

# The VHF



# Journal

Volume 66, Issue 5

January 2014

The next regular meeting of the Rochester VHF Group will be Friday, January 10th at 7:30 PM at Spencerport Wesleyan Church 2653 Nichols St., Spencerport

**Map and directions on last page**

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**Topic:** PreContest Warm-up

RVHFG's Beacons	
Band	MHz
6m	50.078
2m	144.298
1.25m	222.050
70cm	432.300
23cm	1296.257

## The Chairman Speaks! Bob Nezelek W2CNS

**Groupers:** I hope that all of you had a happy and safe holiday. Santa Claus was good to me but I had to battle a flu and other complications that shut all radio and social activities down. Hopefully it's over.

Are you ready for the January Contest? I still have some equipment to fix and hope to be ready. The January contest activity has been a lot lower in recent years and the Rochester grids, FN13, etc. have started to be "rare" as some stations have said this to me. Let's get on and give distant and local stations our grids on the bands. You do not have to have a big contest station; even HT's on FM can be copied by other stations. The contest starts on 18 January, 1900 UTC and ends on 20 January, 0359 UTC. Be sure to submit your log to the ARRL. You can go to the ARRL site for further information....

Continued....

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# The Chairman Speaks!

Continued... The Solar Flux Index (SFI) has recently passed the 200 mark which usually means some real good propagation. Watch for 6 meter band openings. Wouldn't that be great during the contest!

As all of you know, our Group will be hosting Microwave Update 2014 this fall. Our co-chairmen, K2DH and K2OS, have recommended a venue to the Board of Directors who concur with the recommendation.

The dates of the conferences are:           October 24-26, 2014  
Tour of the AWA Museum planned for       October 23.  
The location will be:                        The Marriott Inn Airport,  
  1890 Ridge Road West,  
  Rochester, NY 14615

Very soon, things will be set up to take advance registration at the hotel and for the conference, details to follow as soon as a few loose ends are tied up.

Several Groupers have been working hard on new or updating their EME stations:

- WB2BYP has updated his dish to improve his low pointing angle.
- K2DH has installed 4 Yagi's on 432 MHz with a solid state 1 KW PA.
- K2TER is updating his rover to accommodate 4 Yagi's on 432 MHz and a new 1 KW solid state PA.
- Myself, I am working on wiring the control circuits for the azimuth and elevation motors on my 12 ft. dish for 1296 MHz

Pictures of these activities are included in the Journal.

Are there any Groupers that have a pet project that they want to tell the Group about? Tell us about them. Also, remember that there is a plethora of technical expertise in the greater Rochester area that can help you solve difficult problems.

It looks like our winter will be testing how robust our antenna installations are.

Also, try to bring a guest to the meeting.

W2CNS Bob Nezelek

## Secretary Report

Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ

### Rochester VHF Group Meeting Minutes for 13 December 2013

The meeting was called to order at 1938L by Bob (W2CNS). Bob welcomed everybody and asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as printed in the Journal. Frank (K2OS) made the motion to accept and Tom (KV2X) seconded. W2CNS asked if there was a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report from the last meeting as printed in the Journal. KV2X made the motion to accept and Frank (K2OS) seconded.

#### Attending:

K2TER, KV2X, AF2K, K2GAB, WB2BYP, W2CNS, WB2GFZ, AB2YI & K2OS.

**Old Business:**

MUD 2014 planning progress report. Frank (K2OS) & Dave (K2DH) have evaluated four locations (Hyatt Regency, Radisson Hotel, RIT Inn & Conf Center & Marriot Airport) for 2014’s MUD event. The discussions narrowed down the venues to RIT Inn & Marriot Airport. Dave & Frank were to investigate the two sites and advise which would be most appropriate.

There were concerns not to schedule MUD 2014 on the same date of the NEARFest Hamfest (in New Hampshire). The committee was to determine when the Hamfest was scheduled and schedule the MUD 2014 event so not to coincide.

The RVHFG/RDXA 6m Skimmer project status was highlighted by John (WB2BYP). John indicated that the Skimmer system move from his QTH to Jeff Ach’s QTH was rescheduled for this spring.

Freddie (WB2GFZ) inquired about the Rochester VHF Group’s Domain name fee was coming due. Bill (K2TER) indicated that he donated the dues for the Domain name that will be paid up into the year 2016.

**New Business:**

Tom (KV2X) indicate that the Club’s website was receiving SPAM and the general thought is that we just have to put up with it with no easy way to prevent its delivery.

The group discussed the options to encourage more activity at the Club’s website. Bob (W2CNS) suggested that we periodically include a pictures of an operator’s shack and include pertinent information regarding the shack and the individual. It was also suggested that information be kept current on the Club’s website.

**Program:**

John (WB2BYP) conducted the “Tune-Up” clinic and identified some HOT, not so hot and dead amplifiers.

VHF Group  
**Treasurer’s Report**

CHECKING/CASH ACCOUNT

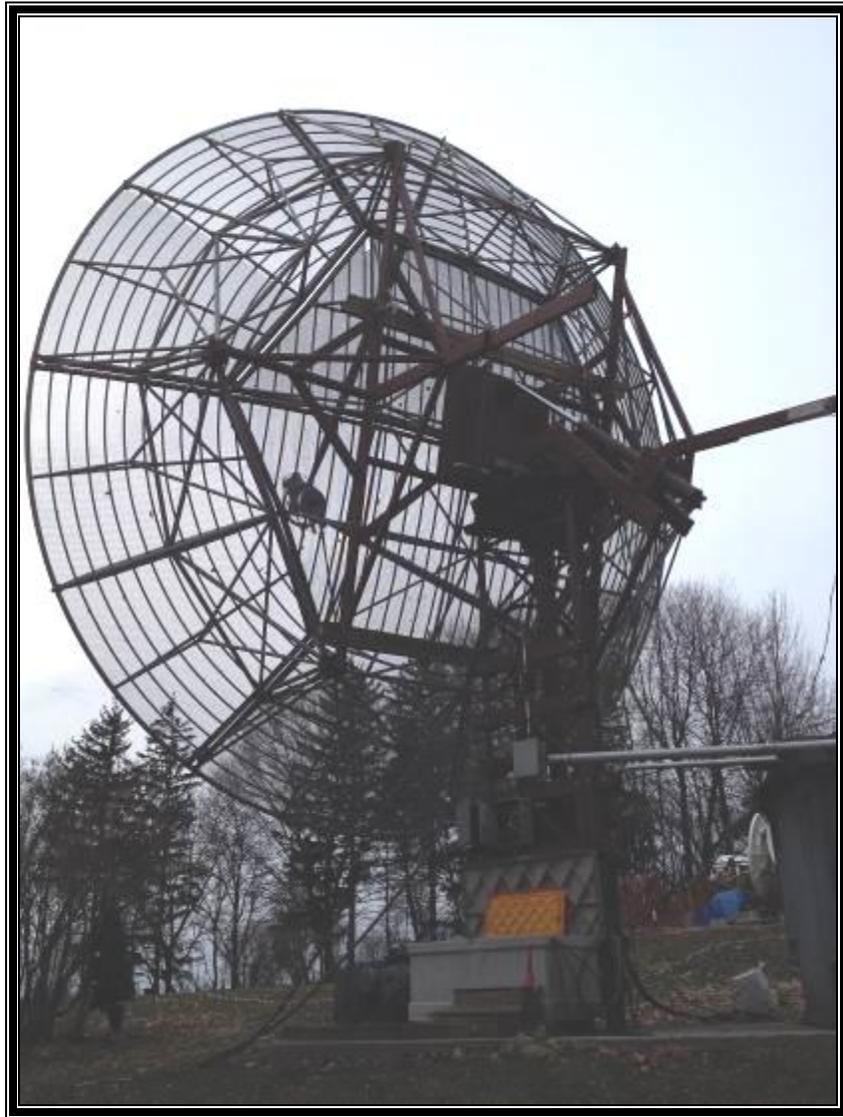
Balance (as of 12/13/2013, Cash = \$110.00, Checking = \$1990.09)	\$2100.09
Income:	\$10.00
Membership/Renewals:	
Irv (AF2K) 12/30/13	
Expenses:	\$00.00
Current Balance (\$110.00 Cash, \$2000.09 Checking):	\$2110.09

*Respectfully submitted,  
Freddie Sulyma, WB2GFZ, Treasurer*





The new cylinder has significantly more volume for the working fluid, and consequently requires a larger reservoir volume. This has more or less topped out the available return side container, so an upgrade is going to be needed for the future. For now there is enough in it to exercise the cylinder, but it needs some headroom. The new reservoir will have to wait for temperatures to get a little warmer.



I was able to tilt the dish over and experiment for a bit in December, at least to prove out the ability to get to 10 degree elevation. A couple of images are attached. If curious for more detail, there are a series of images and detail drawings here:

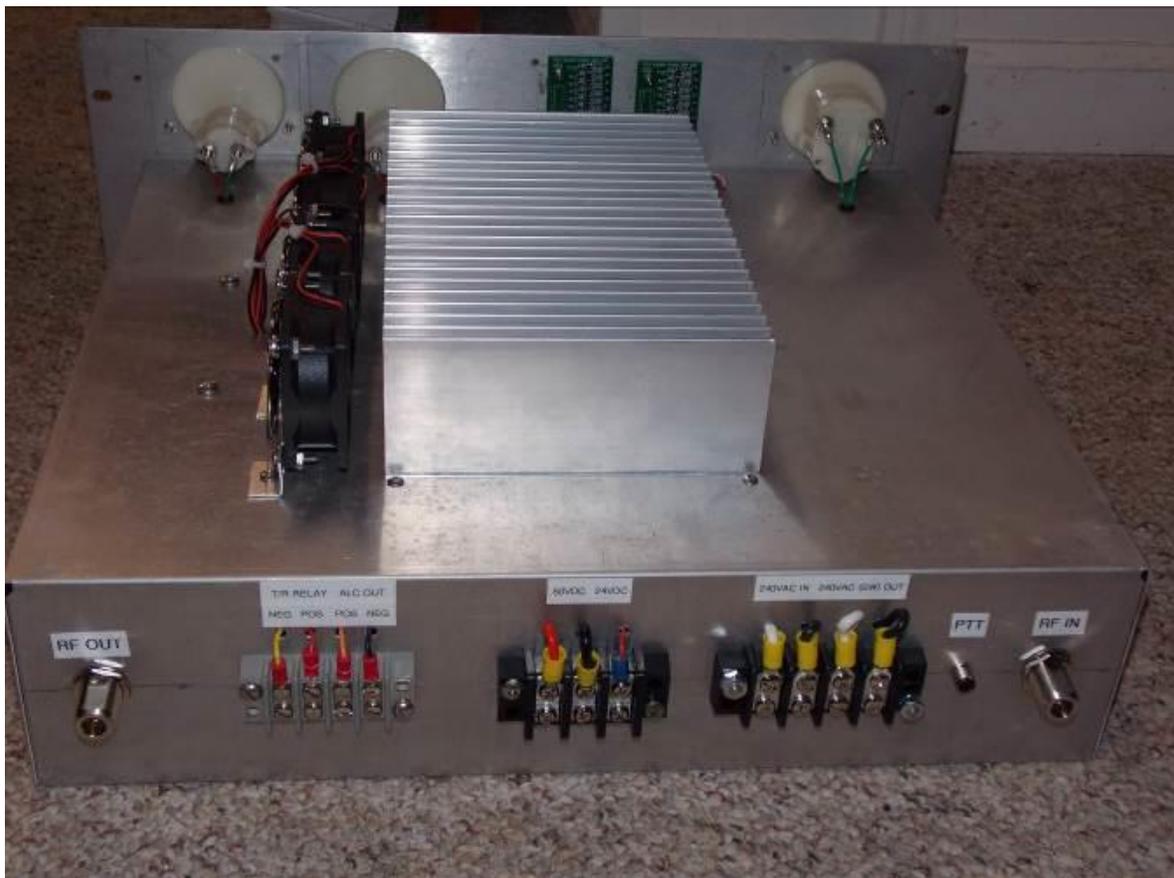
<http://www.storyavenue.com/dskelaz.htm>

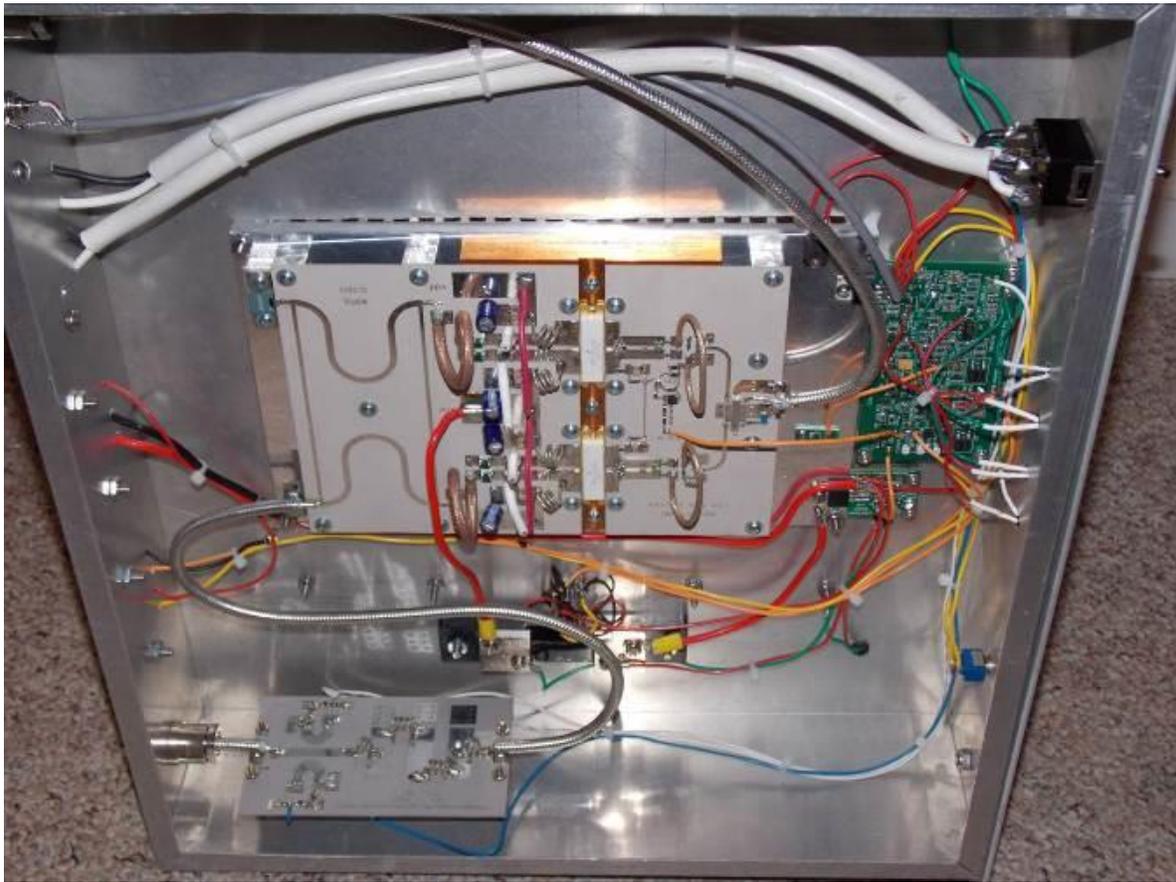
John WB2BYP

**Two Views of W2CNS 12ft. Prime Focus type Dish after recent snow storm**



# K2DH's 423 Solid State Amplifier





**RVHFG Noise Figure, Gain and Loss Measurement**

13-Dec-13

Freq	Call	Amp/Xvtr/Filter	NF	Gain	Comment
144	WB2BYP	Kuhne Preamp	0.56	26.3	Preamp
144	K2OS	HB NE32184	0.6	22	Preamp
144	WB2BYP	ARR SP144VDG	1.22	20.2	Preamp
144	K2OS	HB U309 #1	2.5	18.3	Preamp
144	K2OS	HB 3SK48	2.5	21.7	Preamp
144	K2OS	HB U309 #2	2.6	6.1	Preamp
144	K2TER	MMT 144-28	3.4	27	Transverter
222	K2TER	ARR SP220VDG	0.9	23.9	Preamp
222	WB2BYP	WA2ODO PHEMPT	0.22	22.9	Preamp
222	WB2BYP	HB MGF1402	0.78	18.8	Preamp
222	AB2YI	DEM Preamp	2	16.8	
222	K2TER	MMT Clone RVHFG	4.7	24.6	Transverter
222	K2TER	Fair Radio Cavity		1.3	Attenuator
222	AB2YI	Fair Radio Cavity		0.93	Attenuator
432	W2CNS	DEM 432B s/n 6	4.3	16	Transverter
432	K2OS	HB ATF-10135	0.71	14.9	Preamp
432	WB2BYP	AGO 70cm Cavity	0.78	40	Preamp
432	K2OS	HB MRF 966	5	13	Preamp
432	WB2BYP	Commercial LNA TNC	1.4	18.9	Preamp
903	WB2BYP	Commercial LNA SMA	1.5	40.7	Preamp
903	K2TER	Cavity Filter		3.5	Attenuator
1296	W2CNS	BIRD 75-A-MFN-06		6.1	Attenuator
1296	W2CNS	JFW 50FH-020-10		20.5	Attenuator
1296	W2CNS	JFW 50FH-010-10		10.1	Attenuator
1296	W2CNS	BIRD 75-A-MFN-06		6.03	Attenuator
1296	K2TER	JFW 50FH-020-10		19.9	Attenuator
1296	K2TER	JFW 50FH-005-10		5.2	Attenuator
1296	K2TER	JFW 50FH-005-10		5.4	Attenuator
1296	W2CNS	DEM 23LNA	0.46	14.2	Preamp

**Classified Listings**

None this month

# Meeting Location



**Spencerport Wesleyan Church on 2653 Nichols St. (actually Hwy. 31).**

**Directions from Rochester:**

**531W exit RT. to 259N**

**259N turn Rt. on 31E (first Rt. at traffic light)**

**Look for Spencerport Schools Bus Garage on left**

**Take first Rt. on Sheldon at A-framed church, park in rear lot.**

**Enter gray metal door under fire escape.**