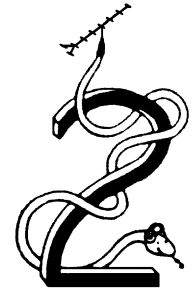




S.W.O.T. BULLETIN



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SIDEWINDERS ON TWO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
SSB, CW AND DIGITAL OPERATIONS ON 144MHZ AND UP

BULLETIN # 279

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MAY 2002

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S.W.O.T. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Send renewals and new applications for membership to Howard Hallman WD5DJT. Please make all checks payable to SIDEWINDERS ON TWO. And all I need is your SWOT # for your renewals if you want save your bulletin!!!
(See address above)
- 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.
- Send all applications for County Awards and County Awards correspondence to the SWOT VUCA Awards Manager, Len Parsons W5AL, 11361 Tascosa Rd. FM 1061., Amarillo, TX. 79124
- E-Mail all articles and reports to the Editors’ Web addresses listed above or you can mail them to KA5DWI, 6516 Simmons Rd, NRH, TX 76180-4243.
- **MERCHANDISE:**
Decals and listings available for \$1.00 each for shipping and handling from the Secretary/Treasurer.
SWOT PATCHES ARE AVAILABLE AT PRICE OF \$4.00 EACH + \$.50 FOR MAILING
Badges are available from “The Sign Man”, Rick Pourciau NV5A, <http://www.thesignman.com/menu.html>

ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB

Be sure to join and chat with other S.W.O.T. members at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sidewindersontwo>

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2002 Sidewinders On Two Radio Club Meeting

By John Petersen "KM5ES"

I am looking forward to Friday, June 7th at HamCom for our National meeting for SWOT. The meeting will run from 6pm until 7:30pm Friday evening.

This will be a business meeting plus an opportunity for all members and potential members to voice their input. We will be appointing new officers and board members for the club.

We are planning for having several presentations for the meeting that will discuss activities of the club and other 2- Meter SSB activities.

Also we will be bringing up the possible increase in the membership dues for SWOT. The dues have not changed in the past 20 years and are \$10.00. Due to the increase in the activity in the club, growth of SWOT, along with the increase of postage cost, we should increase the membership fees. Also, we may be offering a lifetime membership to SWOT members.

In the past year since May of 2001, I have served as you chairman of SWOT. We have started a new beginning to the group and have brought it out of seclusion. We have started 3 new Nets, have a group page on the Internet with an average of 85 members. In the past year, we have sponsored a contest in which plaques and certificates were given out to the participants.

SWOT's future depends on you the member to work toward another 20 years of one of the oldest 2-Meter SSB organizations in the United States. Your continued support to the club in its activities, Nets, contest and other things offered in the future depends on you.

Numerous plans are in the future, but your continued support for the club is needed. If at all possible, please plan to join us in Arlington, Texas at HamCom the largest Hamfest in Texas.

The meeting will be held in room M6. Please plan on attending this important function of the Sidewinders-On-Two Radio Club.

John Petersen KM5ES #3331
2001-2002 SWOT Chairman

The Chairman's Corner

By John Petersen "KM5ES"

Well, Tropo season and "E" Skip will be coming in soon. I have made many contacts with Florida and North/South paths since I have been active on 2 meters in May. Usually, when we have a good cold front with a dryline you will see the activity increase twofold. Usually the best times for the activity runs early in the morning from 6AM to 9AM here and in the evenings. Also, I have noted that meteor scatter activity has increased due to several showers going on and the North American Meteor Scatter Rally running. Activity on the Ping Jockey Page is rampant at this time. I am looking forward to the National SWOT Meeting Friday, June 7th at HamCom at 6PM. Hope to see everyone there.

John Petersen KM5ES
SWOT Chairman #3331

Meet the Members, Officers and Net Control Operators for SWOT

Each month we will profile one of the Officers, NCS and longtime contributing Members for SWOT.

This month we will highlight **Ed Swim, WD5GVP** SWOT member and NCS from Eastern Oklahoma.

Ed has recently taken over the net control duties for the Eastern Oklahoma Net on Monday night at 9:00PM Central Time. Many of you know that he was a past NCS for the same net over a year ago. He would like to see someone take the NCS duties from him eventually. He would appreciate that someone come forward and take the Net. Those of you that check in know that the net has always had a large turnout. Meanwhile, Ed hopes to continue until someone comes forward.

Ed became a Ham in 1976 as a Novice. He enjoyed 15 Meter CW and still does today. Once he upgraded to Technician, he quickly became involved in 2-Meter sideband activity. Ed had an Elmer, Denver White, WD5CRK. Once he became involved in weak signal operation with Denver's help, he was hooked on Weak Signal.

At the time, Ed lived on 160 acres in Shulter, Oklahoma about 3 miles from Henrietta. Ed had a good elevation and managed to put up some nice arrays on 2-Meters and 70 Centimeters. Ed has experienced some great propagation and recalls one single opening that worked 23 states.

He has worked all 48 states on 2 Meters using terrestrial modes. Over the years, Ed has managed to color in the grid square map of the United States and southern Canada. He is not an award hunter for 2 Meters, but says that the map has very few grids not marked off.

He took over the Eastern Oklahoma SWOT Net in May 1994 and conducted it until 2001. The Net became one of the largest VHF Nets in the country during his tenure.

Ed has been a teacher, coach, principal and school administrator. Besides Oklahoma, he worked in the Denver, Colorado and Cedar Rapids, Iowa areas. After 40 years in teaching, he retired and has moved to a new QTH, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

The antennas are now low key, as not to disturb or upset his neighbors. Ed also holds an Extra class license. His wife, Barbara is also a Ham, KC5CZM. We are not sure if his original application to SWOT was lost, but Ed holds SWOT number 3100.

Next time you check in or see Ed, thank him for his contributions to Sidewinders on Two.

North American 2 Meter Beacons

By Lee Kemp, N5TIF

Hello All,
I have compiled a list of beacons of North America I got these from several different sources. Thank you goes out to Howard, WD5DJT and Pierre, VE2PIJ for providing the information.

Now there may be some repeats, because of the beacons from my sources shows two different "FHZ" but the same grid. If any one can help me out on this I would appreciated it. Also, if you see a beacon that is not listed please email me with the details and I will make sure that they get posted in the newsletter.

Beacons are good resources for finding out when and were the band is open to. Post this list next to your station so you know what to look for and where. I hope that everyone has a good DX season.

144.170 KH6HME BK29go HI Mauna Loa
60W
144.273 N5EAD EM00 TX
10W dipole @20' E/W 1350' asl
144.275 N5EAD EM10 TX Austin
10W 6 el yagi east .
144.275 KS2D FN20qh NJ PRINCETON
1mW + Big Wheel
144.275 N0EC DN70lf CO
200W Omni horizontal
144.275 VE1SMU GN03 Sable Island
10W 5el Yagi to west
144.275 W4CHA EL88 FL
30W to halo on broadcast tower
144.275 W6TOD DM15dx CA Ridgecrest
30 watts pair loops 2400' asl
144.276 W2RTB FN12 NY
15W+Eggbeater @450' asl.
144.276 VE2FUT FN25wg PQ Rigeau
15W+Turnstile 550'ASL
144.277 KA0EWQ EN15 MN Johnson
10W+3el yagi aimed SE
144.277 W0PW EM26 MO Neosho
35W to Big Wheel @ 50'
144.278 N8PUM EN65bx MI Felch
10W to a PAR omni
144.279 K0UO EM07 KS Kiowa
160ft
144.279 VA3MBB EN93 ON
10W to turnstile omni.
144.280 K0RZ DM79jx CO Boulder
5W 8dBi N and 5W 8dBi SE
144.280 N4MW FM17kn VA New Kent
30W+Sqloop@20'
144.280 VA3KRP EN58 ON Thunder Bay
25W+2 yagis to SE QSL VE3KRP
144.280 VA7HPS CN89sc BC Surrey
8W to 11 el yagi @ 40' SSE.
144.280 VE4VHF EN19 Winnepeg
15 W Vertical -
144.282 W4ATT EL98 FL Orlando
100W ERP beamed NNE, 300' amsl
144.2825 KJ6KO CM88 CA Bald Mountain
40W Pair of HO Loops PSK31/CW
144.284 K3GAU EN81do OH Holland
10W to Big Wheel @ 20'.
144.284 VE1CBC FN63 NS Yarmouth
144.284 W3CCX FM29jw PA Philadelphia
4W to single loop @ 435'

144.285 VE6EMU DO33pa Alberta
20W to 5el yagi aimed N.
144.285 W5VAS EM50 LA Lacombe
100W beamed north @ 440'.
144.286 N0UD DN87sh ND
30W to stacked big wheels.
144.286 WD4GSM EM86 VA Wise
144.287 W2IK FN30js NY LI
50W horiz Loop.
144.287 W8VHF EN64ub MI
1W ERP 750' ASL
144.287 W0VD EM27
144.288 KL7GLK FM18 MD Annapolis
144.289 WA2UMX FN23xc NY Providence
20W + 2 Big Wheels 1620'ASL
144.290 KOHTF EN31do IA Des Moines
144.290 K4DOS EL96we FL Ft Lauderdale
20 watts H. Loop @ 30'
144.290 WA9HCZ EN43jv WI La Crosse
6 watts pair wheels 1170' asl
144.291 K7UV DN31xm UT Brigham
15W to horiz loop.
144.292 VE8BY FP53rs Iqaluit
23W to 8 bay dipole array
144.292 WA4HFN EM55ab TN Memphis
10 watts m2 loop 35'
144.294 N0LL EM09ow KS Smith
13W to stacked PAR omnis @ 35'
144.295 VE1SMU/G FN74os NS Lake George
10W yagi pointed WSW
144.295 WB0QIY EN01rf NE Grand Island
70 Watts + big-wheel @40'
144.295 W3VD FM19ne MD Laurel
10W+halo freq varies QSL N4GYN
144.296 WD4KPD FM15mm NC Washington
20W+2halos @30'
144.298 WD9BGA EN53ba WI
7W to a halo.
144.299 K0GHZ FM25 NC Hatteras
30W to Hor. Loop @ 50'
144.299 VE1SMU/H FN84 NS Halifax
15W 7el Yagi SW,FSK
144.299 WA7X DM49ho UTAH
100W Cycloid Dipole -
144.299 W0BLK DN84 SD Rapid City
25W - 300 ft.
144.300 K4AR EM76vj TN Lafollette
15W horizontal omni 3000' asl.
144.300 KD4NMI FM05rt NC Knightdale
10W vertical omni @ 575'.

Lee Kemp
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SWOT #3319
VUCC 6M #1114

On the World Wide Web

A few sites Weak Signal operators may be interested in. Send in your favorite sites, they will be listed here.

Rover Resource Page Information and Links for the Rover enthusiast

<http://www.qsl.net/n9rla/>

Central States VHF Society.

Largest VHF organization in these parts.

<http://www.csvhfs.org/>

Contesting.com

Has VHF contesting information and a list server.

<http://www.contesting.com/>

Delmarva VHF and Microwave Society and the Grid Pirates Contest Group.

How we all wish we could contest. Good links at this site.

<http://www.k8gp.net/>

VHFCONT Contest Software

DOS based VHF contest shareware.

<http://www.qsl.net/kc6teu/>

Scores from ARRL Contest

The January VHF Contest scores are out.

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/claimed/>

New VHF Web Page.

<http://www.vhfhamradio.com/>

WSJT

Download entire program or get the latest update.

Now Version 2.01

<http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT>

DX Reports April 16-May15

By Art Jackson KA5DWI

Each month we will attempt to let you all know what has been going on 2 Meters and give you an idea what you can expect in the next month. Please Mail or email your DX reports to me and we will get them in the newsletter.

DX Reports

All dates are based on UTC.

Meteors:

The Eta-Aquarids meteor showers helped enhance conditions for the N. American Meteor Scatter Rally. Many good reports.

Moon:

Phil, N0PB worked his first EME QSO on JT44. Many successful Europe to North America QSO's were completed.

Aurora:

04/17-18,20 and 05/11-12: Good Aurora openings in the central USA reported. (EM39,EM27, EM29, DN62)

E Propagation:

No reports on 2 Meters. Scattered reports on Six Meters began on May 1. "E's" have started slow this season.

Tropo:

A Great Month!

Most off the weather systems that moved through the Midwest and Southeast US produced very good openings. The Gulf States again were great places to be, but other areas did well too.

All days are reported based on UTC.

States shown reported at least a 500 mile, most a 1000 mile path.

04/15: Midwest US, IA to OK

04/16: Central US, OK, AR, TN, LA and Central TX.

04/17: NY & ONT

OK, LA, TN, FL, GA, SC

04/18: S.TX, LA, OK, AR
IA, MO

04/19: AR, S.TX

04/20: GA, VA
FL, N & SE.TX, AR

04/21: MS, GA

04/22: MS, FL, SC,
FL, AR, LA, OK

04/23: AL, MS, LA, FL, OK

04/25: AL, FL
E.OK, E. MO

04/26: IL, ONT

04/28: S.TX, TN, AR, LA

04/29: TN, LA, S.TX, FL

04/30: LA, MS, S.TX, N.TX, FL
AR, W.KS

Start of large opening.

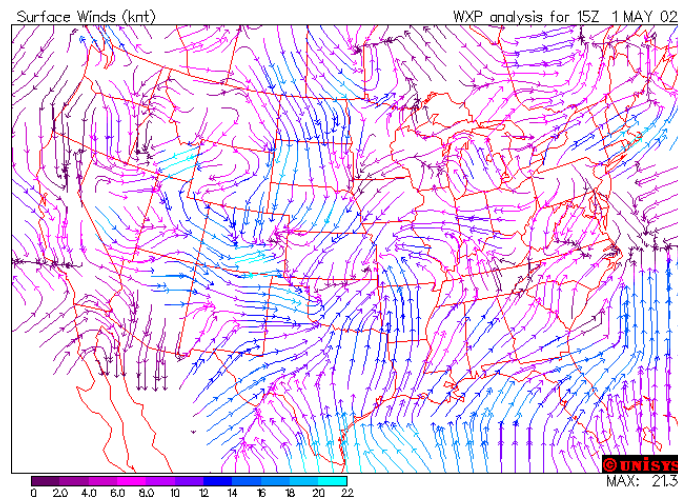
05/01: Super Refraction begins!

Conditions continued to improve as the new day UTC began. The Central Louisiana Net had check-ins from southern Florida. Stations further north in western Florida were still not getting the good conditions. By the late evening, North Texas was working S. Florida. By early morning, N. Arkansas was working Florida as well.

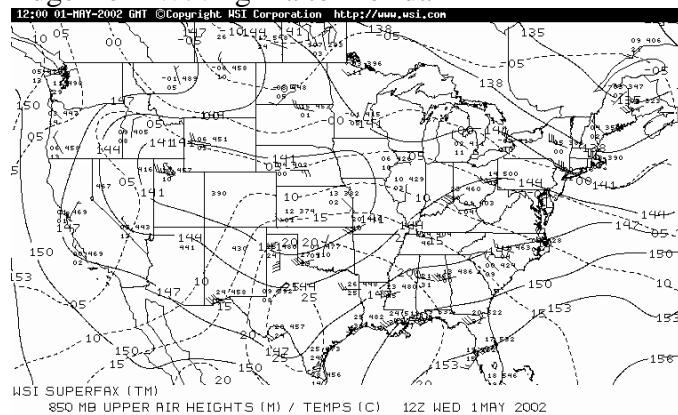
The center of the strongest inversion was located over southern Louisiana into the Gulf. It was extremely pronounced and long lasting. The following maps display the weather conditions leading to the opening:

Surface Winds – 05/01

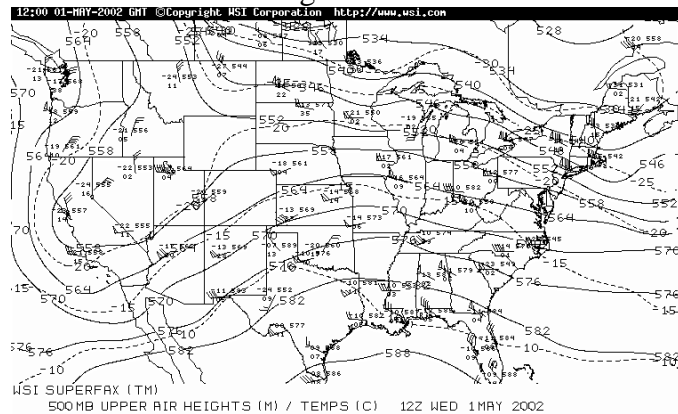
Note the strong inflow from the entire Gulf. Very warm air. Also a slight Eastern kink in the middle of the Gulf.



Upper Air 850mb Chart shows a High Pressure ridge from W. Virginia to Florida



500mb Upper Air Chart shows a ridge from the center of the Gulf straight to Iowa.



Based on low sky noise and path loss readings (DEGR) less than 3dB. Bad days are those with a 10db plus reading.

Lunar, Solar and Astronomical Events

Lunar: Apogee – 06/04

Perigee 05/23

New Moon – 06/10, Full Moon – 05/26

Solar: Overhead 05/16: - 19.1°N, 06/15: - 23.3.°N

USAF Predicted Solar Flux Average:

05/16-06/15: 169 (Decreasing by 6)

NASA missed the boat last month.

Meteors:

Minor Showers: 13 from 0516-05/31, 3 Peak

16 from 06/01-06/15, 4 Peak

Moderate Showers:

Zeta Perseids:

Begins 05/23

Peaks 6/15 about 40 per hour rate

Good North/South paths during daylight.

Major Showers:

Arietids:

Begins 05/21

Peaks - 06/07 1600 UTC

Best Paths: *Local Time*

NE/SW 0800-1000 E/W Not Good

NW/SE 1300-1500

N/S 0600-1000 N/S 1300-1700

More meteor info at:

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

Event & Contest Calender 2002

June	07-08	Ham-Com Arlington, TX SWOT Meeting June 7
June	08-10	ARRL VHF QSO Party
June	22-23	ARRL Field Day
July	20-21	CQ Worldwide VHF Contest This Contest is a week later this year.
August	3-4	ARRL UHF Contest
September	14-16	ARRL VHF QSO Party

SWOT NET REPORTS

Here are the net reports for April and May. The first figure listed for each date is the number of check-ins and the second is the number of grids.

Northern California (Sunday):

Month of March

04/07/02...81 04/14/02...85 04/21/02...84

04/28/02...76

16 Different Grids

Central Louisiana (Tuesday)

4/16/02...10/8 4/23/02...10/8 4/30/02...28/16

5/07/02...8/6

Northern Missouri (Tuesday)

4/16/02...14/7 4/23/02...14/7 4/30/02...24/11

5/07/02...15/9

North Texas (Wednesday)

4/17/02...44/17 4/24/02...33/18 5/01/02...42/19

5/08/02... 17/11

SW Oklahoma (Thursday)

Eastern Oklahoma (Monday)

No Reports

East Texas (Saturday)

4/20/02...11/6 4/27/02...19/7 5/04/02...11/5

5/11/02...13/6

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---\$10.00_____ Renewal----\$10.00_____

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 _____

SWOT NETS

Day	Local Time	Area	Net	Frequency	Net Control Station
SUN	8:30A	TUCSON AZ	ARIZONA	144.250	N7SQN AL
SUN	8:00P	VACAVILLE CA	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	144.250	W6OMF LARRY
SUN	9:30P	HOLLAND MI	MI SWAM	144.155	K8NFT
MON	7:30P	ALBUQUERQUE	NEW MEXICO	144.200	N5XZM BOBBY
MON	8:00P	WOODLAND PK	COLORADO	144.220	W2CRS WBODOM
MON	9:00P	OKLAHOMA	OKLAHOMA	144.250	WD5GVP ED
MON	8:00P	SANDUSKY	E. MICHIGAN	144.250	W8IDT BART
TUE	8:00P	CA.NO CTYS	NORCAL	144.250	KF6BXH BILL
TUE	8:00P	EM31 LA.	CENTRAL LOUISIANA	144.250	K5MQ DAVE
TUE	9:00P	N. CENTRAL MO.	N. CENTRAL MO.	144.250	N0PB PHIL KB0PE DAVE
WED	8:00P	IA-MO-IL	TRI STATE	144.250	WZ9D N9CXO
WED	9:00P	NO TEXAS	NORTH TEXAS	144.250	W5FKN BOB
THU	8:00P	CA SO CTYS	NORCAL	144.250	KC6CHJ
THU	7:30P	LAWTON EM04	SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA	144.250	WH6LR JIM
THU	9:00P	TENNESSE	UPPER CUMBERLAND	144.225	N2BR BOBBY
SAT	7:00A	EAST TEXAS	PINEYWOODS	144.250	K5LOW DON