

N.E.W.S. LETTER

The Publication of the North East Weak Signal Group

November, 2012

Volume 21

Issue 7



NEXT MEETING: 11/17/2011

BOARD MEETING - 11:30 AM at Hibachi Grille and Supreme Buffet,
14 Hazard Ave. Enfield, CT.. I-91 exit 47 Rt.190E. (860)-745-8808
(this is the Old Hometown Buffet location).

www.yelp.com/biz/hibachi-grill-and-supreme-buffet-enfield

GENERAL MEETING - STORRS LIBRARY - from 1 PM to approximately 3:45 PM.

DON'T FORGET

**The North East Weak Signal Group
2 Meter VHF and Above Net
Every Thursday at 8:30 PM local 144.250 MHz.
W1COT, WZ1V or K1PXE Net Control**

MEMBERSHIP in the N.E.W.S. Group is \$15 per year. Apply to Tom Williams, WA1MBA. Email [tomw\(at\)wa1mba.org](mailto:tomw(at)wa1mba.org) You may download an application from our web page:

<http://www.newsvhf.com/>

The N.E.W.S. LETTER is the publication of the North East Weak Signal Group. Articles may be reprinted with proper credit given to the author and the N.E.W.S. LETTER. Send articles to Tom Filecco W1WSO, via email to w1wso@comcast.net.

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come.

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3456, 5760, 10 GHz.

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ACTIVE ON: 6, 2, 432, 1296

Presidents Report

R. L. Frey – WA2AAU

Before any other routine comments, I would like to express my profound sadness to learn that Bruce Wood – N2LIV passed away on October 20, 2012. It was good to see Bruce one last time during the July Picnic. Bruce served the VHF and microwave community as an officer of the NEWS group (and before), as well as Chairman of the Eastern VHF/UHF conference. Thanks, Bruce and May You Rest In Peace. – Info from Ron, WZ1V

This has been a rather exciting two months since our last meeting. First we had the joint North East and Mid-Atlantic VHF conference in cooperation with the Pack Rats in the Philadelphia area. I want to especially thank members of the Eastern VHF Conference Committee for an excellent job working with the Pack Rats putting on a great conference. The hotel was a little hard to find, behind some other buildings, but other than that, it was great! I also want to thank all the members who went to Bensalem, PA to attend the joint conference. It was nice to see a good turnout from our area at the joint event. A very nice touch I found particularly helpful was the FOOD at the Friday night swap! I had just driven about 6 hours from the Albany area and was tired and hungry, not wanting to stop along the route. I wasn't sure what to do for supper and, what do you know, FOOD and FLEAS all in the same room! Thanks guys!

The very next weekend I was surprised and pleased to see several NEWS members out in San Jose, CA for the Microwave Update 2012 conference. Paul and Tom gave papers at the conference that were well received. Many interesting topics were covered in the 2 days of presentations. For me, one of the most interesting aspects of the MUD conferences, especially when they are held in the San Francisco, LA, or Dallas area is the opportunity to visit nearby surplus dealers on the day before the conference. This year was no exception with lots of surplus stores on the list provided by the conference hosts. There were actually more stores available than there was time to visit on the day before the conference.

I chose to join a group that visited the "All Phone Company" in Concord, California, Northeast of San Francisco across the bay, beyond Oakland. The conference hosts made special arrangements for the company to have a group of hams come shopping that day. The company specializes in used microwave gear taken out of service from point-to-point networks. We wandered through a huge warehouse of microwave gear ranging from 2 GHz to 18 GHz and higher, with lots and lots of equipment on 5.9-6.4 GHz and quite a bit on 10.55-11.7 GHz. I personally picked out a pair of 10.55 GHz transmitter-receiver shelves to make into 10.368 transverters. The company gladly agreed to box and ship my stuff by UPS directly to my home for just \$25. That sure beats than hauling an additional suitcase through the

airport and paying a checked baggage fee of \$25 or more to the airline!

Seriously, the Microwave Update conferences are really very good, and if you have never attended one, you should plan to attend especially when they are nearby. Next year, Jeff Kruth at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky will host the Microwave Update conference. Morehead is about 65 miles East of Lexington, KY on I-64. Morehead has a very nice new Space Science Center where they hosted the Southeast VHF conference a couple of years ago. It has a beautiful multimedia presentation hall and a large 21-meter dish on a hill behind the campus. It is a very interesting place to visit and one of just a few schools where students can really get their hands dirty in RF engineering as an undergraduate. They even have an indoor antenna range.

Speaking of exciting events, how did all the members fare with Hurricane Sandy? Did anyone suffer major damage? How about the hams in southern Connecticut or on Long Island? I wonder how K1TEO's antennas fared during the storm. Bring your war stories to the meeting if you can come.

For a presentation this meeting, I have asked Dave – K1WHS to give us an update on the troubles he has recently had with the rock anchors holding the guy wires for his towers. Dave discovered a very interesting (and scary) problem with his tower anchors late this August and September that caused him to miss operating the September VHF contest. If time permits, I plan to have some audio recordings of 903 and 902 MHz noise made at various locations throughout the northeast. It is interesting that the topic of changing our operating frequency from 903.1 to 902.1 MHz also came up at the NEWS-Pack Rats conference without my pushing it. We are not the only ones thinking about moving the standard operating frequency down to the bottom of the band.

Secretary's Report

Paul Wade – W1GHZ

NEWS Meeting 29 September 2012, Storrs Library, Longmeadow, MA

Preceded by a Board of Directors meeting

President WA2AAU called meeting to order at 1323

TREASURERS REPORT by WA1MBA

- 77 paid members to date + 14 permanent members
- Balance \$4419
- Report Approved unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N1EKV estate sales total more than \$10800
- Joint PackRats - Eastern VHF/UHF Conference 10/13

- 8 or 9 members going
- MUD 10/19-20; 5 members going

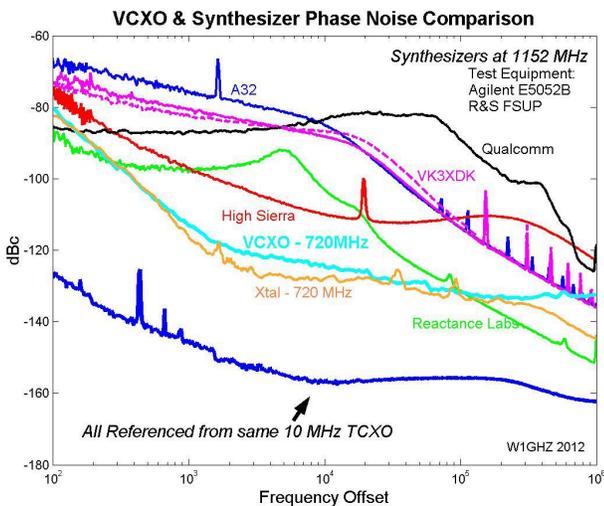
OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

- 2013 Eastern VHF/UHF Conference
 - W1MAP and KA1ZE have negotiated hotel
 - W1MAP presented possible dates
 - Consensus: April 27 preferred
- Meeting dates for 2013
 - Jan 5; 13 second choice
 - Mar 9
 - April at Conference
 - July picnic 13 or 27
 - Sep 28
 - Nov 23

PRESENTATIONS

- N1JEZ and W1EX - 10 GHz beacon on Mt. Mansfield, VT
FN34uj 10368.320
 - AA1I - Raspberry Pi and Funcube.
OK1CDZ www.hamshop.cz has some useful stuff
- Meeting adjourned at approximately 1515



Treasurer's Report

Tom Williams – WA1MBA

The treasury and membership remain at good levels for this time of year. We are in the process of finalizing the N1EKV donation, and may have news about that at the next meeting.

I was pleased to be able to attend the Microwave Update conference in Santa Clara California this year, along with at least three other club members. It was very informative (as usual) with all kinds of news and a great social gathering as well.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Lunar-Link Systems is acquired by
Louis Parascondola W1QJ & Steve Simons W1SMS.**

Danbury, Connecticut - October 15, 2012 - The Lunar-Link amplifier business has been acquired from the estate of the late Steve Powlishen; K1FO.

According to Steve Simons; W1SMS, the business will immediately be know as "Lunar-Link International". We are looking forward to expanding the company's global market footprint.

Lunar-Link International will offer the same high quality legal limit output VHF / UHF linear amplifiers, accessories, technical support, repairs and, replacement parts as in the past. Customer service has always been a priority and we look forward to continuing these values.

Lou; W1QJ states that new product orders will be accepted now with deliveries starting in the first quarter of 2013.

Lunar-Link International manufacturers high power VHF and UHF linear amplifiers and accessories for use by amateur radio stations in demanding weak signal applications including EME, contesting and, digital modes.

Contact:

Steven M. Simons
w1sms@manitousys.com
 33 Ball Pond Road
 Danbury, CT USA
 203-733-2110

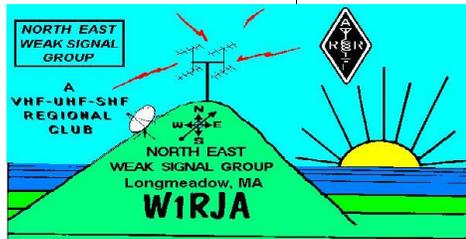
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Street: _____

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Phone (home) _____ Optional (work) _____

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ARRL member? Y N Electronic Newsletter Delivery? Y N

Operational Bands (circle) 50 MHz 144 MHz 222 MHz 432 MHz 903 MHz

1.2 GHz 2.3 GHz 3.4 GHz 5.6 GHz 10 GHz 24 GHz 47 GHz

76 GHz Light Other (list)

The North East Weak Signal [N.E.W.S.]Group is being established to form a camaraderie among fellow VHF-UHF-SHF enthusiasts, and support a convenient means to exchange technical information. We currently have 6 meetings per year, held at a centrally located facility, and provide a "NEWSLETTER" that is distributed 2 weeks prior to each meeting. Any contributions to this publication are appreciated and can be sent to: Tom Filecco, W1WSO via email – w1wso@comcast.net. Dues are \$15/year. Remember, this group is formed by VHF'ers for VHF'ers.

Mail to:

North East Weak Signal Group
c/o WA1MBA Tom Williams PO Box 28
Shutesbury, MA 01072



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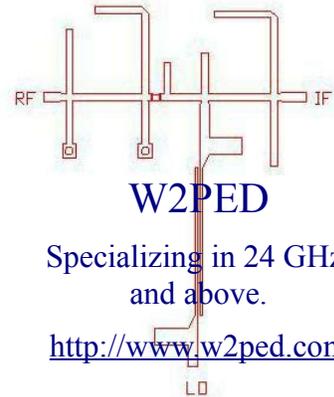
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