

# THE VHF JOURNAL

Published by The Rochester VHF Group October 2000 <http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org>  
Club Memorial Call: W2UPH



2000 ARRL 10GHz and Above Contest  
The Rochester VHF Group goes to work!  
(L to R) N2JMH, N2OPW, WO2P, N2KXS, KB2VGH

## Inside:

**DEMI FACTORY TOUR!**

**Airplane Scatter on uW by K2RIW**

**GAIN COAX WARNINGS by CCC!**

*New 5760 project proposed*

# VHFBILL



## The Rochester VHF Group

\*Club memorial call: W2UTH\*

Club website @ <http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org>

### Welcome to the October edition of the RVHFG VHF Journal.

We'll keep it short this month- let the contents speak for themselves for the most part. All those people who said they'd do interviews and write them up for the Journal: Where are they?

Welcome to old friend N2CEI and Downeast Microwave, who has taken an ad out in the Journal for the next year's run. I'm not sure where you'd be going with pack mules on your trip to a new grid, but if you need 'em, I'm sure you can count on Steve to find them! Layout for the ad was done right here on Amherst Island.

Check out the article on Airplane scatter by K2RIW forwarded by K2EV- especially for those who have nice new shiny 10GHz transverters. And, of course, are you ready for 5GHz? Look to K2AXX's CHAIRMAN'S RANT for info on another proposed club project.

N2GKM, our FN31 correspondent comes thru again with a report on MICROWAVE UPDATE 2000, with an exclusive, illustrated article on the DOWNEAST MICROWAVE FACTORY TOUR! As Homer Simpson sez: "*Whoooo Hoooo!*"

73 es DX2U, EH ...*de* VE3IEY

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**Commentary and articles:** via e-mail to editor VE3IEY: [tantonr@kingston.net](mailto:tantonr@kingston.net). Use standard ASCII text, Corel's Word Perfect or send as a regular e-mail message.

**Photos and drawings:** via e-mail, and can be sent in any format that is available (JPG, GIF and TIFF are the most common).

**Assistant Editor, printer, membership & data-magician:** N2KXS

**Advertising space is now available in the Journal.** Contact the editor for One thru Twelve month rates. Layout services are free of charge.

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### Our "Who's Who":



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Mailing list Majordomo in charge: KB2VGH (see above & below)



Jeff, KB2VGH sez: "There is only \*one\* mailing list [you'll ever need...]" [Rvhfg@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org](mailto:Rvhfg@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org)  
It is setup to broadcast to all RVHFG members

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**This issue: Units of measure.**

365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling: 1 liteyear

# OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE

The second RVHFG meeting of the year will be held October 13th at 111 Westfall Road, starting 7:30pm.

AC3A, Scott Olitsky, will be presenting the Basics of EME. Scott has been very successful with a relatively small station (4 x 9 Element yagis on 144 MHz) - and will tell you that more than likely YOU can make contacts via the moon!

## Chairman's Rant:

Mark, K2AXX

OK Folks, Business time. This means you need to do the following things pretty quickly in no specific order:

- 1) **Start planning your antenna projects.** Outdoor work will stop in the next month or so. You need to replace feed lines, change to a newer antenna for 2m, and get that 10GHz transverter mounted on the tower. . . . do it now. Ask for help if you need it.
- 2) **Start attending the RVHFG meetings,** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month. This month we've got a pretty cool topic Beginning EME, by AC3A. Seriously, if you've got a 160w brick and single antenna, you can work someone via the moon! Ever thought about working SWEDEN on 2m? It's doable.
- 3) **Get your stuff built.** Preamps, transverters get

moving! November brings the annual tune-up clinic. When do you have an opportunity to check the noise figure of your new 2m preamp? Or check the total gain of your 10GHz station? OR test the pattern of your 5/10GHz feedhorn? This is the time.

4) **Oh yeah pay up!** If you've not renewed, you won't be seeing this much longer. It's still only \$10 to renew, the cheapest ticket around.

A decent list - hang it on your 'fridge as your official Honey-Do list. Now, more RVHFG business at hand. We need to fill a few elected positions still this year. The post of Vice-Chairman is vacant, as is the Contest Chairman post. PLEASE, if you are interested in serving as either get in touch with one of the elected folk. We'd be really happy to railroad you in! Send an email message to [vhf@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org](mailto:vhf@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org) if you have any interest in doing so. We HAVE to hold an election in October the constitution requires that to happen. Make it painless for your fellow members - make it a shoe-in.

The 10GHz contest was WILD! The 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend we tasted real DX on those bands! Not just the 40w stations, either. WO2P, N2KXS and KB2VGH all worked distances of over 150km, VGH finishing off his VUCC award (EN94xa) from FN02! The W2UTH club station finished the contest with a total score of over 7300 points a FIRST from WNY! The best dx was 380km (Mt. Equinox, VT) and a total of 10 Grids for both weekends (VUCC + one endorsement!).

Last topic since the 10GHz project was so great, let's work backwards. I'm proposing we build the DEMI 5GHz transverter as the next project! This unit offers ~10mW output, reasonable noise figure and simpler construction (only 2 pipe cap filters to solder!).

MANY MANY amplifiers are available for these (Avantek made a 10w solid-state brick, which are routinely available for ~\$80 or so) and easily adapted. PLUS we can build the combination 5/10GHz feeds as designed by W5LUA, with copper plumbing parts! This would give you a dual-band station, perfect for roving, etc. Add a prime-focus dish, bingo!

Since we know how well the 10GHz paths work, 5GHz should be even BETTER! I'll be discussing this at the next meeting, and hopefully having some details to share with the group (prices, etc).

That's it. Business as usual. -AXX

*For all your U/W Roving Needs...*



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to 10GHz  
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# WEAK SIGNAL NEWS

...de N2JMH

Fast approaching events of interest to the vhf and above crowd include the 2000 version of VHF Academy sponsored by the RVHFG and hosted by Ev W2EV and a fine group of course instructors on Saturday, November 11. Information can be found on the RVHFG web page at <http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org> and also elsewhere in the Journal. This is a must attend for anyone newly interested in vhf and above hams and prospective hams alike.

Two days before the Academy will be the Second annual RVHFG sponsored All Band Sprint. Complete rules can also be found on the web page and in last month's journal. With a meeting on the Friday in between these two events, it looks like it will be a busy weekend.

The second weekend of the 10-gig contest has come and gone with very positive results for everyone. I was fortunate enough to participate in this stage of the event and I will tell you it was a blast making voice Q's with my >5mw in the 40 and 50 kilometer range. Some of the stations with more power made much longer contacts and it was impressive watching these home built setups work.

The September contest was my second opportunity to try and work out the bugs in my new rover setup and as some could probably tell by my non- appearance at the club meeting on Friday night. I have some improvements to do before January. As we got ready to leave for the meeting, I discovered that I had drained both my batteries in the van.

Participation seemed average with no band openings during the contest and with a noticeable lack of a few big stations it was only average. Hopefully everyone is gearing up for January, it will be a good chance to work any band up to 10 gig from the 4 grids around here.

I have not noticed many propagation reports come through the reflectors lately and I guess that is a sign of nothing happening or it is a result of the e-mail reflectors being clogged up with post contest call frequency and proper station etiquette arguments going on. If you get involved in some unusual propagation drop me a note and I will be sure to include it in my ramblings.

Mark, K2AXX has put together a nice line-up of speakers

for the next few meetings so please try to attend as these individuals give up a lot to come to our meetings as guests. A full house makes them happy I am sure. Along with the club meeting thing there has been talk of the next club project and what we should do. You should voice your opinion on what will be, and don't be shy to join in. With the expertise in this club and the access to some high tech test equipment it is amazing what you can build. The perfect example is that I built a 10 gig "working" transverter.

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## N2JMH/R Results for Sept 'Test

Jim Howard <n2jmh@arrl.net>

Gang, My second attempt at roving was a learning experience to say the least. Learned some key aspects of how it should be done, and what my goals are for the next time. I figure the 6 meter halo cost me at least 10k in points, a big mouth(300 watts) and no ears just will not do. Will be changed for next time. Whatever breaks on the road will be the only spare part that was left at home.

Watching the tri-band feed (2,3,5 gig) blow away on I-81 is really depressing, especially when it is borrowed. The 2 gig looper saved the day. Whatever time you figure before the contest you might as well just double it, because it always takes longer than you think it will. 0 attempts on 10gig equals 0 qso's no matter how you look at it.

Stay east young man, we had a blast in fn22 and fn23, thanks to all the folks in the northeast area for a lot of q's. See ya in Jan. test (with improvements) Jim N2JMH and Todd N2WVK

FINAL SCORE = 76035

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### Once more, for emphasis:

### RVHFG POSITIONS OPEN

The RVHFG is still looking for the following positions to be filled (and quickly, too!):

>Vice Chairman (elections need to happen this October, otherwise will be vacant)

>Contest Chairman (NEED this one to be filled!)

If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact me directly. OR if you know someone who might be, let me know, and I will try contacting them as well.

Thank you in advance.

Mark, K2AXX

Half of a large intestine: 1 semicolon

# MUD Surplus tour Final Stop: DEMI Factory Tour!

Norman Krajkowski <n2gkm@worldnet.att.net>

The Final Stop of my MUD 2000 Surplus tour was at Down East Microwave in Frenchtown, NJ.

This was very well organized. The turnout was so high that they rented the Fire hall next door to use a sales and pre-tour staging area. They had a cold buffet lunch and snacks.

Several of the Vendors that will be at the evening flea markets at the MUD Hotel were set up in the Fire hall. I bought 6 Coax jumpers from WA8WZG for \$5 each. I got 4 three footers and two 6 footers. They are 1/2" superflex with a N male on one end and a DIN female on the other. I figured they would go well with some lengths of 7/8s that I bought that had DIN males on one end.



Now for the D E M I Tour. Talk about a Cottage Business!

The first photo shows the entrance to the DEMI

Operation. Does it look like you're walking into a basement?



Yes, the whole operation is in the Basement of Steve's house. I guesstimate it to be 24' x 50'. The saving grace is it had a 10' ceiling.

As we entered we passed the R&D Department followed by the Assembly Department followed by the Machining Area and then the Parts Department and then the Shipping Department and finally the Administrative Office. A temporary Surplus Sales area was set up over the Family's Deep Freeze and Washer & Dryer. A picture of the Assembly area is shown in the second photo.

The last picture (below) is of the DEMI spare parts department which is in the backyard at the end of the driveway.

The tour was great. They gave everyone a souvenir DEMI "N" Termination. They had a contest for each tour group and the first person of the group who said their full six digit grid square out loud got a **DEMI MUD Tee Shirt**.



# Use of "packet" and spotting in vhf tests

excerpted from a letter by Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Contest Branch Manager

"Use of Packet and Spotting During Contests: The question has again been raised about use of packet during VHF Contests. Self-spotting is never permissible during ARRL contests, regardless if it is packet, the Internet, going on the local repeater, or on the propagation logger. Someone else may spot you, but self spotting - or requesting someone to spot you - is not permissible. Self spotting includes posting your call, your listening frequency, grid square and/or your beam heading.

The use of non-amateur means (Internet or telephone for example) is never permissible for any ARRL contest during the contest period. We are prepared to monitor packet, Internet reflectors and propagation loggers and will consider taking violations to the ARRL Awards Committee for action."

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**Editors Note:** Exactly how this relates to W2EV's Rover Location project is unclear, as the ARRL didn't answer the question directly. However, if one considers the transmission of one's location and frequency as self-spotting, then this project may have an uphill battle.

Further information will be printed here as it becomes available. We don't write `em, we just report it as we get `em.

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## Microwave Firetower List

From: Paul Wade W1GHZ (N1BWT) & Beth Wade N1SAI <wade@tiac.net>

Here is a site that lists many of the firetowers in the USA - might be worth checking for possible rover sites

<http://www.firetower.org/content.html>

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# Packet Meteor-Scatter Follow up and a New Experiment

W2EV Evhen Tupis <evman@ix.netcom.com>

Just prior to the Perseids, I floated instructions on using packet radio technology to "shoot the rocks". Judy (N2KXS) took me up on the challenge. I noticed her station on-the-air for the event. I've not heard if she had any success, but I'm here to tell you that I did. Three distant stations reported reception of my ms packet transmissions...one of them got me 43 times! I was heard in South Carolina, Georgia and Kansas on 147.585-MHz FM Packet!



This is yet another proof that FM can propagate over very long distances. Imagine the possibilities! Here's one for you to munch on: a tropo-plotting experiment! Take the same station that you use for regular packet...set it up to identify itself every 10-minutes, and see what DX the fall tropo season brings you! This is a North American event that will last until December 1st.

I've already had an overnight reception from W8SR in West Virginia at a distance of 502-km (last night)! How do you join-in? Easy...contact me via e-mail for a text file that describes a "Level-I" system...one that doesn't require any special software (unlike the Meteor experiment, which required UI-View software). Think it over, and join-in on the fun!

1,000,000 aches: 1 megahertz
Weight an evangelist carries with God: 1 billigram
Shortest distance between two jokes: A straight line
1 million bicycles: 2 megacycles
365.25 days: 1 unicycle
2 wharves: 1 paradox

# Airplane Scatter on Microwave Frequencies



From: "Richard T. Knadle" K2RIW  
<[rknadle@suffolk.lib.ny.us](mailto:rknadle@suffolk.lib.ny.us)> (forwarded by W2EV)

Concerning Doppler shifted aircraft (A/C) reflections, I can tell that many microwavers are having trouble visualizing the three dimensional geometry that causes the shifted signals. What I'm about to tell you was derived during the 4.5 years of 432 MHz SSB skeds (year round) that Al, K4CAW, Greensborough, NC, and I, Dix Hills, Long Island, NY, held over a 480 mile overland path that had many A/C (~ two per 1/2 hour, weekly sked). Our 432 antennas were about 5.5 (mine) and 10 (his) degrees wide. Those wider beam widths (compared to the ~ 3 degrees of 10 GHz antennas) gave us more geometry over which to observe the Doppler effect. There were basically two types of Doppler effect; I'll call them Type I and Type II.

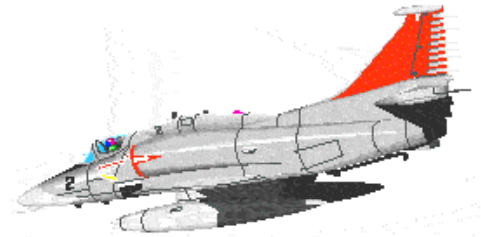
Type I — What we observed was that some of the A/C reflections would start out with a low amplitude high frequency "whine" that represented a large Doppler difference between our directed signal path and the rate that the A/C reflected path was changing. During the first minute of the 2 minute A/C reflection event, the Doppler "whine" would grow much louder and lower in pitch. At zero beat the signal amplitude from the A/C was maximum (large S meter reading). During the second minute, the situation would reverse — the whine grew in frequency as the amplitude decreased and disappeared.

Type II — In this Doppler event, there was very little Doppler (mostly low notes of starting whine, but again followed by a maximum signal at zero beat and a reversal of the low frequency whine growing in pitch as the signal strength lowered and disappeared.

We finally figured out that the Type I event was caused by A/C that flew at right angles to our great circle radio path. The Type II event was due to A/C that flew

nearly parallel to our great circle radio path.

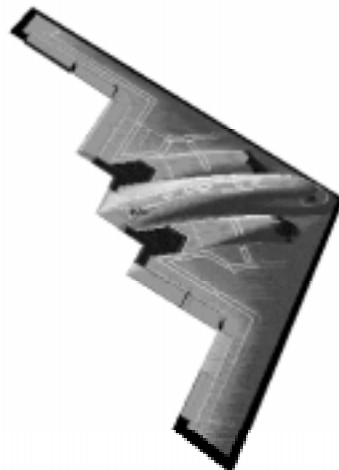
Here is a simple way to visualize the Type I Doppler frequency causative agent. Assume that there is a guitar string that is attached from the transmitting antenna to the receiving antenna (it's 480 miles long in my case). Assume that the A/C is flying at right angles to that string and pulls the center of the string along with the A/C — in other words, the A/C is "plucking" the guitar string. As the A/C pulls the string sideways, away from the normal position, it isn't too difficult to imagine the rate at which the total string's length is being stretched. For each wavelength of "stretch" of that guitar string, you will experience one cycle of Doppler shift between the direct path and the A/C reflected path (the guitar string path). You now can visualize why the Doppler rate is minimum (goes to zero) when the A/C is right over the great circle midpoint — at that time the string isn't being stretched or lengthened.



For the Type II event, assume the A/C is flying a parallel path to the guitar string. The center of the guitar string is sliding through a ring that's attached to the A/C. In that situation, the amount of stretch of the guitar string is very little and is mostly due to the A/C attempting to lift up one end of the string as the A/C flies nearer to one of the radio stations. There would be a considerable altitude stretch of the guitar string as the A/C approaches one of the stations, but I would not hear this event because the A/C is now over the horizon from the more distant station. The A/C reflection can only happen, with significant amplitude, when the A/C is within the mutual beam of both antennas, including some over-the-horizon effects.

The simplified stretching guitar string explanation ignores any relativistic effects, which are pretty small at the usual A/C velocities. For the reflections from satellites, the relativistic effects should probably be included.

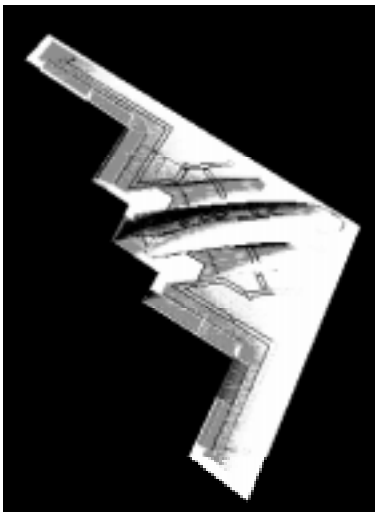
Judging the rising signal strength is difficult, because the receiver's AGC is activated at that time. But, judging the falling signal strength should be easier. If (you are trying to differentiate airplane scatter as a propagation mode from an equipment related malfunction) and it sounded like a keying event, I'd vote for a LO mode hop. But, if there was even a little amplitude change during the leading edge or



trailing edge of the reception, then I'd vote for A/C reflection geometry.

I hope these experiences help others to visualize the A/C reflection situations.

My Reflection Receptions—I have two 10 GHz reflected signal observation of my own. A few years ago I'd frequently leave my 3 cm rig, that's located on the top of my 160' Rohn-55 tower, continuously transmitting, key down, with the 3.5 degree BW 2 foot dish aimed to the West (toward Kennedy Airport, 30 miles away). I would listen to that transmission with the use of a second 3 cm rig that's located in the shack. Sometimes I would use a broadband receiving antenna connected to the 3 cm receiver in the shack. On a few occasions I heard a second, simultaneous and Doppler shifted (higher pitched) signal, on that shack receiver. The doppler shifted signal only lasted a few seconds, it had a very rapid rise and fall time, and it had a fixed pitch. I speculated that an A/C had crossed through the beam of the tower-top transmitter and gave me the reflection that allowed me to hear the doppler shifted second signal.



This two rig setup was fun to use during a rain storm. At that time the shack-located receiver would allow me to hear the swooping Doppler-shifted signals caused by the reflections from the individual rain drops that were falling in front of the tower top transmitting antenna. I could reverse the direction of the swooping Doppler shifted rain drop reflections by using the USB or LSB modes in the SSB RCVR.

73 es Good UHF/SHF DX,  
Dick, K2RIW.  
World Grid: FN30HT84DC27.

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wa2znc@juno.com

## Wanted:

### 3/8" CATV hardline

The plans for VHF Academy are almost fully in place now. The latest hurdle to overcome is in our ability to find a quantity of 3/8" CATV hardline for our Hands-on Lab. Does anyone have any that they can donate to the Academy?

Tupis, Ev" <evman@ix.netcom.com>

## I made it!

Tim Stoffel, NS9E, <lionlamb@powernet.net>

To the RVHFG, I just thought I would drop you a note to let you know I have safely made it to Reno, NV. I am now settled down, and have regular internet access. (New email address: lionlamb@powernet.net) I can be reached by landline at: 775-972-9470. My address is: Tim Stoffel, 6060 Silver Lake Rd., Reno, NV 89506. I have quickly found an active group of VHFers, including a rover who runs microwave. There is considerable interest here, and I see nothing but good coming. The folks here are also extremely interested in laser communications, and are working on systems for long haul DX and a possible world record! That's all for now! **Tim Stoffel, NS9E**

## 10Ghz contest photos from Northern Michigan

For those who are interested, these pictures are posted at: [http://www.geocities.com/wb8tgy/10ghz\\_contest.html](http://www.geocities.com/wb8tgy/10ghz_contest.html)

Mark, WB8TGY



# CCC TECH NOTES

from the **Cowtown Communications Center**

**Tech Notes - WARNING - Misuse of new very high gain coax can be hazardous. Tune in on action like this as it happens with a scanner radio and a copy of THE D/FW FREQUENCY LIST®.**

The recent popularity of a new antenna cable called Skyhighgain Coax has created a safety problem for users and a nightmare for firefighters. SHGC was developed theoretically by Tricenters Experimental Laboratories, Inc. as a signal-boosting element for use in radio and television transmission lines. Scientists at TELI discovered that when a bias voltage is applied to the special material used to make SHGC the effect was incredible. Instead of simply reducing signal loss, the signal strength increased! Amplification of RF (radio-frequency) signals in the new coaxial transmission cable was actually greater than **3 db per foot per foot**. (Read that again.) That's 3dB<sup>2</sup>.

In laymen's terms, that means that for every 12 inches a signal travels through the cable **the signal strength doubles!** Put 1 Watt of RF energy into one end of a one foot length of SHGC and you get 2 Watts at the other end (assuming you supply the bias voltage, of course). At two feet you get 4 Watts. At three feet the signal strength increases to eight Watts. By doubling the power every foot the total effective power of the signal exceeds 1,000 Watts by the time it has traveled only 10 feet up the line. Now imagine what would happen if you had a 100-foot SHGC cable. (The actual figures are shown at the end of this article.)

In conventional transmission lines there is always some loss of signal depending upon frequency and the electric characteristics of the cable. But with SHGC, instead of a loss, you get a gain in signal strength. This is the stuff every radio engineer has dreamed of.

But here's the problem. The unwary (and mathematically challenged) average user seems to think that if a short section of SHGC inserted in his transmission line is good, then a longer one is better. If one were to, say substitute SHGC for the complete run from their radio shack to the top of their tower, the signal would have more energy than the cable (or the antenna) could withstand.

Designed to be used in short sections between standard coax and the antenna, SHGC is not currently available, pending the resolution of certain limiting manufacturing capabilities. Some reports have surfaced however that a few samples of the hot-pink colored coax have somehow slipped past reality checkpoints and made their way into the Amateur (and amateur) community. And without official spec sheets and installation guides SHGC poses a significant hazard to the uneducated.

As you can see, by the time you reach only 20 feet, the signal power has exceeded **a million Watts!** Assuming your facility's commercial power mains could handle the load, the signal **would exceed 30 million Watts at only 25 feet** from the transmitter. Of course, most power main breakers would trip long before the million Watt level, but once the signal starts up the transmission line the peak envelope power (PEP) climbs so fast that there is a possibility that the circuit breakers would either fuse or the electric current would simply jump the breaker's open switch gap and power would continue to increase until the primary main lines evaporated in what could only be described as an artificial bolt of

(1 watt measured at cable input)

1 Foot	2 Watts
2 Feet	4 Watts
3 Feet	8 Watts
4 Feet	16 Watts
5 Feet	32 Watts
6 Feet	64 Watts
7 Feet	128 Watts
8 Feet	256 Watts
9 Feet	512 Watts
10 Feet	1,024 Watts
11 Feet	2,048 Watts
12 Feet	4,096 Watts
13 Feet	8,192 Watts
14 Feet	16,384 Watts
15 Feet	32,768 Watts
16 Feet	65,536 Watts
17 Feet	131,072 Watts
18 Feet	262,144 Watts
19 Feet	524,288 Watts
20 Feet	1,048,576 Watts
21 Feet	2,097,152 Watts
22 Feet	4,194,304 Watts
23 Feet	8,388,608 Watts
24 Feet	16,777,216 Watts
25 Feet	33,554,432 Watts

lightning, showering every surrounding structure in hot plasma and sparks.

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Next month *CCC Tech Notes* will present detailed plans for the **Omnibeam**, an omnidirectional beam antenna (also developed by Tricenters Experimental Laboratories) which uses new space-age materials in a three-ring concentric circle beam antenna that produces the same gain of a traditional beam antenna but with a 360-degree radiation pattern. Until then, **WATCH THOSE POWER LINES!**

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*for more info, visit:*

<http://www.basiccomputer.com/hgcoax.htm>

## Another MUD2000 report:

# N4MW Portable 10/24 Ghz transverter

“Norman Krajowski” <n2gkm@worldnet.att.net>

At MUD 2000, Dave Meier N4MW, gave a presentation about a portable 10 & 24 Ghz tranvertersystem he built.

It's amazing. His goal was to build up a compact unit that was the size and style of a old Heathkit portable rig and he succeeded. He used some surplus 24 Ghz modules (which I bought a set of) and some LOs and using a double conversion scheme uses one LO and one IF radio for both bands.

His Paper describes it much better than I can My goal is to build something like this up and house it inside of a Raydome and use it for Rovering once I really get retired.

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi

2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital: 1 I.V. League

2000 pounds of Chinese soup: Won ton

1 millionth of a mouthwash: 1 microscope

Speed of a tortoise breaking the sound barrier: Mach Turtle

Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour: Knot-furlong

16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone: 1 Rod Sterling

Basic unit of laryngitis: 1 hoarsepower

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement: 1 bananosecond

A Half-Bath: 1 demijohn

453.6 graham crackers: 1 pound cake

## MISDIRECTED E-MAIL

forwarded by J. Barry Ludwick

An Illinois man left the snow-filled streets of Chicago for a vacation in Florida. His wife was on a business trip and was planning to meet him there the next day. When he reached his hotel, he decided to send his wife a quick e-mail. Unable to find the scrap of paper on which he had written her e-mail address, he did his best to type it in from memory. Unfortunately, he missed one letter and his note was directed instead to an elderly woman whose husband had passed away only the day before. When the grieving widow checked her e-mail, she took one look at the monitor, let out a piercing scream, and fell to the floor in a dead faint. At the sound, her family rushed into the room and saw this note on the screen:

DEAREST WIFE:

JUST GOT CHECKED IN.  
EVERYTHING PREPARED FOR YOUR ARRIVAL  
TOMORROW.

YOUR LOVING HUSBAND  
P.S. SURE IS HOT DOWN HERE

## *FCC URL for their Interference Handbook*

<http://www.fcc.gov/cib/Publications/tvibook.html>

...tnx N2FMC!



**Happy Halloween, eh!**

# JOTA / VHF Group request

Mark Hoffman K2AXX

I'm looking for some assistance with this one! This is a PERFECT opportunity to show off what we do, to the next generation of VHFers! I'm going to be there, setting up my HF station, and probably doing some PR work for what we VHFers do.

What I'm looking for is the following: People who would be willing to work with the youth, scoutmasters, etc - and bring some kind of VHF-related materials. Here's what I'm thinking the RVHFG could do:

W2EV's pro-net (BEACONnet) would be an EXCELLENT tie-in. Computers & radio. Making it simple and cheap. . most kids have computers, and an HT + TNC would be a road into VHF.

-Satellites? Are there any in the air that we could use? Who can provide a simple satellite station?

-10GHz portables / 24GHz portables. Nothing like using gear in the field. . esp. WBFM. If I can bring a few of these along, it REALLY is cool to show the full-duplex nature of it. JUST like a phone, with no bills!

If interested, contact Bill at the address below, and if you could CC: me too that would be great.

-Mark, K2AXX Chairman, Rochester VHF Group

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Message follows:

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My name is Bill Kasperkoski ( WB2SXY ) and I am working with the JOTA this year with Kevin Kinnely and the Boy Scouts.

We are looking for some self-contained operating stations and operators ( and backups ? ) and Kevin believes you may be able to get some operators and stations lined up for the Special Event in Mendon for October 21, 2000.

We have a Special Event license K2E and hope to show off to the Boy Scouts, their parents and staff some of the VHF, HF, and specialized operating modes .

The event will run all day Saturday starting about 9AM with about 7 rotating 1 hour sessions / groups of Scouts. Volunteers will be the dining guests of Eagle District Scouts and will have

parking and ( Fri / Sat ) camping facilities at no charge; a free weekend! Each will also receive the Special Event SL. and have discounts on the Special Event Activity Patch. Setup will be available Friday nite if needed.

We can provide AC power and Grounding connections on a table for the operators under tents. We are asking that most stations operate QRP for minimal interference to the other stations. We are shooting for around 15 stations operating at once! There will be some opportunity for Short Wave Listening, Broadcasting stations and Amateur of course. There will be some vendor displays and your club is invited, of course, to set up a booth in the midway. Antennas need to be part of the stations setups and must be safe around groups of people. Operators should be prepared with all their operating aids and multi-outlet ac strips and perhaps bring their own lawn chair!.

I will be providing the paper logs and act as the QSL manager. We are asking for complete logs, even broken QSO's, to be logged and will provide an opportunity for Scouts to operate as much as possible. We have many Extra and Advanced control operators available and can provide other operators of the Special Event with a chance to operate modes that they might not otherwise be able to use. Tnx, es CUL

Bill K 716-334-7640h 330-6177c

wb2sxy@arrl.net wb2sxy@qsl.net

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## **RVHFG September Meeting Minutes:**

First meeting of the new season was held on September 8, 2000 at 7:30 pm at the Monroe County Social Services Building. After the new Chairman introduction and member intro's and activity reports the previous meeting minutes and secretary reports were approved as printed in the Journal.

Under old business NQ2O and N2OPW discussed the 10gig project and getting their LO's replaced to get them within the amateur band. No new business was brought to the floor and the business portion of the meeting was brought to a close.

After a brief intermission a few of the 10gig build up participants set up their stations inside the building to discuss the build process and make a few short range Q's with them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Reported by N2JMH via K2AXX

# VHF ACADEMY 2000

## Rochester, NY

Evhen Tupis W2EV <evman@ix.netcom.com>

The Rochester VHF Group is sponsoring a one-day immersion into the world of VHF and above operation. Saturday, November 11, 2000 is the date for VHF Academy 2000. Spend the day at The Academy learning about VHF Propagation, Satellite Operation and VHF Contesting Strategies. Two more sessions on that day will deal with a technical treatment of equipment performance measurement and a hands-on lab in which Cadets will be able to actually build their own high-performance Rover antenna!

The day will begin at 8:30 am with a continental breakfast and end at 3:00 pm. By signing up early, The Rochester VHF Group will provide a full tuition (no cost to attend!). Additionally, a lunch will be provided (also at no cost). By signing-in at all five sessions throughout the day, you will also qualify for a one-year free membership in the Rochester VHF Group, with members-only access to their website (where you will be able to download the latest issues of The VHF Journal, the club newsletter).

Free VHF Academy attendance is open to any person, licensed or unlicensed, that is presently not a member of the Rochester VHF Group and who signs-up prior to November 5th. The academy will be held in the Rochester suburb of Greece, New York and is easily accessible by I-390. More details to come.

Interested? Visit the Rochester VHF Group website at:

<http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org>

for more information and an eMail link. Otherwise, drop a note to express your interest to: [academy@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org](mailto:academy@vhfgroup.rochesterny.org).

**The VHF Journal**  
**The Rochester VHF Group**  
**PO Box 92122**  
**Rochester, NY 14692**