



# SWOT BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
SIDEWINDERS-ON-TWO RADIO CLUB

**PROMOTING SSB, CW & DIGITAL OPERATIONS ON 144MHz AND UP  
VISIT US ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT:**

**New Website Domain Name: [www.swotrc.net](http://www.swotrc.net)  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sidewindersontwo>**

## **BULLETIN # 301**

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**JULY/AUGUST 2004**

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## **S.W.O.T. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Send renewals and new applications for membership to Howard Hallman WD5DJT (See address above). Please make all checks payable to SIDEWINDERS ON TWO. Include your SWOT # for your renewals.
- Send your SWOT "Members Worked" from your log to, SWOT Awards manager, Wade Massey, 1016 Weiss Ave, Princeton TX., 75407 \$1.00 fee for certificate and your certificate number would be appreciated, also SASE.
- E-Mail all articles and reports to the Editors' Web addresses listed above or you can mail them to Art Jackson KA5DWI, 6516 Simmons Rd., North Richland Hills, Texas 76180-4243.
- **MERCHANDISE:**  
Decals and listings available for \$1.00 each for shipping and handling from the Secretary/Treasurer.  
SWOT Patches are available at a price of \$4.00 Each + \$.50 for mailing  
Badges are available from "The Sign Man", Rick Pourciau NV5A, <http://www.thesignman.com/menu.html>

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## **The Chairman's Corner**

By Art Jackson, KA5DWI

### **I have resolved in my own mind where we are going from here.**

I finally took some time off from the rigors of the schoolbooks. I was hoping that I would be entertained with a plethora (a bunch) of VHF DX and maybe even a little HF activity. Wrong!!

Instead I had to resolve a Website issue, go to HamCom, and take a little vacation with no radio, again. Of course, propagation has been poor this year and the HF rig broke. I missed the big opening because I had to finish moving the daughter. Just wait and see, now that I'm back in school this week, the band will open up and I'll miss the best late summer Es in history. Hope not.

### **The issues at hand:**

#### ***The SWOT Homepage***

Out of the blue, we received an email from our Web hosting site, HostOnce a request 6 months in advance to whether we would renew our maintenance.

A decision had already been made that we were going to move it after much difficulty with them in the past. We informed them that we were not renewing. They proceeded to charge Howard's credit card with the maintenance anyway.

Due to their performance and action, we decided that it was in our best interest to leave them immediately. Dave Vondrasek, N5ITO had already offered his services and immediately came to the rescue. Within a few days we had a new site set up and a new domain name registered. The new domain name was required because HostOnce (and only once!!) owned it. We figured it would be a total hassle to get it. In the end, the name [WWW.SWOTRC.NET](http://WWW.SWOTRC.NET) was selected.

Meanwhile John Petersen, KM5ES changed his mind about his involvement in SWOT and I gladly accepted in his retaining his status as Webmaster and Vice Chairman. One thing we can expect from John is a great effort. Right now, I need some effort.

The new Website has turned out being a large improvement from the past one. Thanks to suggestions from Dave to John, the search engines will find us much better than before. We also have retained features to be used by the existing and potential new membership.

Please use the site and its features. We also will take contributions. Please note them as for the "Website

Fund". This project is totally dependent on voluntary time and effort. Your support and patience is needed. We also take suggestions.

The Yahoo site will remain, but I want the emphasis to be placed on the Homepage. Please be sure to register for the SWOT Forum and 2 Meter SSB list. These are all available to members and non-members. We hope that if you use the site, that you will support SWOT by maintaining your membership.

### ***HamCom***

The visibility and exposure that this once great Ham convention provided us is a bit fleeting. I have always looked forward to it. Sadly after this year, I am not sure if we should waste our time on it.

I immensely enjoyed meeting all of you that came by the booth. It was great seeing you all, but I was really disappointed that I failed to see a large number who attended the convention.

It was a bit ironic. You would think that that with a lower attendance and a wide-open Flea Market area, we would be easily located. Boy did I miss out on that one. I found myself having to yell out to a number of members to visit the table. We were very easily missed, unintentional or intentional.

I realized that in past years it was so crowded that you couldn't miss us. This year, attendance was so low that others just past by. Unless you had a pile of new equipment or a big sign, you got overlooked. If we are going to do this again, we will have a large sign or banner made. It will be erected above the table. The table will be used strictly for the business of SWOT and its members.

The luncheon, in my opinion, was great. Plagiarizing a few other works, "a great time was had by all". More on the gathering will be later in the Bulletin.

### ***By-Laws***

So far I see no critical need to take actions on the By Laws. I have had little to no comments from anyone concerning them. I have decided that membership involvement issues need to be highly revised and probably eliminated. To be honest, it should stress localized chapters and the overall club decisions to be made by the higher officers, with Board approval on major financial matters. This club has a narrow interest, a small paid membership, as well as a basically uninvolved one. I feel the membership has a right to know how the club is operated, but does not need to be involved on how it is run. I will look to other club By Laws as a guide to how they will be structured in the

future. It will be low priority. All financial matters are straightforward. The majority of the funds are needed for the printing and mailing of the newsletter.

**Newsletter Issues:**

After not receiving any volunteers to do the Newsletter, I have decided that it will become a bimonthly bulletin. It has been very difficult to get members to write articles let alone DX Reports. With my schooling now taking a tremendous amount of my time, I have no course but to release it once every two months.

If events, an inflow of articles and/or DX reports flood the editor here, I will release it sooner. Recent experience tells me to expect it only once every two months.

**Recap:**

I want to thank all of your help and support the past month. We had some difficult times in which good people came to our aid.

Thanks to all of the contributions and DX reports for the Bulletin.

**HamCom 2004**

By Art Jackson KA5DWI

Sorry to report to you that this Hamvention is becoming smaller each year. I did not see the final attendance figure, but it was so poor that all the door prizes could not be given away.

Still, many of the Old Guard came through and paid a visit to the table to sign in, renew, and join SWOT.

**SWOT Sign Ins:**

Call	Name	SWOT#	Grid
K5GCW	Bill Scurlock	2948	EM12
WB5JIO	Howard Donahue	3197	EM26
K5UNY	Alex Kaplinsky	3389	EM12
WA5DRQ	Bob Hornberg	27	
N5TIF	Lee Kemp	3347	EM12
WA5BEG	Randon Porter	3111	EM12
WA5VJB	Kent Britan	192	EM12
K5BZH	Jim Musgrave	2913	EM02
WA5UFH	Randy Tipton	3429	EL19
KC5MGL	Wade Massey	3217	EM13
WM5L	Jim Clark	3439	EM12
W5LUA	Al Ward	97	EM13
WA5TKU	Wes Atchinson	3451	EM12
K5GW	Gerald Williamson	659	EM13
W5FKN	Bob Landrum	3152	EM13
KC5LGZ	Tom Young	3157	EM12
W8CM	Mike Baker	1045	EM13
N5SRE	Mike Friedel	663	EM29
W5HNK	Joe Muscauer	19	EL29
N5CTE	Frank Douglass	2067	EM00
N0KEV	Jay Atherton	3067	EM17
K5LOW	Don Simonton	3194	EM22

WA5JW	John Wheat	3212	EM22
WA5TMU	Jack Vittrup	3333	EM22
N0RQ	Dave Dunbar	TBA	EM13
WD5DJT	Howard Hallman		EM12
KA5DWI	Art Jackson	2497	EM12

Despite the low turnout, I can always muster a smile..



Three old-timers telling a story or two. Art Jackson KA5DWI, Bob Landrum W5FKN and Frank Douglass N5CTE (Former HQ Saturday Morning Net NCS)



**SWOT Luncheon:**





Those in attendance (head of table nearest to camera clockwise):

- KA5DWI - Art Jackson
- N5CTE – Frank Douglass
- N5TIF – Lee Kemp
- W5FKN – Bob Landrum and his wife
- WA5JW – John Wheat
- K5LOW – Don Simonton
- WD5DJT – Howard Hallman (taking the pictures)



## West Sacramento Brunch

By Larry Hogue W6OMF

Our Bi-annual Brunch in West Sacramento went off with a bang. Forty of the clan showed up for a great brunch, gossip, shopping and plain old good time.

Door prizes were drawn for and five lucky people went home with goodies. Norm, KC6ZWT donated a new ARRL Antenna Book, Travis, KM6QJ donated a Safety belt and Sue and I threw in a Weather Station, Dual band antenna and a \$50 HRO gift Certificate. Sue and I always try and grab breakfast of the longest driver attending

Winners! First one out of the boxes was KA6VQV, Bill of Carmichael, CA and he donated his win back to the pot. Thanks Bill!

Our longest driver was Robert, KR7O near Madera, CA and he walked away with the \$50 HRO certificate and free Brunch. KF6PFT, Bob of San Mateo, CA took the weather station, W6HMB, Tom of Pollock Pines, CA won the Safety belt, WB6UPV, Chuck of Petaluma, CA won the Antenna Book, and WB6GPD, Denise of Valley Springs, CA won the Dual band antenna.

### SWOT Members

155	W6OMF	162	K6SUE
371	WB6UPV	1497	WA6QAK
2724	KA6CHJ	3162	KA6VQV
3173	KN6NG	3207	KE6JDS
3228	KC6SHE	3286	K6HEW
3290	W6IZU	3304	K6NC
3307	K7NOM	3324	K6QG
3330	KM6QJ	3352	K6DME
3358	KF6PFT	3395	W6BO
3396	KG6LLF	3397	WA6ZKY

Thanks to All De Larry and Sue

# Results: Spring 2004 (Eta Aquarids) North American High Speed Meteor Scatter Rally

From the WSJTGroup

Code: QSO's Assisted/QSO's Unassisted/Grids

## Unassisted Single Band Low Power

Call	Grid	TimeZ	50	144	222
Points	Grids	Score			
W0AMT	EN24	CST	0/6/5	****	****
18	5	90			
W0IOH	DM78	MST	0/5/5	****	****
15	5	75			
K9SQL	EM69	EST	0/3/3	****	****
9	3	27			
N6MZ	CN87	PST	0/2/2	****	****
6	2	12			
KBOUSF	DM79	MST	0/1/1	****	****
3	1	3			

## Assisted Single Band Low Power

N3FZ	EN90	EST	****	16/0/16	****
16	16	256			
WB2FKO	DM65	MST	****	9/2/11	****
15	11	165			

## Unassisted Single Band High Power

Call	Grid	TimeZ	50	144	222
Points	Grids	Score			
K2TXB	FM29	EST	****	0/13/12	****
39	12	468			

## Assisted Single Band High Power

KC6ZWT	CM98	PST	****	6/0/6	****
6	6	36			

## Unassisted Multiband Low Power

Call	Grid	TimeZ	50	144	222
Points	Grids	Score			
N5SIX	EM42	CST	0/13/13	0/6/6	****
57	19	1083			
WA5UFH	EL19	CST	0/13/12	0/5/5	****
54	17	918			
AJ6T	CM87	PST	0/10/10	0/4/4	****
42	14	588			
AA9MY	EN50	CST	0/7/7	0/4/4	****
33	11	363			
KI7JA	CN85	PST	0/3/3	0/1/1	****
12	4	48			
AD4TJ	FM08	EST	0/1/1	0/0/0	****
3	1	3			

## Assisted Multiband Low Power

AF40	EM55	CST	19/4/23	13/2/15	****
50	38	1900			
K4MM	EL97	EST	11/1/12	9/1/10	****
26	22	572			
WW2R	EM13	CST	6/0/6	12/2/14	1/0/1
27	21	567			
NJ0U	EN71	EST	9/0/9	7/1/8	****
19	17	323			
WA3LTB	EN92	EST	1/1/2	11/1/12	****
18	14	252			
VE7DXG	CN88	PST	2/2/4	2/0/2	****
10	6	60			

## Assisted Multiband High Power

Call	Grid	TimeZ	50	144	222
Points	Grids	Score			
K0AWU	EN37	CST	21/4/23	26/2/26	3/0/3
74	52	3848			
K0RI	DM78	MST	17/0/17	16/6/22	****
51	39	1989			

K1JT	FN20	EST	15/1/16	19/1/20	2/0/2
46	38	1748			
N8OC	EN83	EST	3/5/8	2/13/15	****
59	23	1357			
W5SNX	EM73	EST	6/2/8	11/2/13	****
29	21	609			
K9KNW	EL96	EST	****	9/4/13	2/0/2
27	15	405			
W9RVG	EM57	CST	2/0/2	2/1/3	****
7	5	35			

## 76 Grids Active During the Rally (from the logs)

CM87	DM33	EL17	EM12	EN24	FM04
CM98	DM43	EL19	EM13	EN36	FM06
CN84	DM65	EL29	EM21	EN37	FM08
CN85	DM78	EL39	EM25	EN41	FM15
CN87	DM79	EL88	EM32	EN50	FM18
CN88	DN06	EL96	EM39	EN53	FM29
CN90	DN06	EL97	EM42	EN54	FN20
DN13	EL99		EM45	EN64	FN24
DN31			EM50	EN65	FN30
DN41			EM52	EN66	FN31
DN62			EM55	EN70	FN41
EM57				EN71	FN65
EM66				EN80	
EM66				EN82	
EM69				EN83	
EM73				EN84	
EM86				EN90	
EM92				EN91	
EM96				EN92	

## 84 Unique Calls ... (from the logs)

AA7A	K0AWU	KBOUSF	N0PB	W0AMT	WA3LTB
AA9MY	K0RI	KB4FQ	N3FZ	W0IC	WA4HEI
AD4TJ	K1JT	KB4ZGO	N4ZQ	W0IOH	WA5UFH
AF40	K2BLA	KB9ZTF	N5OSK	W1IPL	WA7ADK
AJ6T	K2DRH	KC0AMG	N5SIX	W1JJ	WA7GSK
K2OVS	KC5OAO	N5SIX/M	W4RBO	WA8CLT	K2TXB
KC6ZWT	N6MZ	W4SW	WA8RJF	VE1RG	K4AL
KC7OTV	N8CJK	W5SNX	WB2FKO	VE7DXG	K4FJW
KE2N	N8OC	W5UC	WB8SKP	K4KO	KE7NR
NJ0U	W5UWB	WB9IIV	K4MM	KI0LE	NS7K
W50N	WC4N	K5CZD	KI7JA	W6TMS	WD4KPD
K5GMX	KØKP	W8BYA	WQ5W	K7AD	KR8L
W9BLI	WW2R	K7BV	KU7Z	W9FX	K8MD
W9JN	K9CEG	W9RVG	K9KNW	W9SE	K9SQL

Participation was down from previous events and some "well known" stations choose not to participate.

However, meteor scatter contesting continues to be enjoyed by many operators with 84 known participants having taken advantage of the last rally.

On the positive side of things, the West Coast participation is up and newcomers to WSJT are engaging in meteor scatter contesting. There were 76 unique grids from the logs received which is down from previous contests but not a major concern.

In my estimation, The NAHSMS Rally was a success. Even though greater participation by the entire community and more logs submitted would be nice; numbers are not everything! The event was organized and the participation again demonstrated that HSMS operators or "Best In Class".

Congratulations to all.

Russ K2TXB ; Joe K1JT ; John N6ENU ; Tip WA5UFH

Past Results:

<http://www.qsl.net/wa5ufh/Rally/NAHSMS.htm>

The WSJTGROUPE invites you to check out WSJT and enjoy the propagation mode "Meteor Scatter". The WSJTGROUPE Webpage is:

<http://www.qsl.net/wa5ufh/WSJTGROUPE/WSJTGROUPE.htm>

## **DX Reports May 21-July 9**

By Art Jackson KA5DWI

### **It was dead quiet, then someone shook up the propagation gods.**

#### **Aurora:**

None reported.

#### **Meteors:**

Several reports of scatter received during the Arietids showers.

#### **Sporadic E/ FAI:**

It looked like it was going to be an absolutely poor season. No reports of Es on 2 Meters, before the Summer solstice is usually a sign of a bad year.

It started off slow, then as what usually occurs sometimes around Independence Day, it will finally open up.

7/05 - 20:01 UTC K4WWA FM06 works VO1TJM GN08

until 21:59 VE1MR FN84 works K4RTS FM08. Good conditions on the East Coast, sporadic to the Midwest.

7/06 - Followed the next day by one of the best Es openings in at least 7 years and for some 13-17 years. The first report noted at; 14:33 UTC W4WHN EL94 to KE2DN FN12. The final report, 7/07 02:02 UTC WA5LFD EM12 worked WB2BYP FN13. Many East Coast stations experienced Es off and on over 9 hours. It was extremely intense. Many used halos and verticals and received 59 reports. Many good 222 MHz Es as well.

#### **E Reports:**

##### **Dave Dunbar NØRQ EM13**

July 6, 2004, 22:46z: worked W1AIM on 144.204, his FN34uj (Vermont) to my EM13rg (Texas). This is 1510 mi (2430 km), according to Wingrid (1508mi / 2427km according to BD).

He was worked by both KC5POV (my XYL) and NØRQ (me), RST was 54 or 55 both ways.

(We also worked NY, PA, Ontario, and OH. I even heard K1WHS (Maine, FN43), but couldn't work him.)

What an opening! 73

(Ed - Dave is new to 2 Meter SSB and a new SWOT member. Nice welcome!)

#### **Patrick Dyer WA5IYX EL09:**

This is more of a "non-report" just to show how steep the Es MUF gradient and footprints for the 144-222 MHz stuff was yesterday as at the peak of it down here I was only seeing spotty Ch 3 (65.75 MHz) signals. Usually in such a major event, even if we don't get it per se, I normally would have plenty of 88-108+ MHz things coming thru.

73, Pat - WA5IYX EL09ql

(Ed - Here in EM12, I observed similar conditions. Very little TV CH 3 & 6 activity. The normal warning signs were missing.)

#### **Ron Klimas WZ1V:**

A mind boggling 144 and 222 MHz Es opening last night!

Got on at 2103Z with KB4TCU EM81 as the first 144 MHz QSO. 4 hours and 45 minutes later we had worked 95 unique calls in 52 grids on 2M Es with best DX WD5DJT EM12op at 1448mi/2331km. On 222 MHz we worked 4/3 starting 2252Z with W0JRP EM27, AG4V EM55, K0JXI EM55, and ending at 2308 with K5SW EM25hr 1274mi/2051km. Before duping, we had well over 100 Es contacts on 2M alone, special thanks to those that worked me twice! 2M was open here continuously for over 3.5 hrs with many sporadic contacts in the hour following, and 222 MHz was open continuously at least a half hour. Encore!

P.S. here's the grids/count worked on 2M and 222:

EL79 1	EL87 1	EL96 3
EL97 1	EL98 6	EL99 1
EM12 1	EM15 4	EM16 2
EM17 2	EM25 4	EM26 1
EM27 7	EM29 3	EM31 2
EM35 4	EM37 2	EM38 2
EM41 1	EM45 2	EM46 1
EM48 3	EM50 1	EM51 1
EM52 3	EM54 2	EM55 8
EM56 2	EM57 1	EM58 1
EM60 1	EM62 2	EM63 2
EM64 3	EM66 1	EM68 2
EM70 1	EM72 1	EM73 1
EM74 5	EM75 1	EM76 1
EM77 1	EM79 1	EM81 5
EM82 1	EM83 1	EM84 2
EM85 1	EM93 1	EM95 1
EN91 1		

-73, Ron WZ1V FN31mp

#### **Dave Teague K5MQ em31wq in LA:**

Es report 2 meters

We just finished a fantastic E opening from July 5 2204z until July 6 0055z almost 2 hours.

Worked 40 QSO's 23 grids in 8 states. 16 of the qso's were with Canada. Best DX KY1K FN54il in Maine 1514 miles. new state \*\*\* #46 for me terrestrial on 2m\*\*

7 new grids worked

I had lots of fun in the opening.

Running 1500 watts here to 17 element M2 antenna

73, dave K5MQ em31wq LA

Call	State	Grid
K2SHN	NY	FN13ef
VE2DC		FN35ch
K2AN	NY	FN02
VE3SXE		FN25
VE2JWH		FN35
VE3FGU		FN04
KW1AM	CT	FN41ct
VE3DSS		FN03fq
VE2DCP		FN35pj
VE3HJK		FN03
VE3TFU		EN92
WA2BPE	NY	FN12lf
VE3KKL		FN25
NQ2O	NY	FN13ch
K2ERG	NY	FN13fd
VE3DBP		EN94
VE3TEM		EN85
W2MPK	NY	FN23
KC2MHU	NY	FN12sk
N8GX	MI	EN82
VE3TMG		EN82lh
K8MD	MI	EN82BQ
KY1K	ME	FN54
WW8M	MI	EN72
K8KD	MI	EN82ho
VE2HOG		fn07
NE8I	MI	EN82
W1AIM	VT	FN34
K1CMF	MA	FN42bq
W1GHZ	MA	FN42en
K5GMX	CT	FN31
WZ1V	CT	FN31
AA1TT	NH	FN33uj
VE3EU		EN93
WA8RJF	OH	EN91
KU2A	NH	FN42dw
K1TR	NH	FN42
K1TEO	CT	FN31
VE3AX		FN02cw
VE3NPB		FN03HS

### Jim LaNasa AA3ID FM25

Here is my report from Hatteras Island NC.

6 meter contacts: 92 Q's in 45 grids, farthest was WB9MVQ in DN87 (ND). It seemed odd to me that I was able to work SC (EM94) at the same time as working EN-63 in Wisconsin with 5-9 signals.

3 element beam and 25 watts on this end.

2 meter contacts: 57 Q's in 21 grids, farthest being EN13.

Grids worked on 2:

EN 13, 22, 31, 32, 34, 35, 41, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 61, 62, 64, 72, 74, 81, 82, 83, EM39

The 57 Q's were worked in a space of 70 minutes.

Couldn't decide whether to stay on 6 or go to 2! Hi Hi 73 and all the best

Jim aa3id FM25

### Connie Mercer NG4C FM16:

On 222, worked only a few stations but K2DRH can attest that persistence pays off . He had worked other station and I did not have the transverter configured at the time, but he made the request several times for me to get on with the 222 equipment.

After finding the correct keying lines on the rig I was able to make contacts with other stations and Liaison on two meters finally got us in a position to make the contact on 222. Signals were extremely loud. K2DRH had made other contacts in the area and was possibly thinking we might not make it , then the magic happened at approximately 23:23, signals were quite loud my first ever Es on 222.

Time	Call	Grid
2307	W9UD	EN41
2308	N9LR	EN50
2309	KM0T	EN13
2323	K2DRH	EN51
2324	N0DQS	EN41

On Two meters here's a list of the Grids worked

EM 09, 19 and EN10, 11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 46, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 61, 62, 63, 66, 72, 82, 90.

There were even mobile stations worked during this opening with loud signals, cross-polarized stations using verticals. The conditions were excellent. Thanks for all the fun. CUL

Connie NG4C FM16

### Lee Kemp N5TIF EM12:

I think that I had to work harder than some of these guys but here is my little list.

VE3AX FN02	NE8I EN82
KU2A FN42 my best	K2AXX FN12
K8TVD EN91	W8AC EN91
WA8RJF EN91	K2ERG FN13
VE3DSS FN03	W2EV FN03
KF8IS EN91	VA3HGO FN14
NQ2O FN13	K8MD EN82

### David Vondrasek N5ITO EM12:

WD8PTB	EN80	W8QXO	EN81
WA8YUZ	EN82	K8MD	EN82
K8CUR/M	EN91	WA8ANS	EN91
WA8SRA	EN91	WA3LTB	EN92

WA3LTB EN92 N2TIF FN02  
VE3AX FN02 VE3DSS FN03  
K2AXX FN12 NQ2O FN13  
VA3HGO FN14 VA3NFA FN25  
VE3KKL FN25 K1TEO FN31

### July 9 Es Opening Number 3

Late morning /Midday opening to the same areas.

### John Butrovich W5UWB EL17ax

I have been too far south by about 350 miles this past week with two exceptions:

9 July 1500 UTC VE3AX FN02cw 2331km 144.200  
5x9 6 minutes

9 July 1555 UTC KF8DX EN72 1989km 144.210  
5x9 5 minutes

Needless to say - nothing heard on 222!!

What great openings - (for parts of the country!!)

73 - John W5UWB EL17ax

### Gene Vantrese WD5FDL EM12:

E opening 7-9-04 Times CDT

Well I ended up with 4 stations in the following order  
NG4C at about 10:45 AM then W3KWH and at 11:02  
am VE3AX then just before the band faded out at 11:39  
am. I worked KO4YC and that was it. VE3AX peeked at  
20 over and KO4YC peeked at S7. I heard some W2's  
and W3's but couldn't work them.

73's Gene WD5FDL.

(Ed - Gene operates from his apartment patio with a  
Kenwood TS2000)

### Tropo:

**A stormy weather pattern kept it a slow season.**

5/21 - Gulf Coast States

5/26 - Gulf Coast States and SE States

6/20 - Carolinas to South Texas, Great Lake States

6/21 - Great Lake States

7/03-05 - Upper and Lower Mississippi Valley and Gulf  
States

### Lee Kemp N5TIF EM12:

7/3/04 03:57

KB5FPW EM42 K5MQ EM31

KD5WBX EM41

7/4/04

12:06 W9XO DM73 (432) W5MRB EM35

12:57 KE5RS EM10 KD5WBX EM41

13:02 WB5OBS EM20

04:31 N0QCN EM45 (432)

04:34 N0LIE EM27 (432)

04:35 W7CNK EM15

04:43 KD5VDE EM26

04:46 KD5RUJ EM34

05:53 KB5SSJ EM44

05:58 AD5OK EM54

05:42 KF4ODI EM56

More goodies for 7/5/04

Only 2 different grids this morning on 2m worked

W5RCI at 05:53 EM44 - 13:44 KBOHH EM06

The rest is on 432 N5OSK EM25, W5RCI EM44,  
AE5B EM02, WW2R EM13, KB0HH EM06.

Having fun!!!

### Gene Vantrese WD5FDL EM12:

Man o Man the band busted wide... open after you went  
to bed (ur Editor).

K5LLL and W3XO were 20 over on 2 Meters. I worked  
both of them on 2 and on 1296.1. I worked N0LIE on  
2M. Gene

(Remember, from an apartment balcony!!!!)

### From: John Butrovich -W5UWB EL17

### WSJT Meteor Scatter / EME and SSB Tropo

### Successes

### Some stuff worked in June.

19	1508utc	W0IC	144.113	WSJT441A	MS	DM79
	1520	WB2FKO	144.113	WSJT441A	MS	DM65
	1546	W5UAC	144.215	SSB		EM20
	2005	KE7NR	144.113	WSJT441A	MS	DM33
	2040	KD7ER	144.113	WSJT441A	MS	DM54
20	1351	ZS5LEE	144.113	JT65B	EME	KG50

Early in the month all antennas had to be disconnected  
due to thunder storms and lightning.

One can see that new grids can be picked up using  
WSJT441A and random meteors. As an example of  
power requirements, KD7ER had 150 watts and a 7  
element quad.

### July:

Hope you all had a good holiday weekend. A small  
amount to report.

1. Good extended tropo this AM (4th) however central  
Texas rag chewers on .200 covered up most of the DX.  
For some reason can't get gents to slide up or down  
when DX is coming through.

Worked W7CNK EM15 at 1319utc on 2 and 432 with  
very good signals. SSB

Later worked K0RI DM78 meteor scatter FSK441A  
Also worked AA9MY EN50 at 1400utc on 222 meteor  
scatter FSK441A (25w there!!)

This evening on moonrise worked NJOU using JT65B  
for my third single Yagi to single Yagi QSO. 1500w / 1-  
17el here, 600w 1-17el there.

73 - John W5UWB EL17ax



## **What to expect July 15 – August 31**

**These period usually leads to unique propagation opportunities.**

### **Meteors:**

Considered by many as the best annual shower, the Perseids will peak at 09:20 UTC on August 12. This shower has been reported as light the past couple of years. We could see a significant upswing in activity this year.

This shower is most active early in the morning and favors Northeast to Southwest passes. The shower is known for slow moving large particles, which produce excellent random opportunities.

### **Aurora:**

This type of propagation will be an afterthought for a few years. Only those in the upper latitudes will see this for quite sometime. Still, unexpected events do occur and always requires a constant monitoring of solar indices.

Predictions for possible disturbed conditions: 7/27.  
It appears that it will *not* produce any auroral activity.

### **Tropo:**

Look for the following:

Developing heat waves. It indicates the domination of an Upper Air High Pressure ridge. Hot and warm air is capped above in the upper atmosphere.

Tropo created by cool cored systems becoming warm ones will not be around until September.

### **E-Layer Propagation:**

**It started off slow, now picking up.**

It seems that E season is becoming later over time. It started off very slow as in 2002. It has picked up dramatically after July 4. Late seasons usually mean late season opportunities. Be vigilant until late August. The season usually ends near August 15.

Look for strong 10 Meter and 6 Meter openings very early in the morning. These openings tend to not end and actually carry on into the early afternoon. The longer the lower bands are open, the chances of a rise in MUF high enough to produce 2 Meter openings.

### **Moon:**

Excellent Days: 8/02

Good days: 7/03-08, 7/18-22, 7/24, 7/31

8/01-05, 8/14-18, 8/27-31

Bad days: 7/29, 8/25

*Good* days are based on low sky noise and path loss readings (DEGR) less than 3dB, *Best* days at/or below 1dB. *Bad* days are those with a 10db plus reading.

## **Lunar, Solar and Astronomical Events**

**Lunar:** Perigee – 7/29, 8/26

Apogee – 7/14, 8/10

Full Moon – 7/31 (Blue Moon), 8/29-30

New Moon – 7/17, 8/15

Highest Declination (Elevation): 7/15-16, 8/12

Lowest Declination (Elevation): 7/01, 7/29, 8/25

**Solar:** Overhead:

5/25: - 21.1°N, 6/25: - 23.4°N

Summer Solstice: 6/21 0100 UTC

**USAF Predicted Solar Flux Average:**

7/05-8/03: 96 (No Change)

**Meteors:**

7/01-7/15: 34 Showers active, 16 Peak

7/16-7/31: 29 Showers active, 10 Peak

8/01-8/15: 23 Showers active, 9 Peak

8/16-8/31: 26 Showers active, 9 Peak

Meteor info at:

<http://comets.amsmeteors.org/meteors/calendar.html>

## **Event & Contest Calendar 2004**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>
July	17-18	CQ WW VHF Contest
July	22-25	Central States VHF Society Conference – Toronto, Ontario
August	7-8	ARRL UHF Contest
September	11-12	ARRL VHF Sweepstakes

Send me dates that are important to you all.

## **SWOT - For Sale:**

2-Hy Gain 215B's are for sale at \$125 for the pair.  
15 elements on 28ft booms.

Alex Kaplinsky K5UNY

Farmers Branch, Texas

972-241-9440

## **SWOT Announcements and News**

### **Southwestern Oklahoma SWOT Net**

This net has now returned to the 7:30PM local Central time slot. Jim, W5SSG has moved to Texas and the new NCS will be rotated amongst the Lawton area hams.

## **SWOT Net Reports**

Here are the net reports for May and June.

### **Northern California (Sunday)**

#### **May**

30 stations checked in all 4 times

33 checked in three times

24 checked in twice

26 checked in once

A total of 113 different stations and 14 different grids

#### **June**

Was a slow month... only 111 different stations checked in with:

30 stations working the net all 4 weeks

17 working three nets

31 working two nets

33 stations working one net.

### **Northeast Missouri (Monday)**

#### **Month of May and June:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Check-ins/Grids/States</b>
-------------	-------------------------------

05/03	32/16/7
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05/10	35/16/7
-------	---------

05/17	28/17/5
-------	---------

05/24	No Net
-------	--------

05/31	No Net
-------	--------

06/07	39/19/8
-------	---------

06/14	No Net (weather)
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06/21	34/18/7
-------	---------

06/28	26/12/6
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### **North Texas (Wednesday)**

#### **Month of May and June:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Check-ins/Grids</b>
-------------	------------------------

05/19	29/14
-------	-------

05/26	31/13
-------	-------

06/02	No net (weather)
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06/09	No net (weather)
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06/16	43/20
-------	-------

06/23	27/13
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06/30	33/17
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### **East Texas Pineywoods (Saturday)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Check ins/Grids</b>
-------------	------------------------

05/15	Vacation
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05/22	Belton
-------	--------

05/29	13/05
-------	-------

06/05	14/06
-------	-------

06/12	11/05
-------	-------

06/19	Hamcom
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06/26	16/07
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07/03	07/04 (weather)
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### **Southwest Oklahoma (Thursday)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Check ins /Grids</b>
-------------	-------------------------

05/08	6/3
-------	-----

05/15	5/3
-------	-----

05/22	6/4
-------	-----

05/29	2/2
-------	-----

06/04	8/3
-------	-----

06/11	6/4
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06/24	6/2
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## SIDEWINDERS ON TWO” ENROLLMENT OR RENEWAL FORM

NOTE: Though your membership and number are good for life you must renew annually to receive the newsletter and stay on the active list.

Enclosed find check/MO. to: New member---\$12.00\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal---\$12.00\_\_\_\_\_

Howard Hallman WD5DJT, Sec.Treas.

3230 Springfield Lancaster, TX 75134-1214

**New Member.** I have worked the following members:

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ SWOT No. \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ SWOT No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Renewing:** My SWOT No. is \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Grid Square \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Receive Newsletter By Email: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

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### *SWOT and Selected 2-Meter Nets*

Day	Local Time	Area	Net	Frequency	Net Control Station
SUN	<b>8:00P</b>	VACAVILLE CA	NO. CALIFORNIA	<b>144.250</b>	<b>W6OMF LARRY</b>
SUN	8:30A	TUCSON AZ	ARIZONA	144.250	N7SQN AL
SUN	8:30P	ZEBULON NC		144.220	N1GMV
SUN	9:30P	HOLLAND MI	MI SWAM	144.155	K8NFT
MON	7:30P	ALBUQUERQUE	NEW MEXICO	144.200	N5XZM BOBBY
MON	8:00P	COLORADO	ROCKY MT. VHF +	144.220	N0VSB W6OAL
<b>MON</b>	<b>8:00P</b>	<b>NE MISSOURI</b>	<b>NORTHEAST MISSOURI SWOT</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>N0PB PHIL</b>
MON	8:00P	SANDUSKY	E. MICHIGAN VHF	144.250	W8IDT BART
MON	9:00P	TIDEWATER VA		144.230	
<b>TUE</b>	<b>8:00P</b>	<b>CA.NO CTYS</b>	<b>NORCAL</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>KN6NG TONY</b>
TUE	8:00P	GREENSBORO NC		144.225	K4HC
<b>WED</b>	<b>9:00P</b>	<b>NO TEXAS</b>	<b>NORTH TEXAS SWOT</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>W5FKN BOB</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>8:00P</b>	<b>CA SO CTYS</b>	<b>NORCAL</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>KA6CHJ PAUL</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>7:30P</b>	<b>LAWTON/ DUNCAN OK</b>	<b>SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA SWOT</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>ROTATING</b>
THU	9:00P	TENNESSE	UPPER CUMBERLAND	144.225	N2BR BOBBY
<b>SAT</b>	<b>7:00A</b>	<b>EAST TEXAS</b>	<b>PINEYWOODS SWOT</b>	<b>144.250</b>	<b>K5LOW DON</b>

**SWOT Nets in Bold**