

**“WLDE” HIGH PROFILE REPEATER
PROPOSAL**

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB

PROPOSAL FOR A HIGH PROFILE FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB REPEATER

CONCERNS

HISTORY

OFFER FROM WLDE

COVERAGE PLOTS

PROPOSAL

ESTIMATED COSTS

FUND RAISING

CONCERNS ABOUT EXISTING SYSTEMS

- 146.76 & 444.875 systems (Robison Park) noise level environment expected to degrade because of AEP substation upgrade.
- The D-STAR system may lose its home at the Masonic Temple.
- Echolink 146.910 machine located at IPFW; we expect to lose our internal contact/champion in the near future.

HISTORY

- Radio Station WLDE decommissioned its original tower, and replaced it with a new one in New Haven.
- The Portside repeater had been on the old tower and was offered space on the new tower, but they declined the offer.
- FWRC was asked if it might be interested in a spot on the tower.
- We indicated interest and have had extensive discussions with their Engineering staff. We are currently awaiting a draft contract from WLDE Legal, definitizing their offer as follows....

OFFER FROM WLDE

- The WLDE tower is 375 feet high.
- We would have access at 280 feet for 1 or 2 antennas.
- “Rent” would be \$1.00 per year.
- Power and internet access would be free.
- Power is backed up by a generator system.
- Anytime access to the grounds and the tower base would be allowed; no access to the transmitter building (we would need our own enclosure).

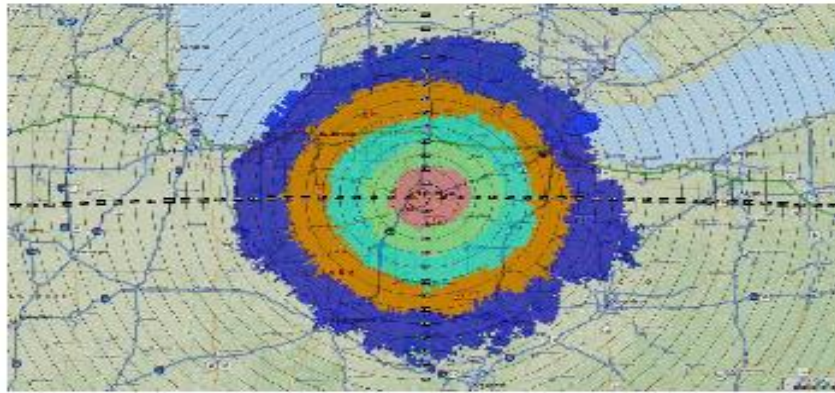
The tower in New Haven

The tower is located on Parrot Road, just to the North of the Norfolk Southern Rail Yard. It was built on the site of an old Land Fill. Access is off of Parrot Road. During the recent flood, the site was easily accessible from Maplecrest Road.

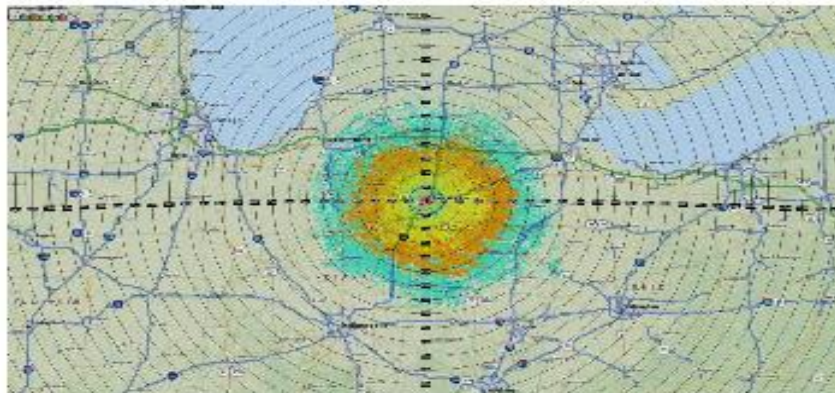


IMPACT UPON REPEATER COVERAGE

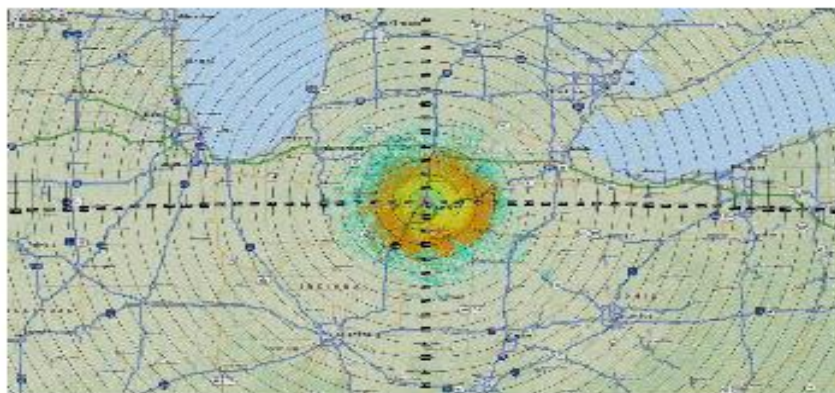
- The WLDE site provides about an 80 foot improvement on HAAT relative to Robison Park.
 - That 80 feet has a substantial impact upon the coverage footprint implying,
 - Fringe signal range would be significantly extended.
 - Hand held performance around the city would be noticeably improved.
 - The result is definitely a High Profile machine!
- A few comparison coverage plots follow.....



WLDE SITE

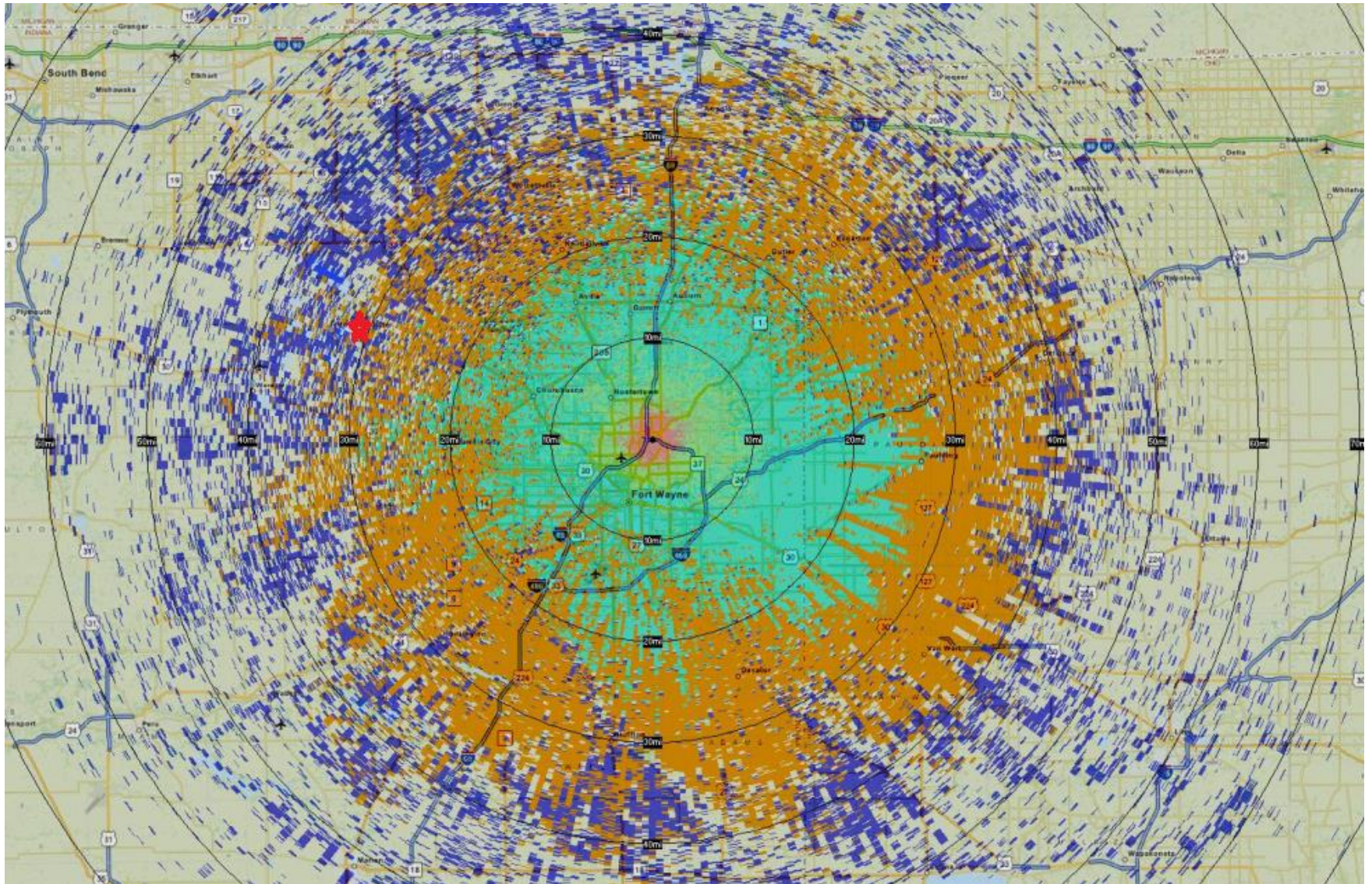


146.88

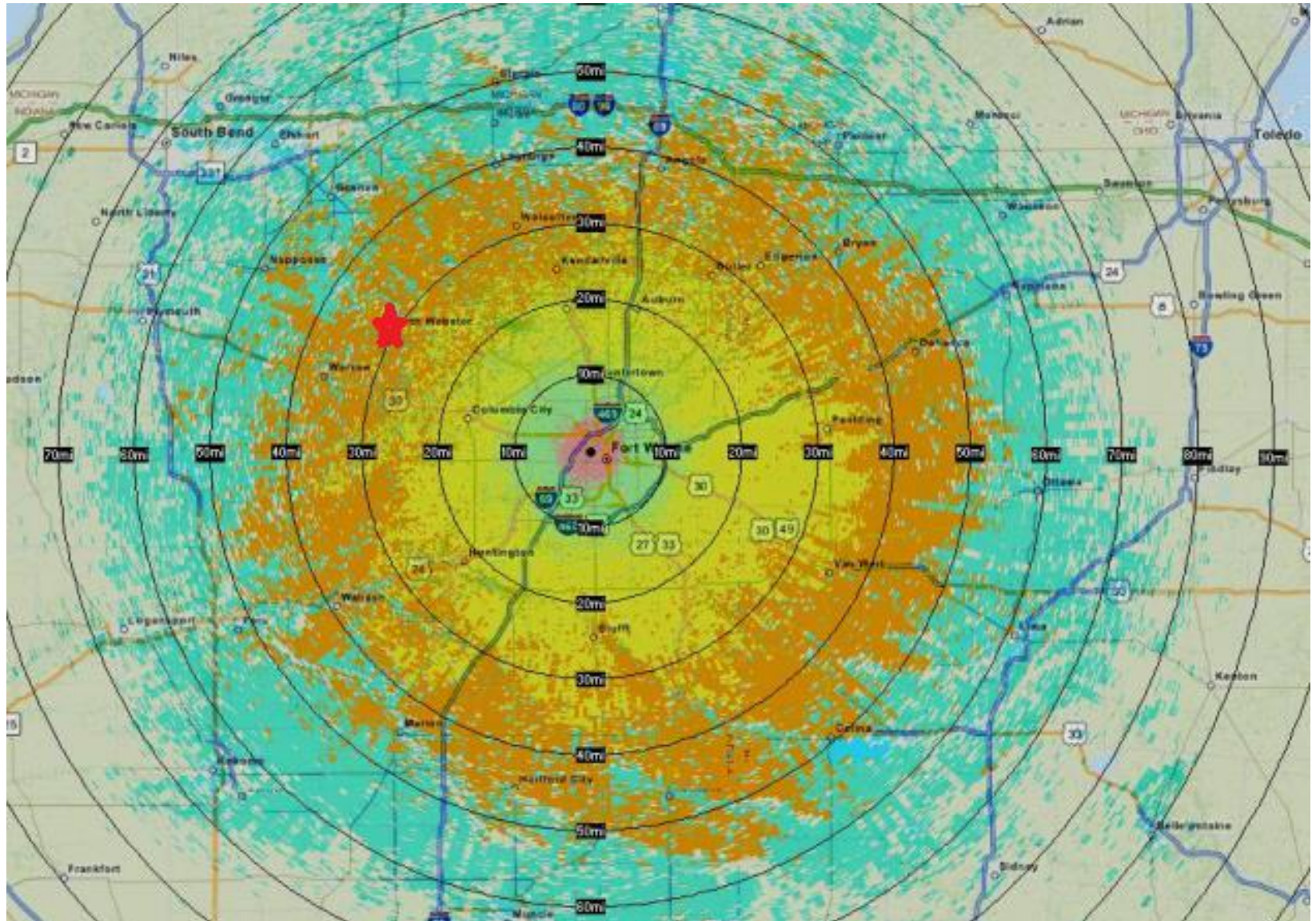


146.76 CURRENT

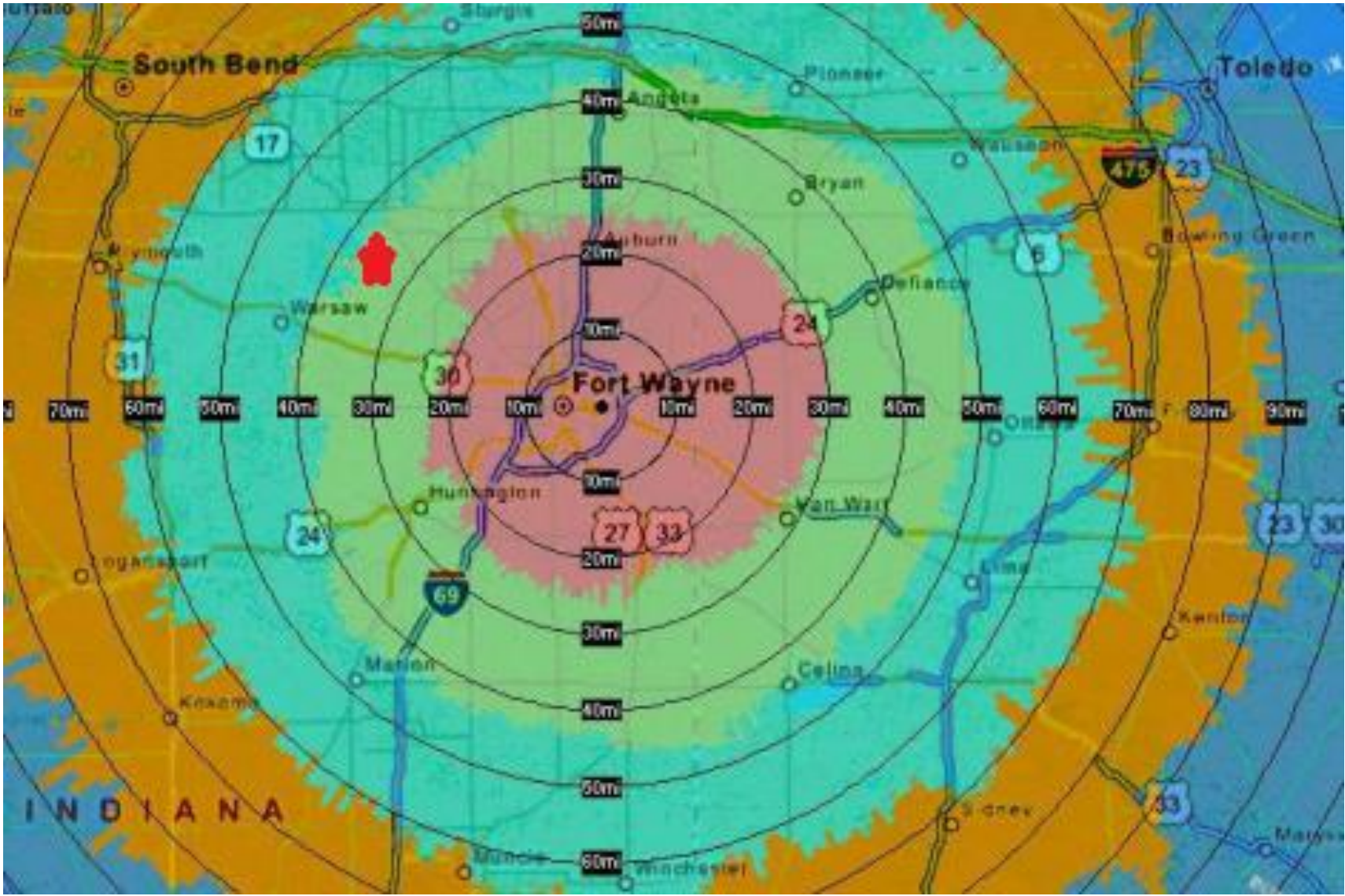
COVERAGE: current '76



COVERAGE: current '88



COVERAGE: proposed new '76



PROPOSAL

- Install 2 meter & 440 MHz antennas and feedlines at the 280 foot level on the WLDE tower.
- Build a Shack for use at WLDE.
- Move 146.76, 146.94 or 146.91 to the WLDE site to become the FW high profile machine.
- Move D-STAR or the 444.875 MHz machine to the site.
- Mothball decommissioned site(s).

ESTIMATED COSTS

- New 2 meter antenna: \$1370
- New 70 cm antenna: \$1040
- Grounding kits: \$110
- New 7/8 inch hardline: \$1800
- Connectors: \$150
- Hangers: \$200
- Hoisting grips: \$95
- Tower Climbers: \$1500
- New “shack” : \$600
- TOTAL: **\$6865**
- (All costs estimated based on internet pricing analysis & going tower-climber rates).

FUND RAISING

- A major Fund Raising effort will be required!
- Some ideas:
- Raffle of some “top tier” radios (like Omni 7’s; Elecraft K-Line; Kenwoods; FlexRadio; etc....
- Special Life membership offers
- Crowd sourcing on the web
- Donations
- Food sales; chocolates; etc....
- Ideas; suggestions; all the help we can get....