

Amateur Radio

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COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

JANUARY 2010



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CQ 50065 XXXX
 JACK SPEER
 BUCKMASTER PUB
 6196 JEFFERSON HWY
 MINERAL VA 23127-3425
 *****AUTO**5-DIGIT 23117
 CQRA
 P150
 035535

On the Cover: Greg Hanson, K18AF, of Marquette, Michigan, takes advantage of ideal antenna weather to make some adjustments. Details on p. 90.

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

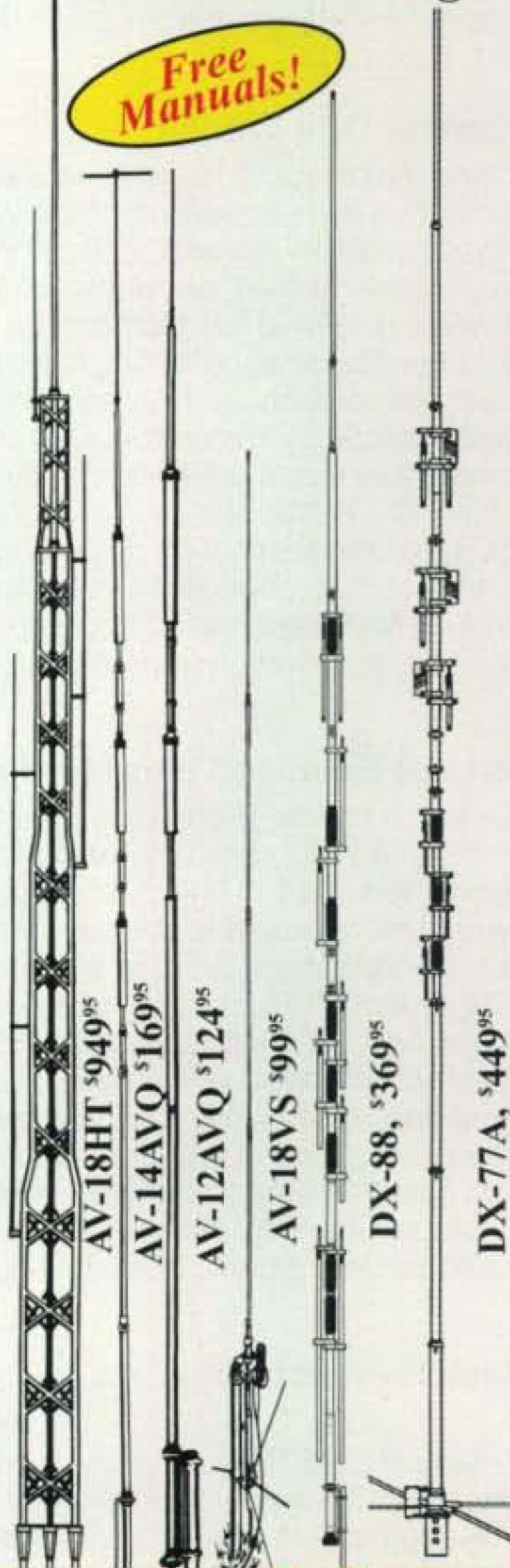
AV-18VS, \$99.95. (10,12,15,17,20,30,40,80 Meters). 18 ft., 4 lbs. High quality construction and low cost make the AV-18VS an exceptional value. Easily tuned to any band by adjusting feed point at the base loading coil. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

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Model #	Price	Bands	Max Power	Height	Weight	Wind Surv.	Rec. Mast
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AV-14AVQ	\$169.95	10,15,20,40	1500 W PEP	18 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-12AVQ	\$124.95	10,15,20 M	1500 W PEP	13 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-18VS	\$99.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	18 feet	4 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
DX-88	\$369.95	10 - 40 M	1500 W PEP	25 feet	18 pounds	75 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"
DX-77A	\$449.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	29 feet	25 pounds	60 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"

Hy-Gain 160-6 Meters Self-Supporting Vertical

Full 1500 Watts, 43 feet, includes base mount

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AA2EJ Wins Nobel Prize

The next time you pick up your digital camera, or snap a photo on your cell phone, take a moment to thank George Smith, AA2EJ. Back in 1969, he and fellow Bell Labs researcher Willard Boyle invented the charge-coupled device, or CCD, which was the first successful digital imaging device. Their invention led to development of digital photography and a host of other digital imaging technologies, and has now netted them a one-half share of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics. The rest of the prize went to Charles Kao of Hong Kong for figuring out how to transmit light over great distances through ultra-pure digital fibers. Today's fiber-optic networks are at the heart of the internet and let you send those digital photos to friends across the globe in seconds.

ARISS Celebrates Milestone in Space Station-School Contacts

When International Space Station Commander Frank DeWinne, ON1DWN, talked with students at the Copernic Science Center in Warsaw, Poland on October 27, it marked the 500th school contact made by astronauts in the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. According to the AMSAT News Service, contacts have been made with schools around the world since ARISS began in 2000.

Making contacts with the space station should be getting easier with the planned installation in November of several new ham antennas on the ISS Columbus module. The antennas—for 2 meters, 70 centimeters, 1296 MHz, and 2.4 GHz—were part of a shipment of supplies and equipment carried to the ISS by the shuttle Atlantis in mid-November. They were scheduled to be installed during a spacewalk.

Gray Hair in Space

AMSAT celebrated the 35th anniversary of the launch of the amazing OSCAR-7 satellite on November 15. According to the AMSAT News Service, AO-7 was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California in 1974. In 1981, power problems caused the satellite to go silent. However, in 2002 the satellite suddenly returned to the air and has been in use ever since. AMSAT officials speculated that a short-circuit in the batteries had somehow "unshorted," allowing the satellite to operate whenever its solar panels were illuminated.

Another nearly-ancient ham satellite, LUSAT-OSCAR 19, went silent in October. The AMSAT News Service reports that the shutdown in telemetry transmissions was preceded by an unexpected change in the bird's transmit frequency. Controllers hope to get it up and running again in time for its 20th anniversary on January 23.

Federal Grant Money to Help Build D-STAR Network in Georgia

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency has landed a \$165,000 federal grant to fund the construction of a statewide amateur D-STAR network. "Newsline" reports that the system will use repeaters set up at nine public-television transmitter sites around the state, providing coverage across Georgia. The state's Amateur Radio Emergency Service organization will coordinate construction and use of the network, which will be available for everyday amateur use except during emergencies. According to "Newsline," this is the second-largest government grant ever secured for building an amateur radio emergency network.

Teams Chosen for WRTC 2010

Teams have been selected for this year's sixth running of the World Radio Teamsport Championship (WRTC), considered the ultimate challenge for the

world's top testers. This year's event will be held in Russia in July, in conjunction with the IARU HF World Championships. There will be 50 two-person teams, representing all continents, including 11 from North America. Two CQ contest directors—WPX Director Randy Thompson, K5ZD, and 160 Director Andy Blank, N2NT—will be among the North American competitors (they each will be on different teams). The competition will be held "Field-Day style" in a large, flat area about 35 kilometers south of Moscow.

FCC Issues First Disaster Drill Waiver

A week after announcing that it would issue case-by-case waivers to government agencies allowing employees who are hams to participate in disaster drills, the FCC granted the first such waiver to the Commonwealth of Kentucky for a statewide drill held on October 28. According to the *ARRL Letter*, the League's Regulatory Information Manager, Dan Henderson, N1ND, said the request was a "textbook example" of how the waiver process should work, noting that it met every one of the guidelines set down in the FCC Public Notice.

At press time, the FCC had taken no action regarding a petition filed by three amateurs to change the rules to permit employees of emergency-response agencies to participate in emergency drills without requiring a case-by-case waiver.

New Tech Questions to be Released This Month

A new set of exam questions for the Technician Class license will be used starting this coming July, and the new question pool is being released to the public this month. The questions were first released to the nation's 14 Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) in December. According to the Question Pool Committee of the National Conference of VECs, which develops the questions, the new Technician pool will consist of approximately 400 questions, from which 35 will be selected for each license exam. For the first time since the NCVEC took over test question preparation, the new Technician exam will include graphics and diagrams. The new pool will be used for four years, from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2014.

Harrison Will Not Seek Re-election as ARRL President

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has announced he will not seek election to a third two-year term, according to the *ARRL Letter*. No reason for the decision was given. Harrison was elected to the League's top volunteer position in 2006, after serving six years as First Vice President. He previously had been an unnumbered Vice President, Delta Division Director, and Arkansas Section Manager. A successor will be chosen at the ARRL's January Board of Directors meeting.

Old Logs Sought for Sociological Study

Researchers in Wisconsin and Ohio are seeking to mine information from old ham radio logs to help trace the development of social networks and document changes in attitudes about work and leisure time. According to "Newsline," researchers at the University of Wisconsin and at Miami University of Ohio are looking for ham station logs from 1913 to 1927. The researchers will be comparing early licensing records with detailed information contained in station logs. If you have a log from this era and are willing to share it, contact Steve Johnston, WD8DAS at <Johnston@wpr.org>.

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.

HC-1.5KAT

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HL-2.5KFX Auto Band Set and QSK

Solid-state HF 1.5kW Linear Amplifier



Photo : From left HC-1.5KAT (HF 1.5kW Tuner with Auto Band Set Feature), HL-2.5KFX (HF 1.5kW MOSFET Linear) and IC-7700 Transceiver



For DXpeditioners

HL-1.1KFX

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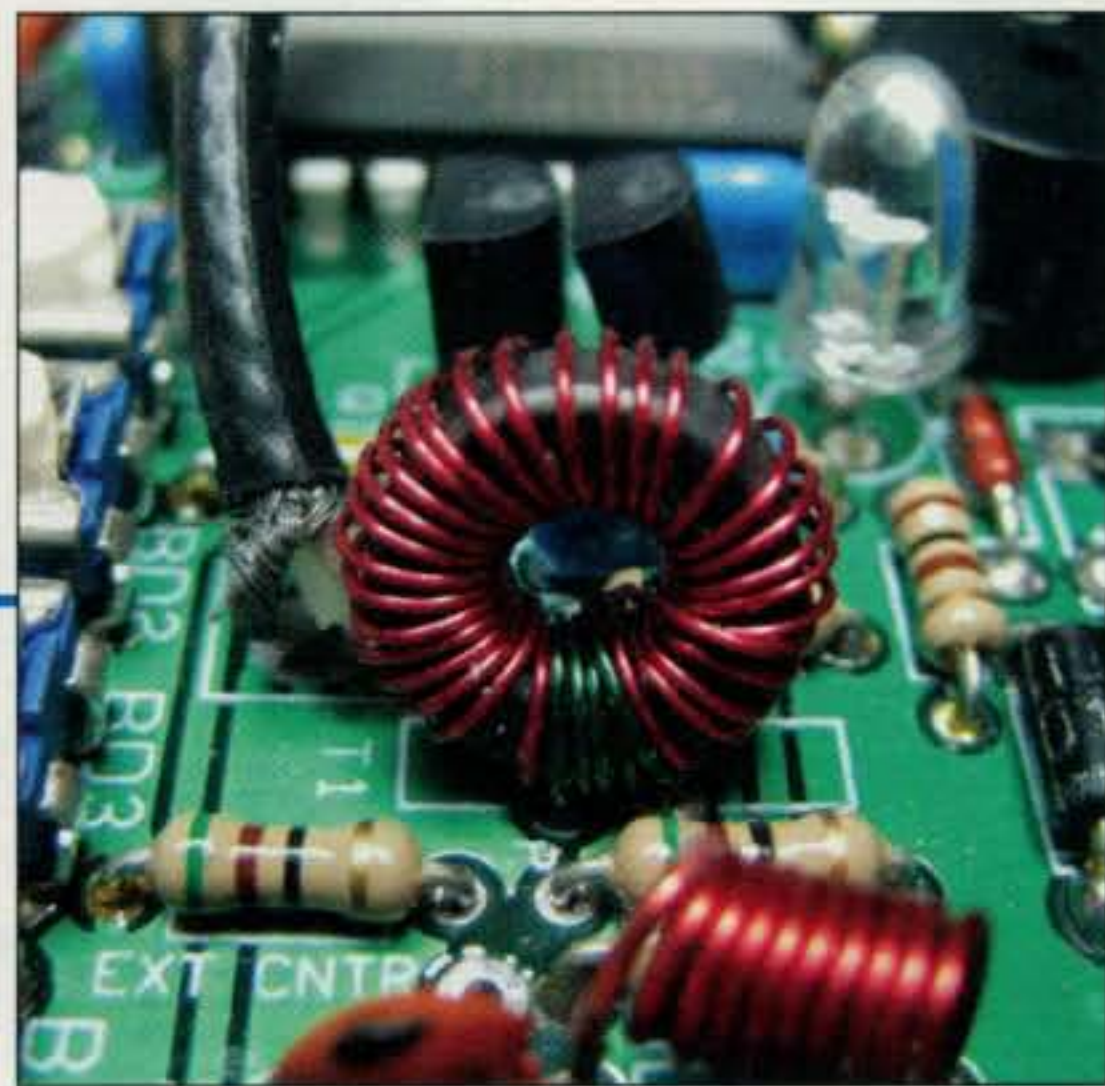
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Thoughts on Turning 65

For several years now, I have had a regular correspondence going with one of our long-time readers in the UK, Ray Howes, G4OWY. Ray has a different perspective on many things than I do, and I enjoy reading his views. Ray's most recent letter was of particular interest, especially timed as it was in conjunction with CQ's 65th anniversary, which we celebrate this month.

Ray was responding to my November editorial, "A Decade in the Rear-View Mirror." He said he'd been looking in his own rear-view mirror recently, back about two decades, though, and said, "I didn't like much of what I saw." He commented that underneath the "bonnet" of today's rigs, "a radical transformation has covertly taken place! The computer chip is now in the ascendant. Under the thin metal skins of our beloved rigs lies an impostor, an impostor so deceiving it will and has changed our hobby forever. 'Flex radios' are but the beginning of that inexorable change."

The More Things Change...

I replied to Ray that I agreed with his observations, but not his conclusions. I don't see the ascendancy of the computer chip in our rigs as bad. I see it as essential for the long-term health of our hobby. As I dug back through old issues of CQ in putting together our 65th anniversary timeline (see first installment on page 70), it occurred to me that with a few exceptions, ham radio technology of 2010 is totally different from 1945. Sixty-five years ago, tubes were all we knew about—the transistor wouldn't be invented until 1948—"phone" meant AM (SSB also wasn't introduced until '48), and a large number of hams could remember back to when CW was not a synonym for Morse code, but a designator to set apart code sent using that new-fangled continuous-amplitude wave from the "traditional" spark gap. Of course, many hams in the '20s and '30s fought the advent of CW, fearing that it would ruin "real" ham radio.

But returning to 1945, there were no ham satellites (no other satellites, either), no moonbounce, no computers, no internet, no repeaters, no palm-sized handhelds, no transceivers, no Echolink or IRLP, no D-STAR, no Packet Cluster, no packet, no CW Skimmer, no eQSL or LoTW, and no 15-meter band (let alone 60, 30, 17, or 12). About the only things a ham from 1945 might recognize in a ham shack of 2010 would be some antennas (but not all) and either a hand-key or a "bug" (iambic keyers were still off in the future). So yes, the technology has changed radically in the past 65 years, and the ascendancy of the computer chip is heralding another round of radical changes that will likely make ham radio in 2075 as unrecognizable to a ham of 2010 as today's shack would be to a ham from 1945.

(Fun project: We'd like to hear your ideas—based on what's happening on the leading edge of communications technology today—on what we could expect our stations and our means of ham radio communications to look like 65 years from now. E-mail them to me, and we'll share the most interesting and innovative ideas we receive.)

... The More They Stay the Same

What has *not* changed in the past 65 years, though, is at least as important as what has—the people part of

ham radio and what we do with all of our technology. We still use our radios to try to talk to other hams and make new friends all over the world; we still enjoy chasing QSLs and certificates attesting to on-air accomplishments, and competing with each other and ourselves in on-air contests; we still love to tinker and come up with innovative uses for the technology that surrounds us (even if more of today's tinkering is in the realm of software than hardware); and we still are able to provide backup communications for our communities "when all else fails."

What also has not changed in the past 65 years is the basic mission of this magazine. As we approached this anniversary, I contacted "Mr. Magazine," Dr. Samir Husni at the University of Mississippi, who is widely regarded as the country's leading expert on the magazine industry, to ask just how common or uncommon it is for a magazine to reach its 65th anniversary. Dr. Husni responded:

The average life span for a new magazine being published today is one and half years, so needless to say, you have exceeded the average life span by many, many milestones. Also, in my last research I found that only 12% of the magazines that were born 20 years ago are still being published ... so how many magazines from the 7,000+ magazines out there can claim the ripe age of 65? A good guesstimate will be around 1 to 2%.

Congratulations on your new milestone and on staying true to your DNA. Age does not kill magazines, messing with their DNA does.

Our DNA, which dates back to *Pacific Radio News* in 1917, is wrapped up in the mission statement that CQ's founding editor, John Potts, set forth in our first issue, in January 1945:

This, then, is the *raison d'etre* for CQ—a magazine for the radio amateur, with a particular invitation to the newcomer. It should not, however, be inferred that we shall confine ourselves to the ABC's of ham radio. We visualize CQ as a magazine that will stick with the ham long after the parts of his first rig are dust-laden in the junk-box, and as a monthly refresher course for the old timer. While placing some emphasis on the elementary, we are still under obligation to carry through with articles on modern techniques and apparatus. Similarly, we shall follow up tradition (with which every ham must be familiar) with all the vital news of amateur radio today and tomorrow.

There is no need to update or otherwise tinker with this basic mission statement. It is a formula that has worked well for the past 65 years, and hopefully will continue to work well for at least the next 65. It is our DNA, and we won't be messing with it.

Additional Milestones

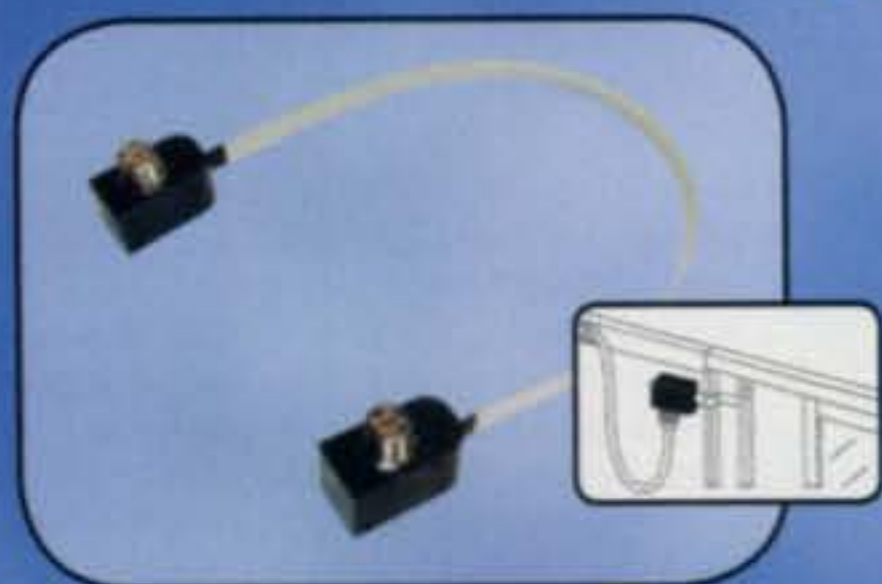
This year marks a couple of personal milestones as well. For me, 2010 is my 40th year in ham radio (I was first licensed in October 1970). For our publisher, Dick Ross, K2MGA, this year marks his 50th year in amateur radio publishing, a career spent entirely with the magazine you are holding in your hands right now.

Happy New Year to all, and may 2010 be a much better year than 2009 has been for so many of us. May the economy and the sunspot cycle recover together and reach new heights as we finish the first decade of the 21st century.

73, W2VU

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

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 Approx 2:1 band-width:
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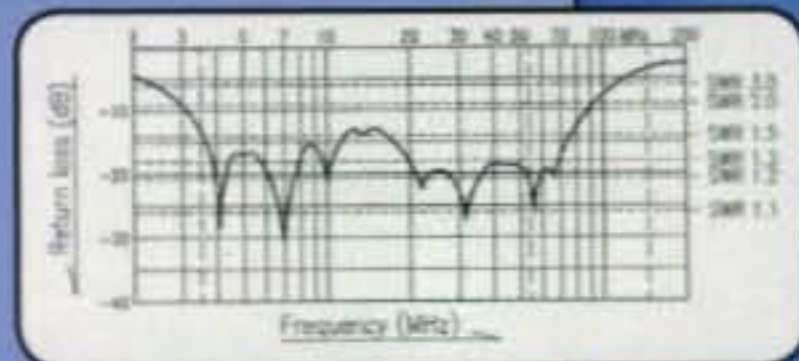
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Ham Radio University 2010 – The 11th annual Ham Radio University, held in conjunction with the ARRL New York City/ Long Island Section Convention will be held January 10 at Briarcliffe College, Bethpage, LI, NY. The theme this year is Digital Communications and more than 15 seminars are scheduled for the day on various aspects of ham radio, plus tables will be set up with information on different organizations and clubs. special event station W2V will be operational on HF. There will also be a VE session. Talk-in on W2VL 146.850–600, 136.5 PL. For more details, go to <www.HamRadioUniversity.org>.

Horkheimer Prize 2010 – Rudolf Horkheimer was one of the first radio amateurs in Germany. A prize bearing his name is awarded by the DARC for merits of amateur radio and its further development contributing to amateur radio in a selfless manner. The prize can be awarded to one or more persons or institutions and is not restricted to members of the DARC. Any member of an amateur radio society in the IARU is entitled to apply or be proposed for the award. Self-proposals are permitted. The prize consists of an etched-glass sheet and a monetary prize for non-personal use. Proposals must be submitted by March 31, 2010 to DARC, Lindenallee 4, 34225 Baunatal, Germany, or by e-mail to <darcdarc.de>. Include the name and address of the proposed applicant, a short written piece of why the person or organization should receive the award, and possible further information. The prize(s) will be awarded at the Ham Radio 2010 fair in Friedrichshafen.

• **These special event stations are scheduled for Jan.:**

K2USA, from "Farewell to Fort Monmouth," Fort Monmouth MARS station AA2USA, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; Garden State ARA; January 29–31 from 0001–2359Z on 3.860, 7.260, 14.260, plus NJ linked repeater system (W2NJR/R), CW +50, PSK31 +70. QSL information: <www.gardenstateara.org>.

K3Y, from the Straight Key Century Club's celebration of four years of steady growth to nearly 6000 members on CW; operation in all call areas starting at 0000Z January 1 to 2359 January 31 on 1.820, 3.550, 7.055, 10.120, 14.050, 18.080, 21.050, 24.910, 28.050, and 50.090 (±10 kHz). For QSL send QSL and name and address to Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ, 618 Seminole Dr., Erie, PA 16505 (www.skccgroup.com).

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

Jan. 9, **Midwinter Ham Radio, Computer & Electronics Swapfest**, Waukesha Co. Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, Wisconsin; West Allis RAC. Advance table reservation (\$19) deadline December 30, 2009. Send advance registration form and #10 SASE to WARAC Swapfest, Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Information call Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414-425-3649, <www.warac.org>. (Exams 9–11:15 AM, AMF Waukesha Lanes)

Jan. 17, **Hazel Park ARC 44th Annual Hamfest**, Hazel Park High School, Hazel Park, Michigan. To reserve previous year's location, table reservations (\$15) must be made by January 4 (HPARC Inc. Swap, P.O. Box 368, Hazel Park, MI 48030). Contact: WD8S e-mail <WD8S@comcast.net>, phone 248-399-7970, <www.hparc.org>. (Talk-in 146.640 [100 Hz PL])

Jan. 23, **Capital City Hamfest**, Memorial United Church of Christ, Madison, Wisconsin. Contact Steve Johnston, WD8DAS, e-mail <wd8das@arrl.net>; <http://www.wd8das.net/hamfest>.

Jan. 31, **Tusco ARC Hamfest**, 965 North Wooster Ave., Strasburg, Ohio. To reserve tables (\$10 plus admission) send SASE and payment to arrive by January 15 to KD8HDJ. Contact Kyle Quillen, KD8HDJ, 518 Fair Ave. NNW, New Philadelphia, OH 44663; phone 888-447-2403, e-mail <hamfest@tuscoarc.org>.

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A publication of



CQ Communications, Inc.
25 Newbridge Road
Hicksville, NY 11801 USA.

CQ Amateur Radio (ISSN 0007-893X) Volume 66, No. 1. Published monthly by CQ Communications, Inc., 25 Newbridge Road., Hicksville, NY 11801, Telephone 516-681-2922. E-mail: cq@cq-amateur-radio.com. Fax 516-681-2926. Web site: www.cq-amateur-radio.com. Periodicals Postage Paid at Hicksville, NY 11801 and at additional mailing offices. Subscription prices (all in U.S. dollars): Domestic-one year \$36.95, two years \$66.95, three years \$96.95; Canada/Mexico-one year \$49.95, two years \$92.95, three years \$135.95; Foreign Air Post-one year \$61.95, two years \$116.95, three years \$171.95. U.S. Government Agencies: Subscriptions to CQ are available to agencies of the United States government including military services, only on a cash with order basis. Requests for quotations, bids, contracts, etc. will be refused and will not be returned or processed. Entire contents copyrighted 2010 by CQ Communications, Inc. CQ does not assume responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts. Allow six weeks for change of address.

Printed in the U.S.A.
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with DCU-1

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

HAM-V

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AR-40
\$349⁹⁵



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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.
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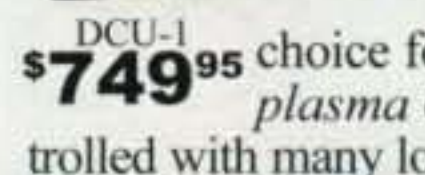
HDR-300A
\$1499⁹⁵



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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Marconi's First Great Miracle

A Visit to The Lizard During the Centenary of Marconi's Nobel Prize

BY C. STEWART GILLMOR,* W1FK

One-hundred years ago last month, Guglielmo Marconi shared the Nobel Prize in Physics with Karl Ferdinand Braun for their discoveries and inventions in the field of radio (see the sidebar on Braun). Most people would find familiar the events sometimes called "Marconi's Second Great Miracle," the transatlantic (wireless) radio experiments conducted during 1901–1902 between Poldhu Cove, Cornwall, England and St. John's, Newfoundland, and with the ship *Philadelphia*. However, few know that "Marconi's First Great Miracle" took place a year earlier, in January 1901, between St. Catherine's Point, Isle of Wight, and a wireless station at The Lizard, Housel Bay, Cornwall. The Poldhu–Newfoundland, and especially the Poldhu–*Philadelphia* tests confirmed the commercial future not only of long-distance ship-to-shore, but continent-to-continent radio messaging. However, the *empirical* reality of long-distance, over-the-horizon radio communication was first shown at The Lizard on January 23, 1901, and this story is worth retelling here.

My wife and I recently had a pleasant vacation in Cornwall and drove a rental car to several charming coastal Cornish towns and viewpoints (Newquay, St. Ives, Land's End, the Mousehole, Mount St. Michael, Mullion Cove, and The Lizard). Such driving is *not* for the faint of heart, since the roads are particularly narrow and are often six to ten



Photo A— The author, W1FK, and Jim Farley, G4WSH, outside Jim's Regent Cafe at The Lizard, Cornwall. (Photos by Rogene Gillmor)

feet below the surrounding landscape. We hoped to visit the Poldhu Cove Marconi site and other spots in that immediate area, including The Lizard (locals have always called it *The Lizard*). At The Lizard village, as we parked on the green, I saw a familiar tribander antenna above the Regent Cafe and immediately told my XYL, "There's a ham around here and he'll know where to find the Marconi wireless station." Indeed, we went in for a nice lunch and met chef-owner Jim Farley, G4WSH (photo A), who told us how to find Poldhu Cove and the much nearer station at The Lizard.

When we finally found The Lizard station, it was locked. A sign indicated that

the British National Trust administered the site, but visitor hours were over for the day. Well, we were disappointed but told our bed-and-breakfast hostess, Mrs. Colin Hendy, that the station looked interesting. She told us that the land around the station formerly had been her father-in-law's farm! In turn, his grandfather, Mr. T. S. Hendy, had worked for The Lizard station as driver and constructor and had kept a diary for the years 1902–1916 detailing all events in the village.

At the Regent Café, I had purchased a very interesting book, *Marconi at The Lizard*,¹ written by Mr. Courtney Rowe. Mrs. Hendy telephoned Mr. Rowe and he came over and gave us a special tour

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e-mail: <sgillmor@wesleyan.edu>



Photo B— Steep cliffs and rocks near The Lizard station.

of The Lizard station. What follows is why The Lizard station was constructed and how it accomplished what came to be called “Marconi’s First Great Miracle.”²

Marconi, His Collaborators and His Competitors

Guglielmo Marconi (1874–1937) was born in Bologna, Italy. His Irish mother, Anne Guinness, was heiress to the Jameson Irish Whiskey fortune, and this connection would prove very valuable to Marconi’s advancement in the new technique of radio. As a young man, Marconi found success in England with field tests before British signal and naval authorities. Marconi was astute and hired as consultants several celebrated telegraph and wireless experts—engineers and university professors—including William Henry Preece, John Ambrose Fleming, A. A. Campbell Swinton, and J. Erskine Murray. While Marconi was the father of radio *as an industry*, a number of men invented parts of the basic technology, and Marconi employed the services of some of those other pioneers. He also sought the approval of the world’s most powerful physical scientist and industry consultant, William Thompson, Lord Kelvin.

Marconi also knew that national monopolies in the post office systems in European countries prevented him from gaining inland radio message contracts, since inland telegraph networks were

the sole property of, e.g., the British Post Office department. Thus, he sought to develop ship-to-shore and ship-to-ship agreements. Both were extremely necessary to the improved safety and economies of maritime trade. Merchant companies wished to inform ship captains of port access, and attain knowledge of ship cargoes, and ship captains needed to know coast conditions in fog or bad weather to avoid shipwreck.

In the earliest days of radio, numerous European companies were established

to sell radio equipment to navies and to merchant shipping, including companies of Alexander Stepanovich Popov (Russia); Eugene Ducretet and Edouard Branly (France); Professor Adolf K. H. Slaby and his assistant Count Georg von Arco, and Professor Ferdinand Braun (Germany). In 1897 Marconi began to build a planned series of 27 coastal radio stations in Britain and Ireland for ship-to-shore communication, eight of which were completed by 1901. The first of these stations was on the Isle of Wight;



Photo C— Mr. Courtney Rowe indicating The Lizard wireless equipment in its restored condition.

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Photo D— Exterior view of the restored wireless buildings at The Lizard.

another was at The Lizard, at Housel Bay in southeast Cornwall, the southernmost point of England.

The Lizard

The Lizard is at a dangerous and busy spot on the southern English coast. Numerous shipping lanes pass by, there are a considerable number of rocky islets and reefs off the shore, and often there is fog. First attempts to alert ships of the dangers off Housel Bay were signal fires at a makeshift light-

house for several years beginning in 1619. Permanent lighthouse signals began in 1752. To these were added a foghorn system in 1878 and a bell in 1910. Lloyd's company took over a flag and light signaling station at The Lizard in 1882 and connected this to London through Falmouth by an inland post office telegraph line. At this site also was an oceanic telegraph cable linking Cornwall to Bilbao, Spain. Marconi liked to do his coastal radio experiments near comfortable hotels, and such a hotel was only a mile or so from The Lizard and the Lloyd's Signal Station. Thus, in 1900 Marconi commissioned the construction of a small two-building wire-

less station right at the end of The Lizard on the edge of a 200-foot cliff overlooking the ocean (photo B).

He built the station there for three purposes:

1. to use for ship-to-shore traffic, in connection with the inland telegraph station next door at Lloyd's;

2. to serve as a test station for the much larger station he would build six miles away at Poldhu Cove. This was to investigate the improvements in tuning (syntony) which would allow multiple radio stations to transmit simultaneously with reduced interference; and

3. to establish the possibility of true over-the-horizon radio propagation.³

Classical physics predicted that radio transmissions could be received only over line-of-sight distances and the maximum distances achieved by 1900 were about 30 to 50 miles. This allowed, for example, cross-Channel links between England and France but not much more. Marconi's station on the Isle of Wight received some publicity for messages sent from there to British royalty at sea. However, the distance from Isle of Wight to The Lizard was 186 miles, six times the maximum distance that was predicted by classical optical physics for antennas at ground level. That prediction for maximum range of line-of-sight propagation over a spherical Earth uses the following formula:

$$d^2 = 67.2 \cdot h$$

where "d" is the distance of separation

Karl Braun: The Man Who Shared Marconi's Nobel Prize

Karl Ferdinand Braun (1850–1918) was born in Fulda, Germany and died in the United States. He achieved fame as a Professor of Physics at several German universities, including Marburg, Strasbourg, Karlsruhe, and Tübingen. Braun's research covered a wide range of physics, including elasticity, thermodynamics, magnetic materials, and electromagnetism. He invented the crystal diode, an electrometer, and the cathode-ray oscillograph, or Braun tube. His radio experiments included transmission of signals through water, improved coupling designs to improve damped-wave circuits, and directed beam antennas. Braun's improvement to Marconi's system was the magnetic coupling of transmitter to antenna, and his 1899 patent for this became used industry-wide. Slaby and von Arco's German General Electric Company joined Braun, and Siemens and Halske in 1903 to form the Gesellschaft für Drahtlose Telegraphie (Telefunken) as a formidable rival to the Marconi companies.⁹



Photo E— The QSL card of permanent special event station GB2LD, located at Marconi's restored wireless station at The Lizard.

in kilometers, and "h" in antenna heights in meters.

Given the distance between the Isle of Wight and The Lizard, antenna masts would have to be 4300 feet high for successful transmission-reception if the visual line-of-sight formula were to apply to radio. With the actual antennas used of 125–150 feet height, the maximum range predicted was about 47 miles.

Both Isle of Wight and The Lizard employed Marconi's newest equipment, with battery-powered spark transmitters and coherer receivers. "Jiggers," Marconi's patented tuning coils, were used both in the coherer and in the spark transmitter, which consisted of a 10-inch induction coil with an interrupter. The tuning utilized capacitors made from six Leyden jars and a transformer. The receiver used a coherer, which was a small glass vacuum tube containing two silver plugs separated by granules of nickel and silver. The coherer operated a relay which, in turn, actuated a Morse inker. In the Morse inker, paper tape is pulled through using a clockwork mechanism. When a signal is received, a battery-operated relay causes a pen to drop onto the tape, thus marking it with the Morse code.

The antennas were single wires, one each for transmitting and receiving, hung from masts 125–150 feet high. The antennas were matched using a "jigger" coil, with primary fixed windings and secondary windings on a slider.

The station was grounded via about ten 6-foot by 3-foot plates buried around the hut.⁴ (A re-creation of the original 1901 station at The Lizard is shown in photo C and a view of the restored exterior of the buildings in photo D).

A Demonstration Project

Marconi had had difficulty convincing his board of directors to spend much of the company's working capital on the Poldhu project, to build a super-power station far larger than any other built. The board also objected that such a huge transmitter would certainly swamp out all shipboard receiving sets from receiving any other signals.⁵ The Lizard would be the needed test station for the Poldhu design, featuring improved tuning. (The giant Poldhu station was already under construction at this time, despite the board's misgivings.) Thus, the Isle of Wight-Lizard tests were done in secret until the board could consider the full significance of the results.

On January 23, 1901, The Lizard received messages from Isle of Wight. The exact content of those messages is unknown today, but a landline telegram was sent at 6:24 PM on that date from The Lizard post office to Marconi personnel, stating: "COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL KEEP INFORMATION PRIVATE." Following consultation, the Marconi Company released the news publicly on February 11, 1901.⁶ The 186-mile radio link con-



Photo F—QSL card of GB2GM, the club station of the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club, based at the Marconi Centre there. Poldhu was the launching point for Guglielmo Marconi's first transatlantic transmissions.

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Photo G— Poldhu Amateur Radio Club (GB2GM) meeting at the Marconi Centre, Poldhu Cove.

vinced the Marconi board of directors, and indeed potential investors, of the true possibilities of long-distance radio.

The Nobel Prize Centennial

Guglielmo Marconi and Karl Ferdinand Braun shared the 1909 Nobel Prize in Physics “in recognition of their contributions to the development of wireless telegraphy.”⁷ This was a somewhat controversial prize, since several other radio pioneers and theorists were considered worthy. Thus, the award specifically mentioned “*development of wireless telegraphy.*” In his Nobel Lecture of December 11, 1909, Marconi highlighted the experiments between The Lizard and the Isle of Wight as proving that electric waves would be able to go great distances “such as those dividing America from Europe...”⁸

The Lizard Today

The Lizard station huts remain the oldest surviving purpose-built wireless buildings in the world. In 2000 the British National Trust restored the site and maintains it open to the public on many days of the year. The Lizard is a popular spot for ham activity, especially at VHF and UHF, since it is in a grid square almost unique in itself (Locator IN79) and is the southernmost point in

England. The hut also contains a small but modern ham station, GB2LD, for visiting hams (QSL card, photo E). The initials “LD” were the original radio call of “The Lizard” station.

Mr. Rowe informed my wife and me that the following night that the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club, GB2GM (QSL card, photo F), was holding its monthly meeting at the Marconi Centre museum (also a National Trust property) six miles along the coast at Poldhu Cove. We hiked along the cliffs at sunset the next day and saw the remaining foundations of the famous Poldhu station, where Marconi performed his “Second” Great Miracle, the transatlantic wireless connections in 1901–1902. We then met Keith Matthew, G0WYS, David Barlow, G3PLE, and numerous other enthusiastic hams at the Poldhu Club meeting (photo G). The date December 12, 1901, is usually given for the first successful transatlantic radio communications, but I give the dates in the range of 1901–1902. Radio physicists J. A. Ratcliffe and John S. Belrose (VE2CV) have reasonably questioned the December 1901 Poldhu–St. John’s Newfoundland results, but the tests from Poldhu to the ship *Philadelphia* in February 1902 were definitive.

Today, at The Lizard, remains one of the most significant spots in radio history. Why not plan a vacation to charm-

ing Cornwall, England and visit The Lizard and Poldhu Cove and have a chance to operate the stations GB2LD and GB2GM, the sites of Marconi’s Great Miracles? Interested hams may obtain details by writing to LD Wireless, c/o P.O. Box 50, Helston, Cornwall, TR12 7YQ, England.

Notes

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2. “Picture of Marconi” Speech, given in 1931, on 30th anniversary of The Lizard tests, as cited in Rowe, p. 35.
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7. *Nobel Lectures, Physics, 1901–1921*, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1967. Speech by H. Hildebrand, President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. (See also: <http://nobelprizes.org/nobel_prizes/physics>)
8. *ibid.*, Marconi Nobel Lecture, “Wireless Telegraph Communication,” December 11, 1909, p. 207.
9. Baker, *op cit.*; *Nobel Lectures*, *op cit.*; and Sharlin, Harold I., “Ferdinand Braun”, in *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*, Charles C. Gillispie, ed., Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1970, pp. 427–8.

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Results of the 2009 CQ WW WPX SSB Contest

BY RANDY THOMPSON,* K5ZD

How many sports can attract more than 30,000 players to a single event? One is the New York City Marathon, which draws more than 35,000 runners each October. On March 28–29, 2009 the 51st edition of the CQ WPX SSB Contest achieved worldwide participation of over 33,000 operators as measured by callsigns appearing in the received logs. Just as every runner has his or her own motivation to enter the marathon, so it is for amateur radio operators and the WPX contest. Each brings individual goals and interests to this global test of skills, station, propagation, and stamina.

Rain or shine, marathon runners all must deal with the conditions of the day. Some years the weather is perfect and the running seems effortless. In the case of a contest, propagation varies but the contest still goes on. With the solar conditions this year, it felt like the WPX was being run up hill and into the wind the whole way! Many areas of the world also had to deal with strong storms and rain static. Even with the difficulties, there were 27 new continental records established! The opportunity for success in the midst of these uncontrolled variables is what makes radio contesting such a challenge and keeps us coming back year after year.

The 2009 WPX SSB Contest set a new record for entries, with 4087 logs received. There were 1,819,311 total logged QSOs with calls from 209 DXCC entities. The USA was the easiest country to work, with 464,627 QSOs logged. Other top countries were Germany (117,061), European Russia (86,606), Italy (63,177), and Japan (59,748).

The WPX contest is a celebration of ham radio callsign diversity. Every year there are new prefixes created either through the licensing of new hams or through contesters' efforts to obtain special calls. Examples of extraordinary prefixes that could be found include 9A800VZ, 3Z50KPN, 4B2S, 4H9RG, 4V4JR, 5D5A, 5Q1A, HF80BEM, L20E, L73DX, LZ131GO, SN90SW, V55X, VP59V, YR80HCS, ZT2V, and many others. The prefix champion this time was the EF8R multi-single team with 1429, followed closely by CT9M with 1413. Top single-op prefix chaser was CN2R with 1219. There were 75 entries that broke the 1000-prefix barrier!

Single-Operator All-Band High Power

Taking a break from his pursuit of single-band records, Jim, W7EJ, piloted CN2R to the head of the pack in the Single-Operator All-Band (SOAB) High Power category. Tom, W2SC, came up short in his attempt to capture a fourth consecutive title from 8P5A. Just 150k points behind was Bill, KH7XS, who took advantage of some great conditions to Europe on 40 meters in setting a new Oceania record. Jack, RW3QC, operating from 5B4All in Cyprus, finished fourth on his way to a new Asia record for the category. The top four scores came from four different continents! All had extremely

*e-mail: <k5zd@cqwpx.com>



The enthusiastic operating team at YE0X gives out a rare multiplier every year. Left to right YB0AZ, YB0ECT, YB0GOF, YC0MXV, YB0YAD, YC0KVM, YC0RAN, YB0DPO, YB0KVN, YB0BSR, and YB0JS.

accurate logs, showing that high rates can be achieved without errors.

Once again there was an incredibly close race for top score in Canada with Ron, VE3AT, at VC3A outscoring John, VE3EJ, by less than one half of one percent (0.5%)! Accuracy made the difference, as Ron had a few less errors in his log and moved ahead during the log checking process.

The top USA score came from Kamal, N3KS, operating with the call WY3P. After a couple of Assisted category wins, this was Kamal's first SOAB victory. Second went to Ken, K4ZW, operating from the station of NR4M in Virginia. George, NR5M, took the wheel of his fantastic station in central Texas to finish a strong third. Ever present, Fred, K3ZO, talked his way into fourth. Kamal was the only one of the top USA single-ops to go over 1000 prefix multipliers.

The winner for Europe was Chris, MI0LLL, operating as GI5K. It was Chris' first attempt at the WPX contest in the SOAB category and he did quite well! Second went to the special call EO5M operated by Roman, UR0MC. Both of them had very large QSO totals on 20 meters. Lothar, DL3TD, placed third ahead of OH8L (Jari, OH8LQ, at the mic).

Single-Operator All-Band Low Power

John, KK9A, operating as P40A, once again removed any suspense from the top of the SOAB Low Power category. It was his sixth WPX SSB contest from Aruba and his sixth win! John sold his Aruba contest QTH days after this year's contest, but has made arrangements to continue operating there for a few more years. Second place went to CN2BC, operated by Hartwig, DL7BC. Not far behind in third place was Tomas, ZP5AZL, operating as ZP0R. Vitor, PY2NY, operated from his home station this time to take fourth.

The USA trophy returned to its customary place on the wall of Ed, N1UR, operating with the call NV1N. This was Ed's third win in four years! Another Ed, NX7TT, visited the station of K0UK in Colorado to take second place for the second year in a row. An impressive third-place score from the West Coast was turned in



Ashraf, 3V8SS, made over 1-million points using this efficient low-power setup.

by John, K6AM, operating as NX6T. Another perennial Top Ten finisher was Terry, N4TZ, who once again travelled to KS9K, and this time took fourth.

In 2008, the European Low Power category was dominated by stations from the south. In 2009 it was the complete opposite with Gedas, LY9A, taking the win by a wide margin. Vlad, RW1CW, cruised into second. The next seven places were separated by less than 10%, with Christiaan, ON7CD, leading the pack in third place.

Single-Operator Single-Band

The top overall single-band score was achieved on 20 meters by Carlo, IK1HJS, operating as 5D5A from Morocco. It was a virtual tie for the next three spots on 20 meters with Jovica, 6W1SJ, just beating Bob, KQ2M/1, and Willy, UA9BA operating as UP2L. Bob still got the satisfaction of replacing the USA 20-meter record held by KK9A from back in 2000. Willy earned his reward by breaking the 20-meter single-band record for Asia set by H2A way back in 1991! Jiri, OK1RF, operated CT1JLZ to take fifth in the world and tops in Europe.

Ten meters may have sounded quiet where you were, but there was activity. John, LU1HF, made 756 contacts on the way to his fifth consecutive victory! Walter, PP5WG, and Christian, CX2CC, made strong efforts to complete a South American sweep of the top spots. Chuck, KZ5MM (a.k.a. W5PR), used his new call which was issued the day before the contest to take top honors in the USA. Vitomir, S56M, was the European winner.

Fifteen meters was no surprise with Sergio, PP5JR, back in the chair at ZX5J to take another commanding win. The next three finishers were all from Argentina, with Jesus, AY5F, getting by Ezequiel, LU1FDU, and Jorge, LU5VV (operating as LV5V). The top score in the USA was by Neal, K4EA, operating as NJ4U. George, SV9GPV, was the European winner over Milan, YU1ZZ operating YT0Z. It was tough going for everyone, as the east-west paths were fleeting.

There were more 40-meter single-band entries than ever before due in large part to the expanded frequency allocations and the reduction in foreign broadcasters on the band. Despite being far from everyone, Dule, ZL3WW, operated as ZL3A to a repeat victory as world high. Also repeating his second place finish of the prior year was Dusan, YU1EA, operating as YT8A. Dusan increased his own European record by 8%. Places three through six were a four-way race among 9A5E,

Log Checking Honor Roll

As the software tools become more sophisticated, we are able to go to a new level of cross checking. How deep? Of the 1.8-million submitted QSOs, we were able to cross check 95.1% against another log! Even though contesters tend to focus on points lost during log checking, we prefer to look at the fact that call and serial number information was exchanged at better than 96% accuracy. No wonder contests make such great training for emergency communication.

One area of extra emphasis this year was to investigate the source of calls that only appear in one log. We discovered that more than 68% of these unique calls were the result of copying errors. Many of these not only cost the point value of the QSO, but a multiplier as well. Accuracy is a fundamental element of contesting.

The average score reduction of the top 20 Single-Operator All-Band entries (including penalties) was 5.7%. The average for all single operator entrants was 11.7% (for all Multi-Operator entries it was 12.3%). Detailed log checking reports are available for every entry and can be requested by sending an e-mail to <k5zd@cqwpx.com>.

There were 254 golden logs this year with no score reductions. The top five golden logs by score (with number of contacts made) were: KG6OJB (296), KD7MSC (257), AI4ME (236), VE7FCO (213), and W2UJ (223).

It takes two stations to make a QSO, and there were 232 entries that caused no errors in other logs. The top five among these golden transmitters based on QSOs completed were N6RZR (167), W7CAR (167), DO5AWE (144), NE5D (141), and KD4MZM (136).

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COVERAGE	- SMALLIR MKIII 54MHZ - 13.8MHZ
	- SMALLIR MK III WITH 40M COIL 54MHZ - 6.8MHZ
WEIGHT	- 12LBS/5.4KG
	- 14LBS/6.35KG WITH 40M COIL
ELEMENT SIZE	- 18FT/5.49M
TRAVEL SIZE	- 4FT 10IN/1.47M
POWER RATING	- SMALLIR MKIII ONLY, 3000W (6M-20M)
	- SMALLIR MKIII WITH 40M COIL, 3000W (6M-20M) 1500W 30M-40M)

INTRODUCTORY PRICE

SMALLIR MKIII \$649.00

40M COIL \$325.00

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WORLD TOP SCORES

SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER ALL BAND

CN2R (W7EJ)	20,336,577
8P5A (W2SC)	17,863,617
KH7XS	17,615,360
5B4AII (RW3QC)	17,320,771
3V8BB (YT1AD)	14,745,708
6W1RW (F6BEE)	13,847,382
VC3A (VE3AT)	13,203,475
VE3EJ	13,139,096
4L0A (4L4WW)	11,299,200
G15K (MI0LLL)	10,467,204

28 MHz

LU1HF	736,524
PP5WG	471,835
CX2CC	305,184
KZ5MM (W5PR)	99,693
S56M	24,300
VR2XMT	12,236
IG9/I2ADN	12,060
S57S	9,211
JA6WJL	9,100
JA7OWD	6,419

21 MHz

ZX5J (PP5JR)	9,930,600
AY5F	5,689,620
LU1FDU	4,737,575
LV5V (LU5VV)	1,482,190
CX1AV	1,292,576
HC2GF	620,620
YC9MDX	597,025
NJ4U	448,944
NH6P	448,256
SV9GPV	408,720

14 MHz

5D5A (IK1HJS)	11,356,980
6W1SJ (E78A)	7,066,140
KQ2M/1	7,034,082
UP2L (UA9BA)	6,996,448
CT1JLZ (OK1RF)	6,153,800
ZF1A (ZF2AH)	4,929,930
S50K	4,585,434
W7WA	4,440,531
YT1BB	4,293,024
YT2T	4,178,164

7 MHz

ZL3A (ZL3WW)	6,940,320
YT8A (YU1EA)	5,501,639
9A5E	4,400,935
H22H (5B4MF)	4,347,408
HG3A (HA3MY)	4,268,768
PY0FF	4,121,630
OH0JFP (SM0TQX)	3,489,882
AM7M (EC7ANC)	2,975,700
NN5J (KI0MB)	2,936,156
SO6X (SP6IXF)	2,779,036

3.7 MHz

RW2F (UA2FB)	3,087,400
9A5Y (9A3LG)	3,013,851
SN3A	2,521,636
SO8A	2,486,025
S53MM	2,294,124
9A6A	1,992,888
SP7MTF	1,862,883
H2T (5B4XF)	1,592,770
YT8WW	1,213,650
IK3HMB	1,148,450

1.8 MHz

SN3R (SP6HEQ)	656,367
YL2SM	414,726
C4M (5B4AGM)	343,728
SO8R	318,396
OG5B	291,648
HA1YI	289,800
F5LJA (F1UVN)	238,965
OK1NI	162,604
RV9SV	134,514
CU2AF	24,820

SINGLE OPERATOR LOW POWER ALL BAND

P40A (KK9A)	14,106,670
CN2BC (DL7BC)	4,208,064
ZP0R (ZP5AZL)	3,677,901
PY2NY	2,426,318
NV1N (N1UR)	2,351,175
CN4P (CN8NK)	2,349,050
RA9FTM	2,277,196
LT7H	2,196,156
LY9A	2,113,824
NX7TT/0	1,826,260

28 MHz

LQ5H (LU3HS)	240,170
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LU2UE	218,550
PU2MTS	134,871
ZV2C	127,264
LU6FOV	70,213
PU2LEP	61,200
LT0D (LU6DU)	56,160
NA4W (K4WI)	44,748
HP1RIS	34,196
CE2WZ	26,578

21 MHz

ZV5E (PP5KE)	1,284,215
6V7E (RW3TN)	848,166
CE4CT	700,422
EA8/DL3KVR	567,930
YV1FM	446,368
PY2GH	397,328
LU4WG	336,217
E21YDP	267,509
PY4DEL	221,859
K9OM/4	217,620

14 MHz

E21EIC	1,418,175
IU9A	1,353,660
TG9AXF	1,313,637
HI3CCP	1,243,212
NV8N	820,500
RU0AKB	754,548
FM1HN	703,764
JR7WAB	670,410
IW1QN	622,170
RN3DY	604,572

7 MHz

HI3TEJ	2,869,380
UZ7M (UT9MZ)	1,301,869
SN3X	1,242,938
SO6V (SP6DVP)	1,057,472
S52OT	956,284
HA6NL	688,040
HQ9R	639,480
UA9UBL	635,116
E79D	615,134
YO5OED	534,543

3.7 MHz

YT1AD (YT3W)	885,256
4L2M	609,677
4L4CC	370,728
OM7AB	342,104
KU4BP	262,350
G4BXT	238,260
SP9H	221,236
LY4Q	220,215
SP4SHD	208,104
LY2CO	167,466

1.8 MHz

HA8BE	325,876
OK6Y (OK2PTZ)	162,855
ER3HW	112,266
YM3D (TA3D)	103,168
SN9P (SQ9GAI)	89,397
SP6EUA	67,545
F5VLV	53,491
YO6BZL	51,561
TA1CM	37,332
RW3MB	25,956

SINGLE OPERATOR QRP ALL BAND

T15N (N0KE)	776,205
OK2BYW	595,265
F5BEG	552,690
OK7CM	524,372
RX1CQ	396,207
OM7DX	345,450
S59D	343,638
N2WN/4	331,441
NA0CW (W8QZA)	325,995
SP2DNI	219,760

28 MHz

EA8TX	23,120
LU7VCH	17,739
I5KAP	3,286
W6GMT/5	2,484
JA2MWV	319

21 MHz

JH7RTQ	37,296
SQ4HRN	12,544
7N4WPY	11,844
YC0COX	10,920
WA6FGV	9,100

14 MHz

RA3FO	264,067
I0UZF	107,778

LA9BM	90,055
CT/LZ3ND	63,867
TG9ANF	51,291

7 MHz

RA4FWA	93,790
N1TM	67,482
YU1LM	20,962
YR8V (Y08CT)	19,140
ES6KW	11,748

3.7 MHz

OL4W (OK1IF)	154,580
SP9DTE	110,432
Z35X	100,746
SP2QOT	87,236
UT3L (UR5LO)	71,214

1.8 MHz

DJ3GE	280
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SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED HIGH POWER ALL BAND

CS9L (DF7ZS)	14,356,552
RZ3AXX (RA4HTX)	8,262,288
RG9A (UA9AM)	8,038,800
XZ2B (PY2MNL)	7,805,700
E73M	7,750,990

28 MHz

9A2U (9A3ZA)	7,128
CX4DX	1,200

21 MHz

EA8/OH6CS	5,084,580
PT9PA	314,685
EA7ZY	201,124
4X0A (4X1VF)	184,245
YM2W (OK1MU)	130,140

14 MHz

RL3A (UA3ASZ)	5,616,526
IR2C (IW2HAJ)	4,309,476
OE2S (OE9MON)	3,537,990
EA1FDI	3,487,926
IR2M (IZ2FDU)	2,563,721

7 MHz

YT5C (YT7AW)	3,680,052
9A3AG	3,165,372
MW9W (MW0JRX)	1,985,340
S56X	1,829,805
RT3T (UA3TU)	1,419,100

3.7 MHz

S57UN	2,195,202
IW2HAJ (HB9DUR)	1,868,370
MC0SHL (G1VDP)	635,817
SQ9HZM	476,905
KN6DV/2 (E78WW)	336,740

1.8 MHz

SP1GZF	340,458
DM0Y (DL3BQA)	298,144
W2MF	76,212
EA1GFV	55,125
YW5T (YV5JBI)	18,939

SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED LOW POWER ALL BAND

NP2KW	1,643,000
PX2T (PY2DN)	1,294,852
EF1W (EA1WS)	1,276,632
RW3DU	1,158,906
KP2BH	1,091,664

28 MHz

PU9OSB	74,358
PY7AHA	7,380
PY2XC	7,259
LU3JVO	5,170
PY5TJ	2,176

21 MHz

PY2ZY	776,385
PS6T (PY6KY)	504,754
LU7YW	499,155
VR2PX	131,440
IZ0EYP/8	129,482

14 MHz

RU3SD	485,780
BD4QH	273,511
YQ5Q (Y05OHO)	257,114
W4LC	221,872
RA9JR	187,739

7 MHz

EA5KA	2,235,168
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OK1UG	290,624
YY5LI	226,872
DL9ECA	133,133
YO3JW	122,008

3.7 MHz

YT4A	305,602
SN9Q (SQ9NFI)	280,120
DO4DXA	194,775
DF1HF	32,760
LY3JM	16,356

1.8 MHz

VE3MGY	34,020
YT7AW	11,736
RA4FUT	6,288

TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT HIGH POWER ALL BAND

HG8R (HA8JV)	6,321,780
PY2ADR	2,597,705
KH6FI	2,569,894
EV1R	2,240,430
VE3NE	2,181,250

28 MHz

K4MF	6,118
------	-------

21 MHz

PT9PA	314,685
IW0BCF	73,350
PA0M	17,739

14 MHz

CT4NH	2,186,880
JH7XMO	1,562,946
EA5GS	1,531,134
VK7ZE	1,061,528
M0WLF	553,320

7 MHz

S51CK	1,186,515
SP9JZT	315,700
AM1C	223,130
KX9DX	184,992
NA3M	84,800

3.7 MHz

EA3ATM	749,023
IO3X	336,156
WK4Y	113,750
W2UJ	94,355
KK9V	11,016

1.8 MHz

DM0Y (DL3BQA)	298,144
SV1GRD	24,378
WZ8P	14,615

TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT LOW POWER ALL BAND

CN2BC (DL7BC)	4,208,064
LT7H (LU1HLH)	2,196,156
EC8ADW	1,579,008
NX6T (K6AM)	1,290,096
ON7CD	1,211,370

28 MHz

PU2KLM	6,102
7N2UQC	779

21 MHz

CE4CT	700,422
EA8/DL3KVR	567,930
C4Z (5B4AIZ)	149,682
W7UPF	36,270
K7MY	31,570

14 MHz

NV8N	820,500
RN3DY	604,572
AO1B (EA1YB)	330,064
UA4WCM	243,984
W4LC	221,872

7 MHz

LY2MM	274,920
DL9ECA	133,133
IK1YED	92,000
N9TF	73,260
CT1EEK	47,616

3.7 MHz

YT4A	305,602
G4BXT	238,260
OH6JYH	3,486

1.8 MHz

KT0P/4	9
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ROOKIE HIGH POWER ALL BAND

H22H, HG3A, and PY0FF, who all broke 4-million points. Low-power winner Ted, HI3TEJ, set a new world record from the mountains of the Dominican Republic.

The 75-meter category turned into a form of European championship with 9 of the top 10 scores coming from Europe. RW2F, operated by Dmitri, UA2FB, made 1748 contacts with 718 prefixes to take the win. 9A5Y (operated by 9A3LG) was 100 contacts behind in second. Two Polish stations, SN3A and SO8A, were separated by only a few points in third and fourth place. Paris, 5B4XF, operating as H2T was the first-place score outside Europe. Steve,

W3BGN, was the next highest score outside Europe and first in the USA. The top low-power score on the band was YT1AD operated by Dragan, YT3W. Dragan set a new European record. The second place score by Mamuka, 4L2M, set a new record for Asia.

Who operates 160 meters on SSB at the end of March? World high scorer was SN3R operated by Wieslaw, SP6HEQ. His 754 QSOs and 411 prefixes were very impressive. Viesturs, YL2SM, in Latvia finished second ahead of Ben, 5B4AGM operating as C4M in Cyprus. Top USA score was by Jim, K5RX, operating as NE5D near Dallas, Texas.

TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

WORLD: Stanley Cohen, W8QDQ Trophy. Won by: **CN2R** operated by James P Sullivan, W7EJ
WORLD Low Power: Caribbean Contesting Consortium Trophy. Won by: **P40A** operated by John Bayne, KK9A
WORLD QRP: Phil Krichbaum, N0KE Trophy. Won by: **T15N** operated by Philip Krichbaum, N0KE
USA: Atilano de Oms, PY5EG Trophy. Won by: **WY3P** operated by Kamal Sirageldin, N3KS
USA Low Power: Terry Zivney, N4TZ Trophy. Won by: **NV1N** operated by Edward Sawyer, N1UR
USA QRP: Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q Trophy. Won by: **Julius Fazekas, N2WN/4**
USA Zone 4 High Power: Society of Midwest Contesters Trophy. Won by: **George A. Demontrond, III, NR5M**
USA Zone 4 Low Power: Society of Midwest Contesters Trophy. Won by: **Ed Campbell, NX7TT/0**
USA Zone 3: Lauri "Mac" McCreary, KG7C Trophy. Won by: **NY6N** operated by Jim Stevenson, W6YI
EUROPE High Power: Jim Hoffman, N5FA Trophy. Won by: **GI5K** operated by Chris Smith, MI0LLL
EUROPE Low Power: Ed Sawyer, N1UR Trophy. Won by: **Gediminas Lucinskas, LY9A**
AFRICA: Peter Sprengel, PY5CC Trophy. Won by: **3V8BB** operated by Hranislav Milosevic, YT1AD
ASIA: Chris Terkla, N1XS Trophy. Won by: **5B4AI** operated by Evgeny (Jack) Danielyan, RW3QC
NORTH AMERICA: Albert Crespo, F5VHJ Trophy. Won by: **8P5A** operated by Tom Georgens, W2SC
NORTH AMERICA QRP: Phil Krichbaum, N0KE Trophy. Won by: **Doug Ferris, VA3DF**
OCEANIA: Phillip Frazier, K6ZM Memorial Trophy. Won by: **Bill Kollenbaum, KH7XS**
SOUTH AMERICA: Andrew Faber, AE6Y Trophy. Won by: **Hamilton Oliveira Martins, PY2YU**
CANADA High Power: Todd Bendtsen, VE5MX Trophy. Won by: **VC3A** operated by Ron Vander Kraats, VE3AT
CANADA Low Power: Contest Club Ontario Trophy. Won by: **Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ**
JAPAN: Hamad Alnusif, 9K2HN Trophy. Won by: **Akira Minagawa, JA0JHA**

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

WORLD: Steve Merchant, K6AW Trophy. Won by: **5D5A** operated by Carlo De Mari, IK1HJS
WORLD 21 MHz: Stuart Santelmann KC1F Memorial (W3UA/RA3AA sponsor) Trophy. Won by: **ZX5J** operated by Sergio Lima De Almeida, PP5JR
WORLD 14 MHz: Jorge Taboada, EA9LZ Trophy. Won by: **6W1SJ** operated by Jovica Todorovic, E78A
WORLD 7 MHz: Jorge Taboada, EA9LZ Trophy. Won by: **ZL3A** operated by Dusko Dumanovic, ZL3WW
WORLD 7 MHz Low Power: Neal Campbell, K3NC Trophy. Won by: **Ted Jimenez, HI3TEJ**
WORLD 3.7 MHz: D4C Contest Team Trophy. Won by: **RW2F** operated by Dmitri Gorshkov, UA2FB
USA 28 MHz: Maurice Schietecatte, N4LZ Trophy. Won by: **KZ5MM** operated by Chuck Dietz, W5PR
USA 21 MHz: Maurice Schietecatte, N4LZ Trophy. Won by: **NJ4U** operated by Neal Sulmeyer, K4EA
USA 14 MHz: Charles Wooten, NF4A Trophy. Won by: **Robert L. Shohet, KQ2M/1**
USA 7 MHz: Yankee Clipper Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **NN5J** operated by Brian Smith, K10MB
USA 3.7 MHz: Bernie Welch, W8IMZ Memorial (WB8MRU sponsor) Trophy. Won by: **Steven Sussman, W3BGN**
EUROPE 28 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **Vitomir Kregar, S56M**
EUROPE 21 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **George Charokopakis, SV9GPV**
EUROPE 14 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **CT1JLZ** operated by Jiri Pesta, OK1RF
EUROPE 7 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **YT8A** operated by Dusan Ceha, YU1EA
EUROPE 3.7 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **9A5Y** operated by Zvonimir Karnik, 9A3LG
EUROPE 1.8 MHz High Power: SKY Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **SN3R** operated by Wieslaw Gebal, SP6HEQ

SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED

WORLD: Emir-Braco Memic, OE1EMS Trophy. Won by: **CS9L** operated by Helmut Mueller, DF7ZS
USA: Alabama Contest Group Trophy. Won by: **WU3A/1** operated by Gene Shablygin, W3UA
EUROPE: Martin Huml, OL5Y Trophy. Won by: **RZ3AXX** operated by Alex Tokarev, RA4HTX

OVERLAY CATEGORIES

WORLD Tribander/Single Element: Helmut Mueller, DF7ZS Trophy. Won by: **HG8R** operated by Pál Vrbovski, HA8JV
USA Tribander/Single Element: Paul Newberry, N4PN Trophy. Won by: **Wayne Rogers, N1WR/3**
WORLD Rookie: Val Edwards W8KIC Memorial (K3LR sponsor) Trophy. Won by: **Ken Long, N0QO**

MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER

WORLD: Latvian Contest Club Trophy. Won by: **EF8R** operated by EA8AH, EA8CAC, EA8EW, EA8ZS, ES2RR
USA: Steve Bolla, N8BJQ Trophy. Won by: **K1LZ** operated by K1LZ, N8BO, K3JO
ASIA: W2MIG Memorial (NX7TT Sponsor) Trophy. Won by: **P33W** operated by RN3QO, RW4WR, RX3DCX, RA3AUU
EUROPE: Tonno Vahk, ES5TV Trophy. Won by: **E7DX** operated by 9A1TT, E70R, E70T, E74AW, E76C, E77DX

MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO TRANSMITTER

WORLD: Ken Adams, K5KA Trophy. Won by: **CT9M** operated by CT3BD, CT3DL, CT3DZ, CT3EE, CT3IA, CT3KU, CT3KY
USA: Florida Contest Group Trophy. Won by: **KD4D/3** operated by K3RA, K3MM, NA3D, KD4D, K3MIM, AC6WI
EUROPE: Bernd Och, DL6FBL Trophy. Won by: **9A800VZ** operated by 9A2X, 9A3TR, 9A3OS, 9A5X, 9A7V

MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

WORLD: Gail Sheehan, K2RED Trophy. Won by: **ZW5B** operated by PP5EG, PP5XX, PU2MZI, PU5AAD, PU5OGE, PU5RAS, PY2KC, PY2KJ, PY2WC, PY3VK, PY5CA, PY5KD
USA: Dale Hoppe, K6UA Memorial Trophy. Won by: **WE3C** operated by WE3C, W3FV, NN3Q, KQ3V, K3TUF, N3RD
EUROPE: Rick Dougherty, NQ4I Trophy. Won by: **OT5A** operated by DF3TJ, JK3GAD, ON1GL, ON3AEI, ON3BD, ON3DGA, ON3MP, ON3NG, ON3PTZ, ON3VS, ON4AID, ON4AMI, ON4ASB, ON4AWT, ON4AWU, ON4CDE, ON4CFQ, ON4FG, ON4LN, ON4PVH, ON4ROS, ON4XB, ON5AEI, ON5CD, ON5CIM, ON5DH, ON5OT, ON5PVH, ON5WL, ON6HP, ON6LK, ON6LUQ, ON6MR, ON6PU, ON6RJ, ON6SJ, ON6SX, ON6YYY, ON7GF, ON7NB, ON8UM, PA1BX, PB2T, Annelien, Carolina, Ellen, Jessie, Jimmie, Linda, Marc, Marleen, Olivier, Tim

CONTEST EXPEDITION

WORLD: C6APR Memorial (PT7ZZ sponsor) Trophy. Won by: **C91TX** operated by KG5U, W5MJ, N4AL, W5PF, K5WAF, WF5W, ZS6JR

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The operators at AHØBT included (left to right) Kuny, W1FPU; 8-year old Yoshiki, KHØUA; and Tomo, N2QP. Yoshiki made over 800 QSOs in his first HF contest experience!

Single-Operator QRP

Running an SSB contest with less than 5 watts is for those who really enjoy a challenge. Phil, NØKE, flew down to Costa Rica and maneuvered TI5N through the QRM to a world high score in the QRP category. Milan, OK2BYW, just beat fellow Europeans F5BEG and OK7GM for second place. Julius, N2WN/4, took the USA trophy. Close behind him was Bill, W8QZA, operating as NAØCW from the home station of NØKE!

The top QRP single band score was made by Nick, RA3FO, who made 576 contacts among the QRM on 20 meters! Another impressive QRP score was from Milan, OK1IF, who operated OL4W to 342 contacts on 75 meters.

Single-Operator Assisted

The Assisted categories drew a record 663 total entries this year, reflecting the continued integration of computers and networking into contesting. Even with help from the spotting networks, only four Assisted stations managed to break the 1000 prefix mark.

Winner of the all-band high-power category was CS9L operated by Helmut, DF7ZS. The chase for second was between two Russians, with RZ3AXX (operated by Alex, RA4HTX) getting past RG9A (Yuri, UA9AM). Wanderly, PY2MNL, operating again as ZX2B, was unable to repeat as champion.

Best of the single-band scores went to RL3A (Ruslan, UA3ASZ) who had over 5.6M points on 20 meters and set a new world record. Jyrki, OH6CS/EA8, also set a new world record with 5M points on 15 meters. Goran, YT5C, set a new world record for 40 meters.

Please note that we check carefully to detect stations that use the DX spotting networks during the contest and do not submit their entry in the Assisted category. For a first-time mistake, we simply correct the category. If this happens a second time, the action may be disqualification.

Overlay Categories

The Tribander/Single-Element classification provides a separate score listing for modestly

USA TOP SCORES

SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
WY3P (N3KS)	8,898,968
K4ZW	7,143,392
NR5M	6,378,560
K3ZO	5,797,440
K5TR	4,414,326
NY6N (W6YI)	3,994,056
WM5R	3,852,993
NØQO	3,708,432
N7TT	2,619,162
K7ZZ	2,583,168
28 MHz	
KZ5MM (W5PR)	99,693
K4MF	6,118
W9SE	102
21 MHz	
NJ4U (K4EA)	448,944
KV4T	155,040
N5DO	57,456
WØLSD	12,416
14 MHz	
KQ2M/1	7,034,082
W7WA	4,440,531
K9CT	2,241,589
WØEWD	1,499,887
W9EXY	1,481,116
N2RJ	1,425,000
K6HNZ	1,105,125
7 MHz	
NN5J (K1ØMB)	2,936,156
K9NW	1,012,455
W4NP	635,481
AB9H	565,862
N8II	498,292
K4KZZ	461,714
K7WP	412,050
3.7 MHz	
W38GN	778,508
K9SH	190,995
W2UJ	94,355
AA10	46,320
Ai2N	24,564
1.8 MHz	
NE5D (K5RX)	22,022
K1VW	12,530
SINGLE OPERATOR LOW POWER ALL BAND	
NV1N (N1UR)	2,351,175
NX7TT/Ø	1,826,260
NX6T (K6AM)	1,290,096
KS9K (N4TZ)	1,232,160
WD5K	1,127,744
K7ZSD	966,656
N4XL	912,636
W3LL	744,224
WB8TLI	723,600
WZ8T	596,992
28 MHz	
NA4W (K4WI)	44,748

K4QVK	2,106
KB2NEJ/4	1,100
21 MHz	
K9OM/4	217,620
W7UPF	36,270
K7MY	31,570
NØUU	22,015
NØRB/5	21,336
W3CP/7	11,730
14 MHz	
NV8N	820,500
W6AFA	427,482
NN5Z (K5PX)	351,220
AD7J (W7FP)	333,585
KN7T	110,880
K7ACZ	96,048
7 MHz	
KI6LZ	378,708
K9SQL	196,458
KA9O	91,866
N9TF	73,260
N8BV	20,768
NYØT	17,936
3.7 MHz	
KU4BP	262,350
NJ1H	62,568
K4EU	23,324
WA6WPG	22,936
NR8U	12,792
W2LP	9,891
1.8 MHz	
KC2RKU	2,556
K4WI	64
KTØP/4	9
SINGLE OPERATOR QRP ALL BAND	
N2WN/4	331,441
NAØCW (W8QZA)	325,995
WB4MSG	125,191
NN7SS (K6UFO)	88,074
KT8K	66,980
WA8WV	64,548
W2JEK	4,860
W11G (W11G)	3,880
WA5RML	2,408
AF9J	1,645
28 MHz	
W6GMT/5	2,484
21 MHz	
WA6FGV	9,100
14 MHz	
K3TW	21,660
WB7OCV/2	8,976
KB1QEU	1,175
KZ2V/6	66
7 MHz	
N1TM	67,482
3.7 MHz	
AJ3T	18,648

SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
WU3A/1 (W3UA)	6,701,832
WB9Z	5,104,008
K7RI	4,193,814
W5WMU	3,674,874
W8MJ	3,498,908
WE4M (N2QT)	2,531,778
WG5J	2,191,133
NG3R (N3DXX)	1,937,562
WN9O (W9IU)	1,790,526
AB3CX/2	1,755,333
21 MHz	
NQ5K (W5ASP)	86,190
14 MHz	
KI7M	994,449
WR2G	391,124
W9NGA/7	384,748
KC1ME (K1JB)	376,302
KG9N	328,960
W2OSR	188,238
7 MHz	
AC6DX	408,240
K2RET	139,698
KI9A	99,288
NA3M	84,800
3.7 MHz	
KN6DV/2 (E78WW)	336,740
WK4Y	113,750
N4QV	27,740
N8KOJ	18,540
1.8 MHz	
W2MF	76,212
WZ8P	14,615
SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED LOW POWER ALL BAND	
NR1I (W1NT)	689,165
W4KTR	525,470
N4IG	483,035
KE1V	318,008
W4EE	284,100
K2DSL	208,260
K4NAU	203,404
WN6K	190,212
KØAD	187,854
W1TO	153,652
14 MHz	
W4LC	221,872
KC9LNH	1,798
W7SST	1,323
7 MHz	
N7MAL	21,930
W8EH	3,280
3.7 MHz	
W6HH/5	377

TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
N1WR/3	1,826,250
K4FX	1,824,984
AB3CX/2	1,755,333
WN2O (N2GC)	1,673,685
W7ZR	1,616,598
W6TK	1,605,176
K4PV	1,496,082
AA4NU	1,306,942
AD4EB	1,256,564
WX6V	1,003,458
28 MHz	
K4MF	6,118
14 MHz	
KJ3X/6 (K1DQV)	520,188
AD1L	78,323
WB8O	66,744
WØPPF	40,044
7 MHz	
KX9DX	184,992
NA3M	84,800
AA4D	20,007
WJ1R	8,064
3.7 MHz	
WK4Y	113,750
W2UJ	94,355
KK9V	11,016
KA1CQR	9,381
1.8 MHz	
WZ8P	14,615
TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT LOW POWER ALL BAND	
NX6T (K6AM)	1,290,096
WD5K	1,127,744
WB8TLI	723,600
WZ8T	596,992
KT4ZB	553,380
WB4JFS	435,600
KB3LIX	297,348
KS4X	291,828
NA4K	276,885
WBØTSR	259,880
21 MHz	
W7UPF	36,270
K7MY	31,570
W9ELN/Ø	468
14 MHz	
NV8N	820,500
W4LC	221,872
K7ACZ	96,048
AE6YB	67,032
7 MHz	
N9TF	73,260
1.8 MHz	
KTØP/4	9

ROOKIE HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
NØQO	3,708,432
AD1DX	297,470
K7DSL	138,516
N4BCD	112,308
N2PKP	81,954
AF6ME	65,155
W8DQ/4	22,746
KDØACO	1,155
14 MHz	
N6BY	456
ROOKIE LOW POWER ALL BAND	
K2DSL	208,260
N6IEF	138,859
KD8GOX	106,805
AF6EV	75,036
AJ4JD	57,232
14 MHz	
KDØDRQ	15,326
KF1D	3,570
KC2TYZ	3,225
1.8 MHz	
KC2RKU	2,556
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE-TRANSMITTER	
K1LZ	16,007,975
NF4A	11,313,432
WR3Z	7,894,528
K3EST/4	7,533,517
NX5M	6,920,938
N7AT	3,082,840
KD9ST	2,968,144
NJ6N	1,939,164
KT4PD	1,936,471
K7ZS	1,369,914
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO-TRANSMITTER	
KD4D/3	13,300,413
KI1G	11,934,690
KZ9O	7,773,885
WC6H	6,883,344
W1CU/6	6,114,584
NG6S	1,675,298
AC2AC/1	228,726
MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER	
WE3C	19,779,364
NQ4I	17,372,190
WX3B	7,727,832
NE1C	5,564,936
NR6O	569,114
KBØHH/5	420,792
WC8VOA	277,005

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AIM 4170C Antenna / Lab RF Analyzer

The AIM 4170C antenna analyzer measures the complex impedance (magnitude and phase) at each frequency of interest in the range of 5KHz to 170 MHz. A PC is used to calculate all RF parameters, including R +/-X, Magnitude and Phase, SWR, Return Loss, TL loss, and more and plot the results in an easy to read graph and interactive Smith Chart. The test frequency is generated digitally and bandpass filters are used to reject stray signals (like broadcast stations) that are more than a few KHz from the operating frequency. A 12 bit analog to digital converter digitizes the raw data. This avoids non-linearities associated with diode detectors, and results in very good dynamic range and linearity for accurate magnitude and phase measurements.

PowerAIM 120

Vector Impedance Analyzer for Broadcast Engineers

The PowerAIM 120 Vector Impedance Analyzer with patent pending unique technology which offers the broadcast engineer the full capabilities of a single port network analyzer in a small lightweight software driven instrument that is easy to carry onto airlines and in the field. It is also very simple to set up and use but very accurate even at tens of thousands of ohms of impedance. All impedance parameters are measured and calculated.

The software for the PowerAIM is loaded on a laptop computer, which is coupled to the instrument via a USB port. The PowerAIM is particularly beneficial to broadcast engineers involved in the adjustment and final commissioning of AM HD radio transmission systems. The instrument is calibrated in a similar manner to a network analyzer utilizing an open, short and 50-ohm or other resistance load.



Vector Network Analyzer

Model VNA 2180

The VNA 2180 measures impedance (magnitude and phase) and filter transmission in the range of 5KHz to 180 MHz.

A PC is used to plot parameters, such as, impedance, SWR, S11 and S21.

The test frequency is generated digitally. A 12 bit analog to digital converter digitizes the raw data. This avoids non-linearity associated with diode detectors, and results in very good dynamic range and linearity for accurate magnitude and phase measurements.



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than one year and finished third. Let's keep an eye on these up-and-coming stars!

Multi-Operator

The Multi-Single category is the equivalent of Formula 1 for car racing. Teams of skilled operators seek every advantage to maximize their score under the rules. The team at EF8R overpowered the competition, but only by 70k points (that's less than 0.2%)! Second-place finisher D4C had more contacts, but fewer prefixes. In the end, it was logging accuracy that decided the winner. In third place was the Russian team at P33W operating a temporary Field Day style station assembled just for the contest. CQ3T finished fourth, continuing the island theme. E7DX finished fifth overall and was first place

in Europe. In sixth, K1LZ broke the 10-year-old USA record in convincing fashion.

The Multi-Two team at CT9M achieved the highest score of any station in the contest, with over 33M points. Only six contacts behind them, the group at PJ2T battled rain static and poor conditions to finish second. Multipliers definitely made the difference. ZY7C decided to move up from their normal Multi-Single entry and finished a strong third. The gang at 9A7A once again introduced everyone to a new and confusing callsign, this time 9A800VZ. They set a new European record and gave everyone who could copy their call correctly a new multiplier. Radio Arcala, OG8X, tested out their big antennas and declared success with finishing in fifth place.

CQ WW WPX SSB CONTEST ALL-TIME RECORDS

The contest is held each year on the last full weekend of March. The All-Time Records will be updated and published annually. Data following the calls: year of operation, total score, and number of prefix multipliers.

WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

Single Operator			
1.8	CN2R('07)	1,613,955	399
3.5	CN2R('06)	11,849,076	894
7.0	CN2R('05)	14,724,696	931
14	CN2R('08)	15,778,840	1199
21	ZD8Z('05)	17,129,112	1196
28	D44AC('02)	15,707,401	1123
AB	D4B('05)	26,871,482	1271
QRP/p	HC8A('94)	7,520,562	714
Assisted	P40W('07)	15,837,235	1069

Multi-Operator Single Transmitter			
D44TD('02)		33,443,856	1332

Multi-Operator Two Transmitter			
AN8A('07)		47,019,528	1444

Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter			
HC8N('03)		60,703,452	1476

CLUB RECORD			
Contest Club Finland('00)		250,320,141	

U.S.A. RECORD HOLDERS

Single Operator			
1.8	K1ZM('95)	327,712	308
3.5	WE3C('95)	1,519,300	475
7.0	NN5J('09)	2,936,156	692
14	KQ2M('09)	7,034,082	1082
21	KX8R('00)	7,556,250	930
28	NY4A('00)	6,006,573	877
AB	KQ2M('00)	11,875,240	1066
QRPp	KR2Q('00)	2,688,158	649
Assisted	NB1B('01)	7,463,666	1022

Multi-Operator Single Transmitter			
K1LZ('09)		16,007,975	1273

Multi-Operator Two Transmitter			
KD4D('06)		14,535,521	1183

Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter			
KM3T('00)		29,338,460	1355

QRPp RECORD			
HC8A('94)		7,520,562	

WPX (Prefix) RECORD			
OT0A('00)		1528	

CONTINENTAL RECORD HOLDERS

AFRICA			
1.8	CN2R('07)	1,613,955	399
3.5	CN2R('06)	11,849,076	894
7.0	CN2R('05)	14,724,696	931
14	CN2R('08)	15,778,840	1199
21	ZD8Z('05)	17,129,112	1196
28	D44AC('02)	15,707,401	1123
AB	D4B('05)	26,871,482	1271

ASIA			
1.8	*YM0T('05)	486,846	222
3.5	H22H('08)	2,432,692	502
7.0	H24LP('87)	5,348,975	503
14	UP2L('09)	6,996,448	1048
21	7L1GVE('92)	6,848,136	838
28	H22H('00)	9,092,146	931
AB	5B4AI('09)	17,320,771	1093

EUROPE			
1.8	SN3R('07)	835,884	434
3.5	RW2F('09)	3,087,400	718
7.0	YT8A('09)	5,501,639	869
14	DJ7AA('00)	7,955,224	1052
21	CQ1BOP('00)	6,989,997	1029
28	GM7V('00)	8,305,756	982
AB	OK1RI('01)	10,844,592	1034

NORTH AMERICA			
1.8	VA1A('99)	535,225	271
3.5	ZF1A('08)	2,269,344	462
7.0	T14CF('05)	8,057,479	751
14	KP2A('95)	7,088,976	912
21	WP3R('98)	10,167,632	986
28	KP2A('00)	11,385,710	1046
AB	8P5A('06)	20,560,452	1199

OCEANIA			
1.8	KH6ND('07)	26,432	59
3.5	WH7Z('03)	1,208,900	308

7.0	ZL3A('08)	8,200,800	816
14	KH6ND('03)	6,493,727	887
21	AH7DX('00)	7,645,990	890
28	TX0DX('00)	12,049,422	847
AB	KH7SX('09)	17,615,360	983

SOUTH AMERICA			
1.8	YV5JEA('84)	40,320	63
3.5	P40A('96)	1,715,076	426
7.0	ZX9A('97)	10,787,128	814
14	PY0FM('95)	9,660,432	939
21	ZX5J('08)	14,740,056	1242
28	ZX5J('99)	14,405,820	1095
AB	HC8A('01)	25,180,199	1199

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER			
AF	D44TD('02)	33,443,856	1332
AS	5B/AJ2O('05)	28,966,272	1252
EU	9A7A('02)	19,034,950	1306
NA	VP2EC('92)	24,409,580	1115
OC	T33RD('99)	17,778,372	998
SA	HC8A('93)	32,502,677	1107

MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER			
AF	AN8A('07)	47,019,528	1444
AS	A61AJ('04)	30,157,650	1255
EU	9A800VZ('09)	19,512,924	1403
NA	6Y1V('08)	29,018,014	1306
OC	KH7X('05)	20,910,656	1066
SA	HC8N('06)	46,791,472	1456

MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER			
AF	CN8WW('99)	55,151,562	1334
AS	P3A('00)	53,554,592	1456
EU	9AY2K('00)	42,477,343	1493
NA	WL7E('00)	42,013,215	1395
OC	KH7R('02)	32,806,032	1304
SA	HC8N('03)	60,703,452	1476

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The PJ2T crew on Monday after the contest. Front: KB0B (Bob), W0CG/PJ2DX (Geoff), N0VD (Kelly). Back: PJ2BVU (Jean-Claude), K8LEE (Wayne), N4RV (Jack), W9JUV (Joe), and K2PLF (Marty).

Oms, PY5EG, summed up the essence of the Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter category this way: "Despite the bad propagation we had a great time giving opportunity to a new generation of contest operators." Oms is a good teacher, as his ZW5B team finished with the top score. The second place WE3C team worked hard to keep at least two stations on the air at all times, but had to take an hour off on Sunday due to a tornado warning! I don't think any group dedicates as much energy to

the WPX contest as the ON7LR club, this year operating as OT5A. Check out the photos on the club's website at <www.on7lr.com>.

Final Thoughts

In August 2009, the WPX Committee invited all participants from the 2008 and 2009 contests to take an online survey about the contest. We were thrilled by the high level of response and the very thoughtful comments we received. Results can be found in the blog on the website at <www.cqwp.com>. While you are there, check out the searchable score database, photo gallery, rules, and other topics of interest about the contest. You can also follow the CQ WPX Contest on Twitter (www.twitter.com/cqwp). For expanded results of the 2009 contest (ops and more QRM) go to the CQ website: <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>.

It would be almost impossible to handle the record number of logs without the software development efforts of Ken, K1EA. All paper logs were converted to Cabrillo format by K1ZE, N1NK, N8RA, NJ1F, W1KM, W1TO, W1UE, W1ZT, W2JU, WA1Z, and WO1N. Barry, W5GN, does a great job of printing and mailing the more than 1200 certificates that were earned this time. Doug, K1DG, coordinates the plaque sponsors and distribution. Experience and advice were contributed by past directors N8BJQ and K6AW.

The 2010 WPX SSB Contest will be held on March 27 and 28. There are rule changes under consideration for 2010, so please read the rules carefully. We should finally be into the new solar cycle with a sunspot or two to help conditions improve. Rules can be found in the February issue of CQ, on the CQ website (www.cq-amateur-radio.com), and on the CQ WPX Contest website (www.cqwp.com). See you in the 2010 WPX contests! 73, Randy, K5ZD

QRM

I really enjoyed the contest! Amazing 40m! ... **3V8SS**. We very enjoyed the WPX contest. Our young star Yoshiki, KH0UA, who is 8-year-old son of Kuny, W1FPU, made more than 800 QSOs. ... **AH0BT**. Last-minute work project required me to work and travel over the weekend. Managed to sneak in a few hours during breaks from a work project. Nice to see so much activity! ... **AK1W**. Having a 5-ele tribander can be a lot of fun, but only if you can turn the antenna. As rotator didn't work, missed all Asia and a lot of South America, by luck the antenna was pointing to Europe. ... **CN2BC**. Thanks for sponsoring a great contest. Due to my humble dipole antenna used on all bands, I like the bonus of making contacts on the low bands. That makes me more competitive. ... **DJ3WE**. First contest I have done in some time. Propagation was good and lots of stations. WX in Rarotonga was great for this frozen Alaskan. ... **E51COF**. Our first contest as Multi-Op Single Transmitter. Next time we can do it better. Very bad propagation, no QSOs on 28 MHz, our tribander antenna did not hear anything else on this band. ... **EE5J**. Band seemed less exotic than last year, but the activity was intense. I had to give up at 8 PM Sunday because I was feeling dizzy! Great fun as usual. ... **EI4GNB**. Hard weekend: Propagation very bad, bands noisy, computer grrr, two microphones failed, ARGH! I need a good repair of my station :(Anyway, it was a very good contest! CU next year! ... **F4ASK**. This is my first DX contest. Great enjoying the game! ... **F4FBP**. Very very busy with stations on top of stations. Excellent fun though and great to work new countries Thanks to those who go to distant places to activate unusual prefixes. It makes this contest very exciting. Hope to be back again next year! ... **G0MLY**. Great fun by all. Gave GD to a few guys and it made their day. Started late due to flight delays and had to finished early to set up other DXpedition stations (GT4BRS) but this short interlude enabled us

to warm up the rigs, hi. Thanks for working us. ... **GD8K**. I heard a lot of callsigns which were originally VHF only, but after CW is no longer a requirement in many countries, have received full privileges. I am very happy that so many of these guys have taken up HF contesting. It was more fun with them on air! ... **HG5XA**. Propagation was not helping, but the most important thing we can have fun at WPX contest. cu next year. ... **HQ2W**. Another CQ WPX is done! A vertical antenna, a 100w rig, and a claimed score higher than last year (and lower than next one I hope!). Many thanks to you for contribute to my logbook. ... **IT9JDH**. Great opportunity given by ARI Sezione Cinisello Balsamo (Milano) to enjoy this contest on 80m. Everything worked well. Relative low number of NA stations logged. Thanks to IK2JUB, IK2PFL, IW2HAJ for the support in setting up the station. HB9DUR, Andrea. ... **IW2HAJ**. I entered single-op 80m low power. The conditions between the U.S.A. and JA were not so good. But the conditions of all except the U.S.A. were very good. I QSOed with 5 continents. I was able to update the personal-best record. This year, Chinese OTH radar was QRV on out of JA ham band. (OTH radar is now on 3810-3850 kHz.) It's signal strength was over S9+. ... **JE1SPY**. A real QSO-fest. Run, run, run. Averaged 95 QSOs/hour. ... **K2PS**. Anybody got a spare sunspot? ... **K5LAD**. My first big contest. Loved it! ... **KB3SCZ**. We need sunspots! And we want them now! ... **KD7DCR**. I only worked a few hours, was mainly trying to add new countries for LoTW DXCC. I had a great time. I really enjoy the professionalism and courtesy of the operators. I was successful in adding Ecuador, Northern Ireland, Lithuania, and Cape Verde. ... **KG4ZDM**. Nice to see the activity up from China. ... **KG6DX**. Believe me, anybody I worked on 40 and 75 meters was truly S-9 here. QRN level was also S-9 due to snow storm clouds. That coupled with rapid QSB sure made this one a challenge. If only everybody was as loud as 6W1SJ, who was +35 on 20! ... **KS7T**. The theme this weekend was "noise." "Noise" as in "energy that does not carry desired information." ... **KS9K**. My first WPX contest. Hard work with QRP but a lot of fun. Manage to work a lot of DX and pleased with the result. The 3-el Yagi help me a lot. ... **LA9BM**. I heard but was not able to work 9M8Z and work 9K2K. I was pleased to work 6W1SJ for new DXCC. Very difficult with numerous stations just not hearing my call. Two watts QRP. ... **M5AEF**. We decided this year to create the unusual MJ4 prefix, by taking our MD4K call for a fun entry in CQ WPX to Jersey. One of our ops had to pull out due to a bad flu, so then we were three for a multi-single effort. We had a lot of fun, in bad conditions on HF again, but seemed to create some interest! Let's hope the sunspots return sometime soon. ... **MJ4K**. 15 meters in pretty poor shape but still plenty of contacts available with a little effort. I still had a blast as usual. ... **N5DTT**. Fun! Tnx to WB6BFG for letting me sit in the hot seat all weekend (what would I do without my technical guru, chef, bartender, partner in crime). ... **N6UWW**. WPX SSB 2009 was tremendous fun for us! Station operations went very well, which further added to our enjoyment of every QSO. See you next year, sunspots or not! ... **N8AJN**. Although we were operating from one of the best 160 meter stations in the US (W8JI), we couldn't take advantage of it due to the severe storms in the SE USA during the contest. We left a lot of 6 point Q's on the table because we couldn't hear much on 160 (or 80) due to the storms. Thanks to W8JI for letting us use his great station. ... **NF4A**. Propagation was better on 15 meters and 20 meters. Only one contact in 80 meters and few on 40 meters. Only few South America stations heard in 10 meters. Heard only few stations from Europe this time mostly on 20 and 15 meters. ... **NP3CW**. Part-time operation. A lot of fun despite the fact that the DX conditions were marginal at best. ... **OG6N**. Had a great time. Looking forward to better band conditions. It was Norm's last hurrah from PNG; we're really gonna miss P29NB next time. ... **P29NB**. Surprising conditions on 15. Mni thanks for the great fun this contest offers. ... **PA0M**. Nice contest! Worked some nice DX on my simple openline dipole (like JA0JHA, and TF3ZA,TC3EC). ... **PA3GEO**. Lots of fun in the contest. Not much activity on higher bands. My simple wire dipole simply needs better condx. Thanks to all stations who had to dig my signal up from the noise.



At PJ2T Jean-Claude, PJ2BVU, is searching for multipliers on 160 while Marty, K2PLF, and Jack, N4RV, handle the run stations on 40 and 75.

Your patience is appreciated. ... **PE2KM**. Nice to hear 10 meters alive again! ... **PY2XC**. Really enjoyed big RK0AXX antennas. See you next year. ... **RU0AKB**. Amazing how well the band works on QRP. ... **SM5MEK**. Murphy had a lot of fun with us! We had problems with one PC, RF, and CT network, and 80 and 160 meter antenna, but it was great because we introduced Ernesto, CM8GJ, to our contest crew. It was CO8KA's first WPX also. Hope to get more new operators soon! ... **T48K**. I only operated Saturday, but it went well. Most stations were from Europe and only 9% from NA, similar to my previous contests this winter. Few years back, NA stations started to appear in the afternoon and were strong going into late night, but not this time. Highlights included A73A, VQ9JC, JP1DJV, and SX5P. Thanks for organizing this great contest. ... **TF3AM**. 20/9 QRN all weekend = the perfect mess! Or the perfect 160m training exercise. ... **VE3MGY**. We had a lot of fun in this contest using our vintage FT-101ZD and teamed with FL-2100B amp. A lot of new hams got their feet wet in this contest. ... **VE7NA**. Many thanks to the US licensees above 7.200 who make contesting a pleasure with their patience, mutual respect, and courtesy. Wx was kind. Best 73 from down under. ... **VK3NI**. My first WPX contest and just using 100W and ground mounted vertical. Already have the 5-element tribander on order, hi. Nice 40m openings to NA both evenings and Europe on last morning. Lots of new countries. Hooked on contests now! ... **VK5HRT**. Great fun giving out the first VP59 Prefix. Be back next year with another new one. ... **VP59V**. Was not able to operate the full contest due to family commitments. Decided to try QRP to see how the antenna system works and with a target of 50 QSOs and 5000 points. Operating time about 6 hours, mostly on RX. ... **VU2PTT**. Great contest, many more DX contacts this year, great path to Europe, even worked Senegal and South Korea, and heard the Philippines. ... **W0CBH**. My first SSB contest! Many thanks to those who copied my QRP signal. Very good operators! ... **WA5RML**. Two power outages but had a lot of fun! Working Greece, Cyprus, and Thailand helped too! ... **WA6KHK**. Great openings to Europe Saturday evening and Sunday. Great fun. I can't believe that there are so many different prefixes to contact. ... **WB6JJJ**. Great time by enjoying operating at times in a busy weekend. Made some interesting QSOs and new ones for me on 40, 20, and 15 meters. ... **XE2RV**. Always a great contest despite a poor propagation. Anyway I enjoyed every contact. See you next year. ... **YV6BXN**. Wow! So many signals. I am left wondering if the DX QRP stations ever get heard amongst all the splatter and QRM. I was struggling with 100w and tribander with wires. Fun comes in various forms! Next contest I will try new antennas on 40m. Thanks to all who worked me. ... **ZL1AAO**.

(Continued on page 104)

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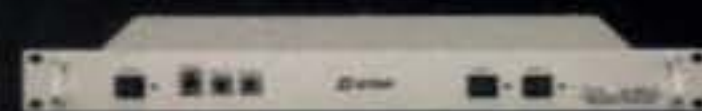


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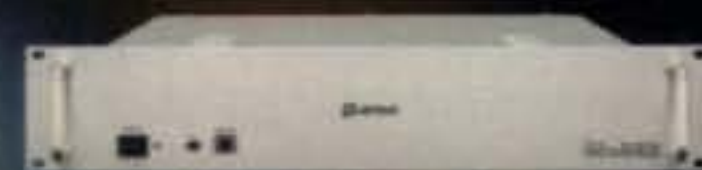
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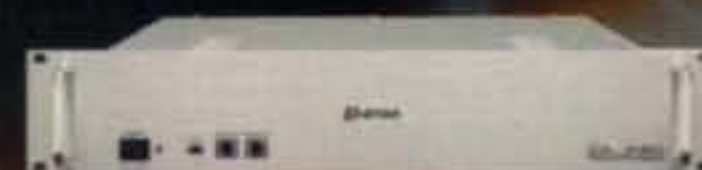
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Announcing:

The 2010 CQ World-Wide WPX RTTY Contest

February 13–14, 2010

Starts: 0000 GMT Saturday

Ends: 2359 GMT Sunday

I. Objective: For amateurs worldwide to contact as many amateurs and licensed prefixes as possible during the contest period.

II. Period of Operation: 48 hours. Single-Operator stations may operate 30 of the 48 hours—**off times must be a minimum of 60 minutes.** Multi-Operator stations may operate the full 48 hours.

III. Bands: The 3.5, 7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz bands may be used. No 1.8 MHz or WARC bands allowed. *Observance of established band plans is strongly encouraged.*

IV. Terms of Competition for All Categories:

(a) All entrants must operate within the limits of their chosen category when performing any activity that could impact their submitted score. Only the entrant's callsign may be used to aid the entrant's score.

(b) A different callsign must be used for each entry.

(c) All entrants must not exceed 1500 watts total output power, or the maximum output power of their country, or the power limit of their entry category, whichever is less, on any band.

(d) QSO alerting assistance is permitted in **all** categories. However, self-spotting or asking other stations to spot you is not allowed.

(e) All operation must take place from one operating site. Transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500-meter diameter circle or within the property limits of the station licensee, whichever is greater. All antennas must be physically connected by wires to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant.

(f) The entry location of a remote station is determined by the physical location of the transmitters, receivers, and antennas. A remote station must obey all station and category limitations.

V. Entry Categories

A. Single-Operator Categories: Only one person (the operator) may contribute to the final score during the official contest period.

(a) **Single-Operator High (All-Band or Single-Band):** One person performs all of the operating and logging functions. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. **Total output power must not exceed 1500 watts.**

(b) **Single-Operator Low (All-Band or Single-Band):** One person performs all of the operating and logging functions. Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. **Total output power must not exceed 100 watts.**

B. Multi-Operator Categories (All-Band operation only, high power only): Only one transmitted signal per band and only one run transmitter per band.

(a) **Single-Transmitter (Multi-One):** Only one transmitted signal is permitted at any time. A maximum of 8 band changes may be made in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes). For example, a change from 20 meters to 40 meters and then back to 20 meters counts as two band changes. Excessive violations of the band change rule will result in reclassification to the Multi-Multi category. Use a single serial number sequence for the entire log. **Total output power must not exceed 1500 watts.**

(b) **Two-Transmitter (Multi-Two):** A maximum of two transmitted signals at any time on different bands. Both transmitted signals may work any and all stations. A station may only be worked once per band regardless of which transmitted signal is used. The log must indicate which transmitted signal made each QSO (column 81 of Cabrillo QSO template for CQ contests). Each transmitted signal may make a maximum of 8 band changes in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes). For example, a change from 20 meters to 40 meters and then back to 20 meters counts as two band changes. Excessive violations of the band change rule will result in reclassification to the Multi-Multi category. Use a separate serial number

sequence for each band. **Total output power of each transmitted signal must not exceed 1500 watts.**

(c) **Multi-Transmitter (Multi-Multi):** Use a separate serial number sequence for each band. **Total output power of each transmitted signal must not exceed 1500 watts.**

VI. Exchange: RST report plus a progressive contact serial number starting with 001 for the first contact. Single-Operator and Multi-One entries must use a single serial number sequence for the complete log. Multi-Two and Multi-Multi entrants use separate serial number sequences starting with serial number 001 on each band.

VII. Contact Points:

(a) Contacts between stations on different continents are worth three (3) points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and six (6) points on 7 and 3.5 MHz.

(b) Contacts between stations on the same continent, but different countries, are worth two (2) points on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and four (4) points on 7 and 3.5 MHz.

(c) Contacts between stations in the same country are worth one (1) point on 28, 21, and 14 MHz and two (2) points on 7 and 3.5 MHz.

VIII. Prefix Multipliers: The prefix multiplier is the number of valid prefixes worked. Each PREFIX is counted only once regardless of the band or number of times the same prefix is worked.

(a) A PREFIX is the letter/numeral combination that forms the first part of the amateur call. Examples: N8, W8, WD8, HG1, HG19, KC2, OE2, OE25, etc. Any difference in the numbering, lettering, or order of same shall count as a separate prefix. A station operating from a DXCC country different from that indicated by its callsign is required to sign portable. The portable prefix must be an authorized prefix of the country/call area of operation. In cases of portable operation, the portable designator will then become the prefix. Example: N8BJQ operating from Wake Island would sign N8BJQ/KH9 or N8BJQ/NH9. KH6XXX operating from Ohio must use an authorized prefix for the U.S. 8th district (/W8, /AD8, etc.). Portable designators without numbers will be assigned a zero (0) after the second letter of the portable designator to form the prefix. Example: PA/N8BJQ would become PA0. All calls without numbers will be assigned a zero (0) after the first two letters to form the prefix. Example: XEFTJW would count as XE0. Maritime mobile, mobile, /A, /E, /J, /P, or interim license class identifiers do not count as prefixes.

(b) Special event, commemorative, and other unique prefix stations are encouraged to participate. Prefixes must be assigned by the licensing authority of the country of operation.

IX. Scoring (QSO Points): A station may be worked once on each band for QSO point credit. Prefix credit may be taken only once.

(a) Single-Operator:

(i) All-Band score = total contact points from all bands multiplied by the number of different prefixes worked.

(ii) Single-Band score = total contact points on the band entered multiplied by the number of different prefixes worked on that band only.

(b) **Multi-Operator:** Scoring is the same as Single-Operator, All-Band.

X. Awards: Certificates will be awarded to the highest scoring station in each category listed under Section V

(a) In every participating country.

(b) In each call area of the United States, Canada, Australia, European Russia, Asiatic Russia, Spain, and Japan.

(c) In countries or call areas where entries justify, second- and third-place awards may be made.

All scores will be published. To be eligible for an award, a Single-

Operator station must show a minimum of 6 hours of operation and Multi-Operator stations must show a minimum of 24 hours of operation.

A Single-Band log will be eligible for a Single-Band award only. If a log contains more than one band, only contacts made on the band specified in the Cabrillo header or summary sheet will be considered for scoring purposes.

XI. Plaques and Donors:

Plaques are awarded to recognize top performance in a number of categories. For a current list of plaques and sponsors, or to learn how to become a sponsor, see <www.cqwxrtty.com/plaques.htm>.

A station winning a World plaque will not be considered for a sub-area award. That award will be given to the runner-up for that area if the number of entries justifies the award. Contestants who win a category for which no plaque is sponsored may contact <plaques@cqwxrtty.com> to arrange sponsorship.

XII. Club Competition: A plaque will be awarded each year to the club that has the highest aggregate score from logs submitted by members.

(a) The club must be a local group and not a national organization (e.g., ARRL or DARC).

(b) Participation is limited to members residing in or operating from a local geographic area defined as within a 275-km radius circle from center of club area (except for DXpeditions specially organized for operation in the contest).

(c) Single Operators can only contribute to one club. Multi-Operator scores are allocated as indicated with the entry.

(d) Please spell out the full club name in the CABRILLO file, exactly as it is listed on the Club Names web page, <www.cqwxrtty.com/clubnames.htm>. To be listed in the results, a minimum of three logs must be received from a club.

XIII. Instructions for Submission of Logs:

(a) All times must be in GMT.

(b) All logs must be submitted with the QSOs in chronological order.

(c) The log MUST show the correct serial number sent and received for each contact. Logs without sent and received serial numbers may be reclassified as checklogs.

(d) We would appreciate receiving all logs in electronic format. Electronic submission of logs is **required** for anyone competing for an award and for all who use a computer to log the contest or prepare contest logs.

(e) **Single band entrants are required to include all contacts made during the contest period, even if on other bands.** Indicate the single-band information in the CABRILLO header and only those contacts made on the single band will be included in the scoring.

(f) **The CABRILLO file format is the standard.** Please make sure all of the CABRILLO header information is included. For detailed instructions on filling out the CABRILLO file header, see <www.cqwxrtty.com/logs.htm>. **U.S. stations must indicate the ARRL Section of operation in the CABRILLO header (e.g., LOCATION: OH).**

(g) **E-mail is the expected method of log submission.** Logs in CABRILLO format

should be sent to <rtty@cqwp.com>. In the "Subject:" line of your e-mail message, please include only the callsign used in the contest. The CABRILLO formatted log file should be named call.log, with "call" being the callsign used in the contest. Portable callsigns should use a hyphen in place of the slash, e.g., w0yk-kh6.log for W0YK/KH6. All logs received via e-mail will be confirmed via e-mail. A listing of logs received can be found at <www.cqwxrtty.com/logs_received.shtml>.

(h) **Instructions for NON-CABRILLO electronic logs:** If you are not able to submit a CABRILLO log, please contact the Contest Director for permission to submit another format.

(i) **Instructions for paper logs:** Paper logs may be mailed to CQ Communications, Inc., 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 USA or by fax (+1) 516-681-2926). Each paper log entry must be accompanied by a Summary Sheet listing all scoring information, the category of competition, and the entrant's name and mailing address in BLOCK LETTERS. Indicate WPX RTTY Contest on your envelope.

XIV. Disqualification: Violation of amateur radio regulations in the country of the contestant, or the rules of the contest; unsportsmanlike conduct; taking credit for excessive unverifiable QSOs or unverifiable multipliers will be deemed sufficient cause for disqualification. Incorrectly logged calls will be counted as unverifiable contacts.

Any use by an entrant of any non-amateur means including, but not limited to, telephones, e-mail, internet, Instant Messenger, chat rooms, VoIP, or the use of DX cluster to *solicit, arrange, or confirm* any contacts during the contest is unsportsmanlike and the entry is subject to disqualification.

An entrant whose log is deemed by the Contest Committee to contain a large number of discrepancies may be disqualified from eligibility for an award, both as a participant operator or station, for one year. Disqualification of an entrant in any CQ contest will lead to check-log status in all CQ contests for a period of one year. If an operator is disqualified a second time within five years, he/she will be ineligible for any CQ contest awards for three years.

XV. Declaration: By submitting an entry in the CQ WPX RTTY Contest you agree that: (1) you have read and understood the rules of the contest and agree to be bound by them, as well as all rules and regulations of your country which pertain to amateur radio, (2) your log entry may be made open to the public, and (3) all actions and decisions of the CQ WPX RTTY Contest Committee are official and final.

XVI. Deadline: All entries must be postmarked NO LATER than March 1, 2010. All logs, including e-mail entries, are subject to the deadline. Logs postmarked after the deadline may be listed in the results, but will be ineligible for any awards.

E-mail logs to <rtty@cqwp.com> and review the response e-mail from the robot. If noted in the response, make any corrections and resubmit the log.

Questions pertaining to the CQ WPX RTTY Contest may be e-mailed to the Contest Director, Ed Muns, W0YK, at <w0yk@cqwxrtty.com>.

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Announcing:

2010 Nominations Open for the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

Amateur radio operators have been responsible for many advances in communications technology, and entire industries have been built on the foundation of amateur radio experimentation and activity. In an effort to recognize outstanding amateurs and their achievements, and help the public appreciate the far-reaching and long-standing value of amateur radio in our society, we have established the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. Nominations for the 2010 "class" are now open. Members of the 2009 "class" were announced last May and appeared in the July issue of CQ.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those whose technical or other accomplishments have helped propel amateur radio forward, or whose achievements in other areas of life have helped improve ham radio's reputation simply through association. Nominees for the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame will be judged on the basis of qualifying in one of two broad areas: those individuals—whether licensed amateurs or not—who have made significant contributions to the amateur radio hobby; and those radio amateurs who have made significant contributions to society in general. Nominees must have made *significant* contributions of nationwide or worldwide impact.

Nomination Period Closes March 31

Between now and March 31, 2010, we will be accepting nominations for the 2010 "class" of the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. Nominations received after that date will be considered for future selection. You may either use the form on the following page or on our website, or simply write us a letter stating your candidate's name, where to contact him/her if still living, for which category you are nominating him/her, and a brief one- to two-paragraph description of this person's accomplishments. Please include your name and contact

CQ DX and Contest Halls of Fame Deadline March 1st

Nominations are also open for the **CQ DX Hall of Fame** and the **CQ Contest Hall of Fame**, which recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and contesting, respectively. The activities and accomplishments that qualify one for membership in these elite groups involve considerable personal sacrifice and can usually be described by the phrase "above and beyond the call of duty."

Nominations for the Contest and DX Halls of Fame are made by **contesting or DX clubs or national organizations**, and must be submitted by **March 1** of each year to be considered. A maximum of two (2) people may be inducted into each hall of fame each year. Nominations for the CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame should be directed to Bob Cox, K3EST, c/o CQ Communications Inc., 25 Newbridge Rd., Hicksville, NY 11801; or via e-mail to <k3est@cqww.com>.

information as well. E-mail to <hall-of-fame@cq-amateur-radio.com> or mail to CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame, 25 Newbridge Rd., Hicksville, NY 11801. If you feel someone has earned this recognition, please submit a nomination. Please *don't* assume that someone else will nominate the person you may have in mind.

We'll be making up our own candidate list at the same time, and will announce this year's selections at the Dayton Hamvention® in May 2010. Please help us recognize these "ham radio heroes" whose contributions have helped shape our hobby, our nation, or our world.

(The official nomination form is on the CQ website.)

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Oops...

AD5X's October review of the updated Ameritron ALS-600 HF amplifier was supposed to include a sidebar on a control/indicator unit Phil designed for the ARI-500 automatic band-switch accessory. Somehow, it never made it to the final version. So, without further ado, here is Phil's add-on circuit.—the editors

Control/Indicator Unit for the Ameritron ARI-500

As discussed in the review (see the October 2009 issue), there are no ALS-600 status indicators on the ARI-500, requiring an ALS-500RC Remote Control Head for monitoring a remotely mounted ALS-600 amplifier. Also, you must switch off your ALS-600 to run barefoot or check exciter drive power.

To remedy these "deficiencies," I built a compact interface that plugs into the ARI-500 Remote A input that includes PWR, TX and O/L LEDs, and a Standby/Operate switch. The circuit is shown in fig. 1. While I made my own RJ45 cable interface, I've called out an RJ45 cable so you can just cut off the necessary cable length. The cable length is non-critical, but it should extend just 3 inches from the box to the end of the RJ45 connector if you want to mount the interface unit right on the ARI-500. All parts (Table II) are from All Electronics (www.allelectronics.com). Photo G shows the inside wiring of the unit, and photo H shows the unit mounted on the ARI-500 with double-sided tape. (Note: Photo H also shows a highly modified ARI-500 that is the subject of another article.) Labeling was done using Casio "White-on-Clear" labeling tape.

In order to use this unit, strap the ARI-500 as though the ALS-500RC is being used. Unlike the ALS-500RC, however, this interface unit does not disable the ARI-500 auto-reset, nor does it load the ALS-600 RF power meter. Now I can mount the ALS-600 out of the way and still monitor TX and O/L status. Also, I can easily switch between Operate and Standby so I can check transceiver drive or switch between barefoot and full-power operation.

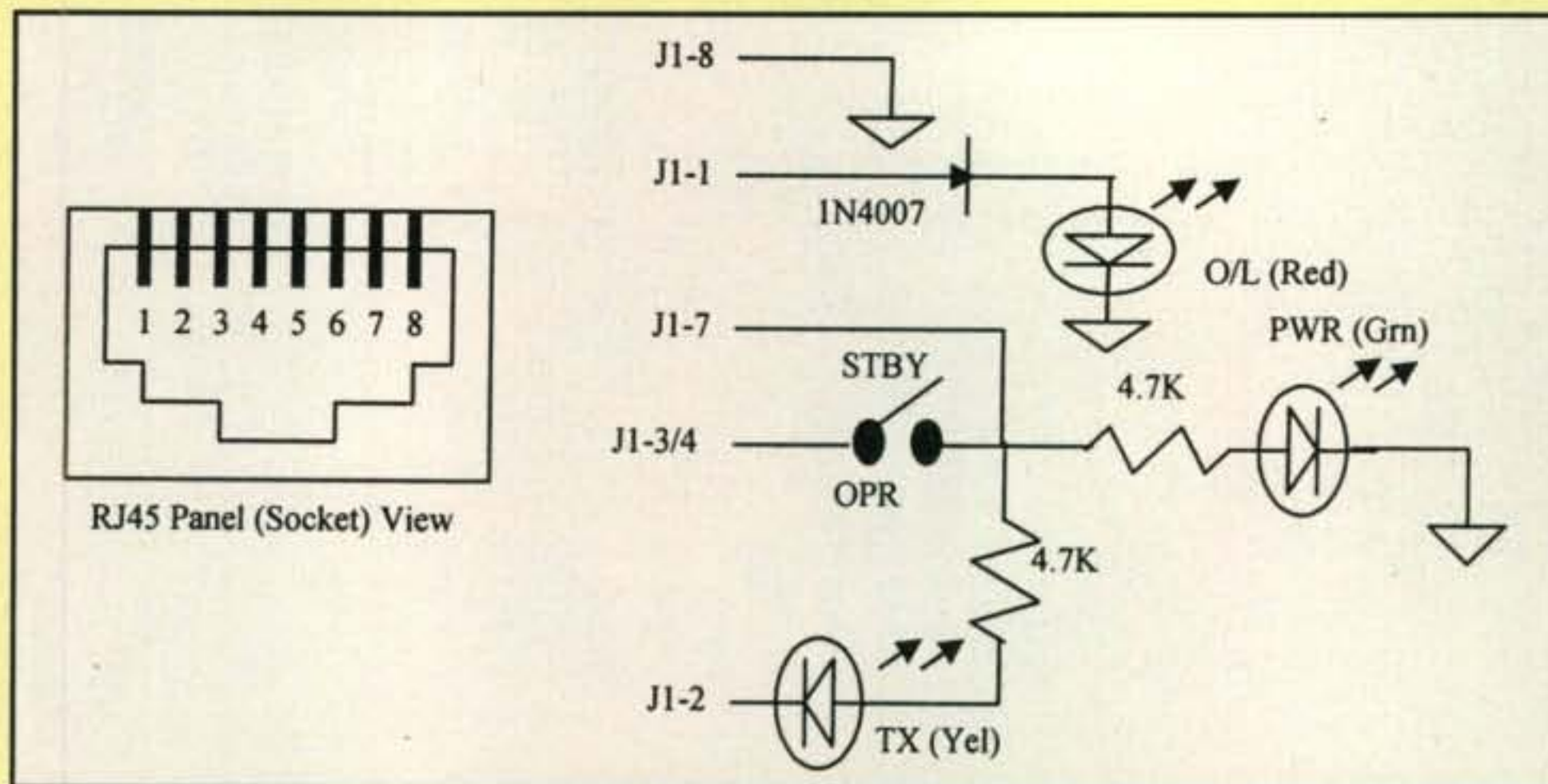


Fig. 1—ARI-500 interface unit schematic.

Qty	Description	Part No.	Price ea.
1	Subminiature toggle switch	SMTS-4	\$1.35
1	Ultra-bright green LED	LED-57	\$2.00
1	Ultra-bright red LED	LED-94	\$0.55
1	Ultra-bright yellow LED	LED-72	\$0.95
2	4.7K 1/4-watt resistor	4.7K-1/4	5/\$0.50
1	1N4007	1N4007	6/\$1.00
1	2.36" x 1.36" x 0.8" plastic box	1551-HBK	\$1.95
1	3-ft. CAT5 cable	CB-53	\$2.35

Table II—ARI-500 interface unit parts list. All Electronics part numbers shown.

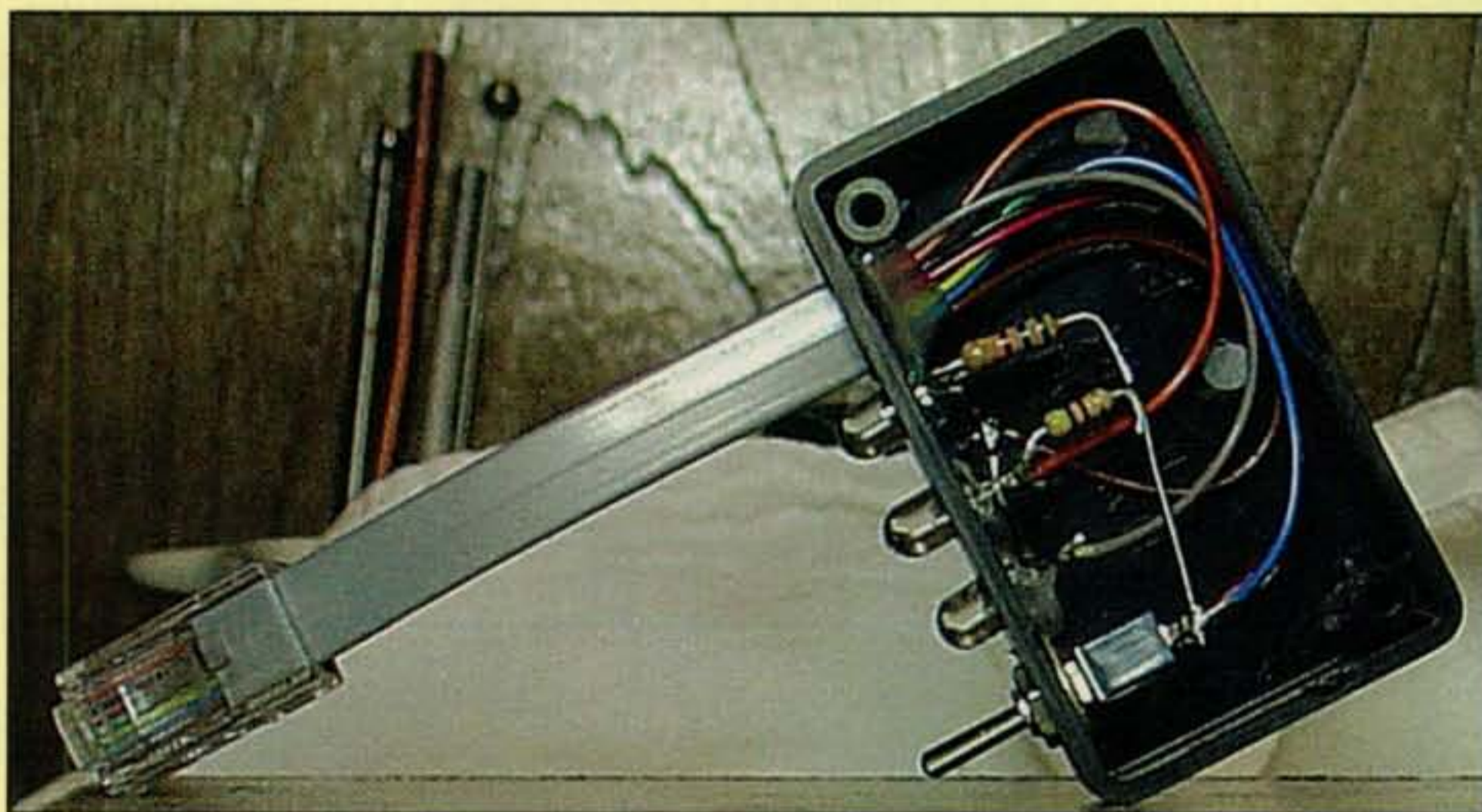


Photo G—Inside wiring of the author's homebrew ARI-500 interface unit.



Photo H—Interface unit mounted on the ARI-500 with double-sided tape.

MFJ Weather-Proof Window Feedthrough Panels

Weather-proof window feedthrough panels bring coax, balanced lines, HF/VHF/UHF antennas, random wire antennas, ground, rotator/antenna switch cables and DC/AC power into your hamshack without drilling through walls!



Inside View



Outside View

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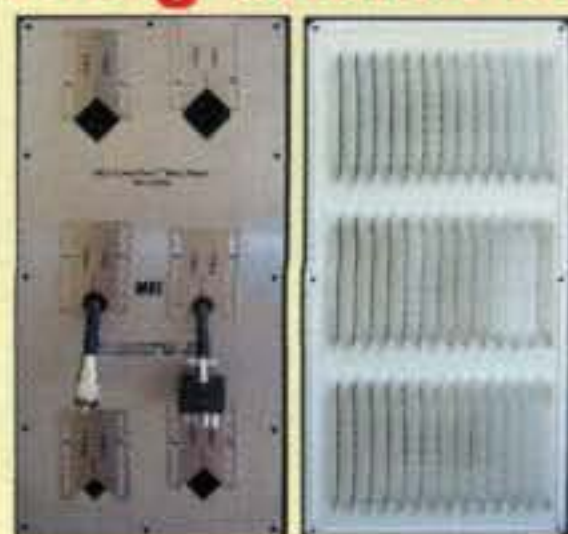
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New Year Nostalgia

At this time of year I always like to look at where we are, where we have been, and where we may go. During my lifetime so far progress has been very rapid and amazing, and I cannot believe just how "advanced" we are now.

When I was 13 we got our first television set. Although I had seen TV shows for several years on a neighbor's 7-inch RCA 630 black-and-white TV set, ours was the "latest" and first color TV on the block. The 16-inch screen looked tremendous, and the few shows that were actually broadcast in color ("The Wonderful World of Disney" and "Bonanza") were amazing, to say the least. The CRT was huge and heavy and had lots of controls (internal as well as external) to adjust color hue, saturation, convergence, etc. When I look at my cell phone's HD display today I cannot help but marvel. Where is the 30-kv high-voltage supply? How is all of that packed into a tiny pocket-size housing that is less than 1/4-inch thick and weighs a few ounces?

In the "old days" we did not have computers. We did have heavy mechanical adding machines with rows and rows of buttons, rolls of paper, and carbon ink saturated ribbons, but we could only add and subtract with these behemoths. The technological breakthrough came with the first 10-key "calculator" (yes, the terms had changed) made, I believe, by Olivetti. Now you could not only add and subtract, but multiply and divide as well. You did not even have to pull the crank, since an internal electric motor did the job for you. These rapidly evolved from basic calculators into the tape-driven TRS-80s, the 8-inch, 5 1/4-inch, and 3 1/2-inch disk-drive computers, and finally into today's multi-gigabit units (in tiny thumb drives as well), also quite amazing (and in a relatively short time)!

Speaking of computers, when I was in middle school we had to take a mandatory typing class. We had to learn proper posture, proper finger positions, and if you were good you might be able to actually type at 10 to 20 words per minute. Well, not only are typewriters obsolete today (an IBM Selectric was \$15 at a garage sale recently, complete with five type balls), but my 16-year-old can type at least 10 times faster (and more accurately) than I can with no formal training at all. Her posture is not that bad either, and she can easily manipulate a 10-key non-QUERTY multi-symbol-type keyboard when texting. Any mistakes she might make are also quickly and automatically corrected.

With regard to our hobby I am not that old that I remember spark, but I did build many transmitters and receivers with vacuum tubes such as the 6SN7, 6AG7, 6146, 2E26, 6L6, and so on. All of these required high-voltage supplies (I still remember the shocks!), dipping and loading finals, and an obsession with SWR. Today all tuning and matching is automatic, and the only high currents required from the power supplies (at low voltages) are for the transmitters. Even fully software-con-

trolled radios are becoming readily available, making me wonder where all of this will lead. Will amateur radio remain roughly where it is, or will it be unrecognizable in a few decades?

With these thoughts in mind, I would like to share a dozen of my views as to where we may be in the future. You may or may not agree with me, but this is where I believe we will be—eventually. Note that these predictions are not necessarily in the order in which they will or may occur.

1. The GHz and THz regions will be as easy to work with (and as common) as HF and VHF are today. Also, new propagation modes will be found in the SHF and optical electromagnetic regions.

2. The keyboard and mouse will become obsolete. Voice recognition will become 99%+ accurate, and we will converse with our electronic devices much as the actors do in the "Star Trek" TV shows. For that matter, amateur radio will become full duplex all of the time. No more "over."

3. There will be no more manual dials or controls. Touch screens such as used on the Apple iPhone™ will be just one of the ways that we will control our future devices prior to full voice recognition.

4. A new component family will be found that will replace transistors in much the same way that semiconductors replaced vacuum tubes.

5. Full-motion video will be commonplace in cell phones, amateur radio, and anywhere communication from one person to another is carried out.

6. Worldwide amateur communications will become commonplace via small, low-power HTs addressing amateur satellites (or something similar) 24 hours a day.

7. Battery technology will be vastly improved, allowing very rapid recharging and extremely long operating times between charges.

8. Super-capacitance energy storage systems will be developed providing thousands of Farads of capacitors. This will eliminate problems caused by surges, peak momentary demands, etc.

9. Flexible transparent screens less than 1/10 inch thick will become commonplace, allowing all sorts of unique displays.

10. Virtually everything will be cordless. This means no more test probe leads, no more jumper cables, no more patch cords, etc.

11. The same will be true for power supplies. Wall warts will become obsolete. All remote power (where needed) will be delivered by inductive (or similar) means, and portable devices will recharge themselves when needed as long as they are located in a preconfigured area.

12. LEDs and lasers will be developed allowing true FM optical transmissions by accurately varying the frequency (wavelength or color) of a light source, not only the amplitude, just as we tune an RF assembly today.

I think the world of 2050 will be a very different one, and I hope all of this has given you a few ideas. I wish you a very Happy New Year and hope all your wishes come true.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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The Unquantifiables

Radio exists largely because a dedicated collection of scientists, experimenters, and hobbyists refused to be confined by what was known and what could be seen or documented by "known" forms of quantification. As described in this column and extensively elsewhere, pioneers including Maxwell, Faraday, Morse, Hertz, Marconi, Fleming, Edison, Tesla, Bell, De Forest, Armstrong, and countless others were drawn by their curiosity into the strange but invisible forces that allow the transmission of communications across space. From the first simple static noises of dots and dashes across "the ether" to today's many forms of transmission including AM, FM, SSB, spread-spectrum, and digital, for over a century our planet has been a virtual "lighthouse" in the universe, signaling the presence of intelligent life on this rock orbiting a rather ordinary star.

Exploring the unknown seems to be encoded in our species. Then there are the many different types of "unknowns"—those bigger than us, such as the universe, those smaller than us, such as subatomic particles, and the metaphysical, which transcends multiple disciplines. The "drive" in mankind has been to constantly ask the question "why" and upon discovering immediate answers, apply that knowledge in new, sometimes unforeseen directions.

Imagine for a moment being present at some of the "eureka" moments, such as the dawn of mathematics and geometry, seeing the expression on the face of Galileo the first time a telescope allowed man to view the heavenly bodies of space, or hearing the first dots and dashes of telegraphy.

The Undiscovered Countries

What is yet to be discovered in the field of wireless communications? Are there "gaps" in our understanding waiting to be filled?

For many of us, our communications "hobby" offers a limitless *je ne sais quoi* of unquantifiable joys and curiosities. Certainly these are the things that first drew many of us into radio, perhaps as a satisfying amateur pursuit, for others forming the basis of their professions.

As a lay person dabbling in the radio arts I can't help but wonder what lies ahead. What is the "stuff" that makes up subatomic particles? Do those components have components? What is the source of energy that binds everything together? We have shown we can tap carbon, gravity, and even nuclear energy. As we seek to exploit wind, solar, and other forms of power, are we overlooking a simple solution that lies immediately before us? Is "cold" fusion really possible? Will there be a combined "eureka" and "duh!" moment?

What are the qualities that make sound transmitted and received using vacuum-tube appara-

tus more "satisfying" than the same material transmitted and received using solid-state gear? The same is posed with digital versus analog methods? We know some of those answers, but clearly not all of them.

Will the recently conducted experiments that indicate the possibility of exceeding the speed of light bear fruit? And if we develop the ability to transmit intelligence at superlight speeds, how does one go about receiving it? Is it possible it could arrive before it was sent?

Is the Large Hadron Collider in France a key to man's future or our demise? Would the discovery of anti-matter make nuclear weapons look like swords, bows, and clubs by comparison? What might develop of the experiments to move mass across space by electronic means? What might that mean for freight shippers or airlines?

Where the Answers Are

The answers to many of these questions aren't so much "out there" as they are "in here." Somewhere on the planet today are bright young people who will choose to make these curiosities the subject of their life's work. Some will succeed; others will contribute to the knowledge base by not meeting their objectives but their work may be just as important.

Sadly, I and many others do not have the gifts of the research scientist or electronic engineer. However, we do have the ability to inspire, mentor, share, and envision. The science-fiction writers of the last two centuries laid the blueprints for many of the items taken for granted today. Space travel has become routine, and for some it has become a "tourism" activity. Communications satellites and the delivery of "newspapers" over the internet and other such visionary wonders sprang from the minds of Jules Verne, Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, Robert Heinlein, and more. For those of us less gifted than the true discoverers, we can play a role in helping to imagine what will be—what can be—by delimiting our imagination. A requirement of every high school commencement seems to be "if you can dream it, you can do it." It's true enough to keep repeating.

Your amateur radio license is more than a permit to operate. It's documentation that you have a desire to reach beyond yourself. Ham radio is a rare pursuit that cannot be done alone; you need at least one other person. Your commitment to communications acknowledges those pioneers who came before us as well those among us. Ham radio's rich tradition of mentorship is perhaps one of its most endearing qualities and the key to its future. Remember, Marconi started out as an "amateur."

As we begin another year, at the threshold of yet another decade, I offer the resolution on an individual level of rededicating our passion for radio in all its forms by sharing it with at least one person who just may be the next great discoverer who adds his or her legacy contributions to what we enjoy as the "Magic In The Sky." 73, Jeff, AA6JR

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What You've Told Us...

Our August survey asked about young people in amateur radio, and we first asked how old *you* were when you were first licensed. More than half of you first got your ham tickets when you were 25 or younger (38% between 15 and 25, 21% under 15), followed by 22% first licensed between ages 26 and 40, 11% between 41 and 55 and 8% over 55. Next, we asked, if you were that age again today, how likely would you be to consider becoming a ham? "Very likely" was the answer of 78% of you; 15% said somewhat likely, 4% somewhat unlikely and 2% very unlikely.

On the question of whether there are enough young people entering ham radio today, 72% of you said no, followed by "I don't know" at 16%, and yes at 9%. Next, we asked you, based on personal experience, to rate the abilities of today's young hams compared to those of the past. There was no consensus here: 26% said today's young hams are less capable, 25% said the skills needed today are too different for a valid comparison, 23% said ability levels are about the same, 13% feel today's young hams have greater skills than in the past, 7% don't know and 5% don't know any young hams.

We next asked what you, personally, had done to help encourage young people to become hams; 43% of you have talked with young people about the fun and excitement of ham radio, 33% have helped give license exams, 30% have invited young guests and/or family members to operate your stations, 29% have helped with ham radio demonstrations, 26% have helped teach licensing courses, 23% have helped with club activities aimed at young people, 21% have worked directly with young people as, for example, a merit badge counselor, 16% have helped in other ways, and 14% have done nothing so far.

Finally, when asked to rate your club's attitude toward young people, 41% of you rated it as good, with another 11% rating their club as excellent (52% total); followed by mediocre at 21%, poor at 6% and very poor at 2%.

This month's free subscription winner is Fred Race, W8FR, of Blue Mt., MS.

Reader Survey January 2010

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, in honor of *CQ*'s 65th anniversary, we'd like you to get out your crystal ball and peer 65 years into the future. ... When our first issue came out in January 1945, hams were still off the air because of World War II, all radios used tubes, "phone" meant AM, and CW was not yet a synonym for Morse code in general. What do you think ham radio will be like in 2075?

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

1. Do you think ham radio will still exist in 2075?

- Yes, definitely 1
- Probably 2
- Not sure 3
- Probably not 4
- No, definitely not 5

2. If ham radio does still exist in 2075, what types of signals are we likely to be transmitting?

- Digital only 6
- Mostly digital, some analog 7
- About half digital, half analog 8
- Mostly analog, some digital 9
- Something we haven't thought of yet 10

3. Will hams still be using Morse code in 2075?

- Yes, definitely 11
- Probably 12
- Not sure 13
- Probably not 14
- No, definitely not 15

4. How will the size of ham radio gear in 2075 compare with today's gear?

- Much smaller than today 16
- Somewhat smaller than today 17
- About the same size as today 18
- Bigger than today 19
- There will no longer be discrete ham radio equipment 20

5. What will the circuits inside ham gear likely look like in 2075?

- Still transistor/IC-based 21
- Mix of transistor-based and some new current-amplifying device 22
- A new device will be the basis of most circuits 23
- Everything will be in software, as an "app" on a multifunctional device 24

6. What will be the basis of most long-distance amateur radio communications in 2075?

- The ionosphere 25
- Satellites 26
- A mix of RF/Internet links 27
- Two or more of the above 28
- A propagation method we haven't yet discovered 29

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



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North Carolina Hams Applauded for Developing Back-up EmComm System

A report in a recent edition of the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management's online periodical "Memo" highlighted ongoing efforts of the region's radio amateurs in developing reliable EmComm back-up communications systems—in this case, MARS Winlink.

Pointing out how dramatically "technological advances are changing amateur radio operations," the report details how "much of the day-to-day work of public safety agencies is conducted via e-mail and Internet-based applications such as WebEOC. When these systems fail or become overloaded, public safety could be diminished because critical agencies are no longer able to receive and send vital information in a timely manner."

"Memo" reported that in late 2008, "amateur radio volunteer operators began installing a back-up e-mail system in several NCEM facilities to provide basic e-mail service using a unique system developed by the amateur radio community. Winlink allows computers to communicate via shortwave radio instead of using the Internet or other conventional networks."

With long-distance wireless as the communications platform, "Winlink stations can communicate with other facilities hundreds or thousands of miles away, without any in-between infrastructure." Using radio, "Winlink can bypass dead, damaged, overloaded, or other non-functional infrastructure," the report said.

In 2008, MARS began allowing governmental agencies to operate within the MARS Winlink

system. "Memo" cited several areas where the MARS Winlink system differs from the amateur-only system:

- The large number of dedicated Winlink-only frequencies in the military spectrum.
- No requirement for an amateur radio operator to be present to use the system.
- The large number of remote mail servers, many in "hardened" facilities.
- The capability of encrypting messages.
- The capability of connection to LANs (local area networks).

"Memo" chronicled how in December 2008, NCEM received agency licenses from MARS and started equipment installation. "By June . . . three fixed terminals were installed and running in Raleigh, Kinston, and Conover. The system uses a standard e-mail program, similar to Outlook Express, so minimal training was required."

Radio amateur volunteers continued to fine-tune the system "until they were satisfied that the maximum performance and reliability had been achieved. At that point, they were eager to test the new technology in an exercise."

North Carolina amateur radio volunteers, who regularly train with local and state emergency management personnel, were tapped to help test the new Winlink system during a statewide earthquake drill.

"In the exercise, an earthquake disabled all communications to Buncombe and surrounding counties. Within 10 minutes, the amateur radio partners established traditional voice communications with the affected areas, the western regional coordination center (RCC), and the state emergency operations center (EOC). They then used the

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



Tom Brown, N4TAB, shows Winlink equipment installed at the North Carolina Emergency Operations Center. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and N4TAB)

Winlink system to establish e-mail communications between amateur/MARS operators in the affected areas, the RCC and the EOC," the "Memo" story reported.

"During the exercise two real-world problems made exercise participants even more dependent on amateur radio and the Winlink system. WebEOC developed some technical problems and contractors accidentally cut fiber-optic lines at the western branch office, disabling the Internet," the story said. "Since the earthquake scenario rendered useless the phone lines, fax lines, and VIPER radio at the western RCC, the only possible remaining communication with outside agencies was through amateur radio and Winlink.

"Within a few minutes of the failure, messages were rapidly moving once again, this time over shortwave radio thanks to the MARS Winlink system. Since the Winlink system is connected to the LAN, NCEM personnel were able to conduct business directly from their regular operating positions without any intervention. It was e-mail-business as usual, only the messages were transported by MARS Winlink instead of the Internet."

ARRL North Carolina Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator Tom Brown, N4TAB, told the "Memo" the exercise "demonstrated the true capability of the MARS Winlink system by providing e-mail service during a situation where all communication infrastructure would be destroyed. It was a busy exercise. Amateur radio had a lot of activity supported by volunteers across the state."

According to Clay Benton, NCEM Communications Center manager, Winlink gives North Carolina "reliable backup capability to ensure we maintain communications with our first responders and government agencies in the event of the unthinkable: the complete and total loss of conventional communications technologies."

Depiction Program Featured in Public Service webinar

In late October we were fortunate to have taken part in an Internet webinar hosted by the software development company Depiction, Inc., whose product has gotten thumbs up from many in the amateur radio emergency communications arena.

According to David Friedman, KE7GOY, a radio amateur who was an unpaid consultant on the program's development, Depiction provides the



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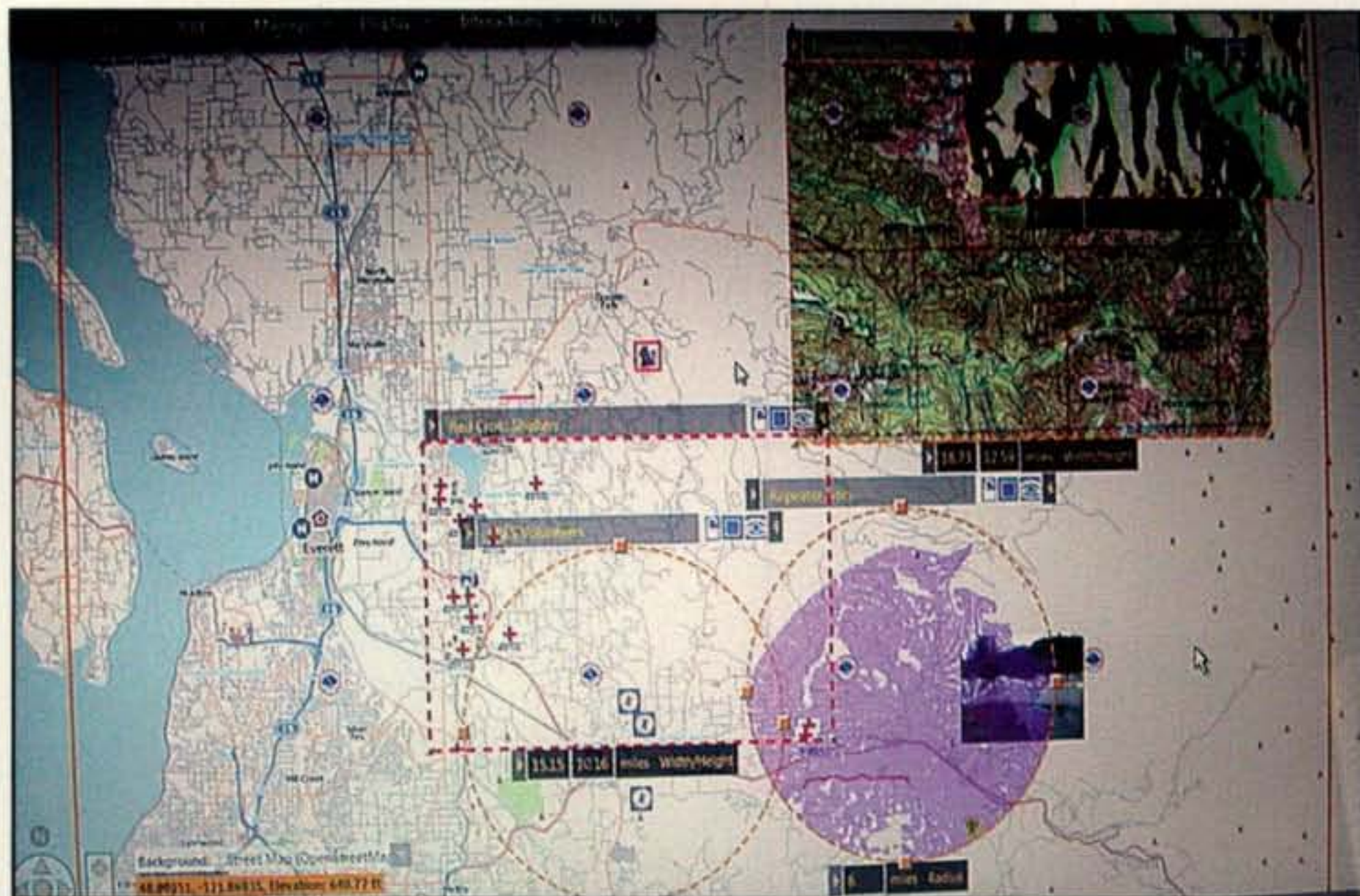
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**ICOM**



An image captured from a computer screen during the Depiction, Inc. software webinar shows an example of mapping and data display that could have application for amateur radio EmComm operations, developers said. (K16SN photo)

platform for everyday users—through extensive mapping and information recall—to create interactive and emergency-exercise scenarios by calling up widely available data and their own custom input.

More than 350 attendees listened in and watched as Friedman and Depiction's Kim Buike took viewers through the paces of the software.

In many ways, Depiction looks tailor-made for EmComm coordination, implementation, and training. With a map as its backdrop, Depiction provides the tools for emergency coordinators to manage a smorgasbord of logistical information ranging from locations of people and resources and manpower allocations to flood zone predictions, repeater coverage mapping, and best transit route plotting.

The webinar's highlights included demonstrations on how to:

- Geo-locate all physical assets and volunteers in "depictions" to track deployment locations.
- Integrate maps, elevation plots, weather data, "fly over" imagery, situation reports, and any critical proprietary data into a single depiction that can be saved and re-used off line.
- Use Depiction's antenna line-of-site footprints in geographic frequency allocation.
- Use Depiction's live reporting features to enhance the communication of volunteer movements, resource status, and damage assessments during a disaster.

Depiction was described in the hour-

plus-long session as a "real clutter buster" when it comes to planning and coordination, especially with the program's "revealer" function.

With data pre-loaded, ask it to identify and plot shelters, and up they pop on your computer screen. Want to see potential volunteers within a certain radius of an emergency location? A "revealer" will display them. In addition, click on any volunteer and see critical contact and personal information about the individual and his or her capabilities.

Depiction calls upon user-inputted data as well as having the capability to tap into web-based databases for additional, more granular information. That's particularly valuable when inter-agency data is needed.

Buike said Depiction is useful in helping emergency coordinators define members of his or her response team and the role they want each team member to play.

Depiction's Tim Goddard announced in November that the company "just released a new version (of Depiction) . . . that is Winlink compatible, and there are some folks over in New York who have already been playing with it and have configured Paclink to work with Winlink, and work with Depiction seamlessly to send geographic data."

Friedman said Depiction is a valuable tool in playing out "What if . . ." scenarios. "What if there's a levee breach? What areas will be affected by the water?" And after determining the endangered areas, what EmComm people and resources are available to

respond? Properly data-loaded, Depiction has the answers.

Virtually any scenario disaster planners dream up can be programmed into Depiction and played out in a training exercise or drill, or during "the real thing."

Since Depiction is a PC program (not yet available for Macs), it does not need to be Internet-connected to function.

Friedman, KE7GOY, is "a disaster response director for Muttshack Animal Rescue and an American Red Cross Government Liaison (in western Washington), as well as Depiction technical advisor who has put the software to work in response multiple disasters across the country," according to Depiction, Inc. "A retired radiologist/emergency-medicine/health physicist, Friedman joined the American Red Cross and amateur radio during Hurricane Katrina and has been involved in emergency management for 35 years."

Buike, a retired military man, "served 27 years in the Navy and rose to the rank of Captain, commanding a destroyer in the Persian Gulf and the Navy's most modern shore facility, Naval Station Everett, before retiring in 2003. Capt. Buike is also a Red Cross volunteer and serves in (his) local county Emergency Operations Center as a Red Cross liaison during community disasters. He has been instrumental in the development of Depiction."

For detailed information about Depiction's capabilities and functions, and for information about purchasing the software, which sells for \$199, visit: <http://www.depiction.com/>.

Arizona Radio Amateur Named New Chief of Army MARS

A Southwestern U.S. radio amateur with more than 50 years experience in military and government communications has been named chief of the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS).

In September 2009, Jim Griffin, KE7LJA, of Sierra Vista, Arizona was named to the post by Maj. Gen. Susan Lawrence, commanding general of the U.S. Army's 9th Signal Command. He succeeds Stuart Carter, who held the position since late 2006. Army MARS is a component of the 9th SC.

Before his appointment, Griffin was deputy chief of Army MARS with oversight of construction of the organization's gateway communications station at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He holds a General class amateur radio license.

"My early days of radio were in the Army as a fixed station repairman," Griffin said during a broadcast to MARS

members. "I started out with vacuum tubes, filament voltages, resistors, capacitors, and other items that are found in museums today.

"I have been stationed in some of the more interesting places of the world such as Japan, Vietnam, France, Germany, Thailand, and Italy. I have run a gamut of positions in radio, microwave, AUTODIN, and satellite as a technician, installer, and instructor."

Griffin's callsign as Army MARS commander is AAA9A.

According to published reports and information from Army MARS public affairs officer Bill Sexton, N1IN/AAA9PC/AAR1FP, Griffin said the organization is "on a steady course based on the 'Road Ahead' planning document that Chief (Stuart) Carter" had previously published. "In fact, (September 2009) marks the completion of retraining of the entire Army MARS membership to meet the plan's long-term goals. Now the work really begins."

According to Sexton, Griffin is from Hawaii and joined the Marines in 1956. "Joining the Army in 1959, he developed a personal specialty of quality control/assurance at major installations around the world. He retired from active duty in May 1979 with a total of 23 years military service and became a civilian staff member in December that year," Sexton wrote.

"The MARS role includes operation of an e-mail-over-radio backup system for participating federal, state, and local agencies, as well as HF radio command-and-control nets in all 50 states," Sexton said. "Both capabilities are maintained in constant readiness in case commercial circuits became severed by (a) natural or manmade disaster. MARS also provides trained members to assist state and local emergency operations centers.

"Because of its dual responsibility to both the Army and the civilian agencies supported by the military in emergencies, MARS members undergo training in both military and civil communications procedures."

In 30 Seconds Duracell Sheds Light . . .

With a narration provided by a member of the famed Lloyd Bridges acting family, the National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC has been front-and-center in a widely distributed radio commercial developed for Duracell batteries.

"This commercial (was) played nationally during hurricane season and (promotes) awareness of amateur radio



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and the public service we do to provide emergency communications," said Julio Ripoll, WD4R, first coordinator for amateur radio at the NHC, "especially during and after hurricanes, when we have experienced complete electrical and conventional communications blackouts for periods of days and weeks." The spot features the voice of Jeff Bridges, son of the legendary TV and movie actor Lloyd Bridges. "John McHugh, K4AG, and I worked for several weeks with the ACME Marketing Firm and Duracell to help produce the radio commercial that captures the essence of amateur radio volunteer public service and the important role amateur radio performs during emergency communications in 30 seconds."

Ripoll said, "The president and creative director of ACME Idea Co., and the Duracell national representative also flew down to Miami and received a tour of (the) NHC and of the WX4NHC station and learned about our many modes of communications, including our portable VHF/UHF radios and other portable battery operated equipment."

The commercial began airing in August 2009. To hear it, go to: <http://kb9wvi.blogspot.com/2009/08/wx4nhc-duracell-commercial.html>.

According to Duracell parent company Proctor & Gamble, the radio spot, entitled "Hurricane," focuses on "the efforts of an all-volunteer army of ham radio operators for WX4NHC, physically located at the National Hurricane Center campus in Miami.

"The spot narrates the important role that these unique volunteers play during severe weather conditions—enabling communications with emergency medical teams, police, and fire departments when the power goes out. The narration underscores the importance of a reliable battery to power the portable ham radios, which are crucial to the organization's work."

Duracell North America Marketing Director Bob Jacobs said in published reports that with the NHC spot, and a separate TV commercial entitled "Tornado" featuring Air Life Denver helicopter crews, the company is showing how "these heroic teams are working to save the lives of others. When storms strike, the radio operators are donating their time to make sure communications stay intact, and the helicopter teams are on the front lines, facing intense pressures and dangerous conditions to rescue those in need. We're proud that our batteries can help power these life-saving efforts."

As the commercial's closing line says: "It just has to work."

Safety first: A Florida Tragedy and a Grim Reminder

The electrocution of three people in Palm Bay, Florida last October is a grim reminder of the importance of putting safety first when raising antennas.

A man, woman, and their teen-age son were killed when a 50-foot vertical antenna they were erecting came in contact with overhead power lines at the home of Barbara Tenn, KJ4KFF, a General class operator. Those killed were not licensed radio amateurs.

The tragedy underscores the importance of planning and safety and is especially relevant to radio amateurs in public service roles who often put up temporary antennas in emergency locations.

According to information from WFTV and Central Florida News 13, the two adults and teen were attempting to raise the antenna in darkness when they lost control and it contacted a 13,000-volt power line. Neither KJ4KFF nor a 17-year-old boy at the scene were injured in the incident.

Just in: Philly Legislation Could Affect Amateurs' Mobile Operation

Former *CQ* "Public Service" columnist Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, dropped us this note on deadline for this issue:

"Operating a two-way radio mobile in Philadelphia may cost you \$75 a pop (slated to begin December 1, 2009) thanks to a new cell-phone law in effect in the city. While the purpose of the law is to discourage the use of cell phones while driving, there is a clause which prohibits the use of a wireless communication device for voice communication while operating a motor vehicle on any street in the city. Hands-free operation is permitted.

"An article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* quotes a 9th District police officer saying that there are some exceptions to the new law: If your device is hands free. If you are calling 911. If you are using a two-way radio to conduct official business for the city, state, or feds. Otherwise the law says to put the car in Park or Neutral.

"Local hams have been in touch with ARRL Volunteer Counsel to get their opinion of the bill."

For more information, check the November edition of the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club newsletter at: <http://www.harcnet.org/>. We'll keep you posted on further developments.

73, Richard, KI6SN

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The ALS-1300 amplifier and its matching power supply can be placed out-of-the-way and controlled remotely. Remote Control Head, ALS-500RC, \$49.95, lets you monitor data and manually switch bands. Radio Interface, ARI-500, \$119.95, reads band data from your transceiver and

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

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

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

Super-clean modular construction makes service quick and easy.

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

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

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

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

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

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I've been using SN3 for about six weeks now. No processors or digital read-outs, but very easy to use and it puts out 1200 watts on most bands with no problem. I have been operating QSK as the internal relays are plenty fast enough. AD5X

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Inside the ALS-1300 Solid State Amplifier



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From the Mail Bag: Responses to Your Inquiries

We save the letters and e-mail messages that you write us, and questions from phone calls. Every so often we try to answer the ones that are of general interest. Let's tackle some this month.

Q: We have heard you mention the Social Security Death Index. What is it and why is it useful to ham radio operators?

A: The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) is an online database of millions of deceased individuals with a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN) whose deaths have been reported to the Social Security Administration (SSA) over the last 50 years. Information in these records includes name, birth date, death date, and last known residence. It can be accessed on the web at: <http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>.

Short (1-by-2 and 2-by-1 format) callsigns are in high demand by Extra Class radio amateurs under the Vanity Call Sign System. Also, the demand far outstrips the available supply. FCC Rules (Section 97.19) provide that callsigns are available for reassignment two years following the expiration or cancellation of an amateur radio license, whichever is sooner.

Due to vanity callsign information websites listing upcoming available callsigns, several applicants usually apply for a short callsign when one shows up. The FCC awards callsigns randomly (by lottery) whenever there are multiple applications for the same callsign on its first full day of availability. Due to this competition, several amateurs applying for the same short callsign will usually not result in it being assigned to them. For example: if ten applications file for a specific callsign when it becomes available, you have a 90% chance of not getting it—not good odds at all!

However, there is a better way. Callsigns can be made available when a radio amateur with an unexpired short callsign has died more than two years ago. Few ham callsigns are canceled by family members when the holder becomes a silent key. The callsign just languishes in the FCC database until it eventually expires and cancels out, which is sometimes several years later.

These callsigns can be canceled from the amateur service database by submitting certain death information to the FCC with a request that the callsign be canceled. The FCC accepts copies of death certificates, newspaper obituaries, and a printout from the SSDI as evidence of death. (It does not accept silent key listings from *QST* or the *QCWA*.) Send to fax number 717-338-2850. You can also mail the death information to: FCC Amateur Section; Attention: Rebecca Williams, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

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

Do not wait until the call is actually cancelled to file your vanity callsign application. File shortly after you submit the death information to the FCC. (Be sure that two years and one day have elapsed since the date of death.) That way you will be first in line to get the callsign.

It usually takes up to a couple of weeks for the FCC to cancel a callsign that will be canceled as of the date of death of the holder. When a verified silent key has been deceased for more than two years, the call is immediately available for reassignment.

The trick is to locate a deceased amateur with a short callsign who died more than two years ago. There are many ways to do this, such as checking old silent key lists or doing online searches; www.qrz.com and other websites frequently list an amateur's year of birth. Most callsign holders born before 1920 are deceased, although we do have some very active nonagenarians in our ranks. The best website for verifying deaths is the Social Security Death Index (SSDI).

Q: There are some 1-by-2 callsigns becoming available in my call district? What is the best way to get one?

A: See the above question. The best way to get a short callsign is to cancel the unexpired callsign of a radio amateur who has been deceased more than two years. The least successful way (due to competition) is to apply for a callsign that is publicly known to be available on a certain day. Be aware that you do not have to choose a callsign from your radio district. You can select callsigns with any district numeral (0 through 9).

Q: Why does a person have to pass a lower class ham radio written license examination if he or she can pass the Element 4 (Extra Class) test?

A: In a nutshell, it is because the written ham license examinations are "additive"—that is, most of the question pools from which the written examinations are constructed relates to a specific license. For example, the Technician (Element 2) questions cover beginning privileges, practices, and equipment, are oriented to VHF operation, and are worded at the middle school level of understanding. The General Class (Element 3) questions focus on HF operation. The Extra Class (Element 4) examination requires a higher level of understanding. It covers more advanced electronics and construction practices, plus examining others for ham tickets. Some topics—such as FCC rules, radio-wave propagation, and safety—are covered in all question pools, but with increased degrees of difficulty.

You need to know all of the subject matter included in the lower class exams, not just the material covered in the Extra Class exam. Thus, the question pools serve as an outline of what you

need to know to climb up the ham radio ladder. Most amateur radio instructors use a specific exam syllabus and its questions as the course guideline for their ham classes. You can't start at the top. You need to climb up one rung at a time, learning as you go.

The current Technician question pool (effective July 1, 2006) will expire on June 30, 2010. The General class question pool (effective July 1, 2007) is valid through June 30, 2011. The Amateur Extra class pool (effective July 1, 2008) is valid until June 30, 2012.

Q: The FCC no longer uses the FCC Form 610, so what do I need to do to renew my license?

A: Licensees may renew for another 10-year term when their license is in a window of between 90 days before expiration to two years after expiration. Although paper documents are still available, nearly all renewals are now completed online. (The new paper document form is now called FCC Form 605.) There is no charge if you handle your renewal yourself on the FCC's website. To renew, go to <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>>, select "Online Filing," and log in to the ULS License Manager with your FCC Registration Number (FRN) and password. If you do not know your ULS password, the W5YI Group can handle your renewal for you for a small fee. Go to <<http://www.w5yi.org/>> and click on the "License Renewals" link in the center of the page. The ARRL will also process license renewals, primarily for its members.

Q: How do I get a callsign for our new ham club?

A: Any group of four or more licensed amateurs may form a ham club that is eligible for a club station license. A club station license is granted only to the person who is the license trustee designated by an officer of the club. (A Novice operator may not be a club trustee.) The club must have a name, a document of organization, management, and a primary purpose devoted to Amateur Service activities. It also must be prepared to provide copies of the club's organizational documents.

The application for a new club call sign must be submitted to an FCC-designated Club Station Call Sign Administrator (CSCSA), an amateur radio organization that has agreed to provide voluntary, uncompensated, and unreimbursed services for processing club applications. The club application form must be signed by the new trustee and an officer of the club (it may not be the same person).

Both the W5YI-VEC and ARRL-VEC are CSCSAs. For more information call (toll free) 1-800-669-9594 or 1-800-927-7583. The W5YI Group's application form is located at <http://www.w5yi.org/documents/club_application.pdf>. The new club's first station callsign will be a sequentially issued 2-by-3 format call.

Once issued, the club trustee may change the club callsign to one of his/her choosing (providing the call is available) under the FCC's vanity callsign program. The club callsign selected must come

from a callsign group equal to, or lower than, that of the trustee.

Q: Who determines the frequency bands on which radio amateurs may operate?

A: The use of the radio spectrum is regulated by law. Also, because radio signals do not respect national borders, this regulation is necessarily international in scope. National governments enact and enforce radio laws and regulations in their own country. This regulation, however, must be performed

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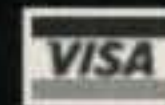
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within a framework of regional and global international agreements.

The Geneva-based International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the worldwide governing body over wire and wireless communications. Its most important function is the allocation of radio frequencies to eliminate harmful interference between stations of different countries. The allocation of radio frequencies consists of dividing the spectrum into a number of segments or bands. Each band is then reserved for specific uses. U.S. amateur radio frequencies must be allocated in accordance with the international guidelines agreed to by the ITU nations. This function is performed in the U.S. by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The Amateur Radio Service rules are enumerated in Part 97 of the FCC regulations.

Q: I have heard radio amateurs using 1-by-1 format callsigns on the ham bands. What are the requirements to get one?

A: One-by-one format station callsigns are available for temporary use by any radio amateur to commemorate some sort of "special event," and you determine what the short-term "event" is. Examples include a wide variety of

celebrations such as conventions, festivals, dedications, and anniversaries. Even local and neighborhood events qualify. Coordinators have been selected by the FCC to approve and post 1-by-1 callsign reservations.

A one-by-one callsign consists of a single prefix letter (K, N, or W), the region number (0 to 9), and a single suffix letter (A to Z, except the letter X). There are 750 such callsigns. Amateurs of any license class may reserve a 1-by-1 callsign for up to 15 days. Once you reserve the callsign, you simply substitute the self-selected 1-by-1 callsign for your FCC-assigned callsign during the station ID announcement. Once an hour you must also transmit your FCC assigned callsign.

You can apply for a 1-by-1 callsign by going to <<http://www.1x1callsigns.org/>> and clicking on "Coordinators." Be sure to read the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions.) There is no cost to reserve a 1-by-1 callsign.

Q: How come there is an automatic reciprocal amateur radio operating agreement between Canada and the United States, but not with Mexico? How can I operate ham radio in Mexico?

A: There are reciprocal operating arrangements between both Canada and the United States, and Mexico and the U.S. However, they are completely different.

A treaty was signed in 1952 between Canada and the United States providing "that persons holding appropriate amateur licenses issued by either country may operate their amateur stations in the territory of the other country...." Under the terms of the agreement, the visitor must identify using his or her callsign followed by a call-area suffix—for example: W1ABC/VE1 or VE1ABC/W1. U.S. Morse-code-proficient radio amateurs get "Advanced" (all frequency) operating privileges in Canada, otherwise "Basic" VHF and higher frequency only. U.S. and Canadian amateurs must carry a copy of their amateur license and a passport when entering and operating in the neighboring country. (As of June 1, 2009, a birth certificate is no longer accepted as proof of citizenship.)

Since U.S. ham licenses no longer reflect Morse code ability, be prepared to demonstrate your code proficiency if you become embroiled in an enforcement problem while in Canada. (For example, a Technician Class radio amateur may have passed a code test, while an Extra may not have.) There is no additional code test for U.S. hams operating in Canada, nor are you required to carry

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Either I've got QRM or my wife got her ticket.

any paperwork indicating that you have passed a telegraphy exam.

Mexico is one of the countries that have signed a standard reciprocal operating agreement with the United States. The FCC allows foreign amateurs from these countries to operate in the U.S. and its possessions with no permit. Mexican nationals simply carry their Mexican amateur license and proof of citizenship. There is no fee. You identify your station using "W" and the number of the FCC call-letter district in which you are operating followed by a slash and your Mexican callsign (for example, W1/XE1ABC).

It is much more complicated (and expensive) for a U.S. citizen to operate ham radio in Mexico. A permit, valid for six months, issued by an SCT (Secretariat of Communications and Transport) office of the Mexican Comision Federal de Telecomunicaciones (Federal Telecommunications Commission or CoFeTel) is required for U.S. amateurs to operate in Mexico. SCT branch offices are located in major Mexican cities, some near border crossings.

Non-U.S. hams must get an invitation letter ("carta responsiva") from a sponsoring Mexican ham. Mexico does not participate in IARP (International Amateur Radio Permits) or CEPT licensing. Station identification while operating in Mexico is "XE1/" prefixed to your home country callsign. Law requires it be given at least every 15 minutes.

To get the permit, a Spanish-language application form must be completed and submitted along with two copies each of your U.S. amateur operator license, proof of citizenship (birth certificate or passport), and immigration documentation indicating the length of time you are allowed to be in Mexico (for most U.S. visitors, this is a tourist form obtained at the border).

There is a hefty fee (tax) for the permit, currently about \$85 USD (payable in Mexican pesos). The fees for Mexican amateur radio permits are adjusted every six months, in January and July of each year. This is the same amount Mexican hams must pay for a five-year license.

Radio operation by foreigners in Canada, Mexico, or the United States must be in accordance with the rules and regulations existing in the host country.

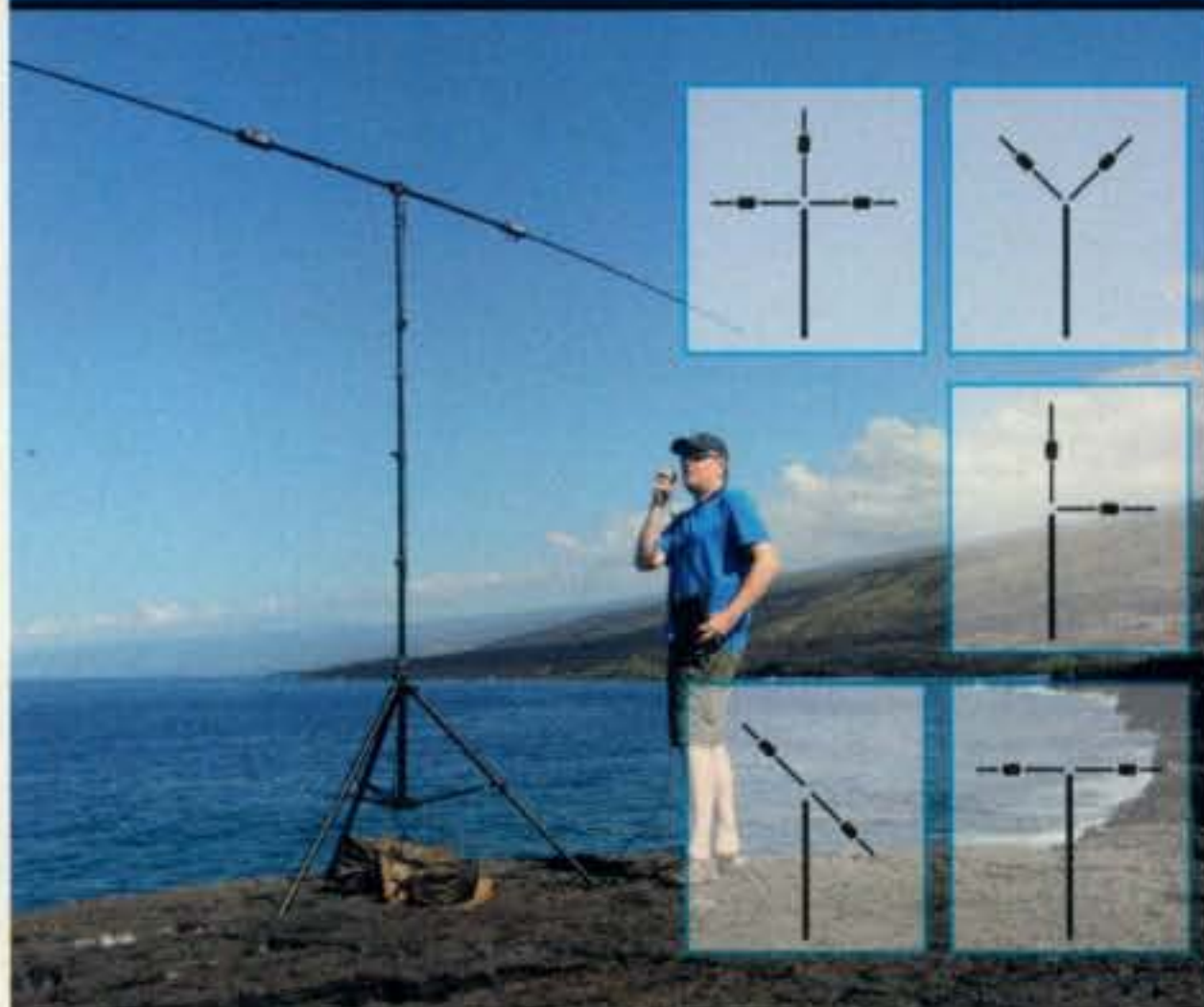
Keep those cards and e-mails coming. We'll keep trying to help you through various aspects of the sometimes confusing world of ham radio rules, licenses, and callsigns.

73, Fred, W5YI



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Fun with Crystals and Galenas

Building simple crystal sets was the first step that ushered many of us into amateur radio in the past, and the pursuit continues to stand as an open door today for introducing many young people to amateur radio. In light of that fact, I strive to feature various and sundry forms of the little gems in this column every couple of years. Why such timeless interest in crystal radios? Opinions vary, but I feel they are educational, fun projects that anyone can put together in a couple of hours, and a well-built crystal set adds a touch of glamour to any den or ham shack it graces.

This year's featured items include a couple of ever-popular sets and some "freebie parts" for getting started homebrewing the same, plus a look at a couple of new delights from Phil, W0XI, and Patricia, N0GZ, Anderson of the world-famous Xtal Set Society. Phil, as you may recall, was the kingpin behind Kantronics and those neat QRP rigs of the 1980s. He also founded the Xtal Set Society (XSS), which has grown admirably in size and coverage. This Kansas-based society produces a bi-monthly informative newsletter and also stocks everything imaginable for building crystal sets and learning about radios. Check out <www.midnightscience.com> or write to the Xtal Set Society at P.O. Box 3636, Lawrence, KS 66046 for more details. Now let's focus on the crystal sets!

Oats-Box Radio

One of the most popular and often duplicated styles of homebrewed crystal radios is the classic oats-box set as shown in fig. 1 and photo C. The oats-box's large diameter and air-core center supports a high Q and fairly selective coil, and mating it with a hand-picked crystal or galena chip plus a very-high-resistance earpiece or earphone helps ensure good sensitivity. The typical oats-box coil (if such actually exists!) consists of 60 to 100 turns of number 18, 20, or 24 enamel-coated copper wire wound evenly and accurately over the middle section of the box's outer area. I sense you asking if the smaller 4-inch diameter or larger 5-inch diameter box should be used, and either one will work fine. Secure the wire in place by looping it through two tiny holes punched in the box at each end of the coil. Use fine sandpaper to remove insulation from a strip of coil wire so a narrow piece of metal can slide from coil top to bottom for tuning in stations. I will leave the mechanical design details of that slider/tuner to your creative ingenuity. One possibility is using a thumbscrew-secured metal clip riding on a metal strip attached to the oats box via small "U" brackets. If the slider tuner is not your preference, an alternate idea is substituting a 365-pFd variable capacitor mounted atop the box in lieu of the sliding clip for tuning (fig. 1B).

Would you like to homebrew an even better oats-

*3994 Long Leaf Drive, Gardendale, AL 35071
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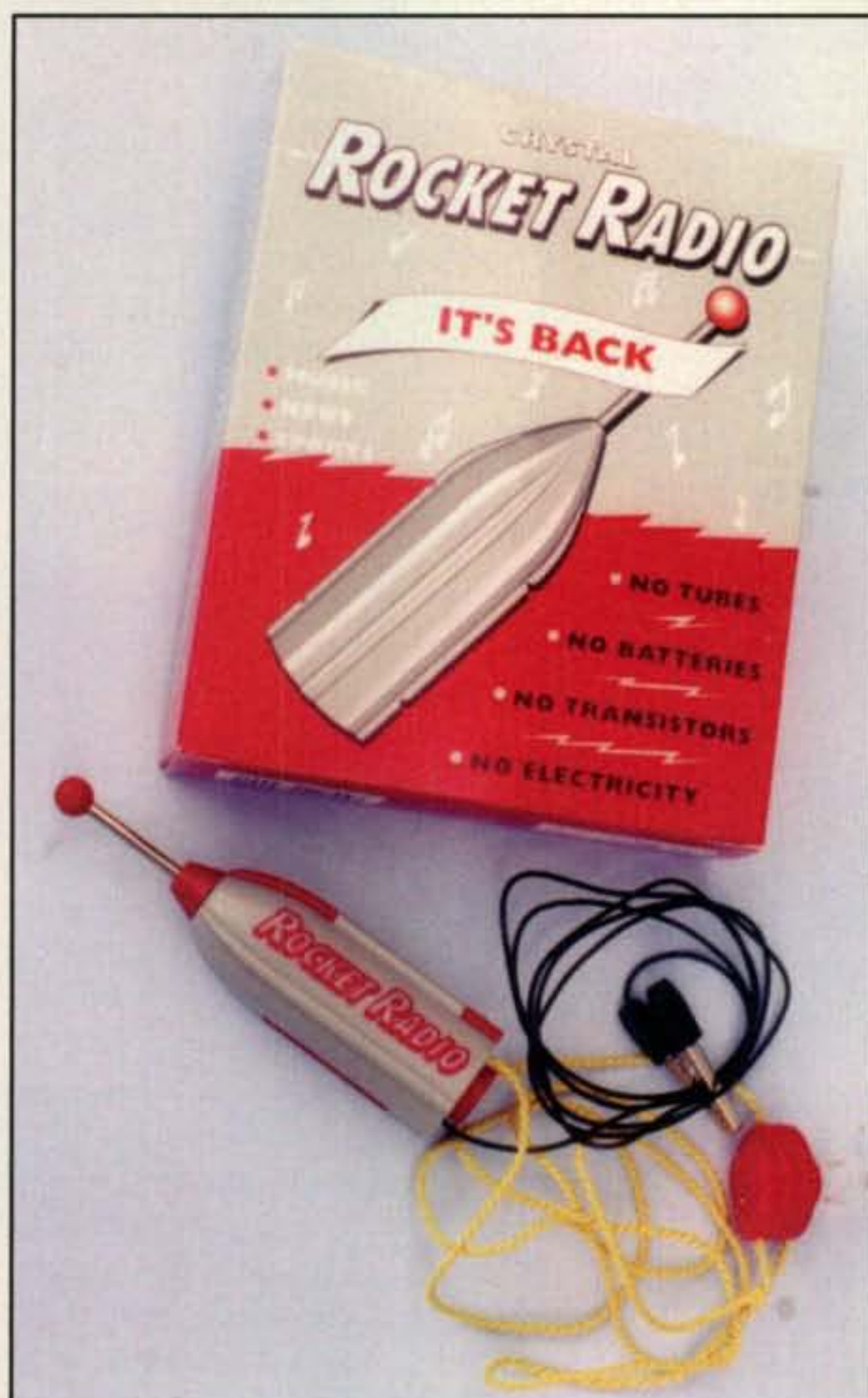


Photo A— Among the most popular crystal sets sold during the 1950s was this pocket-size Rocket Radio. Its loopstick coil was tuned by the sliding nose cone and performance was only fair, but it was a fun item that has now become a highly sought-after collectable.

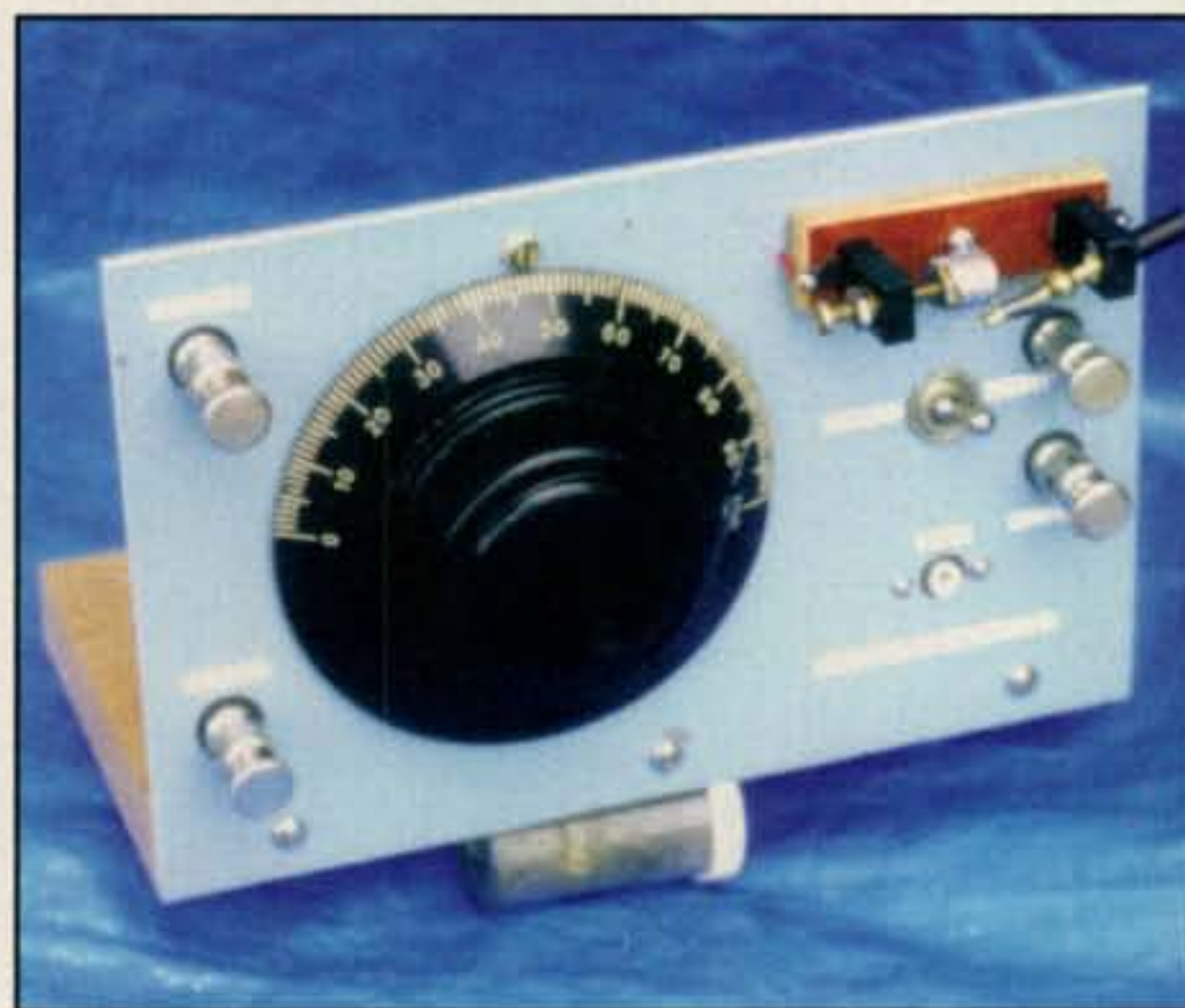


Photo B— No name or details accompanied the photo of this "mystery set," but its good-looking velvet vernier-type dial and open-air detector make it an easy-to-duplicate showpiece of the best kind.

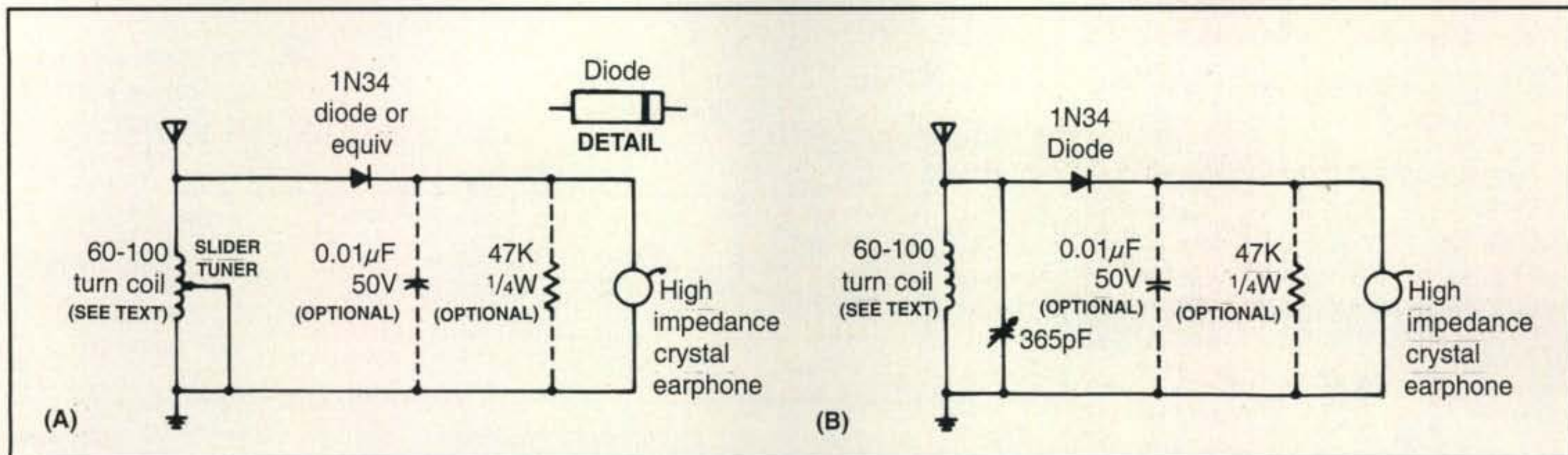


Fig. 1— Generic circuit diagrams are found incorporated in many basic-style crystal sets such as the oats-box version discussed in the text. Circuit A has sliding rod for tuner; B has a variable capacitor for tuner. The glass-encased 1N34 or open-air galena-and-catwhisker type detector can be used.

box radio? Wind its coil with Litz wire. It is a bit scarce and slightly expensive, but it makes a terrific crystal set and is usually available from The Xtal Set Society. Litz wire is comprised of many small strands intertwined so they all take turns being center and outer conductors. The associated higher Q enhances selectivity!

The detector for this oats-box crystal set may be a 1N34 diode, or you can substitute a chip of galena mounted in a

homebrew pot and holder as in the early-days crystal sets. Also, old-style Baldwin earphones of 20,000 ohms or greater or a crystal-type earplug of even higher resistance gives optimum results here (highest sensitivity, most volume). The .01-mFd capacitor and 47K-ohm resistor shown in fig. 1 are optional. Experiment with each and note if they improve reception.

The key to good performance with any crystal set is its antenna, and a 40- or 80-meter dipole or doublet usually works well. Another good choice is a single wire 50 feet or longer installed 20 feet or higher. The previous notes may seem academic to old-pro amateurs, but bear in mind that curious onlookers and new licensees may be reading their first issue of *CQ* and a “keep it simple” article always makes a good introduction to our amateur radio world.

Now some exciting news! Paul Phillippe, WBØMPG, recently sent us a box of Fahenstock clips plus a healthy-size piece of “chippable” galena with encouragement to share them with friends building crystal sets and classic one-tube transmitters. If you would like some Fahenstock clips and/or a galena chip, send me a small (and sturdy) box with suffi-

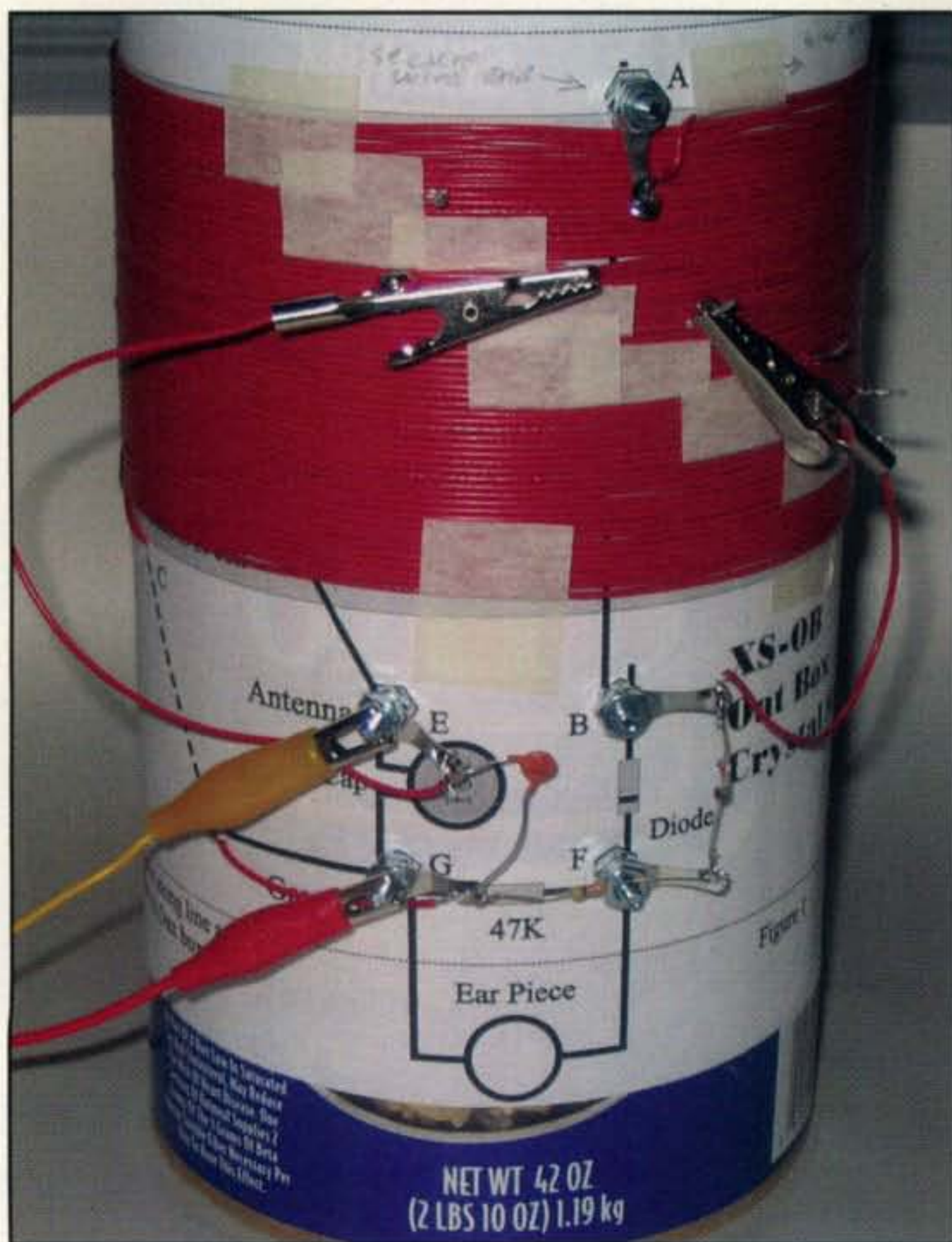


Photo C— The Crystal Set Society has kits of parts to quickly assemble your own oats-box crystal set. This version sports a coil wound with insulated wire and a clip lead you move between screw taps every few turns for tuning. Details are at <www.midnightscience.com>. (Crystal Set Society photo by Phil Anderson, WØXI)



Photo D— This spiffy little 2106 crystal set, also available as a kit from the Crystal Set Society, is fashioned after Marconi’s original type 106 receiving tuner. Its 10-inch by 6.6-inch front panel includes a 10-mil thick lexan plastic sheet with black-and-white graphics on the back, and the optional cabinet adds to the set’s historical glamour!

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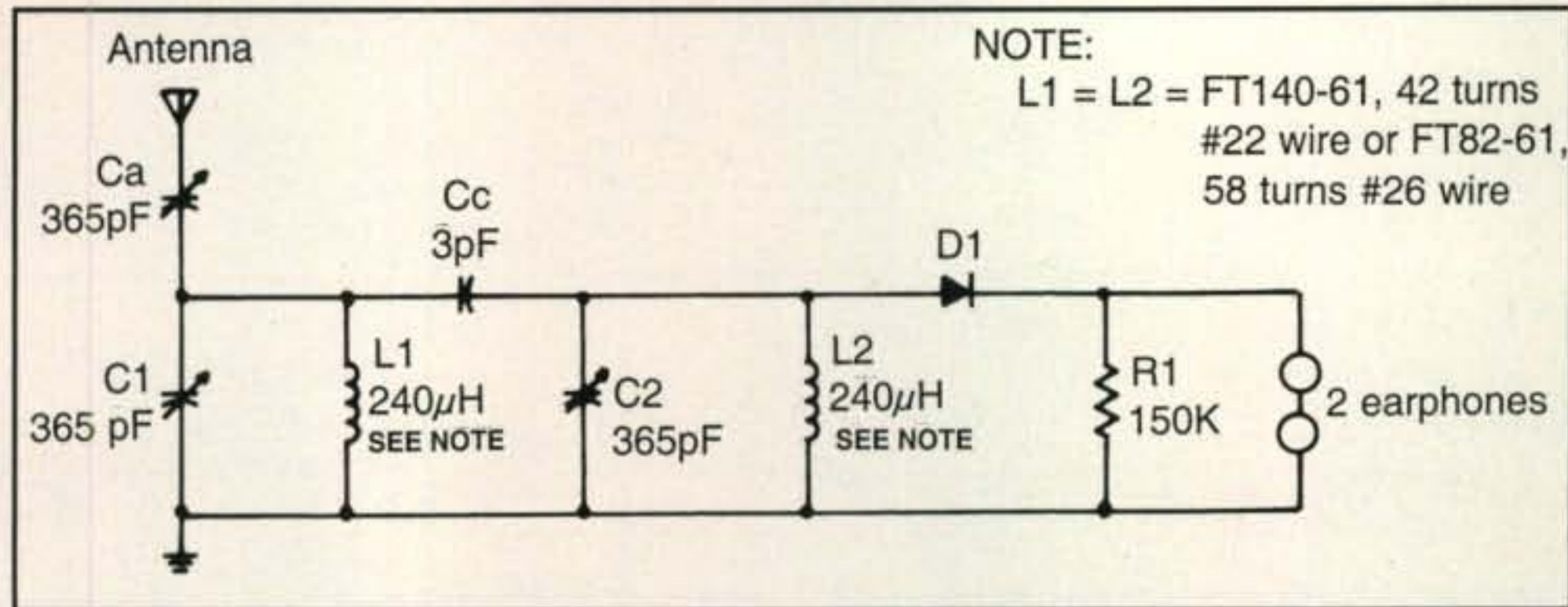


Fig. 2- Circuit diagram of the model 2106 crystal receiver reveals three authentic 365-pF air-variable capacitors and two 240-µHy toroids in a single- or double-tuned arrangement according to "coupling capacitor cc," or a jumper in its place.

cient return postage and I will send them in return mail to you. I am unsure how far this free stock will stretch, so I suggest first sending me an e-mail to reserve your clips or chips. Be aware, also, that the postal system recently enacted a myriad of stipulations on all forms of mail. Envelopes are subject to crushing, and there are surcharges on thickness and on metal clasps or envelope contents. Boxes of unusual sizes are also subject to surcharges—and various other stipulations. Check with your post office. My e-mail and postal addresses are listed on the first page of this column. Our sincere thanks to Paul for making these items available.

Beyond the Basics

After building a first crystal set and experiencing the fascination of tuning a free-play radio, many newcomers look

for something a bit more elaborate and also capable of tuning in the shortwaves (ah . . . the amateur radio connection). The Crystal Set Society has a couple of neat kits for filling that desire.

First is the "My Marconi 2106" set (photo D and fig. 2). This receiver tunes the AM broadcast band (550 to 1650 kHz), it can be front-panel-configured in a single- or double-tuned arrangement, and front-panel terminals also permit easy detector diode changes as desired. The kit is supplied complete with all parts and hardware, including two high-impedance earphones and an 18-page manual. Its wrap-around cabinet is optional.

The "Marconi Shortwave" set (photo E) is akin to a regular crystal set, except its main coil is a bit smaller (14 turns of number 22 wire wound on a 1.5-inch form and an antenna coil of five turns on the same form). Its mating 365-pF

Crystal Inspiration

As mentioned in the first part of this column, crystal sets have opened the door to amateur radio for people of all ages and backgrounds. Ted Cohen, N4XX, a CQ columnist of the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, and co-author of the book *The NEW Propagation Handbook*, published by CQ Communications, has written a novel entitled *Full Circle*. Ted's father dreamed of him becoming a violinist, but Ted's life moved in other directions. While experimenting with a simple crystal set as a grade schooler, he heard and consequently met a neighborhood radio amateur, an experience that ultimately guided him into a life pursuit as an engineer, scientist, and ham radio operator. *Full Circle*, using literary license in change of names, is based on Ted's life, his growth in amateur radio and other venues, and his return to the violin later in life. It is an inspirational read anyone, including young adults interested in amateur radio and/or music, will enjoy. It is available from <www.arrl.org/shop>, and/or <www.authorhouse.com>.

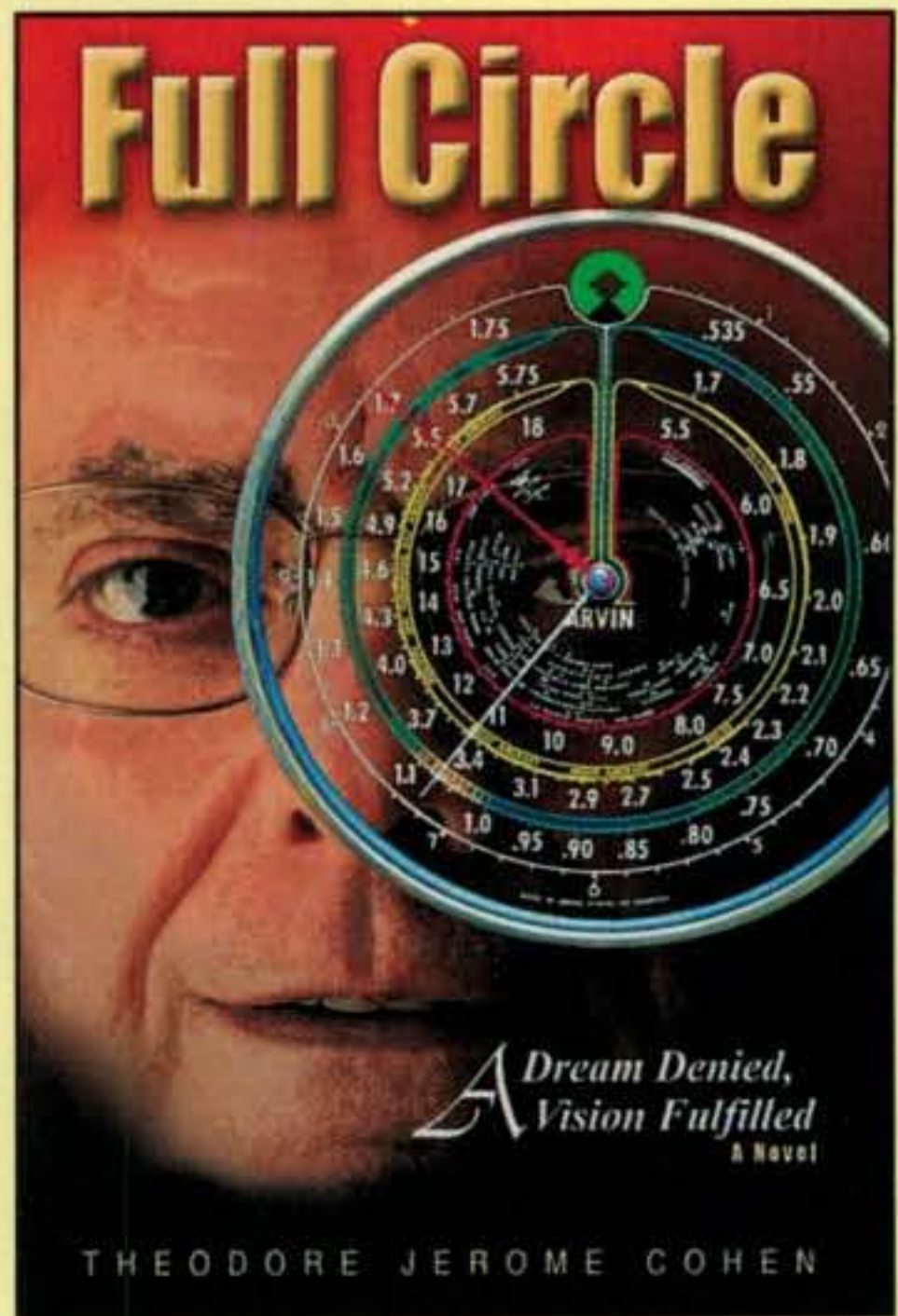




Photo E—A shortwave crystal set? Yes, indeed, and it works reasonably well to boot. This new kit from The Crystal Set Society covers the always active range of 5 to 7.5 MHz and includes a two-transistor audio amplifier to give it “big radio” signal levels. An optional wraparound cabinet (8" x 7" x 6") adds a finishing touch of class.

variable capacitor is connected in series with a fixed 200-pF capacitor and tunes 5 to 7.5 MHz. An included two-transistor audio amplifier section plus two earphones “round out” this delight and give it “ears” comparable to the Reggie II mini transceiver highlighted in my December 2009 CQ “QRP” column. Likewise, coupling a couple of milliwatts from a one-transistor oscillator into this shortwave crystal set will allow it to receive CW signals. More details on both crystal sets are available at <www.midnightscience.com>.

Crystal Spin-Offs

While writing this month’s column, I began thinking about some unique uses of crystal sets in the shack—and a winking field-strength meter (FSM) quickly came to mind (fig. 3). Grabbing a handful of clip leads, I connected an LED and 27-ohm resistor across a spare mobile antenna base matching coil. Three series-clipped leads were added at the coil’s top to make a 36-inch pickup probe, and a clip lead at the coil’s bottom was connected to the station’s ground cable.

I fired up a station transceiver, and the little LED blinked cheerfully with transmitted CW. What a mini-glamour treat, especially in a dimly lit shack at night! I then quickly conducted some additional tests and found any coil from 1.5 to 2.5 inches in diameter and consisting of 10 to 15 turns worked fine. Use small LEDs—the ones that light with only 1.5 volts. They work well for power (output) levels between 5 and 300 watts. Reduce probe length as appropriate. Large LEDs require 3 volts (and quite high output power) to light.

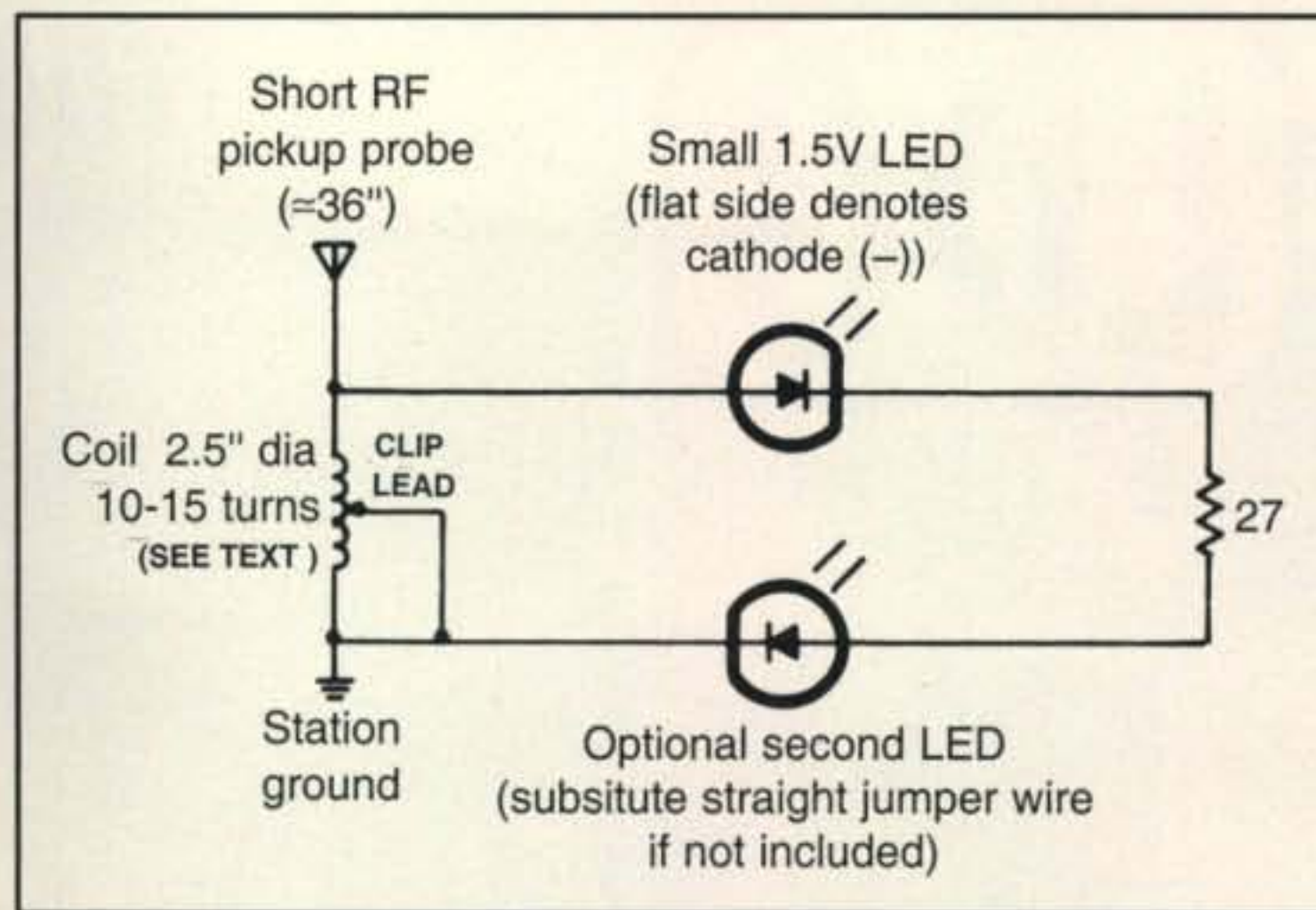


Fig. 3—Circuit diagram of an experimental crystal set serving as a field-strength meter and equipped with an LED in lieu of a meter. (Discussion in text.)

My in-shack FSM is approximately 40 feet from my vertical antenna. Using a 15-turn coil, it shines brightest on 30 and 40 meters. With only 10 turns on the coil, it shines brightest on 20 and 17 meters. I am now looking for a convenient enclosure so the FSM can be used in the shack or in the car. Meanwhile, enjoy using my previous notes to dink and make your own winking field-strength meter.

Conclusion

That winds up this “Crystal Special,” friends, and I hope it inspires you or some of the young people in your life to discover or rediscover the simple joys of crystal sets. In working with these spun-off ideas and projects, remember to take photos, sketch circuit diagrams, and share them with us for future crystal columns.

73, Dave, K4TWJ

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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**



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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**



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Suggested Price \$79.99



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AT-1000Pro

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

Suggested Price \$599



NEW! YT-100

An autotuner for several popular Yaesu Radios. An included cable interfaces with your FT-857, FT-897 and FT-100 (and all D models) making it an integrated tuner, powered by the interface. Just press the tune button on the tuner, and everything else happens automatically: mode and power are set, a tune cycle runs, and the radio is returned to its original settings. It's the perfect complement to your Yaesu radio.

Suggested Price \$199.99



NEW! Z-100Plus

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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Teaching the Teachers

Ever since ham radio started to become popular as a hobby in the early 1900s, kids have always looked towards their mentors, or Elmers, to teach them about the radio world. However, with the Elmers there to help the kids, who is there to help the Elmers? Being of such vital importance to the development of the younger generation's interest in radio, Elmers should have somewhere they can go to get ideas. Like school teachers, these radio mentors often share ideas and techniques for teaching some of the complex concepts involved in radio to high school, junior high, and even elementary school kids! In order to stimulate this sharing of ideas, here are the stories of two Elmers and their experiences teaching radio to kids.

Paul Decker, KG7HF (this columnist's father), became a licensed operator at the age of 13. He has had his license for 25 years, but was inactive for about 15 of those years. After returning to active hamming, a member of his ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) group asked him to help teach a licensing class that was short on instructors. Despite not knowing what to expect, he agreed. He ended up really enjoying the experience and has continued teaching ham radio

*c/o CQ magazine

classes since then. He has been teaching for about two years now, and shares these thoughts:

Over the past year, I have been leading a weekend long "Ham Cram" course. This is where we spend eight hours on Saturday and six hours on Sunday studying for the Technician exam, and then take the exam early Sunday evening. The students receive the book two weeks in advance and are assigned reading and study material prior to the classes. During the classes, we use the question pool as an outline. It details where the students are weak and allows us to drill into a particular area where there might be trouble. In addition, it puts the students at ease, as they get to see the question and answers prior to the test. For the most part, the classes have consisted of adults, generally people interested in working with public service and emergency communications, but sprinkled into the mix are usually a couple of youths. What is interesting about the youths is, of course, when mixed in with the adults they are generally shy. The trick is to get them engaged and comfortable. Unlike school, our classes consist of shouting out the answer to a question ... whoever gets it first yells out the answer. I found that once they get used to this new environment, sometimes it's hard to find the off switch and they keep shouting out the answers!

Recently, I had the privilege of teaching a class for a small group of Girl Scouts a few towns over from us. It was really a treat to have a small class. We even were given a classroom in the local high school, equipped with all the goodies—large white board, markers, desks, and a ceiling-mounted digital projector to connect to the laptop. This class was different from the traditional "ham cram" in that we spent three hours each Monday for four weeks, and then had a final review just before the test. I learned a few things from teaching this class. The first thing is that demonstrations are really helpful. For example, we did a lab with Ohm's law where we chose resistors from my "junk box," applied a voltage from a power supply, and then calculated the current, voltage, or resistance, whatever we didn't know; we then measured the unknown values to test how well our calculations went. This lab turned into a great game. We also got a great segue into the power formula when we smoked a resistor or two.

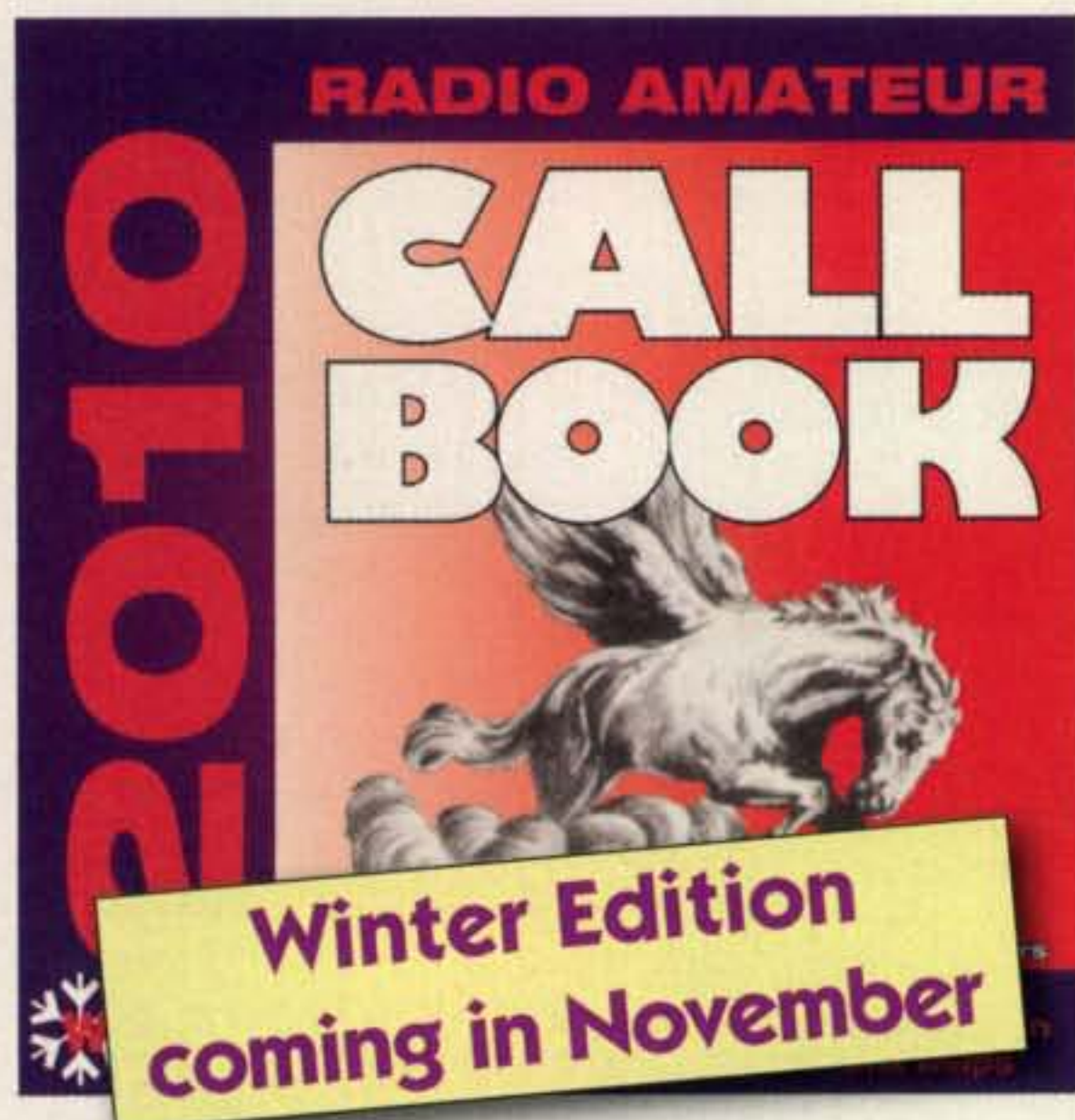
Although it is sometimes challenging to teach, I teach because I think the hobby of ham radio has a lot to offer someone. Wherever you turn, there is something good within the hobby. Whether it be learning to design and build your own gear, working with non-profit agencies such as the Red Cross or Salvation Army for disaster preparedness, writing software such as WSJT to explore weak-signal communications, or simply meeting and talking with someone you just met on the other side of the world, there is something in the hobby for everyone. Because our hobby is so broad, I enjoy showing others, both young and old, and hope to get them interested in the hobby. Who knows where they might take it, or where it might take them?

Also, teaching is not just seriousness. There is some goofing around among the students and instructors. My favorite teaching experience was with the Girl Scouts, although, unfortunately, only one scout out of four passed the license exam. Even so, one of the most memorable times was when after a particular class they



Joel Colman, NO5FD, in the ham radio room with campers from Henry S. Jacobs Camp. (Photo courtesy of Henry S. Jacobs Camp)

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came up to me and said that the class and experiments we did were the best and clearest explanation and that they fully understood what the lesson was, even though it was highly technical in nature, at least to 14-year-olds.

Paul Decker, KG7HF

Paul expressed a couple of things as challenges he experienced when teaching. First, he said that many times during class the challenging part isn't getting the students to show their interest, but channeling their interest so that it remains on topic. Since there is limited time to teach the students so much information before the test, the discussions and questions should remain on topic, and while it is fun and good to go off topic every once in a while, there is not time for too much of this.

Another challenge Paul faced was the conveying of information in a clear, concise way. Many of the concepts that had to be taught dealt with math and science that would normally be taught in upper-level high school classes. He found ways to deal with these challenges, though, mainly through the use of demonstrations. In fact, his demonstrations were so helpful that the students

thanked him for them at the end of the class. Visuals are often an extremely useful tool in teaching, and as a student myself, I find that they help with understanding, remembering, and later recalling information.

Summer Camp Hamming

Joel Coleman, NO5FD, first got into CB radio back in 8/9th grade. Aspiring to be a ham radio operator from an early age, he finally decided to study for his Novice license while he was in college, and received his first call of KA8OCF. He began teaching ham radio in summer camps in 1982 and has been doing so since then. He has taught several community ham radio license classes, in St. Louis and in New Orleans. He has been the Emergency Coordinator for Orleans Parish, Louisiana, for over four years, and is a member of the Delta DX club and the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club. As for his full-time work, he is the cantor and youth director at Congregation Temple Sinai, which is the largest synagogue in the state of Louisiana. Here is what Joel has to say:

For the past ten summers, I have been introducing amateur radio at the Henry S.

Jacobs camp in Utica, Mississippi. This is a residential Jewish camp primarily serving youth from Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Alabama, and Tennessee. I have the opportunity to teach several times a day. Some campers sign up and they have about six hours worth of class time. While this time period does not allow me to teach a licensing class, it is certainly enough time to give the campers a fun introduction into this wonderful world of amateur radio.

One of the realities of summer residential camps is that each camp day is filled to the max with a myriad of programs. Every minute at camp is programmed from the time the campers wake up until they have their final snack before bedtime. So introducing an amateur radio program with the goal of the campers taking an exam is just not possible.

This summer I taught amateur radio at two residential camps, Camp Maas in Ortonville, Michigan, and once again at Jacobs camp. Jacobs camp provided the funding for me to use the new FlexRadio 3000. I find that the campers were able to visualize the amateur radio band with the pan adapter. In addition, the audio recording capability is really remarkable. I am able to record enough bandwidth that simulates a lot of activity (such as a contest or good band conditions). This way I can have the kids listen for call-signs, phonetic use, etc. In addition, the SDR software allows me to easily record a QSO

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that a camper just completed, and then take the recorded file and burn it as an mp3 and give it to the campers. They can go home with a recording of their amateur radio contacts.

I use Echolink when band conditions are poor. This summer the campers spoke to a ham operator from his taxi cab in Fairbanks, Alaska. The kids were impressed. Once on Echolink we spoke to New Zealand. I asked the kids what language they speak in that country. One camper raised his hand and said, "Kiwi?" I also find the campers really enjoy learning Morse code. These text-savvy kids think CW is cool!

This summer I decided to have the kids participate in the IARU DX contest. I had a Netbook computer loaded with the logging software specific to the contest, and had the campers make QSOs and do the logging and make the contacts. They loved logging in callsigns and then seeing how many points each was worth. They did not want to leave the activity because they were having just too much fun. I didn't think the campers would enjoy making fast QSOs, but they loved it.

A fun way of teaching campers how to properly use radios, talking into the microphone properly, speaking clearly, pressing the microphone button and then speaking is by playing a game I call "Cops and Robbers." Basically the game is "Hide and Go Seek" using FRS radios. This game requires four FRS radios. Radios 1 & 2 are on one frequency, while radios 3 & 4 are on another. When a group of kids comes to the radio room, they are split into two groups, criminals and police. A staff person goes with the criminals to hide somewhere, using an FRS radio on Channel 1. A staff person goes with a group of kids as the police, using an FRS radio on Channel 2. As the police walk around, they call to police headquarters (the ham radio room), where a kid has been selected to be the police dispatcher.

The police tell the dispatcher where they are located ("We are at the main office," for instance). The dispatcher turns to the ham radio operator, and tells him where the police are located. The ham radio operator (who is running this program) calls the criminals and tells them where the police are currently located. The criminals then tell the ham radio operator if the police are hot or cold, warm, burning up, etc. Then the ham radio operator tells the dispatcher to call the police and tell them if they are hot or cold, etc. Using this cycle of communication, the police get warmer and warmer (closer and closer to the criminals) until they are found. Once they are found, everyone reports back to headquarters and then switch roles, with the police now hiding as criminals, etc.

Doing this game twice takes about 45 minutes. Just about any age can play the game, from eight years to teenage years. It is important that staff is assigned to each group, to make sure they are hiding in a safe place. This game is simply a version of hide and go seek, using radios. Everyone loves to play cops and robbers, and it has always been a big hit at camp.

While campers who spend time in this summer camp amateur radio program do not come away with an amateur radio license, they nevertheless come away with a full appreciation for our hobby. They also know how much fun amateur radio is by making QSOs, competing in contests, and learning Morse code.

Joel Colman, NO5FD

As an instructor at a camp, Joel came across a couple of different challenges. First, since he was in a camp setting with many campers, the relationship was at a much less personal one-on-one level than may be experienced in a classroom with ten students. The problem presented with this is that it is hard to know exactly what the campers will enjoy and what they will not enjoy. Thus, for a while it is like feeling around in a dark room, until you find that one activity they can't get enough of, which for Joel was making fast QSOs. Just like demonstrations and visuals, kids also enjoy hands-on activities rather than trying to describe the process of logging and the typical QSO.

Joel came up with his own innovative idea in order to teach kids through the use of a game. This game made use of a classic well-known kids' game, applied to amateur radio. This makes amateur radio more accessible and kid-friendly. While building vital operating skills, it provides a fun activity that lasts up to 45 minutes for only two turns.

Communicate!

The main problems that ham instructors face today are communication issues. The instructors don't know what the kids want or how they want to be taught. My advice to fix this problem is *communicate*. The teachers and the students must communicate at the start of the classes or before they even begin. This helps the teachers, because it takes the guesswork out of teaching, and they won't have to wonder whether their students will enjoy this or that activity, or if method A is clearer than method B to explain something. The students can get a better learning experience from the class if they are given the opportunity to suggest to their instructors which activities they will enjoy, and which methods they should use or concepts they should spend the most time on. If the classes start in this manner, each group will be different and have a different lesson plan, but it will make it easier to teach, and guarantee the students a much better learning experience.

73, Brittany, KB1OGL

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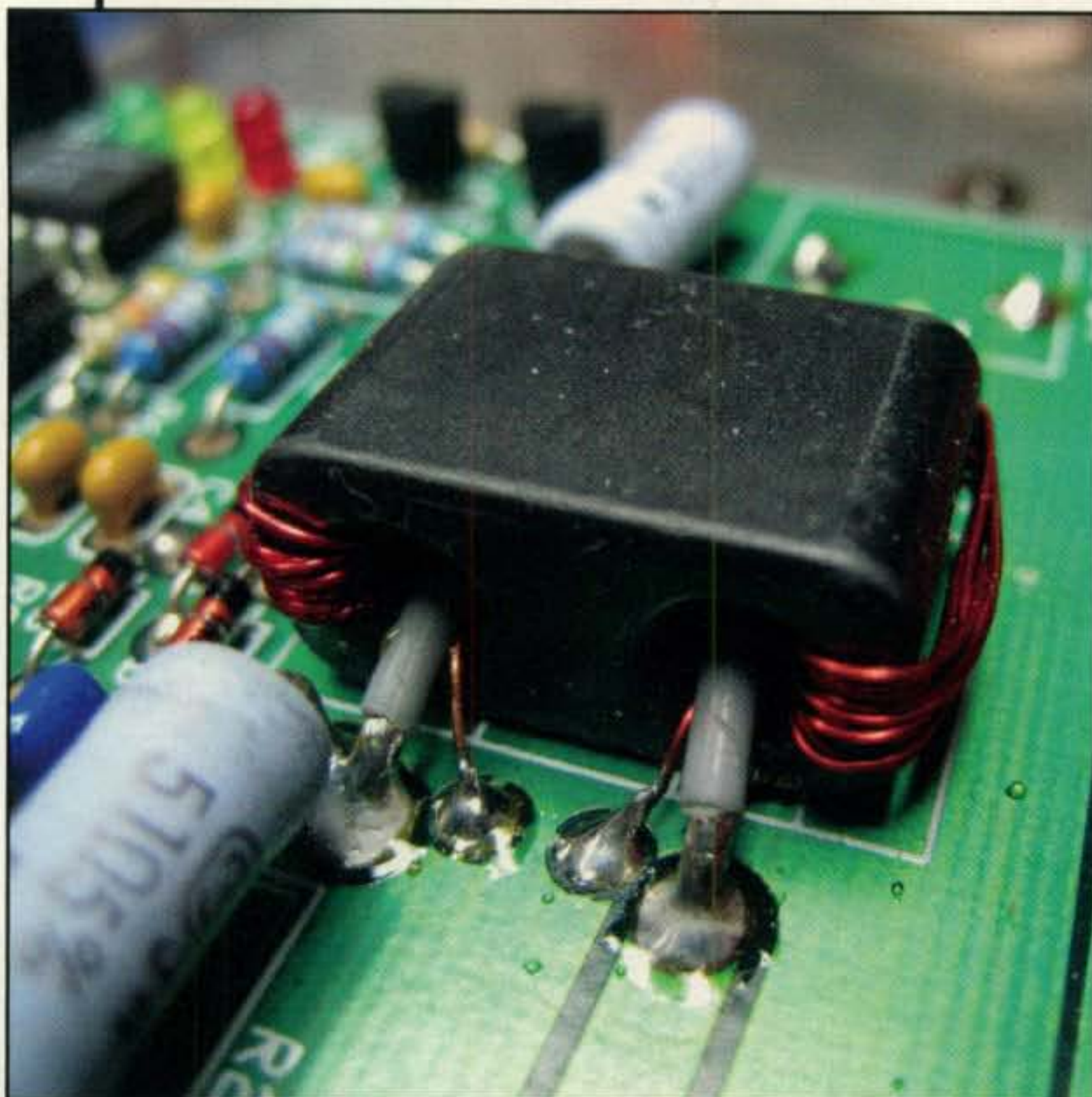
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The Trouble with Toroids

Among the components found when sorting through the parts bag of a kit, I think toroids are the most feared among kit builders. This month I will try to dispel some of those fears and make some suggestions on how to best deal with them and make them a fun part of your kit experience.

I know many kit builders shudder when they empty their bag of parts and see those little donuts and small hanks of wire in the kit. A toroid is really simply an inductor wound on a ferrite core so as to make the coil physically smaller and require less wire to create the same inductance as one wound in open air. A good example of a similar thing is the ferrite-rod antennas common to most AM broadcast receivers. Those antennas are made by winding a thin insulated wire around a ferrite rod to create an inductance that when combined with a capacitor becomes resonant in the AM broadcast band and acts as a more efficient antenna than an open coil of wire.

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Binocular-style toroid. This is easier to wind than it looks.

Toroids are common in many HF-band radio kits due to their compact size. The type and size of the donut-shaped ferrite core determines its effect on the number of turns and size of wire needed to provide the desired inductance. Some kits have ferrite cores of different sizes and densities, and some are marked with different colors that are used to distinguish them. Make sure you use the proper core and wire size and gauge specified for each toroid as called for in the kit's directions or it will not function as desired.

I am a member of HBQRP (NØQG), the Midwest Home Brewers and QRP group. (<http://www.hbqrp.org>). We meet monthly in a pizza place between Omaha and Lincoln, Nebraska to show off our latest projects and do group kit building. One of our members, Dar, W9HZC, has a great suggestion when facing toroids as part of a kit. He suggests doing them first, since they do take time and care to do correctly. He then tags each with its part number—such as L1, L2, T1, etc.—and stores them in a bag along with the kit parts. That way, when he is ready to assemble the kit itself, his toroids are already done and simply get stuffed in the board and soldered in place as quickly as the rest of the components. Doing them first also means you are not tired, and can bring your full attention to making them accurately.

Many builders often complete the entire board except for the toroids and then the kit stays unbuilt for a long time, sometimes not being completed at all. I have found the time spent winding them to be relaxing and enjoyable, and doing them first means that when I am ready to complete my kit, the toroids are no longer a burden, but just another component ready to go.

Here are my suggestions for winding toroids:

1. Be sure you are using the correct wire and core. Some kits have multiple sizes and types of cores, some very similar in appearance. The wire is often a specific color and gauge, so pay attention to which wire and which core you are using.

2. Be careful when winding a toroid so as not to kink the wire or nick the insulation on the enameled wire or overlap the turns. These things are very easy to do, especially with very thin wire. Cutting the wire to the length asked for in the manual will assist you in knowing how much further you have to go. Most kits give you a generous amount of wire, just in case you need to redo a toroid or need extra length to easily strip the insulation from the leads. Do not pull too hard on the wire as you thread it through, as some wire can be brittle. However, do make sure it is wound tightly enough so the turns do not move easily. If they are loose, the resulting tuned circuit can be less than stable. The number of turns is counted as the number of

times that the wire passes through the center of the core. Most manuals go into this in detail. Don't worry about precisely counting the turns at first. Just keep winding until you think you are close and then use a magnifying glass to help you count them. I use groups of five turns, counting five at a time, slightly separating them with a mini screwdriver tip or similar object.

3. Leave enough wire on both ends to easily be able to remove the insulation and mount it on your board.

4. Use a small cigarette lighter to first quickly burn off the insulation from the wire, taking care not to burn off any insulation on the core itself. It only takes a couple of seconds to do this. Then use an emery board to get rid of any carbon left over. Follow that by tinning the wire so that it makes good contact and solders easily to the board when completed. I often grab a handful of free promotional emery boards at fairs and trade shows to keep in my kit-building stash. Watch for them! Be sure to correctly label the toroid if not using it right away.

5. Carefully inspect it for any nicks, kinks, or overlapping wires to be sure it is ready to go. Double-check the wire type, core type, and number of turns.

6. When mounting the toroid, be sure to carefully place the wires in the proper holes as called for in the manual and solder, making sure that the solder flows smoothly and is not in a "bubble." The solder joint should look more like a "Hershey's Kiss." The core should rest on the board itself, and not be only supported by the thin wires. Stability makes for a better inductor. Sometimes a tiny dab of glue helps to keep it in position.

7. Check your finished toroid with an ohmmeter to see if there is continuity from one end to the other before and after mounting. On bifilar (two wires) and trifilar (three wires) toroids, or transformer toroids, it is especially important to check to be sure there is no continuity between the different colored leads, yet there is continuity between leads of the same color.

8. Be sure that your toroid doesn't have any bare wire touching an adjacent component or is in a position to rub against an adjacent part, causing a future short.

As with my previous suggestion of having common spare resistors, capacitors, and other parts available, you can get spare toroid parts as well. There is a toroid kit that comes with several different common types of toroid cores and wire along with a special toroid

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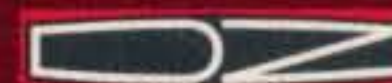
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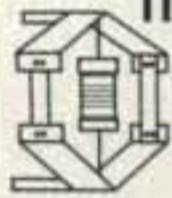
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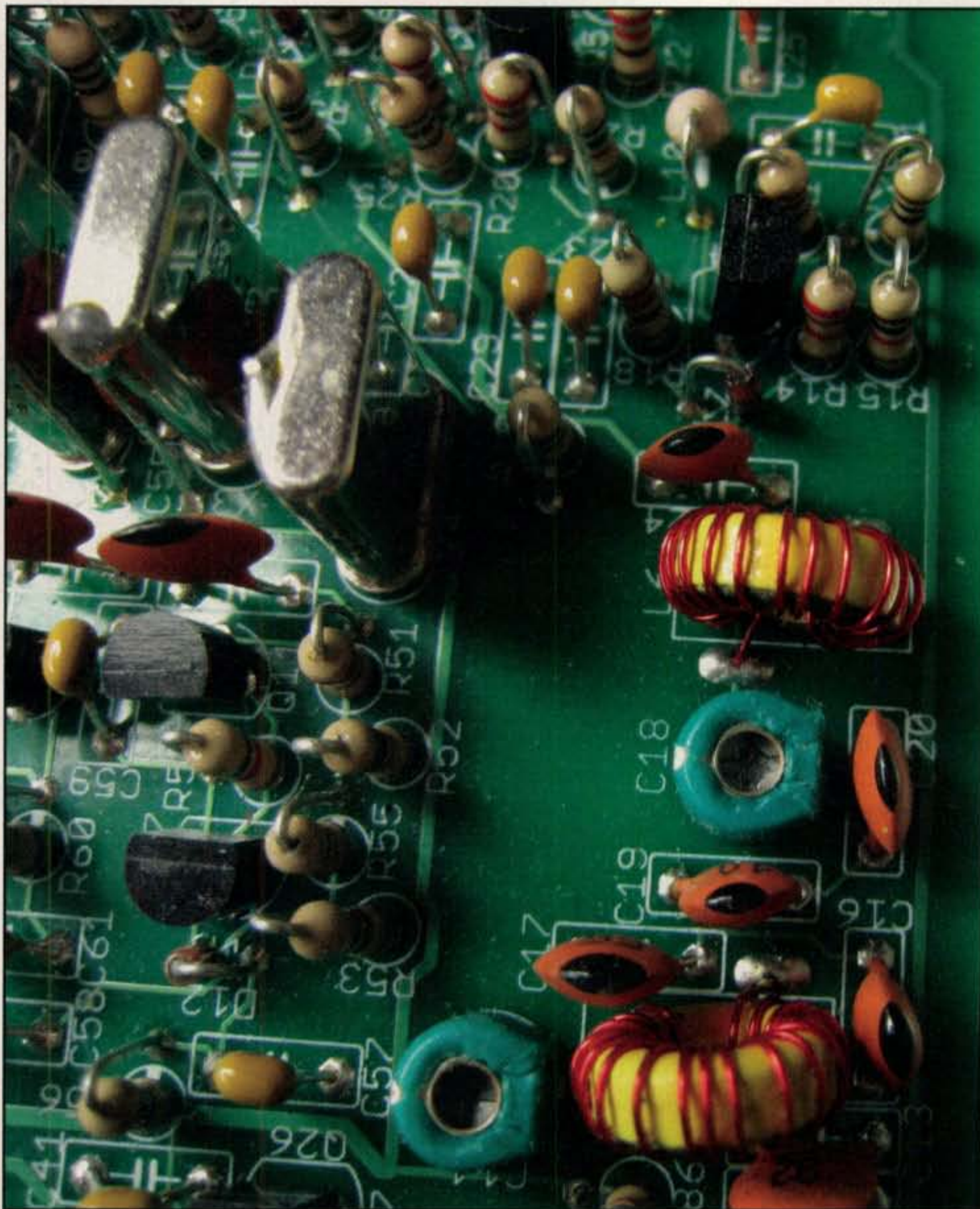
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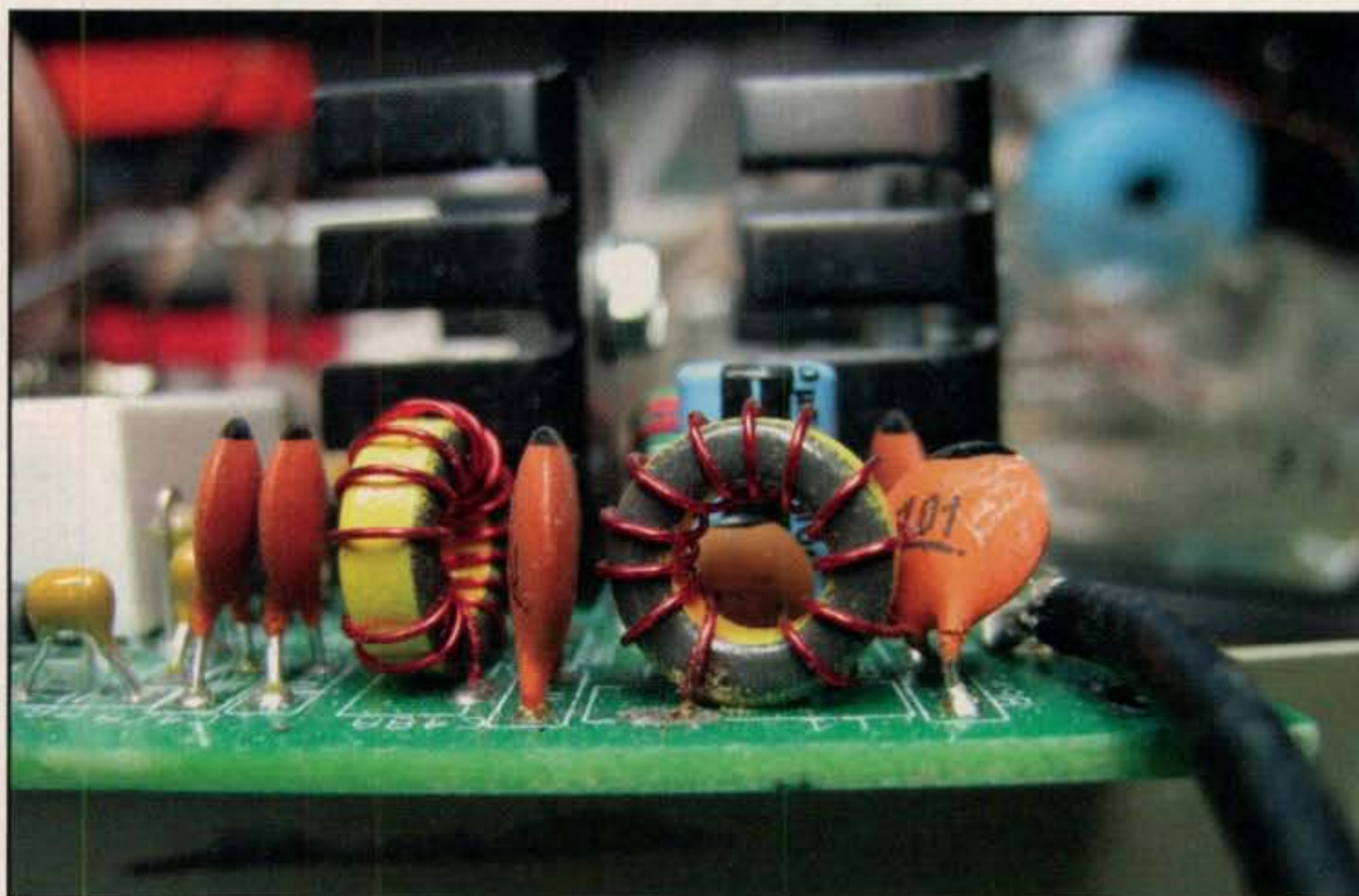
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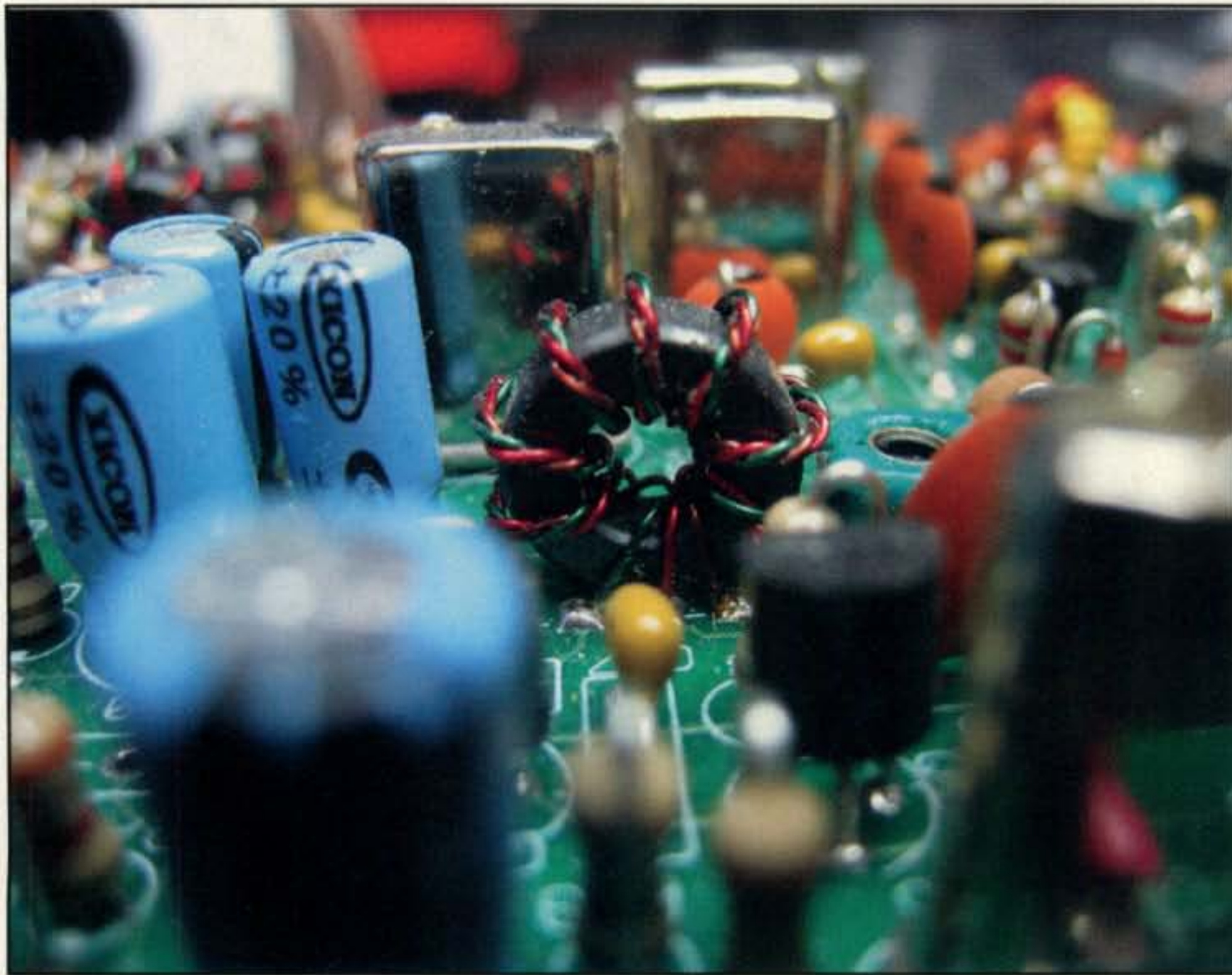
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A pair of single-wire toroids mounted vertically and seen from the top.



Another view of two single-wire toroids, seen this time from the front and side.

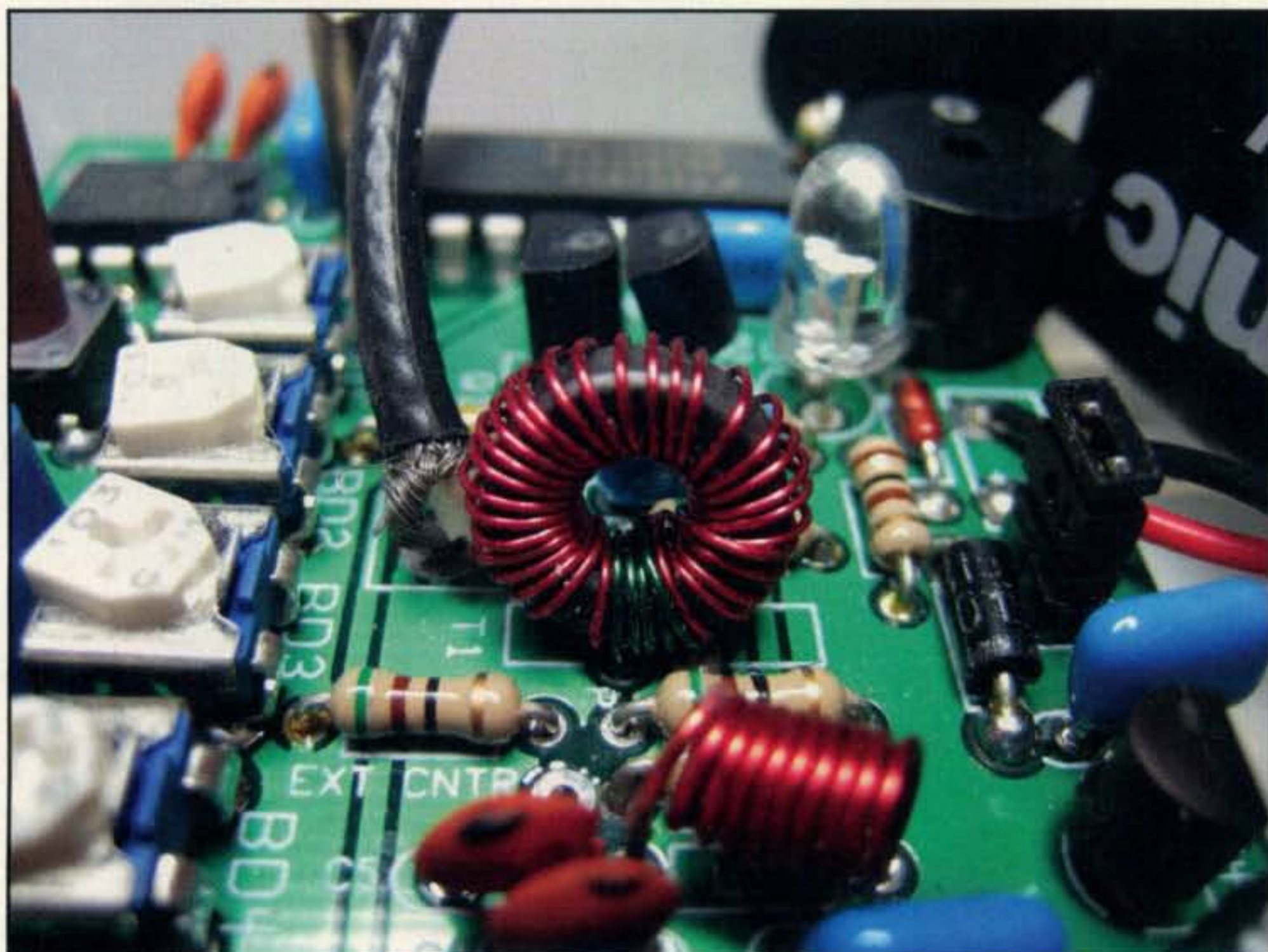


A trifilar toroid. Notice three different color wires twisted together and wrapped around the core.

holder to use when winding them. This kit is called "Preparation T" and is sold by Rex, W1REX, at <www.qrpme.com>. Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, also has a kit of spare toroid cores and wire which comes in handy should you need the correct spare wire and core or want

to improve or modify your kit. His toroid kit is available at <www.qrpkits.com>.

Take advantage of the long winter nights and cold days to spend some quality time building a kit! Until next month . . . 73 de KØNEB



A toroidal transformer. There is a primary and a secondary using two different colors of wire (look closely to see the green wire at the bottom).

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Potpourri: Velocity Factor, 75-ohm Coax, and Stacked Yagis

This month we will be looking a variety of antenna topics, most inspired by questions from you, our readers.

Velocity Factor

At a recent club meeting I got a request to explain the velocity factor of coax. Velocity factor is a consideration for all types of transmission lines, both open wire and coax. Velocity factor even affects the length of your antenna elements. It is a measure of how much certain materials slow down a radio wave from its theoretical speed of the speed of light.

There are two ways to explain why a radio wave doesn't travel as quickly as it should:

First is the optical explanation. When light, or any electromagnetic wave, travels through a substance, that wave is slowed down. Light slows down when it passes through glass, air, water, or any other clear substance, which is why a lens can be used to bend and focus light waves. Likewise, radio waves traveling through plastic or even air travel more slowly than in free space. Also, it is also possible to use a lens to bend and focus radio waves. In photo A we have a 76-GHz horn antenna with a lens. It is because the radio wave travels more slowly through the center and thicker portion of the lens, and at the same time travels more quickly through the thinner outer edges of the lens, that the waves can be brought to a focus.

However, treating radio waves like light is really only practical when get above several GHz. Yes, you can use a lens to increase the gain of your 2-meter antenna. Start with a slab of low-loss plastic 60 feet by 60 feet and about 10 feet thick.

Next would be the transmission line, or low-pass filter model. The center wire in coax acts like an inductor. The space between the center conductor and the shield forms a capacitor. Together this is shown in fig. 1 as a series of inductors with parallel capacitors. The wave has to charge each capacitor as it travels along the coax. This takes time and slows down the radio wave. Seventy-two-ohm coax has a smaller center conductor than 50-

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Photo A— Dielectric horn antenna for 76 GHz.

ohm coax, so the capacitors have lower values in 72-ohm coax than they do in 50-ohm coax. In general, a radio wave travels down a 50-ohm coax cable about 66% as fast as it does in air. For 72-ohm coax, the radio wave travels about 80% as fast as it does in air. Therefore, the velocity factors of the two cables are 66 and 80, respectively.

There is also a *lot* of difference in VF, or velocity factor, of solid vs. foam coax, and a *lot* of difference among manufacturers. If you need exactly one-half wavelength or something, be sure to check the manufacturer's data or measure it yourself. Measuring velocity factor of coax sounds like a good topic for a future column.

Back to fig. 1, the diagram for the transmission line is also the schematic for a low-pass filter. Now you know why coax has more loss as you go up in frequency.

Using 75-ohm Coax

There seems to be a tradition among hams of avoiding 75-ohm coax like it's the plague. Actually, it's great stuff that usually has less loss than 50-ohm coax. Cable TV companies get their coax in 5000-foot rolls. When they get to the end of the roll, that last hundred feet or so is pretty worthless to them. Often, you can get them to give you leftovers for nothing, or next to nothing.

There are several ways to use 75-ohm coax in your ham station. First is with any rigs with a tune-load control. This includes just about any transmitter or amplifier with a tube final. Pi-output sections on older rigs and most amplifiers will tune impedances from 30 ohms to 1000 ohms or so; 75 ohms is well within their tuning range and will load up just fine.

Many antennas are easily modified from 50 to 75 ohms. For Yagis with gamma or T-bar impedance matching, you just move the slider to the posi-

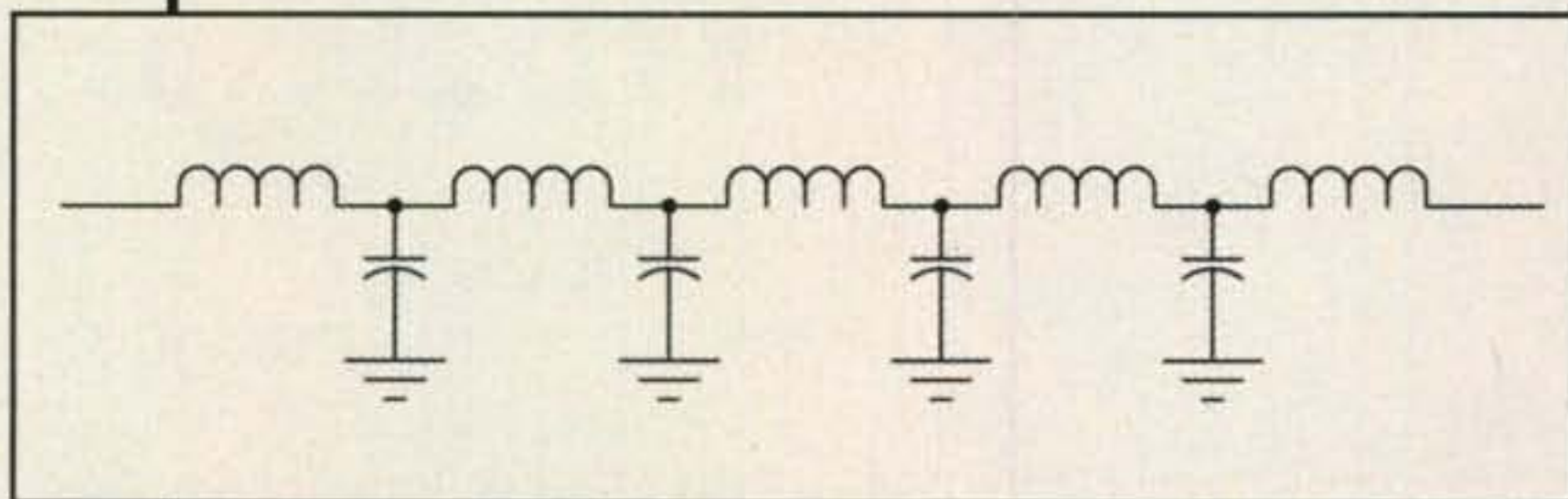


Fig. 1— Diagram of a section of transmission line.

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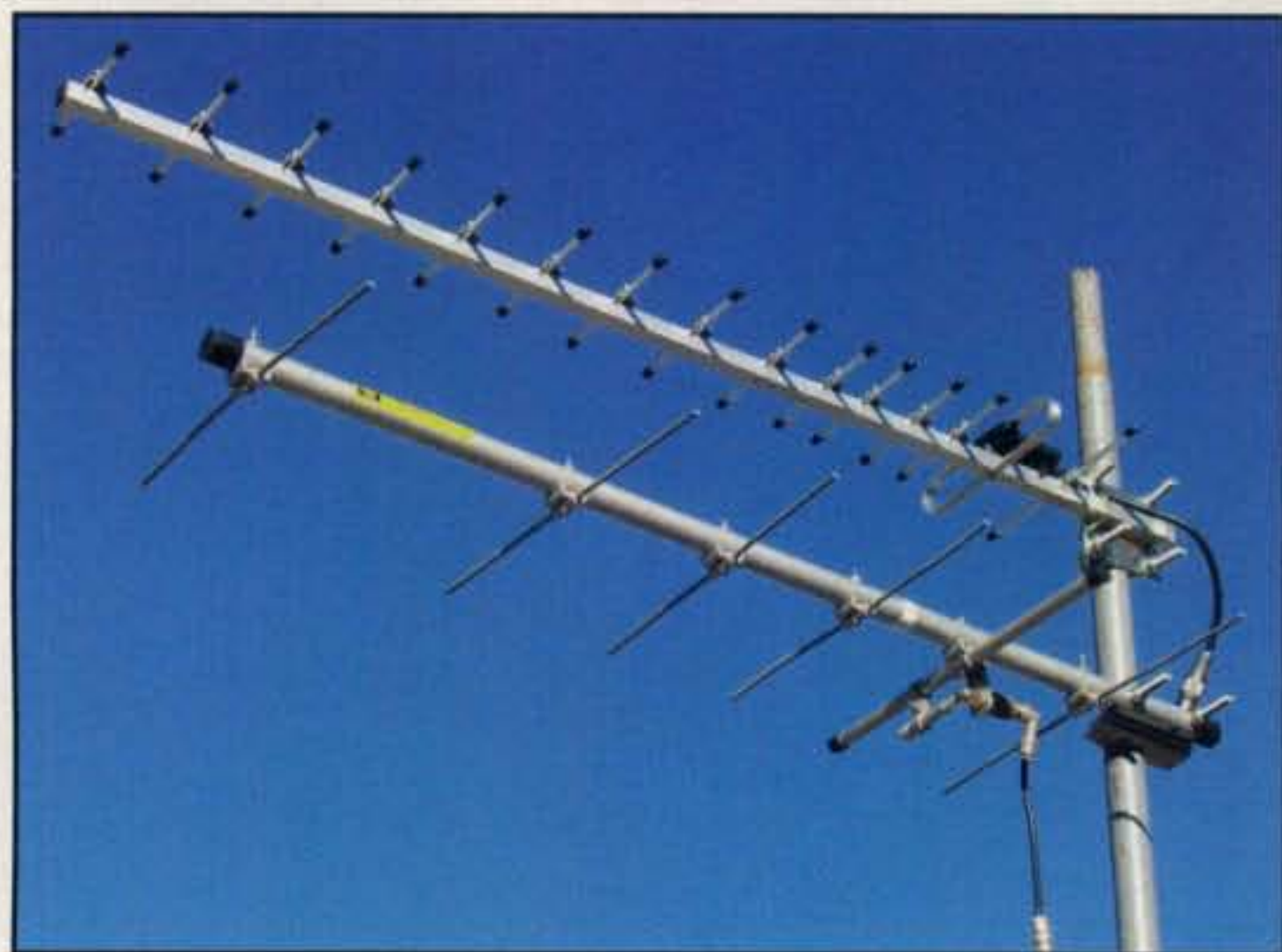


Photo B— Close-stacking of Yagis for different bands.

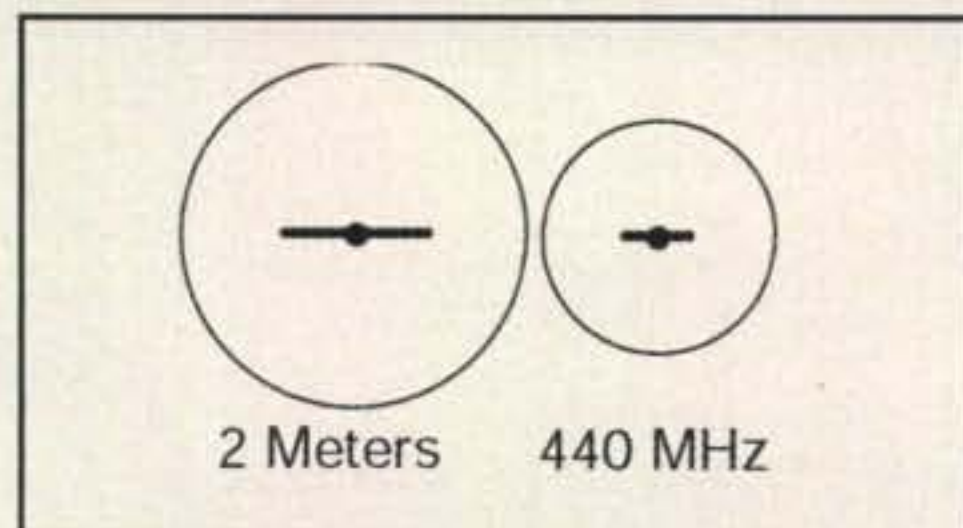


Fig. 2— Relative capture areas of two Yagis for different bands.

tion with the best SWR. In the case of my "Cheap Yagis," I have published 75-ohm versions of many of the antennas. For these, the element spacing is a bit wider and the lower loading of the driven element matches out at 75 ohms instead of 50 ohms. For verticals with base-mounted loading coils, you just move up the tap point slightly for a 75-ohm match.

Another option for 75-ohm coax is to just use it! If you just connected 75-ohm coax in a 50-ohm system you will have a 75/50 mismatch, or a 1.5 to 1 SWR that

adjusting the tip of the antenna just won't tune out. A 1.5 SWR is really nothing in the world of antennas, though, and with the much lower loss of 75-ohm coax you come out way ahead. One method suggested by KF5N was to make up a handful of 75-ohm jumpers of different lengths and try different combinations between your rig and the coax. The idea is to find the extra length that makes the total transmission line an odd quarter-wave multiple. A feedline of 50 ohms odd quarter-wave of 75 ohms to 50 ohms works out to be a good impedance match and

a low SWR. In my case, this worked great on the 6-meter beam fed with $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch 75-ohm hardline.

Stacking Yagis for Different Bands

On one of the microwave reflectors, the pundits had quite a field day with this one, and as usual the opinions were 20 dB stronger than the facts. At a recent microwave conference, we set up the antenna range and measured over 50 different antennas. While we were at it, we looked at the interaction between Yagis mounted close together as in photo B and in fig. 2, which is a drawing of the relative capture areas of a 2-meter and a 440-MHz beam. This is, of course, scaleable to any two ham bands.

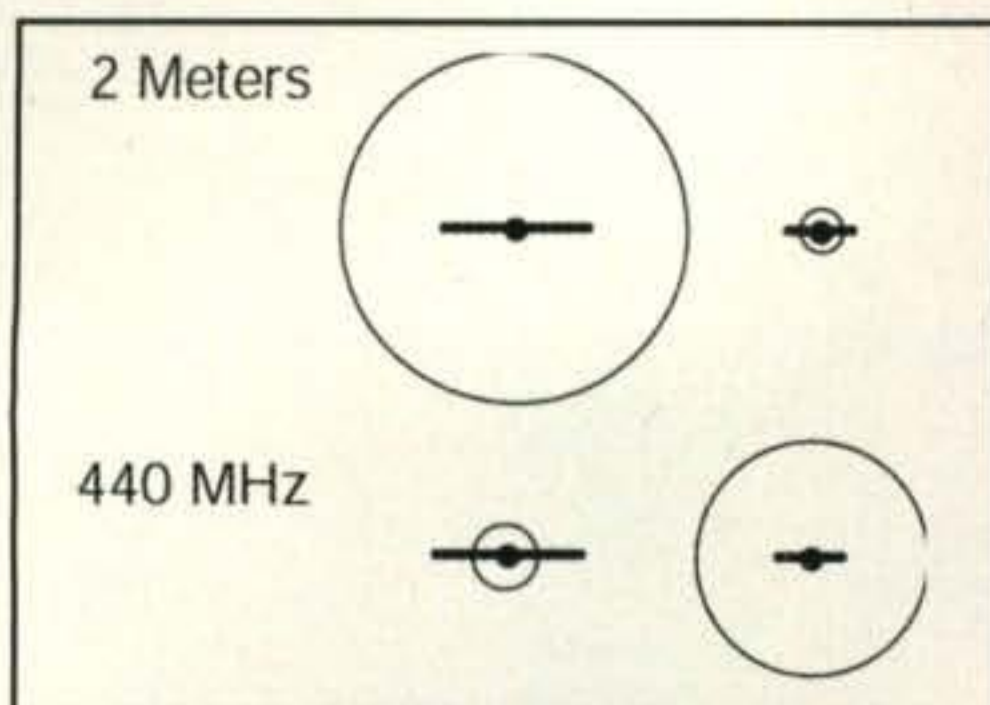


Fig. 3—Relative capture areas of two Yagis, but on the other Yagi's design frequency.

Some will say that the antennas need to be stacked far enough apart that their capture or aperture areas do not touch, or very far apart. But then they mix their math terms.

In fig. 3, we directly compare 2-meter to 2-meter and 440-MHz to 440-MHz beams. The aperture area of a 440-MHz beam is darn near *nothing* at 2 meters, and the aperture area of a 2-meter beam is very small at 440 MHz. Interaction between the Yagis is quite small on the other Yagi's design frequency.

Since this was a microwave conference, we did our testing with a 432-MHz Yagi and the effects of nearby 902-MHz and 1296-MHz Yagis. We have a lot

more testing to do, but the 902-MHz and 1296-MHz beams had to be moved down to where the booms touched before gain dropped even 1 dB. Also, most of this was caused by an SWR increase in the 432-MHz beam by the other antenna's elements being next to its driven element. I have much more work to do, and this is not the time of year for a lot of outdoor work on the antenna range, but it sure looks like Yagis for different bands can be mounted a lot closer together than we once thought.

Reader Q&A

Everette asks about using a CB SWR meter on other bands: Your 27-MHz SWR meter should work fine on most ham bands. The CB meters often get a bit confused on 146 MHz or 450 MHz, but they work fine on the lower bands. The "power," or watts, setting is calibrated at 27 MHz and will not be accurate on the ham bands. However, it will show you are putting out power. Of course, too, the "modulation" position on your meter isn't necessary since there is very little AM activity on the ham bands. Thus, you can save those Social Security pennies and keep using your old SWR meter.

From Martin we have a question on

ground radials: Why do we see only three or four radials on a VHF quarter-wave ground plane, but they want you to have many radials on a ground-mounted HF vertical? Yes, the textbook does recommend 120 radials for a ground-mounted broadcast vertical. The problem is the poor conductivity of soil. When the radials are isolated and insulated, as when mounted in the air on a ground plane, the currents stay in the radials, which are usually constructed out of a good conductor. However, when ground mounted, those currents are just warming up earthworms. The extra radials improve the electrical conductivity of the ground and raise the efficiency of the antenna. Elevated radials for an HF vertical, where the radials are mounted several feet off the ground, are more difficult to build, a bit of a tripping hazard, and you need a lot of real estate, but elevated radials on HF are very efficient.

As always, we welcome your questions and topic suggestions. Just drop a note to my QRZ.com address or an e-mail to <wa5vjb@cq-amateur-radio.com>. For other antenna articles and projects, you are welcome to visit <www.wa5vjb.com>. 73, Kent WA5VJB



Timeline of Ham Radio History 1945–2010

To help celebrate CQ's 65th anniversary, we've put together a timeline of significant events in ham radio history from 1945 to the present. Each month this year, we'll present five or six years' worth, and then put the whole list on our website when we're done. (Since this is a timeline and not a textbook, we had to be selective. We apologize in advance if we leave out something of importance to you.)

This month, we'll cover the years 1945–1950:

1945–1950: Ham Radio's Rebirth, Dawn of the Transistor Age

1945: Ham radio begins to return to the air after WW II shutdown. First band

authorized, 2¹/₂ meters on August 21, four days after VJ Day. CQ launched in January.

1946: Nearly all pre-war ham bands re-authorized, but with some changes, as 6 meters replaces 5 meters and 2 meters replaces 2¹/₂ meters. The 160-meter band remains off limits, used for LORAN navigation.

1947: International radio conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, results in loss of parts of 80, 40, and 20 meters, balanced out by the addition of the 15-meter band. SWR meter and grid-dip oscillator (GDO) introduced. CQ reactivates *Radio* magazine's WAZ (Worked All Zones) Award program, which celebrated its 75th anniversary in November, 2009.

1948: Transistor invented, setting in motion the communications and elec-

tronics revolution that continues to this day; hams this year saw the introduction of single sideband (SSB) and the cubical quad antenna.

1949: CQ co-sponsors the Radio Amateur Scientific Observation (RASO) project in conjunction with the United States Air Force, a two-year project to study propagation, primarily sporadic-E on 6 meters; project supervised by CQ Managing Editor Oliver Perry Ferrell.

1950: As television grows in popularity, so does TVI, or television interference. Hams respond by going mobile and by designing circuits to help reduce interference. CQ carries six articles this year on fighting TVI.

Next month, we'll look at 1951 through 1956, the peak years of the Cold War.

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Post-Holiday Items for the Ham Shack

This month my mind wanders around a bit to consider post-holiday cheers and woes, prompted by this odd Christmas gift I received from one of my sisters (photo 1). No, this is not a camera trick; the cups are slanted to one side. These are just a little bit too quirky for me. I probably will save this item for "re-gifting" at the next office party.

Knowing that many people get similarly strange gifts, I decided it might be a good idea to take a look at some more interesting and useful gifts a ham can give as well as receive. Also, if you get either cash or gift certificates, I can suggest some ways to spend your money. At the very least, I hope to help reduce the activity at the returns desk at the local shopping emporium.

Non Radio-Specific Items Adapted for Radio Use

Among the easy, useful, and inexpensive gifts ham radio folks appreciate are wearable items. These items are not necessarily "ham radio dedicated" items, and they are not limited to T-shirts and baseball hats. Take a look at the day pack in photo 2, which is a common item in sporting-goods and department stores around the world. For

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e-mail: <kh6wz@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo 1— No, this is not a camera trick. These drinking glasses are slanted to one side. I am going to leave my ham radio catalogs at my sister's house so she can get some better gift ideas!



Photo 2— I use this small pack to hold various necessities while doing outdoor ham radio events. Add a handie-talkie radio, external antenna, extra battery pack, and some snacks and I am ready to go.



Photo 3— This crank-to-charge flashlight is a very useful item. It includes a cable with a USB connector so it can also charge a cell phone.

active ham operators, a bag like this can be the basis of a portable ham radio station by adding a portable radio and a spare battery pack in addition to any outdoor gear and food or snack items. Notice the carabiner clipped to the top loop on the pack. The carabiner is a handy device that can be used to hang the bag or other item when you are out and about.



Photo 4— A booster battery can be used to jump-start a vehicle. It is also a very handy source of 12-VDC power for ham radio sets.

While browsing at the sporting-goods store, take a look at the other useful items that can be adapted for ham radio use, such as fishing vests, day packs, fanny packs, and duffel bags. Other camping items such as portable stoves and canopies can be used for emergency preparedness or outdoor radio events. Especially useful are the new solar-charged or "free-play" flashlights and broadcast radios, since some of them have a power outlet that might be used to power a small HT. I found the crank-to-charge flashlight (photo 3) in the "as-is bin" at a hardware store. For \$10 it was a pretty good deal. It came with a USB cord, so the flashlight can be used to charge a cell phone or other device.

Portable power supplies (batteries) are also available in alternative places. In this case, the emergency booster battery shown in photo 4 can be found in auto-parts, recreational-vehicle, and marine stores. These units are usually large gel-cell batteries in a handy carrying case and include a charger. These units are nice to have in case you need to jump-start your vehicle because you forgot to turn off your mobile rig.

I found some handy nylon pouches at the local hardware store (photo 5). They are great for organizing and protecting small items such as spare HT battery packs, small tools, and cable adapters.

Also, if you own an HT or two, one of the first accessory items to purchase is an extended antenna, since the rubber-



Photo 5— These inexpensive nylon pouches are great for organizing, storing, and protecting small accessory items such as battery packs and adapters.

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Photo 6—A station clock is a great decorative yet functional accessory for any ham station. This analog clock was on sale at a local office -supply store. It has an "atomic time" function that automatically re-sets for Daylight Savings Time. A by-pass switch enables one to set the clock to a different time zone, such as Universal Time.

flex antenna that comes with the radio is usually not that great. Ask your favorite radio salesperson for advice on gain antennas and other accessories for your HT.

In and Around the Shack

In the garage, basement, or whatever room you use for your station, an excellent accessory item is a wall clock. Whether analog or digital, a 24-hour clock can be an interesting and useful room decoration, as shown in photo 6. You can have one clock for local time and one clock can be set to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), or the newer term, Universal Time (UT). Be careful in selecting clocks for displaying time out-



Photo 8— Saving coins is one way to come up with some "extra" spending money for ham radio goodies.

side of your area, however. The new "atomic clocks" will automatically re-set your UT clock back to your own local time! The clock in photo 6 has a switch so you can by-pass the atomic time capability. By the way, digital clocks are easy to build, there are many digital clock kits available, and building one may be a great educational experience for any ham.

Speaking of clock kits, I ran across a fascinating and very different clock kit on the internet. It is called the "Transistor Clock" and uses discrete devices (individual transistors) rather than integrated circuits (ICs). Take a look at this very interesting and educational kit; the URL is mentioned in the "Sources" box. I ordered one, and expect it to be a fascinating wall decoration in my new house.

To help keep peace and quiet in a house full of non-hams, a good pair of headphones or a headset with a boom microphone is always a great accessory for any radio. I also find that using headphones increases my ability to understand weak signals, sometimes very important in contest or net opera-

tion. Many headsets or headphones are available for all ham radio equipment, from the smallest HT to the biggest HF home station. Take a look at the advertisements in this magazine to see what is available.

For the transmit side of your station, a wide variety of microphones and keys is available. When operating a mobile rig in the car, the hand-held microphone that probably came with your rig is usually just fine. However, for stationary or desktop operating, that "pickle" in your hand may become inconvenient during long radio sessions. Having a desk microphone can decrease fatigue and increase operating enjoyment. All the major radio manufacturers have a line of desk microphones, and there are very good after-market microphones available, too (photo 7).

Speaking of long operating sessions, a comfortable chair for your home station is a necessity. I must confess that I have used an old dining-room chair in my operating position, but a few years ago I bought a huge executive's chair from a used office-furniture store. It has a high back and is comfortable enough to sleep in. It is completely adjustable for seat height and back tilt angle.

Many useful and informative items are available from the CQ Bookstore and the American Radio Relay League book store. These on-line stores have much more than ham radio books. DVDs, CD-ROMs, clothing, and other items are available as well.

Found Money?

On a recent rainy weekend I decided to stay home and do some house cleaning. However, I got distracted after a few minutes and looked at a sack of coins I have been saving for the last several months (photo 8). As I counted and rolled the loose change, I was surprised to discover that the total came to almost \$100—enough to put into the savings





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Photo 7— While a mobile microphone is great when you are operating a rig in a car, long operating sessions inside the shack call for a nice desktop microphone such as this one.

account toward a new station accessory. You might want to search your usual hiding places for loose coins, too. Also, try to stay away from those change-counting machines that seem to be everywhere these days, as most all of them take a hefty service charge from your money. A better idea is to spend a few minutes—or hours, depending on your pile of coins—counting and rolling them yourself (but check with your bank

to see if it will accept rolled coins from customers).

Now you have some ideas on how to spend some of the money from returning items and store credits or gift certificates. Also, loose change can quickly add up to a nice sum toward a new rig or station accessory!

73, Wayne, KH6WZ

Sources

Remember to browse your local department stores, auto-parts stores, and office-supply outlets for accessory ideas. Handy ham-radio accessories do not always have to come from a ham-radio-only store. Here are some of the online sources, too.

Non-Radio Accessory Items

Brookstone: <<http://www.brookstone.com/>>

Books, Videos, Calendars

CQ Bookstore: <<http://store.cq-amateur-radio.com/StoreFront.bok>>, plus see the ads elsewhere in this issue

American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Bookstore: <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/>>

Solar-Powered Gadgets and Other Useful Items

C. Crane Company: <<http://www.ccrane.com/>>

Digital Clock Kits, Other Electronic Kits

Ramsey Electronics: <<http://www.ramseyelectronics.com/>>

The Transistor Clock

KABtronics: <<http://www.transistorclock.com/>>

Headphones, Headsets, Microphones

Heil Sound: <<http://www.heilsound.com/amateur/>>

Budget HF'n with Tube-Type Gear

As you may recall, our recent "How it Works" columns discussed an alternate and reduced-cost means of joining today's HF-band activities by seeking out and lightly refurbishing an older model tube-type transceiver. Those columns explained how to recognize the more popular rigs, check them out, replace a few tubes and filter capacitors, and use a beautiful "oldie" on the air today.

This time we take another, and quite possibly the most exciting, step of all toward "affordable HF'n"—finding, fixing up, and putting together a separate receiver and transmitter setup for real radio fun. This approach may seem unusual to newer amateurs—those of you who joined our ranks after transceivers became the rage—but rest assured, it is an exhilarating experience of the best kind. That's not hype friends; it's fact!

Many people restore cars from the "good old days" and drive them as a special treat two or three times a week, and you can recapture that same romantic fun in amateur radio, and at lower cost to boot, with an older "tube rig." As any misty-eyed old pro will surely agree, nothing compares to the sheer glitz and glamour of a transmitter-receiver station with its soft glowing tubes, large half-moon or slide-rule dials, and real analog meters.

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



Photo A—As shown by this somewhat scarce (and reasonably priced) Lafayette KT-200, a variety of vintage receivers surface at hamfests both large and small. Previous research allowing you to recognize their name, model, and possibly "track record" of performance is most beneficial for making a quick buying decision before the little gem is sold. Look at those half-moon dials, that analog meter, all begging for a nice home!



Photo B— This well-kept Johnson Adventurer transmitter purchased at an unbelievably low price at a hamfest produces a beautiful vacuum-tube-quality 25-watt signal on the 80 through 10 meter bands. Plug in a crystal, add a VXO circuit in series with the crystal, and it can easily cover 10 to 20 kHz of a favored band segment.

There are some caveats or shortcomings I should mention upfront, however. Forty or fifty-year-old receivers typically drop off in sensitivity on bands above 20 meters, but work well on lower bands such as 160, 80, 40, and 30 meters. Also, transmitters that operate SSB or AM with big-time plate modulation are now prized (and expensive) collectibles. That narrows our discussion to simple, lightweight, and low-cost gear, and operating the highly effective mode of CW.

Don't cringe. CW continuously proves it reaches out farther and more effectively than SSB, more rare DX and budget-restricted stations operate CW, and combining CW with Q codes lets you communicate with amateurs of all lands even though you cannot speak a foreign language. Hampered by CC&Rs? Need to maintain a low profile? CW is the answer—plain and simple.

One other point warrants mention. Tube gear uses real high voltage that, if accidentally touched, can inflict dangerous, possibly fatal, shocks. Know your technical abilities and limitations. If you have not worked with tube gear, do not open a cabinet exposing tubes and high voltages without an experienced pro by your side to guide you. Just use the gear (with cabinet well sealed) *after* your guide has checked it out and given it a "clean bill of health" so-to-speak. Now let's focus on the hunt and fun!

The Hunt is On!

Searching for a tube-type transmitter and receiver from past times may prove slightly more challenging than seeking out an older model transceiver—and you may not find both units at the same time or place—but the search is worth the effort. A logical starting point for becoming familiar with older gear and its capabilities is looking

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Boost battery voltage as low as 9 Volts back up to 13.8 VDC! Keeps your transceiver at full power output, compensates for run down battery, wiring voltage drop, car off . . .



MFJ-4416B Boost battery voltage as low as 9 Volts back up to 13.8 VDC! Keeps your transceiver at full power output, provides full performance/efficiency, prevents output signal distortion and transceiver shutdown. Compensates for run-down battery, wiring voltage drop or when car is off. Provides up to 25 Amps peak with 90% efficiency. Selectable 9/10/11 Volts minimum input voltage prevents bat-

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100 Watts SSB from cigarette lighter socket!



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<http://www.mfjenterprises.com> for instruction manuals, catalog, info



Photo C— Can't find the accompanying manual for a hamfest-purchased vintage receiver or transmitter? Check out <www.vintagemanuals.com>. It has thousands of well-reproduced manuals for transmitters and receivers, etc., at fair-and-square prices.

through ads in back issues of *CQ*, *QST*, and *73* magazines, and the ideal time-frame is the 1950s and 1960s. Many larger libraries and ham clubs have a nice collection of magazines from those eras¹, and close browsing may even turn up some good reviews of gear from famous manufacturers such as Hallicrafters, National, Hammarlund, Johnson, Heathkit, Knight, and more. Other popular names are Collins, Drake, Squire Sanders, and Central Electronics, but they have become pricey collectables and we are taking the "basic and low-cost" road to fun.

Your best hunting grounds probably will narrow down to hamfest flea markets and attics or basements of older amateurs. I have heard of several occasions when budding newcomers acquired small and basic receivers and transmitters in remarkably good condition, and the only cost involved was fully cleaning out said attic or basement rather than simply taking a couple of desired items. In the process, however, one new amateur found an antenna tuner, SWR bridge, antenna switch, and a like-new hand key. Nice!

When shopping at hamfests, remember the early bird gets the worm. Try to arrive before the doors open and notice the gear folks move in prior to setup. An on-the-spot purchase often proves quite fruitful. Several years ago, for example, a friend found (and immediately purchased) a Johnson Adventurer transmitter in superb condition for \$5 and a National receiver for only \$50. He

also found and purchased at the same fest a couple of new tubes for the receiver and two tubes for the transmitter, all for \$20 dollars, bringing the total cost of the full station to \$75. Installing those "most important tubes" is an always worthwhile move, as it ensures gear will deliver its best possible performance. "Most important tubes" include the receiver's RF amplifier and one or two IF amplifier tubes (often the same type/number) plus maybe a BFO tube. Transmitter tubes usually narrow down to the oscillator or driver, a power amplifier, and a rectifier tube.

Check Out and Clean Up

After returning home, your first steps of action will probably involve closer study and checkout plus a simple cleaning and "fix-up" of an acquired receiver and transmitter. A soft-bristle brush and a can of compressed air work well for chassis cleaning. Follow that with a few Q-tips® for carefully cleaning tight spots, and contact cleaner for intermittent switches and controls as discussed in our November 2009 "How it Works" column. Exercise care and avoid moving internal wires or bending plates on tuning capacitors. Also, do not adjust any screws on IF "cans." The only time to consider IF adjustment is when a full analysis with test gear such as a signal generator and spectrum analyzer or wideband oscilloscope indicate it is necessary. That warning may sound trivial to old pros, but

remember folks of all levels of expertise and background read *CQ* magazine.

Receiver checkout typically involves connecting a dipole or random-length wire (20 feet or longer), hunting for ham band activity with the main tuning dial, and then tuning in separate signals with the band-spread dial. Problems? Dial calibration has probably changed with age. Hunt for WWV near 5.0, 10.0, and/or 15.0 MHz, and then mentally add the noted "correction factor" to the main dial for close-to-accurate tuning of a ham band.

Judging whether a receiver is normal or low in sensitivity without a separate rig for comparison is almost impossible, so installing a new RF amplifier tube (that's the one closest to the antenna input connection on a circuit diagram) is suggested. I recall several occasions when this simple tube swap gave an old receiver a totally new lease on life, so it is well worth the effort.

Did you note any hum in the receiver or a raspy sound on tuned-in signals? The power supply's (multi-section) filter capacitor has probably deteriorated with age. Be sure the receiver has been unplugged from an AC outlet for 10 or 20 minutes, and then (and hopefully under an old pro amateur's guidance) remove its cabinet or bottom plate and turn the receiver upside down. Look for a large (2- or 3-inch long) capacitor, probably with two or three wires extending from it, near the power transformer and rectifier tube area. The capacitor will typically be

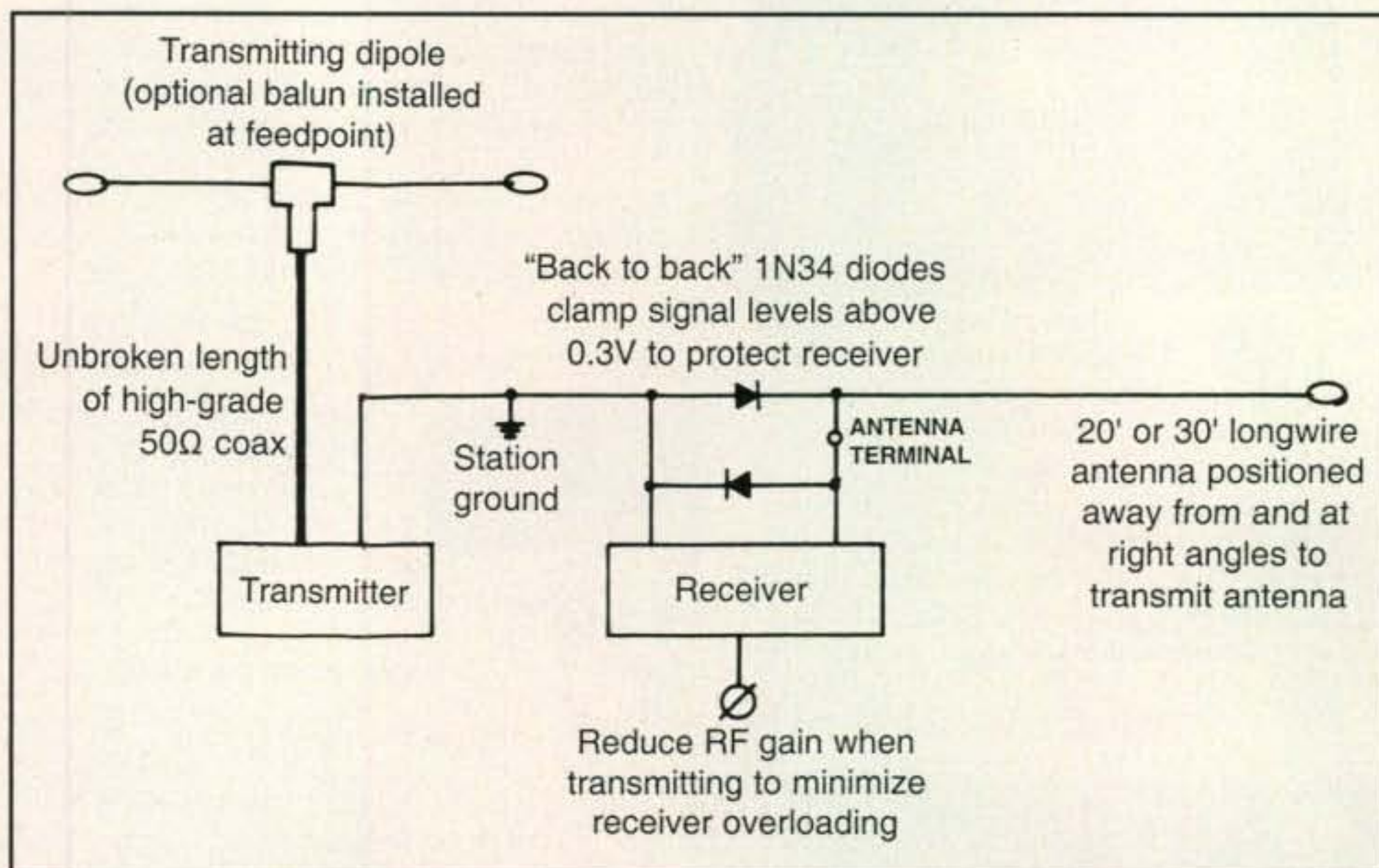


Fig. 1— Outline for simple, "quick and easy" antenna system to use with a separate transmitter/receiver setup as discussed in the text. "Back-to-back" diodes prevent your strong transmitted signal from degrading a receiver's front-end stage(s). A receiver's RF gain or receive/standby switch can also be activated to avoid loud bleeps and squeals when transmitting.

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Note: Mounts are not included.



Photo D— A couple of hamfest flea-market acquired RF and IF amplifier tubes can breathe new life into a vintage receiver and they are usually available at reasonable cost. Check your receiver's or transmitter's manual or look at its existing tubes for proper numbers before asking for help locating the tubes.

marked "20 mFd red, 20 mFd blue, 10 mFd brown, 250 volts," indicating three capacitors in one, uh, paper-tube "thingy," all sharing a common ground (black). Those values and colors are only generic examples, incidentally, and vary somewhat among receivers and transmitters or different models.

I also encourage replacing filter capacitors in older transmitters, as it ensures a strong and clean-sounding signal. Replace filter wires one at a time to avoid confusion or cross-wiring. Chances are high you will not find exact value replacement filters for a receiver or transmitter, but you can "make them"

by connecting the minus (-) wire from each ground and adding insulation called "spaghetti" over the plus (+) wires. As mentioned in our November column, replacing filters with higher (but not lower!) capacitance and voltage rating (such as 40 or 80 mFd at 380 volts, for example) is quite acceptable. Re-

placing filters requires accuracy (watch those wires, avoid shorts, and get it right the first time!). Check out afterwards—with live wires and high voltage—is dan-

gerous, so ask an old pro for guidance or keep your hands clear of under-chassis wires. Turn the rig on its side, switch it on, and then plug it in and look for arcs.

When satisfied, unplug it, wait a few minutes, and then re-install the cabinet.

Transmitter checkout goes a couple of steps further, typically involving connecting its output to a dummy load and wattmeter to measure power. Again I must emphasize following directions in your rig's instruction manual. Generally, the procedure involves peaking the grid drive control, then quickly tuning the PA plate for minimum (a dip in current), and carefully increasing loading while "re-dipping" the plate. If output power is low, installing new driver and power-amplifier tube(s) is good practice. Before you do, however, take a few minutes to "get the feel of the tuning process" and to log control settings. Then with that knowledge and experience to your credit, the new tubes need never be taxed or abused.

You don't have a wattmeter? Many of us were in that same situation when starting out, so we used a 40- or 60-watt incandescent light as a power-estimating dummy load. Just connect and load the bulb like it is an antenna. The rig-sensed SWR from the light bulb will be rather high, so keep test time short—and do not try this trick with a solid-state transceiver, as it can damage output transistors in a short period of time.



Photo E— Many times conventional tubes can be replaced with four-digit industrial equivalents and the resulting performance plus extended tube life make them "good buys." Tube dealers usually have a cross-reference or replacement guide on tube types.

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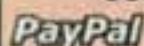
4Port:
PSC-4L Set 1200W PEP
PSC-4H Set 2000W PEP
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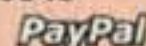
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Conclusion

We now approach the most important and exciting topic of all—interconnecting and operating your separate receiver and transmitter station. Unfortunately, we have also begun to overflow allocated column space and must shift that discussion into our next "How it Works" column (March 2010). Meanwhile, you can have more fun than ever by using your recently acquired receiver to check out favorite band activities. You might also connect a homebrewed dipole to your transmitter, a random wire positioned away from (and at right angles to) that dipole to the receiver, and try calling or answering some CQs. Be forewarned and do not fret over missed contacts. Many times operators use narrow CW filters and only hear other stations exactly on their transmit/transceiver frequency. I will describe a simple VXO circuit to sidestep that dilemma next time.

73, Dave, K4TWJ

Note

1. All back issues of CQ, going back to 1945, are online at hamcall.net/cq and may be accessed at a very reasonable cost.

A New Year of "What's New"

It's a brand new year and a brand new month and we've got a lot of brand new items to look at in CQ's January "What's New" column. We'll start with a look at three of the new products for the new year from MFJ Enterprises, take a tour of a SolderBuddy, mount a foray into ultrasonic communications, and examine an automated approach to consumer electronic recycling.

MFJ Ultra-Compact 0-24 VDC Switching Power Supply

Many hams have a recurring need for power supplies to provide the DC their radios require, so it's a given that lots of hams will be interested in the MFJ-4218MV (photo 1), a compact switching power supply that features adjustable output from 0 to 24 VDC and empowers you to power more than your HF or VHF radio.

With adjustable output voltage, this power supply allows you to run low-voltage accessories 1.5V, 3V, 5V, 9V—or any voltage from 0-24 VDC. That should also appeal to plane and boat pilots who use 24-volt equipment in their respective cockpits. Also, MFJ makes it easy for hams to find their typically preferred voltage by installing a detent setting on the voltage control at 13.8 VDC.

The MFJ-4218MV includes a pair of five-way binding posts for output connection, large back-lighted dual meters for output voltage and current, a HashSQUASH™ Filtering System to address a potential noise problem inherent in switching power supplies, plus output protection for the inevitable shorts, overloads, and over-temperature

events. It also has a load fault indicator with auto reset after each fault is detected.

Rated output current is 18 amps at 13.8 VDC or 9 amps at 24 VDC, and the input voltage can be selected at 110 or 220 VAC. It weighs 2.2 pounds; measures just 6 inches wide, 2¹/₄ inches high, 6³/₄ inches deep; and is priced at \$129.95.

MFJ All-Band Ground Radial System

MFJ is adding to its 2010 catalog an all-band ground radial system designed for the MFJ-2990 and other vertical antennas when a radial system is required. Priced at \$34.95, it's being touted as an easy way to add a radial system to provide the necessary return path for ground currents to reduce ground losses.

The MFJ-1932 (photo 2) consists of two sets of four radial wire assemblies that provide a total of

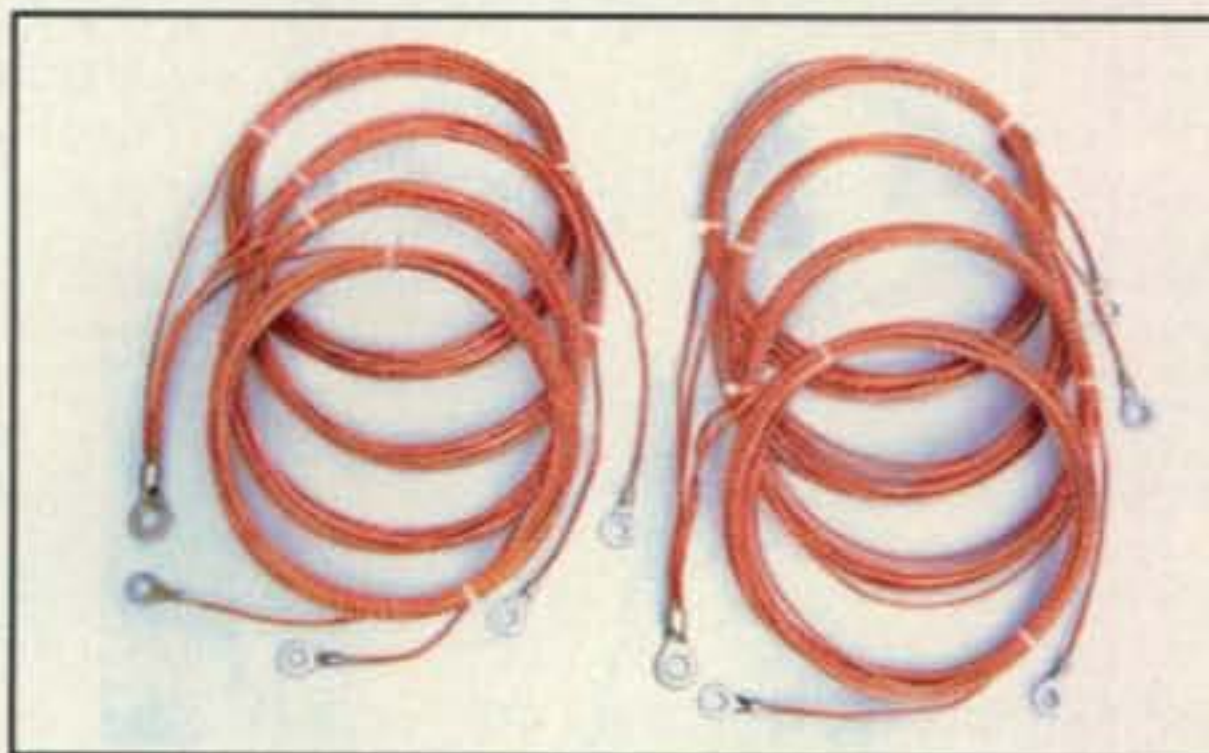


Photo 2— MFJ makes grounding vertical antennas a snap with its MFJ-1932 All-Band Ground Radial System, a package that includes two sets of four radial wire assemblies to make eight 14-foot radial wires. It's designed to work with the MFJ-2990 and other vertical antennas that require a radial system. (Photo courtesy of MFJ)

*1870 Alder Branch Lane, Germantown, TN 38139
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Photo 1— Versatility and flexibility are built into the MFJ-4218MV Ultra-Compact 0-24 VDC Switching Power Supply that is rated at 18 amps at 13.8 VDC and can vary output voltage from 0 to 24 volts DC. Weighing only 2.2 pounds, it comes with back-lighted voltage and current meters, five-way binding posts, and MFJ's HashSQUASH filtering system. (Photo courtesy of MFJ Enterprises)



Photo 3— Working on QRP radios, running on-the-air QRP signal trials, or setting up antennas can all be made a little easier through the use of the compact MFJ-813 QRP Wattmeter and SWR Bridge which reads forwarded and reflected power from zero to 5 watts and covers 1.8 to 50 MHz. (Photo courtesy of MFJ)

eight 14-foot radial wires. Each wire has a 1/4-inch ring lug on one end for attaching to the antenna ground point and a solder lug on the other end for securing the wire run.

MFJ QRP Wattmeter, SWR Bridge

One more new product from our friends at MFJ Enterprises of Starkville, Mississippi is its new QRP wattmeter and SWR bridge for use on the amateur HF bands.

Priced at \$39.95, the MFJ-813 (photo 3) reads forward and



Photo 4— Help for hams who need to repair cables or solder connectors is now available thanks to the SolderBuddy Hobbyist Ham, a different approach to keeping connectors in one place when you work on them. The wooden SolderBuddy also incorporates a small vise and a screw holder and is priced at \$37.50. (Photo courtesy of SolderBuddy)

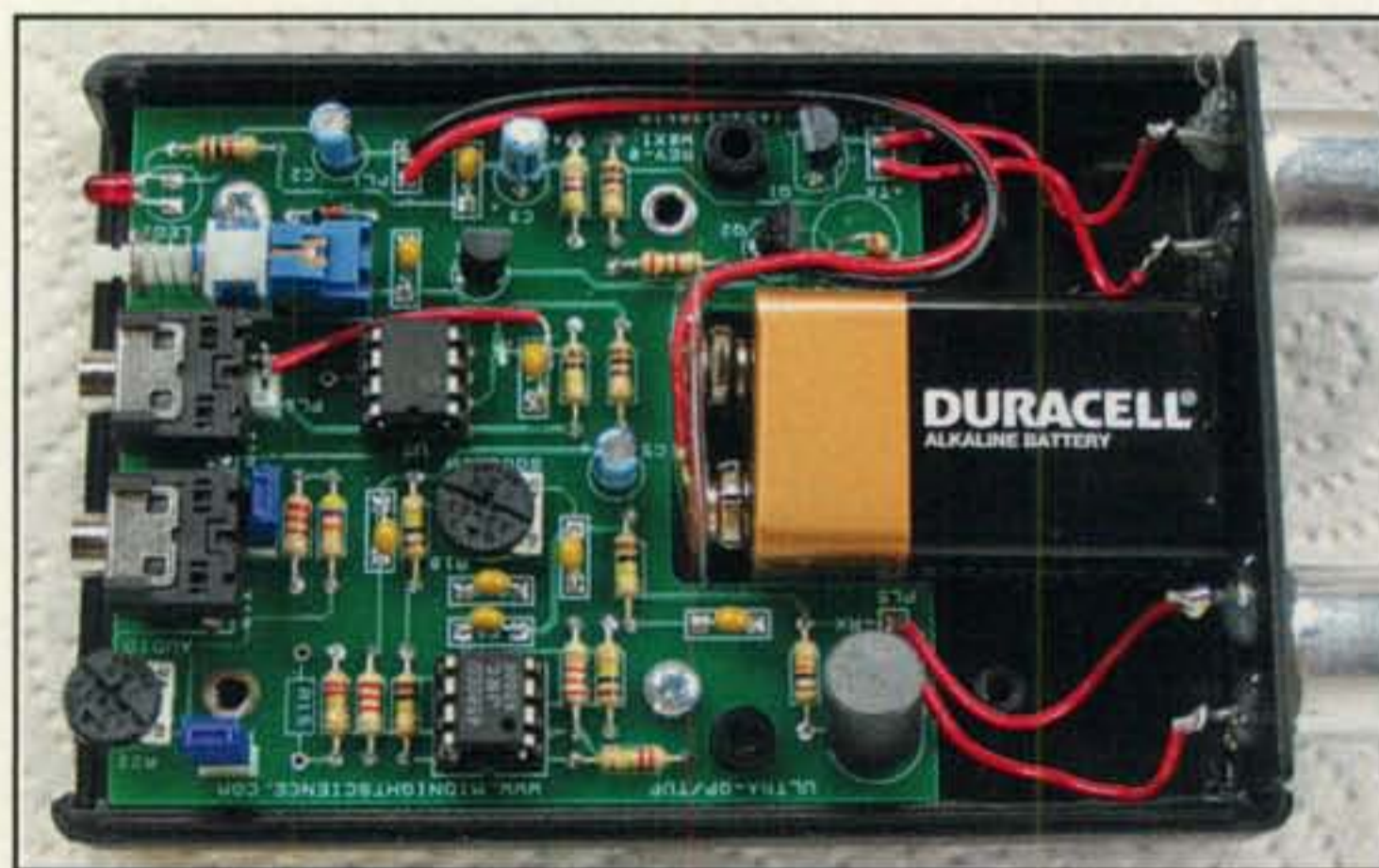


Photo 5— The Xtal Set Society has introduced a new way to learn and practice CW with its Ultra-QP, a 40-kHz Ultrasonic Kit with Frequency-Division Receiver & Transmitter that makes code communication a seemingly quiet experience. The kit, priced at \$49.95, uses piezo transducers to make one-on-one or group CW communications possible without the need for RF equipment. (Photo courtesy of the Xtal Set Society)

reflected power from 0 to 5 watts on a calibrated meter scale, while also reading SWR and relative power at any power level from 100 milliwatts to 50 watts. MFJ includes a Bruene-style bridge circuit in this meter to detect both RF current and RF voltage, which it says works across a wide range of load impedances, operating frequencies, and power levels.

MFJ adds that this compact meter covers 1.8 to 50 MHz and is useful for working on QRP radios, running on-the-air QRP signal trials, or setting up antennas in the field. It's built inside a black aluminum cabinet that measures 4.5 inches wide, 2 1/4 inches high, and 3 inches deep and interfaces with the world through two SO-239 UHF connectors.

Like all of its products, the all-band ground radial system, QRP Wattmeter and SWR Bridge, and the MFJ-4218MV switching power supply are protected by the company's No Matter What™ one year limited warranty. For a free catalog, contact MFJ at toll-free 800-647-1800, or go to <<http://www.mfjenterprises.com>>

SolderBuddy Hobbyist Ham Model

The new SolderBuddy Hobbyist Ham Model (photo 4) is designed to help the ham when repairing cables or installing connectors. Made of wood, it has provisions for all standard connectors from quarter-inch, 5.5-mm, 3.5-mm, mini plugs to PL-259 coax connectors, phono, DIN or 8-pin, RJ-45 connectors.

The new Ham Model has an integrated vise to keep securely in place a variety of connectors or odd-shaped items needing solder repair. The SolderBuddy even includes a screw storage bin for keeping errant screws in a known location.



Photo 6— ecoATM has installed its first automated eCycling Station for eWaste recycling take-back programs and trade-in promotions in Omaha, Nebraska. The units provide an in-store trade-in solution that benefits consumers, electronics retailers, and consumer electronics manufacturers. (Photo courtesy of ecoATM)

It also has a stainless steel Post 'N' Clip system to hold wires or cables in proper alignment while soldering, and an accessory port for the MAG-3 3X magnifier or other SolderBuddy accessories that will be offered at a later time. The SolderBuddy weighs in at just over six ounces.

To purchase a SolderBuddy Hobbyist Ham, priced at \$37.50 each, visit <solderbuddy.com> or call SolderBuddy at 770-476-5337.

The Ultra-QP™ Ultrasonic Receiver/Transmitter Kit

Imagine participating in a local CW QSO party held not on the air, but in a room where each participant receives and in turn sends to the group as a way of learning and practicing CW communications—all in total silence. Yes, now it's possible with the Ultra-QP™ (photo 5), a new kit with a frequency-division receiver and transmitter from the Xtal Set Society that uses ultrasonic sound to help people learn the art of CW communications.

Let's take a minute here, courtesy of the society, to do a little exploring and learning about the technical architecture and operation of this unique ultrasound frequency-division receiver and transmitter.

According to the kit's creator, The Xtal Set Society, the receiver amplifies the output of a pressure-to-voltage 40-kHz piezo transducer by over 20,000 and then a PIC micro-controller converts the analog signal to digital and divides it down to human-listening range at 700 Hz. The PIC then supplies a constant level of audio via an RC and volume control network.

During transmit, the PIC develops a 40-kHz square wave which is used to drive a TX transducer via a PNP-NPN transistor pair. Near full break-in QSK and a side tone are also supported by the PIC.

No RF equipment or license is required. The completed PCB, 9V battery and other parts fit inside a plastic clamshell case that measures 4.38 inches by 2.95 inches by 1 inch. Transmit and receive piezo transducers mount on the front panel, while the back panel features a power switch with LED, key jack, audio stereo jack, and volume control. The audio jack accepts a crystal earphone (included), hi-z phones, or 8-ohm stereo headphones (user supplied).

The Xtal Society suggests kit buyers "build a little, test a little" and follow this philosophy in each assembly section by writing step-by-step instructions that

are followed by test instructions. A 9V battery and a VOM are supposedly all that are needed to take the measurements required for success in building this kit. Assembly time for the average kit builder is about one hour.

For further information on the Ultra-QP, go to <www.midnightscience.com/article-u3.html>. Orders may be placed by phone by calling 405-517-7347 or via <www.midnightscience.com>. Price of the Ultra-QP, 40-kHz Ultrasound CW Transceiver Kit is \$49.95.

ecoATM Installs Automated eCycling Station

Recycling used electronic components may be a little easier now that ecoATM of San Diego, California has installed its first automated eCycling Station for eWaste recycling take-back programs and trade-in promotions (photo 6).

The installation was made at the Nebraska Furniture Mart in Omaha, Nebraska on September 21, 2009 and has proven to be an immediate success, both in the number of recycled devices and the resulting trade-up purchases. By automating the buy-back and payment process, the system offers financial incentives to consumers for all used mobile-phone models and will soon support other consumer electronics, regardless of their condition.

ecoATM units provide an in-store trade-in solution that benefits consumers, electronics retailers, and con-

sumer electronics manufacturers. ecoATM claims it is the only company to develop patent-pending, automated eCycling stations that electronically and/or visually inspect virtually any consumer electronic device, connect them with secondary market buyers and recyclers through pre-auction/auction systems, and administer trade-in promotions for retailers and manufacturers.

ecoATM states its automated approach to recycling makes it easy for consumers to give their used phones a second life or to recycle them.

ecoATM plans to launch additional eCycling Stations with several more national retailers over the next quarter in San Diego, Boston, Dallas, and Seattle. For more information about ecoATM, visit <www.ecoATM.com>.

Wrap Up

That's all for this month, but look for more new and exciting products in the February "What's New" column.

73, John, WV5J

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

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Echoes of Apollo Winning Strategies

Dr. David Leeson, W6NL, is Founding Chairman and past CEO of California Microwave, Inc.; Consulting Professor of Electrical Engineering at Stanford University; IEEE Life Fellow; and author of *Physical Design of Yagi Antennas*, published by the ARRL. The following, written by Dr. Leeson, outlines the mentoring strategies that he used for the successful Echoes of Apollo EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) operation last year. These are winning strategies that can be used in any major project:

As the big day for the Echoes of Apollo project drew near I wanted to share some project management concepts that I have learned from years of business, auto racing, and radio contesting. These concepts particularly relate to the end game leading to a fixed date when performance is absolutely required (such as the "Echoes" deadline).

The big deal is control of lead time and the related issue of having time to recover from expected last-minute glitches. I have a few rules I've put together for my own students' projects:

1. "Don't change the plugs between the practice and the race." Any last-minute change, no matter how innocent-seeming, has the potential to cause a glitch from which you can't recover in time. If you follow racing, you will have noticed the surprising number of cars that either can't start or will fail in the first laps of a big race, like the Indy 500. These are examples of disasters caused by

e-mail: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>

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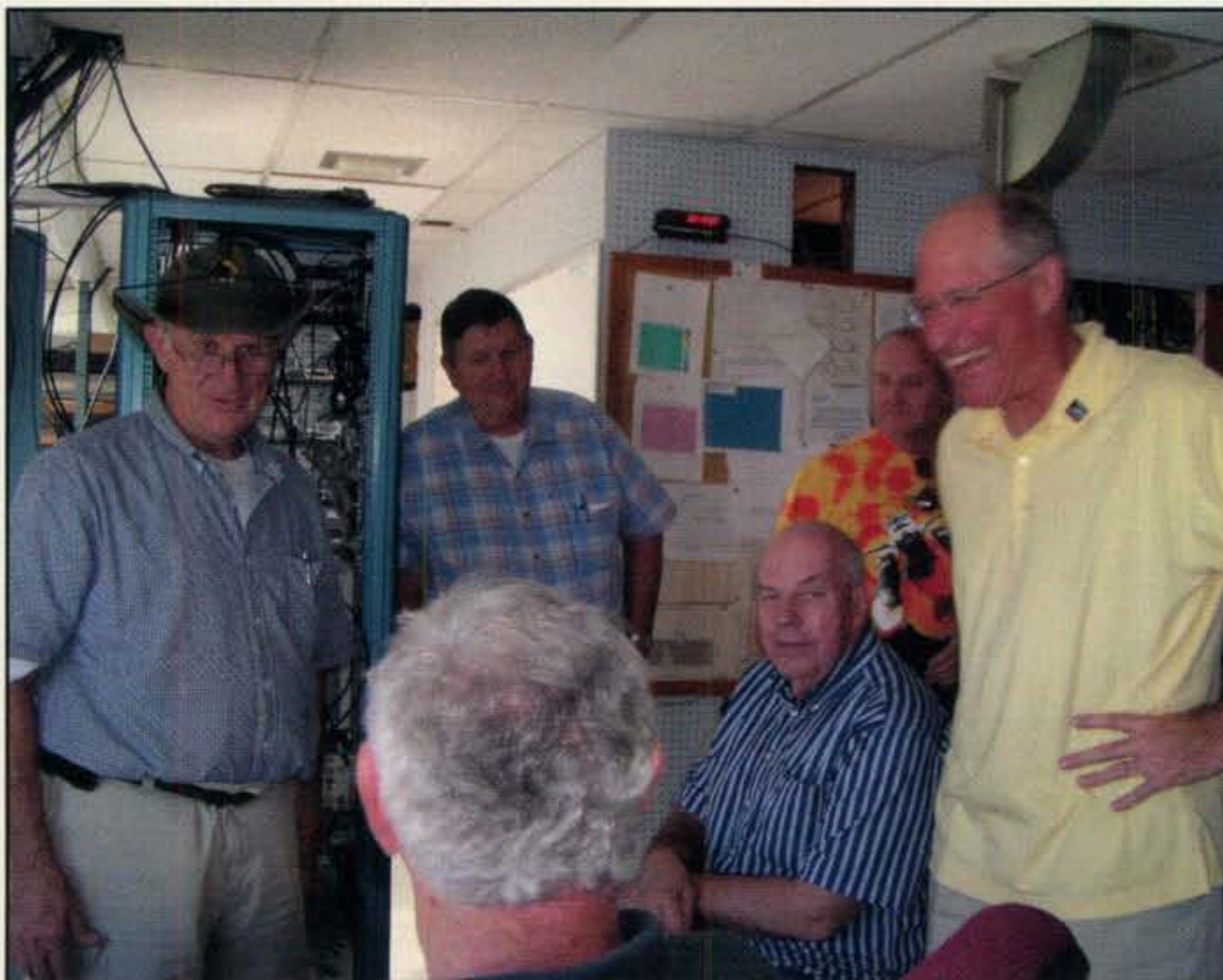
Jan. 1	Moon perigee
Jan. 3	Excellent EME conditions
Jan. 3-4	<i>Quadrantids</i> meteor shower predicted peak
Jan. 7	Moon last quarter
Jan. 10	EME conditions
Jan. 15	New Moon
Jan. 15	Solar eclipse
Jan. 16-18	ARRL VHF Sweepstake (See text for details)
Jan. 17	Moon apogee; Poor EME conditions
Jan. 23	Moon first quarter
Jan. 24	Moderate EME conditions
Jan. 30	Moon perigee
Jan. 30	Full Moon
Jan. 31	Excellent EME conditions

—EME conditions courtesy W5LUU

last-minute "improvements" that cause unrecoverable side effects.

A close-to-home issue would be the LNA over-voltage problem, which can be avoided by a check list that includes measuring all new interface voltages before connecting up the actual equipment. It also points out the requirement for standby spares, about which I will talk more later. This doesn't mean you shouldn't try to fix something that goes wrong, but if you must, there are two other rules:

2. "Every 5-minute job takes 24 hours." I'm sure you've experienced this in preparation for contests, presentations, etc. This is especially true when one is under time pressure, which is a great distraction in itself. It helps to



Stanford Research Institute Control Room photo taken during last year's Echoes of Apollo EME event. Left to right as follows. Standing: Mike Staal, K6MYC; Dr. Michael Cousins, SRI Dish Director; Stephen Muther, WF6R, SRI; Jim Klassen, N6JMK. Seated: Dave Smith, W6TE; and Wayne Overbeck, N6NB. (Photo courtesy of SRI)

label everything, especially cables and connectors. A sub-category of this is "integration takes more than half of project time," even if you have been careful to specify and test each module beforehand so you don't invest valuable time in unproven assets.

3. "Somebody has to watch for potential disasters." At the end when you must make a change it is imperative that someone else watch carefully to identify any risks. At the very end, no one is qualified (because they can't possibly fix anything that gets broken) to make any changes that aren't required to repair an outright failure. I still have vivid memories of having a partner point out from a viewpoint behind a tambour cabinet that if I drilled a hole for wires inside the back with the doors open, I'd be drilling a hole in the door, too.

I always prefer to run a complete acceptance test well beforehand (you have to define it adequately to simulate the actual application), and then keep my hands in my pockets. This philosophy resulted in two SCCA national racing championships, and 40+ World First results in radio contests in the last decade from our station in the Galapagos (talk about a lack of local resources!). Therefore, my rules to keep from running out of lead time are:

4. "Test everything well ahead of the actual event, then leave it alone." I'm sure others can give you examples from satellite experience, in which *that one* must be completely reliable, rather than being treated as part of some statistical problem. I had the same experience with unmanned airplanes, where we ran a complete test of all systems that had to be successful before anyone got to sleep, then checked it again in the morning before we launched.

Be aware that the act of testing itself has some risk of screw-ups, so you must be conservative. This is perhaps a restatement of the "don't change plugs" rule: There is power in knowing when to keep your hands in your pockets! You must also be quite firm about who can touch anything during the end game, as well-meaning volunteer helpers can wreak havoc.

5. "Try to have a hot-standby, or at least its equivalent in spares." At the last minute, there's no time to be fiddling trying to fix something when you can just replace it. Even so, the spare has to be either already on-line or quickly available, along with an installation check list.

6. "If the spare isn't considered as good as the original, or at least adequate, it won't get used at all; instead the precious time and effort will be wasted trying to fix the 'better' unit that has failed." The issue of acceptance testing applies to backup systems or spares as well as the primary system.

7. "Since Murphy's Law always applies, you had better be good at diagnostics." If something fails, my two rules of diagnostics are (a) "measure everything before you change anything" and (b) "if something isn't working and you don't change something, it will go right on not working." So "think, then act."

The standard diagnostic technique is to play "20 Questions" by asking yes-no questions that have equal-probable answers.

This converges the most rapidly. However, it's observed that if something fails, it's often from the last thing you touched. So try to think it through before acting. Then make a change big enough to notice.

A couple of examples: In my HF station at home, everything is automated, so when I change bands on the rig, the antennas, filters, and computers follow. At one point, I changed bands and nothing followed. I was tempted to leap into action, tearing out cables and all. But a moment's reflection revealed that I had been on 40 meters SSB, where you operate split for working DX. The

antennas follow the transmit antenna only, so nothing would change when I changed bands on the receiver. Going out of split, then changing, restored everything without any risky changes.

Now I know to avoid this, and caution guest ops against it. In our less-automated Galapagos station, I use a check list for band changing, even though I've done it thousands of times.

Another example, from racing: My car didn't have any provision for battery charging, so I would put in a newly charged motorcycle battery for each session. Once I was



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out on the track for a critical qualifying session, and the engine cut out in all left turns, a losing situation. In my mind I saw a table; across one axis were the things that could cause this and on the other were the steps I'd taken since things last ran right. At the cross between "battery connector" and "battery change," a light went on! I pulled into the pit, leaped out, threw open the back of the car, and tightened the loose connection that I had visualized at the battery. In seconds I was back on track, qualified on the pole, won the race, and was very pleased about what I'd learned as a kid in a radio/TV repair shop.

8. An example of a change that carries some lead-time risk is the switch to circular polarization. How will you determine that it's got the right handedness? How will you tell if it works to get the same S/N you have previously tested with all the other stations in the network? What will you do if it doesn't work? When will you make that determination? Suppose the reflector is damaged in the process; then what's the backup? This is a time when one person has to do the work and another qualified person must observe and watch for potential problems (the feed-arm cable breaks or is let out too far, the reflector or the feed arms are bent, etc., etc.).

9. At this point you have to assume that every step has a substantial risk, even if there is some benefit to be gained. Another typical problem that could come up is some form of mistake in aiming of the dish. How will you check the aiming and tracking? You can see that it's now time to be a real worry-

wart, asking at each step, "What can go wrong, how will I know, and what will it take to avoid the agony of trying to fix something without adequate lead time?"

Dave's strategies came in handy throughout the run up and actual operations during the Echoes of Apollo event. More worldwide coverage of the event will be found in the Winter 2010 issue of *CQ VHF* magazine.

Current Contest

The ARRL VHF Sweepstakes is scheduled for the weekend of January 16-18. For ARRL contest rules, see the issue of *QST* prior to the month of the contest or the URL: <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

Current Meteor Shower

The *Quadrantids*, or *Quads*, is a brief but very active meteor shower. The expected peak is on 3-4 January with up to 40 meteors per hour. The actual peak can occur three hours before or after the predicted peak. The best paths are north-south. Long-duration meteors can be expected about one hour after the predicted peak.

For more information on the above meteor shower prediction see Tomas Hood, NW7US's "Propagation" column elsewhere in this issue. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net>>.

Calls for Papers

Calls for papers are issued in advance of forthcoming conferences either for presenters to be speakers, or for papers to be published in the conferences' *Proceedings*, or both. For more information, questions about format, media, hardcopy, e-mail, etc., please contact the person listed with the announcement. The following conference organizers have announced calls for papers for their forthcoming conferences:

Southeastern VHF Society Conference: Technical papers are solicited for the 14th annual Southeastern VHF Society Conference to be held in Morehead, Kentucky on April 23-24, 2010. Papers and presentations are solicited on both the technical and operational aspects of VHF, UHF, and microwave weak-signal amateur radio. In general papers and presentations on non-weak-signal related topics will not be accepted but exceptions may be made.

The deadline for the submission of papers and presentations is February 5, 2010. All submissions should be in Microsoft Word (.doc) or alternatively Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) files. All text,

drawings, photos, etc. should be black and white only (no color). Submissions for presentation at the conference should be in PowerPoint (.ppt) format, and delivered on either a USB memory stick or CDROM or posted for download on a website of your choice.

Send all questions, comments, and submissions to the program chair, Robin Midgett, K4IDC, via e-mail at <K4IDC@comcast.net>. For further information about the conference see the website: <<http://www.svhfs.org>>.

Central States VHF Society Conference: Technical papers are solicited for the 44th annual Central States VHF Society Conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri on July 22-24, 2010. Papers, presentations, and posters on all aspects of weak-signal VHF and above amateur radio are requested. You do not need to attend the conference, nor present your paper, to have it published in the *Proceedings*. Non-weak signal topics generally are not considered acceptable. However, there are exceptions. Please contact the folks below if you have any questions about the suitability of a topic. Strong editorial preference will be given to those papers that are written and formatted specifically for publication, rather than as visual presentation aids. Submissions may be made via the following electronic formats (preferred): via e-mail; uploaded to a website for subsequent downloading; on media (3.5-inch floppy, CD, USB stick/thumb drive). Deadline for submissions: May 1, 2010. For more details, contact CSVHFS President Ron Ocho, KO0Z, at <ko0z@arrl.net>.

And Finally . . .

As I pull together this column in mid-November, I am beside my wife Carol, W6CL, in a local hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In the hospital, awakening at 3 AM to Carol's request for a glass of water was a very happy interruption, considering that she is recovering well and therefore is still by my side. To many of you, thank you very much for your thoughts and prayers for Carol.

As we start a new year, let us all be mindful of loved ones, family, and friends and all that they mean to us. For we in the ham radio community, many of us are fortunate to have made friends all over the world through the hobby. That is just one of the many things that ham radio contributes to each of our lives, no matter what facets of the hobby interest us.

New year blessings to all, and until next month... 73 de Joe, N6CL

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2010's First Short-Term Award

BY TED MELINOSKY, K1BV

awards

Australia's national society, the Wireless Institute of Australia, is commemorating the 100th anniversary of its founding with a short-term award for contacts made during 2010. This is the first short-term award for 2010 as far as I know.

Australia's WIA Centenary Award

The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) celebrates the 100th anniversary of its founding in 2010. A special award has been established to commemorate this notable event. Look for and make contact with special event station VK100WIA during the period March 1 to August 31, 2010. From May 1 to May 31 the special callsign VK100WIA will be activated by the WIA, and from June 1 to October 31 the callsign will be activated by affiliated clubs throughout Australia.

The award will be issued to radio amateurs in Australia who accumulate 100 points, and amateurs outside Australia who accumulate 50 points. A contact with VK100WIA operated by the WIA or operated by a club is worth 10 points (only one contact with VK100WIA operated by the WIA and only one contact with each club count for the award) and there must be a minimum of two contacts with VK100WIA. Contacting any WIA member between May 1 and October 31 is worth 5 points. (Example: Working VK100WIA at 10 different clubs would make you eligible for the award. Working 16 WIA members gives 80 points, but then two contacts must be made with VK100WIA.)

Any mode may be used; cross-mode and cross-band contacts are permitted. Satellite mode may be used, but contacts via terrestrial repeaters are

*12 Wells Woods Rd., Columbia, CT 06237
e-mail: <k1bv@cq-amateur-radio.com>



The Wireless Institute of Australia (WIA) celebrates the 100th anniversary of its founding in 2010. Make contact with special event station VK100WIA to earn this short-term award.

USA-CA Special Honor Roll

Donald McKnight, W3DLM
USA-CA All Counties #1188
September 27, 2009

USA-CA Honor Roll

500	XE1L.....1500
W3DLM.....3482	
XE1L.....3483	2000
	W3DLM.....1386
1000	
W3DLM.....1783	2500
XE1L.....1784	W3DLM.....1304
1500	3000
W3DLM.....1499	W3DLM.....1214

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 Melinosky, K1BV, 12 Wells Woods Road, Columbia, CT 06237 USA. DX stations must include extra postage for airmail reply.

not eligible for the award. Send \$5 Australian dollars or 3 IRCs and a list of contacts (QSLs not required) to the award manager at the address listed below. The award manager reserves the right to verify claims by reference to operating logs or any other resource. The WIA website will list activation locations and times for VK100WIA and a commemorative QSL will be available.

Listen around the bands or visit the WIA website <www.wia.org.au> for frequent updates of the club's roster. Participating clubs will also promote their plans in more detail.

If you meet the requirements of the rules above, send your application by January 30, 2011, accompanied by the payment of \$5AUD or 3 IRCs, to: WIA Centenary Award, P.O. Box 2042, Bayswater, VIC 3153, Australia. Internet: <http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/centenary/award/>.

FIRAC Awards

The Federation Internationale Des Radio-Amateurs-Cheminots (FIRAC) is composed of about 1775 amateur radio operators in 31 countries who are employed by the railway industry in their respective country, with the majority of the groups (20) located in Europe. The association was founded in 1964 and at least 12 of these groups offer an award for contacting their members. The theme of the awards is usually railroad oriented with some great images of historic engines and rolling stock. Their WWW sites typically contain a current list of members valid for the award.



FIRAC is composed of amateur radio operators who are employed by the railway industry. Various groups offer awards for contacting members. This award is sponsored by a group of Austrian railroadmen.

Austria's FIRAC Award – OE. This group of Austrian railroadmen offers the award for contacting FIRAC members. It is available in three classes:

(A) VHF/UHF/SHF—work/hear 10 members all over the world, including at least 2 different OE districts.

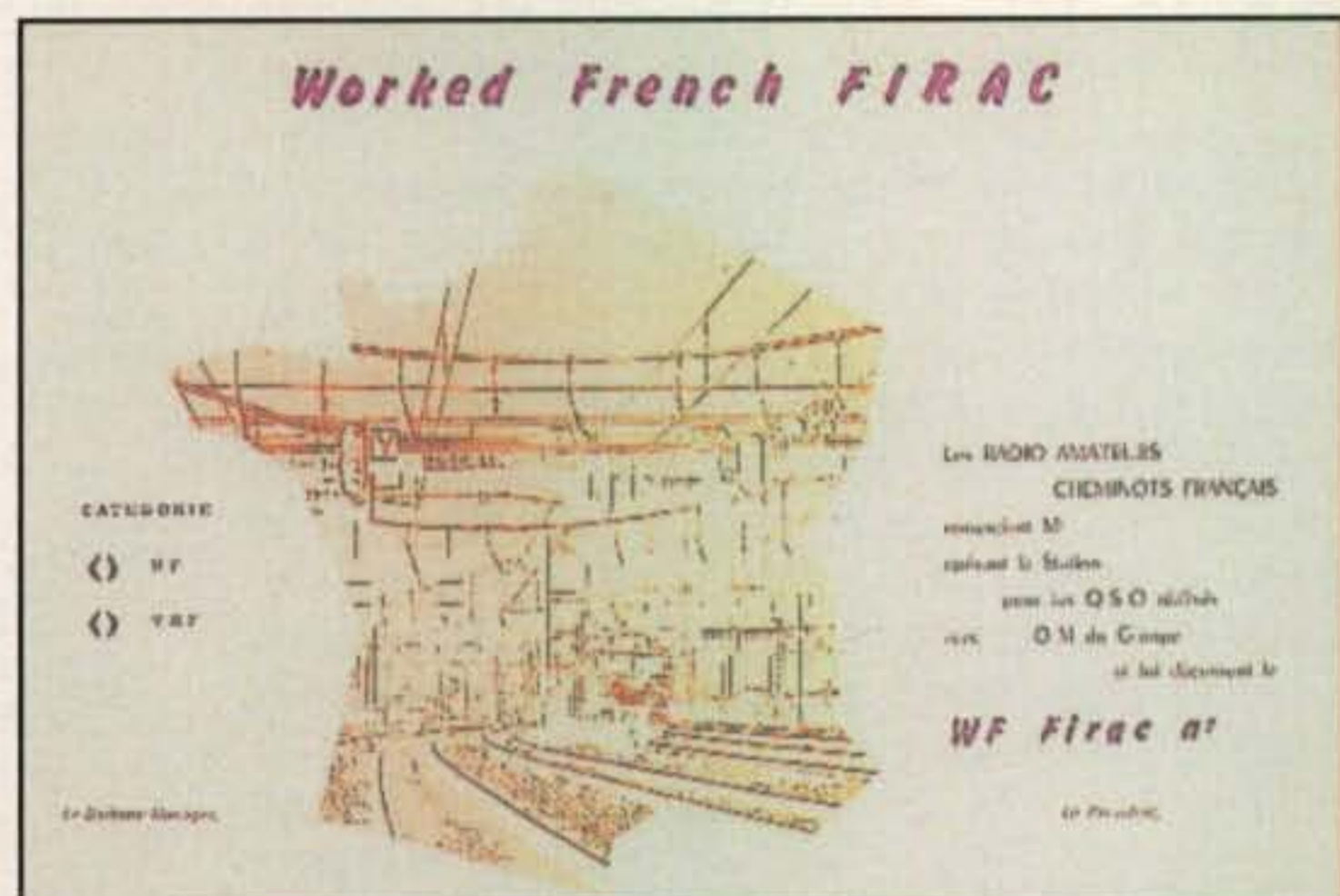
(B) HF/VHF/UHF/SHF—work/hear 30 members all over the world including stations from at least 3 OE districts and at least 5 stations on HF.

(C) UHF/SHF only—work/hear 7 FIRAC members all over the world including at least 3 different OE districts.

SWL okay. All modes, plus /M or /P contacts, count for the



England is handling the award for contacting members in different FIRAC groups.



Work French railway worker amateur radio operators after January 1, 1972 to earn the Worked French FIRAC award.

On the Cover



It's January, so it must be time to work on the antennas, right? Greg Hanson, K1BAF, of Marquette, Michigan, says jokingly that "We don't do antenna work up here unless there's two feet of snow on the ground!" His Gap Challenger vertical is now accompanied by a 48-foot tower, but as a QRP CW aficionado, Greg is somewhat of a minimalist. Code, he says, "works so much better than phone," especially when operating at low power.

His main QRP rig is an Elecraft K1, although he also has an Oak Hills 500 and a variety of QRP kits, as well as a Yaesu FT-840 and a

Kenwood TS-520. Greg enjoys island-hunting, also on CW, and mostly on QRP. He says his most memorable QRP contact was his first DX contact, with Ireland, using a "38 Special" from the NorCal QRP Club on 30 meters. Greg and a couple of friends had built a few of them together ... "I mean, a \$25 rig, and we had more fun with those rigs!" he recalled. "We tried to work all states with them and got up to 47 or 48 until conditions deteriorated, and they still haven't gotten much better, so we're still trying to get Alaska and Hawaii."

Greg has been a ham since 1996, but his interest goes back to his youth, when he lived next door to a ham who provided an introduction to the hobby. School, the Navy, work, and raising a family all got in the way of pursuing a license, he says, but once his kids were grown, he decided it was time. Greg says he gets on the air at least a couple of times a week—"Whenever I come down to the basement, I turn on the rig, just to see what's happening"—and is active in the local Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association, serving for the last several years as editor of the club newsletter. (Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI)

award. Send GCR list and fee of 10 Euros or \$US10 to: Herbert Vacinek, OE1HVC, Malborghetgasse 29/1/3, A-1100 Vienna, Austria. Internet: <<http://www.qth.at/firac/>>.

England's FIRAC Award. England is handling the award for contacting members in different FIRAC groups. The International Association of the Railway Radio Amateurs (FIRAC) issues this award to all radio amateurs and SWLs on HF for earning at least 100 points for contacts with members of at least 10 different FIRAC groups, or on VHF at least 25 points for contacts with members of at least 3 different FIRAC groups.

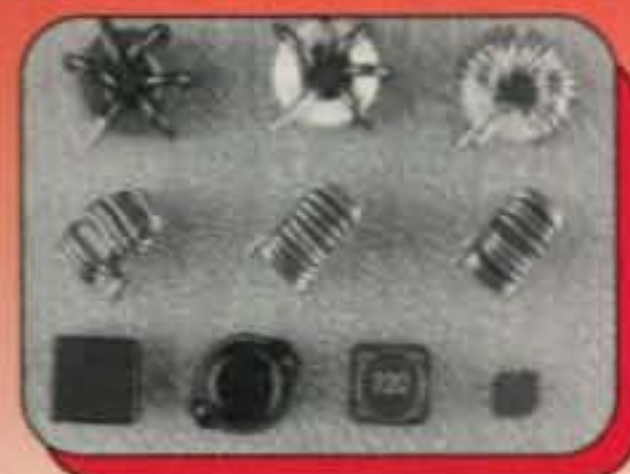
At present there are the following national FIRAC groups: DL, F, G, HA, HB, I, LA, LX, LZ, OE, OH, OK/OM, ON, OZ, SM, SP, S5, YO, YU, Z3. MC (miscellaneous countries in which there are members, but no national group exists): 4L, 4X, CT, ES, PA, Russia (RK, RW, UA), TA, Ukraine (UB, UR, US, UT, UX) USA, (AB, K, N, W)VK, VU.

Each contact with a member = 2 points; contacts with FIRAC club stations = 5 points; contacts with MC members count 10 points.

Valid member stations may only be worked once per band. Contacts by repeater or internet (for example, Echolink) do not count for award purposes. The award application sheet may be downloaded from the FIRAC homepage at: <<http://www.firac.de>>.

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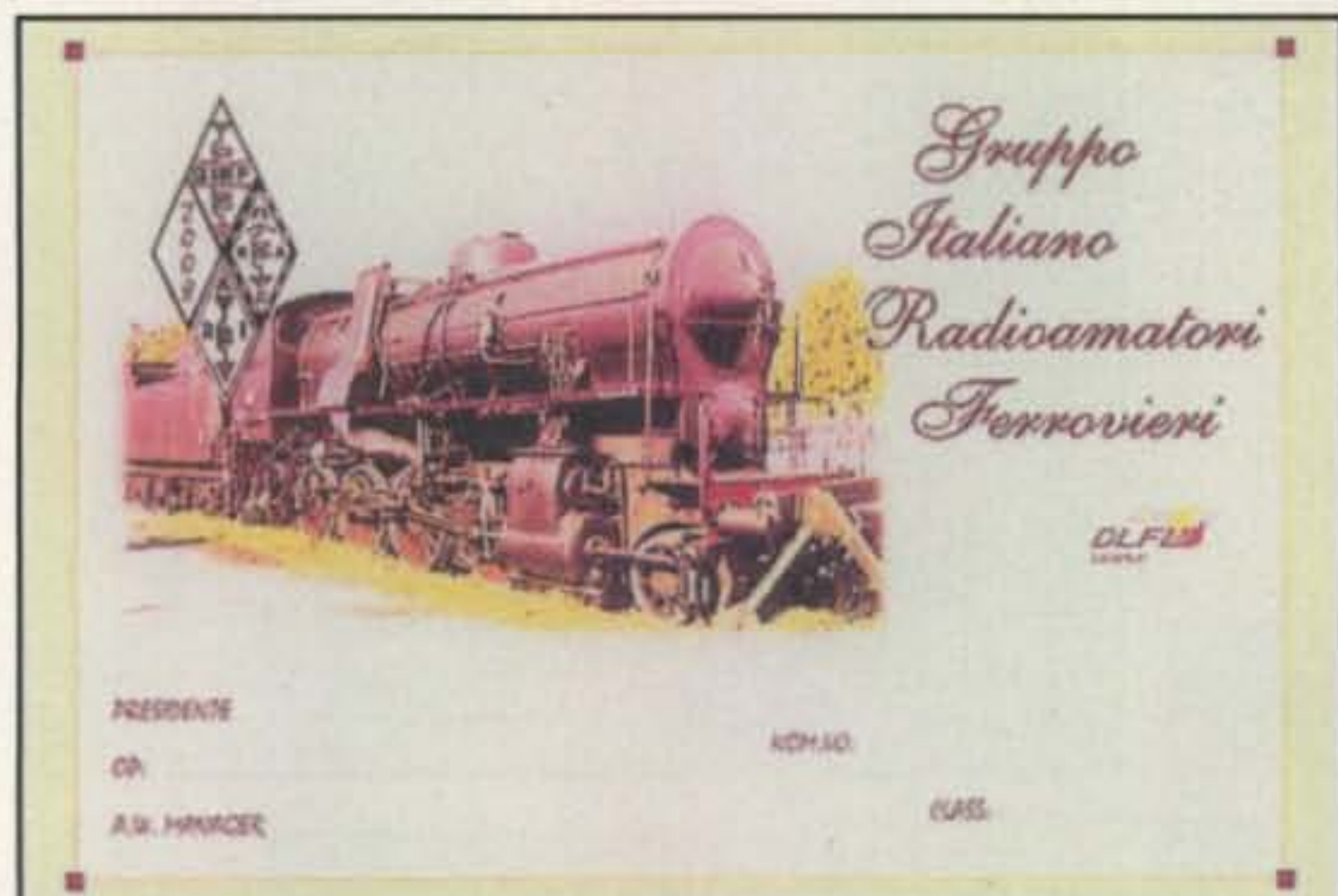
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The Gruppo Italiano Radioamatori Ferrovieri (GIRF) offers an award that may be earned each year between March 1 and March 15.

Send log extract and fee of 5 Euros to the award manager: Geoff Sims, G4GNQ, 85 Surrey Street, Glossop, SK13 7AJ Derbyshire, England. E-mail: g4gnnq@hotmail.co.uk.

Worked French FIRAC. Work French railway worker amateur radio operators after January 1, 1972. French applicants need 9 contacts, other Europeans 6, and the rest of world 3. A QSO with club station F6RAC or F5KTR = 3 points; a QSO with any other club station = 2 points. On VHF, 3 QSOs are needed and a QSO with club station = 2. SWL okay but the applicant must submit the actual cards.

Send GCR list and fee of 4 Euros or 10 IRCs to Roland Rousseau F6FKK, 15 Avenue Du Coustou, F-31650 Saint Orens De Gameville, France. Internet: <http://le.grac.free.fr/>.

Italy's Diploma GIRF 2010

The Gruppo Italiano Radioamatori Ferrovieri (GIRF) offers an annual award that may be earned each year between March 1 at 00:00 UTC until March 15 at 24:00 UTC. Paid-up members of the group are eligible to make contacts valid for the award, including time, report, name, QTH, and a progressive number of the contact. They will be active on 160 through 40 meters using SSB, CW, and RTTY. Points required:

Italian stations: amateur radio and SWL, 40 points

Foreign stations: 20 points

GIRF member stations must make 100 contacts.

The same GIRF station may be contacted once per day but only on different bands and modes.

Each such QSO = 1 point. Special wild-card, or "jolly," stations will be active and will be worth 3 points only for non-GIRF stations.

Every year the award design is different, generally showing interesting railroad subjects. Send log extract and fee of 10 Euros for GIRF stations and \$15 for others no later than April 30 of the year. Apply to: Mariutti Gianfranco, Via Postioma 112, I-31020 Villorba (TV), Italy. Internet: <http://xoomer.virgilio.it/girf/>

We'd like to hear from any 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

K4M in the History Books plus Proper IDing On The Air

November turned out to be a very busy month, at least in the Pacific Ocean. As I write this in mid-November, I've lost count of the number of DXpeditions that were scheduled to run from various islands throughout the region. I find it interesting that some of them actually had overlapping dates on the same island. I sure hope they took band filters!

I guess this points out the necessity of checking well in advance before making the decision to go to a particular location. Bill Feidt, NG3K, does a good job of listing upcoming DXpeditions on his website (www.ng3k.com), assuming he is advised that one will be taking place. Some would argue the point that DXpeditions don't want to announce their intentions ahead of time, and I suppose there might be some reason for such logic, but I'm not totally convinced of that. Certainly, there is no reason for secrecy of an operation from a place such as Palau, Samoa, or other places that are not even close to the top of the Most Wanted lists. I'll probably get some feedback for my comments on this, but there are pros and cons, and debate is healthy ... right?

Midway – K4M

The DXpedition to Midway Island, K4M, is now in the history books. The team had unforeseen setbacks but finally got to the island after their transportation aircraft was repaired and declared airworthy. I'm including a picture of one of the "antenna fields" on Midway. They all were verti-

*P.O. Box DX, Leicester, NC 28748-0249
e-mail: n4aa@cq-amateur-radio.com



The antennas on Midway (K4M) had to be "flagged" for the protection of the birds who could have been hurt flying into all that aluminum. (Photo courtesy of Tom, N4XP)

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200DL2DXA/209

175OK1AOV/196

200JN3SAC

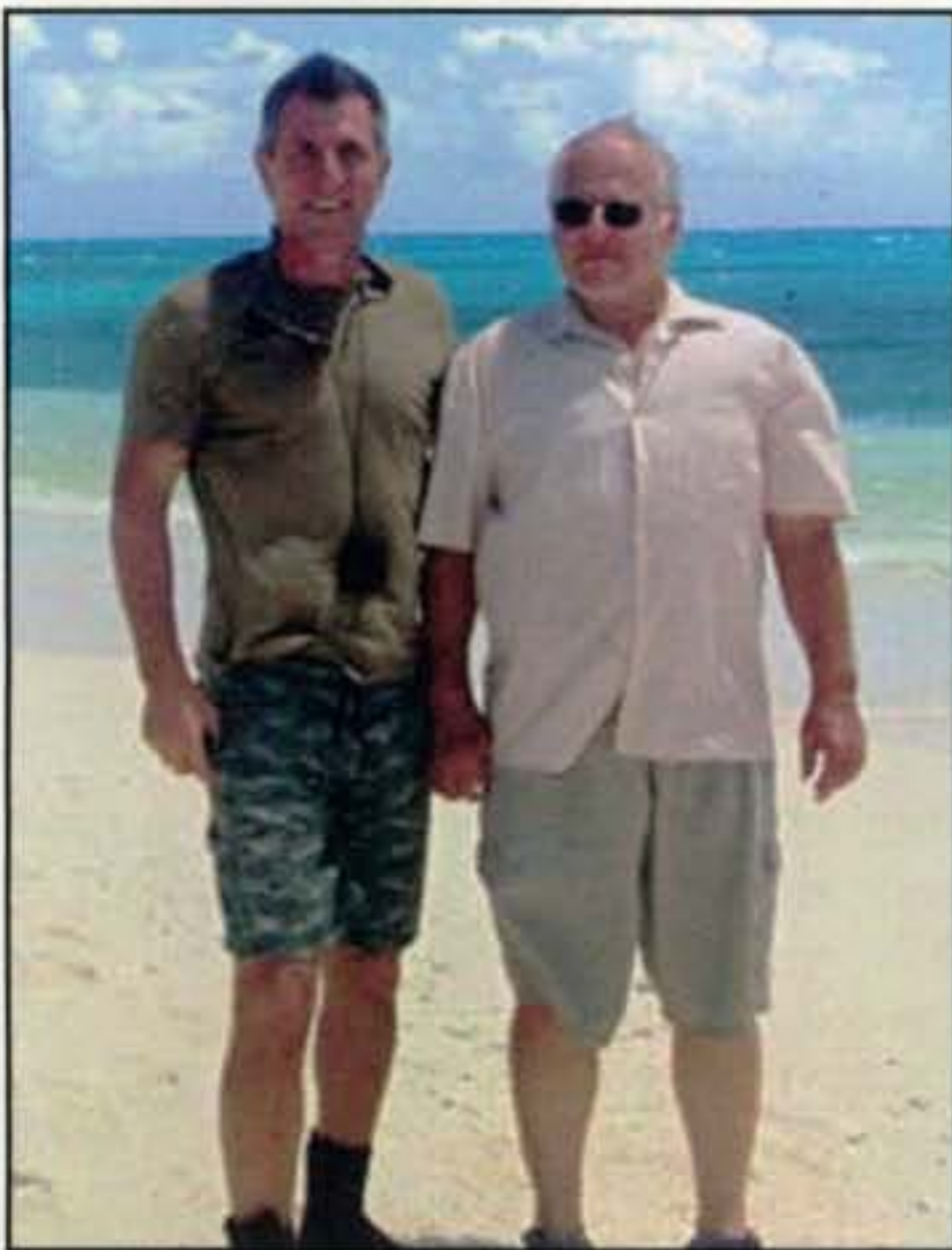
The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.



This is a graduating class in Paraguay. The group was studying for their amateur license with classes conducted by the Radio Club of Paraguay. The significant story is there is no requirement for them to know Morse Code to obtain the license. However, the students did learn the code and passed the test at 5–7 wpm. How great is that? (Photo courtesy of The Radio Club of Paraguay)

cal arrays and the guy lines had to have little "flags" tied to them to warn the birds they were there. The Wildlife Service is very protective of the animals, and especially the birds, on these Pacific islands. The K4M team had to adhere to the islands' bird protection policy, which they did very well.

From the K4M website (<http://www.midway2009.com>) we find the operation ran from October



George, AA7JV, and Tomi, HA7RY, as they arrived on Chesterfield for a three-week run as TX3A. They concentrated on the low bands and developed some antennas to help them in that endeavor. (Photo from the TX3A website)

11-19, with the last QSO being logged at 1020Z, October 19th. Here are a few of the stats for the operation: Total QSOs—61,077 with 18,465 unique call-signs. As you might expect, North America got over 28,000 of those, followed by Asia with 17,500 and Europe with nearly 13,000. Oceania got 1,350, South America almost 900, and Africa managed just under 200. Even

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Antarctica got in the log with one QSO. As for modes, CW got the top spot with just over 37,100 Qs, followed by SSB at almost 21,000 and RTTY in third with nearly 3,000. Overall, it looks like Midway will be well down the Most Wanted List for this year. Congratulations to the entire K4M team for a job well done!

IDing on the Air

As I have noted before, I get mail from readers of this column from time to time. It's always a pleasure to get this input, as it let's me know there are folks reading my efforts. I've had a couple of notes on a subject that I have touched on in the past. The subject? DX stations who fail to identify themselves on a regular basis.

We all have heard this, usually regarding DXpeditions. While we can appreciate the desire to work as many stations as possible from a rare spot, that is no excuse for not telling us who you are! A case in point would be the situation mentioned in the first paragraph of this column. Two or more stations operating from the same entity or even nearby entities can easily be confused. With your antenna pointed pretty much in the same direction, how would you know if you were working Palau or Micronesia if you didn't hear a callsign? We see the same thing happen in contests when a station goes for 10, 15, or even 20 minutes before finally sending a callsign. More

The WPX Program

Mixed
2077AB4SF 2079KM2O
2078AG0A 2080KD1OG

Digital
39AB4SF

CW: 3350 WA5VGI. 5750 WA2HZR.
SSB: 2550 WA5VGI. 2750 UT7DX.
Mixed: 450 KM2O. 1250 K7UA. 2650 WZ4P. 4050 WB2YQH.

30 Meters: OK1MP
17 Meters: OK1MP
12 Meters: OK1MP
6 Meters: OK1MP

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, WA4QMQ, W8ILC, VE7DP, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, N3ED, LU3YLW4, 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, N3XX, HB9CSA, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, 9A2NA, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I6DQE, I1EEW, I8RFD, I3CRW, VE3MS, NE4F, KC8PG, F1HWB, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, KC7EM, YU1AB, IK2ILH, DE0DAQ, I1WXY, LU1DOW, N1IR, IK4GME, VE9RJ, WX3N, HB9AUT, KC6X, N6IBF, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HJM, 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, OE6CLE, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, RW9SG,

WA3GNW, S51U, W4MS, I2EAY, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, W9IAL, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, EA5AT, OK1DWC, KX1A, IZ5BAM, 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, OH3MKH, RA3CQ, UT3IZ.

160 Meter Endorsements: N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, VE3XN, DL3RK, OK1MP, N4NO, W4BQY, W4VQ, KF2O, W8CNL, W1JR, W5UR, W8ILC, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, LU3YLW4, 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, HA8UB, HA8XX, K7LJ, SM3EVR, K2SHZ, UP1BZZ, EA7OH, K2POA, N6JV, W2HG, ONL-4003, W5AWT, N3XX, HB9CSA, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I6DQE, DJ1YH, KU0A, VR2UW, UA0FZ, DJ3JSW, OE6CLD, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, S51U, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, OK1DWC, KX1A, IZ5BAM, 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, UT3IZ.

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.

CQ DX Awards Program

SSB

2536JA5DBE 2537K9BQL

CW

1096WA6JJB

SSB Endorsements

330N0FW/339 310G3KMQ/312
330N7WR/336 200WA6JJB/227
320XE2NLD/321 SSTVJA5DBE

CW Endorsements

330N0FW/338 320K1FK/328
330W7IIT/331 300K0KG/306
330K3JGJ/336 275HA5LQ/287

RTTY Endorsements

330OK1MP/329

The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. Currently we recognize 339 active countries. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.

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UG-21D/U	N Male RG-8, 213, 214 Delta	4.75
9913/PIN	N Male Pin for 9913, 9086, 8214	1.50
	Fits UG-21 D/U & UG-21 B/UN's	1.50
UG-21D/9913	N Male for RG-8 with 9913 Pin	5.00
UG-146A/U	N Male to SO-239, Teflon USA	8.50
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20 Meter SSB
1184.....W6GAK 1185.....OK1JMJ

20 Meter CW
5914Z5SG

40 Meter CW
273.....K8PT 274.....G0DEZ

All Band WAZ

Mixed
8627W4DVG 8630EA5ARC
8628W4HY 8631K9UP
8629HB9TQL 8632JA6FUV

SSB
5121IW5AB

RTTY
204.....DJ9MH

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>.

typically heard on CW, it happens on SSB as well.

Why should I waste my time sitting there listening for a callsign when I could be making Qs up the band? Oh yes, I could ask the guy for his call, but more often than not the query is ignored. You can't log a Q without a callsign, now can you? If I can't log that station, his log is going to take a "hit" when he shows a

Q that can't be verified since he was never logged by me.

It's time we started doing the right thing when we're operating from a DX location or in a contest. I don't of anyone who is getting paid to make the most Qs. Give the call at least every 10 Qs or 10 minutes, whichever comes first.

Desecheo K5D Video

The end of September I had the pleasure of seeing the video of K5D, Desecheo. The video was still "under construction" at that time and it had not been "polished," but those who had seen it were very complimentary about the content and quality. Many individuals collect these videos and a lot of DX clubs have libraries of them available to the members. I confess that I have a pretty significant library of them myself. This one has been added to my collection, and I encourage you to at least see it and/or encourage your DX club to put it on the shelf for others too. See a photo of the DVD in this column; it is available at <<http://www.kp5.us>>.

The DX Magazine's annual Most Wanted Survey results will be out in January. I'll give you a sneak peek at the top ten. Desecheo is not there. As a matter of fact, Desecheo is not even in the top 100. The K5D team obviously did a great job on the need for KP5. We only hope that someone can somehow manage to gain permission to go to Navassa, KP1, as it still holds its place in the Top Ten. Regrettably, the 2009 operation from Marion Island, ZS8, did nothing to help the need for that one. If you want to see the overall Top 100

K5D Desecheo Island DXpedition 2009

Co-DXpedition of the year 2008-2009

115,787 QSOs

The KP1-5 Project

Desecheo Island DXpedition 2009 k5d

so rare...
so near...
yet so far...

The new K5D DVD is receiving rave reviews and is available at <<http://www.kp5.us>>.

5 Band WAZ

As of November 1, 2009, 793 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1661 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)	K9OW, 199 (34 on 10)
N4WW, 199 (26)	N5AW, 199 (17)
W4LI, 199 (26)	JH7CFX, 199 (2)
K7UR, 199 (34)	IN3ZNR, 199 (1)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	G3VKW, 199 (31)
JA2IVK, 199 (34 on 40m)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
IK1AOD, 199 (1)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
GM3YOR, 199 (31)	JA1DM, 198 (2, 40)
VO1FB, 199 (19)	9A5I, 198 (1, 16)
KZ4V, 199 (26)	K4CN, 198 (23, 26)
W6DN, 199 (17)	G3KMQ, 198 (1, 27)
W3NO, 199 (26)	N2QT, 198 (23, 24)
RU3FM, 199 (1)	OK1DWC, 198 (6, 31)
N3UN, 199 (18)	W4UM, 198 (18, 23)
W1JZ, 199 (24)	US7MM, 198 (2, 6)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	K2TK, 198 (23, 24)
SM7BIP, 199 (31)	K3JGJ, 198 (24, 26)
N4NX, 199 (26)	W4DC, 198 (24, 26)
N4MM, 199 (26)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
EA7GF, 199 (1)	OE2LCM, 198 (1, 31)
N6HR/7, 199 (37)	WK3N, 198 (23, 24)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
N4XR, 199 (27)	W7VJ, 198 (34, 37)
HA5AGS, 199 (1)	K9MIE, 198 (18, 21)
VE3XN, 199 (26)	W9RN, 198 (26, 19 on 40)
YU7GMN, 199 (10)	W5CWQ, 198 (17, 18)
K7LJ, 199 (37)	I5KKW, 198 (31&23 on 20)
RA6AX, 199 (6 on 10m)	IV3MUC, 198 (1&31 on 40)
RX4HZ, 199 (13)	UA4LY, 198 (6&2 on 10)
K0GM, 199 (17)	JA7XBG, 198 (2 on 80&10)
S58Q, 199 (31)	
KQ0B, 199 (2 on 10)	

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

K9UP (197 zones) SP7GAQ (182 zones)

5 Band WAZ updates:

K8PT (196 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>.

Most Wanted, it will be posted on the DX Publishing website, <www.dxpub.com> on/about January 15th.

Netherlands Antilles

There has been a lot of speculation about what will happen to the Netherlands Antilles at the end of 2010, the four islands perhaps being split into four separate countries. I have not yet seen any official announcement, however. Rumors abound, but without an official announcement these are purely rumors and should be treated as such. If/when anything is released by the Netherlands government, we'll know who, what, when, where, and how.



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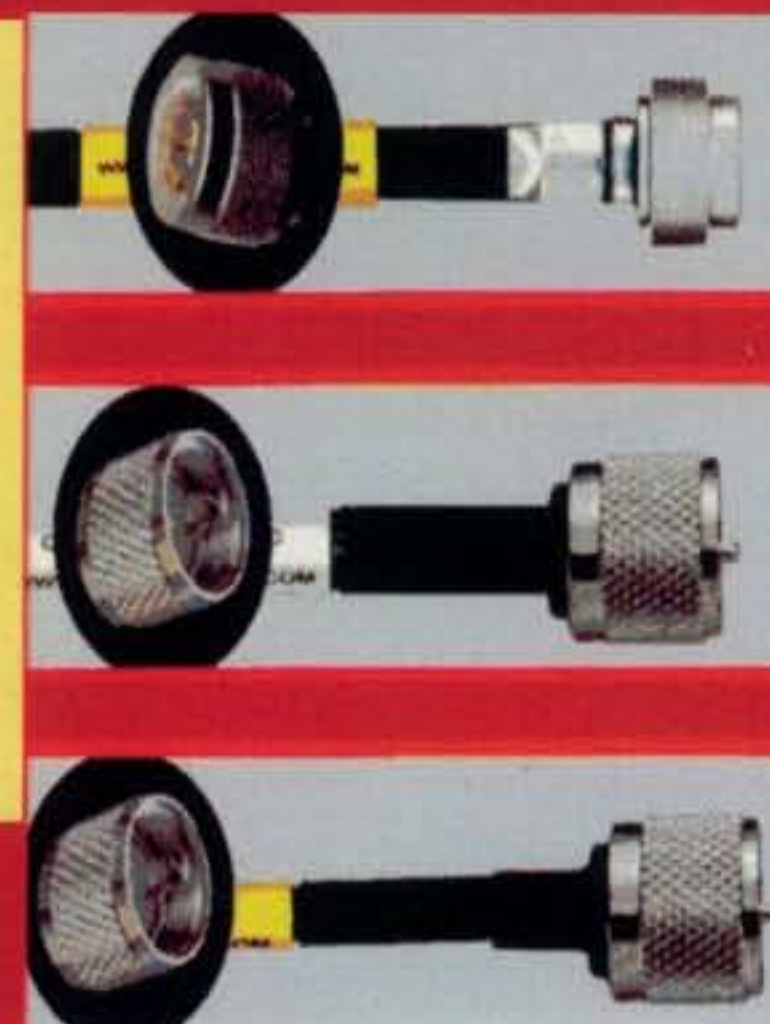
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THE WPX HONOR ROLL

The WPX Honor Roll is based on the current confirmed prefixes which are submitted by separate application in strict conformance with the CQ Master Prefix list. Scores are based on the current prefix total, regardless of an operator's all-time count. Honor Roll must be updated annually by addition to, or confirmation of, present total. If no up-date, files will be made inactive.

MIXED

6139.....9A2AA	4232.....VE3XN	3772...WA5VGI	3150.....W9IL	2704.....K2XF	2116.....AE5B	1741.....AB5C	1362..WD9DZV	815.....KL7FAP
5653.....K2VV	4150.....I2PJA	3735..WB2YQH	3091.....9A4W	2674.....N8BJQ	2192.....N2SS	1705.....W2EZ	1359.....N3RC	726.....K5IC
5426.....W1CU	4146.....N6JV	3684.....IK2ILH	3007.....W2WC	2475.....W6OUL	2001.....AB1J	1662....SV1DPI	1337.....K6UXO	723.....K0DAN
5031.....W2FXA	4082.....I2MQP	3609..YU7BCD	2998.....K9UQN	2440.....K5UR	1951.....K0KG	1651.....KC9ARR	1322.....AA4FU	682.....AI8P
4669.....EA2IA	3980.....N9AF	3522...ON4CAS	2965...OZ1ACB	2397.....VE6BF	1930.....W2FKF	1643.....N1KC	1269.....K5WAF	680.....IW0HOU
4618.....N4NO	3937.....S53EO	3494.....W9OP	2873.....W2ME	2378.....W3LL	1891.....VE9FX	1634.....AG4W	1016..RA1AOB	662.....JA7OXR
4592.....9A2NA	3930.....K0DEQ	3325...SM6DHU	2845...JN3SAC	2358.....I2EAY	1858.....W7CB	1593.....S55SL	976.....KM6HB	650.....N3YZ
4430.....YU1AB	3821.....KF2O	3227.....K9BG	2752.....K1BV	2353.....W2OO	1820.....KX1A	1446.....DF3JO	964.....K8ZEE	644.....KW0H

SSB

5065.....I0ZV	3616.....EA2IA	2857.....4X6DK	2451...EA3GHZ	2140..SV3AQR	1927.....AE5B	1678.....K9UQN	1404.....AG4W	1031...IK8OZP
4505.....VE1YX	3505.....N4NO	2817.....IN3QCI	2431.....G4UOL	2094.....I8LEL	1915.....W2OO	1649.....N8BJQ	1386....IK4HPU	978.....EA7HY
4371.....F6DZU	3323...OE2EGL	2711...LU8ESU	2326.....CX6BZ	2093.....W2WC	1879.....K3IXD	1643...JN3SAC	1385.....AE9DX	951.....KU4BP
4323.....K2VV	3213...CT1AHU	2709.....KF7RU	2300..SM6DHU	2076.....K2XF	1891.....W2FKF	1623.....VE9FX	1377.....EA3NP	924.....VE6BF
4184.....OZ5EV	3133.....KF2O	2642..YU7BCD	2297.....W9IL	2072.....K5UR	1795.....KQ8D	1611.....W2ME	1258.....N1KC	875.....K7SAM
4116.....I2PJA	3108.....I4CSP	2595.....EA1JG	2209...IK2QPR	2071.....N6FX	1756.....KI7AO	1480.....AB5C	1145...EA3EQT	717.....K0DAN
3843.....I2MQP	2914.....K0DEQ	2521...WA5VGI	2201.....NQ3A	1944..DL8AAV	1729.....W6OUL	1464..VE7SMP	1083.....KX1A	637.....K5WAF
3669.....9A2NA	2860.....I8KCI	2471.....I3ZSX	2142.....W3LL	1935...SV1EOS	1714...IK2DZN	1463.....I2EAY	1042....IZ0BNR	605...WA2BEV

CW

5254..WA2HZR	3607.....EA2IA	2723...EA7AZA	2502...JA9CWJ	2276.....I0NNY	1927.....W6OUL	1403.....AG4W	1053.....K5WAF	749.....AE5B
5085.....K9QVB	3223.....9A2NA	2632.....W2ME	2483...JN3SAC	2223.....VE6BF	1848.....I2EAY	1334.....RU0LL	1030...AA5JG	695.....S55SL
5002.....K2VV	3267...WA5VGI	2623...SM6DHU	2419...IK3GER	2141.....N8BJQ	1804..EA7AAW	1317.....K6UXO	915.....N1KC	608.....IK2SGV
4146.....N6JV	3241.....K0DEQ	2618.....K9UQN	2415.....W2WC	2101...I2MQP	1643.....W2OO	1299..WA2VQV	842...WD9DZV	
4128.....N4NO	2838.....I7PXV	2727..YU7BCD	2373.....W9IL	2089.....K2XF	1497.....AC5K	1223.....KX1A	824.....VE9FX	
3827.....VE7DP	2837.....KF2O	2626.....W8IQ	2324.....OZ5UR	1979.....K5UR	1445...EA2CIN	1220...AA4FU	821.....HB9DAX	
3760.....LZ1XL	2727..YU7BCD	2621.....KA7T	2308.....N6FX	1966.....W9HR	1407.....WO3Z	1109...VE1YX	753.....F5PBL	

DIGITAL

1284.....W3LL	1009..GU0SUP	909.....N8BJQ	721.....K0DEQ	653.....AG4W
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A New Year

The lack of sunspots has caused a lot of DXers to go looking for other challenges. Many of our friends and neighbors have been affected by the economic downturn, too. We complain about the solar flux being so low, yet there are those who have been forced to move or sell their property to try and make ends meet. I can only wish them well. I am remind-

ed of the man who complained because he had no shoes, until he saw a man who had no feet.

As we begin a new year, let's all think about what the past year has been like for us and perhaps make some of those "resolutions" to do better. However, if we're going to make those resolutions, let's really try to keep them.

Until February, enjoy the chase and do Have Fun!

73, Carl, N4AA

CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll

The CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll recognizes those DXers who have submitted proof of confirmation with 175 or more grid fields. Honor Roll listing is automatic upon approval of an application for 175 or more grid fields. To remain on the CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll, annual updates are required. Updates must be accompanied by an SASE if confirmation is desired. The fee for endorsement stickers is \$1.00 each plus SASE. Please make all checks payable to the Award Manager, Billy F. Williams. Mail all updates to P.O. Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208.

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K2TQC.....265	KF8UN.....205	K8OOK.....189
HA0DU.....240	W6OAT.....205	BA4DW.....188
W1CU.....228	OK1AOV.....205	9A5CY.....187
VE7IG.....227	N4MM.....201	RW4NH.....187
HA1RW.....220	VE3ZZ.....201	K2SHZ.....182
VE3XN.....217	JN3SAC.....200	K1NU.....180
N8PR.....217	W4UM.....198	W5ODD.....177
K0DEQ.....216	N4NX.....192	N0FW.....176
HA5WA.....206	ON4CAS.....191	
F6HMJ.....206	HA9PP.....190	

SSB

W1CU.....209	VE7SMP.....190	N0FW.....176
W4ABW.....202	N4MM.....184	DL3DXX.....175
K0DEQ.....192	W4UM.....182	JN3SAC.....175

CW

DL6KVA.....225	DL3DXX.....203	OK2PO.....184
W1CU.....220	JN3SAC.....200	N4MM.....179
DL2DXA.....209	OK1AOV.....196	N4NX.....177
K0DEQ.....207	W4UM.....191	

QSL Information

3B8/ON4LAC via ON4LAC	8R1PY via PY2WAS
3B9/ON4LAC via ON4LAC	8R8USA via 8R1AK
3D20CR via DJ8NK	9A/DL7DF via DL7DF
3D2G via PG5M	9A/IV3OTE via IV3OTE
3DA0JK via WB6OJB	9A/SQ9C via SQ9C
3DA0SS via GI4FUM	9A1CPB via 9A4W
3V8SS via AA8YH	9A2NA/P via 9A2NA
3Z70IIWW via SP6OPZ	9A48IFATCA via 9A4WW
3Z70RG via SP9KAG	9A8M via 9A3JB
3Z70WIZ via SP5PJX	9G5TT via I2YSB
4W6AL via CT1GFK	9G5XX via I2YSB
4W6FR via VK4FW	9H3AB via PA1SL
5B/G3RWF via G3RWF	9H3DX via PA2AM
5B/HA5PP via HA5PP	9H3DZ via PA2AM
5B/HG3IPA via HA3JB	9H3ON via PG9W
5N0OCH via DL3OCH	9H3S via PA3HGP
5Q5NA via DK5NA	9H3X via PE1NGF
5R8UO via DF8UO	9H3YM via PE1OFJ
5W0KH via DL2FAG	9H3ZR via PB9ZR
6V7Q via F8IJV	9H9PA via PB9ZR
6W/EI6DX via RX3RC	
6Y1V via OH3RB	
7Q7BJ via G4AHK	
8J120TDC via JA1YUC	
8Q7AK via G7COD	

(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/>.)

Contesting Resolutions for 2010

January's Contest Tip

Keep an eye on your RIT/XIT controls. I'm amazed at how many stations call others way off frequency, usually due to "cockpit error." I've had personal experience, especially on CW, of logging guys as much as 500 Hz or more off my run frequency. Of course, the corollary to this is to make sure that the stations you "work" are actually calling you and not someone else. This business of managing your run frequency is tricky and your score can go up or down depending on how well you do!

It seems that during this time of year we resolve to resolve. We plan on a massive weight-loss program, commit to joining a gym, plan to arrive at work early, spend more time with our kids, promise to go to the doctor, etc. You are likely to be all too familiar with the drill. For most of our resolutions, achieving consistency past January 15th is the exception rather than the rule.

If you apply the concept to contesting, it turns out we can develop quite an inspiring (or shall we say imposing?) list for ourselves as well. While there is some "tongue in cheek" thinking that has gone into this year's list, I hope it inspires you to at least consider your contesting habits and become a better operator as a result. This list begins with me; no calling the kettle black this time around. However, there is not a contester on this planet who can't improve and benefit from considering this month's topic. So, as testers, let's also resolve to resolve.

In 2010, I Resolve To:

Submit my logs well before the mailing deadlines. Given that virtually every contest administrator is now accepting electronic logs, ignoring this resolution falls into the lazy category. Unless you are one of those "post-contest log massager" types (a topic we need to discuss in the future), use this year as a personal benchmark for submitting your contest logs right away! By the way, for the 2009 CQ WW DX SSB contest, over 4000 logs were submitted in the first two weeks after the contest. For you folks, this resolution has already been accomplished. Keep up the good work!

Always sign my entire callsign in every contest. Oh boy, there's nothing more frustrating than having a good run going only to have a loud signal come back with only part of his callsign. Let's return this practice to the DX nets where it started and leave it out of contesting—please!

Religiously repeat the entire callsign of the station I am working during each QSO. One of the best opportunities to improve your accuracy is to ensure that you repeat the call of a station you are working (especially when you only partially copied the callsign in the first place). It's just great operating technique. By doing this, you can assure the caller that you copied his call correctly and give

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e-mail: <K1AR@contesting.com>

Calendar of Events

All year	CQ DX Marathon
Dec. 26	RAC Winter Contest
Dec. 26-27	Stew Perry Topband Challenge
Jan. 2-3	ARRL RTTY Roundup
Jan. 2-3	EUCW 160M Contest
Jan. 9-10	North American CW QSO Party
Jan. 10	NRAU - Baltic Contest
Jan. 16	LZ DX Contest
Jan. 16-17	HA DX Contest
Jan. 16-17	North American SSB QSO Party
Jan. 23-24	BARTG RTTY Sprint
Jan. 29-31	CQ WW DX 160M CW Contest
Jan. 30-31	REF CW Contest
Jan. 30-31	UBA SSB DX Contest
Feb. 6-7	Vermont QSO Party
Feb. 6	Minnesota QSO Party
Feb. 6-7	Mexico RTTY Int'l Contest
Feb. 6-7	Delaware QSO Party
Feb. 7	North American CW Sprint
Feb. 13-14	CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest
Feb. 26-28	CQ WW DX 160M SSB Contest

him the opportunity to correct your mistake if you got it wrong. As our teenagers often say, "Duh!"

Never intentionally take someone else's frequency. This one may seem self-explanatory, but nevertheless it is a good resolution to take to heart in 2010. There is always the challenge of finding precious real estate in a major contest. This is especially true with the poor propagation we are continuing to experience, often making 20 meters the only band that matters. That said, we need to be good citizens of our radio privileges and that begins with treating our peers with respect.

Never log a QSO unless I am absolutely sure of the callsign and exchange. This one seems obvious, doesn't it? Continuing advances in log checking combined with peer pressure are ensuring that our resolve to improve accuracy in 2010 will pay rich dividends in our scores and respect by others. Congratulations to all who improved this past year!

Always verify the callsign of the station I am working from a callout from a DX Cluster before actually logging call. This one is another source of poor operating—assuming someone else copied the correct callsign when working a DX Cluster spot. "K1AR's Law": Assumptions equal score reductions. I'm amazed at how many operators simply use their computing resources to run the contest for them. Whether it's inadvertently operating "out of band" or simply logging a bad callsign, the responsibility for contest accuracy and proper operating remains with you—no one else!

Always solder the ground on my PL-259 connections. OK, I'm guilty of this one, too. Although a bit of a tongue-in-cheek resolution, proper construction techniques will only make your station better. Solder is the contester's friend. Overall attention to construction details is a lifetime companion.

Plan this year's antenna projects during the winter and begin construction on the first warm spring weekend. Working on antennas when it's

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warm out? Yeah, right! Well, we can try to plan, can't we? I'm actually one of the worst planners when it comes to this topic. Given I don't particularly enjoy antenna work, it's easy to put it off. Ironically, once I get enough motivation to get started, the task is rarely as difficult as I anticipated. So bring on the warm weather in 2010, and for now sharpen your pencils!

Ensure that my entire station will be ready for the fall operating season 30 days before the start of the CQ WW DX SSB Contest. This one is probably a corollary to the previous resolution. That said, everyone will benefit by a little advance planning. Hooking up computer networks and SO2R (single operator, two radios) boxes on Friday afternoon before a major contest is a sure path to unnecessary stress and a lower score.

Answer all of my incoming bureau QSL cards. Well, my pile usually stands at about 2000 unanswered cards at any point in time (although it has been growing in recent years), which is better than some and worse than many. LoTW (Logbook of The World) and other initiatives help us deal with this administrative burden in 2010. Banging out just 100 responses per week is another way to attack the problem. Not unlike antenna work, the hardest part of addressing

this resolution is getting started. Once you're on a roll, the battle has already largely been won.

Be courteous to my fellow contesters. We engage in a competitive environment called contesting, so courtesy sometimes takes a back seat. However, we also owe each other respect, not only when on the air, but when we engage in e-mail or face-to-face dialog. Until the perfect contest is born (and there is none being scheduled at the moment), there will always be something for us to discover about each other.

Enter the category I've actually operated. Fortunately, the vast majority of us are honest and ethical operators. We say what we do and do what we say. However, there is the small fringe that chooses to push the rules past the limit or just outright cheat. Whether it's using the DX Cluster while claiming single operator unassisted or using high power when you submit a log as low power, there is only one word for this resolution in 2010—stop! You know who are and now is the perfect time to reset your ethical priorities. 'Nuff said!

Periodically check to see if someone else wants to operate when participating at a multi-op. Sure, most of us want the high-rate operating times

when participating at a multi-op station. However, a little consideration for others in 2010 will go a long way to your being known as a true team player the next time.

Always act as if I were using my callsign when operating from someone else's station in a contest. Ah, yes, the "hide behind the call" syndrome. The fact is that whether it's your callsign or someone else's, as contesters we have an obligation to operate responsibly on the air. Do the right thing in 2010!

Final Comments

By taking a few minutes to consider how we can be better contesters and ham radio citizens in general, 2010 should be a better radio year for all of us. Also, there is nothing like the turning of the year to be a bit introspective about our approach to the sport. It's my desire that this month's topic will make you think and maybe even identify more resolutions for next year and beyond.

Speaking of 2010, here's to it being a fantastic year for you and your family. We live in a challenging world; let's do our part to make it a little bit better for everyone. See you in the next contest!

73, John, K1AR

Good Conditions Forecast for 2010

A Quick Look at Current Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, October 2009: 5
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2009: 2

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, October 2009: 72
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2009: 69

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, October 2009: 3
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2009: 4

One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Cycle 23 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, October 2008: 3
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2008: 3

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, October 2008: 68
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2008: 70

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, October 2008: 6
Twelve-month smoothed, April 2008: 7

The new solar cycle is picking up some steam. Flux readings during the last months of 2009 at times rose above 80. We are no longer seeing long periods without sunspots. While there are still days with zero spots, there are becoming fewer of them.

Here is an overview of expected propagation conditions for 2010 on each amateur band from 6 to 160 meters.

6 Meters: While we are seeing a slow and steady increase in solar activity, it is not yet enough to wake up 6 meters via F-layer propagation. We should see action on 6 meters during the summer season's troposcatter and sporadic-E activity. Aurora will play a minor role during the spring and fall. Meteor-scatter propagation might offer an occasional peak in activity, as well.

10 and 12 Meters: These bands will be poor to good, except during times of sporadic-E activity. Expect most DX openings to be on north and south paths, although by fall solar activity may well be high enough to support a great DX season on 10 meters. Most of the time solar activity will not support propagation on the higher bands, except for possible openings on paths between lower latitudes and locations on the other side of the equator (north/south paths).

15 Meters: This band will be fair during the first part of the year, with occasional worldwide open-

LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for January 2010

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 1, 4-7, 10-11, 18, 21-28, 31	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 3, 8-9, 15-17, 30	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 2, 13-14, 19, 29	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: 20	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: 12	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 good (B) on January 1st, poor (D) to fair (C) on the 2nd, fair (C) on the 3rd, good (B) on January 4-7, 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.

ings during the daylight hours of all seasons. Later in the year, as solar activity increases, this band will become a hot day-time activity center for most latitudes. Generally, though, openings during the first half of the year will be short, except for the strong and frequent north/south path openings. By the end of 2010, we should be in a more rapid climb in solar activity, so this band will be open for worldwide DX more often.

17 Meters: This band should behave much like 15, but you will find it open more often, with it remaining open for DX an hour or two longer than 15 meters.

20 Meters: Twenty is again going to be the main player during the year. Expect good conditions during the daylight hours, with DX openings possible to limited areas throughout the year. DX conditions on this band tend to peak for a few hours after local sunrise and again during the sunset period. There will be moderate night-time openings during the spring and fall seasons.

30 Meters: As Cycle 24 begins to offer more sunspot activity, conditions on this band will offer strong openings, especially a few hours before sunset until a few hours after sunrise. In 2010, 30 meters will be an exciting band for those low-power digital signals. Winter brings longer nights, providing the right mix for exceptional worldwide DX.

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40, 60, 80, and 160 Meters: These are nighttime DX bands. Great worldwide DX should continue on 40 meters from about two hours before sunset to approximately two hours after sunrise during all seasons. Expect coast-to-coast DX on 60 meters. DX openings on 80 and 160 should peak during the early spring, late fall, and winter months. Expect somewhat stronger signals than those of last year.

January Propagation

It should be a toss-up between 17 and 20 meters for some great DX openings during the daylight hours. These bands should open to most areas of the world, often with very strong signals. Seventeen meters may have a slight edge before noon, with 20 meters taking the lead after noon and becoming the optimum DX band during the late afternoon hours. Short-skip openings between distances of about 1200 and 2300 miles should be excellent during the daylight hours. Excellent short-skip openings are expected on 15 and 17 meters from shortly after sunrise through the early evening hours for distances between 1000 and 2300 miles. Twenty meters is expected to be a solid band with openings for both DX and short-skip. DX conditions should peak during a window of an hour or so right after sunrise and again during the late afternoon and early evening hours. Short-skip openings between approximately 1300 and 2300 miles should be possible from just after sunrise to as late as midnight. Shorter distance openings should also be possible from mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

The optimum band for DX conditions during the hours of darkness should be 40 meters. Expect openings to most areas of the world from shortly before sundown, through the hours of darkness, until shortly after sunrise. Signal levels may be

exceptionally strong at times. During the daylight hours, short-skip conditions should be optimal for openings between approximately 100 and 600 miles. Skip will lengthen during the late afternoon, and by nightfall short-skip conditions should be optimal for openings between 800 and 2300 miles.

Expect 60 meters to play a significant role in night-time DX across the United States. With very low noise levels this month, the weaker signals of 60 meters will be easy to copy.

Because atmospheric noise levels will be at seasonally minimum levels in the Northern Hemisphere during January, 80 and 160 meter bands should also be hot. Expect some good openings to many parts of the world on 80 meters during the hours of darkness and the sunrise period. Short-skip openings between distances of 50 and 250 miles should be optimal on 80 meters during the daylight hours. During the later afternoon and early evening hours short-skip openings should increase to between 250 and 1500 miles, and by nightfall openings up to and beyond 2300 miles should be possible.

Expect some DX openings on the 160-meter band during the hours of darkness. Openings toward Europe and the east should peak at about midnight. Openings toward the South Pacific and in a generally southerly direction may be possible just before daybreak, as well as openings into Asia and North Pacific. Short-skip openings up to 1300 miles should be possible during the hours of darkness, and frequently the skip will extend out as far as 2300 miles. During the daylight hours intense ionospheric absorption will severely limit openings, although at times some may be possible up to 150 miles or so.

VHF Conditions

Sporadic-E can occur during January, so be on the lookout.



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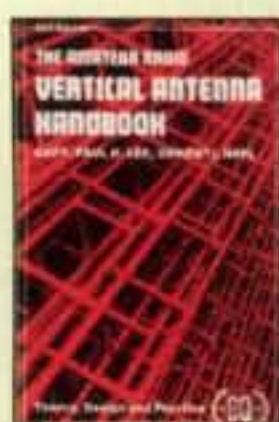


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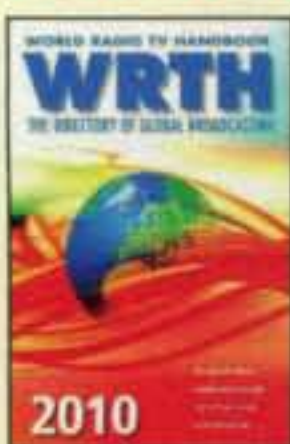
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Moderate 2009 CQ WW DX SSB Contest Conditions

The 2009 CQ World-Wide DX SSB Contest weekend of October 24-25 started off with great geomagnetic activity conditions. Geomagnetic activity was very quiet, making for a very stable ionosphere. Sunspot counts were incredible, though! On October 24, the sunspot count was 16, and it was 19 the next day. The 10.7-cm solar flux index was 76 both days. All of the HF contest bands were usable, including 10 meters! The contest yielded great results for almost all participants compared with the last several years.

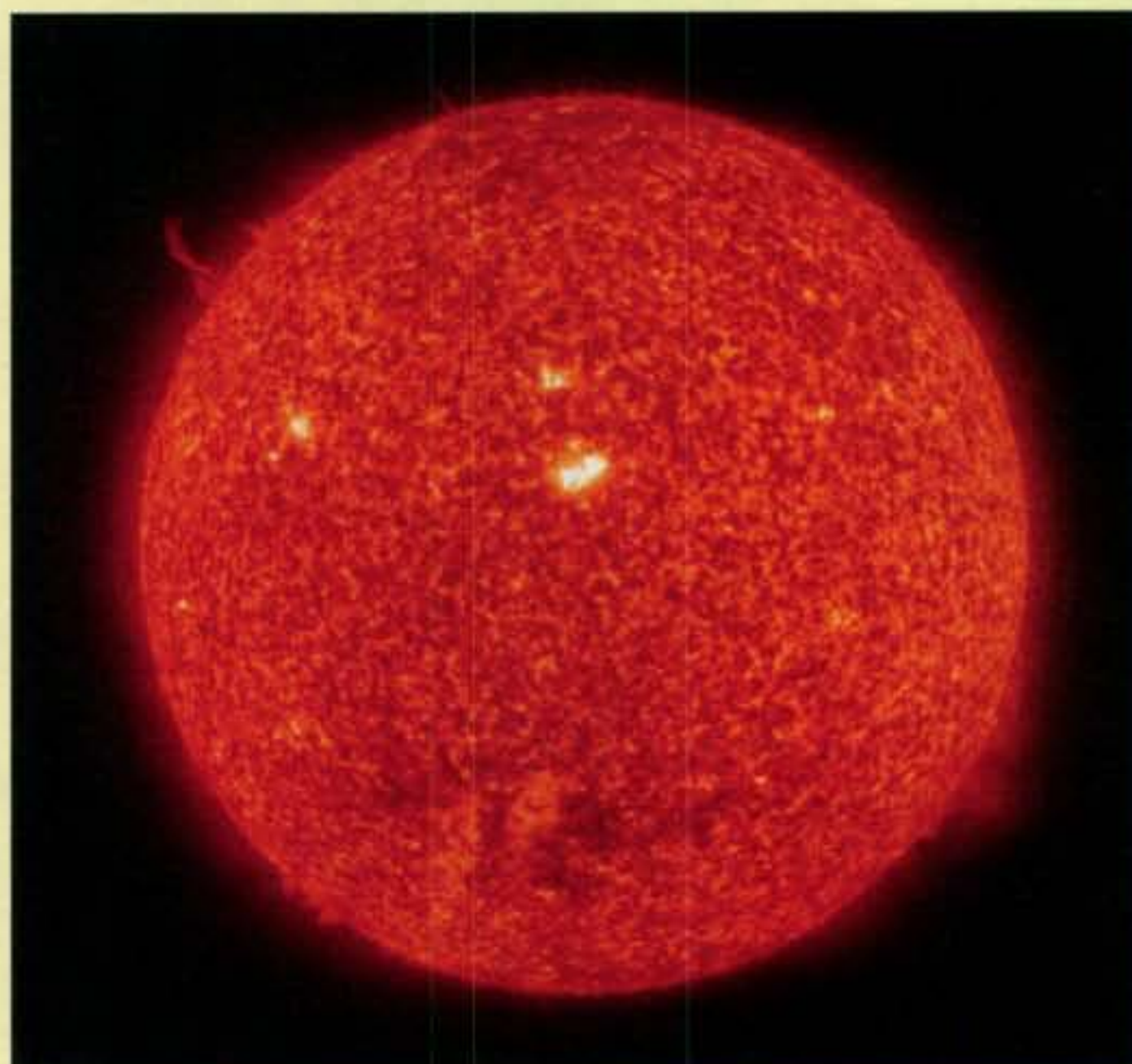


Fig. 1- The 2009 CQ WW SSB contest was incredible when compared with the last few years. This view of the Sun on October 24 at 1919 UTC reveals a very large sunspot region with a sunspot count of 21, which pushed the 10.7-cm flux up to 76. Even 10 meters played a major role in contest activity. (Source: SOHO/NASA)

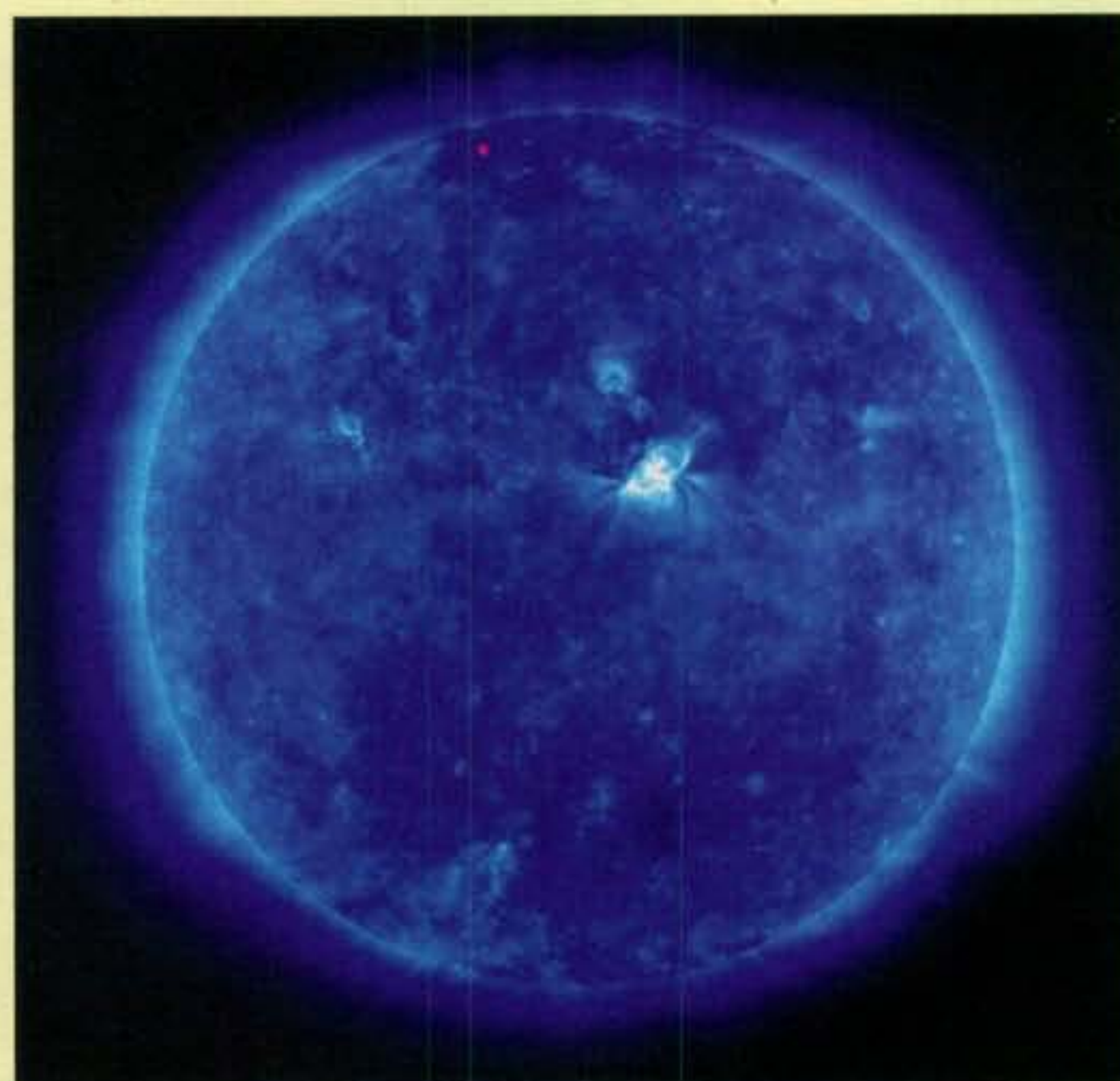


Fig. 2- This view of the Sun, taken at 1300 UTC, October 25, 2009, reveals the strong magnetic fields punching through the active sunspot region that woke up the entire HF spectrum during the 2010 CQ WW DX SSB Contest weekend. (Source: SOHO/NASA)

This has happened right around New Year's Day and that week. After that, it is rare.

The *Quadrantids* meteor shower is the major meteor shower for January and appears from January 1 to January 5. The maximum should occur on January 3. This shower can sometimes be quite intense, so it may be a good idea to set up some 2- and 6-meter schedules. Morning meteor openings may be the best bet during this month.

Check out *CQ VHF* magazine's propagation column for an in-depth look at propagation on VHF and above.

Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 72.3 for October 2009, continuing a slow but steady monthly rise. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on April 2009 is 69.3. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for January 2010 is about 75, give or take about 6 points.

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the mean monthly observed sunspot number for October 2009 is 4.6, showing a sure rise since March (0.7). The lowest daily sunspot value during October 2009 was zero, occurring on the 2-10, 12-22, and 31. The highest daily sunspot count for October was 19 on the 25-28. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on April 2009 is 2.2. A smoothed sunspot count of 16 is expected for January 2010, give or take about 7 points.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (*A_p*) for October 2009 is 3 (the lowest yet of this solar cycle minimum). The 12-month smoothed *A_p* index centered on April 2009 is 4.3. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to be quiet during most days in January. At the time of writing, the forecast holds that January will be a very quiet month with little to no geomagnetic storminess. Refer to the "Last-Minute Forecast" on the first page of this column for the outlook on what days this might occur.

I welcome your thoughts, questions, and experiences regarding this fascinating science of propagation. You may e-mail me, write me a letter, or catch me on the HF amateur bands. Please come and participate in my online propagation discussion forum at <<http://hfradio.org/forums/>>. See you on the air!

73, Tomas, NW7US

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73s, Gene

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B1-200	1:1	500W SSB	80-10 small "Low Profile"	\$37.95
Y1-5K+	1:1	5 kW SSB	160-6m Yagi Balun™	\$56.95
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Number groups after call letters denote following: Band (A = all), Final Score, Number of QSOs, and Prefixes. An asterisk (*) before a call indicates low power. Certificate winners are listed in bold-face. (Note that the country names and groupings reflect the DXCC list at the time of the contest.)

**2009 WPX SSB RESULTS
SINGLE OPERATOR
NORTH AMERICA**

United States				Canada				Mexico				Other			
Call	Band	Score	QSOs	Call	Band	Score	QSOs	Call	Band	Score	QSOs	Call	Band	Score	QSOs
NY1Q	A	2,291,100	1472	WY3P	A	8,898,968	3133	K3ZD		5,797,440	2202	K4OD		66,805	205
AK1W		1,226,736	841	K3ZD		5,797,440	2202	N1WR/3		1,826,250	1368	NN4DF		66,600	182
KZ1K		1,110,900	1047	N1WR/3		1,826,250	1368	N3UM		811,200	830	W4TKI		63,550	208
ND1X		943,250	1076	N3UM		811,200	830	W3GH		367,920	643	N1ADY/4		57,256	175
NW1E		654,192	788	N3YV		325,416	395	N3YW		325,416	395	AJ4JD		57,232	214
K1FWE		463,050	500	KW3A		217,854	247	KW3A		217,854	247	W4SKI		56,322	210
W1BYH		381,248	492	W13K		111,926	251	W13K		111,926	251	KU4WD		56,007	186
W1KQ		344,761	438	W0BR/3		98,283	229	W0BR/3		98,283	229	W54F		54,684	197
AD1DX		297,470	502	K3RMB		29,016	124	K3RMB		29,016	124	KI3D/4		54,648	196
K1AR		293,314	485	K3ISH		10,200	61	K3ISH		10,200	61	KI4TZU		51,054	183
N1SV		272,130	662	A130	14	42,496	143	A130	14	42,496	143	W4AT		40,748	163
AE1T		108,225	236	AD8J/3	7	16,830	68	AD8J/3	7	16,830	68	N4RTD		40,320	169
K1SEZ		101,065	267	W38GN	3.7	778,508	774	W38GN	3.7	778,508	774	*N3UC/4		35,937	150
KB10DO		96,660	303	*W3LL	A	744,224	689	*W3LL	A	744,224	689	*W4NBS		33,228	131
K1VMG		74,534	217	*KB3LIX		297,348	438	*KB3LIX		297,348	438	K4COW		32,828	151
W1UJ		39,560	165	*ND3R		168,260	322	*ND3R		168,260	322	K4FTO		31,860	158
K1KNJ		27,265	103	*N3ALN		112,996	333	*N3ALN		112,996	333	*W4EMUJ		30,555	111
K1DG		10,797	67	*K3TN		35,535	147	*K3TN		35,535	147	*KD4MZM		26,416	136
KB1PXE		10,695	77	*AD4G/3		32,625	188	*AD4G/3		32,625	188	*K9RIM/4		24,276	129
W1WEF		3,116	48	*N3KUN		23,800	140	*N3KUN		23,800	140	*W4GMH		23,030	159
K02M/1	14	7,034,082	2651	*K3VED		10,080	71	*K3VED		10,080	71	*N4VA		22,750	114
AD1L		78,323	180	*N2US/3		7,150	51	*N2US/3		7,150	51	*K4G0P		22,557	136
AE1P	7	252,774	497	*N3JXP		6,966	66	*N3JXP		6,966	66	*KE4KY		20,839	107
WJ1R		8,064	53	*W3EDP		6,318	64	*W3EDP		6,318	64	*AI4G		19,400	144
AA10	3.7	46,320	192	*KB3EXB		6,298	51	*KB3EXB		6,298	51	*KM4RK		18,318	107
K1COR		9,381	75	*N1IG/3		2,829	47	*N1IG/3		2,829	47	*K4SQ		17,286	99
K1VW	1.8	12,530	101	*K3YDX		2,088	39	*K3YDX		2,088	39	*K3VIN/4		17,160	104
*NV1N	A	2,351,175	1511	*KB3SCZ		1,914	39	*KB3SCZ		1,914	39	*W4JHU		16,968	104
*KA1AP1		104,125	233	*NU30		270	15	*NU30		270	15	*W4NI		15,691	77
*KB1PAJ		65,565	182	*WAZVQV/3	14	27,848	121	*WAZVQV/3	14	27,848	121	*AI4KM		14,850	104
*WB1FH		53,730	203	*K3LAB	7	3,784	55	*K3LAB	7	3,784	55	*KJ4BIX		14,013	89
*NE1H		50,552	176	*K4ZW	A	7,143,392	2711	*K4ZW	A	7,143,392	2711	*W4IHI		12,960	80
*KR1A		42,640	158	K5RQ/4		2,520,180	2225	K5RQ/4		2,520,180	2225	*K4G0W		9,765	78
*KA1C		40,248	161	K4FX		1,824,984	1302	K4FX		1,824,984	1302	*W4SQL		9,685	83
*W2JU/1		39,508	156	K4PV		1,496,082	1390	K4PV		1,496,082	1390	*W4NDX		8,288	61
*W01N		35,369	142	AA4NU		1,306,942	1219	AA4NU		1,306,942	1219	*AI4QR		7,874	83
*N4WO/1		34,970	188	AD4EB		1,256,564	1233	AD4EB		1,256,564	1233	*KG4ZDM		7,290	65
*KB1FRK		23,504	133	N4WZ		848,072	1202	N4WZ		848,072	1202	*W4BK		7,056	72
*W1WH		21,714	115	AK4K		633,386	867	AK4K		633,386	867	*WC4MBC		5,551	62
*N1MW		18,576	116	KT5V/4		496,252	771	KT5V/4		496,252	771	*KJG/4		5,512	62
*W1ASB		14,450	96	W4EEH		428,465	599	W4EEH		428,465	599	*W4WNT		5,096	61
*N1NN		12,874	98	W4KW		424,011	511	W4KW		424,011	511	*KR1ST/4		4,998	59
*W1FA		9,880	70	KJBE/4		339,300	481	KJBE/4		339,300	481	*N4CWP		4,650	60
*K1NPT		9,514	88	K4IE		258,312	353	K4IE		258,312	353	*W30/4		4,048	48
*KJ4DHB/1		7,675	69	N3FP/4		175,032	379	N3FP/4		175,032	379	*W44JA		3,864	52
*K1VU		5,664	55	KD2JA/4		166,439	296	KD2JA/4		166,439	296	*AA1AR/4		3,555	49
*KB1JUF		2,814	47	W2YE/4		143,662	294	W2YE/4		143,662	294	*W4HRC		3,010	37
*N1QN		1,026	19	NE4M		136,904	338	NE4M		136,904	338	*NR4C		2,010	33
*N1XQ		1,012	25	KX4D		126,126	304	KX4D		126,126	304	*KJ4SAM		1,566	29
*N1WRK	21	3,534	40	W08QJ/4		111,474	246	W08QJ/4		111,474	246	*N3TG/4		1,269	27
*KG1V	14	47,619	165	W20Q/4		98,700	214	W20Q/4		98,700	214	*KX40		1,200	32
*NX1Y		4,181	39	WK4P		97,280	262	WK4P		97,280	262	*K14EEY		1,014	28
*KF1D		3,570	46	W6GBG/4		76,779	254	W6GBG/4		76,779	254	*AF4KL		722	20
*NJ1H	3.7	62,568	162	K7CS/4		76,319	224	K7CS/4		76,319	224	*W08RYC/4		560	14
WN20	A	1,673,685	1277	W4N2		73,839	203	W4N2		73,839	203	*K2VX/4		330	15
K2PS		169,231	466	N4CW		70,794	172	N4CW		70,794	172	*KJ4CNC		280	15
AB2ZY		120,342	263	N4LV		63,510	194	N4LV		63,510	194	*N44W	28	44,748	175
W9SM/2		89,265	220	W4WSW		45,540	193	W4WSW		45,540	193	*K44VQ		2,106	30
WM2Z		86,327	237	KI4FIA		44,044	228	KI4FIA		44,044	228	*K44VQ		2,106	30
WA2ETU		50,864	172	N4LZ		40,796	164	N4LZ		40,796	164	*KB2NEJ/4		1,100	21
NE2I		50,148	172	K3IXD/4		38,522	127	K3IXD/4		38,522	127	*K90M/4	21	217,820	464
W2MC		47,376	148	W4AS		32,000	109	W4AS		32,000	109	*KV1P/4		1,980	30
K2NV		46,150	144	WV4V		30,660	122	WV4V		30,660	122	*W04K		808	22
K2BBO		40,960	151	W4QJC		26,928	111	W4QJC		26,928	111	*K80SF/4	14	91,317	203
K2MFW		21,150	108	KT4Q		26,228	88	KT4Q		26,228	88	*W2TFM/4	14	91,317	203
KA2VZX		4,366	37	W8DQ/4		22,746	122	W8DQ/4		22,746	122	*KG4ZDY		1,995	38
KC2KZJ		4,329	39	N3JT/4		21,680	94	N3JT/4		21,680	94	*K0RRP/4		1,080	24
K2XA		1,200	26	NJ4F		18,879	99	NJ4F		18,879	99	*KC4YBO		840	16
K2AMI		434	14	KI4VCT		13,440	99	KI4VCT		13,440	99	*AK4IK		340	17
KM20		107,439	237	KJ4CNN		13,134	84	KJ4CNN		13,134	84	*AA4FU	7	1,479	32
K03N/2		95,370	299	K4XZ		12,450	93	K4XZ							

*N8BV	7	20,768	100	88
*NR8U	3.7	12,792	111	78
*AABL		119	8	7
WE9V	A	535,800	639	376
K9ZO		262,319	490	277
N9WKW		161,280	323	224
K9JIG		114,036	300	204
NA9US		103,224	243	187
K9EN		97,970	238	202
A19L		85,084	228	178
N9UY		80,675	231	175
W3HDM/9		17,548	97	82
KC9IL		10,784	79	69
N9NA		6,783	62	51
N09E		405	15	15
W9SE	28	102	6	6
K9CT	14	2,241,589	1524	721
W9EXY		1,481,116	1065	626
K9DN		106,284	240	204
W9LX		47,084	167	149
N9FC		27,160	100	97
K9UON		2,310	39	35
K9NW	7	1,012,455	1223	453
AB9H		565,862	925	374
K9DX		184,992	524	246
W9AYW		399	19	19
K9SH	3.7	190,995	486	255
K9XV		11,016	93	68
*K99K	A	1,232,160	978	510
			(OP: N4TZ)	
*WW9R		301,637	704	287
*N9LYE		220,594	441	271
*K9JE		173,430	334	246
*K9CQW		132,662	395	226
*W9QL		131,864	401	212
*N9SZ		61,740	202	140
*K99YG		58,896	283	144
*W9L9		51,652	219	148
*W99Y		45,880	216	148
*N9WEW		31,806	170	114
*K99N		29,754	121	114
			(OP: K9MI)	
*K9KIO		25,536	150	112
*K9IRQ		24,786	147	102
*K9LW9		13,800	86	75
*W9VQ		13,248	80	72
*A9I		10,824	72	66
*W99L		10,650	92	75
*K9FZT		6,720	80	64
*N9BT		5,194	65	53
*K9TCD		4,773	44	43
*K9GRD		4,182	64	51
*K9AH		4,094	58	46
*W9HDT		3,080	51	44
*K9CLP		2,555	37	35
*W9IX	14	94,525	224	199
*K9CD9		71,331	236	177
*W9ILY		23,232	103	96
*K9AMM		8,040	73	67
*K9DFU		4,800	55	50
*N9ICV/9		133	8	7
*K9SQL	7	196,458	459	239
*K9A9		91,866	289	183
*N9TF		73,260	277	165
N900	A	3,708,432	2490	849
K9RH		1,656,235	1960	599
K9MO		1,155,944	1255	524
			(OP: K9OU)	
W9BH		934,467	1423	467
K9DEQ		575,928	783	421
N9UY		178,500	392	250
K9GAS		164,304	388	252
W9BN		161,532	325	252
K9FX		157,504	260	214
W9MHJ		117,162	236	207
N9RN		92,050	202	175
W9BAL		71,890	232	158
N9CB		56,502	172	146
W9KU/9		54,279	194	163
NA9BR		35,230	158	130
K9XTR		25,482	130	93
N9SM		24,960	115	96
K9BL		7,884	77	73
N9BXO/9		2,400	30	30
K9VEU		2,144	33	32
K9ACO		1,155	23	21
W9LSD	21	12,416	71	64
W9EWD	14	1,499,887	1309	631
K9PK		340,119	540	351
W9PPF		40,044	162	141
N9UNL		26,550	128	118
W9CEM	7	286,847	723	293
K9ETV		111,241	312	199
*N9TT/9	A	1,826,260	1766	635
*W9TSR		259,880	450	292
*K9BYH		228,897	429	261
*K9KP		150,516	319	222
*A9L		140,798	408	226
*W9LJM		98,406	297	198
*K9WHV		71,622	219	173
*K9WQW		67,200	212	168
*W9ETT		59,124	200	156
*K9SD		47,085	190	129
*N9AG		45,486	210	133
*W9SZ		39,693	194	131
*W9PC		28,084	169	119
*N9LLH		18,972	130	93
*N9BQ		18,601	122	89
*W9CBH		15,792	98	84
*K9GG		15,750	128	90
*W9RO		13,575	94	75
*K9BUUT		12,236	93	76
*K9BYJO		11,858	103	77
*W9GM		8,500	110	68
*K9ACP		4,998	53	49
*AC9DJ		4,947	65	51
*K9WV/9		4,646	59	46
*K9DEPN		2,470	43	38
*K9MIS		1,872	42	36
*K9BNS		1,364	34	31
*K9DTLC		1,134	33	27
*K9AP		1,081	23	23
*N9BK		952	32	28
*K9GLA		891	29	27
*W9NFS		378	20	18
*K9BYHU		132	11	11
*K9BEIC	28	12	2	2

*N9UU	21	22,015	97	85
*W9ELN/9		468	14	12
*A9DNK	14	93,314	232	194
*K9LSU/9		18,912	108	96
*K9DDRQ		15,326	125	97
*N9GOS		14,536	117	92
*N9UJJ		1,107	32	27
*K9FIQ		1,064	32	28
*N9HIO		960	26	24
*W9TTT/9		48	6	6
*K9DFUE		9	3	3
*N9BT	7	17,936	118	118
*K9DEEP		20	5	5
Alaska		432,236	669	301
AL1G	14	50,160	161	110
*K9L7R		3,430	41	35
*A9BAH/KL7		19,800	97	90
*K9L1SF		15,265	92	71
*W9L7UQ				
Barbados		17,863,617	5184	1173
BP5A	A		(OP: W2SC)	
Canada		1,115,196	882	398
VA1MM	A	1,035,468	706	441
VE1MC				
*VA3YP		708,645	570	357
*VE3KPP		612,125	605	295
*VE3TU		357,831	438	261
*VE3OBU		249,390	321	255
*VE3FH		225,356	330	212
*VE3JM		179,450	259	194
*VE3MCF		146,520	253	185
*VE3TW		126,195	222	179
*VE3NB		55,062	131	126
*VA3GML		51,584	147	128
*VE3JI		43,834	130	101
*VE3CKG		11,948	63	58
*VA3HUN		1,740	30	29
*VA3WPV	28	48	4	4
*VE3RHD	14	12,785	85	69
*VA3ARK		4,370	48	46
*VE3AJ		1,550	27	25
*VE3OIL		434	15	14
*VA3RJ		420	15	14
VE4EAR	A	1,914,220	1091	565
VE4TV	A	36,400	141	100
VE5ZX	14	2,342,150	1558	695
VE5ZC		2,336	38	32
*VA5LF	A	4,180	50	44
VE5FN	A	220,190	360	227

*H9G5B	21	7,616	71	56
*H9PJP		6,210	51	46
*H9CCP	14	1,243,212	1197	491
*H9TEJ	7	2,869,380	1061	570
Dominican Republic				
Greenland		2,762,448	1225	624
OX2A	A		(OP: OX3KQ)	
Grenada		14,697	81	71
J37T	A		(OP: VE3EBN)	
Guadeloupe		61,994	169	139
FG1PP	A			
Guatemala		1,313,637	1207	507
TG9AXF	14			
Haiti		48,512	159	128
HQ2W	14	186,244	427	202
HQ9R	7	639,480	519	292
Honduras				

Virgin Islands	7	2,600,516	983	542
WP2Z			(OP: K8MJZ)	
AFRICA				
Canary Islands				
EA8MQ	A	49,062	148	111
EA8LS	14	421,449	443	329
EF8G	7	36,720	85	80
			(OP: EA8CNB)	
*EC8ADW	A	1,579,008	1007	512
*EA8BTM		939,078	775	406
*EA8OM		321,720	373	280
*ECSAFM		43,290	138	111
*AM8A		24,682	92	82
			(OP: EA8DD)	
*EA8/DL3KVR	21	567,930	587	330
*ECSAQO		182,320	291	215
Ceuta and Melilla		1,944	28	27
EA980	A			
Guinea-Bissau		1,263,522	864	501
J5UAP	14			
Italy (Africa)				
IG9/IZADN	28	12,060	79	60
IH9YMC	21	4,719	48	39
Madeira Islands				
CT3HF	A	522,389	495	343
CS3MAD		352	9	8
			(OP: CT3EN)	
CT3FJ	14	11,328	67	59
Morocco				
CN2R	A	20,336,577	4897	1219
			(OP: W7EJ)	
S05A	14	11,356,980	3583	1070
			(OP: IK1HJS)	
CN2BC	A	4,208,064	1966	707
			(OP: DL78C)	
*CN4P		2,349,050	998	550
			(OP: CN8NK)	
*CN8SG		1,643,665	1025	485
*CN8YE		684,495	610	369
Namibia				
V55X	A	932,824	710	452
			(OP: V51YJ)	
Senegal				
6W1RW	A	13,647,382	3609	1041
			(OP: F6BEE)	
6W1SJ	14	7,066,140	2581	930
			(OP: E78A)	
6V7E	21	348,166	693	426
			(OP: RW3TN)	
South Africa				
ZS4JAN	A	23,760	121	88
ZS2EC		945	21	21
ZS1JY		448	14	14
Tunisia				
3V8BB	A	14,745,708	3589	1086
			(OP: YT1AD)	
3V8SS	A	1,554,597	831	451
Armenia				
EK3SA	A	416,835	432	295
Asiatic Russia				
RC90	A	10,441,809	2995	963
			(OP: UA9PC)	
UA9CLB	A	9,482,064	2723	912
RN9MA		1,151,892	782	441
RA9CB		458,325	452	315
RU9CC		389,700	445	300
UA9BS		<		

RA3XE	15,750	96	90	UA6AKD	3.7	14,400	88	80	DK1AX	194,814	376	274	*DN5QA	45	5	5	*IK5PVX	39,300	154	131		
UA3BM	10,440	61	60	*RU6YZ	A	355,355	564	355	DJ5TD	189,222	363	282	*DL7ULM	21	1,988	30	28	*IV3ARJ	36,600	136	120	
RN3REY	3,959	37	37	*RN6MA		180,120	352	228	DF2QZ	187,256	328	263	*DO1AYJ	1,944	30	27	*IZ2EEV	36,585	149	135		
UA300S	9,856	78	56	*UAGHHE		121,390	307	199	DM2BPG	177,415	385	259	*DJ0MCCZ	14	213,486	414	299	*IN3FHE	36,480	128	128	
RA9USU/3	832,320	1077	544	*RK6BBZ		102,336	252	192	DF5BX	177,380	380	245	*DL5JS	108,706	279	226	*IW2BZY	30,910	129	110		
RN3GA	188,846	382	287	*RX6LD		102,150	274	227	DL8DXF	161,126	313	238	*D77K	85,200	253	200	*IZ5IMD	24,453	112	99		
RU3UR	161,312	385	284	*RU6HJ		76,075	224	179	DG8CC	130,530	349	229	*DL3ZAI	61,050	193	165	*IK2UCK	23,422	108	98		
UA3DAM	25,215	142	123	*RAGLOO		74,048	223	178	DG2NMH	128,760	296	222	*DM3MM	47,829	182	149	*IK3XTY	17,575	133	95		
RA3TT	15,300	113	102	*RV6LCI		60,204	212	174	DL7DS	126,218	291	223	*DL9LM	46,357	191	151	*IK2WFW	15,876	94	84		
RN3DDS	840	21	21	*RK6AQM		56,722	185	158	DC1JAG	122,604	269	204	*DL9LF	42,768	157	144	*IZ1MDJ	13,689	88	81		
RK3DTC	312	12	12	*RAGHJA		25,530	130	111	DL5AN	75,020	194	155	*DL4JYT	41,890	170	142	*IZ4DUX	13,612	98	83		
RL3AF	84,780	200	157	*RW6AHO		18,185	90	83	DJ0AH	70,952	202	181	*DL3BRA	41,144	180	139	*I1YGO	13,494	86	76		
RX3DM	75,768	202	164	*RN6DR		9,301	76	71	DLBYR	69,255	208	171	*DJ5LY	22,898	117	107	*IK3SJK	13,416	95	86		
*UA38L	1,058,109	999	507	*RA6DT		5,904	53	48	DLPA1TT	67,236	187	156	*DL1DXA	4,326	49	42	*IK1WEG	11,136	73	64		
*RK3MWI	966,966	937	539	*RV6ALI		1,976	28	26	DK7AN	64,558	189	169	*DL1MHJ	3,535	36	35	*IK4AUJ	10,206	70	63		
		(OP: UA3MSA)		*RW6CW		1,368	21	18	DM3ML	56,092	173	148	*DF5BM	3,450	52	46	*IZ8LLH	8,174	61	61		
				*UAGHFI		1,020	21	20	DL1YFF	53,157	170	141	*DF3AX	3,344	47	44	*IZ6GNH	7,208	73	68		
*UA3ABJ	513,600	627	400	*RA6XB		216	9	9	DL1JGG	49,075	170	151	*DK7MCX	2,394	39	36	*IZ1DXS	6,720	61	56		
*RN30BA	461,131	603	407	*RD6LP	21	3,276	41	36	DJ6TB	48,764	169	146	*DG6DAF	2,030	36	35	*IZ1MJS	6,324	55	51		
*RA3NC	323,832	483	309	*RW6AH	14	146,784	342	264	DR7T	35,226	125	114	*DL7LZ	640	20	20	*IZ3DVU	5,586	52	49		
*RX3QDF	235,106	400	269	*UAGARR		40,166	164	151					*DN1MSF	126	8	7	*IZ1DLY	5,456	67	62		
*RA3VLD	229,824	423	304	*RA6FZ		25,942	131	119					*DL2DSD	65	5	5	*IV3YWT	3,276	40	39		
*RD3DG	159,162	326	246						DL6VUJ	31,136	136	112	*DM4DX	7	45,696	169	128	*IZ5NFD	3,240	43	36	
*R3AA	134,420	292	220						DK1LRS	25,942	136	119	*DL1TS	43,596	147	126	*IK2LFD	3,198	47	41		
*RU3LA	125,928	254	212						DJ1YFK	17,877	110	101	*DL0DBO	13,286	76	73	*IK8LJA	3,135	36	33		
*RK3FM	112,476	267	206						DF9FS	14,630	105	95					*IK3NVB	2,911	41	41		
*RL3AJ	108,243	282	211						DL5ST	11,096	76	73					*IZ5OQX	2,709	44	43		
*R23QZ	102,102	239	187						DF2HL	4,500	46	45					*IW7BIM	2,205	37	35		
*RA3XGZ	93,181	261	197						DL9GFB	1,995	37	35					*IW3SRC	576	19	18		
*UA30Q	92,738	253	178						DN2LD	205,425	352	249					*IK2RLS/2	322	14	14		
*RN3ARA	83,880	237	180															*IZ8LIP	220	11	11	
*RX3VF	75,620	212	190						DH8GDS	27,966	137	118					*IK5VXL	192	8	8		
*UA3DCU	69,459	201	169						DL1LQL	2,223	39	39					*IW8GVG	84	6	6		
*RA3RQD	53,280	165	148						DN1TB	240	10	10					*IW8HBY	28	8,750	68	58	
*RD3BY	49,010	164	145						DL1SWB	576,428	647	390					*IK2YGZ	21	10,672	68	58	
*RA3VR	46,417	169	133						DJ8IF	160,062	318	222					*IW1QN	14	622,170	696	446	
*RA3VE	42,059	168	137						DL3KZA	273,007	500	301					*IZ8EFD	107,677	295	231		
*RA3MAW	40,242	131	114						*DABR	620,858	708	427					*IZ1DGG	77,644	247	188		
*RA3MB	37,647	153	141															*IZ2CEZ	52,316	200	164	
*R23ARO	37,338	159	127						*D88NI	567,088	747	416					*IZ2JOP	16,456	109	88		
*RK3AU	36,915	134	115						*DR4G	547,365	599	401					*IK7WPD	13,846	97	86		
*RN3ZIN	32,770	135	113															*I1GBI	3,645	45	45	
*RA3MAV	31,644	138	108															*IZ8FSL	3,360	52	48	
*RN3FY	22,990	127	110															*IK4QXT	1,632	38	34	
*RD3DS	19,885	105	97															*IZ8CEY	377	13	13	
*UA3RN	12,844	87	76															*IW3SAR	84	7	7	
*RU3FF	10,400	71	65															*I3YYI	9	3	3	
*UA3DSS	9,648	77	67																			
*RA3RBL	8,673	51	49																			
*RN3LA	7,254	64	62																			
*RA3EA	7,050	48	47																			
*RX3MX	5,720	54	52																			
*RW3DF	5,246	44	43																			
*RL3FO	4,400	52	50																			
*UA3UBT	3,002	43	38																			
*RL3FA	2,323	26	23																			
*UA3QIX	1,350	28	27																			
*RA3RVZ	1,095	16	15																			
*RA3XD	1,040	22	20																			
*RU3PU	390	14	13																			
*RA3TUT	338	13	13																			
*UA3YAA	3,686	44	38																			
*UA3DCM	3,496	41	38																			
*RN3DY	604,572	786	498																			
*RA3XDX	342,693	566	377																			
*RU3SE	135,708	332	258																			
*UA3VVB	100,320	246	228																			
*RV3DHC	35,280	164	144																			
*RA3DGH	34,425	180	153																			
*R23ABC	27,144	139	117																			
*RU3XB	13,916	106	98																			
*RA3GP	10,990	77	70																			
*UA3DK	4,747	49	47																			
*RN3DEJ	3,700	53	50																			
*R23XA	3,024	40	36																			
*RV3RF	1,677	46	43																			
*UA3FX	147,849	255	221																			
*RN3DFN	72,399	34	33																			
*UA3LQD	2,449	33	31																			
*RW3VZ	16	2	2																			
*RW3MB	25,956	126	103																			
		(OP: RD4WA)																				
RO4W	3,403,460	1961	835																			
		(OP: RM4HZ)																				
RV4HC	2,060,053	1605	673																			
RY4I	1,016,712	1060	523																			
		(OP: RM4HZ)																				
RU4WD	564,993	710	439																			
UA4SKW	470,463	420	301																			

*UTBEO	14	115,656	321	237	Philippines					*PU8TEP		1,450	33	29	CT1ELF		53,152	177	151	K3WW		1,393,508	995	586
*UR2VA		97,600	269	200	A	2,135,989	1319	433	*PY2FDX		90	5	5	RW6FO		39,200	168	140	W3KL		1,300,000	865	520	
*US7IA		96,849	273	211	AH9RG	1,172,544	937	372	*PU2MTS	28	134,871	289	201	9M6YBG		31,941	135	91	W1BV		1,299,276	1004	561	
*UT3RS		56,248	197	158	4H1T	961,713	977	279	*ZV2C		127,264	284	194	LZ7H		30,326	141	118	N2BJ9		1,263,675	1199	581	
*US0MM		216	9	8	*DV1JM	A	489,072	547	276	*PU2LEP		61,200	186	144	9A2EY		25,308	135	111	WASZUP		1,231,892	1670	526
*UZ7M	7	1,301,869	797	529	*DU1EQ		63,546	200	119	*PU2UEO		20,680	108	88	ECSAPA		24,544	148	118	AA3B		1,219,410	772	510
			(OP: UT9MZ)		*DUBMOGHO		36,450	127	90	*PU7XAF		9,880	106	65	PY2BN		22,638	120	98	NM6G		1,215,506	1187	551
*UR7TZ		480,250	537	350	*DU1EG		25,986	128	71	*PU2KLM		6,102	64	54	G6CSY		21,000	101	100				(OP: W6CZ)	
*UT5KL		148,480	301	232	SOUTH AMERICA					M6KAH		3,638	45	34	M6KAH		20,402	113	101	N6QQ		1,084,492	1088	548
*UT3EK		73,476	179	157	Antarctica					M5AEF		2,400	43	40	M5AEF		19,610	124	106	WM4RM		890,945	807	485
*UZ5UA		46,080	144	128	Argentina					VA3RKM		1,140	34	30	VA3RKM		12,780	73	60				(OP: W4NF)	
*UJ2CW		4,242	44	42	LT1F	A	5,288,631	2264	779	SP8LXE		660	22	22	SP8LXE		11,627	91	77	KG4W		870,738	763	474
*UJ5JFP		1,350	25	25	LU3MAM		1,360,476	973	494	*PU3LYB		476	18	17	RV3YR		9,982	70	62	NC4KW		834,110	836	478
*UY4F	3.7	105,290	247	200	LU7MCJ		1,294,452	953	492	*PY2MR		126	9	9	VK4ATH		6,721	59	47				(OP: N1LN)	
			(OP: UR5FEL)		LT5Y		175,501	296	223	*PU2KXM		9	3	3	SP4DZT		6,500	54	52	W9JA		769,128	730	438
*UR3LJI		98,392	238	196	LU4FLJ		169,128	302	216	*ZV5E	21	1,284,215	911	585	RK3DCU		6,390	71	71	N6XT		746,200	1003	455
*UT1AB		25,086	125	111	LU9ETO		96,360	230	165	*PY2GH		397,328	479	304	VU2PTT		5,152	56	46	NQ7R		729,280	877	424
*US6IPD		19,019	101	91	LU1HF	28	736,524	768	369	*PY4DEL		221,859	347	249	W2JEK		4,860	57	45	AA8LL		686,280	583	430
					AYSF	21	5,689,820	2296	866	*PY2DU		28,906	114	97	M3PSK		4,508	50	46	K8XK		660,111	540	417
					Wales					*PP5JN		220	10	10	W1IG		3,880	45	40	WT8C		588,557	564	389
MW0ZZK	A	188,190	331	255	LU1FDU		4,737,575	2113	775	*PW2B	14	62,712	173	156	N2SQW		521,081	576	373	N2SQW		521,081	576	373
GW4BLE		56,260	170	116	LVSU		1,482,190	989	538	*PY2ZA		10,854	77	67	W2YC		412,456	427	344	W2YC		412,456	427	344
GW4OH	7	368,543	442	323	LW3EWZ	7	63,297	140	117	Chile					AK6M		409,136	605	364	AK6M		409,136	605	364
GW4BK		100,999	221	186	LU9MDH		30,260	92	85	*CA68MF		31,714	127	101	KJ6RA		401,508	590	342	KJ6RA		401,508	590	342
*GW4EVX	A	185,534	279	198	LU2DV1	3.7	1,044	18	18	*X04CW		13,860	118	77	NA1QP		386,570	497	310	NA1QP		386,570	497	310
*MW1MDH		83,904	256	192	*LT7H	A	2,196,156	1333	591	*X04EM		3,864	44	42				(OP: W1IG)						
*G3YVC		3,818	48	46	*LU2EE		1,032,700	864	449	*CE2WZ	28	26,578	128	97	EA1EA		3,536	38	34	EA1EA		3,536	38	34
*MW0CWJ	7	27,040	111	104	*LUBSAN		316,888	447	286	*CE4CT	21	700,422	752	321	LA1TPA		2,814	45	42	LA1TPA		2,814	45	42
			(OP: MM0CWJ)		*LUSCAB		240,648	391	271	*CA30EV	7	1,512	21	21	WASRML		2,408	51	43	WASRML		2,408	51	43
					*LU4KC		75,088	252	152	Colombia					PA8RZ		2,272	32	32	PA8RZ		2,272	32	32
					*LS2E		71,520	222	160	HK3Q	A	1,653	31	29	IZ3NVR		1,850	26	25	IZ3NVR		1,850	26	25
					*LR1A		45,000	168	125	*HK3JH	A	1,482,885	977	465	JM1KLO		1,824	36	24	JM1KLO		1,824	36	24
					*LU1BL		27,448	130	94	*HK6P		549,360	520	327	AF9J		1,645	37	35	AF9J		1,645	37	35
					*L73DX		12,580	100	74	HC2A	A	87,630	220	138	KB5DRJ		1,230	35	30	KB5DRJ		1,230	35	30
					*LU7DSU		2,790	31	31	HC2GF	21	820,620	753	308	AD4C		840	28	24	AD4C		840	28	24
					*LU7FWV		975	28	25	HC2AQ	3.7	491,283	364	247	K6MI		836	20	19	K6MI		836	20	19
					*LQSH	28	240,178	406	235	*HCSVF	A	47,190	148	121	DL1JB		700	21	20	DL1JB		700	21	20
					*LU2UE		218,550	372	235	*HC7AE	21	82,425	214	157	K9GY		364	13	13	K9GY		364	13	13
					*LU6FOV		70,213	221	143	*HC1JQ	14	502,887	568	311	MM8BQI		242	11	11	MM8BQI		242	11	11
					*LTBD		56,160	174	130	Falkland Islands					EA1GFY		44	4	4	EA1GFY		44	4	4
					*L07D		6,656	59	52	VP8KF	A	5,205,752	2147	818	EARTX	28	23,120	103	80	EARTX	28	23,120	103	80
								(OP: LW1DRH)		Paraguay					LU7VCH		17,739	101	81	LU7VCH		17,739	101	81
								(OP: LU6KA)		ZP5CGL	A	548,915	575	353	ISKAP		3,286	38	31	ISKAP		3,286	38	31
								(OP: LU3HS)		*ZP8R	A	3,677,901	1706	723	W6GMT/5		2,484	32	27	W6GMT/5		2,484	32	27
								(OP: LU2HOD)		*ZP6DEM		346,275	493	285	JAZMWV		319	15	11	JAZMWV		319	15	11
								(OP: LU7FNI)		*ZP8VAO		135,801	247	191	HP1DFV		176	8	8	HP1DFV		176	8	8
										Peru					OKZABU		1	1	1	OKZABU		1	1	1
										Suriname					JH7RTQ	21	37,296	161	111	JH7RTQ	21	37,296	161	111
										Trinidad & Tobago					SQ4HRN		12,544	75	64	SQ4HRN		12,544	75	64
										Uruguay					7N4WPY		11,844	86	63	7N4WPY		11,844	86	63
										Venezuela					YC8COX		10,920	70	65	YC8COX		10,920	70	65
															W6FGV		9,100	82	70	W6FGV		9,100	82	70
															BD6QR		8,085	69	55	BD6QR		8,085	69	55
															SMSMEK		1,260	24	21	SMSMEK		1,260	24	21
															YT2B		1,144	22	22	YT2B		1,144	22	22
															JK1TCV		260	10	10	JK1TCV		260	10	10
															XX9LB		165	12	11	XX9LB		165	12	11
															JATKPF		133	7	7	JATKPF		133	7	7
															RA3FO	14	264,067	576	347	RA3FO	14	264,067	576	347
															IBUZF		107,778	268	213	IBUZF		107,778	268	213
															LA98M		90,055	287	217	LA98M		90,055	287	217
															CT/LZ3ND		63,867	218	183	CT/LZ3ND		63,867	218	183
															TG9ANF		51,291	194	123	TG9ANF		51,291	194	123
															Y11CS		50,920	216	164	Y11CS		50,920	216	164
															SP4GFG		48,100	187	148	SP4GFG		48,100	187	148
															UA1CEC		42,660	184	158	UA1CEC		42,660	184	158
															I21ANK		29,304	150	132	I21ANK		29,304	150	132
															EG4M		23,712	125	114	EG4M		23,712	125	114
															UT5UPN		21,930	117	102	UT5UPN		21,930	117	102
															K3TW		21,660	101	95	K3TW				

KI7M	14	994,449	1177	527	ZS4U	A	3,863,145	1779	715	*9A3TU	*	17,840	97	80	DL7AOS	14	220,520	384	296	Poland							
WR2G	*	391,124	484	353	South Africa					*9ASTO	*	96	8	8	DL4CF	*	152,744	301	244	S06I	A	1,595,990	1184	605			
W9NGA/7	*	384,748	765	364	ASIA					Czech Republic					DM0Y	1.8	298,144	547	308	SP2LNW	*	541,600	645	400			
KC1ME	*	376,302	552	354	Asiatic Russia					DLST	*	2,436,177	1434	727	*DK5MB	A	669,864	865	456	SN3S	*	305,900	450	322			
KG9N	*	328,960	512	320	A 8,038,800					OK1TRA	*	33,630	131	114	*DK3W	*	527,505	622	417	(OP: SP6JIU)							
W2OSR	*	188,238	298	274	(OP: UA9AM)					OK2BPU	14	123,432	284	222	*DD5M	*	402,048	513	349	(OP: SQ3LVO)							
K6III	*	21,560	98	98	RU9CK					*OK1TC	A	276,544	423	298	*DK5TX	*	154,976	345	232	HF80BEM	*	91,744	252	188			
AC6DX	7	408,240	596	315	RO9D					*OK2KFK	*	145,848	320	236	*DL1EHR	*	132,868	293	236	(OP: SP9LAS)							
K2RET	*	139,690	312	199	RM9RZ					*OK4DZ	*	70,716	210	166	*DC6CX	*	120,612	265	228	S09ANS	*	15,498	94	82			
K19A	*	99,288	366	197	UABSE					*OK2BEN	*	24,388	105	91	*DK7ZH	*	82,080	245	180	SP9TTT	*	9,936	73	69			
NA3M	*	84,800	190	160	UA9CDC					*OK1UG	7	290,624	406	304	*DR5X	*	74,148	197	167	SP6T	*	7,144	47	47			
KZ5OM/6	*	6,288	48	48	RV9WP					Denmark					*D09ST	*	68,640	214	165	S04LSB	*	1,376	35	32			
W7WHY	*	247	13	13	RW9WA					A 279					10	9	*DK4WF	*	48,857	179	147	S09NKR	*	759	24	23	
KN6DV/2	3.7	336,740	568	298	RW9TA					England					*DK6AH	*	47,880	155	140	SP9WAN	*	162	9	9			
WK4Y	*	113,750	333	175	UASHR					A 107,996					262	203	*DL9HD	*	45,298	156	142	SP1RKT	21	31,088	131	116	
N4QV	*	27,740	113	95	UABNL					A 163,784					337	236	*DL3DH	*	33,306	136	122	SP4JTJ	7	36,652	127	119	
N8KQJ	*	18,540	145	90	RABAM					*M2W					65	52	*DL1DBR	*	29,750	146	119	S07D	*	1,026	19	19	
K6GT	*	5,032	47	37	RXBAW					Estonia					European Russia					SP20G	*	720	18	18			
N2DW/4	*	918	20	18	UA9CAX					A 2,377,620					1586	740	*DL6RAJ	*	29,440	131	115	S09HZM	3.7	478,905	605	377	
W2MF	1.8	76,212	222	146	UA9TT					7					112,404	251	204	*DF2AP	*	19,224	99	89	SP1GZF	1.8	340,458	535	317
WZ8P	*	14,615	137	79	UA9MA					7					112,404	251	204	*DL1SBF	*	13,616	83	74	*S01K	A	3,486	46	42
*NR1I	A	689,165	789	409	*RV9AZ					7					112,404	251	204	*DG0MR	*	10,519	74	67	*SP5BNB	*	1,176	24	24
*W4KTR	*	525,478	582	374	*RV9YK					14					2,377,620	1586	740	*DM3PKK	*	13,064	75	71	*SP4PBI	14	67,298	202	161
*N4IG	*	483,035	547	373	*RV9UG					7					112,404	251	204	*DL1SAP	*	6,710	64	61	*S07IL	*	900	21	20
*KE1V	*	318,008	489	313	*UA9SUX					7					112,404	251	204	*DL4EAX	*	3,948	47	42	*SN1I	7	74,424	214	168
*W4EE	*	284,100	399	300	*RX9WN					14					89,452	235	209	*DL9ECA	7	133,133	234	209	*SN9Q	3.7	280,120	478	298
*K2DSL	*	298,260	412	260	*RW9HAY					7					992,496	526	368	*DJ2MX	*	58,855	165	149	*S08JMC	*	1,075	27	25
*KANAU	*	203,404	311	241	*RV9CX					3.7					44,528	98	92	*DP4X	*	20,176	108	97	Portugal				
*WN6K	*	190,212	584	262	*RV9SJO					14					187,739	290	241	*D04DXA	3.7	194,775	402	265	CT4NH	14	2,188,880	1704	804
*K8AD	*	187,854	446	262	*RA9JR					21					4,512	55	47	*DF1HF	*	32,760	151	126	*CT2VH	A	188,598	373	258
*W1TO	*	153,652	254	214	*RW8AA					14					187,739	290	241	Romania									
*AB2IO	*	148,190	289	203	China					A 8,262,288					3222	1086	A 4,443,585					2310	885				
*N10XF	*	140,015	281	205	A 1,456					36	28	(OP: RA4HTX)					2386	891	(OP: Y09HP)								
*K10DEB	*	138,229	342	217	A 15,622					114	73	A 4,074,543					2386	891	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*NBWK	*	123,768	298	216	A 37,076					191	124	A 3,831,044					2181	854	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*A4AME	*	97,020	236	165	A 273,511					548	287	A 3,333,462					443	298	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K2ZC	*	92,904	236	168	A 10,360					96	70	A 214,272					307	248	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N4JOW	*	92,340	256	171	Georgia					A 4,074,543					2386	891	A 4,443,585					2310	885				
*K7VIT	*	90,654	253	174	A 35,856					142	108	A 90,932					240	179	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*ND6S	*	77,700	258	175	Hong Kong					A 570,638					876	345	A 4,443,585					2310	885				
*NFTT	*	74,866	227	166	A 570,638					876	345	A 221,654					403	307	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K8RC	*	74,360	209	169	A 570,638					876	345	A 162,400					366	280	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K8GEP	*	69,462	243	153	A 570,638					876	345	A 10,790					97	83	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N3ME	*	66,424	185	152	A 570,638					876	345	A 837					27	27	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K5WW	*	66,220	215	154	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,419,100					972	575	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N3BUJ/5	*	62,216	204	154	A 570,638					876	345	A 351					10	9	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N7FLT	*	43,218	140	126	A 570,638					876	345	A 101,556					232	182	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*AC0W	*	43,146	178	141	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,158,906					1027	574	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*WM6DX	*	42,672	161	127	A 570,638					876	345	A 165,432					338	244	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KJ4IC	*	42,441	187	129	A 570,638					876	345	A 146,082					319	251	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K2PO/7	*	41,888	198	119	A 570,638					876	345	A 16,500					85	75	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*WA1ZYX	*	38,142	133	117	A 570,638					876	345	A 12,351					78	69	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K5DD	*	34,128	143	108	A 570,638					876	345	A 11,704					89	76	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*WB1ED1	*	33,178	134	104	A 570,638					876	345	A 9,018					66	54	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K3PG	*	29,268	129	106	A 570,638					876	345	A 5,029					47	47	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KD7YFG	*	24,200	151	100	A 570,638					876	345	A 49,403					163	127	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N9LF	*	22,048	135	104	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,360					24	20	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N7SCL	*	20,736	126	98	A 570,638					876	345	A 485,780					616	454	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*NV7P	*	14,208	78	74	A 570,638					876	345	A 6,288					59	48	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KC2LST	*	14,118	89	78	A 570,638					876	345	A 351					10	9	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W4HIJ	*	9,920	90	64	A 570,638					876	345	A 101,556					232	182	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K2SX/4	*	6,441	67	57	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,158,906					1027	574	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W9PDS	*	5,830	68	55	A 570,638					876	345	A 165,432					338	244	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KC9GGV	*	5,510	63	58	A 570,638					876	345	A 146,082					319	251	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*WB2RIS	*	5,123	50	47	A 570,638					876	345	A 16,500					85	75	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W8ONV	*	4,050	58	50	A 570,638					876	345	A 12,351					78	69	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K14MFX	*	3,654	46	42	A 570,638					876	345	A 11,704					89	76	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*NJ5DX	*	3,034	40	37	A 570,638					876	345	A 9,018					66	54	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KB1OWT	*	2,775	38	37	A 570,638					876	345	A 5,029					47	47	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*NE1F	*	2,336	33	32	A 570,638					876	345	A 49,403					163	127	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W5JAO	*	2,244	36	33	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,360					24	20	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K04OL	*	638	23	22	A 570,638					876	345	A 485,780					616	454	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N2LQ	*	588	15	14	A 570,638					876	345	A 6,288					59	48	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*N8BK	*	27	3	3	A 570,638					876	345	A 351					10	9	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W4LC	14	221,872	322	283	A 570,638					876	345	A 101,556					232	182	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*KC9LNH	*	1,798	33	31	A 570,638					876	345	A 1,158,906					1027	574	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*W7SST	*	1,323	28	27	A 570,638					876	345	A 165,432					338	244	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*K6BIR	*	1,288	35	28	A 570,638					876	345	A 146,082					319	251	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*AC0E	*	525	21	21	A 570,638					876	345	A 16,500					85	75	A 4,443,585					2310	885		
*																											

*RW3OF	5,246	44	43	UE9CAP	1,055,345	773	415
*BG4KE	4,851	65	49	RZBSZZ	284,748	501	244
*UT0EZ	3,888	37	36	RK9WZZ	81,162	188	167
*DJ0WB	2,622	40	38	RK0DWT	21,588	102	84
*OH8FKU	2,592	38	36	RZ9UO	2,244	34	33
*EA3GUG	1,334	30	29				
*BG5DNA	888	25	24				
*BG4JWU	720	21	20				
*BG4MLL	651	21	21				
*ON4LWX	638	22	22				
*BD5HPC	442	17	13				
*BG4MCG	420	22	21				
*F4PWN	24	4	4				
*IT9AUG	26	5,895	53				
*PU1SAT	2,400	43	40				
*IW9KJ4DJL	765	18	17				
*PU3LYB	476	18	17				
*BA3AX	35	5	5				
*RA9UAD	4	2	2				
*DV1EE	21	77,165	259				
*EC6UD	2,460	31	30				
*VR2WHA	2,204	46	38				
*JF1VGZ	882	24	18				
*JR2AAN/2	800	24	20				
*BG4JZY	429	15	13				
*LR1H	14	216,630	338				
		(OP: LU2HDD)					
*EW1IP	99,750	272	210				
*BG3DCI	52,206	263	154				
*YT2ACA	20,292	147	114				
*IZ2JOP	16,456	109	88				
*VA3ARK	4,370	48	46				
*BG7NFM	3,408	69	48				
*IZ8FSL	3,360	52	48				
*VK3VTH	738	22	18				
*S05NXP	522	18	18				
*RK4HZM	483	23	23				
*BG4OH	30	6	6				
*425UN	7	443,681	387				
		(OP: UU2JM)					
*BV4VR	15,120	68	60				
*EA7ILJ	4,928	47	44				
*UU2CW	4,242	44	42				
*UUSJFP	1,350	25	25				
*BG7JYX	6	1	1				
*DG5SBK	3.7	12,720	88				
*DO1TGM	8,505	65	63				

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER NORTH AMERICA

United States			
K1LZ	16,007,975	3854	1273
NF4A	11,313,432	3737	1224
WR3Z	7,894,528	3086	1088
K3EST/4	7,533,517	2833	1031
NX5M	6,920,938	3700	1037
N7AT	3,882,840	2221	740
KD9ST	2,968,144	2190	752
NJ6N	1,939,164	1715	636
KT4PD	1,936,471	1726	647
K7ZS	1,369,914	1499	579
WX7P	1,312,716	1386	556
NO4U	1,143,250	1146	538
NBMA	1,071,918	975	527
W7VJ	991,413	1303	503
KE9I	842,352	786	483
K80K	557,190	872	410
NZ1U	529,968	541	366
AD4ES	341,316	615	342
NZ4DX	334,232	494	328
WX3SKY	292,616	389	316
WT4Q/2	271,560	426	292
NM1JY	216,821	551	253
WV2ZOW	216,225	371	225
KA1IOR	160,460	353	226
N8AJN/0	148,780	384	215
K4YHB	95,976	267	186
N4FR	88,638	215	187
W0MR	62,792	208	167
N3AFT	43,420	175	130
NV6C	13,202	105	82
Alaska			
KL7FH	3,690,389	1873	817
KL7AIR	233,704	369	262
Canada			
VE7GL	5,727,584	2233	816
VA2TG	1,282,228	837	524
VE9MY	427,086	379	323
VE8EV	121,000	244	200
VE7NA	96,819	232	177
VE7NSR	91,683	225	167
Costa Rica			
TI8RC	390,570	587	282
Cuba			
T48K	3,620,700	1878	675
Haiti			
4V4JR	3,145,900	2152	652
Mexico			
4B2S	3,185,571	2027	617
Puerto Rico			
KP3VA	268,649	333	233
AFRICA			
Canary Islands			
EF8R	32,273,965	5824	1429
ED8R	14,450,560	3527	1072
Cape Verde			
D4C	32,202,182	6156	1399
Madeira Islands			
CQ3T	19,639,494	4111	1228
CS9A	70,195	167	139
Mozambique			
C91TX	2,481,841	1315	611
ASIA			
Asiatic Russia			
RW8LT	1,725,854	1220	533
UA0SWA	1,538,988	1150	524
RK9CWW	1,319,697	803	443

B48	836,225	976	403
BY4SA	517,792	758	352
BY3MM	284,622	636	267
BY5CD	222,300	458	247
BY7KG	157,680	444	216
BY1CW	138,567	435	209
BY8AC	87,857	294	163
BY2UDL	64,532	264	146
Cyprus			
P33W	24,589,434	5331	1257
Japan			
J12ZJS	3,398,136	1673	678
J12ZEY	1,450,080	1048	477
JA3YKC	562,024	639	326
JH6JSR	75,888	228	153
Kazakhstan			
UP9L	3,183,170	1445	670
Lebanon			
OD5WPX	284,380	318	236
Qatar			
A73A	9,244,935	2810	945
A71CT	2,009,460	1215	535
Thailand			
HSBAC	934,176	1114	444
Turkey			
TC7KA	7,180,472	2486	792
TC3EC	1,107,036	779	414
EUROPE			
Austria			
OE9R	3,252,576	1808	816
Belarus			
EV8DP	153,340	314	220
Belgium			
OP4K	2,379,829	1422	743
Bosnia-Herzegovina			
E7DX	17,197,261	4704	1357
E73ESP	1,248,426	1158	549
Croatia			
9A8M	4,878,537	2313	921
9A3B	4,671,198	2279	917
Czech Republic			
OL4A	13,951,245	3836	1285
OL1C	3,418,025	1669	845
OL7T	2,045,250	1377	675
OK2KDJ	672,495	723	419
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