



# Central States VHF Society E-Newsletter

Quarter ending Jun 30, 2003

## Tulsa Conference—Two Weeks!

This year the 37th annual Central States VHF Society conference will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma on July 24, through July 27 2003. Activities actually are on Friday and Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. You'll want to travel on Thursday and Sunday.

Although the pre-registration period has now passed, there is no penalty for walk-in registrations. You are encouraged to come! Any and all walk-ins are welcome and family program events are still available till the Bus is full at 53 participants per event. Go to the website at <http://members.cox.net/csvhfs/>, download the registration form so that you know what fees to anticipate. Just bring the form with you.

The time for special guaranteed hotel rates for the conference have passed—but that shouldn't stop you from contacting the hotel and seeing what you can work out. Be sure to mention Central States VHF Society.

The conference will be held at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel and Convention Center. The Renaissance is brand new just having been opened in early 2003. It is conveniently located on Tulsa East side, about a 10 minute drive from Tulsa International airport. This area is one of the areas in which Tulsa has experienced fantastic growth. The hotel sits right in one of Tulsa's major shopping and entertainment areas. There is a widely diversified selection of eating establishments available close to the hotel, as well. Shuttle service will NOT be provided by the hotel.

Thursday night: Registration 4pm till 9pm (again Fri morn)  
Also Party Suite in action  
Friday morning: Antenna Range and Noise Figure table  
Dealer Area all Day Friday and Sat.  
Friday Afternoon: Welcome and program content begins  
Friday Evening: Fleamarket, Party Suite, SNOTTS midnight  
Saturday: Program all day  
Saturday Evening: Banquet, Rod Blocksome KØDAS speaker  
Wilson and Chambers Awards present.  
States Above 50MHz Plaques  
Prizetable!

Tommy Henderson, WD5AGO, is in charge of the technical program and Joe Lynch, N6CL, is compiling papers for the proceedings. They are pleased with the content. Come to the conference to learn from the presentations.

The family program has multiple activities to choose from. Go to the conference webpage to learn the particulars <http://members.cox.net/csvhfs/>. Remember, walk-in registrations for family program activities are encouraged!

Be sure to check the conference web page at <http://members.cox.net/csvhfs/> for up-to-date news. The conference is just two weeks away. Between now and the conference, if you have questions, email Charlie, the conference President, at [k5ttt@tulsa.com](mailto:k5ttt@tulsa.com) to try and get some resolution or attention to your concern.

## Bring Prizes to the Conference

Please be generous with your fellow members—bring prizes for the ham table or for the spouse table.

## Bring Pre-amps to the Conference

Bring your pre-amp and have it measured and even tweaked with the guidance of an expert. You have time to whip up a pre-amp and bring it!

## Bring Antennas to the Conference

Have your VHF and above antenna measured on the range!

## Participate in the Society!

If you are an active VHF'er and member consider joining our Board of Directors and help guide our Society over the long-haul. Consider helping out on FCC, Database, WEBMaster, and Publicity committees. If you have other suggestions about actions, positions, and activities that you think the society should get involved in, come to the Conference ready to share your views and energy—in the hallways, in the party suite, and in the business meeting. If you can't attend the conference, contact any of the Board of Directors. You can email [me](mailto:me) with your thoughts and I'll run them by the rest of the board on an email distribution we have. At the end of this newsletter, I list your directors. I don't list their emails for anti-spam protection, but you can search QRZ for them.

## **Society Speaks Out To FCC on BPL**

Owen Wormser, K6LEW, is a Director of the society and our FCC Committee Chair. He has formulated a thoughtful and well-written position paper for our Society and submitted it to the proper channels in a timely manner for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking concerning Broadband Over Power Lines issue that is currently in front of the FCC. You may view the document at the Conference or contact [me](mailto:me) via email and I'll forward a Word .doc of same to you

## **States Above 50 MHz Award Program**

2002-2003 program year is over and it's time to send your results to me! I will accept them via snail-mail or via e-mail just as long as your electronic entry has all the same info I'm looking for on the downloadable logsheet. Either bring them to the conference to hand to me OR make sure I get them by July 22<sup>nd</sup> if you are competing for one of the top three plaques. Otherwise, just get them to me by August 31<sup>st</sup> and you'll get a nice certificate for participating. The program wrap-up will be in mid-September.

Please recall that this year Canadian Provinces count! (CY0 and CY9 count for NS). In the coming year, I'm going to add a .pdf form that is editable by you. I'm also going to make an excel spreadsheet available for download that was initiated by KØAWU. It's a handy multi-band document that works well for him and it might be helpful for you. If you have any other suggestions—run them by me.

In general, participation is slowly increasing across the country. But participation in Minnesota, whose NLRs club is using the program as a local event, far swamps the rest of the nation. Get your locals on the quest for states and start collecting states again because it's a new program year (2003-2004) as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Details and forms: <http://www.csvhfs.org/CSTEST0.HTML>

Full results and wrap-up will be in the September issue.

## **CSVHFS Logo Far and Wide**

When I was new to VHF/UHF weak-signal work back in 1989, I used to get QSL cards that had the Central States VHF Society logo on them. It's time to get the logo on today's members cards. Go to <http://www.csvhfs.org/filearea/logos/> and download the images to your computer. Then integrate them into your next QSL card order. Also, put them on your web-page to show your pride in our organization. You can

either put a hot-link behind them or not—but at least give our logo some airplay.

## **2004 Conference in Toronto**

Peter Shilton, VE3AX and Bob Morton, VE3BFM, will be your primary hosts for the 2004 conference in Toronto. Start planning now to spend your late-July of 04 by the cool waters of Lake Ontario. They are putting together a team that will put on an interesting and entertaining conference for us next year. They will make a formal invitation to all of us at this year's conference in Tulsa.

## **2005 Conference Host Needed!**

Who will be the conference host for 2005? As you might guess, conferences are a lot of work. However, without different groups stepping forward to meet the task, we won't have conferences. If you have an interest in hosting the 2005 conference, come to the conference in Tulsa ready to make an offer. 2004 is covered (Toronto) so you'd have two years to get ready and line up the team to handle all the tasks. Without too much orchestration, the conferences seem to be alternating "north" and "south" from year to year. (Toronto is "north" but also "east" ☺ ) So a "south" central location would be ideal, but this society won't discount any generous offer to host the 2005 conference. So is St Louis, Houston, or San Antonio ready to host a conference? (I think the Twin Cities is eyeing 2006.) If you can't come to the conference to make your 2005 offer, please contact any director or Gerald Handley W5DBY and put your name in the ring.

## **VHF FM Sprint Contest Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**

By KB9Q

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club sponsored an FM sprint back on February 9, 2003, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM local time. Goals were to spur activity, spur regional club competition, and to provide a taste of vhf contesting to new technicians. operation and encourage them to think beyond the rubber duck. Each of four bands above 50 MHz were scheduled for 30 minute segments starting with 2 meters, then 70 centimeters, 6 meters and 1.25 meters. We felt that this order and format would concentrate activity and would let those with out equipment for the less popular FM bands get in and get out!

All the rules, including frequencies, were available at The MRAC website <http://www.qsl.net/mrac/index.html> .

Over 35 different local call signs are listed in the logs. There were 18 logs and 16 entries received. The goal of getting the Technicians to learn the basics of contesting did not materialize. The entries and call signs heard were almost all from experienced

operators. I think local clubs might have a useful project helping newbies to operate simplex.

We did not get any entries from other areas. However, we did not promote in the national mags but, because it was run on local time, anyone anywhere could compete. I think national promotion would be indicated the next time. We do plan on doing it again on "The Second Sunday of the Second Month at Two O'clock." (2-2-2) My original thought was to do it sometime between the Superbowl and the Stanley Cup Playoffs. Carrying the thought forward I have suggested that we also have a strictly local event on the Green Bay Packer Bye Week Sunday.

I think the format of having each band activated for 30 minutes worked well. I think a change in the scoring values is indicated but those items are more of a fine tuning thing. Finally I think it would be necessary to promote it more aggressively to clubs. I plan on buying a "winning club plaque" and parading it around local radio club meetings. We already have permission to permanently display it at Amateur Electronics Supply here in Milwaukee.

FIRST PLACE: [AB9EK](#)  
SECOND PLACE: [W9UQ](#)  
FIRST PLACE HT NONAMPLIFIED: [N9MGJ](#)  
2 METERS: [K9VS](#)  
70 CENTIMETERS: [K9IZV](#)  
6 METERS: [W9UQ](#)  
1.25 METERS: [AB9EK](#)  
HIGH SCORING CLUB:  
[MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB](#)  
HIGH SCORE FOR A SWL: [N9LBN](#)  
SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR ACTIVATING EIGHT BAND-GRIDS WHILE MOBILE : [KB9WMJ](#)

## 2004 Papers and Presentations

It's not too early to start thinking about papers and presentations for next year's program. If you did not make this year's agenda, start thinking of topics you'd like to share with your fellow members. Your articles can be as short as one page or a full research project. The point is to share what you've learned with the membership. What is easy for you may be very challenging for someone new. Learning from you the step-by-step may help someone get on a new band and give you a new contact. Start formulating your topics and scope. In the September issue, I'll give you the points of contacts for Presentations and papers. I know that even I have a short paper or two in me and I'm a non-technical guy. If you have some things to share, our Proceedings is the place for them.

## 2002 Proceedings Still Available

2002 Proceedings are available for \$20.00, which includes shipping. A check or MO made out to Central States VHF Society and mailed to Bruce Richardson, W9FZ, 2330 Lexington Ave S. #312 Mendota Hts, MN 55120 will get a copy whisked to you in a padded envelope. The ARRL is selling these as well, but their cover price is \$20 and shipping is on top of that.

## Society Finances

As your Treasurer, please know that we are doing fine on fund balances. Our checking account is in good order and our Life Membership Fund sits untouched. Members may have received a year-end accounting in their mailings for the conference. If you wish to see the year-end accounting (and you are a member) [email me](#) and I'll send you a Word .doc of same. Last year's conference had money left over. This stemmed from budgeting for attendance in-line with historical levels. But actual attendance far exceeded that (208) so there were funds left over. Finance Committee guidance is to roll portions of any excess in to future conferences. So your conference team for this year and for next have funds to work with to drive banquet, registration, and family program fees down or to keep them reasonable. Also, your Board of Directors, when faced with leftover funds from a conference sometimes makes token donations of support to related organizations such as AMSAT, ARRL Defense of Frequencies, and SETI League.

## -- Tidbits --

Look at <http://w9fz.com/milw2002/csvhf02.html> to look at what transpired at the 2002 Conference in Milwaukee.

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## Submit Stuff!

Send along material!

Bruce Richardson, W9FZ  
2330 Lexington Ave S. #312  
Mendota Hts, MN 55120  
<mailto:w9fz@ix.netcom.com>

## Need Emails for:

Help me with updated emails for:

K0VSV W0RSJ W0NKN WB0DRL WK0O W0GN  
K1OYB AA2GF AB5IG WA5YOU WB5IPM KB5ZMY  
N5CLP K5PHD WJ6T N6HQK W7JF W9KHH K9EK

If you've contacted one of these gents recently please let them know that [w9fz@csvhfs.org](mailto:w9fz@csvhfs.org) sure could use their fresh email address. Thanks!

What are YOU doing for the two 10GHZ weekends? Send along details after the fact for the September 30 Newsletter.

## **Society Directors**

Charlie Calhoun Jr, K5TTT (President)  
(2001-2003 Director)  
Tommy Henderson, WD5AGO (Vice President)  
(2001-2003 Director)  
Rod Blocksome, K0DAS (2001-2003 Director)  
Kent Britain, WA5VJB (2001-2003 Director)  
Bill Caldwell, N0LNO (2001-2003 Director)  
Gerald Handley, W5DBY (2001-2003 Director)  
Ron Marosko Jr., NN5DX (2001-2003 Director)

Ken Boston, W9GA (Past President and  
2002-2004 Director)  
Marc Holdwick, N8KWX (2002-2004 Director)  
Mike King, KMØT (2002-2004 Director)  
Bruce Richardson, W9FZ (Treasurer)  
(2002-2004 Director)  
Bryan Ward, N5QGH (2002-2004 Director)  
Owen Wormser, K6LEW (Director)  
Dave Calvert, KBØPE (2002-2004 Director)

## **Officers and Other Interested Parties**

Larry C. Hazelwood, W5NZS (Secretary)  
Tom Bishop, (K0TLM) (Assistant Secretary)  
Lauren Libby, WØLD (Assistant Treasurer)

Joel Harrison, W5ZN (ARRL Vice-President)  
Bob Morton, VE3BFM (2004 Conference Host)  
Peter Shilton, VE3AX (2004 Conference Host)  
Chuck Clark, AF8Z (2005 Conference Bid)  
Paul Shuch, N6TX (Executive Director of SETI)  
Bill Tynan, W3XO (Historian & Chairman AMSAT BOD)  
Jon Lieberg, KØFQA (Committee Chairperson)

## **COMMITTEES**

AWARDS COMMITTEE  
Kent Britain, WA5VJB, Chairperson

PUBLICITY/RECRUITMENT  
Bryan Ward, N5QGH, Chairperson

DATA BASE COMMITTEE  
\*Vacant\*, Chairperson

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Al Ward, W5LUA, Chairperson

FCC COMMITTEE  
Owen Wormser, K6LEW, Chairperson

VHF/UHF/MICROWAVE COUNCIL  
Kent Britain, WA5VJB

STATES ABOVE 50MHZ AWARD COMMITTEE  
Bruce Richardson, W9FZ, Chairperson

WORLD WIDE WEB HOME PAGE COMMITTEE  
Jon Lieberg, K0FQA

PROCEEDINGS ON CD ROM COMMITTEE  
Jon Lieberg, K0FQA