



THE BIRD TURDS

Volume 1
Issue 2
August 2000

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PORTLAND REPEATER GROUP

Possible Expansion For Repeater System

Keith—N1FTE is in the process of considering the possibility of expanding the PRG to the north. A plan is in the works to locate a 440 machine on a 300 ft tower owned by Citadel Broadcasting in the town of Litchfield. If everything works out, the new repeater would have coverage from Augusta to Portland and from Boothbay Harbor to Norway. This new machine would be linked full-time to the 444.600 repeater in Portland. Another inclusion may be a part-time link to a UHF repeater in Alfred, although no further information about this link is currently available. While most of the equipment details have been worked out, donations would be appreciated. At this time, link radios and 440 yagis are being sought. If you can help, please contact Keith at n1fte@prg.iwarp.com

Mysterious "Noise" Being Investigated

Even though its appearance is usually brief and relatively uncommon, the mysterious "noise" that plagues the 444.600 machine continues to rear its ugly head. It is believed that this noise is being created by the mixing of multiple transmitters on top of One City Center. One weird observation of the "noise", is that it seems most prevalent in the presence of fog. While the effort to track down this pest is ongoing, a few things have been done to help alleviate the effect. The squelch has been turned up on the receiver and the kerchunk filter timer has been enabled for 250 ms. What does this mean for the user? You may notice slight sensitivity dampening with the receiver and also make sure you key up your rig for a good half second before you speak. We'll keep you updated on this most peculiar situation.

Upgrade Opportunities

Here is a short list of upcoming, somewhat local, exam sessions:

12-Aug-2000

Sponsor: W5YI-VEC

Time: 09:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: DOUGLAS E RUGG

VEC: W5YI VEC

Location: AUBURN RED CROSS BUILDING AUBURN, ME 04210

23-Sep-2000

Sponsor: MERRYMEETING ARA

Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ROBIN J WALLS (207)725-5135

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: BATH HEALTHCARE CENTER 1356 WASHINGTON ST WINCHENBACK CONFERENCE ROOM, BATH, ME

N1MSA Cries Like A Baby—Again

Here we go again! Not having total control over every aspect of the Group IS terribly upsetting for Chuck—N1MSA! This time, Chuck has decided to volunteer (dictate) that he will be the one to get the proposed machine in Litchfield going. One problem, he never asked! After 12 hours of arrogant presumption, Chuck was told by the current repeater owner and representative of the owner of the proposed tower site, Keith—N1FTE, that Chuck's plan would not be put into effect. After the silent treatment and multiple emails that ensued, Keith was able to discern from Chuck that "...99% of my bitch is that you didn't talk to me before making a decision." Funny, if Keith wholly owns the equipment and has sole rights to the tower sites, why should he have consulted with anyone before making a decision? The answer, according to 99.9% of the sober population is: He doesn't! And what of Chuck, he still believes he rules the universe.

PRG Members Are "Not Real Hams"

It seems that the rest of the amateur community in Portland regard PRG Members as "not real hams". This quote, along with others, was heard on other frequencies by one of our members recently. Apparently, these "real hams" think that since we have fun and don't use the words "fine business" in every other sentence or that "ahhhhhhhhh" doesn't make up more than 50% of every transmission, we are not like them. Well, we should hope not! Frankly, these losers who seem to pass judgment on everyone like they were some sort of divine beings should take this advice: "If you can ever pull your heads out of your asses long enough to see the light of day, then you should immediately dig a hole and bury it so the rest of us don't have don't have to suffer!"

August LID Announced

The August LID of the month is none other than "mega bozo" Mike—KA1RTW. Mike was bestowed the honor by Jeff—K1PIR during the last "Whatever Net" of the month of July, for the simple fact, according to Jeff, that Mike was begging for it! Mike has threatened to keep the LOM award indefinitely, however, we do hope that he will pass it on come September in keeping with the spirit of the LOM.

"The Bird Turds" Needs Your Help

Our Newsletter needs articles, commentary, pictures, statements, intelligence, scary stories, lies, humor and general text. If you would like to contribute anything, please send your stuff to: birdturds@prg.iwarp.com