



## ***On the Cover***

Three of our articles this month relate to DXing accomplishments on the VHF bands (see pages 34, 37, and 82), so we thought it would be fun to put a VHF “big gun” on the cover.

Jeff Kline, K1TEO, of Trumbull, Connecticut, has one of the loudest signals in the northeast on frequencies from 50 MHz to 10 GHz. He holds VUCC awards on all bands, as well as DXCC, Worked All States, and Worked All Continents on 6 meters. In addition, Jeff holds the all-time distance record for 222 MHz for a contact from Connecticut to Texas.

A look at his station will explain part of Jeff’s success. His main rig is a Kenwood TS-2000, which he uses primarily for 2 meters and 70 centimeters. His main 6-meter (and HF) transceiver is an ICOM IC-756. Plus, he has a classic Yaesu FT-736 for 222 MHz and to drive his transverters for the microwave bands—903, 1296, 2304, and 3456 MHz, as well as 5 and 10 GHz. Homebrew amplifiers for everything above 2 meters keep his signals loud. Off to the right in the cover photo are a classic Heathkit SB-221 kilowatt amp for 6 meters, sitting on top of his backup amp for 6 and 2, a vintage Viking 6N2 Thunderbolt with 600 watts out. Outside, Jeff has three towers with a variety of very large antennas for all of these bands.

Jeff’s ham radio inspiration came from his parents, both of whom are amateurs (Don, W2GKR, and Ruth, W2GKO, respectively). His uncle and two brothers-in-law are also hams! Jeff says his dad likes to build more than operate, so he’s the chief station engineer; and Jeff himself likes to operate more than to build, so he says they’re a perfect pair!

Asked about the appeal of the VHF and higher bands, Jeff points to exotic propagation modes, but mostly, he says, “I love the camaraderie of the group. ... I love learning about new things from other people who are doing them.” (*Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI*)