



QST

DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO AMATEUR RADIO

December 2014 WWW.ARRL.ORG

DIGITAL EDITION

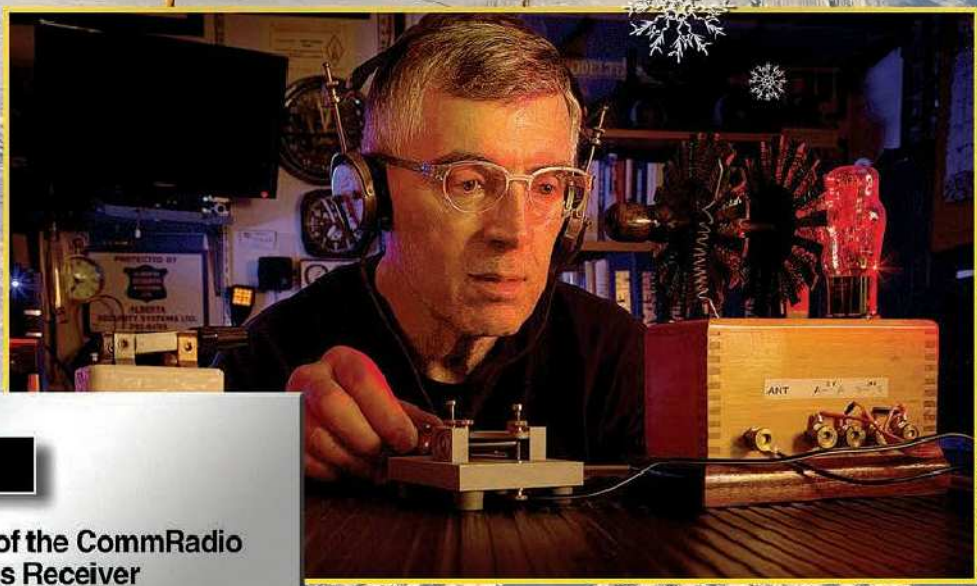
QST reviews:

- **CommRadio CR-1a**
Communications Receiver
- **HobbyPCB Hardrock-50**
160-6 Meter 50 W Amplifier Kit
- **MFJ-4403 Transceiver**
Voltage Conditioner

Season's Greetings

Holiday Gift Guide

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DIGITAL FEATURE

- ▶ 43 | A Video Overview of the CommRadio CR-1a Communications Receiver
- ▶ 47 | A Video Overview of the HobbyPCB Hardrock-50 Amplifier Kit

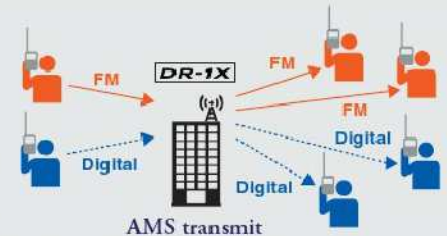
System Fusion

The Best Solution for the Future

System Fusion provides Total Integration of Digital and Conventional FM

FM Friendly Digital & Auto Mode Select (AMS)

System Fusion is designed to enable seamless intercommunication between conventional FM and C4FM Digital using a single unified platform, without manually switching between the communication modes.



This is made possible in System Fusion by the Auto Mode Select (AMS) function. With AMS, the modulation mode of your station is automatically selected according to the received signal. If a member transmits the conventional FM, the other System Fusion radios automatically select their modulation to conventional FM and permit communication between all members.

The Choice of C4FM Digital & New Attractive Digital Functions

System Fusion - C4FM Digital makes possible **9600 bps data speed** utilizing **12.5 kHz bandwidth**. **9600 bps data transmission speed** enables the high speed data communication and provide the new attractive digital functions to expand your enjoyment of the amateur radio communication.

Digital Group Monitor (GM)

Automatically checks whether members registered to a group are within the communication range, and displays the distance and the direction with each call sign on the screen.



Smart Navigation

Real-time navigation function enables Location checking at any time. With the simple touch of a button, you can start navigating to your departure point or any location previously saved. (Backtrack Function)



Snapshot (Image Data Transmission)

Simply connect an optional speaker microphone with camera (MH-85A11U), you can take snapshots and easily send them to other System Fusion radios.



System Fusion Lineup



C4FM
Digital ClearVoice
Clear and Crisp Voice Technology

144/430 MHz DUAL BAND
C4FM/FM DIGITAL REPEATER

DR-1X

- Three digital modes and a Conventional FM mode
- Emergency Operation: Supports operation on an emergency battery



Exciting New Amateur Digital Transceiver

C4FM
Digital ClearVoice
Clear and Crisp Voice Technology

C4FM FDMA 144/430 MHz DUAL BAND
5W DIGITAL/FM TRANSCEIVER

FT1DR Heavy Duty Package

(1800 mAh Li-Ion Battery FNB-102LI included)

- Three digital modes and a Conventional FM mode
- Automatic Mode Select (AMS) Function
- Snapshot Picture Taking Capability
- Digital Group Monitor Function
- Smart Navigation Function



Equipped with advanced touch panel operation and full-color TFT large-scale display

C4FM
Digital ClearVoice
Clear and Crisp Voice Technology

C4FM FDMA 144/430 MHz DUAL BAND
50W DIGITAL/FM TRANSCEIVER

FTM-400DR

- Three digital modes and a Conventional FM mode
- Automatic Mode Select (AMS) Function
- 3.5-inch Full Color Touch Panel Operation
- Snapshot Picture Taking Capability
- Digital Group Monitor Function
- Smart Navigation Function

WIRES-X



Advanced VoIP wireless WIRES-X

C4FM
Digital ClearVoice
Clear and Crisp Voice Technology

Amateur Radio Internet Linking Kit

HRI-200

- Advanced Internet VoIP radio communication is available with C4FM.
- Easy access to Node/Room stations by a simple operation.
- The NEWS Function enables exchanging messages, Images and Voice in the new communications method.

YAESU
The radio

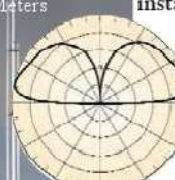
YAESU USA
6125 Phyllis Drive, Cypress, CA 90630 (714) 827-7600

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

New! Cushcraft R9 . . . 80-6 Meters

R-9
\$639⁹⁵
80-6 Meters

R-8
\$539⁹⁵
40-6 Meters



Omnidirectional
low angle radiation
gives incredible
worldwide DX.

80 Meters . . . No Radials . . . 1500W

Cushcraft's world famous R8 now has a big brother! Big Brother R9 now includes 75/80 Meters for local ragchewing and worldwide low band DX *without radials!*

It's omni-directional low angle radiation gives you exciting and easy DX on all 9 bands: 75/80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 Meters with low SWR. QSY instantly -- no antenna tuner needed.

Use full 1500 Watts SSB/CW when the going gets tough to break through pileups/poor band conditions.

The R9 is super easy to assemble, installs just about anywhere, and its low profile blends inconspicuously into the background in urban and country settings alike.

Compact Footprint: Installs in an area about the size of a child's sandbox -- no ground radials to bury with all RF-energized surfaces safely out of reach.

Rugged Construction: Thick fiberglass insulators, all stainless steel hardware and 6063 aircraft-aluminum tubing is double or triple walled at key stress points to handle anything Mother Nature can dish out.

31.5 feet tall, 25 lbs. Mounting mast 1.25 to 2 inches. Wind surface area is 4 square feet.

R8, \$539.95. Like R9 antenna but less 75/80 Meters.
R-8TB, \$79.95. Tilt-base lets you tilt your antenna up/down easily by yourself to work on.
R-8GK, \$59.95. Three-point guy kit for high winds.

MA-5B 5-Band Beam Small Footprint -- Big Signal



The MA-5B is one of Cushcraft's most popular HF antennas, delivering solid *signal-boosting directivity* in a bantam-weight package. Mounts on roof using standard TV hardware. Perfect for exploring exciting DX without the high cost and heavy lifting of installing a large tower and full-sized array. Its 7 foot 3-inch boom has less than 9 feet of turning radius. Contest tough -- handles 1500 Watts.

The unique MA-5B gives you 5-bands, automatic band switching and easy installation in a compact 26-pound package. On 10, 15 and 20 Meters the end elements become a two-element Yagi that delivers solid power-multiplying gain over a dipole on all three bands. On 12 and 17 Meters, the middle element is a highly efficient trap dipole. When working DX, what really matters are the interfering signals and noise you *don't hear*. That's where the MA-5B's impressive side rejection and front-to-back ratio really shines. See cushcraftamateur.com for gain figures.

Matching Network

Matching
Broadband matching transformer keeps VSWR low.
Coaxial balun keeps RF off exterior of your coax.
All Stainless Steel Hardware

RF Choke
DC grounds radiator to prevent static electricity from entering your shack.
High strength, high power, low dielectric PC board material
Moisture Release vent
SO-239 Feedpoint

Super Rugged Design

Stainless steel machine screws guarantee base integrity.
Dual plate mount makes it easy to install counterpoises.
Heavy duty stainless steel/aluminum interface plate mount keeps your antenna up for years to come.

Cushcraft 10, 15 & 20 Meter Tribander Beams

Only the best tri-band antennas become DX classics, which is why the Cushcraft World-Ranger A4S, A3S, and A3WS go to the head of the class. For more than 30 years, these pace-setting performers have taken on the world's most demanding operating conditions and proven themselves every time. The key to success comes from attention to basics. For example, element length and spacing has been carefully refined over time, and high-power traps are still hand-made and individually tuned using laboratory-grade instruments. All this



It goes without saying that the World-Ranger lineup is also famous for its rugged construction. In fact, the majority of these antennas sold years ago are still in service to day! Conservative mechanical design, rugged over-sized components,

attention to detail means low SWR, wide bandwidth, optimum directivity, and high efficiency -- important performance characteristics you rely on to maintain regular schedules, rack up impressive contest scores, and grow your collection of rare QSLs!

stainless-steel hardware, and aircraft-grade 6063 make all the difference.

The 3-element A3S/A3WS and 4-element A4S are world-famous for powerhouse gain and super performance. A-3WS, \$499.95, 12/17 M. 30/40 Meter add-on kits available.

Cushcraft Dual Band Yagis One Yagi for Dual-Band FM Radios



Dual-bander VHF rigs are the norm these days, so why not compliment your FM base station with a dual-band Yagi? Not only will you eliminate a costly feed

line, you'll realize extra gain for digital modes like high-speed packet and D-Star! Cushcraft's A270-6S provides three elements per band and the A270-10S provides five for solid point-to-point performance. They're both pre-tuned and assembly is a snap using the fully illustrated manual.



Cushcraft Famous Ringos Compact FM Verticals



W1BX's famous Ringo antenna has been around for a long time and remains unbeaten for solid reliability. The Ringo is broad-banded, lightning protected, extremely rugged, economical, electrically bullet-proof, low-angle, and more -- but mainly, it just plain works! To discover why hams and commercial two-way installers around the world still love this antenna, order yours now!

Free Cushcraft Catalog
and Nearest Dealer . . . 662-323-5803
Call your dealer for your best price!

Cushcraft Amateur Radio Antennas

308 Industrial Park Road, Starkville, MS 39759 USA
Open 8-4:30 CST, Mon-Fri. Add Shipping.

• Sales/Tech: 662-323-5803 • FAX: 662-323-6551
<http://www.cushcraftamateur.com>

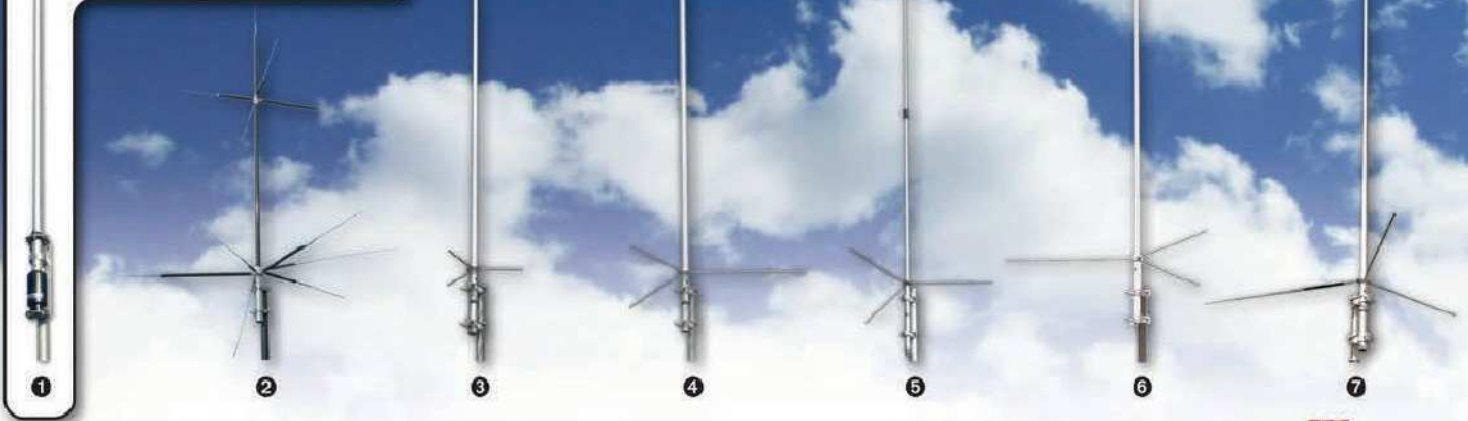
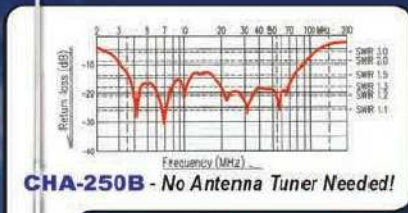
Prices specifications subject to change without notice obligation. © Cushcraft, 2014.

Cushcraft . . . Keeping you in touch around the globe!

Visit www.cushcraftamateur.com



**Life is a JOURNEY.
Enjoy the ride!**



Base Antennas

1 C★MET, CHA-250B BROADBAND 80M THROUGH 6M VERTICAL ANTENNA

A newly designed broadband vertical with NO GROUND RADIALS. EXTREMELY easy to assemble, requires no tuning or adjustments and VSWR is under 1.5:1 from 3.5-57MHz! • TX: 3.5MHz - 57MHz • RX: 2.0- 90MHz • VSWR is 1.5:1 or less, continuous • Max Power: 250W SSB/125W FM • Impedance: 50 Ohm • Length: 23' 5" • Weight: 7 lbs. 1 oz. • Conn: SO-239 • Mast Req'd: 1" - 2" dia. • Max wind speed: 67MPH

2 Maldol HVU-8 ULTRA-COMPACT 8 BAND HF/VHF/UHF VERTICAL ANTENNA

80/40/20/15/10/6/2M/70cm Only 1/2 the traditional size and weight of vertical HF antennas, and it includes 2M/70cm! Unique radial system rotates for balcony installations, the radials can all be rotated to one side. • Wavelength: HF and 6M: 1/4 wave • 2M: 1/2 wave • 70cm: Two 5/8 waves in phase • Impedance: 50 Ohm • Max Power: HF 200W SSB • 6M-70cm: 150W FM • Conn: SO-239 • Height: Only 8'6" • Weight: 5lbs. 7ozs.

3 C★MET, GP-3 DUAL-BAND 146/446MHZ BASE REPEATER ANTENNA

Wavelength: 146MHz 6/8 wave • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 3 • Max Pwr: 200W • Length: 5'11" • Weight: 2lbs. 9ozs. • Conn: Gold-plated SO-239 • Construction: Single-piece fiberglass

4 C★MET, GP-6 DUAL-BAND 146/446MHZ BASE REPEATER ANTENNA

Wavelength: 146MHz 5/8 wave x 2 • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 5 • Max Pwr: 200W • Length: 10'2" • Weight: 3lbs. 8ozs. • Conn: Gold-plated SO-239 • Construction: Fiberglass, 2 Sections

5 C★MET, GP-9 / GP-9N DUAL-BAND 146/446MHZ BASE REPEATER ANTENNA

BEST SELLER! • Wavelength: 146MHz 5/8 wave x 3 • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 8 • Max Pwr: 200W • Length: 16' 9" • Weight: 5lbs. 11ozs. • Conn: GP-9 Gold-plated SO-239 • GP-9N Gold-plated N-type female • Construction: Fiberglass, 3 Sections

6 C★MET, CX-333 TRI-BAND 146/220/446MHZ BASE REPEATER ANTENNA

Wavelength: 146MHz 5/8 wave x 2 • 220MHz 5/8 wave x 3 • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 5 • Max Pwr: 120W • Length: 10'2" • Weight: 3lbs. 1oz. • Conn: Gold-plated SO-239 • Construction: Fiberglass, 2 Sections

7 C★MET, GP-15 TRI-BAND 52/146/446MHZ BASE REPEATER ANTENNA

Wavelength: 52MHz 5/8 wave • 146MHz 5/8 wave x 2 • 446MHz 5/8 wave x 4 • Max Pwr: 150W • Length: 7'11" • Weight: 3lbs. 1oz. • Conn: Gold-plated SO-239 • 2MHz band-width after tuning (6M) • Construction: Single-piece fiberglass



CAA-500

1.8-500MHz SWR/Impedance analyzer
Simple to use and accurate, the CAA-500 displays antenna system SWR and total impedance while turning the thumb wheel to sweep through the selected frequency range.

SO-239 connector for the low range.

N-female provides stable impedance in the high range
Install 6 AA batteries or use the 12VDC jack.

The primary tool for any antenna adjustment, troubleshooting or installation project!

CAA-5SC

Protect your CAA-500 from moisture, shock, dents and dings!
Shoulder strap included.



Call or visit your local dealer today!
www.natcommgroup.com | 800-962-2611





Our mission: To promote and advance the art, science and enjoyment of Amateur Radio.

- Includes video
- Includes audio
- Additional content

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Technical

A 1500 W Centennial Amplifier for the 80 – 6 Meter Bands 30

Ralph J. Crumrine, N0KC

This 8877 triode-based amplifier includes technologies from a century of transmitter development.

Transceiver Power Control Accessory 36

Phil Salas, AD5X

Flip a switch to select power amplifier and antenna tuner drive levels for transceivers that accept external automatic level control (ALC).



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Done in One: Touch to Talk, Touch to Listen 39

Paul Danzer, N1II

One touch opens and closes a relay triggered by a beam of infrared light.

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Mark Wilson, K1RO

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Ward Silver, N0AX

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Our Cover

Both of the images that grace our December cover were provided by Jerry Clement, VE6AB. The snowy scene was photographed southwest of the city of Calgary, Alberta, Canada in the foothills that border the eastern slopes of the Rockies. The inset image is of Jerry himself, bathed in the warm holiday glow of his homebrew regenerative receiver.



Radiosport

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H. Ward Silver, N0AX

2014 ARRL June VHF Contest Results 69

Bob Striegl, K2DRH

Propagation was below average, but way better than last year!

2014 Field Day Results 73

Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW

In this year's event, 47,428 participants made over 1.2 million contacts.

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ARRL members can access the digital edition via a link at www.arrl.org/qst, download our iOS app from the iTunes Store, and download our Android app from the Google Play Store.

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Interested in Writing for QST?

www.arrl.org/qst-author-guide
e-mail: qst@arrl.org

When the band is open there's no time to lose!

YOU'RE GOOD TO

It was around eight in the evening and the house was pretty quiet. The kids were finally in bed, and the XYL was working on her dissertation. I tell you, when she gets that masters in psychology I'm gonna be in a world of trouble. Anyway, I retreated to the shack and turned on the HF rig to see if there was anything left of 20 meters this late. Mostly not, but as I got down toward the low end of the phone band I heard a whole bunch of faint stations calling a VP8S. I had to look it up; it's a rare DX island in the South Atlantic. I'm thinking "Yeah right, like I can bust through a pileup and work someplace like that with 100 watts and a dipole." Just then the DX station answered someone, and he nearly woke up my kids! He was booming in 10 over 9! It was one of those flukes of propagation, and I figured it might not last long; here was my chance to work some real DX. Down that low in the band my dipole gets pretty reactive, so I ran my transceiver's built-in tuner. It went something like this:

Me: Ok radio, tune me up.

Radio: Whirrr... whirrr... Uhh, no.

Me: No? What do you mean "No"?

Radio: Dude, have you seen the SWR down there? It's like 4:1!

Me: Yeah, so?

Radio: No can do, Boss. How about the top of the band again? I'm ok up there.

Me: Not good, radio... not good at all.

Well I'm paraphrasing of course, but that was pretty much it. Ok, no worries; I have an LDG tuner too – it's good to an SWR of 10:1. I took it out of bypass mode, tuned off frequency, changed to AM mode, reduced the power, keyed down and started the tuner. I waited until it finished, un-keyed, switched back to sideband mode, reset to full power, and tuned back to the DX frequency just in time to hear: "Sorry guys, but we have to QRT. 73s, and thanks... click!" And that was it; my VP8S was gone, probably forever.

Even if you have an automatic tuner, matching a modern radio to your antenna can be a lot like playing a concerto on the piano; you have to hit half a dozen keys in just the right sequence. And if you're still using a manual tuner, like one with two knobs and a roller inductor or something, well... fuggedaboutit. And, most radio's built-in tuners are limited an SWR of 3:1 at most; my droopy old dipole is lots worse than that down at the low end of the band.

Well, there's good news. Not only do LDG tuners work automatically, with thousands of memories for instant re-tuning on previously tuned frequencies, LDG makes special models specifically designed to seamlessly integrate with Kenwood, Yaesu, Icom and Alinco transceivers. You just press the Tune button and the tuner takes over, setting mode and power, tuning and returning to the previous mode and power in seconds. And if you're re-tuning on a frequency you've used before, the tuner reads the frequency digitally from the radio, and resets from memory almost instantly, with no tuning transmission at all. It's just what you need for pouncing on that rare DX or contest station before it's gone.

LDG brand-specific tuners include custom cables to connect to your transceiver, as well as a coax jumper for RF. Most are powered by the radio itself; just plug it in and you're good to go with an integrated tuner that will match just about any coax-fed antenna at SWRs up to 10:1. LDG also sells baluns so you can easily use longwires, or antennas fed with ladder line.

Visit us on the web at www.ldgelectronics.com,
or contact your favorite dealer.

www.ldgelectronics.com 410-586-2177

GO WITH

LDG ELECTRONICS

ALL TUNERS
2000
MEMORIES



NEW YT-1200

Designed for Yaesu's FT-450, FT-450D, FT-950, FTDX-1200, FTDX-3000 and FT-2000 (non-D). Seamless integration similar to the popular YT-450. The tuner is powered by the transceiver (except the FT-2000). It has a CAT port pass-through so you can use computer control of the transceiver when using this tuner. Power and control through the provided interface cable.

Suggested Price \$259.99



radio not included

AT-897Plus

Mounts on the side of your FT-897 just like the original 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 \$199.99



AL-100

Compatible with all Alinco radios including the new DX-SR8T (includes Alinco interface cable). The AL-100 is the definitive low cost automatic antenna tuner for the definitive low cost Amateur transceiver!

Suggested Price \$149.99



IT-100

Matched in size to the Icom IC-7000 and IC-706. 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. For your Icom radio that is AH3 or AH-4 compatible.

Suggested Price \$179.99



YT-100

For Yaesu FT-857, FT-897 and FT-100 (and all D models) an integrated tuner, powered by the interface. Press the tune button on the tuner, and everything else happens automatically.

Suggested Price \$199.99



KT-100

For AT-300 compatible Kenwood transceivers (except TS-480HX). The KT-100 allows you to use the Tune button on the radio. 2,000 memories for instant recall of tuning parameters for favorite bands and frequencies.

Suggested Price \$199.99



radio not included

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. 2000 memories cover 160 through 6 meters.

Suggested Price \$129.99



Z-817H

The ultimate autotuner for QRP radios including the Yaesu FT-817(D) with addition of the Tokyo High Power HL-45B. Interfaces to the CAT port (ACC) on the back of the radio with the provided cable.

Suggested Price \$159.99

Your Favorite Dealer has these tuners in stock NOW! Don't Miss Out - Call or visit them TODAY!

R&L Electronics®

1315 Maple Ave HAMILTON, Oh 45011

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http://randl.com sales@randl.com

Fax 513-868-6574

Customer Appreciation Day

Saturday December 6, 2014, 10AM – 4PM

Manufacturers scheduled to attend this year:

Ameritron, Cushcraft, Heil, Hygain, Icom, Jetstream, Kenwood, MFJ, Mirage, Vectronics and Yaesu.

Small Size

4 3/4" x 1 1/2" x 3 3/8"

JETSTREAM

2m/70cm Dual Band Mobile
JT270M



10 Watts
Includes programming cable and software
199 Memory Channels
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ARRL Chief Executive Officer

Progress on 5 MHz

“Amateurs in the US and some other countries have enjoyed limited access to spectrum near 5 MHz for more than a decade. Progress toward an international allocation has been slow — but that may be changing.”

When specific frequency bands were first allocated to amateurs in the 1920s, they had a harmonic relationship. Transmitters of the time had little in the way of harmonic suppression, so the idea was to keep harmonic interference within the ham bands as much as possible. As our understanding of ionospheric propagation grew, it became evident that this approach left significant gaps in propagation coverage at different times of the day, different seasons, and different levels of solar activity.

In the 1970s, our preparations for the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC-79) were predicated on bridging those gaps. The International Amateur Radio Union, including the ARRL and its sister societies throughout the world, argued successfully for new amateur bands at 10, 18, and 24 MHz. The new bands were not as wide as we had hoped, but the increased flexibility they have afforded has been very beneficial to Amateur Radio.

In the 1990s, the IARU Administrative Council identified a band in the vicinity of 5 MHz as a long-range objective for Amateur Radio. As was the case with the upper HF bands prior to WARC-79, there are propagation coverage gaps between the 3.5 and 7 MHz bands. Atmospheric noise also becomes more of a limiting factor as one goes lower in frequency, particularly in the tropics where the Amateur Service is often called upon to respond to natural disasters.

The Administrative Council was under no illusions that it would be easy to obtain such an international allocation, even on a secondary basis. Unlike WARC-79, the World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs) that the International Telecommunication Union now convenes every 4 years or so have limited agendas; getting an item on the agenda is a battle in itself. Fixing 40 meters, which at the time was only 100 kHz wide in ITU Regions 1 and 3 and even in Region 2 was subjected to heavy interference from broadcasters in the upper 200 kHz, had a higher priority until the issue was addressed at WRC-03. Around that time, efforts to gain very limited access to 5 MHz on a country-by-country basis, subject to there being no harmful interference to the internationally allocated services, began to bear fruit including here in the United States. (As of now there are about 40 countries that have granted access of some kind to their amateurs.)

The agenda for WRC-07 offered the first opportunity for an international allocation. It called for a review of the allocations to all services between 4 and 10 MHz, with certain exceptions. We prepared a strong case for a 5 MHz amateur allocation based on increasing the reliability of amateur emergency and disaster relief communications and gathered some support from administrations. However, the main thrust of the agenda item was to accommodate the spectrum requirements of HF broadcasting — a service that has declined recently but was still influential at the ITU when the agenda was formulated in 2003. Broadcasters were unable to achieve any improvement in their allocations at

WRC-07 and our slender hopes for an amateur allocation at 5 MHz died along with theirs.

Thanks mainly to Cuba, at WRC-12 an agenda item to consider an amateur allocation on a secondary basis within the range 5250 – 5450 kHz was approved for the conference in 2015. For more than two years, a team of IARU volunteers and ARRL staff have been laboring to build upon the work done prior to WRC-07. At a series of meetings in Geneva known in ITU-speak as ITU-R Working Party 5A, representatives of the IARU and of various administrations — not all of them sympathetic — hammered out draft text for a Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) report that will be finalized at a meeting early next spring and will provide the technical basis for the consideration of proposals from administrations at WRC-15 in November. The representatives of administrations in WP5A included amateurs from the IARU member-societies of Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, and the United Kingdom in addition to ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX.

The draft CPM report text envisions four possible ways to address the agenda item positively in addition to the negative option of “no change.” The positive methods include secondary allocations of 5275 – 5450 kHz and of 5350 – 5450 kHz along with two that are less specific but narrower. However, it is important to know that the CPM report is just a reference document, not a series of proposals. WRC-15 will only consider proposals that come from administrations, either directly or via regional telecommunications organizations (RTOs).

Efforts to build support for an allocation in the RTOs so far have had mixed results. In CEPT, the European organization, there is significant support for a 100-kHz allocation but not yet enough to lead to a European Common Proposal. The most encouraging development to date occurred at a committee meeting of CITELE, the RTO for the Americas, held in Mexico earlier this autumn. There, six administrations — enough for it to become an Inter American Proposal — supported a 175-kHz allocation while Canada proposed something less but still positive. This is progress, but as of yet it's far from enough.

Alas, one of the remaining stumbling blocks is here at home. While the FCC WRC-15 Advisory Committee on behalf of private sector spectrum interests has endorsed a 175-kHz allocation, as reported in “Happenings” this month we face resistance from the federal government side.

How will it turn out? We'll know next November. In the meantime, we will keep working until we prevail or the clock runs out, whichever comes first.

David Sumner, K1ZZ

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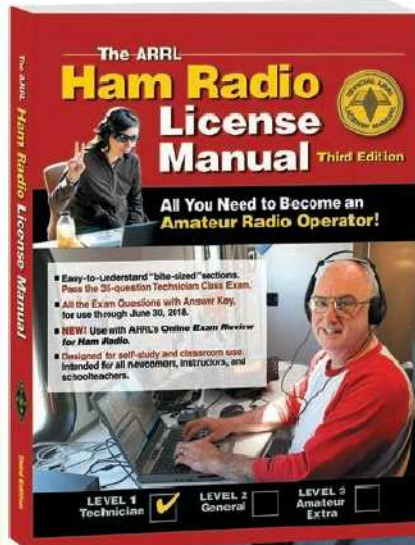
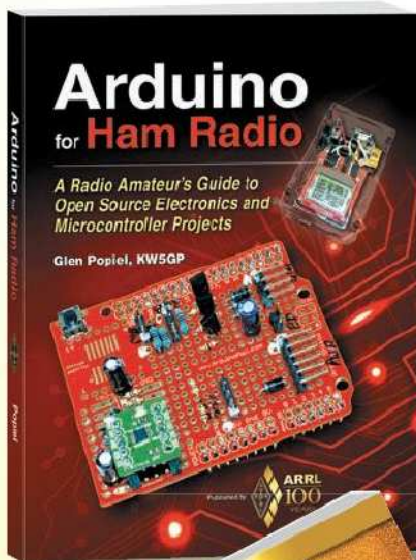
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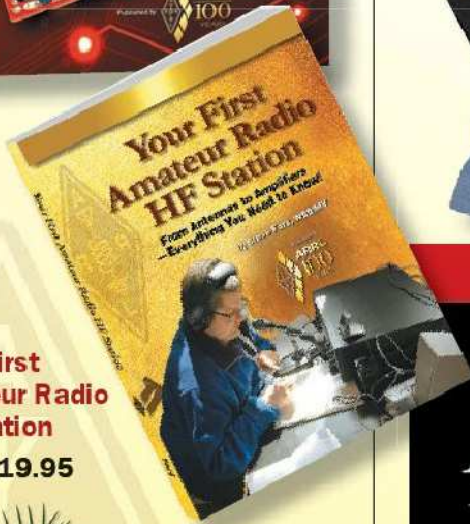
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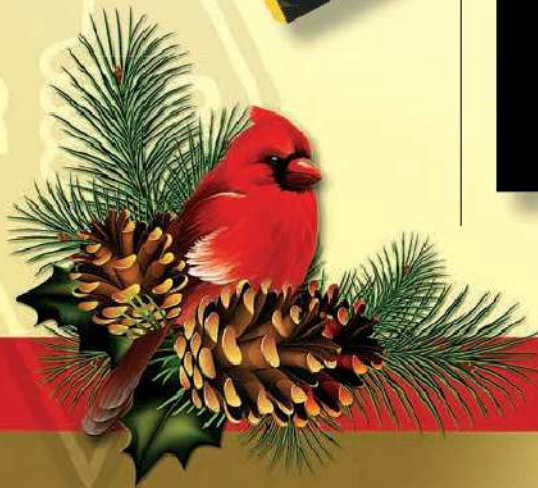
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Harold Kramer, WJ1B – hkramer@arrl.org, ARRL Chief Operating Officer/QST Publisher

The ARRL Laboratory Part 3 — Industry Relations

The ARRL Lab's efforts extend well beyond our Newington headquarters. Ensuring that Amateur Radio is represented nationally and internationally with regulatory agencies, standards bodies, the electronics industry, and professional associations is an important function of the ARRL Laboratory.

Much of the ARRL's industry liaison work is performed with The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE, www.ieee.org), the international membership organization representing electronics and computer engineers. Lab staff members are associated with the IEEE, primarily through the Electromagnetic Compatibility Society (EMC, www.emcs.org) along with other IEEE Societies, including the Antennas and Propagation Society, Communications Society, and the Instrumentation and Measurement Society. The ARRL's membership in these groups assures that the ARRL staff has access to new and developing technology, particularly developments that affect Amateur Radio.

Active Participants, Real Results

ARRL's work with industry is not limited to professional society memberships. Since industry groups' decisions can profoundly affect Amateur Radio, we actively engage with them in organizations such as the ANSI C63[®] EMC Committee, the US EMC standards consensus body, and the IEEE EMC Society Standards Development and Education Committee (SDECom, www.emcs.org/standards/sdecomindex.html). The Lab staff also participates in other industry groups, such as the Electric Power Research Institute and HomePlug, a consortium of BPL manufacturers.

Participation in these organizations greatly benefits Amateur Radio. For example, in the C63[®] Committee, the ARRL participated in a working group that developed a scientifically based method for estimating the decay of HF signals with distance. In SDECom, we introduced an IEEE Recommended Practice to describe how electric utilities should respond to customer complaints about radio noise.

In the case of BPL, the protection that ARRL sought for Amateur Radio has been adopted by industry and included in every BPL industry specification. Protection for Amateur Radio has also been adopted internationally through the ITU-R SM.2158 report (www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-r/opb/rep/R-REP-SM.2158-3-2014-PDF-E.pdf), thanks

to the work of a number of IARU Societies that worked together on a worldwide standard and regulatory approach.

The ARRL staff members are not simply passive participants. They are, quite often, leaders in these endeavors. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, is an elected member of the IEEE EMC Society's Board of Directors. He also served as the Secretary of SDECom; as the Vice Chair of the P1775 BPL EMC Working Group; and as the past Chair and current Vice Chair of the C63[®] Subcommittee 5, dealing with the EMC immunity of equipment.

These partnerships pay large dividends. When problems do arise that could affect Amateur Radio, we can build on these relationships to find a solution. For example, when the Lab recently received reports of arc-fault current interrupters (AFCIs) tripping from a low-power HF Amateur operation, they contacted the manufacturer, who already knew the ARRL. The manufacturer ultimately redesigned the circuit breakers to eliminate this problem. By maintaining effective contact with the electronics industry, the Lab staff makes ongoing, positive contributions to the development of radio technology, making certain that industry recognizes Amateur Radio as a valued participant in today's technology arena.

Technical Information Service — TIS

While I have written about it previously, I wanted to finish my series on the Lab with the ARRL Technical Information Service (TIS). This service continues to be one of the most valuable benefits that we provide for our members. Lab engineers Ed Hare, W1RFI; Zack Lau, W1VT; Mike Gruber, W1MG, and Bob Allison, WB1GCM, manage this program. Tony Nesta, AA1RZ, provides administrative support. TIS answers over 5000 technical questions from members each year on a wide range of Amateur Radio-related topics, including electronics, software, and much more. The service is available to ARRL members at no charge. While TIS does accept phone calls, the best way to contact TIS is via e-mail at TIS@arrl.org. For more information about the TIS, visit www.arrl.org/technical-information-service.

Finally, thanks to the Lab staff for their assistance in the preparation of this series of articles. Their experience, knowledge, and passion for Amateur Radio are, ultimately, the ARRL Laboratory's most valuable assets.



Zack Lau, W1VT, answers member questions as part of the TIS.

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drive gives you the full rated 1200 Watts output) for continuous coverage between 1.5-54 MHz. 10/12 Meters is included.

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SWR Protection prevents amplifier damage if you switch to a wrong band, use the wrong antenna or have high SWR.

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Place your amplifier and power supply out-of-the-way and control your amplifier directly from your rig!

ALS-1306 automatic bandswitching reads band data from your transceiver and automatically changes bands as you change bands. An optional interface cable is required for your particular radio.

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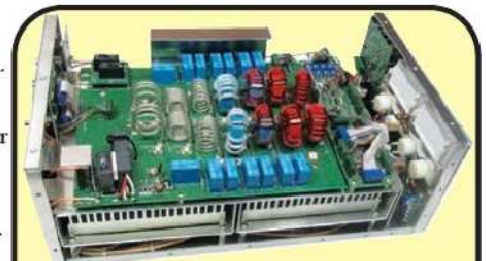
Ameritron ALS-1306 amplifier has modular construction for easy-servicing, unlike other amplifiers that are so tightly packed they are un-serviceable.

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KXPA 100 Amplifier Specifications

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Steve Ford, WB8IMY, upfront@arrl.org

Field Day 2014

See the results in this issue!



It took two days for Bob Pfister, KF7WOR, and his son-in-law to clear a little-used road to their Field Day site atop 6000-foot Elk Butte in north central Idaho. On the big day, Bob, KL2JY and DeAnn, KL2MA, Isenberg, drove up and assembled the first of two stations. Fog soon enveloped the site, but they went on the air regardless. A few hours later KF7WOR returned with his wife Norma and Joe Overstreet, W1YV, to put the second station on the air.



Island County Amateur Radio Club members Jon Edwards, AE7TE (right), and Wayne Jeffers, WJ7H, used hand-held antennas to successfully contact NA1SS on the International Space Station from the club's Field Day site on Whidbey Island, Washington. [Vince Bond, K7NA, photo]



Ed LaJoie, W1MA, bangs out CW contacts in the N1OP Field Day shack of the Norwood (Massachusetts) Amateur Radio Club. [Rick Booth, KM1G, photo]



Ellie Rose Tucker enjoys making a contact at the Escondido (California) Amateur Radio Society Field Day site while control operator Bud Hennessy, AE6BH, looks on. [Matthew Tucker, N6EAJ, photo]



ARRL Indiana Section Public Information Coordinator/Officer Joe March, KJ9M (left), demonstrates Amateur Radio for Westfield, Indiana Mayor Andy Cook. [Tim Vermande, KD5URS, photo]

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Letters from Our Members

During 2014, in honor of the ARRL Centennial year, each "Letters from Our Members" column will feature a letter from a past issue of QST.

Hertz "Hurts"

In 1960, the General Conference on Weights and Measures honored Heinrich Hertz by designating his surname as the unit of frequency, replacing "cycles per second." As late as 1967, hams were still arguing about it in the pages of QST! —Ed.

Why don't we get some courageous leadership out of the ARRL for a change? I have reference to the elimination of a.m. from the 1.8- to 32-Mc. ham bands. The League has argued indirectly that a.m. takes up too much space, and only recently you decried the "chaos" on 20 phone. I usually consider myself a liberal, willing to welcome valid innovations, but this term "Mega-Hertz" is an illogical abomination and I hope you will resist it to the last cycle per second.

H.R. Hands, VE3AOE, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

How Channelization Came to Be

The Vintage Radio column "FM Revolution," in the October issue of QST didn't include anything about channelization for FM operation.

Here's how it came about. When the converted crystal-controlled commercial gear first appeared on 2 meters in the mid-to-late 1950s, localities were choosing operating frequencies at random, leaving the gear useless when traveling. In the early 1960s, several hams working for General Electric's Mobile Radio Department in Lynchburg, Virginia recognized the absurdity of this and set about to bring some standards to the frequency selection process.

A national first-frequency of 146.94, with other channels spaced multiples of 60 KHz from it and a minus 600 KHz separation for the corresponding repeater input frequency, were promoted. They chose 146.94 because it was the highest 60 KHz channel that Technician class hams could operate on at that time, as well as being closest to the original 150+ MHz operating range of the commercial gear.

The GE hams published the mimeographed "FM News," helping to spread the standards, and QST VHF Editor Ed Tilton soon started including a little box in his columns promoting 146.94. As FM operation spread across the country, repeaters appeared on many 60 KHz spaced channels, and soon

others got involved in the standardization efforts, which evolved into the VHF/UHF band plans that we have today.

Tom McKee, K4ZAD
Cary, North Carolina

No Love for LEDs

With regard to the "Light Emitting Noise-maker" problem mentioned in "Hints & Kinks" in the October issue of QST, I had this problem a couple of years ago with LED screw-in bulbs from Home Depot and my RadioShack Weather Radio. The weather radio had been in service for 17 years, and one day I noticed it wasn't receiving like it used to, even though the weather service transmitter had been relocated even closer to my home. I just purchased a new Midland weather radio and thought that would be the end of it. I quickly found out that the Midland radio had the same poor receive problem. I got frustrated and left it alone for a little while. When I went back to check it out again, the radio was working fine. Then it dawned on me that the last time I'd been testing it, my nightstand light with the LED replacement lamp had been turned on. The LED lamp was emitting enough noise that it killed the receiver in my weather radio.

The antenna on my weather radio is 2½ feet tall when fully extended straight up, and the tip is about 16" from the wall-mounted nightstand light in our bedroom. I

took my AVCOM Spectrum Analyzer and set its antenna right next to the weather radio to see what the signal looked like. I was pretty shocked at what I saw.

With the light off, the weather service signal was a nice clean spike in the center of the display, protruding well above the slight noise floor. When I turned the light on, the quiet noise floor burst upward, burying the weather service signal in raucous noise.

I wish I remembered the brand of LED bulb I was using at the time, but I don't. Needless to say, I removed the LED bulb and went back to the CFLs I was using.

Dan Tassell, KC5PCB
Magnolia, Texas

Returning to Radio

Because I'm retired and traveling, this past March I decided to install my 1985 generation Kenwood in my van. I tuned around on 80 meters one night and found Dave, K3TX, checking into PTN, the Pennsylvania CW Traffic Net. He was 20 over S-9, and I found that he lived just a couple of miles away from me. I had unplugged all my gear in 1993, but after a few calls to the net, I was hooked! I gradually found my equipment and put up a 80/40 meter dipole cut for the CW portions of those bands. CW itself was another matter — it was like learning all over again. I started to check into CW traffic nets and my speed came up. I still have a long way to go, but I'm enjoying myself. Thanks to everyone I've worked for their patience, and to K3TX for being my mentor this time around.

Tom Mills, AF4NC
Life Member
Yardley, Pennsylvania

A Plea for Phonetics

I would like to air my displeasure at hearing hams using their own phonetics when identifying. I even find that some hams use different phonetics in the same transmission! Just when you think you might have heard correctly the first time, two seconds later you have to try to sort it out again because the person at the other end is using different words. I find this very annoying, especially when they're in the noise. The standard phonetic alphabet was developed for a purpose. Let's stick to it.

William Sterling, K4000
Ruckersville, Virginia

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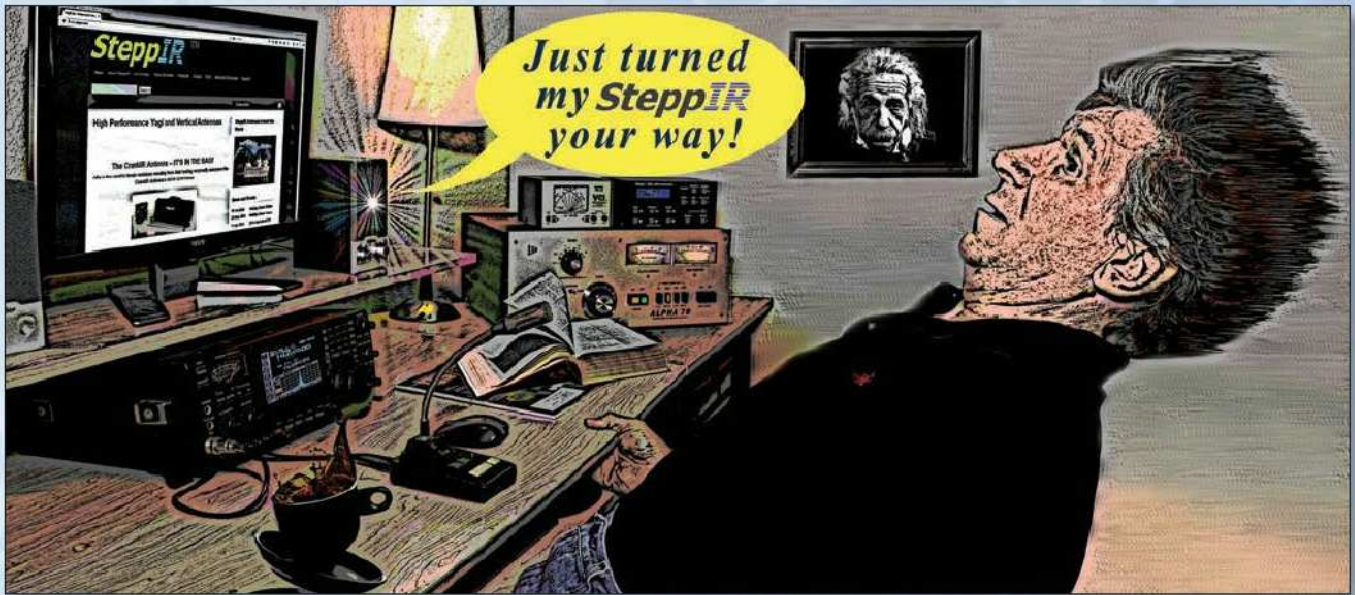
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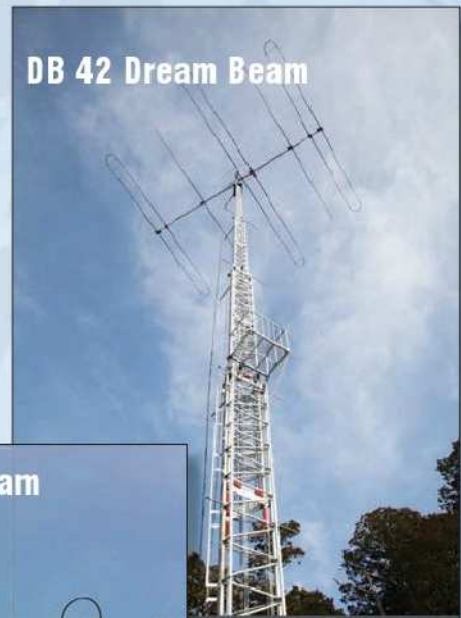
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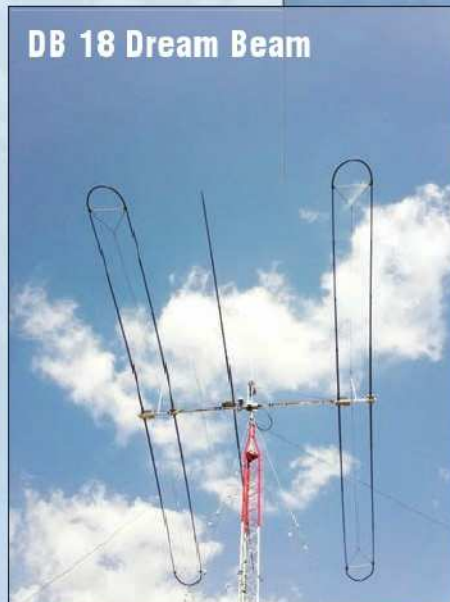


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ADS#00813

A 1500 W Centennial Amplifier for the 80 – 6 Meter Bands

This 8877 triode-based amplifier includes technologies from a century of transmitter development.



Ralph J. Crumrine, N0KC

My goal was to homebrew a vacuum tube HF amplifier that included the 6 meter band. The project coincided with the ARRL Centennial celebration, and was meant to illustrate the advances in radio transmitter technology over this past century. To that end, it includes a laminated core transformer design dating from the start of the 20th century, a 1920s ceramic tube insulator for the plate choke, National Velvet Vernier geared dials of the 1930s, transistors and printed circuit boards of the 1950s, integrated circuits of the 1960s, external anode power triode of the 1970s with roots from the early 1900s, as well as today's 21st-century fine-line printed circuit boards with surface-mounted components. This is truly a centennial project!

I documented this project extensively, including schematics, mechanical drawings, lists of materials, a parts vendors listing, finished printed circuit board (PCB) designs, and so on, on the *QST* in Depth web page.¹ Why a tube-based amplifier? At the 1500 W level, and with 6 meters, you get the mystique of vacuum tubes as well as more bang for your buck.

Including the 6 meter band transitions the design technique from lumped to distributed elements. Components are large by design for the high power involved, so they are plagued by stray couplings. Long leads begin to look like transmission lines, and so on. Add the complexity of multiband switching at high power levels, and the design gets challenging.

Amplifier Features

This band-switched amplifier covers

80 meters to 6 meters (except 60 meters and 30 meters). It operates at the best attainable loaded Q in the output matching circuit. The input to the tube is matched with relay-switched Pi networks controlled by the front panel band switch.

RF PIN diode-switched dual inputs and relay-switched dual outputs provide convenience and flexibility. The inputs accommodate either a single transceiver with two outputs, or two separate transceivers

(for which two keying inputs are provided). One output is provided for the HF bands and another is for the 6 meter band. The inputs and outputs are controlled according to the amplifier band switch and the status of the keying lines.

I used 13 separate printed circuit boards, shown in Figure 1, throughout the design. A printed circuit board assembly has proven very effective for the high voltage RF band switch function where it orga-

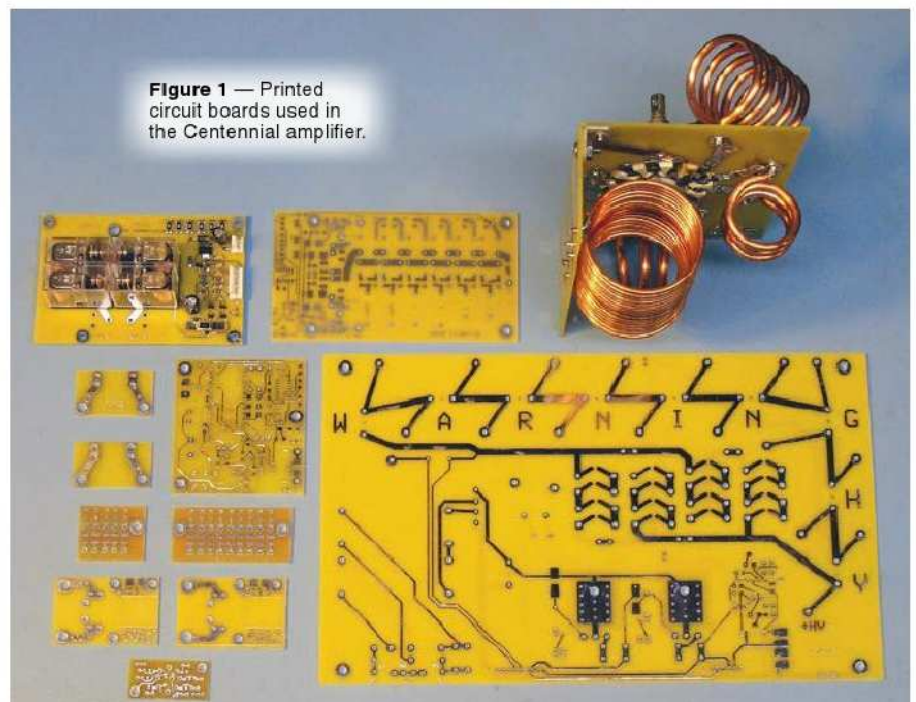


Figure 1 — Printed circuit boards used in the Centennial amplifier.

¹Notes appear on page 35.

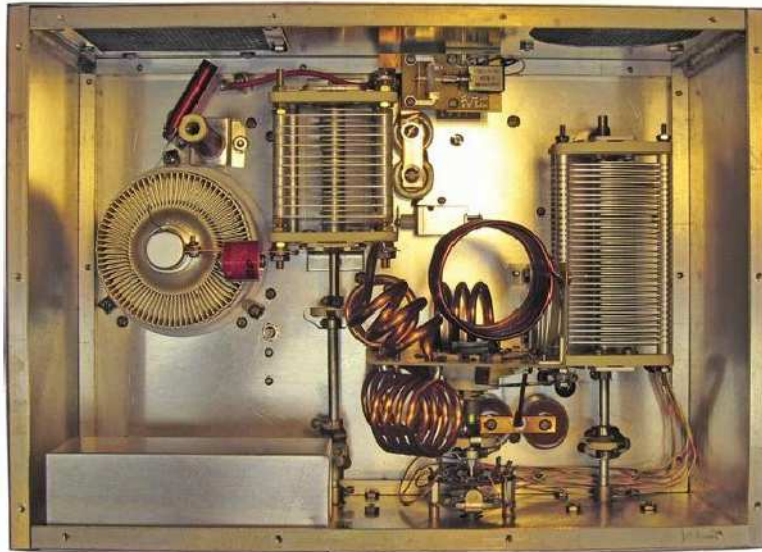


Figure 2 — Amplifier internal view from the top.

Table 1
Centennial Amplifier Measured Performance and Tuning Dial Settings

Frequency, MHz	Power In, W	Power Out, W	Tune dial setting	Load dial setting	Grid, mA	Plate, mA
3.75	45	1490	61	52	57	820
7.15	40	1475	65	79	46	770
14.18	45	1530	21	44	55	800
18.1	40	1510	19	41	62	790
21.22	35	1480	13	36	48	770
24.9	35	1480	12	32	52	770
28.5	40	1480	12	31	54	790
52	65	1560	11	20	50	1150
52	45	1250	11	21	46	950

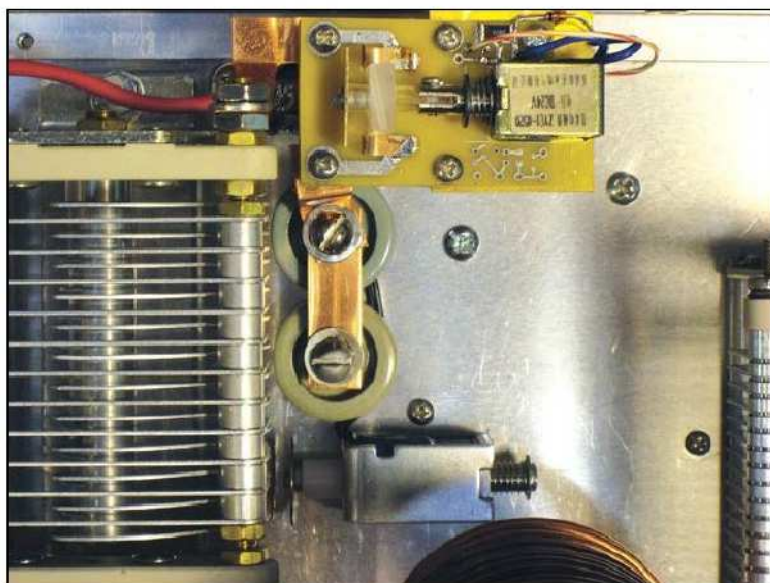


Figure 3 — Detail view of capacitor switching solenoids.

nizes and connects large coils with minimum lead length. The design includes a high speed over-current shutdown. An optical isolator, capable of switching in milliseconds, monitors the tube anode current. I employed computer aided design (CAD) techniques for amplifier stabilization.

A tube warm-up timer, one of the several control board functions, flashes a yellow LED during warm-up. High voltage may be applied to the tube only after the timer times out. A dc voltage watchdog monitor circuit at the antenna output connection will shut down the amplifier if it senses a dc voltage in excess of about 50 V, to guard against insulation failure of the plate coupling capacitor. This circuit still allows using the transmission line for remote dc supply or controlling purposes as long as these functions apply less than 50 V on the RF transmission line.

An external ac squirrel cage blower provides primary cooling air. The air duct connects by a 2-inch flange in the input compartment. It idles silently with enough airflow to remove heat from the filament, and the blower switches to full speed with application of the transmitter keying input. I also made a provision for controlling a 24 V dc box fan mounted on the rear of the unit. The box fan moves air throughout the remote reaches of the chassis, ensuring uniform cooling in the amplifier compartment. The box fan is not intended as a primary means of cooling.

The AM type National Velvet Vernier tuning dials, available from time to time on eBay, allow for precise tuning settings that can be recorded for any given set of loads, such as those shown in Table 1.

The novel high power RF relays (see Figure 2, and the detail in Figure 3) switch in fixed capacitors at both 80 meters and 6 meters. I designed the relays using hobby solenoids and built them expressly for switching high current, high RF voltage signals.

Electrical Design

The ARRL Handbook and the *QST* archives are good information sources for the design of high-power amplifiers.^{2,3,4} Figure 4 shows a partial schematic that describes the RF signal flow through the amplifier. Eight schematics that completely describe the wiring for the amplifier, and the complete bill of materials including

vendors and parts numbers, are on the *QST* in Depth web page. The schematic for the power supply pictured in Figure 5 is also included in the package.

I used CAD to incorporate strays and parasitic couplings for a more precise understanding of the output circuit, especially at 6 meters. I settled on the basic Pi circuit, where losses were lower than in a Pi-L design.

The input switching and cathode matching circuitry are gathered together on a single printed circuit board. PIN diodes switch and select between two inputs according to the mode of operation on transmit or receive. In RECEIVE mode the amplifier is bypassed. In the STANDBY mode the amplifier is bypassed when the TX key is active. In the OPERATE mode with the TX key active, the amplifier is in the transmit path. The input power passes through one of a bank of low *Q* band-pass filters. The filter is selected by a relay that is controlled by the amplifier band selector switch portion, S301B.

I selected the 8877/3CX1500A7 vacuum tube for this amplifier. It is a very high gain triode, with gain factor $\mu=200$. A single triode has an obvious advantage in simplicity, and this tube type has been available in useable condition as a cast-off from the MRI machine applications. The tube does, however, have a large anode structure, hence a large value of fixed output capacitance (about 22 pF total capacitance in the grounded grid configuration), which pushes the 6 meter band loaded *Q* of the design to the practical limit.

The plate feed choke must be a high impedance for all the bands, and is a critical component in the overall design that includes 6 meters. My choke design takes into account the mounting location on the amplifier chassis, and uses a carefully selected form factor, diameter, winding length, and number of turns to operate on all bands. The first parallel self resonance is at 23 MHz. The first series resonance, or short circuit, is above 40 MHz. The second parallel self resonance, or open circuit, is at 52 MHz. The choke provides somewhat less inductance than normally desired at 80 m, and has some heat losses there, but

Figure 4 — Diagram of the RF flow through the amplifier.

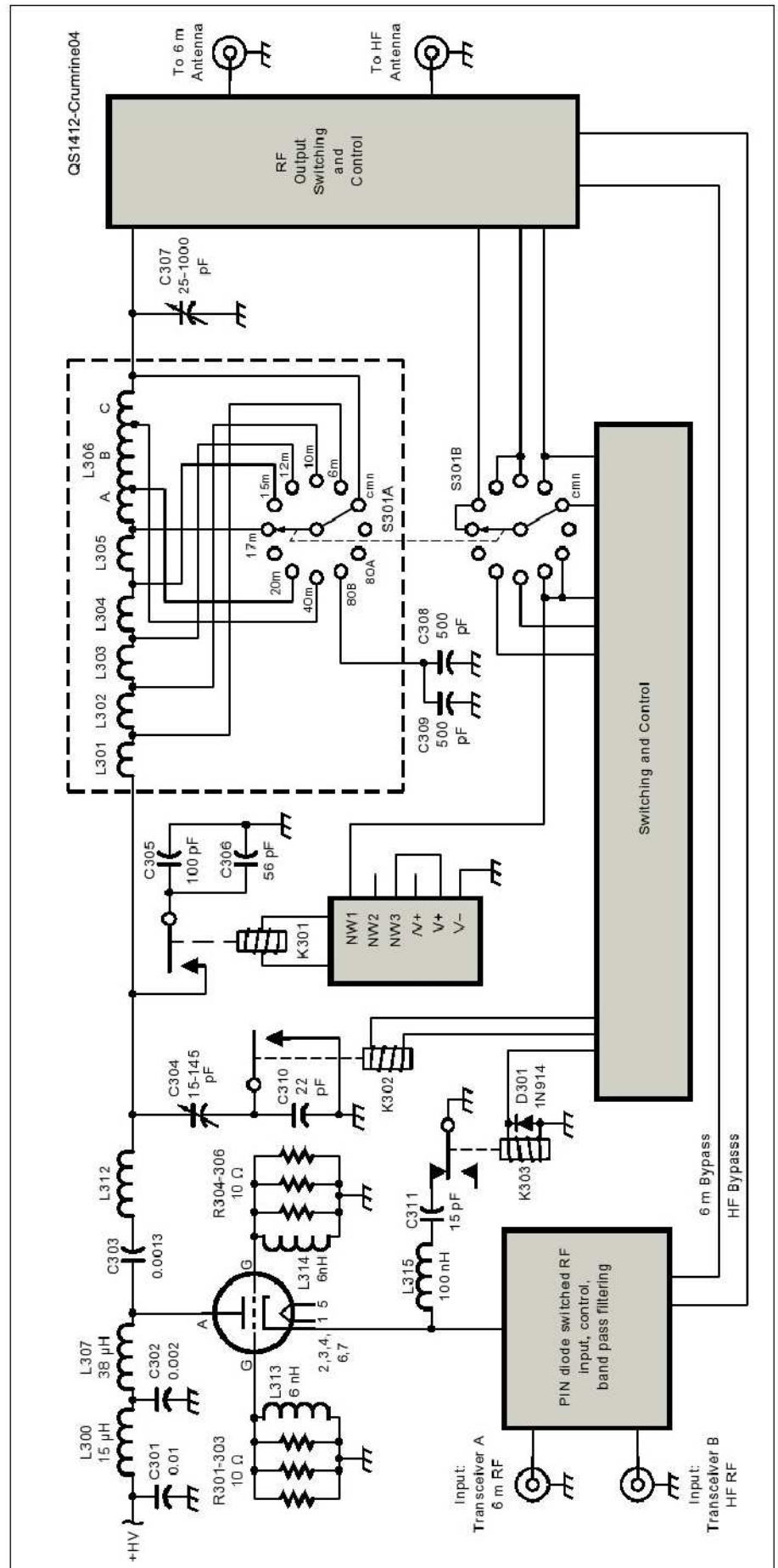




Figure 5 — The power supply.



Figure 7 — Modified 8877 tube socket.

it is cooled by an airstream fed up through its core. That core is a 90-year-old ceramic house wiring tube, seen in Figure 6.

Stabilizing the Amplifier

Because of the extended frequency range, the problem of parasitic oscillations is greatly exacerbated. During testing (with current limiting to protect the tube), the amplifier showed a tendency to parasitic oscillations near 150 to 160 MHz with some settings of the tune and load capacitors. Modeling showed that the likely frequency for parasitic oscillation for all the HF bands was near 155 MHz, in good agreement with the tests. I connected a trap at this frequency between the cathode and ground to achieve stability on all HF bands for all combinations of the tune and load capacitor adjustments.

The likely parasitic oscillation frequency for the 6 meter band was 225 MHz. I provided stabilization using smaller component values appropriate to the VHF and UHF frequencies.⁵ As shown in Figure 7, I built resistors and inductors into the standard seven-pin septor socket. I fashioned grid ring contacts from beryllium spring finger stock, and cut phenolic spacers from rod stock to accommodate the stabilization components, and to space the socket from the chassis for air circulation. As installed, the grid stabilization for 6 meters

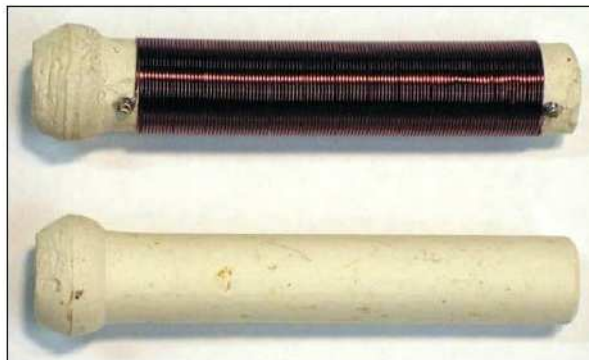


Figure 6 — Plate choke and its coil form.

had no appreciable effect on the HF bands. For HF operation, the HF trap network is switched in with relay K303.

Band Switching

Band switching is done with an Ohmite ceramic power tap switch, S301A, embedded in a right angle corner structure formed by two printed circuit boards (see Figures 1 and 2). This rugged assembly integrates all the individual band coils with very little stray coupling. I modeled the Pi output network using CAD to include component capacitive and inductive parasitics along with the switch stray impedance.

Band switching of high RF power at two points remote from the RF band switch is facilitated by homemade RF power relays. The relays are designed to work on the power stroke of the solenoid for affirma-

tive contact pressure. K301 (see Figure 4) switches in padding capacitance for 80 m operation and K302 shorts out series padding capacitance for all bands other than 6 meters. The series padding capacitor C310 is a slab of ¼-inch polycarbonate that forms an insulating mounting base for the tuning capacitor C304.

All RF switching relays are closed before any RF power is applied, and opened after RF power is removed. I found it necessary to double up the output switching relays,

each rated at 16 A, to minimize self-heating due to the skin effect of the relay contacts at 6 meters. I speeded up the larger output relays by using a capacitive “spiking” circuit, applying a capacitive pulse to 12 V relays from a 24 V source with a time constant of 10 ms. The tube cathode circuit is switched with time constants that ensure minimum pulse bandwidth with CW keying.

All external connections to the amplifier, exclusive of input and output coaxial connections, are made via the input compartment and the control compartment seen in Figure 8. These lines to the outside are bypassed and filtered. Internally, the interconnections that pass through the partitions from the high level RF areas in the base chassis into the control compartment are filtered with LC filters integrated into miniature printed circuit substrates.

Set the amplifier band switch to match the transceiver output. Set C304 (tune dial setting) and C307 (load dial setting) according to the values shown in Table 1. Switch the amplifier to the OPERATE mode. Key the transceiver and expect to see an output in the range of hundreds of watts. Maximize this output, first with the load control and then with the tune control. Do a back and forth touch-up of these adjustments for maximum output. Some grid current should be showing. Plate current should be somewhere in excess of the no-signal level. Proceed to increase input power and check each band for performance against the values shown in Table 1.

Duty Factor Ratings

All indications are that this amplifier will operate under Continuous Commercial Service (CCS) conditions at 1500 W on all HF bands when using a blower capable of 35 CFM and 0.4 inch column pressure differential. In the 6 meter band, the rating should be reduced to 1500 W Intermittent Commercial or Amateur Service (ICAS) using the same blower. If CCS conditions are desired at 6 meters, I would suggest limiting the power to 1250 W and using a 60 CFM blower.

Power Supply

I built a power supply especially for this amplifier. Its outputs are 3450 V dc no load, and 3000 V dc at 900 mA. There are also +14 and +24 V dc outputs. The power supply is designed so that it provides the control voltages when the supply is con-

nected to the primary source. The high voltage is turned on only when needed in the OPERATE mode by a ground supplied from the amplifier to a relay in the power supply. Detailed information on the power supply, its components, enclosure and cooling, and schematics are on the *QST* in Depth web page.

Summary

The additional costs attributed to extending an HF linear amplifier up to the 6 meter band amounts to a couple of RF relays to remotely switch tuning capacitors, and a higher capacity blower because of lower efficiency on the 6 meter band. Heat is the enemy of reliability, so I tend to be conservative in the cooling design. I suppose you could blame the addition of the 6 meter band for the cost of the printed circuit boards used to organize the coils in an efficient band-switching arrangement. But to my mind, that is the way to go today regardless of the number of bands involved.

No corners were cut in this design. With time, effort and perseverance in building this amplifier, you will have a unit worth more in price and usefulness than the majority of commercial units presently available today. Those interested in building this amplifier should contact me about the printed circuit boards. I would order quantities of boards relative to the interest shown; this would substantially cut the individual costs. You may contact me with questions or problems.

Including the 6 meter band transitions the design technique from lumped to distributed elements.

Notes

- ¹www.arri.org/qst-in-depth
- ²Chapter 17, *The ARRL Handbook*, Centennial Edition. ARRL order no. 0007, available from your ARRL dealer, or from the ARRL Store, Telephone toll-free in the US 888-277-5289, or 860-594-0355, fax 860-594-0303; www.arri.org/shop/; pubsales@arri.org.
- ³M. B. Parten, K6DC, "Custom Design and Construction Techniques for Linear Amplifiers Using the 8877," *QST*, Sep 1971 (reproduced as EIMAC Service Letter, AS-45).
- ⁴F. K. Peck, K6SNO, "A Compact High-power Linear," *QST*, Jun 1961, pp 11-14.
- ⁵R. Crumrine, N0KC, "CAD Analysis of the Grounded Grid Amplifier Shows a Better Method for Stabilization," *QEX*, Sep/Oct 2003, pp 15-21.

All photos by the author.

Ralph J. Crumrine, N0KC, was first licensed as a Novice in 1953 as WN3WFZ. He upgraded to General class, and finally in 1978 to Amateur Extra class. He enlisted in the USAF to work in radio and navigation equipment repair. After military service he attended Pennsylvania State University, where he earned a BSEE degree, graduating with honors. A career in the design and development of avionics equipment followed, beginning at King Radio Corporation and Honeywell Avionics Division, from which he retired. Ralph is a member of ARRL and has been an active ham in retirement, earning the WAS and DXCC awards in 2002. RF equipment and antenna design for Amateur Radio have been of particular interest in his retirement years. You can reach Ralph at n0kc@arri.net.

For updates to this article, see the *QST* Feedback page at www.arri.org/feedback.



New Products

Cycle 24 Saddle Clamps from DX Engineering

DX Engineering is now the exclusive source for the Cycle 24 Galvanized Economy Saddle Clamps for antenna and tower projects. Their galvanized steel saddles and U-bolts are designed to last for many years in outdoor environments. The clamps feature serrated flange nuts for locking power. Clamps with 3/8 inch diameter U-bolts have a flat surface at the top of the bolt for improved grip on the

tubing. Clamps for 3 and 3.5 inch tubing have saddles that are closed and spot-welded on the ends before galvanizing to increase clamp strength and longevity. Cycle 24 Galvanized Economy Saddle Clamps are available for 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 2, 2.25, 2.5, 3, and 3.5 inch diameter tubing. Clamps with 3/16 inch



diameter U-bolts are suitable for plates up to 3/16 inch thick when using saddles, and 1/4 inch thick plates if saddles are not used. Clamps with 3/8 inch diameter U-bolts will accommodate plates up to 5/16 inch thick. Prices range from \$5.95 to \$39.95. For more information, or to order, visit www.dxengineering.com.

Transceiver Power Control Accessory

Flip a switch to select power amplifier and antenna tuner drive levels for transceivers that accept external automatic level control (ALC).

Phil Salas, AD5X

This project began because of a friend's need to use a TS-520S transceiver and SB-200 amplifier with a MFJ-998RT remote antenna tuner. First he needed an easy way of reducing the transceiver output so as not to overdrive the amplifier. Then he needed an easy way of achieving 10 – 15 W output power for auto-tuner tuning. Like many older vacuum-tube or hybrid transceivers, the TS-520S doesn't have a convenient way to reduce power, especially on SSB. You can use the carrier control for CW, but you must still turn this down every time you want to adjust your external tuner. A simple power control solution that has been around for years uses a 9 V battery and potentiometer to apply an adjustable negative ALC voltage to the transceiver. I decided to expand on this idea, which resulted in an accessory that is simple to use with any transceiver or transceiver/amplifier combination that has external ALC control capability.

Circuit

Figure 1 is a schematic of the circuit that sets and selects the *negative* ALC voltages for normal transmission and antenna tuning. Note that the chassis of the unit is positive with respect to the ALC voltages and that power input jack J7 isolates the connector barrel from the chassis.

Power for the unit is provided by a wall-mounted ac adapter (often informally referred to as a "wall wart"). The unregulated power required by the unit is only several mA between 11 and 15 V dc. If you use a different ac adapter from the one suggested in the parts list, be sure that it has a 2.1 mm barrel plug that will fit the J7 1.9 mm inner contact diameter (although the sizes are specified differently, this is indeed a mating plug/jack pair) and that the center connection is positive. U1 supplies a regulated -9 V for the unit. Note that the pin assignments for the 7909 negative voltage regulator are different from a typical positive voltage regulator IC.

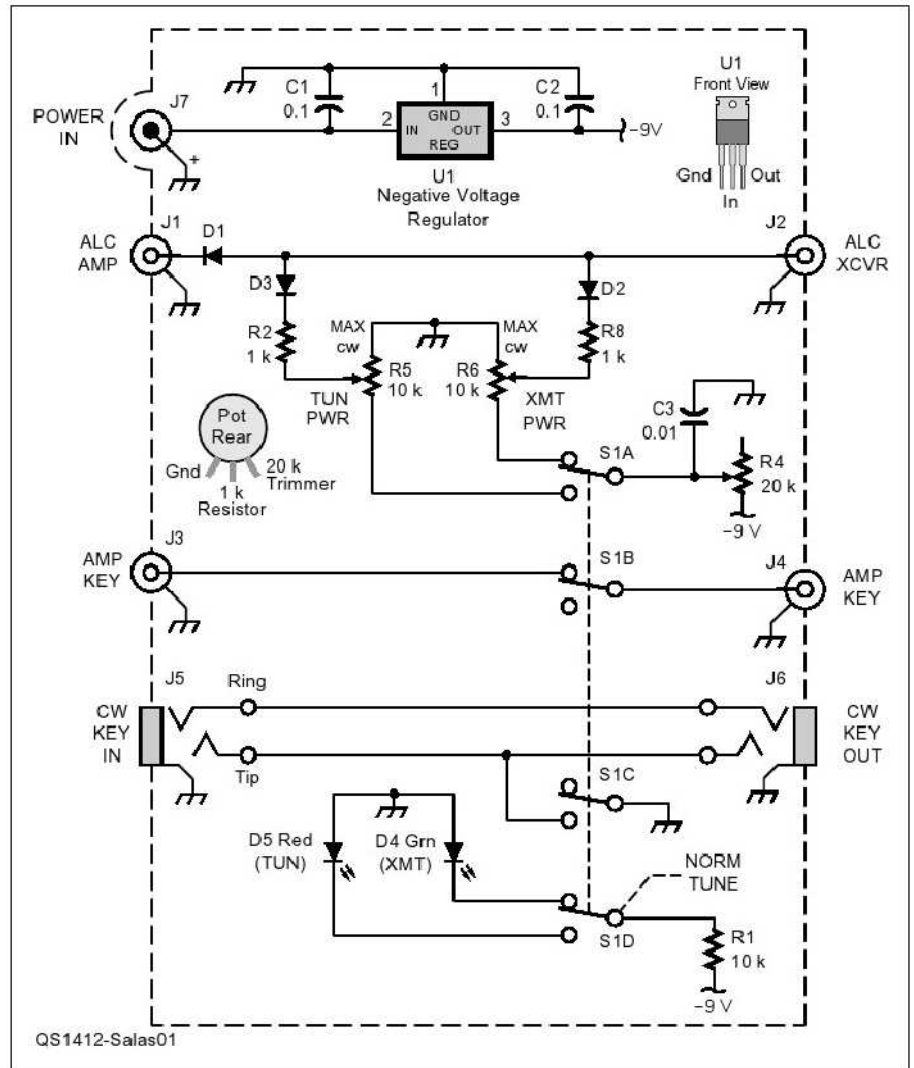


Figure 1 — Schematic diagram. Mouser part numbers in parentheses (www.mouser.com/).

- | | |
|---|---|
| C1, C2 — 0.1 µf ceramic capacitor (581-SR211C104K). | R2, R3 — 1 kΩ ¼ W resistor (71-CMF551K0000FKEB). |
| C3 — 0.01 µf ceramic capacitor (581-SR211C103K). | R4 — 20 kΩ ½ W trimmer potentiometer (652-3386W-1-203LF). |
| D1 – D3 — 1N5711 Schottky diode (511-1N5711). | R5, R6 — 10 kΩ ¼ W audio taper potentiometer (31JA401-F). |
| D4 — Green high brightness 5 mm round LED (941-C503BGCNCY0C0792). | S1 — 4PDT toggle switch (108-1M41T1B1M1QE-EVX). |
| D5 — Red high brightness 5 mm round LED (941-C503BRBSCW0Z0AA2). | U1 — Negative voltage regulator, -9 V 1 A (512-LM7909CT). |
| J1 – J4 — RCA phono jack (161-2052). | 1 ea — Terminal strip, 5-lug (158-1005). |
| J5 – J6 — ¼" stereo jack (568-NYS230-U). | 2 ea — Knob, ¼" shaft (450-2034-GRX). |
| J7 — 1.9 mm × 5.7 mm dc power jack (isolated) (163-1060-EX). | 1 ea — Aluminum box, 4.00 × 2.13 × 1.63 inches (537-00-P). |
| R1 — 10 kΩ ¼ W resistor (71-CMF5510K000FKEB). | 1 ea — Wall mount ac adapter, 12 V 230 mA (552-PSM03A-120-R). |



Figure 2 — Front panel view of the unit.



Figure 3 — Rear panel view of the unit.

There are two modes of operation selected by switch S1: NORM and TUNE. NORM provides a predetermined transmit power and TUNE provides a reduced power for antenna tuning while automatically keying the transmitter and disabling an amplifier (if used).

When S1 is set to NORM, S1A connects the preset maximum negative voltage from trimmer R4 to the XMT PWR control R6. The lower of the voltages presented at J1 by ALC AMP or the wiper arm of R6, the transmit power control, will result in the forward biasing of either D1 or D2 and be conducted to ALC XCVR at J2 (less a diode drop) due to the common anode connections of the two diodes. Additionally, S1B will connect AMP KEY IN at J3 to AMP KEY OUT at J4 and S1D will connect the high brightness green LED D4 associated with the XMT PWR control to -9 V through R1 (see Figure 2).

When S1 is set to TUNE, S1A connects the preset maximum negative voltage from trimmer R4 to the TUN PWR control R5. The lower of the voltages presented at J1 by ALC AMP or the wiper arm of R5 (the antenna tuning power control), will result in the forward biasing of either D1 or D3 and be conducted to ALC XCVR at J2 (minus a diode drop). This is due to the common anode connections of the two diodes. Additionally, S1B will disconnect AMP KEY IN at J3 from AMP KEY OUT at J4, S1D will connect the high brightness red LED D5 associated with the TUN PWR control to -9 V through R1 (see Figure 2), and S1C will ground the tip connections of CW KEY IN and CW KEY OUT at J5 and J6 respectively, keying the transmitter to enable antenna tuning.

Most modern transceivers require an ALC voltage of about -4 V to fully inhibit their output power, but older tube-type trans-

ceivers may require a greater negative voltage. Transceiver ALC voltage control is non-linear and I found that setting the maximum negative ALC voltage right at the radio's ALC power-off threshold with trimmer R4 and using audio-taper potentiometers for the transmit power control R6 and the tuning power control R5 makes power adjustment relatively smooth over the full output power range of any transceiver. Finally, 1 k Ω resistors R2 and R3 in series with the potentiometer wiper arms provide current limiting protection.

Construction

The unit is housed in a two-piece interlocking aluminum box with one of the longer faces serving as the front panel for the

NORM/TUNE switch S1, XMT PWR control R6, and TUN PWR control R5 (see Figure 2). The opposite face serves as the rear panel where jacks J1 - J7 are mounted (see Figure 3). The interior wiring is supported by component solder lugs, augmented by a five-lug terminal strip to hold the voltage regulator chip and associated components (see Figure 4). Lettering for the front and rear panels was made with Casio 9 mm black-on-clear labeling tape.

Wiring is straightforward, but the potentiometer wiring is important as you want power to increase as you rotate the pot in the clockwise direction, as well as get the smooth power adjustment benefit of the logarithmic (audio) taper.



Figure 4 — Interior wiring and components are supported by solder lugs of panel mounted jacks and controls augmented by a five-lug terminal strip to mount the negative voltage regulator and its associated components.

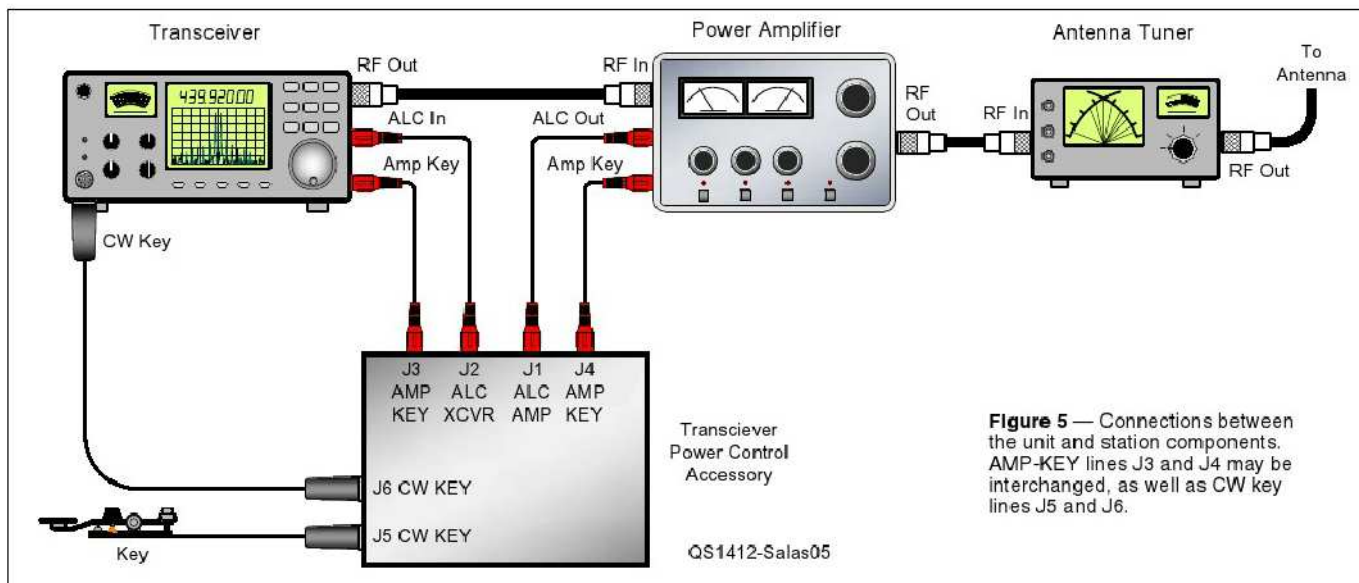


Figure 5 — Connections between the unit and station components. AMP-KEY lines J3 and J4 may be interchanged, as well as CW key lines J5 and J6.

After wiring, a few ohmmeter and voltmeter checks are in order before connecting the unit to your equipment. With the power disconnected from J7, verify that when S1 is set to NORM, AMP KEY IN is connected to AMP KEY OUT, and that the connection is broken when S1 is set to TUNE. Also with the power disconnected, verify that the ring of CW KEY IN is connected to the ring of CW KEY OUT and is isolated from the chassis. Next, confirm that the tip of CW KEY IN is connected to the tip of CW KEY OUT and that setting S1 to TUNE grounds the tip to the chassis.

Now, with the power applied to J7, verify -9 V dc at the U1 output. Then adjust trimmer R4 to its minimum resistance. The voltage on its wiper arm should be -9 V with respect to chassis ground. With S1 set to NORM, the voltage at ALC XCVR and ALC AMP should vary from close to -9 V to 0 V as the XMT PWR control is rotated from MIN to MAX. Setting S1 to TUNE should show similar results with the TUN PWR control. Finally, the LEDs above the two controls should properly indicate the switch position.

Set Up

Connect the unit as shown in Figure 5. With S1 set to NORM, set XMT PWR and TUN PWR controls fully counterclockwise to MIN and the internal trimmer to minimum resistance. Now with the transceiver in CW MODE, key the radio. The output power should be zero. Adjust the internal

trimmer potentiometer until the transceiver just starts putting out power. Now rotate the XMT PWR control clockwise for the desired transmit power. Next, set S1 to TUNE and rotate the TUN PWR control for the desired tuning power when using an external antenna tuner.

Because most vintage transceivers don't have a built-in keyer, the tip connections of CW KEY IN and CW KEY OUT are automatically grounded in TUNE mode, which will cause modern transceivers with built-in keyers to send a string of dits. This is normally not a problem for manual antenna tuners. However, some automatic antenna tuners may balk, requiring the keyer input to be changed from paddle to straight key.

Operation

To transmit, set switch S1 to NORM and adjust the transceiver's output power to the desired level with the XMT PWR control. This will normally be fully clockwise to MAX when running barefoot (ie, using only the transceiver's native power) or adjusted to the proper level to drive a power amplifier. To adjust an external antenna tuner, set switch S1 to TUNE. This will key the transceiver and disable the amplifier by interrupting the amp-key line and set the power to a reduced level determined by the TUN PWR control.

Summary

This accessory is intended to simplify the operation of a transceiver driving an

antenna tuner and/or power amplifier where readjusting power levels between the modes of normal transmission and antenna tuning can be inconvenient. For a transceiver with an automatic level control (ALC) input, two adjustable, switch selectable, ALC voltages are provided according to whether the station is transmitting normally or adjusting the antenna tuner. As an additional convenience factor, the transceiver is automatically keyed to aid in adjusting the antenna tuner.

Photos by the author.

Amateur Extra class license holder and ARRL Life Member Phil Salas, AD5X, has been licensed since 1964. His early Amateur Radio interests led to BSEE and MSEE degrees from Virginia Tech and Southern Methodist University respectively, followed by a 33-year career in microwave and light wave telecom design and management. Now retired, Phil, a frequent QST contributor, is busier than ever, tinkering with electronics, playing with his grandsons, but mostly enjoying time with his wife Debbie, NSUPT, who is also his best friend. You can reach Phil at ad5x@arri.net.

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Done in One: Touch to Talk, Touch to Listen

One touch opens and closes a relay triggered by a beam of infrared light.

Paul Danzer, N1II

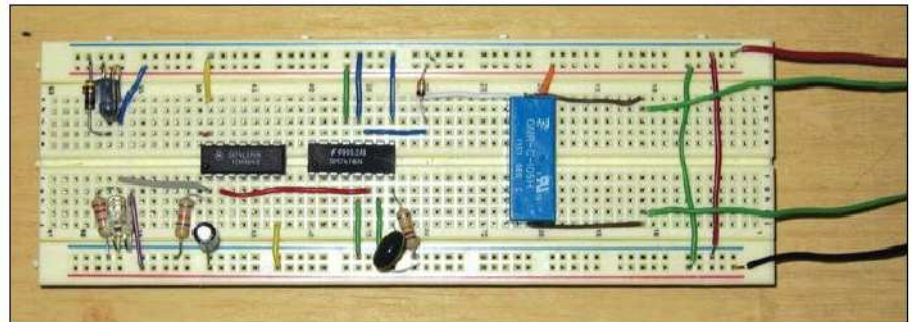
Years ago it was very popular to control your transmitter with a foot switch — you stomped on it to talk and took your foot off to receive. When many new rigs were equipped with VOX, foot switches seemed to disappear. But anyone who has had children running around in the background, pets barking, or just normal family noise has seen their transmitter go on due to unwanted audio sent over the airwaves. This project was designed to give the function of a foot switch without the associated mechanical problems, and the convenience of VOX without having to worry about background noise. It uses only two integrated circuits with a handful of other parts, so that it can be built and tested in just one evening.

Let Your Finger Do the Walking

Although the circuit in the picture is called, “Touch To Talk,” touch pads that rely on conduction between two plates by finger resistance are unreliable. They depend on the humidity and the condition of your finger — slightly oily or clean, damp or dry — to function. Instead, this circuit uses an IR (infrared) photo diode to send out an IR light beam (top left of the picture) and an IR-sensitive photo-transistor opposite it to detect the IR beam; there is no dependence on finger resistance. Turn power on (from a 5 V supply) and the relay at the right remains in the open position. Touching the area between the diode and transistor breaks the beam; do it once and the relay closes and stays closed. Touch again and the relay opens up. If you wire the relay contacts across the PTT (push-to-talk) contacts of your microphone you switch between transmitting and listening by touching the area and thus breaking the beam.

How Does It Work?

The schematic in Figure 1 has the IR-emitting diode facing the IR photo transis-



The layout has the IR-emitting diode (top left) and the corresponding photo-transistor (bottom left). The power wires and output wires on the right. To use, place your finger between the IR diode and the transistor.

tor. The pictorial of these two shows a flat edge on each of the cases and which lead is close to the flat edge. Breaking the IR beam sends a positive pulse to the Schmitt trigger (U1), which cleans up the pulse. The output of U1 goes to the J-K flip-flop which is wired to alternate (flip and flop) with each input pulse. Pin 11 of U2 is the flip-flop output used to control a relay. When Pin 11 is high (at +5 V) the relay is on; when it is low (near 0 V) the relay is off. R4 and C2 insure the circuit starts at power on with the relay off. The relay contacts are isolated from the circuit so it

may be wired across the microphone PTT switch or any other low-voltage device.

Pin numbering of U1 and U2 is shown at the bottom of the drawing. Make sure you wire diode D1 in properly or you may blow out U2 — as I did!

Putting It Together

The photo shows the circuit built on a standard modular IC breadboard socket. This one, from RadioShack, has two bus connections on the top and bottom; thus you can connect the four buses as shown in Figure 2 and have both ground (0 V) and

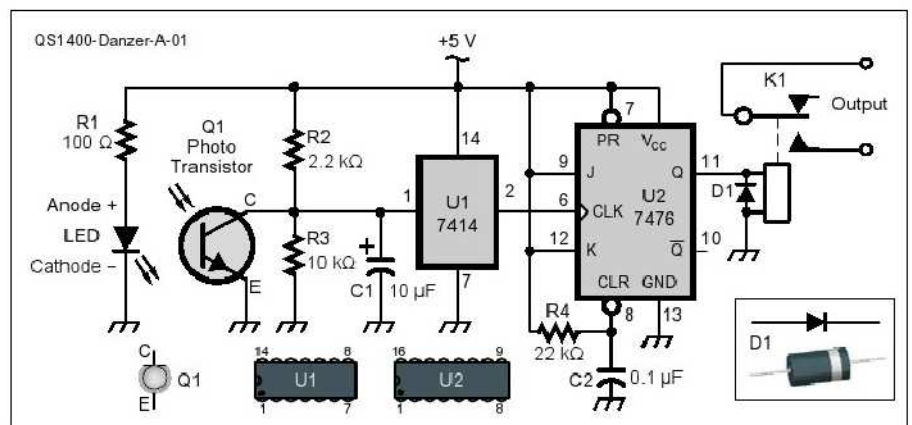


Figure 1 — In addition to the IR elements the circuit uses just two integrated circuit chips and one relay.

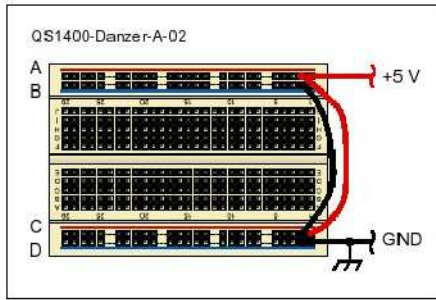


Figure 2 — The four buses are tied together so +5 and ground are available both on top and bottom of the breadboard socket.

- R1 — 100 Ω ¼ W (brown black brown)
- R2 — 2.2 k Ω ¼ W (red red red)
- R3 — 10 k Ω ¼ W (brown black orange)
- R4 — 22 k Ω ¼ W (red red orange)
- C1 — 10 μ F 50 V dc or more
- C2 — 0.1 μ F 50 V dc or more
- RY1 — 5 V 250 Ω coil relay such as RadioShack 275-0232
- LED — IR diode RadioShack 276-0143
- Q1 — IR photo transistor RadioShack 276-0145
- U1 — Any 7414 TTL Hex Schmitt Trigger integrated circuit such as RadioShack NTE7414 Catalog #: 55051310
- U2 — Any 7476 TTL Dual J-K flip-flop such as RadioShack NTE74LS107 Catalog #: 55051045
- D1 — Any low power silicon switching diode such as a 1N914 — RadioShack 276-1122 RadioShack Modular U Breadboard Socket 276-003

New Books

Make Your Own Tube Testers and Electron Tube Equipment

Gary Steinbaugh, AF8L

Reviewed by Rick Lindquist, WW1ME

Even if you don't know a 2A5 from a 6F6, you may enjoy Gary Steinbaugh's *Make Your Own Tube Testers* for how he makes shine what many, if not most, of us consider bygone technology. As he says in the preface, "This is not a step-by-step instruction book; the contents are basically meant to serve as inspiration for anyone who is interested in designing and building practical tube testers and useful tube equipment." This book is less about nostalgia than an effort to promote continued use of vacuum (or "electron") tubes, which Steinbaugh believes are superior to solid state devices.

Many of us of a certain age will recall heading into the local pharmacy or radio repair shop with a handful (or an entire box) of tubes to check on the tester, which often contained a convenient supply of replacements below decks. Some of Steinbaugh's suggested designs are more complex, aimed at creating tube testers that go beyond simple leakage and emission checks, although he does show his own leakage and emission

+5 V available on both the top and bottom. If you choose to build it more permanently on an experimenter printed circuit board such as RadioShack 276-160 you will have to run some leads and components across the board since the PC board only has one bus on top and one bus on the bottom. The red and black wires leading from the right side of the layout are the +5 and ground connections.

One caution: the relay pins may be slightly smaller than that usually needed for the holes in the modular board. Make sure the relay is firmly plugged in, perhaps by bending the four pins slightly to the sides. The circuit output from the relay contacts are the two green wires shown coming from the right side of the layout. If you have a lot of RF floating around your shack you may want to add an 0.1 μ F capacitor across the relay contacts and run the output through shielded wire.

How To Use It

The contacts of the relay shown in the photo and in the parts list is rated for 0.5 A at 120 V, which should be more than enough

for a push-to-talk circuit. Perhaps you will find another uses for this circuit. If so, putting 120 V on this breadboard chassis is not a safe thing to do. The relay contacts can be used to control another relay separated from the breadboard chassis. Then you can let your ham ingenuity run free!

Paul Danzer, N111, earned his ham ticket as a teenager, which he credits as leading to a long career as an electronic engineer, designing radars and digital systems. After retiring from engineering he spent a few years in the book department of ARRL HQ, and then joined a local community college faculty as a professor of computer science. He is still doing what he did as a teenage ham — working 40 meter CW and now 30 meter CW.

For updates to this article, see the *QST* Feedback page at www.arrl.org/feedback.



tester, a very handsome unit that bears a faint resemblance to some of the kits I built back in the day. Despite its title, though, this reference goes well beyond tube testers, covering tube architecture and operating curves, typical tube "troubles," vintage parts, high-voltage power supplies, a dual high-voltage regulator (which employs six tubes), construction techniques, and high-voltage safety. Scattered



throughout are some fascinating photographs, images, and illustrations, including one photo showing ENIAC (an early, tube-type mainframe) programmers holding massive vacuum tube modules. The frontispiece is a striking Kent Leech illustration, "Electron Beams Inside a 6L6." And what radio amateur licensed longer than a couple of decades didn't put a 6L6 on the air?

Technology aside, there's more than a little bit of the touchy-feely in Steinbaugh's book. Think Zen for the MIT crowd. For example, when responding to his rhetorical question, "Why do you need a laboratory tube tester?" he allows, "I would guess that you are like me, curious about the way that

the universe operates, and how nature does things behind the scenes. You want to know the reason for doing something, rather than blindly following the dictates of some musty old book." This philosophical excursion offers considerable insight into the overall tone of the book, which is also peppered with wit and wisdom of the ages — from Benjamin Franklin to

Einstein to George Gobel — an early TV personality for you newcomers. (The Gobel citation: "If it weren't for electricity, we'd all be watching television by candlelight.")

Radio amateurs with an abiding interest in vacuum tube equipment may find Steinbaugh's observations and expertise valuable. He's a pro at building gear and demonstrates the use of several types of materials! The book includes a comprehensive index.

4EA Analysis LLC, Cincinnati, Ohio, www.4ea-analysis.com. ISBN 978-1-57074-089-3, softcover, 8½ x 11 in, 222 pp, illus. Available from Amazon.com, \$34.98.

Mark J. Wilson, K1RO, k1ro@arrl.org

CommRadio CR-1a Communications Receiver

A software defined receiver with no “computer” required.

Reviewed by Steve Ford, WB8IMY
QST Editor
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When we think of software defined radio (SDR), among the first images that appear in our imaginations are wide flat-screen monitors. If you go to a hamfest and visit an SDR exhibit, that’s what you’ll see: large computer monitors displaying SDR software. Signal waveforms pulse and dance; filter windows expand and contract. It is all quite impressive and very “21st century.”

SDR performance is every bit as impressive as it looks, and its magic begins at (or near) the receiver’s antenna terminals. A signal arriving at an SDR receiver is, by its very nature, analog, but it doesn’t remain that way for long. Within microseconds it is “sampled” — chopped to bits at an extremely high rate by an analog-to-digital converter (ADC). The data from the ADC is processed into *in-phase* and *quadrature* components, or *I/Q* for short. Once you have rendered the signal to I/Q information, you can use software to demodulate whatever is contained within.

At the center of all this wondrous work is a computer. Without a computer and software, a software defined radio is useless; it is nothing more than a sophisticated piece of hardware spewing data that goes unprocessed and unheard. That’s why images of monitors have become so iconic in the SDR universe. They represent the computer connection that is critical to software defined radio.

SDR computers don’t have to be tablets, laptops, or desktops, though. They can also be arrays of microprocessors hidden



away in nondescript enclosures. If you can communicate with those microprocessors through a set of buttons and a functional display of some sort, you can easily dispense with the bulky monitors and keyboards.

Which brings us to the CommRadio CR-1a receiver.

SDR Without a “Computer”

The CommRadio CR-1a is most definitely an SDR, and it incorporates the requisite computer, too. But instead of depending on extra pieces of hardware external to the radio itself — what we normally think of as a “computer” — the CR-1a combines everything, including powerful microprocessors, into a single metal enclosure that is just 5.6 inches wide, 2.4 inches high and 6.1 inches deep and weighs less than 2 pounds. Instead of a monitor and key-

board, you interact with this SDR through a collection of buttons, two knobs and a crisp organic LED (OLED) display.

The CR-1a is among the first SDRs designed to be completely portable. The radio features a bottom-firing speaker, which is the reason for its unusual elevated stance. The CR-1a includes a rechargeable lithium-ion battery, although it can also be powered from

a USB port or an external 6 – 18 V dc source. The powder-coated steel case and machined aluminum knobs give the CR-1a a nice feel.

Since the CR-1a looks and acts like a conventional receiver, it’s fair to ask why its SDR architecture deserves discussion. The answer is that one of the most attractive aspects of any SDR is the ability to make huge changes to the way the radio functions by simply installing new software. In the CR-1a, the software resides in nonvolatile memory and can be changed at any time. If CommRadio wants to add new features to the CR-1a, such as synchronous AM reception, for instance, they can do so by offering revised software that you download from their website and then upload to the radio. So, unlike conventional receivers, the CR-1a can “evolve” over time, at least within the limitations of its hardware.

In addition, if you want to use the CR-1a as a “typical” SDR with an external computer and software, you can do so. There is a USB port on the rear panel that is normally used to recharge the internal battery. The CR-1a makes I/Q data available at this port, which you can subsequently feed to a computer and software of your choosing.

Bottom Line

The CR-1a is a portable, battery operated, wideband receiver that uses software defined radio technology to receive a variety of modes on select frequency segments from 500 kHz through 512 MHz.

When this review was conducted, Comm Radio offered a free piece of software that allowed users to access the I/Q data and control the radio to a limited extent (see Figure 1). The software was in beta testing at the time, so improved and expanded versions will probably be showing up soon. As the CR-1a becomes more commonplace, I'd expect to see compatible third-party software as well.

Broad Coverage, Filters, and More

The CR-1a's coverage spans 500 kHz to 30 MHz; 64 to 260 MHz and 437 to 512 MHz in AM, SSB, CW, WBFM, NBFM. Wide-band FM is the default when tuning through the FM broadcast band (monaural only — at least with the current software). The CR-1a will also receive long wave (LW) from 150 to 500 kHz, but with reduced performance due to the lack of a dedicated front-end preselector for those frequencies.

Interestingly, the CR-1a has what you might call a "split" receiver architecture, which you notice right away when you examine the rear panel shown in Figure 2. There are two BNC jacks: one for LW through 30 MHz and the other for 64 MHz and above. The review radio also has a separate 3.5 mm jack for a long wave or AM antenna, but this was eliminated in later production runs (s/n 750 and higher). For reception below 30 MHz, the CR-1a uses a dual conversion approach to providing a lower-frequency IF signal for the ADC. For 64 MHz and up, however, it makes the jump to the IF frequency in a single step.

Tuning is not continuous from long wave to VHF or UHF. To switch from HF to VHF or UHF you must enter the menu system and select the frequency group. Once you've made your selection, you punch the user configurable BAND key to step from one band to another, or simply select the tuning step you desire and spin the tuning knob. A nice touch: you can configure the BAND key to limit choices to the 160 – 10 meter amateur bands or the 120 – 11 meter shortwave broadcast bands.

While in the menu, you'll also find a squelch adjustment. Actually, there are two separate squelches: one for HF and the other for VHF/UHF.

If you have the CR-1a in AUTOMATIC mode, the radio will automatically select the proper mode and filter as you tune. When you tune into the 40 meter Amateur

Table 1
CommRadio CR-1a, serial number 0629

Manufacturer's Specifications	Measured in the ARRL Lab
Frequency coverage: Receive only, 0.5 – 30, 64 – 260, 437 – 512 MHz.	As specified; 150 – 500 kHz also provided for experimental purposes.
Power requirement: 5 V dc via USB jack, or 6 – 18 V dc to charge 3.7V dc internal Li-ion battery.	3 W maximum at 120 V ac for wall charger.
Modes of operation: SSB, CW, AM, wideband FM (FM Broadcast band only).	As specified.
Receiver	Receiver Dynamic Testing
Sensitivity: –130 dBm (71 nV) nominal at 500 Hz bandwidth (0.5-30) MHz.	Noise floor (MDS), 3 kHz filter: 3.5 MHz –125 dBm 14 MHz –122 dBm 70 MHz –130 dBm 144 MHz –126 dBm 440 MHz –113 dBm
AM sensitivity: Not specified.	10 dB (S+N)/N, 1 kHz, 30% modulation, 6 kHz BW: 1.020 MHz 3.23 μ V 3.8 MHz 2.04 μ V 29 MHz 3.16 μ V 120 MHz 1.12 μ V 144 MHz 1.30 μ V 440 MHz 9.43 μ V
FM sensitivity: For 12 SINAD, –98 dBm (2.9 μ V) VHF, –86 to –98 dBm (11.5-2.9 μ V), UHF.	For 12 dB SINAD, 15 kHz BW: 29.6 MHz 1.29 μ V 70 MHz 2.09 μ V 146 MHz 0.83 μ V 162 MHz 1.05 μ V 223 MHz 0.76 μ V 440 MHz 3.75 μ V
IF and image rejection: Not specified.	IF rejection, 115 dB; image rejection, >132 dB.
Receiver audio output: Not specified.	0.3 W at 10% THD into 8 Ω . THD at 0.85 V RMS, 6.3%.
IF/audio response: Not specified.	Range at –6 dB points, (bandwidth) CW (500 Hz): 350-1135 Hz (785 Hz) SSB (2.6 kHz): 140-3000 Hz (2860 Hz) AM (7.5 kHz): 2 Hz-3830 Hz (7660 Hz)
Size (height, width, depth): 2.4 × 5.6 × 6.1 inches (including protrusions); weight, 1.5 lb.	
Price: \$599.99.	
Note: The AGC could not be defeated, so blocking gain compression, reciprocal mixing and IMD dynamic range tests could not be performed.	

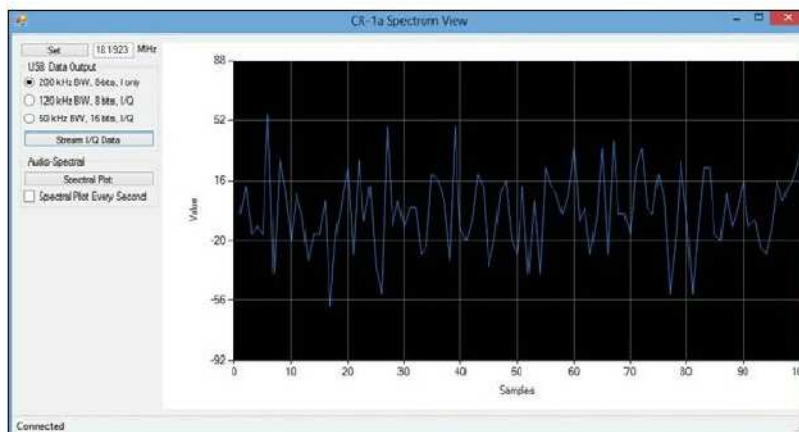


Figure 1 — The beta version of CommRadio's *Spectrum View* software.

Radio phone band, for example, the CR-1a automatically selects lower sideband. The CR-1a offers a variety of filter bandwidths — 500 Hz, 1.0, 1.8, 2.2, and 2.6 kHz on CW; 1.8, 2.2, and 2.6 kHz on SSB; 2.6, 5, 7.5, and 15 kHz on AM; and 15 and 25 kHz on NBFM. Unlike SDR receivers controlled by external software, you don't have the ability to create continuously variable filters on the fly. That said, with compatible software and an external computer you could connect the CR-1a and have the full SDR flexibility.

Like a conventional receiver, the CR-1a provides 64 memory slots to store your favorite frequencies for easy access. Scanning functions are available, but on HF only.

The CR-1a display includes a numeric S meter in the lower left corner. The S meter functions for all modes when you select the HF frequency range, but only operates while in the AM mode on VHF or UHF.

Last, but hardly least, the CR-1a can decode CW! Watch the video to see it in action.

Hands On with the CR-1a

I found the CR-1a easy to navigate once I became used to its menu system. The manual includes clear instructions and many illustrations to help with the learning curve. As I mentioned earlier, you must access the menus to switch from VHF to HF coverage, and to change filter bandwidths (if necessary).

The radio turns on with a momentary push on the VOLUME control and the amber display springs to life after a brief sign-on message. The 2.5-inch bottom-mounted speaker has plenty of power, so much that I rarely needed to advance the VOLUME knob past 11 o'clock in any listening environment. There is also a 1/8-inch jack on the front panel for headphones.

Bob Allison, WB1GCM, our ARRL Laboratory Test Engineer, measured substantial audio distortion during his tests with the VOLUME control set at low levels. Not that I doubt Bob's instruments, but I could not hear the distortion when using the external speaker. With headphones it was audible, but I didn't find it at all objectionable. Oddly enough, both Bob and I noticed



Figure 2 — The CR-1a has separate jacks for MF/HF and VHF/UHF operation. The AM/HF antenna jack is eliminated on current production units. The USB jack can be used to power the receiver and charge the internal Li-ion battery or for connection to an external computer.

that the distortion *decreased* with increasing audio volume. Speaking of unusual sounds, it is also worth mentioning that the CR-1a made a slight ticking or popping noise when stepping from one frequency to another.

The CR-1a's AGC performance is selectable — FAST, MEDIUM, and SLOW — but cannot be turned off, and so the Lab could not perform the usual dynamic range tests (which require AGC be turned off). The AGC is sensitive and starts to reduce the audio output levels when encountering signals as weak as -68 dBm at 20 kHz from the selected frequency. This would occasionally manifest as significant "pumping" when a strong signal was within range. This AGC behavior may also have something to do with the popping sound heard when changing frequencies.

Other than the difficulty of working the buttons with my oversized fingers, the CR-1a was a pleasure to operate. I had no difficulty

listening to everything from CW, to single sideband, to FM. The CR-1a was more than sensitive enough for casual listening, including eavesdropping on Amateur Radio activity. It did double duty as a convenient test receiver and I even put it to work as a JT65 monitor by feeding the audio from the headphone jack to my station computer, which was running *JT65-HF* software.

When it comes to ham uses, the only notable limitation of the CR-1a is its inability to tune at VHF or UHF in less than 5 kHz steps. This presents issues when trying to monitor SSB or CW on these bands, although channelized FM operation is no problem. SDR being what it is, however, it is always possible that this may change with a new software release.

Manufacturer: CommRadio, a division of AeroStream Communications, 24658 Foothills Dr N, Golden, CO 80401; tel 303-279-3671; www.commradio.com; info@commradio.com.



See the Digital Edition of *QST* for a video overview of the CommRadio CR-1a Communications Receiver.

HobbyPCB Hardrock-50 160 – 6 Meter 50 W Amplifier Kit

Reviewed by Phil Salas, AD5X
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In the August 2010 issue of *QST*, Jim Veatch, WA2EJ, detailed a 40 – 15 meter amplifier designed for QRP transceivers. Jim has since evolved that design into the Hardrock-50 now offered by HobbyPCB. The HR-50 provides 50 W output power with a drive level of 5 W or less on 160 – 10 meters, and 35 W on 6 meters. It is supplied only in kit form and is housed in a rugged aluminum enclosure. Available options include a PIN-diode QSK switch, a low-level preamplifier that permits full output from 0.5 W drive, and an internal automatic antenna tuner (not yet available during the review period). However, you cannot include both the automatic antenna tuner and the low-level preamplifier. The QSK option (available for SN1200 and above) fits with either option. The Hardrock-50 reviewed here is the standard relay-switched version with no options installed.

Putting It Together

The HR-50 arrived in a small box containing the main chassis/heat-sink, and a smaller box with the amplifier parts. This includes front and rear panels, three printed circuit (PC) boards with pre-installed surface-mounted (SMD) components, and the connectors, wire, ferrites, toroids, and hardware. See Figure 3.

No documentation is included in the box, so you must download the assembly manual from www.hobbypcb.com. You can print out the assembly manual, though I found it convenient to display the pages on a laptop computer adjacent to my assembly area. A printed manual would be convenient for checking off each assembly step. However it is difficult to miss a step because all SMD components are pre-mounted and so assembly consists of adding large connectors, relays, inductors, and transformers.

I built the HR-50 over 3 days and I'd estimate that the full assembly took me about 8 – 10 hours. I was missing two ferrites and a connector. I emailed HobbyPCB and



received an answer within minutes — and this was on a Saturday afternoon. It seems they had identified a run of amplifiers where these parts had not been included. The replacement parts were quickly received and I continued with the assembly.

Small PC boards with display and control circuitry attach to the front and rear panels. All that was required was soldering connectors to the PC boards and then mounting the boards to the panels.

For me, the most time-consuming part was soldering in the 15 relays, followed by winding and installing the inductors and transformers. While the inductor/transformer winding process is not difficult due to the clear instructions and color illustrations, you can purchase them pre-wound from toroidguy@earthlink.net for \$35. The as-delivered amplifier PC board with

SMD parts mounted is shown in Figure 4, along with the finished inductors and transformers.

Figure 5 shows the completed amplifier just before attaching the cover. There was excess ribbon cable length, so I folded it and tie-wrapped it to the dc power cable just to keep things neat. When the amplifier is complete, only five adjustments are needed. A single-turn potentiometer sets the display contrast, and four multiturn potentiometers set the four FET gate bias voltages (for this adjustment you'll need a digital multimeter). If you cannot get your Hardrock-50 to work properly, HobbyPCB provides excellent technical support via e-mail as well as through a user forum on their website. And if all else fails, you can ship your HR-50 to HobbyPCB and they will fix it. HobbyPCB guarantees everyone will have a working amp at the end of the build.

Technical Details

The HR-50 dc input is an Anderson Powerpole connector. You will need a 13.8 V dc power supply capable of at least 12 A continuous current. As the amplifier is not fused, a fused (15 A) dc input cable is recommended. The large heatsink provides

Bottom Line

The Hardrock-50 is a compact 50 W amplifier designed to work with any QRP transceiver. Silent QSK operation may be added as an option.



Figure 3 — The Hardrock-50 arrives!

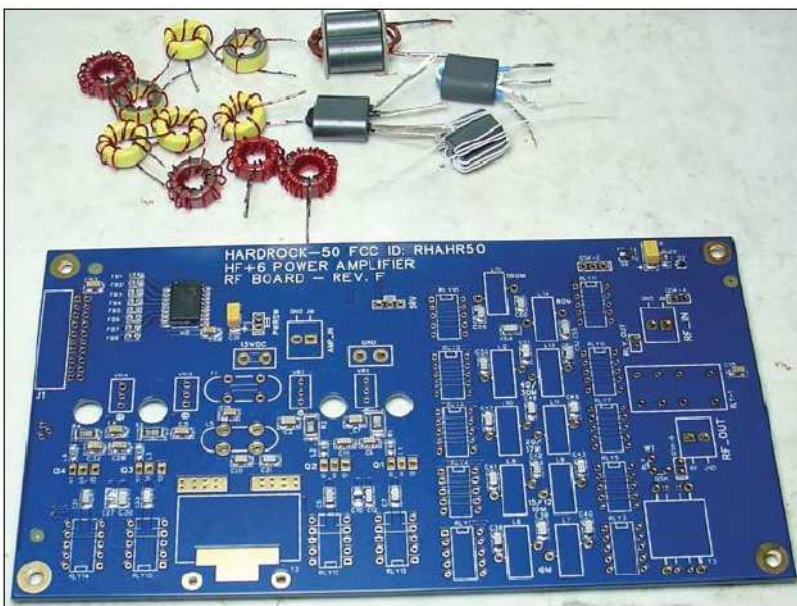


Figure 4 — As delivered, SMD parts are already mounted on the amplifier pc board. The author wound the inductors and transformers shown at the top.

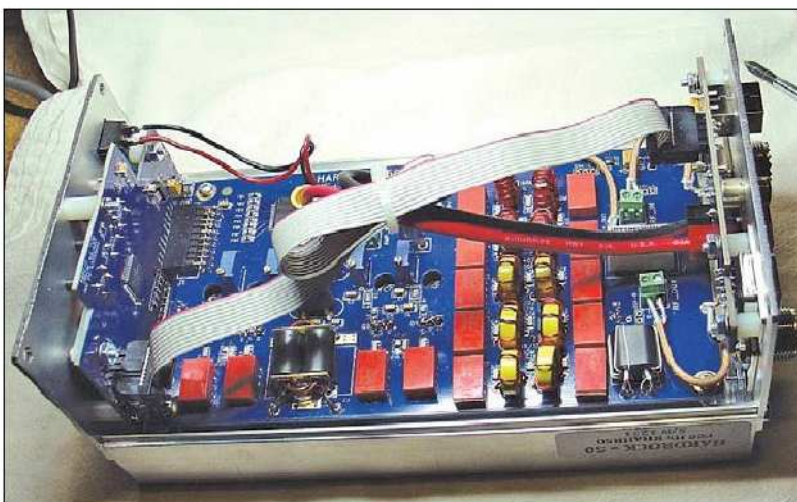


Figure 5 — Completed Hardrock-50 amplifier.

the necessary thermal dissipation — no fan is needed.

Power output is 50 W from 160 – 10 meters with 5 W maximum drive (typically 3 – 4 W is enough) using four RH16HHF1 MOSFETs. Power on 6 meters is specified at 35 W, though most amplifiers will exceed 40 W on this band. TR switching is handled by a relay or an optional PIN-diode switch. The relay 6 ms/4 ms maximum specified operate/release time is fast enough to prevent hot switching when used with most transceiver amplifier keying outputs. The optional PIN-diode QSK switch assembly switches in less than 140 μ s, but there is a trade-off. The QSK switch has 0.25 dB loss in both the transmit and receive path on 160 – 10 meters (typically 3 W transmit loss). The loss increases to about 0.5 dB on 6 meters (typically 5 W transmit loss).

No automatic fault protection is included — nor is it needed! The RH16HHF1 MOSFETs are rated to operate at 16 V dc into a 20:1 SWR at any phase angle. An open or short on the output (so only the low pass filters are inline) results in a worst case SWR of 18:1 to the FETs. About the only way the FETs can be damaged is by overheating due to insufficient contact with the heatsink. The FET mounting instructions are well written and should preclude this from occurring.

Finally, the HR-50 supports automatic band tracking with the Elecraft KX3, the Flex-1500 and any of the low power software defined radios (SDRs) that use *PowerSDR* software (for example, Softrock, Peaberry, or G10 SDRs). As the HR-50 supports the Kenwood CAT command set, other SDR programs may support automatic band tracking as well. Firmware updates are easy (a USB A/B cable is required) — just follow the detailed instructions given in the assembly manual.

Display and Control

When the unit is powered on, there is a 5 – 10 second boot process during which the amplifier firmware revision is shown. The amplifier then displays mode, band, temperature and voltage. When the HR-50 is keyed, the display changes to TX mode where a top bar graph shows average forward power, and the bottom display shows calculated SWR and peak power.

There are only three control buttons — up/

Table 2
Hardrock-50, serial number 1251

Manufacturer's Specifications	Measured Performance
Frequency range: All ham bands from 1.8 – 54 MHz except 60 meters.	As specified. The optional antenna tuner includes additional filtering to allow 60 meter operation.
Power requirements: 11 – 16 V dc (13.8 V nominal), 10 A typical, 12 A peak.	See Table 3.
Input SWR: Not specified	See Table 3.
Drive power: 2.5 – 3 W typ, 5 W maximum.*	See Table 3.
Output power: 50 W typical at 13.8 V dc, 1.8-30 MHz; 35 W at 50 MHz.**	See Table 3.
Internal power meter accuracy ± 5 W @ 50 Ω	As specified.
Harmonic and spurious suppression: Not specified.	HF, 48 dB (worst case, 1.8 MHz band), typically 64 dB; 50 MHz, 60 dB. Complies with FCC requirements.
Intermodulation distortion (IMD) products: Not specified.	3rd/5th/7th/9th order IMD products: 14 MHz: 38/33/38/46 dB below PEP. 50 MHz: 33/32/42/60 dB below PEP.
Key in: Receive, +5 V dc open circuit, ground to transmit, 10 mA maximum. †	As specified.
Amplifier TR relay transition time: Not specified.	PTT mode: Amplifier key to RF output, 3.2 ms; amplifier un-key to RF power off: 3.8 ms. Carrier operated mode, 12 ms for 0.4 W to max drive power.
Size (height, width, depth): 3.5 x 4.25 x 7.5 inches; weight: 3 lb.	
Price: Hardrock-50 \$299; QSK option, \$49; 0.5 – 5 W preamp, \$35; internal ATU, \$179.	

*The HR-50 will tolerate 10 W of drive for a short time without damage.
**Exceeding rated output may result in signal distortion. If the PIN-diode QSK option is installed, output power should be reduced 3 W on HF and 5 W on 6 meters.
†The PTT line is diode protected for externally applied voltages from -24 to +24 V.

Table 3
Hardrock-50 Operating Conditions

13.8 V dc key-down voltage; standby 0.1 A; operate, no drive, 0.3 A.

Band (m)	Drive (W)	Input SWR †	Power Output** (W)	DC Current (A)
160	4.0	1.29:1	50	9.8
80	2.4	1.21:1	50	7.8
40	3.6	1.20:1	50	8.3
30	5.0	1.23:1	49	9.9
20	4.0	1.25:1	50	9.8
17	2.7	1.30:1	50	7.3
15	2.8	1.41:1	50	7.2
12	3.0	1.48:1	50	8.0
10	2.9	1.52:1	50	9.0
6†	3.0	1.41:1	40	6.3

*Bypass SWR was 1.1:1 or less except 6 meters which was 1.4:1
**Measured with Mini-Circuits PWR-6GHS+ power sensor and calibrated attenuators.
†The 6 meter output power specification is 35 W for best IMD.

down BAND SELECT buttons and a KEY MODE button. The BAND SELECT buttons only operate during receive, and the band setting is retained when the HR-50 is powered off.

Tapping the KEY MODE button toggles between OFF (standby), PTT (push-to-talk where grounding the PTT line keys the amplifier), COR (RF carrier detect keys the amplifier), and QRP (to follow the optional antenna tuner to be used with the exciter only). The COR mode is provided as many QRP radios don't have an amp-key output. However, you will not hot switch your driving transmitter's output as you can't sense RF and switch instantly. When added to the relay operation time, the RF sense circuitry time constant will result in RF being present for 10 – 12 ms before switching completes. Even when the QSK option is used, RF will be present for 5 – 7 ms before PIN-diode switching occurs. So if possible, use the PTT input for amplifier keying. The PTT interface is compatible with all trans-

ceivers that have an amp-key output, including the +8 V dc/0 V dc HSEND output of the Icom IC-703 transceiver.

A 3-second push of the KEY MODE button also provides access to some internal menus for other custom settings. The up/down buttons provide scrolling through the menus and changing the settings. Currently the menus include: Accessory Baud Rate, USB Baud Rate, KX3 Serial On/Off, Temperature Display (°F/°C), Watt Meter Adjust, COR Hang Time, Key-up Delay and FT-817 Mode.

Performance Measurements

I have a KX3, so I built an interface cable (shown in Figure 6), which plugs into the ACC jack on the rear panel (Figure 7). The automatic band tracking worked great. It simplified testing as my KX3 was used as the signal source for much of my work.

Table 2 summarizes the measured amplifier performance. Spurious and harmonic distortion and IMD products, and the TR

relay timing were measured in the ARRL Lab.

During my initial tests I measured a high input SWR on 6 meters (about 4:1). This has been a known problem with the HR-50, but I was able to determine the cause and came up with a simple fix. The rework has been incorporated into amplifier boards above serial number 1399. For those with Rev F amplifier boards below this serial number, simply insert 33 pF/100 V capacitors into the RF-IN and AMP-IN connectors. Contact HobbyPCB for the rework necessary on earlier amplifier boards.

During the ARRL Lab testing, a spurious out-of-spec half-frequency signal was found when driving the amplifier on 6 meters. HobbyPCB determined that this was due to a change in the manufacturer of four SMD inductors (L1 – L4) and only affects Revision F amplifier boards from serial number 1200 to 1399. If your HR-50 falls into the affected serial number range and you operate 6 meters, you can either replace the inductors yourself (HobbyPCB will send you replacement inductors), or you can return your amplifier for the update. While these are SMD parts, I easily removed them by placing a soldering iron across each inductor and picking them off with tweezers. Next I added a small blob of solder to one pad end for each inductor, and used a piece of copper braid to wick

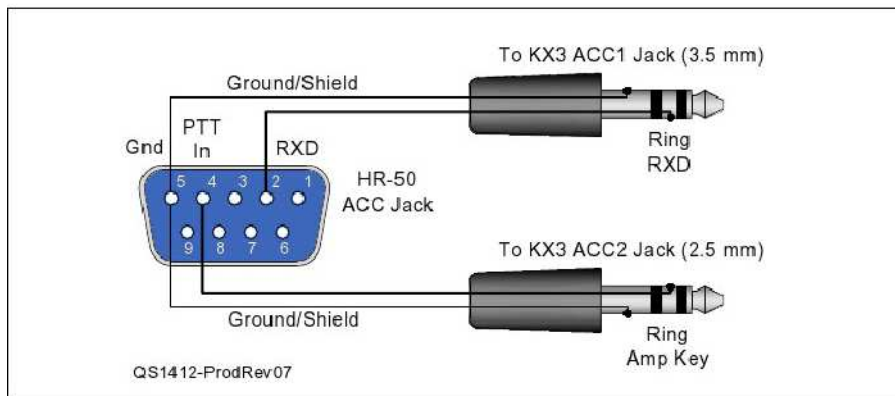


Figure 6 — The author made this cable for interfacing the HR-50 with an Elecraft KX3. The DB-9P connections are shown from the solder-cup side of the connector. I purchased the connectors from www.mouser.com. The 3.5 mm and 2.5 mm right-angle plugs are part numbers 171-3308-EX and 171-3325-EX, respectively. The DB-9P and hood are part numbers 156-1209T-E and 156-2009-EX, respectively. A 3-foot section of dual shielded cable connects the DB-9P and the two KX3 accessory plugs.



Figure 7 — Hardrock-50 rear panel. The USB port is used for firmware updates and the ACC jack may be used for automatic band switching from a compatible transceiver.

off excess solder on the other pad end. Then I held each inductor in place with tweezers and heated the solder blob end of the pad. This soldered one end of each inductor, and permitted the inductor to lie flat on the PC board. Then I soldered the other end of each inductor to the opposite pad.

Table 3 documents bypass and amplifier input SWR, required drive for 50 W output (or 5 W maximum drive), and +13.8 V dc

current at rated output. Power was measured with a NIST-traceable Mini-Circuits PWR-6GHS+ sensor and calibrated attenuators ($\pm 3\%$ accuracy). Input SWR was measured with an Array Solutions PowerMaster, and input dc current was measured with an AEMC 514 Hall-effect clamp-on DMM.

The HR-50 power detector has a very flat frequency response. The power read about 12% high when first tested (better a high reading than a low reading to ensure no signal distortion). Some inaccuracy is expected due to variations in the power coupler's ferrite tolerance, and primary/secondary winding symmetry and positioning. However, a menu selection permits adjusting the power reading. I put in -13% (the factory default was -1%) and achieved readings within 1 W of my PWR-6GHS+ test setup. If you have access to an accurate wattmeter, you can achieve excellent HR-50 displayed-power accuracy. Finally, don't forget to back down the output power by 3 W on HF and 5 W on 6 meters if you have the PIN-diode QSK option installed.

Conclusion

The Hardrock-50 is a compact, rugged amplifier that integrates perfectly with any QRP transceiver. It is reasonably priced and the kit is easy to build for those hams with some prior soldering experience. If you occasionally need to boost your QRP signal by an S unit or two, the Hardrock-50 is certainly worth considering.

Manufacturer: HobbyPCB, tel 646-580-4722; www.hobbypcb.com.



See the Digital Edition of QST for a video overview of the HobbyPCB Hardrock-50 160 - 6 meter 50 W amplifier kit.

MFJ-4403 Transceiver Voltage Conditioner

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We can't always count on a transceiver's dc voltage source to be clean. In particular, noisy power sources are probably more prevalent during portable operations such as Field Day and DXpeditions, and in automotive (mobile) environments. The MFJ-4403 Transceiver Voltage Conditioner was designed to provide dc voltage protection for transceivers subjected to virtually any dc power situation.

Features

The MFJ-4403 draws its own power from the dc voltage source. Normal dc operating current is 250 mA. Key features include:

- Reverse polarity protection — A reverse voltage input is blocked from the MFJ-4403 output.
- Transient suppression — Voltage transients are clamped at 15 V dc maximum with a 75 A transient suppressor. Long duration high voltage transients will cause the MFJ-4403 input fuse to blow.
- Short circuit protection — Internal automotive fuses protect both the source and connected equipment.
- Noise and ripple filtering — A 4 F (yes, 4 farad) super-capacitor bank made from six 25-farad series-connected capacitors, in conjunction with traditional high frequency filter capacitors, ensures that the cleanest possible dc voltage is applied to your equipment.
- Input and output dc connections are Anderson Powerpole connectors (Figure 8).

A 15 A input fuse provides protection for less-than-adequate power sources and wiring when operating low-current, or high-peak-current, low-duty-cycle, modes. For high-duty-cycle modes and a properly sized power supply, the 15 A input fuse should be replaced with a 25 A fuse. As the MFJ-4403 includes a 4 F capacitor bank, you could conceivably see currents in the hundreds of amps for a few milliseconds if you accidentally short circuit the output. The 25 A output fuse protects a short from causing serious damage.

A power resistor is used both for current limiting during the charging of the capaci-



tor bank, and for discharging the capacitor bank when the MFJ-4403 is turned off. The discharge function is provided because the charged capacitor bank can provide a *huge* amount of energy should it be shorted inadvertently when you think everything is off.

Reverse-voltage protection is provided by a combination of a relay and a reverse protection diode. If a negative voltage is applied to the input, the relay cannot operate, and so no reverse voltage can appear across the capacitor bank or the output. The REVERSE POLARITY LED indicates a negative input voltage condition.

Damaging voltage spikes can occur in automotive environments, and with dirty or failing power supplies. A high-current clamping diode limits any spike to 15 V dc (nominal), and blows the input fuse if the clamped overvoltage persists for a few seconds. The 15 V clamping diode can handle 70 A without damage. Of course, the capacitor bank also serves to momentarily clamp any overvoltage condition because a sudden voltage change over a short period of time results in a high current pulse that

can also blow the input fuse.

And finally, the super-capacitor bank provides outstanding filtering of any noise or ripple on the dc input. Smaller value capacitors take care of any high frequency noise that might make it by the super-capacitors. An interesting side effect of this capacitor bank is that you can power a 100 W SSB transceiver from an automotive accessory socket (what we used to call a cigarette lighter socket). We will look at this in more detail a little later.

Operation

After connecting your dc source to the dc input connector and turning off any connected equipment, push the ON button. The CHARGING and POWER LEDs light and a current-limited charge of the capacitor bank begins. The high value of the MFJ-4403 capacitor bank requires that the capacitors must be pre-charged before you can operate any equipment — connecting a dc source directly to a discharged capacitor bank of this value will short the power supply output! After about one minute the current limiting resistor is shorted by the relay, the CHARGING LED extinguishes, and your connected equipment can be turned on. Incidentally, if any connected equipment is turned on during the pre-charge cycle, the pre-charge cycle will not complete and little voltage will be available for the equipment. A high-current diode in series with the pre-charging resistor keeps reverse voltage from finding its way to the output via the pre-charging circuit.

Bottom Line

If you are ever concerned about the "cleanliness" of a power supply feeding your transceiver, or if you want to ensure that your mobile dc-power source is perfectly filtered, the MFJ-4403 may be just what you are looking for.



Figure 8 — MFJ-4403 input/output connections.

When you want to cease operation, turn off any connected equipment and push the ON/OFF pushbutton on the MFJ-4403. The internal power resistor is connected across the capacitor bank and discharges the capacitors in about one minute.

Performance

There is a pre-charge timing strap option on the printed circuit board, but it isn't mentioned in the manual. You should connect across these pins if you have an input voltage less than about 13.25 V dc. Normally the pins should not be strapped as you want the capacitor bank charged as close to the input voltage as possible before operating. With the timing pins strapped, the pre-charge worked well down to 12.25 V dc.

I first looked at pre-charge times. With the timing pins unstrapped, the pre-charge time was 55 seconds at 14.2 V dc, 65 seconds at 13.8 V dc, approximately 2 minutes at 13.5 V dc, and 3.5 minutes at 13.25 V dc. The pre-charge would not reliably complete below 13.25 V dc unless the pre-charge pins are strapped.

I next connected reverse voltage to the dc input. The REVERSE VOLTAGE LED lit immediately, and no negative voltage appeared at the output regardless of the position of the ON/OFF switch. When the reverse-voltage condition was corrected, the MFJ-4403 automatically reverted to normal operation.

Next I tested the input voltage clamping level. I connected a variable voltage power supply across the input and increased the voltage. I had to increase the input voltage very slowly as the capacitor bank does an outstanding job of trying to hold the voltage constant, resulting in power supply current limiting if the voltage is adjusted too rapidly. This is a desired characteristic that provides both filtering and impulse protection. With a little care, I found

that clamping occurred at 15.5 V dc.

Finally I looked at power supply filtering. I previously reviewed a battery boost regulator that had ripple and noise so bad that I was afraid to connect it to my transceiver. I couldn't think of a better "dirty" voltage source for testing the MFJ-4403. First I connected the boost regulator directly to a 10 A resistive load with the input voltage set to 11 V dc, and the output set to 13.8 V dc. Figure 9 is an oscilloscope trace of the ac-coupled 13.8 V dc output across the load. As you can see, it is a pretty nasty signal. The amplitude of the ripple and noise is about 6 Vp-p! After connecting the MFJ-4403 between the boost regulator and the 10 A load, I could see absolutely no ripple or noise. The MFJ-4403 definitely does its job!

What About That Auto Accessory Connector?

This is where I really had fun with this review. We've all been told to never power high-power ham equipment from an automobile accessory socket. MFJ states that the MFJ-4403 may be used to power a 100 W output SSB transceiver (75 W output for CW) from an accessory socket for temporary operations. The reason is that the accessory socket should be able to supply the average current required by the equipment, and the MFJ-4403 super-capacitor bank will provide the peak current necessary for low duty cycle transceiver operation. SSB and CW modes permit power from the auto accessory socket to recharge the capacitor bank during speech pauses or gaps between CW characters. MFJ does recommend making a direct connection to the car's battery for normal operation, along with the MFJ-4403 for voltage transient and filtering.

Let's look at the accessory socket possibility for powering a typical SSB/CW transceiver. *UL2089 Vehicle Battery Adapters* is the standard for low-voltage power ports. This standard limits accessory outlets to 20 A, and also states that a minimum of #12 AWG copper wire is required for 20 A. But that is the maximum current permissible, and is not necessarily what is available in most cars. I've spent quite a bit of time looking into this and have found accessory socket ratings varying from 10 to 15 A, and/or 150 to 180 W, continuous, in manuals or printed on the covers of some accessory sockets. You can also get an idea of the

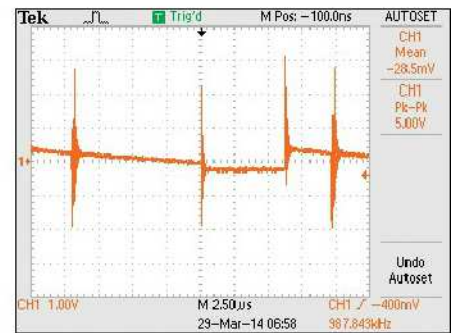


Figure 9 — Battery boost regulator 13.8 V dc output feeding a 10 A load. The amplitude of the ripple and noise is about 6 V p-p. After connecting the MFJ-4403, the ripple and noise vanished.

accessory socket current rating by looking at inverters and tire inflators that are available for use with these accessory sockets.

Based on my research, I think that a 10 A continuous rating is probably reasonable, but you should determine this for your own vehicle. However, 10 A is much less than the peak current required by most 100 W mobile transceivers (often 20 A or so). Further, the mating accessory plug is a spring-loaded pressure contact that doesn't provide the best electrical contact for the high peak current requirement.

I tested three external accessory sockets connected to the high current output of my MFJ-4245 power supply, as well as the 7 A rated MFJ-4245 internal accessory socket. I also tested two different RadioShack cigarette lighter plugs (10 A rating) with each of these sockets (see Figure 10). The upper plug is not fused, while the lower plug includes an internal 10 A fuse.

With a 10 A load connected, I found a very consistent 0.08 Ω resistive loss (measured as 0.8 V drop) with the unfused plug/sockets, and 0.10 Ω resistive loss (measured as 1.0 V drop) with the fused plug/sockets. Then I subjected the connector pairs to a continuous 10 A current for 5 minutes. All socket and plug combinations felt cool. And all socket pins were cool to the touch. However, I found that the center pin of the fused (lower) plug was quite warm after 5 minutes. Based on my resistive loss measurements, this plug is dissipating 2 W more than the unfused plug, probably all in the extra center pin pressure contact and the fuse.

Next I evaluated my IC-706MKIIG current requirements. This radio draws the most

Table 4
IC-706MKIIG CW Transmitting Current Measurements

Output (W)	I-pk (A)	I key-up (A)	I avg (50% duty cycle) (A)	I avg (44% duty cycle) (A)
100	18.6	4.5 (semi break-in)	11.6	10.7
100	18.6	1.4 (QSK)	10.0	9.0
75	16.5	4.5 (semi break-in)	10.5	9.8
75	16.5	1.4 (QSK)	8.9	8.0

Table 5
IC-706MKIIG Peak Current Measurements with MFJ-4403

Output (W)	I-pk Input (Pwr Supply) (A)	I-pk Input (Acc Socket) (A)	I-pk Input (0.1 Ω) (A)	I-pk Input (0.2 Ω) (A)	I-pk Output (A)
100	15.9	11.2	10.2	7.3	18.6
75	14.3	10.2	9.5	6.8	16.5



Figure 10 — The reviewer's automobile accessory connectors, described in the text.

current on 20 meters (18.6 A at 100 W output), so I used this band for testing. I used CW for my tests since CW has a higher duty cycle than SSB (44% PARIS standard CW duty cycle vs 20 – 30% SSB duty cycle). Table 4 shows my measurements for key-down and a string of dits (50% duty cycle), and the estimated average current based on the PARIS standard.

As you can see, about 10 A is a good average current drain that you might see when transmitting. However, we don't want to subject the accessory socket to the 18–19 A peak current that is drawn on every "dit." And this high peak current will also result in a peak voltage drop of 1 – 2 V dc.

I connected the MFJ-4403 between my MFJ-4245 power supply high-current output and the transceiver and measured the input and output dc current peaks while transmitting (receive current drain is well within any accessory socket current rating

and so the MFJ-4403 just provides filtering and transient protection). I used an AEMC 514 digital Hall-effect clamp-on meter for peak and average dc current readings.

Initially I was surprised to see a high MFJ-4403 input spike of almost 16 A (corresponding to the 18.6 A peak current output). Then I used an accessory plug/cable between the MFJ-4245 power supply and the MFJ-4403 dc input and saw the MFJ-4403 input current spike drop to 11.2 A. After thinking about this I realized that in a perfectly lossless system, any discharge of the capacitors will be instantly recharged by the sourcing power supply, resulting in the same input and output current. However, if there is any loss from the input dc source, the recharge current is spread out over the RC time constant due to the dc-line loss and the total capacitance. With a 4-F capacitor, even a 0.08 Ω loss results in a time constant of about 1/3 second. My bench tests are probably as close to ideal as possible,

and accessory sockets and wiring in most cars probably have more loss. Therefore I ran some additional tests showing the effect of adding in very low resistive losses. The results are shown in Table 5.

From Table 5 you can see that the accessory socket output current measurements are very similar to the IC-706MKIIG average current requirements when there is just a little loss in the system. In other words, you limit peak current when using an accessory socket to power a 100 W SSB/CW transceiver because the accessory socket and associated wiring is not lossless!

So — is it safe to use an auto accessory socket to power a MFJ-4403 connected to a 100 W SSB transceiver? I will leave this decision up to you. My measurements indicate that this is viable. And I did connect my IC-706MKIIG this way to my wife's 1997 Mustang. I used a high-power dummy load and a peak-reading Bird wattmeter and verified that the transceiver put out full power on SSB.

I do have a few recommendations. First, if you build your own cable, make sure you use a quality accessory plug that is rated for at least 10 A. The plug should have two ground "ears," and it should fit firmly into the accessory socket. You should also use #14 AWG wire minimum, and preferably #12 AWG. (MFJ sells an accessory-plug-to-Powerpole cable (MFJ-5515M) with a 3 foot flexible #12 AWG cable.) Finally, you should consider this as a temporary mobile solution. For permanent solutions, connect the input to the MFJ-4403 directly to the battery.

Conclusion

The MFJ-4403 is a very robust dc filtering and transient protection device. It is certainly something to think about adding to your mobile power supply line, and any place where there is concern about power supply cleanliness. It is even at home in your main station should you have any concerns about your power supply failing and causing a problem. My only complaint is that it does not include a ground stud. Of course, a ground stud is easy to add, and maybe MFJ will add one in the future.

Manufacturer: MFJ Enterprises, PO Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762, tel 800-647-1800; www.mfjenterprises.com. Price: MFJ-4403, \$119.95. MFJ-5515M cable, \$19.95.

New Books

Practical Communication Theory, 2nd Edition

by Dave Adamy

Reviewed by Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR

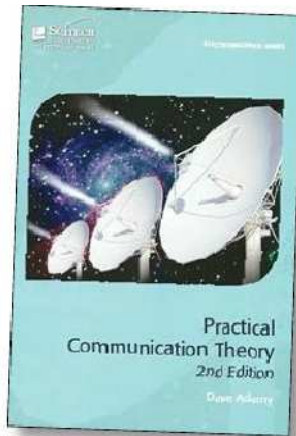
There are a number of possible directions for a book with this title to head, and I must say that I was somewhat relieved to find that it didn't replicate some of the texts on statistical communications theory that I encountered as a graduate student. Instead, this book focuses on the elements of communications systems and how to quantify the properties of each in a very straightforward and deterministic way.

In this approach, mathematic formulations are frequently shown, but don't get far beyond decibel and relative area calculations — no understanding of calculus is required to follow along. If you're not comfortable with that level of operation, many significant calculations are also shown as nomographs or plots. In addition a handy antenna and propagation slide rule is provided that can painlessly provide free-space attenuation, parabolic antenna gain

and beamwidth, and Fresnel zone width.

This book covers the whole process required to lay out a point-to-point radio communications system, or analyze the capabilities of one that is being fielded, in a systematic, straightforward and easy to understand way. Note that in this context, by point-to-point I am excluding HF ionospheric propagation, which is beyond the scope of this book — think VHF through microwave systems here, although near-Earth HF communications are not excluded.

The focus on "The Link Equation," with a dedicated chapter, is appropriate in my view. The author helps the link designer answer the key questions — how much power do I need to get the needed signal strength at the far end, what receiver sensitivity is required and what antenna gain is needed. Obviously, each of these parameters is closely related and the trade



between them is often a financial one that the designer can adjust based on individual constraints. The author provides examples of determining the link design using his provided slide rule.

The next chapter gets to the heart of the matter — how much signal-to-noise ratio is required to adequately receive signals sufficient to be detected and processed as a function of the information,

including the digital encoding that is generally employed.

In summary, this book very nicely covers the design and analysis of real-life radio point-to-point communications in an easy to understand, but very practical (as promised by the title) way, that will make sense to most *QST* readers.

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The Doctor is In

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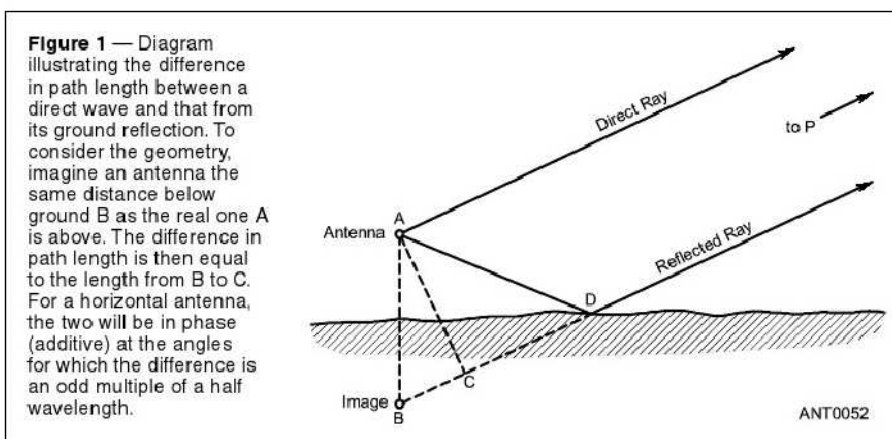
What's the Gain of a 1/4-Wave Monopole?

Q Dave, W4EJ, asks: I was recently in a conversation with a relatively new ham regarding the gain of a 1/4-wave monopole antenna compared to an isotropic antenna in free space. While the gain of a dipole is commonly specified as 2.15 dBi, I noted that I had never seen a 1/4 wave monopole described in this way. I researched the issue in some antenna engineering textbooks and also articles on the Internet and found gains specified from +5.17 to -0.85 dBi, depending on the author. There seems to be a lot of confusion on this subject. This is an example of something I thought I was informed about, only to find out with further study, that this was not the case. Can you provide some clarification?

A This is an interesting question, and one that requires a lot of reading of the fine print! Some key points:

- Isotropic antennas can only exist in free space, or very far from ground.
- The 2.15 dB gain of a dipole over an isotropic antenna also assumes that they are both in free space. That figure only takes into account the redistribution of the energy from the ends of the dipole toward the main lobe, which in free space for a horizontal antenna, is the same at all elevation angles.
- For horizontally polarized antennas, except for those in aircraft or space applications, the effect of ground reflections is generally more significant than the gain described above.

Note that the ground reflection of a horizon-



tal antenna is out of phase towards the horizon (0° elevation). For a horizontal antenna, the reflection from the ground will be in phase at elevation angles at which the path length from the antenna itself and the ground reflection are different by 1/2 wavelength or odd multiples (see Figure 1). While the peak angle will be different for different heights as shown in Table 1 (based on modeled results using EZNEC antenna analysis software), the typical increase at the peak will be about 6 dB, depending on ground conditions.¹

As you can see the ground reflection is more significant than the increase from the end redistribution. Note that the values in

¹Several versions of EZNEC antenna modeling software are available from developer Roy Lewallen, W7EL, at www.eznec.com.

Table 1 are based on “typical” ground (conductivity, 0.005 S/m; dielectric constant 13). Also, the patterns for horizontal antennas at heights above half a wavelength tend to have multiple lobes which carry additional energy.

- Unlike the horizontal antenna, the ground reflection of a vertical antenna over perfect ground is in phase at 0° elevation. Over real ground, however, the energy that would be propagating along the Earth's surface will be absorbed by ground losses, resulting in an effective null at the horizon beyond the effective distance of the ground wave, usually in the tens of miles, depending on ground conductivity. Thus long distance low angle radiation is much less than predicted by the perfect ground model.

The result is that what should be a large amount of useful radiation at low angles

Table 1
Elevation Angle of First Lobe and Peak Gain as a Function of Horizontal Antenna Height

Height (λ)	Angle of First Lobe (°)	Peak Gain (dBi)
0.25	63	5.72
0.5	28	7.25
0.75	19	7.24
1.0	14	7.61

Table 2
Elevation Characteristics of Vertical Monopoles as a Function of Configuration

Monopole Length (λ)	Condition	Angle of First Lobe (°)	Peak Gain (dBi)
0.5	Free Space	0	2.1
0.25	Free Space	0	1.22
0.25	Ground Plane Over Typical Ground	27	-0.17
0.25	Above Ground Plane at 10° elevation		-2.9

doesn't make it very far, at least over typical ground. The exception is propagation over sea water, approximating a lossless perfect ground, at least toward destinations over the water.

Table 2 provides some examples of the performance of ground mounted monopoles. The last entry in Table 2 may be of interest because, while the gain of the ground plane doesn't seem so large at 10° elevation, a horizontal dipole has the be up at least 0.3 wavelengths above typical ground to have the same energy at 10° elevation. That's why verticals can work better than horizontals on the lower frequencies, where it is often difficult to get horizontal antennas high enough to be effective at low angles.

Q Bruce, N1EQG, asks: I find my new antenna analyzer a valuable tool, but I haven't yet found a way to use it to measure transmission line loss. Can this be accomplished with my analyzer?

A I can think of two ways to use an antenna analyzer to determine the loss in transmission lines. If you wish to determine the loss in a line feeding an antenna, you can do so by measuring the SWR — or better, the impedance — at the radio end of the line while it is connected to the antenna on one or more frequencies that are of interest. This also requires that you know the length and type of the transmission line, but an approximate length will yield an approximate line loss — frequently close enough for our purposes.

Open the program *Transmission Line for Windows (TLW)* that comes on the CD-ROM supplied with any recent *ARRL Antenna Book*.^{2,3,4} By entering the line type from the pull-down box, the frequency and the length, and then the measured impedance in the box provided, you have it set up to tell you the loss — click the INPUT button near the impedance data and read the loss as

²The *ARRL Antenna Book*, 22nd Edition. Available from your ARRL dealer or the ARRL Bookstore, ARRL order no. 6948. Telephone 860-594-0355, or toll-free in the US 888-277-5289; www.arri.org/shop; pub-sales@arri.org.

³While early versions of *TLW* provided accurate results with coaxial cable, they were optimistic on their loss predictions with balanced transmission lines. A new version is described in the *QST* article of reference 4, along with a pointer to the revised program file.

⁴J. Hallas, W1ZR, "Introducing an Improved Version of Transmission Line for Windows Software," *QST*, June 2014, pp 38-40.

well as the actual line SWR (it is always higher than it reads at the bottom, due to line loss).

If your antenna analyzer only provides the SWR, rather than the actual impedance, all is not lost. Set the reactance to 0, and for the resistance put in Z_0/SWR , where Z_0 is the characteristic impedance of the transmission line and SWR is your measured SWR, and note the loss. Then put in $Z_0 \times \text{SWR}$ and note the loss. The two values of impedance are the two easiest to calculate impedances that yield the measured SWR and should give an idea of the approximate cable loss and the range of uncertainty.

The other method to estimate line loss from measured SWR is to measure it with the far end of the line open or shorted. This is not a good idea with the SWR indicator in a transmitter, since it is not generally safe to transmit into a high SWR and many radios will shut down if this is attempted.

If the line has no loss, the SWR will be infinite, since all power will be reflected and returned to the analyzer. If the line has high loss, the SWR will be low, indicating that little power is coming back. Of course, it is the intermediate cases that we are most interested in.

An alternate parameter used in some fields to specify mismatch is called *return loss*, usually measured in decibels (dB). This is a measure of how much power is returned to the source and, as noted above, a high return loss equates to a low SWR and vice-versa. Some SWR analyzers provide this as an optional output, but most don't.

The punchline is that the return loss with an open ended or shorted cable is the two way loss on the cable at the measurement frequency — so dividing it by 2 gives the cable loss you are looking for. If the return loss is not directly available, it can be easily calculated from the SWR, as follows:

$$L_R = 20 \times \text{Log}_{10} [(SWR-1)/(SWR+1)] \quad \text{Eq 1}$$

Where L_R is the return loss in decibels.

Alternately, Table 3 may be usable as a look-up table. Note that a limitation of this method is that many SWR indicators are progressively less accurate as the indicated SWR increases, so use caution if the measured SWR is high. Table 3 provides data for SWR up to 10:1, but many indicators do not even have calibration above 5 or 7:1, so apply appropriate levels of salt.

Table 3
Return Loss and Cable Loss for Various Values of SWR

SWR	Return Loss (dB)	Cable Loss (dB)
1.05	32.26	16.13
1.1	26.44	13.22
1.2	20.83	10.41
1.5	13.98	6.99
1.7	11.73	5.86
2.0	9.54	4.77
2.5	7.36	3.68
3.0	6.02	3.01
3.5	5.11	2.55
4.0	4.44	2.22
4.5	3.93	1.96
5.0	3.52	1.76
7.0	2.50	1.25
10.0	1.74	0.87

Ruddy Ellis, W4LNG, provides some cautionary insight regarding the dimming of lights under load, such as while keying an amplifier, as discussed in the August 2014 column. Ruddy suggests that, while it could be an indication of excessive drop in the circuit feeding the amplifier, as mentioned, there is another possibility. That is a poor connection of the neutral line from the pole to the ground at the service entrance.

If the problem is the neutral connection, whenever there is a heavy load on one side of the 240 V line (one 120 V "leg"), the voltage on that side will go down while the voltage on the other leg goes up. Only if the loads on the two legs are equal will each voltage be 120 V. Ruddy experienced this at one house to the extent that the lightly loaded leg voltage went high enough to burn out some appliances.

Ruddy has experienced this in multiple houses. One was caused by rodent damage, one by salt-air corrosion. So if some lights get bright, while others go dim with changing load — make sure that your neutral line is well grounded to the service entrance box. If in doubt, call your electrician.

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; for fastest response, e-mail doctor@arri.org.



Steve Ford, W8SIMY, wb8imy@arrl.org

Listening for Lightning at VLF

If you're looking for a way to instantly share information among large groups of people in far-flung locations, it is hard to beat the Internet. For years amateurs have exploited its ability to combine or *aggregate* disparate streams of data from throughout the world. Internet-based DX clusters combine spotting reports from amateurs on almost every continent. The constantly changing nature of radio propagation is revealed through reports fed automatically from JT65 operators to websites such as PSKReporter (pskreporter.info), or by reports from WSPR operators aggregated at wspinet.org. And then there is the Reverse Beacon Network (www.reversebeacon.net) and many similar sites.

With this aggregation capability well in mind, Greg Smith, KK4AAG, passed along news of a fascinating online collaboration between Very Low Frequency (VLF) hobbyists, amateurs, and weather enthusiasts. The non-profit group calls itself *Blitzortung* (from the German for "lightning location"). It is a global network of VLF receivers that listens for the characteristic signals of lightning strikes between 3 and 30 kHz. When a receiving station detects a lightning signal, it uploads the information to the Blitzortung website for analysis and sharing.

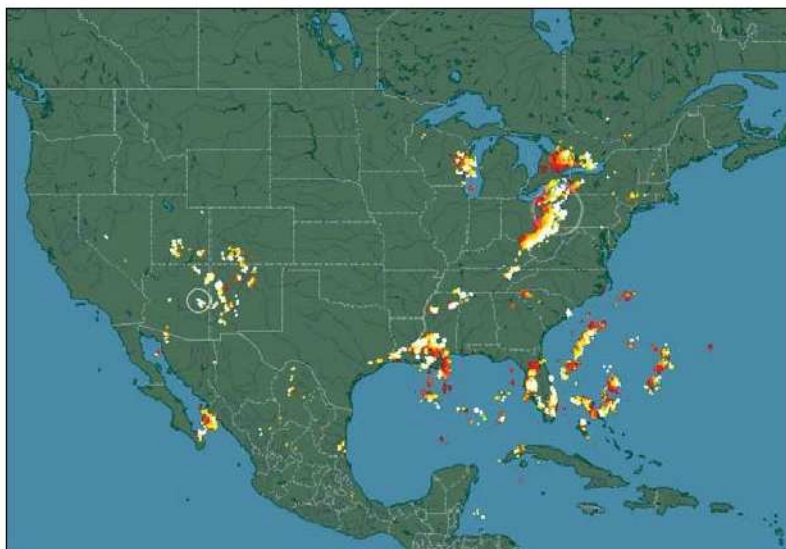
Although this group originated in Germany, they've gathered participants from many nations, including the US and Canada. At the time this column was written, there were more than 60 participants in the United States alone.

The Blitzortung website software analyzes the incoming reports and calculates the approximate locations of lightning strikes through the use of a Time Of Arrival (TOA) technique. Think of it as a form of foxhunting at VLF frequencies, except that this fox is hotter than the surface of the Sun!

For TOA analysis to work accurately, each participating station must upload information about the lightning signal, including the precise time when the signal was detected. The network relies on Global Positioning System (GPS) time synchronization, which means that each station must also have the ability to receive and decode GPS signals. GPS reception also allows stations to accurately report their positions.

The Blitzortung group offers a station starter kit that sells for less than \$270. It consists of a couple of ferrite antennas, a VLF receiver/preamplifier and a controller board. You have to add a GPS receiver module, but note that the controller board supports only those using MediaTek MT3339 and SiRF chip sets. Compatible devices include the Garmin 16, Garmin 17, Garmin 35, and the EM-406A module. For more information, go to www.blitzortung.org and click on the COVER YOUR AREA tab along the top of the web page.

On the same page, you will find fields where you can submit order requests for the latest kits. The Blitzortung organization is a group of volunteers, not a business, so it helps to exercise patience. At press time they announced that revised kits would be available in 2015.



A map of reported lightning strikes in North America as seen at the Blitzortung website at www.blitzortung.org.

A New Software Defined Transmitter from Zephyr Engineering

Zephyr Engineering has announced a new software defined radio transmitter known as the SDRstick, model UDPSDR-TX2. This neat little unit for experimenters joins UDPSDR-HFx series of receivers to create complete SDR transceivers.

The UDPSDR-TX2 covers 200 kHz to 55 MHz with an output of 500 mW. That may seem like a tiny amount of RF, but nothing would prevent you from buying or building a power amplifier to boost the output to 50 W or more.

The SDRstick modules are compatible with several different FPGA development kits available from Arrow Electronics. They provide hardware front-ends to *Gnu-Radio* and other SDR software for a wide range of applications. You can purchase SDRstick boards from iQuadLabs at www.iquadlabs.com and Arrow Electronics at components.arrow.com/part/search/udpsdr. For more specific information, visit www.sdrstick.com.



Experiment #143

Delay Circuits

The Warner Brothers cartoon character Marvin the Martian seethes, “delays, delays!” But there is no need for a ham radio electronics designer to become “very annnny.” Not at all! Delay circuits are found in many types of ham radio gear, and might even prevent an Earth-shattering ka-boom! This month’s column serves up two sample circuits to satisfy your search for spare seconds.

Pulse Stretcher

There are many applications to “stretch” a short pulse into a longer one. A circuit that detects RF might only generate a very short pulse if the incoming signal is brief or weak. That might generate a pulse too short to reliably trigger a logic circuit, be detected by a microprocessor, or light an indicator long enough to be easily seen by the naked eye. Switching or power transients are another notoriously unreliable input signal. One simple and inexpensive solution is to use a spare logic gate or two and an RC timing network, as shown in Figure 1.

Let’s take the circuit in Figure 1A as an example. In its resting or *quiescent* state, the input signal is LOW, the input connected to R and C is LOW, and the output of the OR gate formed by the combined NOR gate and inverter is also LOW. As soon as the input pulse changes to HIGH, the output of the OR gate also goes high. This causes current to flow through C, creating a voltage across R. Since C is assumed to be discharged, the initial voltage across R is approximately the same as the output signal, close to V+. Then it begins to drop according to the RC circuit’s time constant $\tau = RC$. In a bit more than one time constant τ the voltage will have dropped enough at the OR gate’s input to be a logic-level LOW. If the input pulse has ended by then, both inputs to the OR gate will be LOW and so the output of the OR gate will return to LOW. If τ is longer than the input pulse, the output pulse has been “stretched” to approximately RC seconds. The output pulse will never be shorter than the input pulse. Why? (The output of the OR gate will be high as long as either input is high.)

You can follow similar steps to figure out how the circuits work in Figures 1B – 1D. In all, there are four circuits for stretching and inverting either positive- or negative-going pulses. You’ll find that using an oscilloscope is the best way of watching both the input and output pulses. Use a 555 timer circuit as described in Experiment #5 as your pulse generator.¹

The exact amount of stretching depends on the logic switching thresholds of the logic family you are using. The closer the gate switching thresholds are to V+ and ground, the more the pulse will be stretched. For example, switching thresholds for the 4000-series of CMOS logic are about 10 and 90 percent of V+. Pulses will be stretched longer for this family of logic than for a logic family with thresholds closer to ½ V+. Why? (Because the voltage across R will have to decay longer to

¹All previous Hands-On Radio experiments are available to ARRL members at www.arri.org/hands-on-radio.

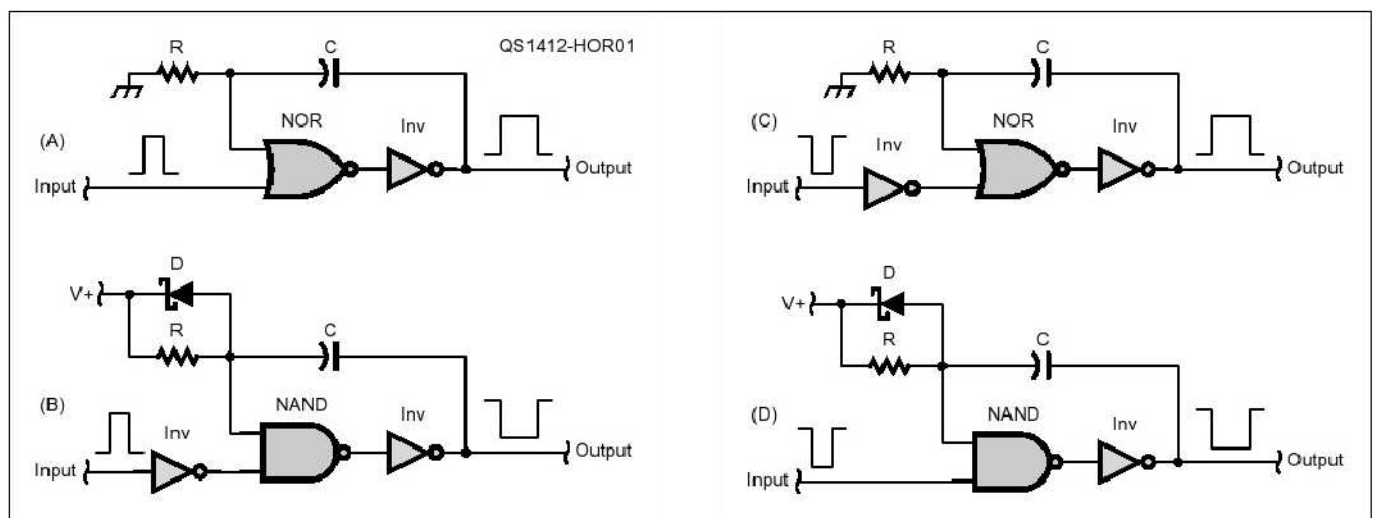


Figure 1 — Four basic pulse stretching circuits. A and D stretch the pulse without inverting it while B and C invert the input pulse. Diodes across the timing resistors prevent switching transients from exceeding the power supply voltage and possibly damaging the logic gates.

reach the lower switching threshold and that means the output pulse will stay HIGH longer.)

Soft-start Circuit

Linear amplifiers and other equipment with high-voltage (HV) power supplies need a bit of delay between the time the power switch is turned ON and the time full voltage is applied to the HV rectifiers and filter. The reason is *inrush current*. If a linear power supply's filter capacitors are discharged when power is applied, they act like a short-circuit during those first few cycles of rectified ac. This causes very high current pulses in the transformer windings and through the rectifiers as the capacitors charge up.

After a few cycles of ac and depending on the resistance of the rectifiers and transformer secondary winding, the filter capacitors are charged to near their peak value and the amount of current drops dramatically. During the charging period however, peak currents can be 10 to 20 times normal current or even higher, placing significant stress on all of the power supply components.

Circuits have been employed that slowly increase transformer input voltage with a TRIAC or other variable ac source. The *soft-start* circuit presented in Figure 2 is simpler and satisfies quite nicely the requirement to limit that surge current. It limits inrush current with a 10 Ω power resistor. Until the relay activates, the 10 Ω resistor is in series with the primary winding of the main power transformer. After a suitable delay, the relay contacts short out the 10 Ω resistor and full power is applied to the main transformer.

To power the relay, an auxiliary power supply circuit is required. A small 12 V transformer supplies a 1N4001 diode and 2200 μF in a half-wave rectifier circuit. At light loads, the filtered output voltage, V_{PS} , will be about $12 \times 1.4 - 0.7 \approx 16$ V. (V_{PS} will drop closer to 12 V when the relay coil draws current from the supply.)

The timing of when the relay switches is determined by the 33 kΩ resistor and 470 μF capacitor. When power is applied with the 470 μF capacitor completely discharged, it begins charging towards 16 V with a time constant of $\tau = RC = 33 \times 10^3 \times 470 \times 10^{-6} = 15.5$ s.

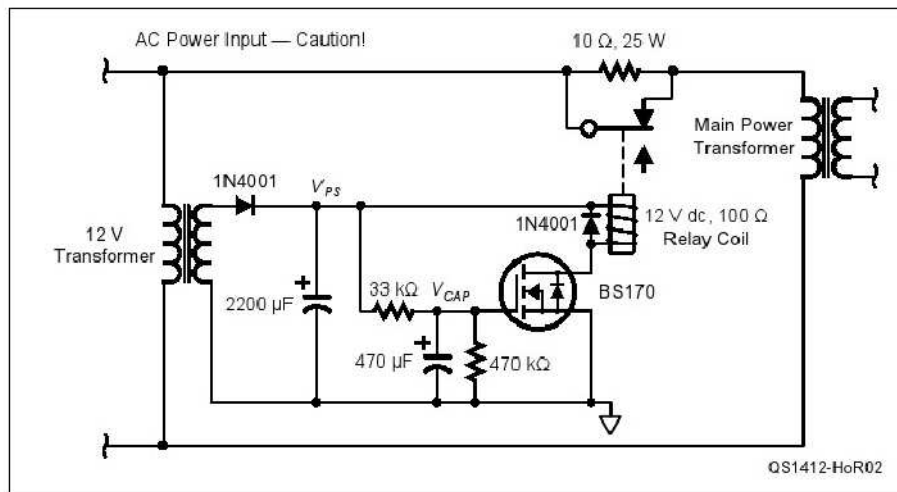


Figure 2 — A soft-start circuit reduces inrush current to the large filter capacitors in a high-voltage power supply. The 10 Ω resistor limits primary current while the capacitors charge. After a couple of seconds, the relay shorts out the resistor and applies full power to the secondary.

As the voltage across the 470 μF capacitor (V_{CAP}) increases, it approaches the *gate threshold voltage* ($V_{GS(Th)}$) of the BS170 FET. This is the point at which the FET will rapidly turn on and conduct drain current, acting more or less like a switch. How quickly the gate voltage will reach 2 V is determined by the equation:

$$t = -\tau \ln\left[1 - \frac{V(t)}{V_{PS}}\right] = -15.5 \ln\left[1 - \frac{2}{16}\right] \approx 2 \text{ s}$$

Two seconds is plenty of time for a power supply's filter capacitors to charge up. (This and similar formulas for RC timing circuits are posted on the Hands-On Radio web page for this experiment.)

Most 12 V relay coils have a resistance of around 100 Ω and so draw about 120 mA from a 12 V supply. If the *on-resistance* ($R_{DS(On)}$) of the FET is a few ohms, it will dissipate $P_D = I_D^2 R_{DS(On)} = 0.014 R_{DS(On)}$ watts, which is a minimal amount of heat. The 470 kΩ resistor discharges the timing capacitor when power is removed so that the circuit will operate properly when power is again switched on. The second 1N4001 diode clamps the coil voltage so that a nasty *inductive kickback* transient doesn't destroy the FET when the relay is turned off.

All of this is quite loosely estimated, which means there is plenty of room for experimentation by you! There is a lot of variation between relays — not only in the coil's resistance but the relay's *pull-in volt-*

age at which the coil will actually switch the contacts. Try changing the timing components, use different types of FETs or redesign the circuit to use an NPN transistor like the 2N4401, or maybe scrounge up some different relays and try them out. This will help you get a feel for how much variation you can expect out there in the real world.

You needn't actually apply the soft-start circuit to a high-voltage supply — it will operate just fine on its own. You can get a sense for the timing just by listening to the relay or wiring an LED circuit through the normally-open contacts. If you use this circuit on an actual ac power supply, though, please remember that the 10 Ω resistor and the relay contacts carry the full ac mains voltage. That hazard is easy to forget when working with low-voltage circuits! Make sure you keep the ac wiring insulated and well away from the low-voltage dc circuits. No surprises, please!

Feedback

In the October 2014 *QST* article "Add 40 Meters to a 24-Foot Boom Yagi" by Michael Foerster, W0IH, p 40, the first sentence of the second paragraph states that the omega match used two 200 to 250 μF variable capacitors. The unit of capacitance should have been picofarads (pF).

Steve Sant Andrea, AG1YK, hk@arri.org



Antenna Tubing, a Homebrewed Mic Stand, and Cleaning Rotary Contacts

Mobile Antenna Carrying Case

On a trip I like to bring along several hamstick-type mobile antennas. During the day the 20 or 15 meter bands are great when they are open, and a short mobile antenna can be quite efficient on these frequencies. At night, 40 meters is my choice.

A disassembled hamstick-type antenna is a little over 4 feet long. There are two parts: the helically loaded base and a stainless steel whip. I made a tubular carrying case that will hold several such antennas. I can stow the tube with antennas underneath other luggage in my hatchback car and access an antenna easily without removing everything else.

Inexpensive mailing tubes with a 3-inch diameter are available in 3-foot lengths at any stationery store. To make my carrier, I bought two of them and cut a 16-inch section off the end of one to make an extension for the other. I butted the short piece and the full-length tube together, and wrapped a piece of cardboard about 6 inches wide around the joint to make a union, overlapping each mailing tube piece by about 3 inches. I used duct tape to hold the union together and attach it to the end of the longer tube. I then pulled out the short tube and cut two notches about an inch long into the open end so I could squeeze the short tube's

end slightly, to make it easier to slide it in and out of the union attached to the long tube. I used more duct tape to permanently fasten the plastic plugs in the ends of both pieces.

This makes a good 4-foot, 4-inch storage and transportation container that can hold as many as five antennas in their plastic sleeves. The sleeves keep the bases and the whips for each band together. I label each sleeve with a marker to identify its band. Referring to Figure 1, you can see that I have also used a marker to make a 120-centimeter ruler on the backs of some of the plastic sleeves. This is to measure the extension of the whip so I can quickly readjust the frequency from the CW to the SSB end of a band.

My antenna case is easy to handle. This is not something rugged enough for checked luggage on a plane, but it is a handy way to carry a set of antennas in a car. In my old Civic wagon I was able to use bungee cords to fasten the antenna tube to the front seat overhead grab handle and the rear seat coat hanger hook. In my current car, that doesn't work but I can put the antenna tube under my luggage and access it from the rear hatch. — 73, Al Woodhull, N1AW, 199 Eden Tr, Leyden, MA 01337, n1aw@arri.net

Homebrew Microphone Stand

Desk microphones are very handy while taking traffic or filling in log sheets (for us non-computer types). But they can be very expensive and lack the useful control buttons often incorporated in the factory-provided ones.

While taking traffic on the Wyoming Cowboy Net, I found myself holding down paper with an elbow while trying to write. This was hardly efficient or comfortable. It occurred to me that the factory mic had a built-in holder on the back. If I could mount it on a stand then, using VOX, both hands



Figure 2 — This homebrewed stand allows the typical factory hand microphone to double as a desk mic. [Leonard Gordon, KD7CLO, photo]

would be free. The result was the mic stand shown in Figure 2.

I have access to welding and cutting equipment so I made mine out of steel. But the same result could be done with a variety of materials, such as a tuna tin filled with plaster, with wood for the upright.

Referring to Figure 3, the bottom is a piece of $1 \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times 3$ inch steel drilled for a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch round rod, 7 inches long, for the upright. The upright height can be any length to match the needs of the individual. The base is drilled and tapped for a set screw to hold the upright rod. A 3-inch piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch rod was welded at a 90° angle to the upright. A piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch square tube 2 inches long with a set screw is placed over this piece of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch rod.

A simple tab is welded and drilled to this square tube to accommodate the screws for the microphone mounting clip. A bit of

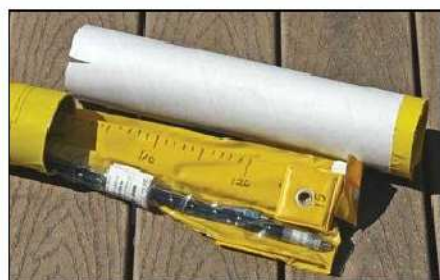


Figure 1 — A couple of inexpensive mailing tubes, appropriately modified, makes a convenient way to store and transport mobile/portable antenna elements. [Al Woodhull, N1AW, photo]



Figure 3 — While this stand is made from steel, wood could be used for simpler construction and a more pleasing look. [Leonard Gordon, KD7CLO, photo]

spray paint was applied for a professional appearance. Finally, I glued a piece of craft rubber on the bottom to prevent slipping and possible scratches on the desk. Slip the microphone into the clip and you have a desk mic with full features. The total height of my stand is 9¼ inches, but it can be whatever meets your individual needs.

As a bonus, when we have one of our numerous summer afternoon thunderstorms, I simply lay the mic on the desk to indicate that the antennas are grounded. When I return to the shack there is no possibility of forgetting to reconnect the antennas because the mic on the desk is a visual reminder. — 73, Leonard Gordon, KD7CLO, 2112 Rooks Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82007, samicat@bresnan.net

Cleaning Rotary Switch Contacts

My old Heath V-7A vacuum tube voltmeter (VTVM) had stopped working due to intermittent rotary switches. I fixed it by applying Noalox Anti-Oxidant Compound (www.idealindustries.com) to the contacts with a toothpick. Noalox is a blue, thick semi-liquid suspension of zinc particles that will remove corrosion from the switch contacts. It's available at home improvement centers and electrical/commercial supply companies.

To clean the switch, I first removed the front and rear pieces of the V-7A VTVM cabinet to give me access to the two front panel switches. I removed the nozzle on the Noalox bottle and inserted a long screwdriver into it. I stirred the contents for a few minutes, as the suspension tends to separate over time.

I reattached the nozzle, which allows a measured amount of the Noalox to be dispensed from the bottle, and put about a half teaspoon of the Noalox into a clean saucer.

Using a toothpick, I applied the Noalox to

the contacts, turning the shaft to make sure all of the parts had a thin coating. When I finished, I rotated both switch shafts several times to make sure the coverage was complete.

Note: When using Noalox on switches in an RF circuit, apply it sparingly. The Noalox runs and can detune a circuit. — 73, Thomas Webb, W4YOK, 3533 Teakwood Ln, Plano, TX 75075, sam9lives1@verizon.net

Tilt-up Feet

Most transceivers and other ham equipment have a tilt-up leg feature to improve the viewing angle of the controls and meters. I purchased a new power supply and discovered that it didn't have this feature. To adjust the viewing angle I created front leg extensions from a few parts and pieces I had in the workshop.

First, unscrew the two front rubber feet. Drill a center hole in two ½-inch electric box plugs, to accept the rubber foot's mounting screw. Now attach the box plug to the bottom with the flat side to the bottom of the equipment case using the origi-

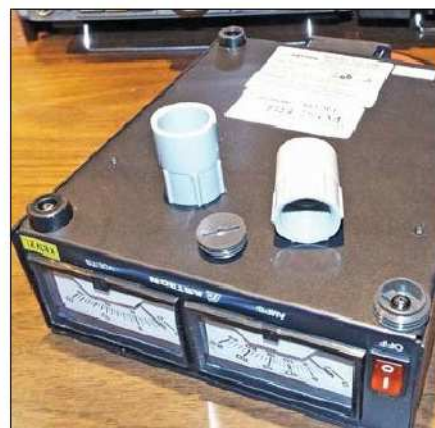


Figure 4 — A few inexpensive components can replace the low feet of a piece of equipment to allow for easier viewing. [Richard Russo, KB3VZL, photo]



Figure 5 — With the addition of some short "legs," the power supply meters are now much more visible and more cooling air can flow underneath. [Richard Russo, KB3VZL, photo]

nal screws from the removed feet (see Figure 4). To finish the modification, screw on two ½-inch plastic threaded electrical tubing adapters. You now have front feet extensions about an inch and a half long (see Figure 5). The viewing angle is similar to that of the other equipment and, for equipment with cooling vents underneath it also allows extra cooling air in. I spray painted mine flat black to improve their appearance. The total cost of parts is less than \$3. — 73, Richard Russo, KB3VZL, 105 Colonial Ave, Norristown, PA 19403, kb3vzl@arrl.net

Code Key Covers

For an inexpensive way to display or keep the dust off of your shiny code key, consider picking up a clear plastic "model car" display case from your local hobby shop. They can be had for under \$10 and come in different sizes ranging from those suitable for the larger mechanical "bugs" down to the smaller electronic keyer paddles. If you like, you can use the shaft of a soldering pencil to easily melt a slot in the lower back wall of these cases to accommodate wiring. — 73, Joe Morse, AD4W, 317 Westlawn Rd, Columbia, SC 29210-5622, ad4w@sc.rr.com

"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 hk@arrl.org. Please include your name, call sign, complete mailing address, daytime telephone number and e-mail address on all correspondence. Whether you are praising or criticizing an item, please send the author(s) a copy of your comments.

Special Veteran, Special Radio, Special Event

A Navajo Code Talker — and the radio he used — put the Navajo code on the air again.

Richard Corrigan, NORMC

On April 4, 2014, the culmination of more than a year of research, coordination, and testing brought together the last living member of the first platoon of Marine Navajo Code Talkers, a World War II TBX-6 transceiver, and the Marines of the Marine Corps Network Operations and Security Command (MCNOSC). The purpose of this unusual reunion was to dedicate Platoon 382 Hall, the new annex to Code Talkers Hall, which is home to the MCNOSC at the Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia. Platoon 382 Hall is named after the first platoon of Navajo Code Talkers who came together in 1942 to aid the US Marines in the Pacific Theater. Members of the Stafford Area Repeater Association (SARA) and the Marine Corps Amateur Radio Club (MCARC) had the pleasure and honor of participating in this historic event.

Colonel David McMorries, the commanding officer of the MCNOSC, tasked 2nd

Lt Procter, a young Marine officer, to locate any pieces of history relevant to the Marine Navajo Code Talkers that could be displayed at the entrance to Platoon 382 Hall. Second Lt Procter was able to track down an operational TBX-6 radio that was in the collection of New Jersey ham Rob Flory, K2WI. Rob, who has an impressive collection of vintage naval radio equipment, agreed to part with his TBX-6, which was instrumental in making the event an overwhelming success. MCNOSC Operations Chief Robert Gibbons procured the TBX-6 from Rob for display at the entrance to the facility.

Bob Gibbons and 2nd Lt Procter joined the members of SARA on a Saturday morning in July 2013 to determine if there were any members who had experience operating and maintaining radio equipment like the TBX-6, which they brought for everyone to view. Bob went on to explain what was planned for the dedication, and the desire to

have an operational radio available as well as the last remaining Code Talker present for the dedication.

This historic transceiver and the prospect of actually operating it in the presence of a living part of the radio's history were too much for members of SARA to pass up! Ron Startzel, KB5LNC, the current president of SARA, took on the task of making sure the radio and the volunteer operators were brought up to speed in time for the dedication ceremony.

Logistics

Between October 2013 and the April 2014 ceremony, Marines from the Quantico Communications School, members of SARA and MCARC, Rob Flory, and the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club conducted several tests with varying degrees of success. In its original configuration, the TBX-6 transceiver consisted of four components — the transmitter/receiver in one

Chester Nez — Code Talker

Chester Nez (January 23, 1921 – June 4, 2014) was the last original Navajo Code Talker who served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II. He was born in Chi Chil Tah, New Mexico, to the Navajo Black Sheep Clan of the Sleeping Rock People. He was raised during a time when there were difficult relations between the US government and the Navajo Nation. Nez recalled children often being taken from reservations, sent to boarding schools, and told not to speak the Navajo language. It was from one of these schools, in Tuba City, Arizona, that Nez was recruited into the Marine Corps.

Upon enlistment he was assigned to the 382nd Infantry Regiment at Camp Pendleton, where he joined a group of 28 other Navajo who were assigned to create a code. The Navajo language was chosen because its syntax and tonal qualities were nearly impossible for a non-Navajo to learn.

Nez related that they developed the code by using everyday words, which made remembering the code words much easier. For example, the Navajo word for "shark" was used in code to mean "destroyer."

In 1942, he was among the Code Talkers to be shipped out to Guadalcanal, where they worked in teams of two — one to send and receive, the other to operate the radio and listen for errors. He was honorably discharged as a private first class in 1945 and returned to serve stateside in the Korean War, afterward being discharged as a corporal.

In 2001, Nez was one of five Code Talkers who received the Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush in recognition of the unique importance of their service to the Allied cause.



Corporal Chester Nez (seated) signs copies of his book, *Code Talker*, as Colonel David McMorries looks on.



This is the transmitter/receiver part of the TBX-6 radio used by the Code Talkers. The transmitter portion is on the left and the receiver portion on the right. [Antonio Fucci, I8000PU SWL, www.radiomilitari.com, photo]



Lance Corporal Tiffany Boyd shows Mr Latham Nez (standing) and Corporal Chester Nez a copy of Corporal Nez's 1942 platoon photo featuring the original 29 Navajo Code Talkers.

box, a hand-cranked generator, an accessory case, and the antenna. The receiver was powered by batteries and the hand-cranked generator provided +500 V plate voltage and filament voltage for the transmitter.

After overcoming hardware issues, propagation, and weather challenges, they began to make reliable contacts, initially using a G5RV antenna and then an AS-2259 NVIS (Near Vertical Incidence Skywave) antenna, all of which allowed successful contacts on 3885 kHz AM to local hams assisting in the test.

After coordinating with Colonel McMorries and Chief Gibbons, a request for the special event call sign N4C, for "Navajo 4 Code Talker," was processed by the outstanding ARRL® staff. For the event, SARA and MCARC would have the TBX-6 transceiver operating on 3885 kHz AM. The special event station also employed an Icom IC-7100 on 20 meters and an Icom IC-880 operating through Reflector 025 on D-STAR. The N4C operators included Ron, KB5LNC, a retired Marine CH-46 pilot; Larry, W4OPA, a retired Marine Communicator; Cameron, K6CLM, Active Duty Air Force, and Rich, N0RMC, a retired Marine Communicator and the author of this article.

A Special Guest

Though the dedication ceremony was initially planned for October 2013, various events delayed the activity. Finally, in April 2014, the event's guest of honor, Corporal Chester Nez, along with his grandson, Latham Nez, made the trip from their home in Albuquerque, New Mexico to Quantico. Born in 1921, Corporal Nez was a veteran of the Battles of Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Guam, Peleliu, and Angaur, and was, at the time, the last living member of Platoon 382 (Corporal Nez passed away in June; see the

sidebar, "Chester Nez — Code Talker"). Upon arriving at the MCNOSC, Corporal Nez and his grandson were welcomed by the Marines, who were then treated to an ad hoc history lesson from Corporal Nez. He related how the Navajo code was developed by his platoon, and went on to relate some of his experiences during the World War II Island Hopping Campaign. When the subject of the TBX-6 arose, he was asked how long a Marine had to crank the generator. Corporal Nez quickly responded — "All day!"

During the ceremony, Corporal Nez took microphone in hand and, in the Navajo code, transmitted his first transmission on Guadalcanal, 71 years earlier: "Enemy machine gun nest on your right flank — destroy." This was probably the last time one of the original Navajo Marines would transmit the code, which was never broken by the Japanese, and he did it on a TBX-6 radio!

The Navajo Marines of Platoon 382 developed the code from the unwritten language spoken only by the Navajo People. There were a total of 421 Navajo Code Talkers during World War II who gave their solemn oath to protect the code they developed. The Navajo Code Talker program was declassified in 1968, and in 2000 President George W. Bush awarded Congressional Gold Medals to the five remaining Marines of the original 29 who formed the basis of Platoon 382.

The TBX-6 Transceiver

The TBX-6 as fielded was a portable tactical HF transceiver operated by three Marines. The transmitter is capable of 9 W on CW or 3 W on AM from a one tube 837 pentode final and is crystal or master-oscillator controlled. Though the TBX-6 is a transmitter/receiver, the transmitter portion and the receiver portion are powered separately. A

hand-cranked generator, gasoline engine generator, or a dynamotor powers the transmitter while batteries or a rectifier powers the receiver.

The transceiver was carried by one of the Marines. A second Marine carried the battery and accessory box (headset, microphone, key, receiver cable, and spare tubes) in another canvas bag, while the third Marine carried the generator and antenna. The antenna is a 24-foot guyed whip with a unique connection that is rarely seen by today's amateurs. The feed line is connected to the transceiver by what today resembles an automotive spark plug connector.

You can download a video of the dedication from the *QST* in Depth web page at www.arrrl.org/qst-in-depth.

Photos courtesy of Todd Headington.

Richard Corrigan, N0RMC, an ARRL member, is a retired Marine Corps communicator. He has been a ham for 25 years and holds an Amateur Extra class license. When he was stationed in Japan, he held the call sign 7J6CEE; when in Australia, he had the call sign VK8CN.

Today, Richard is president of the Marine Corps Amateur Radio Club, WU5MC, and technical director for Stafford Area Radio Association, WS4VA. Richard has a master's degree in engineering from George Washington University and is employed as a satellite communications subject matter expert for HQMC Director Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (C4) at the Pentagon. He can be reached at 12 Maggie Ct, Fredericksburg, VA 22406, n0rmc2651@gmail.com.



Youngsters On The Air — YOTA 2014

If you've been wondering where all the young hams are, this year the answer is Finland!

Ward Silver, NOAX

The Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) event is held every year in different European Union (EU) countries under EU and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) sponsorship.

The aim of YOTA (www.ham-yota.eu) is to bring young people — under the age of 25 — together in the spirit of cultural exchange. The YOTA event fosters collaborative learning in all segments of Amateur Radio, science, and electronics.

The events of 2014 were the third year for YOTA, and 15 EU countries were represented by 75 young attendees who traveled to Virrat, Finland from July 15 – 20.

No doubt everyone had an unforgettable week, learned a lot, and made many new friends! You may have worked them on the air as OH2YOTA. This was a temporary two-tower station assembled and installed on-site by the YOTA organizers,

who were led by Vili, OH5GE. YOTA attendees took part in several Amateur Radio activities, such as making contacts, testing their Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) skills, and building and testing electronic kits. Besides ham radio, they worked hard on improving their language skills and discussing issues related to cultural awareness, which is an important part of Amateur Radio's ability to foster international goodwill.



Everyone arrived in Finland on July 15. YOTA 2014 got under way the next

day with presentations, energizing games, and team-building exercises. Lisa, PA2LS; Tommy, ON3TD, and Mattias, SE0M, gave a presentation describing the YOTA event in December 2013, which included awards as well as changes to the YOTA website. Johan, SM5F, gave a presentation about the CQ

WPX award activities at SH3Y (2012) and SK3W (2013) in Sweden, where a young team of YOTA operators smashed the existing Swedish records. Jari, OH6BG, discussed the online version of VOACAP (www.voacap.com/prediction.html), a tool for predicting propagation that is helpful in planning operations. Concluding the day with an international evening, the teams presented the best food and drink from their respective countries for all to sample.

In the following days, the LZ team, with the help of some OH hams, gave a short introduction on ARDF (www.ardf-r1.org) and the use of 80 meter ARDF

handheld direction finders.

Meanwhile other groups built a "Slim-Jim" antenna and Morse code sounder. Some teams participated in a SOTA (www.sota.org.uk) activation as OG3X/p from OH/JS-016, while others traveled to Aland Island to operate as OG0A. Everyone enjoyed the experience of a traditional Finnish sauna, as well!

The events of 2014 were the third year for YOTA, and 15 EU countries were represented by 75 young attendees...



Seventy-five attendees from all over Europe gathered in Virrat, Finland from July 15 – 20 to take part in competitions, games, exercises, electronics training, and to enjoy each other's company during Youngsters On The Air (YOTA). [Lisa Leenders, PA2LS, photo]



This photo shows the Bronze medalists (seated, from left) Keijo, ES1XQ; Tauri, ES5HTA, and Keven, ES6AXS. Team Lithuania captain Simonas, LY2EN (foreground), and Linas, LY5AT (background), are leaning in to get a better view of the action. Contesting thrives in Estonia, and I'm sure we will find these operators represented in future results. The new nation of Estonia is largely in the hands of young people, and so is its Amateur Radio. [Martti Laine, OH2BH, photo]

December 2014 is YOTA Month

During the entire month of December, stations in several countries will be on the air seeking contacts using "YOTA" as their call sign suffix. YOTA is growing fast, and every week more youngsters are asking to participate. By making YOTA popular we can all help to get youngsters active in ham radio. YOTA stations will be trying to make lots of contacts, so take this opportunity to connect young operators in their teens and 20s with their peers on the air. YOTA month is not limited to European countries only — this will be the first worldwide YOTA event. Watch the YOTA website (ham-yota.org) for information about YOTA awards and QSL information. — *Thanks to Tommy, ON2TD, and Lisa, PA2LS, for this information.*

YOTA has its own Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/youngstersontheair) with hundreds of members. Some of YOTA 2014's attendees have published photo albums of the various events, such as European Radiosport Team Championship (ERTC) gold medalist, Sarka Vavrova, OK2SVA (chery.zonerama.com/Profile/22194/43817), and silver medalist Gabry Iuliani, IT9RGY.

European Radiosport Team Championship

YOTA 2014 concluded on July 19 with the European Radiosport Team Championship (ERTC) — a 6-hour contest held on the virtual Amateur Radio simulator, *HamSphere*. (www.hamsphere.com) During ERTC, 15 three-person youth teams were seated in one room with their computers. They competed in an environment similar to online gaming, a format familiar to most of the YOTA attendees. Once again, the latest technology was utilized in Amateur Radio for the benefit of Amateur Radio's future and by Amateur Radio operators themselves.

ERTC 2014 included contacts between hundreds of young people and licensed radio amateurs from 44 participating countries in the spirit of international Amateur Radio. Murphy visited in virtual reality too, as a thunderstorm switched off electricity in the area; power was restored only

5 minutes prior to the start of the contest!

Miguel, EC1DJ, a member of the Spanish team, made a short movie (www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3Wp8gp2oSQ&feature=youtu.be) of the teams as they competed. He explains the online nature of ERTC: "*HamSphere* is a software simulation of the amateur bands, which gives the opportunity for young people interested in the world of Amateur Radio to experience — very realistically — competitions taking place on the air, without a need to pass exams. The only requirement is to have a computer, an Internet connection, and a headset with microphone." This type of online event certainly opens doors for Amateur Radio!

Besides ham radio, they worked hard on improving their language skills and discussing issues related to cultural awareness, which is an important part of Amateur Radio's ability to foster international goodwill.

ERTC 2014 was a mammoth job for the young organizers who worked with limited resources under the guidance of Mari, OH2FPK; Kati, OH2FKX, and Lisa, PA2LS. ERTC 2014 was also honored to have Professor Rumén Gechev, LZ1MS, as patron of this first-ever World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) simulation over the Internet. Rumén himself finished 4th in 1990 at the first WRTC held in Seattle, Washington. Complete results can be found on the YOTA website (www.ham-yota.eu/news), but here are the medal winners (with their ages in parentheses):

Gold: Czech Republic — Sarka Vavrova, OK2SVA (21); Jindrich Kostal, OK1NOR

(24), and Jan "Honza" Dohnalek, OK1JD (20).

Silver: Italy — Nicola Tonci, IZ6TSA (20); Gabry Iuliani, IT9RGY (26), and Orazio Intagliata, IT9DBF (25).

Bronze: Estonia — Keijo Kapp, ES1XQ (17); Tauri Helimets, ES5HTA (18), and Keven Meek, ES6AXS (18).

YOTA and the Future

Following his return to Scotland, the UK's *TX Factor* program did an audio interview (www.txfilms.co.uk/txfactor/adam_yota.mp3) with Adam Hutchinson, MM0KFX, one of the five UK team members. Adam had an interesting response to the question of whether ham radio is becoming an old person's hobby — "Is it?" Adam likes having a mix of young and experienced people in Amateur Radio. He thinks YOTA and similar events will attract more interest among young people of all types and interests, especially those who are technically minded and interested in competing. These young people will take the hobby into the future. Perhaps a future YOTA will be held in North America.

Ward Silver, N0AX, is a contributing editor for *QST*. He can be reached at hwardsil@gmail.com.

ARRL Again Asks FCC to Elevate Amateur Service to Primary on 2300 – 2305 MHz

AT&T Petition threatens amateur usage in this band segment.

The ARRL has once again asked the FCC to elevate the Amateur Service allocation at 2300 – 2305 MHz from secondary to primary. The request came in comments responding to an AT&T Mobility *Petition for Rule Making* seeking a new air-to-ground communications system on 2.3 GHz Wireless Communications Service (WCS) spectrum. The *Petition* (RM-11731) asked the Commission to authorize an LTE-based in-flight connectivity service in the WCS “C” and “D” blocks (2305 – 2315 MHz and 2350 – 2360 MHz, respectively) for airlines and airline passengers. AT&T has asserted that restrictions on out-of-band emission and power limits to protect adjacent-band users make the use of the C and D blocks problematic. The wireless provider asked the FCC for rule changes to permit deployment of its service “using currently fallow spectrum” while also “preserving adequate interference protection to users of adjacent bands.”

“Notwithstanding this broad and nebulous

claim, there is no showing anywhere in the four corners of the *Petition* that the proposed rule changes would permit *any* continued Amateur Radio operations on a secondary basis in the shared A block (2305 – 2310 MHz),” the ARRL commented on September 22. More to the point, the League said, there is no showing in the *Petition* that Amateur Radio operations in the adjacent 2300 – 2305 MHz band would be protected from increased out-of-band emissions, if the FCC were to adopt the requested changes.

According to the League, the FCC has, to date, “failed to protect Amateur Radio operations at 2300 – 2305 MHz from WCS out-of-band emissions.” The ARRL said the band is “regularly and substantially utilized by radio amateurs” for weak-signal, long-distance communication and, only by circumstances — a lack of a primary occupant — has it been able to enjoy that segment as a *de facto* primary user.

“It is obvious that the result of the AT&T *Petition* will be a virtual preclusion of amateur access to the 2305 – 2310 MHz segment,” the ARRL’s comments continued. “A ubiquitous air-to-ground system which operates at and above 2305 MHz will clearly render the secondary allocation status of that segment a virtual nullity.”

The ARRL asked the FCC to recognize Amateur Radio’s “*de facto* primary status” at 2300 – 2305 MHz and to elevate that segment from secondary to primary for amateurs. It further called on the Commission to “clarify the obligation of WCS licensees in all contexts to protect the adjacent-band Amateur Service operations at 2300 – 2305 MHz from harmful interference.” The League requested that AT&T provide “a complete technical compatibility showing and interference analysis” that would demonstrate compatibility between its proposed service and amateur operations at 2300 – 2305 MHz.

ARRL Takes Issue with NTIA’s WRC-15 Proposal for 5 MHz

The ARRL has taken issue with the World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) stance of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) with respect to an international 60 meter Amateur Radio allocation. In response to WRC-15 agenda item 1.4, the NTIA has called for no change at 5250 – 5450 kHz. The League said in comments filed September 24 in IB Docket 04-286 that while it concurs with the NTIA’s view regarding 5250 to 5275 kHz — allocated to the radiolocation service for oceanographic applications at WRC-12 — the rest of the agency’s proposal is “unsupportable in light of actual domestic and international practice and contains assertions of incompatibility that are demonstrably not correct.” The US has authorized Amateur Radio second-

ary operation on five discrete channels in the 5275 – 5450 kHz range for more than a decade, the ARRL pointed out, with no instances of unresolved interference to primary users.

“Against this backdrop, the stated reason for the no-change proposal — that ‘[e]xperience has shown that sharing is not possible between the Amateur Service and the fixed and mobile service’ — fails the straight-face test,” the ARRL said.

The NTIA’s position is at odds with the proposal for agenda item 1.4 previously adopted by the FCC’s WRC-15 Advisory Committee (WAC). In January, the WAC recommended a secondary amateur allocation from 5275 – 5450 kHz, and the FCC has indicated that it could generally

support this recommendation.

The League called the NTIA’s position “particularly puzzling” given the position of federal agencies, for which the NTIA manages spectrum, to allow what the ARRL called, “a *more disruptive service* (radiolocation) in the *identical* frequency range under consideration here *less than three years ago*.”

“Neither NTIA nor its constituent federal agencies have credibly or persuasively articulated why fixed and mobile systems in the 5250 – 5450 kHz range can withstand the demonstrated potential for interference from automated, wideband, HF oceanographic radars, but cannot withstand operation by trained, licensed operators using smaller bandwidths, actually monitoring

the spectrum to be used before and during a transmission, and with the capability to shift frequency immediately to avoid incidents of interference with a primary service," the ARRL commented.

The League asserted that the Amateur Service deserves "the same treatment" that NTIA proposed for HF radiolocation less than 3 years ago. "Proponents of a different treatment, particularly a channelized treatment or a no-change approach, have still not presented a compelling distinction between amateur operation and radiolocation that would justify a departure from the general policy followed by the United States at WRC-12," the ARRL concluded.

FCC Turns Down Petition to Create a 4 Meter Band in the US

US radio amateurs will not be gaining a new band at 70 MHz any time soon. The FCC has denied a *Petition for Rule Making* seeking to add a 4 meter band to Amateur Radio's inventory of VHF allocations. Last May Glen E. Zook, K9STH, of Richardson, Texas, asked the Commission to allocate 70.0 to 70.5 MHz to Amateur Radio because, his *Petition* asserted, "the recent migration of broadcast television stations to primarily UHF frequencies basically eliminates any probable interference to television channels 4 or 5." VHF TV channel 4 occupies 66 to 72 MHz. Not quite, the FCC said.

"Because the Zook *Petition* is based on a faulty premise — that broadcasting use within the 70.0 – 70.5 MHz band will diminish or cease — its argument that amateur band users could operate without causing harmful interference to any existing service lacks sufficient support to warrant our further consideration," The FCC said in a September 17 *Order* denying the *Petition*. The FCC pointed out that three full-power TV stations, 110 low-power TV stations and translators, and six Class A TV stations now occupy channel 4 in the US.

Actor Tim Allen Gets His Ham Ticket

Actor and comedian Tim Allen now not only plays an Amateur Radio operator on television, he *is* one! Allen got his Technician ticket on September 4. In his weekly ABC comedy TV show "Last Man Standing," Allen plays Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, and the show has featured ham radio in some episodes. Allen requested that media not make his call sign public, but it has been disclosed elsewhere.



Newly licensed radio amateur Tim Allen. [Photo courtesy of John Amodeo, NN6JA]

"The Amateur Radio operators on the crew of 'Last Man Standing' are delighted that Tim has taken and passed his Technician exam and received his own real call sign," said program co-producer John Amodeo, NN6JA. "It took more than 3 years to make it happen, and it started with Tim's personal interest in radio technology and his request to make the Mike Baxter character an Amateur Radio operator." The ham shack on the set is a working station.

More than 2 dozen members of the "Last Man Standing" crew — and now Allen, its star — have been inspired by the show's Amateur Radio component to get licensed.

Radio Amateur is Among Nobel Prize in Chemistry Winners

A California radio amateur and ARRL member was among the three winners of the Nobel Prize in chemistry. William Moerner, WN6I, of Los Altos, a chemistry professor at Stanford University, will share the prestigious award equally with two other researchers — Eric Betzig and Stefan

ARRL Presents Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, Achievement Award to Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI

The ARRL has conferred the first Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, Achievement Award upon US Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, (OR-2), "in recognition of many years of exceptional contributions to the strength and vitality of the Amateur Radio Service in the United States."

ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN; Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, presented the award to Walden in Washington on September 18. In a letter accompanying the award, President Craigie wrote, "Your understanding of the importance of Amateur Radio to the public interest and to the pursuit of scientific and technical knowledge has led you to act in the spirit of Sen Goldwater, whose exemplary support for Amateur Radio in Washington caused the ARRL Board to name this award in his honor."

President Craigie called Walden "a great friend to Amateur Radio over the last 12 years with regard to key issues including spectrum protection." Walden chairs the House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, the panel to which "The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014" (H.R. 4969) was referred for consideration.

In 2002 Walden was an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4720, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act, and sought additional cosponsors. In 2003 he co-sponsored H.R. 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. During a hearing on the bill, Walden called for a halt to the "astonishing" erosion of Amateur Radio spectrum.

In 2004, Walden wrote the FCC chairman seeking to have the Commission defer action on the BPL rulemaking until the release of an NTIA study and an opportunity for public comment. That same year, during a hearing on telecom convergence, Walden grilled a BPL industry representative about interference.

In 2010 Walden co-sponsored H.R. 2160, the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act. In May 2011, the ARRL was invited to testify before Walden's subcommittee on "Creating an Interoperable Public Safety Network," offering an opportunity to defend 420 – 440 MHz against reallocation.

"Senator Goldwater was a statesman for Amateur Radio," President Craigie told Walden, "and so are you."



ARRL President Craigie presents the Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, Achievement Award to US Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (OR-2). [Photo courtesy of Kay Craigie, N3KN]

Hell —for their work in high-resolution microscopy, or nanoscopy. For many years scientists had believed that an optical microscope could never yield greater than 0.2 micrometer resolution. The three scientists overcame that limitation through what the Nobel panel called “the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy.”



William Moerner, WN6I. [Stanford University photo by L.A. Cicero]

“I’m incredibly happy about the recognition of the field, especially of all the workers and all the scientists at many places around the world who have contributed to the effort,” Moerner said when notified of the award.

As a Stanford University news release explained, “Optical microscopy was long limited by the presumption that it could never obtain a better resolution than half the wavelength of light. Moerner, Betzig, and Hell circumvented this limitation through the clever implementation of fluorescent molecules, which made it possible for optical microscopes to operate at the nanoscale and visualize individual molecules moving within cells.”

Wisconsin Ham Dies in Fall from Tower

A Wisconsin radio amateur lost his life on September 16 as he was performing maintenance on the 100 foot tower of a fellow ham. Killed in the fall was 59-year-old James G. Linstedt, W9ZUC, of Eau Claire, who died after falling 95 feet from a tower owned by Ronald Anderson, W9RMA, in Eagle Point, just outside of Chippewa Falls.

Chippewa County Sheriff James Kowalczyk told the *Leader-Telegram* newspaper that Linstedt was wearing safety equipment, but did not use it. Kowalczyk said Linstedt had been strapped in before moving 10 feet up the tower, apparently without securing himself. — *Thanks to John Bigley, N7UR/Nevada Amateur Radio Newswire; media accounts*

Silent Keys

ARRL Vice Director Candidate Steve Putman, N8ZR

Steve Putman, N8ZR, of Fairborn, Ohio, one of the candidates for the Great Lakes Division Vice Director’s chair, died unexpectedly on October 5. He was 58 and an ARRL Life Member. At the time of Putman’s death, balloting was already underway for the Great Lakes Vice Director position, currently held by Tom Delaney, W8WTD, the only other candidate. The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee determined that all votes cast by members in the Great Lakes Division will still be counted. If Putman were to receive the most votes, a vacancy would be declared that ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, would fill by appointment.



Steve Putman, N8ZR.

Licensed in 1972 while living in Alabama, he became an ARRL VEC volunteer examiner in 1985, in the early years of the VE program. He also served as an ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer. Putman belonged to the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and was a volunteer at Dayton Hamvention®. He founded the Antioch Shrine ARC and served as trustee of its club station, N8FEZ. The family invited memorial donations to the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Past SCM, SM, Pacific Vice Director Jettie B. Hill, W6RFF

Long-time ARRL Field Organization volunteer Jettie B. Hill, W6RFF, of Roseville, California, died September 21. He was 93. An ARRL Life Member, Hill served as ARRL Santa Clara Valley Section Communications Manager (later “Section Manager”) from 1978 until 1982. He was the ARRL Pacific Division Vice Director in 1982 and 1983. Following his 1984 retirement, he relocated to Roseville and subsequently served as Sacramento Valley Section Manager from 1989 until 2000 and again from 2002 until 2006.

Marte Wessel, KOEPE, and Pete Wessel, W0CM

A well-known Kansas Amateur Radio couple has passed on. Martha “Marte” Wessel, KOEPE, of Liberal, Kansas, died September 23. She was 89. Her husband Walter “Pete” Wessel, W0CM, died 6 days later on September 29 at age 101. Both were ARRL members.

Marte oversaw the annual scholarship drive for the Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL), and the YLRL invited donations in her memory to its scholarship fund c/o Linda Hynan, AC5QQ, 1312 Western Ridge Dr, Waco TX 76712.

Pete Wessel, a Nebraska native, was well-known as a low-band DXer. A US Navy veteran, he was licensed in 1928 as 9EYE. Pete and Marte Wessel were married for 69 years.

Past Western New York SM, Atlantic Division Assistant Director Steve Ryan, N2ITF

Past ARRL Western New York Section Manager Stephen M. “Steve” Ryan, N2ITF, died on October 3. He was 62. Ryan, an ARRL member, was appointed SM in November 2010, to serve the remaining term of Scott Bauer, W2LC, who had resigned. Ryan lost his 2012 bid for election as SM, and ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR, appointed Ryan as an Assistant Director.

Adaptive Technology Pioneer Fred Gissoni, K4JLX

Fred L. Gissoni, K4JLX, of Louisville, Kentucky, died September 21. He was 84. Born blind, Gissoni was the co-developer of the Porta-Braille and Pocket-Braille note-taking devices as well as other adaptive technology. He also authored a popular instruction manual, “Using the Cranmer Abacus.” Gissoni retired in 2011 after 23 years with the American Printing House (APH) for the Blind.



Rick Palm, K1CE, k1ce@arrl.org

ARRL Centennial Year in Review

2014, with its celebrations, nostalgia, and preparations for the future, was a year for the history books.

The League's centennial year was marked with celebrations across the country and capped by the fantastic ARRL® National Centennial Convention in July. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, was keynote speaker at the convention banquet. There were also many significant events on the public service and ARES dockets this past year, starting with a major new FEMA/ARRL formal agreement. Let's recap this memorable year.

New FEMA/ARRL MoA Ushers in New Era for Partners

The new agreement was signed July 18 during the National Centennial Convention in Hartford, Connecticut, by Administrator Fugate and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. Fugate said, "Radio is one of the most resilient communications technologies we have," and "when the power is out and telecommunications are down, the Amateur Radio community can serve as a vital resource in support of emergency responders and survivors during a disaster. This MOA will strengthen FEMA's partnership with ARRL and build upon our work to expand emergency communications capabilities and the use of Amateur Radio in emergency management."



FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, signed a new MoA between FEMA and the ARRL at the ARRL's National Centennial Convention in Hartford, Connecticut this past July. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]

GAREC-2014: International Cooperation

The application of advanced technologies in emergency communication was a major theme of the 2014 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC), held August 14 – 15 in Huntsville, Alabama, and hosted by the ARRL Alabama Section and the Huntsville Hamfest. In 2005, the first GAREC was organized in Tampere, Finland. Following the success of this event and the increased interest in international and regional cooperation on emergency communications, the GAREC was established as an annual event (www.iaru.org/garec.html). ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, represented the ARRL Headquarters at the conference.

The relationship between the ARRL, US radio amateurs, and other organizations around the globe, especially IARU Member-Societies, is critical to meeting the goal of rapid disaster response and assistance here and abroad. The networking among these entities' representatives on a face-to-face basis at conferences like GAREC goes a long way toward enhancing these relationships. International understanding of the natural and manmade risks that are prevalent in certain areas of the world is also critically important and a focus of these conferences.

ARRL Centennial QSO Party as Training

Mike Corey, K1IU, led off the year with a call for amateurs to get on the air as a primary method of training for public service communications. He cited the "importance of putting your license to use through on air activity, and for those interested in public service communications, this is our first level of training." Corey touted the ARRL Centennial QSO Party, which has been running every day this year, as a great opportunity for ARES groups "to get new hams on

the air and for seasoned veterans to be Elmers." Corey said the special QSO party was a good chance for operators to try out new modes and bands, and improve operating skill and public service communications acumen.

Fldigi Suite Developer David Freese, W1HKJ, Dayton Hamvention® Award Winner

2014 Dayton Hamvention® Technical Excellence Award winner David Freese, W1HKJ, was recognized for his development and distribution of the Fast Light Digital Modem Application (*Fldigi*) family of programs for use in amateur and public communications. *Fldigi* is an easy-to-use, free and open-source, multi-platform digital computer sound card modem program for Amateur Radio. The suite of programs is very popular with ARES and other public service communicators.

Service Excellence: 2014 Activations in Review

By no means an exhaustive list, the following is a summary of some of the centennial year's notable activations, often employing innovative ideas and techniques, from around the country and world.

Winter storms may be rare in Florida, but icy conditions in late January caused Escambia County Emergency Management to activate its EOC, with ARES being called out and activated until January 30. Two shelters were opened, and an EMS need request was handled via Amateur Radio, along with reports on weather and road conditions being sent in by operators in the affected area. Sunshine State operators rose to the unusual challenge!

In the Pacific Northwest, members of the Lane County (Oregon) Sheriff's Amateur Radio Operators — an ARRL-Affiliated Club — used radio direction-finding techniques to locate a 78-year-old Eugene, Oregon, man suffering from dementia, who

had gone missing, but who was wearing a lifesaver radio direction finding (RDF) bracelet. As a result, the specially trained hams in the sheriff's department were able to locate the missing person.

The Delaware State Police this year partnered with Sussex County ARES for backup communication service. When ARES is activated, the State Police will assign ARES stations to set up at specific locations. ARES members will send and receive traffic as part of this State Police backup network. The partnership is testament to the viability of Amateur Radio as a key ancillary communications service for the state police in times of emergency and disaster.

Amateur Radio operators and federal government stations engaged in a 12-day nationwide test of their capability to communicate with each other on HF in the event of an emergency or disaster. The *High Frequency Interoperability Exercise 2014* activity took place on two of the five 60 meter channels. Participants used Automatic Link Establishment, a standardized digital selective calling protocol, to establish communication between stations. A Special Temporary Authorization (STA) was granted, giving permission for the radio amateurs to communicate with federal government stations for the duration of the exercise.

Amateur Radio volunteers manned the Snohomish County, Washington, EOC and provided communication with American Red Cross shelters that were set up in the aftermath of the mammoth and tragic landslide on March 22 near Oso. The ARC had established shelters for displaced residents in Arlington and Darrington. "From the time the landslide occurred on March 22, Amateur Radio volunteers staffed some 160 shifts in the EOC and command vehicle," Snohomish County Auxiliary Communications Service Radio Officer Scott Honaker, N7SS, reported.

A magnitude 8.2 earthquake occurred off Northern Chile on April 1, and a powerful 7.6 magnitude aftershock hit the area on April 3. After the initial shock, the Radio Club de Chile activated with amateurs establishing an emergency communication net on 7.050 and 14.255 MHz.

Amateur Radio volunteers in Hawaii opened a tsunami radio watch net on the linked statewide State Civil Defense RACES/Oahu Department of Emergency

Management VHF/UHF repeaters. The net carried periodic announcements from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Ewa Beach, said ARRL EC and RACES Coordinator Ron Hashiro, AH6RH.

More than 300 Amateur Radio volunteers supported the 2014 Boston Marathon, April 21, a year after the tragic bombings. The Marathon is a major public service event for the region's Amateur Radio volunteers.

ARES and SKYWARN teams activated in late April to provide ground truth and damage reports during severe weather, including devastating tornadoes, in the Deep South and Midwest. On April 28, tornadoes hit Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri, and other states. Upward of three dozen people died. The value of such reporting and traffic handling by amateurs is recognized by emergency management professionals as indicated by the next story.

Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, Emergency Management was awarded a grant of nearly \$3700 that will allow the agency to purchase an Amateur Radio-based location-tracking system for SKYWARN storm spotters. The grant will allow installation of an Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS).

Amateur Radio volunteers in California's Tuolumne County assisted local emergency managers and the American Red Cross by supporting communication at a shelter in Groveland, set up in the wake of the El Portal Fire in Yosemite National Park. The National Park Service reported that the fire got its start in the community of El Portal on July 26. Evacuations were ordered for Foresta and Old El Portal, while area campgrounds were emptied, and roads closed. A UHF and a VHF repeater were cross-banded to cover the necessary expanse between Fresno, site of the Red Cross Headquarters, and the shelter site in Groveland.

As this is written, ARRL Headquarters under the direction of ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, is deploying Ham Aid kits to Hawaii as ARES volunteers stand ready to activate for the Puna volcanic lava flow situation. Corey said the Ham Aid kits going to Hawaii include HF gear as well as VHF and UHF equipment.

Also as this written, US Army and Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) stations are preparing to participate in a 48-hour nationwide contingency

communication exercise on October 27 and 28 as part of an effort to develop greater cooperation between the Department of Defense (DoD) sponsored MARS program and the ARRL ARES program. MARS is encouraging its members to discuss communication interoperability in advance of the exercise with their ARES section and district or local emergency coordinators.

International Excellence in Service Recognized by ITU

The IARU Region 1 General Conference held in Bulgaria, September 21–26, was the scene of some remarkable comments by two high-level officials, which were more evidence of the value of Amateur Radio as a non-commercial, volunteer radio communications service on a global level. European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva told delegates in a statement that Amateur Radio is a reliable information tool that can save lives in disasters. "The radio amateurs [are] the people who are the eyes and the ears of the world in time when all other information channels are silent," she said.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Secretary General Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT, extended his wishes for "every success" to the conferees. Touré said he appreciated the work of the IARU and for its support of ITU Headquarters station 4U1ITU. "I can assure you that IARU is a valuable member of the ITU family, and this relationship will be nurtured in the years to come," said Touré, who called Amateur Radio "a very important public service."

Closing to an Incredible Year, and Call to the Future

The highlight of the year for me in a highlight-filled year was attending the ARRL National Centennial Convention in July at Hartford, Connecticut, the site of the founding of the ARRL.

It was a great pleasure and privilege to attend the show, marking the first hundred years of ARRL. Kudos to all who were involved in planning and executing it for the benefit of the rest of us. What will the National Bicentennial Convention be like? It's exciting to ponder the possibilities, but let me end this column on the following note: Let's start imagining and engaging the developments today that will be the focal points of discussion, reflection, and pride at the convention a hundred years from now!

Contest Corral – December 2014

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contests.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

	Start Date-Time	Finish Date-Time	Bands HF / VHF+	Contest Title	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
3	1300Z	4 See website	1.8-28 / -	CWops Weekly Mini-CWT Tests	CW	Name and member number or S/P/C	www.cwops.org
5	2200Z	7 1600Z	1.8 / -	ARRL 160 Meter Contest	CW	RST and ARRL/RAC section if US/VE	www.arrl.org/contests
6	0000Z	7 2359Z	- / 50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	Ph CW Dig	Call signs, sig rpt, acknowledgment	www.arrl.org/contests
6	0000Z	6 2359Z	1.8-28 / -	TARA RTTY M��le��	Dig	RST and State/Province or serial	www.n2ty.org
6	1200Z	7 1200Z	3.5-28 / -	VU International DX Contest	Ph CW	RS(T) and Indian state or prefix	www.arsi.info/contests/international
6	1600Z	7 1559Z	3.5-28 / -	Top Operators Activity Contest	CW	RST, serial, and TOPS/PRO number	www.procwclub.ro/TAC%20Rules.html
6	2300Z	7 See website	3.5, 7 / -	AWA Bruce Kelly QSO Party	CW	RST, Xmtr type, power, name	www.antiquewireless.org
7	0000Z	7 2359Z	28 / -	Ten Meter RTTY Contest	Dig	RST and state or province or serial	www.rttycontesting.com
7	1200Z	7 2359Z	3.5-28 / -	Straight Key Weekend Sprintathon	CW	RST, S/P/C, SKCC nr or power	www.skccgroup.com
7	1300Z	7 1600Z	3.5-14 / -	SARL Digital Contest	Dig	RST and serial	www.sarl.org.za
7	2100Z	7 2259Z	14 / -	Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	CW	RST, S/P/C, class, CQC number or power	www.cqc.org/contests
8	1630Z	8 See website	3.5, 7 / -	OK1WC Memorial Contest	Ph CW	RS(T) and serial	www.memorial-ok1wc.cz
9	0200Z	9 0400Z	3.5-28 / -	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, S/P/C, and power	www.arsqrp.blogspot.com
10	0130Z	10 0330Z	3.5-14 / -	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint	CW	RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC mbr nr or power	naqcc.info
12	0145Z	12 0215Z	3.5-21 / -	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	Dig	Serial, name, and S/P/C	www.nccsprint.com
12	0230Z	12 0300Z	1.8-14 / -	NS Weekly Sprint	CW	Serial, name, and S/P/C	www.nccsprint.com
13	0000Z	14 2359Z	28 / -	28 MHz SWL Contest	Ph CW	Log ARRL 10 Meter Contest QSOs	swl.veron.nl/swlcontest.htm
13	0000Z	14 2359Z	28 / -	ARRL 10 Meter Contest	Ph CW	RS(T) and US or XE State/Prov or serial	www.arrl.org/contests
13	1700Z	14 See website	1.8-7 / -	UBA Winter Contest	Ph CW Dig	RS(T) and UBA section or serial	www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules
14	2000Z	14 2359Z	1.8-28 / -	Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	CW	RST, S/P/C, ARCI number or power	www.qrparci.org/contests
15	0200Z	15 0400Z	1.8-28 / -	Run For the Bacon	CW	RST, S/P/C, Flying Pig nr or power	www.fpqrp.org
17	0130Z	17 0330Z	3.5-14 / -	NAQCC Milliwatt Sprint	CW	RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC mbr nr or power	naqcc.info
18	2100Z	18 2300Z	1.8 / -	Russian 160 Meter Contest	Ph CW	RS(T), serial, square ID (see website)	www.radio.ru/cq
20	0000Z	20 2400Z	3.5-28 / -	Feld-Hell Rudolf Hell Sprint	Dig	RST, S/P/C, Feld-Hell member nr	www.feldhellclub.org
20	0000Z	21 2400Z	3.5-28 / -	OK DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST and CQ Zone	www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM
20	0001Z	Jan 4 2359Z	1.8-28 / 50-440	Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	Ph CW Dig	Serial or ARLHS number	nllw.net
20	1400Z	21 1400Z	1.8-28 / -	Croatian CW Contest	CW	RST and serial	www.9acw.org
21	1800Z	21 2359Z	3.5-28 / -	ARRL Rookie Roundup	CW	Both calls, name, check, S/P/XE or "DX"	www.arrl.org/contests
24	0000Z	24 0200Z	1.8-28 / 50	SKCC Straight Key Sprint	CW	RST, S/P/C, name, SKCC nr or power	www.skccgroup.com
26	0830Z	26 1059Z	3.5-7 / -	DARC XMAS Contest	Ph CW	RS(T) and DOK or special station code	www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/xmas/en
27	0000Z	27 2359Z	1.8-28 / 50,144	RAC Winter Contest	Ph CW	RS(T) and province or serial	www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests
27	1200Z	28 1159Z	3.5-28 / -	Iron Ham Contest	Ph CW Dig	RS(T) and CQ zone	www.araucariadx.com
27	1500Z	28 1500Z	1.8 / -	Stew Perry Top Band Distance Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew
27	1500Z	28 1500Z	3.5-14 / -	Original QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, and category	www.qrpcc.de
28	0000Z	28 1200Z	3.5-28 / -	RAEM Contest	CW	Serial and lat/long in degrees	raem.srr.ru
1	0000Z	1 2359Z	3.5-28 / 50+	ARRL Straight Key Night	CW	General QSO information	www.arrl.org/straight-key-night

All dates refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Times given as AM or PM are local times and dates. No contest activity occurs on the 60, 30, 17, and 12 meter bands. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. S/P/C = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Publication deadline for Contest Corral listings is the first day of the second month prior to publication date (December 1 for February QST) – send information to contests@arrrl.org. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column.

2014 ARRL June VHF Contest Results

Propagation was below average but way better than last year!

Bob Striegl, K2DRH, k2drh@arrl.net

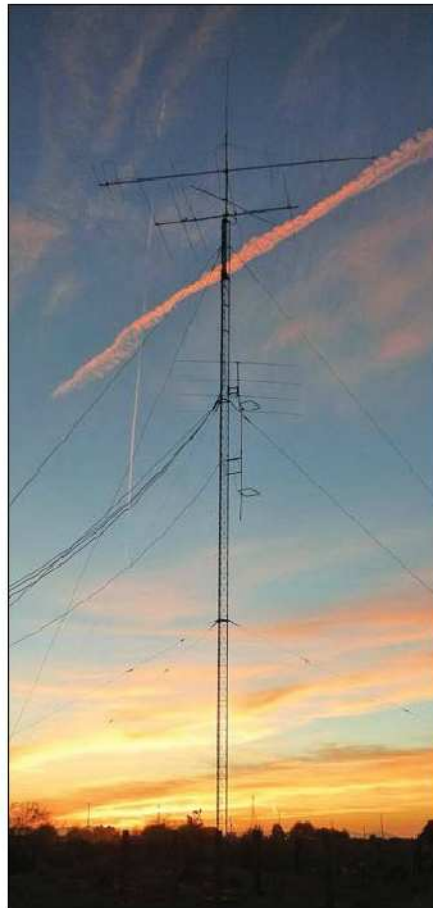
Good news — the June 2013 contest propagation was much better on June 21 – 23 than it was last year. Bad news — it was still below average even in the best places and really slow in others, such as the whole western half of the country. Better news — at least it seems to be trending back up! Conditions were not especially good, but for the majority of participants it was not totally dismal either. In the Midwest, 6 meters produced only a few scattered sporadic E (E_s) openings that were relatively short and narrowly focused. A few sweet spots in Texas and Florida seemed to fare pretty well.

Many of the Top Ten scores were at least half again higher than last year's, with some doubling their score. Once again, tropospheric ducting or other enhanced modes on 2 meters and above did not seem to play a major role for the majority of stations. While there was some excellent enhancement reported from FM grid mountaintop stations in the FM grid well into the EM and EN grids, in fact, most parts of the country experienced average-to-poor conditions.

Tuning Around the Bands

Despite the majority of stations experiencing only short E_s openings with sharply defined footprints, some sections had much better 6 meter propagation, notably in Florida and Texas. In the past, 6 meter QSO and grid totals have played a large role in the scores of the top stations in these areas, and this year was kind to them again. Unlike 2013 when there were no stations over 1000 QSOs, Chuck, W5PR (EL29), and Marshall, K5QE's Limited Multiop team in STX (EM31) both broke that barrier with grid multiplier totals well over 200. Also noteworthy, George, K5TR (EM00), had a multiplier total in the 200s. Tom, WD5K (EM12); Mike, AE5EB (EL09), and Dick, K5AND (EM00), posted good 6 meter results, too. Once again, Marshall, K5QE, was able to log more 6 meter multipliers than any other station.

Eleven stations made it over the 500-QSO mark, including the Multiops at W2SZ,



Hector, XE2K, used this eight-element Loop-Fed Array on 6 meters. [Hector Garcia, XE2K, photo]

W3CCX, N0SZ, and Limited Multiops W5ZN and W4IY. This was achieved despite a shortage of sustained E_s propagation apparent in lower grid counts. Notable 6 meter totals over 500 QSOs were also logged by Florida stations Dan, K1TO (EL87); Bobby, N3LL (EL86); Austin, N4WW (EL98), and Bob, N4BP (EL96). Tom, K4PI, in EM73 (GA) also managed to rack up a 500-plus total. The Limited Multiop teams at W5ZN in EM45 (AR) and W4IY in FM08 (VA) round out the list. But unlike 2013, the Colorado, New Mexico, and

Arizona stations didn't seem to have as much in the way of 6 meter openings.

The 2 meter band is often a starting point for "band running" (moving a station from band to band), because most stations are best equipped for tropospheric propagation (tropo) on 2 meters. The number of stations working more than 100 QSOs on 2 meters increased slightly to 35, from 27 in 2013 and 29 in 2012. Even with essentially flat propagation for most of us, the mountaintop multiops and rovers were able to take advantage of their favorable elevations. They caught whatever limited enhancement opportunities existed and some worked over 200 QSOs on 2 meters. W4IY in FM08 reported working all the way from Canada down to Cuba and the Cayman Island.

In any given contest, 222 MHz has as good or better propagation than 2 meters and lower environmental noise. Often, stations are significantly louder on 222 than they are on 2 meters. In all the ARRL VHF contests, QSOs on 222 score the same higher point value as on 432, and provide multipliers that significantly enhance scores. It's a must-have band for competitive multiops, rovers, and single ops. Five stations in the June VHF contest had 100 or more QSOs on 222; three multiops, K8GP/R, and Jeff, K1TEO.

While more commercial multiband rigs include 432 MHz, propagation on the band is generally more difficult and requires mast-mounted preamps to be truly effective because coax loss can be a significant factor. Often, propagation falls off rapidly and stations are much weaker or unworkable on 432. However, given a little tropo enhancement, stations that are workable on 2 and 222 may actually be as strong or stronger on 432, since practically sized beams are available with more gain than at lower frequencies. Eight stations in the June contest had 432 QSO totals over 100; five multiops, K8GP/R, ACORA/R, and once again, Jeff, K1TEO.

Single Operator

The majority of contest activity originates with the single-op entrants who build stations

Affiliated Club Competition

Unlimited Club Category

Society of Midwest Contesters 57 579,810

Medium Club Category

Potomac Valley Radio Club	31	1,319,404
North East Weak Signal Group	16	986,314
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	18	891,437
Florida Contest Group	16	717,585
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	7	648,691
Southern California Contest Club	23	459,242
Contest Club Ontario	21	395,444
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	9	299,276
Carolina DX Association	4	239,346
Northern Lights Radio Society	17	213,535
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	19	213,092
DFW Contest Club	12	208,427
Badger Contesters	8	208,390
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	29	207,744
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	23	200,670
Florida Weak Signal Society	9	173,957
Frankford Radio Club	8	141,195
Northern California Contest Club	19	136,268
North Texas Contest Club	3	125,190
Tennessee Contest Group	7	122,621
Alabama Contest Group	11	106,589
South East Contest Club	6	69,359
Bergen ARA	3	57,431
Cold Brook Contest Club	4	52,429
Utah DX Assn	3	41,704
Mad River Radio Club	6	39,431
CTRI Contest Group	3	34,573
Georgia Contest Group	5	34,328
North Coast Contesters	3	34,312
Louisiana Contest Club	4	33,409
Roadrunners Microwave Group	3	33,135
Western Washington DX Club	4	19,330
Willamette Valley DX Club	5	14,963
Bristol (TN) ARC	5	10,267
Rochester VHF Group	5	9,973
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	3	2,976
Minnesota Wireless Assn	3	2,376

Local Club Category

Clovis Amateur Radio Pioneers	3	82,516
Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters	3	49,001
Eastern Connecticut ARA	3	28,849
Rappahannock ARA	3	24,966
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	4	8,047
Ventura County Amateur Radio Society	4	6,824
Burlington County Radio Club	3	5,637
Meriden ARC	3	3,490
Contoocook Valley Radio Club	4	3,126
Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs	3	1,557
Radiosport Manitoba	3	366

that range from a single band with a modest antenna to a multi-band powerhouse with stacked arrays. These stations have been the backbone of VHF+ contesting — even the modest single-band stations make an essential contribution to the winner's success. These stations allow others to enjoy the bands by providing a lot more stations to work.

Low power stations with 100–200 W amplifiers have always been the mainstay of contest activity since well before the category was established, so it's no surprise that the Single Op, Low Power (SOLP) category proved to be the most popular. The Overall SOLP W3ZZ First Log Award — Memorial has been sponsored by Tim, K3LR, and Dave, W9PA, for the third year and goes to Dale Porterfield, KJ4ZYB. Good job and welcome to the ranks of SOLP VHF+ contesting!

This article's author, Bob, K2DRH, in EN41

(Illinois) took first place in SOLP with a score of 241K using eight bands through 3456 MHz. His overall multiplier total was augmented by working a lot of weak 6 meter stations while being on the fringe of the real 6 meter E_s openings. Frequent Top Ten finisher WB1GQR, manned by Mitch, W1SJ, moved up to second with 138K, also using eight bands through 3456. While he had 94 fewer QSOs and 16 fewer grids, it was the higher point values on 222 and above that gave Mitch the edge over 3rd place finisher N3LL.

The Single Op, High Power (SOHP) category is where big guns of the VHF+ contesting world really get to play. Jeff, K1TEO, in FN31 (Connecticut) with his 10-band station took top honors with 415K, despite few E_s opportunities, flat tropo conditions, major tower repair, equipment troubleshooting work before the contest, and suddenly losing 5 and 10 GHz capability toward the end. When the desire to excel kicks in, getting down and doing all the hard work it takes to get things back up and working after a disaster really separates the leaders from the followers.

The Single Operator Radio Portable category limits station to 10 W, making it 10–20 dB more difficult to be heard on the bottom four bands and a few opt to run amps and enter as single op low power instead. Chris, W1MR, from FN43gd (New Hampshire) moved up from 3rd to 1st place this time with his eight-band station, scoring 23K. Tor, N4OGW, is a newcomer to VHF+ contesting who really made a big splash his first time out from Little Mountain with a five-element, 6 meter Yagi hanging from a tree and a 2 meter, nine-element beam. He took 2nd place with 14K and made a new Mississippi Section record.

This is the second year for the two new single-operator categories. Single Op, 3-Band (SO3B) is clearly a popular choice with 118 entries, defecting mostly from the SOLP category. Single Op, FM-Only (SOFM) almost doubled in size, with 17 log submissions. As expected, many of these set new section, division, and overall records.

Sporadic E made SO3B a faceoff between Texas and Florida for the top spot. Mike, AB5EB, used his EL09 (STX) sweet spot with another 49 contacts on 2 meters and 432 to vault himself into 1st place. Entries in the SOFM category spanned both coasts and many included QSOs on all of the bottom four bands. The top score in the SOFM category was logged by Ev, W2EV, of FN03 in WNY. Ev doubled last year's first-place ef-

Top Ten

Single Operator, Low Power	Limited Multioperator		
K2DRH	241,450	K5QE	483,448
WB1GQR		W41Y	466,880
(W1SJ, op)	138,171	W3SO	411,554
N3LL	135,975	K2LIM	294,756
N3RG	119,314	W5ZN	269,028
N4QWZ	115,322	AA4ZZ	217,074
AF1T	81,900	W2LV	133,224
W9GA	81,738	N2NT	113,687
NOLL	80,698	N8ZM	95,632
K1KG	71,020	W4NH	61,480
Single Operator, High Power	Multioperator		
K1TEO	415,336	W2SZ	1,093,902
K5TR	281,796	W3GCX	521,260
K1RZ	258,272	K1WHS	257,570
W5PR	235,840	K80HH	136,960
K5AND	143,200	NOSZ	109,392
WD5K	122,574	W6TE	88,328
W3PAW	115,404	WE1P	87,176
W4ZRZ	113,231	W6TV	82,176
W9RM	102,912	AD4ES	80,808
Single Operator Portable	Rover		
W1MR	23,310	K8GP	295,317
N4OGW	14,673	VE3SMA/R	127,641
KB5WIA	10,291	VE3OIL/R	125,704
W9SZ	5,763	W6TTF	70,416
WOPV	4,895	WA3PTV	50,676
AF6RR	4,743	K4SME/R	45,652
NV4B/5	3,381	AG4V/R	43,888
WB2AMU	2,730	NN3Q/R	42,186
N2SPI	2,320	VE3WJ	41,107
KG2A	2,160	W9SNR/R	32,307
Single Operator Three Band	Limited Rover		
AB5EB	138,891	AC0RA/R	146,692
K1TO	105,376	WW7D/R	40,140
AA5AM	94,080	K2QO/R	39,624
N3RN	56,048	AL1VE/R	32,120
K15YG	51,198	N6GP	29,625
KG6IYN	50,304	KD5EUO/R	27,972
K4UB	45,047	W9YOY/R	27,664
KO9A	40,810	K9PW/R	12,648
K9MU	33,880	N2ZBH/R	11,628
KM4ID	27,768	KE7IHG/R	10,350
Single Operator FM-Only	Unlimited Rover		
W2EV	1,650	W3HMS	18,678
K16JW	616	K6EU/R	15,768
N9VM		AF5Q	10,375
(N1VM, op)	510	N2QIF/R	2,046
KB1YSK	423	K8DOG/R	1,813
W7AIT	418	WA5KBH/R	756
W2EBB	216		
N2PEQ	203		
KA6AMB	200		
N1LF	176		

fort with 54 contacts and 22 grids on four bands for 1650 points, the first to crack the 1000-point mark in this new category.

Multioperators

While some of these are fixed stations maintained by generous hosts who love the camaraderie and competition, others take an expeditionary outlook to find just the right mountaintop spot from which to operate. They lug huge amounts of stuff up bad roads to sit in trailers, trucks, and tents, often enduring the wind and cold in their remote locations. Having done this many years ago from Wayah Bald in North Carolina with the Fourlanders as W4AQL and operating inside the box of a rental truck during a driving rain-storm, the author can tell you first hand that it takes a lot of desire and determination.

Regional Leaders

Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario East, Ontario North, Ontario South and Greater Toronto A)			Midwest 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 (W1SJ, op)	138,171	LP	N3LL	135,975	LP	KL2DRH	241,450	LP	N0LL	80,698	LP	WJ0F	35,695	LP
N3RG	119,314	LP	N4QWZ	115,322	LP	W9GA	81,738	LP	W5SXD	48,416	LP	NQ7R	24,644	LP
AF1T	81,900	LP	K2PS	67,734	LP	N9DG	65,836	LP	N0POH	33,276	LP	WA6OSX	23,700	LP
K1KG	71,020	LP	N4BP	66,944	LP	VA3ZV	38,896	LP	KK0Q	31,944	LP	K2GMY	21,692	LP
K2KIB	42,672	LP	N4TWX	46,750	LP	WZ8T	31,297	LP	WA8ZBT	23,587	LP	N7AT (K8IA, op)	21,112	LP
K1TEO	415,336	HP	W4ZRZ	113,231	HP	W0UC	95,226	HP	K5TR	281,796	HP	N6MU	82,128	HP
K1RZ	258,272	HP	N4WW	90,117	HP	K9EA	73,320	HP	W5PR	235,840	HP	K6KLY	52,528	HP
W3PAW	115,404	HP	W3IP	84,480	HP	K9CT	61,304	HP	K5AND	143,200	HP	N6VI	34,686	HP
WZ1V	71,694	HP	K4PI	64,640	HP	WA8RJF	50,020	HP	W5DK	122,574	HP	N6KN	34,056	HP
K1TR	64,821	HP	W5MRB	56,772	HP	K8TQK	48,723	HP	W9RM	102,912	HP	N7EPD	27,448	HP
W1MR	23,310	QRP	N4OGW	14,673	QRP	W9SZ	5,763	QRP	WD0BGZ	66	QRP	KB5WIA	10,291	QRP
WB2AMU	2,730	QRP	W0PV	4,895	QRP	WF0T	6	QRP	KK6MC	42	QRP	AF6RR	4,743	QRP
N2SPI	2,320	QRP	NV4B/5	3,381	QRP	KX7L/8	3	QRP	N0JK	9	QRP	KE7UQL	1,938	QRP
N3KCM	1,600	QRP	WA5ZEK	1,333	QRP	KO9A	40,810	3B	AB5EB	138,891	3B	KD7W/PJ	1,624	QRP
KF2MR	1,560	QRP	K1TO	105,376	3B	K4UB	45,047	3B	AA5AM	94,080	3B	N6LB	728	QRP
N3RN	56,048	3B	KM4ID	27,768	3B	N9TF	17,500	3B	K15YG	51,198	3B	KG6IYN	50,304	3B
N1BM	16,728	3B	KD4AA	12,084	3B	K8BU	14,418	3B	K0NR	22,841	3B	N7IR	26,001	3B
K3UHU	8,000	3B	KD5CKP	10,660	3B	AC8HU	11,730	3B	K5KBV	5,668	3B	N6KZ	7,772	3B
W1DYJ	5,796	3B	W2EBB	216	FM	WB8RFB	4	FM	K5QE	483,448	LM	VE7DAY	7,208	3B
N1JD	4,324	3B	N1LF	176	FM	N8ZM	95,632	LM	N5RZ	49,842	LM	N7RK	6,930	3B
W2EV	1,650	FM	W4IY	466,880	LM	W9RVG	24,633	LM	NR7T	23,108	LM	KI6JJW	616	FM
KB1YSK	423	FM	W5ZN	269,028	LM	N8BI	23,594	LM	K5LRW	11,900	LM	N9VM	510	FM
N2PEQ	203	FM	AA4ZZ	217,074	LM	KC8AAV	4,233	LM	N0EO	11,880	LM	(N1VM, op)	418	FM
KD2DLL	156	FM	W4NH	61,480	LM	VE3RB	2,368	LM	KB0HH	136,960	UM	W7AIT	200	FM
W3SO	411,554	LM	N3MK	61,320	LM	N2BJ	30,212	UM	N0SZ	109,392	UM	KA6AMB	126	FM
K2LIM	294,756	LM	AD4ES	80,808	UM	VE3WCC	27,636	UM	K5NZ	56,056	UM	KK6DCM	200	FM
W2LV	133,224	LM	K4MM	55,080	UM	A9JC	13,510	UM	WQOP	41,021	UM	WA7JTM	35,154	UL
N2NT	113,687	LM	N4OX	41,778	UM	KF6A	9,782	UM	KC5MVZ	12,789	UM	K7UI	26,910	UL
K2BAR	53,390	LM	W4COV	30,624	UM	K9ZM	6,076	UM	K5GJ/R	27,540	R	N5CR	17,514	UL
W2SZ	1,093,902	UM	W4UAL	28,122	UM	VE3SMA/R	127,641	R	W0ETT	12,636	R	Ni6E	15,624	UL
W3CCX	521,260	UM	K8GP	295,317	R	VE3OIL/R	125,704	R	K0AXX/R	5,700	R	AA7A	8,375	UL
K1WHS	257,570	UM	K4SME/R	45,652	R	VE3WJ	41,107	R	W7QQ/R	5,499	R	W6TE	88,328	UM
WE1P	87,176	UM	AG4V/R	43,888	R	W9SNR/R	32,307	R	KC0P/R	4,564	R	W6TV	82,176	UM
KE1LI	23,025	UM	K54YX	858	R	K0PG/R	7,348	R	AL1VE/R	32,120	RL	N7CW	58,656	UM
WA3PTV	50,676	R	W3TMZ/R	60	R	AC0RA/R	146,692	RL	KD5EUO/R	27,972	RL	KB0ZO	55,198	UM
NN3Q/R	42,186	R	WB4OMG	1,904	RL	W9YOY/R	27,664	RL	K0BBC/R	8,976	RL	KE7SW	19,520	UM
K1DS/R	28,152	R	WB0POH	1,196	RL	K9PW/R	12,648	RL	KC0SKM/R	8,924	RL	W6TTF	70,416	R
NJ1F	19,665	R	N4TZH/R	910	RL	K9LT/R	6,536	RL	W3DHJ/R	7,134	RL	N6ORB/R	16,830	R
AA1I/R	10,950	R	K6PFA/R	589	RL	K8WTF/R	5,292	RL	AF5Q	10,375	RU	N6TEB/R	13,130	R
K2QO/R	39,624	RL	WA5KBH/R	756	RU	K8DOG/R	1,813	RUU				KE6QR	12,160	R
N2ZBH/R	11,628	RL									N6TR/R	2,835	R	
WB2SIH/R	4,773	RL									WW7D/R	40,140	RL	
W1PL	4,040	RL									N6GP	29,625	RL	
AB2VI/R	3,813	RL									KE7IHG/R	10,350	RL	
W3HMS	18,678	UL									K7ATN/R	5,340	RL	
N2QIP/R	2,046	UL									AF6AV/R	3,825	RL	
											KG6U/R	15,768	RU	

Categories: LP — Single Operator, Low Power; HP — Single Operator, High Power; QRP — Single Operator, Portable; 3B — Single Operator, Three Band; FM — Single Operator, FM Only; UM — Unlimited Multioperator; LM — Limited Multioperator; R — (Classic) Rover; RL — Limited Rover; RU — Unlimited Rover

When 6 meters opened to EU with a huge pileup, though, all the work suddenly became worth it. Multiop stations are on the air all the time, establishing the limits of what's possible for VHF+ contesting.

K5QE posted a score of 483K from the STX flatlands to win the Limited Multioperator category, but not without a fight to retain their crown. Being in a 6 meter sweet spot and having the best overall 6 meter numbers of any station boosted their bottom line. Despite a close encounter with a black bear, the W4IY team at their mountaintop FM08 location did better on the other three bands due to some of the few tropo enhancement opportunities reported in this contest.

It's almost a cliché to report that the crew at W2SZ, the Mt Greylock Expeditionary

Force, posted another win in the Unlimited Multioperator category. Solid performance on 6 and 2 meters as well as outstanding numbers on the higher bands really set this group apart from the others — their score was double that of the closest competitor at 1093K, the only score over the million mark. 2014 marks their 24th time winning the June VHF Contest.

Rovers

Rovers really enhance everyone's ability to work grids that are under-represented, providing additional QSOs and needed mults for the fixed and portable stations on multiple bands, as well as with other rovers. When the author first came to Illinois and didn't yet have any towers planted, roving with some new friends around the local grids was found to be a difficult yet rewarding experience.

The increase in the Classic Rovers and the steady numbers of Limited Rovers are a hopeful sign that more will continue to join their ranks. Here in the Midwest they often offer the only opportunity to work grids in western Great Plains states that have few or no VHF+ operators. 2014 was really great for the rovers — they posted some amazing scores.

In the Limited Rover category, Wyatt, ACORA/R, really burst onto the scene by winning his inaugural June VHF Contest. In only his second serious rover outing (he took 2nd in January) he's established himself as one of the top young guns. His 147K score from 10 different grids in IL, IA and WI blew away the 2013 Central Division record from W9YOY/R.

Working Grids on 2 Meters

Curt Roseman, K9AKS

The 86 grids worked on 2 meters by multiop station W4IY in Virginia is quite a good total. However, it is not among the very highest in the history of the contest (going back to 1985 when grids were introduced as multipliers). The accompanying table shows the top 16 totals over the years. In the 1980s some really good conditions, especially the tropo in 1985, led to several totals over 100. Other high 2 meter grid totals were common in that era, when everyday activity on the band was high in many areas of the country. Over the years, however, activity declined and 2 meters became relatively less important as a contributor to multi-band scores in the June contest. Indeed, none of the top 16 totals are from the 1990s.

Something of a resurgence, however, occurred in the new millennium. In recent years, some multiop stations (K5QE, K8GP, and K9NS) racked up large numbers of grids. Even though relatively low levels of everyday activity persists, their totals were probably increased by working grids using digital modes on meteor scatter, via moonbounce, and by taking advantage of rovers who cover numerous grids where activity is low or nonexistent. Back in the 1980s, a station could dredge up large number of grids when conditions were enhanced by working home stations and portables on SSB or CW. Digital modes were not available and rovers were rare, but activity levels were high.

ARRL JUNE VHF CONTEST

All-Time High Number of Grids Worked on 2 Meters

Grids	Call	Category	Section	Year
121	W8VP	M	OH	1985
116	W9UD	M	IL	1985
110	AA9D	M	IL	1987
108	WD8ISK	M	OH	1985
105	N8FMD	M	WV	1989
102	K5QE	L	STX	2013
99	N4AR	S	KY	1985
98	K5QE	M	STX	2011
96	W8VP	M	OH	1987
96	K9NS	L	IL	2005
95	K5QE	M	STX	2009
94	K5QE	M	STX	2012
94	K5QE	M	STX	2010
92	K8GP	L	WV	2002
89	K8GP	M	WV	2001
89	AA9D	M	IL	1989

Sponsored Plaque Winners

Plaque Category	Plaque Sponsor	Winner
Overall Single Operator Low Power	Society of Midwest Contesters	K2DRH
Overall Single Operator, 3-Band	Northern Lights Radio Society	AB5EB
Overall Single Op, Low Power, Rookie	W3ZZ First Log Award — Memorial by Tim, K3LR, and Dave, W9PA, Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ Memorial —	KJ4ZYB
Overall Limited Multioperator	ARRL Contest Branch	K5QE
Overall Rover	73 Tim KE3HT/SK, Microwave DX Addict	K8GP
Atlantic Division Rover	Potomac Valley Radio Club	WA3PTV
Dakota Division Single Operator Low Power	Northern Lights Radio Society	WB0HHM
Hudson Division Single Operator Low Power	NY2NY — In Memory of W2GFF & W2HBA	K2KIB
Northwestern Division Multioperator	Randy Stegemeyer, W7HR	KE7SW
Roanoke Division Rover	Potomac Valley Radio Club	K8GP
Southwestern Division Single Operator Low Power	Bud Semon, N7CW	WJ0V
Canada Single Operator Low Power	Northern Lights Radio Society	VA3ZV
Northwestern Single Operator, 3-Band	Pacific Northwest VHF Society	WB7FJG

In the Classic Rover category, Andy, K1RA, and Terry, W8ZN, raised the Grid Pirate flag and did a 10-band, five-grid rove through the high spots of the Roanoke Division in the tradition of the W3IY/R Intergalactic Roving Battle Jitney. Their web page at www.k1ra.us/roving/k1ra-k8gp-rover-arri-june-vhf-2014 is beautifully done and well worth visiting.

Steve, VE3SMA/R, and Russ, VE3OIL/R, locked horns in an unusual battle for second in another close rover finish. In the claimed scores it initially looked as if Russ had beaten Steve, but in a rare reversal of fortune, Steve lost fewer points to log checking deductions, edging out Russ with an 11-band, seven-grid effort of 128K that included seven laser contacts. In 4th place, Carole, W6TTF/R, took her 10-band rover through nine grids in the Pacific Division areas of southern California and logged a score of 70K.

In the Unlimited Rover Category, John, W3HMS, mounted a 10-band, three-grid rove in PA to garner 19K for the win. Tom, K6EU/R, visited 3 grids in Southern California while operating the bottom four bands for a 16K, 2nd place finish. Ron, AF5Q/R, hit six grids in the West Gulf Division around Oklahoma with the bottom four bands to take 3rd with 10K.

Logging Accuracy

We all make a few logging errors from time to time. While call and grid logging errors are all my own, in my contest Log Checking Reports (LCR), I have noticed losing a fair chunk of my score to Not In Log (NIL) reports. Almost invariably these are QSOs that I'm 100 percent sure that I worked when moving a station from band-to-band. Apparently, in the rush to get back to 6 meters during an opening or to find the next station, the other station forgot to log the Q or accidentally logged me on a different band. This really hurts because the "bad" QSO is often on a band worth higher points and on

which I have few QSOs and mults. The deduction results in the loss of both that QSO (including any multiplier credit) plus an equivalent number QSO points, so the result is the loss of a lot of score. From talking to other operators and comparing claimed scores to adjusted scores it's evident this has affected others, too. This is especially noticeable when the score on a microwave band is a negative number because of a single QSO made and lost on that band. This can't be fixed in log checking — please make sure you log accurately to avoid inadvertently penalizing someone else. It could make all the difference in a close finish.

Epilogue

To sum up the 2014 June contest; here in the Midwest and in many parts of the country, it was a slogfest with E_s and tropo opportunities few and far between for most stations. When the band was not open (which was most of the time) you had to keep your butt glued to the seat or you would miss a contact — pretty true of VHF+ contesting in general. To wring out every possible contact you have to sit there though the slow hours, track the local rovers, and be ready to pounce on and run the bands with anyone and everyone who turns on a radio just to see if anyone's around or has a few minutes to spare to "check out the contest." This is true even when you're sorely tempted to pull your headphones off your aching ears and take a nap. We'll see you on June 20 – 22 of 2014 to wring out a few QSOs!

Full Results Online

The complete results of the June VHF Contest are available at www.arri.org/contest-results-articles. You'll find more tables and tales including band-by-band QSOs and multiplier leaders, details of the competition, and notes about propagation.

2014 Field Day Results

In this year's event, 47,428 participants made over 1.2 million contacts.

Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW, w1msw@arri.org

Operating from mountain-tops, parks, emergency operation centers, and homes across North America, 47,428 operators participated in the 81st annual ARRL Field Day. Always the fourth full weekend in June, Field Day provides an opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio to the public, while practicing the skills necessary to deploy and operate portable stations. An event that is never short on challenges, participants put their knowledge and equipment together to make as many contacts as possible, while attempting to circumvent the many challenges that Mother Nature and Murphy regularly present over the weekend. Though it is not a contest, Field Day does provide a point-based scoring system to make it easier for participants to evaluate their efforts each year.

The Best-Laid Plans

Field Day operations are over the course of a weekend, but preparation for the event begins weeks and sometimes months in advance. Site planning, testing and inventory of equipment, press releases to local media outlets, and invitations to elected and agency officials are all important elements of a suc-



cessful operation and must be executed long before the first exchange is made. For the 2093 stations that reported operating using only emergency power, careful consideration had to be given to the amount of power used to transmit signals and conservation of fuel to ensure stations would remain on the air

throughout the event. Safety is also an important part of Field Day planning, and because the majority of operations are outdoors, sites must prepare for the constantly changing conditions.

Even the most thoroughly prepared stations can be challenged by the weather. June provides the Northern Hemisphere with shelter from the cold, but it also exposes us to the elements associated with summer in North America. This year, a large band of precipitation was recorded from the far reaches of the Northwest all the way down to Florida, and many Field Day stations reported heavy rain at their sites. Ed, KF8PD,

from Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association wrote that it was one of the wettest Field Day events he had ever attended, but pointed out, "How many emergencies happen during perfect weather conditions?" High temperatures throughout the weekend were in the 100s across the south and southwest and gradually faded into the 80s to the north. These conditions tested the will and stamina of operators to assemble their stations and operate continuously throughout the weekend.

Conditions and Demographics

Although we will be moving past the peak of Solar Cycle 24, solar conditions were similar to last year, with almost identical solar indices. Participants reported that contacts were made on 10 meters, but that conditions were not optimal. In contrast, activity on 15 meters and below was very good across all regions.

Total QSOs reported this year were down just slightly, despite an increase in the number of participants. We also saw a decrease in the number of phone QSOs, but an increase in both CW and digital contacts. Station demographics from this year showed that small club efforts are still the most common entry. However, not

Top 10 Claimed

Call Sign	Score	Class
W1AW/3	36,730	28
W6YX	21,840	10
K6EI	20,125	6
K4LRG	19,028	5
W41Y	18,224	10
W6ZE	17,970	7
W4EZ	17,440	9
K4FC	16,934	7
K4BFT	16,370	4
W5YA	15,775	3



In a remote desert location in Utah's San Rafael Swell, Jim Olsen's, K7JEO, 1B1 station operated using 100% solar power. [Jim Olsen, K7JEO, photo]

all Field Day sites are hosted by clubs. Some participants enjoyed setting up a single station all to themselves, while others took the opportunity to get together with a few friends to operate over the weekend. We received summaries from stations operating in remote locations and others that made it as far as their backyard. We also saw a sharp increase in the number of single transmitter home entries, which may have been in part due to heavy precipitation that many areas experienced.

QSOs with the ISS and W1AW

One highlight for many Field Day participants this year was a contact with Commander Reid Wiseman, operating as NAISS onboard the International Space Station. The astronaut made an extraordinary and successful effort to contact as many amateurs as possible during several North American passes. We would like to thank Commander Wiseman for taking the time out of his busy schedule to participate, as well as ARISS and NASA for helping coordinate the operation. If you worked NAISS, don't forget to send in your



Members of the Navarre CERT ARC prepare to launch a tethered weather balloon that supported a long wire antenna. While providing an excellent method of antenna support, the balloon also served to bring curious visitors to the site. [Steve Van Den Akker, W4SJV, photo]

request to receive an ISS QSL card documenting the contact.

As we celebrate our 100th anniversary with the Centennial QSO Party, operators around the world attempt to make as many contacts as possible with W1AW portable. Field Day weekend was no exception. This year the Columbia Amateur Radio Association and the Potomac Valley Radio Club were back again as a 28A and operated under the call sign W1AW/3. Diane, KE3TT, blogged about the event and titled her post, "Yes, OM, That's Two Eight Alpha." That was surely a phrase heard many times over the weekend as they made over 11,000 contacts.

Time Well Spent

On Sunday afternoon, after operating came to an end, tired participants knew that there was still work to be done. The breakdown of the

sites began and with the help of gravity, things always seem to come down much more quickly than they go up. Logs were collected, coax was coiled, radios were carefully packed away, and sites were cleaned of any

remaining items to ensure hosts would welcome us back. Reading through the soapbox comments, e-mails and notes scribbled on paper Field Day summary sheets, there is a recurring theme. No matter how difficult the challenges were over the weekend, the majority of participants noted how much they are looking forward to Field Day next year. This reflects the important role of Field Day in both maintaining the enthusiasm of existing participants while providing a valuable context for bringing new amateurs into the hobby. We look forward to working you from the field again next year, on June 27 and 28, 2015.

Important Field Day Statistics

Total CW QSOs	555,912
Total Digital QSOs	54,549
Total Phone QSOs	675,128
Total QSOs	1,285,589
Number of People	37,428
Entries Active	2686

Entries by Class

1A	121	1B1	104	5F	9
2A	392	1B1B	140	6F	2
3A	316	1B1C	15	7F	3
4A	150	1B2	38	9F	1
5A	87	2B2	18	10F	1
6A	29	1B2B	24	12F	1
7A	17	2B2B	10	3D	6
8A	11	1B2C	2	4D	2
9A	5	2B2C	2	7D	1
10A	5	1C	38	27D	1
12A	1	2C	2	1E	276
16A	1	1D	450	2E	36
28A	1	2D	23	3E	16
1AB	25	3D	6	4E	7
2AB	17	4D	2	5E	2
3AB	9	7D	1	7E	2
4AB	10	27D	1	1F	28
5AB	1	1E	276	2F	67
6AB	2	2E	36	3F	49
7AB	1	3E	16	4F	23
9AB	1	4E	7	5F	9
10AB	1	5E	2	6F	2
1AC	10	7E	2	7F	3
2AC	29	1F	28	9F	1
3AC	28	2F	67	10F	1
4AC	14	3F	49	12F	1
5AC	3	4F	23		

Scores

Score listings are grouped according to the number of transmitters in simultaneous operation and their entry class. 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. Entries are listed from highest to lowest claimed score in each class. Class A stations are clubs or groups portable with 3 or more participants Class B stations are portables with one or two participants. 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.

1A	Wayne ARC	Portland Radio CC	Athens Cty ARA
Tilson CC	W8AV 1470 2 8 5,550 OH	KK7PR 1482 2 15 4,528 OR	W8MHV 604 2 16 3,152 OH
K5WA 2440 2 8 9,102 STX	Lafayette DX Assn	Union Metropolitaine des Sans-Filistes de	Patrick Henry ARA
Kathrine Fisher's RC	W9LDX 1472 2 12 5,302 IN	Montreal	K4MVA 829 2 15 3,116 VA
W0FD 1830 2 11 6,412 OO	Murphy's Law Radio Group	VE2UMS 875 2 30 3,676 QC	McHenry Cty Wireless Assoc
Case ARC	K5QY 1591 2 7 5,238 NTX	Big Lake AR Enthusiasts	K9RN 730 2 15 3,112 IL
W8EDU 1586 2 3 6,410 OH	Page Valley ARC	W0G 1564 2 4 3,378 MN	Neurosa Gopher Munchers
Friends and Alumni Under LT	K4PMH 1434 2 18 5,096 VA	Jefferson Cty ARC & Ancient Modulators	AE6C 608 2 3 2,932 SV
K1LT 1423 2 3 5,842 OH	Dr Loomis Memorial Jr Mechanics League	KB0TLL 1252 2 25 3,324 MO	South Georgian Bay ARC
Boomer Contest Club	W3KDR 1459 2 12 5,086 MDC	N4CWZ 1014 2 3 3,316 NC	VE3SGB 907 2 6 2,864 ON
K5PX 1313 2 5 5,552 OK	Federation of AR Ops	Berwick Contest Team	Wasteland Comm Corp
	K9ZA 1197 2 3 4,752 IL	AK3V 1094 2 4 3,312 EPA	K6WCC 809 2 4 2,818 SB

BEARONS									
W7FLY	970	2	10	3,990	WWA				
Xerox ARC									
W2XRX									
(+KD2FET)	1062	2	21	3,930	WNY				
K5TYR	1004	2	62	3,910	NTX				
Albemarle ARC									
W4DO									
(+WA4TFZ)	931	2	18	3,838	VA				
Mohawk ARC									
N1WW	1027	2	30	3,834	WMA				
Austin TX ARC									
W5KA									
(+K5LBJ)	759	2	54	3,834	STX				
FORX ARC									
NOGF	1026	2	19	3,824	ND				
Saratoga City ARA									
K2DLL									
(+N2MBX)	956	2	25	3,808	ENY				
Derangers									
N6MI	2209	1	8	3,808	SCV				
Rogue Valley ARC									
W7DTA									
(+K7TFC)	1167	2	19	3,786	OR				
TriState ARS									
W9CG									
(+WA9C)	860	2	32	3,772	IN				
Fox Cities ARC									
W9ZL	917	2	48	3,762	WI				
Fresno ARC									
W6TO	862	2	20	3,744	SJV				
Muscataine ARC									
N2AM									
(+KV1E)	1015	2	14	3,666	IA				
Tri-City Field Day									
W4C									
(+K14OAS)	771	2	20	3,624	TN				
KM5PS	744	2	40	3,584	AR				
Stonewall Jackson ARA									
K8DF									
(+K8TPH)	986	2	9	3,582	WV				
Richmond Multi-Club Field Day Party									
W4RAT	1079	2	50	3,578	VA				
Clay Center ARC									
W1CLA									
(+WX1CLA)	1112	2	42	3,512	EMA				
Boca Raton ARA									
N4BRF	882	2	7	3,474	SFL				
Lenoir ARC / Caldwell ARES									
N4LNR									
(+KF4FLY)	870	2	15	3,470	NC				
Hambuds									
KK5TRE									
(+K5KTF)	769	2	34	3,454	STX				
Yonkers ARC									
W2YRC									
(+KF2FK)	766	2	48	3,450	ENY				
Rip Van Winkle ARS									
W2DK									
(+K2RVW)	691	2	20	3,396	ENY				
Geezzer Natomas ARC									
N6FR	928	2	25	3,382	SV				
Lanse Creuse ARC									
N8LC									
(+K8WVNK)	1026	2	15	3,372	MI				
New River Valley ARC									
N4NRV	791	2	21	3,370	VA				
Bella Vista Rep Group									
K0SNG									
(+KD5UFY)	689	2	12	3,370	AR				
NW FL ARC									
KE4FD									
(+N4HHM)	842	2	7	3,334	NFL				
Royal Gorge ARC									
N00A									
(+KB0TUC)	677	2	18	3,332	CO				
JAWS									
K4HH	677	2	15	3,244	KY				
San Joaquin Valley ARS									
W6V									
(+W6TTF)	872	2	25	3,234	SJV				
Jupiter Tequesta Rep Group									
W4J	1025	2	45	3,228	SFL				
Valley of the Moon ARC									
W6AJF	641	2	10	3,218	SF				
Downey ARC									
W6TOI	1323	2	25	3,196	LAX				
Not Quite Workable FD Group									
A48BV									
(+WB8DC)	929	2	11	3,188	OH				
Seneca RC									
W8ID	614	2	22	3,186	OH				
Boston ARC									
W1BOS	658	2	23	3,138	EMA				
Middle East TN Em Rad Serv									
K04EM									
(+KJ4SVB)	553	2	46	3,134	TN				
Hernando City ARA									
K4BKV	488	2	11	3,128	NFL				
Easton ARS									
K3EMD									
(+K3DAL)	719	2	41	3,086	MDC				
Parkersburg ARK									
W8PAR	894	2	36	3,072	WV				
High Sierra FD Group									
N6OI	1094	2	7	2,982	SV				
Birmingham ARC									

W4CUE									
(+KA4ZQA)	692	2	25	2,952	AL				
Cape Ann ARA									
W1GLO	591	2	65	2,928	EMA				
Randolph City Em RC									
K4RAN	863	2	10	2,926	AL				
Kankakee Area Radio Soc									
W9AZ									
(+N9FD)	713	2	8	2,924	IL				
Association Radioamateur de Portneuf									
VE2CSP	568	2	18	2,906	QC				
N8QA	812	2	20	2,876	OH				
Southern VT ARC									
K1SV									
(+WT1B)	714	2	21	2,866	VT				
Great Bay Rad Assn									
W1FZ	535	2	17	2,858	NH				
Bitterroot ARC									
W7FTX									
(+W7FTX)	566	2	20	2,848	MT				
Okaw Valley ARC									
KK9N									
(+AD9RR)	613	2	42	2,838	IL				
YARS / Yolo ARES / UCDAAC									
W6YAR	711	2	38	2,824	SV				
Club Radioamateur de la vallée du Richelleu									
VE2CVR	632	2	21	2,816	QC				
WC2FD	549	2	40	2,744	NNJ				
Tri-City ARC									
WX4TC	569	2	26	2,724	GA				
Montachusett ARA									
W1GZ									
(+KB1YRS)	544	2	13	2,716	WMA				
Macoupin City ARC									
K9MCE									
(+KC9ZMD)	548	2	7	2,690	IL				
Oakland Radio Com Assn									
WW6OR	774	2	70	2,680	EB				
Cape May City ARC									
N2CMC									
(+W2CMC)	729	2	35	2,674	SNJ				
Cowtown ARC									
K500W	522	2	51	2,674	NTX				
V53RL	550	2	21	2,648	ONE				
Rolla Regional ARS									
W0GS	435	2	39	2,642	MO				
Santa Clarita ARC									
W6JW	490	2	35	2,640	LAX				
K6MW	522	2	51	2,574	NTX				
VECTOR									
VE7VCT									
(+VA7VCT)	436	2	40	2,568	BC				
Shelby ARC / ARES of Cleveland City									
KM4C	630	2	18	2,536	NC				
Michigan AR Alliance									
W8USA	661	2	8	2,530	MI				
Owensboro ARC									
K4HY	637	2	21	2,530	KY				
Boro of Barrington, NJ OEM									
WA2WUN	647	2	41	2,494	SNJ				
San Fernando Valley ARC									
W6SD	523	2	30	2,470	LAX				
Nashville ARC Inc									
K4CPO									
(+WA4VGZ)	387	2	72	2,452	TN				
Cuyahoga ARS									
W8BM	687	2	14	2,450	OH				
Overlook ARC									
N2LL	729	2	13	2,422	ENY				
Newton / McPherson ARC									
NONK	503	2	14	2,416	KS				
Irving ARC									
N5BB	445	2	20	2,410	NTX				
Olympia ARS									
NT7H	364	2	50	2,368	WWA				
N4GA	418	2	16	2,364	GA				
Kennebec ARC									
W4BTI									
(+W4S)	429	2	68	2,350	GA				
Coos City RC									
K7CCH	421	2	30	2,342	OR				
Blue Ridge ARS									
W4NYK	517	2	27	2,336	SC				
Lakeway ARC - JCARES									
W2IQ	484	2	13	2,328	TN				
Moore City ARS									
N44ML									
(+N44BRD)	447	2	49	2,300	NC				
Holmesburg ARC									
K3FI	470	2	12	2,292	EPA				
Wyandot Area Ham Ops Organization									
KD8BNV									
(+KD8FLT)	389	2	10	2,284	OH				
W3CDI	533	2	8	2,256	MDC				
Monessen ARC									
W3CSL	534	2	23	2,244	WPA				
HamVaders									
AG9D	607	2	10	2,236	WI				
North Port ARC									
W4NPT	416	2	15	2,220	WCF				
Palouse Hills ARC									
KD7PH									
(+W7YH)	343	2	26	2,204	ID				
Calhoun City ARA									
WB4GNA	518	2	33	2,198	AL				

W6VVR	641	2	27	2,192	EB				
Island City ARC									

HP Boise ARC / Voice of Idaho
 AB7HP
 (+W7VOI) 557 2 30 3,262 ID
 South Bay ARS
 K6QM 420 2 30 2,626 SDG

12A
 W2MMD
 (+K2CSJ) 2574 2 29 10,826 SNJ

16A
 Conejo Valley ARC
 AA6CV
 (+K6KY) 1292 2 102 6,216 SB

28A
 W1AW/3
 (+W3AO) 11233 2 80 36,730 MDC

1A Battery

CO QRP Club
 W0CQC 1186 5 7 12,290 CO
 Chew's Ridge Gang
 K6MI 1051 5 8 11,400 SCV
 Hunters Ridge Hams
 NK9R 411 5 6 5,060 GA
 Island Contesters
 VE7QF 420 5 5 4,830 BC
 New England QRP Group
 K1DFT 410 5 5 4,395 ME
 New England Radio Discussion Soc
 K1A 297 5 16 3,270 ME
 PA Knightlites
 K42QPG 265 5 9 2,805 WPA
 Elk Neck Canoes
 AC3V 280 5 6 2,625 MDC
 Jacksonville Chiggers
 AA5TB 209 5 6 2,365 NTX
 Club Radio Amateur Sorel Tracy
 VE2CBS 190 5 8 2,365 QC
 Prairie Contesters
 N0UD 201 5 3 2,260 ND
 Wolf Creek Crazyies
 K7UT 236 5 3 2,190 UT
 Hiawatha ARC
 WA0W 197 5 10 1,945 KS
 Los Chupacabraderos
 K5AXW 150 5 6 1,755 STX
 Cranes View Lodge ARC
 N4CVL 91 5 6 1,705 NFL
 Reno City ARA
 W0WR 119 5 25 1,545 KS
 Club Radio Amateur Maskoutains
 VE2CAM 93 5 3 1,430 QC
 NOSFF 168 5 9 1,280 IA
 Northern Vermont QRP Soc
 N1QS 159 5 6 1,045 VT
 Tick Bite Trio
 K4RET 131 5 3 980 VA
 K2QR 38 5 4 830 WNY
 Palo Cedro Ham Radio Club
 N6VLH 55 5 3 725 SV
 Yarmouth RC
 W1YAR 50 5 5 700 ME
 Marconi ARC of Newfoundland / Signal Hill
 Splitter Group
 V01MRC 6 5 11 510 NL
 OMARC Lite
 KC2SVS 18 5 4 390 NNJ

2A Battery

Explorers Radio Club
 NA3DX
 (+K3NDM) 725 5 12 8,080 MDC
 Wireless Assoc of South Hills
 WA3SH 355 5 5 4,100 WPA
 South Plainfield ARC
 NJ2SP 373 5 11 4,080 NNJ
 West Park Radiops
 WBVM 362 5 25 3,630 OH
 Central OH Operator Klub Extra - Novice
 WBFD 328 5 19 3,480 OH
 3 Old Guys
 NOYJ 250 5 3 2,900 KS
 Walton Radio Assoc
 W2LZ 211 5 8 2,560 WNY
 WB4AWM Memorial QRP Soc
 W4DGH 219 5 35 2,530 AL
 3 Y's Guys
 W0UY 182 5 3 2,135 KS
 East Greenbush ARA
 W2EGB 525 2 17 1,850 ENY
 Boschveldt QRP Club
 W3BQC 193 5 4 1,825 EPA
 Ottawa Valley QRP Soc
 VA3OVQ 89 5 3 1,555 ONE
 Yellowknife ARS
 VE8YK 70 5 5 1,430 NWT
 Pearl River Cty Amateur RC
 W5PMS 86 5 20 1,180 MS
 North TX Antenna Design Consortium
 NSANT 92 5 3 810 NTX
 Stanley High School ARC
 KD0TCP 89 5 4 785 MN
 U of UT Amateur Radio
 KB0LQJ
 (+W7YMG) 9 5 3 735 UT

Hat Creek Ham RC
 K6SDX 6 5 3 680 SV

3A Battery

Club SOTA
 W5YA 1555 5 8 15,775 NM
 Reno QRP Group
 W7FST 363 5 12 4,510 NV
 Salem ARC
 W7SAA
 (+W7SDP) 424 5 30 4,475 OR
 Gateway ARC
 K4GAR 157 5 125 2,165 GA
 Scotty's Nevada Pine Nuts
 N7QC 181 5 6 1,790 NV
 Barstow ARC
 WA6TST
 (+K68IH) 170 5 35 1,675 ORG
 ARC of Alameda
 K6QLF 59 5 15 1,310 EB
 Lonesome Lark Radio
 K5LLR 59 5 4 1,045 STX
 N8B 40 5 3 1,015 OH

4A Battery

KnightLites QRP Assoc
 WQ4RP 972 5 12 9,945 NC
 Zuni Loop Mtn Expeditionary Force
 K6Z 906 5 7 9,305 LAX
 Colorado QRP Club
 N0CQC 249 5 26 3,270 CO
 Southern MI ARS
 W8DF 377 5 59 2,975 MI
 Portland ARC
 W7LT 242 5 11 2,850 OR
 Elgin ARS
 VE3RSE 197 5 10 2,455 ONS
 Houston QRP Club
 W5MSQ 193 5 14 2,430 STX
 St Louis QRP Soc
 N4FR 95 5 12 2,095 MO
 McMinnville ARC
 W7G
 (+W7YAM) 120 5 75 1,945 OR
 Snake River ARC
 K7SI 107 5 4 1,625 ID

5A Battery

North Coast ARC
 N8NC 213 5 25 2,055 OH

6A Battery

West Valley Amateur Radio Assoc
 K6EI
 (+W6ZZZ) 2091 5 25 20,125 SCV
 Durham Region QRP Club
 VE3QDR 640 5 6 7,055 ONE

7A Battery

David Sarnoff ARC
 N2RE 412 5 51 5,115 SNJ

9A Battery

Orange Cty Radio Amateurs / Durham FM
 Assn
 W4EZ 1890 5 46 17,440 NC

10A Battery

Utica Shelby Em Com Assoc
 K8UO 1174 5 53 11,390 MI

1A Commercial

Pathfinders ARC
 VA4PAR 705 2 10 1,760 MB
 Camping with Radios
 N6M 357 2 6 1,430 SDG
 Southern MS YL
 KB5MZ 67 2 5 790 MS
 Steve Lewis ARC
 W8C 178 2 3 608 OH
 K87PJH 92 2 4 436 MT
 Chicago FM Club
 WA9ORC 125 2 20 400 IL
 K4NGA 113 2 8 348 GA
 South Tidewater ARK
 W4HDW 142 2 6 334 VA
 Williams Cty ARA
 W8JDM 11 2 5 72 OH
 W3WFI 23 2 3 46 MDC

2A Commercial

Radio Central ARC / Order of Boiled Owls
 of NY
 W2RC
 (+K4JLA) 1780 2 22 6,470 NLI
 KS State Alumni Radio Team
 K0DNG
 (+W0RPZ) 838 2 4 3,152 MO
 Spartanburg ARC
 K4II
 (+K4JLA) 876 2 25 3,146 SC
 Henry Cty ARC
 W9OB 1026 2 10 2,522 IN
 Barnstormers Contest Group
 NZ1U 624 2 4 2,520 CT

San Diego ARES
 K6GIYN 1076 2 3 2,452 SDG
 Lewes ARS & Sussex ARA
 W3LRS 406 2 5 1,724 DE
 Mora Open Rep Assn
 KJ9W 303 2 6 1,652 MN
 Ottumwa ARC
 WA0DX 465 2 6 1,446 IA
 WA2LQO 469 2 15 1,372 NLI
 Skyline Tower ARC
 W7DTV 647 2 5 1,344 OR
 Milledgeville ARC
 W4M 297 2 19 1,314 GA
 West Morris ARC
 KD2GLZ
 (+K82UNZ) 262 2 7 1,014 NNJ
 Davies s Cty ARC
 KC9SFL 141 2 15 1,014 IN
 Benton Cty ARC
 K0K8X 262 2 30 964 IA
 Coon Valley ARC
 NONAF 203 2 3 890 IA
 Cascade RC
 W7EK 272 2 22 890 WWA
 Wantagh ARC
 W2VA 82 2 11 762 NLI
 Arlington ARC
 W4WVP 193 2 14 756 VA
 Chautauqua AR Serv
 N2MQ 242 2 15 654 WNY
 Valley RC
 W7PXL
 (+K67MQD) 171 2 15 616 OR
 Champaign Cty ARES
 WBUBUD 113 2 9 448 OH
 Janet Club
 KK6JA 74 2 7 388 SCV
 Polk Cty ARA
 N9XH 121 2 7 352 WI
 Coyote ARC
 KN5S 100 2 4 350 STX
 W4FAR 91 2 6 332 NC
 N8USK 85 2 3 324 OH
 Hilton Head Island AR
 W4IAR 48 2 10 184 SC
 Mackenzie Regional RC
 VE6MRF 61 1 10 117 AB

3A Commercial

Zamora RC
 W4ZHR
 (+N4JF) 1548 2 23 6,266 AL
 ARK of the AR Northwest
 AA5AR
 (+N5NTI) 1507 2 28 6,178 AR
 Splitrock ARA
 K2GG 1868 2 20 5,960 NNJ
 Southwest Dallas Cty ARC
 W5WB
 (+W5AUJY) 1391 2 87 5,832 NTX
 Pottstown Area ARC
 W3T
 (+K3ZMC) 1294 2 45 5,266 EPA
 Macon Cty ARC
 N0PR
 (+AB0C) 1004 2 14 4,138 MO
 Fayette Cty ARC
 KK4GQ 822 2 20 3,240 GA
 Coshocton Cty ARA
 WBCCA 552 2 14 2,650 OH
 Kootenai ARS
 K7ID 511 2 47 2,308 ID
 N5BTC 456 2 26 2,102 STX
 South Baldwin ARC & Lillian ARG
 AF4I 415 2 35 2,020 AL
 Radio Assoc of Western NY
 W2PE 562 2 23 1,908 WNY
 High Point ARC
 W4UA
 (+K14JWG) 673 2 18 1,856 NC
 Drake RC
 K8UU 612 2 12 1,616 OH
 Flagler Palm Coast ARC
 W4FPC 305 2 14 1,462 NFL
 Hillsdale Cty ARC
 K8HRC
 (+K89YJH) 288 2 23 1,360 MI
 K5RKW 342 2 26 1,298 NTX
 Magnolia DX Assoc
 K5MDX 322 2 16 1,292 MS
 Talladega ARC
 N4WNL 481 2 5 1,232 AL
 Lakes Area ARC
 W5JAS 190 2 15 1,220 STX
 Camden Cty ARS
 KB4CC 317 2 10 1,056 GA
 Tompkins Cty ARA
 AF2A 305 2 9 1,044 WNY
 Bankhead ARC
 N4IDX 373 2 16 1,006 AL
 Worthington ARC
 KOQBI 158 2 5 796 MN
 Wellesley ARS
 W1TKZ 132 2 26 790 EMA
 Prince Georges Cty ARES
 K3ERA 146 2 4 550 MDC
 Katy ARS
 KT5TX 208 2 10 416 STX

Berks ARC
 K3TI 62 2 14 124 EPA

4A Commercial

Sawnee ARA
 N4NE 1848 2 54 6,584 GA
 Cumberland ARC
 K3IEC 531 2 26 1,874 EPA
 Mississippi Coast ARA
 W5SGL 375 2 34 1,658 MS
 K0DCA 244 2 31 1,214 MO
 Bear Bait RC
 KC2ZZO 493 1 10 1,204 NNY
 West Fork ARC
 WQ5A 540 2 8 1,130 NTX
 Tri-City Amateurs
 KC9OLF 218 2 15 1,032 IN
 Black Diamond ARC
 WV8BD 236 2 15 922 WV
 Mayes Cty ARC / Rogers Cty Wireless Assn
 WX5RC 113 2 22 726 OK
 Black Diamond Radio Group
 W19BD 308 2 10 664 WI
 K7BD 187 2 30 604 WWA
 BOARS
 KE8CU 136 2 4 534 MI
 Lawrence Cty ARC
 W5WRA 24 2 10 406 AR
 Grayson Cty ARC
 K5GCC 53 2 27 342 NTX

5A Commercial

Frontenac Radio Group
 VE3FRG 1423 2 6 3,556 ONE
 W9CQ 480 2 8 1,970 WI
 NE AR RC
 K5NEA 272 2 18 1,812 AR

1B-1 Op

N7OU 1538 2 1 8,402 WWA
 KJ6YAO 1168 2 1 4,844 SDG
 N8RK 1083 2 1 4,458 SV
 K1BG 1231 2 1 4,416 WMA
 AB9CA/4 685 2 1 2,910 AL
 N5OE 654 2 1 2,866 NTX
 KA2OUO 638 2 1 2,496 MDC
 K6SVI 2256 1 1 2,406 STX
 K6ER 481 2 1 2,074 MI
 W09Z 880 2 1 2,010 IN
 N4UF 461 2 1 1,994 NFL
 N7DLV 571 2 1 1,692 WWA
 VE7JKZ 366 2 1 1,614 BC
 W0XR 365 2 1 1,610 CO
 NOUY 344 2 1 1,526 MN
 WJ2D 366 2 1 1,478 NC
 KE2WY 366 2 1 1,452 WNY
 WA9STI 398 2 1 1,440 SVJ
 KB8UHN 615 2 1 1,430 OH
 K7JEO 572 2 1 1,394 UT
 W9WI 298 2 1 1,356 TN
 C6AGU 250 2 1 1,250 DX
 W5JMW 233 2 1 1,238 WTX
 W9KHH 207 2 1 1,178 WI
 N8TD 204 2 1 1,166 OH
 W8OSMX 197 2 1 1,138 AZ
 K0VK 411 2 1 1,122 CO
 AB6GS 400 2 1 1,050 SVJ
 K7YB 240 2 1 992 MT
 N3ZP 226 2 1 992 EPA
 KU7K 214 2 1 952 OR
 AA1PL 209 2 1 942 ME
 AD7DD 78 2 1 942 EWA
 W0RX 192 2 1 910 MN
 AG4P 200 2 1 786 TN
 K0ADL 285 2 1 780 CO
 KC7O 277 2 1 754 ORG
 AA7AD 50 2 1 650 EWA
 K2HT 125 2 1 650 MO
 KA0REN 118 2 1 622 MO
 W0KIE 34 2 1 618 OK
 WA1AR 113 2 1 602 EMA
 KD5BBR 150 2 1 600 OK
 K6PVA 212 2 1 574 SV
 AH6KO 78 2 1 550 PAC
 K6KS 100 2 1 550 SV
 K8PDQ 95 2 1 540 SB
 K7DNH 144 2 1 538 NV
 N5DD 134 2 1 520 NTX
 WB9WHG 41 2 1 514 WI
 WB5LRP 90 2 1 514 STX
 K4PP 109 2 1 512 AL
 KA2OEE 180 2 1 510 AR
 AC7CJ 22 2 1 494 EWA
 VE8GER 166 2 1 482 NWT
 KA4OH 111 2 1 472 VA
 KA1QYP 110 2 1 470 RI
 WA4RG 67 2 1 462 GA
 KL7WP 88 2 1 452 EWA
 WB1FAW 149 2 1 448 EMA
 KX7L 99 2 1 446 OH
 N6AE 48 2 1 446 SV
 VE7HLW 148 2 1 446 BC
 N6IV 117 2 1 416 SVJ
 WB3OAF 27 2 1 412 NE
 W6PZA 70 2 1 390 SW
 KD8UXB 33 2 1 382 OH
 K9ZXO 49 2 1 382 IL



After completing a Summit on the Air activation on Frazier Peak, Scott Hanley, WA9STI, operates 1B1 from his campsite at 7400' in the Los Padres National Forest. [Scott Hanley, WA9STI, photo]

WX9DX	618	1	5	658	IL
K7TR	236	2	1	652	AZ
AK2U	162	2	1	648	WV
W4EE	184	2	1	636	MDC
WA4ZPZ	146	2	1	634	AL
N4OTR	156	2	2	634	OH
K2UGH	258	2	2	630	SFL
K4IU	144	2	1	626	MN
W9RF	155	2	1	622	IL
W08L	157	2	1	618	NC
ND4Y	198	2	2	602	KY
N4UOH	150	2	1	600	NC
KM4I	275	2	2	600	TN
N9WKW	136	2	1	594	IN
KM4FO	134	2	1	586	KY
KC1V	131	2	1	574	CT
WK4AA	130	2	1	570	KY
WA9LEY	141	2	1	564	IL
W4XK	126	2	1	554	TN
K86A	125	2	1	550	OR G
WB0N	125	2	1	550	MN
NEBJ	124	2	1	546	MI
KE3X	127	2	1	538	MDC
WA3AAN	243	1	1	536	EPA
WA3SOR	95	2	1	530	EPA
W4VIC	131	2	1	524	VA
K3URT	149	2	1	512	EPA
VE3SSB	125	2	2	508	GTA
WA3IVV	127	2	1	508	WPA
W03T	175	2	2	500	WPA
AC6ZM	133	2	1	498	OH
K4YLL	120	2	1	480	SC
KN4DS	72	2	1	480	GA
WA9JHH	135	2	1	478	MI
K3WGR	88	2	1	470	EPA
WB9HFK	129	2	1	460	IL
WB4RRD	96	2	3	454	GA
W5EW	101	2	1	454	LA
K8OT	101	2	1	450	MI
KK4DZP	88	2	1	450	NFL
W2ORO	144	2	2	444	KY
WB0SOK	118	2	1	440	MN
ND3R	122	2	1	440	WPA
W7QHZ	186	2	1	422	AZ
N3VYZ	208	2	4	416	WPA
NE8SY	90	2	1	410	EB
KI7I	204	2	1	408	ID
AK3G	179	2	1	408	WPA
WA5LOU	140	2	1	401	IN
N2BEF	100	2	1	400	ENY
K6CSL	102	2	1	400	SJV
W3SFG	92	2	1	398	MDC
AA6EE	99	2	1	396	SDG
N7IX	172	2	2	394	OR
KF7V SL	169	2	1	388	EWA
VE3FJ	84	2	1	386	GTA
KE5UES	42	2	4	384	NTX
K2DLS	116	2	1	382	NNJ
N8CWU	165	2	1	380	OH
WE8GS	165	2	1	380	SDG
N1KRT	161	2	1	372	EMA
K2NV	158	2	1	366	WNY
AC9GU	156	2	1	362	OH
K9UT	78	2	1	362	IN
KS0M	77	2	1	358	MO
NT9M	100	2	1	356	IN
AA7L	99	2	1	356	WWA
W4BO	76	2	1	354	NC
KG6AF	75	2	1	350	SCV

W9AVM	90	2	1	350	WI
K3SV	95	2	1	342	WCF
WAZVNU	57	2	1	342	MT
WA8RSA	171	2	1	342	MI
WASRML	85	2	1	340	NTX
WE7H	91	2	1	340	AZ
N2OGV	47	2	1	338	NFL
AD7L	72	2	1	338	OR
KA5NDH	104	2	1	330	NFL
W7RTX	127	2	1	324	AZ
K7LOP	135	2	1	320	NV
KE5IRK	67	2	1	318	OK
KB3IRR	132	2	1	314	EPA
KOLAR	66	2	1	314	MN
WX6SGX	131	2	2	312	SDG
KK4YEL	124	2	1	310	SFL
NA0BR	64	2	1	306	CO
KE4ZDJ	74	2	1	298	KY
N2ASD	48	2	1	296	NNY
KF6SYB	138	2	3	296	STX
N7FG	68	2	1	296	AZ
WT3O	122	2	1	294	MDC
W4BQW	110	2	1	294	NFL
WA3KOL	51	2	3	292	WPA
WA2BMH	74	2	1	292	NNJ
AA5BE	121	2	1	292	AR
W6NS	105	2	1	290	SB
N6RLS	45	2	1	286	EB
W1WU	202	1	1	285	RI
N4MBI	116	2	1	282	NC
K7WLF	65	2	1	282	AZ
KC5YWN	115	2	1	280	AR
N3KN	114	1	1	278	VA
K4AMQ	67	2	1	276	TN
K4EET	111	2	1	272	MDC
KJ4WD	63	2	1	272	NC
KC8IKK	135	2	1	270	OH
AF6VN	30	2	1	270	MI
WE1CT	109	2	5	268	WMA
KB7HDX	108	2	1	266	EWA
WB4KFO	108	2	1	266	VA
N6BHX	56	2	1	266	EB
WD1H	132	1	1	264	EMA
N5TOL	106	2	1	262	WTX
KK4PGC	106	2	1	262	NC
WB3CJU	130	2	1	260	EPA
KB7YSY	105	2	1	260	AZ
WB0NRE	47	2	1	258	ORG
KD2EOM	72	2	2	258	ENY
N5RGV	103	2	1	256	STX
K2CDX	51	2	1	254	WNY
WB0R	51	2	1	254	AZ
KC2MBV	61	2	1	254	NLI
N1NN	101	1	1	252	EMA
NF9D	50	2	1	250	IL
K7ZYV	50	2	1	250	MS
KI6ORO	197	1	2	247	SF
KZ5OM	49	2	1	246	SV
VE9LMB	96	2	3	242	MAR
J07KMB	100	1	1	239	DX
NM4SH	47	2	1	238	VA
KC2WUF	26	2	1	238	NNJ
K6SYU	46	2	3	234	ORG
W0MMDT	149	1	2	234	MN
AE1D	58	2	1	230	NH
N3UW	45	2	1	230	VA
N0NA	89	2	1	228	WWA
W4WLC	43	2	1	222	NFL
KA7NWF	86	2	1	222	WWA
WD8JXP	110	2	1	220	SFL
N2SE	34	2	4	218	NNJ
K6LMN	32	2	1	214	LAX
WA0R KQ	98	2	1	214	KS
K8BHK	44	2	1	214	MI
N0GOS	53	2	1	212	CO
W08M	54	2	2	210	MI
K2VK	30	2	4	210	NNJ
W1HFG	65	2	1	210	EMA
AH6EZW7	99	1	1	209	WWA
AA4LR	52	2	1	208	GA
WA6URY	140	1	1	208	LAX
KC7CUE	78	2	1	206	MT
W8FO	103	2	1	206	OH
WE6EZ	101	2	2	202	STX
WD8LYB	99	2	1	198	MI
KF6FIX	24	2	1	196	ORG
KM5ART	73	2	1	196	NTX
KB9TYT	80	1	1	196	IL
N0KOE	36	2	1	194	NC
KB0UBZ	72	2	1	194	CO
W2GHD	36	2	1	194	WNY
N5WSS	62	2	1	194	AR
NE9O	96	2	1	192	NFL
N4OLN	71	2	1	192	GA
N7JL	35	2	1	190	OR
N3JNX	43	2	1	188	EPA
VY2DM	47	2	1	188	MAR
K9IDQ	137	1	1	187	IL
N7TMS	55	2	1	186	ID
W1WAB	9	2	1	184	WCF
ND2Z	66	2	1	182	SC
KC2LWD	16	2	2	182	EPA
VE3NDI	90	2	1	180	ONN
VE3HED	130	1	1	180	ONE
KB3INE	65	2	1	180	SC
W3TZ	89	2	1	178	AR
K0UD	32	2	1	178	ND
NC4MI	32	2	1	178	NC
AD7AW	127	1	1	177	WWA
W0DHB	13	2	1	176	CO
NM3S	88	2	1	174	SV
N14ET	62	2	1	174	TN
KI6CY	43	2	1	172	EB
AI6II	79	1	1	171	SF
W5P	15	1	1	170	NFL
KA6MLE	120	1	1	170	SB
K2FEO	85	2	1	170	WNY
NOZTO	60	2	1	170	CO
N2CJN	59	2	1	168	SCV
K6DKO	59	2	1	168	SB
W1VCM	82	2	6	164	CT
VE6VS/VE5	57	2	1	164	SK
N9SRO	6	2	1	162	SFL
KE7GKI	56	2	1	162	AZ
WA2LLN	80	2	1	160	NFL
AD4IE	40	2	1	160	NC
KB1NGQ	27	2	1	158	VT
W2LID	27	2	1	158	NNJ
W2PIP	52	2	1	154	WNY
N7RHW	50	2	1	150	EWA
KA1PPV	25	2	1	150	CT
N6BXO	49	2	1	148	CO
AD0DB	49	2	2	148	MN
WA6GFR	24	2	1	146	ORG
WA3YMM	43	2	1	146	WPA
WA1OOH	72	2	1	144	AZ
KJ1J	38	2	1	142	NH
KD8OBW	45	2	1	140	OH
KD8RUC	45	2	1	140	MI
W3BW	106	1	1	140	MDC
AG6RF	44	2	1	138	EB
W4SV1IT	43	2	1	136	VA
NJ6W	43	2	1	136	EB
KC8YLZ	42	2	1	134	OH
AD0JA	42	2	1	134	MO
WB7BBQ	132	1	1	132	WWA
VE9FX	82	1	1	132	MAR
N2SQW	80	1	1	130	ENY
KC4UJN	40	2	1	130	KY
AC6TU	20	2	1	130	LAX
KD4QMY	39	2	1	128	GA
N4NC	32	2	1	128	NC
N5XGG	24	2	1	128	STX
KD7LEE	26	2	1	126	WWA
K3CJW	75	1	1	125	MDC
AC2EV	62	2	1	124	WNY
NC2D	31	2	1	124	CO
AC2JO	37	2	1	124	WNY
NOAXE	21	2	1	122	CO
K3STL	21	2	1	122	WPA
N8EBN	36	2	1	122	AZ
VE6SPS	43	2	1	122	AB
AI3G	36	2	1	122	DE
K7JSG	24	2	1	120	WWA
W6JWP	35	2	1	120	SB
WB4ALM	25	2	1	120	SC
KB4VL	35	2	1	120	TN
W02N	17	2	1	118	NLI
KI6IHW	34	2	1	118	SF
KK1X	32	2	1	118	EMA
KB6ZLB	32	2	2	114	EB
VE3GF	16	2	1	114	ONE
W4SOF	32	2	1	114	NM
WB0CAH	28	2	1	112	IL
W2CCR	31	2	1	112	ENY
W0KK	28	2	1	112	NE
WB8WUA	38	2	1	112	OH
WB5PPH	61	1	1	111	NTX
KD0PIO	30	2	1	110	MN
KK4BFN	20	2	1	110	NFL
K1RDX	29	2	1	108	NH
KK6CZC	15	2	1	108	LAX
W52K	33	2	1	108	EPA
NORZT	51	2	1	108	NE
W7KAM	54	2	1	108	MO
K5OMC	15	2	1	106	MS
N7QMT	53	2	1	106	WWA
K7JQ	56	1	1	106	AZ
KK6L	28	2	1	106	EPA
KO9A	22	2	1	1	

N2BJ	2169	1	3	3,102	IL	AA1CA	144	5	1	1,490	NH	K9SAT	88	2	1	426	AZ	VA6PRC	1	2	1	52	AB
W4NUN	654	2	4	2,566	GA	WW6AFA	663	2	1	1,476	LAX	VE6UX	69	2	1	426	AB						
KA3NZR	569	2	2	2,054	WV	WB8RFB	306	2	1	1,466	IL	K9WTF	70	2	1	424	OH						
KH6HME	863	1	9	1,446	PAC	KK5JY	326	2	1	1,438	OK	KD0JLE	137	2	1	424	CO						
WA4T	272	2	22	1,396	WCF	KA2FHN	118	5	1	1,370	WNY	W3SVJ	133	2	1	416	WPA	W5CT	3483	2	5	11,794	STX
W2LJ	254	2	9	978	NNJ	K7EA	276	2	1	1,354	UT	VE4XM	132	2	1	414	MB	KF0UR	1996	2	2	6,838	CO
N2UC	203	2	2	862	WNY	K9NO	330	2	1	1,340	IL	KK4SUF	31	2	1	412	NC	W6BX	566	5	1	6,010	SCV
W4UQ	710	1	5	760	GA	VA7ST	109	5	1	1,340	BC	AB5JR	80	2	1	410	NM	W4DXA	1552	2	12	5,508	NC
W5ROS	143	2	10	680	STX	N8OQ	211	5	1	1,305	VA	N6QZS	76	2	1	404	SV	W2MU	1364	2	3	4,822	ENY
NOA	151	2	5	552	MO	NA7UT	209	5	2	1,295	UT	W6ES	125	2	16	400	WTX	WB2ELW	1159	2	22	4,812	WNY
WA4KFZ	172	2	2	544	VA	KB0YH	316	2	1	1,278	CO	K8PXR	145	2	1	390	OH	W4IT	366	5	3	4,260	SC
N4EMP	172	2	2	482	AL	AA8V	261	2	1	1,244	MDC	AD7MC	7	5	1	390	WWA	KQ3F	953	2	6	4,008	EPA
WB4WFP	134	2	2	338	DE	K2OGT	247	2	1	1,238	EPA	KC3OQ	119	2	2	388	DE	WR5P	1464	2	6	4,008	AR
W9JXN	141	2	4	322	IL	W7GF	241	2	1	1,214	OR	KONL	67	2	3	384	CO	N3DUE	967	2	2	3,878	MDC
K4TAK	51	2	1	316	TN	K1TKL	278	2	1	1,212	SDG	KB8X	70	2	1	380	OH	N1CC	1110	2	1	3,856	NTX
N9ZWY	104	2	4	258	WI	WB2RHM/4	238	2	1	1,202	NC	KC5WA	45	5	1	375	LA	K5ER	1193	2	2	3,654	AZ
WT3C	78	2	2	230	MDC	W1PID	93	5	1	1,180	NH	AD7YV	59	2	4	368	UT	W7YH	1293	2	25	3,466	LA
KJ4MFJ	70	2	3	190	KY	W1FM	113	5	2	1,180	EMA	KB0HLF	106	2	1	362	WI	W3VPJ	719	2	14	3,226	EPA
KK6DPE	72	2	2	144	OR G	W5RF	503	2	1	1,156	STX	N2GPE	53	2	1	360	NNJ	K2CK	1119	2	20	2,588	ENY
KF5WBU	42	2	2	134	OK	KCOUXC	233	2	2	1,156	SD	W5RUA	50	2	1	350	STX	W4MM	417	2	4	2,086	BC
						W7CD	79	5	1	1,130	WWA	W2MRD	47	2	1	344	ENY	K3CCR	513	2	4	2,052	MDC
						AC2DE	218	2	1	1,122	WNY	N4TUU	47	2	1	344	NFL	W6QAR	411	2	11	1,810	SDG
						K2WO	96	5	1	1,110	NFL	KOMIS	48	2	1	342	CO	NY4G	166	5	2	1,710	SC
						AE2T	86	5	1	1,110	WNY	KOLEW	191	1	1	341	SD	VE6FI	1550	1	5	1,700	AB
						WG4FOC	75	5	1	1,100	NFL	K7OVG	27	2	1	340	ID	WBDYY	916	1	16	1,677	OH
						NX1K	80	5	1	1,050	WI	WW0SS	19	5	1	340	MN	W4ID	418	2	7	1,344	ID
						K6AR	91	5	1	1,010	SDG	KF4VXJ	42	2	1	334	NC	W0VFW	440	2	7	1,322	KS
						K85EZ	65	5	1	1,000	AL	KG8YN	88	2	1	326	OH	K7SDX	386	2	19	1,146	EWA
						N6KZ	240	2	1	994	AZ	KA7RRA	87	2	1	324	WWA	W6IM	683	1	3	1,122	SDG
						K2QM	235	2	1	990	SNJ	WU9Z	72	2	2	318	IN	KB2URI	85	2	1	976	WNY
						W66BGN	75	5	1	985	MO	KA3PCX	67	2	1	318	EPA	AA9UF	142	2	2	918	IL
						KE6K	143	5	1	985	AZ	WB8RYC	60	2	1	310	TN	VE3LM	140	2	2	894	ONE
						KC4ZA	83	5	1	980	VA	W8WZG	78	2	1	306	AZ	WB5LVI	135	2	55	826	STX
						W2SFD	243	2	3	976	ENY	KG6MXO	10	5	1	300	OK	WC9AR	216	2	16	692	IN
						K5RWP	172	2	1	938	NTX	VE6SKY	10	5	1	300	AB	KC9CCQ	223	1	2	493	WI
						W6BIV	172	2	1	928	LAX	W7JZE	20	2	3	290	SJV	W4MHG	55	2	2	460	TN
						W3AG	193	2	1	922	WPA	K6OTT	8	2	2	286	SCV	W4TI	60	2	2	340	GA
						AA0TR	67	5	1	910	MN	K7VGF	32	2	1	278	WWA	WBWML	93	2	3	340	MI
						WR2G	140	2	1	888	NNJ	K8RMM	5	5	1	275	MI	KoF	19	2	3	328	IA
						AC2J	63	5	1	880	WNY	KI4TXP	85	2	1	270	DE	KJ6YPG	31	2	1	312	SJV
						KE5RTI	156	2	1	874	STX	N5PA	80	2	1	268	MS						
						W9KS	350	2	1	850	DE	KA2V CW	55	2	1	260	WNY						
						KF6I	395	1	4	813	ORG	N7HZB	1	5	1	255	UT						
						N1MHC	381	2	3	812	ME	KB5WRK	51	2	1	254	NTX						
						WA7PRC	212	2	1	806	WWA	KC0CDM	26	2	1	254	IA						
						N2MTG	324	2	1	798	ENY	KE6VUS	88	2	1	252	SV						
						KI6WD	226	2	4	794	ORG	AE7WE	100	2	2	250	MS						
						K3ORS	209	2	1	768	TN	VE3RHE	49	2	1	248	GTA						
						N4CYV	100	5	1	765	NM	KI6CQ	48	2	1	248	TN						
						AE0G	153	2	1	762	NE	W0X3	48	2	1	246	OH						
						N4HAI	152	2	1	756	OH	KE6TIM	48	2	1	246	SCV						
						AB2ZO	50	5	1	750	ENY	W7SUA	46	2	1	242	AZ						
						N6NF	542	1	1	727	SCV	W6ZH	44	2	1	238	LAX						
						K3CSF	120	2	12	726	WPA	KG4OKG	44	2	1	236	GA						
						W17J	113	5	2	715	UT	AD08	93	2	1	236	OK						
						VE2AWR	155	2	1	688	QC	NOODK	66	2	1	232	MN						
						KF5NIX	289	2	4	678	STX	KD2HVE	40	2	1	230	NNJ						
						NO7DE	64	2	2	670	WWA	KJ4VTH	39	2	1	228	VA						
						KE6WC	306	2	1	662	SF	KB2BE	12	2	1	224	WCF						
						W0WFX	98	2	1	642	MO	KA6PUW	34	2	1	218	ORG						
						K0CQ	138	2	1	636	IA	KF7PCL	50	2	1	208	WWA						
						WA7LK	140	2	1	630	WWA	WB4QNG	52	2	1	204	KY						
						WB6FDY	95	2	1	628	IL	W1AAT	52	2	1	204	VT						
						W5CSFJ	130	2	1	610	STX	N3MWQ	27	2	1	204	DE						
						AA5UY	100	2	2	596	LA	K17N	34	2	1	202	OR						
						KG6S	143	2	3	594	SV	W2FCP	16	2	1	200	NNY						
						W6IEE	82	2	1	592	LAX	N6CKV	22	2	1	194	SV						
						KV4RH	149	2	1	584	SC	VE3JOG	20	2	1	190	ONS						
						WA7PTM	26	5	1	580	WVA	KN7S	43	2	1	186	WWA						
						N28D	93	2	2	576	SNJ	KD7YDL	43	2	1	186	WWA						
						N7NEV	9	5	1	540	AZ	WA7O	40	2	1	180	WWA						
						KK4RV	193	2	1	536	NC	N8GGO	40	2	1	180	MI						
						AE7DWW	116	2	1	536	AZ	KA7NFPQ	39	2	1	178	AZ						
						AC6DN	118	2	1	536	SCV	VE7WNO	5	5	1	175	BC						
						N3FJP	243	2	2	536	MDC	KI4ENS	12	2	1	174	KY						
						N7QS	94	2	1	526	WWA	N3XZX	12	2	1	174	VA						
						NOFUK	186	2	1	522	WI	KI6WIR	10	2	1	170	LAX						
						W7WCOW	186	2	1	522	NV	KC5TGF	14	5	1	170	NTX						
						W7SLS	143	1	2	516	WWA	VE3XAM	32	2	1	164	ONE						
						AC5O	201	2	1	516	LA	KG6HXN	7	2	1	164	SCV						
						AC4RF	132	2	2	514	NC	K8IJ	28	2	1	162	KY						
						VA3TGS	81	2	2	512													



The 2015 ARRL International DX Contest

CW: 0000 UTC Saturday, February 21 – 2359 UTC Sunday, February 22
SSB: 0000 UTC Saturday, March 7 – 2359 UTC Sunday, March 8



Members of the W7RN multioperator, two-transmitter team at the helm during 2014 ARRL DX CW (seated l-r) Trey Garlough, N5KO, and Ralph Bowen, N5RZ, (standing l-r) Rick Tavan, N6XI, and Bob Wilson, N6TV. [Tom Taormina, K5RC, photo]

- Join thousands of operators from around the world as they compete in this fast-paced and exciting international contest. How many different countries can you work in 48 hours?
- W/VE stations send signal report and state or province; DX stations send signal report and transmit power.
- E-mail Cabrillo-formatted logs to dxcw@arrrl.org or dxphone@arrrl.org; send paper logs to ARRL, DX Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.
- Log Submission Deadlines:
CW: 2359 March 25
SSB: 2359 April 8

Complete rules can be found at
www.arrrl.org/arrrl-dx

The 2015 January VHF Contest

1900 UTC Saturday, January 24 – 0359 UTC Monday, January 26



In 2014, Dr Carol Milazzo, KP4MD/6, returned to the January VHF contest for the first time since 1971. This time she used software defined radios and transverters in place of low-power vacuum tube radios. [Dr Carol Milazzo, KP4MD/6, photo]

- The action returns to VHF+ for the January VHF contest. How many amateurs can you contact on 6 meters and up?
- Three new categories for 2015 — Single Operator Unlimited, High and Low Power, and Single Operator Unlimited Portable.
- Contest exchange is simply your Maidenhead grid square. More info on grid squares can be found at www.arrrl.org/grid-squares.
- Logs must be e-mailed or postmarked no later than 0359 UTC Wednesday, February 25, 2015. Electronic Cabrillo-formatted logs are strongly preferred. E-mail Cabrillo logs to januaryvhf@arrrl.org; paper logs should be sent to ARRL, January VHF Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Complete rules can be found at
www.arrrl.org/january-vhf



The 2015 RTTY Roundup

1800 UTC Saturday, January 3 – 2359 UTC Sunday, January 4

- Growing in popularity each year, the RTTY Roundup is a perfect opportunity to try RTTY contesting. If you are new to RTTY, setting up your station is easier than ever before. All you need is a PC, a rig, and a sound card interface. Be sure to check out the web page of veteran contester Don Hill, AA5AU, for tips on how to get started, at www.rttycontesting.com.
- Don't forget, two new categories were introduced in 2014 — Single Operator Unlimited, High and Low Power.
- WVE stations send signal report and state; DX stations send signal report and consecutive serial number starting with 001.
- All logs must be received or postmarked no later than 2359 UTC Tuesday, February 3, 2015. E-mail Cabrillo-formatted logs to rttyru@arrl.org. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL RTTY Roundup, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Complete rules and entry forms can be found at
www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup



Mike Jacoby, N3MA, poses for a photo before operating in the 2014 RTTY Roundup from his home in Bristow, Virginia. [Michael Jacoby, N3MA, photo]

The 2015 ARRL Straight Key Night

0000 UTC – 2359 UTC Thursday, January 1



Pictured is an antique strap key built by the Engineering Department shop at the University of Michigan. Its owner — and U of M alumnus — Paul Huff, N8XMS, operates Straight Key Night every year with this favorite key. [Paul Huff, N8XMS, photo]

- Celebrate the New Year by slowing down, connecting that favorite straight key or bug that's on your desk or shelf, and making contacts.
- Straight Key Night is not a contest; no need for quick exchanges. Take your time and enjoy a good ragchew...or several! Many hams enjoy dusting off vintage rigs for the occasion, but it isn't required.
- Send us your list of stations worked, along with your votes for Best Fist and Most Interesting QSO, to straightkey@arrl.org before January 31, 2015. A paper summary of your activity can be mailed to ARRL Straight Key Night, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Be sure to post your story and photos of your evening at www.arrl.org/soapbox; we love reading detailed stories and seeing photos!

Complete rules and entry forms can be found at
www.arrl.org/straight-key-night



January Kids Day — 2015

1800 UTC – 2359 UTC Sunday, January 4

- The first Sunday in January is the time to get youngsters on the air and share in the joys and fun that Amateur Radio can provide!
- Sponsored by the Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, this event has a simple exchange suitable for a younger operator: First name, age, location, and favorite color. After that, the contact can be as long or short as each participant likes.
- Kids Day is the perfect opportunity to open your shack doors and invite kids over to see what Amateur Radio is all about!



After watching her dad operate the radio for months, Mike's, N8MR, daughter made her first contacts during the January 2014 Kids Day event. [Photo courtesy of N8MR]

Complete rules and entry forms can be found at
www.arrl.org/kids-day

ARRL Rookie Roundup — CW December 2014

1800 UTC – 2359 UTC Sunday, December 21

- If you have been licensed 3 years or fewer, this is your chance to let your new CW skills shine! This 6-hour contest is designed to introduce Rookies to contesting and provide Elmers with an opportunity to help both in the shack and on the air.
- Rookies can work anyone, while non-Rookies work only Rookies. The exchange is your name, the last two numbers of the year you were licensed, and your state, province, or "DX" if you're outside of the US and Canada. Non-Rookies should be prepared to send slowly.
- All scores must be reported within 72 hours after the event.



Jeff Howington, AD0AK, will return for his final year as a Rookie in the December Rookie Roundup — CW. [Jeff Howington, AD0AK, photo]

Complete rules, team registration and score reporting can be found at
www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup



New DXers and Returning Entities

Some pointers to help the many new DXers out there.

This past summer I had the pleasure of presenting as a “professor” for DX University (www.dxuniversity.com) at the ARRL® Centennial Convention in Hartford, Connecticut. My presentation was on Internet Resources. When doing presentations, it is always a good idea to know your audience and the material you’re going to talk about. We had well over 120 attendees. Of these, more than 50% were interested in DXing and had fewer than 100 DXCC entities worked. I’ve helped Wayne Mills, N7NG, and the other DX University professors facilitate for several gatherings, and this gathering had, by far, the best percentage of new and interested DXers. After realizing this, I decided to change my presentation a tad by asking some questions of the audience and giving the attendees some helpful hints.

The Value of Going Digital

Yes, I told them the old proverb, “listen, listen, and listen some more before getting in the pileup.” I asked how many of them had a computer in their shack. It was not a surprise that most did. I recommended they use a computer to log all of their contacts, whether for contesting, DXing, or just plain old ragchewing. I spoke about how I wished I had had a computer when I first got licensed back in 1977. Having computerized logs really helps when searching for contacts. You can search by call, country, state, county, grid locator, CQ zone, ITU zone, date, time, band, mode, and even for a keyword in the comment field.

I advised them to remember, that when they start logging contacts in the computer, they need to maintain the files containing those prized contacts. First, it’s important to back up the needed files. It’s best to have a copy both in the shack and off site, in case of fire or other disaster. It’s just a matter of time before we will need those backup copies. Believe me, I speak from experience!

Next, I advised the new DXers to go online

and register for Logbook of The World (LoTW). Even if you don’t start out seeking awards, LoTW (www.arri.org/logbook-of-the-world) is free to everyone to upload logs, and it helps many people with award-hunting by confirming contacts automatically. It’s also another way to retrieve your log if it’s ever lost. While we’re on the subject, everyone should encourage contesters to use LoTW also. After all, their contacts are already in electronic format and it is just one easy step to upload after a contest, just like submitting logs to the contest sponsor.

Delete Them All?

I’ve always wanted to write a “How’s DX?” article entitled “Delete Them All.” I’m convinced we could come up with an excuse to delete almost every ARRL DXCC Entity on the list. Every once in a while I hear someone say, “We should delete [fill in the blank] because of [fill in the blank].” My favorite excuse is the ever-present “because it hasn’t been on the air in [fill in the blank] years.” The DXCC rules, which began to take form in the mid 1930s, never mentioned time frame of inactivity, and hopefully never will. Believe it or not, this adds to the value of the DXCC program — just ask any old-timer.

Cases in Point

In the past we could all point to China, which, up until the 1980s, had not been on the air for almost 40 years. Then there was Albania, silent for close to 20 years. Now both are on the air — daily in the case of BY and almost daily with ZA.

But for the newer DXers out there, let’s talk about E3 — Eritrea, which has not been on the air since we last heard E300A in early December 2001. Thanks to the steadfast efforts of Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT, we finally heard E30FB from downtown Asmara during the period of September 17 – 25 this year, with a strong possibility of a larger scale DXpedition taking place before the end of the year, probably during

November 2014. That’s 12 years and 9 months of no activity. That doesn’t even come close to the 40 years of no activity from China. The point is that an entity may be silent for a long time, but they have always returned to the air at some point.

There is yet another DXpedition coming up very soon that we will all be a witness to, Navassa Island (KP1). This one was last put on the bands by W5IJU, NF6S, NH2S, and KH2W, with the last contact in the log on April 2, 1993. KP1 is the most wanted DXCC Entity, probably because it’s the ARRL DXCC list entity that’s been inactive for the longest time. As of December 2014, it’s now been 21 years and 8 months. Yes, longer than ZA, but not as long as BY. However, I believe we are soon going to hear KP1 on the bands again.

And there is another entity — I’m not at liberty to say which one, yet, — that has been off the air more than 12 years, which may return soon. I understand news of this one will soon be announced. Until then, watch your favorite DX outlet.

True-blue DXers know good things come to those who can stay in the game. The original crafters of this award never meant for the players to work them all — well, at least not very quickly. The effort required is what adds to the value of the DXCC program. If it were easy to work them all, everyone could do it, or at least not as many would try!

Chesterfield Islands 2015 DXpedition

Gene Spinelli, K5GS, issued this press release regarding a DXpedition to Chesterfield Islands:

The Perseverance DX Group (pdxg.net) is pleased to announce their intention to conduct a DXpedition to the Chesterfield Islands (OC-176), currently number 25 most wanted on Club Log. Initial planning has begun for an expedition later in 2015.



The expedition yacht *Evohe* will provide transportation to the island. Subject to licensing and landing formalities, it is expected a team of up to 12 operators will be on the island for up to 12 days. The team will sail from Nouméa, New Caledonia.

Team members committed or considering their participation include: Pista, HA5AO; Les, W2LK; Heye, DJ9RR; Norbert, DJ7JC; Mike, WA6O, and Gene, K5GS. Additional team members will be added throughout the planning phase.

Our website is under construction. Watch the usual DX sources for information. We will announce additional details as they develop.

Please direct questions to Gene, K5GS, or Pista, HA5AO, at their e-mail address listed on QRZ.com.

73,

Team Chesterfield — 2015

PS, As most of you know, *Evohe* is out of Dunedin, New Zealand. The current plan is to load the boat in New Zealand and later meet the boat and the remainder of the team in Nouméa.

A Note from a Bureau Sorter

Bill Ellington, K4MWB, is a volunteer ARRL incoming DX QSL sorter for W4M, K4M, and N4M calls. He sends the following:

As a volunteer ARRL incoming QSL bureau sorter, I periodically try to purge my files of unclaimed incoming DX QSLs. Recently, I looked at how many of the calls who currently had unclaimed cards I could reach and who wanted the QSLs. Here are some interesting statistics:

In my files there were 390 calls with at least one unclaimed incoming DX QSL card. Of these calls, I was able to successfully contact only 34% using a valid e-mail address in QRZ.com. The rest had either no e-mail address or an invalid one. *Lesson 1:* Keep a valid e-mail address in QRZ.com for things like this.

Of the calls I was able to notify of QSLs awaiting their SASE, 6% said to discard them, 25% said they wanted the QSLs and would send an SASE right away, and 69% did not reply to my re-

quest for direction on disposal of the QSLs. *Lesson 2:* If you want incoming DX QSL cards from the bureau send your sorter SASEs.

Suggestion: If you do not accept bureau cards, notify your sorter and please make sure your QRZ.com profile states this. It will save much time and money for those who send cards, as well as the bureau, and sorters like me.

To contact your sorter go to www.arrrl.org/incoming-qsl-service and look for your call prefix sorter.

DX News From Around the Globe

5R — Madagascar. Toshi, JA8BMK, has announced he is heading to Madagascar Island where he will be operating as 5R8DX in January 2015. He will be focusing on 80 and 160 meters. Details to follow. QSL via JA8BMK.

DF2WO Back to Africa. Harald, DF2WO, is planning his first stop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, where he will be QRV on the HF bands on CW and SSB as XT2AW November 17 – December 2. Next, he will go to Praia, Cape Verde where he will be QRV as D44TWO. He'll be there December 12 – January 8. QSL both via M0OXO.

E6 — Niue Island. JA1XGI's next operation will be December 1 – 6 from Niue. This one used to be ZK2. He leaves Tokyo November 28 for Sydney, and then will travel to Auckland, leaving from there for Niue on the 30th. He will pick up the license at Telecom Niue on December 1. He expects to get the call sign E6XG. Once those formalities are all settled, he will be on the air, 160 – 10 meters, especially looking for Europe and North America on low bands, mostly CW, with some SSB and digital modes. Here are the target frequencies:

CW: 1815; 3525; 7025; 10,105; 14,015; 18,080; 21,015; 24,895, and 28,015 kHz

SSB: 7145; 14,175; 18,135; 21,260; 24,940, and 28,450 kHz

RTTY: 7045; 10,140; 14,088; 18,102;

21,088; 24,915, and 28,088 kHz

For E6XG, QSL direct or by the bureau to his home call; OQRS will be available too. His web page and blog are at island.geocities.jp/niuevacation/index.htm and e6xg.yolasite.com, respectively.

HK0 — San Andres and Providencia Islands. 5KOA will be QRV from San Andres Island November 26 – December 4, with operator Tim, LW9EOC. This operation will be like his previous 5JOT operation, earlier this year, on 80 – 10 meters CW, SSB, and RTTY. QSL via LW9EOC.



VK0H — Heard Island. The much anticipated Heard Island DXpedition, lead by Dr Robert Schmieder, KK6EK, has been moved up to the November/December 2015 time frame. This one hasn't been QRV since late January 1997, when Bob and the VK0IR crew were last there. Keep an eye on the VK0EK website at vk0ek.org.

VK0M — Macquarie Island. By the time you read this Rod Macduff, VK6MH (GM4AWB), should be on the air as VK0MH from the permanent base on Macquarie Island. He's expected to be there working and operating in his spare time until April 2015. Word has it he'll be uploading his logs to both Club Log and LoTW. Rod has not been on the air for some years but his buddy Chris, GM3WOJ, back in Scotland spent some time with him, giving him some pileup practice and coaching. Rod has been technical director of Q-Mac Radio in Perth, Australia.

Wrap Up

That's it for this month with thanks to K4MWB, KE3Q, and *The Daily DX* (www.dailydx.com) for helping to make this month's column possible. Please send your DX news, photos, and club newsletters to w3ur@arrrl.org. Until next month, see you in the pileups! — *Bernie, W3UR*



Jon Jones, N0JK, n0jk@arrl.org

Strong Tropo Heats Up the VHF Contest

Tropospheric opening boosts contest scores in the ARRL September VHF contest.

On Saturday evening and Sunday morning of the ARRL® September VHF contest, a strong tropospheric opening took place on the VHF and UHF bands across the Midwestern and Northeastern states. Sam, W8SPM, was operating low-power portable from Spruce Knob, West Virginia in FM08. He was in a prime spot to take advantage of the opening. He worked as far west as KFOM (EM17) and N0IRS (EM29) Saturday evening on 2 meters, running only 10 W. Here is his account:

I arrived in FM08 Wednesday, September 10 around 9 PM. There were 50 – 65 mph winds all night, lasting into early the next morning. The temperature was in

the high 40s. Early Thursday morning the winds died down. I started assembling antennas at 8 AM — rain started at 9 AM and it rained the entire day, making the antenna work miserable. I was soaked head to toe. The antenna work was done about 3 PM. I had to use a 24-inch pipe wrench and a screwdriver to lock down the telescoping mast pipe due to wind. Late Thursday night the weather cleared. It was a nice morning on Friday. I should have waited until Friday to put the antennas up.

I woke up Saturday morning with 20 – 30 mph winds and hard rain. The peak was soaked in with fog. I hoped for the weather to clear before the contest started. The pipe wrench was needed to hold the antennas in position due to the wind! The conditions were bad at contest start at 2 PM (1800Z) with a hard rain and 20 – 30 mph winds for 3 – 4 hours after the start of the contest. Then, at about 5:45 PM the rain and wind let up. I turned the antenna to the west and things began to happen. Heard N0IRS (EM29) on 2 meters with an S-9 signal. N4QWZ (EM66) stayed 10 over nearly 12 hours from 2100Z until 1000Z Sunday morning!

Very slow conditions Sunday morning with more rain and wind. By the afternoon, I thought the contest was about over for me. About 0000Z Monday, the rain and wind stopped, and I turned the antenna to the Northeast. Worked N1IIG (FN31). Within 30 – 40 minutes, I logged 10 new grids including Dave, K1WHS, in Maine (FN43). That was the farthest northeast I got!

I have come to this location on Spruce Knob 41 times since 1980. I have used telescoping mast pipes for many years and then about 1993 started building a 50-foot tower for contests. I worked 84 grids in the September 1986 VHF Contest running stacked 214 b Cushcraft antennas and 160 W. This is my first contest operating low power at 10 W using a single 13LB2 Yagi with a Kenwood TR-751A with two deep-cycle Crown batteries in parallel. In 34 years I have never had what I call a good opening. So many stations could not believe I was running just 10 W. I had always hoped just

one time to get great conditions, and I think this was it!

Geminid Meteor Shower — the Radiant Effect

The annual Geminid meteor shower will grace the holidays with a spectacular celestial light show in mid-December. This year the shower peaks on December 13. Here are some tips for improving your success this year, based on observations from the Perseid shower.

The August 2014 Perseid meteor shower had some great moments. Some stations worked rare grids and new states; others had poor results. Why were some stations successful while others struggled? It could be due to the “radiant effect.”

There are nuances as to the best times to operate during a meteor shower. The exact “peak time” of a meteor shower is not as important as many people think. Most showers have broad peaks of a day or more. The radiant effect is the most important. It has been found that the best radio reflections from meteors occur when the shower’s radiant (the point in the sky where it appears the meteors are originating from) is at 45° elevation and an azimuth of 90° to the path between two stations. This will be the most productive time for meteor scatter contacts.

This occurred twice a day during the Perseid shower — from 0100 – 0300 mid-path local time for SE – NW paths and 0900 – 1100 for NE – SW paths. The K5N Grid Expedition was loud August 13 on 6 and 2 meters to the Midwest between 9 – 10 AM CST via meteors. It was no coincidence that this was the peak time for the Perseid’s NE – SW path. You will hear very few meteor reflections when the radiant is low, below the horizon, or too high in the sky. I saw people on the Ping Jockey page attempting Perseid’s schedules when the radiant was in a poor location.



Sam, W8SPM, operated the VHF contest as a low-power portable from Spruce Knob, West Virginia in FM08. He used a Kenwood TR-751A transceiver running 10 W into this single 13LB2 Yagi. [Sam Maze, W8SPM, photo]

The velocity of meteors is important as well. The Perseid meteors are fast at 59 km/s. For 144 MHz meteor scatter — meteors slower than 50 km/s are usually inadequate. The Geminid meteors are slower at 34 km/s — but can produce strong reflections on 6 and 2 meters, making contacts possible. A tip for success in this shower — the peak path directions and times based on the Geminid shower's radiant are N – S 10 PM – local time and N – S 5 – 7 AM local time. SSB and CW contacts are possible at peak times. (A detailed discussion of these topics can be found in Chapter 3 of the *ARRL Operating Manual*).¹

The 16th International EME Conference

Rick Rosen, K1DS, submitted a report about the 16th International EME (moon-bounce) Conference. It was held in Brittany, France on August 24 – 26, 2014 at Pleumeur-Bodou, the site of the 64-meter wide radome. The radome houses the immense 340-ton antenna that captured the first live television signals broadcast from the US via Telstar satellite to France in June of 1962. More than 100 EME enthusiasts and their spouses participated in this 3-day event.

The conference had more than 23 presentations over 2 days with topics in all fields related to moonbounce activity and frequencies as high as 77 GHz. Speakers from countries all over the world contributed their experience, technical achievements, and research. The program was interspersed with workshops and demonstrations that included operation of the 144 MHz digital EME station, a 5.6 GHz CW/SSB EME station, and reception of the 10 GHz EME beacon with a small 50 centimeter dish, preamp, and down-converter. We thank Chairman Andre Gilloire; Co-chair Lucien Serrano, F1TE, and Co-chair Guy Gervais, F2CT. The 17th

International EME Conference will be held in Venice, Italy in 2016.

The ARRL EME Contest will be held on the weekend of December 6 – 7. See the ARRL website for complete details.

On the Bands

50 MHz. A strong sporadic E (E_s) opening took place Labor Day weekend. In Kansas, N3MK in rare grid FM27 was strong at 0109Z September 1 for N0JK (EM28). W3UUM Texas (EL29) worked W1AW/1 ME (FN43) on double-hop E_s at 0202Z on the 2nd. An E_s -TEP opening occurred on the afternoon of September 3. Stations from New England and California worked Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay. K1SIX and K2MUB spotted CE3SX at 2200Z and K7JA spotted CE4WJK at 2300Z. E_s was spotted from Mexico with XE1USG (EK09) by KS7S (DM41) at 2345Z.

TEP season started in the Pacific. Art, KH6SX (BK29), heard the FK8SIX/b and worked VK4WTN via TEP on the 4th at 0708Z. On the afternoon of September 5 a strong E_s -TEP opening occurred between W1, W2, W3, W4, VE2, and VE3 to CX and LU. The E_s link was shown by spots posted by N8JX for NP4A and 9Y4D, and

by W1JR for HI3TEJ via E_s at ~ 2100Z.

An unusual early morning double-hop E_s opening occurred between the southern states and Puerto Rico September 7. NP4A worked as far west as N5JEH (DM65) around 1230Z. That is 6:30 AM in the morning in New Mexico! Later that afternoon, another strong E_s opening occurred from Pedro, NP4A, to the Midwest. Pedro was 20 over S-9 for over an hour here in Kansas for N0JK (EM28) and KQ0J (EN11) Nebraska at 2215Z. Later, an E_s -TEP opening occurred from the eastern and central states to CE, CX, LU, and PY. Dennis, K7BV, commented: "My ON4KST post says it all: 00:48:10 K7BV Dennis True DX piggy day here: CE-2 CO-1 CX-6 LU-7 KP2-1 KP4-5 PY-5. A fun, fun day."

In addition, Dennis "spotted many South American beacons — many heard for the first time from here. E_s was good to the west as well as throughout the entire Caribbean and then the TEP opening."

On the 10th an X-class solar flare erupted. Hopes were high for aurora and other propagation. The CME arrived on the 12th. Some aurora contacts were spotted on 6 meters along the northern tier states, but there was no F-layer enhancement. The CME sparked some E_s -TEP the Saturday afternoon of the VHF contest on the 13th. Fred, K3ZO (FM18), reports:

It is my observation that each time the K-index reaches 4 or higher, the following day there will be a sporadic E opening on six meters to the Caribbean. So since the K index hit $K = 7$ on Friday night, I was fully expecting the two CO3s that I worked during the contest Saturday. I was not expecting the opening to Florida, much less the opening that we had to Uruguay and Argentina. I had worked everybody in Florida that I could hear running stations so at 2134Z Saturday, I called CQ on 50.126 MHz and was answered by KP4KD/W4 and then by KF4PFI.

KF4PFI complained about splatter from 50.125. By then I could hear the splatter myself so I went over to 50.125 to see who it was. Wow! Was that fellow actually giving out the grid GF15?! It turned out to be CX2TQ and I made a quick QSO with him.



A group of EME 2014 participants setting up the 2 meter antennas used for the digital EME station at the foot of the Pleumeur-Bodou site's 13 meter dish. [Rick Rosen, K1DS, photo]

¹M. Wilson, K1RO, Ed., *The ARRL Operating Manual for Radio Amateurs*, 10th Edition, (Newington: 2012), pp 3-10 to 3-13. Available from your ARRL dealer, or from the ARRL Store, ARRL order no. 5965. Telephone toll-free in the US 888-277-5289, or 860-594-0355, fax 860-594-0303; www.arrl.org/shop/; pubsales@arrl.org.

Alerted to the opening to southern South America — no doubt due to the mating of Sporadic E to Florida and Cuba with TEP from there to LU and CX — I went down the band where I found and worked LU9AEA in GF05 on 50.107. Then I heard Dave, K1RZ, working LU6DRV in GF05 on about 50.120 but I couldn't hear him well enough to complete a QSO with him, but I did so later at 2204Z. At 2210Z I noticed that LU9AEA was peaking over S9 so I called a brief "QRZ DX?" on 50.110 in Spanish and was rewarded with an immediate answer from LU8DWR in FF86.

NOJK/p (EM18) logged CX2TQ (GF15) at 2210Z. KB0QGT/rover (EM18) was heard calling CX2TQ. K2MUB (FN21) found LU1YT (FE49) at 2202Z. Rich, K1HTV (FM18), says:

The first E_s started for me just before 2030Z Saturday, September 13. A number of Florida stations were worked plus stations in Cuba (CO3VR and CO3JA) and Mexico (XE3/K5ENS). Just before 2200Z, our E_s opening to the south coupled into the Florida-to-South America TEP. I had QSOs with two LU stations in GF05 (LU9AEA and LU6DRV) and two stations in GF15 (CX2TQ and CX9AU). By 2220Z Saturday the E_s and TEP disappeared.

On the 20th, W9DR (EL86) heard the ZD8VHF/b (II22) at 2330Z. KH7Y and KH6/K6MIO (BK29) worked LU and PY stations on the 23rd around 0145Z over a 12,000 kilometer path. Bob, W9EWZ, in

Wisconsin worked Doug, ZP6CW, in Paraguay at 0150Z via E_s-TEP on the 28th.

144 MHz. NOIRS (EM29) worked W3IP (FM19) at 1543 kilometers and K8TQK (EM89) on tropo September 8, which had formed under a stagnant high pressure system at 0138Z. JD relates:

I had been working the guys up into northern Illinois on 432 MHz and had the antennas parked at 52°. I left the K3 on 144.200 MHz and was working across the room when I heard an unfamiliar voice calling CQ. Managed to pick the right direction and turned the antennas due east. There was Mike, W3IP, loud and clear at S-5. He pointed out that we had worked last year on September 5, 2013. My log confirmed this. So we were within a few days of the same conditions 1 year apart.

W0VB (EN34) spotted aurora contacts on the 12th as far as NZ3M (FN10) and VE2DSB (FN35). W8IO (EN63) worked W0VB (EN34), W9EWZ (EN52), and NOKK (EN35) around 2315Z.

KF6A (EN73) worked W4NH (EM85) at 0223Z September 14. John, KF0M (EM17), and Sam, K5SW (EM25), logged W8SPM/p low-power in FM08 around 0400Z on the 14th. Rich, K1HTV (FM18), says:

On the first night of the VHF contest, tropo conditions on 2 meters and 70 centimeters were nothing to write home about. The only decent distance on 2 meters was

with VA3ST (FN03) and K2EY (FN02). I got on Sunday morning around 1320Z. By then, conditions were much improved with QSOs up with K1PXE (FN31) on 2 meters and 70 cm and K1WHS (FN43) in Maine on 6. As the evening progressed, the tropo conditions continued to improve. On both 144 and 432 MHz, QSOs were made with W2SZ (FN32), W4NH (EM85 in GA), N4QWZ (EM66 in TN), and VA3ST (FN03). On 2 meters my best DX was out to TN (N4QWZ in EM66).

Fred, K3ZO (FM18), also had great tropo conditions during the contest:

Two meters was also a source of some pleasant surprises for me. I have found over time that the best way to pick up some distant grids on 2 meters is to call a slow CQ on CW in the vicinity of 144.200 beaming alternately NW, W, and SW. At 0104Z (9/14), Saturday night, that garnered an answer from WA9KRT in EN61 and at 0226Z (9/15) Sunday night it brought an answer from N4QWZ in EM66. At 0313Z Saturday night I worked W8SPM/8 (FM08) on 144.200 who was calling CQ. After I worked him he was called by KF4WE in EM56 and by golly I could hear KF4WE perfectly well, so while W8SPM very kindly stood by I quickly logged a QSO with EM56.

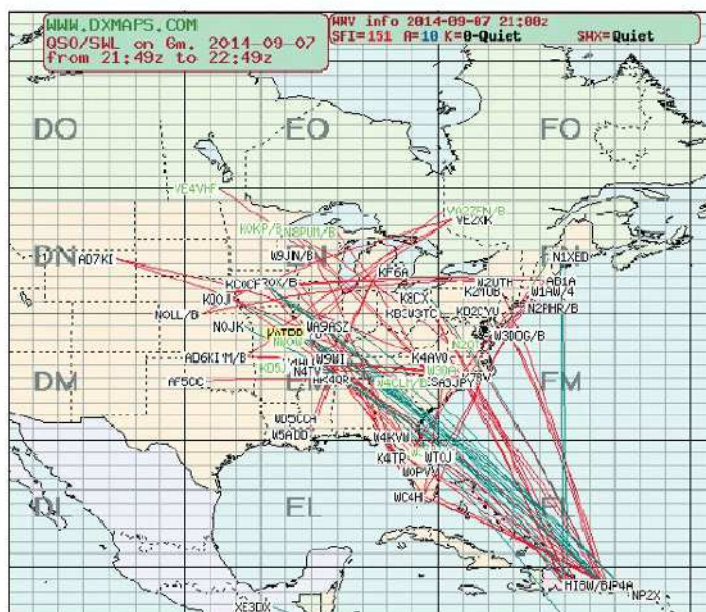
On the 20th, Ramsey, NP3XF, and KP4EIT (FK 68) worked CX6DH at 2334Z via TEP.

222 MHz. On the 8th, JD, NOIRS (EM29), worked K8TQK (EM89) on tropo.

432 MHz. K8TQK (EM89) worked NOIRS (EM29) with 58 signals at 0206Z the 8th. On September 18, NOJK (EM28) contacted WB0YWW (EN22) using 10 W and a Quagi, and NOIRS (EM29) chatted with N4PZ (EN52) via tropo.

1296 MHz. NOIRS (EM29) using a single loop Yagi and 50 W logged K8TQK (EM89) at 974 kilometers on the 8th at 0506Z.

10 GHz. Herb, WA2FGK, worked K2DH (FN12) for a new state (New York) September 21 over an obstructed path. "With New York worked, I am now at 14 states and 23 grids from FN21."



An unusual double-hop E_s opening brought Puerto Rico and the southern states together, if you were up early enough, that is. [dxmaps.com]

Here and There
The K5N Group reported 196 contacts on 6 meters and 89 on 2 meters from DM71 in August. They also made 11 EME contacts on 6 meters.

Special Event Stations

Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, events@arri.org; www.arri.org/special-event-stations

Working special event stations is an enjoyable way to help commemorate history. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate!

Nov 28, 1300Z – 2100Z, W1P, East Falmouth, MA. *Seehund* U-5075 Amateur Radio Association. **Steamship Portland Commemorative Special Event**. 21.260 14.260 7.230 3.997. QSL. Henry Brown, K1WCC, 19 Sao Paulo Dr, East Falmouth, MA 02536. www.qrz.com/db/w2man

Nov 29, 1400Z – 2000Z, K4VRC, Lady Lake, FL. The Villages Amateur Radio Club. **Radio on the Square**. SSB 21.361 14.261 7.261; CW 24.291 18.091 10.121; PSK31 14.071. Certificate. Marty Brown, 2218 Margarita Dr, Lady Lake, FL 32159. www.k4vrc.com

Dec 5 – Dec 7, 0000Z – 2300Z, KC9HYY/MMD, Muskego, WI. KC9HYY. **Monongah Mine Disaster of 1907**. 28.365 21.265 14.265 7.165. QSL. Nathan Banks, Attn: Monongah Mine SES, PO Box 324, Muskego, WI 53150. *All QSLs need to be submitted with SASE by mail by Feb 1, 2015 to be guaranteed a QSL.* www.qrz.com/db/kc9hyy

Dec 6, 1400Z – 2200Z, W2HO, Newburgh, NY. Orange County Amateur Radio Club. **Santa Net**. 14.220 7.200 3.920. QSL. Orange County Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 624, Cornwall, NY 12518. *Santa will make a special trip to the Newburgh, NY area on Dec 6 to talk with good boys and girls from all over the world. We have expanded Santa Net this year for a much broader operating schedule. All children who talk with Santa will receive a QSL card from the Jolly Old Elf himself, sent to the address of the licensed ham who is using his or her station to contact Santa.* www.ocarc-ny.org

Dec 6, 1500Z – 2100Z, W4HZL, Hayes, VA. Middle Peninsula Amateur Radio Club. **407th Anniversary of Capture of Captain John Smith**. 14.262 7.262. QSL. QSL Manager, MPARC, PO Box 1121, Gloucester Point, VA 23062. *Capture of Captain John Smith by the Powhatan Confederacy, led by Chief Powhatan. 2014 is also the 400th anniversary of the marriage of Pocahontas to John Smith.* www.mparc.net

Dec 6, 1700Z – 2300Z, N0C, Saint Charles, IL. Illinois Wing Civil Air Patrol. **73rd Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol**. 18.125 14.250 7.255. QSL. Maj Ron Walerowicz, ILWG CAP, PO Box 4027, Saint Charles, IL 60174. *Frequencies will move as band conditions change; see URL.* www.n0c.info

Dec 6 – Dec 13, 1300Z – 2200Z, W2W, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum. **Pearl Harbor Commemoration**. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate & QSL. W2W — Special Event Station, Box 1693, MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. *Additional operation is possible Dec 8 – 13, 2014.* ww-2.us

Dec 6 – Jan 6, 0000Z – 0500Z, XM3G, Mississauga, ON. Robert Emerson. **200th Anniversary of the Treaty of Ghent**. 28.525 24.940 21.295 14.270. QSL. Robert Emerson VE3RHE/XM3G, 6950 Summer Heights Dr, Mississauga, ON L5N 7E9, Canada. *VE3RHE will be operating as XM3G to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Treaty of Ghent.* ve3rhe.ca

Dec 13, 1500Z – 1900Z, N4TUN, Cullman, AL. Cullman Amateur Radio Club. **50th Anniversary**. 14.220 145.310. Certificate. Mike Fromhold, 1705 Emil Dr NW, Cullman, AL 35055. www.facebook.com/CullmanARC

Dec 13, 1600Z – 2200Z, K9C, Rudolph, WI. Wood and Portage County ARES. **13th Annual Country Christmas in Rudolph, Wisconsin**. 14.280 14.242; 146.790 pl 114.8; 146.520 simplex; AA9US-R EchoLink node: 688418. Certificate & QSL. Paul Giannoni, 976 Falk Ct, Nekoosa, WI 54457. *SASE for Special Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer QSL and Certificate.* www.qrz.com/db/k9c

Dec 13, 1700Z – 2359Z, N16IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Special Event**. 14.320 7.250; PSK31 14.070 D-STAR REF1C. QSL. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101.

Dec 13 – Dec 14, 0000Z – 2200Z, K7CCH, Coos Bay, OR. Coos County Radio Club. **28th Annual Shore Acres Holiday Lights Festival**. 21.287 14.287 7.287 3.987; digital and voice. QSL. Coos County Radio Club, K7CCH, PO Box 698, Coos Bay, OR 97420. www.coosradioclub.net

Dec 13 – Dec 14, 1400Z – 2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City Amateur Radio Club and the Delaware/Lehigh Amateur Radio Club. **Christmas City Special Event**. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.850; CW and PSK31 on 20 and 40 meters; possible 10 and 15 meters depending on conditions. Certificate. WX3MAS, 14 Gracedale Ave, Greystone Building, Nazareth, PA 18064. www.dlarc.org

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 website.

Special Events Announcements: For items to be listed in this column, use the ARRL Special Events Listing Form at www.arri.org/special-events-application. A plain text version of the form is available at that site. You may also request a copy by mail or e-mail. Offline completed forms can be mailed, faxed (Attn: Special Events) or e-mailed.

Submissions must be received by ARRL HQ no later than the 1st 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 ARRL Web Special Event page. Note: All received events are acknowledged. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within a few days, please contact us. ARRL reserves the right to exclude events of a commercial or political nature.

Special Events listed in this issue include current events received through Oct 8. You can view all received Special Events at www.arri.org/special-event-stations.

Strays

A Coded Message

Raul Midon is an accomplished jazz musician. He has performed all over the world, including at Carnegie Hall. Blind since birth, he is also a Morse code enthusiast and active ham operator, licensed as KB5ZOT. In his performance of The Who's "I Can See For Miles," he introduces the song saying, "I included a little coded message at the beginning that only a few of you will get." Can you? It begins at the 1 minute, 20 second point in the online video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICJINQtOvbA. — Fred Maas, KT5X

Dec 13 – Dec 14, 1600Z – 0100Z, K5WPH, El Paso, TX. Sun City Amateur Radio Club. **B-36 Special Event**. 14.260 14.070 7.260. QSL. Sun City Amateur Radio Club, B-36 Special Event, 3709 Wickham, El Paso, TX 79904. *Remembering the crew of the B-36D that crashed in the El Paso, Texas, Franklin Mountains on Dec 11, 1953.* www.k5wph.org

Dec 15 – Dec 30, 0000Z – 2359Z, W2B, Cleburne, TX. Menasco Amateur Radio Club. **Battle of the Bulge Memorial Station**. 28.427 24.942 21.350 14.035 14.062. QSL. Menasco Radio Club, KC5NX/W2B, 9200 Summit Court W, Cleburne, TX 76033. *We will attempt to operate all bands and modes. QSL with return postage only to KC5NX or W2B.* kc5nx.radio.club@gmail.com or www.qrz.com/db/w2b

Dec 18 – Dec 24, 1500Z – 2300Z, KC5OUR, Peralta, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association. **Christmas in Bethlehem**. 28.483 21.283 14.283 7.283. QSL. *VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. *LoTW or bureau also good.* www.kc5our.com

Dec 26, 1700Z – 2100Z, WE7GV, Sahuarita, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. **Happy Holidays Special Event**. 14.246 14.244 14.242. Certificate & QSL. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club, 601 N La Canada Dr (SAV), Green Valley, AZ 85614. *Grab your new rig and contact us from the Collins discage antenna at the Titan Missile museum.* gvarc.us

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William D. Anderson, N6KAS
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New Products

Call Sign Ornaments

Almost Home Ornaments of Duxbury, Massachusetts, offers holiday ornaments customized with your call sign and a replica of your FCC license mounted on a scaled replica of a tower. These glass snow globe ornaments are hand made and 3.5 inches in diameter. Price: \$36 plus shipping/handling. For more information, or to order, visit <http://almosthome.biz>.





Creative Tension

It's essential to overcome conflict between old and new.

David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Chief Executive Officer

As this issue of *QST* goes to press, ARRL members are nearing the end of a memorable Centennial Year. The Centennial National and Regional Conventions are over; there are just a few more weeks of on-the-air celebration before New Year's Eve brings the Centennial QSO Party and the special W1AW Worked All States and W100AW operations to a close; and this is the final Personal Visions column before we turn the calendar to 2015.

Over the course of the year we have honored those who came before us: those who discovered and first harnessed the natural forces that make communication by radio possible and especially those who saw the need for an organization to protect and promote the role of the amateur in its development. Without the personal visions of Maxim, Tuska, and hundreds of others who are less well known, and without their hard work and sacrifice in the pursuit of that vision, Amateur Radio as we know it would not exist. They could not have known what Amateur Radio would become; they only knew that it ought to be.

We're in much the same boat today, even with a century of history and experience from which to draw. We know the technological and societal trends that will shape our immediate future, but we cannot know where they will take Amateur Radio two or three decades hence.

One thing we can predict with some certainty is that Amateur Radio will develop simultaneously in different directions, and some tension will result. That's safe to say because it's been happening all along.

From Spark to...

In the beginning there was spark, and only spark. Yet conflict soon developed between those who sought to extend their communications range and those who were content to exchange messages with their friends in the neighborhood. Each pursuit interfered

Throughout the ARRL Centennial Year, *QST* is sharing the thoughts of selected members as they consider the current state of Amateur Radio and the future of our avocation at the dawn of its second century.



with the other. Then came spark vs CW, CW vs AM, AM vs SSB on HF, and AM vs FM on VHF. Technical progress generated conflict — creative tension — between old and new. Sometimes the new replaced the old; more often they came to coexist, comfortably or otherwise. Now we see similar patterns developing on VHF between analog and digital voice and on HF between various data modes. The time may not be far off when digital voice technology will be developed to the point that it will challenge SSB for supremacy in the hostile HF environment.

Shared Values

Advances in technology are by no means the only potential source of tension. Just as the neighborhood communicators and their more serious brethren ran afoul of one another in the early spark days, radio amateurs pursuing different aims within the same limited spectrum can come into conflict even if, in the words of The Amateur's Code, they "never knowingly operate in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others."

As the scope of Amateur Radio continues to expand, we must not allow those tensions to lead to factionalism. Amateur Radio will continue to thrive only as long as we are a single community with shared values, united in the face of external threats while respecting the diversity of backgrounds and interests within our global community.

Demonstrating our Relevance

One threat is perceived irrelevance. It is in our DNA to want to put our capabilities to practical use; the ARRL was founded as a network of stations willing and able to relay messages at a time when, for most people, rapid long-distance communication was a novelty. Today we still possess a unique ability to communicate independent of any infrastructure. It may seldom be needed, but we shouldn't be defensive about that. Aren't skills at communicating by radio at least as valuable to society as are skills at throwing, kicking, and hitting balls of various sizes?

External Threats

Another threat is a rising tide of radio spectrum pollution. You might think that because access to the spectrum is worth billions of dollars at auction, there must be an army of lobbyists working to protect the value of the spectrum against interference from unintentional emitters of RF energy. There isn't. All too often the ARRL and other leading member-societies in the International Amateur Radio Union are lonely voices calling attention to inadequate standards for electromagnetic compatibility and inadequate shielding and filtering in products whose makers ought to know better.

Finally, we must resist the trend toward total commercialization of the spectrum. Here we have some natural allies: radio astronomers and other scientists, public safety services, and parts of the federal government including the military.

In short, we must continue to work together. To continue to thrive we must be willing to share our knowledge and experience with, and to learn from, one another across the imaginary boundaries of our parochial interests.

If through our example we can inspire future radio amateurs as our predecessors inspired us, the future will be even brighter than the brilliant past we have celebrated this Centennial Year.



ARRL Hosts 31st USTTI Amateur Radio Administration Course

Students from Asia and Africa attended the 31st United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI) Amateur Radio Administration Course (ARAC) September 29 – October 3 at ARRL Headquarters. Two participants got their US Amateur Radio licenses as the course wrapped up. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, administered the course, which is designed for government officials in developing countries who regulate and manage Amateur Radio.

“Our students — Annop Nittaya, HS1PLO, and Virat Uansri from Thailand, Peter Djakwah, KM4EQL, of Ghana, and Oki Gari, KM4EQM, of Papua New Guinea — were already quite knowledgeable about Amateur Radio, and are committed to the further development of Amateur Radio in their countries,” Price said.

The ARAC spans a variety of topics, including licensing, spectrum, disaster communication, and antenna requirements.



The students and primary staff for the 31st USTTI Amateur Radio Administration Course at ARRL Headquarters: (L-R) ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX; Virat Uansri; Annop Nittaya, HS1PLO; Peter Djakwah, KM4EQL; Oki Gari, KM4EQM, and ARRL Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer and Meeting Planner Lisa Kustosik, KA1UFZ. [Sean Kutzko, KX9X, photo]

The curriculum also covers the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference. Several ARRL staff members delivered classroom presentations within their areas of expertise. Students also built a 40 meter receiver kit with help

from ARRL Laboratory staffers.

USTTI is a non-profit joint venture of leading US-based communications and IT corporations, and federal government officials, who collectively provide tuition-free management, policy, and technical training for talented professionals from the developing world.

Amateur Radio is “Communications Superpower,” IARU Region 1 Delegates are Told

European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva told delegates to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 General Conference on September 22 that Amateur Radio is a reliable information tool that can save lives in disasters. In a statement read to the conference on her behalf, Georgieva laid out a scenario in which all modern telecommunications and electrical power are knocked out, and no one can help the victims, because no one knows what has happened.



Kristalina Georgieva. [Courtesy of the European Commission]

“Luckily, there is a last resort: The radio amateurs, the people who are the eyes and the ears of the world in time when all other information channels are silent,” she said. “[Y]ou are the last technical miracle...an independent, reliable information channel, which can transmit...important...news from any place in the world, anytime.”

Georgieva said Amateur Radio’s advantage is that it is independent of the conventional communications infrastructure. “A well-trained radioman with good equipment and ever-charged batteries can be a fantastic link between two villages, two countries, or two continents,” she said. “When organized in a Union, you are a communication superpower in times of total electronic darkness.”

In a video presentation, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Secretary General Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT, extended his wishes for success to the IARU Region 1 delegates. Touré said he appreci-



ITU Secretary General Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT. [ITU video]

ated the work of the IARU and for its support of ITU Headquarters station 4U1ITU. Touré called Amateur Radio, “a very important public service.” Next year, the ITU will celebrate its 150th anniversary, and Touré said that the ITU club station will identify as 4U01ITU to mark the occasion. He invited the Region 1 delegates to join the World Radio Day celebration next February 13, the anniversary of the first broadcast by UN Radio in 1946.

Signal/One, Alpha, and Dick Ehrhorn

The journey to a line of classic amplifiers begins with a classic transceiver.

Joe Veras, K9OCO
k9oco@jveras.com

The headline of a 1968 Signal/One ad in *QST* asked, “What’s the BIG Idea?” The ad’s body copy inquired, “Why does Amateur Radio stick with the technology of the Fifties?” It went on to recount a conversation in which the manager of a big communications company posed that question to an authority on solid state devices.

Their conclusion — the “big idea” mentioned in the ad’s headline — centered on organizing professional engineer/hams to develop a new generation of no-compromise amateur gear. They observed that, “Effective application of the new technology — largely a product of the aerospace industry — demanded a high degree of engineering sophistication and a variety of technical capabilities not generally found outside that industry.”

The manager was Dick Ehrhorn, W4ETO, (then WA4NGO), who worked for ECI (Electronic Communications, Inc — a division of NCR). ECI primarily did contract work for the US Navy. Ehrhorn founded ECI’s Signal/One division, becoming its general manager in 1967. He tasked the new division with producing state of the art amateur gear.

Signal/One’s initial project was the CX-7, a *Deluxe Integrated Station*, the term preferred by the company rather than “transceiver.” Their design used new devices such as MOSFETs (Metal Oxide Silicon Field-Effect Transistors) along with linear and digital ICs (Integrated Circuits). Signal/One strove to update and incorporate the best features from top-of-the-line older equipment, such as the Collins 75A-4 receiver and Central Electronics 100V transmitter, into the CX-7.

It boasted a feature set that was eye-popping for the time. Except for the transmitter’s 300 W 8072 final amplifier, all electronics were solid state. With a pair of PTOs (Permeability Tuned Oscillators), the rig could transceive using either PTO,



Figure 1 — Signal/One set new performance and feature standards for amateur gear with the introduction of its CX-7. [Joe Veras, K9OCO, photo]

dual receive, or operate split frequencies.

The CX-7’s 16.25 × 7.25 × 14-inch box contained many more features, some of them new to the Amateur Radio market. Among the first things to catch the eye was the digital frequency readout. It employed Nixie® tubes to display frequency down to 100 Hz. The CX-7 covered all bands then in existence from 160 – 10 meters in 1 MHz ranges. Three spare band switch positions provided additional segments between 2 – 3, 4 – 7, and 8 – 14 MHz. The transmitter’s broadband, no-tune circuits offered frequency agility and ease of band-hopping. Just change bands and start transmitting; commonplace today, but revolutionary in the 1960s.

Cascaded filters in the receiver’s IF provided sharp selectivity and the CX-7’s electronic passband tuning allowed placing that selectivity window just where it was needed. The designers paid particular attention to the MOSFET front end’s performance in the presence of strong signals.

As they say on TV, “But wait — there’s more!” Transmit/receive switching featured full break-in on CW and either fast-attack VOX or PTT on SSB. Additional modes included FSK and AM. The built-in 115/230 VAC power supply and final amplifier were capable of continuous duty on all modes. An IC keyer generated CW from 5 to 50 WPM and a pushbutton spotting switch aided zero beating. The RF clipping

speech processor produced a pileup-penetrating phone signal. A pre-IF noise blanker and fast-attack AGC added to the receiver’s arsenal. Except for the final amplifier and power supply, the CX-7 used modular construction with glass epoxy circuit boards.

The advanced-concept integrated station was a couple of years into the testing and prototyping stage when Signal/One’s parent company, ECI, decided the time had come for R&D to end and production to begin. Perhaps the birth of the CX-7 was premature; a succeeding version, the CX-7A, was necessary to get everything in the initial model just right.

The CX-7’s \$2195 price tag relates to about \$13,000 in today’s dollars, somewhat above the mark commanded by all but the most expensive current transceivers. Even at that, the Signal/One’s 1969 introductory price was no more than that of the desktop full of premium 1950s gear it replaced.

Not everyone shelled out nearly 2200 bucks to make a CX-7 their station’s centerpiece. Take Joe Pontek, K8HKM (now K8JP), for example; he acquired his with a pair of crisp one-dollar bills. The 1969 ARRL Great Lakes Division convention in Louisville, Kentucky featured a CX-7 as the hamfest’s grand prize. Pontek (then Michigan Section Communications Manager) and his family were in attendance. Just before the after-banquet prize drawing, Pontek rushed up

and purchased two \$1 raffle tickets. One of them was drawn for the grand prize.

The Birth of the Alpha 70

January 1970 found Dick Ehrhorn leaving Signal/One to start his own company, Ehrhorn Technological Operations, Inc. One might assume that he used the company's initials to choose the call sign W4ETO, but just the opposite is true. The FCC had assigned that call to him when he changed calls in 1968. Ehrhorn derived the company name by shoe-horning a new set of phonetics onto the call's suffix.

ETO's story perfectly illustrates the aphorism concerning acorns and oak trees. Recalling ETO's early days, Ehrhorn says, "The business began with no capital, occupying a pair of leased trailers on property owned by a Brooksville, Florida automobile dealer. Both amateur and commercial product lines eventually grew to attract a global customer base.

Ehrhorn formed the company to build top-of-the-line amateur linear amplifiers. Because much of his amateur activity had involved modifying existing commercial amps or homebrewing designs of his own, linear amplifiers seemed a logical first product. Ehrhorn built ETO's first amp around a power transformer designed by Harold Johnson, W4ZCB, who had worked for Dick as product line manager at Signal/One. Johnson recalls winding the first six CX-7 transformers on his kitchen table.

The amp that would become the Alpha 70 used an Eimac 3CV1500 vapor-cooled tube. Ehrhorn designed and prototyped the Alpha 70 through 77 series amps himself and Harold Johnson's transformers provided their heartbeat. The Alpha/W4ZCB collaboration proved to be long-lived, lasting until Johnson retired in 1986.

Much as he had done at Signal/One, Ehrhorn set Alpha's sights on advancing the technology used by amateurs. The company introduced its 74 series in early 1974 and with it, broad-banded, no-tune operation — the first in a legal-limit amplifier.

When ETO moved to Canyon City, Colorado in 1977, the amplifier line was making a modest profit. Ehrhorn described the new location as, "Two buildings in an industrial park located on a gravel road." That road would eventually lead to the whole world.

A Dayton Hamvention® conversation between Ehrhorn and George Johnson,



Figure 2 — Alpha amplifiers have a 40-plus year reputation for reliable performance under tough conditions. Pictured is a 1970s era Alpha 77D. [Joe Veras, K9OCQ, photo]

W1ZT, opened the door for ETO's entry into the medical field. Johnson worked as an engineering manager for GE Medical Systems in New Berlin, Wisconsin. His responsibilities included pulling together the hardware needed to build the company's medical imaging devices. Among the hardware required was an extremely linear, high-power RF amplifier. Recalling their Hamvention® conversation, Johnson got in touch with Ehrhorn to discuss the project.

Johnson says, "Convincing the purchasing department to go with Ehrhorn's small Colorado company as a supplier led to some challenging times." Things worked out well in the end, though. In 1983, GE Medical issued a request for proposal to ETO, inviting the company to submit a bid for supplying an amplifier to be used in GE's first Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) system.

The Alpha/GE Medical story has even deeper Amateur Radio roots. George Johnson first encountered Alpha amplifiers at the contest super-station of Jim Lawson, W2PV. Lawson's station was a powerhouse in the multi-multi category from the early 1970s until his death in 1982.

Dick Ehrhorn is proud that his amplifiers so often show up in top-scoring contest stations. Chief among reasons for this is the amp's bullet-proof reputation. To illustrate this virtue, Ehrhorn once ran an Alpha at full power, around the clock, for 57 days straight. He stopped only because it made little sense to keep adding to the electric bill.

When asked to choose a favorite among his amplifier "children", Ehrhorn quickly responded, "The Alpha 87A!" Introduced in

1991, the amp featured microprocessor-controlled tuning that performed automatic band changes and tuned up in a single second. Strings of LEDs replaced function indicators and conventional meter movements.

Mergers and Acquisitions

The non-amateur side of ETO's business merged with Applied Science and Technology, Inc. in late 1995 and Ehrhorn became chairman of Alpha/Power, Inc. holding that position until 2000, although not active in daily operations. Today, Dick Ehrhorn (now W4EA) and his wife Marilyn live near Lynchburg, Virginia — their horizon defined by the Blue Ridge Mountains rather than the Rockies.

In September 2009, RF Concepts acquired the assets of Alpha Radio Products. Going forward, the company plans to create new product lines bearing the Alpha name.

What about service for older amplifiers? Parts for some legacy amps are no longer available, making factory repair economically unfeasible. The company does, however, offer free Internet support as time permits. Telephone support of out-of-warranty equipment is available for a fee. The factory continues to service the Alpha 8100, 87A, 89, 91b, and 99 models and all current products.

Just as in Dick Ehrhorn's day, the strength of Alpha is still rooted in the people who make up the company. In addition to president Ken Long, N0QO, those involved in day-to-day operations in Longmont, Colorado include: Gordon Hardman, W0RUN; Brad Focken, K0HM; Glenn Pladsen, AE0Q; Carey Fuller, KX0R, and many others.



ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll

The ARRL VEC Honor Roll recognizes the top five Volunteer Examiners in each ARRL Division according to the total number of ARRL exam sessions in which they have participated since their accreditations. Considering each session requires an average time commitment of 2 to 4 hours or more, the thousands of hours these VEs have invested represent extraordinary dedication! Whether you are one of our VE Teams that tests once a week, once a month, or once a year, we want to express our warmest appreciation to all volunteers for your generous contribution to the ARRL VEC program.

If you are an ARRL VE, you can view your session stats online at www.arrl.org/ve-session-counts.

If you are not a VE, become one today! See www.arrl.org/become-an-arri-ve.

Examiner	Sessions	Accreditation Date	Examiner	Sessions	Accreditation Date	Examiner	Sessions	Accreditation Date
<i>Atlantic</i>			<i>Hudson</i>			<i>Roanoke</i>		
Edward Genoino, WA2NDA	246	10-Jul-85	Paul Maytan, AC2T	463	06-Sep-84	Judy Friel, AC4RG	230	01-Feb-91
William Effland, K2GYI	228	06-Sep-84	E. Drew Moore, W2OU	344	01-Aug-90	Alan Moeck, WA2RPX	203	27-Sep-94
James McCloskey, NS3K	223	14-Nov-94	Gerald Miller, Jr, AA2ZJ	316	05-Dec-95	Thomas Hill, KJ4IV	201	01-Jun-91
George Brechmann, N3HBT	213	01-Apr-91	Daniel Calabrese, AA2HX	305	01-Nov-91	David Snyder, W4SAR	183	01-May-93
Donald Wright, Jr, AA2F	186	26-Oct-84	Stanley Rothman, WA2NRV	285	01-Mar-85	Sheila Frank, KT4YW	181	30-Oct-96
<i>Central</i>			<i>Midwest</i>			<i>Rocky Mountain</i>		
Eldon Boehm, NK9U	239	21-Nov-86	Harry Nordman, AB0SX	621	09-Jan-02	Karen Schultz, KA0CDN	404	06-Sep-84
Allan Bukowski, N9ZD	239	01-Jun-92	David Bartholomew, AB0TO	514	22-Mar-02	Robert Hamilton, N0RN	315	19-May-87
Donald Hlinsky, N9IZU	233	01-Mar-91	Kevin Naumann, N0WDG	478	17-Nov-02	Frank Goddard, W0AJY	266	01-Feb-92
George Greene, NE9ET	229	13-Nov-00	Jeanette Nordman, AB0YX	438	21-Aug-03	Henry Luthé, Jr, W0ZU	250	01-Jan-92
Timothy Pechtold, AA9BV	227	01-Nov-92	Roland Kramer, W0RL	357	21-Jun-01	David Avery, N0HEQ	240	13-Jan-88
<i>Dakota</i>			<i>New England</i>			<i>Southeastern</i>		
John Schwarz, Jr, AE0AL	229	26-Oct-94	Lawrence Polowy, KU1L	292	02-Jan-85	Victor Madera, KP4PQ	370	01-Mar-92
Jeffrey Goodnuff, W0KF	210	17-Jun-03	James Mullen, KK1W	274	01-Mar-91	Pablo Soto, KP4SJ	300	01-May-92
Dennis Ackerman, KB0QQQ	196	15-Jul-96	Stefan Rodowicz, N1SR	272	20-Nov-84	Joseph Patti, N4UMB	273	01-Sep-90
Daniel Royer, KE0OR	194	01-Jul-91	Bruce Anderson, W1LUS	270	11-Feb-88	Harold Prosser, III, KK1B	264	22-Jan-86
Thomas Wilson, NI0I	183	30-Jul-86	Robert Beaudet, W1YRC	270	01-Aug-90	Robert Cumming, Sr, W2BZY	257	29-Jan-97
<i>Delta</i>			<i>Northwestern</i>			<i>Southwestern</i>		
Arthur Parry, Jr, WB4BGX	228	01-May-91	Richard Morgan, KD7GIE	399	11-Aug-00	Bill Martin, A10D	553	01-Nov-84
Edward Scheufele, AB5RS	220	19-Jan-94	John Mackey, Jr, KS0F	369	01-Oct-90	Fred Bollinger, AB7JF	321	17-Apr-95
William Easterday, KB8FU	209	01-Mar-91	Loren Hole, KK7M	314	06-Sep-84	Steve Gurley, KY7W	290	19-Apr-96
Joan Thorne, KN4PM	172	01-Jan-91	George Ftikas, N7TQZ	254	01-Dec-92	Gary Mangels, AD6CD	286	30-Jul-97
Bobby Livingston, N5YLE	166	01-Apr-93	Duane Anderson, NA7DA	241	28-Mar-00	Frankie Mangels, AD6DC	282	14-Oct-97
<i>Great Lakes</i>			<i>Pacific</i>			<i>West Gulf</i>		
David Schmidt, K14QH	250	15-Feb-85	Royal Metzger, K6VIP	368	29-Apr-85	Franz Laugermann, K3FL	554	01-Dec-91
Herbert Blasberg, WA8PBW	216	06-Sep-84	Morris Jones, AD6ZH	331	27-Nov-01	Sammy Neal, N5AF	533	20-Nov-84
Charles Hall, W8HF	209	01-Jun-92	Dorothy Hays, N6UDH	242	01-Sep-91	John Moore, III, KK5NU	425	21-May-95
Claybourne Mitchell, W8JNZ	201	01-Sep-90	Kenneth Hall, W06J	230	18-Mar-86	Gerald Grant, WB5R	371	04-Jan-85
Theodore Wilson, K8TCR	201	19-Jan-90	Rodney Gibson, KC6NYR	198	01-Aug-92	David Fanelli, KB5PGY	348	01-Oct-91

Radio Tips

Split Frequency Operation

Stations that are likely to generate a great deal of interest in the form of a pileup often choose to use Split Frequency Operation. This means that they will transmit on one frequency while listening on another. This helps the sought-after station manage the influx of calls. The desired station will usually inform the pileup that they are *working split* by saying or sending UP 1, UP 5, or just UP. This is the station letting folks know that they are not listening on their transmitting frequency, but rather, some number of kHz higher.

To make contact with this station you need a transceiver capable of working split operation. Most modern rigs allow for this but older equipment may require the addition of an external VFO. Alternately, a separate

transmitter and receiver can get the job done with an antenna switch between the two units. Your transceiver's manual should guide you through the necessary steps.

Let's say you hear a pileup on 7030 kHz. Tune down a bit to 7029 and you may hear something like CQ DE XY2XYZ UP 1. XY2XYZ is letting everyone know that they are transmitting on 7029 kHz but listening on 7030 kHz. Now you know how to set up your station to have a contact. Listen on XY2XYZ's frequency and send your call on the frequency that XY2XYZ has chosen to monitor, that is, 1 kHz up. Then, just keep an ear out for your call sign.

You may also see stations listed on DX spotting networks indicating the split operation as XY2XYZ 7.029 +1.

An old DXer's trick is to keep an ear on both

frequencies. (Some modern transceivers allow you to do this with stereo earphones separating the two frequencies to your different ears.) Listen for the station coming back with a signal report to the desired station and then tune just slightly above or below that operator's frequency. It can make your signal stand out against the noise. Be patient, there a lot of folks trying to do the same thing.

Any successful split operator will tell you there is no substitute for listening. You will want to get a sense of how the station you seek is operating. Is the station taking the first call they hear or are they waiting for the noise to die down a bit before picking a contact? Timing is everything! — 73, Thomas Arey, N2EI, 104 West Franklin Ave, Edgewater Park, NJ 08010, tjarey@gmail.com

Convention and Hamfest Calendar

Gail Iannone, giannone@arrl.org; www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar

Abbreviations

Spr = Sponsor
Tl = Talk-in frequency
Adm = Admission

Alabama (Locust Fork) — Jan 3

D F H R T V

8 AM – 1 PM. *Spr*: Blount County ARC. Locust Fork High School, 155 School Rd. *Tl*: 146.7 (91.5 Hz). *Adm*: Free. www.freezefest.com.

Arizona (Phoenix) — Jan 10 F H Q R T V

8 AM – noon. *Spr*: Thunderbird ARC. Northwest Community Church, 16615 N 43rd Ave. *Tl*: 446.15 (100 Hz). *Adm*: \$2. w7tbc.org.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION CONVENTION

December 12 – 13, Plant City, FL

D F H Q R S T V

Friday 2 – 7 PM, Saturday 9 AM – 4 PM. *Spr*: Florida Gulf Coast AR Council. Strawberry Festival Grounds Agricultural Show Center, 2508 E Oak Ave. 39th Annual Tampa Bay Hamfest. *Tl*: 146.94 (146.2 Hz). *Adm*: advance \$9, door \$10. tampabayhamfest.org.

TECHFEST

January 10, Lawrenceville, GA

H R S T V

10 AM – 2 PM. *Spr*: Gwinnett ARS. Gwinnett Medical Resource Center, 665 Duluth Hwy (GA 120). *Tl*: 147.075 (82.5 Hz). *Adm*: Free. www.gars.org.

Louisiana (Minden) — Dec 20

D F H Q R S V

8:30 AM – 2 PM. *Spr*: Minden ARA. Minden Civic

A = AUCTION

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

Center, 520 Broadway. *Tl*: 147.3. (186.2 Hz). *Adm*: \$5. n5rd.org.

Missouri (Brighton) — Jan 3 D F H R T V

8 AM – noon. *Spr*: Ozark Mountain AR Group. Brighton Assembly of God, 5403 Hwy F. *Tl*: 147.225 (162.2 Hz). *Adm*: \$5. w0omd.org.

New Jersey (Bergenfield) — Dec 13

D F H R S

8 AM – 4 PM. *Spr*: Boy Scout Troup 139/Venture Crew 7373. Conlon Hall, 19 N William St. *Tl*: 146.955 (141.3 Hz), 146.52. *Adm*: \$2 suggested donation (under 14 free).

NEW YORK CITY/LONG ISLAND SECTION CONVENTION

January 4, Bethpage, NY

R S V

7:30 AM (doors open), 9 AM (forums start). *Spr*: Great South Bay ARC. Briarcliff College, 1055 Stewart Ave. Ham Radio University 2015, Special Event Station. *Tl*: 146.85 (136.5 Hz). *Adm*: \$3 (donation). hamradiouniversity.org/.

Ohio (Delta) — Dec 6 D H R V

8 AM – 2 PM. *Spr*: Fulton County ARC.

Delta Memorial Hall, 401 Main St. *Tl*: 147.195. *Adm*: \$5. k8bxq.org/.

South Carolina (Greenwood) — Jan 10

D F H S V

9 AM – 3 PM. *Spr*: Greenwood ARS. Piedmont Technical College James Medford Center, 620 N Emerald Rd. *Tl*: 147.165 (107.2 Hz). *Adm*: \$8. w4gwd.org.

Tennessee (White Pine) — Jan 3 D H R S T V

8 AM – 2 PM. *Spr*: Lakeway ARC. Walters State Great Smoky Mountains Expo Center, 1615 Pavilion Dr. *Tl*: 147.03. *Adm*: \$8. www.lakewayarc.org.

Texas (Schertz) — Jan 10 D F H Q R S T V

8 AM – 2 PM. *Spr*: San Antonio RC. Schertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Pkwy. *Tl*: 146.94 (179.9 Hz). *Adm*: advance \$8, door \$10. w5sc.org.

Wisconsin (Waukesha) — Jan 10 D F H R V

8 AM – 1 PM. *Spr*: West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Arena, 1000 Northview Rd (County Trunk FT). 43rd Annual Midwinter Ham Radio, Computer and Electronics Swapfest. *Adm*: advance \$5, door \$6 (free admission ticket with every two tables purchased). www.warac.org.

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-and-conventions-calendar) 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/hamfest-convention-application 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. Sanctioned conventions are also listed in the *ARRL Letter*. In addition, events receive donated ARRL prize certificates and handouts.

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 website for possible late changes, for driving directions and for other event details. Please note that postal regulations prohibit mention in *QST* 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 ARRL web banner advertising. Call the ARRL Advertising Desk at 860-594-0207, or e-mail ads@arrl.org.

December 2014 W1AW Qualifying Runs

Earn your Code Proficiency certificate or endorsements by listening to W1AW Qualifying Runs. Legibly copy at least one minute of text by hand and mail the sheet to:

W1AW Qualifying Run, 225 Main St, Newington, CT USA 06111

Include \$10 (check or money order) if this is a submission for your initial Code Proficiency certificate; \$7.50 if you are applying for an endorsement (available for speeds up to 40 WPM). Your text will be checked against the actual transmissions to determine if you have qualified.

December Qualifying Runs will be transmitted by W1AW in Newington, Connecticut at 10 PM EST on Friday, December 5 (0300 UTC December 6) and at 9 AM EST on Tuesday, December 16, (1400 UTC) at 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, and 147.555 MHz. The West Coast Qualifying Runs will be transmitted by K6KPH on Saturday, December 13, at 2 PM PST (2200 UTC) at 3581.5, 7047.5, 14047.5, 18097.5, and 21067.5 kHz. Unless indicated otherwise, sending speeds are from 10 to 40 WPM.

Listen for W1AW Portable Centennial QSO Party Operations in December!



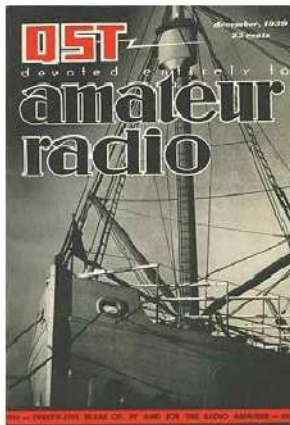
December 3 – December 9	W1AW/1 W1AW/9	Maine Illinois
December 10 – December 16	W1AW/7 W1AW/9	Montana Indiana
December 17 – December 23	W1AW/3 W1AW/4 W1AW/KH6	Maryland Georgia Hawaii
December 24 – December 30	W1AW/3 W1AW/0	Pennsylvania Iowa
December 31	Red Badges on the Air	

75, 50, and 25 Years Ago

Al Brogdon, W1AB

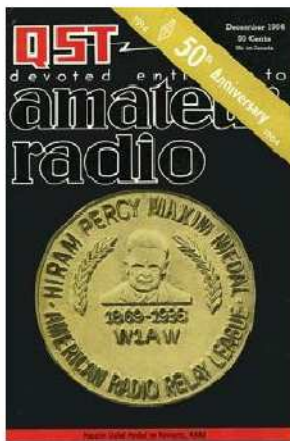
December 1939

- The cover photo shows the bow area of a tall ship that will be part of the Byrd Expedition — and so will Amateur Radio!
- The editorial again reminds us not to discuss the European War on the air, because the US is a neutral party.
- Clinton B. DeSoto, W1CBD, reports "Byrd Antarctic Expedition to Use Amateur Radio," and provides details of the plan.
- By Goodman, W1JPE, tells about his latest project, "A Four-Tube Superheterodyne."
- E. E. Combs, ex-W6CTN, built "A Homemade Exponential Horn," resulting in better audio from the broadcast receiver.
- Don Mix, W1TS, tells us how to use "Dish-Type" Construction for the High-Power Amplifier," to result in a smaller size unit.
- Fred Sutter, W8QBW, built "The 'Portable Five,'" leaving out the power transformer and running the 5 watt rig directly off the 110 volt a.c. mains.
- In "Five Bands without Changing Coils," T. M. Ferrill, W8QBW, tells us how to use ganged L-C sections.



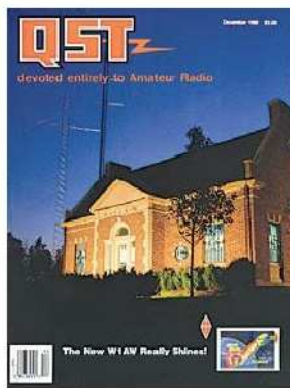
December 1964

- The cover photo shows the new A.R.R.L. award, the Hiram Percy Maxim Medal.
- The editorial discusses changes to the League's contests, some already made and others on the horizon.
- Henry Cross, W1OOP, tells about his new rig, in "No Tubes — Four Watts — Six Meters."
- John Raydo, K0LMZ, describes "A Low-Cost Transistor Mobile Power Supply" that will provide voltages for bias, screen, and plate circuits — with a total of 375 watts of d.c. output.
- "First Maxim Medal Awarded to Reinartz" reports on the passing of John Reinartz, K0HJ (ex-1QP/1XAM), and looks at the highlights of his amateur work, including the discovery in the early 1920s of the Heaviside Layer as being responsible for "skip" propagation.
- Robert Hanta, K8PBA, tells us how to build "The ANTALO," a 2 meter halo with parasitic elements.
- "Extending the Range of the BC-221 Frequency Meter," by Alfred Robinson, W6PM, helps us get even greater utility out of that World War II surplus unit.
- Robert Forster, W2DVG, describes "A Heterodyne-Type Transmitter for 144 Mc." that will give high frequency stability with V.F.O. control.
- In "Crystal V.F.O. with Full-Band Coverage," Frank Noble, W3QLV, tells us how his 3500 to 4000 Kc. unit uses a series of crystal-controlled oscillators and mixers to generate a rock-stable signal.



December 1989

- The cover photo shows the new W1AW building at night, with the caption "The New W1AW Really Shines!"
- The editorial reports on "Our Anniversary Year," now that the League has reached the 75-year mark.
- Jim Cain, K1TN, tells about "A Visit to W1AW," with the main photo showing the station's Chief Operator, Chuck Bender, W1WPR.
- Wes Hayward, W7ZOI, gives us Part 1 of "A QRP SSB/CW Transceiver for 14 MHz."
- Emil Pocock, W3EP, tutors us on "Auroral-E Propagation at 144 MHz," using the Great Aurora of March 1989 as an example.
- Bruce, NR5Q, gives us a nice seasonal article, "Christmas for an Elmer."
- The recent passing of Loren Windom, W8GZ, prompts Rod Newkirk, W9BRD, to reminisce about his own Windom antenna, in "A Topsy Windom on Evans Hill"
- Jim Cain, K1TN, presents Part 4 of "Tune in to Glasnost"
- Bruce Hale, KB1MW, provides information for the Novices and other newcomers who want to step up from their labor-intensive straight keys, in "Keys, Keyers, and Keyboards."



Field Organization Reports

September 2014

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 can be found at www.arrl.org/public-service-honor-roll.

705	KDSROB	120	N3RB	K5RG
KB2RTZ	N9LW	K0VTT	N3SW	86
531	KE4CB	NN7H	WA4BAM	WB8SIQ
W5KAV	W4NDA	AG9G	NC3F	KJ7NO
388	KE4CB	K9LJU	AA2SV	85
WB8RCR	VE7GN	WK4WC	WA0CGZ	KDONJK
339	W9FVM	NA7G	WB0TS	KA2HZP
W7PAT	WB8USA	KK3F	AK4RJ	N9EXM
267	156	KB1RGO	W4TTO	83
AK1NS	N7EIE	NM1K	WA4BAM	NC3F
260	155	KA1G	NC3F	N2RTF
K0IBS	W9QPM	118	KC8WH	W8ARR
245	152	KA8ZGY	WD8Q	82
WB8R	W9EEU	115	WB4FDT	W0DQF
243	245	KC9UJP	KB3LNM	N2RDB
KF4DVF	150	WBMAL	AA3SB	80
240	W56P	K4VWK	WB8WKQ	K0DEU
KT5SR	W9BGJ	WB8JSR	AJ4TH	WA9QIB
225	KB8QK	KA0DBK	112	N2GJ
N8SY	N2WGF	112	WBKVG	K9DUR
220	148	KJ6PCC	KD8LSM	KF4OCU
W5DY	KW4EMG	KD8TTE	KB1NMO	WBW5D
215	144	111	KJ4G	WB4R1W
N5NVP	N2PQJ	W7JSW	97	K8ED
KC5ZGG	140	110	K6JGL	79
214	K1PJS	K6HTN	96	KC5TGF
WB9FHP	WV8CH	N9VC	WBPCG	78
210	N7CM	NX9K	95	N8IBR
WB8TQZ	K7EAJ	K5KV	KC0ZDA	77
208	KJ4JPE	KC5OZT	N1JX	93
W4VX	WB4ZIQ	N1JX	KB2QO	WA7PTM
190	139	K1MLG	KA9QWC	AB1AV
W1KX	137	137	N7XG	K4GK
K7OAH	W9WXN	W2EAG	K1HEJ	AF7FT
WB8YY5	136	136	N9MN	81
187	KB8VXE	WS4P	AB9ZA	WA5LOU
K7RDB	135	108	N2DW	KM7N
WB9WKO	WB8DJG	W3YVQ	WA6IAF	75
179	K8RDB	K2KNB	W0CLS	WOPZD
N8OSL	KC8YVF	N2RQ	N3KB	74
178	K04OL	KB2ZEX	KU6J	AJ7B
K8RDN	WB2ZEX	105	N5RL	N5MBC
175	130	130	W2CC	K5JAW
WA3EZN	W1INC	W0LAW	KB5KKT	KJ4HGH
WA4STO	W6LAW	103	K2BQ	72
170	K6JT	W3CB	WB8QLT	KC2EMW
KE5YTA	WB2FTX	101	WB8Z	73
N5TMC	W7EKB	NA9L	KB8HJQ	AL7N
W7FQQ	K4IWW	W4CPG	WB3FTQ	71
165	WA1STU	K2TV	K8KV	K6RAU
KE5HYW	K2TV	100	N4RNM	K5JAW
160	129	WA1MXT	89	Ni2W
KG0GG	KF4DAX	K6FRG	KB9KEG	70
WBQAS	127	K9PTK	KC8BW	KoRXC
	KB8RCR	N0DUX	88	KDOUSN
	125	K9JM	K80DTI	KB2ZUP
	KF6IOU	KA5AZK	87	N0DUW
		KF5TTN	AB1ST	NoYOL
		KB5SDU	KJ6LJ	KDOUST
		KA2GQQ		KD2AKX

The following stations qualified for PSHR in previous months but have not been recognized in this column yet: (Aug) K2TV 155, N2WGF 120, WS4P, K04OL 110, AJ4TH, N4RNM 100, KC2YDT 91, K2KNB 83, N2PQJ 75, AK1NS 72, WB2ZEX 70, (July) KK3F 165, AA3SB 160, KD8TTE 149, W3YVQ 135, N2PQJ 120, KA1G 120 [Correction], W3CB, WB4FDT, KB3LNM 100, WB3FTQ 90, W4CTN 82, NF8I 70, (June) N2PQJ 201.

Section Traffic Manager Reports

The following Section Traffic Managers reported: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, EB, EPA, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, LAX, MDC, ME, MI, MN, NC, NE, NFL, NH, NJ, NM, NNJ, NTX, OH, OK, OR, ORG, SC, SD, SFL, SJV, STX, SV, TN, UT, VA, WCF, WI, WPA, WV.

Section Emergency Coordinator Reports

The following ARRL Section Emergency Coordinators reported: GA, ENY, EWA, IA, ID, IN, KS, LA, MDC, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, ND, NLI, NM, OH, OK, SFL, SJV, SNU, SV, WTX, WV, WWA.

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.

WB9FHP 1896, NX9K 1547, K6HTN 1111, W56P 1009, WA4STO 599, K6FRG 591, KK3F 506.

BPL with Originations + Deliveries: NM1K 102.

KK3F achieved 905 BPL points in July but was not recognized in this column yet.

Silent Keys

Silent Keys Administrator, sk@arri.org

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of these amateurs:

W1CSR	Ericksberg , Alvah O., Ludlow, MA	AF4GH	Hughes , George H., Warner Robins, GA	K7GCD	Van Schuyler , Philip, Boise, ID
K1DAD	Sawyer , Royce N., Bradford, MA	KA4GOK	Martinez , Osvaldo, Pompano Beach, FL	KL7KF	Kostlin , Hal, Palmer, AK
*AA1HK	Johnstone , Diane M., Torrington, CT	KJ4FU	Castoran , William M., Alexandria, VA	AE7JL	Larsen , Howard "Joe", Fish Haven, ID
*W1VVB	London , Frank J., Delray Beach, FL	KI4JQM	Bell , Monroe P., Burlington, NC	KE7JTG	Turley , Glenae, Holladay, UT
K1JGM	Messer , James G., Riverview, FL	KF4KEK	Murphy , Joseph K., Kingston, TN	W7LEW	Jezzo , Lewis J., Mesa, AZ
WA1JTE	Johnson , Gerald D., St. Johnsbury, VT	AD4KH	Shaper , H. E. "Ed" Jr., Crawfordville, FL	*W7LQY	Clark , Leonard H., Saratoga, WY
W1KL	Ryder , William C., Brewster, MA	*K4KIY	Suchocki , Thomas P., Los Alamos, NM	KA7MXS	Hubbard , Elbert A., Manson, WA
W1QIQ	Johnson , Lee D., Portland, ME	KG4KZE	Ottaviano , Richard J., Lake Placid, FL	KC7NIE	Farkas , Nicholas V., Albany, LA
W1QJL	Dombrowik , Eugene S., New Britain, CT	KD4LCY	Taylor , Stephen G., Jacksons Gap, AL	AE7NY	Ekelund , Harry J., Southbury, CT
N1RFX	Gebo , Joseph S. Jr., Spencer, MA	K4LEX	Elliott , Raymond L., Nicholasville, KY	W7QCD	Seeley , Leslie "Les" A., Hyrum, UT
*KB1T	David , John G., Amherst, NH	N4LLI	Johnson , Edward T., Richland, WA	N7QCO	Catterlin , Richard L., Belgrade, MT
KB1TJC	Butkiewicz , Leonard A., Meriden, CT	KB4LIZ	Hester , Walter G., Leeds, AL	W7RNJ	Sorenson , Randall E., Rigby, ID
WA1USD	Muzzulin , Guerin V., Colchester, CT	WB4MAR	Ballentine , James R., Cashiers, NC	W7RSJ	Bell , David E., Sheridan, WY
W1VMC	Laplante , Jean-Paul, Underhill Center, VT	*K4MAS	Kane , Sheldon "Ed", Margate, FL	KC7TB	Boelen , Wallace E., Hillsboro, OR
K1VU	Johnson , Robert E., West Bridgewater, MA	KF4MUN	Cruse , Lloyd L., Paducah, KY	KE7UDC	Karwhite , Jason W., Auburn, WA
N1VVF	McQueeney , Robert D., Cherryville, NC	K4MXV	Shankle , James "Ted" D. Jr., Rome, GA	W7YEM	Triebwasser , Warren L., Spokane, WA
AJ1W	Rosen , Julius J., Millis, MA	K4NR	Branch , Thomas P., Plano, TX	KC8ALL	Torrence , William S. Jr., Lansing, MI
WE1W	Campbell , Walter W., North Kingstown, RI	AB4OC	Sicard , Albert J., Saint Petersburg, FL	W8CP	Werner , Raymond E., Cincinnati, OH
W1YDK	Hughes , Joseph J. Sr., Marlborough, MA	KI4OEB	Mackin , Suzanne A., Palm Harbor, FL	KB8CQ	Kochevar , Edward W., Parma, OH
KA2AFC	LaBarge , Daniel C., Saratoga Springs, NY	W4OFU	Dewberry , William C. Jr., Pensacola, FL	KA8DFD	McGlinch , Craig A., Greenville, OH
N2BUQ	Valentino , Dominic J., South Plainfield, NJ	KC4OIT	Husband , George M., Center Point, AL	N8GRA	Slawson , Raleigh A., Northwood, OH
KC2C	Avery , Peter H. Jr., Valatie, NY	WB4RMT	Autry , John D., Dunlap, TN	WD8IDJ	Eikhoff , Donald R., Portage, MI
W2FIX	Cole , Bruce H., Liverpool, NY	NN4S	Trammell , Donald N., Toney, AL	WE8L	Zaleski , Mark E., Holland, MI
WA2FJM	Breese , John L., Horseheads, NY	K4SYR	Greer , Sam Jr., Shelby, NC	W8MEJ	Menerick , Virginia S., Sarasota, FL
N2GUS	Croft , John F. Sr., Fair Haven, NJ	WB4SYU	Kressenberg , Kenneth M. Jr., Chattanooga, TN	N8PVL	Gorris , William E., Pepper Pike, OH
W2IXT	Oliveri , Benedetto R., Lake Wylie, SC	W4TU	Thompson , Heyward C., Buchanan, VA	KD8QCW	Shoemaker , Lester E., Sabina, OH
N2JR	Harrison , Richard J., Warrenton, VA	KJ4TVA	Grossett , Tyler C., Granville, OH	*K8QGC	Davidson , Calvin, Oberlin, OH
NJ2K	Lipkin , Ezie, Great Neck, NY	WT4U	Edwards , Carlton L., West Columbia, SC	W8QPP	Brockmeier , Jonathan R., Zeeland, MI
K2KZI	Steen , John E., Bath, NY	KK4UFO	Jeffries , Hugh M., Louisville, KY	N8RTH	Roark , Terry L., Middletown, OH
W2LYS	Delevante , Harry J., Arlington, TX	AE4VV	Bridges , Louis R., Mooresboro, NC	N8RUE	Gayeski , Edward A., Chesterfield, MI
N2MUH	Tooker , Kenneth V., Pleasant Valley, NY	AB4XS	Heimel , Roy F. II, Bradford, PA	WA8TCY	Wirt , James R., Flint, MI
K2MVB	Wireback , Herbert D. Sr., Bridgeton, NJ	W4YCE	Sherrill , Bryce H., Lenoir, NC	W8TJK	Kelly , Thomas J., Novelty, OH
AB2NC	Wachter , Gary J., Round Top, NY	KF4YLT	Billingsley , Billy M., Pikeville, TN	WA8UDE	Price , Steven D., Kentwood, MI
WA2NCA	Hotchin , John, Delmar, NY	W4YTY	Chaput , Tarcisus A., Collinsville, VA	W8UNI	Pekrul , Herman P., Cleveland, OH
K2NDR	Ruggiano , Nicholas D., Waterford Works, NJ	*K5ADQ	Boyd , Virginia M., Los Alamos, NM	K8YAM	Wenger , Lyman P., Ada, MI
W2NTN	Bishop , James C. Jr., Scotch Plains, NJ	K5BFA	Lockey , Myron W., Madison, MS	K8YYF	Marker , John E., Wright, MI
W2PZT	Podgorski , Edward M., Haddonfield, NJ	W5BTB	Blymn , Robert S., Hobbs, NM	K9BED	Storm , Ralph F., Milwaukee, WI
N2QC	Mason , Howard, Egg Harbor Township, NJ	WA5COD	Perkins , J. D., Orange, TX	W9CKQ	Marini , Albert T., Racine, WI
N2TEK	Tubiola , John M., Poughkeepsie, NY	KE5DTS	Canfield , Carolyn E., Austin, TX	AB9EF	Cockream , Donald W., Elwood, IL
N2QV	Myrick , John R. Jr., Lafayette, LA	N5EGL	Waddell , Jack L., Fort Smith, AR	KR9G	Louvier , Jim J., Waterloo, IL
N2VDN	Schmidt , Bernard G., Pittsford, NY	KE5FF	Hicks , Douglas J., Las Cruces, NM	*K9LAC	Wesner , James C., Sterling, IL
KC2VUX	Bolero , Richard A., Andover, NY	W5FIH	McElhany , James H., Norman, OK	N9MUJ	Brooks , William E., Indianapolis, IN
AC2Z	Guercio , Robert J., Neptune, NJ	*K5FY	Hellmann , Bruce P., Fairfax, VA	W9NIS	Thompson , James O., Saint Paul Park, MN
KA2ZUM	Cook , William A., Bloomingdale, GA	W5HLR	Glendenning , Franklin B., McAllen, TX	W9OWV	Kayler , Warren F., Inverness, IL
*W3BL	Baustert , George J., Pinellas Park, FL	WB5JFS	Spencer , Imogene, Visalia, CA	WE9P	Szulczewski , Patrick M., Merrill, WI
VE3EKH	Boudreau , Donald J., Anna, TX	KK5LH	Winnard , Toni, Oklahoma City, OK	KA9PLO	Finzel , George, Huntley, IL
N3FJA	Navin , Mike, Mountain Top, PA	KCSNBT	Canady , Eugene R., Lubbock, TX	N9RGE	Warke , Wilbert R., Lebanon, IL
W3HUE	Herschman , Harris J., Columbia, MD	W5ODR	Wnukowski , Charles, Ocean Springs, MS	WB9RKK	Schmidt , Thomas R., Cecil, WI
*W3JBJ	Welch , Marshall D. Jr., Williamsport, PA	N5ORT	Helvey , Orin G. Jr., Wiggins, MS	N9RXP	Nye , H. Stephen, South Bend, IN
K3KEP	Beans , George A., Lansdale, PA	KC5OCR	Simpson , Gene "Dennis", Oklahoma City, OK	W9SUJ	Pritchard , Lawrence E., Lynn, IN
W3KUA	Samson , Joseph S., Pringle, PA	W5SNF	Harper , John W., Fort Worth, TX	N9TXS	Weiske , John "Jack" Fulton, MS
WA3LZH	Wilson , Donald E., Brookville, PA	W5SPI	Myers , Malcolm E., Hammond, LA	KB9TXX	Serchen , Dave C., Marshfield, WI
ex-NW3M	Curran , William E., Colorado Springs, CO	*W5TBQ	Rivers , James D. Jr., Plano, TX	KD9VA	Schutjer , Johanna L., Quincy, IL
WA3PHT	Lanahan , James M., Wilmington, DE	K5YND	Pareti , Paul P. III, Metairie, LA	K9YBX	Resnick , Nathan G., Indianapolis, IN
W3PRG	Arnold , Charles G. W., York, PA	KB5ZRJ	Owens , Rebecca L., Lake, MS	W9ZJC	Linstedt , James G., Eau Claire, WI
K3QOD	Schapiro , Oscar M., Pikesville, MD	WD6BPF	Macleon , John, Ventura, CA	KE0ABJ	Ryan , Terry, Fort Collins, CO
WA3TUC	Bugen , Paul, Philadelphia, PA	KE6DDA	Collins , John P., San Anselmo, CA	WD0AYY	Adrian , Robert S., Hastings, NE
N3TUZ	Holsberger , John G., Lilly, PA	W6IRT	Lefcourt , Norman, Woodland Hills, CA	KC0DB	Peaker , Charles T., Omaha, NE
N3YMZ	Kosloski , Robert F., Luzerne, PA	KI6KIJ	Freeman , Robert M., Taft, CA	K0EPE	Wessel , Martha E., Liberal, KS
K3ZIP	Bishop , George W. Jr., Allentown, PA	*W6MZQ	Johnson , Walter J. Jr., San Jose, CA	W0GLT	Thye , Gerald L., Eugene, OR
K14ABR	Mullinax , James D., Travelers Rest, SC	W6NVN	Lucchi , George A., Phoenix, AZ	W0JW	Hilts , George H., Kronenwetter, WI
W4BAL	Bayless , Wade J., Tampa, FL	W6ODI	Lace , Robert, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA	KL0LN	Garrison , James E., New Brockton, AL
K4BCA	Dew , Robert H., Satellite Beach, FL	K6QIE	Havlina , William C., Klamath Falls, OR	N0LRH	Larson , John R., Corvallis, OR
WQ4C	Cagle , Namon L., Huntsville, AL	K6USI	Bradley , Burton N., Mission Viejo, CA	N0RHR	Rice , Jack C., Kansas City, KS
N4CTO	Crouse , Norman W., Brentwood, TN	N6WWY	Griffin , Robert L., Sacramento, CA	W0UYJ	Ferrey , Gregory M., Saint Paul, MN
N4CUZ	Nelson , Robert C. III, Jacksonville, FL	N6XVL	Johnson , Paul, Olivehurst, CA	W0VPH	Mulkey , Kendall L., Las Vegas, NV
KF4EEA	Hatmaker , James E., Caryville, TN	*K6ZE	Mitchell , George T., San Diego, CA	*WBOVYR	Staerke , Gary W., Topeka, KS
W4EHR	Barrs , Burton K. II, Santa Clara, CA	WA7ABT	Watters , William A., Battle Ground, WA	*A10W	Finch , Stephen C., Homosassa, FL
W4EIF	Clark , Curtis M., Garner, NC	ex-N7CIS	Wridge , Wilbur "Bill" S., Kirkland, WA	N0YVR	Beinke , Myron C., Mason City, IA
KD4EZE	Wingfield , Earl M., Lillian, AL	W7DCA	Robbins , Omer, Show Low, AZ	*VE3BBB	Waechter , Paul S., Breslau, ON, Canada
KB4FFI	Stewart , Roger P., Plant City, FL	KA7DCQ	Smith , Vern, Vancouver, WA	VE5KP	Prickett , Don R., Saskatoon, SK, Canada
*AA4FW	Richardson , Wyman C., Ponte Vedra, FL	KC7DTB	Easton , David, Forest Grove, OR	DL8MG	Kleff , Alfred, Nidderau, Germany
		K7EZR	Dye , Darryl A., Anaconda, MT	VK2XAR	Moore , Dennis R., Bathurst, New South Wales, Australia

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FTDX5000MP Limited | 200W HF + 6M Txcrv

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FTDX3000 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100 Watt HF/6 Meters • Large and wide color LCD display • High Speed Spectrum Scope built-in • 32 bit high speed DSP /Down Conversion 1st IF **Call For Low Pricing!**



FREE
YSK-857

FT-857D | Ultra Compact HF/VHF/UHF

- 100w HF/6M, 50W 2M, 20W UHF • DSP included • 32 color display • 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

Call For Our Low Price!



FT1DR | 144/430 5W Digital Transceiver

- C4FM/FDMA • 1200/9600bps AX.25 APRS & GPS Recvr Built-in • Dual Band Operation w/Dual Receivers (V+V/U+V/V+U) • Wideband Receiver/AM Bar Antenna/Aircraft Receive • 1266 Memory Channels w/16 Char Alpha Tagging

Also Available In Silver!

NEW



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/4440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP • 160-6 meter high speed automatic antenna tuner



FT-2900R | Heavy-Duty 75W 2M FM Transceiver

- Massive heatsink guarantees 75 watts of solid RF power • Loud 3 watts of audio output for noisy environments • Large 6 digit backlit LCD display for excellent visibility • 200 memory channels for serious users

VX-6R | 2M 220/440MHz HT

- Wideband RX – 900 memories • 5W 2/440, 1.5W 220 MHz TX • Li-ION Battery – EAI system • Fully submersible to 3 ft. • CW trainer built-in

New Low Price!



VX-8DR | 50/144/220/440

- 50/144/220/440 • 5W (1W 222 MHz) • Bluetooth optional • Waterproof/ submersible (3' for 30 min) • GPS APRS operation optional • Li-ion Hi-capacity battery • Wide band Rx



\$200
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REBATE

FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FREE
YSK-8900

\$80
MAIL-IN
REBATE

FT-8800R | 2M/440 Mobile

- V+U/V+U+U operation • V+U full duplex • Cross Band repeater function • 50W 2M 35W UHF • 1000+ memory channels • WIRES ready **Call Now For Low Pricing!**

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



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HAM RADIO OUTLET

PLANO TEXAS STORE COMING SOON!



NEW

IC-7850 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- 1.2kHz "Optimum" roofing filter • New local oscillator design • Improved phase noise • Improved spectrum scope • Dual scope function • Enhanced mouse operation for spectrum scope • More features



\$100 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 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



IC-PW1 | HF/50 MHz Amplifier

- Wide freq. coverage - 1 kW from 1.8 MHz to 50 MHz (amateur bands only) • Wide ALC adjustable range • Full duty cycle • Auto antenna tuner built-in • Auto AC input voltage selector is employed • Current (Ip), Voltage (Vp), temperature, SWR and output power protectors are available



\$200 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-7700 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- The Contester's Rig • HF + 6m operation • +40dBm ultra high intercept point • IF DSP, user defined filters • 200W output power full duty cycle • Digital voice recorder



DSP INSTALLED Included with this package

\$25 INSTANT SAVINGS

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



IC-2300H | VHF FM Transceiver

- 65W RF Output Power • 4.5W Audio Output • MIL-STD 810 G Specifications • 207 alphanumeric Memory Channels • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS Encode/Decode • DMS



\$100 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen. cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters - 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



\$225 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



\$30 INSTANT SAVINGS

ID-880H | Analog-Digital Dual Bander D-STAR

- 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 **D-STAR ready**



\$100 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-9100 | The All-Round Transceiver

- HF/50MHz 144/430 (440) MHz and 1200MHz** coverage • 100W on HF/50/144MHz, 75W on 430 (440) MHz, 10W on 1200MHz** • Double superheterodyne with image rejection mixer



\$25 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function



IC-V80 | HD 2 Meter FM Transceiver

- Tough construction • 750mW loud audio • Powerful 5.5W of output power • IP54 and MIL-STD-810 rugged construction • Built-in CTCSS/DTCS • WX channel & weather alert function



\$75 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-7410 | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- 32-bit floating point DSP unit • Double Conversion Super-Het Receiver • Built-in 15kHz 1st IF Filter • Built-in Band Scope • Large, multi-function LCD • RTTY Demodulator/Decoder • USB for PC control



IC-V8000 | 2M Mobile Transceiver

- 75 watts • Dynamic Memory Scan • CTCSS/DCS encode/decode w/ tone scan • Weather alert • Weather channel scan • 200 alphanumeric memories



\$50 INSTANT SAVINGS

IC-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible **D-STAR ready**



ID-31A | UHF Digital Transceiver

- 5W Output Power • FM Analog Voice or D-STAR DV Mode • Built-in GPS Receiver • IPX7 Submersible • 1,252 Alphanumeric Memory Channels **D-STAR ready**



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TS-990S | 200W HF + 6M Transceiver

- World's first dual TFT display • 200W output on all bands • ± 0.1 ppm TCXO ensures both high stability and reduced power consumption • Triple 32-bit DSP's dedicated to main/sub receivers and band scope • Main receiver employs full down conversion, new mixer & narrow band roofing filters • Third order intercept point (IP3) +40dBm for highest level of RX performance (main receiver)

Call For Special Price!



\$40
KENWOOD
COUPON

TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions

Call For Special Price!



\$250
KENWOOD
COUPON

TS-480SAT/HX | HF + 6M Transceiver

- 480HX 200W HF & 100W 6M (no tuner) • 480SAT 100W HF & 6M w/AT • Remotable w/front panel/speaker • DSP built-in

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NEW

TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function • Improved 1st mixer • New PFB key with multi-function knob • New split function enabling quick setting • LED backlight with selectable color tone

TS-2000/2000X | HF/VHF/UHF Transceiver

- 100W HF, 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM • TS-2000X 10W 1.2GHz
- Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster • IF Stage DSP • Backlit front key panel

Call For Special Price!



\$15
KENWOOD
COUPON

TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch • "Five in One" programmable memory • 1000 multifunction memory

Call Now For Your Low Price!



TH-D72A | 2M/440 HT w/extended RX

- 5W TX, RX 118-524 MHz, VxU, VxV, UxU • APRS w/built-in 1200/9600 TNC • Built-in GPS, Built-in USB, digipeater • Echolink® compatible, • Mil-Spec STD810

Call For Special Low Price!



\$20
KENWOOD
COUPON

TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

Call For Special Low Price!



TH-K20A | 2M Handheld

- 2M 5.5W • VOX • CTCSS/DCS/1750 Burst built-in • Weather alert

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HAM RADIO OUTLET

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ACOM-1000

- HF and 6 Meter 1KW Amplifier • Match 3:1 SWR with No Tuner
- User Friendly QSK Operation • LCD Message Display • Single 4CX800a Tube • Vacuum Antenna Relays

Call For Additional ACOM Products!



• 218XATC-PL-(length) RG8x (240UF) w/PL259 Connectors Each End. Weather-Proof Heat Shrink Tubing.

- Stranded Center Conductor.
- 95% TC Braid + bonded 100% Foil Shield.
- Very Flexible, Light Weight, and Smaller than RG8 sizes.
- Non-Contaminating-UV Resistant-Direct Burial-Black Jacket.



• 235-5X-(length) 1" Wide Tin-Copper w/Ring Terminals Each End. Adhesive-Lined Heat Shrink Tubing.

- Grounding Braid Heavy Grade.
- Construction: 38x48x18/864 7ga 85 Amps.
- Easy termination: 1/4" Stud Ring Terminals.

REMOTE RIG



RRC-1258 MkII-S-Set

This set of interfaces allows remote control of your Amateur Radio Station via Internet in a user-friendly and cost effective way! RemoteRig gives you control of the radio coupled with crystal clear TX & RX audio and sending CW with your own Paddle!

New! Now Stereo Version for Dual Receiver radios.

Works with all Computer-controllable radios from:
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For radios with detachable front panels no PC is required for: TS-480HX/SAT; TS-2000 (RC-2000 req'd); IC-703/Plus; IC-706 series; DX-SR8T; IC-2820H; IC-R2500

Just simply insert your control box in place of your front panel interconnect cable, place the body of the radio on the remote end and you are on the air as if you are there! Extra Controller and Remote interface units sold individually for multiple sites/users.

Now includes 12V power supply, \$12.95 value!

Available exclusively from all HRO locations!



TX-455

- 55' freestanding crank-up • Handles 18 sq. ft. @ 50 mph • No guying required • Extra-strength construction
- Can add raising and motor drive accessory • Towers rated to EIA specifications • Other models available at great prices!



MA-40

- 40' Tubular Tower

Call For Latest Pricing!

MA-550

- 55' Tubular Tower • Handles 10 sq. ft. at 50 mph • Pleases neighbors with tubular streamlined look

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Rig control interfaces with CAT for all popular radios. Digital modes including RTTY, PSK, CS (WinKey emulation), MFSK, MT63 SSTV, PACTOR and many more. Experience untethered connection to the computer using the new WTI-1 wireless transceiver interface.

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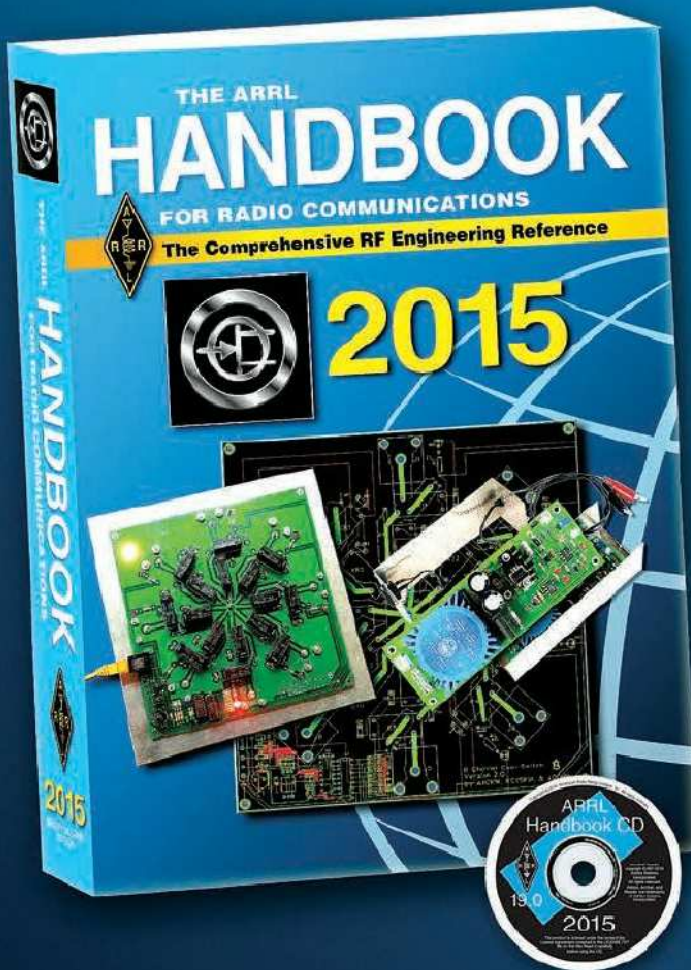
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DX ENGINEERING



Receiver Guard 5000

New!

Protect your sensitive receiver against high levels of RF from strong or nearby signals. DX Engineering's Receiver Guard 5000 is perfect if you have a receive antenna saturated with high RF levels. It is also useful for Field Day, SWL or if your neighbor generates a lot of RF.

The RG-5000's advanced design limits strong signals with minimal harmonic noise and is RF transparent at normal receiver signal levels. Designed for the world-class multi-transmitter contest station K3LR, it offers 100% protection to expensive transceiver front-ends. The RG-5000 provides performance and frequency coverage superior to other devices. At a continuous input of 10 W maximum, output is only +10 dBm (83 dB over S-9), and insertion loss is under 0.15 dB 0.5 to 50 MHz.

DXE-RG-5000 Receiver Guard 5000.....\$69.95



Copper Ground Rod Clamp

New!

This clamp is the perfect mounting platform for up to six of the common coaxial protector models from PolyPhaser and Alpha Delta, sold separately. It secures to a 1/2" - 5/8" O.D. ground rod using the included stainless hardware. The clamp is shown with optional parts.

DXE-UCCG Copper Ground Rod Clamp.....\$48.95



Rotator Control Line Protector

New!

This unit has eight individual terminals that will automatically shunt to ground when voltage spikes above 82 Vdc, in either polarity. It features a gasketed, weatherproof metal enclosure with an integrated stud for easy mounting.

DXE-IS-RCT Rotator Control Line Protector...\$169.95

A DX Engineering Gift Card Makes a Great Stocking Stuffer.



New!

Dual Vertical Array

The Dual Vertical Array is an easy-to-install two-element vertical antenna phasing system that offers great HF performance. It uses a new design to increase array efficiency by eliminating the waste load port found on previous systems. The array can handle 2 kW, with a front-to-back over 20 dB and up to 3 dB of gain over a single vertical.



The DX Engineering Dual Vertical Array systems are available for the 160, 80 and 40 meter bands. More bands are coming soon.

DXE-DVA-160-P	Dual Vertical Array, 160M with Controller	\$469.90
DXE-DVA-80-P	Dual Vertical Array, 80M with Controller	\$454.90
DXE-DVA-40-P	Dual Vertical Array, 40M with Controller	\$439.90

Eligible for 45 DX Bucks, see DXEngineering.com for details.

Excellent Reception with a Small Footprint.

100 kHz-30 MHz Receive Four-Square Array Packages

Optimized to produce wider, deeper rear nulls and a narrower main lobe, DX Engineering's patented* receive system takes up much less space than a Beverage antenna. The system uses time delay phasing to deliver exceptional broadband performance. A superior front-to-back ratio reduces noise and unwanted signals as well.

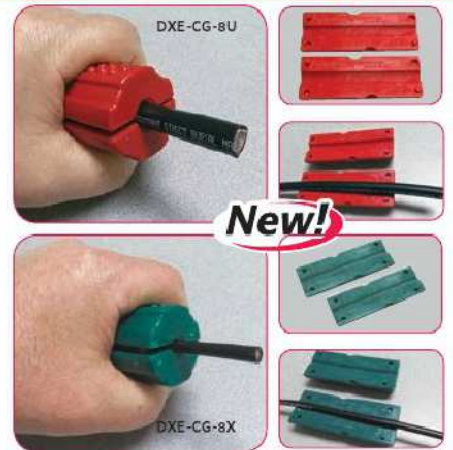


The innovative design means you'll enjoy improved signal directivity, a better signal-to-noise ratio, and enhanced reliability. Select from one of four 90-degree spaced directions with a cleaner pattern than any other four-square array system on the market. Your receive pattern will also be less susceptible to high-angle signals when compared to flag, pennant, EWE and K9AY antennas.

Find full details on each package at DXEngineering.com.

DXE-RFS-SYS-2P	4-Square Array, Controller and Switch Package	\$419.95
DXE-RFS-SYS-3P	4-Square Array, Electronics Package	\$1,468.95
DXE-RFS-SYS-4P	4-Square Array, Complete Package	\$1,947.95

DXE-RFS-SYS-3P 4-Square Array, Electronics Package is eligible for 200 DX Bucks, see DXEngineering.com for details.



New!

Cable Grippers

These grippers are the perfect complement to DX Engineering's Coaxial Cable Prep Tools. They help you securely hold your cable while you're doing the proper prep. They're also effective for holding the cable as you're pulling it off a spool or out of a box for a run.

DXE-CG-8U	Cable Gripper for RG-8U Size Cable	\$14.95
DXE-CG-8X	Cable Gripper for RG-8X Size Cable	\$14.95



Limited-Time Offer!

1K2 6 Meter 1,200 Watt Amplifier

This compact amp is perfect for Field Day, DXpeditions and your base station. Even with its built-in power supply, the 1K2 is the smallest 1,200 watt amplifier ever offered, weighing a mere 20 pounds. This amp features a single LDMOS FET rated at an incredible 1,250 Watts, able to handle a 65:1 SWR. It's perfect for EME (CW and JT65), SSB, CW or JT6M for meteor scatter.

M2 1K2 VHF Amplifiers are only available at DX Engineering.
MSQ-6M-1K2 6 Meter 1,200 Watt Amplifier with Power Supply.....\$3,299.00 List

Limited-Time Offer \$2,699.00

Eligible for 500 DX Bucks, see DXEngineering.com for details.

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Your #1 Source for Coaxial Cable and Cable Tools



Coaxial Cable Prep Tools for Solder-On Connectors

Using a two-step process, these prep tools are the ideal way to prepare your foam or solid dielectric coaxial cable for a solder-on connector. The tools' premium-quality, long-lasting blades and superior precision ensure that you won't damage the cable's conductor.

DXE-UT-8213	Cable Stripper for RG-8, RG-213, and Similar Sizes.....	\$49.95
DXE-UT-808X	Cable Stripper for RG-8X, 9258, and Similar Sizes.....	\$49.95
DXE-UT-80P	PL-259 Assembly Tool.....	\$22.95
DXE-UT-80N	2-Piece N Connector Tool.....	\$22.95
CNL-911	Coax Cable Cutters.....	\$18.97
DXE-170M	Precision Shear Cutters.....	\$7.95
The tools also come in cost-saving kits, complete with case.		
DXE-UT-KIT3	Basic Coax Cable Prep Kit...	\$119.95
DXE-UT-KIT4	Complete Coax Cable Prep Kit.....	\$199.95

DXE-UT-KIT3 eligible for 10 DX Bucks, DXE-UT-KIT4 eligible for 20 DX Bucks, see DXEngineering.com for details.

Amphenol® Connex



AMP-112116	BNC Male, RG-58/LMR-195.....	\$1.59
AMP-112533	BNC Male, RG-8X/LMR-240.....	\$1.78
AMP-172100	Type N Male, RG-58/LMR-195.....	\$4.01
AMP-172102	Type N Male, RG-8/RG-213/RG-393.....	\$4.35
AMP-172102H243	Type N Male, DXE-8U/ DXE-400MAX/LMR-400.....	\$3.91
AMP-172135	Type N Male, RG-8X/LMR-240....	\$4.38
AMP-182100	PL-259, RG-58/LMR-240.....	\$4.14
AMP-182102	PL-259, RG-8/RG-213/RG-393...	\$3.95
AMP-182115-10	PL-259, RG-8X/LMR-240.....	\$4.50
AMP-182130-10	PL-259, DXE-8U/ DXE-400MAX/LMR-400.....	\$4.50



Ultra-Grip 2 Crimp Connector Hand Tool Kit

This kit includes everything you need to make professional-quality crimps on coaxial and Powerpole® connectors. The ratcheting steel crimper is designed to fit ergonomically in your hand to reduce fatigue. The kit comes with the Ultra-Grip 2 Tool, 5 crimp dies, shears, braid trimmer, Allen wrench and case. You get crimp dies precisely sized for RG-8U, LMR-400, RG-8X and LMR-240 type cables, along with specialized dies for Powerpole 15A, 30A and 45A connectors, as well as insulated and un-insulated wire terminals.

The Ultra-Grip 2 Crimp Tool, interchangeable dies and specialized carrying case are also available separately. You can expand the functionality of your UT-CRIMP and UT-CRIMP2 Crimp Tool with extra crimp dies. They're made to handle various common crimp connector types in several sizes.

DXE-UT-KIT-CRIMP2	Complete Kit, 5 Die Sets,.....	\$154.95
DXE-UT-CRIMP2	Crimp Tool for RG-8U/ LMR-400 Size Cable.....	\$49.68
DXE-UT-CRIMP2-8X	Crimp Tool for RG-8X/ LMR-240 Size Cable.....	\$49.68
DXE-UT-CRIMP2-PWR	Crimp Tool for Powerpole® 15, 30, 45A.....	\$49.68
DXE-UT-DIE-INS	Crimp Die for Insulated 22-10 AWG Terminals.....	\$19.73
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DXE-UT-KIT-CRIMP2 eligible for 10 DX Bucks, see DXEngineering.com for details.



Solder-On Two-Piece Connectors

Silver plated and featuring PTFE insulation, these low-loss connectors have an extraordinarily high electrical breakdown point.

DXE-PL259	UHF Male Connector.....	\$2.75
AML-83-1SP	Amphenol PL-259 Connector.....	\$4.15
DXE-N1001-S	Type N Male Connector.....	\$6.95
DXE-UG175S	Adapter for RG-58.....	\$0.95
DXE-UG176S	Adapter for RG-8X.....	\$0.95
Anderson Powerpole® Connectors		
DXE-PP30	For 12-16 AWG, 30 Amps, 10 Pairs.....	\$12.95
DXE-PP45	For 10-14 AWG, 45 Amps, 10 Pairs.....	\$17.95



Ultra-Crimp Tool Connector Kit

Made precisely for coaxial and Powerpole® connectors, this kit is filled with the exact prep tools and dies you'll need to make full-ferrule connections. The kit comes with the Ultra-Crimp Tool, shears, braid trimmer, Allen wrench and case. It also includes crimp dies for RG-8U, RG-8X, LMR-400 and LMR-240 cable, plus a crimp die for Powerpole 15A, 30A and 45A connectors.

DXE-UT-KIT-CRIMP	Ultra-Crimp Connector Kit.....	\$117.95
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The Ultra-Crimp Tool, interchangeable dies and specialized carrying case are also available separately.

DXE-UT-CRIMP	Ultra-Crimp Tool with RG-8U Die Set.....	\$39.95
DXE-UT-CRIMP-PWR	Ultra-Crimp Tool with Powerpole® Die Set.....	\$38.95
DXE-UT-CRIMP-8X	Ultra-Crimp Tool with RG-8X Die Set.....	\$39.95
DXE-UT-DIE-8U	Crimp Tool Die, for RG-8U Sized Cable.....	\$19.73
DXE-UT-DIE-8X	Crimp Tool Die, for RG-8X and RG-58U Sized Cable.....	\$19.73
DXE-UT-DIE-PP	Crimp Tool Die, for Powerpole® 15A, 30A, 45A Contacts.....	\$19.73
DXE-CRIMP-CASE	Crimp Connector Tool Case.....	\$25.95



Signalink™ USB Unit from Tigertronics

PSK-31, RTTY and more! Powered by your computer's USB port, this unit is compatible with both PCs and Macs, and works with virtually every radio. The Signalink supports all sound card digital and voice modes. It's easy to install and set up, and software is included.

TGR-SL-USB	Signalink™.....	\$85.00
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You'll need the right radio cable to get started. Right now, any interface cable is only **\$14.95** when you buy a Signalink.

New! Earn Rewards from Your Purchases!

DX Bucks are like gift certificates to use on future orders from DX Engineering. DX Bucks are redeemable via phone, mail, online or by presenting them at a retail location.

When you're awarded DX Bucks, you'll get a numbered certificate in the mail about two weeks after we ship your order.

Visit DXEngineering.com and click the "Hot Deals" button for details.



Highest Quality Cable and Assemblies

Always the Best Cable at the Lowest Price

- Made to DX Engineering's rigid specifications
- Available in full spools or cut to your custom length

Bulk Cable	Impedance	Length	Price
Low-Loss Mini-8 Cable			
DXE-8X	50 Ω	per foot	\$0.38
DXE-8X-1000	50 Ω	1,000'	\$299.99
Low-Loss Cable			
DXE-213U	50 Ω	per foot	\$0.89
DXE-213U-500	50 Ω	500'	\$389.95
DXE-111U	75 Ω	per foot	\$0.52
Premium Low-Loss Cable			
DXE-400MAX	50 Ω	per foot	\$0.92
DXE-400MAX-500	50 Ω	500'	\$399.95
Low-Loss Foam Cable			
DXE-8U	50 Ω	per foot	\$0.84
DXE-8U-500	50 Ω	500'	\$369.95
Highly Flexible Cable			
DXE-58AU	50 Ω	per foot	\$0.29
Flooded Jacket Cable			
DXE-6UF-CTL	75 Ω	per foot	\$0.19
DXE-6UF-1000	75 Ω	1,000'	\$149.95



New!



DX Engineering's Revolutionary PL-259 Connector*

A "Better Mousetrap" Approach to Your Cable.

This brand new PL-259 design has a full-diameter, full-length soldered center pin, which means it will fit snugly into a well-worn SO-239. The large center pin also makes it easier to flow solder inside, further securing the conductor. The silver plated and deeply knurled shell has precise threads to promote a solid connection with the SO-239. Each of these PL-259 connectors is insulated with a PTFE dielectric for exceptional RF characteristics. You can only get this new connector design at DX Engineering.

*Patent Pending



The New PL-259 is Used Exclusively on DX Engineering Cable Assemblies.

DX Engineering starts with the highest-performance, low-loss 8U, 213U and 400MAX coaxial cable, and then finishes each assembly with its revolutionary new PL-259 connectors. The connectors feature a machine-crimped shield that provides a 360° electro-mechanical connection. Every weather-shielded, hand-soldered assembly is hi-pot and continuity tested in the USA. They come in multiple lengths; custom lengths are also available.

DX Engineering is the Best Place to Get Coax, Here's Why:

- 100% High Voltage (Hi-Pot) Tested
- Weatherproof: Adhesive Shrink Tubing Seals Connections
- Silver-plated PTFE-insulated Connectors
- Hand Crafted by Top Techs
- See DXEngineering.com for More Connector Options



Black PVC Jacket

DXE-8U 50 Ω Low-Loss Foam Dielectric Cable

- .405" high-flex PVC jacket



UV-Resistant, Non-Contaminating, Black PVC Jacket

DXE-213U 50 Ω MIL-Spec Cable

- .405" Type II UV-resistant jacket is non-contaminating and suitable for outdoor use



UV-Resistant, Non-Contaminating, Black PE Jacket

DXE-400MAX 50 Ω Premium Low-Loss Cable

- Gas-injected foam, polyethylene dielectric bonded tape foil covered by a braided copper shield
- .405" low-density UV-resistant polyethylene jacket is ideal for outdoors
- Direct-bury



UV-Resistant, Black PE Jacket

DXE-8X Low-Loss Foam Dielectric Cable

Known as RG-8X or Mini-8

- Very flexible; ideal for short, in-shack jumper cables
- .242" Type II jacket is non-contaminating and UV-resistant
- Direct-bury



Attenuation per 100 feet	Power Rating	Efficiency
0.3 dB @ 5 MHz	5.4 kW	93%
0.5 dB @ 10 MHz	4.1 kW	90%
0.9 dB @ 30 MHz	2.2 kW	81%
1.2 dB @ 50 MHz	1.8 kW	77%
2.2 dB @ 150 MHz	1.0 kW	60%

Attenuation per 100 feet	Power Rating	Efficiency
0.4 dB @ 5 MHz	4.9 kW	90%
0.6 dB @ 10 MHz	3.4 kW	87%
1.0 dB @ 30 MHz	2.0 kW	79%
1.3 dB @ 50 MHz	1.5 kW	73%
2.4 dB @ 150 MHz	0.9 kW	57%

Attenuation per 100 feet	Power Rating	Efficiency
0.3 dB @ 5 MHz	6.9 kW	93%
0.5 dB @ 10 MHz	4.8 kW	90%
0.8 dB @ 30 MHz	2.8 kW	83%
1.1 dB @ 50 MHz	2.1 kW	79%
1.8 dB @ 150 MHz	1.2 kW	65%
3.3 dB @ 450 MHz	0.7 kW	47%

Attenuation per 100 feet	Power Rating	Efficiency
0.6 dB @ 5 MHz	3.0 kW	86%
0.9 dB @ 10 MHz	2.2 kW	81%
1.4 dB @ 30 MHz	1.2 kW	69%
2.0 dB @ 50 MHz	0.9 kW	62%
3.8 dB @ 150 MHz	0.4 kW	42%

DX Engineering Cable is Available in Pre-Cut Assemblies with Connectors.

DX Engineering Cable Assemblies are built by our techs, right here in Ohio. They're fully tested and are ready for installation in your shack. For all lengths and connector options, visit DXEngineering.com.

Pre-cut Cable, PL-259 Connectors	Part Number	Length	Price
DXE-8UDX002	2'	\$19.95	
DXE-8UDX003	3'	\$20.95	
DXE-8UDX006	6'	\$23.95	
DXE-8UDX025	25'	\$43.95	
DXE-8UDX050	50'	\$68.95	
DXE-8UDX100	100'	\$118.95	

Pre-cut Cable, PL-259 Connectors	Part Number	Length	Price
DXE-213UDX003	3'	\$20.45	
DXE-213UDX006	6'	\$22.45	
DXE-213UDX012	12'	\$26.45	
DXE-213UDX025	25'	\$43.45	
DXE-213UDX050	50'	\$68.45	
DXE-213UDX075	75'	\$96.45	
DXE-213UDX100	100'	\$118.45	
DXE-213UDX150	150'	\$178.45	

Pre-cut Cable, PL-259 Connectors	Part Number	Length	Price
DXE-400MAXDX003	3'	\$21.45	
DXE-400MAXDX006	6'	\$24.45	
DXE-400MAXDX018	18'	\$31.45	
DXE-400MAXDX025	25'	\$44.45	
DXE-400MAXDX050	50'	\$69.45	
DXE-400MAXDX075	75'	\$97.45	
DXE-400MAXDX100	100'	\$119.45	
DXE-400MAXDX150	150'	\$179.45	

Pre-cut Cable, PL-259 Connectors	Part Number	Length	Price
DXE-8XDU003	3'	\$18.45	
DXE-8XDU006	6'	\$19.45	
DXE-8XDU012	12'	\$24.45	
DXE-8XDU025	25'	\$29.45	
DXE-8XDU050	50'	\$37.45	
DXE-8XDU075	75'	\$44.45	
DXE-8XDU100	100'	\$54.45	
DXE-8XDU150	150'	\$79.45	



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Canada	\$49	\$93	\$132	Monthly QST via standard mail for Canadian members
International QST	\$62	\$118	\$167	Monthly QST via air mail for international members
International – no printed QST	\$39	\$76	\$111	Digital QST only
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Only \$109 Freight to
Lower 48 United States

Heavy-Duty 4130 Chromoly Steel Masts

Start stacking some serious antennas. These 2" and 3" O.D., 22' masts feature a 0.250" wall thickness and meet ASTM A-513 Type 5 ratings. The cold-drawn, electric-weld carbon-steel masts have a galvanized surface that creates an almost polished appearance.

- Certified yield stress rating over 100,000 psi
- Tensile strength minimum above 110,000 psi
- Stress-relieved for consistent mechanical strength
- Minimum Rockwell B hardness is 96

Use DXEngineering.com's exclusive online Mast Load Estimator to find the perfect mast for your setup.

DXE-ST200CM-22 2" O.D. Heavy Duty Mast, 22'\$399.95
DXE-ST300CM-22 3" O.D. Heavy Duty Mast, 22'\$589.95

Full Size 75/80 Meter Quarter-Wave Vertical Antennas

These 68 foot tall, high-performance, full size antennas have rugged base sections (2", 3" or 4" diameter) made from aircraft-grade aluminum tubing. The VA-1 requires simple guying. The VA-2 and VA-3 models are very stout and don't require guying.

See video on how these four UNGUYED DX Engineering 80M Verticals easily withstood Super Storm Sandy at DXEngineering.com!

Using DX Engineering's innovative structural design and high strength tubing, these antennas are built to our rigid specifications for the best wind ratings in the industry. Extra strong UV-protected Extrem[®] insulators give you high power handling ability, and each antenna is built using precise machining and uses stainless hardware for unmatched reliability. These antennas give you an incredible 2:1 bandwidth up to 500 kHz. VA-2 and VA-3 antennas also include a Heavy Duty Plus Stainless Pivot Base which lets you easily tilt your antenna up and down.

Super Duty Tilt Bases also offered separately, visit DXEngineering.com for more products and available configurations.

DXE-7580FS-VA-1 Vertical Antenna, Standard Duty, 2" O.D. Base\$399.95
DXE-7580FS-VA-2 Vertical Antenna, Heavy Duty, 3" O.D. Base.....\$899.95
DXE-7580FS-VA-3 Vertical Antenna, Super Duty, 4" O.D. Base... \$1,769.95

Freight Talk. We've refined our shipping methods to ensure that you get your order quickly and accurately, without a huge expense or headache. That includes the big stuff, like tower sections and antenna masts. Your oversize order will ship for a flat rate, without any guesswork or additional charges. Talk to a DX Engineering advisor and we'll walk through the process together.

FREE STANDARD SHIPPING on most orders over \$99!



New!

High Performance
Easy to Install



TX38 Tri-Band Yagi

Get on the 20/15/10 meter bands with an antenna that can withstand 100 mph winds. Its durability makes it ideal for permanent installations, but it's compact and light enough to be used during Field Day.

TXA-3B-8L-WRTC TX38 Yagi Antenna \$1,199.00



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Clamps are Specified by Scientific,
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Highest Quality—Lasting Performance!

Whether you are building a Yagi from scratch, refurbishing a well-used "old friend," or experimenting with a new antenna project, DX Engineering can supply the best hardware for your application. You can find useful tips and complete dimensions for each clamp and bracket type at DXEngineering.com.

GENERAC[®]

Generac iX Series Portable Generator

With 2,000 watts of clean AC power in a whisper-quiet package, Generac's 5793 iX Series Portable Generator is practically tailor-made for remote Amateur Radio operations. More importantly, it is extremely lightweight with an integrated carrying handle, making it easy to haul. An ingenious "FlexPower" switch can be used to save power and further reduce engine noise.

The 1 gallon fuel tank provides about 2 hours of full-load power, and over 5 hours of power at half-load. The generator features dual 110 Vac outlets and a 12 Vdc outlet. The 5793 is 50-state legal, CARB EO number U-U-166-0036.

GNR-5793.....\$589.00



Stainless Steel Radial Plate with Coax Attachment Not Aluminum! Guarantees Best Radial System Conductivity Over Time



DX
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Make radial attachment a snap. This plate fits 3" pipe, 4x4 and 6x6 posts and you can use up to 120 radials. It's made from .125" thick 304 stainless steel, not cheap aluminum and uses a patented high current coax-to-radial connection. This ensures excellent, lasting radial connectivity.

DXE-RADP-3 Complete with 20
Stainless Bolt Sets\$57.95
DXE-RADP-1HWK 20 Sets of 1/4"
Stainless Hardware.....\$7.95
DXE-SSVC-2P Stainless Saddle Clamp for
to 1" to 2" O.D. Steel Tube.....\$11.95

DXE-RADP-3 is eligible for 10 DX Bucks,
see DXEngineering.com for details.

Telescoping Fiberglass Antenna Tubing Kits

These kits contain seven sections of high quality smoothly telescoping tubing from 2" to 1/2" O.D. and new DX Engineering Compression Clamps for maximum tubing grip and strength. Perfect for portable operation, camping, Field Day or experimenting, these kits are an excellent way to get your antenna wire in the air quickly.

DXE-FTK50A Fiberglass Antenna Tubing Kit,
50' Max. Length.....\$198.95



The Best Aluminum Tubing Available

Just Add Clamps and Slide it
Together for a Complete
Antenna Element!

6063-T832

Aluminum Tubing

- Better than the other guys, at same price
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- Custom made just for DX Engineering

3' lengths .058" wall - 3/8" to 2 1/8" O.D. 5 Guy Rings
6' lengths .058" wall - 3/8" to 2 1/8" O.D. Included

6061-T8 .120" wall - 1.5" to 3" O.D. un-slit

For Booms and HD Element Designs
DXE-ATK65A Aluminum Antenna Tubing Kit,
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Tech: 8:30 am to 7 pm ET 330-572-3200 M-F
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OM Power OM2000+ HF and 50 MHz Amplifier



OM2000+ is now FCC Certified for sale.

The linear amplifier OM2000+ is designed for all short wave amateur bands from 1.8 to 29 MHz (including WARC – bands) + 50 MHz and all modes. It is equipped with a ceramic tetrode FU-728F.



OM Power OM2500A



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NEW!

- Frequency coverage: All amateur bands 1.8 – 29.7 MHz
- Power output: 1500 W PEP All modes - no time limit
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- Integrates with all popular transceivers

Rig Expert Antenna Analyzers

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RigExpert AA-1000

RigExpert AA-1000 is a powerful antenna analyzer designed for testing, checking, tuning or repairing antennas and antenna feedlines.



Lowest prices on Rig Expert Analyzers



RigExpert IT-24

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NEW!

New! Finely Designed Remote Tuners from Germany

AT-615

Full legal limit tuners, for coax-fed low band verticals and balanced wire fed systems



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Exclusively from "RF Communication Electronics" in Germany, fully-automatic remote tuners for both balanced and unbalanced loads. Full legal limit power capability.



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New coaxial and balanced tuners available in 800w, 1500w and 3000w versions.

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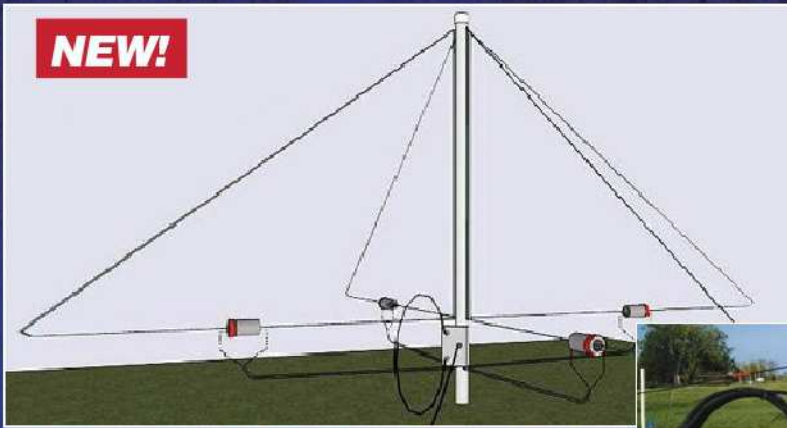
Array Solutions' products are in use at top DX and Contest stations worldwide as well as commercial and governmental installations. We provide RF solutions to the DoD, FEMA, Emcomm, UN, WFO, FAA and the State Dept. for products and installation of antennas systems, antenna selection, filtering, switching and grounding. We also offer RF engineering and PE consulting services.

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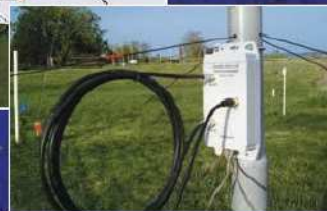


Introducing the Shared Apex Loop Array™!

The Shared Apex Loop Array™ is a revolutionary receiving antenna that will change the way that you listen to the radio! The patented design provides performance in a size and over a range of frequencies that will please both the rag-chewer and DXer alike.

Two models to choose from:

- AS-SAL-20 - optimized for VLF, BCB, Low Band DXing, shortwave to 15MHz, 20 feet tall and about 40 foot diameter
- AS-SAL-12 - optimized for BCB, and 3-30MHz, 12 feet tall, and 28 foot diameter



PowerMaster II

- New Larger, Sharp & Fast LCD Display
- Reduced Energy consumption
- USB and RS-232 interface built-in
- Best accuracy in the market
- New - Both 3kW and 10kW couplers on one display - switched
- Supports 2 like couplers simultaneously (3kW & 3kW, 3kW & V/UHF, 10kW & 10kW)

New Analyzers from Array Solutions



AIM uhf Analyzer

VNAUHF Expanded frequency coverage to 1.4 GHz See our web page for details

Introducing the VNA uhf two-port Vector Network Analyzer

- Frequency range from 5 kHz to 1 GHz
- Data plots include SWR, RL, R + X, series and parallel, magnitude, phase, and more
- Dual Smith charts with rotation and 20 markers



BEKO VHF and UHF Amplifiers



BEKO VHF and UHF amplifiers (2m and higher) are now available from Array Solutions. These are considered the best solid state amplifiers in their categories and we have them!

NEW!



Stack Match II Plus!

Stack two yagis on any HF band or 6m and take advantage of high or low angle propagation with upper/lower/BIP/BOP without any phasing lines!



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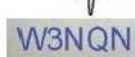
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 9:00am-11am ARRL VEC Session
 9:00am-4:00pm Exhibits Open
 11:00am-4:00pm Contest University
 7:00pm CoquiFEST

Sunday
 8:00am Exhibit Setup
 9:00am-11:00am ARRL VEC Session
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 1:00pm Awards and Recognition
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FT-270R



FT-60R



VX-8DR

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- 200 Memories • Extra large LCD display & speaker

FT-60R 2M/440 MHz HT

- TX: 144-148, 430-450 • RX: 0.5-999 • 5 Watts RF Output • Features wideband receive from 108-520 and 700-999 MHz (Cellular Blocked) • Emergency Auto ID System • Over 1000 Memories

VX-8DR 6M/2M/440 FM HT

- TX: 50-54, 144-148, 222-225, 430-450 MHz
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FT-2900R Heavy Duty Wide/Narrow, Deviation Section 2M FM Mobile

- TX: 144-148 MHz • RX: 136-174 MHz • Power: 75/30/10/5W • 3W of Audio for Noisy Environments • Massive Heat Sink (No Cooling Fan Needed) • 221 Memories • Dual Watch • Versatile Scanning Capability • WX Channels with "Severe Weather" Alert • CTCSS and DCS Encode/Decode Built-in • Transmit Time-Out timer • Automatic Power Off



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PRICE**

FT-450D HF/6M Transceiver

- TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.03-56 MHz • Power: 10-100W
- Memories: 500 • Built-in Automatic Antenna Tuner
- IF DSP • Same as the original FT-450AT with new features: Key illumination, Foot stand, Selectable 300 Hz/500 Hz/2.4 kHz CW IF Filters • Classically designed main dial and knobs • dynamic microphone



**\$200
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REBATE**

FTDX-1200 HF/6M Transceiver

- TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.03-56 MHz • Triple Conversion with 32-bit floating point DSP • Power: 100W
- Built-in Automatic Antenna Tuner • 40 MHz IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • FM & AM Wide and Narrow modes included • Optional built-in FFT UNIT supports advanced functionality including AF-FFT Scope • RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode • CW Decode and CW Auto Zero-in • Full Color 4.3 in. TFT Color Display • USB port



**\$100
MAIL-IN
REBATE**

FTDX-3000D HF/6M Transceiver

- TX: HF/6M • RX: 0.03-56 MHz • Power: 5-100W
- Large TFT color display • High-speed spectrum scope • High end receiver based off of the FTDX-5000 • IPO • Built-in USB interface • Remote Control Capability • High-speed auto antenna tuner • RTTY/PSK31encode/decode included • 5 Digital voice messages



**\$400
MAIL-IN
REBATE**

FTDX-5000MP Limited HF/6M Transceiver

- TX: 1.8-29.7, 50-54 MHz Power: 10-200W on CW, SSB, FM, RTTY & PKT and 5-50W on AM • RX: 0.03-60 MHz • 99 Memories • Aggressive 112dB range • +40dBm IP3 or 3rd-order Intercept Range • High stability ±0.05ppm OCXO • 32-bit Floating Point DSP • Variable CW Audio Peak Filter, and High/Low-Cut DSP filtering • 300 Hz, 600Hz, 3 kHz, 6kHz and 15 kHz Roofing Filters



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HAM-IV
The most popular rotator in the world!
For medium communications arrays up to 15 square feet wind load area. Has 5-second brake delay, Test/Calibrate function. Low temperature grease permits normal operation down to -30 degrees F. Alloy ring gear gives extra strength up to 100,000 PSI for maximum reliability. Precision indicator potentiometer. Ferrite beads reduce RF susceptibility. 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 movement. North/South center of rotation scale on meter, low voltage control, max mast 2¹/₁₆".



HAM-IV
\$649⁹⁵
HAM-VI
\$749⁹⁵
with DCU-2
HAM-VII
\$799⁹⁵
with DCU-3

TAILTWISTER SERIES II
For large medium antenna arrays up to 20 sq. ft. wind load. Has 5-second brake delay, Test/Calibrate functions. Low temp grease, tough alloy ring gear, indicator potentiometer, ferrite beads on potentiometer wires, weatherproof AMP connectors plus 8-pin plug at control box, triple bearing race with 138 ball bearings for large load bearing, electric locking steel wedge brake, North/South center of rotation scale meter, low voltage control, 2¹/₁₆" max mast. **MSHD, \$109.95.** Above tower heavy duty mast support. T2X, HAM-IV, HAM-V, HAM-VI. Accepts 1⁷/₈-2¹/₈" OD.



T-2X
\$799⁹⁵
T-2XD2
\$899⁹⁵
with DCU-2

T-2XD3
\$949⁹⁵
with DCU-3

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 2¹/₁₆ inches. MSLD light duty lower mast support included.



CD-45II
\$449⁹⁵

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 bearings
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel U-bolts
Control Cable Conductors	8
Shipping Weight	22 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	1200 ft.-lbs.

hy-gain® Programmable DCU-3 Digital Rotator Controller



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Bright blue LCD shows current, dialed-in and computer controlled beam headings in one degree increments and your call.

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AR-40
\$349⁹⁵

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.

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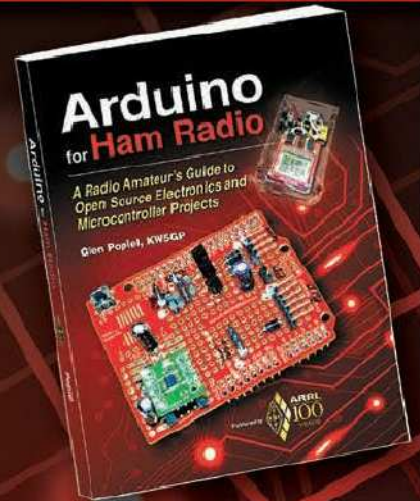


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*A Radio Amateur's Guide to
 Open Source Electronics and
 Microcontroller Projects*

By **Glen Popiel, KW5GP**



The Arduino has become widely popular among hobbyists and ham radio operators. Hams are exploring these powerful, inexpensive microcontrollers, creating new projects and amateur station gear. With its Open Source model, the Arduino community freely shares software and hardware designs, making projects easier to build and modify.

Arduino for Ham Radio introduces you to the exciting world of microcontrollers and Open Source hardware and software. It starts by building a solid foundation through descriptions of various Arduino boards and add-on components, followed by a collection of ham radio-related practical projects. Beginning with simple designs and concepts and gradually increasing in complexity and functionality, there is something here for everyone. Projects can be built quickly and used as-is, or they can be expanded and enhanced with your own personal touches.

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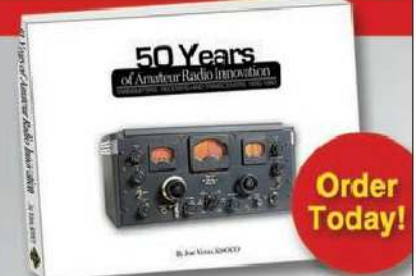
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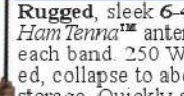
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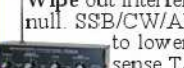
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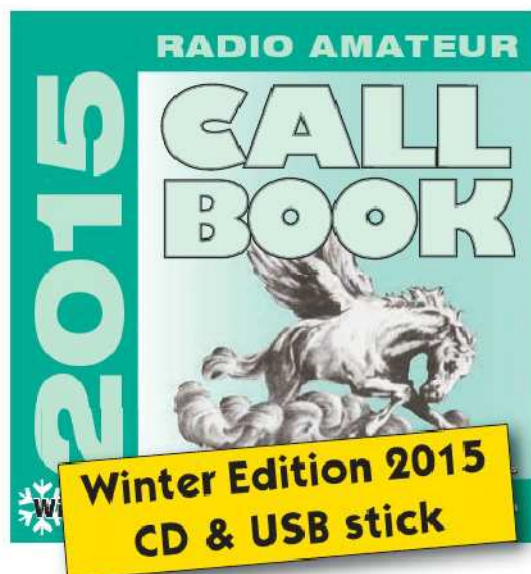
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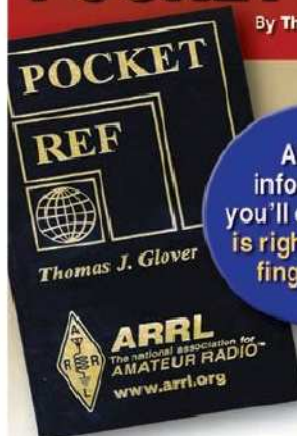


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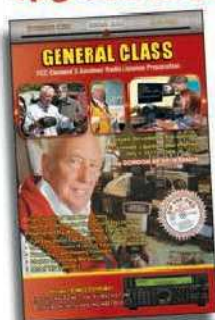
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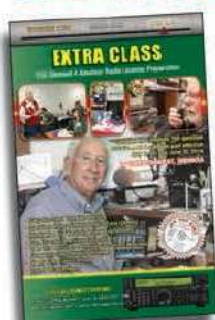
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MFJ-998BRT Tuner \$769⁹⁵

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MFJ-986 Tuner \$369⁹⁵

Kilowatt Differential-T roller inductor antenna tuner, simple 2-knob tuning, lighted meter, 6-position antenna switch, balun for balanced lines. 1.8-30

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MFJ-994BRT Tuner \$399⁹⁵

600 Watt remote automatic antenna tuner matches 12-800 Ohms 1.8-30 MHz. Fully weather sealed for outdoor use. Tough, durable built-to-last cabinet. Includes MFJ-4117 BiasTee Power injector.

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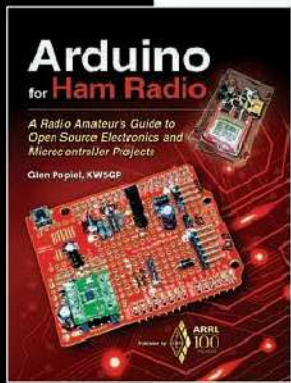
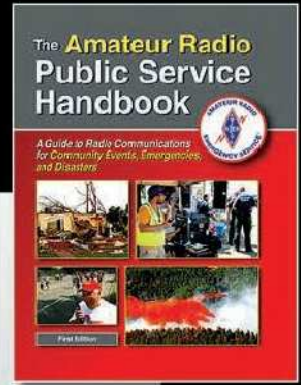
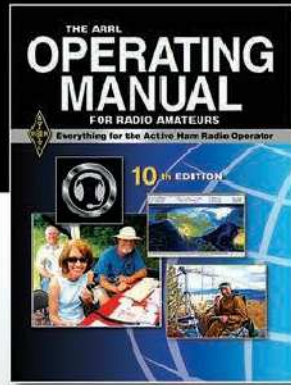
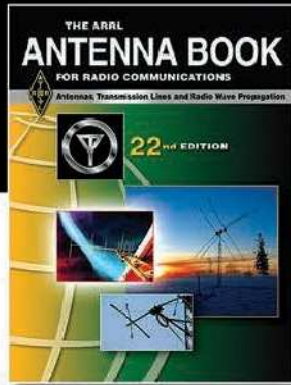
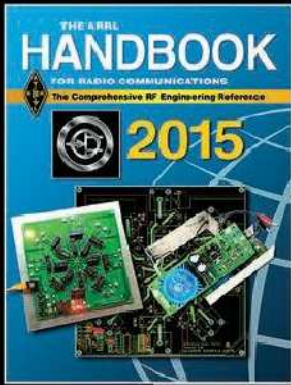
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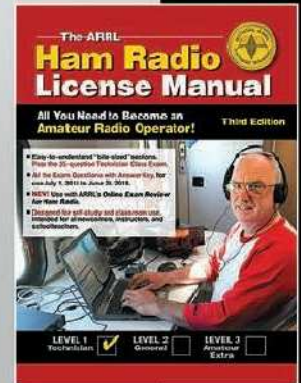
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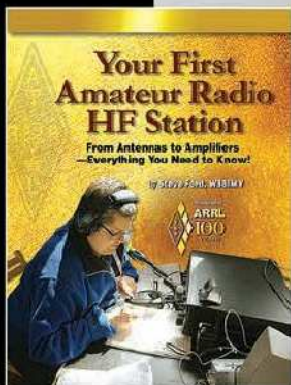
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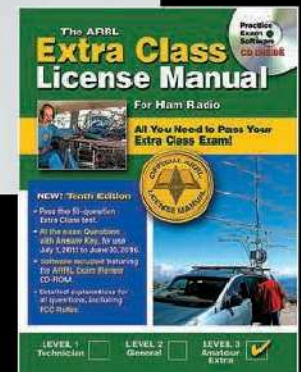
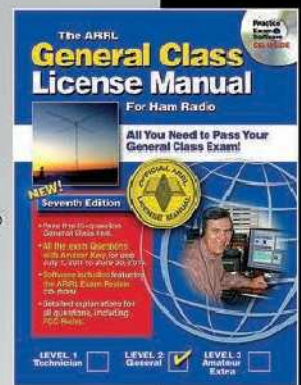
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HF/6M SWR Analyzer, 1-60 MHz

MFJ-213, \$199.95.

Reads SWR, complex impedance, impedance magnitude. Measures capacitance, inductance, field strength, frequency, generate test signals. Fine tune stubs, analyze coax, test baluns, RF transformers, plus other RF tasks.



MFJ SWR Analyzer Accessories

- A. MFJ-29D/MFJ-39D, \$24.95. Carry Pouch for MFJ-259C/269C.
- B. MFJ-92AA10, \$29.95. 10-Pack 2500 mAh Ni-MH Supercells.
- C. MFJ-66, \$24.95. Dip coils, set of two covers 1.8-330 MHz.
- D. MFJ-731, \$99.95. Tunable

- Analyzer Filter, 1.8-30 MHz, for strong RF fields.
- E. MFJ-917, \$29.95. 1:1 Current balun for SWR Analyzers to test balanced line antennas, other loads.
- F. MFJ-5510, \$9.95. 12VDC cigarette lighter adapter.
- G. MFJ-7737, \$5.95. PL-259 to BNC Female.
- H. MFJ-7727, \$5.95. PL-259 to SMA Female.
- I. MFJ-633, \$29.95. Ultra-fast intelligent charger.



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• 1 Year No Matter What™ warranty • 30 day money back guarantee (less s/h) on orders direct from MFJ

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MFJ IntelliTuner™ Automatic Tuners

More hams use MFJ tuners than all other tuners in the world!

World's most advanced Automatic Antenna Tuners feature™ world renowned MFJ AdaptiveSearch™ and AutomaticRecall™ algorithms -- world's fastest ultra-wide range tuning. Nine World Class models! Choose your features: Digital/Analog/Audio SWR-Wattmeter, Antenna Switch, Balun, Radio Interface, Digital frequency readout, Remoteable, Coax/Balanced Lines/Wire Tuning, Field Upgradeable . . .

MFJ-998 1500 Watt Legal Limit IntelliTuner™



Only the MFJ-998 gives you fully automatic antenna tuning for your legal limit full 1500 Watts SSB/CW linear amplifier!

MFJ-998 **\$699⁹⁵**

Ultra-fast Automatic Tuning
Instantly match impedances from 12-1600 ohms using MFJ's exclusive IntelliTune™, Adaptive Search™ and InstantRecall™ algorithms with over 20,000 VirtualAntenna™ Memories.
Safe auto tuning protects amp
MFJ's exclusive Amplifier

Bypass Control™ makes tuning safe and "stupid-proof!"
Digital/Analog Meters
A backlit LCD meter displays SWR, forward/reflected power, frequency, antenna selected, an auto-ranging bargraph power indication, and much more.
Has quick-glance auto-ranging Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.
MFJ VirtualAntenna™ Memory
MFJ new VirtualAntenna™ Memory system gives you 4 antenna memory banks for each

of 2 switchable antenna coax connectors. Select up to 4 antennas on each antenna connector. Each antenna has 2500 memories, 20,000 total. Has binding post for end-fed long wire antennas.

Download & Upgrade Remotely
Download from internet and upgrade your MFJ-998 firmware as new features are introduced.

Plus Much More!
Built-in radio interface controls most transceivers.
Automatically bypasses with excessive tuning power.
Use balanced line antennas with external MFJ-912, \$59.95, 1.5 kW 4:1 balun.
Small 13Wx4Hx15D inches easily fits into your ham station. 8 pounds. Requires 12-15VDC at 1.4 amps maximum or 110 VAC with MFJ-1316, \$21.95.

for 600 Watt amps
AL-811/ALS-600/ALS-500



For 600 Watt amps like Ameritron AL-811/ALS-600/ALS-500M. Matches 12-800 Ohms. 10,000 VirtualAntenna™ memories. Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. 10Wx2 1/4Hx9D inches.

MFJ-994B **\$359⁹⁵**

No Matter What™ Warranty

Every MFJ tuner is protected by MFJ's famous one year No Matter What™ limited warranty. We will repair or replace your MFJ tuner (at our option) for a full year.

300 Watt...Best Seller

Digital Meter, Ant Switch, Balun



The world's best selling automatic antenna tuner is highly acclaimed the world over for its ultra high-speed, wide matching range, reliability, ease-of-use! Matches virtually any antenna.

MFJ-993B **\$269⁹⁵**

300 Watt...Wide Range

SWR/Wattmeter, 10000 VA Memories



Extra wide matching range at less cost. Exclusive dual power level: 300 Watts/6-1600 Ohms; 150W/6-3200 Ohms. Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.

MFJ-991B **\$229⁹⁵**

200 Watt ... Compact

Digital Meter, Ant Switch, Wide Range



World's fastest compact auto tuner uses MFJ Adaptive Search™ and InstantRecall™ algorithms. 132,072 tuning solutions instantly match virtually any antenna with near perfect SWR.

MFJ-929 **\$229⁹⁵**

200 Watt ... Econo

Small, Ant Switch, 20K VA Memories



High-speed, wide matching range and compactness at low cost! Leave in-line and forget it -- your antenna is always automatically tuned! 2-position antenna switch.

MFJ-928 **\$199⁹⁵**

200 Watt MightyMite™

Matches IC-706, FT-857D, TS-50S



No extra space needed! Just set your IC-706/7000, FT-857D, TS-50S on top of this matching low-profile automatic tuner -- it's all you need for a completely automated station using any antenna! Just tune and talk!

MFJ-925 **\$179⁹⁵**



G5RV Antenna

Covers all bands, 160-10 Meters with antenna tuner. 102 ft. long. Can use as inverted vee or sloper. Use on 160 Meters as Marconi. 1500 Watts. Super-strong fiberglass center/feed-point insulators. Glazed ceramic end insulators. All hand-soldered connections. A dd coax, some rope and you're on the air!
MFJ-1778M, \$39.95. G5RV Junior. Half-size, 52 ft. 40-10M with tuner, 1500 Watts.

MFJ-1778 **\$44⁹⁵**

200W...Weather-sealed

for Remote/Outdoor/Marine



Fully weather-sealed for remote Outdoor/ Marine use! Tough, durable, built-to-last the elements for years.

MFJ-926B **\$279⁹⁵**

200 Watt...Remote

Coax/Wire Ant, No pwr cable needed



Weather protected fully automatic remote auto tuner for wire and coax antennas -- an MFJ exclusive. Powers through coax -- No separate power cable needed.

MFJ-927 **\$259⁹⁵**

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MFJ TUNERS

Ham Radio's Most Popular 300 Watt Antenna Tuner

More hams use MFJ-949s than any other antenna tuner in the world!

Why? Because the world's leading tuner has earned a world-wide reputation for being able to match just about anything.

Full 1.8-30 MHz Operation
Tune your antenna for minimum SWR! Works 1.8-30 MHz on dipoles, verticals, inverted vees, random wires, beams, mobile whips, shortwave receiving antennas... Use coax, random wire, balanced lines. Has heavy duty 4:1 balun for balanced lines.

Custom inductor switch
Custom designed inductor switch, 1000 volt tuning capacitors, Teflon[®] insulating washers and proper L/C ratio gives you arc-free no worries operation



up to 300 Watts PEP transceiver input power. The MFJ-949E inductor switch was custom designed to withstand the extremely high RF voltages and currents that are developed in your tuner.

8-Position Antenna switch
Antenna switch lets you select two coax fed antennas, random wire/balanced line or

\$189⁹⁵ dummy load through your MFJ-949E or direct to your transceiver.
Lighted Cross-Needle Meter
Full size 3-inch lighted Cross-Needle Meter. Lets you easily read SWR, peak or average forward and reflected power simultaneously. Has 300 Watt or 30 Watt ranges.

QRM-Free PreTune™
MFJ's QRM-Free PreTune™

lets you pre-tune your MFJ-949E off-the-air into its built-in dummy load! Makes tuning your actual antenna faster and easier.

Plus Much More!
Full size built-in non-inductive 50 Ohm dummy load, scratch-proof Lexan multi-colored front panel, 10³/₈x3¹/₈x7 inches. Superior cabinet construction and more!

MFJ-948, \$169.95. Economy version MFJ-949E. Has all features except for dummy load.

No Matter What™ Warranty
Every MFJ tuner is protected by MFJ's famous one year No Matter What™ limited warranty. We will repair or replace your MFJ tuner (at our option) for a full year.

More hams use MFJ tuners than all other tuners in the world!

MFJ-989D Legal Limit Tuner



MFJ-989D
\$409⁹⁵

New, improved MFJ-989D legal limit antenna tuner

gives you better efficiency, lower losses and a new true peak reading meter. Easily handles full 1500 Watts SSB/CW, 1.8-30 MHz, including MARS/WARC bands. Six position antenna switch, dummy load. New 500 pF air variable capacitors. New improved AirCore™ Roller Inductor. New high voltage current balun. New crank knob. 12¹/₈Wx6Hx11¹/₈D".

MFJ-986 Two knob Differential-T™



MFJ-986
\$369⁹⁵

Two knob tuning (differential capacitor and AirCore™ roller inductor) makes tuning foolproof and easier than ever. Gives minimum SWR at only one setting. Handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1.5 KW output). Gear-driven turns counter, lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun. 1.8 to 30 MHz. 10³/₈Wx4¹/₂Hx15 in.

MFJ-962D compact kW Tuner



MFJ-962D
\$319⁹⁵

A few more dollars steps you up to a kW tuner for an amp later. Handles 1.5 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (800W output). Ideal for Ameritron's AL-811H! AirCore™ roller inductor, gear-driven turns counter, pk/avg lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun, Lexan front, 1.8-30MHz. 10³/₈x4¹/₂x10³/₈ in.

MFJ-969 300W Roller Inductor Tuner

Superb AirCore™ Roller Inductor tuning. Covers 6 Meters thru 160 Meters! 300 Watts PEP SSB. Active true peak reading lighted Cross-Needle SWR Wattmeter, QRM-Free PreTune™, antenna switch, dummy load, 4:1 balun, Lexan front panel. 10¹/₂Wx3¹/₂Hx9¹/₂D inches.



MFJ-969
\$229⁹⁵

MFJ-941E super value Tuner

The most for your money! Handles 300 Watts PEP, covers 1.8-30 MHz, lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, 4:1 balun, 1000 volt capacitors, Lexan front panel. Sleek 10¹/₂Wx2¹/₂Hx7D in.



MFJ-941E
\$149⁹⁵

MFJ-945E HF/6M mobile Tuner

Extends your mobile antenna bandwidth so you don't have to stop, go outside and adjust your antenna. Tiny 8x2x6 in. Lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Lamp and bypass switches. Covers 1.8-30 MHz and 6 Meters. 300 Watts PEP. MFJ-20, \$6.95, mobile mount.



MFJ-945E
\$129⁹⁵

MFJ-971 portable/QRP Tuner

Tunes coax, balanced lines, random wire 1.8-30 MHz. Cross-Needle Meter. SWR, 30/300 or 6 Watt QRP ranges. Matches popular MFJ transceivers. Tiny 6x6¹/₂x2¹/₂ in.



MFJ-971
\$129⁹⁵

MFJ-901B smallest Versa Tuner

MFJ's smallest (5x2x6 in.) and most affordable wide range 200 Watt PEP Versa tuner. Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz. Great for matching solid state rigs to linear amps.



MFJ-901B
\$99⁹⁵

MFJ-902B Tiny Travel Tuner

Tiny 4¹/₂x2¹/₄x3 inches, full 150 Watts, 80-6 Meters, has tuner bypass switch, for coax/random wire. MFJ-904H, \$149.95. Same but adds Cross-needle SWR/Wattmeter and 4:1 balun for balanced lines. 7¹/₄x2¹/₄x2³/₄ inches.



MFJ-902B
\$99⁹⁵

MFJ-16010 random wire Tuner

Operate all bands anywhere with MFJ's reversible L-network. Turns random wire into powerful transmitting antenna. 1.8-30 MHz. 200 Watts PEP. Tiny 2x3x4 in.



MFJ-16010
\$69⁹⁵

MFJ-906/903 6 Meter Tuners

MFJ-906 has lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch. Handles 100 W FM, 200W SSB. MFJ-903, \$69.95, Like MFJ-906, less SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch.



MFJ-906
\$99⁹⁵

MFJ-921/924 VHF/UHF Tuners

MFJ-921 covers 2 Meters/220 MHz. MFJ-924 covers 440 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter. 8x2¹/₂x3 in.



MFJ-921/924
\$89⁹⁵

MFJ-931 artificial RF Ground

Eliminates RF hot spots, RF feedback, TV/RFI, weak signals caused by poor RF grounding. Creates artificial RF ground or electrically places far away RF ground directly at rig. MFJ-934, \$209.95, Artificial ground/300 Watt Tuner/Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.



MFJ-931
\$109⁹⁵

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NEW! Yaesu DR-1X



FT-991
This device has not been authorized as required by the rules of the Federal Communications Commission. This device is not and may not be, offered for sale or lease, or sold or leased, until authorization is obtained.



VX-8DR
5 watts FM on 50/144/430 MHz

NEW! Yaesu DR-1X
44MHz FM Dual Band, Repeat 1 Base Station, 144/430 MHz, C4FM/FM Digital Repeat. Features Three Digital Modes and a Conventional FM mode. Supports operation on an EM emergency Battery.



NEW! Yaesu FTDX-1200
TX Frequency Coverage: 160 to 6 meters, 5 to 100 watts (2 to 25 watts AM)

Welcome to a New Digital World!



FT-1DR
New Exciting Price!



FT-270R



VX-6R



YAESU FTDX3000D
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Full color TFT display

NEW!

FT-817ND
HF/62/440



FT-817ND
HF/62/440



FT-450D
state of the art IF DSP technology, world class performance, easy to use



FT-7900R
Dual bander High-power Output 1000 m em ones



FT-M-300DR
making News!
Wow, New Repeaters Online!



FT-857D
HF/62/440 all mode



FT-8900R
10M/6M/2M/440MHz



FT-1900R
144/440MHz



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2 meter transceiver

Kenwood



TS-990S
Kenwood's NEW Flagship HF/50MHz



TH-F6A
Compact 144/220/440MHz



TS-480HX/TS-480SAT
HF/6M



TM-D7106GA
2M/70cm Mobile 50W/50W, Optional Voice Synthesizer



TH-K26A
RF Output, Backlit LCD, Weather Alert, Keypad Entry



TM-V771A
1000 Alpha Memories, Dual Display



TS-590S
180-6 meters, Noise Reduction



TH-D72A
144/440 MHz, 5W HT/GPS/TNC



TM-281A
2M, FM Mobile Transceiver, 200 memory channels

Icom



IC-7100
All-mode HF/MF/HF mobile transceiver



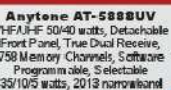
IC-S1000A
2m/440 dual band mobile

Also Available:
ID-51A, ID-31A, IC-7700, IC-7600, IC-7410, IC-7200

Anytone, TYT, TDX and Wouxun



Anytone AT-5888UV
VHF/UHF: 50/40 watts, Detachable Front Panel, True Dual Receive, 758 Memory Channels, Software Programmable, Selectable 35/10/5 watts, 2013 narrowband compliant, FCC Certified



Wouxun KG-UV9200-A
VHF/UHF Dual Display, 50/40 watts, 4 power settings, Detachable Front Panel, 999 Memory Channels, Programmable, FCC Certified



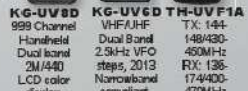
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\$69.95 - a \$84.95 value
Package includes:
- D-None Q8 2m/440 HT
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- Radio Only \$59.95



QR Accessory Kit
\$39.95 - a \$64.95 value
Package includes:
- Speaker Microphone
- 1800 mAh Li-Ion Battery
- Set Case and a bonus Gift



New LED Emergency Desk Lamp
Check your gear and



Temp Gauge
Checks your gear and

Antennas and Mounts



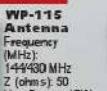
SX-20
144-430 Base Station Antenna
Frequency (MHz): 144/430
Zol(Z): 50
V.S.W.R: <1.5
Power(W): 200
Length(M): 2.5
Weight(Kg): 1.20
SX-3 & 5 are also available.



NEW! SDBX 326 Black Antenna



Max-1 PLNMO
in Black!
Frequency (MHz): 144/430
Max Power(W): 60
V.S.W.R: <1.5
Length (M): 0.92
Weight(Kg): 1.95
Connector: PL-259



WP-115
Antenna
Frequency (MHz): 144/430 MHz
Z (ohms): 50
Max Power: 10W
Length (mm): 400
Weight: 42g
Connector: SMA or BNC



KY-66B
Trunk Lid Hatchback Mount
Door Mount
Weight: 168g



P-800 Small External Speaker
Speaker Max Power: 5 watts
Cord Length: 4 Meters



UL-01 Hatchback
Door Trunk Lid Mount, Color: Black, Weight: 202g

Power Supplies



QJE PS50SWII
Switching Power Supply
13.8 VDC at 40 amps continuous



QJE PS30SWI
DC Power Supply
Output voltage: 13.8V
30 amp continuous
110/220 VAC



QJE PS30SWIV
DC Power Supply
DC 13.8V Output (8-15V adjustable)
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bm. Total (Sum of 16bm and 16bn)		146,956	
bn. Total (Sum of 16bn and 16bo)		148,488	
bo. Total (Sum of 16bo and 16bp)		146,956	
bp. Total (Sum of 16bp and 16bq)		148,488	
bq. Total (Sum of 16bq and 16br)		146,956	
br. Total (Sum of 16br and 16bs)		148,488	
bs. Total (Sum of 16bs and 16bt)		146,956	
bt. Total (Sum of 16bt and 16bu)		148,488	
bu. Total (Sum of 16bu and 16bv)		146,956	
bv. Total (Sum of 16bv and 16bw)		148,488	
bw. Total (Sum of 16bw and 16bx)		146,956	
bx. Total (Sum of 16bx and 16by)		148,488	
by. Total (Sum of 16by and 16bz)		146,956	
bz. Total (Sum of 16bz and 16ca)		148,488	
ca. Total (Sum of 16ca and 16cb)		146,956	
cb. Total (Sum of 16cb and 16cc)		148,488	
cc. Total (Sum of 16cc and 16cd)		146,956	
cd. Total (Sum of 16cd and 16ce)		148,488	
ce. Total (Sum of 16ce and 16cf)		146,956	
cf. Total (Sum of 16cf and 16cg)		148,488	
cg. Total (Sum of 16cg and 16ch)		146,956	
ch. Total (Sum of 16ch and 16ci)		148,488	
ci. Total (Sum of 16ci and 16cj)		146,956	
cj. Total (Sum of 16cj and 16ck)		148,488	
ck. Total (Sum of 16ck and 16cl)		146,956	
cl. Total (Sum of 16cl and 16cm)		148,488	
cm. Total (Sum of 16cm and 16cn)		146,956	
cn. Total (Sum of 16cn and 16co)		148,488	
co. Total (Sum of 16co and 16cp)		146,956	
cp. Total (Sum of 16cp and 16cq)		148,488	
cq. Total (Sum of 16cq and 16cr)		146,956	
cr. Total (Sum of 16cr and 16cs)		148,488	
cs. Total (Sum of 16cs and 16ct)		146,956	
ct. Total (Sum of 16ct and 16cu)		148,488	
cu. Total (Sum of 16cu and 16cv)		146,956	
cv. Total (Sum			

MFJ Switching Power Supplies

Power your HF transceiver, 2 meter/440 MHz mobile/base and accessories with these highly reliable 15, 22, 30, 40 or 75 Amp MFJ Switching Power Supplies!

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22 Amp Continuous 22 Amp Continuous 40 Amp Continuous 70 Amp Continuous



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22 Amps continuous/25 Amps max at 13.8VDC. 5-way binding posts on front, 5A quick connects on back. 85-135/170-260 VAC input. 2.9 lbs. 5 1/2"Wx3Hx5 1/2"D".

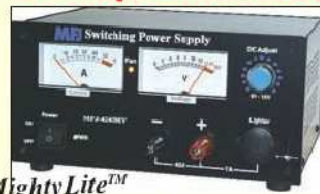
MFJ-4125P, \$94.95. Adds 2-pairs *Anderson PowerPoles*™.

MFJ-4125
\$84.95



22 Amps MFJ-4225MV continuous, 25 Amps maximum. Like MFJ-4125 but adds Volt/Amp meters, cigarette lighter plug. Adjustable 9-15 VDC Output. 5 1/2"Wx 4 1/4"Hx6D in. Weighs 3.7 lbs. Use 85-135 VAC or 170-260 VAC input. Replaceable fuse.

MFJ-4225MV
\$99.95



40 Amps MFJ-4245MV continuous, 45 Amps max. Adjustable 9-15 VDC output. Volt/Amp meters, cigarette lighter plug, front 5-way binding posts, two rear quick connects. 5.5 lbs. 7 1/2"Wx 4 3/4"Hx9D inches. Use 85-135 VAC or 170-260 VAC input. Replaceable fuse.

MFJ-4245MV
\$149.95



75 Amps MFJ-4275MV maximum and 70 Amps continuously. Adjustable voltage 4.0-16 VDC. Short circuit, overload and over-temperature protection, 10.5 lbs. 9 1/2"Wx5 1/2"Hx9 1/2"D". Great for Ameritron's ALS-500M mobile amplifier!

MFJ-4275MV
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High Current Multiple DC Power Outlets

Power multiple Transceivers/accessories from a single DC power supply . . . Keeps you neat, organized and safe . . . Prevents fire hazard . . . Keeps wires from tangling up and shorting . . . Fused and RF bypassed . . . 6 foot, 8 gauge color coded cable . . .

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MFJ-1116, \$59.95. 8 pairs binding posts, 15A total. Voltmeter, on/off switch.

MFJ-1112, \$44.95. 6 pairs binding posts, 15 Amps total.

MFJ-1117, \$64.95. Powers four transceivers simultaneously (two at 35 Amps each and two at 35 Amps combined). 8x2x3 inches.

All PowerPoles™

MFJ-1128, \$104.95. 3 high-current outlets for transceivers. 9 switched outlets for accessories. Mix & match included fuses as needed (one-40A, one-25A, four-10A, four-5A, three-1A fuses installed). 0-25 VDC Voltmeter. Extra contacts, fuses. 12Wx1 1/4"Hx2 1/4"D".

MFJ-1126, \$84.95. 8 outlets, each fused, 40 Amps total. Factory installed fuses: two 1A, three 5A, two 10A, one 25A, one 40A. 0-25 VDC Voltmeter. Includes extra *PowerPoles*®, extra fuses -- no extra cost. 9Wx1 1/4"Hx2 3/4" inches.

PowerPoles™ AND 5-Way Binding Posts

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MFJ-1116
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MFJ-1124
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(20A max) -- 5 *PowerPoles*® and 2 binding posts. Fuses include (1- 40A, 2-25A, 3-10A, 3-5A, 2-1A installed). 0-25 VDC Voltmeter. Includes extra *PowerPoles*®(R) and fuses, 12 1/2"Wx1 1/4"Hx2 3/4"D inches.

MFJ-1124, \$64.95. 6 outlets each fused, 40 Amps total. 4 *PowerPoles*®, 2 high-current binding posts, Installed fuses: 1-40A, 2-25A, 2-10A, 1-5A, 1-1A. Includes extra *PowerPoles*® & fuses -- no extra cost.

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MFJ-4035MV
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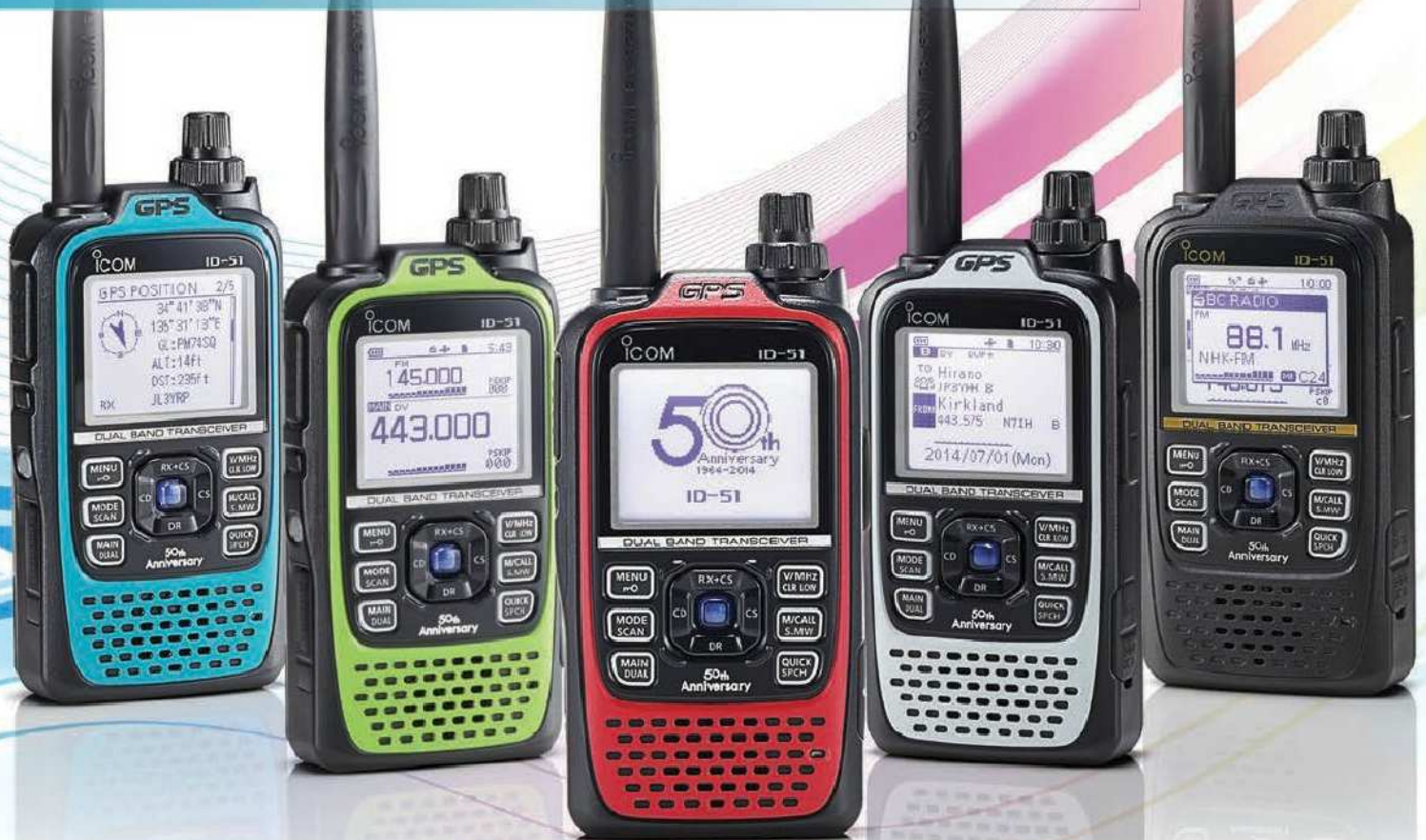
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sta-tis-tics (st-tstks) n.

1. (used with a sing. verb) The mathematics of the collection, organization, and interpretation of numerical data, especially the analysis of population characteristics by inference from sampling.
2. (used with a pl. verb) Numerical data.

Online QuickStats Poll Results for September 3, 2014 through October 3, 2014.
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Is your station computer used for activities other than Amateur Radio?

- Yes 73%**
- No 20%**
- I don't have a station computer 7%**

Do you leave your station computer on at all times?

- Yes 35%**
- No 58%**
- I don't have a station computer 7%**



Is your primary station computer a desktop, laptop, or tablet?



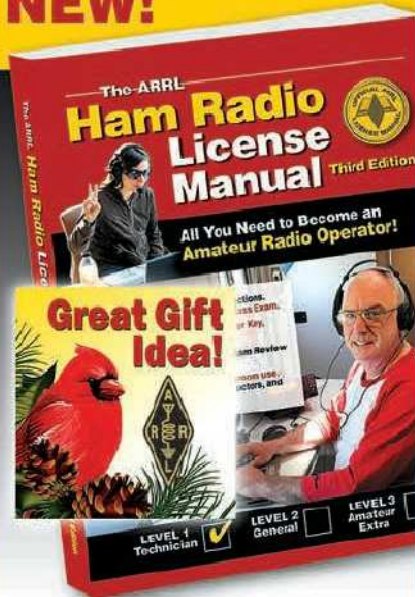
- Desktop 61%**
- Laptop 30%**
- Tablet 1%**
- Other 1%**
- I don't have a station computer 7%**

If your primary station computer is a laptop or desktop, have you ever suffered a hard drive failure?

- Yes, but it was a long time ago 30%**
- Yes, within the last year 7%**
- No 54%**
- My station computer isn't a desktop or laptop 7%**
- I don't have a station computer 7%**



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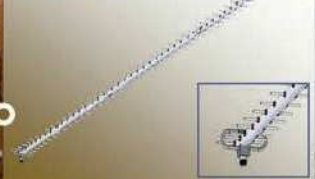
The KT31WARC offers great flexibility in size and frequencies. A simple two band dipole for 12M & 17M. It spans just 19 feet. Adding 20M or 30M is offered as an option using a coil assembly.

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432XP50 70 CM XP YAGI



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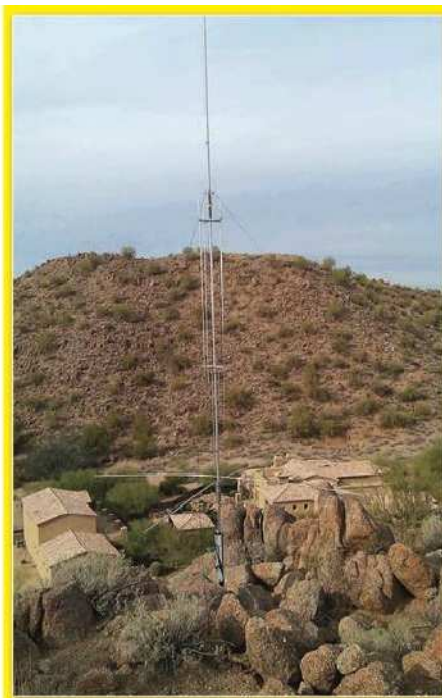
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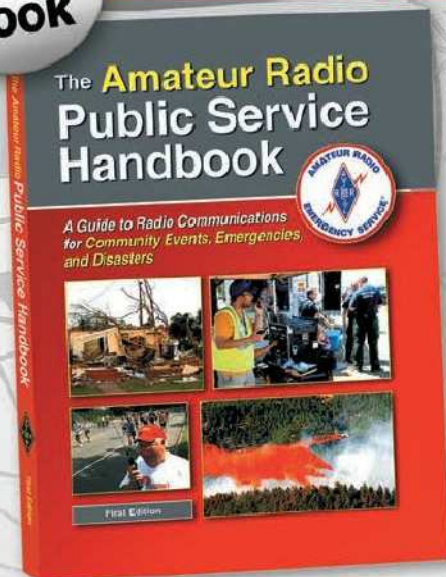
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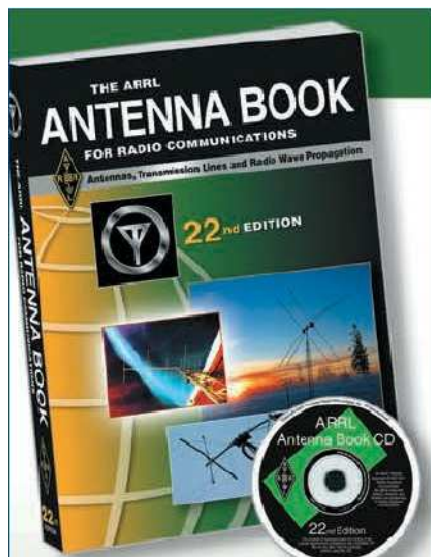
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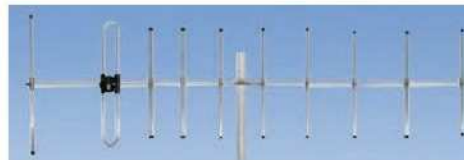
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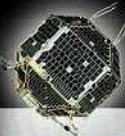


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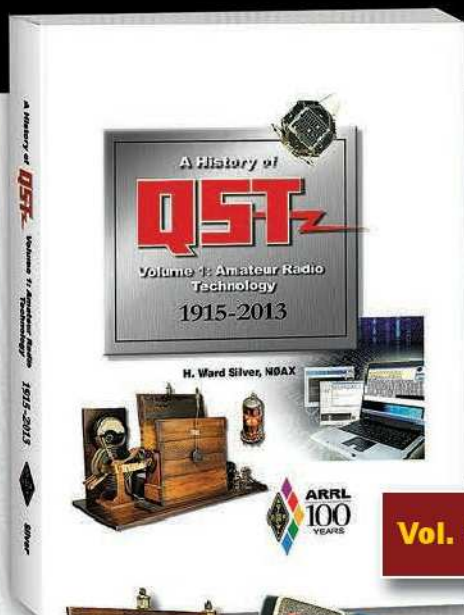
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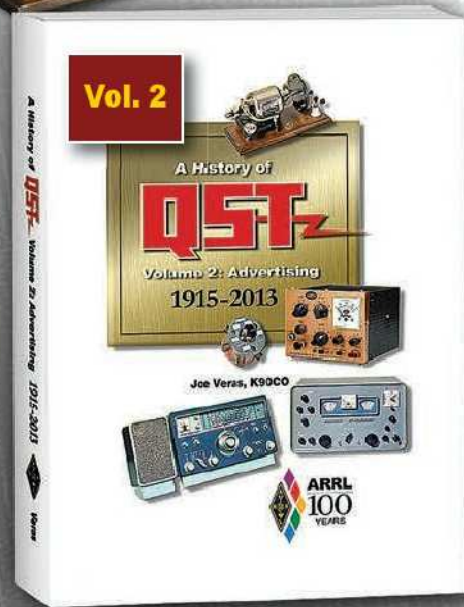
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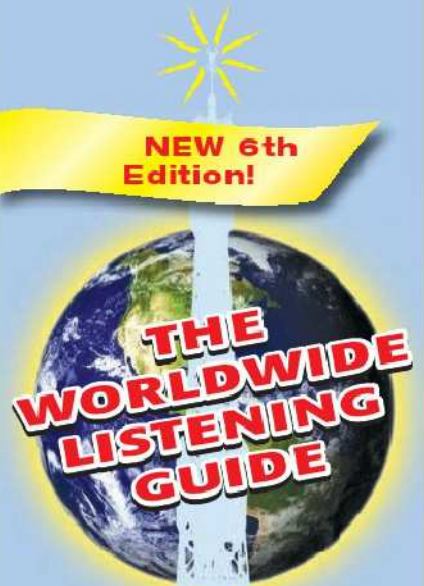


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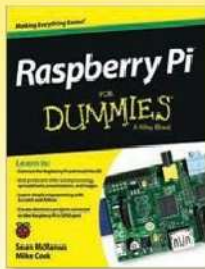
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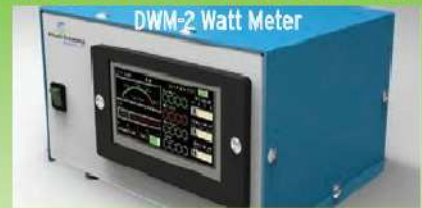
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7. AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL HAM AD POSTERS AND RESPONDERS, FROM THE ARRL ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT: Greetings from ARRL HQ! Please note that we have received reports from many ARRL members who have placed classified ads in these listings, and have received responses from individuals proposing "creative" payment schemes. These particular instances involved offers of over payments for goods by bank check, followed by instructions to deduct the cost of your item from the overpayment, and to transfer the overage back to another individual. This is a well-known scam. Unfortunately, we have no control over this and other scams of this type. Once your email address is posted, you are vulnerable to those individuals seeking to provide you with questionable information.

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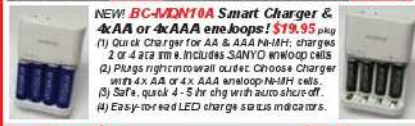
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