

SIDEWALK EME

DOUG MILLAR K6JEY

THE ULTIMATE DX

- Half a million miles
- 97% loss bouncing off the moon
- A moving object
- Technically challenging
- But it can be done and even simply
- Here's what it sounds like on 1296MHz

A LITTLE HISTORY

- I was first licensed in 1957 as KN6JEY
- I had a first EME QSO in 1990 on 2m with W5UN. Used two 35' yagis and 500watts.
- I wanted to work on other bands and with no more roof space, that started the Sidewalk EME idea.

IMPOSSIBLE?

- No room on a city lot for antennas that are traditionally big enough.
- Way too noisy in a city environment to hear anything.

NEVER LET ASSUMPTIONS GET IN THE WAY

- Use the gear you have and then upgrade as you go along.
- I started collecting gear.
- It really helped to have friends involved like W6SZ and KJ6HZ.

THE FIRST TESTS-ONLY THE LOUDEST CW SIGNALS WERE HEARD. DID NOT TRY JT MODE. PORTABLE OR FIXED? I DECIDED ON FIXED.



7 foot dish on 1296MHz. 150w output. Made CW contacts.



2Meter testing. 12el antenna. I heard signals on CW. Preamp was .5db NF



OVERALL DESIGN GEAR CHOICES AND TESTING

DESIGN CONCEPTMAKE THINGS SIMPLE

- Everything is marked and labeled
- All the radio gear in the garage
 antennas are outside.
 - Cables wrapped and marked with frequency and loss.
- Everything is measured for loss.
- •All key gear has spares.
- •Work with friends.

LOSS TESTING SET UP



In line amps. No burn out from behind



Get a new or tested preamp and a spare. Shoot for .5db noise Figure on 2m. .3db on 23cm.



23cm HB9BBD preamp below.



1296MHz Preamps. .2db and

.18db noise figure.



Typical Relay. Isolation 90db or more at frequency



SEPTUM FEED RX RELAY-

ON FOR RX.

LED LETS YOU KNOW ITS ON.

FEED SEES 50Ω ON TX.

LOSS.05DB.

TX PORT ISOLATION -20DB.



SYSTEM NOISE FIGURE

- Do sun noise to ground and cold sky to ground measurements with an SDR receiver.
- Record the data for reference.
- When you set up your system, repeat the measurements to verify that it is working.
- M2 inserts a diode as a noise source in the preamp so that you can verify it is working.

1296MHz 150w amp 2C39 /7289tubes



2 Meter Portable EME Station For JT mode

2 watts drive= 300w out

Switching Power Supply

FT817 radio



There are lots of interfaces, including easy to make home built ones. This one goes through the USB port and has a built in sound card. Not too expensive. Microham also makes them.

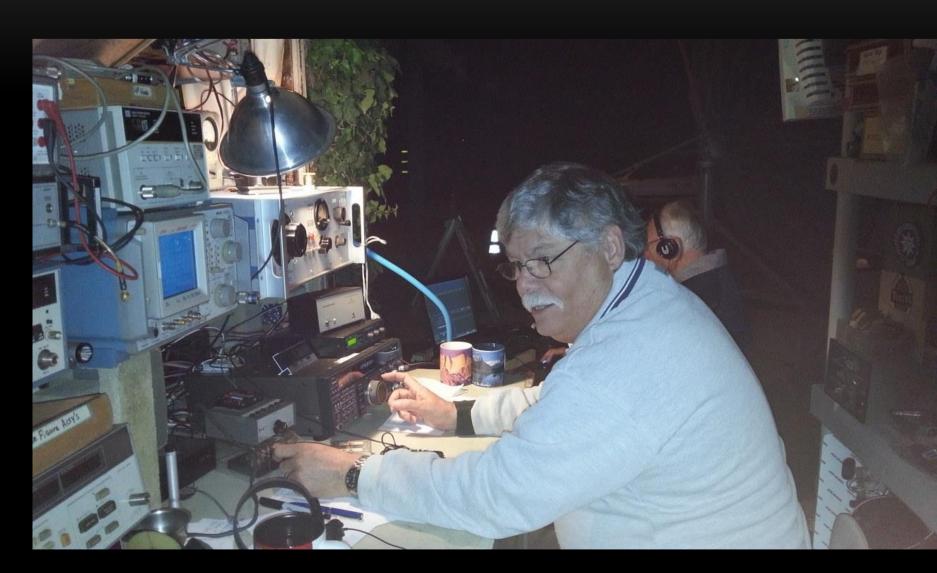




THE RIG AND ME- RIG INSIDE AND 7' DISH OUTSIDE.



1.2GHZ 10' DISH. REIN USING FUNCUBE SDR TO MONITOR THE BAND.



COPYING ON THE RIG AND MONITORING ON SDR NOTICE HOW MUCH BIGGER THE 10' DISH SEEMS TO BE.



HELEN AND REIN WORKING JT MODE



A COLD WINTER NIGHT ON 23CM CW. THE SPARE AMP IS ON DUTY



ANTENNAS

7 FOOT DISH AND FEED. SIMPLE TO USE AND SIMPLE



10 FOOT DISH. HARDER TO USE BUT MANY MORE SIGNALS.



9

Dish Guiding- use an astronomical finder scope and an auto Use the guider output to trigger motors to keep the moon in the Problem: visual guiding only.



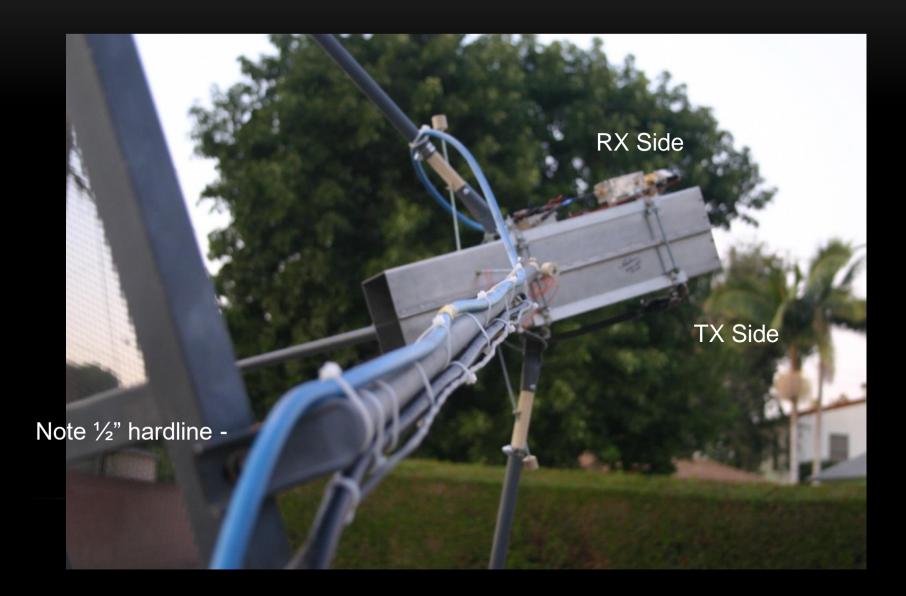
BIRDBATH POSITION-ALL THE BOLTS AND PIECES ARE KEYED TO ONLY FIT A CERTAIN WAY AND COLOR CODED.





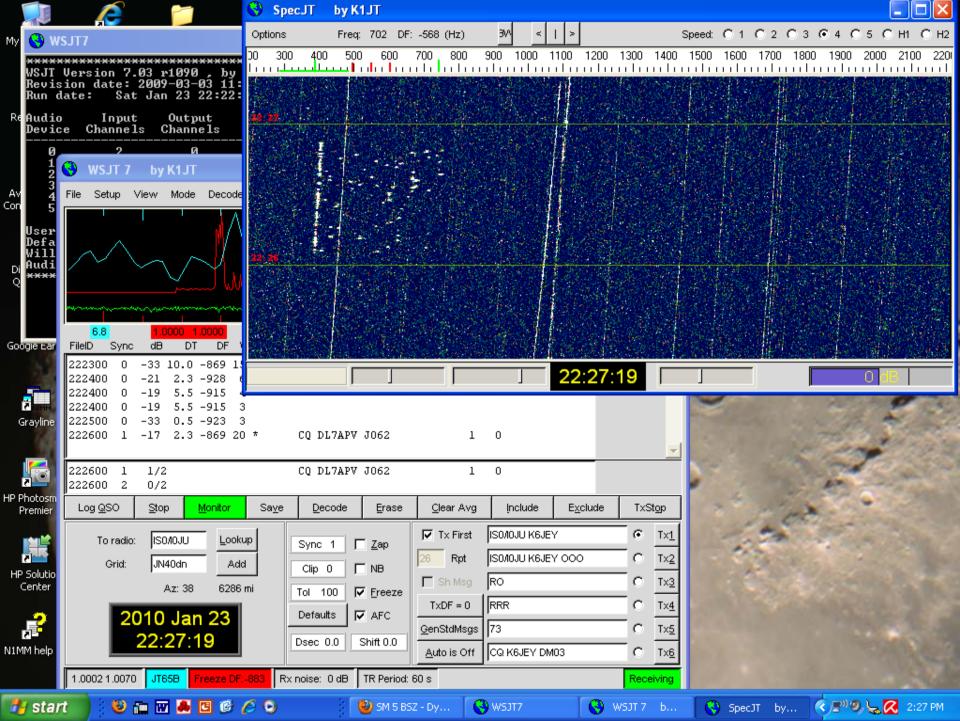
REAR LAYOUT-

SEPTUM FEED BY KL6M.

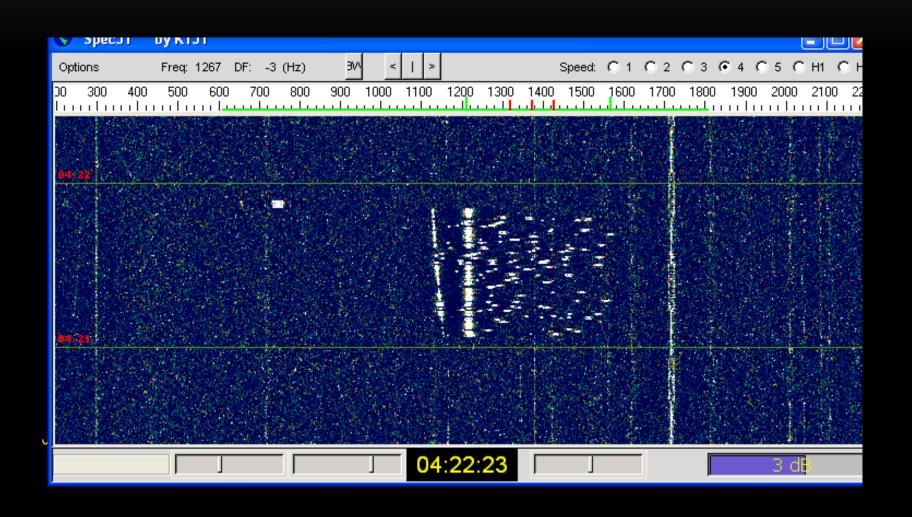


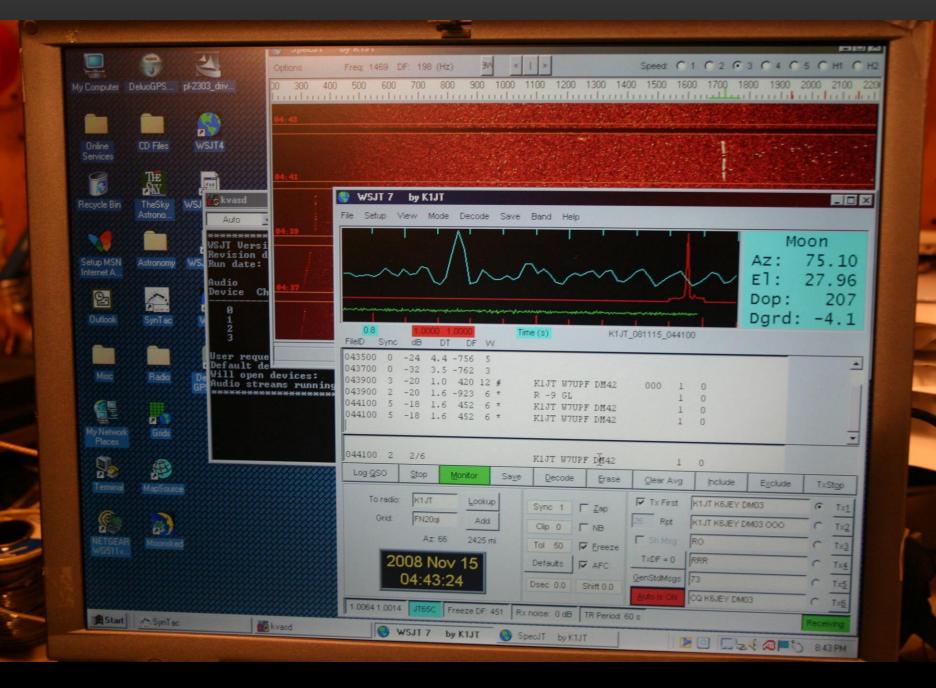
JT MODE

 If you are going to do JT mode, practice on HF and /or get someone who has used it to tutor you. It is quicker and less frustrating.



JT 65 SCREEN SHOTS.





OPERATIONAL NOTES

- Using JT65 we have worked many stations our size and up.
- Friday is the best day to operate
- We use manual steering
- Our horizon is +20deg el.
- We have three operators-
 - Main CW
 - JT Mode
 - Logger/band monitor

WORKING 1.2GHZ



JT POSITION N5BF COURTNEY OPERATING



NEXT STEP 2.3GHZ TESTING PHASE



NEW 7 FOOT ANTENNA WITH 2.3GHZ FEED



JEY Group Pictures Rein W6SZ, Doug, John KJ6HZ, and Bill N6MN

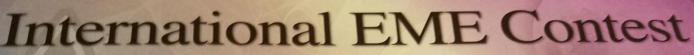


MANY THANKS

- To Helen KI6LQV- for keeping Chez Helen open for food at almost any hour and for encouragement.
- Rein W6SZ for all his help and design ideas.
- John KJ6HZ for encouragement and help operating
- And the rest of the "JEY Group" who have helped us get on the air.

W6SZ,KJ6HZ,KK6MXP,N5BF,K6JEY,N6GP,N6EV





In recognition of achieving a winning score by working fellow amateurs around the world, using the moon as a passive reflector, on designated Amateur Radio frequencies above 50 MHz during the contest period.

This award is presented to

K6JEY

(+W6SZ, N6NM, KJ6HZ, N6EV)

SCORE:

9,000

THIRD PLACE

Multi Operator All Mode 1.2 GHz

2015

An Rolente KSUR

President, ARRL

Bart Jahnke W9JJ

RIVIR



ARRL The national association for ARRL AMATEUR RADIO

RESULTS

No neighbor complaints!
Lots of contacts, but mostly on the digital modes
Lots of fun
And it worked!

Here is our websitewww.nitehawk.com/k6jey/

HOOKING IT UP

- The old XP computer drives a TigerTronics USB adaptor
- The adaptor drives the TS790A for TX/RX
- The TS790A Provides PTT output to the amp.
- The Amp drives the relays- one before the amp and one at the antenna with the preamp.