

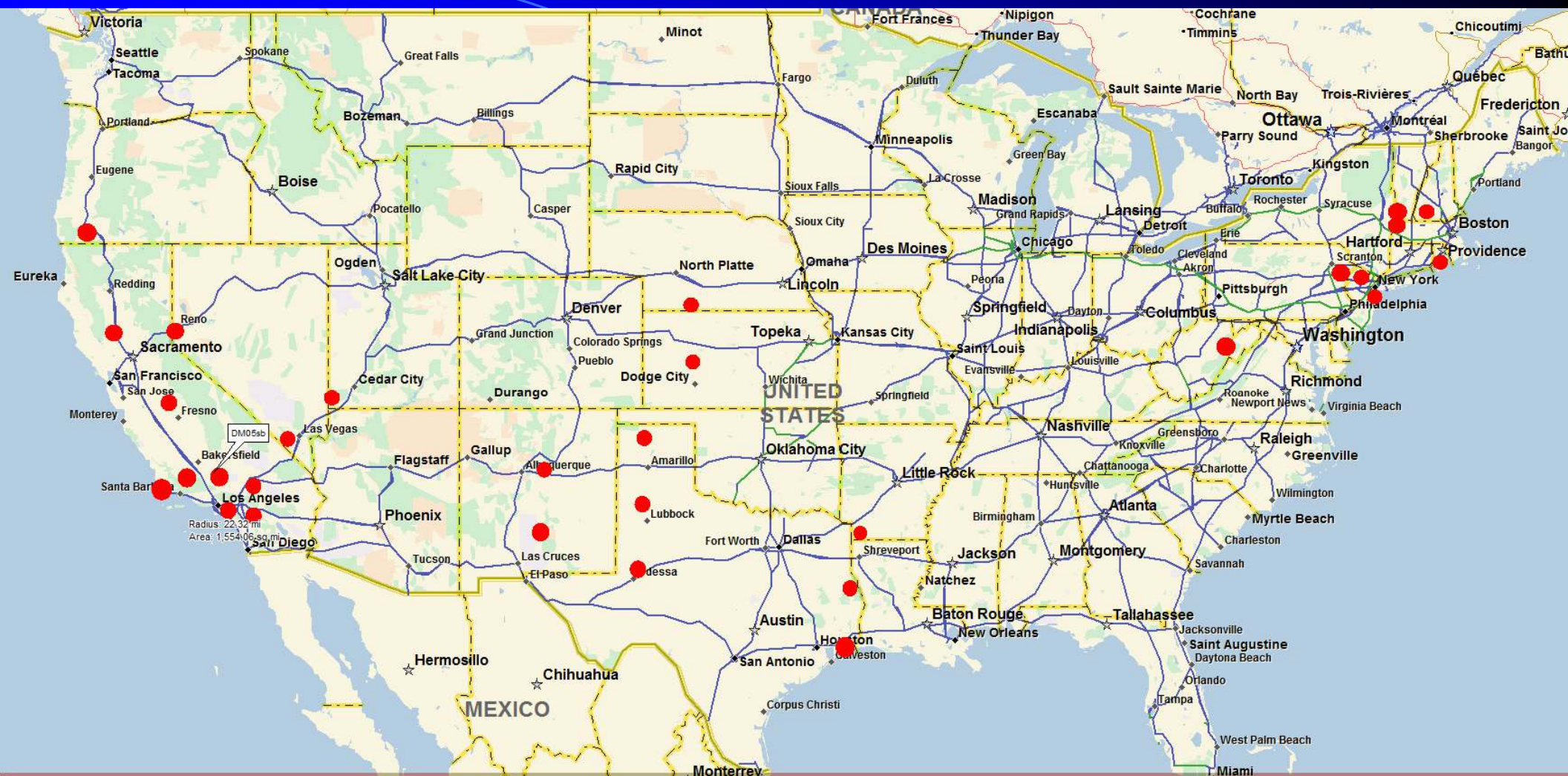
VHF Adventures Coast to Coast...

A 58-year Odyssey

by

Wayne Overbeck, N6NB

www.n6nb.com



A sampling of VHF contest sites activated
by K6YNB/N6NB, 1957-2015

KN6YNB, 1957



K6YNB on Mt. Pacifico, 1969



Antennas atop
Mt. Pacifico (DM04),
Elevation 7,500'





Mt. Potosi, Nevada (DM25), 1970

A broken axle on this steep road, 1970
(time for a bigger vehicle)





The “cabover kilowatt”, 1970 (on QST cover, 1971)

Alaska,
1970, with
cubical
quad for
20-6 mtrs.

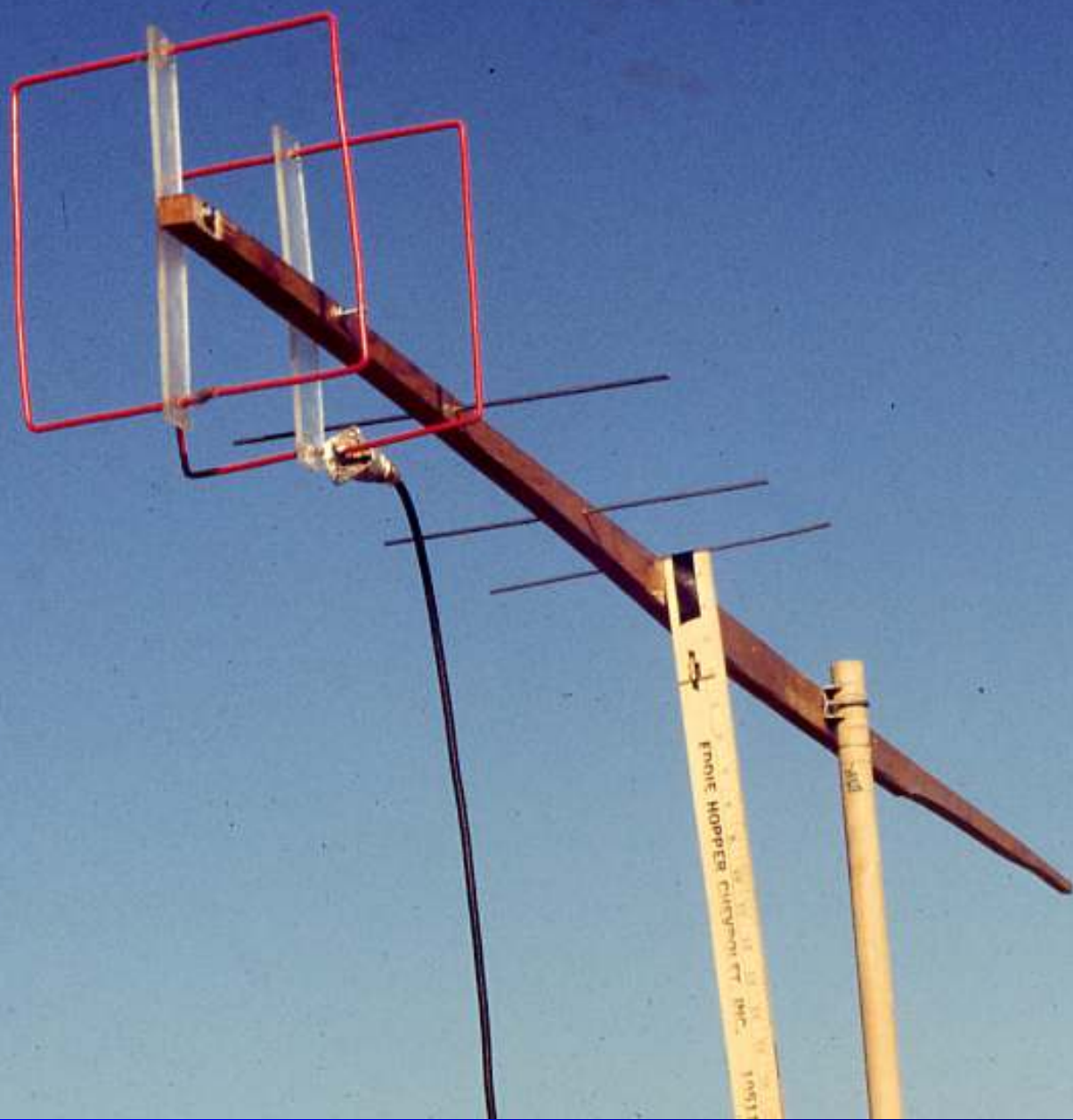


The “quagi” antenna is born,
1972

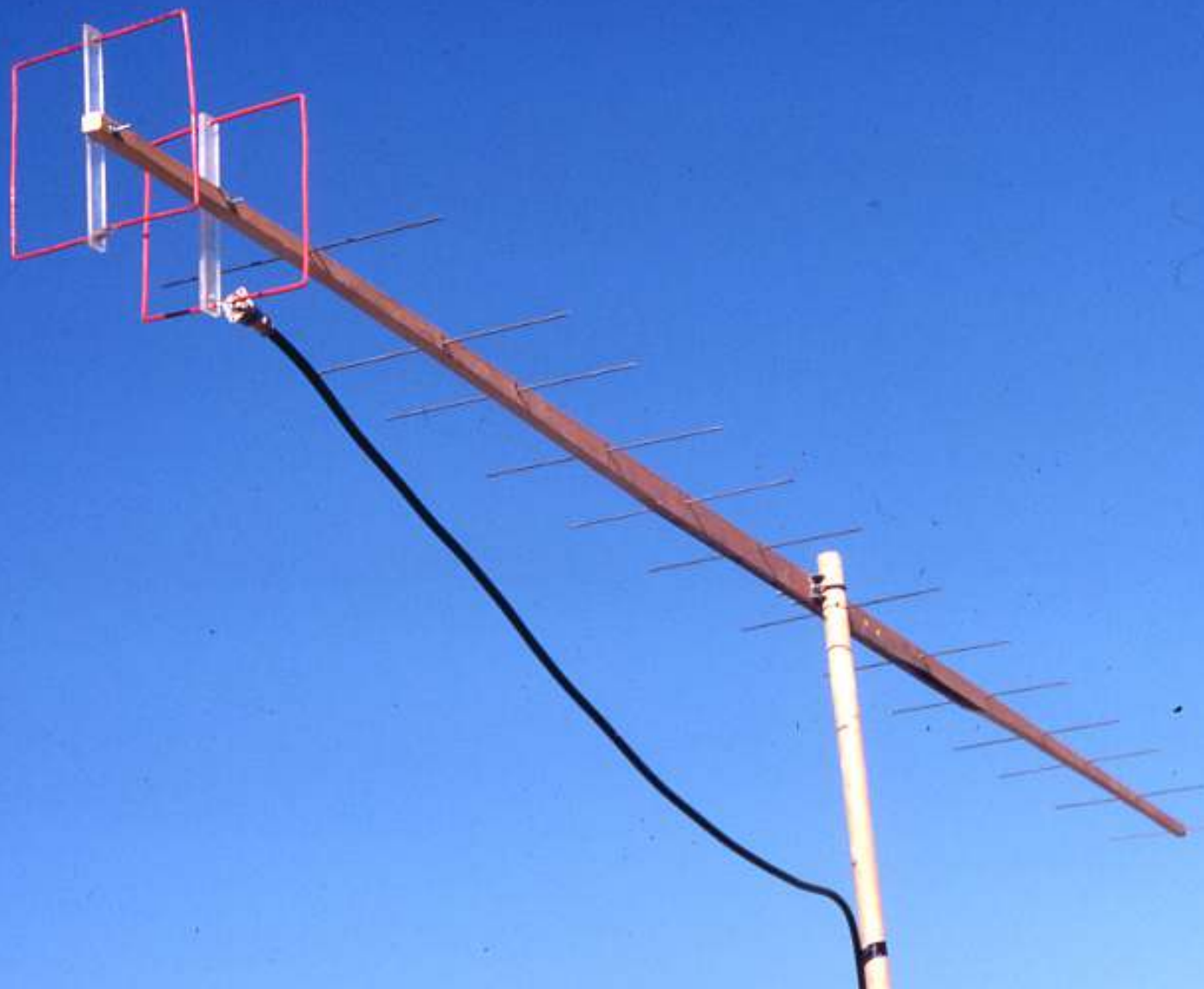


Designing the 15-element quagi





EMPIRE HOPPER CINCINNATI OH. 1053



Santiago Peak
(DM13) with quagi
antennas, 1973



Portable moonbounce

Giving K0MQS state #50 for the first 144
MHz W.A.S.-- Alaska via e.m.e., 1976



U.S. Coast Guard Base, Ketchikan (CO45)

16 3-element quads





Array under
construction



A rotating hub

Utah Pass,
Utah (DM37),
1976



EME in 1977
on the Utah-
Nevada border
(with 20-meter
liaison)



Mobile moonbounce in two states



UTAH
STATE LINE





Another mobile moonbounce setup



Mt. Pinos, CA
with a VW,
June, 1977
(a national
record score)





Heading east for more fun and
higher scores, 1978...





Mt. Equinox, VT (FN33), 1978

Rentacar portable,
1978





Let's do this right (1979)









Mt. Equinox, VT, 1979





September, 1979
Mt. Equinox, VT
(a national record
score)





Um, now what???

Results under the section multiplier scoring system (pre-1985)

- Five #1 scores nationally in June VHF in California
- Three #1 scores nationally in September in California
- Two #1 scores nationally in UHF contest in California
- Two #1 scores on Mt. Equinox, VT, including national single op record for September
- Eight “final, all-time” division records
- Also Radio Amateur of the Year award at Dayton, John Chambers Memorial Award of CSVHFS, and:
- Two divorces!

FINAL, ALL-TIME DIVISION RECORDS

ARRL VHF CONTESTS, USING ARRL SECTIONS AS MULTIPLIERS

(THROUGH 1982 IN SEPTEMBER; THROUGH 1984 IN JANUARY AND JUNE)

Compiled by K9AKS, 1988
(From QST Contest Summaries)

DIVISION -----			SINGLE OPERATOR -----	YEAR ----		MULTIOPERATOR -----	YEAR ----
New England	JAN	WA1MAO	55,130	81	W1VD	167,972	84
	JUNE	K1FO	109,855	82	W2SZ/1	342,855	82
	SEPT	N6NB/1	102,795	79	W2SZ/1	251,700	82
Hudson	JAN	WB2WIK	63,070	80	K2XR	96,018	84
	JUNE	K2CBA	62,316	82	K2XR	203,218	81
	SEPT	WB2WIK	54,202	79	K2XR	142,006	80
Atlantic	JAN	WA3AXV	101,188	84	N2SB	117,546	84
	JUNE	AA2Z/3	99,408	84	W3CCX	276,675	82
	SEPT	WA2DPU	65,593	82	K3MTK	130,188	82
Roanoke	JAN	K3ICH/4	23,744	80	W4IY	31,784	84
	JUNE	N6NB/8	84,780	81	W2CNS/8	214,472	82
	SEPT	WA2FGK/8	50,298	81	W4BFB	190,210	79

(continued on next slide)

Great Lakes	JAN	K8LEE	41,080	76	K8III	80,984	79
	JUNE	WB8IGY	57,138	82	W8VP	139,356	82
	SEPT	W8DJY	38,226	81	WA8ONQ	77,952	81
Central	JAN	K9RO	32,220	83	K9HMB	72,424	81
	JUNE	W9IP	90,797	81	K9HMB	136,656	81
	SEPT	GW3NJY/W9	35,310	79	K9HMB	113,452	82
South-eastern	JAN	W4GDS	26,400	73	W4VO	18,966	78
	JUNE	WB4OSN	55,380	80	WA4OYH	85,500	80
	SEPT	WA4NJP	13,939	81	WD4IIS	33,726	82
Delta	JAN	WB4JGG	16,884	80	WB4HEL/4	8880	73
	JUNE	WB4JGG	36,936	80	W4BFB/4	74,404	78
	SEPT	WB4JGG	28,424	79	W4BFB	86,880	81
Dakota	JAN	W0RGU	16,000	81	W0RGU	9016	84
	JUNE	K0VXM	29,127	80	W9UD/0	115,072	82
	SEPT	W0XG	5889	82	K0SE	10,492	79
Midwest	JAN	WB0ZKG	16,776	81	N0IS	16,030	83
	JUNE	W0RT	30,562	82	W9UD/0	80,004	83
	SEPT	N0IS	24,119	79	K0TLM	7470	79
West Gulf	JAN	K5CM	14,100	78	N5KW	16,644	82
	JUNE	WA5HMK	34,151	77	K5CM	110,001	82
	SEPT	WA5VJB	7521	82	K5CM	18,630	78
Rocky Mountain	JAN	N6NB/7	6120	80	KX00	11,200	84
	JUNE	WA0TVZ	22,395	77	W0IJR	48,983	84
	SEPT	W5FF	1102	82	AA0L	5580	82
North-western	JAN	WA7KYZ	10,296	79	WB7DTI	10,008	81
	JUNE	KB7WW	26,649	81	N7DB	42,210	81
	SEPT	WA6JUD/7	4056	76	WA7NAN	8759	75
Pacific	JAN	WA6JUD/6	23,868	76	WA6BMV	24,814	77
	JUNE	N6NB	69,184	77	K6GSS	106,172	84
	SEPT	WA6JUD/6	24,640	77	WB6KBZ/6	31,995	78
South-western	JAN	N6NB	25,880	79	N6NB	46,750	81
	JUNE	K6YNB	60,342	76	W6AMT	105,080	76
	SEPT	K6YNB/6	34,013	76	N6MI	22,848	81
Canadian	JAN	VE1ASJ	21,156	79	VE3LNX	27,420	83
	JUNE	VE3ASO	49,495	82	VE3ONT	182,592	82
	SEPT	VE3ASO	18,816	73	VE3ONT	86,700	82
DX	JAN	C6ADV	320	82	-	-	-
	JUNE	W2BN/C6A	18,700	77	VP5AA	29,526	80
	SEPT	JA1RJU	8	79	XE2XW	114	81

The background is a solid blue color. A thin, light blue curved line starts from the top left and arcs towards the right. A larger, darker blue triangular shape is positioned on the right side, pointing towards the center.

Roving in the grid square era



Learning from a pro (K1DS)



N6NB/Rentacar



K1DS/R

Camelback Mountain (FN21), 2002

6,500 miles
for a January
VHF contest
(FN20), 2003











Astoria, Oregon (CN86), 2003



N6NB/R in DM15, September, 2003



Three 10-band rovers in CM99, January, 2004

Jetmore, Kansas (EM08), June, 2004



*“O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain...”*

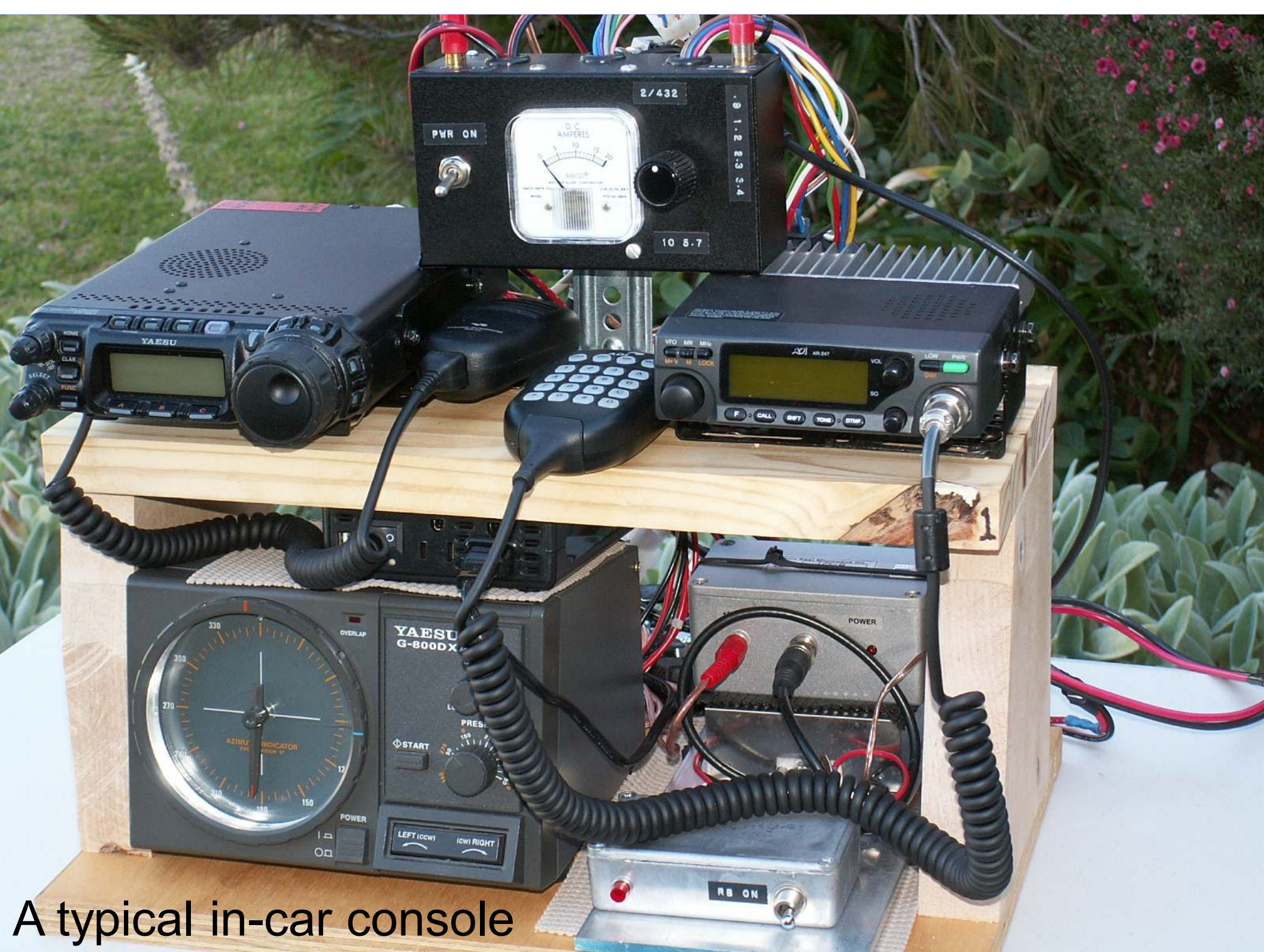
- Katharine Lee Bates, 1893

The background is a dark blue gradient. A thin, light blue curved line starts from the top left and arcs towards the right. A larger, semi-transparent blue shape is on the right side, partially overlapping the dark blue background.

Building more 10-band
rovers...

The image shows seven identical outdoor stations arranged in a row on a concrete surface. Each station consists of a black metal toolbox mounted on a silver metal frame. The frame includes a vertical pole with a horizontal arm that holds a large, circular, silver-colored antenna or reflector. Various cables and wires are connected to the stations, some running along the ground and others hanging from the frames. In the background, there are green bushes and a brick wall. The entire scene is set outdoors during the day.

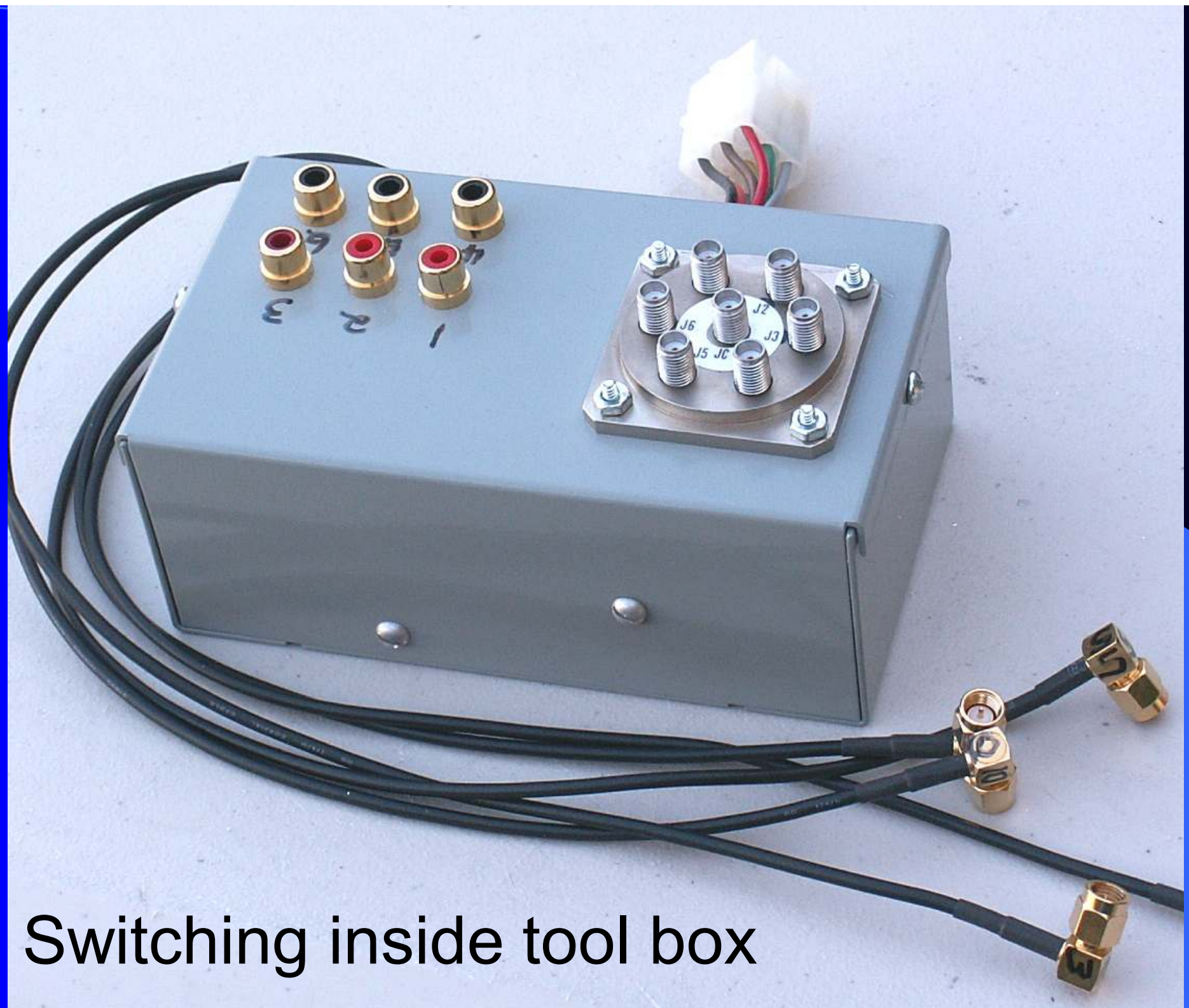
Seven 10-band tool box stations



A typical in-car console

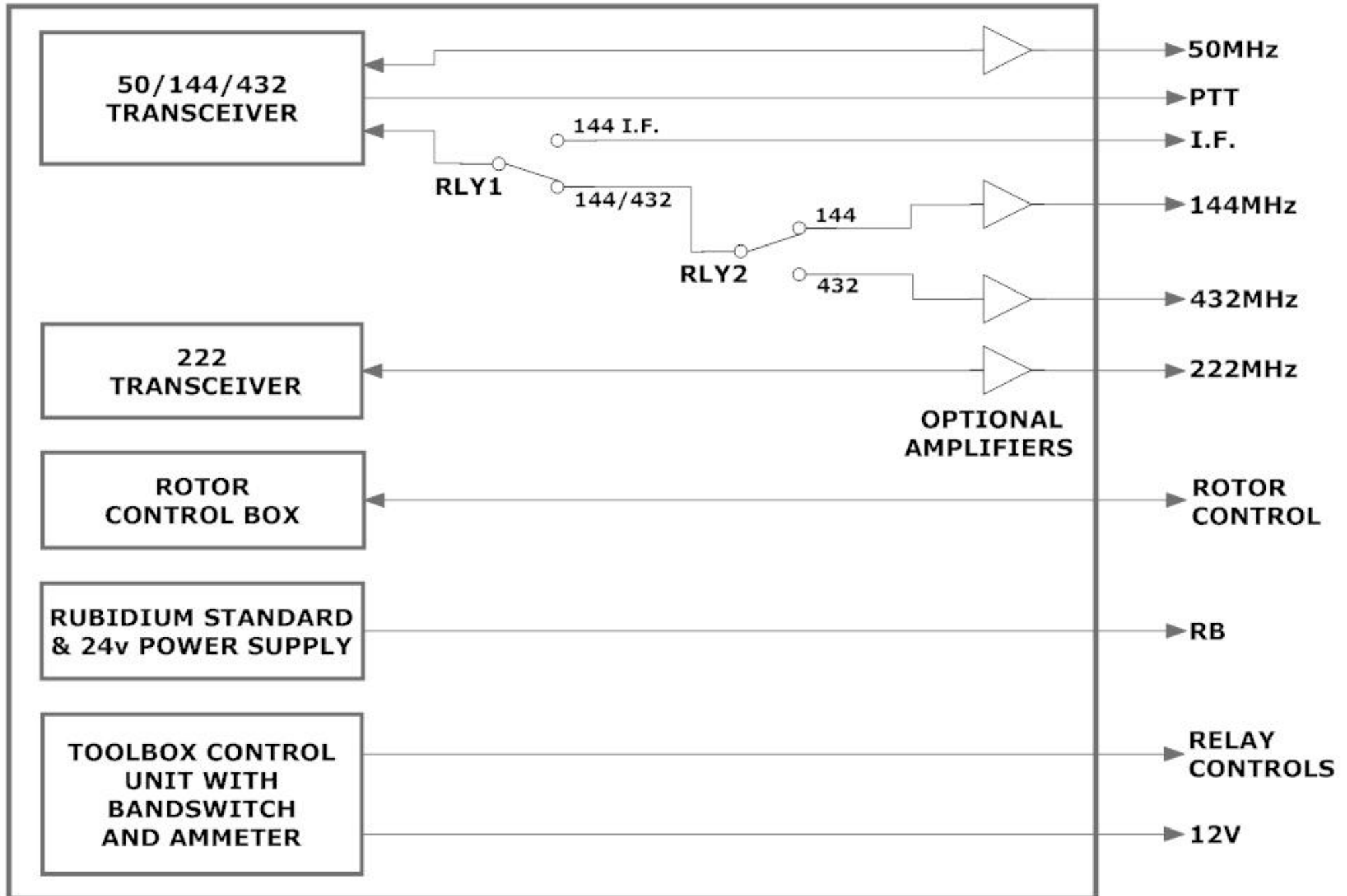


Microwave bandswitching

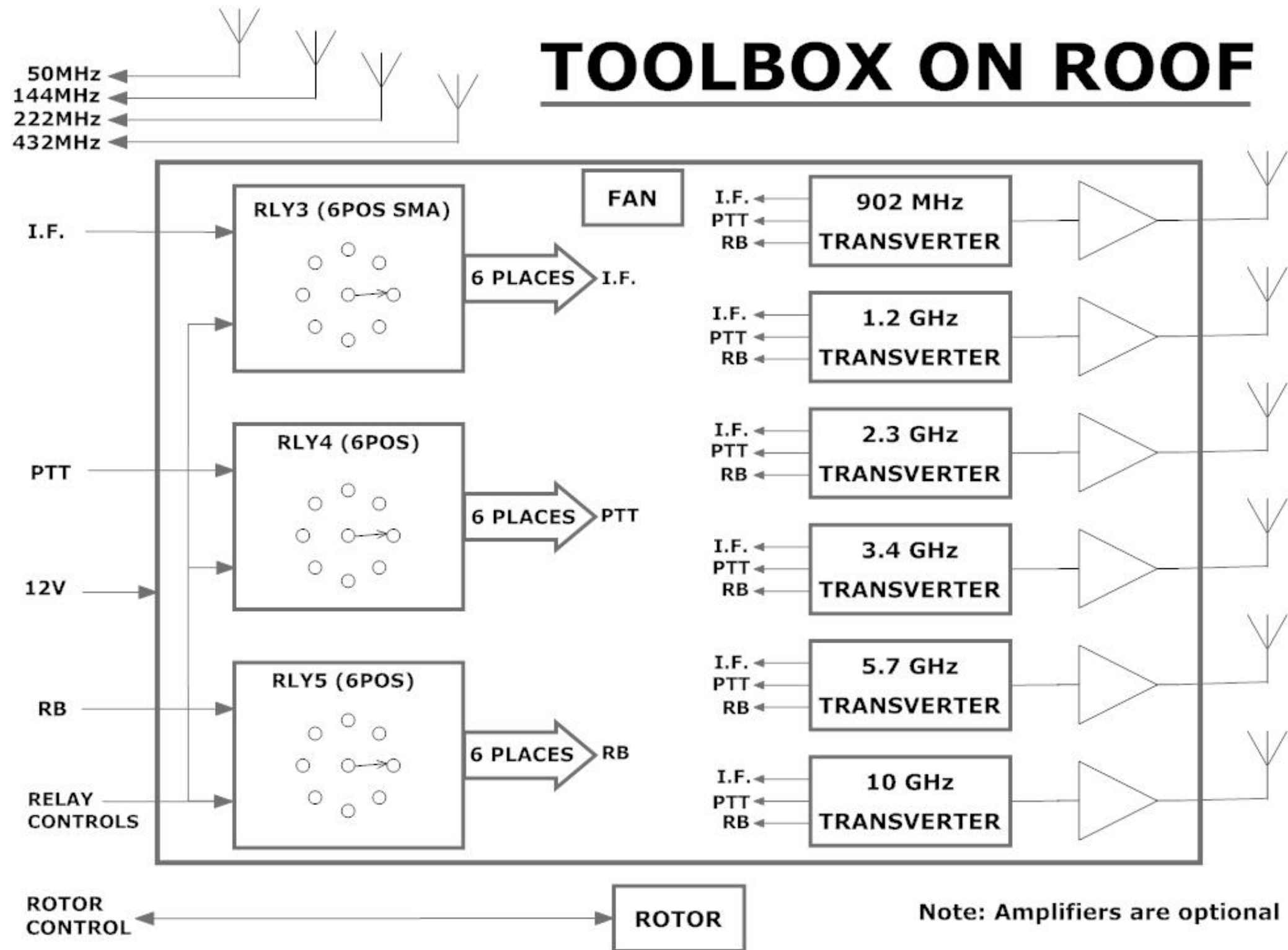


Switching inside tool box

CONSOLE IN CAR



TOOLBOX ON ROOF



Eight rovers in one place, 2009





June, 2010: 10 rover stations, 15 operators

W6TAI with her
10-band rover






W6TAI with N6NB's rover



Running single operator
portable with a tower trailer
(and rovers)

Cape Cod, MA (FN51),
October, 2012



A tall, slender metal lattice tower stands in a parking lot. At the top of the tower is a satellite dish and other electronic equipment. The tower is mounted on a green trailer, which is being pulled by a white minivan. The scene is set in a parking lot with several other vehicles in the background. There are trees with green and some autumn-colored leaves around the lot. A multi-story brick building is visible in the background on the right. The sky is clear and blue. In the top right corner, there are some tree branches with green and yellowing leaves.

Bensalem, PA
(FN20),
October, 2012



Center, Texas (EM22), January, 2013

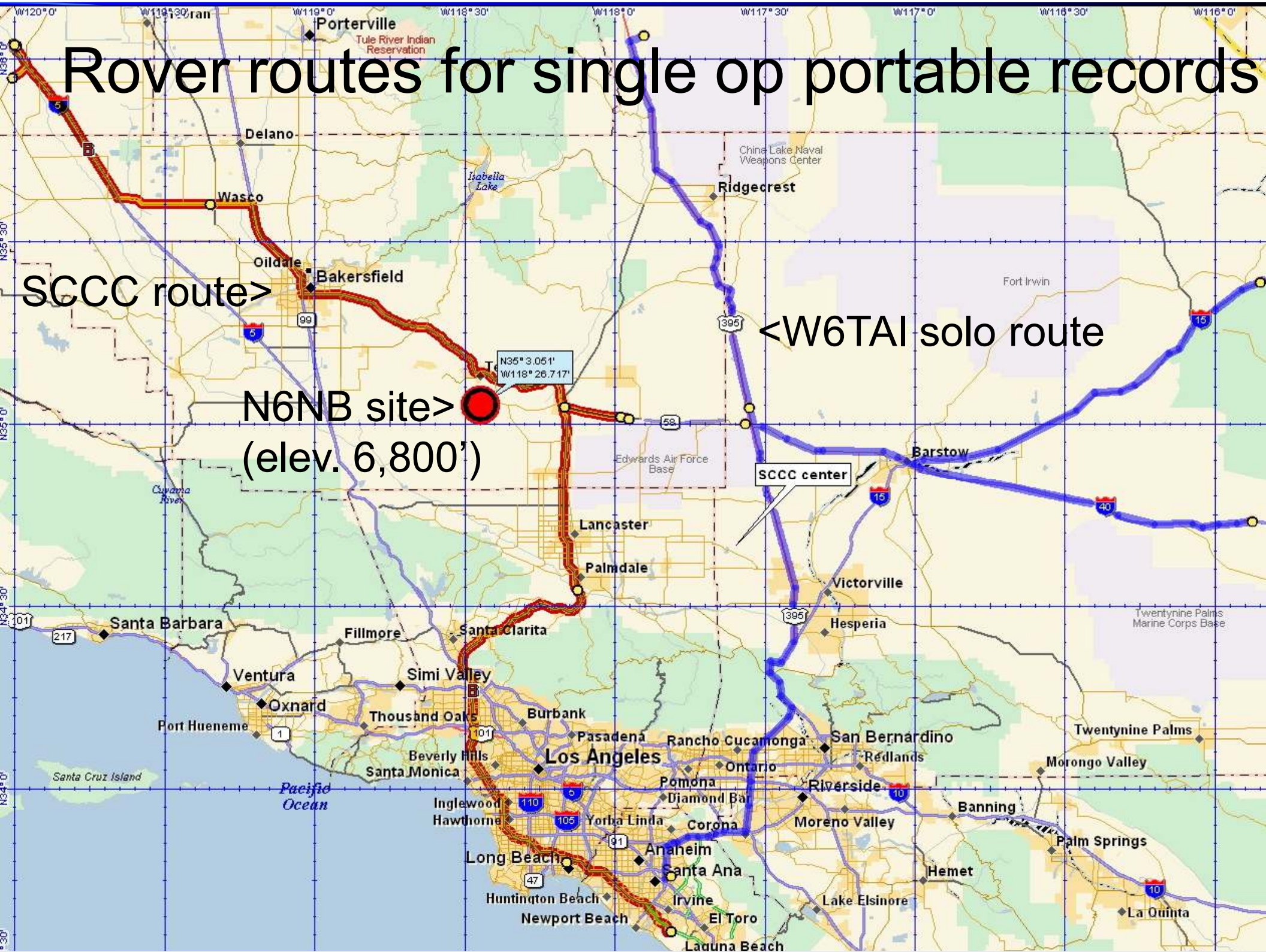


Newport Beach, CA (DM13), June, 2013

Madera, CA (CM96),
January, 2014/2015



Rover routes for single op portable records



Results under the grid square scoring system...

- Thirteen different Southern California Contest Club members have been #1 nationally as rovers at least once since 2003 by roving with the SCCC group
- SCCC has won twelve club gavels since 2009
- N6NB had nineteen #1 scores nationally as a rover and eight #1 scores in single op portable between 2003 and 2014, setting records in both categories

A special thanks...

I would like to thank the people who have roved with N6NB plus a few others who provided crucial logistics and support for these VHF expeditions over the years.

AA6DD	K6VCR	KI6AAY	N6MU	W6TAI
AE5P	K6WCI	KI6PXI	N6NC	W6TE
AE6Z	K6ZMW	KJ5MSY	N6TEB	W6TTF
AF6O	K7KOT	KJ6CNO	N6UWW	W6XD
K1DS	K7OFT	KK6KK	N6VI	W6XDX
K1FO	K9AOG	KT2B	N6ZZ	W6YLZ
K2MM	K9JK	N2IC	W1SL	W7DNU
K5FAY	KB2M	N6AA	W1TAI	W7FN
K5ME	KC6A	N6DN	W5FWR	WA6WTF
K5QE	KE5EXX	N6EY	W5TV	WA7KYZ
K5TRK	KE5GAQ	N6HB	W6EJJ	WB2WIK
K6AH	KE6HPZ	N6HC	W6IT	WB6BFG
K6FGV	KF5KEY	N6HD	W6KYO	WB6IDK
K6MI	KG6OKB	N6KYS	W6MT	WK5F
K6SVG	KG6TOA	N6MI		

The N6NB website



www.n6nb.com