

# Amateur Radio

<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

AUGUST 2009

# CQ

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- SSB Results, 2008 CQ World-Wide DX Contest, p. 20
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CO 50865 XXXX 1  
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On the Cover: Well-known DXers Lynn (W4NL) and Rosie (KA4S) Lamb at their station in Maryville, Tennessee. Details on page 60.

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## TH-11DX, \$1159.95. 11-element, 4.0 kW PEP, 10,12,15,17,20M

The choice of top DXers. With 11-elements, excellent gain and 5-bands, the super rugged TH-11DX is the "Big Daddy" of all HF beams! Handles 2000 Watts continuous, 4000 Watts PEP. Every part is selected for durability and ruggedness for years of trouble-free service.

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## TH-7DX, \$869.95. 7-element, 1.5 kW PEP, 10,15,20 Meters

7-Elements gives you the highest average gain of any Hy-Gain tri-bander! Dual driven for broadband operation without compromising gain. SWR less than 2:1 on all bands. Uniquely combining monoband

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The broadband five element TH5-MK2 gives you outstanding gain.

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mum F/B ratio on each band.

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## EXP-14, \$599.95. 4-element, 1.5 kW PEP, 10,15,20 Meters

Revolutionary 4-element compact tri-bander lets you add 40 or 30 Meters! Has 14 foot boom and tight 17.25 foot turning radius. Fits on roof tri-pod, mast or medium duty tower.

Hy-Gain's patented broadbanding Para Sleeve gives you

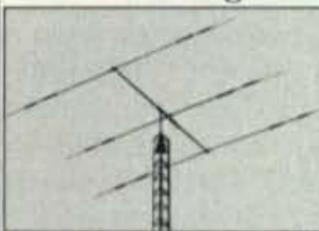
less than 2:1 VSWR. 1.5kW PEP. BetaMATCH™ provides DC ground to eliminate static. Includes BN-86 balun. Easily assembled.

Truly competitive against giant tri-banders at half the cost!

QK-710, \$179.95. 30/40 Meter option kit for EXP-14.

## Compact 3-element 10, 15, 20 Meter Tri-Bander

For limited space... Installs anywhere... 14.75 ft turning radius... weighs 21 lbs... Rotate with CD-45II, HAM-IV



Fits on light tower, suitable guyed TV pole, roof tri-pod

TH-3JRS, \$359.95. Hy-Gain's most popular 3-element 10, 15, 20 Meter tri-bander fits on most lots! Same top performance as the full power TH3MK4 in a compact 600 watt PEP design.

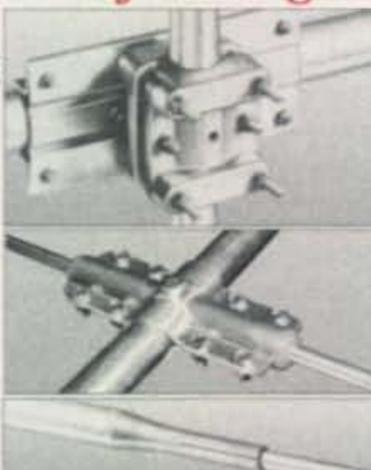
Excellent gain and F/B ratio let you compete with the "big guns".

Tooled manufacturing gives you Hy-Gain durability with 80 MPH wind survival.

Model No.	No. of elements	avg gain dBd	avg F/B dB	MaxPwr watts PEP	Bands Covered	Wind sq.ft. area	Wind Survival (mph)	boom feet	Longest Elem. (ft)	Turning radius(ft)	Weight (lbs.)	Mast dia O.D.(in.)	Recom. Rotator	Sugg. Retail
TH-11DX	11	For Gain and F/B ratio--See...		4000	10,12,15,17,20	12.5	100	24	37	22	88	1.9-2.5	T2X	\$1159.95
TH-7DX	7			1500	10, 15, 20	9.4	100	24	31	20	75	1.5-2.5	HAM-IV	\$869.95
TH-5MK2	5	www.hy-gain.com Hy-Gain catalog Call toll-free 800-973-6572		1500	10, 15, 20	7.4	100	19	31.5	18.42	57	1.5-2.5	HAM-IV	\$759.95
TH-3MK4	3			1500	10, 15, 20	4.6	95	14	27.42	15.33	35	1.9-2.5	CD-45II	\$469.95
TH-3JRS	3			600	10, 15, 20	3.35	80	12	27.25	14.75	21	1.25-2.0	CD-45II	\$359.95
TH-2MK3	2			1500	10, 15, 20	3.25	80	6	27.3	14.25	20	1.9-2.5	CD-45II	\$369.95
EXP-14	4			1500	10,15,20	7.5	100	14	31.5	17.25	45	1.9-2.5	HAM-IV	\$599.95

## Tooled Manufacturing... Highest Quality Materials

- Hy-Gain's famous super strong tooled die cast Boom-to-Mast Clamp
- Tooled Boom-to-Element Clamp
- Thick-wall swaged aluminum tubing



Tooled manufacturing is the difference between Hy-Gain antennas and the others -- they just don't have it (it's expensive!). Die-cast aluminum boom-to-mast bracket and element-to-boom compression clamps are made with specially tooled machinery. Hy-Gain antennas feature tooled swaged tubing that is easily and securely clamped in place. All tubing is deburred and cleaned for smooth and easy assembly. Durable precision injection molded parts. Hy-Gain antennas are stronger, lighter, have less wind surface area, better wind survival, need no adjustments, look professional and last years longer.

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## NASA: The Sunspot Cycle is not "Broken"

A pair of jet streams some 4000 miles below the surface of the sun may be responsible for the slow beginning of solar Cycle 24, according to two researchers from the National Solar Observatory in Tucson, Arizona, whose remarks were reported by NASA.

Speaking to reporters at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Boulder, Colorado, in mid-June, researchers Rachel Howe and Frank Hill reported that the jet streams start near the sun's poles every 11 years and slowly migrate toward the equator. When those jet streams approach 22 degrees latitude, they said, new-cycle sunspots begin to appear. Using a technique called *helioseismology*, Howe and Hill have been able to track the progress of these jet streams and said they're currently moving more slowly than usual, taking three years to cover a 10-degree range that is typically covered in two.

The good news: Howe and Hill report that the jet streams are finally reaching the critical 22-degree latitude and that new groups of sunspots are beginning to emerge. NASA's Dr. Tony Phillips wrote that the research dispels concerns of a prolonged solar minimum, adding, "The sun's internal magnetic dynamo is still operating and the sunspot cycle is not 'broken'."

CQ Propagation Editor Tomas Hood, NW7US, in an online commentary on the CQ website, had challenged May's report from solar "experts," suggesting that we were heading into a short, weak cycle. "No one can postulate with any credibility just how intense the new cycle will be, because there's no direct correlation between this solar minimum and any regular pattern of past minimums," Hood wrote. His complete commentary may be read online by going to <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com> and clicking on "Online Commentary."

## McDowell Renominated to FCC

President Obama announced in early June that he would nominate FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell to a full five-year term on the Commission. McDowell, a Republican, was originally appointed by President George W. Bush to complete the unexpired term of Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, which ran through June 30th of this year. McDowell was sworn in on June 1, 2006. A communications attorney, McDowell served as a senior executive in a telecommunications trade group and a legislative aide to a Virginia state legislator before being named to the FCC. The White House statement highlighted McDowell's experience in creating rules governing wireless auctions, establishing a framework for unlicensed use of TV "white spaces," and developing incentives to encourage new broadband technologies. McDowell's nomination is subject to Senate confirmation.

## Three New Ham-Band Cubesats Launched

Three small "CubeSats" carrying amateur radio transmitters were among five satellites launched successfully in late May from NASA's mid-Atlantic spaceport on Wallops Island, Virginia. An Air Force satellite was the primary payload, and a fourth CubeSat did not carry a transmitter on amateur frequencies.

According to the AMSAT News Service, the three satellites carrying ham-band transmitters, all operating on 437 MHz, are PharmaSat-1, launched by NASA and Stanford University; CP-6 from California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly), and HawkSat-1 from the Hawk Institute for Space Sciences. At press time, none of the sponsors had requested or received OSCAR numbers for the satellites.

## Weather Service Predicts "Near Normal" Hurricane Season

The National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center's initial outlook for the 2009 hurricane season, which began June 1, is that it will more than likely be "near normal" ... or not. According to the CPC, there is a 50% chance of a near-normal season—meaning 9 to 14 named storms, of which four to seven could become hurricanes and one to three might become major hurricanes. But there's also a 50% chance, evenly split, that there will be a below normal or above normal season.

"Regardless of the seasonal outlook," said lead forecaster Gerry Bell, people in areas often threatened by hurricanes should prepare for the worst. "It takes only one landfalling storm to make it a bad season," he noted. According to Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, whose department includes the National Weather Service and the National Hurricane Center, more than 35-million Americans live in regions most threatened by Atlantic hurricanes.

## FCC Getting Tough With Power Company

Nearly three years after first contacting Duke Energy about interference complaints from a ham in Cincinnati, the FCC is starting to lose patience with the utility. In a May 4 letter to the company, Special Counsel Laura Smith recounted the exchanges of correspondence and promises of action but pointed out that the problems persist. She even noted that the complainant had gone out on his own and noted the specific locations of several possible noise sources.

"Given the fact that this case has been ongoing for quite some time without resolution," Smith wrote, "you are directed to respond to the undersigned within 30 days ... detailing what steps you have taken to resolve (the interference)." In addition, she told the company that if the problems persist for more than 60 days, "Duke Energy will be required to provide (the FCC) with a status update every two (2) weeks going forward as to what progress, if any, has been made to resolve the matter."

## WB4APR Proposes New HF-HF Satellite Transponder

The "father" of APRS, Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, is proposing a new combination of ham bands for satellite transponders. According to Newline, Bruninga is looking for design help in developing a transponder that would operate on single sideband with an uplink on 29 MHz and a downlink on 24 MHz. He is interested in integrating that into a satellite design that would also include APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) on 2 meters as well as a 2-meter FM downlink for the SSB voice signals transmitted up to the bird on 29 MHz.

## Belgian Ham Slated to be Space Station Commander

Frank DeWinne, ON1DWN, reportedly has been named commander of the International Space Station's Expedition 21 crew, the first European Space Agency astronaut to be given the status. All commanders so far have been either Americans or Russians. According to the AMSAT News Service, De Winne was scheduled to be launched from Kazakhstan in late May to become part of the Expedition 20 crew, and would become commander with the next crew rotation, before heading home to Earth in November.

*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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**Lightest and Most Compact  
1kW HF Amplifier**

### HL-1.5KFX HF/50MHz Linear Power

#### Features

- The amplifier's decoder changes bands automatically with most ICOM, Kenwood, Yaesu.
- Solid State.
- The amp utilizes an advanced 16 bit MPU (microprocessor) to run the various high speed protection circuits such as overdrive, high antenna SWR, DC overvoltage, band miss-set etc.
- Built in power supply.
- AC (200/220/235/240V) and (100/110/115/120V) selectable.
- Equipped with a control cable connection socket, for the HC-1.5KAT, auto antenna tuner by Tokyo Hy-Power Labs.

**Outstanding for  
Desktop or DX-peditions!**

#### Specifications

**Frequency:**  
1.8 - 28MHz all amateur bands including WARC bands and 50MHz  
**Mode:**  
SSB, CW, RTTY  
**RF Drive:**  
85W typ. (100W max.)

**Output Power:**  
HF 1kW PEP max.  
50MHz 650W PEP max.  
**Circuit:**  
Class AB parallel push-pull  
**Cooling Method:**  
Forced Air Cooling

**AC Power:**  
AC 240V default (200/220/235)  
- 10 A max.  
AC 120V (100/110/115)  
- 20 A max.  
**Dimensions:**  
10.7 x 5.6 x 14.3 inches  
(WxHxD)/272 x 142 x 363 mm  
**Weight:**  
Approx. 20kgs. or 45.5lbs.

**Optional Items:**  
Auto Antenna Tuner (HC-1.5KAT)  
External Cooling Fan (HXT-1.5KF for high duty cycle RTTY)  
**Accessories Included:**  
Band Decoder Cables included for Kenwood, ICOM and some Yaesu

### HL-1.1KFX Lightweight HF Linear



**NEW!**

#### Features

- The amplifier allows operation in full break-in CW mode due to the use of the amplifier's high speed antenna relays.
- The amp utilizes a sophisticated circuit to run the various high speed protection circuits such as overdrive, high antenna SWR, DC overvoltage, band mis-set etc.
- An analog multimeter allows the operator to monitor Pf (Forward output power), Pr (Reflected power), Vd (Drain voltage of power FET), Id (Drain current) etc.

#### Specifications

**Frequency:**  
1.8 - 28MHz all amateur bands including WARC bands  
**Mode:**  
SSB, CW, RTTY  
**RF Drive:**  
75 - 90W  
**Output Power:**  
SSB 600W PEP max.  
CW 600W.  
RTTY 500W (5 minutes)  
**Final Transistor:**  
SD 2933 x 4  
(MOS FET by ST micro)  
**Circuit:**  
Class AB parallel push-pull

**Cooling Method:**  
Forced Air Cooling  
**Multi-Meter:**  
Output Pf 1kW, Reflected Power 100W, Drain Voltage Vd 60V, Drain Current Id 50A  
**Input/Output Connectors:**  
Type M-J (UHF SO-239)  
**AC Power:**  
1.4kVA max. when TX  
AC 100 - 250V (Auto Select)  
**Dimensions:**  
9.1 x 5.6 x 14.3 inches  
(WxHxD)  
**Weight:**  
Approx. 22.5 lbs.

### More Fine Products from TOKYO HY-POWER



**HC-1.5KAT**  
HF 1.5KW  
Auto Tuner



**HL-2.5KFX**  
Legal Limit  
1.5kW  
HF Amplifier



**HL-45B**  
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Linear Power  
Amplifier



**HL-1.2KFX**  
750W PEP  
HF Desktop  
Linear

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# Get ready for your next 6M DXpedition...

## The New 6M8GJ

42' 8" Boom  
14.2 dBi FS  
12.0 dBd FS



The 6M8GJ yagi is the culmination of many years & countless versions of the "40 Foot Trip Yagi." Inspired by W7GJ who, for years tirelessly promoted 6M EME & DXpedition activity. Computer optimized for the exact conditions we find in most DXpedition locations, a height of 20 to 30 feet. Boom sections are 2 1/2" diameter and the rest of the sections all telescope in 1/2" or 1/4" increments. The entire boom breaks down to a 2 1/2" x 5" x 45" bundle. Rugged 1/2" x 40" element center sections and 3/8" diameter tips mount to boom sections with commercial grade clamps. A new Fairite 1:1 Balun for extended service. Optional items include: Nylon carry bag & portable 20+ foot mast that telescopes as well and fits in the same carry bag with the antenna. The mast comes with Dacron guys, slip ring & anchors.

## The start of our new HF Light Duty Yagi's

The 20M5LD features the same on air performance as it's very popular, heavy weight brother the 20M5, but it is much lighter. We listened to our customers and have carefully reduced it's weight significantly while reducing the wind survival rating by only 10 MPH. The 20M5LD has the same clean pattern and great gain across the band. We have also made it a "Direct Feed" yagi requiring no matching, only a 1:1 balun. It is easier and quicker to assemble as well as easier to install. Stacking a pair will cost less and put less stress on your tower! Mechanically, a pair of machined, 3/8" x 4" aluminum boom to element plates and saddles ground each parasitic element and keep elements aligned perfectly for years to come. Elements taper in 1/4" steps from 1-1/4" to the adjustable 1/2" tips. The re-designed 44 foot x 3" boom is a full 1/8" wall in the center section but the tips are half the weight at 1/16". All critical hardware is stainless steel. The 20M5LD is available through our fine distributors worldwide.

## The New 20M5LD

44' Boom  
10.34 dBi Full Band  
8.2 dBd Full Band

Coming Soon →

- New Line of Baluns for our HF Antennas
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- Large Backlit LCD Display for easy operation
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- Submersible Construction ( 3 ft. for 30 min)
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- Hands Free Operation with Optional VC-24 VOX Headset

Wide Range of available Options includes:

- CD-26 Charger Cradle
- VAC-370B 1.5 Hour Desktop Rapid Charger
- External DC Jack for Cigarette-Lighter adapter E-DC-5B or DC Cable E-DC-6
- FBA-25A Alkaline Battery Case ( for 6 X AA cells)
- FTD-7 DTMF Paging Unit

## Compact Field Radio with Top Mounted LCD and Loud Audio



- Compact Design with Top mounted LCD Display
- 5 Watts of Stable RF Power with Minimum Components for Reliability
- 700 mW of Loud Audio for outside field environments
- 200 Memory Channels for serious users
- Yaesu Exclusive Power Saving Circuit Design Guarantees Longer Operating time
- Hands Free Operation with Optional VC-25 VOX Headset

Wide Range of available Options includes:

- External DC jack for Cigarette-Lighter adapter E-DC-5B or DC cable E-DC-6
- 6 X AA size Alkaline Battery Case FBA-25A

Actual Size

VHF FM 5 W COMPACT HANDHELD TRANSCEIVER

### FT-270R

Size: 2.4" (W) x 4.7" (H) x 1.3" (D) Weight: 13.8 oz.

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ULTRA-COMPACT 5 W 2 m FM HANDHELD TRANSCEIVER

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Size: 2.3" (W) x 4.3" (H) x 1.0" (D) / Weight: 12.4 oz.

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2m  
MONO BAND

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- Loud 3 Watts of Audio Output for noisy environments
- Large 6 Digit Backlit LCD for excellent visibility
- 200 Memory Channels for serious users

**75 WATTS**

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

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

**NEW**

**2 m  
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**55 WATTS**

ULTRA RUGGED 55 W 2 m FM TRANSCEIVER

**FT-1900R**

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

**NEW**

**2 m  
MONO BAND**

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- 55 Watts of Solid RF Power within a compact footprint
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- Large 6 Digit Backlit LCD for excellent visibility
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# National Hamfest Vendor Appreciation Month

**M**y predecessor in this seat, the late Alan Dorhoffer, K2EEK, used to love telling stories about "Travels With CQ," regaling readers with the adventures and misadventures—and mostly the food—encountered on trips to various hamfests around the country. As we mark the tenth anniversary of Alan's passing in the summer of 1999, I thought it would be an appropriate tribute to return to his favorite topic, particularly since circumstances have conspired/cooperated to give me some great stories to pass along (great, that is, as long as you weren't in the middle of them).

If you're like most hams, you go to one or two local hamfests each year, and if you're lucky, perhaps one of the bigger regional shows and/or the Dayton Hamvention®. At the bigger shows, you'll get to meet manufacturers' representatives and other vendors—including us—who may travel a thousand miles or more to be there to greet you. Chances are, you don't think too often about what's involved in getting there for those of us who devote multiple weekends each year to displaying and/or selling stuff at hamfests, including dicey travel connections, delayed or missing freight shipments, and other encounters with Murphy. Therefore, I wanted to give you an opportunity this month to get a glimpse from "the other side of the booth."

The hamfest circuit in mid-June brings us to Plano, Texas, about 45 minutes north of Dallas, for Ham-Com. Traveling in the central U.S. in June carries with it the great likelihood of encountering delays due to the big late-spring thunderstorms that regularly pop up, sometimes spawning tornadoes as well. Ham-Com is a Friday/Saturday show, which means that the vendors roll in Wednesday or Thursday in order to have their booths set up by the time the doors open on Friday morning. This year, the Dallas area—and particularly the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport (DFW)—got hit with massive thunderstorms both on Wednesday night and Thursday morning, forcing the airport to shut down for several hours on both days. Here are a few stories of what some of us had to go through to get there ... and it's worth noting, by the way, that several vendors had been at the Seapac show in the Pacific Northwest the previous weekend, so they barely had time to get back home before packing up and hitting the road again.

Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, of Elecraft, was one of those folks. He left Monterey, California at 3:30 Wednesday afternoon to fly to Los Angeles and get a connecting flight to Dallas. When he arrived in LA, he found that his scheduled flight had been cancelled, and he was put on the next flight, which was delayed. He arrived in Dallas just as the Wednesday night storm was beginning, and was informed that the airport was closed and that the bags couldn't be removed from the plane until the rain ended. He was advised to come back for them in the morning. When he got there on Thursday, the morning storms had already begun! Fortunately, his bags were already inside, but he had to load them up and drive back to

## Oops...

We misidentified the prime sponsor of House bill H.R. 2160 in last month's "Zero Bias" editorial. Her correct name is Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, not Shirley. Our apologies to the Congresswoman. Also, in the first sentence of that editorial, we listed the bill number as H.R. 12160. The correct number is 2160, shown correctly in all other references. We regret any confusion.

Plano in a massive storm that dumped six inches of rain on the airport in just a few hours' time!

Phil Parton, N4DRO, Kenwood's national sales manager for amateur radio products, was flying out of Atlanta. His flight Thursday morning took off an hour and a half late. During the flight, the pilot told them DFW was closed and that they would need to circle, which they did for an hour and half before landing. Phil's luggage didn't make the trip with him, arriving on the following flight.

CQ Advertising Manager, Don Allen, W9CW, flying in Thursday morning on a commuter jet from Illinois, took off on time and landed on time ... right after DFW was shut down. Since no planes were taking off, there were no gates open for arriving flights, and he sat on the tarmac in that little regional jet for more than three hours!

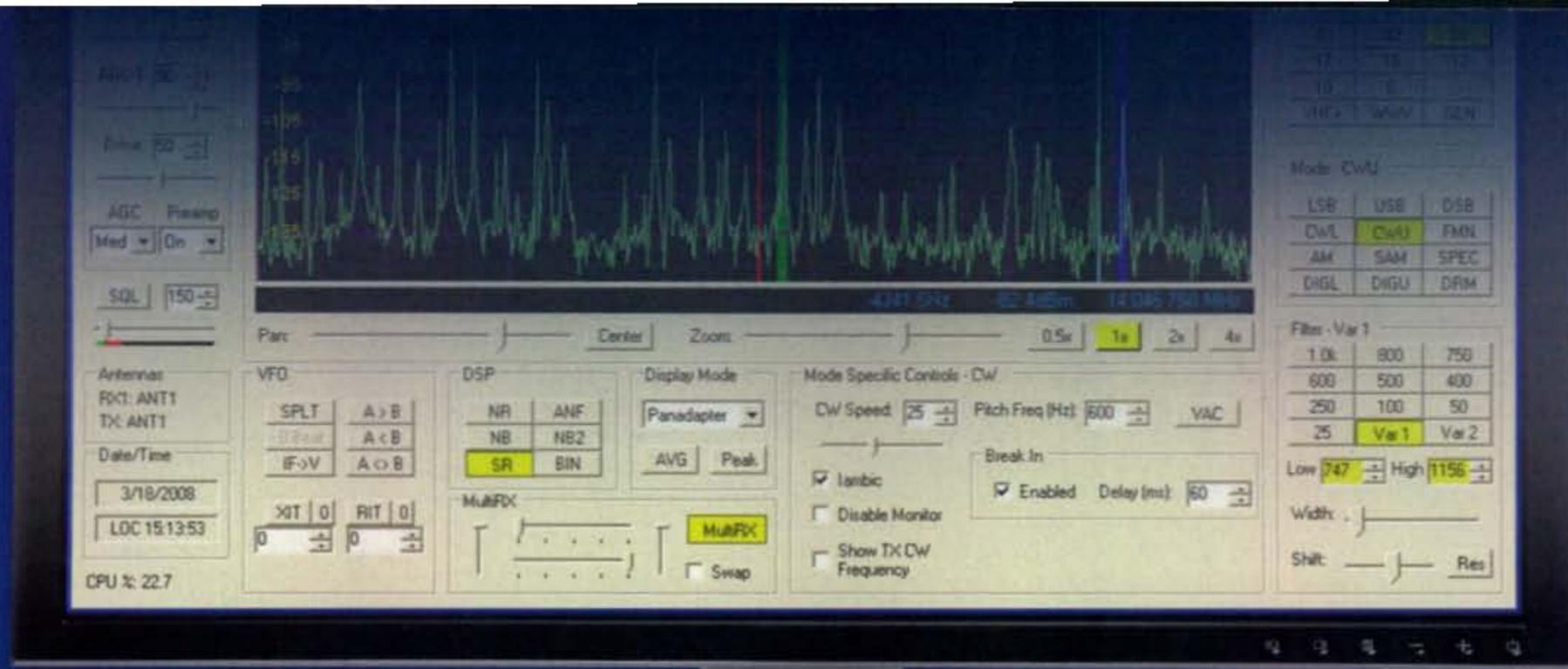
Julius Jones, W2IHY, of W2IHY Technologies, was flying to Dallas from White Plains, NY by way of Atlanta. He was due in at DFW at 11:40 AM. His first flight left nearly an hour late and he had to run through the airport in Atlanta to make his connection, which took off right on time. About an hour in, though, the pilot reported that DFW was closed and that they were returning to Atlanta. He got back there about the time he was supposed to arrive in Dallas, got rebooked on a 5 PM flight, and got in around 7 PM, too late to start setting up for the show. Fortunately, the Ham-Com folks were very accommodating and opened the hall an hour early (6 AM) on Friday morning for vendors who hadn't been able to set up the night before. (*A collective "thank you" to the Ham-Com folks from all of us.*)

Heil Sound's Chip Margelli, K7JA, found that his 9:45 AM Thursday flight out of Orange County Airport in California was cancelled and was told there were no seats available until Friday morning on any flight out of Orange County, Ontario, or LAX (Los Angeles International). Chip found a 3:30 PM departure out of San Diego and drove down there. The flight was about to push back from the gate when the pilot announced there was an electrical problem. Everybody off the plane. ... Luckily, according to Chip, "another MD80, which had escaped from DFW," was on the ground in San Diego. It was pressed into service as a replacement and he arrived in Dallas at 12:30 AM Friday.

Dave Rosenbaum from Battery Tech had an 11:30 AM Thursday flight out of La Guardia Airport in New York City, which was delayed to 2:00 PM and then cancelled. He was rebooked on a 3 o'clock flight out of JFK Airport, which was also delayed and then cancelled. He was offered a seat the next morning on a flight to Dallas via Boston, but declined. He found a

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

(Continued on page 111)



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**2009 Kansas QSO Party** – Sponsored by the Boeing Employee ARS of Wichita, KS, and the Santa Fe Trail ARC of Olathe, KS. Times and bands: 1400Z August 29 to 0200Z August 30, and 1400–2000Z August 30, on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters. For the complete rules go to: <<http://www.ksqsoparty.org/>>.

• **The following Special Event stations are scheduled for August:**

**N2Y**, from CanalFest 2009, Collins Park/Freedom Park in Scotia, Glenville, NY; 1600–200Z August 8 & 9 on 14.245, 7.245, PSK 14.070, CW 14.060 MHz. For QSL send QSL and SASE to L. W. Eaton, KC2BLC, 7 Wagon Wheel Lane, Scotia, NY 12302-3708.

**WA3KEY/2**, from 16th annual reunion of Aircraft Carrier U.S.S. Intrepid Association of Former Crewmembers, from flight deck of the Intrepid (CVS-11), Hudson River, NY; 1600Z August 14 to 0100Z August 15 on 3.875, 7.240, 14.275, 21.375, 28.575 MHz. For QSL certificate send business-size SASE with contact number to WA3KEY, PO Box 498, Quakertown, PA 18951. ([www.wa3key.com/events.html](http://www.wa3key.com/events.html))

**W30**, from commemoration of the Sesquicentennial of Oil, Drake Well, near Titusville, PA; Fort Venango Mike and Key ARC; 1600Z August 28 for 12 hours and again at 1200Z August 29 for 16 more hours on 20, 40, 80, 160 meters CW and SSB. QSL with SASE to Fort Venango Mike and Key Club, W3ZIC, PO Box 99, Cranberry, PA 16319.

**K4AI**, from 75th Annual APCO Conference & Exposition, Las Vegas, NV; APCO International Amateurs; 1700–2300Z August 16–19 on SSB 3.860, 7.280, 14.310, and 146.580 FM MHz. For certificate send QSO info and 9x12 SASE to K4AI Special Event Station, c/o Conference & Meeting Services Dept. APCO Headquarters, 351 N. Williamson Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL 32114-1112, (<http://tinyurl.com/APCO-K4AI>)

**K5R**, from commemoration of anniversaries of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Hammond, LA; Southeast Louisiana ARC; 1400–2000Z August 29 on 14.250 and 7.250 MHz. For QSL send QSL and SASE to SELARC (K5R), PO Box 1324, Hammond, LA 70404.

**W8AL**, from Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival, Canton, OH; Canton ARC; 1200–2400 each day August 7–10 on 7.265, 14.365, 21.365, 28.365 MHz. For certificate send QSL and 9x12 SASE to Donald E. Perry, WQ8J, 968 Culver Ave. NW, Massillon, OH 44647.

**W8CYE**, from celebration of 66 years of R.L. Drake communications excellence, Miamisburg, OH; R.L. Drake ARC; 1400–2100Z August 22 on 7.260, 14.260, 18.160, 28.360 MHz. For certificate send QSL and SASE to Drake ARC, c/o Gary Hardwick, 498 Lake Front Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036.

**W8LKY**, from commemoration of Alliance, OH as the home of the state flower, the scarlet carnation; Alliance ARC; 10 AM to 6 PM local time August 15 on 40, 20, 15, and maybe 6 meters SSB/CW. For certificate send QSL and SASE to Alliance ARC, PO Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601.

**W9PVR**, from Muskets & Memories Civil War Era Commemoration, Boscobel, WI; Pine Valley Repeater ARC of Richland, WI; 1400–2300Z August 1 and 1400–2100Z August 2 on CW 3.820, 7.055, 14.060 MHz; SSB 3.850, 7.250, 14.320; PSK 14.070. QSL to Ralph Gray, W9RIG, 906 Justin Circle, Reedsburg, WI 53959.

**GB5ØATG**, from the British Amateur Radio Teledata Group's Golden Jubilee 2009, one the air for one year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending on July 30, 2010, all HF bands. Operators on a rotating basis will be G3LDI, GW4SKA, G1XKZ, G8GNI, M5AEX. QSL Manager is Andrew, M5AEX, QSL via QSL.com.

• **The following hamfests, etc., are slated for August:**

August 1, **Columbus Hamfest**, Aladdin Shrine Center, Columbus, OH. Info at: <[www.aladdinshrine.org/hamfest.htm](http://www.aladdinshrine.org/hamfest.htm)>. (Exams)

August 7–8, **2009 Maritime DX Forum**, Rosaria Centre, Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Speakers: OH2BH, K1JT, N4GRN, KR2Q, VE7HA/7J1AQH. Contact Scott Wood, VE1QD, e-mail: <[ve1qd@rac.ca](mailto:ve1qd@rac.ca)>, phone 902-823-2761; <[www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)>.

August 7–9, **Pacific Northwest DX Convention**, Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center, Spokane, WA. Information: <[www.sdx.org](http://www.sdx.org)>.

August 16, **Denver Radio Club Hamfest**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, CO. Contact Bryan Steinberg, KBØA, at <[drctest@comcast.net](mailto:drctest@comcast.net)>; <[www.w0tx.org](http://www.w0tx.org)>. (Talk-in 145.490 or 448.625 [both 100 Hz]; exams 10 AM)

August 21–23, **Porter County ARC Swapmeet & Camp-out**, Allstate Radio Club W9SAL complex, LaPorte, IN. Contact <[pcarc@pcarc.net](mailto:pcarc@pcarc.net)>; <[www.pcarc.net](http://www.pcarc.net)>.

August 22, **Owen-Monroe Hamfest**, Owen County Fairgrounds, Spencer, IN. Contact Katie Smith, K9INU, e-mail: <[k9inu@arrl.net](mailto:k9inu@arrl.net)>; phone 812-829-2140. (Talk-in 146.985 [136.5 PL]; exams 1 PM)

August 23, **East Central Illinois Hamfest**, Vermilion County Fairgrounds, Danville, IL. Contact Josh Kittle, N9WEW, e-mail: <[josh@kittle.com](mailto:josh@kittle.com)>, phone 217-442-0578; <<http://www.vcara-hamfest.info/>>. (Talk-in 146.820, PL 88.5 Hz; exams)

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



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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  
\$799<sup>95</sup>

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

## CD-45II

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



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

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

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

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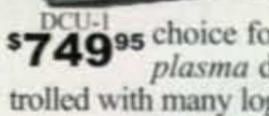
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DCU-1  
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AR-40  
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For compact antenna arrays and large FM/TV up to 3.0 square feet wind load area. Dual 12 ball bearing race. Automatic position 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.

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

## HDR-300A

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
Mounting Hardware	stainless steel bolts
Control Cable Conductors	7
Shipping Weight	61 lbs.
Effective Moment (in tower)	5000 ft.-lbs.

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*The Gardens of Santa Maria del Priorato at the headquarters of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta on Aventino Hill in Rome. The order has extra-territorial status, meaning it is an independent entity within the city. (All photos courtesy of the author)*

# 1A3A: The First Contest from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

BY GIORGIO MINGUZZI,\* IZ4AKS, and FABIO SCETTINO, I4UFH  
English Translation by Alex Novelli, I6NOA

*What's it like to activate a rare DX entity in a major contest for the first time? IZ4AKS and I4UFH take us to the "other side" of the 2007 CQ World-Wide DX Contest from a "country" comprised of just a few buildings in Rome, Italy—the Sovereign Military Order of Malta—and an operation that scored #1 worldwide for multi-multi contest DXpeditions: 1A3A.*

It has been nearly 30 years since the ARRL Awards Committee added the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (S.M.O.M., prefix 1A) to the DXCC List, and although many ham radio operations have taken place from this rare DXCC country, no one had ever seriously participated in an international DX contest from the Gardens of Santa Maria del Priorato, the order's home on Aventino Hill in Rome (see sidebar "What is the S.M.O.M.?). This is the story of the first such operation, as 1A3A, during the SSB weekend of the 2007 CQ World-Wide DX Contest.

Cortesi Massimo, IZ4DPV, clearly was determined to run a contest from Aventino Hill, and when he tried to convince

me to do it with him, he didn't have to work very hard to have me start analyzing the opportunity and getting all the necessary permissions.

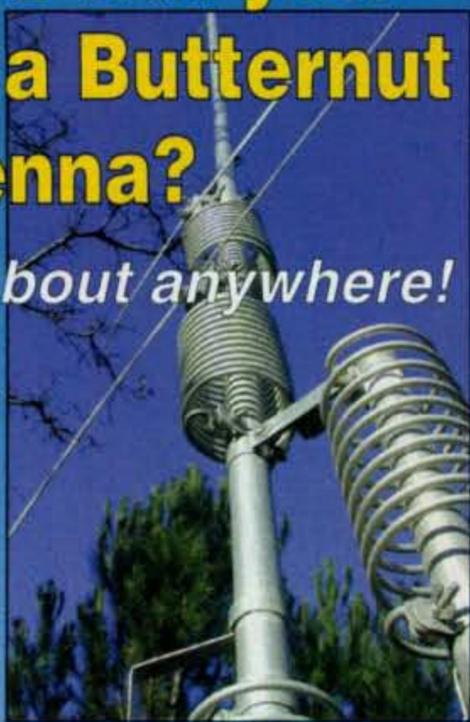
After a few meetings, we initially concluded that we could do it best with two stations—two single operators, single band, high power. An easy setup would be important with small, unobtrusive rigs and accessories, almost all of which was in our hands. We were already familiar with the operating location, so we knew that setting up for the operation wouldn't be difficult for us, and we could look forward to a weekend of pile-ups and fun. Looking at the previous year's results, we had the feeling that we could achieve a pretty good score, at least in Europe, despite being at the solar cycle minimum.

In the middle of the summer we heard from the Order of Malta announcing that we would soon be granted permission

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to enter the villa and a license to operate there. The license was granted as part of a fundraising program to support the Order of Malta's worldwide relief activities. Specifically, the contest activity would help collect funds for building a girls' school in southern Sudan (see sidebar "The Rumbek School").

## A Change of Plans

Soon afterward, some other friends called to ask us about our plans for the 2007 CQ WW DX SSB Contest, along with an invitation to join them in a common project. IZ4DPV and I discussed it over dinner and found ourselves in doubt about whether to carry on our original plan or get other people involved and make it completely different.

At the end of the discussion, we concluded that although a change in operating class and strategy would probably make it harder to achieve a high score in the competition, given the oper-

ating environment and geographical location, we nevertheless would give a serious try to activate the country in such a way as to give the contest community the opportunity to work a rare prefix as never before in a WW contest. It now all was up to us to make a small contribution to the history of our hobby. We then started to enroll other friends in this adventure, and the initial two operators soon became 21!

The natural evolution of our original idea would have been that of a M/S (Multi-operator, Single-transmitter) set-up, but after careful evaluation of available space and a study of the possible placement of the various stations, we started to dream of competing in the M/M (Multi-operator, Multi-transmitter) category.

With all the stations located close to one another, the only real problems we anticipated would come from reciprocal interference. Once in Rome, we would run tests in the field and make the final

## What is S.M.O.M.?

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta is a Roman Catholic religious order that dates back more than 950 years. From its earliest days, it has been recognized as a sovereign entity, answerable only to the Pope. Originally a monastic community known as the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the group was founded to operate a hospital for Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land. It added a military aspect during the crusades, protecting not only the pilgrims under its care but also the territory conquered in the course of the crusades.

After the crusaders were forced from the Holy Land in the late 1200s, the order moved to Cyprus and then to Rhodes. It minted its own money and maintained diplomatic relations with a variety of nations. The order also took on the defense of the broader Christian world by building a powerful navy that fought many battles. It was a key player in the defeat of Ottoman naval forces in the Mediterranean Sea in the 16th century.

However, in 1523 the knights of the Order of St. John were defeated by Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent and were forced out of Rhodes. Several years later, the order was given possession of the island of Malta, from which its current name originates. Since it was aligned only with the church, one of the order's rules was that it would not take sides in wars between Christian nations or do battle against fellow Christians. Thus, when Napoleon occupied Malta as part of his Egyptian campaign in 1798, the knights were again forced to leave. In 1835, the group settled permanently in Rome, where it continues to occupy two sets of buildings and retains its historic independence. Its extraterritorial



status is the basis for its recognition by the ARRL as a distinct DXCC entity.

The S.M.O.M. today is primarily a charitable organization, organizing medical and humanitarian activities around the world. It currently has about 12,500 full members (knights and dames), as well as many additional volunteers. For more information, see the Order of Malta website at <[www.orderofmalta.org](http://www.orderofmalta.org)>.—*Information courtesy Order of Malta website*

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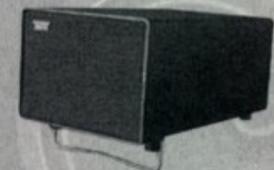
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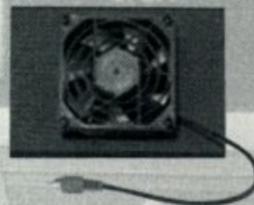
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Part of the 1A3A team for the 2007 CQ World-Wide DX Contest SSB competition. There were 21 members of the group overall, of whom a dozen operated in the contest.

decision whether to operate as M/M or, in case of excessive interference, as M2 (Multi-operator, Two-transmitters).

With these ideas in mind, we started to prepare and assemble what we planned to be the best ham radio setup ever installed in 1A-land since it became a DXCC entity. Our biggest challenge was to install all the antennas and set up the shack in four days while avoiding causing any problems in the old 8th century castle or in the garden, which includes Lebanon cedars that—according to legend—were brought there from the Holy Land.

#### Antennas in the Garden

On 10 meters we chose a 4-element Yagi used in many contests at IR4T to be installed right above a 40-meter 2-element Yagi from Hy-Gain. To pull up these antennas properly at least 20 meters (65 feet) from the ground, we rented a truck with a long extensible arm and a platform on top of it (*what we in America call a cherry-picker—ed.*), where we bolted the mast for the 10-

and 40-meter Yagis. The two beams were mounted 180 degrees out of phase with each other to allow us to work Europe on 10 meters during the day (when 40 was quiet) and then swing the 10-meter beam to South America at night, while simultaneously working Europe on 40. Also installed on the truck were a dipole for 160 meters and a loop for 40, both hanging from the truck's platform at the 20-meter level.

The 3-element 15-meter antenna was put on top of a mast about 9 meters (29 feet) above one of the villa's terrace roofs, while the 20-meter Yagi was installed on a 14-meter (45-foot) high mast, above a large terrace overlooking the Tevere (Tiber) River. This location offered us a good "view" to Japan via long path on 20 and 15.

On 80 meters, we used a Spiderbeam fiberglass vertical antenna with 16 radials. The 80-meter antenna was installed on the opposite side of the church from the other antennas, 100 meters (325 feet) from the shack, in order to avoid interference to the 40-meter station. To help with the reception on the low



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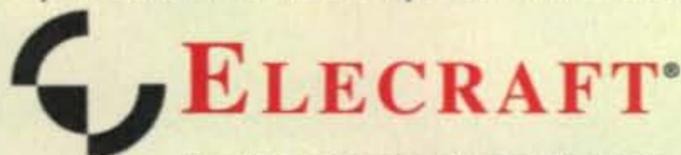
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bands, we installed a K9AY antenna and a Beverage exactly 100 meters (325 feet) long, low above the ground.

Since our stay at the villa was going to be longer than just the CQ WW weekend, we also wanted to give a new one to WARC band operators (30, 17, and 12 meters), so we also installed a trusty Cushcraft R7 vertical and an ICOM

7400 (the European version of the ICOM 746-Pro). In addition, thanks to Giovanni Zangara, IW0BET, Michele Minguzzi, IZ4GWE, and Luigi Minguzzi, IZ4FTE, we also made QSOs on 2 meters, 4 meters, and 6 meters.

We spent eight weekends and countless nights preparing and testing all the equipment for the contest. Then every

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### The Rumbek School

One of the Order of Malta's current projects is raising funds to build and equip a middle school for girls in Rumbek, South Sudan. Its goal is to raise 1 million Euros to build and operate the school, hoping to break the cycle of poverty and illness in the area by providing hundreds of young girls with education and assistance in building family-based small businesses. The hams who operated 1A3A are part of this effort, which is sponsored jointly by S.M.O.M. and the Italian government. For information on how to support this program, see the group's website at <[www.1a4a.org](http://www.1a4a.org)>.



Construction work in progress on the middle school for girls in Rumbek, South Sudan. The Order of Malta and the 1A3A team are supporting this ongoing project. (Photo from the 1A4A website)



The 10- and 40-meter beams were installed on the platform of a rented cherry-picker and faced in opposite directions. See text for explanation.

single component was pre-assembled, tuned, and packed for transport, totalling 700 kg (1,540 lbs.) of goods!

### Putting it All Together

Once in Rome, we installed everything properly and spent three days before the contest thoroughly testing the setup. The shack was erected around four wooden tables used in the 2007 1A4A activity, in which six stations were built and wired, including computers, monitors, filters, and all the needed stuff for interfacing the computers to both the radios and the internet for monitoring spots. Based on our previous experience of M/M, M2, and M/S contests from other locations in earlier sunspot cycles, the interference issues are the always the ones to fix, and we expected to do that as well in this limited space M/M. Fortunately, we had great help from the filters built by Ranko, 4O3A, that were kindly donated to the group for this contest; accurate wiring of cables; and properly installed connectors. All of this reduced our interference to a minimum, and we really didn't have to worry about it during the contest.



The 20-meter Yagi (shown here) and the 15-meter beam both had good views from the top of Aventino Hill for working long path to Japan.



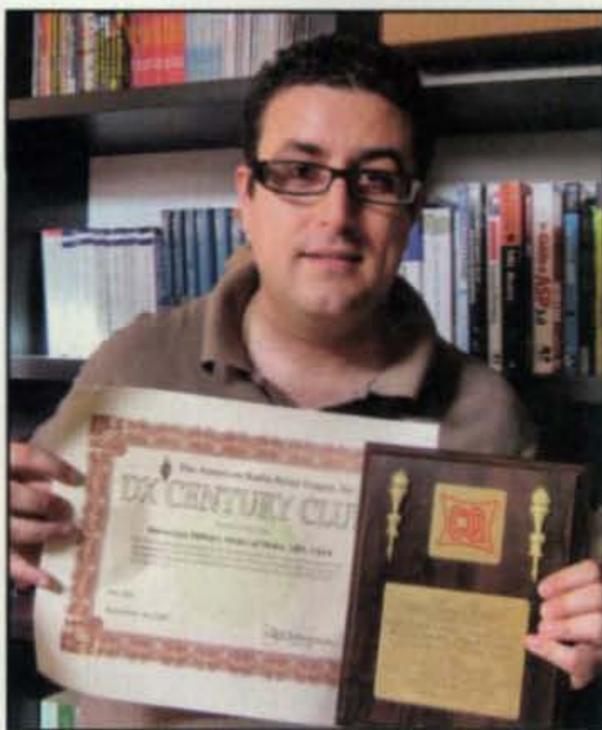
IV3SKB, IZ8CCW, and I4UFH work on connecting the radios to the computers and networking the computers at what will be the main operating position.



Before the contest began, Salvador, C31CT, operating as 1A4A, gave out contacts on the WARC bands (12, 17, and 30 meters).



Not all the operators at 1A3A were men. Here Erica Sanna, IZ0EIK, works the pile-ups.



Fruits of a weekend's labor ... author IZ4AKS holding both the ARRL DXCC certificate and the CQ WW DX Contest plaque earned during the 2007 contest weekend.

The strategy of an M/M station in a contest is quite simple: Stay on all the bands all the time, even the lower frequency bands during the day. We didn't stop calling CQ on 80 meters during the day, and we had a slow but good run even during midday. Most of the operators had several years of contesting experience, so everyone knew exactly what to do, how to run, and how to move multipliers to other bands. There were no glitches during the contest. The Cluster spotting was networked with UMTS cellular connection data, and was very reliable for all 48 hours of the event. The software used for logging

was WinTest, rock-solid software from the good French guys of FY5KE. In fact, our only problem during the contest was that some apparently organized stations deliberately jammed us for over 20 hours. Nonetheless, we finished the contest with nearly 12,000 QSOs in the log and roughly 12.2 million points—enough to rank fourth in the world for Multi-Multi and first Multi-Multi for contest expeditions.

Describing such an experience is not an easy task, as any ham radio activity, especially a contest, is unique and hard to compare with another, even of the same kind. However, we can easily say that we were enthusiastic about the results.

Those involved in this adventure, who spent energy and resources to reach the goal, will be greatly rewarded not only by the score and by the fun running so many contacts from a DXCC entity which had never been on the air competing in a major contest before, but also by the smiles of the girls from Rumbek (South Sudan), who will be helped by the generosity of hams worldwide who sent donations to the cause we highlighted during our operation. We have, in fact, decided again to start a fund-raising campaign to complete the Order of Malta School in Africa. Thanks to the campaign run last January, in March we could buy the computers for the multimedia class of the African school.

With the pride of having achieved such a good result, and full of gratitude to all of those who made this activity possible, we are already working on the next project.



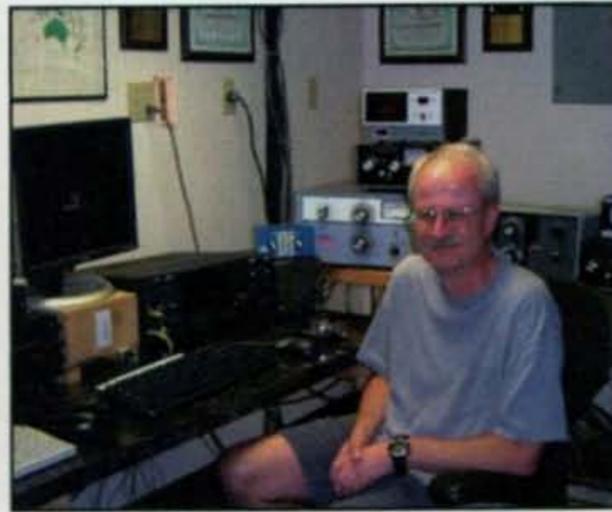
The main station up and running. During the 2007 CQ WW, 1A3A made some 12,000 QSOs and scored more points than any other Multi-Multi contest expedition station.



Chris, 9Y4D, placed third in the world on 14 MHz.



Stig, HS0ZGD, placed second in the world low power 14 MHz.



Joe, AA3B, took fifth place Assisted in the U.S.

# Results of the 2008 CQ WW DX SSB Contest

BY BOB COX,\* K3EST

The 2008 CQ WW DX SSB Contest occurred with the solar flux about as low as it can get. Conditions were predicted to be a challenge. To alleviate months of flat solar flux, the suggested solution was "Enter the CQ WW SSB Contest and help cure band conditions." Once again, the CQ WW made its own propagation. As KØIP said, "Wow! Zero sunspots, what a contest." As has been mentioned before, the CQ WW is a fantastic competition which brings out the best in amateur radio: team work, station construction, antenna design, propagation knowledge, and operating skills. Just turn on your radio and you can join in the fun. Once you listen to the bands during the CQ WW, you will be hooked. You can be guaranteed to have a good time.

With solar conditions on the decline, contesters of all ages from every corner of the world turned on their radios and were surprised when the bands sprung to life. The CQ WW is a celebration of ham radio skill and effort. Thousands of hams throughout the world received their first ham radio thrill in the CQ WW. New hams and old who try the CQ WW become addicted. GM2T's comments sum up the wonderful challenge the CQ WW brings to new and experienced operators: "We had three new license holders who had never ever taken part in any contest in their lives before. One of the Foundation license holders, MM3ZTP, age 14 years, took to it like a duck to water and was soon running pile-ups like a seasoned professional. This is what it is all about, seeing the young ones really enjoying the fun. The other two new hams after being initially over-awed soon got themselves into the swing of operating, great to see."

\*e-mail: <k3est@cqww.com>

After all the logs were counted, an amazing number emerged: 5021 received entries. Below are presented the results of the efforts of the entrants. If you want to know how long it is until the 2009 CQ WW SSB test check out the website of OT5A: <<http://www.on7lr.org>>. Read on to see how you and your friends ended up. Everyone who operated the 2008 CQ WW was a winner.

## High Power

The top spot in this difficult category went to an operator familiar with winning the CQ WW. Rich, N6KT, put his considerable skill to work talking HC8A to the world high score. HC8A sits on the side of a dormant volcano on San Cristobal Island, and Rich took full advantage of the location and propagation to find the path to top honors. Second place world and the top European score for several years running was Toni, OH2UA, operating from CU2X. Third place went to several-time world winner Tom, W2SC, operating 8P5A from beautiful Barbados. Taking second place in Europe and sixth in the world was Tonno operating from his super station, ES5TV. From Crete, Ben, DL6FBL, took his host's station, SV9CVY, to third place in Europe and seventh in the world. In the U.S., the competition from the northeast was fierce. Randy, K5ZD, did his usual fabulous job and took top honors! What a great operator and score. Krassy, K1LZ, put his considerable skills to work and took U.S. second place. Doug, K1DG, took third place from his Maine island QTH. Other worthy efforts from propagationally challenged areas which should be mentioned were those of DU9DG, VK4CZ, K7RL, N6TJ, KH6LC (N6GQ), and BA4RF.

The continental winners were: North America: 8P5A (W2SC); Africa: 6W1RY (F5VHJ); Asia: 5B4All (RW3QC); Europe:



Special event station EE9E.

CU2X (OH2UA); Oceania: 9M8Z (9M6DXX); South America: HC8A (N6KT); Japan: JH4UYB; U.S.: K5ZD/1.

## Low Power

The low power category means a transceiver and an antenna. Many people have a transceiver running 100 watts, and anyone can enter the low power category. This means that this category has the most entrants of any CQ WW category. It is a challenge to end up on the top scores list.

John, KK9A, operating as P40A, continues to take home the world high trophy. Operating from beautiful Aruba, John again took away top world low power trophy. Four years in a row is quite an achievement, John! Second place went to Ted, HI3TEJ, using his contest call, HI3T. Third place in the world was KP4KE operated by Barney, DK8ZB. CT8K operated by José, CT1CJJ took first place in Europe. This is the fourth year in a row that José took the plaque. Congratulations, José! Second place Europe went to low power champion Zlatko, 9A2EU. Taking Europe third place was Lorenzo, IZ2FOS, operating from northern

Italy. In the U.S., we had a repeat winner from 2007, Art, K1BX. Great operating, Art! Second place went to Ed, N1UR, who finishes on or near the top almost every time. Third place U.S. went to Terry, N4TZ/9, from Indiana. SU1KM (N5ZO), 5Z4/RW1AU, V51YJ, ST2NH, BD1ND, AU2RSB, OD5NJ, 7Z1SJ, HS0ZHC, UK8AKK, YB1TJ, and DV1JM all had excellent scores from interesting locations.

The continental winners were: North America: HI3T (HI3TEJ); Africa: SU1KM (N5ZO); Asia: HS0ZHC; Europe: CT8K (CT1CJJ); Oceania: DV1JM; South America: P40A (KK9A); Japan: JA7LMZ; U.S.: K1BX.

## QRP

The CQ WW offers a contester a very good opportunity to work rare DX which would otherwise prove elusive. The QRP category sharpens your searching skills and the rewards are very satisfying. You can work a lot of stations with 5 watts or less.

Our world winner was Remi, LY8O. He traveled 100 km to his contest station to get away from line noise. Looks like it paid off, Remi. Long-time QRPer, Doug, KR2Q, took second place world and first place U.S. from northern New Jersey. Third place world and number two Europe was Gerard, F5BEG. Second in the U.S., and repeating as the top score west of New Jersey, was Philip, N0KE. He also finished #9 in the world. Another dedicated QRPer took third place in the U.S., Randy, ND0C. Third place in Europe went to Milan, OK2BYW. Special mention must be made of the fine score of Izuno-san, JR4DAH, #7 in the world and #1 in Asia. The top zone 3 score was submitted by NN7SS (K6UFO), followed closely by Bill, W8QZA, operating W6QU. JA2DLM, JA2MWV, YB2OK, VK4ATH, and PY2BN are to be congratulated for their outstanding efforts.

The continental winners were: North America: KR2Q; Africa: no entry; Asia: JR4DAH; Europe: LY8O; Oceania: YB2OK; South America: PY2BN; Japan: JR4DAH; U.S.: KR2Q.

## Assisted

Use of a QSO spotting tool places you in the assisted category. The top assisted score in the world went to Philippe, LX7I. Philippe said: "Thanks for all who called me. Before the contest I never had imagined to make this great score." Dreams do come true! Second place world and number one in the U.S. was Dick, NN3W, who asks the questions on all our minds: "Good opening for me on 15 meters. 10 meters, where art thou?" Third place world went to ZX2B, the contest call of PY2MNL. Second place in Europe went to Salvatore, IK8UND, who put TK9R in a lot of logs. Third place in Europe went to Alex, YO9HP, operating his contest call, YR9P. Second place in the U.S. was taken by assisted category aficionado Charles, K3WW. Third place in the U.S. went to Jerry, WB9Z, in Illinois. The efforts of BA7NQ, UP2L, KG6DX, ZM1K (VK2IA), and T8IC (JK2VOC) made everyone happy.

The continental winners were: North America: NN3W; Africa: EC8AFM; Asia: RO9O (RZ9OO); Europe: LX7I; Oceania: KG6DX; South America: ZX2B (PY2MNL); Japan: JQ1BVI; U.S.: NN3W.

## Multi-Single

The multi-single category is very competitive. The category attracts the second largest number of participants in the contest. Getting together with new and old friends for a weekend of never-ending QSOs is what multi-single is all about.

The top three winners from 2007 juggled places in the 2008 competition. Taking first place for two years in a row was the multinational team of CN3A. What a great job they did. Moving up to second place in the world was P33W. A team from the Radio Amateur Club of Kourou, operating as FY5YE on the French Guyana coast, came in third. Multi-single is very competitive within Europe. Doing a fine job and taking the top position was radio club F6KHM using their club call, TM6M. Second place went to the Romagna Contest Team, IR4M. Third place in Europe went to the Salgotarjani Varosi Radio Klub, HG6N. Not enough can be said about the great effort and win in the U.S. by N0NI. The team from Iowa took advantage of the rare propagational opportunity to beat all the East Coast stations and lead the pack from the Midwest. Ray's team at K9RS/3 took second place from eastern Pennsylvania. Third place went to Tom, K8AZ, located in the countryside of northeastern Ohio. W7VJ took top honors from the U.S. West Coast. Outstanding performances were turned in by many teams. Some of the rarer ones appearing in many logs were: 3DA0DJ, XU7MDY, AH2R, VU4MY, VU7SJ,

T32CXX, 9V1YC, A73A, B7P, 9K2HN, HS0AC, and VU2PAI.

The continental winners were: North America: VP5DX; Africa: CN3A; Asia: P33W; Europe: TM6M; Oceania: AH2R; South America: FY5KE; Japan: JA6ZPR; U.S.: N0NI.

## Multi-Two

The multi-two category needs two stations manned nearly all the time and stations have to move skillfully as the propagation changes. Doing this smoothly takes a skilled crew. Reprising their win from 2007 was AO8A. The international group finished #1 in the world from the western Canary Islands. Taking second place in the world was 6Y1V. KY1V was joined by "Young Ham Contest Program Winner IZ7KHR, last year's winner LU9ESD, and three English hams, G3NKC, G4BUO, and G4XUM. This proved to be a great combination; everyone really enjoyed the experience." Third place went to the big DXpedition from the Rhein-Ruhr DX Association, CT9L. First place in Europe went to long-time top finisher, IR4X. The team has been having a good time on a mountaintop in central Italy for a very long time. Second place in Europe went to AM3SSB. Their signal sure was booming into the U.S. Third place in Europe went to the MTOSZ Gyor Varosi Radio Klub, HG1S. The top two places in the U.S. went to stations from the Frankford Radio Club. Repeating from 2007, WE3C's station in eastern Pennsylvania took the top honors in this popular category. Second place went to Sig's team at N3RS overlooking the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Third place in the U.S. went to Mark's team at K1RX. There were several stations that put rare multipli-

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Friedrichshafen, Germany - June 26-28  
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Ariake, Tokyo - August 22-23

## TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

### SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

World  
HC8A (Opr.: Richard Smith, N6KT)  
Donor: Southern California DX Club

World Low Power  
P40A (Opr.: John Bayne, KK9A)  
Donor: Slovenian Contest Club

World QRP  
Remigijus Vaicius, LY8O  
Donor: Jeff Steinman, N5TJ

World Assisted  
Philippe Luty, LX7I  
Donor: Glenn Johnson, W8GJ

U.S.A.  
Randall Thompson, K5ZD  
Donor: Potomac Valley R.C. - KC8C Memorial

U.S.A. Low Power  
Arthur Hambleton, K1BX  
Donor: North Coast Contesters

U.S.A. QRP  
Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q  
Donor: Pat Collins, N8VW

U.S.A. Assisted  
Richard Di Donna, NN3W  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

U.S.A. Zone 3  
Mitch Mason, K7RL  
Donor: Dave Pruett, K8CC & Greg Surma, K8GL

U.S.A. Zone 4  
Mike Wetzel, W9RE  
Donor: Dave Pruett, K8CC & Greg Surma, K8GL

Canada  
VY2ZM (Opr.: Jeffrey Briggs, K1ZM)  
Donor: Contest Club Ontario  
VE3WT Memorial

Caribbean/C.A.  
8P5A (Opr.: Thomas Georgens, W2SC)  
Donor: Alex M. Kasevich, VP2MM

Europe  
CU2X (Opr.: Toni Linden, OH2UA)  
Donor: Potomac Valley R.C. - W4BVV Memorial

Europe Low Power  
CT8K (Opr.: Jose Manuel Farto Lopes, CT1CJJ)  
Donor: Scott Jones, N3RA & Tim Duffy, K3LR

Russia  
RK3AXX (Opr.: Willy Umanets, UA9BA)  
Donor: Roman Thomas, RZ3AA

Africa  
6W1RY (Opr.: Albert Crespo, F5VHJ)  
Donor: Gordon Marshall, W6RR

Asia  
5B4All (Opr.: Jack Danielyan, RW3QC)  
Donor: CQ magazine

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

Japan Low Power  
Fumi Konno, JA7LMZ  
Donor: Western Washington DX Club

Oceania  
9M8Z (Opr.: Steve Telenius-Lowe, 9M6DXX)  
Donor: Northern California DX Club

South America  
Tom Oliveira Martins, PY2YU  
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club

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

World - 21 MHz  
ZX5J (Opr.: Sergio Almeida, PP5JR)  
Donor: Robert Naumann, W5OV

World - 14 MHz  
VP2E (Opr.: Jeffrey Steinman, N5TJ)  
Donor: North Jersey DX Assn. - K2HLB Memorial

### World - 7 MHz

Dusko, Dumanovic, ZL3A  
Donor: Fred Laun, K3ZO - K7ZZ Memorial

### World - 3.7 MHz

EA8CMX (Opr.: Mauri Leppala, OH2BYS)  
Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

### World - 1.8 MHz

CN2R (Opr.: James Sullivan, W7EJ)  
Donor: Robert Wruble, W7GG

### USA - 28 MHz

Courtney Judd, K4WI  
Donor: Donald Thomas, N6DT

### USA - 21 MHz

Victor Walz, N2PP  
Donor: 11 PM Dayton Pizza Gang

### USA - 14 MHz

Robert Shohet, KQ2M  
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club  
KC1F Memorial

### USA - 7 MHz

Paul H Newberry, Jr, N4PN  
Donor: Stanley Cohen, W8QDQ

### USA - 3.7 MHz

Joseph Gagliardi, Jr, AA1BU  
Donor: CQ magazine

### USA - 1.8 MHz

Manuel Fonseca, Jr., W2MF  
Donor: Glenn Johnson, W8GJ

### Carib./C.A. (14 MHz)

Christopher Ellis, 9Y4D  
Donor: Nate Moreschi, N4YDU

### Europe - 28 MHz

Slaven Galic, E77A  
Donor: Charles Dietz, W5PR

### Europe - 21 MHz

Nikola Percin, 9A5W  
Donor: Tine Brajnik, S50A

### Europe - 14 MHz

GI5K (Opr.: Chris Smith, M0LLL)  
Donor: Charles Wooten, NF4A

### Europe - 7 MHz

YT8A (Opr.: Ceha Dusan-Dule, YU1EA)  
Donor: John Warren, NT5C

### Europe - 3.7 MHz

Robert Cummings, G10KOW  
Donor: Ted Demopoulos, KT1V

### Europe - 1.8 MHz

Joseph Cornee, F6CTT  
Donor: Robert Kasca, S53R

### Oceania (7 MHz)

KH7B (Opr.: Wilbert Kollenbaum, K4XS)\*  
Donor: Bruce D. Lee, KD6WW

### Asia - 14 MHz

9K2K (Opr.: Abdallah Hamad AL-Muzayan, 9K2GS)  
Donor: Charles Shinn, W7MAP

### Japan - 14 MHz

Hasebe Tatsumi, JA2PAC  
Donor: Take Yokoyama, JL1BLW

### MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER

World  
CN3A (Oprs.: IK2SGC, I2WIJ, YO3JR, S50A, S50XX, CN8WW)  
Donor: So. Calif. DX Club - W6AM Memorial

### U.S.A.

N8NI (Oprs.: K8KD, KU1CW, N8AC, N8NI, N8XR, N7AZ, W8FLS, K8WHV)  
Donor: Carolina DX Association

### Carib./C.A.

VP5DX (Oprs.: N4KE, AB4UF, NU4Y)  
Donor: Bob Raymond, WA1Z

### Africa

CQ9K (Oprs.: CT3BD, CT3DL, CT3DZ, CT3EE, CT3EN, CT3IA, CT3KU, CT3KY, CT3NT)\*  
Donor: Doc Sayre, W7EW

### Asia

P33W (Oprs.: 5B8AD, 5B4AIA, RW4WR, RW3RN, RA3AUU, RX3DCX)  
Donor: Edward L. Campbell, NT4TT  
AA6BB and KA6V Memorial

### Japan

J12ZJS (Oprs.: JA2AXB, JA2JSF, JH2UVL, JG2TSL, JL2TAW, JM2RUV)  
Donor: Bob Epstein, K8IA

### Europe

TM6M (Oprs.: F1AKK, F4DXW, F5MUX, F5TTU, F8DBF)  
Donor: Bob Cox, K3EST

### Oceania

AH2R (Oprs.: JI3ERV, NH2C, JR7OMD, JR8VSE, NH2N, JH7QXJ, AH2Q)  
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

### South America

FY5YE (Oprs.: F1HAR, F5HRY, F6FGZ, F6FVY, FY5FY)  
Donor: Victor Burns, K16IM -  
The Cuba Libra Contest Club

### MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO TRANSMITTERS

World  
A08A (Oprs.: EA8AH, EA8CAC, EA8ZS, ES2RR, ES5RW, OH1MA, OH2JA, OH3RB, OH5XT)  
Donor: Array Solutions

### U.S.A.

WE3C (Oprs.: WE3C, KQ3V, NN3Q, K3CT, KQ3F, W2GD)  
Donor: Kimo Chun, KH7U & Mike Gibson, KH6ND  
Dan Robbins, KL7Y Memorial

### Europe

IR4X (Oprs.: I4EAT, I4AVG, I4EWH, I4VEQ, I4TJE, I4IND, I4IKW, IK4DCT, IK4EWW, IZ4BOY, IK2NCJ, IZ3EYZ)  
Donor: Aki Nagi, JA5DQH

### Oceania

AH8BT (Oprs.: W1FPU, AH8BR, AH8BM)  
Donor: Japan CQ Ham Radio

### MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

World  
K3LR (Oprs.: K3LR, N2NC, N2NL, W3TX, K8GL, W2RQ, K14MTU, K1AR, N6MJ, N3SD, K3UA, DL6LAU, N3GJ, LU7DW, WM2H)  
Donor: Dave Leeson, W6NL, and Barb Leeson, K6BL

### U.S.A.

W3LPL (Oprs.: W3LPL, K1DQV, NI1N, ND3A, WX3B, W3IDT, N3KS, K3MIM, K3MM, K3RA, WR3Z, W3ZZ, KD4D, K4ZA, AC6WI)\*  
Donor: Jim Lawson, W2PV Memorial

### Europe

DF8HQ (Oprs.: DG1ATN, DJ9AO, DL1AUZ, DL20BF, DL20E, DL2SAX, DL3TD, DL5A0J, DL5AXX, DL5GA, DL5MLO, DL7FER)  
Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

### Japan

JR5VHU (Oprs.: JR5VHU, JM1UWB, JA5FDJ, JA5JCC, JH5FIS, JH5RXS, JR5JAQ, JR5PWV, JJ6WYS, JK6RIP)  
Donor: Ryoza Goto, JH3JYS

### CONTEST EXPEDITIONS

World Single Operator  
VU4RG (Opr.: Norbert Meyer, DJ7JC)  
Donor: National Capitol DX Assn.  
Stuart Meyer, W2GHK Memorial

### World Multi-Single

VU7SJ (Oprs.: DL9GFB, VU2JOS)  
Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED

### World Multi-Multi

VK9DWX (Oprs.: DJ5IW, DJ7EO, DJ9RR, DL1MGB, DL3DXX, DL5LYM, DL8OH, DL8WPX, SP5XVY, ZS6DXB)  
Donor: CQ magazine

\*Second place

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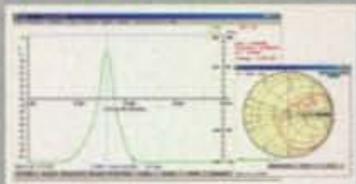


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QTH of JR5VHU showed its muscle by taking first in Japan, edging out the green tea plantation QTH of JA3YBK.

The continental winners were: North America: K3LR; Africa: no entry; Asia: JR5VHU; Europe: DF0HQ; Oceania: VK9DWX; South America: YV4A; Japan: JR5VHU; U.S.: K3LR.

### Team Contesting

Five contesters from anywhere can form a team. Register your team before the contest and you have the ticket to enter the team contesting category. A lot of planning goes into the top teams to make potential top scores. Many of the teams band together just to have fun. As you can see below, the teams can be formed with members from anywhere in the world. Besides sending a FAX or mail to CQ, you can submit your team list to <teams@cqww.com>. You will receive an acknowledgement from that site. You probably noticed the three XE teams entered into the team competition category. What a great way to increase activity in a rare zone. Good job! This year the World-Wide Young Contesters Ultimate Lids team took top honors. The results of team contesting are as follows:

**1. WWYC Team Ultimate Lids:** CU2X (OH2UA), ES5TV, LX7I (LX2A), NN3W, OH8X (OH4JFN): 35,057,283.

**2. Contest Club Finland -Team Mannerheim:** OA4WW (HP1WW), OG5B (OH5BM), OG6N, TC4X (OH2PM): 6,898,638.

**3. Carolina DX Association:** AA4S, KI4TZ, KZ2I, N4ZC, N4PQX: 5,966,359.

**4. KTU RC:** LY1R, LY4T, LY5R, LY6A, LY2OU: 3,319,606

**5. WWYC Team AYBABTU:** OG50F (OH1NOA), M3PHP, SM6U, EA7OT, G1ZQN (M0TZO): 3,092,157.

**6. VKCC - 30s:** VK3TZ, VK4CZ, VK4HAM, VK4KW, VK4TI: 1,654,595.

**7. Grupo DXXE - Full Calories:** XE1BY, XE1NW, XE2S, XE1CQ, XE1CWJ: 1,612,527.

**8. Mediterraneo Team:** IZ8CCW, IZ8BGY, IZ8IYX, IK8LTB, IZ8FWN: 1,531,844.

**9. MCC#1:** VA1CHP, VA1MM, VE1DT, VE1OP, VY2LI: 1,529,135.

**10. The Quebec Baritones:** VE2XAA, VA2WDQ, VA2SG: 941,727.

**11. WWYC Team IRC:** E21EIC, OQ5M (ON5ZO), LZ4UU: 878,474.

**12. Reus Radio Contest Group:** EE3Y (EA3EYD), EA3KN, EE3R (EA3OR), EA3NA, EB3EPR: 675,089.

**13. Grupo DXXE - Low Calories 1:** XE1AY, XE1CT, XE1GRR, XE1MM, XE1YJS: 613,767.

**14. Louisiana Contest Club Team #1:** K5ER, KA5M, N5HMH: 565,583

**15. Grupo DXXE - Low Calories 2:** XE1YYD, XE1ZVO, XE2AUB, XE3N, N6AN: 158,347.

### Records

Beating an existing record is a real accomplishment. Take a look at the record list at CQWW.com. You might find that you have a chance to take on the personal challenge of going for a new record. If you discover an error in the record list, please document it and let us know at <questions@cqww.com>. Below are the outstanding efforts of super operators which resulted in setting

new world or continental SSB records during the 2008 contest. Congratulations!

**World:** A7 9Y4W; A3.7 OM2VL. **U.S.:** 14 KQ2M/1; A7 N2ZK. **North America:** 14 VP2E (N5TJ). **Africa:** A7 IG9R (IK8HCG). **Asia:** Q7 4X/UU2JM; A1.8 VR2DS. **Japan:** Q3.7 JF2MBF. **Europe:** A CU2X (OH2UA); 7 YT8A, 1.8 F6CTT; A7 TM7R (F5FLN); A3.7 OM2VL. **Oceania:** None. **South America:** A7 9Y4W.

### Special Mention

With the small rigs available today, you can place a transceiver in a carry-on, put some aluminum tubing in a golf bag, jump on a

plane, and within a few hours be operating from a DX location. The CQ WW is famous for hams going on DXpeditions. If you travel to an island, you will be surprised how the "island effect" will enhance your signal strength. Once your antenna sees salt water, you suddenly have a natural amplifier. Some of the exotic call signs appearing in entrant's logs making the contest more interesting for all of us were: 3DA0DJ, 3V8BB, 4X0C, 4X0V, 5B4AI, 5Z4/RW1AU, 6V7M, 6W1RY, 6Y1V, 8P5A, 9K2HN, 9M8YY, 9M8Z, A73A, AH0BT, AH2R, AO8A, 78 Chinese contesters(!), C6APR, CN2B, CN2R, CN3A, CN4P, CQ9K, CT/LZ3ND, CT1JLZ, CT9L, CU2X, D80Y, DL/N0HJZ,

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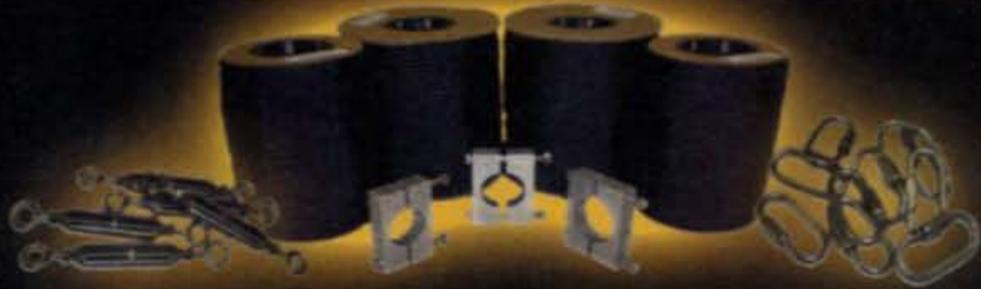


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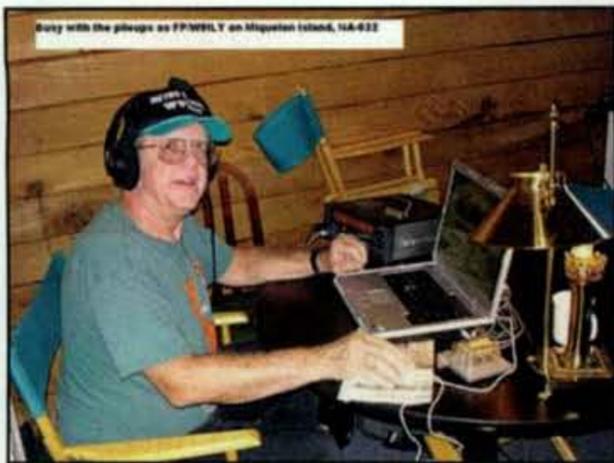
<b>Smallest in the World</b> Dimensions: W 11.02" X H 5.51" X D 12.60" Weight: 44lbs (41.8 lbs typ.)	<b>Fully Automatic</b> Easy connection with all models for immediate management of the bands, tuner and antennas: ICOM, YAESU, KENWOOD, TEN-TEC, FlexRadio, ELECFRAT
<b>Wide Frequency Coverage</b> 1.8 MHz to 50 MHz including WARC bands.	<b>Full Solid State</b> 1 KW pep SSB out; 900 W pep CW out (typ) 700 W pep out (typ) on 50 MHz. FULL / HALF power selected according to the operator SSB/CW power requirement, for digital modes and for linear protection. No heating time, immediately ready!
<b>Automatic Antenna Tuner Built-in</b> Capable of programmable switching of 4 antennas (SO 239) Up to two antennas for the same band Bands, Antennas, Tuning conditions are changed in 10 msec.	

## Antenna Gear

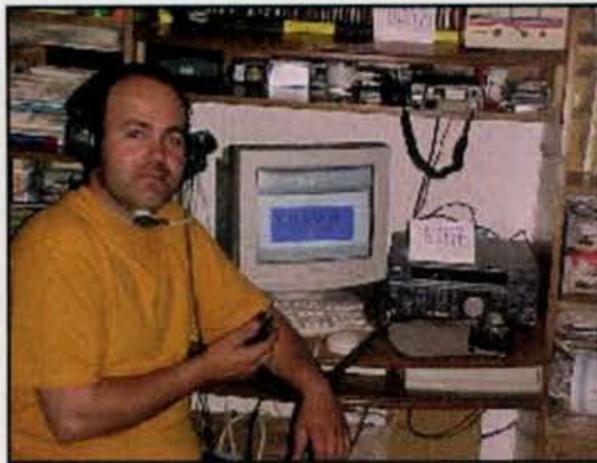


<b>Solid Aluminum Saddles</b> Fits tubing with outer diameter of: 1.75", 2.00" and 2.25" (coming soon 2.5", 2.75" and 3") Over 220lbs of holding force per saddle. No changing hole pattern, all saddles are interchangeable. Includes all stainless hardware and set screw. (which adds 40lbs of holding force) <b>Price \$13.95 per saddle kit</b>	<b>Double Braided Dacron Rope</b> Two sizes: 1/8" rated for 420lbs, 3/16" rated for 770lbs. Made of polyester polymer. Known for its strong resistance to stretching. Orders of 1000' increments call for special pricing. <b>Price \$.09 per ft for 1/8"</b> <b>\$.11 per ft for 3/16"</b>
	<b>Stainless Steel Antenna Hardware</b> Call for product details and sizes

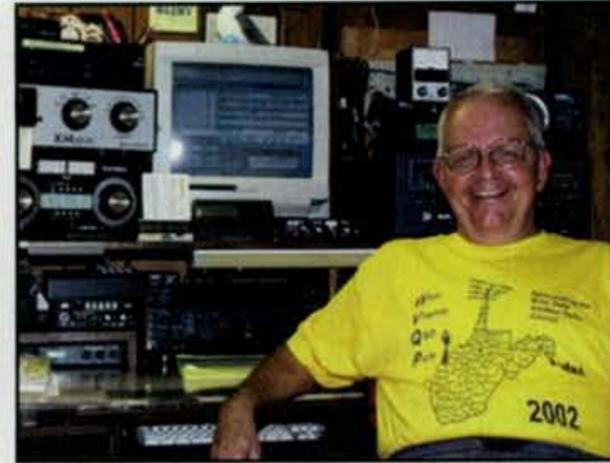
2112 116TH AVE NE SUITE 1-5, BELLEVUE WA, 98004  
**WWW.STEPIR.COM** TEL: (425)-453-1910 FAX: (425)-462-4415



John, W9ILY, on 21 MHz low power.



Gabi, YO8WW, #1 QRP Zone 20.



David, WA8WV, QRP from West Virginia.

E77J, E77XZ, EA6/AA5UK, EA6/DK5IR, EA8/EA4SV, EA8CMX, ED8D, EI/ON4EI, FG5KC, FY5KE, G/SP4BHD, G5W, GZ0F, HB0/HB9AON, HC8A, HQ2W, HQ3Z, HQ9R, HS0AC, HT2N, IG9R, IG9S, IH9N, IK/DJ1AA, IM0/IK0FMB, IS0/K7QB, ISSA, IS0C, IS0T, J37T, J42T, J43J, J88DR, KH6LC, KP2M, LA2AB, M7A, MW0X, MW9W, NH0DX, OA4WW, OE/DJ1AA, OH0E, OX2A, P33W, P40A, PJ2/OH2YY, PJ2T, PJ4/N0VD, PJ4E, PZ5Z, SU1KM, SU9HP, SV9CVY, SX5P, T32CXX, T88AC, T88YB, T8IC, TA2/DL7BC, TC4X, TC7KA, TI1R, TI5N, TK9R, TO4X, TO5DX, TO8Z, V26B, V31MX, V47JA, V48M, V6B, VK9DWX, VP2E, VP2EC, VP2V/K9NW, VP2V/SP7VC, VP5DX, VP5T, VP9/K3IRV, VR2EH, VU4MY, VU4RG, VU7SJ, WH2D, WH2DX, XU7ADU, YM2W, YV4A, ZA0/IK7JWX, ZK2DF, and ZM1K.

### Comments

We received 5021 2008 CQ WW SSB contest logs of which 4881 were electronic! Thanks to all the contesters around the world who sent in a log. *Please send in your log no matter how small.* Your

effort to submit an electronic log allows for a fairer adjudication process. Submitting an electronic log is easy. Send your SSB log to <ssb@cqww.com> (CW to <cw@cqww.com>). Please send your log in Cabrillo format. If you have the capability with your logging program please submit a log with exact frequencies. Exact frequencies help in the log-checking process and help with statistical analysis of band openings.

Before you submit your log, you can help us a great deal by double-checking your Cabrillo submission. Please make sure the category you have chosen is correctly indicated. If you are submitting a single-band entry, please check to see your chosen entry matches what is in your log. If you did everything OK, you will get back an acknowledgment from the robot. If there was something wrong, 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 are having submission problems, we can help you at <questions@cqww.com>. It bears repeating that if you make a mistake on your first submission, you can resubmit your log. It will replace the first submission. We archive all your submissions.

## 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
HC8A	278/17/44	741/27/93	1412/34/113	2477/35/127	1995/29/98	539/15/47
CU2X	262/16/60	748/24/95	1333/28/102	2454/32/117	2932/33/124	39/8/19
8P5A	362/13/49	834/24/90	1160/31/104	2778/32/116	1736/26/92	177/12/28
VY2ZM	675/21/83	668/20/87	854/27/96	3274/34/129	473/25/87	1/1/1
5B4AI	173/10/56	342/19/85	1000/23/98	1546/32/108	2314/28/105	61/8/24
ES5TV	592/20/77	1014/31/109	990/32/111	2395/38/137	400/34/93	92/6/28
SV9CVY	279/9/55	617/17/76	1841/29/107	2217/34/123	1425/26/102	270/9/41
VE3EJ	333/17/53	702/22/91	498/28/92	1738/38/129	931/28/100	28/6/10
K5ZD/1	112/14/55	410/21/86	765/27/100	1891/36/127	458/23/89	44/6/12
M6T	271/14/59	920/23/87	821/29/94	1833/37/112	849/31/98	24/3/19

### USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5ZD/1	112/14/55	410/21/86	765/27/100	1891/36/127	458/23/89	44/6/12
K1LZ	97/12/46	573/20/88	395/25/87	1705/33/122	474/25/90	63/6/13
K1DG	116/16/70	376/24/90	244/24/92	1677/33/123	374/23/92	52/6/19
K4ZW	67/15/46	404/20/85	649/28/95	1285/37/121	518/25/90	14/5/10
N2NT/1	93/12/45	377/22/85	416/24/86	1687/32/118	343/23/91	73/6/16
K3CR	65/11/43	330/19/75	338/22/86	1316/33/123	673/23/92	16/4/5
W9RE	51/10/26	226/26/81	566/28/102	1038/37/124	800/24/90	15/4/4
N5DX	55/13/32	162/24/74	496/29/88	814/36/111	743/28/90	16/5/7
N2IC/5	34/12/25	185/22/69	487/31/89	904/34/110	583/32/94	51/6/8
AA1K/3	67/13/45	175/20/63	408/24/81	1089/32/115	536/24/88	2/1/2

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CN3A	64/14/63	757/23/96	1733/33/119	2102/38/142	2817/35/141	78/15/35
FY5KE	288/15/67	588/28/100	847/31/117	2148/38/146	2931/35/139	120/21/59
P33W	256/12/66	671/24/96	1429/33/123	2605/37/145	2472/35/132	158/12/39
CQ9K	203/13/63	529/23/102	1276/37/122	2384/39/150	2016/36/143	30/14/30
3V8BB	372/10/62	913/23/90	1293/30/121	2186/38/144	1396/37/131	319/14/48
TM6M	241/17/78	1101/23/105	1318/35/131	2226/39/152	1352/35/129	21/7/21

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
N0NI	98/16/52	346/27/99	216/27/98	1336/36/141	605/31/106	7/6/6
K9RS/3	91/16/58	380/25/97	383/28/106	1063/37/130	394/29/103	30/8/16
K8AZ	51/15/50	266/26/98	322/28/113	1155/37/141	341/30/105	35/7/12
K5TR	43/14/42	139/25/85	540/31/117	851/37/138	567/33/113	71/10/16
N1MM	41/10/33	219/22/85	547/26/102	695/34/119	513/28/106	84/7/13
K5NA	76/15/48	233/27/94	352/32/113	549/35/131	603/33/107	58/8/11

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
A08A	309/16/67	1628/26/106	1837/31/115	3280/40/146	3281/38/149	71/14/41
6Y1V	470/15/65	1003/22/93	2374/29/116	2779/36/131	2129/34/123	85/11/27
CT9L	210/12/61	943/19/86	1724/32/120	2008/34/120	2622/31/108	27/9/18
PJ4E	262/13/45	801/21/88	691/26/94	3349/34/131	2295/31/115	133/13/30
IR4X	201/14/66	1187/30/113	1720/35/133	2295/39/159	1665/38/149	73/11/48
PZ5Z	109/13/27	752/26/90	1107/29/109	3308/38/132	1769/27/106	62/15/24

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
WE3C	115/18/72	745/27/105	1175/28/120	2223/38/152	1224/32/122	49/10/21
N3RS	58/11/38	591/24/98	958/30/116	1586/37/142	897/31/119	47/7/14
K1RX	139/14/61	543/25/101	460/28/110	1502/34/127	490/28/107	65/6/13
W4RM	69/15/43	431/23/85	710/28/103	1364/35/131	596/26/97	3/2/3
N4T	66/12/48	321/20/86	640/28/107	1633/38/137	557/30/100	59/8/22
KB1H	48/12/34	321/21/92	315/24/98	858/36/129	593/29/113	91/7/19

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K3LR	350/21/75	1279/29/115	1475/32/128	3177/39/165	1666/31/130	105/9/17
W3LPL	429/21/82	1002/28/111	1377/31/127	2813/39/157	1377/32/129	72/9/16
HQ3Z	506/15/52	1303/23/90	2044/29/100	2587/33/119	2302/33/116	163/15/29
DF0HQ	990/16/82	2040/26/105	2844/39/148	2170/40/156	937/35/131	236/10/52
KC1XX	279/18/71	1024/27/112	1066/30/120	2517/38/153	1266/30/132	149/8/22
YV4A	225/12/51	445/21/77	1443/33/129	2358/35/123	2061/34/112	207/12/29

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K3LR	350/21/75	1279/29/115	1475/32/128	3177/39/165	1666/31/130	105/9/17
W3LPL	429/21/82	1002/28/111	1377/31/127	2813/39/157	1377/32/129	72/9/16
KC1XX	279/18/71	1024/27/112	1066/30/120	2517/38/153	1266/30/132	149/8/22
NQ4I	214/16/58	572/27/108	741/30/116	1701/38/147	1045/33/120	87/8/12
K3NA/1	200/16/74	586/25/99	761/29/117	1633/37/141	642/27/106	102/6/20
K1TTT	278/15/57	642/24/99	855/27/112	1625/37/132	559/29/109	127/8/17

# Accurate Measurements. No Excuses!

## Professionally Engineered Cross Needle Meters

Forward power, reflected power and VSWR are displayed simultaneously! No calibration required! Daiwa high quality instruments make the tedious measuring of SWR and Power during antenna tests, transmitter matching and tuning a very easy task.



### NEW! POWER SUPPLY

**SS-330W** Convenient, lightweight 30 amp switching supply.

- 30 amps continuous, 33 amp peak
- Dual meters
- Adjustable voltage (5-15V)
- Built-in fan
- Weighs less than 5 lbs.
- Carrying handle

### NEW! POWER SUPPLY

**SS-505** Lightweight switching power supply.

- 50 amp continuous, 55 amp peak
- Adjustable voltage, 5-15V
- Can be used for DC motors requiring peak start-up voltage
- Dual-use V/A meter
- Built-in fan
- Weight: 8lbs 6 oz.
- Carrying handle

### COAX SWITCHES

Patented design and excellent RF characteristics. Automatic grounding of unused circuits with heavy-duty diecast cavity construction.

#### CS-201

- 2-position 600MHz switch
- Max. power: 2.5kW PEP/1kW CW
- Conns: SO-239

#### CS-201GH

- 2-position 2GHz switch
- Max. power: 1.5kW CW
- Conns: Gold plated N-type

### ECONOMY SERIES

Accurate and dependable bench meters at an economy price. Lighted, 13.8VDC jack on rear panel. 6" x 3" h x 4" d (approx.)

#### CN-101

- Frequency range: 1.8-150MHz
- Forward power ranges: 15/150/1500W

#### CN-103M

- Frequency ranges: 140-525MHz
- Forward power ranges: 20/200W

#### CN-103N

- Same as CN-103, but with N-type connectors

### PROFESSIONAL SERIES

Accurate and dependable featuring a large, easy-to-read lighted meter. 13.8VDC jack on rear panel. 6" x 4 1/4" h x 4 1/2" d (approx.)

#### CN-801HP

- PEP reading SWR/power meter
- Frequency range: 1.8-200MHz
- Forward power ranges: 20/200/2000W

#### CN-801V

- Frequency range: 140-525MHz
- Forward power ranges: 20/200W

#### NEW! CN-801G D-STAR

- Frequency range: 900-1300MHz
- Forward power ranges: 2/20W
- N-type connectors



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### EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CU2X	262/16/60	748/24/95	1333/28/102	2454/32/117	2932/33/124	39/8/19
ES5TV	592/20/77	1014/31/109	990/32/111	2395/38/137	400/34/93	92/6/28
SV9CVY	279/9/55	617/17/76	1841/29/107	2217/34/123	1425/26/102	270/9/41
M6T	271/14/59	920/23/87	821/29/94	1833/37/112	849/31/98	24/3/19
ERØWW	467/13/60	763/18/80	1558/33/112	1746/34/102	809/28/77	44/5/23
RZ3AXX	118/11/45	617/29/91	1282/36/120	2040/38/124	624/23/72	22/6/10
RW1AC	204/13/58	790/27/96	912/30/115	1743/36/115	652/31/84	30/9/21
OH8X	247/11/54	331/21/71	412/28/89	2897/38/114	573/32/89	15/6/12
GW4BLE	104/8/45	800/19/78	745/24/82	1540/30/99	794/27/76	8/2/6
HA8JV	390/11/63	988/22/90	579/25/96	1486/35/124	477/32/98	22/6/19

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

TM6M	241/17/78	1101/23/105	1318/35/131	2226/39/152	1352/35/129	21/7/21
IR4M	193/14/65	477/24/97	1008/35/127	1718/39/147	1450/38/136	94/10/50
HG6N	346/12/63	1235/22/102	1026/34/131	2183/40/155	904/36/136	30/9/30
OM7M	306/15/72	524/21/96	1361/36/134	1699/38/147	944/36/137	44/8/41
OK5W	140/15/71	1013/26/111	1207/37/134	1328/37/143	884/37/133	37/11/37
EI7M	330/16/72	863/19/92	1226/33/115	1839/36/135	898/29/100	13/5/13

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

IR4X	201/14/66	1187/30/113	1720/35/133	2295/39/159	1665/38/149	73/11/48
AM3SSB	119/7/46	814/18/82	1483/28/102	2171/39/140	1151/36/115	72/4/19
HG1S	228/9/57	1282/21/91	1300/34/125	1855/37/141	684/35/110	31/8/28
DQ4W	362/11/59	1210/19/101	892/33/124	1553/36/146	862/37/138	39/7/23
DL10Q	492/14/68	1184/26/107	1009/34/129	1365/37/136	510/35/111	29/7/27
DR5Z	359/8/55	626/19/79	582/30/111	1366/38/137	848/36/130	44/7/28

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

DFØHQ	990/16/82	2040/26/105	2844/39/148	2170/40/156	937/35/131	236/10/52
OT5A	875/12/62	2090/19/94	2314/38/131	2188/40/143	841/33/118	320/10/49
LZ9W	637/10/66	1413/25/98	2531/34/127	1926/38/149	1065/38/132	111/11/44
DR1A	484/15/65	1246/20/81	1623/34/123	2293/36/141	791/36/120	95/9/32
OH5Z	627/12/68	824/25/91	1839/37/135	2067/38/145	823/36/115	63/5/20
LY7A	688/10/59	1244/14/71	1996/28/119	1904/37/132	576/34/102	96/8/38

The CQ WW Contest Committee provides several ways for an entrant to check his/her log for category, club, and operator. Soon after you submit your log and long before the final results are published in CQ magazine, a *log received list* with your category is posted on the CQ WW site (cqww.com). Look over this list to find if your data is accurate. If it is not OK, please let us know at <questions@cqww.com>.

About one month before the results are finalized in CQ, you will receive via e-mail a password that will allow you access to your log analysis. This is called your *report* (rpt). You can look over the report to again verify your category and other information.

Thanks to the input from numerous entrants, a few systemic errors were found and corrected. All these efforts help to make the results as accurate as possible. Everyone enters the contest to have fun, meet friends, perhaps work some new ones, and fairly compete. You can see information concerning the CQ WW on the web page at: <http://www.cqww.com>.

**Top Scores:** If you plan to try to make the Top Score Box, you can count on your log being scrutinized. In a perfect world we would not have to spend a great deal of extra effort to check potential problem logs. Unfortunately, some entrants feel they must win at any cost, even if it means cheating by not following the rules. Just as in other aspects of life, cheating in the CQ WW will not be tolerated. The use of undeclared packet; the use of additional operators for a single operator entry; two signals simultaneously on the same band, or on separate bands at the same time, if you are single operator; all are in violation of the CQ WW rules. If you are multi-single, do not alter the times in the log to conform to the 10-minute rule. The CQ WW has at its disposal many methods to verify the score of an entrant. A few of these methods are: category averages for packet and non-packet scores, statistical aids to verify winners, URL tracing, packet clusters, reverse log time/band checking (which provides times and frequencies of more than 80% of the QSOs in any log).

If you are a single operator in any single operator category, you cannot receive help which could impact your score in any way from another person or any DX spotting network. Every year we receive reports of someone allegedly having another operator spot or work

QSOs for him or the unclaimed use of packet. This is not following the rules and could result in disqualification. We will crack down on such cases. The use of packet to self-spot is against the rules. There is nothing wrong with coming across a station and spotting it, but self-spotting is against the rules. There is no problem with using any DX spotting network: *just claim to be assisted*. The CQ WW has few requirements: write down the callsign of the station you are talking to, claim the correct category, and do not self-spot. Not so hard.

We enter the contest to fairly compete and have fun. A fair competition means that everyone is following the same written rules.

## Thanks

Creating the results you see in CQ magazine is just the final product of a lot of work. Entrant log submission problems, incomplete logs, forgotten band changes not in log, incorrect call indicated as used in the contest, and a myriad of other subtle problems are sorted out behind the scenes. Using an armamentarium of log-checking tools and data sources, the CQ WW Contest Committee has done its best to certify the winners. The members of the committee who provided insight into many contesting topics are: K1DG, K3WW, K3ZO, KR2Q, K3LR, N2AA, N2NC, N3ED, N9RV, W3ZZ, K1AR, KM3T, KT3Y, W5OV, K5ZD, N2NC, W0YK, N5KO, K6AW, N6AA, N6TW, N6TR, K5TR, W6OAT, and N8BJQ. The DX advisors who offered advice and sorted out potential problems are: CT1BOH, EA3DU, F6BEE, G3SXW, I2UIY, JE1CKA, OH2KI, OH2MM, PY5EG, S50A, UA9BA, VA7RR, VE3EJ, and E21EIC. A special thank you to Ken, K1EA, who spent countless hours making the CQ WW database the best in contesting. Thanks as always to John, K1AR, and Tim, K3LR, for their advice. We also want to thank Barry, W5GN. Barry has provided the machinery to send certificates to you in a timely manner. Over many years, Larry, N6TW, has been a solid rock in contributing to the results of the CQ WW. Larry, all of us owe you a debt of gratitude. The CQ WW records are maintained by John, N2NC, and K3EST.

Finally, last year we lost one of our important members, Paolo, I2UIY. His insights and focus on honest contesting always made us alert. Paolo, a friend, with his great wit and his distinctive laughter, will be truly missed.

Congratulations to all the winners and entrants!

73, and CU in the '09 contests!

Bob, K3EST

## DX QRM

Another fun contest was had by all at 6Y1V. This year KY1V was joined by Young Ham Contest Program Winner IZ7KHR, last year's winner LU9ESD, and three Brits, G3NKC, G4BUO, and G4XUM. This proved to be a great combination; everyone really enjoyed the experience. A few problems were encountered with the antennae following hurricanes involving a significant amount of effort. HF conditions were not good, but LF seemed to be really buzzing ... **6Y1V**. My best single-op contest entry ever. Once again, CQ WW makes its own propagation: terrific conditions, especially on 15m, completely unexpected at this stage of the solar cycle ... **9M8Z**. Great fun in a great contest with several newly minted hams! ... **A73A**. Our first M/2 effort. Everybody was on 20m, 40m, and 80m absolutely crowded. 10m was open only 1 hour on Saturday. Thanks to everybody who contacted us ... **AM3SSB**. Once again, CE1W on the air, step by step to the top, new Chile all time record ... **CE1W**. CQ WW forever! ... **DL4EAX**. Had lots of fun despite rig issues putting out 30W PEP on SSB! Will try again next year to do better. Too bad 10 meters did not open more from Europe ... **EA6/AA5UK**. 15m open on Saturday was nice. 20m operating spread over Saturday and Sunday. 40m and 80m early Sunday was enjoyable ... **EI4DJB**. Licensed for two weeks and two bits of wires for antennas. In CQ WW SSB Contest! Crazy? No, why not? Two new ones on three on these bands, good score ... **F4FWN**. First time entry and pleasantly surprised at what could be achieved with 50 watts and bent wire dipoles ... **G0CPA**. This was our first time on CQ WW during which it was used as training and experience for our new and younger members. We enjoyed it very much ... **G4ARN**. Hard work with 100W as my linear was at GM0B this year. Best moment was working HC8A on 40 metres 80 watts to homemade vertical antenna. Next year high power ... **GM0EGI**. A struggle from start to finish, but great fun nevertheless! Lost electric power for 10 hours on the Saturday and 93 mph winds recorded on the island ... **GZ0F**. My first CQ WW contest as single operator from Thailand. Quite a few stations/multipliers heard but not worked. Hard to break US/EU pileups from South East Asia with a small signal. Great fun as always. A lot of activity from Thailand now ... **HS0ZGD**. More than 500 QSOs and 90 countries with an inverted V wire dipole. Big fun ... **IK2DZN**. First time together for some members of the local ARI's radio club, a very big fun! Also first try in a CQ WW

Contest for a lot of the team members. ... **IR9Y**. I have just come back to the contest after 38 years absence. The propagation was not favorable for low power and small antenna, but really enjoyed the contest ... **JA7HYS**. This year a lot of changes were made on antennas, but surely system is not yet finished and I have some more plans for the next year. More information on my system could be found on [www.lx2a.com](http://www.lx2a.com). Thanks for all who called me. Before the contest I never had imagined to make this great score, ... **LX7I**. A very successful contest for a large team of operators of various experience levels from the Cambridge University Wireless Society. For once this year we had no major problems and even the weather was kinder than in previous years. A pity that 15m wasn't anywhere near as good as last year. Thanks for all the QSOs ... **M4A**. Low power needs more propagation! ... **NH7FY**. With no antennas for 40/80m and 10/15m nearly closed I had to agonize about the decision between crowded 20m or working 160m EU. Still had fun. It's CQ WW! ... **OE5T**. My third CQ WW. The goals this year were to be on 40 and have some experience with the crowd band, and I did! Enjoyed the contest and see you back next year! ... **ON3TO**. First CQ WW DX on SSB ever. What a zoo on 40m! :) ... **PA4N**. New for me was to work VE and K stations on 40 meters in the BC station band 7100-7200 for the first time. P4 was a new one, too. New on 20 meters was VP2. Great DX. So a great contest for me with QRP See you all next year again ... **PE2KP**. Haven't antennas for low bands. Just collected DXCC and zones. Especially thanks to LZ7J who show "ham spirit" on my frequency during half hour ... **RV2FW**. Just one week before moving to new QTH. All roof antennas already disassembled. Used car antenna attached to the balcony on the second floor. QRP is powerful as I managed to work zones 25, 34, and 18. Had great fun and every QSO was a joy. ... **SP5DDJ**. I did only operate for 10 hours on Sunday, but average score was over 40 Qs per hour. That was my highest ever. The extra power did help. My only antenna was for 20m so I was limited to daylight. Conditions started in the morning and disappeared in the afternoon. Highlights included A73A in Qatar, 9K2K in Kuwait, and PZ5Z in Surinam. Great fun as always. Thanks for organizing this great event ... **TF3AM**. The epoch of high power is over for me! For the first time in 10 years I worked in CQ WW low power. During those years in category HP I have established new country records 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160m and all bands. Now it is the time to get rid of power amplifier and be in CQWW Contest in category low power next 7 or more years. Thanks to all contesters and organizers CQ WW for a nice contest! CQ WW is the event which is awaited 363 days in a year! ... **UK9AA**. Unbelievable courtesy from operators who unknowingly started operating +/-0.5 kc from us to move up/down the band, from stateside and European stations. Thank you all! ... **V48M**. Any excuse to get on 160 meters and make some noise, I always like to say! (Even if my favourite mode just happens to be CW, and NOT SSB! Hi Hi). Still, it was great hearing a few otherwise stalwart CW afficiandos switch to their microphones for a change, even me! ... **VE3CUI**. My QSO with 8P5A on Oct. 26 made me think of R. A. Fessenden, radio pioneer, whose first radio broadcast in voice was made on Christmas

## TOP SCORES IN MOST ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3		
K7RL.....	2,394,040	
N6TJ.....	2,125,669	
WC6H.....	1,544,018	
W7AT.....	1,030,080	
K6XX.....	1,014,300	
**W7WA.....	816,452	
**N7DD.....	681,948	
VA7ST.....	541,270	
NN7ZZ.....	523,008	
K7VIC.....	496,920	

Zone 4		
VE3EJ.....	6,472,174	
CK3AT.....	5,577,291	
W9RE.....	4,020,992	
N5DX.....	3,199,983	
N2IC/5.....	3,141,460	
VE3CX.....	2,149,941	
*VE3DZ.....	2,109,028	
K0RF.....	1,883,056	
*VE3NE.....	1,639,760	
K4AB.....	1,478,880	

Zone 5		
VY2ZM.....	9,160,112	
K5ZD/1.....	6,121,516	
K1LZ.....	4,915,323	
K1DG.....	4,620,600	
K4ZW.....	4,601,575	
N2NT/1.....	4,584,160	
K3CR.....	4,051,088	
AA1K/3.....	3,005,836	

Zone 14		
CU2X.....	11,043,872	
M6T.....	5,864,868	
GW4BLE.....	4,405,968	
GM7V.....	4,089,600	
G5W.....	4,025,875	
EA4KR.....	3,829,224	
DJ8OG.....	3,488,496	
LN8W.....	3,038,616	
DJ4PT.....	2,747,430	
*CT8K.....	2,405,340	

Zone 15		
ES5TV.....	6,860,712	
OH8X.....	4,775,945	
HA8JV.....	4,356,936	
OE4A.....	3,856,069	
E73M.....	3,220,000	
II4A.....	2,098,174	
OH0E.....	2,060,300	
OG50F.....	1,907,145	
*9A2EU.....	1,621,550	
LY5R.....	1,552,056	

Zone 16		
ER0WW.....	5,517,720	
RZ3AXX.....	5,453,470	
US5D.....	2,923,250	
RM3F.....	2,824,345	
RW1ZA.....	2,377,771	

Zone 20		
RD4WA.....	1,811,340	
EV1R.....	1,252,878	
RA3CM.....	1,243,984	
RN3ZC.....	1,015,872	
*UR4U.....	812,019	

Zone 25		
5B4AI.....	8,770,736	
SV9CVY.....	6,784,912	
**TC4X.....	891,310	
*OD5NJ.....	686,336	
*TA2/DL7BC.....	684,216	
*YO3CZW.....	643,648	
*YO3FRI.....	580,992	
LZ3FN.....	552,330	
YO3RU.....	445,544	
LZ1BJ.....	423,330	

Zone 25		
JH4UYB.....	4,577,027	
JA7NVF.....	1,624,120	
JF2QNM.....	1,163,081	
JA3AOP.....	801,810	
**JA2PAC.....	700,942	
JA3USA.....	649,704	
JR7WAB.....	616,050	
JA7YAA.....	572,055	
JA7COI.....	566,564	
JH0JHA.....	512,696	

\*Low Power  
\*\*Single Band

Eve, 1906. He is buried on the island of Bermuda. Epitaph Inscription "I am Yesterday and I Know Tomorrow" ... **VE3EDY**. Surprisingly good condx considering low sunspot numbers. Lots of fun. 80 and 40 open to all areas of the world. A real treat for our "black hole" in VE5 land ... **VE5RI**. This contest was a great opportunity for many of the over 12 new hams who passed their Basic Exams in our club in 2008. For many of these operators this was their first great experience in working DX ... **VE7NA**. My first time in this great contest and will be back next year Thanks to all who listened for me ... **VK4BL**. It was a pleasure to take part in the CQ WW as an DXpedition for the first time. We enjoyed the interest of the participants to work with us very much and we hope all had the same fun as we had. Best wishes to everyone!!! **DL9GFB/VU2JOS** ... **VU7SJ**. 15m was pretty marginal here in VY2 and 10m nonexistent! Tks to all the old friends who called in this time ... **VY2ZM**. It was fun. First time ever. I am just nine years old ... **WP4NVK**. I am happy to follow WW DX contest for first time because I am newcomer in ham radio. All the best to you ... **YC6BRS**. Pretty bad propagation in YO, with little-to-no real runs towards NA. Good participation from all continents. Didn't put up much effort after first day, just enjoyed the rest of the contest and gave out some points. 73, Mircea, YO3XX ... **YP3A**. Good fun! Good polite operating observed. Some interesting phonetics utilized in efforts to get callsigns through the noise! Wish I could have logged more ... **ZL1AAO**.

### USA QRM

It was wonderful to see 15 open again. Now let's see what 10 can bring! Great contest as usual ... **AC9S**. 20 meters much better this year into Colorado. At least one signal every 1 kHz! Running was difficult, mostly had to do S&P ... **K0IZ**. Golf date on contest Friday cut into start. Nice western EU openings on 15 both days. Special thanks to JA1NUT for a rare SSB QSO! ... **K0RF**. Lots of fun with only a 160 mtr Windom and a dipole at 25 ft for 20m! ... **K1HTJ**. Can't believe the QRM on 20 meters. How can you pack so many stations in a 200 kHz bandwidth? There must have been ten stations deep per every kHz. When will the higher bands open up to spread out the contesters? ... **K2MFY**. Where did 10 meters go? Best conditions ever on 160m, worked plenty of stations with a shorted G5RV.... **K2CS**. Not much to show for an 8 hour effort but this was my first CQ WW and I had a lot of fun. What I need now is a better antenna system. I am psyched for the contests to come! ... **K4EET**. Good conditions or bad, this contest always offers a few nice surprises. 40 was as amazing as 10 was bad ... **K5ZD**. Another CQ WW with no sunspots. Never heard a signal on 10m! I tuned up there several times too and called CQ. 15m had a surprise early Sunday morning opening to CT, I, F, EA, etc. On 20m, there were times when it was S9+ sigs solid from 14150-350. Strong EU/SA openings there. On 40m, the usual deaf EU and EU/Far East stations booming in and not listening up. On 80m, my R7 seemed like a wet noodle. Hopefully, there will be better condx for the CW part ... **KC6X**. More 15m activity in CQ WW SSB than the whole rest of the year! Maybe the new sunspot cycle didn't stall out after all! ... **KE7DX**. My first CQ WW. I had a great time, and worked several new DXCC entities. Best was Spain and Italy on 40m Sunday AM, and HI on 15m Sunday afternoon ... **KG4ZDM**. I am 9 years old and this is my second contest. Great fun! ... **KJ4BIW**. Way to go Africa! Even with a sunspot count of 0 worked more Africans in this contest than ever before in 52 yrs of contesting! ... **KS7T**. This was my first CQ WW as a high power entry. Lots of fun with many new ones on the low bands. Even some propagation on 15m ... **N0YO**. I hope everyone had a good time. Conditions were not great but good enough to provide some great Q's ... **N1BCL**.

Great "cherry pickin." 11 hours of fun. Wanted to play in the sandbox some more, but grass mowing, "honey-do," Eagles game, and the Phillies in the World Series. Too much to do, and never enough time. Lotsa new ones on 40m and 75m for 5BDXCC. 18 new countries on 40; 7 on 75m. Seeing the light at the end of the 5-band tunnel. Hi! ... **N3TR**. Mobile with minimum time; however, good to participate some to keep the hobby alive ... **N4LS**. What a great experience operating from W8JL's super station. If log checking holds up, will have set a new US record for 40m in this one. Conditions were good and no problem with equipment or QRM. Just terrible broadcast QRM all over the band ... **N4PN**. Another bad year on the third rock. Someday 10/15 will really open, hopefully in my lifetime ... **W3TZ**. JH1OGC gets my vote for best "ears." TM6M was the only European who

could hear me. Rig here was "Original" IC-706, CtWin, and HF-2V ... **W6HH**. Wow, my first CQ WW! People were very nice. Had a very fun time! ... **W7JAZ**. The great activity opens up the bands every year. Spent months getting new tower ... **W9RE**. Had a great time even though conditions were pretty poor. Nice to see 15m open for a run from U.S. East Coast to Japan and New Zealand. Look forward to next year. Thanks for putting on the contest ... **WB4ROA**. Hey, conditions are finally looking better! ... **WB8JUI**. Conditions much better this year! 20 and 15 meters were excellent. Next year maybe 10 meters will be alive again? See you then! ... **WK0P**. Always challenging from AZ but did OK considering. Need to upgrade here to be more competitive but I sure have fun with what I have! ... **WU9B**.

(Continued on page 101)

## RIGblasters

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Photo A— In spite of ICOM's best efforts, it was impossible to confuse Hara Arena with a tropical island! Despite that, the Dayton Hamvention® was, as always, a ham's paradise of radio goodies. (Photos by staff and/or courtesy respective manufacturers)

Once again this year, the Dayton Hamvention® provided a launchpad for a variety of new products in the ham radio marketplace. As usual, this month and next we'll be taking a look at what we found in our annual search of the exhibit halls.

## The 2009 Dayton Hamvention® Sunday Safari – Part I

BY ANTHONY A. LUSCRE,\* K8ZT  
NEW PRODUCTS EDITOR

This time we present Part I of the tour of new products at this year's Dayton Hamvention®. As both Part I and next month's Part II were written by Anthony, K8ZT, they appear in these issues in lieu of his regular "What's New" column.  
—W2VU

Each year, CQ Editor Rich Mose-son, W2VU, and Advertising Manager Don Allen, W9CW, set out on a Sunday Safari to hunt the Dayton Hamvention® for new items. This year I am pinch-hitting for Rich, as he needed to leave early to attend his son's college graduation. However, before we start our safari for new products, if you have never made it to Dayton for the Hamvention®, it is not too early to start planning a trip for 2010. For more information on the Hamvention®, read "The Amateur Radio Website of the Month" at the end of this article.

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### Radios & Amplifiers VHF/UHF

This year there were a lot of new rigs covering the VHF and UHF bands. In addition to the ham-band transceiver capabilities, most units now also include wideband receiving with continuous tuning from 0.530 to 999 MHz with a few even going up to 1299.995 MHz. The usual disclaimer applies for all of these: "cellular frequencies blocked in U.S." Many manufacturers have also added specific weather-band channels with weather alert.

The Alinco DJ-G7 tri-band FM hand-held transceiver provides 2-meter, 430-MHz, and 1200-MHz band coverage. First time 1200-MHz users may find it challenging to find activity on this band, so this is where Alinco's patented Channel-Scope® shines by allowing you to visualize the presence of radio signals on the display. There are also two modes of bug-detector functions for those paranoid among us. MSRP is

Photo B— The Alinco DJ-G7 tri-band (144/430/1200 MHz) FM HT.



Photo C—  
ICOM ID-880H  
D-STAR digital  
dual band  
mobile.



\$350. Visit <[www.alinco.com](http://www.alinco.com)> for more information.

ICOM's new offerings both feature the D-STAR digital system. The **ID-880H** mobile is a 2m/70cm high-power digital transceiver. In addition to standard analog FM mode, the ID-800H can transmit and receive D-STAR format digital voice and 950-bps data communication, simultaneously. When an external GPS receiver is connected to the ID-800H, position information for both your station and the station you're talking to can be exchanged and shown on the display. When the receiving side is connected to a computer with mapping software, map plotting is possible. In the digital voice mode, your callsign and the calling station's callsign (or CQ message) are included in each transmission. The callsign squelch allows you to choose an incoming call selected by the callsign. Also, received callsigns are automatically stored in the memory. Price is approximately \$499 at authorized dealers.

ICOM's **IC-80AD** is the "matching HT" to the ID-800H mobile, and the two rigs share many functions and settings. To manage many of these features, ICOM's free-download CS-80/880 cloning software is available from the company's website. Used with this software, various settings can be made from a PC, and the memory channels and other settings can be shared between the two radio models. Approximate price is \$450, and the optional HM-189GPS GPS speaker is \$200. For more information visit <[www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/default.aspx](http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/default.aspx)>.

The first thing most visitors saw at the Yaesu booth was this year's traditional free Yaesu baseball cap. This is yet one more good reason to visit the Hamvention®, and in my opinion, this year's edition was one of the best designs in years. However, do not let the hats grab all your attention, because there were new radios to see: the VX-8R, FT-250 (replacing the VX-150), and FT-270



Photo D— The ICOM IC-80AD digital dual-band HT with the HM-189GPS optional GPS speaker/mic.

(replacing the VX-170) handhelds; and the FT-1900, FT-2900, and FT-7900 mobiles.

The **VX-8R** is Yaesu's most full-featured handheld. Introduced last year at Dayton as a prototype, the production model includes even more than was originally promised. Billed as a "Triple Band Handheld" covering 50/144/430 MHz, the U.S. version is actually a quad-band HT with its addition of low-power 222-MHz band coverage. Yaesu has packed all of that into a compact 2.4" W x 3.7" H x 0.9" D case. Designed for rugged outdoor use with a polycarbonate resin front panel and aluminum die-cast chassis, it is submersible to 3 feet for 30 minutes (IP7X equivalent) and "shockproof." Real dual ham-band operation is featured: With two independent amateur-band receivers you can listen to any two frequencies in the same or different bands (V+V, V+U, U+U). An optional BU-1 Bluetooth® unit provides a variety of Bluetooth® capabilities, including hands-free operation with built-in VOX function. The radio

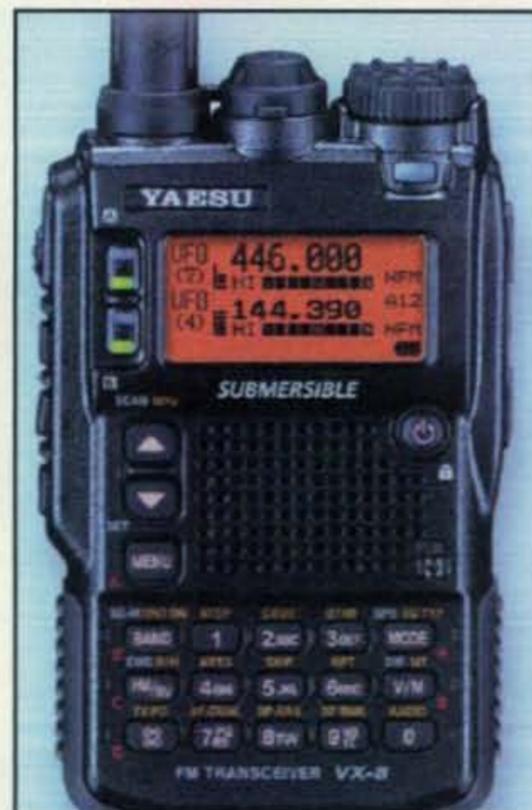


Photo E— The Yaesu VX-8R 50/144/222/430-MHz HT.

also has integrated APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System) operation. Addition of the optional FGPS-2 unit provides GPS data. Built-in sensors allow the radio to display barometric pressure, altitude, and/or temperature. Approximate street prices: VX-8R \$400, FGPS-2 \$80, and BU-1 \$70.

If you are looking for a low-price and high-power 2-meter mobile, the new **FT-2900R** provides 75 watts at under \$170. Yaesu is calling it "The King of Mobile." The massive heatsink handling 75 watts with no cooling fan, 3 watts of audio output for noisy environments, and large easy-to-read display help explain this name. The **FT-1900** is sort of the little brother of the FT-2900, but still provides 55 watts (with fan cooling) and an under \$150 price tag. The **FT-7900R** is a back-to-basics, heavy-duty 2m/70cm FM mobile with 50 watts VHF and 45 watts UHF. The Smart Search feature automatically sweeps a band and loads active frequencies into dedicated memory banks, making it easy to



Photo F— The new Yaesu FT-2900R 75-watt 2-meter mobile.



Photo G— JetStream's JT220M 50-watt 222-MHz mobile.



Photo H— Elecraft's K144XV internal 2-meter module mounted inside the K3 transceiver.

find repeaters when visiting a new location. Price is \$275. For more information visit <[www.yaesu.com](http://www.yaesu.com)>.

Stopping by the Jetstream booth revealed a surprise, the **JT220M**, a new 220-MHz 50-watt FM mobile radio. New 220-MHz radios have been few and far between lately, and most have been lower wattage HTs. Frequency range is 222.000–224.995 MHz, and it is computer programmable with the optional JTPRG1 cable and free downloadable software. Price is \$239. For more information call 800-524-4889 or visit <[www.jetstream-usa.com](http://www.jetstream-usa.com)>.

Finally, we finish our VHF tour with the Elecraft **K144XV**, an internal 2-meter module for the K3 transceiver. The Elecraft K3 has been flying off the shelf as a high-performance HF/50-MHz transceiver, so the user-installable K144XV module will be a welcome addition for many VHF weak-signal enthusiasts and contesters. Features include full coverage of the 2-meter band (144–148 MHz), CW/SSB and FM, 10 watts output, and <2 dB noise figure. Price is \$349.95. For more information visit <[www.elecraft.com](http://www.elecraft.com)>.

## HF Transceivers

Sometimes appearances can be deceiving, and that was certainly the case when we visited the FlexRadio booth at Dayton. The simple, small case of **FLEX-3000™** software-defined radio (SDR) gave little indication of its features and performance-packed transceiver capabilities. The sleek blue face of the FLEX-3000 has only four controls/connectors—power switch and key, mic and headphone jacks. The compact case measures 12.25" × 12.25" × 1.75".

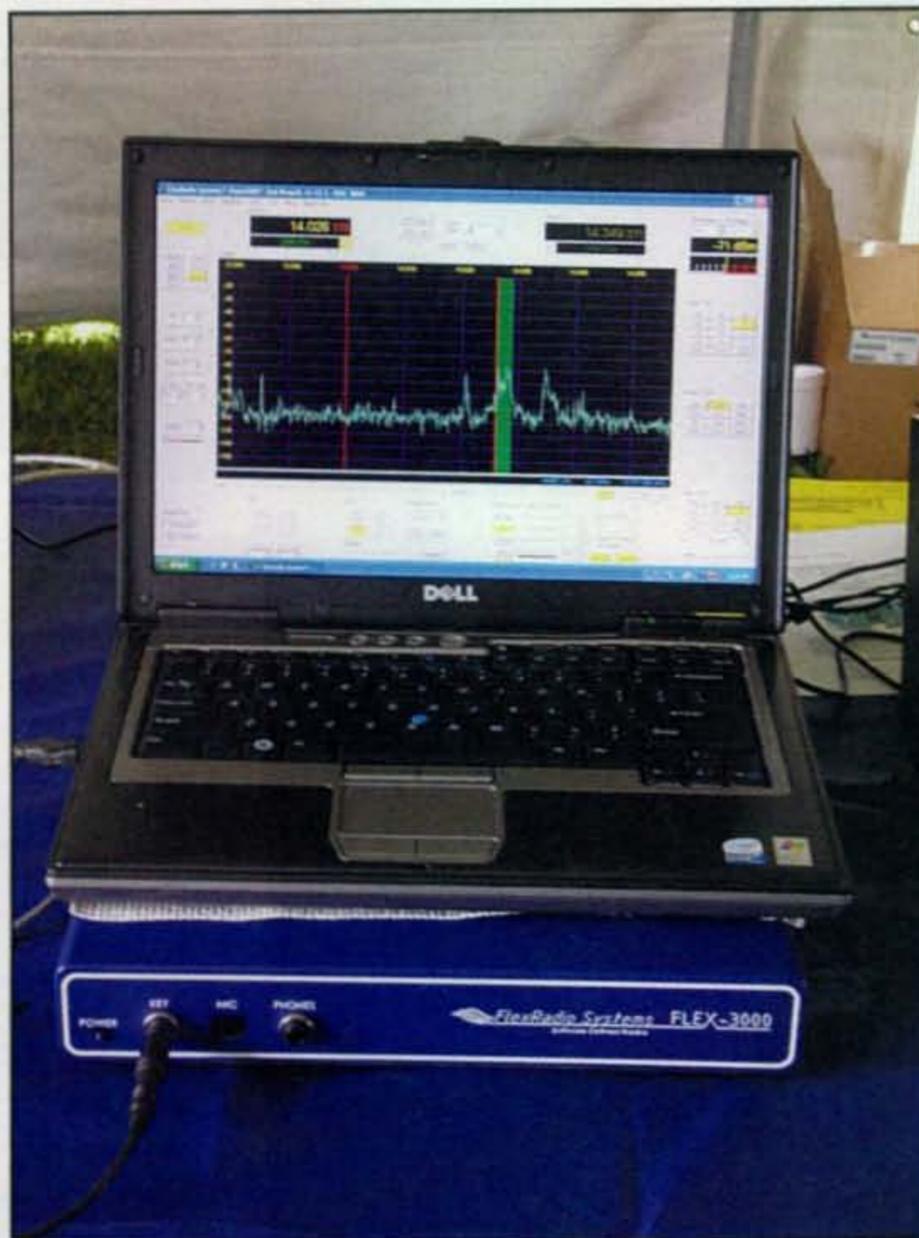


Photo I— The simple, small case of FLEX-3000™ SDR from Flex Radio Products (bottom) gives you little indication of its performance-packed transceiver capabilities.

With its mid-range price, the FLEX-3000 provides hams with a transceiver with a good starting point of features and the ability of SDR to continue to provide new performance and operating features. As they are developed, these new features can be had with just a simple free update of FlexRadio PowerSDR™ software, downloaded from the internet.

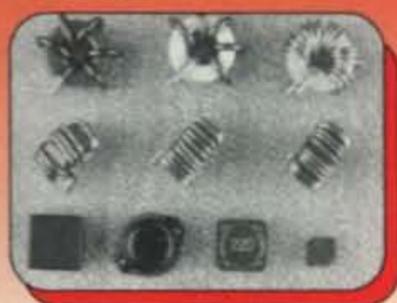
The FLEX-3000 delivers a full 100 watts PEP CW, phone, or digital mode transmit signal on 160–6 meters. "The FLEX-3000 utilizes high-performance 24-bit A/D and D/A converters that enable its great close-in receiver performance in the sub-\$1600 price class of mid-range transceivers. It is able to achieve this level of performance without the use of additional expensive narrow-bandwidth roofing filters. As a matter of fact, there are no additional filters to buy—ever."

With SDR transceivers, a very important part is the operating software, and the FLEX-3000 works with FlexRadio's high-performance PowerSDR software. Price is \$1,599. To order or for more details visit <[www.flex-radio.com](http://www.flex-radio.com)>.

ICOM's **IC-7600** is a high-performance HF/50-MHz all-mode transceiver. In the limited format of our Dayton tour, it is not possible to do justice in describing this extremely full-featured, state-of-the-art transceiver, but here are a few teasers: dual separate DSP units for transmitter/receiver and spectrum scope; three built-in 1st IF (roofing) filters at 3, 6, and 15 kHz; double-conversion superheterodyne receiver system; and an image rejection mixer that improves in-band IMD (intermodulation distortion). There is a large colorful display—5.8-inch WQVGA (400 × 240 pixels) ultra-wide viewing angle TFT LCD with long-life LED backlighting and high-

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resolution real-time spectrum scope using a dedicated DSP unit. USB connectors allow easy connection of keyboards, flash memory drives, and PCs. Built-in PSK and RTTY operation are possible with just a USB keyboard (PC not required). Approximate price is \$4000.

### Amplifiers

Alpha Radio Products was displaying its model 8410, a full-legal-limit, manual-tune, rugged HF linear amplifier utilizing an enhanced version of the RF deck found in the Alpha 99. Frequency coverage is 1.8–29.7 MHz with 1500 watts output (when excited with a drive power of 50 to 55 watts). The staff at Alpha pointed out their newly designed custom sockets, which provide enhanced performance and reliability, and hold two 4CX1000 tetrode tubes. Vacuum relays provide T/R switching and full break-in keying (QSK). The amplifier can be operated at a variety of voltages from 100 to 240V, 50/60

Hz AC. Size is 17.3" W x 7" H x 17.5" deep, and weight is 70 lbs. Designed and built in Boulder, Colorado, the unit comes with a 4-year warranty and MRSP of \$5895. For more details visit: <http://www.alpharadioproducts.com>.

If you need more power on 50 MHz, the **Commander VHF-2000** 6-meter RF amplifier from Palstar can give you the full



Photo J—ICOM's new IC-7600 high-performance HF/50-MHz all-mode transceiver.

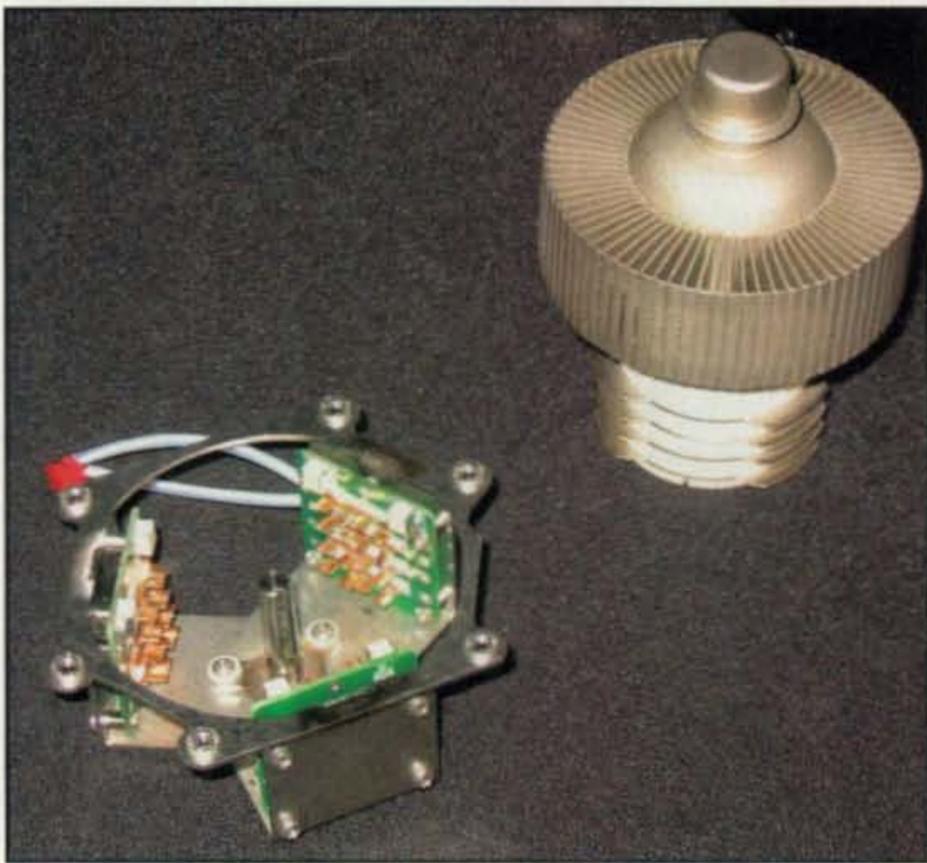


Photo K—Alpha's newly developed socket is just one of the details that contribute to the solid performance of the Model 8410 HF linear amplifier.



Photo L—Tokyo Hy-Power's new HL-45B amplifier is designed as a companion amplifier to the Yaesu FT-817 transceiver, but will also work with other low-power rigs. It will produce 45 watts output with 5 watts of drive.



Photo N—Ten-Tec Model 238C antenna tuner.



Photo M—The Palstar AT5Kplus is a 4500-watt antenna tuner.

legal limit. Using two genuine Eimac 3CPX800A7 pulse-rated external anode triodes produces 1500-watt PEP SSB and 1200-watt FM or RTTY. Based on the Commander VHF-1200, Palstar's engineers have added not just more power output, but a number of new features and other improvements. A microprocessor-based controller provides more precise T/R and electronic bias sequencing and true step-start, limiting in-rush current to the HV power supply and to the tube filaments. This translates into greater reliability and tube life, since the HV rectifier, filter stack, tube filaments, and even the fuses are not stressed on startup. A 6:1 vernier reduction drive on each tuning control allows smooth and easy tune-up. The new keying interface is now opto-isolated and fully compatible with solid-state transceivers. Price is \$3695. To order online or for more information visit [www.palstar.com/vhf\\_2000.php](http://www.palstar.com/vhf_2000.php).

The Tokyo Hy-Power Labs **HL-45B** is a compact solid-state linear amplifier that provides up to 45W output with 5 watts input. When paired with Yaesu's FT-817, the HL-45B provides built-in auto band-select function. For more information visit [www.thp.co.jp/english/hl\\_45b\\_e.html](http://www.thp.co.jp/english/hl_45b_e.html).

## Antenna Tuners & Towers

With big amplifiers, you need high-power antenna tuners. The Palstar **AT5Kplus** is a 4500-watt antenna tuner. The AT5Kplus is a new spin on antenna tuners, a manual tuner with microprocessor-controlled operations. A front-panel knob controls the microprocessor-driven mode controller that switches additional capacitance and inductance in and out of the circuit using 10-KV rated vacuum relays. Turning a front-panel knob selects Coax 1, Coax 2, Balanced or Bypass

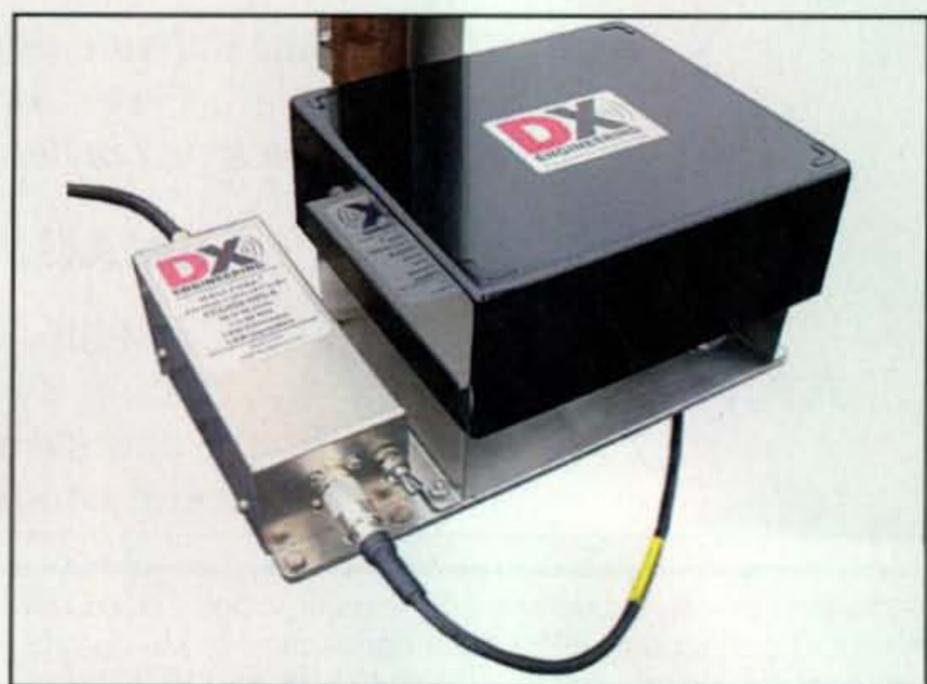


Photo O—DX Engineering/MFJ-927 Remote IntelliTuner® Vertical Antenna Combo.

outputs, and the status is then displayed on the large, backlit two-line LCD readout. Price: \$1995. To order or for more details visit [www.palstar.com/at5k\\_plus.php](http://www.palstar.com/at5k_plus.php).

The Ten-Tec **Model 238C** high-power antenna tuner is an updated version of the tried and true "L" match design used in the earlier 238/238A/ 238B models with a new cosmetic design, larger heavy-duty tuning capacitor than the original, and backlit cross-needle SWR and peak power output metering. Price is \$795. To order or for more information visit <http://radio.tentec.com>.

On the main floor of Hara Arena, the DX Engineering and MFJ Enterprises booths faced each other, so it was only fitting that we take a look at a product that combines components from both companies, the DX Engineering/MFJ-927 Remote IntelliTuner® Vertical Antenna Combo. According to the DX Engineering staff, "the **DXE-MBV-ATU-1** is the perfect solution for the modest power (200 watts maximum) DXer who wants maximum performance on a 43-foot tall multi-band vertical antenna." The DXE-MBV-ATU-1 works on all DX Engineering, Zero-Five, MFJ, and Hy-Gain 43-foot vertical antennas or with your own homebrew vertical.

Putting the antenna matching system at the base of your antenna allows 80–10 meter operation with no coaxial-cable mismatch loss. Power to the tuner requires no extra cables, as a bias tee is included with this special package for supplying the 12-VDC power through the coaxial cable from your

radio shack to the remote tuner. Tuner operation is automatic, as it senses your transmitted signal and then adjusts the tuning.

The DXE-MBV-ATU-1 plug-and-play package includes: MFJ-927 Remote IntelliTuner™ (rated at 200 watts), DXE-FCC050-H05-A feedline current choke, DXE-SSVC-2P stainless-steel mounting V-clamp, custom laser-cut stainless-steel bracket for tuner and choke, MFJ-4117 bias tee power injector for 12 VDC, RG-8X 2-foot coaxial cable with PL-259 connectors, two 1-inch-wide tinned copper braids for connection to your radial system, and 14-gauge insulated stranded copper feedline wire with ring terminal attached. Price is \$300. For more details visit <www.dxengineering.com>.

Surely the prize for the largest and heaviest item in the indoor exhibits goes to LUSO Tower's **LUSO150US** self-supporting crank-up tower. The sheer size became obvious when I tried to take a photo and had trouble stepping far enough back while still maintaining an unobstructed view. This 29,700 lb. (including base) self-supporting crank-up tower is 42 feet long *when collapsed* and can be extended to 145 feet! Once extended, it is rated for an antenna load of 660 lbs. and 140 sq. ft. The tower consists of five 36-foot sections. The bottom section is 65 inches wide on each side and the top section tapers to 18 inches.

Control of raising/lowering of the tower is fully automatic (with an indoor remote controller) with soft start/soft stop function. A winch with a single-phase 220V motor rated at 4 kW is used to raise and lower the tower. Price is \$36,000. For more information visit <www.luso.us>.

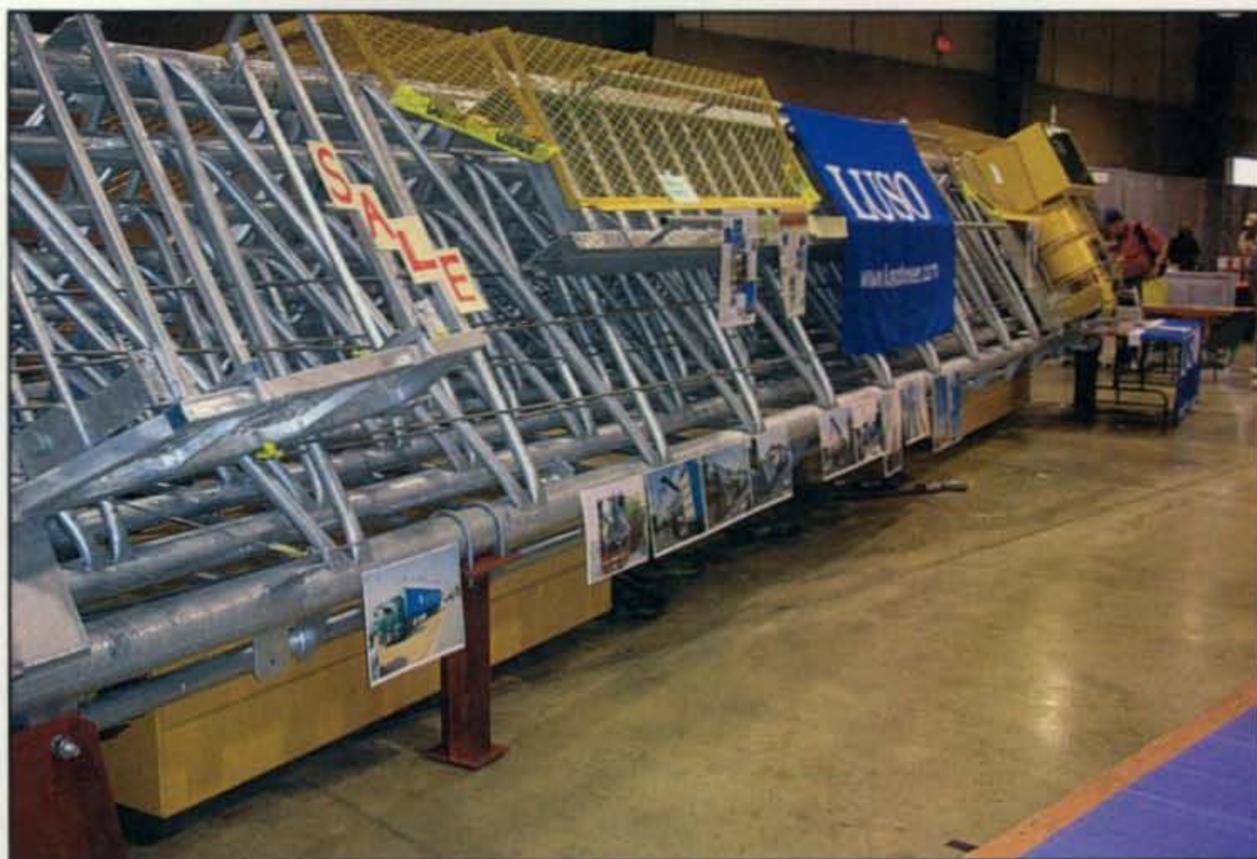


Photo P— The proverbial 29,700 lb. gorilla in the corner was hard to miss during our safari. Luso Tower's LUSO150US self-supporting crank-up tower extends to 145 feet and can support over 600 lbs. of antenna!

### RF Amplifiers, RF Transistors, Chip Caps, Metal Clad Micacs & Hard to Find Parts

In Business For 28 Years



**HF Amplifiers**  
PC board and complete parts list for HF amplifiers described in the Motorola Application Notes and Engineering Bulletins:

AN779H (20W)	AN758 (300W)
AN779L (20W)	AR313 (300W)
AN762 (140W)	EB27A (300W)
EB63 (140W)	EB104 (600W)
AR305 (300W)	AR347 (1000W)



**Low Pass Harmonic Filters**  
2 to 30MHz



**HF Broadband RF Transformers**  
2 to 30MHz



**RF Transformers**  
2 to 300MHz  
Type "U"



**HF Power Splitters/Combiners**

**2 Port:**  
PSC-2L Set 600W PEP  
PSC-2H Set 1000W PEP  
PSC-2H4 Set 4000W PEP

**4Port:**  
PSC-4L Set 1200W PEP  
PSC-4H Set 2000W PEP  
PSC-4H5 Set 5000W PEP

**CCI Communication Concepts, Inc.**  
508 Millstone Drive Beaver Creek, OH 45434-5840  
Email: cci.dayton@pobox.com  
www.communication-concepts.com  
Phone (937) 426-8600 FAX (937) 429-3811

### The Amateur Radio Website of the Month

This month's site is the Dayton Hamvention® website. Sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA), the site at <www.hamvention.org> provides official information on the Hamvention®. Even though the 2009 event is already past, it is not too early to plan for next year. Be sure to bookmark or add the site to your favorites so you can return easily.

### Continued Next Month

As usual, there was so much great stuff to see at this year's Dayton Hamvention® that you will have to wait until next month for part two of our Sunday Safari. We will focus on antennas, antenna accessories, station accessories, and some products for the ham on the go.

**Got DSP in your radio?  
Still got noise problems?  
Get a Hear-it DSP  
Noise Cancelling Product**

**Hear-It Speaker (NES10-2MKII)**

- 2.5W Amplified DSP speaker
- Up to 35dB noise cancellation
- 3.5mm mono headphone jack skt
- Power on/off audio bypass switch
- Dramatic noise reduction on all bands

**Hear-It In-line (NEIM1031 MKII)**

Amplified module - Use in-line with your speaker or headphones.

- 20% more audio & new improved filter control knob.

**Radio Mate** - Compact keypad for FT-817, FT-857 & FT897 - Quick and easy band, memory and Mod shortcuts

**ANEM "Noise Away" MKII**

- Compact amplified module.
- New headphone/speaker switch fitted.
- Easy pushbutton control
- Use in line with your speaker or headphones.
- Supplied with audio and power lead plus full instructions.

**NEDSP1061-KBD**

Low level audio module for Yaesu FT-817 etc....

**NEDSP1062-KBD**

- 3W audio output (4ohm)
- 4 or 8 filter levels - Audio bypass - 12 to 18VDC

Full instructions and fitting kits supplied for both modules

**Don't just take our word for it - Read the reviews!**

**W4RT Electronics**  
fax: 256 880 3866  
www.w4rt.com  
info@w4rt.com

Designed and manufactured in the UK by bhi Ltd - www.bhi-ltd.co.uk

**GAP Antenna Products Inc.**  
99 North Willow Street, Fellsmere, FL 32948  
Tel: (772) 571 9922 Fax: (772) 571 9988  
email: contact@gapantenna.com - www.gapantenna.com

# Attention: Former *WorldRadio* Subscribers

There still seems to be a fair amount of confusion among former *WorldRadio* subscribers about the status of that magazine and how to find and read current issues. In case you're one of those people, here is a rundown of the basics:

- *WorldRadio* is still being published, online only, as *WorldRadio Online*. A new edition is posted online every month, on or about the 20th of the month. Issues are currently free, with no subscription required.

- Virtually all *WorldRadio* columnists, including the Krusty one himself, Kurt N. Sterba, continue to write their columns and they continue to appear in *WorldRadio Online* (but not in *CQ*).

- Unless you gave us other instructions, all *WorldRadio* subscriptions were converted to *CQ* subscriptions of varying lengths, depending on the length and type of your *WorldRadio* subscription. If you were already a *CQ* subscriber, any additional issues were added to your *CQ* subscription. Several options were available for *WorldRadio* life subscribers and these were mailed to them early on. If you are uncertain of what became of your *WorldRadio* subscription, please contact our circulation department by phone at 516-681-2922 or by e-mail to <circulation@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

- *WorldRadio Online* is *not* delivered by e-mail. You must go to the *CQ* website and download each issue (see instructions below).

- There is a *WorldRadio Online* e-mail alert list to which you may "subscribe" at no cost, but this is for e-mail alerts only, and is not a "subscription" to the magazine, nor will it result in having the magazine e-mailed to you. If you sign up for this list, you will receive monthly alerts when each new issue is posted, as well as occasional other messages. When you sign up for the list, you will be given the option of receiving your messages in a daily digest form rather than individually. Please *do not* check this option. We are having trouble with it and you may not receive messages properly. Generally speaking, members of this list will receive no more than one to two e-mails a month. You *may not* send a message to this list. Questions regarding the list should be sent to <worldradio-l-owner@mailman.sunserver.com>. (More info on signing up for this list is below.)

## Finding *WorldRadio Online*

To access the current issue of *WorldRadio Online* as well as past online issues, downloading tips and other information, you will need to go to the *WRO Welcome Page* on the *CQ* magazine website. Here's how to do it: (1) Go to the *CQ* homepage at <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>. (2) Find the *WorldRadio Online* logo to the left of the *CQ* magazine covers. Click on it. This will take you to the *WRO Welcome Page*. At this point, you have several options. There are links to a variety of informational pages. We recommend that you read the "Viewing and Downloading Tips" before doing anything else. The Back Issues link will take you to previous issues (beginning February 2009) to download and view.



There are several options for downloading and viewing the magazine. On the welcome page, you will see both the cover and the table of contents of the current issue. Clicking on the cover will download the complete issue (there are two options on how to do this, covered in the tips), and is the recommended route if you have a high-speed internet connection such as cable, DSL, or FiOS. If you have a slower (dial-up) connection, clicking on the table of contents will let you download the issue in smaller segments. Again, see the downloading tips for different options. Currently, we are recommending that you do not use Mozilla Firefox when downloading *WorldRadio Online*. We have received several reports of Firefox freezing up when trying to download an issue. Microsoft Internet Explorer and Apple Safari appear to work fine.

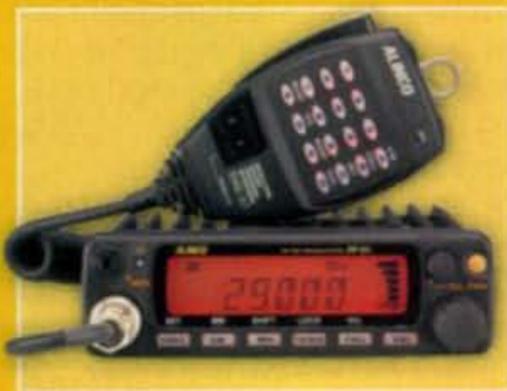
## E-Mail Alert List

To sign up for the e-mail alert list, on which you will be notified when each new issue is posted, go to <http://mailman.sunserver.com/mailman/listinfo/WorldRadio-L>. You will find a form there to use for signing up for, or subscribing to, this list. One of the questions you will be asked is: "Would you like to receive list mail batched in a daily digest?" The default for this is no. Again, please *do not* check yes. The digest program is not behaving properly and you may not receive messages promptly or properly.

If you are already signed up with the digest selected, you may (a) go to the page above and unsubscribe, then resubscribe, without checking off the digest option, or (b) send a note to the list administrator (see above), asking him to uncheck the digest option for your account. Be sure to use include the e-mail address under which you are signed up.

We hope this will help clarify some confusing items and help you find, read, and enjoy each new issue of *WorldRadio Online*, just as we hope you are reading and enjoying each new issue of *CQ*.—73, the Editors

# Alinco gives you Mobiles for all Seasons and for all Reasons!



## Work the DX on 6 and 10 Meter FM

- DR-03T (pictured) 10 meters
- DR-06T 6 meters
- Same key-operations as DR-135-435 series mobile radios.
- EJ-41U internal TNC board is available as an option for 1200/9600bps packet (DR-06T only), no need to remove mic for packet operation.
- DR-03T 10 watts, H(10W)/M(5W)/L(2W) power settings.
- DR-06T 50 watts, H(50W)/M(20W)/L(5W) power settings.
- 100 memory channels
- Front panel data port
- Rear panel DSUB9 computer connection (DR-06T only)
- CTCSS, DCS encode+decode, DTMF encode and Tone-burst are all standards
- Clean, clear Alinco audio
- Super-wide 7 character alphanumeric display
- Wide and narrow FM modes (16K0 & 8K50F3E / DR-03T is fixed for NFM)
- Theft alarm feature
- A large, palm-fitting commercial-grade backlit microphone with an 8 pin metal connector (not a modular plug) as well as direct frequency input and direct multi-function access such as monitor, call channel, power setting, memory to VFO plus more!
- Stays in mode you select (voice/packet) through power off cycles
- Ten autodial memories

## Work simplex and the VHF and UHF Repeaters

- 144 MHz DR-135TMkIII  
50 watts, H/M/L power settings
- 220 MHz DR-235TMkIII  
(pictured) 25 watts, H/M/L power settings
- 440 MHz DR-435TMkIII  
35 watts, H/M/L power settings
- EJ-41U internal TNC board is available as an option for 1200/9600bps packet
- 100 memory channels
- Front panel data port
- Rear panel DSUB9 computer connection
- No need to remove mic for packet operation
- Ignition key on/off feature
- CTCSS, DCS encode+decode, DTMF encode and Tone-burst are all standards
- Clean, clear Alinco audio
- Super-wide 7 character alphanumeric display
- Wide and narrow FM modes (16K0 & 8K50F3E)
- Theft alarm feature
- A large, palm-fitting commercial-grade backlit microphone with an 8 pin metal connector (not a modular plug) as well as direct frequency input and direct multi-function access such as monitor, call channel, power setting, memory to VFO plus more!
- Stays in mode you select (voice/packet) through power off cycles
- Ten autodial memories

## Dual Band fun and versatility

- DR-635T 144 MHz/440MHz
- VHF/UHF full duplex operation includes V/U and U/V modes.
- Cross-band repeater function (where permitted: standard on DR-635T)
- 200 Memory channels
- H/M/L power output settings- VHF: 50/25/5W UHF: 35/20/5W
- Large 6 character alphanumeric display
- Selectable display color illumination (Blue, Violet or amber)
- Internal duplexer - single antenna connector
- Removable control head can be remotely mounted (requires optional EDS-9 separation kit) or allow transceiver to be inverted for optimal speaker placement.
- Expanded receive range includes FM broadcast band (WFM)
- Power supply voltage display
- Theft alarm feature
- Optional 1200 and 9600 bps packet operation with optional EJ-50U
- Digital voice communications with optional EJ-47U
- Illuminated DTMF EMS-57 microphone allows direct VFO frequency entry and remote control of transceiver
- CTCSS & DCS encode and decode plus four different tone bursts
- CTCSS Tone and DCS scan
- Programmable VFO and Memory scan modes
- "Time Out" timer
- Cable Clone feature
- AM Aircraft band reception
- Temperature Compensated Crystal Oscillator
- Ignition key activated power on/off feature
- Optional Accessories
  - EJ-47U digital modulation unit
  - EJ-50U TNC unit
  - EDS-9 Front-control unit separation kit

Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation. Performance specification apply only to the amateur bands. Permit required for MARS use. APRS is a registered trademark of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. Check regulations prior to operating full duplex in US.

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www.alinco.com

## Static Bleeder for Any Antenna

Former "Weekender" Editor Phil Salas, AD5X, reports that he's "still tinkering" and pays us a return visit this month.—W2VU

**M**any antennas don't have a means of bleeding off static build-up. This includes the popular Hustler BTV-series of verticals, dipoles without transformer-type baluns, and many others. While typically this is not much of a problem, I am always concerned about possibly damaging my antenna analyzer when I first connect it to an antenna. How often have we heard that an analyzer has been blown by static on the antenna?

To minimize the possibility of damage, most analyzer manuals caution you to momentarily ground the antenna feed before connecting the antenna analyzer. Thus, because I am always experimenting with antennas and I have expensive AIM4170C and AA-200 analyzers, I wanted to always make sure there would be no static-related problems to

\*1517 Creekside Drive, Richardson, TX 75081  
e-mail: <ad5x@cq-amateur-radio.com>

worry about when measuring my antennas. My solution was to permanently connect a high-voltage, high-value resistor across the feedpoint of all my antennas. The high-voltage rating of the resistor is important, especially if you run high power. Also, of course, an antenna with a high SWR will also result in higher voltages than normal.

For the resistor, I use the Ohmite Maxi-Mox™ MOX-1-123004F thick-film resistor, which is perfect for this application. This resistor is rated at 10 KV and 3 megohms, and costs \$5.30 in unit quantities. It is readily available from <www.mouser.com>, Mouser part number 588-MOX-1-123004F. Normally you'll just need a single resistor, but if you run high power to a highly reactive antenna (such as a 43-foot vertical on 160 meters), you might want to put two or three of these resistors in series. Photo A shows a single resistor ready for installation on my 20/15/10-meter dipole. Photo B shows three resistors in series, covered with liquid electrical tape, mounted at the base of my 43-foot vertical. Spend a few dollars and stop worrying about damaging your antenna analyzer.

73, Phil, AD5X



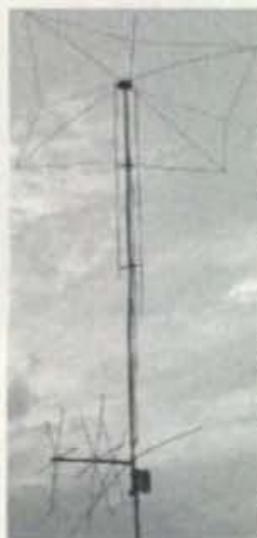
Photo A— The 3-megohm resistor ready for mounting on the triband dipole.



Photo B— Three 3-megohm resistors in series on per-board at the base of author's 43-foot vertical.

# 10 Bands -- 1 MFJ Antenna!

Full size performance... No ground or radials Operate 10 bands: 75/80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6 and 2 Meters with one antenna... Separate full size radiators... End loading... Elevated top feed... Low Radiation Angle... Very wide bandwidth... Highest performance no ground vertical ever...



MFJ-1798  
\$299<sup>95</sup>

Operate 10 bands -- 75/80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6 and 2 Meters with this MFJ-1798 vertical antenna and get full size performance with no ground or radials!

Full size performance is achieved using separate full size radiators for 2-20 Meters and highly efficient end loading for 30, 40, 75/80 Meters.

Get very low radiation angle for exciting DX, automatic bandswitching, omni-directional coverage, low SWR. Handles 1500 Watts PEP SSB.

MFJ's unique *Elevated Top Feed™* elevates the feedpoint all the way to the top of the antenna. It puts the maximum radiation point high up in the clear where it does the most good -- your signal gets out even if you're ground mounted.

It's easy to tune because adjusting one band has minimum effect on the resonant frequencies of other bands.

Self-supporting and just 20 feet tall, the MFJ-1798 mounts easily from ground level to tower top -- small lots, backyards, apartments, condos, roofs, tower mounts.

Separate full size quarter wave radiators

are used on 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 2 Meters. On 6 Meters, the 17 Meter radiator becomes a 3/4 wave radiator.

The active radiator works as a stub to decouple everything beyond it. In phase antenna current flows in all parallel radiators. This forms a very large equivalent radiator and gives you incredible bandwidths. Radiator stubs provide automatic bandswitching -- absolutely no loss due to loading coils or traps.

On 30, 40, 75/80 Meters, end loading -- the most efficient form of loading -- gives you highly efficient performance, excellent bandwidth, low angle radiation and automatic bandswitching.

MFJ's unique *Frequency Adaptive L-Network™* provides automatic impedance matching for lowest SWR on these low bands. Tuning to your favorite part of these bands is simple and is done at the bottom of the antenna.

You don't need a ground or radials because an effective counterpoise that's 12 feet across gives you excellent ground isolation. You can mount it from ground level to roof top and get awesome performance.

The feedline is decoupled and isolated from the antenna with MFJ's exclusive *AirCore™* high power current balun. It's wound with *Teflon®* coax and can't saturate, no matter how high your power.

Incredibly strong solid fiberglass rod

and large diameter 6061 T-6 aircraft strength aluminum tubing is in the main structure.

Efficient high-Q coils are wound on tough low loss fiberglass forms using highly weather resistant *Teflon®* covered wire.

## MFJ 6-Band Halfwave Vertical Antenna

6 bands: 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 Meters... No radials or ground needed

MFJ-1796, is only 12 feet high and has a tiny 24 inch footprint! Mount anywhere -- ground level to tower top -- apartments, small lots, trailers. Perfect for field day, DXpedition, camping.

Efficient end-loading, no lossy traps. Entire length is always radiating. Full size halfwave on 2/6 Meters. High power air-wound choke balun eliminates feedline radiation. Adjusting one band has minimum effect on other bands.

MFJ-1796W, \$229.95. WARC Band version for 12, 17, 30, 60 Meters only.

MFJ-1792, \$189.95. Full size 1/4 wave radiator for 40 Meters. 33 ft., handles 1500 Watts PEP. Requires guying and radials.

MFJ-1793, \$209.95. Like MFJ-1792 but has full size 20 Meter 1/4 wave also.



MFJ-1796  
\$229<sup>95</sup>

## 6-Band, 40-2 Meters Rotatable Mini-Dipole

Low profile 14 feet... 7 ft. turning radius... 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 Meters... 1500 Watts...



MFJ-1775  
\$249<sup>95</sup>

MFJ-1775 is inconspicuous and low profile -- not much bigger

than a TV antenna and is easily turned by a lightweight rotator like Hy-Gain's AR-35.

It's no Wimp! Its directivity reduces QRM noise and lets you focus your signal in the direction you want -- work some real DX.

You can operate 6 bands -- 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters -- and run full 1500 Watts SSB/CW on all HF bands!

Features automatic band switching and uses highly efficient end-loading with its

entire length always radiating. With 6 and 2 Meters thrown-in, you have ham radio's most versatile rotatable dipole!

Each HF band uses a separate, efficient end-loading coil wound on fiberglass forms with *Teflon™* wire, and capacitance hats at each end (no lossy traps). 6 and 2 meters are full-length halfwave dipoles.

Built-to-last -- incredibly strong solid rod fiberglass center insulator and 6063 T-6 aircraft strength aluminum tubing radiator. Assembles in an afternoon. Adjusting one band has little effect on other bands.

MFJ-1775W, \$249.95. WARC band version for 12, 17, 30, 60 Meters only.

## MFJ's Super High-Q Loop™ Antennas



MFJ-1786  
\$419<sup>95</sup>

MFJ's tiny 36 inch diameter loop antenna lets you operate 10 through 30 MHz continuously -- including the WARC bands!

Ideal for limited space -- apartments, small lots, motor homes,

attics, or mobile homes. Enjoy DX and local contacts mounted vertically. Get both low angle radiation for excellent DX and high angle radiation for local, close-in contacts. Handles 150 watts.

Super easy-to-use! Only MFJ's super remote control has *Auto Band Selection™*. It auto-tunes to desired band, then beeps to let you know. No control cable is needed.

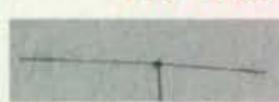
Fast/slow tune buttons and built-in two range Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter lets you quickly tune to your exact frequency.

All welded construction, welded butterfly capacitor with no rotating contacts, large 1.050 inch diameter round radiator -- gives you the highest possible efficiency.

Each plate in MFJ's tuning capacitor is welded for low loss and polished to prevent high voltage arcing, welded to the radiator, has nylon bearing, anti-backlash mechanism, limit switches, continuous no-step DC motor -- gives smooth precision tuning. Heavy duty thick ABS plastic housing has ultraviolet inhibitor protection.

Cover 40-15 Meters MFJ-1788, \$469.95. Like MFJ-1786 but covers 40-15 Meters continuous. Includes remote control.

## MFJ 80/40/20 Meter Rotatable Dipole



MFJ-1785  
\$369<sup>95</sup>

Now you can operate the low bands on 80, 40, and 20 Meters with a true

rotatable dipole that'll blend in with the sky! Take advantage of excellent low band propagation during this low sunspot cycle. Handles 1500 Watts SSB/CW. 80/40 meter end-loading coils are wound on fiberglass forms with *Teflon™* wire, and resonated with capacitance hats to ensure an extremely low-losses. Full-size on 20 Meters gives incredible DX. Balun included! 33 ft., low-profile, inconspicuous. Easily rotatable with a medium duty rotator like Hy-gain's AR-40.

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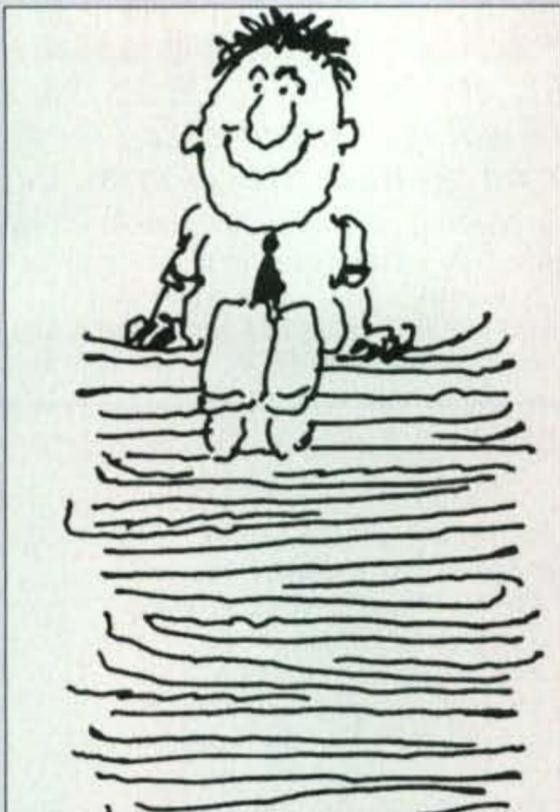
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### What You've Told Us...

Our May survey asked about your involvement in various ham radio organizations. The results show that you are a very active, involved, group, with 96% of the respondents belonging to at least one national or international ham organization. The most popular, not surprisingly, was the ARRL (84%), followed by QCWA (32%), other (30%), 10-10 (27%), FISTS (24%), QRP/ARCI (13%), MARS (7%), Handi-Hams (4%), Radio Club of America (3%), and the Society for the Preservation of AM (SPAM) and Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR), at 1% each.

Your primary reason for joining these organizations, according to the results, is to support the group's broad objectives and goals (50%), followed by being part of a group of like-minded hams and receiving the group's newsletter or magazine (38% each), to take an active part in their programs and activities (23%) and to receive benefits available only to members (15%).

The majority of you (60%) also belong to a local radio club. In addition, 30% belong to ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), followed by RACES (18%), a regional DX club (15%), other (12%), a regional contest club (10%), a regional VHF club (7%), and a church-based disaster communications group, such as SATERN (6%).

Finally, we asked about your leadership roles in these organizations, and fully two thirds of you hold or have held a leadership position in some ham radio organization, including 57% for local groups, 12% for regional groups and 9% for national/international groups.

This month's free subscription winner is Tim Connor, KA2VEG, of Syracuse, New York.

## Reader Survey August 2009

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 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 will again be helping to present the Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award at the Huntsville Hamfest, so we'd like to ask you about young people in ham radio today...

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

**1. How old were you when you first got your ham license?**

Under 15.....	29
15-25 .....	30
26-40 .....	31
41-55 .....	32
Over 55.....	33

**2. If you were that age again today (assuming that you're not), considering all the other options available, how likely would you be to consider becoming a ham?**

Very likely .....	34
Somewhat likely .....	35
Somewhat unlikely .....	36
Very unlikely .....	37

**3. Do you believe there are enough young people entering ham radio today?**

Yes .....	38
No .....	39
I don't know .....	40

**4. Based on your personal experience, how would you rate the abilities of young hams (under age 25) today compared to those of the past?**

Greater than in the past.....	41
About the same .....	42
Less than in the past .....	43
Abilities needed today are too different for valid comparison.....	44
Don't know.....	45
Don't know any young hams .....	46

**5. What (if anything) have you done to help encourage young people to become hams?**

Invited young guests &/or family members to operate my station.....	47
Talked about the fun and excitement of ham radio with young people .....	48
Put on or helped with ham radio demonstrations for young people .....	49
Helped with club activities aimed at young people .....	50
Taught a licensing course which included young people .....	51
Helped give license exams to young people .....	52
Worked directly with young people to promote ham radio (e.g., being a Radio Merit Badge counselor; teaching about radio in a school) .....	53
Other .....	54
Nothing .....	55

**6. How would you rate your club's attitude toward young people in ham radio?**

Excellent; young people are a major focus of our club.....	56
Good; young people are welcome and encouraged at all of our activities .....	57
Mediocre; we make no special efforts to attract young people .....	58
Poor; young people are not encouraged to be active members or club leaders .....	59
Very poor; our club discourages involvement by young people .....	60

Thank you for your responses. We'll be back with more questions next month.



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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

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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

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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



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- SS-18EFJ
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- 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

## Miscellaneous Hints and Tips

**T**his month I thought that we would treat you to some hints and tips we have picked up in the past for both your interest and your entertainment.

To begin with, the need arose in a project at the office: The seal of a user-adjustable potentiometer and loudspeaker. The pot, which was a volume control, was exposed to raindrops and occasional direct splashes of water, as was the speaker. The obvious solution was simply to use a so-called "environmentally sealed" pot, but the cost of this was quite high. The other method was to seal an "ordinary" pot with common, easily available parts (which we chose to do). Fig. 1 shows a cut-away section view of the results.

A trip to the plumbing section of the local home-improvement center turned up a series of O-rings normally designed for faucet repair. We found two suitable sizes, one that would fit on the body of the pot and another that would fit tightly on the  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch threaded mounting sleeve. We dropped the first O-ring on the pot and then threaded it through the panel. We then mounted the pot in the normal manner with the standard nut and lock washer. When tightening the mounting nut, we were careful to apply enough torque to securely hold everything. We then forced the second, smaller O-ring down over the portion of the remaining exposed mounting sleeve.

Next a knob with a small undercut was placed on the shaft until it squeezed the O-ring. The seal was now complete. The first O-ring protected any water leakage between the back of the panel and the pot, while the second O-ring sealed the shaft to mounting sleeve from water seepage. Note that depending on the amount of sleeve extending from the pot that you use, more than one O-ring in this location may be necessary. Spraying water from a hose on this seal did not result in any leakage whatsoever. Total cost was about \$4.00 for enough O-rings to probably seal at least three or four pots.

Sealing the speaker was even easier. We simply cut a piece of common plastic wrap large enough to cover the holes in the speaker grille and

\*c/o CQ magazine

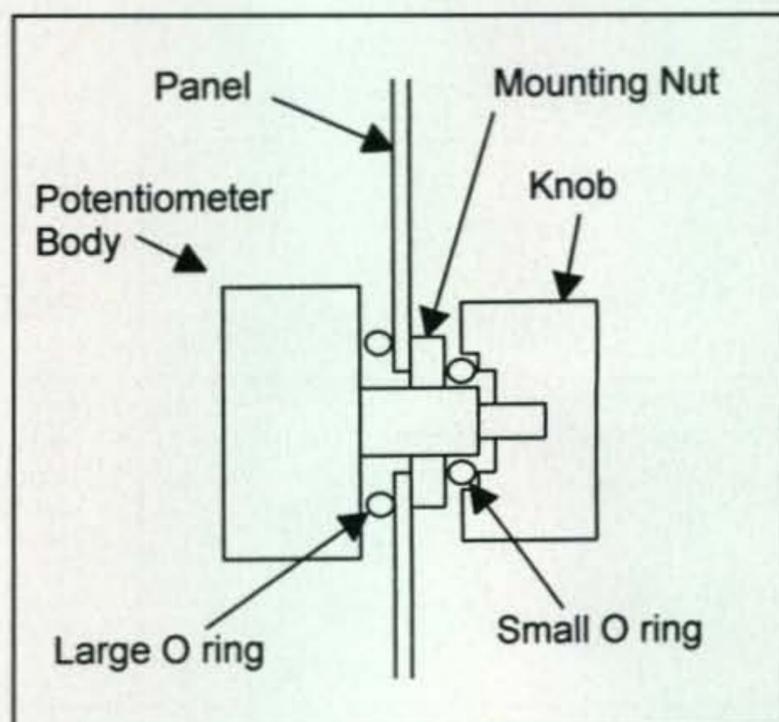


Fig. 1— Potentiometer sealing method (see text for details).

fit between the mounting holes of the speaker. We then sandwiched this wrap between the front of the speaker and the panel. Since the speaker grille had a series of small holes to allow sound to exit, the plastic wrap was protected. The amount of sound that passed through the plastic wrap was not noticeably decreased, and the arrangement easily passed the "hose test" as well.

Next, as I have previously mentioned, my home station consists of a Kenwood TS-830S (solid state plus vacuum tube) transceiver and all of the accompanying accessories that go with it. The only missing item was the MC-50 microphone, which, after looking at surplus websites for a number of weeks, we finally acquired. Although the mic worked, the output was a bit lower than the Shure 444 mic we had been using.

A search on the internet turned up the technique of placing a short section of toilet-paper tube over the sides of the mic enclosure to direct the sound directly into the front of the element. This worked, but looked pretty awful. The solution was to open the mic head by unscrewing the front portion. This

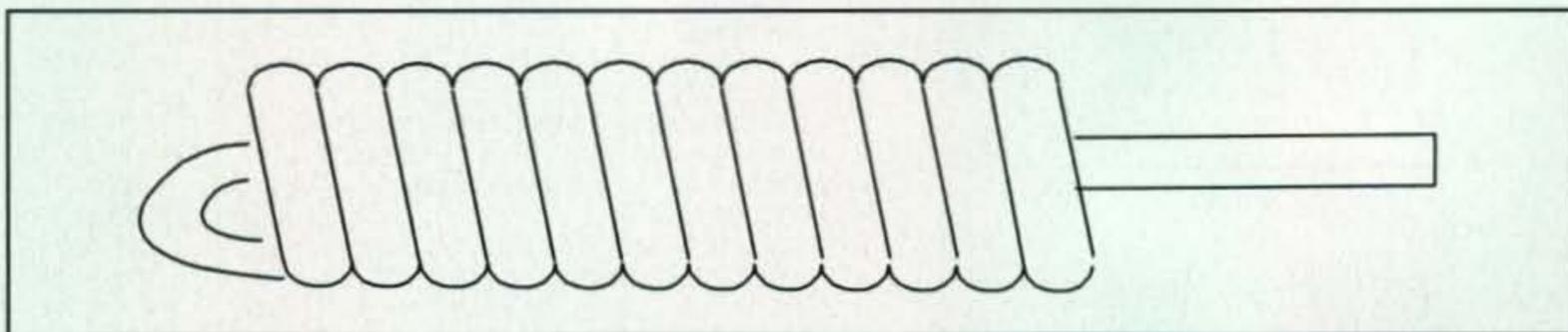


Fig. 2— Simple solder holder tool.

took a bit of effort, but a pair of gas pliers with masking tape on the jaws (to prevent scratches) did the job. The toilet-paper tube was carefully cut so that it would fit directly around the element inside the microphone head. The entire assembly was then gently placed back into the head, and the head screwed back on the mic body. The result was perfect. Now the MC-50 fully modulated the transmitter at just about the same level as the older microphone. As a footnote to this, replacements for both the 4-pin microphone plug and the transceiver-mounted jack are available at RadioShack in the CB/audio connector area.

The next tip, shown in fig. 2, shows a simple way to produce a very useful solder holder. Take a few feet of solder and close-wind it around a 1/4-inch dowel or pencil. Now slip the resulting solder coil off the dowel and thread one end of the solder through the center of the coil. You can now hold the coil by the body and pull as much solder as you need through the center. As simple as this is, for portable work it is great, as you do not have to have a spool of solder "hanging" onto you as you work.

We have received a number of inquiries on the proper way to use surface-mount components and plan to cover these in a future column. In the meanwhile, the experimenter should become familiar with these components, as they have many uses in older "leaded component" circuitry. To gain a bit of experience, it is a good idea to obtain some so-called "1206" components. These are available as both resistors and capacitors, and a glance through any Mouser, Digi-Key, Jamco, or similar catalog will show all of the versions. The 1206 size is also large enough to be handled easily by the novice, although with practice, 0604s are not really too much of a problem either. In an existing design, the small size of these parts will enable them to neatly fit between other components for both upgrading or modifying purposes. Just be sure of voltage and wattage ratings of the components you choose, since for the most part they are lower than you might be used to. By the way, a useful tool to have for this type of work is a precision tweezer. Two inexpensive ones that we use are available from Mouser Electronics. Both are less than \$4.00 each and are very well worth it. Their part numbers are 578-EROPAASA for one with straight tips and 578-7SA for one with angled tips. I would obtain one of each.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM



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## "Sunset" for Navy MARS?

### Specter of Shutting Down Mission Raises Questions, Speculation

A dispatch announcing the possible shutdown of the Navy-Marine Corps component of the Military Affiliate Radio System sent a shudder through MARS operations in mid-May. The message was sent to all members from Navy-Marine Corps MARS Chief Bo G. Lindfors, NNNØASA, reading, in part:

"Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command (NNWC) has decided to 'sunset' the MARS mission within Navy as of (September 30, 2009). NNWC has requested all military billets . . . be deleted and defunded after that date. OpNAV (Office of the Chief of Naval Operations) has not yet approved this request."

The announcement prompted speculation and questions on internet message boards and in chat rooms about the future of Navy MARS. Lindfors explained in his message that the decision was based on proposed updates to the 1998 Defense Department directive under which all three MARS programs (Navy-Marine Corps, Army, and Air Force) currently operate. These proposals, according to Lindfors, put additional demands on the service branches themselves to support their

MARS programs. "Army and Air Force have agreed to the changes but Navy (OpNAV) has asked to be let out of this requirement," said Lindfors, adding, "This negotiation is still in process and we do not know when it will be resolved."

Nonetheless, Lindfors continued, "I am forced to initiate action to close down Navy-Marine Corps operations and facilities by 30 Sept. 2009." He added that if the decision is ultimately reversed, "there will be a Navy-Marine Corps MARS program, but it will not have area directors; they will have been transferred." In that case, he said, all membership correspondence will be handled directly between state directors and his office, and all operational matters will be handled by state and region directors.

Lindfors promised to keep members posted on the final resolution of the Navy's request to "sunset" Navy-Marine Corps MARS, and we will keep you updated as the story develops.

#### Weather or Not, the Team at the National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC is Ready

In a nine-hour test of its mettle from Miami, the communications team at the National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC put the station on the air and on the internet two days before the official start of the 2009 hurricane season "to verify station equipment performance on many frequencies and modes that are used to communicate with stations in the affected area." Hurricane season lasts from June to November.

According to WX4NHC Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, more than 150 contacts were made May 30 with stations in the United States, around the Caribbean, Central America, Canada, Australia, Europe, and Africa. In addition to Ripoll, the team included: Mike Davis, AF4VJ; Julio Henriquez, AD4Z; Dr. Jim Hirschman, K4TCV; and Joe Schmidt, W4NKJ, who was visiting from Vermont.

While most contacts were made on the 20-meter SSB Hurricane Net frequency (14.325 MHz), and on 40 meters in cooperation with the Waterway Net (7.268 MHz), the team also used HF and VHF APRS (the Automatic Packet Reporting System) and local VHF and UHF repeaters in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties.

Internet links were also employed with activation of the VoIP Hurricane Net in a two-hour test on EchoLink (WX\_TALK conference) and IRLP (node 9219) "using the same methods of collecting data and forwarding data to WX4NHC during hurricanes with great success," Ripoll said. Many stations that are active in Skywarn and emergency

\*1940 Wetherly Way, Riverside, CA 92506  
e-mail: <ki6sn@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Julio Ripoll, WD4R, and Julio Henriquez, AD4Z, take to the airwaves during a test of the National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC in Miami in late May, just before the start of the 2009 hurricane season. (Photo courtesy of Julio Ripoll, WD4R)

management, including FEMA and NWS offices, were contacted via the internet portal.

"We extend special thanks to Rob Macedo, KD1CY, and the VoIP Hurricane Net Controls for their dedication and continued support," Ripoll said.

Among the "lessons learned" in the 2009 test was: "Always have back-up microphones or a repair kit handy," Ripoll said. "Microphone cords and plugs always seem to be a problem with heavy use.

"We found that the plastic end connectors (RJ-45) on our microphones (VHF and UHF transceivers) had become brittle and the little plastic locking tab broke off during our test event. Like all hams, we improvised on-the-fly and used a little tape and rubber bands to hold them in place to complete our tests.

"Now we have to make permanent repairs or order new mics. One of our HF mics also had an intermittent problem and was resolved by re-soldering one of the wires inside the end connector." Ripoll said. "Of course, when all microphones fail, use the CW key."

On the air, Ripoll said a contact with Eric Mackie, 9Z4CP, in Trinidad & Tobago constituted the test's best DX. Mackie "has been a very active supporter and has relayed many hurricane reports to and from his island neighbors during many past hurricanes, both on HF and EchoLink/IRLP.

"Eric sent a message of appreciation to Bill Read, KB5FYA, NHC Director, for the recent Hurricane Hunter tour to Trinidad," Ripoll said.

Julio Henriquez, AD4Z, well known in the DX and contesting arena, worked some CW during the test and "by coincidence contacted TI5N in Costa Rica, which was being operated by one of our regular WX4NHC operators, Fred Kleber, K9VV," a WX4NHC press release said. "Julio also made contact with 6W1SJ, the expedition station in Senegal, West Africa."

Ripoll said WX4NHC participated in two other exercises commemorating the beginning of Hurricane Season 2009—the Massachusetts Statewide Hurricane Exercise on June 1, and the 2009 Department of Defense Interop Communications Exercise "DICE '09" on June 3.

Radio amateurs have maintained an active station at the National Hurricane Center for 29 years.

**ARES Operators Play Key Role in Santa Barbara's "Jesusita Fire"**  
Where there's smoke, there's fire. And

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*Mike Davis, AF4VJ, of the 2009 WX4NHC on-the-air pre-hurricane season team, makes one of the more than 150 contacts during the May 30 training exercise. (Photo courtesy of Julio Ripoll, WD4R)*

as radio amateurs dedicated to public service well know, where there's fire, there are likely to be emergency communications teams stepping in to connect the dots when so many others can't.

A devastating wildfire that ravaged a large area in and around Santa Barbara, California in May put the region's ARES team on high alert as flames ripped through nearly 9000 acres, destroying 80 homes, damaging dozens of other structures, injuring 30 firefighters, and causing an estimated \$20 million in losses.

The Jesusita Fire, as it came to be known, was dangerous and unpredictable, grabbing headlines across the country and around the world. Fire-fighting teams from across California and around the West converged on the central coast area to battle the flames.

"After seeing the smoke plume, in my role as Emergency Coordinator I self-responded to the Santa Barbara County Emergency Operation Center (EOC) on the afternoon of May 5," William Tefft,



*A friendly breeze caresses the American flag and communications antennas atop the National Hurricane Center in Miami during the 2009 WX4NHC hurricane season readiness test in late May. (Photo courtesy of Julio Ripoll, WD4R)*



Amateur radio communications gear is neatly stored inside the van used by the Santa Barbara South Coast ARES team during a devastating wildfire that raged through the region. (Photo by Bruce Gordon, N6OLT)

KG6DHK, said. "It was there that I activated the Santa Barbara South Coast ARES team. Our role is to provide auxiliary communications and other technical support during these events."

Members of the ARES communications team included Tefft; Cliff Chabot, KI6WEL; Lou Dartanner, N6ZKJ; Bruce Gordon, N6OLT; and Dave Hackleman, K6VML. Tefft said that in all cases ARES "works closely with representatives from the Sheriff's Office, County Communications, Public Health, the County Office of Emergency Services, and other agencies to provide backup communication, as well as tactical technical support. Normally, and during this event, we used Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club repeaters on 146.790 MHz and 224.080 MHz. As a courtesy, club activities moved to a repeater on 146.700 MHz."

During the Jesusita Fire, Tefft said, "The County EOC itself was evacuated (from a staging point between Santa Barbara and Goleta) to a temporary EOC located at the University of California, Santa Barbara campus, for two nights." Because of the fire's onslaught, "we had to pack up and move," deploying ARES' communications van and supporting "the interim EOC with auxiliary service for this period."

Tefft said that because of "more redundancies" in today's communications modes, EmComm teams may appear to be called upon less and less, but groups such as ARES are "still a powerful tool."

One area in which the team has played a significant role, Tefft said, has

been in establishing resident-supported emergency communication operation centers at two of Santa Barbara's largest assisted-living communities—Samarkand and Valle Verde. There are tens-of-thousands of the elderly living in the Santa Barbara region.

During natural disasters, elderly communities sometimes have found themselves in relative isolation when it comes to communications. In the Santa Barbara area, "the news media simply isn't enough," Tefft said. The local TV station was "stretched to the max" during the fire, and the handful of area commercial radio stations were not geared for disaster coverage. "We don't have 'real time' news outlets," during events such as fires, he said. And when the internet goes down, "you're blind."

"The only way to get (reliable communications) to work, he added, is to have licensed operators who are trained and know how to operate the equipment."

In its EmComm role, the Santa Barbara South Coast ARES team provided a vital communications link between people living and working in these assisted-living communities and local authorities and the residents' extended families. Amateur radio is one of the best and sometimes only ways "to get information in and out," he said. "It made a big difference."

As a result, Tefft said, "during this latest and past fires, these (elderly) communities maintained constant communication when power failed and necessary questions needed to be exchanged with community administration and County Public Health. We are actively pursuing

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The EmComm van used in conjunction with the Santa Barbara, California area "Jesusita Fire" at one point was forced to move with the EOC to the University of California, Santa Barbara campus when flames were coming too close. (Photo by Bruce Gordon, N6OLT)

the establishment of similar auxiliary communication sites at other residential communities in the area."

With the region's population of elderly communities already large, and growing, Tefft said, it's more important than ever to reach out to licensed radio amateurs already residing in assisted-living facilities and to encourage unlicensed residents to get their tickets.

Tefft said the Jesusita was the fourth fire to hit the area in recent years. For the Santa Barbara South Coast ARES team, past experience, emergency communications training, and being proactive in establishing communications links before disaster strikes have been keys to success.

### SKYWARN Springs into Action During Southern Illinois Storms

Straight-line winds of 100 mph, tornadoes, and torrential rain ripped through a wide area of southern Illinois in early May, putting SKYWARN operators squarely in the thick of things over a couple of harrowing days.

Severe thunderstorms rained golf-ball-size hail on Jackson and Williamson counties late Thursday, May 7. However, they were only a prelude to even more severe weather that would pummel the region Friday.

According to Brad Pioveson, W9FX, ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator, the National Weather

Service at Paducah, Kentucky had issued an ominous forecast for flash flooding and severe thunderstorm and tornado watches.

"But there was no indication of what was to come," he said. SKYWARN nets sprang into action in Franklin, Williamson, Jackson, and Perry counties. "Emergency managers also took to the roads, along with law enforcement and fire department observers," Pioveson said.

Funnel clouds and tornado sightings were reported to the NWS office by SKYWARN observers, "but this storm packed much more devastation than the EF0 and EF1 twisters that developed," Pioveson said. The storm's radar signature looked like a small hurricane—highly unusual.

"The NWS now calls the storm a meso cyclone," he said. Other experts say it was a Derecho. "Whatever it's called, it was a devastating weather system."

How devastating?

As the Illinois SEC, Pioveson said he tries "to set a good example in terms of emergency preparedness." However, even for him, May's storms presented some extraordinary challenges.

The majority of Pioveson's emergency supplies are on-the-ready in a 37-foot fifth-wheel camper "along with my field-deployable emergency communications gear. Ironically, on Thursday morning, my wife and I had pulled that camper to a dealership in the coun-

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ty south of us—Williamson (where winds Friday were clocked at 106 mph)—for some minor repairs.”

Pioveson said that Thursday's hail storm had “shattered all of the roof vents and opened the camper's roof to the rain . . . and then, the meso cyclone hit on Friday. Our 14,000-pound camper was pushed off its blocks and scooted across the dealer's yard like a kid's toy.”

Meanwhile, at Pioveson's home “half of a 100-foot oak adjacent to our property” was knocked down by the storm. “The tree took out all of the primary AC mains feeding a three block area. Power poles snapped, and in our case, dropped our utility transformer, hardware, and wiring at the entrance to our driveway.”

His electricity was not restored until late the following Tuesday. “Getting a generator to our house was impossible, as the roads were blocked, the ground too saturated to support moving my truck into position,” he said. Also, like thousands of other residents in the area, Pioveson “suffered through the week with candles, flashlights, a propane-fired BBQ grill, and battery-powered radios, for the better part of five days.”

Amateur radio support during the emergency focused on SKYWARN net activity, Pioveson said. “While the Franklin County ARES group was alerted to be ready for potential deployment to an American Red Cross shelter, that need never arose. Area cellular telephone sites survived, and within a few hours of the storm that service was available to customers,” he said.

In the wake of the storms, “more than 70,000 residents of this mostly rural area found themselves without power,” Pioveson said. Six southern Illinois counties were designat-

ed disaster areas by Governor Pat Quinn.

Key power lines across rough terrain—including the Shawnee National Forest—were wiped out, “leading to the use of helicopters and bulldozers to ferry tools and materials to electricians and line crews,” who had to resort to “manual efforts to rebuild these HV towers and lines. Hundreds of thousands of trees were downed. Many homes and businesses were destroyed,” and there was loss of life. And as is so often the case, amateur radio operators were on the scene to help make the best of a bad situation.

Doppler radar images, maps, photographs of storm damage, and other information have been posted on the internet by NWS at: <[http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display\\_cmsstory.php?wfo=pah&storyid=27320&source=0](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display_cmsstory.php?wfo=pah&storyid=27320&source=0)>.

#### EmComm Op Cited for “Amateur of the Year” and OCRA Honors

A North Carolina radio amateur widely credited with helping create an emergency radio network for the state was named 2009 Amateur of the Year at the Dayton Hamvention®.

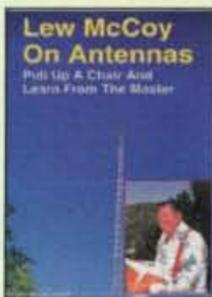
Danny Hampton, K4ITL, of Raleigh, received the honor in recognition of his work as an architect of the Piedmont Coastal Repeater Network. Developed in the early 1970s, the system today is populated by more than 40 machines.

Separately honored for his work by the Orange County (NC) Radio Amateurs, the organization said K4ITL's system “is heavily used for public-service work. (Hampton) has enhanced the network's utility with custom audio processing boards and RF components.”



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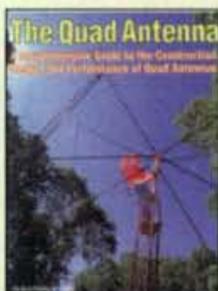


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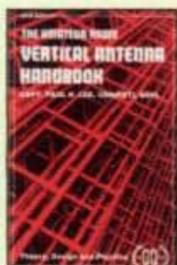


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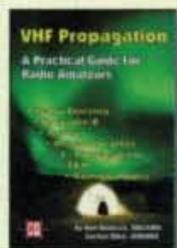


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## North Carolina Radio Amateurs Spread the Word at WECT Hurricane Expo in Wilmington



Many communities along the U.S. eastern seaboard and Gulf coast hold expositions to inform the public on how to prepare for the annual hurricane season. "Most of these events take place the last week in May or the first week in June to coincide with NOAA's official start date of the hurricane season on June 1," writes Bill Morine, N2COP, ARRL North Carolina Public Information Coordinator. "Hurricane expos are excellent opportunities to showcase facets of amateur radio that benefit the public in times of widespread disaster, such as ARES and SKYWARN." At the WECT Hurricane Expo held June 4 in Wilmington (from left) are: Martha Eason, KD4PSU; Capt. Mike Hamby, KG4SRW; and New Hanover County (Wilmington) ARESR Emergency Coordinator Stephen Russ, KI4RMZ. "In the accompanying photograph," Morine adds, "Assistant SKYWARN Coordinator Glenn Cox, KE4BMY, speaks with two women as to how SKYWARN provides ground truth weather data to the National Weather Service. Weather experts agree that North Carolina is the state with the second highest probability of hurricane landfall after Florida." - Photos by Bill Morine, N2COP



OCRA granted K4ITL the first-ever honorary lifetime membership to the organization.

The North Carolina Office of Emergency Management and SKYWARN have applauded the network's vital EmComm role.

Additionally, OCRA said, "Hampton (recently) helped coordinate the development of a local hospital-based amateur radio emergency repeater system (known as CARES) that ties 10 facilities together."

Hampton is Southeastern Repeater Association (SERA) technical committee chairman as well as ARRL North Carolina Section Technical Coordinator. He has been licensed since 1958.

"Danny's extensive knowledge of the two-way and broadcast radio industries in this state has enabled him to assist many repeater owners," former ARRL North Carolina Section Manager John Covington, W4CC, said in a statement posted on the League's website. "His advice in resolving RFI problems between repeater and commercial services, as well as other technical matters, has been extremely valuable to the section."

In a news release, OCRA said Hampton was presented a plaque and the honorary membership at RARSFest in Raleigh in April. "I've gotten plaques before, but never one in Braille," Hampton said, moving his fingers across the raised dots.

OCRA President Raymond "Woody" Woodward, K3VSA, said Hampton has "given freely of his time, expertise, and even his finances to further the cause of amateur radio in general and emergency communications in particular. I don't even want to think about the condition that ham radio would be in were it not for Danny's efforts."

Just hours after the OCRA RARSFest presentation, news spread that Hampton was to be named Dayton Hamvention® 2009 Amateur of the Year.

### Homeland Security to Perhaps Study Ham's Role in EmComm

The U.S. House of Representatives is considering a bill that would "promote and encourage valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications . . . by identifying unnecessary or unreasonable impediments to the deployment of amateur radio emergency and disaster relief communications" and seeking recommendations "for relief of such unreasonable restrictions."

Introduced by Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX), H.R. 2160, the "Amateur

Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009," calls for the Department of Homeland Security to conduct a study and report its findings to Congress.

Benefits and liabilities of the legislation were weighed in CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU's "Zero Bias" editorial last month under the headline "Antenna Restrictions and H.R. 2160."

In the study, Congress is seeking:

- "Recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of amateur radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts.

- "Recommendations for improved integration of amateur radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.

- "Identification of unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced amateur radio communications—such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installa-

tions—and make recommendations regarding such impediments.

- "An evaluation of Section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

- "A recommendation whether Section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications by means of effective outdoor antennas and support structures at reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose in residential areas."

Since its April introduction, H.R. 2160 has been referred to the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee for review and further action. Eight fellow Representatives joined Jackson-Lee in sponsoring the legislation.

Status of H.R. 2160 can be monitored at: <<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-2160>>

73, Richard, KI6SN

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## Responses to Questions from Readers

**W**e get quite a bit of mail from readers, many of whom ask questions or want information on a specific topic. Since we haven't done this in a while, this month let's respond to some that are of general interest.

**Q:** *Since amateur radio is an international radio service, do ham operator applicants in all countries have to pass examinations similar to those in the United States?*

**A:** The guidelines for amateur radio that all countries must follow are contained in Article 25 of the International Radio Regulations. The last update to Article 25 took place at the 2003 World Radio Conference (see: <http://life.itu.ch/radioclub/rr/art25.htm>). Article 25.6 simply says "Administrations shall verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station. Guidance for standards of competence may be found in the most recent version of ITU Recommendation: M.1544 Minimum qualifications of radio amateurs." This recommendation was approved August 2001 at the ITU in Geneva.

This ITU Recommendation states that "...certain minimum operator operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satellite station." It recommends "...that administrations take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station."

It goes on to say, "Any person seeking a license to operate an amateur station should demonstrate theoretical knowledge of: Radio Regulations (International and domestic); Methods of radiocommunication (radiotelephony, radiotelegraphy, data and image); Radio system theory (transmitters, receivers, antennas, propagation and measurements); Radio emission safety; Electromagnetic compatibility ... and Avoidance and resolution of radio frequency interference." Article 25.5 states that "Administrations shall determine whether or not a person shall demonstrate the ability to send and receive texts in Morse code signals." See <http://life.itu.int/radioclub/rr/rec-1544.pdf>.

The bottom line is that it is up to the individual country to determine how the qualifications of ham operator applicants under their jurisdiction are verified. In the United States, a non-government panel (called the Question Pool Committee, QPC) develops multiple-choice questions to be used in examinations for the various license classes using ITU Recommendation M.1544 as a guideline.

The question pools are revised every four years on a staggered basis. The next new question pool to be introduced will be the Element 2 (Technician) pool on July 1, 2010.

**Q:** *Why do I have to pay a fee for a specific ("van-*

*ity") callsign when all other types of callsigns—special event, sequential, and club callsigns—are free?*

**A:** The short answer is because radio amateurs said in the early 1990s that they would be willing to pay for specific station call letters (even though they were not necessary for station operation) if the FCC would make them available. All amateur radio applications are fee-exempt except for vanity callsigns.

Vanity callsigns came into existence during the early 1990s at a time when President Clinton was working to reduce the deficit. The provision for paid vanity amateur radio callsigns was one of the many "Schedule of Regulatory Fees" inserted into his Deficit Reduction Plan (officially called the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993).

In 1994, a new Section 9(a) was added to the Communications Act authorizing the FCC to collect annual regulatory fees to recover the costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities. The idea was to make the FCC self-supporting.

Each year, as part of the passage of the federal budget, Congress establishes an amount that the FCC must collect in regulatory fees. For Fiscal Year 2009, the FCC must collect a total of \$341,875,000 to fund its operations. This is an increase of 9.6% over last year's \$312 million. Unlike tax receipts, which go to the General Treasury, regulatory fees go only to offset FCC costs.

In the spring of every year the FCC issues a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking alerting the public of the amount of these regulatory fees. Nearly every spectrum user group pays the fee, which is usually passed on to the public in higher costs. Interstate telecom (especially telephone and cellular) companies, land mobile (business radio), cable TV companies and broadcasters pay the most in total dollars.

The increased percentage in the FCC's annual budget is simply applied to all beneficiaries of their services, including vanity callsign applicants. The fee really has nothing to do with the actual costs involved in issuing the special call sign—just how much more the agency needs to operate.

The law allows the Commission the right to waive, reduce, or defer payment of a fee "for good cause shown, where such action would promote the public interest." The FCC has interpreted this to mean that regulatory fees will not be applied to non-commercial users such as state and local governments, amateur radio operator licensees (other than amateur vanity callsigns), and non-profit organizations.

The total increase in the Commission's FY-2009 operating budget is about \$30 million, or 9.6%, more than FY-2008. By applying that percentage to the current \$12.30 vanity callsign fee, you arrive at a new FY-2009 fee of \$13.40 for ten years.

The FCC estimates that some 15,000 radio amateurs (the FCC calls them "payment units") will

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## MFJ RF Isolator MFJ-915 RF Isolator

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request and receive, or renew, a ten-year term vanity callsign during FY-2009—the same estimate as last year. This means that some \$201,000 (15,000 times \$13.40) in regulatory fees from vanity callsign recipients will be used to help offset the increase in the Commission's total FY-2009 operating budget. Last year (FY-2008) the FCC recovered about \$184,500 (15,000 times \$12.30) from the vanity callsign program.

You also have to pay another ten year's "rent" when you renew your vanity call for another ten years. Some radio amateurs question why a vanity callsign renewal fee should be assessed when the FCC has no cost involved, since the callsign is already issued. Again, the answer is that the renewal fee is not linked to FCC vanity callsign costs, but to the overall increase in the total FCC's operating budget. Application fees are based on cost to provide a service; regulatory fees are based on FCC budget fluctuations.

**Q:** *I am confused by all of the Amateur Service licensee databases on the internet? Which is the best to use?*

**A:** The best, most accurate, and timely is the FCC's own Universal Licensing System (ULS) database located on its website: <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>. All others are merely a copy of it, most with additional information added. The primary reason it is better to use the ULS database is because the FCC indicates callsign cancellation dates, which are very helpful when determining if a callsign has been inactive for two or more years and therefore is available under the vanity callsign program. We do not know of any other ham database that incorporates this information.

The FCC updates the Amateur Service database every morning at 2 AM Eastern time. It also posts daily application and license transaction files and an updated ULS database weekly for use by the public. The daily transaction files are used to update every other site's database.

Some of the other popular radio amateur databases are <[www.QRZ.com](http://www.QRZ.com)>, <[www.WM7D.net](http://www.WM7D.net)> (direct link from the CQ homepage), and <[www.arrl.org/fcc/fcclook.php3](http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fcclook.php3)>. One of their advantages is that they add additional information that is not on the FCC's version, such as maps, grid squares, counties, e-mail and website addresses, year of birth, previous callsigns, time zones, and more.

We understand that the Universal Licensing System is in the process of undergoing a major overhaul by the FCC and a new consolidated licensing system will come online sometime next year. Stay tuned.

**Q:** *I don't understand all the math associated with the Part 97 RF safety rules ... such as that pertaining to the Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) limits. How do I know if my station is safe?*

**A:** In 1990, officials from the Federal Communications Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency conducted a field survey of typical amateur radio stations in southern California. The general conclusion was that the majority of amateur operations do not produce electromagnetic fields strong enough to be a health hazard. However, there are certain isolated situations in which the RF safety standards may be exceeded and people could be exposed to potentially harmful levels of RF radiation.

Part §97.13(c) requires that an RF evaluation be conducted when more than 50 watts is radiated. This is easy to say, but there are many variables to take into consideration when completing the compliance evaluation. Among these factors are power levels, emission types, wavelength (the radiated frequency), type and gain of the antenna, height above ground, antenna patterns, and so forth. Furthermore, there are two

types of exposure levels that apply to controlled and uncontrolled environments. (In a "controlled" RF environment people know that RF is present and can take steps to control their exposure.) There also are different time-averaging (duty cycle) constraints that apply to each.

There are three ways to determine RF exposure:

1. Use electronic instruments that measure field strength;
2. Perform complex mathematical calculations based on generic formulas provided by the FCC;
3. And use tabular charts and computer programs that determine "worst case" estimated distances to meet the RF power-density guidelines.

Amateurs should routinely minimize public exposure to RF energy. Ham radio is a hobby that can be pursued safely, provided a few simple precautions are followed. Here are some suggestions:

- You should radiate as little RF power as possible. Remember, Section 97.313(a) requires radio amateurs to use the least amount of transmitter power necessary to perform their communications.

- Make it a practice to operate without your linear amplifier whenever possible, and never use an amplifier that has its shielded metal cover removed. The cover keeps RF energy from escaping into the environment.

- Reduce the duty cycle. Keep transmissions short—especially when operating at the VHF/UHF/microwave level.

- Amateurs can minimize the amount of RF energy radiated into the surrounding environment by using lower duty-cycle emission types such as single sideband and CW.

- Transmitting antennas should be mounted as far away from residences and populated areas as possible, and the higher the antenna the better.

- Since feed lines can radiate, route open-wire line (or even coaxial cable if the standing-wave ratio is high) away from populated areas.

- Do not transmit when people are near a ground-mounted or mobile antenna: Vertical antennas are best installed on high monopoles, towers, or roofs, and not at ground level.

- A good rule-of-thumb is to allow at least 35 feet distance between the antenna and the public if 100 watts or more is being transmitted. Also, allow an even greater distance if high power and high-gain antennas are used.

- Automobile metal roofs shield the occupants from RF. Don't transmit if anyone is standing within five or six feet of a whip antenna.

- Be careful when using indoor antennas, including those mounted in attics, because they can generate substantial RF fields.

- Use low power (10 watts output or less whenever possible) and keep your transmissions short when someone might be near the antenna.

- In a residential environment it is best not to use high-power VHF/UHF/ microwave transmitters and high-gain directional antenna arrays such as used during moonbounce or weak-signal communications.

- Be certain no one is in front of a high-gain directional antenna array—especially one transmitting at the high-energy VHF/UHF/microwave level. Limit access to your antenna area. Install warning signs.

- Always use the lowest power level possible when using a hand-held transceiver and point the antenna as far away from your head—and especially your eyes—as possible.

**Q:** *All the good one-by-two format callsigns are assigned. Is there a way I can get one?*

**A:** Actually, new one-by-two callsigns are becoming available all the time, and it is possible to get one of them if you

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know how. Callsigns become available two years plus one day following license expiration, cancellation, or death of the holder, whichever is sooner. An amateur callsign is listed in the FCC database for two years beyond expiration to provide for a two-year grace period during which the licensee may recoup the callsign or a close relative may apply for the call of a deceased licensee.

There are many—possibly hundreds—of available one-by-two callsigns currently listed in the FCC's Amateur Service active database where the licensee has died 2 to 12 years ago. Check the Silent Keys listing in *QST* for the period 1990 through 1997 to determine which callsigns may be available. (You can also enter the term "silent key" into the Google search engine.) Then check the FCC database to determine which callsigns are still being carried as active.

The FCC will remove (cancel) the amateur callsign of a deceased amateur from its data base if you provide it with either an obituary from a newspaper, a copy of the death certificate, or a printout from the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) located online at: <<http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com>>.

Mail your callsign deletion request and documentation to: FCC, Amateur Section, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. Then start checking the FCC's amateur radio database about two weeks after you submit the deletion request. Once the callsign is canceled from the database, you may apply for it, but work fast. Someone else could beat you to the callsign.

There are several excellent amateur vanity callsign help databases on the World Wide Web that can assist you in locating a desirable callsign. Among them are: <[www.radio-qth.net](http://www.radio-qth.net)>, <[www.vanityhq.com/](http://www.vanityhq.com/)> and <[www.ae7q.com](http://www.ae7q.com)>.

**Q:** I recently applied for a vanity callsign and noted the following entry: "Redlight Review Completed" when I checked the application in the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) database. What is that all about?

**A:** The "Red Light Rule" was adopted to facilitate collection of unpaid non-tax debts owed to the FCC. The Red Light Display (RLD) System began operation in December 2004. Triggered by an applicant's Taxpayer Identification Number (Social Security Number), it is a secure system that allows the public as well as the Commission to determine if the applicant is delinquent in the payment of any debts owed to the FCC. This debt might be, for example, failure to make installment payments on a fine assessed for an FCC rules violation.

If it is discovered that you owe the Commission money, you will receive a letter advising that you are ineligible for benefits (such as a license or vanity callsign) until the delinquent debts have been paid in full or other satisfactory arrangements have been made. Failure to resolve an outstanding delinquent debt within 30 days of being notified that a filing has triggered a "red light" will result in dismissal (rejection) of the application.

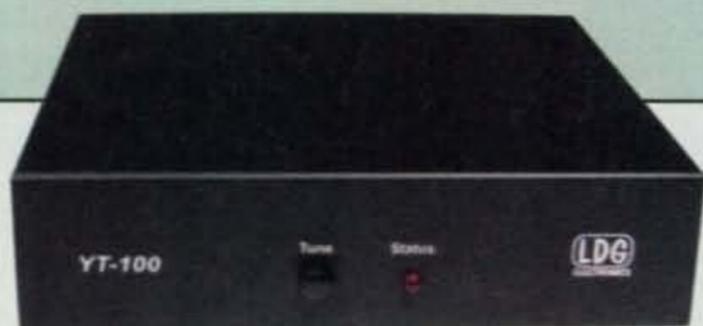
The rules provide that if you fail to pay money owed to the FCC, the debts will be referred to the Department of Treasury for collection. Your failure to pay will also be reported to credit reporting agencies. You can also check the RLD System yourself by entering your FCC Registration Number (FRN) and ULS password online at: <<http://www.fcc.gov/redlight>>. Try it!

**Q:** The FCC has been reducing its ham licensing qualifications in recent years. What effect has this had on amateur radio growth?

**A:** The last four major Amateur Service rulemakings by the



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**Suggested Price \$199.99**



### NEW! Z-817

The ultimate autotuner for QRP radios including the Yaesu FT-817(D). Tuning is simple; one button push on the tuner is all that is needed - the Z-817 takes care of the rest. It will switch to PKT mode, transmit a carrier, tune the tuner, then restore the radio to the previous mode! 2000 memories cover 160 through 6 meters. The Z-817 will also function as a general purpose antenna tuner with other QRP radios. Just transmit a carrier and press the tune button on the tuner. Powered by four AA internal Alkaline batteries (not included), so there are no additional cables required. A coax jumper cable is also included for fast hook up. **Suggested Price \$129.99.**



### AT-200Pro

The AT-200 features LDG's new "3-D memory system" allowing up to eight antenna settings to be stored for each frequency. Handles up to 250 watts SSB or CW on 1.8 - 30 MHz, and 100 watts on 54 MHz (including 6 meters). Rugged and easy-to-read LED bar graphs show power and SWR, and a function key on the front panel allows you to access data such as mode and status. All cables included.

**Suggested Price \$249**



### NEW! KT-100

LDG's first dedicated autotuner for Kenwood Amateur transceivers. Easy to use - just right for an AT-300 compatible Kenwood transceiver. The KT-100 actually allows you to use the Tune button on the radio. The LEDs on the front panel indicate tuning status, and will show a match in seconds, or even less of you've tuned on or near that frequency before. Has 2,000 memories for instant recall of the tuning parameters for your favorite bands and frequencies. If you have an AT-300 compatible Kenwood radio, you can simply plug the KT-100 into your transceiver with the provided cable; the interface powers the tuner, and the Tune button on the radio begins a tuning cycle. The supplied interface cable makes the KT-100 a dedicated tuner for most modern Kenwood transceivers. **Suggested Price \$199.99**



**See**

**AT-1000Pro Review  
in Nov. '08 CQ**

### AT-1000Pro

Building on the success of the AT-1000, LDG Electronics has refined and expanded its 1KW tuner. The AT-1000Pro has an Automode that automatically starts a tuning cycle when the SWR exceeds a limit you set. Operates at any power level between 5 and 1,000 watts peak. RF Relay protection software prevents tuning at greater than 125 watts. Tunes from 1.8 to 54.0 MHz (inc. 6 meters), with tuning time usually under 4 seconds, transmitting near a frequency with stored tuning parameters, under 0.2 seconds. 2000 memories. 2 Antenna connections. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$599**

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## AT-100Pro

This desktop tuner covers all frequencies from 1.8 – 54 MHz (including 6 meters), and will automatically match your antenna in no time. It features a two-position antenna switch, allowing you to switch instantly between two antennas. The AT-100Pro requires just 1 watt for operation, but will handle up to 125 watts. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$219**



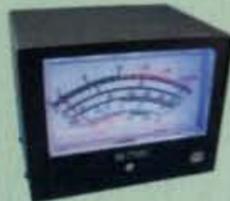
radio not included

## AT-897 for the Yaesu FT-897

If you own a Yaesu FT-897 and want a broad range automatic antenna tuner, look no further! The AT-897 Autotuner mounts on the side of your FT-897 just like the original equipment and takes power directly from the CAT port of the FT-897 and provides a second CAT port on the back of the tuner so hooking up another CAT device couldn't be easier. **Suggested Price \$199**



radio not included



## FT Meter

LDG's new version of its popular FT-Meter presents a lush, highly readable 2.5" meter face with calibrated scales for signal strength and discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit. Each function is selectable from the radio's menu. On/Off switch for the light. **Still Only \$49**

**NEW! FTL Meter** For Yaesu's popular FT-857(D) and FT-897(D) transceivers, our FTL-Meter presents a lush, highly readable 4.5 inch meter face with calibrated scales for signal strength and discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit. Each function is selectable from the radio's menu. Best of all, it plugs into the meter jack on the bottom of the front panel. **Suggested Price \$79.99**

**NEW! M-7700** The LDG M-7700 provides a lavish 4.5" meter for IC-7700. It will display S-meter on receive, or power out, SWR, ALC level or supply voltages, all selectable from the rig's setup menu. What's more, the M-7700 and the virtual meter on your radio can work together; for example, you can display SWR on the radio's meter and power output on the M-7700. **Suggested Price \$79.99**



## Z-11Pro

Meet the Z-11Pro, everything you always wanted in a small, portable tuner. Designed from the ground up for battery operation. Only 5" x 7.7" x 1.5", and weighing only 1.5 pounds, it handles 0.1 to 125 watts, making it ideal for both QRP and standard 100 watt transceivers from 160 - 6 meters. The Z-11Pro uses LDG's state-of-the-art processor-controlled Switched-L tuning network. It will match dipoles, verticals, inverted-Vs or virtually any coax-fed antenna. With an optional LDG balun, it will also match longwires or antennas fed with ladder-line. All cables included. **Suggested Price \$179**



## NEW! IT-100

Matched in size to the IC-7000 and IC-706, the new IT-100 sports a front panel push-button for either manual or automatic tunes, and status LEDs so you'll know what's going on inside. You can control the IT-100 and its 2000 memories from either its own button or the Tune button on your IC-7000 or other Icom rigs. It's the perfect complement to your Icom radio that is AH3 or AH-4 compatible. **Suggested Price \$179.99**



## NEW! Z-100Plus

LDG's popular Z-100 economy tuner is now the Z-100Plus. Still small and simple to use, the Z-100Plus sports 2000 memories that store both frequency and tuning parameters. It will run on any voltage source from 7 to 18 volts; six AA batteries will run it for a year of normal use. Current draw while tuning is less than 100ma. The Z-100Plus now includes an internal frequency counter so the operating frequency is stored with tuning parameters to make memory tunes a blazingly fast 0.1 seconds; full tunes take an average of only 6 seconds. **Suggested Price \$159.99**

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## On The Cover

Lynn and Rosie Lamb of Maryville, Tennessee, are among the best-known DXing couples in ham radio today. Lynn, W4NL, has been at the Top of the Honor Roll since 1984, has DXCC on nine bands, including 228 countries confirmed on 160 meters; WAZ on eight bands, including 36 zones on 160; and 328 countries confirmed on QRP (10 watts). Rosie, KA4S, is just one confirmation away from Top of the Honor Roll recognition herself. Both Lynn and Rosie, along with George Dominick, W4UWC, founded SEDCO - the SouthEastern DX and Contesting Organization - five years ago and its annual convention in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, has quickly become one of the major DX and contesting events of the year.

Rosie and Lynn have been married 52 years and both are retired from the Department of Defense, where they worked as civilian employees. Rosie was an executive secretary and Lynn held various positions in Navy weapons programs, spending his last three years before retirement as Weapons Director for the entire Navy. He was awarded the Superior Civilian Service Award -- the Navy's second-highest civilian honor -- for his work on weapons systems during Operation Desert Storm.

Lynn's current ham radio interests include QRP (low power), CW and digital modes, and he is now getting into 6-meter DXing as well. One of his favorite ham radio moments, though, was recently when he was talking on PSK 31 with his friend and digital mentor, Ted McDonald, K7OM. Lynn says his grandson, Dawson, and Ted's granddaughter, Sarah, each took over the respective keyboards to talk to each other on the radio. (Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI)

FCC provided for a code-free Technician Class license (PR Docket 90-55 in 1991); restructured the service to three license classes with one 5-wpm code exam (WT Docket 098-0143 in 2000); increased HF voice spectrum (WT Docket 04-140 in 2006); and then eliminated code testing (WT Docket 05-235 in 2007).

Despite these changes, amateur radio growth has been pretty much stagnant over the past ten years, and it appears that these changes have had no effect on the total number of radio amateurs. It has, however, rearranged the mix of radio amateurs in each license class. There are 40,000 more Extra Class and 40,000 more General Class radio amateurs than ten years ago—an amount about equal to the reduction in the Advanced and the Novice Classes, which are no longer issued. The result: No gain. The number of Technician Class hams has remained right around 330,000 during the past decade.

According to FCC statistics, ten years ago (1999) there was a total of 675,000 active radio amateurs with unexpired licenses. Today, there are about 670,000—not much change in total. The belief was that these Amateur Service rulemakings would substantially increase interest in ham radio, eliminate

barriers to entry into the service, and that amateur radio would start growing again. Sadly, it has not happened.

The effect of reducing the number of license classes, examinations and code speed, increasing voice spectrum, and eventually eliminating code testing altogether seems only to be that amateurs find it easier to upgrade to the General and Extra Class. We suspect that the changes in code exams is the main reason. In any event, the total number of licensees has pretty much remained the same over the past decade.

The bottom line is that the advent of the no-code Technician (in 1991), restructuring (in 2000), more voice frequencies (in 2006), and ending code testing (in 2007) has not increased the total number of radio amateurs. There are, in fact, slightly fewer amateurs than five or ten years ago. What has happened is that the number of radio amateurs in each license class has simply been redistributed.

Not included in these figures are approximately 55,000 radio amateurs with expired licenses who are in the two-year "grace period." These amateurs are either deceased or have failed to renew their licenses. The number of new amateurs (about 29,000 annually) is pretty much matched by the number who are dropped from the database

**The following countries have signed a reciprocal operating agreement with the U.S.:** Antigua/Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark (including Greenland), Dominican Republic, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Finland, France (including possessions), Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Liberia, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Neth. Antilles, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Island, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, and the United Kingdom including: Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Channel Islands (including Guernsey and Jersey) Falkland Islands (including South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands), Gibraltar, Isle of Man, Montserrat, St. Helena (including Ascension Island, Gough Island, Tristan Da Cunha Island), Northern Ireland, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

**Participating CEPT countries:** Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France (and possessions), Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherland Antilles, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States, and the United Kingdom.

**Participating IARP countries:** Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

If your country of citizenship is not named in the list above, then no reciprocal operating authority is in effect and amateur radio operation is not possible in the U.S. unless you first pass the appropriate FCC license examinations. Operating privileges while in the United States may not exceed those of an Amateur Extra Class operator.

*Table 1— The countries that have signed a reciprocal operating agreement with the U.S.; participating CEPT countries; and participating IARP countries.*

after their grace period runs out. There are also another 11,000 amateur radio clubs with callsigns. (Editor's note: This is a case where W5YI and I see things from a different perspective. While the total number of amateurs has remained roughly steady in recent years, it has been near all-time high levels and it is important to remember that we are still getting roughly 100,000 to 120,000 new people into the hobby every four years. —W2VU)

**Q:** I am a ham operator and citizen of a foreign country. May I operate amateur radio while on vacation in the United States?

**A:** Currently, foreign amateur operators are authorized to operate stations in the U.S. under five circumstances.

1. Canadian amateurs may operate ham radio in the U.S. due to a bilateral U.S.-Canada 1952 treaty that permits visiting amateurs to operate radio stations in the territory of the other country without further licensing. The visiting amateur simply identifies his station in the usual manner and appends the call-sign with the prefix and area number being visited (e.g., VE1ABC/W1). The city and state in which the operation takes place must be announced on the amateur airwaves at least once during the communications exchange.

2. The FCC rules also provide operating privileges to radio amateurs who are citizens of countries whose governments have entered into bilateral reciprocal operating arrangements with the United States. The foreign amateur must carry two items when operating in the U.S.: (1) Proof of an amateur license issued by the country of citizenship, and (2) Proof of citizenship in that same country. Station identification: the U.S. call district identifier (e.g., W1) followed by the non-US callsign. (See Table I.) Note that it is the reverse of the ID for Canadian amateurs. Foreign hams from anywhere *except* Canada operating in the U.S. must identify with the U.S. call district *first*—e.g., W2/DL1ABC.

3. Holders of CEPT radio amateur license issued under recommendation T/R 61-01 (CEPT Agreement), by a country belonging to the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. CEPT license holders may operate an amateur station temporarily in any participating CEPT country without first obtaining another license or permit from the host country. CEPT license holders must also have their original amateur license in their possession, issued by their home country when visiting the

U.S. Station identification: same as for countries with reciprocal operating arrangements. (See Table I.)

4. Holders of International Amateur Radio Permits from participating IARP countries are authorized to operate temporarily in the U.S. An IARP is issued pursuant to the terms of the Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit, often referred to as the CITEL/Amateur Convention. Station identification: same as for countries with reciprocal operating arrangements.

5. Non-U.S. citizens who pass the required FCC examinations are granted licenses in the same manner as U.S. citizens. This procedure is usually used by foreign operators who reside permanently in the U.S., by those who are here for lengthy stays, or when a reciprocal licensing arrangement does not exist between the foreign amateur's home country and the United States. U.S. amateur license examinations are available in several foreign countries and are usually staffed by U.S. volunteer examiners who are overseas workers, in the U.S. military, or foreign amateurs who hold senior-level FCC licenses. 73, Fred, W5YI

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## Lighthouses Brighten the Airwaves ... but Fog is Rolling In

**H**ave you noticed the increasing amount of on-the-air activity from lighthouses and lightships during recent times? There is a viable reason. Jim Weidner, K2JXW, founder of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, and friends have diligently been promoting lighthouse activities since 1996. Plus, a second group based in Scotland has been promoting ham radio lighthouse operations on a worldwide basis even longer. They both have events scheduled for this month, and what used to be two distinct activities on two separate weekends are now overlapping, with the growing possibility of confusion for the average ham. We have no intention of taking sides here—except with you, the reader, who enjoys having fun on the air—so this month we're going to try to clear the air and shine some light on who is running what when.

The ARLHS has expanded its long-running National Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (traditionally the first weekend in August) into an International Lighthouse/Lightship QSO Party and Special Event Operation between August 1 and 9, covering the first two weekends of the month. Plus, the European group has its annual International Lighthouse/

Lightship Weekend scheduled for August 15 and 16, the third weekend. As I will explain later, joining on-the-air activities (QSO parties or contacting Special Event stations operating from lighthouse grounds) also earns credits for a variety of awards and certificates. First, however, let's discuss the unique roles of lighthouses and lightships themselves.

### Lighthouse History

A brief study of lighthouses reveals they are nautical/navigational aids typically used to mark haz-

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



Photo 1— The Hooper Strait Lighthouse and Museum at Chesapeake Bay, Maryland is one of the most well-known and easily accessible lighthouses on the U.S. East Coast. Here, ARLHS member Jim Elliott, KA3UNQ, passes out QSOs from the lighthouse grounds while alternate op Dan Hatcher, KD3CQ, handles photographic duties. (Lighthouse photos courtesy of ARLHS founder Jim Weidner, K2JXW)

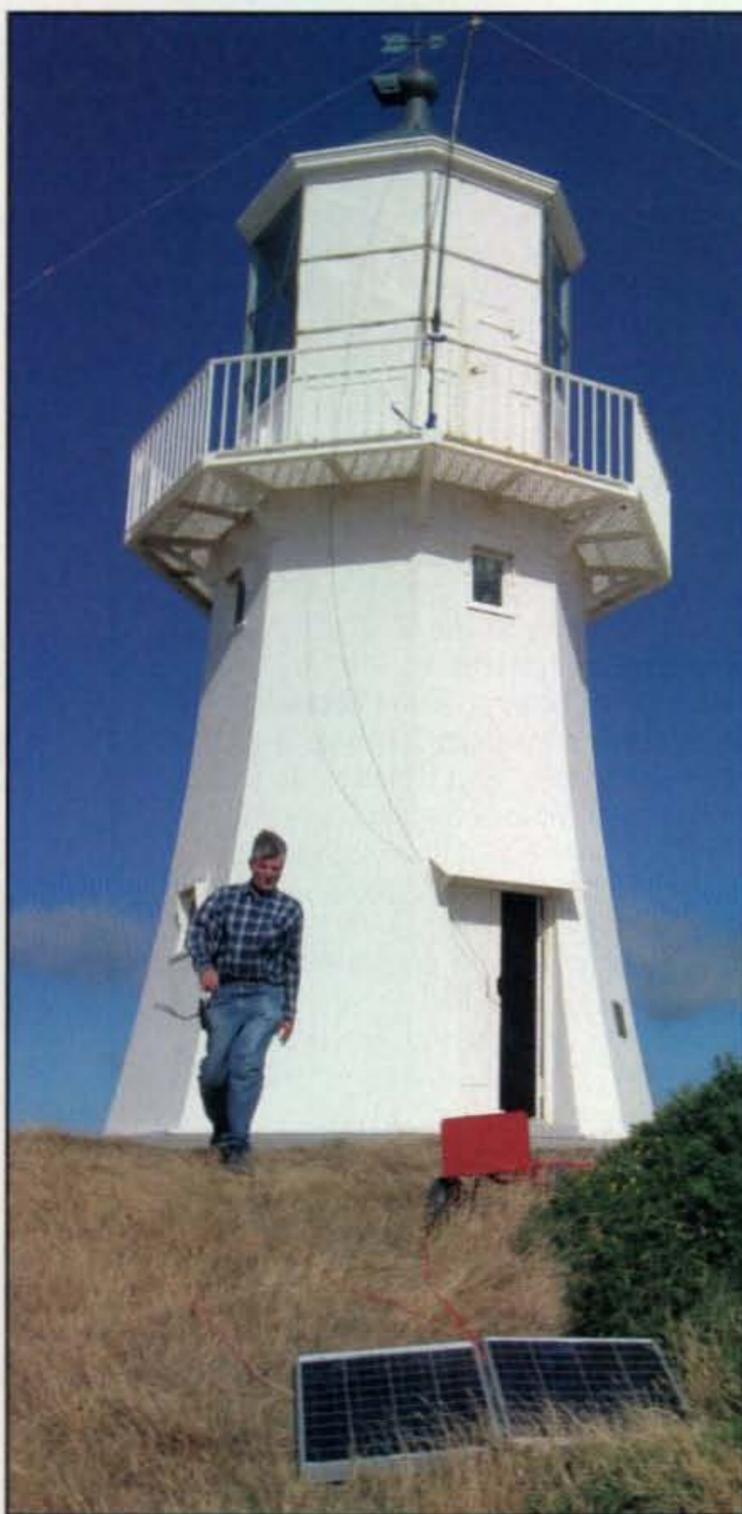


Photo 2— Lighthouses grace every corner of the world, and each one is unique in design and paint style. Here Nigel Goldstone, ZL2SEA, checks his solar panels supplying power for an on-the-air operation from Pencarrow Lighthouse "down under" in New Zealand.

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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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### ADL-1500 Dummy Load with oil... \$74<sup>95</sup>

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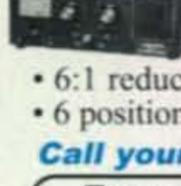
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ardous shorelines, reefs, and entrances to harbors. They often are built round to withstand harsh stormy weather and to minimize wind resistance, and many are painted with unique bands, spirals, and square or diamond patterns for easy recognition.

Lighthouses have been in existence for several thousand years. They are included in various marine charts, and many have been maintained in remarkably good condition. Lighthouses are also historically-significant landmarks, and a fair number are well-recognized tourist attractions complete with park areas, mini museums, and gift shops.

A lighthouse has a glass-enclosed lamp room that during early times was equipped with a large oil lantern rotated by a gravity-fed pulley/gear system. An adjoining building was used for storing supplies, spare parts, food, etc. A live-in lighthouse keeper added oil to the lantern and rewound the pulley every few hours to ensure continuous operation of the lamp.

Today, lighthouses are equipped with high-intensity electric lamps focused into a bright and long-range beam by a Fresnel lens. As a quick reference here, a somewhat similar Fresnel lens is used in an overhead projector to amplify light and "throw" images onto a screen in a meeting room or auditorium. Many lighthouses have their own power generators for emergency/standalone operation, and some also include radar beacons with transponders that appear on a ship's radar screen plus transmit their ID/QTH in Morse code.

Today, the majority of lighthouses in the United States are automated, with the U.S. Coast Guard maintaining the actual light and its support optics, while private/non-profit groups or local governments maintain lighthouse structures. As a result, some lighthouses 100 years or more old are in remarkably good condition and delightful to visit, while others (without this local support) beg for repairs and special care.

The lighthouse at the point of St. George Island off the west Florida coast is a good example of concerned people rescuing a historic lighthouse from extinction. It was quite old and beach erosion from hurricanes eventually took its toll on the foundation. The lighthouse toppled into the Gulf of Mexico in 2005. Then an admirable group of volunteers called the St. George Lighthouse Association plus a local salvage company retrieved the lamp and many of the original bricks/stones from the water. The items were cleaned, refurbished, and used in restoring and upgrading the

lighthouse. The rebuilt lighthouse, complemented with a small museum and gift shop, opened to the public in early 2009 (see <[www.stgeorgelight.org](http://www.stgeorgelight.org)>). St. George Island sits a half-mile or so offshore a few miles east of Port St. Joe. It is a nice "old world" vacation area accessible by bridge. The beach is super clean and relatively quiet. The lighthouse sits at the end of the island's causeway, marking the island's shoreline. Thousands of other lighthouses

grace shorelines, islands, waterways, and large lakes worldwide.

## Lightships

Lightships were akin to floating lighthouses, and I say "were" because the last ones in service were retired or decommissioned by 1985. A lightship has a light and Fresnel-lens-type assembly mounted atop a tall mast or tripod, a foghorn or large bell, and a



Photo 3— Patty Martin, W5AZO, operates from the site of East Wharf Lighthouse in Oklahoma (yes, there is even a lighthouse in Oklahoma; it marks the edge of a large lake). Alternate op and OM Jim Martin, W5AZN, shot this photo.



Photo 4— Lightships are akin to floating lighthouses, and prior to the evolution of GPS for navigation, they marked dangerous waters, entrances to harbors, and more. Shown here is the retired-from-service Lightship Huron which now resides at Port Huron, Michigan.

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radio beacon—all for making its presence known during good and bad weather alike. Lightships were usually permanently anchored, with a massive anchor to hold them firmly in place during storms. The ship's hull was very often marked with the name of its assigned location or post. The ships

were used in waters too deep or otherwise unsuitable for supporting a conventional lighthouse.

A number of lightships were lost in hurricanes and replaced by automated oil derrick-type light towers or light buoys with high-intensity blinking lights like those utilized near airports and atop

tall radio/TV towers. They lack the class, flash, and glamour of lightships, but that is the harsh reality of progress (sigh!). The lightships surviving today have been refurbished and are enjoying life as tourist attractions and museums. Why have I included details of lighthouses and lightships in this month's column? Because they are historical landmarks, and also many radio amateurs are or have been associated with ships or some form of ship-to-shore communications and many people enjoy investigating lighthouses. They are intriguing. Agree?

**The ARLHS**

The Amateur Radio LightHouse Society was founded by Jim Weidner, K2JXW, in 1996 and has grown to over 1600 members worldwide today. Its purpose, or mission, is to promote awareness of the role amateur radio and lighthouses play in assisting and assuring safety at sea. It is also dedicated to preserving the heritage, history, and continuing existence of lighthouses and lightships, plus fostering friendship among radio amateurs worldwide.

The society offers a variety of impressive-looking certificates for confirming



Photo 5— A popular tourist attraction in the Lewes, Delaware area is the Overfalls Lightship and museum. Jim Stormer, W3TL, is vice-president of the museum.



Photo 6— The Ebeltoft Lightship, Fyrskib 21 is often active on the amateur radio bands with its own call—OZ7DAL.

QSOs with stations operating from lighthouse-related sites in all U.S. call areas, all (31) states with lighthouses, all continents, 25 countries, and more. The full story here is quite extensive and easily overflows available column space. Check <www.arlhs.com> or send a large SASE to ARLHS, 114 Woodbine Avenue, Merchantville, NJ 08109 for more details and/or an application blank for joining ARLHS. New members, incidentally, receive a neat "welcome package" that includes a fancy membership certificate with lifetime



Photo 7— One of the collectable "Little Lights" offered to pre-registered ARLHS QSO party entrants reporting a qualifying number of QSOs.

member number, embroidered ARLHS shoulder patch, plus other special goodies.

ARLHS also sponsors an annual Spring Lights QSO Party held during April, a Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO party held during the week between Christmas and New Years, and this month's (August) extensive on-the-air events. Remember to check <www.arlhs.com> for the latest news on lighthouse/lightship lists, activations, contests, and more.

### Across the Atlantic

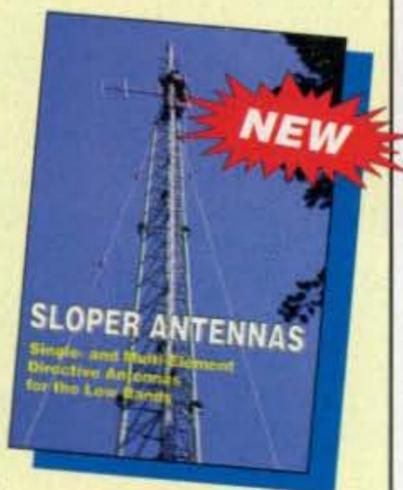
Over in Scotland, the Ayr Amateur Radio Group has been sponsoring the International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend on the third weekend in August since beginning as the region-

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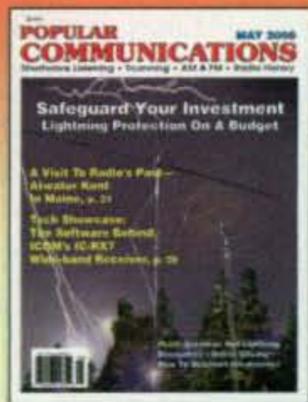
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Table I— Popular HF ARLHS gathering frequencies. Activity is usually within  $\pm 20$  kHz of frequencies shown.

al Northern Lighthouse Activity Weekend in 1995. This weekend coincides with International Lighthouse Day (third Sunday in August), established by the International Association of Lighthouse Keepers. The ARLHS events in the U.S. initially were scheduled to match up with the Congressionally-created National Lighthouse Weekend on the first weekend in August. Apparently, there had been some discussion early on about merging the two events, but neither group wanted to abandon its chosen weekend, so they agreed to disagree and ran separate events, leading to some confusion among hams as to which was which and when.

### Competition and Confusion

Unfortunately, the confusion over the two separate events has been compounded this year, as the ARLHS has expanded from the first weekend in August to a full week (longer, actually, in order to include two full weekends), and renamed its activity as the International Lighthouse/Lightship Week ... the same initials as the long-running Scottish-sponsored International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend on the third weekend. In addition, both groups are using ILLW to identify their events and even have competing websites: <<http://illw.net>> is the website of the Ayr group (third weekend), while ARLHS is using <<http://illw.org>> as the website for its events.

The ARLHS-sponsored event is a combination QSO party, complete with awards and prizes for all preregistered entrants, and a concurrently running Special Event promotion for amateurs just interested in having fun or pursuing ARLHS certificates. The ILLW event sponsored by the Ayr group is a non-competitive fun activity only.

Full rules and guidelines for each previously mentioned activity are posted on the following websites:

- <<http://illw.org>> and <[www.arlhs.com](http://www.arlhs.com)> (click on "ILLW") for the ARLHS-sponsored activities. Preregistration is suggested for either/both activities. A list of ARLHS-related frequencies is included in Table I.

- <<http://illw.net>> for details on the Ayr Amateur Radio Group's International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (Aug-

ust 15–16). No competition or prizes here, just fun.

### Conclusion

We hope that the two lighthouse groups will work things out in a friendly manner so that as many hams as possible can enjoy these activities, whether they are

setting up stations at or near lighthouses or trying to work them. Meanwhile, there's a potential bonanza of lighthouse/lightship stations on the air this month. Whether you're listening on the first, second, or third weekend, or sometime in between, there should be plenty of lighthouse stations out there to be worked.

That overflows available space for this month, and we trust you have found the discussion interesting and informative. We look forward to hearing and contacting you during the upcoming lighthouse activities.

73, Dave, K4TWJ



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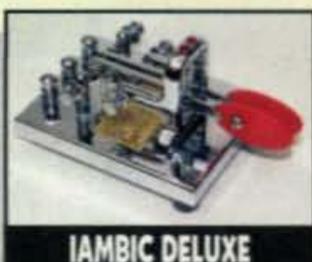
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## APRS Isn't Just Tracking

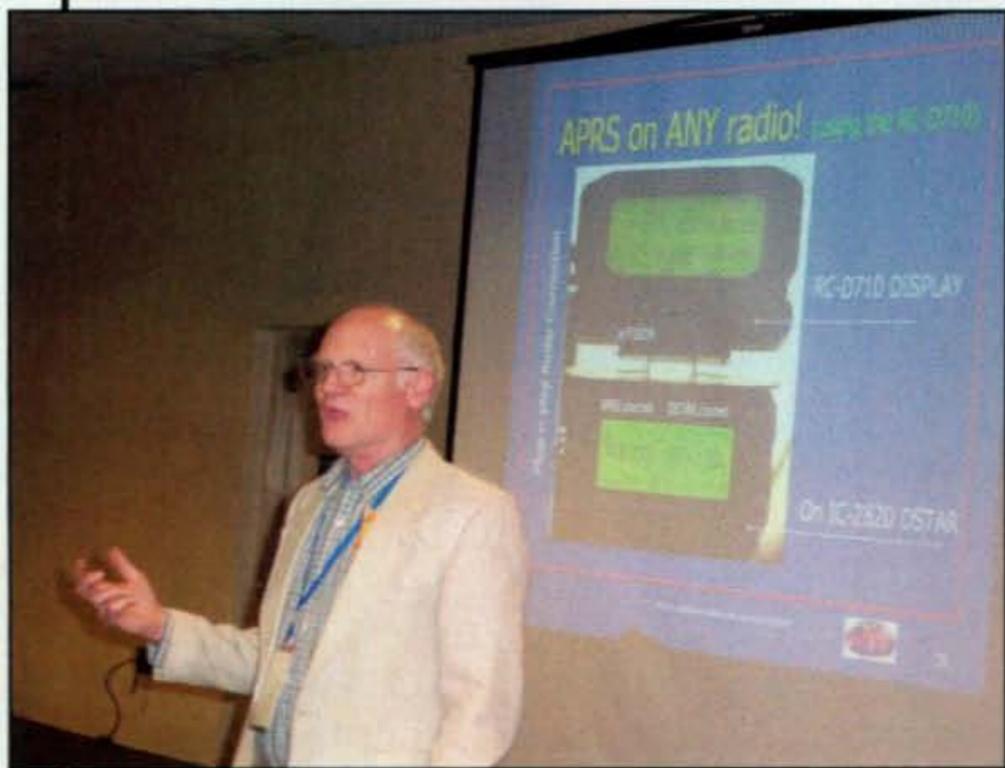
**"A**PRRS was never intended to be an end in itself," says Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. "It's just a tool to get data between amateur radio operators." As he reminded the crowd in the APRS forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention®, APRS stands for Automatic Packet Reporting System, not *Position*. Although it seems that vehicle position tracking is seen as the most common use for APRS these days, that's not what it's intended for, being merely one of the myriad of things you can do with it.

To quote Bob from his article at <http://aprs.org/APRS-tactical.html>:

APRS is not about *vehicle tracking*. It is a single **information resource** channel where everything that is going on in ham radio in the surrounding area can be announced and updated in real time. It presents to the viewer on his APRS radio front panel *all that is happening* right now, where it is, and all the info he needs to participate, whether it is an event, happening, net, activity, announcement, future activity, or situation. The APRS channel is his one-stop look at everything that could be going on in the local area, and his one-stop place to post what he might be doing that might be of interest to others. APRS is not about GPS positions, it is about a situational map display of everything that is happening, and most of that is *objects* containing *info* on the activity and how to contact other operators.

Therefore, look at a real-time APRS map. What do you see? Vehicles, mostly, updating their GPS

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Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, explaining the universal text messaging concept during the APRS forum at the 2009 Dayton Hamvention®.

position as they move about, and relay stations announcing their availability. Hamfest two towns over? Club meeting tomorrow night? *Anything* about what's going on in the area? Nope, sorry . . . but it could be.

### Web 2.0?

Where I work, we're finding ways to incorporate what's called "Web 2.0" into the way we do business. Social networking and information-sharing sites such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and even Wikipedia and the whole genre of blogs (short for web log) bring about a new connectivity to society, where the information you want or need is right there for the asking, devices are interoperable, and user-centered design is the rule.

I read a lot of science fiction, and one common "ability" that we all will have in the future is to call up any kind of information, on any subject, anywhere we happen to be, in an instant, usually on a computer embedded in our body and linked directly to the brain. Science fiction indeed, but imagine the power of being able to actually do that! Trivia contests would be trivial, and you would finally win an argument with your brother-in-law.

The point is that Web 2.0 is not a new internet, but a new way of using the communication path that already exists, where relevant information is more easily available and you participate in that information. This is how I interpret Bob's *vision* for APRS today, which is somewhat broader than what I heard him first present when he introduced APRS in Teaneck, New Jersey at the 11th ARRL Computer Networking Conference (CNC) back in 1992. APRS has been refined since then, adding more efficient methods and descriptive data types and capabilities to allow for a truly advanced vision of how APRS should be used.

### The Vision

I don't toss around the word *vision* lightly. I'm going to try to explain the future of APRS and how it could be used to become *everything amateur radio for everyone*. I feel as though this could be the start of a new age, much like the introduction of FM repeaters or packet networks were to the amateur community—a radical new way to communicate. For this to work, though, I'll need you to use your imagination for a few minutes.

OK, first imagine that we have a variety of transceivers from cell-phone size to base rig, from several manufacturers, in a rainbow of different sizes, styles, capabilities, and price ranges. However, they all talk to the well-developed APRS network that covers almost anywhere we might be. Now imagine that every ham is an information source as well as an information consumer; not only can you gather information about the local area, but you can (and are expected to) supply it as well.

All of this certainly is possible with today's technology, but imagine that it's been built and is well-used by all hams.

If all this was in place, you would be able to drive around and be aware—really aware—of what is happening in the area. You could find info on local repeaters or from local hams. Club meetings, hamfests, and other current or future events would be “advertised” as you entered a service area. Assets of interest to hams would be made known, including facilities (including hospitals, police stations, libraries) and even people. Almost like having supervision and super-hearing, you would be able to know all that is going on around you, wherever you are.

It's not just limited to a small local area, either. APRS supports a global callsign-to-callsign amateur radio messaging system able to send a short message, bulletin, or object to any ham, anywhere, with just a callsign. It's not built yet, but there is nothing technical in the way. It just needs someone to integrate the more than two dozen amateur radio text-messaging systems that are in use today.

OK, what would it be like to have those capabilities at your fingertips? Imagine if an emergency occurs. The nature and location of the emergency would propagate almost instantly, letting those who can help know the facts, and those who need help can find exactly what they need immediately.

You see a car crash, and you change your icon from “mobile car” to “emergency” and get highest priority on your communications. You type in a few lines of text as to the situation—“Auto accident, medical help needed”—while your GPS tells the location. The people monitoring for such things are alerted automatically, and the whole system responds in an instant. The ham with EMS training driving two blocks away diverts to the scene, as does a volunteer fireman out getting groceries, both arriving and helping several minutes before the local ambulance arrives. Their messages alert the hospital of what they can expect in a few minutes, and it all quickly swings into action.

Perhaps this is a bit overdramatic, but surely realistic. The point is that the APRS channel is a transport mechanism for information, “whether it is an event, happening, net, activity, announcement, future activity, or situation” (according to <aprs.org>). “The APRS channel is [a] one-stop look at everything that could be going on in the local area, and [a] one-stop place to post what [one] might be doing that

might be of interest to others. APRS is not about GPS positions, it is about a situational map display of everything that is happening, and most of that is *objects* containing *info* on the activity and how to contact other operators.”

### It's Already Started

This does not mean that we all need to start carrying laptop computers around either. APRStt (APRS-touchtone) allows any radio that has a touch-tone keyboard to send APRS messages and speaks APRS information back to users. This is available today with no need for a specialized APRS radio. The TinyTrak4 from Byonics is the latest generation of a series of simple, robust, and low-cost two-way APRS devices, serving not only as an APRS tracker and display system, but as a digipeater as well. Similar devices include the RTRAK-LP all-in-one APRS tracker from RPC Electronics, and the Tracker2 from Argent Data Systems. Several

commercial radios from the major manufacturers are APRS-ready. Information on all of these (and more) can be had with a Google search, as well as a visit to the APRS home page at <<http://aprs.oprg>>.

This entire concept—universal messaging and situational awareness—is explained on the web page <<http://aprs.org/aprs-messaging.html>>, but without having Bob, WB4APR, in front of you explaining it all, it doesn't come across quite as exciting. Visit the site anyway, since I believe that it's not too far in the future when the several communication paths that Bob mentions will be tied together. Think about the potential of that concept.

### Appalachian Trail Golden Packet

While I'm on the subject of APRS, at about the time you will be reading this there will be an attempt to send the Appalachian Train Golden Packet. On

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July 26, 2009, a group of radio amateurs will attempt to send an APRS packet the length of the Appalachian Trail between Springer Mountain, Georgia and Mt. Katahdin, Maine using 15 mountaintop packet relay stations. If you are near the Appalachian Trail, tune in to listen or stop by one of the relay sites to say hello. Most sites are drive-up, and there are only a few where you would need to hike in. Check for the latest at <http://aprs.org/at-golden-packet.html>.

I mentioned before the ARRL Computer Networking Conference, where I heard Bob, WB4APR, first present a paper on APRS. Over the years, the name of the conference has changed to the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC), but every one I've attended has been full of cool new information.

### DCC 2009 in Chicago

This year the DCC will be held in Chicago, same as last year. It has been a tradition since the beginning to hold the DCC (the successor to the CNC) in a different location around the USA to permit as many hams as possible to attend, rotating the event around the country, sometimes on the east coast, sometimes west, or south, or in the Midwest. Because of the outstanding success of last year's conference in Chicago, it was decided to repeat the location, for several excellent reasons.

First, you have an experienced group of volunteers to provide the support—



*TAPR board member, former QST Digital columnist, APRS Forum moderator, and all-around nice guy, Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU.*

no reinventing the wheel this year. Second, you have the outstanding audio-visual setup, which brought rave reviews. Third, the A/V setup allowed for the entire DCC to be archived on high-quality video DVDs available at <http://arvideonews.com/dcc2008/>. I spoke briefly at Dayton in May this year with Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, of Amateur Radio Video News, who recorded the 2008 DCC and saw the quality of his

production. All I can say is that it's the next best thing to being there. And if that's not enough, Chicago is one of the least expensive places to get to from almost anywhere.

With all that going for it, Steve Bible, N7HPR, told me that it was an easy decision to repeat the Chicago location.

### Go to Chicago This Year

Every year I insert a blurb about the DCC, so here's this year's: If you can make your way to Chicago September 25–27, 2009, *do it*. If you're within a few hours' driving distance, it would be almost criminal to not attend. From farther away, I can understand that time or finances may not permit it, but if you can break away just for one long weekend, this would be the one event to attend.

Although the highlight of the event is the technical sessions, some of the best in the world, there is plenty for beginners as well, with a full track of introductory sessions planned. If you've been doing something in the digital world, write a paper and submit it (but hurry, the deadline is July 31). Full details on the conference, hotel, and even paper submissions can be found at <http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>, but make your reservations now, before it's too late.

That's all for this month. Dayton was, as usual, insanely satisfying. There were fewer people selling truckloads of junk this year, and more selling some really nice equipment. Prices seemed lower than in other years, I guess a sign of the current economic situation. I sincerely hope that you and your family are doing well in this economic climate. Thankfully, the signs of improvement are already evident. Until next time,

73, Don, N2IRZ



*What a fun group to be around at Dayton! At the CQ Communications booth, from left to right: Dick Ross, K2MGA, Publisher CQ Communications; Laura Smith, Esq., FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Enforcement (the position formerly held by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH); Bill Cross W3TN, Staff member in the FCC's Mobility Division; Rich Moseson, W2VU, Editor CQ magazine; and Edith Lennon, N2ZRW, Editor Popular Communications magazine.*

### GB50ATG: 50 Years of Digital in the UK

The British Amateur Radio Teledata Group, BARTG, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. As one of the oldest digital radio groups in the world—far older than even the venerable TAPR—it has earned the right to be proud of its history. In celebration, the group will be running a special contest, the BARTG Golden Jubilee Award: Earn 500 contact points and get a nice certificate. It runs from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Contact special event station GB50ATG for a quick 10 points and a special QSL card. Details at <http://www.bartg.org.uk/>, or just wait for more coverage in an upcoming "Awards" column in CQ.

# More Small Talk and Easy Dinking

**A**s most of you will surely agree, experimenting with simple fun projects and communicating with small, energy-efficient equipment keeps life in the QRP lane exciting. These low-cost pursuits are right in step with our slow economic times, and they also encourage a liberal amount of personal expression in expanding, modifying, and using conventional QRP items and/or circuits in various ways. That "doing more with less" philosophy is the focus of this month's column. I will offer some general thoughts and ideas as starting points and your creative ingenuity can take it from there. We will begin with a simple receive converter, but first I would like to share some good-times notes with "unconvinced on QRP" readers.

While recently running only 50 watts to a vertical antenna on 20 meters, I was delighted to contact Ali, A71BX, in faraway Qatar. Listening on frequency after our QSO, W2WC/QRP called him while running only 1 watt. No reply. W2WC called again. "QRZ" came the response. Again and with persistent CW accuracy in timing, speed, and frequency, W2WC/QRP called—and received a reply with an RST of 339.

A few days later, I noticed the good CW fist of W3IK on 30 meters and was quite surprised to learn he was running a Yaesu FT-817 at a scant 500 milliwatts of output power to an end-fed wire up 35 feet. This was not simply a matter of copying John's name, QTH, and signal report buried in the noise, friends. It was a good "solid copy contact." John said he had Worked All States running 500 milliwatts, operating QRPp was rekindling the fun and excitement of his first days in amateur radio, and the difference in signal strength between 5 watts and 500 milliwatts is less than most folks think. We could not agree more, John. Who needs a big rig when you can have a ball—inexpensively—with a small rig?

## Simple but Effective Receivers

If there is a single receiver circuit that requires minuscule introduction to QRPers, it is the famous G3RJV "Sudden" receiver. This gem has been adapted to QRPme's "Sudden Storm," the MRX, the 49er's receive section, and a host of other QRP rigs. The "Sudden" (and its many offspring) utilize two ICs: an NE612 serving as a combination front-end mixer and local oscillator, and an LM-380 or LM-386 serving as an audio amplifier. It was typically set up for direct conversion. In that case, and referring to the MRX receiver in fig. 1, the incoming frequency range is set by the tuned circuit located between pin 1 and 2 of the NE612, and specific frequencies within that range are tuned in by a crystal warping circuit between pin 6 and ground.

If those two frequencies are within 500 to 3000 Hz of one another (such as using a 7.040-MHz crystal at pin 6 and receiving signals between 7.037 and 7.043 MHz), the difference/output at pin 4 is audio in the range of zero to 3000 Hz. Likewise, shifting the (crystal generated) frequency at pin 6 tunes the NE612 a few kHz either side of 7.040 MHz. Now consider the following points:

The audio output at pin 4 of the NE612 does not dictate using an LM-380 or LM-386 exclusively; any good high-gain and low-noise audio amplifier will serve quite nicely. If your late-model automobile has an MP3 player input socket on one of its radio's pushbuttons (they are becoming common), a single NE612 "front end" mixer/local-oscillator circuit can quickly convert it into a handy QRP receiver. Mate it with a small loop-type antenna (wound with No. 26, 28, or 32 wire so it does not obstruct views), tape it to a side or rear window, and you are good to go—in high style.

Do you have a table-model AM/FM radio or stereo sitting idle? They too make convenient QRP monitors when mated with an NE612 mini-converter as previously described. You connect the converter's output—preferably with a simple RF filter added between pin 4 of the NE612 and the wiper/center terminal of the radio's volume control (fig. 2). Be sure to include a third 0.1  $\mu$ F capacitor to block any radio-associated DC from reaching the NE612 converter circuit. You may also wish to include an SPDT switch at the volume control if background noise in the radio overrides the converter's output. Otherwise, the procedure is a



*Photo A— While running only 500 milliwatts of power with a little Yaesu FT-817 and a 135-foot longwire antenna, John Kosmak, W3IK, Worked All States in a couple of months. Simple yet effective setups like this are affordable, quite enjoyable to use, and truly bring back the thrills of one's early days in amateur radio. (Photo via W3IK)*

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

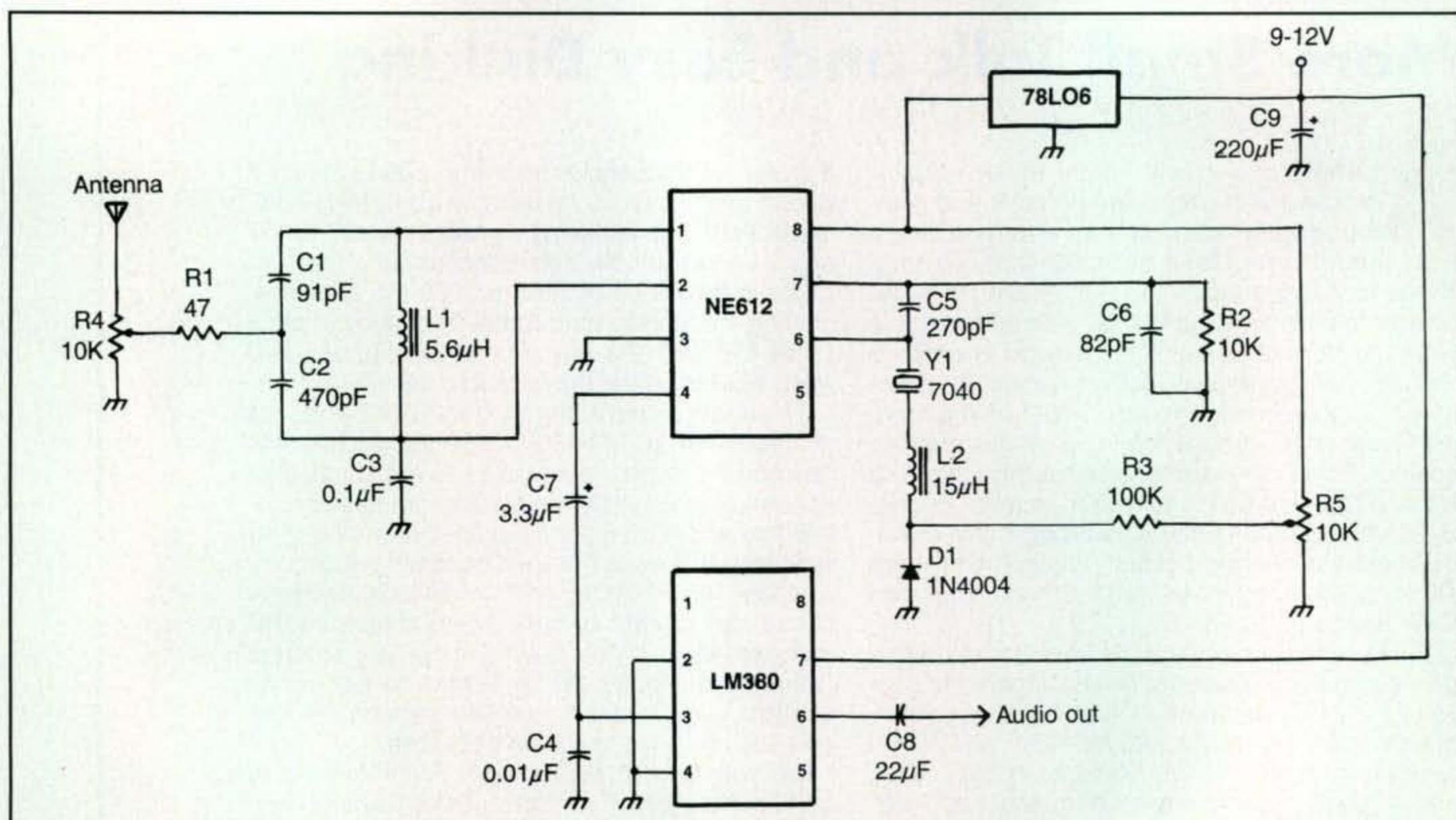


Fig. 1— Circuit diagram of the "MRX" receiver, which is a close offspring of the famous "Sudden" two-IC receiver. The text considers how an NE612 mixer/local oscillator section can be used as a converter and mated with almost any external audio amplifier.

snap—and it is a "terrific way to breathe new life into an unused radio.

If you would like to take the "NE612 converter and audio amplifier" idea a step further, consider slaving it with a homebrewed QRP transmitter to produce a mini-transceiver. Visualize the possibilities here, friends. You could put together a neat bedroom QRP rig disguised as a 1950s-style table-model radio. What a treat that would be! Need more guidance? Look back at fig. 1. If your QRP transmitter has a separate VFO/VXO/oscillator stage that can be set to run continuously, just couple a tiny

amount of its output signal to pin 6 of the NE612. Disconnect the "top" wire of the crystal from pin 6 so the crystal, inductor, and VXO diode/varicap are disabled. Then the converter will track with the transmitter (assuming, naturally, that both units are set to work the same general frequency range).

This concept can also work in

reverse. That is, you can connect the NE612 oscillator's output from pin 7 to the transmitter's crystal socket/input and then use the NE612's VXO circuit (crystal, inductor and diode/varicap) to simultaneously tune both units.

Another possibility warrants favorable mention at this point: using a passive mixer in lieu of the NE612 (fig. 3).

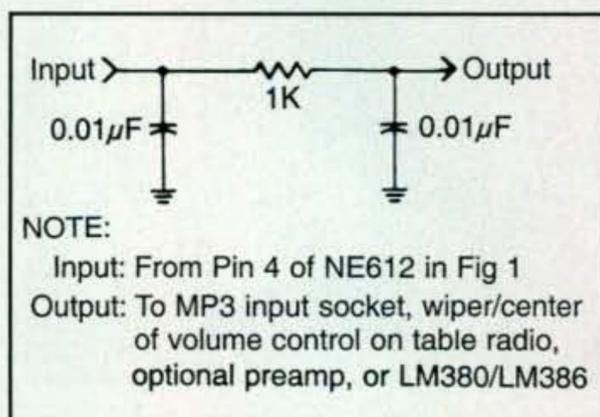


Fig. 2— A strictly basic and optional RF filter that may be included between output/pin 4 of NE612 and an audio amplifier as discussed in the text. Circuit compliments of QRP guru Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV.

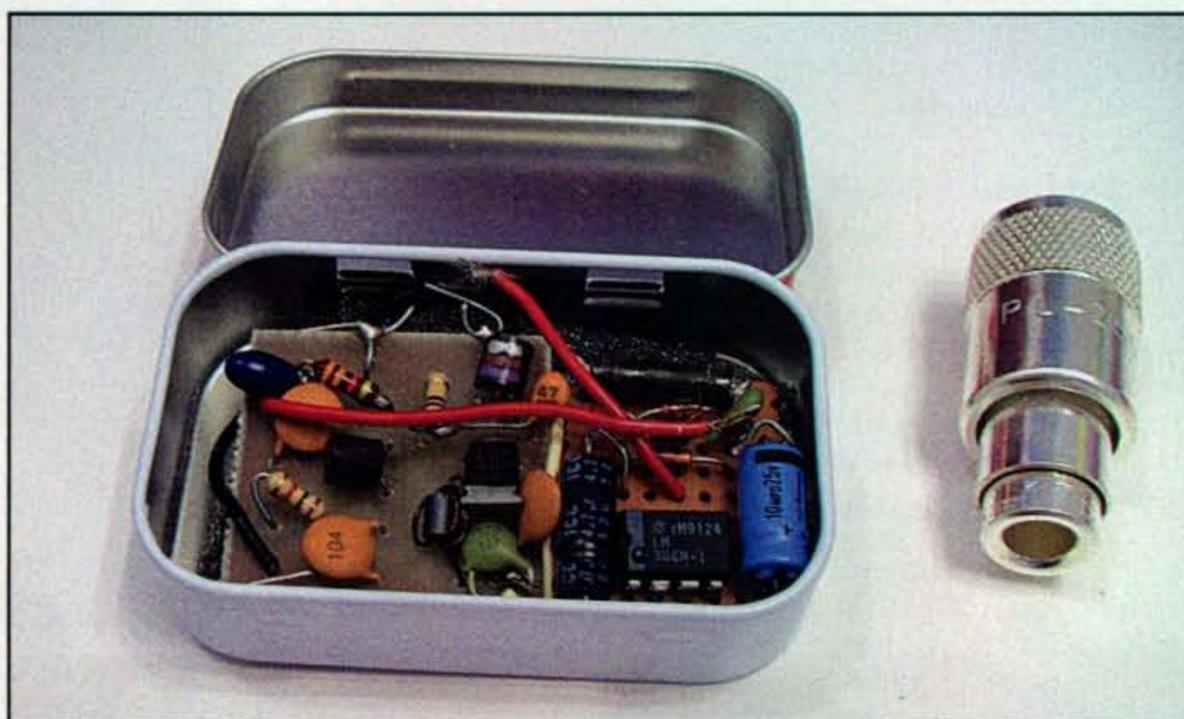


Photo B— My quick-brew mini-transceiver built around a OneR transmitter nestled in a 1.5 by 2.3 inch Altoids® "Tiny Tin." Receiver section (on perfboard) uses a basic diode mixer and LM-386 audio amp. It may not look like much, but it works, it is good for impromptu hamming, and it could prove a real asset during an emergency.

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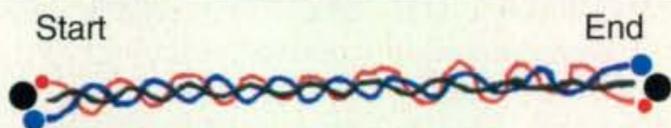
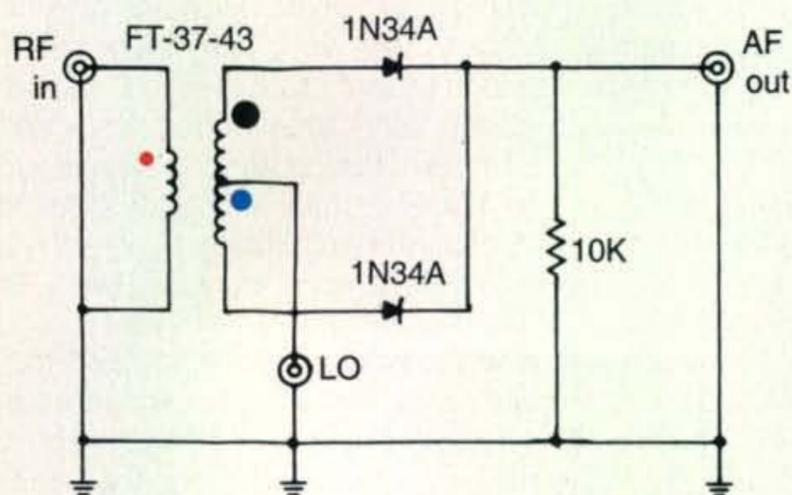
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- Red

Fig. 3— A simple diode mixer circuit like this one devised by Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV, may be used with a variety of low-noise and high-gain audio amplifier circuits to produce a small, energy-efficient receiver. The two circuits can also be combined with a simple two-transistor transmitter to produce a nice mini-transceiver. (Discussion in text.)

This mixer has the advantage of not requiring DC power for operation; it is very small and can even be fit into a key fob or pillbox. The tradeoff of using a passive mixer is less audio output (overcome by cranking up your associated audio amplifier's volume) and the need for an (externally-generated) local oscillator signal. A (two-stage) transmitter's crystal oscillator may be used here as previously described. Another good possibility is using my Hamfest Buddy—that wireless BFO/receive converter and QRPP transmitter described on [www.k4twj.blogspot.com](http://www.k4twj.blogspot.com) as a local oscillator. While almost any passive

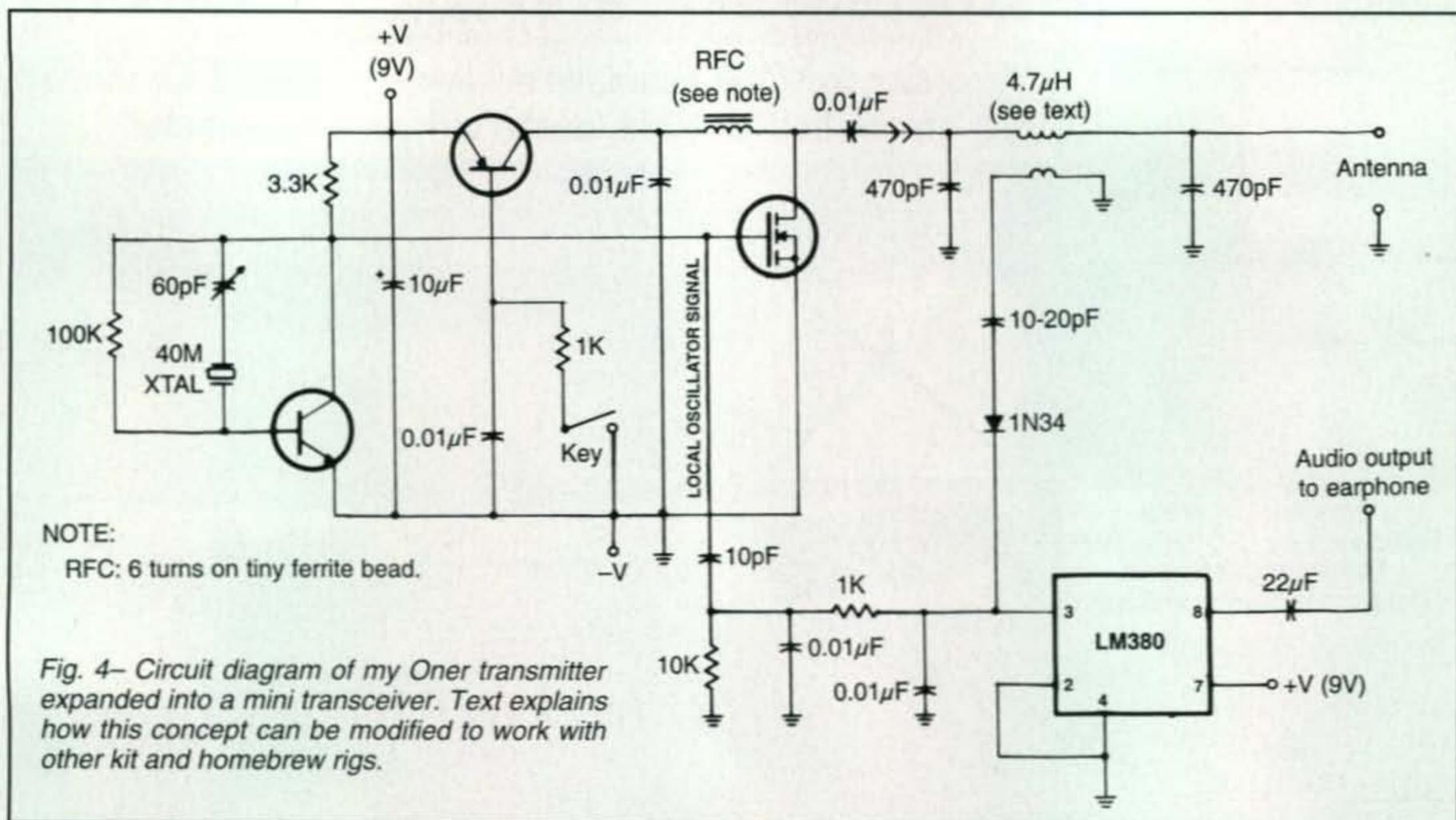
diode mixer circuit is a good candidate for this application, the one I highlighted in fig. 3 is compliments of our good friend and QRPer extraordinaire, Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV. George, incidentally, wrote a couple of excellent books on Minimalist Radio and easy-brew rigs for beginners. You can e-mail him at [g3rv@gqr.com](mailto:g3rv@gqr.com).

### Oner Reflections

Many of our readers will surely remember the neat little 1-inch-square, 1-watt output "Oner" transmitter kit designed by GM3OXX and offered for sale by the

G-QRP Club a few years ago. The transmitter was comprised of a ZTX651 NPN transistor (similar to a 2N2222) driving a VN10KM MOSFET keyed by a ZTX751 PNP transistor (and I understand Radio Shack has generic equivalents of all three items today).

I wanted to expand my Oner into a car-key-size mini transceiver, so I began dinking. I devised a super-simple diode mixer comprised of a 1N34 Germanium diode plus 10K-ohm load resistor followed by a simple two-capacitor and one-resistor RF filter and an LM-380 audio amplifier circuit (fig. 4). The Oner needed an output filter, so I found



an unshielded 4.7-microHenry inductor and mated it with a pair of 470-pF capacitors. I wound three turns of hair-thin wire over the inductor to sample incoming signals and couple them to the 1N34 diode via a 10-pF capacitor. I also added a pair of back-to-back wired 1N914 diodes for T/R switching, but later realized they were unnecessary because I was powering the mini-rig

from a 9-volt battery and output was only around 300 milliwatts. A local oscillator signal for the mixer was tapped off the Oner's oscillator transistor and directed to the diode mixer with another 10-pF capacitor. The overall arrangement was ridiculously simple (it was a one-night project and I was in a hurry), but it worked—and it proved a handy pocket rig until upstaged by my previ-

ously mentioned Hamfest Buddy mounted in a key-fob pillbox.

Now let's add more "dink notes" to the previous discussion. Although I built my mini transceiver around a Oner, almost any two-transistor transmitter that has a continuously running oscillator (or can be modified so its oscillator runs continuously) will work fine. Stay below two watts output, however, or use a T/R switch rather than diodes. You can tap a sample of the oscillator's signal with a 5- or 10-pF capacitor or with a "gimmick" capacitor made simply by wrapping two or three turns of insulated wire around the collector's wire—or the (1N34) diode mixer's output wire. The RF filter consisting of two .01-μF capacitors and a 1K-ohm resistor between the 1N34 mixer (and its 10K-ohm load resistor) and the LM-386 audio amplifier stage is nice, but not mandatory. Add or exclude it as your time/parts bin dictates. If you wish to go fancy, consider including a basic 2N2222 audio preamp stage between the filter and LM-386—and yes, an LM-380 stage could be substituted if pinouts were changed accordingly.

We could continue with more "mix and match" circuit discussions (they are both endless and fascinating), but we have overflowed column space and must now bow out rather quickly. Hopefully, this month's discussion gave you some useful ideas in "build it your way" rig design and kindled your "drive to dink"—and that is half the fun of QRP. Enjoy!

73, Dave, K4TWJ

## SUCH A HAM



This grill makes a terrific ground plane.

# Generating a Big Signal on a Limited Budget

**T**wice a week I invest in what I call “the six-digit retirement plan.” Others call it the state lottery. While my dreams of wealth have not yet come true, I’ve taken a somewhat twisted path to riches. I may get a million dollars from the lottery by winning that cash a dollar at a time. Of course, my investment to get that return will at best meet, or most likely exceed, the winnings. Oh well, back to work!

The economy has dealt us a difficult poker hand. Maybe we can’t go out and purchase a brand-new vehicle and stuff it with equally brand-new radios. While it may be nice to dream of what to do with those lottery winnings or that big poker pot, we still have the means to enjoy ham radio with a limited budget. Best of all, there’s no limit to the fun or adventures you can have even with a low-cost mobile setup in a 10-year-old vehicle. One of the exciting features of ham radio is that the airwaves are a great equalizer. Like Kenny Rogers sang in *The Gambler*, “Every hand’s a winner...” So let’s start winning!

An economy car with a six-figure odometer can put out a great big signal on just about any band,

*\*5904 Lake Lindero Drive, Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
e-mail: <aa6jr@cq-amateur-radio.com>*



*Photo B— The “office” of N9YK’s rig.*

and remember, you have the mobility to go mountain-topping or drive right up to the edge of some body of water that will give your signals a great “launch pad.” A used multi-band radio can be put to good use, along with some connecting wire and a decent antenna. I love those low-cost “stick” type antennas that can put out a good signal at a very reasonable price.

VHF and UHF enthusiasts aren’t left out when it comes to mobile pleasure. A used HT is easy to connect to a cigarette-lighter power source; add a rooftop magnetic-mount antenna, and in less time than it takes to read this article your signal will be finding its way to repeaters just the same as that of anyone else.

Here’s one more secret: Once you’re on the air, your signal sounds like it could be coming from the newest European autobahn-burner and a hand-made six-figure radio, not that any of that matters. What’s important is that the airwaves are a great playground where new friends await and you can meet them with a minimal investment.

## Truckin’

Steve, N9YK, dropped a note to share some photos of his pickup truck that’s ready for just about anything:

The vehicle is a 2000 Ford Ranger (photo A). The 2-meter transceiver is an ICOM 2100 mounted under the dash with a Larsen <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>-wave antenna mount at the rear of the hood on a trunklid mount. The Yaesu FT-897D with LDG meter is mounted to the floor with a bracket made from 1.5-inch aluminum stock and connected to a Yaesu ATAS 100 with a Diamond Mount on the left rear door. The LDG meter is attached with [“hook-and-loop” fasteners] to the top of the FT-897D



*Photo A— N9YK puts out a big signal from a compact truck. Not real fancy but very effective!*



*Photo C— AD6AF shows you don't have to spend a lot to have a signal that sounds like a million dollars on the air! (Note the Folgers' rig mount; see text)*

(photo B). I run ground straps from door to body, body to frame. I also have a Comet mag-mount on the roof for the FT-897D for 2 meters until I pickup a duplexer for the ATAS 100. The power for both transceivers is run directly to the battery with fused 10-gauge wire. I have Anderson PowerPole® connectors inline at the FT-897D so it can be removed very easily. All the coax is run behind trim panels. The setup wasn't very hard to install for me, as I am a Ford Senior Master Technician. My farthest QSO while mobile has been S48N in Slovenia on 20 meters with a 59 report.

Super report, Steve, and thanks for the quality photos. You get extra points for the Skywarn sticker on the truck as well. Now as far as being a Ford Senior Master Tech, do you make "house calls" to California?

### The Minimalist

Right on time to illustrate the "less is more" position in mobilizing comes Ray, AD6AF. Maybe Ray never thought I'd run his photo (photo C), but I give it a "10" for how it illustrates the point that mobilizing doesn't require a big investment. His well-worn Chevy may have holes in the carpet, but I'll bet the signal it put out was full quieting into the repeater.

The photo shows my Kenwood TH-77A being used as a mobile rig. As is often the case with new hams, the HT served multiple roles.

Mine was my mobile, base, and occasionally even served as an HT as well! I cut a plastic lid from a Folgers' instant-coffee jar to slide the HT into the lid (sort of a combination of "instant" and "homebrewed" —grin), and then the lid would sit on the cross bar of the cup holder holding the radio where I could easily see the display and keep it from roaming around the vehicle. While I never had to collision-test the arrangement (thankfully), it did resolve many of the concerns encountered when operating HT mobile. I used the speaker mic so I would be holding something I would not hesitate to drop in an emergency (as might be the case if you were hold an expensive radio in your hand; I consider the speaker mic a must for safe operation while driving). The cup-holder arrangement kept the radio from migrating



*Photo D— KØHL's pickup hauls around a LOT of signal.*



*Photo E— Phone or CW, KØHL can work the world. Note the well-constructed arm rest, and even with a lot of gear aboard, all the equipment is clear of the airbag deployment zones.*

around the vehicle (my HT slid off the seat next to me a couple of times before I learned that lesson), it was positioned high enough on the dashboard so I could glance at the display without looking away from what was happening on the road, it was near a cigarette-lighter plug to supply power, and I had a trunk-lip-mounted antenna to get the RF outside the vehicle and improve reception (I sometimes operate with an HT and a magnet-mount antenna when visiting family out of state and riding in their vehicle). I use the Kenwood SMC-33 speaker mic, as it has programmable buttons allowing me to do frequently used adjustments without needing to touch the (small) buttons on the HT—much safer that way.

If you use this photo, it would provide a good excuse to address the various safety issues encountered when operating mobile using an HT.

I no longer have that particular vehicle, I have a real mobile rig now, and I have come a long way since I was a No Code Technician.

It's a great story, Ray. Thanks for sharing. I hope your first contact with the Folgers' mount was with Mrs. Olsen. (It would only seem right.)

# TA TARHEEL ANTENNAS

## TARHEEL ANTENNAS

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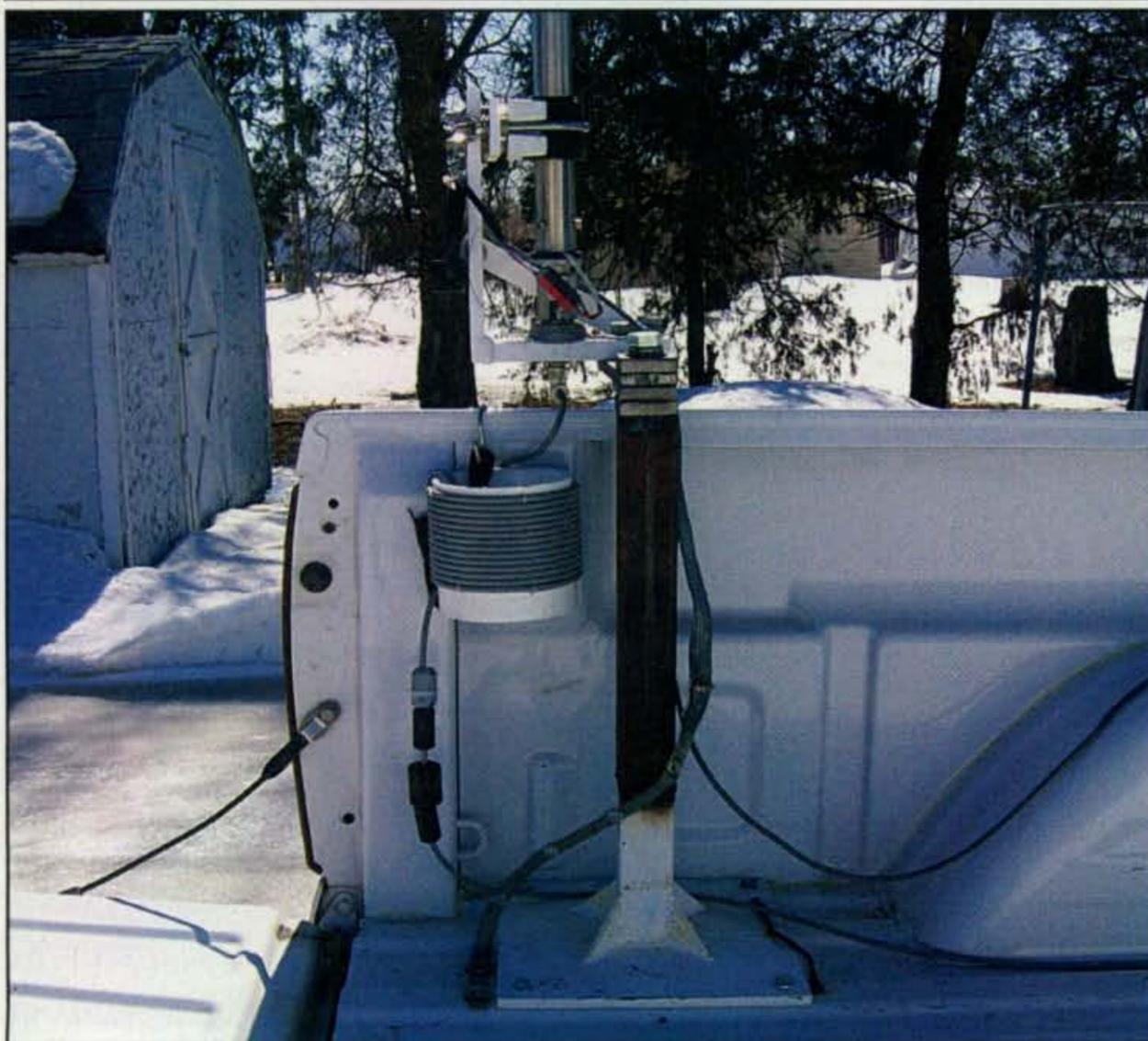


Photo F— How many “right” things do you see in this photo? From the sturdy mount, ground straps, toroids, the carefully wound choke, and more, it should be no surprise when you hear a big signal coming from KØHL mobile!

### Taking It to the Limit

At the other end of the spectrum is Ken, KØHL, with a rig that looks like it can warm the plains of North Dakota in January. Ken's Chevy pickup (photo D) provides a home for a setup any ham would be proud to operate. He sent over a dozen photos illustrating the detail devoted to his rig (among them, photo photo E). Unfortunately, space limitations keep me from sharing all of them, but suffice to say, Ken put a lot of time into creating solid mounts for his gear, especially the antennas (photo F), and he didn't hold back on tying everything together with ground braid, a most important element for successful mobile HF operations. Ken works a lot of CW, and from the look of his “shack,” I'm guessing if he can hear 'em, he can work 'em.

Many thanks to this month's contributors for sharing their stories and the photos that go along with them. Please consider sending photos of your mobile setup, along with tips and tricks that make your mobile operations a success.

We'll wrap up this visit with the friendly advice to spend time planning and carefully installing your mobile to be safe, secure, and easy to operate.

Happy mobiling! 73, Jeff, AA6JR

## Uninstalling a Radio

There are many articles on installing a ham rig and antenna on a vehicle, but I have never seen anything on "uninstalling," or removing, a radio from a vehicle. At first this seemed to be a strange topic, but after seeing a friend go through a rushed, seemingly painful in-the-dealer-parking-lot hack job to remove various radios from his old truck, I decided this might not be a bad topic after all. Furthermore, the techniques presented here will allow you to re-use as many items as possible, such as the mobile antenna, the inter-connecting cables, and even the old radio, so you can save money when switching to a new vehicle.

Recently I had to get a new vehicle, and I decided to document some of the things I did in order to uninstall the radios in my old car. I had three mobile rigs and four antennas installed in my 1998 Honda Prelude.

Just like any construction—or in this case deconstruction—project, the proper tools and materials are important in order to do a good job. Some of these tools are shown in photo 1. Perhaps one of the most useful tools for radio installing or uninstalling are the plastic tire levers used to remove bicycle tires from their rims. This is a very handy

\*16428 Camino Canada Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
e-mail: <kh6wz@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo 1— Tools for uninstalling a radio system are the same as those for installing a radio system. The strange-looking green objects on the left side of this photo are plastic bicycle-tire levers. Read the text to learn how to use them on your car or truck. (Photos by the author)

and gentle tool to use when prying plastic and rubber trim and gasket parts from vehicle interiors.

### Removing Radios and Wires

Unfortunately I do not have a picture of my rig installed in the dash board, but I do have a picture of the hole where the radio used to be (see photo 2). When the rig was installed, the small plastic pocket was removed and saved rather than disposed of. The power cable went into and under the dash board, then under the carpet, and finally plugged into a small RigRunner DC power distribution unit under the driver's seat.

This radio unmounted easily, since it was held in place with servo tape, a kind of double-stick foam tape used by radio-control model builders.



Photo 2— The mobile radio was un-installed from the dashboard where a plastic pocket used to be. The radio came out easily because it was held in place with black paper mache and radio-control modeler's servo tape.



Photo 3— Radio, what radio? The original plastic pocket in the dash board was pressed back into place.



Photo 4— Plastic trim pieces were pried away from their fasteners using the tire levers and the wires were pulled out.

The plastic pocket went back into the original dashboard location, so no one can tell there used to be a two-way radio installed there (photo 3).

The antenna cable snaked its way from the passenger side front and to the antenna mounted on the hood, near the windshield.

Since the cable went through the firewall via an existing grommet-lined hole with an existing wiring harness, it would be difficult to pull the antenna cable out without damaging the automotive wiring. In addition, when I installed the rig I thought it would be a good idea to weatherproof the rubber boot, so I sealed the penetration on the engine compartment side with some silicone adhesive. This may not have been a good idea, because it made it very difficult to remove the antenna coax from this hole.

I decided to carefully cut the wires on the interior side of the firewall, and used some plastic cable ties to neatly stow the wires underneath the plastic trim and carpeting. I also had to remove a dual-band radio with a remote-mounted front panel. The main unit was installed under the driver's seat and the front panel was mounted just above the rear-view mirror. The control wires went under the plastic trim panels. Using the tire levers, the plastic trim pieces were carefully but forcefully pulled away from their mounting fasteners and the wires were removed (photo 4).

Power cables were removed next. However, before cutting or removing anything, it is always best to check the vehicle's owner's manual for any precautions when removing the battery. In my old car disconnecting the battery does two things:

First, it resets the microprocessor (the On-Board Diagnostic System, or OBD-II), and here in California, a smog check is needed before transfer of ownership. Disconnecting power and resetting the OBD computer indicates a "violation" of the smog equipment. The computer memory must be reset with data before the smog check is completed, and this means several minutes of engine run-time to fix, which may be an additional cost for getting the smog certificate.

Second, the car stereo has an anti-theft feature that renders the unit inoperable when power is removed. In order to



Photo 5— There were two antennas mounted on the trunk lid.



Photo 6— A package of plugs next to an NMO hole on the trunk lid.

restore stereo functionality, a numeric code must be entered into the unit when the power is reapplied. The radio station memory is also reset, so someone will have to reprogram those favorite broadcast stations.

With these precautions in mind, I unhooked the battery ground cable. Interestingly, almost all automotive service and maintenance books I have read advise you to disconnect the negative battery cable when working on the electrical system. I wondered why not the positive (red) wire and decided to check into this.

### The Red Wire or the Black Wire?

I typed "why remove negative terminal on car?" into the Google search engine. There are 194,000 results in English about this topic. Many of these information sources are car-related chat rooms or bulletin boards, and it seems almost equally split between removing the positive wire or the ground wire when working on a vehicle. There are also many weird and strange entries that make no sense at all.

However, the *Popular Mechanics Complete Car Care Manual* says to always remove the negative terminal and explains that if you disconnect the negative wire and touch something grounded, such as the car body, nothing happens. However, if the ground is still connected to the battery and



Photo 7— The bare trunk lid and the antenna-hole plugs installed.

you are working on the “positive side” of the electrical system and touch any metal, the tool will conduct several hundred amps of current, which will produce sparks and has enough power to weld metal. I am not sure if this is true, and quite honestly I have not tested this. However, I have always removed only the battery ground lead when I work on vehicle electrical systems. To be extra safe, maybe it would be best to disconnect both the ground wire and then the positive wire from the battery.

### Getting Back to Work. . .

Since the radio power cord is a high-current line directly from the battery, it presents a potential hazard. There are at least three “clean” ways to remove old power cables from the battery:

The first way is to completely remove the wires from the vehicle.

The second way is to disconnect the cable from the battery terminal and carefully cut it where it enters the firewall and again as it enters the vehicle interior, leaving only a scrap section of wire between the engine compartment and the interior. This way the rubber grommet will retain its weather or moisture resistance under the hood.

The third and less preferred option would be to cut the wire off at the battery, leaving the rest of the wires in place but hidden from view.

It would never be acceptable to leave the wires in place with the battery connected.

### Vehicle Exterior

Now the antenna and coax were removed. I had two 3/4-inch Larsen NMO mounts installed on the rear trunk lid, as you can see in photo 5. I decided to remove the mounts and the coax from the car, rather than leaving the antennas on the vehicle. Besides, I wanted to re-use the antennas and save some money.

I purchased a package of plugs at my local ham radio dealership to cover the holes after antenna removal (photo 6). I decided to add some black silicon sealant to the rubber plugs on the inside of the trunk lid to provide some additional weather-proofing. The “cleaned” trunk lid is shown in photo 7.

Since I wanted to get back on the air as quickly as possi-



Photo 8— It might be a good idea to have a magnet-mount antenna on hand so you can get back on the air quickly.

ble, I used a magnet-mount antenna for temporary mobile operation use. The magnet-mount antenna will also come in handy for an almost instant installation when the new vehicle arrives (see photo 8).

Speaking of the new vehicle, we are about to come to a full circle, from uninstalling a radio and antenna system from one vehicle and installing a system in another vehicle (photo 9). This temporary station will come in handy, and can be put on the air without too much delay. The temporary setup will function until there is enough spare time to perform a final and permanent installation in the new vehicle.

Although this story focused on some ideas for uninstalling a radio, some of these hints can be used when installing a rig into a new vehicle. For example, one of the things I will do on my next car installation is to eliminate the silicone sealant under the hood, since it never got wet and eliminating the sticky goop will simplify the uninstallation when the time comes to replace the vehicle.

73, Wayne, KH6WZ

### Reference

*Popular Mechanics Complete Car Care Manual*, by the editors of *Popular Mechanics*, ISBN-10: 1588167232



Photo 9— The old radio can be mounted on some sort of carrying platform for temporary use in the new vehicle. This “system” can also be used as a back-up station in any vehicle during an emergency.

# June VHF Contest and Digital TV Changeover

**B**y an odd coincidence, the end of analog television occurred the day before the ARRL June VHF Contest. As a result of the convergence of these two events, several operators got on the air to find that both propagation conditions and RF interference cooperated to make for very good operating conditions. What follows are a number of stories that were posted on both the VHF and the FFMA reflectors.

**Jacob Tennant, K8JWT**, wrote:

My contesting effort was in no way spectacular but the 6-meter opening on Saturday evening was a pretty awesome boost to getting me moving to get ready for September's contest.

I only made about 30 QSOs, mainly on 6 meters but had a few 2 meters and two on 70 cm, both with semi-local stations. The big fun as I mentioned above was the 6 meter opening from Saturday night, as I made a bunch of contacts towards the Gulf Coast area with only 100 watts and a beat-up old MFJ 3-element beam at 12 feet, especially when my first 6-meter contact was EL96!

With wallet in hand, I have already started to plan out my activities for the CQ VHF, ARRL UHF, and ARRL September VHF contests.

**Jay Morehouse, W9RM**, wrote: "One big plus is that the Channel 2 audio spur from WBBM Chicago that used to trash the WSJT meteor scatter calling frequency on 6 meters (50.260 MHz) is gone!"

**Bob Vaughan, KC6SXC**, wrote:

W6YX operated from the club station in CM87wj, operating multi-op on 50, 144, 223 FM, 432, 927 FM, and 1.2. I operated on Saturday until ~2100 PDT, and then again on Sunday from 1100-2000 PDT. I was joined for several hours on Saturday by KG6NUB. W1VSL joined us for an hour or so to gain some contest experience.

We made 234 QSOs in 62 grids, for 19468 points. We are limited on 223 MHz FM with an old Midland crystal rig at 10 watts and a J-pole antenna. On 927 MHz we were running a converted Motorola Spectra at 35 watts, to 10 elements vertically polarized. Highlights: DM03, DM14 on 432 MHz; CM89 on 927 MHz FM (150 miles); CN80, CN90; and DM12 on 144 MHz. We also saw quite a bit of 6-meter activity to DM5x/6x/7x on Saturday afternoon. Also worked D041 in the early afternoon, but none of the multi-hop openings that we saw last year.

**Matt Clauson, NØQXW**, wrote:

Wow. My first time playing with 6 meters, and I can see why people say she's a fickle band. While on Saturday the bottom pretty much fell out (for a total of 5 contacts over about 10 hours of operating), I racked up 51 in about the same time, minus about an hour for cattle herding. Six dropped out about 2204 UTC, and never really returned, even though I called CQ until the very end.

Grids lit: DN55/56/57/66/67. I can light up those last four just running back and forth along about a 30-mile route, and I plan to do it again. Lots of fun.

Equipment: Yaesu FT-897, driving 50 watts to a RadioShack 5/8-wave 2-meter mag-mount. For such a

e-mail: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>

## VHF Plus Calendar

Aug. 1-2	ARRL UHF and Above Contest
Aug. 2	Very poor EME conditions
Aug. 4	Moon apogee
Aug. 6	Full Moon
Aug. 6	Lunar eclipse
Aug. 9	Moderate EME conditions
Aug. 12	Perseids meteor shower
Aug. 15-16	ARRL 10 GHz and Above
Cumulative	

	Contest
Aug. 16	Poor EME conditions
Aug. 19	Moon perigee
Aug. 20	New Moon
Aug. 23	Good EME conditions
Aug. 27	Moon first quarter
Aug. 30	Very poor EME conditions
Aug. 31	Moon apogee

—EME conditions courtesy W5LUU

"marginal" antenna, it did remarkably well ... especially with the fact I hadn't tuned it for 6 meters. I just grabbed it from the parts pile and slapped it on the car. When the radio reported almost flat SWR wherever I was transmitting, I couldn't believe it. But you know what they say about gift horses.

Wait a moment, did I say cattle herding? You betcha. I came across cattle near or on the highway at least twice during my circuits up there. My thanks to K2DRH for interrupting his run on 6 meters to relay a call to the Montana Highway Patrol for me. Luckily, everything turned out fine. With the assistance of a local rancher, we were able to herd the wayward critters back to the right side of the fence.

The funny part, however, is that the same situation recurred about 15 miles farther east, and 90 minutes later! The things that happen to me during contests, I swear.

All in all, for my first VHF contest and my first time really operating 6 meters, I am well impressed. I'm hoping to be able to put some of that talent to use during Field Day in a couple of weeks. Assuming the band holds out well in the fall, I'll probably go roving again then, too.

**Al Goss, K2ERG (FN13fd)**, wrote:

At my location, I live in the NE part of the city. Channel 13 (TX is SW part of city) always wiped 45-60 degrees of bandwidth with a Mil 2-pole bandpass filter and low-gain pre-amp. Now today was the first time I took time to check (spent very little weekend time on 222 MHz or any other band). When I use the RF Concepts internal pre-amp there is a slight increase to S2 on the IC-375A with antenna toward TV station SW across the city. Who knows what is causing it now that Channel 13 is not wiping out my RX.

I installed an ARR high-gain GaAsFET pre-amp. The noise was S2 at most with bandpass filter; less bandpass filter S9 plus and approximately 20 degrees only bothered. Nice! Will run low-gain pre-amp, no bandpass filter, and for serious operating bandpass filter and high-gain pre-amp.

So, back to "building" GS36B/4CX400A or such 350-400W PA. I am hoping to work a few grids SW that I

have never been able to do except via AU. Nice! It gives me encouragement for 1.25 meters again.

Still another new problem on 70 cm: Approximately 1800 local time on Sunday for approximately 3 hours I had 360-degree coverage of whining, pulsing, S9 level, multi-tone "something" that wiped Rovers and fixed stations nearby Rochester and even reported across the Lake Ontario in Canada. Similar sounding to PLL gone crazy and shut me down. I was unable to run the band at all, even locals during this period. Possibly PAVE PAWS radar. I don't know. I am still awaiting reports from others who heard it from WNY to southern Canada. Hope it is not some digi TV station gone berserk, heh heh. Doubtful. I have been listening all day and nil heard. Did somebody drop a 70-cm multi-vibrator near Rochester?

I got a late start in the contest this weekend, but overall I would give this weekend a good rating from a historical perspective.

**Dave Bernhardt, N7DB (CN85uj)**, wrote:

Saturday was ho hum in the early part of the contest. Local reports of MS [meteor scatter] type contacts into VE5 and VE6. I could see a lot of activity in the eastern half of the country on 6 meters. Activity did pick up to the SW part of the country later on in the day for us. NM, AZ, CA were the main areas of activity. Not super strong signals, but adequate for a lot of QSOs.

Sunday, again not super-strong signals but 6 was open to many parts of the country. Somewhat spotty, but for the operator who kept tuning around, there were a lot of grids to be picked up . . .

Solar activity continues to be very low right now. I think this minimum period is providing a chance to see some unusual propagation modes/paths that we would not normally see due to higher solar radiation levels.

FYI: I did get a report of EU on 6 into the PNW this weekend that I need to follow up on. I did note 2-meter sporadic-E in EU Monday, interesting development. I did see a post Monday morning of a QSO from DN03 to EA on 10 meters with "strong signal" levels that might also signal a path in that direction for us on 6 meters.

**Paul Kelley, N1BUG (FN55mf)**, wrote:

Wow! What a fun contest! This was the first time I had done any contesting on 6 meters with high power. I'm not much of a VHF contester really. Rather, I am more of an avid CW and weak-signal operator who is more than happy to take advantage of contest activity to have some major fun.

I love "running" stations on CW. Since I'm not sought-after DX, contests provide the primary opportunity to do that. I spent as much time as possible running 'em on CW during the single-hop *Es* Saturday. I knew I was doomed when shortly after I started my run the cat vacated the territory! When the shack temperature reached 110 degrees and I was gasping for air like a fish out of water it was time to reluctantly quit for a while. When this space had cooled sufficiently to re-enter it, my next move was to

install the A/C in the shack window! It has been so cold this spring there hadn't been any need. . . until I started running CW with the 4CX1500B in a small, poorly ventilated space. Whew! Actually I'm very glad I had occasion to discover this "before" the first big Europe opening of the *Es* season! I would have been "seriously" bummed to have to take a break during one of those!

Sunday morning was typical, a lot of scatter and some marginal *Es* to the southeastern states. Then it occurred to me that I hadn't tried calling CQ on CW under these conditions. Since for the first time I had high power I figured it would be worth a try. I had no idea it was going to be so exciting! The stations who called on tropo were mostly very weak but workable. That was fine with me since I thoroughly enjoy weak-signal CW work. Then I started getting 3's, 8's, 9's, and VE3's on what I presume to have been ionospheric forward scatter. Signals were weak to very weak, peaked on a direct bearing, and exhibited mild to moderate flutter effect. This usually required repeating calls and grids 3 or 4 times, but contacts came easily. That was something I hadn't been able to experience with low to moderate power in the past, and it was great fun! I hope this is a fairly typical occurrence and not an isolated event that won't soon repeat.

**Steve Rutledge, N4JQQ (EM55)**, wrote:

We have VHF channels 3, 5, 13 here in Memphis. VHF 3 went away, to UHF. Channels 5 and 13 remain transmitting a digital signal. I used to have incredible noise when pointed east towards the Channel 13 transmitter on 222. It is gone! In the past, it wiped out any signal from the east. I even had a bandpass filter at the tower top, ahead of my SSB preamp. It helped a little but not enough.

It appears that 6 meters might be a little quieter but I'm not sure about that one yet. Six meters has so much stuff on it anyway so it is hard to tell. Two meters is just as noisy as ever. The 70-cm band remains very quiet, which is unchanged. I'm using long boom antennas, hardline, and SSB preamps on all bands except 6 meters, which has no preamp.

Finally, thanks to whoever worked me in the contest. There was a great opening on 6 meters on Saturday. Not bad on Sunday either but it died early.

**Jordan Arndt, VE6ZT**, wrote: "Believe it or not, I can see the difference up here in DO-21, especially when the band is open."

**Ray Grenier, K9KHW**, wrote:

I'm located about 4.5 miles from a forest of VHF (Ch. 4, 6, and 12) and UHF TV towers in Milwaukee, WI. On 6 and 2 meters I had high noise floor, and a wide assortment of birdies, sync pulses, buzzes, and other garbage on HF. There was so much RF floating around that when I used my MFJ-269 analyzer to check a beam, it was impossible unless the array was first rotated for a null reading.

Friday, after the analog shut down, I found

the bands so quiet that I actually checked to see if my antennas were connected. On 6 meters where the normal noise level was S-3 to S-4, it is now zero. HF is clean, and during the VHF contest I discovered I was copying signals that were barely flicking the meter, which was impossible before. Without the strong RF influence, the analyzer now functions normally and shows "better" readings on all of my antennas. Just wondering if others have noticed any similar improvements, especially where channel 2 was involved.

**Sam Whitley, K5SW**, operating the club station W5VHF, wrote: "I had a kind of laid back contest. On 50 MHz I didn't try any *E* skip. Even so, I worked 7 grids or so on ground wave. I played more on higher bands. On 144 MHz I worked 30 grids. The best was XE2OR DL98 on tropo, 597 miles. On 222 MHz I worked 9 grids. On 432 MHz I worked 15 grids. On 1296 MHz I worked 7 grids. I enjoyed it."

## **W5KWQ and W5LFL Dayton Featured Guests**

Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, was the keynote speaker for the joint AMSAT-TAPR banquet on Friday night of Dayton Hamvention®. Accompanying him was his father, former astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL. Richard spoke for nearly an hour, keeping the audience spellbound with tales of his space adventure onboard the International Space Station this past October. Richard and Owen graciously made themselves available for picture-taking and autographs after the end of the banquet. The Garriotts also remained available for most of the duration of the weekend, making appearances at the AMSAT and ARRL booths and speaking at one forum.

More about Richard's ride in space, as well as his many other adventures, can be seen at his website: <<http://www.richardinspace.com>>.

## **Current Contests**

There are two important contests this month: The **ARRL UHF and Above Contest** is scheduled for August 1-2. Complete rules can be found in the July issue of *QST*. The first weekend of the **ARRL 10 GHz** and above cumulative contest is scheduled for August 15-16. The second weekend is September 12-13. Complete rules for this contest also can be found in the July issue of *QST*.

## **Calls for Papers**

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the **28th Annual ARRL**



Richard Garriott, W5KWQ, was the keynote speaker for the joint AMSAT/TAPR banquet on Friday night of the Dayton Hamvention®. Accompanying him was his father, former astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL. Shown here left to right: Owen Garriott, W5LFL; CQ and CQ VHF Managing Editor Gail Sheehan, K2RED; and Richard Garriott, W5KWQ. (Photo courtesy of Phil Karn, KA9Q)

and TAPR Digital Communications Conference to be held September 25–27 in Chicago, Illinois and publication in the conference *Proceedings*. Presentation at the conference is not required for publication. Submission of papers is due by July 31 and should be submitted to: Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, or via e-mail to <maty@arrl.org>. For suitable topics and submission guidelines also contact Maty via e-mail and check <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

This year's **Microwave Update** conference will be held in Irving, Texas near the DFW airport the weekend of October 23–25. This is a call for papers and talks. They are looking for presentations on all aspects of microwave equipment and antenna construction, theory, propagation, operating, design modes, just to name a few. Frequency range is 900 MHz through laser. If you are interested in presenting please drop Al Ward, W5LUA, an e-mail at <w5lua@sbcglobal.net>. They are also looking for papers for the *Proceedings*. You do not have to be a presenter to have your paper included in the *Proceedings*. Papers for the *Proceedings* can also just be short on any topic microwave related. The *Proceedings* will again be published by the American Radio Relay League. If you are interested in making a contribution to the *Proceedings*, please contact Kent Britain, WA5VJB, at <wa5vjb@flash.net>. The deadline for papers is Monday, August 31. The ARRL asks that you refer to the

*Proceedings* Style Guideline on the conference website at: <<http://www.microwaveupdate.org/>>.

Additional information on Microwave Update can also be found at: <<http://www.ntms.org/>>. Just click on the "Microwave Update" link on the left-hand side. The 2009 MUD Conference chair is Steve Hicks, N5AC, and he can be reached at <n5ac@n5ac.com>.

### Meteor Showers

Beginning around July 17 and lasting until approximately August 24, you will see activity tied to the *Perseids* meteor shower. Its predicted peak is around 1730–2000 UTC on August 12. A possible tertiary peak may occur around 0900 UTC. The  $\kappa$ -*Cygnids* meteor shower is expected to peak on August 17. The visually-impossible  $\gamma$ -*Leonids* is expected to peak August 25, around 1000 UTC. The  $\alpha$ -*Aurigids* is expected to peak on August 31.

For more information on the above meteor shower predictions see Tomas Hood, NW7US's Propagation column elsewhere in this issue. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net/calendar/2008>>.

### And Finally . . .

For my wife, Carol, W6CL, meeting the Garriotts at Dayton was especially meaningful, as Owen is from Enid, Oklahoma. Almost every time we went through Enid, Carol would mention that

**FT-857D**

The Yaesu FT-857D is the world's smallest HF/VHF/UHF multimode amateur transceiver covering 160 m to 70 cm with 100W on HF. Now with 60 meters and DSP2 built-in. **FREE** Yaesu orange mug with FT-857/ 897.

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it was his hometown. I kind of figured that he was important to the locals, because it isn't everyone who has a street named after him or herself. Therefore, it was a delight for me to bring Owen over to our table at the banquet and say to Carol, "Meet Owen Garriott." As quickly as they met, they were talking about Enid and Drumright, Carol's hometown. It was as if the two of them had never left Oklahoma.

A short while after introducing Carol to Owen, I also introduced her to Richard. While Richard did not grow up in Enid, he nevertheless could identify with Carol's small hometown loyalty.

In short, I never met two more gracious gentlemen than the Garriotts. I, along with so many others at the Hamvention®, are so very grateful to the leadership of AMSAT-NA, ARISS, DARA, and the ARRL, for making the arrangements for them to be at the convention this year.

This month I expect to be at the Huntsville Hamfest. I hope to see you there. If you have a story to tell related to the wonderful world of VHF-plus, please look me up at the hamfest or e-mail me at: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>.

Until next month . . .

73 de Joe, N6CL

## Upcoming Events and IOTAs

**B**y now I just know all of you have done your antenna projects to get ready for the upcoming contest season, right? No?! What have you been doing? Better get busy, as time is running out.

We've already had the IARU HF Championship back in July, ARRL Field Day was the end of June, and the operating activities coming up are:

NA QSO Party CW, August 2-3; WAE DX Contest CW, August 9-10; NA QSO Party SSB, August 16-17.

Then there's the All Asian DX Contest SSB, September 6-7; Russian RTTY WW Contest, September 6; NA Sprint CW, September 7; WAE DX Contest SSB, September 13-14; ARRL September VHF QSO Party, the 13-15; NA Sprint SSB, September 14; CQ WW DX RTTY Contest, September 27-28, and a whole lot more in between. If you want to see the on-the-air activities in just the next two months, go to the WA7BNM website at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>, where you will find all you want to know and possibly a lot you don't.

Sorry John, K1AR, I didn't mean to get into your "Contesting" column. I'm just trying to give a little heads up to the folks who read this column. Also, I have to tell the readers that you are going to find "something" going on the bands virtually every weekend of the year... no matter where you live in the world.

\*P.O. Box DX, Leicester, NC 28748-0249  
e-mail: [n4aa@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:n4aa@cq-amateur-radio.com)



Masa, JA1DM (left), and Denny, W3DRY, spent some time together during this year's Dayton Hamvention®. Denny said: One of the wonderful experiences of Dayton 2009 for me was meeting Masa, JA1DM. Masa, Hiro, JA1SLS, and I were "stranded" by a flight delay at Dulles Airport on Thursday. I had the opportunity to meet them and provide a small measure of assistance to smooth their travels. (Photo courtesy of Denny, W3DRY)

### Dayton 2009

I can comment now on this year's Dayton Hamvention®. It was a really great event. As I had mentioned in my last column, I worked in the ICOM America booth and we had the folks from the K5D DXpedition for a while and several others, too. One of the presentations was made by Yuri Sushkin, N3QQ, on the IOTA trip to the Aleutian Islands as KL7DX with his friends Yuri, UA9OBA, and Sergey, RA3NAN, members of the Russian



Larry, K8UT, was on the air from Korea as HL9A in late May. If the photo is any indication, he had a lot of fun for a few days. (Photo courtesy of Rick, NE8Z)



Jonas, TF2JB (left), accepts an application for a Mixed WAZ Award from Gulli, TF8GX. This was the first application for TF2JB to check since being appointed a checkpoint for CQ awards. (Photo by Erling, TF3EE, forwarded by Floyd, N5FG)

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## HF Antenna Collection

RSGB, 2nd Ed., 2002. 252 pages.

A collection of outstanding articles and short pieces which were published in *Radio Communication* magazine. Includes single- and multi-element, horizontal and vertical antennas, extremely small transceiving and receiving antennas, feeders, tuners and much much more!

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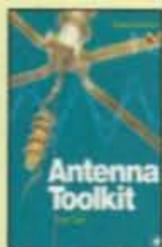
## IOTA Directory

Edited by Roger Balister, G3KMA  
RSGB, 2007 Ed..

Fully updated, lists all islands that qualify for IOTA, grouped by continent, and indexed by prefix. Award rules and includes application forms.

Order: RSIOTA **\$18.00**

## Antenna Toolkit 2



By Joe Carr, K4IPV

RSGB & Newnes, 2002 Ed., 256 pgs.  
A definitive design guide for sending and receiving radio signals. Together with the powerful suite of CD software included with this book, the reader will have a complete solution for constructing or using an antenna; everything but the actual hardware!

Order: RSANTKIT2 **\$48.00**



## QRP Basics

By Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV  
RSGB, 2003 Edition, 208 pages

How to get the best results from a QRP station whether from home or outdoors. Explains how to construct your own station, including complete transmitters, receivers and some accessories.

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RSGB, 2001 Ed., 320 pages.

Choose from dozens of simple transmitter and receiver projects for the HF bands and 6m, including the tiny Oner transmitter and the White Rose Receiver. Ideal for the experimenter or anyone who likes the fun of building and operating their own radio equipment.



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## Practical Wire Antennas 2



By Ian Poole, G3YWX

RSGB, 2005 Edition, 176 pages  
This significantly expanded and fully revised edition includes designs for a wide range of practical wire antennas. You'll find just about every type of wire antenna you could possibly imagine with complete and easy to understand designs.

Order: RSPWA2 **\$23.50**



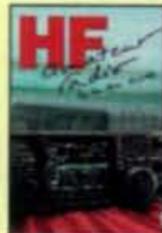
## The Antenna Experimenter's Guide

RSGB, 2nd Ed., 1996. 160 pages.

Takes the guesswork out of adjusting any home-made or commercial antenna, and makes sure that it is working with maximum efficiency. Describes RF measuring equipment

and its use, constructing your own antenna test range, computer modeling antennas. An invaluable companion for all those who wish to get the best results from antennas!

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## HF Amateur Radio

RSGB, 2007 Second Ed.

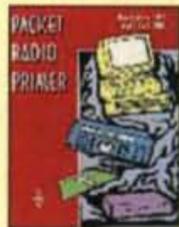
HF or shortwave bands are one of the most interesting areas of amateur radio. Guides you through setting up an efficient amateur radio station, equipment to choose, installation, the best antenna for your location and MUCH more.

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## Packet Radio Primer

By Dave Coomber, G8UYZ & Martin Croft, G8NZU

RSGB, 2nd Ed., 1995, 266 pages  
Detailed practical advice for beginners. Completely revised and greatly expanded to cover developments in this field and beyond bare basics into advanced areas such as satellite operations.



Order: RSPRP **\$16.00**

## The Low Frequency Experimenter's Hdbk

By Peter Dodd, G3LDO

RSGB, 2000 Ed., 296 pages.

An invaluable reference written to meet the needs of amateurs and experimenters interested in low power radio techniques below 200kHz.



Order: RSLFEH **\$33.00**

## Technical Topics Scrapbook 1985-1989

by Pat Hawker, G3VA

RSGB, 1st Ed., 1993, 346 pages

A collection of popular 'Technical Topics' published in RadCom. Info, ideas, mods and tips for amateurs.



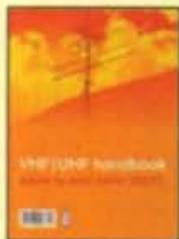
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## VHF/UHF Handbook

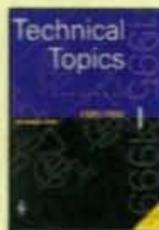
Edited by Andy Barter, G8ATD

RSGB, 2nd Ed., 320 pages.

This second edition guides you through the theory and practice of VHF/UHF operating and transmission lines. Includes info on getting started, antennas, constructing your own equipment, satellite ops, local nets and specialized modes.



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## Technical Topics Scrapbook 1995-1999

By Pat Hawker, G3VA

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## CQ DX Awards Program

### SSB

2528.....SV7CUD

### CW

1092.....WK3N

### SSB Endorsements

330.....WK3N/338    275.....AE9DX/289

### CW Endorsements

330.....WK3N/337    300.....K0KG/303

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](http://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 338 active countries. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.

Robinson Club. I have to admit that I don't follow the IOTA operations perhaps as much as I should. I was taken aback by the story of this trip. Yuri has a great DVD of the whole trip, and if you are the least bit interested in DXpeditions, especially to dangerous places, you should contact Yuri and get one of the DVDs. Contact him by e-mail at: <[n3qq@na-234.com](mailto:n3qq@na-234.com)>.

The rain drove a lot of folks inside a few times, so we had pretty good crowds for the DX presentations and also for the DX Quizzes. There are a lot of pretty smart folks out there! A few times it got very difficult to tell who yelled out the answer first. However, we got through it, and Ray Novak from ICOM even asked me to come back again next year to do a repeat. I had to ask myself if I really want to do this again? Well, OK, I will try it again for 2010, so get ready out there. I may be calling on you!

## Islands On The Air

I'm going to comment further on the IOTA folks. Most of their operations are on islands that are part of a country you may already have "in the bag." That's OK. A lot of DXers out there have worked them all, or nearly so, and have started looking for another challenge. The IOTA operations are typically low key, with a few guys/gals. A lot of them just take a radio, no amplifier. Antennas run the list from simple wires to Yagis. Rarely do these folks go someplace where they can operate in a building. Most often they are in a tent, if that, on

## The WPX Program

### CW

3224.....W6NWS    3226.....JL4LWL  
3225.....W4UCZ    3227.....AG4W

### SSB

3043.....W6NWS    3046.....KC3AK  
3044.....NF5Z    3047.....IT9JCA  
3045.....ON7PM

### Mixed

2054.....W6NWS    2057.....HA3DMF  
2055.....WO5I    2058.....AG4W  
2056.....KC3AK

### Digital

32.....AG4W

**CW:** 400 JL4WL. 500 HA3DMF, JH6JMM. 1500 W6NWS. 5400 K2VV. 5650 WA2HZR.

**SSB:** 350 KC3AK. 400 ON7PM. 1200 W6NWS. 1450 AG4W. 4700 K2VV.

**Mixed:** 450 WO5I. 500 KC3AK. 1100 DH5MM. 1650 AG4W. 1850 W6NWS. 6150 K2VV.

**Digital:** 650 AG4W.

**160 Meters:** W6NWS

**80 Meters:** W6NWS

**40 Meters:** W6NWS, WD9DZV

**20 Meters:** W6NWS, ON7PM, KC3AK

**10 Meters:** W6NWS

**Asia:** EW1KV

**Oceania:** AG4W

**North America:** NF5Z

**Award of Excellence Holders:** N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, K2VV, VE3XN, DL1MDD, DJ7CX, DL3RK, WB4SIJ, DL7AA, ON4QX, 9A2AA, OK3EA, OK1MP, N4NO, ZL3GO, W4BQY, I0JX, WA1JMP, K0JN, W4VQ, KF2O, WB8CNL, W1JR, F9RM, W5UR, CT1FL, WA4QM, W8ILC, VE7DP, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, N3ED, LU3YL/W4, NN4Q, KA3A, VE7WJ, VE7IG, N2AC, W9NUF, N4NX, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, WD9IIC, W3ARK, LA7JO, VK4SS, I8YRK, SM0AJU, N5TV, W6OUL, WB8ZRL, WA8YTM, SM6DHU, N4KE, I2UIY, I4EAT, VK9NS, DE0DXM, DK4SY, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, I2DMK, SM6CST, VE1NG, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, H18LC, KA5W, K3UA, HA8UB, HA8XX, K7LJ, SM3EVR, K2SHZ, UP1BZZ, EA7OH, K2POA, N6JV, W2HG, ONL-4003, W5AWT, KB0G, HB9CSA, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN,

YB0TK, K9QFR, 9A2NA, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I6DQE, I1EEW, I8RFD, I3CRW, VE3MS, NE4F, KC8PG, F1HWP, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, KC7EM, YU1AB, IK2ILH, DE0DAQ, I1WXY, LU1DOW, N1IR, IK4GME, VE9RJ, WX3N, HB9AUT, KC6X, N6IBF, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HMJ, HB9DDZ, W0ULU, K9XR, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, IK2MRZ, KS4S, KA1CLV, WZ1R, CT4UW, K0IFL, WT3W, IN3NJB, S50A, IK1GPG, AA6WJ, W3AP, OE1EMN, W9IL, I7PXV, S53EO, DF7GK, S57J, EA5BM, DL1EY, DJ1YH, KU0A, VE2UW, 9A9R, UA0FZ, DJ3JSW, OE6CLD, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, RW9SG, WA3GNW, S51U, W4MS, I2EAY, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, W9IAL, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, EA5AT, OK1DWC, KX1A, I25BAM, K4LQ, K0KG, DL6ATM, VE9FX, DL2CHN, W2OO, AI6Z, RU3DX, WB9IHH, CT1EEN, G4PWA, OK1FED, EU1TT, S53MJ, DL2KQ, RA1AOB, KT2C, UA9CGL, AE5B, K0DEQ, DK0PM, SV1EOS, UA0FAI, N4GG, UA4RZ, 7K3QPL, EW1CQ, UA4LY, RZ3DX, UA3AIO, UA4RC, N8BJQ, UA3BS, UA9FGR, UT3UY, WA5VGI, UT9FJ, UT4EK, K9UQN, UR5FEO, LY2MM, N3RC.

**160 Meter Endorsements:** N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, VE3XN, DL3RK, OK1MP, N4NO, W4BQY, W4VQ, KF2O, WB8CNL, W1JR, W5UR, W8ILC, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, LU3YL/W4, NN4Q, VE7WJ, VE7IG, W9NUF, N4NX, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, W3ARK, LA7JO, SM0AJU, N5TV, W6OUL, N4KE, I2UIY, I4EAT, VK9NS, DE0DXM, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, SM6CST, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, H18LC, KA5W, K3UA, K7LJ, SM3EVR, UP1BZZ, K2POF, IT9TQH, N6JV, ONL-4003, W5AWT, KB0G, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I1EEW, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, YU1AB, IK4GME, WX3N, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HMJ, HB9DDZ, K9XR, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, KS4S, KA1CLV, K0IFL, WT3W, IN3NJB, S50A, IK1GPG, AA6WJ, W3AP, S53EO, S57J, DL1EY, DJ1YH, KU0A, VR2UW, UA0FZ, DJ3JSW, OE6CLD, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, S51U, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, OK1DWC, KX1A, I25BAM, DL6ATM, W2OO, RU3DX, WB9IHH, G4PWA, OK1FED, EU1TT, S53MJ, DL2KQ, RA1AOB, UA9CGL, SM6DHU, K0DEQ, DK0PM, SV1EOS, N4GG, UA4RZ, 7K3QPL, EW1CQ, UA4LY, RZ3DX, UA3AIO, UA4RC, N8BJQ, UA3BS, UA9FGR, UT3UY, WA5VGI, UR5FEO, N3RC.

Complete rules and application forms may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope (foreign stations send extra postage for airmail) to "CQ WPX Awards," P.O. Box 355, New Carlisle, OH 45344 USA. Note: WPX will now accept prefixes/calls which have been confirmed by eQSL.cc. Other electronic QSL confirmation means are not accepted.

\*Please Note: The price of the 160, 30, 17, 12, 6, and Digital bars for the Award of Excellence are \$6.50 each.

some rain-soaked or sun-baked piece of real estate. Much of the time they can only afford to go for a weekend or so.

None of this gets a lot of attention in the same way the big-gun DXpeditions do. The RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) sponsors the IOTA program, and as far as I know (which may not be totally accurate), the only organization (at least in the USA) that is organized to help fund this type of operation is the IREF

(Island Radio Expedition Foundation). This non-profit group was formed not too many years ago because there was no other. A gentleman I met at the old New Orleans DX Convention started it (I hope that's right, as my memory from that long ago may be a bit fuzzy). That gentleman is Mike Crowover, AD5A. His whole family is licensed.

Check the IREF website at: <[www.islandradio.org/](http://www.islandradio.org/)>. You might get



*I seriously doubt that this photo of Ivan, UR9IDX, was taken in Lesotho, where he was active as 7P8A. Ivan along with Alexander, UX4UL, as 7P8R, was active for a few weeks in early June. They worked mostly the low bands. They then went to Swaziland for a few days. (Photo courtesy of Bill, N2WB)*

## 5 Band WAZ

As of June 1, 2009, 783 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1637 stations have attained the 150 zone level.

New recipients of 5 Band WAZ with all 200 zones confirmed:  
None

The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (zones needed, 80 or 40 meters):

S51U, 199 (27)	K0GM, 199 (17)
N4WW, 199 (26)	S58Q, 199 (31)
W4LI, 199 (26)	KQ0B, 199 (2 on 10)
K7UR, 199 (34)	K9OW, 199 (34 on 10)
W2YY, 199 (26)	N5AW, 199 (17)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
JA2IVK, 199 (34 on 40m)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
IK1AOD, 199 (1)	JA1DM, 198 (2, 40)
GM3YOR, 199 (31)	9A5I, 198 (1, 16)
VO1FB, 199 (19)	K4CN, 198 (23, 26)
KZ4V, 199 (26)	G3KMQ, 198 (1, 27)
W6DN, 199 (17)	N2QT, 198 (23, 24)
W3NO, 199 (26)	OK1DWC, 198 (6, 31)
RU3FM, 199 (1)	W4UM, 198 (18, 23)
N3UN, 199 (18)	US7MM, 198 (2, 6)
W1JZ, 199 (24)	K2TK, 198 (23, 24)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	K3JGJ, 198 (24, 26)
SM7BIP, 199 (31)	W4DC, 198 (24, 26)
N4NX, 199 (26)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
N4MM, 199 (26)	OE2LCM, 198 (1, 31)
EA7GF, 199 (1)	WK3N, 198 (23, 24)
N6HR/7, 199 (37)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	W7VJ, 198 (34, 37)
N4XR, 199 (27)	K9MIE, 198 (18, 21)
HA5AGS, 199 (1)	W9RN, 198 (26, 19 on 40)
VE3XN, 199 (26)	W5CWQ, 198 (17, 18)
YU7GMN, 199 (10)	I5KKW, 198 (31&23 on 20)
K7LJ, 199 (37)	IV3MUC, 198 (1&31 on 40)
RA6AX, 199 (6 on 10m)	UA4LY, 198 (6&2 on 10)
RX4HZ, 199 (13)	UT9FJ (27, 29)

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

UA4LY (198 zones)	UT9FJ (198 zones)
W6RLL (170 zones)	HK3W (170 zones)
K8YTO (171 zones)	OH9MDV (200 zones)

5 Band WAZ updates:

G3WW (172 zones)	W6RLL (200 zones)
K8YC (188 zones)	JT1BV (200 zones)
LU2DKT (200 zones)	IN3QCI (189 zones)
W0CP (200 zones)	

\*Please note: Cost of the 5 Band WAZ Plaque is \$100 shipped within the U.S.; \$120 all foreign (sent airmail).

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>.

## The WAZ Program

### 80 Meter SSB

91 .....9A2EU

### 10 Meter CW

198 .....N5AW

### 12 Meter CW

56 .....N5AW

### 15 Meter CW

333 .....N5AW

### 17 Meter CW

70 .....N5AW

### 20 Meter CW

582 .....N5AW	587 .....G0DEZ
585 .....K8YTO	588 .....YV1DIG
586 .....UU5WW	589 .....JP1QDH

### 30 Meter CW

87 .....N5AW 91 .....UA4LY

### 40 Meter CW

267 .....N5AW	272 .....9A2EU
271 .....A16Z	

### 160 Meters

308 .....F6BEE (37 zones)	310 .....JR7VHZ (39 zones)
309 .....G0JHC (38 zones)	311 .....VE7IG (30 zones)

### All Band WAZ

#### Mixed

8578 .....W2QO	8583 .....F1JKJ
8579 .....DU1MGA	8584 .....K4BYF
8580 .....IW0HOU	8585 .....W6NWS
8581 .....K0XB	8586 .....HK3W
8582 .....N4YDU	8587 .....AF3Y

#### SSB

5103 .....MM0EAX	5106 .....DL7VH
5104 .....IZ8LKL	5107 .....WE2N
5105 .....HK3W	

#### CW

569 .....N3RC

#### RTTY

200 .....DJ7UO 201 .....UU2JQ

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>.

money, not for egos, *for fun!* All I ask is that you think about what these IOTA folks are doing and listen to and/or read their stories. You might be surprised at what you hear/see. I know I sure was and will be looking more carefully at these operations in the future.

### DXpedition News

By now the French operation from Glorioso should be finished. Only a handful of French military personnel were allowed to go and "play radio" on this island. No civilians were allowed, and

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an eye opener. Some of these folks write up their stories and get them published, but not enough considering the number of operations there are by IOTA devotees. All over the world, from Europe to South America to Asia and the Aleutian Islands of Alaska, these people pack up and away they go. They might make 100 Q's or 10,000 Q's, but they have fun doing it. And I have to ask, "What are any of us doing this for?" Whether it is DXing, chasing IOTAs, it should be because it is *fun*. Not for

## 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 339 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 an 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

NØFW .....338	K2FL .....338	W7OM .....337	N5FG .....336	HB9DDZ .....335	G3KMQ .....334	KA3S .....328	CT1YH .....320	N2LM .....297
WB4UBD .....338	K4MQG .....338	W7CNL .....337	K9OW .....336	K3JGJ .....335	K6LEB .....333	K1FK .....328	W9IL .....319	N2VW .....283
K3UA .....338	W8XD .....338	WØJLC .....337	K8LJG .....336	K2JLA .....334	K5RT .....332	IKØADY .....328	EA3ALV .....319	XE1MD .....280
K9MM .....338	K2TQC .....338	K4CN .....337	K9IW .....336	F3AT .....334	K8SIX .....331	F6HMJ .....328	RA1AOB .....317	4Z5SG .....279
W4OEL .....338	N7RO .....338	VE3XN .....337	W4MPY .....336	PA5PQ .....334	W4UW .....331	W1DF .....328	W6YQ .....316	W2JLK .....277
EA2IA .....338	F3TH .....338	K4JLD .....337	K5UO .....336	NC9T .....334	W7IIT .....330	W4LI .....325	WA4DOU .....316	HA5LQ .....277
OK1MP .....338	DL3DXX .....338	N5ZM .....337	K7LAY .....336	G4BWP .....334	N7WO .....330	IKØTUG .....321	ON4CAS .....304	
N7FU .....338	WK3N .....338	N4AH .....337	N6AW .....336	W1JR .....334	W6OUL .....329	W3II .....320	WD9DZV .....304	
N4JF .....338	K9BWQ .....337	N4CH .....337	KA7T .....336	I4LCK .....334	KE3A .....329	PY4WS .....320	KT2C .....304	
K4IQJ .....338	N4MM .....337	K2OWE .....336	PY2YP .....335	YU1AB .....334	K6CU .....329	OZ5UR .....320	KØKG .....303	

### SSB

K4JLD .....339	W4WX .....339	EA3BMT .....339	K4IQJ .....338	W7FP .....337	ZL1HY .....335	K7HG .....331	WØROB .....320	JR4NUN .....303
EA2IA .....339	K5OVC .....339	IKØAZG .....339	VE2GHZ .....338	YU3AA .....337	K5UO .....335	N5YY .....331	LU3HBO .....317	W4PGC .....302
XE1AE .....339	K4MQG .....339	K5TVC .....338	AA4S .....338	W7BJN .....337	JA7XBG .....335	N1ALR .....330	N8SHZ .....316	EA8AYV .....302
IN3DEI .....339	N4MM .....339	KZ2P .....338	WK3N .....338	AB4IQ .....337	N7WR .....335	K4DXA .....328	XE2NLD .....315	4X6DK .....301
NØFW .....339	K9MM .....339	W6BCQ .....338	XE1L .....337	W4UNP .....337	WØYDB .....334	SV3AQR .....328	W6NW .....314	K7ZM .....300
DU9RG .....339	OZ5EV .....339	W6EUF .....338	OE3WWB .....337	W4UW .....337	K5RT .....334	VE7EDZ .....328	KA1LMR .....312	XE1MEX .....300
K3UA .....339	VE2PJ .....339	W7OM .....338	K9OW .....337	K8SIX .....336	WA4WTG .....334	XE1MD .....327	ON4CAS .....312	W4EJG .....295
K6YRA .....339	K3JGJ .....339	K9BWQ .....338	N5FG .....337	KE3A .....336	K3LC .....334	YV4VN .....326	RA1AOB .....312	W9ACE .....294
IK1GPG .....339	N5ZM .....339	W8AXI .....338	PY2YP .....337	K9IW .....336	HB9DDZ .....334	KD5ZD .....326	N2LM .....312	WD9DZV .....292
DJ9ZB .....339	N7RO .....339	W9SS .....338	N6AW .....337	N2VW .....336	VE4ACV .....333	PY2DBU .....325	KD2GC .....311	W6MAC .....292
N7BK .....339	KE5K .....339	VK4LC .....338	IK8CNT .....337	W2CC .....336	K9PP .....333	KE4SCY .....325	RW9SG .....310	W5PVE .....288
4Z4DX .....339	IØZV .....339	K7LAY .....338	EA4DO .....337	PA5PQ .....335	YV1KZ .....333	W4MPY .....325	IØYKN .....310	AD7J .....287
WB4UBD .....339	OE2EGL .....339	WS9V .....338	CT3BM .....337	XE1VIC .....335	W9IL .....333	W1DF .....325	KU4BP .....310	HB9DQD .....286
OZ3SK .....339	W4ABW .....339	W6DPD .....338	YU1AB .....337	NC9T .....335	F6HMJ .....333	K6GFJ .....324	XE1MW .....309	VE7HAM .....285
OK1MP .....339	DL3DXX .....339	K4CN .....338	K8LJG .....337	K1UO .....335	YV1AJ .....332	TI8II .....324	AA1VX .....308	N8LIQ .....284
K2TQC .....339	I8KCI .....339	VE3XN .....338	W3AZD .....337	CT1EEB .....335	KSØZ .....332	W6OUL .....322	4Z5FL/M .....306	N3RC .....280
K4MZU .....339	VE1YX .....339	K9HQM .....338	KØKG .....337	W1JR .....335	VE4ROY .....332	XE1RBV .....321	K7SAM .....305	HSØ/EA4BKA .....276
N4JF .....339	N4CH .....339	K2FL .....338	W2FKF .....337	I4LCK .....335	YV1JV .....331	VE7SMP .....320	I3ZSX .....304	K9DXR .....275

### RTTY

WB4UBD .....337	N5ZM .....330	OK1MP .....328	G4BWP .....320	PA5PQ .....311	K4CN .....303	K8SIX .....300
NI4H .....336						
K3UA .....332						
N5FG .....331						

apparently there won't be any non-military personnel allowed on any of those French islands in the foreseeable future.

We can thank our lucky stars that there are some dedicated DXers in the French military who work diligently to gain permission to go to these places—for us! Try to remember that they spend a lot of their personal time, effort, and no doubt money to go to these places. A "thanks, guys" wouldn't



The Board of the Iceland Radio Association (I.R.A.) for 2009–2010. From the left: Erling Gudnason, TF3EE; Gudmundur Sveinsson, TF3SG; Jon Ingvar; Oskarsson, TF1JI; and Sveinn Bragi Sveinsson, TF3SNN. Sitting from left: Jonas Bjarnason, TF2JB; and Gudmundur Löve, TF3GL. Not in photo: Kjartan Bjarnason, TF3BJ. (Photo by Jon Svavarsson, TF3LMN, and forwarded by Floyd, N5FG)

hurt a bit and might just make them feel a bit better about trying to do it again, to go to another island—for us!

There is another important DXpedition coming up in October... Midway, K4M. This is another one that has been in the works for a long, long time. Finally we are going to be blessed with a major operation from a pretty rare spot. Ranked at #24 worldwide and #13 in Europe, the 17 members of the team are sure to be kept quite busy. Those upper bands probably won't offer much, but that will only make it more difficult for all the other bands.

Also, please remember the principles that Mark, ON4WW, Uncle DX, and I have been pressing for the past few years. Listen, listen, and follow the instructions of the DX operator. He can hear things we can't. He is in charge and he can pull the plug any time he wishes if things get too far out of hand. Keep that in mind. Do you want to be responsible for the DX station going QRT before your buddy across town can work him? Or maybe it will be you who won't work him because you caused the QRM that caused him to go QRT. Whether it is a single-op DX station or a 25-op DXpedition, those on the other end can do whatever they want if you do something that offends them. After all, they are spending their time, money, and sometimes putting their health in jeopardy to be there. Please watch what you are doing in the pile-ups.

### Propagation

Propagation? Now there's a hot subject. I just saw that CQ magazine's Propagation Editor, Tomas Hood, NW7US, is challenging the accuracy of the newest predictions for solar Cycle 24. The revised prediction, issued in late May by a

panel of solar experts, suggests a weak sunspot cycle with a peak in 2013. However, NW7US is asking, "How credible are these 'experts'?"

In an online commentary posted on the CQ magazine website, Tomas notes that this same group of so-called "experts" has already issued multiple predictions for this cycle, all of which they now say are wrong. Tomas asks why we should believe that they're right this time.

"How much credibility should we grant to the panel of solar researchers and scientists that again releases a speculative prediction of the new solar Cycle?" Hood asks, noting that NASA's lead representative on the panel says, "It turns out that none of our models were totally correct."

Tomas points out that while the sun itself is millions of years old, scientists have been tracking solar activity for just a few hundred years. "In my view," he says, "it is pretty arrogant to postulate that mankind has any real understanding and handle on what the sun might do next."

"No one can postulate with any credibility just how intense the new cycle will be, because there's no direct correlation between this solar minimum and any regular pattern of past minimums," Hood notes, adding, "If none of the models are totally correct, how are they making this current prediction with such dismal expectations? I'm not holding my breath in favor of supporting any of the predictions at this point."

He also points out that there are already signs of "an awakening solar Cycle 24," and encourages hams to "enjoy the unique propagation opportunities currently presenting themselves during this quiet phase," and to "prepare now for whatever the sun will do by honing your radio skills..."

Pardon me, but that kind of sounds like what I have been saying for quite a while. There were too many contradic-



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tions in all those predictions. What's that saying? "Best to keep one's mouth shut and be thought a fool than to open it and prove you are one."

Until next time, enjoy the chase, and  
Have Fun! 73, Carl, N4AA

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9A800VZ via 9A7A	BY4RRR via DL2JRM	CT7FFC via CT1GFK
9H3GA via DL5GA	C21TI via EA4ATI	CU2KG via OH2BH
9J2YO via YO4ATW	C56ETF via GW0ETF	CU2KH via OH8NC
9M2TI via EA4ATI	C6AAA via N4AA/LoTW	CU2X via OH2BH
9M8Z via M0URX	C6AKU via K5WW	CX1AA via W3HMK
AA4VK/CY0 via AA4VK	C6AMS via NA6M	
AH0F/KH2 via JA2NQG	C6AYL via W8GEX	
AH0S/KH2 via JH1DVG	C6DX via W8GEX	
AM7M via EC7ANC	C91FC via ON4CJK	
AN9CNP via EA9CE	C91TX via W5PF	
AO1K via EA1GVG	CE9XX via F5PFP	
AP2ASHF via DL7UPN	CN2BC via DL7BC	

(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>; <http://golist.net/>.)

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# From Antarctic Ice to Silver Camels

This time we start off with an award from Argentina. DXers know that whenever they hear an Argentine station with the first letter of the suffix starting with "Z" that this is worthy DX. In Argentina, the first letter of the suffix identifies the province, and "Z" is one of the Antarctic bases located on largely uninhabited places such as South Georgia, South Shetland, South Orkney, and South Sandwich Islands. The award is especially colorful, including a montage of rare QSLs from these countries. Following are the details:

## Worked Argentine Antarctic Bases

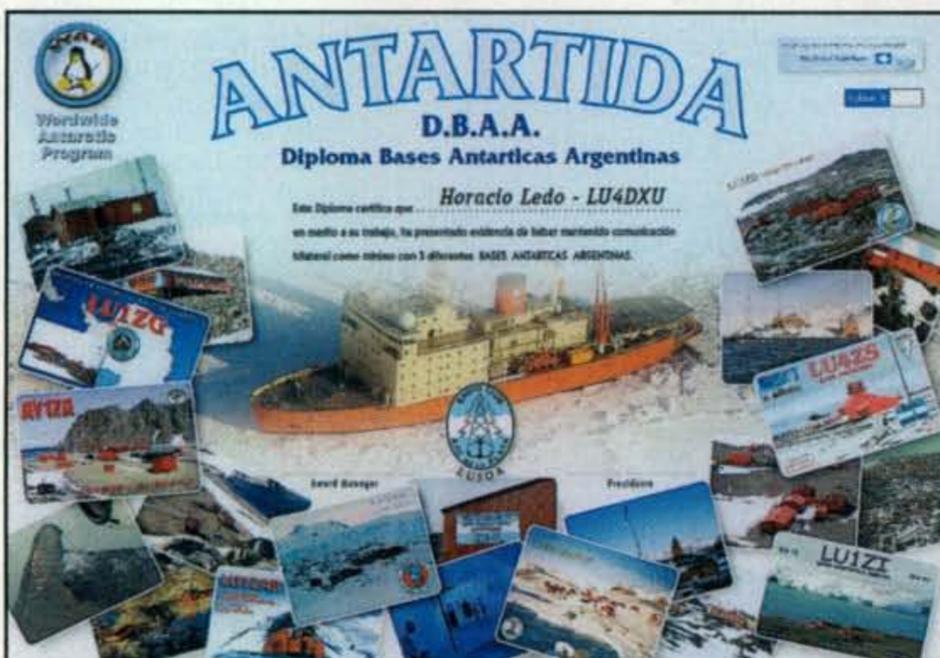
The WAAB award is sponsored by The Radio Club Rio de la Plata for confirming contacts since November 9, 2001 with stations located on at least three different Argentine Antarctic bases. SWL okay. All bands from 2 meters through 160 meters and modes SSB, CW, RTTY, and digital count for the award.

*List of Argentine Antarctic Bases:* LU1ZA S. Orkney, LU1ZAB Matienzo, LU1ZB Melchior, LU1ZC Deception, LU1ZD San Martin, LU1ZG Belgrano II, LU1ZI Jubany, LU1ZR Petrel, LU1ZS Camara, LU1ZV Esperanza, LU2ZD Primavera, and LU4ZS Marambio.

Any newly established Argentine Antarctic base will be automatically added to the list and will be valid for this award.

Send a GCR list of the contacts with QSO details including callsign and date, in alphabetical order by callsign, plus a photocopy of each of the cards. The sponsor reserves the right to request actual cards at its discretion. Include fee of Aus\$3 US\$17, or 13 Euros for large format certificate; or Aus\$4, US\$13,

\*12 Wells Woods Rd., Columbia, CT 06237  
e-mail: <k1bv@cq-amateur-radio.com>



The Worked Argentine Antarctic Bases award is sponsored by The Radio Club Rio de la Plata for confirming contacts with stations located on at least three different Argentine Antarctic bases.

## USA-CA Special Honor Roll

Leo C. Bingham, WY7LL  
USA-CA All Counties #1184  
April 27, 2009

## USA-CA Honor Roll

<b>500</b>		<b>2000</b>
WY7LL .....3469		WY7LL .....1381
WD9EJN .....3470		
WQ9Z.....3471		<b>2500</b>
		WY7LL .....1300
<b>1000</b>		
WY7LL .....1777		<b>3000</b>
		WY7LL .....1210
<b>1500</b>		
WY7LL .....1493		
LYR-794 .....1494		

The total number of counties for credit for the United States of America Counties Award is 3077. The basic award fee for subscribers is \$6.00. For nonsubscribers it is \$12.00. To qualify for the special subscriber rate, please send a recent CQ mailing label with your application. Initial application may be submitted in the USA-CA Record Book, which may be obtained from CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 USA for \$2.50, or by a PC-printed computer listing which is in alphabetical order by state and county within the state. To be eligible for the USA-CA Award, applicants must comply with the rules of the program as set forth in the revised USA-CA Rules and Program dated June 1, 2000. A complete copy of the rules may be obtained by sending an SASE to Ted Melnosky, K1BV, 12 Wells Woods Road, Columbia, CT 06237 USA. DX stations must include extra postage for airmail reply.

or 9 Euros for the smaller format certificate. This cost includes shipping inside a tube for protection. Apply to: Horacio Ledo, LU4DXU, P.O. Box 22, Martinez (1640) Buenos Aires, Argentina. Internet: <<http://www.waponline.it/WapAwards/tabid/61/Default.aspx>>. E-mail: <lu4dxu@hotmail.com>.

## Italy's Regio Insubrica Award

The following award is new starting in 2009 and is one of the first I've seen that specifically plans portable operations that count for several specialized awards of a similar nature. If you're hunting castles, churches, lakes, and mountain summits, one contact with the Insubria Radio Club's mini-expeditions may help you with four other awards.

The award is issued in order to promote the beauty of the landscape, historical and artistic heritage, and rural culture of Euroregion Regio Insubrica, which includes Ticino (Switzerland) and the Italian provinces of Como, Lecco, Novara, Verbano-Cusio-Ossola, and Varese.

The goal is to contact stations HB9IRC and/or IQ2IR on or after January 1, 2009 during their publicized portable activities, which concentrate on:

- (1) Castles, towers, and defensive works, which may be counted for various castle awards of Italy and Switzerland;
- (2) Churches, abbeys, and monasteries, valid for the Italian Abbeys Award;
- (3) Lakes valid for the Italian Lakes Award and Worked All Swiss Lakes, and;
- (4) Mountain summits, valid for Summits On The Air Italia.

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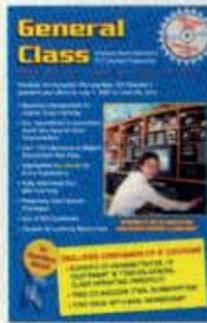
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The basic award is given for contacting at least three of these categories. Send a log extract (including callsign, date, UTC, band/mode, DRI reference number) by e-mail to award manager Lucini Luciano, HB9FBI, at <hb9fbi@insubriaradio.org>. The award fee is US\$20 or 10 Euros, which will be entirely devoted to charity purposes and may be paid by either of these electronic methods: PayPal (emanuela.trevisan@insubriaradio.org) or Banking Banco Posta, Paolicelli Mario and Ghiringhelli Fulvio IBAN: IT60 V076 0110 8000 0008 5673 614.

Endorsements are available for each additional five contacts (maximum of three such endorsements). Fee for each

of these is US\$10 or 5 Euros (fees again provided to charity). Additional Honor Roll and Top Honor Roll endorsements are available for higher levels of contacts. Refer to the website, which has detailed rules and will also list activation dates. Internet: <http://www.insubriaradio.org>.

## EA Fauna Flora Award

This is a new addition to a growing number of awards for contacting national parks and nature reserves. Spain offers this brand new award, which provides vivid images of interesting wildlife in the respective countries.

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EAFF Award manager certificate to  
This certificate accredits that you have contact with National Parks, Natural Parks or Biosphere Reserves  
EAFF Award Managers: Sebastian EC7AE, EAFF Award Coordinators: G. W5YI, Leo EC7DN

Italy's Regio Insubrica Award is issued to promote the beauty of the landscape, historical and artistic heritage, and rural culture of Euroregion Regio Insubrica.

The EA Fauna Flora Award is one of the growing number of awards that are given for contacting national parks and nature reserves.

This "Natural Parks, National Parks, and Biosphere Reserve Award" is offered to all amateurs and SWLs for proof of contact (SWL) with at least 10 amateur radio stations operating from different territories of national parks, nature parks, and nature reserves within the Biosphere Reserve of Spain as recognized by Ministerio de Medio Ambiente. The award follows the general rules of the WFF—World Flora Fauna Award (Russia)—and is recognized by that organization (<http://www.wff44.com>). All HF bands, plus 50 MHz and 144

MHz are valid. All modes may be used, except no use of repeaters allowed. Contacts by mobile or portable stations may be counted at only one park per day. Contacts on or after May 1, 2009 count for the award. The QSL card must have an imprint showing official number and name of the park, reserve, or landscape.

Cards are not necessary, provided that the activation has previously been validated and activators have provided the sponsor with logs for the activity. The sponsor may ask any

**Leo C. Bingham, WY7LL  
USA-CA All Counties #1184, April 27, 2009**

I became interested in radio at a very young age. I was in first or second grade (1968) in a small oil field community named Linch, Wyoming. My parents owned an interest in an oil field pipeline ditching and construction company there. My father ran the field operations while my mother ran the office, bookkeeping aspect of the company.

One day my father brought home a Johnson Messenger 223 base station for my mother's office, along with a couple of Johnson Mobile radios for the trucks. Oh how that base station caught my eye . . . the thought that you could push a button on that microphone and someone a world away could hear you. I was hooked from the start.

I watched my father struggle for years trying to get more range by using bigger antennas and amplifiers with little return for his effort. Over the years my folks always had two-way radios in their automobiles and homes. They became dependent on being able to communicate with them, as this was way before cell phones, and living in Wyoming it may be 60 miles or better to the next town, gas station, or even ranch house. Through the years I found that you could make long-distance contacts with those so-called "chicken band" radios.

By the time I was 16, I had worked my way through numerous radios and had graduated, or so I thought, to the big time. I had acquired a Tempo One ham radio that had a VFO and more power to make those elusive contacts. Finally at the age of 26 (1983) I met someone who would introduce me to ham radio. I joined the Novice classes that were being given, learning theory and code with new abandon. I took my Novice test and received my ticket in the mailbox on April 9, 1984. Now I really was in the big leagues!

I upgraded to Technician about six months later and to General on September 22, 1985. Best as I can recall on November 10, 1985 I was tearing up the 20-meter band making DX contacts left and right, tuning the VFO on the Yaesu FT-101EE and breaking pile-ups whenever I would tune into one. I tuned into a pile-up on 14.336 with calls being dumped in by the pound, so I put my call in, made my contact, and waited for the DX station's call. When it came back—KC3RY on the county line of Sussex and Warren, New Jersey—I thought there had to be a mistake, so I listened for a time until I surmised that I had stumbled onto the County Hunters Net. So off I went searching for more DX stations.

As time passed, I would return to 14.336 when DX conditions were not good. Soon I was out running counties for some folks who had asked for special contacts that they needed to finish up for a particular award.

My wife and I enjoyed the day trips and even some overnights, and as time went on whenever we were traveling we made sure we had a radio to give out counties. In the 25 years I have run every county in Wyoming, Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa and most in Nebraska. I had acquired a good number of counties just by giving out counties, but how many did I have? I spent weekends and evenings all of one winter typing contacts into a new computer-logging program, as the paper logs had become a paper tiger. Now I had to go back over years of logs and send cards. Luckily, I did get back a large number of cards from operators who still had their logs even years later.

Now to get serious about finishing up USA-CA. In January 2006 I was down to 350 counties. I decided it was time to meet some of

the folks I had been working for years, and my wife and I set out for Appleton, Wisconsin in July. Without many people knowing, we were headed to the National County Hunters Convention. While running a county in Minnesota, a station called and wanted to know where I was. After confirming my location he said look in your rearview mirror. Cliff, AC0B, was only the second county hunter I had ever met face to face in my 22 years of county hunting, and he was going to the convention, too.

When I arrived at the convention I was shocked at the reception that this "Wyoming cowboy" received. Everyone treated us so well, like long lost family, and within minutes we had a dinner invitation for the evening. As the weekend progressed, I felt like I was right at home. It was great to put faces with names and calls. We attended the national in Denver in 2007 and the national in Michigan last year.

Finally, in February 2009 I was down to four counties to work. One was in Montana, one in Idaho, and two in Georgia. We had planned a week of vacation in the middle of February to go to a law enforcement convention in Florida. At the last minute our convention plans were canceled, so we were off to Montana and Idaho to get those confirmed from WY7ML on 2 meters. Then to start working on Georgia contacts. I sent an e-mail to a ham in Wheeler, GA, who agreed to a schedule. At 6:05 AM that Saturday we made a 40-meter contact, and I was now down to one to go. I had also made a schedule with Don, K3IMC, whom I had met at the two conventions I attended. Don was making a special trip for Upson, Georgia—my very last. At 9:21 AM I was mobile and heard KM9X trying to get Don and myself together. We made our contact on 40 meters SSB, although very weak copy. Then we iced it off by making a 5/9 contact on 20 SSB and a 30-meter CW contact.

After 25 years I had finally made that last county contact. As I looked over to my wife in the passenger seat, she had trickles of tears she was trying to conceal behind her sunglasses. I think she was happier for me than I was for myself. I must admit I enjoy being the hunted more than hunter. We still enjoy putting out counties when we travel.

We have met a fantastic group of people during our county hunting experiences. The list of people to thank is long and distinguished. My wife and driver, Chris, WY7ML, is at the very top of the list. She does the bulk of driving while I navigate and log on the computer. Thanks to the net control volunteers and the operators who run mobile. Without those folks, none of us would ever finish USA-CA All Counties. You all know who you are, and I thank and salute you, one and all.—73, Leo WY7LL



*Leo C. Bingham, WY7LL, USA-CA  
All Counties #1184.*

applicant for the actual cards. Send required fee and GCR list to: EAFF Award Manager, C/Egidos No. 1 Bajo, 21110 Aljaraque (Huelva), Spain.

**Award Levels:**

3rd class—10 different FF references worked (for activators, 5 activations).

2nd class—20 different FF (for activators, 10 activations).

1st class—50 different FF (for activators, 15 activations).

**Honor Roll Plaques:**

3rd Honor class—more than 50 different FF references worked.

2nd Honor class—more than 100 different FF references worked.

1st Honor class—more than 150 different FF references worked.

Send your log with QSO information. The request can be made by e-mail sent to <eaff@ea7heg.es>. Contact the sponsor before sending any request by e-mail in case of rule changes. Cost for the the first three levels (paper certificate) is 5 Euros. Write for cost of the EAFF plaques, as the program is too new to have issued any of these yet. Activators who make at least 150 contacts from each park will receive the award at no cost. Activation must be inside the physical limit of the park. Provide copies of any license, pictures, or videos with stations and operators. Internet: <http://eaffen.netne.net/>; E-mail: <eaff@ea7heg.es>.

**Russia's Silver Camel Award**

The Russian oblast of Chelyabinskaya is situated on the mountainsides of the Southern Ural mountains in central Russia and has long been prized for its mineral wealth, especially for the types

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73s, Gene

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of metals used in heavy industry. Note that the award requires working different numbers of "RDA" numbers, which form the basis of the Russian District Award, issued by another group. A complete list of the the districts applicable to this award can be found at: <http://rdaward.org/>.

The award is sponsored by the radio amateurs of Magnitogorsk city and Chelyabinskaya oblast and the territories that are part of the Chelyabinskaya oblast. The award's design is taken from historical coats of arms and features a silver camel carrying a load of

gold. Other symbols reflect the wealth of this area: the rich metallic heritage, metallurgists, machine engineers, foundry industry, and the power of an industrially developed region. The gold in the arms allegorically shows the unique southern Ural nature, inexhaustible riches of the earth.

The award is earned by contacting amateur radio stations of the Chelyabinskaya oblast on any band any mode since June, 29, 2008.

HF—Contact different territories of the Chelyabinskaya oblast under the list of Russian District Award (see website above).

3rd class diploma—15 territories of the Chelyabinskaya oblast.

2nd class diploma—30 territories of the Chelyabinskaya oblast.

1st class diploma—55 territories of the Chelyabinskaya oblast.

SWL okay. Send log extract and fee of 40 rubles for RA, 5 Euros or US\$5 to: Vladimir Vitalyevich Krivoshapko, UA9AAG, Stroiteley str., 41-43, Magnitogorsk, 455004, Chelyabinskaya oblast, Russia. E-mail: <ua9aag@mail.ru>.

We're always interested in hearing from clubs, special interest groups, or individuals who sponsor awards. Please contact me at the e-mail or snail mail address shown on the first page of this column.

73, Ted, K1BV



Russia's Silver Camel Award is sponsored by the radio amateurs of Magnitogorsk city and Chelyabinskaya oblast and the territories that are part of the Chelyabinskaya oblast.

# Has Contesting Reached Its Peak?

## August's Contest Tip

Many contesters, including myself, tend to limit their contesting experience to the mainstream modes of CW and SSB. Unless you've been hiding under a rock, digital modes, as well as VHF/UHF, have taken off, offering a new set of opportunities for contesting fun. Also, by trying out new modes of contesting, you broaden your personal experience as well as skill. Let's all get on the bandwagon and check them out. You may be surprised to learn there's a whole new world of contest operating at your fingertips that can make you a more rounded and skilled operator.

**T**here are some cold, hard facts about our hobby, and contesting in particular, that we need to face. At this year's Dayton Hamvention® the continued aging of contesters (with the notable exception of a few such as KØDXC) was even more apparent to most of us. That fact—combined with all the other factors we keep hearing about (e.g., the internet, cell phones, computer games, etc.)—is dramatically impacting the availability of new radio hobbyists (young or old). Unlike the "old days" when many of us became hams, worldwide access to people and information is incredibly affordable and available right at our fingertips.

Have you walked through a consumer electronics store lately? It's particularly interesting to look at the computer gaming section of a typical store. This may not surprise you, but it sure doesn't look like the Contest Super Suite at the Dayton Hamvention®. The average age of the customers is probably 15 years old, dominated by a group of youngsters who have as least as much enthusiasm for their sport as we did for our ham radio sport in our youth. There are some kids who have as many internet friends around the world as we know hams. Yes, my fellow contesters, we have serious competition indeed.

Well, now that I've gotten you to the point of wanting to sell your equipment while there's still a marginal market of buyers available, let's shift gears and focus on an attribute of contesting that's very curious—especially in light of my earlier comments. Why is it that, in a period of seemingly stagnant or declining growth, we continue to see contest scores and participation escalating? With this escalation, have we, in fact, seen the peak of contesting? After all, we have established by most popular measures that the population of available HF contesters is declining. With the average age of hams rising, isn't the number of "contest hours" operated by a typical competitor less than ever before?

It seems that we have all of the ingredients to witness a decline in overall scores, not an increase. That should translate into an overall decline in contest interest and perhaps the conclusion that we have seen the best days. However, all you need to do is flip on the radio in any reasonable-size contest, and your receiver will be filled with operators across the band. Whether it's the CQ WW, a 160-meter contest, or the ARRL Sweepstakes, the bands are alive with the sounds of contesters, as Julie Andrews might have said had she been a ham.

Well, I believe there are a number of factors to con-

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

## Calendar of Events

All year	CQ DX Marathon
July 25–26	RSGB IOTA Contest
Aug. 1–2	North American CW QSO Party
Aug. 1–2	ARRL UHF Contest
Aug. 2	SARL HF Phone Contest
Aug. 8–9	Worked All Europe CW Contest
Aug. 15–16	SARTG RTTY Contest
Aug. 15–16	North American SSB QSO Party
Aug. 15–17	New Jersey QSO Party
Aug. 22–23	Ohio QSO Party
Aug. 29–30	SCC RTTY Championship
Aug. 29–30	YO DX HF Contest
Aug. 29–30	SARL HF CW Contest
Sept. 5–6	All Asian SSB Contest
Sept. 12–13	Worked All Europe SSB Contest
Sept. 26–27	<b>CQ WW DX RTTY Contest</b>
Oct. 24–25	<b>CQ WW DX SSB Contest</b>
Nov. 28–29	<b>CQ WW DX CW Contest</b>

sider, beginning with continuing improvements in and accessibility to modern ham gear—especially overseas. Certainly it can't hurt scores now that more operators have better equipment to use when operating. Indeed, the days of Eastern Europeans using 16-tune UW3DI designs largely are over. The result: higher scores. And, with higher scores comes increased interest in contest operating by everyone.

Another aspect of this discussion has to do with the number of available stations to work. Now this may seem contradictory to my opening comments, but while amateur radio growth is declining, there are pockets of seemingly dramatic increases. You can determine this in many ways, but an obvious one is to think about a country's newly issued callsigns. Consider what's happening in countries such as England (with the M block now nearly fully subscribed) or Germany (yes, there is a hoard of new callsigns out there). There are plenty of other examples around the world. To be fair, some of this callsign jockeying is a result of local "vanity" programs, but there's no denying that many countries are seeing an influx of new HF operators. For those competitors who benefit most from the availability of Europeans, these new fellows are a boon to contest scores. Also, when combined with other geographic hot spots, the picture may not be as bleak as we think.

It's apparent that the quality of operating is growing, too. There once was a day when I was concerned about setting my keyer speed too high. Would I miss out on stations calling me because I was sending too fast? Now, admittedly coming from an East Coast perspective, we can't send fast enough at peak-rate times during a DX contest. The volume of quality operators has markedly increased for sustainable periods. This translates into higher rates and higher scores. In fact, it's become a disappointment in my part of the world if your peak rates on CW are less than 150 per hour during a CQ WW contest. I would add that this is not just a CW issue. SSB rates have climbed to staggering levels as well. The fact is that there are just more stations to work on any mode, in any contest, at any time of the year. I would add that this is true for both DX and domestic contests (take a look at ARRL Sweepstakes results if you doubt the claim). As another example, the recently held 2009 CQ WPX contests have received a record number of logs. That's good

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Paul Bittner, W0AIH (left), receiving his CQ Contest Hall of Fame plaque from Bob Cox, K3EST (right), at the 2009 Contest Dinner in Dayton. (Tnx to K8CX and hamgallery.com)

for us and great for the hobby in general!

So what can be concluded here? As active participants in our hobby, we certainly have cause for concern about its future. Yet there's ways to measure activity and interest, and fortunately one of them is contest operating. Contesting has a lot of gusto and momentum. It's always been an aspect of amateur radio that many hams have enjoyed for a variety of reasons. Why? Because it's not hard and address-

es the interests of many hams, whether their focus is on DXing, station performance, or just wanting to make an interesting QSO. Has contesting reached its peak? I don't think so. We may be in for a tough stretch as poor conditions continue, but I remain cautiously optimistic that we'll be back for another day. So don't miss out by folding up your contest tent. You'll regret the fact that you did!

### Congrats to W0AIH!

It's always a privilege to acknowledge new inductees into CQ's Contest Hall of Fame and this year is no exception. Paul Bittner, W0AIH, is the 2009 inductee and deservedly so. As someone who has known Paul for a very long time, I can attest to his contributions both as an operator/station builder, as well as a mentor to so many others. I would guess that Paul has lost count of the number of contest operators (new and experienced) who have enjoyed his hospitality (and that of his XYL, Mary) – all from the surprising, and propagationally hostile location of western Wisconsin. Congratulations, Paul. You are a first class contester and an even better person!

### Reminder: New Xtreme Category for the CQ WW

As reported in the June issue of CQ, a new Xtreme category is being added to the CQ World-Wide DX Contest to encourage the development of new technologies in ama-

teur radio communications in general and contesting in particular. This new category has been established to allow amateurs to participate in the CQ WW contest while experimenting creatively with internet-linked stations and other new technologies. Scoring for logs submitted in the new category will be a mix of standard CQ WW scoring plus a more subjective score for level of innovation and originality, as determined by a panel of judges on the CQ WW Contest Committee. The highest-scoring entries in the Single-Operator and Multi-Operator categories will win the John Kanzius, K3TUP, Memorial plaques, sponsored by Tim Duffy, K3LR.

The new category will take effect with the 2009 CQ World-Wide DX Contests this fall. Since the announcement at Dayton, the response has been overwhelmingly positive. You can find complete details of the Xtreme category at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com> or in the June issue of CQ.

### Final Comments

Well, that's all for this month. I hope you enjoy reading the CQ WW DX SSB results in this month's copy of CQ. As always, there was a lot of sweat equity that went into producing the final results. With that being said, the 2009 fall contest season is nearly upon us. I hope to see you in my log. See you in the next contest!

73, John, K1AR

# August Propagation

## A Quick Look at Current Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

### Sunspots

Observed Monthly, May 2009: 3  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2008: 2

### 10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, May 2009: 71  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2008: 68

### Ap Index

Observed Monthly, May 2009: 4  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2008: 5

## One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Cycle 23 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

### Sunspots

Observed Monthly, May 2008: 3  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2007: 6

### 10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, May 2008: 68  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2007: 71

### Ap Index

Observed Monthly, May 2008: 6  
Twelve-month smoothed, November 2007: 8

**L**ate August and early September are a difficult time of year for which to make accurate band predictions because conditions can change drastically from day to day. On many days typical summertime conditions will continue much as they were during June and July. On the other days conditions may sound typically fall-like, with somewhat higher daytime usable frequencies and somewhat lower nighttime usable frequencies. When you add *equinoctial* conditions that can begin as early as late August, we often experience optimum openings between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres on the one hand, but periods of active to stormy conditions on the other.

Despite being at the very bottom of the period between solar Cycles 23 and 24, during the daylight hours good DX conditions should be possible on several bands: 15, 17, and 20 meters. Expect signals on the 17- and 20-meter bands to peak approximately during the two-hour window immediately following sunrise and again during the late afternoon. These two bands, and to a lesser degree the 15-meter band, will see openings for DX throughout the daylight hours. Fairly good DX openings should occur along an arc extending across central Africa, Latin America, and into the far Pacific area. Peak conditions should occur during the afternoon hours, but an increasing number of earlier openings should be possible by early September.

Between sundown and sunrise 20 meters is expected to be the best DX band. However, with

\*P.O. Box 9, Stevensville, Montana 59870-0009  
e-mail: <nw7us@arrl.net>

## LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for August 2009

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 6, 23	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 2-5, 9-17, 19-22, 24, 27, 29-31	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 1, 8, 18, 25-26, 28	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.

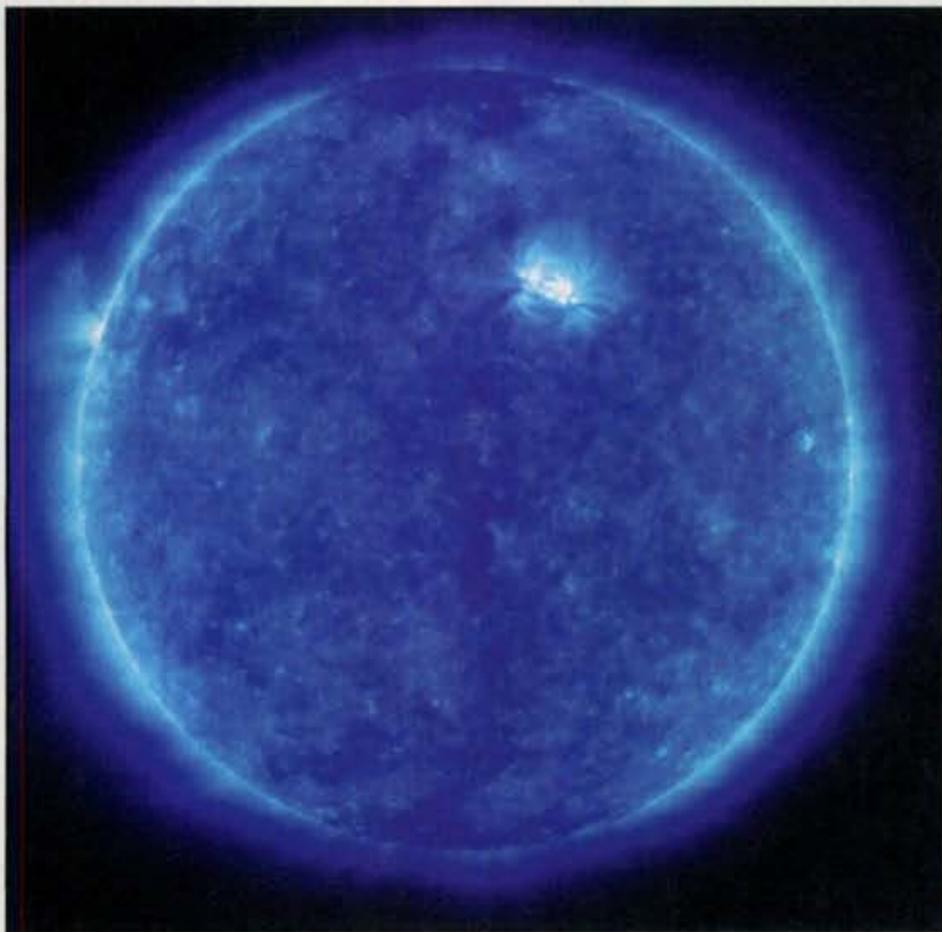
## HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Find the *propagation index* associated with the particular path opening from the Propagation Charts appearing in *The New Shortwave Propagation Handbook* by George Jacobs, W3ASK; Theodore J. Cohen, N4XX; and Robert B. Rose, K6GKU.
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 poor (D) to fair (C) on August 1st, fair (C) on the 2nd through the 5th, etc.
3. As an alternative, the Last-Minute Forecast may be used as a general guide to space weather and geomagnetic conditions through the month. When conditions are Above Normal, for example, the geomagnetic field should be quiet and space weather should be mild. On the other hand, days marked as Disturbed will be riddled with geomagnetic storms. Propagation of radio signals in the HF spectrum will be affected by these conditions. In general, when conditions are High Normal to Above Normal, signals will be more reliable on a given path, when the path is ionospherically supported.

lower solar activity, the band in general will suffer compared with the past few years. Openings might be possible to many areas of the world, some with surprisingly strong signal levels. Until midnight good DX conditions should be found for openings toward Latin America, the far Pacific, and into Asia. You might even catch some activity on 17 or 15. Fairly good conditions are also expected on 30, 40, 60, and 80 meters despite the high static level at times. Openings should be possible before midnight along an arc extending from northern Europe, through Africa, and into Latin America, the far Pacific, and Asia after midnight.

By late August it should be possible to work some DX on 160 meters during the hours of darkness. Conditions on this band—as well as on 40, 60, and 80 meters—will tend to peak just as the sun begins to *rise* on the *light*, or easternmost, terminal of a path.

For *short-skip* openings during August and early September, try 80 meters during the day for distances less than 250 miles, with 60 and 40 meters also usable. During the hours of darkness both 80 and 160 meters should provide excellent communications over this distance. For openings between 250 and 750 miles use 30 and 40 meters during the day for distances up to 500 miles, and 20 and 17 meters between 500 and 750 miles. At night, 40 and 30 meters should be the best bands for this distance until midnight, with 80 meters optimum



*The Extreme Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope look at the solar transition region and inner corona in the 171 wavelength (171 Å) bandpass in the extreme ultraviolet (EUV) spectrum. Note the magnetic field lines formed by plasma above the sunspots in this sunspot group, 11019, on June 5, 2009. (Source: NASA/SOHO [the Solar & Heliospheric Observatory])*

from midnight to sunrise. Try 60 meters, as well. For openings between 750 and 1300 miles, try 20 and 17 meters, as they should provide optimum propagation during the hours of daylight. Optimum conditions should continue on these bands for this distance range after sundown and until midnight. Between midnight and sunrise the best band should be 40 meters, but check 60 meters, too. For openings between 1300 miles and the one-hop short-skip limit of approximately 2300 miles, try 20 and 17 meters during the day, with 15 meters also usable. After sundown try 30, 40, and 60 meters, with 80 meters also providing good propagation conditions for this distance range.

### VHF Conditions

Sporadic-E propagation usually begins to taper off during August, but it should continue to occur fairly frequently. Some 6-meter sporadic-E openings are expected during the month over distances of approximately 750 to 1300 miles. During periods of intense and widespread sporadic-E ionization, two-hop openings may be possible considerably beyond this range. Also check the 2-meter band for an occasional sporadic-E short-skip opening between approximately 1200 and 1400 miles. While sporadic-E short-skip openings may occur at any time, there is a tendency for them to peak between 8 AM and noon, and again between 6 PM and 9 PM local daylight time.

The *Perseids* meteor shower starts during the beginning of August, and peaks the night of August 12. It is most

observable in the Northern Hemisphere. The maximum hourly visual rate should reach 80.

For the very patient, check the 6-meter band for possible trans-equatorial (TE) openings between 8 and 11 PM local daylight time. This type of propagation favors openings from the southern tier states into deep South America, with the signal path crossing the magnetic equator at a right angle. TE openings during August are rare, but they can occur. Very weak signals and severe flutter fading usually characterize them.

### Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for May 2009 is 2.9, up from April's 1.2. The lowest daily

sunspot value recorded was zero (0) on May 1-3, 5-12, 20-21, and 24-30. The highest daily sunspot count was 11 on May 31. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on November 2008 is 1.7. A smoothed sunspot count of 8, give or take 8 points, is expected for August 2009.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 70.6 for May 2009, up from April's 69.7. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on November 2008 is 68.3. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for August 2008 is 69, give or take about 7 points.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (*A<sub>p</sub>*) for May 2009 is 4. The 12-month smoothed *A<sub>p</sub>* index centered on November 2008 is 5.1. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to vary between quiet to active during most days in August.

There is a new resource on the web for discussion of space weather and radio-wave propagation. If you are on Facebook, check out the Radio Propagation and Space Weather Group at <<http://tinyurl.com/fb-spacewx>>.

As always, 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 capability, 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. Also, I'd love to hear any feedback you might have on what I have written. Until next month . . .

73, de Tomas, NW7US

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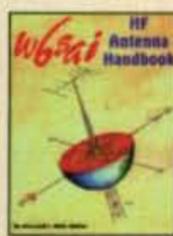
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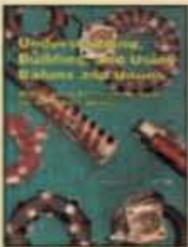
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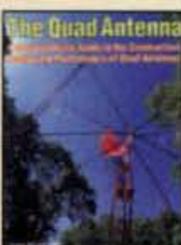
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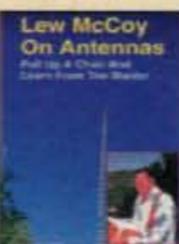
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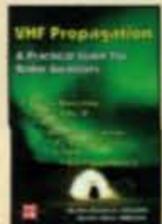
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**2008 SSB RESULTS  
SINGLE OPERATOR  
NORTH AMERICA**

United States				
K5ZD/1	A	6,121,516	3680	127 469
K1LZ		4,915,323	3307	121 446
K1DG		4,620,608	2839	126 486
N2NT/1		4,584,160	2989	119 441
K1SND		638,050	687	82 268
W6PH/1		598,920	766	77 233
W1OP		584,168	695	77 251
(OP: K1PLX)				
N1DD		524,901	639	74 239
W1FM		344,810	482	77 213
W1KQ		330,638	478	60 206
W1WEF		270,657	421	75 186
K1SND		201,480	335	61 169
W1BYH		187,824	258	77 224
W1ZS		184,569	374	45 142
N4XR/1		148,350	259	61 169
K81W		118,140	257	40 139
K81PAJ		60,760	177	33 91
K1KU		52,752	145	43 114
W1WQM		46,512	183	45 108
(OP: WA1NH)				
AD5TJ/1		24,416	109	39 73
W1YRC		12,851	68	29 42
A110		12,441	86	27 60
W1MK		1,443	28	15 24
K1YM		840	24	10 18
NW1N	21	146,433	413	29 104
KQ2M/1	14	1,242,150	2504	38 144
W3UA/1		693,211	1488	35 138
K8PD/1		683,612	1744	30 118
K1IM		196,983	603	27 102
W1XX	7	118,560	421	25 89
W1CSM		900	17	5 13
AA1BU	3.7	216,982	723	19 87
WSWMI/1		168,498	626	20 91
K1HAP		8,832	77	11 37
*K1BX	A	1,655,738	1346	101 353
*N1UR		1,591,329	1337	101 346
*N1PGA		684,070	752	75 260
*W1JQ		291,375	426	65 194
*N4CW/1		278,863	418	59 188
*K1BV		207,427	426	36 137
*K1SLB		180,297	355	52 149
*W1AO		155,792	278	55 153
*WB1EDI		117,018	229	53 144
*W1KT		116,610	243	40 129
*W1DAD		63,600	166	43 107
*AD1DX		51,770	170	53 102
*W1RPG		46,182	152	38 91
*KA1C		39,648	137	33 85
*K1HTJ		39,474	144	42 87
*K1HI		34,226	124	36 73
*KA1VMG		17,094	83	22 55
*N1HTS		16,511	77	22 57
*W1GXZ		16,500	90	23 52
*WR1Q		14,691	87	31 52
*KB1JDY		13,090	96	32 53
*K1VU		12,126	75	29 57
*K1KNJ		11,748	70	22 44
*WJ1B		11,455	70	30 49
*N1URA		7,680	61	19 41
*K1NKA		7,452	54	25 44
*AB1JB		5,865	48	26 43
*W2JU/1		5,832	42	21 33
*KB1FRK		5,551	48	20 41
*K1NPT		2,576	35	19 27
*N1NN		1,683	26	12 21
*W1QH		837	17	13 14
*N4QX/1		36	3	3 3
*KB1LXX		0	1	1 1
*N1NK	21	45,838	199	18 64
*K1VSJ		36,465	156	19 66
*W1DYJ	14	4,116	39	13 29
W2GB	A	565,950	752	66 228
WA2NHA		560,196	777	67 206
N2ED		498,582	631	94 284
W2LK		291,893	418	66 193
NE2I		255,195	452	72 193
K2NV		119,400	232	56 143
K2UT		95,864	200	54 130
W2FUJ		73,712	188	38 98
KM2L		68,586	177	38 100
N2LT		65,554	157	43 103
W2TB		47,847	143	32 91
K2P		47,376	157	35 91
N2CK		43,568	150	33 79
N2NI		19,350	87	24 66
N2EIK		17,082	110	18 60
KD2HE		11,680	65	23 50
K2MK		5,022	45	20 34
K2CKZJ		3,136	39	20 29
N2PP	21	227,408	747	26 96
W2RR		46,750	197	20 65
AB0X/2		7,790	74	12 29
W2OSR	14	42,630	206	20 78
NT2A	7	47,415	190	24 85
N2GC		11,940	73	17 43
AB2IO		468	12	3 10
W2MF	1.8	25,912	140	15 64
*K2CS	A	510,190	595	78 248
*N2RJ		432,638	610	54 198
*K3DX/2		244,223	342	71 180
*WA2JOK		235,470	391	71 211
*WB2WPM		223,660	398	48 163
*AB2TC		125,705	288	37 118
*N2MTG		90,712	216	54 130
*N2WSY		87,824	183	44 132
*WA2MCR		80,410	193	58 112
*K3RHW/2		49,776	147	40 96
*W2SMU		29,854	129	34 84
*W2VU		25,440	97	29 67
*K2BBQ		22,892	103	35 62
*N2VM		16,568	90	35 74
*K2QJ/B		13,244	82	21 65
*WS9M/2		10,584	93	21 42
*N2MCI		9,966	71	18 48
*WB2TPS		6,148	48	19 34
*W2GDJ		5,453	50	13 28

*K5GMT/2		3,854	40	14 27
*N2WLS		3,827	36	16 27
*KA2FHN		2,220	27	15 22
*W3TUA/2		1,702	23	16 21
*KB2URI		1,296	22	14 22
*K2DL		1,000	16	11 14
*K2RNY		480	11	10 10
*WB2AIV		190	11	8 11
*WA2ART		143	8	6 7
*KC2FOL		30	3	2 3
*K2MFY	14	162,426	439	27 111
*KX2S		33,180	155	18 66
*W2AW		28,440	129	18 61
(OP: N2GM)				
*WA2YSJ		7,696	56	14 38
*K2BQW		7,350	66	14 36
*W2LHL		2,475	26	11 22
*K2YEH	3.7	27,888	140	19 85
*K2SZ		13,237	91	15 46
*A1ZN		1,593	25	7 20
K3CR	A	4,051,088	2738	112 424
(OP: LZ4AX)				
AA1K/3		3,005,836	2277	114 394
W3BGN		2,729,251	1979	117 394
K3ZD		2,687,024	2128	99 365
K4AB		1,478,880	1180	113 367
N4POX		1,259,225	963	115 360
K4PV		902,915	1093	94 283
K4FX		709,464	856	71 238
K3ZM/4		702,420	800	86 259
*N3AYY		26,656	103	36 76
*ND3R		26,500	106	34 72
*K3VED		21,948	104	28 85
*WB3CJU		20,898	98	23 58
*KA3JLW		7,564	58	21 40
*N3JNX		5,141	48	19 34
*N3DFK		2,730	38	17 25
*A1G		1,802	27	10 24
*N3XLS		1,457	27	13 18
*KA3CUQ		1,131	28	13 26
*KB3LVH		567	24	11 16
*KB3NUQ		192	9	6 6
*W3TD	21	4,255	45	12 25
*NDMSB/3		396	13	7 11
*K4EET/3	14	3,854	46	14 33
*K3LAB		1,860	23	10 21
*AJ3T	3.7	29,498	153	19 67
K4ZW	A	4,601,575	2937	138 447
K4SSU		1,909,978	1713	119 335
(OP: NA4BW)				
K4AB		1,478,880	1180	113 367
N4POX		1,259,225	963	115 360
K4PV		902,915	1093	94 283
K4FX		709,464	856	71 238
K3ZM/4		702,420	800	86 259
K5VIP/4		71,592	201	45 107
N4KZ		58,788	159	39 99
W4AEJ		50,862	139	44 103
W4SUL		46,545	211	20 67
W4RIS		41,375	154	45 80
K4CEB		38,532	150	32 82
WC2Z/4		34,055	116	52 87
A14WW		33,915	135	23 72
N4MJ		33,550	132	40 82
AE4EC		33,499	144	42 97
NA4C		31,654	122	47 72
N4DXI		25,116	111	24 67
W200/4		23,571	115	24 57
KF4DNL		22,908	97	30 62
W4STB		21,728	87	31 81
K4DZR		21,335	99	22 63
W4NTI		13,962	75	29 49
K2EK/4		12,720	121	18 32
N4RI		5,808	49	18 45
W8DQ/4		4,758	61	23 38
N2XQ/4		1,628	26	13 24
W4HJ		928	23	11 21
K4WI	28	3,381	59	9 12
N4BP	21	161,000	498	28 97
W4M8BUE	14	30,200	132	22 78
K04Y		26,675	109	21 76

*K4IE		60,760	173	40 100
*AD2H/4		58,797	188	38 101
*NA4W		56,154	170	40 107
*KR1ST/4		51,649	155	41 96
*K4CX		51,168	162	33 90
*A14GR		50,126	147	44 98
*KM4OZ		45,486	146	41 92
*W4RQ		40,940	134	32 83
*W9NWY/4		35,937	151	31 90
*NV4B		35,464	109	44 80
*N3UA/4		33,176	107	35 81
*KB4ZMR		29,648	119	32 77
*N4LKE		28,560	124	37 82
*KJ4KQ		27,776	97	36 76
*KM4RK		26,760	114	43 77
*K4AOC		26,133	115	31 62
*W4V		25,070	93	38 71
*N4MUH		24,612	117	20 64
*W43GNW/4		24,464	114	26 62
*W7T/4		24,200	95	38 83
*W7QF/4		23,114	97	24 67
*K7C5/4		22,990	107	29 66
*N1ADY/4		22,704	101	21 65
*W4PFM		22,407	97	31 66
*N4IOZ		21,660	118	27 68
*N4ADS		21,300	98	36 64
*A14KM		1		

*WJ5DX	4,902	49	13	30	*K7KLT	33,372	144	42	66	*W9VQ	59,092	162	51	107	VE2DC	352,444	463	81	211	*H09R	7	87,932	534	19	57	
*WGHV5	3.7	1,470	22	13	17	*W3CP/7	33,165	153	35	64	*K9PY	40,680	132	37	83	*VE2XAA	778,312	895	85	274						
N6TJ	A	2,125,669	1650	137	360	*K87TJP	26,000	122	41	63	*W9UM	40,480	138	36	79	*VA2WDO	82,775	188	51	124						
WC6H		1,544,818	1467	114	292	*N7LOT	24,465	91	39	66	*N9MSG	31,080	118	37	68	*VA2RIO	42,665	153	38	77						
K6XX		1,014,300	1145	105	240	*W7KAM	23,994	118	30	56	*NJ9Z	27,966	113	45	73	*CK2AWR	34,464	164	32	64						
K16CG		356,900	634	68	147	*AA7DK	22,050	135	32	58	*KC9CDW	16,884	83	29	55											
N6NF		324,399	569	77	136	*K87ME	18,328	91	33	46	*N9OK	14,877	103	30	57	*VE2AXD	1,350	29	11	16						
K6LRN		115,362	288	47	106	*K7PWL	17,775	88	33	46	*VE2QAU	14,444	91	34	58	*VE2QAU	300	20	7	8						
KG6AO		75,922	202	63	91	*N7VS	16,416	105	31	41	*K9GQL	10,608	65	28	50	*VA2SG	80,640	335	19	77						
WB6JU		73,698	241	52	90	*KE7DX	12,118	77	31	42	*N9ORD	8,118	57	25	41											
NK6A		38,800	152	31	66	*N7DS	11,468	80	27	36	*K9CQO	5,974	53	25	33	VE3EJ	6,472,174	4238	139	475						
K6UJW		37,752	144	37	67	*K16WJ/7	10,080	69	24	46	*N9BT	3,600	40	18	22	CK3AT	5,577,291	3996	123	426						
NR3Y6		25,647	125	29	54	*W7AML	9,100	83	22	30	*N9WK	2,240	25	13	22											
KG6OJB		25,152	120	44	52	*K7RFW	8,932	71	27	31	*K9GZB	1,920	28	13	19	VE3CK	2,149,941	2391	106	305						
AJ6V		22,881	108	31	56	*K6UM/7	8,415	63	21	30	*K9AIH	1,178	25	5	14	VE3XN	793,450	851	98	252						
KG6ZHC		10,788	72	30	32	*N7UR	7,847	69	19	40	*WR9Y	1,118	29	13	13	VA3DX	676,863	700	109	278						
K6ST		8,178	66	22	36	*N7GJT	6,731	58	23	30	*N9VW	77	4	3	4	VA3YP	563,745	1137	71	174						
KY6LA		5,130	52	23	22	*W7JAZ	6,280	67	21	19	*K9VYD	8	2	2	2	VE3TA	436,756	644	73	201						
AD6KA		3,696	40	18	24	*WF7K	5,292	43	19	30	*W9LY	30,877	149	19	58	VE3KZ	307,457	937	29	102						
K6JAT	21	20,650	130	20	39	*KN7K	4,563	45	20	19	*KJ9R	3,822	42	11	28	VA3FP	34,350	160	18	57						
W6SZN		15,000	107	18	42	*W7SUR	4,343	57	17	26	KDRF	A	1,883,056	1646	130	346	VA3XH	71,196	312	24	78					
W6YK/6	14	269,360	807	31	99	*K07RHI	4,094	84	21	25																
KG6HZ		207,879	615	32	101	*N7BAN	3,154	39	19	19																
W6AFA		153,289	483	30	97	*N7WJ	2,916	33	17	19																
W6RBA		8,085	71	16	39	*KD7DCR	2,448	24	15	21																
W6MWW		2,772	37	15	29	*W7EYK	1,891	23	14	17																
K6NA	7	183,147	560	31	92	*K7EIQ	1,519	45	14	17																
K5KT/6		31,150	134	23	66	*W4LSC/7	1,488	20	14	17																
N6CCH		15,602	202	21	37	*K7QMM	1,210	22	14	16																
N2NS/6		8,568	63	20	36	*W7GH	1,150	20	11	12																
*N6RV	A	173,250	357	69	141	*AD7OG	1,012	23	11	11																
*AA6K		127,050	293	56	119	*KD7RUS	775	28	17	14																
*W6NK		96,922	238	61	100	*N4LS/7	377	11	6	7																
*AF6EV		75,010	221	48	82	*N67N	360	21	11	9																
*K6TV		60,333	211	40	79	*K09G/7	15	4	3	2																
*N6HF		53,710	202	42	89	*W7UPF	21	36,456	173	21	63															
*K04HX/6		49,980	172	45	74	*K67V	29,025	139	25	50																
*K6SHL		31,339	129	48	73	*W7FP	14	96,432	306	30	93															
*K6AAB		27,648	122	42	54	*AD7KG	726	20	11	11																
*N6GEO		27,100	127	41	59	*K67H	713	37	12	11																
*K6NY		23,750	115	36	59	*N7AAM	315	17	8	7																
*K6WSC		22,019	126	38	59	*N7WA	7	893	19	10	9															
*K6LPO		20,140	102	36	59	WA3C/8	A	833,549	892	75	286															
*W6GHO		18,144	110	32	52	W6TWA		788,711	768	92	245															
*K6EX		14,536	90	40	52	K6FL	586,380	648	82	255																
*N6JV		14,400	76	27	45	W6OI	237,303	319	74	225																
*AA6EE		12,920	87	29	47	W6TE	237,140	335	82	200																
*N6RZR		11,685	89	24	33	W6OHT	182,268	327	71	173																
*K6DEX		9,234	72	22	35	K1HT/8	157,874	304	53	140																
*N6SPB		7,182	51	24	30	N9RC/8	147,492	296	53	151																
*AF7K/6		6,254	56	25	28	K8ESQ	108,585	254	41	130																
*K6CSL		5,871	54	27	30	K8MR	76,464	179	50	112																
*K16QDB		5,824	62	29	35	W6JMF	66,156	181	46	102																
*A6BYB		5,246	55	19	24	K8TS	36,774	155	52	110																
*K6QET		4,320	44	23	25	K8GVK	26,058	119	25	61																
*K16SYO		3,936	40	24	24	NX2PX/8	10,744	61	27	32																
*AF6ME		3,634	50	22	24	W8MET	6,649	42	25	56																
*K16LQE		2,898	51	18	24	N8VSI	20	6	5	5																
*K6RM		2,808	31	16	20	K8QF	6,116	56	10	34																
*K16GVM		2,580	48	14	16	W8T98T	7	135,330	503	26	104															
*N6GG		2,546	30	19	19																					
*N5KQ/6		2,320	34	14	15	W8JGU	61,854	190	28	94																
*N1KR/6		1,426	34	16	15	*W8ZT	A	344,211	530	64	195															
*K16GO/6		1,389	22	15	22	*W8TLJ		320,045	470	64	189															
*K6JQC		880	24	11	11	*N8VV	152,277	309	53	140																
*N6PCD		437	26	12	11	*K8LY	133,937	317	36	115																
*A69F/6	21	8,682	66	17	29	*W8KNO	125,130	278	50	144																
*W6EUF	14	61,268	293	30	76	*W8SUJ	109,228	224	57	131																
*K6M6Z		29,438	153	23	59	*K88OC	82,272	169	37	102																
*K6JRA		56	6	4	2	*K88GOX	62,133	160	44	105																
*K16LZ	7	35,720	147	25	69	*K88IMV	49,410	161	33	89																
K7RL		2,394,040	2196	125	315	*W8TM	42,500	133	37	88																
W7AT		1,030,080	1141	118	252	*K88FO	39,772	125	37	85																
NN7ZZ		523,008	698	82	206	*K8CR	33,536	132	42	86																
K7VIC		496,920	732	89	21																					

Senegal		4071 97 379		*RNOSA		111,456 338 59 113		*JH10GC		3.7 196,620 671 30 86		*JA6SRB		A 171,140 361 80 135		Sri Lanka		457NE		7 3,825 67 16 35											
6W1RY		A 5,294,072		(OP: FSVHJ)		*RABLE		45,279 209 47 70		*JQ1ABC		A 189,700 426 75 109		*JA6WJL		28 14,200 144 18 32		Taiwan		BX5AA		A 661,545 1501 67 174									
South Africa		28,756 130 27 52		*RZ0SB		24,064 136 27 67		*JA1YGO		72,900 217 59 91		*JA6DJJ		A 118,026 323 57 109		*BX2AE		A 68,180 319 48 92		*BV4VR		A 29,478 161 36 66									
ZS1EL		A 28,756		*UA0SBO		17,548 102 29 53		*JA1XPU		63,888 226 42 79		*JH60FJ		A 96,792 254 63 85		*BX4AQ		21 12,079 154 14 33		Tajikistan		EY8MM		1.8 96,596 447 14 68							
ZS4BS		2,268 43 13 14		*RABCAH		13,524 132 29 40		*JA1K1K		59,850 190 48 78		*JR6GHN		A 59,040 199 44 79		Tajikistan		EY8BA		2.1 29,580 213 19 49		*EY7ZA		A 1,550 32 8 17							
ZS9Z		21 254,520 908 24 81		*UA0SOX		11,940 75 24 36		*JA1MZM		54,405 184 43 74		*JH6FTJ		A 9,804 79 25 32		(OP: EY7AJ)		*EY8BA		2.1 29,580 213 19 49		*EY7ZA		A 1,550 32 8 17							
ZS1SR		14 85,293 300 31 86		*RAGAY		11,550 80 23 47		*7L2PDJ		51,620 180 44 72		*JR6GJM		28 5,481 87 9 20		Thailand		HSBZDY		A 194,775 345 66 179		HSBZDR		21 53,370 244 19 71							
*ZS2I		A 73,656 218 37 87		*RU0SU		28 144 10 4 5		*JA1MVK		46,428 176 39 67		*JH6WHN		A 1,320 27 7 15		HSBZHC		A 1,052,058 1875 73 186		*HS1TEF		A 1,150 26 12 13		*HSBZGD		14 529,936 1443 38 138					
*ZS1LL		11,448 45 25 29		*UADAYA		98,346 486 14 60		*JA1BJI		43,798 153 47 75		*JH6AVT		A 810 24 6 12		*HSBZCW		A 168,732 833 29 80		*E20WXA		A 23,364 347 20 39		*E20YLM		A 5,016 80 19 25					
*ST2NH		A 189,203 484 39 112		*RN0CT		14 86,445 407 31 82		*JA10Q		42,834 179 45 73		*JH6AUS		14 128,478 362 35 103		UK Bases on Cyprus		ZC4LI		28 162 6 4 5		United Arab Emirates		A61C		21 126,054 521 21 73					
*3V8ST		A 8,742 77 13 34		*RWBVCV		28,020 259 20 40		*JA1VGV/1		32,017 135 40 61		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		Uzbekistan		*UKBAK		A 253,220 505 57 163		*UK9AA		7 309,894 942 29 108		West Malaysia		9M2MT		A 126,264 312 43 113	
ASIA		Andaman & Nicobar Islands		*UABLGY		1,568 42 11 21		*JH1MZH		26,163 133 33 48		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		EUROPE		Aland Islands		OHBE		A 2,060,300 2249 129 421		Albania		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43			
Armenia		371,504 794 58 156		*YABLGY		1,568 42 11 21		*JH1FNU		26,145 162 33 50		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		Austria		OE4A		A 3,656,069 3860 121 432		OE6MDF		A 334,080 650 76 214		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43			
EKGTA		A 4,204,116 3958 87 315		*YB2W		28 29,068 226 9 34		*7K1MAG		22,000 108 36 52		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		OE1C		A 122,335 306 60 155		OE4WWL		A 22,490 157 34 96		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
EK3SA		14 376,257 1045 32 101		*TC4X		14 891,310 1884 38 132		*JK1NSR		19,295 98 30 55		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		OE3KAB		A 3,649 48 13 28		OE3WMW		28 3,549 80 7 32		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
Asiatic Russia		3,888,964 3206 107 347		*TA2/DL7BC		A 684,216 1056 42 192		*JA1STY		18,260 104 34 49		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		OE5Z		1.8 109,822 1207 15 71		*OE3DMA		A 72,610 265 40 97		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9CLB		A 3,888,964		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1IZ		15,768 99 34 38		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1MOU		A 33,000 189 32 78		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9PC		2,895,666 2526 110 364		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1HNW		15,147 105 33 48		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RXSJD		506,912 824 50 167		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1BNW		11,289 80 24 47		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9JDP		468,050 807 57 173		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1PJS		9,328 75 24 29		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RX9FW		128,343 282 46 133		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1AZR		8,437 74 25 34		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9FM		52,056 205 26 82		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1MRG		7,598 62 25 33		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RV9SKD		32,571 138 37 62		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JF1AZD		5,562 48 23 31		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA90LU		17,920 128 26 54		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1TBX		3,680 46 18 28		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RV9MA		6,099 48 19 38		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JF1HJX		3,390 45 12 18		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RK9JWV		21 194,748 602 23 63		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1MJN		2,900 36 14 15		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RV9SLM		14 466,343 1891 35 128		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1HG		2,822 40 16 18		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RZ9UI		223,488 776 29 99		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JP1EYU		2,356 33 19 19		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RA9JM		89,146 358 24 82		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JG1FGL		1,288 20 12 11		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RZ9QJ		51,456 215 25 71		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JH1RMH		1,204 18 13 15		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9QDS		3,774 50 7 27		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1LBZ		1,118 21 12 14		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RW9USA		7 805,695 2003 35 130		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JN1DNV		814 17 9 13		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RA9CB		121,524 429 24 90		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1YAI		748 14 11 11		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
RA9AP		16,500 134 10 40		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*7L3DGP		336 14 6 8		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9CGL		2,214 33 7 20		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1WWE		2,461 44 8 15		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
UA9KAA		1.8 43,155 268 11 52		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1MYW		1,206 32 6 12		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*UA9QA		A 811,824 1083 85 228		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JH1HFJ		576 20 5 11		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*UA9ACJ		596,960 796 58 229		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1AAT		370 13 3 7		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RA9AAA		510,034 887 60 178		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*7K4XNN		75,852 319 28 70		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RX9AM		434,112 603 79 244		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1XMT		21,080 116 22 46		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RX9FR		404,010 732 41 160		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1RYC		17,199 104 20 43		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RW9RA		380,622 635 54 183		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JA1JLP		7,123 69 17 26		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RZ9AZ		382,970 627 52 170		*TA2RC		1.8 11,427 107 6 33		*JL7FBW/1		6,042 61 16 22		*JH6AUS		14 1,242 36 12 15		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*OE1HBB		14 111,069 461 30 99		*ZAB1K7JWX1.8		6,566 194 6 43					
*RV9AZ		246,510 589 37 128																													



*DK1TS	32,670	191	32	78	HASTI	51,538	165	45	101	*I2BZN	14,196	161	15	63	Moldova			Poland								
*DL1VJL	30,800	141	37	63	HA1YI	155,375	554	33	92	*I4ENR	12,780	113	22	49	ER0WW	A	5,517,720	5387	131	454	S06I	A	761,915	1337	86	299
*DK9VA	30,500	159	32	90	HA6FO	49,959	227	30	87	*IK2KW	12,628	104	25	57	(OP: RL3FT)			(OP: SP6JUI)								
*DJ6UP	30,210	196	32	82	HA1TNX	60,204	594	16	71	*IK5PVX	12,402	99	26	52	ER2KRT		448	163	32	80	SP3LPG		552,770	1019	87	247
*D01CS	29,896	199	25	71	HABBE	81,506	915	13	70	*IZ4HZH	12,024	100	23	49	(OP: ER2BF)			(OP: SP5JTF)								
*DA6TEC	28,770	248	23	82	*HABEV	199,892	661	53	183	*I1YGO	11,550	124	20	57	ER5GB	14	36,207	314	20	81	SP10		130,255	304	69	170
*D09PL	28,662	246	18	84	*HA7YS	118,734	466	50	181	*IK1WEG	11,392	96	23	41	*ER3CT	A	68,182	295	40	106	SP1MVG		122,640	275	65	145
*DG60AG	28,167	194	30	93	*HABLLK	77,649	392	44	99	*I220H	10,864	82	23	33	*ERSDX		9,984	58	28	50	SN3S		121,540	577	52	154
*DL9GTB	27,880	179	26	56	*HA3DU	66,750	242	44	134	*IX1ALR	10,005	128	12	57	*ER4LX	7	37,107	343	17	76	SP6IED		114,642	295	54	144
*DM3KZN	27,178	186	37	90	*HG3FMZ	29,100	211	28	72	*IZDFVL	9,215	76	25	70	*ERBFED	3.7	15,296	223	9	55	SP5GMM		100,510	259	57	173
*DL4AC	26,950	219	28	82	*HA2MN	8,246	96	18	44	*IK2LXI	9,198	87	26	47	*ER2RM	1.8	22,400	313	9	55	HF58OLS		55,131	338	31	110
*DL5JH	26,883	205	26	77	*HG4F	214,953	1003	31	106	*IZ7GL	7,007	60	20	29	Montenegro			(OP: SP4ICP)								
*DF3IS	25,947	160	22	71	(OP: HA4FF)				6,760	99	18	47	*403Z	A	70,686	486	29	125	SP3PJY		46,004	365	25	99		
*DL68QE	24,102	187	21	82	*HA1VE	14,992	160	18	39	*IZ1AOD	6,700	83	21	46	*407AMD	7	805	35	5	18	SP6RGC		33,782	194	31	96
*DL3DRY	23,364	172	29	89	*HA7MW	7,535	70	12	43	*IV3IDP	6,699	51	33	44	*404A	3.7	118,146	1046	18	79	SP3RBG		15,336	99	26	82
*D01HGS	23,320	143	27	61	*HA5OFN	624	37	7	19	*IZ7EUB	5,022	73	16	38	Netherlands			(OP: SP3UJA)								
*D03ME	22,842	196	22	72	(OP: HA4FF)				4,131	78	14	37	PA3AAV	A	1,267,266	1772	97	365	SP2JMR		4,840	50	17	27		
*D08TB	22,448	170	23	69	(OP: HA4FF)				3,572	37	20	27	PA6JIM		836,800	2156	75	245	SP8YZZ		2,812	51	9	29		
*D09RE	22,200	198	26	94	(OP: DL9RE)				3,388	55	15	29	PA6JAH		446,188	830	73	264	(OP: SP9JPA)							
*D0SAWE	21,312	192	20	76	(OP: DL9RE)				3,162	51	11	20	PA8F		112,230	392	44	130	SP1GZF	28	300	15	5	18		
*D07DU	21,070	206	17	81	(OP: DL9RE)				3,096	40	15	28	PA9DD		112,230	392	44	130	SP9W	21	147,822	496	35	107		
*DF8TI	20,800	139	23	77	(OP: DL9RE)				2,858	58	10	29	PA3ADJ		33,582	182	20	67	SP1QY		21,528	121	27	51		
*DH8SP	19,412	198	20	72	(OP: DL9RE)				2,550	46	16	35	PA8LOU		26,677	110	33	70	SN88	14	241,600	894	36	115		
*DL1DXF	18,832	127	31	76	(OP: DL9RE)				2,176	38	13	19	PA5TT		23,856	119	26	58	(OP: SP8CUR)							
*DL9ZWG	18,690	119	28	77	(OP: DL9RE)				1,922	22	14	15	PA8GRU		20,535	192	24	87	SO4MP		51,906	494	20	62		
*DL7UXG	17,820	161	22	68	(OP: DL9RE)				1,755	30	15	24	PA8LSK		12,567	97	27	44	SP6FPY		612	12	6	11		
*DL4EBW	17,100	132	25	70	(OP: DL9RE)				1,519	20	14	17	PA3S		8,964	132	19	35	SO6X	7	480,600	2269	32	118		
*DL7VRG	16,826	124	25	69	(OP: DL9RE)				1,392	22	14	15	PA2ALF		7,616	100	14	54	(OP: SP6IXF)							
*DF2FM	16,740	112	28	80	(OP: DL9RE)				1,225	35	9	26	PA3GVI		7,000	103	12	44	SP4TKR		275,400	1336	32	121		
*DM3PKK	16,038	99	24	82	(OP: DL9RE)				1,221	39	9	24	PA1JHP		5,518	94	13	49	HF200C		151,032	1181	22	94		
*DL1EFD	15,688	102	23	51	(OP: DL9RE)				1,121	29	10	11	PA8VST		4,740	89	9	51	(OP: SP2FAP)							
*D01SAJ	14,706	107	24	62	(OP: DL9RE)				1,112	9	7	7	PI4COM	14	367,446	1213	34	107	SP3GTS		14,952	175	16	68		
*DC0ASP	14,615	165	19	60	(OP: DL9RE)				1,000	41	10	28	PE1MMZ		97,125	414	31	80	SP5NN		1,428	45	7	21		
*DB7TF	14,529	145	17	70	(OP: DL9RE)				96	4	4	4	*PF9A	A	225,544	646	56	177	SN2U	3.7	59,410	873	10	55		
*D01MGN	13,206	171	15	56	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA2C		147,702	504	47	159	SN3R	1.8	143,208	1170	18	84		
*DL3SCN	13,090	113	21	64	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA8KW		147,609	435	55	176	(OP: SP6HEO)							
*DL3YEE	13,083	108	31	58	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA8AG		117,810	503	40	114	SP7JQQ		9,918	149	7	51		
*DJ6APA	12,879	111	26	55	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA2W		73,359	301	37	134	*SP9NWN	A	430,950	830	73	252		
*DC8QT	12,702	112	26	61	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA4NIC		72,996	425	32	126	*S05WAA		355,166	750	74	248		
*DL5ALW	12,616	110	22	61	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD1KSA		54,768	319	29	83	*S08JX		257,310	615	64	206		
*DL1DBR	12,556	117	26	60	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA8TCA		53,333	219	38	95	*SP9OYB		219,207	501	61	206		
*DL6RBH	12,510	133	21	69	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PH8AS		47,328	179	41	95	*SP2GJI		150,525	412	54	169		
*DL8BDL	12,150	119	19	56	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA1PT		40,866	294	36	111	*SP2OVQ		145,368	457	45	171		
*DJ1FZ	10,498	108	25	57	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PE1LTY		40,680	228	30	90	*SP9BGS		140,828	429	50	168		
*DL1DWL	10,428	133	22	57	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD5LO		38,160	290	22	84	*SP3HZG		115,101	416	44	159		
*DF6WE	8,833	103	21	62	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD7BZ		37,584	230	28	80	*SP6MLX		90,816	352	40	132		
*DM2BPG	7,848	135	10	52	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PG1R		37,504	217	30	98	*SP6CCI		82,432	304	50	111		
*DL1DTL	7,748	81	17	35	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PE2JMR		32,830	233	28	106	*S08LSC		80,729	263	46	133		
*DG5AAP	7,526	92	18	53	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA4N		30,988	164	37	90	*S06NES		68,480	311	39	121		
*DL7AU	7,248	70	17	31	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3AIN		29,892	197	29	77	*SP5LS		67,115	308	40	115		
*DG1RPU	7,139	87	17	42	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3ARM		27,846	201	29	90	*SP6JIR		64,428	370	32	124		
*DL7ULM	7,020	51	25	35	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PE2KM		25,415	211	23	92	*S03WW		62,700	265	39	111		
*DL1LOD	6,984	73	21	51	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD0HM		22,816	189	23	69	*SP4DDS		59,882	258	43	115		
*DF9FS	6,720	115	25	55	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PABRRO		21,528	153	25	79	*SP5PX		58,460	221	46	102		
*DJ5KX	6,435	90	15	50	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3JD		19,125	162	26	49	*SP6LUV		57,964	186	51	121		
*DL288BY	5,341	85	17	32	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA2CVD		17,230	191	15	75	*S09AJ		50,735	277	31	108		
*D01DUJ	5,160	71	17	26	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3EWG		14,378	157	21	70	*SP7JQA		49,021	215	35	114		
*DL6NWA	4,700	59	16	34	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PB7XYL		14,355	103	27	60	*SP7MOC		47,925	223	30	105		
*D01CDE	4,682	181	25	69	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PABFEI		13,688	104	25	93	*S02EAN		46,400	279	31	114		
*DL6UAM	4,136	66	13	31	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA9RD		12,420	96	24	45	*SP4AAZ		44,431	220	40	117		
*DF5KT	3,906	84	15	47	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3DBS		11,088	137	19	58	*S09DXT		41,692	258	30	92		
*D01KUB	3,840	63	12	36	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD7RB		10,452	89	16	36	*SP6JZP		36,400	251	29	111		
*DL9FB	3,752	59	17	39	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PG20		9,558	97	23	58	*SP4ICD		33,005	224	26	89		
*DL6UMF	3,450	71	16	34	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD3EM		8,712	97	17	49	*SP1MAB		30,375	234	34	91		
*DL5MO	2,898	45	14	28	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PA3HGF		8,288	101	20	54	*SQ1FYX		27,577	225	19	90		
*DC3HB	2,679	47	17	30	(OP: DL9RE)				85,269	400	28	101	*PD2LLS		8,037	75	20	37	*SP9FT		27,300	178	24	67		
*DJ2GMS	2,491	57	11																							

*SP9IBJ	*	7,938	102	12	42	YU1EL	14	1,012,044	2639	39	148	EA2RCF	*	33,936	286	21	63	*EA2MA	*	589	30	4	15	*UT5UKY	*	30,000	151	35	85						
*SP3YM	*	5,200	44	17	23	YU1B8	**	663,425	2218	38	137	EA3RR	*	491,849	1806	35	114	*EA4IS	3.7	18,864	200	11	61	*UR7HCX	*	26,355	217	25	80						
*S06LJA	*	2,201	69	7	24	YU5M	*	127,456	799	29	83	EA3TT	*	489,212	1974	32	125	*EA5RU	1.8	1,520	43	9	29	*US5ISV	*	24,480	154	29	91						
*SP3DRM	*	1,364	29	9	22	YU8NU	*	19,734	198	17	49	EA1VIC	*	8,576	92	11	37	*EA5RU	1.8	1,520	43	9	29	*UV5EEO	*	21,109	171	27	74						
*S06V	7	147,576	961	24	105	YT8A	7	1,030,032	3279	37	147	AM1C	7	54,560	362	23	87	Sweden				*UT40V	*	20,502	190	35	99								
																		SMSQ	A	1,076,325	1381	85	296	*UY8LM	*	18,117	99	29	70						
*SP1I	*	44,574	200	22	92	YT1VP	*	253,735	1131	32	123	EASKA	1.8	23,544	322	10	62	SM6U	*	949,878	1326	81	258	*US2YW	*	16,632	103	33	66						
*SP9EML	*	21,315	167	21	66	YTSZ	1.8	14,755	233	10	55	EA1EUI	*	13,680	220	13	59	SM7CQY	*	138,600	408	47	151	*UT2AB	*	13,230	110	31	74						
*SP9RQH	*	15,840	146	16	64	*YT1HA	A	963,553	1793	87	302	EASBY	*	216	22	6	18	SM6BGG	*	99,264	403	39	102	*URS5HT	*	13,167	132	26	73						
*SP3VT	*	9,936	196	10	44	*YU1QT	*	251,988	899	61	188	*EE7X	A	942,400	1569	87	313	S13A	*	81,480	303	41	127	*URS5WQ	*	13,158	150	20	66						
*SQ2GXO	*	5,940	83	11	43	*YU1CC	*	139,375	442	47	176	*EF1W	*	676,767	1314	67	192							*URS5WQ	*	13,158	150	20	66						
*SP9DTE	*	2,627	53	9	28	*YT3AA	*	51,600	231	37	92	*EC1AU	*	641,592	851	88	311	SM8A	*	56,250	397	30	95							*UT5UN	*	11,120	110	22	58
*SN9P	3.7	54,777	467	16	77	*YU1IV	*	20,025	139	26	63	*EE7R	*	344,190	682	72	226	SM73A	*	14,685	99	27	62							*UT5ML	*	11,008	100	16	48
						*YU7ONE	*	11,550	142	17	53							SM7CQY	*	138,600	408	47	151							*UT0EO	*	9,628	244	27	89
*SP4SDU	*	38,980	499	13	63	*YU2DRA	*	8,584	94	21	53	*EA1EVR	*	340,322	901	55	208	SMSQU	*	10,296	86	26	62							*UR7CT	*	8,288	81	20	54
*SP4SHD	*	35,345	371	13	66	*YT2ISM	21	9,650	138	12	58	*EA3AAW	*	266,724	634	57	182	SEST	*	4,620	44	23	32							*UI4JC	*	5,680	53	19	21
*SP9LZT	*	30,733	414	10	63	*YU1ZZ	14	331,100	1266	36	118	*EA3AKA	*	255,117	906	58	219	SM5CEU	21	46,953	171	28	83							*UT7HM	*	2,750	47	18	37
*SN3B	*	24,128	393	8	56	*YU1ADO	*	42,416	354	22	66	*EA3EGB	*	242,471	534	64	225	SM5KOV	*	25,112	173	22	64							*URS5ZL	28	158	28	2	8
*SQ2RGG	*	10,887	195	7	50	*YT2SMS	*	8,684	107	12	40	*EA3EGB	*	242,471	534	64	225	SM5AOC	14	23,352	126	23	61							*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10
*SP3CY	*	10,140	142	12	53	*YU1NSK	*	5,220	97	10	35	*EA70T	*	223,920	583	61	179	7SSC	*	10,856	92	19	40							*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10
*SQ9MEI	*	8,600	166	6	44	*YU1SZ	*	3,738	42	18	24	*EH1K	*	183,568	580	43	133							*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10						
*SP800B	*	3,589	103	6	31	*YT2T	7	178,750	921	32	111													*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10						
*SQ4INW	*	2,173	72	6	35	*YU7YZ	3.7	37,920	414	12	68													*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10						
*SP7KXX	*	1,953	65	5	26	*YU8A	*	19,593	283	8	55													*UT11A	*	117	22	3	10						
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W6RKC	21	828	28	6	6	XE1ZVO	36,515	138	39	70	9M2CCO	14	19,027	259	20	33	OG5B	A	1,814,532	1954	129	405	DL8RS	1.8	20,664	294	15	69
AB7E	A	888,874	962	95	272	XE2YBG	247	13	8	11	West Malaysia						OG6N	A	1,546,796	1598	117	412	DLARC		1,472	51	4	28
AA7A		619,450	727	89	236	<b>AFRICA</b>					<b>EUROPE</b>					<b>Finland</b>					<b>Greece</b>							
K7UA		479,550	653	74	204	<b>African Italy</b>					<b>Austria</b>					<b>(OP: OHSBM)</b>					<b>SV2GJV</b>							
N7XG		443,486	588	86	225	IG9S	14	366,592	1053	28	100	<b>Austria</b>					<b>(OP: OG7X)</b>					<b>Guernsey</b>						
WU9B/G		413,412	553	82	200	IG9R	7	475,814	1200	32	114	<b>Austria</b>					<b>(OP: OHSBM)</b>					<b>MUBFAL</b>						
W7YED		317,948	630	63	139	<b>Canary Islands</b>					<b>Balearic Islands</b>					<b>France</b>					<b>Hungary</b>							
K17M		312,373	662	90	149	EC8AFM	A	168,683	333	60	149	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HABHW</b>						
K7XR		305,226	414	71	208	EAB8ZH		34,551	145	33	66	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HASPT</b>						
K7ABV		262,639	461	68	159	EAB8EASV		31,556	141	35	63	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HASPT</b>						
W7MD		223,098	432	52	154	EC8BQM		23,023	135	28	49	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HASPT</b>						
K8BN/7		155,117	320	54	127	EC8ADW	K7D	123,403	387	28	91	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HASPT</b>						
K7EG		123,880	302	46	117	<b>South Africa</b>					<b>Belarus</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>HG3DX</b>							
K57T		109,716	259	55	109	ZSSZZ	A	50,963	169	42	71	<b>(OP: AASUK)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: HAZMY)</b>						
KR7RK		100,455	214	51	130	<b>ASIA</b>					<b>Belgium</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>HABLN</b>							
K7DLS		96,800	289	64	96	<b>Asiatic Russia</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>Iceland</b>							
W7CT		78,650	208	45	98	RG9A	A	5,578,665	3485	125	454	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>IC3DC</b>						
N7RK		78,052	186	56	102	RO90		2,801,400	2474	109	374	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>Ireland</b>						
K07C		48,895	207	44	83	RU9AC		1,964,626	2088	85	297	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>EIGS</b>						
N7MB		45,021	137	41	88	UA9CDC		1,625,344	1403	96	352	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
K17G		36,110	156	40	75	RT9S		1,377,152	1228	95	329	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
W7SW		34,056	132	33	55	RW9DW		557,362	1025	49	172	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
W7F		31,297	148	46	73	UA9BS		464,736	655	61	221	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
W7WHY		31,108	142	36	65	RV9CM		357,762	691	47	159	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
W6ZU/7		27,270	123	30	60	RV9CC		237,006	590	38	124	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
N7CW		16,068	71	31	47	RU9CC		187,320	571	49	119	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
AK7S		11,970	74	29	34	UA9HR		182,672	377	53	143	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
KV7DX		11,152	62	26	42	RV9CX		120,496	377	33	103	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RW9UU		105,522	371	30	99	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RA9JBA		90,228	307	42	104	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RA9DZ		84,500	268	21	79	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RZ9UO		76,692	264	36	96	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RV9YK		36,890	120	36	83	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RK9KI		2,940	38	13	36	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RU9CI		3,780	78	11	19	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						UA9UR	28	660,825	1793	32	119	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RT9W	21	310,665	850	32	107	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RV9CP	14	12,556	112	10	33	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RK9UAC						<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RZ9SR	A	1,903,368	2010	110	316	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						UA9SJ		363,987	834	45	138	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						UA9AZ		239,200	460	66	164	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RA9SU		15,753	129	17	42	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						RABACM	21	34,410	222	14	48	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						UA9AGI	14	348,160	994	36	124	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BA7NQ	A	1,926,100	2172	109	383	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BA5DX		213,836	658	68	128	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG4CX		152,484	393	67	127	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG9TX		19,250	161	26	51	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BD5DEC		6,804	71	21	33	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG5HSV		5,824	79	24	32	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG5CSG		5,70	37	13	17	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG4DRS		1,132	14	11	11	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BD4AGK	14	7,560	135	18	27	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						BG4MIH		990	65	9	13	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Cyprus</b>					<b>Denmark</b>					<b>England</b>					<b>Germany</b>							
						5B4AHJ	A	287,595	631	46	119	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Georgia</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						4L2M	14	153,402	522	27	84	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Hong Kong</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						VR2YYW	14	184,212	757	30	99	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VR2DS	1.8	210	9	6	9	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Japan</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						JQ18VI	A	1,386,606	1617	120	257	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JA1XRH		152,073	343	69	114	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JR1NHD		109,682	237	55	118	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JS1KQD		54,540	164	47	88	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JA1XUY		33,372	148	40	63	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JN1QDH		96	4	1	4	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						7N2UOC	28	2,576	41	11	17	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JA1KVT	21	111,982	382	32	86	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JQ1WIZ		68	2	1	2	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JA18PA	14	404,691	1034	37	110	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JE1LFX		126,578	554	28	58	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						J1ALP	7	5,412	53	16	25	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						JM1NKT		5,282	68	16	22	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Alaska</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						AL9A	A	616,975	1508	66	119	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						NL7Z		112,420	321	60	94	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Canada</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						VE1MP	A	2,705,526	2480	93	333	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE1OP		726,055	1121	80	227	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE1RAR		70,119	204	44	103	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE1SKY	3.7	59,800	461	14	51	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE2FXL	A	23,668	101	30	67	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE3MGY	1.8	15,912	341	9	17	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE5MX	A	405,046	544	77	201	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE6LE	A	2,680	29	18	22	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						VE6TR	14	8,350	62	15	35	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						<b>Mexico</b>					<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>							
						CJ7FC	A	628,958	1358	74	152	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						XE2K	A	1,012,704	1648	86	188	<b>(OP: ON4BHQ)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>					<b>(OP: F6GLH)</b>						
						XE1KK		864,124	1069	100	249																	





# our readers say

## Tribute to K3TUP

The following was written to Tim Duffy, K3LR, about his tribute to John Kanzius, K3TUP, which was printed in the June issue's "Contesting" column.

Dear Tim,

I just got done reading the article you wrote in June's CQ magazine about K3TUP. I never had the pleasure of working John before he passed and never realized he had such a passion for contesting until reading your article. Thank you for taking the time to write it for those of us who never had a chance to know some of the great "corner stones" of amateur radio, such as John. His legacy and a part of him will live on, thanks to your bringing your memories to the rest of us through your editorial contribution.

Neil, AE1P

## Kudos for Dave

The following letters were sent to CQ columnist Dave Ingram, K4TWJ:

Hi Dave,

Just a quick mail to thank you for your articles in CQ magazine. I really enjoy

the topics you cover and the style of writing. The "Hamming from the Shadows" (series) has been an eye-opener! For far too long (in the UK, at least) aerials that haven't been modeled with EZNEC or analyzed with the latest MFJ gizmo are seemingly classed as substandard, with the suggestion of "have a go and see what you get," usually leaving me with the feeling of "why should I bother?" This is probably the case with quite a few hams and hopefully this article will see a lot of hams dusting off their rigs and making QSOs and enjoying radio with the limited resources available. It left me wishing I had a drainpipe and a gutter system like K8CQ. Well almost!

Anyway, keep on with the good work and pass my compliments on to all the other contributors. Tell them they are all great, but I only had time to mail one and you got the short straw! HI

Martyn, GW6ITJ

Dave,

As a fairly new reader of CQ but an old-time ham, I must tell you that I have loved your Keys 2009 columns. Although I've never used a cootie and

never even heard of it, it sure was interesting, and I'm tempted to build one. I did build a bug at one time, and I can still recall melting some fishing sinkers and pouring the molten lead into the aluminum base for weight. It worked just as well as my old Vibroflex Original, but was uglier. I sure wish I still had it. I now use a Vibro-Keyer and a homebrew electronic keyer using a Curtis chip.

Thank you for some fascinating columns, and I'm looking forward to your next ones.

Sumner Weisman, W1VIV

*K4TWJ responds:* Hello Sumner! Thanks for the kind words. The April and May Keys columns on sideswipers have really blown the doors in here. ... Seems everyone is interested in making sideswipers/cooties and Sumner, you, too, should give it a go. The big place everyone finds parts is Ace Hardware. I just keep reading in every e-mail: Ace, Ace, Ace. And remember the good part: You can always rewire the 'swiper to make a good single-lever paddle.

Let us know how you do on homebrewing your own.

—Dave, K4TWJ

## zero bias (from page 8)

9:00 PM departure out of La Guardia, but was told it was full and had a huge waiting list. He put himself on the list anyway and kept calling to see if anything had opened up. At 7:00 PM, he was told he had a seat. He rushed to the airport, only to find the flight had been delayed until 11:30, when it finally did take off. He touched down at DFW at about 3 o'clock Friday morning.

And then there was my trip. ... I was scheduled on a 7:30 AM flight out of Newark Airport in New Jersey on Thursday, due into DFW at about 10:15 AM. When I arrived just before 6 AM, I found that my flight had been cancelled due to mechanical problems, and I was re-booked on a 9 AM flight out of La Guardia, on the other side of New York City. The airline provided a van to take us over there, but the driver didn't know how to get there! Luckily, I knew the route (everyone else on the van was from Texas) and we made it without a problem. My flight took off right on time, but the pilot told us we'd arrive about 45 minutes late because he was being routed around the line of storms that ended up shutting down DFW. About an hour and a half into the flight, he told us we were being diverted to Chicago in order to give connecting passengers a chance to make new connections from O'Hare,

and that the rest of us would "take it from there." We spent three hours at a gate there (which I spent visiting with John Kalotai, N1OLO, and Ned Bassick, KA1CVV, from West Mountain Radio, who were on the same flight with me), and eventually arrived at DFW around 4:00 PM.

Since my chauffeur (Don) was already in Plano setting up our booth, John and Ned were nice enough to give me a ride, since they had plenty of room in their rental car because we were too late for them to pick up their stuff for the show from the UPS depot, where it was waiting for them! They had to go pick it up Friday morning before heading to the show to set up and be "open for business" when the doors opened at 9:00 AM.

So ... the next time you go to hamfest and you see folks there who traveled halfway across the country in order to be able to talk with you, please take a moment to think about the effort that has gone into getting them there—even without a mess on the scale of Dallas this June—and maybe take a minute to thank them for being there.

Therefore ... By the power vested in me by no one in particular, I hereby declare the month of August to be National Hamfest Vendor Appreciation Month. No applause, please. Just spend money!

73, W2VU

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**Call Now For Low Pricing!**



### VX-3R 2M/440 HT

- Ultra-Compact Dual-Band HT w/ Wide band RX
- 1.5W RF out 2m/ 1w RF out 440
- WIRES Compatible
- 1000 Memory channels
- AA Battery compatible w/Optional FBA-37

**Call For Low Intro Price!**



### FT-60R

- 2m/440 HT
- 5W Wide-band receive
- CTCSS/DCS Built-in
- Emergency Auto ID

**Low Price!**



### VX-7R/VX-7R Black

- 50/2M/220/440 HT
- Wideband RX - 900 Memories
- 5W TX (300mw 220Mhz)
- Li-Ion Battery
- Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
- Built-in CTCSS/DCS
- Internet WIRES compatible

**Now available in Black!**

### VX-6R

- 2M/220/440HT
- wideband RX - 900 memories
- 5W 2/440, 1.5W 220 MHz TX
- Li-ION Battery - EAI system
- Fully submersible to 3 ft.
- CW trainer built-in

**NEW Low Price!**



### VX-8R

- 50/144/222/440 Handheld
- 5w (1W 222)
- Bluetooth optional
- waterproof/submersible 3 ft 30 mins
- GPS/APRS operation optional
- Li-ion Hi-capacity battery
- wide band Rx



### FT-857D

- Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
- DSP included • 32 color display
- 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

**Call for Low Price!**



### FT-7900R 2M/440 Mobile

- 50w 2m, 45w on 440mhz
- Weather Alert
- 1000+ Mems
- WIRES Capability
- Wideband Receiver (Call Blocked)

**Call Now For Your Low Price!**



### FT-2000/FT2000D HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner • built-in Power supply
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 200W (FT-2000D)
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ • 3 IF roofing filters

**Call For Low Pricing!**



### FT-450AT HF + 6M TCVR

- 100W HF/6M • Auto Tuner built-in • DSP Built-in
- 500 Memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift

**Call Now For Special Pricing**

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# Heavy-Duty FM Dual Band Mobile with Exceptionally Wide Receiver Coverage\*

\*108 to 520 MHz/ 700 to 999.99 MHz (Cellular blocked)

- Large Backlit LCD Display for easy operation
- Stable RF Power (50 Watts VHF / 45 Watts UHF)
- Reliable performance in harsh environments
- 5 ppm Frequency Stability (-4° F to +140° F)
- 1000 Memory Channels for serious users
- Yaesu Unique Power Saving Circuit Design Minimizes Vehicle Battery Drain



Actual Size

**NEW**

2 m/70 cm DUAL BAND FM TRANSCEIVER

**FT-7900R**

Size: 5.5" (W) x 1.6" (H) x 6.6" (D) / Weight: 2.2 lb

2 m/70 cm  
DUAL BAND

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



50 W 10 m/6 m/2 m/70 cm\* Quad Band FM Mobile

**FT-8900R**

\*70 cm 35 W

QUAD BAND  
DUAL RECEIVE

50 W 2 m/70 cm\* Dual Band FM Mobile

**FT-8800R**

\*70 cm 35 W

DUAL BAND  
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# Uncork your favorite DX.

## IC-7600 HF + 6M

- 100 Watt Output Power, Full Duty Cycle
- 3 Roofing Filters (15/6/3 kHz)
- USB Audio and Rig Control (Sound Card Interface Not Required)
- Two Independent DSP Units
- +30 dBm 3rd-order Intercept Point
- Selectable, "Build Your Own" IF Filter Shapes
- 5.8-inch LED Color Display with Dualwatch
- Built-in High-Speed Automatic Antenna Tuner



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