



Central States VHF Society

E-Newsletter

Quarter ending March 31, 2002

Continuing Towards Milwaukee!

Ken Boston, W9GA, the Badger Contesters, and the conference staff invite you to the annual conference in Milwaukee this coming July 26th and 27th. They are working hard on putting together an entertaining conference for you.

The conference team continues to hold meetings hammering out the details for this summer. The first mailing went out in early March. **The second mailing—which is the actual registration packet—goes out in early May.** There were some who wrote wondering where the registration materials were. All will be revealed in May. The registration packet is a good way to send in your \$5 for continuing membership even if you are not going to attend the conference because it gives you an opportunity to also purchase a Proceedings.

Presenters are being lined up for a variety of presentations. The family program is being finalized. The full details of the family program will be in the registration mailing and will be added to our conference web page (<http://w9fz.com/milw2002/csvhf02.html>).

If you did not receive the first mailing and have not previously contacted W9FZ in order to receive the second mailing, contact w9fz@csvhfs.org in order to make sure you receive the 2nd mailing (registration packet).

Call for Papers and Presentations

We have some interesting presentations already committed. However, we could still use more. If you have a project or topic about which you think the rest of our membership would be interested, consider creating a presentation or paper or both pronto! Make it difficult for our Program Chair to schedule all of the fine presentations.

If you are interested in writing and/or presenting a paper for the 2002 Conference, please send an email to n8kwx@csvhfs.org. Or write to:

Marc Holdwick
PO Box 6051
Buffalo Grove, IL, 60089

You can use overhead transparencies, Powerpoint, or whatever. Papers are welcome in either paper or

electronic format, but will be required by mid-May to be included in the Proceedings. Please contact Marc as soon as possible with an abstract or even a general idea. Contact Marc for your actual deadline.

Try and Avoid This!

By Tom Miller AC5TM

Jefferson Amateur Radio Club (W5GAD EL49) nears completion of 1 year of negotiations and construction replacing the club's tower with a larger commercial tower. This tower will include antennas to support Voice Stream Operations in the New Orleans area. The negotiations were conducted by Mark Unland (WB9VTN) and Ira Weber (N5OGW) (more time than they cared to do) with help from attorney Tommy Millner. Now after a period of one year the tower is up VS is operational and most of the antennas are functional however the 6 meter beam is pointed the wrong way and has bent elements. I (AC5TM) serve as Tech Advisor for JARC on the project. The only other item on the punch are some noise issues. The beam was facing the correct way but did not work. ATC brought the antenna back down where a crushed jumper was replaced. I stopped by the clubhouse for a meeting only to find the beam was back up but now facing the wrong direction with different bent elements. It is painfully clear that this crew has never dealt with beams. A second problem did occur which was when we rotated the antennas one of the cables feeding the repeater antenna was ripped out of its connector. The jumpers have been all replaced but it was too windy to work on the beam.

The antennas are: top spot M2 432-13WLA 18.6dbd 146' next down 2M5WL 14.7dbd and finally a 6M2WLC 11.9 dbd at 139' offset to the side 42" starting at 135' is a DB224 VHF vertical 22' long. The testing so far has indicated that all antennas work. The six beam has a slight droop and does not seem to perform as well as it should when it gets turned around and the droop is removed it should work better. I am looking forward to the Sprints and VHF June test. I will try also to get on by early mornings on the weekends.

New CSVHFS Website Feature— Online Manual Search

Our webmaster, KØFQA, has prowled the web extensively and found some resources that may be

helpful to you. He has created a page that helps you find radio and test-gear manuals that are on-line—usually in .pdf format. Go to <http://www.csvhfs.org/CSMANUAL.HTML> and take a look around and then bookmark it.

CSHVFS Logos

Our society logo is distinctive and has been around for years. You can see it in the upper-left corner of this e-newsletter. As a member, you are welcome to use this logo on your QSL cards or whatever else you see fit. It gives visibility to our fine and friendly group. We have a set of graphic files that are available only to members for downloading. These are not advertised openly on our web-page but rather the link here is the only reference you will see to their location. <http://www.csvhfs.org/filearea/logos/> is the place to go. You will find GIF's, TIF's, and a JPG of our logo in different sizes. Download each of them into your machine for use as you see fit.

CSVHFS Life Membership

Yes, they are still available. See the www.csvhfs.org/ website and follow the link.

Life Members: this coming May, when you get your registration documents, there will be a place to "check" if you are a Life Member and thereby skip the \$5 annual membership fee. Also, concerning nametags, if your Callsign changes, you need a replacement, or you would like a nametag that doesn't have a (charter life member) "number" on it, a new one can be obtained. Just contact W9FZ and work out the details with him. Cost will be about \$15+ delivered.

Need Email Addresses for:

If you know any of these current email addresses, please send them along to w9fz@ix.netcom.com.

AB5IG WB5TBL KA2KQM

States Above 50 MHz Award Program 2002 In Progress

The 2002 Program is in progress. Please continue to take the program as a challenge to your day-to-day operating and encourage your friends to participate. Remember, all your contacts from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002 count for this award. It's not too tough to go back into your logs and see what you've worked.

Our top two participants from last year are using the program again this year as a motivator to their activity

and each of them will top last years numbers of states worked. They each have some amazing numbers to report and who knows what they'll work between now and June 30th. Get in there and see what you can accomplish!

See the website at <http://www.csvhfs.org/> for details on this program and its historical records. This program helps encourage or motivate activity on our VHF+ bands by causing you to collect "states" each year. The program runs July 1 to June 30 of each year.

For the current 2001-2002 program in progress, Canadian provinces do NOT count. Due to inputs received, the program is being modified in the future to allow Canadian Provinces in the 2002-2003 program year. The published rules will be modified by that time to give clear direction.

-- Tidbits --

++ (This is corrected info) Al Katz, K2UYH, publishes a newsletter all about EME. He's been publishing his newsletter for 30 years!!! Scott, KD4LT cscott@surfsouth.com handles the NL's E-MAIL distribution list. People should tell Scott if they want the NL sent in text or PDF format. You can get on a distribution by contacting Scott, but you can view past issues by visiting: <http://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/em70cm.html>

++ Matt NM9H, and Sean KX9X would like to announce their upcoming grid DXpedition to DN95 in Campbell County, South Dakota. This Grid DXpedition will last 8 days from June 6 to June 14, 2002, and will include a Limited Multi-op entry in the ARRL VHF QSO Party. We will be active on 50MHz, 144 MHz, 222 MHz and 432 MHz with beam antennas and high-power amplifiers. We will also be active on HF for anybody who needs the county, state, or grid square on HF. We will be active on SSB, CW, WSJT, JT44 and possibly other requested modes. For complete details and information, or to schedule a QSO, please visit our DN95 DXpedition web site. It is at: <http://www.cahcare.com/dn95> Feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

++ Cedar Rapids Microwave Web Pages: Steve, NAØIA, sent along some websites of potential interest:

Club main page:
<http://www.rf.org/crms/>

Rover and Contest Reports:
http://www.rf.org/crms/rover_reports/rover_reports.html

Please be patient the pictures are very large!
KAØYSQ has pictures of my rover on his web page:
<http://www.rf.org/farmers/ka0ysq/>

he has links to pictures of the Jan 2002 Rover Run at the bottom of his page

KØDAS has his Rover Report at <http://www.rf.org/farmers/k0das/>
He has more picture links at the bottom of the page.
Pictures of my rover are on the YSQ page:
NAØIA Rover Antenna Farm for Run and Gun— 50-1296

<http://www.rf.org/farmers/ka0ysq/980402-006.jpg>

NAØIA Rover 2304 Secret Weapon antennas:

<http://www.rf.org/farmers/ka0ysq/g980402-008.jpg>

NAØIA Rover Operating Position

<http://www.rf.org/farmers/ka0ysq/g980402-007.jpg>

The Club Jan 2002 Score: 404,000 points

http://www.rf.org/crms/rover_reports/janvhf02_clubscore.html

NØCIH has been try to improve on my Double Diamond

Antennas with what we have dubbed the "Iowa Bug Slicer":

http://www.rf.org/crms/projects/special_projects.html

then look at the NØCIH pages

++ Lance Collister W7GJ sends along that he continues to update his web-page concerning EME arrays. He has some good stuff on a 6m EME array—something not easy to do! Check out his web-page at:

<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/6mEME.htm>

For Sale

(All of the proceedings that we had sold.)

Classy CSVHFS Polo shirts. These great shirts are visible on the web at:

<http://www.csvhfs.org/CSVHFSRT.HTML>. They are of great material and are at great prices (for CSVHFS members). We've got all four sizes: XXL, XL, L, and M. Buy these shirts!!! Price is \$15 for XL, L, and M and \$17.50 for XXL. Shipping is \$3.50 for one and \$5.20 for two. (Only 6 L's left!)

SETI League News

The W2ETI 1296.000 MHz EME beacon is now operational at the 150 Watt level. Technical details and operating schedule may be found at <http://www.setileague.org/eme>.

Earn your Extra-Terrestrial QSL Cards for reception of natural or artificial radio signals from space. See <http://www.setileague.org/awards/qslcard.htm> for more information.

Receiving signals from space? Apply now for your ETCC (Extra-Terrestrial Century Club) certificate for verified reception of five or more signals from satellites, natural radio sources, via meteors, off the Moon, or even from ET! Details at <http://www.setileague.org/awards/etcc.htm>.

The SETI League has begun work on its Very Small Array (VSA), a prototype radio telescope built from eight satellite

TV dishes. Photos and further information online at <http://www.setileague.org/vsa>.

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Come to the Conference! Check the web-page for info on how to reserve your hotel room. The rate is good for up to four occupants. Get with other interested hams in your area and share rides and split the cost of your room. If you will be flying in, consider the specials we arranged with Midwest Express and Northwest. Details, again, are on the web-pages

<http://w9fz.com/milw2002/csvhf02.html>

One more pitch for Oshkosh Airshow. If you are nutty about aviation, you'll want to attend AirVenture2002 (new name for Oshkosh Airshow) on either Wed/Thurs/Sunday July 24/25/28 on either side of our conference. Rooms in the Oshkosh area frequently book up so having a room in Milwaukee and driving the 75-90 minutes to Oshkosh is a good solution. You just need to extend your hotel reservations in Milwaukee to cover your extra days.

<http://www.airventure.org/>