

Amateur Radio

45241

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COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

SEPTEMBER 2006



- **A Year After Katrina:**
 - **Still Struggling in Mississippi, p. 13**
 - **FCC Panel Recommendations, p. 20**
- **CW Results: 2005 CQ World Wide DX Contest, p. 30**

On the Cover: Charlie Otnott, WD5BJT, in front of the now-condemned Hancock County, Mississippi sheriff's office, where he rode out Hurricane Katrina. He fared better than his vintage Collins receiver (right). Details on page 84, story on page 13.



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KENWOOD

Listen to the Future

60th Anniversary

60th Anniversary: Introducing the TS-2000 Limited Edition — Special Black Version



Black Version

TS-2000 All-mode Multibander HF/50/144/440MHz



Kenwood is celebrating its 60th anniversary with a Limited Edition model (black version) of the renowned TS-2000. Functionally identical but visibly different, this Limited Edition offers the same advanced features as the original model, but with a front panel, main tuning knob and carrying handle all finished in exclusive black — a feast for the eyes.

Engineered for long years of enjoyment, this special TS-2000 is further distinguished by a unique serial number on the back, starting with No.1. Only 570 are to be produced, and of those just 300 will be sold in the US.

Each Limited Edition model will be factory-fitted with the popular DRU-3A digital recording unit and VS-3 voice synthesizer, and supplied with ARCP-2000 radio control software. Straight from the box, it's fully equipped for action.

Additionally, a special present will be sent to every new owner of this 60th anniversary model — just fill in and return the postcard included in the package to claim your cool Kenwood jacket.



Unique serial number



Carrying handle

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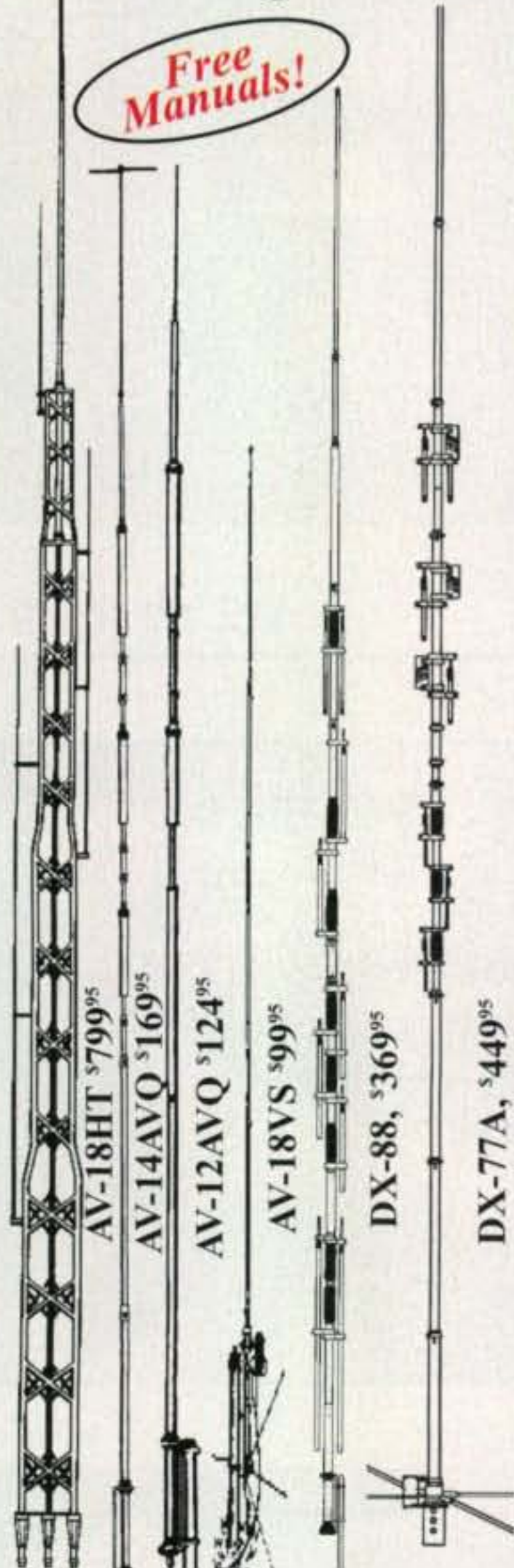
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Self-supporting -- no guys required... Remarkable DX performance -- low angle radiation, omnidirectional... Handles 1500 Watts... Low SWR... Automatic band switching... Aircraft quality aluminum tubing... Stainless steel hardware... Recessed SO-239 connector... Two year limited Warranty...



hy-gain® Classics

All hy-gain multi-band vertical antennas are entirely self supporting -- no guys required.

They offer remarkable DX performance with their extremely low angle of radiation and omnidirectional pattern.

All handle 1500 Watts PEP SSB, have low SWR, automatic band-switching (except AV-18VS) and include a 12-inch heavy duty mast support bracket (except AV-18HT).

Heavy duty, slotted, tapered swaged, aircraft quality aluminum tubing with full circumference

compression clamps is used for radiators. Includes all stainless steel hardware. Recessed SO-239 prevents moisture damage. Hy-gain verticals go up easily with just hand tools and their cost is surprisingly low. Two year limited warranty.

AV-18HT, \$849.95. (10,12,15,20,40,80 M, 160, 17 Meters optional). 53 ft., 114 lbs.

Standing 53 feet tall, the famous Hy-Gain HyTower is the world's best performing vertical! The AV-18HT features automatic band selection achieved through a unique stub-decoupling system which effectively isolates various sections of the antenna so that an electrical 1/4 wavelength (or odd multiple of a 1/4 wavelength) exists on all bands. Approximately 250 kHz bandwidth at 2:1 VSWR on 80 Meters. The addition of a base loading coil (LC-160Q, \$109.95), provides exceptional 160 Meter performance. **MK-17, \$89.95.** Add-on 17 Meter kit. 24 foot tower is all rugged, hot-dip galvanized steel and all hardware is iridited for corrosion resistance. Special tilt-over hinged base for easy raising & lowering.

AV-14AVQ, \$169.95. (10,15,20,40 Meters). 18 ft., 9 lbs. The Hy-Gain AV-14AVQ uses the same trap design as the famous Hy-Gain Thunderbird beams. Three separate air dielectric Hy-Q traps with oversize coils give superb stability and 1/4 wave resonance on all bands. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

AV-12AVQ, \$124.95. (10, 15, 20 Meters). 13 ft., 9 lbs. AV-12AVQ also uses Thunderbird beam design air dielectric traps for extremely Hy-Q performance. This is the way to go for inexpensive tri-band performance in limited space. Roof mount with AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

AV-18VS, \$99.95. (10,12,15,17,20,30,40,80 Meters). 18 ft., 4 lbs. High quality construction and low cost make the AV-18VS an exceptional value. Easily tuned to any band by adjusting feed point at the base loading coil. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

DX-88, \$369.95. (10, 12, 15,17,20,30,40,80 Meters, 160 Meters optional). 25 ft., 18 lbs.

All bands are easily tuned with the DX-88's exclusive adjustable capacitors. 80 and 40 Meters can even be tuned from the ground without having to lower the antenna. Super heavy-duty construction. DX-88 OPTIONS: 160 Meter add-on kit, KIT-160-88, \$189.95. Ground Radial System, GRK-88, \$99.95. Roof Radial System, RRR-88, \$99.95.

DX-77A, \$449.95. (10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, 40 Meters). 29 ft., 25 lbs.

No ground radials required! Off-center-fed Windom has 55% greater bandwidth than competitive verticals. Heavy-duty tiltable base. Each band independently tunable.

Model #	Price	Bands	Max Power	Height	Weight	Wind Surv.	Rec. Mast
AV-18HT	\$849.95	10,15,20,40,80	1500 W PEP	53 feet	114 pounds	75 MPH	-----
AV-14AVQ	\$169.95	10,15,20,40	1500 W PEP	18 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-12AVQ	\$134.95	10/15/20 M	1500 W PEP	13 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-18VS	\$99.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	18 feet	4 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
DX-88	\$369.95	10 - 40 M	1500 W PEP	25 feet	18 pounds	75 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"
DX-77A	\$449.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	29 feet	25 pounds	60 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"

hy-gain® PATRIOT

Hy-Gain's new PATRIOT HF verticals are the best built, best performing and best priced multiband verticals available today. For exciting DX make full use of your sunspot cycle with the PATRIOT's low 17 degree angle signal.

No ground or radials needed

Effective counterpoise replaces radials and ground.

Automatic bandswitching

Single coax cable feed. Each band is individually tunable. Extra wide VSWR bandwidth. End fed with broadband matching unit.

Sleek and low-profile

Low 2.5 sq. ft. wind surface area. Small area required for mounting. Mounts easily on decks, roofs and patios.

Full legal limit

Handles 1500 Watts key down continuous for two minutes.

Built-to-last

High wind survival of 80 mph. Broadband matching unit made from all Teflon® insulated wire. Aircraft quality aluminum tubing, stainless steel hardware.

hy-gain® warranty

Two year limited warranty. All replacement parts in stock.

AV-640, \$399.95. (6,10,12, 15,17,20,30,40 Meters). 25.5 ft., 17.5 lbs. The AV-640 uses quarter wave stubs on 6, 10, 12 and 17 meters and efficient end loading coil and capacity hats on 15, 20, 30 and 40 meters -- no traps. Resonators are placed in parallel not in series. End loading of the lower HF bands allows efficient operation with a manageable antenna height.

AV-620, \$299.95.

(6,10,12,15,17,20 Meters). 22.5 ft., 10.5 lbs. The AV-620 covers all bands 6 through 20

Meters with no traps, no coils, no radials yielding an uncompromised signal across all bands.

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MFJ IntelliTuner™ Automatic Tuner

Automatically tunes unbalanced/balanced antennas... Ultra fast... **New 20,000 memories...**
 Antenna Switch... Efficient L-network... **Select 300 Watts (6-1600 Ohms) or 150 Watts (6-3200 Ohms)...** 1.8-30 MHz... 4:1 current balun... **Cross-Needle and Digital SWR/Wattmeter...** Audio SWR meter... **Backlit LCD...** Remote control port... **Radio interface...**



MFJ-993B
\$259⁹⁵

New!

World's First dual power level 300/150 Watts SSB/CW Tuner --

Select 300 Watt SSB/CW power level and match 6-1600 Ohm antennas **Or...** select 150 Watt SSB/CW power level and match **extra wide-range 6-3200 Ohms!**

The MFJ-993B IntelliTuner™ lets you tune any antenna **automatically** balanced or unbalanced -- **ultra fast.**

It's a comprehensive automatic antenna tuning center complete with SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch for two antennas and 4:1 current balun for balanced lines.

MFJ's exclusive IntelliTuner™, Adaptive Search™ and InstantRecall™ algorithms give you **ultra fast** automatic tuning with over 20,000 VirtualAntenna™ Memories.

You get a highly efficient L-network, 6-1600 ohm matching at 300 Watts SSB/CW or **extra-wide 6-3200 Ohm** matching at 150 Watts SSB/CW, 1.8-30 MHz coverage, Cross-Needle and digital meters, audio SWR meter, **backlit LCD**, remote control port, radio interface, heavy-duty 16 amp/1000V relays.

It learns while you're having fun

As you're ragchewing, contesting or DXing, **your MFJ-993B is learning!**

When you transmit, the MFJ-993B automatically tunes for minimum SWR and remembers your frequency and tuner settings. The next time you operate on that frequency and antenna, these tuner settings are instantly restored and **you're ready to operate in milliseconds!**

MFJ's new VirtualAntenna™ Memory system gives you 4 antenna memory banks for each of 2 antenna connectors. Select up to 4 antennas on each antenna connector. Each antenna has 2500 memories, 20,000 total.

Intelligent ultra fast tuning

MFJ's InstantRecall™ first checks its memory to see if you have operated this frequency before. If so, tuning is instantaneous and you're ready to operate.

If not, MFJ's IntelliTuner™ algorithm -- based on MFJ's famous SWR Analyzer technology -- kicks in. It *measures* the complex impedance of your antenna. Next, it *calculates* the components it needs and instantly *snaps* them in. Then, it fine tunes to minimize SWR -- you're ready to operate. It's all done in a *fraction* of a second.

When the impedance is within its measurement range, the MFJ-993B is the **fastest automatic antenna tuner in the world.**

If it can't accurately determine impedance, MFJ's AdaptiveSearch™ algorithm goes into action. Frequency is measured and relevant components values are determined. Only those values are searched for ultra-fast tuning.

For even faster searches, you can set the target SWR to 2 (settable 1.0-2.0).

You can manually tune when you can't transmit (for listening out of ham bands).

Cross Needle and Digital SWR/Watt Meters

Lighted Cross-Needle and digital meters lets you accurately read SWR, forward and reflected power at a glance.

An audio SWR meter lets you *hear* the tuned SWR when you can't see/read meters.

Turn on a highly visible, instant response SWR LCD bargraph when you need it.

Backlit LCD Display

An easy-to-read **backlit LCD** displays SWR, forward/reflected power, frequency,

antenna 1 or 2, L/C tuner values, on/off indicators and other information.

The MFJ-993B is a compact 10Wx2¼ Hx9D inches. Use 12 to 15 VDC at 1 amp or 110 VAC with MFJ-1316, \$21.95.

Tune any Antenna

You can tune any antenna -- dipoles, verticals, beams, phased arrays, inverted vees, quads, random wires, mobile antennas, compact limited space antennas.

A 4:1 *true* current balun lets you tune any balanced antenna -- horizontal loops, vertical loops, multi-band doublets, quads, folded dipoles, Zepps.

Remote Control

Plug in the MFJ-993RC, \$39.95, remote control and use your tuner elsewhere remotely.

MFJ-993B Interface Pre-wired Cables

Allows automatic tuning of your MFJ-991B/993B/994B IntelliTuner™ through radio.

MFJ-5124I, \$19.95, ICOM. Supports IC-706, 707, 718, 725, 728, 736, 746, 756, 765, 775, others that support AH-3 or AH-4.

MFJ-5124A, \$19.95, ALINCO.

Supports DX-70, DX-77 and others.

MFJ-5124K, \$59.95, KENWOOD.

Supports TS-50S, 450S, 570S, 690S, 850S, 870S, 2000 and others that support AT-300.

MFJ-5124Y, \$59.95, YAESU. Supports FT-100D, FT-857, FT-897, others.

MFJ-5124Y2, \$59.95, YAESU FT-847.

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 **no matter what** (at our option) for one full year.

Dual 300/150 Watt Auto Tuner



World's First dual power level Tuner New!

— Select 300 Watt MFJ-991B SSB/CW and match 6-1600 Ohm antennas **Or** select 150 Watt SSB/CW and match **extra wide-range 6-3200 Ohms.** **New 10,000 VirtualAntenna™** Memories. Like MFJ-993B, less digital SWR/Wattmeter/ LCD display, audio SWR meter/audio feedback, antenna switch or 4:1 current balun.

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600 Watt MFJ Automatic Tuner



MFJ-994B, \$359⁹⁵ **New!** MFJ-994B, 600 Watt Intelli-Tuner™! automatic antenna tuner with

new 10,000 VirtualAntenna™ Memories. Like MFJ-993B but handles 600 Watts SSB/300

Watts CW, matches 12-800 Ohms. Does not have digital SWR/Wattmeter/LCD display, audio SWR meter/audio feedback, antenna switch or 4:1 current balun.

MFJ... the World Leader in Ham Radio Accessories!

Intrigue at WRTC

For the first time, there have been suggestions of improprieties relating to the World Radio Teamsport Championship (WRTC), kind of a World Series of contesting held every four years since 1990. This year, 46 teams from around the world competed from Brazil. The event was won by Canadians John Slumyer, VE3EJ, and Jim Roberts, VE7ZO, operating as PT5M. Second place went to the U.S. team operating PW5C, Dan Craig, N6MJ, and Dave Mueller, N2NL. Initially, the third-place team was PT5L, operated by Ranko Boca, YT6A, and Djurica Maletin, YT6T, of Serbia-Montenegro. But after a review by the judges, PT5L ended up in 11th place and another U.S. team—PT5Y, operated by Doug Grant, K1DG, and Andy Blank, N2NT, took home the bronze medal.

There are conflicting reports of what happened. "Newsline" reported that the PT5L team mistakenly set up their logging software for a location in Europe rather than South America, which changed the point-scoring for the IARU HF World Championships, the contest in which all teams competed. The *ARRL Letter* reported, however, that PT5L's log showed an unusually high number of "unique" contacts—that is, stations contacted by them and no one else—and that on review, it was concluded by the judges that "there was a small number of stations ... feeding 'phantom QSOs' to PT5L." As a result, the judges eliminated all "uniques" from all logs and the PT5L score dropped from third place to 11th. There was no suggestion of wrongdoing by either YT6A or YT6T, but rather that they were victims of an effort "intended to sabotage either one or both of the PT5L operators or a randomly selected WRTC station." Officials said a thorough investigation was impossible to conduct within the timeframe of the competition.

Hams Help After India Bombing

It was ham radio to the rescue again after the terrorist train bombing in Mumbai, India on July 11. Cell phone networks quickly crashed under the load of people trying to call loved ones. According to a report by CNN, hams with handhelds provided alternate means of making contact near and far for people who could not get through to family members by cell phone. In addition, the report said hams helped gather information for the city government. (Txn KZ1Z)

Conference Selects Worldwide Disaster Frequencies

GAREC-2006, the second Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, has recommended worldwide adoption of certain HF frequencies as "centers of activity" for emergency communications. The conference, held in June in Tampere, Finland, adopted those frequencies approved last year by Region 1 of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), specifically 21.360, 18.160, 14.300, 7.060 and 3.760 MHz, and recommended their approval by IARU regions 2 and 3 at their next conferences. Only one frequency is likely to cause a problem in Region 2—7.060 MHz is not within the U.S. voice subband on 40 meters, although it is in much of the rest of the world.

Emergency Net Activated in Lebanon

As fighting flared in mid-July between Israel and the Lebanese-based Hezbollah guerrilla group, many uninvolved Lebanese citizens and visitors were caught in the crossfire. The Arab Amateur Radio Emergency Service started a net on 14.305 MHz to handle emergency and welfare traffic, according to OD5TE. In addition, Lebanese repeaters were made available for emergency communications and were linked together via Echolink.

FCC: Keep Addresses Current

The FCC has suspended the licenses of several hams who moved without notifying the Commission of their new addresses. Letters from the FCC to at least three hams regarding other complaints were returned by the post office as "unclaimed" and/or "unable to forward," according to the FCC, putting them in violation of Section 97.23 of the Amateur Service rules. Two hams had their licenses suspended "for the remainder of the license term, or until a valid mailing address is provided." A third, already threatened with fines for refusing a trustee's request not to operate a particular repeater, was warned to "take immediate steps to correct your address," and a fourth had already submitted his license for cancellation in regard to other complaints. Bottom line: If you move, update your licensing records with the FCC.

Don't Ignore FCC Notices

Ignoring an FCC Enforcement Bureau letter apparently can get you into even more trouble than whatever prompted the letter to begin with. A Maryland ham was contacted nearly three years ago by the FCC regarding a complaint about interference to emergency communications. The letter was returned as undeliverable. A new letter was sent and never answered. Apparently, the ham in question recently updated his address in the FCC database. The FCC then sent a third letter, threatening a \$4000 fine if a reply was not received within 20 days from receipt of the letter.

Catherine Ferry, NC8F, Named 2006 Young Ham of the Year

Catherine Ferry, NC8F, of Silver Lake, Ohio, has been chosen as the Newsline Young Ham of the Year for 2006. Cathy is 18 and graduated from high school this past June. She is the daughter of Bruce Ferry, AK8B, and the late Joan Ferry. A ham since age 10, Cathy has been active in the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, where she is newsletter editor and a regular volunteer for the club's hamfests and licensing courses. She also provides communications for a wide range of public service events.



Cathy's primary interest is music. She plays the bassoon and was performing in Australia with the Cleveland Youth Symphony when Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, first tried to notify her that she'd won this year's YHOTY award. Cathy will be attending Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, this fall, majoring in music.

As Young Ham of the Year, Cathy was to receive a plaque from Amateur Radio Newsline at the Huntsville (AL) Hamfest in August, along with Yaesu radio equipment from corporate underwriter Vertex-Standard, and a week at SpaceCamp from CQ magazine, also a corporate underwriter. Cathy is the 21st young amateur to be honored under the Young Ham of the Year program.

Additional and updated news is available on the Ham Radio News page of the CQ website at <<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>>. For breaking news stories, plus info on additional items of interest, sign up for CQ's free online newsletter service. Just click on "CQ Newsletter" on the home page of our website.

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The most popular rotator in the world!

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

HAM-IV
\$559⁹⁵



TAILTWISTER SERIES II

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

T-2X
\$649⁹⁵

T-2XD
\$1029⁹⁵

with DCU-1



CD-45II

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

CD-45II
\$389⁹⁵



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.

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.

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 brngs
Mounting Hardware	Clamp plate/steel U-bolts
Control Cable Conductors	8
Shipping Weight	22 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	1200 ft.-lbs.

HAM-V

HAM-V
\$949⁹⁵
with DCU-1

For medium antenna arrays up to 15 square feet wind load area. Similar to the HAM IV, but includes DCU-1 Pathfinder digital control unit with gas plasma display. Provides automatic operation of brake and rotor, compatible with many logging/contest programs, 6 presets for beam headings, 1 degree accuracy, auto 8-second brake delay, 360 degree choice for center location, more!

ROTATOR OPTIONS

MSHD, \$99.95. Heavy duty mast support for T2X, HAM-IV and HAM-V.

MSLD, \$39.95. Light duty mast support for CD-45II and AR-40.

TSP-1, \$34.95. Lower spacer plate for HAM-IV and HAM-V.

Digital Automatic Controller

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

DCU-1
\$649⁹⁵



AR-40
\$289⁹⁵

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



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.

AR-40

HDR-300A
\$1379⁹⁵

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



Wind load capacity (inside tower)	25 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	not applicable
Turning Power	5000 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	7500 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	solenoid operated locking
Bearing Assembly	bronze sleeve w/rollers
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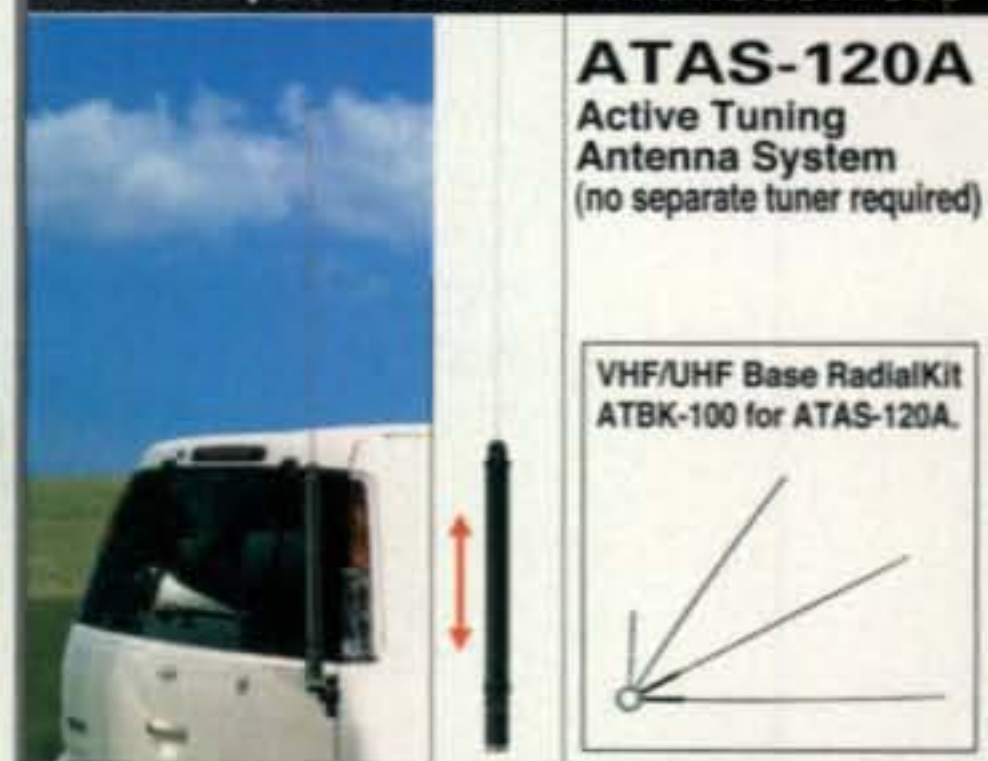


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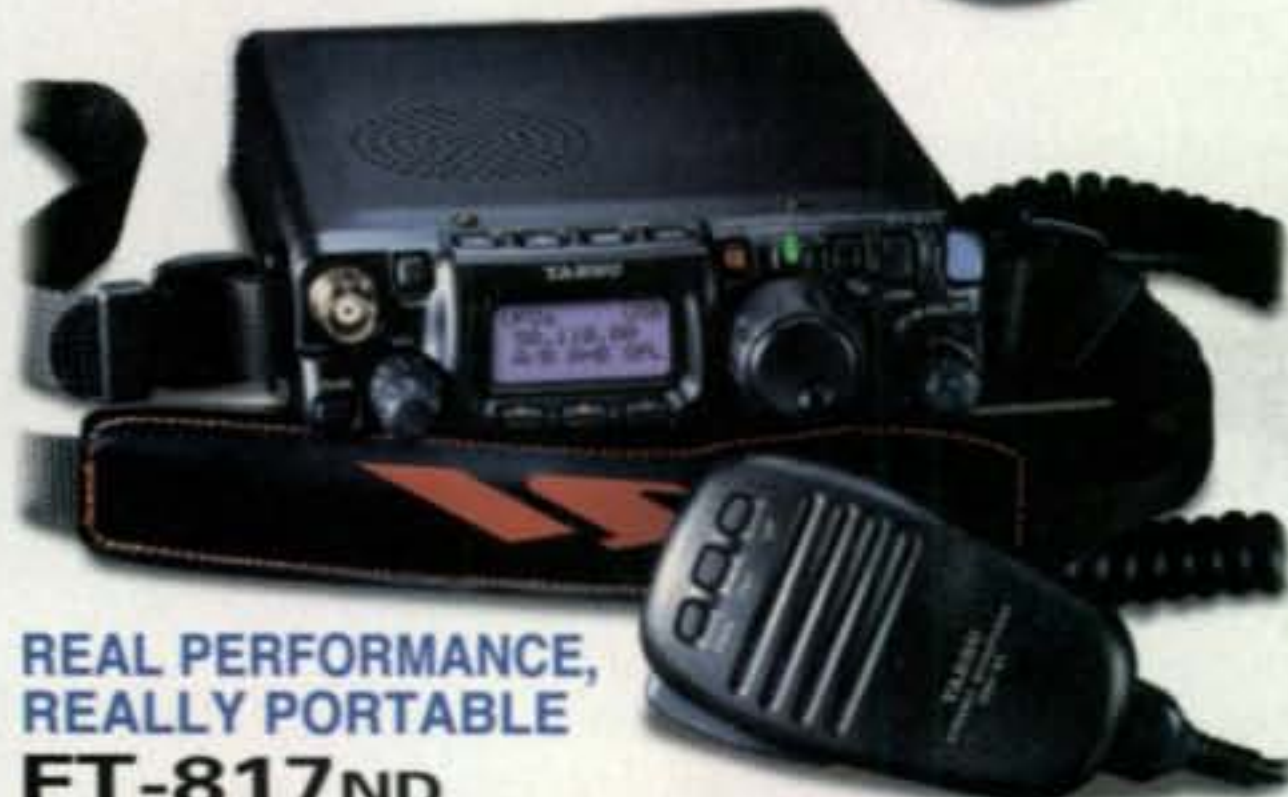
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Turn on That Radio - Part II

I hate to sound like a broken record, but if you're sitting around waiting for the sunspots to return so you can work some good DX again, you're missing out on a lot of good DX. And the best of it this summer has been on 6 meters! The great conditions I wrote about here last month continued at least halfway through July, with the 12th and 13th featuring Asia-to-North America and North America-to-Europe openings (see VHF+ on page 86 for more). I missed out on the latest European openings (had to work, darn it!), but I did get on for a good portion of the CQ World-Wide VHF Contest and it was truly amazing! Six meters was wide open when the contest began midday on Saturday and seemed to just stay that way. It was still open when I pulled the plug for the night just after 11 PM. (It's going to be very interesting to see if there was any significant activity on two meters, since most VHF contesters move up to two when six meters has nothing to offer, and it seemed that six was open all the time.)

At times, the calls of "CQ contest" and "QRZ contest" across a 200-kHz-wide swath of 6 meters sounded more like the CQ World-Wide DX Contest (CW results this issue) than the CQ World-Wide VHF Contest! In fact, there were even enough stations to work on CW on this "CW-optional" band for several 30-wpm-plus CW contesters to be able to display a behavior I find at least as annoying on VHF as on HF—not slowing down when called by a slower station, and/or responding to a request to repeat or slow down with "CQ test..." The phone ops seem able to spend a fair amount of time trying to pull marginal signals out of the noise without hurting their scores; I don't see why it should be any different on CW, where supposedly everyone is a lot friendlier than on phone.

That frustration aside, this was probably an all-time best for me in a VHF contest—I worked 65 grids, 24 of them for the first time, including Bermuda, Labrador and double-hops to Puerto Rico, Martinique, and the western U.S. (remember, this is VHF!). My last contact before shutting down on Saturday night was with VHF Contest Director John Lindholm, W1XX. As of late Saturday night, he had already made more than 600 contacts on six! Last year, by contrast, John won his call area and placed 4th overall in the U.S. with only 356 total contacts.

With the prolonged openings on six and the resultant high levels of activity, this contest has finally come into its own, a long process that began with former Contest Director Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, restructuring the contest several years ago into a 6- and 2-meter only event, and excellent promotion and publicity by our current director, W1XX. Hats off to both Gene and John, and of course, to all of you who got on the air, for making the contest a success. The activity level was truly astounding. If you're not on 6 meters, you're missing out on a lot of fun—perhaps the most fun to be had on the air right now. (For you HF-only folks, Propagation Editor NW7US assures us in his column this month that conditions should be looking up as we get into autumn.)

*e-mail: <w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com>

Katrina Plus One Year

You should be receiving this issue within a week or so of the one-year anniversary of the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, the worst natural disaster ever to hit the United States. In most parts of the U.S., after most big storms, a visit a year later may reveal some residual damage, but most everything will have been repaired or rebuilt. Not so a year after Katrina. The destruction was so massive, and the affected area so large, that in many of the hardest-hit communities, reconstruction has barely begun, and thousands of people are still living in (non-hurricane-resistant) FEMA-provided mobile homes. One of those people is Charlie Otnott, WD5BJT, of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, where the eye of the storm came ashore. We have Charlie's story in this issue (see "Mississippi Mud," page 13), and his picture on the cover (see "On the Cover," page 84), as a reminder that the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina is not yet over, even as we approach the midway point of the 2006 hurricane season.

Another part of the aftermath of Katrina has been the examination of what went wrong in the nation's emergency response, which may be the storm's longest-lasting legacy. One of the major problems was communications, a weak point in any disaster, but magnified by the massiveness of this catastrophe. The FCC chartered an independent panel to study the failures and make recommendations for changes in FCC rules to help bring vital communication services back online as quickly and efficiently as possible after future disasters. The panel's report and recommendations were released in mid-June as part of a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on implementing those recommendations. "Washington Readout" Editor Fred Maia, W5YI, examines the highlights of the report—in which ham radio was recognized as one of the few systems that worked—and the major recommendations. At press time, no comment deadline had been set, so if you have input regarding the recommendations, there is probably still time to file them. As always, we recommend that you read the entire NPRM (80+ pages in this case) before filing your comments.

Of course, you don't need a named storm to cause major damage. Several days of heavy rains in the northeast at the end of June caused significant flooding in eastern Pennsylvania, western New Jersey and upstate New York, as the Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers overflowed their banks. Public Service Editor Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, who wrote just a couple of months ago that conditions seemed ripe for such flooding, covers the ham radio response in his column (page 35).

Welcome Back, N8BJQ

Norm Koch, WN5N, has decided that 25 years as CQ WPX Awards Manager is enough, and he has decided to step down. Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, who "retired" a few years back as director of the CQ WPX contests, has agreed to take over as award administrator. We welcome Steve back into the official CQ "family," and thank Norm for his quarter-century of dedicated service to CQ, the WPX Award and amateur radio. An announcement with details on where to send WPX award applications is in this month's DX column.

73, W2VU

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Includes ALS-600PS transformer AC power supply for 120/220 VAC, inrush current protected. 32 lbs., 9 1/2" W x 6 H x 12 D inches.

ALS-600 Amp with Switching Power Supply New! ALS-600S, \$1428. ALS-600 amplifier with 10 lb. ALS-600SPS switching power supply combo.



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ALS-600SPS Works with all ALS-600 amplifiers. Extremely lightweight, just 10 lbs. Superb regulation, very low radiated noise. 9Wx6Hx14 1/2 D in.

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From QST Magazine, March, 2005

"... the amplifier faulted only when it was supposed to. It protected itself from our boneheaded, sleep-deprived band changing maneuvers..."

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ALS-500M 500M amplifier anywhere and gives you full control. Select desired band, turn On/Off and monitor current draw on its DC Current Meter. Has power, transmit and overload LEDs. RJ-45 cables plug into Amplifier/Remote Head.

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RCS-10 Remote Coax Switch... \$169⁹⁵

Replace 8 coax with 1! SWR <1.3 to 60 MHz. RCS-10L, \$209.95 with lightning arrestors.

New! RCS-12C Fully Automatic Remote Coax Switch Controller... \$229⁹⁵

Band data from transceiver auto selects antennas. Antenna memories. No hotswitching. Rig-to-amp interface. For 3/4 BCD, 1 of 8 relay boxes. RCS-12, \$299.95, auto controller with 8 coax relay box, to 60 MHz. RCS-12L, \$339.95, with lightning arrestors.

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The following Special Event stations are scheduled for September:

N2UL, from "CQ Labor Day," Nutley, NJ; Robert D. Grant United Labor ARA; 1200-2400Z Sept. 4 on 14.260 and 28.420 MHz. For certificate send QSL and SASE to RDGULARA, c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St., Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

W4PL, from Emerald Isle, NC, NA-112; Tennessee Valley DX Association; Sept. 27 to Oct. 7 on 10-80 meters, including WARC bands, CW, SSB, RTTY. QSL to K4KWK direct with SASE or through the bureau.

K5R, from first anniversaries of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, New Orleans, LA; 1400-2000Z Sept. 16 on 14.250 and 7.250 ±QRM. For certificate send QSL and SASE to SELARC, K5R, P.O. Box 1324, Hammond, LA 70404 (<http://groups.yahoo.com/K5R>).

KB8UUZ, from National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Freedom Township, OH; 1400-2300Z Sept. 6 on 7.237, 14.237, 21.337, 28.337 MHz. For 8 1/2 x 11 certificate send QSL and SASE to Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ, 9992 State Route 700, Mantua, OH 44255.

KD8CKP, from Kent State University Black Squirrel Festival, Kent, OH; Portage County ARS; 1400-2300Z Sept. 8 on 7.237, 14.237, 21.337, 28.337 MHz. For 8 1/2 x 11 certificate send QSL and SASE to Al Atkins, KB8VJL, 12433 Chamberlain Rd., Aurora, OH 44202.

W8VP, from celebration of unique "S" bridges of Historic National Road, New Concord, OH; Cambridge ARA; 1300-2100Z Sept. 23 on 7.230-7.250 and 14.250-14.260 MHz. For QSL send QSL and SASE to Cambridge ARA, W8VP, P.O. Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725.

W8S, from Wellsville, MO Sequiscentennial; Sept. 8-10 on 3.963, 7.235, 14.040, 21.040 MHz. For certificate and QSL send QSL with SASE to H. R. Thompson, K2HT, P.O. Box 95, Wellsville, MO 63384.

The following hamfests, etc., are slated for September:

Sept. 9, **Grand Rapids Area Hamfest**, Kent County Fairgrounds, Lowell, MI. Contact Jack Amelar, NY8D, e-mail: <grahamfest06@w8dc.org>; or 616-897-6885; <<http://www.grahamfest.org>>. (Talk-in 147.26+ (94.8 Hz), 146.52 simplex; exams 10 AM)

Sept. 9, **Kingman Hamfest**, Mohave Community College parking lot, Kingman, AZ. Contact Bill Beaman, KA0IYS, phone 928-758-6780, or cell 602-999-6004. (Talk-in 146.76, PL 131.8; exams)

Sept. 16, **W9DXCC Midwest DX Convention**, Holiday Inn, Elk Grove, IL. Contact Bill Smith, W9VA, e-mail: <w9va@aol.com>; phone 847-945-1564; <www.w9dxcc.com>.

Sept. 16, **Rhode Island Amateur FNM Repeater Service Fall Fleamarket & Auction**, VFW Post 6342, Forestdale, RI. Contact Rick Fairweather, K1KYI, e-mail: <k1kyi@arrl.net>; 401-864-9611 (7-8 PM only). (Talk-in 146.76)

Sept. 16, **RAGS Hamfest**, Pompey Hill Fire Dept., Liverpool, NY. For info call 315-698-4558; e-mail: <www.ragsonline@hotmail.com>; <www.ragsinreview.com>. (Talk-in 147.90/30; exams 11 AM)

Sept. 16-17, **Virginia Beach Hamfest & Roanoke Div. Convention**, Virginia Wesleyan College, Virginia Beach, VA. Info e-mail: <hamfest@exis.net>; <<http://www.vahamfest.com>>. See us at the CQ Booth.

Sept. 17, **Western CT Hamfest**, Edmond Town Hall, Newton, CT. Contact Joe de Groot, AB1DO, 203-938-4880.

Sept. 30, **Elmira International Hamfest**, Chemung County Fairgrounds, Horseheads, NY. Contact Ken, KA2LIM, 607-739-7305; <www.arast.org>. (Talk-in 147.360+, 146.700-; exams 0900)

Sept. 30, **SEDCO DXers & Contesters Gathering**, MainStay Suites, Gatlinburg, TN. For details go to: <www.SEDCO.Homestead.com>, or see this month's DX column on p. 90.

Incredible AM Equipment

The following letter was written to Joe Veras, K9OCO, author of CQ's "Radio Classics" column.

Dear Joe,

Very good morning to Andy, WA4KCY, and K9OCO, the author of a most uplifting article on incredible AM equipment ("A Visit with WA4KCY," March 2006 CQ, page 74—ed.). I've read this article three times and very much enjoyed looking at the pictures of the homebrew AM transmitters.

My best friend, who is also an amateur, Arno, ZS6BDD, gets CQ magazine every month, and then when he is finished reading it, he passes it on to me. The pictures of the AM 813 kilowatt and 4/125 500-watt are really outstanding. I love old people and old amateurs with antique equipment—hi! My wife Susan

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A publication of



CQ Communications, Inc.
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Offices: 25 Newbridge Rd., Hicksville, NY 11801, Telephone 516-681-2922; Fax 516-681-2926. E-mail: cq@cq-amateur-radio.com. Web site: www.cq-amateur-radio.com. CQ (ISSN 0007-893X) is published monthly by CQ Communications, Inc. Periodical postage paid at Hicksville, NY 11801 and additional offices. Subscription prices (all in U.S. dollars): Domestic—one year \$31.95, two years \$57.95, three years \$83.95; Canada/Mexico—one year \$44.95, two years \$83.95, three years \$122.95; Foreign Air Post—one year \$56.95, two years \$107.95, three years \$158.95. U.S. Government Agencies: Subscriptions to CQ are available to agencies of the United States government including military services, only on a cash with order basis. Requests for quotations, bids, contracts, etc., will be refused and will not be returned or processed. Entire contents copyrighted by CQ Communications, Inc. 2006. CQ does not assume responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts. Allow six weeks for change of address.

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also has an amateur radio license, but she is not active.

We have a regular net on 3700 kHz every night at 1900 hrs. I run two homebrew TXs, one at 100 watts, with a modulator using a phase splitter driving a 12au7, and then a pair of old soldiers called 807's into a UM2 modulation transformer, and a pair of 6146's with a pi network in the final stage. The oscillator is an Italian two-tube Geloso. The other TX has a single 813 in the final with a Barker & Williamson pi network and a pair of TT21's into a UM 3 modulation transformer, also with a Geloso VFO with three tubes for the 813. A few restored commercial rigs are also on display: National receivers NC-109 and NC-173, Hallicrafters SX100 and SX42, Viking Ranger I TX, and also a Hallicrafters HT-32. I have on the bench a National NC-125 to be restored, which is planned for the near future. We have a quarterly flea market, and sometimes I pick up some goodies. As they say, one man's junk is a another's treasure.

It was very inspiring, too, to see that you and Andy are dedicated followers of Christ. I share this with you, and may you both receive lots of blessings. On December 9, 2005, I attended a gospel homecoming music show by the Bill Gaither singers, and it was a highlight of my career in music.

Best 73's and God Bless!

Sakkie Coetzee, ZS6BPA

Dumbing Down or Wising Up?

Editor, CQ:

I read your article ("Zero Bias," April 2006 CQ), my very first ham-related reading besides the study book I used to pass my ham exam a few months ago. I have to agree with you about changing the type of questions on the ham exam, because although I passed with 100%, I still know absolutely nothing (well almost) about ham radio. My husband and two oldest sons, ages 14 and 13, all passed with between 85-100% as well and are excited to make use of their new licenses, but could use more teaching on proper "on-air" conduct and other practical, "hands-on" instruction.

I agree that it doesn't help me a lot to know what apogee, perigee, and moon bounce mean, while just last night my husband discovered Echolink, IRLP, and how to go from his laptop to around the world without using his radio. (He was very excited about this!) And, as you mentioned, all of us are learning a lot just by getting "on-air" experience, tuning in to other conversations and practicing our own CQs etc. My 13 year-old is programming his radio right now!

Another article in the magazine talked about CW being removed from the requirements for some of the license classes. We are studying for the Morse

code exam and even if it is not required by the time we go for our General licenses, my husband, KE7HBG, feels it's good just to have this knowledge under our belt (and maybe have one step out of the way to our Extra, which we hope to get to, if the enthusiasm holds up).

Also, with having all the questions and answers to the question pool in the back of the book, I feel like I was able to slide right into a license without really having to

study or know anything except how to memorize answers. (That's good and bad.) I am grateful for being able to get my license, so I can get real-life practice before we move on to our General Class licenses.

Letricia Hatch, KE7HBH

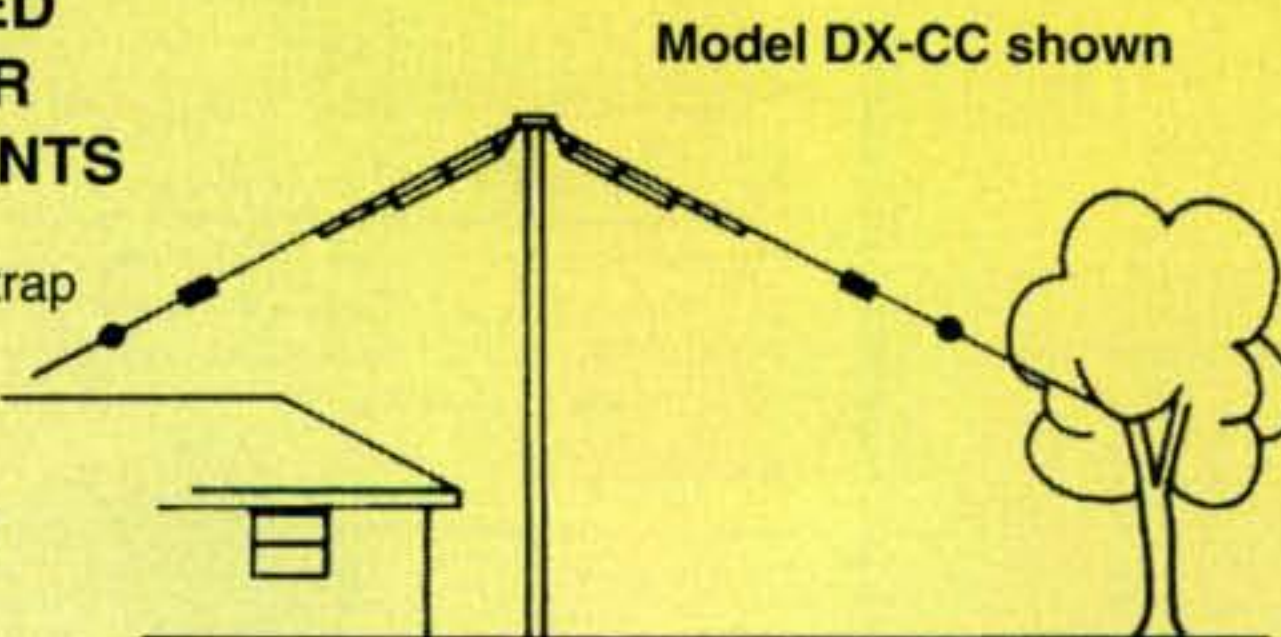
Letricia—Congratulations to you and your family and welcome to ham radio. Have fun and keep reading CQ!

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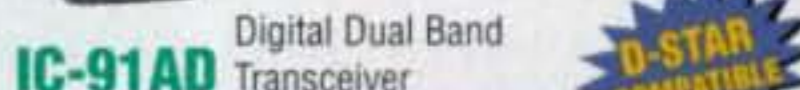
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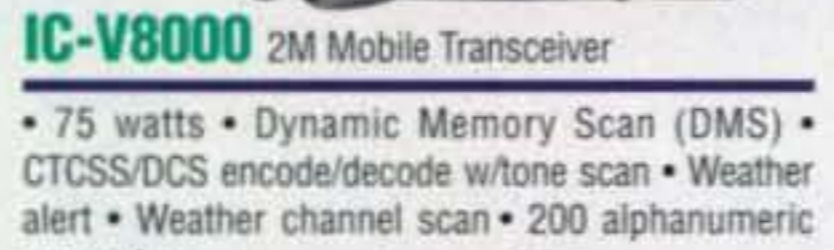
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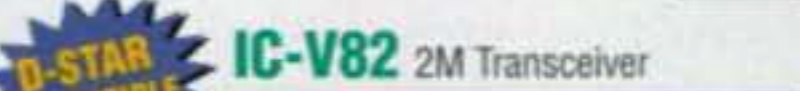
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Most of you will receive this issue almost exactly one year after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast of the United States, touching off the worst natural disaster in this nation's history. The eye of the storm came ashore in Mississippi and caused the greatest direct damage there. What was it like to be there? What is it like today, a year later? What follows is a look at one person's—one ham's—experiences during and after Katrina.

Mississippi Mud¹

BY DAN BROWN,* W1DAN, AND CHARLIE OTNOTT,† WD5BJT

This is a survival story about Charlie Otnott, WD5BJT, who made it through Hurricane Katrina at great personal and material loss. At around 8 AM on August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina landed on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The hurricane created a 37-foot storm surge with wind gusts over 140 mph. "Ground Zero" were the communities of Hancock County, Mississippi, including Bay St. Louis, Clermont Harbor, Diamondhead, Kiln, Lakeshore-Ansley, Pearlington, and Waveland. In the direct path of Katrina was Charlie Otnott's home (and amateur radio shack) in Clermont Harbor. It did not survive. He did.

I met Charlie in the late 1970s when I became a member of the Greater New Orleans Amateur Radio Club, W5UK. Charlie was living in New Orleans at the time, and our shared interest in vintage radio helped us to become longtime friends. Retired from the Coast Guard, Charlie now works as an Intelligence Coordination Specialist at the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area in Gulfport, Mississippi. He lives with his wife Linda and step-daughter Julie.

Their story came out as I visited the region after the storm to check on friends and family in my hometown of New Orleans and viewed for the first time the vast devastation in Crescent City. On December 31, I traveled about an hour east from New Orleans to



Hurricane Katrina destroyed Charlie's house, but deposited two boats on his property, three blocks inland from the coast. One of the boats had been carried by the storm all the way from Pensacola, Florida.

Hancock County, Mississippi to visit Charlie, who was—and still is—living in his government-supplied FEMA trailer. We talked about his Katrina experience and his plans for the future. After sitting and chatting for a while outside his "FEMA Condo," as the locals call it, in the local campground turned FEMA trailer community, we traveled to his old QTH in Clermont Harbor, which is now just rubble. During that time and afterwards, I asked him many questions . . .

W1DAN: What were your thoughts before the hurricane hit?

WD5BJT: This was gonna be a big one. I compared Katrina against the then de-facto yard stick of Hurricane Camille in August of 1969, when there was 5½ feet of water in our house. So for Katrina, I knew I needed to board up the windows and move important stuff to the second floor, because it would not flood up there. I also needed to ensure the safety of our dog, Sybil. While I was

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website: <www.qsl.net/wd5bjt>

doing this, I was recovering from a bad stomach virus. My intention was to ride the storm out in the house with our dog.

W1DAN: What were your experiences before the storm?

WD5BJT: My wife Linda received permission for me (but not our dog) to evacuate to the Sheriff's Office Building in downtown Bay St. Louis. After boarding up the house, I evacuated around 7 PM. In recorded history, flood water had never reached the downtown area. Downtown Bay Saint Louis is on a bluff and is the highest point in southern Hancock County, with an elevation of 25 feet above sea level. The Sheriff's Office building is located approximately one-half block from the beach.

W1DAN: What were your thoughts during the storm?

WD5BJT: As the storm came I was in disbelief, but not denial. This storm was extremely dangerous and worse than Camille. The training and leadership that I received as a Chief Petty Officer in the US Coast Guard kicked in. I kept thinking about my step-daughter Julie, who was on a camping trip in the middle of Mississippi. I also worried about our dog.

W1DAN: What did you do after the storm?

WD5BJT: We were able to get back to our property about a week after the storm. The police officer who brought us to Clermont Harbor could not begin to prepare us for what lay ahead—total and utter destruction. My small town was gone. There were no structures standing. A town of about 300 people had literally been swept off the face of the Earth. My house floated 30 feet into the neighbor's yard and broke apart during the 37-foot-high tidal surge that hit our home. I was numb with shock. I wondered and feared for our dog Sybil, because there was so very little left to our home that was recognizable. We cried for a few moments over our loss. We then began to see what could be salvaged.

There was almost nothing left of our possessions, and the remains of four other homes were intermixed with our house. There were two boats on our property after the storm. One was so badly mangled that identification could not be obtained. The second boat had identification on it. It turned out that the boat had floated from near Pensacola, Florida and landed on my property three blocks in from the Mississippi Sound. The owner said that we could keep the



Charlie's antennas stayed in the trees, even though many of the trees came down in the storm.

boat (it was totaled anyway). Our dog Sybil could not be located. I left some dog food for her should she make her way back home, but the food was not eaten. She was later found deceased in the shattered remains of our home.

(Sybil was a member of the family, adding to the material loss, which was made even worse by the fact that Charlie had no insurance. We also talked about how the community fared, and whether amateur radio was able to maintain emergency service to the area.)

W1DAN: What was the status of the local repeaters?

WD5BJT: There were two repeaters on the air before the hurricane. My UHF repeater (WD5BJT/R) on 444.150 MHz and Mississippi ARES Emergency Coordinator Jerry Leake's 2-meter repeater (K5DMC/R) on 145.330 MHz. My repeater was located at our home, which was destroyed. The K5DMC/R repeater is located in Fenton, in the northern part of Hancock County, and it was knocked off the air when commercial power was lost. A portable generator was then used to keep the repeater on the air. Hams who later came into the area for disaster relief set up a temporary 2-meter repeater on



Even a Collins 75A1 was no match for the fury of Katrina...

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Update: What Has (But Mostly Hasn't) Changed...

W1DAN's initial interview with Charlie took place at the end of December 2005, and has been updated in the intervening months, such as with Charlie's trip, with Dan, to the 2006 Dayton Hamvention®. Since we've heard reports of significant progress in recovery in some parts of Mississippi, we wanted to get some further updates, as of the time this issue was being prepared at the beginning of July.

CQ: What has and hasn't changed since the beginning of the year, especially things such as whether you have been able to find suitable property on which to rebuild?

WD5BJT: We have been working with realtors to assist us to find a home to buy for a good six months now. Property prices remain at high levels. I found an advertisement for a 100 x 150 foot lot just down the street from where we used to live in Clermont Harbor. The selling price for the vacant lot was \$75,000. Another lot was being advertised for over \$100,000. Very high prices for this area.

Two realtors have stopped working with us because we did not put a bid in on the first couple of properties they told us about. One realtor scheduled house showings at two properties, only to not show up for the appointments. Linda and I have now been working with a realtor who is very sympathetic to our plight. He has gone over and above to research potential properties that we may be interested in seeing. We have since used his services to place bids on three properties.

Unfortunately, the owners of the first property would not acknowledge our contract for sale of the property. We later found out that the owners were very behind on their house payments and were hiding from the realtor whom they had contracted to sell the land and trailer.

Two other property owners would not negotiate their prices. One stated quite bluntly that there were other people desperate enough to pay the asking price without any negotiation. Unfortunately, for these desperate people, he is correct.

You may be aware of the federal government's homeowners assistance grant of \$150,000 for those who lived outside of the 100-year FEMA flood zone and did not have flood insurance. In June of 2006, Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour announced that he was forming a new grant for those like my family who lived inside the flood zone and did not have insurance (see <<http://www.mshomehelp.gov/>>). This grant program, if approved by HUD, will provide \$150,000 for families like ours. I immediately called the number on the website and was given an appointment. It appears

that we meet the qualifications for the grant if the program is approved by the federal government.

CQ: What's different, in light of last year's rewriting of the "de facto yardstick"?

WD5BJT: Some insurance companies are raising rates by 450%. Gil's insurance premium went from \$7,000 a year to over \$24,000. The flood insurance is supposed to increase drastically as well. Several insurance companies are not writing policies altogether, and not renewing expiring policies. One insurance company is now requiring that you carry earthquake insurance. The Mississippi coast sits on an "extinct" fault line. These companies are charging \$50 per policy for earthquake coverage, knowing that the likelihood of a claim is virtually non-existent.

Building codes are constantly being changed now that FEMA has redrawn the 100-year flood-plain map. Building codes have increased the minimum elevation of a home three times in the past few months. In Clermont Harbor, a home that sat on a concrete foundation at ground level must be built up at least 18 feet above sea level. In other parts of the county, the minimum elevation to build a home is 24 feet above sea level. The cost to put down 10-foot pilings is now at \$20,000. The county building inspector has been sitting on home plans for months because the codes are constantly changing.

More and more people are telling their employers, friends, and relatives that they will be evacuating if a Category 1 storm even thinks about showing up anywhere near here. People are stocking up on food, water, and other emergency supplies.

CQ: With the 2006 hurricane season now officially under way, what plans are you, your neighbors, and community making for dealing with the possibility of another big storm? What preparations are being made?

WD5BJT: Now that the '06 hurricane season is upon us, many here have expressed anxiety and fear. Some who are rebuilding have delayed major repairs because of this fear. Linda and I have notified our employers that if a hurricane comes this way, we are evacuating out of the area.

Most of our possessions can fit inside of our vehicles, as the FEMA trailers will not withstand hurricane-force winds. The FEMA condo we occupy is set up in a state park and is within the flood zone. We are prepared to evacuate with good notice. The only items that we and others lack are food stocks and drinking water. ***I will not be caught without my amateur radio equipment this time.***

146.700 MHz for their use at the relocated Emergency Operations Center at Stennis Airport. The temporary 2-meter repeater has since been taken down, and the K5DMC/R repeater is the only one that now remains on the air.

W1DAN: How did other hams assist in your area?

WD5BJT: There were no local ham radio operators from the affected area of Hancock County who could help. They were too busy surviving. I was in a unique position to help, because I had access to law-enforcement radio equipment. Several volunteer groups of amateur radio operators were in the county to set up emergency communications systems. It was weeks before I could make my way to the temporary Emergency Operations Center at Stennis

Airport to make contact with these hams. The volunteer group issued a Yaesu 2-meter radio and magnetic-mount antenna for me to check into their emergency net. With permission, I used the callsign of a group I am a board member of, the Greater New Orleans Amateur Radio Club (W5UK), to check into the nets. As a point of interest, members of GNOARC assisted many victims of Hurricane Camille after it devastated the Mississippi Gulf Coast back in 1969.

W1DAN: How did the other hams in the area survive the storm?

WD5BJT: Other hams I know who were affected are:

- N5ATF, Milton Paske. He lived about 2 1/2 miles to the north of me in Lakeshore. His home went under water

and was condemned. He resides in a FEMA "condo" on his property. He lost everything.

- W5UE, Randy Becnel. He and his family live in the town of Kiln. His home was flooded with 4 to 5 feet of water. He lost most everything that was below the flood water. His family lives in a FEMA "condo" on the Stennis Space Center property.

- N5UK, Gil Stock. He also lives in Kiln. His home was 3 1/2 feet above the ground. Flood water just touched the bottom of his home, but did not enter the structure. He lost vehicles, tractors, and the contents of his garage.

- KA5ALI, Elsie Otnott (my mother), lived in Clermont Harbor. She lost everything. She resides about a mile away in a FEMA "condo."

- KA5ALJ, Cindy O. Bordes. She lives



This former campground now serves as a FEMA trailer park, providing temporary housing for many people who have lost their homes.

about a mile away from me. Her family's home had 7 1/2 feet of water in it. Her home has since been gutted and she is rebuilding the inside of her home. She lost all of the contents of the home. She and her family reside in a FEMA "condo" that was put on her property next to their home.

- K5DMC, Jerry Leake. Had some minor wind damage to the roof and siding of his house. He lives in Fenton.

- K5DNB, David Wilson. His home was destroyed. He lived in Shoreline Park, Mississippi. He is renting an apartment in Fenton. There are others, but I am not aware of their status.

W1DAN: What happened to your ham gear?

WD5BJT: I lost my complete ham station, including items such as a Kenwood TS-430S, Henry 2K amp, and Collins 75A1 receiver. I also lost all of my logs, QSL cards, awards, and a large radio magazine collection. In all, I lost more than 31 radios and all accessories.

W1DAN: What ham radio assistance did you receive after the hurricane?

WD5BJT: Members of the Greater New Orleans Amateur Radio Club, The Magnolia DX Association, Wayne Carroll, W4MPY, and anonymous benefactors donated equipment, money to purchase gear, antennas or excess radios, a power supply, and QSL cards. Bob Dunn, K5IQ, from New Orleans visited and bought clothing. Gil Stock, N5UK, donated a Drake TR-4C

and an MFJ Super Tuner. Members of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society near Boston purchased a Yaesu FT-857D, mobile antennas, and other accessories.

I was able to put a station on the air from my FEMA condo. As I made contacts, I would call friends and tell them that I felt like a "real ham" again. Each QSO was cherished, each QSL card that was received, a treasure.

W1DAN: What do you do to get away from the situation?

WD5BJT: I look forward to the time that I can spend with my friends. Doing things that were fun before the storm are now treasured occasions. Friday night pizza with members of the Greater New Orleans Amateur Radio Club now only happens four to five times a year. Visiting with the Magnolia DX Association helps. Going to a hamfest now becomes more of an important bonding event. I was able to attend the 2006 Dayton Hamvention® to replace lost equipment and tools. Storage is still a major issue due to the small living and storage area of a FEMA trailer. Many bargain equipment and antenna purchases had to be passed over because of the storage issue. I did manage to purchase much-needed ham radio software for the donated computer, a dual-band mobile radio, and a straight key.

Just being able to touch and see the vintage as well as the new radios brings tears to my eyes. My family has taken only one car trip until now. My wife

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A donated FT-857D has gotten Charlie back on the air. He says he'll never again be caught in a storm without his ham gear!

works full time, my step-daughter goes to school and works part time, and therefore spending time as a family is extremely difficult.

W1DAN: What are your future plans?

WD5BJT: We need to build a new home. There is a strong "hurry up and wait" mentality here. Hopes and dreams about finding property to buy are dashed with each failed attempt. The price of land has become unattainable for most people. Property owners have

become extremely greedy and are taking advantage of those who have lost everything. Land that was priced at \$1,500 an acre before the hurricane is now selling for over \$35,000 an acre. The price for building materials has doubled or tripled. Over 26,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. The building industry in this area can support the construction of about a thousand homes per month. Nothing can be done in our present legal system. The radio equipment that was donated to me will



Charlie and his family recently were given a new "FEMA Condo," as these trailers are called, while they continue their search for a new place to rebuild. None of the trailers, by the way, are rated to withstand hurricane-force winds.

form the nucleus of a modern ham shack. Members of the radio clubs that I am associated with and friends have promised to assist in the replacement of my permanent antennas once a home can be built.

W1DAN: What do you still need?

WD5BJT: With the destruction of our home, and total loss of our personal possessions (we are fortunate to be alive), we need everything that is required to establish a home. We have received donations of kitchen ware, clothing, and food. Once construction can begin on a home, we will need donations of time and talent from the various home building trades, furniture, appliances, and building materials. I have set up a separate bank account strictly for badly needed money donations to help rebuild our home and our lives.

In Summary...

Fellow amateurs' assistance has helped Charlie get through some very tough times. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and mental depression are rampant in the affected areas. People who can use amateur radio as a connection to the "normal world" have the ability, if only for a short time, to escape from the daily reminders of Katrina. Amateur radio has created an extended family and support network for those hams affected by the hurricanes.

If you can, please pay attention to news from the area. Donate time and money to people who are affected or groups in your neighborhood that are providing relief. Get on your radio and just rag-chew with someone from the affected area.

Maybe an independent radio clearing house could be established to help provide replacement ham gear to those affected by Katrina. Your old radio, antenna, tuner, or accessory will be of valuable use for future emergency communications and the occasional QSO that allows hams to continue to enjoy the amateur service.

Thanks to Larry Coyle, K1QW, and Paul Courson, WA3VJB, for assistance with this article. ■

Note

1. The title of this article is borrowed from a song written in the 1920s by James Cavanaugh and Harry Barris, and performed by Bing Crosby and countless others between 1928 and 1998. See <<http://lyricsplayground.com/alpha/songs/m/mississippimud.shtml>> for lyrics and more information on the many artists who have recorded "Mississippi Mud."

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Katrina Panel Recommends Changes to Cope with Future Disasters

Hurricane Katrina was the most destructive natural catastrophe to ever strike the United States. For weeks the nation watched in horror as survivors in Louisiana and Mississippi struggled to save themselves, their families, and their property ravaged by Katrina and FEMA's inadequate response.

Perhaps the biggest single failing was the almost complete destruction of telecommunications in and out of the affected area. Residents were not able to use the services upon which they normally rely nor could they communicate with emergency assistance.

Hurricane Katrina knocked out more than 3-million customer phone lines. The wireline telecommunications network sustained enormous damage; dozens of central offices and countless miles of outside infrastructure were damaged or destroyed as a result of the hurricane and the subsequent flooding. Radio and television broadcast stations were knocked off the air. Electricity was non-existent. Stranded citizens in the affected areas were completely cut off from the outside world.

Local wireless networks also sustained major damage; more than a thousand cell sites were knocked out of service by the hurricane. Many areas of Louisiana were without 911 service. Once the enormity of the disaster was known, ham operators by the hundreds rushed to the scene to establish links with the outside world, and there were many dramatic rescue stories.

Fear and loss soon turned to anger and rage, blame and denial, as citizens demanded accountability and responsibility for the disaster. Everyone struggled to make sense out of what happened on the Gulf Coast on Monday, August 29, 2005.

Katrina Panel Formed

Congress has charged the Federal Communications Commission with promoting the safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communications. Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), in January 2006 FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin established the "Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks" (see: <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/hkip/>). The FACA requires open meetings and a wide diversity in its membership, and governs the behavior of advisory committees to government agencies.

The FCC's 27-member blue-ribbon panel was composed of experts from all sectors of the telecommunications industry, including city, county, state police, and fire officials; wired, wireless, and satellite network companies; radio and television broadcasters; cable providers; equipment manu-

*1020 Byron Lane, Arlington, TX 76012
e-mail: <w5yi@cq-amateur-radio.com>

"The devastation of Hurricane Katrina highlighted the importance of telecommunications and media to our daily lives, and our dependency on our national communications infrastructure."

FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin

"It is now clear that the causes of our national failure were multiple, including serious breakdowns in leadership, planning, engineering, policing, and emergency management and ... the failure of our national communications system played a terrible role in exacerbating all of these problems."

FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps

"Our experience with Hurricane Katrina demonstrates that the role of communications is essential during emergencies, whether citizens are trying to find out what is happening with their families, or emergency personnel are responding to an urgent situation. This Report confirms that our nation's communications systems were put to the test, with unfortunately mixed results."

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

"When disaster strikes, our first reaction is to reach out to those we love. We call for help, we call loved ones to tell them we are okay, and we call to offer assistance to those in need. The Commission plays a critical role in ensuring the continuity of essential communications systems that are relied on for public safety, for public officials, for relief efforts, and for every single citizen touched by a disaster."

FCC Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate

"The lessons learned from the Katrina experience will allow us to be better prepared, not just in the Gulf Coast region or in the event of a hurricane, but in the face of any impending disaster to provide the critical infrastructure and interoperability of communications systems so vital to protecting lives and property."

FCC Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

facturers; telemedicine professionals; as well as minority groups. Its chairman was Nancy Victory from the prestigious communications law firm of Wiley Rein & Fielding. Richard Wiley is a previous FCC Chairman.

Their mission was to study the impact of Hurricane Katrina on telecommunications, media and public safety communications and critique the effectiveness of the recovery effort with respect to the communications infrastructure.

In addition, the Independent Panel was to develop recommendations by June 15, 2006 regarding ways to improve the FCC's response, disaster preparedness, network reliability, and communications among first responders such as police, fire fighters, and emergency medical personnel.

The Independent Panel met directly on five occasions. Four of these meetings were used to examine the facts surrounding the impact of

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Hurricane Katrina and to obtain evidence concerning the extent of the damage and the adequacy of the recovery effort.

On one occasion, the Independent Panel met in the area struck by Hurricane Katrina to hear first-hand from victims of the disaster. The panel also received written comments from interested members of the public. Finally, the panel's informal working groups met on numerous occasions via conference call and in person to discuss their progress.

On June 9, 2006, the Independent Panel held its final meeting in Washington, DC to conclude its analysis and deliberations. The panel finalized its findings and recommendations and submitted its report on June 12, 2006. It described Hurricane Katrina as the worst natural disaster in the nation's history.

A week later (June 19), the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (EB Docket No. 06-119) seeking public comment on the panel's recommendations, some of which involve amateur radio. The entire NPRM can be found on the web at: <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-83A1.pdf>.

Katrina Panel Recommends FCC Strategy

The panel's report made a series of sweeping recommendations on how public and private telecom networks should cope with serious disruptions.

In some cases, the Independent Panel recommended action that requires FCC notice-and-comment rulemaking. In other cases, Commission action is not dependent upon new regulations, such as increased outreach and education campaigns. Here is a capsule version of the panel's proposals:

1. To speed response efforts, the Independent Panel recommended the adoption of a proactive (rather than reactive) program for telecommunications reliability and resiliency.

2. They suggested working with industry sectors, associations, and other organizations to establish a "Readiness Checklist" for the communications industry that would include developing formal business continuity plans, conducting training exercises, developing suitable plans and procedures, and stockpiling supplies and equipment to help in disaster response.

3. The Independent Panel recommended enhancing the public safety community's awareness of "non-traditional emergency alternatives" through community education campaigns.

4. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) should be used more efficiently. The EAS uses broadcast radio, TV, and cable systems to warn the public about emergency situations. It replaced the Emergency Broadcast System (EBS) in 1994.

5. It was recommended that the FCC become the focal point for the coordination of all federal outage and infrastructure reporting requirements in times of crisis.

6. Communications infrastructure providers should have national credentials. The panel generally supported the certification of all telecommunications repair workers and guidelines to enable communications providers and their workers to gain access to the affected areas after a disaster.

7. The FCC should work with Congress and appropriate federal agencies to ensure that telecommunications providers are afforded "emergency responder" status under the Stafford Act (see: <<http://www.fema.gov/library/stafact.shtml>>) and that this designation be incorporated into national, state, and local emergency response plans. (The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act authorizes the President to issue a major disaster declaration to speed a wide range of federal aid to states determined to be overwhelmed by hurricanes or other catastrophes.)

8. The FCC should work with state and local emergency officials and the communications industry to encourage the formation of coordinating and planning bodies at the state or regional level. The panel also listed activities that the Commission should encourage each state or regional coordinating body to engage in.

9. The FCC should work with the National Communications System (NCS), a unit of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to broaden its membership to include representation from all types of communications systems, including broadcast, cable, satellite, and other new technologies. The NCS is an interagency group of 23 federal departments and agencies that coordinates and plans telecommunications to support crises and disasters.

10. The use of existing priority communications services—such as the Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS), Wireless Priority Service (WPS), and Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP)—should be maximized.

GETS is a White House-directed emergency phone service used in an

emergency or crisis situations when the public telephone network is congested or disrupted. WPS allows cellular providers to offer wireless service to specific federal, state, and local level personnel during emergencies. The TSP Program provides national security and emergency preparedness users priority access to telecommunications services.

11. The FCC should create two websites identifying: (1) the key state emergency management contacts and post-disaster staging areas for communications providers; and (2) contact information for the Commission's Task Force that coordinates disaster response efforts and outage recovery.

12. The Katrina Panel recommended that the FCC encourage state and local jurisdictions to maintain a pre-positioned cache of emergency response components—including radio-frequency communications equipment, tower system parts, power-system components, and fuel—that would be needed to immediately restore existing public safety communications within hours of a disaster.

13. The panel also made a number of recommendations intended to facilitate interoperability among first-responder communications. At present, many police, fire fighters, medical personnel, and other emergency services cannot communicate with one another during disasters. Common channels should be created for government, military, and civilian public safety agencies.

The panel said the FCC should "expeditiously approve any requests by broadcasters to terminate analog service in the 700-MHz band before the end of the digital TV transition in 2009 in order to allow public safety users immediate access to this spectrum."

14. The FCC should support pre-configured alternate 911 backup sites located away from the disaster area. The panel also recommended that: (1) service providers maintain 911 circuits using emergency back-up power located on-site when necessary; (2) dual-service 911 services be deployed as a way to eliminate single points of failure; and (3) network operators, service providers, equipment suppliers, and public safety authorities should establish alternative methods of communication for critical personnel.

15. The FCC should educate the emergency medical community about emergency communications and the various priority communications services available. State and community Emergency Medical Services (EMS) should be recognized as an equal part-

ner in public safety communications. EMS is a branch of medicine that is performed in the field, pre-hospital (i.e., the streets, peoples' homes, etc.) by paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and certified first responders.

16. The Commission should work with various industry trade associations and state and local government agencies to provide emergency information to persons with disabilities and those who do not speak English.

Amateur Radio Operation During Disasters

On September 1, 2005, two days after Katrina hit, the FCC informed amateur radio operators that they have the authority to make transmissions necessary to meet essential communication needs and facilitate relief actions and that prior FCC approval is not required. On September 11, the FCC granted an STA (Special Temporary Authority) to an amateur radio operator in Ocean Springs, Mississippi to provide communications to the American Red Cross on high frequency bands that he could not otherwise use.

The Katrina panel believes the FCC should establish a prioritized system of automatically waiving restrictive regulatory requirements or of granting automatic STAs to permit any transmissions necessary to meet essential communications needs.

The final report also recognized the value of ham radio during natural disasters. It said, "...once called into help, amateur radio operators volunteered to support many agencies, such as FEMA, the National Weather Service, Hurricane Watch, and the American Red Cross." The panel also noted, "Amateurs provided wireless communications in many locations where there was no other means of communicating and also provided other technical aid to the communities affected by Katrina."

NPRM Issued June 19

"With this Notice of Proposed Rule-making, we are asking for comments and suggestions from the public on how to best address and implement the Independent Panel's recommendations," FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin said. The goal "...is to take the lessons learned from this disaster and build upon them to promote more effective, efficient response and recovery efforts, as well as heightened readiness and preparedness, in the future."

The Commission also asked for comment on other steps the FCC can take

within its jurisdiction and statutory authority to assist the public safety community in responding to disasters and other emergencies, and to strengthen telecom network resiliency and reliability.

The NPRM is huge (some 82 pages long) and includes the entire report of the Independent Panel. Comments will be due 60 days after publication in the Federal Register, which at press time

had not yet happened. You may file online using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), located on the web at: <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>> (be sure to enter "06-119" under "Proceeding"). Comments and reply comments must include a short and concise summary of the substantive discussion and questions raised in the NPRM.

73, Fred, W5YI

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When there's only one continent (other than Antarctica) from which you've never operated the CQ World-Wide DX Contest, and your travel genes are itching, well, there's really not much choice in the matter...

CQWW CW From Down Under The VK2GC Story

BY GEORGE WAGNER,* K5KG

My XYL, Kay, and I jokingly said that there were only two places in the world we had never been—Australia and North Dakota. With that in mind, and not being able to find much of a reason to go to North Dakota (although I am considering it for Sweepstakes), we decided that the time was right for a trip “down under.” After months of planning, we took off on a five-week venture in early November 2005 with both VK (Australia) and ZL (New Zealand) in our sights. Doing the CQWW DX CW Contest from the continent of Australia was imperative, since over the years we had operated this contest, and many others, from five other continents.

There were so many highlights to the trip. We met many fantastic contesters along the way: David, VK2CZ; Bernd, VK2IA; Serge, VK2IMM; Richard, 9M2CNC; all members of the VK Contest Club; Dom, VK2JNA, and other members of the VK2MB club; and Martin, VK7GN, and his XYL, Linda, VK7QP, in Richmond, Tasmania, with whom we spent three glorious days seeing the spectacular sights of southern Tasmania. Martin patiently taught me to drive on the “wrong side of the road.” His thoughtful coaching paid off, as I would later drive the Great Ocean Road, a beautiful but treacherously winding drive of 1000 km from Melbourne to Adelaide. Later in Rotorua, New Zealand, we had a magnificent visit with Graeme, ZL1ANH, his XYL, Roz, and their family.

Knowing that we would meet a number of hams along the way, I took a supply of Florida Contest Group (FCG) Orange hats and shirts! Spreading FCG



George, K5KG, at the VK2GC contest station. (Photos courtesy of the author)

Orange proved to be a hit with the contesters, as the photos tell.

On a cold, rainy Friday before the contest, Kay and I climbed the Sydney Harbour Bridge for her birthday. This climb to a height of 450 feet above the water is an undertaking not to be missed when visiting Sydney. Another thing not to be missed in VK-land is hand feeding kangaroos and wallabies; they are beautiful and gentle creatures. One evening in Tasmania, Martin and Linda took us to a night feeding of “tassie devils.” When the devils feed, they put on a screaming fit, which is said to be why the early explorers named them “devils.”

In Alice Springs we had a memorable visit to the School of the Air, where children living on sheep and cattle stations in the outback—some 130 of them in an

area larger than Texas—attend school via HF radio and modern video conferencing that is transmitted over satellite links. Early radio gear all was built by Australian radio pioneer Alf Traeger, VK5AX, who built the first pedal wireless for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. (The story of Alf Traeger and his early radio inventions can be found in the January 2003 issue of *CQ*¹, or online at <http://www.antiqueradio.com/traeger_pedal_07-99.html>. Particularly interesting to read about is a typewriter-like machine that he developed to send Morse characters.)

Radio Time!

Enough of the travelogue, and on to ham radio. In advance of the trip, I spoke

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e-mail: <Georgek5kg@aol.com>

with Kenny, K2KW, and Tom, K1KI, about possible stations from which to operate, and put out a "CQ Australia" message on the CQ-Contest reflector asking for a CQWW CW invitation. Aussies active in the VKCC in VK2, VK3, VK4, VK6, and VK7 all responded with juicy invitations.

After sorting out the choices, locations, and constraints in our itinerary, I decided to accept the offer from David, VK2CZ/VK9XD, to operate the contest from his local club's station north of Sydney. (Incidentally, VK2CZ holds the VK record in the Florida QSO Party!) Bernd, VK2IA/VK9AA, who is also a member of the same club—the Manly Warringa Radio Society, VK2MB—assisted in planning my visit. Bernd got the doors open in Canberra with the VK licensing folks, and I managed to get one of the last two-letter calls, VK2GC, before they stopped issuing them (for reasons I never understood). Incidentally, I tried to get VK2OJ (in memory of Jim White, K4OJ, SK, founder of the FCG), but that call was unavailable, as was VK2KG and any other code-friendly two-letter combinations I could think of. VK2GC was meant to be.

David and Bernd mobilized the VK2MB club members to ready the station, which included replacing a defective rotor on their TH6 and adding 40- and 80-meter antennas. My contribution to the effort was a set of INRAD filters for their new FT1000MP MkV, which they installed upon my arrival in Sydney. The station is co-located in a facility with a coastal marine monitoring station and a fire brigade. The club had previously had some RFI problems with these other services, but fortunately got them resolved in advance of the contest, so I was able to operate without getting any knocks on the door in the middle of the night!

Station Setup

I used a pre-production microHam CW Keyer loaned by Joe, W4TV. It worked flawlessly, and offered the advantage of CW keying and speed control that was fully integrated with the logging program, N1MM Logger. Code generation was handled external to the computer, which resulted in perfect CW—no more stuttering CW when the CPU got overloaded!

Antennas used were a TH6 at 60 ft., a full-size half-wave 40-meter vertical (designed and built by David), and an 80-meter inverted-Vee hung from a tower at 100 ft. The terrain at the station is high, and David says you can see



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Dom, VK2JNA, earned an FCG (Florida Contest Group) hat for hanging the 80-meter antenna at 100 ft. in the cold rain!

the Pacific Ocean from up on the tower. Space limitations and power lines at the property prevented a 160-meter antenna from being strung up. Not being able to get on 160 meters probably was not a big loss, however, as QRN (static and other natural noise) on 80 meters was

horrific due to thunderstorms, and there was no receiving antenna, anyway.

Contesting from VK

Contesting from VK was out of the ordinary, at least for someone used to operating from the Northern Hemisphere.



VKCC meeting in Sydney. From left to right, Richard, George, Bernd, and Sergey all earning their FCG Orange.

Doing it from down under was reminiscent of contesting I did from LU (Argentina) back in the '80s, and made me appreciate once again that the world's population is largely north of the equator, making it essential to get into distant population centers to garner any kind of score. Furthermore, being south of the equator offers interesting long-path openings over the course of a day. I spent a lot of time staring at the great-circle map while CQing, and wondering where to point the beam!

I went into the contest with setup still happening. David, VK2CZ, and Dom, VK2JNA, completed the final antenna work after the contest began at 11 AM (local time) Saturday. I slept in the shack on Friday night, which gave me time to arrange the operating position and get a feel for the station by running some pile-ups. Being somewhat unfamiliar with the FT1000MP, I took the time to go through the manual and set the menu settings to my liking. Final equipment setup, however, did not happen until moments before the start of the contest.

I was plagued with computer problems. A week before the contest my laptop developed the cantankerous problem of refusing to turn on and randomly locking up due to some kind of a video driver problem. Fortunately, David, VK2CZ, was able to lend me his laptop for the contest. I tried—with help from David; Bernd, VK2IA (before he left for Cocos Keeling, where he would make a tremendous score as VK9AA); Serge, VK2IMM; and Joe, W4TV—to establish communications between the logging software and the MP, but the efforts were in vain, and I was forced to work the contest without radio control. A few times during the contest I realized that I was logging on the wrong band and, of course, had to stop and figure out exactly which station was worked at the time of the band change—something you don't want to be doing in the heat of a pile-up!

Looking back at the end of the contest, I was pleased with my results: 2347 Qs and 369 mults in 42 hours of operating, bagging a score of 2.52 meg. Now this is not an earth-shattering score by any means, but considering the circumstances, I didn't think it was too bad (*George ended up placing first in his category. See complete CQWW CW results on page 30.—ed.*). Runs were excellent on 10 meters through 40 meters. On 80 I was an "alligator" (all mouth, no ears) due to QRN and having no pennant or Beverage antenna for receiving. Additionally, I had no 160-meter antenna and therefore missed the

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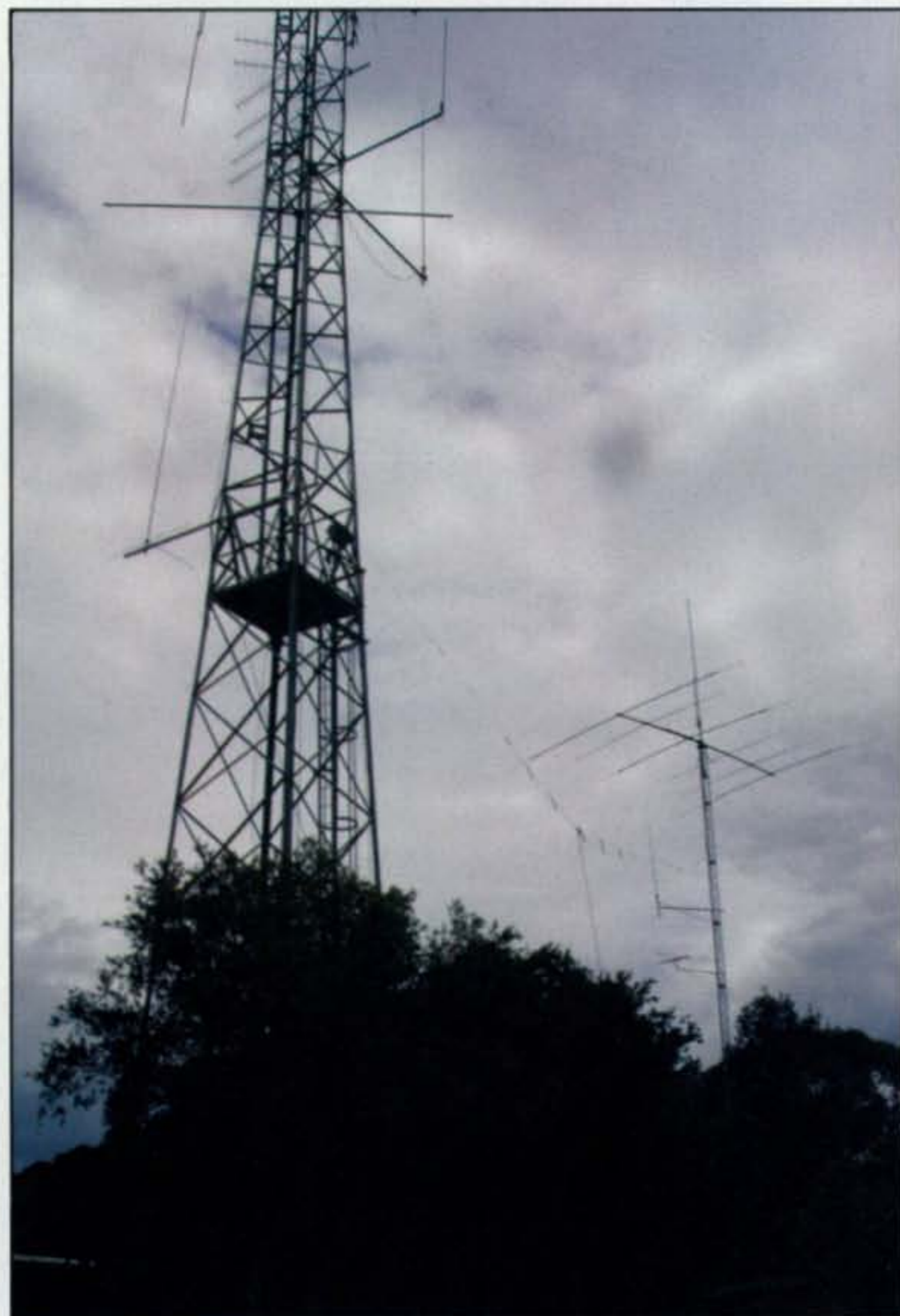
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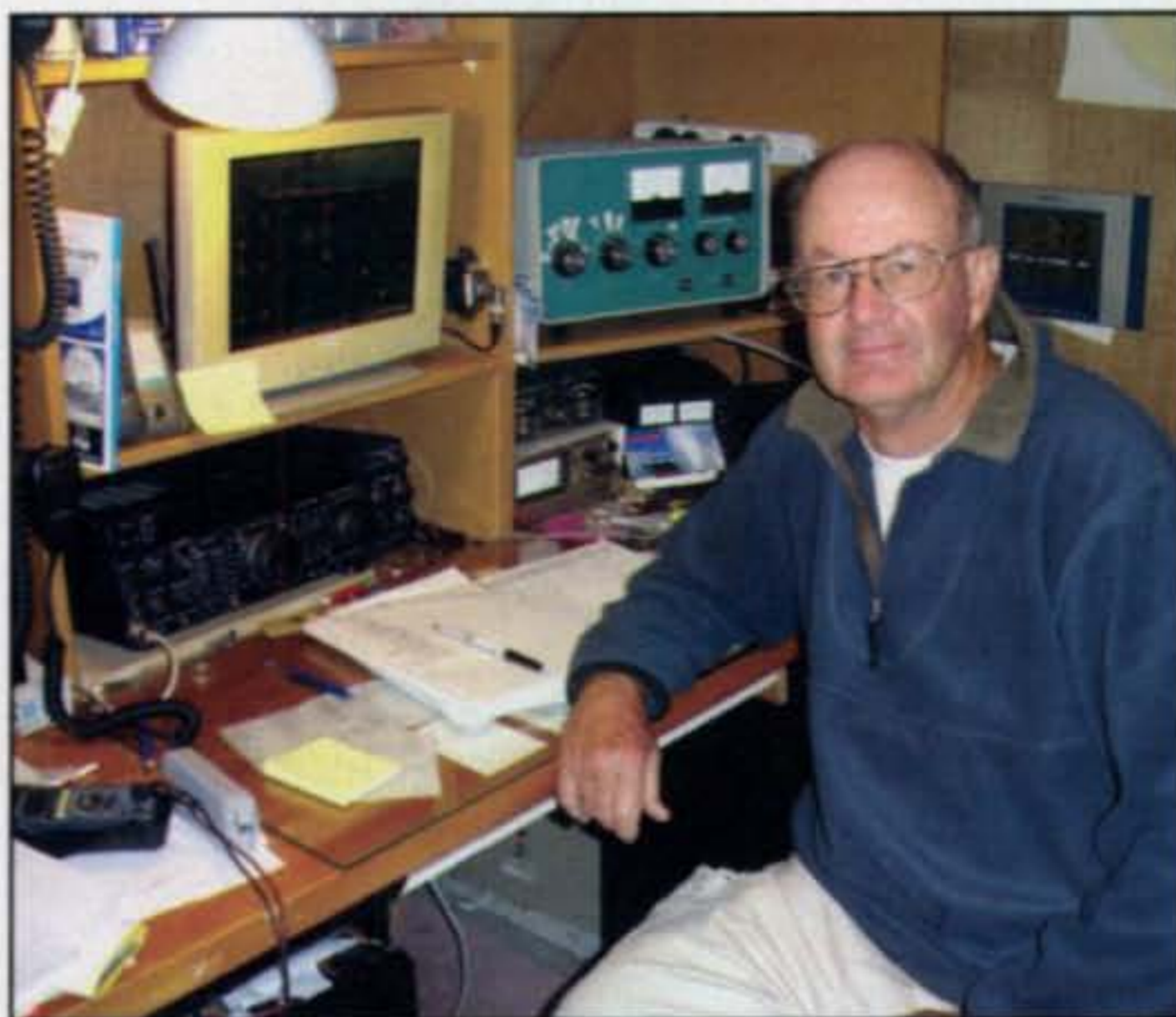
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The antenna setup at VK2MB, where the author operated as VK2GC. The TH6 is in the background. The 80-meter inverted-Vee was strung from the commercial tower in the foreground. Note the preponderance of antennas; they mostly belong to the coastal marine monitoring station and the fire brigade with which the contest club shares the facility.



Graeme Hunt, ZL1ANH, at his shack in Rotorua on New Zealand's North Island. Following a personal tour of Rotorua's geothermal pools and a Maori village, sharing a bottle of local red, and enjoying a "barbie" (barbeque) with Graeme and his family, it was off to the ham shack in the basement for an enjoyable run of JAs, UA9/0s, and Europeans while signing ZL/K5KG.

few multipliers that would have been picked up on that band. Difficulties encountered included the computer problems described above; RFI in the computer on 15 meters, forcing me to run barefoot on that band; and having to QRT for two hours on Saturday night due to lightning.

Here are my band by band comments (see Table I for band-by-band and zone

breakdowns of stations worked in North America):

80 meters: 55 QSQs in 11 zones—3, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 25, 28, 29, 32, and 33. NA stations making the log were all in Zone 3. In order of being worked, they were W8AEF, W2VJN, K6OY, N2IC, and K7UA. Many times stations were calling, but it was difficult, if not impossible, to pull them out of the QRN.

40 meters: 537 QSOs, 111 mults. VK2CZ's half-wave vertical played very well. It was interesting using the vertical and not having to think about an azimuth. Given the space limitations at the station, I am convinced that this was the right antenna for the job. VK2CZ is building a 4-square using this full-size vertical design and it should be dynamite!

20 meters: 939 QSOs, 127 mults. Twenty was a *long-path* wonder. Many times I found long path preferable, and I was able to pull off two brilliant—to coin a frequently used Aussie term—openings to NA zones, 2000Z to 2145Z on the first day, and a four-hour run that began at 1900Z on the second day. Also on the second day I encountered a nice opening into SA over the South Pole at around 0530Z.

15 meters: 677 QSOs, 92 mults. This was the workhorse band for JA, AS, and EU. NA was sparse, with only 16 stations being worked in zones 1, 3, 4, and 5. SA was even thinner, with only HC8N, PJ2T, and CX5AO making the log. Bill, K5GA, was the first NA station

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Martin Luther, VK7GN, at his shack near Richmond, Tasmania. Martin was previously VK5GN when he lived in Adelaide and VK4GN when in Brisbane. Although an avid contester for many years, Martin expressed serious dissatisfaction about the negative impact packet has had on contesting.

to be worked at 19 minutes into the contest on 15 meters.

10 meters: 139 QSOs, 18 mults. Ten was basically an AS-only band, with the only exceptions being HC8N, ZL6QH, KG6DX, T88AA, and six VKs.

At least one QSO was made in every zone except for 2, 35, and 36. Three stations were worked on all five bands. They were ZL6QH, ZM1A, and the ever-present UU7J. RL3A took the honor of being the most duped station in the log!

Sunrise was about six hours before the end of the contest on Monday morning, and it was during this time that I was

	Zone						
Band	1	3	4	5	6	7	8
80	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
40	—	44	60	55	—	—	—
20	—	38	137	207	1	2	10
15	1	7	4	4	—	—	—

Table I— Here is a breakdown by band and zone of the 575 North American stations worked from VK2GC during the 2005 CQWW CW Contest. Note that there were no contacts made with Zone 2, and no NA contacts on 10 meters.

blessed with the strong four-hour long-path opening on 20 meters to NA. After that the bands essentially died, probably due to a flare, to the point where there were no JAs to speak of even on 15 meters. During the last hour, I eked out a few AS stations on 15 and 20, and even K9NS at 2307Z on 15, the last NA station to be worked in the contest.

I must offer special thanks to the members of Manly Warringa Radio Society, VK2MB, for the use of their facilities. A special thanks to David, VK2CZ; Bernd, VK2IA; and Dom, VK2JNA, for their personal efforts in welcoming me into their inner circle and making this operation a success. Also kudos to Steve, N2IC, and Joe, W4TV, who helped me by recovering a damaged log database after we returned to the U.S. ■

Note

1. "Pedal Power: The Story of Alf Traeger, VK5AX, and the Royal Flying Doctor Service," by Steve Ireland, VK6VZ, CQ, January 2003, p. 26.

Results of the 2005 CQ WW DX CW Contest

BY BOB COX,* K3EST

Expanded CQ WW Contest Results on the Web

Several elements of our contest reporting are on the CQ website, including Station Operators of Multi-Op stations and expanded QRM. To view these additional and expanded elements of this year's CQ WW results, go to <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqwwhome.html>, then click on "Expanded results, 2005 CQ WW CW" and select the category you want to see. You may also get there by going to our home page at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>, clicking on "Contest Rules & Info," then clicking on "CQ World Wide DX Contest" and selecting "Expanded Results, 2005 CQ WW CW."

The 2005 CQ WW DX CW Contest was looked forward to by contesters from around the world. Sure the sunspots were had all but disappeared, but undeterred by this information, a record number of CW logs were submitted from over 172 countries. The CQ WW CW test had a lot of surprises. The low bands were outstanding. Only 10 meters showed the sun's effects. The 2005 contest marks the highest number of submitted CW logs in radio history. Over 4100 logs were received. Contesters got on the air in droves from everywhere in the world.

Hundreds of contesters left home to try an adventure from a DX location. The CQ WW is a fantastic competition. It brings out the best in ham radio. Months of preparation honing skills, learning antenna theory and design, trying out the new antennas and equipment, and learning propagation leads to finally bringing it all together in a celebration of ham radio skill and effort over a fun-filled 48 hours. If you enter the CQ WW, you can't help but get caught up in the party.

Single Op, All Band, High Power

Winning the Single Op All Band category places you on the world stage in excellent historical company.

Jose, CT1BOH, has found a location in CT3 which provides him with an opportunity to maximize his already excellent skills. Standing at the #1 position in the world was CT3EN operated by CT1BOH. Taking advantage of being in Africa maximizes point total (<http://www.qsl.net/ct1boh>). Second place went to long-time top ten entrant W2GD operating P40W. John has been to Aruba so many times that the airline must have a special seat assigned to him. Third place went to Tom, W2SC, operating from 8P5A.

In Europe the top step was occupied by CU2A, with Toni, OH2UA, at the key. What a great job he did (<http://www.cu2a.com/>). If you cannot be in CU-land, the next best place is Portugal. Timo, OH1NOA, using CT8T took second place Europe. This was Timo's 5th CQWW from CT-land. Third place went to World Cup Soccer player Sergiy, UT5UDX, operating from ER4DX.

*e-mail: k3est@cqww.com

Reprising his station's position on SSB, Randy, K5ZD/1, took USA first place (<http://www.k5zd.com/>). Second place went to Alexander, LZ4AX, putting K3CR, the Penn State ARC, to good use (<http://k3lr.com/W1AW/w1aw18.htm>). Andy, N2NT, took the bronze for the USA (<http://wrtc2000.bit.si/n2nt.htm>).

The continental winners were: North America 8P5A (W2SC), USA K5ZD/1, Africa CT3EN (CT1BOH), Asia A45XR, Japan JH4UYB, Europe CU2A, Oceania VK2GC (K5KG), South America P40W (W2GD).

Single Op, All Band, Low Power

The category with the most entrants by far is low power. Running only a transmitter without an amplifier is how most of the world operates a contest. To rise to the top in this category requires hard work and skill. Winning for the world is very difficult.

Taking the first position in 2005 was long-time low-power advocate Joe, AA3B, who pushed V26K to the top. Second place went to CT9A operated by Jusi-Petra, OH6RX (<http://lipas.uwasa.fi/~h78848/>). Third place went to traveler Carsten, DL1EFD, operating at FG5BG.

The number one score in Europe and #4 in the world was CT6A operated by 19-year-old Felipe, CT1ILT (<http://ct1ilt.cybtan.com/>). Felipe also won the World Under 21 trophy! Second place in Europe went to Kreso, 9A5K. Manuel, EA7RM, who consistently finishes near the top, took third place Europe.

Moving up from last year's second place USA was Ed, N1UR, who took top honors. Second place went to WRTC veteran Ann, WA1S (<http://home.tiac.net/~wa1s/>), and third was Marvin, N5AW (<http://www.ctdxc.org/n5aw/>).

The continental winners were: North America V26K(AA3B), USA N1UR, Africa CT9A, Asia HSØZAR, Japan JA8SLS, Europe CT6A (CT1ILT), Oceania YBØDPO, South America L73E.

QRP

Capturing first place in the QRP category close to the bottom of the sunspot cycle means that you have done a lot of search and pounce. You must have sharpened contesting skills to find stations, and to know where and when to call



Manfred, HZ1IK, put Saudia Arabia on the map on 7 MHz.

to make a good contact. It is surprising what you can work with just 5 watts. Renewing the thrill of working DX is a sure thing in the QRP category.

The number one score again in 2005 came from John, P40A (KK9A). Travelling to Aruba combines fun and a great vacation (<http://www.qrz.com/p40a>). Second place went to Dan, K1TO/4, located in Florida. Dan also took top honors in the USA. Traveling a great distance to join in the Caribbean fun was Yuriy, UR5DEM, who operated C6AUR and placed third worldwide.

Placing second in the USA was Bill, N8ET. He always places near the top in the QRP category. Almost breaking a thousand QSOs in the small-signal category means you are doing something right. Taking third was Tom, N1TM.

Over in Europe, Joe, DK5WL, took top honors (<http://www.160m.de/>). Second place went to Antonin, OK1VBA, and third to David, EA1FAQ. A special mention must be made of JR4DAH, W6JT1, RV9COI, and VK2BAA, who maxed out their scores operating far from population centers.

The continental winners were: North America K1TO/4, USA K1TO/4, Africa (No Entry), Asia JR4DAH, Japan JR4DAH, Europe DK5WL, Oceania VK2BAA, South America P40A (KK9A).

Assisted

Using any type of DX spotting help places the entrant in the Assisted category. There are lots of reasons to try this category: helping your club when you have limited time or just for fun are just a couple.

This year's world top scorer was Jack, RW3QC. He put the distinctive callsign 5B/AJ2O to good use by keying the Cyprus station to first place in the world. He was followed closely by a station operating half a world away on Christmas island, VK9AA operated by

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The OM7M team, #1 world Multi-Single.

Bernd, VK2IA (<http://www.contesting.com/articles/611>). Breaking into the world top three from the USA was Barry, W2UP/3. Located near beautiful Lake Constance, Manfred, DJ5MW, had the right combination of QSOs and mults to take first place Europe (<http://www.dj5mw.de/>). Second place went to Braco, OE4A (OE1EMS), operating from eastern Austria (<http://www.oe8ydq.com/cpg132/thumbnails.php?album=15>). Third place in Europe went to Vlad, RX4HZ. Long time Assisted aficionado, Charles, K3WW, was second in the USA followed by Ray, W2RE.

The continental winners were: North America W2UP/3, USA W2UP/3, Africa D44TD, Asia 5B/AJ2O, Japan JF2SKV, Europe DJ5MW, Oceania VK9AA (VK2IA), South America PJ4M (K2QM).

Multi-Single

The Multi-Single category is the most popular Multi category. If you look at all the stations listed, you will see almost a thousand. A real battle

occurred in the Multi-Single category. Three FB stations with top operators went head to head.

The four-man team from the USA West Coast travelled to where QSOs are made, P40L, and keyed their way to world number one. They convincingly took the gold. Second place went to the Serbian team who put 3V5A on the map. Third place went to the all-Spanish team at EA8ZS (<http://www.grupodxgc.com/>).

Over in Europe the Low Bands Contest Club, OM7M, took first place (<http://www.qsl.net/om7m/>), second place went to the Irish/Latvian team at EI7M (<http://www.lral.lv/exped/ei7m/index.html>), and third went to another fine Slovakian team, OM8A (<http://www.om8a.org/>).

In the USA first place went to Ted's team from New Hampshire, KT1V. Second place was taken by K1IR (<http://www.designet.com/k1ir/>), and third by Tom's station, K1KI.

Special mention must be made of the continued outstanding efforts of the Japanese team at AH2R. Also, a surprise this year was the Russian team who put T88AA in a lot of logs (<http://www.sakurai.or.jp/HAM/T88/photos.html>).

The continental winners were: North America KT1V, USA KT1V, Africa 3V5A, Asia 4X0G, Japan JA8RWU, Europe OM7M, Oceania AH2R, South America P40L.

Multi-Two

The M2 category continues to increase in popularity. Several good antennas, operators, and lots of coffee and you can vie for a high place in the M2 category.

In 2005 rare DX decided to hand out M2 QSOs. The M2 category is always a real challenge. Taking the gold was IH9P of the Tikiriki Contest Club (<http://www.ih9p.com/>). They handed out a lot QSOs. Second place in the world went to the Russian team of 8Q7DV (<http://public.fotki.com/8q7dv/>). They showed what can happen when good operators go someplace rare. Third place was VP5W operating from the beautiful Turks and Caicos islands.

In Europe top honors went to RU1A. They get out and hear well (<http://ru1a.ru/eng/>). Silver went to the Spanish team at EA6IB (<http://www.qsl.net/ea6ib/home.htm>). Radio Club Varazdin, 9A7A, took the bronze (<http://www.qsl.net/9a7a>). The club's website sums up the

TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

**SINGLE OPERATOR
ALL BAND
World**
CT3EN (Opr: Jose Carlos Cardoso Nunes, CT1BOH)
Donor: K4FW Memorial (Scott Robbins, W4PA)

World Low Power
V26K (Opr: Joseph Trench, AA3B)
Donor: Slovenia Contest Club

World QRPp
P40A (Opr: John Bayne, KK9A)
Donor: Gene Walsh, N2AA

World Assisted
5B/AJ2O (Opr: Jack Danielyan, RW3QC)
Donor: Robert McGwier, N4HY

USA
Randall Thompson, K5ZD/1
Donor: Frankford Radio Club

USA Low Power
Edward Sawyer, N1UR
Donor: North Coast Contesters

USA - Zone 3
Terry Baxter, N6CW/7
Donor: Central Arizona DX Association

USA - Zone 4
Michael Wetzell, W9RE
Donor: The Society of Midwest Contesters

Canada
VY2TT (Opr: Kenneth Widelitz, K6LA)
Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ & Jim Roberts, VE7ZO

Carib./C.A.
8P5A (Opr: Tom Georgens, W2SC)
Donor: Chuck Shinn, W7MAP

Europe
CU2A (Opr: Toni Linden, OH2UA)
Donor: W3AU Memorial (Pete Raymond, N4KW)

Europe - Low Power
CT6A (Opr: Filipe Monteiro Lopes, CT1ILT)
Donor: Scott Jones, N3RA & Tim Duffy, K3LR

Scandinavia
OH8E (Opr: Ville Hillesmaa, OH2MM)
Donor: W3FYS Memorial (Chas Weir, Jr., W6UM)

Russia
Alexander V. Shuklin, RA9SG
Donor: Roman Thomas, RZ3AA

Africa
ZD8A (Opr: Glenn Rattmann, K6NA)*
Donor: Gordon Marshall, W6RR

Asia
Chris Dabrowski, A45XR
Donor: Chuck Shinn, W7MAP

Japan
Masaki Masa Okano, JH4UYB
Donor: Tack Kumagai, JE1CKA

Japan - Low Power
Nobuhiro Iwasa, JH8SLS
Donor: Western Washington DX Club

Oceania
VK2GC (Opr: Georganie Wagner, K5KG)
Donor: Chris Tran, ZL1CT

South America
P40W (Opr: John Crovelli, W2GD)
Donor: Venezuela DX Club

**SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND
World - 28 MHz**
Juan Manuel Morandi, LU1HF
Donor: Joel Chalmers, KG6DX

World - 21 MHz
PT5A (Opr: Eric Castro, PY2EMC)
Donor: Lew Sayre, W7EW

World - 14 MHz
5Z1A (Opr: Alex C.J. Van Eijk, PA3DZN)
Donor: W2JT Memorial (North Jersey DX Assn.)

World - 7 MHz
Vakhtang Mumladze, 4L8A
Donor: Alex M. Kasevich, VP2MM

World - 3.5 MHz
CN2R (Opr: James Sullivan, W7EJ)
Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

World - 1.8 MHz
Jeffrey Briggs, VY2ZM
Donor: Kenneth Byers, Jr., K4TEA

USA - 28 MHz
Bob Patten, N4BP
Donor: Wireless Institute of the Northeast

USA - 21 MHz
James McCook, W6YA
Donor: Wayne Carroll, W4MPY

USA - 14 MHz
Donald Binkley, N4ZZ
Donor: Northern Illinois DX Association

USA - 7 MHz
Bill Kollenbaum, K4XS
Donor: W6AM Memorial (Jan Perkins, N6AW)

USA - 3.5 MHz
Robye Lahlum, W1MK
Donor: Bill Feidt, NG3K

USA - 1.8 MHz
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Carib./C.A. (14 MHz)
HI9L (Opr: Stefan Radtke, DL5XX)
Donor: Bill Hein, NT1Y

Europe - 28 MHz
Alexsander Zagar, S57S
Donor: Jay Pryor, K4OGG

Europe - 21 MHz
Ivica Matkic, T96Q
Donor: Robert Naumann, N5NJ

Europe - 14 MHz
OH6KN (Opr: Pasi Luoma-aho, OH6UM)
Donor: G3FXB Memorial (Maud Slater)

Europe - 7 MHz
Olivier Cado F6ARC
Donor: Ivo Pezer, 9A3A

Europe - 3.5 MHz
OJ8B (Opr: Pertti Simovaara, OH2PM)
Donor: K3VW Memorial (Frankford Radio Club)

Europe - 1.8 MHz
SO2R (Opr: Kazimierz Drzewiecki, SP2FAX)
Donor: Pat Barkey, N9RV & Terry Zivney, N4TZ

Japan - 21 MHz
Akito Nagi, JA5DQH
Donor: DX Family Foundation

Japan - 14 MHz
Kenji Koishi, JH3AIU
Donor: Chris Terkla, N1XS

Asia - 14 MHz
H2G (Opr: George Beasley, 5B4AGC)
Donor: JA4WFM Memorial
(Alexander Teimurazov, 4L5A)

**MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER
World**
P40L (Oprs: W6LD, N7MH, KX7M, N6XI)
Donor: Anthony Susen, W3AOH

U.S.A.
KT1V (Oprs: KC1F, KT1V, KM3T)
Donor: Douglas Zwiebel, KR2Q

Canada
VE3NE (Oprs: HA8HW, VE3NZ, VE3NE)
Donor: Eastern Canadian DX Assn.

Carib./C.A.
VP2E (Oprs: KC5EA, N5AU)
Donor: Lone Star DX Association

Africa
3V5A (Oprs: YT1AD, YU1RL, YZ1BX, YU7NU)
Donor: Harry Booklan, RA3AUU

Asia
4X8G (Oprs: W3GG, WD3I, 4Z4KX, 4X6ZK)
Donor: Steve Merchant, K6AW

Europe
OM7M (Oprs: OK2BFN, OM1KW, OM2XW,
OM3TZQ, OM3PA, OM5RM, OM5ZW)
Donor: Bob Cox, K3EST

Japan
JA8RWU (Oprs: JF1NHD, JO1DFG, JA8RWU, JH8PNE)
Donor: CQ magazine

Oceania - Pacific Rim
AH2R (Oprs: JI3ERV, JR7OMD, JR8VSE, JE8KKX)
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

South America
5J1W (Oprs: AG9A, NN1N, K9ZO)
Donor: Araucaria DX Group

**MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO-TRANSMITTER
World**
IH9P (Oprs: IT9BLB, IT9VDQ, IT9ZGY, IV3SKB, I2IFT,
IK2AHB)
Donor: CQ magazine

USA
K1AR (Oprs: K1AR, K1EA)
Donor: Northern Neck Contest Club

Europe
RU1A (Oprs: RU1AA, RW1AC, RK1AM, RX1AA,
RA1AIP, UA1ARX, UA1ACC, UA1AKC)
Donor: Aki Nagi, JA5DQH

**MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER
World**
HC8N (Oprs: N6AN, K6AW, N7BG, K2UA, N2MG,
W6NL, K6BL, N5KO)
Donor: K2GL Memorial (Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q)

USA
KC1XX (Oprs: WA1Z, K1QX, W1FV, K1GQ,
N2AA, W2RQ, N3RD, KC1XX)
Donor: N6RJ Memorial (Bob Ferrero, W6RJ)

Europe
LZ9W (Oprs: LZ1UQ, LZ1ZD, LZ1PJ, LZ1ANA,
LZ1PM, LZ2UZ, LZ2CJ, LZ2HM, LZ2PO,
LZ2FV, LZ3UM, LZ3FN, LZ3FM, LZ5VK, LZ4UU)
Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

Japan
JA3YBK (Oprs: JG3KIV, JI3OPA, JP3PZD,
JH3PRR, JH4NMT, JR4ISF, JF4FUF)
Donor: Ryozo Goto, JH3JYS

Oceania
ZL6QH (Opr: ZL2BSJ, ZL2IFB/G4IFB, ZL1TM,
ZL1BYZ, ZL2AGY, ZL1AZE)
Donor: CQ magazine

WORLD - SSB/CW COMBINED
KC1XX (30,307,458)
Donor: W0ID Alpha Award

USA - MULTI-MULTI SSB/CW COMBINED
K3LR (30,126,098)*
Donor: N8SM Memorial (Operators of K3LR)

**CONTEST EXPEDITIONS
World Single Operator**
3DA8NW (Opr: Michael Tessmer, K9NW)
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club

WORLD MULTI-SINGLE
T88AA (Oprs: RZ3AA, UA3AB, RA3AUU)
Donor: Carl Cook, A16V

WORLD MULTI-MULTI - Jim Neiger, N6TJ Award
R1MVC (Oprs: DL3DXX, DL5LYM, OH5NE, RA1AR,
RA2FW, RA6LBS, RK3FA, RU1AS, RV1AC,
RV2FW/1, RX1AX, UA1CDA, UA2FF, UA2FM, UA9XC)
Donor: Alexander Teimurazov, 4L5A

**SPECIAL - SINGLE OPERATOR AWARD
World SSB/CW Combined**
P40W (Opr: John Crovelli, W2GD)
34,038,802 points
Donor: Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD

WORLD ALL BAND: Under 21 years old
CT6A (Opr: Filipe Monteiro Lopes, CT1ILT)
Donor: Chuck Shinn, W7MAP

**CLUB
World SSB/CW**
Yankee Clipper Contest Club 291,818,776
Donor: W1WY Memorial (CQ magazine)

**Non-USA SSB/CW
Bavarian Contest Club: 232,211,460**
Donor: N6AUV Memorial
(Northern California Contest Club)

* Second Place



Vlad, UN5J, placed in the top scores on 21 MHz, low power.



Dave, K1ZZ, placed in the top scores, U.S., all band, high power

ham spirit: "Everything we have achieved in the contests is the result of our friendship, as well as love for our hobby."

In the USA, the two-man team of K1AR and K1EA walked away with the trophy. Second place went to Howie's team at NY4A, and third went to Jerry's team at K0TV/1 (<http://www.k0tv.com/>).

Special mention is made of the fanatastic efforts of 3B8/OM3PC (<http://www.vhf.sk/3b8/>) and 9M2CNC (<http://www.9m2cnc.com/>).

The continental winners were: North America VP5W, USA K1AR, Africa IH9P, Asia 8Q7DV, Japan JF3GKE, Europe RU1A, Oceania (No Entry), South America PZ5C.

Multi-Multi

The Multi-Multi category requires a lot of pre-contest planning and work. Building a super station, recruiting good operators, and often maintaining the station from a distance are just the beginning of the preparation done by multi-multis. The top three World, Europe, and USA winners all have made a big time investment.

This 2005 winner is a familiar one. HC8N is located on the slopes of a volcanic mountain on San Cristobal island. Almost on the equator, the fine operators of HC8N always wring the most from the bands (<http://www.hc8n.info/>). For second place, travel over to Mali and you will find the VooDoo's operating as TZ5A. This group of friends has been active from Africa for many years (<http://www.idiompress.com/books-contesting-africa.html>). Third place was taken by the Caribbean Contesting Consortium: PJ2T (<http://www.pj2t.org/>).

The LZ9W contest station is in a small hotel called "Bardoto," located at 900 meters elevation about 60 km southwest of Sofia. The team's

fine effort resulted in the #1 score in Europe (<http://www.qsl.net/lz9w/>). Second place went to the perennial high-scoring team of the Limenau Contest Club, DQ0Q (<http://www.stud.tu-ilmenau.de/~df0hq/>). Third place went to the RW2F team from Kaliningrad.

After the dust settled on the very competitive USA MM scene, Matt's team at KC1XX took the top prize (<http://www.kc1xx.com/>). Second place went to Tim's team, K3LR, in western PA (<http://www.k3lr.com/>), just edging out Frank's team at W3LPL (<http://homepage.mac.com/rucker/PhotoAlbum46.html>).

The continental winners were: North America KC1XX, USA KC1XX, Africa TZ5A, Asia UP5G, Japan JA3YBK, Europe LZ9W, Oceania ZL6QH, South America HC8M.

Team Contesting

The number of teams this year exceeded all expectations. Take any five contesters from anywhere in the world and form a team. Why not try an intra-club competition to boost your local club score? Or take members from anywhere, as the World Wide Young Contesters have done. All you have to do is register your team before the contest and you are all set to enter the Team Contesting category. This year's CW top team is far from a group of lids!

1. **League of Distinguished Lids:** K5ZD/1, N2NT, K1DG, VE3EJ, N2IC/5 - 23,578,243.

2. **Contest Club Finland Team Mannerheim:** CT8T (OH1NOA), CU2A (OH2UA), ES5TV, OH1F (OH1MDR), OH6NIO - 22,430,326.

3. **Rhein-Ruhr Steamboats:** DJ2YA, DL3YM, GD6IA (DL2OBF), V31TM (DL1HCM), FG5BG (DL1EFD) - 19,193,264.



Nadir, EY8MM, finished in the top scores on 7 MHz, high power.

4. **VK-Contest Club Team Australis:** VK9AA (VK2IA), VK2IMM, VK2BAA, VK2NU, VK2GC (K5KG) - 10,320,345.

5. **PVRC Strike Team Alpha:** W4RX, N2YO/4, N4TX, K4ZW, W4EE - 9,730,412.

6. **Have CW - Will Contest:** ZS1EL, ZS4TX, VE1OP, VO1AU, K5UN - 9,108,334.

7. **SP HQ Contest Team:** HI3/SP9XCN, SP4Z, SN5M (SP5UAF), SN8F (SP8FHK) - 8,888,505.

8. **Contest Club Ontario #2:** W1AJT/VE3, VE3EY, VE3JM, VE3KZ, VE3DZ - 8,282,071.

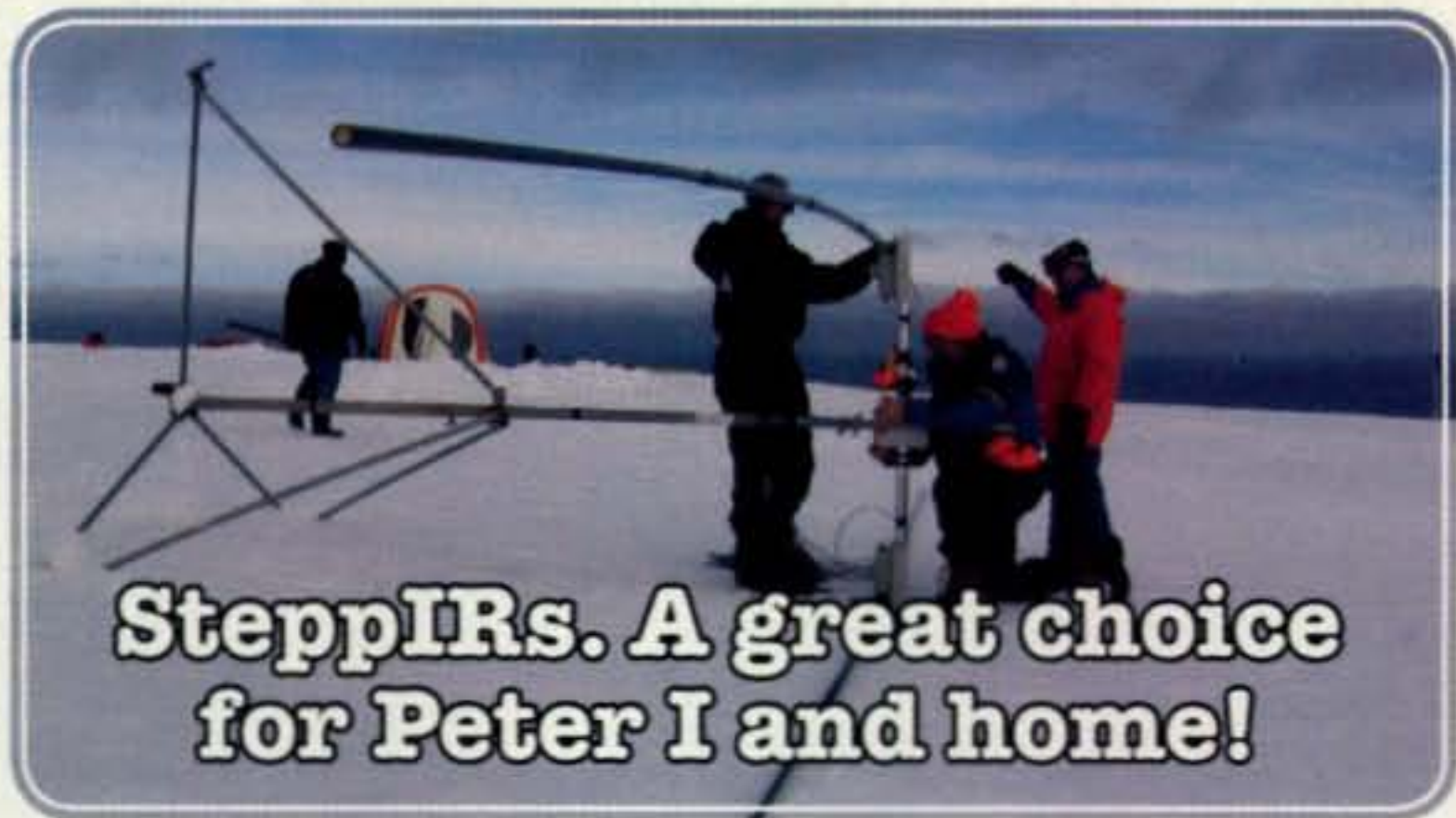
9. **Contest Club Finland Team Finlandia:** 6Y5/OH3RB, OH5B (OH5BM), OH6AC (OH6CS), OH6KN (OH6UM), EA8/OH4NL (OH2BYS) - 6,923,754.

10. **Kaunu Technologijos Universiteto Radijo Klubas:** LY2OO, LY60BY (LY3BY), LY5R (LY3BP), LY6A (LY3BA), LY9A (LY2BM) - 5,451,859.

11. **World Wide Young Contesters Team #1:** 9A5K, N4YDU, G0RTN, SQ9C - 5,388,333.

12. **Florida Contest Group Team #1:** AD4Z, CW5T (K9VV), K4XS, WJ9B, WK2G - 4,124,658.

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13. Contest Club Finland Team Nurmi: OH2LU, OH6GAW, OH6OS, OH0E (OH2MM) - 3,943,227.
 14. Florida Contest Group Team #2: CX7TT, K1TO, K9OM, K4PV - 3,187,988.
 15. Contest Club Ontario #1: VA3NR, VA3DX, VE3CR, VE3XD - 3,104,006.
 16. Florida Contest Group Team #4: W4ZW, K1PT, N4EK, WD4AHZ - 3,048,446.
 17. Contest Club Finland Team Sibelius: OH0M (OH5DX), OH2BH (OH1WZ), OH2U (ES5RR), OH5Z (OH5CW), OH6BG - 2,631,535.
 18. DXE-1: XE1MM, XE2AC - 2,502,982.
 19. PVRC Strike Team Omega: NN3W, WX3B, K3WA - 1,657,856.
 20. VK Contest Club Team Southern Lights: VK6HZ, PA0MIR, VK7GN, VK4AN - 1,538,928.
 21. World Wide Young Contesters Team #2: M0TDG, OZ5BD, OO5ZO, CX9AU - 885,210.

22. Contest Club Ontario #4: VE3ZI, VE3KP, VE3HLS, VE3FH - 847,716.
 23. Florida Contest Group Team #3: KN4Y, NA4CW, K1UM/4 - 835,750.
 24. Contest Club Ontario #3: VE3MGY, VE3JAQ, VE3HG, VE3PL, VE3RZ - 812,585.
 25. Multi-Multi QRM: YU1LA, YT5A (YU1EA) - 628,140.
 26. Contest Club Finland Team Sauna: OH10A (OH3WW), OH1MM, OH4MFA, OH6TN - 508,598.
 27. DXE-2: XE1KK, XE1CT, XE1NW, XE3WAO - 278,124.
 28. Lids of the Wild Wild West: W7AT (W7EW), K7RAT (N6TR), N0AX/7 - 257,873.
 29. Florida Contest Group Team #5: K4CC, W4EBA, N4BP - 52,513.

(Continued on page 100)

TOP SCORES

WORLD		UNITED STATES		EUROPE	
All Band		All Band		All Band	
CT3EN	12,489,525	KC1XX	15,825,048	CU2A	7,915,656
P40W	11,100,243	LZ9W	14,318,682	CT8T	6,374,362
8P5A	9,902,340	PJ7/K7ZUM	277,447	ER4DX	5,806,866
A45XR	9,626,226	UN5J	228,361	S50A	4,752,033
ZD8A	8,834,449	IR2M	196,420	TM6X	4,290,840
EABEW	8,300,250	14 MHz		GD6IA	4,158,378
CU2A	7,915,656	CN2WW	1,150,556	K2MFY	187,293
YW4D	7,717,876	TI5A	639,360	N7WA	130,196
ZF1A	7,335,327	9A3B	506,198	N9XX	119,460
6W1RW	6,942,460	OK1FDR	440,398	N4IJ	103,752
28 MHz		G6M	430,110	KA7T	74,008
LU1HF	363,610	DL1LH	398,848	K1EF1/3	55,762
CX7TT	285,798	7 MHz		7 MHz	
LU6ETB	282,672	TA3DD	675,176	KN5G	163,152
LT2H	273,258	HZ1IK	667,821	N4PSE	56,448
S57S	15,808	IY4W	626,202	WA1FCN/4	49,839
JA6WIF	14,022	S54A	333,540	W9ILY	35,409
21 MHz		SN3X	233,064	K5MQ	31,556
PT5A	1,021,776	YU1LA	217,664	K9UIY	20,448
AY8A	855,760	3.5 MHz		3.5 MHz	
ZC4LI	849,400	YO6EX/P	53,437	W3NO	30,841
PY2NA	789,239	YO6ADW	43,891	1.8 MHz	
4X4DZ	773,761	W3NO	30,841	K1PX	5,130
LT1F	710,016	JA9XBW	10,395	K3MQ	780
14 MHz		CT1FNT	6,345	KR4OW	442
SZ1A	1,767,150	DC1LC	1,320	W7DRA/7	407
HI9L	1,454,436	1.8 MHz		QRP	
HP1/OA4WW	1,302,775	TE1W	43,524	All Band	
ZX5J	1,230,120	9A3RE	36,894	K1TO/4	1,529,442
CW5T	1,173,008	RW3GB	32,504	N8ET	553,443
OH6KN	1,119,048	9H3MR	32,093	N1TM	350,842
7 MHz		OM0TT	31,727	W6JTI	332,847
4L8A	1,387,650	UT1FA	27,744	WA8WV	207,691
EAB/OH4NL	1,298,385	QRP		K8ZT	197,099
A61AR	1,197,180	All Band		N8IE	147,168
KH7X	1,152,704	P40A	4,014,648	K2AAB/9	271,123
EY8MM	1,085,276	K1TO/4	1,529,442	N7CW/6	221,444
UA9AYA	1,002,244	C6AUR	1,336,677	7 MHz	
3.5 MHz		DK5WL	605,862	K4XS	600,066
CN2R	1,206,128	UA9SG	562,565	N2MF	386,078
OJ0B	608,896	N8ET	553,443	K0EJ/4	347,602
OH2BH	593,922	OK1VBA	549,664	WF3J/4	101,184
9A9A	583,360	EA1FAQ	533,455	K5NZ	99,946
SN3A	581,532	SM3C	402,537	K9CJ	98,814
S50C	467,166	RA9SO	401,024	3.5 MHz	
1.8 MHz		ASSISTED		ASSISTED	
VY2ZM	497,152	All Band		All Band	
SO2R	234,720	5B/AJ2O	9,445,098	W2UP/3	6,181,648
OK1RF	232,185	VK9AA	6,878,488	K3WW	4,835,880
SP3BQ	228,327	W2UP/3	6,181,648	W2RE	3,252,060
SN7Q	202,242	VP9I	5,528,907	K5YA	3,142,958
OH0Z	188,552	DJ5MW	5,450,967	WE3C	3,084,378
LOW POWER		RG9A	4,983,841	K3PH	2,834,512
All Band		OE4A	4,923,750	KQ3F	2,400,444
V26K	6,960,084	RX4HZ	4,923,400	K1PT/4	2,350,240
CT9A	5,544,350	K3WW	4,835,880	K3SV	2,211,900
FG5BG	4,908,384	UW8M	4,331,040	W3FV	2,147,560
CT6A	4,730,157	ASSISTED		MULTI-SINGLE	
HI3/SP9XCN	3,681,202	All Band		KT1V	9,067,590
WP3C	2,938,800	5B/AJ2O	9,445,098	K1IR	6,441,380
C6AQQ	2,935,464	VK9AA	6,878,488	K1KI	6,326,124
J79CW	2,553,160	W2UP/3	6,181,648	W2FU	5,969,292
EABCN	2,548,680	VP9I	5,528,907	K8AZ	5,458,329
9A5K	2,534,280	DJ5MW	5,450,967	K3OO	5,046,977
28 MHz		RG9A	4,983,841	MULTI-TWO	
LU1FAM	155,156	OE4A	4,923,750	K1AR	8,164,728
LW5EE	15,840	RX4HZ	4,923,400	NY4A	8,012,145
PY1MK	13,455	K3WW	4,835,880	K0TV/1	5,469,075
LW2DX	9,361	UW8M	4,331,040	N4WW	5,248,440
LZ9X	8,883	MULTI-SINGLE		N0NI	3,990,462
K4WI	5,360	P40L	16,270,104	W8ZA	2,594,480
21 MHz		3V5A	14,026,738	MULTI-MULTI	
5H3EE	597,432	EA8ZS	11,950,225	KC1XX	15,825,048
LOW POWER		5J1W	11,675,367	K3LR	13,842,250
All Band		KT1V	9,067,590	W3LPL	13,790,784
V26K	6,960,084	LR2F	8,377,160	N3RS	10,312,234
CT9A	5,544,350	MULTI-TWO		NQ4I	9,285,396
FG5BG	4,908,384	IH9P	23,649,712	K1TTT	8,232,648
CT6A	4,730,157	8Q7DV	14,520,720	EUROPE	
HI3/SP9XCN	3,681,202	VP5V	13,454,000	All Band	
WP3C	2,938,800	WP2Z	12,969,736	CU2A	7,915,656
C6AQQ	2,935,464	RU1A	12,240,060	CT8T	6,374,362
J79CW	2,553,160	EA6IB	11,061,600	ER4DX	5,806,866
EABCN	2,548,680	MULTI-MULTI		S50A	4,752,033
9A5K	2,534,280	HC8N	38,368,108	TM6X	4,290,840
28 MHz		TZ5A	28,747,008	GD6IA	4,158,378
LU1FAM	155,156	PJ2T	27,392,376	21 MHz	
LW5EE	15,840	21 MHz		9A7D	290,680
PY1MK	13,455	WB4TDH	132,618	IR2M	196,420
LW2DX	9,361	N6RV	25,550	9A5D	186,914
LZ9X	8,883	KR2AA	21,534	OK2N	170,040
K4WI	5,360	K7SP	11,349	4N1N	169,717
21 MHz		21 MHz		RN6HZ	132,820
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	14 MHz	
21 MHz		N6RV	25,550	9A3B	506,198
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	OK1FDR	440,398
21 MHz		K7SP	11,349	G6M	430,110
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		7 MHz	
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	IY4W	626,202
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	S54A	333,540
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	SN3X	233,064
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	YU1LA	217,664
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		T94OM	210,080
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	ON9CTZ	208,656
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	3.5 MHz	
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	YO6EX/P	53,437
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	YO6ADW	43,891
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		CT1FNT	6,345
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	DC1LC	1,320
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	1.8 MHz	
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	9A3RE	36,894
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	RW3GB	32,504
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		9H3MR	32,093
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	OM0TT	31,727
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	UT1FA	27,744
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	YO2IS	26,820
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	QRP	
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		All Band	
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	DK5WL	605,862
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	OK1VBA	549,664
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	EA1FAQ	533,455
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	SM3C	402,537
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		US2IZ	381,350
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	OK1JOC	346,896
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	DF1DX	336,441
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	UA6LCJ	302,742
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	G3YMC	301,860
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		GW4ALG	298,196
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	ASSISTED	
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	All Band	
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	DJ5MW	5,450,967
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	OE4A	4,923,750
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		RX4HZ	4,923,400
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	UW8M	4,331,040
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	S52ZW	2,968,992
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	S57DX	2,940,288
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	OK2FD	2,841,344
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		Y20Z	2,771,194
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	DJ2YA	2,578,050
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	SN8F	2,444,904
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	MULTI-SINGLE	
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	OM7M	8,176,644
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		EI7M	7,874,332
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	OM8A	7,850,888
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	G6PZ	7,406,250
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	OK5W	7,278,271
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	TM2Y	6,978,108
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		MULTI-TWO	
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	RU1A	12,240,060
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	EA6IB	11,061,600
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	9A7A	10,981,728
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	IR4X	10,619,504
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		UU7J	9,047,168
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	HG6N	8,015,190
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	MULTI-MULTI	
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	LZ9W	14,318,682
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	DQ0Q	13,181,952
5H3EE	597,432	21 MHz		RW2F	11,960,032
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132,618	DF0CG	11,592,276
5H3EE	597,432	N6RV	25,550	YT6A	9,161,880
5H3EE	597,432	KR2AA	21,534	R1MVC	7,720,906
5H3EE	597,432	K7SP	11,349	21 MHz	
5H3EE	597,432	WB4TDH	132		

Field Day – It's Only the Beginning

Emergency Exercise Real as Flooding Hits Three States

This year I have been traveling the Mid-Atlantic States with a program emphasizing that Field Day is not enough. Going out and operating one weekend a year is not enough in terms of emergency training, and getting a story about Field Day in the newspaper once a year is not enough in terms of letting the public know who we are and what we do. This year, as many were to learn in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, Field Day was only the beginning. This month we'll take a look at torrential rains which led to severe flooding in the Mid-Atlantic States.

The forecast for a decent Field Day weekend began to change early the previous week. Just days before Field Day was to begin, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency issued a warning: "With heavy rain projected for parts of the commonwealth this weekend, residents are urged to take steps to protect lives and property from possible flooding. Some of the latest forecasts indicate that a weekend storm system could affect the commonwealth over the next few days, bringing rain, major lightning, and, perhaps, high winds," said Richard D. Flinn, Jr., PEMA's deputy director for operations. "This storm has the potential to trigger power outages and flooding, especially flash flooding, which could threaten communities with little warning."

Threat Gets Worse

As the weekend drew closer, National Weather Service estimates pointed to the potential for major flooding in portions of Pennsylvania. "The most recent NWS forecast models indicate that we may experience serious flooding along the Susquehanna River and other waterways in the commonwealth," said Governor Edward Rendell. "We are preparing for the worst case scenario, but praying for the best. I strongly recommend that all residents in flood-prone regions keep informed by listening to local Emergency Alert System (EAS) stations for updates."

The Governor said the National Weather Service estimated that the Susquehanna River would crest above flood stage at nearly all points along its course in Pennsylvania beginning on Wednesday in the northern part of the state. The crest generally was expected to move south during Wednesday into Thursday. The National Weather Service predicted the Susquehanna River would crest at a record 28 feet (17 feet above flood stage) at Sayre, Bradford County, and Waverly, NY, on

*c/o CQ magazine
e-mail: <wa3pzo@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Andrew Furlong, KC2PMW (age 13), participates in Field Day from the Philmont Mobile Radio Club site in Ft. Washington, PA. (Photo courtesy of Larry Stevenson, K3HWE)

Wednesday; at 36 feet (17 feet above flood stage) at Bloomsburg, Columbia County, on Thursday; and at 25 feet (eight feet above flood stage) at Harrisburg, Dauphin County, on Thursday evening.

Many ham radio operators who operated Field Day in 1972 remembered the remains of Hurricane Agnes coming through Pennsylvania and heavy rains flooding the Wilkes-Barre area and other river towns in the state. Would this be a repeat?

This is Not a Drill

Field Day groups across the region were geared up to get on the air to make that first contact. However, many groups in the Philadelphia area found themselves off the air within the first hour as severe thunderstorms moved across the region. In some cases, the "CQ Field Day" call was changed to calls for umbrellas, buckets, plastic coverings, and tape as severe thunderstorms rolled through the area.

While some Field Day sites packed it in early because of the rain, others hung in there until the very end and then had to wait hours to safely take down antennas and towers.

In Sussex County, Delaware, some areas received 15 inches of rain from the stalled weather system. It became difficult for emergency management to get road and medical crews to areas in need because of the high water. Communications also became disrupted by the volume of water falling, which affected both microwave relay and buried phone lines that were severed by rushing water.

Members of the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club raised their triband beam as stormy weather approached. (Photo courtesy of Lou Ruh, WX3I) →

According to ARRL reports, there was no need to "call up" hams to stand by for possible duty. They were "already there, on frequency, and ready to go." The National Weather Service requested activation of Delaware Skywarn. Amateurs relayed reports on rainfall as well as roads impassable from high water and washed-out bridges. Some operators were mobile in the affected areas, giving the NWS important reports. Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator Brad Taylor, KW4USA, said that ARES volunteers were on duty for seven hours in Fairfax County because of the heavy rain. Flooding was also bad in Montgomery County, MD and Washington, DC.

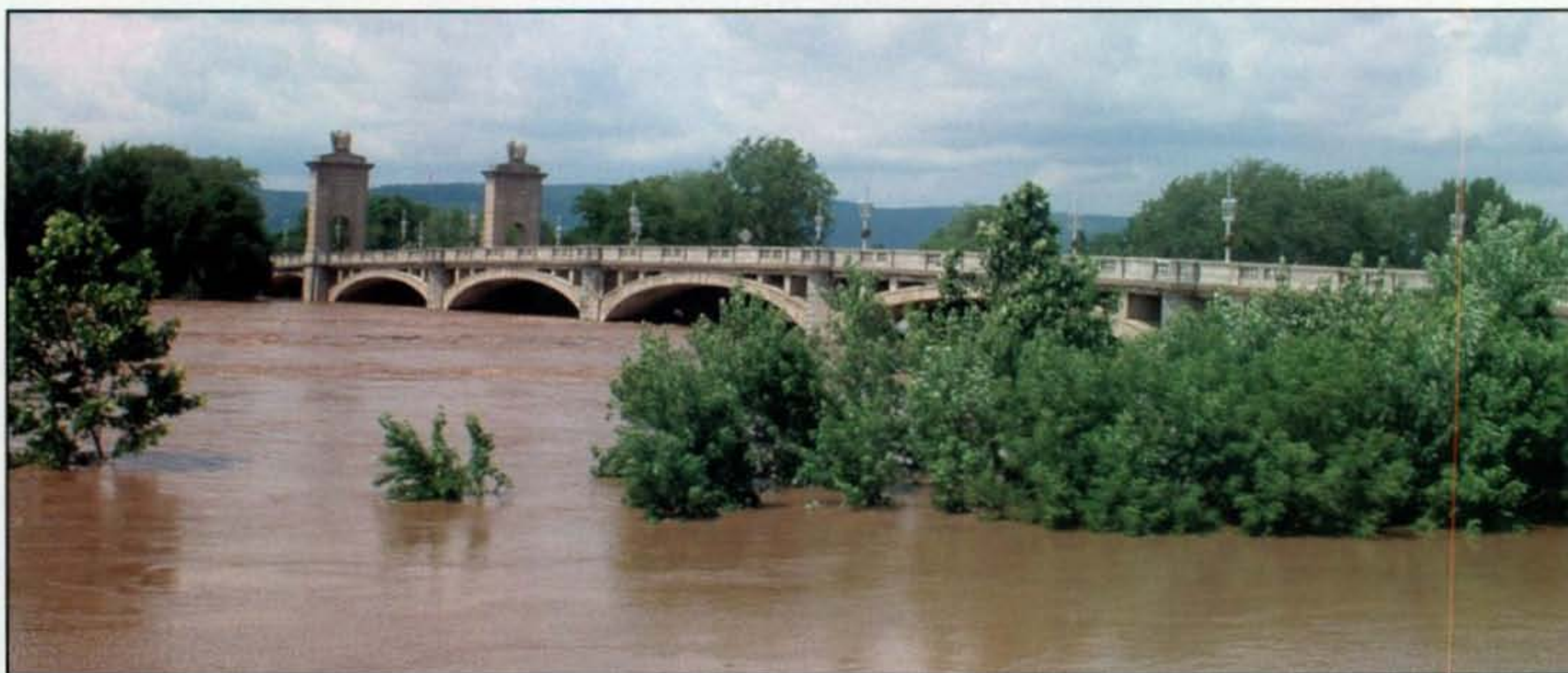


Flood Warnings Continue

Amateur radio operators in ten eastern Pennsylvania counties were on flood duty as a heavy rainfall continue to pound the state and force rivers, both big and small, out of their banks. ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Eric Olena, WB3FPL, told CQ that evacuation orders had been issued for some 100,000 residents of Pennsylvania's Wyoming Valley. The fear was that the Susquehanna River would rise above the flood gates installed following the flooding in 1972. The state declared disaster areas in 46 counties, which included all of eastern Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia. "The city of Reading in Berks County has evacuated many residents," he said. The Schuylkill River, which flows through Philadelphia, was expected to crest at



Bob Nice, N3TZW, Upper Bucks County Assistant Emergency Coordinator, checks on supplies with Red Cross volunteers at the Yardley, PA Borough Hall Distribution Center. (Photo courtesy of Al Konschak, WI3Z)



Rivers throughout eastern Pennsylvania spilled out of their banks during severe flooding in late June. Here the Susquehanna River is out of its banks, threatening the Wilkes Barre area. During Hurricane Agnes in 1972, the river was over the top of bridge. (Photo courtesy of Sam Josuweit, KB3MLD)



Flood gates across bridges and other protective measures along the Susquehanna River minimized serious damage in the Wilkes Barre area, where more than 100,000 people were evacuated. (Photo courtesy of KB3MLD)

almost 23 feet—some 10 feet above flood stage—while the Susquehanna River was predicted to crest at 17 feet above flood level.

Rivers in southern New York and northern Pennsylvania went out of their banks quickly. Numerous water and helicopter rescues were reported. Calls quickly went out for amateur radio support in Orange County, NY and Pike County, PA. The call went out with the river heights just 4 inches above flood stage, because they were expected to rise to between 6 and 9 feet above flood stage.

Frank Stone, KB2YUR, Eastern New York Section Emergency Coordinator, said initial requests were for hams to provide communications for at least a 36-hour period at the Goshen and Matamoras Emergency Operations Centers and several shelters.

Additional Pennsylvania Counties Report

John Ciccolella, WS3S, reported that ARES/RACES in Monroe County provided communications between Red Cross evacuation shelters, the Stroud Area Regional Police, and Office of Emergency Management officials. In nearby Carbon County, East Penn Township Emergency Management Coordinator Todd Deem, KB3IKX, expressed his thanks to local hams for the "Great Job. Since East Penn Township is 'Cell Phone Hades,' it was so nice to be able to tune into the ARES/RACES gang at the EOC to pass information to the EOC and get the informa-

tion I needed and not hear 'call the center by phone,' when they don't work around here (in) most places, especially in the valleys (where it floods). Again *thank you* for your professional 'amateur' service to the community."

In Columbia County, the Susquehanna River crested in Bloomsburg at 28.6 feet. Flood stage is 19 feet. Fifteen ARES/RACES members maintained contact with the County Emergency Operations Center and assisted with stream gauge readings at each of their locations. Columbia County Radio Of-

ficer Randy Kishbaugh, N3JPV, was Net Control, with Belinda Daring, KB3ERH, as backup. During the net, ARES/RACES members assisted with many bridge and road closure announcements. In addition, they provided communications between two Red Cross shelters. Members also assisted with the bulk distribution of bottled drinking water, as many local water companies had to shut down due to the flooding.

Just north of Philadelphia along the Delaware River, 43 amateur radio operators provided emergency communications for seven days. Harris Stein, NY3H, Bucks County Emergency Coordinator, provided the following totals, which represent the dedication and sacrifice of the Bucks County Amateur Radio Emergency Service. He summed it up:

- 7 days of continuous operation
- 43 amateur radio operators participated
- 3 shelter operations staffed
- 6 EOC operations staffed
- 3 additional sites staffed
- 3 rover units utilized
- 5 BCARES members assisted with damage assessment
- 864 total BCARES man-hours expended
- 2,114 miles driven by BCARES operators
- \$71,609 of personally owned amateur equipment used (not including repeaters)
- \$ 866 of non-reimbursed personal cost spent by operators

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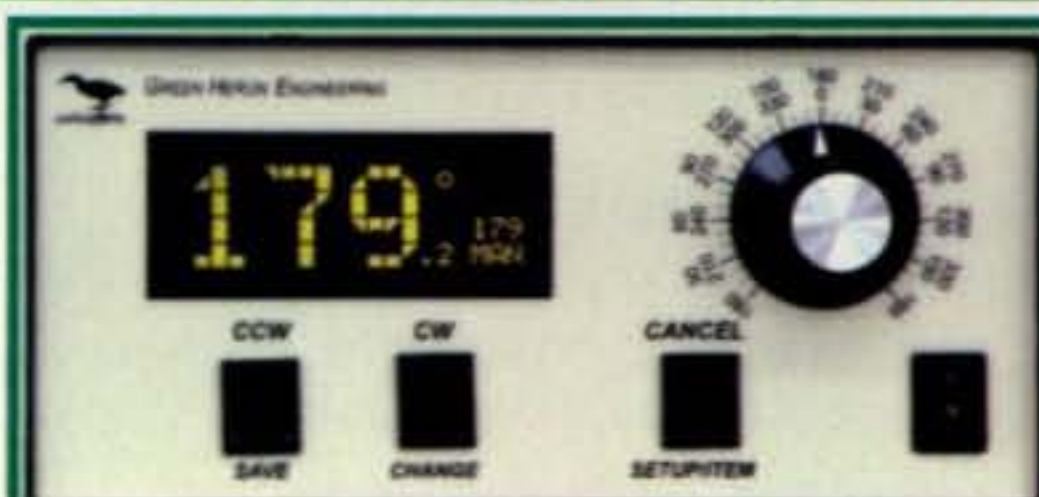
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Keller Taylor, WA3YSU, Disaster Services Chairman of the Lower Bucks Chapter of the American Red Cross, discusses staffing issues and upcoming operational requirements with Bucks County ARRL Emergency Coordinator Harris Stein, NY3H. (Photo courtesy of WI3Z)



Jacob Kinser, KB3LCB, of Philadelphia, supplied communications from the William Penn Shelter in Yardley, PA to the Borough Hall Distribution Center. (Photo courtesy of WI3Z)

Stein said that several amateur radio operators traveled area streets and highways passing along road condition and traffic reports. These reports were radioed in to the Net Control Station, who passed reports to Bucks County EOC. Stein said, "This information was invaluable as police and public works personnel had their hands full while extremely heavy rains continued to fall, hampering their ability to relay information on travel conditions and road closures to Bucks County Emergency Management.

Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) digital operations were used to track deploying operators with APRS capability without adding additional voice communications to the increasing volume of net traffic handling generated by the evolving event. Al Korschak, WI3Z, set up the APRS digital operation at Bucks EOC using a hard-wired internet connection. In Yardley, PA, cell phone, county, and Red Cross communications were less than optimal, according to Stein. He said, "Amateur radio played a critical role in establishing reliable communication between Yardley area units, BCEMA, and Red Cross operations."

Stein also pointed out that BCARES provided communications for a July 4th parade in the county at the same time they were staffing shelters and EOCs along the Delaware River.

New Jersey Hams On Duty

On the other side of the Delaware River, New Jersey hams were alert and ready to assist. New Jersey Office of Emergency Management Communications and Warning Officer H. Robert Schroeder, N2HX, held a RACES coordinators' conference call with eight western New Jersey counties. ARRL Northern New Jersey Section Manager Bill Hudzik, W2UDT, told ARRL that flooding was expected in towns along the river in Warren, Sussex, Hunterdon, and Mercer Counties, most of which had flooded in 2005. "Low areas of Hunterdon and Warren counties along the Delaware River had voluntary evacuations. The state government complex in Trenton had also flooded," said Hudzik.

With most of the rain to the west in Pennsylvania, ARRL Hunterdon County District Emergency Coordinator David Kanitra, WB2AZE, took no chances and placed Hunterdon ARES on a Level 1 alert for possible deployment to assist RACES in Hunterdon County. Most rivers crested just below flood stage.



Bucks County ARES members provided disaster communications for seven days following the third major Delaware River flood since September 2004. (Photo courtesy Bucks County, PA)

Mercer County Emergency Coordinator Kip Burnett, KB2EGI, reported on June 28 that Mercer County ARES was on standby due to the Delaware River flooding. "The EOC is active, and we have a couple of people at W2MER monitoring 146.67," he said. W2MER is the callsign of the ARES/RACES station at the Mercer County Office of Emergency Management's emergency operations center.

Southern New Jersey Section Emergency Coordinator Gary Wilson, K2GW, said hams just manned the radio room and didn't have to deploy to the field in Mercer County. He explained that there never was a communications emergency in his area. Cell phones worked fine (as they usually do in a river flooding event) and public-safety frequencies didn't get overloaded. Wilson, a former Mercer County Emergency Coordinator, said hams planned communications at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to be flexible a long time ago. The EOC radio room, which was installed and staffed by hams, has radios for every public-safety frequency used in Mercer County. "If we need to talk to the incident commander by the river, we do so on his sheriff's radio," said Wilson. "If we need to talk to an ambu-

lance, we do so on its EMS frequencies, etc. If we need to talk to the Red Cross, we do so on 47.42 MHz. All of this is done by the hams in the EOC radio room, which also serves as an interoperability point for incident communications." He continued, "This dramatically reduces the need for hams to deploy to remote locations. We essentially use amateur frequencies for resource nets to ensure manning of the radio room and as a backup."

Moving Forward

In June, the Federal Communications Commission published the recommendations of the Independent Panel reviewing the impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks. The panel made recommendations in four areas including the (1) pre-positioning the communications industry and the government for disasters in order to achieve greater network reliability and resiliency, (2) improving recovery coordination to address existing shortcomings and to maximize the use of existing resources, (3) improving the operability and interoperability of public safety and 911 communications in times of crisis; and (4) improving communication of emergency information to the public.

Regarding amateur radio, the report said, "as with other communications services, amateur radio stations were also adversely affected by Katrina. Equipment was damaged or lost due to the storm and trained amateurs were difficult to find in the immediate aftermath. However, once called into help, amateur radio operators volunteered to support many agencies, such as FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), the National Weather Service, Hurricane Watch, and the American Red Cross. Amateurs provided wireless communications in many locations where there was no other means of communicating and also provided other technical aid to the communities affected by Katrina." See this month's Washington Readout column for more on the panel's report and recommendations.

Training Due

By next month the National Incident Management System Integration Center strongly recommends that volunteers with a direct role in emergency and incident management and response take NIMS and ICS training. For most amateur radio operators it is suggested that the following courses be taken:

FEMA IS-700: NIMS, An Introduction,

ICS-100: Introduction to ICS or equivalent, and

ICS-200: Basic ICS or its equivalent.

Another Month...

In our June column we highlighted two key weather events. The first was Tropical Storm Alberto, making an appearance at the beginning of the month, and we compared this year's weather with the weather of 1955. The similarities were there—warm temperatures and tropical moisture. The only item we had wrong was predicting that the flooding in Pennsylvania would occur in August. The flooding was in June. Will a hurricane strike the Mid-Atlantic States?

"The support by BCARES of the Bucks County Emergency Management Agency and Lower Bucks Chapter of the American Red Cross operations proved once again that amateur radio is a reliable, viable and needed resource in time of disaster," said Stein. For further information on BCARES, checkout its website at <www.bucksares.org>.

For many of you, Field Day was just the beginning of your training in emergency communications. For others it was the realization that there's a lot more to learn than just calling "CQ Field Day."

In our July column, we discussed education at Moorpark High School in Ventura County, CA. This month, sixty 9th through 12th grade students will be part of the nation's first disaster-preparedness class with training in radio communications under the leadership of teacher Tom Baker, NC6B. We made a mistake on Tom's name and want to wish him and his students well in their **RADIO (Radio Amateurs and Disaster Operations)** class. For more information, see: <www.mhsweather.org>.

We're in the middle of hurricane season. Have you made all of your preparations so when you get that call at a moment's notice you are ready to respond? Drop us a note about your emergency or public-service communications and your preparations. Until next time . . . 73, Bob, WA3PZO

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What You've Told Us...

Our June column asked about ham radio's role in your summer vacation plans, and two-thirds of you (67%) said ham radio generally *is* a consideration in your vacation planning. More than half of you (54%) always take a ham rig along on vacation, while 34% said sometimes, and only 9% never take a ham rig on vacation. Nearly as many of you actually *use* the rig on vacation, with 47% saying always, 38% saying sometimes, and 5% saying never.

It was no surprise that the most popular type of rig to bring on vacation is a VHF/UHF handheld (57%), followed by a VHF/UHF mobile rig (46%), but we were surprised to learn that 36% of you bring a mobile HF rig, and 24% bring along a portable HF rig for fixed operation. In addition, 13% each bring an HF QRP (low power) rig for use while hiking, a short-wave receiver or a VHF/UHF scanner.

Your vacation operating is about evenly split between the car (44%) and your hotel or vacation house (43%), with 8% operating while hiking or boating, and 9% "other." Also not too surprising were your family's attitude about your hamming on vacation—57% said family members tolerate it, 26% said they enjoy it, while 5% said they don't like it and 3% said "they don't let me operate." Just over 40% of you said your main goal in operating on vacation is rag-chewing, while 33% use your rigs mostly for meeting local hams, getting directions, etc. Another 16% enjoy DXing while on vacation, 5% operate mostly in contests and 15% answered "other."

Finally, 36% of you have - at least once - gone on a "ham radio vacation," in which the destination and/or timing was dictated by a ham radio event or activity.

Our free subscription winner for this month is Brian Bird, NX0X, of Duluth, Minnesota.

Reader Survey September 2006

We'd like to know more about you—about who you are, where you live, what kind(s) of work you do, and of course, what kinds of amateur radio activities you enjoy. Why? To help us serve you better.

Each time we run one of these surveys, we'll ask a few different questions and ask you to indicate your answers by circling numbers on the Survey Card and returning it to us. As a bit of an incentive, we'll pick one respondent each month and give that person a complimentary one-year subscription (or subscription extension) to *CQ*.

This month, we'd like to find out more about your activity level on 6 meters.

Please answer by circling the appropriate numbers on the reply card.

1. Are you currently active on 6 meters?
 - Yes1
 - No2
2. When were you most recently on 6 meters?
 - Within the past week3
 - Within the past month4
 - Within the past year5
 - 1-5 years ago6
 - 5-10 years ago7
 - Not within the past 10 years8
 - Never9
3. What is your perception of the distances you can work on 6 meters?
 - Local/regional only10
 - About 1300 miles, when conditions are right11
 - About 2500 miles, when conditions are right12
 - Intercontinental, but only at sunspot peaks13
 - Intercontinental, *not* only at sunspot peaks14
 - Don't know15
4. Are you aware of the 6-meter openings this summer between Asia, North America and Europe?
 - Yes16
 - No17
5. Have you personally taken advantage of any of these openings to work new countries / states / grids on 6 meters?
 - Yes18
 - No19
6. Will this summer's openings on 6 meters encourage you to become active or more active on the band?
 - Already very active20
 - Yes21
 - No22
 - Don't know23
7. Do you participate in any of the following contests that include 6 meters? (Circle all that apply)
 - ARRL January VHF Contest24
 - ARRL June VHF Contest25
 - ARRL September VHF Contest26
 - CQ World Wide VHF Contest27
 - SMIRK contests28
 - Other 6-meter contests29
 - None30

Thank you very much for your replies. We'll be back next month with more questions.

New ARD9000 MK2 steps up to the mike!

When you add digital capabilities to your existing HF rig with a new ARD9000 MK2, the advantages will come through LOUD and CLEAR.

AOR digital voice operators around the world are amazed at the audio quality delivered by the ARD9000 and ARD9800. Now AOR has improved the ARD9000 by adding a high quality speaker microphone with a traditional 8-pin round connector that lets you "go digital" with just a mike click. Its compact size makes the ARD9000 a favorite for backpackers who want to go HF digital while hiking or climbing. Of course, you don't have to leave home to enjoy the fun of clear DIGITAL contacts.



With thousands of AOR digital units worldwide, digital HF is rapidly gaining a dedicated group of followers. Isn't it time you joined the fun?

Using the open G4GUO protocol, the ARD9000 or ARD9800 allows any ham to convert any existing HF analog transceiver to work digital voice in one easy step!

No radio modifications are necessary and it works with any brand of transceiver.

The unit automatically detects digital signals and decodes them, but you also maintain full analog capabilities. Whether a contact comes in as digital or analog, the ARD9000 and ARD9800 can handle it.

It's a real breakthrough in communications technology that uses the same audio frequencies (300 Hz ~ 2500 Hz) as microphone audio to transmit digital SSB voice signals. It's like adding a whole new mode to your HF radio without having to buy a new one!

- ARD9000 MK2 for "voice only" operations
- 12V DC only operation
- Use the provided speaker-mic or your own high-quality audio mic. (rewiring mic input may be required)
- NO transceiver modifications necessary
- Digital voice communications using existing analog transceivers
- Works on Single Side Band (SSB) mode.
- Automatic digital receive
- Optional interface cables for most popular transceivers
- Built-in high grade Vocoder (AMBE)
- Built-in FEC
- Compact unit. Easy to operate.
- Utilizes a uniquely designed high performance DSP engine
- Uses the established G4GUO open protocol

Be sure to check the website at www.aorusa.com for FAQs, links to user groups and more!

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Hamming from the Shadows

As the general population continues to grow and age, an ever-increasing number of people (each with his or her own special interests and lifestyle) are being required to live in rather close quarters. As a spin-off or consequence, Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) are imposing some fairly strict regulations on homeowners. Residents of apartments, condos, and retirement facilities are also being subjected to an endless number of new-era regulations and stipulations. Yes, and close study indicates that sooner or later (and odds lean more toward sooner than later) over half of us will come face-to-face with such restrictions in our own use of outdoor antennas and enjoyment of amateur radio. That's frightful, especially considering the noteworthy role our person-to-person communications play in promoting international friendships and how much we have helped with communications during emergencies and disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. Will our imposed limitations be offset or overshadowed by state adoptions of PRB-1, the FCC rule requiring "reasonable accommodation" of amateur radio antennas and communications by municipal governments? We certainly hope so, but we should also realize the importance of knowing our options and/or alternatives for continued existence if "plan A" falls through, so-to-speak.

That is the focus of both this and next month's columns—covering hidden and disguised antennas, reduction of telltale RFI, and having a ball on the air while maintaining a low profile. This will probably evolve into an occasional or twice-a-year series of articles covering everything from semi-invisible antennas to "personal portable" setups for impromptu operations and more. You would thus be wise to earmark this first installment (and related later columns) for quick reference if/when needed.

Let's begin this month with a look at three unique vertical antennas with high appeal for all amateurs bound by some type of antenna limitations.

Force 12 Flag Pole Vertical

Have you noticed how areas with antenna restrictions always seem devoid of trees, especially in the Deep South, where it is 20 degrees hotter in the sun than in the shade? Maybe that is why verticals are so popular among many amateurs. They are reasonably affordable, easy to install, self-supporting, and work well to boot. Most of them have one trait in common, however: They look like a vertical antenna, and getting them accepted by landowners and neighbors can prove challenging. When some folks see an antenna, they say: "That is why my cell phone has drop-outs!" "My computer keeps losing its internet connection!" "Mabel's air conditioner doesn't cool properly." "Widow Jones says her hens stopped laying eggs." . . . "It's that antenna! We know it is!"

*3994 Long Leaf Drive, Gardendale, AL 35071
e-mail: <k4twj@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo 1— What's tall, delightful to see, and heard around the world? A Force 12 flagpole antenna, of course. It is an authentic metal flagpole that works 20 meters without a tuner and other bands with a tuner. Antenna is 16 feet tall and additional 4-foot sections to make custom flagpoles are available as options. Install the antenna so it has a good view of distant horizons in desired directions, and it will work out like a champ. More details at <www.force12inc.com>.

Patriotism is held in high esteem today, so antennas disguised as flagpoles are usually accepted or overlooked. Enter the Force 12 sixteen-foot flagpole for 40- through 10-meter operation (photos 1, 2, and 3). The antenna is all-aluminum and looks identical to a flagpole, right down to the rotating top cap and side cleat to hold a rope. It is strong, self-supporting, and holds a flag with no problem. Installation of a Force 12 flagpole antenna typically takes around an hour and involves digging an 18- to 20-inch hole for the base, filling it with quick-setting concrete, laying a few radials, and placing the antenna on its base. The flagpole is resonant on 20 meters and typically exhibits an SWR of 1.2:1 across

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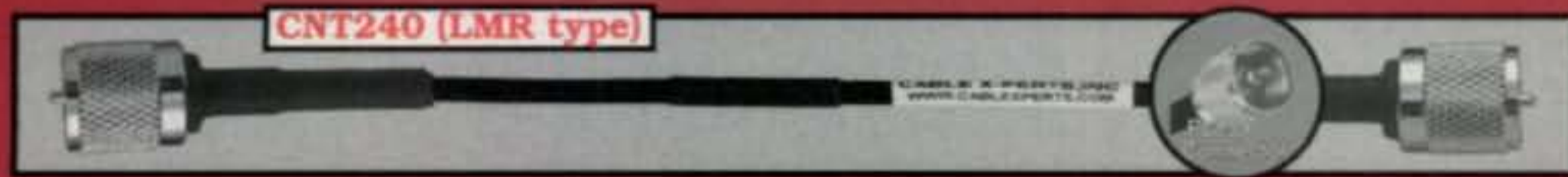
All assemblies are tested to ensure optimum performance.



CNT600 (LMR type)



CNT400 (LMR type)



CNT240 (LMR type)

CNT600 (LMR type)

Connector: N, PL259, TNC & 7/16
 Burial: **Yes**, UV Resistant: **Yes**.
 Shields: 2 (100% bonded foil +90% TC Braid) **VP 87%**.
 Attenuation 3.9dB @ 2 GHz at 100ft.
 Usage 450 MHz and Higher.

HALF INCH SIZE SHOWN

CNT195 (LMR type)

Connector: N, PL259, TNC, SMA, & BNC
 Burial: **Yes**, UV Resistant: **Yes**.
 Shields: 2 (100% bonded foil +90% TC Braid) **VP 80%**.
 Attenuation 0.45dB @ 2 GHz (3ft Jumper).
 Usage 1 MHz and Higher.

RG58U SIZE NOT SHOWN

CNT400 (LMR type)

Connector: N, PL259, TNC, SMA, BNC.
 Burial: **Yes**, UV Resistant: **Yes**.
 Shields: 2 (100% bonded foil +90% TC Braid) **VP 85%**.
 Attenuation 6.0dB @ 2 GHz at 100ft.
 Usage 450 MHz and Higher.

RG8U SIZE SHOWN

CNT240 (LMR type)

Connector: N, PL259, TNC, SMA, BNC.
 Burial: **Yes**, UV Resistant: **Yes**.
 Shields: 2 (100% bonded foil +90% TC Braid) **VP 84%**.
 Attenuation 3.0dB @ 150 MHz at 100ft.
 Usage 1 MHz and Higher.

RG8X SIZE SHOWN

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CC&Rs

Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions are covering our nation and directly affecting nearly everyone's lifestyle. Recently, for example, our daily newspaper (*The Birmingham News*, April 29, pages 1 and 2) reported how local CC&Rs were banning everything from outdoor flower gardens and barbecue grills to swing sets, basketball goals, and antennas. Even garage doors that are open when not in use came under fire. Every two weeks, CC&R enforcers canvassed neighborhoods looking for covenant violations. When found, the homeowner received two letters. If not corrected, an attorney was called in and a lawsuit was filed. In one highlighted case a lady was sued for planting flowers too close to the street. In another case, a person was cited for having a garbage can visible from the street. Gee, I remember when N4JF worked VU2DIA on Andaman Island with a beam balanced on a garbage can in his yard—and in full view of neighbors and street. Ah, those old days of yesteryear were terrific!

the band. A 10-turn coil of coax is positioned away from the antenna's base, allowing the coax feedline between the coil and antenna to serve as part of the antenna system, so with the aid of a tuner it can also work on 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters. When complemented with an optional base-loading coil, the antenna works on 40 meters, as well. Performance on non-resonant bands is not earth shattering, but it is not bad either. A good ground system is vitally important to the operation of any quarter-wave vertical, and Force 12 suggests using two resonant/quarter-wave radials for each band of operation. The radials may be bare or insulated wire stretched out on the ground or buried one or two inches below the surface.

This Force 12 flagpole is the least expensive antenna featured this month. It is so affordable, in fact, that an amateur residing in a retirement community could purchase one, have



Photo 2— This view shows how the Force 12 antenna fits onto its short base, which you fit into quick-setting cement. Look carefully and you can see one radial wire disappearing into the grass.



Photo 3— Here an optional 40-meter base coil has been added to the Force 12 antenna. Installation was halted at this particular point, so you can see the radial wires and transmission line connecting to the base plate.

it installed, and donate it to the facility, provided the amateur was allowed to use the flagpole antenna while residing in the community. Just remember to protect the antenna's base connections and coax from groundkeepers with wild weed eaters. A couple of short PVC pipes usually work fine here.

Additional information on Force 12 antennas is available at www.force12inc.com or 1-800-248-1985. Questions can be e-mailed to force12manager@sbcglobal.net. Check it out!

The IAC Stealth Bazooka

Another neat flagpole-disguised vertical antenna is the IAC model SB-40 shown in photos 4 and 5. The metallic radiating elements of this antenna are enclosed in a 2.3-inch diameter, 17.5-foot tall pole made of furniture-grade PVC reinforced with UV stabilizers for long life. The antenna covers 40 and 20 meters without a tuner and can be used on other bands with the aid of a tuner. If you are thinking you have seen this antenna somewhere before, you are right. Its forerunner, the SB-10 that worked 10, 17, and 20 meters, was on the cover of *CQ* for January 2006. The new SB-40 looks identical to the SB-10. It has simply being modified to accommodate requests to operate two of the most popular HF bands without requiring a tuner.



Photo 4— Even overly strict home-owner committees should find this flagpole attractive. It is made of high-strength furniture-grade PVC with a white finish and gold ball on top for a clean, patriotic look. Inside the tubing and fully protected from the weather are separate vertical radiators for 40 and 20 meters. More details at www.iacantennas.com.



Photo 5— Base/feed-point view of IAC's SB-40 flagpole vertical showing the recessed socket accepting PL-259. The antenna fits onto a support mast you preinstall in the ground. Associated radials are buried just deep enough to avoid damage by wild weed eaters. (Photo courtesy of IAC Antenna Corporation)

Special features of the SB-40 antenna are a clean look with internal radiators that are fully protected from the weather. It has a high-gloss white finish to go with any environment. The antenna is also a quarter-wave radiator, so it requires ground radials, which are supplied with the antenna. Additional details are at <www.iacantennas.com> or from IAC, P.O. Box 1715, Escondido, CA 92033 (phone 1-888-268-4214).

SteppIR Verticals

Our third flagpole "look alike" antenna is made by SteppIR, the same folks producing those motor-tuned Yagi antennas that are so incredibly popular today (photos 6 and 7). There are two versions or models of SteppIR verticals—an 18 footer that remotely tunes/resonates on any frequency between 20 and 6 meters, and a 32 footer that remotely tunes/resonates on any frequency between 40 and 6 meters.

SteppIRs are not advertised as flagpole antennas, but in my opinion they fill the bill admirably! The antennas consist of a spool of flat and perforated copper strip that extends from a base housing unit. A precision Stepper motor then drives the copper strip up/down within the antenna's hollow fiberglass tube. A microprocessor-based controller operates the Stepper motor, thus setting the copper strip to the exact length required to produce a 1:1 SWR on a selected band/frequency. The antenna is easy to assemble and install, pruning for lowest SWR is a pushbutton cinch, and stepping rate is 1.17 MHz per second (4.4 seconds to go between 20 and 17 meters, for example). The antenna element is fully weather protected, and it can also be retracted into its base housing during electrical storms, leaving only the hollow fiberglass pole exposed to lightning.

SteppIRs are normally advertised as regular quarter-wave verticals, but they are capable of much more. Indeed, a creative-minded amateur can easily find a SteppIR comparable to an antenna farm in a 1-foot-square area. How so? First, a big (that's the 32 ft.) SteppIR can be set/adjusted to serve as a $3/4$ -wave vertical with mild gain on 15 through 6 meters. Likewise, a small (the 18 ft.) SteppIR can be set for $3/4$ -wave operation on 6 meters. Now think further and reflect back on your studies of antenna theory. If a SteppIR's length is set to $3/8$ or $1/2$ wave for a selected band, mild gain results and a few 4- or 5-ft. spokes rather than a full radial system can serve as a ground plane. The down

PRB-1: What It Is and What It Means

As you probably know, many owners of various types of property/land tend to be narrow-minded regarding amateur radio antennas. PRB-1 offers a viable solution to the dilemma by prohibiting outright bans on amateur radio antennas by state and local governments. But the FCC so far has declined repeated requests to expand the scope of PRB-1 to include private landowners and CC&Rs. Simply explained, this docket calls for limited preemption of local area antenna ordinances and requires all such rules "reasonably accommodate amateur radio antennas and communications." That's the general thrust of PRB-1. A more precise and formal description was included on page 4, July 2004 CQ, and on page 4 of May 2006 CQ. The latter also reports Mississippi as the 22nd state to adopt a statewide version of PRB-1. The other states are AK, CA, FL, ID, IN, LA, ME, MA, MO, NV, NH, NM, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV, WI, and WY.

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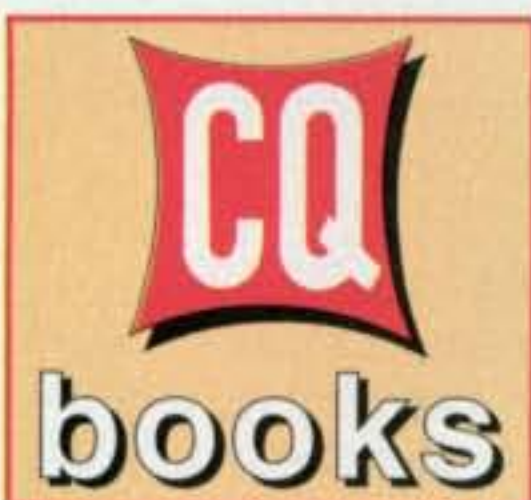
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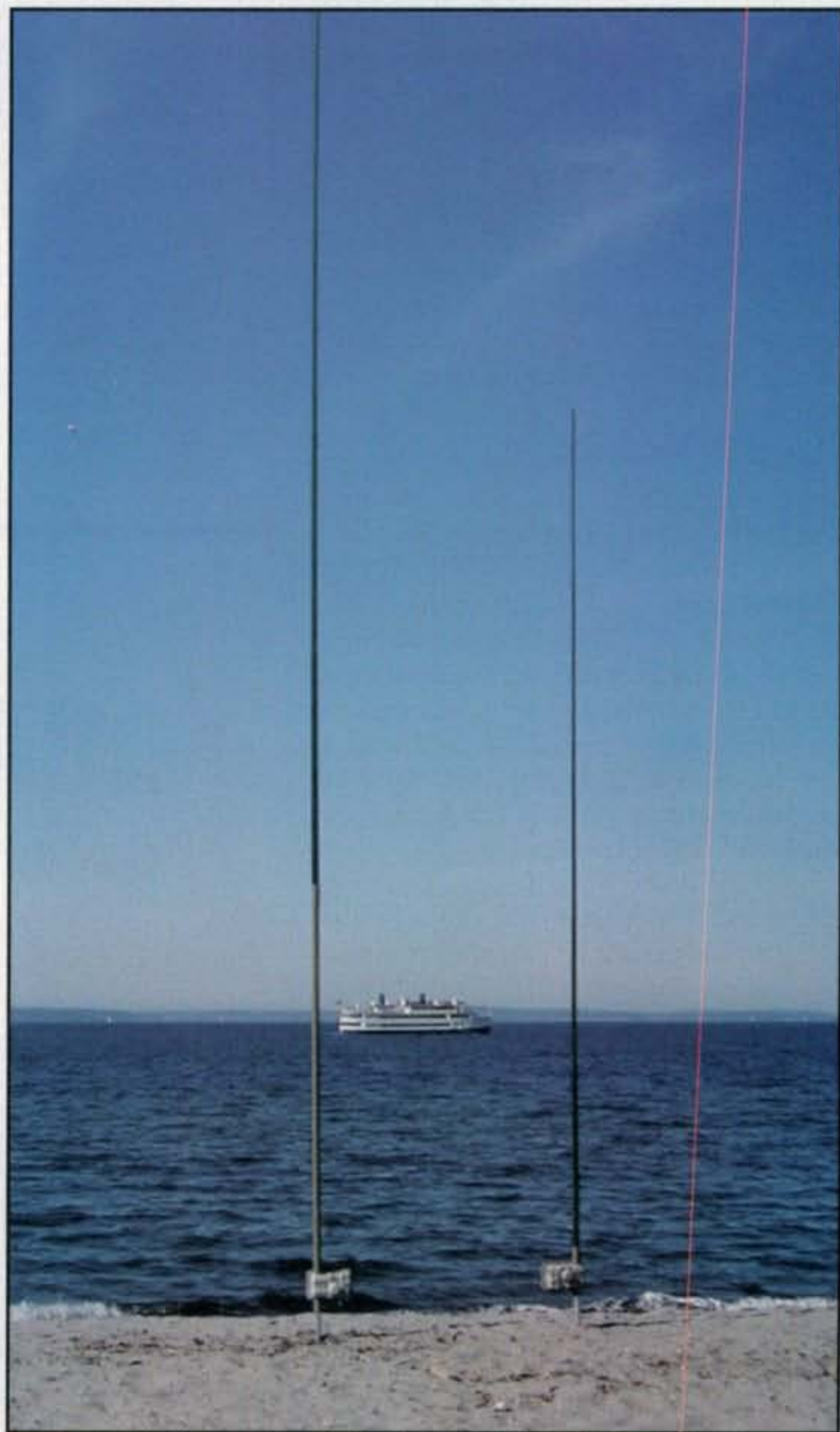


Photo 6— SteppIR produces two multiband verticals that can easily double as flagpoles—one 18 feet tall and one 32 feet tall. Antennas feature a microprocessor-controlled Stepper motor that drives a copper radiating element up/down inside a hollow fiberglass tube. The vertical element can thus be remotely set to any desired length/height/frequency. More details at <www.Steppir.com>.

side is feed point impedance goes from 50 ohms to between 1200 and 2000 ohms. Ah, but add a broadband matching transformer such as Hy-Gain does with its AV-640 or Cushcraft does with its R-7000 (not an antenna tuner, but a matching transformer), and a 50-ohm feed point plus big-time performance results. This "extended element idea" works for all bands through 20 meters. A base-located 2-ft. linear loading section could be added for 3/8-wave operation on 30 meters, and a bypass switch could be added for regular quarter-wave operation on 40 meters.

I have cross-compared 3/8- and 1/2-wave verticals with a three-element triband beam over a period of four years and consistently found performance of the vertical within three or four dB of the beam. I also noted I could contact any station with either the 3/8- or 1/2-wave vertical that I could contact with

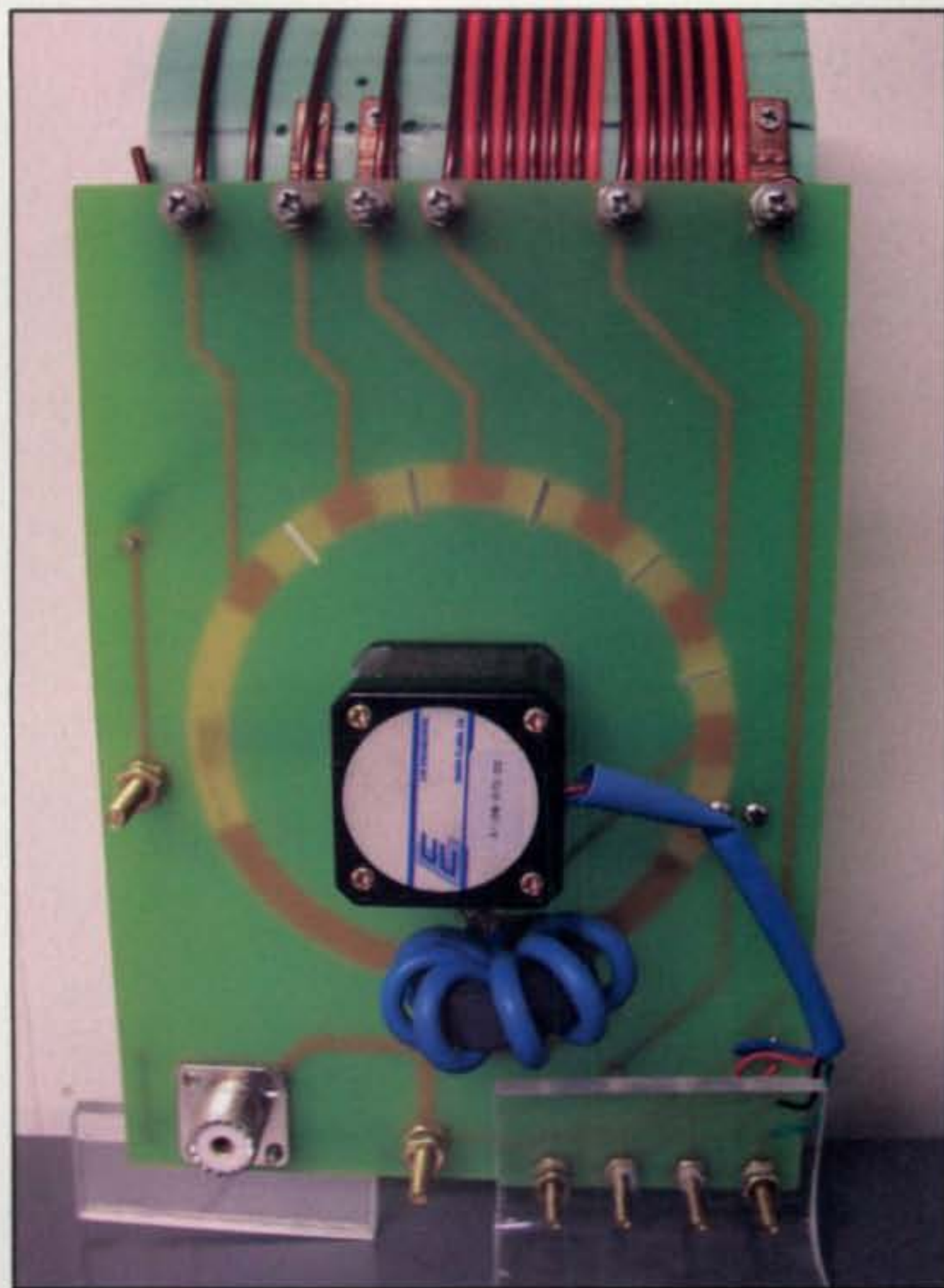


Photo 7— Removed-from-case view of the optional base-loading coil for using the short SteppIR on 40 meters.

the beam. That fact did not hold true for a quarter-wave vertical, however. It was typically 6 to 12 dB below the beam in performance. You have probably noticed similar measurements in performance.

Here is another "dink idea" worth considering: Add a small plastic pulley at the top of a small/short SteppIR, and then thread a thin nylon rope or fishing line through the pulley. Home-assemble an inverted-Vee for 40 meters, an inverted-L for 160 meters, or a two-element wire "X" beam (made from two inverted-Vees with a common center support) for 40 or 20 meters. Then retract the SteppIR's element and hoist up a really high-performance wire antenna for special operations. If you prefer more conventional types of experimenting and must stick with the short antenna, incidentally, SteppIR recently introduced a cool loading coil for 40- or 30-meter operation with a small SteppIR. Oh, such dinking delights!

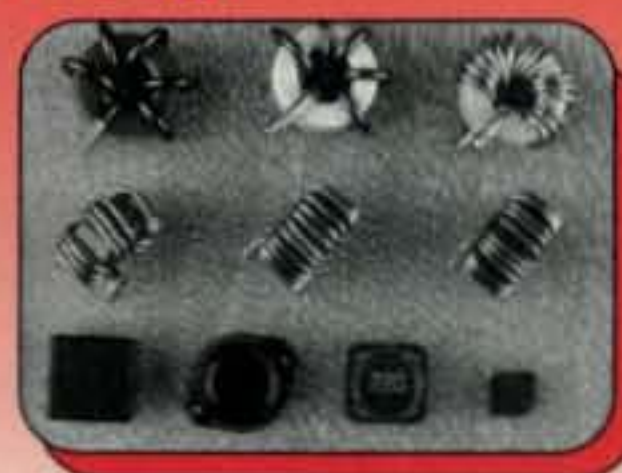
Conclusion

We have run past the closing wire and we have only scratched the surface of this most interesting subject. Still to consider are numerous measures for minimizing RFI and ensuring neighbors never discover your secret, hiding wire antennas, and, of course, more vertical antennas for areas without trees. We will squeeze in as many of those topics as possible next month. Meanwhile, stay enthusiastic and active on HF, even if you must use an extension cable routed to your mobile antenna!

73, Dave, K4TWJ

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SWR "Tamers" for HF Transceivers

Manual and automatic antenna tuners can present a high SWR to your transceiver during tuning. Many HF transceivers have a low-power "tune" mode and output fold-back circuitry to provide output circuitry protection under high SWR conditions. Popular QRP radios also turn down power in the presence of high SWR. However, unlike higher power radios, the low turned-down output of QRP transceivers is often insufficient to permit proper operation of auto-tuners or auto-screwdriver tuners. As an example, my IC-703 puts out full power into a 2:1 SWR. However, at a 3:1 SWR the output power is about 2 watts, and just about 1 watt at a 5:1 SWR. This makes the IC-703 incompatible with at least one available auto-screwdriver tuner.

*1517 Creekside Drive, Richardson, TX 75081
e-mail: <ad5x@arrl.net>

Therefore, this month we'll look at a few different circuits that will provide output SWR protection for HF transceivers, and also help keep QRP output levels high enough for automatic tuners.

My first SWR Tamer was simply a 3-dB pad that could be switched in-line during tuning. The worst-case SWR with this unit is about 3:1. Fig. 1 is the schematic, and photos A and B show internal and external views of the unit. The resistors are Cad-dock 15-watt thick-film resistors, good well up into

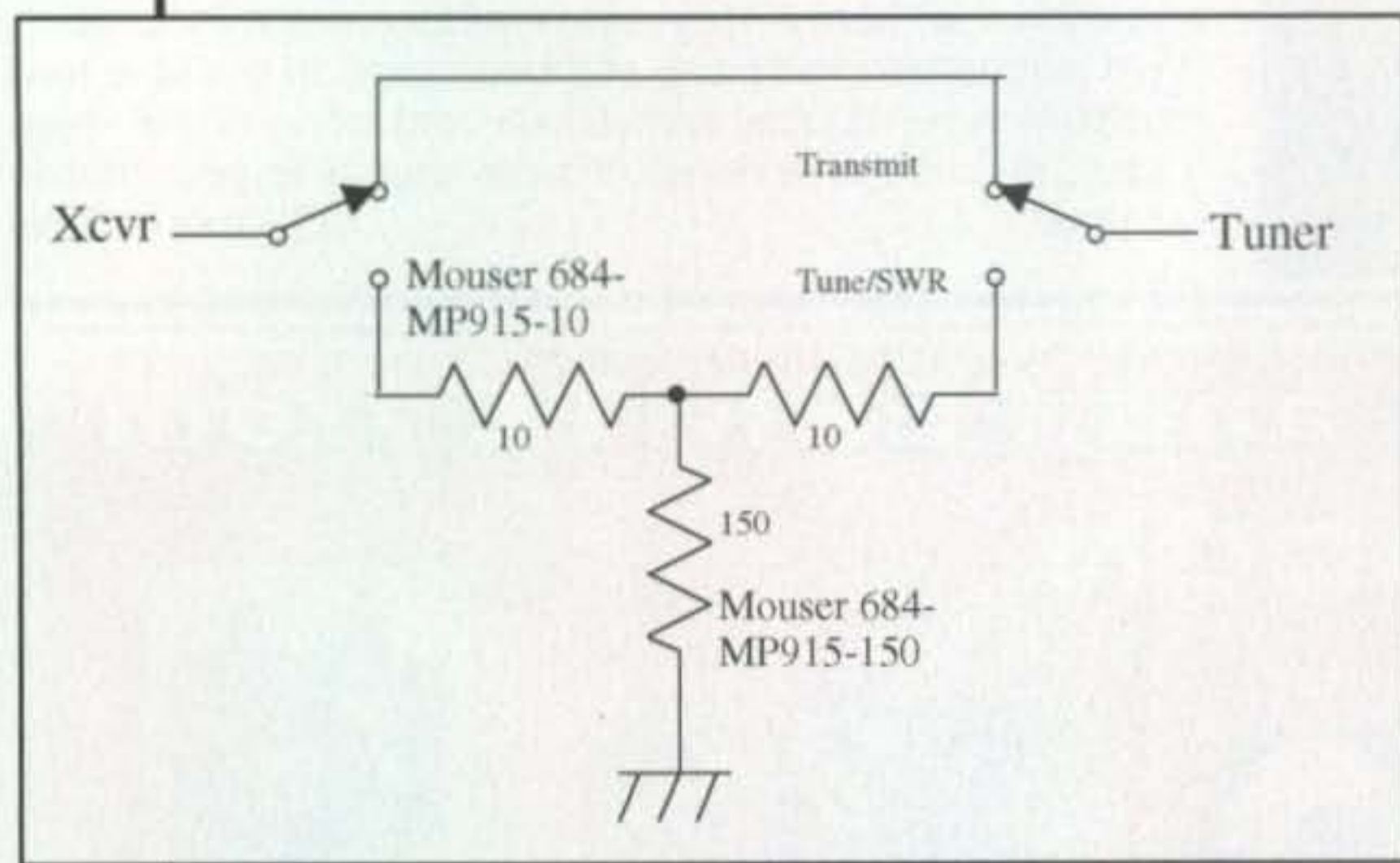


Fig. 1—In-line 3-dB attenuator.

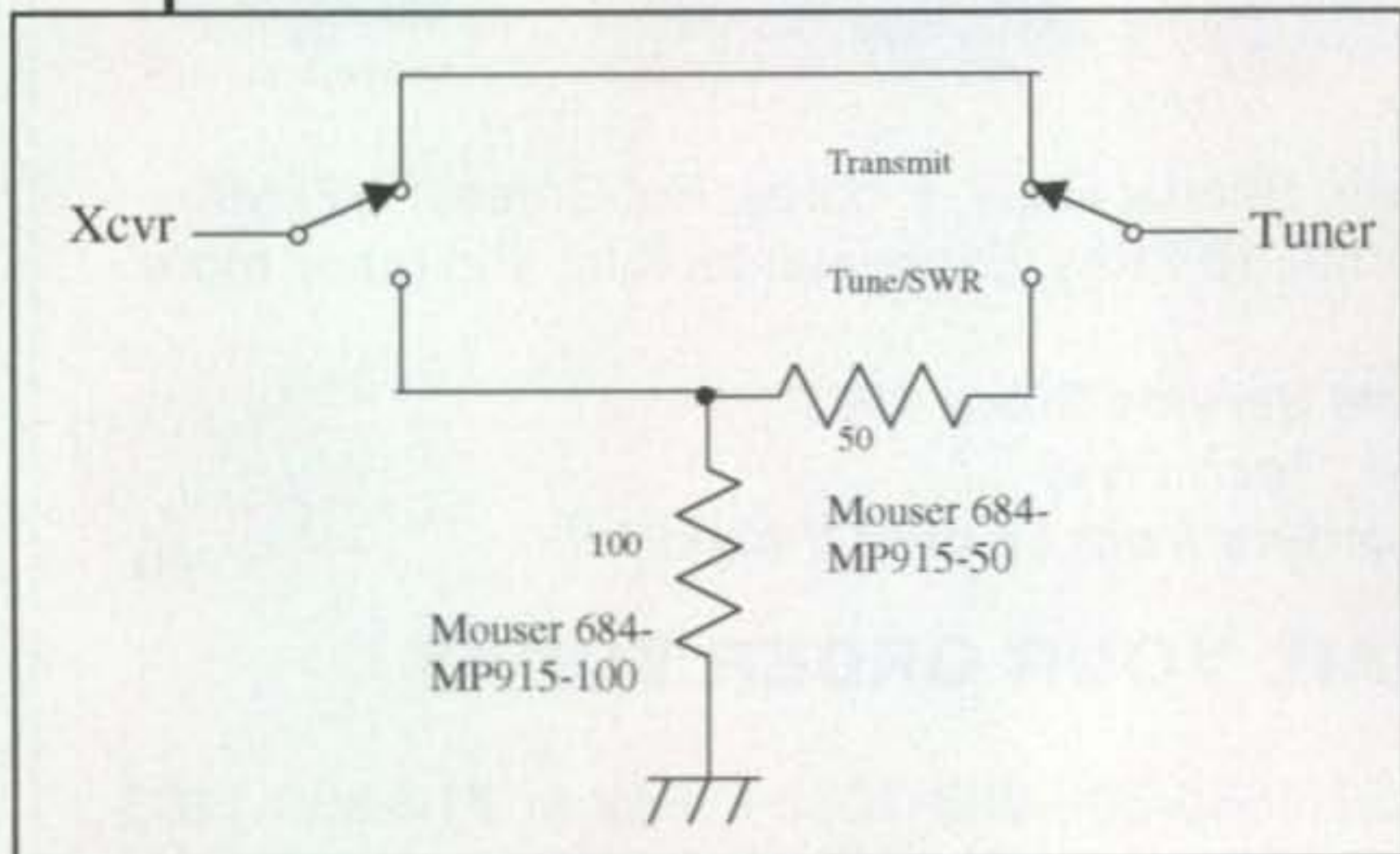


Fig. 2—In-line 6-dB attenuator.

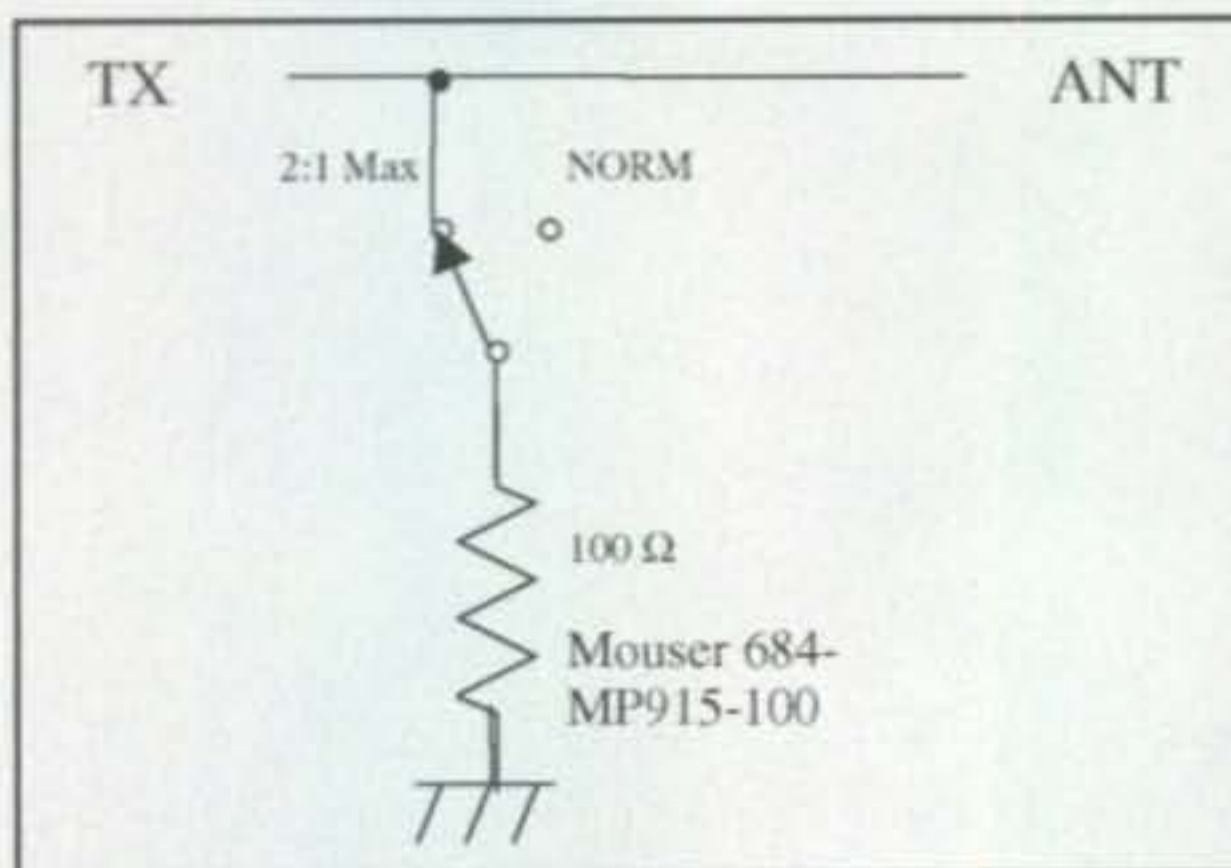


Fig. 3—Simplest SWR Tamer schematic.

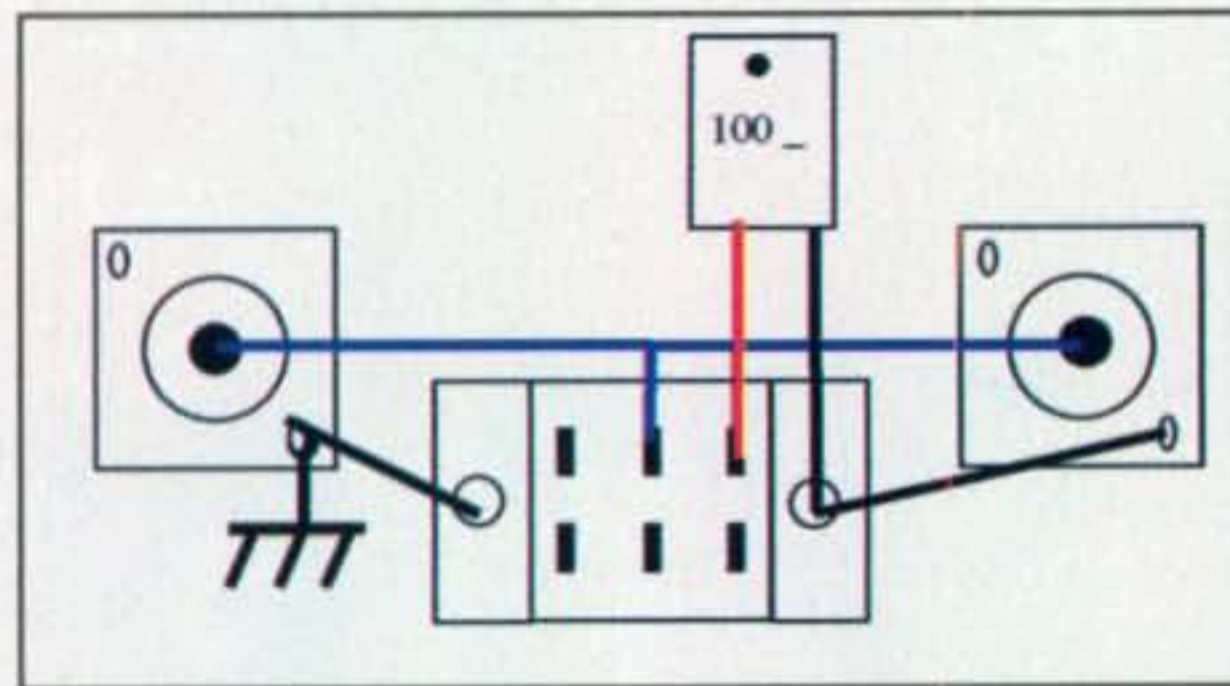


Fig. 4—Physical wiring diagram.



Photo A—Inside view of the 3-dB attenuator.

the VHF range. The aluminum box is a Mouser 537-M00-P.

A simpler circuit is the L-network shown in fig. 2. This circuit reduces the power resistors to only two, and limits your worst-case SWR to 2:1. However, under matched conditions you lose 6 dB of transmit power.

It finally occurred to me, though, that just placing a 100-ohm resistor across the RF line while tuning could keep the SWR at 2:1 or less with the least attenuation. The exception to this is if you are trying to match a very low impedance. However, short antennas have high capacitive reactance, and screw-driver antennas either have high capacitive reactance or high inductive reactance when off resonance. I've also found that when using a manual tuner, your impedance won't be too low if you set both the matching and tuning capacitors to maximum and then peak the receive signal with the tuner inductor prior to tuning with transmit power applied.

Fig. 3 is the schematic of this very simple circuit. The Mouser 537-M00-P aluminum box is painted, so scrape off paint around the SO-239 mounting screws for good RF grounding, and around the base of the 100-ohm power resistor for good heat transfer (use RadioShack 276-1372 heat-sink grease under the power resistor). You will need one solder lug to attach one end of the 100-ohm resistor to ground. The 100-ohm power resistor is mounted with a #2 screw, lockwasher, and nut. The switch and SO-239 connectors are mounted with #4 hardware.

The wiring diagram is shown in fig. 4. Point-to-point wiring is used, and is just fine for HF through 6-meter operation. Photos C and D show my final wired unit. For all labeling I used a Casio labeler with "black on clear" tape. I also added stick-on rubber feet on the bottom of the unit.

That's it for this month. Remember, send your Weekender ideas, questions, and projects to me at <ad5x@arrl.net>.

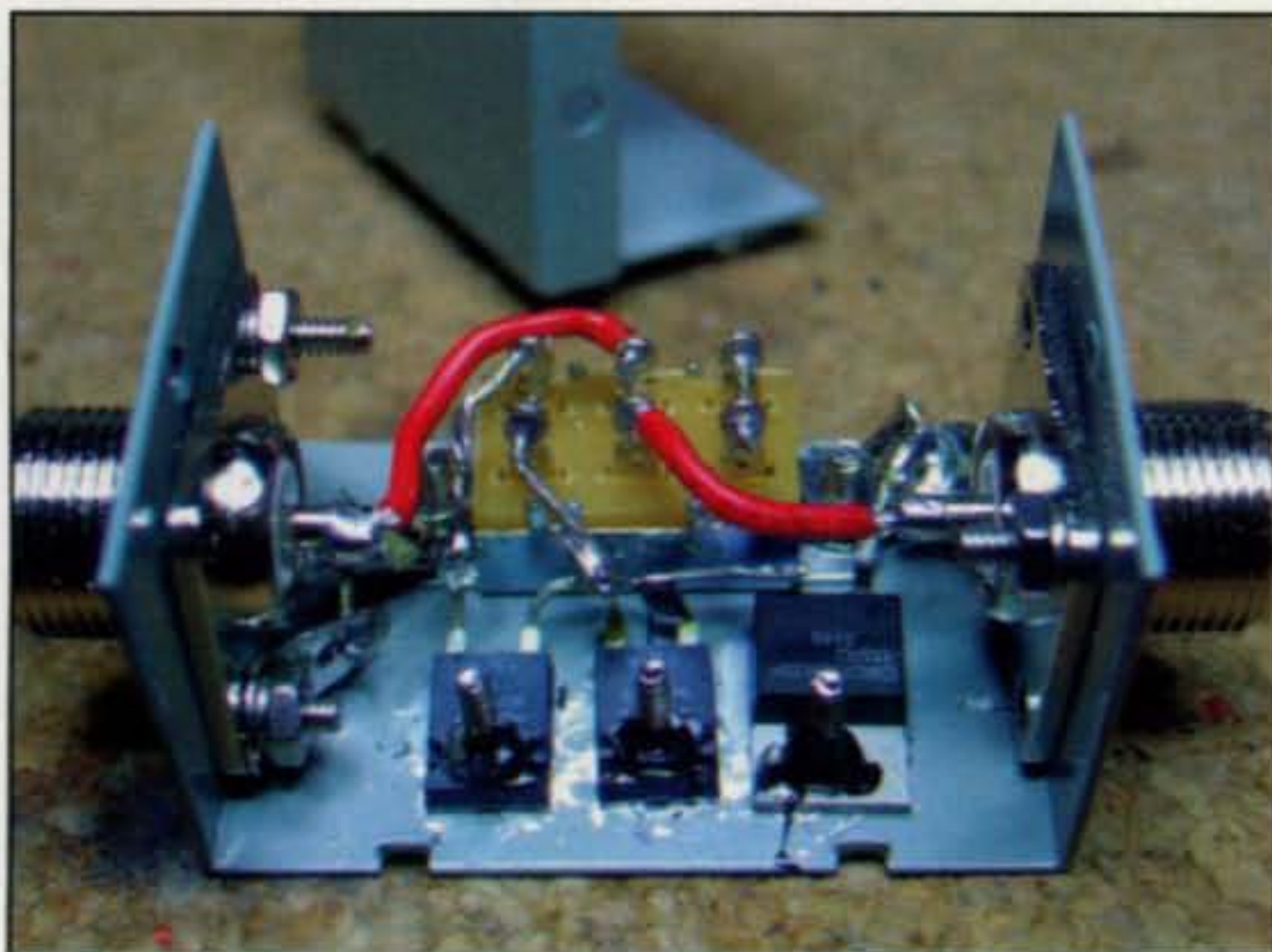


Photo B— The 3-dB attenuator, outside view.



Photo C— Internal wiring of the simple SWR Tamer.

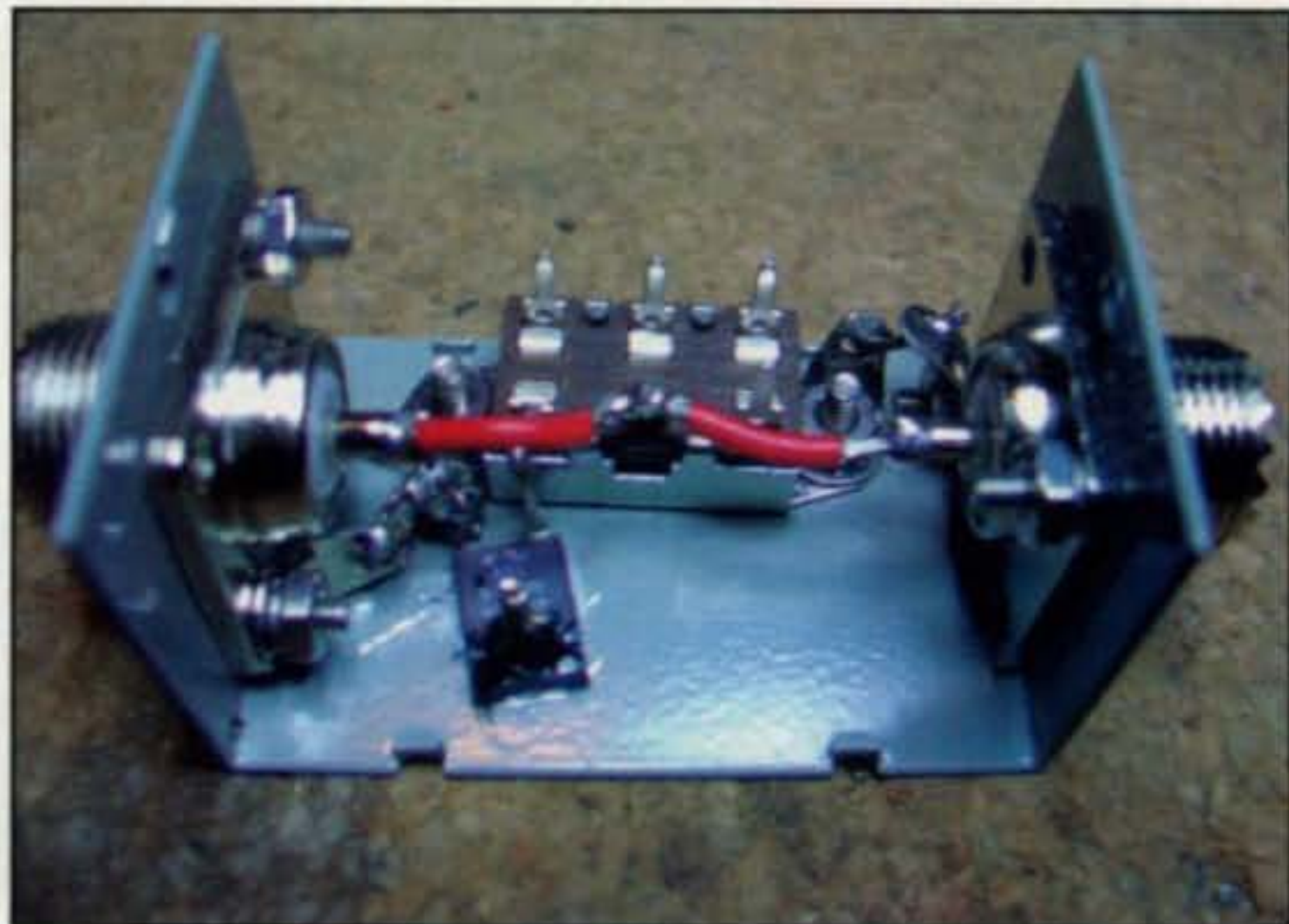


Photo D— Outside view of the simple SWR Tamer.

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A Simple Antenna for the 2.39–2.45 GHz Amateur Band

Recently, we had a need to convert one of our products (a fiber-optic link) so that it could bridge a gap where a fiber could not be run. A free-space optical link could not be employed, since the stability of the physical mounts available for the optical elements (over the distances involved) would not be adequate. It seemed that the only practical choice would be a true RF wireless link with a beam width greater than that available from an optical link.

After a bit of research, we decided to use the ISM license-free band at 2.4 GHz (for this portion of the link) for the benefit of our customer. Since the amateur 2.39- to 2.45-GHz band also shares some of these frequencies, we thought it would be a good idea to relate some of our findings here for those of you who might be interested in further exploring this band. Some of this information, by the way, could also be used to extend the range of a 2.4-GHz wireless internet (WiFi) connection, but that is another matter.

Converting the fiber-optic units from optical devices to electrical inputs and outputs was straightforward and readily accomplished. The initial choice of the RF transmitter and receiver was also fairly easy, since FCC-certified units are available from numerous sources. The legal ones have relatively low output power levels, however, and normally are only usable for a few hundred meters with the types of omni-directional antennas usually provided.

Since our path was specifically point-to-point and almost a half mile between transmitter and receiver, it was obvious that a directional antenna of some sort would be needed. A search on the internet turned up many pre-packaged units (that could also be used on the amateur band, by the way), as well

as numerous articles concerning homebrew antennas, one of which used (of all things) a Pringles™ potato-chip-can housing.¹ Being true homebrewers at heart, we decided that we would “take a chance,” digest some of the basics of what had been done previously, and attempt to build our own antennas along these lines.

The potato-chip-can antenna is really a resonant waveguide type antenna as shown in fig. 1. RF is fed to a “probe” in the cavity, and since only one side is open, the RF exits through this opening. The front-to-back ratio is very good for obvious reasons, and forward power can reach into the 10 dBi+ region with relatively simple construction. The original potato-chip-can waveguide was an aluminum-foil-covered cardboard tube (with a built-in Yagi director assembly) that seemed a bit complex and would not last very long outdoors, so we had to find something more substantial.

What we finally decided to use (as did many others) was the familiar coffee can. Here was an all-metal housing of about the right size that even came with a plastic cover that could be used as a radom to keep out weather. Cost was free, since almost everyone drinks coffee, and even if one doesn't, a neighbor almost certainly does and used cans should be readily available. The coffee can we used was 4 inches in diameter and 5³/₈ inches long, the size used for most standard eleven-ounce brands. A somewhat better can would be the one used to package Pepperidge Farms Pirouette™ cookies, since it is the same diameter but has smooth sides (compared to the ridges on the coffee can) and is longer, resulting in higher gain.

We began by drilling a pilot hole 1³/₄ inches up from the bottom of the can and then carefully reaming this out to accept a type N coaxial receptacle (which happened to match the connector on our

*c/o CQ magazine

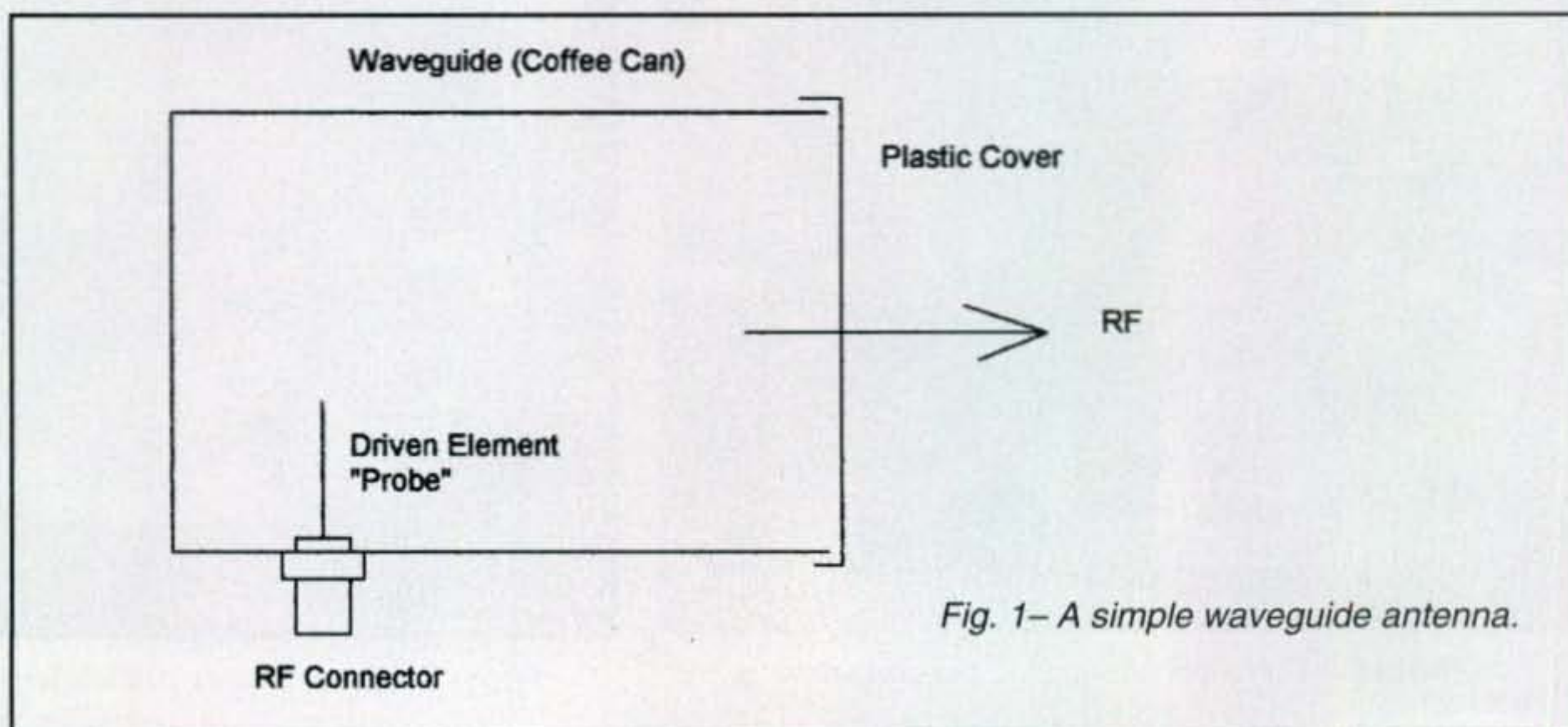


Fig. 1—A simple waveguide antenna.

transmitter). We were lucky enough to get a connector that mounted with a couple of large nuts; however, the standard N connector could also be used. In fact, you can even experiment with other connectors, but type N is rated for operation at this frequency (actually up to 11 GHz) and is not overly expensive.

We then prepared the probe from some #12 copper wire of the type used for house wiring. Since we only needed a couple of inches, the salesman at the local Home Depot simply cut a 3-inch "sample" for us from a huge reel at no charge. We made sure this wire was perfectly straight, soldered it into the connector, and then cut the final length to exactly 1.2 inches (which included the brass solder cup ferrule of the connector). Then we inserted the connector/probe assembly into the hole we had previously drilled, tightened the nuts, scraped off the paint around the connector, and carefully tack-soldered it in place to make sure of good electrical contact. An old 250-watt Weller™ soldering gun and plenty of rosin flux made this part of the job fairly easy, although the can did get quite hot, so be sure to exercise caution! Wearing gloves would be a good idea and would probably save some painful burns. Finally, we drilled a small 1/8-inch diameter hole at the rear of the can to allow any moisture that might condense to drip out. Fig. 2 shows the details of the mechanical construction. A coat of outdoor enamel paint (on the outside of the can only) then completed the job.

Once the two antennas were finished, we had to test the system. We set up the transmitter at one end of a large open field using the automotive lighter socket as our power source. The antenna was mounted to an inexpensive photographer's tripod with a couple of plastic tie-wraps to hold it steady. A 10-kHz square-wave oscillator was then connected to the transmitter as a temporary signal source. The receiving antenna was mounted to another tripod with the same probe orientation (up and down), and a 12-volt motorcycle battery was employed as a power source for some portability. A 1N4148 diode, a 0.1-μF capacitor and a DVM were then connected to the output of the receiver as a simple signal-strength detector. All transmitter-to-receiver communications during setup were by means of 2-meter HTs.

The first test was at 100 feet and signals were very strong. Mechanical alignment was not too critical, although the directivity of the antennas was clearly obvious. The next test was at 1000 feet (yes, we paced the distance by foot

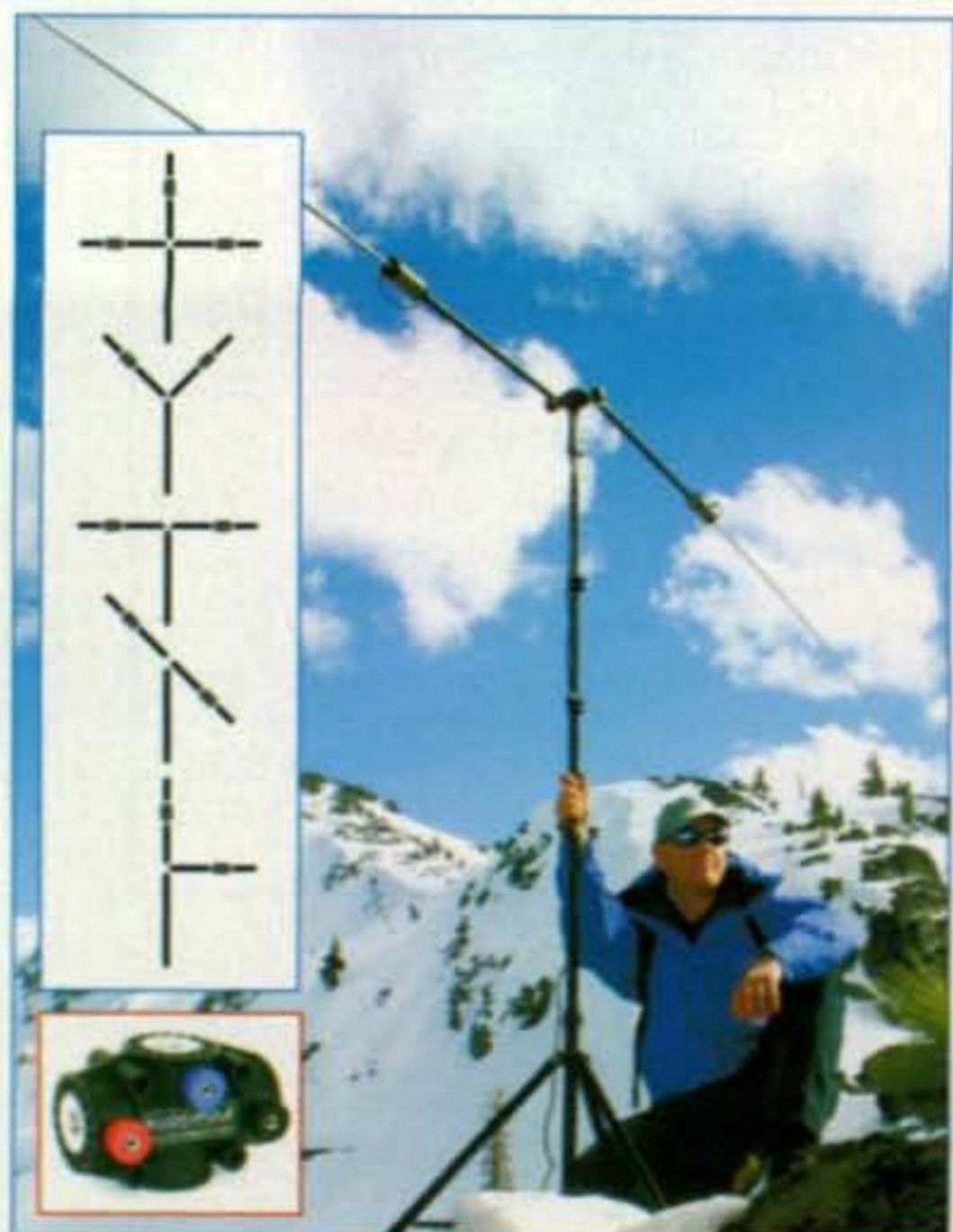


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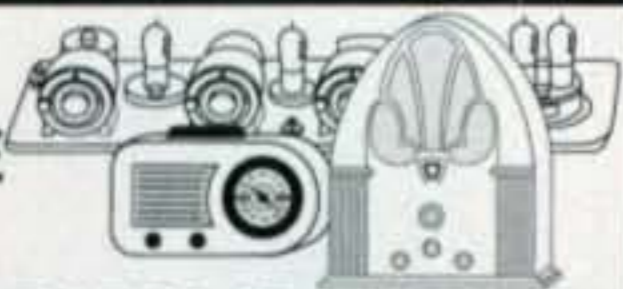


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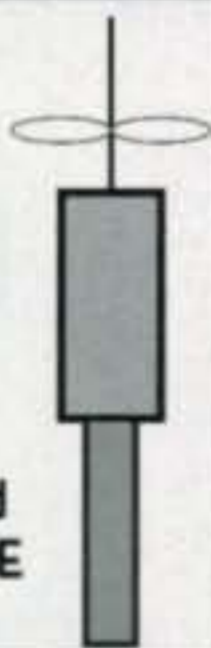
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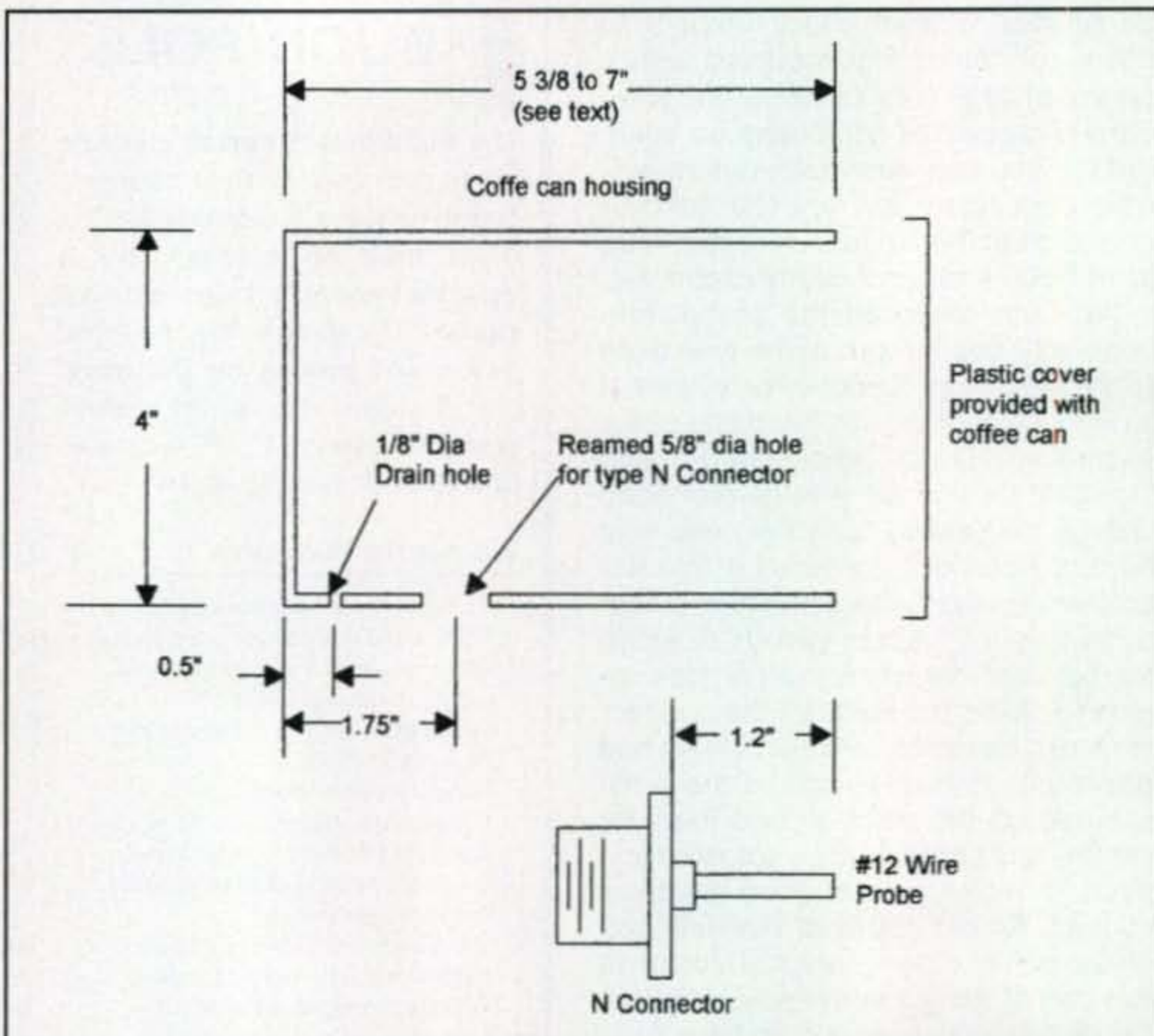


Fig. 2— Waveguide antenna details.

the hard way) and signals were still very strong. Alignment was now a bit more critical. At this point it became apparent that the polarization of both the transmitting and receiving antennas was important, since tilting or rotating one tripod "off vertical" (relative to the other one) could cause significant variations in signal strength. Polarization, by the way, is the direction of the probe with respect to the ground. If the probe is perpendicular to the ground (up and down), the output is vertically polarized. If the probe is horizontal (left to right), the output is horizontally polarized. As mentioned, our antennas were vertically polarized (for no particular reason).

Next we took the entire setup to a vacant beach on the Atlantic Ocean here on Long Island, about 15 miles from home and early in the morning to avoid crowds. At one-half mile the signals were still okay, but at a mile they became a little too noisy for reliable communications, although we could still detect signals—truly amazing for something homebrew at microwave frequencies. No doubt optimizing the various dimensions specifically for the exact operating frequency would result in even greater gain.

Incidentally, the final setup that we delivered to our customer used commercial antennas, since it not only "had

to work reliably," but also had to look really "professional." The homebrew units would have worked just as well, but might not have been as readily accepted, and we certainly were not ready to explain the use of coffee cans on a commercial project.

If you research the various versions that others have built (look on the internet) with juice cans, cookie cans, and the like, you will quickly realize that high-gain antennas for this microwave band (and higher) are really not very difficult to build and are a lot of fun to boot.

With the wide range of microwave equipment available for the amateur, it is a lot of fun experimenting in the SHF (super high frequency) region. We were limited to low power in this particular project, but one can easily use higher power for strictly amateur-related communications. Just be sure not to attempt to look into a transmitting antenna when it is live, particularly when driving it with more than a few milliwatts. I do not know if this type of antenna can really cause RF exposure problems, but it is always better to be safe than sorry.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM

Note

1. For a previous discussion of this technique, see "The Use of Pringles™ Containers to Enhance Network Security," by Prof. Emil Heisseluft, April 2003 CQ.

Discover Ham Satellites with a Cheap Yagi

If ham radio satellites have always seemed out of reach for you because of cost or complexity, there's something you should know: If you own a dual-band handheld, you already have the most expensive and complicated part of an introductory satellite station. If you can hold a lightweight antenna, lift it over your head, and move it every couple of minutes, then you also have the getting-started rotator (you!). All that's left is the antenna, and this month's "Cheap Yagi" (photo A) will fill the bill—at a cost of about one \$10 bill.

There are several low Earth orbit (LEO) FM satellites you can access with nothing more than a dual-band handheld (more about them later), and handheld dual-band antennas have become quite popular for making QSOs through them. Our version is a combined 145-MHz/435-MHz antenna that's only 32 inches long, with two elements on 145 MHz and five elements on 435 MHz. At less than a pound, it's easy to hold up.

One popular commercial handheld satellite antenna mounts the elements for the different bands 90 degrees apart from each other. This is a mechanical, not really an electrical, decision. Crossed elements make the boom shorter, but mounting them flat (photo B) makes the antenna much easier to lay down in the back of a truck or store in the garage. If you mount all the elements in the same plane (which I find easiest), be aware that the last 145-MHz director and the 435-MHz reflector will interact if they're too close together.

Space them three inches apart and everything should be fine.

Construction

For the boom, $\frac{5}{8}$ " \times $\frac{5}{8}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " \times $\frac{3}{4}$ " wood works well. If you plan to mount the antenna outside for a long time, a coat of spar varnish, spray enamel, or some of that waterproofing stuff you use on wood decks will add years to its life.

For the elements, I used $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch material. The 435-MHz reflector and directors were from a roll of RadioShack aluminum ground-rod wire. Forty feet will run you about 5 bucks and make a lot of anten-

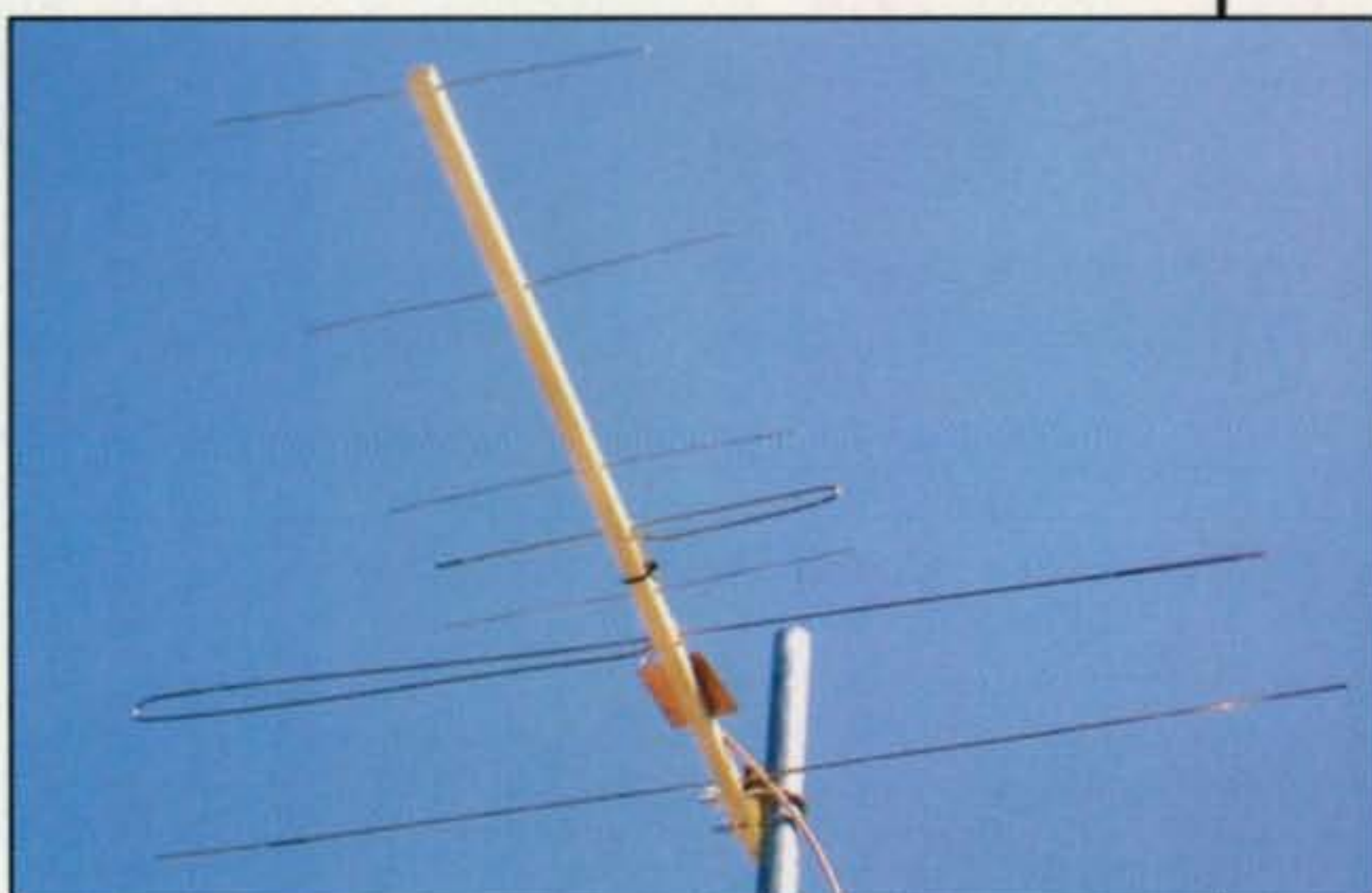


Photo A— "Cheap Yagi" for working FM "Easysat" satellites.

*1626 Vineyard, Grand Prairie, TX 75052
e-mail: <wa5vjb@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo B— Drew, KO4MA, using the Cheap LEO Yagi during a Dayton demonstration. In the background you can see CQ VHF Satellite Editor Keith Pugh, W5IU, using his Arrow commercial antenna. The Cheap LEO Yagi was at least as effective.

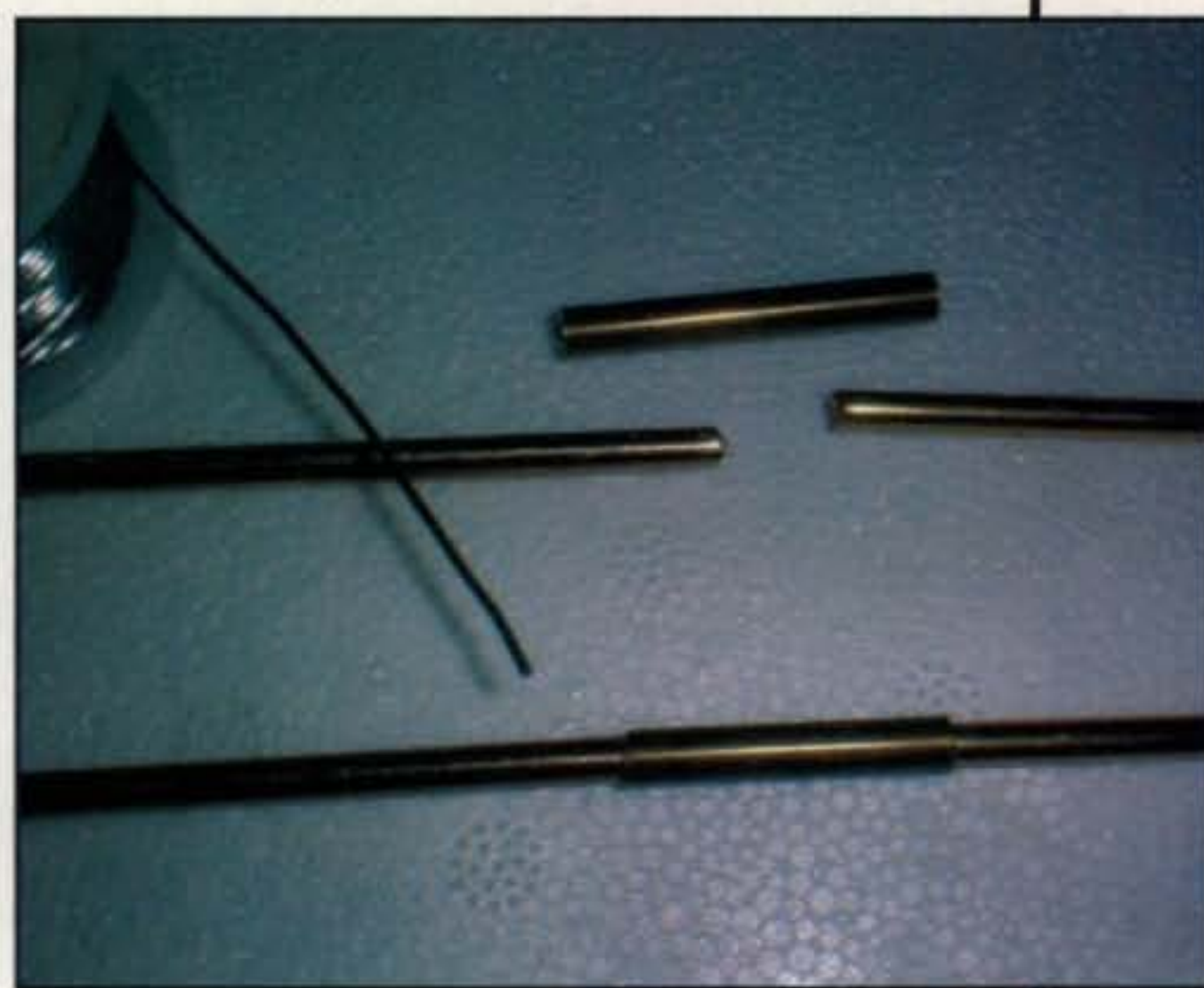


Photo C— Element splice using hobby tubing ... in case you trim off too much and need to lengthen an element.

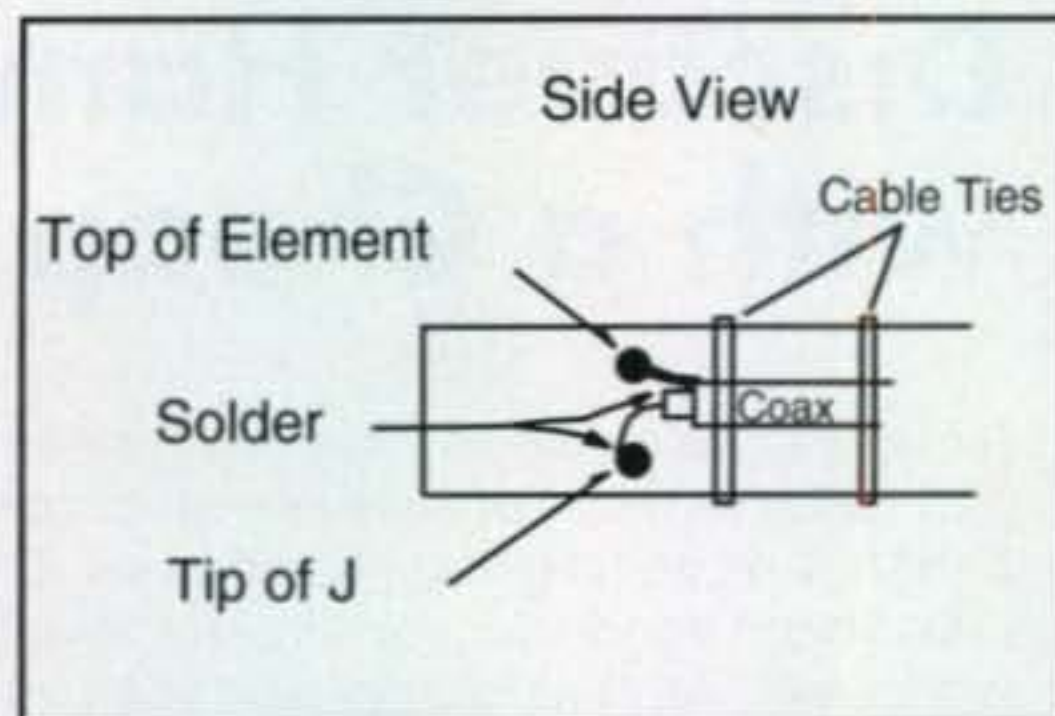
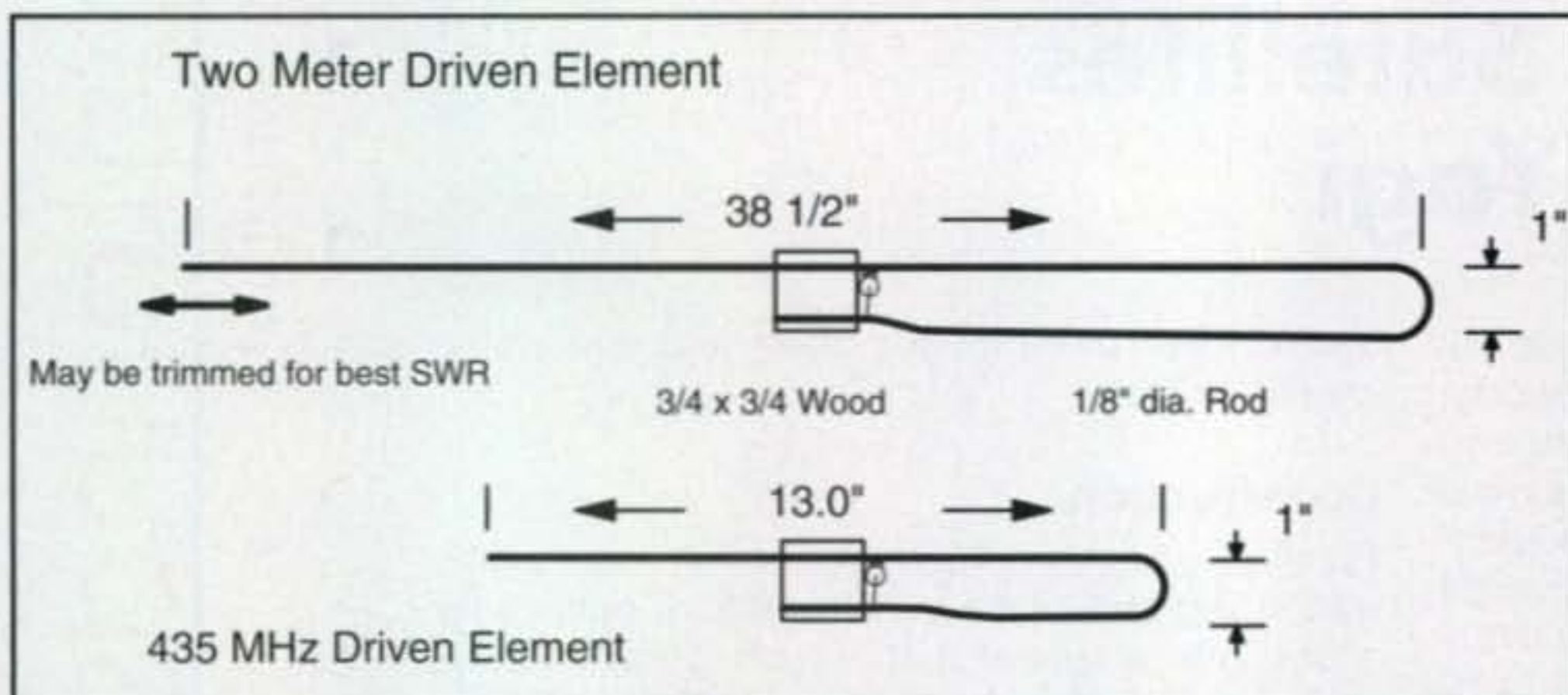


Fig. 2—Attaching the coax to the driven elements.

Fig. 1—Dimensions of the driven elements. Note that these dimensions do not include the additional wire needed for the lower portion of the "J."

145 MHz Elements (2)		
	Ref	DE*
Length	40.5	38.5
Spacing	0	7.0

435 MHz Elements (5)					
	Ref	DE*	D1	D2	D3
Length	13.5	13.0	12.5	12.25	11.75
Spacing	0	2.5	5.25	12.0	18.5

Ref is the reflector, DE is the driven element, and D1, D2, etc., are the directors. All spacings are measured from the reflector element.
 *The "J" driven elements extend the length of wire needed for each by approximately 50%. See fig. 1.

Table 1—Antenna dimensions (in inches).

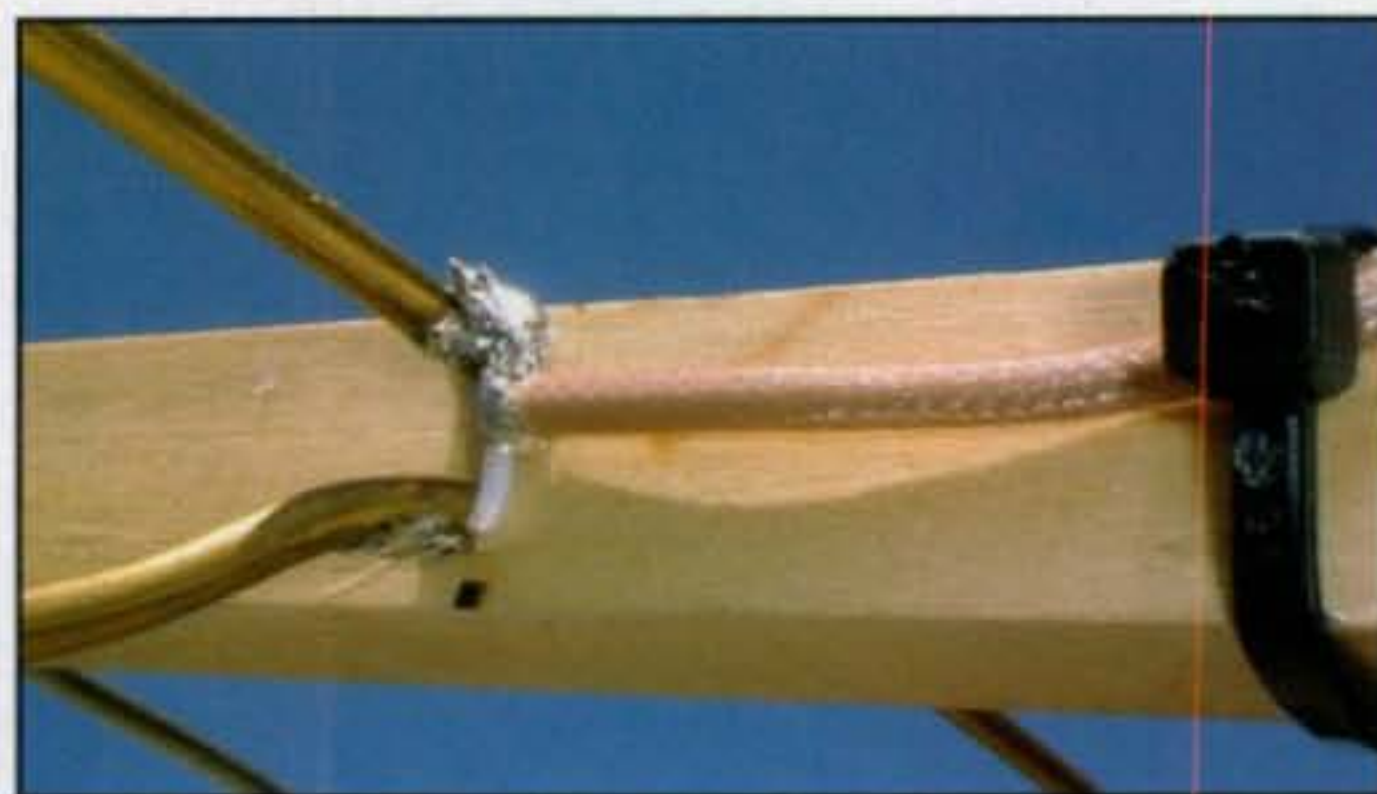


Photo D—Close-up of the coax connections to the driven element.

na elements. However, #10 bare copper wire, bronze welding rods, and hobby tubing all have been used to make elements. If you want to use 3/16-inch diameter elements, cut them .2 inches shorter than the dimensions in the tables to compensate for the thicker material. The 2-meter elements were all made from bronze welding rod. For the driven elements, I like to use something to which I can solder the coax directly, and the copper wire or welding rod solders well. See fig. 1 for driven element dimensions; all other dimensions are in the table.

The welding rod is only 36 inches long. A section of 1/8-inch ID copper or brass hobby tubing makes a good splice. Just slip it on and solder them together. Save some of that hobby tubing. If the antenna ends up too short after trimming, you can solder a piece of tubing onto the end of the driven element and start over (photo C).

I usually hold the elements in place on the boom with a drop of super glue, but silicon glue and even paint have been used to hold the elements in place.

The driven elements are "J"s and they usually bring several comments from people new to "Cheap Yagis." The shield of the coax goes near the center

of the top of the element (see fig. 2 and photo D). This is a voltage null and directly soldering the coax to the driven element has a lot of advantages. The center conductor of the coax goes to the tip of the J, so you can think of this driven element as three fourths of a folded dipole or a gamma match with no capacitor.

In free space, the J driven element has about a 150-ohm impedance. As other elements are added, they load down the impedance of the driven element. If the antenna has relatively wide

element spacing, then a direct match to 75 ohms is possible. Bring in the reflector and directors a little closer, then you have a direct match to 50 ohms. Therefore, the impedance matching is the length and spacing of the other elements. Just build the antenna to the dimensions, solder on the coax, and start talking. No tuning required.

Band Splitter

The band splitter consists of a 250-MHz high-pass filter and a 250-MHz low-

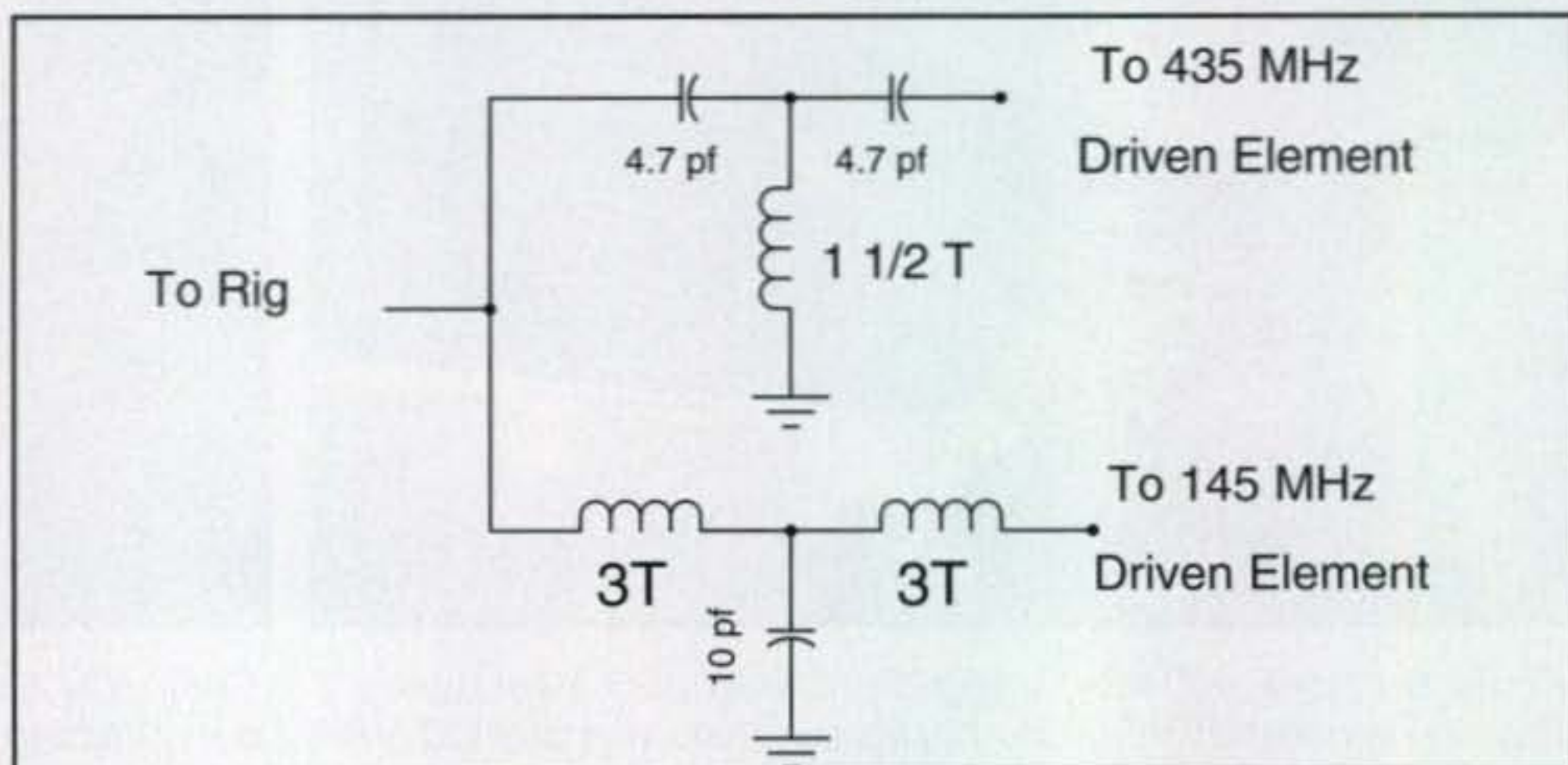


Fig. 3—Schematic of the band splitter.



Photo E— 145/435 MHz band splitter.



Photo F— Winding the band splitter coils.

pass filter connected together (see fig. 3 and photo E). This doesn't have to be very complex, or even very accurate. As long as the filters cut off somewhere between 200 and 400 MHz, they will work fine. If the coils get squished, just bend them kind of back in shape, and go for it. This one is built cheap, just out in the air on a piece of PC board. You can build the splitter into a box if you like, with connectors and all, but it's not going to change its performance. Remember, we are not trying to filter off harmonics, just make the 2-meter energy go to the 2-meter antenna, and the 435-MHz signals go to the 435-MHz antenna. This band splitter even makes a good project if you want to use two other 145/435-MHz antennas.

The parts list for the splitter is short and, of course, cheap:

435 high pass: Two 4.7-pF capaci-

tors, one coil of $1\frac{1}{2}$ turns #18 or #20 wire wound on a pencil (see photo F).

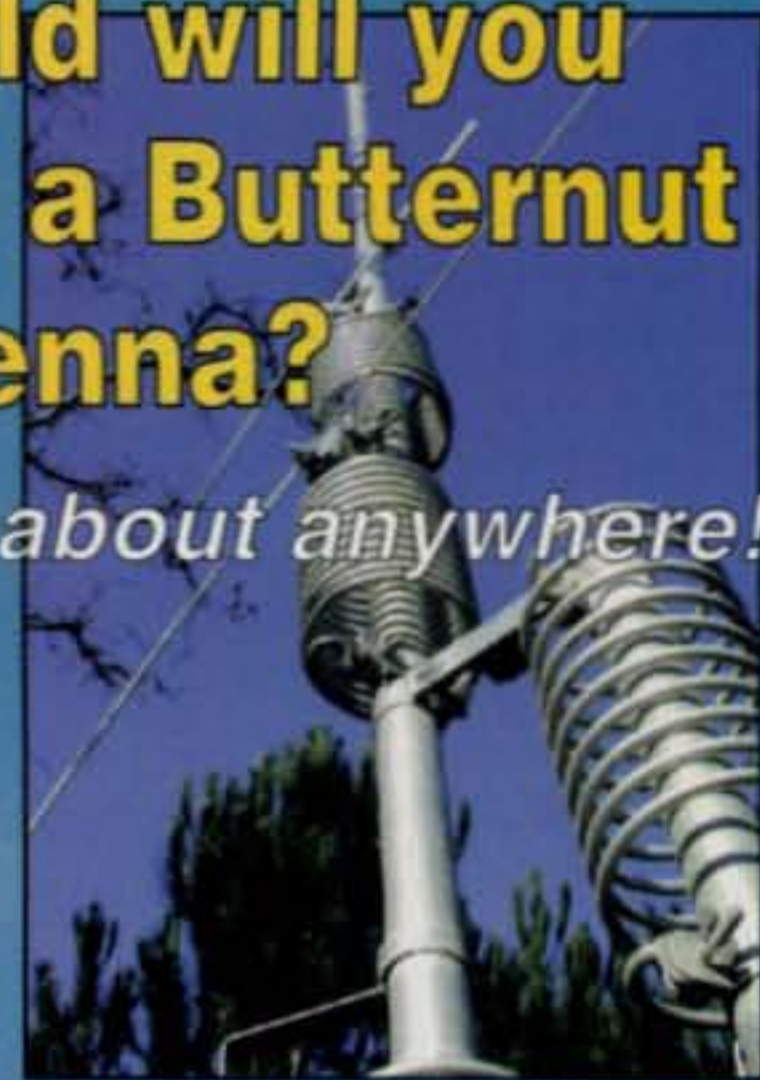
145-MHz low pass: One 10-pF capacitor, two (2) coils, each 3 turns #18 or #20 wire on a pencil.

(You're too late. I have already been asked if it needs to be a #2 or a #3 pencil. For the record, I wound my coils on a red grading pencil. For those of you with a more mature sense of humor, just about all wood pencils make a .3-inch coil form.)

The length of the coax between the splitter and the antenna is not critical. You want to keep the coax as short as practical, but its exact length is not important, nor are exact capacitor values. Got a box of 4.7-pF caps? You can use two of them (in parallel) instead of the 10 pF. Regardless, be sure to keep those leads very short. I used Teflon® coax on my splitter, by the way, because

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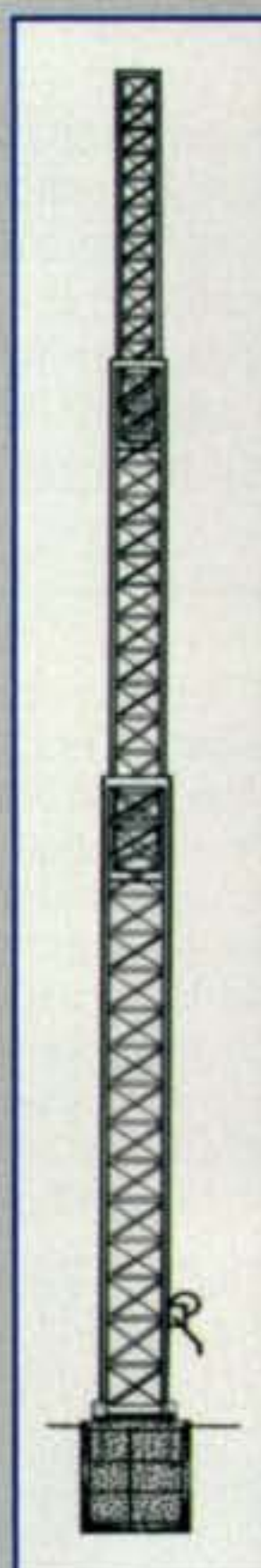
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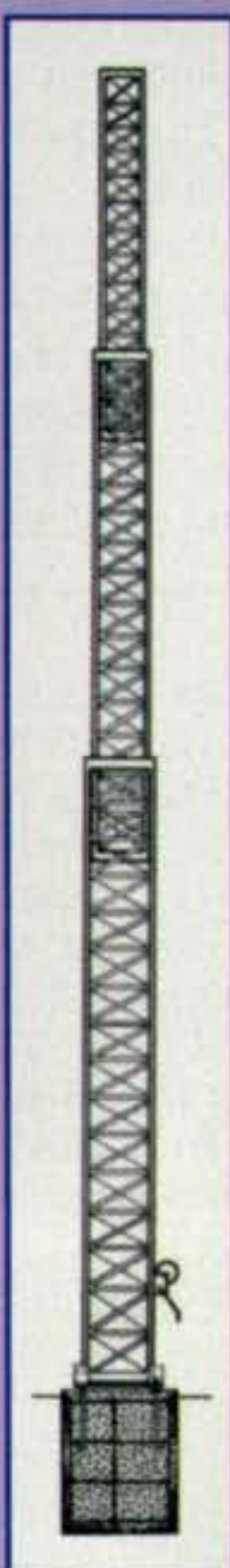


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it solders so much more easily than foam RG-58.

Power Handling

Power handling of this band splitter depends almost entirely on your caps. With 50-volt caps, 20 watts is about your limit. Dig up some 1-kV caps, and the coax will probably melt first as you warm up that 4CX250 amplifier. (Just kidding—*do not* use high power to operate these satellites!)

Tuning It Up

For the ultimate in performance connect your coax to just the 2-meter portion and trim the free end of the J for best SWR for your favorite LEO uplink frequency. Then connect the coax to just the 435-MHz portion and again trim the free end of the element for best SWR. Now install the band splitter and this time tweak the coil spacing for best SWR at your spot frequencies. You have now gotten the last .1 dB out of the antenna.

For everyone else, just build the antenna to the dimensions and the SWR will be under 2:1 on both frequencies. Just build it and talk. The design is pretty foolproof.

Taking Your New Antenna Outside

There are three ways the antenna can be used. If you have a rig that will operate crossband duplex, then you can transmit and listen to your return signal at the same time. (There's a little delay that can be a little disconcerting until you get used to it.) Rigs such as the ICOM W32A, the Yaesu FT-530, or the Kenwood D7 are great for working satellites this way. You can actually hear how well you're getting into the bird.

With rigs such as the Yaesu FT-817 or the ICOM 706 Mk II, you can work the birds in simplex mode. That is, you talk, then listen, as on most repeaters. Also, just about any dual-band talkie can be used. If you want to use two different rigs for 145 and 435 MHz, then eliminate the band splitter and solder on a separate piece of coax for each band. Now your transmitter can be most any 2-meter rig and the receiver can be most any 440-MHz rig or even a scanner.

The Birds

There are two satellites most commonly used with FM. AO-51 uses 145.92 MHz up with a 67-Hz tone, and 435.300 MHz back down (receive frequencies vary with Doppler shift; see resources below). SO-50 is a bit more complex with the control tones, but uses 145.85 MHz

up and 436.795 MHz back down. Plus, even after all these years, AO-27 (launched in 1993) is often on as well. For more information on frequencies and times be sure to visit <www.amsat.org>. The Frequently Asked Questions at <<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/information/faqs/ao27so50faq.php>> are very good for newcomers to satellite operations. I know it's against ham tradition, but read them before trying to use one of the satellites.

Now you can have fun with these LEO satellites for less than \$10. My column in the summer issue of *CQ VHF* is an expanded version of this one, and offers a variety of other options for different antenna configurations. You can also find more information and variations on my website at <www.wa5vjb.com/Reference>. Please keep those e-mails coming. I'm always looking for antenna topics.

73, Kent, WA5VJB

Neat Antennas

I am always a sucker for neat antennas at fleamarkets and surplus stores. The ones in photos G and H are external antennas for a cell phone. I don't know how old they are, but it has been a long time since I have seen a cell phone with a TNC connector!

Opening up the antenna was even more interesting. It's a J-pole etched on a PC board. First time I've seen that. I am sure there was a good reason for twisting the stub over to the side like that, but I haven't figured it out as yet. If you want to make your own PCB J-pole, start with the usual free-space calculations for the length of the element and the stub. Now multiply those dimensions by 60%. This allows for the effects of the fiberglass PCB and should get you pretty close to your design frequency. I think you'll find 800 MHz or so is the lowest practical frequency unless you have some very large pieces of PC board. It might work well on that 2.4-GHz project.



Photo G— A couple of really neat cell phone antennas. I have no idea how old they are...



Photo H— Close-up of the PCB J-pole antenna, the first time I've ever seen a J-pole etched onto a PC board.

Support Items for Wire Antennas

BY DAVE INGRAM,* K4TWJ

how it works

As you may recall, our previous "How It Works" column discussed a subject of continued interest to radio amateurs of all license classes—dipoles and doublets. There is a high probability it also spun off some additional questions on wire antennas in general. We thus continue this time with a closer look at popular varieties of wires, support ropes, and transmission lines. The following information is typical of the "fine details" and personal opinions a helping Elmer would share with a new amateur getting started in HF action. Some (many?) newer amateurs do not have an Elmer, however. Hopefully I can help fill that void. Let's begin with a look at the main item utilized in all wire antennas—the wire.

perweld wire is comprised of a steel core with a copper coating. It works fine because RF energy travels mainly along the outer section of a wire (this is the "skin effect" you studied when preparing for your license exam). The drawback is a steel core makes the wire stiff, springy, and tough as nails. If you uncoil number 12 or 14 solid copperweld wire from a roll or let one end loose while making an antenna, look out, as it can fly back towards its original form with incredible ferocity and inflict some vicious cuts—nice wire, but hard to handle. Hard copper is more manageable. Just do not try to pull support trees together with it. Give it some slack.

Types of Wire

One of the most common questions asked by newer and seasoned amateurs alike is what wire to use for an antenna. Should it be copper or aluminum, solid or stranded, thick or thin, bare or insulated? I often say "all of the above," as they all work fine. However, each type has its own special characteristics and benefits.

Aluminum is used in the tubing for beams and verticals, while copper exhibits good conductivity at a reasonable price and is thus favored for wire antennas (it is "classic radio wire!"). Likewise, stranded wire is more flexible and adapts better to movement or swinging in the wind than solid wire and is thus preferred for antennas. You can observe this fact first hand by comparing how much "back and forth movement" causes solid wire to break, compared to stranded wire.

We should also note the more strands for a particular size or gauge of wire, the greater its flexibility (plus the smaller the wire size, the higher its gauge number). As an example, a length of 7-strand 13-gauge copper wire is almost the same diameter or thickness as, but not as flexible as, 168 strand number 12 or 14 copper wire. How can the approximately same size wire be comprised of seven strands in one case and 168 strands in another case? Each of the seven strands is larger in size (a lower gauge number), whereas each of the 168 strands is much smaller in size (a higher gauge number).

The choice of thick or thin wire is, to a large extent, influenced by your particular needs and preference. If you are installing a dipole up to around 70 feet long without a center/feedpoint support—so the full weight of the coax stresses the antenna—number 14 or 12 wire is a good minimum size or gauge to consider. If you need more strength for a particular wire size, consider using copper-clad or copperweld wire rather than hard-drawn or straight copper wire. That's because cop-

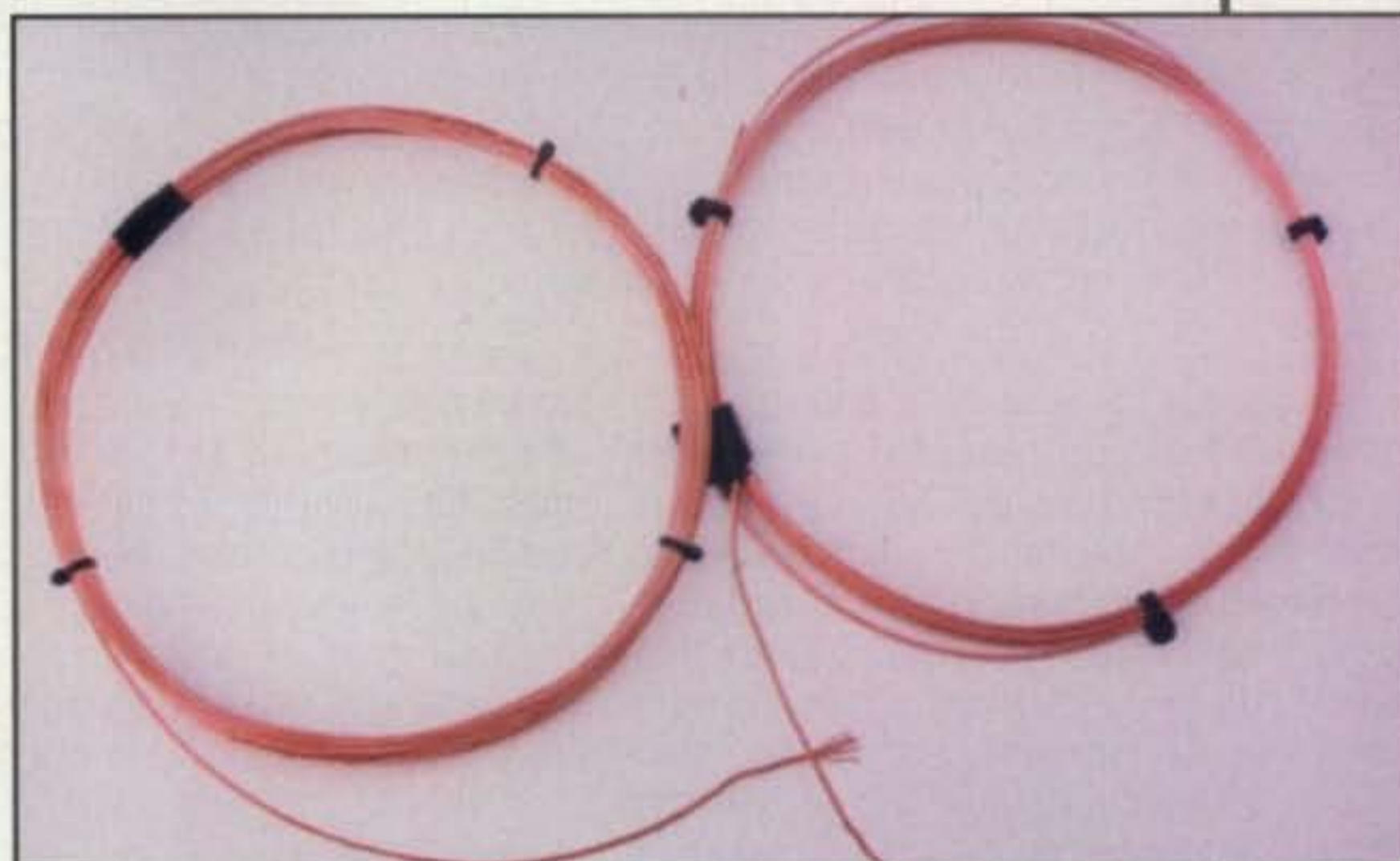


Photo 1— Stranded copper wire is an all-time favorite for making antennas. It is affordable, works well, turns black after a few months of outdoor use, and then continues to work well. It is available in two popular styles: hard copper that is easy to handle (left), and copper-clad steel or copperweld that is stiff and quite strong for its size (right).



Photo 2— Notice the difference between 7-strand hard copper wire on the left and Flexweave 168-strand hard copper wire on the right. Numerous strands of finer wire make Flexweave as strong as copper wire, but as flexible as string. It is available from <www.radioworks.com>.

*3994 Long Leaf Drive, Gardendale, AL 35071
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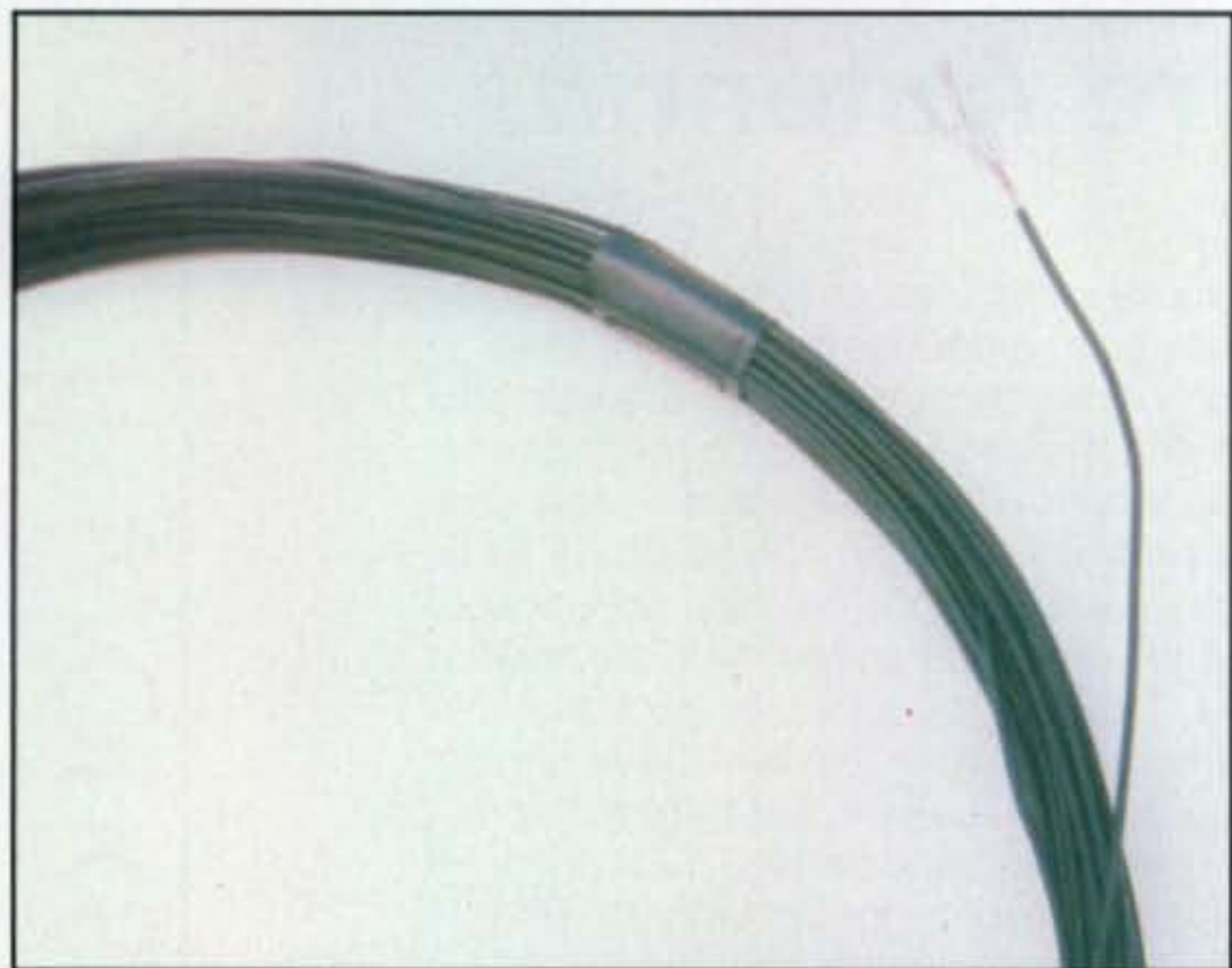


Photo 3— Here is the ideal wire for making a hidden antenna. It is very thin (number 26) and is comprised of 19 tiny strands of copperweld with a smooth black jacket or insulation. The result is a quite flexible and remarkably strong wire. It is called Variflex, and it is available from The Radio Works. (See text for details)

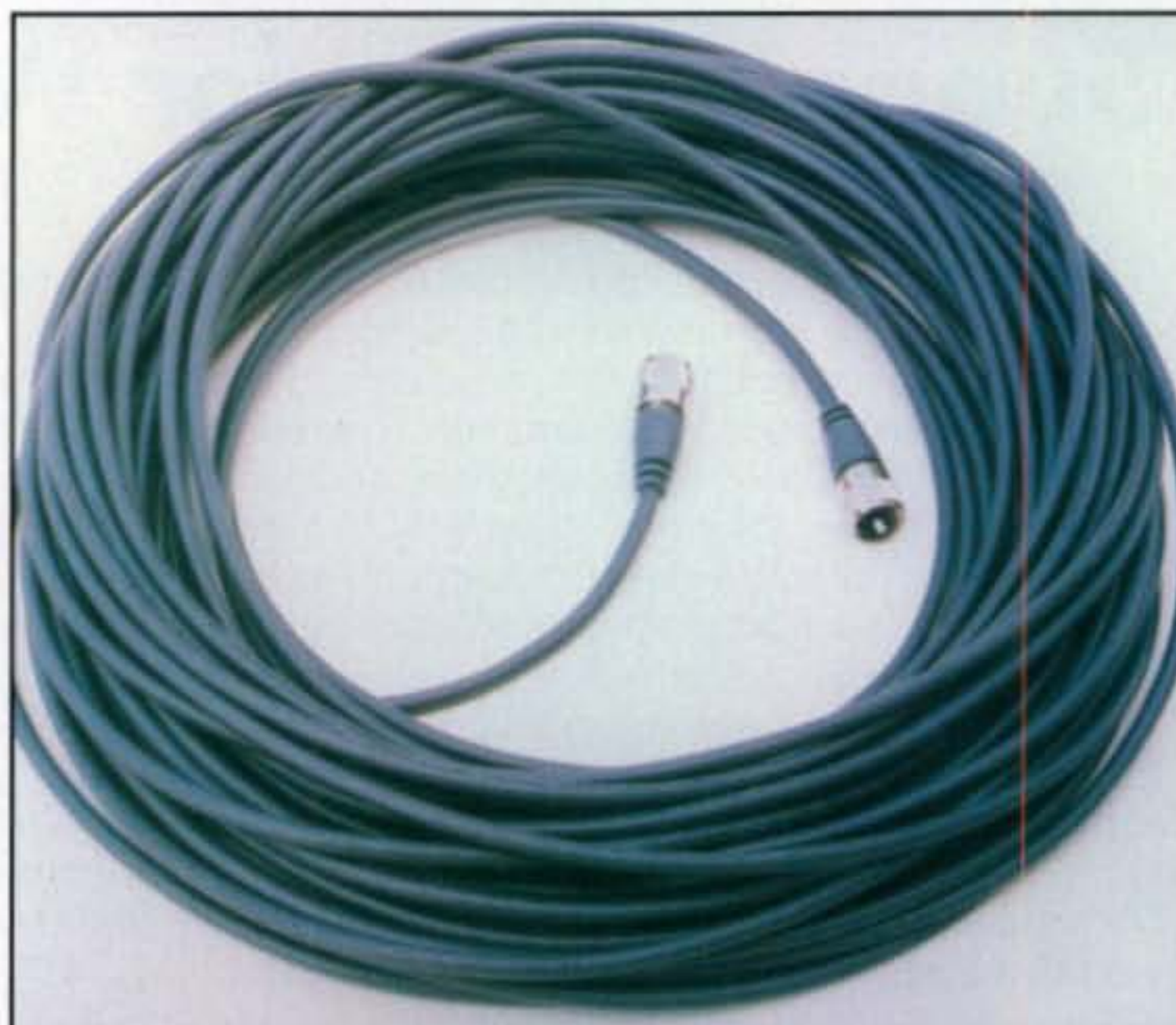


Photo 5— Concerned about soldering coax to connectors so they can survive several years of use and abuse? No problem. Several companies sell cables in various lengths with solid fitting PL-259s pre-installed.

Selection of bare or insulated wire also depends on personal preference and needs (and yes, RF energy will pass right through a wire's insulation with no problem). Insulation on wire may cause a very slight change in velocity factor that can alter an antenna's overall length roughly one percent, but again think back to your days of theory study. Proximity to nearby objects and angle of wires (like an inverted-Vee as compared to a flat-top dipole, for example) also affect an antenna's length, often more

than one percent. That's why we cut antennas slightly longer than formulas calculate—so there is some slack/extra for wrapping around end insulators and pruning for lowest SWR. If insulated wire is blue-gray in color, it has another advantage: It disappears against the sky so curious neighbors do not notice it.

Support Ropes

If you have ever had a favorite antenna unexpectedly fall from a high tree limb,

you know the benefits of using high-quality support rope—and replacing it before it deteriorates from snow, ice, sun, and snags on tree limbs. You should also consider that plain rope, even the good-looking white variety or (heaven forbid!) plastic clothesline, in no way compares to authentic "antenna rope." It may be slightly more expensive, but it is worth the cost.

One of the top all-around types of rope for antennas is Dacron®. It is strong, has good resistance to ultraviolet rays from the sun, and exhibits mild elasticity to absorb sudden yanks rather than breaking due to high winds.

Next in line is Nylon. It is slightly stronger and exhibits more elasticity than Dacron, but it is less resistant to ultraviolet energy and thus has a slightly shorter lifespan.

Another popular antenna rope is Kevlar®. It is stronger and more ultraviolet resistant than Dacron or Nylon, but it does not exhibit any elasticity and will break before stretching, so it should be allowed some slack when supporting wire antennas. Various ropes are also available in regular and heavy-duty or mil-spec versions, and the latter is always preferable. No red-blooded radio amateur wants to be caught with wire antennas down due to low-grade rope, especially during an emergency.

Transmission Lines

As discussed in our previous "How It Works" column, the usual transmission



Photo 4— The rope used to support an antenna is just as important as the type of wire selected. Samples shown here are Dacron® (top), which exhibits good UV immunity and also tends to stretch rather than break when snapped by wind, and Kevlar® (bottom), which is stronger, tougher, and does not stretch. Both types are significantly better than any generic-type rope. Samples shown courtesy of The Radio Works.

Photo 6—
Sealing antenna
connections from
the weather is
vitaly important
for long life, and
nothing does it
better than hand-
moldable Coax
Seal®. It is
available in small
thin rolls or large
wide rolls from
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line for dipoles (and other 50-ohm antennas) is coax cable, and the usual transmission line for doublets is 450-ohm ladder line. The coax cable market has grown so large that any amateur—new or old—can easily be confused by the varieties. We can simplify it to the basic facts, however, and then you can expand from that point as desired.

The classic 50-ohm cables of RG-58 (small size) and RG-8 (large size) are presently giving way to RG-8X (small size) and RG-213 (large size), which are low-loss equivalents. Both RG-8X and RG-213 are quite suitable for most HF applications (in other words, cable runs up to 100 or 150 feet without noticeable signal loss). If longer cable runs are necessary, consider using ultra-low-loss cables such as 9913 (or similar special nomenclatures). Confusing? Just be sure you select a top-grade inner dielectric, dense shield, and highly weather-resistant outer-jacket type cable (often described as "marine grade" or "mil-spec" quality). I hesitate to recommend double-shield cable and/or "hard line" cables here, as they can be difficult to work with and can also require special connectors that are challenging to install. Remember, too, the weight of coax pulling down against its connector adds extra stress to solder joints and can cause them to fail over time. If you feel uncomfortable trying to overcome that handicap, remember antenna companies such as The Radio Works (<www.radioworks.com>; 1-800-280-8327) can supply cables of various lengths with PL-259 connectors preinstalled.

Some amateurs may scoff at using ladder-line feed rather than coax, as it

requires using a tuner with balanced output, it can also pick up and or radiate signals, and it should be spaced away from metal objects or supports. Factually speaking, however, it is the lowest loss type of transmission line and is ideal for multi-band doublets. The insulated type with little "window cutouts" is an all-time favorite. If you have a choice of solid or stranded wire in the ladder line, remember stranded wire adapts better to movement without breaking.

Wrap Up

Probably the most weather-sensitive point in an antenna is its feed point—

right where coax typically meets wires or conductors (unless it's a beam on a tall tower, and then those totally out-of-reach traps always go kaput!). Wrapping up . . . err, sealing . . . that connection is vitaly important for long antenna life, and many folks even consider weatherproofing connections an art. I agree, as tightly wrapping a connection with even top-grade "weatherproof" electrical tape is inadequate. Capillary action will draw any dew or moisture seeping into a cable end along the cable's length and ruin it in short order.

What to do? As a minimum acceptable measure, I suggest first tightly wrapping the connection with electrical tape, and then applying a full and continuous wrap of Coax Seal® over the electrical tape. I leave a corner of the electrical tape accessible to provide later access to the connection, and then hand-mold the Coax Seal to form a watertight seal. Jim Thompson of The Radio Works goes one step further by wrapping the overall Coax Sealed area in cold-shrink tape. It forms a totally weatherproof seal that lasts for years.

That concludes this month's discussion, friends, and we sincerely hope you will find our helping Elmer notes useful for many years to come. We also hope that someday in the future you will pass along these tips with your own "acquired through hands-on experience" notes to future generation amateurs. I always say it is better to expand on proven-useful facts rather than continuously starting from ground zero or "reinventing the wheel." Hopefully, you agree.

73, Dave, K4TWJ

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Too Much Technology?

I was doing my laundry one Sunday morning in May. The laundromat's wide-screen television set was playing an automobile race in the background. It was Memorial Day weekend, and the 90th running of the Indianapolis ("Indy") 500. I was working on some office paperwork, so I was only half-listening to the goings-on of the race, and would look up at the screen mostly to watch anything related to one of my favorite race car drivers, Danica Patrick.

While I was plowing through my paperwork, though, something from the two-way radio "cockpit audio" feed between one of the drivers and his pit crew caught my attention. The driver said something like, "the dashboard is not 'lighting up.'"

The announcer explained that modern-day race cars are equipped with computer-controlling and computer-reporting telemetry on all aspects of the racecar, from the engine to chassis and everything in-between. A radio unit transmits the data to the engineers in the pits, and dashboard indicators for the driver include information on engine

condition, fuel levels, and more. The computer also tells the driver when to shift the transmission to maximize speed and performance.

For a while, the driver seemed to be distracted or confused as he struggled to figure out what was wrong with the instruments on the dashboard. Then everything seemed to be okay, and the driver regained his focus and concentration on his job: Driving the car to finish the race.

The announcer noticed this and reported that he had to ignore the non-functioning dashboard indicators and drive the old-fashioned way—using the seat of his pants.

Turning back to our ham shack now, a radio's front panel is like a racing car's dashboard. You have meters that tell you about the status of your radio, and switches and knobs to control what the radio does. In many radios these days, a microprocessor does some of the thinking for you, and you are "not allowed" to adjust something, which is sometimes a good thing and sometimes a bad thing. This is sort of like the HAL9000 computer in the 1968 movie, "2001: A Space Odyssey."

These days, when just about everything is microprocessor-controlled, including your modern-day ham radio set, it is easy to get confused or frustrated with the operation of the unit. Some

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Photo A— The 220-MHz FM rig on the left has microprocessor-control, lots of memory channels, and multiple-function keys and knobs—sometimes good, sometimes bad. On the right, the 220-MHz FM rig from the 1970s is an example of a perhaps long-forgotten concept: A radio that "just works"—not much more than a power switch, a volume control, a squelch control, and a tuning knob. Would you really want one of those today?

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engineers design something they think will be useful to everyone, and yet it really isn't possible to create something for everybody. "One size does not fit all."

Today's radios have multiple-function controls, in which a single knob or button actually adjusts more than one function. Older radios were much simpler, with a single knob actuating a single function (photo A).

It's a Matter of Control

A co-worker at the office says that as you go through life, you are "either in control or you are being controlled." He likes to use this phrase when he describes the problems he encounters with the machines or people he works with. However, this statement also makes a lot of sense when dealing with a computer-controlled ham radio set.

One way to cope with these difficult features is to set everything to the factory "default" and then ignore a particular feature until you have a need for it. Years ago, I had one of those small and fancy dual-band (144 MHz/450 MHz) handie-talkies from a major manufacturer. I chose that particular model because the slick brochure and adver-

tisements told everyone how many features this little device was capable of performing, and how compact the unit was—but the real decision-maker was the discount coupon.

Unfortunately, this turned into a big mistake for me, since I really was not ready at the time for a complicated, feature-laden unit. The programming instructions were so complicated, with multiple button-press combinations, that I just gave up after a few hours. I reset the radio (the equivalent of slapping it on the head) and started over several times. I decided that all I wanted was a "radio that just works" and traded in that radio for a simpler ("cheaper") unit that satisfied my radio needs back then.

In another instance, a friend loaned his radio to another ham for use during a contest. When the radio was returned, my friend re-installed the unit in his truck and turned it on. Immediately, he was concerned that "something broke" and wondered how his radio got broken by someone else using it. After fiddling with a number of knobs, we discovered that a function switch (which the radio's owner never used) was put into a dif-

ferent position. This was a case in which a complex radio "changed personality" when it was used by another operator and became "un-friendly" to the normal user.

Sometimes a radio is equipped with so many features that you can get into trouble. Now this does not mean that you will break anything; it just means that you can configure or program your radio so much that it becomes nearly non-operational. For example, one modern radio requires you to select the microphone gain from a computer-controlled "menu function." If you adjust it carefully, it can make a big difference in how your transmitted signal and your voice sound at the receiving station. Again, this could be a good thing or it could be a bad thing, since the radio has enough adjustment range for the transmitted audio to go from very weak and soft to harsh and distorted—both very bad things. Adjustments must be made in a certain way to get your transmitted audio to sound somewhere in the middle for the most effectiveness. However, the "real" setting must be found by actually putting a signal on the air and getting reports from other stations you talk to. No computer is going

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On the receiver side of things, the interference-fighting controls are nothing short of phenomenal. Features such as digital signal processing (DSP) are fairly new, and probably were not even imagined to be available in a ham radio set a few years ago. Now DSP is available as standard equipment on many models. Other features, such as crystal filters, may have been available decades ago, but are improved with micro-processor enhancements.

Help is Available

While it is true that after a while operating a particular radio becomes second nature, and your fingers can really "fly" as you manipulate the controls to achieve a desired result, sometimes this can also change. A good example of this is when there is some "pressure to perform," like when operating a radio at a public demonstration or during a communications drill, or fighting to work a rare station in a contest. In this case, you should just take a deep breath and reset your mind, rather than reset the computer in your radio.

One of the great things about ham radio is its built-in networking feature. No, not the CAT5 computer-cable kind of networking. I am talking about making friends using ham radio as the common bond. When you are stuck and are not sure how to beat the computer, talk to someone else who has gone through the same experience of learning that same model. If you do want to turn to your computer to help you learn how to use your radio, find a suitable website using your favorite search engine. Plug in some key words such as "how to program frequency into XX brand and YYY model." Also available are simplified "user guides" that I hear are pretty good. Check the ads in CQ magazine for these useful guides.

What Do You Want?

All of these microprocessor-controlled radio trends are a good thing, if you are interested in maximum performance with the maximum radio technology being offered today. However, when deciding to purchase a unit like this, you must think about what you really want. As beginners, do you want to get the best unit on the market today and "grow into" the unit as your interests and skills using a radio improve? How soon will this latest unit be discontinued with another, better one taking its place? Will you still be happy with your purchase then? Or do you want to start with a simpler unit that "just works"?

The best way to think about this is to examine yourself to see what you really want to do in the most general terms. How do you spend your money on other interests? Think about the car you drive right now. How did you decide which make and model to buy? How did you choose the available options? What color did you order? Did your spouse or significant other help you with your decision? Most often, such choices are based on a combination of desired features, available budget, and other individual factors. The same applies to ham radio purchases.

Today's micro-processor-controlled radios are amazing examples of communications technology. In terms of dollars-per-feature, we have an incredible value over radios that were available only a few years ago. With all this technology, though, it is easy to get overwhelmed in how to "work the knobs." Always remember, however, we are either "in control" or we are "being controlled." We are smarter than these machines; let's remember that as we take control. 73, Wayne KH6WZ

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This month, we again shine CQ's bright product spotlight on a wide variety of accessories for the radio shack; antennas and antenna accessories; software; and radio books for your bookshelf, taking a close look at "what's new" in our hobby.

Accessories for the Shack

Anderson Power Products® Powerpole® 15/45 in Standard and Fingerproof Versions. Anderson Power Products (APP), a leader in interconnect solutions, offers its versatile Powerpole 15/45 Connector. The Powerpole is a genderless connector system that provides a simple, low-cost solution for power interconnection.

*289 Poplar Drive, Millbrook, AL 35054-1674
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Photo A— APP's Powerpole® 15/45 Finger Proof Connector minimizes potential finger access when the connector is unmated and energized. This feature was designed for user safety in applications in which access to the energized connector is not otherwise protected. (Photo courtesy of APP) →

The APP Powerpole 15/45's interchangeable genderless design allows for quick and easy assembly while minimizing the number of parts stocked. Molded dovetails secure connectors into keyed assemblies, thereby preventing misconnection with a similar configuration. Color modular housings provide useful visual identification for the proper mating connector.

APP's Powerpole 15/45 Finger Proof Connector (see photo A) minimizes potential finger access when the connector is unmated and energized.

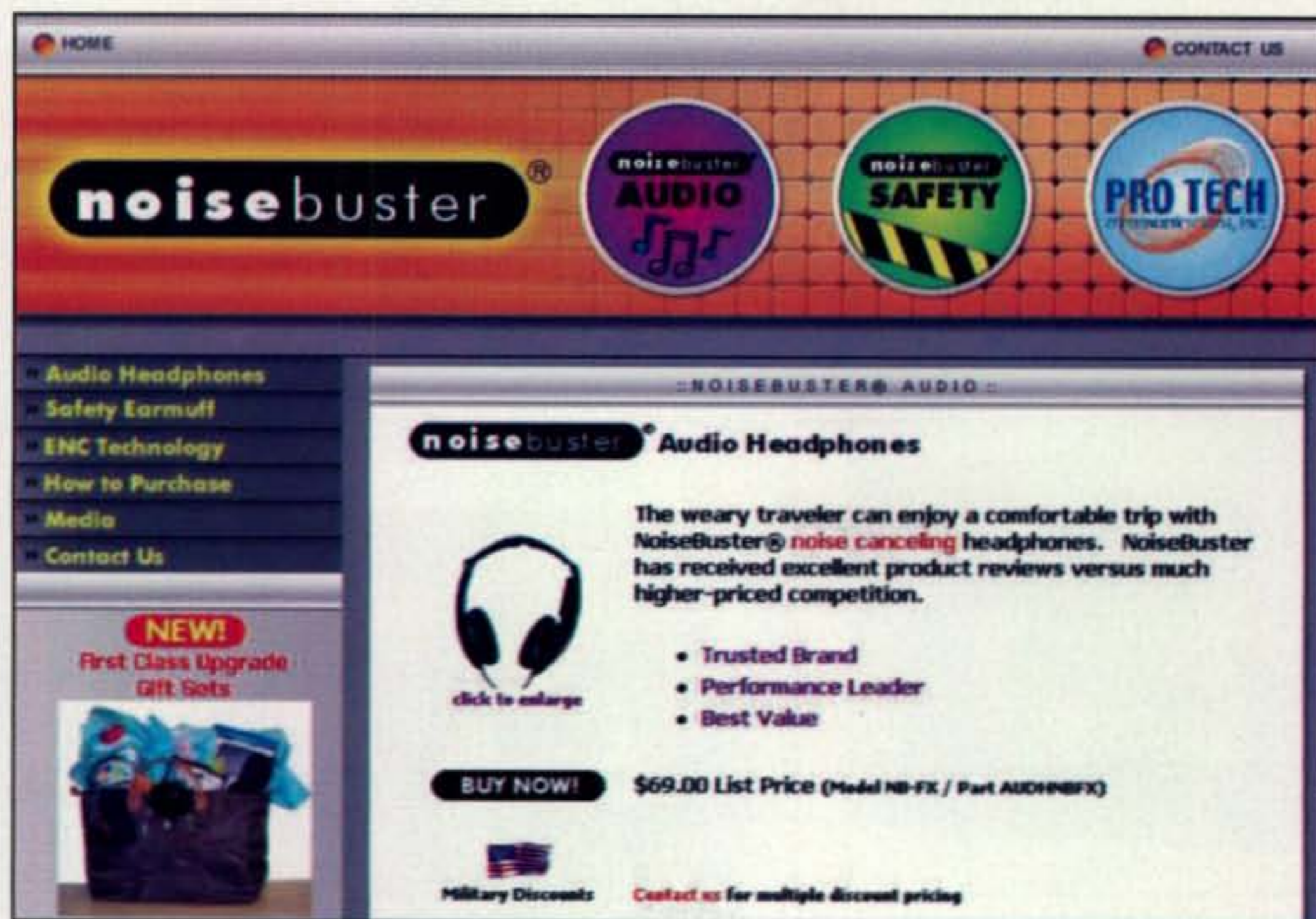
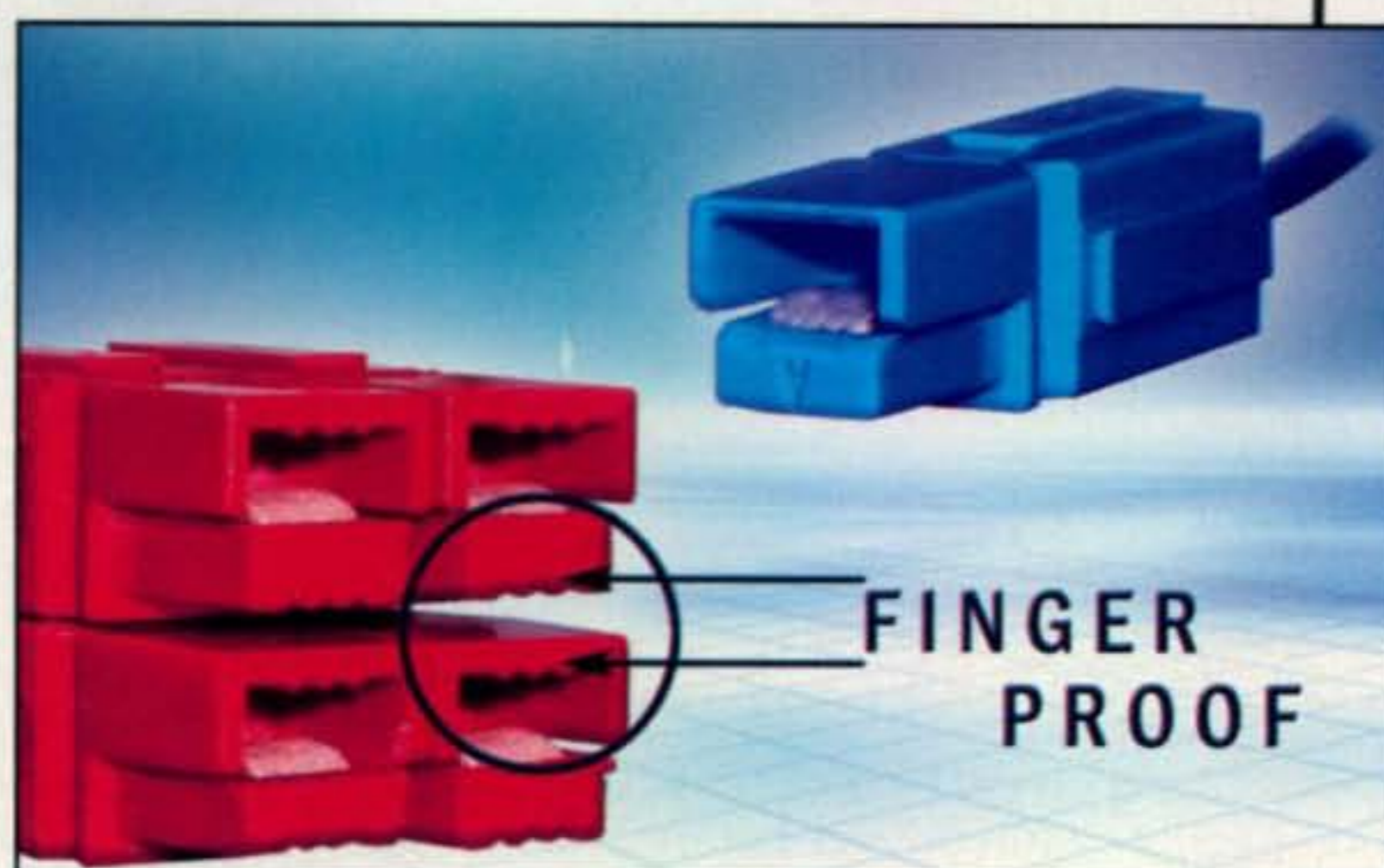


Fig. 1— The weary traveler can enjoy a comfortable trip with NoiseBuster® noise-canceling headphone from Pro Tech Communications. Check out the specs on its website for full details: visit <<http://www.protechcommunications.com>> or <<http://www.noisebuster.net>>. (Image from the Pro Tech Communications website)

This innovative fingerproof feature was designed specifically for user safety in applications in which access to the energized connector is not otherwise protected. Also, the Powerpole's flat-wiping contact system reduces contact resistance at high currents, while the wiping action cleans the contact surface during connection and disconnection.

Both the standard Powerpole 15/45 connector and the fingerproof version meet industry accessibility protection requirements, and they are rated at 15, 30, and 45 amps for 600 volts continuous AC or DC operation. Wire sizes range from #10 to #20 AWG. Low-detent contacts also are available for applications requiring low insertion/withdrawal force.

For further information, contact Anderson Power Products, 13 Pratts Junction Road, P.O. Box 579, Sterling, MA 01564-0579 (telephone 978-422-3600; e-mail: <customerservice@andersonpower.com>; or on the web: <<http://www.andersonpower.com>>).

NoiseBuster NB-FX Active Noise Reduction Headphone. Now, the weary traveler can enjoy a comfortable trip with the NoiseBuster® noise-canceling headphone from Pro Tech Communications (see fig. 1). NoiseBuster reportedly has received excellent product reviews of its \$69 list-price Model NB-FX headphone, versus much higher priced competition.

The firm introduced one of the first noise-canceling headphones to the consumer audio market in 1994, the NoiseBuster technology having been developed by leading "anti-noise" engineers. The latest version, said to be the best one yet, includes the most recent technological innovations packaged in a headphone design that is both comfortable and versatile.

According to the firm, no other noise reduction headphone it has tested can match the level of active noise-reduction performance delivered by NoiseBuster. The product reportedly cancels an unheard-of 18 dB of noise across an extended frequency range, and the NoiseBuster phone is said to perform more consistently than any other from wearer to wearer.

The noise-canceling headphone delivers high-impact stereo sound. The headphone is comfortable, lightweight, and easy to adjust; foldable for portability and easy storage (travel pouch included); and includes an airplane-seat dual-prong adapter and AAA battery. The headphone features audio play-through with or without noise reduction.

As far as headphone operation is concerned, the NoiseBuster unit uses a microphone in the earcup to listen



Photo B—Cobra's CPI 2550 12-volt DC to 115-VAC Power Inverter offers 2500 watts continuous power handling, and 5000 watts peak power, with three AC receptacles, an LED volt/amp meter, and remote on/off capability. The unit features include heavy-duty construction and the ability to handle multiple loads. (Photo from the Cobra website)

to the offending noise coming into the ear. Using electronics, the system takes the information from the microphone and uses it to create a noise wave that is identical to, but directly opposite of, the one coming into the ear. The "anti-noise" wave is output through a speaker, also located in the earcup. When the two waves (the offending noise wave and the anti-noise wave) meet, the noise is significantly reduced.

For more information, including detailed specifications, contact Pro Tech Communications, Inc., 4492 Okeechobee Rd., Fort Pierce, FL 34947 (1-800-468-8371; e-mail: <info@protechcom.com>; <<http://www.protechcommunications.com>> or at <<http://www.noisebuster.net>>).

Cobra CPI 2550 Power Inverter. Cobra's power inverter product line is said to revolutionize the power inverter marketplace with an unsurpassed combination of power, reliability, and value added features—hence the firm's catchy slogan, "Nothing Comes Close to a Cobra®."

Cobra's new CPI 2550 12-volt DC to 115-VAC Power Inverter (see photo B) offers 2500 watts continuous power handling, and 5000 watts peak power, with three AC receptacles, an LED volt/amp meter, and remote on/off capability. The unit features include heavy-duty construction and the ability to handle multiple loads. Using the CPI 2550, with an

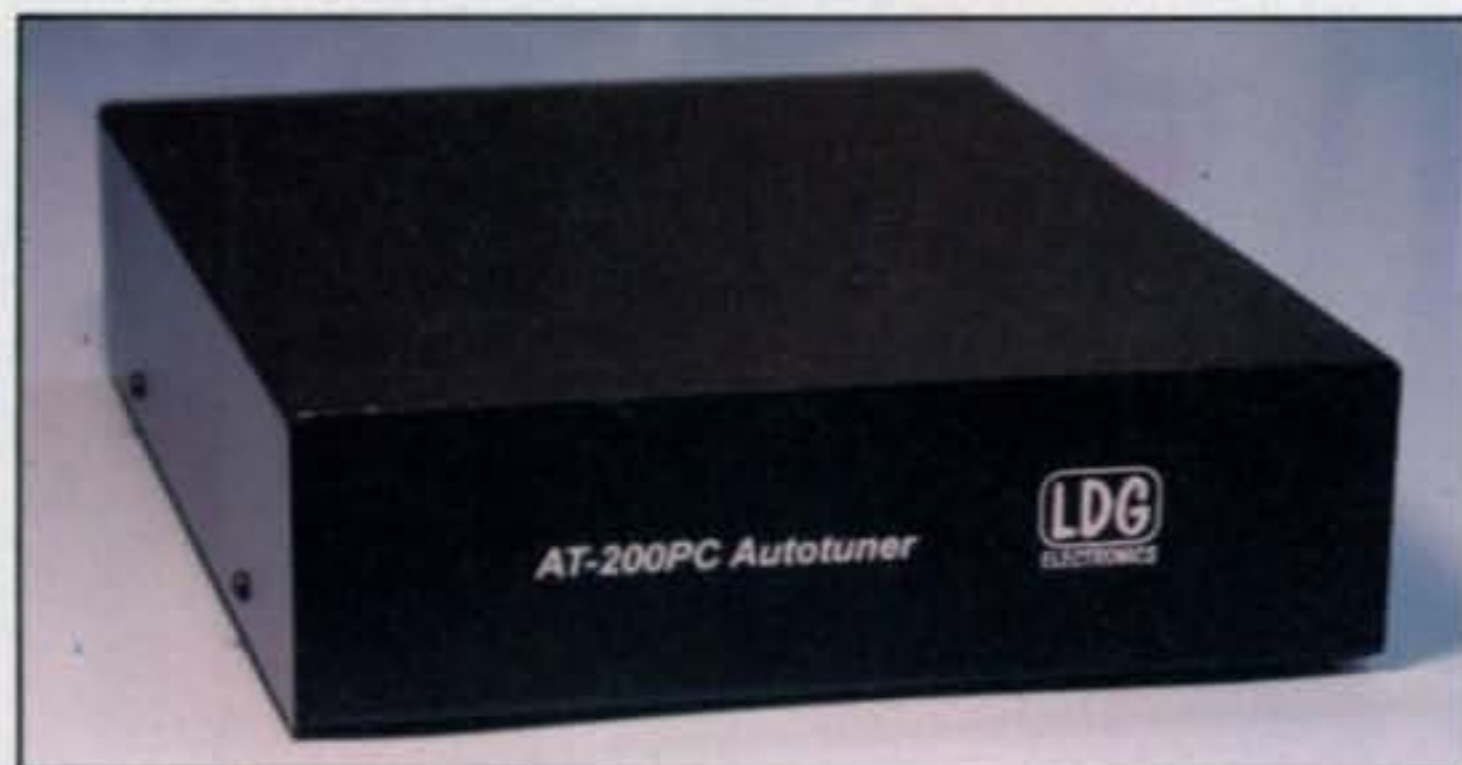


Photo C—Unlike other tuners, the LDG Electronics AT-200PC Automatic Antenna Tuner itself has no buttons or readouts, as can readily be seen in this front view. Its many functions are controlled entirely by a program running on your PC. (Photo courtesy of LDG Electronics)



Photo D—You can install the AT-200PC Automatic Antenna Tuner out of the way, on the floor, or even in another room, interfacing to your PC via a serial or USB cable. The rear view is shown here. (Photo courtesy of LDG Electronics)



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input voltage from 10.0 to 14.9 VDC, you can power a wide range of AC appliances, including pumps, can openers, fans, TV sets, recorders, VCRs, heavy-duty tools, and more. The Cobra CPI Power Inverter sells for \$329.95.

For more information, contact Cobra Electronics Corporation, 6500 West Cortland St., Chicago, IL 60707 (773-889-8870; e-mail: <productinfo@cobra.com>; on the web: <<http://www.cobra.com>>).

Antennas and Accessories

AT-200PC Automatic Antenna Tuner from LDG Electronics. LDG Electronics is a St. Leonard, Maryland based amateur radio equipment manufacturer. Its many products are well-known for their high quality, and they are available from distributors in 13 countries throughout the world.

Now you can have a state-of-the-art, high-performance automatic tuner and still run your whole station right from your keyboard and mouse. LDG's new AT-200PC Automatic Antenna Tuner—reportedly the first tuner engineered for USB computer control—is a special version of the popular AT-200Pro, but is designed for PC control. The tuner itself has no buttons or readouts; its many functions are controlled entirely by a program running on your PC. You can install the tuner out of the way, on the floor, or even in another room, interfacing to your PC via a serial or USB cable (photos C and D).

Photo E—Barker & Williamson's new Manpack Broadband Folded Dipole Antenna, together with its Manpack Mast System, provides full HF communications capability in one small, light, rapidly deployable kit. The antenna components ← are shown in this photo. (Photo courtesy B & W)



Photo F— The three-pole B & W Manpack Mast System will hold the antenna at a height of 6 ft. in a flattop configuration. Mast pole sections are a very short 18 inches and are rapidly field assembled with an inner joiner piece by pushing them together. (Photo courtesy B & W)

The tuner allows you to tune without transmitting and automatically tracks your frequency, assuring fast automatic tuning with your computer controlled-rig. The AT-200PC includes flash upgradeable firmware, and it can be connected to your PC with either serial or USB interfaces.

The AT-200PC handles up to 250 watts SSB or CW over the range 1.8 to

30 MHz, and 100 watts on 6 meters; it also features LDG's state-of-the-art, processor-controlled Switched-L tuner. The unit is said to match virtually and rapidly any kind of coax-fed antenna, including Yagis, dipoles, inverted Vees, slopers, and loops.

You also can use the AT-200PC with longwires, random wires, and antennas fed with ladderline with the optional

LDG balun. The AT-200PC includes an internal antenna switch, controlled from the PC, so you can select between two antennas. The tuner includes a 10-foot serial cable, USB interface, and power cord. It lists for \$259 and is available at ham radio equipment retailers. All LDG products include the new two-year warranty on parts and labor.

Contact LDG Electronics, 1445 Parran Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685 (410-586-2177; e-mail: <ldg@ldgelectronics.com>; or on the web: <<http://www.ldgelectronics.com>>).

Manpack Broadband Antenna and Manpack Mast System from Barker & Williamson. Your column editor fondly remembers "the good old days" when Barker & Williamson (B & W) was heavily into amateur equipment production alongside now-departed ham gear names such as Johnson, Collins, Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, Globe, and others. Recently, the company has focused largely on supplying a variety of sophisticated amateur, commercial, military, government, emergency operations, and SWL antennas, coils, and accessories. And the firm's current lines of HF broadband antennas are quite innovative.

B & W's Manpack Broadband Folded Dipole Antenna (photo E), together with its Manpack Mast System (photo F), provides full HF communications capability in one small, light, rapidly deployable kit. Focused on operating NVIS (Near Vertical Incidence Skywave) propagation from a 20-watt field radio such as the military AN/PRC-150, the antenna is capable of fully automatic, low-SWR operation from 1.6 to 60 MHz without need for an antenna tuner/coupler. The frequency-agile antenna weighs only 5 lbs., fitting in the same bag with the manpack mast. (NVIS can allow a very dense coverage area of up to several hundred miles with no skip zone, and often is used to fill in HF radio "dead zones" between groundwave's maximum range and skywave's minimum range.)

The new antenna is amazingly compact and simple, comprised of only the center assembly, two spreaders, and the wire assemblies. It is furnished complete with thermoplastic housing, camouflage, super flexible insulated wires, 1/4-turn connections, and wire winders. To deploy, you simply erect support poles, hang the center assembly from a snap hook, clip the wires to the center assembly, unroll the wires to the end supports, clip onto the end rings, apply tension, and snap in the spreaders.

The three-pole mast set will hold the antenna at a height of 6 ft. in a flattop



Fig. 2— With the Topo USA 6.0 Topographic Mapping Software, you can scout the terrain as if you were there with highly defined shaded relief, realistic 3-D views (with "fly overs"), and downloadable aerial images. A 3-D full screen sample is depicted here. (Image courtesy of DeLorme Mapping)



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Forward Power Ranges: 20/200W

CN-801S

Frequency Range: 900-2500MHz
Forward Power Ranges: 2/20W



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Accurate and dependable bench meters at an economy price.

Lighted, 13.8VDC jack on rear panel. 6"l x 3" h x 4" d (approx.)

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Frequency Range: 1.8-150MHz
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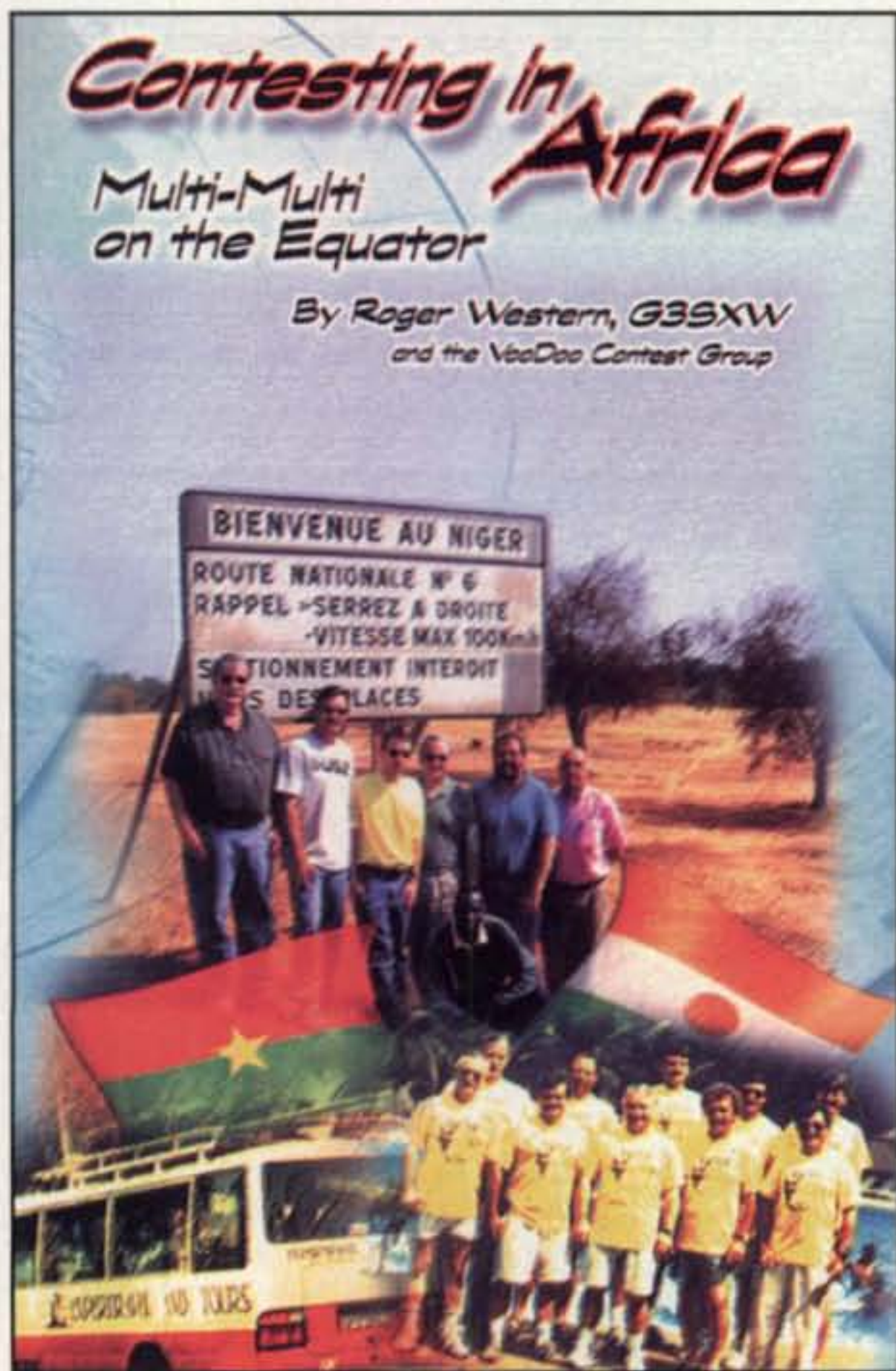
Conns: Gold plated N-Type



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configuration. Mast pole sections are a very short 18 inches, and they are rapidly field-assembled with an inner joiner piece by just pushing them together. A locator pin is hammered into the ground to stabilize the bottom of the assembly. A guy ring is placed on top, and lines run down to ground stakes. The preassembled guy lines have easy-to-use tensioners and snap hooks. Put the antenna together with the manpack mast kit, and you have a total HF communications system in a 22" x 10" x 10" bag weighing less than 25 lbs.

The material used for the pole sections is a composite known as FRP, or fiberglass reinforced plastic. Unlike cheap "fishing pole" material, it is extremely lightweight, strong, and rigid. The color is throughout the material, so there is no chipping paint. Also, shock hazards are eliminated. All guys and lines utilize polyester, which won't stretch, rot, or degrade in UV. The bottom line is that it's claimed to be the smallest and lightest broadband antenna system for NVIS HF use.

Contact Barker & Williamson, 603 Cidco Road, Cocoa, FL 32926 (321-639-1510; e-mail: <custsrv@bwantennas.com>; on the web: <http://www.bwantennas.com>).

Software and Computers

Topo USA 6.0 Mapping and Navigation Software from Delorme. The new Topo USA 6.0 joins Delorme's array of

Fig. 3—Contesting in Africa: Multi-Multi On the Equator represents a compelling array of contesting and DXing experience from one of the most unique operating venues on Earth, the African continent. The personal stories told by Roger Western, G3SXW, are said to make this book a "must have" for your library. (Published by Idiom Press)

high-quality software packages in its quest to "bring technology down to earth"™. The new Topo USA 6.0 Topographic Mapping Software from Delorme (fig. 2) lets you explore anywhere in the U.S. on a detailed, seamless topographic map—all on a single DVD, providing large-scale U.S. topographic coverage in one package.

With the new software, you can scout the terrain as if you were there with highly defined shaded relief, realistic 3-D (with "fly overs"), and downloadable aerial images. You can see the land cover for any location, as well as find public lands for recreation, including Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, state and national parks and forests, and campgrounds. You can automatically create routes over roads and trails, based on the most up-to-date data available. The software also lets you print detailed, customized maps and effortlessly upload GPS waypoints, tracks, and routes to your receiver. You can then hit the back roads and trails and navigate with complete confidence, wherever your adventures take you.

You also can use the software on-the-go with a GPS receiver, as the Topo USA 6.0 software is compatible with DeLorme Earthmate GPS. You can load it on a laptop or PDA and see your position updated on detailed 2-D and 3-D maps and aerial imagery. On a laptop you can play back where you've been using the GPS log feature. You also can easily exchange waypoints and track logs between Topo 6.0 and third-party GPS receivers.

The new product is conveniently available on a single national DVD or on two regional edition CDs. For more information, including disc media options and product pricing, contact DeLorme, Two DeLorme Drive, P.O. Box 298, Yarmouth, ME 04096 (1-800-

561-5105; on the web: <<http://www.delorme.com>>).

From the Bookshelf

Contesting in Africa: Multi-Multi On the Equator. Idiom Press has been operated by Bob Locher, Jr., W9KNI, since the early 1980s. The firm, whose name is derived from the words "I Did It On My Own," supplies some of the world's finest Morse Code keyers, computerized antenna rotator controls, audio filters, books of particular interest to DXers, and more. Recently, Idiom Press announced the new book *Contesting in Africa: Multi-Multi On the Equator*.

For homebound contesters and DXers alike, there is no thrill in amateur radio to match that of hearing your call come back from a new multiplier or a new country. However, imagine the thrill of being the new multiplier or country for literally thousands of stations! For the great majority of us, this means participating in a DXpedition.

DXpeditions typically are complex operations, especially where the goal is to win a major contest. Long lists of details must be attended to, including licensing, visas, vaccinations, transportation, clothing, tools, accommodations, and siting—not to mention organizing tons of radio equipment and antennas at the right place and at the right time.

The British/American VooDoo Contest Group has been particularly successful in this endeavor, year after year mounting highly complex operations from various West African countries to the delight of DXers and contesters worldwide. Their operations have been keyed to the CQ World-Wide DX Contest, considered by many as the crown jewel of contesting.

Contesting in Africa (fig. 3) is a fascinating new book detailing the VooDoo group's experiences, edited and much of it written by renowned contester and DXpeditioner Roger Western, G3SXW, and also containing additional chapters contributed by other VooDoo team members. The book provides an unusual and most fulfilling treat in simultaneously entertaining the armchair traveler with accounts of the challenges and adventures in getting to and operating from exotic countries, and at the same time providing inspiration and an informal planning guide for your own adventure and DXpedition.

CQ's own Contesting Editor John Dorr, K1AR, had this to say about the 190-page book: "Contesting in Africa, by the VooDoo Contest Group, offers a compelling array of contesting and DXing experiences from one of the most unique operating venues on Earth—the African continent. The opportunity for the reader to benefit from personal stories told by the worldrenowned and witty personality Roger Western, G3SXW, makes the book a 'must have' in any ham radio library."

Contact Idiom Press, P.O. Box 1985, Grants Pass, OR 97528 (541-474-0293; e-mail: <Sales@IdiomPress.com>; on the web: <<http://www.idiompress.com>>).

Special Note: Contesting in Africa is available from CQ's own bookstore (check the advertiser's index near the back of the magazine for the page numbers in this issue). The CQ Bookstore also conveniently stocks several of the most popular Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) Books. You can order any of these books from the CQ Bookstore by calling toll-free 1-800-853-9797.

Wrap-Up

That's all for this time, gang. Next time, more "What's New." See you then.

Overheard: I have finally realized that when someone asks your advice on something, they probably want to tell you what they think.

73, Karl, W8FX

Note: Listings in "What's New" are not product reviews and do not constitute a product endorsement by CQ or the column editor. Information in this column is primarily provided by manufacturers/vendors and has not necessarily been independently verified. The purpose of this column is to inform readers about new products in the marketplace. We encourage you to do additional research on products of interest to you.

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RAL Series Receivers and Boatanchor Car Guys

“While it is possible to use the RAL for amateur communications, it is an almost hopeless antique and certainly not worthy of any conversion efforts.” With that sentence, the *Surplus Schematics Handbook*¹ dismisses the U.S. Navy’s RAL series of receivers.

Navy radiomen who used the receiver from the mid-1930s through the Second World War might offer a different opinion, as would amateur and MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) operators who gained experience with them in the post-war years.

The ex-Navy receiver first came to my attention in this year’s Dayton Hamvention® flea market. My friend Alan Fryer, N3BJ, had an RAL-7 sitting in the trunk of his car with a For Sale sign on it. When I stopped to talk with him, he maneuvered the receiver into a better position so I could make a photograph of it. Alan is a longtime, knowledgeable receiver buff and he gave me a rundown on the RAL-7’s features and performance. I began to think, “This is really a neat old radio.”

He was particularly impressed with the smoothness with which the set enters regeneration. That’s right: The RALs are regenerative receivers! He pointed out that it is worlds away in performance from the Ocean Hoppers, Space Spanners, and other simple regen sets familiar to many of us vintage-radio enthusiasts. The RAL’s detector enters oscillation so gradually that the receiver has an *Oscillator Test* button to confirm regeneration. Pressing the button produces a double click in the headphones if the detector is oscillating. Alan was also impressed with the selectivity provided by the audio filters. The set’s two RF stages contribute to stability and smooth regeneration. They control the signal level to the detector so there is little pulling or overloading of this stage. He also pointed out the lack of a conventional volume control.

The sensitivity knob controls the gain of the RF stages. The knob and switch marked AVC (Automatic Volume Control) on the front panel, and referred to as such in the RAL-7 manual, do not control a conventional AVC circuit. The type ‘41 AVC tube works instead as a limiter in the audio output. The manual recommends advancing the sensitivity control only enough to produce perceptible noise in the headphones and then switching on the AVC and adjusting the AVC Level control to produce comfortable copy.

An innovative-for-its-time feature is the audio filtering. When the audio switch is in the Sharp position, a low-pass filter is inserted after the detec-

tor. Its response begins rolling off between 1200 and 1600 Hz. In addition, the audio tuning control enables the operator to select 20 peak response frequencies ranging from 450 Hz to 1300 Hz in two banks of 10 frequencies each.

Although they are TRF (Tuned Radio Frequency) sets, the RAL receivers feature “uni-knob” tuning. The two RF stages and detector are gang-tuned with a three-section variable capacitor. The Antenna and RF trimmers on the panel are used to touch up the tracking, peaking the desired frequency. The Frequency Vernier knob controls a small-value trimmer capacitor in the detector circuit. It allows for fine adjustments in frequency, particularly useful for CW beat notes. The main tuning knob and dial scales are located in the center of the panel, just above the frequency card and below the nomenclature plate in the photograph. The RAL receivers do not have direct-reading calibration. The frequency is set using a calibration chart and the logging scales on the main tuning dial. Frequency coverage is .3 to 23 MHz in nine bands. The sister RAK series covers 15 kHz to 600 kHz. Both series use six tubes (exclusive of the external power supply). The RF stages, detector, and first audio use 6D6s; the audio output and AVC tubes are both type ‘41s.



The RAL series of receivers dates from 1935. They were used by the U.S. Navy through WW II. This RAL-7 belongs to Alan Fryer, N3BJ. (Photos © Joe Veras, 2006, all rights reserved)

*208 Alpine Circle, Vestavia Hills, AL 35216
e-mail: <k9oco@jveras.com>
website: <www.k9oco.com>

Appropriately, considering its Navy service, the RAL-7 is truly a boatanchor. It weighs in at 74 lbs. The separate Type-50036A power supply tips the scales at 41 lbs. Dimensions are 15" W x 13.3" H x 16.1" D. The meter on the left side is a dB meter indicating the audio output power. Its four ranges cover 0 to +15 dB in *add dB* fashion. 0 dB is referenced at 6 mw. One detail about the radio in the photograph that is not original equipment: The little silver and gold device mounted on the lower left-hand corner of the nameplate has a small lamp in it and serves to illuminate the tuning dial.

Under the Navy nomenclature system in use when the initial design was done in 1935, the receiver was designated RAL. Subsequent contracts suffixed a dash followed by a number, so the next in line was the RAL-1, also 1935. The RAL-2, -3, -4, and -5 followed, with original contract dates of 1936, 1937, 1938, and 1939, respectively. The RAL-6 (1941) was modified to reduce radar interference. The RAL-7 and -8 iterations introduced additional shielding and were the models in production during the war years. Radiation from the receiver itself was a serious concern, and the RALs were designed to eliminate this. A signal radiated from a vessel's radio-room receiver could allow the enemy to locate and track a ship or submarine.

The receivers also have a type number. Early RALs were designated 46045; the RAL-6 and later versions were 46156. The first two digits of the type number indicate the component type (46 = Receiver). A three-letter code indicating manufacturer precedes the numbers. A CRV-46045 would have been manufactured by RCA. The RAL-7 pictured carries Type Number CND-46156, so it was manufactured by Andrea Radio Corporation on New York's Long Island. Andrea Radio was established in 1934 and survives today in the form of a successor company, Andrea Systems, LLC. The firm is still in the military and commercial communications equipment business in Farmingdale, NY.

De W7EKB, KN2X, and Others

Ken Gordon, W7EKB, does not agree with the assessment in the quote that begins this column. He acquired an RAL-7 in 1958 and it was his main station receiver for nearly 20 years. He used it for everything a ham does with a receiver, including traffic handling on both CW and SSB nets. The set's audio

filters were switched out for phone work. Ken says, "It is very stable, selective enough for me (especially with its superb audio filtering system), and very sensitive." The RAL "heard everything I could hear on my SB-101," he goes on to say. The receiver must also have been durable and reliable, holding up through constant use. "During one period, I never turned it off for over six years," Ken states. He finally shut it down to check the tubes, and then, finding nothing wrong, turned it back on and left it running for another three years.

Ken uses his current RAL-7 on 160, 80, 40, and 20 meter CW and reports that the receiver has almost no internally generated noise. The signals have a "transparent sound" with greater depth. Anything you would change about the RAL, Ken? Yes: The lack of a directly calibrated frequency readout is his only complaint. After 48 years of experience with the breed, that's not a lengthy gripe list.

Bill Henneberry, KN2X, of Yonkers, New York has a lengthy familiarity with the RAL and its low-frequency sibling, the RAK. In July 1940, after graduating high school, Bill enlisted in the Navy as an Apprentice Seaman. After boot camp at Newport, Rhode Island, he was assigned to the cruiser *USS Trenton* as a *Striker* (an enlisted man working toward a Petty Officer's rate) in the ship's Communications Department. He was promoted to Chief Petty Officer in February 1945 and remained aboard the *Trenton* until war's end. After completing a pair of courses at the Navy's Treasure Island, California school his rating was changed to Chief Electronics Technician.

In his more than 20 years of service, Bill says, "The RAL/RAK receivers were ubiquitous. There was at least one pair on every vessel in which I served." The sets were popular with both radio operators and technicians. The radios were almost indestructible; techs rarely had to open them. Bill believes they also "were superior to supposedly better sets for copying Fox (*successively numbered messages in 5-letter code groups*)." Bill observes that, even with their audio filtering, "Selectivity was not what we take for granted today."

Longtime *CQ* readers with good memories may recall hearing of Bill before. After retiring from the Navy as a Chief Warrant Officer-2 in 1961, he went to work as an engineer for the Technical Material Corporation. TMC manufactured communication equipment systems for government, commercial, and military clients around the

globe and is famous in amateur circles for its GPR-90 receivers. While at the Mamaroneck, NY company, Bill authored a 40-page booklet entitled "A Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis of the AM, SSB and AME² Modes of Operation of Radio Equipment." The work is referenced in March 1966 *CQ*.³

Along with the terrific input from Ken and Bill, I also received a wealth of information from other collectors/users. Thanks to: Chuck McGregor, N7RHU; Robert Flory, K2WI; Sandy Blaize, W5TVW; Meir Ben-Dror, WF2U; Marty Reynolds, AA4RM; and Art Leberman, W6REQ. I appreciate the time and effort you put into corresponding, as well as making inquiries on my behalf. Thanks to Alan Fryer, N3BJ, not only for his impressions of the RAL-7, but also for making his receiver available for photography. Despite all the expert assistance, this column is not intended to be an authoritative or comprehensive treatise on the RAL, but rather a shared experience of the item I found most fascinating in the 2006 Hamvention® flea market.

Car Guys

Dayton is not all about the flea market, though. A guy has to eat, too. For more years than I can recall, we have had a completely unofficial, impromptu boatanchor dinner at the Barnsider restaurant. It's not precisely the same people each year, but there are regulars and semi-regulars on the roster. Being completely unofficial, there is no official organizer, but if there were . . . it would be Herman Cone, N4CH. Herman needs no introduction to this column's readers or anyone who has bought a Radio Classics calendar in the past dozen years. Radios from Herman's magnificent collection frequently grace both the magazine and calendar pages.

Among the others around the Barnsider table this year were Gary Wagner, K3OMI; Alan Fryer, N3BJ; John Poulton, K4OZY; and Steve Tell, KF4ZPF. We all have vintage radio as a primary interest, but I was struck by the number of certifiable Car Guys . . . certifiable *Saab* Car Guys in attendance. Gary owned a Saab dealership for 20 years and has also raced sports cars. A visit to his QTH is a satisfying experience, whether one is a Car Guy, boatanchor fan, or both. He built an eight-car garage to house several hundred vintage radios and a variety of automobiles. A Saab Viggen, a pair of Lotuses, one each old (Austin Cooper S) and new Mini, and a Fiat Abarth are among the rolling stock.

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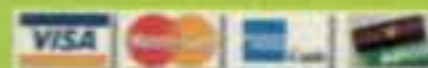


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The K9OCO (N4QB) mobile hamshack circa 1978. More than 1800 CW QSOs were logged from the driver's seat of the Saab 99 Turbo.

John, K4OZY, was in the repair end of the Saab business at one time. In 1971, while in grad school, he did some mechanical work on a Saab belonging to a friend of his wife. As John says, "One thing led to another," and he soon found himself in the repair business. He is no longer personally turning wrenches at the garage, but the business is still going strong.

Alan, N3BJ, discovered a way to indulge his competitive streak without

getting speeding tickets. He is a superb radio contester, honing his skills in the QRP ranks. He finished #1 U.S. in CQ's own 2001 World Wide DX contest and placed third in the world in the Y2K World Wide contest, both on CW.

A natural multi-tasker, I found a way to combine Saabs, CW, and mobile operation all at the same time. My claim to fame is more than 1800 CW QSOs from the driver's seat of a 99 (the model number, not the year) Saab Turbo . . .

all while covering 115,000 accident-free miles. The accompanying photo shows the car. It was a great vehicle for blowing the doors off other mobile ham shacks in lesser conveyances such as Chevy Camaros. On page 80 of April 1984 issue of CQ is a photograph of my mobile operation in the 99's successor, a Saab 900 Turbo. Apparently not all Swedish cars are created equal. I once owned a Volvo that stopped dead any time I keyed down on 20 meters.

There was one more car connection with this year's Hamvention®. One of my prized Dayton traditions is an annual meeting with W8CAR and W0CAR. Dan, '8CAR, is the strength and conditioning coach for our Dayton ordeal. Early in the year—safely after the holidays—he begins putting John, '0CAR, and me through a regimen designed to have us in peak form by mid-May. Dan's routine is tough, but it has never failed.

73, Joe, K9OCO

Notes

1. Grayson, Kenneth B., W2HDM, *Surplus Schematics Handbook*, Cowan Publishing Corp., 1960, p. 71.
2. AM Equivalent
3. Schauers, Charles J., W6QLV, "Ham Clinic," *CQ* magazine, March 1966, p. 75.

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Making the Top Ten

BY JOHN DORR, K1AR

contesting

September's Contest Tip

Most contest operators track what they've worked in a contest. Many do not keep track of what they need, however. Obviously, this concept most applies to working multipliers. Whether you use your logging software to help or simply keep a written list, it's important not to miss the "easy ones" in contests so you can maximize your future scores!

Looking at the title, this month's column is probably not what you think it's going to be. For most testers, making the top ten in a contest means you have achieved one of the top ten scores in your category. It's a goal that few obtain, but many strive for in each event.

This month, however, I'm going to be discussing a different kind of top ten—my own personal top ten experiences in contesting. The idea was spawned by the events of the recently concluded World Radio Team Championship (WRTC-2006) in Brazil. Due to personal commitments, I was not able to participate this time around. However, as I sit in New Hampshire writing this column, I can't help but reminisce about past WRTC events and the impact they had on my contest experience.

Indeed, like many of you, I have been blessed with incredible contest experiences over the years. In fact, it's nearly impossible to net them out into a list of ten, but that's the goal this month. With that in mind, what follows is my top ten, experiences for which I'm eternally grateful and ones that I will never forget.

WRTC-1990

No other contest experience can hold a candle to WRTC-1990 for me. This was an event of firsts: the first to create a level-playing field of world-class competition, the first to host Russian and U.S. hams (and other Eastern Bloc countries) in the United States, and the first to align itself with a high-profile competition, Ted Turner's Goodwill Games™, as an official cross-cultural event.

There are a million stories to tell, but WRTC-1990 set the stage for all future WRTC events. I'll never forget the thrill of staying up until the wee hours of the night with Willy, UA9BA, finally talking face to face after all our years of on-the-air QSOs. Then there was the small matter of a WRTC contest, and the closing ceremonies where scores of fellow testers said good-bye to one another with tears in their eyes. It was the stuff you never forget. My thanks to Danny, K7SS, and so many others who made it all happen!

WRTC 2000 in Slovenia

With two incredible WRTC events in the bank, skepticism was growing as to whether or not another successful WRTC could be delivered. Tine, S50A, and his team made it happen in a big way.

Slovenia was another week of contest fantasy. Old friendships were rekindled and new ones made.

*2 Mitchell Pond Road, Windham, NH 03087
e-mail: <K1AR@contesting.com>

Calendar of Events

All year	CQ DX Marathon
Aug. 26–27	ALARA Contest
Aug. 26–27	Hawaii QSO Party
Aug. 26–27	YO DX HF Contest
Aug. 26–27	SCC RTTY Contest
Aug. 26–27	Ohio QSO Party
Aug. 27	SARL HF CW Contest
Aug. 27–28	Kentucky QSO Party
Sept. 2	Russian RTTY Contest
Sept. 2–3	All Asian SSB Contest
Sept. 2–3	RSGB SSB Field Day
Sept. 9–10	Worked All Europe SSB Contest
Sept. 10	North American CW Sprint
Sept. 9–11	ARRL Sept. VHF QSO Party
Sept. 10–11	Tennessee QSO Party
Sept. 12–14	YLRL Howdy Days
Sept. 16–17	Scandinavian CW Activity Contest
Sept. 16–17	South Carolina QSO Party
Sept. 16–17	Wash. State Salmon Run Contest
Sept. 16–17	QCWA 50 th Fall QSO Party
Sept. 17	North American SSB Sprint
Sept. 23–24	CQ WW RTTY Contest
Sept. 23–24	Scandinavian SSB Activity Contest
Sept. 23–24	Texas QSO Party
Sept. 30–Oct. 1	Arkansas QSO Party
Oct. 28–29	CQ WW DX SSB Contest
Nov. 25–26	CQ WW DX CW Contest

Whether it was traipsing through the caves of Slovenia with 9A3A or riding in a bus with G3SXW, the fraternity of contesting was alive as I'd never seen before during that week in Bled. The thrill of watching an opening ceremony with national flags from each team being proudly displayed cannot adequately be described. Yes, contesting is much more than just sending numbers and callsigns.

CQ Contest Hall of Fame

It's a rare day when K1AR is surprised in public, but a bunch of folks led by K1DG and the Yankee Clipper Contest Club managed to pull it off at the 1999 Dayton Hamvention® Contest Dinner by inducting me into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. Obviously, being the recipient of such an honor speaks for itself, but it was an event I'll never forget. More often than not, I look at the list of other Contest Hall of Fame members and say to myself, "I just don't belong here."

20 Meters at W2PV

Operating from W2PV is absolutely one of the highlights of my contesting experience, especially in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Aside from being one of contesting's class acts, Jim Lawson offered an amazing station that fueled the old-time multi-multi competitive battles between W2PV and N2AA (K2GL) that many of you have read about and a few of us actually experienced. I'll probably sound like my parents by saying, "Contesting just isn't the same as it was in those days." There were no computers, no packet, no battle over making sure the network was up and running. We just had good, old-fashioned fun. You know, after thinking about it, the more things have changed with technology,

the more they have indeed stayed the same. I still get the same thrill from passing a 9J2 to 40 meters today as I did in the days of operating at W2PV. That's a good thing, indeed!

First Single Op in CQ WW

We remember those firsts in our lives: first child, first job interview, first date, etc. While I had operated in many contests as a casual entrant or as part of a serious multi-op team, I had never competed seriously as a single operator in the CQ WW—until the 1979 CW contest from K1GQ's place. As events sometimes go, Bill and I actually planned on operating multi-single. However, with 45 minutes to go before the contest, he looked at me and asked, "Do you want to do this by yourself?" It was an offer I couldn't pass up and one for which I'll always be thankful, as the 1979 CQ WW DX CW Contest was the beginning of a long string of single-op efforts for years to come. If I haven't said it lately, thanks again, Bill.

ARRL Field Day, 15A NNJ

One of the aspects of contesting I like the most is the way we try to push our operating and station-building capabilities to new heights. Even though ARRL Field Day is not an officially sanctioned contest, for all intents and purposes it might as well be one. Also, it does offer something very similar to mainstream contests: the occasion to do the extreme!

Andy Blank, N2NT, led an incredible logistical challenge that resulted in two back-to-back 15A (one of the categories) Field Day operations. These were not just your average operation. On 20 meters, for example, we had a 4-over-4 stacked array. All stations were using KW's with generator power provided by the U.S. National Guard. At the end of it all, we managed the following scores:

1980: W2RQ, 15A (KA2HVM was the Novice station), 10,673 QSOs, 34 ops, 15,673 points.

1981: W2RQ, 15A, 11,201 QSOs, 30 ops, 16,437 points.

It just doesn't get much better than that and we're still talking about it 25 years later.

Winning from Billerica

With the cost of equipment, lack of time, and required commitment levels higher than ever, it seems that more and more of us are not operating competitively from our own stations. Of course, there are many notable exceptions, such as N9RV, K5ZD, K4ZW, N2NT, and others. In the early 1980s I actually had a reasonable station of my own (single tower with mono-banders), albeit small potatoes by today's standards. However, it was mine and built with my own two hands, and I managed to win a few DX contests with it. Trust me when I say that's a great feeling!

First DX Operation from HI8XWP

If you've never been on a contest DXpedition, my advice is simple: Book a flight and go somewhere; almost anywhere will do. My first experience operating from outside the U.S. was in 1979. Together with K1DG, we put the "fabulous" callsign of HI8XWP on the air as the world high multi-single in the CQ WW contest. I had always dreamed about operating off-shore with those high QSO rates and incredible scores, but nothing compared to actually doing it.

We had the luxury of operating from Tony and Suzanne's QTH in downtown Santo Domingo, as well as benefiting from their diplomatic status when passing through customs. It was a turn-key station with enough gear to be loud in most parts of the world. At least that's what 8000 QSOs felt like after the contest. Oh, and can you remember what it was like to dupe a log by hand? I still can; it's one of many memories that make HI8XWP a key part of my top-ten.

Operating at W3AU

Imagine an 18-year-old kid being asked to operate from one of the giant stations of contesting, W3AU. That was my opportunity and experience. My folks lived in Maryland, so during college breaks I had the opportunity to stay with them and connect with the guys from the Potomac Valley Radio Club. On



The winning teams at WRTC-2006 (left to right): K1DG/N2NT (#3), VE3EJ/VE7ZO (#1), and N2NL/N6MJ (#2). (Photo courtesy of Jim Idelson, K1IR)

Place	WRTC Call	Operators	Total QSOs	Total Mults	Final Score	Error Rate%
1	PT5M	VE3EJ/VE7ZO	2369	230	2,439,380	2.2
2	PW5C	N6MJ/N2NL	2200	241	2,317,456	2.1
3	PT5Y	K1DG/N2NT	2124	230	2,098,060	3.1
4	PW5X	UT4UZ/UT5UGR	2304	204	2,024,496	2.9
5	PT5D	IK2QE/IK2JUB	2024	232	1,987,080	2.4
6	PT5P	DL6FBL/DL2CC	1875	240	1,978,320	1.8
7	PT5N	9A8A/9A5K	2017	223	1,962,177	3.4
8	PW5Q	NØAX/KL9A	2020	222	1,958,928	2.0
9	PT5R	RW3QC/RW3GU	1840	238	1,945,174	3.1
10	PT5Q	W2SC/K5ZD	1822	248	1,944,320	1.6

Table I—WRTC-2006 top ten results.

one such occasion, Bob Cox, K3EST, asked me if I'd be interested in operating from the mighty W3AU. After thinking about it for maybe one nanosecond, I accepted, finding myself at the operating position with Bob on 40 meters. Bob and I have been friends for over 30 years, but I remember the experience as if it were yesterday, when he was "encouraging" me (some would use stronger words) to send faster and get the rate up. Little did Bob know that he was influencing my approach to contesting in a way that I'm still using today. Rate does indeed matter, and, doing it from W3AU in the mid-1970s was rate in style!

Operations at K1EA

What can one say about operating from a station such as K1EA for over 20 years? At Kenny's place we've done it all—single op, multi-single, multi-two, and even a few multi-multi operations. For the most part, operating at K1EA has been my contest experience, as I've operated more major contests from Ken's QTH than from all other locations combined. I could tell you stories until the end of the next sunspot cycle, but that is the essence of why this one makes my list. Of course, there was the time we worked 40 zones on 40 meters, or the QSO with HSØAC on 40 meters at 2 PM local time. Then there was the QSO with BV/K1RX on 80 meters and the thousands of passed multipliers. However, the real stories are the people. Over the years, we've had the pleasure of operating with an all-star cast of characters, and those relationships and good times are what I really remember about being at K1EA. It is, indeed, what contesting is really all about.

A Few Other Notables

The biggest challenge this month was to net out over 35 years of contest experience into ten significant events, and with that being said, I do have a few others that need to be acknowledged:

- Surprise 50th birthday dinner with many K1AR ham friends in attendance
- My first 400-hour rate, from PJ2T

- My first contest—the 1970 ARRL Novice Round-up
- Climbing my first 200-foot tower (and living to talk about it)
- All of the other WRTC events
- Our wins at the amazing K3LR multi-multi station
- Operating at TI1J and making so many good TI friends
- Thousands of hours of great conversation at the Dayton Hamvention®
- The honor of having so many good friends like you!

To be honest, some months are just another column to me. What strikes me this month is that I've realized again just how much contesting has been a huge part of my life. My friends are largely from this group, and many of the joys

I've had in life have been in this sport we call contesting. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to share mine.

Late-Breaking News

This actually will be old news by the time you read these words, but in case you've been on a deserted Pacific island for the past two months, the WRTC-2006 results are in. In keeping with this month's theme, Table I is a snapshot of the top ten scores. Congratulations to everyone, especially the medal winners (see photo): VE3EJ/VE7ZO (winners), N6MJ/N2NL (2nd place), K1DG/N2NT (3rd place). It's an honor to even be invited to the party, and for that, I tip my hat to you all!


Final Comments

Writing this column was a fun trip down memory lane. I'm sure many of you can recall your own set of contest memories that make up your personal top ten. It's important to keep in mind that aside from striving to do our best in contesting, the real value comes from building those memories and sharing them with others. Until next time, see you in the contest!


73, John, K1AR

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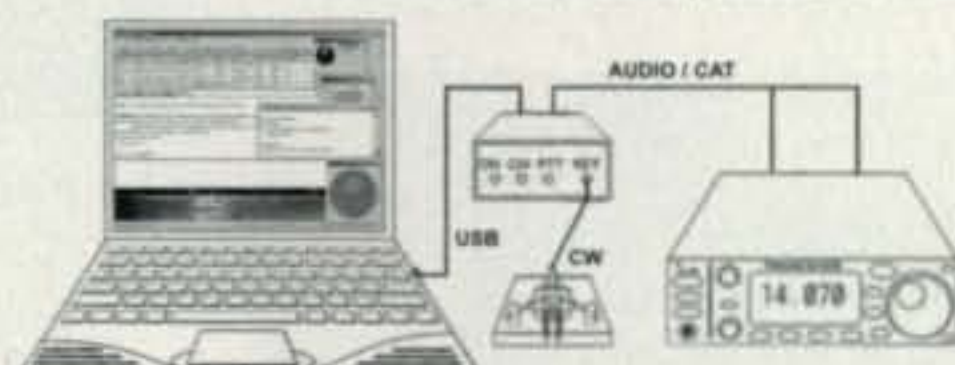


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Hellschreiber Awards

An old method of data transmission has been rejuvenated by the digital revolution and has regained popularity. Nicknamed the "HELL" mode, it provides an air of mystery as well. Hellschreiber was patented in 1929, and is still in use today with pretty much the original format. Hellschreiber was the first successful direct printing text transmission system, and was very popular at a time when teleprinters were complex and expensive (the Hell receiving mechanism had only two moving parts). The first use was in land-line press services, which continued well into the 1980s. During WW II, Hellschreiber was widely used for field portable military communications. Today it is often referred to as "Feld Hell," or "Field Hell."

Each character of a Feld-Hell transmission is portrayed as a series of dots, in a matrix, just like the printing of a dot-matrix printer. The dots are sent one at a time, rather like Morse Code. Feld-Hell transmits in the following order: up each column from bottom to top, then up each successive column from left to right. Modern-day software "prints" the received data on the user's computer screen; hence the emphasis on the phrase "friends printing friends" in the Feld Hell Club awards presented below. Speeds of up to 200 baud (about 25 WPM) are supported, and several free programs are available to allow you to get into this old and new mode. An interesting website is maintained by the Feld Hell Club (www.feldhellclub.co.uk), and to encourage participation, they offer some very well-designed and colorful certificates.

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cialized digital mode. All contacts must be made on or after March 6, 2006, the date of the formation of the Feld Hell Club (exception: the DXCC Award). The log that you turn in should include Date and Time in GMT, Station's Call, Name, Frequency, FH Mode, and station's Feld Hell Number.

Submit the application in e-mail form, in increments of 25 members contacted (otherwise the first



The Feld Hell Club's award for contacting 25 Feld Hell Club members.



Feld Hell Club's DXCC Award.

Larry (Frosty) Phillips, WØFP
USA-CA All Counties #1135, May 16, 2006

A cousin I was visiting in the State of Washington introduced me to amateur radio in 1954. When I returned home, it took me five years to get a license. There was no one around to help with my amateur radio studies in my location in southwestern Missouri.

In 1959, I passed the Novice test and received the call KNØVVH. Six months later, I upgraded and my call changed to KØVVH. In 1965, I read about county hunting in *CQ* magazine and I bought the *USA-CA Record Book* to keep track of counties. At that time there were 3079 counties and the book was 8½" x 11" and had a map of each state showing the counties in each. I got busy with work and raising a family and put the book away and forgot about county hunting.

In 1997, I changed my call to WØFP and started using my nickname, Frosty. Also in 1997, I found the original book that I had put away in 1972. I hadn't been very serious or committed, because I had recorded about 100 counties in the book and I don't remember collecting QSL cards for those contacts.

Finding the old record book piqued my interest again, and I found the County Hunters Net on 14.336. I worked a few counties and send some QSL cards without an SASE, and some kind soul responded with a QSL card and informed me that if I was truly interested, I should provide an SASE to those from whom I wanted a card. I went through all of my QSL cards from the Geratol Net, the 3905 nets, and the OMISS nets, and found that I had over 700 counties confirmed. Having that many confirmed helped boost my interest, and I started to check into the county hunter nets on a random basis. I still was not as committed as I thought I was. Like a lot of people, I was told several times not to use phonetics on the nets, and it finally made it through my thick skull.

Somewhere about this time, I discovered the use of MRCs (Mobile Reply Coupons), where I could record more than one county. Toward

the end as I was going through checking my cards, I found that I had some MRCs that spanned several years all on the same card.

In 2001, I installed an ICOM 706MkIIIG in my car and went mobile. I quickly discovered that having to work got in the way of hunting counties. Despite the hurdle of working, I continued to work and record counties on the way home from work and on weekends. Somewhere about this time, I created my own MRC card with Frosty Press on the bottom of the card. I also found the county book from N4UJK, which has been a blessing for looking up the location of counties and trying to determine where to go mobile next.

In 2005, I discovered the use of the chat room, and toward the end of 2005 I discovered, with the help of WQ7A, the use of a script file for "Special Needs." This tool is what helped me get over the top while I was working. I am fortunate in that I work for a company that will allow me to have county hunting breaks, with a run to my car. I work with the chat room running in the background. With special needs script set, I can work and wait for the bells of "Big Ben" to go off to alert me that there is a county I need running somewhere.

I want to thank all of the net controls on the county hunting nets for their time and devotion to helping people like me work counties. I want to thank all the friends who called me on my cell phone when I didn't respond to a county they knew I needed and that had been spotted in the chat room (when I was working or in a meeting). I also want to thank K1SO, AE3Z, KB9MGI, KM9X, KQØB, and NØNH for going to some of the last counties I needed. I especially want to thank KCØQER and WØNAC for getting me the last county I needed for the "whole ball of wax." The people who participate in county hunting are some of the best and friendliest people I have ever met, and I want to thank each one for their help.

—73, Frosty, WØFP

bar is for 25, second for 50, etc.) No QSL cards are required, just a listing of the information from your log and your signature on the application. All FH numbers must be different. Submit this list in order of FH numbers to make it for easy recording and sorting. A certificate will be sent via e-mail with attached file for each bar award and is suitable for framing.

To become a member, and receive a number, send an e-mail to <join@feldhellclub.co.uk> and include your call, name, and QTH. There is no membership fee (www.feldhellclub.co.uk).

25 Bar Award: for contacting 25 Feld Hell Club members.

50 Bar Award: for contacting 50 Feld Hell Club members.

75 Bar Award: for contacting 75 Feld Hell Club members.

100, 125, 150 Bar Awards: for contacting 100, 125, 150, etc., Feld Hell Club members.

Friend in All States: for contacting a Feld Hell Club member in all 50 states of the U.S.

Friend in all Canadian Provinces: for contacting a Feld Hell Club member in every province of Canada.

Friend in all Europe: for contacting a Feld Hell Club member in every European country.

A Friend In All DXCC Countries: for contacting Feld Hell Club members or non-members in every DXCC country of the world. This award is issued in increments of 25 and a separate bar award will be given for each increment. Follow the rules of the DXCC Award. Use the same date for beginning the award as the DXCC allows. This is the only award of the series that deviates from beginning date and includes non-members. This is to help members who were using Feld Hell long before the Feld Hell Club was start-

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On the Cover

Charlie Otnott, WD5BJT, featured in the article, "Mississippi Mud," elsewhere in this issue, rode out Hurricane Katrina in the Hancock County, Mississippi, sheriff's office. The 40-foot tower visible in the background, with an antenna hanging limply off a side-mount, started out as an 80-foot tower, used for the county's public service communications. Katrina's winds snapped it off at the guys (which held). The building in the photo has been condemned—Charlie reports it had 4 1/2 feet of water on the first floor, and the roof above the second floor, which housed the county jail, was "just about gone."

"We stayed on the air til the generator went under water," Charlie recalls. "That's when we all evacuated to the second floor with the prisoners." As the winds began peeling off the roof, Charlie says, officials kept squeezing the prisoners into intact cellblocks, until all 120 prisoners were stuffed into two cellblocks, each meant to hold about 20 people. "There were some tense moments there," he noted. "We thought we were going to have a riot."

The inset photo shows what was left of Charlie's Collins 75A-2 after the storm. His family's home was destroyed and they are still living in a FEMA trailer a year later. Charlie's story, related by him and his longtime friend, Dan Brown, W1DAN, begins on page 13.

In Washington meanwhile, the FCC's independent panel on Hurricane Katrina issued its report and recommendations in mid-June. "Washington Readout" Editor Fred Maia, W5YI, takes a close-up look in his column on page 20. (Cover photos by Dan Brown, W1DAN)

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Der Ortsverband Cochem, DOK K45 im Deutschen Amateur-Radio-Club e.V. verleiht dieses Diplom für nachgewiesene Amateurfunkverbindungen mit verschiedenen Standorten deutscher Burgen, Schlösser und Festungen. Wir sprechen damit Dank und Anerkennung für die geleistete Leistung aus.

Das Diplom wird verliehen an

OM T. Mustermann, DL1ZZZ

Cochem, den 11. Juli 2005

Nr. 001 4 Meter SSB

Rita Gietzen

Diplom-Managerin



The German Fortresses and castles Award sponsored by DARC Cochem.

ed and give them a chance to use prior QSOs to obtain an award.

German Fortresses and Castles Award

The long and oftentimes turbulent history of Germany resulted in the construction of many castles and fortresses. Today many of them are preserved as museums, historical landmarks, and residences. The DARC District of Rheinland-Pfalz provides an official listing of names and locations of 969 castles that are currently valid for award credit. This list is in the form of an XLS spreadsheet which can be downloaded for your personal use. Check the various DX bulletins, especially during summer months, for current and planned operations from castles in Germany.

Sponsored by DARC Cochem, DOK K45 (DOKs are designations of German clubs), this award is made available to all licensed amateurs and SWLs for confirmed contacts after January 1, 2005. Work stations in Germany that are operated from castles, castle ruins, fortresses, or mansions that are currently preserved as historic monuments. Contacts with these stations count only once for each application for the award. All modes except packet radio are OK. Endorsements are available for a single band or mode upon request.

Earn the following number of points from the required number of different club member stations:

DX stations (including those in the U.S.) need 20 points from 5 different German DOKs, minimum.

EU stations need 40 points from 20 different German DOKs, minimum.

DL stations need 60 points from 40 different German DOKs, minimum.

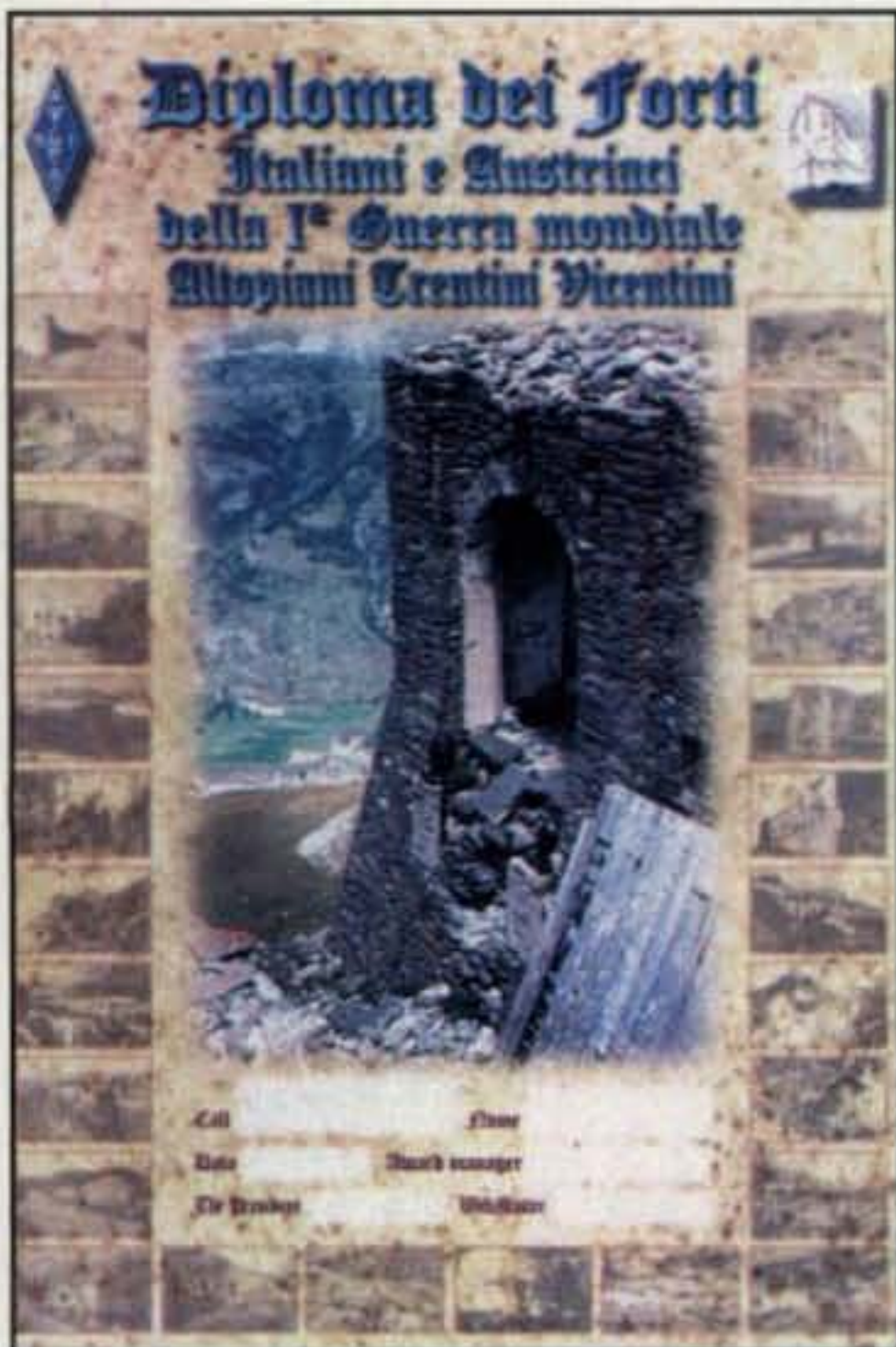
Each type of castle or fortress counts as follows: fortresses 10 points, mansions 8 points, castles 5 points, castle ruins 2 points.

Applicants for the award should record the postal code, location details, and the name of the monument in separate columns. For a given location only one monument can be used per application (for cases where a particular city or town has more than one monument).

Send GCR list and fee of 5 Euros for German stations or 7 Euros (or \$US7) for European and DX stations to: Rita Gietzen, DL3PF (DIG 3888), Dohrer Weg 1, D-56814 Faid, Germany (<http://www.darc.de/k45/>).

Diploma Forti Italiani e Austriaci DFIA

Italy and Austria also have a large number of castles, fortress-



An award sponsored by the ARI di Thiene for working fortresses in Italy and Austria

es, and other reminders of a turbulent history. This award is offered for those who contact stations in or in the immediate vicinity of a smaller number of forts. Again, the best source of information on special operations from these exotic QTHs is DX bulletins.

The award is sponsored by the ARI di Thiene for working Italian and Austrian forts. SWL okay. Contacts after January 1, 2001 count for the award. Repeater, satellite, and FM contacts may not be used for this award.

Italy's fortresses: VI029 Forte Interrotto, VI030 Forte Tagliata d' Assa, VI031 Forte Lisser, VI032 Forte Campolongo, VI033 Forte Verena, VI034 Forte Cornolo, VI035 Forte Campomolon, VI036 Forte Casa Ratti, VI037 Forte Corbin, VI038 Forte Maso, VI039 Tagliata Bariola, VI040 Forte Enna, VI041 Batteria Monte Rione, VI047 Forte di Coldarco a Enego, VI048 Tagliata Tombion, VI049 Tagliata Scala di Cison del Grappa, VI050 Tagliata Fontanelle di Cison del Grappa.

Austria's fortresses: TN111 Forte Doss delle Somme, TN112 Forte Sommo Alto, TN113 Forte Cherle, TN114 Forte Belvedere, TN115 Forte Campo Luserna, TN116 Forte Verle, TN117 Forte Spitz Vezzena, TN118 Forte Matassone, TN119 Forte Pozzacchio.

Italian stations need on 10 different forts on HF and on 5 on VHF/UHF. EU stations need 7. All others 3. Send GCR list and fees (basic award 10 Euros,

honor roll 20 Euros) to DX Team Thiene, P.O. Box 52, I-36016 Thiene VI, Italy (<http://www.qsl.net/ari-thiene/>).

Looking for some help in publicizing

your group or club's award? CQ magazine can help. Please send all details and samples to me at the address listed at the beginning of this column.

73, Ted, K1BV

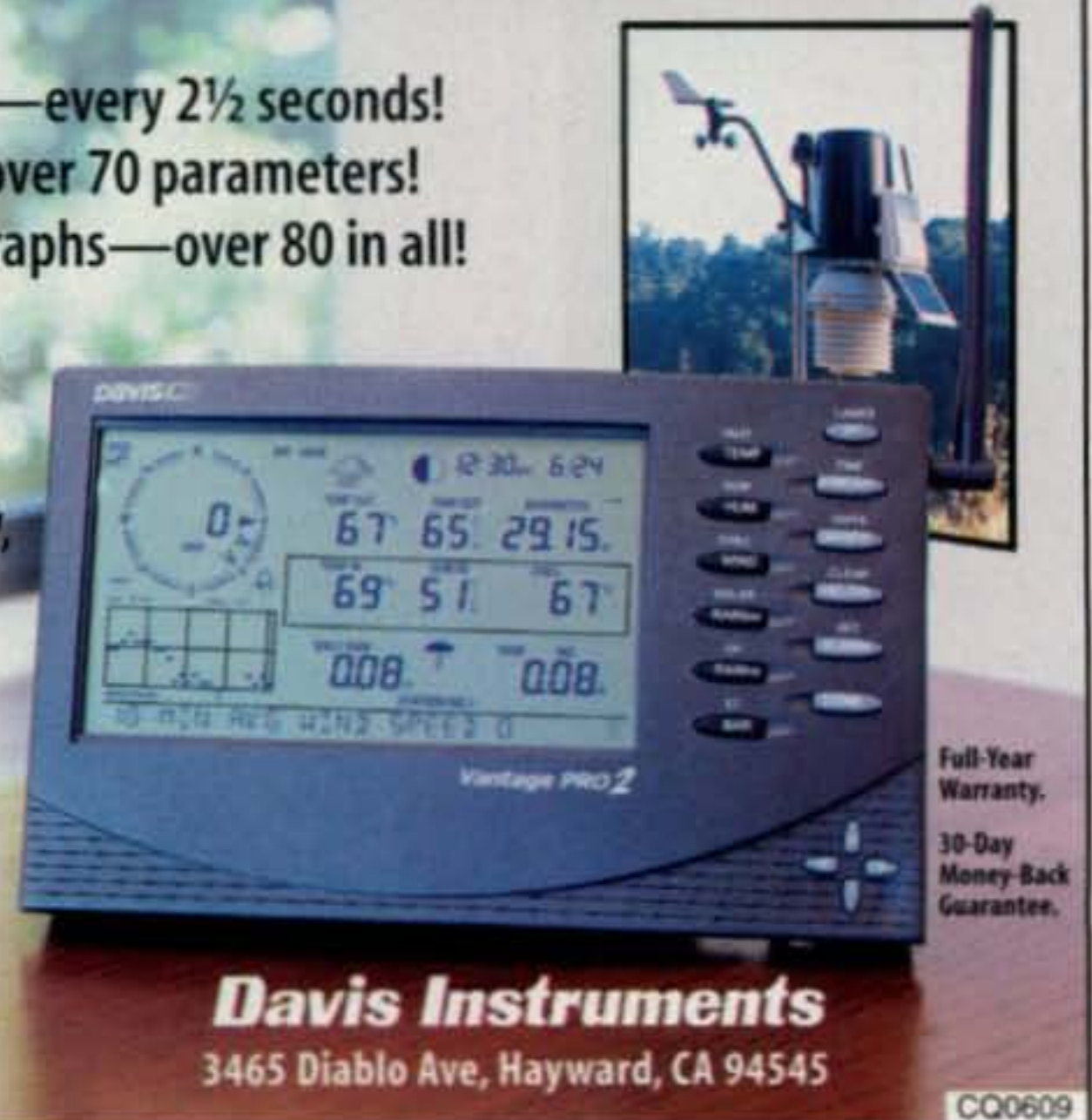
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Sept. 3	Very poor EME conditions
Sept. 7	Full Moon and Partial Lunar Eclipse, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia
Sept. 8	Moon Perigee
Sept. 10	Good EME conditions
Sept. 9-11	ARRL Sept. VHF QSO Party
Sept. 14	Last Quarter Moon
Sept. 16-17	ARRL 10 GHz and Above Cumulative Contest and ARRL 2304 MHz and Above EME Contest
Sept. 17	Moderate EME conditions
Sept. 18	144 MHz Fall Sprint
Sept. 22	New Moon and Moon Apogee and Annular Solar Eclipse, mostly over the Atlantic Ocean
Sept. 23	Fall Equinox
Sept. 24	Poor EME conditions
Sept. 26	222 MHz Fall Sprint
Sept. 30	First Quarter Moon

It all began with an almost chance encounter with Gary Gerber, KB0HH, at the VHF weak-signal banquet at the Holiday Inn North during the weekend of this year's Dayton Hamvention®. Almost immediately after greeting me, Gary handed me a sheet of paper and extended an invitation: "I would like to invite you and Carol [my wife, W6CL] out to the bunkhouse for some pickin' and singin' and some pit roast pig." Gary promised that there would be enough roast pig for everyone. All we had to do was bring some chips or a covered dish. Even though I don't necessarily like to travel on Saturday—especially when my traveling gets me back late

e-mail: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>



Front view of the building that houses the bunkhouse, along with the woodworking and metalworking shops.

in the evening—Carol and I decided to go, and we were glad that we did.

While Gary states that his bunkhouse QTH is in Byron, Oklahoma, that is actually where the nearest post office is located. Somewhere north and west of Enid, Oklahoma there is a little dot on the map called Vining. It is east of the Great Salt Plains Lake and north of the Great Salt Plains State Park on State Highway 38. If you get this far, you had better have your HT with you so that you can be talked in the rest of the way to Gary's QTH, which is precisely what we did. There's a lot of ancient history in this part of the country pertaining to the salt plains, geology, and archeology. However, those stories are constrained to be told in other, more appropriate venues.

Following the dirt road off the main road, we came to the end of that road, which put us in front of the bunkhouse. On the way to the bunkhouse our sky view continued to fill up with tower after tower. Finally arriving at the bunkhouse, we found what is perhaps the most nondescript contest station in the country.



The sky is filled with the many towers at the QTH of Gary, KB0HH. (Photos by N6CL)



A view of the ham shack.



Gary, KBØHH, posing at the 6-meter station.

Before we actually got to the bunkhouse, however, we had to take a left turn to where the dirt parking lot was filled with cars and trucks from about everywhere around the area. After parking the car, we walked over to where we heard the pickin' and singin', only to arrive at a building surrounded by people standing in line. Taking our place in the queue, we could smell the food, which was dominated by the smell of the roast pig that had been roasting since early morning, thereby making it *very* tender meat.

We got to Gary's QTH just when the food was first being served and the last of the bands were playing. Gary had invit-

ed friends to come out for an all-day sing that included whatever you wanted to play on your choice of instrument. It was Gospel, folk, country, or whatever the particular group knew how to play and sing. The backdrop was a retention pond, and the amphitheatre was the lawn in front of the stage, which is a truck trailer. If you wanted to sit, you either brought a blanket or a lawn chair. Otherwise you sat on benches or one of a couple of picnic tables.

Finally arriving at the head of the food line, I got a paper plate and start filling it with a helping of the most tender pit-roast pig I had ever tasted. Adding some potato salad and a

Massive July VHF Openings

Mid-July witnessed massive openings on 6 and 2 meters. Of particular note was the huge NA-EU opening that took place between July 12–13 UTC. Hundreds of spots were recorded on the DX Sherlock VHF spotting website (<http://www.vhfdx.net/index.html>). The posts are so numerous that it will take time to digest them all. Unfortunately, the deadline of this column precluded such an analysis for this issue. Below are a few reports that your editor received via the noted routes:

Paul Kelley, N1BUG, writing for the VHF reflector, reported the following:

Wow, what a day! It started out with a great 6-meter opening to Europe in the morning, the best of the season to date from this location. That lasted for over three hours. Most of the good openings have been farther south, and I just caught the edge of them if anything at all. Not so this time. After that things were relatively quiet for a while, and then some strong signals from the west popped up. I was still resting and letting the shack cool down when I heard W5WVO. Remembering Bill needed my grid, I gave him one call with 5 watts (amp was off) and got him even though he had a pile-up calling. Some of the 8's calling Bill were pegging the meter at +60 and I realized I should at least *try* 2 meters . . .

After running down to the basement to hook up cables, I found 2 meters wide open to parts of W8/9/Ø. Worked about 30 stations there, many with signals pinning the meter. For me this was the best 144 Es since 1989 (but, yeah, I missed the big one a couple of years ago, as I was not home).

From the **UK Six Metre Group** (<http://www.uksmg.org/>) were the following posts:

Freddy, IZ1EPM, wrote: "Another great Es multi-hop today morning, 6 Japanese guys in my log for a total of 32 Japanese stations from June."

Tony, IØJX, wrote: "Good and very long opening into the Midwest (5s and Øs), not so common for us in the south. Three new states worked (still eight to go for WAS). Several QSOs in the 8000–9000 km range. K7JE in DM33 heard IKØFTA, nearly 10,000 km."

Johan, ON4IQ, wrote: "Fantastic night opening to the States and Canada with FP, CO, HI, KP4, FM, 9Y. Over 150 stations logged. Stopped at 2300 UTC with over 150 QSOs into W1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9; VE1, 2, 3, 9, and VO1 area. Band was still humming at 2300 with good signs from TX."

Jon, NØJK, wrote: "The gates opened to Europe and Africa today (July 12). EH5HT, IM98 in with a good CW signal and worked at 2148 UTC, followed by EH8BPX, IL18 on SSB at 2208 UTC. EH8 7,400 km, EH5 almost 8,000 km! These are four Es hops to EM17, worked with 100 watts and a 2-element Yagi. KØHA was reportedly running European stations at times from EN10, NE. Conditions better for stations east of Kansas, as Pete's post indicates."

Pete, VE3IKV, wrote: "I don't think we will see another sporadic-E opening like today's for a long, long time. Wide open to EU, Caribbean, Africa, and North America all at same time. Worked Mike, G3SED 599/579, and almost made it with IØJX, all from the mobile in FN14!"

The ARRL posted a lengthy article concerning the July 12–13 six-meter opening on its website. You can read it at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/07/13/100/?nc=1>.

Incidentally, extensive coverage of the June openings can be found in the Summer 2006 issue of *CQ VHF* magazine. We will look into the possibility of a wrap-up article on this summer's unusually good propagation for the Fall 2006 issue, and an announcement about that will be forthcoming.

helping of June's brown beans (Gary's wife, June, KC0CEX, was responsible for this delicacy), along with tiny helpings of a few other items from the pots and bowls around the table, I found that I had a plateful. Being the gentleman that I am, I handed over that plate to my wife, Carol, W6CL, and proceeded back to the line for my food. Remembering my diet, I measure out my servings and passed up the desserts.

After we finished our dinner, I left Carol, who was visiting with some of the other guests, so that I could take a tour of the bunkhouse conducted by Gary's business partner, Steve Walz, K0UO. We walked over to the bunkhouse that Steve describes as a combination bunkhouse/hamshack, woodworking shop, and metalworking shop. The bunkhouse is situated in the middle of the long building with the shops located on opposite ends. On the way into the building, Steve pointed out the unique rotor that turns the whole tower. This rotor is nothing more than a truck winch motor. He told me that there are another couple of homebrew rotors on the other side of the building.

Walking through an open area, we arrived inside a room that is totally filled with radio stations—one for each band up to 1296 MHz. It is a jaw-dropping sight. While I was trying to process what I was seeing, Steve was rattling off statistics of recent contest and band-opening results.

After completing the tour of the shack, Steve took me outside for a tour of the QTH's skyline. As we walked around the building, he showed me the antennas for the various bands. Along the way he pointed out the dish for the WiFi and the collinear antenna for the cell phone, adding, "We cannot be an effective contest station without access to these services." I guess not! The WiFi service is about 30 miles to the west and the nearest cell phone tower is about 18 or so miles to the east. In spite of their distances, Gary enjoys excellent service thanks to these two antennas. Originally begun as a VHF-and-above contest station, Gary has gradually added HF capability via verticals that cover 160–40 meters, with beams covering the rest of the HF bands. He has 2-meter and 70-cm EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) coverage with four Yagis on each of these two bands, and on 1296 MHz via a 18-foot wire-mesh dish. (He has subsequently added 902-MHz horizon coverage via a 6-foot dish. He plans for higher band EME coverage via a 28-foot dish that is presently in four sections on the ground behind the bunkhouse.)



The 2-meter EME array atop the rotating tower. To the left side is a partial view of one of the two 8-element, 42-foot boom, 6-meter stacked Yagis mounted on a separate rotating tower.

The bunkhouse is heated in the winter via solar-heated water that is then pumped through pipes in the concrete floor. Gary is trying to figure out how to economically cool the shack in the summer. Knowing his genius and creativity, he will soon come up with the most efficient and economic plan feasible for cooling the building.

If you want to operate from the semi-rare EM06 grid locator during one of the contests this month, send Gary an e-mail via his QRZ.com e-mail address. If you plan to fly in, he will give you directions to the shack from either the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma or Wichita, Kansas airports. He claims that the latter is only a little over an hour away, and that is via the back roads! If you do operate from his bunkhouse at some point in the future, you will find that you are operating from one of the most quiet QTHs in the world.

We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the 350-mile roundtrip from Tulsa was well worth it. We really appreciate Gary and June's hospitality and are looking forward to next year's invitation.

Current Contests

The **ARRL September VHF QSO Party** is September 9–11. The second weekend of the **ARRL 10 GHz and Above Cumulative Contest** is September 16–17. The **ARRL 2304 MHz and Above EME Contest** is September 16–17. The **144 MHz Fall Sprint** is September 18, 7 PM to 11 PM local time. The **222 MHz Fall Sprint** is September 26, 7 PM to 11 PM local time.



The 222-MHz quagi antenna on a 30-foot boom.



The unique tower rotator, which is a truck winch linked to the tower by a chain. The cable entering and exiting the short piece of PVC pipe is tied to the direction indicator that is part of the maps on the wall inside the shack.



Dish antenna used for WiFi.



The collinear antenna used for cell-phone communications.



This building came from the Santa Fe Railroad. It houses a 70-cm repeater and will house the tuning units for the HF vertical.

For ARRL contest rules, see the issue of *QST* prior to the month of the contest or the League's URL: <http://www.arrl.org>. For Fall Sprint contest rules, see the Southeast VHF Society URL: <http://www.svhfs.org>.

Current Conferences and Conventions

September: The 2006 **TAPR/ARRL Digital Communications Conference** will be held September 15–17 in Tucson, Arizona, at the Clarion Hotel, Tucson Airport. For more information, see: <http://www.tapr.org>. The unofficial information on the **Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference** is that, if there is to be a conference, it will be held Saturday, September 30. For further information, please check the Packrats

website at: <http://members.ij.net/packrats/latest.htm>.

October: The 2006 **AMSAT-NA Space Symposium and Annual Meeting** will be held October 5–10 in San Francisco, California at the Crowne Plaza Hotel San Francisco Mid-Peninsula Hotel. For more information, please see the AMSAT URL pertaining to the symposium at: <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/symposium/>. The annual **Microwave Update** conference dates are October 19–22, and it is to be held at the Dayton, Ohio Holiday Inn North Hotel, Wagner Ford Rd. For more information, go to: <http://www.microwaveupdate.org/>.

Calls for Papers

Calls for papers are issued in advance of forthcoming conferences either for presenters to be speakers, or for papers to be published in the conferences' *Proceedings*, or both. For more information, questions about format, media, hardcopy, e-mail, etc., please contact the person listed with the announcement. The following conference organizer has announced a call for papers for its forthcoming conference:

Microwave Update: A call for papers has been issued for the 2006 Microwave

Update. If you are interested in submitting a paper for publication in the *Proceedings*, contact Gerd Schrick, WB8IFM, at 937-253-3993 or e-mail: wb8ifm@amsat.org. The submission deadline is September 1, 2006. For more information on the conference, go to: <http://microwaveupdate.org/>.

And Finally . . .

This column is skimpy on coverage because your editor underwent eyelid surgery the Friday the column was due. Thanks to Gail, K2RED, my managing editor, I was able to turn in this column at the very last minute on the following Monday. For you VHF-plus news junkies, I recommend reading the Summer 2006 issue of *CQ VHF* magazine, which was mailed out early last month to its subscribers. As usual, there are great articles on a variety of subjects. If you are not a subscriber, I strongly recommend that you become one, so as not to miss expanded coverage of all of the great activities on the VHF-plus ham bands.

This is a wrap for another column. As always, I look forward to hearing from you concerning your activities on the wonderful VHF-plus ham bands. Until next month . . .

73 de Joe, N6CL

For those of you who like the personal touch...

Alpha Radio Products
303.473.9232

6185 Arapahoe Rd.
www.alpharadioproducts.com

Boulder, Colorado 80303

DXpeditions and "New One"

As I write this, the 4th of July has passed and the IARU HF Championship and WRTC (World Radio Team Championship) 2006 gave us stations to work during the summer "drought." Most antennas were pointed south toward Brazil as the teams of the WRTC 2006 competed for the "gold." Lots of other DX was active for the IARU event as well, so it was a fun weekend of DXing.

Congratulations to the 46 teams who were active from Brazil. The top ten were: VE3EJ & VE7ZO, N6MJ & N2NL, K1DG & N2NT, UT4UJ & UT5UGR, IK2QEI & IK2JUB, DL6FBL & DL2CC, 9A8A & 9A5K; NØAX & KL9A; RW3QC & RW3GU, and W2SC & K5ZD.

Views on DXpeditioning

By now many of you will have received the ARRL's *DXCC Yearbook* for 2005. As I read through the articles, I detected two opposing views on DXpeditioning. I found this interesting and have given much thought to both views. I can't say that I am in favor of one or the other option, but it does provoke the thought process.

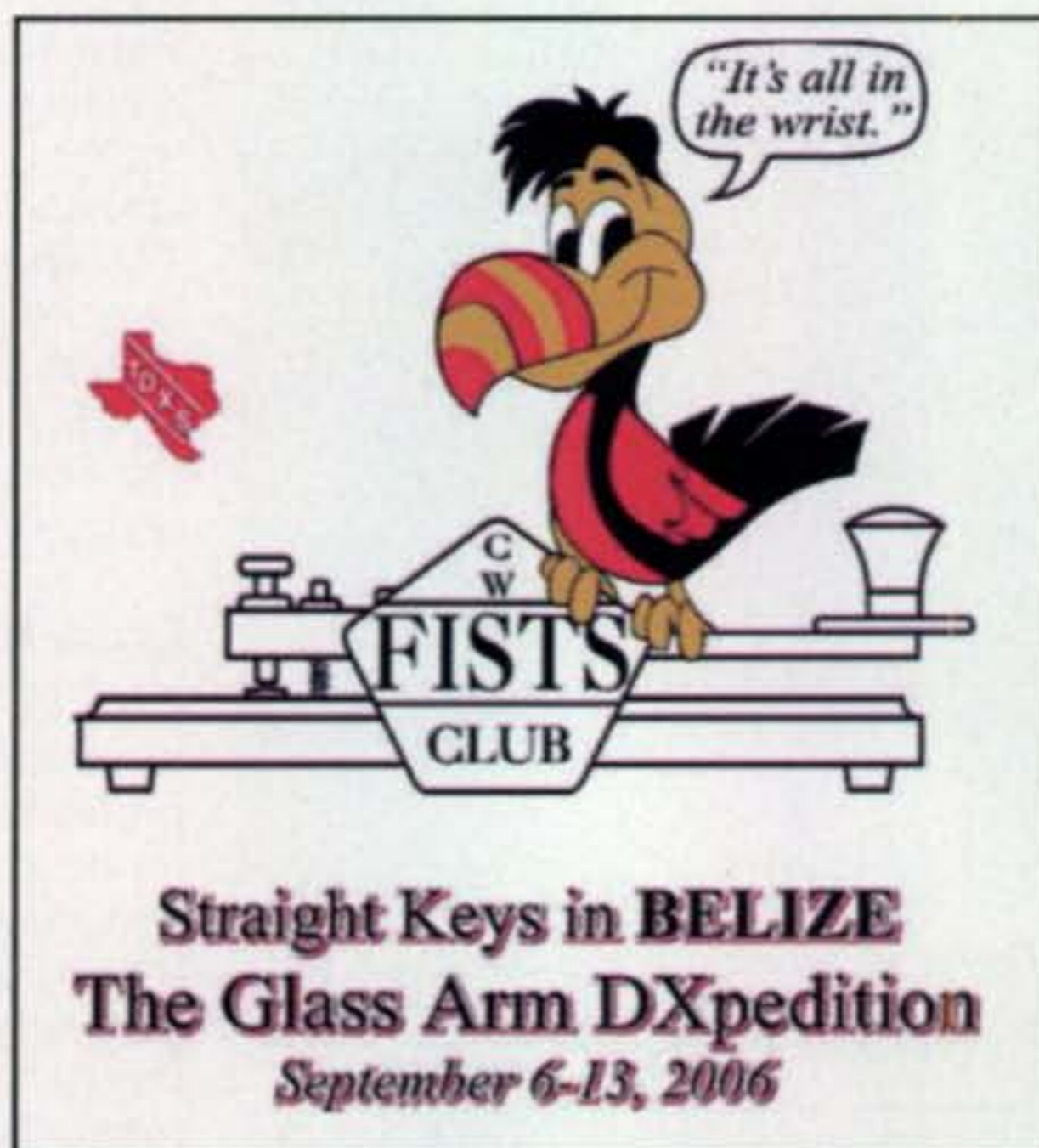
On the one hand, there are those who think you have to be a "big gun" on the DXpedition end, providing a big signal and thus being able to better control the pile-ups. On the other hand, there are those who believe you should still have to "earn" the contact by listening and using your operating skills. The second group chooses to use minimal power (100 watts) and simple antennas, such as verticals instead of Yagis. The first group takes tons of equipment and antennas, while the other group puts everything in a few suitcases with room to spare. The first group no doubt spends a lot more money than the second group by taking all the heavy stuff with them (amplifiers are heavy and antennas tend to be bulky).

I suppose there is justification for both points of view, and it's up to the individual or groups as to which approach they take. Indeed, both types of operations have taken place and both have provided thousands of DXers with the desired contacts, so overall it probably isn't a matter of great significance to anyone other than the DXpeditioners themselves. We thank both for their efforts and wish them well whichever route they choose to take in the future. Some will work all the DXpeditions and others won't, but that's the way it is in DXing.

Straight Key DXpedition

Another type of DXpedition is coming up that I'd like to share with you this month. The group is call-

*P.O. Box DX, Leicester, NC 28748-0249
e-mail: <n4aa@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Logo of the Straight Key DXpedition. (Photo courtesy of Nancy, WZ8C)



Well-known names in DXing circles meet at Friedrichshafen (left to right): Mike, N6MZ; Tom, N4XP; Bob, KK6EK; and Franz, DL9ZB. (Photo courtesy of DJ9ZB and N4XP)

ing it the first ever "Straight Key DXpedition," and this one sounds like fun. Bill, K5WAF/V31WF; Cal, W5FW/V31EA; and Eddy, V31MR along with Nancy, WZ8C/V31?? (call not yet issued) will be operating from Belize September 6-13. Nancy tells me they will operate on the lower part of the General CW bands on all bands. She added:

We decided to go to Belize, but since Belize isn't "rare" DX, we wanted to do something that would set us apart and generate some buzz about contacting us while we're there. All four of us are FISTS members and CW buffs

and the trip coincides with FISTS Straight Key contest, so we decided to only use straight keys while we're there. Cal White did some research and couldn't find any mention of a straight key DXpedition within the last 50 years, so as far as we know we're the first! We'll be using computers to log, but our code will be hand-generated.

We will be using keys donated by Marshall Emm, N1FN, owner of Morse Express, and Toshihiko Ujii, JA7GHD, at GHD Keys—a GT502 and a GT502MIL.

We will be operating from the Placencia Peninsula in southern Belize, running two stations. We plan on taking two-hour shifts and hope to keep at least one station going around the clock, especially during the FISTS Straight Key contest. We'll be on all bands. Last I heard, our antenna setup is a tribander for 10 meters, a vertical buried into the salt water 70 feet from the shore for 80 through 6 meters, and a separate 6-meter beam with rotator. We'll be hanging around the lower part of the General portions of the CW bands.

QSL via the FISTS QSL Bureau, 1020 Long Island Drive, Moneta, Va 24121.

To help defray the expenses, we're selling sand-colored "It's all in the wrist" Glass Arm DXpedition logo T-shirts for \$16 post-paid, sizes M-3X. The address to order the shirts is The Glass Arm DXpedition, P.O. Box 807, Hadley, MI 48440, or use PAYPAL to: <nancy@tir.com>.

All of you CW guy/gals should mark your calendars for this one and be sure to work them.

Oh, O, I forgot... CW is dead! Wrong!

Montenegro Added To CQ DX Countries List

CQ DX Awards Manager Billy Williams, N4UF, reports that Montenegro has been added to the CQ DX Countries List. Contacts made after June 3, 2006 (independence date) are valid. Updates of country totals, especially for those on the CQ DX Honor Roll, may be submitted at any time.

Updates submitted (by postal mail only) by July 31 were included in an updated CQ DX Honor Roll that was posted in early August on the CQ DX Awards page at <<http://www.home.earthlink.net/~bwillia/page3.html>>, and will appear here in CQ in an upcoming issue. (Announcements were made online in late June.)

In order to equalize postal delivery times, updates received through July 31st received equal consideration. See CQ DX Country Award Tips on the CQ DX Awards web page for details on submitting updates.

CQ DX Field Award Update

Montenegro will be a dual field country (JN & KN). Serbia also remains a dual field country (JN/KN). Information on the CQ DX Field Award is also available from the CQ DX Awards home page and on the CQ magazine website awards page.

Not by a long shot, for myself, and a lot of others, too.

Thanks for helping keep it alive, Nancy and friends.

Montenegro

Well, we got a New One the end of June—Montenegro. As of June 28 it became number 336 on the DXCC list. As of this writing a prefix block had not yet been assigned, but a number of YU6 stations have been active on the bands. Please note the separate item in the column on Montenegro as it relates to CQ's awards. The effective date is *not* the same as the one for the ARRL DXCC program.

A major DXpedition-type operation is scheduled to take place from

5 Band WAZ

As of JUNE 1, 2006, 700 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1502 stations have attained the 150 zone level.

New recipients of 5 Band WAZ with all 200 zones confirmed:

S52QM LY1FW

The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (zones needed, 80 meters):

N4WW, 199 (26)	W0PGI, 199 (26)
W4LI, 199 (26)	HA5AGS, 199 (1)
K7UR, 199 (34)	EA8AYV, 199 (27)
W2YY, 199 (26)	VE3XN, 199 (26)
VE7AHA, 199 (34)	W6XK, 198 (17, 34)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
JA2IVK, 199 (34 on 40m)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
IK1AOD, 199 (1)	KG9N, 198 (18, 22)
DF3CB, 199 (1)	JA1DM, 198 (2, 40)
GM3YOR, 199 (31)	9A5I, 198 (1, 16)
VO1FB, 199 (19)	K5PC, 198 (18, 23)
KZ4V, 199 (26)	K4CN, 198 (23, 26)
W6DN, 199 (17)	G3KMQ, 198 (1, 27)
W3NO, 199 (26)	N2QT, 198 (23, 24)
HB9DDZ, 199 (31)	OK1DWC, 198 (6, 31)
RU3FM, 199 (1)	W4UM, 198 (18, 23)
HB9BGV, 199 (31)	US7MM, 198 (2, 6)
N3UN, 199 (18)	K2TK, 198 (23, 24)
OH2VZ, 199 (31)	K3JGJ, 198 (24, 26)
W1JZ, 199 (24)	W4DC, 198 (24, 26)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
SM7BIP, 199 (31)	OE2LCM, 198 (1, 31)
SP5DVP, 199 (31 on 40)	HA1RW, 198 (1, 31)
N4NX, 199 (26)	WK3N, 198 (23, 24)
N4MM, 199 (26)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
EA7GF, 199 (1)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
N6HR7, 199 (37)	WA5VGI, 198 (34)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	K7BG, 198 (17, 22)
CT3DL, 199 (26)	W7VJ, 198 (34, 37)
N0IJ, 199 (21)	W0CP, 198 (18, 40)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	K9MIE, 198 (18, 21)
N4XR, 199 (27)	

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

S57XX (170 zones) UT7EC (194 zones)
UA3BS (169 zones)

****Please note: Cost of the 5 Band WAZ Plaque is \$100 (\$120 if airmail shipping is requested).**

Rules and applications for the WAZ program may be obtained by sending a large SAE with two units of postage or an address label and \$1.00 to: WAZ Award Manager, Floyd Gerald, N5FG, 17 Green Hollow Rd., Wiggins, MS 39577. The processing fee for the 5BWAZ award is \$10.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$15.00 for nonsubscribers. An endorsement fee of \$2.00 for subscribers and \$5.00 for nonsubscribers is charged for each additional 10 zones confirmed. Please make all checks payable to Floyd Gerald. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. N5FG may also be reached via e-mail: <n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

Montenegro beginning July 20 and running for three weeks. Many operators from a number of countries will participate, so it should be fairly easy to get this one in your log.

Libya

5A7A will be active from Libya November 15-29. This should generate

CQ DX Awards Program

SSB

2484W7GTO

CW

1078W7GTO

SSB Endorsements

320K6GJF/324 200AE9DX/217
275XE1MEX/275 150W7GTO/154
200IK8OZP/244 MobileW7GTO

CW Endorsements

275WA4DOU

The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. Currently we recognize 335 active countries. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.

The WAZ Program

20 Meter CW

563WA4DOU 564KA4RRU

6 Meters

79W3BTX

160 Meters

233UT7EC 234SM5CEU

All Band WAZ

SSB

5000AF3X

Mixed

8410HL2ADO 8414UT7EC
8411NO9U 8415UT4EK
8412WS1L 8416UA3QUO
8413UA3BS 8417AF3X

CW

486DK8MCT 487AF3X

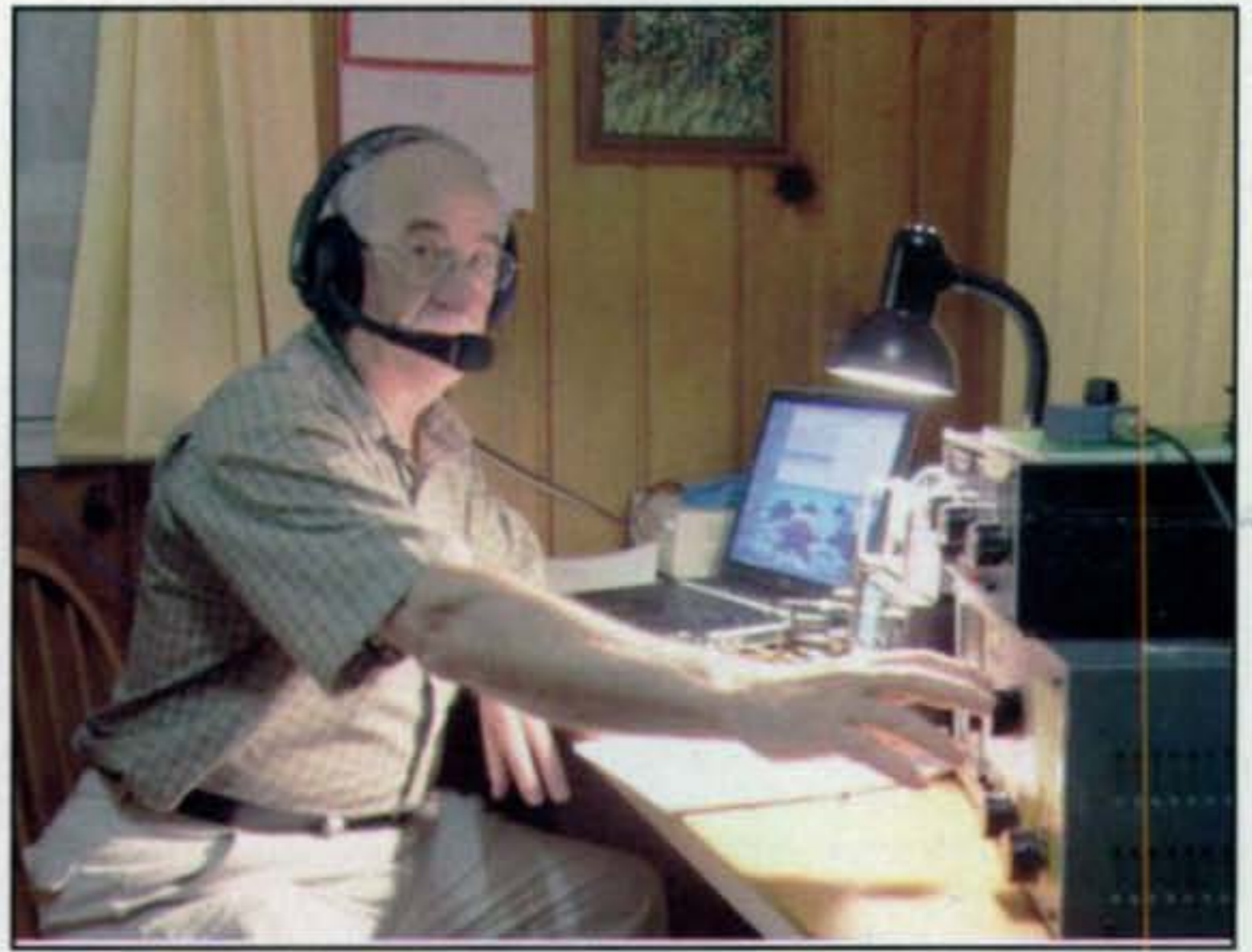
RTTY

167W9RPM

Rules and applications for the WAZ program may be obtained by sending a large SAE with two units of postage or an address label and \$1.00 to: WAZ Award Manager, Floyd Gerald, N5FG, 17 Green Hollow Rd., Wiggins, MS 39577. The processing fee for all CQ awards is \$6.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$12.00 for nonsubscribers. Please make all checks payable to Floyd Gerald. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. N5FG may also be reached via e-mail: <n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com>.



HR2DMR and Javier, HR2H, operating from Hog Keys as HQ3C. (Photo courtesy of Lane, HR2/KC4CD)



Ron, VE7NS, operating at VI9NI on Norfolk Island. (Photo courtesy of Bill, VK4FW)

some huge pile-ups, as Libya has not been active for quite some time. Operators for this one include: DJ7IK, DL1DBF, DL5EBE, DJ9CB, IT9ESZ (YL), K3LP, DK1BT, DF2SS, DL5CW, DL9USA, DJ7EO, DJ8NK, DF6ZV, PA0R, HB9AHL, DK1II, HB9TDE, DJ2VO, DL3KDV, DL8YHR, DK7PE, VE6OH, ON5GA, DL7RBI, K1LZ, and 5A1HA. That's an impressive lineup, so you won't want to miss this one.

ARRL "DXCC Dialog" Blog

The ARRL DXCC Desk has inaugurated the "DXCC Dialog Weblog," which contains news and notes about the ARRL DXCC program. "This page will have up-to-date information about the DXCC program," said ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, on June 26. "It does not provide for users to post responses, but authors and e-mail

addresses are listed." The blog will be updated as needed to inform and update the DXing community regarding news of interest."

DX Gatherings

A couple of DX gatherings are scheduled for September. First the annual W9-DXCC Convention in Chicago will be held September 16 at the Elk Grove Village Holiday Inn, Chicago, Illinois. Details and registration form are on the web at: <www.w9dxcc.com>. I'll be there, again hosting the Friday evening Welcome Reception. Following the reception there is the late Friday Hospitality Suite hosted by Northern Illinois DX Association. It's always a good program and great fellowship.

Two weeks after Chicago, we'll be gathering in eastern Tennessee for the second annual SEDCO meeting. The first

N8BJQ Named New WPX Award Manager

Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, will be taking over administration of the CQ WPX Award program, following the retirement of longtime WPX Award Manager Norm Koch, WN5N (ex-K6ZDL). The WPX Awards are issued for confirmed contacts with stations having different call-sign prefixes.

Norm has held the reins of the WPX Award program for 25 years, taking over the job late in 1981, after Robert Huntington, K6XP, retired from the volunteer post. Norm has done a tremendous job of keeping the program active and up-to-date, as new and special prefixes arrived and older ones disappeared. We thank Norm for his many years of devoted service to amateur radio.

WPX enthusiasts will recognize Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, as former CQ WPX Contest Director, a post he held for 20 years before stepping down in 2003. Steve recently retired from his full-time job, so when we called asking for suggestions after Norm told us he wanted to step down, Steve replied, "Funny you should ask..." We welcome Steve back into the "CQ family" (not that he ever left!).

Award applications should now be sent to Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, P.O. Box 355, New Carlisle, OH 45344. Applications and updates previously filed with WN5N have been transferred to N8BJQ and will be processed. WPX Award listings will resume as soon as the transition is complete.—W2VU



Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, CQ's new WPX Award Manager.

CQ DX Honor Roll

The CQ DX Honor Roll recognizes those DXers who have submitted proof of confirmation with 275 or more ACTIVE countries. With few exceptions, the ARRL DXCC Countries List is used as the country standard. The CQ DX Award currently recognizes 335 countries. Honor Roll listing is automatic when an application is received and approved for 275 or more active countries. Deleted countries do not count and all totals are adjusted as deletions occur. To remain on the CQ DX Honor Roll, annual updates are required. All updates must be accompanied by a SASE if confirmation of total is required. The fee for endorsement stickers is \$1.00 each plus SASE. Please make checks payable to the awards manager, Billy F. Williams. All updates should be mailed to P.O. Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208.

CW

K2TQC.....334	WA4IUM.....334	W2VJN.....334	K4CN.....333	K9IW.....332	N5HB.....329	K1FK.....324	F6HMJ.....319	KT2C.....300
K2FL.....334	W4OEL.....334	G4BWP.....334	W4MPY.....333	VE3XN.....331	K1HDO.....329	YV5ANT.....324	OZ5UR.....319	WA4DOU.....297
K9BWO.....334	W2FXA.....334	N7RO.....334	N4CH.....333	K2JF.....331	K7JS.....329	N5ZM.....323	YT1AT.....317	K4IE.....291
K9MM.....334	N4JF.....334	W1JR.....334	KA7T.....332	K3JGJ.....331	K5UO.....329	KE3A.....323	W6YQ.....314	G3DPX.....284
W7OM.....334	K4MOG.....334	I4LCK.....334	K8LJG.....332	WA8DXA.....331	W6OUL.....329	N7WO.....323	UA9SG.....310	DJ1YH.....281
K2JLA.....334	EA2IA.....334	PY2YP.....334	YU1AB.....332	K7LAY.....331	W4QB.....327	KF8UN.....323	W9IL.....309	XE1MD.....280
N7FU.....334	PA5PQ.....334	W8XD.....334	K5RT.....332	K4JLD.....331	SM5HV/HK7.....327	IK0TUG.....321	EA3ALV.....309	WD9DZV.....277
K2OWE.....334	K3UA.....334	W7CNL.....333	YU1AB.....332	K9OW.....331	W7IIT.....327	IK0ADY.....320	YU7FW.....306	W2JLK.....277
N4MM.....334	DL3DXX.....334	K4CEB.....333	N0FW.....332	N6AW.....331	KA3S.....327	WG5G/QRPP.....320	LU3DSI.....302	
F3TH.....334	K2ENT.....334	K4IQJ.....333	N4AH.....332	W2UE.....330	K6CU.....326	W3II.....320	N1KC.....302	
F3AT.....334	OK1MP.....334	W0HZ.....333	HB9DDZ.....332	W4UW.....330	W4LI.....325	F5OIU.....320	RA1AOB.....300	
DJ2PJ.....334	NC9T.....334	N5FG.....333	WB4UBD.....332	G3KMQ.....329	N4OT.....325	PY4WS.....320	VE7KDU.....300	

SSB

K6YRA.....335	K7JS.....335	DU9RG.....335	W5RUK.....334	WB3DNA.....333	CT1AHU.....331	CP2DL.....327	XE2NLD.....315	KW1DX.....295
K2TQC.....335	XE1L.....335	DU1KT.....335	K4CN.....334	K9PP.....333	EA3JL.....331	NI5D.....327	IZ6CST.....314	W4EJG.....295
W6EUF.....335	YU1AB.....335	N4JF.....335	EA3KB.....334	W2CC.....333	K1HDO.....331	K7TCL.....326	W7GAX.....312	K7ZM.....292
K2JLA.....335	OE3WWB.....335	CT1EEB.....335	K3UA.....334	DL3DXX.....333	K5UO.....331	HB9DDZ.....326	WA5MLT.....310	K1RB.....292
K4MOG.....335	K5TVC.....335	W4WX.....335	K4JLD.....334	EA3BMT.....333	AB4IQ.....330	F6HMJ.....326	XE2NLD.....310	K7SAM.....292
IK1GPG.....335	N5FG.....335	W1JR.....335	N5ZM.....334	EA3EQT.....333	AE5DX.....330	YV4VN.....326	VE7SMP.....310	K0OZ.....291
K5OVC.....335	DJ9ZB.....335	N4CH.....335	PY2YP.....334	YV1KZ.....333	KB2MY.....330	WR5Y.....325	RW9SG.....310	W9ACE.....291
N0FW.....335	PY4OY.....335	I4LCK.....335	AA4S.....334	KE3A.....333	K3PT.....330	KC4MJ.....325	W0ROB.....307	N2LM.....291
K9MM.....335	VE3XN.....335	PY2YP.....335	CT3DL.....334	W7BJN.....333	ZL1BOQ.....330	PY2DBU.....325	KK4TR.....306	KU4BP.....291
W6BCQ.....335	4Z4DX.....335	ZL1HY.....335	NC9T.....334	K3JGJ.....333	N7WR.....330	YT1AT.....325	WB2AQC.....305	XE1MW.....287
XE1AE.....335	N7RO.....335	WD0BNC.....334	W9SS.....334	N2VW.....332	WS9V.....329	K6GFJ.....324	XE1RBV.....304	W5PVE.....286
W7OM.....335	I0ZV.....335	K2FL.....334	VE7WJ.....334	YV1AJ.....332	W9OKL.....329	W6WI.....323	K3BYV.....303	KK0DX.....285
KZ2P.....335	EA2IA.....335	W0YDB.....334	VE2PJ.....334	KS0Z.....332	W2FGY.....329	EA3CYM.....323	JR4NUN.....303	VE7HAM.....285
IK8CNT.....335	IN3DEI.....335	W4UW.....334	W3AZD.....334	LU4DXU.....332	CT1CFH.....329	KE4SCY.....323	VE7KDU.....302	N8LIQ.....284
VK4LC.....335	EA4DO.....335	K9BWO.....334	YZ7AA.....334	VE4ROY.....332	EA1JG.....329	WA4ZZ.....322	W5GZI.....302	W0IKD.....283
OE7SEL.....335	PA5PQ.....335	W4NKI.....334	CT3BM.....334	W7FP.....332	W9IL.....329	WN9NBT.....322	W4PGC.....302	KB0RNC.....282
VE3MR.....335	K9OW.....335	WB4UBD.....334	N6AW.....334	K9HOM.....332	KF8UN.....328	W6OUL.....322	EA8AYV.....302	IK8TMI.....281
VE3MRS.....335	W6DPD.....335	W4UNP.....334	WS9V.....334	W2FKF.....332	W0ULU.....328	KD5ZD.....322	YV2FEQ.....301	F5INJ.....279
K4MZU.....335	XE1VIC.....335	W8AXI.....334	4N7ZZ.....333	CT1EEN.....332	K1EY.....328	CT1ESO.....321	AC6WO.....301	WD9DZV.....278
OZ5EV.....335	K2ENT.....335	VE2GHZ.....334	VE1YX.....333	K9IW.....332	K3LC.....328	N1KC.....320	4X6DK.....301	W5GT.....276
N7BK.....335	OK1MP.....335	OE2EGL.....334	W2JZK.....333	DL9OH.....331	K4DXA.....328	W5GZI.....320	4X6DK.....300	K9DXR.....275
K7LAY.....335	IK6GPZ.....335	WA4IUM.....334	K8LJG.....333	YV1JV.....331	LU5DV.....328	SV3AQR.....320	N5WYR.....300	XE1MEX.....275
ZL3NS.....335	K1UO.....335	K5RT.....334	VE4ACY.....333	WA4WTG.....331	XE1MD.....327	KD2GC.....320	K4IE.....300	
N4MM.....335	I8KC1.....335	W2FXA.....334	K0KG.....333	K3JGJ.....331	DK5WQ.....327	LU3HBO.....317	RA1AOB.....300	
OZ3SK.....335	I8LEL.....335	W6SHY.....334	VE2WY.....333	N5ORT.....331	KE5K.....327	N8SHZ.....316	WA1ECF.....295	

RTTY

K2ENT.....333	K3UA.....328	N5FG.....325	G4BWP.....325	OK1MP.....321	EA5FKI.....320	PA5PQ.....311	N5ZM.....310	W4EEU.....297
WB4UBD.....332	NI4H.....325							

year was so good that the organizers just had to plan it again. SEDCO is held the same weekend as the Ten-Tec Factory Hamfest, September 30th, in Sevierville, Tennessee. Beginning after lunch on Saturday, DXers and contesters will gather at the MainStay Suites in nearby

Gatlinburg for the program. Check out the SEDCO website, <www.SEDCO.Homestead.com>, for more details. Ten-Tec is supporting SEDCO by selling tickets. This year an on-site dinner buffet, by Damon's restaurant, will be offered if desired. There will be a separate charge

for the buffet, and Ten-Tec will be handling those tickets.

The MainStay Suites had "blocked" a substantial number of rooms for SEDCO, but those may be gone by the time you read this. You can check by calling 1-888-428-8350, and mention SEDCO. This is a great facility, and the feedback received last year has allowed the organizers to make the event even better for this year. Ted, W4NZ, will MC the Contest Program, while I will be handling the DX part of the program. This is a great time of the year to visit the Smokey Mountains, and there are also great shops in the Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge area. Come and join us for an unforgettable weekend.

That wraps up this month. Are you ready for the upcoming "season"? Did you get your antenna projects finished? Better hurry! Until next time, enjoy the chase and please Have Fun!

73, Carl, N4AA

QSL Information

1A0KM via IK0FTA	3Y0X via N2OO	4O3ANT via YZ1SG
2U1DQZ/P via G5XW	3Z0EE via SP1EG	4O3NT via YZ1AA
3A/K4ZLE via W8QID	3Z8OG via SP5YWA	4S7JOG via LA7JO
3A/N0FW via W8QID	3Z1EE via SP1EG	4W1AF via DJ9ZB
3A/N9NS via W8QID	3Z1Z via SN1SM	4W1ZB via DJ9ZB
3A0CE via F5LGF	3Z8IARU via SP8AQA	4W3ZZ via W4DR
3A3WPX via DJ9ZB	3Z8VD via SP8MI	4X0G via W3GG
3B9/F8CHM via F8CHM	4A7L via WA3HUP	4X0L via 4Z4TL
3B9/FR5EZ via F8CHM	4D2X via 4F2KWT	4X17A via 4Z4TL
3B9/ON4LAC via ON4LAC	4J0AUM via UA3FDX	4X17B via 4Z4TL
3D2AM via K1ER	4J0DX via UA3FDX	4X17C via 4Z4TL
3D2BD via F4ELJ	4J8DX via DJ1CW	4X17H via 4Z4TL
3D2NB via W7YAQ	4K7FA via 4Z5LA	
3D2OU via N7OU	4L0B via UA4WHX	
3D2RO via N7OU	4L1DA via W7LPP	
3D2RX via W7YAQ	4L1DX via DJ1CW	
3DA0VB via UA4WHX	4L1FX via DJ1CW	
3V8SM via HA5FA	4M0I via IK6SNR	
3V8SS via ON4IQ	4O3AA via K2PF	

(The table of QSL Managers is courtesy of John Shelton, K1XN, editor of "The Go List," 106 Dogwood Dr., Paris, TN 38242; phone 731-641-4354; e-mail: <golist@golist.net>.)

Fall Promises Much Better Propagation

A Quick Look at Current Cycle 23 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, June 2006: 14

Twelve-month smoothed, December 2005: 23

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, June 2006: 80

Twelve-month smoothed, December 2005: 85

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, June 2006: 8

Twelve-month smoothed, December 2005: 10

September is a month of radical improvement in radio propagation conditions. On September 23, 2006 the sun will be directly over the equator. This happens twice a year, in the spring and fall, and is called an *equinox*. The fall, or "autumnal," equinox is the day on which the sun will cross the equator as it appears to travel from northern to southern skies. On this day, over much of the Earth the hours of daylight are equal to the hours of darkness. Sunrise should take place at approximately 6 AM local time and the sun should set at around 6 PM local time, except at the high latitudes.

This results in an ionosphere of almost similar characteristics over large areas of the world and is usually the best time of the year for long DX openings between the temperate regions of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres on all HF bands. Expect a vast improvement on 15 through 20 meters, with more frequent openings from mid-September through mid-October between North America and South America, the South Pacific, South Asia, and southern Africa. The strongest openings will occur for a few hours after sunrise and during the sunset hours.

Long-path openings improve during the equinoctial periods. A variety of paths are opening up on 20 meters. Expect a path to southern Asia around sunset, and daily morning openings to southern Asia and the Middle East, expanding to Africa. Also look for Antarctic short path, and signals from the Indian Ocean region long-path over the North Pole. Afternoons will fill with South Pacific long-path, and then extend to Russia and Europe. Look for possible long-path openings on 30, 40, and 80 meters for an hour or so before sunrise and just before sunset.

The winter DX season is about to open up, making for exciting DX conditions. While the weather is still warm and fair, tighten hardware on your antenna system, check coax cables, and fine tune your radio station. Get ready to reap the DX.

The 15-meter band will usually supply day-path propagation even over the polar paths, although

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LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for September 2006

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 1-2, 4, 6, 8-17 21-23, 27-29	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 3, 5, 7, 19-20, 24, 26, 30	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 18, 25	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: N/A	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: N/A	C-D	D	E	E

Where expected signal quality is:

- A—Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9.
- B—Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.
- C—Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.
- D—Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, with considerable fading and noise.
- E—No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Find the *propagation index* associated with the particular path opening from the Propagation Charts appearing on the following pages.
2. With the *propagation index*, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the path opening for any given day of the month. For example, an opening shown in the Propagation Charts with a *propagation index* of 2 will be good (B) on Sept 1st; fair (C) on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th; etc.

these will become rare as compared with the peak solar cycle years. Watch 15 for many long-path opportunities. A considerable improvement is expected for DX propagation on both 15 and 17 meters, both opening shortly after sunrise and remaining open until after sundown. However, 15 will not stay open late into the night like it does during the spring season. Openings should be possible to all areas of the world, with conditions best toward Europe and the northeast before noon, and to the rest of the world during the afternoon hours. Openings toward the South Pacific, Australia, New Zealand, and the Far East should be possible well into the early evening, particularly when propagation conditions are High Normal or better.

Twenty meters will be the best daytime DX band this month. Look for 20 to open for DX at sunrise and remain open in all directions for a few hours. It should be possible to work into many areas of the world throughout the daylight hours, with a peak in the afternoon. Nighttime conditions will favor openings toward the south and to tropical areas, but some openings will also be possible to other areas, especially during High Normal or better days. Look for polar gray-line propagation into Asia. Long-path is common on 20 to southern Asia, the Middle East, and northeastern Africa, as well as the Indian Ocean region via the North Polar path.

Expect an improvement in nighttime DX conditions on 30 through 160 meters during September and October. This is due to the increasing hours of darkness and a seasonal decrease in the static level. Thirty and 40 meters should be best for worldwide DX from sunset to sunrise. Sixty meters

should become more reliable for those farther contacts. Working all states on 60 is very possible during this season. Eighty and 160 meters will become hot bands during the hours of darkness, especially for an hour or so before local sunrise.

For short-skip propagation during September and early October, use 60 and 80 meters during the day for openings shorter than 250 miles, and either 80 or 160 at night. For distances between 250 and 750 miles try 30, 40, and possibly 60 meters during the day and 80 meters at night. For openings between 750 and 1300 miles, 20 meters should work during the day; 30, 40, and 60 from sundown to midnight; and 60 and 80 from midnight to sunrise. For openings greater than 1300 miles try 15, 17, or 20 meters during the day, and 30, 40, and even 60 meters during the hours of darkness. Check 10 and 12 meters for some fairly good openings beyond 1300 miles in the afternoon hours, especially when conditions are High Normal or better, and for paths into South America and the south Pacific.

VHF Conditions

The month of September statistically has the lowest amount of sporadic-E propagation activity. Toward the end of September, trans-equatorial (TE) propagation will begin to occur between southern North America and northern South America. Openings will generally occur in the late afternoon to early evening hours.

Troposcatter conditions are generally very good for many of the VHF bands up to 440 MHz during September with the appearance of different weather fronts. This will be the primary mode for working up to 300 miles. A very useful internet resource for viewing tropospheric conditions is available at William Hepburn's "VHF /UHF Tropospheric Ducting Forecast" site <<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>>.

Don't forget to check out *CQ VHF* magazine as well as the VHF column by N6CL in this issue for a more in-depth look at VHF propagation. However, no matter what, get on the radio and try working the many modes. The more people active on these bands, the more we can unlock the mysteries of VHF propagation.

Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for June 2006 is 37.6. The lowest daily sunspot value record-

ed was zero (0) on June 2 and June 3 and from June 22 through June 24. The highest daily sunspot count was 33 on June 7 and June 8. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on December 2005 is 23.0. A smoothed sunspot count of 10, give or take about 12 points, is expected for September 2006.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 80.1 for June 2006. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on December 2005 is 85.4. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for September 2006 is 73, give or take about 14 points.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (A_p) for June 2006 is 8. The 12-month smoothed A_p -index centered on December 2005 is 10.4. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to be varying greatly between quiet to active during most days in September, as we are at the start of the equinoctial season. There is even a chance for isolated periods of stormy activity. Refer to the Last-Minute Forecast at the beginning of this column for the days on which this might occur.

I invite you to visit my online propagation resource at <<http://propagation.hfradio.org/>>, where you can get the latest space data, forecasts, and more, all in an organized manner. If you have a cell phone with internet capabilities, try <<http://wap.hfradio.org/>>.

Drop me an e-mail or send me a letter if you have questions or topics you would like to see me explore in this column. I'd also love to hear any feedback you might have on what I have written. Until next month . . .

73, de Tomas, NW7US

August Column Correction

I inadvertently listed the Space Environment Center's Space Weather Operations (SWO) numbers instead of the S.I.D.C. Brussels International Sunspot Number (RI) for May 2005 through October 2005 in the August column. The numbers that I typically report in this column are the RI number from the official keepers of the sunspot numbers, the S.I.D.C. The correct smoothed sunspot numbers are as follows:

May 2005	29
June 2005	29
July 2005	29
August 2005	28
September 2005	26
October 2005	26

HOW TO USE THE DX PROPAGATION CHARTS

1. Use chart appropriate to your transmitter location. The Eastern USA Chart can be used in the 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, KP4, KG4, and KV4 areas in the USA and adjacent call areas in Canada; the Central USA Chart in the 5, 9, and 0 areas; the Western USA Chart in the 6 and 7 areas; and with somewhat less accuracy in the KH6 and KL7 areas.

2. The predicted times of openings are found under the appropriate meter band column (10 through 80 meters) for a particular DX region, as shown in the left-hand column of the charts. An * indicates the best time to listen for 160 meter openings.

3. The propagation index is the number that appears in () after the time of each predicted opening. The index indicates the number of days during the month on which the opening is expected to take place as follows:

- (4) Opening should occur on more than 22 days
- (3) Opening should occur between 14 and 22 days
- (2) Opening should occur between 7 and 13 days
- (1) Opening should occur on less than 7 days

Refer to the "Last Minute Forecast" at the beginning of this column for the actual dates on which an opening with a specific propagation index is likely to occur, and the signal quality that can be expected.

4. Times shown in the charts are in the 24-hour system, where 00 is midnight; 12 is noon; 01 is 1 A.M.; 13 is 1 P.M., etc. Appropriate daylight time is used, not GMT. To convert to GMT, add to the times shown in the appropriate chart 7 hours in PDT Zone, 6 hours in MDT Zone, 5 hours in CDT Zone, and 4 hours in EDT Zone. For example, 14 hours in Washington, D.C. is 18 GMT. When it is 20 hours in Los Angeles, it is 03 GMT, etc.

5. The charts are based upon a transmitted power of 250 watts CW, or 1 kw, PEP on sideband, into a dipole antenna a quarter-wavelength above ground on 160 and 80 meters, and a half-wavelength above ground on 40 and 20 meters, and a wavelength above ground on 15 and 10 meters. For each 10 dB gain above these reference levels, the propagation index will increase by one level; for each 10 dB loss, it will lower by one level.

6. Propagation data contained in the charts has been prepared from basic data published by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of the U.S. Dept of Commerce, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

September 15–October 15, 2006 Time Zone: EDT (24-Hour Time System) EASTERN USA TO:

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Western & Central	11-14 (1)	10-11 (1)	07-08 (1)	18-19 (1)
Europe & North Africa		11-15 (2)	08-10 (3)	19-21 (2)
		15-16 (1)	10-12 (2)	21-23 (3)
			12-14 (3)	23-02 (4)
			14-16 (4)	02-03 (3)
			16-17 (3)	03-04 (2)
			17-18 (2)	04-05 (1)
			18-19 (1)	20-22 (1)*
				22-01 (2)*
				01-04 (1)*
Northern Europe & European CIS	10-12 (1)	10-13 (1)	07-08 (1)	18-20 (1)
			08-10 (3)	20-04 (2)
			10-12 (2)	04-05 (1)
			12-14 (1)	21-04 (1)*
			14-16 (2)	
			16-18 (1)	
Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	11-13 (1)	10-11 (1)	07-08 (1)	19-21 (1)
			11-13 (2)	08-09 (2)
			13-15 (1)	09-14 (1)
				00-01 (1)
			14-16 (2)	22-00 (1)*
			16-17 (3)	
			17-18 (2)	
			18-19 (1)	
			22-00 (1)	
Western Africa	14-16 (1)	09-11 (1)	08-10 (1)	20-23 (1)
			11-13 (2)	13-15 (1)
			13-16 (3)	15-16 (2)
			16-17 (2)	02-04 (1)
			17-18 (1)	01-03 (1)*
			17-18 (4)	
			18-20 (3)	
			20-21 (2)	
			21-23 (1)	
Eastern & Central Africa	13-15 (1)	11-13 (1)	13-15 (1)	21-02 (1)
			13-15 (2)	15-17 (2)
			15-16 (1)	17-18 (3)
				18-19 (2)
				19-21 (1)
Southern Africa	11-14 (1)	09-11 (1)	08-10 (1)	19-22 (1)
			11-13 (2)	13-15 (1)
			13-15 (3)	15-18 (2)
				00-02 (1)

Southern Africa	15-16 (2) 16-17 (1)	18-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1) 23-01 (1)	23-01 (1)*	
Central & South Asia	<i>Nil</i>	09-11 (1) 18-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 19-22 (1)	05-07 (1) 20-23 (1)
Southeast Asia	<i>Nil</i>	10-12 (1) 14-16 (1) 18-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 16-18 (1) 20-22 (1)	06-08 (1)
Far East	<i>Nil</i>	09-11 (1) 18-20 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-23 (1)	06-08 (1)
South Pacific & New Zealand	15-18 (1)	11-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-11 (2) 11-14 (1) 16-20 (1) 20-00 (2) 00-04 (1) 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*	01-02 (1) 02-03 (2) 03-06 (3) 06-09 (2) 03-04 (1)* 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Australasia	17-19 (1)	14-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 14-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-21 (1) 21-00 (2) 00-02 (1) 06-07 (1)*	02-04 (1) 04-06 (2) 06-07 (3) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 04-05 (1)* 05-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Caribbean, Central America, & Northern Countries of South America	11-14 (1) 14-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-13 (3) 13-15 (2) 15-16 (4) 16-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (3) 09-10 (4) 10-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (4) 19-21 (3) 21-22 (2) 22-00 (1) 04-06 (1)*	19-20 (1) 20-21 (2) 21-04 (4) 04-06 (3) 06-07 (2) 07-08 (1) 21-23 (1)* 23-04 (2)* 23-01 (1)*
Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Uruguay	14-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-11 (2) 11-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-11 (1) 14-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-19 (3) 19-20 (4) 20-21 (3) 21-23 (2) 23-00 (1)	21-00 (1) 00-05 (2) 05-07 (1) 01-06 (1)*
McMurdo Sound, Antarctica	<i>Nil</i>	16-18 (1)	18-20 (1) 20-23 (2) 23-01 (1) 08-09 (1)	00-03 (1) 03-05 (2) 05-07 (1) 04-06 (1)*

**Time Zones: CDT and MDT
(24-Hour Time System)
CENTRAL USA TO:**

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Western & Central Europe & North Africa	10-14 (1)	10-14 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-13 (1) 13-14 (2) 14-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	18-20 (1) 20-23 (2) 23-01 (3) 01-02 (2) 02-03 (1) 21-23 (1)* 23-01 (2)* 01-02 (1)*
Northern Europe & European CIS	<i>Nil</i>	10-13 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 12-15 (2) 15-17 (1) 21-23 (1)	20-23 (1) 23-01 (2) 01-02 (1) 22-01 (1)*
Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	10-13 (1)	10-13 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1) 21-23 (1)	20-23 (1) 21-23 (1)*
Western Africa	12-14 (1)	09-11 (1) 11-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-17 (1)	07-09 (1) 13-15 (1) 15-16 (2) 16-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-22 (1)	20-23 (1) 23-01 (2) 01-02 (1) 23-01 (1)*

Eastern & Central Africa	<i>Nil</i>	12-16 (1)	07-09 (1) 13-16 (1) 16-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	21-00 (1)
Southern Africa	11-13 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	07-09 (1) 12-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1) 22-00 (1)	20-21 (1) 21-23 (2) 23-01 (1) 21-23 (1)*
Central & South Asia	<i>Nil</i>	18-21 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 18-21 (1)	06-08 (1) 19-21 (1)
Southeast Asia	<i>Nil</i>	17-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-13 (1) 18-22 (1)	05-08 (1)
Far East	<i>Nil</i>	15-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-11 (2) 11-13 (1) 17-19 (1) 19-22 (2) 22-00 (1)	03-05 (1) 05-07 (2) 07-09 (1) 06-08 (1)*
South Pacific & New Zealand	14-18 (1)	10-13 (1) 13-16 (2) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	06-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-02 (1)	00-01 (1) 01-07 (3) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 02-04 (1)* 04-07 (2)* 07-08 (1)*
Australasia	16-18 (1)	13-16 (1) 16-19 (2) 19-21 (1)	05-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-13 (2) 13-17 (1) 17-18 (2) 18-20 (1) 20-23 (1) 23-01 (1)	02-03 (1) 03-05 (2) 05-07 (3) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 05-06 (1)* 06-07 (2)* 07-08 (1)*
Caribbean, Central America & Northern Countries of South America	11-13 (1) 13-16 (2) 16-18 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-11 (2) 11-13 (3) 13-16 (4) 16-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (3) 08-10 (4) 10-12 (3) 12-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (4) 19-21 (3) 21-22 (2) 22-00 (1)	19-20 (1) 20-21 (2) 21-01 (3) 01-05 (4) 05-06 (3) 06-07 (2) 07-08 (1) 20-23 (1)* 23-05 (2)* 05-06 (1)*
Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, Argentina & Uruguay	14-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-11 (2) 11-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-11 (1) 13-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-19 (3) 19-20 (4) 20-22 (3) 22-23 (2) 23-00 (1)	21-00 (1) 00-04 (2) 04-06 (1) 01-05 (1)*
McMurdo Sound, Antarctica	<i>Nil</i>	16-18 (1)	17-20 (1) 20-23 (2) 23-01 (1) 08-10 (1)	00-03 (1) 03-05 (2) 05-07 (1) 04-06 (1)*

**Time Zone: PDT
(24-Hour Time System)
WESTERN USA TO:**

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Western Europe & North Africa	<i>Nil</i>	10-12 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-16 (1) 22-00 (1)	20-21 (1) 21-23 (2) 23-00 (1) 21-23 (1)*
Central & Northern Europe & European CIS	<i>Nil</i>	10-12 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 12-14 (2) 14-16 (1) 22-00 (1)	20-00 (1)
Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	<i>Nil</i>	10-12 (1)	08-12 (1) 12-14 (2) 14-16 (1) 20-22 (1)	20-23 (1)

Western & Central Africa	12-14 (1)	10-13 (1) 13-15 (2)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-14 (1) 14-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	21-00 (1)
Eastern Africa	<i>Nil</i>	13-15 (1)	07-09 (1) 13-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-19 (1) 21-23 (1)	20-22 (1)
Southern Africa	11-15 (1)	11-15 (1)	07-09 (1) 12-14 (1) 14-18 (2) 18-19 (1) 22-00 (1)	19-22 (1)
Central & South Asia	<i>Nil</i>	17-19 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-13 (1) 17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-22 (1)	06-08 (1) 19-21 (1)
Southeast Asia	<i>Nil</i>	16-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-11 (2) 11-12 (1) 21-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-01 (1)	01-03 (1) 03-06 (2) 06-08 (1) 03-06 (1)*
Far East	16-19 (1)	14-16 (1) 16-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-13 (1) 13-20 (2) 20-21 (2) 21-22 (3) 22-23 (2) 23-01 (1)	01-03 (1) 03-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 03-07 (1)*
South Pacific & New Zealand	13-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	11-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	14-18 (2) 18-20 (3) 20-22 (4) 22-23 (3) 23-01 (3) 01-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-11 (2) 11-14 (1)	21-22 (1) 22-23 (2) 23-00 (3) 00-05 (4) 05-07 (3) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 23-02 (1)* 02-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Australasia	15-17 (1)	13-16 (1) 16-17 (2) 17-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-20 (2) 20-00 (3) 00-03 (2) 03-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-13 (1)	01-02 (1) 02-03 (2) 03-06 (3) 06-08 (2) 08-09 (1) 02-04 (1)* 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Caribbean, Central America & Northern Countries of South America	11-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-10 (3) 10-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (4) 19-21 (3) 21-23 (3) 23-00 (1)	19-21 (1) 21-02 (3) 02-04 (2) 04-07 (1) 20-22 (1)* 22-03 (2)* 03-05 (1)*
Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, & Uruguay	13-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-17 (1)	09-10 (1) 10-11 (2) 11-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	08-10 (1) 13-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-20 (4) 20-21 (3) 21-22 (2) 22-00 (1)	21-23 (1) 23-02 (2) 02-04 (1) 00-03 (1)*
McMurdo Sound, Antarctica	<i>Nil</i>	16-19 (1)	07-10 (1) 17-19 (1) 19-20 (2) 20-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-01 (1)	01-03 (1) 03-05 (2) 03-05 (2) 03-06 (1)*

* Indicates best times to listen for 80 meter openings. Openings on 160 meters are also likely to occur during those times when 80 meter openings are shown with a propagation index of (2) or higher. For 12 meter openings interpolate between 10 and 15 meter openings. For 17 meter openings interpolate between 15 and 20 meter openings. For 30 meter openings interpolate between 40 and 20 meter openings.

Charts prepared by George Jacobs, W3ASK

HOW TO USE THE SHORT-SKIP CHARTS

1. In the Short-Skip Chart, the predicted times of openings can be found under the appropriate distance column of a particular meter band (10 through 160 meters) as shown in the left-hand column of the chart. For the Alaska and Hawaii Charts the predicted times of openings are found under the appropriate meter band column (15 through 80 meters) for a particular geographical region of the continental USA as shown in the left-hand column of the charts. An * indicates the best time to listen for 160 meter openings. An ** indicates possible 10 meter openings.

2. The propagation index is the number that appears in () after the time of each predicted opening. In the Short-Skip Chart, where two numerals are shown within a single set of parentheses, the first applies to the shorter distance for which the forecast is made, and the second to the greater distance. The index indicates the number of days during the month on which the opening is expected to take place, as follows:

- (4) Opening should occur on more than 22 days
- (3) Opening should occur between 14 and 22 days
- (2) Opening should occur between 7 and 13 days
- (1) Opening should occur on less than 7 days

Refer to the "Last-Minute Forecast" at the beginning of this column for the actual dates on which an opening with a specific propagation index is likely to occur, and the signal quality that can be expected.

3. Times shown in the charts are in the 24-hour system, where 00 is midnight; 12 is noon; 01 is 1 AM; 13 is 1 PM, etc. On the Short-Skip Chart appropriate daylight time is used at the path midpoint. For example on a circuit between Maine and Florida, the time shown would be EDT, on a circuit between New York and Texas, the time at the midpoint would be CDT, etc. Times shown in the Hawaii Chart are in HST. To convert to daylight time in other USA time zones add 3 hours in the PDT zone; 4 hours in the MDT zone; 5 hours in the CDT zone; and 6 hours in the EDT zone. Add 10 hours to convert from HST to GMT. For example, when it is 12 noon in Honolulu, it is 15 or 3 PM in Los Angeles; 18 or 6 PM in Washington, D.C.; and 22 GMT. Time shown in the Alaska Chart is given in GMT. To convert to daylight time in other areas of the USA subtract 7 hours in the PDT zone; 6 hours in the MDT zone; 5 hours in the CDT zone; and 4 hours in the EDT zone. For example, at 20 GMT it is 16 or 4 PM in New York City.

4. The Short-Skip Chart is based upon a transmitted power of 75 watts CW or 300 watts PEP on sideband; the Alaska and Hawaii Charts are based upon a transmitter power of 250 watts CW or 1 KW PEP on sideband. A dipole antenna a quarter-wavelength above ground is assumed for 160 and 80 meters, a half-wave above ground on 40 and 20 meters, and a wavelength above ground on 15 and 10 meters. For each 10 dB gain above these reference levels, the propagation index will increase by one level; for each 10 dB loss, it will lower by one level.

5. Propagation data contained in the charts has been prepared from basic data published by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Boulder, Colorado 80302.

CQ Short-Skip Propagation Charts September & October 2006 Local Daylight Savings Time At Path Mid-Point

Meter Band	Distance Between Stations (Miles)			
	50-250	250-750	750-1300	1300-2300
10	Nil	10-21 (0-1)	08-10 (1) 10-15 (1-2) 15-22 (1)	08-10 (1-0) 10-14 (2-0) 14-18 (1) 18-22 (1-0)
15	Nil	08-10 (0-1) 10-14 (0-2) 14-22 (0-1)	08-10 (1) 10-14 (2) 14-17 (1-3) 17-18 (1-2) 18-22 (1) 22-00 (0-1)	08-10 (1) 10-14 (2) 14-17 (3) 17-18 (2-1) 18-20 (1) 20-00 (1-0)
20	12-20 (0-1)	08-10 (0-1) 10-12 (0-2) 12-15 (1-4) 15-17 (1-3) 17-20 (1-2) 20-07 (0-1)	08-10 (1-2) 10-12 (2-4) 12-15 (4) 17-19 (2-4) 17-19 (2-4) 19-20 (2-3) 20-21 (1-3) 21-23 (1-2) 23-08 (1)	08-09 (2-1) 09-10 (2) 10-14 (4-2) 14-16 (4-3) 16-19 (4) 19-21 (3) 21-23 (2) 23-01 (1) 01-06 (1-0) 06-08 (1)

40	08-10 (0-2) 10-12 (2-4) 12-16 (3-4) 16-18 (2-3) 18-20 (1-2) 20-22 (0-1)	08-10 (2-3) 10-12 (4-3) 12-16 (4-2) 16-18 (3) 18-20 (2-4) 20-22 (1-4)	08-10 (3-2) 10-12 (3-1) 12-16 (2-1) 16-18 (3-2) 18-20 (4-3) 20-22 (4)	08-10 (2-1) 10-16 (1-0) 16-18 (2-1) 18-20 (3-2) 20-21 (4-3) 21-00 (4) 00-03 (3-4) 03-06 (2-3) 06-08 (4-2)
80	07-09 (3-4) 09-12 (4) 12-19 (4-3) 19-22 (4) 22-04 (3-4) 04-07 (2-3)	07-09 (4-2) 09-12 (4) 12-17 (3-1) 17-19 (3-2) 19-21 (4-3) 21-04 (4)	07-09 (2-1) 09-17 (1-0) 17-19 (2-1) 19-21 (3-2) 21-22 (4-3) 22-04 (4)	07-09 (1) 09-17 (0) 17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-22 (3-2) 22-04 (4-3) 04-06 (2) 06-07 (2-1)
160	17-19 (1-0) 19-21 (2-1) 21-06 (4) 06-08 (3-2) 08-10 (2-1) 10-12 (1-0)	18-20 (1-0) 20-21 (1) 21-03 (4-3) 03-06 (3-2) 06-08 (2-1) 08-10 (1-0)	20-21 (1-0) 21-23 (3-1) 23-03 (3) 03-06 (2-1) 06-08 (1) 08-10 (1)	21-23 (1-0) 23-03 (3-2) 03-06 (1) 06-08 (1-0)

ALASKA Openings Given in GMT

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Eastern States	Nil	21-23 (1)	12-14 (1) 18-21 (1) 21-00 (2) 00-02 (1)	08-12 (1)
Central States	Nil	21-01 (1)	13-15 (1) 19-22 (1) 22-01 (2) 01-03 (1)	08-13 (1)
Western States	Nil	20-21 (1) 21-23 (2) 23-01 (1)	17-18 (1) 18-22 (2) 22-01 (3) 01-03 (2) 03-05 (1)	08-11 (1) 11-14 (2) 14-16 (1) 11-14 (1)*

HAWAII Openings Given In Hawaiian Standard Time

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Eastern States	Nil	07-12 (1) 12-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	11-13 (1) 13-14 (2) 14-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-19 (1) 03-05 (1) 05-07 (2) 07-08 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-00 (3) 00-02 (2) 02-03 (1) 19-20 (1)* 20-23 (2)* 23-01 (1)*
Central States	09-13 (1)	07-11 (1)	05-06 (1) 11-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (2) 15-17 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-02 (3) 02-04 (2) 04-05 (1) 17-18 (2) 18-20 (1) 19-20 (1)* 20-00 (2)* 00-02 (1)*
Western States	10-15 (1)	07-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-18 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-21 (1)	17-18 (1) 18-19 (2) 19-01 (4) 01-03 (3) 03-06 (2) 06-07 (1) 19-20 (1)* 20-22 (2)* 22-03 (3)* 03-04 (2)* 04-06 (1)*

See explanation in "How To Use Short-Skip Charts" in box at the beginning of these charts.

Note: Alaska and Hawaii Propagation Charts are intended for distances greater than 1300 miles. For shorter distances, use the preceding Short-Skip Propagation Chart.

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Announcing:

The 2006 CQ WW DX Contest

Phone: October 28–29 CW: November 25–26
Starts 0000 GMT Saturday Ends 2400 GMT Sunday

I. OBJECTIVE: For amateurs around the world to contact other amateurs in as many zones and countries as possible.

II. BANDS: All bands, 1.8 through 28 MHz, except for WARC bands.

III. TYPE OF COMPETITION (choose only one):

For all categories: All entrants must operate within the limits of their chosen category when performing any activity that could impact their submitted score. *All high power categories must not exceed 1500 watts total output power on any band.* Transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500 meter diameter circle or within the property limits of the station licensee's address, whichever is greater. All antennas used by the entrant must be physically connected by wires to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant. Only the entrant's callsign can be used to aid the entrant's score. A different callsign must be used for each CQ WW entry.

A. Single Operator Categories: Single band or all band; only one signal allowed at any one time; the operator may change bands at any time.

1. **Single Operator High:** Those stations at which one person performs all of the operating, logging, and spotting functions. The use of DX alerting assistance of any kind places the station in the Single Operator Assisted category.

2. **Single Operator Low:** Same as III A 1 except that the output power shall not exceed 100 watts (see rule XI.11).

3. **QRPP:** Same as III A 1, except that the power output must not exceed 5 watts (see rule XI.11).

B. Single Operator with DX Spotting Net: Same as III A 1 except the passive (self-spotting not allowed) use of DX spotting nets is allowed.

C. Multi-Operator (all band operation only):

1. **Single Transmitter (MS):** Only one transmitter and one band permitted during any 10-minute period, defined as starting with the first logged QSO on a band. Exception: One—and only one—other

band may be used during any 10-minute period if—and only if—the station worked is a new multiplier. Logs found in violation of the 10-minute rule will automatically be reclassified as multi-multi.

2. **Two Transmitter (M2):** A maximum of two transmitted signals at any time on different bands. Both transmitters may work any and all stations. A station may only be worked once per band regardless of which transmitter is used. Each of the two transmitters used must keep a separate chronological log for the entire contest period, or if electronic logging is used, the electronic log submittal (Cabrillo) must indicate which transmitter made each QSO. Each transmitter may make a maximum of 8 band changes in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes).

3. **Multi-Transmitter (MM):** No limit to transmitters, but only one signal and running station allowed per band.

D. Team Contesting: A team consists of any five radio amateurs operating in the single operator category. A person may be on only one team per mode. Competing on a team will not prevent any team member from submitting his/her personal score for a radio club. A team score will be the sum of all the team member scores. SSB and CW teams are totally separate. That is, a member of an SSB team may be on a totally different CW team. A list of a team's members must be received at CQ Headquarters by the time the contest begins. Mail or fax the list to CQ, Att: Team Contest, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 U.S.A.; fax 516-681-2926. Awards will be given to the top teams on each mode.

IV. NUMBER EXCHANGE: Phone: RS report plus zone (i.e., 5705). CW: RST report plus zone (i.e., 57905).

V. MULTIPLIER: Two types of multiplier will be used.

1. A multiplier of one (1) for each different zone contacted on each band.

2. A multiplier of one (1) for each different country contacted on each band.

Stations are permitted to contact their own country and zone for multiplier credit.

The CQ Zone Map, DXCC country list, WAE country list, and WAC boundaries are standards. Maritime mobile stations count only for a zone multiplier.

VI. POINTS:

1. Contacts between stations on different continents are worth three (3) points.

2. Contacts between stations on the same continent but different countries, one (1) point. *Exception:* For North American stations *only*, contacts between stations within the North American boundaries count two (2) points.

3. Contacts between stations in the same country are permitted for zone or country multiplier credit but have zero (0) point value.

VII. SCORING: All stations: the final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the sum of your zone and country multipliers.

Example: 1000 QSO points × 100 multiplier (30 Zones + 70 Countries) = 100,000 (final score).

VIII. AWARDS: First-place certificates will be awarded in each category listed under Sec.III in every participating country and in each call area of the United States, Canada, European Russia, Spain, and Japan.

All scores will be published. To be eligible for an award, a Single Operator station must show a minimum of 12 hours of operation. Multi-operator stations must operate a minimum of 24 hours. A single-band log is eligible for a single-band award only. If a log contains more than one band it will be judged as an all-band entry, unless specified otherwise.

In countries or sections where the returns justify, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be made.

All certificates/plaques will be issued to the licensee of the station used.

IX. TROPHIES AND PLAQUES:

Plaques and trophies are awarded for top performance in a number of categories. They are sponsored by individuals and organizations. For a current list of plaques and sponsors, or to learn how to become a sponsor, see the CQ website:

<<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqwwhome.html>>. A station winning a World trophy will not be considered for a sub-area award; the trophy will be awarded to the runner-up in that area.

X. CLUB COMPETITION:

1. The club must be a local group and not a national organization.
2. Participation is limited to members operating within a local geographic area defined as within a 275 km radius from center of club area (except for DXpeditions specially organized for operation in the contest; club contributions of DXpedition scores are percentaged to the number of club members on the DXpedition).
3. To be listed, a minimum of 3 logs must be received from a club, and an officer of the club must submit a list of participating members and their scores, both on phone and CW.

XI. LOG INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All times must be in GMT.
2. All sent and received exchanges are to be logged.
3. Indicate zone and country multiplier only the FIRST TIME it is worked on each band.
4. Logs must be checked for duplicate contacts, correct QSO points, and multipliers.
5. *We want your electronic log. The Committee requires an electronic log for any possible high-scoring log. By submitting a potential high-scoring log to the CQ WW Contest, the entrant agrees to have the log open to the public.*
E-MAIL Required Content: Please submit your log in the Cabrillo file format created by all major logging programs. Be sure to put the STATION CALLSIGN and the MODE in the "Subject:" line of each message. Your software may automatically encode your log as an attachment. Your e-mail log will automatically be acknowledged by the server. You will also receive a personal access code from the server. Submit your CQ WW SSB log to <ssb@cqww.com> and your CQ WW CW log to <cw@cqww.com>.

DISKS: Please send your IBM, MS-DOS compatible computer disk. A disk containing your Cabrillo file may be submitted in lieu of a paper log. Label your disk clearly with YOUR CALL, files included, the mode (SSB or CW), and your category. Name your disk file correctly (for example, HS0AC.log).

6. For paper logs, use a separate sheet for each band.

7. Each paper log entry *must* be accompanied by a summary sheet showing all scoring information, category of competition, and contestant's name and address in BLOCK LETTERS. Electronic submission implies a signed declaration that all contest rules and regulations for amateur

radio in the country of operation have been observed.

8. Sample log and summary sheets and zone maps are available from CQ. A large, self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage or IRCs must accompany your request. If official forms are not available, make up your own, 80 contacts to the page on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.

9. All paper log entrants are required to submit cross-check sheets (an alphabetical list of calls worked) for each band on which 200 or more QSOs were made.

10. Bad QSO penalty: three (3) additional contacts removed.

11. QRPp and Low Power stations must indicate their category on their summary sheets and state the actual maximum power output used, with a signed declaration.

XII. DISQUALIFICATION: Violation of amateur radio regulations in the country of the contestant, or the rules of the contest; unsportsmanlike conduct; taking credit for excessive unverifiable QSOs or unverifiable multipliers will be deemed sufficient cause for disqualification. Incorrectly logged calls will be counted as unverifiable contacts.

An entrant whose log is deemed by the Contest Committee to contain a large number of discrepancies may be disqualified from eligibility for an award, both as a participant operator or station, for one year. If an operator is disqualified a second time within five years, he/she will be ineligible for any CQ contest awards for three years.

The use by an entrant of any non-amateur means such as telephones, telegrams, internet, or the use of packet to SOLICIT contacts during the contest is unsportsmanlike and the entry is subject to disqualification. Action and decisions of the CQ WW Contest Committee are official and final.

XIII. DEADLINE:

1. All entries must be postmarked NO LATER than December 1, 2006 for the SSB section and January 15, 2007 for the CW section. **Indicate SSB or CW on the envelope, disk, or e-mail.**

2. An extension of up to one month may be given if requested by letter or other means. The granted extension must be confirmed by letter sent to the attention of the Contest Director, must state a legitimate reason, and the request must be received before the log mailing deadline. Logs postmarked after the extension deadline may be listed in the results but will be declared ineligible for an award.

Both Phone and CW mailed logs should be sent to CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801. Please mark SSB or CW on the envelope.

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BAND-BY-BAND BREAKDOWN—TOP ALL BAND SCORES

Number groups indicate: QSOs/Zones/Countries on each band

WORLD TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CT3EN	375/18/61	868/21/83	1707/29/103	1145/32/106	2142/34/121	183/17/50
P40W	350/18/57	808/22/80	1255/30/89	1854/35/110	1744/29/100	427/15/24
8P5A	449/17/58	941/23/86	1121/29/102	1566/30/99	1959/29/103	525/17/37
A45XR	227/13/53	392/23/73	1777/37/123	1597/34/120	1476/32/106	50/15/25
ZD8A	122/13/38	256/17/63	885/26/86	1070/30/104	2197/31/120	498/23/60
EA8EW	157/11/47	661/17/58	1543/25/84	1454/28/84	1636/22/76	198/18/57
CU2A	255/15/60	970/22/83	1754/27/97	1455/29/107	1782/30/108	103/14/44
YV4D	254/13/57	682/22/84	1054/27/92	1106/31/74	1267/30/106	373/17/34
ZF1A	263/15/43	543/18/72	1680/29/99	1691/33/111	1442/24/89	38/13/17
6W1RW	38/11/24	307/16/65	724/24/90	1034/31/107	1690/30/112	297/18/67

USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5ZD/1	112/17/56	789/22/92	815/29/107	1447/36/125	546/25/104	40/12/23
K3CR	103/13/50	523/22/92	502/33/104	1472/34/114	466/24/94	45/12/24
N2NT	132/15/57	668/21/91	619/28/104	1300/32/114	303/24/90	44/12/25
W1KM	138/14/52	668/19/73	544/30/103	1266/29/100	336/22/79	35/11/21
K4ZW	71/14/49	438/23/83	620/29/106	1189/32/111	453/19/85	26/10/18
K1ZZ	90/13/46	313/24/90	610/28/99	1065/31/111	333/25/100	48/13/28
W9RE	89/16/46	476/18/82	444/28/91	1141/34/113	398/25/88	38/9/22
AA1K/3	147/15/54	471/23/82	493/30/94	1193/30/105	246/22/79	35/11/21
N2LT	81/11/40	234/16/72	535/32/104	1086/34/114	393/24/88	16/6/13
WC1M	50/12/41	404/17/70	460/26/90	1334/36/114	143/20/68	23/9/20

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

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EA8ZS	192/17/66	554/23/100	1672/35/130	1145/35/140	1856/35/141	65/22/61
5J1W	83/8/19	760/23/85	2003/32/110	1554/37/121	1777/28/103	396/19/42
KT1V	111/16/76	867/29/111	1368/38/135	1492/36/142	326/29/116	35/14/35
LR2F	13/8/10	144/19/43	907/34/115	1290/36/123	2115/36/133	507/22/53

USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

KT1V	111/16/76	867/29/111	1368/38/135	1492/36/142	326/29/116	35/14/35
K1IR	86/14/66	703/25/107	652/34/131	1456/37/139	324/25/112	35/13/34
K1KI	121/16/75	667/27/108	720/35/130	1146/38/140	406/27/116	48/13/37
W2FU	80/16/63	674/27/105	519/34/126	1735/38/132	128/25/101	36/14/35
K8AZ	58/15/57	340/28/103	667/38/139	1562/38/146	184/27/108	44/14/34
K300	58/14/54	440/25/101	603/35/128	1333/35/133	293/25/109	27/13/25

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

IH9P	658/19/79	1695/27/109	2930/35/138	2638/37/133	1836/37/142	239/20/53
8Q7DV	266/19/58	744/33/100	2480/38/140	1468/36/133	2037/35/133	325/23/68
VP5W	438/13/59	827/24/97	2425/34/121	2453/34/121	1987/33/122	46/15/27
WP2Z	254/11/33	796/18/81	2163/35/123	2191/36/122	2150/32/120	545/20/58
RU1A	844/28/95	1879/35/131	1924/38/151	2104/39/144	583/37/142	174/17/49
EA6IB	646/19/76	1662/28/111	1919/36/137	2096/38/135	1233/36/136	131/18/55

USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

K1AR	102/17/56	464/24/101	963/35/134	1910/38/143	712/27/124	33/10/23
NY4A	125/16/61	831/28/105	1192/31/117	1542/35/131	787/25/110	30/13/19
K0TV/1	107/14/56	556/26/101	759/31/127	1145/33/125	423/24/104	32/9/19
N4WW	89/14/63	279/26/101	807/35/128	1123/37/136	625/28/119	53/15/30
N0NI	92/15/44	300/27/98	520/37/127	1112/36/129	320/28/102	50/13/30
W8ZA	62/10/31	171/19/85	261/29/101	1085/36/125	203/23/83	27/7/16

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

HC8N	1069/21/78	1638/31/111	3640/37/139	3525/40/157	3570/38/148	1505/29/93
TZ5A	329/16/64	638/22/87	2545/35/139	4149/39/153	3657/39/152	970/25/93
PJ2T	1000/22/89	1220/28/106	2878/37/135	3275/37/137	2522/33/133	559/21/58
KC1XX	385/21/83	1618/33/120	1418/36/142	2356/38/150	1011/32/136	141/16/45
LZ9W	883/15/71	2046/32/120	2713/37/149	2591/38/147	1255/37/146	111/19/51
K3LR	292/20/79	1100/32/121	1479/38/154	2439/38/155	677/30/123	144/16/44

USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

KC1XX	385/21/83	1618/33/120	1418/36/142	2356/38/150	1011/32/136	141/16/45
K3LR	292/20/79	1100/32/121	1479/38/154	2439/38/155	677/30/123	144/16/44
W3LPL	366/20/91	1129/31/119	1370/39/149	2135/38/157	943/31/132	194/16/45
N3RS	113/16/63	649/29/107	1368/37/144	1950/38/144	701/28/122	81/15/39
NQ4I	248/19/73	503/27/106	1191/38/147	1771/38/146	1044/30/129	165/15/36
K1TTT	190/15/66	822/26/102	872/37/134	1591/38/141	676/26/118	154/17/42

Records

On the CQWW.com web page are the all-time records for each continent and country. Setting a new record is difficult and challenging. Take a look at your country's records and choose a record you can try to beat. Congratulations to the following stations which set new world and continental records. The fantastic low-band conditions produced several records.

World: 3.5 CN2R (W7EJ), 1.8 VY2ZM (K1ZM), Q14 SU8BHI; **Africa:** 3.5 CN2R (W7EJ), Q14 SU8BHI, MS 3V5A; **Asia:** 7 TA3DD; **Europe:** ALL CU2A (OH2UA), L7 IY4W (IK4ZGO), Q14 S56A, Q7 S54AA; **Japan:** (None); **North America:** 1.8 VY2ZM (K1ZM), L14 TI5A (K2PLF), L1.8 TE1W (N0KE), A14 KP4KE; **USA:** 1.8 VY2ZM (K1ZM), Q1.8 K3BU, A14 W5MX/4; **Oceania:** 7 KH7X (KH6ND); **South America:** L1.8 PV8DX, A21 LU4DX (LU5DX), MS P40L.

Special Mention

The CQ WW is a great place to pick up new countries. Hundreds of contesters leave their QTHs and spread out across the world, heading for exotic locations. In the 2005 CW contest, 172 countries submitted logs! The total number of countries available in all the logs was 221. DXCC and WAZ are obtainable in one weekend. Thanks to the many DXpeditions and the efforts of hundreds of contesters who made the contest experience more interesting for all of us. Here are a few of the calls you probably worked:

CU2A, CU2/OH3BHL, TK/DJ9RR, J45A, J45KLN, ZB2X, J43J, J43F, GD6IA, GJ2A, LX/DL5SE, LX/DK4ARL, 9H3LEO, OJ0B, OJ0J, IS0N, 9M8YY, 4W3ZZ, KH6RZ, A35TT, P40W, P40A, PS2T, ZP0R, 9Y4AA, CW5T, C6AUR, SU8BHI, KH6WW, VP9I, V31TM, FM5JC, KP4KE, D44TD, 5B/AJ2O, VK9AA, VK3KE, VK2GC, KH6/VE7AHA, ZL3TE, FY/F5IRO, PJ4M, 6Y7A, VP2E, 7X0RY, 3V5A, A52CDX, 4X0G, LX7I, T88A, AH2R, P40L, 5J1W, VP5W, IH9P, 3B8/OM3PC, 8Q7DV, BV0J, 9M2CNC, TF4M, PZ5C, FP/K8DD, TZ5A, R1MVC, HC8N, PJ2T, 4U60UN, V26K, C6AQQ, C6AGY, C6AWS, 8P5A, VY2TT, ZF1A, VY2ZM, TI3M, TI5N, TI5X, TI5A, TE1W, J79CW, HI9L, HI3/SP9XCN, FG5BG, 6Y3R, HP1/OA4WW, V47/AB2RF, PJ7/K7ZUM, J88DR, HK0FD, KP2TM, KP2/K3MD, ZD8A, ZD8R, EA8EW, EA8/OH4NL, 9G5GJ, 5Z1A, CT3EN, CT9A, CN2R, CN2WW, 6W1RW, ST0RM, 3DA0NW, YI9LZ, T6X, HS0ZAR, OH0E, OH0M, OH0Z.

Comments

To anyone who participated in the 2005 CW contest, it was clear that conditions on the low bands were really good. The number of countries on 160 and 80 meters hit all-time highs. N4PN had 96 countries on 160! It wasn't so long ago that 96 countries on 80 was an outstanding effort.

In October of 2005, just before the SSB contest, CQ WW certificates which had been in arrears were brought up to date. Thanks to Barry, W5GN, for his support and hard work to help clear the decks.

The percentage of electronically submitted logs was again about 95%! The CQ WW Contest Committee thanks all the entrants who took the time to submit their log electronically via the CQWW robot. Your effort to submit an electronic log allows for a fairer adjudication process. No matter how small your log, please send it to the CQ WW robot. It is easy. Send your CW log to <cw@cqww.com> (SSB to <ssb@cqww.com>). Send your log in Cabrillo format, which all the logging programs will create as an output. If you did everything okay, you will get back an acknowledgment and a tracking number. This tracking number is *not* the same as the password needed to access your UBN report. We will send your password sometime in the spring. If there was something wrong with your log submission, you will get a message telling you what to do to correct the error. You can then resubmit your log to the same above addresses. If you still are having trouble, contact <questions@cqww.com> for help. We will be happy to assist you.

The CQWWCC provides many ways for an entrant to check his/her log for category, club, operator, and score accuracy long before the final results are published. The logs-received list showing your category and the UBN list listing your final score are two ways you can interact with the CQWWCC before final printing (cqww.com). Thanks to the input from several entrants, corrections were made to their final scores. All these efforts help to make the results as accurate as possible.

Please remember that receiving help to find multipliers (using the DX Summit, for example) or QSOs places you in the Assisted category. Having a person help you at your operating location places you in a Multi

EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CU2A	255/15/60	970/22/83	1754/27/97	1455/29/107	1782/30/108	103/14/44
CT8T	181/11/51	710/21/81	1753/32/113	1453/33/109	1205/32/100	52/14/34
ER4DX	377/8/52	840/26/96	1586/36/132	1876/37/127	313/33/104	54/8/24
S50A	152/16/56	766/25/73	1063/31/100	1076/32/109	658/34/93	48/18/40
TM6X	126/13/53	752/18/85	984/27/99	986/28/79	722/33/109	36/12/24
GD6IA	559/12/57	1035/21/86	1149/27/98	1286/27/90	477/28/88	79/8/25
MW5A	189/9/46	648/17/77	1029/26/96	1583/31/95	512/29/76	25/5/10
DL3YM	240/12/56	708/18/78	1129/30/109	1053/29/83	418/31/95	23/7/14
G3TXF	296/14/54	621/19/75	729/21/84	1558/31/92	358/24/70	67/11/26
ES5TV	440/19/62	764/23/81	772/27/82	1339/31/91	458/28/84	57/8/24

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

OM7M	178/21/76	882/29/114	1523/37/146	1451/35/140	610/37/139	61/18/60
EI7M	442/17/74	1448/28/107	1311/29/121	2077/36/132	914/34/121	38/8/24
OM8A	241/18/79	554/26/108	1560/38/143	1458/39/142	731/37/135	100/19/60
G6PZ	288/18/72	865/26/108	1380/33/120	1980/37/127	555/35/133	30/11/30
OK5W	176/19/73	1023/31/118	1272/38/146	1297/38/140	493/36/125	65/18/65
TM2Y	234/18/79	773/26/105	1380/36/136	1472/39/135	634/35/127	66/13/37

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

RU1A	844/28/95	1879/35/131	1924/38/151	2104/39/144	583/37/142	174/17/49
EA6IB	646/19/76	1662/28/111	1919/36/137	2096/38/135	1233/36/136	131/18/55
9A7A	749/17/72	1535/29/112	2357/36/141	1799/36/134	899/36/140	101/19/44
IR4X	330/16/77	1438/29/113	1854/39/137	1762/38/146	1006/36/135	83/20/62
UU7J	504/18/78	1265/29/110	2202/39/152	2000/38/145	1000/36/131	85/17/39
HG6N	494/14/69	1021/26/105	1518/36/141	1745/37/136	870/37/137	100/14/43

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

LZ9W	883/15/71	2046/32/120	2713/37/149	2591/38/147	1255/37/146	111/19/51
DQ0Q	1124/20/88	2071/32/119	2676/38/154	1993/38/145	606/37/136	310/20/69
RW2F	1378/24/90	1780/28/113	2209/38/147	1953/37/136	611/36/142	161/13/52
DF0CG	827/14/72	1876/32/121	2186/38/150	1926/39/143	763/36/142	142/18/61
YT6A	586/17/74	1167/27/98	2192/38/140	2392/37/138	927/36/115	92/18/42
R1MVC	1629/21/82	2558/29/114	2235/35/113	1732/31/116	345/25/85	9/4/7

category. If you are single operator in any category, you cannot receive help in any way from another person. The use of packet to self-spot is also against the rules. There is nothing wrong with coming across a station and spotting it, but self-spotting is against the rules. The CQ WW provides a great opportunity to work new countries and prefixes. Everyone is counting on the other person to act in an honest manner, yielding true winners in all the categories.

Thanks

Thanks to the members of the CQ WW Contest Committee. Their hard work helped to resolve submission problems, validate the winners and provided insight into many contesting topics: K1DG, K3WW, K3ZO, KR2Q, N2AA, N2NC, N3ED, N6ZZ, N9RV, W3ZZ, K1AR, KM3T, KT3Y, N5TJ, W5OV, K6AW, W5GN, and N8BJQ. The DX advisors offered advice and help to sort out problem logs: CT1BOH, EA3DU, F6BEE, G3SXW, I2UIY, JE1CKA, OH2KI, OH2MM, PY5EG, S50A, UA9BA, VA7RR, VE3EJ, RA3AUU, E21EIC. A special thanks to Dick, N6AA; Larry, N6TW; and Phil, N6ZZ, who spent countless hours to make the CQWW as accurate as possible. The CQWW uses the software developed by Tree, N6TR. Additional software provided by WT4I was used. The CQ WW records are maintained by John, N2NC, and K3EST. Barry, W5GN, helped provide software which produced the details of the final results and certificates.

Congratulations to all the winners and entrants! CU in the 2006 WW DX contests! 73, Bob, K3EST

TOP SCORES IN VERY ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3	N2NT.....5,143,683	*9A5K.....2,534,280
N6CW/7.....2,509,784	VY2TT.....4,966,176	YL2KO.....2,375,520
W7RN.....2,265,417	W1KM.....4,548,425	HABA.....2,104,832
K7GK.....1,902,865	K1ZZ.....4,169,056	
K6XX.....1,406,898	AA1K/3.....3,844,272	Zone 16
W6PH.....1,288,560	VO1AU.....3,744,921	ER4DX.....5,806,866
W2VJN/7.....1,023,960	N2LT.....3,614,850	RW1ZA.....2,241,296
VE7UF.....974,700	WC1M.....3,514,037	RW3GU/3.....2,229,400
WA7LT.....774,630		UA3QDX.....2,027,400
N7TT.....767,988	Zone 14	*UA4FER.....1,755,890
K7ZZ.....758,016	CU2A.....7,915,656	*UR5HAC.....1,671,824
	CT8T.....6,374,362	RT3T.....1,443,420
Zone 4	*CT6A.....4,730,157	UW5U.....1,399,648
VE3EJ.....4,721,808	TM6X.....4,290,840	UA4CCG.....1,198,880
VC3O.....4,280,916	GD6IA.....4,158,378	*RN6FA.....1,175,094
W9RE.....3,907,904	MW5A.....4,063,103	
N2IC/5.....3,348,750	DL3YM.....3,917,702	Zone 25
VE3EY.....3,323,781	G3TXF.....3,682,949	JH4UYB.....4,160,646
*VE3DZ.....2,313,036	EA5FV.....3,116,265	JF1SQC.....2,176,850
WX0B/5.....1,730,099	GM0F.....2,491,314	JE1CKA.....1,880,016
*N5AW.....1,644,186		JH7XGN.....1,299,293
K0EU.....1,596,062	Zone 15	*JH8SLS.....749,436
*VE3JM.....1,474,083	S50A.....4,752,033	*J11RXQ.....736,452
W5VX.....1,395,456	ES5TV.....3,581,200	JA7DLE.....663,336
K0SR.....1,359,694	OH0E.....3,534,100	*JH2NWP.....597,402
	OL8R.....3,137,913	JA1JKG.....530,140
Zone 5	OH1F.....2,822,175	JF3CCN.....505,042
K5ZD/1.....6,900,552	9H1ZA.....2,807,872	
K3CR.....5,287,744	SP4Z.....2,743,227	

* Low Power

DX QRM

Most interesting adventure! Thanks for the QSOs! ... **3DA8NW**. This is a great contest that everybody can enjoy ... **4S7RS**. Great. First use of 5Z4LS since left Kenya in 1970. Higher bands hard work, especially with 19 hr power cut. Worked from hired car when no AC power, hand logging ... **5Z4LS**. First time out in the low power section. The great advantage was that it kept the temperature down to a reasonable level. Good condx helped a lot here at 64 degrees north ... **7S2E**. I'm slow on CW, trx for QRS. I operated few hours in the afternoon on 20m with 100w and a wire vertical from Gozo Island EU-023. ... **9H3LEO**. Nice contest from Bhutan ... **A52CDX**. It was fun. Limited working conditions. Only a homebrew fishing rod was used during the contest, and propagation on high bands was fair. See you next year ... **B4TB**. Contesting, beach walks, and cinnamon rolls in paradise. What a life! ... **C6AGY**. SO2R rocked!! Tks to my father for helping with the antennas and CT1BOH for WX0B box ... **CT6A**. Again a lot of fun! Despite the bad conditions on 10m and 15m I worked QRP-DXCC (in total 105 entities). Surprising the many U.S. and Caribbean stations who copied my QRP signal on 40m, some even on 80m! VY2ZM copied my 5 watts on 160m on first call ... **DK5WL**. Conditions pretty good this year except 10m which was nearly dead; only some very short openings or perhaps everybody thought that the band was dead and didn't try to activate it! ... **F6FTB**.

As disappointing as 15 was, and truly pathetic as 10 was, they were made up for by the stunning low band conditions. I have never before worked ZL or the U.S. West Coast on 80! 20 was great too, though it closed early. This contest is the high point of the operating year for many, and more fun than I have doing anything else in radio. Thank you to the committee for organising it. Thanks also to G3LET for letting me use his station for the weekend, and to everyone for the QSOs ... **G0RTN**. Best ever CW entry for own





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personal record! Conditions on LF bands good, nil on 10m this time (well only few!). Need more energy, but not too bad for a 76 year old! . . . **GW3JXN**. First time with 5 watts and 3-element Yagi on 10-15-20 meters and FD-4 Windom on 40/80 meters. Amazing what can be achieved with 5 watts and a Yagi! Wonderful contest, good conditions . . . **HB9CBR**. Surprising opening on 160 near my dawn. I heard and worked many NW EU stations . . . **HS0ZDJ**. Military exercises started the night before the contest and I was not permitted to use the telescopic aluminium tower, hidden in the mountains, in the area of manoeuvres. Forget the Mediterranean sunshine. The rain had washed away access to the mountaintop /p operating position so I had to operate from a beach. Then a brand new IC706MkIIIG (purposefully purchased for the contest) died a couple of hours after the beginning of the contest. What can I say? Cu next year! . . . **J45A**.

The openings on 10m were very limited from JA8, but we did our best especially for 80 and 20m mults as we spent more time on the bands and chased new ones. It certainly was a lot of fun. Thanks to our all operators, but me, who came all the way from JA1! . . . **JA8RWU**. Superb conditions, and a new Oceania 40m record. Aloha . . . **KH7X (KH6ND)** With only 100 watts I must say the guys had really good ears this time. USA on 80m? Wow! . . . **LA1PHA**. Great contest again. Condx were weird though. 40m never really opened towards NA and the important Caribbean mults were very hard to get. 15m produced some good mults but no run whatsoever. 10m was almost dead. Some of the mults we made on 10m were pure luck, as the signals were really weak with peaks lasting a few seconds or less. Low bands were great, with one juicy mult after the other! Happy to work you all in the contest! . . . **LN8W**. Conditions were much better than expected and

working alone, set myself a slow target of 200 QSOs and was happy to achieve that comfortably and get a few new DXCC and IOTA call signs. Looking forward to the next one already . . . **MBOIC**. My first opportunity to operate a contest from DX location. A different perspective from stateside operation, in that you are always in-demand and create a pile-up each time you call CQ. Many thanks to the members of Radio Club Peruano for their support and the use of the station . . . **OC40 (W0TT)**. Super! About 3 ft fresh snow outside, a warm contest room. Best to do a relaxed contest . . . **OE8CCQ**. I am not favouring single band operations but this time even getting an 80m quarter-wave vertical up was a challenging job. Sometimes the autumn stormy waves swept over the rocks. Glad to be able to give a multiplier and sometimes a new country to so many. However on single band I was badly missing the challenge and excitement of moving mults and timing the band changes. Missing those two elements one feels more like a spectator in a contest than a contestant . . . **OJ8B (OH2PM)**. This is a special call of PI4NWX, Veron Afd. Nieuwegein. Had great fun with QRP. Thank you for a nice contest . . . **PI6BNWG**. First CQWW CW out of W7 land, what a great time I took my youngest son and his girlfriend with me, decided on doing a 15m, low power entry, so when the band folded, we all could go out in the evenings and check out the island nightlife! All in all, we had a great time, and will probably be back next year, but maybe a 20m effort. Need more action! . . . **PK7/K7ZUM**. Congratulations to all of the Multi-2 stations, especially EA6IB and IR4X. It's the competition from fine teams that get us fired up year after year . . . **RU1A**. Now I have reached 60 years of age but will work this contest as long as I can see, hear, or even stand up. It is great to participate in the world's largest concert! . . . **SM3C**. The team was composed of CW operators and some others who are learning the code. Once more it was a pleasure to enter in this contest even if the propagation on 10m is so poor. We missed some openings time to time but for sure we will improve the station and the operators for the next one . . . **TM4Q**.

Every time when I take part in CQWW DX I'm astonished how my weak signal (5w) is received, rather good so far. What good antennas, apparatus, and operators are there! . . . **UT5UQV**. Ah, if only it could be like this all year round! . . . **VK6HG**. 10 watts working from car! Finally battery is out and car cannot move . . . **YC3MM**. Good conditions from near Egypt. Surprised to hear two other /MMs in zone 34. Whole station (including antenna) only 8 kg! . . . **ZC4LI**.

CLUB SCORES

DX	
Bavarian Contest Club	232,211,460
Rhein-Ruhr DX Association	137,816,881
Contest Club Ontario	89,723,652
Contest Club Finland	60,994,332
World Wide Young Contesters	55,965,351*
Russian Contest Club	53,255,010
Ural Contest Group (UA9)	49,328,221
Araucaria DX Group (PY5)	38,459,354
YU Contest Club	34,037,785
Chiltern DX Club (G)	31,483,424
Croatian Contest Club	30,430,809
Slovenian Contest Club	30,219,594
Tikiriki Contest Club (I)	28,600,499
Kaunas Technology Univ RC	26,003,075
Madeira Contest Team (CT3)	28,373,115
UA2 Contest Club	24,839,926
Ukrainian Contest Club	24,561,865
LBCC (OM)	22,346,871
VK Contest Club	21,546,933
SP DX Club	21,423,284
Lithuanian Contest Group	18,681,164
Crimean Contest Club	16,660,387
Maritime Contest Club (VE)	16,418,375
East Coast Canada Contest Club	14,948,556
Tartu Contest Team (ES)	14,828,198
South Ural Contest Club	13,832,681
Latvian Contest Club	13,129,172
Moscow Contest Club	12,974,496
HA DX Club	12,858,047
Low Land Crazy Contesters (PA)	12,713,087
Austrian Contest Club	12,186,398
Sky Contest Club (YU)	11,662,641
Lima Alpha Contest Club (LA)	10,361,243
KKKK (UA6A)	10,286,006
British Columbia DX Club	9,629,102
Bashkortostan DX Club (RA9W)	9,288,203
LDXG (F)	7,759,794
Tupy DX Group (PY)	7,479,378
Marconi Contest Club (I)	6,964,766
Orenburg RC (UA9S)	6,879,534
Israel ARC	6,778,396
Central Siberia DX Club (UA0A)	6,775,230
Z30M Contest Team	6,715,668
LU Contest Group	5,423,932
Kiev Contest Group	5,401,827
Lynx DX Contest (EA)	5,189,908
Vrhniko Contesters (S5)	5,113,477
ATCC (EY)	5,014,930
ARUK (EX)	4,998,320
DXXE (XE)	3,671,918
GACW (LU)	3,316,046
Brimham Contest Group (G)	3,248,419
Bosnia-Herzegovina Contest Club	3,027,197
Guara DX Contest (PY7)	2,651,989
Kherson RC (UR-H)	2,536,227
Ivanovo DX Club (UA3U)	2,507,829
Top of Europe Contesters (SM)	2,475,736
Belarus Contest Club	2,467,700
Alberta Clippers (VE6)	2,404,949
Yamal Radio Club (UA9K)	2,387,128
Kemerovo Radio Club (UA9U)	2,005,562
Danish DX Group	1,957,391
Moscow City Radio Club	1,948,382
Fox Contest Club (YU)	1,828,564
Radio Club Costa Rico	1,822,807
Akmolinskiy Radio Club (UN)	1,793,681
Perrn Club (UA9F)	1,492,910
Temirtau Contest Club (UN)	1,253,574
MRC (UA6Y)	1,237,266
Bristol Contest Group (G)	1,214,087
Omsk Region RC (UA9M)	1,205,573
Amsterdam DX Contest Club	1,133,980
Uirapuru DX Club (PY8)	1,126,156
South German DX Group	1,124,536
YO DX Club	1,079,302
ALRS (UA1)	1,073,170
Banat DX Group (YU7)	1,064,712
YO5KAD Club	1,002,170
Koryazhma DX Company (UA10)	995,542
SP Contest Club	888,907
Siam DX Group	850,170

Belokranjec Club (S5)	801,063
Argo (US-I)	810,697
Parma Club (UA9X)	721,982
Serpuhov Radio Club (UA3D)	666,563
Bracknell ARC (G)	643,366
Czech Contest Club	592,059
Dozen Dashes Contest Club (OM)	579,457
RAST (HS)	576,036
ARM (ER)	553,178
RZ4AWA Club	448,825
Novio Magum DX Group (PA)	395,265
Radiosporting Team Vaaj (OH6)	361,076
Radio Club Vologna (UA1Q)	361,054
LKK (UR-W)	331,711
Podolsk Radio Club (UA3D)	326,479
Kirov RC (UA4N)	280,245
Kamchatka RC (UA0Z)	279,611
YO2KAR Club	276,846
Orel (UA3E)	240,805
Tokyo International ARA	235,174
Vladimir Radio Club (UA3V)	228,262
GM DX Group	200,778
Shakhan Contest Club (UA6A)	124,235
Amur (UA0C)	121,626
Paper DXers (JA)	109,657
University of Tokyo Contest Club	106,152
Parnu RC (ES8)	51,851
YU DX Club	47,493
SP5PSL Club	44,478
Nikolaev (UR-Z)	30,164

*Listed for completeness, however, not within Club rules.

USA

Yankee Clipper Contest Club	291,818,776
Frankford Radio Club	270,969,017
Potomac Valley Radio Club	145,414,737
Southern California Contest Club	65,457,881
Northern California Contest Club	53,588,712
North Coast Contesters (W3)	53,368,416
Central Arizona DX Association	53,027,550
Florida Contest Group	42,559,145
Mad River Radio Club (W8)	33,779,344
Southeast Contest Club (W4)	28,873,413
Society Midwest Contesters	27,551,622
Tennessee Contest Group	24,921,750
Minnesota Wireless Association	24,589,534
Western Washington DX Association	24,147,713
Central Texas DXCC	20,800,555
Hudson Valley DXCC	19,422,409
North Texas Contest Club	18,999,112
Willamette Valley DX Club (W7)	12,308,355
Rochester DX Association (W2)	9,419,809
Grand Mesa Contest Club (W0)	5,664,364
Mother Lode DXCC (W6)	4,097,659
Kentucky Contest Group	3,431,264
CT RI Contest Group	3,080,490
Low Country Contest Club (W4)	2,971,014
Spokane DX Association	2,847,214
Utah DX Association	2,082,821
Albuquerque DX Association	1,476,745
North Carolina DXCC	1,357,059
Salt City DX Association (W2)	1,342,144
Texas DX Society	1,074,626
Order of Boiled Owls of NY	940,321
Northern Illinois DX Association	906,393
Carolina DX Association	862,007
Central Oregon DX Club	826,934
Bay Area Wireless (W9)	824,333
Northern Arizona DX Association	795,538
Utah's Dixie DX & Contest Club	649,752
Kansas City DX Club	599,357
Northeast Wisconsin DX Club	586,723
South Jersey DX Association	576,514
West Park RadioOps (W8)	534,441
Bergen ARA (W2)	524,114
Southeastern DX Club	343,924
South Texas DXCC	302,255
Western NY DX Association	216,397
Metro DX Club (W9)	150,374
Florida DX Expedition Group	73,962
Redmond Top Key Contest Club (W7)	19,059
Caribbean Contesting Club (W7)	8,283

USA QRM

Lost AC power 2 hours before the end of the contest, so I missed the part I like the most. Other than that the bands were great and had a great time making a lot of contacts. Thanks to everyone who gave me a call . . . **AD5VJ**. Thanks to Jeff, K4JNY, and Scott, W4PA, for letting me play with the toys. Always a great contest! . . . **K0EJ**. Had a great time on the low bands . . . **K0RF**. Only operated a few hours because I had family visiting from out of town. Worked some rare DX from SE Asia late on Sunday, but never heard the 4W3ZZ, which would have made DXCC 330 for me . . . **K1KD**. Special thanks to PZ5C, YL0A, and others who would not give up pulling my call sign out of the noise. Stations should get bonus points for taking the extra time to work the low power stations . . . **K2TA**. Amazing low bands. Never would have expected to make so many QSOs on 80m! . . . **K5ZD**. Climbing the tower in a snow storm to fix a cable was a welcome break . . . **KE2WY**. Like pulling teeth to get some QSOs, but then got 5Z1A on one call. Go figure these weird cndx these days! . . . **KS7T**. Great low band conditions! JA's S9 on 80, wow! . . . **KT0R**. My best time was when I was close to dozing off Saturday night, the dial slowly turning in sleepy fingers, then OJ0B! No pileup! Two calls and they were mine, then just down the dial a short piece R1MVC, the same, no pileup! Okay, so not everything was perfect, as couldn't land 8Q7DV (sigh) . . . **N2WN**. Amazing what you can score when you actually have time to operate! My highlights were contacting 5Z1A on the first try and working HC8N on four bands (including 40, which is surprising given my low power rig and dipole up around 30 feet!) Hopefully I'll be able to improve on my score in the years to come! . . . **N4HXI**. Great time, proving that 100w + homebrew ground mounted 20m vertical and limited operating time can burst into pileups (Mali and Kenya) . . . **W2BEE**. Got amp working 1 hour before contest. Whew! That was close . . . **W3HVQ**. Only QRM was the RFI from my son's plasma TV. It's gotta go! . . . **W5LEW**. Somehow I got it in my head to operate in major contests using only homebrew valve equipment. I had three breadboards connected together for the transmitter and another three for the receiver. The equipment worked well; it was the antennas that were poor. 30 to 50 mile na hour winds and driving rain. So much for antennas . . . **W7DRA**. Just a few hours to play on low bands. Nice to hear the Caribbean coming in so well . . . **W09S**. Casual holiday weekend event, good fun, and good to see 20m and low bands so good! . . . **WX3B**.

Number groups after call letters denote following: Band (A - all), Final Score, Number of QSOs, Zones, and Countries. An asterisk (*) before a call indicates low power. Certificate winners are listed in bold. (All country terminology reflects the DXCC list at the time of the contest.)

**2005 CW RESULTS
SINGLE OPERATOR
NORTH AMERICA**

UNITED STATES				
K5ZD/1	A	6,900,552	3749	141 507
W1KM		4,548,425	2987	125 428
K1ZZ		4,169,056	2459	134 474
WC1M		3,514,037	2414	120 403
K1DG		3,463,450	2326	125 440
W1WFF		3,428,532	2402	115 409
K5MA/1		1,941,708	1643	99 327
AA1ON		1,915,208	1709	104 320
K1ND		1,187,122	1132	94 300
W1AA		823,109	751	97 316
W1ECT		692,736	740	85 267
K1RU		681,462	905	79 210
KQ2M/1		640,485	1105	55 160
W1RZF		412,830	589	71 226
W1ZT		303,044	432	68 206
W1FM		279,524	425	68 200
N3KCA/1		263,529	435	66 201
WA1T		237,244	349	64 195
W3IZ/1		212,364	410	70 236
W1ZK		202,686	314	72 177
W1TD		103,930	217	54 136
W6KOK/1		84,816	206	51 135
W1ZS		70,176	198	35 101
W1WFF		57,824	177	42 97
N1KWF		1,120	15	13 15
W1OHM	14	8,802	79	15 39
K3FN/1	7	83,479	266	30 106
W1MK	3.5	380,365	1138	28 99
W1HI		42,686	189	18 78
W7OT/1		27,571	147	14 65
*N1UR	A	2,129,919	1746	102 371
*WA1S		1,683,068	1310	105 362
*W1JQ		1,073,852	927	94 334
*K1HT		834,771	789	92 289
*W2JU/1		727,112	706	87 301
*W1EQ		613,664	735	71 231
*WA1LNP		588,665	633	87 298
*N1DC		395,063	542	69 220
*K1EP		386,130	511	75 230
*K1IB		346,086	483	74 232
*W1KT		301,928	402	72 220
*K1SE		271,679	398	64 199
*N1PGA		224,775	407	59 166
*K1YSJ		221,792	355	61 171
*K1ZE		165,375	284	59 166
*AK1Q		133,352	303	56 155
*AE1T		115,379	239	53 134
*KB1T		115,374	241	57 144
*K2KQ/1		112,435	216	55 144
*W1END		101,728	214	49 138
*N1DS		82,984	225	53 131
*W1BYH		74,820	198	63 142
*K1BD		51,612	169	43 95
*K1KAV		45,724	120	46 96
*AE1D		38,194	138	34 79
*KD6NA/1		28,500	86	41 84
*AA1TV		19,116	94	21 60
*KA1VMG		580	22	12 17
*AA1ZT	28	2,277	44	10 23
*K1PX	1.8	5,130	62	11 27
N2NT	A	5,143,683	3066	132 481
N2LT		3,614,850	2345	123 431
W2RU		2,401,152	1847	107 374
K2TW		2,114,439	1736	101 342
N2MM		1,821,625	1589	114 361
W2LC		1,817,436	1532	105 348
K2NV		1,701,776	1236	113 383
WE2F		1,292,238	1593	74 232
N2RM		1,191,630	1300	82 248
K2FU		986,309	865	91 346
W2YK		736,950	648	91 334
K2XF		590,769	612	83 286
AJ3K/2		521,248	543	96 268
K2UOP		477,819	561	88 259
WA2VYA		447,535	563	92 268
N2ED		370,856	539	85 222
KA2MGE		322,620	434	79 204
N2MR		289,157	401	70 201
KE2WY		272,052	394	83 214
K2UG		139,494	352	78 269
WB2HJV		139,490	296	57 128
KW2J		132,486	285	55 155
W2TN		131,157	327	71 176
WB2TPS		64,962	152	46 116
W2FUI		59,845	165	44 116
N2VM		20,298	117	32 70
K2SOS		17,745	77	35 70
WB2JEP		12,727	93	31 58
K2BA	21	128,742	380	25 104
N2MF	7	386,078	1002	34 127
N2GC	3.5	112,100	356	23 95
K2TA		33,180	158	12 67
WF2W	1.8	18,207	196	12 51
N2OO		4,477	50	8 29
K2YR		1,232	20	7 15
*K2PS	A	1,465,380	1258	99 321
*N2A		498,385	577	83 296
*N2CN		430,122	503	79 264
*WB2AA		381,193	488	71 222
*K2EK		360,678	507	65 217
*A1Z2		295,475	432	65 200
*K2JF		258,263	383	63 208
*K1U2N		230,160	371	60 180
*W2GDJ		200,704	337	62 162
*WB2WPM		184,005	329	64 171
*WA2YSJ		179,169	334	64 184
*W2CVW		168,586	285	69 206
*KM2L		119,751	260	48 131
*AK2P		113,953	234	62 161
*K2CS		93,034	211	54 127
*W2TZ		90,900	236	37 113
*W2BEE		66,176	214	35 93
*W2NRA		46,357	122	49 102
*WW2P		32,860	110	43 81
*N2ZN		32,010	117	37 73
W3PT		501,847	485	92 341
W3IQ		386,687	582	61 198
N3KR		359,856	461	66 228
N3RJ		337,243	579	76 217
N3ST		320,334	504	67 196
K3TM		215,866	350	60 178
W3RJ		209,721	489	42 117
W3KV		190,694	380	54 166
W3DF		184,992	287	68 178
W4ZE/3		184,728	301	61 197
W3HVQ		120,120	306	57 153
K2LNS/3		85,305	224	41 100
WM3O		3,450	35	21 29
WA3AAN	14	89,609	305	23 90
NJ3C		17,686	112	18 56
W3FOE		2,112	57	12 32
K3GV	7	39,372	162	24 78
N3RW		30,783	161	21 72
K3JGJ	3.5	66,229	258	18 85
NA3M		53,500	203	22 85
NS3T		15,075	116	12 55
K3WGR		1,050	54	8 34
W3GH	1.8	25,120	154	17 83
*K3AU	A	1,005,488	984	90 304
*WW3S		432,866	476	93 250
*K3MSB		320,665	426	73 222
*W3IUJ		193,856	313	66 167
*K3ASK		172,317	440	54 159
*N3HCN		154,125	295	63 162
*N3WT		130,269	274	46 127
*W3AP		89,544	232	56 126
*K3STX		66,993	161	46 117
*AB3AI		56,518	153	50 104
*WR3H		52,734	168	43 98
*K3CB		17,632	178	42 110
*N3NZ		14,630	97	26 51
*AE3J		5,467	61	33 44
*K3QC		5,160	38	24 37
*K1EFL/3	14	55,762	204	20 78
*K3VA		50,160	212	18 70
*N3GE	7	120	10	4 6
*W3NO	3.5	30,841	144	16 76
*K3MQ	1.8	780	95	8 22
K4ZW	A	4,445,562	2787	127 452
N2YD/4		3,298,482	2581	118 368
N4GN		2,089,464	1423	131 412
W4RX		1,917,770	1513	119 374
K3ZM/4		1,795,380	1520	106 354
K4RO		1,730,898	1353	116 391
WJ9B/4		1,481,827	1639	99 284
K4SV		1,131,944	1025	100 318
K1GU/4		1,068,960	975	101 307
W4QM		1,059,312	870	106 358
N4TB		1,019,676	916	103 324
W9WI/4		979,116	878	101 316
W6NWS/4		924,148	772	105 358
KU8E/4		923,680	826	110 350
AA4NN		913,800	1400	72 228
N4TX		18,836	110	25 62
WA4GLH		8,732	99	33 41
K4CC		5,715	50	11 34
N4BP	28	6,498	121	13 25
K4QAD	21	159,372	517	25 89
K1UM/4		77,470	284	26 101
K4RV		45,408	141	28 104
N4ZZ	14	512,968	1292	33 115
K9OM/4		488,228	1179	36 128
K4RDU		103,334	301	27 95
N2TU/4		91,008	272	27 101
W4ZYT		72,048	254	25 89
K4XS	7	600,066	1489	36 117
KBEJ/4		347,602	1054	33 118
WF3J/4		101,184	306	27 97
N4NW		83,212	278	32 110
AA4VV		78,804	256	27 105
K4SB		28,614	160	29 85
AD4Z	3.5	79,492	283	25 94
N2WN/4		74,368	263	22 90
N3UA/4		58,266	211	23 94
K4DLJ		12,596	83	12 55
N4GU		1,209	26	9 22
N4PN	1.8	136,653	581	27 96
*KJSD/4		36,630	255	49 116
*N4DXI		35,960	127	37 87
*K4VB		32,604	119	45 87
*K4JAF		32,430	113	46 92
*W3TB/4		32,256	116	38 74
*AJ4U		29,283	172	43 86
*WA4OSD		28,272	111	37 77
*AA4KD		25,389	126	39 78
*W4PFM		24,698	105	40 66
*K3MZ/4		23,220	100	35 73
*W4TDB		21,168	91	37 71
*N4UH		20,544	86	36 60
*K4BX		19,800	97	31 57
*K4LW		15,756	78	26 52
*N4JED		15,725	83	30 55
*N4NTO		13,608	71	28 53
*NN4DF		10,875	73	28 47
*WA4JDS		10,395	61	30 47
*KE4S		8,284	55	31 45
*WB4DNL		7,194	51	29 44
*W4DGG		5,448	47	21 33
*K8AJS/4		4,263	34	17 32
*AJ4JW		4,116	44	21 28
*WA4FX		2,460	28	16 25
*KA4AXS		1,260	29	9 21
*AJ2U/4		950	22	10 15
*W4BCG		898	17	8 16
*K4FTO		450	71	30 45
*K4DH		100	90	34 61
*AE4EC		100	42	21 33
*K4WI	28	5,360	56	12 28
*WB4TDH	21	132,618	350	28 110
*N4LJ	14	183,752	331	29 102
*N4PSE	7	56,448	219	24 74
*WA1FCU/4		49,839	205	27 84
*W9IXX/4		7,865	87	16 49
*KC4WQ		7,112	54	16 40
*WA2ASQ/4		5,624	57	13 35
*K4GM		2,280	28	8 22
*KR4OW	1.8	442	41	11 23
N2IC/5	A	3,348,750	2219	149 421
WX0B/5		1,730,099	1677	117 322
WSVX		1,395,456	1091	136 416
N5DD		1,180,472	981	123 349
N9MM/5		1,065,672	830	118 374
WSZD		567,600	598	105 295
W07Z/5		379,522	604	80 206
N5PA		307,260	430	67 203
W6TER/5		304,515	429	80 223
W6PU/5		301,688	450	93 204
NSZK		259,752	415	75 199
W5KI		179,336	299	62 170
W5WRL		100,854	296	71 163
N1SF		67,134	159	62 105
K0SJA		48,824	151	48 88
K7IA/5		36,031	132	53 84</

*AA6EE	101,550	262	65	116	KJ9C	444,624	539	81	233	YY2TT	A	4,966,176	3783	115	429	*XE1CT	81,696	608	24	50	ASIATIC RUSSIA							
*AC6WY	81,686	239	63	95	K9MA	294,492	425	71	182	VA2AM	28,676	128	45	89	*XE2TG	14,322	337	10	12	RA9SG	A	2,252,052	2148	104	319			
*W6RFF	70,446	185	71	106	W3HDH/9	244,528	352	70	202	VE2ZM	497,152	1664	28	100	PANAMA													
*N6YEU	61,306	159	53	98	K9BF	125,643	289	56	137	*VE2XAA	581,952	749	74	262	HP1/0A4WW	14	1,302,775	3503	35	120	UA9SP	A	1,900,743	1470	112	377		
*N6NG	51,766	162	49	94	K9BZ	71,166	161	57	117	*VE2AWR	459,984	748	64	195	*HP1AC	A	70,760	301	45	82	UA9KJ	A	1,108,424	1362	82	267		
*N3LQ6	21,712	94	39	53	W9VA	44,544	151	35	81	*VE2ZFR	251,944	775	39	115	PUERTO RICO													
*NK6A	20,655	105	33	52	W9GXR	25,927	104	37	74	*VE2ZFF	195,822	383	53	154	*WP3C	A	2,938,800	3383	98	297	RA9DZ	A	793,359	896	88	255		
*K6GES	14,904	84	32	40	W9SWS	21,375	97	41	84	*VE2ZGH	29,946	152	31	62	*NP3CW	A	161,040	911	39	81	RA9AC	A	700,936	836	68	260		
*N6RV	21	25,550	146	20	53	W9SAYW	13,416	81	25	53	VE3EJ	A	4,221,916	3491	135	429	ST. KITTS & NEVIS											
*K6CU	14	13,248	69	22	50	K2AAW/9	5,820	40	22	38	VE3EJ	A	4,280,918	3523	119	389	V47/AB2RF	A	122,268	640	26	66	RA9M	A	242,025	520	41	134
*K6GT	7	3,731	55	15	26	K3CAN	83,013	457	14	53	VE3EY	3,323,781	2968	117	362	ST. MAARTEN												
*W6PAP	7	19	4	1	1	K9CJ	98,814	305	30	99	VE3TA	1,137,402	1452	85	272	*PJ7/K7ZUM	21	277,447	1180	20	81	RA9UT	A	106,335	459	42	111	
N6CW/7	A	2,509,784	1715	144	412	W9OP	57,443	229	22	87	VE3XN	778,536	807	95	301	ST. VINCENT												
W7RN	A	2,265,417	1685	145	394	*K1TN/9	233,426	365	62	192	VE3CR	756,136	806	92	284	*J88DR	A	1,983,024	2484	90	286	RA9KX	A	68,440	207	38	107	
K7GK	1,902,865	1686	129	302	*K9JE	159,732	301	56	148	VE3KZ	397,761	1135	31	110	SAN ANDRES/PROVIDENCIA													
W2VJN/7	1,023,960	932	132	292	*AC9X	143,228	290	76	168	VE3RZ	21,533	161	15	46	*HK0FD	7	142,560	706	22	77	UA9TZ	A	14,763	130	12	45		
WA7LT	774,630	993	106	236	*W9UL	130,508	303	41	117	VE3MZ	33,000	357	11	39	U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS													
N7TT	767,968	910	106	245	*W9UM	64,261	192	53	126	VE3Z1	91,968	454	20	76	KP2TM	A	3,186,178	4232	97	256	RV9SA	A	203,280	1036	20	68		
K7ZZ	758,016	1133	93	195	*AJ9C	58,590	147	45	110	VE3PN	42,098	346	13	49	KP2/K3MD	1,501,620	2595	79	211	RV9AA	A	109,446	485	15	72			
K7ZA	626,202	685	108	234	*W9YO	53,878	166	53	105	*VE3JN	1,474,083	1602	94	293	KV4FZ	1.8	98,888	644	22	72	RV9QA	A	15,054	139	8	31		
K7BG	479,544	587	95	223	*W9VQ	32,096	114	36	82	*VE3NR	592,674	1230	77	230	AFRICA													
W7YS	267,786	404	84	177	*NGTJX	23,278	99	38	65	*VE3JW	792,188	958	72	186	AFRICAN ITALY													
N7RO	241,722	412	79	155	*K9JFC	19,680	98	22	66	*VE3JW	538,176	1250	77	236	*IH9GPI	A	3,780	45	10	25	*RA9AF	A	1,474,956	1492	86	292		
N7VJ	181,560	417	59	111	*W8RFB/9	17,608	106	28	56	*VE3JW	420,786	584	70	221	*IH9YMC	28	198	13	3	8	*UA9JLL	A	1,137,195	1259	76	257		
N7BF	137,416	290	64	129	*KB9OWD	11,440	74	28	52	*VE3JW	326,608	514	68	206	ZDBA	A	8,834,449	5028	140	471	*UA9AFS	A	830,340	1018	67	248		
K7LAZ	124,914	249	75	143	*W9ISC	5,824	58	18	38	*VE3JW	233,988	462	63	159	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9GJ	A	797,160	944	61	251		
W7QN	95,880	242	62	108	*K9DFM	5,444	46	27	34	*VE3JW	190,848	346	62	162	ASCENSION ISLAND													
W7HT	86,361	247	50	105	*N9LYE	4,539	52	23	28	*VE3JW	180,245	334	68	167	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9MOR	A	640,855	763	78	257		
N8GZ/7	79,335	221	84	131	*AD9T	2,336	31	12	20	*VE3JW	145,824	272	47	149	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9B	A	628,430	789	73	246		
K7RX	64,527	201	45	92	*N9MTT	1,802	36	22	31	*VE3JW	138,242	377	51	118	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9CBR	A	609,700	719	81	254		
W07T	48,015	147	55	110	*W9JUV	3,598	47	10	28	*VE3JW	110,700	297	48	116	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9XS	A	592,161	785	62	227		
KS7T	40,950	138	46	80	*N9XX	119,460	328	27	105	*VE3JW	63,420	217	48	92	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9RA	A	554,037	771	75	184		
NW7DX	12,265	112	26	29	*W9AEM	37,246	161	23	80	*VE3JW	41,004	167	46	88	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9WZ	A	546,960	981	74	234		
N6SS/7	6,909	62	19	28	*N9G8B	1,236	22	10	17	*VE3JW	37,315	209	24	61	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RK9CR	A	545,490	777	68	222		
W8TK/7	5,040	36	21	27	*W9LY	35,409	169	20	67	*VE3JW	15,614	77	23	51	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*R9BUX	A	460,719	642	60	229		
K8LJK/7	864	13	11	13	*K9UIY	20,448	112	23	62	*VE3JW	13,494	97	24	54	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9MOR	A	640,855	763	78	257		
N7CIX	10	3	3	3	K8EU	1,596,662	1459	119	323	*VE3JW	8,690	121	37	42	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9B	A	628,430	789	73	246		
W7UT	21	99,792	327	27	85	K8CAT	1,359,998	1108	114	379	*VE3JW	5,282	85	13	25	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9CBR	A	609,700	719	81	254	
W7AA	14	506,550	1120	38	127	K8CAT	898,998	872	101	292	*VE3JW	100	71	24	30	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9XS	A	592,161	785	62	227	
W7AYY	7	16	8	20	0	K8CAT	898,998	872	101	292	*VE3JW	6,075	60	15	30	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9WZ	A	546,960	981	74	234	
W6XU/7	7	51,156	191	32	94	K8CAT	898,998	872	101	292	*VE3JW	21	52,731	245	18	75	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RK9CR	A	545,490	777	68	222
K7RAT	3.5	75,915	350	27	78	K7RE/0	338,212	562	83	174	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*R9BUX	A	460,719	642	60	229	
W8AET/7	1.8	46,544	225	25	81	W8ZA	264,114	545	69	150	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9MOR	A	640,855	763	78	257	
W8AET/7	1.8	2,640	71	11	13	N8STL	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9B	A	628,430	789	73	246	
*N7ZG	A	258,630	458	72	150	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9CBR	A	609,700	719	81	254	
*W7QDM	A	179,850	355	71	147	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9XS	A	592,161	785	62	227	
*N8AX/7	A	179,444	312	76	150	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9RA	A	554,037	771	75	184	
*W8CP/7	A	179,444	312	76	150	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9WZ	A	546,960	981	74	234	
*N8TR	A	123,024	268	83	150	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RK9CR	A	545,490	777	68	222	
*W8AEM/7	A	111,758	254	60	113	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*R9BUX	A	460,719	642	60	229	
*N8M	A	105,468	247	61	126	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9MOR	A	640,855	763	78	257	
*N8OR	A	104,935	255	49	106	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9B	A	628,430	789	73	246	
*AB7RW	A	89,700	242	48	102	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9CBR	A	609,700	719	81	254	
*W7TMT	A	63,468	203	48	81	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*UA9XS	A	592,161	785	62	227	
*W7YAS	A	38,528	134	44	68	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW	2,739	38	12	21	*ZDBR	A	173,250	304	71	139	*RW9RA	A	554,037	771	75	184	
*W7HQ	A	31,633	125	53	76	K8UE	228,024	322	84	232	*VE3JW																	



...POWER ON WITH ASTRON

SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES...



MODEL SS-10TK



MODEL SS-12IF

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- HIGH EFFICIENCY SWITCHING TECHNOLOGY SPECIFICALLY FILTERED FOR USE WITH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, FOR ALL FREQUENCIES INCLUDING HF
- HEAVY DUTY DESIGN
- LOW PROFILE, LIGHT WEIGHT PACKAGE
- EMI FILTER
- MEETS FCC CLASS B

PROTECTION FEATURES:

- CURRENT LIMITING
- OVERVOLTAGE PROTECTION
- FUSE PROTECTION
- OVER TEMPERATURE SHUTDOWN

SPECIFICATIONS:

INPUT VOLTAGE: 115 VAC 50/60HZ
OR 220 VAC 50/60HZ
SWITCH SELECTABLE
OUTPUT VOLTAGE: 13.8VDC

AVAILABLE WITH THE FOLLOWING APPROVALS: UL, CUL, CE, TUV.



MODEL SS-18

DESKTOP SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SS-10	7	10	1 1/2 x 6 x 9	3.2
SS-12	10	12	1 1/2 x 6 x 9	3.4
SS-18	15	18	1 1/2 x 6 x 9	3.6
SS-25	20	25	2 1/4 x 7 x 9 1/2	4.2
SS-30	25	30	3 1/4 x 7 x 9 1/2	5.0



MODEL SS-25M

DESKTOP SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES WITH VOLT AND AMP METERS

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SS-25M*	20	25	2 1/4 x 7 x 9 1/2	4.2
SS-30M*	25	30	3 1/4 x 7 x 9 1/2	5.0



MODEL SRM-30

RACKMOUNT SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SRM-25	20	25	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	6.5
SRM-30	25	30	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	7.0

WITH SEPARATE VOLT & AMP METERS

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SRM-25M	20	25	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	6.5
SRM-30M	25	30	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	7.0



MODEL SRM-30M-2

2 ea SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES ON ONE RACK PANEL

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SRM-25-2	20	25	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	10.5
SRM-30-2	25	30	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	11.0

WITH SEPARATE VOLT & AMP METERS

MODEL	CONT. (Amps)	ICS	SIZE (inches)	Wt.(lbs.)
SRM-25M-2	20	25	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	10.5
SRM-30M-2	25	30	3 1/2 x 19 x 9 1/2	11.0



MODEL SS-12SM/GTX



MODEL SS-10EFJ-98

CUSTOM POWER SUPPLIES FOR RADIOS BELOW

- EF JOHNSON AVENGER GX-MC41
- EF JOHNSON AVENGER GX-MC42
- EF JOHNSON GT-ML81
- EF JOHNSON GT-ML83
- EF JOHNSON 9800 SERIES
- GE MARC SERIES
- GE MONOGRAM SERIES & MAXON SM-4000 SERIES
- ICOM IC-F11020 & IC-F2020
- KENWOOD TK760, 762, 840, 860, 940, 941
- KENWOOD TK760H, 762H
- MOTOROLA LOW POWER SM50, SM120, & GTX
- MOTOROLA HIGH POWER SM50, SM120, & GTX
- MOTOROLA RADIUS & GM 300
- MOTOROLA RADIUS & GM 300
- MOTOROLA RADIUS & GM 300
- UNIDEN SMH1525, SMU4525
- VERTEX — FTL-1011, FT-1011, FT-2011, FT-7011

NEW SWITCHING MODELS

- SS-10GX, SS-12GX
- SS-18GX
- SS-12EFJ
- SS-18EFJ
- SS-10-EFJ-98, SS-12-EFJ-98, SS-18-EFJ-98
- SS-12MC
- SS-10MG, SS-12MG
- SS-101F, SS-121F
- SS-10TK
- SS-12TK OR SS-18TK
- SS-10SM/GTX
- SS-10SM/GTX, SS-12SM/GTX, SS-18SM/GTX
- SS-10RA
- SS-12RA
- SS-18RA
- SS-10SMU, SS-12SMU, SS-18SMU
- SS-10V, SS-12V, SS-18V

CIRCLE 134 ON READER SERVICE CARD

*ICS - Intermittent Communication Service

*DL1DWR	24,964	216	18	61	JERSEY					*PABLOU	97,868	263	50	122	*SN6A	10,368	88	24	40	SARDINIA									
*DJ6TK	22,230	184	19	76	GJ2A	A	1,330,592	2091	80	264	*PA18X	55,566	283	39	113	*PA1BK	7,050	47	28	47	IS0NHQJ	A	5	129,936	2182	26	103		
*DL1EAL	3,654	67	8	34	KALININGRAD					*PA3CQE	48,792	245	36	116	*SP1MVK	7,020	113	48	87	IS0BU	1.8	125,019	1155	16	71				
*DK7FP	2,604	57	8	20	RK2FXG	3.5	5,100	140	5	29	*PA3FAW	44,187	290	29	114	*SP5EPP	6,615	91	17	52	(OP: DL5Y)								
*DB7MA	510	66	6	28	*RA2FAC	A	483,210	1185	65	230	*PA2ALF	40,484	265	23	93	*SP9OHL	6,270	99	13	53	IS0BHV	A	181,922	695	44	144			
*DK8IU	195	7	6	7	LATVIA					*PA3HGF	40,064	210	28	100	*SP3BGG	5,628	34	26	32	*IS0DMV	A	111,361	416	49	144				
*DC1LC	3.5	1,320	48	6	21	YL2KO	A	2,375,520	2546	135	453	*PE2AE	29,083	204	35	92	*SP8UFB	5,304	59	27	51	*IS0DVG	A	53,576	293	50	98		
*DL2YED	1.8	2,886	101	5	32	YL6W	A	1,862,580	1970	128	427	*PA3AFF	27,501	186	28	75	*SP7ENU	4,933	143	28	56	*IS0MKN	14	24,075	197	19	56		
GIBRALTAR					YL2PQ	A	1,332,834	2312	96	342	*PA3JMR	20,418	114	35	69	*SQ3DD	4,930	52	22	36	*IS0KXA	7	24,900	201	16	67			
ZB2X	3.5	423,291	2152	24	103	YL7A	A	160,000	659	36	124	*PA3CLD	10,878	144	19	79	*SP8DHJ	936	17	12	12	SCOTLAND							
GREECE					YL2PA	A	61,776	365	30	102	*PA3GDI	9,246	97	19	50	*S06ELV	28	484	22	7	15	GMBF	A	2,491,314	3143	114	369		
SV1ENG	A	727,664	2006	65	227	YL8A	3.5	364,119	1813	31	116	*PA3GDN	8,946	136	19	52	*SP3FYX	252	22	6	12	GM4SID	A	368,530	906	59	215		
SVBCRI	A	116,246	354	59	182	YL3GDO	A	66,483	694	16	67	*PA3GZ	4,750	135	21	56	*SP2GCE	21	22,690	136	26	59	GM3W	A	269,152	673	56	136	
J43J	14	373,176	1843	32	110	YL1S	1.8	57,624	584	15	67	*PA3HJ	4,350	115	15	43	*SP9DLY	22,184	146	27	67	GM4YXI	3.5	325,130	1755	29	101		
*SV1HEM	A	11,745	106	26	61	*YL2CV	A	640,770	1052	86	304	*PA3JED	14	110,548	465	27	89	*SP2EXN	17,962	130	30	74	GM5A	A	100,687	650	23	84	
*SV28OH	21	67,260	305	29	85	*YL3AD	A	191,345	606	54	191	*PG4I	21,386	164	12	55	*SP3FFF	6,000	56	20	33	GM6GAV	1.8	185,136	1109	23	93		
*J43F	14	166,532	943	30	94	*YL2CR	A	111,397	512	42	167	*PA7HPH	10,810	146	12	34	*SP2MHC	3,450	74	17	33	*GM7TUD	A	55,419	196	41	106		
*SV1RP	7	171,217	1227	27	104	*YL2IP	A	97,580	304	59	179	*PA5GU	3,905	140	10	24	*SP3AZD	2,998	65	21	35	*MM0BS	21	32,476	280	19	73		
GUERNSEY					*YL2PN	A	34,572	243	30	99	*PA1KW	1,000	19	7	12	*SP9ADV	2,108	30	14	17	*MM0BSM	A	12,000	110	12	48			
GU4YDX	3.5	182,600	1261	18	82	*YL2PP	A	14,110	121	19	64	*PA2KHS	7	4,095	83	9	30	*SP8BAE	158,653	638	32	113	*GM3CFS	1.8	70,233	407	21	84	
*ZUBGSY	A	245	32	10	25	*YL3GFT	21	91,296	291	32	112	*PA2CHM	7	3,327	104	9	34	*SP8ABV	125,936	428	30	106	*GM3YEH	1.8	5,736	103	6	43	
*MUBFAL	7	68,130	557	16	74	*YL5W	14	285,246	1078	35	124	NORWAY					*SP9UMJ	119,316	439	28	94								
HUNGARY					*YL3DX	7	84,000	726	21	79	LA7SI	A	79,234	287	49	124	*SP2JLR	48,925	262	24	71	IT9ZAU	A	91,010	902	25	70		
HABA	A	2,104,832	2256	119	393	*YL3RCU	A	34,030	364	16	67	LA2U	A	24,128	153	36	80	*S050	38,556	382	30	89	IT9LWP	21	27,520	259	22	58	
HA3LI	A	669,305	895	103	352	*YL2RM	A	1,160	52	7	22	LA5HE	7	124,533	601	31	106	*SP2JGK	15,120	134	16	47	*IT9ORA	A	561,384	1094	82	257	
HA9PP	A	224,750	472	84	206	LITHUANIA					LA8XM	7	49,731	189	33	104	*SP9QJ	14,403	236	11	53	*IT9ESW	7	18,825	263	17	58		
HG1R	14	540,423	2106	34	115	LY5R	A	1,946,880	2384	123	384	LA7THA	1.8	5,734	146	8	39	*SP8CUR	13,000	122	16	36	SICILY						
HABDU	7	711,666	2524	39	152	LY2MM	A	1,043,525	1460	102	343	*LA1YE	A	246,204	615	52	200	*S08JLU	10,258	126	12	34	OM6KW	A	791,538	1200	90	312	
HABKW	3.5	124,072	944	21	83	LY4CW	A	693,440	1253	84	310	*LA8OM	A	102,222	454	40	122	*S06XP	7,552	83	16	43	OM8AA	A	334,044	661	85	239	
HGBEU	A	6,498	207	8	49	LY1CX	A	419,870	592	84	263	*LA8CF	A	95,060	297	49	147	*S05EK	4,100	34	19	31	OM8M	3.5	413,472	1856	30	116	
HABBE	1.8	134,832	1094	22	84	LY2XW	A	373,014	835	72	234	*LA9DK	A	82,110	311	41	129	*SP1BE	2,406	94	8	23	(OP: OM8WR)						
*HA1ZH	A	507,967	879	98	255	LY3BU	A	336,978	900	63	228	*LA1PHA	A	54,600	254	32	98	*SN3X	7	233,064	1096	33	123	OM7RU	A	76,360	785	15	68
*HA6IAM	A	330,695	815	69	226	LY2BOS	A	184,788	575	54	182	*LA3ZA	A	48,438	184	34	128	*SP4TKR	55,516	688	33	125	OM4APD	A	8,415	202	7	38	
*HA3MD	A	253,176	490	67	207	LY2CO	A	65,469	380	35	104	*LB8AE	A	34,200	237	27	93	*SP5CNA	142,580	353	25	91	*OM8AO	A	775,544	1174	97	297	
*HA2NN	A	130,320	445	49	131	LY2NK	A	62,060	327	32	113	*LA7JKA	A	2,232	40	12	19	*SP5OJX	45,288	314	19	83	*OM7CA	A	650,830	1157	89	281	
*HABCO	A	119,200	368	57	143	LY2BW	7	35,025	464	17	58	*LA10DA	14	63,396	347	25	83	*SP6YF	15,760	148	21	80	*OM7CN	A	550,544	1120	70	234	
*HABLC	A	61,491	155	75	124	LY7M	3.5	347,652	1590	31	117	*LA6PB	1.8	12,863	218	11	53	*SP6RFB	13,944	170	17	67	*OM5NL	A	530,058	1008	81	253	
*HA7JJS	21	13,651	121	25	48	LY2KN	A	191,770	1011	26	101	*LA6PW	A	1,798	65	4	27	*SP2OMO	11,346	164	8	54	*OM2AK	A	472,164	959	73	235	
*HABUH	A	5,100	87	18	33	LY5A	A	138,575	901	20	95	SP4Z	A	2,743,227	2358	144	495	*SP2IU	11,330	189	16	57	*OM2AG	A	451,440	1067	61	224	
*HABUH	14	149,860	609	28	93	LY1DT	A	63,800	669	15	73	SP2OG	A	664,866	1230	92	295	*SP7FGA	11,330	189	16	57	*OM3PD	A	243,780	672	50	189	
*HA3MU	7	67,822	446	25	92	LY5G	A	52,338	598	12	66	SQ3A	A	123,216	325	55	149	*SP5BB	5,847	97	12	43	*OM3BA	A	242,580	673	56	174	
*HA1YI	1.8	10,149	196	7	44	LY2GW	A	51,528	606	11	67	SP5GH	A	86,923	216	70	224	*SQ3BDO	5,712	60	17	39	*OM3FC	A	207,450	629	52	203	
TF3CW	14	379,538	1700	22	87	LY4AX	A	21,708	296	10	57	SP1BBT	A	27,144	171	24	83	*SP9CQ	4,960	61	13	49	*OM7YC	A	200,031	552	56	167	
*TF3GB	A	182,160	498	42	142	LY2NL	A	2,665	62	7	34	SP7BDS	A	5,525	84	22	58	*SP4CJW	4,750	69	10	28	*OM4W	A	171,360	743	44	160	
IRELAND					LY2U	1.8	167,127	1185	24	89	SQ4MP	3.5	52,880	359	23	57	*SP6FJ	1,144	7	5	7	*OM1AF	A	152,352	498	47	160		
EI2JD	A	78,991	120	39	128	*LY9A	A	1,859,449	2063	11	610	SN3A	1.8	581,532	2138	35	126	*SP7EJ	5,940	169	9	45	*OM4DA	A	70,716	345	37	105	
EI4DW	A	45,024	157	43	125	*LY6A	A	1,092,183	1598	103	350	SN3B	1.8	581,532	2138	35	126	*SP7EXJ	5,940	169	9	45	*OM3GB	A	66,066	474	27	96	
*EI7CC	A	148,163	403	53	176	(OP: LY2BM)					SN3C	1.8	581,532	2138	35	126	*SQ3XR	5,354	65	4	25	*OM5AL	A	55,845	193	29	124		
*EI7JK	A	19,467	190	28	75	*LY2DV	A	409,734	1030	51	238	SN3D	1.8	581,532	2138	35	126	*SP7FPD	4,600	119	5	35	*OM7AT	A	34,627	403	37	81	
*EI9ES	A	7,178	94	16	58	*LY2DF	A	154,171	754	33	118	SP9DUX	1.8	10,528	219	7	40	*SQ3GNA	1,190	93	5	30	*OM7TL	A	3,992	94	21	56	
*EI9EJ	A	63,612	293	25	89	*LY3QA	A	126,525	596	37	138	SQ4MP	3.5	52,880	359	23	57	*SQ1EUG	2,600	33	3	12	*OM3CHL	A	5,986	161	15	58	
*EI9JN	A	18,103	306	18	54	*LY1BK	A	102,816	462	38	130	SN3E	1.8	581,532	2138	35	126	*SP8EUG	655	19	5	21	*OM3D	A	2,448	33	22	26	
*EI9DX	7	111,100	967	20	81	*LY2HK	A	102,036	679	33	99	SP88RQ	A	361,934	1479	30	116	*SP6M	1.8	9,860	164	10	48	*OM4AMA	A	1,872	120	20	58
ISLE OF MAN					*LY3CY	A	71,686	335	29																				

SNBA	21,508	202	20	56	K3PH	2,834,512	1762	122	456	WA7LNW	261,274	347	98	240	HZE	1,016,720	1120	80	275	DL1YD	957,249	1043	111	312
W6YJ	16,864	116	23	45	KQ3F	2,400,444	1647	111	413	K7ABV	185,592	349	66	143	(OP: 584AGE)					DL2MDZ	930,680	1145	109	330
PE2T	15,235	146	16	39	K3SV	2,211,900	1590	106	399	K7ZD	170,500	310	72	148					DL6KVA	852,555	803	119	416	
					W3FV	2,147,560	1511	119	411	W7SW	146,200	284	71	129					DF52V	699,504	902	102	354	
					NN3Q	2,001,976	1483	106	396	K7EG	135,474	329	63	138					DF5LV	659,610	1330	69	246	
					W3GM	1,167,950	873	115	382	K8BN7	119,232	230	55	137					(OP: DK3QZ)					
RX6LDK	11,956	139	13	48	(OP: K3ND)					NJ7I	64,719	154	54	99	JF2SKV	802,530	1106	120	213	DH0GHU	617,826	855	90	317
G10KYQ	10,935	79	9	27	WA3C	1,117,935	910	113	394	K7KR	62,016	151	55	97	JM1NKT	572,082	629	126	245	DJ3WE	576,030	976	100	322
JA40QX	7,560	174	18	18	W3BG	1,095,750	894	99	351	W7WHY	52,948	181	50	74	JA3PYC	231,422	366	91	160	DL4RCK	569,268	872	77	301
UA3AAP	6,630	106	11	39	K3NM	973,228	764	107	414	W6SA7	34,510	112	48	71	JA3YUI	72,468	199	77	106	DL2TJ	425,736	808	73	251
9A8MM	4,522	79	8	26	N3ZA	837,678	711	101	346	K6UM7	28,220	123	34	49	JA1XRH	60,710	190	54	76	(OP: NJ0IP)				
DG3MKD	3,604	60	10	24	W3GK	736,005	705	98	319	N7XY	26,765	113	42	59	JEDUR	41,652	138	47	70	DK3QJ	382,299	651	81	272
BA6QA	3,311	99	15	28	K3ZV	701,986	778	86	287	W4KDS7	1,044	19	12	17	JS1KQD	26,499	93	50	71	DL1EJA	382,044	525	80	236
JH8FAJ7	3,147	46	15	24	N3KN	587,478	616	81	277	K7DX	247,260	667	36	120	JG1VGX	4,400	43	23	27	DL4RCK	378,508	500	97	280
DF3SM	1,844	51	6	16	W3CC	293,696	333	87	266	W7CT	150,234	400	32	114	JE1FWI	238	7	7	7	DL2RMC	332,878	406	95	308
SS4AA	152,950	565	34	127	KB3MP	192,654	308	60	218	W7GG	314,578	761	37	121	JH0EQN	2,688	40	12	20	DF6QV	217,678	578	54	200
G4EED	93,692	503	22	96	K3DUG	186,960	326	53	175	K8IA7	298,172	750	36	125	JH9KVF	101,008	385	34	72	DF5UL	202,536	348	68	266
OK2BYW	88,191	485	24	99	NE3H	174,064	313	61	192	N7ON	10,816	76	25	39	JA1PCY	90,100	380	34	73	DL2LW	193,304	299	105	124
UU2CW	69,734	478	24	95	N3GNW	166,941	270	64	179	K7RL	1,452	33	9	13	7M4CDX	104,194	409	33	85	DL2VL	191,268	348	71	226
YZ8A	65,375	338	29	96	N3CW	142,786	257	54	163	W8MJ	994,560	1006	112	336	JG2KKG	104,020	334	37	103	DL9NDV	185,796	374	64	170
					(OP: Y11AA)					K3WA/B	799,488	783	87	297	JN4MMO	89,376	393	31	67	DL5XAT	172,319	310	78	161
RN6AL	64,496	360	25	91	N3NR	130,416	246	58	150	W8HC	750,780	731	89	299	JR1BAS	35,511	162	29	60	DJ3DD	154,560	361	62	191
DL10QY	46,091	259	26	98	W4EE/3	49,762	154	44	95	N8TR	435,840	374	103	351	J11ALP	57,783	233	28	75	DLBAAM	152,390	378	54	218
OK3W	45,045	353	16	75	KQ3V	21,965	76	39	76	N8U2	218,064	308	66	198					DL1CWI	137,046	348	54	197	
					(OP: DL6MHW)					N8BT	148,230	217	65	205					DJ9CW	130,900	447	73	202	
F5UL	40,866	323	18	80	KD3TB	5,520	53	23	46	W7JW/B	68,510	198	53	117					DK3DUA	101,144	278	44	144	
H89CEY	37,710	279	17	73	WA3RHW	5,445	47	19	36	AJ1M/B	28,798	100	43	76					DFBAA	91,124	313	53	156	
SP4TBM	36,105	314	16	71	N3CA	1,344	22	12	16										DL8WX	73,059	176	59	88	
G4CWA	31,896	390	11	61	K3WC	140,650	366	32	113										DK6CD	63,393	232	52	135	
PG2AA	26,288	393	10	52	W8BR/3	18,389	102	19	52										DL9NCR	26,299	141	38	81	
UN7CN	26,047	181	13	48	K1PT/4	2,350,240	1498	129	463	N9CK	1,161,538	847	120	389					DL9NCR	26,299	141	38	81	
RV3FW	24,621	213	22	65	K4TD	1,404,420	1016	124	410	W9XT	1,113,442	891	113	360					DL4FDI	25,636	173	28	88	
IBZUT	24,336	173	15	63	N4RV	1,391,250	1048	117	408	N2BJ/9	389,928	504	79	229					DF2AP	23,517	194	25	92	
SP3PSM	14,062	127	16	63	W4MYA	1,364,016	987	113	408	K9UDN	337,955	489	68	189					DF2LH	19,065	111	28	65	
UTSUQV	11,288	107	12	56	K4SAV	1,048,570	831	111	374	W9V	322,326	315	96	285					DK1TF	3,174	59	14	32	
DL4TJ	10,877	163	16	57	K4MA	967,734	773	114	368	K9OR	235,600	289	78	232					DL1DVN	2,408	34	15	28	
DK4CU	10,542	170	10	55	W3GQ/4	815,080	773	97	313	KM9M	57,270	139	53	113					DF9ZP					
SPSXS	9,918	162	9	48	AA4V	708,750	750	97	278	K9OSH	46,690	138	50	95					DF1LN	116,688	394	33	99	
NE6M	4,400	51	17	23	W3DA/4	660,366	651	93	285	H9BT	10,320	66	30	50					DK3GI	666,788	1694	37	141	
WD2E/4	4,224	68	16	32	K3KD/4	653,128	586	92	336	W89Z	42,874	221	21	76					DK1MAX	422,853	1012	37	140	
OH2BEC	682	31	5	17	AD4EB	487,014	590	80	234	N8AT	1,471,536	1064	123	405					DF8CI	378,314	1583	35	131	
PV8IG	100	73	12	24	N4VV	483,155	510	81	274	W8AMHJ	313,038	391	84	222					(OP: DL8AKI)					
EW2AA	12,600	232	9	47	K2ZV/4	455,376	514	92	266	K8KT	308,560	422	89	215					DL8QP	67,080	327	28	102	
SS7MSU	12,095	240	9	50	N4VA	445,107	578	85	262	N5IN/8	197,253	278	88	215					DL6NCY	55,282	216	28	103	
OH7FF	8,526	204	5	37	N8PR/4	429,942	434	102	291	K8BJ	170,352	284	80	172					DL1GGT	49,567	310	26	71	
VE300	7,391	207	8	11	K1KD/4	397,394	517	77	249	W8EB	151,734	253	79	163					DL7CX	84,600	945	19	81	
K3BU	4,865	74	10	25	KE1F/4	350,571	489	75	228	K8BX	77,816	212	37	105					DF2UJ	21,128	259	12	64	
K2FM	3,325	105	4	31	W4NTI	304,800	430	77	223	K8CS	63,393	186	55	132					DL20B0	18,837	263	9	54	
SP9W	2,448	74	5	31	W4ZW	274,300	358	91	234	K8CS	63,393	186	55	132										
SP9TH	1,320	39	5	28	AI4E	240,096	422	62	182	K8UK	46,136	158	57	89										
N7IR	1,071	25	10	11	W4NZ	227,120	316	77	195	KE8L	36,790	119	42	88										
N8XA	456	21	7	7	K4WW	226,252	356	58	171	K8AD	18,392	63	28	60										
SP9KJ	108	37	5	22	W4ATL	211,120	313	73	187	K8RET	11,914	61	25	49										
YU15ARDF	99	7	4	7	W3YY/4	194,112	250	77	211	W8QOS	3,969	38	20	29										
					(OP: YU1UA)					N8VD	75,396	267	31	91										
					N4TL	139,200	270	53	147	KV80	31,652	222	24	58										
					N2UM/4	136,728	260	54	162															
					(OP: N2UM4)																			
					W4BQF	132,676	374	45	119															
					K8YC/4	100,920	203	58	174															
					N4TN	70,896	177	54	114															
					KB4ET	67,942	197	46	113															
					AD4IE	57,183	160	44	105															
					K4CZ	56,856	177	39	99															
					NN3W/4	53,044	149	46	103															
					W4NL7AU	49,113	124	48	105															
					NK3T/4	32,004	109	41	85															
					N4QV	25,573	100	34	73															
					W4WNT	19,376	96	40	72															
					W4BW																			

SS7DX	*	2,940,288	2711	140	484
SS9AA	*	1,222,716	1378	116	355
SS8P	*	298,848	778	67	197
SS1DX	*	16,089	186	25	68
SS8R	14	613,818	1902	35	127
SS6X	7	533,310	1928	38	136
SS30	*	394,748	1619	35	129
SS8M	*	321,408	1444	36	126
SS7Z	*	230,096	1093	34	112
SS0DX	*	20,251	236	14	63

SPAIN					
EA2AYD	A	930,066	1054	90	319
EA3NM	*	918,945	1492	89	316
EA4KD	*	633,184	933	85	291
EA5DWS	*	112,326	434	55	138
EA5FD	21	277,295	885	35	120
EA1DX/5	7	27,264	196	17	47
			(OP: EA5FD)		

SWEDEN					
8S8F	A	277,672	840	47	197
			(OP: SM0GQ)		
SM6BSK	*	100,188	224	57	219
8S0W	*	92,322	309	65	142
			(OP: SM0LJO)		
SA1A	*	13,534	98	30	71
			(OP: SM1TDE)		

SWITZERLAND					
HB9IQB	A	716,584	1118	83	291
HB9CIP	*	206,010	525	58	152

UKRAINE					
UW8M	A	4,331,040	4236	145	527
			(OP: UR5MID)		
UV5U	*	1,722,240	1793	129	447
			(OP: UX1UA)		
UY5ZZ	*	1,629,739	1520	141	488
UT7I	14	754,866	2294	39	150
			(OP: UT2IO)		
UT8LO	*	215,905	1014	34	111
US2IR	7	717,416	2510	37	147
UX3MZ	*	293,217	1592	28	101
UW2M	1.8	135,420	769	26	96
			(OP: UR8MC)		

YUGOSLAVIA					
YZ8Z	A	2,771,194	3147	142	444
			(OP: YU1ZZ)		
YT7TY	*	1,132,525	1282	114	395
4N1FG	*	622,748	1195	71	251
YT5A	14	628,140	1942	36	138
			(OP: YU1EA)		
YZ7A	1.8	87,808	978	20	78
			(OP: YU7CM)		

OCEANIA					
AUSTRALIA					
VK4XY	A	58,293	205	63	90
VK3KE	*	40,392	181	45	87
			(OP: N1MM)		
VK6DU	*	21,730	134	45	61

CHRISTMAS ISLAND					
VK9AA	A	6,878,488	3900	165	461
			(OP: VK2IA)		

GUAM					
KG6OX	A	2,031,594	1737	139	287

HAWAII					
KH6/VE7AHA	A	1,448,655	1969	118	167

NEW ZEALAND					
ZL3TE	21	330,156	1134	31	77
			(OP: W3SE)		
ZL4BR	7	390,540	1037	32	106

SOUTH AMERICA					
ARGENTINA					
LU4DX	21	1,181,579	2323	38	141
			(OP: LU5DX)		

BRAZIL					
PR2J	A	927,840	1388	71	169
			(OP: PY2EX)		
PY1NB	*	40,590	154	46	77
PY2XC	28	1,448	42	14	18

FERNANDO DE NORONHA					
PY8FF	A	68,228	203	58	90

FRENCH GUIANA					
FY/FSIRO	A	607,170	1141	67	155

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES					
PJ4M	A	3,528,330	2521	123	375
			(OP: K2QM)		

VENEZUELA					
YV5NWG	A	864	16	12	15

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES					
KT1V	*	9,067,590	4199	162	615
K1IR	*	6,441,380	3256	148	589
K1KI	*	6,326,124	3108	156	606
W1MX	*	377,640	430	82	278
W2FU	*	5,969,292	3172	154	562
K2QMF	*	3,672,942	2177	129	508
N2LBR	*	966,616	847	96	325
N2BZP	*	17,360	153	48	107
K30D	*	5,046,977	2754	147	550
N3MX	*	1,034,103	875	101	382
K4JLD/3	*	805,504	729	106	342
W3LJ	*	46,332	138	42	90
K8AC/4	*	1,038,060	854	111	363
N4ES	*	456,972	601	82	255
W60AT	*	4,403	48	15	22
N78V	*	765,702	924	109	245

K7UM	*	675,995	827	108	275
K8AZ	*	5,458,329	2855	160	587
W8AV	*	3,778,635	2167	148	531
NE8P	*	1,076,076	941	96	330
WN90	*	2,224,556	1539	124	432
K8RF	*	4,045,342	2427	156	530
VP2E	*	5,975,856	3624	150	546

ANGUILLA					
VE3NE	*	2,758,340	2515	117	398
VE7SV	*	2,754,752	2601	133	340
VE6AO	*	576,576	1180	72	180

CANADA					
6Y7A	*	4,900,392	5212	103	338

JAMAICA					
EA8ZS	*	11,950,225	5484	167	638

AFRICA					
ALGERIA					
7X8RY	*	7,896,700	5084	128	452

CANARY ISLANDS					
EA8ZS	*	11,950,225	5484	167	638

TUNISIA					
3V5A	*	14,026,738	7137	163	564

ASIA					
ASIATIC RUSSIA					
RZ9SWR	*	3,070,010	2289	118	405
RK9CZO	*	2,590,080	2151	109	347
RK9AWN	*	2,465,060	2002	107	392
RK9CXM	*	617,506	824	60	223
RZ9UWZ	*	432,051	811	52	185
RK9CWW	*	419,504	506	79	235
RY9C	*	299,484	558	51	185
RK9OXX	*	279,838	529	52	177
RK9AAX	*	114,696	432	23	85

UABAWW					
UABAWW	*	1,945,441	1964	99	322

AZERBAIJAN					
4K7Z	*	3,284,757	2483	109	382

BHUTAN					
AS2CDX	*	506,961	972	72	201

CHINA					
B7P	*	994,700	1837	107	236
BY4VAM	*	220,748	1015	65	108

INDIA					
VU2UR	*	63,984	161	67	119

ISRAEL					
4X8G	*	3,672,585	3429	102	343

JAPAN					
JABRWU	*	3,545,612	2479	159	397
JA7YAA	*	2,619,750	1970	158	367
JM1LPN	*	1,805,894	1610	155	347
JAZZJW	*	1,350,216	1456	126	252
JA1ZLO	*	30,987	156	39	60

KAZAKHSTAN					
UP1G	*	2,801,250	2506	102	348

MONGOLIA					
JU1DX	*	393,000	1182	81	169

NEPAL					
9N7JO	*	1,782,810	2479	107	298

SRI LANKA					
4S7RS	*	2,915	41	20	33

EUROPE					
AUSTRIA					
OES8CWL	*	345,720	1010	49	152

BELGIUM					
OT5L	*	5,146,416	3874	157	565
OT5G	*	2,780,064	2506	129	462
OT5P	*	1,168,425	2097	95	310

BULGARIA					
LZ1ABC	*	1,620,490	2251	106	361

CZECH REPUBLIC					
OK5W	*	7,278,271	4326	180	667
OL7R	*	5,313,462	3914	163	579
OL3Z	*	2,478,894	2648	120	409
OL2A	*	932,057	1485	89	240
OL2U	*	726,616	1620	75	284
OK1KDO	*	124,456	498	40	148

ENGLAND					
G6PZ	*	7,406,250	5098	160	590
G5W	*	6,629,755	4848	160	585
G8D	*	2,093,592	2442	105	393
M0OKT	*	19,332	194	24	84

EUROPEAN RUSSIA					
RL3A	*	5,918,416	4375	167	617
RZ6AZZ	*	4,865,763	3690	172	617
RO4M	*	3,814,404	3291	161	565
R3R	*	3,782,450	3637	150	557
RF3A	*	3,308,578	3485	147	542
UA3R	*	2,883,586	2592	132	467
RZ4CWW	*	1,945,908	2436	119	447
RW3WWW	*	1,483,086	2290	118	388
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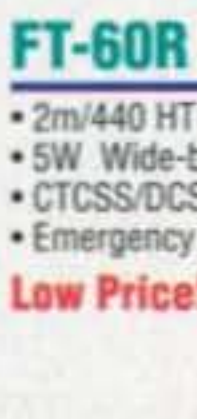
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- Easy connection



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- Includes cable and brackets
- Mount the head where you want it!
- OPC-1443 = 11 ft; OPC-1444 = 16 ft



OPC-1443/1444

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- Simple plug and play
- Mount the head where you want it!
- OPC-1443 = 11 ft; OPC-1444 = 16 ft



AH-2B

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