



# QST



DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO AMATEUR RADIO

December 2009

WWW.ARRL.ORG

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Holiday Season  
to All!*

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Official Journal of  
**ARRL** The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO™



*Bring out your best ham  
for the holidays!*







# IC-7700



*Perfect for your favorite contester or DX'er*

Carve up the airwaves with the best of 'em. Thanks to advanced DSP technology, Icom's IC-7700 pulls out the weak signals like no other. Enjoy a just-right size and the smart ergonomics that make spending hours in the operating chair a pleasure, not a chore. Make this the year to treat your favorite ham, even if it's yourself! Get your IC-7700 today!





# hy-gain. ROTATORS

... the first choice of hams around the world!

## HAM-IV

The most popular rotator in the world!

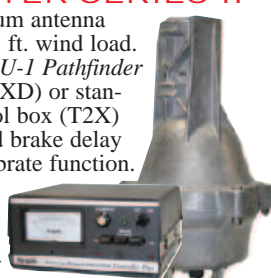
For medium communications arrays up to 15 square feet wind load area. *New* 5-second brake delay! *New* Test/Calibrate function. *New* low temperature grease permits normal operation down to -30 degrees F. *New* alloy ring gear gives extra strength up to 100,000 PSI for maximum reliability. *New* indicator potentiometer. *New* ferrite beads reduce RF susceptibility. *New* Cinch plug plus 8-pin plug at control box. Dual 98 ball bearing race for load bearing strength and electric locking steel wedge brake prevents wind induced antenna movement. North or South center of rotation scale on meter, low voltage control, max mast size of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches.



HAM-IV  
\$649<sup>95</sup>

## TAILTWISTER SERIES II

For large medium antenna arrays up to 20 sq. ft. wind load. Available with *DCU-1 Pathfinder* digital control (T2XD) or standard analog control box (T2X) with *new* 5-second brake delay and *new* Test/Calibrate function. Low temperature grease, alloy ring gear, indicator potentiometer, ferrite beads on potentiometer wires, *new* weather-proof AMP connectors plus 8-pin plug at control box, triple bearing race with 138 ball bearings for large load bearing strength, electric locking steel wedge brake, North or South center of rotation scale on meter, low voltage control, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inch max. mast.



T-2X  
\$799<sup>95</sup>

T-2XD  
\$1229<sup>95</sup>  
with DCU-1

## CD-45II

For antenna arrays up to 8.5 sq. feet mounted inside tower or 5 sq. ft. with mast adapter. Low temperature grease good to -30 F degrees. *New* Test/Calibrate function. Bell rotator design gives total weather protection, dual 58 ball bearing race gives proven support. Die-cast ring gear, stamped steel gear drive, heavy duty, trouble free gear train, North center scale, lighted directional indicator, 8-pin plug/socket on control unit, snap-action control switches, low voltage control, safe operation, takes maximum mast size to 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inches. MSLD light duty lower mast support included.



CD-45II  
\$449<sup>95</sup>

HAM IV and HAM V Rotator Specifications	
Wind Load capacity (inside tower)	15 square feet
Wind Load (w/mast adapter)	7.5 square feet
Turning Power	800 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	5000 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	Electric Wedge
Bearing Assembly	dual race/96 ball bearings
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel U-bolts
Control Cable Conductors	8
Shipping Weight	26 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	2800 ft.-lbs.

TAILTWISTER Rotator Specifications	
Wind load capacity (inside tower)	20 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	10 square feet
Turning Power	1000 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	9000 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	Electric Wedge
Bearing Assembly	Triple race/138 ball brngs
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel U-bolts
Control Cable Conductors	8
Shipping Weight	31 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	3400 ft.-lbs.

CD-45II Rotator Specifications	
Wind load capacity (inside tower)	8.5 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	5.0 square feet
Turning Power	600 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	800 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	Disc Brake
Bearing Assembly	Dual race/48 ball brings
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel U-bolts
Control Cable Conductors	8
Shipping Weight	22 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	1200 ft.-lbs.

## HAM-V

HAM-V  
\$1099<sup>95</sup>  
with DCU-1

For medium antenna arrays up to 15 square feet wind load area. Similar to the HAM IV, but includes *DCU-1 Pathfinder* digital control unit with gas plasma display.

Provides automatic operation of brake and rotor, compatible with many logging/contest programs, 1 degree accuracy, auto 8-second brake delay, 360 degree choice for center location, *more!*

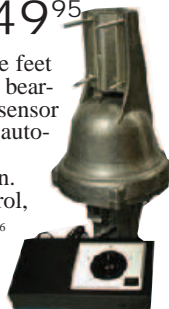
## ROTATOR OPTIONS

**MSHD, \$109.95.** Heavy duty mast support for T2X, HAM-IV and HAM-V.  
**MSLD, \$49.95.** Light duty mast support for CD-45II and AR-40.  
**TSP-1, \$34.95.** Lower spacer plate for HAM-IV and HAM-V.

## AR-40

For compact antenna arrays and large FM/TV up to 3.0 square feet wind load area. Dual 12 ball bearing race. Automatic position sensor never needs resetting. Fully automatic control -- just dial and touch for any desired location. Solid state, low voltage control, safe and silent operation. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> inch maximum mast size. MSLD light duty lower mast support included.

AR-40  
\$349<sup>95</sup>



## HDR-300A

King-sized antenna arrays up to 25 sq. ft. wind load area. Control cable connector, *new* hardened stainless steel output shaft, *new* North or South centered calibration, *new* ferrite beads on potentiometer wires reduce RF susceptibility, *new* longer output shaft keyway adds reliability. Heavy-duty self-centering steel clamp and hardware. Display accurate to 1". Machined steel output.

HDR-300A  
\$1499<sup>95</sup>

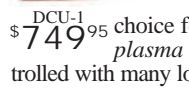


AR-40 Rotator Specifications	
Wind load capacity (inside tower)	3.0 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	1.5 square feet
Turning Power	350 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	450 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	Disc Brake
Bearing Assembly	Dual race/12 ball bearings
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel bolts
Control Cable Conductors	5
Shipping Weight	14 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	300 ft.-lbs.

HDR-300A Rotator Specifications	
Wind load capacity (inside tower)	25 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	not applicable
Turning Power	5000 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	7500 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	solenoid operated locking
Bearing Assembly	bronze sleeve w/rollers
Mounting Hardware	stainless steel bolts
Control Cable Conductors	7
Shipping Weight	61 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	5000 ft.-lbs.

## Digital Automatic Controller

Automatically controls T2X, HAM-IV, V rotators. 6 presets for favorite headings, 1° accuracy, 8-sec. brake delay, choice for center of rotation, crisp plasma display. Computer controlled with many logging/contest programs.



DCU-1  
\$749<sup>95</sup>

## AR-35 Rotator/Controller

For UHF, VHF, 6-Meter, TV/FM antennas. Includes automatic controller, rotator, mounting clamps, mounting hardware. 110 VAC. One Year Warranty.

AR-35  
\$89<sup>95</sup>



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# hy-gain.

Antennas, Rotators & Towers  
308 Industrial Park Road, Starkville, MS 39759, USA  
Prices/specs subject to change without notice/obligation ©2010 Hy-Gain.

**RBD-5 \$29<sup>95</sup> NEW! Automatic Rotator Brake Delay**  
Provides automatic 5-second brake delay -- insures your rotator is fully stopped before brake is engaged. Prevents accidentally engaging brake while rotator is moving. Use with HAM II, III, IV, V, T2Xs. Easy-to-install. Includes pre-assembled PCB, hardware.





# Life is a JOURNEY. Enjoy the ride!

## MINI COOPER SHOWN WITH CP-5M UNIVERSAL LIP MOUNT ON THE DOOR EDGE.

All the mounts attach to van doors, truck side doors, SUV doors, etc... and require no holes. Includes 16' 6" deluxe cable assy w/18" mini RG-1888A/U type coax for weather seal entry.

Choose a mount depending on the antenna size and vehicle mounting location space.



### For Small Antennas & Limited Space

MODEL / ANT CONN / COAX CONN

**Maldol EM-5M** SO-239 / PL-259

Footprint: 1.1" x .75"  
Max Antenna: 40"

### For Medium Size Antennas

MODEL / ANT CONN / COAX CONN

**COMET CP-5M** SO-239 / PL-259

**COMET CP-5NMO** NMO / PL-259

Footprint: 3.4" x 1.25"  
Max Antenna: 60"

### For Tall or Multi-band HF Antennas

MODEL / ANT CONN / COAX CONN

**COMET HD-5M** SO-239 / PL-259

**COMET HD-5 3/8-24** 3/8-24 / PL-259

Footprint: 3.75" x 1.1"  
Max antenna: 80"

**COMET BNC-24** DUAL-BAND 2M/70CM HT ANTENNA RX range: 100-1200MHz

• Wavelength: 2M 1/4 wave • 440MHz 1/2 wave • Length: 17" • Conn: BNC Super flexible featherweight whip

**COMET SMA-24** DUAL-BAND 2M/70CM HT ANTENNA RX range: 100-1200MHz

• Wavelength: 2M 1/4 wave • 440MHz 1/2 wave • Length: 17" • Conn: SMA Super flexible featherweight whip

**COMET SMA-503** DUAL-BAND 2M/70CM HT ANTENNA RX range: 100-1200MHz

• Length: 8.75" • Conn: SMA

**Maldol MH-209** (BNC Conn) **MH-209SMA** (SMA Conn) 2M/70CM DUAL-BAND HT ANTENNAS

3" length, soft rubber cover. Good performance in a small package!

**COMET NEW! CSB750A** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 2M 1/2 wave, 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 42" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Pwr: 150W

**COMET NEW! CSB770A** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 2M 5/8 wave center load, 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 center load • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 51" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Pwr: 150W

**COMET NEW! CSB790A** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 2M 7/8 wave center load, 70cm 5/8 wave x 3 center load • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 62" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Pwr: 150W

**Maldol AX-50** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ

Wavelength: 2M 1/4 wave • 70cm 9/8 wave • Length: 21" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**Maldol AX-75** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 2M 1/2 wave center load • 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 • Length: 30" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**Maldol AX-95** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 2M 1/2 wave • 70cm 5/8 wave x 2 • Length: 38" • Conn: PL-259 • Max Power: 60W

**COMET B-10 / B-10NMO** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ

Wavelength: 146MHz 1/4 wave • 446MHz 1/2 wave • Length: 12" • Conn: B-10 PL-259, B-10NMO - NMO style • Max Pwr: 50W

**COMET SBB-2 / SBB-2NMO** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ

Wavelength: 146MHz 1/4 wave • 446MHz 5/8 wave center load • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 18" • Conn: SBB-2 PL-259, SBB-2NMO NMO style • Max Pwr: 60W

**Maldol EX-107RB / EX-107RBNMO** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ

Wavelength: 146MHz 1/2 wave • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 2 • VSWR: 1.5:1 or less • Length: 29" • Conn: EX-107RB PL-259 • Ex-107RBNMO NMO style • Max Pwr: 100W

**COMET SBB-5 / SBB-5NMO** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 146MHz 1/2 wave • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 2 • Length: 39" • Conn: SBB-5 PL-259, SBB-5NMO - NMO style • Max Pwr: 120W

**COMET SBB-7 / SBB-7NMO** DUAL-BAND 2M/440MHZ W/FOLD-OVER

Wavelength: 146MHz 6/8 wave • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 3 • Length: 58" • Conn: SBB-7 PL-259, SBB-7NMO - NMO style • Max Pwr: 70W

**COMET**  
and **Maldol** Mobile

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**Interested in Writing for QST?**

www.arrl.org/qst/aguide  
e-mail: qst@arrl.org



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## Our Cover

As we approach this holiday season, may we come to truly know peace and joy — both in our hearts and in each other — all the year long. Just above the snow-capped trees under a waxing crescent moon and a star-filled night, this 20 meter fixed array is located just north of Stockholm, Sweden. Photo by Henryk Kotowski, SMØJHF.



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QST (ISSN:0033-4812) is published monthly as its official journal by the American Radio Relay League, Inc, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT, USA and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: QST, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494, USA. Canada Post: Publications Mail Agreement #40612608. Canada Returns to be sent to Bleuchip International, PO Box 25542, London, ON N6C 6B2.

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- Massive Heatsink guarantees 75 Watts of Solid RF Power with No Cooling Fan Needed
- Loud 3 Watts of Audio Output for noisy environments
- Large 6 Digit Backlit LCD for excellent visibility
- 200 Memory Channels for serious users

**75 WATTS**

HEAVY-DUTY 75 W 2 m FM TRANSCEIVER  
**FT-2900R**

Size: 6.3" (W) x 2.0" (H) x 7.3" (D) / Weight: 4.0 lb

**NEW**

2m  
MONO BAND

**55 WATTS**

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- Large 6 Digit Backlit LCD for excellent visibility
- 200 Memory Channels for serious users

**NEW**

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**FT-1900R**

Size: 5.5" (W) x 1.6" (H) x 5.8" (D) / Weight: 2.2 lb

2m  
MONO BAND

For the latest Yaesu news, visit us on the Internet:  
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Specifications subject to change without notice. Some accessories and/or options may be standard in certain areas. Frequency coverage may differ in some countries. Check with your local Yaesu Dealer for specific details.

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- Reliable performance in harsh environments
- 5 ppm Frequency Stability (-4° F to +140° F)
- 1000 Memory Channels for serious users
- Yaesu Unique Power Saving Circuit Design Minimizes Vehicle Battery Drain



Actual Size

**NEW** 2 m/70 cm DUAL BAND FM TRANSCEIVER  
**FT-7900R**  
Size: 5.5" (W) x 1.6" (H) x 6.6" (D) / Weight: 2.2 lb

2 m/70 cm  
DUAL BAND

- Separation Kit for Remote Mounting (optional separation kit YSK-7800 requires)



50 W 10 m/6 m/2 m/70 cm\* Quad Band FM Mobile  
**FT-8900R** **QUAD BAND DUAL RECEIVE**  
\*70 cm 35 W



50 W 2 m/70 cm\* Dual Band FM Mobile  
**FT-8800R** **DUAL BAND DUAL RECEIVE**  
\*70 cm 35 W

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# The Totally New - Advanced Dual Band Mobile Radio GPS / APRS® / Bluetooth® Features



Actual Size

- The Ultimate Mobile Communications Tool is packed with the latest advanced communications technology, including a multi-purpose Global Positioning System display, APRS®, Bluetooth®, Event Timer functions, simultaneous Dual Band Receive, and Full-Duplex operation.
- 50 Watts of Reliable Power on BOTH 2 m and 70 cm!
- Large dot matrix LCD display for comfortable viewing – night or day
- Choose your favorite LCD display from 8 vibrant color options.
- Incredibly Flexible Dual Band Display. You can easily set your individual preferences for Dual Receive and Full-Duplex operation.
- Numerous useful displays are available with the optional FGPS-1 GPS Receiver and Antenna.



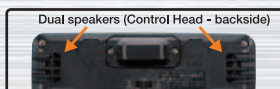
- Compatible with various APRS® information and functions – Receive WX info from other APRS® weather stations, exchange messages (max 67 characters) using the APRS® function, etc.



- High-speed Band Scope for rapidly checking band activity.



- Built-in Dual Speakers on the rear of the Control Head with Independent Volume Controls for maximum flexibility.
- Optional Voice Guide Unit speaks your operating frequency and records received signals.
- 1200 / 9600 bps packet port (8-pin mini DIN)
- The Display Control Head is designed for easy separation from RF Power Unit – 10 ft control cable included. Optional 20 ft control cable available.
- Yaesu's renowned high quality Die Cast Aluminum Chassis design allows stable continuous high power operation when you need it most.
- Wideband RX:
  - L-band: 0.5 MHz – 1.7 MHz (AM Broadcast band)
  - 76 MHz – 108 MHz (FM Broadcast band)
  - 108 MHz-250 MHz / 300-1000MHz
  - R-band: 108-250 MHz, 300 MHz-1000 MHz
  - US Version only: TBD
- Built-in stereo decoder for FM Broadcast: Listen to FM Broadcast in Stereo with dual speakers on the rear of the control head!
- "Line In" input permits playing your favorite stereo music from other devices.



- Enhanced Yaesu ARTS (Automatic-Range Transponder System) displays distance and direction to other APRS® stations using FTM-350R and VX-8R transceivers.
- Huge memory channel management capability! 500 Independent memory channels with memory name tag function (up to 8 characters) for each L and R band (1000 channels total), + 9 PMS (Programmable Band Limit Memory Scan) channels for each L and R band (18 channels in total),

## 2 m / 70 cm Dual Band FTM-350R



• Monitor Unit (Option)

- + a rewritable preferred channel for each L and R band, + 31 channels specifically allocated for the Smart Search function.
- DTMF Autodial (Memory) Feature: 9 memories (16digits each) x 3 CH
- Built-in Barometric Pressure Sensor - The radio can monitor and display your altitude and pressure.
- Easier Menu setup - Menu items are associated with the various operations for easier and faster setup modifications.
- Bluetooth Capabilities - The optional Bluetooth Unit (BU-1) provides hands-free radio operation with the optional Bluetooth headset BH-1A!
- The front panel Built-in Microphone activates PTT transmission. (A conventional hand microphone MH-42C6J with DTMF is optional)

The FTM-350R has not been approved by the FCC. This device may not be sold or leased, or offered for sale or lease, until FCC approval has been obtained. Technical specifications are subject to change without notice.



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Specifications subject to change without notice. Some accessories and/or options may be standard in certain areas. Frequency coverage may differ in some countries. Check with your local Yaesu Dealer for specific details.



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# Appropriate Use: Guidelines and Waivers

“For the final time this year, we again take up the issue of the appropriate use of Amateur Radio: the extent to which radio amateurs may (and should) provide communications on behalf of others, particularly their employers.”

The Amateur Radio Service has a well-deserved reputation for taking the FCC rules seriously, so it is not surprising that the subject of “pecuniary interest” has attracted a lot of attention and discussion. The relevant rules have not changed since 1993, but recent years have seen growing interest in the use of Amateur Radio as an alternative, supplemental, or backup communications medium by commercial, non-profit and government entities. When those rules changes were adopted, that was not the expectation.

In 1993 the FCC concluded that, while it is important to avoid exploitation of the amateur service, “[t]he capabilities of modern mobile communication services have all but eliminated the incentive to use the amateur service instead of those services.” The Commission found that the rules then in effect “hamper amateur operators from serving the public as well as diminish the value of the amateur service in satisfying personal communication needs.” Accordingly, the rules were amended to give amateur licensees greater flexibility. The FCC declined the ARRL’s request for anecdotal examples of permitted and prohibited communications, preferring to “rely on the amateur service’s traditions of self-regulation and cooperation between licensees, the cornerstone of the amateur service, to determine whether specific communications should be transmitted on amateur service frequencies.”

In September 1993 we editorialized that the rules changes “remove the ambiguities that have plagued public-service communications for the past two decades and have generated endless hair-splitting discussions about whether particular communications were permitted.” That proved to be the case for a decade and a half until — in the aftermath of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina — Amateur Radio came to be viewed as a communications solution by a growing number of businesses and other organizations. On this page in April we noted that “there are limits to what an amateur can do on behalf of his or her employer” but did not go into detail since the rules seemed rather clear, as did the FCC’s desire not to answer questions about exactly what is permitted and what is not.

By the time of the July 2009 meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors, the FCC had been asked enough questions by amateurs — and had given answers that apparently were unexpected — that quite a controversy was developing about the appropriate uses of Amateur Radio. As explained on this page in September, an ad-hoc committee was put to work to develop suggested guidelines. The committee delivered the guidelines and recommendations for further ARRL action to the ARRL Executive Committee, which made some edits and scheduled a conference call of Board members to discuss the nine-page document. By subsequent mail vote the Board adopted the guidelines and recommendations and approved the release of the document, which was put on the ARRL Web site on September 25 (see [www.arrl.org/news/files/ARRL\\_AppropriateUseGuidelines.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/news/files/ARRL_AppropriateUseGuidelines.pdf)).

The main purpose of the document, entitled *Commercialization of Amateur Radio: The Rules, The Risks, The Issues*, is to educate amateurs and the

organizations we serve about what the FCC rules permit us to do and to assist amateurs in making reasoned decisions about the appropriateness of services we may offer to organizations in our communities. While there are only two narrow exceptions to the “no communications on behalf of an employer” rule, neither of which applies to disaster relief, the guidelines note that “paid emergency personnel who are licensed amateurs and who find themselves needing to use Amateur Radio in disaster relief operations can rely on the Commission’s statements that they may do so.” However, this applies *only* to actual disaster relief operations and *not* to training exercises or drills.

On the subject of what communications are appropriate for volunteers to provide on behalf of businesses and other organizations, the guidelines note that such communications by volunteers are legal as long as they are not conducted on a regular basis and otherwise comply with the rules. Organizations that envision using Amateur Radio volunteers on a regular basis should be referred instead to other radio services and communications systems. A good rule of thumb for other requests is, “Who benefits?” If the public is the principal beneficiary, then the basis and purpose of the Amateur Radio Service is being fulfilled. If the entity itself and not the general public is the principal beneficiary, then the use of other services should be encouraged.

In introducing the guidelines, ARRL First Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN — who chaired the ad-hoc committee — observed that they “are not intended to be the last word on the subject, and surely will not be.” Little more than three weeks later the FCC fulfilled that prophecy by issuing a Public Notice, DA 09-2259, to emphasize that the rules prohibiting communications on behalf of an employer apply to emergency preparedness and disaster drills. The Public Notice entertains waiver requests from *government entities* (and *only* government entities) conducting such drills. The requests must be in writing and must include the information listed in the article on page 59 of this issue. Use the following address: Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, FCC, 445 12th St SW, Washington, DC 20554, Attn: Scot Stone. The government entity may send a copy of its request by e-mail to [Scot.Stone@fcc.gov](mailto:Scot.Stone@fcc.gov), but we have been advised that this is not a substitute for submission of the waiver request on paper.

We understand there are petitions for rulemaking being drafted to address perceived shortcomings in the existing rules. The ARRL Board has taken no position on possible rules changes, but the subject is likely to occupy the Board’s attention between now and its January 2010 meeting. As always, your own Division Director (see page 15) will be interested in your thoughts.



**David Sumner, K1ZZ**  
ARRL Chief Executive Officer

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## TH-3MK4, \$469.95. 3-element, 1.5 kW PEP, 10,15,20 Meters

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TH-11DX	11	For Gain and F/B ratio--See...		4000	10,12,15,17,20	12.5	100	24	37	22	88	1.9-2.5	T2X	\$1159.95
TH-7DX	7			1500	10, 15, 20	9.4	100	24	31	20	75	1.5-2.5	HAM-IV	\$869.95
TH-5MK2	5	www.hy-gain.com		1500	10, 15, 20	7.4	100	19	31.5	18.42	57	1.5-2.5	HAM-IV	\$759.95
TH-3MK4	3			1500	10, 15, 20	4.6	95	14	27.42	15.33	35	1.9-2.5	CD-45II	\$469.95
TH-3JRS	3	Hy-Gain catalog		600	10, 15, 20	3.35	80	12	27.25	14.75	21	1.25-2.0	CD-45II	\$359.95
TH-2MK3	2			1500	10, 15, 20	3.25	80	6	27.3	14.25	20	1.9-2.5	CD-45II	\$369.95
EXP-14	4	800-973-6572		1500	10,15,20,30/40	7.5	100	14	31.5	17.25	45	1.9-2.5	HAM IV	\$599.95

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**HF/50 MHz Transceiver  
FT DX 9000MP**

Two Pairs of Meters, plus LCD Window; Data Management Unit and Flash Memory Slot Built In. Main/Sub Receiver VRF, plus Full Dual Receive Capability, External 50 V/24 A Switching Regulator Power Supply and Speaker with Audio Filters

Display color (Umbur or Light Blue) may be selected at the time of purchase. Modification from 400 to 200 W not possible.



**HF/50 MHz Transceiver  
FT DX 9000D 200 W Version**

Large TFT, Data Management Unit and Flash Memory Slot Built In, Main/Sub Receiver VRF, plus Full Dual Receive Capability, Three 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -Tuning Modules for 160 - 20 M, 50 V/12 A Internal Switching Regulator Power Supply



**HF/50 MHz Transceiver  
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Custom-Configurable Version**

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# This Just In

Joel P. Kleinman, N1BKE  
jkleinman@arrl.org

## In Brief

- The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted guidelines on the appropriate use of Amateur Radio on behalf of commercial, non-profit and government entities. In addition, the Board adopted recommendations for additional steps to be taken by the ARRL to educate radio amateurs and others on how to prepare and train for public service and emergency communications while complying with the current FCC Rules.
- The FCC has issued a *Public Notice* clarifying its rules about using Amateur Radio during drills on behalf of a ham's employer. See *Happenings*, this issue, for more information.
- Senate Bill 1755, *The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009*, a companion to HR 2160, has been introduced by Senators Joe Lieberman (ID-CT) and Susan Collins (R-ME).
- The 14<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference of IARU Region 3 took place in Christchurch, New Zealand. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, represented the ARRL, and ARRL Chief Executive Officer and former IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, also attended.
- Brian Plumb, KE7HNW, provided CPR to a runner in Utah's St George Marathon.
- *The ARRL Letter* is now published in HTML format.
- Three people were killed while installing an antenna after dark in Florida.
- The extensively revised 2010 *ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* is available for sale.
- The annual Simulated Emergency Test took place October 3-4.
- ARRL HQ hosted a meeting of the Global Emergency Radio Coalition and the annual Amateur Radio Administration course sponsored by the US Telecommunications Training Institute.
- The 2009 AMSAT Space Symposium took place in Baltimore.
- The organizers of the 2010 World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC), to be held near Moscow, have selected 44 Team Leaders.
- On September 28, the FCC issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) to a California firm that the Commission maintains was using amateur frequencies to conduct business.
- The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for September is Paul Danzer, N1II, for his article "A Simple Transformer to Measure Your Antenna Current."
- Registration remains open through November 22 for these online course sessions beginning December 4: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1, Antenna Modeling, Radio Frequency Interference, Antenna Design and Construction, Ham Radio (Technician) License Course, Propagation, Analog Electronics and Digital Electronics.

## Media Hits

Allen Pitts, W1AGP

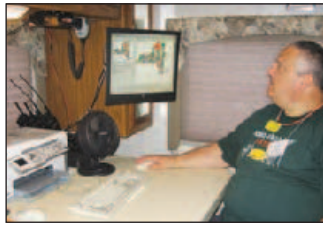
Media & Public Relations Manager

- Amateur Radio's people love to play with new technologies. We like new "toys," and the chance to modify them and put them to new and creative uses. This inventive streak is celebrated at the ARRL's Web site [www.WeDoThat-Radio.org](http://www.WeDoThat-Radio.org) and was also highlighted in many media hits this past month.
- Leading the list has got to be the *HP in Real Life* article "Behind the voices of ham radio" on Hewlett Packard's Web site, [hp.com](http://hp.com). Andy Vavra, KD3RF, and Irwin Darack, KD3TB, are featured using Amateur Radio and HP computers together in their DXpedition to the far northern reaches of Canada. Their team, which includes Bill Ballantine, K3FMQ, and Ken Nicely, N3PSJ, were interviewed at length and resulted in an excellent article in a wonderful location. [www.hp.com/united-states/reallife/hamradio.html](http://www.hp.com/united-states/reallife/hamradio.html)
- Hams are also very active on the Apple side of the digital world. Steven Sande, KC0EZH, wrote for *TUAW — the unofficial Apple weblog*. "5 Mac applications for ham radio fans" listed apps for everything from iPhones to logging. [www.tuaw.com/2009/10/14/5-mac-applications-for-ham-radio-fans/](http://www.tuaw.com/2009/10/14/5-mac-applications-for-ham-radio-fans/)
- Ron Meadows, K6RPT, scored several media hits launching a high altitude balloon in September. By building his own tracking system and installing a camera to take pictures from up to 20 miles high, he got the attention of *The Mercury News* (San Jose, CA).
- Using Amateur Radio to track things with APRS systems may not be exactly "new" anymore, but it is still exciting to many people — especially when they can do it with inexpensive equipment on a network that is already in place and free. That was the theme of Joe Murphy, N4PAT, in an excellent video podcast on [www.hak5.org](http://www.hak5.org). Episode 608 showed Joe demonstrating APRS to the excited host and opened the doors for more of Amateur Radio's opportunities to be shown on this popular video site for hackers. (By the way, "hacking" is not a pejorative term anymore; it simply means someone who creates new applications for computer uses.)
- *Popular Mechanics*, the well-known magazine that has displayed new technologies for decades, also endorsed Amateur Radio and referred people to the ARRL for information. Glenn Reynolds concluded his piece "How Self Reliance Can Get You Through Any Disaster" with the advice, "One underappreciated resource is the amateur radio community. Acquire a ham radio license (American Radio Relay League) and you can become a major resource if disaster strikes. It's fun too."
- Finally, "open source" style technologies in which the creators not only allow but actually invite others to develop the application even further, have been the breeding ground for most Amateur Radio growth. One hot spot for this open source activity has always been the Linux computer operating system community. The close relationship between Amateur Radio and Linux developers, often the same people, was noted by David Lane in "Open Source Ham — Is that like free range chicken?" in the *Linux Journal* ([www.linuxjournal.com](http://www.linuxjournal.com)).



## EmComm East

EmComm East 2009, an ARRL-sanctioned event in Rochester, New York, brought together professionals and volunteers involved with emergency communications. Participants attended training sessions on technical topics, heard presentations from served agencies and interacted with other area EmComm operators. ARRL CEO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, gave the keynote address. EmComm East is sponsored by Monroe County ARES® Inc.



HAROLD KRAMER, WJ1B

Inside an EmComm van at EmComm East: Fred Halley, W2EMS.

HAROLD KRAMER, WJ1B



**ARRL Leadership at the ARRL Forum:** AEC Steve Piotrowski, KC2QZF; Atlantic Division Vice Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM; Atlantic Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR; Western New York SM Scott Bauer, W2LC; Ohio ARES District 10 DEC Matt Welch, W8DEC.

## Puerto Rico Hams Meet with Communications Director of AEMEAD

On the eve of the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo sweeping through Puerto Rico, a group of Amateur Radio operators met with Gisela Rosario, Director of Communications of the State Emergency Management Agency and Disaster Administration (AEMEAD). The goal was to bring together the radio operators who will form part of the Amateur Radio Voluntary Corps (Cuerpo de Voluntarios Radioaficionados) of AEMEAD, group that will be offering emergency communications when the normal systems fail in different situations. Aside from AEMEAD Executive Director Heriberto Sauri, also present were Pedro Otero, WP4NFB, and Angel Torres, KP4ATP, the coordinators at the Agency's level. They shared their ideas and expectations with the 20-plus ham radio operators who are part of the program. — *Angel Santana, WP3GW*



PHOTOS COURTESY ANGEL SANTANA, WP3GW

The group that will be part of the new Amateur Radio Volunteer Corps in Puerto Rico.

Pedro Otero, WP4NFB, Gisela Rosario and Angel Torres, KP4ATP, coordinators at the Agency level.



# Inside HQ

## Bit by Bit

Every day, we are receiving more information digitally on our Web browsers, cell phones and e-readers. How is the ARRL reacting to this ongoing migration from print to digital platforms? I first discussed this topic last month when I wrote about the *ARRL Letter's* conversion to an HTML format. The new *ARRL Letter* has been well received and we continue to improve it based on members' suggestions and comments. We had a very positive response to the short product review video in the first *Letter* so we will be doing more of these in the future. We have now organized all of our video clips into the ARRL YouTube Channel ([www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ](http://www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ)).

Our major digital publishing project for the last year and a half has been the new ARRL.org Web site that we plan to debut in late January. If you would like to learn more about the new Web site, our student intern, Katie Glass, has written a first-hand account about her experiences supporting the building and designing of the new site. Her article can be found on page 55.

If you are a Kindle, iPhone, or other epub device user, we will be publishing the *ARRL's Tech Q & A* manual in this format later this year or early in 2010. This will be our first publication for these e-reader platforms. We plan to expand our e-reader offerings during the next year. One problem that we are facing is that, at this stage of their development, these platforms do not display graphics, schematics and other technical material well. Our production and graphics departments have been working to modify our printed publications so that graphic material displays properly on the new digital platforms.

Another new digital offering will be the new *Public Service and Emergency Communications Management Course for Radio Amateurs* that will debut in late December or early January. This course will be offered on our new Web site in HTML format and will be available for any member to view. Among other requirements, course completion will require completion of a number of FEMA Distance Learning courses ([training.fema.gov/IS/](http://training.fema.gov/IS/)). Similar to PR101 course that is offered on CD ([www.arrrl.org/shop/?item=0133](http://www.arrrl.org/shop/?item=0133)), the final examination for this course will also be conducted on a Web site that specializes in online testing. Later in the year, we also plan to offer a CD version of this course and, perhaps, an e-reader version as well. We will also offer a new version of EC-001, the basic Emergency Communications course, on similar platforms sometime in 2010.

A number of our print publications are now available as both printed versions and Web based versions. These currently include the *VEC Manual* ([www.arrrl.org/arrivec/vematerial/](http://www.arrrl.org/arrivec/vematerial/)) and the ARRL Catalog ([www.arrrl.org/shop/spring\\_catalog.pdf](http://www.arrrl.org/shop/spring_catalog.pdf)). We continue to experiment with placing other publications both as print and online publications.

In the future, we will be looking at more Web based and downloadable publications along with digitized options for our other publications. We are moving in this direction bit by bit.

**73,**  
**Harold Kramer, WJ1B**  
**ARRL Chief Operating Officer**  
[wj1b@arrrl.org](mailto:wj1b@arrrl.org)





# Guide to ARRL Member Services

ARRL, 225 Main Street ♦ Newington, Connecticut 06111-1494, USA

## Public Service



**Tel:** 860-594-0200, Mon-Fri 8 AM to 5 PM ET (except holidays)  
**FAX:** 860-594-0303  
**e-mail:** [hqinfo@arrl.org](mailto:hqinfo@arrl.org)  
**ARRLWeb:** [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

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## VISITING ARRL HEADQUARTERS AND W1AW

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## INTERESTED IN BECOMING A HAM?

[www.arrl.org/hamradio](http://www.arrl.org/hamradio)  
e-mail: [newham@arrl.org](mailto:newham@arrl.org)  
tel. 1-800-326-3942

## Advocacy



## News Center

ARRLWeb: [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)  
ARRL Letter and Audio News:  
[www.arrl.org/arrlletter](http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter)

## Public Relations/Advocacy

Government Relations and Spectrum Protection:  
[www.arrl.org/govrelations](http://www.arrl.org/govrelations)  
e-mail: [govrelations@arrl.org](mailto:govrelations@arrl.org)

Public and Media Relations: [www.arrl.org/pio](http://www.arrl.org/pio)

## Membership Benefits

Membership Benefits (all):  
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QSL Service: [www.arrl.org/qsll](http://www.arrl.org/qsll)

Regulatory Information  
[www.arrl.org/regulations](http://www.arrl.org/regulations)

Technical Information Service  
[www.arrl.org/tis](http://www.arrl.org/tis)  
e-mail: [tis@arrl.org](mailto:tis@arrl.org)  
tel. 860-594-0214

## Contributions, Grants and Scholarships

ARRL Development Office:  
[www.arrl.org/development](http://www.arrl.org/development)  
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tel. 860-594-0397

- ARRL Diamond Club/Diamond Terrace
- Spectrum Defense Fund
- Education & Technology Fund
- Planned Giving/Legacy Circle
- Maxim Society

ARRL Foundation Grants and Scholarships:  
[www.arrl.org/arrff](http://www.arrl.org/arrff)

## Public Service

Public Service Programs:  
[www.arrl.org/publicservice](http://www.arrl.org/publicservice)  
Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®):  
[www.arrl.org/ares](http://www.arrl.org/ares)  
ARRL Field Organization:  
[www.arrl.org/volunteer](http://www.arrl.org/volunteer)

## Clubs, Recruitment, Instructors and Teachers

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Mentor Program: [www.arrl.org/mentor](http://www.arrl.org/mentor)  
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[www.arrl.org/coursesearch](http://www.arrl.org/coursesearch)  
Support to Instructors: [www.arrl.org/instructor](http://www.arrl.org/instructor)  
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Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC):  
[www.arrl.org/arrlvec](http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec)

## Publications & Education

QST — Official Journal of ARRL:  
[www.arrl.org/qst](http://www.arrl.org/qst)  
e-mail: [qst@arrl.org](mailto:qst@arrl.org)  
QEX — Forum for Communications Experimenters:  
[www.arrl.org/qex](http://www.arrl.org/qex)  
e-mail: [qex@arrl.org](mailto:qex@arrl.org)  
NCJ — National Contest Journal:  
[www.arrl.org/ncj](http://www.arrl.org/ncj)  
e-mail: [ncj@arrl.org](mailto:ncj@arrl.org)  
Books, Software and Operating Resources:  
tel. 1-888-277-5289 (toll-free in the US);  
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## Education



## Technology



## Membership



## The American Radio Relay League, Inc.

The American Radio Relay League, Inc. is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs, organized for the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation, for the establishment of networks to provide communication in the event of disasters or other emergencies, for the advancement of the radio art and of the public welfare, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative matters, and for the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

ARRL is an incorporated association without capital stock chartered under the laws of the State of Connecticut, and is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Its affairs are governed by a Board of Directors, whose voting members are elected every three years by the general membership. The officers are elected or appointed by the directors. The League is noncommercial, and no one who could gain financially from the shaping of its affairs is eligible for membership on its Board.

"Of, by, and for the radio amateur," the ARRL numbers within its ranks the vast majority of active amateurs in the nation and has a proud history of achievement as the standard-bearer in amateur affairs.

A *bona fide* interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential qualification of membership; an Amateur Radio license is not a prerequisite, although full voting membership is granted only to licensed amateurs in the US.

Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be addressed to the administrative headquarters:  
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As an ARRL member, you elect the director and vice director who represent your division on ARRL policy matters. If you have a question or comment about ARRL policies, contact your representatives at the addresses shown.

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# ARRL Section Managers

[www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections)

The 15 divisions of ARRL are arranged into 71 administrative *sections*, each headed by an elected *section manager* (SM). Your section manager is the person to contact when you have news about your activities, or those of your club. If you need assistance with a local problem, your section manager is your first point of contact. He or she can put you in touch with various ARRL volunteers who can help (such as technical specialists). Your section manager is also the person to see if you'd like to become a section volunteer. Whatever your license class, your SM has an appointment available. Visit your section page on the Web at [www.arrl.org/sections/](http://www.arrl.org/sections/).

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**West Central Florida:** Dee Turner, N4GD, 10132 64th St N, Pinellas Park, FL 33782 (727-548-7474); [n4gd@arrl.org](mailto:n4gd@arrl.org)

## Southwestern Division (AZ, LAX, ORG, SDG, SB)

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**Los Angeles:** David Greenhut, N6HD, 21781 Ventura Blvd, #243, Woodland Hills, CA 91364 (818-992-5507); [n6hd@arrl.org](mailto:n6hd@arrl.org)  
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**South Texas:** Lee H. Cooper, W5LHC, 2507 Autrey Dr, Leander, TX 78641 (512-260-7757); [w5lhc@arrl.org](mailto:w5lhc@arrl.org)  
**West Texas:** John Dyer, AE5B, 9124 County Road 301, Cisco, TX 76437 (254-442-4936); [ae5b@arrl.org](mailto:ae5b@arrl.org)



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 Ameritron's new solid state no-tune, instant-on, instant bandswitching ALS-1300 desktop linear amplifier gives you 1200 Watts PEP SSB/CW with less than 100 Watts drive. Covers 1.5 to 22 MHz (10/12 Meters with optional MOD-10MK). You'll bust through weak band conditions, heavy QRM and QRN because the ALS-1300 is less than 1 dB down from a full legal limit 1500 Watt amplifier.

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**50-Volt operation** gives you highly linear operation with a superbly clean signal.  
**Put out-of-the-way and Remote Control**  
 The ALS-1300 amplifier and its matching power supply can be placed out-of-the-way and controlled remotely. *Remote Control Head, ALS-500RC, \$49.95*, lets you monitor data and manually switch bands. *Radio Interface, ARI-500, \$119.95*, reads band data from your transceiver and

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automatically bandswitches the ALS-1300 as you change bands on your transceiver.

**Features Galore!**  
 An Operate/Standby switch lets you run "barefoot" and instantly switch to full power when you need it.

Fast 5 millisecond T/R relays (10 million operation lifetime specs) give you full QSK operation. The T/R relay sub-board is easily replaced if the relays ever fail.

**Ameritron's exclusive front-panel ALC control** prevents overdriving your transceiver.

The ALS-1300 can be keyed by any transceiver that can sink 15 mA at 12 VDC without requiring a special interface.

**Super-clean modular construction** makes service quick and easy.

**Fully Protected!**  
 The ALS-1300 is fully protected to prevent amplifier damage if you: switch to a band different from your transceiver, use the wrong antenna or have overly high SWR, if the heat sink temperature exceeds a safe level, if the dual 600 Watt modules are significantly RF unbalanced. Whenever the amplifier faults, it is automatically bypassed.

If output forward or reflected power exceeds a safe level, output power is auto-

matically reduced to prevent amplifier damage by controlling ALC to the transmitter.

**Fully Metered!**  
 Two accurate Cross-Needle meters use LEDs with adjustable brightness for back-lighting -- no more burned-out meter lamps.

The left meter continuously monitors DC current of both 600 watt amplifier modules.

The right meter is a multi-meter. Read antenna SWR, forward, reflected output power simultaneously (has adjustable PEP meter hold time) ... amplifier balance ... ALC between amplifier and transceiver ... DC drain voltage of each power amplifier.

**LEDs** show which band is selected (manually bandswitched or automatically with optional ARI-500 Radio Interface) ... ALC activity ... when the amplifier is keyed ... high SWR ... power amplifier fault.

The desktop size amplifier is a compact 10½Wx6¾Hx19D in. Weighs just 23 lbs.

**Hash-Free Switching Power Supply!**

The hash-free fully regulated 50 VDC, 50 Amp switching power supply is wired for 220 VAC but can be rewired for 110



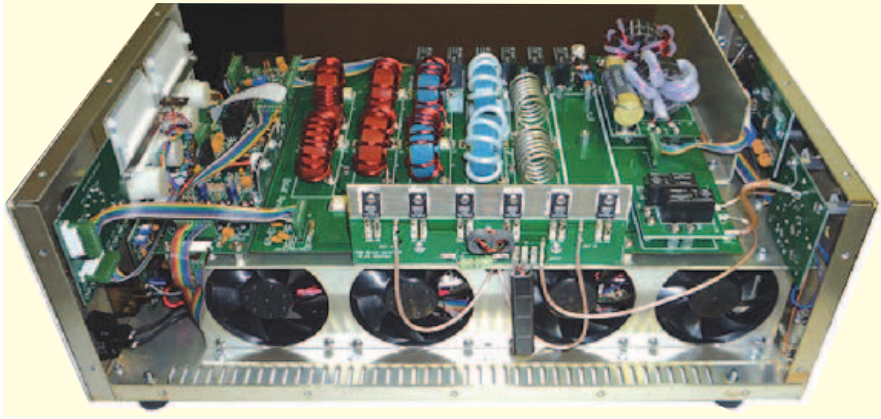
VAC. Includes six foot cable to ALS-1300. Draws 12 Amps at 220 VAC, 25 Amps at 110 VAC. Has inrush current protection, current-limited outputs, exceptional filtering and RFI suppression. Works on 50-400 Hz, 200-260/ 100-135 VAC making it ideal for remote DX-peditions. 10Wx6½Hx9½D inches. 12 pounds.

**Options**  
**MOD-10MK \$39.95**, low-pass filter assembly gives you 12 and 10 Meter operation. Requires FCC ham license.

**QSK-5, \$359.95**, pin-diode T/R switch gives lightning fast silent QSK operation.

**Here's what they say ...**  
*I have had my amp now for a few days and WOW! I picked the amp up at the factory and Mike was very helpful in showing me the ins & outs of the amp. Mine is S/N 8 and these amps are in high demand. It will truly talk 1200 watts all night long and never get warm. Thanks to Ameritron for the way they treat their customers and taking time that I was satisfied. N5SBZ*  
*I've been using SN3 for about six weeks now. No processors or digital read-outs, but very easy to use and it puts out 1200 watts on most bands with no problem. I have been operating QSK as the internal relays are plenty fast enough. AD5X*  
*I have had this fine amp now for a week and have made a number of QSO's (20). It can make the difference, and has in a number of occasions, getting thru the QRN and making a contact. Some of my QSO's have lasted up to 1 hour and there has not been a single problem...runs cool and gives me excellent results. KB4KKX*

## Inside the ALS-1300 Solid State Amplifier



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No matter how you choose to outfit your K3, you'll have outstanding performance. Elecraft's high-dynamic range, down-conversion architecture accommodates first-IF roofing filters as narrow as 200 Hz for CW and data modes. RF speech compression and 8-band graphic equalization offer clean, crisp SSB. The optional sub receiver, identical to the main receiver, provides true, dual-antenna diversity receive, ideal for digging out weak signals on noisy bands.

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# Up Front in QST

upfront@arri.org

DEBORAH KOEHLER, KB2WEY

## The Many Faces of Field Day 2009

From sea to shining sea, hams of all shapes and sizes (and ages) hit the airwaves June 27-28, pursuing contacts from backyard decks and mountaintops, beaches and even fields. Complete results begin on page 67, this issue. It's not too early to start thinking about FD10, coming to a site near you June 26-27.

MARILYN BAGSHAW, N6VAW



**Young GOTA op:** The Marin Amateur Radio Society and the Redwood Empire DX Association again teamed up this past Field Day using the call W6KB. Highlights were a visitation by Marin County's Search & Rescue team. Also visiting was 6 year old Nikole at the GOTA station. Named after Nikola Tesla, she is the daughter of Josh, W6XU. She held the pile-ups at bay, contributing to our total

score of 10,014 points. Little sister Corinne provided backup. — Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW

DAN BROWN, W1DAN



**Show and tell:** Two groups of high school aged girls stopped by our site in Needham, Massachusetts as they were doing a scavenger hunt. They spent time learning about what we were doing with the help of Tom, N1CPE. — Dan Brown, W1DAN, Wellesley ARC, W1TKZ (2A)



**Still smiling after all these years:** Sam Scholes, KG2HA, Keuka Lake (NY) ARA's oldest club member. Sam never misses a meeting and has attended every Field Day as long as I can remember (and operates CW — usually from his favorite card table under his favorite umbrella). Sam is a spry 94 years old! — Deborah Koehler, KB2WEY

RON SANS, WA4EZF



**Telling the world:** Hamilton County (IN) RACES Public Information Officer Joe March, KJ9M, explains the purpose of Field Day 2009 during an on-camera interview in Noblesville, Indiana.

## Special QSL, Special Family

Recently, a most delightful Georgia ham became a Silent Key. Her name was Florence Montgomery, N4TNZ. She and her husband Bruce, W4BFR (SK), were long-time ARRL life members and charter members of the SE DX Club. Bruce was on the DX Honor Roll, and was an avid ham for quite a few years before Florence got her license. In fact, he was licensed for more than 75 years. In the late '50s, they had a special Christmas card made, showing Bruce at his rig with their two sons, Carl and Don, beside him, both wearing earphones. Florence is standing to the side, holding up a sign that says "DINNER." Following Florence's funeral, one of her sons was kind enough to scan the card and send it to me. It provides a tiny glimpse of a very special, and much-loved, Amateur Radio couple.

— Susan Swiderski, AF4FO



GREG BROWN, KT0K



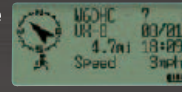
Finally, we discover the British secret to DXing success...a real "DX Window" all their own. But don't despair...it's for rent! I found the window on King Street in Bristol, UK. — Greg Brown, KT0K



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3 feet (1m) for 30 min.

5 W Ultra-Rugged,  
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Tri-Band FM Hand held

**VX-7R/VX-7RB** 6 m / 2 m / 70 cm  
Tri-Band

(220 MHz: 300 mW)

**IPX7**  
Submersible  
3 feet (1m) for 30 min.

5 W Heavy Duty  
Submersible 2 m/70 cm  
Dual Band FM Hand held (220 MHz: 1.5 W)

**VX-6R** 2 m / 70 cm  
Dual Band

5 W Heavy Duty 2 m/70 cm  
Dual Band FM Hand held

**FT-60R** 2 m / 70 cm  
Dual Band

1.5 W Ultra Compact 2 m/70 cm  
Dual Band FM Hand held

**VX-3R** 2 m / 70 cm  
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# CORRESPONDENCE

## AMATEUR RADIO IS ACCESSIBLE RADIO

◆ Contrary to some opinions expressed on this page in the past, Amateur Radio is not necessarily an expensive hobby. For \$500 or less, you can be on the air on HF. Granted that \$500 will not buy the latest transceiver/antenna setup, but \$500 can buy a good used HF transceiver, antenna tuner, power supply and materials to make an antenna (or three). One of the nice things about Amateur Radio is that a modest station will allow an amateur to get on the air, make contacts and have fun. You may not break the pile-up for a DX station on the first try very often, but you can usually eventually get through.

While \$500 may seem a lot to spend in one shot, consider it this way: Divide that \$500 by 52. That's less than \$10 a week. Even if you spent \$3000 for a modern station setup, when you consider that it should run fine for 5 to 10 years or more without any serious problems, the investment is minimal. Some new hams, with the assistance of some generous and helpful Elmers, have even gotten on the air almost for free. I know I have certainly benefited from the generosity of some local ham friends and I appreciate it very much!

MARTIN CAMPBELL, KBØHAE  
Burlington, Iowa

## HIGH PRAISE FOR THE HIGH BANDS

◆ "The Past, Present and Future of VHF Contesting," by Kevin Kaufhold, W9GKA [Oct 2009, pages 80-83] presented an excellent analysis on the trends of the three major ARRL VHF contests. It correlated the noticeable trends over the years with the corresponding changes in the license class and in the contest rules.

The Single Operator Portable QRP category and the Rover category are two great things about the VHF contest that I like very much. I believe that the rules should be structured to encourage more activity in these two categories. I have observed that January is not very friendly time for rovers and portable operators, due to the high likelihood of bad weather. I think that serious consideration should be given to trimming the contest period to ending on Sunday afternoon of that weekend, since

weather-related issues and darkness can impact rover and portable stations during January.

It may make sense to focus the June and January event to just the lower four bands (50, 144, 220 and 432 MHz) in order to keep the focus on VHF. There is some likelihood of sporadic-E activity at that time that would keep 6 meters as the main focus. All three contests should play to the potential propagation conditions associated with that time of year in the North America, and efforts should be toward structuring the contest to capitalize on the unique things that make VHF contesting fun, such as portable operating and fleeting propagation.

KEN NEUBECK, WB2AMU  
East Patchogue, New York

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

◆ At age 60, I'm a new ham, but I have hovered around the edges of the hobby for years. I was reading about the new *ARRL Handbook* ["Inside HQ," Oct 2009, page 14] and was reminded of a way-distant memory: In 1968, I was a Fire Control Technician on a heavy gun cruiser in Vietnam. We occasionally pulled in to port at Kaohsiung, Taiwan. On one of my trips into town, I found a market that sold pirated/counterfeit record albums and books. They had a 1967 or 1968 *ARRL Handbook*. They had copied the paper jacket, the inside liner, the copyright — the whole nine yards — but it was printed on newsprint; the edges of the pages were cut with pinking shears. I know I didn't pay any more than \$2 for it, because that's all I had back then. Since all the stuff back then was vacuum tubes — and the stuff I was using in the Navy was vacuum tubes — I found that handbook very useful for the odds-and-ends projects I worked on for years, even after I got out of the Navy. I sure wish I had that book now! It's probably a museum piece. I have ordered a 2010 *Handbook* and am looking forward to getting my hands on a copy of your latest and greatest, and getting and continuing on with my new ham hobby.

MIKE NEAL, KJ4OMB  
Norfolk, Virginia

## SPY vs SPY

◆ Thanks for the response to the question posed by Doug Nielson, N7DGN,

about WW II spy transmitters ["The Doctor Is IN," Oct 2009, page 55]. It reminded me of a pal from the good old days, Bill Sturme, G8KL/W6 (SK), a transplanted Brit and an Elmer of mine, who, back in 1969, once gave me some insight into "spy" antennas.

Bill told me that he was night-dropped during WW II to provide radio communications for the partisan guerillas into what was then Yugoslavia. His equipment was the Collins-made TCS-13 transmitter and receiver. Bill told me his story when, through Navy MARS, I came into possession of a 25 year old TCS-13, brand-spanking new in the packing material; I was going to set it up for portable use in my van. Bill was able to come up with a 12 V dynamotor power supply and a complete military manual and I soon had the TCS-13 transmitting on 1.5-12 MHz. As for an antenna, Bill assured me that the rig had such a robust built-in antenna tuner that it would "load up a bedspring." I only used the rig a few times on CW, but it was a beautiful piece of equipment and built like a tank.

DENIS FRANKLIN, W6EW  
Berkeley, California

## SHOWING WHO'S BOSS

◆ I couldn't help but laugh when I read "How to Win the ARRL Sweepstakes with 11 QSOs" by John Kanode, N4MM [Oct 2009, page 79]. Now, it is not my intention to upstage, top or best any contest winner. My purpose is only to share a similar experience, relive a memory and laugh at myself once again.

Sometime back in the late '70s or early '80s, the ARRL changed a rule in the International DX Contest. I don't remember what the change was, but I got into a hissy snit about it. To show my dissatisfaction, I figured I'd show 'em: I waited until the very end of the contest, tuned up the rig, found a loud DX station in the Caribbean and at 2359, gave him a call. He came back to me, we exchanged reports and that was the end of the contest. I filled out all the paperwork and sent in my entry: One QSO, Single Operator, 20 meters — 3 points. I figured I'd wind up at the bottom of the heap with that one.

A couple of months later, I got an envelope from ARRL HQ. In it was a First Place certificate, Wisconsin Section, Single Operator, Single Band, 20 Meters!

ART PAHR, K9XJ, ARRL Life Member  
Plymouth, Wisconsin

**Your opinions count!** Send your letters to "Correspondence," ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. You can also submit letters by fax at 860-594-0259, or via e-mail to [qst@arrl.org](mailto:qst@arrl.org). We read every letter received, but we can only publish a few each month. We reserve the right to edit your letter for clarity, and to fit the available page space. Of course, the publishers of QST assume no responsibility for statements made by correspondents.

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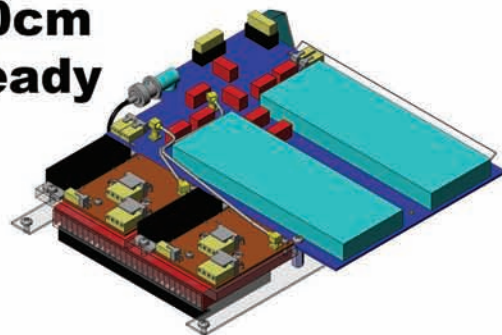
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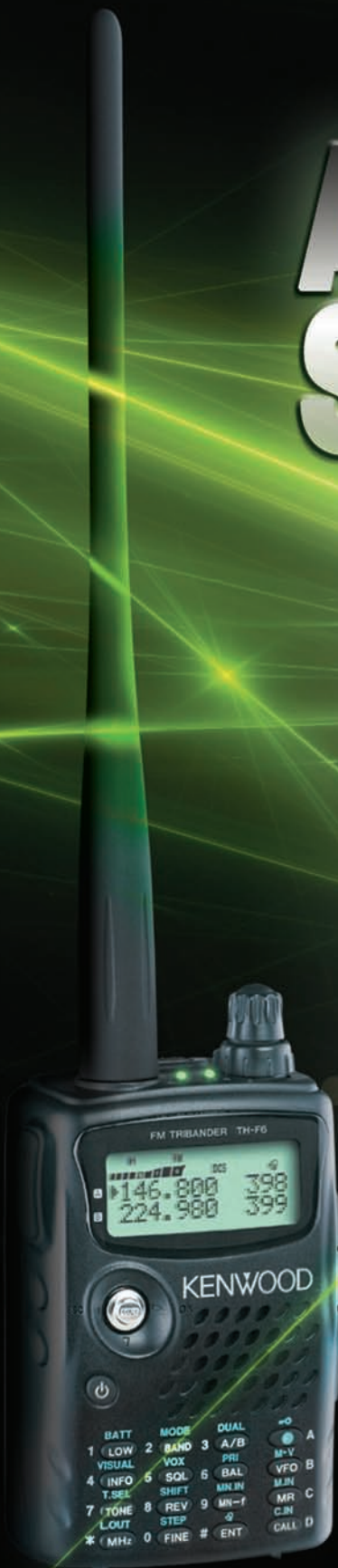
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<sup>1</sup>Note that certain frequencies are unavailable. <sup>2</sup>5W output

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ADS#06309



# 160 and 80 Meter Matching Network for Your 43 Foot Vertical — Part 1

*The popular 43 foot vertical works best with matching at the antenna base — here's a way to do it for our two MF bands.*

Phil Salas, AD5X

I've recently made the move to a 43 foot vertical for much of my lower frequency operations. This length antenna offers higher radiation resistance than shorter loaded monopoles. Increased radiation resistance improves efficiency by reducing the effects of ground losses, especially when you have an electrically short antenna — a characteristic of even a 43 foot antenna on 160 and 80 meters. If fed with a 1:4 unbalanced transformer (unun), a 43 foot antenna has a reasonable compromise SWR on 60 through 10 meters, which means that cable and unun losses are pretty much negligible on these bands.

This antenna is really not a good performer on 160 meters, and to a lesser extent on 80 meters, unless you provide matching right at the antenna base. This is due to the high capacitive reactance and still relatively low radiation resistance of a 43 foot antenna on 160 and 80 meters. This makes the mismatch so bad that it is almost impossible to efficiently match from your shack. If you can match the antenna system from your shack, you will throw away a lot of power in your coax and unun due to the very bad mismatch at the antenna.

I thus started experimenting with matching networks and wound up with two external impedance matching devices designed to significantly reduce SWR related coax losses and unun mismatch losses, and to help the inside tuner match on 160 and 80 meters. This month we'll look at the simpler version of the two matching networks. This version requires manual insertion of the matching network whenever you want to operate on 80 or 160 meters.

## The Matching Requirement

According to my AIM4170C antenna analyzer, my 43 foot vertical antenna has a capacitive reactance of about 580  $\Omega$  on 160 meters. This will vary based on the particular construction of your 43 foot vertical, its proximity to other objects, and other fac-

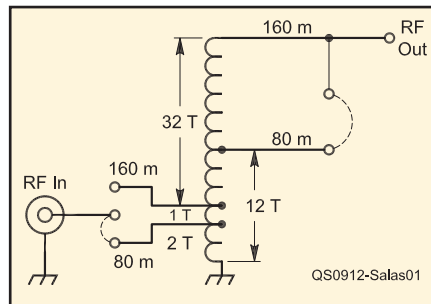


Figure 1 — Schematic diagram of the two band matching unit. 80 meter connections shown with dashed lines.



Figure 2 — T400A-2 160 and 80 meter matching unit.

tors. The reactance will almost certainly be in the 550 to 650  $\Omega$  range. This amount of capacitive reactance needs approximately 50  $\mu\text{H}$  of inductance in order to resonate the antenna. On 80 meters, approximately 9  $\mu\text{H}$  is needed to resonate the antenna. A 50  $\mu\text{H}$  high Q inductor is going to be large. For this first solution, I elected to go with a toroidal inductor in order to keep the matching unit as compact as possible.

## Toroid Inductor Matching Solution

This compact design will handle the full legal limit on 80 and 160 meters for low duty cycle SSB and CW modes. The inductor consists of 35 turns of #14 AWG solid copper insulated house wiring wound on a T400A-2 toroid core. The antenna feed point is tapped two turns from the ground end for 80 meters, and three turns from the ground end for 160 meters. You should start with 38 turns total on your toroid, but then remove turns as necessary to get the network to resonate where you want it in the 160 meter band (more on this later).

I mounted the toroid assembly in a 6  $\times$  6  $\times$  4 inch NEMA enclosure using a 2½ inch long #10 machine screw and associated hardware along with a 2  $\times$  4 inch piece of unplated fiberglass PC board material. Before you mount the toroid, prepare

Table 1

### 160 Meter Toroid Impedance Matching Assembly Parts List

Description	Source/Part Number*
Banana plug (4 required)	Mouser 174-R802-EX
Binding post, black (4 required)	Mouser 164-R126B-EX
Binding post, red	Mouser 164-R126R-EX
NEMA Enclosure, 6 $\times$ 6 $\times$ 4 inch	Lowe's/Home Depot
Glass cloth tape, 3M #27	ACE Hardware
SO-239 connector	Mouser 601-25-7350
Toroid, T400A-2 powdered iron	Amidon T400A-2

\*Amidon parts are available from [www.amidoncorp.com](http://www.amidoncorp.com) and Mouser parts from [www.mouser.com](http://www.mouser.com).





Figure 3 — 160 and 80 meter input tap points.



Figure 4 — 80 meter coil shorting jacks.

it by scraping the insulation off the outside second, third and 11th through 13th wire turns. Because of the high voltages possible at legal limit power levels, especially on 160 meters, wrap the toroid with two layers of 3M #27 glass cloth electrical tape for added insulation between the #14 AWG wires and the toroid core.

Figure 1 is the schematic of the matching assembly, Figure 2 shows the internal details of the assembly, and Table 1 lists the parts necessary. To select between 160 and 80 meter operation, I used external jumpers across binding posts as shown in Figures 3 and 4. Stainless steel #8 hardware (screws, washers, lockwashers and nuts) are used for the matching unit ground and RF output terminals. Internal to the matching unit, I used a 2 inch wide strip of aluminum duct repair tape as a good low impedance ground between the UHF connector and the ground screw on the bottom of the case. Finally, I used #14 AWG stranded insulated wire for all internal connections.

### Tuning the Matching Network to Resonance

Your particular installation will almost certainly require you to change the resonant frequency of the matching network. This is because there will be some variations of the antenna impedance based on your particular antenna physical construction, proximity to other objects and final length, as well as your desired operating frequency range. The design is such that the overall inductance is too large for 160 meters, so the network should resonate at or below the lower band edge. Therefore, you will need to remove one or more of the upper inductor turns in order to resonate the network for the desired frequency on 160 meters.

To do this, first solder wires from the second and third turn tap points on the coil to the two outer binding posts by the SO-239 connector. The input tap points tend to be fairly noncritical and will probably be the same for all installations. Now solder a short wire from the SO-239 center pin to the middle binding post. Next, externally jumper the

middle binding post to the 160 meter binding post (third turn).

Connect the matching assembly to the base of your 43 foot vertical and see where the minimum SWR point is on 160 meters using your antenna analyzer. If the resonant frequency is too low, remove a turn of wire and see where the minimum SWR point is again. You'll see about a 50 kHz upward move in frequency per turn of wire removed. When you have your desired resonant point on 160 meters, it is time to move to 80 meters. Externally jumper the input tap middle binding post to the 80 meter binding post (second turn), and use a clip lead to short from the top of the coil to turn number 12 and see where your minimum SWR frequency occurs. Move the tap point up or down until your resonance point (lowest SWR) is where you want it. Solder a wire from this tap point to one of the binding posts. Solder another wire from the top of the coil to another binding post. Now you will be able to externally jumper these binding posts to select either 160 or 80 meters.

My final test results for 160 and 80 meters are shown in Figures 5 and 6 as measured with my RigExperts AA-200 antenna analyzer connected directly to the matching network input at the base of the antenna. I'm a CW operator, so I favor resonance in the lower part of these bands, but you can adjust for your favorite portion of each band. The 2:1 SWR bandwidth on 160 meters is about 50 kHz, and about 150 kHz on 80 meters. Even a 3:1 SWR on these bands results in negligible SWR related cable losses for any reasonable length cable and is easily matched with my MFJ-998 in-shack tuner or most transceivers' internal tuners.

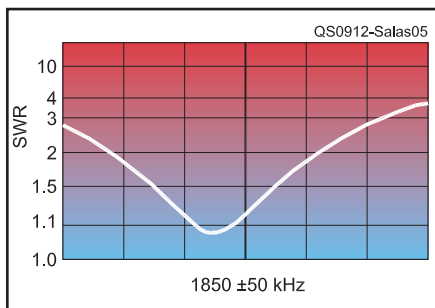


Figure 5 — Measured SWR across 160 meters indicating a 2:1 SWR bandwidth of approximately 50 kHz.

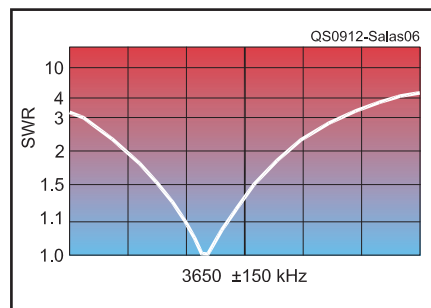


Figure 6 — SWR across 80 meters indicating a measured 2:1 SWR bandwidth of about 150 kHz.





Figure 7 — Matching unit at the base of the author's 43 foot antenna. In this view, it is strapped for 80 meters.

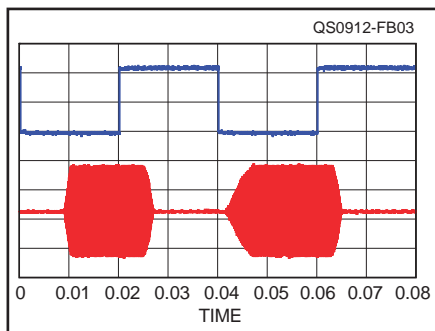
## Operation

Using the matching unit is simple. Just disconnect your normal unun when you want to operate on 160 or 80 meters and connect this matching unit to the base of the antenna. Select either 160 or 80 meters

with the external straps. You can connect both the unun and this matching unit to the antenna at the same time, and just leave off the ground wire from the unit that is not used. The matching unit connected to the base of my 43 foot vertical is shown in Figure 7.

## Feedback

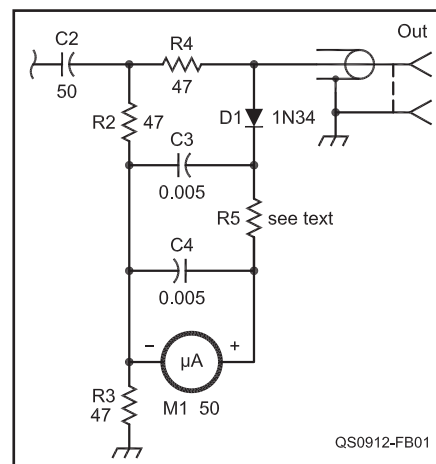
◇In "Product Review — the ICOM IC-7600 HF and 6 Meter Transceiver" [Nov 2009, pp 54-59], Figure 3 shows the CW keying waveform with default transceiver settings. ARRL Lab Test Engineer Bob Allison, WB1GCM, noted the keying as soft at the



Revised Figure 3 — Product Review — the ICOM IC-7600 HF and 6 Meter Transceiver. CW keying waveform for the IC-7600 showing the first two dits in full-break-in (QSK) mode using external keying with rise time set to 2 ms. Equivalent keying speed is 60 WPM. The upper trace is the actual key closure; the lower trace is the RF envelope. (Note that the first key closure starts at the left edge of the figure.) Horizontal divisions are 10 ms. The transceiver was being operated at 100 W output on the 14 MHz band.

60 WPM test keying speed but acceptable at more common operating speeds. From the manual we learned that the rise time is adjustable, and shortening it to the 2 ms setting (4 ms is default) improved the soft keying at the 60 WPM test speed without creating hard keying or clicks as shown in the revised Figure 3.

◇In Figure 1 of "The Antenna Dipper" [Nov 2009, p 53], the bridge portion has a few errors. The correct schematic of the bridge portion is shown below. Note that while R5



Revised Figure 1 — The Antenna Dipper, bridge portion.

## Conclusion

The matching network discussed in this article will permit very effective operation of your 43 foot vertical on the 160 and 80 meter bands. In Part 2, we'll look at a remotely switchable 160, 80 and 60 through 10 meter base matching unit. It is more complex, but it is also more convenient. Until then, see you on top band!

*Amateur Extra class operator and ARRL Life Member Phil Salas, AD5X, was first licensed as WN3BCQ in 1964. Ham radio became the reason he subsequently pursued a career in electrical engineering. Phil earned BSEE and MSEE degrees from Virginia Tech and SMU, respectively, and worked in new product development for the next 33 years. Phil is now retired and spends his days split between ham radio related projects and enjoying time with his wife, Debbie, N5UPT. You can reach Phil at 1517 Creekside Dr, Richardson, TX 75081 or at [ad5x@arrl.net](mailto:ad5x@arrl.net).*

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could be 47  $\Omega$  as on the original, it should be selected to give around full scale sensitivity on the meter with the antenna disconnected. The optimum value will depend on the meter characteristics. In addition to the wiring changes shown, L1 should be around 1 to 2.5 mH.

## New Products

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# The Collins 30L-1 Linear Amplifier — Nearing 50, Still Going Strong

*This old amplifier's still good gear, but now it's ready for an update.*

Fred Archibald, VE1FA

Next year the Collins 30L-1 HF linear amplifier will be 50 years old. By that age most ham equipment is completely obsolete. The 30L-1, however, remains an attractive, instant-on, desktop 3.4 to 30 MHz medium power linear amplifier in daily use by many amateurs. When it appeared in 1960, it was radically light (38 pounds), compact and efficient for its power (1000 W CW or PEP SSB plate input). This was especially the case if compared to typical late 1950s 1000 W amplifiers, most of which weighed hundreds of pounds. Hams, commercial interests and the military all responded by buying thousands of 30L-1s. In 1970 and '71, a 30L-1 in Vietnam linked to a New England MARS phone patch often connected me with my much missed family on Cape Cod. Today, many of the innovations introduced by the 30L-1 in 1960 are found in all modern tube-type linear amps.

I bought my 30L-1, the military veteran shown in Figure 1, in 1995 for our island DXpeditions. Since then it has voyaged 11 times in its plastic tub to various Maritime islands, where it operates for 5 to 7 days continuously, piling up IOTA (Islands on the Air) points and DX contacts. It has taken those years of bumps, vibration, fluctuating voltages, heat and humidity, without a single failure! However, how long can those obsolescent top-hat rectifiers and 40 something year old electrolytic filter capacitors be trusted? This is especially a concern, because to fit so much linear in a small cabi-



Figure 1 — The Collins 30L-1 linear.

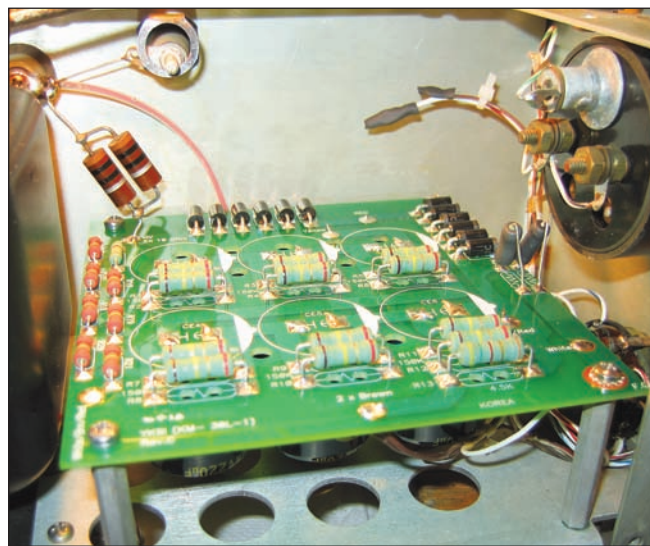


Figure 2 — The K6HM power supply board installed. The filter capacitors can just be seen under the board. Two unused wire ends were protected with heat-shrink tubing (upper right). A star washer (lower right corner) was used to ensure a good ground contact for the board.

net Collins runs the four 811-A tubes and the power supply components at very near their limits.

Because the 30L-1 remains popular, a number of amateur designed power supply upgrade boards are now available. At least four of these replace the original two boards

(rectifier and filter/bleeder) with a single board stuffed with modern devices having higher ratings and improved performance.<sup>1</sup> I decided to install one of these as the heart of an overall update of my 30L-1.

## Warning

As with all tube linear amplifiers, the 30L-1 uses lethal voltages (1600 to 2000 V) at heart-stopping currents. Never defeat the safety interlocks and never poke around inside when the unit is on. Work on it only when it is unplugged and the filter capacitors are discharged. If you are new to high voltage electronic repairs, try to find an experienced amateur to guide you.

## Plate Power Supply Upgrade

I purchased the assembled K6HM rectifier, filter and bleeder board. As noted, there are other sources of such boards, but I have had good luck with this one. It replaces the two original boards and the 47 1960s resistors, capacitors and diodes on them with one new board containing 45 modern resistors, diodes and capacitors. This board replaces a large proportion of the most failure-prone components in the linear for just \$60.

The new board is very well made, with all components identified by clear silk-screen lettering (see Figure 2). The wire solder points are likewise labeled with the color codes of the correct wires in the linear.

<sup>1</sup>Notes appear on page 35.





Figure 3 — The original filter-bleeder board (on posts) and the rectifier board (below the chassis) before replacement.

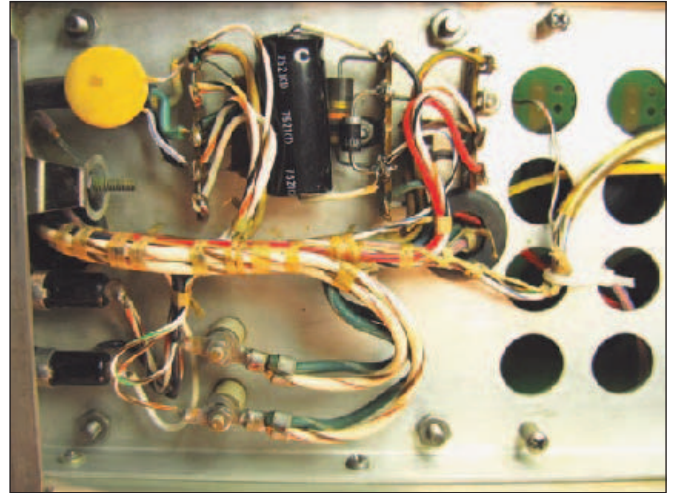


Figure 4 — Below the power transformer. The MOV (yellow disc) and upgraded bias supply (diode, capacitor and resistor on the middle terminal strip) are visible. On the right is the space formerly occupied by the rectifier board. Note the fine (#30) wire between two lugs on the right-hand terminal strip. This is the plate current fuse.

For example, you simply solder the white wire with the brown and red tracers to the solder pad labeled WHITE/BROWN/RED. There are just six wires and a ground to attach.

The old boards are easily accessible after removing the 30L-1's outer case and the bottom and left-hand side inner panels. Both old boards are freed by removing four corner screws each, then unsoldering all wires (see Figure 3). A red wire that ran between the boards is removed, and two other wires (brown and white/red tracer) have their free ends sealed with heat-shrink tubing. All other wires go to the appropriately labeled solder pads on the new board, which fits exactly on the four mounting studs of the old filter-bleeder board next to the transformer. Proceed very carefully to avoid mistakes. The whole disassembly and board replacement took about 2 hours.

### Bias Supply

The new board doesn't contain the components for the grid bias and transmit receive relay supply, so they were replaced separately. The old 1N458 diode was replaced by a 1N5408 (overkill, but I had one: a

1N4007 would be fine) and the old 10  $\mu\text{F}$  filter capacitor replaced by 33  $\mu\text{F}$  on a terminal strip adjacent to the fuse holders under the transformer (see Figure 4).

At different times in the 19 year production of the 30L-1, Collins used 39, 47 and 58  $\Omega$  resistors for R28, which establishes the key down grid bias. The earliest manuals (1960-61) recommended a static plate current of 130 mA, but that's not good as it exceeds the dissipation rating of the 811As. Collins subsequently recommended 110 mA. If the static current exceeds 100 mA by much, increase R-28's value by 10  $\Omega$  or so to develop a bias of  $-3$  V or greater and drop the plate current. Your linear will run cooler and your 811As will thank you.

### Supply Protection

I had just renewed both power supplies, and didn't want to damage them with power line transients, so an MOV (metal oxide varistor) spike suppressor was put across the 120 V ac input to the power transformer. A

Z131 20UL (130 V ac, 20 A) device was soldered on TB#1 (terminal strip #1) under the transformer as shown in Figure 4. Further good insurance — be sure that the two input fuses are 8 A, no larger, whether your 30L-1 is wired for 120 or 240 V ac. Each fuse carries a normal maximum of 5.5 A, so you can even use 7.5 A or 7 A fuses. Also check that the tiny piece of #30 AWG wire serving as a plate current fuse between the filament lead and ground just forward of the bias supply terminal strip (Figure 4) is in good condition and not shunted by a heavier wire.

### Meter Accuracy

Assuming your meter movement doesn't have mechanical problems, your 30L-1 voltmeter and ammeter will be accurate. The old 1.0  $\Omega$  plate current shunt and 4.0 M $\Omega$  voltmeter series resistor were replaced as part of the new supply board.

The third meter function, the TUNE meter, is more complex and troublesome. It is a clever bridge circuit that zeroes the meter when the TUNING and LOADING controls have resonated the output tank and exactly matched it to the plate impedance of the tubes. When calibrated, it speeds and simplifies tune ups. Early versions of the 30L-1 manual said not to touch factory set trimmer C18, but today age has caused most TUNE meter circuits to drift, and tuning for zero needle deflection usually leaves the linear mistuned, producing too much heat and too little RF power.

Undoubtedly over the years hundreds of 811As have developed those amusing big holes in their plates and entered the trash far too soon due to ops trusting the tune meter that used to work so well. To obtain the Collins

Table 1

### Changes in the Collins 30L-1 Linear Amplifier With Updating

Parameter	Original	Updated
Power requirement, no input <sup>2</sup>	400 W @ 122 V ac	385 W @ 122 V ac
Power requirement, @ 650 W <sup>3</sup>	1300 W @ 118 V ac	1300 W @ 118 V ac
Rectifier stack rating	0.75 A @ 4.8 kV	3.0 A @ 6.0 kV
Effective filter capacity	16.7 $\mu\text{F}$	37 $\mu\text{F}$
Bleeder dissipation	23.8 W	8.7 W
Input spike protection	0.01 $\mu\text{F}$ bypass	0.01 $\mu\text{F}$ and MOV
Plate supply ripple	87 V p-p	28 V p-p
Static keyed $I_{\text{PA}}$	100 mA	100 mA
Static keyed $E_{\text{PA}}$	1800 V	1900 V
Unkeyed $E_{\text{P}}$	1900 V	1980 V
Bias filter	10 $\mu\text{F}$	33 $\mu\text{F}$
Bias ripple (unkeyed)	9.5 V p-p	4.0 V p-p
Bias E (unkeyed) <sup>4</sup>	$-172$ V	$-176$ V

TUNE meter alignment procedure, look at page 4-2, paragraph 4.7 of the 1965 30L-1 military manual accessible (and downloadable) on the BAMA (Boat Anchor Manual Archive) Mirror Web site.<sup>5</sup>

I used a quicker and less precise method, which was to apply about 25 W at 14.1 MHz from an exciter/transceiver into the 30L-1, then adjust the TUNING and LOADING controls very carefully for maximum output at 400 mA into an RF power meter and 1000 W, 50 Ω, dummy load. The excitation was then increased to give 600 mA plate current and the TUNING and LOADING knobs quickly tweaked for maximum output.

When you're satisfied you're getting maximum power out at 600 mA, switch the meter from current (DC AMPS) to TUNE, and quickly zero the meter with C-18. Now tune up using the tune meter on the other bands and check for good power output at 600 mA.

### Check it Out

Each resistor in the 30L-1 was measured and determined to be within 10% of its correct value. Particularly likely to change (due to overdriving, mistuning, or grid shorts) are the four 47 Ω grid resistors. The signal diodes in the ALC and tune-meter circuits were checked for good front to back ratios with an ohmmeter. A tiny drop of oil was put on each switch, motor and capacitor shaft bearing point, and a little anti-oxidizing contact cleaner on each switch contact.

### A Cool Linear

Perhaps the weakest part in the 30L-1 is that refugee from an old record player, the cooling fan motor. It stirs the air a bit, but prolonged contesting or rag chews make the

tubes and amplifier very hot, shortening tube life and stressing components. A 3 × 3 inch, 120 V, Rotron muffin fan placed over the tubes on the 30L-1 inner screen produces a dramatic temperature reduction during prolonged use. A little felt glued to the bottom of the fan frame keeps fan vibration from transferring into the metal screen and making noise. With the original filter and bleeder board, the power supply compartment also got quite hot after a few hours; the new board decreases heat generation there by 15 W, making it much cooler.

### Results

With well used 811As and the new board, at 600 mA plate current, my 30L-1 produces 650 W CW carrier out on 80, 40, and 20 meters, and 600 W on 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters, using a Collins power meter checked for accuracy (it is slightly conservative). This is close to what the old boards produced, but the dynamic range (sharp voice peaks) on SSB should be increased by the much larger B+ filter capacitance.

Table 1 shows the effects of the upgrade on the 30L-1. Many of the changes, such as the MOV, increased current and voltage ratings, decreased heat production and new versus ancient filter capacitors and diodes should provide improved reliability for my 30L-1's next 50 years.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup>There are presently at least four modern 30L-1 single power supply boards available: Young Kim, K6HM; Harbach Electronics (Jeff Weinberg, W8CQ); Bill Noonan at **W6BN.com**; and Steve Pautard, W4NI. I have not evaluated or compared them, but available Internet information on these boards suggests that all are taking similar approaches in their designs, but with variations in at least

filter capacitor working voltages and capacities. Prices also vary from \$60 to \$150. My apologies to any suppliers that I've overlooked.

<sup>2</sup>Measured with 30L-1 keyed, no signal input (filament, bleeder and static plate I being drawn).

<sup>3</sup>CW carrier output at 14.2 MHz into 50 Ω, 1000 W dummy load.

<sup>4</sup>This voltage appears on the PTT (keying) jack. If the 30L-1 is used with a modern solid state transceiver, an intermediate relay (typically with a 12 V dc coil) should be used so that the transceiver switches only a low voltage. The 30L-1 ALC output can be adjusted with R-16 to nicely match most modern rigs' ALC input, providing increased RF compression and preventing overdriving.

<sup>5</sup>[bama.edebris.com](http://bama.edebris.com).

*Fred Archibald, VE1FA, is a semi-retired microbiologist who got his PhD. at McGill University in Montreal, worked as a professor there on oxygen toxicity and as a Senior Scientist at the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada (Paprican) on biotechnology and wastewater biotreatment.*

*He has been interested in electronics since his teens, received training in HF transmitter repair at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, then repaired army HF transmitters in Vietnam and Arizona. He received his 10 WPM amateur license in 1986 and his Canadian Advanced license in 1987.*

*His interests are in IOTA island expeditions (16 so far), restoring classic radios, antennas, DXing and ragchewing. His wife, Helen, VA1YL, is very active in various YL nets and activities, as well as the island expeditions. Fred and Helen live at 25 Canard St, RR #1 Port Williams, Canard, NS B0P 1T0, Canada, and can be contacted at [hfarchibald@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:hfarchibald@ns.sympatico.ca).*

**Q5T-**



### In The November/December 2009 Issue:

■ Jim Koehler, VE5FP, describes "A DDS-Based Signal Generator." Based on the NimbleSig III direct digital synthesizer described by Tom Alldread, VA7TA, that appeared in the Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr and May/ Jun 2009 issues of *QEX*, VE5FP has created a laboratory grade test instrument with features most home builders would want.

■ Horst Steder, DJ6EV and Jack Hardcastle, G3JIR, describe their computer program to design "Crystal Ladder Filters for All." In this article, the authors describe the design and

crystal selection process, and lead us through the use of their program to design crystal ladder filters. The program is available on the Downloadable Files section of the *QEX* Web site ([www.arrrl.org/qexfiles/](http://www.arrrl.org/qexfiles/)).

■ Rudy Severns, N6LF, presents the next stage of his research in "Experimental Determination of Ground System Performance for HF Verticals." Part 6 focuses on ground radial systems for multiband vertical antennas.

■ Victor Kean Jr, K1LT, presents a way to use a phased array of four shortened vertical antennas for the "top band" in "Beam Steering on 160 Meters." His system uses four Softrock software defined radio modules to create the phasing needed to steer the array in any direction.

■ Paul Wade, W1GHZ, begins a series on "Waveguide Filters You Can Build and Tune" with "Part 1 — A Tour of Filters." UHF and Microwave enthusiasts won't want to miss this series!

■ Ray Mack, W5IFS, continues his software defined radio column. In this installment of "SDR: Simplified," Ray teaches us about "Sampling, Nyquist and Spectrum." He also gives us more detail about Discrete Fourier Transforms.

*QEX* is edited by Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, ([lwwolfgang@arrrl.org](mailto:lwwolfgang@arrrl.org)) and is published bimonthly. The subscription rate (6 issues) for ARRL members in the US is \$24. For First Class US delivery, it's \$37; in Canada and internationally by airmail it's \$31. Nonmembers add \$12 to these rates. Subscribe to *QEX* today at [www.arrrl.org/qex](http://www.arrrl.org/qex).

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# Antenna Patterns — What Do They Mean?

*Most antenna articles include these diagrams — but how do you interpret them?*

Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR

**A** truth about antennas is that all real antennas radiate better in some directions than in others. It is thus important for hams to know which directions will work best, so the appropriate antenna, antenna height and orientation can be selected. A good way to describe how antennas perform is to plot their response. To some of us, the meaning of such plots is intuitive — but perhaps that's not true of all our readers. In this short article, we'll try to take some of the mystery out of this topic.

For a horizontal half wave dipole, the radiating field that leaves with maximum strength is in a direction perpendicular to the dipole. The field strength is reduced as we move in the direction of the ends. Near the earth, the field cancels at the horizon and increases to a maximum at some angle above the horizon depending on how high off the ground the antenna is.

## Plotting Antenna Response

Rather than discuss this in general terms, we can represent the directional effects of the antenna in plotted form that can be easily interpreted. We could plot the field strength as a function of azimuth angle, the angle moving from, for example, far left to far right at a particular elevation angle, using familiar rectangular coordinates. We have plotted both the

relative strength of the radiated power of such a half-wave antenna in Figure 1.

## Polar Plots

While a representation such as Figure 1 is correct and useful, it is more common to show the information in something called a *polar plot*. This kind of plot represents the intensity in a particular direction by the length of a line from the center of the plot to the curve at any angle. This gives what seems to me to be a more intuitive view of the performance of the antenna as a function of the angle.

Figure 2 is a representation of the field strength from a thin 40 meter dipole 60 feet above typical ground. This is shown as a function of elevation angle taken in the direction perpendicular to the antenna wire, the azimuth angle of maximum output. Note that the field at the horizon is zero, as we would expect for a horizontal antenna over real earth. Note also that at this height of 60 feet, the radiation upward is reduced and the maximum radiation is at an elevation angle of 32° above the horizon. It is easy to see from the rings, shown in decibels, that the response straight up is down 10 dB from the maximum. This will be different for different heights. Although this antenna is bidirectional, only one set of arrows is shown.

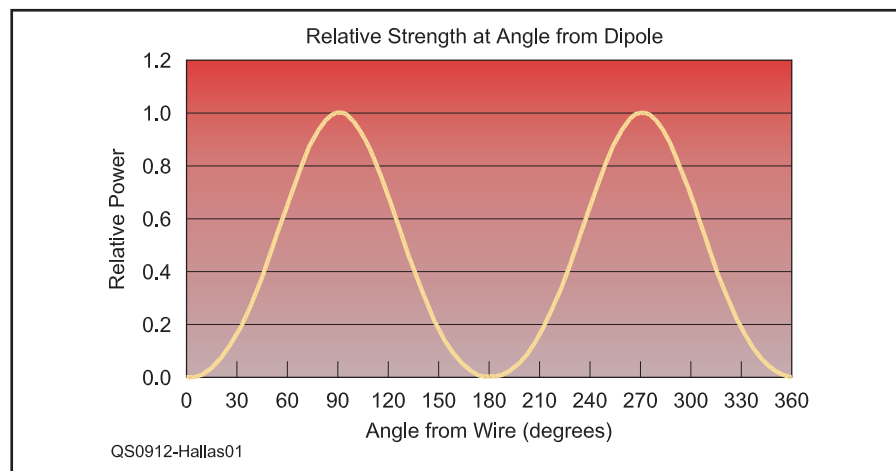


Figure 1 — Calculated relative field strength shown in rectangular coordinates.

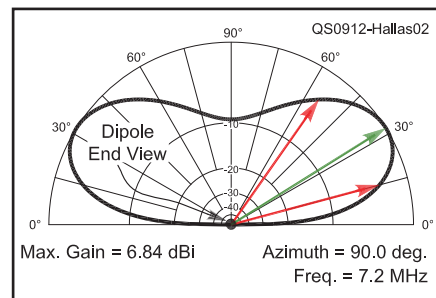


Figure 2 — Polar plot of modeled relative power vs. elevation angle. The end view of the wire antenna is shown as a dot. The green arrow points in the direction of maximum signal strength and its length represents the maximum signal amplitude. The red arrows point to the elevation angles at which the relative power has dropped to half that (-3 dB) of the maximum signal strength; the angle between them is the 3 dB vertical beamwidth.

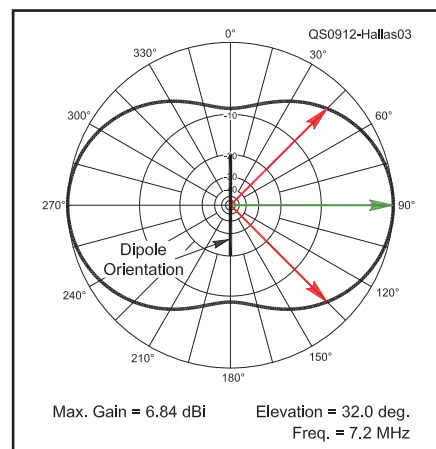


Figure 3 — Polar plot of modeled signal strength in decibels (dB) as a function of azimuth angle at the maximum elevation angle, 32° for this height. The antenna orientation is shown, so consider this looking down from above. As in the elevation pattern, the green arrow points to the azimuth angle of maximum strength at 90°, or perpendicular to the wire, as we would expect. The red arrows point to the azimuth angles at which the power has dropped to half the maximum, the 3 dB horizontal beamwidth.

Figure 3 is a polar plot of the radiation from the same dipole at an elevation angle of 32°, the angle of maximum radiation. The angles correspond to the same angles as shown in Figure 1 and represent the relative strength in different directions going around the antenna from 0° at a wire end all the way around clockwise to the same point, 360°.

The relative power is generally shown in *decibels* (dB), a convenient logarithmic representation that makes it easy to add up system gains and losses. Note that the dB scale is compressed to show additional detail in the more significant portion.

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# How the Ionosphere Was Discovered

*Today we take it for granted, but it took the efforts of many to figure out what was happening.*

Robert H. Welsh, N3RW

For decades, *QST* readers have studied articles describing the best methods for getting their signal from point A to point B. Past articles have taught us how to build or improve receivers, transmitters, filters and antennas (my favorite). From the 160 meter band through the HF spectrum to VHF, we are subject to one part of radio communications beyond our control. That part is the Earth's ionosphere. Its discovery, aided in part by radio amateurs working with government and university scientists, makes an interesting story.

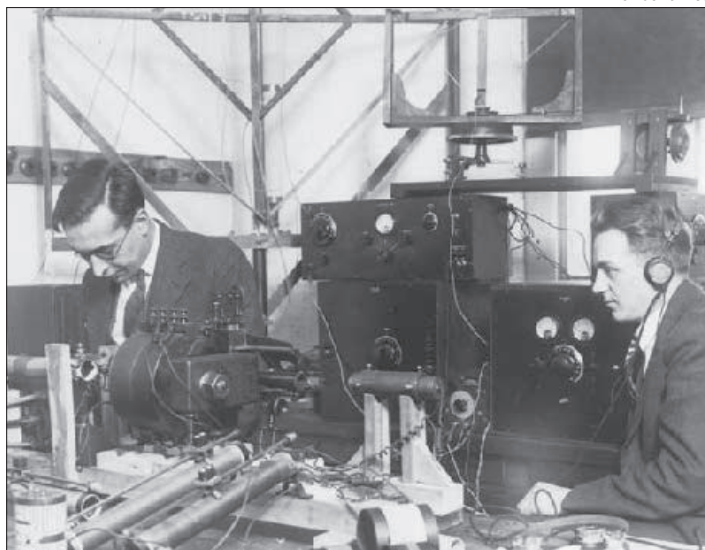
I suspect that most readers of *QST* recognize Guglielmo Marconi as one of the earliest radio "amateurs." Marconi's efforts using radio to cover long distances over water is well documented. There is still a question as to whether in 1901, he actually received the Morse code letter S transmitted from Poldu in Cornwall, England to St John's, Newfoundland; nevertheless, it is accepted that his efforts led to radio as a viable means of long-distance communications.<sup>1,2,3</sup> Keep in mind that prior to radio as a communications tool, wire telegraphy was the primary tool for long distance communications. Wires cannot easily span the surface of the world's oceans, but radio waves can.

## Laying the Ground Work

The physics community of the early 20th century investigated this new phenomenon. Several theories were proposed by prominent physicists to explain how radio signals propagated over long distances. One of the several theories proposed was that the Earth's upper atmosphere acted as some

sort of a reflector. Another theory took into account the optical phenomenon of superposition of waves. Another wave phenomenon was suggested — radio waves were diffracted just as light waves were diffracted, or bent, around an obstruction. Diffraction could not explain how these waves bent around the smooth curvature of the Earth.

Austin-Cohen equation. Given this hypothesis, the shorter wavelengths were considered useless for long-distance radio communications and were relegated to those folks called radio amateurs. How fortuitous for us! The professional scientific community slowly began to take notice that radio amateurs using shorter wavelengths were having great success in communicating over long distances.



**Figure 1 — Early pioneers in ionospheric research. Dr Merle Tuve and Dr Gregory Breit (at left) at the pulsed echo sounder for ionospheric research located at the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution, Washington, DC. The photo is dated February 14, 1927.**

Even the great Marconi attempted to explain how radio waves traveled. He observed the difference between day and night propagation of radio waves. His explanation was based on the presence or absence of sunlight; that is, during the day, the Sun's rays falling on the antenna acted as a shield.<sup>4</sup> Not a bad explanation for those amateurs active on 160 and 80 meters during daylight hours.

According to the scientific method, a theory must be tested to confirm its validity. One of the equations developed to support a scientific theory proposed to show that as the wavelength decreased, the radio waves traveled over longer distances. This was the

## An Answer Comes into View

In 1902, two scientists independently suggested that radio waves were bent by a conducting layer in the Earth's atmosphere. Those scientists were Arthur Edwin Kennelly in the US and Oliver Heaviside in England.<sup>5</sup> The reflecting layer that we now call the ionosphere became known as the Kennelly-Heaviside layer. It took two decades of experimenting before this hypothesis was proven to be the correct explanation for long-distance high frequency radio communications. As stated in the previous paragraph, the Kennelly-Heaviside layer hypothesis required experimental testing before it could be accepted.

Lee De Forest is well-known as the inventor of the triode vacuum tube. By inserting a third element between the cathode and the anode, this third element (the control grid) is able to control the flow of charge from cathode to anode, thus producing amplification. Not as well-known is De Forest's work in radio propagation. During the period 1912 to 1914, De Forest and Dr Leonard F. Miller of the Federal Telegraph Company made the first crude measurements of the Kennelly-Heaviside layer height using a spark transmitter. The spark transmitter delivered 1200 kW (that's

<sup>1</sup>Notes appear on page 39.



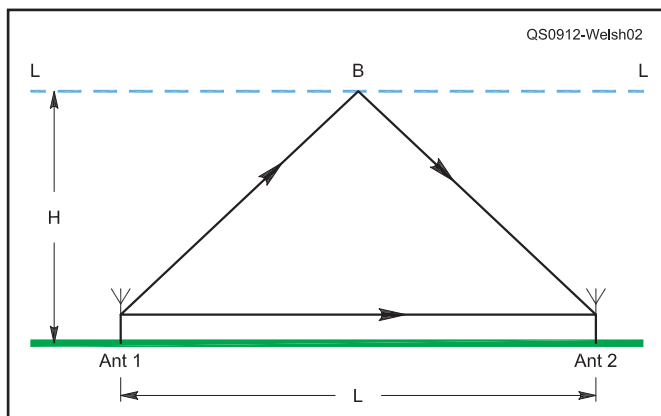
1.2 MW) to an antenna at currents approaching 750 A. The wavelength of this transmitter was 3260 meters (a frequency of 92 kHz). Signals from this transmitter located in Los Angeles were received 350 miles north in San Francisco and 300 miles east in Phoenix. De Forest published the results of these tests in the journal *London Electrician* in 1912. De Forest hypothesized that the main wave was returned by a reflecting layer whose heights were 17, 27 and 37 miles above Earth.<sup>6</sup> De Forest makes an interesting comment regarding his experiments: "I know nothing about what goes on up above, and that attempts at exact explanation are silly." Perhaps not the best attitude for an experimenter.

### Development Continues

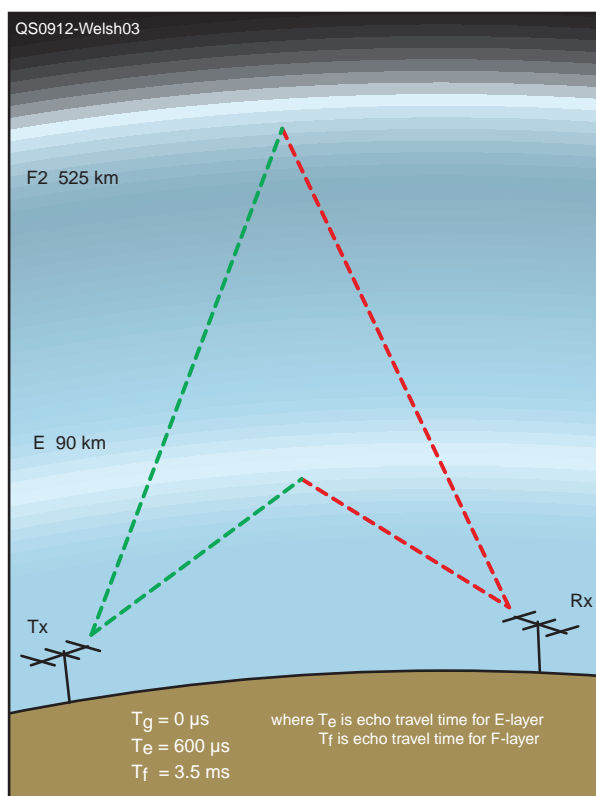
During the period of the 1920s, radio grew exponentially through increased commercial broadcasting and the use of shorter wavelengths for long distance communications. During that same period, there was an increased interest in the physics of subatomic particles. Much of the particle physics research was based on an increased understanding of the nature of matter. By the 1930s, this led to that branch of physics known as quantum mechanics. Pulse techniques were developed to accelerate charged particles. The offshoot of this research for radio physics was the introduction of high-power pulse generators. Hams think of these as CW transmitters. The two scientists recognized as the discoverers of the pulse technique for confirming the existence of the ionosphere were Merle Tuve and Gregory Breit.

Tuve was an active amateur during his undergraduate days at the University of Minnesota. He spent considerable time operating the club station, 9NB. It is interesting to note that one of Tuve's friends in Amateur Radio was Ernest Orlando Lawrence, for whom the Lawrence-Berkeley Laboratory at the University of California is named.

Lawrence eventually went into the field of nuclear physics. He used the accelerated charged-particle concept to construct the atom-smashing machine known as a *cyclo-*



**Figure 2 — Ray-path drawing representation of that from Tuve and Breit's March 1925 article. LL is the postulated reflecting layer. Ant 1 is the transmitting antenna location. Ant 2 is the receiving antenna location. The distance along the surface is L and the height of the layer is H.**



**Figure 3 — Illustration of the operation of a Digisonde that has the capability of portable operation. The system can measure seven observable parameters of reflected or refracted signals as described in the text.**

*tron*, for which Lawrence earned the Nobel Prize in Physics. Tuve received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering. Some time after graduation, Tuve received a letter from Lawrence wherein Lawrence suggested that the two of them start a business selling and installing radios.<sup>7</sup> It is important to note here how young Amateur Radio operators set the stage for great work later in life within the physics community.

Two years later, Tuve earned a master's degree in physics. Following graduation, he

was employed by the Carnegie Institution of Washington in a program to measure the height of the radio conducting layer. Tuve worked under Gregory Breit, who held the position of Mathematical Physicist in the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism at the Carnegie Institution. This experiment would lead to Tuve's doctoral dissertation. Breit began ionospheric measurements in 1924. He assumed a layer height of 62 miles; the same height suggested in a 1913 publication by De Forest. In addition, Breit was aware of propagation experiments by Albert Hoyt Taylor of the Naval Research Laboratories.<sup>8</sup>

### The ARRL Joins In

Albert Hoyt Taylor and his colleagues at NRL, in cooperation with John Reinartz (1XAM and 1QP) of the ARRL and other radio amateurs, had discovered that high frequency radio waves could be transmitted to a distant receiver while being imperceptible at many points in between.<sup>9</sup> Taylor labeled the gaps *skip distances* and conducted an in-depth investigation to determine their characteristics. He published detailed experimental measurements of skip distances in early 1925, including with them estimates of the height of the conducting layer previously suggested by Kennelly and Heaviside.

By 1925, Breit and Tuve designed an experiment to measure the height of the conducting layer by transmitting pulsed signals, then receiving the echoes and measuring the time lapse from transmitted pulse to received echo from both the sky wave and the ground wave. Considering the speed of radio waves is the same as the speed of light —

that is, constant at  $3 \times 10^8$  meters per second — Breit and Tuve used basic physics to calculate the distance traveled by the pulse. Calculate a meeting in Washington, DC during November 1924, Breit and Tuve met with several leading radio experts. A plan was conceived in which several powerful radio transmitters would provide the source signal and the received signal would be at the Carnegie Institution. The transmitters were station KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the National Bureau of Standards station

WWV, the Naval Research Laboratories station NKF and coastal station WSC operated by the Radio Corporation of America in New Jersey. (See Figure 1.)

The best results were received from the NRL transmitter, one of the earliest crystal controlled transmitters in use. Breit and Tuve used the new technique of oscillograph recording to analyze the received pulses. On July 28, 1925, they received the first conclusive results of ionospheric reflection at a frequency of 4.2 MHz from a 10 kW transmitter sending 200  $\mu$ s pulses.<sup>10</sup>

One of the most interesting aspects of their results was that the height of the reflecting layer varied from day to night. Their calculations indicated that the height ranged from 55 miles (88 km) during the day but rose to 130 miles (208 km) at night. They were not yet aware that the layers varied as a result of solar ultraviolet and X-ray emissions, which did not excite the atmosphere when the Sun was not visible. Today, hams recognize that the ionosphere behaves as if it were in several distinct layers at different heights. These are referred to as the D layer at a height of about 30 miles (50 km), the E layer at about 60 miles (100 km) and the F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> at heights ranging from about w180 miles (300 km).<sup>11</sup>

The method<sup>12</sup> used by Breit and Tuve to directly measure the ionosphere's height was to:

- Use directional loop antennas for receiving.
- Record the received pulses from both the sky-wave signal and ground-wave signal.
- Apply the time difference between the sky-wave signal and the ground-wave signal.
- From the difference, use their derived equation to measure the layer height.

The derived equation was a slight modification of the Euclidean geometry statement about right triangles known to legions of high school students as the Pythagorean theorem. (See Figure 2.) From this equation and comparing the time for the sky wave to reach the receiver compared to the time for the ground wave to reach the receiver, Breit and Tuve calculated the height of the reflecting layer for 4.2 MHz transmission.

From Tuve and Breit's 1925 paper, the equation suggested that the time of arrival of the sky wave is given by

$$T_{\text{sky wave}} = (2 \times H / C) (1 + (L / \{2 \times H\}))^{1/2}$$

where  $T_{\text{sky wave}}$  is the arrival time, C is the speed of light, H is the height and L is the length over the surface of the Earth.

Whereas the time of arrival of the ground wave is given by:

$$T_{\text{ground wave}} = L / C.$$

From the difference in the two arrival times, the experimenters could arrive at a virtual height for the reflecting layer. Their results obtained from recording several different transmitting stations suggested a reflecting layer height of about 80 miles (128 km).

From their initial experiments in the 1920s, sounding the Earth's ionosphere has developed into a remarkable analytical tool. Prior to the WWII, there were few ionospheric sounders in operation — those in England; Washington, DC; Peru; Australia, and the Soviet Union. During the war, the number increased to about 50 stations. By the time of the International Geophysical Year (1957-58), the numbers had increased to about 150.

The techniques used today are a direct offshoot of Breit and Tuve's 1925 experiments. One of the most common systems is a vertical incidence sounding, referred to as an ionosonde. The ionosonde is basically a pulsed radar operating at a frequency range of about 1 MHz to 40 MHz. The measurement is based on the equation:

$$H = 0.5 \times C \times T$$

where C = the speed of light, T = is the travel time of the pulse, and H is the layer height (also known as the virtual height).<sup>13</sup>

An example of current ionospheric studies comes from the University of Massachusetts Lowell Center for Atmospheric Research. They developed a low power (300 W) ionosonde named Digisonde that has the capability of portable operation.

The system has the following capabilities: the simultaneous measurement (see Figure 3) of seven observable parameters of reflected, or in oblique incidence, refracted signals received from the ionosphere including frequency, range (or height for vertical incidence measurements), amplitude, phase, Doppler shift and spread, angle of arrival and wave polarization.

This is just one example of the on going research to understand the Earth's ionosphere. As amateurs who use the HF and VHF regions of the electromagnetic spectrum, we owe much to past and present experimenters. They provide us with an understanding of how our signals propagate around our planet. As either a DXer or ragchewer, we rely on this information to better communicate via radio.

I would like to thank Dr Nelson Klein, Professor of Physics at Bucks County Community College for his valuable discussions while I researched this article.


## Notes

- <sup>1</sup>J. Belrose, VE2CV, "A Radioscientist's Reaction to Marconi's First Transatlantic Wireless Experiment — Revisited," *Antennas and Propagation Society, 2001 IEEE International Symposium*, Vol 1, 2001, pp 22-25.
- <sup>2</sup>S. Nichols, GØKYA, "GB3SSS — Marconi's Transatlantic Leap Revisited," *QST*, Dec 2007, pp 40-42.
- <sup>3</sup>J. Belrose, VE2CA, "Technical Correspondence — Marconi's First Transatlantic Experiment," *QST*, Mar 2008, pp 53-54.
- <sup>4</sup>C. Gillmor, "The Big Story: Tuve, Breit, and Ionospheric Sounding," *History of Geophysics*, Vol 5, *American Geophysics Union*, 1994, pp 133-134.
- <sup>5</sup>P. Nahin, *Oliver Heaviside: Sage in Solitude*, IEEE Press, 1988, pp 277-281.
- <sup>6</sup>O. Villard Jr, W6QYT (SK), "The Ionospheric Sounder and its Place in the History of Radio Science," *Radio Science*, Vol 11, No. 11, 1976, pp 847-860.
- <sup>7</sup>See Note 2, p 136.
- <sup>8</sup>R. Welsh, N3RW, "Commander Albert Hoyt Taylor: The Navy's Radio Pioneer," *Proceedings of the Radio Club of America*, Spr 1995, pp 28-34.
- <sup>9</sup>R. Welsh, N3RW, "Propagation Pioneers: The ARRL-Bureau of Standards Experiment," *QST*, Oct 1995, pp 46-49.
- <sup>10</sup>L. Gebhard, "Evolution of Naval Radio-Electronics and Contributions of the Naval Research Laboratory," *NRL Report 8300*, 1979.
- <sup>11</sup>For more specifics, read the excellent article, I. Poole, G3YWX, "Radio Waves and the Ionosphere," *QST*, Nov 1999, pp 62-64.
- <sup>12</sup>M. Tuve and G. Breit, "Note on a Radio Method of Estimating the Height of the Conducting Layer," *Terrestrial Magnetism*, 30, Mar 1925, pp 15-16.
- <sup>13</sup>K. Davies, "Ionospheric Radio Propagation," *National Bureau of Standards*, Apr 1965, pp 101-107.

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*He worked in the defense electronics industry, has taught high school physics and is now an Instructor in Physics and Astronomy at Bucks County Community College in Newtown, Pennsylvania. Rob served on active duty in the US Army Security Agency as an Electronic Warfare Equipment Technician.*

*He holds undergraduate degrees in Radio Engineering and later Electronic Physics, obtained with the help of the GI Bill Rob completed graduate work in Science Education and later in Astronomy. He is a Fellow of the Radio Club of America.*

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# PRODUCT REVIEW

## ICOM IC-80AD Dual Band Handheld Transceiver

Reviewed by Steve Ford, WB8IMY  
QST Editor

One of the main stumbling blocks to widespread adoption of D-STAR technology is cost, especially in today's economy. At about \$100 less than its sibling, the IC-92AD, the new IC-80AD transceiver marks ICOM's attempt to lower the economic threshold.<sup>1</sup> But is it enough to get more hams to open their wallets for D-STAR? Perhaps, especially when you consider that there is much more to the IC-80AD than D-STAR.

### One Tough Radio

When you first pull the IC-80AD from its box, you realize that this radio was designed with rugged use in mind. There are no plastic chassis here; the case is aluminum with a finish that makes it easy to grip when wet. Speaking of wetness, the IC-80AD carries a Class 4 Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS) rating that means, among other things, that the radio is splashproof, but is not waterproof.

For amateurs involved in emergency communications, durable construction is not a trivial feature. They want radios they can trust to withstand brutal conditions. The IC-80AD has a sizeable LCD display that could suffer scratches, but otherwise I'm confident the rig could survive a fair amount of abuse.

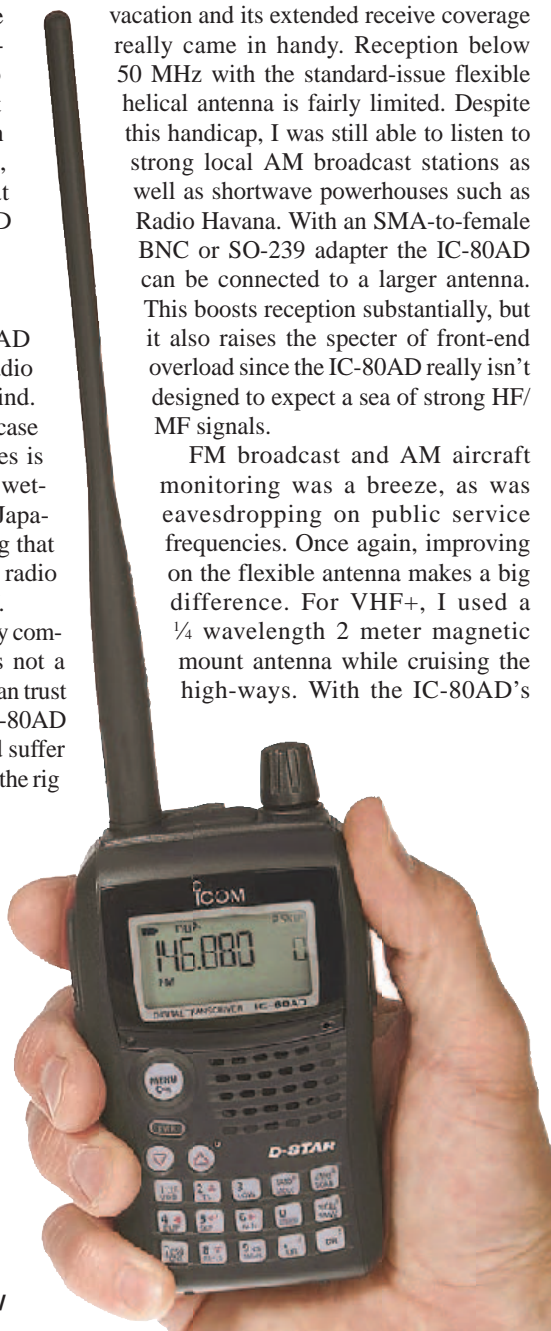
### Extended Receive Coverage

A major difference between the IC-80AD and the IC-92AD is that the '92AD includes a *dualwatch* feature so that you can listen to a main and sub receiver simultaneously. With the IC-80AD you can listen to one band at a time. Another difference is that the IC-80AD

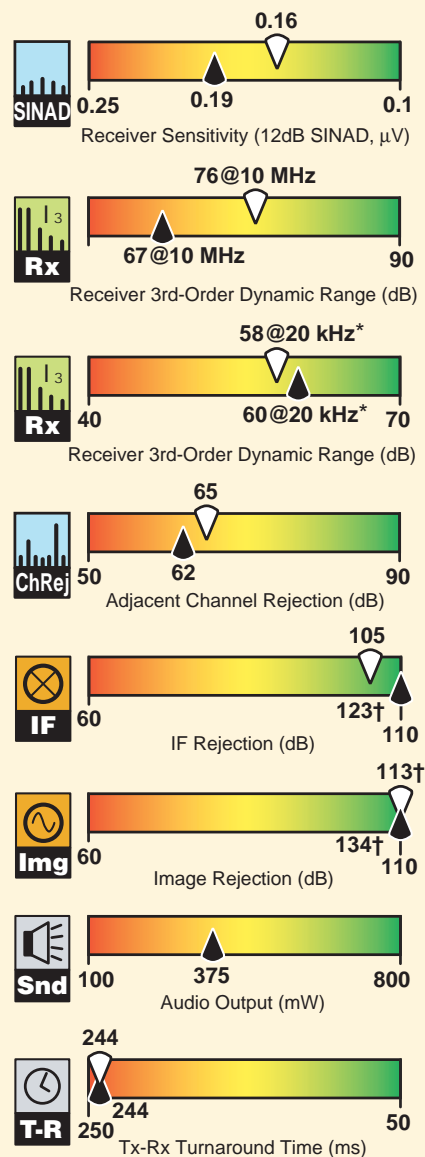
doesn't have the simple band scope display found in the '92AD.

From a reception standpoint, the IC-80AD is a "dc-to-daylight" rig spanning 500 kHz to almost 1 GHz. I had the pleasure of taking the IC-80AD on a family vacation and its extended receive coverage really came in handy. Reception below 50 MHz with the standard-issue flexible helical antenna is fairly limited. Despite this handicap, I was still able to listen to strong local AM broadcast stations as well as shortwave powerhouses such as Radio Havana. With an SMA-to-female BNC or SO-239 adapter the IC-80AD can be connected to a larger antenna. This boosts reception substantially, but it also raises the specter of front-end overload since the IC-80AD really isn't designed to expect a sea of strong HF/MF signals.

FM broadcast and AM aircraft monitoring was a breeze, as was eavesdropping on public service frequencies. Once again, improving on the flexible antenna makes a big difference. For VHF+, I used a ¼ wavelength 2 meter magnetic mount antenna while cruising the high-ways. With the IC-80AD's



### Key Measurements Summary



pr042

Key:  
† Off Scale  
\* Measurement noise limited at value shown.

2 M  
70 cm

### Bottom Line

With the IC-80AD, ICOM offers a less expensive alternative for hams interested in getting involved with D-STAR digital operation. It's also a full-featured analog FM dual-band handheld and includes a wide coverage receiver.

<sup>1</sup>G. Pearce, KN4AQ, "ICOM IC-92AD Dual Band Handheld Transceiver," Product Review, QST, Sep 2008, pp 39-43. QST Product Reviews are available on the Web at [www.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev/](http://www.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev/).

flexible scanning functions there was no end of stations to fill the memory channels. Speaking of memory, the IC-80AD allows you to store your scanning discoveries in more than 1000 channels that you can configure in 26 separate groups. Alphanumeric tagging allows you to keep track of the memory channel contents when your own *wetware* memory fails you.

The IC-80AD has NOAA weather radio frequencies preprogrammed in dedicated memory slots. You just press the M/CALL button several times until you select the weather channel mode, then rotate the dial to select the desired station. There is a weather alert function that commands the IC-80AD to monitor the selected weather channel every 5 seconds, listening for a NOAA weather alert tone. When it detects the tone, you hear a persistent beep.

The only downside of monitoring with the IC-80AD is its very small speaker. It produces a tinny sound that is prone to distortion at higher volume levels. In most instances I used earbuds or a headset for improved fidelity. If you plan to use the IC-80AD in the car, adding an external speaker is a good idea.

## Analog FM

The IC-80AD did a respectable job with analog FM on both 2 meters and 70 cm. Transmit audio reports were consistently good.

With selectable RF output levels at 5, 2.5, 0.5 or 0.1 W, you have the option of using full power in fringe areas, or extremely low power when you need to squeeze the last drop of life from the battery. I generally operated the IC-80AD at 2.5 W, which worked well in just about every application. On a few occasions I needed the 5 W boost, but I noticed that the radio became rather warm to the touch.

Naturally, the IC-80AD offers a huge array of features for analog operation including CTCSS (continuous tone coded squelch system) encoding and decoding and digitally coded squelch (DCS) functionality. CTCSS decoding was particularly convenient when I took the IC-80AD on the road. Many repeaters require CTCSS access and retransmit the low-frequency audio tones on their outputs. If the repeater doesn't announce the CTCSS frequency, or if you don't have an *ARRL Repeater Directory* or *TravelPlus* software at hand to look it up, the IC-80AD can decode the CTCSS tones as they are transmitted and display the results.

## Digital Operating with D-STAR

I've dabbled in D-STAR before, but the IC-80AD provided my first opportunity to try it for an extended period. For the

**Table 1**  
**ICOM IC-80AD, serial number 0501001**

### Manufacturer's Specifications

Frequency coverage: Receive, 0.495-823.990, 849-868.990, 894-999.990 MHz; transmit, 144-148, 420-450 MHz.

Modes: FM, FM narrow, AM (receive only), WFM (receive only), DV.

Power requirements: 10-16 V dc. Receive, 170 mA typical (215 mA DV), standby, 62 mA typical (106 mA DV), power save, 30 mA typical (38 mA DV); transmit, 2.1 A (max, high power).†

### Receiver

FM sensitivity: 12 dB SINAD, 1.6-30 MHz, 0.4  $\mu$ V; 30-118 MHz, 0.25  $\mu$ V; 118-174 MHz, 0.14  $\mu$ V; 174-350 MHz, 0.32  $\mu$ V; 350-470 MHz, 0.16  $\mu$ V; 470-600 MHz, 0.32  $\mu$ V; 600-999.99 MHz, 0.56  $\mu$ V.

WFM sensitivity: 0.495-108 MHz, 1  $\mu$ V; 175-222 MHz, 1.8  $\mu$ V; 470-770 MHz, 2.5  $\mu$ V.

AM sensitivity: 10 dB S/N, 0.495-5 MHz, 1.3  $\mu$ V; 5-29.995 MHz, 0.56  $\mu$ V; 118-137 MHz, 0.5  $\mu$ V; 222-247 MHz, 0.79  $\mu$ V; 247-329.995 MHz, 1  $\mu$ V.

DV sensitivity: VHF (144-148 only), 0.22  $\mu$ V; UHF (420-450 MHz only), 0.22  $\mu$ V.

FM two-tone, third-order IMD dynamic range: Not specified.

FM two-tone, second-order IMD dynamic range: Not specified.

FM adjacent-channel rejection: Not specified.

Spurious response: VHF, 60 dB; UHF, 50 dB.

Squelch sensitivity: Not specified.

Audio output: >300 mW at 10% THD into 8  $\Omega$ .

### Transmitter

Power output: VHF and UHF, 5.0 W high; 2.5 W med; 0.5 W low; 0.1 W s-low.

Spurious signal and harmonic suppression: >60 dB (high, medium), -13 dBm (low, s-low).

Transmit-receive turnaround time (PTT release to 50% of full audio output): Not specified.

Receive-transmit turnaround time ("tx delay"): Not specified.

Size (height, width, depth): 4.1 x 2.3 x 1.3 inches; weight, 10.3 ounces.

Price: IC-80AD, \$450; HM-189GPS speaker/mic, \$200.

†BP-217 battery pack (7.4 V, 1500 mAh Li-ion) and BC-167 battery charger supplied.

Available options: Replacement BP-217, \$90; BC-139 desktop drop-in rapid charger

(2.5 hours), \$100; BP-216 battery case (2 AA cells; TX power limited), \$35;

CP-19R cigarette lighter cable with filter, \$40; OPC-254L external dc power cable, \$15.

‡Current consumption was typically 5 mA higher in receive and 50 mA higher on transmit in DV mode.

\*No PN9/GMSK signal generator was available at the time.

\*\*20 kHz offset measurements were noise limited at the values shown.

### Measured in ARRL Lab

Receive, FM, FM narrow, AM, DV, as specified. WFM, 0.495-809.990 MHz. Transmit, as specified. As specified.

Receive (max vol, lights on, no signal): external 13.8 V dc, 400 mA; 8.1 V measured battery voltage, 200 mA; power save, 49 mA.

Transmit, 13.8 V dc at 2 A max; high/med/low/s-low with battery: 146 MHz: 1.80/1.13/0.63/0.45 A; 440 MHz: 2.04/1.46/0.73/0.43 A.‡

### Receiver Dynamic Testing

For 12 dB SINAD, 29 MHz, 0.16  $\mu$ V; 52 MHz, 0.18  $\mu$ V; 146 MHz, 0.16  $\mu$ V; 222 MHz, 0.21  $\mu$ V; 440 MHz, 0.19  $\mu$ V; 902 MHz, 0.25  $\mu$ V.

100 MHz, 1.2  $\mu$ V.

10 dB S+N/N, 1-kHz, 30% modulation: 1 MHz, 0.53  $\mu$ V; 3.8 MHz, 0.42  $\mu$ V; 14 MHz, 0.41  $\mu$ V; 29 MHz, 0.42  $\mu$ V; 50 MHz, 0.5  $\mu$ V; 120 MHz, 0.41  $\mu$ V; 146 MHz, 0.38  $\mu$ V; 222 MHz, 0.48  $\mu$ V; 440 MHz, 0.46  $\mu$ V.

Not tested.\*

20 kHz offset: 29 MHz, 60 dB; 52 MHz, 64 dB; 146 MHz, 58 dB; 222 MHz, 59 dB; 440 MHz, 60 dB; 902 MHz, 65 dB.\*\*

10 MHz offset: 146 MHz, 76 dB; 440 MHz, 67 dB.

146 MHz, 72 dB.

20 kHz offset: 29 MHz, 60 dB; 52 MHz, 58 dB; 146 MHz, 65 dB; 222 MHz, 62 dB; 440 MHz, 62 dB; 902 MHz, 57 dB.

IF rejection, 29 MHz, 71 dB; 52 MHz, 31 dB; 146 MHz, 105 dB; 222 MHz, 112 dB; 440 MHz, 123 dB; 902 MHz, 96 dB.

Image rejection, 29 MHz, 93 dB; 52 MHz, 87 dB; 146 MHz, 113 dB; 222 MHz, 440 MHz, >134 dB; 902 MHz, 2 dB.

At threshold, VHF, 0.41  $\mu$ V; UHF, 0.45  $\mu$ V.

375 mW at 10% THD into 8  $\Omega$ ; 2.7% THD at 1  $V_{RMS}$ .

### Transmitter Dynamic Testing

With battery pack or external 13.8 V dc: VHF, 5 / 2.6 / 0.5 / 0.1 W. UHF, 4.9 / 2.5 / 0.5 / 0.1 W.

VHF, >70 dB; UHF, >70 dB. Meets FCC requirements.

Squelch on, S9 signal: VHF, 244 ms; UHF, 244 ms.

VHF, 72 ms; UHF, 70 ms.



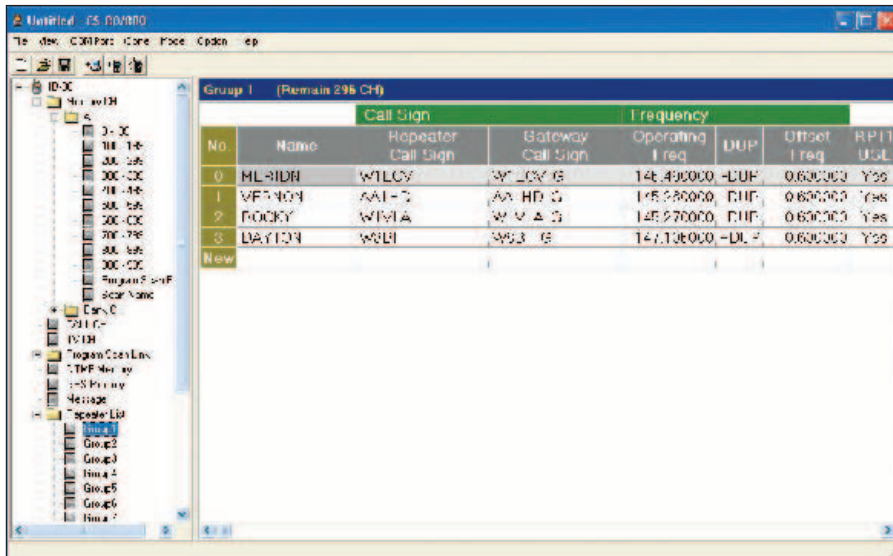


Figure 1 — The ICOM CS-80/880 cloning software makes it easy to configure the IC-80AD for D-STAR operation.

uninitiated, D-STAR is a digital protocol developed by the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL). Most hams think of it as a form of digital voice, but D-STAR is also capable of transporting any sort of data you desire. The IC-80AD supports the D-STAR “DV” mode, which transmits digital voice concurrent with a low speed (1200 bps) data stream. At 1200 bits per second you aren’t going to swap large files or surf the Internet, but you can efficiently communicate other information such as short text messages and GPS position data. In fact, ICOM offers a microphone equipped with a GPS receiver (the model HM-189GPS), but I did not test it for this review. (We covered the similar HM-175GPS speaker/mic in the IC-92AD review. Since that review was published, ICOM has substantially reduced the price of these accessories.)

D-STAR operating is substantially different from analog FM, so much so that the learning curve is rather steep for most individuals. There are some similarities to packet radio in which call signs are used as digital addresses. To use a D-STAR repeater, for instance, you need to program its call sign into the radio beforehand. Then, your transmitted data (included your digitized voice) will be routed appropriately through the system, either locally or through gateways to distant repeaters.

You can talk to other D-STAR users “in the open” (similar to conventional analog FM operation in which everyone can hear all the stations), or you can use call sign routing to keep your radio quiet when you’re not communicating with specific stations. Call sign routing keeps your radio squelched until someone directly addresses you by putting your call sign in the “your call” field

of their radio. Then you hear them, and only them, until you turn off call sign squelch, but everyone else listening can still hear both sides of the conversation. You can even set the radio to respond only when specific stations are on the air.

### Operating Aids

The free ICOM CS-80/880 cloning software for Windows (Figure 1) is a blessing when you need to set up multiple D-STAR system call signs. That’s not to say that you can’t program the radio based on the instructions in the IC-80AD user manual, but it is slow going. By investing in a data cable and downloading the free software ([www.icom.co.jp/world/support/download/firm/](http://www.icom.co.jp/world/support/download/firm/)), you’ll find it much easier to enjoy D-STAR with the IC-80AD.

For this review I used a serial data cable, the OPC-1529R (\$16), to connect the IC-80AD to my computer. If your computer lacks serial ports, you can try the OPC-478UC USB cable (\$50), but the drivers included with the cable don’t support Windows Vista. For Vista drivers you’ll need to visit [www.icomamerica.com/en/support/kb/Article.aspx?ArticleNumber=812A2A454A](http://www.icomamerica.com/en/support/kb/Article.aspx?ArticleNumber=812A2A454A) on the ICOM Web site. Note that the optional RS-92 PC remote control software for the IC-92AD does not work with the IC-80AD.

With the IC-80AD and companion ID-880 mobile, ICOM introduced a new DR mode to make programming easier. It adds the ability to designate up to 300 D-STAR repeaters as additional memories that can be addressed quickly. Unfortunately, DR mode is not compatible with add-on DPLUS software, commonly used to link D-STAR repeaters, nor with stations accessing the network with

a DV Dongle connected to their computers.

Another good investment is the new *Nifty E-Z Guide to D-STAR Operation* by Bernie Lafreniere, N6FN. The *Guide* gives you practical instruction on how to use this innovative technology. It was a great help during my review. You’ll find it for sale in the ARRL online store at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

### On the Air with D-STAR

So what was it like to operate D-STAR with the IC-80AD? In a word, fascinating. I programmed several D-STAR repeaters for my destination cities prior to leaving for vacation. On the road I used the open CQCQCQ mode to scare up conversations on several systems.

While in Dayton, Ohio, I listened to a D-STAR roundtable on the W8BI system. There was never any doubt about who was transmitting because I could see their call signs on the IC-80AD display. Some transmissions were also accompanied by short lines of text declaring names or locations.

The voice characteristics can be unusual at times, with some voices having what might be described as a compressed, “robotic” quality. This isn’t a pronounced effect, but it is noticeable if you listen closely.

And unlike analog FM with which signals can still be understood in noisy conditions, D-STAR transmissions are all-or-nothing propositions. While listening to conversations when mobile, for example, voices would abruptly drop out for several seconds at a time, and then suddenly return. When I reached the edge of a repeater system’s coverage, I fell off a digital cliff. One moment the repeater was there; the next moment it wasn’t.

### Balancing Cost and Benefit

Compared to ICOM’s top-shelf IC-92AD, the IC-80AD is a less expensive way to get started in D-STAR and its analog features are certainly attractive. Current ICOM owners will appreciate that it shares accessories and connectors with other models such as the IC-W32A, IC-T90A and IC-91AD, making the switch less painful. With an average street price of \$450, however, the IC-80AD still costs significantly more than a comparable dual-band analog-only handheld transceiver.

Are the benefits of D-STAR worth the higher price? That decision depends on how much you value having the ability to participate in the D-STAR network and whether you are willing to invest the time necessary to become familiar with D-STAR technology.

*Manufacturer:* ICOM America, 2380 116th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004; tel 800-872-4266; [www.icomamerica.com](http://www.icomamerica.com).

# Ten-Tec 715 RF Speech Processor

Reviewed by Bob Allison, WB1GCM  
ARRL Test Engineer

Most modern SSB transceivers incorporate speech processing to boost overall average power output. Tune around the bands and you'll likely hear speech processing in use to varying degrees, especially during contests or in DX pileups. Your voice will sound louder with the processor on, up to a point. It's tempting to increase microphone and processor gain with the hope of being heard better, but when you turn them up too much, audio quality suffers and you generate unwanted "splatter" that can interfere with nearby stations. The goal is to be heard and understood, but with a clean signal. The Ten-Tec 715 RF speech processor can help you achieve this goal.

## Speech Processing Methods

Speech processing has been around since the early days of radio. It was first used in the audio chain of AM broadcast transmitters. Competition was great and owners wanted their station to be the loudest, but within the legal limits permitted. The method of processing used was, and still is, *speech compression*. Speech compression works by limiting the amount of gain on high energy audio peaks while letting the quieter sounds pass through. In a sense, the speech compressor is an automatic gain control (AGC) with audio limiting or clipping.

Most amateur transceivers use this method and have automatic level control (ALC) to help keep the signal from over driving stages. ALC is an important parameter to watch! When you exceed the normal ALC range window indicated on your transceiver's ALC meter, audio does not get any louder. Your signal widens and causes unnecessary interference to those working close to your frequency.

Enter RF speech processing. It's not new and was introduced to radio amateurs by Harold Collins, W6JES, in January 1969 *QST*.<sup>2</sup> Audio from the microphone is converted to a signal sideband signal, which is then filtered and converted back to an audio

signal and fed to your transceiver. Specifically, Ten-Tec's 715 RF speech processor mixes the microphone audio with a local oscillator signal, with the resultant output of a double sideband, suppressed carrier signal at 455 kHz. Filters then remove the opposite



sideband and this signal is then amplified and clipped. A harmonic *clean-up* filter removes harmonic distortion and intermodulation products. Finally, the 715 converts the amplified and clipped 455 kHz SSB signal back to an audio signal, which is fed to the microphone jack of your transceiver.

According to Ten-Tec, this RF speech processor will boost the average output power by 6 dB, a factor of four. This translates to a full S unit of signal strength compared to your signal without speech processing. While a normal audio speech compressor also allows for a higher average power output, it is more prone to harmonic and intermodulation distortion. Thus, the real advantage of using an RF speech processor is a cleaner signal while maintaining a higher overall power output.

## Features

Upon unpacking the box, I was very pleased to find a 120 V ac wall transformer since my 13.8 V dc distribution system was

## Bottom Line

The Ten-Tec 715 speech processor effectively increases average transmitter output power while maintaining intelligibility and signal cleanliness. Consider it for transceivers with less effective or no built-in speech processing.

already at its limit. Right away, I spotted what makes this device very flexible: it has two microphone jacks. An 8 pin round microphone jack wired for late model Ten-Tec or Yaesu transceivers serves as the primary microphone input. Wiring instructions are included in the manual for other brands, and Ten-Tec offers adapters for ICOM and Kenwood mics.

Next to it is an auxiliary 1/8 inch microphone jack compatible with popular headset/microphones such as those from Heil Sound. Any microphone with an impedance of 50 kΩ or less can be used.

The audio output of the 715 is a three conductor 1/4 inch female jack. You specify the brand of transceiver when ordering and Ten-Tec supplies the proper audio output cable. Available

cables include 4 pin Ten-Tec, 8 pin Ten-Tec/Yaesu, 8 pin ICOM and 8 pin Kenwood/Elecraft. One output cable is included with the 715 and additional cables are available separately.

Front panel controls are straightforward: ON/OFF, PASSBAND and PROC GAIN (processor gain). A five segment LED display shows the clipping level in 3 dB segments. The rear panel sports a POWER INPUT jack, AUDIO OUTPUT jack and the PROCESSOR LEVEL control. This control rarely needs to be adjusted once the device is set up and running. Overall construction appears very sturdy.

## Lab Testing

In the Lab I measured frequency response at -3 dB bandwidths at various clipping levels to compare with Ten-Tec's specifications. Also, -6 dB bandwidths were measured at various indicated clipping levels with a 1 mV peak-to-peak input level to check for variations of low and high frequency response. See Table 2 for details.

The 715's manual states: "Low frequency response varies with the amount of clipping added." This indeed is true and I found that the higher frequencies varied as well. These variations, however, do not come into play for SSB operation as they occur outside the typical audio passband of an SSB transmitter (usually 300 to 2700 Hz for effective communication). They might make a difference on AM, however.

Other tests included the maximum input level before significant distortion occurs,

<sup>2</sup>H. Collins, W6JES, "Ordinary and Processed Speech in SSB Applications," *QST*, Jan 1969, pp 17-22.



**Table 2**  
**Ten-Tec 715 RF Speech Processor**

**Manufacturer's Specifications**

Power requirements: 12-20 V dc. 120 V ac wall adapter provided.  
 Microphone input impedance: 50 kΩ, maximum.  
 Low frequency response, no clipping:  
 -3 dB at 800 Hz with passband centered;  
 -3 dB at 450 Hz with passband full clockwise;  
 -3 dB at 1300 Hz; with passband full counter.  
 High frequency response, no clipping:  
 -3 dB at 4500 Hz.  
 Clipping: 15 dB maximum.  
 Microphone input level: 1 mV or greater.  
 Output level: Not specified.  
 Size (height, width, depth): 5.6 x 6.0 x 5.5 inches; weight, 16.5 ounces.  
 Price: Model 715 RF speech processor, \$249; Model 720 adapter for ICOM mics, \$19.90; additional transceiver cables, \$35 each.

**Measured in ARRL Lab**

0.28 A at 13.8 V dc;  
 6 W with ac adapter.  
 As specified.  
 800 Hz, centered.  
 434 Hz, full clockwise.  
 1260 Hz, full counterclockwise.  
 4700 Hz, centered.  
 4340 Hz, full clockwise.  
 5170 Hz, full counterclockwise.  
 As specified.  
 0.7-35 mV.  
 0-14 mV.  
 Size (height, width, depth): 5.6 x 6.0 x 5.5 inches; weight, 16.5 ounces.  
 Price: Model 715 RF speech processor, \$249; Model 720 adapter for ICOM mics, \$19.90; additional transceiver cables, \$35 each.

Frequency response, -6 dB, 1 mV input level Passband Knob Position	Indicated Clipping Level*					
	0 dB	3 dB	6 dB	9 dB	12 dB	15 dB
<i>Centered</i>						
Low frequency (Hz)	580	560	367	120	192	53
High frequency (Hz)	6100	6000	5800	5690	5710	5730
Bandwidth (Hz)	5520	5540	5433	5570	5518	5677
<i>Fully Clockwise</i>						
Low frequency (Hz)	284	211	185	92	100	76
High frequency (Hz)	5640	5340	5330	5150	5250	5260
Bandwidth (Hz)	5356	5129	5165	5038	5150	5184
<i>Fully Counterclockwise</i>						
Low frequency (Hz)	1000	965	771	580	590	559
High frequency (Hz)	6590	6480	6240	5940	6170	6230
Bandwidth (Hz)	5590	5515	5469	5360	5580	5671

\*Clipping level set at middle of passband.

output level and power consumption. In the Lab, using power attenuators and a Heil headset, my very critical ear did not detect any noticeable transmitted distortion until the PROC GAIN control was set too high, past the point where all clipping level LEDs were lit continuously. Visually, the average power output was noticeably higher, using a late model transceiver with its internal speech processor off and indeed, the S meter read nearly an S unit higher on our late model test receiver.

**Setup**

Hookup is easy. Plug in a compatible microphone to the 8 pin or 1/8 inch jack on the front panel. The audio output cable attaches at the rear of the device and plugs into your station transceiver. Connect power. It's best to use a dummy load for the following steps.

Turn your transceiver's speech processing off. Set your transceiver's microphone gain to mid scale. With the 715 turned on, adjust the PASSBAND control to 12 o'clock and adjust the PROC GAIN for a clipping level of about 9 dB. Next, while speaking and watching your transceivers ALC meter, adjust the rear panel mounted LEVEL control for normal ALC action, not exceeding the operating range. From this point on, you only need to adjust the PROC GAIN control. You can now

proceed with either monitoring your off-air signal or asking a friend to help you set the PASSBAND control, which shifts the audio bandwidth higher or lower. Adjust this control to fit your voice characteristics.

**On Air Testing**

At station WB1GCM/KA1RWY, we happen to own a transceiver with a built in RF speech processor, our venerable Yaesu FT-990. How would the 715 stack up against it? Well interestingly enough, I started out with a mode in which the Yaesu's speech processor is disabled: AM. With my wife Kathy, standing by at the mic, I hopped into my rowboat at Coventry Lake (half a mile away) and after a short row, met her on 29.0 MHz with my handheld AM transceiver (a converted CB set).

The difference between the 715 off and on was quite dramatic — the increased volume startled a nearby fisherman. I would say the sound of Kathy's voice was reminiscent of a high quality amplified microphone, except without any distortion. Moving the PASSBAND control around to the 1 o'clock position seemed to sound the best with her voice. Clearly, this control is effective for different voice ranges.

After a few mosquito bites, I was back in the shack and met up with Craig, KA1GYB,

a talented musician with a very critical ear, to try out the 715 on SSB. I picked 80 meters since there was a considerable amount of static that night with only fair signal strengths. The Ten-Tec 715 was very successful with improving readability compared to no RF speech processing. Comparison between the Ten-Tec 715 and the Yaesu RF speech processor was a toss up, with the Yaesu providing slightly more sound on the lower frequencies. Several other QSOs were made at 100 W output, with returns after the first call. All audio reports were favorable with the 715 and I was grateful for the many enthusiastic hams who helped out by listening and commenting on my signal.

**Other Notes**


If you are configuring this device for the first time, adjust all other frequency settings on your mic and transceiver to mid range, or "flat." This is a good starting point. You can experiment later with these settings. By all means, make certain your transceiver's speech processor is off! Running two processors in line will not help your audio and will more than likely hinder it.

This device clearly has many uses, especially with older equipment with ineffective or no speech processing. Public address systems would also benefit from the higher average audio output. It's a natural for early AM rigs too.

There was one small issue that could be improved upon. Placing the 715 in line at my station disabled the UP/DOWN scan buttons on my microphone. The 8 pin microphone jack and three conductor output jack pass only audio and PTT signals. Pins 1, 3 and 4 have no connections, so a modification could be made by either adding an extra jack on the rear panel or replacing the current jack with an 8 pin type and adding the additional wires. Ten-Tec considered this but decided it was not practical due to the number of different mic wiring plans. Still, you could do it for your mic if it were important.

**Conclusion**

The Ten-Tec 715 is a very practical RF speech processor that will be an improvement to many modern transceivers that have a traditional audio speech processor and certainly a big improvement for those with no processor at all. It is important to know what method of speech processing your radio uses while considering the purchase of this device. No matter what speech processor you use in your shack, please remember not to exceed your ALC "window."

*Manufacturer:* Ten-Tec Inc, 1185 Dolly Parton Parkway, Sevierville, TN 37862, 800-833-7373; [www.tentec.com](http://www.tentec.com); [sales@tentec.com](mailto:sales@tentec.com). 



W1ZR

## THE DOCTOR IS IN

**Q** Martin, WN2SJJ, asks: What does the term “armchair” refer to when someone mentions that word in the context of received signal quality?

**A** It means your signal quality is so good that the receiving station operator can casually sit back in an armchair — as opposed to having to pay close attention — to understand the signal. It is not unusual for operators listening to weak signals to be hunched over their radio, busily adjusting knobs in an effort to pull out the signal.

**Q** Jim, KN6TC, asks: My repeater’s PC controller to radio interface provider requires a “COS signal from the radio.” The manufacturer states that this “greatly reduces drop out and falsing” that are sometimes experienced while using VOX receive/transmit control. It seems to be an alternate for VOX, but I have failed to receive an answer as to what it is in terms I can understand. Neither radio nor interface providers have responded to my e-mail questions.

**A** Early repeaters were generally switched to transmit by a carrier operated relay (COR). The relay would be actuated if the repeater receiver detected a carrier on frequency, as indicated by the opening of the squelch. This was a much more reliable switching mechanism than if the repeater transmit switching responded to detected speech (VOX), since VOX could toggle back and forth due to gaps in speech.

In the early days of repeaters the equipment was constructed around vacuum tube and relay technology. Current technology is based on solid state devices including transistor switching that is more reliable than the earlier electromechanical relays. Thus the more general term COS for carrier operated signal, carrier operated squelch or carrier operated switch is often used instead of COR. For more information, check out [www.repeater-builder.com/tech-info/repeaterterm.html](http://www.repeater-builder.com/tech-info/repeaterterm.html).

**Q** Walt, KB5HOV, asks: What is the maximum power handling capability of RG-174 miniature coaxial cable in the HF range of 3-30 MHz?

**A** It is always a good idea to check with the manufacturer of your particular

cable since the generic RG designations often refer to a number of different specific cable types. Times Microwave provides an online calculator that is quite useful for their products at [www.timesmicrowave.com/cgi-bin/calculate.pl](http://www.timesmicrowave.com/cgi-bin/calculate.pl). It provides a power rating ranging from 610 W at 3 MHz to 190 W at 30 MHz. Note that this rating assumes a matched termination. If the SWR is higher than 1:1, more power will be dissipated in the coax so the rating must be reduced.

**Q** John, AD6KT, asks: While looking for used equipment, I often see equipment listed as “repeater voting receiver.” What is meant by a voting receiver?

**A** In the simplest repeater configuration, a single repeater location houses both the transmitter and receiver. In some cases, reception from mobile stations at the repeater coverage fringes is not up to the desired signal to noise ratio standards making copy difficult for other users. Figure 1 illustrates the point. The two mobile operators are partially blocked by terrain between them and the repeater site.

One way to improve the performance of such a repeater is to have multiple receivers at different locations, especially those that cause problems. Each receiver, RX 1 and RX 2 in Figure 1, is connected back to the main repeater site, either by leased telephone lines, or by a radio link on a different frequency. The repeater site decides which receiver (including its own) is receiving the highest quality signal, usually by the AGC level that is sent

along with the audio. The one with the highest “vote” is used to feed the repeater transmitter. Thus the receiver isn’t really doing the voting, it is just submitting its ballot.

A receiver designed to be a voting receiver is likely designed to operate on a single fixed frequency and to operate 24/7 via remote control. In addition to audio output, it would also provide an indication of signal strength for use by the vote processor. Such a receiver would likely make a fine monitor receiver for a single channel, although it may have an output appropriate for a phone line (typically 0 dBm at 600 Ω) rather than for a speaker, and thus may need an audio amplifier to drive a loudspeaker.

**Q** Robert, KB5QN, asks: In amateur single sideband (SSB) voice operation, why is the upper sideband (USB) used on 20 meters and higher frequency bands while lower sideband (LSB) is used on the lower bands (except the 60 meter channels)?

**A** This goes back to the early days of SSB. At that time, the early 1950s, there was no 40 meter phone band (it was opened to voice on February 20, 1953), so the majority of SSB activity was on 75 and 20 meters. One common design configuration used an SSB generator that produced an upper sideband SSB signal at 9 MHz using a filter or phasing SSB generator. The 9 MHz signal was then heterodyned with a VFO covering 5 to 5.5 MHz, often made from a (then) \$5 WWII surplus ARC-5 transmitter.

The additive ( $9 + 5 = 14$ ,  $9 + 5.5 = 14.5$ ) translation to 20 meters maintained the upper sideband. The subtractive translation ( $9 - 5 = 4$ ,  $9 - 5.5 = 3.5$ ) reversed the frequency relations (and the VFO tuning direction) to result in LSB. By just using those sidebands, they did not need to buy a second carrier oscillator crystal and worry about sideband filter symmetry, or put switching into their phasing rigs. It could have just as

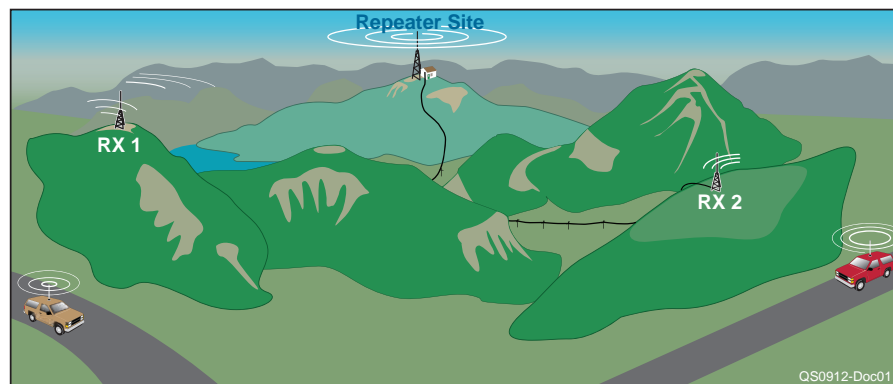


Figure 1 — Illustration of the benefit of multiple “voting” receivers in a repeater system. While they don’t help with the signal from the repeater to the vehicle, often that transmitter is higher powered and will get through.



easily gone the other way, I guess.

It just went on from there. 40 meters went LSB and the upper bands went USB. The US military appears to have settled on USB on all HF frequencies, so the “green radio” guys with SSB-capable military surplus gear use USB, especially on 40 meters. Compatibility with the government protocol explains why we are required to use USB on the five 60 meter channels that we share with government users. Other than that requirement, there is no regulation specifying which sideband be used on any band.

**Q** Ed, W9EGS, has a problem with noise received on his HF transceiver that seems to be coming from his TV set, since turning off the TV eliminates the noise. It shows up on the receiver dial about every 15 kHz. It is not on every band but is especially bothersome on 40 meters.

**A** It sounds like you are hearing harmonics of the TV’s horizontal sweep oscillator. The horizontal sweep uses a 15.75 kHz sawtooth waveform to move a traditional analog TV scan across the display. This system has a high harmonic content because of its wave-shape. If the TV is of the traditional CRT type, the same sawtooth signal is used to generate the high voltage for the CRT anode, so the signal is at a high amplitude in the TV.

The first step is to find out how the harmonics are getting to your HF set. To validate your suspicion that it is coupling from your TV antenna to your ham antenna, temporarily disconnect the TV antenna at the set and see if it eliminates the interference. If so, a high pass filter on the antenna cable, perhaps supplemented by a common mode choke as close to the set as possible, should eliminate the problem.<sup>1,2</sup>

If disconnecting the antenna doesn’t eliminate the problem, I would look to other connections. First the power connection. If you’re very lucky, moving the TV power plug to a different outlet may reduce the interference. Otherwise a common mode choke on the power cable should reduce the coupling considerably.

**Q** John, N5JLZ, is planning to install an automatic packet reporting system (APRS) in his truck and asks: I know that I need a global positioning system (GPS) unit to provide position information. I would also like to install a navigational GPS in the same vehicle. Prices are now about the same. I can’t find any information from the manufacturers of the navi-

<sup>1</sup>A high pass filter on a TV is traditionally used to keep harmonics from an amateur HF transmitter from interfering with the VHF TV receiver without attenuating the TV signal. In this application, it will keep HF harmonics of the horizontal sweep system from going up the TV antenna cable.

<sup>2</sup>For a description of common mode chokes, see R. Kriss, AA5VU, “An RFI Story with a Happy Ending,” *QST*, Jul 2009, p 40.

**gational units about whether or not they can export the position data that I need to feed into the APRS terminal node controller (TNC). I really don’t want to buy two units if I can use the same one for both applications. Any suggestions?**

**A** You will need a GPS that outputs position information in a data format called NMEA-0183. This is fairly common, but might not be available in all units, especially some small handheld receivers. I recently purchased a GPS chartplotter for my boat that supports such communication. Many

GPS manufacturers offer user/installation manuals on their Web sites and those should indicate what data is available.

My GPS manual listed the available data formats, described how to set them using the menus and how the connections needed to be run. In the case of my unit the data was available on a pair of pins that were part of a large supplied multipin connector. You will need to fabricate a cable to go between the GPS and your TNC, but the needed connection information should be available in the manuals for each.

**Q** Bob, KE7WPK, asks: How can I estimate signal to noise ratio (SNR) using the S-meter on my receiver? What is the relationship between S-meter reading and dBm or signal voltage?

**A** Sadly, many receiver S-meter indications are just useful as a relative indicator unless you are able to calibrate them against an accurate source. There is actually an S-meter standard that was proposed by Collins Radio decades ago and is now accepted as an industry standard. It is defined as follows: S9 is 50  $\mu$ V into 50  $\Omega$  at the antenna terminals, or equivalently -73 dBm.<sup>3</sup> Each S unit represents a change of 6 dB, or a voltage change of a factor of two. Table 1 shows the results for such an ideal S-meter.

If you have a calibrated S-meter, it is easy to determine the signal plus noise (you can never measure just the signal) to noise ratio, just subtract the power associated with the S-meter reading of the noise floor in dBm (from Table 1) from the power of the signal plus noise in dBm and you have the (S+N)/N in dB (not dBm). The (S+N)/N is close to S/N for high values. If you want to convert to signal to noise ratio, you need to subtract the noise power from S+N, but not in dBm. You can use the power (mW) column in Table 1.

Note that with the definition based on

<sup>3</sup>Decibels with respect to a reference of 1 milliwatt.

**Table 1**  
Relationship Between Industry Standard S-Meter Reading and Signal Strength

S-Meter Reading	Signal Voltage ( $\mu$ V)	Signal Power (mW)	Signal Power (dBm)
S-9 +60 dB	50,000	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	-13
S-9 +50 dB	15,811	$5.0 \times 10^{-3}$	-23
S-9 +40 dB	5000	$5.0 \times 10^{-4}$	-33
S-9 +30 dB	1581	$5.0 \times 10^{-5}$	-43
S-9 +20 dB	500	$5.0 \times 10^{-6}$	-53
S-9 +10 dB	158	$5.0 \times 10^{-7}$	-63
S-9	50	$5.0 \times 10^{-8}$	-73
S-8	25	$1.3 \times 10^{-8}$	-79
S-7	12.5	$3.1 \times 10^{-9}$	-85
S-6	6.25	$7.8 \times 10^{-10}$	-91
S-5	3.13	$2.0 \times 10^{-10}$	-97
S-4	1.56	$4.9 \times 10^{-11}$	-103
S-3	0.78	$1.2 \times 10^{-11}$	-109
S-2	0.39	$3.1 \times 10^{-12}$	-115
S-1	0.20	$7.6 \times 10^{-13}$	-121
S-0	0.10	$1.9 \times 10^{-13}$	-127

antenna terminal voltage, a truly calibrated S-meter would stay the same if you put the preamp or the attenuator in line, or reduced the RF GAIN control. I’m not aware of any transceiver based on analog technology that does this, so the best you can hope for is that it be calibrated for one set of control settings. Some software defined radios (SDRs) are able to compensate for such changes. The Elecraft K3, as an example, has a menu selection that lets you decide whether you will have constant calibrated readings or ones that indicate changes in receiver settings.

If your receiver doesn’t include a calibrated S-meter, and you can borrow an accurate signal generator with a calibrated attenuator, or use a mediocre generator and a good microwatt meter, you can make up a calibration chart for your S-meter so you know what it means. It will likely be different on each band, and it will only hold for one combination of RF gain, preamp and attenuator settings. It is still useful, however, if you make note of all those settings. Once you have the calibration in hand, you will find it a useful laboratory instrument for measuring other signal levels as you work on projects in your workshop.

Another possibility is to use an external S-meter calibrator to set up your meter. One was described in a *QST* Product Review some time back.<sup>4</sup> That review (available on the ARRL members Web site, [www.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev](http://www.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev)) also includes some examples of ARRL Lab data taken to see how some commercial gear compared to the standard.

<sup>4</sup>M. Tracy, KC1SX, “Product Review — Elecraft XG1 Receiver Test Oscillator,” *QST*, Apr 2005, pp 78-79.

**Do you have a question or a problem? Ask the Doctor! Send your questions (no telephone calls, please) to “The Doctor,” ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; [doctor@arrl.org](mailto:doctor@arrl.org); [www.arrl.org/tis/](http://www.arrl.org/tis/). Q57**

## microHAM USB Interface III

Thanks to the increasing popularity of digital operating with sound-card software, *sound card interfaces* have become standard equipment in many Amateur Radio stations. The first interfaces were straightforward devices; they simply allowed the computer to toggle the transceiver between transmit and receive. A few “deluxe” models also offered isolation for the audio lines between the computer sound card and the radio.

But like all technology, sound card interfaces have evolved over time. Lately the trend has been to remove the sound-processing function from the computer entirely, placing it within the interface itself. Modern interfaces are also embracing USB technology in the face of rapidly disappearing computer serial ports.

The microHAM USB Interface III takes these trends to their logical conclusions. The Interface III is, among other things, a sound device unto itself. That is, when you plug it into your computer’s USB port, the Interface III is recognized as a sound device on the same footing as your existing sound card or sound chipset. The Interface III also performs the required transmit/receive switching, isolates both the transmit and receive audio lines, and acts as an interface for transceivers that allow direct computer control — all this in a 6×1×4 inch package.

### Simple Setup

When you order the Interface III, the purchase price includes a cable that’s custom designed for your radio. The custom cable goes a long way toward making the installation process absurdly simple. Before you connect the cable, however, you’ll need to open the Interface III case and position a couple of small jumper blocks according to the type of data communication required by your transceiver. This is an easy operation that takes all of 60 seconds.

The next step is to install the *Device Router* software that runs the Interface III. Unlike

less sophisticated interfaces, the Interface III has its own circuitry that “talks” to your computer. With *Device Router* managing the Interface III, you can easily manipulate the settings and reconfigure the unit as your needs change.

You can see an example of *Device Router* in Figure 1. This application really shines in situations where you have several pieces of software that need to communicate with the

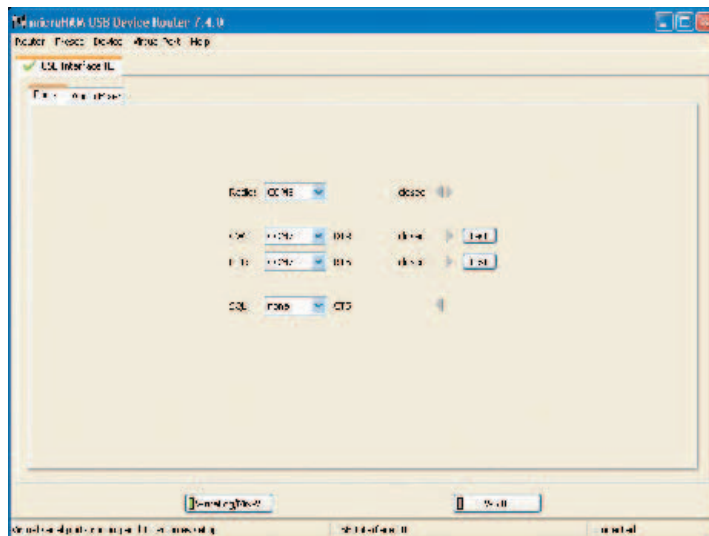


Figure 1 — microHAM’s *Device Router* software allows you to reconfigure the Interface III as your needs change.

Interface III in differing ways. You can create groups of settings known as “presets” that are unique for each application. For instance, I created one preset for use with *WriteLog* and *MixW*, and another for *WSJT*. When I switch from operating a RTTY contest with *WriteLog* to hunting digital meteor scatter contacts with *WSJT*, all I have to do is click my mouse cursor on the appropriate preset button.

*Device Router* must be up and running if you intend to use the Interface III to make contacts. I kept *Device Router* running constantly in the background, minimized to a discrete icon in the *Windows* taskbar. I also added *Device Router* to my *Windows* Startup so that it started automatically every time I booted my computer.

### Interface III on the Air

Once *Device Router* was up and running, my Interface III worked flawlessly. With my antennas being close to the house, my station is awash in RF energy. Even so, the Interface III never hiccupped. From a convenience standpoint, I enjoyed having the transmit and receive audio adjustments on the Interface III’s front panel, even though you can also adjust audio levels from within *Device Router*. The panel knobs are rather “stiff,” but this is deliberate; you don’t want these controls to move with the slightest jolt.

Looking at my *MixW* waterfall display, I noticed right away that the Interface III audio was extremely clean — no ground loop hum, distorted signals or other oddities. The outstanding performance of the Interface III was most evident when working digital meteor scatter with *WSJT*. This mode depends on the ability of the software to decode extremely weak signals, so the audio must be free of extraneous noise and relatively flat in terms of frequency response. Nothing else at my station has changed, yet I’ve been able to consistently decode more signals since installing the Interface III.

The Interface III’s flexible design allows it to perform many tasks despite its diminutive size. In addition to working with every sound-card digital mode imaginable, the Interface III offers CW, true FSK RTTY (with EXTFSK for *MMTTY* or “software generated FSK” in *WriteLog*) and reliable rig control for use

with logging programs, contest software and other applications. That’s a lot of power in one little box!

*Manufacturer: microHAM, s.r.o., Nadrazna 36, 90028 Ivanka pri Dunaji, Slovakia, www.microham.com. Distributor (North and South America): microHAM America, LLC, PO Box 1257, Geneva, FL 32732; www.microHAM-USA.com. \$229. QST*





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# HANDS-ON RADIO

## Experiment #83 — Circuit Simulation, Part 1

This month, we're going to begin a multi-part article to get you started with circuit simulation. The 2010 edition of *The ARRL Handbook* has a brand new chapter on computer aided design (CAD) by Dave Newkirk, W9VES. Many readers will want to try out some of the suggestions and techniques in that chapter, so this seems like a good time to get started with a professional quality circuit simulator. This column will lead you through the process of downloading and installing your very own simulation software, Linear Technology's *LTspiceIV*, which comes at a ham-friendly price — free!<sup>1</sup>

Simulation tools are ubiquitous in the engineering world these days. In fact, it's quite unusual for a product design to be created purely on paper or amid swirls of rosin smoke on the workbench. Circuit designers stay at the computer until they are confident in their creation before picking up a soldering iron. Hobbyists also use simulation tools, but before we start, some general cautions are in order.

### "Here be Dragons!"

That legend prominently indicated *terra incognita* on early maps. As with exploring a new world, simulation is often full of dragons for the beginning circuit designer for whom everything is unfamiliar. Nevertheless, this is no reason to avoid taking the simulation plunge! Amateurs use antenna modeling programs — electromagnetic simulators — to great effect. They have learned to recognize the trickery of a "trouble dragon," unrealistic gain; excessive bandwidth; extreme sensitivity to small changes in frequency, orientation, or size, bizarre impedances and so forth. *Caveat simulator!* By knowing and respecting the limits of the tool, excellent and useful results can be obtained.

Trouble dragons live at the numerical limits of the models and mathematics on which the simulation is based. Circuit simulators

create equations for voltage and current at each point in the circuit. All of the equations are then solved simultaneously for one instant in time, called a *time step*. This data is stored and used as input to solving them all again one time step later. By repeatedly solving, storing and solving again, a numerical picture of the circuit's behavior is built up.

Computers have their limits. The equation variables have limited precision so that every value is rounded by a tiny amount. Time steps, while very short, are still finite, leading to problems if their duration becomes significant with respect to the frequency at which the simulation is performed. The circuit models used to describe the components themselves approximate how a real world component actually behaves. These small cracks are how the trouble dragons get in.

If your design involves very high or very low power, very low noise or very high frequency signals, then you should be using a simulator designed specifically for that type of application. For example, the *Handbook's* CAD chapter uses examples generated by the free SV2 student-version of *Ansoft Designer*.<sup>2</sup> That software package is designed

<sup>2</sup>Ansoft, [www.ansoft.com](http://www.ansoft.com). *Ansoft Designer SV2* is a student version of the full-featured *Ansoft Designer* simulator package for signal analysis and communications applications.

for use at RF and has a number of special tools for use in RF systems.

### The Simulation Cycle

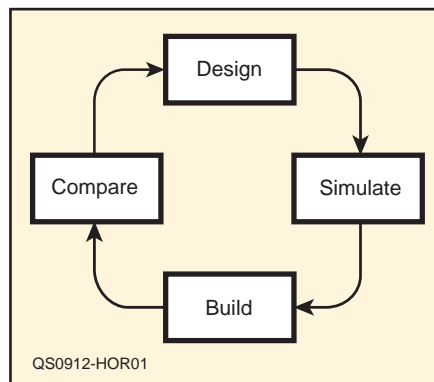
There is no smell of burning resistor or overheated transistor in a simulation. The placement of components on the screen has no effect on the behavior of the circuit, so a high-gain stage whose input is too close to its output will never break into oscillation. The dc power sources are free of ripple and noise. These effects and many more can only be experienced (and remedies learned) by building real circuits.

Figure 1 shows the process by which you really, really learn circuit design — from concept to finished project. The first step is to select a type of circuit and describe what it is supposed to do — the *performance requirements*. For example, an amplifier will need to achieve some level of gain over some frequency range. You may need a certain input impedance and output impedance. Armed with that information, choose a circuit and come up with a preliminary set of component values by using pencil and paper or a computer design tool. This is your *design*.

Next, *simulate* the circuit's performance. If the result satisfies your performance requirements, you can move to the next step. If not, change the circuit in some way (or change your requirements) until you are satisfied.

Now *build* your design as a real world collection of components and verify that the circuit works. This is where the real fun begins as the effects of construction and actual component variation take effect. Are you done? Not yet!

To soak up every bit of design experience and know-how, go back and *compare* your actual measured performance to what the simulator predicted, particularly near the limits of the circuit's function. Look for design sensitivities by substituting different parts or values. If the circuit's behavior diverges from the simulator's predictions, now is the time to take a closer look. You may not be able to say exactly why differences are present, but you'll be aware they exist and that will map a bit more of the unknown coastline.



**Figure 1 — Getting the most out of circuit simulation requires that you compare what the simulator predicts with how the actual circuit behaves.**

<sup>1</sup>Linear Technology, [www.linear.com](http://www.linear.com). *LTspiceIV* is the simulator portion of the switchmode power supply design package, *SwitcherCAD III*. It has been made available for use subject to the restrictions described in the *LTspice User's Guide*.

## Setting Up Your Simulator

Okay, enough philosophy! Start by browsing to Linear Technology's Web site, [www.linear.com/software](http://www.linear.com/software). Download the following three items: *LTspiceIV*, the *LTspice User's Guide*, and *LTspice Getting Started*. Register with Linear Technology in order to receive notices of new versions of the software and other related information.

To run *LTspiceIV* effectively, your PC will need to have at least 128 kB of RAM and at least 200 MB of free hard drive space available as simulations can generate a large amount of data. If the program runs out of space, you'll get an OUT OF MEMORY message. See the FAQ section of the *User's Guide* for information on system requirements. (Linux users can run *LTspiceIV* in the emulator software *WINE*.) The file containing *LTspiceIV* is a self-extracting .exe file. Double click on the file to begin the installation process. The process takes only a few moments and installs a shortcut to *LTspiceIV* on your desktop.

You immediately clicked on the shortcut and launched the program, didn't you? Admit it! Okay, so did I! What you need to do now is to open the PDF document *LTspice Getting Started*. For general-purpose use, review pages 14 to 26 that show the simulator's basic operating tools.

## Entering a Circuit

This month, we will just enter a very basic circuit to get used to the controls. Start a new schematic as shown on page 14. (The section "Schematic Capture" in the *LTspice Userguide* will provide additional information.) You should see the *LTspice* toolbar and status bar at the top of the screen, and window tabs at the top left. Under the VIEW menu, left click to turn on a field of guiding dots. (From here on, "click" means "left-click" unless stated otherwise.)

Now you'll create the two resistor voltage divider shown in Figure 2. Click the RESISTOR button in the toolbar and move the cursor into the schematic area. You'll see a black resistor symbol with two blank boxes next to it. Click once to create R1, then move the cursor and click again to create R2. (Creating R2 below R1 will make wiring the circuit a little easier.) Press the ESC (escape) key to turn off the resistor tool.

Move the cursor over R1 and the hand symbol appears. Right-click to open the PROPERTIES window for R1, enter 1000 in the RESISTANCE ( $\Omega$ ) window and click OK. R1 is now shown on the screen as having a value of 1000 ( $\Omega$  assumed). Assign R2 a value of 2200  $\Omega$  in the same way.

Click the WIRE button in the toolbar and a set of crosshairs will appear. Move the center point of the crosshairs over one of the R1 terminals and click. Move the crosshairs to one of the R2 terminals and click again,

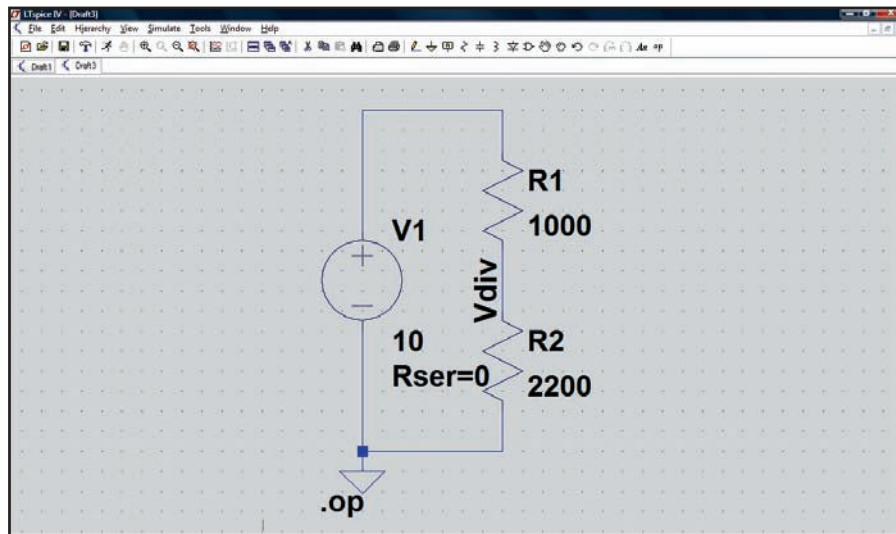


Figure 2 — A simple two resistor voltage divider. Each component is labeled with a designator and value. The ground symbol establishes a reference voltage point for the simulation. The simulator command to compute the circuit's dc operating point is .op.

Table 1  
DC Operating Point

V(n001):	10	Voltage
V(Vdiv):	6.875	Voltage
I(R2):	0.003125	Device_Current
I(R1):	0.003125	Device_Current
I(V1):	-0.003125	Device_Current

then press the ESC key. A blue "wire" now connects R1 and R2.

Click the 'Component' button in the toolbar, scroll right to find the word VOLTAGE and click once to highlight it. The voltage source symbol will appear above the list of components. Click OK, then place the voltage source on the schematic by clicking once at the desired location and press the ESC key. Open the voltage source's PROPERTIES window and assign a value of 10 V for voltage and 0 for series resistance. Use the WIRE tool to connect the positive terminal of the source to the remaining terminal of R1 and the negative source terminal to the remaining terminal of R2.

Circuit simulators require that you identify a specific point to use as a reference voltage. This is what the GROUND symbol means — not that the circuit is necessarily at Earth potential. Click the GROUND button in the toolbar, place a ground symbol near the negative source terminal and connect it to the terminal or to the wire connected to the terminal, which forms a connection dot. You should now have a circuit that looks something like Figure 2.

## Running a Simulation


Each of the connections between com-

ponents is called a *node*. The simulator calculates current through every circuit branch and voltage at every circuit node, assigning each node a label. To make it easier to read, the computer's output labels the nodes. In the divider circuit, label the connection between R1 and R2 as *Vdiv* by clicking on the LABEL NET toolbar button, entering *Vdiv* into the text window, click OK, placing the attachment point (the small box) on the "wire" between R1 and R2, then click once, followed by pressing the ESC key.

Under the SIMULATION menu, click RUN. In the EDIT SIMULATION window, select the DC .op PNT tab. Click OK and two things happen: the label .op appears on the schematic and a window appears with the results of the simulation in Table 1.

Here's what Table 1 is telling you, line by line: V(n001) is the source's 10 V output voltage. V(Vdiv): 6.875 is the voltage at the *Vdiv* label you placed and is equal to  $10 \times 2200 / (1000 + 2200) = 6.875$  V. I(R2) is the 3.125 mA current through R2, which in a simple series circuit like this is also equal in magnitude to the current through the source, I(V1), and R1, I(R1). The current in the source is negative because it flows *out* of the positive terminal. This is the circuit's dc operating point — you've just run your first simulation! Under the FILE menu, click SAVE AS and save the schematic. You can now experiment to your heart's content!

## Further Reading

This would be a good time to join the *LTspice User's Group* at [groups.yahoo.com/group/LTspice](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LTspice) where you'll find tutorials and other useful information. The CAD chapter of *The 2010 ARRL Handbook* will also start making sense. 





AG1YK

## HINTS & KINKS

### WEATHERPROOFING YOUR AUTOMATIC ANTENNA TUNER

◇ As an avid Amateur Radio operator, I sometimes use an automatic antenna tuner to operate more than one band with the same antenna. My mobile unit uses an LDG RT-11 autotuner to feed a pair of “Hamstick” style antennas on several different bands. One antenna covers the lower bands and another antenna covers the higher ones. An excursion into operating “fixed portable” with a telescopic vertical had me looking for another solution.

In order to minimize the coax losses when feeding a vertical monopole away from its resonant band it is necessary to reduce the distance between the tuner and the antenna to a minimum. The use of ladder line is not feasible when the antenna is fed almost at ground level. In order to do this, it is necessary to place the tuner almost directly at the base of the antenna and thus reduce the coax run from the tuner to the antenna to nearly nothing. The coax from the tuner to the transmitter can then be any appropriate length since the mismatch has already been corrected.

Owning an LDG Z-100 automatic tuner already, I looked for a way to mount it at the base of the antenna and yet protect it from the elements. A phone call to LDG gave me the necessary specifications for a 50 foot extension of the control cable so the only thing left was to find a workable enclosure for the tuner itself. I discussed the requirements for such an enclosure with my spouse, Audrey.

Without a word, she rummaged through a kitchen cabinet and produced a semi flexible plastic container that had a snap-on lid and fit my Z-100 and its cables to a T.

I drilled four small holes in one end of the container into which I fitted two short coax jumpers, one for the antenna and one for the radio. I also made up and installed a short 4-conductor cable to connect the stock control harness to the 50 foot extension. The fourth opening was used for a similarly short insulated wire to connect the grounding stud on the Z-100 to the radial system of the antenna. Once these four cables were in place, I sealed the drilled openings with hot glue. Silicone caulk could be used just as easily, provided it will stick to the container. I did not try that because the hot glue was at hand so you are on your own there (see Figure 1).

With the jumpers connected to the tuner, the extension cable and coax were run to the transceiver and the antenna erected. Now, testing was in order. The pressing of the TUNE button on my IC-706MKIIG did exactly what it was supposed to do. The Z-100 ran through its paces and signaled a good match. Now if the afternoon showers come while I am operating “fixed portable,” the only thing I have to worry about is keeping me and the radio dry. The tuner is cozy in its own little raincoat (see Figure 2).

Total cost, even if you had to buy the container new at the discount store, would probably not exceed \$10. That does not include the extension control cable, of course. The container was already here and I had enough UHF connectors, coax, wire and

weatherproofing on hand for the project. The only thing I had to buy was the 4-conductor cable and Molex connectors to build the 50 foot extension cable.

This project has enabled me to comfortably operate “fixed portable” from the beach, at Field Day and many other events where a vertical was the only feasible antenna. As long as the container can handle the physical size of the tuner with room for the connecting cables, any automatic tuner could be protected in this way. — 73, *Geoff Haines, N1GY, 904 52nd Ave Blvd W, Bradenton, FL 34207, n1gy@arrl.net*

*Note:* The plastic container, being airtight, will tend to accumulate condensation inside. If the weatherproof tuner is used for an extended period, you should either punch a weep hole in the bottom to allow water to drain or periodically open the top to vent the interior. — Ed.

### IC-706MKIIG SO-239 PROBLEM

◇ The IC-706MKIIG radios are made to be disconnected and reconnected to an antenna for mobile and portable use. Repeated reconnections may cause a problem — at least it did for me.

I have owned my ICOM IC-706MKIIG for about 2 years now. When I attached my antenna’s PL-259 to the radio’s HF SO-239 connector tightly, I would lose my received signal and the radio would not transmit. If I loosen the PL-259 slightly signals would be received and I could transmit as well.

I tightened the screws that hold the SO-239 to the radio thinking that I had a bad ground at this point — no luck. I made up a new cable with a new PL-259 and still no resolution. In

GEOFF HAINES, N1GY

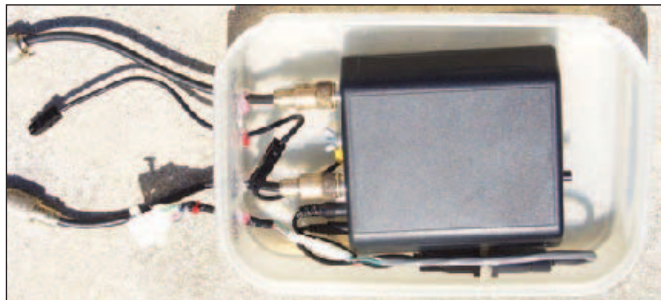


Figure 1 — A detailed view of the autotuner and its wiring mounted inside its “raincoat.”

GEOFF HAINES, N1GY



Figure 2 — The autotuner all “buttoned up” and ready for heavy weather.

the time that I have owned this radio I have used it less than a dozen times mobile. The HF SO-239 connector gets connected and disconnected more than other radios resulting in more “wear and tear” on them.

I decided to go into the radio. I removed the top cover so I could see what the SO-239 was connected to and then I saw what was happening. The center insulator along with its center pin was loose and moving in the SO-239 metal housing. When a PL-259 was inserted, the insulator would move out of the metal housing and touch a metal part of the chassis. Also, the wire going to the center of the SO-239 was hanging by only about one strand because of this movement.

In order to make a repair, I had to remove the top cover and five screws that hold a circuit board to access the SO-239 wire connections. I could only lift this circuit board slightly and when I moved the SO-239, the center wire broke right off. At this point, I decided to pull the SO-239 from the chassis. Be sure to unsolder the ground wire before removing it. Now I could see that the insulator in the SO-239 was actually loose and would slide back and forth with the insertion and removal of a PL-259.

As this is a special type of SO-239, I decided to “lock” the insulator in the housing by using a couple of drops of “thin” CA (cyanoacrylate), a type of glue which I use in my model airplane construction. CA adhesives are available in thin, medium and heavy; the thin is the consistency of water and flows ready into the joint by capillary action then cures almost instantly (*protect your eyes and fingers*). [Be aware of the drying time for any glue you use. Make sure it is completely dry before inserting the PL-259. — Ed.] I then pulled the two wires from inside the chassis out through the SO-239’s hole and did my soldering safely on the outside of the chassis.

I am pleased with the repair and now the HF SO-239 connection works perfectly. While I had my CA out, I added a couple of drops around the insulator in the VHF/UHF SO-239 connector just to be on the safe side (without removing it from the chassis).

Also, when I solder all of my PL-259s, I always make sure that no excess solder gets on the outside of the center conductor; if it does, I take a small file and remove it. *Any excess solder on the center pin would cause excessive insertion force into an SO-239 possibly causing this failure.* — 73, Karl Schwab, KO8S, 30752 Ridgefield Ave, Warren, MI 48088-3174, ko8s@arrl.net

*Note:* You should check with ICOM to determine if these changes will affect your radio’s warranty. — Ed.

## 12 V SPICE JAR ADAPTER

◊I had a 12 V socket I had mined from an old portable air compressor that didn’t work. My



Figure 3 — An exploded view of the spice jar power adapter.



Figure 4 — The adapter ready for action.

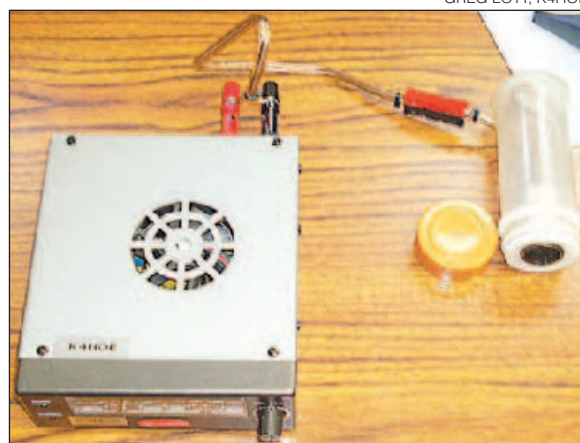


Figure 5 — The adapter attached to the power supply.

small camping power supply (a 14 A switching Jetstream) did not have a 12 V socket. I had hoped to run my handheld transceiver and another radio from the power supply, but my only option was a 12 V adapter.

I took an onion salt spice jar I had cleaned out and took the lid with all the shaking holes off to mount the 12 V socket to. I used my calipers to determine the diameter of the hole to drill. I then used a Forstner bit to slowly drill the hole in the lid. I then attached the 12 V socket to the lid and wired it up with a small jumper of #16 AWG wire (see Figure 3). (This was more than sufficient for my application. Heavier gauge wire should be used for higher amperage equipment.)

I then drilled a small hole in the side of the jar near the bottom for the wires to come out. In my case I put Powerpoles on the wires (see Figures 4 and 5). I had originally thought to tin the wires and use the banana plugs that screw down on the wire. This would allow you to push the wires all the way in the jar when packed up. Drop the banana plugs in the jar as well and put a piece of electrical tape over the hole for transport.

I do not know if the seal made when the spice jar lid is screwed down over the 12 V socket is waterproof. — 73, Greg Lott, K4HOE, 611 Hambaugh Ter, Homewood, AL 35209, k4hoe@arrl.net

GREG LOTT, K4HOE

GREG LOTT, K4HOE

GREG LOTT, K4HOE

## FEET FOR HEATHKITS

◊When the plastic feet are missing from a Heathkit radio, it can be a little hard to find a suitable replacement. For a Heathkit GR-81 receiver, I substituted a stack of  $\frac{3}{64}$  inch flat faucet washers, secured by a long 6-32 flat slotted screw, flat washer, lock washer and nut. When the 6-32 screw is tightened, the head of the screw causes the bottom washer to become concave and will not scratch anything that the radio is placed upon.


This substitute foot will not peel off with age. Since the feet are largely hidden by the radio, no one will ever notice

the substitution. Best of all, if you encounter a source for vintage feet, it is easy to unscrew the substitute feet and install the originals. — 73, Michael Davis, KB1JEY, 533 Tennis Ave, Ambler, PA 19002-6016, michael.davis@alumni.duke.edu

## MORE ON THE RECEIVE INDICATOR

◊The September “Hints and Kinks” column contained George Allen’s, N1NBQ, circuit to indicate which of several radios was active. His circuit was designed for radios that have one side of the speaker grounded. George has found that this is not the case for Motorola radios. If your radio’s speaker does not have a grounded terminal, use a 1:1 transformer for isolation.

Hints and Kinks items have not been tested by QST or the ARRL unless otherwise stated. Although we can’t guarantee that a given hint will work for your situation, we make every effort to screen out harmful information. Send technical questions directly to the hint’s author.

QST invites you to share your hints with fellow hams. Send them to “Attn: Hints and Kinks” at ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, or via e-mail to h&k@arrl.org. Please include your name, call sign, complete mailing address, daytime telephone number and e-mail address on all correspondence. Whether praising or criticizing an item, please send the author(s) a copy of your comments. 



# So Near, Yet So Far — The K5D Desecheo DXpedition Story

*The team leaders share the inside story of a Top 10 DXpedition.*

Glenn Johnson, WØGJ, and Bob Allphin, K4UEE

**D**esecheo Island (KP5) was added to the DXCC list in 1979. KP4AM/D was the first DXpedition in March 1979, exactly 30 years before the K5D Desecheo DXpedition earlier this year.

There were six DXpeditions in the 1980s and three in the early 1990s, the last one ending in January 1993. There had been no official permission given since that time for Amateur Radio activity. Naturally, over the last 16 years, its position on The Most Wanted List steadily climbed toward the top. In early 2009, Desecheo was #6 on the Most Wanted List. It was #2 in Asia and #3 in Europe.

## Interesting History

Desecheo Island, a mountainous island of about 360 acres with a generally tropical climate, is “only” 14 miles west of Rincon, Puerto Rico. It was acquired by the United States in 1856.

With the outbreak of World War II, the island was used as a bombing and gunnery range until 1952. Between 1952 and 1964, the US Air Force used Desecheo for survival training. In July 1966 it was acquired by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, which introduced a colony of rhesus monkeys in 1967. In December 1976, Desecheo was transferred to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which is now responsible for its management as a wildlife refuge.

Because of the critical habitat area and severe UXO (Un-eXploded Ordnance) hazard, Desecheo was closed to all visitors in 1993. Also, because of its location between Puerto Rico and the Dominican

Republic, drug and human trafficking are often problems. The USFWS has been very concerned about the safety of any visitors as well as the potential detrimental impact they might have on the island’s ecology.

Over the last 10-15 years, the USFWS has had many applications from Amateur Radio operators to activate Desecheo. In 2002, a group of individuals formed the KP1-5 Project ([www.kp1-5.com](http://www.kp1-5.com)) to seek a way to gain supervised access to Desecheo. In mid 2008, the USFWS asked for proposals for a Special Use Permit for amateur operation on Desecheo. Seven proposals were received.

On October 1, 2008 we received word that The KP1-5 Project proposal was selected. It was scheduled for late 2008 for a maximum of 14 days with no more than 15 operators. The operations site would be the helipad and surrounding area at the very west end of Desecheo. The USFWS, after coordination with their security personnel and biologists, set the dates for February 12-26, 2009.

Bob Allphin, K4UEE, and Glenn Johnson, WØGJ, long-term members of The KP1-5

Project, were selected to be coleaders of the radio operation. Mike Thomas, NA5U, was Project Director. The minimum time commitment for a team member to participate in the entire operation would be 3½ weeks. Many on our team had situations that prohibited such a long commitment, while others could find the time. So we devised a plan for a “shift change” about halfway through the operation. This worked well as USFWS also planned to rotate security personnel and some biologists about midway through the 2 week period.

We formed three teams. Team 1 would be present from start to finish. Team 2 would arrive with Team 1 on February 12 and rotate off the island on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Team 3 would arrive at the midpoint and stay to pack things up. This gave seven more people a chance to participate in activating a very rare DX entity and, most importantly, provide new fresh operators to handle the never diminishing pileups.

## The Work Starts and Plans Change

There were many requirements that had to be met for the Special Use Permit. One of the most important and one that was absolutely non-negotiable was that our campsite and all antenna locations be “swept” or scanned for UXO. This additional expense was absolutely necessary. Five of us (K4UEE, N4GRN, KØIR, WØGJ and WP3MW) visited Desecheo in December 2008 along with USFWS law enforcement personnel and a hired UXO technician. We set up a safe perimeter (green zone), selected all of our antenna locations and had the areas swept.

We negotiated a variation in the original plan



Here is an aerial view of the K5D DXpedition site showing Camp Desecheo and its surrounding antenna farm.

## K5D Teams

### TEAM 1 (February 12-26)

K4UEE Bob Allphin (coleader)  
 W0RUN Gordon Hardman  
 W0NB Jim Livengood  
 N4GRN George Nicholson  
 W8OI Garry Ritchie  
 K9SG Gary Stouder  
 NA5U Mike Thomas  
 VE7CT Steve Wright

### TEAM 2 (February 12-19)

W0GJ Glenn Johnson (coleader)  
 K0IR Ralph Fedor  
 W2GD Jon Crovelli  
 K5AND Dick Hanson  
 W6IZT Gregg Marco  
 N6MZ Mike Mraz  
 WB9Z Jerry Rosalius

### TEAM 3 (February 19-26)

WP3MW Eladio Acevedo  
 NP4Z Felipe Hernandez  
 N4NX Bill Barr  
 K0JGH Glen Kesselring  
 K1KD Grant Kesselring  
 K5AC Tim Pearson  
 VA7DX Neil King

### OFF-ISLAND TEAM

JA1ELY Toshi Kusano, pilot  
 W4GKF Chaz Cone, Webmaster  
 N0SM Steve Miller, weatherman  
 K9LA Carl Luetzelschwab, propagation  
 W8AEF Paul Playford, antennas  
 K4DLI Jim Streible, antennas  
 N2OO Bob Schneck, QSL manager  
 SQ8X Stan Strzyzewski, QSL designer

that allowed antennas to be set up on the ridge behind the campsite. Now we had a clear shot at Europe and because the antennas overlooked the sea 200 feet below — we would be loud. It was an invaluable reconnaissance trip. How often is it possible to scout out a “top ten” DXCC entity before activating it?

We also made the decision to hire a helicopter to transport the men and equipment because of February’s high surf conditions. We found a company with a Super Puma helicopter. This helicopter can carry 9000 pounds of cargo or 18 passengers. Between internal loads and sling loads, it would only take 3 or 4 trips to haul all of our equipment and team from the west coast of Puerto Rico to Desecheo.

All of our radios, antennas, amplifiers, medical supplies and hundreds of other items were shipped to our storage facility during January 2009. Then, 5 days before we left, we were informed that the Super Puma helicopter would *not* be available.

We were back to square one with transportation and only a week to go. With less than 48 hours before our permit became effective, we found two companies, each with an A-Star helicopter. The A-Star could carry only four passengers or 900 pounds using sling loads. Suddenly the number of trips required and the costs increased tremendously.

Teams 1 and 2 arrived in San Juan on

Saturday, February 7. The next morning we received the mandatory UXO training. After the training, we took a bus to the west coast, stopping to visit the Arecibo Radio Telescope. Angel, WP3R, arranged a private, behind the scenes tour for us. This fantastic facility is one of the wonders of the modern world. Afterward, we continued our trip to the Lazy Parrot Hotel in Rincon within sight of Desecheo, and the team saw the island for the first time during a beautiful sunset.

### Departure Day

By the evening of February 11, we had staged all of our equipment for an early morning departure. It took a total of 39 helicopter flights over 1½ days to get all of our gear to Desecheo.

On Desecheo, the first loads were people and antennas. During the first day, antennas were assembled, coax run and the generators set up. It was after dark when we finally were able to assemble our four 10 × 20 foot tents. Two were used for sleeping and two were placed end-to-end for the operating tent. It would have been impossible to do this with the helicopter traffic during the day.

### Operations

At first light on our second day, we completed setting up the operations tent, a few

stations and enough antennas to get on the air. At 1600Z operations began. We opened on 20 meter CW with John, W2GD, and on 17 meter SSB with Jerry, WB9Z. The pileups were a huge “wall of sound.” After a brief celebration, which included the FWS security personnel, antenna work and station setup continued. Twenty-four hours later, we had 10,000 contacts in the log as we ramped up radio operations.

On Saturday, February 14, Camp Desecheo was fully operational. We had eight stations, each with ICOM IC-756PROIII, Alpha amplifiers, ICE band-pass filters and MicroKeyer II controllers. We used *Win-Test* for logging. Each station was set up to run any mode and use any antenna. All antennas came to a single bulkhead. The 6 meter station used an ICOM IC-7000 and a 6 meter Alpha amplifier. The operator schedule was implemented and everyone started the daily routine of operating, eating, antenna and camp maintenance, and rest. Sleeping during the day was difficult because of the heat. On the warmest of days, it was well over 100°F in the operations tent.

The pileups were tremendous. Bob, K4UEE, a veteran of eight “Top-Ten” DXpeditions said, “I’ve never heard anything like this.” Because Desecheo was ranked #2 in Asia and #3 in Europe, the team was very diligent about exploiting the openings to these areas on every band. As the days passed, the contact count rapidly climbed.

### Antennas

The two Yagis and the 30 and 80 meter verticals were on a ridge with a clear path in all directions except for Africa. The 160 meter vertical, the four Switchable Vertical Dipole Arrays and one of the 40 meter SteppIRs were at the water’s edge. The 160 meter vertical and one 40 meter SteppIR were at the very north-western tip of the island on the beach with a clear shot to Europe and Asia. Each person operated a minimum of 12 hours a day, some much more.

### Resupply, Team Changeover and the Weather

On February 19, Team 3 was scheduled to replace Team 2. The highest surf of the year was that day. Breakers came in and took down all of the beach antennas except for the 160 meter vertical. In the “protected” bay that had been used for the Zodiac, 6 to 10 foot breakers were rolling in. No one would have survived a landing there. We had no alternative but to go by air. Back on Puerto Rico, Team 3 arranged for helicopter transport from a third helicopter company. The team exchange then took place quickly and safely and our basic time schedule remained intact.

### Results

We had propagation to North and South America 24 hours a day on several bands at a

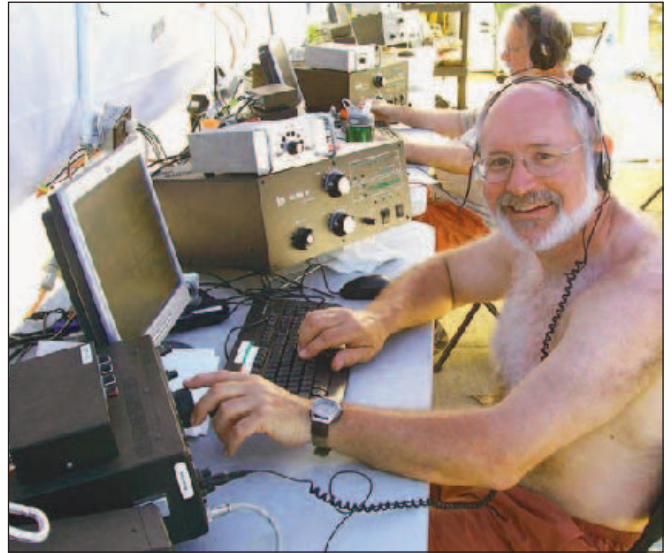


The K5D QSL card sent to the 115,787 contacts we made, 40 percent of which were to the high need areas of Asia and Europe.





Mike, NA5U, keeps the log while Gary, K9SG, operates satellite mode working AO-51 and the International Space Station.



Glenn, W0GJ, is having a grand time in the foreground working CW while George, N4GRN, works the phone bands.

time. We had long, deep openings to Europe. Our windows to Japan and Asia were short (as predicted) but they were the highlights of the day. Our goal was to maximize the number of contacts to these hard to reach areas.

Overall, 40 percent of our contacts were with Europe and Asia. We greatly appreciated the cooperation from North American hams in helping us work these high-need areas. The total number of contacts was 115,787. Fifty-five percent were on CW, 40 percent on Phone and 5 percent on RTTY. We made 51 satellite contacts and two 6 meter EME contacts. We had 41,783 contacts with Europe and 4202 with Asia. We had 32,807 unique call signs in the log, a number we are most proud of.

### QSL Information

QSLs can be requested directly from N200. Bob and his crew from the South Jersey DX Association (SJDXA) deserve a lot of thanks for this very time consuming job. Online QSLs are also available. Details are on the Web site under "QSL Information." LoTW logs will be available in early 2010.

### We Tried Hard

We tried hard, very hard, to make the most of every propagation opportunity to Asia and Europe, our hard to reach areas. Due to the extremely low sunspot numbers in this 2 week period, even with many stations on at once, we only worked *eight* lucky JAs on 15 meters (we worked more on 160 meters). We were very happy with our JA contact results on the low bands.

USFWS is evaluating our behavior, cooperation and consideration for the fragile environment. If the USFWS decides that we met our mutual goals, we hope they will ask for proposals to operate from KP1 Navassa, the #1 Most Wanted Entity in Asia and some places in Europe.

### You Tried Hard

It takes a lot of effort, both in time and resources, to plan and execute a DXpedition from a remote location so that it can be done safely and effectively. Several of us worked many hours each day for months. The tiniest details and contingency plans had to be worked out and planned for. The expenses were and are significant.

The Desecheo DXpedition Japan Foundation was our single largest contributor and sponsor. Special thanks are due to Toshi, JA1ELY, who was our pilot, for overseeing this special help. We also had enthusiastic support from many clubs and organizations, as well as many individual contributors. Without this support, support from the Northern California DX Foundation and International DX Association (INDEXA), the K5D DXpedition would not have been possible. We also want to thank our equipment sponsors that include: Alpha Radio Products, ICOM America, SteppIR antennas, MicroHam, Heil Sound, The RF Connection, AY Technologies, Spiderbeam, Radioware, WX0B and the Wireman among others. All of our corporate sponsors, DX Club sponsors and individual DXers are listed on our Web site. Thanks to *everyone* who contributed.

And a special thanks to our wonderful team of DXpeditioners who made the adventure so enjoyable, and to the USFWS for their support and cooperation.

We also want to thank *you*, the DXers, for your cooperation and patience as we did our level best to give you a contact with this very rare DXCC entity. It was *you* who really made the K5D DXpedition a success. Thank you all so very much for your generous support and for working us. We heard many positive comments about the patience of North American hams standing by while we worked the narrow windows of propagation to our hard to reach


areas. Thank you very much.

More pictures about Desecheo are on the K5D Web site and a DVD is available. Go to either [www.kp5.us](http://www.kp5.us) or [www.k4uee.com/dvd](http://www.k4uee.com/dvd) for more information.

Very 73.

*All photos courtesy of the The KP1-5 Project.*

*Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, an ARRL Life Member, was first licensed in 1966. He was very active as a Novice, achieving WAS in 3 months, and he passed his General test at 4 months. He upgraded to Extra class in 1987. Glenn is a very active DXer having achieved DXCC Honor Roll for both Mixed and SSB and he is closing in on CW. He also has 352 entities confirmed, 5BDXCC and 5BWAZ. Glenn is married to Vivien, KL7YL, and has four children, Melissa, K1MJ; Mark, N0MJ; Paul, W0PJ, and Carrie, N0CMJ. Glenn can be reached at 207 Bear Creek Ln NW, Bemidji, MN 56601-8072, [w0gj@arrrl.net](mailto:w0gj@arrrl.net).*

*Bob Allphin, K4UEE, an ARRL member, has visited 97 DXCC entities and operated from 54. He has participated in 30 DXpeditions and specializes in activating "top ten" most wanted. So far he has activated: Heard Island, Bhutan, Kingman Reef, South Sandwich Islands, South Georgia Island, Peter I Island, Lakshadweep and now Desecheo. He has eight "DXpedition of the Year" plaques hanging on his shack wall. Since retiring 10 years ago to pursue DXpeditioning more or less full time, Bob has participated in seven major DXpeditions that have made over 650,000 contacts. Bob has set five single operator/single band World Records and was a competitor in two World Radio Team Championships (WRTC) events, in 1996 and 2000. Bob can be reached at 4235 Blackland Dr, Marietta, GA 30067-4705, [mallphin@aol.com](mailto:mallphin@aol.com). *

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# ARRL's New Web Site: Designed with You in Mind

*Coming to a computer near you: a greatly enhanced online experience. The redesigned site rolls out in late January.*

Kathleen Glass

If someone had asked me about Amateur Radio six months ago, I would have had no answer. Today, however, I am able to hold what I consider to be a relatively intelligent conversation on bands, coaxial cables and antennas.

Why the sudden ability to talk ham radio? Because for the last several months, I have been interning at ARRL, working on writing, editing and gathering content for ARRL's new Web site. While I've been working with a team from the ARRL HQ staff, the Web designers at Fathom ([www.fathom.net](http://www.fathom.net)), a Hartford-based design and consulting firm, have been redesigning and rebuilding the ARRL Web site, pretty much from scratch.

The existing site is the first place to go if you're looking for anything related to Amateur Radio: an upcoming hamfest, the rules for this weekend's contest, an explanation of VHF propagation or the latest news. The current site has enough data and information to provide answers to just about any question, but those answers are not always easy to find. In addition, the design, once state of the art, is getting long in the tooth.

## Pulling it All Together

To help bring things up to speed, I was tasked with making sense and order out of the 40,000 or so pages currently on [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org). The good news for me was that there was a team of experts behind me. Some members of the ARRL staff were on teams that were responsible for devising practical features and in many cases brand-new content within their areas of expertise. The ARRL team leaders worked closely with the team at Fathom, who are, as this is written, putting the final touches on the ambitious redesign of the ARRL site.

The team leaders met nearly every week

The screenshot shows the ARRL website interface. At the top, there's a header with the ARRL logo and tagline "The national association for AMATEUR RADIO". Navigation links include "On The Air", "Licensing, Education & Training", "Membership", "Regulatory & Advocacy", "Public Service", "Technology", "Get Involved", "Publications & Online Store", "About ARRL", and "News & Features". A search bar and user account options are also present.

The main content area features a "Technology" section with an article titled "Advancing the Art of Radio" and a "Features" section listing items like "Garriott Gears for Space Journey" and "ICOM IC-7800 Transceiver". There are also sections for "The ARRL Lab", "Antenna Secrets", and "Technology for Beginners".

On the right side, there's a sidebar with an advertisement for "The BIGGEST Handbook EVER!", a "Join ARRL Now for FREE" button, and a "Shop Online" section listing various ARRL products like manuals, notebooks, and kits.

At the bottom, there's a footer with contact information, a "Donate Now" link, and social media icons.

This screen shot shows a working design for the Technology Landing Page. Notice how you can access several stories at once at the top of the page.



with the team at Fathom to flesh out the content and functionality of each section. Wouldn't it be great to include an interactive US map showing ARRL divisions and sections, with links to Division and Section leaders? How about a form to make it easy to apply to be a Volunteer Counsel? And so it went.

How did the teams tackle so many pages in a short time? Piece by piece, page by page. What will be different on the Web site, you ask? Space won't allow us to list everything, but a section-by-section summary will provide the basic idea.



**Brent Robertson, KB1PYY, and Kim Mitola of the Web design firm Fathom present plans for the new site to the ARRL Board of Directors in July.**

## Regulatory and Advocacy

These pages reflect ARRL's robust efforts to protect our frequencies, here in the US and internationally. Here you'll find out how a Volunteer Counsel can assist you with a zoning issue, how the next World Radiocommunication Conference will affect the Amateur Radio Service, the latest news about Amateur Radio-related bills in Congress and what the ARRL Technical Relations Office is doing internationally.

## Licensing, Education and Training

This area will be your one-stop for all things related to earning a license, upgrading a license, instructing a license class, conducting an exam session and bringing Amateur Radio into schools. How to find a class or exam session, the Question Pools, FCC requirements — it's all here. From the School Club Roundup to Kids Day, these pages are meant to help teachers put that first spark in the eyes of future hams.

## Membership

An enhanced Member Profile will allow you to upload photos, find events in your geographical area, connect to your social networks — and much more. You'll still be able to manage your information (renew your membership, change your address, subscribe to newsletters and bulletins, and so on), but the opportunities for customizing your online experience will add a whole new dimension.

## On the Air

Everything you need to know about participating in on-the-air Amateur Radio is in this section: contests, awards, clubs, DXing, operating in foreign countries — you'll find it all here. The new contesting pages will feature easy to read rules for each ARRL contest throughout the year.

## Publications and Store

The new ARRL online store will provide a faster, more efficient and more enjoyable shopping experience. You'll get your *2010 ARRL Handbook* in no time!

## Technology

The Technology pages are sure to be

among the most viewed. With an improved search function, you'll be able to get all of your questions answered, be they about safety or station layout and accessories. Want a video tour of the ARRL Lab? You'll find it here.

## About ARRL

Need a question answered? Find out here whom to contact. Looking for employment information? Directions to ARRL HQ/W1AW? A description of how the ARRL is organized? This section will have the answers.

## Get Involved

Not sure how to use your skills to help others? Get Involved provides the means to find ways to volunteer, connect to other hams, recruit new hams and give back to ARRL. The Youth pages are by youth, for youth — everything a young ham needs to know to discover the fun of ham radio.

## News and Features

Head to this area to find articles from *QST*, *QEX* and *NCJ*, as well as Web-only feature articles and columns. You'll also find all the latest news (and a news archive), and everything the media should know about the positive contributions hams make to their communities and the nation.

## Public Service

This new section is where you'll go to find opportunities to offer your communications skills to your community. Read about others' extraordinary experiences in the Public Service Stories pages. Want to join ARES®? Learn about the ARRL's affiliation with served agencies? Here's where you'll find out what's going on in the public service realm.

## Look and Feel

Overall, the new Web site will incorporate the latest Web technology that will make it easy to navigate and enjoyable to use. A few simple clicks will get you where you want to go.

One of the most significant features is the new mapping capability. You'll be able to find your way to a class, a club or a hamfest — all with the click of a mouse. You can even get directions.

Clear, easy-to-read pages will help you find everything you're looking for — and more! Instead of large chunks of information on each page, the material will be broken into bite-sized pieces.

Let's say you've landed on the Technology page (or you've chosen it as your Landing Page). From here, you'll be able to see up to four different technology-related articles in the carousel, read reviews of new products, get helpful hints and tips, and learn how the ARRL Lab contributes to the technical advancement of the Amateur Radio Service.

Surfing the site will provide a true multimedia experience. State of the art tools, photo galleries, *PowerPoint* presentations and videos will provide ways to tell the story of ham radio in ways plain text can't.

The new ARRL Web site is expected to launch in late January. During the first few weeks we'll be looking to you for feedback. Our goal is to have a Web site that serves your needs.

Shortly after launch, we'll announce even more new features — forums, photo-uploading capability, space to share your experiences — and more.

*Kathleen Glass recently received her Master's degree in Journalism from Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut. She can be reached at [kglass@arrl.org](mailto:kglass@arrl.org).*

**QST**

# Beyond the Straight Key

*Tips and techniques for moving into the CW fast lane.*

**Richard Arnold, AF8X**

Those interested in learning Morse code usually begin with a straight key, but those who come to enjoy CW eventually outgrow it. As your proficiency and speed increase, the need for more advanced tools and techniques becomes apparent. Switching from a straight key to a semi-automatic key (bug) or to an electronic keyer/paddle combination is in order.

## The Next Step

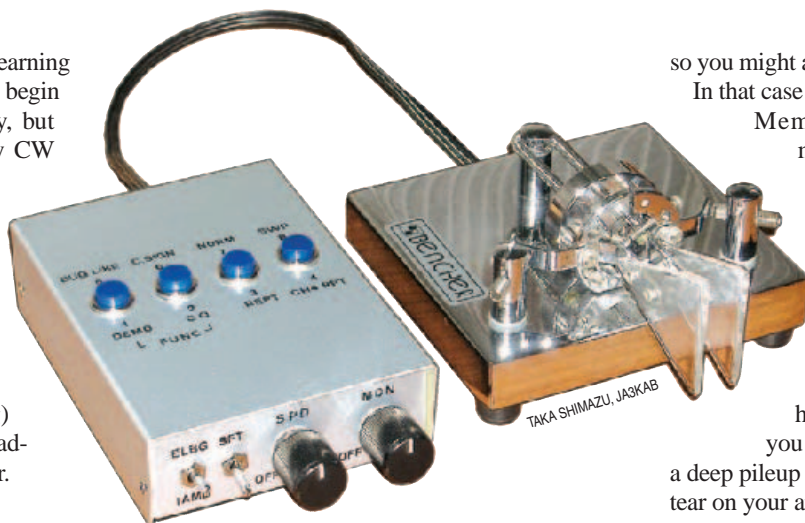
Usually when the new ham masters the straight key, the next step is an electronic keyer/paddle combination or a semi-automatic key. There are many of both on the market, but a little thought should be given as to how they are to be used and your preferences.

## Paddles

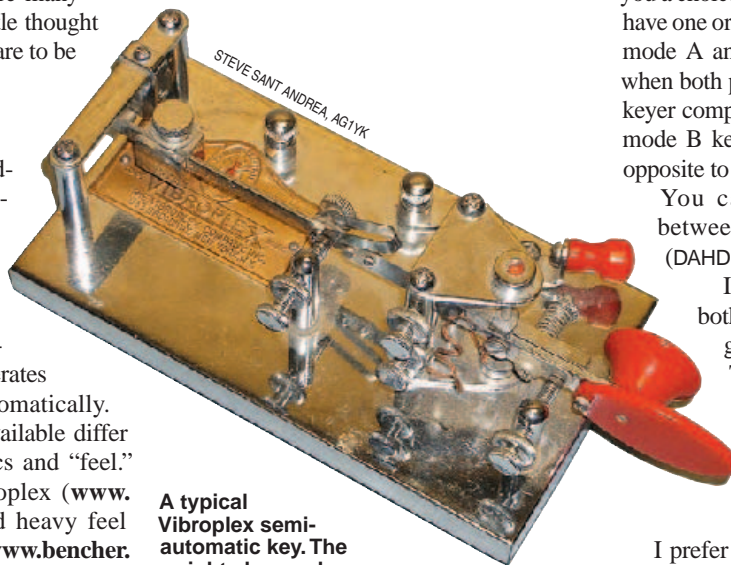
There are two types of paddles, single-lever and double-lever. Most advanced CW operators who prefer electronic keyers choose the double paddle. The double paddle is used for iambic keying, a keying system that generates alternating dits and dahs automatically. The various double paddles available differ in their appearance, mechanics and “feel.” Some paddles, like the Vibroplex ([www.vibroplex.com](http://www.vibroplex.com)), have a solid heavy feel and some, like the Bencher ([www.bencher.com](http://www.bencher.com)), have a more delicate feel. I prefer the latter type, adjusted for a very light touch. You will need to try different types to decide which fits your fist best.

## Keyers

The next thing to consider is an electronic keyer. Electronic keyers send an alternating stream of dits and dahs when both paddles are squeezed. Depending on which paddle is squeezed first, the keyer will send either DIDAHA, DIDAHA, DIDAHA (dit paddle squeezed



Here is a Bencher double-lever paddle connected to a homebrew keyer — all you need for CW speed.



A typical Vibroplex semi-automatic key. The weight shown above the “V” in Vibroplex is the pendulum that oscillates to generate a stream of regularly spaced dits.

first) or DAHDIT, DAHDIT, DAHDIT (dah paddle squeezed first) and it will continue to send as long as the paddles are held together. There are basic keyers and there are the more sophisticated (and expensive) memory keyers suitable for contesting. Also, many recent transceivers have electronic keyers built-in,

so you might already have one in your shack. In that case all you will need is the paddle. Memory keyers contain, well, memories that can be programmed with various Morse code phrases. For example, you could program CQ DE AF8X into the keyer’s memory. When triggered, the keyer will send out your CQ automatically, freeing up your hands for another task until you get a call. During a contest or a deep pileup this can save a lot of wear and tear on your arm.

## Keyer Modes

Another choice: In which mode do you want your keyer to operate? Some keyers give you a choice of two modes, A or B; some only have one or the other. The difference between mode A and B lies in what the keyer does when both paddles are released. The mode A keyer completes the element being sent. The mode B keyer sends an additional element opposite to the one being sent.

You can tell the basic difference between the modes with the letter C (DAHDIDAHDIT).

In mode A, you could squeeze both paddles (dah before dit) then let go of both after hearing the last dit. The mode A keyer stops sending. With mode B, you start the same but let go of both paddles after hearing the second dah. In mode B the keyer will automatically add the last dit.

I prefer mode B, but some people never get used to it. I like it because it makes sending certain letters easier for me. Sending CQ uses a character insertion. The letter C is sent by holding the dah paddle (dah) and then holding the dit paddle until you hear the complete character (didahdit) then the Q is formed by holding the dah paddle (dahdah) and tapping the dit paddle (dit) and then releasing both (dah).

To learn iambic keying to the point where it becomes an unconscious effort, start slow, learning one letter at a time. Start with the



letter K (dahdidah). In mode B, hold the dah paddle then tap the dit paddle and release. When that becomes natural, try the letter R (didahdit), sent just the opposite. Hold the dit and tap the dah paddles and release. With some practice it will become second nature and the only time you will even notice it is if you use another keyer that is programmed for mode A. Whichever mode you decide on, it will take a bit of practice to become comfortable, but worth it.



**A HamGadgets digital keyer with a wide range of capabilities that include operating in either mode A or B, 30 memories that can store up to 255 characters each and speed adjustable from 5 to 99 WPM.**

## Semi-automatic Keys

The semi-automatic key, or “bug” as it is called, is a mechanical key. The bug is the oldest “automatic” keyer, having been first patented in 1904. It uses a single lever that the operator pushes back and forth. When the operator pushes the lever to the right an oscillating pendulum sends a series of dits at a constant rate. Pushing to the left sends one dah for each push. Bugs are generally designed for speeds from 20 to 60 WPM.

I have become proficient at using a bug. I have always liked the rhythmic, musical sound of a well-trained fist using a properly adjusted bug. I admit that there are a lot of horrible sounding bugs on the air because the operators do not adjust the dits to dah ratio correctly. These sound even worse when they send their text with no discernible space between letters or words.

I originally started using a bug to communicate with some of the slower CW operators because when I tried to use my electronic keyer I would release the paddle too quickly causing a lot of mistakes. I found that adding more weight to the bug slowed the dits down to a 12 to 15 WPM rate and it was much easier to operate than the keyer at that speed. Soon I found that I was enjoying using the bug for most of my contacts. The one most important thing about using a bug is the adjustment. Full adjustment instructions are included with the purchase of a Vibroplex bug and are also available online at the Vibroplex Web site.

You may be interested to learn that the Vibroplex Company, the original manufacturer of semi-automatic keys, is still in business making the same design semi-automatic keys almost 100 years since they started. The new ones have an optional finished base of a crackle/powder-coat, chrome or gold plate. I personally prefer the powder-coat finish, but have to admit, the others are very pretty. The latest in their bug line is the Blue Racer, which has a very nice cobalt-blue base, is smaller than the Original

model base and has jeweled pivots. Both the Original and Blue Racer units are a pleasing aesthetic sight if you like machinery.

There are a couple of accessories available from Vibroplex to help keep the dits under control. One is the Bug Tamer, which is an extension of the lever arm to allow adding weights farther away from the pivot point. The other is the Vari-Speed, which is a weighted lever that is swung forward or back to vary the dit speed. I have used both and find them very useful when operating at different speeds. [As of September 2009 neither the Bug Tamer nor the Vari-Speed is available from Vibroplex, although I was informed that this is a temporary situation. — Ed.]

After the adjustments are done, the next thing is practice. If you are used to operating an electronic keyer, it takes some time to overcome the urge to hold the dah side to form dashes. Persistence will pay off and soon you will be able to handle the bug with enough confidence to try it on the air. That's the test: If the other station can copy you, you have done well. If after trying a bug you decide it is not for you, it still makes a great looking paperweight and is a unique conversation piece.

## Full Break-in

Right after I received my ticket, I bought a Ten-Tec Century 21, a CW only rig. Like all Ten-Tecs, it featured full break-in (QSK). Not knowing any other way of operating, I soon adapted and enjoyed the advantages of this mode.

In full break-in operation, during your transmission your receiver is active between the dits and dahs. The atmospheric noise during this mode is distracting and it takes some getting used to before you can start to enjoy it. Full break-in makes it possible for the operator at the other end to interrupt you for a comment or a fill just by tapping his key.

Years ago, during my every evening schedule with John, W8URM, he and I would dis-

cuss the day's events and break each other with a remark or just a HI HI in the appropriate places.

As time passed, I bought several different rigs, most being very disappointing when operating CW due to the clatter and delay of the transmit/receive relay change-over. Even at the shortest delay, the relay was so distracting that it made operating much less pleasurable.

If your rig is capable of full break-in and you haven't tried it yet, you may discover a new way of operating. As mentioned, it does take a while to get used to, but once you do, you may even look for full break-in contacts by calling CQ QSK.

I especially like the idea when calling CQ as I can hear another station if he starts to call before I am done sending. It is a valuable tool for DXing, too. You can be sure you are not covering the DX station during your transmission.

So, whether you decide to go for the class of the mechanical bug or the high tech efficiency of an electronic keyer/paddle combo, either road will be your on-ramp to the high speed CW lane.

*Richard Arnold, AF8X, enlisted in the Air Force right out of high school and spent 4 years as a Medical Equipment Repairman. After his discharge in 1955, he trained as an electrician and worked in the Detroit area until his retirement in 1984. Since then he has been pursuing his interest in flying and radio. He enjoys riding his bicycle to local parks near his home in Clinton Township, Michigan and operating with his Elecraft K1 and KX-1. He also likes to play golf and is developing an interest in writing. He can be reached at 22901 Schafer, Clinton Twp, MI 48035, af8x@comcast.net.*

**QST**

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## New Products

### HAMCALC ELECTRONICS UTILITY SOFTWARE

◇ Version 113 of HAMCALC software for Windows or MS-DOS contains more than 300 utility programs for radio amateurs and electronics professionals. Developed by George Murphy, VE3ERP, the software is said to be easy to use for nontechnical hobbyists. HAMCALC is available free of charge by download from [www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com).

## HAPPENINGS

# ARRL Board Adopts Guidelines and Recommendations on the Appropriate Use of Amateur Radio

On September 25, the ARRL Board of Directors adopted guidelines on the appropriate use of Amateur Radio on behalf of commercial, nonprofit and government entities, as well as recommendations for additional steps to be taken by the ARRL to educate radio amateurs and others on how to prepare and train for public service and emergency communications while complying with the current FCC Rules.

At its meeting in July 2009, the ARRL Board created an ad-hoc committee to study the issue and prepare suggested guidelines. The committee submitted its report to the ARRL Executive Committee, which reviewed and revised the document. After additional discussion among Board members by electronic mail and teleconference, the Executive Committee submitted the document to the Board for formal adoption.

Entitled *The Commercialization of Amateur Radio: The Rules, The Risks, The Issues,*

the document offers guidelines to assist radio amateurs and anyone wishing to utilize the capabilities of Amateur Radio in understanding the FCC Rules that prohibit communications in which the amateur has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. While the FCC Rules in this regard have not changed in many years, there has been increasing discussion of the issue as growing numbers of employers and non-amateur organizations recognize the value of Amateur Radio as an emergency communications resource and encourage their employees to obtain amateur licenses. Also included are guidelines for evaluating the appropriateness of Amateur Radio volunteers providing communications services to commercial enterprises and other entities for which other communications systems are available.

"The guidelines are not intended to be the last word on the subject, and surely will not be," observed ARRL First Vice President

### FCC ISSUES PUBLIC NOTICE ON AMATEUR SERVICE COMMUNICATION DURING GOVERNMENT DISASTER DRILLS

On October 20, the FCC released a *Public Notice* clarifying the Commission's rules as they relate to the use of Amateur Radio by licensed amateurs who participate in drills and exercises on behalf of their employers.

Entitled *Amateur Service Communications During Government Disaster Drills* (DA 09-2259), this *Public Notice* addresses participation by paid employees of organizations taking part in drills and affirms that the Commission's rules "specifically prohibit amateur stations from transmitting communications 'in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer.'"

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said that "This *Public Notice* is intended to clarify a difficult issue. A wide range of unofficial — and frankly some incorrect — interpretations have been

offered on this topic in various public forums recently. DA-09-2259 is the official FCC notice on this issue. Though issued jointly by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB), the Enforcement Bureau (EB) and the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) under delegated authority from the Commission, the *Notice* makes it clear that WTB is the Bureau at the FCC with jurisdiction over the Amateur Radio Service rules and their interpretation."

The *Public Notice* states that, in order to facilitate participation by employees who wish to engage in government-sponsored drills and emergency exercises on behalf of their employers, a waiver can be requested from the WTB *by the government agency sponsoring the drill or exercise* (and not by the individual who wishes to participate in the drill or exercise). Such a request must follow established procedures for requesting a temporary waiver of the Commission's rules.



The ARRL publication *FCC Rules and Regulations for the Amateur Radio Service* contains the complete Part 97 rules.

Kay Craigie, N3KN, and chair of the ad-hoc committee. "The report includes several recommendations for additional steps that the ARRL needs to take to help amateurs and the organizations we serve to better understand the Rules and to ensure that what we do to prepare to be of service in emergencies is consistent with the current Rules."

The document is available on the ARRL Web site ([www.arrl.org/news/files/ARRL\\_AppropriateUseGuidelines.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/news/files/ARRL_AppropriateUseGuidelines.pdf)).

The government entity conducting the drill must include in its waiver application the following information:

- When and where the drill will take place,
- Identification of the amateur licensees expected to transmit amateur communications on behalf of their employer,
- Identification of the employer(s) on whose behalf the amateur(s) will be transmitting, and
- A brief description of the drill.

"It should be noted," Henderson said, "that the waiver request must be filed and acted upon *in advance* of the drill. The waiver must be actually granted by the Commission *before* the amateurs participate in the drill. It is not enough to apply — the waiver must be granted first."

The public notice also emphasizes that in an *actual emergency*, the Part 97 rules "provide that an amateur station may use any means of radiocommunication at its



disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and the immediate protection of property when normal communications systems are not available. In those specific circumstances, rule waiver is not necessary."

The Commission's *Public Notice* is on the FCC Web site ([hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2259A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-09-2259A1.pdf)).

## FOUR RADIO AMATEURS KILLED IN PLANE CRASH EN ROUTE TO CQWW PHONE CONTEST

Just after take-off — around 6:30 AM on October 21 — a twin-engine plane carrying four Amateur Radio operators crashed into the woods, only 250 yards off the end of the runway in Jedburb, South Carolina, about 20 miles northwest of Charleston. The plane — piloted and owned by Peter Radding, W2GJ — carried Ed Steeble, K3IXD; Dallas Carter, W3PP, and Randy Hargenrader, K4QO. The four men were on their way to the Bahamas, after a stop in Florida, to operate in the CQ World Wide Phone Contest as C6APR, competing in the Multi/2 category.

Radding, of North Charleston, South Carolina, was 69; Steeble, of Summerville, South Carolina was 68; Carter, of Laurel, Delaware, was 67 and Hargenrader, also of Summerville, was 55. All were ARRL members; Radding and Steeble were Life Members.

According to Dorchester County Coroner Chris Nisbet, the four hams had made this trip before with Radding piloting the plane. Nisbet said Radding had flown to Delaware to pick up Carter earlier in the week.

"How quickly can a joyous event — setting off with close friends in anticipation of a weekend of intense radio activity — turn to unfathomable tragedy," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "As we mourn the loss of these four well-known members of our global Amateur Radio community, our hearts go out to their families."

Dorchester County Administrator Jason Ward characterized the crash site as "extremely severe" and that the plane was fully

engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived; investigators were hindered by the flaming wreckage and "charred foliage" at the scene; a crew from the county public works department had to create a path to the wreckage. The coroner said it appears the severity of the crash, and not the fire, is what killed the men.

One of the victims was found beneath some of the wreckage, Ward said. Debris was spread around an area several yards wide at the crash site, and the wrecked plane was apparently upside down, he said.

Ward said that it was extremely dark when the plane took off, and airport manager Don Hay said the weather was clear at the time. "[Radding] was a very experienced pilot who knew the area," Ward said. "He had been flying for over 40 years." Nisbet said Radding filed a flight plan detailing his route and who was on board, but the plane never climbed high enough for those plans to be activated.

Stella Bazzle, who lives about a half-mile from the airport, described to *The Summerville Journal Scene* what she heard right before the plane went down: "The motor sounded like it was coming over the house. I heard the first explosion...then the second (explosion) wasn't as loud." She described the engine noise as "kind of a funny noise, like a grinding type thing." Bazzle said she then heard ambulances and called her neighbor, who had heard similar noises.

Carter, Steeble and Radding were members of the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC); Carter and Radding were also members of the Frankford Radio Club (FRC). PVRC President Ken Claerbout, K4ZW, told the ARRL that he was "stunned and saddened" when he heard the news of the crash:

"I had several e-mail exchanges with Dallas over the last two weeks about our Sweepstakes effort. He spoke with excitement of the group's trip to C6 for CQWW SSB and vowed to be on for Sweepstakes CW. He said he might have to work during Sweepstakes SSB, but if not, he would be there! Dallas joined PVRC in 1963. Ed was also a very active member of PVRC before moving to South Carolina. Ed joined PVRC in 1992 and is a past chairman of our Northwest Chapter. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the friends and families of all four gentlemen. Another stark reminder of how fickle life can be." — *Thanks to the many friends of these four hams, the Associated Press and The Summerville Journal Scene for the information*

## TEAM LEADERS SELECTED FOR WRTC 2010

After a grueling selection process, the organizers of the 2010 World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC) have selected team leaders representing all six continents. Of the 76 applications submitted, 44 were chosen as Team Leaders. These Team Leaders

will then choose a partner. WRTC, held every few years, takes place during the IARU HF World Championships, July 10-11. In 2010, WRTC will be held just outside Moscow.

WRTC began in 1990 under the auspices of the Goodwill Games, the brainchild of Ted Turner of CNN fame. The first Games were organized in Seattle, Washington, and focused on areas of cultural exchange, arts and other unique subjects — one of these being Amateur Radio and WRTC. Radio amateurs from around the world gathered in an Olympic-style event, joining in competition and camaraderie. In 1996, WRTC moved to San Francisco, then Slovenia in 2000, Finland in 2002 and Brazil in 2006.

Eleven teams will come from North America, 21 teams will come from Europe, six from Asia, one from Africa, one from Central America, two from Oceania and two from South America. Another six teams — the WRTC 2006 Champions, a host team and four sponsored teams — will bring the total to 50 teams. Each Team Leader will also nominate a referee, who, along with volunteers from the radiosport community, will be placed on a referee nomination list. From that list, referees will be selected and assigned to teams. During the competition, the team referee must be from a different country than that of the team and cannot be the one who was nominated by that team.

The 2010 WRTC will be held outside, "Field Day-style." According to organizers, the fields upon which WRTC will take place are located in a flat area about 35 kilometers south of Moscow in the Domodedovo district. Competitors will be located in clusters of 15-20 teams; these clusters will be in an area approximately 40×30 kilometers, with height differences no greater than 40 meters; all competitors' locations will be separated by at least 500 meters. In order to prepare for this style of operation, organizers operated from these fields for the 2009 running of the Russian Radiosport Team Championship.

Each team will have antennas and power monitors supplied, along with a tent, generator (and gasoline), tables, chairs and water. To avoid team members spending time refilling the generator, organizers will have a person dedicated at each location to help keep it up and running during the contest period.

Representing Area 1 of North America (W1, W2, W3 and the VA, NC, SC, FL and GA portions of W4) are Randy Thompson, K5ZD; Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, and Andy Blank, N2NT. Area 2 (the KY, TN and AL portions of W4 and W8 and W9) will be represented by Mike Wetzel, W9RE, and Scott Robbins, W4PA. Steve London, N2IC, and Kevin Stockton, N5DX, will represent Region 3



COURTESY ROBERT BISS, W8ZA



Robert Biss, W8ZA (far right), accompanied Ed Steeble, K3IXD/C6AXD (left); Dallas Carter, W3PP; Pete Radding, W2GJ/C6APR, and Randy Hargenrader, K4QO (not pictured), to the Bahamas last year for the 2008 running of the CQWW SSB Contest.

(W5, W0). Daniel Craig, N6MJ, and Mitch Mason, K7RL, will represent Area 4 (W6, W7, KL7). Area 5 (VE1, VE2, VE3, VE4, VE9, VY2 and VO2) will be represented by Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ. Area 6 (VE5, VE6, VE7 and VE8) will be represented by Lee Sawkins, VE7CC.

WRTC 2010 is supported by the Moscow Regional Government and the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF).

## 2009 SECTION MANAGERS WORKSHOP: A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The Annual Section Manager (SM) Workshop — held September 25-27 — gave 12 newly elected SMs (including three who began their first terms of office on October 1) to visit ARRL Headquarters. During the extended weekend gathering, participants not only got to meet many Headquarters staff members, but also learned some of the ins and outs of how to become effective Section leaders and administrators. The primary purposes of the Workshop sessions were to share ideas and to provide basic administrative, management, leadership and motivational training.

“The Section Manager Workshop is an orientation and training event for new Section Managers that have come on board within the last year,” said ARRL Field Organization Team Supervisor Steve Ewald, WV1X. “The ARRL has conducted this training each year at HQ for the past several years, and it was well received once again this year by the participants. The Membership and Volunteer Programs Department Staff and its Field Organization Team were the lead coordinators of the event.”

The following Section Managers attended this year’s Workshop: J. M. Rowe, N5XFW,



Left to right: George Strayline, W2GSS; Tom Brehmer, N0LOH; Dan Pruitt, AE6SX; Mike Lisenco, N2YBB; Gene Clark, W4AYK; J.M. Rowe, N5XFW; Dean Feken, KL7MA; Jay Urish, W5GM; Garth Crowe, N7XKT; Lee Cooper, W5LHC; David Greenhut, N6HD, and Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG.

Arkansas; Mike Neilsen, W1MPN, Eastern Massachusetts; Tom Brehmer, N0LOH, Iowa; Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, New York City/Long Island; Jay Urish, W5GM, North Texas; Dean Feken, KL7MA, Oklahoma; Dan Pruitt, AE6SX, San Joaquin Valley; George Strayline, W2GSS, Southern New Jersey, and Garth Crowe, N7XKT, Wyoming.

Three new Section Managers who were elected in August were also in attendance: Gene Clark, W4AYK, Georgia; David Greenhut, N6HD, Los Angeles, and Lee Cooper, W5LHC, South Texas. Their terms began October 1.

The Workshop provided an opportunity for those taking part to chat among themselves or within the group, sharing their own views on various issues and exchanging ideas. Through training and orientation sessions conducted by ARRL staff members and by meeting with other SMs, participants were able to explore what works as well, as what does not, and to bring home some fresh ideas and some encouragement.

On the morning of September 25, the Section Managers were given a detailed tour of ARRL Headquarters to meet staff and to visit W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memo-

rial Station. Several visiting Section Managers enjoyed the chance to operate from W1AW for a little while late on Saturday afternoon.

Several Headquarters staff members led training sessions during the weekend Workshop, allowing these Section Managers an opportunity to learn more about the League’s five pillars — Public Service, Advocacy, Education, Technology and Membership and how the position of Section Manager plays an important role.

HQ staff members involved in making session presentations included Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD; Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP; Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ; Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R; Membership Manager Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF; Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG; Assistant Manager of Membership and Volunteer Programs Norm Fusaro, W3IZ; Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, and Steve Ewald, WV1X. Other workshop speakers included ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, and Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N.

## In Brief

- **The ARRL Letter, Now in HTML, Moves to Thursdays:** ARRL members who subscribe to *The ARRL Letter* — now in HTML — are now getting their issues a day early. Beginning on September 24, *The ARRL Letter* and the *ARRL Audio News* started being delivered on Thursdays instead of Fridays. *The ARRL Letter* is published 50 times each year and offers a weekly summary of essential news of interest to active amateurs. It is available on the ARRL Web site and is sent free of charge to ARRL members via e-mail. The *ARRL Audio News* is compiled and edited from *The ARRL Letter* and is available on the ARRL Web site, via phone at 860-594-0384 and on more than 250 repeater systems around the world.

- **Ham Appointed Chief of Army MARS:** On September 25, veteran Army communicator Jim Griffin, KE7LJA, became Chief of the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS). Major General Susan Lawrence, Commanding General of the 9th Signal Command (Army), named Griffin to succeed Stuart Carter; Carter has held the Chief’s post since December 2006. MARS, the Defense Department-sponsored organization of Amateur Radio operators who volunteer for communications support in emergencies, is a component of the 9th SC (A). Before his appointment, Griffin served for two years as Deputy Chief of Army MARS, tasked with the

responsibility for construction of its new gateway communications station at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

- **IRCs — Out with the Old, In with the New:** It is now time to start dumping your old International Reply Coupons (IRCs): The *Beijing Model No 2* must be redeemed before December 31, 2009. According *QST*’s “How’s DX” editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, many QSL managers are now only accepting the new *Nairobi Model IRC*, so he advises that it is now time to start getting rid of the old IRCs and not get stuck with any. The new IRC, available in the US since September 10 costs \$2.10 each in the US. For those in the US who will be exchanging the old version of IRCs for new ones, USPS Bulletin #22267 advises postal workers to tell customers “to exchange IRCs that expire on December 31, 2009 for the new IRC version (Item 330800) or for other postage stamps. Retail associates can exchange unused US-issued IRCs for \$0.01 less than the value of the IRC. (The amount to exchange is the printed price of the IRC along with any additional postage affixed minus one penny.)” Many DXers use IRCs instead of cash when they send QSL cards. For more information on IRCs, see page 86 in the July 2009 issue of *QST*.







# PUBLIC SERVICE

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

Readiness ■ Response ■ Resilience

## National Weather Service/ ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) will take place on Saturday, December 5, 2009. This is the day that Amateur Radio operates from many National Weather Service (NWS) offices around the United States. The purpose of the event is to recognize Amateur Radio operators for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local National Weather Service office. The event is cosponsored by the American Radio Relay League and the National Weather Service.



Traditionally, hams have assisted the National Weather Service during times of severe weather by providing real-time reports of severe events and storm evolution. The assistance that radio amateurs provide to the NWS throughout the year is invaluable.

SKYWARN Recognition Day this year will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC on Saturday, December 5, 2009. (That means the event officially begins on Friday evening in the United States.) To learn more, check the NOAA Web site at [www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio).

### NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2009 INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2009 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. The award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize Amateur Radio operators who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster. Please refer to [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/awards/humanitarian.html](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/awards/humanitarian.html) for details, specific information and background on this annual award.

A committee appointed by the League's President recommends the award recipient(s) to the ARRL Board, which makes the final decision. The committee is now accepting nominations from Amateur Radio, governmental or other organizations that have benefited from extraordinary service rendered by an Amateur Radio operator or group.

Amateur Radio is one of the few telecommunication services that allow people throughout the world from all walks of life to meet and talk with each other, thereby spreading goodwill across political boundaries. The ARRL International Humanitarian

Award recognizes Amateur Radio's unique role in international communication and the assistance amateurs regularly provide to people in need.

Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's actions that qualify the individual (or individuals) for this award, plus verifying statements from at least two people having firsthand knowledge of the events warranting the nomination. These statements may be from an official of a group (for example, the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, a local or state emergency management official) that benefited from the nominee's particular Amateur Radio contribution. Nominations should include the names and addresses of all references.

All nominations and supporting materials for the 2009 ARRL International Humanitarian Award must be submitted in writing in English to ARRL International Humanitarian Award, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, USA. Nomination submissions are due by December 31, 2009. In the event that no nominations are received, the committee itself may determine a recipient or decide to make no award.

The winner of the ARRL International Humanitarian Award receives an engraved plaque and a profile in *QST* and other ARRL venues.

Winners of the 2008 ARRL Humanitarian Award were the amateurs of the Sichuan Radio Sports Association, the Chinese Radio Sports Association (CRSA) and the many Amateur Radio operators in China who assisted with communications support during the aftermath of the May 2008 earthquake in that country.

### PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL CRITERIA EXPLAINED

Each month in *QST*'s Field Organization Reports column, the Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) recognizes the efforts of Amateur Radio operators who are active in many aspects of public service. This includes net operations, traffic handling, emergency operations and public service communication support. There are chances that you're already involved with some aspect of Amateur Radio that would apply to the Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR).

Take a look at these categories and descriptions to see where your Amateur Radio activities fit in. At the end of each calendar month, just add up your qualifying points. If it reaches the 70 point level (or more), you've qualified for the Public Service Honor Roll. Report the good news with your call sign and monthly PSHR point total to your ARRL Section Manager or Section Traffic Manger.

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Steve Ewald, WV1X ♦ Public Service Specialist ♦ [sewald@arrl.org](mailto:sewald@arrl.org)

The ARRL section leaders, in turn, forward these reports to HQ so that staff members can prepare them for listing in the *QST* Field Organization Reports. The names of Section Managers are on page 16 of *QST* and at [www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections).

## PSHR Categories

Category 1. Participation in a public service net — 1 point, maximum 40.

One example of a public service net is one that is regularly scheduled and handles Amateur Radio formal messages. There are many such public service nets: local and section nets that are affiliated with the National Traffic System (NTS); NTS region, NTS area and independent nets that handle messages. ARES, RACES or SKYWARN nets that meet on a regular basis would also qualify. Another example is when an NTS Digital Relay Station manually logs onto an automated digital system. This action, too, qualifies under the intent of PSHR Category 1.

Category 2. Handling formal messages (radiograms) via any mode — 1 point for each message handled; maximum 40.

The ARRL's *Public Service Communications Manual* explains how to count your individual messages in Section 2, NTS Chapter 10.2. (You may find the entire manual at [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm).)

Category 3. Serving in an ARRL-sponsored volunteer position: ARRL Field Organization appointee or Section Manager, NTS Net Manager, Transcontinental Corps (TCC) Director, TCC member, NTS official or appointee above the Section level — 10 points for each position; maximum 30.

ARRL Field Organization appointees (in alphabetical order) include the following: Assistant District Emergency Coordinator, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, Assistant Section Manager, Bulletin Manager, District Emergency Coordinator, Emergency Coordinator, Local Government Liaison, Net Manager, Official Bulletin Station, Official Emergency Station, Official Observer, Official Observer Coordinator, Official Relay Station, Public Information Coordinator, Public Information Officer, Section Emergency Coordinator, Section Manager, Section Traffic Manager, State Government Liaison, Technical Coordinator and Technical Specialist.

The Section Manager is the ARRL member-elected League official in the section. An NTS official or appointee above the Section level would include Region and Area Net Managers and TCC Directors who are in charge of organizing TCC membership rosters of operators who comprise the corps. TCC members are those operators who are assigned to relay traffic from one NTS area to another, conducting liaison with NTS nets to do so. NTS Members at Large, NTS Area Staff Chairs, NTS Area Digital Coordinators

GEORGE STONE, WB4CYV, AND DAVID PARRISH, KI4THY



**Mike Boyea, KE4KMG (left), is interviewed by Lelan Stratom of News Channel 5 of Nashville. In the spring of 2009, members of Middle Tennessee Amateur Radio Society and the Middle Tennessee SKYWARN helped program weather alert radios for the public.**

and Digital Relay Stations would also be included in this category.

Category 4. Participation in scheduled, short-term public service events such as walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, parades, simulated emergency tests and related practice events earns the participant 5 points per hour (or any portion thereof) of time spent in either coordinating and/or operating in the public service event; no limit. This includes off-the-air meetings and coordination efforts with related emergency groups and served agencies.

Category 5. Participation in an unplanned emergency response when the Amateur Radio operator is on the scene. This also includes unplanned incident requests by public or served agencies for Amateur Radio participation. The participant earns 5 points per hour (or any portion thereof) of time spent directly involved in the emergency operation; no limit.

This category recognizes an Amateur Radio operator who is directly involved in an actual emergency operation. This includes the operator who is on the scene or out in the field, in the shelter, at the emergency operations center, at the hospital or other served agency's headquarters, or their temporary command center.

If you are an active participant in an unplanned incident — in other words, an emergency operation — you may take credit for this participation even though you may not be physically at the emergency scene.

Category 5 covers all the Amateur Radio operator participants such as net controllers, net liaison stations and other radio amateurs who support communications in unplanned incidents. Even if you are not actually on the emergency scene or at the shelter, etc, but are spending time and efforts for supporting the same emergency communication


effort, then this time would count for points in Category 5.

Category 6. Providing and maintaining:

- a) an automated digital system that handles ARRL radiogram-formatted messages;
- b) a Web page or e-mail list server oriented toward Amateur Radio public service — 10 points per item.

Category 6(a) recognizes the efforts it takes to provide and maintain an automated digital system (like a packet bulletin board or a PACTOR system) that handles ARRL radiogram-formatted messages.

Category 6(b) recognizes that Web pages and e-mail list servers have become popular and effective ways to communicate news and information to the community of radio amateurs who are involved in emergency and public service communication operations and preparedness.

If you are involved in any of these activities, keep track of your efforts and the time involved and report your results accordingly. If you qualify for PSHR twelve (12) consecutive months, or 18 out of a 24 month period, you are eligible for a one-time certificate from ARRL Headquarters. Please write (and include a list of qualifying months) to Steve Ewald, WV1X, in care of ARRL Headquarters. As an additional reference, check [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/psmr](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/psmr). 

## Subscribe to the ARES® E-Letter

If you're interested in public service and emergency communications, subscribe to the *ARES® E-Letter* at:

[www.arrl.org/ARES-EL](http://www.arrl.org/ARES-EL)

ARRL members can have the *ARES® E-Letter* sent to them each month. Just sign up at:

[www.arrl.org/ares-letter](http://www.arrl.org/ares-letter)



You must be logged into the ARRLWeb site to access this particular link.





## Team USA at the 2009 World High Speed Telegraphy Championships

Ken Low, KE3X

The 2009 World High Speed Telegraphy (HST) Championships were held September 11-15 in Obzor, Bulgaria. While HST has historically been an Eastern European sport, teams from several new countries, such as Mongolia, entered this year; after an absence of several years, the United States

returned to the competition. Team USA fielded a five person team led by captain Barry Kutner, W2UP. Ilya Kleyman, KE7OPG; Gary Schmidt, W5ZL; Kody Low, K3ODY, and myself rounded out the team. Barry and Ilya were returning to HST competition for the second time, but for the rest of us it would be our first experience.

An HST competition is divided into three types of events — Transmitting, Receiving and Practicing Tests — held over a two day period. Competitors are divided into five age groups; both the Men's and Women's divisions have Under 16, Under 21, Under 40 and Over 40 divisions, plus an additional Over 50 division on the Men's side. Each country can field up to two competitors per division, for a total of 18 competitors.

### Day 1: MorseRunner and Transmitting

The competitions began on Saturday morning. Barry and Gary headed off to their Receiving Tests, while Ilya, Kody and I were assigned the same bracket and drew *MorseRunner*, one of the Practicing Tests, as our first event. HST contestants use "HST Mode," where a pileup of four stations is continuously calling. After you log a station, another one immediately arrives to replace it. This would be ideal, of course, if all four were always perfectly spaced out by 150 Hz and had different call sign lengths, but of course it's never that simple.

Perhaps due to our backgrounds in CW contesting, *MorseRunner* turned out to be the best event for Team USA. Barry took the silver medal in Category I while Ilya and I posted the second and fourth best scores in a tight Over 40 class where seven competitors scored in a 150-point range. But all our efforts were dwarfed when Bulgarian Ilya Getzov, LZ4UU, blew away the previous



Team USA at the 8th HST IARU World Championships (left to right): K3ODY, KE3X, W2UP, W5ZL and KE7OPG.

world record with an unbelievable 4330 points. That's 72 QSOs in a 10 minute period at an average of 60 words per minute, or about 8 seconds per QSO at a rate of 430 per hour, all copied through nonstop four-station QRM!

Our next event was Transmitting (TX), at which I thought: "This will be easy, I've been sending CW since I was 12 years old — piece of cake." In Transmitting, the objective is to send as many 5-character "groups" as possible in 60 seconds. You do this three times in a row for Letters, Figures and Mixed Characters, where Mixed means all the letters, figures *and* five punctuation marks. If you make an error — and with three International Class Referees staring at you, you surely will — you have two options: You can either send 6 "dits" and repeat the group, or you can accept a 5 percent score reduction and keep going. But there's a catch: After three uncorrected errors, your run ends, even if the 60 seconds aren't up yet.

I got through my Transmitting Letters and Mixed well enough, but in Figures I ran into a brick wall labeled 97567. Sending at a "conservative" 48 words per minute, I left off a single "dit" on the last 7. Okay, no problem, I'm only 18 seconds into the run, and I don't want to burn a 5 percent penalty too early, so I'll just repeat it. Second try: same error again, last digit! Now it's crunch time: Do I take the 5 percent penalty and keep going? No, stay cool, let's try one last time. Third time: Different error, same digit. Those 10 seconds would cost me a full place in the overall standings. Noting my sheepish expression after the run, one of the referees offered gently but matter-of-factly: "Rookie mistake using the dual-lever paddle, kid: The pros use single-lever for Figures." Thankfully, Ilya captured the third medal for Team USA with scores of 220, 230 and 140 characters.

### Day 2: Rufz and Receiving

Day 2 of the competition meant the second Practicing Test: *Rufz*. Pronounced "ruffs," it is short for *Rufzeichen-Hören*, which in German means "listening to call signs." At HST, you get two attempts to copy 50 call signs as accurately as possible, and the higher score counts. But here's the trick: If you get a call sign right, the speed increases, so the next call sign becomes harder to copy.

Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK, from Germany came within 500 points of setting a new *Rufz* world record as he grabbed the gold medal with a score of 194,038. For the rest of us "mortals," that's an average of close to 800 characters per minute (CPM), or almost 200 words per minute across 50 call signs. To me, Morse code at 800 CPM sounds like a 20 millisecond burst of noise.

Finally, it was time for the Receiving (RX) tests. At an HST competition, the speeds start at 50 CPM and keeps rising in 10 character increments until it exceeds 300 CPM and the last competitor throws in the towel. In this event, Ilya won a bronze medal, while Barry got a certificate for 6th Place.

### Heading Home

On the final day, we had the final closing ceremonies and awarding of team medals and individual overall medals. Ilya picked up a bronze for the US in the Over 40 overall classification, raising the total Team USA medal count to five. No surprises on the team scores, as Belarus, Russia and Romania took home the gold, silver and bronze medals, respectively. Team USA placed 9th out of 14 teams — a respectable showing for our first real team effort, as we took home the first medals ever for any team outside Europe.

We saw that HST in Eastern Europe is popular for all the right reasons: It's fun, it develops concentration and mental stamina, it tests performance under pressure and it's implemented in a supportive team setting where the top talent can represent their countries on an international stage. All the competitors and referees were generous in their suggestions on how to improve our skill level. My favorite tidbit of advice? Becoming a World Champion is simple: Practice Morse code one hour per day, then repeat for 10 years. **QST**



# This Month in Contesting

Sean Kutzko, KX9X

ARRL Contest Branch Manager, kx9x@arrl.org

## WARM EVENTS FOR SOME HOLIDAY CHEER

Ah, December...the days are shorter, the air is colder, and the holidays make all of us harried and happy at the same time. While we all have responsibilities to family and friends during this time of year, there are also several on-air events that keep radio fun and exciting, even if we have limited time. Here's an extended "Sean's Picks" for December, to give you a taste of what you could be doing with your contest time this holiday season.

Of course, no December would be complete without the ARRL 160 Meter and 10 Meter Contests. Though we're still at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, 10 meters has surprises in store for us all the time. On many occasions, 10 is open, but everybody is waiting for somebody else to call CQ; therefore, no signals are heard. The weekend of December 12 is the time to get on 10 and make some noise. Make sure the Technicians in your local club get on and work this one. The 10 Meter Contest has been the impetus for many a license upgrade.

The 160 Meter Contest was what enticed me to get on the Magic Band for the first time. I had an Elmer back in Urbana, Illinois who told me to try this contest. "But I have no 160 antenna," I lamented. All I had was a barefoot rig and a 40 meter dipole up about 50 feet. My Elmer told me to use my tuner and load it up, and I would work people. Sure enough, I made about 300 QSOs in a casual effort. Yes, I had to retune it every few kHz, but I worked a lot of stuff, including New England and numerous stations on the West Coast. I even bagged KH6 and a couple of Caribbean stations with that arrangement. Help get the kids to bed, find something to load up and get on for this great event the weekend of December 5.

There are other events in the last month of the year that are worth investigating as well:

For more 160 meter fun, be sure to try the **Stew Perry Topband Challenge** December 26 and 27. Stew Perry, W1BB (SK) was known as "Mister 160" by many operators. This contest honors his legacy. It

has a unique element: scoring is based on the distance of the QSO.

If you enjoy digital modes, or you've been wanting to try them, you have several options available to you in December. The **TARA RTTY Melee**, sponsored by the Troy Amateur Radio Association, is December 6. Everybody works everybody in this one.

The Feld-Hell Club sponsors a monthly Hellschreiber sprint. December's **Feld-Hell Sprint** will be December 17 from 1500Z-1700Z. Turn on your rigs and start printing those QSOs!

PSK was once the "new" digital mode. In fact, it's now been around for over a decade. Naturally, there are competitions for this mode. Perhaps the premier PSK contest is the **PSK DeathMatch**, sponsored by the Michigan DX Association. For 48 hours on December 12 and 13, stations all around the world will get their PCs and interfaces gassed up for the big event. Multipliers are States/Canadian Provinces/Countries per band. This is a fun event and does draw quite a bit of DX. If you've never made a PSK QSO, the DeathMatch is a good "learning" event. The prizes are tough to beat as well; if you do well, you can win a *real* sword! That would be handy for cutting through the QRM.

Finally, more PSK contesting can be had for some end-of-the-year cheer: The Penn-Ohio DX Society's **070 Club DX Scramble** will be on December 27. This QRP event is perfect for PSK, as you simply don't need that much power to run PSK. You will be surprised at what you can work with a mere 5 watts on PSK.

VHFers have the opportunity to test the limits of their stations with two events. The last leg of the **ARRL International EME Competition** takes place on the weekend of December 5-6. In case you haven't heard, you don't need a large, complicated station to work EME these days; using the WSJT software by K1JT, stations with 100 watts and a halfway decent beam can copy other stations off the moon, even without an eleva-

tion rotator! For more information, check out EA6VQ's Web site at [www.vhfdx.net/eme.html](http://www.vhfdx.net/eme.html).

WSJT can also be used for terrestrial QSOs, often using meteor-scatter propagation. The **North American VHF WSJT Geminids Contest** runs December 12-16, around the same time as the Geminids meteor shower (hence the name). This is an exciting way to make QSOs hundreds of miles away on the VHF bands. Technician class licensees are welcome to try this! Visit the WSJT Group's Web site at [www.ykc.com/wa5ufh/](http://www.ykc.com/wa5ufh/) for complete details.

HF QRPers have lots to do as well. There are no less than five QRP events this year, including the RU QRP club's **Wake Up! Sprint** (December 4 and 5), the Adventure Radio Society's **Spartan Sprint** (December 8), The Colorado QRP Club's **Snowshoe Run** (December 13), the QRP-ARCI's **Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint** (December 20) and the Flying Pigs' **Run For The Bacon Sprint** (December 21). These are great little events that don't take up much time and are loads of fun. Try them — especially if you only have a couple of hours to play radio.

Numerous holiday contests exist as well, including the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Radio Society's **Christmas Lights QSO Party** (December 19-January 3), The **RAC Winter Contest** (December 26), and the DARC's **Christmas Contest** (December 26). Lastly, you can ring in the new year with one of the great Amateur Radio traditions, ARRL's **Straight Key Night**.

While I've outlined numerous ways you can play radio during the holiday season, let's not forget the true spirit of the season. Let's all take a moment and be thankful for what we have today. Give back to your community in some fashion this season. An "attitude of gratitude" is especially important during the holiday season.

Wishing you peace, health and pileups.

### NCJ In the November/December "Contesting 101"

**Mistakes.** The smart ones learn from their mistakes; the wise ones learn from the mistakes of others. Kirk Pickering, K4RO, gives you the top 10 rookie mistakes in contesting and how to avoid them. Contesting 101 can be found in the *National Contest Journal*, published six times per year. For subscription information, visit [www.arrl.org/ncj](http://www.arrl.org/ncj).



### Operating Tip of the Month

“*Performance Reviews.* Take some time right after a contest to make notes of what worked well and what didn't. Did you change bands too early? Why? Did that new antenna make a difference? How? Did rearranging your desk make things more comfortable for you in your last effort? Constant, honest examination of your station will result in better performance next time, no matter what your level of competition.”





# CONTEST CORRAL



In association with the  
National Contest Journal

# DECEMBER 2009

Start and Finish	HF	VHF+	Contest Title	Phone	CW	Digital	Exchange	Sponsor's Web Site
Dec 3, 0000Z - Dec 3, 0600Z	1.8		Top Band Sprint		X		RST, S/P/C, ARCI number or Power	qrparci.org/contests
Dec 4, 2200Z - Dec 6, 1600Z	1.8		ARRL 160 Meter Contest		X		RST and ARRL/RAC section if US/VE	www.arrl.org/contests
Dec 5, 0000Z - Dec 6, 2400Z	50-1296		ARRL EME Competition	X	X		Both call signs, sig rpt, acknowledgment	www.arrl.org/contests
Dec 5, 1600Z - Dec 6, 1800Z	3.5		Top Operators Activity Contest		X		RST, serial, and TOPS/PRO number	www.procwclub.yobex.ro
Dec 5, 0000Z - Dec 5, 2400Z	1.8-28		TARA RTTY M��lee		X		RST and State/Province or serial	www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_melee_rules.html
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 16, 0200Z	50-222		North American VHF WSJT Contest		X		Both calls, grid square, acknowledgment	www.sportsliche.com/wb2fko/w09/rules_w09.pdf
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 13, 2400Z	28		ARRL 10 Meter Contest	X	X		RS(T) and State/Prov or serial	www.arrl.org/contests
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 13, 2400Z	28		28 MHz SWL Contest	X	X		Log ARRL 10 Meter Contest QSOs	swl.veron.nl/swlcontest.htm
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 13, 2400Z	1.8-28	50	PSK Death Match		X		Name and S/P/C	www.mdx1.org/deathmatch.html
Dec 12, 0000Z - Dec 13, 0200Z	1.8		Russian 160 Meter Contest	X	X		RS(T), serial, square ID (see Web site)	www.radio.ru/cq/contests/rule-results/
Dec 12, 1400Z - Dec 13, 1400Z	1.8-28		Croatian CW Contest		X		RST and serial	www.hamradio.hr
Dec 12, 1700Z - Dec 13, 1000Z	1.8-7		UBA Winter Contest	X	X		RS(T) and UBA section or serial	users.telenet.be/on6ly
Dec 13, 2100Z - Dec 13, 2259Z	14		Great Colorado Snowshoe Run		X		RST, S/P/C, class, CQC number or power	www.cqc.org/contests/snow2008.htm
Dec 19, 0000Z - Dec 20, 2400Z	3.5-28		OK DX RTTY Contest		X		RST and CQ Zone	www.crk.cz/FENG/DXCONTE.HTM
Dec 19, 0000Z - Dec 19, 2359Z	1.8-28	50,144	RAC Winter Contest	X	X		RS(T) and province or serial	www.rac.ca
Dec 19, 0001Z - Jan 3, 2359Z	1.8-28	50,144	Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	X	X		Serial or ARLHS number	arlhs.com
Dec 20, 2000Z - Dec 20, 2400Z	1.8-28		Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint		X		RST, S/P/C, ARCI number or Power	qrparci.org/contests
Dec 26, 0200Z - Dec 26, 0959Z	3.5-28		RAEM Contest	X	X		Serial and lat/long in degrees	www.srr.ru/CONTEST/cup_raem_engl_07.php
Dec 26, 0830Z - Dec 26, 1100Z	3.5-7		DARC Christmas Contest	X	X		RS(T) and DOK or special station code	www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcx.htm
Dec 26, 1500Z - Dec 27, 1500Z	1.8		Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge		X		Grid square	jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt
Dec 27, 0000Z - Dec 27, 2400Z	14		070 Club QRP DX Scramble		X		Call sign, first name, WR 100 entity	www.podxs070.com
Dec 31, 1700Z - Dec 31, 12 Mid	1.8-28		South Dakota QSO Party	X	X		RS(T) and SD county or S/P/C	www.w0blk.org
Jan 1, 0000Z - Jan 1, 2359Z	1.8-28	50+	ARRL Straight Key Night		X		General QSOs	www.arrl.org/contests

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar date in North America. Times given as AM or PM are local times and dates. Refer to the contest Web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information. No contest activity occurs on 30, 17, 12 meters. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. S/P/C = State, Province, DXCC Entity. Publication deadline for Contest Corral listings is the first day of the second month prior to publication.

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

**ARRL WINTER CONTESTS ~ SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

**RTTY ROUNDUP** JANUARY VHF SWEEPSTAKES

**160 Meters** **EME Contest** **Straight Key Night**

**10 Meters**

[www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

## DECEMBER 2009 QUALIFYING RUNS

◆ W1AW Qualifying Runs are 10 PM EST Friday, December 4 (0300Z December 5) and 9 AM EST (1400Z) Tuesday, December 15 (10-40 WPM). The West Coast Qualifying Run will be transmitted on 3681.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5 and 21067.5 by station K6KPH at 2 PM PST (2200Z) Saturday, December 12 (10-40 WPM). Unless otherwise indicated, code speeds are from 10-35 WPM.

# Take 77! Field Day 2009

A cast of thousands (37,592, to be precise) marched onto their FD sets June 27-28. It was no *Lost Weekend* for them.

**Dan Henderson, N1ND**

ARRL Field Day "Key Grip"

Reminiscing on the blockbuster movies from yesteryear and today, the thought crossed my mind that Field Day was not too different from most Hollywood productions. There are plot lines to follow...Actors to recruit...Deals to make...Locations to scout...Equipment to gather...Stories to tell...With the result being a feature worthy of acclaim within our own ranks as well as within the towns and communities where we reside because, to steal a line from *The Maltese Falcon*, Field Day is "*The stuff that dreams are made of.*"

It was almost as if Shoeless Joe in *Field of Dreams* had whispered, "*If you hold it, they will come.*" Come they did, as Field Day 2009 set an all-time record for both number of entries received (2642) as well as number of participants (37,592). Maybe there was magic in the Iowa cornfields, the mountains of Colorado, the beachfronts in Hawaii, the thawing tundra of Alaska, or



ANDY VAVRA, KD3RF/VE2DXJ

Field Day fun for three young aspiring hams as (from the left) Evan Pepper, Gary Pepper and Martin Kempisty make contacts on 20 meters under the watchful eyes of K3DN Warminster ARC's control operators.

right, Mr Maxim, I'm ready for my CQ." That's the most total contacts reported since 2002. Phone remains the most popular mode, accounting for 56.3% of all contacts. If Harry asks "*You've got to ask yourself one question: 'Do you like CW? Well. Do ya, Hiram?'*" the answer has to be a resounding "Yes" because the 556,525 CW QSOs are the most reported since before 1995, the earliest year for which we have complete QSO breakdowns. The 38,340 digital QSOs are again the most ever reported for Field Day. Leads one to borrow a line from the *Wizard of Oz*: "*Hiram, I've got a feeling we're not on AM anymore.*"

Mortimer, the well-loved nephew in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, could well have been talking about Field Day when he said, "*Insanity runs in my family. It practically gallops.*" Field Day sites in all 50 states, all 80 ARRL/RAC sections, as well as Mexico, Jamaica, Costa Rica and South Africa, witnessed the frenetic spirit in action. Whether

the city parks of New York. We should not be surprised, however, because Field Day traditionally has the largest participation of any Amateur Radio activity sponsored by the ARRL.

My favorite movie of all time — *Casablanca* — would well be represented in this script by saying "*Of all the Field Day sites in all the towns in all the world, they walk into mine*" when we talk about the online Field Day locator. In only its second year, a total of 1606 clubs, groups and individuals listed their sites, and it has turned out to be a popular tool for extending Amateur Radio's message and invitations to our towns, communities and friends.

After the months of planning and final hours of site work, the moment arrived where we could have "*Dirty Harry*" Callahan make the first QSO saying, "*Go ahead, make my log.*" And make the logs they did, as participants reported 1,360,401 contacts. It is as if Norma Desmond walked right off *Sunset Boulevard* and said, "*All*



### Top 10 Claimed Scores

Call Sign	Score	Class
W3AO	30,888	20A
K1R	20,562	5A
W6ZE	19,304	9A
W9CA	18,996	3A
W2RDX	18,614	3A
W6YX	17,448	4F
K2NJ	16,790	3F
K2ZR	15,150	2A Battery
K2AA	14,894	6A
W4IY	14,744	6A

### Entries by Class

1A	173	20A	1	2E	28
2A	502	1B1	198	3E	18
3A	338	2B1	1	4E	9
4A	149	1B2	64	11E	1
5A	73	2B2	26	1F	36
6A	45	1C	56	2F	78
7A	21	3C	1	3F	50
8A	9	1D	371	4F	16
9A	11	2D	20	5F	13
10A	2	3D	6	6F	1
11A	1	4D	2	7F	2
12A	1	5D	1	10F	2
17A	1	1E	280	11F	1



Participation By ARRL Section

Section	Entries	Section	Entries	Section	Entries	Section	Entries
AB	11	KY	34	NNY	7	SK	4
AK	9	LA	21	NT	5	SNJ	19
AL	29	LAX	36	NTX	65	STX	61
AR	23	MAR	11	NV	17	SV	31
AZ	51	MB	2	OH	126	TN	62
BC	30	MDC	51	OK	33	UT	23
CO	56	ME	16	ON	60	VA	75
CT	34	MI	88	OR	52	VI	1
DE	7	MN	60	ORG	45	VT	16
DX	4	MO	56	PAC	7	WCF	23
EB	23	MS	18	PR	5	WI	46
EMA	27	MT	20	QC	25	WMA	13
ENY	27	NC	73	RI	13	WNY	44
EPA	79	ND	10	SB	17	WPA	51
EWA	21	NE	14	SC	32	WTX	14
GA	67	NFL	37	SCV	31	WV	13
IA	29	NH	21	SD	10	WWA	60
ID	16	NL	3	SDG	27	WY	10
IL	90	NLI	27	SF	14		
IN	65	NM	26	SFL	24		
KS	36	NNJ	41	SJV	28		

phrase Dorothy in *Jerry McGuire*, we want them leaving with the “*You had me at CQ*” mindset. The closest we have to paparazzi for Field Day is the ARRL Online Soapbox at [www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/](http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/). Select “2009 ARRL Field Day” and see the who-what-how’s of 230 Field Day sites. It’s not too late to add yours — after all, Hollywood is noted for sequels, prequels and remakes of past classics!

We all know Field Day is not a scored, adjudicated contest — it is an on-the-air operating event. As such, we do not declare winners. It works on the philosophy that all who participate end up with an experience that improves their knowledge and skills. Nevertheless, as you can see from the list of top ten claimed scores, it is as if Captain Renault, again from *Casablanca*, uttered his famous quote: “*Round up the usual suspects.*” Congratulations to all participants and those who met their individual or group’s goals.

And so it is time to put the wrap on another outstanding Field Day. However, it is a *Never Ending Story* really. While we are just getting ready for the festive holiday season, many groups have already started the preparations for not a rerun, but another remake of the classic *Same Time, Next Year*. I hope that on the weekend of June 26-27 we will not be recalling the prison captain’s line from *Cool Hand Luke* — “*What we have here is the failure to have sunspots to communicate.*” Instead, let’s hope Field Day 2010 lets us see Rick and Captain Renault walking off while saying, “*Hiram, I think this is the beginning of a beautiful weekend...*”

hosting local VIPs from government or served agencies, helping the local reporters get the right angles for the news reports, maintaining the generator or setting up for the covered-dish supper, the energy at a well run Field Day site reminds one of Audrey 2, the misbehaving space plant from *Little Shop of Horrors*. One can almost hear the constant refrain of “*Feed me!*” You do not need a director to shout “*Action!*”

The role of Field Day in introducing new operators and curious onlookers to Amateur Radio remains firmly in the grasp of the Get On The Air — GOTA station. A total of 470 groups included a GOTA station in their operation, which gives a completely

new perspective to the movie *Look Who’s Talking*. Between the GOTA station and youth bonus for young operators, many groups could well be paraphrasing the line from *The Blues Brothers* — “*We’re on a mission from Hiram.*”

Similar to a Hollywood premier, Field Day sites across the lands roll out their own versions of the “red carpet” to welcome visitors. Mayors, city council members, members of Congress, state politicians, community leaders, representatives of served agencies...They all visit our sites and become “stars” for the moment. The goals of these visits are to grab their interest and to leave good impressions. To para-

Scores

Class A stations are clubs or groups operating with three or more operators. Score listings are grouped according to the number of transmitters in simultaneous operation. The listings show club or group name, call sign(s) used, total number of QSOs, number indicating power output used (5 is less than 5 W, 2 is less than 150 W; 1 is more than 150 W), number of participants and total score including bonus points and ARRL section. Scores are listed from highest to lowest in each class. Class B stations are portables manned by one or two operators. When there are two operators, the other operator’s call is listed in parentheses, if it is known. Class C stations are mobiles. Class D stations are home stations using commercial power. Class E stations are home stations using emergency power. Class F stations are EOC stations. Checklogs were either submitted as such or were reclassified because of incomplete/missing data.

1A SPAWAR Team K6AM 3070 2 7 9,510 SDG	Big Hill ARC K0HP 936 2 3 4,292 SD	Newton ARA W0WML 477 2 10 2,678 IA	Bass Hill Repeater Group W1KX 552 2 6 2,166 ME
Gaither Mountain CC N5RR 2036 2 4 7,724 AR	Metro DX Club W9TY 1077 2 7 4,264 IL	Murphy’s Law K5QY 561 2 7 2,642 NTX	Western MI Portable W8A 782 2 3 2,134 MI
W0ICT 1784 2 6 7,338 KS	VE2FET 953 2 10 4,230 QC	K9OM-K4NVZ Alternative Energy Co-op K9OM 572 2 3 2,618 IL	I Walton Portable Radio Operators Club K8JW 522 2 3 2,126 MI
Bonfield Area Radio Fraternity K9TP 1715 2 4 7,116 IL	Assn Radio Amateurs of So New England W1AQ 1352 2 22 4,072 RI	Jasper RC K4BEH 513 2 20 2,512 GA	IOOK Family Affair KN8J 457 2 3 2,078 WV
Rocky Mountain Telegraphers W0VK 1454 2 3 6,366 CO	Case Western Reserve Univ ARC W8EDU 949 2 3 3,862 OH	Page Valley ARC K4PMH 682 2 8 2,444 VA	Sandia National Laboratories ARC W5MPZ 510 2 16 2,070 NM
Hoosier DX & Contest Club KJ9D 1328 2 14 6,112 IN	Greer ARC W4IT 1053 2 20 3,774 SC	Athens Co ARA W8MHV 450 2 6 2,368 OH	Verde Valley ARA W7E1 892 2 38 2,034 AZ
Tucson Tracon ARC W47NB 2123 2 3 5,266 AZ	W4IT 1053 2 20 3,774 SC	Loudon Co. ARES W4FLO 539 2 14 2,358 TN	Greater Lansing DX Group N8VYS 362 2 6 1,998 MI
Robert F Heytow Memorial RC K9YA 1162 2 5 5,298 IL	Fernando Amargura Radio Transmitting Society KL2AX 830 2 3 3,772 AK	The 570-V Connection W3HGT 744 2 4 2,356	Lanark-North Leeds ARES VE3LCA 381 2 11 1,978 ON
Lafayette DX Assn W9LDX 1464 2 7 5,262 IN	Loop Group K4QXX 1052 2 17 3,508 WCF	NTX West Island ARC VE2CWI 507 2 31 2,348 QC	Owensboro ARC K4HY 397 2 9 1,944 KY
W0GG 1278 2 3 5,262 CO	Alberta Clippers VE6EX 783 2 5 3,448 AB	Central WI Radio Amateurs @ UWSP K9UW 801 2 9 2,310 WI	Dick Turrin Memorial RC W2IMU 451 2 4 1,906 SNJ
High Knob Trekkers N4DD 1220 2 3 5,130 VA	Albuquerque DX Assn W5UR 1168 2 12 3,286 NM	Southwest MS ARC W5WQ 642 2 25 2,234 MS	WPPS RADIO CLUB W7POE 313 2 3 1,902 MT
Buckeye DX Club W8OS 1102 2 4 4,808 OH	Dr Loomis Memorial Jr Mechanics League W3KDR 971 2 11 3,214 MDC	Parma RC W8PRC 487 2 16 2,204 OH	Bob Haley Memorial WB6CML 809 2 7 1,868 AL
Bozo and the Lids W9TG 992 2 4 4,700 IN	South Georgian Bay ARC VE3SGB 1110 2 5 3,170 ON	Conejo Wireless Society K6SB/7 523 2 3 2,174 NV	LeFrog W9VBQ 615 2 10 1,852 WI
Emergency Mobile Communications Club W3USA 1236 2 3 4,480 OH	Garden State ARA K2USA 664 2 20 3,070 NNJ	Benton ARS K5NE 528 2 13 2,174 AR	Juneau ARC KL7IG 584 2 17 1,828 AK
Neurosa’s Gopher Munchers AE6C 985 2 4 4,410 SV	Oconee Fire District 17 FD Group W9DC 704 2 5 2,958 SC		North East WY Contest Assn WY7FD 493 2 3 1,824 WY
	SHARK K5MV 570 2 35 2,696 STX		





Candlewood ARA W1QI 1442 2 30 5,044 CT	OH-KY-IN ARS K8SCH (+N8YC) 873 2 37 3,774 OH	The Villagees ARC K4VRC (+K14DYE) 552 2 43 2,740 NFL	Mecklenburg ARS W4BFB 521 2 65 2,084 NC VE3SAR 513 2 14 2,084 ON
Utah ARC W7SP (+N7OVG) 1343 2 54 5,014 UT	Johnson City ARA W4ABR 784 2 30 3,760 TN	Kingsport ARC W4TRC 1132 2 25 2,714 TN	Radio Operadores Del Este KP3RE 350 2 30 2,078 PR
Harris-Intersil ARC K4HRS (+K64KFF) 1129 2 23 4,940 SFL	San Mateo RC W6UQ (+W6TUK) 1014 2 15 3,724 SCV	Irvine Disaster Emergency Communications N6IPD (+K6NL) 738 2 32 2,708 ORG	Prescott-Russell ARES Group VE3PRV 509 2 12 2,074 ON N4MI 429 2 19 2,066 VA
Montrose ARC K0IIT (+KC0QXX) 1421 2 49 4,892 CO	Montgomery ARC W4AP (+K4V4AC) 982 2 65 3,686 AL	West Allis RAC W9FK 747 2 21 2,702 WI	Tri State ARA K3TSA 502 2 12 2,066 ENY K7EUG 577 2 3 2,060 OR
MARCA W7MOT (+WA7ZQK) 1488 2 20 4,884 AZ	Yonkers ARC W2YRC (+KF2FK) 787 2 68 3,660 ENY	Delaware Valley Radio Assn W2ZQ (+KB2SYB) 498 2 32 2,694 SNJ	Middle TN ARS, Inc. W4UOT (+AJ4QR) 463 2 41 2,050 TN
Crawford ARS W3MIE (+N3QQH) 1266 2 45 4,874 WPA	Skyview RS AB3ER (+N3TIN) 759 2 37 3,654 WPA	N9PS Field Day Group N9PS 663 2 12 2,692 IL	Clarksville AR Transmitting Soc KF4L (+KF4L) 403 2 12 2,034 TN
Koolau ARC KH6J 1271 2 35 4,848 PAC	East Greenbush ARA W2EGB (+K2CK) 1229 2 50 3,636 ENY	Newton and Hesston College ARC N0NK (+N0LQT) 616 2 12 2,658 KS	Mountain ARC NX0G 528 2 14 2,030 CO
South Lyon Area ARC N8SL (+KD8BLR) 1249 2 22 4,806 MI	Kent Co ARC W3HZW (+AA3ZH) 735 2 58 3,626 DE	EPCOM VE7PCE (+VA7PCE) 801 2 25 2,652 BC	21 Repeater/Kenallville Contesters N9VI (+K8IAT) 515 2 16 2,030 IN
ARES-LAX NW and SW N6HD 1450 2 35 4,790 LAX	8 Rivers ARC KW8V 1036 2 8 3,584 WV	Paso Robles ARC W6R (+N6KKS) 1130 1 25 2,641 SB	Hidden Valleys ARC & UW-Platteville ARC KC9KQ 374 2 29 2,020 WI
Arkansas River Valley ARF K5PXP (+K5EBC) 1178 2 33 4,788 AR	Know Hill Krew N5WLA 886 2 8 3,582 NTX	Reno Co ARA W0WR (+WB0EOC) 573 2 13 2,608 KS	Newington ARL NA1RL (+W1OKY) 654 2 30 1,998 CT
Souris Valley ARC K0AJW 1323 2 10 4,764 ND	Fort Madison ARC WF0RT (+NW0X) 761 2 19 3,568 IA	Rowan ARS N4UH 562 2 22 2,584 NC	Olive Branch ARC W5OBM (+N5PYQ) 375 2 22 1,986 MS
Heart O' Texas ARC W5ZDN (+W5TSA) 1180 2 35 4,756 NTX	NERC K3A 1028 2 6 3,518 EPA	N4UH NA1RA (+W1JD) 826 2 10 2,570 CT	Green Valley ARC WE7VG 369 2 47 1,974 AZ
NNSZ 1141 2 7 4,702 OK	SCHUYLKILL W3SC (+W3EEK) 819 2 17 3,502 EPA	Horned Toad Acres Wireless Assn N7KQ 767 2 12 2,566 AZ	Playground ARC W4ZBB (+K4FWB) 401 2 16 1,972 NFL
VE7RAR (+VA7XP) 985 2 26 4,700 BC	Valencia Co ARA K5OUR (+KC5OUR) 715 2 107 3,472 NM	Holy Family School ARC K0G 1045 2 10 2,510 CO	Blossomland ARA W8MAI (+W8KIT) 330 2 16 1,970 MI
Lynchburg ARC K4CQ (+K14MFX) 1091 2 30 4,676 VA	Randolph Co ARC K4RAN (+K14WJQ) 1093 2 10 3,456 AL	Muscatare ARC W0M (+KC0AQS) 812 2 14 2,492 IA	Seattle Auxiliary Comm Service W7ACS 271 2 35 1,966 WWA
Fresno ARC W6TO 1313 2 14 4,616 SJV	Big Island ARC KH6EJ 781 2 37 3,430 PAC	Keowee-Toxaway ARC K4WD (+KS4YX) 716 2 37 2,484 SC	AR Transmitting Society W4CN 517 2 20 1,956 KY
Stonewall Jackson ARA K8DF (+K8TPH) 1507 2 29 4,538 WV	Iowa City ARC W0JV (+W0IO) 994 2 14 3,380 IA	Azalea Coast ARC AC4RC 443 2 30 2,468 NC	Elliot Lake ARC VA3TOP 326 2 21 1,944 ON
Kishwaukee ARC WA9CJN (+N9RFR) 1056 2 27 4,516 IL	DLARC W3OK 1295 2 11 3,308 EPA	Sturdy Memorial Hospital ARC W1SMH 621 2 21 2,452 EMA	Metuchen RC K2YNT 459 2 9 1,934 NNJ
Cedar Valley ARC W0GG (+W0MRZ) 1131 2 57 4,472 IA	Hanover Area Hamming Assn KF3M 1017 2 13 3,304 EPA	Surrey ARC VE7SAR (+VE7GGD) 448 2 18 2,432 BC	KE5VSW (+AD5WA) 392 2 15 1,928 MS
Delaware ARA N9N (+W9DUK) 974 2 45 4,470 IN	Massillon ARC W8NP (+W8DEF) 765 2 25 3,282 OH	Los Alamos ARC W5PDO (+W5JRO) 610 2 20 2,388 NM	GARS W5BII (+K5BPA) 475 2 72 1,920 LA
Eau Claire ARC W9EAU (+W9E) 1363 2 30 4,442 WI	Anchorage ARC KL7AA 1293 1 42 3,275 AK	Trojan ARC W0WOB 473 2 5 2,386 KS	Springhill ARC N5II 475 2 7 1,918 LA
Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Assn W1TU (+KB1NEB) 1065 2 17 4,442 ME	Heartland DX Assn N10DX 1021 2 10 3,274 NE	Vashon / Mury Island RC W7VMI 500 2 37 2,376 WWA	Starke Co ARC W9JOZ (+KB9OLZ) 364 2 45 1,918 IN
Marietta ARC W8HH 1179 2 12 4,432 OH	East Coast Long Wire Assn KC2SHB (+KC2DUX) 641 2 17 3,184 SNJ	Sierra Blanca ARC KR5NM (+K5RJC) 466 2 12 2,352 NM	Copper Counter Radio Amateur Assn W8CDZ 486 2 3 1,914 MI
South Baldwin ARC AF4I 1164 2 36 4,342 AL	Tippecanoe ARA W9REG (+WB9SWS) 559 2 55 3,120 IN	Putnam Emergency & Amateur Repeater League K2PUT (+K2PC) 435 2 42 2,348 ENY	Whitley Co ARC WC9AR 425 2 40 1,912 IN
New Providence ARC N2XJ 1208 2 27 4,338 NNJ	Fox Cities ARC W9ZL 765 2 35 3,104 WI	Derangers N6MI 509 2 6 2,332 SCV	Kings Co ARC VE1LD 630 2 9 1,910 MAR
Mountaineer ARA W8SP 1191 2 26 4,336 WV	Garland ARC K5QHD 548 2 48 3,096 NTX	Fidelity ARC W1MB (+K1NQG) 595 2 25 2,312 RI	Vancouver Antenna Club VE7MRP (+VA7PNP) 614 2 9 1,904 BC
Waltham ARA & Clay Center ARC W1CLA (+W1MHL) 999 2 24 4,316 EMA	South Towns ARS WB2ELW 732 2 30 3,080 WNY	SCCARA W6JW (+W6UUU) 567 2 22 2,312 SCV	W4RAT 724 2 10 1,898 VA
Northwest ARS - Houston W5NC (+KE5IOV) 1084 2 35 4,308 STX	Jackson Co ARA N5OS (+K5DXG) 634 2 73 3,072 MS	Clark Co ARC W9WVI (+N9UGP) 425 2 43 2,308 IN	Egyptian RC W9AIU 307 2 18 1,878 IL
Bristol Co Repeater Assn W1ACT (+N1JOY) 1275 2 29 4,308 EMA	Long Island Mobile ARC W2VL (+WV2LI) 666 2 86 3,018 NLI	Half Moon Bay ARES WR6HMB 669 2 20 2,302 SCV	Hiawatha Valley ARC N0DH 508 2 36 1,878 MN
Ottawa ARC VE3RC 1032 2 55 4,304 ON	Franklin Co ARC A14RT 671 2 21 3,006 NC	Yavapai ARC & Yavapai Co ARES / RACES W7YRC 660 2 135 2,264 AZ	Englewood ARS N4EAR 348 2 25 1,876 WCF
Tri Co Amateur Radio Club W9MQB (+WB9TVV) 1095 2 11 4,300 WI	Wilson Creek Special Event N7T 642 2 5 2,994 EWA	Penn-Mar RC W3MUM 645 2 20 2,262 EPA	Tri-States ARC W4GTA (+K14TEY) 460 2 15 1,870 GA
Ashe Co ARC W4FD (+W4APP) 898 2 29 4,292 NC	CTRI Contest WA1RR 922 2 12 2,974 RI	Casper ARC W7VNJ 613 2 19 2,220 WY	Martin Co ARES / RACES WX4MC (+K4ZK) 556 2 50 1,862 SFL
Hancock ARC W9ATG (+N9TT) 1153 2 32 4,248 IN	Harrisburg Radio Amateur's Club W3W 693 2 20 2,954 EPA	Mich-A-Con ARC KC8VC (+W8JWN) 469 2 15 2,212 MI	Club Radioamateur de Beauce VE2CRB 377 2 11 1,830 QC
Des Moines Radio Amateurs Association W0AK (+W0SCI) 915 2 45 4,204 IA	Pine State ARC N1ME 817 2 32 2,938 ME	Mt Magazine ARC W5MAG (+KD5NDJ) 799 2 10 2,208 AR	Runestone ARC W0ALX (+K0MHC) 235 2 15 1,826 MN
Hospital Disaster Support Comm System N6ER (+W6DQ) 1098 2 81 4,192 ORG	South Bay ARA KU6S (+AE6YN) 1355 1 50 2,901 EB	Grand Rapids ARA W8DC 529 2 25 2,190 MI	Ocoee ARS W4OAR (+K4KFN) 309 2 16 1,822 TN
Tipton Co ARS N4ZI (+KJ4GZB) 976 2 12 4,176 TN	Goddard ARC WA3NAN (+W3UIU) 855 2 9 2,894 MDC	South Kitsap ARC N7IG (+N7CQ) 601 2 17 2,188 WWA	UCSP Hams AC6P 634 2 8 1,818 SCV
Monroe Co Radio Communications Assn W8PI (+W8DWL) 1129 2 6 4,056 MI	Univ of Mississippi ARC W5UMS (+KE5YCM) 642 2 18 2,882 MS	Mt Diablo ARC W6CX 723 2 27 2,182 EB	Eastern Shore ARC K4BW 351 2 40 1,814 VA
Prime ARA K9JHQ 1095 2 15 4,002 IL	Six Meter Club of Chicago K9ONA 642 2 17 2,842 IL	Sonoma Co RA W6SON (+W6LFX) 487 2 35 2,174 SF	Lake Ozark ARC N0ZS 536 2 37 1,812 MO
Palos Verdes ARC K6JW 1274 2 20 3,930 LAX	Rockingham Co ARC N4IV (+W4SH) 592 2 16 2,824 NC	Brandon ARS K4TN (+KC4MMR) 420 2 27 2,160 WCF	Ellijay ARS K4LDI 420 2 27 1,806 GA
Fond Du Lac RC W9EBV 1007 2 40 3,912 WI	Orleans Co ARC WA2DQL (+KB2BLS) 690 2 33 2,804 WNY	VE7UT 382 2 29 2,158 BC	Theodore Roosevelt ARC K0ND 448 2 24 1,786 ND
Green River Valley ARS K9WM 1009 2 22 3,894 IL	Carbon ARC W3HA 740 2 10 2,792 EPA	Club Radio Amateur de Quebec VE2CQ (+VE2CDX) 626 2 35 2,158 QC	Northwest OH ARC, Inc. W8EQ 348 2 11 1,782 OH
Pen Bay ARC W1PBR 770 2 13 3,834 ME	Charlestown ARES KA1RI (+N1LJL) 527 2 22 2,788 RI	Black Diamond RG KX9M 398 2 16 2,112 WI	Irving ARC N5BB 297 2 38 1,778 NTX
Hambuds K4SE 1158 2 21 3,828 STX	Northeast Tarrant ARC N5EOC (+K19U) 490 2 25 2,772 NTX	Shelby ARC / ARES of Cleveland Co K4KUT (+W4PZH) 554 2 18 2,098 NC	Muskingum Co ARES K8LGV 463 2 20 1,776 OH
WB2QBP (+K2ARC) 1411 2 15 3,792 NLI	Tyler ARC K5TYR (+W5ETX) 622 2 55 2,752 NTX	Valley Baptist ARC KD4HXT 725 2 12 2,090 SJV	Franklin Co ARC AC1L (+KB1MSU) 319 2 25 1,770 WMA





Macon Co ARC N0PR (+A80C)	642	2	12	2,786	MO	Naval Postgraduate School ARC K6LY (+K6NPS)	1677	2	26	6,810	SCV	JTRG WY5I (+N4T)	1285	2	65	4,084	SFL	Kankakee Area Radio Soc W9AZ (+N9FD)	718	2	18	3,196	IL	
Fort Pierce ARC W4AKH	614	2	41	2,714	SFL	W0GKP	1695	2	41	6,776	MN	DX SIG of Valley RC of OR	N7MQ	1290	2	10	4,078	OR	Club Radioamateur Vallee du Richelieu VE2CVR	710	2	32	3,154	QC
Allegheny Valley Radio Assn W3RA	728	2	3	2,528	WPA	Southern VT ARC K1SV (+WT1B)	2234	2	27	6,750	VT	Monessen ARC W3CSL	1063	2	30	4,022	WPA	Estes Valley ARC W0RP (+K00KBP)	669	2	43	3,138	CO	
Spartanburg ARC K4II	705	2	25	2,320	SC	Jefferson Co. ARC W7JCR	1597	2	48	6,402	WWA	Central MI ARC W8MAA	987	2	32	4,004	MI	Central IL RC W9AML	807	2	50	3,136	IL	
Scioto Co ARES WV80	1004	2	11	2,060	OH	Scranton Pocono AR Klub K3CSG (+WX3A)	1736	2	62	6,082	EPA	Bill Gremillion Memorial RC K4NRC	948	2	44	3,998	GA	San Angelo ARC W5QX (+W5DLL)	587	2	42	3,134	WTX	
Middlesex ARG K4VY	398	2	13	1,908	VA	East Bay ARC W6CUS (+WS6V)	1479	2	20	5,930	EB	Keystone VHF & Hilltoppers Club W3HZU (+W3ZGD)	1081	2	12	3,990	EPA	Granite State ARA N1QC	699	2	27	3,122	NH	
Enterprise ARS WD4ROJ	408	2	17	1,892	AL	Nixa ARC N0A (+KC0LUN)	1739	2	50	5,872	MO	Ashtabula Co ARC K8CY (+N8OHU)	1173	2	18	3,980	OH	Peconic ARC W2AMC	835	2	39	3,030	NLI	
Delta Co ARS K8PL	440	2	14	1,708	MI	Kennebec ARC W4BTI	1415	2	86	5,762	GA	Burlington / Oakville ARCS VE3HB (+VE3CJ)	1059	2	35	3,942	ON	Skyline ARC K2IWR	860	2	30	3,010	WNY	
Community Service RC W0P (+KC0YNE)	290	2	11	1,646	MO	Coquillam, Burnaby, New-West ARCS VE7SC (+VE7BAR)	1521	2	35	5,572	BC	Manny Papandreas Memorial FD W4SM (+W2CB)	953	2	35	3,876	SFL	Zone Star ARS W5C	597	2	25	3,006	STX	
Stillwater ARA W0JH	410	2	20	1,468	MN	Twin City Ham Club W5EA (+W5PEM)	1532	2	29	5,542	LA	Memphis Areas Tri Club Group W4EM (+W4BS)	1045	2	100	3,868	TN	Fluvanna ARES Group W04R	940	2	17	3,004	VA	
Columbia Co ARC K4KNS (+WE4GW)	279	2	19	1,420	GA	San Andreas Faultline Survivors W6SW (+W6K)	1834	2	5	5,518	SJV	CRES ARC W8ZPF	917	2	33	3,854	OH	W4OVH (+W4PVA)	550	2	31	2,968	VA	
KC7AQZ	330	2	3	1,140	AZ	Mississippi Valley ARC W9FCC	1916	2	8	5,486	WI	Goshen ARC K9WJU (+K9TSM)	828	2	30	3,848	IN	Oxford Co ARES W1OCA (+N1GZB)	559	2	16	2,952	ME	
Sevier Co Hams KK4TT	378	2	9	1,106	TN	National Electronics Museum ARC K3NEM (+W3GR)	1317	2	25	5,442	MDC	Southern Michigan ARS W8DF	1012	2	10	3,842	MI	Wyandot Area Ham Operators Organization K8B8NV (+K88FLT)	543	2	10	2,952	OH	
Central Dakota ARC W0ZRT	426	2	30	1,054	ND	Edmond ARS K5EOK (+KE5TGZ)	1328	2	52	5,442	OK	Jackson ARC W5PFC (+N5DUJ)	784	2	80	3,832	MS	Shenandoah Valley ARC W4RKC	703	2	16	2,894	VA	
Wantagh ARC W2VA	215	2	18	1,046	NLI	Dixie AR Klub W4DAK	1459	2	15	5,438	NFL	Alliance ARC W8LKY	939	2	16	3,646	OH	Austin ARC W5KA (+K5LBJ)	515	2	53	2,864	STX	
N0BHC	166	2	11	1,042	MN	Nassau ARC K2VN (+KC2SBO)	1355	2	44	5,344	NLI	Stanwood Camano ARC W7PIG	1133	2	59	3,644	WWA	South Canadian ARS W5NOR	652	2	50	2,858	OK	
Sweetwater ARC WY7U (+WB7NKK)	313	2	10	930	WY	Shreveport ARA K5SL (+K5JMR)	1369	2	30	5,264	LA	Tallahassee ARC K4TLH (+W4SKG)	808	2	58	3,710	NFL	State of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs VO1AA	729	2	22	2,856	NL	
Coon Valley ARC N0NAF	298	2	3	900	IA	ARES District 24 W0DTF (+KB0LZU)	1277	2	20	5,248	CO	Lake Area Radio Klub W0WTN	834	2	29	3,676	SD	Cape Ann ARA W1GLO (+KB1PGH)	547	2	72	2,842	EMA	
Canas Prairie ARC KC7MGR	144	2	17	888	ID	Radio Farm N0MA (+N0MMA)	1558	2	18	5,202	IA	Rockford ARA W9AXD	945	2	25	3,670	IL	High Sierra FD Group W6PS	961	2	8	2,840	SV	
Coyote ARC K5C	158	2	14	880	STX	McKinney ARC W5MRC (+AE5IT)	1171	2	43	5,184	NTX	Albamarle ARS K4WO	1041	2	42	3,652	NC	Pasadena RC W6KA (+NV6C)	896	2	50	2,826	LAX	
W4HOD	100	2	10	866	AL	Medina 2 Meter Group W8EOC (+K2RWO)	1351	2	26	5,164	OH	Alliance ARC W8LKY	939	2	16	3,646	OH	Valdosta ARC W4VLD	1036	2	22	2,766	GA	
Tri Co Repeater Assn W9MM	323	2	7	816	WI	Reelfoot ARC K4RFT (+N4MJ)	1083	2	18	5,098	TN	Stanwood Camano ARC W7PIG	1133	2	59	3,644	WWA	Daytona Beach ARA / Daytona Beach CERT K4BV (+K14ZKE)	531	2	36	2,758	NFL	
West Central MN ARC N0M	149	2	6	798	MN	Northern AZ DX Assn & Coconino ARC W7TB (+NF7E)	1222	2	20	5,078	AZ	Antelope Valley ARC K6OX (+AF60V)	886	2	82	3,546	LAX	Joplin ARC W0JIN (+KB0STN)	671	2	15	2,740	MO	
Fullerton RC W6ULI	208	2	45	716	ORG	LARC-FARL K8UNS	1301	2	81	5,016	MI	Nature Coast ARC N4C (+K4BKV)	689	2	19	3,528	NFL	Kaw Valley ARC W0CET	554	2	30	2,706	KS	
Lewes ARS W3LRS	71	2	8	692	DE	Milford ARC W8MRC	1339	2	21	5,014	OH	Aero ARC/Baltimore Radio Amateur TV Soc W3PGA	753	2	25	3,512	MDC	Palomar ARC W6NWW (+WD6FWE)	973	2	45	2,686	SDG	
Lancaster Radio Transmitting Society W3AD	260	2	20	520	EPA	Stamford ARA W1EE (+K1FC)	1584	2	42	4,982	CT	Albert Lea and Austin ARC NX0C	1022	2	25	3,510	MN	FPL Group K8EGU	622	2	5	2,642	MI	
Ozarc ARC K5BAX	65	2	21	480	AR	Cumberland Plateau ARC W4CV (+KT4BW)	1149	2	57	4,942	TN	Troy ARA N2TY (+W2TRY)	931	2	65	3,492	ENY	Rogue Valley ARC W70EK	823	2	16	2,642	OR	
Tonto ARA N7TAR	167	2	4	434	AZ	Nittany ARC W3YA	3458	1	12	4,940	WPA	Barnstable and Pilgrim ARC K1UI (+N1FI)963	2	12	3,464	EMA	Gaston Co. AR Operators W4C	569	2	21	2,632	NC		
Illinois Valley RA N9OBB	58	2	9	306	IL	Riverland ARC W9UP	1125	2	25	4,756	WI	Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club W9RH (+K9FI)	727	2	11	3,436	WI	Eston Co ARC K8ETN	747	2	20	2,626	MI	
Thunderbolt ARA KJ0T	22	2	5	194	CO	Hamfesters RC W9AA (+AB9MZ)	1154	2	50	4,688	IL	San Joaquin Valley ARS W6SJV (+WA6WTF)	812	2	40	3,398	SJV	Tulsa ARC W5IAS	675	2	15	2,626	OK	
<b>3A</b>						Morrow Co ARES W8NL	1179	2	10	4,682	OH	Grumman ARC WA2LQO	892	2	15	3,396	NLI	South TX ARC N5CRP (+KY5V)	437	2	25	2,612	STX	
Cortek RA W9CA (+N9CC)	5085	2	25	18,996	IL	Roanoke Valley ARC W4CA (+AB4A)	1515	2	23	4,674	VA	Western IL ARC W9AWE	801	2	15	3,394	IL	Prince Edward RC / Quinte ARC VE3RL	637	2	15	2,602	ON	
Rochester DX Assn W2RDX (+W2AN)	4783	2	58	18,614	WNY	Bristol ARC W4UD	1191	2	56	4,644	TN	Albamarle ARC W4ATFZ	887	2	53	3,386	VA	Eaton ARC K8CHR	747	2	20	2,576	MI	
North Shore RC K9OR (+K9RST)	3204	2	75	11,962	IL	Northern Berkshire ARC N1WM	1011	2	15	4,516	WMA	Florence ARC W4ULH (+K4UA)	642	2	47	3,340	SC	Susquehanna Valley ARC W3VPJ	574	2	15	2,572	EPA	
Greater Norwalk ARC N1EV (+W1NLK)	2911	2	50	10,566	CT	Idaho Potato Contest Group K0IP	1313	2	8	4,502	ID	Hoosier Lakes RC K9CWD (+K9GV)	874	2	23	3,318	IN	Genesis ARS N1ZIZ (+KA1GDQ)	385	2	17	2,490	EMA	
Providence Radio Assn W1OP (+W1PRA)	3550	2	17	10,554	RI	TriState ARS W9OG (+WA9C)	1107	2	33	4,492	IN	Davis Co. ARC K7DAV (+N7CN)	841	2	130	3,302	UT	Franktown FD Group W0CBH	773	2	18	2,490	CO	
Oakland Co ARS W8TNO (+K8O)	2993	2	34	10,000	MI	QSY Society / Mount Beacon ARC K2QS (+KC2BMX)	1076	2	97	4,436	ENY	Foothills ARS K6YA (+K16QNZ)	1094	2	25	3,296	SCV	South Bay ARC W6SBA	451	2	30	2,484	LAX	
Lake ARA / ARES K4FC (+N4FBC)	2691	2	42	8,990	NFL	Mississippi State University ARC W5YD (+AE5LG)	1083	2	9	4,392	MS	San Fernando Valley ARC W6SD (+K6KLP)	779	2	35	3,294	LAX	Convaire/220 RC W6UUS	727	2	14	2,474	SDG	
Peoria Area ARC W9PIA (+K9PEO)	2357	2	60	8,360	IL	Northeast Wyoming ARA NE7WY (+WY7WST)	919	2	39	4,284	WY	Lakeland ARC K4LKL (+K1DU)	618	2	40	3,272	WCF	Scottsdale ARC K7TR	652	2	5	2,416	AZ	
Rochester ARC W0BM	2143	2	56	8,280	MN	Regina ARA VE5NN	1243	2	8	4,202	SK	St Charles ARC K00A (+WB0HSI)	816	2	23	3,246	MO	Peel ARC VE3XR	644	2	20	2,406	ON	
Sterling Park ARC K4NVA (+W4KSN)	2217	2	25	8,210	VA	Northeast Wireless RC NW2C	1102	2	47	4,164	NLI	Corona PD CSV Team W6CPD	718	2	20	3,224	ORG	Northwest Illinois ARC W9F	514	2	15	2,344	IL	
North Fulton Amateur Radio League W4QO (+NF4GA)	2253	2	259	8,074	GA	Xerox ARC W2XRX (+W2NED)	1084	2	15	4,148	WNY	Mt Vernon ARC K8EEN (+KC8YLD)	1126	2	25	4,122	OH	Lunenburg Co ARC VE1LUN	778	2	17	2,334	MAR	
St Paul and Mining RCs W0MR (+K0AGF)	2339	2	60	8,034	MN	Mt Vernon ARC K8EEN (+KC8YLD)	1126	2	25	4,122	OH	Blue Ridge ARS W4NYK	509	2	44	2,296	SC	Dog Hollow Contest Group AK9D (+WG0TA)	661	2	6	2,322	MO	
Albany ARA K2CT (+KM2O)	2368	2	56	7,938	ENY	Sussex Co. Community ARC W2LV	2020	2	19	7,372	NNJ	New Bern ARC W4EWN (+K4EAW)	315	2	16	2,266	NC	Rolla Regional ARS W0GS	468	2	25	2,244	MO	
Twin City FM Club W0EF	2065	2	50	7,608	MN	South Orange ARA K6SOA (+K6WO)	1994	2	79	7,216	ORG	Tri-Co ARA K6AGF	619	2	32	2,240	ORG	SPARK W4QR	501	2	57	2,278	VA	
Magnolia DX Assn K5MDX (+W5NO)	2082	2	53	7,604	MS	Southern Inyo ARA W6TD	2216	2	4	6,918	ORG													

Dickson Co ARC					
WC4DC	453	2	21	2,216	TN
Kings Co RC					
W2RAK	459	2	5	2,194	NLI
HP Boise ARC					
AB7HP (+WV7I)					
505		2	17	2,152	ID
West Central Ohio ARA					
WC8OH (+W8COH)					
390		2	25	2,144	OH
Callam Co ARC					
W7FEL (+WX7RIK)					
364		2	30	2,142	WWA
Burlington Co Radio Club					
K2TD (+KC2OGR)					
612		2	34	2,134	SNJ
Riverside Co ARA					
W6TJ	446	2	34	2,092	ORG
KB7TG (+KD7SZX)					
911		1	6	2,088	MT
Lassen ARC					
K6LRC	364	2	21	2,088	SV
Olympia ARS					
NT7H	459	2	13	2,080	WWA
Chicago Suburban RA					
N9BAT	427	2	43	2,066	IL
Brightleaf ARC					
W4AMC (+W1VOA)					
372		2	35	2,054	NC
Eastern New Mexico ARC					
KA5B	406	2	50	2,050	NM
Mountain ARC					
W3YMW	364	2	31	2,046	MDC
West Fork ARC / NTWG, Inc					
ND5X	627	2	14	2,044	NTX
ARC of Amite Co					
W5CCW	340	2	6	2,044	MS
WD5DDH (+K5ASU)					
347		2	32	2,028	NTX
Red River Radio Amateurs					
W0ILO	595	2	20	2,014	ND
Montgomery ARC					
KV3B (+W3EXP)					
487		2	32	2,002	MDC
Nevada Co. ARC					
W6DD	459	2	20	1,996	SV
Snohomish Co Hams Club					
WA7LAW (+KD7EJI)					
315		2	61	1,978	WWA
Southern Berkshire ARC					
W1BAA2 (+K1LEE2)					
236		2	30	1,978	ENY
Reading RC, Inc.					
W3BN	384	2	35	1,976	EPA
Chatham-Kent ARC					
VE3CRC	367	2	20	1,968	ON
North Ottawa ARC					
W8CSO (+N8RXC)					
412		2	19	1,948	MI
San Geronimo Pass ARC					
W6PRC	321	2	17	1,938	ORG
Sask Alta RC					
VE6WP	439	2	6	1,926	AB
Charles Co ARC					
K3SMD	302	2	18	1,898	MDC
VE9ND	317	2	12	1,876	MAR
New River Wireless Assn					
K4NRW	375	2	6	1,866	VA
Aroostook ARA					
K1FS	563	2	23	1,856	ME
Sherman Co AR Enthusiasts					
KS0GLD	402	2	14	1,854	KS
W2IR (+KC2BYZ)					
395		2	12	1,850	ENY
EPARA - PARK					
N3IS (+W3PRK)					
321		2	125	1,842	EPA
Montachusett ARA					
W1GZ	378	2	10	1,832	WMA
Camden Co ARS					
KB4CC	316	2	12	1,832	GA
Huntington Co. ARS					
K9HC	486	2	15	1,830	IN
Randolph ARC					
NC4ZO (+WS4H)					
349		2	43	1,828	NC
Deep East Texas ARC					
W5IRP	292	2	11	1,820	STX
Portsmouth ARS & PARES					
W4POX	407	2	34	1,820	VA
Jayhawk ARS					
W0LB (+KD0BZI)					
428		2	24	1,818	KS
Lake Erie ARA					
WB8CQR (+KD8ACO)					
298		2	28	1,796	OH
West River RC					
WR1VT	410	2	14	1,794	VT
Nashville ARC					
K4CPO	353	2	10	1,788	TN
North Port ARC					
W4NPT	249	2	15	1,742	WCF
Meridian ARC					
W5FO	284	2	40	1,738	MS
Ohio District 4 ARES					
WC8EMA	255	2	43	1,732	OH
Silvercreek ARA					
W8WYK	564	2	5	1,728	OH
Shoreline ACS					
W7AJX	316	2	19	1,722	WWA
Dixie ARC					
W7DRC	393	2	20	1,718	UT



**Mayor Debra McCartt (with the mic) visited W5WX, Amarillo's Panhandle ARC. Watching Her Honor operate was Assistant Chief of Police Perry Gilmore (standing) and APD's senior dispatcher Becky Lucero (left). Conducting the demo was Henry Janhsen, N5HPJ (right), president of the Panhandle ARC.**

Cumberland Valley ARC					
W3ACH (+W3SML)					
252		2	78	1,712	WPA
Branchburg OEM					
N2B	403	2	19	1,704	NNJ
Hendricks Co ARS					
N9HC	246	2	44	1,702	IN
Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Assn					
W2EUP	407	2	17	1,700	WNY
Cherryville Repeater Assn II					
W2CRA	337	2	23	1,688	NNJ
ID Field Day Group					
W7RNF	641	2	13	1,666	ID
Peace River RA					
W4DUX	454	2	33	1,666	WCF
Ocean State ARG, Inc.					
K1OS	500	2	8	1,654	RI
Ste Genevieve Co ARC					
K0QOD (+KD0FZG)					
209		2	20	1,650	MO
Fort Armstrong Wireless Assn					
K3TTK	480	2	21	1,648	WPA
Northwest Missouri ARES					
W0DSKY	258	2	7	1,634	MO
Dayton ARA					
W8BI	395	2	37	1,632	OH
Midwest ARS					
W9MAR (+KA9NOO)					
281		2	15	1,628	IN
Insurance City Repeater Club					
K1DFS (+N1RMF)					
366		2	17	1,624	CT
WAFAR					
W9FT	435	2	16	1,620	IL
Cascades ARS					
W8JXN (+K8JXN)					
399		2	31	1,616	MI
Fallbrook ARC					
N6FQ	470	2	59	1,616	SDG
Holmesburg ARC					
K3FI	347	2	12	1,606	EPA
West Santa Barbara Co ARES					
W9EC	302	2	8	1,588	SB
Matanuska ARA					
KL7JFU (+KL2FA)					
306		1	37	1,587	AK
Navarre CERT ARC					
KC4ERT	216	2	25	1,582	NFL
GCARES					
KB3SKV	248	2	21	1,558	MDC
Victor Valley ARC					
K6QWR	288	2	12	1,538	ORG
Polk Co ARA					
N9XH	268	2	25	1,516	WI
Tulare Co ARC					
WA6BAI	170	2	19	1,512	SJV
Northside ARC					
AA0NC	371	2	12	1,506	MO
North Arkansas ARS					
N3QL	156	2	50	1,486	AR
Aksarben ARC					
K0USA	465	2	25	1,480	NE
The South Park Marauders					
WV0H	489	2	13	1,472	CO
ARC of Savannah					
W4HBB	213	2	32	1,468	GA
NC State University Student ARS					
W4ATC	441	2	7	1,462	NC
Rio Hondo ARC					
W6GNS	367	2	10	1,454	LAX
Mt Shasta ARC					
W6BML	436	2	7	1,448	SV
New River Valley ARC					
N4NRV	281	2	13	1,444	VA
McHenry Co Grid Rats					
W9VB (+WL7CTA)					
354		2	8	1,440	IL
Radio Amateur Society of Norwich					
N1NW	236	2	29	1,440	CT
St. Augustine ARS					
N4AUG	195	2	10	1,438	NFL
Princeton ARC					
W4KBL (+KJ4FAU)					
381		2	30	1,432	KY
Wild Horse Desert Hams ARC					
K5WHD (+WB5IZD)					
130		2	91	1,428	STX
Muhlenberg Co ARS					
AA4PL	194	2	15	1,424	KY
Bloomfield ARC					
W1CWA	244	2	13	1,424	CT
East Palestine ARC					
W8GMM	354	2	17	1,404	OH
ARC of Alameda					
K6QLF (+KF6UVB)					
105		2	32	1,392	EB
Pioneer ARC					
K0JFN	250	2	6	1,392	NE
High Desert ARC					
NM5HD	275	2	28	1,380	NM
Wichita ARS					
N5WF	202	2	36	1,364	NTX
Metropolitan ARC					
K8NOW	319	2	7	1,356	MI
Madison Co DX Club					
KK0G	263	2	22	1,326	IA
Valley of the Moon ARC					
W6AJF	318	2	10	1,324	SF
Big Rapids Area ARC					
N8OE	267	2	31	1,310	MI
Southern IN Mobile Em Comm Team					
KB9NEJ	267	2	22	1,284	IN
Tri County CW ARC					
W3TCW	269	2	21	1,280	WPA
Chisholm Trail ARC					
WD5IYF (+KE5JUP)	119	2	12	1,270	OK
Campbell River ARS					
VE7CRC	431	2	10	1,224	BC
Thin Air Radio Society					
KE0MF	429	2	3	1,214	CO
Vinton Co ARC					
KC8YUO	174	2	6	1,198	OH
North Georgia Tri-State ARC					
W4NGT (+KC4PC)	168	2	19	1,194	GA
Mile High RC					
K6GUN	159	2	10	1,188	ORG
Christian Co ARES					
WA6JGM	200	2	5	1,188	MO
Hall of Science ARC					
WB2JSM	235	2	30	1,174	NLI
Radio Amateurs of Corry					
W3YXE	171	2	11	1,146	WPA
Willits ARS					
W6MMM	243	2	18	1,136	SF

Fulton Co ARC					
K9ILS	167	2	22	1,126	IL
Umpqua Valley ARC					
KC7TLY (+KB7WDR)					
183		2	60	1,124	OR
LaMoine Emergency ARC					
WB9TEA (+N9EWQ)					
110		2	11	1,118	IL
USCG Auxiliary Division 10, District 11R					
K1EHO	171	2	25	1,112	AZ
Concord ARS					
W4AMI	359	1	25	1,109	GA
Old Post ARS					
W9EOC	135	2	17	1,108	IN
Wilderness Center ARC					
N8TWC	209	2	3	1,104	OH
Oak Forest ARC					
KE5TRB (+WB5ANN)					
112		2	12	1,100	STX
Valley RC of Oregon					
W7PXL	64	2	23	1,094	OR
K8SWD	507	2	5	1,076	MI
Milton ARC					
K3FLT	244	2	8	1,046	EPA
Calhoun Co ARA					
WB4GNA	155	2	44	1,032	AL
Hams 4 Hammurabi					
NH4NI	325	2	3	1,010	EWA
Southwest MO ARC					
W0EBE	126	2	10	1,002	MO
Mammoth Cave ARC					
KY4X	187	2	15	970	KY
Loose Moose-cateers					
N8ATS	304	2	13	950	MI
Hornet ARC					
NB6GC	240	2	7	930	EB
Emporia ARS					
KC0U (+KB0SSR)					
53		2	12	916	KS
Champaign Co. ARES					
WB8UCD	201	1	12	915	OH
University of Southern California ARC					
W6YV	79	2	3	9	



Cumberland ARC						Guilford Co ARES						Southern Pennsylvania ARC				Elgin ARS								
K3IEC	393	2	14	1,516	EPA	NA4GC (+AJ4DV)						K3IR	463	2	15	2,188	EPA	VE3RSE	186	5	11	2,185	ON	
Stubblefield Repeater Club						1284	2	25	4,750	GA		Triangle ARC						Nova GRP						
K4HJ	258	2	25	1,242	KY	Green Mountain Wireless Soc						K8BPL	377	2	19	2,188	OH	WA4MM	177	5	9	2,175	VA	
Richmond ARC						N1VT (+AB1CH)						Southern Pa Com Group						Snake River ARC						
W4ZA (+W4FJ)						1237	2	28	4,730	VT		K3AE	510	2	30	2,156	EPA	K7SI	187	5	37	2,000	ID	
Dubois Co ARC						1374	2	20	4,626	NC		Triple A ARA						Rifles & Radios						
N9NAU	510	2	15	1,134	IN	Livermore AR Klub						N3TN	651	2	33	2,152	WPA	W9R	181	5	12	1,455	IL	
Octagon Wildlife Sanctuary						K6TS (+K6CKT)						Charleston ARS						Delta Co ARES						
W8OWS	201	2	4	1,118	WCF	1457	2	12	4,450	EB		W4HRS	311	2	26	2,146	SC	KD5DHD (+WB5HSL)						
Suffolk Co RC / Brookhaven National Lab RC						Columbia-Montour ARC						Boothel ARC												
W2DQ	175	2	32	1,114	NLI	WC3A (+K3BD)917	2	29	4,406	EPA		KB0UFL (+WB4NMG)						<b>4A Commercial</b>						
Radio Assn of Western NY						Washington Amateur Communications						297	2	20	2,144	MO		Birmingham ARC						
W2PE	249	2	16	1,090	WNY	WA3COM (+KC3HW)						TriCo ARC						W4CUE (+W4JY)						
Club de Radio Amateur Outaouais						1014	2	31	4,350	WPA		WX4TC (+KJ4CZE)						812	2	124	2,994	AL		
VE2CRO	410	2	16	972	QC	Wireless Assn of South Hills						518	2	19	2,086	GA		Anthracite Repeater Assn						
Tobacco Valley ARC						N3SH	1053	2	20	4,220	WPA		Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs					W3SJI	665	2	15	1,986	EPA	
K7EUR	251	2	15	816	MT	Alford Memorial RC						W9CCU	634	2	17	2,080	IL	W2GLQ	674	2	18	1,938	NNJ	
Central Ohio Operators Klub Extra-Novice						W4BOC (+KJ4NAX)						K9DRT	549	2	18	2,066	IN	Hillsdale Co ARC						
W8TNX	231	2	10	792	OH	964	2	83	4,120	GA		K9BAR	446	2	19	2,052	IL	K8HRC	611	2	18	1,822	MI	
Cotton Hill VHF Group						Cambridge ARA						North Hills Amateur Club						Tompkins Co ARC						
WB2UEE	258	2	8	566	NNY	W8VP (+N8IMW)						W3EXW	343	2	43	2,030	WPA	AF2A	672	1	10	1,487	WNY	
Bluff Country DX Assn						1012	2	22	4,116	OH		East River ARC						CCDX Club						
W9IDX	225	2	4	522	WI	Brazos Valley ARC						W8MOP (+K8WBWS)						AD1T	447	2	12	1,234	NH	
Southside ARC						KK5W (+W5DPA)						392	2	9	1,984	VA		Black River ARC						
N0HV	198	2	36	500	MO	N6NA (+W6FT)						Broken Arrow ARC						K8BRC	331	2	12	1,112	MI	
Palatine RACES						1166	2	80	3,938	SV		W5BBS	296	2	40	1,932	OK	Macoupin Co Area RC						
AD9DP	85	2	16	476	IL	All ARC						Thunderbird ARC						K9MCE	299	2	15	768	IL	
Hammin Sams						W7PU	943	2	5	3,866	WVA	WG7J	689	2	20	1,930	AZ	Mississippi Coast ARA						
K0HSC	121	2	11	430	CO	AARC/ARCC						AG4OA	312	2	14	1,924	TN	W5SSL	154	2	15	748	MS	
<b>4A</b>						N5VA (+KD5RHR)						Coachella Valley ARC						Lakway ARC						
K4BFT (+K14HBO)						867	2	47	3,772	NM		NR6P	378	2	22	1,838	ORG	W2IQ	163	2	18	476	TN	
4708						Saratoga Co. ARA						Victoria ARC & Coletto Creek ARC						Jersey Shore ARS						
Utah DX Assn						K2DLL	1159	2	46	3,760	ENY	W5DSC	366	2	23	1,830	STX	NJ2AR	62	2	30	244	SNJ	
K7UM (+K7UT)						Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse						Lake Oswego ARES												
4624	2	33	14,080	UT		W2AE	877	2	68	3,758	WNY	WA7LO (+KD7ZDO)												
Palo Alto ARA						W1BIM	952	2	14	3,714	WMA	227	2	64	1,782	OR		Port City ARC						
W6ARA (+W6OTX)						Rip Van Winkle ARS						ARC of Anderson						K1R (+W1WGM)						
3480	2	74	11,326	SCV		WD2K	951	2	17	3,640	ENY	NC6I (+K16WBM)						6357	2	50	20,562	NH		
Old Barney ARC						West Chester ARA						Columbia ARC						North Shore Radio Assn						
N2OB (+N2CW)						WC8VOA	1652	1	25	3,303	OH	W4CAE (+N1CKM)						NS1RA (+K1PAL)						
3311	2	30	11,210	SNJ		Radio Assn of Erie						298	2	59	1,758	SC		3883	2	75	13,652	EMA		
Vienna Wirelless Society						W3GV	888	2	7	3,290	WPA	Palisades ARC						Carroll Co Contesters						
K4XY (+K4HTA)						Fort Myers ARC						W9W	363	2	25	1,664	IL	WY3P	4051	2	15	13,158	MDC	
3361	2	120	10,958	VA		W4LX	804	2	15	3,252	SFL	South Bay ARS						Ozaukee RC						
ARROW/UMARC Field Day Team						Orange Co (NY) ARC						K6QM (+KF6ZBF)						W9LO (+AA9W)						
W8UM (+W8PGV)						W2HO	802	2	42	3,222	ENY	W6PW	210	2	12	1,654	SDG	3765	2	31	12,490	WI		
2719	2	48	10,560	MI		Wilderness Road ARC						Sun Country ARS						Loudoun ARC						
Delaware ARA						W4CDA (+WQ4Z)						W4CW (+KJ4MDM)						K4LRG (+AJ4EY)						
K8ES (+W8JK)						628	2	25	3,160	KY		248	2	9	1,644	NFL		3106	2	63	11,490	VA		
2581	2	42	9,688	OH		Middlesex ARS						Sierra Foothills ARC						Virginia Beach ARC & Virginia DXCC						
Midland ARC						W1EDH	856	2	12	3,152	CT	W6EK (+K16WDV)						W4UG (+K4IX)						
KD5C (+W5QGG)						Holland ARC						231	2	21	1,554	SV		3484	2	67	10,992	VA		
2240	2	50	9,652	WTX		K8DAA	829	2	15	3,080	MI	Sky Valley ARC						W5ANR	2323	2	50	8,570	AR	
Lighthouse Amateur Radio Alliance						Montcalm Area ARC						W7SKY	92	2	20	1,532	WVA	Cherryland ARC						
K4PB (+W4PB)						N8MA	633	2	23	3,026	MI	W2ONT	343	2	18	1,516	NNY	W8TYM (+KC8TLT)						
2824	2	25	9,374	SFL		W7W (+WA7UHD)						Electric City ARC						2487	2	40	6,598	MI		
Contoocook Valley RC						729	2	30	3,006	WVA		W7ERC	230	2	12	1,450	MT	St Petersburg ARC						
K1BKE (+K1DFQ)						Hamilton ARC						Elk Co. ARA						W4TA	1481	2	65	6,316	WCF	
3587	2	52	8,934	NH		VE3DC	1029	2	35	2,928	ON	N3NIA	392	2	23	1,444	WPA	10-70 Repeater Assn						
Fauquier ARA						Bladen ARS						Radio Amateurs of the Gorge						N2SE (+W2INS)						
W4VA (+N2VA)						W4BLA (+K14SYK)						W7RAG	118	2	40	1,442	OR	1346	2	35	5,386	NNJ		
2261	2	29	8,540	VA		944	2	37	2,840	NC	NBC ARC							MNARC/D CARA/DELCO DUG/MOBILE						
Cuyahoga Falls ARC						Genesee Co RC						N2EW	253	2	4	1,400	LAX	6ERS						
W8VPV	2255	2	28	8,224	OH	W8ACW	734	2	11	2,806	MI	Grande Ronde Radio Amateur Assn						N3NZ	1376	2	58	5,254	EPA	
Murgas ARC						Oakland Radio Communication Assn						W7GRA	172	2	19	1,382	OR	RF Hill ARC						
K3YTL (+W3MTP)						K6A (+WW6OR)						Newark ARA						W3AI	1416	2	20	4,748	EPA	
2457	2	27	7,994	EPA		499	2	51	2,712	EB		Rural Iowa ARES						W4OLB	991	2	25	4,616	TN	
Boars RC						Central NH ARC						KC0QNI	154	2	8	1,368	IA	South Pickering ARC						
NG5A (+AD5NR)						W1JY (+W1CNH)						W7ORE	301	2	9	1,366	OR	VE3SPC	1217	2	14	4,594	ON	
2001	2	30	7,690	NTX		452	2	36	2,680															

Chesapeake ARS W4CAR (+K4AMG) 680 2 50 2,796 VA	Lake Co ARA N8BC 2106 2 28 8,112 OH Big Bear ARC K6BB (+KC6JTN) 1350 2 20 6,092 ORG Four Lakes ARC W9JZ (+K9GNG) 1262 2 22 5,390 WI N8LC 1599 2 30 5,316 MI Fountain Valley Amateur Comm Team & West Coast ARC WA6FV 1243 2 25 5,160 ORG Lake Monroe ARS N4EH (+KJ4IYD) 1560 2 71 4,902 NFL Orlando ARC W1SE (+W4PLB) 916 2 40 4,786 NFL Antietam RA, Inc. W3CWC (+W3HAM) 1081 2 48 4,782 MDC Andrew Johnson ARC W4WC (+K4DRNC) 1118 2 13 4,568 TN Hoodview ARC W7Q 1356 2 34 4,506 OR Starved Rock RC W9MKS (+K9ZQ) 873 2 57 4,218 IL Tipp City ARC K8ZC 781 2 15 3,970 OH Denver RC W0TX 1003 2 27 3,682 CO Saginaw Valley ARA K8DAC (+N8XPS) 840 2 40 3,572 MI Fulton Co ARC K8BXQ 898 2 25 3,554 OH Crawford Co ARC W8BAE 1196 2 20 3,390 OH West Chester Repeater Assn W8WF 675 2 40 3,214 OH Sheboygan Co ARC W9VCL (+AB9FT) 589 2 12 3,154 WI W9BJ 763 2 12 2,890 WI Whitman ARC, Inc. W1N 665 2 31 2,726 EMA Brantford ARC VE3BA 936 2 9 2,720 ON Sangamon Valley RC W9DUA 726 2 50 2,536 IL Michigan City / LaPorte & Porter Co W9SAL 405 2 49 2,360 IN Conejo Valley ARC AA6CV 409 2 56 2,304 SB Waterville Area Wireless Assn WA1WA 429 2 24 2,296 ME WC4AR 379 2 14 2,250 TN Northern Ohio ARS K8KRG 426 2 36 2,142 OH Las Vegas Radio Amateur Club K7V 261 2 40 2,068 NV Kent ARS K3ARS (+N3WGC) 287 2 26 1,980 MDC Northwood ARS NS9Q 212 2 23 1,744 WI W6SCE 385 2 7 1,676 LAX Whitby ARC VE3WOM 557 2 16 1,384 ON Turlock ARC W6BXN 404 2 10 1,328 SJV Altus Area ARA AJ5Q 86 2 15 1,248 OK K5CRA 118 2 20 452 NTX	North East GA ARC & Athens RC W4G (+NE4GA) 878 2 34 4,148 GA CGARC/MGRA W4R (+K14GCA) 1106 2 45 3,924 GA Calaveras ARS N6FRG (+K16OBE) 643 2 17 3,432 SJV Bexar Co ARS K5EOC (+W5QS) 540 2 86 3,334 STX Silverado ARS W6CO (+K06FR) 691 2 23 3,316 EB Short Mountain Repeater Club W4YXA 521 2 15 2,578 TN Whitewater Valley ARC N9JM 584 2 49 2,418 IN W9WLC (+N9UHF) 464 2 23 2,382 IL Midland ARC W8KEA 456 2 26 2,348 MI Stanislaus ARA W6ERE 344 2 25 1,020 SJV	N7N (AB9CA.op) 294 5 1 3,240 WY K3ATO 264 5 1 2,790 EPA W0EA 227 5 1 2,620 IA VE3LC 245 5 1 2,600 ON NE3R 193 5 1 2,350 MDC K8AB 227 5 1 2,270 OH N3AB 212 5 1 2,270 EPA W3ANX 200 5 1 2,240 WPA N3RN 251 5 1 2,195 EPA W9WI 190 5 1 2,050 WI AA1PL 132 5 1 1,955 RI K1PDY 170 5 1 1,950 NH W9NJY 168 5 1 1,830 WI W8VK 173 5 1 1,830 OH AD7L 164 5 1 1,790 OR K3TW 133 5 1 1,755 MDC K10H 138 5 1 1,730 CO W7AQK 157 5 1 1,720 AZ W0YHE 162 5 1 1,720 MN W6UR 152 5 1 1,670 SJV VE2GB 144 5 1 1,640 QC W3VT 121 5 1 1,545 EPA KU4A 141 5 1 1,540 KY K8BAP 129 5 1 1,540 OR K4CHE 134 5 1 1,540 DE AD5WI 134 5 1 1,515 AR N3XRV 114 5 1 1,490 EPA K7HBN 134 5 1 1,490 WVA WA0KQA 74 5 1 1,490 CO N2JR 120 5 1 1,350 VA K9FOH 98 5 1 1,330 IN W6GA7 86 5 1 1,310 MT K0UU 120 5 1 1,300 MN K5SI 117 5 1 1,270 STX VA2SG 121 5 1 1,260 QC N8XMS 101 5 1 1,260 MI K8DKC 168 5 1 1,255 WTX WU0L 100 5 1 1,250 SD KB7LJP 78 5 1 1,230 WVA AB4EL 113 5 1 1,220 NC N7ARE 153 5 1 1,215 UT K10G 74 5 1 1,190 CO W7CD 97 5 1 1,160 WVA K6AR 101 5 1 1,160 SDG N3ZP 100 5 1 1,100 EPA W0CZ 73 5 1 1,065 ND K6UZB 81 5 1 1,060 SV KC9ZO 87 5 1 1,020 IL W5SHNI 122 5 1 990 STX KE7CDE 147 5 1 985 AZ K06ES 72 5 1 970 ORG W6SJ 30 5 1 950 ORG WBSNMZ 57 5 1 920 AL VE7BQZ 64 5 1 875 BC KK0D 72 5 1 870 CO K85FIO 42 5 1 870 STX W0RSP 80 5 1 850 SD KE4KE 118 5 1 840 TN K8ZT7 61 5 1 815 MT NR8Z 61 5 1 810 OH KD7OED 29 5 1 795 AZ KA1HSP 63 5 1 780 WMA NG1P 125 5 1 775 ME KE3HG 62 5 1 760 EPA N8N 51 5 1 760 OH W9SEWK 61 5 1 755 AZ NK0E 59 5 1 740 CO VE6CZ 61 5 1 725 AB AB8DF 56 5 1 710 MI WB3CEG 46 5 1 710 STX VA2YL 121 5 1 705 QC KF7HB 35 5 1 700 OR W9CJS 46 5 1 635 IL W6SF 48 5 1 630 OK WB3AAL 50 5 1 615 EPA N5KEV 61 5 1 580 NM N8XA 85 5 1 550 OH N0DA 39 5 1 540 OR N7GGJ 48 5 1 530 WVA KA9VHG 49 5 1 495 WI W1EH 38 5 1 480 NFL NI5X 28 5 1 430 OK W4PJP 54 5 1 420 OK W7AU 26 5 1 410 OR KB3GDG/P 29 5 1 395 WPA N7WY 29 5 1 390 SCV K0WRZ 46 5 1 380 KS KB3I 22 5 1 370 MDC W7CS 22 5 1 370 EWA W0WOB 29 5 1 345 CO N2ESE 23 5 1 330 NNJ AJ4CG 17 5 1 320 GA VE2AHH 22 5 1 320 QC AI4KT 9 5 1 315 VA WA0NVT 32 5 1 310 MO WA4GLH 15 5 1 295 TN W8BS 25 5 1 275 OH K14EZZ 9 5 1 240 TN KB1QKB 7 5 1 235 NH K2KGJ 7 5 1 220 ENY N1MMY 11 5 1 205 EB W9AQ 19 5 1 195 IL K8CJQ 7 5 1 135 OH AD6QQ 6 5 1 80 SCV									
Warrensburg Area ARC W0AU 735 2 30 2,720 MO Kendall ARS KB5TX 589 2 18 2,652 STX Twin City ARC K9CU 676 2 40 2,644 IL Toledo Mobile Radio Assn W8HHF 456 2 50 2,540 OH Manotic ARC VE3AIR 497 2 150 2,500 ON Alphalpha Repeater Group W4A 522 2 30 2,392 WCF Ft Herkimer ARA W2FHA 385 2 22 2,358 WNY Barrow ARES Club WR4BC 555 2 35 2,314 GA KQ7R 359 2 16 2,310 OR Upper Valley ARC K8FBN 337 2 40 2,194 OH Eastern Connecticut ARA K1MUJ 511 2 10 2,176 CT Siskiyou Co ARA K6SIS 574 2 7 2,106 SV Bay Area ARC WB8ICU 407 2 10 2,088 MI Riverside Radio Amateurs WA8RRA 511 2 8 2,086 MI Coastal ARS W4LHS (+K4S) 348 2 45 2,078 GA Nortown ARC VE3NAR 750 2 10 2,064 ON Sabine Valley ARA K5GVL 360 2 15 2,064 NTX Barry ARA K8BMI 413 2 43 1,920 MI Tri Co AR KC9OLF 406 2 15 1,902 IN Citrus Belt ARC W6JBT 355 2 25 1,898 ORG Int'l Radio Consortium of the Mystical Town of Waugh W9B 445 2 20 1,872 IN BCARPSG K3PSG 378 2 10 1,856 WPA K4D 246 2 60 1,696 NFL Jonestown Mountain Repeater Assn N3CSE (+KB3TCF) 385 2 14 1,684 EPA ARCs of Spokane N7LC (+K7YY) 206 2 50 1,564 EWA Cherokee Capital ARS K4WOC 160 2 18 1,526 GA Where RC WT9H 174 2 20 1,498 IL Beaver Valley ARA W3SCJ 192 2 59 1,434 WPA Southeast Texas Amateur Radio KD5MAM (+KK5TC) 180 2 30 1,178 STX Sterling - Rockfalls ARS W9MEP (+K9BWE) 174 2 15 1,178 IL Monongalia Wireless Assn W8MWA 314 2 12 1,058 WV Puerto Rico FD Group KP4FD 51 2 41 1,056 PR Zombie Works WE8U 181 2 8 940 ID	5A Battery Durham Region QRP Club VE3QDR 876 5 6 8,920 ON Zuni Loop Mtn Expeditionary Force N6GA 781 5 9 8,035 LAX Forsyth ARC W4NC (+W4WS) 605 5 55 6,390 NC David Sarnoff ARC N2RE 158 5 31 2,335 SNJ W8PIG 114 5 8 830 OH	6A Commercial LaGrange ARC AB4GA 794 2 80 2,448 GA Wisconsin Valley Radio Assn W9NA 757 2 19 2,366 WI Haywood Co AR Group KI4BXI 9 2 19 682 TN	7A Raleigh ARS W4DW (+W4RNC) 3637 2 56 11,554 NC Hampden Co RA W1NY 3009 2 61 10,352 WMA Central KY ARS AA4NJ (+KE4YVD) 2348 2 24 8,308 KY Fort Wayne RC W9TE (+KB9WVO) 2177 2 57 7,574 IN W8ZHO 1681 2 75 6,794 MI DuPage ARC W9DUP 1734 2 52 6,456 IL Salem ARC W7SAA 1431 2 25 5,980 OR Delta ARS VE7SUN (+VE7CDQ) 1604 2 22 5,970 BC Illiana Radio Club W9IRC (+KT9E) 1525 2 51 5,580 IL Sun Parlour & BCRC ARC VE3OW 2019 2 25 5,546 ON Bellevue ARC W0WYV (+WB0CAP) 1097 2 10 5,062 NE	8A Nashua Area RC N1FD (+KB1RGE) 4445 2 40 14,080 NH Cuyahoga ARS W8BM 2640 2 35 10,382 OH W9NE (+W9CEQ) 2835 2 60 10,136 IL Two Rivers ARC W3OC 2054 2 24 8,500 WPA Gwinnett ARS W4GR 1698 2 107 6,336 GA Mahoning Valley ARA W8QLY (+W8LZC) 1532 2 60 5,218 OH Niagara Peninsula ARC VE3VM (+VE3ROW) 1332 2 30 4,568 ON South East Metro ARC W0CGM 897 2 18 4,086 MN Scarborough ARC VE3WE 473 2 23 2,244 ON	9A Orange Co ARC W6ZE (+N1AB) 5925 2 85 19,304 ORG Gloucester Co ARC W2MMD 2690 2 45 10,696 SNJ Wabash Valley ARA W9UUU 1568 2 54 5,898 IN South West IA ARC K0SWI (+K0SWI) 1536 2 55 5,594 IA ARC of El Cajon WA6BGS 1263 2 120 4,412 SDG Silver Springs RC K4GSO 810 2 20 4,114 NFL Greater Wichita Field Day / BEARS & WARC N0W (+KC0YJ) 923 2 80 4,092 KS Keuka Lake ARA K2VU 366 2 34 2,348 WNY El Dorado Co. ARC AG6AU 472 2 37 2,268 SV	9A Battery West Valley ARA W6ZZZ (+AD6RE) 1453 5 30 14,405 SCV Orange Co Radio Amateurs/Durham FM Assn W4EZ 1100 5 35 11,115 NC	10A Mississauga ARC VE3MIS 1712 2 22 6,144 ON Anne Arundel RC W3VPR 1092 2 132 5,028 MDC	11A Rappahannock Valley ARC K4TS (+W4IM) 2873 2 32 10,282 VA	12A Ventura Co ARS, Simi Settlers, Ventura Co ARC N6R 1474 2 45 6,040 SB	17A Battery USECA ARC K8UO 1176 5 117 12,070 MI	1B-1 Op Battery N4TY 849 5 1 8,640 KY K7IA 727 5 1 7,570 NM W3TS 556 5 1 6,010 EPA K5WNH 433 5 1 4,680 NTX N8BB 443 5 1 4,580 MI KX0R 403 5 1 4,380 WY KE0G 393 5 1 4,030 MN VE3RER 357 5 1 3,820 ON W1ECH 356 5 1 3,245 VT	1B-1 Op W2RA 1232 2 1 5,178 WNY K7DR 886 2 1 3,304 MI WB8JUI 600 2 1 2,628 OH K0ZR 699 2 1 2,504 VA KE7NO 790 2 1 2,194 MT N4UF 471 2 1 1,954 NFL





Dave, NKØE, waiting out the t-storms, watches Mother Nature put on her light show while operating at the WGØAT site.

NA5DX	427	2	1	1,710	MS	<b>1B-1 Op</b>	305	2	1	610	AL
AI4BJ	365	2	1	1,680	KY	W5RMB	149	2	1	596	NC
WØXR	375	2	1	1,640	CO	N4UOH	91	2	1	182	OK
WA9STI	411	2	1	1,412	SJV	KD5BBR	166	1	2	166	OH
WØAAA	294	2	1	1,236	MN	KE8E	42	2	1	108	WNY
K3HH	342	2	1	1,222	MDC	ABØDK/2	42	2	1	84	NFL
W3UL	316	2	1	1,094	MDC	K3ESS	25	2	1	248	NNJ
N8TD	192	2	1	1,022	OH	<b>2B-1 Op</b>					
W9DKB	189	2	1	1,006	WI	NJ2X					
KB3IRR	416	2	1	982	EPA	<b>1B-2 Op Battery</b>					
NGØR	212	2	1	976	MN	VA3DF	400	5	2	4,155	ON
WA2CRQ	202	2	1	952	SV	NØEVH (+KØWEW)	321	5	2	3,410	MO
N5VI	200	2	1	950	MS	W7EL (+K7PJT)	310	5	2	3,400	OR
NØNS	255	2	1	918	IA	VA3YV	322	5	2	3,165	ON
AB5I	203	2	1	912	OK	W4MJT	255	5	2	2,800	NC
W5EI	167	2	1	902	WTX	K2WNY (K2SH)	265	5	2	2,790	WNY
K6PDQ	273	2	1	896	SB	K3WGR	205	5	2	2,340	EPA
N3SW	110	2	1	790	VA	KC7H	247	5	2	2,100	EWA
ACTJW	147	2	1	694	UT	K4RDU	171	5	2	1,910	VA
KC4WQ	100	2	1	694	EPA	AD4GP	167	5	2	1,865	GA
WE6Z	368	1	1	656	SV	N3CU	120	5	2	1,550	EPA
AF6ME	138	2	1	626	SF	N7JI	131	5	2	1,525	OR
WD6LL	238	2	1	626	SV	K2QR	88	5	2	1,230	WNY
KBØHOC	182	2	1	614	OH	VA7RMM	129	5	2	1,065	BC
N2DD	129	2	1	608	WNY	AI2T	55	5	2	805	WNY
KC7O	174	2	1	598	SB	AE6JB	40	5	2	690	SV
WØRK	203	2	1	556	MN	W7RIN	60	5	2	685	AZ
WB2AXF	82	2	1	528	ENY	K4RET (+N4MJM)	37	5	2	395	VA
VE4XM	130	2	1	510	MB	<b>1B-2 Op</b>					
AB3FX	111	2	1	492	MDC	W8TK	1578	2	2	7,062	OH
VA2NU	120	2	1	490	QC	WB9COY	1239	2	2	4,990	SDG
KBØYTO	19	2	1	488	NE	KA1VHF	1020	2	2	4,430	OH
AB6S	210	2	1	470	EB	KEØUI	912	2	2	3,650	CO
N7CFO	82	2	1	464	WVA	VE6KZ	753	2	2	3,262	AB
WA6WPG	81	2	1	456	SB	N5JB	771	2	2	3,228	NTX
K3ZT	152	2	1	454	EPA	K7GGG	1024	2	2	3,224	AZ
NØBHT	140	2	1	430	CO	N5JB (+W5ONL)	771	2	2	3,178	NTX
K6JRA	85	2	1	420	EB	K7RE	673	2	2	2,842	WY
W9KHH	54	2	1	416	WI	N9EZ	650	2	2	2,750	MI
W9KH	102	2	1	410	IL	K9ZA (+W9GKA)	739	2	2	2,468	IL
WØAEW	64	2	1	400	CO	VE6AID	471	2	2	2,170	AB
NØUB	73	2	1	396	MO	K5T	1009	1	2	2,018	NTX
K7DNH	122	2	1	394	NV	K3TM/4	432	2	2	1,968	VA
WT9S	117	2	1	384	AZ	N6JF	427	2	2	1,700	LAX
K3ORS	123	2	1	346	TN	VE3UK	695	2	2	1,580	ON
WB6MMQ	27	2	1	304	LAX	W7B7	562	2	2	1,474	ID
ACTCJ	25	2	1	300	EWA	W5WHN	158	2	2	1,100	NM
N3HCP	72	2	1	294	EPA	N9NM	227	2	2	958	STX
N3WTF	70	2	1	290	ORG	VE7GDS	191	2	2	790	BC
N6RZR	70	2	1	290	SV	W1UJ	125	2	2	730	NH
WØGTR	11	2	1	272	MN	K3VIN	283	2	2	716	KY
NØQMC	33	2	1	266	KS	K7DU	185	2	2	684	WVA
AA9NA	78	2	1	256	IL	KBØYH	251	2	2	652	CO
W5ENG	27	2	1	254	STX	KV6O	203	2	2	556	CO
N3QBI	44	2	1	244	WPA	W3RP (+K8ARY)	218	2	2	550	WPA
KC2CHN	21	2	1	234	SDG	K4XF	108	2	2	502	SFL
W9SRB	90	2	1	230	IL	KU4UV	121	2	2	492	KY
WB8VQU	90	2	1	230	MI	K2OAK	167	2	2	486	NNJ
K8SG	63	2	1	226	MI	WBØSMX	115	2	2	480	AZ
AB3S	43	2	1	222	EPA	KE7HLR	82	2	2	478	NV
WB3AKD	35	2	1	220	VA	WB2AZE	52	2	2	454	NNJ
AD4JD	60	2	1	220	TN	W6OFM	109	2	2	392	SF
K3WQ	71	2	1	192	MDC	NA9Q/VY1 (+NB9Q)	54	2	2	358	NT
W7JAZ	8	2	1	170	OR						
N7RAA	27	2	1	154	NV						
AE5KT	44	2	1	138	NTX						
K7JHW	19	2	1	138	WVA						
KØVG	7	2	1	124	MN						
KDØHWX	11	2	1	122	MN						
KB3OUK	25	2	1	120	WPA						
WB5CCO	31	2	1	112	LA						
KF4JQP	15	2	1	80	AL						
KB7RJF	15	2	1	80	SJV						

K4RVH	54	2	2	358	AL	VE2JCW	555	2	1	2,220	QC
KTØR	52	2	2	330	MN	VE3GSI	534	2	1	2,186	ON
K7OVW (+KC7WEU)	103	2	2	306	OR	WA1ENO	1041	2	2	2,082	EMA
K5NLX (+KD5SQT)	50	2	2	300	AR	K5ENS	1007	2	1	2,064	LA
KE9SA	47	2	2	246	WI	VE3MGY	530	2	1	2,062	OH
N2MEE	67	2	2	234	ENY	W8TM	515	2	1	1,892	OH
AA2GS	27	2	2	224	KY	WIØS	387	2	2	1,698	MN
WW6CW	11	2	2	194	SDG	KØGAS	900	1	4	1,660	CO
K5PA	70	2	2	190	STX	KEØFJ	787	2	1	1,624	MN
KD8LBS	58	2	2	166	OH	N7RVD	363	2	1	1,566	ME
KCØMJY	7	2	2	64	CO	W6AEA	751	1	1	1,552	EWA
<b>2B-2 Op Battery</b>						WA2JQK	546	2	1	1,470	ENY
NØUR	1078	5	2	10,830	MN	AE5PW	356	2	1	1,394	AR
K3ZZ	1030	5	2	7,575	MDC	W6AFA	1329	1	1	1,379	LAX
N8EFO	373	5	2	3,920	OH	KB3LIX	360	2	1	1,374	WPA
WØFBI	251	5	2	2,960	IA	KØ7X	657	1	1	1,313	WY
WA8WPI	161	5	2	1,870	MI	VA7ST	312	2	1	1,298	BC
KA6SGT/9	103	5	2	1,030	IN	NØLY	305	2	1	1,270	MO
K7NS	60	5	2	950	UT	NiØR	262	2	1	1,198	AZ
KE5LSU	13	5	2	325	NM	W7GVE	296	2	1	1,184	MO
<b>2B-2 Op</b>						KØMPH	279	2	1	1,160	MN
KGØGY	800	2	2	3,438	NE	KA2OJUO	292	2	1	1,148	NC
NE7D	571	2	2	2,334	OR	KG4W	344	2	1	1,140	VA
KC5JFO	480	2	2	1,690	NTX	NS2X	342	2	1	1,062	TN
AB9SJ	665	2	2	1,580	NM	KC4YOT	223	2	3	956	NC
W5JMW	266	2	2	1,570	WTX	W6VM	299	2	1	944	SB
WS4C	347	2	2	1,384	SC	VE6AO	886	1	1	936	AB
KCØUXC	217	2	2	1,356	SD	WØQQG	224	2	1	914	VA
NE3H	221	2	2	1,204	EPA	W6SX	428	1	1	906	SJV
K4JKA	233	2	2	1,082	VA	WØRAA	208	2	1	882	CO
NB3T	271	2	2	1,008	VA	VA3ATT	219	2	1	876	ON
AE6FD	238	2	2	826	SJV	N2YO	223	2	1	860	VA
KA2KGP	151	2	2	644	WNY	W2DXE	200	2	1	840	WNY
WE7H	142	2	2	634	AZ	N8XPQ	212	2	2	812	MI
KS6A	55	2	2	460	SV	N4V	194	2	1	788	VA
KD8ITX	97	2	2	452	WPA	ND3R	223	2	1	776	WPA
KCØPIK	60	2	2	370	KS	W7QN	196	2	1	764	WVA
N4UPX (+KF5BJN)	101	2	2	346	MS	KC5GNB	178	2	1	762	NTX
WA2YCJ	36	2	2	282	NNJ	KØLWV	186	2	1	744	MO
<b>1C</b>						WA8SDF	366	2	1	732	OH
N6BK (+WX7G)	506	5	2	5,160	LAX	K4O	80	2	12	730	AL
AA6DP	735	2	4	2,990	LAX	N1WQ	173	2	1	724	MN
K7VO	482	2	1	1,164	WVA	W9KB	358	1	1	721	MI
K2NV/VE3	250	2	1	1,150	ON	VE2FFE	138	2	1	702	QC
W2ET	240	2	1	1,096	MDC	NV9X	174	2	1	694	IL
WA2WDT	233	2	1	904	MDC	K4SV	161	2	1	694	NC
W3AG	163	2	1	902	WPA	KEØRR	242	2	3	676	MN
WØBL	166	2	1	886	NC	KA2FHN	186	2	1	674	WNY
W9XS	172	2	1	808	IL	M8K	169	2	1	672	MI
W3BC	188	2	2	788	WPA	W6ABR	332	2	9	664	SF
WA7ZZB	151	2	1	752	WVA	N8CPA	165	2	1	660	OH
K14FW/M	50	5	1	625	VA	K2MK	304	1	1	658	SNJ
N7DLV	113	2	1	576	WVA	VE3FJ	150	2	1	650	ON
K1UR	111	2	2	572	ME	KB9YGD	257	2	1	632	IN
ABØYM	137	2	1	568	CO	KAØZPP	263	2	2	626	MN
W7CGA	71	2	1	534	EWA	NX7F	159	2	1	612	NV
K8TL	108	2	2	528	OH	K9MMS	140	2	1	610	IL
KCØVFO	173	2	1	496	CO	K14EGT	150	2	1	600	GA
N5XTR	347	1	1	447	WTX	N7XW	1				

KT4U	171	1	1	324	VA	KA8PTT	53	1	1	138	OH	K9EFY	22	2	1	44	IN	WB1HJS	156	5	1	1,605	WMA
N5LH	81	2	1	324	AR	KC9JXD	43	2	2	136	IL	W0XP	41	1	1	41	MO	N4TCP	642	2	1	1,580	NC
AD5LU	87	2	1	324	NTX	AC7LC	21	2	1	134	WVA	WA5YNE	40	1	1	40	OK	AE1P	637	2	1	1,576	NH
WB3O	134	2	1	318	VA	KJ4ND	48	2	2	132	KY	WB7QFO	20	2	1	40	CO	K6EMI	437	2	3	1,566	OR
N2BZP	94	2	1	318	NV	N2YHQ	33	2	1	132	WNY	WB0JD	19	2	1	38	SD	AA0CL	328	2	1	1,562	MO
K0PK	67	2	1	318	MN	KZ2G	66	2	1	132	NLI	K4DXU	24	1	1	37	TN	KB3X	672	2	1	1,494	NC
KD3SB	133	2	1	316	WPA	WB8ENE	27	2	1	130	OH	N4SG	16	2	1	32	TN	WR2G	293	2	1	1,482	SJV
NQ5Z	82	2	1	316	OK	W1WJM	80	1	1	130	OH	N9WK	29	1	1	30	WI	K0LMD	549	2	1	1,428	CO
VE7KS	157	1	1	314	BC	N7HIT	40	2	1	130	UT	WZ6P	14	2	1	28	SB	W4LLY	530	2	3	1,410	KS
K16CG	263	1	1	313	MT	K0RRP	38	2	1	126	NC	KA2TAM	27	1	1	27	EPA	N1CC	426	2	1	1,406	NTX
AB1BW	85	2	1	312	CT	W3WOT	38	2	1	126	NC	K3MAF	13	2	1	26	VA	N7NB	114	5	1	1,390	WVA
K06OP	131	2	1	312	SJV	WB9GKM	37	2	1	124	IL	K4FX	25	1	1	25	NC	VE3CX	496	2	3	1,384	ON
K6CSL	86	2	1	310	SJV	KD5JFE	37	2	1	124	LA	WB6KDH	12	2	1	24	SB	K4E9	403	2	1	1,302	VA
W1WSN	77	2	1	308	SFL	W9KVR	18	2	1	122	IL	KH6HME	11	2	1	22	PAC	K6KQV	308	2	1	1,298	SCV
KC9DKQ	153	2	1	306	WI	KU1Q	61	2	2	122	CT	N5OA	21	1	1	21	LA	N7GTE	619	2	1	1,290	UT
K9GPC	128	2	2	306	IL	KF6IMG	35	2	1	120	ORG	N9FNK	10	2	1	20	IN	K0RFD	385	2	1	1,278	CO
N6WK	255	1	1	305	ORG	KC0EWG	34	2	1	118	KS	KB6NN	4	2	1	16	SF	W8AWE	324	2	8	1,276	MI
AE6IC	127	2	1	304	SDG	VA3RNJ	21	2	1	116	ON	KB0ERS	7	2	1	14	STX	K6UF	342	2	1	1,276	SCV
W4HEW	76	2	1	304	GA	WB9MI	29	2	1	116	IL	W7HSA	5	2	1	10	WVA	WA4FOM	93	5	1	1,265	NJ
K9DVB	126	2	1	302	WI	W3NWS	16	2	1	114	MDC	K3BRJ	3	2	1	6	VT	KB8UHN	552	2	1	1,254	OH
KH6GMP	63	2	1	302	PAC	KF4IRC	25	2	1	114	AL	W4RRH	5	1	1	5	VA	N4HAI	109	5	1	1,240	OH
W9WXX	25	2	1	300	IN	WB4IXU	32	2	1	114	TN	VE3AJ	2	2	1	4	ON	NX0I	302	2	1	1,236	MO
VA2WDQ	148	1	1	296	QC	W3JM	56	2	1	112	EP	KF3BN	2	1	1	4	MDC	WU9Z	102	5	2	1,220	IN
KD4YDC	243	1	1	296	GA	WA6GFR	20	2	1	112	ORG	WA6VCN	2	1	1	2	ORG	K4DZR	98	5	1	1,210	TN
WS2E	221	1	1	296	EPA	KB3SPH	31	2	1	112	MDC							A14FR	353	2	1	1,210	WCF
KD2HE	157	1	1	294	NLI	NS4DX	47	2	1	112	VA							NQ5X	384	2	2	1,198	NTX
N9YLZ	118	2	1	286	IL	KD6GJU	30	2	1	110	SB	W6PT	1298	2	5	3,960	SDG	K4OD	127	5	1	1,195	GA
W9JD	58	2	1	282	NE	KJ4LBZ	30	2	1	110	VA	VE3YAA	901	2	3	3,648	DX	NQ2W	104	5	1	1,190	ENY
KE5ZLN	32	2	1	278	STX	KA6GDT	20	2	1	110	SJV	K2TTT	1134	2	3	3,648	NNJ	KC0VEP	94	5	1	1,190	NE
K8OUX	57	2	1	278	MS	4C50C	15	2	1	110	DX	K7SDX	626	2	10	2,334	EWA	KC9CDW	526	2	1	1,152	WI
VE6RI	114	1	1	278	AB	W6NF	30	2	1	110	NV	W5GAD	613	2	25	2,274	LA	WB2TFM	523	2	1	1,146	NFL
K4XD	124	1	1	277	NC	WN2A	15	2	1	110	NNJ	K6SYU	376	2	11	1,274	ORG	KU4WD	400	2	1	1,146	TN
W3KM	69	2	1	276	EPA	K7EIQ	54	1	1	108	EWA	W4NUN	320	2	2	924	GA	N6ZFO	99	5	1	1,140	SF
W4NRV	138	2	8	276	VA	KK7CG	29	2	1	108	OR	W4BPH	94	2	16	638	WCF	N6KP	506	2	1	1,112	SJV
K3VED	136	2	1	272	WPA	K6GEP	40	2	1	108	ORG	KK6I	282	2	3	568	SDG	W4ZKE	240	2	1	1,110	KY
W5PEH	55	2	1	270	STX	W8ONE	27	2	1	108	OH	K2VK	148	2	4	492	NNJ	W0IS	105	5	1	1,110	MN
VE3TAZ	30	2	1	270	ON	N0POH	28	2	1	106	CO	K4YTZ	161	2	4	492	SC	W3LL	466	2	1	1,082	MDC
VE2WNF	109	2	1	268	QC	K7AWB	28	2	1	106	EWA	KB3LVX	148	2	2	382	MDC	W4EA	205	2	1	1,052	GA
AA6AC	67	2	1	268	SB	N1IMW	30	2	1	104	NH	N5GAR	56	2	1	364	NTX	N7UVH	253	2	1	1,044	ID
W4HAY	67	2	1	268	TN	K4AAL	27	2	1	104	TN	N6OYV	94	2	2	258	SV	AE5B	239	2	2	1,020	WX
K2FEO	108	2	1	266	WNY	WQ2Q	26	2	1	102	SNJ	AC5DI	85	1	3	225	STX	WA7PRC	221	2	1	1,000	WVA
KB7HDX	108	2	1	266	EWA	KB1HCD	51	2	1	102	CT	WX1J	86	2	4	192	MI	W6GMT	85	5	1	1,000	MN
WB9FJO	57	2	1	264	MI	KB1OIS	26	2	2	102	NH	KB3LMC	29	2	1	142	MDC	W7FD	450	2	4	1,000	SJV
W5GAI	80	2	1	262	STX	W5KI	29	1	1	99	AR	W8WFC	29	2	1	108	OH	VA3OC	942	1	2	992	ON
K14CZR	55	2	1	260	GA	KT7F	27	2	1	98	ORG	N2RHL	51	2	2	102	WNY	KN4QD	251	2	1	982	SC
KG8BB	104	2	3	258	OH	N8KOJ	24	2	1	98	OH	W5RKN	14	2	1	28	STX	WA5RML	87	5	1	970	NTX
KA5VZG	103	2	1	256	TN	W4LSC	24	2	1	98	AZ							KD3FG	307	2	1	970	MDC
AA0A	252	1	2	256	MO	KE7TMB	23	2	1	96	OR	N0GF	1175	2	15	4,004	ND	WD9FTZ	95	5	2	965	OH
KF6PQT	62	2	1	256	LAX	W8KNO	23	2	1	96	OH	K1TTT	1712	2	3	3,638	WMA	W2FAM	126	2	1	954	WNY
AB8AG	128	2	1	256	OH	W4DSR	11	2	1	94	NFL	W4V	1287	2	16	2,624	NNJ	KJ5ZT	320	2	20	930	AR
WB4MNN	51	2	1	254	NFL	KJ4BKD	22	2	1	94	NC	W2LI	274	2	25	1,058	NNJ	KK6TV	93	5	2	925	SDG
A14CO	102	2	1	254	NFL	K1RDX	22	2	1	94	NH	K7DLX	165	2	5	466	UT	NY6J	227	2	1	920	IN
N9LYY	50	2	1	250	IN	N3GWR	93	1	1	93	EPA	N7TCO	349	1	3	353	EWA	K0GEO	160	2	1	890	STX
N6AD	125	1	1	250	SF	N4EOC	43	1	1	93	MDC							K5EEE	309	2	1	868	SFL
KK1X	50	2	1	250	EMA	K4LJK	21	2	1	92	RI							K6TY	100	2	4	850	LAX
AA5VU	51	2	1	248	STX	KD8GRG	21	2	1	92	MI							W7HD	173	2	1	842	AZ
N6QQ	186	1	1	241	LAX	N7FXD	21	2	1	92	AZ	VE3URF	916	2	4	2,170	ON	KC9IMR	49	5	1	840	IL
N1VMJ	118	2	1	236	WMA	N8XAY	21	2	1	92	OH	WB1GOF	375	2	47	1,746	EMA	NC0O	205	2	1	836	IA
VA7IR	118	2	1	236	BC	KB5DRJ	21	2	1	92	NTX							K2NCC	165	2	1	830	OR
N1YDU	107	2	3	234	OH	W9TQV	20	2	1	90	WI							K3NCO	145	2	1	830	MDC
N4DLR	66	2	1	232	OH	AB0UO	32	2	1	90	KS							WS1J	198	2	1	828	VT
N1BCL	180	1	1	231	VT	KT4RH	45	2	1	90	TN							W7YSB	65	5	1	800	AZ
K4GHS	134	1	1	231	NC	KA6FBB	20	2	1	90	ORG	N4BP	1014	5	2	10,190	SFL	WA6L	64	5	1	790	SDG
WR5RR	45	2	1	230	OK	KC0JPO	19	2	1	88	ND	AA3B	1980	2	1	8,170	EPA	K4CX	220	2	1	790	TN
N2J	177	1	1	227	SNJ	WA5KSC	18	2	1	86	SC	W6JTI	752	5	1	7,770	SF	K4KSR	52	5	1	770	VA
W8KGR	112	2	1	224	MI	KJ6VX	17	2	1	84	SDG	W2BC	1761	2	6	7,494	WNY	K14MU	121	5	1	755	KY
KL7IWF	87	2	1	224	NC	N8TMB	16	2	1	82	MI	K3WVV	1515	2	1	6,302	EPA	WB8EJN	126	2	1	754	MO
WA2LXE	35	2	1	220	NNJ	KA4WWN	16	2	1	82	SC	W0UA	3056	1	3	4,857	CO	N3DUE	300	2	1	750	MDC
W8DUQ	35	2	1	220	WV	KC2TEL	26	2	1	82	NNJ	WB8RTJ	457	5	1	4,720	OH	N6VCW	40	5	1	750	ORG
K9MIE	109	2	1	218	IL	K4GOP	40	2	1	80	NFL	K8RG	435	5	1	4,700	WV	WB9HFK	65	5	1	750	IL
K3DJ	164	1	1	214	SFL	KA1RWY	15	2	1	80	CT	W9TS	395	5	1	4,200	IL	AC0LP	49	5	1	740	MO
AA7IH	52	2	1	208	OR	A15G	15	2	1	80	NTX	N0TT	1009	2	1	4,186	MO	K7NAL	284	2	2	738	UT
W8COK	79																						





Carroll Co ARC K3PZN (+W03L) 956 2 16 3,550 MDC	Grand Strand ARC W4GS (+AF4UZ) 203 2 25 1,426 SC	Tri-Town Radio Amateur Club W9VT (+N9DVG) 1094 2 11 3,266 IL	Metropolitan Detroit SATERN N8SE 278 2 16 1,924 MN
Glynn ARA N4S 648 2 24 2,880 GA	Headwaters ARC N3PC 326 2 12 1,422 WPA	National Trail ARC K9UXZ (+KB9RSK) 951 2 14 2,902 IL	Queen City Emergency Net W8VND 1567 2 17 4,528 OH
WMA RACES/ARES WC1SW 745 2 19 2,668 WMA	Tri-City ARA W7GDY 429 2 4 1,410 AZ	Middle East Emergency Radio Service, Inc KC4EM (+K4DNG) 572 2 54 2,824 TN	7F W2GSB 983 2 55 4,888 NLI
Okalosa ARC W4AAZ (+K15FR) 584 2 17 2,666 NFL	Harney Co ARES W7HRN 108 2 13 1,366 OR	Flagler Palm Coast ARC W4FPC 280 2 23 2,208 NFL	Greater Bridgeport ARC / Derby OEM W1DBY (+W1EFM) 993 2 67 3,764 CT
Mulebarn Club W0S/KC0YLT 659 2 7 2,648 MO	ND5MS 246 2 14 1,356 OK	ARA Tonawandas W2SEX 533 2 23 2,176 WNY	10F Bears of Manchester W1BRS (+K2KKH) 1043 2 30 4,398 CT
Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs K2GE 572 2 20 2,480 NNJ	Garden City ARC K8GC (+K8KV) 200 2 32 1,334 MI	TriCo ARC of North TX WC5C (+N5ZKA) 423 2 22 2,164 NTX	11F SATERN of San Bernardino & Riverside Co W1SAT 51 5 25 2,520 ORG
North Wildwood OEM RC NW2NJ 497 2 8 2,322 SNJ	K3ZX 216 2 5 1,282 SC	Golden Spike ARC K7UB 539 2 24 1,894 UT	
EOAWA/NPARC W8TPY 437 2 20 2,222 OH	CCARA KD4NH 281 2 39 1,242 TN	CQ Radio Club K1BCL 334 2 19 1,868 CT	
Santa Maria Ham Radio ARES K6SMX 590 2 14 2,182 SB	ARA of the Southern Tier W2ZJ 193 2 35 1,228 WNY	Indian River ARC W4NLX (+W2SDB) 338 2 20 1,508 SFL	
Mankato Area RC W0WCL 461 2 20 1,998 MN	Blount Co ARC W4BLT 249 2 21 1,216 AL	S Nye Co ARES W7N9E 149 2 12 1,056 NV	
Sierra ARC WA6YBN (+W6EFB) 375 2 30 1,900 SJV	Virginia Mountain ARC W4COV 378 2 5 1,120 VA	Valley Camp K7S 351 2 8 1,042 WWA	
Western Tidewater Radio Assn WT4RA 453 2 18 1,850 VA	Manalapan RACES/ARES W2TIN 102 2 16 1,104 NNJ	5F Forsyth Co ARES N4AC 2701 2 86 9,158 GA	
MICON NWS DTX K8DTX 540 2 15 1,818 MI	Canadian Forces Com Squadron #734 VE5XZ 184 2 10 1,092 SK	Tri-State ARA W8VA 1249 2 46 4,834 WV	
South Mountain Repeater Assn N3TWT 677 2 7 1,758 EPA	Gloucester City ARC NJ2GC 160 2 9 1,090 SNJ	Southern Counties ARS / Cape May Co ARC K2BR (+N2CMC) 1092 2 42 4,612 SNJ	
Cherokee Co ARES / ARS A14GL 386 2 12 1,714 GA	K0RGT 121 2 20 1,044 MO	Ham Assn of Mesquite WJ5J 1015 2 10 3,424 NTX	
Carousel RC K2OQ 276 2 6 1,652 WNY	Enid ARC W5HTK 109 2 28 832 OK	Flagler Em Com Assn AF2C 367 2 28 2,728 NFL	
Manitowoc Co RC W9DK 295 2 15 1,610 WI	W6TOI 127 2 7 826 LAX	Worcester EmComm Team WE1CT 512 2 40 2,670 WMA	
Southington ARA W1EVC 464 2 15 1,472 CT	Burbank Emergency AR Service N6CDJ 76 2 35 652 LAX	Metroplex ARC W2MPX 339 2 34 2,044 NNJ	
Cocoa ARS N4LEM 695 1 10 1,464 SFL	4F Stanford ARC W6YX (+K6SU) 5499 2 30 17,448 SCV		
Lawton Fort Sill ARC K5USA (+W5KS) 264 2 7 1,438 OK	Bergen ARA K2BAR (+K2SGF) 2548 2 43 7,972 NNJ		
	W8FY 1851 2 16 5,678 OH		
	W4SHL (+WN4AT) 1079 2 15 3,900 AL		

**Logs either submitted or reclassified as Checklogs:** AD1L, G6CSY, K5BWD, K5RQ, K6UW, K9HD, K9PMV, KA0LL, KB8M, KB9WWQ, K16VX, N1SWK, N5UWVY, N6AS, NE3I, NJ9Z, NV8N, VA3AEC, VA3GML, VE1ACU, VE2FK, VE2HOT, VE3NQM, VE3YXO, VE6CNU, VE7AOV, VK4TT, W1AR, W2IRT, W2RJ, W3MJ, W7B7NKK, W7GX, WS8H

**QST+**

# Season's Greetings and Peace on Earth

Leona Adams, W1LGA  
Bob Allison, WB1GCM  
Katherine Allison,  
KA1RWY  
Zoe Belliveau, W1ZOE  
Jon Bloom, KE3Z  
Shelly Bloom, WB1ENT  
Margie Bourgoin,  
KB1DCO  
Antoinette Brinius  
Al Brogdon, W1AB  
Hugh Brower, KB1NFI  
Steve Capodicasa  
Joe Garcia, NJ1Q  
China Chaney  
Jackie Cornell,  
KB1PWB  
Paul Cuppini  
Al Dewey, K0AD  
John Dilks, K2TQN  
Kim Dotolo  
Dennis Dura, K2DCD  
Mark Dzamba, KB1FMY  
Steve Ewald, WV1X  
Sue Fagan, KB1OKW  
Ann Figat  
Steve Ford, WB8IMY  
Norm Fusaro, W3IZ  
Scott Gee, WB9RRU  
Katie Glass  
Alan Gosselin  
Perry Green, WY1O  
Amanda Grimaldi  
Mike Gruber, W1MG

Joel Hallas, W1ZR  
Nancy Hallas, W1NCY  
Ed Haré, W1RFI  
Penny Harts, N1NAG  
Dan Henderson, N1ND  
Mary Hobart, K1MMH  
Gary Hoffman, KB0H  
Stan Horzepa,  
WA1LOU  
Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO  
Gail Iannone  
Chris Imlay, W3KD  
Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R  
Karen Isakson, W1KLI  
Deb Jahnke, K1DAJ  
Debra Johnson,  
K1DMJ  
S. Khrystyne Keane,  
K1SFA  
Michael Keane, K1MK  
Joel Kleinman, N1BKE  
Linda Kleinschmidt  
Harold Kramer, WJ1B  
Lisa Kustosik, KA1UFZ  
Sean Kutzko, KX9X  
Greg Kwasowski,  
W1GJK  
Melinda Lajoie  
Zachary Lau, W1VT  
Rose-Anne Lawrence,  
KB1DMW  
Amy Leary  
Elaine Lengyel  
Monique Levesque

Rick Lindquist,  
WW3DE  
Maryann Macdonald  
Duncan MacLachlan,  
KU0DM  
Kim Mancuso  
Bernie McClenny,  
W3UR  
Carol Michaud,  
KB1QAW  
Bill Moore, NC1L  
Jodi Morin, KA1JPA  
Trevor Morris  
Micah Murray, W1MJM  
Anthony Nesta, AA1RZ  
Rick Palm, K1CE  
Dave Patton, NN1N  
Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF  
Kim Piatek  
David Pingree, N1NAS  
Ann-Marie Pinto  
Allen Pitts, W1AGP  
Brennan Price, N4QX  
John Proctor, K1JMP  
Ashley Rakus  
Ally Riedel  
Lisa Riendeau  
Paul Rinaldo, W4RI  
Janet Rocco, W1JLR  
Kim Rochette  
Steve Sant Andrea,  
AG1YK  
Cathy Scharr

Andrew Shefrin  
Barry Shelley, N1VXY  
H. Ward Silver, N0AX  
Jon Siverling,  
WB3ERA  
Chuck Skolaut,  
K0BOG  
Maria Somma, AB1FM  
Mark Spencer,  
WA8SME  
Cathy Stepina  
David Sumner, K1ZZ  
Diane Szlachetka,  
KB1OKV  
Alexandra Tara  
Sharon Taratula  
Lisa Tardette, KB1MOI  
Dawn Trigilio  
John Troster, W6ISQ  
Ed Vibert  
Paul Wade, W1GHZ  
Pete Warner, K1HJW  
Maty Weinberg,  
KB1EIB  
Rosalie White, K1STO  
Perry Williams, W1UED  
Mark Wilson, K1RO  
Philip Witham  
Larry Wolfgang, WR1B  
Janice Wytas,  
KB1ODH  
Gene Zimmerman,  
W3ZZ

From the ARRL Staff and Contributing Editors



# June 2009 VHF QSO Party

Anticipation, Determination, Perspiration —  
June 13-15, 2009

Rick Rosen, K1DS

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It just wouldn't be an ARRL contest if those three factors weren't present. For some, the buildup is a multi-year project — anticipating that their station, conditions and operating experience will bring them the reward of distinction in *QST*, the winners and leaders listings, a plaque or a certificate: *anticipation*. Others figure they are just in the right geography and the correct operating category with just the right amount of gear and gumption to press on to a chance for an award: *determination*. Then there is the Pareto Rule — with 80 percent of the stations providing the basic communications activity for the joy of VHF on-the-air activity and operating under field conditions, no matter what the temperature or weather may be in their locale: *perspiration*. For the other 20 percent of the stations that got the top scoring listings and certificates, there were plenty of all three ingredients that affected their success.

Much of the feedback from the participants was extremely positive. The newcomers to VHF contesting were absolutely amazed at the 6 meter propagation and levels of activity. Guests and visitors to rovers and portable stations were impressed with the contesting efforts and enthusiasm of the participants.

Make no mistake about it — when it comes to the excitement of contesting and the growth of scores over the past two decades, rovers of every category have been the most controversial and contributory group. The joy of contesting from several coastal or mountaintop locations in the same weekend is enjoyed by a large contingent of score-submitting rovers, as well as the somewhat lesser-documented activities of the “captive” rovers that support a single station.

Many of the perennially high-scoring single- and multi-op multiband stations would not have been able to achieve their score totals without the additional QSO points and grid-band-multipliers rovers provide.

The first thing I notice when looking at the scores after ARRL computer checking is the

number of logs submitted, in order to gauge the participation compared to previous years. This year saw 1135 logs, which included 47 entries from Canada, 4 from Mexico, 7 DX logs from the Caribbean, Venezuela and Brazil, and a 1-contact log from Kenya. This represents a total increase of 61 logs over

last year for a gain of 5 percent. As always, the number of logs submitted seriously underestimates the participation, as we find that K5QE has 1225 QSOs in the log just on 6 meters.

My next gander is at the number of rovers and their category distribution. These categories have experienced the most significant recent rule changes. Classic Rover logs numbered 60, Limited Rover included 37 entries and Unlimited Rovers submitted 5 logs, for a total of 102. Last year we had 95 rover logs, with 61 Classic Rovers, 26 Limited and 8 Unlimited. This may be a limited sampling over only 2 years, but the change in the rules apparently did not discourage rovers and the rules change for participating on the bottom four bands in the Limited Rover category did not have a negative impact on this type of activity.

Single-Operator Low Power entries numbered 693, up 33 from last year. Single-Operator High Power entrants numbered 206, up a notch from 200 last June. Single-Operator QRP entries remained about the same with 33 logs entered versus 35 last year. The Limited Multi-operator category had 56 logs entered, an increase of a whopping 500 percent over 2008's 11 entries in this category. In the Multi-operator category we saw a drop from 72 entrants to only 44 this year.

## Conditions

VHF contest participants usually look forward to some 6 meter E<sub>s</sub> and they were not disappointed. Although the total 6 meter band QSO count was down by almost 12,000 or 9 percent, there were still a respectable total of 125,000 6 meter contacts in the submitted logs. Eleven stations had 6 meter grid counts over 200, with K5QE netting 251. Another 30 stations spread over a wide path of the Southeast, Central and Southwestern states submitted 6 meter grid multipliers of over 150.

Two meter numbers were up by 2800 or 10 percent. 222 MHz activity increased by



### Single Operator, Low Power

K2DRH	401,544
W5SXD	267,029
K9MU	247,248
N3LL	204,156
K5RQ	169,540
WB1GQR (W1SJ, op)	158,588
AF1T	151,380
KC9BQA	143,412
K2EK	132,848
NØLL	132,240

### Single Operator, High Power

K1RZ	455,590
K1TEO	373,464
WB9Z	288,864
K9CT	286,080
K8EB	250,160
WDØT	193,060
W4WA	192,000
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	179,520
K4QI	178,308
K4SN	177,885

### Single Operator Portable

KA1LMR	53,361
K6VCR	29,160
KM7W	27,734
(K19A, op)	
K9AKS	24,511
KF4VTT/P9	18,825
W9SZ	12,400
K9QVB/9	12,231
WB2AMU	8,906
N2YTF	7,200
N6FD	5,964

### Limited Multi-operator

K9NS	666,551
K5TR	502,128
K8GP	425,754
W3SO	335,070
AA4Z	312,018
W5ZN	271,183
KA2LIM	218,892
W4IY	176,600
W1QK	175,680
KB1DFB	165,540

### Multi-operator

W2SZ	1,768,746
K5QE	1,324,182
W3CCX	713,507
K3YTL	409,738
W4NH	341,217
WØAUS	323,180
WØEAA	259,845
KBØHH	249,780
WØKVA	154,000
N6VI	139,568

### Rover

VE3NPB/R	130,548
W1RT/R	128,790
W6TE/R	101,277
VE3SMA/R	97,240
N5AIU/R	75,720
N2CE/R	64,538
KC3WD/R	62,504
WA2IID/R	56,250
AE5P/R	51,948
K2QO/R	50,958

### Limited Rover

W6YLZ/R	104,580
KØ4MA/R	58,112
WAØVPJ/R	48,037
AG4V/R	27,927
AF6AV/R	25,275
W3DHU/R	23,760
K6EU/R	22,800
N4JDB/R	15,312
KC2QZF/R	13,184
KCØPON/R	12,782

### Unlimited Rover

K5RNT/R	30,750
KRØVER/R	24,003
N1LF/R	24,000
K4GUN/R	13,065
N3XUD/R	10,200

Expanded results are now online! Visit [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests) for more June VHF results!



**The Three Generation Rover Team of N3XUD/R. From left: Angel All, KB3STA; Dave All, N3XUD, and Bill All, N3KKM, operating from a mountaintop site in Western Pennsylvania. This was Angel's first contest since getting her license in April and she helped her family team to a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish in the Unlimited Rover category.**

800 contacts or 13 percent. 432 MHz contacts rose by 1000 or 9 percent. Microwave contact numbers were significantly lower this year. A 25 percent decrease, from 8100 to 6100, is almost entirely attributable to the lack of team or group rover entries that were microwave-equipped.

Many stations reported 2 meter EME QSOs and the top two Multi-operator stations found the multipliers very valuable. The moon was workable for North American stations from 0430 UTC until 1900 UTC Sunday. There was also decent 2 meter E<sub>s</sub> in the early hours of Sunday morning from the southwest toward the east and northeast into KY, TN, SC, NC and GA.

### Single-Operator Categories

Maintaining his top spot in Single-Op Low Power (SO-LP) for yet another year, Bob, K2DRH, in IL topped his previous performance with a score of 401,500 and came close to the score of the top entry in Single-Operator High Power. His score is attributable to excellent QSO totals on 6 meters with 200 grid multipliers on that band and a bevy of contacts on the next three bands with rather thin totals on the microwaves through 3 GHz. In 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Rich, W5SXD, with a six band setup from NTX section, scored 267,000 points. Rich reported, "Great contest and shakedown cruise for rebuilt station." Third place went to Justin, K9MU, in WI, also with a six band station, netting 247,000 points. N3LL and K5RQ, both from WCF, were in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> places respectively, both having substantial luck with the 6 meter conditions. Stations placing 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> were not in last year's Top Ten for this category.

In the Single-Operator High Power (SO-HP) category, Dave, K1RZ, made it to the top, moving up from 3<sup>rd</sup> place last year, scoring 455,600 with his 10 band station from

the MDC section. Taking advantage of the 6 meter activity combined with the density of East Coast stations and rovers, he snapped the winning streak of Jeff, K1TEO, from CT who was in 2<sup>nd</sup> place this time with 373,500. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner was Jerry, WB9Z, with a score of 288,800, edging out the 4<sup>th</sup> place scorer, Craig, K9CT, whose total was 286,000, both from IL. Erwin, K8EB, in WI was in 5<sup>th</sup> place with a 10 band entry from MI. Neither K9CT nor K8EB were in the Top Ten SO-HP standings last year.

The Single-Operator QRP (SO-QRP) entrants are a small but dedicated group of amateurs who make special efforts to get to rarer grids or higher locations with limited power on one to eight bands. Although his score was 53,300, down from the 78,000 of 2008, Chris, KA1LMR, was first in this group as he has been for many years, with an eight band effort from NH. Tom, K6VCR, was 2<sup>nd</sup> from SDG, also using eight bands, with a score of 29,000. Chris, KL9A, operating under the call KM7W, claimed 3<sup>rd</sup> place from MT with 27,700 from 283 QSOs on 6 meters and 98 grid multipliers. Our 4<sup>th</sup> place winner was Curt, K9AKS, with a score of 24,500 and a five band station in SD. Doug, KF4VTT/VP9, made it into the 5<sup>th</sup> spot with 251 QSOs in 75 grids from Bermuda, while spending less than 3 hours operating!

### Multi-operator Categories

K9NS, with their 666,500 score, won the Limited Multi-operator (LM) category; they had a good balance of contacts and grid multipliers across the bottom four bands. Their eight operators started off with a bang and logged 164 contacts in the first hour. Over 1000 6 meter QSOs in 231 grids propelled their great score. That effort bumped K5TR into 2<sup>nd</sup> place this year, as his four band team of two ops totaled 402,000, down 30 percent from their 2008 score. The 11 person K8GP crew operating from VA slid back into the LM category this year with a score of 425,700. The effort and cost for the trek to Spruce Knob, WV was a limiting factor. The Wopsonock Mountain seven person team at W3SO captured the 4<sup>th</sup> spot with 335,000 points, while the AA4ZZ crew of nine was 5<sup>th</sup> with 312,000.

The Unlimited Multi-operator (UM) category saw W2SZ again as top scorer, with almost 1.77 million points. Their totals were 2141 QSOs and a multiplier total of 483 grids of which microwaves contributed 432 contacts and 183 grids. Continuing to press them for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row was 2<sup>nd</sup> place K5QE, with their nine operators amassing 1.324 million points with remarkable 6 meter numbers. They had a total of 2002 QSOs and 498 grid multipliers, but their microwave contribution was limited to 177 QSOs and 70 multipliers.

### Affiliated Club Competition

	Entities	Score
<b>Unlimited Club</b>		
Society of Midwest Contesters	57	1,687,500
<b>Medium Club</b>		
Potomac Valley Radio Club	36	1,823,783
Nacogdoches ARC	7	1,465,974
North East Weak Signal Group	24	1,387,075
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	11	947,154
Northern Lights Radio Society	22	939,327
Florida Contest Group	19	832,953
Mt Frank Contesters	4	697,990
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	6	657,094
Florida Weak Signal Society	12	485,129
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	9	458,483
Badger Contesters	17	455,913
Contest Club Ontario	13	441,966
Carolina DX Assn	8	358,348
Rochester VHF Group	10	353,142
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	20	332,530
Northern California Contest Club	22	250,034
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	14	171,143
Tennessee Contest Group	14	152,875
Southern California Contest Club	4	144,061
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	3	135,025
Alabama Contest Group	9	103,137
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	11	97,666
Frankford Radio Club	6	79,652
Central Arizona DX Assn	3	57,443
Utah DX Assn	3	39,644
Mad River Radio Club	5	39,402
North Texas Microwave Society	5	21,197
South East Contest Club	4	20,287
CTRI Contest Group	3	19,125
Maritime Contest Club	3	10,003
Minnesota Wireless Assn	6	9,153
<b>Local Club</b>		
Murgas ARC	4	595,634
Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters	4	427,949
Eastern Connecticut ARA	4	177,618
10-70 Repeater Assn	3	55,109
Schenectady Museum ARA	4	28,470
Burlington County Radio Club	5	19,171
Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs	7	17,195
Ventura County Amateur Radio Society	4	13,815
Spokane DX Association	3	11,058
Dauberville DX Assn	3	10,996
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	6	10,274
Meriden ARC	3	6,710
Low Country Contest Club	4	2,629

In 3<sup>rd</sup> place again, the W3CCX Packrats scored 713,500 with a 12 band effort, complete with a visit from Murphy who wrought havoc with the transmit amplifiers for 6 meters, 2 meters, 70 centimeters and 23 centimeters. The 12 hams at K3YTL were next in line with a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish and 405,000 points using six bands from their usual FN11 perch. W4NK came in 5<sup>th</sup>, a newcomer to this year's Top Ten in the UM category.

### Rover Categories

The Limited Rover (RL) category was modified this year to include only the lowest four VHF bands. Of the 37 stations in this category, 17 used those four bands and 15 used bands A, B and D (6 meters, 2 meters and 70 cm). The winner in this category was a hustling Mike, W6YLZ, accompanied by John, N6MU, scoring 104,500 while covering 11 grids. Andy, KO4MA, with Dave, AJ4LU, also a four bander, was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 58,000, covering an aggressive 22 grids across 1300 miles in three states. John, WA0VPJ, took 3<sup>rd</sup> place with another four band swing through eight grids, amassing 48,000. Steve, AG4V, copped the 4<sup>th</sup> spot with a 28,000 effort that also included eight



Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeastern Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section)			Midwestern Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections)		
WB1GQR	158,588	A	N3LL	204,156	A	K2DRH	401,544	A	W5SXD	267,029	A	KG6IYN	84,056	A
(W1SJ, op)			K5RQ	169,540	A	K9MU	247,248	A	NØLL	132,240	A	VA6AN	65,798	A
AF1T	151,380	A	K2EK	132,848	A	KC9BQA	143,412	A	KØSIX	107,168	A	NUØS	56,924	A
K1KG	116,382	A	N4QWZ	127,470	A	WØ9S	70,468	A	W5RØK	98,212	A	K6XN	32,928	A
WB2SIH	97,812	A	NJ2F	123,546	A	W9GKA	60,750	A	(WA8ZBT, op)			WJØF	22,256	A
W3PAW	88,954	A							KAØPQW	86,784	A			
			W4WA	192,000	B	WB9Z	288,864	B				W7CE	106,505	B
K1RZ	455,590	B	K4QI	178,308	B	K9CT	286,080	B	WDØT	193,060	B	N6EQ	82,615	B
K1TEO	373,464	B	K4SN	177,885	B	K8EB	250,160	B	K5LLL	156,136	B	N6KN	82,416	B
WA2FGK	179,520	B	WB4SLM	159,384	B	W9GA	138,866	B	WØ5K	148,938	B	K7CW	79,344	B
(K2LNS, op)			KB5AAB	129,990	B	K8MD	129,920	B	WØAL	141,168	B	W7EW	51,072	B
N3HBX	127,600	B							K5AM	132,880	B			
WA1T	120,805	B	KB5YZG	2,352	Q	W9SZ	12,400	Q				K6VCR	29,160	Q
			KC8KSK	522	Q	K9QVB/9	12,231	Q	K9AKS	24,511	Q	KM7W	27,734	Q
KA1LMR	53,361	Q				K9OM	1,650	Q	KCØATQ	3,552	Q	(KL9A, op)		
WB2AMU	8,906	Q	K8GP	425,754	L	A19I	1	Q	KC8CUI	2,009	Q	N6FD	5,964	Q
N2YTF	7,200	Q	AA4ZZ	312,018	L				WØSJE	1,911	Q	KC6MIE	935	Q
VA2NU	2,432	Q	W5ZN	271,183	L	K9NS	666,551	L	N7QF	490	Q	K7TOP	779	Q
W3MEO	150	Q	W4IY	176,600	L	N8ZM	148,526	L				WA7JTM	82,810	L
			W4TP	104,650	L	N9TF	48,498	L	K5TR	502,128	L	AD6J	29,681	L
W3SO	335,070	L				W9VV	31,527	L	WØVB	84,488	L	VE6AO	25,415	L
KA2LIM	218,892	L	W4NH	341,217	M	NG9R	23,205	L	WØLSD	72,691	L	W7JLC	20,806	L
W1QK	175,680	L	N4JQQ	64,253	M				NØEO	66,165	L	K7VA	11,178	L
KB1DFB	165,540	L	K4AC	58,344	M	VE3WCC	134,816	M	W5KFT	57,658	L			
K2BAR	154,198	L	W4YCC	30,849	M	N8KOL	110,580	M				N6VI	139,568	M
			K4RSV	5,977	M	N9UHF	95,160	M	K5QE	1,324,182	M	VA7ISL	91,504	M
W2SZ	1,768,746	M				KB8O	39,552	M	WØEEA	259,845	M	W6TV	61,920	M
W3CCX	713,507	M	N2CEI/R	64,538	R	N2BJ	38,822	M	KBØHH	249,780	M	N6TEB	51,900	M
K3YTL	409,738	M	KC3WD/R	62,504	R				WØKVA	154,000	M	W6AB	26,695	M
W2FU	131,596	M	WA5KBH/R	462	R	VE3NPB/R	130,548	R				W6TE/R	101,277	R
W3KWH	27,750	M				VE3SMA/R	97,240	R	N5AIU/R	75,720	R	KE6QR/R	12,200	R
W1RT/R	128,790	R	KØ4MA/R	58,112	RL	KF8QL/R	29,646	R	AE5P/R	51,948	R	K6LMN/R	10,653	R
WA2HD/R	56,250	R	AG4V/R	27,927	RL	W9FZ/R	26,433	R	WØZQ/R	45,428	R	K7MDL/R	2,530	R
K2QQ/R	50,958	R	N4JDB/R	15,312	RL	NE8I/R	21,513	R	WRØI/R	10,812	R	KH7Y/R	320	R
WA3PTV/R	28,288	R	KD5IKG/R	8,001	RL				KAØKCI/R	10,428	R			
KB1EKZ/R	26,240	R	A14GR/R	3,838	RL	W9YOY/R	8,436	RL				WAØVPJ/R	48,037	RL
						K8DOG/R	6,862	RL	W3DHJ/R	23,760	RL	W6YLZ/R	104,580	RL
KC2QZF/R	13,184	RL	N1LF/R	24,000	RU	N8OC/R	5,452	RL	KCØPON/R	12,782	RL	AF6AV/R	25,275	RL
W3HMS/R	11,520	RL	K4GUN/R	13,065	RU	N9UX/R	4,838	RL	N5TIT/R	8,479	RL	K6EU/R	22,800	RL
						K9GY/R	1,829	RL	AAØKW/R	8,316	RL	N6ORB/R	11,679	RL
N3XUD/R	10,200	RU										K6JRA/R	8,514	RL
									K5RNT/R	30,750	RU			
									KRØVER/R	24,003	RU			

grids on four bands. Bob, AF6V, operated in only two grids but managed to capture 5<sup>th</sup> place with 25,000, operating four bands in southern CA.

In the Classic Rover (RC) group, top dog was Murray, VE3NPB, who with Russ, VE3OIL, as his rover partner, covered nine grids using 12 bands and added 381 QSOs with a phenomenal 172 grid multipliers for 130,500. This is the first time they have topped a Rover category in the June contest. Just 1800 points behind, John, W1RT, and Christophe, ON4IY, were in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 128,800. In 3<sup>rd</sup> place, another “regular” in the rover ranks, Dave, W6TE, and John, K6MI, had a 101,200 point log with their 11 band effort. Our 4<sup>th</sup> place scorer was another Ontario, Canada based rover, Steve, VE3SMA, also manning a 12 band station through seven grids for 97,200. Johnny, N5AIU, and Lon, AE5BN, captured 5<sup>th</sup> place with their eight band activity through 10 grids of the southwest.

The top Unlimited Rover (RU) score was reported by Dustin, K5RNT, and his spouse, Amanda, K5AMW, who chose this category to avoid competition with other Texas rovers in the Classic Rover group. Their six bands, coupled with a 14 grid rove earned them 30,700 for 1<sup>st</sup> place. Second place in this category was Eric, KRØVER

(don’t you think he has one of the cleverest vanity calls?) who with nine bands across seven CO grids scored 24,003 points. I emphasize Eric’s score down to the last digit as Les, N1LF, from AL had 24,000 points for

## Holding the Channel

You may recall that the VHF QSO Party started on the same day that all television stations in the US changed to digital signals. For a year prior to the change over, W7DTV, the Skyline Tower Amateur Radio Club, a group composed primarily of broadcast engineers involved in the Skyline Tower master broadcast site in Portland, had planned to operate a 6 meter station using the now-surplus broadcast antennas with a fantastic signal from the six bay Super Turnstile antenna at 1570 feet Height Above Average Terrain. As reported by Ev, W7EEH, with only a short window of time between the changeover and contest start, the group didn’t expect such a high receive noise level, limiting the site’s effectiveness, but it was a memorable experience just the same.

3<sup>rd</sup> place, only three points behind! Les covered four grids with 10 bands, making a lot of use of the feedback he got from his questions on the VHF Contesting reflector.

Steve, K4GUN, with his roving partner, now his spouse, K4LIG, placed 4<sup>th</sup> in RU with 13,000 using four bands across six grids. His soapbox included this note, “If you haven’t been fortunate enough to have yours [spouse] along on a roving adventure, you’re really missing out. It made a so-so rove into another great memory.”

In 5<sup>th</sup> place was the three generation team of Dave, N3XUD, his dad Billy, N3KKM, and his 11 year old daughter Angel, KB3STA. They garnered 10,200 while traversing four grids. They reported, “Angel pretty much settled on 6 meters as that is where most of the action was. Her dad taught her well and she handled the pileups like she had been doing it for a long time.”

So where was the group of California based multiband team rovers? Some participated on a limited basis, but did not submit logs. Their calls appeared in the logs of others who did submit for scoring. Duffey, KK6MC, editorialized in a post on the VHF Contesting reflector ([lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/VHFcontesting](http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/VHFcontesting)), “The new rules appeared to curtail the coordinated roving activity from California, as only one

## Sponsored Plaque Winners

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of numerous clubs and individuals, we are pleased to announce the winners of a sponsored ARRL June VHF QSO Party plaque. The ARRL wishes to thank the plaque sponsors for their continued commitment to the ARRL Plaque Program. Without their support and dedication, the Plaque Program would not be possible.

### Category

Overall Single Operator High Power  
Overall Single Operator Low Power  
Overall Single Operator QRP Portable  
Overall Multi-operator  
Overall Limited Multi-operator  
Overall Rover  
Atlantic Division Rover  
Midwest Division Limited Multi-operator  
Northwestern Division Single Operator QRP Portable  
Northwestern Division Multi-operator  
Pacific Division Multi-operator  
Roanoke Division Rover  
Southeastern Division Single Operator High Power  
Southeastern Division Rover  
Southwestern Division Single Operator High Power  
  
West Gulf Division Single Operator High Power  
West Gulf Division Rover

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W5UWB — In Memory of  
John Chambers, W6NLZ  
North Texas Microwave Society  
North Texas Microwave Society

### Winner

K1RZ  
K2DRH  
KA1LMR  
W2SZ  
K9NS  
VE3NPB/R  
K2QO/R  
KDØHGA  
KM7W (KL9A, op)  
K7AWB  
W6TW  
KC3WD/R  
W4WA  
N2CEI/R  
  
N6EQ  
K5LLL  
N5AIU/R

Un-sponsored plaques may be purchased by the plaque winner. If you wish to purchase an un-sponsored plaque or order a duplicate plaque, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, at 860-594-0232 or by e-mail at [kx9x@arrl.org](mailto:kx9x@arrl.org). The cost for plaques is \$75 (includes shipping).

call from the 15 or so that have participated in that activity over the past few years appears in the logs submitted. It is a shame that there were eight 10 band VHF/UHF stations that appeared to be dormant in this year's contest. I think that this is a bad sign. With that activity, rover activity would have been at a new high. I hope that some of these stations found their way into fixed, portable, or other rovers."

## New Records

Thirteen section records were set in SO-LP, two of them division records. Rich, W5SXD, in the NTX section now holds the West Gulf Division high score with 267,000, while Rob, N3LL, in WCF with 204,000, set a Southeastern Division record. Four additional section records in SO-HP were set this June by K9EA in IN, K1RZ from MDC, KB5AAB in MS and WDØT in SD.

Surprise of surprises, W5ZN set a record for AR and the Delta Division in the LM category with a score of 271,000. Our own ARRL President Joel, W5ZN, together with our Contest Manager Sean, KX9X, and Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave, NN1N, made this happen. In the Unlimited Multi-operator category, K5QE pushed the envelope in STX

with a West Gulf Division record-setting 1.324 million points. Another Unlimited Multi-operator entry, K4AC, set a new NFL record with 58,000.

There are still several ARRL Section records unclaimed in the SO-QRP Category. This year we have three section records, two of them also division records. Curt, K9AKS, set the SD SO-QRP record with 24,500 from a five band setup. Curt is also the "keeper of the records" and has edited the list of section and division winners posted on the ARRL Contest Branch Web site ([www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)). Chris, KL9A, operating as KM7W, posted 27,700 points in MT to claim the Northwestern Division SO-QRP record. Doug, KF4VTT/VP9, set the "International" SO-QRP Portable record with a single band 6 meter effort from Bermuda, logging an 18,000 total.

## Club Participation

There were 45 clubs represented, three more than last year. The Society of Midwest Contesters ([www.w9smc.com](http://www.w9smc.com)) was the top and only entrant in the Unlimited Club category with 57 entries and a 1.69 million aggregate score. The three main contributors were stations K2DRH, WB9Z and K9CT,

whose combined scores made up one million of the total.

Topping the Medium Club listings was the Potomac Valley Radio Club ([www.pvrc.org](http://www.pvrc.org)) with 36 entries and 1.82 million total score. Their main contributors included K1RZ, K8GP and W3SO. It is no surprise that the Nacogdoches ARC ([www.w5nac.com](http://www.w5nac.com)) with eight entrants scored almost 1.5 million points on the strength of the K5QE Multi-operator station that contributed 88 percent of the total. The Northeast Weak Signal Group ([www.newsvhf.com](http://www.newsvhf.com)) placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with 1.38 million points and 24 entries, with K1TEO, W1QK and W1RT/R as their leading scorers.

In the Local Club class, The Murgas ARC ([www.qsl.net/k3ytl](http://www.qsl.net/k3ytl)) was the leader with 595,000, including the scores of four stations; two of them, WA2FGK and K3YTL, made up 99 percent of that total. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place club was the Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters ([www.cvvhf.org](http://www.cvvhf.org)) with four logs and a 428,000 aggregate; K9MU contributed more than half of that total. Chippewa Valley moved up two places from last year's 4<sup>th</sup> spot in this category. In 3<sup>rd</sup> place is the Eastern Connecticut ARA ([www.qsl.net/k1muj](http://www.qsl.net/k1muj)) with their four log sum of 176k, on the strength of the KB1DFB Limited-Multi score of 165k.

## Fun for Everyone

While many of us find amusement assembling and operating a technically demanding radio station, taking lots of gear and antennas on the road or just grabbing a few QSOs when the bands are hopping, VHF, UHF and microwave communications have continued to challenge and inspire. Surplus cell phone base station amplifiers have become more readily available and power for many microwave-equipped stations has increased, allowing for longer distance contacts and more grid multipliers.

We are beginning to see analog TV gear showing up as surplus — a boon to builders and experimenters. It is certainly rewarding to see increasing participation in all divisions of the contest with more youth entering the ranks. The rovers and portable stations have increased the public awareness of the communications capability of Amateur Radio and its significant place in emergency communications. Let's continue to build the enthusiasm and momentum by stimulating more operators to use those neglected bands often considered too dull or too challenging. Share this article and ask your buddies and club members to join in the fun and participate. An extended contest article with more charts and pictures is available at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests).

Next year's ARRL June VHF QSO Party is scheduled for June 12-14, 2010 and the bands should continue to be hopping. C U there. 73, Rick

**QST**

JOHN D'AUSILIO, W1RT



Inside the very clean rover of John, W1RT. John's vehicle is QRV from 6 meters all the way up to the microwave bands. John, along with partner ON4IY, used this vehicle to cover 10 grids and earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the "classic" Rover category.





# 2010 Kids Day Announcement

Mark Beckwith, N5OT, and David Hodge, N6AN

The first Sunday of 2010 is the time to get a youngster on the air and share the joys and fun that Amateur Radio can provide. Kids Day returns **January 3 from 1800 to 2400 UTC**.

Sponsored by the Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club ([jzap.com/k7rat](http://jzap.com/k7rat)), this event helps bring the excitement of Amateur Radio to a younger audience. The exchange is simple: first name, age, location and favorite color. After that, the contact can be as long or as short as each participant likes.

Suggested frequencies for Kids Day are 28.350 to 28.400 MHz, 24.960 to 24.980 MHz, 21.360 to 21.400 MHz, 18.140 to 18.145 MHz, 14.270 to 14.300 MHz, 7.270 to 7.290 MHz and 3.740 to 3.940 MHz, as well as your favorite 2 meter repeater (with permission of the repeater's sponsor, of course). You can work DX, but be sure to remember any third party traffic restrictions that may exist when a nonlicensed operator is working a DX station.

## From Kids Day to Caltech

Kids Day has prompted many to get their first license. Other times, it has had a more lasting impact. Back in 1998 Rebecca, KBØVVT, of Raytown, Missouri had a Kids Day contact with Mike, W4EF, at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) club station W6UE. Mike works at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, which is the leading US center for robotic exploration of the solar system, and conducts major programs in space based Earth sciences. During the contact Rebecca mentioned to Mike that she was interested in going to Caltech. Mike sent her a QSL card (see Figures 1 and 2) and accompanying Caltech prank postcard (see Figure 3), which she framed and displayed in her shack.

Jump forward to summer 2009. Rebecca is a student at MIT and comes to Pasadena for the summer to participate in a summer internship at JPL. Her home away from home was the Caltech campus. Mike was able to present her a key to the W6UE club station to use for the duration of her internship. She even participated in the North American CW QSO Party from the W6UE station in early August.

## A Soapbox and Certificate

Everybody has a story to tell about Kids Day. Whether yours resulted in a career path or just an afternoon of pizza and laughter, share your experiences. The Kids Day soapbox is available to all; post your stories and share your photos with thousands of other participants around the globe. Be sure to read what others share; you might find a new way to enjoy Kids Day — like making contact on a dipole they built themselves, building a simple electronic kit or doing research on the places contacted.

Once Kids Day is over, be sure to log on to [www.arri.org/kidsday](http://www.arri.org/kidsday), fill out the online survey and print a certificate for each of the kids who participated at your station. These certificates are suitable for framing and will help maintain their interest in Amateur Radio for some time to come.

Kids Day opens doors and opens minds. Open your shack doors and invite the youngsters over to learn and enjoy themselves. Let's all work to get some fresh, young voices on the air on January 3.

All images courtesy David Rich, KGØUS.

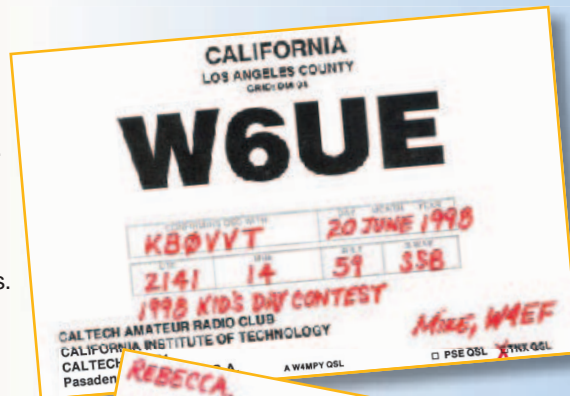


Figure 1 — Rebecca, KBØVVT's, W6UE QSL from the 1998 Kids Day.

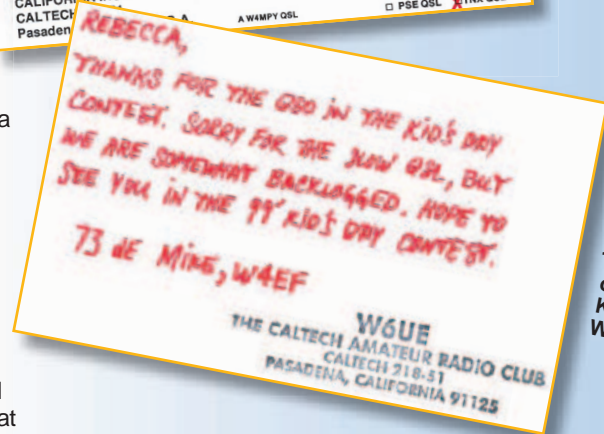


Figure 2 — The back of the KBØVVT-W6UE QSL.



Figure 3 — The famous prank Caltech postcard.



Figure 4 — Did Rebecca's Kids Day contact with W6UE spark a career path?

[kidsday@arri.org](mailto:kidsday@arri.org)

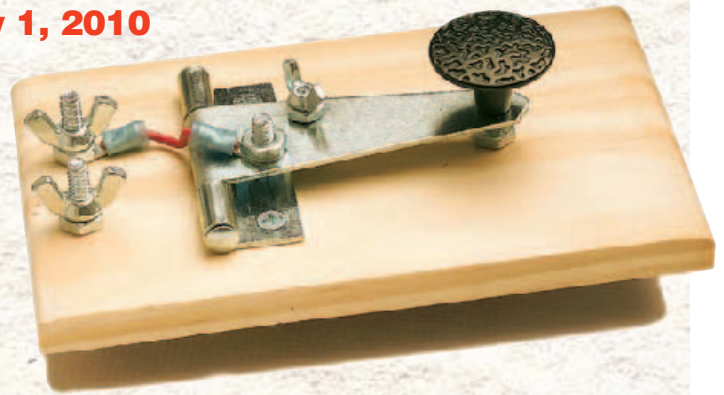




# 2010 ARRL Straight Key Night

0000 – 2359 UTC January 1, 2010

From the very beginning of Amateur Radio, there was Morse code. Straight Key Night takes us back to our heritage. Break out that old key or bug, maybe use some vintage gear and make some QSOs that call back to a simpler time. No fast exchanges, no sequential serial numbers — just get on the air and send CW for the fun and joy of it.



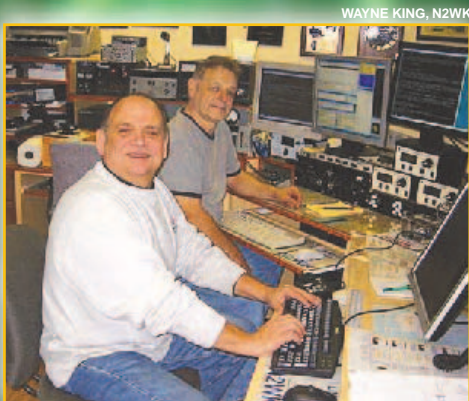
“ **And code is music, from sounders and speakers it dances in the shack to each sender's inner clock, and comes butter-smooth, deliciously swinging, or choppy staccato from a 'fist' praising definition, or perfectly metered, flowing exquisitely from the gentle hand of an artist.** ”

— © Troy Weidenheimer, WØROF  
(used with permission)

E-mail your summary of stations worked, along with your stories, high resolution photos and your vote for “Best Fist” and “Most Memorable QSO” to [straightkey@arrl.org](mailto:straightkey@arrl.org) or send in your paper logs to Straight Key Night, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. All logs must be submitted no later than 0000 UTC Monday, February 1, 2010.

## THE 2010 ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP

1800 UTC Saturday, January 2 –  
2359 UTC Sunday, January 3, 2010



WAYNE KING, N2WK

WA2TMC (front) and N2WK

- ✗ Submit Cabrillo-formatted electronic logs by e-mail to [rttyru@arrl.org](mailto:rttyru@arrl.org)
- ✗ All logs must be submitted by 0000 UTC Wednesday, February 3, 2010.
- ✗ The ARRL RTTY Roundup is the fastest-growing contest the League offers. More and more amateurs are getting bitten by the digital bug every year. Make QSOs with RTTY, PSK and more! WVEs send a signal report and their State or Province; DX stations send a signal report and serial number, starting with 001. Everybody works everybody! Get your computer interfaced to your rig and work the world in this long-standing RTTY event.

Complete rules can be found at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)





# 2010 ARRL DX Contest

**CW:** 0000 UTC Saturday, February 20 – 2359 UTC Sunday, February 21  
**Phone:** 0000 UTC Saturday, March 6 – 2359 UTC Sunday, March 7

- CW log submission deadline: 0000 UTC Tuesday, March 23, 2010
- Phone submission deadline: 0000 UTC Tuesday, April 6, 2010
- E-mail Cabrillo-formatted logs to [dxcw@arrl.org](mailto:dxcw@arrl.org) or [dxphone@arrl.org](mailto:dxphone@arrl.org). Paper logs to ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA
- Complete rules can be found at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)
- The thrill of competition and the hunt for DX will be the focus in late February and early March! W/VE stations work only DX and DX stations work only W/VE. Exchange a signal report and your W/VE state or province; DX stations send a signal report and transmitter power.

**Work your share of the DX, then tell us how you did! Post your stories and photos to the contest soapbox at [www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox](http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox)**

PHOTOS BY TONI LINDEN, OH2UA



# 2010 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

“ Out in my Rover, antennas are raised  
Good signals tonight — so strong, I’m amazed  
Fingers are frozen, my lips are blue  
It’s the VHF Sweeps — CQ, CQ! ”

**1900 UTC Saturday, January 23 —  
0359 UTC Monday, January 25**

Complete rules can be found at  
[www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

■ An excellent event for some January VHF+ fun. Stations exchange four-digit grid square. Collect as many QSOs and different grids as you can. Technician class licensees are encouraged to participate!

■ Logs must be submitted by 0400 UTC Thursday, February 25, 2010

■ E-mail Cabrillo-formatted logs to [januaryvhf@arrl.org](mailto:januaryvhf@arrl.org). Paper logs to ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.



BRUCE RICHARDSON, W9FZ, AND WENDELL SMITH, N9REP

**Bruce Richardson, W9FZ (left) and Wendell Smith, N9REP, out roving with a few antennas.**



W3UR

## HOW'S DX?

# DX News from Around the Globe

### 3V — TUNISIA

A German team who will be operating with special call 3V3S from November 23-December 2 will be QRV from the club station 3V8SS in Sousse, Tunisia. This will include a multisingle effort in the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. Team members will include DJ7IK, DJ8NK, DJ9CB, DL9USA and DF1LON. They will be using a Spiderbeam and verticals, which will then be donated to the club station. The team will have a Web site, soon, at [www.3V3S.tk](http://www.3V3S.tk). QSL via DL9USA.

### 3W — VIETNAM



An international team will be operating from Con Co Island (AS-185) as 3W6C in April. Plans are to run four stations 24/7 for 2 weeks with a goal of 60,000 QSOs. The international team is being led by Swiss operators with approximately 20 operators from Vietnam, Germany, America and Japan. Activity is expected on all bands. The team is looking for sponsors. They have a Web site at [www.3w6c.qrv.ch](http://www.3w6c.qrv.ch).

### 5R — MADAGASCAR

Sam, G4OHX, plans to be in Madagascar from December 28 - January 3. He hopes to be QRV as 5R8HX. Afterwards he'll be in South Africa and operating as ZS5/G4OHX from January 4-17.

### 8Q — MALDIVES



8Q7QQ will be a 6 meter EME DXpedition March 24-31. Pierre, HB9QQ, "has been very busy optimizing the 6 meter EME

station he will be taking next spring for his JT65A operation," says W7GJ on *Make More Miles on VHF* ([www.mmmmonvhf.de](http://www.mmmmonvhf.de)). Pierre "will be using a low-noise external preamp, 500 W Falcon amplifier and a 7-element Yagi overlooking the ocean." W7GJ says there are "some great horizon-only windows for NA stations — while he has ground gain on the horizon at the same time." Lance says EME conditions are optimum during that time of the year. In addition to HB9QQ, HB9CRQ also plans to be on the trip and possibly other members of the HB9Q Team. They will concentrate on 144 MHz but will also do some 6 meter and 23 centimeter. Flights and bungalows are already booked but it may not be too late to go along, if you're looking for adventure. Contact HB9CRQ.

### A2 — BOTSWANA

Mike, K9NW, tells us he will be active from Botswana as A25NW from November 23-December 1, including a Single-op All-band entry in the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. Mike will be QRV on all bands. QSL via K9NW.

### C5 — GAMBIA

Eric, SM1TDE, will be in The Gambia from December 10-January 3. He has applied for a license and supposes it will be issued upon his arrival. This will be a family vacation and so radio will come second. Activity is planned for CW only on 1.8 through 28 MHz using 100 W and simple wire antennas. Eric prefers QSLs go via the bureau, although direct is okay too. He does not have plans to use LoTW or eQSL.

### C9 — MOZAMBIQUE



Derek, ZS5Y, is planning a 6 meter EME operation from Mozambique this month. Plans are to start on December 4 for a week of activity.

### CE — CHILE

Pedro, HK3JJH, confirms he is indeed looking into Wollaston Islands (SA-031) and Diego Ramirez Islands (SA-094), Chile in the December 2009-January 2010 time frame. Keep an eye on your favorite DX pub for details on this one.

### FO — FRENCH POLYNESIA



Phil, F5PHW, has been in Tahiti, French Polynesia since August and will be QRV as FO8RZ until August 2011. He is running 100 W mostly on CW with some RTTY. Phil has a Yagi for 10, 15 and 20 meters up about 6 meters high. He also has an inverted V for 40 and 80 meters as well as an HF6V, which can be used on 30, 17 and 12 meters. Phil also has a 160 meter kit for the HF6V he plans to install. QSL via LoTW or via F8BPN, either direct or via the French REF-Union bureau.

### INTERNATIONAL TEAM HEADS TO SEVERAL PACIFIC ISLANDS

By the time you read this, an international team will have just finished operating from Samoa (5WØMR, etc). Their next stop will be Tonga where they will be QRV from November 19 through December 1. They are expected to be some of the first operators to use the new A31 prefix, which is now reserved for visitors. The team includes:

Call	Home Call
A31MR	IK1PMR
A31LEO	PA3LEO/K2LEO
A31WL	PAØBWL
A31NN	AA4NN
A31SN	OE2SNL
A31IW	DJ5IW
A31JC	DJ7JC

Plans are to participate in the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest with special call A31A. Activity before and after the contest will be with each operator's own A31 call on all bands and modes. They will be focusing on Europe, the low bands, 12, 17 and 30



meters and RTTY. Plans are to have four stations, three with amplifiers. The team has a Web page at [www.ik1pmr.com](http://www.ik1pmr.com). They will also be operating on the 60 meter band. Plans are to have small amplifiers.

The international team will next go to New Zealand from December 2-6, where they probably will operate from Waiheke Island (OC-201). The ops for this one include IK1PMR, PA3LEO, PA0BWL, AA4NN, OE2SNL, DJ5IW, OZ1IKY and DJ7JC. This one will be a "holiday style operation" with ZL/home calls being used.

After New Zealand the international team heads to Rarotonga (OC-013), South Cooks for their December 6-13 DXpedition. Their calls are:

Call	Operator
E51PMR	IK1PMR
E51LEO	PA3LEO/K2LEO
E51BWL	PA0BWL
E51EEE	AA4NN
E51SNL	OE2SNL
E51XIW	DJ5IW
E51NAA	DJ7JC

And finally some of the international team will close down from Singapore between December 14 and 17, this time using 9V/home calls. The ops will be IK1PMR, PA3LEO and PA0BWL. This one will be a "holiday style operation" on CW and the digital modes.

#### JD/O — OGASAWARA ISLANDS

J15RPT's Web site ([www.ji5rpt.com](http://www.ji5rpt.com)) reports that he and Harry, JG7PSJ, are heading back to JD1 — Chichijima (AS-031), Ogasawara Islands for an operation between December 27-January 1. They will be operating as JD1BLY (QSL via J15RPT) and JD1BMH (QSL via JG7PSJ).

#### KG4 — GUANTANAMO BAY

Keith, KJ5YU, recently obtained the call sign KG4YU to be QRV from Guantanamo Bay. Look for him to be active, mostly on 20 meters, on various HF frequencies as his time and work schedule allows. He will be operating from the Club Gitmo station, which includes a Kenwood TW-570D running 100 W. Keith's expected operating schedule will be mostly on weekends through approximately February 1. QSL via Keith's home call KJ5YU.

#### V3 — BELIZE

Pete, K8PT, is heading to Ambergris Cay (NA-073), Belize for a holiday style operation from November 24-December 6. He'll be operating as V31PT on 7 through 28 MHz on SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via K8PT.

#### VK — AUSTRALIA

The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) turns 100 next month, which it believes makes it the world's oldest national radio



society ([www.wia.org.au](http://www.wia.org.au)). VK100WIA will be on the air next May to celebrate from the WIA. Affiliated clubs may borrow the call sign for further operations after that. There will be a commemorative QSL card for the operations between May and October 2010 and a "limited edition" operating award, the WIA Centenary Award, for making two contacts with VK100WIA. There will be a program of events at the WIA annual meeting in Canberra in May, with other special events being planned by radio clubs. The WIA began with a meeting of "wireless pioneers" in Sydney in 1910, to "protect their interests and rights against — harsh treatment by authorities and a high licence fee."

#### VK9X — CHRISTMAS ISLAND

VK9X/G6AY with operators G3SWH and G3RTE will be active from Christmas Island February 20-27. It's OC-002 for IOTA and is #66 on *DX Magazine's* 2008 most wanted survey, worldwide. Phil and Jim will be CW only, all bands 80-10, going with the best propagation with two stations on the air as many hours a day as possible. They hope to work as many North American, European and "Rest of the World" (ROTW) stations on as many bands as possible. QSL via G3SWH, direct with SAE and return postage or via Phil's Web site, [www.g3swh.org.uk](http://www.g3swh.org.uk) for a bureau reply, or the regular way with a bureau card. [www.g3swh.org.uk/christmas-island.html](http://www.g3swh.org.uk/christmas-island.html) for more information.

#### VP2V — BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Kurt, W3HQ, is planning a trip to the British Virgin Islands where he will be QRV as VP2V/W3HQ from December 4-16. Activity is expected on 1.8 through 28 MHz on CW only. QSL via W3HQ.

#### XU — CAMBODIA



XU7UFT is the Cambodian call sign for Norbert, F6AXX, and Alain, F6HBR, from Sihanoukville, December 3-8. They plan to be CW only. QSL via F6AXX at the French REF-Union Bureau or direct to his published address with an SAE and postage cost. They have a goal of answering all the QSL requests by January 15.

#### YV and YV0 — VENEZUELA and AVES ISLAND

Alex, YV5SSB, updates us on some upcoming activities of the 4M5DX Group. A January 2010 operation from Aves Island (YW0A) is in the works for three or four weeks. They still need to negotiate the length of stay with the Venezuelan Navy. They 4M5DX Group is also working on a number of IOTAs with the first one expected in November to December of this year on Orchila Island (SA-054) as YW50. In February they will try YW7IOTA from Coche Island (SA-012) and in March from Patos Island (SA-048) as YW5P.

#### Z2 — ZIMBABWE



Mikhail, RW3AJX, has been in Zimbabwe for 1 year. He received his Z23MS license in April of this year. Mikhail will be working there for about 2 to 3 more years. He expects to be QRV on SSB on 80 through 10 meters and PSK31 a little bit later. There is no Z2 QSL bureau and cards should go via UA3DX.

#### ZL — NEW ZEALAND

Paul, ZL4PW, and Ray, VK4HDX, are going to a rare one, OC-203, Stewart Island. Put this on your calendar for March 9-30, 2010. The last time it was on was just for 48 hours, back in 2004. Most past operations have been CW. These two boys plan to be on 160-15, all modes, plus maybe the CQ WPX SSB Contest. They are getting their gear ready and have their travel costs covered but still need a phasing device for phased arrays for 40 and 30 and a solid state amplifier. To help with those, you can reach them at [zl4pw@orcon.net.nz](mailto:zl4pw@orcon.net.nz). Their Web site is "under construction."

#### WRAP UP

That is all for this month. A special thanks to AA1MI/HB9DST, FO8RZ, HK3JJH, IK1PMR, KE3Q, RW3AJX and *The Daily DX* for this month's news. Don't forget to send your club newsletters, photos and DX news to your editor at [bernie@dailydx.com](mailto:bernie@dailydx.com). Until next month, see you in the pileups! — *Bernie, W3UR* **QST**





W3ZZ

# THE WORLD ABOVE 50 MHz

## New Blood

Every once in a while the discussion on the VHF Contesting Reflector turns from rover rules, new ways to use nonradio means to manufacture contacts before and during contests and other perennial favorites to important and fixable issues. One such issue is finding ways to improve VHF+ activity and discussing where to find the operators to fuel this improvement. Since a version of this discussion just ended on the reflector and because I believe that the latter topics are important functions of this column, I would like to revisit specifically where we might find some new blood.

### The Ideal Road to DXing on VHF+

We all know the ideal approach to developing new VHF+ operators. We need a source of operators who are interested in using the VHF+ frequencies. Then we need someone(s) to mentor them, to answer their questions and to help them get started. Most of all there must be someone to explain the challenges and the fascination with these frequencies and tell them why they should persevere. It also helps to have local activity nets so they will have someplace to listen and talk when they get on the VHF+ bands. Lacking this help and feedback you will get very few new VHF operators. But first, where are we going to find new blood to mentor?

### Previous Attempts

Let's first look at the sources for new operators in Amateur Radio over the last half century. Originally the amateur ranks were populated by experimenters and SWL DXers seeking to work people in the far off countries they heard on their shortwave radios. I started primarily as a ham radio SWL and my original interest in working DX, whether day-by-day or in competitions, has never waned in over 50 years. Of course this is a very limited source of new amateurs but it sufficed for many years. The Novice license provided many their first experience with VHF and a few stayed on the VHF bands after they upgraded. In fact, the golden years of VHF activity were probably in the 1960s fueled by Novices and Technicians and the ready availability of emergency communications equipment

provided by localities. There was activity every night on 2 meters and lots of local and not so local nets.

Often overlooked are CBers. Starting later in the 1960s many CBers were fascinated by both the F2 and E layer DX available on 11 meters and yearned to be free of the crowding they found there. Many became amateurs. Some conquered the code and became mainstream HF hams. Some could not exceed the 5 WPM code requirement and became Technicians, joined the VHF+ ranks and stayed there even after they upgraded.

Any discussion of new VHF DX blood automatically has gravitated to converting FMers. Indeed, starting around 1970 there was a massive increase in the number of people using FM. In great part this was because of the longtime desire for reliable local communications, something that FM readily delivered. From that time on, current VHF DXers have tried and tried and tried to make VHF DXers out of FM operators with only limited success. There are good reasons why this is so.

By the mid 1970s FM may have become the most popular mode of amateur communication. FM radios and handheld transceivers were selling like hot cakes and repeaters were springing up everywhere like mushrooms. This high level of FM activity was maintained for the rest of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and provided an obvious source of potential VHF DX operators. But in many ways this was deceiving. The vast majority of FM-only operators were interested in reliable local communication. Their mindset was based on discrete channels, and tuning as we know it on VHF or HF DXing was an alien concept to many. The majority of operations took place on repeaters where the

repeater did the heavy lifting and little more than a handheld transceiver was needed.

In fact most FM operators strongly doubted that communications could be maintained over distances beyond that supplied by the local repeater. Those FMers who came from the HF world returned there when they were not on FM. VHF+ meant line of sight for almost all FM users.

Then came the cell phone revolution beginning around the year 2000. The ideal form of local communication — reliable and relatively cheap. The repeaters emptied out. Large repeater clubs went from hundreds of members to tens of members. Today many repeaters remain lightly used. If you don't believe this, listen sometime even in large metro areas.

There are a few exceptions to the failure to make real VHF operators out of FMers. The first is the special case of the entry class operators in Thailand who are limited to 10 W simplex 2 meter FM. Many of these operators would like to contest and indeed do so in the CQ WW VHF contest. This contest attracts well over 1000 operators and scores approaching 1000 contacts and about 20 grids all with 10 W. In fact this VHF contest is the biggest yearly contest in Thailand.

The other exception is the well-known Rochester VHF Group, which has in the past consisted of hundreds of FM operators along with a large core of experienced, technically competent VHF DXers. Here there are no problems finding many Elmers and plenty of help getting started and going as high in frequency as you might be interested in going. Although a significant number of FMers have gone to SSB/CW in this club, based on my ability to work FN12/FN13 over a 250-300 mile path, many of them do not run much power.

### Where Else Can We Try?

If previous organized attempts to find new VHF activity have failed, what is left? There is an additional variant of converting FMers whose results are not yet known because it is relatively new. National events like 9/11 and Katrina have reemphasized the importance of disaster communications. Federal efforts and, to a growing extent,

This Month	
*December 6	<i>Excellent</i> EME conditions
December 12-16	2009 WSJT Geminids Test
December 14	Geminids meteor shower peaks 0510Z
*Moon data from W5LUU	



local and regional disaster communications have come to be based on highly complex and expensive trunking systems whose reliability is in question under disaster conditions. Thus cell phones routinely fail during a disaster not usually because the cell phone hardware is damaged but because the cell phone networks are not designed, nor could they economically be designed, to handle the communications volumes that are produced during a disaster.

Complex emergency communications networks sometimes work and sometimes do not. Many involved in communications for first responders understand and would like to apply the KISS principle (Keep It Simple Stupid). Unfortunately, many of the modern digital radios and digital communications modes are anything but simple. In trying to accomplish everything through the highest technology, many of these modern digital communications devices become part of the problem instead of part of the solution.

Simple handheld transceivers and analog communication voice repeaters are still very valuable in emergencies and many non-amateurs interested in disaster response have been urged to get amateur licenses. The vast majority of these people are interested only in disaster communications. But might some of them go on to become mainstream amateurs with broader interests or even become interested in communicating over greater distances on the VHF bands they already use on FM? For instance John Lindholm, W1XX, sponsors a statewide FM contest in Rhode Island coinciding with the CQ WW VHF Contest. He is getting a few dozen entries, about half of whom are willing to submit their logs for the CQ VHF contest. This is a long reach but we won't know how it works unless we try it.

Starting in the 1990s ICOM and Yaesu in particular produced a series of competitively priced, compact portable/mobile radios that covered 160 meters to 70 cm. It is said that the ICOM IC-706 series is the single most popular radio ever made. Everybody has some variant of this type of radio (an FT-100 resides in my car). I was sure that these radios were the savior of VHF activity. Yet I was entirely wrong. When I asked a few years ago at the Visalia DX convention how many in the contesting forum owned such radios, around 80 percent of the more than the 100 present raised their hands. Yet when asked how many had ever made a DX contact on VHF fewer than 10 hands went up. The reason was lack of interest, lack of activity ("those bands are always dead") and the requirement for a decent antenna ("a wire out the window won't do").

Now there appears to have been a change

with the advent of high end HF+6 meter radios ranging from the K3, FT-2000, IC-7600 and even less expensive but still main station radios like the FT-450 and TS-480, and the slow but steady penetration of the pure SDR radios like the Flex 5000/1000. With these radios the DX Challenge includes 6 meters, and that has attracted the HF DX/contest crowd (for instance, locally in a very short time W3UR has over 100 countries and W3LPL is in the 90s on 6 meters).

Now we are seeing some very familiar HF faces on the VHF bands, particularly 6 meters. Not a month goes by that I don't get at least one e-mail from a longtime HFer, most not from anyone I know, telling me how he tried his new HF+6 meter radio on some kind of low band antenna and found that he could work lots of stations and that 6 meter propagation was fascinating. Thus we have another convert to the Magic Band and the possibility that some of these folks will go on to explore other VHF bands.

So where is the new VHF blood? It is under our noses — the large number of HF operators who have previously not been willing to try 6 meters. When presented with an easy route to try 6 meters they find that an E<sub>s</sub> opening sounds like 10 meters on a good day.

What can the VHF community do? We can encourage our friends with these radios to try 6. We can explain that the time to try is April through July and why this is so (they will understand time limitations — 160 meters is really decent in a typical year only from October through April). We can be their VHF Elmers. We can answer their questions and help them technically. If they need someone to listen for their VHF signals, be there to help them. If you belong to VHF club, seek these HFers out, answer their questions and emphasize 6 meters. A certain number of them will go on to try other VHF bands — remember they have to walk before they can run.

How does this work in practice? Let me give you one personal example. Fifteen years ago my local club, the Potomac Valley Radio Club, an HF contest club, had only a handful of VHF operators. Amongst others I kept telling them how great VHF was and in the meantime a few dozen nonVHF members now have obtained VHF capability. Some of the local VHFers who are also interested in HF contesting have joined the PVRC and many of the operators of the Grid Pirates, K8GP, and VHF contest stations, W3SO and W4IY, have become PVRC members. Some were previously members but others are new.

The Pirates have provided technical assistance to help a significant number of local rovers and local fixed stations get on the air.

In many cases these operators have become technically competent on VHF+ in their own right and now are capable of maintaining their own stations to a great extent. So, this is a win-win situation but it doesn't happen without help from the VHF community. What we have done in the Washington, DC area can be readily duplicated elsewhere.

## ON THE BANDS

September produced a lot of microwave activity and a couple of decent coastal tropo openings but ones not nearly as nice as last month's east/west duct. Let's look.

**Tropospheric Ducting.** On the 3rd Vic, WB2SLM (EM82) caught a coastal duct up to K1TEO (FN31rh) 832 mi on 1296 and 2304 and to WA2LTM (FN20rh) 734 mi on 1296. The same time Jon, N0JK, notes KS was working into WI and MI. Following the 2 meter Sprint Dave, K1WHS (FN43) worked K4SME (EM80) and W4VC (EM81) on 432 and K4QI (FM06) on 1296. The next morning he worked K4LY (EM85) on 1296 and W4VHH (EM95) on 1296 and 2304. The best were contacts with Mark, K1MAP, in (FM14/FM15) on 10 GHz. Mark was as loud on 3 cm as on 2 meters. On September 22-23 Bob, K6QXY, heard the KH6HME beacons weakly on 144, 432 and 1296 via the transpacific duct.

**Contests.** In brief the September VHF contest had little interesting propagation but Al, K7ICW (DM62oh) reported a near miss (calls but no report) with Don, KE7NR (DM33um) on 1296 over an occluded mountain path. Todd, N4QWZ (EM66) worked approximately 500 miles to Chicago area stations including K2DRH (EN41) on 1296. Jon, N0JK, noted E<sub>s</sub> between KS and FL. Kudos to Bruce, W9FZ, who organized Midwest Mania ([w9fz.com/midwest-mania09](http://w9fz.com/midwest-mania09)) to encourage both increased fixed station and rover activity in the Midwest region. In response Lloyd, NE8I/R, drove 885 miles through 9 grids. The contest write-up should tell us how many more answered the call. Conditions in the 222 Sprint were also flat. Top scores I have heard: W8ZN 47/23, WZ1V 45/20, K1TEO 43/18, KC9BQA 32/18, K1WHS 38/15, K1RZ 30/18, K1TR 28/14, K4QI 24/18, W3ZZ 23/14. Totals were low outside the northeast but Todd, KC9BQA, said he benefited from rover activity, which was absent here in the East.

The other contests fared much better. This month's highlight was an Atlantic coastal duct coinciding with the Fall 2 meter Sprint on September 7. Stations from Nova Scotia FN73 (VE1WLC) to northern FL were in the duct. Top scores from the early results were W8ZN 160/42, K1WHS 170/36, K1TEO 150/36, WZ1V 117/28, W3ZZ 94/29, K1RZ 90/29 and K3TUF 90/24. Dave, K1WHS, observed a classical coastal ducting event with one elevated segment from New England to FL bypassing lowland stations in between and a solid low altitude duct from VE1 down the coast to the Carolinas. He worked 70 Qs in the first hour. His longest contacts were Steve, N2CEI, and Sandra, K4SME (EM80) in FL. Steve says they were about to quit when they heard K1OR (FN42). As the duct broadened they eventually worked Dave, K1TR (FN42), WZ1V (FN31) and K1GX (FN31) but heard no one else.

The 10 GHz and Up contest also had enhanced conditions. Steve, KB8VAO, operating from Blue Knob (FN00rg) worked W1FNF on Mt Equinox (FN33kd) 343 mi and KT1J (FN34bi)



Figure 1 — Mickie, N1MKY (left), and Dale, AF1T, look for some DX at sunset from Block Island in the 10 GHz contest.

369 mi. Wally, WØPHD, from EN18gg worked both VE4MA (EN19lu) and NTØV (EN08oc) with enhanced signals. Most interesting was the modulation of the signals by the nearby wind turbines. Mark, K1MAP, details operation from FN30ap, FM28kt, FM27hv, FM27ap, FM26aq and FM14ux the following 2 days. Conditions were ordinary until the last two grids when Mark worked to Martha's Vineyard (FN41ql) 437 mi,

Block Island (FN41ee and FN31) from FM26 and Block Island and K1WHS (FN43mj) 648 mi from FM14. Dale, AF1T; Mickie, N1MKY, and Russ, K2TXB, activated Block Island during and after the contest (Figure 1).

**6 meters.** Pickings were pretty slim. Jon, NØJK (EM28) was into GA/FL on the 7th. The same day Bill, KØHA (EN10) found long single hop to EL95, FL16 and DL82 (XE2YW) as well as TX, LA and all of FL. NØJK notes that even with no sunspots TEP was worked on the

23rd from HK-CE/LU and PY-9Y.

**Microwaves.** In addition to the activity in the 10 GHz and Up contest John, WØUN, sent me a YouTube link ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYxz9Nf1yuI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYxz9Nf1yuI)) to a video of regular rain scatter (RS) contacts between K5LLL (EM10kf) and KM5PO (EM12ko) and W5LUA (EM13qc), the latter a 200 mile path. Al, W5LUA, notes that given enough power

and antenna it is possible to work RS down to 902 MHz though this low frequency does not support RS well.

**HERE AND THERE**

**Geminids Meteor Shower.** The Geminids are an active group of rather slow (35 km/hr) meteors that produce short bursts that are ideal for digital MS (see below). This year the Geminids peaks at 0510Z ±2 hours, December 14. In spite of their slow speed, long contacts can be made; I have heard and been heard on SSB in KP4 (approximately 1550 miles).

**North American VHF WSJT 2009 Geminids Test.** Sponsored by the WSJT Group at [groups.yahoo.com/group/wsjtgroup](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wsjtgroup), this digital (FSK441/JT6M/JT65) contest runs from 0000Z December 12 to 0200Z December 16 on 50-222 MHz to coincide with the Geminids meteor shower. Classes are Fixed/Portable Random, Assisted and Rover Random, and Assisted. Distance scoring (miles) is used. Self-spotting and schedules before and during the contest are allowed in the assisted classes but no information may be passed during a contact by any means but MS. Make sure to read the full details at [www.sportscliche.com/wb2fko/w09/rules\\_w09.pdf](http://www.sportscliche.com/wb2fko/w09/rules_w09.pdf).

I again wish my readers the very best of the Holiday Season and a New Year in 2010 filled with VHF+ DX. **Q5T+**

**432 MHz Standings**

Published 432 MHz standings include call area leaders as of Sep 1. For a complete listing, check the "Records and Standings" pages on "The World Above 50 MHz" Web pages at [www.arrl.org/qst/worldabove](http://www.arrl.org/qst/worldabove). To ensure that the "Records and Standings" pages reflect current activity, submit reports at least every 2 years by e-mail to [standings@arrrl.org](mailto:standings@arrrl.org). Printed forms are available by sending a request with an SASE to Standings, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Call Sign	State	States Worked	DXCC Entities Worked	Grids Worked	DX (km)
<b>1</b>					
W3EP/1	CT	20	2	61	1,760
W1AIM	VT	18	2	56	1,725
K1VU	MA	11	1	16	814
K1WVX	CT	10	1	14	691
WA1FVJ	CT	10	1	14	400
<b>2</b>					
K1JT	NJ	17	2	52	757
K2OVS*	NY	16	4	44	720
WB2AMU	NY	12	1	19	830
W2MPK	NY	9	2	—	—
<b>3</b>					
W3ZZ	MD	26	2	93	1,526
AE3T	PA	23	2	—	1,363
WA2FGK	PA	22	2	81	1,596
N3JNX	PA	11	1	25	786
<b>4</b>					
W4TJ*	VA	43	40	190	—
K4QI*	NC	39	51	261	—
AA4ZZ	NC	32	2	102	1,255
N4QWZ	TN	31	1	110	1,601
K4RF	GA	28	2	96	1,742
W4WA	GA	25	2	88	1,506
K4CSO	GA	25	1	114	1,582
AA4H	TN	21	1	57	1,078
K4RTS	VA	20	2	68	1,078
N4MM	VA	19	3	58	—
K4ETC	TN	14	2	40	908
N4HN	NC	14	1	41	—
KØVXM	FL	10	3	64	2,164
W4SW	VA	9	2	22	521
K4MM	FL	8	2	34	1,691
K4MSG	VA	8	1	19	492
N9HF	FL	7	1	7	608
KE4WBO	FL	3	1	11	1,013
<b>5</b>					
W5LUA*	TX	50	—	—	—
WD5AGO*	OK	40	23	150	1,740
W5ZN*	AR	36	15	155	1,850
K5UR	AR	31	2	220	—
K5SW	OK	31	2	144	1,273
K5YY	AR	30	2	161	1,780
K5QE*	TX	25	2	77	—
WA5VJB	TX	23	—	—	2,108
W5HNK*	TX	20	1	—	1,651
K5LLL	TX	16	2	98	1,673

Call Sign	State	States Worked	DXCC Entities Worked	Grids Worked	DX (km)
<b>6</b>					
W5UWB*	TX	14	3	39	2,167
W3UUM	TX	14	2	68	1,619
AA5AM	TX	9	1	52	1,728
AA5JG	OK	6	1	32	1,855
<b>7</b>					
KC6ZWT*	CA	4	3	51	3,934
K6QXY	CA	4	3	36	3,794
KR7O	CA	2	1	39	582
N6ZE	CA	1	2	18	1,265
<b>8</b>					
W7MEM*	ID	19	12	59	—
KI7JA	OR	4	2	21	683
WA7GSK	ID	3	1	12	—
<b>9</b>					
K2YAZ	MI	28	2	108	2,167
W48RJF*	OH	22	3	80	1,287
K8ROX	OH	17	2	51	1,104
N8PUM	MI	11	2	44	1,368
KB8O	OH	11	2	27	707
<b>Ø</b>					
WØSD*	SD	50	25	138	—
KØRZ*	CO	46	50	275	1,083
KØALL*	ND	42	13	—	—
WØRT	KS	30	2	105	1,940
NØPB	MO	27	1	115	1,936
NØLL	KS	21	1	113	1,690
KØPF	MO	20	1	74	1,189
KØPPE	MO	17	1	61	1,148
KØAWU	MN	15	2	67	1,474
NWØW	MO	9	2	—	890
<b>Canada</b>					
VE3KH	ON	18	—	54	1,174
VE2PIJ	PQ	9	2	37	694

\*Includes EME contacts  
— Not given

**VHF/UHF Century Club Awards**

Compiled by Sharon Taratula  
Administrative Manager

The ARRL VUCC numbered certificate is earned by amateurs who submit written confirmation for contacts with the minimum number of Maidenhead grid locators (indicated in italics) for each band listing. The numbers preceding call signs indicate total grid locators claimed. The numbers following the call signs indicate claimed endorsement levels. The totals shown are for credits given from August 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009.

The VUCC application form, field sheets and complete list of VHF Awards Managers can be found on the VUCC Web site at [www.arrrl.org/awards/vucc](http://www.arrrl.org/awards/vucc). An SASE to ARRL is required if you cannot download these forms. Send questions relating to VUCC to [vucc@arrrl.org](mailto:vucc@arrrl.org).

50 MHz	100	KØAZ	175
		WA3BZT	225
1691	W8GJ		
1692	KQ4KX		
1693	WA2KBZ		
1694	K4UQC	140	W9GKA
1695	W9DQ	141	W9RVG
1696	N2YBB	142	NG4C
KQ4KX	125	N4QWZ	60
WA3YGQ	125	W9RVG	60
K6UM (CN85)	150		
KC8TMU	150		
KC9FQD	200		
N6ORB	250		
WAØGUD	250	326	W9RVG
K1ACL	275	327	NG4C
K6RG	275	328	KØAZ
K9MU	400	329	W5MRB
W5WP	400	N4QWZ	80
W9VA	500		
K4LVV	525		
WX7M	550		
KN4SM	575	43	KØVXM
KR7O	575		
KØAZ	625		
K4CKS	675		
KAØJGH	675		
NG4C	700	183	KD8ILL
WD5K	1,150	WA8SME	225
		K8ZZU	275
		KD8CAO	325
		K8YSE	350
		WA4NVM	375
		N5AFV	675
<b>144 MHz</b>	<b>100</b>		
697	W5MRB		

**Q5T+**



# SPECIAL EVENTS

Contact these stations and help commemorate history. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate!

**Nov 22-Dec 6, 0000Z-0000Z**, Berwyn, IL. Chicago Suburban Radio Association, W9C. 85 years since the founding meeting of CSRA. 145.555 21.331 14.255 7.190. QSL. Ed Schumacher, 3011 Becket Ave, Westchester, IL 60154. [www.csraham.com](http://www.csraham.com)

**Dec 1-Dec 16, 1800Z-0400Z**, Sevierville, TN. Sevier County Emergency Radio Service, W4W. Sevier County Emergency Radio Christmas QSO Party. 28.350 14.260 7.250 3.840. QSL. QSL direct to amateur operating the W4W special event station. [n4jttq@live.com](mailto:n4jttq@live.com) or [www.freewebs.com/aresradio/index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/aresradio/index.htm)

**Dec 4-Dec 7, 1400Z-1100Z**, Fredericksburg, TX. Hill Country Amateur Radio Club and the amateurs of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County, TX. N5P. Opening of the George H. W. Bush Gallery at the National Museum of the Pacific War, and commemorating the hams who served in WWII. 14.255 21.275 7.275 3.940. QSL. Nimitz Foundation, 328 E Austin St, Fredericksburg, TX 78624. [info@NimitzFoundation.org](mailto:info@NimitzFoundation.org) or [www.kerrhams.org](http://www.kerrhams.org)

**Dec 5, 1400Z-2300Z**, Granite City, IL. The Egyptian Radio Club, Inc, W9AIU. 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Egyptian Radio Club. 14.275 14.035. QSL. Egyptian Radio Club, PO Box 562, Granite City, IL 62040-0562. Operating from our mobile van. [www.w9aiu.org](http://www.w9aiu.org)

**Dec 5, 1700Z-2359Z**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Radio Operations Room, N16IW. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. SSB 14.320 7.050 PSK-31 7.070 CW 14.060 7.055 D-STAR 2m/70cm SOCAL rep. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Station, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. [kk6fz@arrl.net](mailto:kk6fz@arrl.net)

**Dec 5-Dec 6, 1400Z-2200Z**, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electron-

**Certificates and QSL cards:** To obtain a certificate from any of the special-event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9 x 12 inch self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information. \*Note: Some clubs may ask for a nominal fee to cover the cost of the certificate or QSL. Request will be made on air during the event or on the club's Web site.

**Special Events Announcements:** For items to be listed in this column, use the ARRL Special Events Listing Form, at [www.arrl.org/contests/spevform.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/spevform.html). A plain text version of the form is also available at that site. You can also request a copy by e-mail or send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) (Special Requests, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; write "Special Events Form" in the lower left-hand corner). Off-line completed forms can be mailed, faxed (Attn: Special Events) or e-mailed.

Submissions must be received by ARRL HQ no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of the second month preceding the publication date; a special event listing for **Feb QST** would have to be received by **Dec 1**. In addition to being listed in *QST*, your event will be listed on the *ARRLWeb* Special Events page. Note: All received events are acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please contact us.

Special Events listed in this issue include current events received through Sep 10. You can view all received Special Events at [www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html).

ics Museum, W2W. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. 14.241 14.041 7.187 7.041. Certificate and QSL. ARCNEM, Box 1693 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21230. [k3nem.org](http://www.k3nem.org)

**Dec 7, 0000Z-2359Z**, Wilmington, NC. Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club, N14BK. Pearl Harbor Day from Battleship *North Carolina*. 14.255 14.030 7.255 7.030. QSL. Azalea Coast ARC, PO Box 4044, Wilmington, NC 28406. Will be using restored original WWII equipment for CW operations. [www.ac4rc.org](http://www.ac4rc.org)

**Dec 7, 1500Z-2245Z**, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge and USS Kidd Amateur Radio Clubs, W5KID. Pearl Harbor Day. SSB: 15 20 40 m Gen and above RTTY subband CW: QRP sub bands. QSL. W5KID, 305 S River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Primary band is 20 meters. [www.lsu.edu/brarc/uss\\_kidd.htm](http://www.lsu.edu/brarc/uss_kidd.htm)

**Dec 12-Dec 13, 1400Z-0200Z daily**, Naza-

areth-Bethlehem, PA. Christmas City and Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Clubs, WX3MAS. Annual Christmas greetings from the Twin Christmas Cities. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.970. Certificate. CCARC/DLARC WX3MAS, Greystone Building Gracedale Complex, RR 8, Nazareth, PA 18064. [www.dlarc.org](http://www.dlarc.org)

**Dec 16-Dec 26, 1300Z-0500Z**, Granite Peak, MT. Beartooth Climbers, W7G. Radio and Science at the Summit of Montana. 146.52 14.280 3.920 20 m and 80 m weather permitting. QSL. Coordinator, 20 Tai Ln, Apt 5, Bozeman, MT 59715.

**Dec 19, 1400Z-2100Z**, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Christmas from Bethlehem (Belen, New Mexico). 28.373 21.370 14.273 7.273. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. [www.qsl.net/kc5our](http://www.qsl.net/kc5our) **QST+**

Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB ♦ Special Events ♦ [events@arrl.org](mailto:events@arrl.org)

## ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll



The ARRL VEC Honor Roll recognizes the top 25 Volunteer Examiners according to the total number of exam sessions they have participated in since their accreditation. Since each session requires an average time commitment of 2-4 hours or more, the thousands of hours these VEs have invested is extraordinary! Whether you are one of our VE Teams that test once a week, once a month or once a year, we want to express our warmest appreciation to all volunteers for their generous contributions to the ARRL VEC program.

If you are an ARRL VE, you can see your session stats online at [www.arrl.org/arrlvec/veparti.php](http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/veparti.php).

If you are not a VE, become one! See [www.arrl.org/arrlvec/become-a-ve.html](http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/become-a-ve.html).

Examiner	Sessions	Accreditation Date	Examiner	Sessions	Accreditation Date
Sammy Neal, N5AF	491	20-Nov-1984	John Hauner, KØIH	275	11-Jan-1985
Harry Nordman, ABØSX	371	9-Jan-2002	Gerald Grant, WB5R	271	4-Jan-1985
Royal Metzger, K6VIP	368	29-Apr-1985	Daniel Calabrese, AA2HX	270	1-Nov-1991
Karen Schultz, KAØCDN	342	6-Sep-1984	David Fanelli, KB5PGY	270	1-Oct-1991
Glenn Schultz, WØIJR	332	28-Sep-1984	Scott Swanson, K6PYP	263	1-Dec-1992
Franz Laugermann, K3FL	316	1-Dec-1991	Gary Mangels, AD6CD	261	30-Jul-1997
Kevin Naumann, NØWDG	309	17-Nov-2002	Roy Johnson, N1IKM	260	24-Jul-1995
Paul Maytan, AC2T	305	6-Sep-1984	Ralph Schutte, N6NAD	260	22-Aug-1997
John Mackey Jr, KSØF	301	1-Oct-1990	Michael Fauchaux, N5KBW	259	15-Jul-1996
John Moore III, KK5NU	294	21-May-1995	Leslie Dale, N15S	258	6-Sep-1984
Victor Madera, KP4PQ	289	1-Mar-1992	Robert Hamilton, NØRN	257	19-May-1987
David Laurel, KA6RHF	287	22-Apr-1985	Frankie Mangels, AD6DC	257	14-Oct-1997
David Bartholomew, ABØTO	286	22-Mar-2002			



WB8IMY

# ECLECTIC TECHNOLOGY

## SumbandilaSat in Orbit!

After what seemed like endless delays, South Africa's SumbandilaSat blasted to orbit from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakstan on September 17. As this column was going to press, the satellite was undergoing initial checkout and all seemed well. Once the main payload, a multi-spectral imager, is put into service, the control team will schedule the activation of other experiments.

Of greatest interest to hams is SumbandilaSat's Amateur Radio module built by South Africa AMSAT. The module consists of a 2 meter/70 cm FM repeater with an uplink at 145.880 MHz and a downlink will be at 435.350 MHz. There will also be a voice beacon at 435.300 MHz. The transponder mode will be controlled by a CTCSS tone on the uplink. At press time the CTCSS tone frequencies had not been announced.

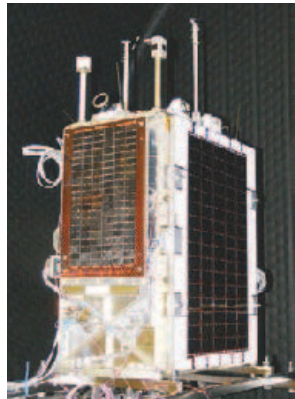
### The CubeSat Fleet Grows

A week after the launch of SumbandilaSat, an Indian PSLV-C14 rocket carried a cluster of four tiny CubeSats to orbit. CubeSats are very small satellites, typically only a few inches on each side. As relatively inexpensive research spacecraft, they've become increasingly popular with university science programs. A number of CubeSats use Amateur Radio frequencies to downlink telemetry, as is the case with this latest group. See Table 1 and listen for the downlinks!

### Future Sats

AMSAT-UK has announced a new amateur satellite project known as the FUN-

cube. FUNcube is an educational single CubeSat project with the goal of educating young people about radio, space, physics and electronics.



SumbandilaSat undergoing pre-launch tests.

SUNSPACE

It is anticipated FUNcube will be launched into a sun-synchronous low Earth orbit. The satellite should provide several passes each day, perhaps allowing the morning passes to be used for educational purposes and the evening passes for Amateur Radio communications with its VHF/UHF linear transponder. You'll find more information

online at [www.FUNcube.org.uk/](http://www.FUNcube.org.uk/).

### WINMOR Update

On-air testing of WINMOR, a sound-card-based alternative to PACTOR for Winlink access on HF frequencies, began in late September. I've been using the beta version of *RMS Express* (the software package that includes WINMOR) and the results have been impressive. On the first day of testing I exchanged messages with KK8G and NØIA on 40 meters. It was surprisingly easy, which is the point of the *RMS Express* design. I composed messages in the *RMS Express* mail module, clicked SEND/RECEIVE and watched as my transceiver began blasting out connect requests.

If you've been hearing odd signals around 7.080 and 14.112 MHz, chances are it is WINMOR testing. There has been much anticipation of WINMOR since it would

allow Winlink users to access the network on HF without the use of expensive PACTOR controllers. All you'd need is a computer with a sound device of some kind and, of course, an HF transceiver.

To learn more, see the WINMOR Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/WINMOR/>.

### Developing Electronic Circuits . . . in a "Flash"

A Northwestern University professor and his students have found a novel way of creating graphene, a conductive material that promises to revolutionize the electronics industry.

One method of making graphene involves subjecting graphite oxide powder to toxic chemicals and high temperatures. Their idea for an easier process came in a burst of inspiration: Could a camera flash instantly heat up the graphite oxide and turn it into graphene?

The process, invented by Jiaying Huang, assistant professor of materials science and engineering at Northwestern's McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, and his graduate students, Laura Cote and postdoctoral fellow Rodolfo Cruz-Silva, was published in the August 12 issue of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

Sometimes the simplest ways are best, and this is simple indeed! In Huang's flash process, researchers simply held a consumer camera flash over the graphite oxide and, a flash later, the material transformed into a piece of fluffy graphene.

"The light pulse offers very efficient heating through the photothermal process, which is rapid, energy efficient and chemical-free," Huang says.

When using a light pulse, photothermal heating not only reduces the graphite oxide, it also fuses the insulating polymer with the graphene sheets, resulting in a welded conducting composite.

Using patterns printed on a simple overhead transparency film as a photo-mask, flash reduction creates patterned graphene films — essentially flexible circuits.

The research group hopes to next create smaller circuits on a single graphite-oxide sheet at the single-atom layer level. (The current process has been performed only on thicker films.)



**Table 1**  
**Four New CubeSats**

CubeSat	Country	Beacon Frequency (MHz)	Data Downlink (MHz)
BEESAT	Germany	436.000 — CW	436.000 — 4800/9600 bps GMSK
UWE-2	Germany	n/a	437.385 — 1200/9600 bps AFSK/FSK
ITUpSAT1	Turkey	437.385 — CW	437.325 — 19,200 bps GFSK
SwissCube	Switzerland	437.505 — CW	437.505 — 1200 bps FSK





K2TQN

## VINTAGE RADIO

# The MARS Program

Many of us were MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) operators during the 1960s and '70s, either from home or while serving in the military. Some of us were both, myself included.

I'll write about my experiences, which I'm sure were like many others. This will give you a view of Air Force MARS activities. I'm sure the other services operated similarly.

I first became interested when I listened to a local 6 meter Air Force MARS net. So I asked someone I knew there if I could join. I heard surplus military equipment was available through the program and that was some of my motivation for joining. During my first couple of years there was very little to do.

Then after building a Heathkit SB-101 transceiver I decided to get on an HF MARS net. I bought a new mixing crystal and retuned the 80 meter coils for, if memory serves, 4595 kHz. After a number of training sessions I became certified to operate on the net. I loved the HF net and became very active there, relaying messages out on 6 meters and on RTTY. I was also in the Air National Guard. I became the training person for the other ground radio operators at our one weekend a month meetings.

Then the North Koreans took the USS *Pueblo* in 1968. Within days I was on active duty. And shortly after that, the Air Force moved our F-100 fighters to South Korea and left the non-plane support personnel at the Atlantic City airport. With nothing to do, I suggested we set up the MARS station,



Langley AFB MARS station NCOIC Sgt Farmer.



Langley AFB MARS station, a ham's dream antenna farm. From left: Log periodic, dipole mast, VHF antennas and a triband beam.

AG2AC, and start handling phone patches, which we did.

### Langley AFB MARS Station

It wasn't long before the Air Force started moving us from Atlantic City to other locations where we were needed. I received orders for Langley AFB in Virginia and was assigned to the Tactical Air Command air-to-ground station. I looked forward to it.

Reporting in at Langley, the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) at the air-to-ground station asked me what experience I had. Of course I mentioned my MARS training and told him about my ham radio background. Thinking for a moment, he asked me if I would rather be assigned to the base MARS station as they needed an experienced operator. I jumped at the chance.

He took me to meet the NCOIC at the MARS station. This turned out to be a great opportunity for me and it was also good for the station. When I arrived they only had one Collins station working, running phone patches on the Gateway Europe circuit. They were also the backup station for AIR, the Pentagon headquarters Air Force MARS

station. The other three Collins stations were inoperative as were the two RTTY transmitters. This put them into a bind. I volunteered to work on the other Collins stations for them and was told hands-off, that it wasn't my job and that the base had radio repair personnel. I was also told we were so far down the priority list that the repair people never came over to work on the radios.



One of the station consoles, built by the base carpenter shop with K2TQN at the controls.



**K2TQN's RTTY station in his Hampton, Virginia home. From left: BC-610-I, FRR23 receiver, CV-89 RTTY converter and miscellaneous equipment.**



**Glenn Snyder, WB4LMX, with his Collins station.**



**Langley AFB MARS station RTTY equipment.**

After a couple of weeks of this, one day the NCOIC and the other senior sergeant went to lunch together and I was told to cover for them if anyone called, that they would be a while. I saw this as an opportunity and took a look at the other Collins transceivers. In about an hour I had all three working. When they came back I was running phone patches from the other console so they would notice. Of course when asked, I denied working on them and said, "I just turned them on and they started working."

The next day I was visited by the NCOIC of the radio repair shop. He had a lot of stripes on his arm. He took me outside to talk and told me he knew I had worked on the radios. I thought I was in big trouble. He wanted to know my background so I filled him in. At the end of our conversation he handed me his business card and told me if any of the radios have problems and I can't resolve them to call

him directly. He thanked me and said to be careful and don't get caught.

After that I was given the green light to set up the RTTY stations and put the transmitters online. We started taking hundreds of messages every day and what we couldn't relay I would take home and send them out on the civilian evening nets.

My reward was being assigned a BC-610-I transmitter right out of the box, with all the accessories and spare parts. I picked it up at Andrews AFB and took it to my rented home near Langley. I had to disassemble it to get it to the second floor where I had my shack. So now, according to my wife, I played radio all day at the MARS station and all night at home.

### **Glenn Snyder, WB4LMX**

The base station also had civilian MARS members assigned there. I was told one day that "Mr Snyder" was coming to visit and eat

his lunch; that he was a very important man and to treat him with the utmost respect. Mr Snyder arrived just before noon and everyone scurried around straightening up before he entered. We were introduced to each other. He asked me the usual questions such as where I was from, etc. When we got around to radio he told me he was a ham and I said me too. We exchanged call signs and I was immediately told to call him Glenn. This bothered both of the senior sergeants who still had to call him Mr Snyder.

Mr Snyder told me he worked for Rockwell at NASA on the other side of Langley AFB. I told him I had worked for Western Electric before I was called up. He asked me what I did there and we exchanged technical information about the telephone company. Somehow from that conversation I got the wrong impression that he was a high level tech doing work similar to what I did.

We became good friends and I considered him a mentor, as he could answer any technical or ham radio question I had during the next couple of years. We had many enjoyable lunches together. But it wasn't until I visited his large beautiful home one weekend, located on the James River, that I learned what he actually did at Rockwell. It was when he mentioned to me during that visit that he had recently taken King Hussein of Jordan on a tour of NASA at the Kennedy Space Center. I asked, "Just what do you do at Rockwell?"

His answer was that he was the manager of the Apollo Capsule Program. Later he managed the space shuttle program.

After I went back to civilian life and was working again for Western Electric, we kept in touch and I visited him several times over the next few years. Later he retired and several years after that I lost touch with his family.

Knowing Glenn Snyder, WB4LMX, meant a lot to me. You meet the greatest people through ham radio. — K2TQN

All photos by John Dilks, K2TQN 



# CONVENTION AND HAMFEST CALENDAR

## Abbreviations

*Spr* = Sponsor  
*TI* = Talk-in frequency  
*Adm* = Admission

### Alabama (Summit) — Jan 2

**D F H R T V**

8 AM-4 PM. *Spr*: Blount County ARC. Summit High School (Old Rock School), 79150 US Hwy 231 N (Blountsville). *TI*: 146.7 (203.5 Hz). *Adm*: Free. Bill Pond, AE4IE, 150 Smoke Rise Ln, Warrior, AL 35180; 205-647-5705 (phone and fax); [ae4ie@juno.com](mailto:ae4ie@juno.com); [freezefest.com](http://freezefest.com).

### Arizona (Glendale) — Jan 9

**F H R V**

8 AM-noon. *Spr*: ThunderBird ARC. Thunderbird School of Global Management-The Activity Center, 15249 N 59<sup>th</sup> Ave (59<sup>th</sup> Ave and Greenway Rd). *TI*: 146.7 (162.2 Hz). *Adm*: \$2. Tables: \$5 (extra table \$2.50). Jack Lunsford, KD7RCJ, 6646 N 30<sup>th</sup> Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85017; 602-242-2411; [j.lunsford@cox.net](mailto:j.lunsford@cox.net); [www.w7tbc.org](http://www.w7tbc.org).

### Florida (Ocala) — Dec 12

**D F R T V**

8 AM. *Spr*: Silver Springs RC. Green Clover Hall, 319 SE 26<sup>th</sup> Terr. *TI*: 146.61 (123 Hz). *Adm*: advance \$4, door \$5. Tables: \$10. Earl Sweeney, K4LSB, 5995 NE 63<sup>rd</sup> St, Silver Springs, FL 34488; 352-236-0180 (phone and fax); [k4lsb@aol.com](mailto:k4lsb@aol.com); [k4gso.com](http://k4gso.com).

### Georgia (Lawrenceville) — Jan 9

**S V**

10 AM-2 PM. *Spr*: Gwinnett ARS. St Marguerite Church, 85 Gloster Rd NW. 12<sup>th</sup> Annual TechFest. *TI*: 147.075 (82.5 Hz). *Adm*: Free. Norman Schklar, WA4ZXV, 480 N Peachtree St, Norcross, GA 30071; 770-313-9410; fax 770-755-5411; [wa4zxv@arrl.net](mailto:wa4zxv@arrl.net); [www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org).

### Illinois (Carthage) — Dec 12

**D H R V**

8 AM. *Spr*: Big Bend ARC. University of Illinois Extension Center, 600 N Madison. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamfest. *TI*: 147.105 (103.5 Hz). *Adm*: \$4. Tables: advance \$10 (by Nov 30), door \$15 (or after Nov 30). Kathy Dougherty, KB9WBD, 740 Miller St, Carthage, IL 62321; 309-333-8200; [kdough@adams.net](mailto:kdough@adams.net).

### Louisiana (Minden) — Dec 19

**D F H R S V**

Set up Friday 3 PM, Saturday 6 AM; public 8 AM-3 PM. *Spr*: Minden ARA. Minden Civic Center, 501 Broadway. *TI*: 147.3. *Adm*: \$5. Tables: \$5/\$10. Dusty Collins, N5COL, 231 Garrett Dr, Dubberly, LA 71024; 318-371-0636 or 318-422-3159 (cell); [dusty@bellsouth.net](mailto:dusty@bellsouth.net); [www.n5rd.org](http://www.n5rd.org).

### Mississippi (Poplarville) — Dec 12

**D F R T V**

8 AM-2 PM. *Spr*: Pearl River County ARC. Old National Guard Armory, intersection of

## Coming ARRL Conventions

### November 14

Alabama State, Montgomery\*

### November 14-15

Indiana State, Fort Wayne\*

### December 5-6

Florida State, Palmetto\*

### January 29-30

Delta Division, Jackson, MS

### February 6

South Carolina State, Ladson  
Virginia State, Richmond

\*See November QST for details.

Hwys 26 and 11. *TI*: 145.21 (136.5 Hz). *Adm*: \$5. Tables: \$10. Larry Wagoner, N5WLW, 40 Pinetucky Rd, Carriere, MS 39426; 601-590-0553; [n5wlw@arrl.net](mailto:n5wlw@arrl.net); [www.prcarc.com](http://www.prcarc.com).

### New York (Marathon) — Jan 9

**D F H R V**

7 AM-noon. *Spr*: Skyline ARC. Marathon Civic Center at Lovell Field, Peck Ave and Brink St. *TI*: 147.18. *Adm*: \$3. Tables: \$5. Patrick Dunn, KC2BQZ, 1302 Rams Gulch Rd, Jamesville, NY 13078; 315-488-3499; fax 315-696-6567; [kc2bqz@gmail.com](mailto:kc2bqz@gmail.com); [www.skylineradioclub.org](http://www.skylineradioclub.org).

### North Carolina (Winston-Salem) — Jan 9

**D F R**

7-11 AM. *Spr*: Forsyth ARC. Summit School, 2100 Reynolda Rd. "Winston-Salem FirstFest." *TI*: 146.64 (100 Hz), 145.47 (100 Hz). *Adm*: \$5. Tables: Bring your own. Ray D'Eau, c/o Forsyth ARC,

Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC 27116-1361; 336-245-5740; [hamfest@w4nc.org](mailto:hamfest@w4nc.org); [www.w4nc.com](http://www.w4nc.com).

### Tennessee (White Pine) — Jan 2

**D H R S V**

8 AM-3 PM. *Spr*: Lakeway ARC. Smoky Mountains Expo Center, 1615 Pavilion Dr. 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Morristown Hamfest. *TI*: 147.03. *Adm*: \$6. Tables: \$15. June McClary, AI4SO, 2105 Tobes Creek Rd, Cosby, TN 37722; 865-322-0683; [june.ai4so@gmail.com](mailto:june.ai4so@gmail.com); [www.lakewayarc.org](http://www.lakewayarc.org).

### Wisconsin (Waukesha) — Jan 9

**D F H R S V**

8 AM-2 PM. *Spr*: West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, 1000 Northview Rd (County Trunk FT). 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwinter Ham Radio, Computer, and Electronics Swapfest. *Adm*: advance \$4, door \$5. Tables: 8-ft, advance \$19, door \$22 (if available); electrical outlet \$20 (advance only). Send #10 business size SASE for advance reservation by Dec 30 to WARAC Swapfest, Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414-425-3649; [janphil68@att.net](mailto:janphil68@att.net); [www.warac.org](http://www.warac.org).

**D** = DEALERS / VENDORS

**F** = FLEA MARKET

**H** = HANDICAP ACCESS

**Q** = FIELD CHECKING OF QSL CARDS

**R** = REFRESHMENTS

**S** = SEMINARS / PRESENTATIONS

**T** = TAILGATING

**V** = VE SESSIONS


## To All Event Sponsors

Before making a final decision on a date for your event, you are encouraged to check the Hamfest and Convention Database ([www.arrl.org/hamfests.html](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html)) for events that may already be scheduled in your area on that date. You are also encouraged to register your event with HQ as far in advance as your planning permits. See [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/hamfests/regform.html](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/hamfests/regform.html) for an online registration form. Dates may be recorded up to two years in advance.

Events that are sanctioned by the ARRL receive special benefits, including an announcement in these listings and online, and gift certificates to the ARRL Bookstore.

*For hamfests*: Once the form has been submitted, your ARRL director will decide whether to approve the date and provide ARRL sanction. *For conventions*: Approval must come from your director and the ARRL executive committee.

The deadline for receipt of items for this column is the **1st of the second month preceding publication date**. For example, your information must arrive at HQ by **December 1** to be listed in the **February** issue. Information in this column is accurate as of our deadline; contact the sponsor or check the sponsor's Web site for possible late changes, for driving directions and for other event details. Please note that postal regulations prohibit mention in *QST* of prizes or any kind of games of chance such as raffles or bingo.

Promoting your event is guaranteed to increase attendance. As an approved event sponsor, you are entitled to special discounted rates on *QST* display advertising and *ARRLWeb* banner advertising. Call the ARRL Advertising Desk at 860-594-0207, or e-mail [ads@arrl.org](mailto:ads@arrl.org). 

# 75, 50 AND 25 YEARS AGO

**LIFE MEMBERS ELECTED  
OCTOBER 24, 2009**

## December 1934



- The cover photo shows the schooner *Morrisey* in the polar ice, with radio (W10XDA) on board
- The editorial addresses a member's complaint that all of current QSTs are devoted to the ultra-high frequencies: (1) It isn't true, and (2) the ultra-highs, in fact, deserve our attention.
- Ross Hull presents "Notes on the Ultra-High-Frequency DX Work," reporting that contact has been made between New York and Hartford!
- Robert Moe announces "W10XDA back from the North," and provides details on the radio equipment aboard the schooner *Morrisey* during its Arctic exploration.
- Clinton B. DeSoto, W1CBD, describes "A Transportable 10-Watt Public Address System," noting that the circuits can also be used in speech amplifiers.
- Joseph Pitzer, W8AXV, reports on "Amateur Radio at the

1934 National Air Races" commenting that it "has come through a hundred percent" at that highly visible public-service task.

- Rinaldo De Cola tell us how to get "Increased Sensitivity with the Regenerative Detector."
- In "Band Switching for the Transmitter," D. A. Griffin, W2AOE, tells us how to get away from plug-in coils.
- John Hogen, W3BRX, presents an idea for clubs and hamfests: "Staging a 56-Mc. Hidden Transmitter Hunt."

## December 1959

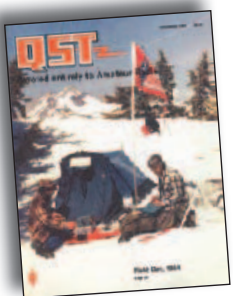


- The cover photo shows a winter scene in New England, noting that "DX is rolling in nicely on all bands." Those are two good reasons for us to stay indoors....
- The editorial discusses a "Rogue's Gallery" of hams who flout the rules, making the bands less pleasant for the rest of us.
- R. G. Cracknell, ZE2JV, reports on "Transequatorial Propagation of V.H.F. Signals" between Southern Rhodesia and Europe.
- C. E. Scheidler, W2AZL, describes "A Two-Meter Converter with a Noise Figure under 2 Db" that can easily be duplicated by the average ham.
- Francis McDonough, W3PMV, presents a "Two-Element Three-Band Beam and Mast for the Lean Purse."
- In "Transistorized V.F.O. for Mobile S.S.B./D.S.B.," Harry Dunlap, W6ZNM, describes his stable oscillator.
- B. B. Blackburn, W4DWU, uses four 811A's in his new final, "The

Medium Power' Kilowatt."

- Lew McCoy, W1ICP, discusses "Choosing a Transmission Line," Part I of a two-part article.
- Pat Miller, W2AIS, tells the hilarious tale of Willy, W1IIN, a CW traffic man on Block Island (in Rhode Island). It seems that the FCC decided Block Island should be a separate country and gave Willy a new call sign — WB1IIN. You'll have to read "First, You Make a Country..." to learn the gory details of what happened to poor Willy after that.

## December 1984



- The cover photo shows a mountain-topping pair of Field Day operators, with a small tent for shelter underneath an ARRL flag.
- The editorial explains the latest threat to 160 meters, which originates from "an ill-conceived move to expand the AM Broadcasting band."
- George Isely, WD9GIG, and William Smith, W9LRG, describe "A Helical Antenna for Space-Shuttle Communication."
- In "Try This Versatile CW Shaper," Eric Nichols, KL7AJ, tells us how to adjust the waveform of our transmitted signals, to make them sound better.
- Doug DeMaw, W1FB, tells us about "Practical RF Filtering," which can be used to improve reception and clean up the transmitter output.
- "Optimizing Coaxial-Cable Traps," by Robert Sommer,

N4UU, describes how to build effective high-reactance antenna traps.

- "Happenings" reports that "FCC Proposes New Amateur Bands" at 10, 18, and 24 MHz.
- "The New Frontier," by columnist Bob Atkins, KA1GT, announces "World Record Set at 24 GHz," by I0SNY and a group of Italian hams — 331 km.

Paul G. Adams, W9EEU; Frank H. Alden, K4GXG; Angel L. Arce Torres, WP4IFO; Mike Aretsky, N6MQL; Sheryl K. Atterberg, KA0TTW; Sarahelizabeth Baguhn, WA9SE; Mark E. Bailey, KD4D; Randy E. Barger, N8KJ; Deborah L. Barrow, K3IWH; Harry L. Bartel, N0HQG; Steven R. Bergstrom, KC9KAH; Timothy C. Boan, AE4TB; Benton S. Bonney, W4PE; James J. Booker, N5NVP; Michael J. Bragg, K1VI; Paul J. Brewer, K16CQ; Charles H. Bridges, AK6DV; Angie Brooks, W4ARB; William B. Brooks, W4WBB; John R. Bucher, KB3HVQ; Christian Buenger, DL6KAC; Stephen R. Bunker, W6NC; John R. Burns, KY5OAO; Robert W. Bush-Kaufert, KF4RID; Robert K. Carpenter, NE8R; Jeff Cater, K3DEI; George W. Clark, KO4QR; Eric W. Clegg, KU3I; Amie Collins, N9OXO; John T. Crago, KB8DAN; Robert F. Crifasi, KC2RFC; Augustus T. Crocker, KK1R; Tim Cunningham, N8DEU; Harold R. Damron, N9SAM; Wayne A. Davis, WA2WD; James O. Delong, KB6MER; Harry E. Deneweth, N8QPG; Gregory S. Deuhs, K0PJ; Tom Dolezal, W5YDW; Douglas E. Dornier, KD5USF; Kenneth Douglass, AB2WC; Richard E. Dowty, W7EET; William Driscoll, KB1JSV; Jake M. Driver, KC5WXA; Joseph F. Dunphy, K9MBA; John S. Dvorack, KD8BIN; Fred L. Eicholtz, N3IF; Jeffrey R. Ekstrom, K9BQL; Matthew H. Filiput, KD0ENE; Andrew M. Fletcher, W9AF; Tully B. Foote, N1XGN; Matthew S. Ford, AB9UF; Lee F. Foster, KC2LDP; James E. Fredrickson, AG4IR; Richard F. Ganter, WD8KYW; Danny W. Garris, KJ4FH; Frederick E. Gooding; Gary M. Goudelock, KF4YKX; Jamie K. Gravelle, KD7YRD; Michael T. Green, N1RNS; Gary A. Guckel, K6ZG; Carlyle Harper, W4CWH; Ann M. Heimann, KB9YVT; Robert H. Henrichs, KB2YZK; Ulrich Herbst, KC9QCX; Katherine L. Hevener, WB8TDA; Sallie M. Howard, AE5OM; John F. Howe, KE4UP; Christopher J. Hubbard, K1HU; Neil A. Hughes, KD5YGD; Stephen R. Hutchins, KN6G; Wesley C. Hyatt, W3EDW; Vojte Johansen, LA9DAA; Richard Johnson, WA5EOD; George R. Joyner, KD4QMY; Phil Karn, KA9Q; Christian D. Kennedy, AF6AP; Thomas B. Kernes, KD0DOH; David L. Kleinatland, KE5BMS; Andrew V. Koch, KC9GXN; Walter J. Kreis, KD8HWG; Howard M. Lang, KB6NN; Robert A. Lapointe, N1OGB; David B. Latter, WB2FUE; William Leslie, KC2FYY; George P. Linehan, WA6YCA; Owen Lloyd, KD8JPU; Carl H. Lopez, AJ4DW; Dorothy F. Lowell, KB7WSO; Thomas L. Mainland, AB9BF; Martin J. Marbach, N4MJM; Lori J. Marx, KB0TFN; Dirk A. Matuska, W9OSI; John R. Maxwell, N0WBW; Ronald A. May, WD8INF; Brian K. Maynard, K1NW; Joseph A. Maynard, K6JMA; Ernest E. Mc Clellan, WL7SR; David I. McAnally, WD5M; Scott K. McCarron, N7LRA; John F. Mergen, WA1QLG; Gregory J. Michels, KC2GXV; Joseph P. Millard, K4KJM; Michael L. Mitchell, N3QLZ; George J. Molnar, KF2T; James W. Montag, WV4U; Robert W. Morrell, AH8M; Tip J. Moses, KE7GYO; Michael J. Newman, KB2WCH; Charles D. Neyman, KE5FTA; Michael W. Oliver, KT2T; Daniel A. Olsen, KD7GSW; Barbara L. Osterman, WB6PIH; Patrick Padgett, NG7I; Richard A. Painter, AB0VO; Edmund R. Pajewski, N3KYA; John B. Patrick, WK7K; Steven Q. Paulson, WA0OAT; Terry L. Pendergrass, W5NRA; Michael D. Perez, AA5KT; George H. Petrides, K8WHG; Clarence M. Phillips, KD5WYI; David E. Phillips, W6GBC; Gerald A. Pitner, W9GAP; Bryan H. Quackenbush, KC2PRZ; Michael L. Rains, K0RFI; Drew S. Ratliff, KB4BLI; Kim T. Rawlinson, WN0V; Helen L. Reed, KD7GPX; Joshua M. Regan, K2JMR; Bill O. Rester, KD5SZY; Kenny Richards, KU7M; Gail Richardson, K14JVM; Lyndell Risenhoover, W0HQ; George Roberts, N9GMR; Dennis N. Rosas, AC0IV; Thomas S. Rum, W5RUM; Michael S. Russo, N9BUH; Joel M. Ruths, K3SUN; Gerald W. Saboe, N0GS; Sam Samaha, K6UA; Andreas Schmid-Zartner, OE1AZS; Jason J. Schwarz, N4JJS; Ryan P. Scott, N7QJ; Joseph E. Seibert, AL1F; Daniel G. Seright, KC6BIF; Bradley Sexton, K5BBS; Dale J. Shafer, N2QBX; Paul W. Sharry, WB2YZB; Barbara J. Shaw, K16STY; James E. Shaw, AL7BA; Jeremy Shaw, K16SUA; Warren Shayler, KE5ALK; Sean M. Sheehan, KD7CWE; James L. Shroyer, WB9AQA; Ralph R. Simmons, K5ECX; Keith A. Simonsen, W0CHV; Pamela A. Simonsen, N0VLW; Mark Simpson, A1S; Timothy B. Slay, N4IB; Tina M. Smith, K16OLZ; Walter J. Smola, N4WJS; Matthew Soursley, W7JRK; Terry M. Stader, KA8SCP; John O. Stewart, W0CID; T. Richmond Stewart, N0MCL; Gary D. Strohm, WB0TOB; Scott A. Sybert, KB1FXV; Gary D. Tillinghast, KB2YAA; Joseph J. Tiritilli, N4ZUW; Stephen S. Toumi, W6QNV; Byron S. Tucci, K9MBS; Wasa Ueda, J15QNS; William D. Unguire, N1CNV; Gerald G. Unruh, W6GU; Peter N. Varounis, NL7XM; Brian K. Walker, KC4FIE; Donald A. Wain, KJ7DW; Phil Webber, G8KLC; Brian E. Webster, N2KGC; Adam J. Westlund, W8AJW; Robert R. White, WB2BYL; Daniel K. Woodie, KC8ZUM; James E. Woodson, KE4INM; Avery J. Wright, KD4GBA; Zachary A. Yarashus, KJ4BXT

Al Brogdon, W1AB ♦ Contributing Editor



# SILENT KEYS

*It is with deep regret that we record the passing of these amateurs:*

W1AUT  
 ◆ K1WLX  
 WA1EEU  
 K1EXE  
 W1GHU  
 W1GPE  
 W1IME  
 W1JSH  
 W1KUQ  
 W1PXL  
 NN1Q  
 K1SZK  
 K1UM  
 KD1X  
 W1ZGW  
 WB2AAP  
 W2CRJ  
 N2EQJ  
 WA2FAW  
 WA2GMU  
 WA2HLA  
 N2HWB  
 ◆ W2MSM  
 WA2LAH  
 WA2LSO  
 ◆ W2MQB  
 KA2NBK  
 ◆ KD2S  
 K2TFJ  
 KW2X  
 WA2ZYP  
 WB3DKD  
 WA3FLE  
 K3LJP  
 WA3KAI  
 KC3LP  
 K3PEO  
 W3SI  
 N3ZFM  
 KG4DAE  
 W4ELA  
 ◆ K4FF  
 K4FOI  
 WA4GDO  
 AF4UR  
 AE4XV  
 W4JAK  
 KD4KUE  
 K14NJH  
 W4PFC  
 K4SCF  
 KB4S  
 KF4SP  
 KB4ST  
 WB4TFE  
 W4UI  
 KB4WBY  
 K14YZI  
 KC4ZYL  
 W5CXP  
 W5FYW  
 WM5H  
 K5KRJ  
 W5MIR  
 WA5PUP  
 KB5QDH  
 KE5RFB  
 WA5VPA  
 KB5VVN  
 AC5WG  
 K6AF  
 N6AZN  
 K6BRP  
**Thibault**, Normand R., Blackstone, MA  
**Parker**, Andrea T., Jeffersonville, VT  
**Piescick**, Walter P., Wethersfield, CT  
**White**, James W. Jr, Hudson, NH  
**Holcomb**, Wade Gladstone, Temple City, CA  
**Underwood**, George T., Cranston, RI  
**Cardullo**, Francis R., Cambridge, MA  
**Grant**, Morton L., Windham, ME  
**Policastri**, Egidio "Eddie" J., Seekonk, MA  
**Rose**, Arthur R., St. Petersburg, FL  
**MacIsaac**, John R., Falmouth, MA  
**Marshall**, Fred L., Albuquerque, NM  
**Manuelian**, Kenneth, Spring Hill, FL  
**Benedetti**, James A., Fairfield, CT  
**Flint**, George W. Jr, West Roxbury, MA  
**Mattera**, Vincent G., Brooklyn, NY  
**Horowitz**, Jerome, Fair Lawn, NJ  
**Murano**, Joseph A., Rochester, NY  
**Thompson**, Kenneth D., Pompton Plains, NJ  
**Blauvelt**, Joan R., Webster, NY  
**Kilinski**, Martin "Marty" L., Brockport, NY  
**Porter**, Carle "Butch" D., Brighton, NY  
**Mullaney**, Michael S., Brewster, NY  
**Paulus**, James R., Kendall Park, NJ  
**Usevage**, Victor, Rochester, NY  
**Miller**, Donald A., The Springs, NY  
**O'Neil**, Robert J., Rochester, NY  
**Connors**, Den, Pepperell, MA  
**Westdyke**, Charles R. Jr, Sussex, NJ  
**DeBlicke**, Albert G. Sr, Ontario, NY  
**Lehr**, Stephen H., Bergenfield, NJ  
**Kelso**, Joe E. Sr, Chambersburg, PA  
**Stevens**, Roger W., Norristown, PA  
**Uber**, Fred P., Wampum, PA  
**Manross**, Dale "Chuck" E., Erie, PA  
**Cockey**, Robert W. Jr, Baltimore, MD  
**Busch**, William J., Morgantown, PA  
**Hayden**, Charles G., Hollywood, MD  
**Hudson**, George W., Millsboro, DE  
**Washam**, Kenneth M., Whitley City, KY  
**Acree**, Edwin L., Crestwood, KY  
**McFadden**, Robert W. Sr, Tampa, FL  
**Allen**, Glenn L. Jr, Springfield, VA  
**Atkins**, Elwood "Tommy" L., Chattanooga, TN  
**DeBaker**, John R., Katy, TX  
**Schmitt**, William F., Raleigh, NC  
**Kennemore**, James Allen, Greenwood, SC  
**Rogers**, Randall, Greensburg, KY  
**Rogers**, Thomas Edward, Savannah, TN  
**Bair**, Marion James, Albany, GA  
**Cole**, Newbern V., Martin, TN  
**Baglioni**, Frank A., Phenix City, AL  
**Jones**, Lawrence S., Longwood, FL  
**Grubbs**, Oliver L., Orlando, FL  
**Parnel**, Elmer R., Maxton, NC  
**Harvey**, George L., Tarboro, NC  
**Beach**, Fordyce A., Plantation, FL  
**Handley**, James F., Decatur, AL  
**Blackie**, Robert A., Winter Garden, FL  
**Pipkin**, Sidney "Sid", Clovis, NM  
**Unger**, Julian H., Houston, TX  
**Kiser**, William N., Russellville, AR  
**Crumplar**, Milford "Weeks" Jr, Alexandria, LA  
**Lester**, Luther M., Tulsa, OK  
**Crockett**, George "Tom" Jr, Waco, TX  
**Jaskula**, Ronnie M., Kaufman, TX  
**Nicholas**, Barry S., Port Arthur, TX  
**Cremeen**, Bob D., Springtown, TX  
**Thomas**, Estelle M., Amarillo, TX  
**Robbins**, Lanny S., Hot Springs, AR  
**Gulliver**, Robert "Bud" W., Hawthorne, CA  
**Nigh**, James D., Lompoc, CA  
**Ryan**, Luther Eldon, Torrance, CA

◆ W6CCL  
 KD6DRY  
 W6FU  
 W6GBG  
 ◆ WB6QFQ  
 N6QQF  
 exW6RDG  
 WA6SEK  
 KC6TJR  
 W6RAM  
 KV6W  
 W6ZNO  
 ◆ W7ADM  
 N7DAS  
 ◆ W7GSP  
 W7AYH  
 ◆ WA7LZH  
 N7UAG  
 exW7UX  
 KC8BFQ  
 K8CHS  
 W8EV  
 ◆ W8FAZ  
 K8GEV  
 NJ8G  
 WW8HB  
 AB8IL  
 WD8KPK  
 K8KYU  
 K8LQM  
 K8MID  
 W8PBX  
 K8UKV  
 N8UYF  
 ◆ KB8ZM  
 WA9BFV  
 W9CNE  
 NB9D  
 AA9BJ  
 ◆ WA9HCZ  
 WB9JAM  
 W9KMH  
 ◆ W9NMO  
 W9OCK  
 W9UE  
 W9WBL  
 K0AMR  
 W0EAR  
 AA0GN  
 N0TTY  
 W0JDH  
 W0JM  
 W0LUP  
 KE0DK  
 WB0TGG  
 exN0TZ  
 AF0U  
 W0URC  
 WA0YGP  
 WB0YQR  
 VE3IB  
 VE3UUM  
**LaFrentz**, Cheryl "Cheri" C., Hesperia, CA  
**Lamont**, Amand "Monte" L., Clovis, CA  
**Johnson**, A. Kenneth, Arcadia, CA  
**Bacon**, Allan R. Jr, Huntsville, AL  
**Larsen**, Guy, Hayward, CA  
**Rath**, Norman H., Oceanside, CA  
**Banker**, Walter E., Fresno, CA  
**De Lasaux**, Thomas G., Lodi, CA  
**Stephens**, John Frank, Los Angeles, CA  
**Mays**, Randall "Randy" A., Idaho Falls, ID  
**Henson**, Kenneth S., Hanford, CA  
**Charlap-Hyman**, Arthur, Tarzana, CA  
**Bergum**, Gordon B., Lynnwood, WA  
**Morse**, Jim M., Deer Park, WA  
**Robinson**, Vernon Ray, Renton, WA  
**Thrapp**, Charles R. "Bob", Casper, WY  
**Arnold**, James, Leavenworth, WA  
**Knutson**, Charles "Chuck" K., LaVergne, TN  
**Miller**, Robert E., Everett, WA  
**Pardo**, Winston O., Fremont, OH  
**Twite**, Thomas D., Coldwater, MI  
**Hoisington**, Keith A., Arcanum, OH  
**Zelle**, Joseph, Euclid, OH  
**Viriden**, Gary E., Cuyahoga Falls, OH  
**Koon**, Thomas E., Greenville, OH  
**Brock**, Henry "Hank" V., Shelby, OH  
**Hager**, Thomas F., Salome, AZ  
**Reffoor**, Bruce D., Coopersville, MI  
**Larson**, Hugh W., Sparta, MI  
**Amico**, Vincent, Steubenville, OH  
**Burdick**, Harry R., Cincinnati, OH  
**Haller**, Albert R., Maineville, OH  
**Katzmann**, Roy J., Ashtabula, OH  
**Pierce**, Virgil R., Helena, OH  
**Pace**, William T., South Charleston, WV  
**Tenikat**, John P. Sr, Des Moines, IA  
**Graham**, Robert M., Kokomo, IN  
**Roth**, John L., Huntsville, AL  
**Hetzel**, Thomas R., Sheboygan, WI  
**Grokowsky**, Jerome "Jerry" C., Onalaska, WI  
**Strand**, Warren L., Hinckley, IL  
**Baker**, David P., Carpentersville, IL  
**McLeod**, Fenwick R. Jr, Prospect Heights, IL  
**King**, Howard E., Mishawaka, IN  
**Roff**, John G., Sturgeon Bay, WI  
**Hails**, Stanley W. Jr, Indianapolis, IN  
**Howard**, Poley R., Independence, MO  
**Joy**, Robert D., Marion, IA  
**Grimshaw**, Richard Lee, Alcester, SD  
**Veith**, Clarence C., Saint Peter, MN  
**Ficke**, Vitres "Vic" P., Valley City, ND  
**Marshall**, John G., Kansas City, KS  
**Olson**, Stanley J., Fergus Falls, MN  
**Stewart**, Chester A., Manhattan, KS  
**Hartig**, Albert Lee, Kansas City, MO  
**Browning**, Harold L. "Larry", Indianapolis, IN  
**Tetzlaff**, Archibald O., Kansas City, MO  
**Herron**, John A., Chadron, NE  
**Beach**, Herbert L., Cambridge, MN  
**Van Haften**, David A., Pella, IA  
**Brechun**, Donald, Windsor, ON, Canada  
**Davidson**, Paul A., Marmora, ON, Canada

◆ Life Member, ARRL

Note: Silent Key reports must confirm the death by one of the following means: a letter or note from a family member, a copy of a newspaper obituary notice, a copy of the death certificate, or a letter from the family lawyer or the executor. Please be sure to include the amateur's name, address and call sign. Allow several months for the listing to appear in this column.

Many hams remember a Silent Key with a memorial contribution to the ARRL Foundation or to ARRL. If you wish to make a contribution in a friend or relative's memory, you can designate it for an existing youth scholarship, the Jesse A. Bieberman Meritorious Membership Fund, the Victor C. Clark Youth Incentive Program Fund, or the General Fund. Contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent permitted under current tax law. Our address is: The ARRL Foundation Inc, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. **QST-**

## Field Organization Reports SEPTEMBER 2009

### Public Service Honor Roll

This listing recognizes radio amateurs whose public service performance during the month indicated 70 or more points in six categories. Details on the program are at this Web page: [www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ps/hr/](http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ps/hr/).

815 W7TVA	175 W5DY	K14ZJI	W3TWW	W2NYJ
	119 KK5NU		K4BG	85
620 WB7WOW	172 K7BC	118 W9WXN	WA2NDA	WA2WKV
			AA3SB	K0BFX
504 W4CAC	170 W9AL	116 K2GW	WB4FDT	84
			K14PRX	K16RUW
482 K0IBS	160 WD9FLJ	114 KF7GC	N9MN	
	KG0GG	W7JSW	NR2F	82
335 N2LTC	158 KC7ZZ	110 W7QM	W1SGC	N8NMA
			KE4PAP	KB8NDS
308 W2MTA	155 K2ZNG	108 N7BEC	K2TV	81
	K2BRG	KC5O2T	KB2KLH	WB2HPI
306 KA2ZNZ	151 W2DWR	K5KV	K14YV	NA7G
		N8IO	W4TTO	
262 K14KWR	150 N1UMJ	N8OD	99	80
		N1QI	K5MC	K7MQF
255 WB2KNS	147 W2LIE	K1YQC	K4BEH	N2DW
		K4GK	N2VGA	KE5PWL
232 KB2BAA	146 N2RDB	W2EAGH	98	W0ADZ
		W8AGHU	W3CB	W0ACB
230 K2HJ	140 W5PY	W4GHU	96	WA9WNE
	KK3F	W2EAGH	W2DSX	KB3MXM
214 K4DND	135 K7EAJ	W7GB	95	KA1EHR
	N4ABM	AD4BL	KG8Z	KJ4JAT
209 NC4VA	130 NN7H	W4DNA	94	KA3NZR
	K6JT	KB2ET	79	
205 AK2Z	N5NVP	W4DNT	77	
	W0LAW	K0BDTI	77	
202 AC6C	W0LAW	NA9L	77	
	WB2FTX	KC2CHA	77	
201 K0LQB	N3RB	104 W8ILF	77	
	K9LGU	103	77	
194 KK1X	KA5EXI	KB1NMO	77	
	KC4PZA	KA2EJD	77	
190 KB2RTZ	K4IWWW	KJ7NO	77	
	W4FAL	102	77	
185 KESHYV	128 N4HUB	K9EOH	77	
		K2YYD	77	
183 K2ABX	125 W7EKB	W8CPG	77	
	WA4JUC	100	77	
182 W7ELI	W2FT	W7GHT	77	
K14GEM		K4SCL	77	
		K2AN	77	
180 KK7DEB	120 W8UL	K3RC	77	
K7BFL	K44FZ1	N9AUG	77	
	W1GMF	N5OUJ	77	
177 K7OAH	N1LKJ	W8JUL	77	
	AG9G	W5GKH	77	
	K2UL	N1JX	77	
	W2KFV	N2GS	77	
		NX9K	77	
		W0CLS	77	
		N0MEA	77	
		K0RXC	77	
			89	
			KB9KEG	
			WB8OIF	
			88	
			WA2CUW	
			87	
			K2RRM	
			86	
			N2JAN	
			N2RLD	

The following stations qualified for PSHR in previous months, but were not recognized in this column: (Aug) KK5GY 110, W4KLB 100, KA0DBK 98, N4MEH 90.

### Section Traffic Manager Reports

The following Section Traffic Managers reported: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, EB, EPA, EWA, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, MN, MS, NC, NF, NLI, NNJ, NTX, OH, OR, ORG, SD, SFL, SNJ, STX, TN, UT, VA, WI, WNY, WPA, WW, WY.

### Section Emergency Coordinator Reports

The following ARRL Section Emergency Coordinators reported: AZ, IN, EWA, GA, KS, MDC, ME, MO, NC, NLI, NTX, OH, SD, SFL, SV, WTX, WNY, WV.

### Brass Pounders League

The BPL is open to all amateurs in the US, Canada and US possessions who report to their SMS a total of 500 or more points or a sum of 100 or more origination and delivery points for any calendar month. Messages must be handled on amateur radio frequencies within 48 hours of receipt in standard ARRL radiogram format. Call signs of qualifiers and their monthly BPL total points follow.

KK3F 1805, W1GMF 1328, KA9EKG 1303, N1IQI 1194, K7BDU 1072, W8UL 967, N1UMJ 661, K4IWWW 524, NR2F 523.

The following station qualified for BPL by achieving 100 or more points by originations plus deliveries: K14YV 181, K8PJ 105.

The following stations qualified for BPL in previous months, but were not recognized in this column: (Aug) WB5NKD 1011, WB5NKC 607. **QST-**

Gail Iannone ◆ Silent Keys Administrator ◆ [sk@arrl.org](mailto:sk@arrl.org)

# HAMSPEAK

The following are brief descriptions of Amateur Radio related terms found in this month's issue of *QST*. More information on most can be found in *The ARRL Handbook*, or other specialized ARRL publications.<sup>1</sup> See also [www.arrl.org/qst/glossary.html](http://www.arrl.org/qst/glossary.html).

## 160 and 80 Meter Matching Network for your 43 Foot Vertical — Part 1

**Antenna analyzer** — Test instrument designed to measure the impedance and standing wave ratio (SWR) of an antenna or an antenna and feed line combination as a function of frequency. See [www2.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev/pdf/pr0505.pdf](http://www2.arrl.org/members-only/prodrev/pdf/pr0505.pdf).

**Electrically short antenna** — Dipole with a length less than an electrical *half* wavelength or vertical monopole with a length less than an electrical *quarter* wavelength.

**Ground losses** — Portion of transmitter power intended to be delivered to an antenna system that instead is lost due to various resistances in the antenna ground system. This is often particularly significant in short monopoles because the ground connection handles the full antenna current.

**NEMA** — National Electrical Manufacturers Association, a US industry trade group of corporations involved in the manufacture of electrical equipment. They also establish standards for common electrical parts used in the US.

**Radiation resistance** — Portion of antenna's input impedance that results in transfer of electrical signal into a radiated electromagnetic wave. In general, the higher the radiation resistance, the higher the efficiency will be.

**Resonant** — The frequency at which a circuit of a resistor, capacitor and inductor has an impedance that is only resistive. The inductive and capacitive reactances are equal and opposite.

**Toroidal inductor** — Inductor formed by winding wire on a circular donut shaped structure made from metal oxides in a ceramic material. It is used as the basis for inductors that have the property that they are self shielding in that the magnetic fields stay within the core.

## The Collins 30L-1 Linear Amplifier — Nearing 50, Still Going Strong

**Automatic level control (ALC)** — Transmitter system that adjusts the gain of a stage or stages in order to maintain the output at or below a safe level.

**DX** — Long distance communication — generally with stations in other countries. Often used to refer to desired countries and prefixes needed for various operating awards.

**DXpeditions** — Trip by one or more amateurs with radio equipment intended to put a rare DX entity on the air.

**Electrolytic capacitors** — Polarized capacitor in which the dielectric is formed from a liquid or semi-liquid material. Generally found in capacitance values above 1  $\mu\text{F}$  and used in power supply and other dc filtering applications.

**Grid bias** — Voltage that is applied to the control grid, the vacuum-tube element that controls the electron flow from cathode to plate. This is used to set the operating point of the stage.

**IOTA** — Islands on the Air, a program of the Radio Society of Great Britain, the UK national Amateur Radio society. The purpose is to promote operation from islands. Awards are made based on the number of islands contacted. See [www.rsgbiota.org](http://www.rsgbiota.org) for more information.

**Linear amplifier** — An amplifier that provides an output that is a larger copy of the input signal. This may be used to amplify any type of signal. In contrast, a "class C" amplifier is a *non-linear* amplifier that can only properly amplify CW or FM signals. See [www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=4304](http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=4304).

**MOV (metal oxide varistor)** — Surge suppression device that provides a high resistance until a specific threshold voltage is reached upon which the device resistance becomes very low, thus protecting connected circuitry. MOVs are available with different threshold voltages for different applications.

**Plate input power** — Until the 1980s, FCC amateur regulations specified the maximum allowed transmitter power in terms of *plate input power* — the product of the output amplifier tubes' plate voltage times the key-down plate current. While this was an easy measurement to make with dc instruments and provided a good characterization of AM, CW and FM transmitters, it did not adequately define the characteristics of SSB. Thus the rules were changed to define transmitter power in terms of PEP *output power*.

**Safety interlock** — A system by which high voltage is automatically removed or shorted when the cover of a potentially dangerous piece of equipment is opened or removed.

**Solder pad** — Area of printed circuit board consisting of exposed copper designed to allow wires or parts to be placed and soldered.

## The Doctor is IN

**APRS** — Automatic position reporting system. System that accepts global positioning system (GPS) position data from a GPS satellite receiver and processor, formats it into an AX-25 packet for transmission via Amateur Radio, usually on 144.39 MHz. Position data is available via radio or over the Internet. See [www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/aprs/pos-reporting.html](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/aprs/pos-reporting.html) for more information.

**Attenuator** — Device used to reduce the level of a signal. Attenuators are available as both fixed and variable devices with calibration usually in decibels (dB). See [www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/9506033.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/9506033.pdf) for an example of a homemade step attenuator.

**Harmonics** — Signals at exact integral multiples

of the operating (or *fundamental*) frequency.

**Repeater** — Radio station designed to relay transmissions, often from a high remote location. It receives signals on one frequency and simultaneously transmits on another. See [www.arrl.org/tis/info/repeater.html](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/repeater.html).

**S-meter** — Signal strength meter for a receiver. The basic calibration is in "S-units" from S-1 (faint, barely perceptible signal) to S-9 (extremely strong signal), the "S" of the RST (readability, signal strength, tone) reporting system. The nominal, but rarely followed, standard calibration is 50  $\mu\text{V}$  at the antenna terminals for an S-9 and a reduction of 1 S-unit for every 6 dB ( $\frac{1}{4}$  power) reduction in input signal. Many receiver S-meters have S-9 at mid range and show DECIBELS ABOVE S-9 in the upper half.

**Sawtooth waveform** — Complex waveform in which a sharp rise is followed by a linear decline, or a linear rise is followed by a sharp decline.

**SSB** — Radiotelephone transmission using a suppressed carrier and a single sideband. This method of transmission requires more stable and somewhat more complex equipment than earlier AM. It is more power efficient, uses less than half the bandwidth and avoids the carrier to carrier heterodynes of AM.

**Terminal node controller (TNC)** — Dedicated hardware device under firmware control that translates packet digital communication to and from a computer type terminal.

**VOX** — Voice operated transmit. Transceiver subsystem that switches the unit from receive to transmit mode automatically in the presence of a signal at the microphone. See J. Hallas, W1ZR, "Getting to Know Your Radio: Over to You — Transmit/Receive Switching" *QST*, Feb 2006, pp 65-66 for more information.

## A Universal Frequency Calibrator

**12AX7** — Specific type of miniature vacuum tube from the 1950s. This tube is a dual triode; that is, two independent tube functions in a single envelope.

**Dead bug** — Term for an electronic circuit construction technique in which components are placed on a circuit board with their leads up and then wired with point-to-point wiring. The name comes from the appearance of multilead integrated circuits, which look like expired insects with their legs up.

**FT-243 crystal** — WWII-era vintage holder type for piezoelectric quartz radio frequency crystals. Unlike current holders in which crystals are permanently fixed to the holder, these were fixed between two removable plates, making it feasible to grind the crystal to a new frequency and return it to the holder.

**Harmonics** — Signals at exact integral multiples of the operating (or *fundamental*) frequency.

**Microprocessor** — Miniature computer system, usually on a single large integrated circuit.

**TTL** — Transistor-transistor logic. Family of solid state logic circuit elements in which the active gates are comprised of both single and multiple-emitter transistors. **QST**

<sup>1</sup>The *ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications*, 2010 Edition. Available from your ARRL dealer or the ARRL Bookstore, ARRL order no. 1462 (Hardcover 1448). Telephone 860-594-0355, or toll-free in the US 888-277-5289; [www.arrl.org/shop/](http://www.arrl.org/shop/); [pubsales@arrl.org](mailto:pubsales@arrl.org).



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#### IC-706MKIIG All Mode Transceiver

- Proven performance • 160-10M\*/6M/2M/70CM
- All mode w/DSP • HF/6M @ 100W, 2M @ 50W, 440 MHz @ 20W • CTCSS encode/decode w/tones scan
- Auto repeater • 107 alphanumeric memories

**\$500** GIFT CERTIFICATE

**\$25** HRO COUPON!

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**POWER SUPPLY** PS-125 included with your purchase

#### IC-7800 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 200W • Four 32 bit IF-DSPs+ 24 bit AD/DA converters • Two completely independent receivers
- +40dBm 3rd order intercept point

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**POWER SUPPLY** PS-125 included with your purchase

#### IC-746PRO All Mode 160M-2M

- 160-2M\* @ 100W • 32 bit IF-DSP+ 24 bit AD/DA converter • Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
- Enhanced Rx performance

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**SEPARATION KIT** RMK-7000 included with your purchase

#### IC-7000 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-10M/6M/2M/70CM
- 2x DSP • Digital IF filters
- Digital voice recorder
- 2.5" color TFT display

**\$200** GIFT CERTIFICATE

#### IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver **New!**

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters-3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope

**\$50** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!

#### IC-7200 HF Transceiver **New!**

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP
- AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control

**\$50** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
**DSP** INSTALLED included with your purchase

**\$15** HRO COUPON!

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#### IC-718 HF Transceiver

- 160-10M\* @ 100W • 12V operation • Simple to use • CW Keyer Built-in • One touch band switching
- Direct frequency input • VOX Built-in • Band stacking register • IF shift • 101 memories

**\$300** GIFT CERTIFICATE

#### IC-7700 Transceiver. The Contesters' Rig

- HF + 6m operation • +40dBm ultra high intercept point • IF DSP, user defined filters • 200W output power full duty cycle • Digital voice recorder

**New!** 3rd Generation D-STAR Dual Bander

#### IC-880H

- D-STAR DV mode operation • DR (D-STAR repeater) mode • Free software download • GPS A mode for easy D-PRS operation • One touch reply button (DV mode) • Wideband receiver

**\$20** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
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#### IC-V8000 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 75 watts • Dynamic Memory Scan (DMS)
- CTCSS/DCS encode/decode w/tones scan • Weather alert • Weather channel scan • 200 alphanumeric memories

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**\$20** ICOM MAIL-IN REBATE

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**D-STAR UPGRADEABLE**

#### IC-2200H 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 65W Output • Optional D-STAR format digital operation & NEMA compatible GPS interface
- CTCSS/DTCS encode/decode w/tones scan • 207 alphanumeric memories • Weather alert

**\$15** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
**\$10** ICOM MAIL-IN REBATE

**\$25** HRO COUPON!

#### IC-T90A

Triple Band Transceiver

- 6M/2M/70CM @ 5W • Wide-band RX 495 kHz - 999.999 MHz\*\*

**\$80** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
**D-STAR READY**

#### IC-2820H Dual Band FM Transceiver

- D-STAR & GPS upgradeable 2M/70CM • 50/15/5W RF output levels • RX: 118-173.995, 375-549.995, 810-999.99 MHz\*\* • Analog/digital voice with GPS (optional UT-123) • 500 alphanumeric memories

**\$30** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
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**\$30** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
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#### IC-92AD

Analog + Digital Dual Bander

- 2M/70CM @ 5W • Wide-band RX 495 kHz - 999.9 MHz\*\* • 1304 alphanumeric memories • Dualwatch capability • IPX7 Submersible\*\*\* • Optional GPS speaker Mic HM-175GPS

**\$10** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
**\$10** ICOM MAIL-IN REBATE

**\$25** HRO COUPON!

#### IC-80AD 3G D-STAR Dual Bander

- D-STAR DV mode operation • DR (D-STAR repeater) mode • Free software download • GPS A mode for easy D-PRS operation

**\$10** INSTANT WINTER SAVINGS!  
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**D-STAR UPGRADEABLE**

#### IC-V82

2M Transceiver

- 2M @ 7W • CTCSS/DTCS encode/decode w/tones scan • Also available in a sport version and a 70CM version (IC-U82)

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- High RF output (50w) • Multiple Scan
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- EchoLink® memory (auto dialer)
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### RC-D710

- Standalone 1200/9600 bps TNC w/ APRS firmware
- Transforms TM-V71A to Functionality of TM-D710A when combined with Optional PG-5J adds APRS/TNC to TM-D700A/G707A/V7A/732A/733A/255A/455A

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- 60 Watt, 200 Mems. CTCSS/DCS
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- 480SAT 100w HF & 6M w/AT
- 480HX 200w HF & 100w 6M (no Tuner)
- DSP built in
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2M Handheld

- 2m 5w • VOX • CTCSS/DCS/1750 Burst Built In • Weather Alert •

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**IC-R20** Wide Band Receiver

- Wide RX .150-3304 mHz\*
- SSB, CW, AM, FM, WFM
- 32mb digital recorder
- 1,000 memories
- VSC • 100 ch/sec. scanning



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- 1250 memories
- Alphanumeric labels
- DMS scan
- AM, FM, WFM

**IC-RX7** Wide Band Receiver

- 0.150-823.995 MHz, 849.0-868.995 MHz, 894.0-1300.000 MHz
- FM, WFM AM
- 100 channels per second/ 30 steps per second scan speed
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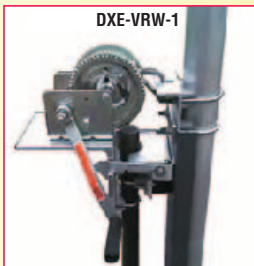
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- Massive high efficiency trap assembly—strongest signal possible
- 5kW SSB and CW rated—unparalleled reliability
- Instant automatic band switching
- DX Engineering Adjustable Matching Network configures the lowest SWR
- Broad 2:1 SWR bandwidth—400 kHz on 40m, 300 kHz on 80m
- External tuner not required for CW/SSB QSY
- Lowest possible take-off angle reduces domestic QRM signals

#### High Strength Pivoting Fixture

- Self supporting—will withstand steady-state winds in excess of 50 mph without guying (guying required under extreme wind speed conditions)
  - Extremely high strength heavy wall tubing made to DX Engineering specs
  - Massive fiberglass channel insulator
- We also offer an affordable manual winch for easy one-person raising and lowering of the antenna. You can move the winch between similar antennas in a multi-antenna installation.

DXE-8040VA-1	Dual Band High Performance Vertical Antenna .....	\$799.00
DXE-VRW-1	Manual Winch Assembly .....	\$169.99
DXE-7580-THK	CW Optimizer Capacity Hat .....	\$59.95



DXE-VRW-1

### 55 Foot Monoband Thunderbolt™ 75/80 Meter Vertical

#### Special Introductory Pricing—Just \$699.00

The perfect solution—use singly or in a phased array for full, no-compromise 80 meter performance. Achieve the strongest possible presence at your power level and be competitive!

#### High Efficiency Design

- Center loaded—self supporting at 50 mph+ steady winds
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- Broad 300 kHz 2:1 SWR bandwidth
- Lowest possible take-off angle reduces domestic QRM signals

#### High Strength Pivoting Fixture

- Uses same optional, affordable winch as DXE-8040VA-1 Dual Band Thunderbolt
  - Extremely high strength, heavy wall tubing made to DX Engineering specs
- |              |  |          |
|--------------|--|----------|
| DXE-7580VA-1 | Multi-Band High Performance Vertical Antenna ..... | \$699.00 |
| DXE-VRW-1    | Manual Winch Assembly Kit .....                    | \$169.99 |
| DXE-7580-THK | CW Optimizer Capacity Hat .....                    | \$59.95  |

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#### Special Introductory Pricing—Just \$679.00

A complete plug and play package with DX Engineering's 43 foot high performance vertical antenna, tilt base, and antenna mounted tuner to deliver maximum power with low SWR.

- 6063 T832 corrosion-resistant aircraft aluminum tubing and stainless steel hardware
- 43 foot optimal length vertical radiator for multi-band operation
- Freestanding to 90 mph
- Fully automatic band switching
- No coils or linear loading elements
- Handles up to 200 watts with ease
- Low SWR eliminates cable mismatch loss
- Plug and play installation

DXE-MBV-1-3ATP	.....	\$679.00
DXE-MBV-ATU-1	Add-on Tuner Kit for any 43 foot Zero Five, MFJ, Hy-Gain antenna .....	\$399.00

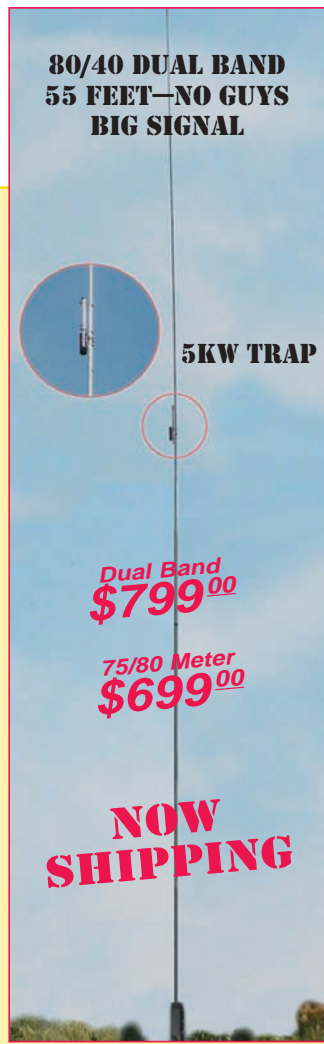
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### Dual Band Thunderbolt™ 40/30 Meter High Performance Vertical

- Full band coverage on 40 and 30 meters with SWR under 1.5:1—No tuner needed
  - 40 meter bandwidth greater than 750 kHz with SWR under 2:1
  - Tunable above and below 7 MHz range for MARS and CAP frequencies
  - Maximum legal power handling
  - Optimum 30 ft. overall height—tilt base included
  - Self-supporting design withstands winds up to 60 MPH without guying
- |              |       |               |
|--------------|-------|---------------|
| DXE-4030VA-1 | ..... | just \$299.50 |
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80/40 DUAL BAND  
55 FEET—NO GUYS  
BIG SIGNAL

5KW TRAP

\$679<sup>00</sup>  
with Auto-Tuner

Dual Band  
\$799<sup>00</sup>

75/80 Meter  
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#### DX Engineering now stocks replacement parts for all BTV antennas

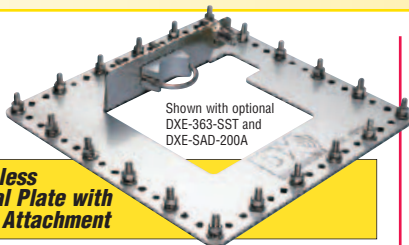
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HUS-6BTV	(10, 15, 20, 30, 40, & 75-80m) .....	\$189.95
DXE-AOK-DCF	SO-239 Add-On Kit for BTV Base .....	\$22.95
DXE-CBC-8XU2	Jumper, Radial Plate to DCF .....	\$18.99
DXE-AOK-17M	17m Add-On Kit for BTVS .....	\$69.95
DXE-AOK-60M	60m Add-On Kit for BTVS .....	\$74.95
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Direct Coax  
Attachment  
All Stainless**

**\$22<sup>95</sup>**



**Stainless  
Radial Plate with  
Coax Attachment**

Shown with optional  
DXE-363-SST and  
DXE-SAD-200A

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GUARANTEES BEST RADIAL SYSTEM  
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- Makes radial attachment a snap!
- Fits 2" pipe, 4x4 and 6x6 posts
  - 0.125" thick 304 stainless steel
  - Accommodates up to 120 radials
  - Patented high current coax connection to radials
- |             |  |         |
|-------------|--|---------|
| DXE-RADP-1P | Complete with 20 stainless bolt sets ..... | \$54.50 |
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## Radials for Top Vertical Performance!

Complete Radial Kits with Wire Lugs Attached  
Available now at DXEngineering.com

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- All connectors are soldered, not crimped
  - Connectors have silver plated body and barrel with center Teflon® dielectric
  - Highest quality Belden coaxial cable is used
  - All cable assemblies are high voltage tested to handle full rated power
  - Watertight seal between connectors and coax
  - Call to order custom cable/connector assemblies
- See DXEngineering.com for complete information!



Belden



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### Professionally Engineered Design

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DXE-AT1241 0.500", slit at 1 end	\$3.30
DXE-AT1242 0.625", slit at 1 end	\$3.60
DXE-AT1243 0.750", slit at 1 end	\$3.90
DXE-AT1244 0.875", slit at 1 end	\$4.20
DXE-AT1245 1.000", slit at 1 end	\$4.50
DXE-AT1246 1.125", slit at 1 end	\$4.95
DXE-AT1247 1.250", slit at 1 end	\$5.55
DXE-AT1248 1.375", slit at 1 end	\$6.15
DXE-AT1249 1.500", slit at 1 end	\$6.75
DXE-AT1250 1.625", slit at 1 end	\$7.65
DXE-AT1251 1.750", slit at 1 end	\$8.40
DXE-AT1252 1.875", slit at 1 end	\$9.15
DXE-AT1253 2.000", slit at 1 end	\$9.90
DXE-AT1254 2.125", slit at 1 end	\$11.40

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DXE-AT1189 0.375", no slit	\$5.40
DXE-AT1205 0.500", slit at 1 end	\$6.60
DXE-AT1206 0.625", slit at 1 end	\$7.20
DXE-AT1207 0.750", slit at 1 end	\$7.80
DXE-AT1208 0.875", slit at 1 end	\$8.40
DXE-AT1209 1.000", slit at 1 end	\$9.00
DXE-AT1210 1.125", slit at 1 end	\$9.90
DXE-AT1211 1.250", slit at 1 end	\$11.10
DXE-AT1212 1.375", slit at 1 end	\$12.30
DXE-AT1213 1.500", slit at 1 end	\$13.50
DXE-AT1214 1.625", slit at 1 end	\$15.30
DXE-AT1215 1.750", slit at 1 end	\$16.80
DXE-AT1216 1.875", slit at 1 end	\$18.30
DXE-AT1217 2.000", slit at 1 end	\$19.80
DXE-AT1218 2.125", slit at 1 end	\$22.80

6061-T8 Aluminum Tubing, 0.120" Heavy Wall Telescoping	Cost/Foot
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DXE-AT1312 1.750" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$28.20
DXE-AT1313 2.000" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$33.00
DXE-AT1314 2.250" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$37.45
DXE-AT1315 2.500" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$42.50
DXE-AT1316 2.750" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$46.95
DXE-AT1317 3.000" O.D. x 6 ft. no slit	\$51.40
DXE-AT1325 3.000" O.D. x 12 ft. no slit	\$103.95

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- DXE-ATK65 ..... \$194.50

#### Insulated Vertical Base Assemblies for 2" O.D. Antenna Masts

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- Tilt Base optional
- Two DXE-CAVS-1P mounting clamps required to attach base to mounting post
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##### Heavy Duty Base

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- DXE-HEXX-5TAP 5-Band Total Antenna Package..... **\$599.95**

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Add a dedicated receive antenna to HF transceivers which lack a separate RX antenna input port! The DX Engineering RTR-1 Receive Antenna Interface is a unique, multi-purpose switch unit which automatically or manually switches the RF output antenna connector on any HF transceiver between reception using a separate receiving antenna system and transmitting with a standard transmitting antenna. Enjoy the improved reception that a low noise receiving antenna system offers. Connection to a Beverage, receive four-square, active receive antenna, or other receiving antennas and accessories is now possible.

- Heavy stainless steel enclosure
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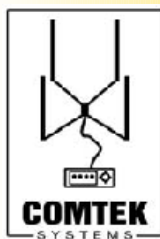
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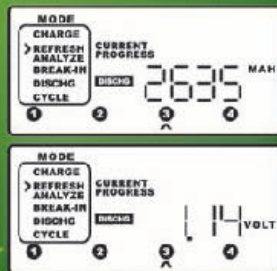
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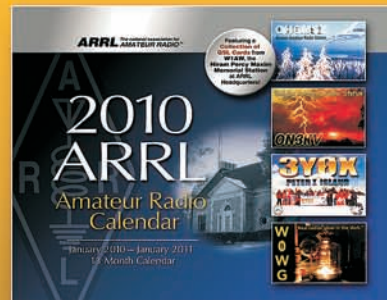
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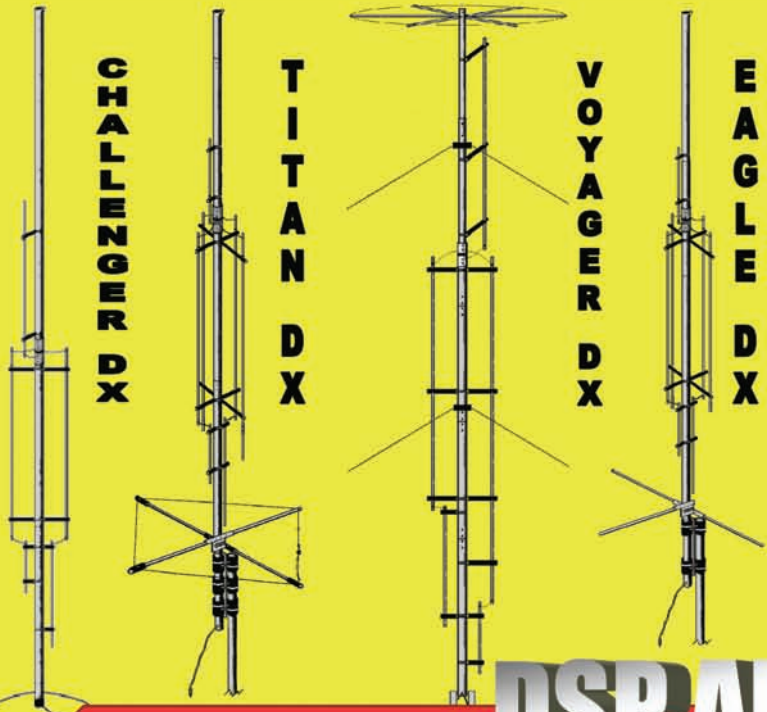


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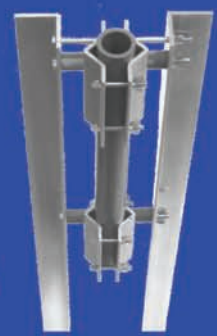
# ANTENNAS



# ACCESSORIES



**QUICK TILT LADDER MOUNT**



**QUICK TILT GROUND MOUNT**



**100' GUY KIT**



**200' GUY KIT**

**GUY KITS**

# DSP AUDIO



**HEAR IT IN LINE MODULE**



**HEAR IT ANEM**



**HEAR IT SPEAKER**

A GAP ANTENNA HAS NO TRAPS, COILS, OR ELECTROMECHANICAL DEVICES, WHICH CAN INCREASE LOSS AND DECREASE RELIABILITY. SIMPLICITY IN DESIGN AND OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE AMATEUR COMMUNITY RESULTS IN USER FRIENDLY ASSEMBLY, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION. SIMPLY LINE UP THE BIG PREDRILLED HOLES IN 6063 ALUMINUM OVER THE LITTLE HOLES AND INSERT A SCREW. A GAP IS PRETUNED AND DESIGNED TO HANDLE 1.5 KW PEP WITH A VSWR UNDER 2:1 ACROSS THE ENTIRE BAND\*.

See GAP in the Price Guide

BANDS OF OPERATION	2m	6m	10m	12m	15m	17m	20m	30m	40m	80m	160m
GAP CHALLENGER DX	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
31.5' TALL WEIGHS 21LBS SUPPLIED W/DROP IN GROUND MOUNT REQUIRES 3 WIRE COUNTERPOISE @ 25'											
GAP TITAN DX			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
25' TALL WEIGHS 25LBS MOUNTS ON 1 1/4" MAST NO RADIALS REQUIRED											
GAP VOYAGER DX							X		X	X	X
45' TALL WEIGHS 39 LBS SUPPLIED W/ HINGED BASE REQUIRES 3 WIRE COUNTERPOISE @ 57'											
GAP EAGLE DX			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
21' TALL WEIGHS 19LBS MOUNTS ON 1 1/4" MAST NO RADIALS REQUIRED											

### MONO GAP

Simple, easy to assemble, mono band antenna. Ideal for very limited space. Perfect for those who operate on a particular band and great for school demos and field days.

CONTINUOUS COVERAGE UNDER 2:1 ACROSS THE SPECIFIED BAND.

EACH SUPPLIED WITH: 3-WIRE COUNTERPOISE PVC GROUND MOUNT 1/2 WAVE FEEDLINE

#### 20m MONO GAP

16' Tall  
7 lbs

#### 40m MONO GAP

31' Tall  
12.5 lbs

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**SPEAKER** - WELL SUITED FOR MOBILE APPLICATION THE SPEAKER AND DSP PROCESSOR ARE ALL IN ONE UNIT REAR MOUNTED DIP SWITCHES CONTROL THE LEVEL OF PROCESSING. SET IT AND FORGET IT.

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Just Got a Lot More Powerful!  
**FT-897D** **TCXO** **DSP** **60 m Band**  
HF/50/144/430 MHz  
100 W All Mode Transceiver (144 MHz 50 W/430 MHz 20 W)



HF/VHF/UHF Multimode Mobile Transceiver,  
now Including Built-in DSP  
**FT-857D** **DSP** **60 m Band**  
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Automatic Matching for  
FT-897/857 Series Transceivers  
**FC-40**  
Automatic-Matching 200-Memory  
Antenna Tuner (160 m ~ 6 m Band)  
**WATERPROOF**



Mobile Auto-Resonating 7~430 MHz for  
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Active Tuning  
Antenna System  
(no separate tuner  
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**FT-817ND**  
HF/50/144/430 MHz  
5 W All Mode Transceiver (AM 1.5 W)  
**60 m Band**

**ATAS-25 ATAS MICRO**  
Manually-Tuned Portable Antenna

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**COMPACT HF/50 MHz TRANSCEIVER WITH IF DSP**  
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**FT-450** Automatic Antenna Tuner ATU-450 optional  
**FT-450AT** With Built-in ATU-450 Automatic Antenna Tuner  
Compact size : 9" X 3.3" x 8.5" and Light weight : 7.9 lb



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Just Got a Lot More Powerful!  
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HF/50/144/430 MHz 100 W All Mode Transceiver  
(144 MHz 50 W/430 MHz 20 W)




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now Including Built-in DSP  
**FT-857D** **DSP** **60 m Band**  
HF/50/144/430 MHz 100 W All Mode Transceiver  
(144 MHz 50 W/430 MHz 20 W)




Real Performance, Really Portable  
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HF/50/144/430 MHz  
5 W All Mode Transceiver (AM 1.5 W)

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**FC-40**  
Automatic-Matching  
200-Memory Antenna Tuner  
(160 m ~ 6 m Band) **WATERPROOF**

Mobile Auto-Resonating 7~430 MHz for  
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**ATAS-120A**  
Active Tuning  
Antenna System  
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required)



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Base Radial Kit  
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**ATAS MICRO**  
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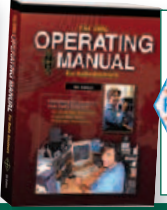
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10M/6M/2M/440MHz  
Quad Band, Dual Receive  
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HF/6/2/440  
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5W QRP all bands



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**VX-3R**  
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RX coverage



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**VX-7R - Silver  
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Connectors and cables for many air, marine, commercial and public service radios, too!

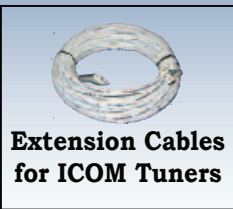


### **6-Pin to 4-Pin Power Adapter**

Many new HF radios, including the IC-7000, FT-450, and TS-480, are using a new 4-pin plug for DC Power. If your shack is already wired up with the "standard" 6-pin plug, this is the adapter you need. Other configurations are also available.

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To build the right wire antenna, you need the right antenna wire. We have a wide variety of styles and lengths. Plus insulators, UV-proof rope, marine-grade pulleys, and handy gadgets.



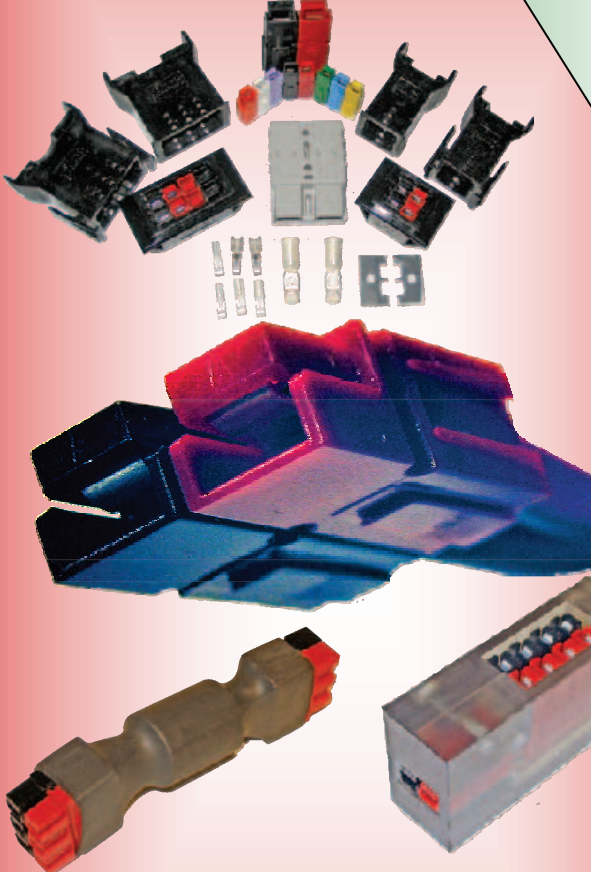
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for ICOM Tuners

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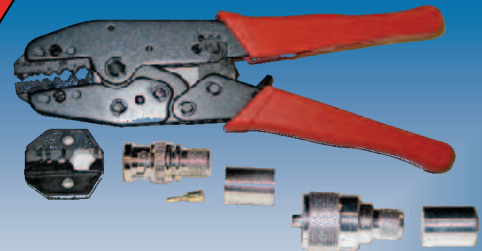
**Special Sale Price \$35.**

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West Mountain Radio Crimper  
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# The #1 Line of Autotuners



## NEW! Z-100Plus

LDG's popular Z-100 economy tuner is now the Z-100Plus. Still small and simple to use, the Z-100Plus sports 2000 memories that store both frequency and tuning parameters. It will run on any voltage source from 7 to 18 volts; six AA batteries will run it for a year of normal use. Current draw while tuning is less than 100ma. The Z-100Plus now includes an internal frequency counter so the operating frequency is stored with tuning parameters to make memory tunes a blazingly fast 0.1 seconds; full tunes take an average of only 6 seconds.

**Suggested Price \$159.99**



## NEW! Z-817

The ultimate autotuner for QRP radios including the Yaesu FT-817(D). Tuning is simple; one button push on the tuner is all that is needed - the Z-817 takes care of the rest. It will switch to PKT mode, transmit a carrier, tune the tuner, then restore the radio to the previous mode! 2000 memories cover 160 through 6 meters. The Z-817 will also function as a general purpose antenna tuner with other QRP radios. Just transmit a carrier and press the tune button on the tuner. Powered by four AA internal Alkaline batteries (not included), so there are no additional cables required. A coax jumper cable is also included for fast hook up. **Suggested Price \$129.99.**



## NEW! KT-100

LDG's first dedicated autotuner for Kenwood Amateur transceivers. Easy to use - just right for an AT-300 compatible Kenwood transceiver. The KT-100 actually allows you to use the Tune button on the radio. The LEDs on the front panel indicate tuning status, and will show a match in seconds, or even less of you've tuned on or near that frequency before. Has 2,000 memories for instant recall of the tuning parameters for your favorite bands and frequencies. If you have an AT-300 compatible Kenwood radio, you can simply plug the KT-100 into your transceiver with the provided cable; the interface powers the tuner, and the Tune button on the radio begins a tuning cycle. The supplied interface cable makes the KT-100 a dedicated tuner for most modern Kenwood transceivers. **Suggested Price \$199.99**



## AT-200Pro

The AT-200 features LDG's new "3-D memory system" allowing up to eight antenna settings to be stored for each frequency. Handles up to 250 watts SSB or CW on 1.8 - 30 MHz, and 100 watts on 54 MHz (including 6 meters). Rugged and easy-to-read LED bar graphs show power and SWR, and a function key on the front panel allows you to access data such as mode and status. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$249**



## NEW! Z-11Proll

Meet the Z-11Pro, everything you always wanted in a small, portable tuner. Designed from the ground up for battery operation. Only 5" x 7.7" x 1.5", and weighing only 1.5 pounds, it handles 0.1 to 125 watts, making it ideal for both QRP and standard 100 watt transceivers from 160 - 6 meters. The Z-11Pro uses LDG's state-of-the-art processor-controlled Switched-L tuning network. It will match dipoles, verticals, inverted-Vs or virtually any coax-fed antenna. With an optional LDG balun, it will also match longwires or antennas fed with ladder-line. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$179**

**FREE Balun with purchase any new LDG tuner with a suggested retail value of over \$150!**

\*Purchase any new LDG tuner with a suggested retail value of over \$150 between Oct 15, 2009 and March 15, 2010 and receive a Free balun from LDG Electronics. Simply fill out form (available at [www.ldgelectronics.com](http://www.ldgelectronics.com) or via mail - write to 1445 Parran Rd., St. Leonard, MD 20685) and send to LDG along with a copy of your dated sales receipt and LDG will send you a Free RBA-1:1 or RBA-4:1. All forms must be received before March 31, 2010. Limit one free balun per household. Not Transferable.

# Free Balun with Autotuner Purchase!\*



## AT-100Pro

This desktop tuner covers all frequencies from 1.8 – 54 MHz (including 6 meters), and will automatically match your antenna in no time. It features a two-position antenna switch, allowing you to switch instantly between two antennas. The AT-100Pro requires just 1 watt for operation, but will handle up to 125 watts. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$219**



radio not included

## NEW! AT-897Plus for the Yaesu FT-897

If you own a Yaesu FT-897 and want a broad range automatic antenna tuner, look no further! The AT-897 Autotuner mounts on the side of your FT-897 just like the original equipment and takes power directly from the CAT port of the FT-897 and provides a second CAT port on the back of the tuner so hooking up another CAT device couldn't be easier. **Suggested Price \$199**



**See**

**AT-1000Pro Review  
in Nov. '08 CQ**

## AT-1000Pro

Building on the success of the AT-1000, LDG Electronics has refined and expanded its 1KW tuner. The AT-1000Pro has an Automode that automatically starts a tuning cycle when the SWR exceeds a limit you set. Operates at any power level between 5 and 1,000 watts peak. RF Relay protection software prevents tuning at greater than 125 watts. Tunes from 1.8 to 54.0 MHz (inc. 6 meters), with tuning time usually under 4 seconds, transmitting near a frequency with stored tuning parameters, under 0.2 seconds. 2000 memories. 2 Antenna connections. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$599**



## NEW! YT-100

An autotuner for several popular Yaesu Radios. An included cable interfaces with your FT-857, FT-897 and FT-100 (and all D models) making it an integrated tuner, powered by the interface. Just press the tune button on the tuner, and everything else happens automatically: mode and power are set, a tune cycle runs, and the radio is returned to its original settings. It's the perfect complement to your Yaesu radio. **Suggested Price \$199.99**



radio not included

**FTL Meter** 2.5" face with calibrated scales for signal strength, discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit, all selectable from the radio's menu.

**Still Only \$49**



**NEW FTL Meter** For Yaesu FT-857(D) and FT-897(D). 4.5" face with calibrated scales for signal strength, discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit, all selectable from the radio's menu.

**Suggested Price \$79.99**



**NEW! M-7700** For IC-7700. It will display S-meter on receive, or power out, SWR, ALC level or supply voltages, all selectable from the radio's menu. What's more, the M-7700 and the virtual meter on your radio can work together.

**Suggested Price \$79.99**



## NEW! IT-100

Matched in size to the IC-7000 and IC-706, the new IT-100 sports a front panel push-button for either manual or automatic tunes, and status LEDs so you'll know what's going on inside. You can control the IT-100 and its 2000 memories from either its own button or the Tune button on your IC-7000 or other Icom rigs. It's the perfect complement to your Icom radio that is AH3 or AH-4 compatible.

**Suggested Price \$179.99**

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B4-2KX	4:1	Current Balun	160-10m	\$62.95
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 • Memories: 503 • 41 band-widths with sharp or soft filter shape • RMK-7000 included!



**IC-7200 HF/6M Portable/Base**  
 • TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.03-60 MHz • Power: 2-100W  
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 • USB Port for CI-V Format PC Control and Audio In/Out



**IC-V8000 2M FM Mobile**  
 • TX: 144-148 MHz • RX: 136-174 MHz  
 • Power: 75/25/10/5W • Memories: 207



**Power Supply Included!**

**IC-746PRO Multimode HF/VHF Base**  
 • TX: HF/6M/2M • RX: 0.03-60, 108-174 MHz  
 • Power: 5-100W • Memories: 102  
 • 32-bit floating DSP & 24-bit AD/DA converter  
 • Automatic HF/6M antenna tuner • PS-125 included!



**ID-880H 2M/440 FM Analog & D-Star Digital Dual Bander**  
 • TX: 144-148, 430-450 • RX: 118-173.995, 230-549.995, 810-999.99 MHz (cell blkd) • Power: 50/15/5W  
 • Memories: 1052 • D-Star Digital Ready  
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 • Memories: 101 • 5 inch color screen • 32-bit floating DSP  
 • Real time spectrum scope • Automatic antenna tuner  
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**PW-1 HF/6M 1KW Linear Amplifier**  
 • TX: 160-15M/6M • Power: 1000W (180-264 VAC), 500W (90-132 VAC) • Automatic band change & antenna tuner • Two input & Four output connectors  
 • Easily connects to any current Icom HF transceiver



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 • TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.03-60 MHz • Power: 5-200W  
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 • External VGA connector • Automatic antenna tuner



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- Power: 60/25W • Memories: 200



TH-K2AT

### TH-K2AT 2M FM HT

- TX: 144-148 • RX: 136-174
- Power: 5/1.5/0.5W • Memories: 100



TH-F6A

### TH-F6A Triband FM HT

- TX: 144-148, 222-225, 438-450 MHz
- RX: 0.1-1300 MHz (cell blkd) • Dual band RX
- FM Wide/Narrow, AM, SSB and CW receive modes
- Power: 5/0.5/0.05W • Memories: 435



### TM-V71A Dualband FM Mobile

- TX: 144-148, 430-450 MHz
- RX: 118-524, 800-1300 MHz (cell blkd)
- Power: 50/10/5W • Dual receive (V+V) (U+U)
- Cross-band repeat • EchoLink® ready



### TS-480HX

#### 200W HF/6M Mobile/Base

- TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.5-60 MHz
- Power: 10-200W (with two optional 22A PS's)
- Memories: 99 • IF/stage DSP on main band, AF/stage DSP on sub-band



### TM-D710A

#### Dualband FM Mobile w/TNC

- TX: 144-148, 430-450 MHz
- RX: 118-524, 800-1300 MHz (cell blkd)
- Power: 50/10/5W • Dual receive (V+V) (U+U)
- Built-in TNC for APRS (needs GPS)
- Cross-band repeat • AvMap G5 & EchoLink® ready

### TS-480SAT

100W version with built-in auto antenna tuner.



### TS-2000 100W HF/VHF/UHF Base

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- IF/stage DSP on main band, AF/stage DSP on sub-band

**TS-B2000** Same as the TS-2000 with high-tech "silver box" look & no front panel controls. Includes PC control software.

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FT-60R

### FT-60R 2M/440 FM HT

• TX: 144-148, 430-450 MHz • RX: 108-520, 700-999 (cell blkd) • Power: 5/2/0.5W • Memories: 1000

### FT-270R 2M FM HT

• TX: 144-148 • RX: 136-174  
• Power: 5/2/0.5W • Memories: 200  
• Extra large LCD display & speaker  
• Increased AF output & added "Memory Only" mode

Upgraded  
VX-170



FT-270R

Remote Kit  
Included!



### FT-8800R 2M/440 FM Mobile

• TX: 144-148, 430-450 MHz  
• RX: 108-520, 700-999 MHz (cell blkd)  
• Power: 50/20/10/5W (2M), 35/20/10/5W (440 MHz)  
• Memories: 1000 • Crossband repeat  
• YSK-8900 included!

### FT-8900R Quad-Band FM Mobile

• Same as FT-8800R but TX: 28-29.7, 50-54, 144-148, 430-450 MHz and RX: 28-29.7, 50-54, 108-180, 320-480, 700-985 MHz (cell blkd) • YSK-8900 included!



VX-7R

### VX-7R Quad-band FM HT Silver Case

• TX: 50-54, 144-148, 222-225, 430-450 MHz  
• RX: 0.5-999 MHz (cell blkd)  
• Power: 5/2.5/1/0.05W (0.3/0.05W on 220 MHz)  
• Memories: 900 • Submersible 3 feet for 30 minutes

### VX-7RB Quad-band FM HT Black Case

### VX-8R Quad-band FM HT

• TX: 50-54, 144-148, 222-225, 430-450 MHz  
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• Optional GPS Antenna Unit FGPS-2 provides you with real time APRS® data.



VX-8R



### FT-897D 100W HF/VHF/UHF Portable

• TX: HF/VHF/UHF • RX: 0.1-56, 76-108, 118-164, 420-470 MHz • Power: 5-100W (HF/6M), 5-50W (2M), 5-20W (440 MHz) • Memories: 200



### Quadra System VL-1000

#### HF/6M 1KW Linear Amplifier

• TX: 160-15M/6M • Power: 1000W on 160-15M & 500W on 6M (220 VAC), 500W (110 VAC)  
• Automatic band change & antenna tuner  
• Two input & Four output connectors  
• Easily connects to any current Yaesu HF transceiver



FINAL  
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OUT!

### FT-2800M 2M FM Mobile

• TX: 144-148 • RX: 137-174  
• Power: 65/25/10/5W • Memories: 221



### VXR-7000VA

#### 50W 2M FM Desktop Repeater

• 136-150 MHz • 16 Channel Synthesized  
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## FT2000/D



The FT-2000 (100 watts) and FT-2000D (200 watts) are the 2nd Generation

in the proud lineage of the FTdx9000 Series! Featuring extensive DSP filtering, factory installed antenna tuner and power supply and a host of outstanding ergonomic and performance features, the FT-2000 series radios are destined to be the centerpiece of your HF/50 MHz station!

- DMU2000 Data Management Unit ..... Call
- FH2 Remote Keypad ..... 84.95
- SP2000 External Speaker..... 175.95
- UTUNINGKIT A, B, or C model..... 479.95
- YF122C 500 hz CW filter ..... 159.95
- YF122CN 300 hz CW filter..... 164.95

## FT950



The FT-950 has been developed to fit the needs of both the casual and serious

DX enthusiasts as well as new licensees desiring a top notch first radio to discover the magic of the HF and 50MHz bands. This superb radio features DSP filtering, 100 Watts of power output, factory installed antenna tuner and many of the outstanding ergonomic and performance features first introduced in our FTdx-9000 and FT-2000 flagship radios.

- DMU2000 Data Management Unit..... Call
- FH2 Remote Keypad ..... 84.95
- MD100A8X Desk top mic ..... 129.95
- MD200A8X Desk top mic ..... 379.95
- SP2000 External Speaker..... 175.95
- UTUNINGKIT A, B, or C model..... 479.95

## FT450/AT



The FT-450(AT) is an amazing compact radio that bundles the most desirable IF DSP features of the FT-2000 and FT-950 into a convenient sized lightweight package. Suitable for home, portable, or mobile use, the economical FT-450(AT) is a rugged 100 watt HF/50MHz radio unequalled in its price class. Available with or without factory installed antenna tuner.

- ATAS120 Auto tuning antenna ..... 299.95
- ATU450 Auto antenna tuner..... 149.95
- FC40 Auto antenna tuner..... 249.95
- MD100A8X Desk top mic ..... 129.95
- MMB90 Mobile mount..... 33.95

## FT897D



The FT-897D is a rugged, innovative, multiband, multimode portable transceiver for the amateur radio MF/HF/VHF/UHF bands. Providing coverage of the 160-10 meter bands plus the 6 m, 2 m, and 70 cm bands and it's capable of 20-Watt portable operation using internal batteries, or up to 100 Watts when using an external 13.8-volt DC power source.

- ADMS4B Programming software/cable ..... 51.95
- ATAS120 Auto tuning antenna..... 299.95
- CT39 Packet Cable..... 9.95
- CT62 Computer Interface Cable..... 32.95
- FC30 Bolt on auto antenna tuner ..... 189.95
- FNB78 NiMH Internal Battery ..... 115.95
- FP30 Internal Power Supply ..... 209.95
- MD100A8X Desk top mic ..... 129.95
- MH59A8J Remote Control Mic..... 64.95
- YF122S 2.3 kHz SSB Filter ..... 164.95

## FT857D



The FT-857D, the world's smallest HF/VHF/UHF mobile transceiver, provides base station-type performance from an ultra-compact package that's ideal for mobile or external battery portable work. Wide frequency coverage, outstanding receiver performance, and the convenience of optional remote-head operation make the FT-857D the expert's choice for high-performance mobile operation!

- ADMS4B Programming software/cable ..... 51.95
- ATAS120 Auto tuning antenna..... 299.95
- CT39 Packet Cable..... 9.95
- CT62 Computer Interface Cable..... 32.95
- FC30 Auto antenna tuner ..... 189.95
- JTPS28 Jetstream Power Supply ..... 84.95
- MH59A8J Remote Control Mic..... 64.95
- YF122S 2.3 kHz SSB Filter ..... 164.95
- YSK857 Separation Kit..... 39.95

## FT817ND



The world's first self-contained, battery-powered, Multi-mode Portable Transceiver covering the HF, VHF, and UHF bands! Providing up to five watts of power output, designed for operation on the 160-10m HF bands, plus the 6m, 2m, and 70 cm bands.

- CSC83 Soft Case..... 23.95
- CT39 Packet Cable..... 9.95
- CT62 Computer Interface Cable..... 32.95
- EDC5B Lighter Cable..... 23.95
- FNB72 Ni-Cd Battery Pack ..... 59.95
- MH36E8J DTMF Mic..... 56.95
- YF122S 2.3 kHz SSB Filter ..... 164.95

## FT2900R



Massive heatsink guarantees 75 watts of solid RF power, Loud 3 watts of audio output, 200 memory channels, CTCSS and DCS encode/decode built in.

- JTPS14M Jetstream Power Supply ..... 49.95
- MLS100 External Speaker..... 46.95
- MX2 Hustler 2m Mag Mount ..... 32.95

## FT1900R



The ruggedly built yet compact new FT1900R 2m transceiver brings you Yaesu's legendary mechanical toughness along with outstanding receiver performance and 55 watts with crisp, clean audio that will get your message through!

- JTPS14M Jetstream Power Supply ..... 49.95
- MLS100 External Speaker ..... 46.95
- MX2 Hustler 2m Mag Mount..... 32.95

## FT250R



Compact yet incredibly rugged, the FT250R 2-meter handheld is derived to perform under the most difficult operating conditions. It is packed with the leading-edge features you've come to expect from a Yaesu product. The FT250R's die-cast aluminum case houses a large, high-output speaker and the illuminated keypad provides easy viewing during night time operation.

- SMAUHF SMA-UHF Adapter ..... 3.50
- SMABNC SMA-BNC Adapter ..... 3.50
- ADMS1F Software and cable..... 38.95
- EDC5B Cigarette Lighter Cable..... 23.95
- FBA25A AA Battery case ..... 21.95
- MH34B4B Speaker Mic ..... 33.95
- VC25 Vox Headset ..... 62.95

## FT270R



The FT270R is a compact, high performance submersible FM hand held providing up to 5 watts of RF power, along with loud audio output (800 mW) for the 2m or 70cm amateur bands. Submersible up to 3ft for 30 minutes. Long operating times thanks to the supplied 1400 mAh Ni-MH battery pack.

- ADMSVX170 Software and cable ..... 43.95
- EDC5B Cigarette Lighter Cable..... 23.95
- FBA25A AA Battery case ..... 21.95
- MH57A4B Speaker Mic ..... 27.95
- VC27 Earpiece Microphone ..... 27.95

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## 1500 Watt HF RF Amplifier



**HF2500**

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### 1500 Watt HF RF Amplifier

Band Coverage: 160, 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10. High speed electronic bias switching. True step-start control circuitry. Opto-isolated keying interface. SSB, FM, CW, AM, RTTY, SSTV. Driving Power Required: 20 to 60W nominal at rated continuous carrier output. Maximum Output Power: 1500W Continuous Carrier. Duty Cycle: 100% in Amateur service at 1500W output power, SWR 2:1 or less. Harmonic Suppression: Exceeds all FCC requirements Metering (continuous): Relative power, grid current, plate voltage & plate current. Tubes two 3CPX800A7 200/234 VAC, 50/60 Hz, 20 Amperes.

## 1500 Watt 6m RF Amplifier



**VHF2000**

**\$3695.95**

### 1500 Watt 6m RF Amplifier

Frequency Range: 50 to 54 MHz. High speed electronic bias switching. True step-start control circuitry. Opto-isolated keying interface. Modes: USB, LSB, RTTY, FM, & CW Power Requirements: 200/234VAC 50/60 Hz. RF Drive Power: 15-25 W Nominal; 35-40 Watts Max. For Full Output RF Output: 1500 Watts PEP SSB; 1500 Watts FM or RTTY. Antenna Load (VSWR): 2:1 maximum. Harmonic Suppression: better than 60db down at rated output. Tube Compliment: two 3CPX800A7 pulsed ceramic metal triodes. Cooling: pressurized chassis forced air.

### VX8R



Bluetooth Hands-Free Operation with GPS/APRS and Real RF-Dual Wideband Receive... The next generation Amateur Handheld transceiver from Yaesu, who has been introducing Leading-Edge Transceiver Technology for years.

CSC93 Softcase .....	14.95
FBA39 Alkaline Battery Tray .....	26.95
FGPS2 GPS Unit .....	79.95
FNB102LI 7.4V 1800mAh LI-Ion .....	69.95
MH74A7A Speaker Mic .....	43.95

### FT60R



The FT-60R includes wide receiver coverage, outstanding audio quality, the most CTCSS/DCS flexibility in the industry, and a new Emergency Automatic Identification (EAI) feature for search-and-rescue work.

ADMS1J Software/Cable .....	39.95
EDC5B DC Cable w/Noise Filter .....	23.95
EDC6 DC Cable .....	7.95
FBA25A AA Battery Case .....	21.95
FNB83 7.2V 1400mAh Ni-MH .....	39.95
MH34B4B Speaker Mic .....	33.95
VAC370B Rapid Charger .....	62.95

### FT8800R



If you're ready for the best in a Dual-Band FM Mobile Transceiver, the FT-8800R is ready for you! With easy operation, outstanding receiver performance, and cross-band repeat capability, the FT-8800R is the new standard of comparison!!

ADMS2I Software and cable .....	39.95
JTPS14M Jetstream Power Supply .....	49.95
MLS100 External Speaker .....	46.95
MMB60 Quick Release Mobile Bracket .....	29.95
YSK8900 Separation Kit .....	49.95

### FT7900R



Yaesu's economically priced One-Touch Operation FT-7900R Dual band FM mobile. Back-lit push button controls ensure extraordinarily easy and safe operation while driving at night. The exceptionally wide receiver coverage provides all sorts of additional uses!

ADMS2K Programming software and cable .....	39.95
MEK2 Microphone Extension Kit .....	42.95
JTPS14M Jetstream Power Supply .....	49.95
MLS100 External Speaker .....	46.95
MMB60 Quick Release Mobile Bracket .....	29.95
YSK7800 Separation Kit .....	29.95

## Customer Appreciation Day

**Saturday December 12, 2009 10AM – 4PM**

#### Events:

Prizes, Talk to Manufacturers Representatives, Presentations, Special Pricing on most items, Refreshments, Extended Hours

Manufacturers scheduled to attend this year:

Ameritron, Comet, Cushcraft, Daiwa, Gordon West, Heil, Hustler, Hygain, Icom, Jetstream, Kenwood, Maldol, MFJ, Mirage, Vectronics and Yaesu.

#### Presentations:

11 am – Noon:

**It All Starts At The Microphone**  
By Bob Heil

Noon – 1 pm:

**PASS THE HAM**, a fun look at ham antics over the airwaves. By Gordon West

1 pm – 2 pm:

5J0BV San Andres Island 2009 6M DXpedition  
By K7BV.



## ALPHA DELTA The Leader of the "Pack"

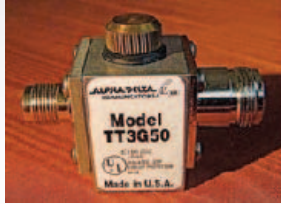
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The Model TT3G50 surge protector series offers a substantial improvement in performance and reliability\*, compared to the older DC Blocked designs used by others.

\*this is according to exhaustive lab tests in the Commercial/Gov't/Mil community and by our customers, based on the convenience of single unit broadband designs (no bandpass designs req'd), field replacement of the ARC-PLUG™ gas tube cartridge using "no tools", surge handling and discharge capability and no reported manufacturing/QC failures.

### Here's Why the Pros Select Alpha Delta Coax Surge Protectors

- Broadband low loss design, 0-3 GHz (N types) in a single unit. No need for several bandpass models as in other designs.
- Model TT3G50 precision cavity designs do NOT use internally soldered DC blocking components, as used in other design types. These can suffer field surge failures, requiring entire unit replacement.
- DC blocked designs require the entire unit to be removed from the sealed coax circuit if hit with a surge beyond its rating, and discarded. The Model TT3G50 stays in the coax circuit, solving a major field maintenance and cost issue. The low cost ARC-PLUG™ gas tube module in the Model TT3G50 is field replaceable with the twist of a knurled knob. No tools required!
- Independent & MIL lab tests show our design works as well or better than DC blocked designs. (Tested/approved by U.S. Navy, ARINC, Ft. Monmouth, U.S. Army Patriot Missile System, USAF and others)
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- Our design permits control voltage thru-put instead of the "wire around" requirements of others.
- UL listed spec 497B. ARC-PLUG™ and connectors are "O" ring sealed for weather protection.
- Various connector combinations available. Manufactured in our ISO-9001 certified U.S. facility.
- "Photo tour" of Alpha Delta staff and production facilities now on our WEB site.
- Model ATT3G50 (200 watt rating, N connectors, thru 3 GHz) ..... \$59.95 ea.
- Model ATT3G50U (200 watt rating, UHF connectors, thru 500 MHz) ..... \$49.95 ea.
- Add \$10.00 s/h for U.S. orders. For OEM/bulk packed orders, use Model TT3G50 part numbers. For 2 kW rating, add suffix "HP" to part numbers, same price. Call for OEM/export quotes.



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Holiday Merchant Guide

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## Great Gift Ideas!

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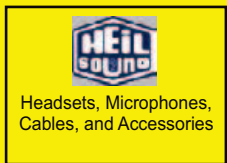
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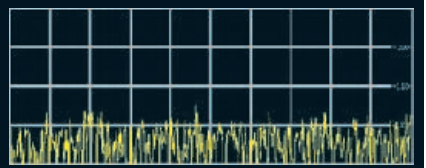
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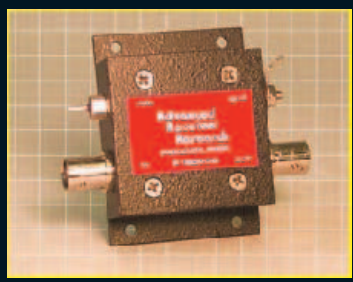
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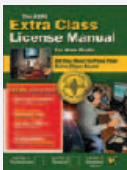
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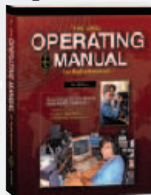
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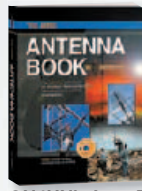
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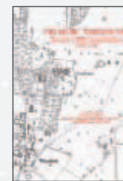
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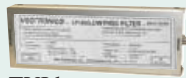
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# MFJ Weather-Proof Window Feedthrough Panels

Weather-proof window feedthrough panels bring coax, balanced lines, HF/VHF/UHF antennas, random wire antennas, ground, rotator/antenna switch cables and DC/AC power into your hamshack without drilling through walls!



Inside View



Outside View

**MFJ** Weather-Proof Window Feedthrough Panels mount in your window sill. Lets you bring all your antenna connections into your hamshack *without* drilling holes through walls.

Simply place in window sill and close window. One cut customizes it for any

window up to 48 inches. Use horizontally or vertically. Connectors are mounted on inside/outside stainless steel plates and attached to a 4 foot long, 3 1/2 inch high, 3/4 inch thick *pressure-treated* wood panel. Has excellent insulating properties. Weather-sealed with a heavy coat of long-

lasting white outdoor enamel paint. Edges sealed by weather-stripping. Seals and insulates against all weather conditions. Includes window locking rod.

**Inside/outside** stainless steel plates ground all coax shields. Stainless steel ground post brings ground in.



## MFJ-4603 Universal Window Feedthru Panel

MFJ-4603  
\$89<sup>95</sup>

**Four** 50 Ohm *Teflon*<sup>®</sup> SO-239 coax connectors lets you feed HF/VHF/UHF antennas at full legal power limit.

A 50 Ohm *Teflon*<sup>®</sup> coax *N*-connector lets you use any antenna up to 11 GHz, including 450 MHz, UHF, satellite, moon bounce and 2.4/5.8 GHz Wi-Fi antennas.

A 75 Ohm, 1 GHz *F*-connector makes it easy to bring in television, Satellite, HD, cable TV and FM radio signals.

A pair of high-voltage *ceramic feedthru insulators* lets you bring in 450/300 Ohm balanced lines directly to your antenna tuner.

Has random/longwire antenna *ceramic feedthru insulator*.

**5-way binding posts** lets you supply 50 Volts/15 Amps DC/AC power to your outside antenna tuners/relays/switches.

**Stainless** ground post brings in ground connection, bonds inside/outside stainless steel panels together and drains away static charges.

**MFJ's exclusive Adaptive Cable Feedthru™** lets you bring in rotator/antenna switch cable, etc. without removing connectors (up to 1 1/4x1 5/8 in). Adapts to virtually *any* cable size. Seals out rain, snow, adverse weather.



### 3 Coax, Balanced Line, Random Wire

**Best Seller!** 3 *Teflon*<sup>®</sup> coax connectors for HF/VHF/UHF antennas. Separate high voltage *ceramic feed-thru insulators* for balanced lines and longwire/random wire, Stainless steel ground post.



MFJ-4602  
\$69<sup>95</sup>

### 4 Balanced Line, 2 Coax

4 pairs of high-voltage *ceramic feed-thru insulators* for balanced lines and 2 coax connectors.



New! MFJ-4600  
\$79<sup>95</sup>

### 5 Cables, any-size

**5 Adaptive Cable Feedthrus™.** Pass any cable with connector: 2 cables with large connectors up to 1 1/4x1 5/8 inches and 3 cables with UHF/N size coax connectors. Seals out weather.



MFJ-4604  
\$99<sup>95</sup>

### All-Purpose FeedThru/CableThru™

Stacks MFJ-4603 and MFJ-4604!



Gives you every possible cable connection you'll ever need through your window without drilling holes in wall -- including UHF, N and F coax connectors, balanced lines, random wire, ground, DC/AC power and cables of any size for rotators, antenna switches, etc.

MFJ-4605  
\$159<sup>95</sup>  
New!

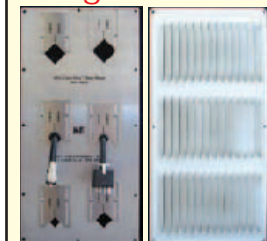
### 6 Coax

6 high quality *Teflon*<sup>®</sup> coax connectors for HF/VHF/UHF antennas. Stainless steel ground post. Full 1500 Watt legal limit.



MFJ-4601  
\$59<sup>95</sup>

## Bring cables thru eave of your house



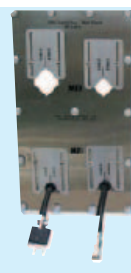
MFJ-4616 shown with standard full-size vent (not included) it replaces. For 6 Cables  
\$26<sup>95</sup>

MFJ-4613 shown with standard half-size vent (not included) it replaces. For 3 Cables  
\$14<sup>95</sup>

Replace your standard air vents on the eave/sofitt of your house with these **MFJ AdaptiveCable™ Air Vent Plates** and...

**Bring** in coax, rotator, antenna switch, power cables, etc. with connectors up to 1 1/4x1 5/8 inches!

**Sliding** plates and rubber grommets adjust for virtually any cable size to seal out adverse weather, insects and varmints. Use existing vent hole, mounting screws and screw holes.



MFJ-4614 For 4 Cables  
\$34<sup>95</sup>



MFJ-4612 For 2 Cables  
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MFJ-4611 For 1 Cable  
\$14<sup>95</sup>

## AdaptiveCable™ Wall Plates

**Bring** nearly any cable -- rotator, antenna switch, coax, DC/AC power, etc. -- through walls *without removing connectors* (up to 1 1/4x1 5/8 inches). Sliding plates and rubber grommets adjust hole size to weather-seal virtually any size cable.

**Includes** stainless steel plates for each side of wall, sliding plates, rubber grommets, weather stripping and screws.

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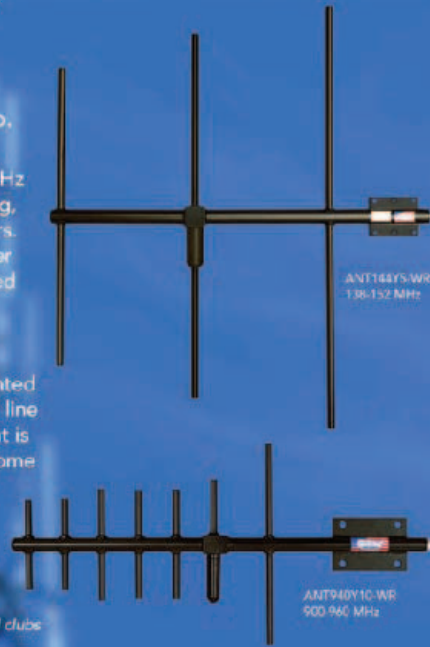




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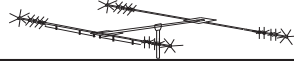


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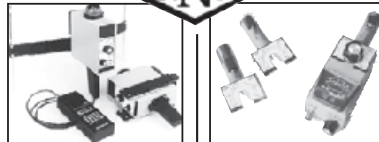
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# MFJ high-accuracy *Digital* SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ's high-accuracy digital SWR/Wattmeter gives you three 10-bit frequency compensated power ranges!

MFJ-826B  
\$179<sup>95</sup>

**New!**



An optimum power range is automatically selected. Each range has full 10-bit resolution. A low range (25 Watt full scale), a mid-range (250 Watt full scale) and a high-range (1500 Watts full scale) covers the entire amateur power spectrum with high accuracy.

A built-in frequency counter selects the appropriate frequency compensated data set to insure highest accuracy for each

band. It also displays your transmitted frequency and provides digital frequency readout for older rigs and QRP rigs such as MFJ-9420/9040/9340.

True peak or average forward and reflected power, SWR and frequency are

simultaneously displayed.

**Bargraphs** makes tuning antenna tuners, amplifiers and transmitters easy. You can select bargraphs to display forward and reflected power or forward power and SWR or SWR only.

MFJ's **PeakHold™** freezes high-est forward power displayed (bar segment also) for 1, 2 or 3 seconds.

MFJ's **TrueActive™** peak reading circuit gives you true peak or average power. When SWR is greater than 1.5 to 3 (selectable) an alarm LED lights and buzzer sounds. Has large high-contrast *backlit* LCD display. Use 12 VDC or 110 VAC with optional MFJ-1312D, \$15.95. 6 1/2"Wx2 5/8"Hx6D inches.

## MFJ *giant* SWR/Wattmeter

World's largest HF SWR/Wattmeter has *giant 6 1/2 inch meter!*

**This one you can SEE!** Extra-long scales gives you highly accurate SWR and power measurements. Huge numbers makes reading easy across your shack.

Like your analog watch, one glance at the meter needle gives you fast and accurate readings without actually reading the scale.

MFJ's exclusive **TrueActive™** peak reading circuit captures true peak or average forward and reflected power readings.

Has 20/200/2000 Watt ranges for accurate



MFJ-868 QRP or QRO operation.  
\$149<sup>95</sup> Exclusive MFJ Wattmeter  
**Power Saver™** circuit turns on meter only when RF power is being measured. Covers 1.8-30 MHz. Use 9 volt battery or 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312D, \$15.95. 7Wx5 1/2Hx5D in. SO-239 connectors.

**New!**  
*Giant 144/220/440 MHz SWR/Wattmeter*

MFJ-867, \$159.95. Like MFJ-868 giant SWR/Wattmeter, but covers 144/220/440 MHz.

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MFJ-822  
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**Lighted 3" Cross-Needle Meter, SWR/Watts, 1.8-200 MHz, Fwd/Ref pwr, 30/300W. Compact.**



MFJ-862  
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**Lighted Cross-Needle Meter, SWR/Watts, 144/220/440 MHz, 30/300 Watts Fwd, 60/6 W Ref.**



MFJ-864  
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**Lighted Cross-Needle, SWR/Watts, 1.8-60/144/440 MHz, 30/300W Fwd, 6/60W Ref. Hook up HF&VHF/UHF rigs.**



MFJ-815C  
\$109<sup>95</sup>

**Lighted 3" VHF SWR Wattmeter, 2M/30 MHz, 300/3000W Fwd, 60/600W Ref. True Peak.**



MFJ-812B  
\$39<sup>95</sup>

**Lighted 3" VHF SWR Wattmeter, 2M/220 MHz, built-in field strength meter, Fwd/Ref, Pwr in 2 30/300W ranges.**

## MFJ-4416B Super Battery Booster

Boost battery voltage as low as 9 Volts back up to 13.8 VDC! Keeps your transceiver at full power output, compensates for run down battery, wiring voltage drop, car off . . .



MFJ-4416B  
\$149<sup>95</sup> Boost battery voltage as low as 9 Volts back up to 13.8 VDC! Keeps your transceiver at full power output, provides full performance/efficiency, prevents output signal distortion and transceiver shutdown. Compensates for run-down battery, wiring voltage drop or when car is off. Provides up to 25 Amps peak with 90% efficiency. Selectable 9/10/11 Volts minimum input voltage prevents bat-

tery damage from over-discharging. RF sense turns MFJ-4416B off during receive to save power and increase efficiency. Adjustable 12 to 13.8 VDC output pass-through voltage improves efficiency and lets transceiver run cooler. Has output over-voltage crowbar protection. *Anderson PowerPoles®* and high-current 5-way binding posts for DC input, regulated output. 7 1/4"Wx4Hx2 1/8"D inches.

## 100 Watts SSB from cigarette lighter socket!

MFJ-4403  
\$119<sup>95</sup> 4-Farad capacitors supply 25 Amps needed for 100 Watts SSB peaks and replenished by 10 Amps average from cigarette lighter socket. Protects against reverse/over voltage, voltage transients, short circuits. Provides super noise/ripple filtering.



## MFJ AC Line RFI Filter

Eliminate obnoxious power line and computer hash and noise by 6 S-units!



Filters and reduces AC power line RFI, hash, noise, transients, surges generated by computers, motors, RF transmitters, static/lightning by 30 db and up to 60-80 dB with a good earth ground. Super fast, nano-second overvoltage protection. Four 3-wire 15A, 120VAC outlets. \$79<sup>95</sup>

## Transceiver Surge Protector MFJ-1163, \$69.95.

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## MFJ all-in-one Transmit Audio Console



MFJ-655B  
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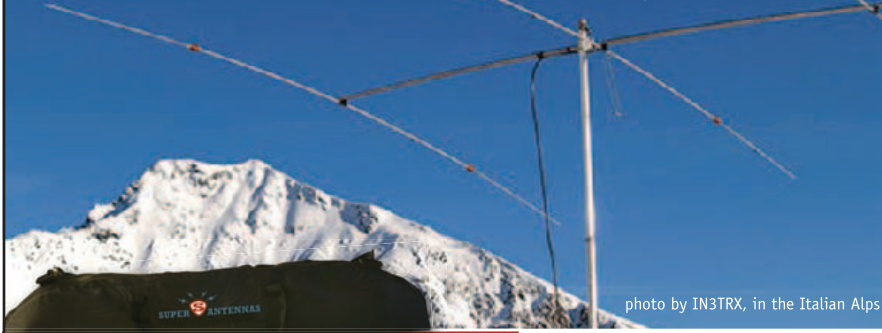


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# 1.8-170 MHz plus 415-470 MHz MFJ HF/VHF/UHF Antenna Analyzer

All-in-one handheld antenna test lab lets you quickly check and tune HF, VHF, UHF antennas anywhere. Covers 1.8-170 MHz and 415-470 MHz  
**Measures:** SWR...Return Loss...Reflection Coefficient...Antenna Resistance(R), Reactance(X), Impedance(Z) and Phase Angle(degrees) ... Coax cable loss(dB) ... Coax cable length ... Distance to short or open in coax ... Inductance ... Capacitance ... Resonant Frequency ... Bandwidth ... Q ... Velocity Factor ... Attenuation ... **Has:** LCD readout ... frequency counter ... side-by-side meters ... Ni-MH/Ni-Cad charger circuit ... battery saver ... low battery warning ... smooth reduction drive tuning ... One year No Matter What™ warranty...

You can instantly get a complete picture, check and tune any antenna from 1.8 to 170 MHz and 415 to 470 MHz -- an MFJ-269 exclusive -- with this rugged easy-to-use hand-held antenna test lab! You can measure virtually every antenna parameter.

You won't believe its capability and versatility. This rugged handheld unit literally replaces a workbench full of expensive delicate test equipment.

## SWR Analyzer

You can read SWR, return loss, reflection coefficient and match efficiency at any frequency simultaneously at a single glance.

## Complex Impedance Analyzer

Read Complex Impedance (1.8 to 170 MHz) as series equivalent resistance and reactance ( $R_s + jX_s$ ) or as magnitude (Z) and phase (degrees). Also reads parallel equivalent resistance and reactance ( $R_p + jX_p$ ) -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

## Coax Analyzer

You can determine velocity factor, coax loss in dB, length of coax and distance to short or open in feet (it's like a built-in TDR).

**Coax Calculator™** lets you calculate coax line length in feet given electrical degrees and vice versa for any frequency and any velocity factor -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

## Use any Characteristic Impedance

You can measure SWR and loss of coax with any characteristic impedance (1.8 to 170 MHz) from 10 to over 600 Ohms, including 50, 51, 52, 53, 73, 75, 93, 95, 300, 450 Ohms -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

## Inductance/Capacitance Meter

Measures inductance in uH and capacitance in pF at RF frequencies, 1.8-170 MHz.

## Frequency Counter/Signal Source

You can also use it as a handy frequency counter up to 170 MHz and as a signal source for testing and alignment.

## Digital and Analog displays

## MFJ-259B HF/VHF Antenna SWR Analyzer™



MFJ-259B \$289.95 *The world's most popular antenna analyzer gives you a complete picture of your antenna performance 1.8 to 170 MHz.*

It's Super easy-to-use -- makes tuning your antennas quick, painless and easy.

Read antenna SWR, complex impedance, return loss, reflection coefficient.

MFJ-269  
\$389.95

A high contrast LCD gives precision readings and two side-by-side analog meters make antenna adjustments smooth and easy.

## 415 to 470 MHz Range features

Just plug in your UHF antenna coax, set frequency and read SWR, return loss and reflection coefficient simultaneously. You can read coax cable loss in dB and match efficiency.

You can adjust UHF dipoles, verticals, yagis, quads and others and determine their SWR, resonant frequency and bandwidth.

You can test and tune stubs and coax lines. You can manually determine velocity factor and impedances of transmission lines.

You can adjust/test RF matching networks and RF amplifiers without applying power.

Has easy-to-read LCD logarithmic SWR bargraph and SWR meter for quick tuning.

## Much Better Accuracy

New 12-bit A/D converter gives much better accuracy and resolution than common 8-bit A/D converters -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

## Super Easy-to-Use

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Use 10 AA Ni-MH or Ni-Cad or alkaline batteries (not incl.) or 110VAC with MFJ-1312D, \$15.95.



## MFJ SWR Analyzer Accessories MFJ-39C, \$24.95.



Tote your MFJ-269 anywhere with this genuine MFJ custom carrying case. Has back pocket with security cover for carrying dip coils, adaptors and accessories. Made of special foam-filled fabric, the MFJ-39C cushions blows, deflects scrapes, and protects knobs, meters and displays from harm. Wear it around your waist, over your shoulder, or clip it onto the tower while you work -- the fully-adjustable webbed-fabric carrying strap has snap hooks on both ends. Has clear protective window for frequency display and cutouts for knobs and connectors.

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Plug these MFJ dip meter coupling coils into your MFJ SWR Analyzer™ and turn it into a sensitive and accurate band switched dip meter. Set of two coils cover 1.8-170 MHz depending on your MFJ-269 SWR Analyzer™.

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SWR Analyzer Power Pack. 10 Pack MFJ SuperCell™ Ni-MH batteries, and power supply for SWR analyzers. **Save \$5!**

## MFJ-98, \$60.85.

MFJ-269 Accessory Pack. MFJ-39C custom Carrying Pouch, MFJ-66 dip coils, power supply for MFJ-269. **Save \$5!**

## MFJ-98B, \$88.90.

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Like MFJ-269,

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... makes barely understandable speech highly understandable!



**"What did you say?"** Can you hear but ... just can't always understand everything people are saying?

As we get older, high frequency hearing loss reduces our ability to understand speech. Here's why ...

Research shows that nearly half the speech intelligibility is contained in 1000 to 4000 Hz range, but contains a miniscule 4% of total speech energy.

On the other hand, the low frequencies, 125 to 500 Hz have most of the speech energy (55%) but contribute very little to intelligibility -- only 4%.

To dramatically improve your ability

MFJ-616  
\$189<sup>95</sup>

to understand speech, you must: **First**, drastically increase the speech energy above 500 Hz, where 83% of the speech intelligibility is concentrated.

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A balance control and separate 2 1/2 Watt amplifiers let you equalize perceived loudness to each ear so both ears help.

By boosting high and cutting low frequencies and adjusting the balanced control, speech that you can barely understand become highly understandable!

**Even** if you don't have high frequency hearing loss, you'll dramatically improve your ability to understand speech. You'll get an edge in contesting and DXing and enjoy ragchewing more.

**Here's** what QST for April, 2001 said ... "I expected a subtle effect at best, but I was astonished ... The result was remarkably clean, understandable speech without hissing, ringing or other strange effects ... made a dramatic improvement ..."

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Transformer-coupled -- No RFI, hum or feedback ... 75 seconds total, 5-messages ... Records received audio ...



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MFJ-434B halted by the **Stop Button**, your microphone's PTT/VOX, remote control or computer.

Has jack for remote or computer control (using CT, NA or other program). Lets you select, play and cancel messages.

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**MFJ-73, \$34.95.** MFJ-434B Remote Control with cable.

## 60 dB Null wipes out noise and interference



MFJ-1026  
\$199<sup>95</sup>

**Wipe** out noise and interference before it gets into your receiver with a 60 dB null!

**Eliminate** all types of noise -- severe power line noise from arcing transformers and insulators, fluorescent lamps, light dimmers, touch controlled lamps, computers, TV birdies, lightning crashes from distant thunderstorms, electric drills, motors, industrial processes ...

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It works on all modes -- SSB, AM, CW, FM -- and frequencies from CBB to lower VHF.

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Use the MFJ-1026 as an adjustable phasing network.

You can combine two antennas to give you various directional patterns. Null out a strong interfering signal or peak a weak signal at a push of a button.

**Easy-to-use!** Plugs between transmitting antenna and transceiver. To null, adjust amplitude and phase controls for minimum S-meter reading or lowest noise. To peak, push reverse button. Use built-in active antenna or an external one. MFJ's exclusive Constant Amplitude Phase Control™ makes nulling easy.

RF sense T/R switch automatically bypasses your transceiver when you transmit.

Adjustable delay time. Uses 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312D, \$15.95. 6 1/2 Wx1 1/2 Hx6 1/4 in.

**MFJ-1025, \$179.95.** Like MFJ-1026 less built-in active antenna, use external noise antenna.

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# MFJ *Pocket size* Morse Code Reader™

*Hold near your receiver -- it instantly displays CW in English! Automatic Speed Tracking ... Instant Replay ... 32 Character LCD ... High-Performance Modem ... Computer Interface ... Battery Saver ... More!*

## Is your CW rusty?

Relax and place this tiny pocket size MFJ Morse Code Reader near your receiver's speaker . . .

Then watch CW turn into solid text messages as they scroll across an easy-to-read LCD display.

No cables to hook-up, no computer, no interface, nothing else needed!

Use it as a backup in case you mis-copy a few characters -- it makes working high speed CW a breeze -- even if you're rusty.

Practice by copying along with the MFJ-461. It'll help you learn the code and increase your speed as you instantly see if you're right or wrong.

Eavesdrop on interesting Morse code QSOs from hams all over the world. It's a universal language that's understood the world over.

MFJ AutoTrak™ automatically locks on, tracks and displays CW speed up to 99 Words-Per-Minute.

Simply place your MFJ-461 close to



your receiver speaker until the lock LED flashes in time with the CW. Digs out weak signals. Phase-Lock-Loop even tracks slightly drifting signals.

Of course, nothing can clean up and copy a sloppy fist, especially weak signals with lots of QRM/QRN.

The MFJ-461's serial port lets you display CW text full screen on a bright computer monitor -- just use your computer serial port and terminal program.

When it's too noisy for its microphone pickup, you can connect the

MFJ-461  
\$89<sup>95</sup>

MFJ-461 to your receiver with a cable. A battery saving feature puts the MFJ-461 to sleep during periods of inactivity. It wakes up and decodes when it hears CW.

Uses 9 Volt battery. Fits in your shirt pocket with room to spare -- smaller than a pack of cigarettes. Tiny 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 x 1 inches. 5 1/2 ounces.

Super easy-to-use! Just turn it on -- it starts copying instantly!

MFJ-26B, \$9.95.



Soft leather protective pouch. Clear plastic overlay for display, push but-

ton opening, strong, pocket/belt clip secures MFJ-461.

MFJ-5161, \$16.95. MFJ-461 to computer serial port cable (DB-9).

MFJ-5162, \$7.95. Receiver cable connects MFJ-461 to your radio's external speaker 3.5 mm jack.

MFJ-5163, \$10.95. Cable lets you use external speaker when MFJ-461 is plugged into radio speaker jack. 3.5 mm.

## MFJ Morse Code Reader and Keyer Combination

Plug MFJ's CW Reader with Keyer into your transceiver's phone jack and key jack.

Now you're ready to compete with the world's best hi-speed CW operators -- and they won't even know you're still learning the code! Sends and reads 5-99 WPM.

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MFJ-551, \$39.95. RFI suppressed keyboard, a must to avoid RFI problems.

MFJ-464  
\$199<sup>95</sup>

(Keyboard, paddle not included.)



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MFJ-564 Chrome  
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\$69<sup>95</sup>



MFJ Deluxe Iambic Paddles™ feature a full range of adjustments in tension and contact spacing. Self-adjusting nylon and steel needle bearings, contact points that almost never need cleaning, precision machined frame and non-skid feet on heavy chrome base. Works with all MFJ and other electronic keyers.

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Deluxe MFJ Keyer has all controls on front panel for easy access -- speed, weight, MFJ-407D tone, volume knobs, and tune, semi-automatic, on/off push-buttons. You get all keyer modes, dot-dash memories, self completing dots/dashes, jam-proof spacing, sidetone, built-in speaker, type A/B keying. RF proof. Solid state keying. 7x2x6 inches.

MFJ-401D, \$69.95. Econo Keyer II has front-panel volume/speed controls (8-50 wpm), tune switch. Internal adjust weight, tone. Solid state keying. Tiny 4x2x3 1/2 inches.



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MFJ-557  
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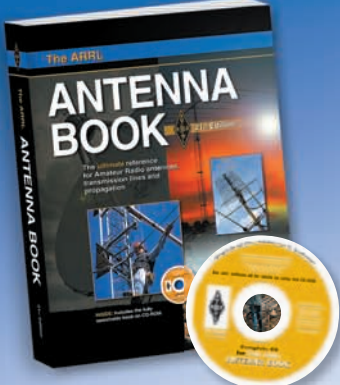


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### MFJ-986 Two knob **Differential-T™**



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### MFJ-969 300W **Roller Inductor** Tuner

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MFJ-941E  
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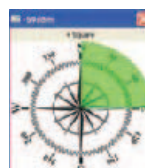
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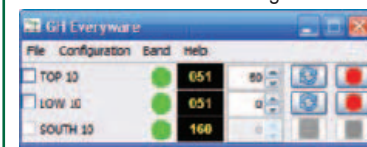
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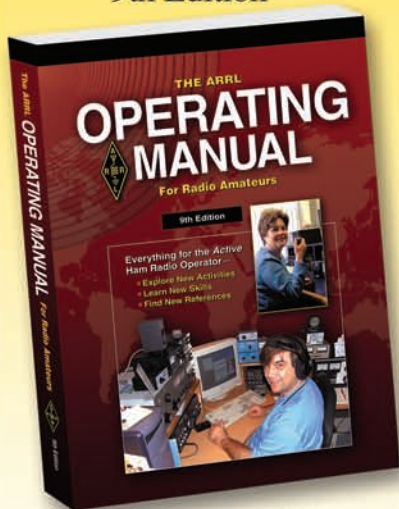
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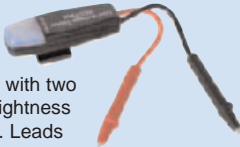


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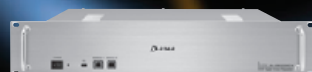
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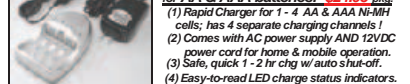
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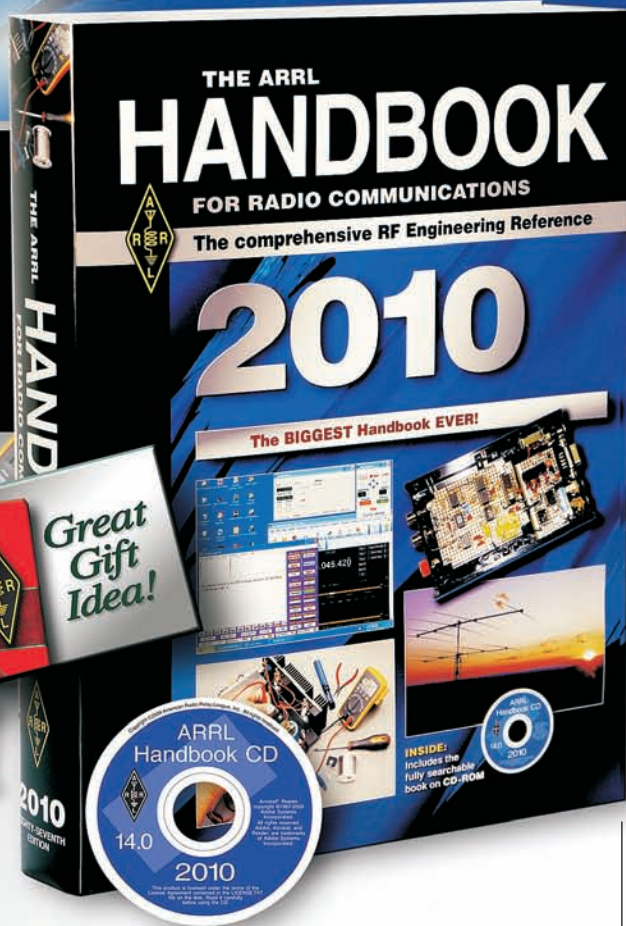


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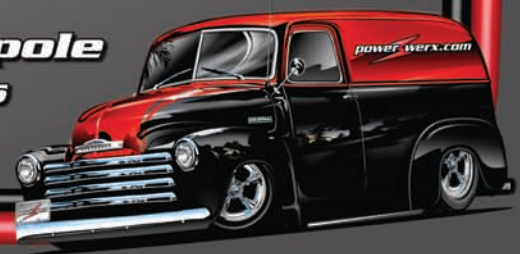


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