WATTS

01-2014

Year 84 + 1m

Monthly newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club
Maandelikse nuusbrief van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub.

PARC, PO Box 73696, Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA

web http://www.parc.org.za mail: zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za

Bulletins: 145,725 MHz 08:45 Sundays/Sondae
Relays: 1.840, 3.700, 7.066, 10.135, 14.235, 51.400, 438.825, 1297 MHz
Activated frequencies are announced prior to bulletins
Swapshop: 2m and 7.066 MHz Live on-air after bulletins
Bulletin repeats Mondays | herhalings : Maandae 2m 19:45

ZR6FD logo

Papier / Paper ZS6UK

Drukwerk ZS6UK

In this issue

In hierdie uitgawe

Next club events

Fleamarkets at PMC
To be announced

Club social at U.P.
2 Jan 7:00PM
Lecture by Theo ZS6TVB on Linux

Club committee meeting
To be announced

PARC Management team / Bestuurspan Aug. 2013 – Aug. 2014

Committee members

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Clubhouse	Pieter Fourie	ZS6CN	pieter2@vodamail.co.za	012-804-7417	083-573-7048
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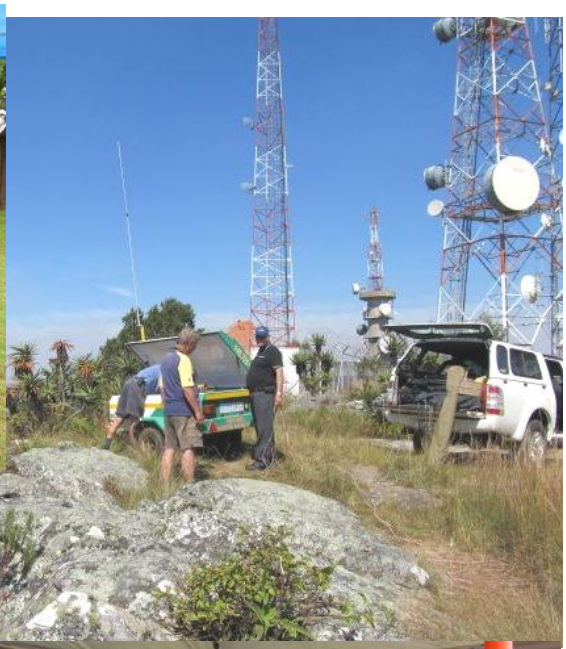
Digital, photographer,sound	Theo Bresler	ZS6TVB	theo@bresler.co.za		082-698-1742

Some of This year's activities

CQ Hou Koers



Rally repeater placement
For Motor Sport Assistance

SARL Field Days

Birthdays Jan. Verjaarsdae

05 Pierre ZS6PJH
06 Brendan ZS6BW, son of Peter ZS6PJ
08 Darren ZR6TY, son of Selma and joe ZS6TB
12 Gustav ZS6BWN (84)
20 Errol ZR6VDR
25 Margriet, lv van tobie ZS6ZX
31 Elize, lv van Pieter ZS6PA

Anniversaries Jan. Herdenkings

03 Margriet en Tobie ZS6ZX ( )
05 Louise en Almero ZS6LDP (23)
07 Doreen ZR6DDB en Johan ZS6JHB (25)
09 Annatjie en Pieter ZS6CN (43)
20 Helga en Hans-Peter ZS6AJS (52)
25 Mariize ZS6MVD en Rudi ZS6RVD

Lief en Leed | Joys and Sorrows

Nothing reported.

New Members | Nuwe Lede

Hartlike welkom aan | A hearty welcome to

Avida Bresler ZS6AVB
Chris de Beer ZS6RI
John Munting ZSL005

Diary | Dagboek (UTC times)

Jan.
12 Baltic Contest CW 06:30-08:30
12 Baltic contest SSB 09:00-11:00
12 DARC 10m Contest 09:00-10:59
18 LZ Open Contest 00:00-04:00
18-19 Hungarian DX Contest 12:00-12:00
24-26 CQ 160m Contest CW 22:00-21:59
25-26 REF Contest CW 06:00-18:00
25-26 UBA DX Contest 13:00-13:00
Feb 28 Cosing date for the SARL Youth Essay Competition

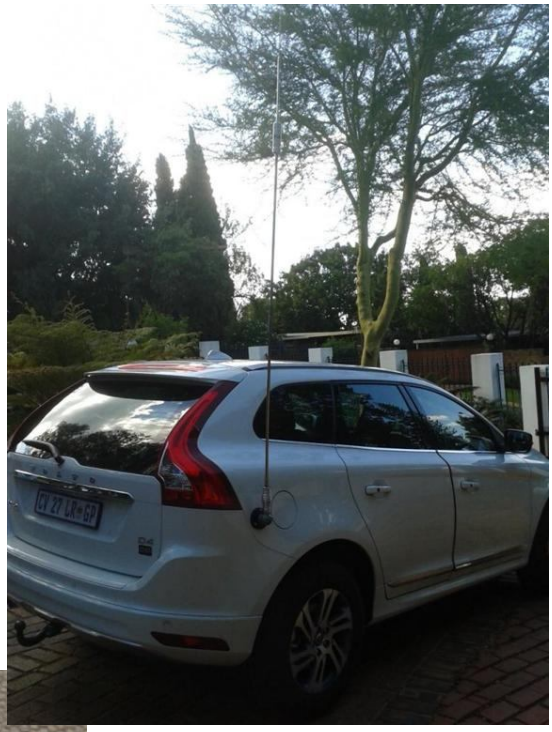
Snippets | Brokkies

Members are requested to check their details on the members page on our website. Please correct or add information as in future <u>this will be our only database.</u>

The height of the summer season was 21 December

Members are requested to to make timely contributions to WATTS generally before the 20th of a month.
Please let us keep WATTS informative to reflect our member- and club activities in this hobby.
This publication is read by many non-members and a copy is also kept in the public library.

Vincent ZS6BTY fitted a Hustler to his new vehicle



Hi guys from Theo ZS6TVB,

This is my idea of properly earthing and bonding my shack or at least, a small part thereof. This is what I made for my entry point earthing/bonding. All items made by hand and all threads turned myself. One of the threaded spacers has been taken apart to show the different parts and is in the front right of the photo. Only 2 x lightning arrestors installed in the photo. The busbar will go to my bonded earth and each radio will also have a connection to the busbar via small copper screws on its side.

3DA0ET CQWW Claimed scores (almost doubling the 7P8D score last year)

CW / 3DA0ET / Multi-Op Two-transmitter

Operators: VE7KW VA7DX ZS6RJ DL8JJ VE7DS W5UQ

Claimed scores before log checking. Last updated: 2013-12-02

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World: #36 of 83

31 OH1F.....12,816,621 (OH1HS OH1MM OH1NOA OH1TM)
32 LZ5R.....12,657,252 (LZ1YQ LZ1UK LZ1JZ LZ1MC LZ1ND LZ3RR LZ4UU Z32ZM)
33 TM2Y.....12,544,650 (F5PHW F6BEE F6DZD F8CRH F8PDR)
34 BY5CD.....12,450,560 (BA3AX BA4ALC BA4MY BA5FB BD5XX)
35 KB1H.....12,266,856 (K1EBY KB1H KM1X NB1U NR1X W1UJ)

36 3DA0ET.....11,780,442 (VE7KW VA7DX ZS6RJ DL8JJ VE7DS W5UQ)
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CW / Multi-Op Two-transmitter / Africa

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1  CR3L.....37,468,242 (DF1LON DJ2YA DK7YY DL1CW DL5AXX DL5LYM DM2XO)

2  3DA0ET.....11,780,442 (VE7KW VA7DX ZS6RJ DL8JJ VE7DS W5UQ)

3  XT2FCJ.....7,930,346 (OK1FCJ OK6DJ)
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Some more pictures of the DX-pedition before the Contest

DL8JJ climbing the ladder tower.

ZS6RJ and VA7DX erecting the 160m antenna. Below: the TWR site

Sam ZS6BRZ in action on SSB

The DX Code of Conduct

#1 I will listen, and listen and then listen again before calling. Careful listening rather than rushing to transmit will get the DX into your log. You must listen to find out whether the DX is working split and if so, where he listens. Then you need to listen to the calling stations in order to determine what the DX station is doing. For example, he may be working gradually up or down the pile-up frequency range – and you need to find the best spot to call. And it may be time to ask yourself: "Do I really need to work this bit of DX, right now? Can I wait a while for the pile-up to subside?"

#2 I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly. You need to listen carefully to determine how well you can hear the DX station to be sure you will hear his reply and to avoid causing interference by transmitting at the wrong time. It is extremely frustrating for a DX station to return a call to a station that is unable to hear him, thereby causing incessant QRM.

#3 I will not trust the Cluster and be sure of the DX station's callsign before calling. Cluster spots often show the wrong call sign. Before you log a station, you should hear the station's callsign on the air – don't trust spotting networks. The DX operator should send his call sign at regular intervals. Unfortunately, not all operators do.

#4 I will not interfere with the DX station or anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot. Sadly, this covers a multitude of operators, employing poor operating practices. We are frequently afflicted with "Policemen", people who repeatedly jump in to tell callers that "the DX is listening up" – often adding a gratuitous insult. The rule is quite simple: never, ever transmit on the DX frequency for any purpose whatsoever. I will pay attention to the operator's instructions if he is operating "split" so as to stay in his preferred bandwidth.

#5 I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before calling. If you transmit before a QSO is over, you are likely to interfere with the exchange of information, lengthening the QSO and slowing the process. It may seem clever to "nip in" as the previous contact is ending but many DX stations don't like it, as such operating may break the pattern of the operator.

#6 I will always send my full call sign. This is essential for CW and SSB, because incomplete calls lead to an extra transmission, slowing the operator's progress with the pileup. If the operator is responding to partial call signs, it may appear that you should call with only several letters. Generally, this is not the case. Always use your full call.

#7 I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval and not call continuously. Continuous calls are selfish and arrogant. With a computer or memory keyer, this is easy. Unfortunately, it prevents you from listening and knowing what is taking place. In addition, it raises the QRM floor greatly, making life difficult for the DX station and everyone else.

#8 I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another callsign, not mine.
Perhaps this is intuitively obvious, but it is a common occurrence. If it is clear that the station is not calling you, do not transmit.

#9 I will not transmit when the DX Operator queries a call sign, not like mine. How do you know if the station is calling you? Perhaps the DX operator has your partial call. Is it me? "The timing is right!" Yes, the timing may seem right, but it may also be "right" for many other stations. If the DX is actually calling you and hears nothing, he will call you again. Then you can call. Calling when not being addressed raises the floor level of QRM and slows progress dramatically.

#10 I will not transmit when the DX operator requests geographic areas other than mine.
You must recognise and accept that when an operator is calling for a specific geographic area (e.g. NA for North America, AS for Asia), you must not call until the operator's instructions change. Even if his choice appears incorrect, you must follow his instructions. The DX operator is in control. Here's an important point: If a DX operator is working, some area, perhaps North America, and he fails to say so between QSOs, do not begin calling immediately. Call only when it is clear that the operator's instructions have changed. To do otherwise is impolite and simply slows the process.

#11 When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call unless he copied it wrong. If you repeat your call sign, the DX station may think that he has your call sign wrong. He might then listen very carefully – again – thus slowing the process. A DX operator will generally log what he has if you say nothing further.

#12 I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.
There should certainly be a pride of accomplishment when you get a QSO with a guy in a far-away entity. But before you start basking in the glow of accomplishment, think about the help you received from your hardware partners. If your ego still feels a need to take ALL the credit, try again without the amplifier and connect your rig barefoot to a dipole. If you get through this time, then YOU, as the operator, can take more of the credit. You should also acknowledge that you would not have had the contact without the skill of the operator at the other end who undoubtedly made sacrifices to be there for you. So be thankful for all this help you received.

#13 I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.
Respect is about behaving well toward others. DXing is very competitive. If you operate otherwise, you may acquire a bad reputation. DXing will be the most fun for everyone if we all behave with politeness, mutual respect and even a bit of humility!

The Saga of the Hum (electromagnetic hearing)

The first report of mass complaints came in the mid 1960's covering all parts of the UK but a large number was concentrated in the Bristol area where it attained world wide reputation as the Bristol Hum. A group of Hum sufferers organized a committee and travelled to London University Department of Physics Chelsea College where an investigation into the phenomena was being carried out. The group was tested individually and it was established that the frequency was 36 Hz. On their return to Bristol the group contacted the local authority and Bristol Member of Parliament **Arthur Palmer** and persuaded them to investigate the matter. Arthur Palmer and the investigating team finally claimed to have traced the source and the Hum stopped, however, the authority refused to reveal the source saying "we have stopped it, be satisfied with that"

This turned out to be only a temporary respite and by the mid 1970's complaints were being received by the Environmental Health Officers in every town and city in the UK. Two national Sunday newspapers, the News of the World and the Sunday Mirror asked their readers "can you hear the Hum and over 2000 people replied.

The intensity of the Hum and the number of complaints continued to rise and in 1988 the UK government acknowledged a problem and commissioned the University of Salford to collate the complaints. In 1992 the Department of the Environment paid the Building Research Establishment £50,000 to look at the problem and a report by Mr **J W Sargent** was published in 1994. The BRE only investigated 41 cases and of these only 6 could be traced to a noise, the remainder were inconclusive.

In May 2003 the UK Department for Environment published a report on low frequency noise by Dr **Geoff Leventhall** and despite the fact that the Hum had by now a history of over 40 years, the report devoted a mere three pages to the subject. No explanation was given as to the cause, and the text, what there was of it, appears to have been cobbled together from media reports. Yet another government whitewash.

The history of the Hum in the USA has been more difficult to trace but around 1992 there was a noticeable increase publicity especially in the town on Taos New Mexico where it became known as the Taos Hum. As a result of this publicity and complaints, US Representative **Bill Richardson** called for an investigation and with government funding a team of investigators from the University of New Mexico was formed, the team also included scientists from the Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories and the Phillips Air Force Laboratory.The investigation began in April 1993 but by March 1994 no evidence had been found as the cause of the Hum and shortly afterwards government funding was withdrawn.

This followed a similar sequence of events to UK investigations, first the public protests followed by a show of concern from the authorities with an investigation and a promise that "something will be done". However funding was soon removed.

German Hum sufferers faired even worse, an appeal to the Petitions Committee of the German Bundestag in 2004 was completely rejected and Hum sufferers were advised to seek medical help.

One of the main peculiarities of the Hum, is that although a few young people hear it, most are aged 50+. As each sufferer comes on stream, they all go through the same procedure, first looking for a noise, then contacting the local authorities and the media, eventually they reach the government who have a prepared series of stock answers.

The Hum- A Description

The Hum has a characteristic sound described either as an idling Diesel engine or the drone of a distant aircraft. The Hum is not constant in intensity, periods of high levels have been noted during the early hours, at weekends and bank holidays, the period between Christmas and the New Year is notorious for high levels. The use of sound proofing, ear-plugs or ear protectors are ineffective, in fact, by eliminating extraneous noise, they only serve to intensify the perceived Hum level. The Hum is selective, approximately 5% of the population "hear" the noise, almost all aged 50 or over, and 70% are women.

The physical effects which accompany the Hum vary both in type and intensity and depend a great deal on the individual. The most common effects reported are insomnia, difficulty concentrating, fatigue, nausea and more. A Rating Scale 0-5 was derived on a German Hum site IGZAB. It is also interesting to note that of a list of 20 symptoms prepared by an organization researching Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME), 16 of these symptoms could be equally applied to those suffering from the HUM.

The Cause of the Hum. Revised 9th November 2006.

The results of experiments carried out over the past few months confirm that the Hum is caused by gravitational waves. These waves are generated by the high voltage electrical grid supply interacting with the charged particles of the Earth's ionosphere.
The interaction takes place at a height of about 250 miles which allows the waves to cover a very large area. Reports obtained from Hum sufferers show the effects must reach a distance of at least 50 miles from the pylons, and probably much further.
No increase in Hum level has been observed in close proximity to the pylons and on any given day, the Hum intensity is the same over 100's of square miles.
The effects of gravitational waves on the human body is unknown, the only information available is that collected from Hum sufferers themselves.
The first and most obvious effects is the perception of noise which is the result of the gravitational waves interacting with the body's own gravity detector, namely, the inner ear. Other effects such as aching muscles, pins and needles and heart palpitations are all symptoms which could be produced by a small but continuous electric shock.

For further reading and detail see:

http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/scalar_tech/the_hum/index.htm#Contents

How to distinguish genuine Icom radios from counterfeit (fake) radios

The "3D GENUINE Icom label" is attached to the models shown below. This label enables you to distinguish genuine Icom products from counterfeit (fake) products. If the label is not attached to the product when you purchased it, the product is probably counterfeit. If the radio does not have the label, contact your dealer or distributor and exchange it for a radio with the proper label.
The labels will be attached from October, 2013.

By changing the viewing angle, the **ICOM** logo and the word **GENUINE**, can be alternately viewed.
The images can be seen more clearly in sunlight and under direct light.

If the image does not change, the product could be counterfeit (fake).
You should not buy it, or you should exchange it for a radio with the proper label.

The label will be attached to:
IC-V82, IC-V80(-T), IC-V80E, IC-U80, IC-U80L, IC-G80, IC-80FX, IC-2300H(-T), IC-M304.

Three types of counterfeit (fake) Icom products

PDF Counterfeit (fake) products list

Type I **Copies of currently produced models**	(Example) IC-V82, IC-V80(-T), IC-V80E, IC-U80, IC-U80L, IC-G80, IC-80FX, IC-2300H(-T), IC-M304	(Advisory) Purchase only those models with a genuine hologram label.
Type II **Copies of discontinued models (No production/inventory)**	(Example) IC-V8, IC-V85, IC-2200H	(Advisory) Almost all Type II products are counterfeit. It has been a long time since the products were discontinued. Purchase the new models, such as the IC-V80 and IC-2300H (with a genuine hologram label).
Type III **Non-Icom models but with an Icom logo**	(Example) Non-Icom model IC-V87, IC-V89, IC-UV91	(Advisory) * TYPE III models are 100% counterfeit.

100% of ALL Icom radios are produced only at our factories in Japan.

Icom has its own manufacturing facilities only in Japan.
We have NO Icom factories outside Japan.
(The only Icom products that might be produced outside our factories in Japan are certain accessories produced by Icom approved manufacturers.)
You can rely on durable and high performance operation for a long time without having to frequently replace your radios.

Icom radios marked "Made in China" or made in another country are 100% fake.

* Accessories such as batteries, chargers, microphones and other items can be made in other countries.

http://www.icom.co.jp/world/genuine-info/index.html

Long Term HF Propagation Prediction for Jan. 2014

Courtesy ZS6BTY

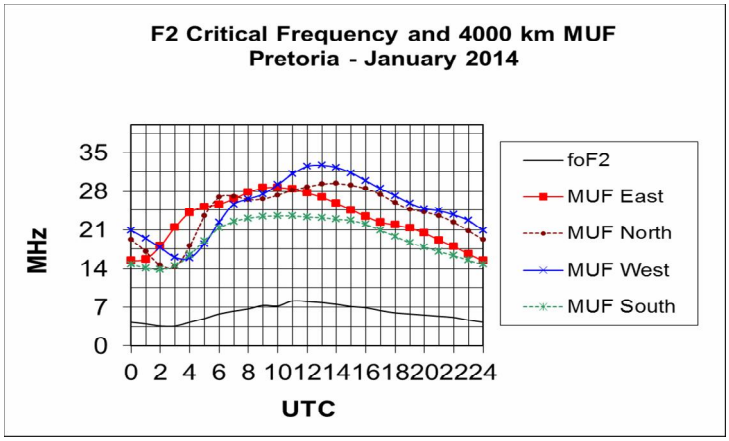
(see also our website propagation tab)

DX Operating

The graph shows the 4000 km maximum useable frequency (MUF) to the East, North, West and South from Pretoria for the first hop using the F2 layer.

Local Operating

The F2 critical frequency (foF2) is the maximum frequency that will reflect when you transmit straight up. E-layer reflection is not shown.



No English dictionary has been able to adequately explain the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED.

However, in a recent linguistic conference held in London, and attended by some of the best linguists in the world: Samsundar Balgobin, a Guyanese, was the clear winner. His final challenge was this: Some say there is no difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED. Please explain the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED in a way that is easy to understand.
Here is Mr. Balgobin astute answer: "When you marry the right woman, you are COMPLETE. But, when you marry the wrong woman, you are FINISHED. And when the right woman catches you with the wrong woman, you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!"
His answer was received with a standing ovation lasting over 5 minutes!!!

2013 DARWIN AWARDS

Eighth Place. In Detroit, a 41-year-old man got stuck and drowned in two feet of water after squeezing head first through an 18-inch-wide sewer grate to retrieve his car keys.

Seventh Place. A 49-year-old San Francisco stockbroker, who "totally zoned when he ran", accidentally jogged off a 100-foot high cliff on his daily run.

Sixth Place. While at the beach, Daniel Jones, 21, dug an 8 foot hole for protection from the wind and had been sitting in a beach chair at the bottom, when it collapsed, burying him beneath 5 feet of sand. People on the beach used their hands and shovels trying to get him out but could not reach him. It took rescue workers using heavy equipment almost an hour to free him. Jones was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Fifth Place. Santiago Alvarado, 24, was killed as he fell through the ceiling of a bicycle shop he was burglarizing. The long flashlight he had placed in his mouth to keep his hands free rammed into the base of his skull as he hit the floor.

Fourth Place. Sylvester Briddell, Jr., 26, was killed as he won a bet with friends who said he would not put a revolver loaded with four bullets into his mouth and pull the trigger.

Third Place. After stepping around a marked police patrol car parked at the front door, a man walked into H&J Leather & Firearms intent on robbing the store. The shop was full of customers and a uniformed officer was standing at the counter. Upon seeing the officer, the would-be robber announced a hold-up and fired a few wild shots from a target pistol.The officer and a clerk promptly returned fire, and several customers also drew their guns and fired. The robber was pronounced dead at the scene by Paramedics. Crime scene investigators located 47 expended cartridge cases in the shop. The subsequent autopsy revealed 23 gunshot wounds. Ballistics identified rounds from 7 different weapons. No one else was hurt.

HONORABLE MENTION Paul Stiller, 47, and his wife Bonnie were bored just driving around at 2 A.M. So they lit a quarter stick of dynamite to toss out the window to see what would happen. They failed to notice that the window was closed.

RUNNER UP Kerry Bingham had been drinking with several friends when one of them said they knew a person who had bungee-jumped from a local bridge in the middle of traffic. The conversation grew more excited, and at least 10 men trooped along the walkway of the bridge at 4:30 AM. Upon arrival at the midpoint of the bridge, they discovered that no one had brought a bungee rope. Bingham, who had continued drinking, volunteered and pointed out that a coil of lineman's cable lay nearby. They secured one end around Bingham's leg and then tied the other to the bridge. His fall lasted 40 feet before the cable tightened and tore his foot off at the ankle. He miraculously survived his fall into the icy water and was rescued by two nearby fishermen. Bingham's foot was never located.

AND THE WINNER IS.... Zookeeper Friedrich Riesfeldt (Paderborn , Germany) fed his constipated elephant 22 doses of animal laxative and more than a bushel of berries, figs and prunes before the plugged-up pachyderm finally got relief. Investigators say ill-fated Friedrich, 46, was attempting to give the ailing elephant an olive oil enema when the relieved beast unloaded. The sheer force of the elephant's unexpected defecation knocked Mr. Riesfeldt to the ground where he struck his head on a rock as the elephant continued to evacuate 200 pounds of dung on top of him. It seems to be just one of those freak accidents that proves... '#%&* happens'.

IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPORTANT TO THANK THESE PEOPLE FOR REMOVING THEMSELVES FROM THE GENE POOL.
