

A short history of the N6MI van and 3A SB Field Day (2026 campaign)

n6mi.com

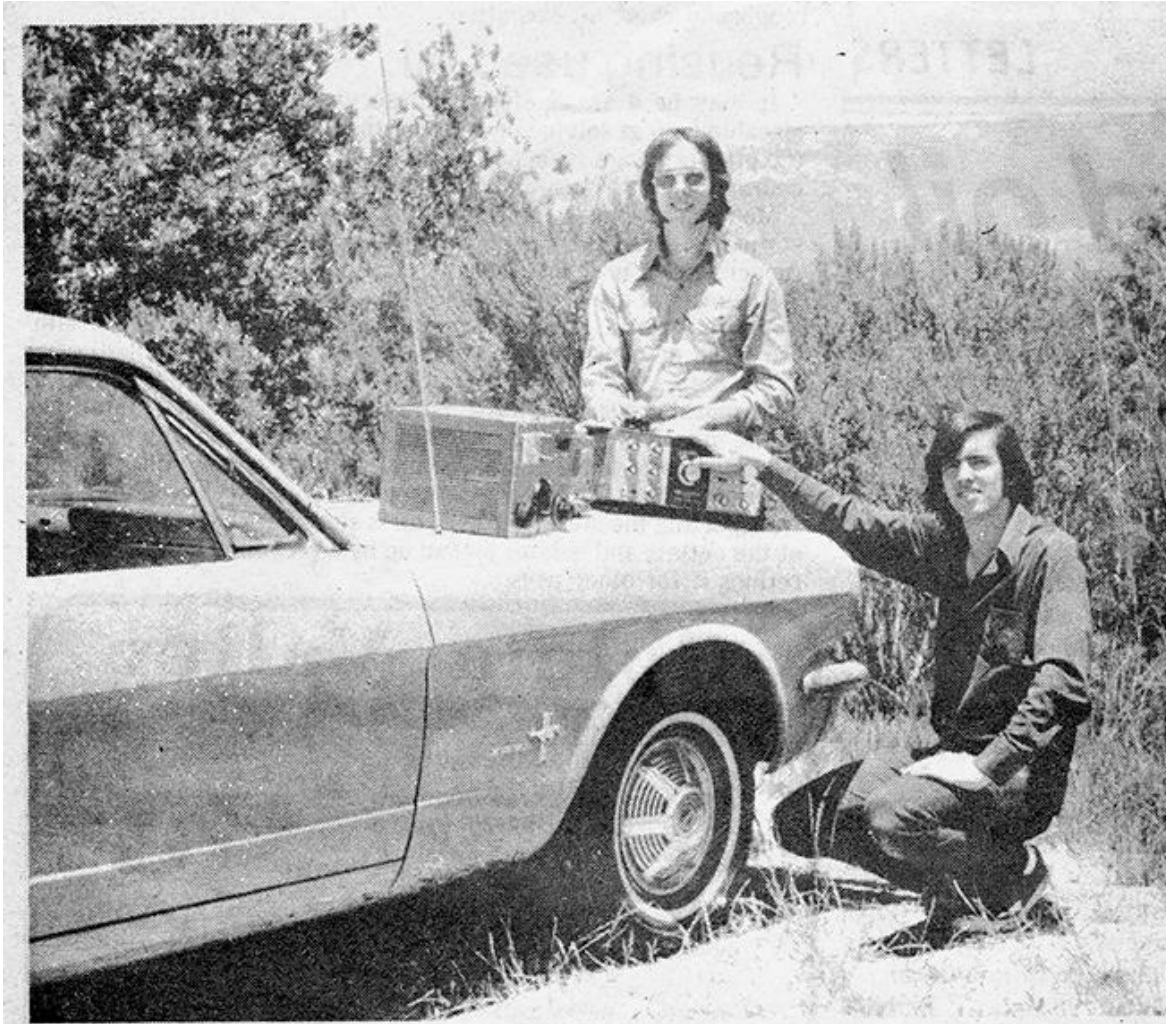


bovitz.com

1969



First mobile installation (1964½ Mustang)

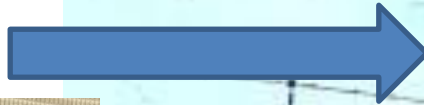


WARMING UP—Preparing for the largest ham radio contest of the year are J.Scott Bovitz (left) and R.Larry Dean (right). During the contest, amateur radio operators try to pass emergency messages to the largest number of stations during the scheduled period. (TODAY photo by Dave Hardy)

1980

SCCC
Field Day
1980

NB6E



N6MI



N6MU

All-time
overall
record high
score —
a record that
stood for 14
years



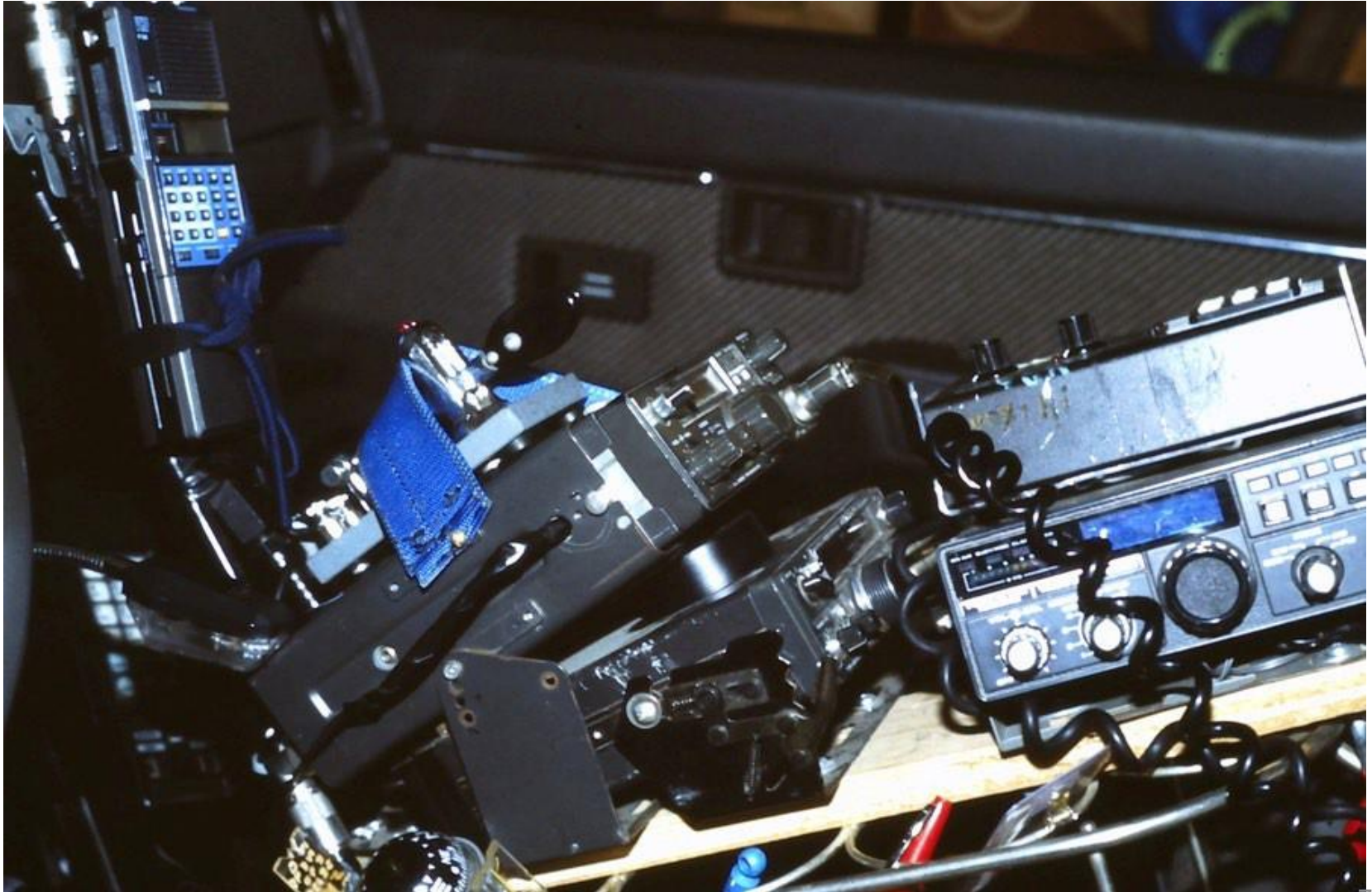
N6VI

Temporary installation -- CQP 1980s





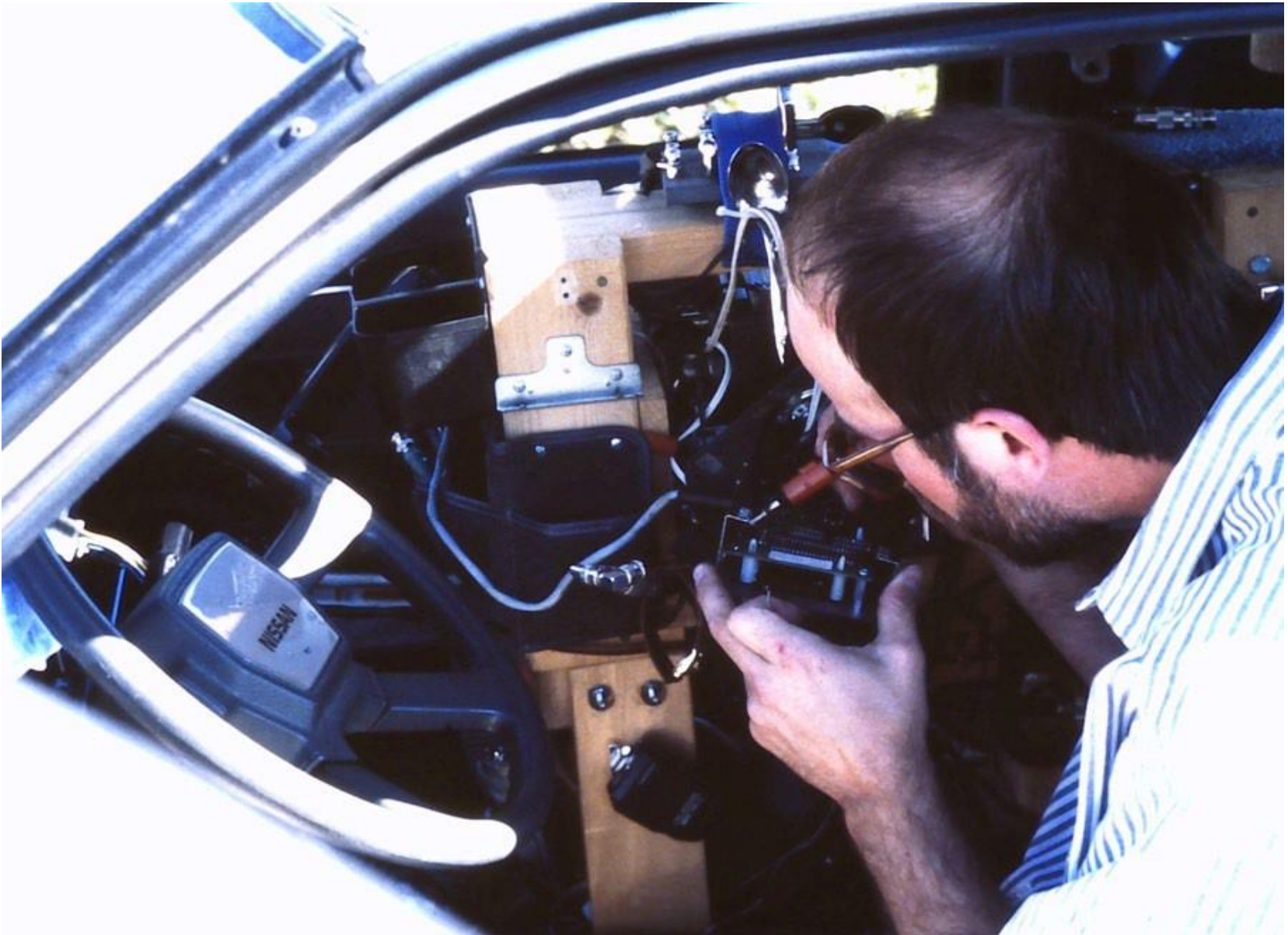
Second mobile installation for t-hunting and contests (wine rack in a Nissan truck)

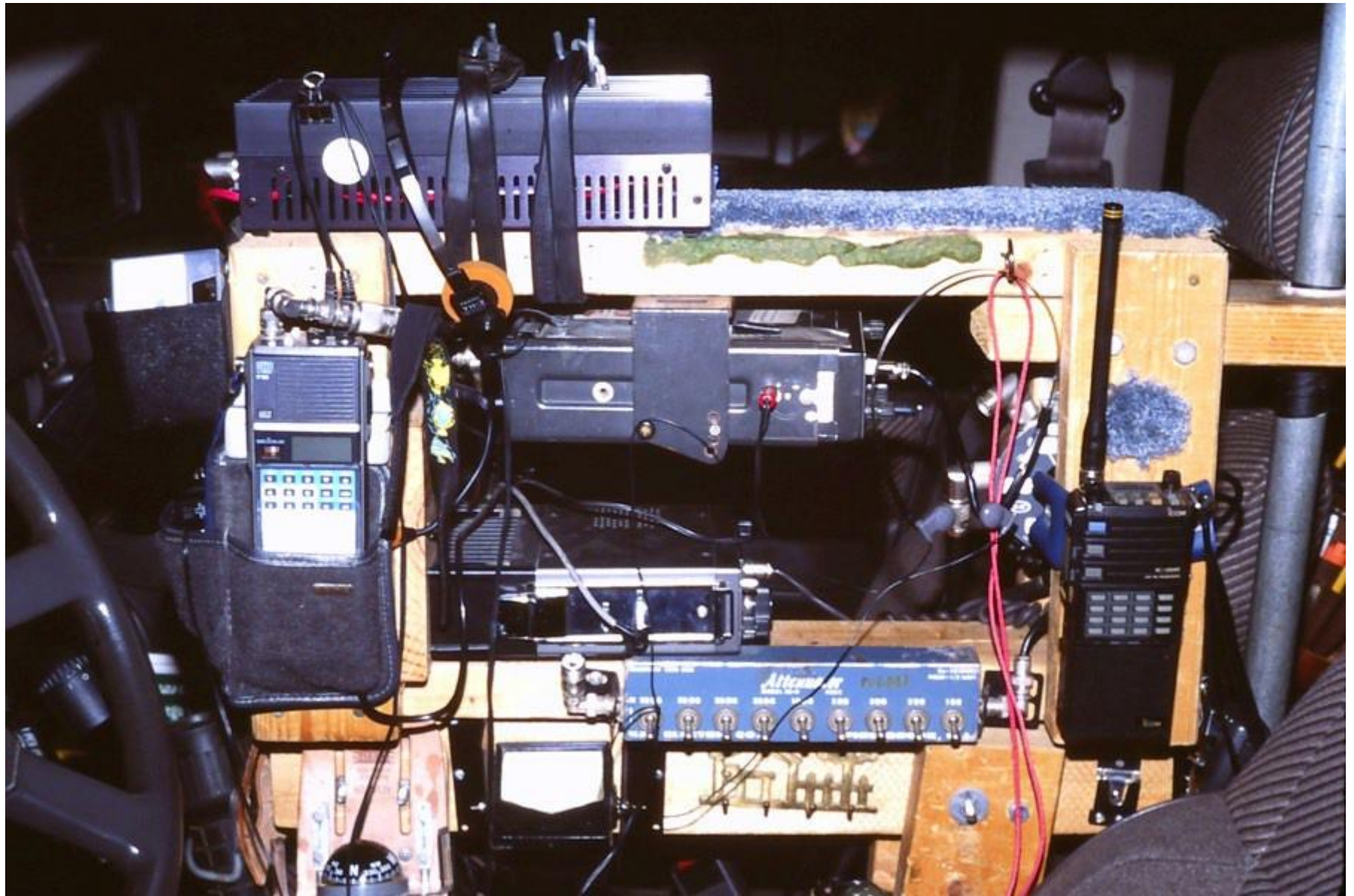


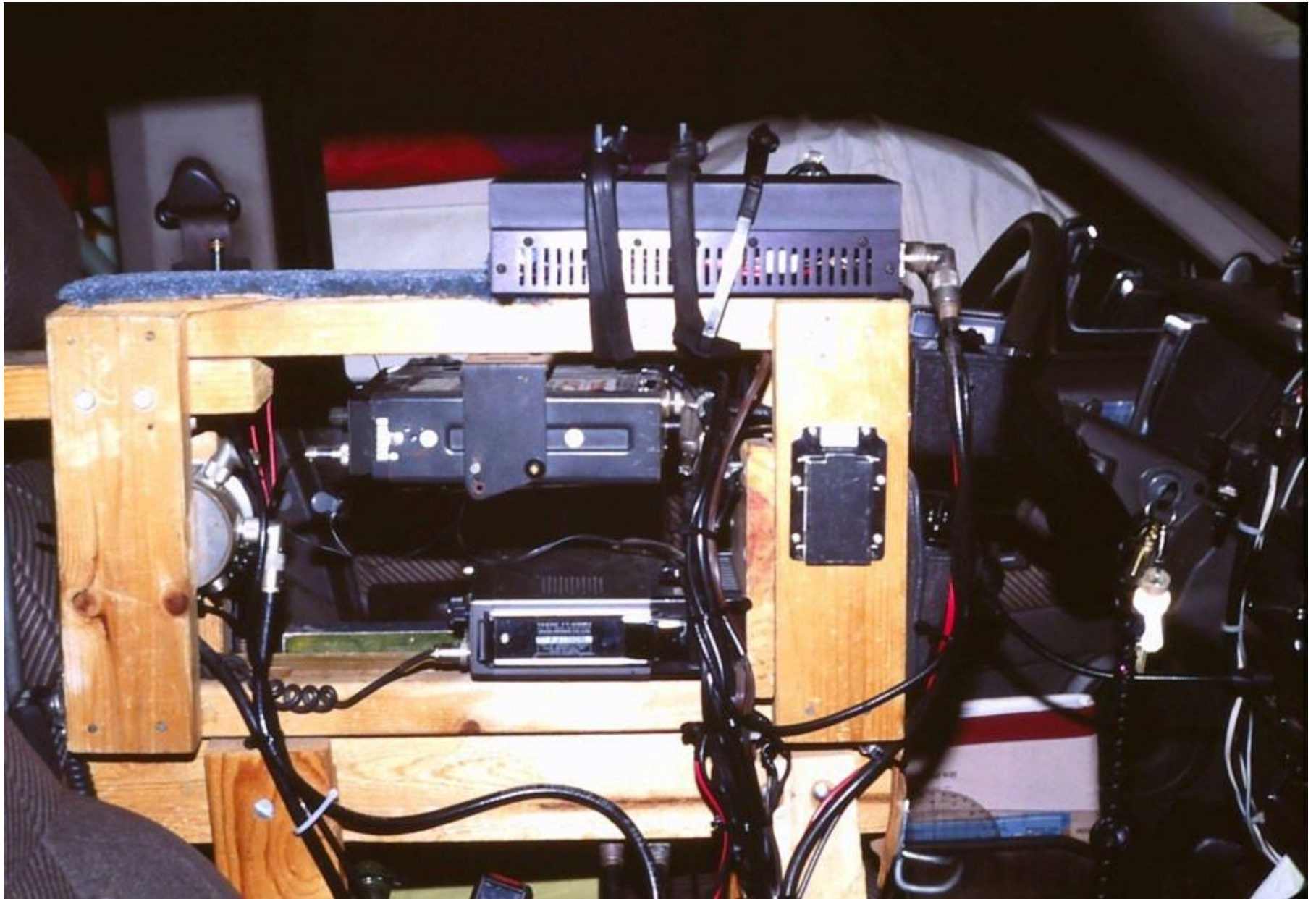




Third mobile installation (Nissan truck)











Fourth mobile installation (Nissan truck)



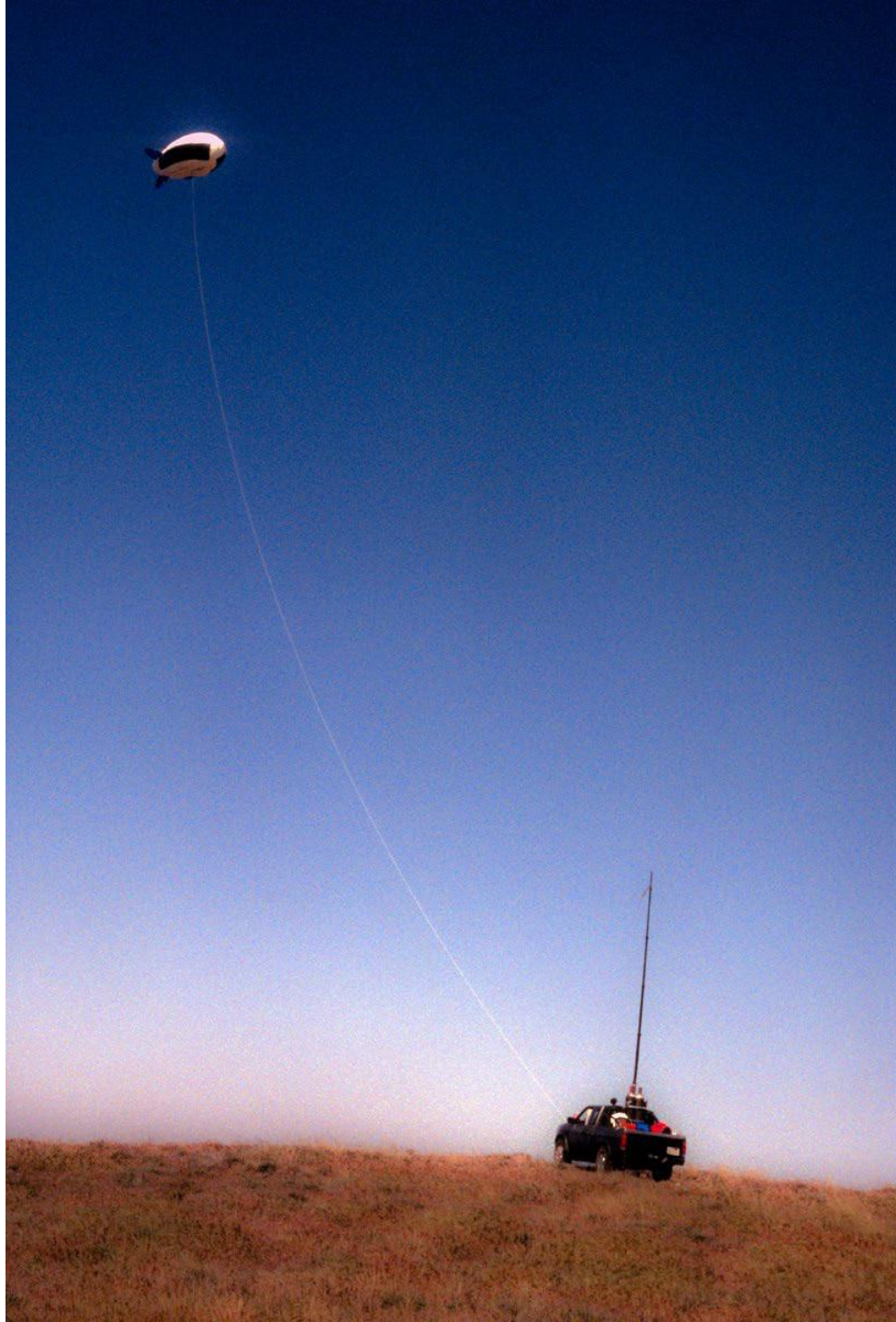












N6NB, Tehachapi, 1994-2000s







Pack roving with N6NB



Fifth mobile installation (Nissan truck)







Transmitter hunting: t-hunter.org; homingin.com (K0OV)



Sixth mobile installation (Ford van)



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1 of 6

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2012 and 2013 N6VI multiops on Frazier Peak







HF contesting











KI6BJN Field Day



K6JO, then KK6NON, a younger Levi



2023 Field Day





2024 Field Day



QST

DIGITAL EDITION

2024 Field Day



The National Association for
Amateur Radio®

June 2024

www.arrl.org

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QST Reviews

Icom ID-50A Dual-Band
FM/Digital Handheld
Transceiver

GQ Electronics EMF-390
Multi-Field, Multi-Function
EMF Meter and RF
Spectrum Power Analyzer

Pacific Antenna Active
Antenna Kit



PO

VFO

CW-U

14.006.840

ANT

1

ATT

OFF

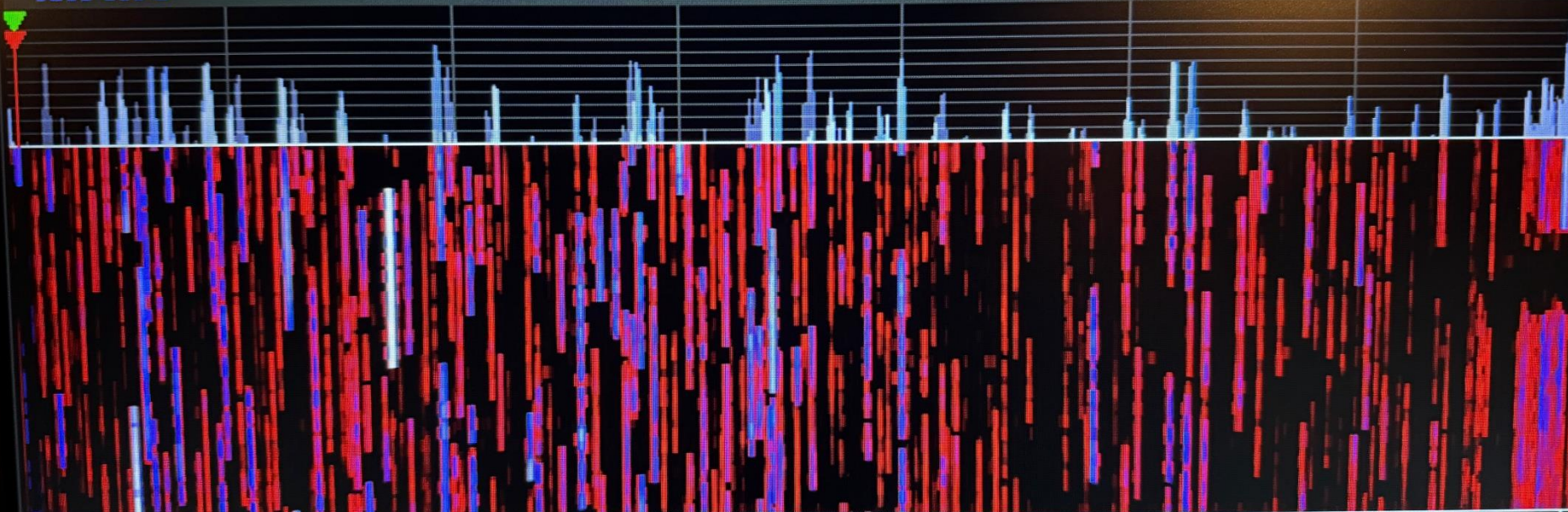
IPO

IPO

R

60

MAIN



14.006.450

14.026.450

14.046.450

14.066.450

CURSOR

SPAN

3DSS

MONO

MULTI

EXPAN

2024 IARU contest



2024 10 GHz contest



2025 Field Day







2025 10 GHz contest



2026 CQ WPX CW













FT-1000MP

ALC CIRCUIT

ANTENNA

SWR

TEMP

COMP

CLAR

OFF

IPO

600Hz

CURSOR

SPAN

30GS

MONO

MULTI

EXPAND

HOLD

RF POWER

AT-7A

ANTENNA

SWR

TEMP

COMP

CLAR

OFF

IPO

600Hz

CURSOR

SPAN

30GS

MONO

MULTI

EXPAND

HOLD

RF POWER

FT-1000MP

ALC CIRCUIT

ANTENNA

SWR

TEMP

COMP

CLAR

OFF

IPO

600Hz

CURSOR

SPAN

30GS

MONO

MULTI

EXPAND

HOLD

RF POWER



MSM 555 #

Time	Freq	Power	Mode	Band	Filter	Gain	Att	Ref	Scale	Units
00:00:00	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:01	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:02	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:03	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:04	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:05	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:06	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:07	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:08	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:09	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm
00:00:10	21.054.090	10.0	FM	20m	12dB	0dB	0dB	0dB	1.0	dBm

MSM 555 #

FT-1000MP

ALC CIRCUIT

ANTENNA

SWR

TEMP

COMP

CLAR

OFF

IPO

600Hz

CURSOR

SPAN

30GS

MONO

MULTI

EXPAND

HOLD

RF POWER







S
2026



S
CW

*The Radio Amateur's Journal
Takes pleasure in awarding this Certificate of Merit to*

N6MI

World Wide WPX Contest

**#1 United States 6th Call Area
TRIBANDER/SINGLE-ELEMENT OVERLAY
ALL Bands - High Power**

A Total score of 818,874 points was computed on the basis of the number of stations worked and call sign prefixes contacted. In witness of this achievement, we hereby affix our signatures on this day.

Paul Trench, AA3B

CQ WPX Contest Director

William J. Duffy K3LR
President WPX

2026 ARRL June VHF contest

























N6MI 3A Santa Barbara Field Day



K2BTW

Broden Weeks

**Tom's Garage
Amateur Radio Club**

Castaic, CA



↑ EAST FRAZIER ROAD 8N24
↑ ARRASTRA TRAIL 1½
↑ EAST FRAZIER TRAIL 5
FRAZIER MTN. LOOKOUT 1 →

8N24

8N04
→

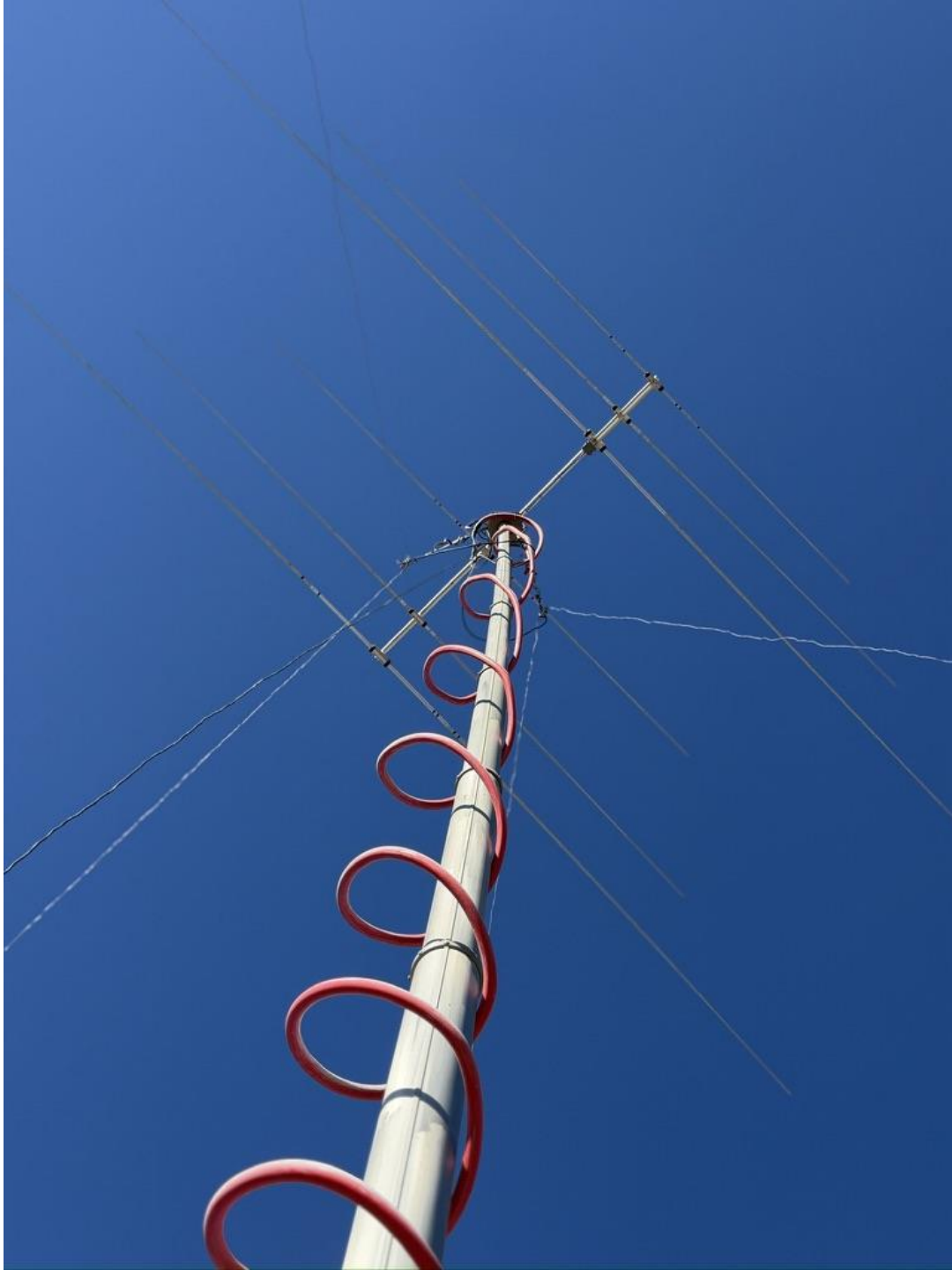


























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STREAM MOVIES

MAKE VIDEO CALLS

GAME & MORE

RELIABLE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET FROM SPACE

Connect at home or on the go. Starlink delivers speeds up to 400+ Mbps.

Standard Kit

Best for households



Mini Kit

Best for RVs, campers and
staying connected



DESIGNED FOR SELF-INSTALL

Set up Starlink with just two steps. Instructions work in either order:

1. PLUG IT IN
2. POINT AT SKY











LOAD LINE
↓

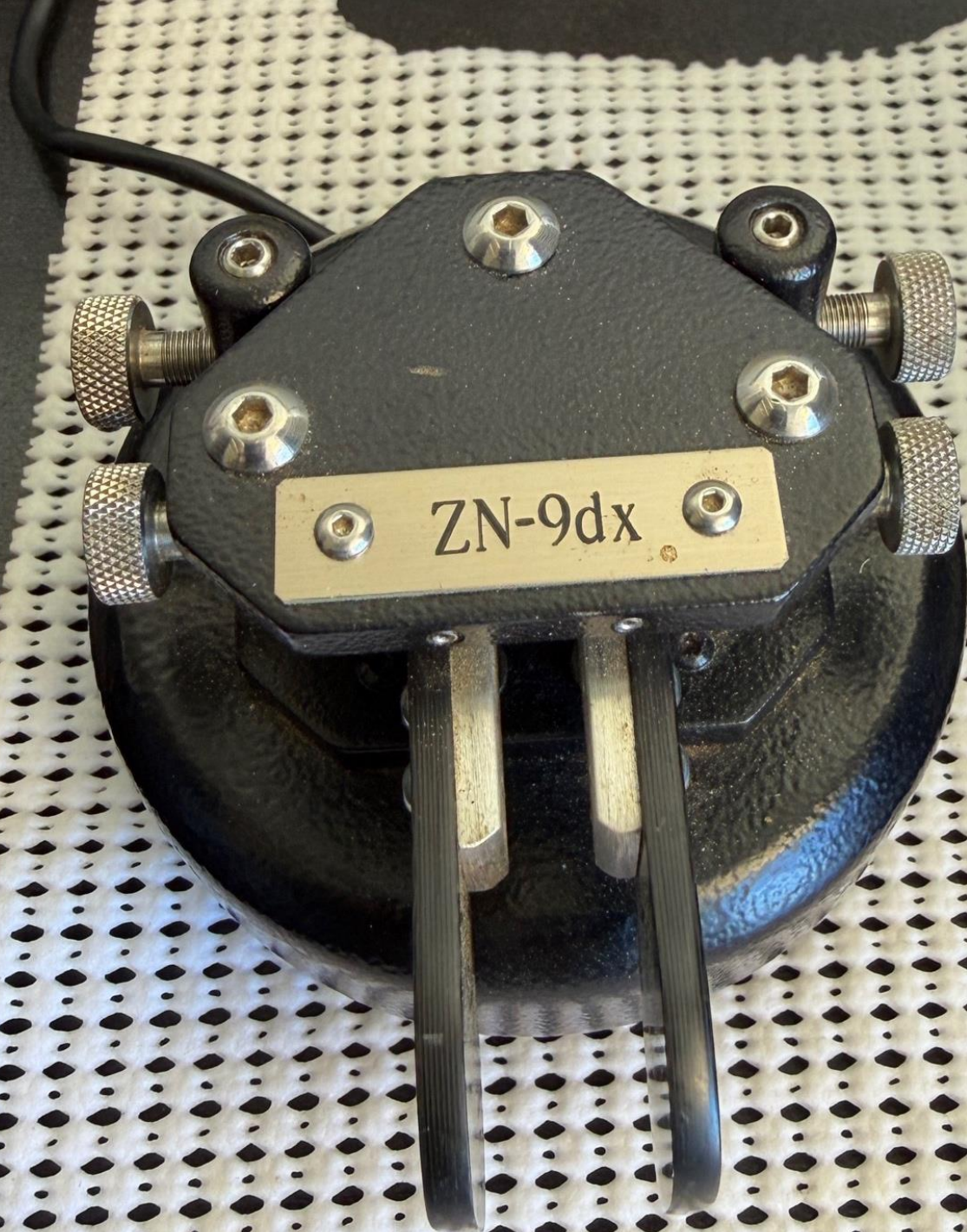
MAXIMUM WEIGHT
LOAD TRAILER IN FRONT
SAVE \$15
Return clean and avoid service charge.

N6MM
W6E in CA

DX 18
AMERICA









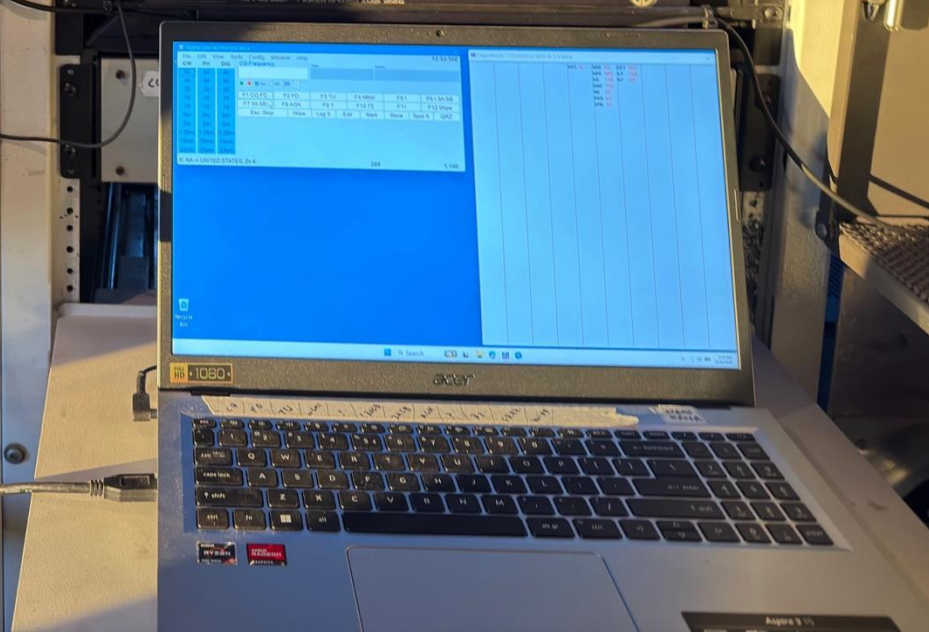
BIRCH AQUARIUM
AT SEASIDE

MAXIMUM WEIGHT
Please do not exceed
the weight limit of the
vehicle. Exceeding the
weight limit may result
in damage to the vehicle
and/or injury to the
operator.

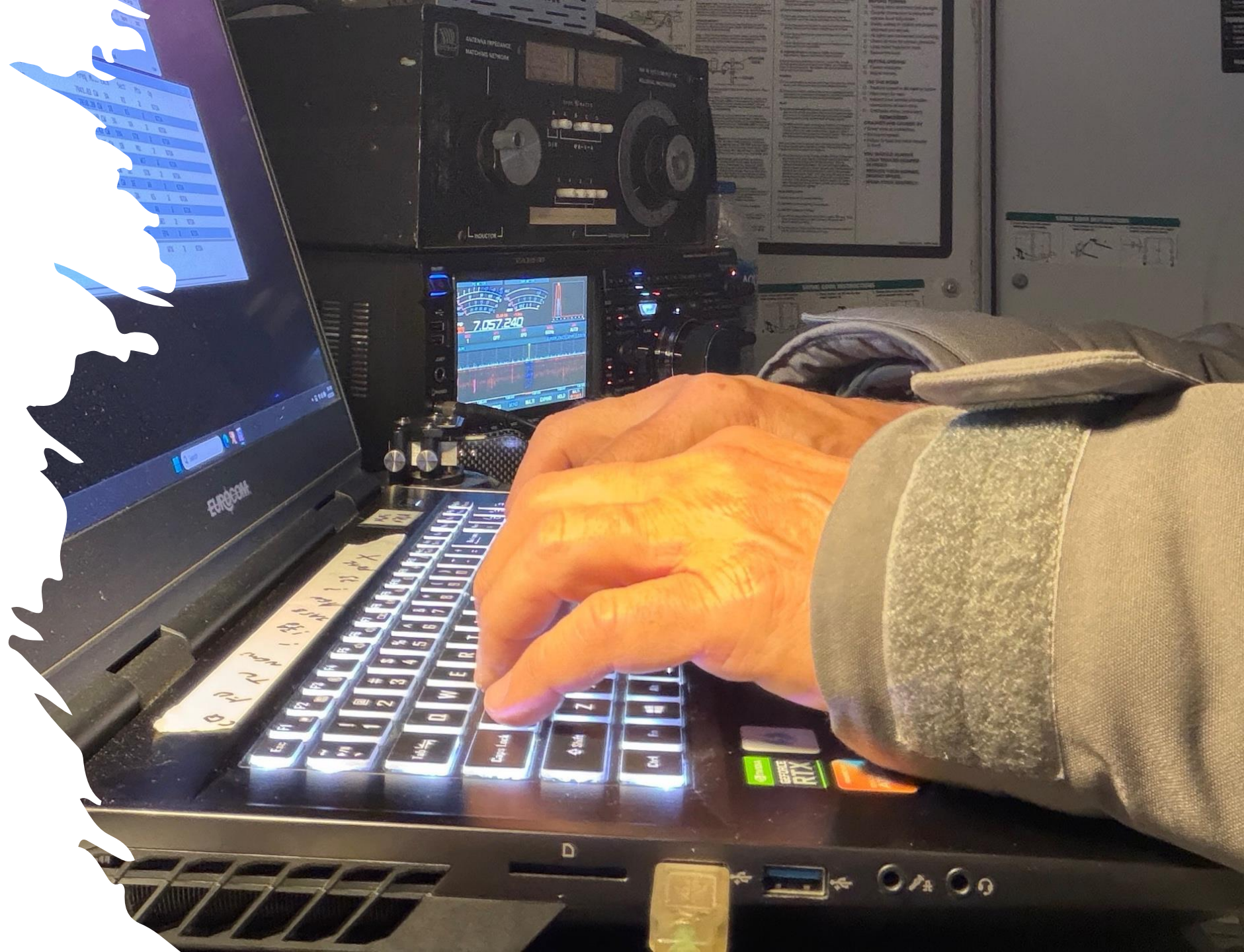
LOAD LIMITS
Please do not exceed
the weight limit of the
vehicle. Exceeding the
weight limit may result
in damage to the vehicle
and/or injury to the
operator.

SAVE \$15
on your next service charge.

21 MHz











7:40

100



2K · View insights

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23 3 2



Liked by justshane55 and others

btw_filmz Ham Radio Field Day brought amateur radio operators together to demonstrate how reliable communications can be established from almost anywhere, even when traditional systems fail. Throughout the event, operators set up portable stations, made real-world radio contacts across the country, and showcased equipment and techniques used during emergencies. Amateur radio plays a critical role during disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, floods, and other incidents when cell service and the internet may be unavailable, providing an independent communications network that can help keep communities connected.

#A

18











Name (and callsign)	Where from?
John Chambers	Ojai
Bo Ebeling	Venice / Brooklyn
Adam Dole	LA
Matt Ebeling	Venice Beach
Tom Tanik	Temecula / Anza
Virgil Reimer	Bakersfield
Bill Black	Bakersfield
Karen Cookson	Santa Clarita
Jeff Cookson	Santa Clarita

80 meters -- CW (11), FT8 (81), LSB (10)

40 meters -- CW (93), LSB (250)

20 meters -- CW (374), USB (395)

15 meters -- CW (216), USB (230)

10 meters -- CW (15), FT8 (79), USB (17)

6 meters -- USB (43)

2 meters -- USB and FM (27)

70 centimeters -- FM (6)

GOTA -- mostly 40 meter LSB (382), an amazing result by K2BTW with the guidance of our GOTA coaches, open to the weather



A final word

Seven years after the plague, amateur radio is the last communications system working in Los Angeles.

The power grid is dead. The cell towers are dark. But high on a fire road below the ruined Griffith Observatory, an old ham named Trevor still keys up his converted news van every morning at six — antennas up the mast, a net called into the empty air, a signal thrown at a world that stopped answering.

His partner Jack works the hillside, carrying berries to the blue-skinned woman who climbs out of the trees at dusk.

Then, on the cleanest bands any operator has ever heard, the silence breaks. A handful of self-taught kids across Europe. A young woman alone at the coast, transmitting under a dead man's call sign. And, bounced off a derelict relay on the far side of the moon, a signal that has waited seven years for someone down here to finally say "*here I am.*"

What answers at noon will force every survivor to choose: the world that's leaving, or the one clawing its way back.

Radio Silence is a post-apocalyptic story told in call signs and carrier waves — about grief, devotion, and the first rule of the air: that no one was ever built to reach far enough alone.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Greg Lewolt

Greg Lewolt is a working character actor. He first met J. Scott Bovitz — N6MI — in the high school theater department, where the two shared a stage and struck up a friendship that has lasted ever since. Greg wrote *Radio Silence* built around Scott's magic radio van.

TECHNICAL ADVISOR

J. Scott Bovitz — N6MI



Licensed since 1969, N6MI has chased DX and run contests from the field for over five decades. He runs a converted ENG van — a former "cellular on wheels" — with a 56-foot pneumatic mast, a five-kilowatt generator, and a Yaesu FTdx101D driving an ACOM amplifier and a pair of ICOMs.

From that mobile station he has earned DXCC — mixed, CW, and phone — working 150+ countries from 160 meters up through the UHF bands, with contacts out to 10 GHz. Every frequency, band opening, rig, antenna, and net-control procedure in *Radio Silence* was checked against his real-world operating.

73, N6MI



LEWOLT

RADIO SILENCE

RADIO SILENCE



THE LAST STATION ON THE AIR — THE LAST HOPE ON EARTH.

A NOVEL BY GREG LEWOLT

