

Q5er – The Official Newsletter of the Skyview Radio Society

October 1, 2016

Skyview 2016 Swap N Shop Was a Success

The 2016 Swap N Shop is now history. I would like to thank everyone that helped and supported the event. As you well know, it takes many hands to pull this fund raising event off.

The set-up on Saturday went very well. Many members had showed up well before the 10:00 A.M. meeting time, and had much of the heavy lifting already completed. I could not have asked for any better group of hard working hams.

When I awoke on that Sunday morning, the weather was showing signs that it was going to be a great day. As I arrived at the club at 6:00 A.M., there were several members already getting things in shape for the day.



There were several vendors who were set-up and trying to make deals before the starting time.

The paid attendance appeared to be at a record level, and the raffle ticket sales were healthy.

See the list of Prize Winners and more Swap N Shop pictures on page 13.

John - WA3KFS

- SWAP N SHOP WINNERS
- SWAP N SHOP PICTURES
- REMARKABLE QRP RUN
- NAQCC AT SKYVIEW
- TRUNK MOUNTED RADIOS
- SOTA IN COLORADO
- WATER COMING
- TEN-TEC RESURFACING
- AND MORE

DON'T FORGET

**The 2016 PAQSO Party is
October 08 and 09, 2016**

**Bonus Station this year is
W3UU operated by the
Harrisburg Radio
Amateurs Club**

Silent Keys



Kay Rabinovitz - WB3BYE

Daniel Rabinovitz - K3ISO

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The Skyview Radio Society Clubhouse is the “Every Tuesday Place” . . .

Something is going on at ‘the joint’ each and every Tuesday evening, from about 1900 hours to whenever.

See the general schedule of Tuesday events on the Skyview Web Page: <http://www.skyviewradio.net>

For the latest up-to-date plan, check the Yahoo Reflector: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/K3MJW>
(You must be logged in to your personal Yahoo Account to get into the Skyview Yahoo Reflector)

Directions are on: <http://www.skyviewradio.net>

Guests are always welcome !!

From the Editor

Editorial - Keep Your Editor Motivated

Last issue, I suggested why I thought that we need this periodic newsletter. It seemed like a good concept. But, as I prepare this one, I have to confess that I'm now wondering if we really do.

As I mentioned in the last issue, a bi-monthly publication cannot really provide timely news of club activities. The Yahoo Groups reflector is used for sharing that real time news (but that is only really effective if you have the messages that are posted on the reflector forwarded to you by email - how to do that is later in this issue).

And, I really do not want to duplicate basic club information that is readily available on the Skyview Web Site.

So, that leaves providing a variety of other types of content. Club and/or member related content will get preference. While I will provide some stuff that I have found on the Internet that I think may be of interest, I do not want it to become heavily weighted with that stuff.


All publications depend upon subscribers. Whenever there are paid subscribers, one sort of has a feel for how many readers one has. But, there is not really any way of knowing how many actual readers that one has with free publications like this one where it is up to the reader to go and get each issue from a web site.

So, there is only one way for me to know the interest in and/or perceived valuation of this periodic newsletter - that is by your feedback. If you read it, tell me you read it. If you enjoy reading it, tell me that. If you did not like something that was in it, tell me what that was. If you do not like miscellaneous 'filler' information that I put in it, let me know that. Verbal feedback up at the joint - follow up comments to notice that is made on the Yahoo reflector saying that the newsletter available - or a private email to me at k3jzd [at] arrl.net - any of these will work.

Another way of telling me that you have an interest in this newsletter is by sending me content to publish. I threw out a lot of ideas in the last issue. You may be hesitant to do so because you not think that what you could provide would be of interest to all readers. Well, I do not think for a minute that everything that I provide is of interest to all readers. But that doesn't stop me !!! So, send it to me.

Receiving your feedback and submissions will keep me motivated, and will convince me that we do need this newsletter.

Jody - K3JZD
Q5er Editor



There are two rules for success:
1. Never tell everything you know.

Roger H. Lincoln

**YES,
YOU
CAN
MAKE
CONTACTS
WITH
QRP
(5 WATTS
OR LESS)**

K3WWP COMPLETES AN AMAZING 22 YEARS!

On August 4, 2016 John, K3WWP, #0002, cofounder and retired Vice-president of the NAQCC [*ed: North American QRP CW Club*], marked 22 years for his QRP CW QSO streak. That's 22 years - 8036 days - of making at least one QRP CW contact every single day!

When John started his streak in 1994 President Bill Clinton had been in office for about a year and a half, the World Trade Center was still standing, and most of us were not on the internet. (Netscape Navigator, one of the first popular browsers, wasn't released until the fall of that year.)

Think about all that has happened in the world, and in your personal world, over the last 22 years. Now think about making at least one QRP CW QSO each and every day over all of that time - solar minimums and geomagnetic storms, personal business appointments, illness, and neighborhood power outages - letting nothing get in the way!

I don't know of anyone else, QRP or even QRO, who claims to even come close to that accomplishment and we certainly extend a big

CONGRATULATIONS

to John for this accomplishment

You can learn more about the streak and follow the next 22 years on John's website at <http://k3wwp.com>

de NAQCC News <http://www.naqcc.info/>

QRP is not for everyone – making QSOs with 5 watts or less is without a doubt harder than it is whenever you are using more power. It takes some patience and persistence. You will hear stations that simply will not hear you. But, this accomplishment certainly shows that it can be done. And, if you were here whenever John came to Skyview and gave his QRP presentation, then you know that his location and his antenna makes this accomplishment all the more amazing.

Jody – K3JZD



Public Service



Police Baffled?

Send For The Radio Amateurs!

August 26, 2016 by Jenny List

The police force in Evanston, Illinois had a problem on their hands. A mystery transmitter was blocking legal use of radio devices, car key fobs, cell phones, and other transmitters in an area of their city, and since it was also blocking 911 calls they decided to investigate it. Their first call for help went to the FCC who weren't much use, telling them to talk to the manufacturers of the devices affected.

Eventually they approached the ARRL, the USA's national amateur radio organization, who sent along [Kermit Carlson, W9XA] to investigate. He fairly quickly identified the frequencies with the strongest interference and the likely spot from which it originated, and after some investigation it was traced to a recently replaced neon sign power supply. Surprisingly the supply was not replaced with a fault-free unit, its owner merely agreeing to turn it off should any further interference be reported.

de <http://hackaday.com/2016/08/26/police-baffled-send-for-the-radio-amateurs/>

The ARRL are highlighting this otherwise fairly unremarkable case to draw attention to the problem of devices appearing on the market with little or no pretence of electromagnetic compatibility compliance. In particular they are critical of the FCC's lackluster enforcement response in cases like this one. It's a significant problem worldwide as huge numbers of very cheap switch-mode mains power supplies have replaced transformers in mains power applications, and in any center of population its effects can be readily seen with an HF radio in the form of a significantly raised RF noise floor. Though we have reported before on the FCC's investigation of the noise floor problem we'd be inclined to agree with the ARRL that it is effective enforcement of EMC regulations that is key to the solution.

City of Evanston police vehicle picture, [Inventorchris] (CC BY-NC 2.0) [via Flickr](#).

**NOISE
PROBLEMS CAN
MAKE YOUR LIFE
MISERABLE**

**BUT THE
GHOSTBUSTERS
WILL NOT
ALWAYS HELP
YOU GET RID
OF THEM**



Ghostbuster ??

..... Naaaah

Dayton Sales Booth Maybe

The Skyview Spotlight

The Skyview Spotlight for this issue shines on:

No Volunteer for this issue

The World's First Web Site Celebrates 25 Years Online

06AUG16

Twenty-five years ago, [the first public website](http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html) went live. It was a helpful guide to this new thing called the World Wide Web. The minimalist design featured black text with blue links on a white background. It's still online today if you'd like to click around and check out the frequently asked questions or geek out over the technical protocols.

<http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html>

Its original URL was info.cern.ch, where CERN is now also offering a line-mode browser simulator and more information about the birth of the web. CNN is also hosting screenshots of [nine web "pioneers"](#), including the Darwin Awards site, the original Yahoo, and the San Francisco FogCam, which claims to be the oldest webcam [still in operation](#).

de <https://slashdot.org/>

I can remember playing around with an Internet tool called 'gopher' prior to the WWW web sites coming into existence. And that was using a 'fast' 1200 baud dial-up modem that I used to phone in to some place that would then let me out onto this Internet thing (through CompuServe maybe?) As I recall, about all that 'gopher' tool did was let me log into various universities all around the world as an anonymous guest, where I could then nose around and read the various text files that they had available on their computers. I cannot remember any of them being very exciting. But, at the time, the ability to do so was what was kind of mind boggling.

Click on the various links that are in this article and see how crude the initial WWW web site experience was. But, remember that it was really was something new and great at the time. And then along came the 'commercialization of the world wide web', which everyone felt would surely result in its downfall.

If you were around during those early days, what is your recollection? Let me publish it.

Jody – K3JZD

DX Engineering Continues to Support the Skyview Swap n Shop



www.DXEngineering.com • 1-800-777-0703

DX Engineering (DXE) supported our Skyview Swap N Shop by donating two \$100 Gift Certificates for us to award as raffle prizes and also provided us with DXE Catalogs with Hamfest Special Coupons attached that offered a 20% discount for orders over \$100.

DX Engineering has been expanding its offerings. In addition to the high quality DX Engineering branded specialty antenna products, you can now find most every other brand of radio, antenna, and accessory in the ever growing DXE catalog or on their web site: <https://www.dxengineering.com/> You will also find some Summit Racing Equipment parts that are also useful in our hobby available from DXE.

Since DX Engineering supports Skyview, I would hope that all Skyview members support DX Engineering whenever making their purchases. Check there first. Make DX Engineering your primary Amateur Radio Supplier (Right now, DXE has a great price for the popular new IC-7300 transceiver).

I got so inspired while writing this that I just ordered one of the new DX Engineering branded Foot Switches. And, of course, I had to keep adding additional items onto my order to get it up over \$100 to get the free shipping. Adding the IC-7300 onto my order would have done that, but that will have to wait until some another day :-)

de Jody - K3JZD

Show Me Yours and I'll Show You Mine

The Featured Hamshack for this issue belongs to:

No exhibitionist came forward for this issue

Safety First (Sort Of)

Regular readers may recall an article that I had published in the June 2015 Q5er that discussed how I used a voltage controlled "APO3 Automatic Power Off" switch that the APRS folks created to handle automatically turning my 2 Meter Mobile radio on when the engine was started and off whenever the engine was stopped.

In my modern less-than-simple vehicle, I could not find any switched 12v line that I could just get my radio power from, or even one that I could use to pull in a small relay to switch 12 volts coming from the battery. So, I turned to that voltage controlled switch. All this APO3 needed was a simple connection right to my battery.

Instead of installing that APO3 switch under the hood where the temperatures go from one extreme to the other, I ran a fused wire from my battery back into my trunk and then installed this automatic switch there. Why in the trunk? Because that is where I also put my radio that had a remote control head. So, having this automatic switch right beside the radio made sense.

But, I soon found that this in-the-trunk installation had what I considered to be a small safety issue. I like to get all that I have coming to me whenever I use my fuel price discount that I get from my grocery purchases. Each time that discount is taken, it is good for up to 30 gallons during one fill-up. However, I do not have a 30 gallon fuel tank in my vehicle. So, I put 15 gallons into gas cans and then nearly 15 gallons into the tank.

And, you guessed it, the gasoline cans are in the trunk. The approved plastic gas cans that I have seal 'pretty good'. But, sometimes not so good, as I have sometimes noted that there were some gasoline fumes in the trunk whenever I got home.

As I was headed out to get gasoline for the very first time after installing my radio and this automatic switch, I got to thinking that maybe having this automatic switch (and the radio for that matter) in a confined space which could also end up having gasoline fumes in it was not really the safest of conditions. (Even having those cans in the trunk is not the safest thing to do, but I do not want to go

there). So, I pulled over, opened the hood, and removed the fuse from the 12v cable that was running back to this APO3 switch in the trunk. Then I went ahead and got my gasoline.

Now, I automatically remove that fuse whenever I am loading my empty gas cans into the trunk to make a discounted fuel run. Just seeing the radio mounted there in the trunk reminds me to do that. And also I let the trunk air out for a little while once I have returned home, before reinstalling that fuse.

So, you should never hear me on the air saying that I'm stopping for gas. If you do, please yell at me!!

Jody - K3JZD

----- Famous Hams -----



You might have known her as Peg Bundy on the Married With Children TV series.

Katey Sagal shows up on some of the Famous Ham lists. Alas, QRZ does not find that name. And nothing I that can find with Google can confirm it. But, perhaps she was a ham once upon a time.



A World Without Onions

I'm not sure when Daniel Rabinovitz - K3ISO, first started showing up at Skyview, at least during my time at the club. Daniel had been around amateur radio long before I was around. The earliest pictures I have of Daniel was from around 2010. When I first met him he told me that the ISO in the call-sign stood for I Smell Onions. Forevermore, Daniel would be known as just "Onions".

When I first met Onions he struck me as this kind of bumbling old guy; he often had this big smile on his face and a large honest laugh. It wasn't until I got to know Daniel better that I began to understand his depth of knowledge and wisdom. He always had good advice for anyone that bothered to ask him. We often had long conversations regarding a multitude of subjects, including his take on how things were going at the club.

As an elder, what Onions lacked in the physical capability, he more than made up for in the financial department. I would seriously need to watch what I typed or said within Daniel's range. If I mentioned it would be nice to have something at the club, before I knew it my phone would ring, or I would get an e-mail from Onions asking how much money we needed to make it happen. Examples of some of Daniel's donations include: The controller on the 64 repeater, the rotor on the VHF tower, various equipment in the radio room and the repeater shed, cement for tower bases, and much more. There was only one stipulation to his donations. No one could know where the money came from. He did not want people to know what he had done for them. That was the way Daniel worked. Now you know.

He had a first-rate wood working shop at his house where he made beautiful things. One day I had mentioned that it would be nice to have a coat rack.



Next thing I knew he built one for us. When the hand made Skyview sign at the front of our property (Originally built by Bill Bell, W3RSR) needed rebuilt, Onions offered the use of his fine woodworking workshop to handle the intricate cutting. With help from Captain Jack - KA3HPM and Dewey - W3VYK, the sign was rebuilt to the beautiful example that you see when you pull up to the club.

He was one of the founding members and secretary of the WPA Repeater Council. At a later time he studied to get his Amateur Extra license just so he could help serve as a VE for all the ham license classes.

Daniel had an interesting life with his wife, Kay (WB3BYE). Along with his regular job as a school shop teacher, Daniel was involved with a successful race car team, did R&D work for Westinghouse, drove the wilds of Alaska, and much more. An off-hand remark from a chef one day, saying that he wished he could get fresh herbs for his cooking, started Daniel and Kay into a successful fresh herbs business that served all the finest restaurants in Pittsburgh.

With old age comes illness. Both Daniel and Kay had their share of physical issues. When Kay passed it really took the wind out of Daniels's sails. It was not long before Onions left us as well. He will be dearly missed by many.

So, as you are arriving at the club, and pass by the new Skyview sign, think of Onions. And when you arrive on a cold winter's day and hang up your coat on the coat rack, think of Onions.

Until we meet again OM . . .

Bob - WC3O

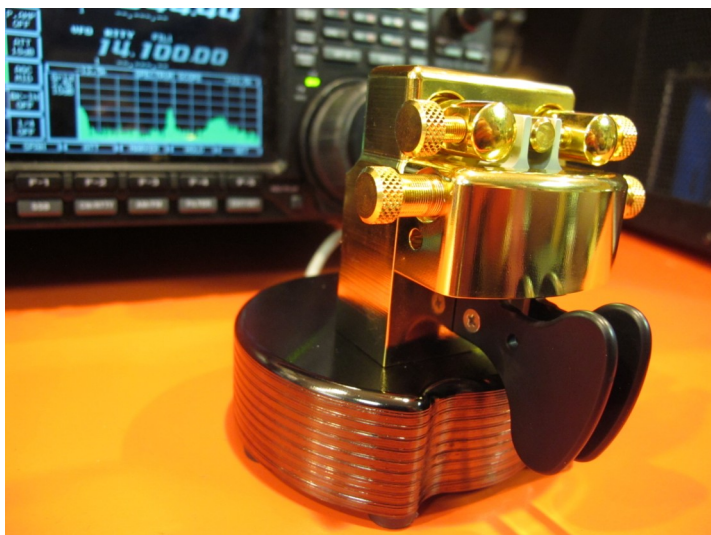


Begali Paddles Are A Work of Art

As many of you already know, Pietro Begali - I2RTF provides one of his fine Iambic Paddles to Skyview for us to raffle off each year. We take it to all of the various hamfests that we attend throughout the year to show it off. We set it out on our table, connect it to a keyer with a sidetone, and let everyone try it out. We sell raffle tickets for this Begali Iambic Paddle at our table at these events. Then, after giving everyone who attends our late Summer Swap N Shop a chance to buy tickets, we draw the winning ticket. This year, Bud - N3TIR was the lucky winner of this Begali Paddle.

Uniquely designed. Solidly built. Highly polished. Only requires a light touch. Heavy enough to stay put on your desk. Look over all of the Begali models that are available whenever you are in the market for quality keys/paddles.

<http://www.i2rtf.com/index.html>



Swap N Shop Prize Winners

The lucky winners of the Red Ticket Door Prizes were:

08:30 AM – Rich Reba, WQ3Q -- \$50 ARRL Gift Certificate
09:00 AM – George Anestis, W3ANX -- \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate
09:30 AM – Chuck Tobias, K3CLT -- \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate
09:30 AM – Dave Colton, Kt4PF -- \$25 ARRL Gift Certificate
10:00 AM – Robert Mente, NU3Q -- ARRL Repeater Handbook
10:30 AM – Bill Dillen, N3WMC -- ARRL Repeater Handbook



The lucky winners of the Green Ticket Main Prizes were:

Carol Danko, KB3GMN — \$100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate
Curt McCormick, KC3HJP — \$100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate
Chuck Davis, N3UUZ — Solder Stand
Jim Painter, NQ3S — J Pole Antenna for 2M, 220, & 440
John Karinik, K3MN — Large Number Station Clock
Bill Menk, W3LAB — Baofeng Handy Talkie
Merle Shotwell, K3HIR — Baofeng Handy Talkie



And the BIG PRIZE Winner was:

Bud Plants, N3TIR — Begali Paddles ———>>

Scenes From The Swap N Shop



Scenes From The Swap N Shop



Scenes From The Swap N Shop



Scenes From The Swap N Shop



Scenes From The Swap N Shop



As I saw it

Was a good day weather wise - yes it was a bit warm, but it was dry. There were scattered clouds for a lot of the day, and the tents provided some shade.

Vendor turnout was good, with 31 vendors selling this year. The visitor parking lot looked to me like it was getting close to capacity at times.

The North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC) team reported quite a bit of interest in their QRP demonstration. The SOTA presentation and the Digital Modes presentation each drew a good amount of interest. (Not saying that the Air Conditioned Club House helped with any of them, but it sure did not hurt).

I got to the kitchen too late to get a Skyview Burger - they were sold out - I had to settle for one of the last Dipole Dogs. So, everyone who was there apparently ate good.

One criticism I received was that the announcements could not be heard down at the lower end. Jeff-K3DVA (the vendor from MD who had the large setup along side of the road) suggested that we put a speaker on the new Northeast 80 meter tower. Jeff further suggested that since we have not run any cables down to that tower yet, that we should just add speaker wire in the trench whenever we do. Sounds to me like a great suggestion and the means to implement it.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all of you who came out and helped with the setup and/or the event and/or the tear-down.

Jody - K3JZD

Keeping Up With Current Skyview Events

There are several ways to keep up with the current Skyview Events. One way, is to keep an ear on the club's 146.640 Repeater, where you will often hear discussion about what's happening.

Another way is to check in and/or listen to the club's weekly net on Thursday Evenings at 2100 local time on the 146.640 Repeater. There you will hear a recap of upcoming events and activities.

Another way is to monitor the 'K3MJW Group' on Yahoo <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/K3MJW/info> Everyone who joins Skyview is automatically added to the 'K3MJW Group'. Non-Members who are interested in what's happening at Skyview, as well as the general information that gets posted there, only has to ask to be added to the Group's member list. (To get on to the list, send your name, e-mail address, and callsign (if any) to: k3mjw-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. The Membership to the 'K3MJW Group' on Yahoo is FREE and you might just find out what all you have been missing at Skyview Radio Society!)

You also have to join Yahoo in order to get into the K3MJW Yahoo Group. That is free, and I have not seen where it results in any spam emails or other problems. Once you have your Yahoo User Name and Password, you have to use it to Log into Yahoo before you can get into the 'K3MJW Group'. I tell my computer to 'remember me' whenever I log into Yahoo, so that I do not have to remember to do this first - that keeps me logged in to Yahoo.

So, it is a two step process. Have a Yahoo Login, and be on the Yahoo 'K3MJW Group' member list.

Going to 'K3MJW Group' on Yahoo to keep up with what's happening requires that you remember to go there. With our busy lives, this can be a burden. Rather than burden yourself with that task, once you are into the K3MJW Group, you can setup your Yahoo K3MJW Group 'profile' to have Yahoo email you the messages that get posted to the K3MJW Group. Pull down the "Membership v" Menu near the top, and choose "Edit Membership". On the form that is displayed, you can add various information. Add your email address. Then select the "pencil" icon beside 'Subscription'. On the form that pops up, you can choose what emails you would like to receive. If you select "Individual Email", you will get an individual real-time email at the time that anyone posts a message to the K3MJW Group. If you select "Daily Digest", you will get an email once a day that lists all of the messages that were posted to the K3MJW Group yesterday.

I get my messages as individual real-time emails. There is not a great deal of daily activity here, so this is not a big load of messages. Occasionally there will be some follow-on pitter-patter with comments after some post has been made, but that is the exception rather than the rule. For me, it is preferable to see what is happening in real time, even if I have to delete some 'noise' once in a while.

By following the postings on the K3MJW Group (which is also referred to as the "K3MJW Reflector") with emails in real-time or as a daily digest, you will always be aware of what's happening up at the clubhouse (aka 'the joint') on each Tuesday, what other special activity may be going on, what equipment may be for sale, etc, etc.

Oh, by the way, anyone who is a member of the Yahoo K3MJW Group may post messages there. If you have any ham items for sale, or happen to run across any ham related news that you want to share, it can be posted there. Once you start to monitor the messages that are being posted there, you will get a feel for how it is being used.

de Jody - K3JZD

North American QRP CW Club At Skyview

Ed: I was going to write a piece on the Western PA Chapter of the North American QRP CW Club (NAQCC) operation at Skyview during our Swap N Shop. But, I checked John-K3WWP's web site and found that John had already written it, with more detail that I could have come up with. So here it is, based on John's pre-announcement on the NAQCC reflector and his follow up summary of how the team fared on Sunday:

Saturday, August 27, 2016 - - On Sunday August 28, six members of the WPA Chapter of the NAQCC will activate the club call N3AQC from the Skyview Club radio room at the Skyview Swap and Shop (<http://skyviewradio.net/>) near New Kensington PA. We'll be using our own QRP rigs, but with their big antenna farm. We have done so in the past and it's fun to see how QRP performs with big antennas although personally, I (K3WWP) would never want such a big antenna farm like that. It just really isn't true QRP in my opinion.

Editorializing aside now, we plan to set up as soon after 8 AM (1200Z) as possible and continue until things wind down around 2 PM (1800Z). More than likely with those big antennas we'll have at least 40 through 17 meters to play with and with 6 ops, we'll have all useable bands active simultaneously. We'll try to be on or close to 7041, 10117, 14061, 18088, and 21061, 24906, 28061 should those bands be open. We hope to work you and we want honest signal reports from everyone just to give us an idea of how those big antennas work with QRP. In the past, we have put out some very strong signals from there.

Sunday, August 28, 2016 - - "Early on Sunday August 28, it was off to the Skyview Swap and Shop with Mike KC2EGL at the wheel. The trip there was uneventful by which I mean we didn't get lost anywhere. As soon as we arrived, Mike and I (John K3WWP) set up our stations only to find that unlike last year, we were interfering with each other. The other members of our group, Tom WB3FAE, Ken N3CU, Don K3RLL, and Jon AB3RU arrived in turn and the interference got worse and things got more confusing. We tried one group of bandpass filters from Skyview but that didn't help matters any. Then our savior Jody K3JZD arrived at the radio room and got us straightened out by hooking in another set of bandpass filters and all was well from then on. It was only then that we remembered those were the bandpass filters we used last year when we didn't have any trouble.

As with most of our similar activities, it started out pretty busy, and then we got fewer and fewer answers to our CQs. So eventually we wound up looking for and working DX. 17 and 15 were both open in good shape to Europe. Among the six of us we made around 30 QRP QSOs. Some of the states worked were MS, NY, IL, NC, MD, FL, CO, NM, TX, OH, NJ, KS, WA, and one VE province: ON. DX worked was 9A, DL, G, GM, UA1, and I. One of the German stations and I engaged in a 12 minute rag chew - solid copy both ways. There is a difference in signals when using bigger and higher antennas. In use were a 2 element quad at 60', a multi-band beam near 60', and a 40 meter dipole at probably the same height. We all used our own rigs or switched among them - 2 KX3s, a KX2, and an FT817.

It was a lot of fun after we got the interference problem taken care. It was a bit hectic with all the visitors who showed up in the radio room along the way, but very enjoyable chatting with them about CW, QRP, etc. Our session wound down around 2 PM and after chatting with Bob WC3O, Jody K3JZD, and other Skyview members for a while, we packed up and headed home."

Here's a picture of our group:



L-R that's me, Mike KC2EGL, Ken N3CU, Jon AB3RU, an unidentified Swap & Shop Attendee, and Tom WB3FAE. (Don K3RLL had left before the picture was taken). Thanks to Bob WC3O for being the photographer.

A couple more thoughts on the event. I got a chance to see a KX2 rig (Jon's) in person for the first time. The little brother of the KX3 looks very nice and works very nicely. It's no KX3 by any means, not having several of the KX3 features, but nice nonetheless.



I was showing off my Popsicle stick key to several members who visited us in the radio room. They all got a kick out of it, especially Bob WC3O who had to take a picture of it before we left.

de John – K3WWP

How to perfectly clean wires in minutes!!!

Submitted by: Jack - KA3HPM

Source: <http://www.instructables.com>

By solomonhorses - NH7ZE

<http://www.instructables.com/member/solomonhorses/>

Here is an old ham radio operators trick for cleaning wires for soldering that are old and corroded. It is hard to find this technique printed anywhere! I am a ham, NH7ZE, and learned it from my elmer (mentor). I am passing it on. I hope it helps people who need to clean wires



Normally, if you strip a wire, and see it is corroded, there is not much you can do to restore it's shiny new conductive properties. There is scraping and scratching which comes to mind, but you'll never get it to the solderable slickness it once was long ago. After laboring and fretting over the corroded pieces of wire for a long, long time, you see that your sweat coming out of your palms and fingers are corroding the copper AGAIN!!!! Oh, dear. NOT TO WORRY!!!! Give yourself a pat on the back, because what you will pull out of your bag of tricks now, will send all the corroded copper wires scurrying and scampering away in fear!!!! Here is how to clean any corroded wire without even touching it, in 30 seconds!! And what's more, you can even solder it!!!

This process uses two solutions, one is regular table salt and vinegar. Any kind of vinegar will work, from balsamic, to rice, to white vinegars. Its the acidity and corrosiveness of the salt and vinegar together that you want. The other solution is Sodium Bicarbonate, or baking soda, and water. This is used to neutralize the corrosive properties of the other solution, and to further clean the wires.

Step 1: Strip the wires to be cleaned.

Step 2: Get 2 containers, one for each solution. They can be paper cups, plastic, glass, bowls, whatever you can find. I have vials, because I am a professional electronics installer and I use these solutions out in the field.



Step 3: Get 1 tablespoon of raw salt, and put it in one of the containers. Fill up the rest of the container with vinegar, and stir the both together. As a general rule of thumb, put as much salt in the vinegar as will dissolve.

Step 4: Get 1 tablespoon of Sodium Bicarbonate, (baking soda) and add it to the other container. Fill up the rest with water, and stir well. Add more baking soda to make it cloudy. The amount is not important, as long as it is alkaline to cancel the acid of the vinegar solution.



Step 5: Put the stripped end of the wire in the vinegar solution, and stir the solution with the wire. any wire you want cleaned needs to be under the solution. Movement of the wire in the liquid speeds up the process.

Step 6: After 2 minutes or so, the wire will look very shiny and new in the vinegar solution. The acid and salt in the solution is etching away the oxides, exposing the bare metal. Make sure the metal is uniformly shiny. Leave it in longer if it is not perfectly clean throughout.

Step 7: Once the wire is satisfactorily clean, remove the wire from the vinegar, and plunge it into the baking soda solution to neutralize the acid's corrosive properties. If the wire was exposed to the air, without neutralizing the acid first, it would quickly corrode again. The baking soda keeps it clean and shiny. Swish the wire around in the baking soda water for about 10 seconds, and then you are done!! Shiny new wire ready for soldering, and conducting once again!!



<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-perfectly-clean-wires-in-minutes/>

Ten Tec To Resume Production of Amateur Gear

Lloyd Price N2KPC courtesy of the Ten Tec E-Mail Reflector

Mount Holly, NJ, August 28th 2016 — I spoke to Mike Dishop N8WFF today. The OMNI 7 should be available October 31st, 2016 or earlier in October.

The production run will be a little over one hundred OMNI 7's. When these are sold the Eagles will fly again.

The Model 712 USB Data Units should be coming soon. First run of 100 (at \$ 89.00) at my request because so many of you have asked for them. They work great, no RF and plug them in and your good to go for the TEN_TEC 80 Meter PSK-31 Nets.

Prices on the OMNI 7 to be announce on the TEN-TEC Web Site.

TEN-TEC is producing Military Radios right now to get things back on track.

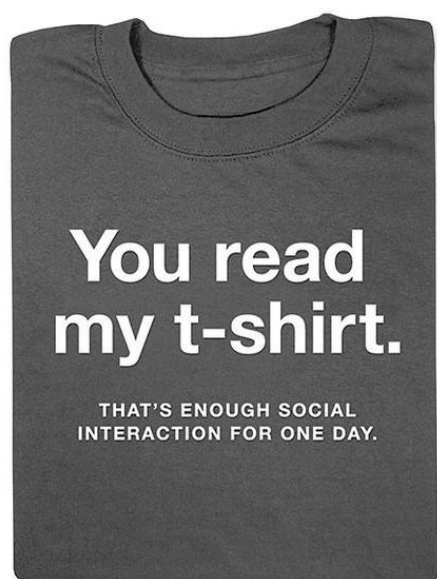
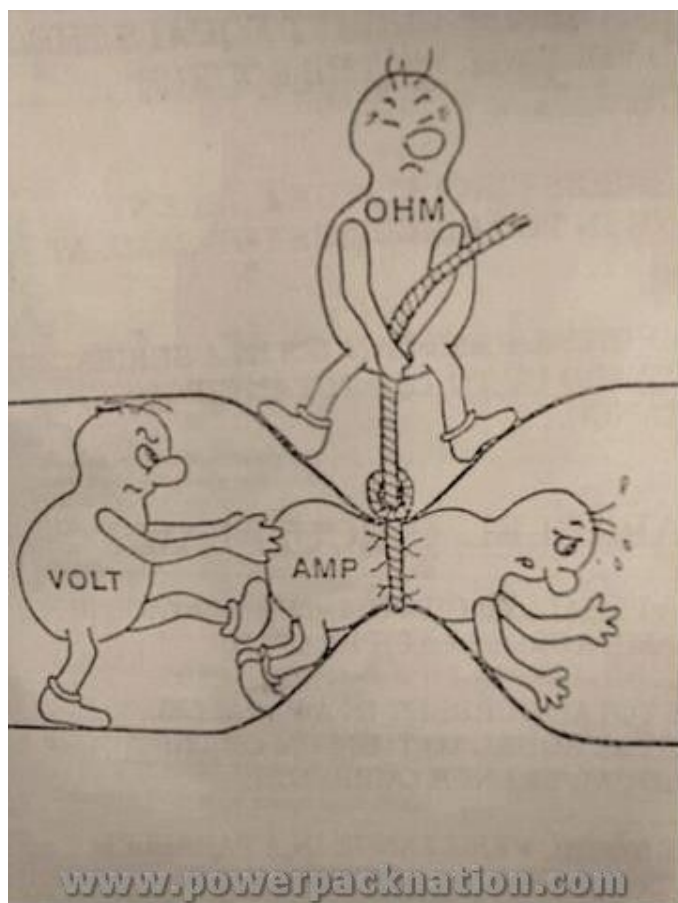
That is all the info that I have for now so stay tuned on the TEN_TEC_Radio_Net Yahoo Group bought to you by John K3UR Group Owner and Net Manager, Thank You John.

One thing at a time and time it will take, but things are coming along at TEN-TEC.



de *WIRELESS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH HILLS* WashRag

Light Stuff



Welcome New Members !!

Welcome the following Skyview Radio Society Members who have joined us since the last newsletter:

KC3DIA	Pete Perfetti	Indianola
KB3RXK	Kyleigh MacGregor	Springdale
K3WKP	William Whye	Lower Burrell

If you are a reader who is interested in becoming a member, then go to: <http://www.skyviewradio.net/> for information.

If you are a reader who is not yet a ham, and you are interested in becoming a ham, then go to: <http://www.skyviewradio.net/> for information.

Interesting item : The first NYC Marathon in 1970 was confined to Central Park and 127 runners were involved. Now it involves over 50,000 runners and 400 hams provide support communications.

de *NARC Newsette*

Yahoo Alert

If you have not heard it by now: If you have a Yahoo Account (email or otherwise) , you really need to change your Yahoo Login Password now.

And while you are doing that, you need to delete your "security questions and answers" when prompted to do so.

And, if you used that Login Password anywhere else, you would be wise to change your Password at those sites also.

I have seen some spam showing regular member's return email addresses showing up in other Yahoo Groups that I belong to that have a large number of members and thus are a good target for spammers.

Jody - K3JZD

Taking part in the Colorado 14'er event 2016

Intro

While in Denver during April and having a chance to activate a few SOTA peaks I was fortunate to meet a fellow SOTA activator. During our conversations the annual CO 14'er event came up as a good opportunity for an active SOTA weekend.



Amateur Radio operators from around Colorado will be climbing many of Colorado's 14,000-foot mountains and Summits On The Air (SOTA) peaks to set up amateur radio stations in an effort to communicate with other radio amateurs across the state and around the world. Join in on the fun during the 25th annual event and see how many of the mountaintop stations you can contact. This year the event is expanded to include the entire weekend, August 6 & 7.

The plan

It was a simple plan. Fly to Denver; meet up with Brad WA6MM, and backcountry camp Friday night close to the trailhead for Saturday activation. Rinse and repeat for Sunday.

Now, Brad is not your normal SOTA guy. He specializes in 8 and 10point peaks and has a 100% unique summit record. Brad climbs throughout the year mostly solo. 14,000ft peaks are not to be taken lightly, especially when you live at ~950ft ASL. The air at 14k has only about 65% of the oxygen I'm used to. I had a further challenge of no acclimatization time. So this was always going to be a physical test for me!.

Brad had selected a major peak for us on Saturday Mt Shavano, 14,229ft (WOC/SR-004, 10pts) in the Sawatch Range. This is approx. 3hrs drive from Denver. My flight landed on time and with the new light rail connection, I was at our prearranged meet up point in Denver by mid afternoon. We hit the road immediately. We drove to Silada (approx. 3hrs) picked up some provisions, quick dinner at the "Boathouse" and then headed to the trail-

head area which is forestry or BLM land. We scouted the Mt Shavano trailhead after a 7mile drive down a dirt track. Dispersed camping is allowed so we made camp.



Unfortunately there were threatening low clouds and no view of the summit from the campsite.

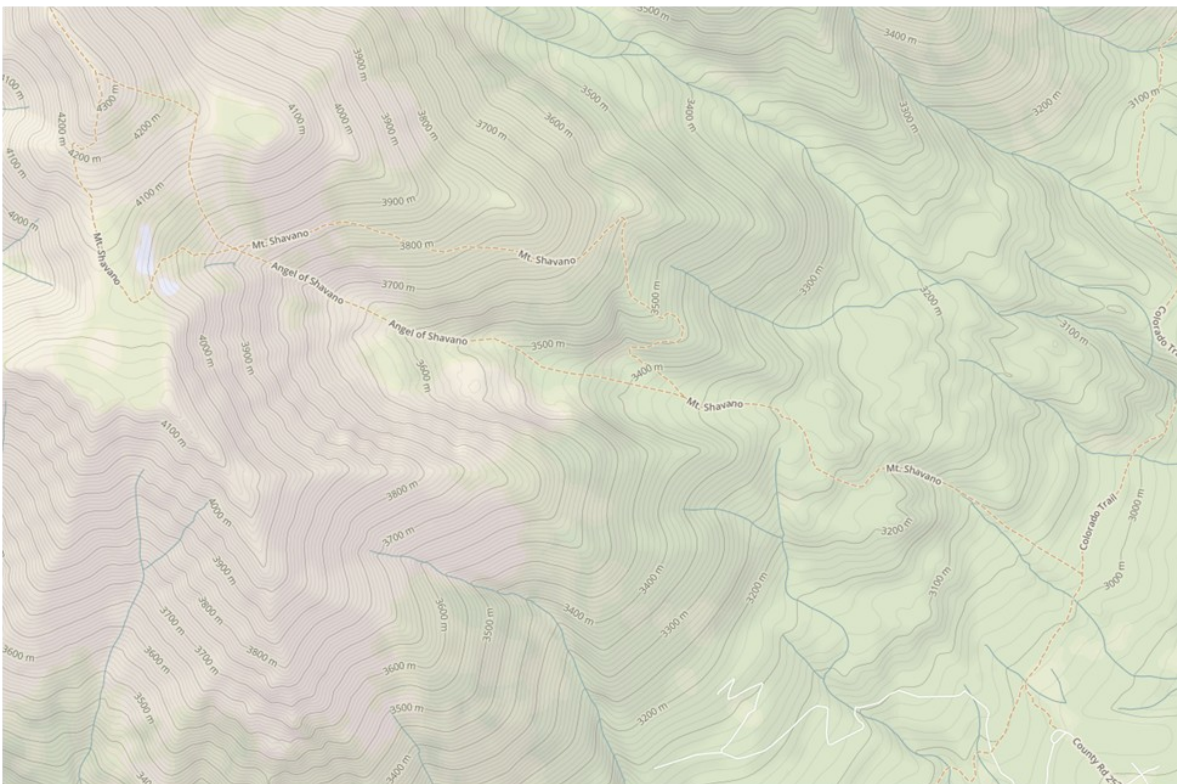
Mt Shavano is a 9.25m (RT) climb with 4600ft of elevation gain to 14,229 ft. The trail is reasonably good but you gain a lot of elevation in 4.5 miles! The weather forecast for Saturday was 40% chance of rain and possibility of thunderstorms in the afternoon.

We discussed plans for Saturday morning. Brad thought we could leave the trailhead around 6am and be there in time for the 9 am start of the 14er event. I was more skeptical, my longest hike in the last month was 8 miles and about 2600ft altitude. We were already at around 8000ASL. We agreed to a 0500hrs reveille to start in the dark before 6am. We sorted our packs with water, clothing and food.

Morning seemed to roll around quickly, we experienced some rain during the night and couldn't see any stars when we got up at 0500hrs. It was damp and cold. Not a bad night's sleep, but it was interrupted by the rain, coyotes calling and a few "natural breaks".



Arriving at the trailhead (2970m) just before 6am there were only two parking spaces left! Within a few mins we were part of the parade up the trail in darkness using our head lamps so as not to trip on the rough track. The rough trail route has been marked on the photo of Mt Shavano



Topo Map view with the trail route labeled

The pace seemed fairly brisk but manageable. I was huffing but most of the folks around us were chatting up a storm. My plan was to keep with Brad as long as I could and then make my own way to the top. It took a little over one hour to reach the tree line. This was about 2 miles into the walk and about 12000 feet elevation.

As we broke through the tree line the summit was still shrouded in cloud. We could see a progression of folks ahead of us on the trail snaking ahead up to a shoulder (the feature us Europeans call a Col). I stopped to add a layer, hydrate and have a 2nd breakfast snack bar. 15 mins later I was ready to go and I could see Brad's red backpack about a half mile ahead. I think he sped up when I stopped J I plodded on. The altitude was really starting to affect me now. I was passed by a lot of folks on this long stretch, but I didn't come to CO to walk halfway up a mountain!

The unknown factor for the activation was the weather. Brad had told me to keep an eye out for dark based, puffy clouds and be prepared to retreat at the sounds of thunder. I kept struggling ahead and finally lost sight of Brad as he made the shoulder.

Eventually I made the shoulder. At this point about 12800ft it would be a steep climb to the summit 1600ft above me and, still in cloud. The photo shows the view to the top from the Col, it was taken on the way down after the activation.





This last section was brutal; I was already being passed by people in light shorts and sneakers running this thing and on their homeward leg! I persevered and made it to the summit where I found Brad operating HF CW.

Brad had been there about an hour. I think he was surprised to see me. As I found out later this peak had been a bit tougher than he had expected and he wasn't surprised I had dropped off to go at my own pace.



I quickly went to the 14'er 2m FM freq and made a couple of contacts. Brad completed his CW activation for SOTA and passed the FT817 over to me for SSB activation.

The chasers were out to make the day and I made many more QSOs than necessary to activate the peak including several summit to summit (S2S) calls.



Half an hour later we packed up for the long decent.



The walk down was almost as tough as the walk up.

Thank goodness I had brought trekking poles with me. Brad and I made good progress down and reached the trail head after about 2:30hrs.





Afternoon / Evening
clouds over Mt Shavano Saturday night.

Date:06/Aug/2016 **Summit:**W0C/SR-004 (Mount Shavano) **Call Used:**N2GBR **Points:** 10 **Bonus:** 1

Back at camp I declared complete exhaustion! So, I went to my hammock and took a well-deserved 30min power nap. Refreshed we drove into Salida and visited the Boathouse again this time for a burger and well deserved beer or two.

Planning for Sunday, Brad was feigning tiredness to make me feel better I suspect, but he laid out some options for Sunday. I was pretty certain there wasn't another 6hrs of hiking in my legs available for Sunday.

A. "Drive up" activation of Pikes Peak (14'er and 10Pts SOTA)

B. Head to Mt Evans (14'er and 10Pts SOTA) and choose a route once we got there. ... Plus there are lots of other options nearby

I choose B. It was going to be a two hour drive.

We set the alarm for 5am again and hit the sack. I thought it was colder Saturday night than Friday but we'll never know for sure. It was definitely in the 40's. We were once again woken during the night by howling coyotes, this time they were within a few hundred feet of camp and very loud. Then in early morning we had what we suspect could have been an elk go by camp.



We packed up camp, checked we'd left no trace and were ready to go at 6 am. At first light it was clear it was going to be a nice day, not a cloud in the sky providing us our first clear views of Mt Shavano.



We scouted peaks on the drive over to Mt Evans.



Mt Evans is a 14264ft peak not far from Denver in the "Front Range". There are a few ways to walk to the top, but it's basically a drive up peak.

As it's so close to Denver it's a popular day trip for locals so we joined the vehicle procession for 14 miles up to the top. We found a parking space and quickly climbed the 150 or so vertical feet to the summit. We dropped down from the peak to be out of the way of the day trippers and set up the HF rig. I operated 20m and gathered the necessary QSO's including two Summit2summits (S2S).

Date:07/Aug/2016 **Summit:**WOC/FR-003 (Mount Evans) **Call Used:**N2GBR **Points:** 10 **Bonus:** 0



Not my image but it shows Rogers Peak above the Mt Evans Road.

Q5er — The Official Newsletter of the Skyview Radio Society

Time was pressing; the potential of afternoon weather forced our decision not to do Mt Bierstat but I would do Rogers Peak, 13391ft alone. We drove back down from the increasing tourist mayhem of Mt Evans, 10points in hand.



Brad dropped me off by the road. I lightened my backpack, and took to the walk with 2m HT, water and a spare layer of clothing. I was to call Brad on 146.52 when I reached the summit. It took me less than an hour to summit where I found it was a large wide blocky top the size of a basketball court.

Not my image but this shows the terrain at the summit..

I situated myself on the north Eastern side as this would be an FM only activation; I needed to be able to reach the populous of Denver.

I called "CQ SOTA" on 146.52 and made 7 quick SOTA QSO's with stations mainly in Denver.

I called Brad and told him I was going to drop down the northeast side of the Mtn to make it more interesting.

When I arrived back at the car I had to do a bit of first aid as I had cut my elbow when I sat down to activate and my shirt elbow was soaked in red-stuff. At that point it poured with rain.

Date:07/Aug/2016 Summit:W0C/PR-025 (Rogers Peak) Call Used:N2GBR Points: 8 Bonus: 0

That was it. Legs were done. We drove down the mountain taking the road past Mt Pence and Squaw Mountain that I had activated in April.

As we dropped into Denver we found a nice little brew pub in Golden that also served pizza, a nice end to the day.

28points in the bag, two 14000 ft peaks, 8 S2S QSO's and a whole lot of fun.

Richard Jones // N2GBR
August 2016

This is KK4DSD's portable operating location

..... Guess he never heard of SOTA !!



Kul - Links

Jody - K3JZD

There is lots of stuff out on the Internet... Some of it can brighten your day. Some of it can educate you.

I can't really copy and past it all in here. But, I can point you at some of it

Use our 146.640 repeater, or any other voice repeater? Wonder how it all works? Here's a pretty good explanation of how a repeater works.

<http://www.jpole-antenna.com/2015/03/25/how-repeaters-work/>

Here's an interesting manufacturing technique. Since most repairs are board level nowadays, you really don't need components that can be removed and replaced.

<http://tinyurl.com/hvghpwy>

Here's what I thought was a rather interesting article that discusses how 'kits' have played a part in our hobby.

http://wa0itp.com/Kits_EA2SN_en_5.pdf

I'll consider any Kul - Links that you find.

Email then to me at k3jzd@arrl.net

They might just end up in the next issue



I guess this s what happens when you got to a lot of estate sales and can't pass up a good Collins Radio.

Soon You Will Be Able To Drink The Water

Jody -

With the Skyview well water needing a super expensive filter in order to be deemed safe, a decision was made to obtain City Water. Dave-K3TIN, Skyview Facilities Manager, organized a party to get a ditch dug down to the road. The crew consisted of Skview Members: Dave-N3TIN (organizer, supervisor, procurement, plumber, tool supplier, pick and shovel handler, etc. etc.); Dewey-W3VYK (#1 laborer and jack hammer operator); and Jody-K3JZD (#2 laborer).

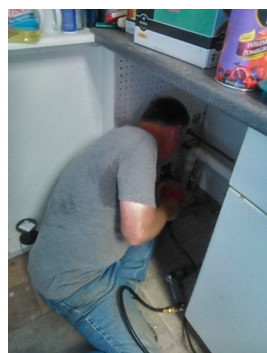
While Dave did an all around super job, I have to give the game ball to Jim Jackson-K3VTU. Jim is a former Skyview member who remains a super supporter. Jim brought his Kubota backhoe and donated 5 days of his time, equipment, and skill to dig a 300 foot long trench, with 250 feet of that being through heavy shale rock, roots, and other assorted large rocks. Plus there was the driveway with nine inches of packed stone to get across. It looked like Jim was riding a bucking bronco while he was sitting at the backhoe controls. A seal on the hydraulic top cylinder let go after getting about a third of the way down. After Jim repaired that, he came back and got it finished. At the very end, a seal on one of the hydraulic swing cylinder let go. So, Jim put both his machine and his body through a lot for Skyview.



Dave drove his John Deer tractor over to the joint, at a blinding 20-25mph (however he said that it was only at about 5mph coming up Turkey Ridge Road on that spring-less vehicle). Dave had a Landscape Rake attachment on his John Deer tractor that did a superb job of refilling the waterline trench and cleaning up.

Some other smaller projects were done while we were there. The kitchen and bathroom sink drains were rerouted to the new septic tank. Some dirt was moved to around the unused concrete pedestals that were tripping hazards and a pain to cut grass around, and an unused concrete guy wire anchor was removed. Much bottled water was consumed.

As of the publication date, we are waiting for the water company to make the connection out at the street.





Q5er Editor & Publisher: Jody Nelis - K3JZD

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email your comments and article submissions to:
k3jzd@arri.net



That's Easy . . .

Come up to the Skyview Clubhouse on any
Tuesday and ask !!!

All General Information about the Skyview Radio Society is at <http://www.skyviewradio.net>

See Yahoo Reflector for All Current News & Activities : <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/K3MJW>
(You must be logged in with your free personal Yahoo Login ID to get into the Skyview Yahoo Reflector)
If you want to keep up with what is going on NOW, this is the place - have it forward msgs to your email



Is this how your dining room looks ??

Where are the pictures of your shack ??