/182	566/181	396/191	558/150	512/153	426/204	421/165	362/174
Score	164,580	151,875	148,000	140,360	139,425	133,000	116,926	116,128	115,650	106,335	105,444	84,150	75,342
CALL	W1GCI	K5AM	AA2UK	AA7A	N8UM	K6KLY	WB3ARZ	N1DPM	WA6YDI	WB2VVV	KU8U	KJ6FP	KB0PYO

CALL	K5LLL	WQ0P	KJ6KO	WB2QLP	K9AKS	N7AVK	W1XR	VE9AA	WA2HFI	NB2T
GRID	EL29	EM19	CM98	EL96	DM04	CN84	FN42	FN65	EN34	FN30
CLASS	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO	SO
6	327/139	116/81	194/90	374/121	270/86	207/108	212/90	311/117	223/101	
2	32/15	102/41	136/26	40/14	98/14	77/24	131/26	26/15	54/20	125/19
222	2/2	19/16	15/4		31/7	10/7				25/4
432	16/12	53/29	64/16	13/7	43/11	15/7	33/10	2/1	23/12	51/11
903	7/6								3/2	
1296	1/1	7/6		8/6						
2304										
3456										
5760										
10G		4/1								
TOTAL	385/175	301/174	409/136	427/142	442/118	317/152	376/126	339/133	303/135	201/34
Score	73,325	69,426	66,368	62,480	60,888	54,416	51,534	45,353	44,820	9,418
CALL	K5LLL	WQ0P	KJ6KO	WB2QLP	K9AKS	N7AVK	W1XR	VE9AA	WA2HFI	NB2T

GRID EXPEDITION TO FN16

Ike (VA3IKE) and Al (K2SPO) will be operating from Grid Square FN16 during the weekend of July 20th. They will be active on 50,144,222,432. I'm going to see if I can find some 903 & 1296 equipment so they can bring those bands along too. I'll be updating my page as the July date gets closer.....

73's Tom

Thomas Meng N2DKP FN13bh 50 - 1296 E-Mail tmeng@eznet.net <http://home.eznet.net/~tmeng/>

ON THE BANDS: **BY RON KLIMAS, WZ1V, FN31MP**

First African on six meters for me this season: 5/20/96 2200Z 50.125 EH8BPX IL18 55 SSB. Paul K1WVX FN31 also got in on the fun. No other stations heard.

The 6 meter gods were smiling on us this year for the ARRL June VHF QSO Party. E-skip for at least half of the contest produced record-breaking 6 meter scores and really pumped up those totals (see our score rumors elsewhere in this issue). For the first time in memory, a W5 has claimed the top Single-Op spot. Up at W1TKZ in Vermont we easily worked 99 grids on 6, with propagation anywhere from the Caribbean to the West Coast. It was just the break we needed to get us in the top-ten in spite of Murphy. I learned a lot from our mistakes this year, and had fun at the same time. My compliments to the Wellesley ARS for their hospitality and for keeping the effort at Mt. Equinox alive and well. I for one am psyched about doing a N.E.W.S. multi-op effort next June.

I had barely unpacked on June 11 to catch the end of a 6m European opening with G0VHN and EH8BPX in 2215-2230Z, followed by DX to Mexico later with XE2AR DL98 and XE2KC5FMT EL03. Not to mention VY2/W1AIM FN96 (thanks to Chip and Emil) and MANY W6/W7's later on. Meanwhile W1TDS FN32 caught W4EWA EM63 on 2 meters Es. June 15 was my happy day after working C6AIE FL16 on 2 meters m/s for a new country !

Mark N1LZC FN32 and Al WA1T FN43 were among the fortunate to catch a nice 2 meter Es opening on June 18, 1345-1415Z. Some of the stations worked were KD4FQY EL96, K4DZP, KE4NJM/m, and W4EMB EL95 !

A Killer of a 6 meter Es opening June 19: I got in around 2110Z to hear the V44K/B beacon in, and by 2330 the band was hopping to the West Coast. In the next 2 hours I worked over 3 dozen W6/W7's + XE1KK, some of which were running only 10 watts and were still 5/9 ! After 6 meters died, Del KD1DU and I had some fun working VA3IKE FN14, VE3ZXN FN03, and VE3CIQ FN15 on both 2 and 432.

More thrills on June 22 as WA2TEO, myself, and many others worked CY0AA FN93 Sable Island for a new country on 6 meters. I managed to grab him on 2 meters via m/s the same morning.

Just a tid-bit: I heard the first MFJ Explorer 6 meter rig in the area recently via N1SBA FN31. As I recall, this is one of those \$250 single-band 10W ssb rigs. It sounded good and Joe said the receiver was sensitive, although it could use a better noise blanker.

That's it for now, folks. See you at our July 20 meeting. Don't

forget to check out the Pack Rat's microwave bands activity night, meeting on 144.260 the 4th Thursday each month 8-10 PM. And Please Send reports of DX or Expeditions to me, Ron Klimas, 458 Allentown Rd., Bristol, CT 06010 or call 860-589-0528 if you have something you'd like to share about an unusual contact, etc.

Looking for Ham/Engineering software or tech info? -try our landline BBS at 860-768-4758 (14400,8,N,1 weeknites/weekends).-or our new Internet Webpage at: <http://uhavax.hartford.edu/~newsvhf>

-73, Ron WZ1V, internet email: klimas@uhavax.hartford.edu

E SKIP WITH WET NOODLES **LAST MINUTE REPORT, DEL, KD1DU**

I have to apologize but tonight's band opening made the newsletter a bit late. On July 1st, driving home, I talked to another 10 meter mobile in VA, very short hop. He said his son had just worked CY0AA on 6 meters. I ran in the house, barely said hello to the family, and warmed up the rigs. Six was wide open but I heard a pileup on 2 calling V47KV in St. Kitts. Of course my antennas were up in the direction of CY0AA and by the time I turned them around I didn't hear V47KV.

I got on 6 and worked Clint, N1KTM/MM in FM02 for a new grid, pretty short hop. I went back on 2 and heard "de V47???" but they got stepped on. A few minutes later I found them on 6 and worked them for a new one. They reported hearing NJ stations on 2 but they didn't say who. Bill, AA2UK said he heard them three times but thought it was on meteors at least twice.

I turned on the TV in the shack and was surprised to find severe co-channel from 2 through 13, what was going on? Looked like it was going to be a fun night and I told my wife I would be playing radio for the duration. I proceeded to work W4FSO in FM14 on 6 for a new grid and again noticed short skip. I went back to 2 to look for E skip and heard someone say Echo Mike. Looking South I missed it and moved the array more West to work KT4LM in EM55, a new one, along with KC4QWZ, EM66 and N5FAC, EM35.

The TV stations were still going crazy and I gave 432 a try and worked WA4TNN, FM05 for another new one, got him to move up to 1296 where we were rag chewing on phone before going down to 222, two more new ones.

Finally, K1WW/4 in FM15 on 432 for six new grids in one evening. Things were quieting down around 11:30 and I figured I had better finish the N.E.W.S. letter before going to sleep. I spoke to Ron, WZ1V the day before and he said he would be away and the bands would probably be open the whole time;

Thanks Ron!

N1BWT 10GHZ HOME PAGE:
HTTP://WWW.TIAC.NET/USERS/WADE

PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTS
BY BRUCE, N2LIV

N1BWT 10 GHz Page
This is the N1BWT guide to 10 GHz operation and operator.
Here I am:



Here is the DX hood, Blackstone



On CW, nobody knows you're a dog!

And here is the 10 GHz information...



- [10 GHz Operators](#)
- [Antennas](#)
- [10 GHz Equipment References](#)
- [List of Good Rover Sites, in Northeast USA](#)
- [5700 MHz](#)
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Some other Microwave Web sites

- [Microwave FAQ - From the U.K.](#)
- [San Bernardino Microwave Society Home Page](#)
- [North East Week Signal VHF Group Home Page](#)
- [WZLW's Amateur Radio Webpages on Internet complete list](#)
- [EME and Radio Astronomy from W6PAQZM](#)
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Suggestions and Comments
Email to wa1r@tiac.net

So far this page has been visited 

Several months ago we reviewed the DUBUS publication. Now, moving a bit closer to home we will look at the RSGB (Radio Society Great Britain) Microwave Newsletter. This monthly publication provides an excellent compendium of UHF and Microwave operations and records throughout Europe. In addition, major breakthroughs in European microwave technology and components are presented therein. I personally, at times would like to see more Technical Articles, however many new circuits and ideas are consistently presented. The title Microwave Newsletter describes this publication well.

As with DUBUS, many products and techniques available in Europe are brought to our shores through it. G3WDG runs the Microwave Committee which supplies PCB, parts and kits for many of the modular designs presented therein. He recently added many of the DB6NT products lines to his for distribution to the US and Australia.

The RSGB MICROWAVE NEWSLETTER can be ordered from:

Lambda House, Cranborne Road.
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire,
EN6 3JE.

They take Master Card which is great. The editors are G3PHO: Peter Day - G3PHO@aol.com and G8AGN: Barry Chambers - B.Chambers@sheffield.ac.uk. Information on the Microwave Committee is available from G3WDG directly.

Another publication which I received in the late 1960's and early 1970's and then lost track of is VHF Communications. Originating in Germany as UKW-BERICHTS the international edition is published quarterly in the United Kingdom. This magazine caters to VHF/UHF/SHF technology. Once again complete kits and PCB are available for the projects presented therein. I can still remember building a 40673 dual-gate 2 meter converter kit from them, boy was it hot 20 years ago. Back copy sets are also available at a reduced cost. A US distributor is available:

Wyman Research, Inc.
RR #1, Box 95
Waldron, Indiana 48182
(317) 525-6452

For those surfing types, you can get the San Bernadino Microwave Society's reflector by e-mailing your name, call sign and e-mail address to sbms-request@ham-radio.com. Also a Web site is available at <http://www.ham-radio.com/sbms/sbms.html>.<

BEACONS DE NB2T

WA2UMX/B FN23 HEARD 20 DAYS APRIL/MAY
W3VD/B FM29 HEARD 24 DAYS APRIL/MAY

i have noticed the W3VD/B beacon has been off the air since about 6/20. How about some more beacon and band condition reports from some other club members, Ron does a great job but I would like to see some reports from the rest of the N.E.W.S. group.

Del, KD1DU

PRODUCT REVIEW
TELETEC SOLID STATE VHF & UHF
AMPLIFIERS
BY: FRED STEFANIK N1DPM

I was recently given the opportunity to try out and comment on a series of solid state amplifiers produced by a company called TELETEC. Steve Kostro at Down East Microwave Inc. asked me to look them over and dig into them as he was not concerned about voiding the warranty on these test units and he wanted some assurance that these were worth carrying to supplement his transverter products. So here we go...

First of all, all of these amplifiers are built in the same housing which is in fact a casting rather than the conventional extruded heatsink. This construction has allowed them to do a couple of very nice things such as allow for a tight fitting bottom cover for good RF shielding, and provide a "thicker" cross section of material directly under the RF power devices that will increase the thermal mass allowing for a more even temperature distribution.

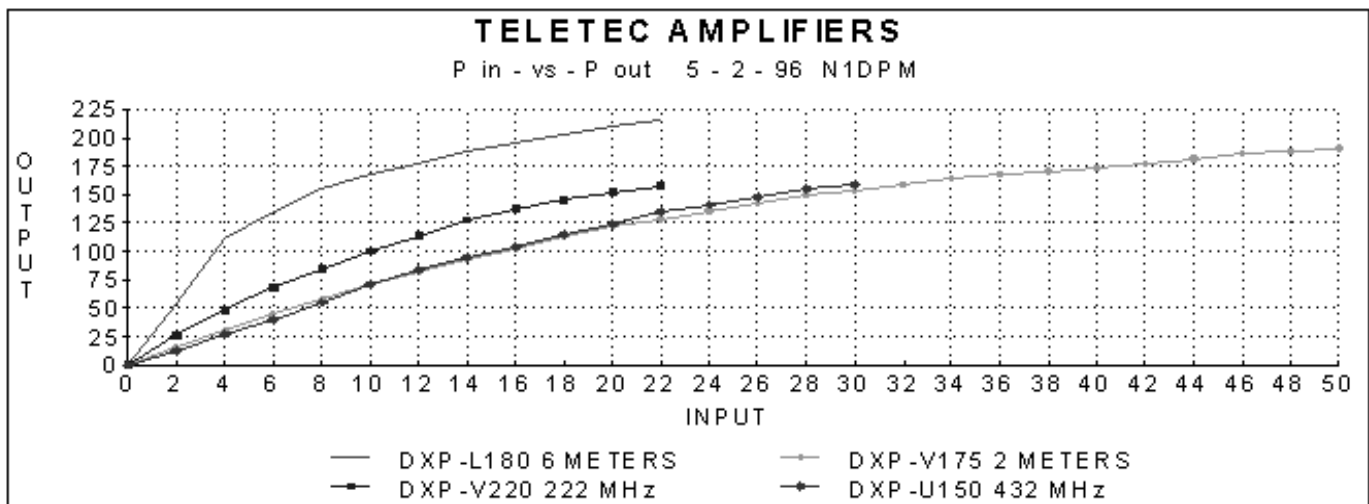
The printed circuit boards are very professional in appearance and at 432 MHz the went to the expense of using woven glass Teflon type of circuit board. The boards are evidence of a careful design and layout as there are no "hack and slash" marks or jumpers used and these were revision A boards.

The amplifiers all are based around a 2 transistors in parallel design. This is a good design practice as more stages would allow too much gain and cause the amplifiers to be overdriven easily. This would make for some more lousy signals on the bands. TELETEC deserves a great big "ATTABOY!!" as the ONLY solid state amplifier company to employ a low impedance active regulated bias circuit that can supply all of the necessary base current required by these modern high power bipolar RF devices without collapsing!!! This as you can see

from the chart of input power versus output power below, makes these amplifiers LINEAR. It's about time!! Also the DC and control connections were properly bypassed just before they exited the enclosure. The RF sensed keying works quite well and has adjustable delay for SSB operation.

The 4 amplifiers that were tested were the DXP-L180, 6 meters, DXP-V175, 2 meters, DXP-V220, 135cm, and the DXP-U150, 70cm. All of the amplifiers easily met and exceeded their output power specifications. The measurements I made were with a pair of BIRD 43 wattmeters, one on the input and the other directly on the output. With the good, comes the bad, and because this like any product will have some shortcomings here are the ones I found. The RF device part numbers were double obliterated. Isopropyl alcohol removed the top layer of black "paint" but below this was a tougher substance that did not allow the device number to be read. I am assuming these to be "proprietary" RF devices but there is no real way of knowing for sure and with a 18 month warranty, who really cares. The connections for hard keying and preamplifier disable, are miniature banana type jacks and the mating connectors are available for an extra \$5.00. These should have been included. Last but not least, the preamps. As I stated above they are always on, and must be disables through the use of one of the rear panel jacks. This may not seem like too much of a problem, but these are JFET designs that are specked at 8 dB gain minimum and easily met as the 6 meter one was 15dB and the 70cm one was 10.5dB, with the others in between. The real key is that why use a JFET in 1996 when a good GaAs FET device costs less than \$5.00!! The noise figure that is not specked measured anywhere from 1.3 to 3 dB. A GaAs FET would come in at less than 1 dB typical. Oh well you can't have everything.

Overall these are quite nice solid state amplifiers and are certainly linear and well behaved. The workmanship is top notch and they're priced competitively. All on the air test reports were excellent and comments on how "clean" the signal sounded were unsolicited.



22ND EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

AUGUST 23, 24, & 25, 1996
QUALITY INN AND CONFERENCE CENTER
51 HARTFORD TURNPIKE (RT.83)
VERNON, CT 06066

8/23/96 FRIDAY	LODGING
1600 'til	HOSPITALITY ROOM
8/24/96 SATURDAY	REGISTRATION, FORMAL TALKS, VHF-SHF BANDESESSIONS & MUCH MORE.
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1200 - 1300	LUNCH
1300	TALKS RESUME
1630 - 1830	NOISE FIGURE MEASUREMENT WORKSHOP 50 MHz-10 GHz.
1900	BANQUET (7 PM - 8:30 PM)
2030	VHF - MICROWAVE TRIVIA QUIZ
2100	DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS EXTRAVAGANZA
8/25/96 SUNDAY	
0800	VHF-UHF SWAP 'n' SELL & ANTENNA GAIN MEASURING 222 & up

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FOR SALE OR SWAP

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Del Schier, KD1DU Home: 7 PM to 10 PM (203) 431-4233: Work Mon-Thurs AND SAT 10-6 (203) 637-3621

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Ron Klimas WZ1V 458 Allentown Rd., Bristol CT 06010.

ULTIMATE TVI FILTERS FOR WEAK SIGNAL OPS AVAILABLE SOON.

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Del Schier, KD1DU

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LEO TREAT TO OUR 144 AND 420 BANDS.....WE NEED TO RESPOND NOW!

An industry working group (known as IWG-2A) that is preparing draft US proposals for the 1997 World Radiocommunication Conference has before it a list of "candidate bands" for low-earth orbit mobile satellites ("little LEOs") that includes, among a number of others suggested for consideration, the 144 and 420 MHz bands. Little LEOs are intended mainly to offer commercial paging and other low-data-rate messaging services. The list of candidate bands was submitted by little LEO industry representatives at a meeting of IWG-2A on May 7. ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, was present and objected strongly to the inclusion of these two bands. He was told that objections should be submitted in written comments, and the ARRL did so on May 15. At the same time the ARRL advised the industry participants in IWG-2A along with its chairman, Warren Richards of the Department of State, that if we did not receive assurance that the bands would be dropped from the list of candidate bands we would have no choice but to advise members in July QST that the bands were under threat. No such assurances were forthcoming. Instead, we were told that as long as little LEO allocations requirements remained unsatisfied, everything had to remain on the table.

Write Now!

Get out a pen and paper, or boot up your computer. There's work to be done! Your help is needed to defend two meters and 70 cm. Yes, that's right--the two most popular and most crowded amateur VHF/UHF bands! But don't panic, and don't "go ballistic."

The complete bulletin is on the N.E.W.S. home page and on the ARRL home page. ED.

NEXT N.E.W.S. MEETING

**THE NEXT MEETING IS ON JULY 20, 1:00 PM AT THE QUALITY INN, VERNON, CT.
THE NEXT MEETING WILL FEATURE A 10GHZ SHOW AND TELL SWAP MEET
WITH N2LIV, AND N1BWT CONDUCTING 10GHZ SUN NOISE MEASUREMENTS**

North East Weak Signal Group

**c/o KD1DU
Del Schier
126 Old West Mountain Road
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