

# VWOA NEWSLETTER

Email Issue #63

Francis T. Cassidy Editor

2011



The **VWOA AWARDS LUNCHEON 2011** was celebrated **Wednesday, May 25, 2011** at:

**DON PEPE RESTAURANT**  
844 Mc Carter Highway  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Our Guest Speaker was:

Trey Taylor, President of Verdant Power Inc., who made an extremely interesting presentation on:

**“Why We Need to Consider Off-shore Alternative Energy Now.”**

**The RITE Project an example of Marine Renewable Energy East River – New York**

Initiated in 2002, Verdant Power’s Roosevelt Island Tidal Energy (RITE) Project is being operated in New York City’s East River.

In three phases, the RITE Project will test, demonstrate and deliver commercial electricity from Verdant Power’s Free Flow Kinetic Hydropower System (tidal).



**VWOA President Alan Ehrlich & Trey Taylor, President of Verdant Power Inc.**

**The RITE Project is a prime example of how the Free Flow System can be scaled for placement directly within a population center.**

**2/16/2011 RITE Project Phases:**

- **Phase 1 (2002 – 2006): Prototype Testing**
- **Phase 2 (2006 – 2008): Demonstration**
- **Phase 3 (2009 – 2012): MW-Scale Build-Out**

**Phase 2 Demonstration Completed**

Verdant Power achieved a major milestone by successfully completing the RITE Project’s Phase 2 Demonstration, which began in 2006 with the installation of the company’s first full-scale (5m diameter rotor) Free Flow System turbine into the East River.

Over this two-year period, Verdant Power operated six full-scale turbines in array at the RITE Project, successfully

demonstrating the Free Flow System as an efficient source of renewable energy with the following outcomes:

- Excellent hydrodynamic, mechanical and electrical performance;
- Grid-connected power with no power quality problems;
- Fully bidirectional operation – passive yawing with high efficiency on both ebb and flood tides;
- Automatic control and continuous, unattended operation;
- No fouling or damage from debris;
- 70 megawatt hours of energy delivered to two end users;
- 9,000 turbine-hours of operation.

The RITE Project demonstration system stands as the world's first grid-connected array of tidal turbines.

An interesting question and answering session took place after the presentation.



Honorary VWOA Member Ethel H. Johnson talks to old friends about past events.



Alan Ehrlich, J. Michael Shaw & Francis Cassidy  
Get ready to have an outstanding Lunch  
provided by the services of:

**DON PEPE RESTAURANT**



William H. Terbo receives a gift  
from President Alan Ehrlich

Wendell Benson while surfing on the Internet and in particular, QRZ came across the Bio of Richard C. Johnson, a recent VWOA LIFE MEMBER. We asked him could we publish it in our VWOA Newsletter and he responded with a polite "Sure, if you want to." We did and would like all the rest of VWOA Members to provide their most recent update for publishing to let the other VWOA Members know what you are doing in your spare time.



DE RICK W3BI



I was born in Kansas City MO in 1937 and moved to Prairie Village KS at age 4. Graduated Shawnee Mission HS in 1955 and joined the Navy the same year. Was a control tower operator for 4 years before changing over to Aviation Electronics technician. Flew aircrew on P2 type aircraft as radio operator and sensor operator and C-118 aircraft as radio operator and loadmaster/second mech.

I have 4 sons and 1 daughter, grandkids out the wazoo and 5 great grandkids.

I'm making a strong effort to spend all the kids inheritance and have a little to go.

All computers are off lease "specials" and monitors bought on close out specials. Home network is Network Magic a super easy way to network several computers and share components.

I retired in 1976 and went to work for a hot oil pipeline doing electronics flow control and measurements amongst other repairs and installations. Was on call 24/7/365 for 25 years, so am now sleeping late in the mornings (0700).

I learned Morse in the Boy Scouts but didn't see much use for it as I wasn't lucky enough to have an Elmer at that age. I was listening to an old Zenith TransOceanic radio and heard Morse asked another person what it was and he translated it for me. I was hooked and learned the code. That enabled me to become an airborne radio operator and earn an extra \$55/month "hazardous duty" pay.

My Elmer, KOEDX, talked me into taking the test for Amateur Radio. I did and passed quite easily as I was in electronics already and had code up to 20 wpm already and became KNOWEU. I took the test and received my Extra as soon as it was made known I would lose my favorite 25kc of each band.

I was quite active doing Navy MARS traffic for some years but that has slacked off and I am now back to the Real Ham Radio . CW.

If you hear me calling, please stop by for my daily CW fix.

Current interest is JT65 and WSPR (10% of radio time). Very interesting modes.

Health and Happiness to you and yours.

73,

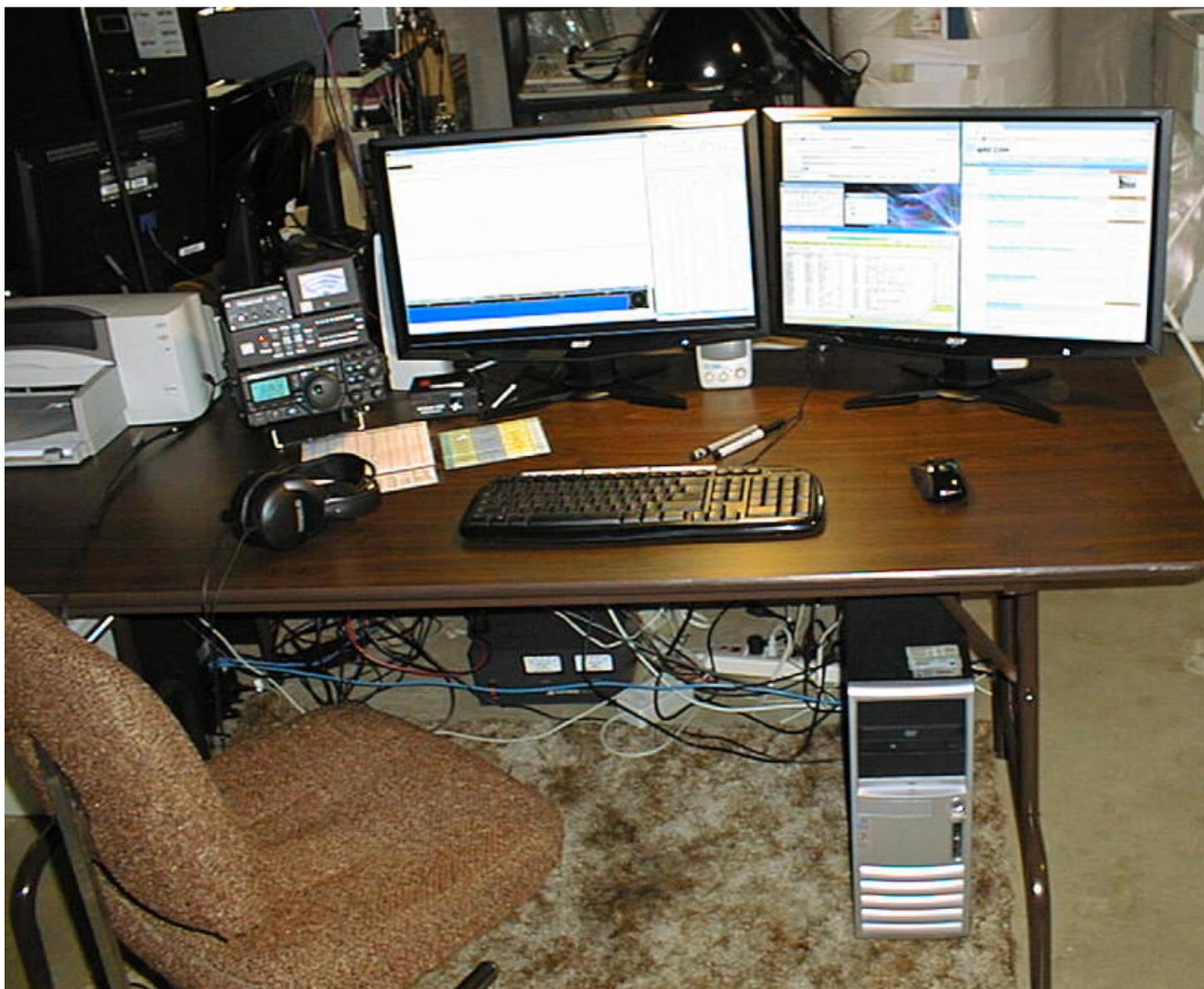
Rick



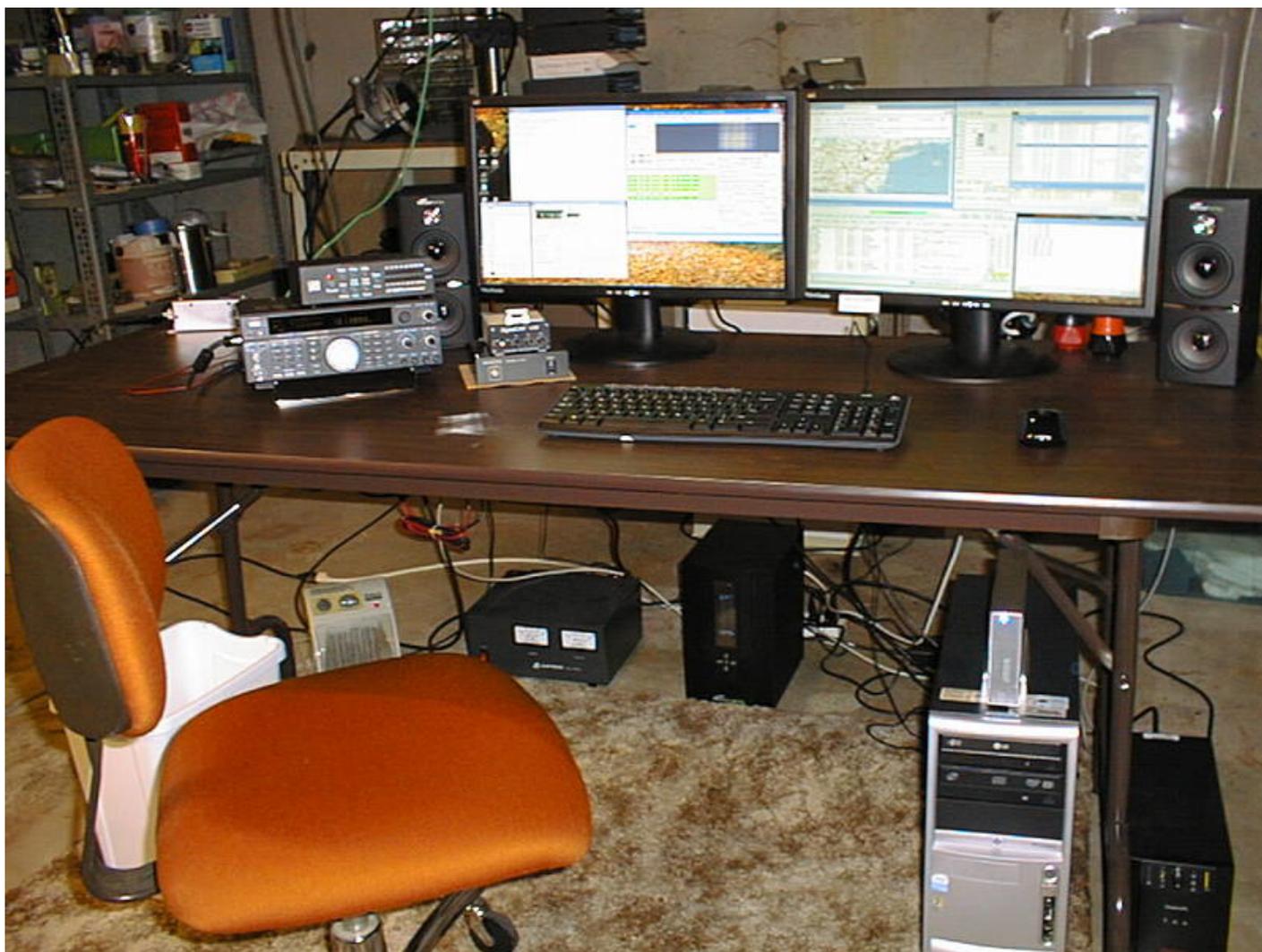
-----My Wireless-----Radio 5 (L) and Radio 3 (R)-----



Radio 3 - Elecraft K3 / Palstar AT-Auto Tuner / Elecraft KPA500 / Elecraft P-3 Panadapter / HP 3.2Ghz computer WinXP SP3 / Begali CW Machine keyer / ZN-SLR single lever paddle / Begali Sculpture mono single lever paddle / SKCC straight key / Timewave DSP599zx audio filter/VE7CC Cluster software / Winlog32 software



Radio 5 - FT-897D / LDG AT-200Pro autotuner / Signalink USB interface / 3.2Ghz Pentium 4 computer / FIDigi v. 3.20.28 / Winkeyer USB w/Begali Signature paddle



Radio 4 - Kenwood TS-450sat / IF-232 / LDG AT-200 Pro Autotuner / 3.2Ghz Pentium 4 computer / WinLog32 Set up for JT65-HF at the present time.



Radio 1 - TS-870s / Navigator interface / 3.2Ghz computer / HRD + DM780 v.5.0 / LDG AT-1000Pro tuner / LP-100A Digital Vector



RF Wattmeter / THP HL1.2Kfx amp / Bencher paddle

Radio 2 - TS-870s / Tokyo Hy Power HL1.2Kfx / LP-100A Digital Vector RF Wattmeter / Navigator interface / 3.2Ghz pentium 4 computer Using HRD/DM780 software / LDG AT-1000Pro tuner / Tmewave 599zx DSP audio filter / Brown Brothers paddle



Radio 6 - FT817nd / Signalink USB / Comet CHA250bx 3db loss dummy load vertical / 3.4Ghz HP 7700 computer set up for WSPR on 30 meters



Radio 7 QRP Chinese version HB-1A 3 band transceiver / LDG Z-100 plus autotuner / GHD GT-502 mil Straight key / Scheunemann SP-2 Single Lever paddle

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## WENDELL'S NEWS CORNER

We sadly report that we have notice of the following SK VWOA Members:

VWOA Member

F. Pepper Birchard

SK 03/28/11

Veteran VWOA Life Member

Charles William (Bill) Ammen

SK 05/30/2011

VWOA Member

Charles Jackson (Jack) Casebeer K6CE

SK 05/14/11

VWOA Member

Ervin John Kidd III W7LV

SK 07/21/11



F. Pepper Birchard

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. — F. Pepper Birchard, 88, advertising and public relations executive who lived on Staten Island for over a half-century, died Monday, March 28, 2011 at his home in Tottenville.

Mr. Birchard was born in Scranton, Pa., and attended Mercersberg Academy and Penn State. He interrupted his college education to serve as a radio operator in the U.S. Merchant Marine, returned to Penn State at the war's end, and was deeply involved in its Thespian Theater Program.

After graduating from college, he found work designing and writing greeting cards, then went on to work for Citibank in advertising and public relations, and retired in 1983. He then was called to work with the Statue of Liberty Centennial Restoration project, in advance of the July 1986 celebration. Mr. Birchard then lent his expertise to the restoration of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. He loved music, especially jazz, and was a jazz drummer in his college years. After he moved to Staten Island in 1952, he taught himself trombone, and played for years with the South Shore Band. In 1957, he and his younger brother, Daniel, produced a jazz record, "Art for Art's Sake," with Art Hodes on piano.

With the late director, Roy Stilwell, Mr. Birchard produced a number of musical variety shows at St. Alban's Episcopal Church.

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He also enjoyed watching college football, especially Penn State games.

“He was a creative, hard-working and honest person,” said his daughter, Amy Kollar. “He also was a modest, quiet man, and never looked to be the center of attention, but he did have a sharp wit that made us all laugh.”

He retained information and facts easily, and was well-known as “a walking encyclopedia.” He loved the challenge of learning new things, and once memorably taught himself how to repair cane and rattan chairs.

Mr. Birchard was a member of St. Alban’s Church, and served on its vestry from time to time. He also served as a volunteer with Meals on Wheels for many years.

In addition to his daughter, Amy, and his brother, Daniel, he is survived by his wife of 62 years, Miriam; a son, David, and four grandchildren.

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Charles William (Bill) Ammen died at Union Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana, at 12:35 PM on May 30, 2011, after a brief illness. His daughter, Sharon Ammen, a Professor of Theatre at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and his son-in-law, Ronald Moore, a retired budget analyst for the Department of Defense, were at his side. He is also survived by Charles Andrew Ammen, a resident of Colorado

Springs, Colorado. Bill was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 7, 1920, and became the youngest radio operator in America in 1936. He served as a Merchant Marine throughout [World War II](#) and married Hazel Ann Famiglio of New Orleans after the war was over. She preceded him in death in 1999. A self-taught foundry man, jeweler, and hand engraver, C. W. authored many books on metallurgy, chemistry, and bronze casting. Late in life he learned to speak and read French and to hand craft glass marbles of singular beauty. Mr. Ammen lived for much of his life in Manitou Springs, Colorado, where he was affectionately known as Frenchie and loved for his wit and storytelling abilities. This world is a poorer place without you in it, Daddy, and we love you and will always keep you close in our hearts. Callahan DeBaun Funeral Home assisted with arrangements.

Published in The Gazette on June 4, 2011

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Casebeer, Charles "Jack" Jackson, 86, of Nampa, died Saturday, May 14, 2011 at his home of natural causes. Arrangements are under the direction of Cremation Society of Idaho.

Published in Idaho Statesman on May 17, 2011

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## WENDELL'S NEWS CORNER

On 11 July 2011 00:05, D.J.J. Ring, Jr.

<[n1ea@arrl.net](mailto:n1ea@arrl.net)> wrote:

From the desk (desktop computer that is) of W1TP who is a telegraph historian came these recommendations for some happy and perhaps nostalgic viewing.

Tom Perera, W1TP says:

I thought you might enjoy the following military videos:

Telegraph Sending Techniques: (1947)  
<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.archives.arc.36813>

Telegraph Sending Techniques (1944)  
<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.dod.dimoc.23735>

...and for those who may be interested in more recent (1963) military radio equipment: Field Radio and Teletypewriter system: AN/GRC-46 (1963)  
<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.dod.dimoc.28384>

Radio system: AN/VRC-12 (1963)  
<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.dod.dimoc.28379>

...and for those who may enjoy early telephone history:

Thomas Watson speaking about Bell and the early days of telephony.

<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.archives.arc.89089.r1>

Watson Part 2:

<http://www.archive.org/details/gov.archives.arc.89089.r2>

Tom Perera - W1TP

Enigma Museum: <http://w1tp.com/enigma/>

Telegraph Museum: <http://w1tp.com>

73

David J. Ring, Jr., [N1EA](#)  
[SOWP](#), [VWOA](#), [OOTC](#), [FISTS](#), [CW-Ops](#), [CFO](#),  
[A1-OP](#), ex-FOC 1271 [ARRL-LM](#)

Chat  Skype: djringjr

 MSN: [djringjr@msn.com](mailto:djringjr@msn.com)  AIM: N1EA

 icq: 27380609

[Radio-Officers Google Group](#) — [Marine Morse Historic Recordings Page](#)

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From: [Douglas Stivison](#)

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2011 11:10 AM

To: '[Wendell R. Benson](#)' ; '[Francis T Cassidy](#)'

- Subject: -VWOA?

By the way, thanks Frank, for forwarding the invitation postcard for the reopening of the SCI Seafarer's Center in Port Newark. I was able to attend and it was a truly grand event. The NJ Lieutenant Governor was there, the head of the Port Authority, Episcopal Church leaders, and all kinds of movers and shakers from church, politics, shipping, the Navy, the Coast Guard and a full busload of AMVERS members.

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Quite a day. Again, thanks for sharing the invitation with us all.

73,  
Doug

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We at the VWOA Newsletter would like to hear from you and try to pass along to the rest of the VWOA stories of events that you have experienced and that you feel the rest of the membership would enjoy hearing about. Send us a picture or two and we will try to include it in one of our Email Newsletters.

We would prefer to hear from you by Email at:

[ftcassidy@optonline.net](mailto:ftcassidy@optonline.net)