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Amateur Radio

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2010

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P175

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*****AUTO**5-DIGIT 23117



MINERAL VA 23117-3425

6196 3EPPERSON HWY

BUCKMASTER PUB

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CQ 5065 XXXX

On the Cover: Jim Stone, WB7CQS, and grandson Kenny Stone, KE7GXX, in Jackson, Wyoming. Details on page 72.

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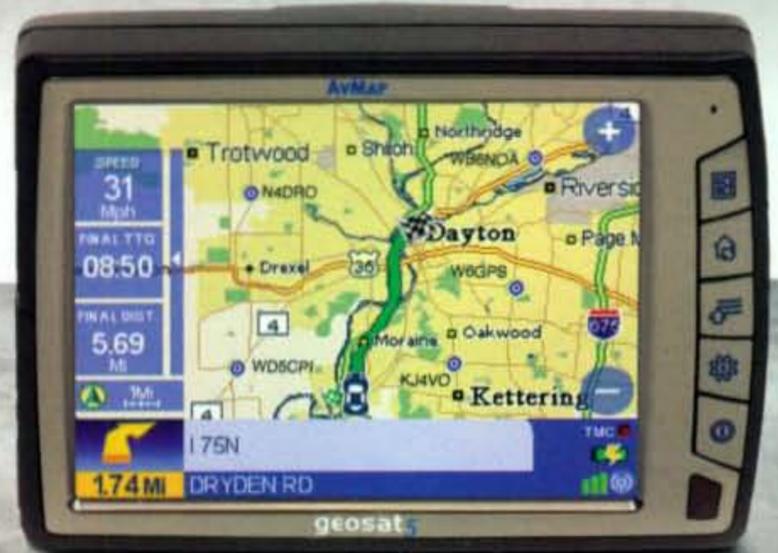
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AV-14AVQ, \$179.95. (10,15,20,40 Meters). 18 ft., 9 lbs. The Hy-Gain AV-14AVQ uses the same trap design as the famous Hy-Gain Thunderbird beams. Three separate air dielectric Hy-Q traps with oversize coils give superb stability and 1/4 wave resonance on all bands. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

AV-12AVQ, \$139.95. (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.

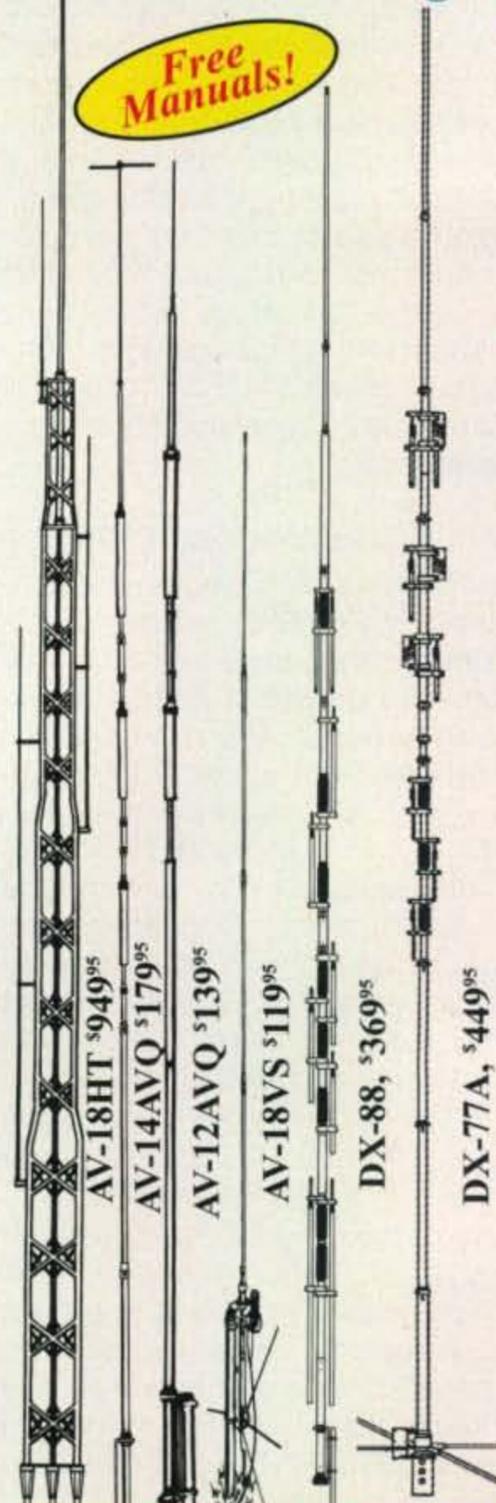
AV-18VS, \$119.95 (10,12,15,17,20,30,40,80 Meters). 18 ft., 4 lbs. High quality construction and low cost make the AV-18VS an exceptional value. Easily tuned to any band by adjusting feed point at the base loading coil. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

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

All bands are easily tuned with the DX-88's exclusive adjustable capacitors. 80 and 40 Meters can even be tuned from the ground without having to lower the antenna. Super heavy-duty construction. DX-88 OPTIONS: 160 Meter add-on kit, KIT-160-88, \$199.95. Ground Radial System, GRK-88, \$99.95. Roof Radial System, RRK-88, \$99.95.

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Model #	Price	Bands	Max Power	Height	Weight	Wind Surv.	Rec. Mast
AV-18HT	\$949.95	10,15,20,40,80	1500 W PEP	53 feet	114 pounds	75 MPH	----
AV-14AVQ	\$179.95	10,15,20,40	1500 W PEP	18 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-12AVQ	\$139.95	10,15,20 M	1500 W PEP	13 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-18VS	\$119.95	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

New! AV-6160 Operate all bands 160-6 Meters at full 1500 Watt with this self-supporting, 43 feet high performance vertical!

UPS SHIPPABLE

It assembles in less than an hour and its low profile blends in with the sky and trees -- you can barely see it...

Exceptional Performance

The entire length radiates to provide exceptional low angle radiation 160-20 Meters and very good performance on 17-6 Meters. You can shorten it by telescoping it down for more effective low angle radiation on higher bands.

Just talk with automatic tuner!

A wide-range automatic or manual antenna tuner at your rig easily matches this antenna for all bands 160-6 Meters. There's no physical tuning adjustments on the antenna -- you simply put it up!

An optimized balun design allows direct coax feed with negligible coax loss (typically less than 1/2 dB 60-6 Meters and less than 1 dB 160-80 Meters with good quality, low-loss coax).

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With just 2 square feet wind load, the AV-6160 has the lowest wind-loading and lowest visibility of any vertical antenna! The key is a six foot section of tapering diameter stainless steel whip that flexes in strong wind instead of stressing the bottom sections. Its 2-inch O.D. and .120 inch thick walled tubing bottom section makes it incredibly strong.

Just 20 lbs., uses super-strong 6063



aircraft aluminum tubing. Stainless steel hardware.

Assembles in an hour

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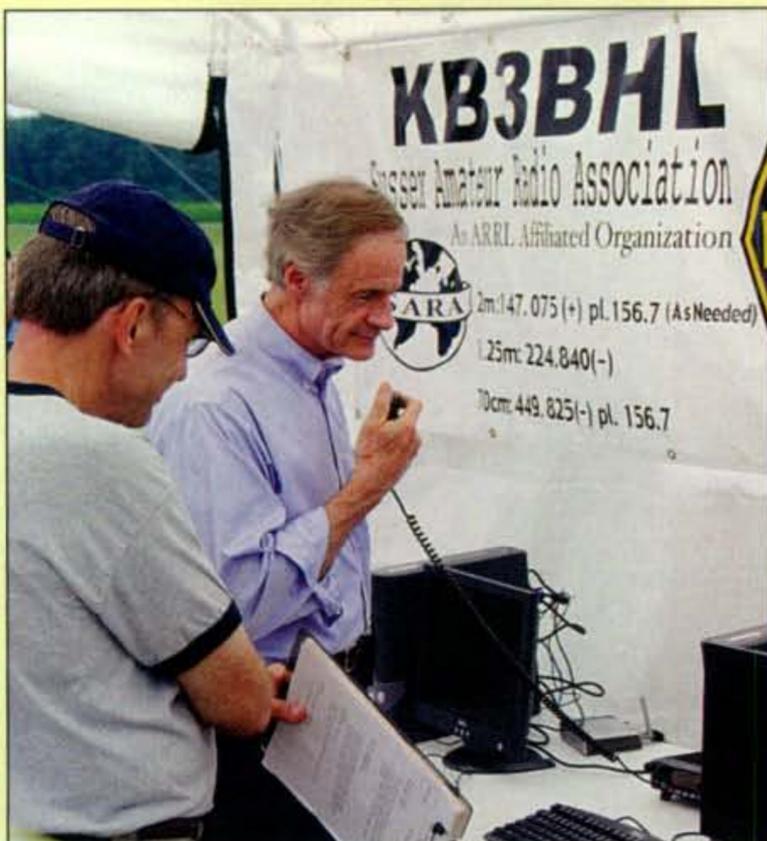
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U.S. Senator Visits Field Day Site



U.S. Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) spent more than half an hour visiting the Field Day site of Delaware's Sussex Amateur Radio Association, and even briefly got on the air. According to club spokesman Walt Palmer, W4ALT, Carper spent time talking with everyone in attendance and made a contact on 2 meters with Lewes, Delaware, Mayor Jim Ford, who was at another Field Day site. Palmer also says the senator's late father, Wallace Carper, was a ham. In a related story, the Delaware state legislature passed a bill in July exempting amateur radio and other permanently installed mobile 2-way radios from the state's new handheld cell-phone ban. (Photo by Herb Quick, KB3BT)

FCC Permits Ham-Employees to Operate in Drills

Moving with unaccustomed speed, the FCC adopted a Report and Order on July 14, allowing hams who are employed by both government agencies and non-government agencies such as hospitals, to participate in emergency and disaster drills on behalf of their employers. The ruling was based on a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WP-10-72, issued this past March, in response to petitions arising from a strict interpretation by the FCC's Enforcement Bureau of the prohibition on amateurs communicating on behalf of their employers. The decision came just more than a month after the reply comment deadline. The ruling added a new paragraph to Section 97.113(a)(3) of the FCC rules, which reads as follows:

(i) A station licensee or control station operator may participate on behalf of an employer in an emergency preparedness or disaster readiness test or drill, limited to the duration and scope of such test or drill, and operational testing immediately prior to such test or drill. Tests or drills that are not government-sponsored are limited to a total time of one hour per week; except that no more than twice in any calendar year, they may be conducted for a period not to exceed 72 hours.

The new rule becomes effective upon publication in the *Federal Register*. The complete text of the report and order may be accessed online at <http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2010/db0714/FCC-10-124A1.pdf>.

Appeals Court Overturns FCC Indecency Rules

The FCC's indecency standards have been left in limbo by a federal appeals court. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit ruled unanimously in July that the FCC could not legally fine broadcasters for "fleeting expletives" that may make their way onto the air during live broadcasts. The FCC had tightened its rules after singer Janet Jackson's infamous "wardrobe malfunction" during the 2004 Super Bowl halftime show, and had issued fines to other broadcasters when various entertainers said naughty words during awards programs. The court ruled that the Commission's rules went too far and violated the First Amendment, creating a "chilling effect." The judges made a point of saying that they were not questioning the FCC's authority to regulate broadcast standards, only that the current regulations did not pass Constitutional muster. The ruling is significant for hams as well as broadcasters because the FCC generally applies its indecency standards for broadcasters in amateur enforcement cases as well.

Obama Promotes National Broadband Plan

President Obama has committed the federal government to finding and freeing up 500 MHz of government and commercial spectrum over the next ten years to help accommodate the anticipated growth of mobile broadband services. The President's plan, which is based on the FCC's National Broadband Plan, would require congressional approval. UHF and microwave amateur allocations could be affected, as most ham bands above 225 MHz are shared with, and secondary to, government users. *Newsline* reports that fierce opposition to the plan is expected from TV station owners, who feel that giving up any additional spectrum (they already gave up a lot in the switch to digital TV last year) would compromise their ability to transmit multiple programs simultaneously and to provide expanded mobile services themselves.

Number of New Hams Continues to Grow

The ARRL reports that more than 18,000 new amateur radio licenses were issued in the first half of 2010, an increase of nearly 8.5% over the same period last year. The number of new licenses issued has climbed significantly each year since 2006, when just over 21,000 newcomers joined our ranks. Last year saw more than 30,000 new licenses issued. Nearly 125,000 new ham licenses have been issued since the beginning of 2006. The total number of licensees as of the end of June, according to the ARRL, was 694,346.

Russian Team Wins WRTC

The 2010 running of the World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC) has been won by Russian hams RW1AC and RA1AIP, operating R32F in the competition held in July in Moscow. According to the *ARRL Letter*, the two hams from the host country won the gold medal, with Estonian hams ES5TV and ES2RR, operating R3A, taking home the silver and Americans N6MJ and KL9A (R33M) taking bronze. Forty-eight teams competed in the event, which is held every four years.

France Rules D-STAR Illegal; New Zealand Investigating

The French government's telecommunications agency has ruled that hams in France and French territories may not use D-STAR, the digital voice and data

(Continued on page 10)

HC-1.5KAT

HF 1.5kW Auto Tuner

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

HF 600W Linear



HL-1.2KFX

HF 750W Linear



HL-1.5KFX

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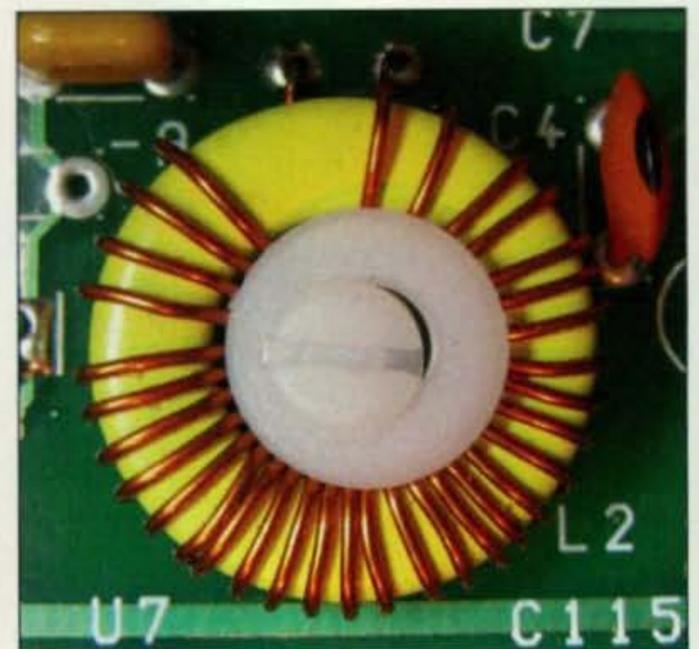
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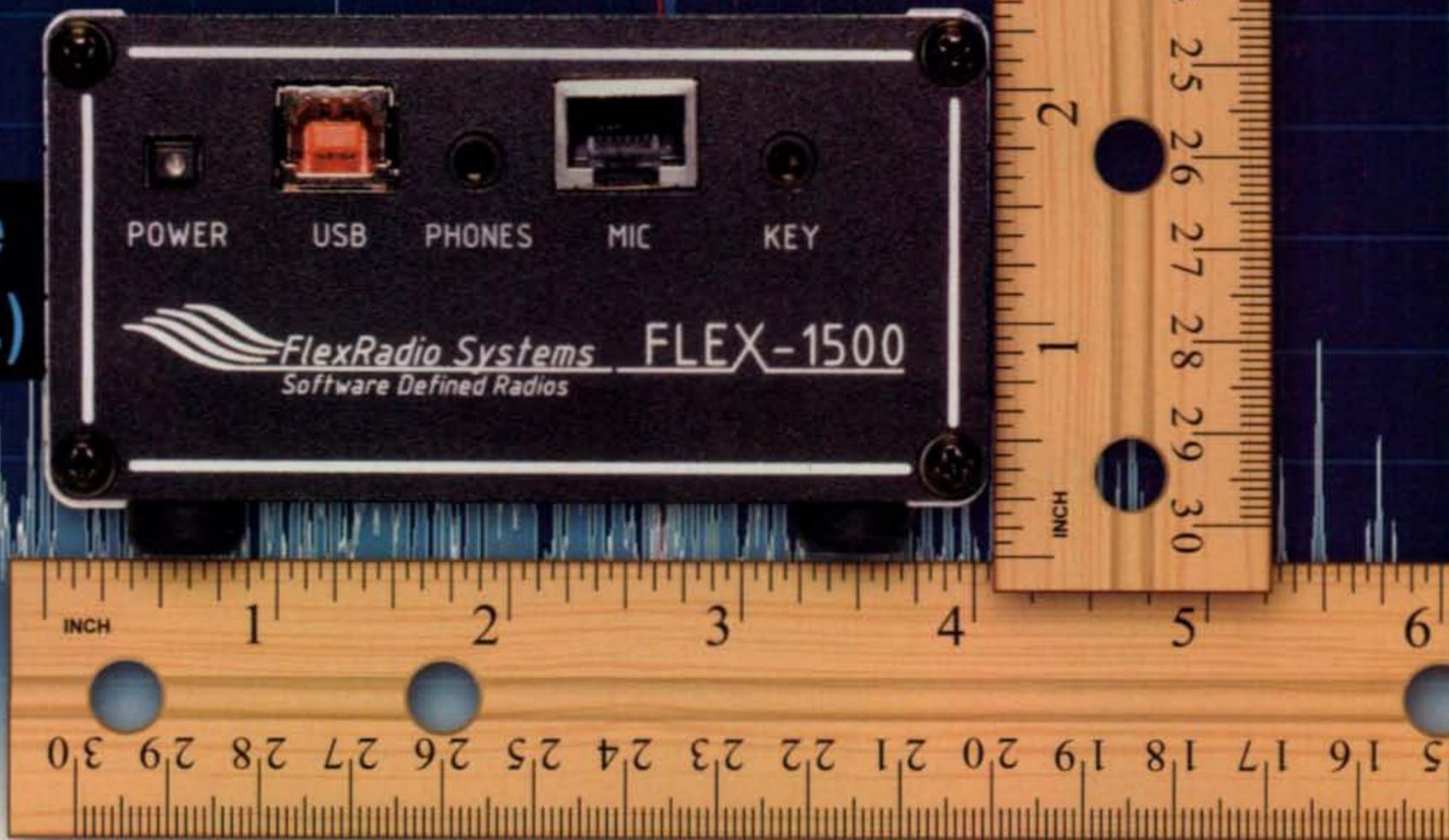
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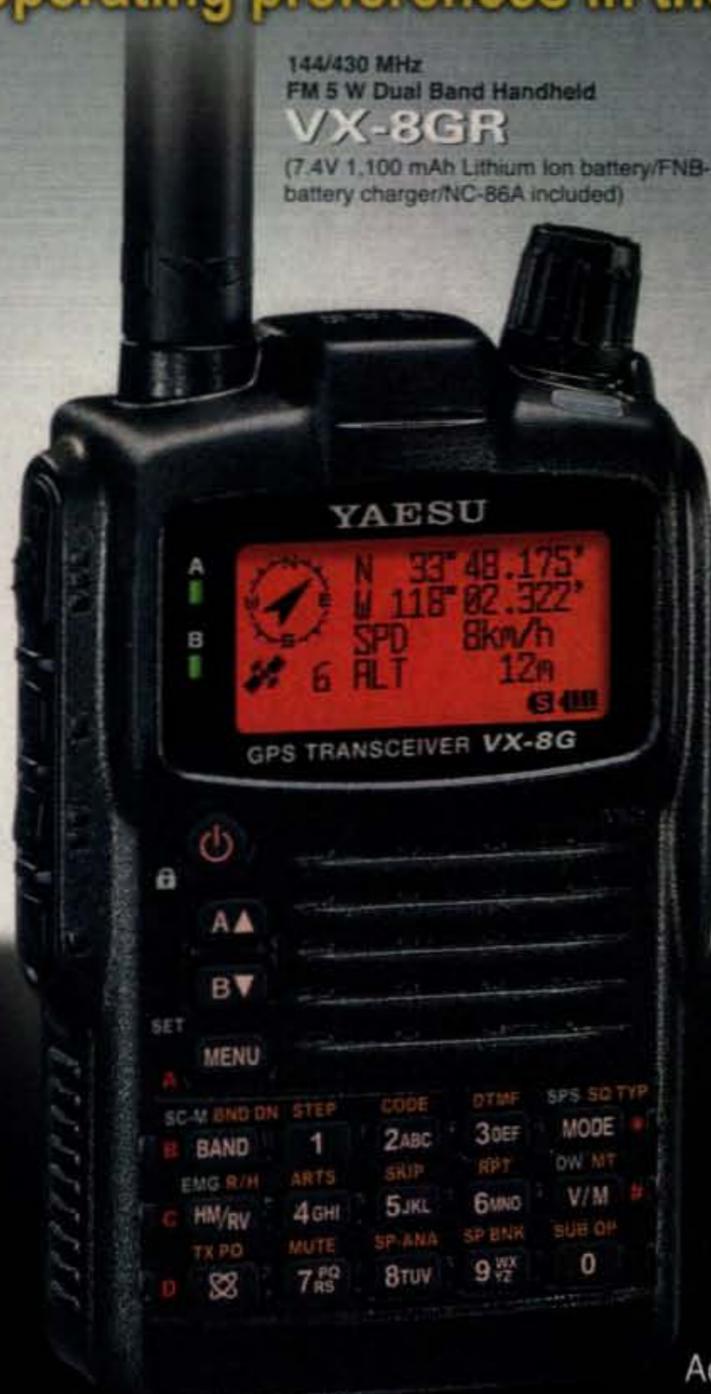
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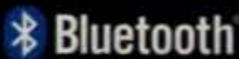
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Ham Radio Matters

Does the FCC care about amateur radio? A year ago, in our reader survey we asked where you believed amateur radio ranked among the FCC's priorities. Nearly three-quarters of the respondents felt that ham radio had a lower priority for the commissioners than other services, and one in five felt it had a very low priority. One recent FCC action, though, suggests that ham radio does *indeed* matter to the FCC, "particularly with respect to providing emergency communications" (to quote from the Basis and Purpose of the Amateur Radio Service in the FCC rules).

This was the Commission's very prompt—one might even be tempted to say quick—action on clearing up the question of whether licensed employees of emergency response agencies (both governmental and non-governmental) may use amateur radio during drills. The speed with which this action was taken reflects both on streamlined procedures at the FCC and on the importance that the Commission places on the ability of hams to be part of an organized response to an emergency or disaster, and to get through "when all else fails."

In case you've missed the discussions and debate over this issue, it all started about a year ago, when a ham who worked for a hospital wrote in an internet posting that he had set up an amateur station at his workplace and operated it during a disaster drill, representing the hospital. He was informed by the FCC that Section 97.113 of its rules prohibited him from operating that station on behalf of his employer, even during a drill. Large-scale confusion followed, as it became unclear exactly what was and was not allowed.

Hundreds (perhaps thousands) of hams work for emergency response or emergency management agencies and often are central players in seamlessly bringing together amateur radio and public safety communications during emergencies and disasters when time wasted waiting for a non-employee ham to arrive at a command center could cost lives. Hundreds more work for "critical infrastructure" agencies, such as hospitals, whose emergency plans may include having hams on staff who can link into amateur emergency networks when normal communications fail.

Until last year, the FCC has stayed silent on these arrangements, implicitly recognizing that they helped serve the public interest. Under closer examination, though, it became clear that they conflicted with the "letter of the law" in 97.113. The conclusion of the FCC's enforcement staff was that while such use was permitted during an actual emergency—when a ham may use "any means of radiocommunication at his/her disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available" (97.403), it was prohibited at all other times, including emergency drills.

Since training and practice are essential to effective communication during a real emergency, many organizations began reconsidering their relationships with amateur radio emcomm (emergency communications) groups. Suddenly, the vaunted ability of amateur radio to provide communications "when all else fails" came into question, not because of technology or operator skills but because of bureaucracy.

As the storm of controversy threatened to build to hurricane strength, the FCC moved to calm the waters by offering to issue waivers, on a case-by-case basis, for government-sponsored emergency drills. A steady stream of requests started coming in to Washington, doubtlessly straining the resources of FCC staff. To our knowledge, no legitimate waiver request was ever denied. At the same

time, the American Hospital Association requested a blanket waiver on behalf of its members, since one element for ongoing hospital accreditation is having drills twice a year which include provisions for emergency communications. In addition, several petitions for rule making were filed, suggesting different approaches to solving the problem.

In March, only about six months after this problem surfaced, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in which it proposed granting blanket authority for employee-hams to participate in emergency drills, but only those sponsored by government agencies. The comment deadline was set at April 24, with reply comments due by June 7. Barely a month after the June 7 comment cutoff, the FCC released its Report and Order, making it permissible for employees of both governmental and non-governmental agencies to use amateur radio in emergency drills. In explaining its decision, the FCC said that "(a)lthough public safety land mobile radio systems are the primary means of radio-based communications for emergency responders, experience has shown that amateur radio has played an important role in preparation for, during, and in the aftermath of natural and man-made emergencies and disasters."

The new paragraph of Section 97.113(a)(3)—which takes effect immediately upon publication in the *Federal Register*—reads as follows:

"(i) A station licensee or control station operator may participate on behalf of an employer in an emergency preparedness or disaster readiness test or drill, limited to the duration and scope of such test or drill, and operational testing immediately prior to such test or drill. Tests or drills that are not government-sponsored are limited to a total time of one hour per week; except that no more than twice in any calendar year, they may be conducted for a period not to exceed 72 hours."

It is clear, it is concise, and it sets limits to prevent abuses. Whether or not you agree with the decision, the important thing is that hams, emcomm groups and served agencies now have clear guidelines under which to operate. Perhaps equally important is the fact that the FCC clearly feels that amateur radio's role in emergency and disaster communications is just too significant to be left hanging in a cloud of uncertainty. We all can now get back to structuring plans and procedures that permit hams not only to provide emergency communications "when all else fails," but to conduct the necessary "self-training" that makes everything run much more smoothly when our help is needed. Our thanks to the Commissioners and the staff members behind the scenes, apparently in several bureaus, who made the wheels of government turn as quickly as possible in this case.

Young Ham of the Year

On page 63 in this issue, we have a brief profile of 2010's Newline Young Ham of the Year, Cody Anderson, K14FUV. In addition to congratulating Cody, we also want to congratulate *Newline's* Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and everyone else involved in the YHOTY program, on reaching its 25th anniversary. Cody, who is 17, was born eight years *after* the first YHOTY award was issued, in 1986. CQ is proud to have been a corporate co-sponsor of the program for many of those years, along with Yaesu (Vertex-Standard) and, more recently, Heil Sound.

The first awardee, Shawn Wakefield, WK5P, is now an electrical engineer who holds eight patents and runs his own software company. His wife and two of his children hold ham licenses as well! "Ham radio has been a fantastic hobby for me," he recently told WA6ITF ... more proof that whether we are talking about emergency communications or future leaders in technology, clearly ham radio matters.

— 73, W2VU

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

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T-2XD
\$1229⁹⁵
with DCU-1

CD-45II

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Brake Construction	Electric Wedge
Bearing Assembly	dual race/96 ball bearings
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Effective Moment (in tower)	2800 ft.-lbs.

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

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

HAM-V

HAM-V
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with DCU-1



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

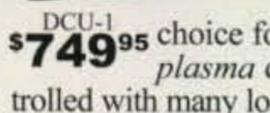
Provides automatic operation of brake and rotor, compatible with many logging/contest programs, 6 presets for beam headings, 1 degree accuracy, auto 8-second brake delay, 360 degree choice for center location, more!

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

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AR-40
\$349⁹⁵

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

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HDR-300A
\$1499⁹⁵

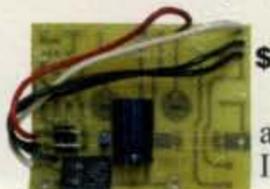
Wind load capacity (inside tower)	25 square feet
Wind Load (w/ mast adapter)	not applicable
Turning Power	5000 in.-lbs.
Brake Power	7500 in.-lbs.
Brake Construction	solenoid operated locking
Bearing Assembly	bronze sleeve w/rollers
Mounting Hardware	stainless steel bolts
Control Cable Conductors	7
Shipping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

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(from page 2)

The following Special Event stations will be on the air in September:

KA1KD, from commemoration of P.T. Barnum's 200th birthday, Bethel, Connecticut; BEARS/Bethel Office of Emergency Management; 1300-2100Z Sept. 25 on 7.265, 14.265, 21.365 MHz ±QRM. For certificate send SASE to J. Ritterbusch, KD1YV, 8B Kayview Ave., Bethel, CT 06891.

KC2RA, from Kings County Repeater Association's annual 9/11 Memorial Event, a short walk from Ground Zero, New York, NY; 1300-2300Z Sept. 10 on 14.295 USB, 14.070 PSK31, 7.250 LSB, D-Star REF020B, Echolink 64300. RF participants send card with SASE for commemorative QSL. KC2RA, P.O. Box 280288, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Details: <<http://www.kc2ra.org>>.

W2FHA, from Town of German Flatts Living History Weekend, Mohawk, NY; Ft. Herkimer ARA; 1600-2100Z Sept. 25 on 14.280 MHz (±20 kHz) and 7.280 MHz (±20 kHz). Send QSL and SASE for certificate to Christopher L. Bouck, KB4CMF, 28 West State St., Dolgeville, NY 13329 (www.fhara.net).

WA3COM, from West Alexander Fair, West Alexander, Pennsylvania; Washington Amateur Communications ARC; 1600-2300Z Sept. 9-12 on 14.227, 7.240-7.245, 3.810 MHz. QSL to Ed Oelschlager, 60 Carl Ave. B2, Eighty Four, PA 15330. <www.wacomarc.org>

K4MIA, commemorating National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Florida; 0000-2359Z Sept. 15-19 on 3.885, 7.185, 14.265, 21.300 MHz SSB, 14.070 PSK. For QSL, send QSL and SASE to Michael Bald, 6758 Hall Blvd, Loxahatchee, FL 33470. For information: <<http://www.qrz.com/db/K4MIA>>.

VC3M, celebrating Mississauga ARC's 25th anniversary, Mississauga, ON, Canada; 0000Z Sept. 18 to 0000Z Oct. 18 on all HF bands except no WARC bands. For certificate send QSL and \$2US with return envelope to Michael Brickell, VE3TKI, 2801 Bucklepost Crescent, Mississauga, ON, Canada L5N 1X6. Information: <ve3tki@sympatico.ca>. Operating schedule information: VC3M on QRZ.com and <<http://www.marc.on.ca>>.

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

Sept. 4-5, **Shelby Hamfest**, Dallas, North Carolina. Shelby ARC. Information: <www.shelbyhamfest.org>. (Exams)

Sept. 11, **58th Annual W9DXCC Convention**, Elk Grove Village, Illinois. Information: <www.W9DXCC.com>.

Sept. 11, **Virginia Beach Hamfest**, Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Sept. 12, **Western Connecticut Hamfest**, Edmond Town Hall, Newton, Connecticut. Contact Joe de Groot, AB1DO, phone 203-938-4880; <www.danbury.org/cara/hamfest.html>. (Talk-in 147.30+ PL100)

Sept. 18, **Rhode Island Amateur FM Repeater Service Fall Flea Market & Auction**, VFW Post 6342, Forestdale (N. Smithfield), Rhode Island. Contact Rick Fairweather, K1KYI, e-mail: <k1kyi@arrl.net>, phone: 401-864-9611 from 7-8 PM only. (Talk-in 146.76)

Sept. 18, **MicroHams Ham Radio Digital Conference**, Microsoft Campus, Redmond, Washington. For details and registration go to <<http://www.microhams.com/registration>>.

mode that is becoming popular with amateurs worldwide. According to *Newsline*, the agency ruled the mode illegal because it can be used to connect ham stations to the internet, which is not permitted in France, and because it feels the proprietary digital voice encoder (codec) is in violation of the country's open standards policy. French hams say the ruling denies them "the fundamental right to access to the Internet" guaranteed by the European Union and plan to petition the European Parliament to go to bat on their behalf with the government of France.

Meanwhile, New Zealand's regulatory agency is looking into whether D-STAR and other internet-linked radio systems, such as IRLP and Echolink, fit into that country's current ham regulations. Apparently, the concerns there relate to unattended transmitters and unlicensed digipeaters (particularly regarding APRS), and whether these modes permit foreign amateurs to operate a New Zealand-based ham station without the agency's specific permission.

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

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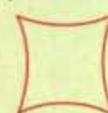
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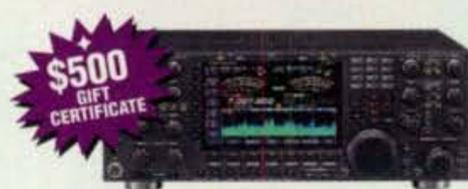
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Last year WB6JAR showed us how to remotely control a ham rig with a cell phone and a laptop computer. Now he has it all together for complete remote control and operation with a single smart phone.

Operate Your HF Radio at Home From Anywhere With Your Smart Phone!

BY BILL KEARNS,* WB6JAR

This article is a follow-up to my piece published in the October 2009 issue of CQ entitled "Your Next HF Mobile Rig May Be Your Cell Phone." In that article I described how to use an ordinary cell phone to call and to access your HF radio at home (*Please refer to that article for details of how to set up things at the home ham shack end of the circuit.—ed.*). At that time, I was using a laptop to control all the radio functions. I only briefly touched on the smart phone aspect of remote radio control, because at that time there actually was only one application that did this and it was written for the Windows® Mobile platform. I am happy to inform you that this is no longer the case. Read on . . .

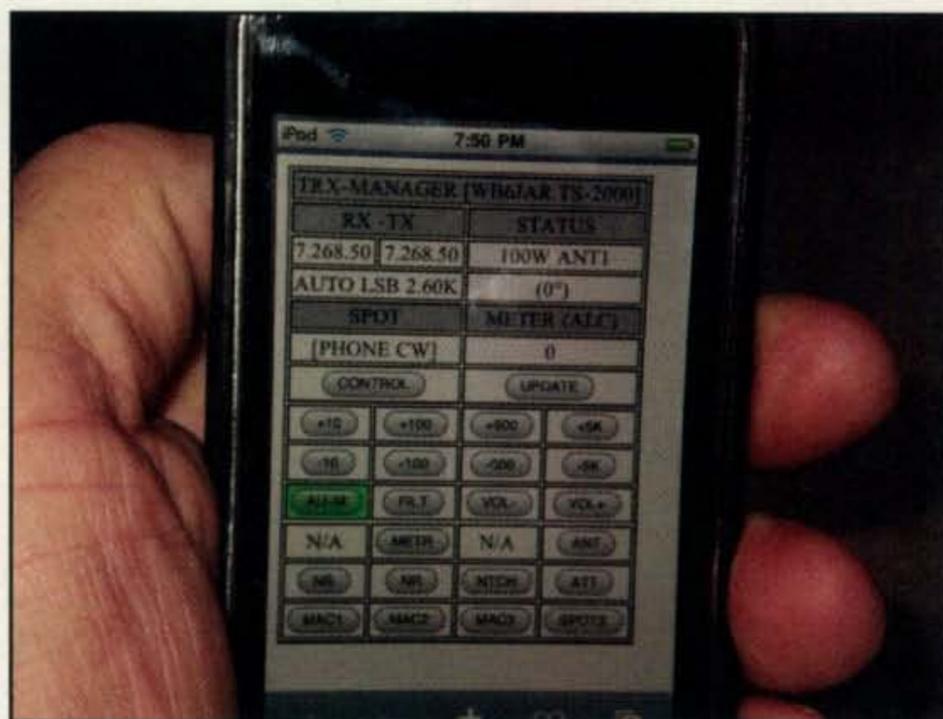
Try to imagine using your iPhone, iPod Touch, or almost any smart phone to access and operate your HF radio at your home, *while you are away from home*, just as if you were sitting right there in front of it! Wouldn't this be "the absolute ultimate?" Think of it! You can now carry your complete HF kilowatt home station around in your shirt pocket. Ham radio remote control and access such as this is now possible and it literally brings contesting, DXing, and general rag-chew hamming up to a whole new level.

A Little History

Controlling amateur radios with computers has been with us for quite a long time now. It all started with a few simple DOS-based, one-page logging programs and has now grown to several full-featured total station rig-control programs that literally do it all (not excluding the software-defined radios). When the internet came along, remotely operating and controlling your amateur radio station from your computer at the office or from a hotel room while away on business became a viable option for many hams.

The next obvious, logical step is to operate mobile. When I say "operate mobile," I am not referring to vehicle-mounted, 100-watt HF mobile radios feeding large screwdriver antennas. I am really talking about remote-controlled mobile. In other words, literally controlling and operating the amateur radio station at your home while you are away from home and from your mobile! *And now you can do it using only your smart phone!*

Here's an example: Previously while driving my vehicle I had been doing remote radio control and full radio operation



The author's iPod Touch smart phone with the TRX-Manager software installed and running . . . and remotely controlling his HF rig at home! (Photos courtesy of the author)

with a dash-mounted mini laptop with internet air-card while using my plain-vanilla cell phone for the bi-directional audio. However, I wanted more.

Carrying around the laptop with the air card seemed redundant when I already had full internet access on my Motorola i465 cell phone. Thus, I thought, "Why couldn't I just eliminate the laptop and do everything with my so-called 'smart phone'?" In essence, if this could be achieved, I would have the ultimate wireless mic!

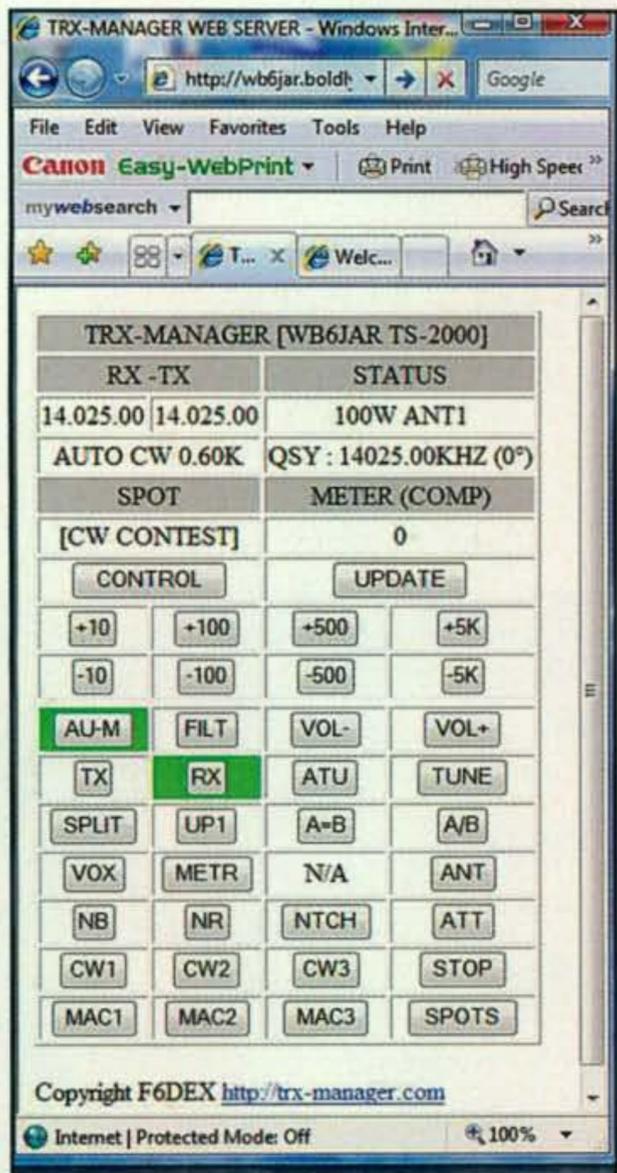
Searching for the Right "App"

Initially, I searched for existing applications, or "apps," that may already do this. I was ready to change phones and carriers if I had to. Any ham radio control apps for the iPhone or Android would have been ideal, but after a thorough investigation I found out they just didn't exist. Besides, I already had the Motorola i465 and I was happy with my unlimited-minutes/low-cost Boost Mobile account. In addition, I really needed the "Direct Connect" feature on my phone for my employer, so I really did not want to change phones and carriers. With smart phones becoming more and more popular, I figured someday, eventually, a programmer would write some

*e-mail: <wb6jar@yahoo.com>

sort of radio-control program for the smart phone.

The real question was which smart phone? Which operating system or platform would he write for it? Which carrier?



Close-up view of the TRX Manager web-server status screen.

er? There are now a plethora of smart phones on the market, in addition to mine, with at least five or six different operating systems and several carriers. Writing a program that would only work on some smart phones and not all smart phones would not be cool.

It was obvious to me that what was really needed was a program, or "app," that would work on *all* phones, *all* operating systems, and with *all* carriers. It just seemed to be an impossible task with no easy solution. I am not a code writer, but I had this great idea and really nowhere really to go with it.

Finding the Solution

I was about to throw in the towel and give up when I stumbled on the solution to this problem while using my EchoLink "link" station.

Johnathan Taylor, K1RFD (the author of EchoLink), has an EchoLink Web Control page built into the EchoLink program. This web control page can easily be accessed from any computer, anywhere. One of the key features of this web control page is "Send ID Now." The feature keys up the "link" radio and sends out your EchoLink ID string in CW or pre-recorded voice. Neat!

Therefore, I figured, if Jonathan's EchoLink software has a "Web Control Page" that can actually key up my radio on command, my question was, "...could a similar page be written for one of the total station control programs such as

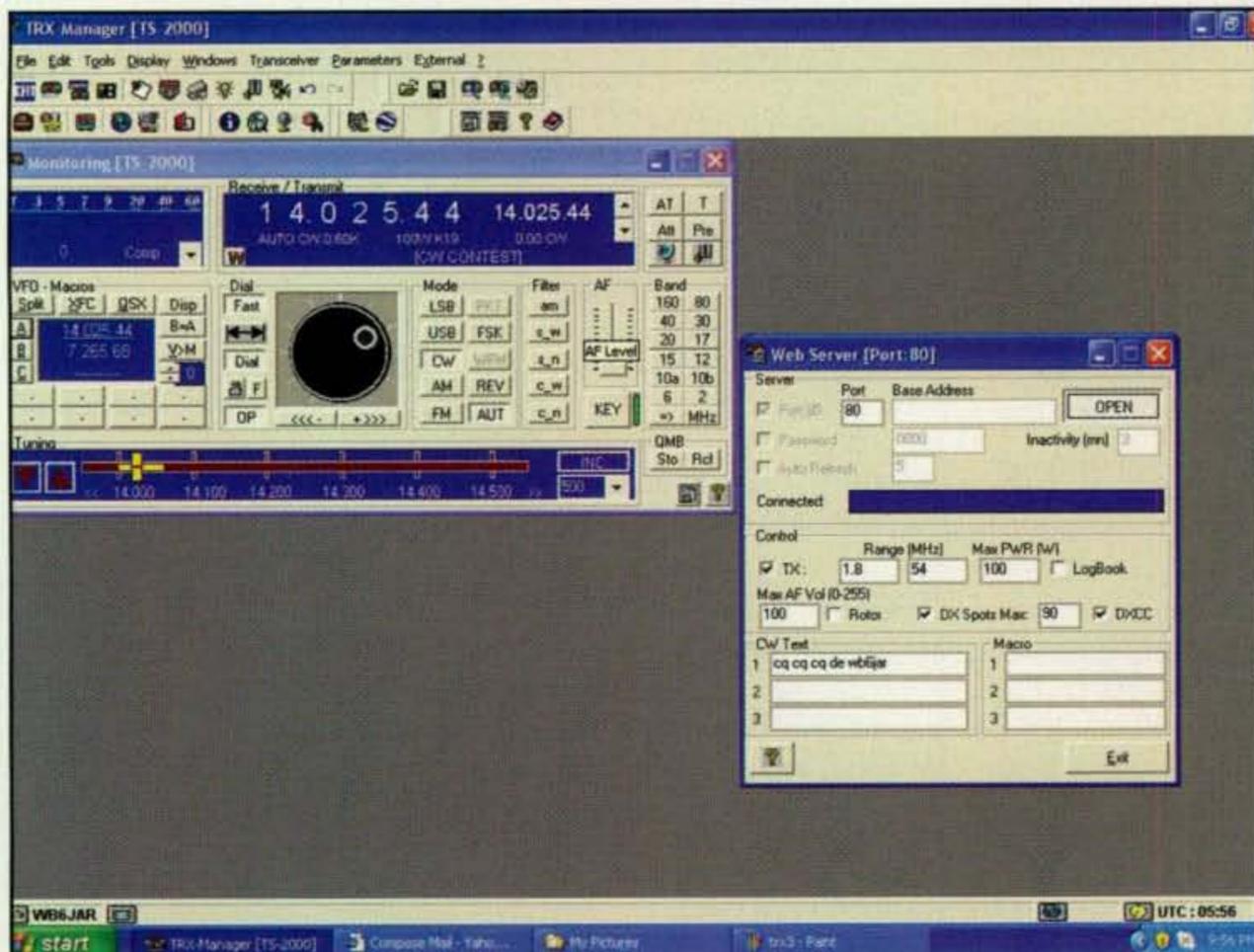
maybe TRX-Manager?" If this actually was the case, it means that one software "app" *could* do it all, and do it all with all phones, on all platforms or operating systems, and with all carriers. Apparently, all I had to do was to ask.

Laurent Labourie, F6DEX, the author of TRX-Manager, monitors and often posts on the TRX-Manager Yahoo group where he is easily accessible. Also, he is a very aggressive software author and is continuously striving to improve TRX-Manager. He listens to all suggestions from members of the Yahoo group for input and ideas on improving his software. It took Laurent just a few days from the time I first contacted him about modifying his software until he had released the final working version. I must admit that the result of Laurent's efforts was much more than I expected. The final web server he wrote into TRX-Manager works flawlessly.

With your smart phone linked to the new TRX-Manager Web Server, all frequencies and modes are easily changed. You can also easily compose and send CW macro, and among many other features, you also have access to the DX Cluster®. Any smart phone simply needs to have the ability to bring up a web browser to do all of this. In addition, you can easily program your favorite frequencies into your smart phone by editing and then saving the URL string as a bookmark. (See the TRX-Manager Yahoo group for more info.)

In conclusion, I should add that some newer cars have an "AUX" port on the AM/FM radio. This is the perfect connection for the iPhone, iPod, or other similar devices to make use of the built-in speakers in your car. Another side benefit to this unique mobile setup is that there is absolutely no RFI or other radio installation problems to be dealt with. To fully utilize these new features you must purchase the registered version of TRX-Manager. The TRX-Manager website can be found at: <<http://www.trx-manager.com/>>.

One final note: At present I am working on using the cell-phone DTMF tones for true push-to-talk as an alternative to totally relying on the radio's VOX feature to key and unkey the radio. To learn more about this, enter my callsign WB6JAR on <www.qrz.com> and then follow the instructions to get to my Facebook page for all the latest updates and improvements for cell-phone hamming.



Virtual control-panel window and setup screen for the link between the smart phone and the remotely-controlled ham rig.

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Results of the 2009 CQ WW DX CW Contest

BY BOB COX,* K3EST

Expanded Results on the Web

Editor's Note: Having more logs than ever before submitted for the CQ WW CW Contest is wonderful, but it does put a squeeze on space. In order to assure that the efforts of all entrants are recognized through the publication of complete line scores, certain other elements of our contest reporting have been moved to the CQ website. Please visit the CQWW DX Contest page (follow the links from <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>) for QRM, expanded top scores listings, and more. And thanks for being part of the world's largest participation sporting event!—W2VU

What happens when the sun just won't cooperate? Enter the CQ WW CW contest and help propagation improve. As PA6OI commented: "Great show again! I worked the world with a simple dipole and 40W. Sunspots or no sunspots, as long as the CQ WW is running we can have a lot of fun! Martin, VK7GN, had this to add: "Bands are dead and then the contest comes along and lots of signals! Do we make our own propagation?" Once you listen to the contest, you will be pulled into the fun. VA7HZ said: "Great contest. I started out just wanting to work a few stations but got caught up in the fun. Too bad it's over now; it was a lot of fun." The CQ WW contests are a sure way for new contesters to learn conditions and skills very rapidly. BG4EZX said: "It was my first ham contest and looks like some kind of rehearsal for more. I used my FT-817 with 4.5–5W output, a Buddipole set up at the edge of my balcony, and a retired straight key that used to be military equipment. The score is not exciting, but the experience really was! Finally, Nigel, G3TXF, sums up all our feelings: "Who would ever deliberately miss CQ WW CW, the best CW contest on the planet?"

As has been mentioned before, the CQ WW is a fantastic competition which brings out the best in amateur radio: teamwork, station construction, antenna design, propagation knowledge, and operating skills. Just turn on your radio and you can join in the fun. Once you listen to the bands during the CQ WW, you will be hooked. You can be guaranteed to have a good time. CW is alive and well in contesting. Presented in these results are the efforts of the entrants. Read on to see how you and your friends ended up. Everyone who operated the CQ WW CW in 2009 was a winner.

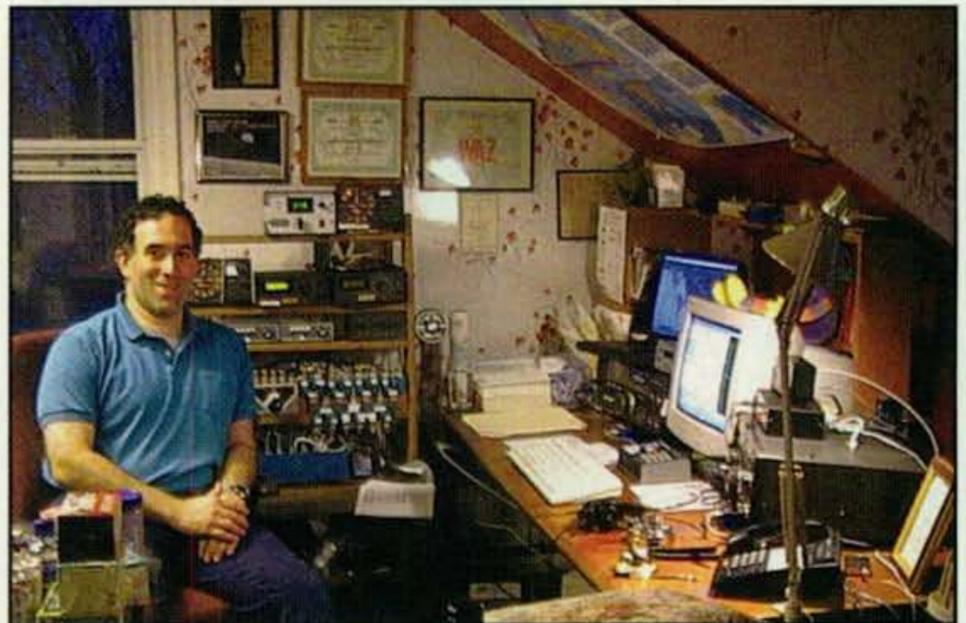
High Power

Every year there is a great deal of competition to be the number one score in the world in this prestigious category, and 2009 was no different. Valery, RD3AF keyed EF8M to first place. Not far behind was Andy, N2NT, operating from V47NT. Jose, CT1BOH, operating from CR3E, put his considerable skill to work to take third place. Taking first place in the U.S. was Randy, K5ZD. Doug, K1DG, took second place in both the SSB and CW contests. Third place went to Alex, LZ4AX, operating at K3CR. Top honors in Europe again went to Toni, OH2UA, operating from CR2X. Toni has had the top European score for several years running. Second place Europe went to the efforts of Tine, S50A operating from the sunny side of the Alps. From Aaland, Tomi, OH6EI, took OH0Z to third place Europe. Other worthy efforts from propagationally challenged areas that should be recognized are W6YI (N6MJ), K6NA, K7GK, KO7AA, VU2PAI, VU2PTT, JF1NHD, JH4UYB, JA7DLE, JT1DA, EY7AF, HS0AC, XV1X, and 9V1YC.

The continental winners were: North America V47NT (N2NT), Africa EF8M (RD3AF), Asia ZC4T (G3AB), Europe CR2X (OH2UA), Oceania KH6ZN (N6TJ), South America P49Y (AE6Y), Japan JH4UYB, U.S. K5ZD/1.

Low Power

The most popular category in the CQ WW is the low power category. It



Maury, W3EF, finished 4th low power USA.

is easy to understand why, as all contesters have a transceiver and an antenna. Winning any low power category is a real accomplishment. Ending up on top is very special. Finishing at the top was Joe, AA3B, operating at V26K. Joe is no stranger to winning. He has been number one in the world many times. Second place in the world went to Niko, S53A, who traveled down to 9J3A. Niko put double multipliers in many logs while watching crocodiles in the river next to his tent. Third place world went to HI3A. Julio makes HI a reliable multiplier in the contest. Here in the U.S. 2008's positions flipped. Ed, N1UR, took away the low power USA trophy while Art, K1BX, took second place. Third place in the U.S. again went to Marvin, N5AW, from Texas. Taking first place on both SSB and CW in Europe was Gedas, LY3BA, operating LY9A. This is quite an accomplishment, Gedas. Congratulations! Repeating his position from 2008, second place in Europe was Petr, OK2WTM, operating the club call OL6P. Third place Europe went to Ricardo, EA1RJ. N6RV, W7YAQ, N7VM, N0HR, K0DEQ, 9J3A, J28OO, V5/DJ4SO, 5N00CH, RV9CX, BD1TCC, BA8BA, VU2BGS, XU7ACY, EX2A, VK2PN, TX3A, and FO8RZ all had big scores from challenging locations.

The continental winners were: North America V26K (AA3B), Africa 9J3A (S53A), Asia RV9CX, Europe LY9A (LY3BA), Oceania TX3A (HA7RY), South America P40W (W2GD), Japan JH8SLS, U.S. N1UR.

QRP

The CQ WW offers a contester a very good opportunity to work rare DX which otherwise would prove elusive. The QRP category sharpens your searching skills and the rewards are very satisfactory. You learn to avoid packet pile-ups. You learn to choose the right moment to call someone.

TOP SCORES IN MOST ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3	WC1M.....3,975,309	UW1G.....1,971,132
W6YI.....3,731,904	Zone 14	EV2A.....1,832,055
K7GK.....2,397,520	CR2X.....7,656,880	Zone 20
K6NA.....2,377,035	DL3YM.....3,944,016	ZC4T.....7,051,440
K6XX.....1,831,500	TM6X.....3,663,242	C4W.....6,041,604
KO7AA.....1,610,631	GM7V.....2,762,620	LZ3FN.....3,111,212
Zone 4	PA3AAV.....2,643,680	YO2DFA.....1,699,720
VC30.....5,246,348	Zone 15	4X0G.....1,482,729
W9RE.....4,350,170	S50A.....4,874,784	Zone 25
N2IC/5.....4,157,160	OH0Z.....4,097,945	JH4UYB.....4,589,165
WX0B/5.....2,768,790	9A5K.....3,902,379	JF1NHD.....2,633,708
K8GL.....2,387,740	OH8X.....3,484,635	JA7DLE.....2,154,444
Zone 5	IU1A.....2,611,367	JF1PJK.....1,799,421
VY2TT.....7,021,422	Zone 16	*JH8SLS.....1,307,124
K5ZD/1.....6,845,832	RG3K.....2,554,040	
K1DG.....6,614,634	RM3F.....2,164,862	
K3CR.....6,103,845	UA4WKW.....2,040,084	

*Low Power

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

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FREQUENCY COVERAGE - 13.9Mhz - 54 Mhz

BOOM LENGTH - 11 ft (3.35m)

LONGEST ELEMENT - 19 ft (5.79m)

POWER RATING - 3KW continuous

BAND ACTIVE ELEMENTS

20m	2
17m	3
15m	3
12m	3
10m	3
6m	3

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Picture is an artistic rendition to show scale and portability of antenna.

You can work a lot of stations with 5 watts or less. Our world winner for 2009 was Didier, FY5FY, operating FY5KE. Second place world went to John, KK9A, operating as P40A. You had to travel to far western Siberia to find the

QTH of third place world. It went to Yuri, UA9SP. Long-time QRP'er Doug, KR2Q, took fourth place world and repeated as first place U.S. from northern New Jersey. Fifth place world and number one in Europe was Alec, US2IZ. Alec

improved on his second-place finish in 2008. Second in Europe and seventh in the world was Steve, G4EDG. Third in Europe and eighth in the world was Antonin, OK7CM. Second place in the U.S. was Bill, N8ET. Third place U.S. went

TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

SINGLE OPERATOR

ALL BAND World

EF8M (Opr.: Valery Komarov, RD3AF)
Donor: K4FW Memorial (Scott Robbins, W4PA)

World Low Power

V26K (Opr.: Joseph Trench, AA3B)
Donor: Slovenia Contest Club

World QRPp

FY5KE (Opr.: Didier Birtonneau, FY5FY)
Donor: Gene Walsh, N2AA

World Assisted

4O3A (Opr.: Sergey Rebrov, UT5UDX)
Donor: Robert McGwier, N4HY

USA

Randall Thompson, K5ZD/1
Donor: Frankford Radio Club

USA Low Power

Edward Sawyer, N1UR
Donor: North Coast Contesters

USA QRP

Douglas Zwiebel, KR2Q
Donor: Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ

USA Assisted

Charles Fulp, K3WW
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

USA - Zone 3

James Stevenson, W6YI
Donor: Central Arizona DX Association

USA - Zone 4

Michael Wetzel, W9RE
Donor: The Society of Midwest Contesters

Canada

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

Carib./C.A.

V47NT (Opr.: Andrew Blank, N2NT)
Donor: Chuck Shinn, W7MAP

Europe

CR2X (Opr.: Toni Linden, OH2UA)
Donor: W3AU Memorial (Pete Raymond, N4KW)

Europe - Low Power

LY9A (Opr.: Gediminas Lucinskas, LY3BA)
Donor: Scott Jones, N3RA & Tim Duffy, K3LR

Scandinavia

OH8Z (Opr.: Tomi Ylilinen, OH6EI)
Donor: W3FYS Memorial (Chas Weir, Jr., W6UM)

Russia

Vadim Ovsyannikov, UA9CLB
Donor: Roman Thomas, RZ3AA

Africa

CR3E (Opr.: Jose Carlos Cardoso Nunes, CT1BOH)*
Donor: CQ magazine

Asia

ZC4T (Opr.: Andy Chadwick, G3AB)
Donor: Chuck Shinn, W7MAP

Japan

Masaki Masa Okano, JH4UYB
Donor: Tack Kumagai, JE1CKA

Japan - Low Power

Nobuhiro Iwasa, JH8SLS
Donor: Western Washington DX Club

Oceania

KH6ZN (Opr.: James Neiger, N6TJ)
Donor: Chris Tran, ZL1CT

South America

P49Y (Opr.: Andrew Faber, AE6Y)
Donor: Venezuela DX Club

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

World - 28 MHz

Juan Manuel Morandi, LU1HF
Donor: Joel Chalmers, KG6DX

World - 21 MHz

PT5A (Opr.: Oliver Sweningsen, III, W6NV)
Donor: Lew Sayre, W7EW

World - 14 MHz

CW5W (Opr.: Jorge Diez Furest, CX6VM)
Donor: W2JT Memorial (North Jersey DX Assn.)

World - 7 MHz

CN3A (Opr.: Stefano Brioschi, IK2QEI)
Donor: Alex M. Kasevich, W1CDC

World - 3.5 MHz

Mauri Leppala, EA8CMX
Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

World - 1.8 MHz

Nodir Tursoon-Zadeh, EY8MM
Donor: Kenneth Byers, Jr., K4TEA

USA - 28 MHz

Emil Pocock, W3EP/1
Donor: Wireless Institute of the Northeast

USA - 21 MHz

Steve Jarrett, K4FJ
Donor: CQ magazine

USA - 14 MHz

Michael Zak, W1MU
Donor: Northern Illinois DX Association

USA - 7 MHz

Brian Edward, N2MF
Donor: W6AM Memorial (Jan Perkins, N6AW)

USA - 3.5 MHz

Patrick Sonnier, W5WMU/1
Donor: Bill Feidt, NG3K

USA - 1.8 MHz

Robret March, N7UA
Donor: Jeff Briggs, K1ZM

Canada (14 MHz)

VE6JY (Opr.: Gary Caldwell, VA7RR)
Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ

Carib./C.A. (21 MHz)

T15N (Opr.: Phil Krichbaum, N0KE)
Donor: CQ Magazine

Europe - 28 MHz

Jorma Saloranta, OH2KI
Donor: Jay Pryor, K4OGG

Europe - 21 MHz

YT5W (Opr.: Milan Strahinovic, YU8A)
Donor: Robert Naumann, W5OV

Europe - 14 MHz

CR6T (Opr.: Timo Klimoff, OH1NOA)
Donor: G3FXB Memorial (Maud Slater)

Europe - 7 MHz

CT1JLZ (Opr.: Jiri Pesta, OK1RF)
Donor: Ivo Pezer, 9A3A

Europe - 3.5 MHz

Matija Brodnik, S53MM
Donor: K3VW Memorial (Frankford Radio Club)

Europe - 1.8 MHz

Vojislav Kapun, YT3A
Donor: Pat Barkey, N9RV & Terry Zivney, N4TZ

Japan - 21 MHz

Akito Nagi, JA5DQH
Donor: CQ Magazine

Japan - 14 MHz*

Syuichi Sata, JA7FTR
Donor: Chris Terkla, N1XS

Asia - 21 MHz

Streve Hodgson, ZC4LI
Donor: Coconut Wireless Contest Club

Asia - 14 MHz

Akira Asai, JA8RWU
Donor: CQ Magazine

MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER

World

P33W (Oprs.: RV1AW, RU4HP, RN4WA, RW4WR, RA3AUU)

Donor: Anthony Susen, W3AOH

U.S.A.

KT3Y/4 (Oprs.: KT3Y, K3EST, N2AA)
Donor: Douglas Zwiebel, KR2Q

Canada

VE3EJ (Oprs.: VE3EJ, VE3JM, VE3OI, VE3TA)
Donor: Eastern Canadian DX Assn.

Carib./C.A.

YS4U (Oprs.: DF7OGO, K3WT, N0AT, N0STL, W0OR)

Donor: Kansas City DX Club

Africa

3V3S (Oprs.: 3V8SS, DF1LON, DJ7IK, DJ9CB, DL9USA)

Donor: Harry Booklan, RA3AUU

Asia

A73A (Oprs.: A71BX, K5GN)*
Donor: Steve Merchant, K6AW

Europe

OM8A (Oprs.: OM2VL, OM3BH, OM3GI, OM3RM, OM5KM, OM6AZ, OM7JG)

Donor: Bob Cox, K3EST

Japan

JA8QNJ (Oprs.: JA8QNJ, JH8USD)
Donor: Madison Jones, W5MJ

Oceania - Pacific Rim

AH2R (Oprs.: JI3ERV, JR7OMD, JK3GAD, JE8KKX)
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

South America

PJ4A (Oprs.: K4BAI, W4OC, PJ4LS)
Donor: Araucaria DX Group

MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO-TRANSMITTER

World

CR3L (Oprs.: DJ2YA, DJ6QT, DL1CW, DL2CC, DL5AXX, SV1RP)

Donor: Array Solutions

USA

WE3C (Oprs.: WE3C, W3FV, KQ3F, NN3Q, W8FJ, K3TUF)

Donor: Eric Scace, K3NA

Europe

OL4A (Oprs.: OK1RI, OM2TW, OK1FFU, OM5AW, OM6NM)

Donor: Aki Nagi, JA5DQH

MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

World

HC8GR (Oprs.: HC8GR, W2VJN, W6NL, N3RD, W6RGG, N6GQ, K2SX, K6BL, N5KO)

Donor: K2GL Memorial (Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q)

USA

KC1XX (Oprs.: KC1XX, JA1BBI, K1GQ, K1QX, K1TR, KA1R, KM3T, N1KWF, W1FV, W2RQ, WA1Z)
Donor: N6RJ Memorial (Bob Ferrero, W6RJ)

Europe

DR1A (Oprs.: DB6JG, DF6JC, DJ6ET, DJ7EG, DK1BT, DK6WL, DL1DVE, DL1MGB, DL2HBX, DL4WG, DL5CW, DL6FBL, DL6LAU, DL8DYL, DL8WPX, DL9DRA, PC5A)

Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

Japan

JA3YBK (Oprs.: JG3KIV, JG3MRT, JG3WDN, JP3PZD, JF4FUF, JF4ETK, JH4NMT, JR4ISF, JS1PWV)

Donor: Masahiro Kitagawa, JH3PRR

WORLD - MULTI-MULTI SSB/CW COMBINED

K3LR (Operators)

36,999,947

Donor: W0ID Alpha Award

USA - MULTI-MULTI SSB/CW COMBINED*

KC1XX (Operators)

34,243,296

Donor: N8SM Memorial (Operators of K3LR)

CONTEST EXPEDITIONS

World Single Operator

TX3A (Opr.: Tamas Pekarik, HA7RY)
Donor: Friends of Phil Goetz, N6ZZ

World Multi-Op

VK9XW (Oprs.: DL2RMC, DL2JRM)
Donor: Carl Cook, AI6V

SPECIAL - SINGLE OPERATOR AWARD

World SSB/CW Combined

CN2R (Opr.: James Sullivan, W7EJ)
Donor: Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD

CLUB

World SSB/CW

Frankford Radio Club
271,685,415

Donor: W1WY Memorial (CQ magazine)

Non-USA SSB/CW

Bavarian Contest Club
241,524,006

Donor: N6AUV Memorial
(Northern California Contest Club)

* Second Place

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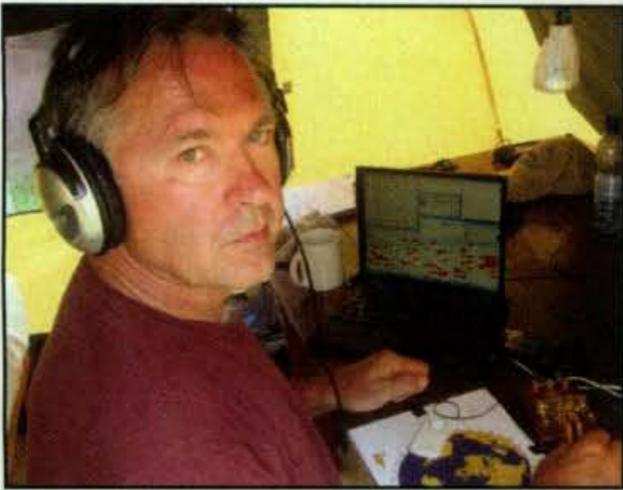
DIM SNO PEP DEL

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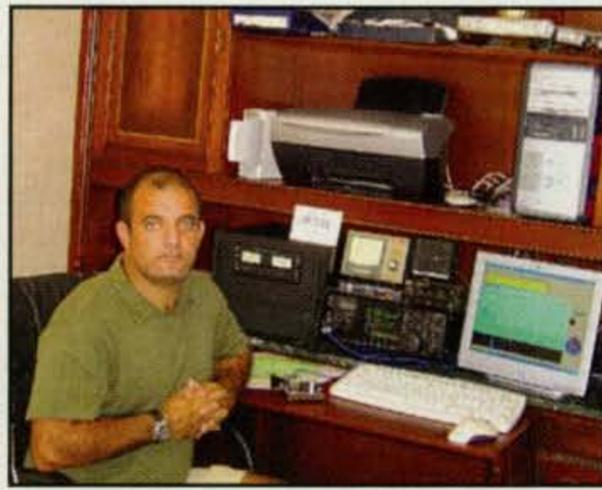
AMP ANT SEL



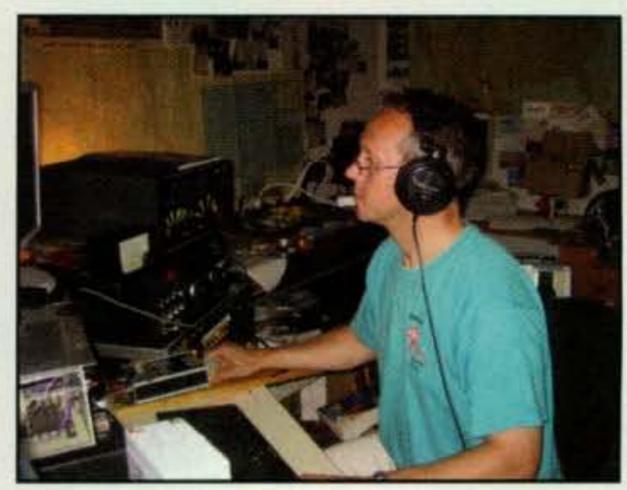
www.rfconcepts.com
or call: 303-473-9232



Niko, S53A, operated 9J3A.



Jorge, HK1KYR, worked low power 21 MHz.



Andy, DL3YM 4th Europe all band

to Tom, N1TM. Once again special mention must be made of the fine score of Izuno-san, JR4DAH, #13 in the world and #2 in Asia. RW9RN, UA9QA, JE1RZR, VK5MAV, W6JTI, W8QZA/Ø, N7IR, RV9AZ, W6AQ, RK9DO, W9IP, and JA1KEB are to be congratulated for their outstanding efforts.

The continental winners were: North America KR2Q, Africa EA8IK, Asia UA9SP, Europe US2IZ, Oceania VK5MAV, South America FY5KE (FY5FY), Japan JR4DAH, U.S. KR2Q.

Assisted

The use of any QSO spotting tool (Skimmer, any DX spotting help) places you in the assisted category. The world top assisted place went

to Sergey, UT5UDX, operating from 4O3A. Second place world and number one in North America was K6AM operating from ZF2AM. Third place world and number one South America was LU5DX, putting LP1H in a lot of logs. Second place in Europe went to Emir, TK5EP. Third place Europe was taken by Boyan, LZ2BE, operating at LZ8E. First place in the U.S. was taken by someone who knows the assisted category very well: Charles, K3WW, took top honors. Sig keyed N3RS to second place in the U.S. To round out the top spots in the U.S., Ray, W2RE, took third place from the Hudson Valley of New York. The strong efforts of C91LW, IG9X, YM3A, BA1RB, 4L8A, 4X2M, 4Z4LA, 3W1M, XV2MDY, 9K2HN, UP4L, E21EIC, KG6DX, ZL1BYZ,

PZ5X, and ZL1AZE, who gave nice multipliers to many contesters.

The continental winners were: North America ZF2AM, Africa C91LW (UY5LW), Asia RG9A (UA9AM), Europe 4O3A (UT5UDX), Oceania KG6DX, South America LP1H (LU5DX), Japan JS6RGY, U.S. K3WW.

Multi-Single

The multi-single category attracts a lot of interest—especially, the CQ WW MS, which allows the use of a skilled operator on a second band to work only multipliers. A really competitive MS is an excellent run operator plus a multiplier expert. Atop of the world standings was the effort of P33W manned by a fine Russian team.

TOP SCORES

WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band	
EF8M	11,142,327
V47NT	10,552,524
CR3E	10,363,860
8P5A	8,793,603
CN2R	8,678,109
28 MHz	
LU1HF	226,730
YM2W	31,651
VK4KW	26,195
21 MHz	
PT5A	1,723,680
ST2AR	1,397,200
3G3V	1,256,250
14 MHz	
CW5W	1,409,628
P49V	1,071,140
CR6T	1,022,281
7 MHz	
CN3A	2,156,652
4X0G	1,482,729
UP0L	1,400,672
3.5 MHz	
EA8CMX	1,052,250
VY2ZM	844,146
4Z5J	746,994
1.8 MHz	
EY8MM	341,202
YT3A	252,252
OH0V	190,365
LOW POWER All Band	
V26K	6,330,944
9J3A	5,436,816
HI3A	5,409,850
P40W	5,069,240
V31CW	4,103,896
28 MHz	
LU5WW	117,162
PU2MTS	40,572
HK3CQ	37,600
21 MHz	
CX9AU	584,441
YV1FM	478,500
LU3FD	406,575
14 MHz	
UK9AA	555,520

9G5XA	418,482
HK3TU	403,380
7 MHz	
EA7RM	402,230
PY1DX	385,696
LZ9R	312,420
3.5 MHz	
4L2M	179,799
WP3C	156,420
YL3FX	146,490
1.8 MHz	
HA8MT	102,432
YT1AD	77,900
HG8K	69,760
QRP All Band	
FY5KE	3,264,345
P40A	2,888,775
UA9SP	785,781
KR2Q	754,560
US2IZ	728,625
ASSISTED All Band	
4O3A	7,183,120
ZF2AM	6,987,057
LP1H	6,427,204
K3WW	5,495,166
RG	5,231,569
9A	5,231,569
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER	
P33W	17,506,412
PJ4A	12,903,562
A73A	10,329,216
VE3EJ	9,952,976
OM8A	9,634,380
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER	
CR3L	18,256,248
6Y1V	17,192,104
ZY7C	16,742,385
PJ2T	16,075,368
C4I	14,693,712
MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER	
HC8GR	34,307,742
EA8URL	18,358,912
KC1XX	17,757,558
K3LR	17,488,408
W3LPL	17,328,545

UNITED STATES SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band	
K5ZD/1	6,845,832
K1DG	6,614,634
K3CR	6,103,845
W9RE	4,350,170
N2IC/5	4,157,160
28 MHz	
W3EP/1	7,176
W2RR	3,584
W6SZN	988
21 MHz	
K4FJ	224,910
W9XT	137,391
W6YA	110,896
14 MHz	
W1MU	738,474
W6YX	591,056
K1IM	232,740
7 MHz	
N2MF	632,277
W7WA	529,851
N3RR	421,652
3.5 MHz	
W5WMM/1	140,920
K5NU	109,250
K6OY	72,865
1.8 MHz	
N7UA	122,100
K4PI	53,053
WF2W	38,637
LOW POWER All Band	
N1UR	2,605,372
K1BX	2,252,322
N5AW	1,930,320
W3EF	1,773,006
N8AA	1,762,512
28 MHz	
K4WI	8,316
21 MHz	
N1NK	80,976
WB4TDH	79,739
K8AJS	76,705
14 MHz	
W2AW	281,400
K4NO	260,626
N5ER	183,714

7 MHz	
W2EG	139,008
NA8V	134,232
N3UA/4	75,194
3.5 MHz	
K3TW	35,588
K9GS	23,828
NS3T	22,644
1.8 MHz	
N7DF/5	6,768
NA4W	4,494
W7RH	3,404
QRP All Band	
KR2Q	754,560
N8ET	432,537
N1TM	375,255
K4LY	360,525
K4LTA	332,488
ASSISTED All Band	
K3WW	5,495,166
N3RS	4,381,650
W2RE	4,103,047
K2K	3,901,280
N3AD	3,744,480
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER	
KT3Y/4	6,200,920
K9RS/3	6,153,996
K8AZ	5,891,928
W3BGN	5,669,144
W3UA/1	5,657,499
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER	
WE3C	13,859,374
NY4A	9,366,320
K1AR	8,809,122
NZ1U	7,141,026
K1RX	6,914,644
MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER	
KC1XX	17,757,558
K3LR	17,488,408
W3LPL	17,328,545
K1LZ	15,645,202
NQ4I	12,922,640

EUROPE SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band	
CR2X	7,656,880
S50A	4,874,784
OH0Z	4,097,945
DL3YM	3,944,016
9A5K	3,902,379
28 MHz	
ZB2X	25,323
YU2A	10,388
LZ1NG	6,320
21 MHz	
YT5W	303,364
YU1KX	270,544
G3PJT	194,832
14 MHz	
CR6T	1,022,281
E73W	699,354
YT8A	637,875
7 MHz	
CT1JLZ	1,253,020
LY80	1,014,475
OH2BH	901,392
3.5 MHz	
S53MM	554,268
E71A	522,732
YL3FT	378,432
1.8 MHz	
YT3A	252,252
OH0V	190,365
DJ0MDR	189,210
LOW POWER All Band	
LY9A	1,808,224
OL6P	1,648,962
EA1RJ	1,480,916
EA6UP	1,375,570
9H3HH	1,367,274
28 MHz	
9A3VM	6,993
YO2A0B	3,486
9A5ST	3,234
21 MHz	
YT2B	160,416
OK2HZ	57,116
OK2HBY	56,805
14 MHz	
MD6V	398,706

PA7F	331,704
HG4F	282,510
7 MHz	
EA7RM	402,230
LZ9R	312,420
SP60JE	284,438
3.5 MHz	
YL3FX	146,490
OK1CRM	135,892
YL5W	115,599
1.8 MHz	
HA8MT	102,432
YT1AD	77,900
HG8K	69,760
QRP All Band	
US2IZ	728,625
OK7CM	630,960
G4EDG	630,758
HG6V	526,932
UR5LAM	456,165
ASSISTED All Band	
4O3A	7,183,120
TK5EP	5,181,772
LZ8E	4,936,755
ES5TV	4,629,878
YU1LA	4,446,889
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER	
OM8A	9,634,380
OM7M	9,206,716
RU1A	9,158,520
TM6M	9,129,411
IR4M	8,855,544
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER	
OL4A	12,023,792
IR4X	11,281,193
9A7A	9,966,119
HG1S	7,685,265
HB9CA	7,428,730
MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER	
DR1A	15,740,928
LX7I	14,234,072
DF0HQ	13,910,292
EE2W	12,301,761
LZ9W	11,325,240



THE NEW 10-30LP12 LOG PERIODIC



The 10-30LP12 removes the concern many share regarding the complexity and cost of other multiband antennas. This Higher Performance log periodic covers every frequency..instantly, from 10 to 30 MHz ! Just one feedline is all you need to access this flawless feature. From moments after it was installed at the M2 test facility on the West Coast, U.S.A., stations in Europe were contacted using just 100W on 17M, 15M and yes, 12M. This antenna is definitely a band opener.

M2 has done everything possible to keep cost down and performance up. This standard version is built for 80 plus MPH winds and years of no maintenance, trouble free performance. For those who don't need 30M, we designed it without the rear element and boom section. It becomes the 13-30LP11 with the same specifications, less 30M on a 37 ft. boom. An optional kit will add the boom and rear element if you need the full coverage.

THE NEW 6M-1000 SOLID STATE AMP



The 6M-1000 represents the culmination of many years of solid state amplifiers designed by Ken Holladay, K6HCP (KLM, Mirage and RF Concepts). Physical size and weight are the smallest ever for this kW amp. When combined with a lightweight switching power supply at 7-10 lbs, the 6M-1000 is perfect for DXpeditions and field day operations. It will make a great addition to any home station as well. EME and Meteor scatter usage are capable with either CW or the very popular JT6M & JT65A. Full power output of 1 kW for 50 seconds using JT65A should be possible for hours. Two temperature controlled whisper fans cool the finned heat sink and will cycle on and off as needed. If external preamp and relays are used, the amp supplies 12VDC and also sequences a N.O. key line.

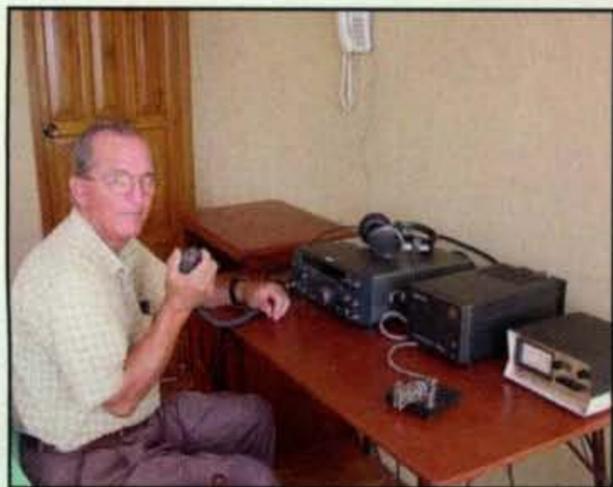
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WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS



Guido, HC8GR, hosted the winning multi-multi team.

2008's winner, PJ4A, took second place award. Taking third place world was the team of A73A. This was a remarkable accomplishment from Qatar. Very nice job! Multi-single is very competitive especially within Europe. Taking the top European honors was OM8A. Finishing second was RU1A. Third place went to another Slovakian team, OM7M. Making their first appearance at the top of the leader board in the U.S. was the team using all wire antennas, KT3Y/4. Phil's team took advantage of 40 and 20 meters to edge out the second-place finish of K9RS/3. Third place went to Tom's team, K8AZ. N7DD edged out W7VJ for top honors from west of the Mississippi river. Outstanding performances were turned in by many teams. A few of the calls appearing in many logs were: 3V3S, YS4U, B5A, VR2C, VU2RMS, JA0QNJ, UO1P, A73A, OY6A, 4U11TU, TF4X, T70A, AH2R, YE1C, AH0/AH2Y, A31A, and PJ4A.

The continental winners were: North America VE3EJ, Africa 3V3S, Asia P33W, Europe OM8A, Oceania AH2R, South America PJ4A, Japan JA0QNJ, U.S. KT3Y/4.

Multi-Two

The multi-two category needs two stations manned nearly all the time, and stations have to move skillfully as the propagation changes. Taking advantage of their location to find band

openings to the U.S. and Europe, the multi-national team of CR3L ran away with world top honors. Taking second place in the world was the Voodoo contesters at 9L5A. Third place went to 6Y1V. First place in Europe went to long-time top finisher OL4A. Second place in Europe went to IR4X. Their signal sure was booming into the states. Reprising their finish on SSB, third place in Europe went to 9A7A. Repeating their win on SSB, WE3C's station in eastern Pennsylvania took the top U.S. honors. Second place went to NY4A. Third place in the U.S. went to K1AR operating from K1EA's QTH. In Japan the teams of JA6ZPR and JA1ZGP really had a good competition. Several stations put rare multipliers on the air and made big scores. When great operators activate tough places, they make contacts easy: 9L5A gave a lot of people a double multiplier, while B7M, C4I, HL0MBC, VK6AA, ZM1A, and ZM4T all added to the fun.

The continental winners were: North America 6Y1V, Africa CR3L, Asia C4I, Europe OL4A, Oceania VK6AA, South America ZY7C, Japan JA6ZPR, U.S. WE3C.

Multi-Multi

Going into the multi-multi category is a real challenge. Months of planning the station site, gathering operators together, and waiting to see what nature deals you make for a combination of satisfaction and excitement. Operating from just below the equator on the side of an extinct volcano, the number one score in the world was HC8GR. The world second high score was the EA8URL team. Third place in the world and repeating as the number one U.S. score was team KC1XX. Not far behind, K3LR took second place in the U.S. Third place went to Frank, W3LPL's fine team from central Maryland. From farther west, NR5M, K5GO, K0RF, and W0AIH/9 did fantastic jobs. The European crown was taken away by DR1A. Second place went to LX7I. Third place in Europe went to DF0HQ. Finishing number one in Japan was the Nara team of JA3YBK, just edging out JA5FDJ. Putting together a multi-multi from an interesting QTH is tough. The fol-

lowing stations ended up in a lot of logs: B7P and VK9XW.

The continental winners were: North America KC1XX, Africa EA8URL, Asia JA3YBK, Europe DR1A, Oceania VK9XW, South America HC8GR, Japan JA3YBK, U.S. KC1XX.

Team Contesting

A lot of planning goes into the top teams to make potentially make the top scores. Teams can be formed with members from anywhere in the world. You can submit your team list to <teams@cqww.com>. For 2009 CW, top honors went to team Neiger's Tigers, followed by Code Sharks and Contest Group du Quebec - 1. Great job! The results of team contesting are as follows:

1. Neiger's Tigers: 4L0A (N6AA), P40W (W2GD), KH6ZN (N6TJ), V47NT (N2NT), CR3E (CT1BOH): 37,229,591

2. Code Sharks: K5ZD/1, ZS4TX, V26K (AA3B), PZ5X (K5UN), P49Y (AE6Y): 32,362,380

3. Contest Group du Quebec - 1: VA2WDQ, VE2XAA, VE2EZX, VA2EW, VE2IM: 12,039,749

4. Florida Contest Group #1: HI3A, K1TO, N2NL, N6AR: 11,931,593

5. Carolina DX Association: IS0/K7QB, N2TU, N4ZC, W3GQ, W3OA: 9,281,847

6. KTU RC: LY3B, LY4T, LY5R, LY6A, LY9A: 8,653,165

7. Maritime Contest Club #1: VE1OP, VE1RGB, VA1MM, VY2SS, VE1DT: 5,950,088

8. Brazilian Friends Contest Team: PY1DX, PY1NB, PP5BZ, PY2SEX: 5,370,318

9. DXE full calories: XE2WWW, XE2S, XE2GG, XE1EE, XE1MM: 4,714,770

10. Florida Contest Group #2: K2EK, K5RQ, N4UU, WK2G: 3,834,850

11. MONTTeam: EA2LU, EA2BVV, EA4ZK, AN4A (EA4CWN), EA2IF: 3,675,387

12. Florida Contest Group #3: KE1F, NA4CW, W4QM: 2,074,072

13. Florida Contest Group #5: KN4Y, N4BP, N4DXI: 2,016,106

14. PA Team: PA3GVI, PA4B, PA8F, PD2JAM, PE1MPA: 1,055,727

15. Florida Contest Group #6: K4PB, W4LT, WC4E: 979,937

16. Florida Contest Group #4: K8NZ, N4EK, N4WO, W4YA, WB4TDH: 818,071

BAND-BY-BAND BREAKDOWN—TOP ALL BAND SCORES

Number groups indicate: QSOs/Zones/Countries on each band

WORLD TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
EF8M	163/10/39	994/21/71	2464/31/98	1687/31/93	1935/24/83	36/9/19
V47NT	235/13/44	622/19/73	2267/31/107	2421/34/112	1676/27/103	81/11/15
CR3E	461/15/63	886/22/79	1822/30/86	1829/31/100	1399/30/92	7/4/7
8P5A	445/16/57	695/23/75	1720/30/101	2063/28/94	1533/28/89	144/11/15
CN2R	710/18/66	916/23/86	1474/29/85	1233/28/93	1084/29/77	33/8/19

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

P33W	421/20/79	1365/33/114	2619/38/139	2223/39/133	1458/34/125	34/7/30
PJ4A	193/13/44	609/20/86	2047/35/133	1614/38/125	1591/33/123	353/18/38
A73A	76/13/47	507/25/90	2189/39/141	1303/36/133	1281/35/126	53/14/28

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

CR3L	495/14/61	1399/25/107	3929/35/124	2849/40/137	2247/34/112	27/11/20
9L5A	74/11/45	971/25/85	2051/33/100	3154/39/131	2780/34/126	229/15/37
6Y1V	508/19/70	1198/25/89	3013/39/128	3059/37/134	2057/33/116	243/13/21

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

HC8GR	1160/26/87	1661/29/110	3296/36/133	3480/37/142	3130/39/137	1285/23/55
EA8URL	307/12/56	1133/24/103	2803/34/131	2429/37/133	1794/35/118	140/19/46
KC1XX	356/22/79	1343/32/121	2256/39/153	2324/39/153	1094/34/136	231/19/52

USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5ZD/1	94/15/45	479/21/88	1215/31/114	1444/33/117	696/23/99	29/9/17
K1DG	159/18/67	709/21/84	982/33/113	1504/32/112	483/23/101	14/7/8
K3CR	94/19/50	456/24/83	885/32/118	1406/35/113	631/26/101	33/10/16
W9RE	78/15/40	281/22/69	1107/35/105	1015/33/105	491/25/86	28/8/14
N2IC/5	49/18/26	221/26/66	901/35/106	1119/37/123	285/29/84	59/13/25

USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

KT3Y/4	49/16/43	213/25/96	1453/36/135	1506/36/132	126/26/108	17/10/17
K9RS/3	74/17/54	244/24/93	1014/35/135	1489/35/130	383/29/109	26/14/24
K8AZ	86/18/57	389/27/101	915/35/131	1524/37/133	157/29/102	31/14/30

USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

WE3C	138/20/72	679/31/111	2153/39/151	2016/37/149	1105/31/124	57/16/37
NY4A	54/16/43	676/24/101	1875/37/132	1299/36/135	974/31/125	49/11/19
K1AR	89/16/52	433/26/96	1533/35/130	1652/39/140	678/30/119	38/15/24

USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

KC1XX	356/22/79	1343/32/121	2256/39/153	2324/39/153	1094/34/136	231/19/52
K3LR	367/22/83	1224/34/124	2158/39/156	2446/39/160	1246/32/133	192/18/49
W3LPL	390/22/83	1322/32/120	1961/38/145	2501/39/156	1322/36/141	121/18/41



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17. DXE low calories 1: XE1R, XE1CT, XE1AY, LU8ADX, XE3RR: 575,932
18. Florida Contest Group #7: N4LZ, W4CU, W4ZW: 337,807
19. Maritime Contest Club #2: VE1JF, VE1ZA, VY2LI, VE1AL: 340,802
20. Contest Group du Quebec - 2: VE2DWA, VE2FK, VE2QV (VE2FFE): 236,281
21. DXE low calories 2: XE2AU, XE2AI, XE2AUD: 104,334
22. EA5URV (Radio Club de Valencia): EA5ABH, EA5AIO, EA5HFW, EA5HKS, EA5LA: 61,997

Clubs

Many contesters belong to a club. The collective experience within a club has helped many contesters install equipment and learn how to increase their operating skills. You can help your club's final score by getting on the air and joining in the fun. This year the world top score went to the dedicated operators from the Frankford Radio Club (148 entries). They were followed closely by the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (228). Third place world and first place in Europe was the Bavarian Contest Club (263). Second place in Europe went to the Rhein-Ruhr DX Association (201).

Records

The records are maintained on the <cqww.com> website. Take a look at the record list. You may find one you can try to beat. Each country, continent, and zone has its own set of records. We ask you help in detecting errors within the records. If you discover an error, please document it and let us know at <questions@cqww.com>. The following stations used their skill to obtain new CW records. Congratulations! **World:** 7 CN3A (IK2QEI); A7 YM3A (LZ1NK). **U.S.** No Records. **North America:** No Records. **Africa:** 7 CN3A (IK2QEI); A21 IG9X (IK1QBT). **Asia:** A14 4L8A; A7 YM3A (LZ1NK); A3.5 9K2HN; A1.8 RA9FW. **Japan:** Q7 JA6GCE; A14 JH3AIU; A7 JS3CTQ. **Europe:** 7 CT1JLZ. **Oceania:** A21 ZL1BYZ; M2 VK6AA. **South America:** L3.5 HK1AA; A3.5 PV8DX.

Special Mention

If you want to work rare and interesting places over a weekend, the CQ WW is famous for many DXpeditions. This year why not plan a trip to an exotic QTH? You will be surprised how much fun you will have when you become the chased. Some of the DXpeditions that made the CQ WW CW more interesting for all of us were: V26K, 8P5A, 8P9SS, V31CW, VP2V/DL7VOG, TE1W, J79WE, J37T, J39BS, TO4D, HQ9R, TO5T, YN2GY, V47NT, VQ5V, VP5CM, IG9W, A25NW, EF8M, EA8/OH6L, EA9/OL8R, J28OO, SU9HP, 9G5XA, 5Z4/DL8NBE, 5R8ZO, CR3E, CN2R, CN3A, V5/DJ4SO, 6W1RW, 5H3EE, ST2AR, 9J3A, 5B/HA5PP, 4L0A, VR2EH, 4X0G, 4X/SM8A, BW3/DJ3KR, HS0AC, YM2W, ZC4T, 9M2CNC, OH0Z, OH0X, OH0V, OE9R, CR2X,

EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR2X	395/16/59	677/24/87	1589/31/101	1733/34/109	1791/32/102	33/10/11
S50A	155/15/57	812/28/85	1468/38/123	1239/31/101	318/34/83	15/9/14
OH0Z	518/11/49	1535/28/99	1453/34/101	968/31/87	218/28/74	32/6/17
DL3YM	336/13/53	566/20/68	1179/33/111	1192/33/98	326/29/77	14/3/11
9A5K	97/4/36	892/18/74	1181/33/100	1210/34/106	422/32/89	34/7/26

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

OM8A	486/24/90	1147/34/127	2083/39/137	1588/39/141	420/37/134	86/13/55
OM7M	412/26/93	1117/34/116	1944/40/154	1302/39/137	645/35/136	87/11/53
RU1A	303/25/84	1721/36/137	1620/40/155	1808/39/141	183/32/120	41/5/26

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

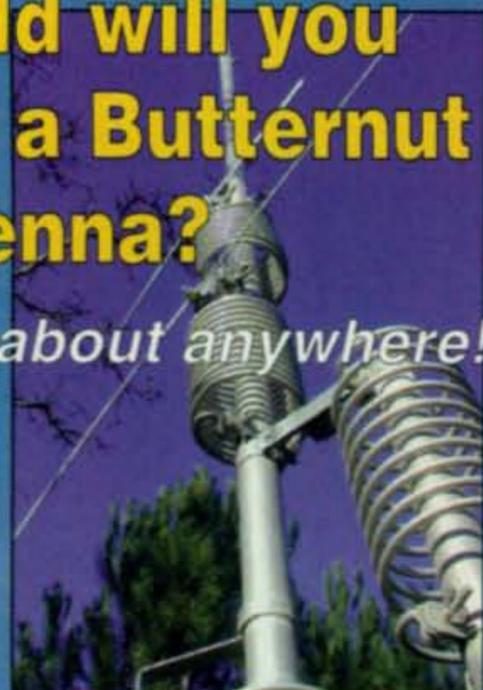
OL4A	920/26/91	1480/34/117	2570/38/136	1711/38/138	813/35/135	55/11/49
IR4X	565/22/79	1713/33/125	2189/40/151	1483/37/130	1053/36/128	78/14/52
9A7A	450/18/69	1474/31/107	2099/40/148	1624/38/139	750/37/138	73/11/45

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

DR1A	1357/23/83	2235/33/128	2892/40/159	2057/40/156	1044/37/135	166/12/50
LX7I	1521/22/81	2259/30/102	3144/37/132	2337/39/133	951/35/119	221/13/53
DF0HQ	1217/22/78	2380/35/128	3021/40/162	1766/39/151	710/35/128	255/14/59

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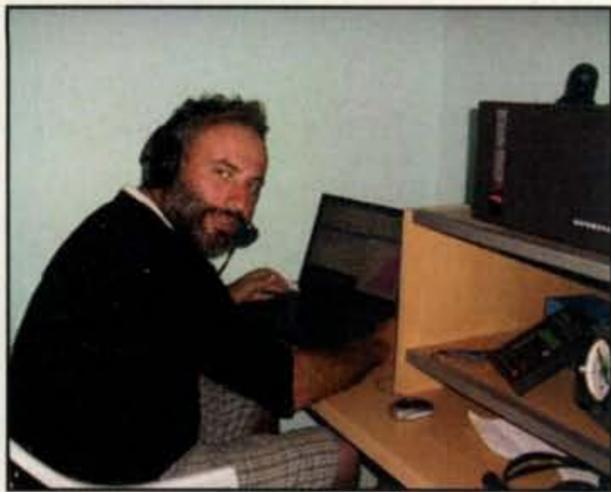
Fax: 847-838-3479

SSB & CW COMBINED CLUB SCORES

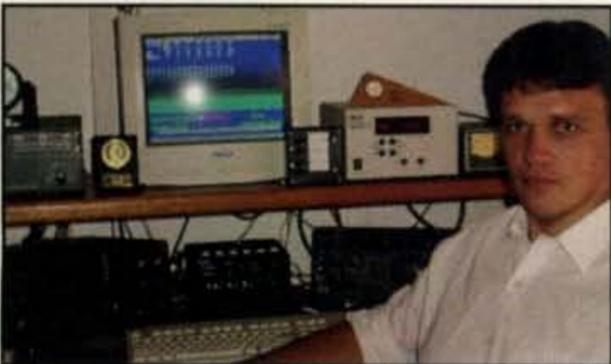
US Club Scores		DX Club Scores	
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	271,685,415	BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB	241,524,006
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	270,861,472	RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION	161,679,642
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	146,916,763	CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	96,019,128
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	105,320,200	ARAUCARIA DX GROUP (PY)	78,276,776
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	79,731,252	CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB	75,725,405
NORTH COAST CONTESTERS (W3/W8)	58,926,747	CONTEST CLUB FINLAND	74,710,950
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN.	48,169,887	SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB	67,707,633
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	46,642,318	BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB (UR/ER)	61,267,260
SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	39,876,427	UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	58,220,429
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	539,869,219	LZ CONTEST TEAM	51,907,432
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB (W8)	33,002,104	KAUNAS UNIV. OF TECHNOLOGY RC	40,738,240
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB	30,411,056	BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA CONTEST CLUB	38,838,161
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION	424,942,122	HUNGARIAN DX CLUB	38,129,925
HUDSON VALLEY CONTESTERS AND DXERS	23,216,583	LU CONTEST GROUP	37,698,950
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	21,927,534	URAL CONTEST GROUP	35,924,145
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB	17,403,730	SP DX CLUB	33,056,641
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	16,837,980	YU CONTEST CLUB	25,460,909
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	13,829,045	*WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS	24,018,747
ROCHESTER (NY) DX ASSN.	212,441,868	SKY CONTEST CLUB (40/YU)	23,374,072
WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB (W7)	12,059,099	RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB	22,855,897
NORTH TEXAS CONTEST CLUB	111,747,255	CHILTERN DX CLUB (G)	22,180,209
IOWA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	9,639,897	LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB	21,463,290
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP	9,563,825	RADIO CLUB HENARES (EA)	20,036,661
LOUISIANA CONTEST CLUB	15,510,419	UA2 CONTEST CLUB	18,986,870
SOUTHWEST OHIO DX ASSOCIATION	5,443,076	SOUTH URAL CONTEST CLUB	16,868,755
CTRI CONTEST GROUP	4,878,650	CE CONTEST GROUP	16,781,057
CENTRAL ARIZONA DX ASSOCIATION	24,805,249	LITHUANIAN CONTEST GROUP	16,760,308
MOTHER LODE DX/CONTEST CLUB (W6)	4,539,730	CT3 MADEIRA CONTEST TEAM	16,390,722
OKLAHOMA DX ASSOCIATION	4,076,417	BRITISH COLUMBIA DX CLUB	13,489,312
UTAH DX ASSOCIATION	3,679,653	LA CONTEST CLUB	12,186,011
WESTERN NEW YORK DX ASSOCIATION	2,418,586	LYNX DX GROUP (EA)	11,220,558
SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION	1,800,785	MARITIME CONTEST CLUB (VE1)	11,166,618
KANSAS CITY DX CLUB	1,593,858	BELARUS CONTEST CLUB	10,490,296
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB	1,560,027	VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIV. RADIO CLUB (LY)	10,280,556
NORTH CAROLINA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	1,521,501	VRHNIKA CONTESTERS (S5)	10,115,556
TEXAS DX SOCIETY	1,410,435	TORRENT CONTEST CLUB (EA)	8,957,423
CENTRAL OREGON DX CLUB	1,253,150	VK CONTEST CLUB	8,332,417
BERGEN ARA (W2)	1,073,893	GRUPO DXXE (XE)	7,743,737
SALT CITY DX ASSOCIATION (W2)	1,037,310	MICHURINSK CONTEST GROUP (UA3)	7,305,025
METRO DX CLUB (W9)	1,034,144	CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	7,245,548
SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB	956,763	TARTU CONTEST TEAM (ES)	6,658,157
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSN.	942,832	MEDITERRANEO DX CLUB (I)	6,647,404
FALMOUTH ARA (W1)	905,682	RIO DX GROUP	6,565,641
MAGNOLIA DX ASSOCIATION (W5)	866,137	DANISH DX GROUP	6,488,593
BORING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (W7)	787,229	599 CONTEST CLUB (JA1)	6,463,443
NORTHERN ROCKIES DX ASSOCIATION (W7)	658,488	LES NOUVELLES DX (F)	6,436,289
MISSOURI DX/CONTEST CLUB	654,204		
STERLING PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (W4)	602,789		
ALLEGHENY VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION (W3)	541,471		
DELAWARE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSN.	470,503		
ALAMANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (W4)	363,344		
WEST PARK RADIOPS (W8)	331,990		
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	330,554		
SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY (W3)	294,474		
NORTHERN ARIZONA DX ASSN.	283,095		
PORTAGE COUNTY ARS (W8)	250,413		
BLUE RIDGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (W4)	150,315		
CENTRAL OHIO OPS KLUB EXTRA-NOVICE	91,139		
ATHENS COUNTY ARA (W8)	67,626		
LOW COUNTRY CONTEST CLUB (W4)	28,365		
FOX RIVER RADIO LEAGUE (W9)	6,661		
PERM RADIO CLUB	5,375,609		
RADIO CLUB SPORADIC (UA3W)	5,077,711		
SIAM DX GROUP	4,988,062		
TEMIRTAU CONTEST CLUB (UN)	4,983,923		
BEEEMSTER CONTEST CLUB (PA)	4,875,876		
KIEV CONTEST GROUP	4,861,309		
DNEPR CONTEST GROUP	4,658,378		
HONG KONG AMATEUR RADIO DX ASSN.	4,601,756		
CANTAREIRA DX GROUP (PY2)	4,525,231		
AUSTRIAN CONTEST CLUB	3,895,016		
VU CONTEST GROUP	3,733,218		
CSTA BUCURESTI	3,719,529		
LYON DX GANG (F)	3,598,834		
BELOKRANJEC CONTEST CLUB (S5)	3,329,060		
GMDX GROUP	3,247,593		
YO DX CLUB	3,207,929		
SAO PAULO CONTEST GROUP	3,190,371		
FOX CONTEST CLUB	2,681,186		
BRIMHAM CONTEST GROUP (G)	2,617,715		
SERPUKHOV RADIO CLUB (UA3D)	2,507,024		
SP CONTEST CLUB	2,421,474		
RADIO CLUB PARMA	2,379,529		
JAKARTA DX CONTEST TEAM	2,176,424		
ARCK (UA8)	2,120,768		
SOUTH GERMAN DX GROUP	2,068,898		
R4F-DX-G	2,055,168		
SHAKHAN CONTEST CLUB	2,034,867		
KIEL CANAL AKTIVITY GROUP (DL)	1,973,699		
DOMODOVO (UA3)	1,839,014		
RU-ORP CLUB	1,826,772		
MOSCOW RADIO CLUB	1,771,535		
ALRS ST PETERSBURG	1,738,281		
NOVOSIBIRSK CONTEST CLUB	1,672,795		
STAVROPOL REGIONAL CONTEST CLUB	1,654,824		
NOVOKUZNETSK RADIO CLUB	1,649,811		
CS PETROLUL PLOIESTI (YO)	1,581,778		
ORENBURG CONTEST CLUB	1,543,864		
BALKAN CONTEST CLUB (LZ)	1,532,606		
INTERNATIONAL RADIO CONTEST GROUP (DL)	1,527,823		
TOP OF EUROPE CONTESTERS (SM)	1,378,484		
GRIMSBY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (G)	1,319,706		
GUARA DX GROUP (PY7)	1,310,439		
SOUTHERN OSAKA CONTEST CLUB	1,297,481		
ARKTIKA (UA9)	1,228,749		
SASKATCHEWAN CONTEST CLUB	1,225,287		
BEIJING SUNNY HAM CLUB	1,216,745		
KIEV RADIO CLUB	1,148,641		
WATERLAND (PA)	1,132,051		
VLADIMIR RADIO CLUB	1,091,484		
ALBERTA CLIPPERS	1,087,018		
YAROSLAVL CONTEST CLUB	1,076,285		
Z37M CONTEST TEAM	1,056,149		
MAYCOPSKIJ RADIO CLUB (UA6Y)	1,018,431		
AMSTERDAM DX CLUB	919,242		
DONBASS	917,454		
LOMA DEL TORO CONTEST CLUB (HI)	914,121		
VK2AWA CONTEST GROUP INC.	901,578		
ARGO (UR)	893,372		
UNION FRANCAISE DES TELEGRAPHISTES	881,395		
HAROS RADIO CLUB (HA)	869,500		
GERMAN DX FOUNDATION	868,270		
RADIOAMATOR (UR)	867,229		
RADIOCLUBUL RADU BRATU (YO)	851,500		
OMSK RADIO CLUB	783,896		
IRKUTSK RADIO CLUB	774,540		
WEY VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP (G)	771,587		
ARUK(EX)	712,046		
VOLYN CONTEST GROUP (UR)	684,436		
SAMARA RADIO CLUB	673,387		
STAVROPOL REGION RADIO CLUB	664,389		
CSTA SUCEAVA (YO)	646,048		
GIPANIS CONTEST GROUP (UR)	634,950		
CSM BAIA MARE (YO)	610,707		
HUANCIVILCA DX RADIO CLUB (HC)	603,756		
OBNINSK QRU CLUB	598,374		
STV RADIO CLUB (ES)	597,666		
GRUPO ARGENTINO DE CW	589,326		
ROSTOV	588,605		
PODOLSK	553,601		
LOW LAND CRAZY CONTESTERS (PA)	533,520		
CS AEROSTAR BACAU (YO)	509,629		
CZECH CONTEST CLUB	508,412		
MARCONI CONTEST CLUB (I)	497,130		
KKKK CONTEST CLUB KRASNODARSKOGO KRAYA	456,120		
JIANGSU DX CLUB	428,280		
BASHKORTOSTAN DX CLUB	423,268		
NEWBURY AND DISTRICT ARS (G)	419,741		
TIRAS(ER)	417,357		
SAMOTLOR (UA8J)	411,019		
CENTRAL SIBERIA DX CLUB	401,285		
CSM CRAIOVA (YO)	269,024		
UNITED DX CLUB (UA6)	265,870		
SVARK (SM)	245,846		
KEMEROVO RADIO CLUB	226,789		
ESHANESS RADIO CLUB (G)	223,488		
UR-ORP-CLUB	167,007		
RADIOCLUBUL NOSTRU DIN CONSTANTA (YO)	134,948		
BORISOV AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	126,913		
CS SILVER FOX DEVA (YO)	125,914		
VORONEZH RADIO CLUB	118,959		
CWJF GROUP (PA)	94,448		
UKRAINIAN DX CLUB	93,053		
EAST COAST CANADA CONTEST CLUB	71,046		
BRESCIA CONTEST GROUP	69,746		
NANAIMO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION	63,130		
KIROV RADIO CLUB	61,386		
SK6AW HISINGENS RADIOKLUBB	53,167		
SK2AT FORENINGEN UMEA RADIOAMATORER	50,375		
ICELANDIC RADIO AMATEURS	36,497		
KRISTIANSTADS RADIOAMATORER	34,706		

* Does not comply with club rules.

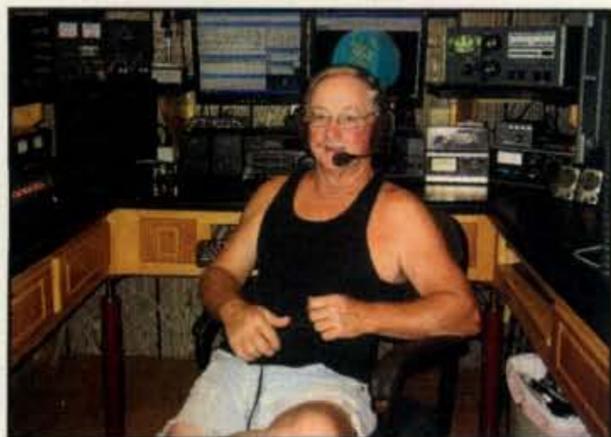
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Mamuka, 4L2M, was first in the world low power 3.5 MHz.



ZS4TX, Bernie, finished 6th world all band.



Courtney, K4WI, took on the challenge of 28 MHz.

EA6IB, M7A, R3/SM6LRR, ZB2X, J43J, MD6V, GJ2A, 9H3HH, ER0FEO, CR6T, CT1JLZ, GM0IIO, MZ5B, TX3A, 9M6LSC, 9M8YY, WH2D, KH6ZN, TX1B, ZL3TE, T88CI, P29CW, 5W0KH, P49Y, P49V, P40W, 3G3V, CE2/K0MD, CE0Y/SM6CUK, ZP0R, P40A, VP5/N5KW, EA8/OH2BEM, VP9I, ZF2AM, TI5A, YS1/W3MKT, IG9X, ED4R/8, EL8RI, C91LW, 5B/G4IRN, YM3A, MD4K, ER4DX, 4O3A, IS0/K7QB, ZL4NX, DP1POL, PZ5X, 3V3S, P33W, 4U1ITU, VK9XX, AH2R, AH0/AH2Y, A31A, PJ4A, 6Y1V, CR3L, 9L5A, C4I, PJ2T, VK9XW, VK9XX, HC8GR.

Comments

Conditions were far from excellent. The sun was just teasing us with the SSB weekend. Nevertheless, contesters found a way to extract the maximum CW fun. All the bands suffered. In spite of the conditions, the 2009 CQ WW CW Contest set an all time high! We received 5,966 CW contest logs, of which about 5,751 were electronic! Between SSB and CW 12,031 logs were received! That's a 16% increase in one year ... with 28 MHz on life support! Your continued submission of an electronic log allows the CQ WW Contest Committee to process the enormous amount of data received. We have

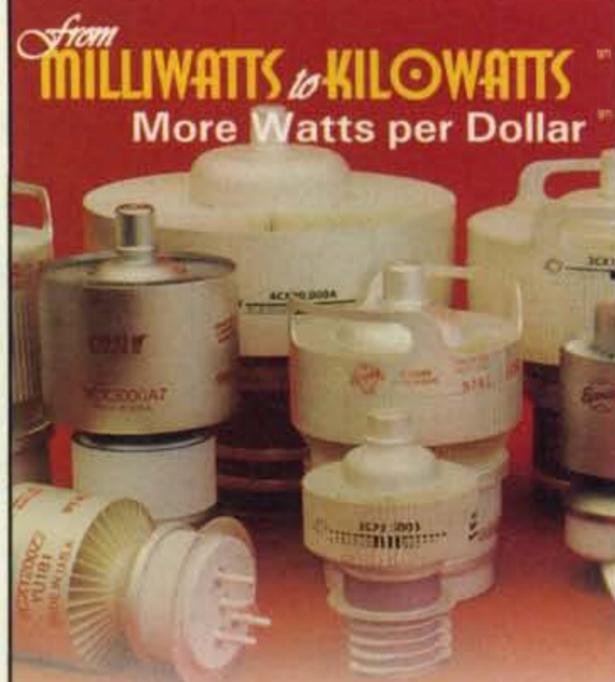
again provided open logs so that you can learn about propagation and how the top scorers do their operating. Thanks to all the contesters around the world who sent in a log. *Please send in your log no matter how small.* Submitting an electronic log is easy. Send your CW log to <cw@cqww.com> (SSB logs go to <ssb@cqww.com>). Please send your log in Cabrillo format. If you did everything OK, you will get back an acknowledgment. If there was something wrong, you will get a message telling you what to do to correct the error. You can then resubmit your log to the same above addresses. *If your radio has the capability, please submit a log with exact frequencies for each QSO.* Each year anyone who submitted an electronic log receives an UBN report of how their log was judged. The CQ WW CC provides many ways for an entrant to check his/her log for category, club, operator, and score accuracy. Long before the final results are published, logs received list, with your category and your report are posted on the CQ WW site. Double-check your Cabrillo submission. Please make sure the correct category is indicated and the call you used in the contest is shown. Everyone enters the contest to have fun, meet friends, perhaps work some new ones, and *fairly compete.* You can see information concerning the CQ WW on the web at: <<http://www.cqww.com>>.

If you plan to try to make the Top Scores box, you can count on your log being carefully checked. Those contesters trying to win a top scoring position must realize the necessity of *honesty in their efforts.* In a perfect world we would not have to spend this extra effort to check potential top contenders; however, some entrants feel they must win even if it means not following the rules. Just as in other aspects of life, cheating will not be tolerated. Those few contenders who enter the top scores box are important because they set an example of what is possible in our sport.

In order to maintain separation between the categories of single operator and single operator assisted, honesty in high-scoring logs must be the number one priority. The use of a QSO help—spotting network of *any kind*—places the entrant in the assisted category. The assisted category is fully competitive and fun. When you do use a spotting aid, please claim to be assist-

Xtreme Category

The new Xtreme category was introduced in 2009 as a way of allowing stations to use Internet connectivity to link multiple sites, both receiving and transmitting. The number of entries was small, but met the expectations of the Committee. After computing the CQWW scores, and normalizing them to other entrants in the category, and a careful review of the station descriptions, the winners are multi-site station B1Z in the Multi-Operator category with 147 out of a possible 200 points, and OL5Q (OK1HRA, opr.) in the Single-Operator category with 149 points. Honorable mentions are due LZ2NKM, who has crafted an outstanding remote station using a good deal of home-brew interface hardware, and NP2KW, who attempted an operation using multiple remote operators but suffered network problems and was forced to enter as a Single-Op station. We look forward to a growing number of entries in this category in the coming years. —K3EST



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3CX100A5	4CX250B	4CX15000A	845
3CX400A7	4CX250BC	4X150A	866-SS
3CX400U7	4CX250BT	YC-130	5867A
3CX800A7	4CX250FG	YU-106	5868
3CX1200A7	4CX250R	YU-108	6146B
3CX1200D7	4CX350A	YU-148	7092
3CX1200Z7	4CX350F	572B	3-500ZG
3CX1500A7	4CX1000A	805	4-400A
3CX2500A3	4CX1500A	807	M328/TH328
3CX2500F3	4CX1500B	810	M338/TH338
3CX3000A7	4CX3000A	811A	M347/TH347
3CX6000A7	4CX3500A	812A	M382

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- Dramatic noise reduction on all bands

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Amplified DSP Speaker

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ed. The use of undeclared packet, the use of additional operators for a single operator entry, two signals at the same time on the same band or on separate bands at the same time, if you are single operator, is in violation of the CQ WW rules.

For 2009 we had to reclassify and issue red and yellow cards (see the CQ WW Rules on the CQ WW website, <http://www.cqww.com>) to several stations. These few individuals take up hundreds of hours of work by the CQ WW CC to find what they are trying to hide. Our software and extensive data analysis suggested that some logs should probably be in the assisted category. After sending each of these contestants an inquiry asking them to verify their category of entry, the following entrants responded and confirmed their category as assisted. We wish to publicly thank each of them for their cooperation and honesty and for helping to maintain the high integrity of the Top Scores box: 5B4AIA, 9A0AA, 9A4W, CT3KN, DL1LH, DL4UL, DL7AU, EA3AR, EA9/OL8R, EI6DX, HG3M, IG9U, IK0XBX, K2MFY, LY2IJ, LZ2JA, LZ6W, LZ9X, M2X, N9BX, NI1L, OH8L, OK1NY, OK2ZO, OK3R, OM7CA, OT4A, PP5BZ, PY1KN, PY2SEX, RA9FTM, RC9O, RW6AH, RX9TL, S51FB, S52AW, S53O, SM5CEU, SN3A, SN7C, SP9W, SV2BFN, UA9UHN, UT2B, UT3L, UZ0U, W4UAT, YO9HP, YR9F, and YT1T.

It is an exciting time in contesting. There have been recent advances in remote radio-control and CW decoding software. Both of these interesting advancements will surely impact future contesting. CQ has developed a new Xtreme category, which allows for innovation and implementation of new technologies. The results of the Xtreme category can be found elsewhere in this article.

We would like to dedicate this CQ WW CW Contest to Andrey, RU1AO, who was riding on the train on November 27th to participate in the 2009 CQ WW CW Contest. The train was destroyed by terrorists and Andrey was killed.

Thanks

The final line scores you see here in CQ magazine are the product of a lot of work. With your help and our bookkeeping, we hope the results are as accurate as possible. We use many log-checking tools and data sources to certify the winners. The members of the Committee who provided insight into many contesting topics are: CT1BOH, EA3DU, ES5TV, F6BEE, G3SXW, JE1CKA, K1AR, K1DG, K1EA, K3LR, K3WW, K3ZO, K5TR, K5ZD, K6AW, KR2Q, KM3T, KT3Y, LY3BA, N2AA, N2NC, N2NT, N3ED, N5KO, N6AA, N6TR, N6TW, N8BJQ, N9RV, OH2MM, OH6LI, PA3AAV, PY5EG, S50A, VA7RR, VE7EJ, W3ZZ, W5GN, W5OV, W0YK, and W6OAT. A special thank you to Ken, K1EA, who spent countless hours making the CQ WW database the best in contesting. We want to thank Barry, W5GN. Barry has provided the machinery to send certificates to you in a timely manner. We also want to acknowledge two members who are leaving the CQ WW Contest Committee—Sergio, EA3DU, and Oms, PY5EG. The contest community owes a big "thank you" for all the help these two members have provided over many years. The expertise they brought to our group has been invaluable.

Congratulations to all the winners and entrants! CU in the 2010 contests! 73, Bob, K3EST

(Continued on page 101)

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If you think the "big guns" operating in the CW portion of the CQ World-Wide DX Contest send fast, check out the "QRQ" gang regularly chatting at 60–100 words per minute. W3GW introduces us and provides tips on how you can join in as well.

QRQ (High-Speed) CW

BY JOE GERRY,* KH6/W3GW

Perhaps you have heard them on the low ends of 40 or 80 meters, those signals that, at first listen, sound like a digital mode, but are not coming in on the usual PSK or RTTY frequencies. However, wait, as on further listening you may have found them to sound oddly familiar. Well, you just may have stumbled onto a high-speed CW QSO, or as practitioners of the art call the mode, "QRQ CW."

Just what are we talking about when we say, "QRQ CW"? Fred, W3NJZ, proposed the following definition in an article he wrote for the FISTS Newsletter, FISTS being a club dedicated to the care and feeding of Morse Code and CW operators.¹ Fred felt QRQ CW was Morse Code sent at speeds from 60 to over 100 wpm and comprehended by ear without the use of computers or code readers. We are not talking about CW operators sitting at their "mills" or keyboards making 100-percent copy of a Press Wireless transmission, as in the old days. No, QRQ CW is conversational Morse Code sent at high speed, read by ear, with QSK (full break-in), so that we approach a duplex conversation, similar to a conversation over the telephone.

History of QRQ

Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail saw the need to speed up things a bit early on while building their telegraph system in the 19th century. William Pierpont, NØHFF (SK), in his book *The Art and Skill of Radiotelegraphy*, describes how Morse and Vail went from reading by sight a complex number-based code written out on a moving slip of paper to "reading" by ear the clicks of a sounder responding to a distant key directly transmitting letters using the simpler American Morse Code.² The Morse telegraph system gave us words-per-minute speeds compared to the older "telegraphs" of the day which used semaphore links, such as the one built on Telegraph Hill in San Francisco, to send information at speeds best measured in letters per minute.

By 1860, good operators were able to copy American Morse Code by ear and get the message down in writing at speeds of 25 to 30 wpm. With the entry of the mechanical typewriter in the 1880s, copying speeds increased slightly, but operators of the time were limited more by their straight keys than by their ability to copy the code. Many operators at the dawn of the 20th century copied code much faster than they could send it.

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Note: A longer version of this article appears on the QRQ CW website, <<http://qrqcw.net.ning.com/>>.

This mechanical limitation on sending high-speed code prompted mechanical solutions. Bunnell came out with his sideswiper in 1880 and Horace Mann, in 1904, offered the first "bug." The sideswiper made sending more comfortable but did not greatly increase speeds. However, Mann's bug did allow a rare operator to approach sending speeds of 50 wpm.

Speed contests became popular in the early 20th century with operators now concentrating on receiving speeds rather than sending speeds. An article in *QST* in November of 1933 describes a speed contest in Chicago with hundreds of operators competing, including a 9-year-old girl who took the 25-wpm trophy. Ted McElroy lost this one but went on to establish the (still standing) record of 75.2 wpm in 1939. Mind you, these were copying contests, with the operators putting down five minutes of copy using a "mill," as typewriters were called in the day. Try it sometime using your computer keyboard and a W1AW code proficiency run. It's not easy! (*For those of you born after 1980, a typewriter is a primitive analog word processor with individual keys that impressed ink onto a sheet of paper in the shape of a letter or numeral.—ed.*)

Still, operators wanting to increase their sending speeds were limited by how fast they could comfortably push their straight keys and bugs. All this changed when Harry, W2ILE, captured the cover of *QST* for April of 1940 with his "electronic bug," which used, of all things, a *thyatron* to generate automatic dots and dashes! The next issue of *QST* contained a simpler and cheaper circuit that, once mastered, would allow operators to send code comfortably and accurately up to 40 wpm.

Electronic keyers made steady progress over the decades. The "T.O. keyer," designed by Jim Ricks, W9TO, and offered by Hallicrafters in 1960 as the HA-1, used a tube-based design that allowed code to be sent with paddles up to 65 wpm. Solid-state designs, such as those based on John Curtis's 8044 chip, carried the weight for those hams using keyers in the 1960s and '70s. Still, the electronic keyers available in the 1960s left those CW operators who could copy at higher speeds unable to send accurate code at speeds above 50 wpm.

Keyboards

There, I've said it. CW operators had to wait for the advent of the Morse Code generating keyboard before they could comfortably send code at speeds over 50 wpm. The early keyboards stirred controversy among those who felt "real" Morse Code should be sent by a straight key, bug, or elec-



Photo A— The K4KN Morse keyboard from the 1970s had a single-character buffer but no space bar. Today it is still prized by many QRQ enthusiasts. (Photo courtesy of K8IF, via <qrqcw.net.ning.com>)

tronic keyer. The legendary George Hart, W1NJM, expressed his concern regarding keyboards in an article entitled "Whither CW," which he wrote for the May 1964 issue of QST. Bill Eitel, W6UF, the founder of Eimac, responded to George's article with a letter defending the use of keyboards.³ The battle between keyboard and keys continues today, but the argument is moot for many of us who love high-speed CW. I use my J-38 straight key when I check out the Straight Key Century Club frequencies. My Vibroplex bug or K1EL PIC-based keyer does the honors when I am chasing those last few countries I need for DXCC, but when I check into the QRQ nets, it's my keyboard all the way.

The keyboards developed in the 1970s were self-contained gizmos that included the keyboard and the electronics needed to generate the code elements so that you just plugged the keyboard output into the key jack of your transmitter. K4KN's keyboard (photo A)

was especially prized.⁴ His unit had a one-character buffer, but no space bar. Your sending speed was equal to your typing speed, and the spacing between letters and words was up to you! Modern, self-contained keyboards such as the MFJ-451 (photo B) allow code to be generated directly and include a type-ahead buffer so you can type as fast as you want for any set code speed. Another keyboard approach uses the home computer to generate code. Programs such as Fldigi (photo C) and CW type put the modern computer between the keyboard and the rig and use the computer's serial port, or, even better, the rectified soundcard output to key the rig.

Growing Interest

The ease of generating QRQ CW on the early keyboards prompted CW operators eager to improve their code speeds to form clubs and nets in the 1970s. Bill Eitel, WA7LRU/W6UF/W6AY, mentioned earlier, started the Five Star Club

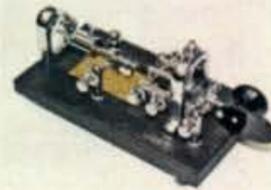
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in 1974. Perspective members had to show they could send and receive code at speeds over 80 wpm. Thom, K8IF, recently uploaded a tape made by Gene, W2KFA, in 1975 to the QRQ website confirming Thom's skills and leading to his becoming member #7 in the Five Star Club.⁵ Jim Ricks, W9TO, founded the Chicken Fat Operators in the mid-1970s. Membership in the CFO required a love of CW and an interest in learning to "chew the rag" at speeds over 40 wpm. Members met on the air for "cluck-ins" and, according to the reminiscences of Mike, W8MW, rubbed chicken fat on their rigs, antennas, and keys to improve



Photo B— One of the specialized CW keyboards on the market today is the MFJ-451, which comes either with or without the actual keyboard (for those who want to use a spare computer keyboard). (Photo courtesy of MFJ Enterprises)

performance!⁶ Needless to say, the spirit of the club tended to a less-serious nature. The CFO faded during the 1990s, but recently Andrew, NV1B, started work to revitalize the club.

More recently, other groups such as the Speed Operators Bunch, or SOB, with members interested in QSOs at speeds greater than 70 wpm, have been formed. I have not heard any activity from this group lately. The Fast Operators Group, or FOG, meets on 40 or 80 meters twice a week, inviting check-ins at speeds greater than 50 to 60 wpm. Another group meets on Saturdays on 7.106 MHz at 1830 UTC and shoots for speeds of 80 wpm or higher.

Learning QRQ CW

One hurdle I faced after getting interested in QRQ CW two years ago was how to get on-the-air practice out here on Maui, Hawaii during the sunspot minimum. I found it a challenge, to say the least, to check into the above-mentioned 40- and 80-meter nets during the daytime over a distance of 4000 to 5000 miles with no sunspots! Recently, Chuck, AA0HW, came up with a means of getting together those of us interested in QRQ CW using the internet. Chuck assembled free software, including a Morse Code generating program such as Fldigi or CWtype, a virtual soundcard, and a Skype-like program called "Mumble" to allow QRQ operators to meet in net fashion over the Internet. Internet CW, or iCW, is a lot of fun and has allowed me to get together with other QRQ operators without being at the mercy of fickle propagation or an antenna-hating condo board. Check out Chuck's site at http://groups.google.com/group/i_cw?hl=en for the details.

Those whose interest has been stirred by what we have been discussing here owe it to themselves to check out the QRQ CW website at <http://qrqcw.net>. Chuck, AA0HW, has attracted a worldwide guest list for his site, which includes a trove of information for anyone interested in learning more about QRQ CW.

My favorite threads on the site include the discussions by Tom, W4BQF, Fred, W4NJZ, and Chuck, AA0HW, on learning how to copy code at speeds from 50 to 100 wpm. The key seems to be learning how to recognize word sounds, since at these speeds the individual letter sounds run together in a blur. One technique uses the freeware program RufzXP, which is loaded with common words rather than callsigns, to send single words over and over at high speed

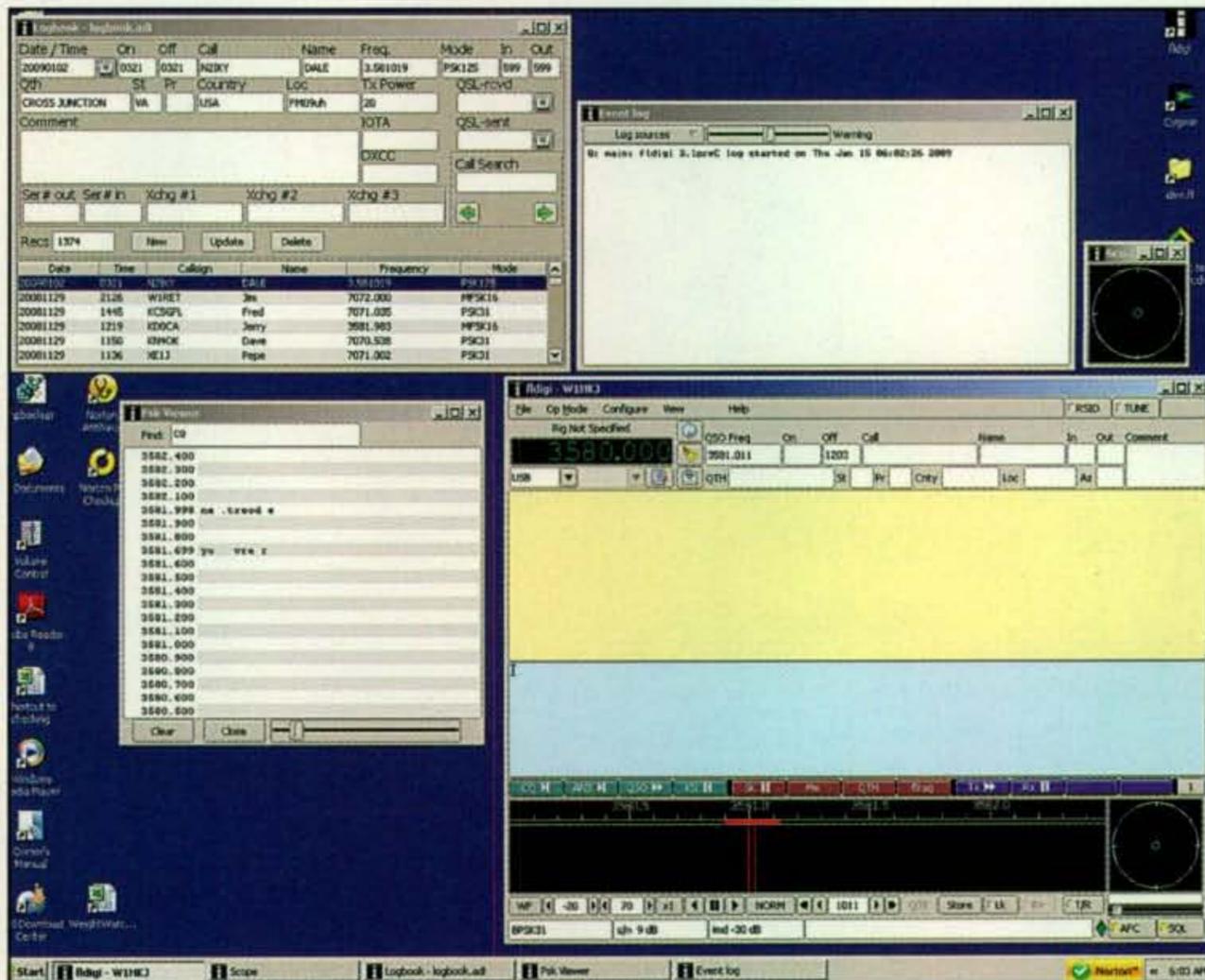


Photo C— The Fldigi program lets you use your computer keyboard, and your computer, to generate CW as fast as your fingers can fly! (Photo courtesy of w1hjk.com)

to learn their sounds.⁷ Another approach uses a different freeware Morse Code generating program, Fldigi, to first translate text files into Morse Code and then record them in MP3 format. Fldigi allows for varying the speed, tone, and shaping of the Morse Code it generates, providing beautiful MP3 files that I then put on my portable MP3 player so I can practice while the XYL and I take our daily walks here on Maui.

The experts on the website all seem to agree that it takes a lot of practice to get past the 50- to 60-wpm "brick wall" most will hit while ascending the QRQ ladder. Also, those operators who have been around for a while all agree on the need for a keyboard to send CW at QRQ speeds, as well as developing the ability to copy code in your head.

Conclusion

Not everyone will find QRQ CW his or her cup of tea. I personally found it took over a year of daily practice sessions to get from 35 wpm to 60 wpm, and still, I

get derailed easily at high speeds. However, my efforts have given me a new appreciation for Morse Code as a language and have forced me to reconsider what I had previously thought were my personal limitations regarding code speed. I have also met some great operators while working on my QRQ skills. I can't emphasize enough how much help I have gotten from AA0HW's website and from my iCW net check-ins.

The epitaph for Morse code has been written many times over the years, but the mode is not going to die anytime soon. Not even the dropping of the code requirement for licensing has stopped the members of the ARRL, FISTS, QCWA, or SOWP from mentoring a new generation of amateurs interested in CW. The newer clubs such as SKCC attest to the continuing interest in Morse Code among the newcomers entering our ranks. QRQ CW is just one facet of what well may be a modern epiphany for Morse Code and CW among radio amateurs operating on our bands today.

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Panoramic view of Hara Arena's North Hall, one of five exhibit halls that made up the inside exhibits at the Dayton Hamvention®.

Our annual look at the new products introduced at this year's Dayton Hamvention® continues this month, covering antennas and accessories (see last month's issue for radios and amplifiers).

The 2010 Dayton Hamvention® Safari – Part II

BY JOHN WOOD,* WV5J

There obviously were many more new items first displayed at the 59th annual Dayton Hamvention® back in May than just the transceivers and amplifiers that we reported on last month in Part I of this article. That's why we're continuing this month with Part II, so we can take a look at all the rest—such as antennas and accessories—that also made their debut at this year's Hamvention, held again in the five arenas that comprise the Hara Arena complex.

Main Arena

Our tour begins with a talk to the rep at the Jetstream booth in Hara's main arena, where we found out that Jetstream decided to unveil three new power supplies at the show, each with its own unique features. Take, for example, the JTPS75BCMMKII, which supplies 75 amps maximum and 65 amps of continuous power and comes with its own built-in, low-current trickle charger to maintain a backup battery to power your 13.8-volt gear in case your AC mains are ever interrupted.

The second Jetstream power supply to make its first public appearance at Dayton this year was the JTPS35BCMA 35-amp maximum/27-amp continuous power provider that features Anderson power pole connectors and once again, its own trickle charger for a backup battery.

The third Jetstream unit, the JTPS30M switching power supply, does not come with a trickle charger like the other two, but it does provide for continuously variable power out-

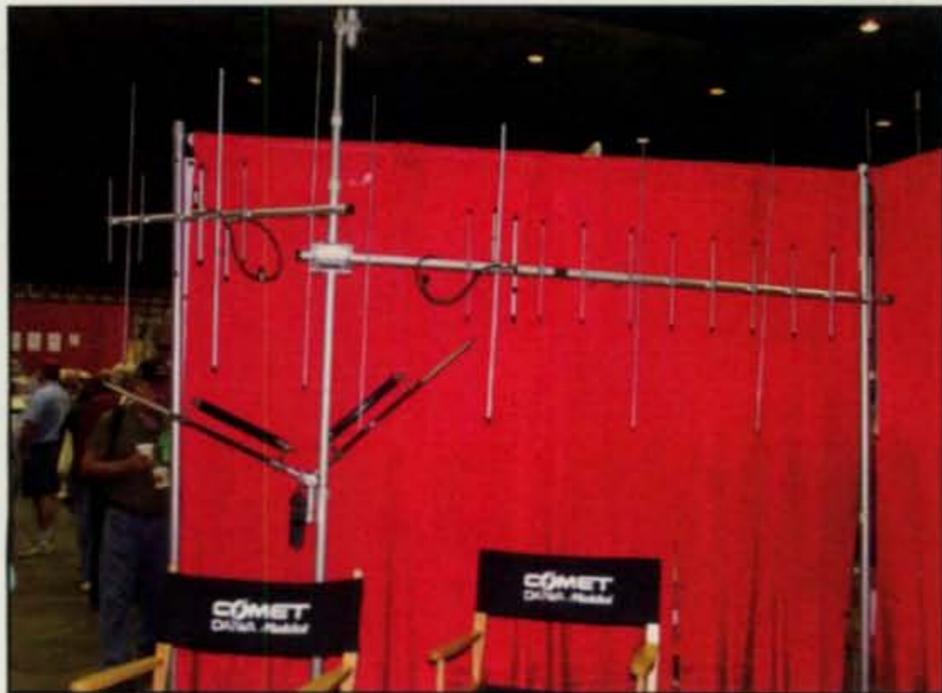
put from 9 to 15 volts or a fixed 13.8 volts out, a switchable meter to monitor both current and voltage, and the capability to provide 30 amps maximum and 25 amps continuous. For more information, visit <www.Jetstream-usa.com>.

Over at the Comet Antenna booth, there was a lot to peruse with Comet showing off its new line of low-profile HF mobile antennas and its new AA-170 antenna analyzer. Comet was also proudly displaying for the first time its CAT-300 1.8–60 MHz tuner; its two new dual-band (VHF/UHF) beam antennas, the CYA-2375 and CYA-A25711; and its new 3-kw HF wattmeter, the CMX-2300, which sells for \$299. For more information on all the Comet products, visit <www.comet-antenna.com>.



Two of Jetstream's three new power supplies, the 30-amp JTPS30M and the 35-amp JTPS35BCMA.

*New Products Editor
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(Note: This article replaces this month's "What's New" column)



Two new beams from Comet Antennas, the CYA-2375 and the CYA-A25711.



Three new "Rhino" antenna switches from MFJ promise high power-handling capacity and broad frequency ranges.



The Logitalker from Idiom Press is a 4-memory voice keyer, available either assembled or as a kit.

MFJ Enterprises of Starkville, Mississippi had its typically impressive display in the main arena with lots of goodies to look at, but if you happened to ask "What's new?" while there, your gaze would be directed to the MFJ Rhinos—eight different models of tough two-, three-, and four-position antenna switches that come with gold-plated flanges and connector contacts. These Rhinos can handle frequencies from 800 MHz to 3 GHz and up to 2 kilowatts of RF power with prices ranging from \$49.95 to \$119.95. For more information, call 1-800-647-1800 or visit www.MFJEnterprises.com.

Continuing our turn around the main arena, the good folks at Idiom Press were proudly showing off their new front-panel overlay decals for Ameritron amps, along with two new radio accessories, the LogiKlipper and the LogiTalker. The LogiKlipper (LK-1) is an RF clipping speech processor that



Hard to see against the ceiling, SteppIR's Dream Beam 11 is intended to be hard for your neighbors to see as well!

Moving beyond portable antennas, Buddipole this year introduced a high-capacity lithium-ion nanophosphate battery pack for extended portable operation.



Idiom claims "provides maximum intelligibility of an SSB signal under challenging conditions," while the LogiTalker is a four-memory voice keyer that can be used with any transceiver with an eight-pin microphone plug (round or modular) and sells for \$120 as a kit or \$150 assembled. For more information about Idiom Press products, visit www.idiompres.com.

SteppIR Antenna Systems consistently drew crowds to its booth in the arena during Hamvention thanks to its new three-element Dream Beam 11 with its 11-foot boom set up in an overhead display that craned and strained the necks of interested hams. SteppIR folks let us know that this relatively small beam was designed with apartment dwellers in mind and comes with a price tag of \$2195. For more information about the Dream Beam 11 and other SteppIR products, visit www.steppir.com.

Over at the Buddipole booth, the company's familiar portable antennas were forced to share the spotlight with a couple of new power-packed products, Buddipole's lithium-ion nanophosphate batteries. Made up of A123 cells, the packs feature Anderson® Power Pole connectors, a low-voltage alarm, and a three-color LED indicator that shows the battery's condition. The folks at Buddipole have even built a special battery pack just for the compact Yaesu FT-817 transceiver that supposedly provides the popular radio with six hours of run time. For more information about Buddipole antennas, battery packs, and other products, call 1-503-591-8001, or visit www.Buddipole.com.



A compact new 6-meter beam from Force 12 Antennas.



Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound, demonstrates his company's new Proset Elite boom mic/headset combo.



The MiniVNA and MiniVNA Pro antenna analyzers from W4RT Electronics.

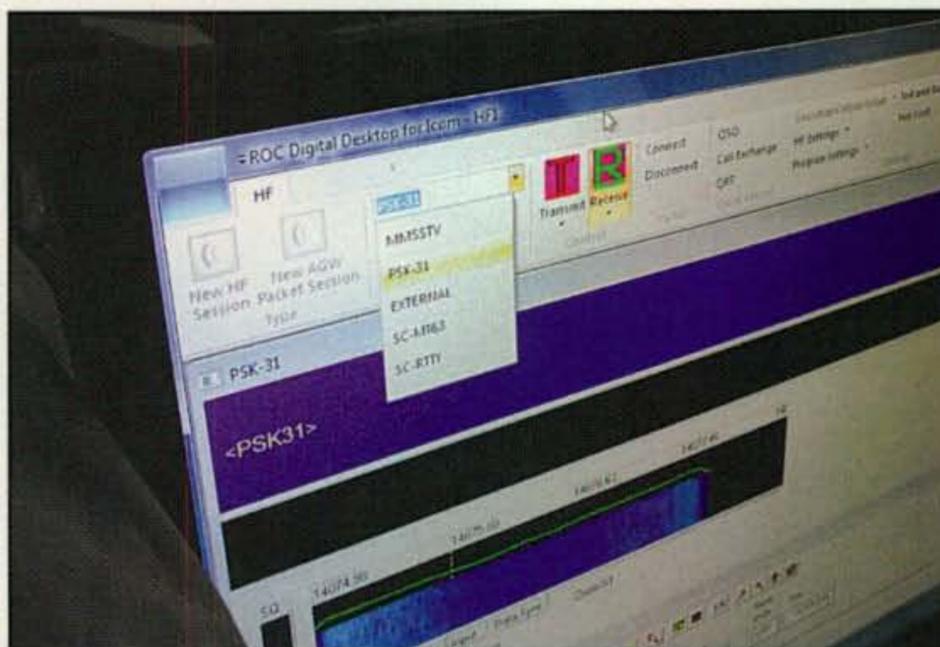
During our last turn around the main arena, we spent a few minutes at the Force 12 booth, where they were unveiling a new six-element, 6-meter beam antenna. For more information about this unique antenna and other Force 12 products, visit www.Force12inc.com.

New to Dayton this year was a company that has long been making solar-energy products for the military, PowerFilm. Founded in 1988, PowerFilm is now venturing into the ham radio market—a natural move, since two of the top people at PowerFilm are hams. PowerFilm had a number of its solar chargers on display at Hamvention, including its line of foldable and portable battery chargers that output 3.4 to 15.4 volts and 1.5 to 60 amps. For more information about PowerFilm products, visit www.powerfilmsolar.com.

“Audio Alley”

That wrapped up our visits in the main arena, so we next took a stroll down Hara's “Audio Alley.” Our first stop was the W4RT Electronics booth, where they were showing the new mini VNA, an HF and VHF software-defined, PC-based antenna analyzer. By connecting the mini VNA to a computer via a supplied USB cable and an antenna, you get the resonant frequency of the antenna, its SWR per a preset frequency range, plus coax return loss, impedance, and phase. More information is available about the mini VNA at the W4RT Electronics website: www.W4RT.com.

Heil Sound also occupied a prominent position in Audio Alley, naturally, and there just across the aisle, Bob Heil could be seen holding court and packing in the onlookers by demonstrating an assortment of Heil Sound products. Some of the newest items being demoed were the Heil Sound Pro Set Elite Boomset (headset with boom microphone) which features the HC-6 Dynamic microphone element along with a



Screen shot of the W4PC Digital Desktop from Creative Services Software (CSS).



TimeWave Technology's Ham Link BT-BTH interfaces a laptop computer with a USB port to a ham transceiver through the MIC jack, allowing control of many radios via Bluetooth.

handheld mic also loaded with the HC-6 element. For more information on these units and other Heil Sound products, visit www.heilsound.com on the web.

Also drawing a crowd at times in the Audio area was the Creative Services Software booth, where Rick Ruhl, president of CSS, was telling anyone and everyone about his company's new Digital Desktop/SC for ICOM transceivers such as the IC-7200 and IC-7600. Priced at \$39.95, the computer application handles RTTY, PSK-31, MT-63, SSTV, and

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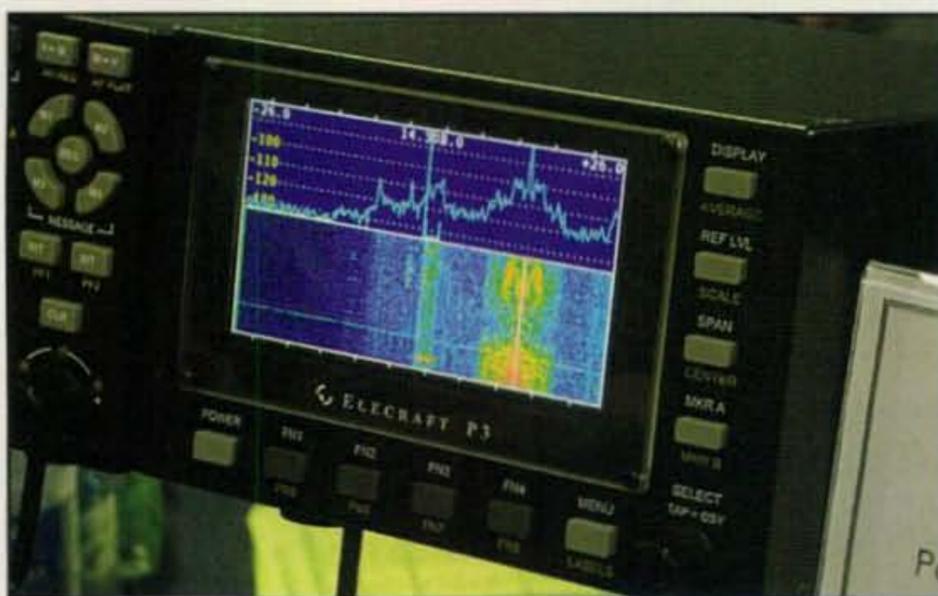
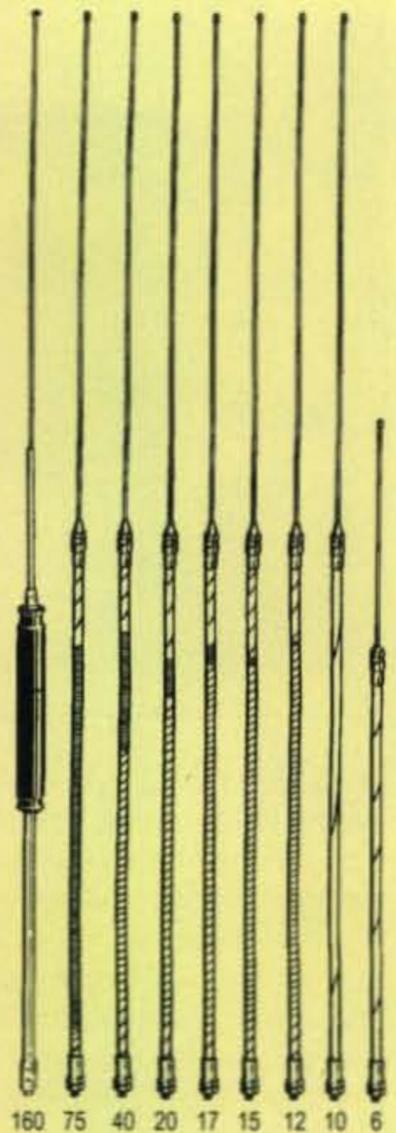
JTWXVUHF Pictured

JTWXHF 1.6-60 MHz 20/200/2kw
JTWXVHF 1.6-200 MHz 2/20/200w
JTWXVU 125-525 MHz 2/20/200w
JTWXVUHF 1.6-525 MHz 2/20/200w

Mobile HF Sticks

Jetstream mobile HF sticks are made of a black fiberglass lower section with integral coil, adjustable and removable stainless steel whip (except for JTMHF160). Standard 3/8 x 24 thread type mounting. Total length on all models is 96" (except JTMHF6, it is 58"). Power rating on all models is 300 watts PEP.

Model	Band	Band Width
JTMHF6	6 meters	1000KHz
JTMHF10	10 meters	500KHz
JTMHF12	12 meters	300KHz
JTMHF15	15 meters	200KHz
JTMHF20	20 meters	150KHz
JTMHF40	40 meters	60KHz
JTMHF75	75 meters	35KHz
JTMHF160	160 meters	12KHz



The Elecraft P3 panadapter was designed for the K3 but will work with most other radios as well.



The Vantage Vue weather station from Davis Instruments is wireless and solar-powered.

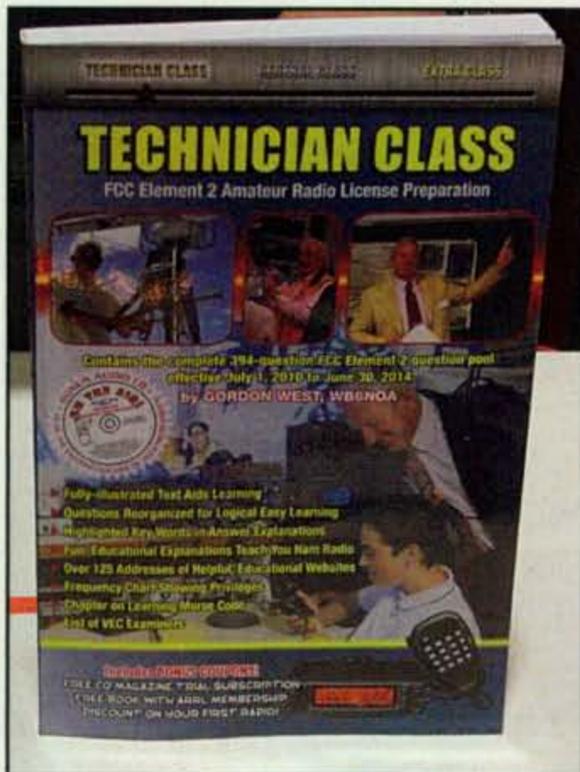
AGW packet modes. For more information, visit <www.cssincorp.com>.

At the very next booth, the Timewave Technology people were talking up their latest arrival, the HamLink BT-BTH+™ which interfaces your Bluetooth cellphone device with your ham transceiver for untethered remote operation. It can also interface with your PC via a USB or serial cable to provide rig control for supported transceivers from Kenwood, Yaesu, ICOM, Ten-Tec, Elecraft, Alinco, and others. More information can be obtained at the company's website: <www.timewave.com>.

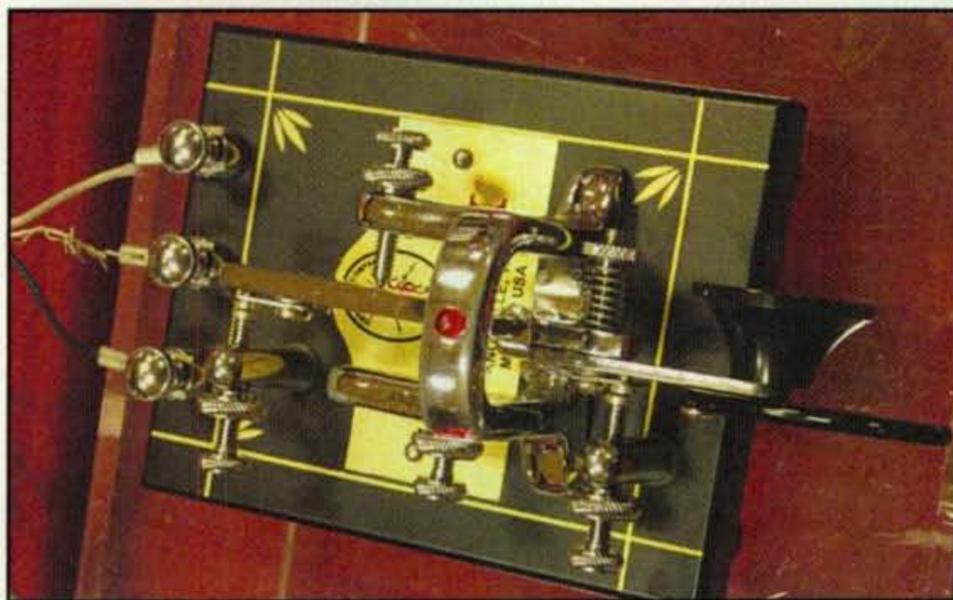
North Hall

Our next series of visits took us to Hara's North Hall, where we encountered one of the more visually interesting accessories from the good people at Elecraft—the P3 Panadapter, a companion item to the Elecraft K3 transceiver that also works with most other popular ham-market transceivers. Among other features, it provides a 2- to 200-kHz window showing both spectrum and waterfall displays that are visually useful for SSB, CW, RTTY, and PSK-31 modes. Capable of interfacing with keyboards and VGA display monitors, this unit was a big draw at Hamvention, particularly when it was being put through its paces by Elecraft COO Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ. For more information, visit <www.elecraft.com>.

The North Hall was also where we encountered the Vantage Vue wireless weather station from Davis Instruments which features a solar-powered outdoor sensor array and an attractive LCD console that reports indoor and outdoor temperatures, humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed, wind direction, rainfall, and much more. Priced at \$395, more information about this weather station and other



There's a new question pool in use for Technician exams, and Gordon West's updated license manual from W5YI.org has you covered.



Vibroplex introduced the limited-edition 50th anniversary Vibrokeyer, available with either red or black paddles.

products from Davis Instruments is available on the web at <www.vantagevue.com>.

Still in the North Hall, we next dropped by the Byonics booth, a popular spot that seemed to draw a constant crowd. I thought first that it was the great location near the center of the North Hall that gave Byonics so many onlookers, but after talking briefly with the owner of the company, Allen Lord, I found out it was Byonics' release of a new product at Hamvention called the Micro-Trak RTG (Ready To Go) APRS transmitter. For \$120, Byonics offers a turn-key, 10-watt APRS transmitter that draws power from the car cigarette lighter outlet and connects to an existing and compatible GPS receiver and SMA antenna. Byonics also offers a GPS receiver to go with the Micro-Trak RTG to make a complete APRS package for only \$190.

Our last stop before leaving the North Hall was the W5YI Group booth, where they've been busy publishing two new books—a General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) plus Radar study manual from Gordon West, WB6NOA, and for the aspiring hams, the seventh edition of the Technician Class license manual also from the pen of Gordon West. According to the author, the Technician Class study manual book contains "Everything you need to become a licensed ham radio operator the quick and easy way." What more could I add to that? How about if I tell you the Technician Class license manual lists for \$20.95 and that both books are available on the web at <W5YI.org>.

Our Sunday tour did not venture into the outdoor flea market but I've been told that the DZ Co. had its booth setup out there and that its new DZ-3 Yagi HF antenna kit drew considerable attention with its telescoping boom, light weight, easy setup, and no-traps design. For the details on this antenna and all DZ products, visit <www.dxkit.com> or phone 1-877-HAM-SHACK.

Silver Arena

Next we sauntered over to the Silver Arena and visited with the Vibroplex folks, who were proudly showing their limited edition 50th anniversary Vibrokeyer which comes with jeweled components and your choice of red or black paddles for \$199.95. The 50th anniversary model commemorates the introduction of the first VibroKeyer, which occurred in 1960. Vibroplex was scheduled to begin shipping the first run of 250 fiftieth anniversary Vibrokeyers in June. For more information about the 50th anniversary Vibrokeyer or any Vibroplex product, visit <www.vibroplex.com>.



If you have high-power needs, consider this 60-amp switching power supply from RF Parts.

Our last booth to visit in the Silver Arena was RF Parts, where most of the attention was focused on the company's new 60-amp switching power supply. For more information about this high-current supply or any RF Parts product, visit <www.rfparts.com>.

Ballarena

A few steps to the south over in Hara's Ballarena we arrived at the Officina Meccanica Begali keys booth where we got a first look at some of Pietro Begali's newest creations, his limited edition Stealth Keyers which are carved from a single block of stainless steel. Pietro plans to only make and sell 59 of the Stealth keyers "for a few discerning operators," so if you're interested, visit <www.i2rtf.com> or e-mail Pietro Begali, I2RTF, at <pibegali@tin.it>.

Also in the Ballarena was the Rig Expert booth, where the "experts" were actively displaying their new antenna analyzers—the AA-230,; the AA-520; and the all-new AA230 Pro, a powerful yet portable laboratory-grade antenna analyzer designed for testing, checking, tuning, or repairing antennas and antenna feedlines in the 0.3 to 230 MHz range. More information about the AA230 Pro can be found at the company's website, <www.rigexpert.net>.

East Hall

The final section of Hara Arena on our tour, the East Hall, gave us insight into some very interesting ham products such as those found at our first stop—Ten-Tec, which makes more

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miniVNA software available for both Windows & Linux OS, and Pocket PC. Measure Z, R, phase vs. freq. as well as cable loss & length, transmission, bandwidth, & quality of filters.



The miniVNA allows you to quickly analyze any antenna over a user defined frequency range between 0.1 and 180 MHz. In real-time, you can see at a glance where the antenna is resonant, and the SWR, return loss, impedance, phase, etc. as a function of frequency. The best (minimal) SWR frequency is automatically found and displayed.

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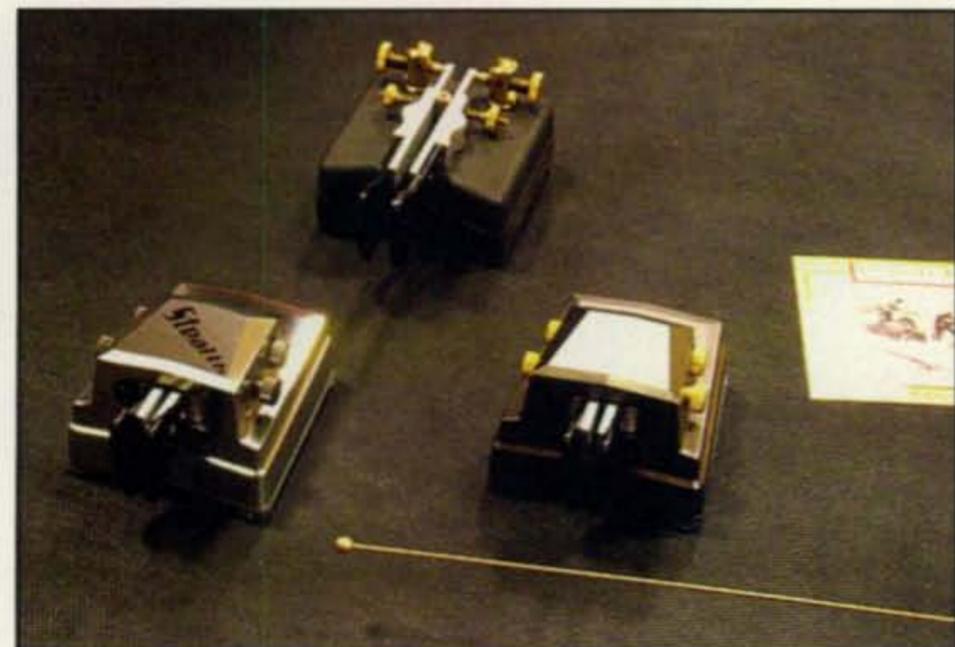
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than radios. This year the folks there introduced two new microphones, the Regal desk mic and the Model 777 DX-Pro headset mic, as well as two new power supplies (one with a built-in speaker) and the Model 712 USB soundcard interface.

Next, we visited West Mountain Radio, where conversation centered on its new ISOPwr 12-volt auxiliary battery isolator. West Mountain Radio's John Kalotai, N1OLO, said the ISOPwr is handy for RVs, cars, or boats; charges lead acid, gelled, and AGM batteries; and handles up to 40 amps. For more information about the ISOPwr and other products from West Mountain Radio, visit <www.westmountainradio.com>.



Begali Stealth keyers (front) are made from a solid block of aluminum and will be made in very limited quantities.

Over at the Pixel Technologies booth, we met Doug Talley, who was making his first trip to Dayton to show off his new RF PRO-1 loop antenna. Talley said the loop antenna is based on a unique Moebius Loop architecture that gives it improved reception and improved noise rejection from 100 Hz to 30 MHz. For more details on this innovative antenna design, visit <www.pixelsatradio.com> or call 1-303-526-1965.

Tony Baleno, N3ZN, was the person who greeted us at the N3ZN Keys booth in the East Hall and told us about his company's new ZN series of high-end iambic paddle keyers. Tony explained that the ZN keyers incorporate old-school style with new-school technology and feature ball-bearing movement, magnetic lever return, and quick-adjusting contact and magnet screws, resulting in a highly responsive feel that make SQRQ operation a breeze. For more information on N3ZN Keys, visit the website at <www.N3ZNkeys.com>.

The AA-230 is one of three new antenna analyzers introduced at Dayton by RigExpert.



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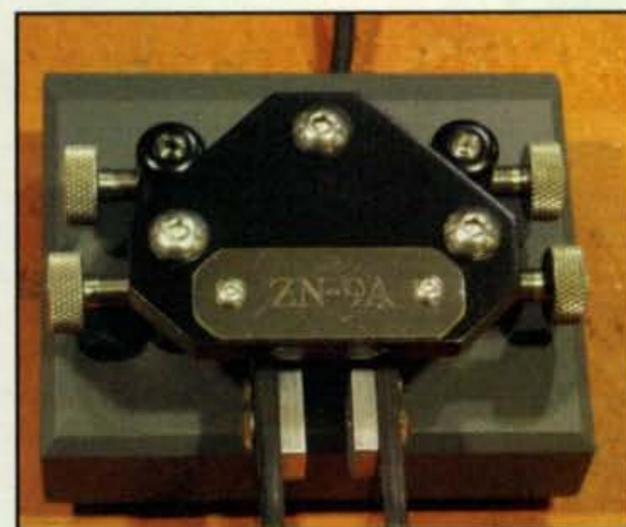


Ten-Tec debuted its Regal desk mic this year, along with a headset mic, USB soundcard interface, and two power supply models.

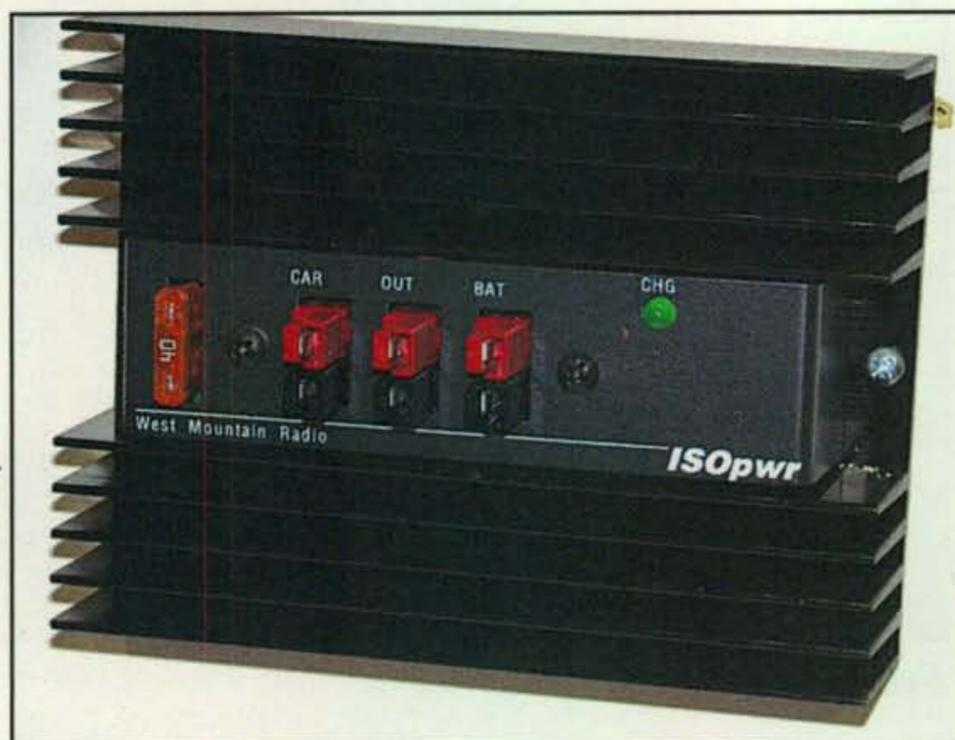
Green Heron Engineering's booth may have been one of our last stops in the East Hall, but it was no less fascinating due to the Radio Boss USB unit which was making its first public appearance at Hamvention. Described as a universal radio interface, the Radio Boss USB is built to address the needs of multi-mode contest operators by providing serial radio control plus all of the other commonly needed computer interface requirements for ham radio operation—mobile, portable, and fixed—in one compact package. For more details about the Radio Boss USB and other fine Green Heron products, visit www.GreenHeronEngineering.com.



The RF-Pro 1 loop antenna from Pixel Technologies reportedly covers 100 Hz to 30 MHz.



N3ZN's ZN-9 keyer is said to combine old-school style with new-school technology.



West Mountain's ISOpwr auxiliary battery isolator will handle up to 40 amps of current draw.

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The VNA-2180 vector network analyzer from Array Solutions.



Array Solutions also represented Germany's Hofi-Technik company at the show, bringing several products, including the motorized antenna switch seen here.

Array Solutions in the East Hall became our final stop on the Hamvention tour, where we were greeted by Jay Terleski, WX0B, who introduced us to a number of new products, including the new Vector Network Analyzer model VNA2180 which measures resistance, reactance, SWR, and impedance of antennas plus a whole lot more. To see the complete list of all the things the VNA2180 can do for you, visit <www.arrayolutions.com>. In addition to selling his own products, Jay is the U.S. representative for several overseas manufacturers. A newcomer to his booth this year was Germany's Hofi-Technik, which featured a motorized antenna switch and a military-grade lightning arrestor, the LP-1103. Information on Hofi-Technik products is also available on the Array Solutions website.

Please Watch Your Step as You Exit the Train ...

Well, that wraps up our annual tour of the new products unveiled at this year's Dayton Hamvention. For those of you who attended the 2010 show, maybe we let you in on a few things you didn't know were introduced at this year's exposition, and for those of you who did not attend, maybe we gave you an idea of what you missed.

I've been attending the Dayton Hamvention since 1975, and every year I find it to be a unique microcosm of all things that make up this great hobby we call amateur radio. So next year if you have the time, the funds, and you like to be in the know about what's new in the hobby, maybe you can plan on attending Hamvention 2011. And if I'm lucky enough to get to the Dayton Hamvention myself next year, maybe I'll see you there. Until then, 73 from WV5J.



What You've Told Us...

June's reader survey asked about your experiences with operating Field Day. Virtually everyone who responded (89%) has participated in Field Day at least once, and the majority participate regularly (35% every year + 23% most years). In addition, 16% participate sometimes, 15% rarely and 10% never. Two-thirds of you belong to a club that runs a Field Day operation, and your roles in those operations over the years have been many and varied. Nearly four in five of you (79%) have been operators, 66% helped with setup, 62% with tear-down; 52% have been involved in socializing and 45% in planning, while 25% have had support responsibilities and 24% have done public relations.

Most of you think your club has been either very effective or somewhat effective in most of Field Day's key goals, with the social aspects outpacing the others, and more of you felt that your club is "somewhat effective" in most areas vs. "very effective" or "not particularly effective." On scoring points, it was 30% very effective, 35% somewhat effective and 21% not particularly effective; building emergency preparedness came in at 33% very effective, 35% somewhat and 15% not particularly. Promoting amateur radio to the public was scored at 27%/ 42%/15%; promoting amateur radio to government officials was 25%/33%/ 27%; building social cohesion in your group was 48%/30%/7%, and welcoming new operators and visitors to your operation came in at 43%/35%/8%.

This month's free subscription winner is Mike Anascavage, KA8PTT, of Columbus, Ohio.

Reader Survey September 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*.

The main topic of this month's DX column is 6 meters, the so-called "Magic Band." Twenty years ago, there wouldn't have been enough activity on 6 to justify a write-up in our main DXing column, but 50 MHz is now a mainstream DX band. So this month, we want to get a sense of your activity level on 6 meters.

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

1. Do you consider yourself a DXer?
 - Yes.....1
 - No2
2. Do you currently have a radio that is capable of operating on 6 meters?
 - Yes.....3
 - No4
3. Do you currently have an antenna that can be used on 6 meters?
 - Yes.....5
 - No6
 - Don't know7
4. Do you operate on 6 meters?
 - Yes, currently.....8
 - Not now, but in the past.....9
 - No10
5. How frequently do you operate on 6 meters?
 - Regularly.....11
 - Occasionally12
 - Rarely13
 - Never14
6. Do you know what grid square you are in?
 - Yes.....15
 - No16
 - What's a grid square?.....17
7. Have you ever worked international DX on 6 meters?
 - Yes.....18
 - No19
 - Not sure20
8. Have you earned any operating awards on 6 meters?
 - Yes, VUCC21
 - Yes, DXCC22
 - Yes, WAZ.....23
 - Yes, other24
 - No25
9. If you are not currently active on 6 meters, are you interested in getting on the band?
 - Yes.....26
 - No27
 - Not sure28

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

MFJ 160-6 Meter Antenna

Self-supporting 43 foot vertical -- no guy wires required . . . 1500 Watts . . . exceptional performance . . . low-profile . . . includes base mount and legal limit balun . . . assembles in an hour . . .

MFJ-2990
\$359⁹⁵

New!

Operate all bands 160 through 6 Meters at full 1500 Watt with this self-supporting, 43 feet high performance vertical! It assembles in less than an hour and its low-profile blends in with the sky and trees -- you can barely see it from across the street.

Exceptional Performance

The entire length radiates to provide exceptional low angle DX performance on 160 through 20 meters and very good performance on 17 through 6 Meters. You can shorten it by telescoping it down for more effective low angle radiation on higher bands if desired.

With an automatic antenna tuner there's no fuss -- just talk!

A wide-range automatic or manual antenna tuner at your rig easily matches this antenna for all bands 160-6 Meters. There's no physical tuning adjustments on the antenna -- you simply put it up!

An optimized balun design allows direct coax feed with negligible coax loss (typically less than 1/2 dB 60-6 Meters and less than 1 dB 160-80 M with good quality, low-loss coax).

Fully self-supporting, Extremely low wind loading, Very low visibility . . .

With just 2 square feet wind load, the fully self-supporting MFJ-2990 -- no guy wires needed -- has the lowest wind-loading and lowest visibility of any vertical antenna! The key is a six foot section of tapering diameter stainless steel whip that flexes in strong wind instead of stressing the bottom sections. Its 2-inch O.D. and .120 inch



thick walled tubing bottom section makes it incredibly strong -- it'll stay up!

Weighs just 20 pounds -- you can easily put it up by yourself because its corrosion resistant 6063 aircraft aluminum tubing and stainless steel construction make it light and super-strong.

Assembles in an hour

You can easily assemble it in an hour! Ground mounting lets you com-

pletely hide its antenna base in shrubbery. Includes ATB-65 high-strength antenna mount. Requires ground system -- at least one radial. More extensive ground system will give much better performance.

Great for Stealth Operation in antenna restricted areas

This very low-profile antenna is perfect for stealth operation in antenna restricted areas. Hide it behind trees, fences, buildings, bushes. Use it as a flagpole. Telescope it down during the day. Put it up at night and take it down in the morning before the neighbors even notice!

Quick and easy installation makes it great for DXpeditions, field day and other portable and temporary operations.

MFJ-2990 includes this base mount and legal limit balun!!!



MFJ Automatic Tuners



MFJ-998
\$699⁹⁵

For legal limit 1500 Watt SSB/CW amplifiers. Auto-ranging LCD and Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, amp bypass, matches 12-1600 Ohms, 1.8-30 MHz.



MFJ-993B
\$259⁹⁵

Dual power range -- 300 Watt range matches 6-1600 Ohms. 150 Watt/6-3200 Ohms. Auto-ranging LCD and Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, 1.8-30 MHz.

MFJ Manual Tuners



MFJ-989D
\$389⁹⁵

1500 Watts SSB/CW, 1.8-30 MHz. Active peak-reading

Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, balun, dummy load, antenna switch, aircore roller inductor.



MFJ-949E
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The 2010 CQ WW DX Contest

Phone: October 30–31 CW: November 27–28
Starts 0000 GMT Saturday Ends 2400 GMT Sunday

I. OBJECTIVE: For amateurs around the world to contact other amateurs in as many zones and countries as possible.

II. BANDS: All bands, 1.8 through 28 MHz, except for WARC bands.

III. TYPE OF COMPETITION (choose only one):

For all categories:

1. All entrants must operate within the limits of their chosen category when performing any activity that could impact their submitted score.

2. All high power categories must not exceed 1500 watts total output power, or the output power of their country, whichever is less, on any band.

3. All transmitters and receivers used by the entrant must be located within a single 500-meter diameter circle or within the property limits of the station licensee's address, whichever is greater.

4. All antennas used by the entrant must be physically connected by wires to the transmitters and receivers used by the entrant.

5. Only the entrant's callsign can be used to aid the entrant's score.

6. A different callsign must be used for each CQ WW entry.

7. An entrant's remote station is determined by the physical location of the transmitters, receivers, and antennas. A remote station must obey all station and category limitations of Rule III.

8. A competitor who wishes to be judged for a top score in their category must agree to a potential visitation at any time during the contest by an observer appointed by the CQ WW Contest Committee (CQ WW CC). Failure of the entrant to respond to our correspondence or to allow an observer full access to the contest QTH may result in the competitor being removed from award eligibility for 3 years.

A. Single Operator categories: For all single operator categories, only one person (the operator) can contribute to the final score during the official contest period. **QSO alerting assistance of any kind (this includes, but is not limited to, packet, local or remote Skimmer and/or Skimmer-like technology, Internet) places the entrant in the Single Operator Assisted category.**

1. Single Operator High (All Band or Single Band): One person. One signal at

any one time. QSO alerting assistance of any kind is not allowed. Self-spotting or asking to be spotted is not allowed. Total output power per band must not exceed 1500 watts or the output power regulations of the country in which the entrant is operating, whichever is less.

2. Single Operator Low (All Band or Single Band): One person. One signal at any one time. QSO alerting assistance of any kind is not allowed. Self-spotting or asking to be spotted is not allowed. Total output power per band must not exceed 100 watts.

3. Single Operator QRP (All Band or Single Band): One person. One signal at any one time. QSO alerting assistance of any kind is not allowed. Self-spotting or asking to be spotted is not allowed. Total output power per band must not exceed 5 watts.

4. Single Operator Assisted (All Band or Single Band): One person. One signal at any one time. QSO alerting assistance is allowed (this includes, but is not limited to, packet, local or remote Skimmer and/or Skimmer-like technology, Internet). Self-spotting or asking to be spotted is not allowed. Total output power per band must not exceed 1500 watts or the output power regulations of the country in which the entrant is operating, whichever is less.

B. Multi-Operator (all band operation only):

1. Single Transmitter (MS): Only one transmitter and one band permitted during any 10-minute period. Exception: One—and only one—other band may be used during any 10-minute period if—and only if—the station worked is a new multiplier. Ten-minute periods are defined as starting with the first logged QSO on a band. A multiplier station cannot call CQ. Logs found in violation of the 10-minute rule will automatically be reclassified as M2. If electronic logging is used (Cabrillo), for each QSO the run transmitter or multiplier transmitter must be indicated in the log.

2. Two Transmitter (M2): A maximum of two transmitted signals at any time on different bands. Both transmitters may work any and all stations. A station may only be worked once per band regardless of which transmitter is used. Each of the two transmitters used must keep a separate chronological log for the entire contest period, or if electronic logging is used, the electronic log submittal (Cabrillo) must

indicate which transmitter made each QSO. Each transmitter may make a maximum of 8 band changes in any clock hour (00 through 59 minutes).

3. Multi-Transmitter (MM): No limit to transmitters, but only one signal and running station allowed per band.

C. Xtreme Contesting: To encourage the development of new technologies in contesting. For the full rules, go to <<http://www.cqww.com>> and click on Xtreme category rules for 2010.

D. Team Contesting: A team consists of any five radio amateurs operating in the single operator category. A person may be on only one team per mode. Competing on a team will not prevent any team member from submitting his/her personal score for a radio club. A team score will be the sum of all the team member scores. SSB and CW teams are totally separate. That is, a member of an SSB team may be on a totally different CW team. A list of a team's members must be received at CQ Headquarters by the time the contest begins. E-mail to <teams@cqww.com>, or mail or fax the list to CQ, Att: Team Contest, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 U.S.A.; fax 516-681-2926. Awards will be given to the top teams on each mode.

IV. NUMBER EXCHANGE: Phone: RS report plus zone (i.e., 5705). CW: RST report plus zone (i.e., 57905).

V. MULTIPLIER: Two types of multiplier will be used.

1. A multiplier of one (1) for each different zone contacted on each band.

2. A multiplier of one (1) for each different country contacted on each band.

Stations are permitted to contact their own country and zone for multiplier credit. The CQ Zone Map, DXCC country list, WAE country list, and WAC boundaries are standards. Maritime mobile stations count only for a zone multiplier.

VI. POINTS:

1. Contacts between stations on different continents are worth three (3) points.

2. Contacts between stations on the same continent but different countries, one (1) point. *Exception:* For North American stations *only*, contacts between stations within the North American boundaries count two (2) points.

3. Contacts between stations in the same country are permitted for zone or country multiplier credit but have zero (0) point value.

VII. SCORING: All stations: the final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the sum of your zone and country multipliers. *Example:* 1000 QSO points × 100 multiplier (30 Zones + 70 Countries) = 100,000 (final score).

VIII. AWARDS: First-place certificates will be awarded in each category listed under Sec.III in every participating country and in each call area of the United States, Canada, European Russia, Spain, Poland, and Japan.

All scores will be published. To be eligible for an award, a Single Operator station must show a minimum of 12 hours of operation. Multi-operator stations must operate a minimum of 24 hours. A single-band log is eligible for a single-band award only. If a log contains more than one band it will be judged as an all-band entry, unless specified otherwise.

In countries or sections where the returns justify, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be made.

All certificates/plaques will be issued to the licensee of the station used.

IX. TROPHIES AND PLAQUES:

Plaques and trophies are awarded for top performance in a number of categories. They are sponsored by individuals and organizations. For a current list of plaques and sponsors, or to learn how to become a sponsor, see the CQ website: <<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqwwhome.html>>. A station winning a World trophy will not be considered for a sub-area award; the trophy will be awarded to the runner-up in that area.

X. CLUB COMPETITION:

1. The club must be a local group and not a national organization.

2. Participation is limited to club members operating within a local geographic area defined as within a 275 km radius from center of club area (except for DXpeditions specially organized for operation in the contest; club contributions of DXpedition scores are percentaged to the number of club members on the DXpedition).

3. To be listed, a minimum of 3 logs must be received from a club, and an officer of the club must submit a list of participating members and their scores, both on phone and CW.

XI. LOG INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All times must be in GMT.
2. All sent and received exchanges are to be logged.
3. Indicate zone and country multiplier

only the FIRST TIME it is worked on each band.

4. Electronic log submission: We want your electronic log. The Committee **requires** an electronic log for any possible high-scoring log. By submitting a log to the CQ WW Contest, the entrant agrees to have the log open to the public. If possible, we would appreciate complete frequencies in the log.

E-mail Required Content: *Please submit your log in the Cabrillo file format created by all major logging programs.* Be sure to put the STATION CALLSIGN and the MODE in the "Subject:" line of each message. Your e-mail log will automatically be acknowledged by the server. You will also receive a personal access code from the server at a later time. Electronic submission implies a signed declaration that all contest rules and regulations for amateur radio in the country of operation have been observed. Submit your CQ WW SSB log to <ssb@cqww.com> and your CQ WW CW log to <cw@cqww.com>.

5. Paper log submission: For paper logs, use a separate sheet for each band. Each paper log entry MUST be accompanied by a summary sheet showing all scoring information, category of competition, and contestant's name and address in BLOCK LETTERS. Sample log and summary sheets and zone maps are available from CQ. A large, self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage or IRCs must accompany your request. If official forms are not available, make up your own, 80 contacts to the page on 8 1/2" × 11" paper. All paper log entrants are required to submit cross-check sheets (an alphabetical list of calls worked) for each band on which 200 or more QSOs were made.

6. Bad QSO: The bad QSO is removed and a penalty of three more equivalent QSOs is applied to the points only.

7. QRPp and Low Power stations must indicate their category on their summary sheets and state the actual maximum power output used, with a signed declaration.

XII. ACTIONS OF THE CQ WW CC

YELLOW card: Not eligible for an award in the entered contest. An entrant or operator issued a yellow card will be listed at the end of the published results.

Two YELLOW cards: An entrant or operator receiving two yellow cards in three consecutive CQ WW DX contests will be ineligible for any CQ-sponsored contest award for a period of two years beginning with the publication of the second violation in CQ magazine. If the entrant is in a multi-operator category, all listed operators are so affected.

RED card: Not eligible for an award in the entered contest. Entrants receiving a red card will be listed at the end of the published results. An entrant or operator receiving a red card will be ineligible for any

CQ-sponsored contest award for a period of one year beginning with the publication of the violation in CQ magazine.

Two RED cards: An entry or operator receiving two red cards within five consecutive CQ WW DX contests will be ineligible for any CQ-sponsored contest award for a period of three years beginning with the month of publication of the second violation in CQ magazine. If the entrant is in a multi-operator category, all listed operators are so affected.

1. The CQ WW CC reserves the right to reject any entry for non-compliance with the rules.

2. Violation of the rules of the contest makes the entrant subject to either a red or yellow card at the discretion of the CQ WW CC.

3. Unsportsmanlike conduct can be grounds for either a red or yellow card at the discretion of the CQ WW CC. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes but is not limited to ANY use by an entrant of any non-amateur means in the contest including, but not limited to, telephones, Internet, instant messaging, chat rooms, VoIP, or the use of any DX cluster/reflector to SOLICIT, ARRANGE, or CONFIRM any contacts during the contest.

4. Taking credit for excessive unverifiable QSOs or unverifiable multipliers may result in a yellow or red card at the discretion of the CQ WW CC.

5. An entrant is free to withdraw his/her submitted log for any reason prior to receiving an official letter from the CQ WW CC. The log will then be handled per the entrant's request. If after receiving an official letter from the CQ WW CC, an entrant chooses to withdraw their log, the entrant's call will be listed at end of the results showing their log as having been withdrawn.

6. By submitting a CQ WW DX Contest log, an entrant agrees that the issuing of red cards, yellow cards, and other decisions of the CQ WW CC are official and final.

XIII. DEADLINE:

1. **All entries must be sent NO LATER than November 21, 2010 for the SSB section and December 21, 2010 for the CW section.**

2. An extension of up to one month may be given if requested by e-mail (questions@cqww.com). The granted extension must be confirmed by the Contest Director, must state a legitimate reason, and the request must be received before the log mailing deadline. Logs postmarked after the extension deadline may be listed in the results but will be declared ineligible for an award.

Both Phone and CW mailed logs should be sent to CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Road, Suite 309, Hicksville, NY 11801. Please mark SSB or CW on the envelope.

From the Mailbag: Answers to Readers' Questions

We save the letters, e-mail messages, and phone-call questions that we receive and every so often we try to answer some that are of general interest. The two subjects we get the most inquiries about by far concern the confusion surrounding amateur radio station callsigns and dealing with FCC procedures. This month, let's cover a few of these questions.

Q: How are U.S. station callsigns—including amateur radio—determined?

A: Station callsigns have a three-fold purpose. As an aid to enforcement of all radio regulations, they identify the nationality of the station, the type of station, and the individual station. Radio callsigns, in effect, are the "license plates" that identify communications traffic on the radio highways. Most transmitting stations of the world are required to identify themselves at regular intervals.

Before 1912, amateur station callsigns were just made up by the operator. It wasn't until the Radio Act of 1912 that the first licenses were issued. The first allotment of call letters was made at the 1912 London International Radiotelegraphic Convention, which provided that the call letters of stations had to be formed of different groups of three letters. Radio amateurs, however, did not qualify for these three-letter callsigns.

In 1913, the U.S. Dept. of Commerce provided that the call letters for amateur stations would be assigned by radio inspectors, each for his own district. Amateurs got callsigns beginning with a radio inspection district number (1 through 9) followed by two letters. The first letter was from A through W. X was reserved as the first letter for stations holding Experimental licenses (for example, 1XE); Y designated stations holding a Technical or Training School license (e.g., 5YI was the callsign of Rice Institute in Houston); Z went to qualified amateurs holding Special Amateur licenses which allowed them to legally operate on less congested wavelengths (e.g., 8ZZ).

Since 1927, and by international agreement, the first characters of all radio station callsigns indicate the country in which the station is authorized to operate. The callsign prefixes are coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Geneva, Switzerland, a specialized agency of the United Nations.

The ITU has assigned the United States three prefix letters—N, K, and W. The U.S. is also allocated AA through AL. (The balance of "A" prefixes are assigned to other countries: Spain is allocated AM–AO, Pakistan AP–AS, India AT–AW,

Australia AX, and Argentina AY–AZ.) Some ITU countries, but not the United States, are allocated station callsigns that begin with a number.

The U.S. government in turn allocates three-letter callsign prefix blocks AAA through AEZ and ALA through ALZ to the Dept. of the Army. The Air Force uses AFA through AKZ prefixes, and the Navy and Coast Guard share NAA through NZZ. Civil aircraft in the U.S. with an N registration do not use the N prefix in their callsign. For identification purposes the aircraft manufacturer's name or model is stated instead.

Domestic stations (both government and non-government) utilize other station prefixes beginning with K and W. Some stations contain numerals, others (such as some ship, coast, aircraft, and broadcasting stations) do not. Only U.S. amateur stations are allocated the single letter N, two-letter NA to NZ and two-letter AA to AL prefix blocks. The single prefix letter A may not be used by any U.S. station.

Part 2 of the FCC Rules details the required composition of all station callsigns and the blocks of letters that are assigned to each radio service. According to law, U.S. amateur station callsigns must consist of one or two prefix letters, one digit, and up to three suffix letters. The prefix letters may be K (or KA–KZ), N (or NA–NZ), W (or WA–WZ), or AA–AL. The numeral is 1 through 0, and the suffix letter blocks are A–Z, AA–ZZ, and AAA–ZZZ.

Two-by-three format callsigns beginning with AA to AL and NA through NZ are currently not assigned to anyone even though the FCC rules (Part 2, Subpart D, Section §2.301) provide for them to be assigned to U.S. amateur stations.

The FCC implemented the new Group callsign Assignment System on March 24, 1978. The new system used all of the formats authorized by Section §2.301 except two: AA1AAA to AL0ZZZ and NA1AAA to NZ0ZZZ. The reason given was that they were not needed since the other 2-by-3 formats (KA1AAA to KZ0ZZZ and WA1AAA to WZ0ZZZ) provided more than 9-million combinations.

Using the Part 2 guidelines, the FCC issues ham callsigns under three different programs. An amateur's first callsign will be assigned in strict sequence from an alphabetized list appropriate for his/her license class. This is known as the Sequential callsign System. There are four callsign groupings (A, B, C, and D), with the shortest callsigns being reserved for the higher class ham licenses.

Amateur radio operators are permitted to change their sequential callsigns without cost, but they may only request another sequential callsign appropriate for their callsign grouping. You may not choose a specific callsign under this program.

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

The Vanity callsign System permits amateurs to select an exact callsign of their choice—that is, as long as it contains a format appropriate for their license class and is not already assigned or otherwise unavailable (more on that later). Specific user-selected callsigns require an annually adjusted payment to the FCC. Beginning this month, this amount is \$14.30.

The Special Event callsign System allows any ham operator to temporarily use a 1-by-1 format (example: K1A) callsign without cost for a short period of time to commemorate an “event” that the user defines.

Q: How do I know what callsigns are available for assignment to me under the vanity callsign program?

A: A simple and extremely common question, but the answer is complex! The fact is that more than half of all requested vanity callsigns are not issued for one reason or another. The most common reasons are that the callsign was applied for too late or early, was unavailable, or there was competition for the same callsign.

Just because one of the amateur databases (or an online vanity callsign service) shows a callsign to be unassigned does not mean it is available to you. The vanity callsign program is governed by Section 97.19 of the rules and other various FCC policies covered on the the FCC’s amateur service website.

Ten important things you need to know about vanity callsigns:

1. A callsign is not available to the vanity callsign system for two years following an amateur’s death, or for two years following the expiration or cancellation of the callsign, whichever is sooner. “Following” means at least one day plus two years after death, cancellation, or expiration of the callsign. A ham callsign remains active for 12 years. The additional two-year period beyond the 10-year license term exists primarily to provide a grace period for an expired license to be renewed. However, there are other reasons.

2. Former holders of a callsign and close relatives (family and in-laws) of a deceased amateur do not have to wait the two years. Ham clubs, with permission of a family member, may also immediately apply for a deceased member’s callsign.

3. Just because an amateur died more than two years ago does not mean his or her callsign is available. Many callsigns of deceased radio amateurs are still listed as “active” in the FCC’s amateur service database and must be



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canceled before you can apply for them. You can cancel a callsign by sending an obituary or death certificate of the deceased radio amateur to the FCC in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

4. The callsigns you request must be selected from an appropriate callsign group. Extra Class hams may request any available callsign not excluded from assignment. Technician and General Class applicants are eligible only for (Group C) 1-by-3 and (Group D) 2-by-3 format callsigns. In short, the callsigns selected must correspond to an applicant's same or lower class of operator license.

5. You may select a callsign from any numerical radio district. You do not have to conform to your own (Ø through 9) area. For example, an applicant in New York (the number 2 in the callsign) can apply for a callsign with any number, Ø through 9.

6. Certain callsigns are not issued. These include certain 2-by-2 and a few 2-by-3 callsigns assigned to the military beginning with the prefix letter K. Callsigns having the suffix letters SOS or (Q-signals) QRA–QUZ are also never issued. Callsigns having the prefix letters AF, KF, NF, or WF and the suffix letters EMA are allocated to government FEMA stations. Also, a 2-by-3 format callsign having the letters WC, WK, WM, WR, or WT as the prefix were excluded as of March 24, 1978. These so-called Group X callsigns were set aside for certain types of stations. The Group X program was never implemented by the FCC. However, some of these prefixes were issued prior to this date, so you may recall a repeater with a WR-prefix callsign.

7. Certain callsign prefixes are reserved for applicants with a mailing address outside the continental (lower 48) states. These include Alaska, Hawaii, and certain Caribbean and South Pacific islands such as Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa. These restricted prefixes are AH, AL, KH, KL, KP, NH, NL, NP, WH, WL, and WP. You do not have to live in a restricted prefix area; only an address where you can receive mail is required.

8. There are several vanity callsign websites that offer information about currently available callsigns or ones that will be available sometime in the future. All have their shortcomings and should not be used as the final callsign selection criteria. For example, none show callsigns pending assignment. The final authority is the FCC's online amateur service database.

9. About fifty vanity callsign applications are filed with the FCC every day. That means the chances are that someone else could also apply for a callsign you want when it becomes available. This is especially true of 1-by-2 and 2-by-1 format callsigns, which are in short supply. Be aware that the FCC awards a callsign by lottery when more than one application is received for the same callsign during the first 24-hour day of availability. All applications received during a specific day (Eastern Time 00:00 to 24:00 hours) are lumped together and the FCC's computer randomly chooses one.

10. There is an 18-day "pending" period between vanity callsign application and assignment. This period exists to allow time for mailed-in paper applications to arrive at the FCC, where (using the postmarked date) they are combined with online-filed requests. (This eliminates the time advantage obtained by those filing online.) You can do an application search for vanity callsigns pending assignment at <http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/ApplicationSearch/searchVanity.jsp>. Choose another callsign if the callsign you want is pending assignment to someone else.

Q: Why does a person have to pass lower class ham radio written license examinations if he can pass the Extra Class exam?

A: In a nutshell, because the written ham license examinations are "additive." That is, most of the question pools from which the written examinations are constructed relate to a specific class of license.

For example, the Technician (Element 2) questions cover beginning privileges, practices, and equipment and are oriented towards VHF operation, while the General Class (Element 3) has more HF questions. The Extra Class (Element 4) examination covers advanced operating and construction practices. Both the General and Extra exams include questions on examining others for ham tickets.

You need to know all of the subject matter included in the lower class tests, 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 advance up the ham radio ladder. You can't start at the top. You need to climb up one rung at a time, learning as you go.

Each written exam question pool is revised every four years. A new Element 2 (Technician) question pool was effective July 1, 2010. The 384 question

pool will remain valid through June 30, 2014.

Q: I keep hearing that other services and industry want our frequencies. How can they get them if they are allocated to us?

A: The allocation of radio frequencies involves the setting aside of segments of the radio spectrum for the use of particular radio services. It is a very complex matter—especially since our government sells spectrum to accommodate new technology and to raise money for the U.S. Treasury. The band assignments are influenced by the behavior of radio waves at different frequencies and the needs of the user.

All frequency assignments must be performed within a framework of international agreements both regional and worldwide in scope. The worldwide governing body over telecommunications is the International Telecommunication Union. The ITU has more than 180 member countries.

There are different kinds of frequency allocations. The international plan calls for three different geographical regions. The United States, Canada, and Central and South America are located in ITU Region 2.

In the United States, radio spectrum may be allocated to either government or non-government use exclusively or shared by one or more radio services. These allocations must follow the international plan for ITU Region 2. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) oversees government spectrum, while the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) manages non-government frequencies.

Sometimes more than one service shares spectrum internationally, but our FCC only allows use in the U.S. by one of them. It is legal under international law for our FCC to extend use to additional radio services—or to exclusively reallocate spectrum to other uses—as long as the new use conforms to the international table of allocations.

When more than one radio service shares an allocation, the services are designated as "primary" or "secondary." Radio services that are designated as secondary may not interfere with primary services and are not protected from their interference.

Some ham bands are allocated to the Amateur Service exclusively in all three ITU Regions (such as the HF ham bands, 10 through 20 meters). Some bands are exclusive ham spectrum in ITU Region 2 and may be used by other

services in other regions. For example, the 146 to 148 MHz segment of the Region 2 two-meter band is not allocated to the Amateur Service in Region 1 (Europe).

To make matters even more complicated, some countries (including the United States) have taken a "footnote" exception to the international spectrum allocation plan and are not bound to follow it.

All ham bands above 2 meters allocated by the FCC to the U.S. Amateur Service are also internationally allocated to other services. It is thus possible for the FCC to permit these other services to also share these frequencies, or to exclusively reallocate spectrum used by the Amateur Service to other internationally approved radio services.

The FCC is mandated by Congress to provide for the widest use of radio "in the public interest." It is not an easy job. The biggest problem facing the expanded use of radio is the scarcity of available frequencies. One of the ways that the Commission deals with the short supply of spectrum is through frequency sharing.

The number of fixed telephone lines worldwide continues to drop, but the drop has been massively more than compensated for by the growth in mobile cellular networks. There are now fewer wired telephone lines (which don't require spectrum) than wireless. In the four years ending in 2009, mobile broadband penetration has grown more than tenfold.

The most pressing spectrum problem nowadays is the explosive growth of mobile broadband. The FCC needs another 500 MHz to support it; the only way to get it is through reallocation. The ham bands from 222 MHz (the 1.25-meter band) to 2.45 GHz (13-cm band) are at the greatest risk of being reassigned.

While spectrum-hungry wireless broadband networks are taking over the telephone, the opposite is true with television broadcasting. Most (85%) of all households receive TV through wired cable or satellite delivery. The FCC is looking at reallocating the over-the-air television channels to wireless broadband. Frequency sharing among amateur radio, broadcasting, and the mobile community is not possible.

Do you have any questions that you would like answered? If so, send us an e-mail. We'll answer the general interest ones in an upcoming column. See you next month.

73, Fred, W5YI

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A Fiber Optics Primer – Part I

Our June 2010 column “touching on” the basics of fiber-optic technology struck a real note with our readers and resulted in numerous e-mails asking to please expand the discussion with more details. As the mail was overwhelming, we decided to give you the “long version,” but in a form that the novice as well as “professional” would understand. We therefore proceeded to edit and simplify an abstract of a fiber-optic primer that I wrote several years ago. For all of those who asked, here is my offering. For those who didn't, you might want to read it anyway and possibly learn something.

As you may know, in the early part of the 20th century simple copper wire sufficed for any and all “hard-wired” data transmission. As technology matured, however, this soon gave way to coaxial

cable, and currently fiber-optic cable has become the medium whereby high-density, long-distance signals are propagated. The almost unlimited bandwidth and unique advantages of fiber-optic cable compared to copper wire assures that this will be the preferred propagation media for the foreseeable future.

Low-loss, glass fiber-optic cable offers distinct advantages as a transmission medium over other methods for the following reasons:

1. The fiber will carry much more information and deliver it with greater fidelity than either copper wire or coaxial cable.

2. The fiber is totally immune to virtually all kinds of interference, including lightning, and will not conduct electricity. Therefore, it can come in direct contact with high-voltage electrical equipment or power lines. It also will not create ground loops of any kind between both ends of a transmission system.

*c/o CQ magazine

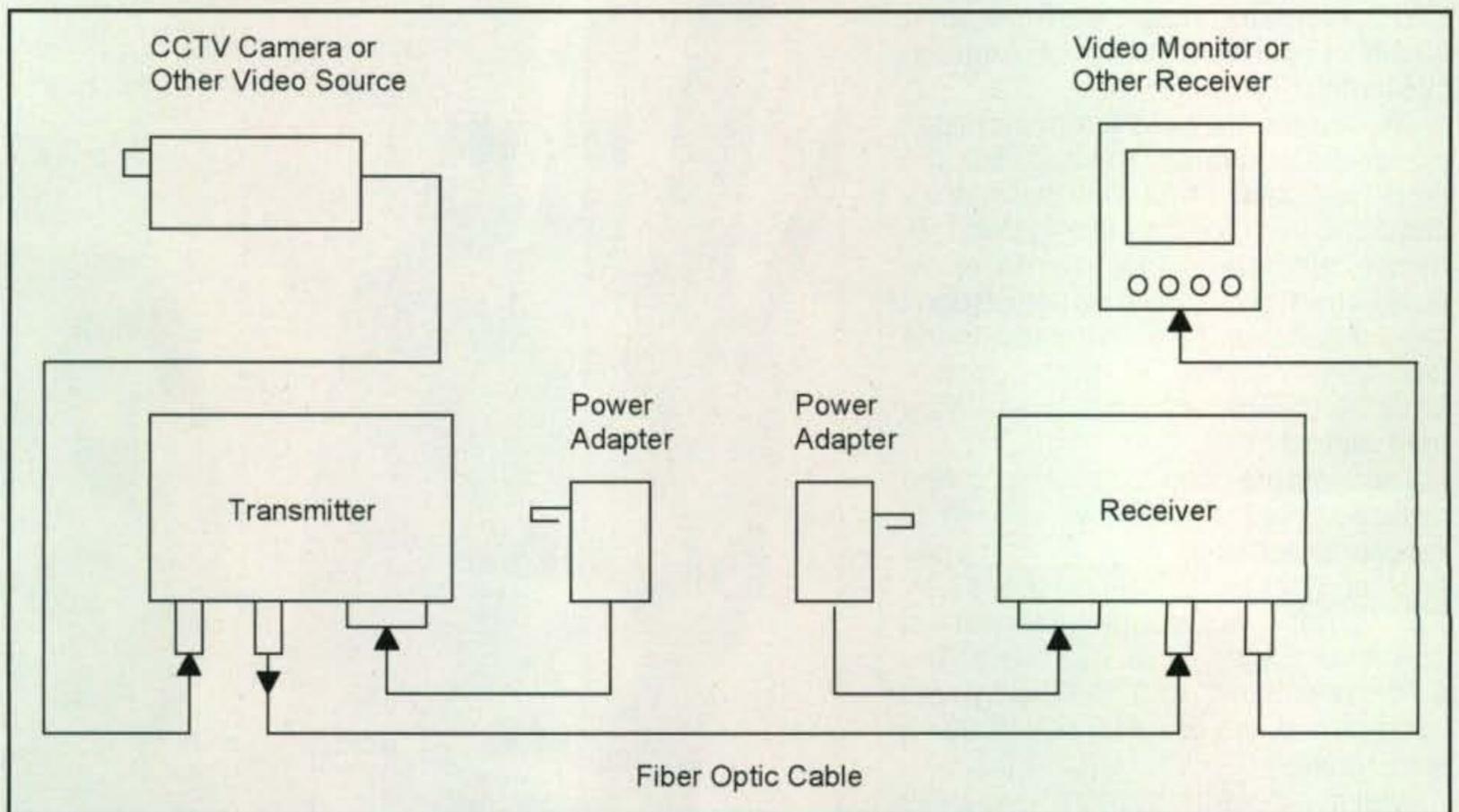


Fig. 1– Basic fiber-optic transmission system.

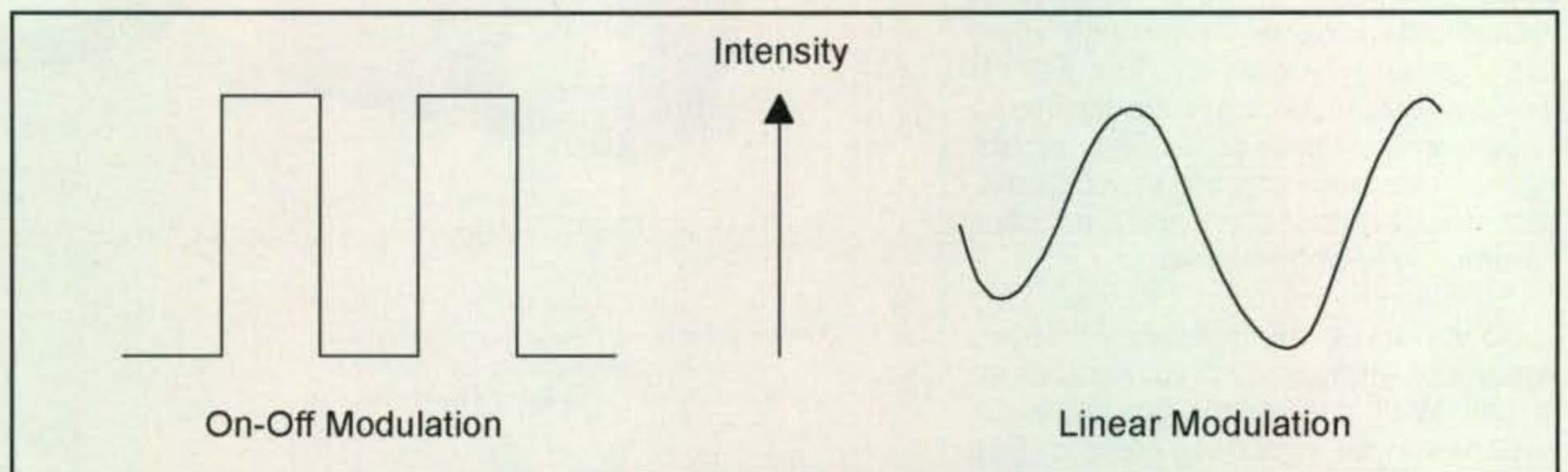


Fig. 2– Basic optical modulation methods.

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YAESU FTM-350R



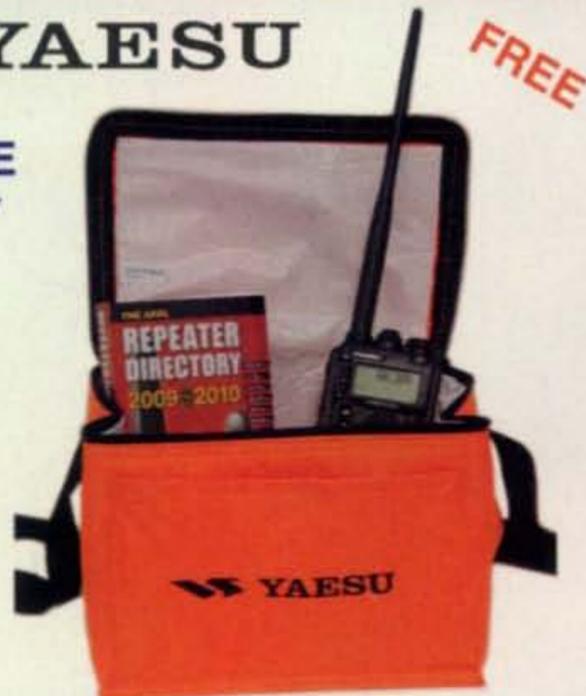
The Yaesu FTM-350R dual band mobile transceiver provides a full 50 watts of reliable power on both 2 meters and 440. It has two separate receivers with dual speakers on the rear of the control head. On the left receiver enjoy the AM, FM and stereo FM broadcast bands with extended receive: 0.5-1.7, 76-108, 108-250, 300-1000 MHz (less cellular). The right receiver covers 108-250, 300-1000 MHz (less cellular). There is a total of 1000 channel memories plus 9 DTMF memories. The radio even has stereo line inputs. This radio is APRS® compatible with optional FGPS-1 GPS unit. The front panel is easily remoteable with the 10 foot supplied cable. The front panel built-in microphone activates PTT. A conventional MH-42C6J DTMF hand mic is optional.

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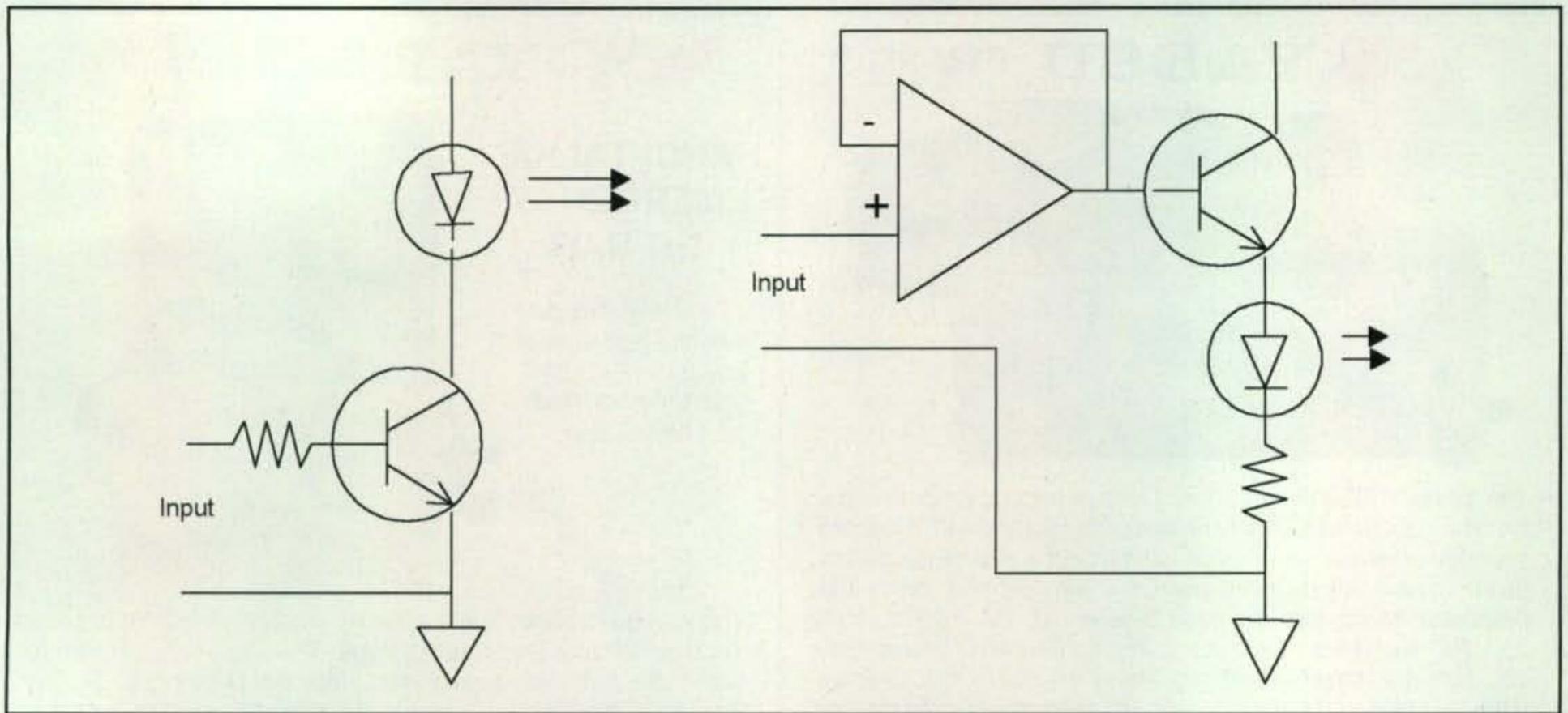


Fig. 3— Methods of modulating LEDs or laser modules.

3. As the basic fiber is made of glass, it will not corrode and is unaffected by most chemicals. It can be buried directly in most kinds of soil or exposed to most corrosive atmospheres in chemical plants without significant concern.

4. Since the only carrier in a fiber is light, there is no possibility of a spark from a broken fiber. Therefore, even in the most explosive of atmospheres, there is no fire hazard nor is there any danger of electrical shock to those repairing broken fibers.

5. Fiber-optic cables are virtually unaffected by outdoor atmospheric conditions and so can be lashed directly to telephone poles or existing electrical cables without concern for extraneous signal pickup.

6. A fiber optic cable, even one that contains many fibers, is usually much smaller and lighter in weight than a wire or coaxial cable with similar information-carrying capacity. It is easier to handle and install, and uses less duct space. In fact, frequently it can be installed without the need for protective ducts.

7. Fiber-optic cable is also very difficult to tap, but very easy to monitor for potential eavesdropping, making it ideal for secure communications systems. In addition, there is absolutely no electrical radiation from a fiber.

The Basic Fiber-Optic Transmission System

As shown in fig. 1, a basic fiber-optic transmission system consists of an optical transmitter, the fiber-optic cable, and an optical receiver.

The optical transmitter converts an electrical analog or digital signal into a corresponding optical signal. The source of the optical signal can be either a light-emitting diode or a solid-state laser diode. The most popular wavelengths of operation for optical transmitters are 850, 1310, and 1550 nanometers.

The fiber-optic cable consists of one or more glass fibers which act as waveguides for the optical signal. Fiber-optic cable is similar to electrical cable in its construction, but provides special protection for the optical fiber within. For systems requiring transmission over distances of many kilometers, or when two or more fiber-optic cables must be joined together, an optical splice is commonly used.

The optical receiver converts the optical signal back to a replica of the original electrical signal. The detector of the optical signal (in the receiver) is either a PIN-type photodiode or an avalanche-type photodiode. Most common fiber-optic receiving equipment uses PIN-type photodiodes.

We will now examine each of the elements of the basic system in some detail to gain a better understanding of what is occurring.

Optical Transmitters

The basic optical transmitter converts electrical input signals into modulated light for transmission over an optical fiber. Depending on the nature of the signal, the resulting modulated light may be turned on and off, or may be lin-

early varied in intensity between two predetermined levels. Fig. 2 shows a graphic representation of these two basic schemes.

The most common devices used as the light source in optical transmitters are the light-emitting diode (LED) and the laser diode (LD). In a fiber-optic system these devices are mounted in a package that enables an optical fiber to be placed in very close proximity to the light-emitting region in order to couple as much light as possible into the fiber. In some cases, a tiny spherical lens is mounted directly over the emitter to collect and focus "every last drop" of light onto the fiber, and in other cases a fiber is "pigtailed" directly onto the actual surface of the emitter.

In either case, it is obvious that the main goal is to couple as much light into the tiny optical fiber as possible. LEDs have relatively large emitting areas, and as a result are not as good light sources as LDs. They are widely used for short-to moderate-transmission distances. However, they are much more economical, quite linear in terms of light output versus electrical current input and stable in terms of light output versus ambient operating temperature. LDs, on the other hand, have very small light-emitting surfaces and can couple many times more power to the fiber than LEDs. LDs are also linear in terms of light output versus electrical current input, but unlike LEDs they are not stable over wide operating temperature ranges and require more elaborate circuitry to achieve acceptable stability. In addition, their added cost makes them

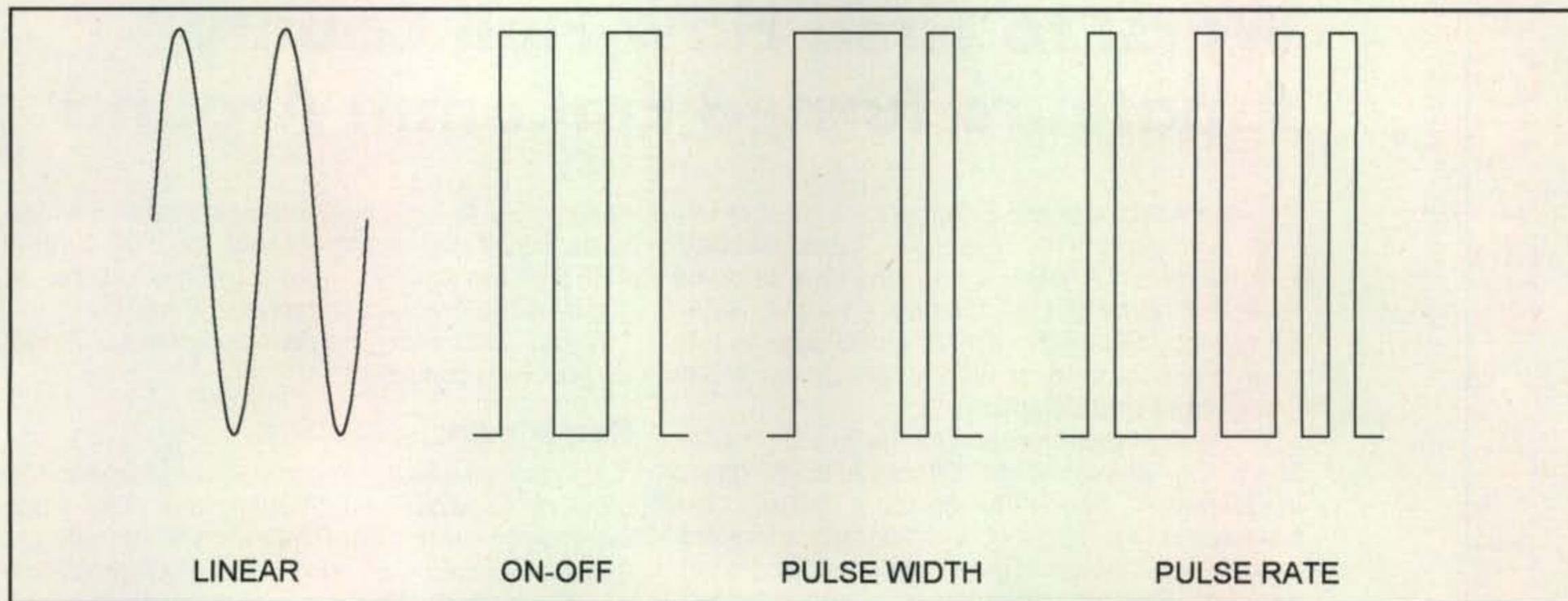


Fig. 4— Various methods to optically transmit optical signals.

primarily useful for applications that require the transmission of signals over long distances.

LEDs and LDs operate in the infrared portion of the electromagnetic spectrum so that their light output is usually invisible to the human eye. Their operating wavelengths are chosen to be compatible with the lowest transmission-loss wavelengths of glass fibers and highest sensitivity ranges of photodiodes. As we previously have mentioned, the most common wavelengths in use today are 850 nanometers, 1310 nanometers, and 1550 nanometers. Both LEDs and LDs are available in all three wavelengths.

LEDs and LDs, as previously stated, are modulated in one of two ways—on and off, or linearly. Fig. 3 shows simplified circuitry to achieve either method with an LED or LD. As can be seen in fig. 3A, a transistor is used to switch the LED or LD on and off in step with an input digital signal. This signal can be converted from almost any digital format (by the appropriate circuitry) into the correct base drive for the transistor. Overall speed is then determined by the circuitry and the inherent speed of the LED or LD. Used in this manner, speeds of several hundred megahertz are readily achieved for LEDs and thousands (to millions) of megahertz for LDs. Temperature stabilization circuitry for the LD has been omitted from this example for simplicity. LEDs, on the other hand, do not normally require any temperature stabilization.

Linear modulation of an LED or LD is accomplished by the operational amplifier circuit of fig. 3B (simplified). The inverting input is used to supply the modulating drive to the LED or LD, while the

non-inverting input supplies a DC bias reference. Once again, temperature stabilization circuitry for the LD has been omitted from this example for simplicity.

Digital on/off modulation of an LED or LD can take a number of forms. The simplest, as we have already seen, is light-on for a logic "1," and light-off for logic "0." Two other common forms are pulse-width modulation and pulse-rate modulation. In the former, a constant stream of pulses is produced with one width signifying logic "1" and another width logic "0." In the latter, the pulses are all of the same width, but the pulse rate changes to differentiate between logic "1" and logic "0."

Analog modulation can also take a number of forms. The simplest is intensity modulation in which the brightness of an LED is varied in direct step with the variations of the transmitted signal. In other methods, an RF carrier is first frequency modulated with another signal, or, in some cases, several RF carriers are separately modulated with separate signals and then all are combined and transmitted as one complex waveform. Fig. 4 shows all of the above modulation methods as a function of light output.

The equivalent operating frequency of light, which is, after all, electromagnetic radiation, is extremely high—on the order of 1,000,000 GHz. The output bandwidth of the light produced by LEDs and laser diodes is quite wide. Unfortunately, today's technology does not allow this bandwidth to be selectively used in the way that conventional radio frequency transmissions are utilized. Rather, the entire optical bandwidth is turned on and off in the same way that early "spark transmit-

ters" (in the early days of radio) turned wide portions of the RF spectrum on and off. In time, however, researchers will overcome this obstacle and "coherent transmissions," as they are called, will become the direction in which the fiber-optic field progresses.

In Part II we will cover the optical fiber, optical connectors, and optical receivers. 73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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Worst to First: How Hall County Amateurs Turned EmComm Around

The director of the Emergency Management Association of Georgia gave Michael Crowder, AA4BA, a daunting task when he took the reins of Hall County Amateur Radio Emergency Service®: You have 90 days to turn your group around or we'll dissolve our Memorandum of Understanding.

With just 14 members and things "in a bit of a disarray," Crowder knew Hall County ARES®, based in Gainesville, needed to replace a lack of cohesiveness with a sense of direction and a forward-looking plan that would grow membership on a fundamental EmComm foundation . . . and in a hurry.

"A few months later," Crowder said, the EMAG director "nominated us for the (2009) Jack Hobbs Award for Excellence in Amateur Radio," an honor Hall County ARES® would go on to win, with Emergency Coordinator Crowder and Assistant Emergency Coordinator Marcus L. Shockley, KJ4EZQ, accepting the honor on behalf of the team at an EMAG awards banquet.

"I went from no active AECs (Assistant Emergency Coordinators) to five who work hard," Crowder said. "We went from about ten attendees at a monthly meeting to averaging more than 20 per meeting, and growing every month."

This "worst to first" scenario is not the stuff of fairy tales, though. Crowder's Biannual Report

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



Hall County ARES's® youngest member, Marcus R. Shockley, KJ4PCR, operates the WE4EOC Hall County EOC station. He has checked into the state ARES net "on multiple occasions, functioned as alternate net control on VHF nets, and helped deploy our mobile station," said EC Michael Crowder, AA4BA. "He can outwork most full-size hams, is 10 years old, and was recently licensed in a 'ham cram'-style licensing class taught by Hall County ARES." (Courtesy of KJ4EZQ)

released earlier this year, reflecting on 2009, captures some of the ingredients for Hall County ARES's® remarkable turn-around and touches on goals as the organization moves ahead.

If your EmComm group is looking for a blueprint for success, consider this:

Recruitment

"Last year we saw a tremendous increase in membership," Crowder said. "A better than three-times increase in manpower is significant, but still not enough according to our Tables of Organization and Equipment. We have a goal to reach a total of 100 operators by the end of the calendar year." They will come from the "existing ham community," Crowder said, "and by licensing new hams that we can encourage to become part of the EmComm community."

There are more than 600 licensed radio amateurs in Hall County, "and we are working on contacting each of them either through letters, e-mail or phone calls."

Hall County ARES® also sponsors "ham cram" classes, in which prospective radio amateurs and those wanting to upgrade undergo a quick course and obtain their license in short order. In 2009, the team brought in 38 new hams and upgraded six more to General Class.

"We also participated in special VE (Volunteer Examiner) sessions during which we licensed 22 Technicians and upgraded four additional Generals," Crowder said. "Sixty new Techs and 10 Generals are a significant addition to the ham community."

Several more "ham crams" were planned by the team in 2010.

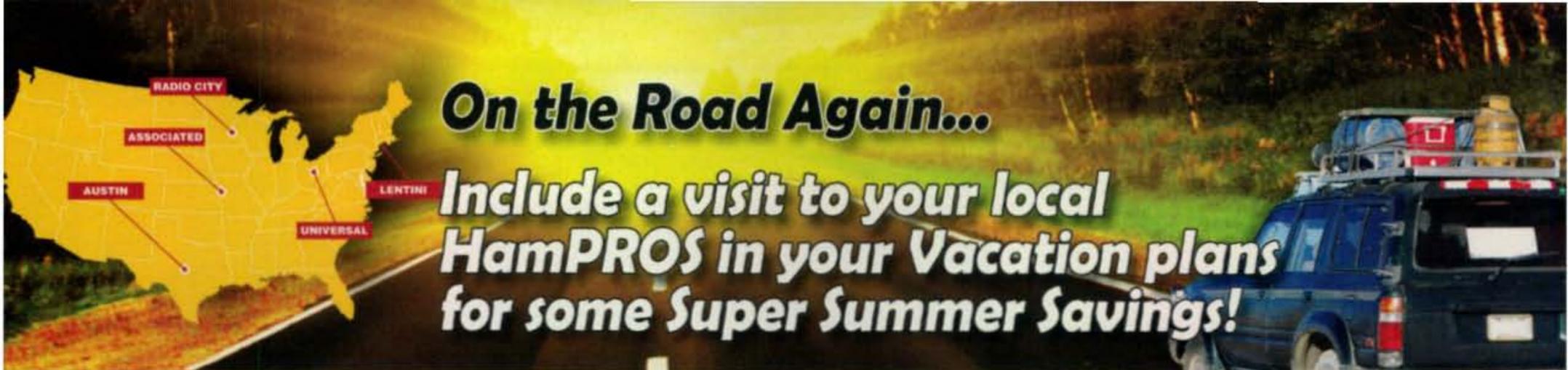
"We have recruited and licensed a local meteorologist (Brian Willard, K4BCW) to run our SKY-WARN (as AEC), the editor of the local newspaper has joined our group, and we are making inroads to all sorts of other organizations with which to network our group."

"Many of our members are newly licensed hams who have skills that apply to our mission. Tom Keith, KJ4FQT (AEC/Personnel), is a retired Army Sergeant Major who brings great motivation and organizational skills to the group. Marc Shockley, KJ4EZQ (AEC/Digital Modes and Equipment), is an electronics wizard.

"We just added an electronics engineer to our roster as well. We are looking outside of the box, finding folks with skills we need even if they are not hams. When we find these people, we license and train them for radio, and then integrate their life skills into our program," Crowder said.

Cooperation

"Communications is as much a relationship business as it is technical," Crowder said. In his Biannual Report, he noted that Mutual Aid Agreements



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Update: Depiction Introduces APRS Live Add-On

Product development officials from Depiction, Inc., say radio amateurs "can now achieve two-way, real-time *visual* communications from within a dynamic simulation scenario using the new APRS Live add-on for Depiction mapping and simulation software."

Featured in *CQ's* January 2010 "Public Service" column, "Depiction is a powerful tool for the integration of multiple types of data, including images, spreadsheets, and GIS files," noted the add-on's creator, Brian Smucker, KF7GDY. Depiction has been used extensively in emergency communications for mapping, information recall, and many other functions.

"The ability to receive Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) data in real time via radio, and to visualize it using the advanced tools that Depiction provides, is a powerful new capability. Now hams can do things that used to only be available to big corporations and large government agencies."

The APRS Live software, produced by Smucker Data Solutions, "takes data received by a radio using APRS and visualizes it within any Depiction scenario the radio operator has created. Scenarios such as search and rescue, emergency response, marathons, and others can be depicted quickly and easily on an ordinary laptop," officials said.

"APRS is a digital communications protocol for exchanging data between multiple radio stations across a region, including position information, telemetry, weather data, short text messages, and more," Depiction said, and "is used by amateur



Two-way, real-time visual communications "from within a dynamic simulation scenario" is now possible during EmComm incidents using the new APRS Live add-on for mapping and simulation software by Depiction, Inc.

radio users for position tracking, gaining situational awareness during emergencies, coordinating large-scale public service events such as bike races and marathons, and more."

The add-on "allows APRS packet information received by a radio and transmitted to a computer using a terminal node controller (TNC) connected to a serial port to be displayed within Depiction as simulation elements. For example, search-and-rescue workers can be tracked alongside a simu-

lation of an 8-foot storm surge, or bike race volunteers can be tracked along race maps. APRS Live also enables the sending of short APRS messages from within Depiction.

Depiction and APRS Live both function without internet access, but if the internet is available, the add-on can bring in APRS data from any of the many public APRS-IS servers across the world."

For more information, go to <www.depiction.com>.

had been negotiated and signed with 12 other ARES® groups in the northeast Georgia region.

"We are actively sharing information and training with these groups. In the event of a disaster that activates us, these relationships and mutual training should help all of our groups perform to the highest standards. These agreements give us ready access to several hundred trained communicators."

In addition to other ARES® groups, Hall County has reached out to the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) and others.

Inter- and Intra-Group Communication

Crowder cites as a "major achievement" the launching of Hall County ARES's® website: <<http://www.HallCountyARES.com>>.

"In just a few months (it) has created quite a stir in the regional EmComm community," he said. "Our site has more



A wide range of HF, VHF, and UHF frequencies communications modes can be utilized from Hall County ARES® mobile communications truck.

online tools and information than any other ARES® website in the state. We are creating a clearinghouse of information for EmComm operators throughout the region." Bob Drumm, N4YT, AEC/Training and Web, has oversight of Hall County ARES's® online component. Bill Sant, KJ4FVT, is AEC/Reports.

On-the-Job Training and Success

In 2009, Hall County ARES® took part in three field exercises. "Two were associated with the quarterly state-mandated tornado drills," Crowder said, "and the other was our participation in the American Radio Relay League Georgia Simulated Emergency Test (SET)."

"Hall County ARES has the highest recorded score in the state, southeast and the nation," Crowder wrote to the membership after 2009 SET scores were announced. "We want to thank all of our operators that helped . . . and encourage everyone to be ready to help with the 2010 SET."

The team had scored 861 points. "To put this in perspective," Crowder said, "a score of less than 400 points won the state and the southeast regional in 2008."

He added that the team has been "running a weekly digital net in which we practice (techniques) with our operators and other ARES® groups from around the state . . . the software and instructions on operating with this exciting mode are available on our website."

Technological Advancements

"Last year, Hall County ARES® adopted the use of the Narrow Beam Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) for the transfer of digital data over the radio," Crowder said. "This system works with HF, VHF, and UHF systems. We can even send data through FM repeaters. We are now considered one of the leading ARES® groups in the state for digital communications. Due to our work with the software developers for this technology, we now have a software application for the easy transmission of ICS-213 (general message) forms from desktop to desktop through our radios."

Crowder said the group has "really pushed NBEMS and digital modes in the region-and a gazillion other projects."

"With the support of the Hall County EMA," Crowder said, "we added both D-STAR and digital modes capabilities" to the station at the region's Emergency Services Complex. "This gives us full HF, VHF, UHF analog, along with VHF and UHF digital capabilities. We have initiated specialized new training for our



For EmComm deployment, Hall County ARES® calls to duty its mobile communications unit, built around a 43-foot High Ranger bucket truck equipped with all-band/all-mode capabilities.

Emergency Operations Team. This will ensure a standard of excellence in the event we are called to support the EMA during a communications disaster."

Broadening the Footprint

Crowder noted that Hall County ARES® has established an Official Emergency Station affiliated with the ARRL. "This station is an all-band/all-mode location with a 60-foot tower, battery backup and generators. We have also configured an emergency communications vehicle, based on a 43-foot High Ranger bucket truck, that has all-band/all-mode capabilities," with plans to obtain and equip a second mobile unit.

"In another long-fought battle," Crowder said, "we have received a \$10,000 grant from the state to add amateur radio to the Northeast Georgia Medical Center, and the hospital is planning on matching that grant to ensure we have the proper equipment to serve their mission properly."

Hall County ARES® has acquired Memoranda of Understanding for five additional repeaters. "We now have priority emergency use of machines from Braselton to Wauka Mountain and over toward Baldwin," Crowder said. "We

also have received coordination for three additional repeaters from SERA (SouthEast Repeater Association) and are on the cusp of getting our funding to install these machines."

Looking Back and Ahead

In closing his Biannual Report, Crowder told membership that "as Emergency Coordinator, I am proud of our progress in 2009 and look forward to an even better 2010. I hope that everyone in the amateur radio community will join us to see our local community served with the best communications capabilities possible."

EmComm in Action: Send Us Your Stories

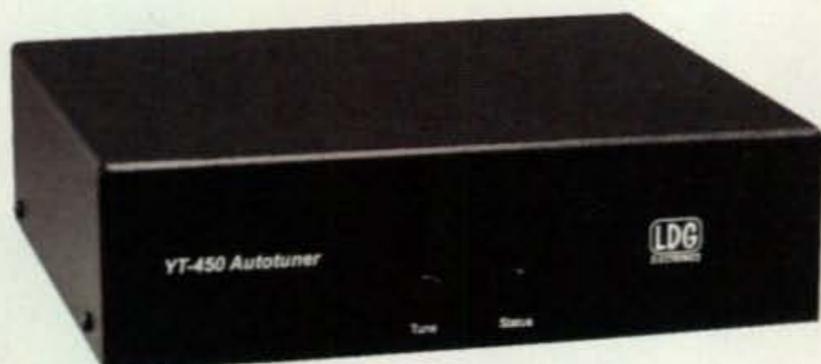
The "worst-to-first" saga of Hall County (GA) ARES® is a great example of how radio amateurs take decisive action to fulfill our fraternity's obligation as public servants.

Do you know of other organizations or operators who have taken decisive action in the EmComm arena? Please let us know, and we'll feature their stories in an upcoming column. Please drop an e-mail to: <ki6sn@cq-amateur-radio.com>. 73, Richard, KI6SN



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radio not included

Z-817

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

Suggested Price \$129.99.



radio not included

AT-897Plus for the Yaesu FT-897

If you own a Yaesu FT-897 and want a broad range automatic antenna tuner, look no further! The AT-897Plus 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 \$199.99**



- RF Sensing
- Tunes Automatically
- No Interface Cables Needed

AT-100Proll

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 with LEDs, allowing you to switch instantly between two antennas. The AT-100Proll requires just 1 watt for operation, but will handle up to 125 watts. Includes Icom interface cable, DC power cable and coax jumper. **Suggested Price \$229.99**



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. Includes Icom interface cable, DC power cable and coax jumper.

Suggested Price \$159.99



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. Includes Icom interface cable, DC power cable and coax jumper. **Suggested Price \$599**



IT-100

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

Suggested Price \$179.99



NEW! AT-600Pro

The LDG AT-600Pro will handle up to 600 watts SSB and CW, 300 on RTTY (1.8 - 30 MHz), and 250 watts on 54 MHz. It will match virtually any kind of coax-fed antenna and will typically match a 10:1 SWR down to 1.5:1 in just a few seconds. You can also use the AT-600Pro with longwires, random wires and antennas fed with ladder line just by adding a balun. It has two antenna ports with a front-panel indicator, and separate memory banks for each antenna. Easy to read LED bar-graph meters showing RF power, SWR and tuner status, tactile feedback control buttons and an LED bypass indicator. Operates from 11 - 16 volts DC at 750 mA. Includes Icom interface cable, DC power cable and coax jumper. **Suggested Price \$359.99**



KT-100

LDG's first dedicated autotuner for Kenwood Amateur transceivers. Easy to use - just right for an AT-300 compatible Kenwood transceiver (except TS-480HX). The KT-100 actually allows you to use the Tune button on the radio. The LEDs on the front panel indicate tuning status, and will show a match in seconds, or even less if you've tuned on or near that frequency before. Has 2,000 memories for instant recall of the tuning parameters for your favorite bands and frequencies. If you have an AT-300 compatible Kenwood radio, you can simply plug the KT-100 into your transceiver with the provided cable; the interface powers the tuner, and the Tune button on the radio begins a tuning cycle. The supplied interface cable makes the KT-100 a dedicated tuner for most modern Kenwood transceivers.

Suggested Price \$199.99



- RF Sensing
- Tunes Automatically
- No Interface Cables Needed

AT-200Pro

The AT-200Pro features LDG's new "3-D memory system" allowing up to eight antenna settings to be stored for each frequency. Handles up to 250 watts SSB or CW on 1.8 - 30 MHz, and 100 watts on 54 MHz (including 6 meters). Rugged and easy-to-read LED bar graphs show power and SWR, and a function key on the front panel allows you to access data such as mode and status. Includes Icom interface cable, DC power cable and coax jumper. **Suggested Price \$249**



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

Meters!



FT Meter 2.5" face with calibrated scales for signal strength, discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit, all selectable from the radio's menu. **Still Only \$49**



FTL Meter For Yaesu FT-857(D) and FT-897(D). 4.5" face with calibrated scales for signal strength, discriminator reading on receive, and power output, SWR, modulation, ALC action and supply voltage on transmit, all selectable from the radio's menu. **Suggested Price \$79.99**



NEW! M-7600 For IC-7600. It will display S-meter on receive, or power out, SWR, ALC level or supply voltages, all selectable from the radio's menu. What's more, the M-7700 and the virtual meter on your radio can work together. **Suggested Price \$79.99**



M-7700 For IC-7700. It will display S-meter on receive, or power out, SWR, ALC level or supply voltages, all selectable from the radio's menu. What's more, the M-7700 and the virtual meter on your radio can work together. **Suggested Price \$79.99**

The #1 Line of Autotuners!



Field Day 2010: What Did You Do?

That time of year has come and gone again. The day looked forward to by young hams, individuals, parents and children, first timers, old timers, clubs, and those who happen to stumble upon ham radio through a Field Day open to the public. Field Day is a fun day with a serious purpose. This day of practice for emergency communications is made into a fun event for all ages and interests. There are some who get together with friends to do some operating, collaborate with their local club, participate individually, have their first Field Day with a parent or sibling, or find a local club at a park or other public place and get interested in ham radio through this event. There are many different things to do during Field Day, especially if you participate with a club. Cooking, setting up, tearing down, CW, phone, GOTA (Get On The Air), logging, etc. Many of the kids I've written about in Kid's Korner so far get involved in some way during Field Day and have shared with me what they did over this exciting weekend.

Paul Shirey, KC9QYB, relatively new to ham radio, describes his first Field Day:

"When I pictured Field Day, I did not picture anything of what I experienced. The first thing I did Field Day related was help set up the various towers and antennas that we had at our Field Day site. That means I spent 9 hours on Friday helping to set up for Field Day. Then I came back on Saturday and was there another 9 hours to operate, though I did not get in that much operating. I did manage to make 22 contacts at the GOTA station on Saturday, including contacting the legendary W1AW.

"When I was not working the GOTA station, I was talking to people or watching other people operate. Then I got the chance to log some of the contacts that we made at the 10-meter station. Ten meters was extremely open during the entire event and we made over 500 contacts. I was not able to stay during the entire Field Day. I left around 9:00 on Saturday evening and I thought that was going to be it, but then my parents brought me back Sunday after church at around 11:00 and I walked over to an unoccupied station. I picked up that magnificent Heil Pro Plus headset and began working stations on 20 meters using one of our club calls, W9PIA, and managed to rack up a good ten or so stations and that was pretty hard, considering band conditions and interference we were receiving from another station on 20 at the site. Next year I plan to do a lot more operating, since I won't have to worry about the GOTA station.

"As my first Field Day, I learned a few very important things, but one of the most important things I learned is that in order to be successful in contests or even operating events such as Field Day, you have to be willing to go out of your comfort zone and do new things such as call CQ, and when

*c/o CQ magazine



Paul Shirey, KC9QYB, had his first Field Day experience this year.

answering back to another station you have to be firm and quick to get it. I also learned many other operating skills that will help me for years to come, but the thing I will remember the most about my first Field Day was my first Field Day contact. I remember how great I felt when I made that first contact and that was the beginning of many I will make for years to come.

"At our Field Day we also got a lot of people using the GOTA station. We had over 60 visitors sign in (most of whom did not have a license) and got almost all of them on the GOTA station. We had eight Cub Scouts and two leaders there also, and one public official. With a demonstration station that was set up, we also racked up bonus points for education. But the thing that made me smile the biggest was seeing a 6-year-old at the GOTA station making his first-ever ham radio contact."

Megan McClellan, K5MEM:

"I did Field Day with my dad at home this year. In the past, though, I did Field Day on a steam-



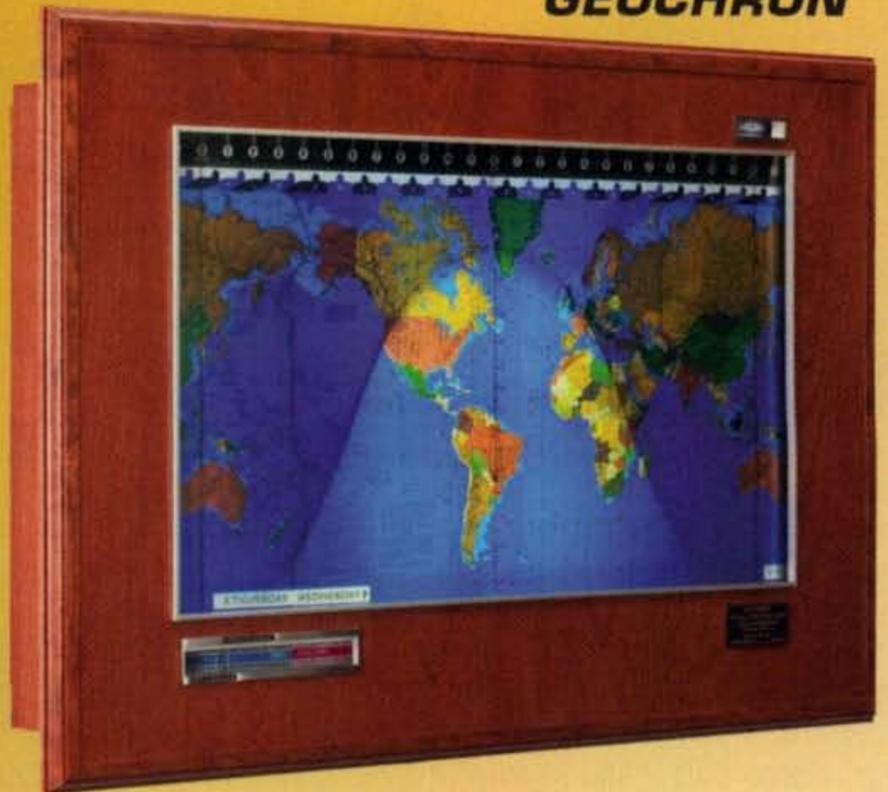
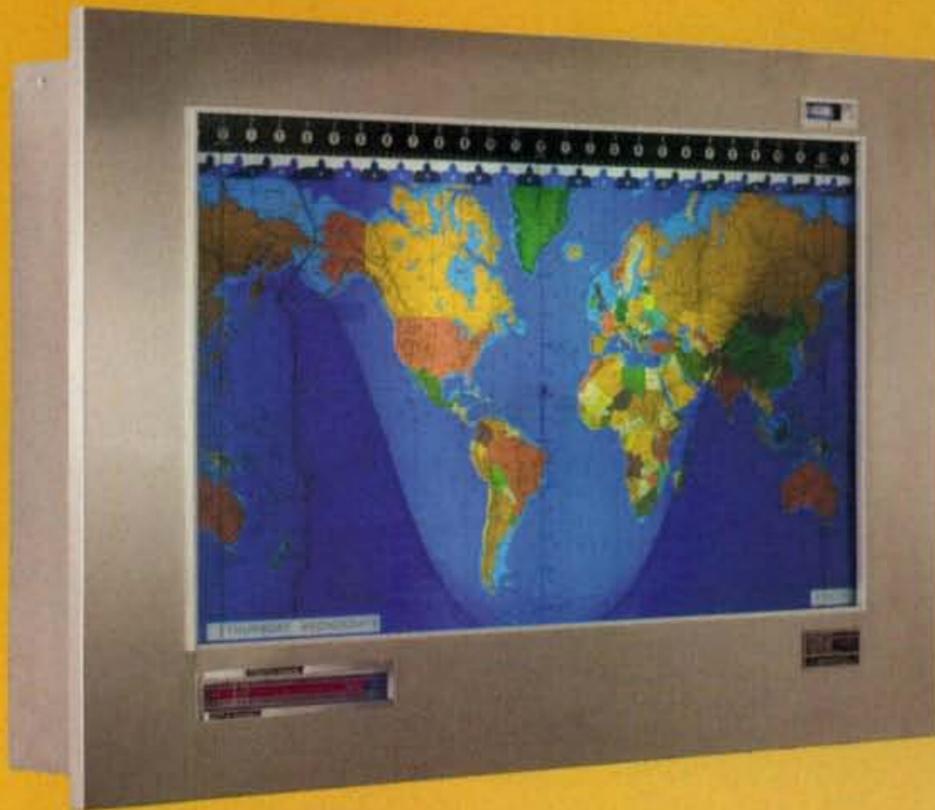
A Field Day veteran, Megan McClellan, K5MEM, operated this year from home on emergency power.

Geochron World Clock

World Time at a Glance

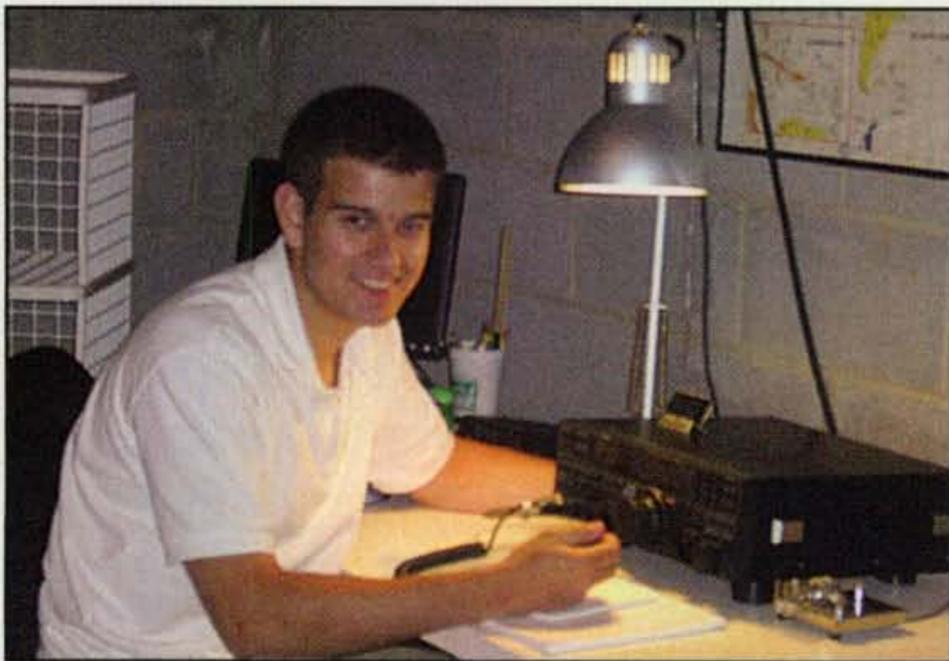


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Nick Esposito, KC2ONP, operated this year with his club in New Jersey.

powered train. We were in a caboose on the end of the famous Texas State Railroad steam-powered train. Yes, we operated railroad mobile. A couple of years ago, I helped run the GOTA station with the Rockwall Amateur Radio Club.

"The year we operated on the railroad was one of the most fun years that I have participated in. My family and I always try to make Field Day a fun experience for everyone involved. We followed the railroad experience by operating with the Rockwall Amateur Radio Club. I helped operate the GOTA station that year. We had a lot of fun. I was able to get some new people interested in amateur radio, and I was also able to convince some people who had not been on the air in some time.

This year was my 8th Field Day and we got 365 contacts operating as 1E NTX with an IC-7700 and a little generator. This year's Field Day was great! We had so much fun. Ten meters was surprisingly good at about 10 PM Central Time. I did a lot of operating. When we calculated the contacts, it came out that I made about half of the contacts, with the other half going to my mom, dad, and a friend."

Nick Esposito, KC2ONP:

"I am a member of the New Providence Amateur Radio Club (NPARC) and we have the club callsign N2XJ. This is not what we use for Field Day, though. We set up two stations at separate locations and use the main control operator's callsign. Our main station is set up at the top of the hill in our area at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey. This is a 3A class station, I believe. We have three tents (phone, CW, and VHF) set up on a field with antennas strung between the trees and a large tower in the center. This station is mainly recreational, because we are not strong enough to get the points necessary to contend for first place. We usually barbeque and grill all day and night. There is food aplenty and always people eating. I like to go up to this station at night around 8 PM, and last year I came home at 9 AM the next day. This year I won't get to spend as much time at Field Day, though, because I have to work the following day.

"There is another station that our club sets up that is a 1F class station we set up at our local Red Cross chapter. This is a serious contest station with an operator schedule. We have done as well as, I believe, second in our class at this station and we try to go for the number one spot. There is always someone operating and we rack up as many QSOs

as possible on all modes and bands (HF). I usually operate there, but I most likely will not be in a slotted schedule there this year. I always go there, though, and bring some friends so that they can get our bonus points for youth contacts. During past Field Days, I have operated the GOTA station that we set up before I was a ham. I have gotten the bonus points for an educational game that I created and demonstrated. I have logged for a CW operator with his help, even though I don't know Morse code very well.

"Field Day is my favorite day on the ham radio calendar because I always attend and have a lot of fun. This will be my second to last Field Day at home, because in the fall of 2011 I will be off to college, where I will continue ham radio."

From the **YACHT Radio Club/DAR Club in Michigan, Ed Engleman, KG8CX**, reports:

"We are now up to 67 youth members along with 20 coach/members, for a total of 87, from 17 states and 4 countries (including the U.S.) We had a FD in conjunction with the M&M ARC. Our call was W8PIF. We had several YACHT members and DAR kids on deck to help operate (see March 2009 'Kids' Korner')."

"It was a very successful event, especially on Saturday, when over 40 people visited and about 15 actually got on the radio and made a contact(s)."

"We also had a VE session on Saturday morning. A total of four took the General upgrade and three passed, including one of our young DAR/ YACHT members, Brett Borski, KD8NAZ. He made dozens of contacts throughout the rest of the day. Along with Derek Hockin, KD8LQB, and Tyler Lehman, KC9FKE, they are three of our best young contesters. All three accounted for well over a hundred of our total SSB contacts. Derek had the honor of starting out F.D. at 1 PM with several dozen contacts. The weather was fine, with only a short rain shower early Sunday morning.

"We owe our appreciation to the Kenneth Jones family, who gave us the use of their large grassy area for the weekend. As I call it, a bit of country within the city of Menominee. Dave Arnold, W8DXX, provided the Kubota diesel tractor for the source of our power. Many others contributed to erecting the antennas and tents. Eric Janssen, KG9GH, acted as antenna/ safety director for the weekend, and all went without a hitch. Food was served late Saturday afternoon. Nobody went home hungry. We even had two city/county officials stop by: the Menominee Co. Sheriff, and Menominee City Mayor. Several DAR Boys and Girls Club members also paid us a



Field Day tower construction for N1FD, the Nashua Area Radio Club's Field Day station at Wasserman Park in Merrimack, New Hampshire.

visit, along with a young fellow from the immediate area, who seemed very interested in ham radio.

"According to Jim Callow, K8IR, approximately 800 contacts were recorded, subject to revision in the coming days."

And ... KB1OGL!

To finish up this Field Day storytelling, I would like to describe my Field Day. It was not my first, and nothing new because I did the same thing last year. Operating-wise it was not the best, because of family events running head-on into one another, making it hard to work out something that worked for everyone. However, I did get to come to Wasserman Park in Merrimack, New Hampshire—where my local club, the Nashua Area Radio Club, operated under N1FD—and say hello to everyone. My family did not really operate, but they did help out the club in a big way by cooking! They shopped and cooked lunch, dinner, breakfast, and lunch again for 25–30 people. I helped out a bit with clean up and all that, and it was very fun to sit and socialize with the NARC. Next year I hope to get on the air, as well as stay the night and camp out like the club did.

One of the most amazing parts is watching the towers be set up and torn down. It takes bravery to go up that high! One of our members, Ed Deichler, was injured doing this (not at Field Day) but is healing slowly. One of his fingers was damaged, and it looked like some sort of freak Morse code keyer accident.

At the NARC Field Day event there is a GOTA station, which I have run before. This year I did not run it, but fortunately there was someone to take up the slack. Aaron Hill, KA1RON, ran it this year. A shy kid of 9 years old, he has a growing interest in amateur radio. His future plans include getting his General Class license and learning Morse code. He enjoyed GOTA and wants to operate the station again next year. He also wants to help set up the towers and climb them. The thing Aaron thinks will get kids interested in radio the most is DX, because as a kid he himself enjoys DX, specifically from Japan.

That's just some of the Field Day reports. I am sure there are many more stories out there. If you didn't participate this year, be sure to give it a try next June. It's a fun experience!

73, Brittany, KB1OGL



Tyler Lehman, KC9FKE, helps Adam, who is new to ham radio, at the YACHT Radio Club/DAR Club Field Day operation in Michigan.

Cody Anderson, KI4FUV Named 25th Newsline Young Ham of the Year

A 17-year-old ham from Harriman, Tennessee, has been named the 2010 Young Ham of the Year by *Amateur Radio Newsline*. Cody Anderson, KI4FUV, is the 25th recipient of the award, which is co-sponsored by *CQ* magazine, Yaesu (Vertex-Standard), and Heil Sound. He was honored for combining his ham radio training and recent CPR training to help save a runner who had gone into cardiac arrest during a charity run.

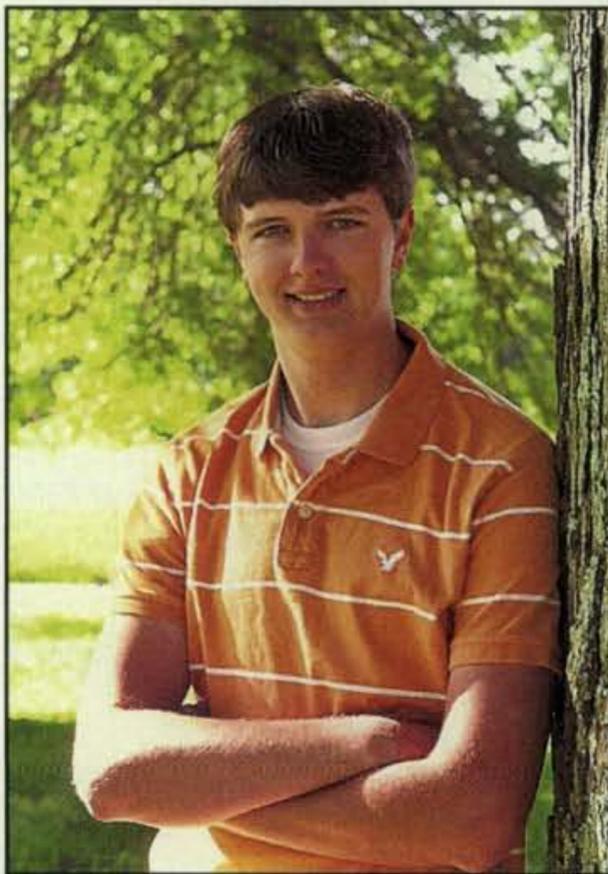
Anderson, who became an amateur at age 11 after listening to a VHF ham contact on a scanner and deciding to get his license, is active in public service communications as a member and Vice President of the Roane County Amateur Radio Club and the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) organization.

During one charity run last year, Cody was providing communications at a checkpoint when he saw a runner fall to the ground.

"One of the runners had (gone) past me and I noticed he fell," Cody told *Newsline*. "I waited just a second or two, you know, to see if he got back up. Maybe he just tripped."

But then, said Cody, "I noticed he didn't get back up, so I went over to him and by the time I got to him he had quit breathing and went into cardiac arrest." Cody radioed in the emergency and, along with a runner who had stopped to help, began doing CPR, a skill he had learned just a few months earlier through a course given by his radio club. Because of Cody's quick action, both on the radio and in providing first aid, the runner survived.

Cody is also active in scouting—where he helps teach merit badge courses and introduces scouts to ham radio—and in technology projects for his radio club and ARES group. A 2010 graduate of Rockwood High School in nearby Rockwood, Tennessee, Cody is planning this fall to attend his local community college and then go from there to Tennessee Tech, where he intends to major in computer science. He says he will always make room for ham radio, noting that Tennessee Tech has an active ham club.



Cody was scheduled to receive his Young Ham of the Year award at the Huntsville Hamfest in August. Along with a plaque provided by Dave Bell, W6AQ, president of DBA Entertainment in Hollywood, Cody will receive additional prizes from the award's corporate co-sponsors. *CQ* magazine provides each YHOTY winner with a week at Spacecamp in Huntsville and an invitation to write an article on a ham radio-related activity with which he/she is involved; Vertex-Standard pays for the winner's trip to Huntsville and provides a gift of Yaesu equipment; and Heil Sound provides a ham radio-related gift as well. *Newsline* hosts a dinner for the winner and his/her family, along with representatives of the sponsors and members of the selection committee who are present.

The Young Ham of the Year award recognizes outstanding service to the nation or community, or the betterment of the state of the art in communications through amateur radio, by a licensed ham age 18 or younger. The award was first presented in 1986 to Shawn Wakefield, WK5P. In recognition of the program's 25th anniversary this year, organizers were planning to collect and present updates on as many past winners as possible.

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The X50NA is an excellent choice where ruggedness is required in a medium-gain, dual-band, base/repeater application.

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Avoiding Injury: Station Ergonomics and Repetitive Motion Issues

Important Disclaimer

I am not a doctor, so if you are experiencing anything similar to my symptoms, please seek advice from your doctor. The information presented in this article comes from internet resources and personal experience. —KH6WZ

As I write this month's column, I am filled with trepidation about an upcoming operation to fix carpal tunnel syndrome on my right wrist and hand. Apparently, I have some nerve damage and after discussions with my doctors, I decided to use surgery to expand the carpal tunnel. Fortunately, my symptoms are not severe, and it looks like I managed to report this problem before major damage has occurred. Presently, the symptom is a continuous numbness and tingling in my fingers.

Now before anyone thinks this an indication that ham radio may be hazardous to one's health, let me say that this problem probably has been building over many years, and most likely caused by poor posture and poor mouse and keyboard operation at the computer, and not the radio.

However, based on hand and finger movements and the need for proper stability of positioning of the hand and wrist on a computer mouse, it might be a good idea to practice safe body positioning

*28181 Rubicon Court, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
e-mail: <kh6wz@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo 1— Operating a computer mouse like this places stress on the wrist area and could lead to carpal tunnel syndrome over time. Avoid placing the mouse too close to the edge of the desk.

and even preventative exercises for certain hams who spend long sessions at the rig, such as contesters and DX chasers. Manipulating the VFO knob and front-panel controls is very similar to moving the mouse while working on a spreadsheet or other document on the computer.

Refer to photo 1. Maggie Batshoun, the Environmental, Health and Safety Engineers Assistant at my full-time job, shows us an improper way to operate a computer mouse. There is too much pressure on the wrist, and as I look at this picture, I recall my mouse placement and the slight pain in my wrist after a long day at the office.

In photo 2, Maggie shows us a better way to position your computer mouse and forearm for more efficient and safe "mousing" while on the internet and working on documents. Notice how



Photo 2— Here the entire forearm rests on the desktop, minimizing stress on the wrist at the carpal tunnel area. Also notice the "computer users' brace" to help stabilize the wrist.



Photo 3— When sending Morse Code with either straight key or paddle, it is important to stabilize the hand and wrist for more efficient and clean sending, and to minimize repetitive motion stress at the same time.

AMERITRON 600 Watt no tune FET Amp

Four rugged MRF-150 FETs at 50 Volts give high efficiency . . . No deterioration with use



ALS-600
Suggested Retail **\$1499**
Ameritron ALS-600 Solid State FET compact desktop station amplifier is only 4 dB below 1500 Watts -- less than an S-unit!

There are no tubes, no tube heat, no tuning, no worry rugged -- just turn on, select band and operate. 600 Watts PEP/500W CW -- lets you talk to anyone you can hear!

Covers 1.5-22 MHz, (10/12 Meters with \$29.95 kit, requires FCC license), instant band-switching, SWR/thermal protected, extremely quiet, lighted peak reading Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, front panel ALC control, operate/standby switch. 12.5 lbs., 9 1/2 W x 7 1/8 H x 12 D in.

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

ALS-600 Amp with Switching Power Supply
New! **ALS-600S, \$1599.** ALS-600 amplifier with 10 lb. **ALS-600SPS** switching power supply combo.



Switching Power Supply

ALS-600SPS
Suggested Retail **\$699**
Works with all ALS-600 amplifiers. Extremely lightweight, just 10 lbs. Superb regulation, very low radiated noise. 9Wx6Hx14 1/2 D in.

From QST Magazine, March, 2005

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

"I found myself not worrying about damaging this amplifier. It seems quite capable of looking out for itself. . . . Kudos to Ameritron."

"I couldn't hear any noise at all from the SPS (switching power supply) on the vertical or quad . . . "

"I came to greatly appreciate the size, weight, reliability and simplicity of this amplifier."

"The ALS-600S makes it possible to pack a transceiver and a 600 Watt amplifier, that together weigh less than 30 pounds."

AMERITRON mobile 500 Watt no tune Solid State Amp

Instant bandswitching, no tuning, no warm-up, SWR protected, 1.5-22 MHz, quiet, compact



Ameritron's ALS-500M solid state mobile amp gives you 500 Watts PEP SSB or 400 Watts CW output! Just turn on and operate -- no warm-up, no tuning, instant bandswitching. Fits in very small spaces.
New ALS-500RC, \$49 Remote Head lets you mount ALS-500M

ALS-500M
Suggested Retail **\$849**
amplifier anywhere and gives you full control. Select desired band, turn On/Off and monitor current draw on its DC Current Meter. Has power, transmit and overload LEDs. RJ-45 cables plug into Amplifier/Remote Head.

Covers 1.5-22 MHz, (10/12 Meters with \$29.95 kit, requires FCC license).

Virtually indestructible! Load Fault Protection eliminates amplifier damage due to operator error, antenna hitting tree branches, 18-wheeler passing by. Thermal Overload Protection disables/bypasses amp if temperature is excessively high. Auto resets.

Typically 60-70 watts in gives full output. ON/OFF switch bypasses amplifier for "barefoot" operation. Extremely quiet fan comes on as needed. Excellent harmonic suppression, push-pull output, DC current meter. 13.8 VDC/80 Amps. 3 1/2 x 9 x 15 in. 7 lbs.

ALS-500M, \$849, 500 Watt mobile amp.

ALS-500MR, \$879, ALS-500M/Remote Head

ALS-500RC, \$49, Remote head for ALS-500M (for serial # above 13049).

ARF-500K, \$179.95, Remote kit for ALS-500M serial # lower than 13049. Includes AL-500RC Remote Head, filter/relay board for ALS-500M, cables, hardware, instructions.

Free online manuals! Ameritron brings you the finest high power accessories!

ARB-704 amp-to-rig interface. . . \$59⁹⁵

Protects rig from damage by keying line transients and makes hook-up to your rig easy!

AWM-30 Precision SWR Wattmeter. . . \$149⁹⁵

Active circuit gives true peak/average readings on lighted cross-needle meter. 3000/300 Watt ranges, Remote sensor.

RCS-4 Remote Coax Switch. . . \$159⁹⁵

Use 1 coax for 4 antennas. No control cable needed. SWR <1.25, 1.5 - 60 MHz. Useable to 100 MHz.

AWM-35 Flat Mobile SWR Wattmeter. . . \$159⁹⁵

1 1/8 in. thin on dashboard. Remote sensor, 25' cable. True peak, Cross-Needle, 1.5 kW, 1.8-30 MHz. High-SWR LED.

RCS-8V Remote Coax Switch. . . \$169⁹⁵

Replace 5 coax with 1! 1.2 SWR at 250 MHz. Useable to 450 MHz. <1 dB loss, 1kW@150MHz.

ATP-100 Tuning Pulser. . . \$69⁹⁵

Safely tune up for full power, best linearity. Prevents overheating, tube damage, power supply stress, component failure.

RCS-10 Remote Coax Switch. . . \$179⁹⁵

Replace 8 coax with 1! SWR <1.3 to 60 MHz. **RCS-10L, \$219.95** with lightning arrestors.

ADL-1500 Dummy Load with oil. . . \$74⁹⁵

Oil-cooled. 50 Ohms. 1500 Watts/5 minutes. SWR <1.2 to 30 MHz. Low SWR to 400 MHz.

New! RCS-12C Fully Automatic Remote Coax Switch Controller. . . \$239⁹⁵

Band data from transceiver auto selects antennas. Antenna memories. No hotswitching. Rig-to-amp interface. For 3/4 BCD, 1 of 8 relay boxes. **RCS-12, \$309.95**, auto controller with 8 coax relay box, to 60 MHz. **RCS-12L, \$349.95**, with lightning arrestors.

ADL-2500 fan-cooled Dry Dummy Load, \$219⁹⁵

Whisper quiet fan, 2.5kW/1 minute on, ten off. 300W continuous. SWR <1.25 to 30 MHz. <1.4 to 60 MHz.

SDA-100 Mobile Screwdriver Antenna \$409⁹⁵

80-10M, fiberglass form, Pittman motor, CNC parts, magnetic sensors, #14 wire, 1.2 kW PEP. 6' whip, \$24⁹⁵

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Photo 4—As you tune the band looking for contacts, the same ergonomic rules apply. Rest your forearm on the desk as you turn the dial.



Photo 5—My workbench has adjustable legs and can be set up so that I can either stand or sit in front of the desk to work on projects. This enables changes in working posture to reduce fatigue from sitting in one position for long work sessions.

the desk surface supports the forearm, hand, and wrist. This minimizes stress on the wrist and increases comfort. Also notice the computer users' brace on the hand and wrist to stabilize the carpal tunnel area.

Computers and Ham Rigs

Now take a look at photos 3 and 4, illustrating the ham radio counterparts to the computer hardware items. As shown in photo 3, your forearm should rest on the table or desktop when using a straight key or paddle when sending CW. Years ago, my ham radio mentor advised me to send Morse Code this way so that each character sent would be easy to understand by the receiving station. I guess the old timers knew something about repetitive motion problems a long time ago.

In photo 4, the rig VFO knob is positioned so that stress placed on the hand and wrist are minimized. Notice how the

Reverse Polarity Protection: Corrections and Comments

A few technical errors crept into the July "Ham Notebook" column on reverse polarity protection. Dave Moorman, K9SW, was the first to catch this oversight.

In fig. 1, the single diode will allow correct polarity through the rig, but will also drop the voltage going to the rig. The diode will get warm or hot, depending on its rating. However, when polarity is applied backwards, neither the fuse nor the diode will blow. The rig will just not turn on, since the diode is operating in the "reverse mode" and blocks voltage flowing through it. However, over time the diode may fail by blowing open. But I would hope the equipment operator would notice this failure mode (hey, I turned it on, but nothing happened), check the power leads going to the rig, and correct the reverse polarity condition.

In fig. 2, if power is applied in reverse polarity, it flows through the diode, shorts directly to ground, and fuse F1 pops. The entire current capability of the power supply will flow through this diode, so if your source of power is a car battery, this could be 100A or more. Thus, if a small 1A diode is used, both the diode and fuse will blow. The diode junction explodes, usually making a snapping sound, and a puff of smoke. I have experienced this situation. I suppose it is possible for the diode to fail shorted, but this is rare. It would be best to use a large-rated diode for this function to make the circuit more rugged.

Jon Titus, KZ1G, correctly points out that a single bridge rectifier module can be used instead of the four individual diodes shown in fig. 4. The current and voltage should match the equipment needs. In this case, the current will always pass through two diodes, so the output from a bridge used this way will drop about 1.4V, or 0.7V per diode. That means a 12V input produces 10.6V on the output. Also, the diodes each dissipate 0.7V times the current drawn ($I \times E$), so the bridge module might need a heat sink for high-current loads.

Also in fig. 4, there is a missing connection between fuse F2 and diodes D3 and D4.

The circuit shown in fig. 5 is intended to power small 12V-operated devices such as a handie-talkie or a lightweight battery charger. Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, points out that most three-terminal regulators are rated for about an amp, so may have limited use and are not suitable to power a transceiver. A crowbar circuit, using a silicon controlled rectifier (SCR) and a Zener diode would be more suitable. Many AC-operated power supplies have this feature built-in. Here is a web page that describes a crowbar circuit: http://www.radioelectronics.com/info/circuits/scr_overnoltage_crowbar/scr_overnoltage_crowbar.php.

My apologies for this oversight, and I thank my eagle-eyed readers Dave Moorman, K9SW, Jon Titus, KZ1G, and Todd Roberts, WD4NGG, for catching this. Thanks also to Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, for his assistance. —Wayne, KH6WZ

forearm rests comfortably on the desktop. This placement seems contrary to the trend on the rig shown (a classic Heathkit SB-102 from the 1970s), since many HF rigs, including this one, have "feet extenders" to tilt the front panel upward when facing the operator. This tilt may improve dial visibility, but it sacrifices ergonomics for the wrist and hand. I removed the extenders from this radio.

Speaking of the similarities between computers and radios, hams now have access to the software-defined radio (SDR). In effect, you operate an SDR sort of like a virtual radio, since you use the computer to make traditional adjustments such as frequency changes, filtering, and receiver volume. A computer monitor screen replaces the radio front panel. In this case, there is no VFO knob per se, but you use a mouse to point and click your way through the bands. Surrogate knobs exist as accessory items, and I hope SDR users consider

proper posture and body positioning when setting up their stations.

In the Shop

Working with power tools may also contribute to this condition. Portable, hand-held power tools with a lot of torque and vibration may contribute to carpal tunnel syndrome, so one must be careful of how the tool is held. When shopping for a



Photo 6— Maggie demonstrates a useful stretching exercise for carpal tunnel syndrome. (See text for details.)



Photo 7— Another conditioning exercise for carpal tunnel syndrome relief is the finger exercise shown here. (See text for details.)

Field Day mapping with Depiction

Carrollton, TX - On June 26, 2010, Dale Finley, KBNFT, joined hams across the country in participating in Field Day. Finley made his a bit extra special, though, by depicting all his contacts using Depiction mapping software.

Using contact zip codes from QRZ.com, Finley was able to quickly produce an interactive map, or "depiction" of the location of his contacts across the country. Depiction also enabled him to annotate his map, and use custom icons for each contact type.

"There are so many ways that hams can use Depiction,"

Finley said. "From mapping license and club locations, to tracking using the APRS add-ons, to disaster simula-

"There are so many ways that hams can use Depiction."

Dale Finley, KBNFT

tions and much more, Depiction provides very powerful capabilities."

Finley has used Depiction in other ways as well—working with his local ARES group, the Boy Scouts, VOAD groups, the city of Denton, Texas, Red Cross and other groups.

He has created depictions to support projects, such as bike rides, emergency drills, amateur radio presentations, Eagle Scout projects, as well as other tasks and events.

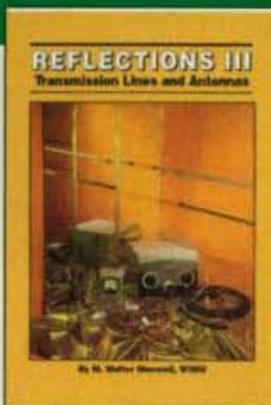


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new tool, it would be a very good idea to actually hold it in your hands and feel for any awkward hand or arm positioning that may exert pressure or torque on the wrist and forearm. These days, I try to use my stationary power tools (such as the drill press and sander) instead of their hand-held counterparts.

When working at your workbench, it is a good idea to maintain proper posture, just like working at a desk in the office. Keep your feet flat on the floor, and make sure you are not over-reaching anything you need to perform your task. My workbench is set up so that I can either sit or stand in front of it, as shown in photo 5. The workbench is actually an adjustable computer desk from Ikea called "Jerker." Unfortunately, it is no longer available. However, other workbenches, workstations, and desks are available that have an adjustable

Injury Prevention: Exercises and Breaks

I asked my doctors and physical therapists if my carpal tunnel syndrome condition could have been prevented. While I did not get a definitive answer, perhaps the best advice I can pass on is to first make sure furniture, posture, and body and hand positioning are stabilized and arranged to minimize stress. Also make sure you take frequent breaks while working and do some exercises to help improve and maintain flexibility.

Maggie shows some stretching exercises that will help reduce carpal tunnel syndrome. I do these regularly now. In photo 6, press and hold your hand against a wall, with your wrist facing upwards. Hold this position for about 20 seconds, then switch to the other side. Repeat this 10 times. Be careful when

References

The U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) has some excellent information on safe practices in the workplace and many of these apply equally to your home, ham shack, and workshop, too. The section on computer workstations is especially good for ham station setups.

OSHA: <<http://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/oshasoft/index.html>>

Mailing Address: U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20210
Toll-free U.S. phone: 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)

Online Resources

"Guide to Setting Up an Ergonomic Computer Station," by Chris Adams
<http://ergonomics.about.com/od/office/ss/computer_setup.htm>

Cynergy Ergonomics, Inc.

<<http://www.cynergyergonomics.com/ergonomic-workstations-adjustable.htm>>
Mailing Address: 13144 Barrett Meadows Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021
Phone: 314-304-0221; fax: 314-984-9269

"Kid-Comfort and Computers At Home—Keeping Kids Healthy While Using the Home Computer": <<http://www.childsoftpress.com/Whatsnewergo.htm>>

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function. This enables anyone to customize table height for proper posture and comfort. An office or industrial furniture store would be a good place to look for ham station and workshop furniture.

you do this. If it feels uncomfortable or is painful, reduce the amount of time and number of repetitions until you are able to do this easily.

Photo 7 shows a stretching exercise for the fingers. Basically, you press and hold one finger against another for about 10 seconds, and do this for each of your fingers on both hands. Like the wrist stretch, you may have to limit the pressure-hold cycle for only a few seconds, and increase the time as you build more strength, agility, and flexibility. Repeat this stretching cycle 10 times.

Other things to help prevent carpal tunnel syndrome include sleeping with your wrists straight or use a splint and avoid flexing and extending the wrists repeatedly.

I am going to take my own advice this month, and will close this installment of "The Ham Notebook" for now. In the meantime, it might be a good idea for all of you to make an ergonomic assessment of your station and workbench, and maybe even your office, to make sure you are not contributing to a possible injury.

73, Wayne, KH6WZ

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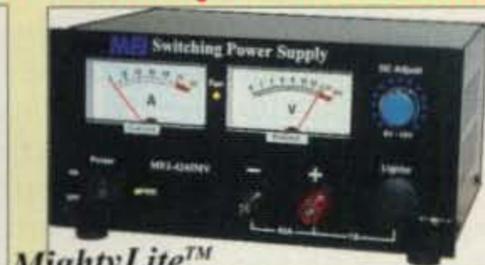
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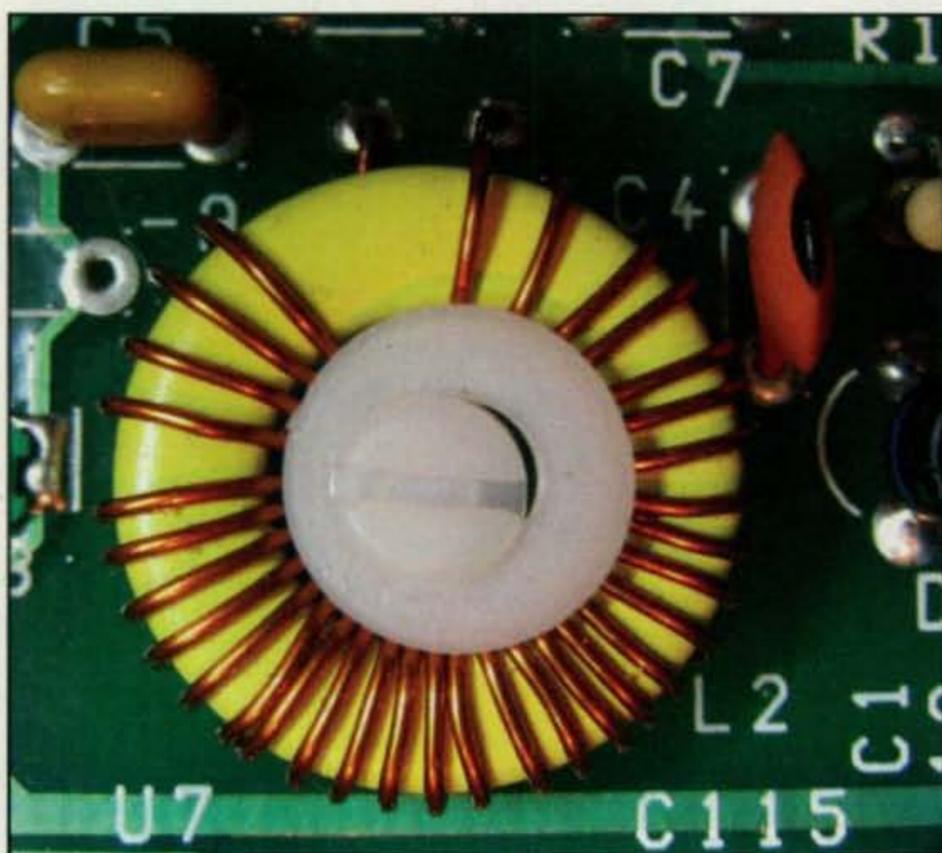
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Building the Retro-75, plus the PAC-12 Antenna Kit

With so many kit radios primarily being CW, it is not often we see one that is full carrier AM. The Small Wonder Labs Retro-75 is just that—a 75-meter AM transceiver! When I first saw this kit, I could only wonder how it works and how they can produce a good-quality AM signal with a minimum of components? The answer on the transmit side of this kit is its Class C output amplifier. It is modulated by using an audio output transformer to vary the supply voltage to the power amplifier. This way the characteristic Class C non-linearity is not in play, as the transformer allows a varying voltage to be supplied to the amplifier, which modulates it from a 2 watts carrier to 6–7 watts peak while modulated. It is similar to the method used in high-power AM broadcast transmitters, but without the huge transformer needed, as the power output level is low.

For the builder, this kit has just five toroids to wind, and reviewing my January 2010 column will give you many ideas about how to handle that task. One of the toroids is mounted flat onto the board to prevent it from moving and causing annoying microphonics. It is fastened in place using the supplied nylon screw, nut, and washer and stays secure to the board. The instructions don't really give much guidance as to the order in which you mount the

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Closeup view of the large toroid in the middle of the Retro-75 board. Notice that it is secured horizontally using a nylon screw.

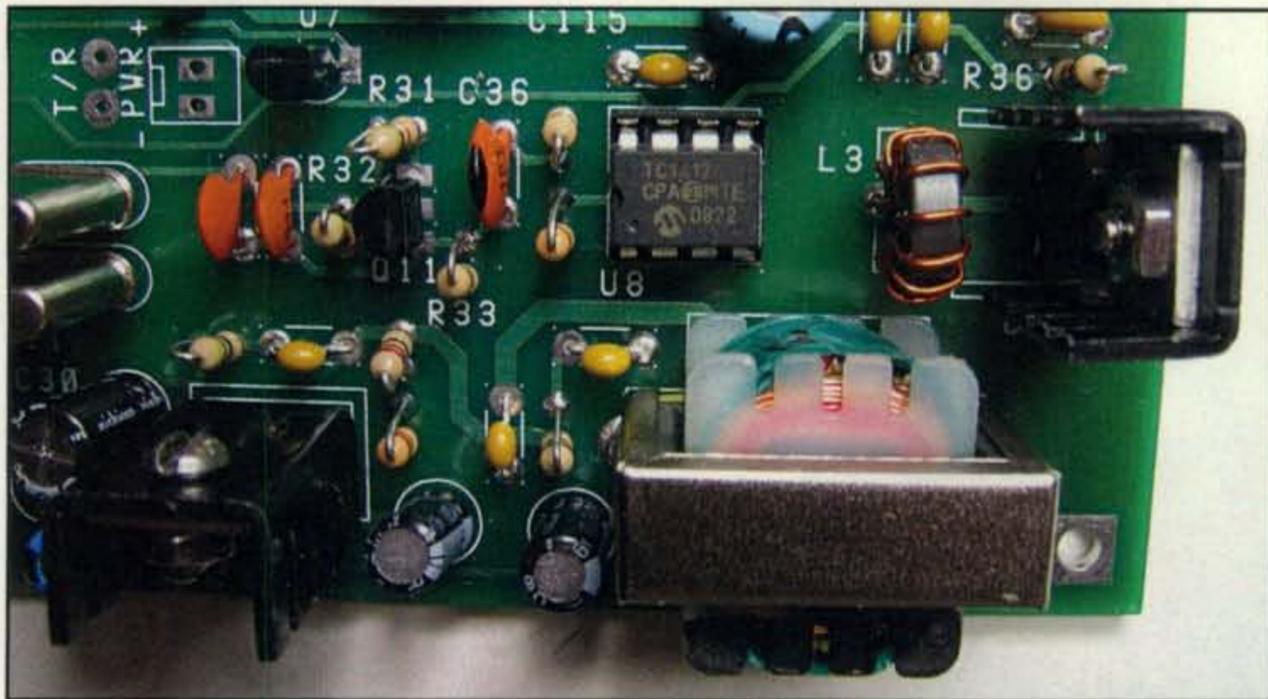
components, so I adopted my own sequence in order to reduce any chance of mistakes.

The way I did it was to first mount all of the resistors in order of their value, starting from lowest to highest. Looking at the parts list, it is easy to work your way down the resistors and then take one value at a time and place all of those in their proper positions. By placing the resistors first, you get a roadmap to guide the next step I followed, and that is to do the same with the capacitors, also starting out with the lowest values up to the highest values. By mounting all of the resistors and capacitors first, you take care of the vast majority of the components, and now have narrowed down the empty spaces for the larger parts to follow, as well as the semiconductors. When mounting the crystals, be extra careful to keep them far enough above the board to prevent the crystal cases shorting against a lead on the top side of the board. Don't forget that one of them also has a wire that needs to be soldered from the case to a specific board point.

I mounted the semiconductors next, including the diodes, transistors, and other components, followed by mounting the transformers, IC sockets, and ICs, and lastly the toroids. I mounted the toroids last to prevent injury to them from the constant moving of the board to place the other components. There is an LED that is mounted on the main board to check the transmitted modulation that can also be mounted on the front panel of your chosen cabinet. It is used to show the peaks when modulating the transmitter, and I think it is probably best to mount it so it can be seen rather than hiding it on the main board.

To align the receiver, there is an IC installed that only performs signal generation/precision voltage generation tasks to allow you to place the receiver right on frequency using a digital voltmeter. It is not needed for the proper operation of the radio once completed and can cause problems if left in after alignment. Remove it from its socket and find a safe place to keep it for future use. I would suggest keeping it on a small piece of antistatic foam and taping it inside the case. It would be too easy to misplace it otherwise, if it is not kept inside the finished kit.

The kit itself is available from Small Wonder Labs at <<http://www.smallwonderlabs.com>>. Small Wonder Labs sells the board-only kit for \$69 and a case and controls kit for \$40, but keep in mind that if you just order the board kit, it will not come with any external switches, jacks, or pots needed to complete it. If you do not want to order the case and controls kit, check suppliers such as Mouser or Digikey for these parts, as well as RadioShack for the suggested microphone for the best-quality audio. RadioShack carries the pots and switches and jacks at most of



Modulation transformer and modulation transistor, and RF output stage of the Retro-75.

its stores. Ten-Tec makes a case that fits this board perfectly. The Ten-Tec TPC-43 is what Small Wonder Labs recommends and is already painted. To order Ten-Tec enclosures, go to <http://www.tentec.com>.

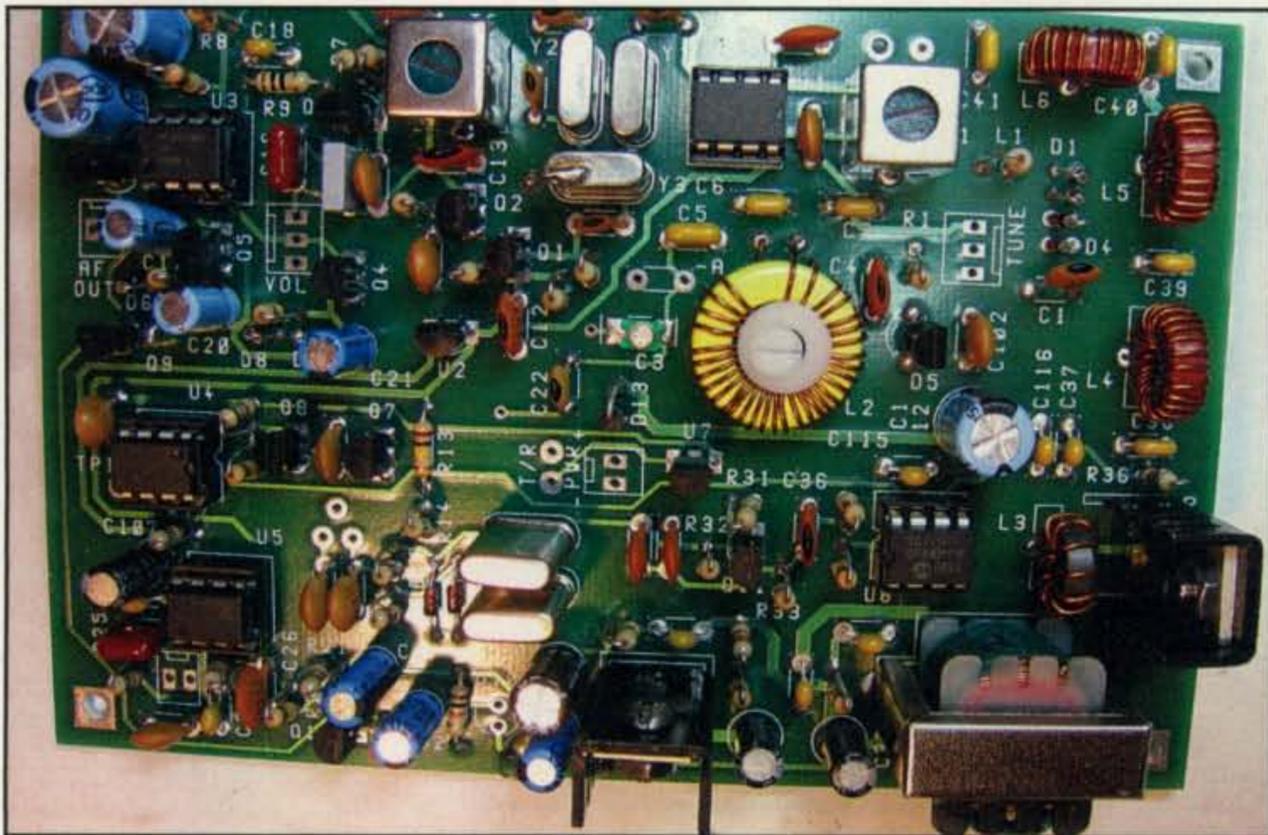
Pacific Antenna PAC-12 Kit

Before the weather gets too cold, let's look at the Pacific Antenna PAC-12 kit. The great thing about this kit is that all of the parts are already drilled and tapped, leaving you with only the task of making the coils for the different bands and putting it all together. The most complex part of the kit is the feed-point assembly, which involves only making two wire jumpers and following the directions regarding the proper parts, screw, etc., needed. Just be sure

you use the correct color wires in order to be able to recognize the ground and hot sides of the antenna. This part of the kit must be carefully done to be sure that the antenna will work properly and involves a lot of screws and washers.

The loading coils are very easy to wind, but I have a suggestion that will make them last longer and look better. I use a large-enough-diameter heat-shrink tubing to cover the coils, which protects them from coming loose or getting insulation scraped off their enameled wire. I used white heat-shrink tubing so I could write on them to indicate for which band the coil was made.

Amazingly, once this kit is built, it can be assembled in the field often in less than a minute and enjoyed on HF. It is very light weight, weighing in at just over a pound, making it ideal for backpack-



Retro-75 finished board without connections attached.

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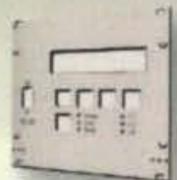
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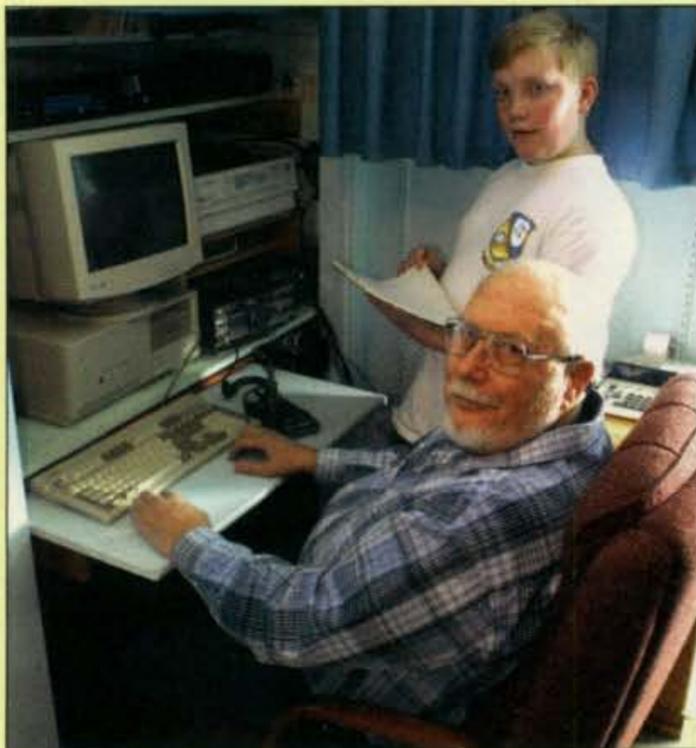
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On the Cover

There are three generations of hams in the Stone family of Jackson, Wyoming. Fourteen-year-old Kenny is KE7GXX; his grandfather, Jim, in whose shack their photo was taken, is WB7CQS, and his parents are Scott, N7NHN, and Kathy, KB7QKH.

Jim has been licensed since the mid-1970s, motivated by an interest in electronics and some friends who were hams. He eventually got involved in RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service), which led to his spending 12 years as Teton County (WY) Emergency Management Coordinator. He has since retired from that position to devote more time to the family western-wear business. Jim says emergency communications is still his primary ham radio interest, even though he hasn't been as active in it recently. "You may be able to retire from it," he notes, "but you don't get away from it."

Jim says he got his son, Scott, into emergency management, and then "he got his license—which surprised me—and then his wife got her license. ... When Kenny got his Tech license (four years ago), Scott upgraded to General at the same time."

Kenny was nine years old when he earned his license and was the youngest ham in Wyoming at the time, according to Jim. He says his grandson is very interested in computers, but his interest in ham radio also caught him by surprise. "Just out of the blue, his dad said he was working on his license," Jim recalled.

Jim says that Kenny—who is starting 9th grade this fall—does some radio/control on ham frequencies, but mostly the family uses 2 meters for communicating between vehicles when off-roading and traveling together.

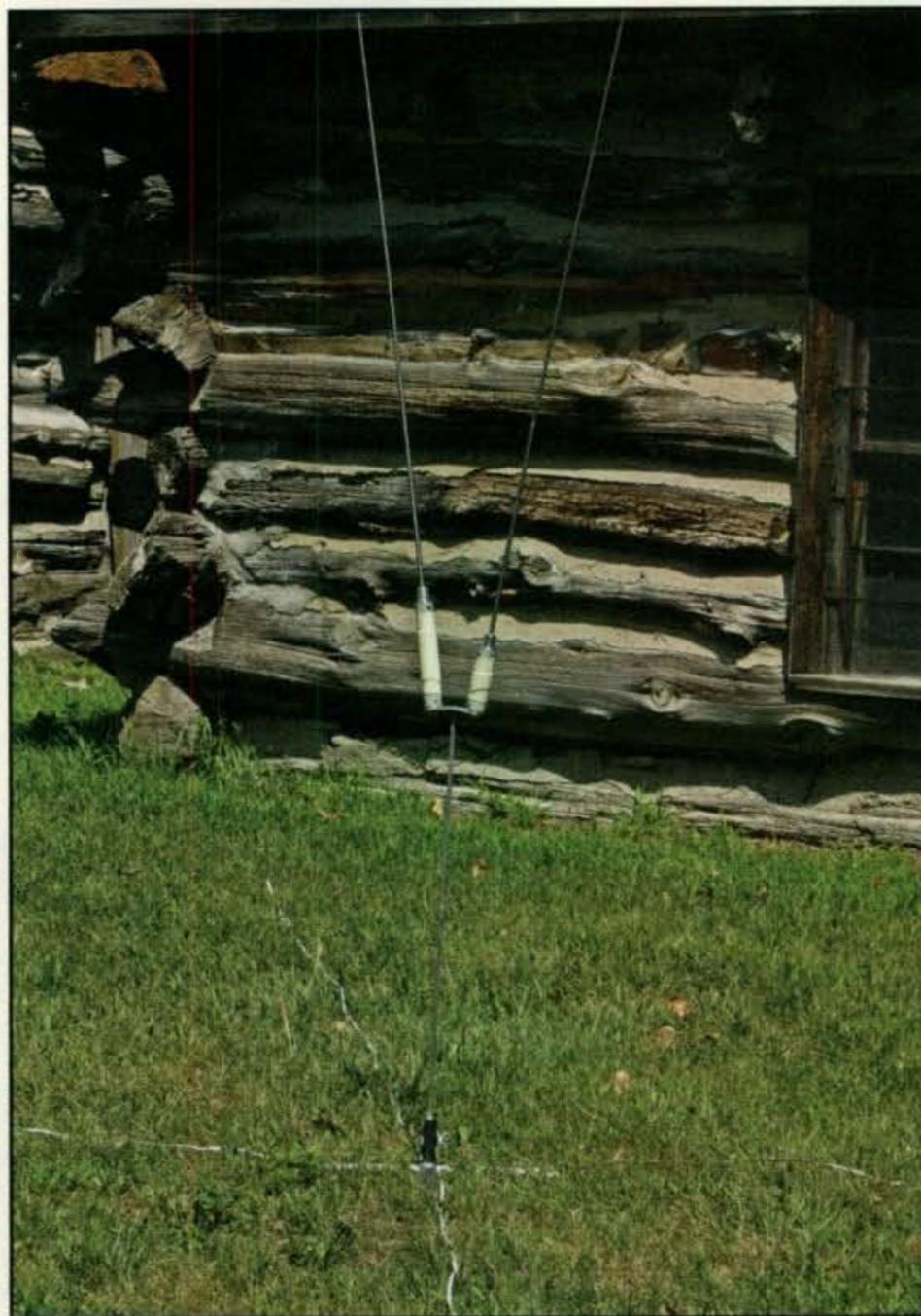
"I value my ham license immensely," Jim concluded. "It takes a lot of work to get it."

(Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI)

Oops...

We must have had our MP3 players up too loud while interviewing July "cover model" Rick Lagerstrom, KN6FR. Rick's antenna is a Super Antennas MP-1 portable antenna (not an MP3), mounted on a Super Antennas tripod base. For more information, see <http://www.superantennas.com/>.

Also, we had several questions and comments regarding the discussion of reverse polarity protection in July's "Ham Notebook" column. See this month's column for corrections and clarifications.



PAC-12 antenna with dual-band adapter.

ing and camping. I have worked a lot of stations with mine, and since the PAC-12 is a vertical, it enjoys a low angle of radiation, making for great DX opportunities. Be sure to follow the directions concerning assembling and using the radials, as the antenna will not function without the supplied radials being extended from the base. The PAC-12 can be ordered at: <http://www.pacificantenna.com>, with a basic two-coil kit starting at \$85.

Soldering

Finally, a few words about soldering. I have been reminded that a few suggestions are in order when it comes to soldering on PC boards. I have seen many kits handed to me that did not work, and the main reason was solder connections that were not made correctly. The connections often looked like a little round ball of solder standing on top of the board and not flowed into it. My rule of thumb is to look at it carefully through a lighted magnifier and see if it is ball shaped, or if it looks more like a Hershey's Kiss. The "Kiss" shape only comes about when solder has flowed into the hole and the wire is bonded effectively to the board. Using enough heat is the key, as the ball-shape connection is often due to inadequate heating, or a dirty soldering tip. If you are having trouble making it flow correctly, make sure your tip is clean and turn up the heat a little at a time until you find the temperature where the iron melts the solder and heats the board enough to let it flow and bond correctly.

Take your time to solder correctly and enjoy the experience! Until next time . . .

73, Joe, KØNEB

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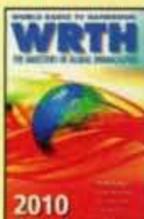
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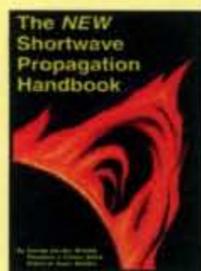
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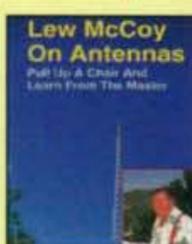
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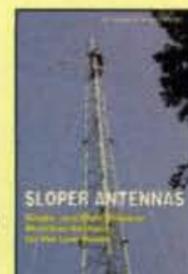
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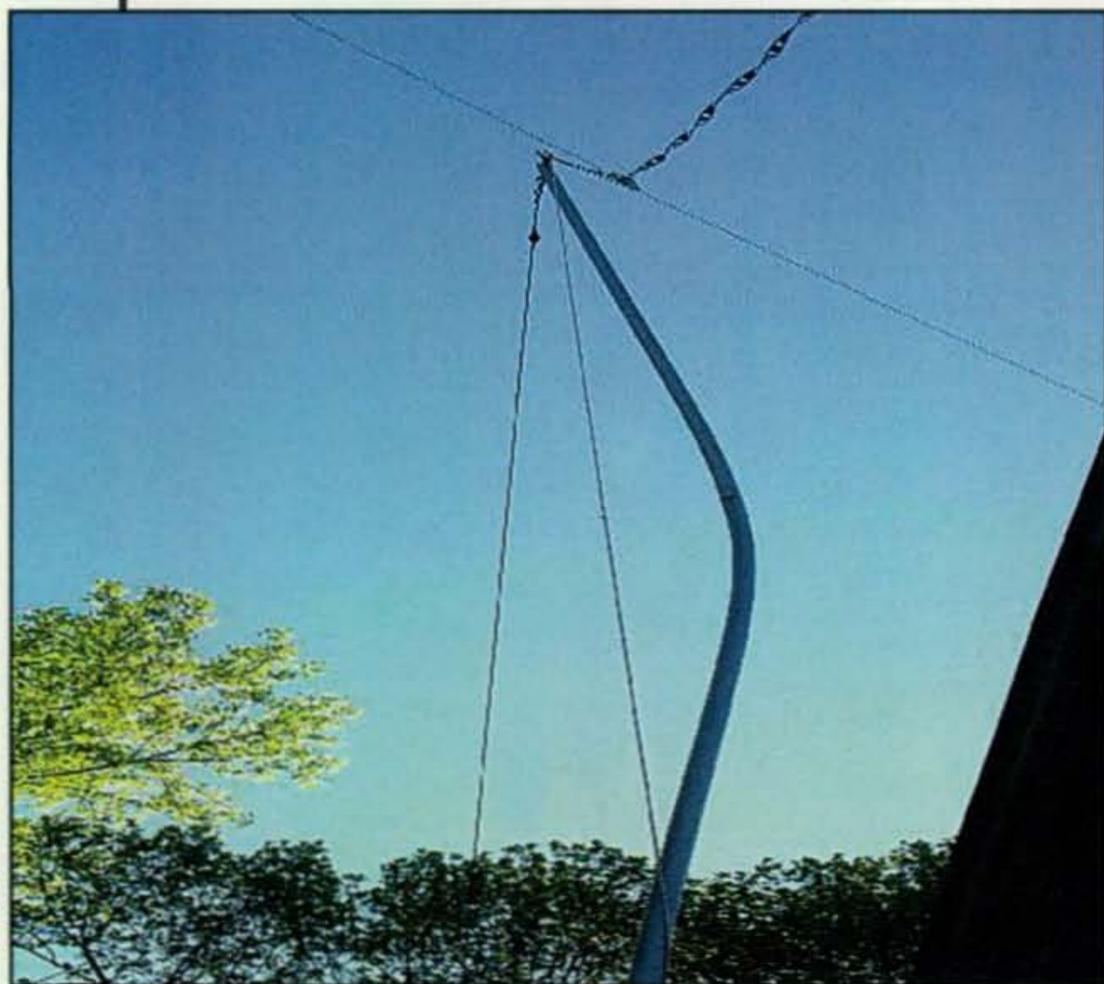
Angle of Radiation (and Why it Matters!)

Welcome back to "The Learning Curve." The summer months were an exciting time here at The Bent Dipole Ranch on the outskirts of beautiful Dacula, Georgia. Thanks to the Barrow (County) Amateur Radio Emergency Service (BARES) club, I was able to upgrade the HF antennas here at K7SZ. About mid-April, an "antenna eating tree" came down in my back yard and took out the end of my 40-meter EDZ dipole. It not only "ate" the end of the antenna, it managed to bend the 30-foot support mast that held up the center of the Zepp—hence the name "The Bent Dipole Ranch" (see photo).

I am very indebted to Bill Wilson, KJ4EX, the president of BARES, who braved my roof to erect a 40-foot push-up steel mast which now supports the center of the 40-meter EDZ, making the actual center of the antenna about 55–60 feet above ground level. I do notice a substantial difference in performance, also. Thanks "BARES"!

One bit of old business: Many, many thanks to all those readers—such as Will Dennis, W1WA,

*770 William St. SE, Dacula, GA 30019
e-mail: <k7sz@live.com>



Here we witness the results of the "antenna eating tree" that bent my 40-meter Extended Double Zepp. Once the end was back up in a nearby tree, the dipole worked again, but it works a lot better now that it is up almost twice as high, as this shot shows!

George Russo, W3TLB, Bill Wilson, W5VDM, "Van" Van Patten, W8ZHJ, and Bruce Biddlecome, WA7SQD (a fellow USAF Tech Controller), to name just a few—who responded to the first couple of "Learning Curve" columns. It seems that the column on learning CW resonated quite well among both new and old-time hams. That was some serious feedback! Keep it coming, gang! I cannot stress enough the need for all of us columnists to have a feedback loop regarding our column content. It keeps us on track and lets us know what *you* want to read about.

In upcoming months we will dedicate this column to a couple of my favorite ham radio endeavors: DXing and contesting. Those are on tap for October and November, respectively. The timing of these columns is to take advantage of the coming upswing in band propagation (not to mention a flurry of sunspot activity over the last couple of months) and the "official" start of the 2010–2011 contest season. As usual, if you, the reader, want me to cover something special, or some area you are interested in, please don't hesitate to contact me via my e-mail: <k7sz@live.com>.

Efficient Antennas

OK, gang, whadda think? Time for some more antenna theory/application? Sure, why not! One thing is certain; antennas offer the radio amateur the best chance to improve his/her on-the-air signal and increase station efficiency at reasonable cost. Adding efficient antennas is a sure-fire way to wring the most performance from your gear and greatly increase your enjoyment of the hobby.

Dipoles are the easiest and least complicated antennas to build and install, of that there is no question. However, getting a dipole to perform well as a DX antenna on 80 and 40 meters when it is relatively low to the ground is an almost impossible task. Setting aside the complicated mathematics and antenna-modeling software for a moment, let's just say that a dipole antenna at less than a half wavelength above ground will leave something to be desired when it comes to a killer DXing antenna. The lower to the ground, the more the RF signal is radiated vertically (affectionately known by hams as a "cloud heater") and the less effective the antenna is for DX.

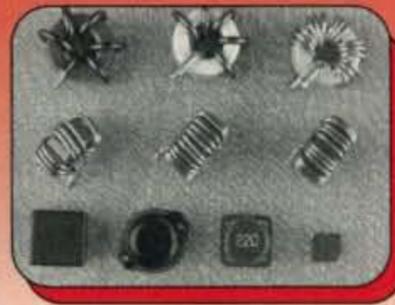
Why is that? Glad you asked. Normally when we speak of antennas for DXing (hunting and bagging the elusive countries in the far corners of the world) we concur that they have a low angle of radiation. ARGHH! I can hear you now! OK, OK, too many terms, so let me back up a bit.

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as the *lowest* angle (referenced to near-by ground) that the RF signal takes as it leaves the radiating element (wire or aluminum tube) and heads for the ionosphere. The smaller this angle, the "lower" the angle of radiation. What this means, in effect, is that the smaller you can make this "take-off angle" the farther out into space the radio wave will travel before it encounters a reflective layer in the ionosphere and is bent back toward the surface of the Earth. This equates to longer "skip distance," which is the physical distance (in miles or kilometers) that the RF wave travels from the time it leaves the antenna until it returns to Earth. The longer this distance, the farther your signal travels and the farther you can make contacts. Ideally, if you can get a take-off angle of less than 12 degrees, you have a good DX antenna. However, beware, as this low take-off angle is a double-edged sword.

While a very low take-off angle is desirable for DX, it also leaves a huge area between the antenna and the first return of the RF wave to the Earth's surface where *no* signals will be present! Hence, you might want to consider having a mix of several antennas in order to maximize your chances of working both near and far DX.

Here's an example: Let's say you live on the West Coast, right outside Los Angeles, maybe somewhere such as Table Mountain (been there ... really beautiful). In order to take advantage of propagation on 40 meters you decide to erect a huge 40-meter wire beam antenna pointed east to work the rest of the U.S. and get into Europe and Africa, which are hard targets to hit on 40 meters from the West Coast.

After toiling in your workshop, you've fabricated a 4-element 40-meter Yagi and have suspended it in some of those huge 90-foot tall pine trees on Table Mountain. That's a *big* antenna! You're going to have a killer DX array, for sure. The 40-meter band opens up about sunset and "gets long" (communications distances lengthen out) towards midnight. Hot dang! Gonna work some DX tonight!

After firing up the rig and twisting the transmatch dials, you are ready for your big 40-meter debut. Hit the button on the keyer and out comes a string of "CQs" and your call. Sit back and wait for the pile-up. Hmm ... give it another try: "CQ." Nothing. Check the tuning. Everything's fine—low SWR, plenty of power output. Try it again: "CQ". Nothing. What's going on? This isn't fair. I did my homework!

Well, in all actuality you did your homework a little too well. Setting up a 4-element 40-meter Yagi approximately 80 to 90 feet in the air on a site such as Table Mountain, with its abrupt topographic dropoff to the east, you're going to have an excessively *low* angle of radiation, making your first skip zone somewhere around the Azores (CU2-land) out in the middle of the Atlantic. You have several choices: (1) lower the antenna, (2) reduce the elements by dropping the forward Yagi element (called a "director"), or (3) start over from scratch!

The aforementioned antenna on Table Mountain is a bit of an exaggeration—or is it? Only the Zuni Loop QRP Expeditionary Force knows for sure! Suffice it to say that there are a number of ways you can achieve DXCC and not go to the expense and Herculean effort of erecting a tower and beam antenna.

An Air-Cooled, Omni-Directional, Vertically Polarized Dummy Load

That's right, gang We're talking about vertical antennas! Of all the antennas that radio amateurs use, the 1/4-wavelength vertical is the one most maligned and misunderstood by all but a few stal-

wart users. In this column we are going to dissect the $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength vertical, and I'll offer a few hints and kinks on how to optimize a vertical installation to make it into a real DX-getter!

There are a myriad of vertical antennas to choose from on the commercial market. To be candid, there is very little difference in the majority of trapped $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength vertical antennas. They are short compared to the lowest bands that they cover, and they use "traps" to electrically isolate sections of the antenna to achieve an acceptable radiation pattern and feedpoint impedance. To be sure, there are vertical antennas out there that are a full $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength long, but the majority of the verticals in use are physically short to reduce their overall visual profile. This lower profile is a godsend to those antenna-challenged hams who have to deal with Draconian housing covenants. In some cases, a vertical antenna stealthily installed is the only way condo-dwelling hams can get on the air at all.

Without a doubt, the best $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave trapped vertical I have ever used was a Hustler 4BTV. No, I don't own stock in the company, and I don't have any freebies on the side. The 4BTV I used at Lajes Field, the Azores, was located on the flat roof of my on-base house. I had it elevated about 6 feet above the roof with four radials per band, which were also elevated. The 40-meter radials were tied off to nearby trees, but the rest fit nicely on the roof. I took my time tuning the vertical and it performed like gangbusters! While I have used other brands over the years, that 4BTV on my roof with elevated radials produced a lot of DX contacts. I worked DXCC in a little over 12 months using just that one antenna. I will begrudgingly admit that the CT2 callsign helped a little, but my antenna was the real hero from the middle of the Atlantic.

Does that mean that if you got a 4BTV you could do something similar? Yup. You could also do it with a Hy-Gain 14AVQ or 18AVQ, or any of a number of other brands. It's how much attention you pay to setting up the antenna, running an effective ground radial system (also called an RF counterpoise), feeding it properly with good, high-grade coaxial cable, and lastly . . . "it's location, location, location!"

Dissecting a $\frac{1}{4}$ -Wave Vertical Antenna

Think of a $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave vertical as only *one half* of a dipole. The other half will be

the ground radial system that you will deploy at the base of the vertical. Once we look at the vertical itself as a part of an antenna system, it is easy to see how it all relates to performance.

The physical properties of the vertical portion of the antenna are composed of sections of aluminum tubing interconnected by "traps," capacitive and inductive elements, which act as an open circuit to radio frequency emissions, thereby making the rest of the antenna "invisible" to the RF. The first section is normally the highest frequency element, and the trap just above this first section of tubing keeps the RF from going any farther up the antenna. Let's say you go down in frequency and change bands from 10 meters to 15 meters. This first trap is now totally transparent to the RF, but the trap above the second section now acts to isolate the top sections of the antenna. When you go to 20 meters, that second trap now acts as a short circuit, allowing RF energy to travel farther up the antenna to the top of the 20-meter section.

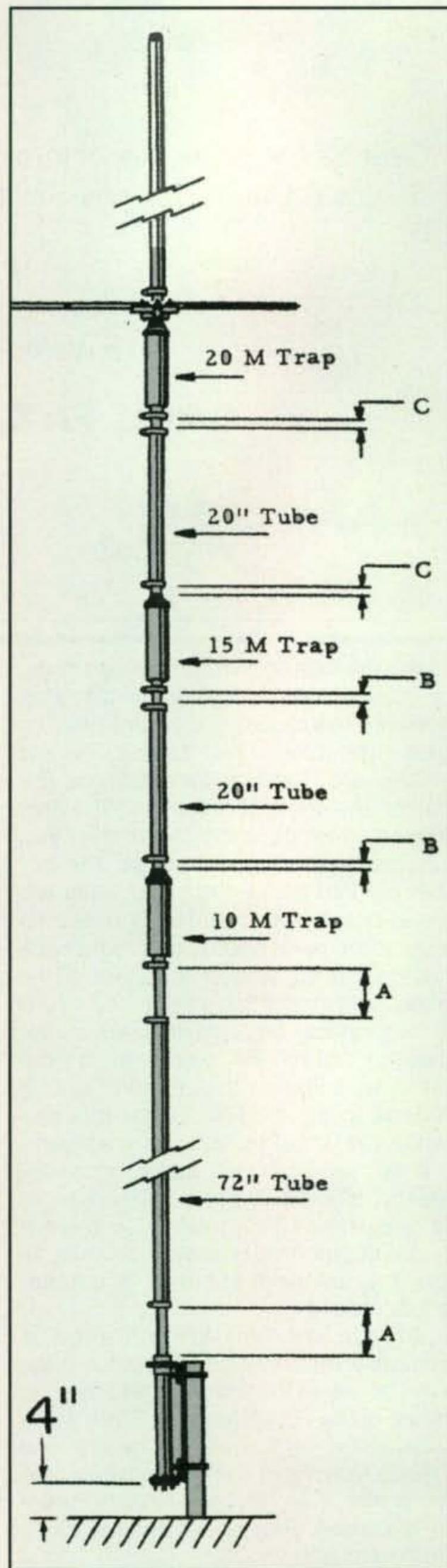
I think you get the point by now. Unfortunately, by the time you get to 40 meters on one of these antennas the actual aluminum tubing tends to be a bit short for that band. Most $\frac{1}{4}$ -wave verticals are only about 22 feet long (plus or minus a bit). A quarter wavelength on 40 meters is about 33 feet, so you can see how the 20-foot vertical element is quite a bit on the short side. This is normally overcome by the addition of a "capacity hat" or a series of spokes at the very top of the antenna. This capacity hat adds a large quantity of electrical length to the antenna, allowing it to function on 40 meters. The Hustler 4BTV uses "top loading," whereby a coil of wire and tunable short whip are placed atop the last section (40 meters) and electrically lengthen the antenna. In either instance, the antenna is phys-

A drawing of the Hustler 4BTV trapped vertical. Note the 10-meter radiating section is lowest to the ground (if ground mounted). The trap above this section acts like a switch to prevent any of the RF from going farther up the antenna. When we go to 15 meters (the section immediately above the 10-meter section), the 10-meter trap acts as a short circuit providing RF to go up to the top of the 15-meter portion. Note the capacity hat near the top of the 40-meter section. This adds "electrical length" to the vertical to make it look like a full-size 40-meter element.

ically short for 40 meters but can be made to look full size.

I "Dig" What You're Saying, Man!

If the vertical element is one half of the dipole, where is the other half? Glad you asked! The other "half" is made up of the ground. That's right ... good old



Mother Earth. Unfortunately, Mother Earth is a rather poor conductor of electricity and RF energy. That is why when we use a 1/4-wavelength vertical antenna we also need to "plant" a bunch of radials at the base of the antenna extending out from the base like spokes in a wheel. Early on, in the beginning days of broadcasting, it was deemed good engineering practice to place 120 radials at the base of the antenna, each one a 1/4-wavelength long! Can you imagine trying to do that on a city lot?

There has been a lot of research done regarding vertical antennas and ground radial systems recently thanks to the efforts of Jerry Sevick, W2FMI (SK) in his outstanding book *The Short Vertical Antenna and Ground Radial* (available from the CQ Bookstore) and Rudy Severns, N6LF, and his timely article "An Experimental Look At Ground Systems for HF Verticals" (March 2010 QST, page 30).

It boils down to the fact that you do need to plant a bunch of wire in/on the ground to make up the antenna segment, but you don't need to put down a huge amount of wire to accomplish the task. According to N6LF, the magic number of radials needed is 16, above which there is little improvement in performance. The nice part about this is that the radials only need to be approximately 25 feet in length, not 33 feet (for 40 meters) or 67 feet (for 80 meters). Thank you! I don't know about you, but I have planted a lot of radial wires over the years, and this back-breaking work is no fun, and even less fun in rock-hard Georgia clay!

A bit of time spent with an antenna analyzer (you can't get my MFJ Model 269 away from me) adjusting each element length to achieve proper resonance (the elements inter-react on a trapped vertical) will pay huge dividends in how your vertical antenna performs. You want a good, low angle of radiation—which verticals yield provided the ground radials are in place—to snag the DX. A combination of a good trapped vertical antenna with a multi-band dipole will yield a nice little inexpensive antenna system that will give you lots of DX contacts and hours of fun on the bands.

That's a wrap for this time, gang. We will revisit vertical antennas in the future, as we have just scratched the surface of these wonderful DX antennas. In the meantime, cruise the hamfest flea markets and pick up a used HF trapped vertical for your antenna farm. This is a great time to "plant" new antennas!

73, Rich, K7SZ



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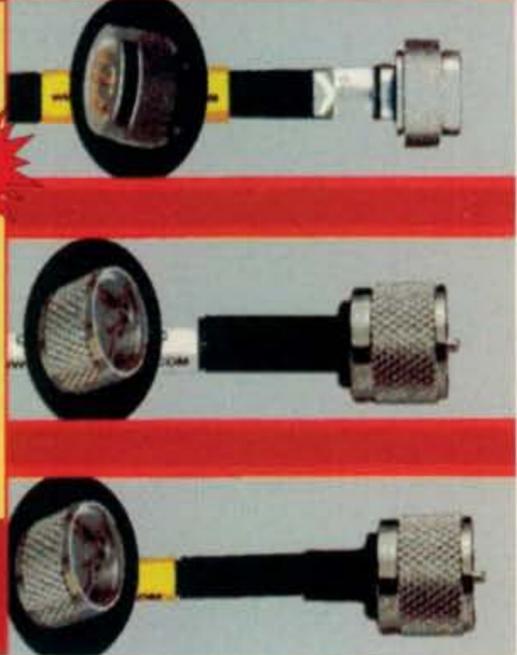
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Stacking Dissimilar Antennas

Perhaps you have this common problem: 10 feet of mast sticking out the top of the rotator, and 63 antennas you would like to mount on that mast. Along with that comes the question of just how closely we can mount all these antennas before seriously damaging their gain and radiation patterns. I decided to find out.

In these tests, I took two commercial Yagis for 440 MHz and 915 MHz and tested both their gain and then their patterns at different spacings. In each case, the antenna not being tested was terminated with a 50-ohm load.

440 + 915

The test started with just the 440-MHz Yagi, measuring its gain and its pattern. Then the 915-MHz Yagi was mounted 16 inches above it, as shown in photo A, and forward gain was again measured. I lowered and lowered the 915-MHz Yagi, keeping the 440-MHz Yagi in the same spot (see photo B), until gain dropped $\frac{1}{4}$ dB. That $\frac{1}{4}$ dB was really determined by physical limits. As you can see in

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



Photo A— Measuring a 440-MHz Yagi and its interaction with a 915-MHz Yagi.



Photo B— Spacing before we saw $\frac{1}{4}$ -dB drop in forward gain.

photo C, the mounting brackets were touching before I saw even a $\frac{1}{4}$ -dB degradation in forward gain of the 440-MHz Yagi.

Next we have the combined patterns for the two antennas in Plot 1. The pattern of the 440 MHz Yagi alone is in red, and the plot with both the 440-MHz Yagi and the 915-MHz Yagi as close as their hardware would permit is plotted in blue. There is some minor differences in the side lobes, but not much difference overall.

At this point, I would like to thank David, KF5FPA, for helping to bring my data into the polar formats. When I do antenna pattern measurements, I use a rotator that makes a full turn in almost exactly 60 seconds for 1 RPM. I then set the spectrum analyzer to zero span, 60-second sweep, one sweep only. I mount the antenna, start the rotator and the spectrum analyzer at the same time, and the spectrum analyzer displays a nice linear plot of the antenna and antenna side lobes. Linear plots are great for my work and have many advantages over polar plots, but most of you are more familiar with the polar-type antenna plots. So I saved the trace data and KF5FPA put the data into Excel and produced the polar plots in this column.

915 + 440

Now we go the other way in photo D. In Plot 2, I have the plot of just the bare 915-MHz Yagi in red, and then mounted the 440-MHz Yagi above it. This time I kept the 915-MHz Yagi in the same place and slowly lowered the 440-MHz Yagi until I again got a $\frac{1}{4}$ -dB drop in forward gain. This time the spacing was 5.5 inches. The lower-frequency Yagi with its longer elements had far more effect on the 915-MHz antenna than the 915 MHz had on the 440 MHz, but again the effects were small.

Of course I went further. In photo E, you can see that I took the 440-MHz beam right down to where the driven elements were about to touch. In this setup, I saw -3.2 dB lower forward gain, but most of the loss in gain was really due to a higher SWR in the 915-MHz antenna. Therefore, the loss indi-

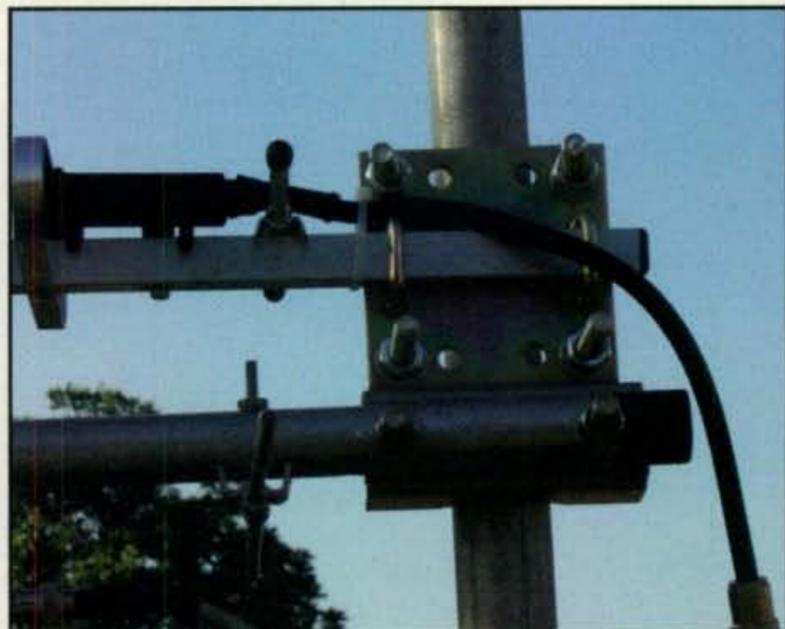


Photo C— It was really the mechanical limits of the mounts!

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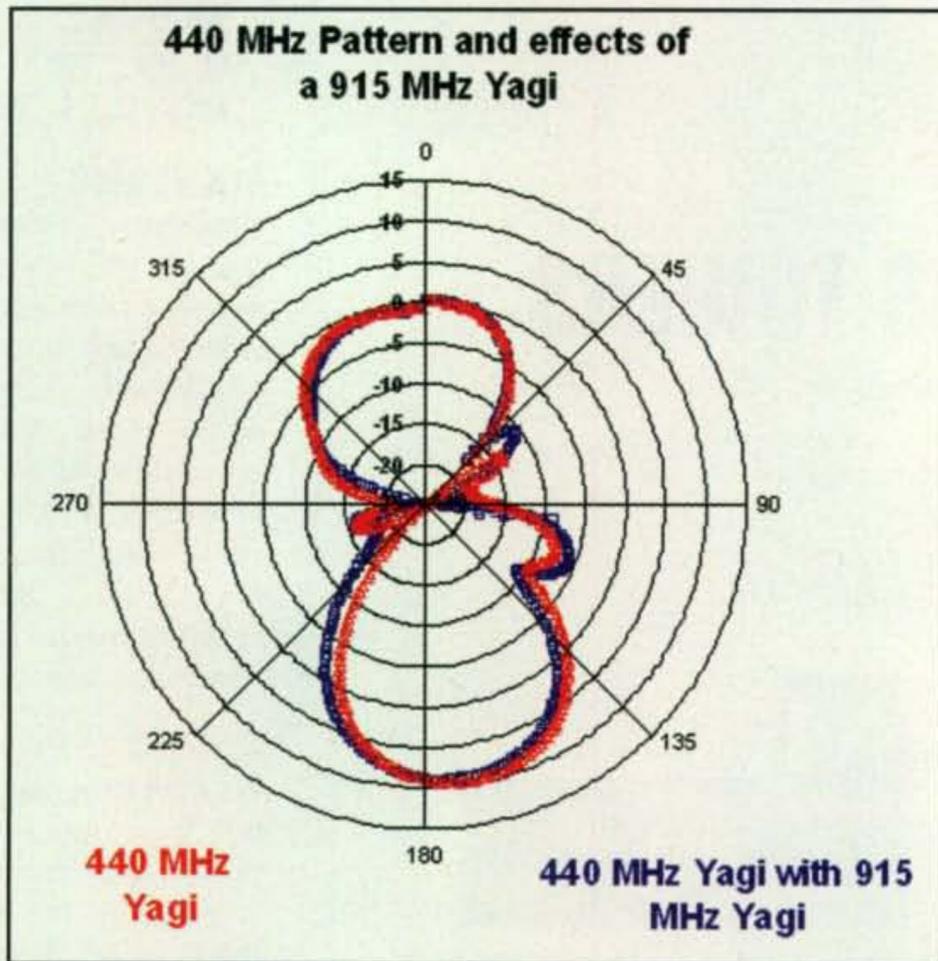
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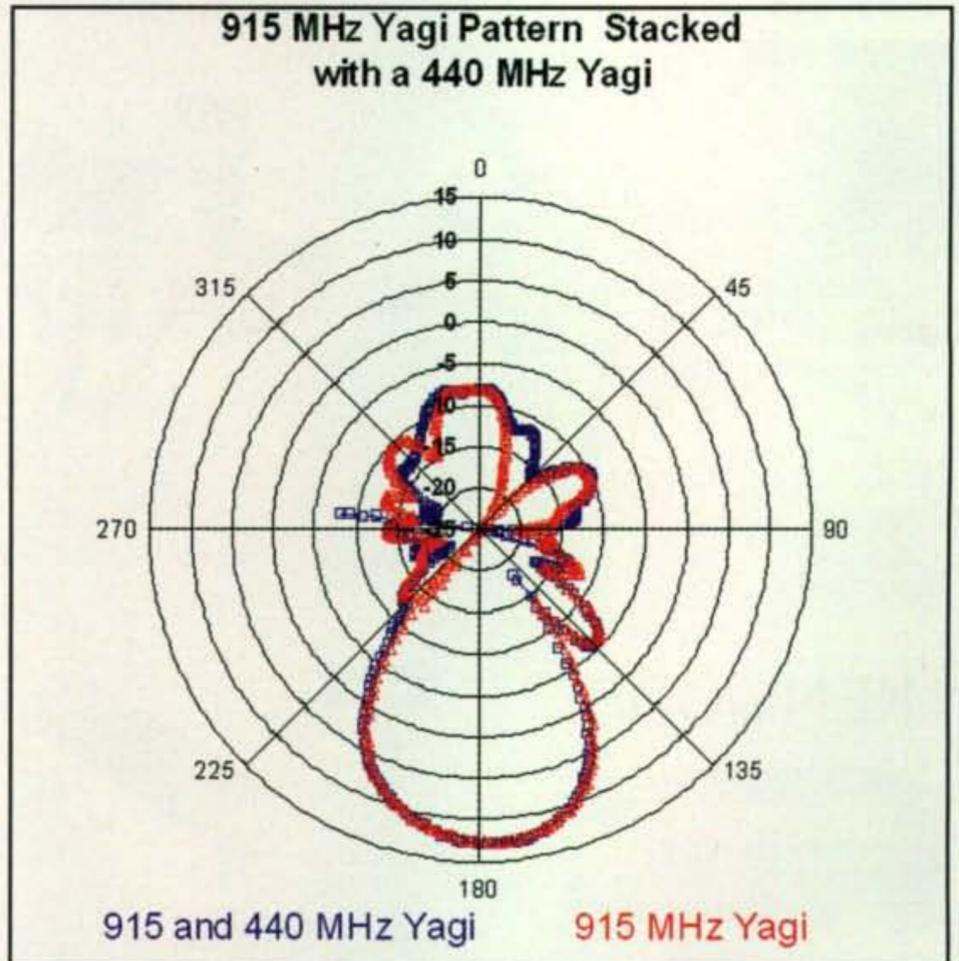
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Plot 1— 440-MHz Yagi with and without a close-spaced 915-MHz Yagi (see text for details).



Plot 2— 915-MHz Yagi with a 440-MHz Yagi spaced at 5.5 inches.

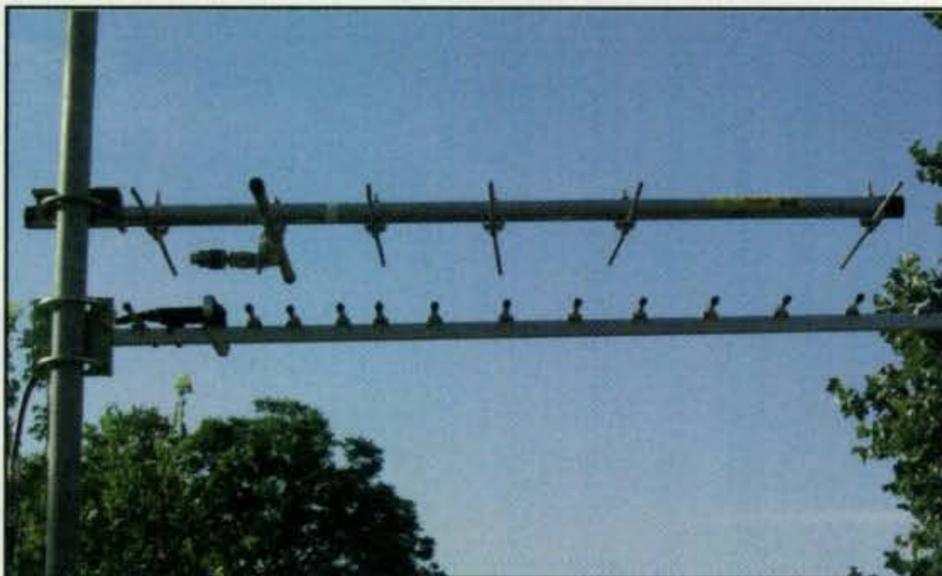


Photo D— Measuring a 915-MHz Yagi and its interaction with a 440-MHz Yagi.



Photo F— This Force 12 multiband HF Yagi has elements for different bands so close they're on the same boom! (Courtesy of Force 12 Antennas)



Photo E— Again, measuring to the mechanical limits.

cated that the power was being mismatched and reflected, not that there was a pattern change.

Bottom line: The higher-frequency Yagi has almost no measurable effect on the lower-frequency Yagi until the hardware is touching. The lower-frequency Yagi has more effect on the higher-frequency Yagi, but again, you have to get them pretty close. Yes, I have a virtually infinite number of antenna variations to look at, but antennas can be stacked much more closely than many pundits suggest!

Heck, just look at the multiband Yagis you see on HF where three, four, even five bands might be built onto one boom, such as the Yagi from Force 12 in photo F. Yes, when you look ahead in your design work, the interaction among elements for the different bands can be better allowed for, but it doesn't seem to be all that bad to begin with.

Coming Attractions...

Looking ahead, keep an eye out for old fiberglass whip antennas. Old CB whips such as the ones in photo G are perfect for this, and while you're at it, some heat-shrink tubing that

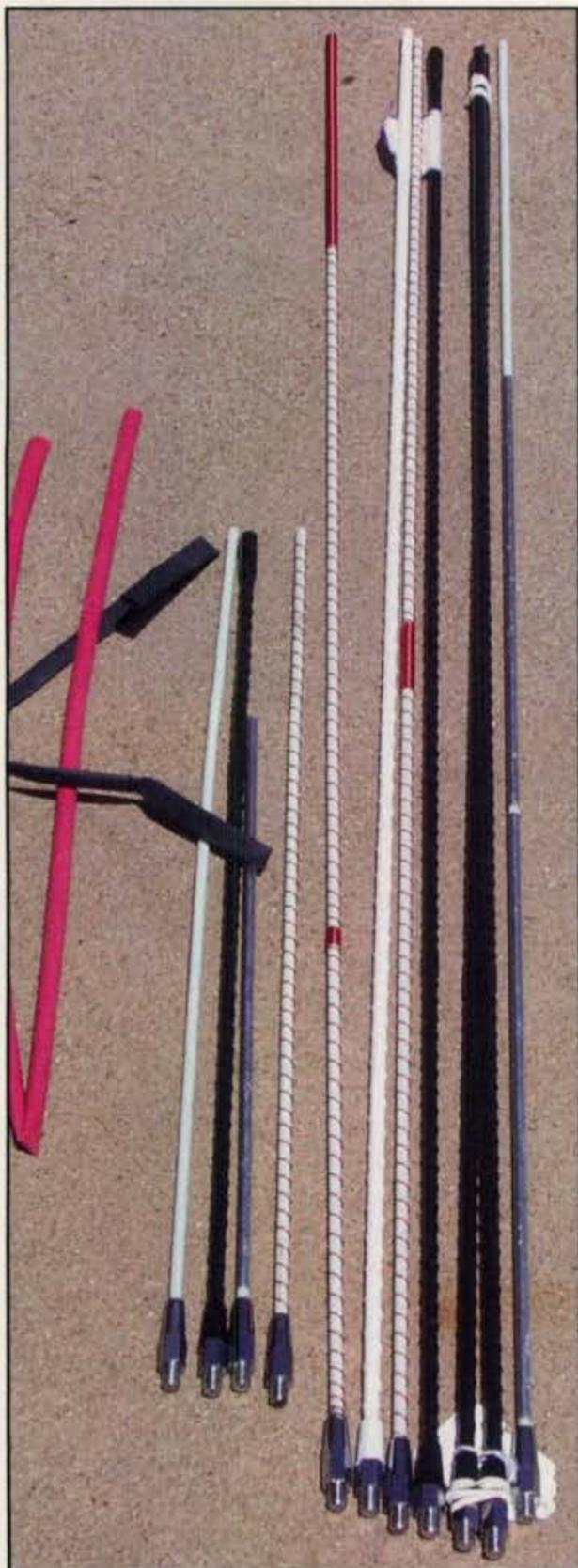
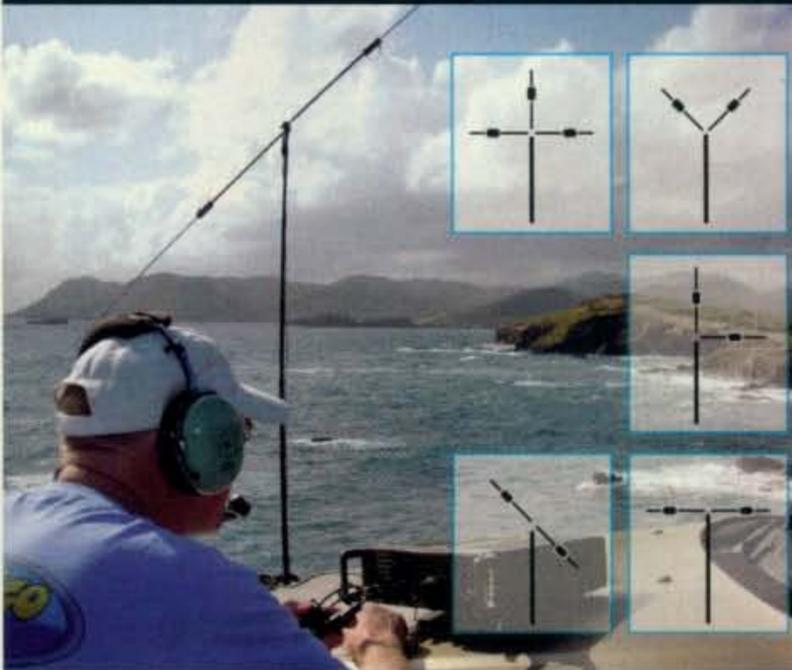


Photo G— Coming attractions, how to recycle that fiberglass CB whip.

will go over the fiberglass rod will be handy as well. I have been playing with some multiband versions for 10 and 2 meters and for 6 and 2 meters, as well as single-band versions and even a 2-meter $5/8$ -wave fiberglass whip made out of an old CB whip. Thus, if you see some old CB whips going for real cheap at a sale, you might want to get a head start on some of my future construction projects and pick up a few.

As always, we welcome your questions and suggestions for future topics. Just drop a snail mail to my address on the first page of this column 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


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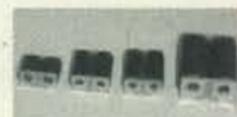


HF Amplifiers
PC board and complete parts list for HF amplifiers described in the Motorola Application Notes and Engineering Bulletins:

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



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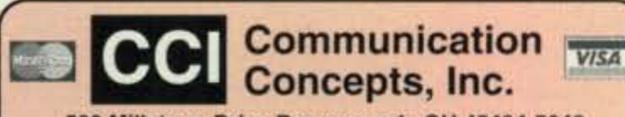
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Fred Fish Memorial Award Number 2

On June 17, 2010 Pat Rose, W5OZI, became the second ham radio operator to work all U.S. grid squares, thus becoming the second person to be awarded the coveted Fred Fish Memorial Award. Pat contacted Russ Dwarshuis, KB8U, operating from CM79 (a triangle section of the northeast portion of this grid is in Mendocino County, California, and is accessible only by hiking or by boat.) at 1721 UTC. Russ commented on his contact with Pat: "My W5OZI QSO was definitely the highlight of the trip. Special thanks go to KB6NAN for alerting me that the band was open his way and that he was on frequency. It was a CW QSO, with low signal strengths."

Russ Answers Questions

The following is from Russ. First there is a final report on his operation, and second his responses to questions that Bill VanAlstyne, W5WVO, and Bob Brown, KR7O, asked about the trip:

The final QSO tally was 272 contacts logged, all but three on 6 meters. I'm guessing there were about 10% dupes. I counted 101 grids worked on 6 meters, plus maybe a few more (who just sent an RST or meteor-scatter report). I worked six FSK441 QSOs on the last day. There was plenty of double-hop QSOs made all over the USA, except for Florida. I heard 5JØBV but I couldn't work him. The highlight was working W5OZI for his last FFMA grid. The E-layer of the ionosphere must have gotten wrung out from the workout, since the last two days were completely dead.

Best DX on 2 meters was about 120 miles, not bad for a 6-meter antenna and 10 watts through 100 feet of coax.

I hiked a total of about 18 miles with 4800 feet of elevation gain. I got about six mosquito bites and a scratch on the back of my hand (that I don't know how I got) and some sore muscles, but I'm otherwise no worse for wear. I saw one elk up a lot closer than I liked, but he didn't seem to mind.

I operated from the grid corner at 40N 124W exclusively so if you contacted me, you worked four grids. I just sent CM79 to keep things simple.

Questions from W5WVO:

Did you run into any problems (or even contact) with the federal authorities? Rangers, etc.?

I read the rules (no generator outside of developed campground, no wheeled conveyances, no back-country camping or fires, etc.) and made sure no special permissions were required. The rules are clear that portable radios are allowed. Bureaucrats have nothing to risk and can avoid any possible problems for themselves by saying "no" when they don't know what they're talking about, so I didn't contact any.

How was the weather up there this time of year? Any rain? Temps? Humidity?

It was cool and windy for all but the last day, but there was no rain. It was about as warm when I went out there in January to scope out the area. I did not have enough warm clothes, so I got cold sitting on the ridge toward evening. I had to head down toward camp 30 minutes early one evening, even though the band was wide open, since I was starting to shiver. It got down into the mid-40s at night and my sleeping bag wasn't warm enough so I wore my clothes to bed, used the tent's rain fly as a

e-mail: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>

VHF Plus Calendar

Sept. 1	Last quarter Moon
Sept. 4-5	ARRL EME 2.3 GHz and Up Contest
Sept. 5	Good EME conditions
Sept. 8	New Moon and Moon perigee
Sept. 11-13	ARRL Sept. VHF QSO Party
Sept. 12	Poor EME conditions
Sept. 15	First quarter Moon
Sept. 18-19	Second weekend of the ARRL 10 GHz
	and Above Cumulative Contest
Sept. 19	Poor EME conditions
Sept. 20	The 144 MHz Fall Sprint
Sept. 21	Moon apogee
Sept. 22	Fall equinox
Sept. 23	Full Moon
Sept. 24-26	TAPR/ARRL Digital Communications Conference
Sept. 26	Poor EME conditions
Sept. 28	The 222 MHz Fall Sprint

—EME conditions courtesy W5LUU

blanket, and put the cardboard boxes (knocked down flat) in which I shipped the gear over me, then I was toasty warm. The cold and wind did keep the mosquitos from chowing down on me on the plus side.

Do you have any ideas for future activations? Anything you wish you would have or could have done differently?

I was planning on bringing my cell phone, but I misplaced it at the last minute. Internet access would be good to have, too. I'm not sure either is accessible from the ridge. I did try Wi-Fi on my netbook just for the heck of it and wasn't surprised there wasn't any. Another couple of operators would have surely increased the QSO total, too. There is a back-country campsite near the grid boundary ("Nick's camp") that could possibly be used as a second base camp by a larger group; some ops could stay there overnight and continue to operate, and others could hike up their supplies and charged batteries. I did not check out that site, unfortunately. It's just outside CM79, about one-third mile from the grid corner on a spur trail called Chinquapin loop and down the side of the ridge somewhat toward the ocean, so it's not ideal. By the way, the grid corner is more easily accessed from the Chinquapin loop trail than the Lost Coast trail. You don't have to scramble down a steep slope from the Chinquapin trail before heading off the trail toward the grid corner.

I had some technical issues with the front-panel extension cable and the batteries. More time to test and fix them would have been nice, but I just plain ran out of time. I also wish I had spent more time on FSK441 instead of fruitlessly calling endless CQs on CW when the band was dead. I was quite surprised how good the meteors were in the afternoon on the last day, once the word got out I was on that mode. I did try FSK-441 CQs for about a half hour on Friday morning without one call, so I think people just weren't aware I was on. I probably should have just ran FSK-441 on 50.145 during dead times, as someone may have heard a ping and fired up WSJT and then spotted me.

KR7O asked about the trail conditions and my batteries:

The trail is in excellent condition, and there was not any problem with thick brush or excessive undergrowth off the trail at the grid corner. There is loose gravel on a couple of steep sections coming down from the mountain, so extreme caution is necessary there, but otherwise the path surface is not a problem at all.

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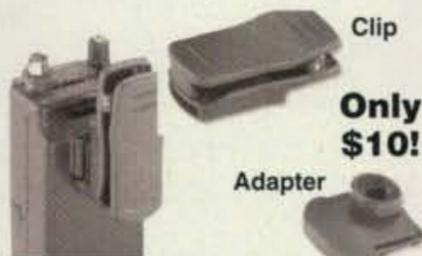
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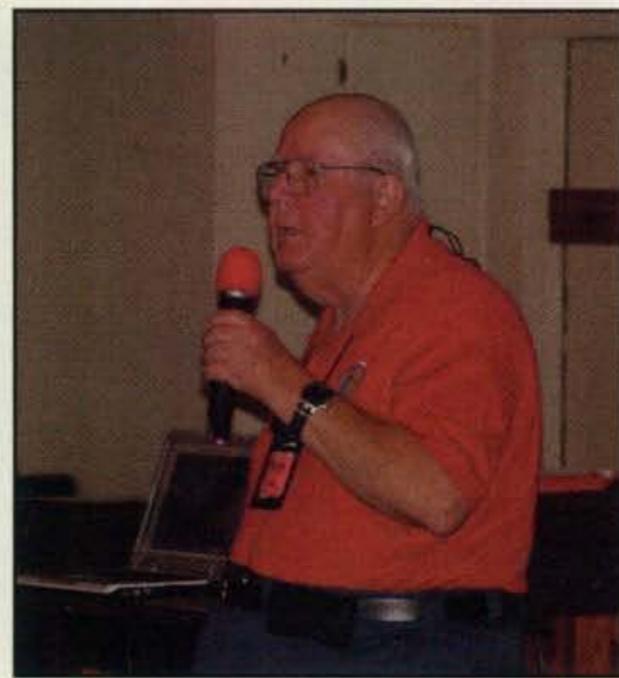
I discovered right before I left that the lithium-ion polymer batteries are at 16.8V when fully charged. I wired up a bridge rectifier in series to drop the voltage, but I didn't have them on a heat sink the first day, so I had to operate SSB at reduced power for awhile until the battery voltage got to within the 706's maximum rating (15.9V), and then I took the diodes out. Subsequently, I brought

an empty can with some water in it and dunked the diodes in that to keep them from overheating. Obviously, I could have used a proper voltage regulator. The batteries worked great. They have a protection circuit in them that keeps them from being over-discharged, so I didn't have to worry about that. I was getting about four hours out of each battery and that was more than I expected.

They took all night to charge, though. I brought a small generator to charge them. I was going to use an inverter, but the cheap (square wave out) one I bought a few days before I left blew out my battery charger. Good thing I tested them together before I left. I had to buy another battery charger at the last minute and pay the \$\$\$ for shipping the generator, but I think that worked out better anyway, since I didn't have to run the car motor that way.



Nearly twenty Cavett's Kids awaiting the opportunity to ask their questions of astronaut Douglas Wheelock, KF5BOC, on board the International Space Station (ISS) during a fly-by over Lake Texoma, while their friends watch. (Photo by N6CL)



Keith Pugh, W5IU, ARISS contact mentor, preparing the kids for the forthcoming contact. (Photo by N6CL)



Cavett Kid Morgan Garrison awaits the opportunity to ask her question while Randy Read, KE5NTH, holds the microphone. (Photo by N6CL)

Special thanks go to Len Gwinn, WA6KLK, who also made sure I was OK by calling me when things were slow to see how I was doing and to offer kind words of encouragement. He even offered to drive to my camp if I was in need of anything.

A Special ARISS QSO

Kids from Cavett Kid's Foundation, while at Camp Cavett on Lake Texoma, Oklahoma, were able to talk with astronaut Douglas Wheelock, KF5BOC, on board the International Space Station (ISS) during a fly-by over Lake Texoma.

At 3:37 PM CDT on Thursday, July 8, 2010, Danny Cavett's kids from Cavett Kid's Foundation, while attending Camp Cavett on Lake Texoma, had about eight minutes to have their questions answered live by Doug as the ISS flew near Lake Texoma at 17,500 miles per hour. The Cavett Kids prepared for this opportunity by learning about space, science, and related topics while intending to attend Camp Cavett. The students who actually got to ask their questions were selected by a competition based on the questions submitted.

The ground station was provided and installed by members of the Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club (W5PAA) from Oklahoma City. The hams from the Aeronautical Center ARC who participated in the event are: Matt Garcia, N5PTV; Gerry Taylor, KC5MWZ; Mike Rockey, KE5EQC; Randy Read, KE5NTH; and Bobby Duncan, KF5GTX. Keith Pugh, W5IU, provided the mentoring of the contact.

The special nature of this ARISS QSO is that the kids who attend Camp Cavett have either debilitating or life-threatening health conditions. Danny Cavett, who is the director of the organization, is also a children's chaplain at the University of Oklahoma's teaching hospital in Oklahoma City. Seeing a need to provide kids with major health issues an alternative and/or unique opportunity to continue to grow and develop character, Cavett started the Cavett Kids Foundation in 1997. More information on the organization can be found at its website: <<http://www.cavetkidsfoundation.org>>.

My wife Carol, W6CL, and I had the opportunity to witness this QSO and we were quite impressed with the activity. Once again, amateur radio played an important role in the development and education of our youth—in this case, our special youth who have special needs. For more information on NASA's efforts to use amateur radio to teach about space, see

: <<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/teachingfromspace/students/ariss.html>>.

Less Stringent ITAR Restrictions

The new International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) have eased restrictions on technology transfers between U.S. and non-U.S. citizens. In part, the regulations state:

The United States Government will consider the issuance of licenses for space-related exports on a case-by-case basis, pursuant to, and in accordance with, the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, the Export Administration Regulations, and other applicable laws, treaties, and regulations. Consistent with the foregoing space-related items that are determined to be generally available in the global marketplace shall be considered favorably with a view that such exports are usually in the national interests of the United States.

More information can be found at this website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/national_space_policy_6-28-10.pdf>.

KH6HME Works XE2HWB, La Paz, Mexico

The following was relayed from WB6NOA: "A new record on 2 meters SSB: 2906 miles! KH6HME wrote: 'On the morning of June 24, 2010 Bernardo calls me. He is hearing the beacon. Can I drive up to the Mauna Loa Volcano beacon site and make a QSO? I make the drive, arrive, and switch out the beacon rig for my two-way rig. There he is calling me. We work nearly instantly with 5/5 copy both ways.' This is Paul's best DX via tropo ducting."

PJ4 2011 Activation

The following is from Ed Gray, W0SD: "The W7XU team of W0SD, W7XU, and XYLs W0OE and N0QJM, plus Johan, ON4IQ, are headed for Bonaire PJ4 for the '2011' 6-meter sporadic-E season DXpedition. It is expected this will be a new DXCC entity by then. The operation is scheduled from mid-June to July 5, 2011."

Current Contests

The **ARRL EME 2.3 GHz and Up Contest** is September 4–5. The **ARRL September VHF QSO Party** is September 11–13. The second weekend of the **ARRL 10 GHz and Above Cumulative Contest** is September 18–19. The following are the dates for the **Fall Sprints**. The **144 MHz Fall Sprint** is September 20, 7 PM to 11 PM local time. The **222 MHz Fall Sprint** is September 28, 7 PM to 11 PM local time.

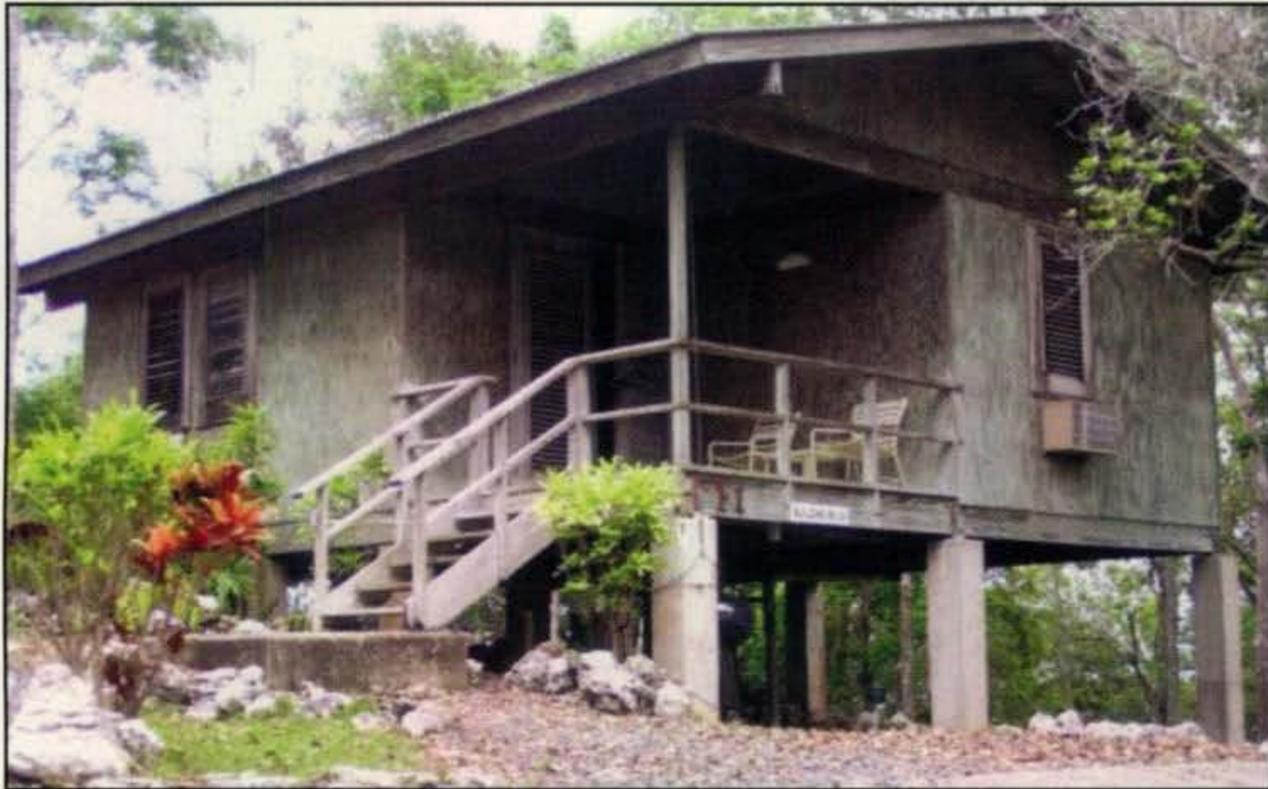
For ARRL contest rules, see the issue of *QST* prior to the month of the contest or its URL: <<http://www.arrl.org>>. For Fall Sprint contest rules, see the Southeast VHF Society Sprint Rules URL: <<http://www.svhfs.org/2010fallsprintrules.pdf>>.

Current Conference

September: The 2010 **TAPR/ARRL Digital Communications Conference** will be held September 24–26, 2010, in Vancouver, Washington, at the Heathman Lodge. For more information, see: <<http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>>.

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



The "Jodi Foster" cabin that Pat Barthelow, AA6EG, got to stay in during his trip to Arecibo. (Photo by AA6EG)

announcement. The following organization or conference organizers have announced a call for papers for its forthcoming conference:

Microwave Update: This year's **Microwave Update** conference will be held in Cerritos, California the weekend of October 21–24, at the Sheraton Cerritos. This is a call for papers and talks. They are looking for presentations on all aspects of microwave equipment and antenna construction, theory, propagation, operating, and design modes, just to name a few. Frequency range is 900 MHz through LASER. They have already had quite a few early volunteers, which they always appreciate, but they are looking for more presenters. If you are interested in presenting please contact Frank Kelly, WB6CWN, via the website link listed below.

They are also looking for papers for the *Proceedings*. You do not have to be a presenter to have your paper included in the *Proceedings*. Papers for the *Proceedings* can also just be short topics on any topic microwave related. If you are interested in making a contribution to the *Proceedings*, please contact Frank Kelly, WB6CWN at the website link on the conference website at: <<http://www.microwaveupdate.org/>>. The deadline for papers is Monday, August 31, 2010. The *Proceedings* Style Guidelines page can also be found on a link on the conference website.

AMSAT-NA 2010 Space Symposium: Technical papers are solicited for the 2010 AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting to be held October 8–10 in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. Proposals for papers, symposium presentations, and poster presentations are

invited on any topic of interest to the amateur satellite program. Papers on the following topics are solicited: Students & Education, ARISS, AO-51, P3E, Eagle, and other satellite-related topics.

Camera-ready copy on paper or in electronic form is due by September 1 for inclusion in the printed symposium proceedings. Papers received after this date will not be included in the printed *Proceedings*. Abstracts and papers should be sent to Joanne Maenpaa, K9JKM, at e-mail: <k9jkm@amsat.org>. For more information see: <<http://www.amsat.org>>.

And Finally . . .

Sometimes things don't always work out the way we plan. Sometimes they work out better. Take, for instance, Pat Barthelow, AA6EG's trip to Arecibo. Describing his situation in his article in the Summer 2010 issue of *CQ VHF* magazine, he wrote the following:

I was on a severely limited budget. I arrived at San Juan Airport at 9 PM on Wednesday, April 14. I had contacted some academics and students at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, with an interest in space science, and of course some of them became interested in knowing more about EME at Arecibo.

Even so, I was still looking for overnight accommodations near Arecibo, an hour from San Juan, but not having much luck. Everything seemed booked and hotel prices were on the very high side for me. The observatory was about a 20-minute drive into the country, south of the City of Arecibo...

As luck would have it, there was a cancellation, and I was able to check in to VSQ F-1, a wonderful Family Cottage, "The Jodie Foster Suite" on the top of the highest hill adjacent to the dish.

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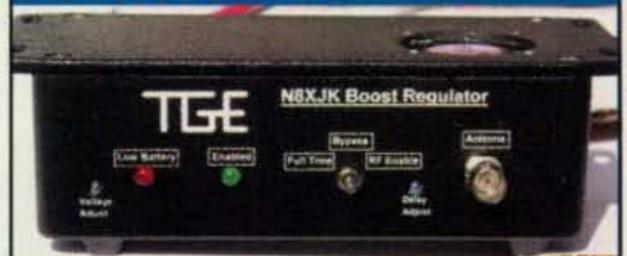


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The F-1 cottage is featured early in the movie *Contact*, which I had just watched from beginning to end. In the movie, Jodie Foster's character and Matthew McConaughey's character spent some quality time in the same F-1 cottage that I stayed in. Complete with kitchen (by the way, it had no microwave!), bath, master and guest bedrooms, living room, study, fiber-optic internet connectivity, and authentic tropical forest loud critter sounds outside—particularly the well-known tiny but loud frog called *El Coqui*. The tropical forest just outside made me feel like I was on the set of the Bogart movie *African Queen*.

Regarding the Arecibo article in *CQ VHF*, this article is accompanied by an historical account written by Mark Morrison, WA2VVA. Additionally, the August 2010 issue of *QST* has an excellent article co-authored by Joe Taylor, K1JT, Angel Vazquez, WP3R, and Jim Breakall, WA3FET.

If you have a story to tell, please contact me at: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>.

Finally, please check out the new websites for the *CQ* family of magazines. We are making an effort to have current information on our websites as well as links to Facebook and Twitter.

Until next month . . .

73 de Joe, N6CL

The "Magic Band" is Alive

What an interesting time for anyone who could get on 6 meters, the "Magic Band." The team that was active from Palestine as E4X made history, for sure. Look at the chart elsewhere in this column. Yes, it does show 6545 QSOs on 6 meters. A first-ever NA to Palestine contact was made between K4CIA, Bill McDowell in North Carolina, and E4X. Many others in North America also made contact with E4X on 6, but Bill was the first. Congratulations, Bill! With a total of over 80,000 Q's, Palestine should be well down on the next Most Wanted list published in *The DX Magazine* (<http://www.dxpub.com>). Literally hundreds of contacts between NA and Europe were reported during the June/July time frame. It seems 6 meters has taken the front-center spot away from the HF bands. There were more cluster DX spots for 6 meters than for 20 meters.

Six meters is getting a lot of attention around the world. A "primarily" 6-meter DXpedition to The Gambia, and special permission for Thailand amateurs to operate on 6 during the July CQ WW VHF Contest, plus what we have written above, are just a few examples of the interest in the "Magic Band." Dennis, K7BV, has been going on a 6-meter DXpedition to the Caribbean/Central America area the last few years, too.

One of the elder members of the Carolina DX Association, Tom, N4HN, EM95 Charlotte, North Carolina, offers some comments on his 6-meter activity. Perhaps you will find it interesting:

"On June 3 starting at 00:02 until 01:06 some great E-skip with many 5/9 +20 signals came through. I worked EM06, EM09, DN70, DM79, and DM98, with Colorado being a new state. I got four

new grids. At 01:02 UTC my friend Gary, W2ZV, in EM94, reported he worked KØGU in DN70 Colorado on 144.210 MHz with 100 watts into a 2-element beam in the attic!

"During the June VHF contest I worked 159 grids on 6 meters with low power. It was my first time topping 100 grids! I got one 2-meter E-skip contact at 01:07 on June 13th with KØCIY in EM25. Conditions were so good that I got 11 new grids on 6 meters, including close-by grids such as EM99 and FM27. I could only hear the FM27 station when pointed towards the center point of the opening; no copy on the direct beam heading. I made just shy of 80K, my best score ever!

"On June 18/19 we had more E-skip starting at 23:48 and going on until 01:46. I worked DM69, DM79, EM04, EM17, EM29, EM39, EN04, EN10, EN21, EN13, EN24, and EN34. I worked three Nebraska stations and three South Dakota stations, which were new states for me. I got eight new grids. This opening was very spotty. I had to try to work W7XU three times before we completed a contact! Signals were not very strong. Copy the call and they would disappear before getting them in the log."

Netherlands Antilles

As this is being written, the government of the Netherlands has made some progress toward creating two new counters for ham radio in the Netherlands Antilles. According to news reports in early July, the effective date will be October 10, 2010. If all goes as planned, the islands of Curacao and Sint Maarten will become the two "new ones" on the DXCC list. The other islands of Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba will remain as "special municipalities." There is still some dis-

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

E4X STATISTICS - QSOs by band/mode				
Band	CW	SSB	RTTY	Total
6M	3.408	2.882	255	6.545
10M	2.608	3.255	478	6.341
12M	3.354	2.686	499	6.539
15M	4.105	4.547	2.145	10.797
17M	7.838	4.979	1.921	14.738
20M	7.913	7.607	2.853	18.373
30M	7.296		1.482	8.778
40M	3.564	1.629	535	5.728
80M	1.562	690	0	2.252
160M	176	0	0	176
Total	41.824	28.275	10.168	80.267

E4X Palestine statistics, QSOs by band/mode.



Providing QSLs at Dayton is not unusual. Here we find Herb, HB9BOU (right), the QSL Manager for 4U1UN, along with Bert, HB9SLO, assisting him. (Courtesy of Floyd, N5FG)

cussion about the status of Bonaire due its distance from the others. I won't speculate, and suggest that others not in the decision-making process also refrain from such. I have confidence in those who are in the decision-making process to decide in due time what should happen. However, in view of the almost certainty that Curacao and Sint Maarten will be new countries, many people have already announced their intention to conduct "first day" operations from there. It should prove interesting with that many stations on the air

The WAZ Program

20 Meter SSB

1193.....IW2FND

80 Meter CW

84.....4Z5SG

20 Meter RTTY

65.....ONN3US

160 Meters

351.....RJ3AA (40 zones) 353.....IK7UFL (35 zones)
352.....OH3GD (40 zones)

All Band WAZ Diamond Jubilee

024.....K0JW	034.....G3WW
025.....N5TY	035.....DK2WM
026.....WK4Y	036.....S53EO
027.....LA9BM	037.....WB4MAK
028.....VE7CV	048.....KQ8M
029.....AC5O	049.....SWL 11-12387
030.....K7UA	050.....K6FW
031.....AA1VK	051.....GM3PPE
032.....N8DE	052.....DL1VJL
033.....IW0HOU	

Mixed

8676.....VE8EV	8712.....W3ABT
8677.....G4PWA	8713.....IZ8EKL
8678.....AA4XA	8714.....W4KVS
8679.....K8LY	8715.....F8DHE
8680.....JA1SZN	8716.....IK0UTM
8681.....HA5PT	8717.....4Z5LX
8682.....LU4FPZ	8718.....CE1VCZ
8683.....DL8BED	8719.....HB9IQB
8684.....WB8BPU	8720.....KT6LA
8685.....9A2VJ	8721.....EA4LG
8711.....KQ8M	8722.....UA3EAY

SSB

5127.....G4PWA	5137.....IK0UTM
5128.....AC5O	5138.....IK5BAF
5129.....SM4YPH	5139.....K6IRD
5136.....KQ8M	5140.....IK8NWK

CW

591.....RA1QD	597.....KQ8M
592.....G4PWA	598.....HB0CNU

RTTY

206.....G4PWA 208.....EA3DW

Digital

007.....I3DUB

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, P.O. Box 449, Wiggins, MS 39577-0449. 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>.

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The WPX Program

CW

3249.....V51YJ

SSB

3076.....V51YJ

Mixed

2112.....V51YJ 2114.....OK2JOW
2113.....N7QU 2115.....G4FKA

CW: 350 V51YJ, 2350 VE6BF, 4550 N4NO, 5850 WA2HZR.
SSB: 550 V51YJ, 950 VE6BF, 3750 N4NO.
Mixed: 650 WT6X, 700 N7QU, 750 G4FKA, V51YJ, 850 OK2JOW, 1400 K7UA, 2500 VE6BF, 5100 N4NO.
Digital: 6600 WT6X.

80 Meters: OK2JOW
40 Meters: OK2JOW
20 Meters: V51YJ

Asia: OK2JOW
Europe: OK2JOW

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, W99IC, 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, F1HWW, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, KC7EM, YU1AB, IK2ILH, DE0DAQ, I1WXY, LU1DOW, N1IR, IK4GME, VE9RJ, NN1N, 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, S55SL, RU3ZX, YO9HP, RA3DNC, K8ZT, KE5K, JH8BOE.

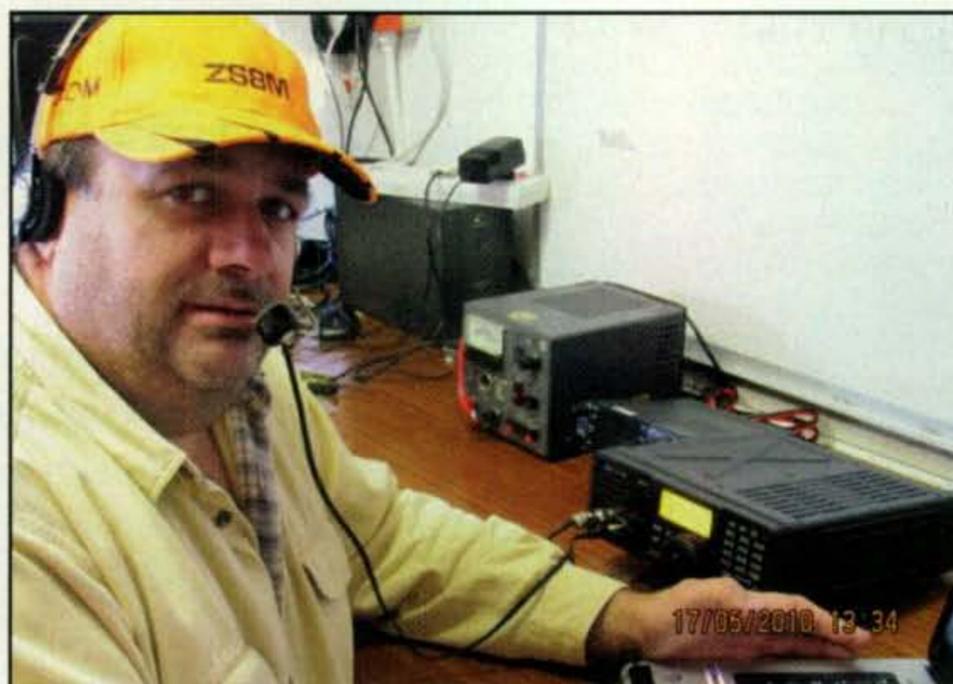
160 Meter Endorsements: N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, VE3XN, DL3RK, OK1MP, N4NO, W4BQY, W4VQ, KF2O, W8CNL, W1JR, W5UR, W8ILC, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, LU3YLW4, NN4Q, VE7WJ, VE7IG, W9NUF, N4NX, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, W3ARK, LA7JO, SM0AJU, N5TV, W6OUL, N4KE, I2UIY, I4EAT, VK9NS, DE0DXM, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, SM6CST, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, H18LC, KA5W, K3UA, K7LJ, SM3EVR, UP1BZZ, K2POF, IT9TQH, N6JV, ONL-4003, W5AWT, N3XX, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I1EEW, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, YU1AB, IK4GME, NN1N, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HJM, HB9DDZ, K9XR, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, KS4S, KA1CLV, K0IFL, WT3W, IN3NJB, S50A, IK1GPG, AA6WJ, W3AP, S53EO, S57J, DL1EY, DJ1YH, KU0A, VR2UW, UA0FZ, DJ3JSW, OE6CLD, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, S51U, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, OK1DWC, KX1A, 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, RU3ZX, YO9HP, RA3DNC, K8ZT, KE5K, JH8BOE.

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.



The South Jersey DX Association's K5D QSL Team received plaques for the service. John, W2GD, made the presentations at an SJDXA dinner on June 11th. (Photo courtesy of Bob, N2OO)



Pierre, ZS1HF/ZS8M, shown here at the radio operating desk on Marion Island. (Photo courtesy of Franz, DJ9ZB)

at the same time from the same relatively small area.

While the Netherlands Antilles will bring additions to the DXCC list, all indications are that we also will be losing one from the list. Malyj Vysotskij, R1MV, will no doubt be dropped due to a new lease arrangement between Finland and Russia signed on May 27th. According to Jarmo, OH2BN:

"On May 27, 2010 an agreement on the lease of the Russian part of the Saimaa Canal zone to Finland was signed in Lappeenranta, Finland by the Prime Ministers of the Republic of Finland and the Russian Federation. The new 50 year agreement supersedes the initial lease of 1963 which is due to expire in 2013. The new lease no longer includes Malyj Vysotskij Island,

the present R1MV DXCC entity. The coming into effect of the agreement is subject to ratification by the parliament of Finland and the Russian duma later this year."

DXpeditions to Come

A few "down-the-line" DXpeditions have been announced that we can look for-

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

6315.....9A2AA	4146.....N6JV	3688.....W9OP	2936.....N8BJQ	2440.....K5UR	1891.....VE9FX	1359.....N3RC	781.....V51YJ	600.....IK1RKN
5788.....K2VV	4118.....S53EO	3522.....ON4CAS	2873.....W2ME	2428.....N6QQ	1820.....KX1A	1337.....K6UXO	726.....K5IC	600.....KB9OWD
5426.....W1CU	4082.....I2MQP	3474.....SM6DHU	2845.....JN3SAC	2378.....W3LL	1761.....AG4W	1322.....AA4FU	723.....K0DAN	
5031.....W2FXA	4034.....N9AF	3305.....JH8BOE	2752.....K1BV	2358.....I2EAY	1741.....AB5C	1269.....K5WAF	682.....A18P	
5012.....9A2NA	4001.....K0DEQ	3227.....K9BG	2724.....W2OO	2116.....AE5B	1705.....W2EZ	1116.....YU7FW	662.....JA7OXR	
4758.....EA2IA	3937.....WA5VGI	3207.....W9IL	2704.....K2XF	2192.....N2SS	1662.....SV1DPI	1016.....RA1AOB	653.....KK3Q	
4700.....N4NO	3908.....KF2O	3104.....K9UQN	2530.....YO9HP	2001.....AB1J	1643.....N1KC	982.....IW0HOU	650.....N3YZ	
4430.....YU1AB	3798.....IK2ILH	3091.....9A4W	2511.....W6OUL	2001.....K0KG	1593.....S55SL	976.....KM6HB	649.....RA9OO	
4232.....VE3XN	3775.....YU7BCD	3007.....W2WC	2499.....KC9ARR	1930.....W2FKF	1512.....WD9DZV	964.....K8ZEE	644.....KW0H	
4213.....I2PJA	3735.....WB2YQH	2965.....OZ1ACB	2444.....VE6BF	1905.....W7CB	1446.....DF3JO	815.....KL7FAP	636.....ZS2DL	

SSB

5065.....I0ZV	3536.....N4NO	2734.....YU7BCD	2333.....W9IL	2093.....W2WC	1891.....W2FKF	1611.....W2ME	1334.....PT7ZT	883.....WA5UA
4505.....VE1YX	3323.....OE2EGL	2711.....LU8ESU	2326.....CX6BZ	2076.....K2XF	1844.....YO9HP	1505.....AG4W	1258.....N1KC	875.....K7SAM
4419.....K2VV	3229.....CT1AHU	2709.....KF7RU	2210.....SV3AQR	2072.....K5UR	1795.....KQ8D	1480.....AB5C	1145.....EA3EQT	741.....WD9DZV
4371.....F6DZU	3196.....KF2O	2618.....WA5VGI	2209.....IK2QPR	1986.....DL8AAV	1762.....N8BJQ	1464.....VE7SMP	1083.....KX1A	717.....K0DAN
4307.....OZ5EV	3108.....I4CSP	2595.....EA1JG	2201.....NQ3A	1945.....K17AO	1758.....W6OUL	1463.....I2EAY	1042.....IZ0BNR	637.....K5WAF
4171.....I2PJA	3022.....I8KCI	2471.....I3ZSX	2157.....W2OO	1935.....SV1EOS	1719.....K9UQN	1410.....S55SL	1031.....IK8OZP	600.....WA2BEV
4003.....9A2NA	2957.....K0DEQ	2451.....EA3GHZ	2142.....W3LL	1927.....AE5B	1714.....IK2DZN	1386.....IK4HPU	1012.....KU4BP	
3843.....I2MQP	2857.....4X6DK	2431.....G4UOL	2107.....N6FX	1889.....N6QQ	1643.....JN3SAC	1385.....AE9DX	978.....EA7HY	
3658.....EA2IA	2817.....IN3QCI	2417.....SM6DHU	2094.....I8LEL	1879.....K3IXD	1623.....VE9FX	1377.....EA3NP	965.....VE6BF	

CW

5353.....K9QVB	3687.....EA2IA	2838.....I7PXV	2473.....OZ5UR	2101.....W9HR	1665.....YO9HP	1223.....KX1A	900.....IT9ELD
5327.....WA2HZR	3506.....9A2NA	2723.....EA7AZA	2456.....I0NNY	2089.....K2XF	1445.....EA2CIN	1220.....AA4FU	824.....VE9FX
5141.....K2VV	3401.....WA5VGI	2721.....K9UQN	2434.....W9IL	1979.....K5UR	1424.....N6QQ	1147.....WD9DZV	821.....HB9DAX
4215.....N4NO	3308.....K0DEQ	2632.....W2ME	2415.....W2WC	1961.....W6OUL	1407.....W03Z	1125.....I0WOK	753.....F5PBL
4146.....N6JV	2923.....KF2O	2647.....KA7T	2342.....N6FX	1918.....W2OO	1403.....AG4W	1109.....VE1YX	749.....AE5B
3918.....VE7DP	2923.....YU7BCD	2529.....IK3GER	2324.....N8BJQ	1848.....I2EAY	1334.....RU0LL	1053.....K5WAF	695.....S55SL
3878.....LZ1XL	2914.....SM6DHU	2502.....JA9CWJ	2278.....VE6BF	1804.....EA7AAW	1327.....WA2VQV	1030.....AA5JG	615.....JH6JMM
3750.....VE7CNE	2866.....W8IQ	2483.....JN3SAC	2101.....I2MQP	1665.....AC5K	1317.....K6UXO	915.....N1KC	608.....IK2SGV

DIGITAL

1284.....W3LL	1133.....N6QQ	1066.....YO9HP	1037.....N8BJQ	1009.....GU0SUP	772.....K0DEQ	769.....AG4W	692.....WD9DZV	629.....W2OO
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ward to working. The Microlite Penguins DXpedition Team will be going to South Orkney, VP80, in January 2011. You might want to keep an eye on the team's website: <<http://www/vp80.com>>.

Another DXpedition announced for January 2011 is the South Pacific Contest Club's trip to Spratly as DX0DX. This is another one to keep on your website "watch" list at <<http://www.dx0dx.net>>.

Both of the above are well below the #50 place on the Most Wanted list but should receive a lot of attention from DXers worldwide.

The once postponed CY0 Sable Island operation is now scheduled for the last week of October. Although not high on the Most Wanted list, CY0

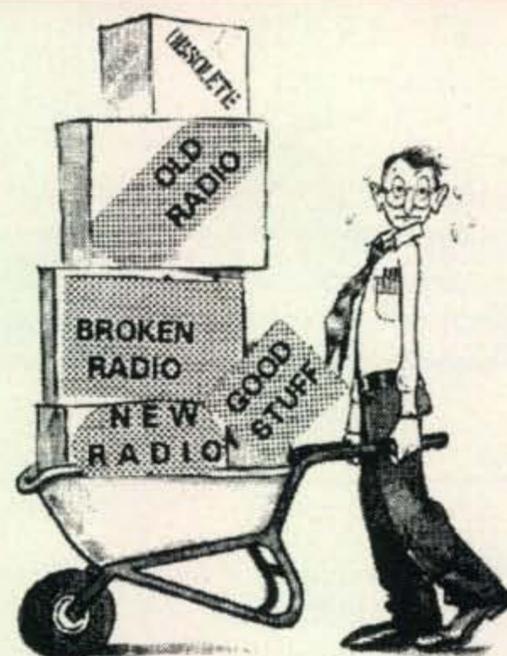
seems to attract a lot of attention no matter when an operation takes place from there.

Stan, SQ8X, is putting together a group for a trip to Jan Mayen (JX) July 4-14, 2011. For the team of five or six hams it will not only be a DXpedition, but they will have the unique opportunity to climb Beerenberg, an active strato volcano, as well as a chance to visit many interesting sites on the island. The team will sail to the island on a 60-foot yacht (a two- to three-day trip) and then spend six to seven days on the island, depending on the weather. The plan is to have two or three stations on the air using small radios (706/PROIII). Since the trip is planned for summertime and due to the location (above 70°N), 160-40 meters probably will be useless. Stan says, "Climbing the volcano is quite challenging. Getting to the top takes 10 to 12 hours." If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Stan via e-mail for more details: <stan.sq8x@gmail.com>.

IARU World Championship and WRTC 2010

The annual IARU HF World Championship and the WRTC-2010 activity were held on July 10th. Of course, as of

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5 Band WAZ

As of July 1, 2010, 823 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1689 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):

N4WW, 199 (26)	KQ0B, 199 (2 on 10)
W4LI, 199 (26)	K9OW, 199 (34 on 10)
K7UR, 199 (34)	G3NKC, 199 (31 on 10)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	K8PT, 199 (26)
JA2IVK, 199 (34 on 40)	IN3ZNR, 199 (1)
IK1AOD, 199 (1)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
VO1FB, 199 (19)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
KZ4V, 199 (26)	JA1DM, 198 (2, 40)
W6DN, 199 (17)	9A5I, 198 (1, 16)
W3NO, 199 (26)	K4CN, 198 (23, 26)
RU3FM, 199 (1)	G3KMQ, 198 (1, 27)
N3UN, 199 (18)	N2QT, 198 (23, 24)
W1JZ, 199 (24)	OK1DWC, 198 (6, 31)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	W4UM, 198 (18, 23)
SM7BIP, 199 (31)	US7MM, 198 (2, 6)
N4NX, 199 (26)	K2TK, 198 (23, 24)
N4MM, 199 (26)	K3JGJ, 198 (24, 26)
EA7GF, 199 (1)	W4DC, 198 (24, 26)
N6HR7, 199 (37)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	OE2LCM, 198 (1, 31)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
N4XR, 199 (27)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
HA5AGS, 199 (1)	W7VJ, 198 (34, 37)
VE3XN, 199 (26)	W9RN, 198 (26, 19 on 40)
N5AW, 199 (17)	W5CWQ, 198 (17, 18)
JH7CFX, 199 (2)	I5KKW, 198 (31&23 on 20)
K7LJ, 199 (37)	IV3MUC, 198 (1&31 on 40)
RA6AX, 199 (6 on 10m)	UA4LY, 198 (6&2 on 10)
RX4HZ, 199 (13)	IK4CIE, 198 (1, 31)
K0GM, 199 (17)	JA7XBG, 198 (2 on 80&10)
S58Q, 199 (31)	HB9ALO, 198 (1, 31)

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

IK7UFL (170 zones) SP6EQZ (176 zones)

5 Band WAZ updates:

K8PT (199 zones) KU4BP (186 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, P.O. Box 449, Wiggins, MS 39577-0449. The processing fee for the 5BWAZ award is \$10.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$15.00 for nonsubscribers. An endorsement fee of \$2.00 for subscribers and \$5.00 for nonsubscribers is charged for each additional 10 zones confirmed. Please make all checks payable to Floyd Gerald. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. N5FG may also be reached via e-mail: <n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

The CQ DX Field Award Program

Mixed

110.....IV3GOW 112.....HB9DRS
111.....HB9BOS

Mixed Endorsements

225.....W1CU/236 175.....IV3GOW/184
200.....N8PR/223 125.....HB9BOS/145
200.....W6OAT/212 28 MHz.....NK0S
200.....W4UM/200 3.5/7 MHz.....NK0S
175.....HB9DDZ/188

SSB Endorsements

200.....W1CU/213 175.....W4UM/183

CW Endorsements

225.....W1CU/229 175.....HB9DDZ/186
175.....W4UM/195

Digital Endorsements

150.....W1CU/155

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.

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	(10 or more)	\$2.40 ea.
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9913/PIN	N Male Pin for 9913, 9086, 8214	
	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	10.00
UG-83B/U	N Female to PL-259, Teflon USA	8.50

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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.

Mixed

K2TQC.....265	9A5CY.....219	KF8UN.....205	BA4DW.....188
HA0DU.....240	HA1AG.....218	OK1AOV.....205	HB9DDZ.....188
W1CU.....235	K0DEQ.....216	N4MM.....202	RW4NH.....187
VE3XN.....234	W6OAT.....212	W4UM.....200	IV3GOW.....184
VE7IG.....232	VE3ZZ.....207	K8OOK.....195	K2SHZ.....182
HA5AGS.....228	HA5WA.....206	N4NX.....192	K1NU.....180
N8PR.....223	F6HMJ.....206	ON4CAS.....191	W5ODD.....177
HA1RW.....220	JN3SAC.....206	HA9PP.....190	N0FW.....176

SSB

W1CU.....213	VE7SMP.....190	N0FW.....176
W4ABW.....202	N4MM.....186	DL3DXX.....175
K0DEQ.....192	W4UM.....183	JN3SAC.....175

CW

W1CU.....229	K0DEQ.....207	OK1AOV.....196	OK2PO.....184
DL6KVA.....225	DL3DXX.....203	W4UM.....195	N4MM.....179
DL2DXA.....209	JN3SAC.....200	HB9DZZ.....186	N4NX.....177

this writing in early July, I don't have any details, but these events always spur a lot of activity across the bands. WRTC for 2010 was held in Russia with all the stations using R3 prefix callsigns. More on this perhaps next time.

New Website for NCDXF

The Northern California DX Foundation has a new website: <<http://ncdxf.org/>>. According to Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, Vice President of NCDXF:

"We hope this new interactive website will tell our story, provide resources for DXers, and enable everyone to follow past and future DXpeditions that NCDXF has sponsored. Visitors to the website will find it both informative and pleasant to explore.

"There are resources on the worldwide beacon system, an online store for NCDXF supplies, information about our scholarship program, our video library, and other resources.

"John Miller (K6MM) our Webmaster, and Doug Bender (WW6D) of Members Services have spent countless hours on this project.

"Have you listened to the beacon system lately? You can follow NCDXF on Facebook or Twitter. Also, joining or renewing membership has never been easier!"

Entities, Look to the Fall Contest Season

This being September, we can look forward to the upcoming contest season. Hopefully all those "improvements" we made to our stations and antenna systems will pay off in the months ahead. Will we have propagation on 10 meters? Only time will tell. Will 160 still be active enough to justify all the effort we put into those new low-band antennas, Beverages, etc.? We sure hope so!

Until next time, enjoy the chase, but please Have Fun! 73, Carl, N4AA

QSL Information

AM5HQ via EA4URE
AM5IY via EA5IY
AM7AL via EA4URE
AM7HQ via EA4URE
AM7LE via EA7URD
AM7NET via EA4URE
AM8RHG via EA8CNB
AN4URE via EA4URE
AO1ANT via EA1GHT
AO1I via EA1NT
AO3T via EA3AKY
AO4URE via EA4URE
AO5EH via EA5EH
AO5KB via EA5KB
AO5MB via EA5MB
AO5MGP via EA5FL

AO8EU via EA8CLR
AP2TN via DJ9ZB
AP5A via F2CW
AX8PDX via VK8PDX
BA4DW/4 via BA4DW
BA4TB/5 via BA4TB
BA6IV via BA4EG
BD4QH/5 via BD4QH
BD4TJ/5 via BD4TJ
BD4TQ/5 via BD4TQ
BD4TR/5 via BD4TR
BG4TMM/5 via BG4TMM
BG4TYQ/5 via BG4TYQ
BG7IBS via BA4EG
BH4QAK/5 via BH4QAK
BH4QAK/5 via BH4QAK

BT4EXPO via BA4EG
BT90HIT via BY2HIT
BV0PC via BV2DQ
BV2FA via DJ9ZB
BW1/K8QKY via K8QKY
BW2/JK2VOC via JK2VOC
BY1DX/I0SNY via I0SNY
BY1PK via DJ6QT
BY4QA via BH4QAK

(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/>>.)

Short-Term Award from Poland

The year 2010 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of the world-famous Polish pianist and composer Fryderyk (Frederick) Chopin. A special award is offered for contacting Polish stations using a commemorative prefix including "200" and/or all Polish stations during the year 2010.



The Fryderyk Chopin Award is offered for contacting Polish stations using a commemorative prefix including "200" and/or all Polish stations during the year 2010.

Fryderyk Chopin 2010 Award

The award may be earned by accumulating least 2010 points according to this point system:

1. The following special callsigns are worth 400 points for EU stations and 500 points for all others: SO200FCM, 3Z200CHOPIN, HF200CHOPIN, SO200CHOPIN, SP200CHOPIN, SQ200CHOPIN, 3Z200FC, HF200FC, SO200FC, SP200FC, SQ200FC, 3Z2010FC, HF2010FC, SO2010FC, SP2010FC, SQ2010FC, 3Z2010CY, HF2010CY, SO2010CY, SP2010CY, SQ2010CY, 3Z2010FCY, HF2010FCY, SO2010FCY, SP2010FCY, and SQ2010FCY.

2. Other special event stations not listed above with the number 200 in the callsign (e.g., SP200LM, SP200PSU, SP200ICQ) count 100 points for EU and 200 for DX.

3. All other SP stations count 50 points for EU and 100 for DX.

QSOs made over the entire calendar year 2010 are eligible for the award. Each SP station can be worked once per band (9 times), regardless of the emission mode.

Note: QSOs made during during the Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition (October 2-23, 2010) are valued at twice the points shown

USA-CA Honor Roll	
500	1000
DL3XM3505	DL3XM179
DL3NM3506	
IQ3UD3507	
LU4DQ3508	

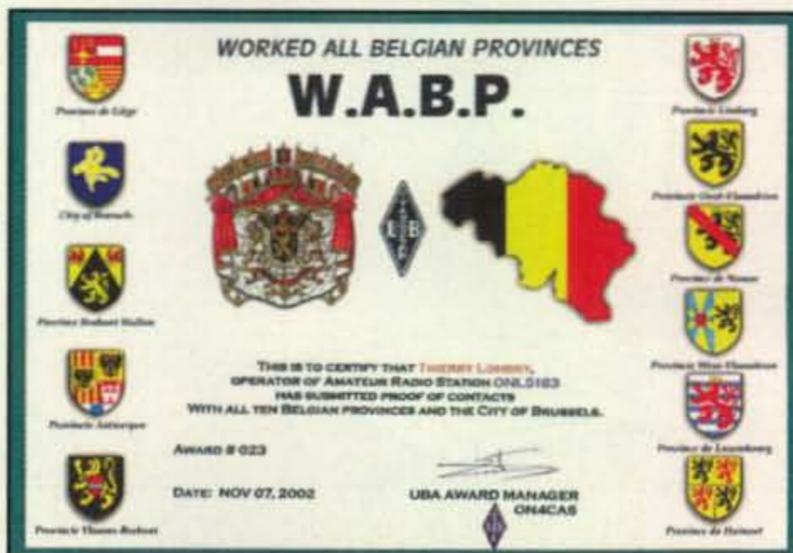
The total number of counties for credit for the United States of America Counties Award is 3077. The basic award fee for subscribers is \$6.00. For nonsubscribers it is \$12.00. To qualify for the special subscriber rate, please send a recent CQ mailing label with your application. Initial application 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.

above. Contacts with previously worked and counted SP stations may be repeated during this period only. The once-per-band rule must be observed. Log extract and fee of 5 Euros should be sent by registered mail to the award manager: Piotr Brydak, SP5PB, Okólnik 9a m16, 00 368 Warszawa, Poland.

Worked All Belgian Provinces

This is the principal award offered by the Belgian Amateur Radio Society (Union Belge des Amateurs-Emetteurs; UBA). It is a handsome certificate that is generally considered fairly easy to earn due to the many active Belgian stations who are on the air in just about every DX contest. In addition, you can fill in any missing provinces during the annual UBA contest in February.

The award is available to amateurs and SWLs. Contacts after January 1, 1995 count for the award. All bands and modes accepted. Europeans must contact all 10 Belgian provinces and the city of Brussels on at least two bands—22 contacts in all.



The Worked All Belgian Provinces Award is the principal award offered by the Belgian Amateur Radio Society (Union Belge des Amateurs-Emetteurs).

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 e-mail: <k1bv@cq-amateur-radio.com>

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Work 100 JA1 area amateurs operating in Saitama Prefecture to earn the Saitama 100 Stations Award.



DX stations (and Europeans on VHF/UHF) need one QSO in each province and Brussels for 11 contacts in all.

The provinces are: Antwerpen (AN), Vlaams Brabant (VB), Waals Brabant (BW), Oost-Vlaanderen (OV), West-Blaanderen (WV), Limburg (LB), Henegouwen (HT), Luxembourg (LU), Luik (LG), Namur (NM). The other needed is Brussels Hoofdsteljk Gewest (BR).

Send a GCR list and fee of 5 Euros, \$US7, or 10 IRCs to: Egbert Hertsen, ON4CAS, Postbus 85, Mechelen 2, B-2800 Mechelen, Belgium. Internet:

<<http://www.uba.be/en/uba/awards>>.

As an alternative, a PDF version of this award is now offered at no cost. Print the award in your own shack. When you apply for the award, request that the PDF file version be e-mailed to the address you supply. (PDFs are widely used for document distribution, and the software is available free at: <<http://www.adobe.com/>>.)

Saitama 100 Stations Award

Saitama is one of the 47 prefectures of Japan and is located on the island of Honshu. A prefecture is roughly equivalent to a U.S. state. Saitama is part of the greater Tokyo area, and most of its cities are suburbs of Tokyo. The area is densely populated, and working 100 stations from the prefecture should not be a major task. Your reward is a handsome award written entirely in Japanese.

Endorsement stickers are available for each additional group of 100. Contacts must be made on or after April 1, 1988. Fee for the award is \$US5, 500 Euros, or the equivalent. Fee for endorsements is 200 Euros. GCR list accepted. Apply to: Keiichi Sato, JR1DHD, Oshikiri 2653-19 Konan-cho, Osato-gun, Saitama-ken, 360-0111 Japan.

Worked All Small European Countries Award

It may only be appropriate for one of the smallest European countries, the Principality of Monaco (2 square kilometers), to sponsor this next award. About half of the countries in the group are fairly easy to contact, but the other half will be a challenge. The certificate is awarded for having contacted eight (Class 1) or 3 (Class 2) of the following, plus Monaco.

The countries in order of size (largest to smallest) are: Luxembourg LX (2586 sq km), Andorra C31 (468 sq km), Malta

SUCH A HAM



Hello, I would like to enquire about your romantic getaway weekend resort. Do you have any antenna restrictions?



Monaco's Worked All Small European Countries Award is issued for having contacted eight (Class 1) or three (Class 2) of the listed countries (see text), plus Monaco.

9H (316 sq km), Liechtenstein HB0 (160 sq km), San Marino T77 (61 sq km), Monaco 3A (2 sq km), Vatican City HV (110 acres), Sov. Order of Malta 1A0 (one building: Palace of Malta, Via Condotti 68, Rome, Italy).

SWL OK. No use of repeaters. Send GCR list and fee of \$US6 or 10 IRCs to: Claude Passet, 3A2LF, 3 allée Guillaume Apollinaire, Monaco, Principality of Monaco.

Portuguese Prefix Award

Prefix hunters love those countries that permit the generous use of interesting prefixes for their amateurs to help celebrate special events and anniversaries. Portugal is one of these, and while the basic CTWPX Award requires only 10 different callsign prefixes assigned to the Portuguese territory or its possessions (including Madeira and Azores Archipelago), a handsome plaque is available for confirming 50.

The award may be endorsed for SSB, CW, Mixed, and RTTY, and for contacts made on one band. The plaque requires that you have already applied for the CTWPX Award. All bands and modes accepted. SWL OK. No time limitations.



The basic Portuguese Prefix Award (CTWPX) requires contacts with 10 different callsign prefixes assigned to the Portuguese territory or its possessions (including Madeira and Azores Archipelago).

Any difference in the letters and numbers in the first part of a call denotes a new prefix. For example, CT1, CT14, CT98, CT500 all are different prefixes.

Portable operation will not affect the prefix claimed. Only the prefix of the assigned call may be counted. For stations operating from Madeira (CT3) or Azores (CU...), which count as separate DXCC entities, you may count either the prefix in the assigned call, or the prefix in the portable identifier. For example, CT1AAA/CT3 could be counted for either CT1 or CT3. Both prefixes may be claimed if a second contact is made on a different band or mode, or on the same band/mode but after a time period of at least 24 hours has passed. Contacts with stations outside the Portuguese territory and maritime mobiles outside territorial waters do not count for this award.

Some valid prefixes: CQ1, CQ2, CQ3, CQ4, CQ5, CQ6, CQ7, CQ8, CQ9, CQ0, CQ500, CR1, CR2, CR3,

CR4, CR5, CR6, CR7, CR8, CR9, CR0, CR500, CS1, CS2, CS3, CS4, CS5, CS6, CS7, CS8, CS9, CS0, CS500, CT1, CT2, CT3, CT4, CT5, CT6, CT7, CT8, CT9, CT0, CT14, CT25, CT500, CT98, CU1, CU2, CU3, CU4, CU5, CU6, CU7, CU8, CU9, CU0.

Confirmations are not required for this award. Send a GCR list showing the prefixes claimed as follows: Call, Band, Mode in alphabetical order by prefix. Cost of the award is 5 Euros, 10 IRCs, or \$US10. The cost of the plaque is 30 Euros or \$US70 for all applicants. Send application, prefix list, certification statement, and payment to: Manuel Alberto C. Marques, CT1BWW, P.O. Box 41, 2781-901 Oeiras, Portugal.

We're always interested in hearing from clubs, special interest groups, or individuals who sponsor awards. Please contact me at the e-mail address shown on the first page of this column.
73, Ted, K1BV

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Hope for the Future

September's Contest Tip

Read the rules. Seems pretty simple doesn't it? In reality, every contest has its own personality as defined by its rules. Taking the time to study the rules of a given contest could significantly help your score, or more importantly, help you avoid violations that may result in unnecessary score reductions or disqualification. Whether you're a new contester or have been around for years, there's always something to be gained by taking a few minutes to check out the latest rules and ensuring that your contest effort is going "by the book"!

Is there hope for the future of contesting? After all, we lack meaningful solar activity, the infusion of active, new blood is waning at best, and the cost to implement a competitive contest station continues to rise above what most can afford. Indeed, what's in store for contesting's future?

There are a Few Realities

Before I embark on the challenge of writing an inspiring dissertation about the future of contesting, let's acknowledge some of issues that I've just mentioned above. In contesting circles, we've seen the average age of our peers creeping upward. Furthermore, the cost of entry into the world of competitive contesting has been a major impediment for adults, and an even great one for many financially challenged teenagers. Also, there is the competition from life's other attractions. In youthful terms, that is defined as the internet and video games. For adults, it's the ability to pick up a cell phone and be able to call a business associate in Sydney, Australia, from New York while eating sushi at your favorite Japanese restaurant. In other words, the draw of worldwide communications provided by ham radio just "ain't what it used to be."

With all of the above in mind, do we simply fold up our tents and accept the inevitable or is there another view? Read on and you'll get a perspective that I hope you can support.

Is the Glass Half Full or Half Empty?

If you're a charter member of the "sky is falling" club, the timing is probably right for you to sell your radios while you can still command a few pennies for them. However, there's reason for optimism, and that's going to be my focus for the rest of this month's column.

Did you operate in the 2009 CQ WW SSB and CW DX Contests? Even if you're not a contester, did you listen to the action? If you did, you had to marvel at the activity. While this is a subject for a separate column, like it or not, 20 meters was fully occupied across its entire spectrum! Record scores were made in a number of categories (as can be seen in last month's SSB results and this month's CW results). World-class single operators

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

Calendar of Events

All year

Aug. 28-29
Aug. 28-29
Aug. 28-29
Aug. 29
Sept. 4-5
Sept. 11-12
Sept. 11-13
Sept. 12
Sept. 18-19
Sept. 18-19
Sept. 19
Sept. 25-26
Sept. 25-26
Oct. 2-3
Oct. 9-10
Oct. 9-10
Oct. 10
Oct. 30-31
Nov. 27-28

CQ DX Marathon

YO DX Contest
SCC RTTY Championship
Ohio QSO Party
SARL HF CW Contest
All Asian SSB Contest
Worked All Europe SSB Contest
ARRL Sept. VHF QSO Party
North American CW Sprint
Scandinavian CW Activity Contest
Washington State Salmon Run
North American SSB Sprint
CQ WW RTTY DX Contest
Texas QSO Party
California QSO Party (CQP)
Pennsylvania QSO Party
Scandinavian SSB Activity Contest
North American RTTY Sprint
CQ WW DX SSB Contest
CQ WW DX CW Contest

produced QSO rates that we could only dream about in previous years, here is the U.S. as well as in DX circles. If contesting is nearing extinction, you'd never know it by the WW weekends, both of which for the 2009 contests had more entries submitted than ever before. Also, for those who have rightful concerns over the intrusiveness of the contest activity on the bands we experienced those weekends, I think ham radio was well served by our demonstration of activity and interest in radio communications in general.

Another factor to consider is that contesting is not just the big guns "beating up" one another in a competition. The reality is that there are scores of other contests that can appeal to the interests of many hams, whether they enjoy domestic operating (or those whose stations are better suited for that kind of operating), VHF, or specialty modes such as RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, etc. I'd encourage you to check out the calendar of contest events that I assemble each month and consider participating in a few of them.

Finally, there are the intangible benefits. Maybe I'm a dying breed of competitor, but I have to admit that I enjoy contesting for a number of irreplaceable reasons: (1) the thrill of the competition, (2) the thrill of simply working interesting hams and interesting places, and (3) the camaraderie that comes from it all. Let's take a look at each of these topics in more detail.

The Thrill of the Competition

A wonderful attribute of contesting is that it allows for competition at whatever level you choose to define. The range can be from winning at the world-class level to beating your score of the prior year. It can mean exceeding a million points for the first time to working 100 countries on a single band. In today's culture competition surely exists. It's a significant component in the makeup of the person-

alities of many of us, and contesting can and does feed off of that. That's an attribute that will most certainly drive the future of contesting forward in a positive way.

The Thrill of Working Interesting People and Places

OK, I'll admit another one this month: I still enjoy getting on the air and talking to far-away places. That's an aspect of ham radio that first attracted me to the hobby 40 years ago and is one that still interests me to this day. I'll often have a TELNET session running on my laptop while I work on other projects. Yes, while I was typing this very column, someone spotted FW5M on 80 meters. Did I keep typing? Nope. I ran downstairs and worked him. Maybe I'm unique, but that element of the chase provided by ham radio in general and contesting in particular cannot be replaced with cell phones and e-mail. It's an element of contest operating that will never go away and continue to drive the existence of contesting in the future. (Stand-by readers, as 5V7DX is on 14195)

Contest Camaraderie

Whether it's the Dayton Hamvention® or your local club, socialization of contesting has and will continue to drive interest into the future. Let's face it: As contesters we're like fisherman when we socially interact. The conversation ranges from how we bagged the big one to why the big one got away. For me, too, many of my contest friends have become my lifelong friends, not just to talk about contesting and ham radio, but to discuss career and life's issues in general. Without that aspect of contesting, my ham radio experience would dramatically be diminished.

Cheer Up!

Therefore, cheer up fellow contesters! If you have a "half-full glass" mindset, contest activity and the actual numbers speak for themselves. Contesting is alive and well. We have our challenges, but I'm in the camp that we also have a long legacy of success that is going to support our interests for a very long time. Now go pick yourself up by your bootstraps, find a new ham and get him/her get interested in contesting, and get going. There's a contest coming up this weekend, actually most weekends of the year!

Final Comments

As many of you know, the World Radio Team Championship (WRTC) took

place in Russia this past July. There is significant coverage of the event on the amateur radio sites and magazines, but since I am writing this in mid-July, just after the event, it's fitting to acknowledge the top winners of the event as follows:

Gold Medal—R32F operated by Vladimir Aksenov, RW1AC, and Alexey Mikhailov, RA1AIP

Silver Medal—R33A operated by Tonno Vahk, ES5TV, and Toivo Hallikivi, ES2RR

Bronze Medal—R33M operated by Dan Craig, N6MJ, and Chris Hurlbut, KL9A.

Congratulation to these fine operators and all of the participants!

Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the 2010 inductees into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame in May. This year's deserving hams are Larry Weaver, N6TW, and Don Hill, AA5AU. For many

years, Larry has been the glue behind the scenes in the CQ WW Contest Committee. Without his relentless efforts, there would be no CQ WW results. That combined with his operating skill and other contributions to the sport make him a worthy recipient. Don Hill, AA5AU, is widely known as the guru of RTTY operating. Digital operating and contesting in particular have been very successful in recent years, and Don's contributions have been a big part of that success. His mentoring of others, including his widely read website (<http://www.aa5au.com/rtty.html>) is incredible and makes Don stand out as a wonderful example of what the CQ Contest Hall of Fame is all about. Congratulations to Larry and Don!

Well, that's it for this month. As always, see you in the next contest!

73, John, K1AR

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Get Ready to Reap the DX

A Quick Look at Current Cycle 24 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, June 2010: 14
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2009: 8

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, June 2010: 73
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2009: 75

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, June 2010: 8
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2009: 5

One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, June 2009: 3
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2008: 2

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, June 2009: 69
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2008: 69

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, June 2009: 5
Twelve-month smoothed, December 2008: 5

September is a month of radical improvement in radio propagation conditions. On September 23, 2010 at 0309 UTC, the sun will be directly over the equator. This happens twice a year, in the spring and fall, and is called an "equinox." The fall, or "autumnal," equinox is the day on which the sun crosses the equator, as it appears to travel from northern to southern skies. On this day, over much of the Earth the hours of daylight are equal to the hours of darkness. Sunrise should take place at approximately 6 AM local time and the sun should set around 6 PM local time, except at the high latitudes.

This results in an ionosphere of similar characteristics over large areas of the world and is usually the best time of the year for long DX openings between the temperate regions of the Northern and Southern Hemispheres on all HF bands. Expect improvement on 20 meters, with more frequent openings from mid-September through mid-October between North America and South America, the South Pacific, South Asia, and southern Africa. The strongest openings will occur for a few hours after sunrise and during the sunset hours.

Long-path openings improve during the equinoctial periods. A variety of paths are opening up on 20 meters. Expect a path to southern Asia around sunset, and daily morning openings to southern Asia and the Middle East, expanding to Africa. Also look for Antarctic short path, and signals from the Indian Ocean region long path over the North Pole. Afternoons will fill with South Pacific long path and

*e-mail: <nw7us@arrl.net>

LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for September 2010

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 1-6, 9-13, 24-30	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 8, 14-15, 18, 22-23	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 7, 16-17, 19, 21	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: 20	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: N/A	C-D	D	E	E

Where expected signal quality is:

- A—Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9.
- B—Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.
- C—Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.
- D—Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, with considerable fading and noise.
- E—No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Find the *propagation index* associated with the particular path opening from the Propagation Charts appearing in *The New Shortwave Propagation Handbook* by George Jacobs, W3ASK; Theodore J. Cohen, N4XX; and Robert B. Rose, K6GKU.

2. With the *propagation index*, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the path opening for any given day of the month. For example, an opening shown in the Propagation Charts with a *propagation index* of 2 will be good (B) on Sept. 1st through the 6th, fair-to-poor (C-D) on the 7th, fair (C) on the 8th, 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.

then extend to Russia and Europe. Look for possible long-path openings on 30, 40, and 80 meters for an hour or so before sunrise and just before sunset.

The winter DX season is about to open up, making for exciting DX conditions. While the weather is still warm and fair, tighten hardware on your antenna system, check coax cables, and fine-tune your radio station. Get ready to reap the DX.

The 15-meter band will supply day-path propagation even over the polar paths, although these polar openings are still somewhat rare this year with the low sunspot activity level. A considerable improvement is expected for DX propagation on 17 meters, opening shortly after sunrise and remaining open until after sundown. Openings will be best toward Europe and the northeast before noon, and to the rest of the world during the afternoon hours. Openings toward the South Pacific, Australia, New Zealand, and the Far East should be possible well into the early evening. Remember, though, that openings are dependent on the strength of the ionosphere, which in turn is dependent upon an active sun. During this part of the solar cycle, activity is minimal. Openings may be rare and short-lived.

Twenty meters will be the best daytime DX band this month. Look for 20 to open for DX at sunrise and remain open in all directions for a few hours.

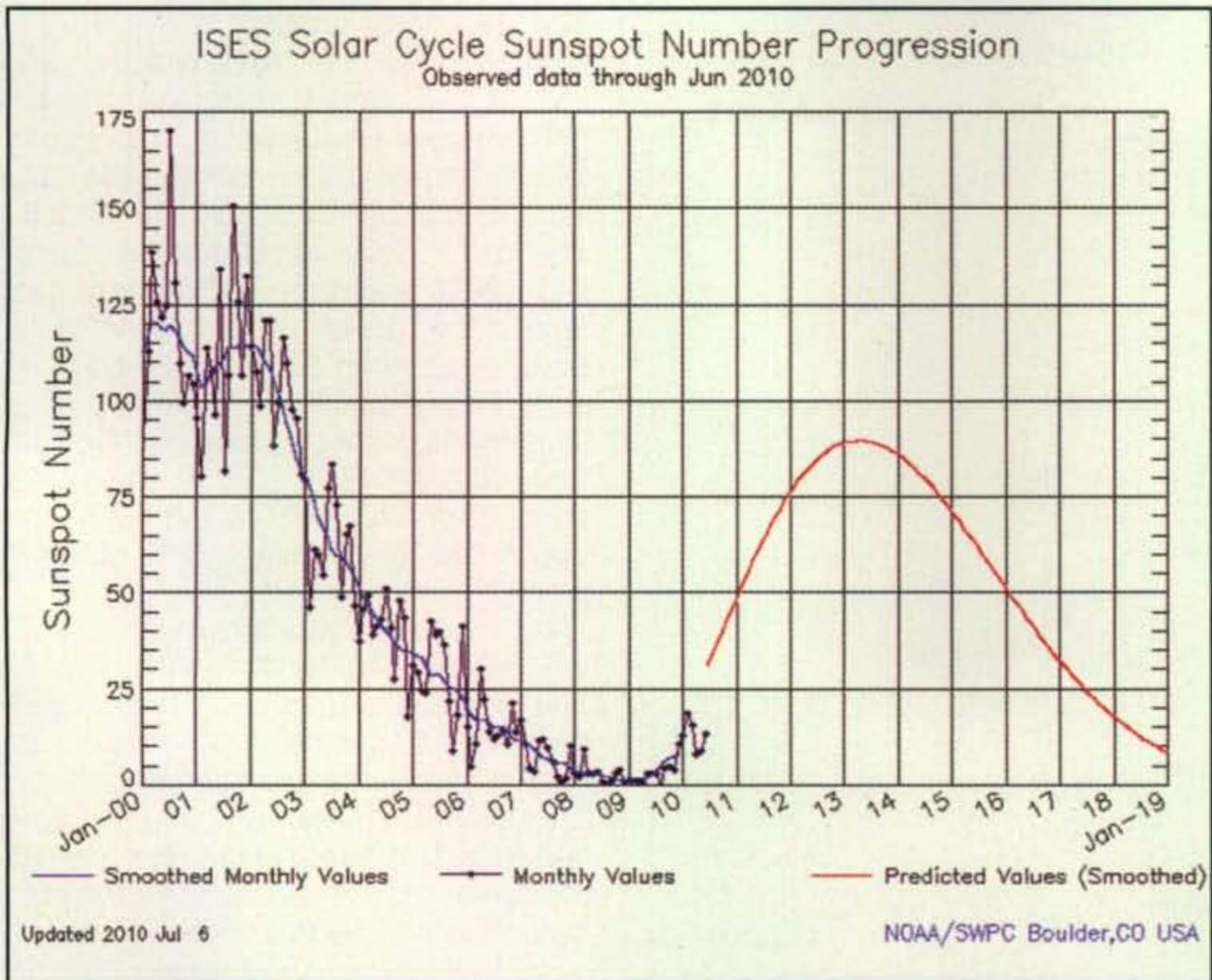


Fig. 1—Sunspot Cycle 24 progression chart (as of July 2010) plotting the smoothed monthly sunspot number and showing the definite rise, even with the expected dips that are typical in any cycle. (Source: Space Weather Prediction Center [SWPC]/The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA])

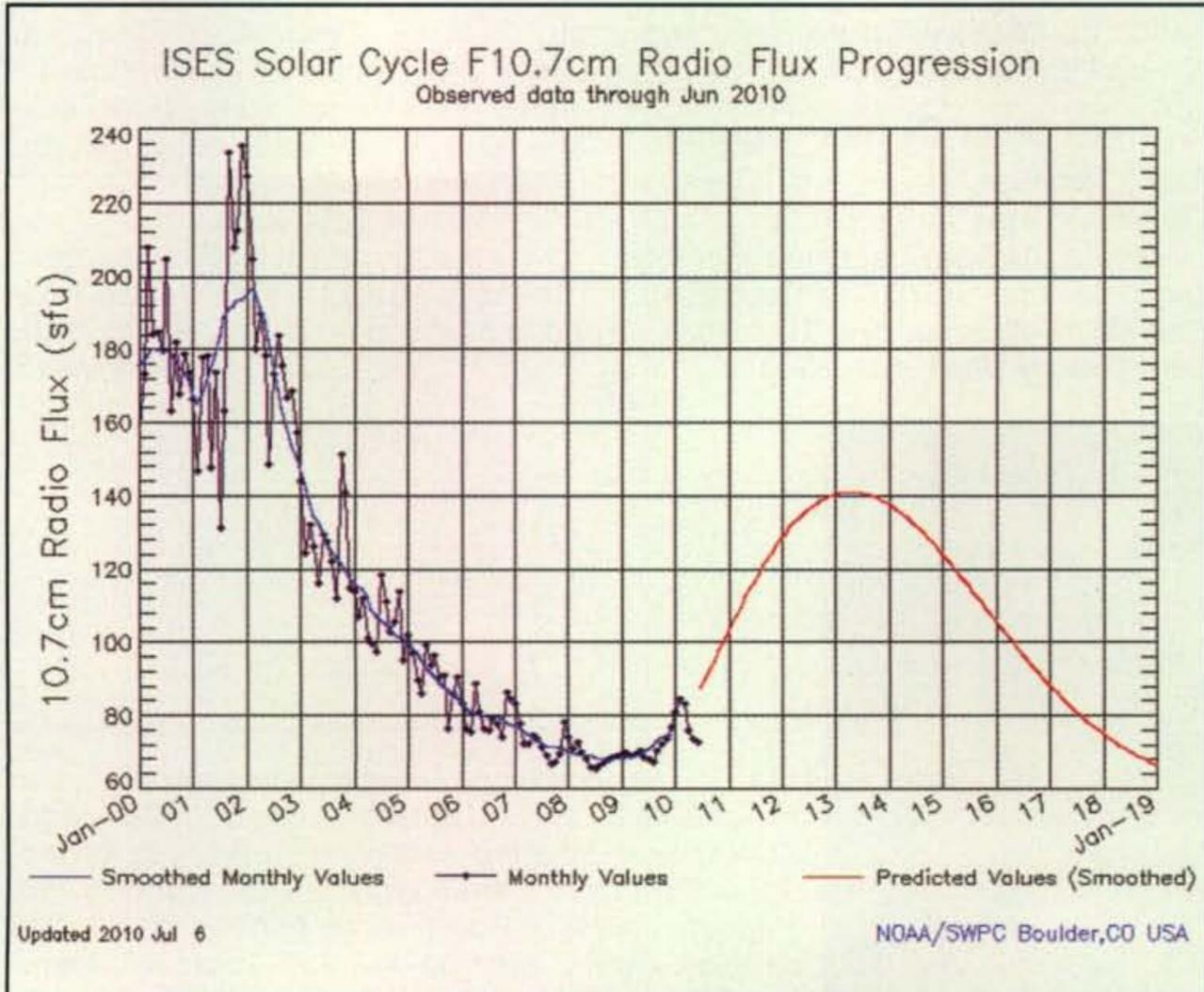


Fig. 2—Progression chart (as of July 2010) plotting the smoothed monthly 10.7-cm flux. Note that the 10.7-cm flux does not always track with the monthly smoothed sunspot count. This can occur when the energy of the sunspots during a particular month is low, as was the case in these months during the first part of 2010. (Source: SWPC/NOAA)

It should be possible to work into many areas of the world throughout the daylight hours, with a peak in the afternoon. Nighttime conditions will favor openings toward the south and to tropical areas, but some openings will also be possible to other areas, especially during High Normal or better days. Look for polar gray-line propagation into Asia. Long-path is common on 20 to southern Asia, the Middle East, and northeastern Africa as well as the Indian Ocean region via the north polar path.

Expect an improvement in nighttime DX conditions on 30 through 160 meters during September and October. This is due to the increasing hours of darkness and a seasonal decrease in the static level. Thirty and 40 meters should be best for worldwide DX from sunset to sunrise. Sixty meters should become more reliable for those farther contacts; working all states on 60 is very possible during this season. Eighty and 160 meters will become hot bands during the hours of darkness, especially for an hour or so before local sunrise.

For short-skip propagation during September and early October use 60 and 80 meters during the day for openings shorter than 250 miles, and either 80 or 160 at night. For distances between 250 and 750 miles try 30, 40, and possibly 60 meters during the day and 80 meters at night. For openings between 750 and 1300 miles 20 meters should work during the day, and 30, 40, and 60 from sundown to midnight, and 60 and 80 from midnight to sunrise. For openings greater than 1300 miles try 15, 17, or 20 meters during the day, and 30, 40, and even 60 during the hours of darkness. Check 10 and 12 meters for some fairly good openings beyond 1300 miles in the afternoon hours, especially when conditions are High Normal or better, and for paths into South America and the South Pacific.

VHF Conditions

The month of September statistically has the lowest amount of sporadic-E propagation activity. Toward the end of September trans-equatorial (TE) propagation will begin to occur between southern North America and northern South America. Openings generally will occur in the late afternoon to early evening.

Troposcatter conditions are generally very good for many of the VHF bands up to 440 MHz during September with the appearance of different weather fronts. This will be the primary mode for working up to 300 miles. A very useful Internet resource for viewing tropo-

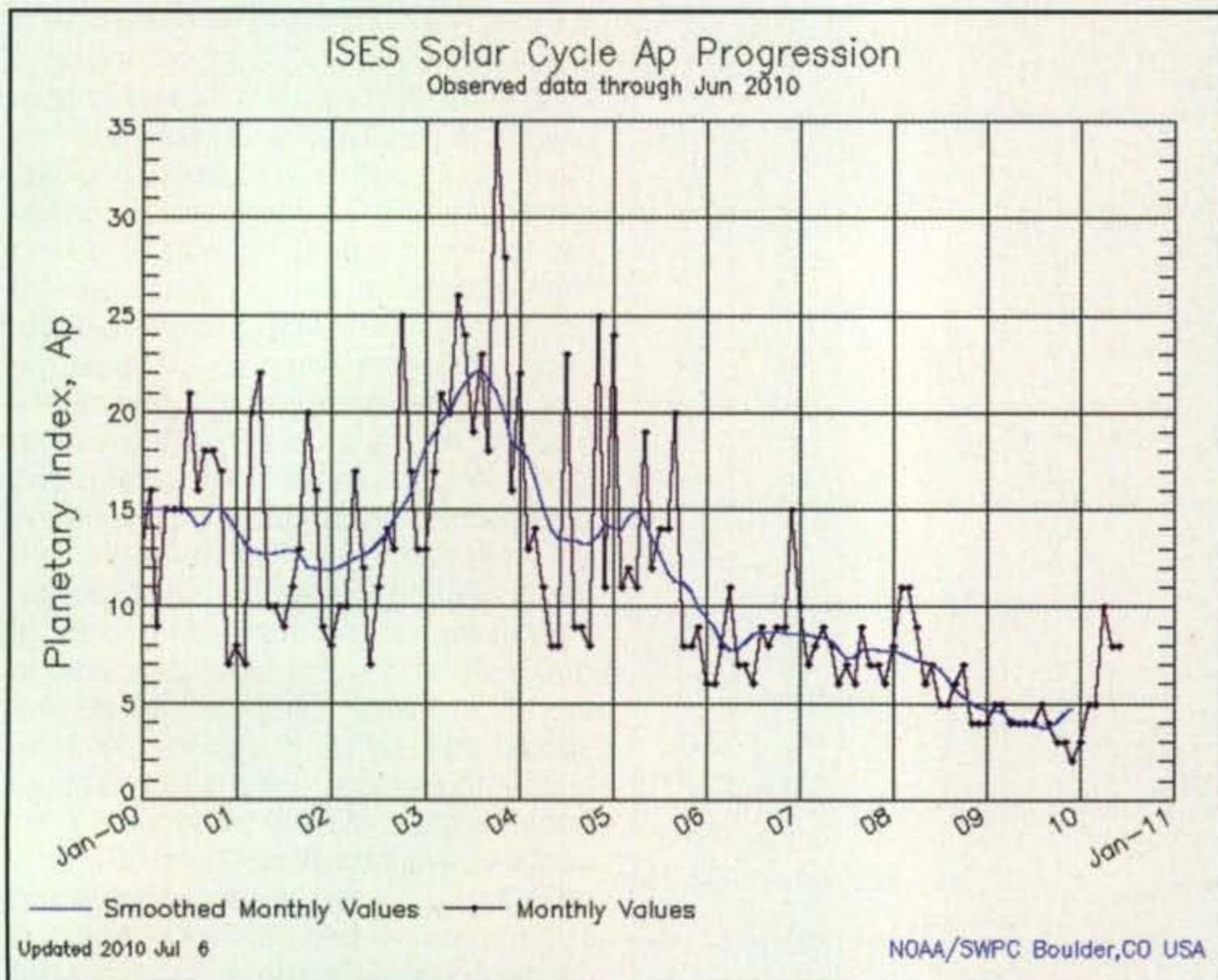


Fig. 3— This graph of the monthly and smoothed planetary A-index (Ap) reveals that we're now seeing more normal geomagnetic activity as expected during the start of a new sunspot cycle. As solar activity increases, it is typical to see the overall geomagnetic activity also increase. The higher the geomagnetic activity, the more the ionosphere will suffer, causing HF propagation also to suffer. (Source: SWPC/NOAA)

pheric conditions is available at William Hepburn's "VHF/UHF Tropospheric Ducting Forecast" site: <http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>.

Don't forget to check out *CQ VHF* magazine as well as the VHF column in this issue for a more in-depth look at VHF propagation. However, no matter what, get on the radio and try working the many modes. The more people active on these

bands, the more we can unlock the mysteries of VHF propagation.

Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 72.6 for June 2010. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on December 2009 is 74.9.

The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for September 2010 is about 91, give or take about 7 points.

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the mean monthly observed sunspot number for June 2010 is 13.5. The lowest daily sunspot value during June 2010 was zero (0) on only two days, June 15 and 16. The highest daily sunspot count for June was 33 on both June 11 and 12. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on December 2009 is 8.3. A smoothed sunspot count of 33 is expected for September 2010, give or take about 8 points.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (Ap) for June 2010 was 8. The 12-month smoothed Ap index centered on December 2009 was 4.8. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to be unsettled to stormy during September. Refer to the Last-Minute Forecast at the beginning 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/>. If you are on Facebook, check out <http://tinyurl.com/fbswx> and <http://tinyurl.com/fb-nw7us>. Speaking of Facebook, check out the *CQ Amateur Radio Magazine* fan page at <http://tinyurl.com/fb-cqm>.

Now that the new solar cycle is active, I'll be keeping my ears to the radio, hoping to hear you on the air. Happy DX!

73, Tomas, NW7US

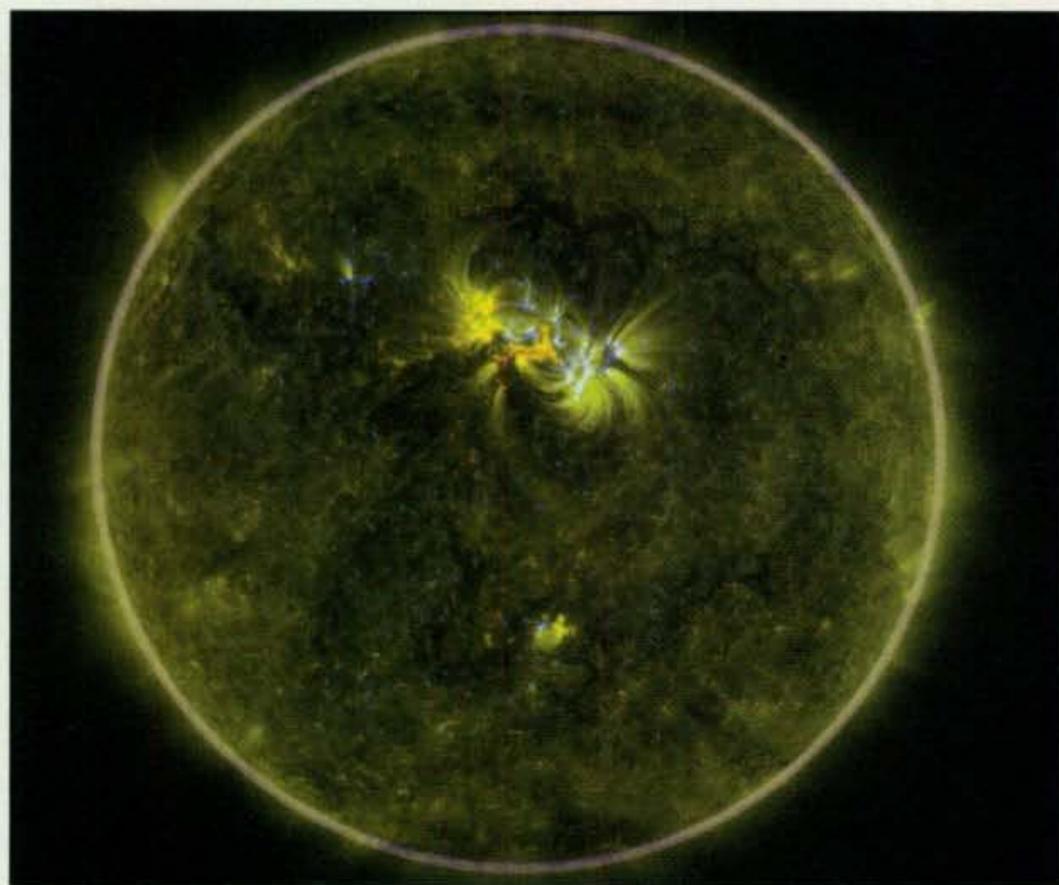


Fig. 4— A combined image composed of the Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager (HMI) and Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA) both for the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) showing the magnetic field in blue and orange (indicating opposite polarity) aligned with the AIA 171-Angstrom wavelength channel in extreme ultraviolet superimposed over it. These images of the active sunspot region NOAA AR 11087 were taken at 1059 UTC on July 15, 2010. The juxtaposition is especially effective at showing how the arcs that we observe in UV light emerge from regions of strong magnetic field. (Source: SDO/NASA)

Results of the 2009 CQ WW DX CW Contest (from page 26)

Number groups after call letters denote following: Band (A=all), Final Score, Number of QSOs, Zones, and Countries. An asterisk (*) before a call indicates low power. Certificate winners are listed in bold. (All country terminology reflects the DXCC list at the time of the contest.)

2009 CW RESULTS
SINGLE OPERATOR
NORTH AMERICA

United States			
K5ZD/1	A	6,845,832	3957 132 480
K1DG	A	6,614,634	3851 134 485
W1CM	A	3,975,309	2650 127 422
W1WEF	A	3,560,648	2547 124 387
K8PO/1	A	3,378,816	2525 114 390
W1FJ	A	1,894,445	1462 115 364
K0QM/1	A	1,516,841	1530 84 269
K1ZZ	A	1,481,594	1169 116 341
W1MK	A	975,792	1091 85 263
N1IX	A	841,680	948 77 257
K1BV	A	744,022	935 71 206
K1YT	A	646,415	618 97 288
W1EQ	A	605,456	713 83 233
K1ZE	A	508,690	558 81 257
W1HIS	A	406,840	545 73 207
AK1N	A	232,068	389 66 167
K1RM	A	230,574	513 37 129
N4XR/1	A	181,760	275 72 184
NN1N	A	126,117	193 64 179
WW3K/1	A	113,364	261 58 143
W2QQ/1	A	96,385	214 58 127
W1DDD	A	92,120	218 54 134
(OP: W1YRC)			
K1KU	A	74,108	210 54 137
W1LWH	A	56,608	179 27 89
W1OHM	A	50,022	183 38 88
AD1L	A	14,080	73 27 53
KB1ODO	A	5,720	48 22 33
W3EP/1	28	7,176	82 15 31
W1MU	14	738,474	1546 37 130
K1IM	A	232,740	630 31 104
W1XX	7	206,336	603 29 99
WB1AEL	3.5	37,296	166 20 64
K1UO	1.8	36,045	182 18 63
*N1UR	A	2,605,372	1977 114 370
*K1BX	A	2,252,322	1706 117 354
*W1JQ	A	1,098,108	977 100 323
*KS1J	A	1,060,928	1114 88 264
*W2JU/1	A	747,999	722 98 285
*K1HT	A	617,967	623 89 268
*KB1T	A	497,991	574 88 251
*KG1E	A	469,650	590 78 225
*W1CCE	A	430,350	581 75 227
*K1VSJ	A	386,656	509 72 209
*K1VW	A	192,632	343 71 171
*W3SM/1	A	190,361	328 66 167
*N1JW	A	128,115	249 63 132
*K1PU	A	120,365	269 52 129
*N1NN	A	60,984	203 35 91
*N1LU	A	54,520	187 49 96
*K1EP	A	46,816	138 57 97
*K1DUQ	A	26,970	137 22 65
*W1PID	A	25,370	128 28 58
*K1NEF	A	24,475	132 29 60
*NJ1H	A	21,976	104 22 60
*WB1FJH	A	18,810	96 30 60
*W1FA	A	16,863	89 20 53
*K1SM	A	14,356	78 26 48
*KA1VMG	A	9,090	78 36 54
*K1YM	A	7,560	49 20 40
*N1IMW	A	6,636	109 25 54
*AA1M	A	1,050	18 6 15
*K1HI	A	792	16 11 11
*W1MJ	A	143	6 5 6
*KB1DGT	A	120	23 6 6
*N1NK	21	80,976	259 21 91
*W1ZK	A	36,034	162 18 68
*KG1V	14	60,585	219 23 82
*W1NK	7	53,760	199 23 82
*AB1J	A	32,172	143 19 65
*W1WBB	1.8	1,380	36 10 13
N2LT	A	3,425,076	2273 123 411
W2BC	A	2,434,803	1809 119 378
(OP: @W2BC)			
W2XL	A	1,966,660	1665 102 326
K2NV	A	1,590,840	1176 125 366
A12N	A	750,336	742 95 289
K2FU	A	715,125	711 99 276
N1RK/2	A	455,895	546 70 227
K2XF	A	446,682	505 80 247
KE2WY	A	396,924	498 80 211
KW2J	A	363,236	486 83 201
WS9M/2	A	188,256	412 60 152
KM2L	A	158,886	304 59 135
WB2SIH	A	129,280	261 59 143
W2FUJ	A	97,426	192 48 103
N2CG	A	65,850	163 45 105
N03N/2	A	63,688	181 49 103
W2TB	A	60,384	166 48 100
N2EIK	A	51,984	175 32 82
K2YR	A	35,168	125 36 76
W2UDT	A	12,470	93 30 56
WA3AFTS/2	A	266	7 7 7
W2RR	28	3,584	50 11 17
N2MF	7	632,277	1433 36 127
KR2AA	14	161,720	463 28 102
WF2W	1.8	38,637	229 18 63
W2VO	A	8,109	65 15 38
*K1TN/2	A	437,835	544 79 224
*K2UF	A	431,550	546 81 234
*K2ZC	A	268,167	461 50 163
*K2TWI	A	212,424	364 48 164
*KC2TA	A	181,930	321 65 161
*W2CVW	A	178,485	305 60 159
*WA2YSJ	A	157,248	269 66 158
*K2IY	A	103,116	258 43 113
*WA2JQK	A	101,360	291 70 210
*K2DAR	A	71,100	213 42 108
*AE2T	A	65,886	174 52 106
*N2RI	A	60,915	183 50 105
*K2TV	A	57,962	162 45 101
*KD2MX	A	52,070	164 40 87
*WA2MCR	A	49,842	142 50 92
*W2BEE	A	44,748	152 44 88
*K2SZ	A	33,274	151 33 94
*N3SV/2	A	26,445	127 38 85
*WDBCBQ/2	A	19,656	111 38 79
*K2IZ	A	16,354	83 20 54
*WV2ZOW	A	16,065	82 29 56
*N2NF	A	11,778	59 29 49

*K2MEN	A	9,576	73 26 50
*W2LB	A	9,476	101 38 65
*WA2BMH	A	5,768	45 21 35
*K2ZR	A	3,462	79 37 53
*K2RNY	A	3,381	32 22 27
*WJ3P/2	A	2,891	39 23 26
*WY1H/2	A	1,972	27 15 19
*WA2ART	A	448	21 14 14
*KV2X	A	180	11 6 9
*KC2RXS	A	84	6 6 6
*W2AW	14	281,400	736 31 109
*WA2ZSK	A	7,900	95 13 37
*W2XM	A	1,150	17 7 16
*W2EG	7	139,008	396 30 98
*NK1N/2	A	3,388	53 8 20
K3CR	A	6,103,845	3505 146 481
(OP: LZ4AX)			
AA1K/3	A	3,890,164	2561 130 432
K3ZO	A	3,258,984	2179 129 412
K3NK	A	1,620,780	1254 114 362
N1WR/3	A	1,615,700	1372 103 325
K3IPK	A	1,372,672	1120 109 339
N3UM	A	1,247,330	1311 89 257
K3TC	A	1,102,050	906 120 345
K3ZM/4	A	3,479,916	2690 116 376
K1T0/4	A	2,837,950	1972 128 410
W4RX	A	1,828,584	1516 110 356
W040	A	1,790,752	1616 108 320
N6AR/4	A	1,568,450	1222 119 356
K4RO	A	1,501,485	1243 117 348
K1GU/4	A	1,310,088	1116 124 318
W4QM	A	1,160,423	949 113 338
N4RA	A	1,072,996	917 111 325
N4UU	A	973,080	1337 88 218
N1LN/4	A	625,944	887 68 196
N4MM	A	621,250	644 93 257
K4DJ	A	574,434	643 87 242
K4MF	A	527,244	604 84 234
*N3KR	A	3,200	34 8 24
*K3JHT	A	1,344	23 7 17
*W3DF	21	18,564	106 20 48
*K1EFU/3	14	81,270	274 22 83
*NK3U	A	73,575	256 26 83
*W3OD	A	21,402	101 22 60
*W1E/3	7	62,916	220 26 81
*K3STX	A	27,054	123 21 60
*K3TW	3.5	35,588	165 17 65
*NS3T	A	22,644	134 16 58

K4FJ	21	224,910	550 33 114
K4RDU	14	59,670	206 27 75
W0UCE/4	3.5	60,200	271 22 78
K4PI	1.8	53,053	245 19 72
W5MX/4	A	21,183	120 16 53
AB4IQ	A	8,480	69 17 36
*N4YOU	A	1,536,912	1270 111 357
*W3AU/4	A	1,188,630	1033 109 314
(OP: K4GKD)			
*N4IG	A	858,753	826 96 291
*N2WN/4	A	815,150	757 118 307
*NA4K	A	722,424	715 99 273
*WK2G/4	A	720,200	1074 71 206
*NA4CW	A	679,899	696 97 266
*W4YE	A	492,660	576 82 233
*W4RQ	A	317,395	465 65 192
*N4WO	A	185,760	343 59 157
*K4IE	A	180,264	315 66 156
*K4HA	A	163,652	259 73 178
*K4LRP	A	157,527	327 64 143
*W4NBS	A	136,565	279 59 132
*KE4KY	A	131,950	276 56 126
*KN4QD	A	131,040	226 67 143
*AA4N	A	124,972	250 60 139
*K2SD/4	A	124,168	275 53 134
K5WA	A	836,876	850 120 277
N5PO	A	667,242	746 97 245
K2SD	A	376,584	583 99 213
W5VQ	A	353,580	480 104 228
K5EWJ	A	322,368	471 92 200
K7IA/5	A	239,166	399 83 175
W5PF	A	187,148	302 81 163
N5VU	A	146,248	320 67 135
N5DY	A	130,851	250 69 132
K5MV	A	129,024	291 60 132
KD5JAA	A	104,961	239 69 108
NK5Z	A	80,800	399 53 107
AB5I	A	48,430	143 54 91
W0ZW/5	A	34,925	108 52 75
AB5C	A	28,672	101 53 75
WZ5H	A	8,890	48 33 37
W6PU/5	7	95,356	337 31 93
W5WMU	3.5	140,920	530 21 83
K5NU	A	109,250	313 30 95
K5RX	1.8	32,554	181 21 61
W5TM	A	17,670	141 17 45
WD5R	A	9,408	114 16 33
(OP: N5ECT)			
*N5AW	A	1,930,320	1301 140 420
*K5KLA	A	875,600	786 112 286
*N4IJ/5	A	587,367	645 98 251
*AC5K	A	298,627	431 75 184
*WF5W	A	163,505	386 91 174
*K0GEO/5	A	142,107	279 64 137
*W5RYA	A	137,196	276 79 143
*WA5SOG	A	105,534	334 32 91
*AD5MN	A	99,648	224 66 126
*N5XE	A	97,836	228 67 119
*KE5AKL	A	83,850	231 58 92
*AE5X	A	79,191	212 68 121
*N7FF/5	A	54,990	171 46 84
*N5PU	A	52,020	149 52 101
*K5ICW	A	30,900	122 37 66
*K5BZH	A	25,123	126 39 58
*KD5JHE	A	23,205	98 32 59
*AA5AM	A	20,640	93 42 54
*NK5G	A	20,437	173 45 62
*N5TM	A	17,574	85 35 52
*N5KF	A	17,372	75 39 47
*AE5MM	A	10,437	71 31 40
*K5WW	A	9,315	59 29 40
*W5RZ	A	8,442	51 24 39
*W5MJ	A	6,834	60 16 35
*W5AG	A	4,400	46 22 33
*N5ZC	A	3,515	43 18 19
*KE5PWL	A	3,108	52 17 25
*N7KRT/5	A	1,798	22 11 18
*K5XA	A	767	31 7 6
*W5PO	A	672	47 18 24
*KD5RSS	A	132	12 7 5
*N5ESA	A	88	4 4 4
*K3TD/5	21	1,421	30 12 17
*W5VDM	A	188	10 6 8
*N5ER	14	183,714	501 32 102
*AA5JG	A	26,860	132 24 55
*N7DF/5	1.8	6,768	88 16 32

*W8OWS/4	A	10,200	58 29 39
*WD4POZ	A	7,830	51 18 40
*K9JA/4	A	6,552	81 22 56
*K1AEZC	A	6,400	48 25 39
*WB4JJJ	A	6,363	51 20 43
*K6ETM/4	A	4,888	46 22 30
*NR4C	A	4,332	51 23 34
*N4DXI	A	2,808	40 14 22
*K14NCX	A	2,479	25 16 21
*K14MM	A	2,272	25 14 18
*AA4KD	A	1,798	26 14 17
*K4RST	A	1,485	21 16 17
*AL7HW/W4	A	1,456	40 22 30
*K4EOR	A	1,400	31 17 18
*AF6SY/4	A	246	14 3 3
*K4WI	28	8,316	142 14 30
*WB4TLH	21	79,739	246 29 92
*W4AD	A	5	

*W6IYS	72,358	227	55	88	*N8VV	337,680	461	84	196	*N0HR	A	708,760	711	98	279	*VE3EXW	7	459	11	7	10	*J2800	A	1,204,480	1333	83	237	Djibouti					
*WY6DX	45,224	150	48	89	*N8DE	332,848	468	76	217	*K0DEQ		604,540	661	94	240	*VE3RCN	3.5	7,155	139	10	17	A						Egypt					
*K6WSC	48,408	156	59	70	*W8IDM	159,400	303	60	140	*W0ETT		510,384	589	106	230	*VE3GSI		5,662	162	9	10	A						Ghana					
*K06X	33,522	210	47	64	*N9AUG/8	146,324	279	79	154	*K0BJ		336,519	456	85	184	*VE4YU	A	79,925	237	54	85	A						Kenya					
*N6HE	21,984	188	44	52	*W8TM	101,824	213	49	123	*NX0I		203,109	385	76	161	*VE5ZX	A	775,587	1427	81	182	A						Madagascar					
*K6CSL	20,088	117	42	51	*WB8TLJ	98,304	186	62	130	*W0QG		171,972	398	61	143	*VE5ZF		31,212	225	22	46	A						Madeira Islands					
*W6JK	19,376	94	37	40	*AA8YN	92,140	233	53	117	*KN0V		149,040	274	72	144	*VE5AD		15,800	146	21	29	A						Morocco					
*W6BVB	11,404	68	34	38	*WB8TSD	76,437	205	47	102	*N0UY		137,385	315	73	140	*VA5LF		84	8	3	3	A						Namibia					
*AF6EV	10,004	74	30	31	*WB8LZA	56,064	181	44	84	*N0JY		120,379	236	67	136							Nigeria											
*KN6Y	9,870	85	40	54	*WBCDA	36,031	134	51	86	*N0JT		108,696	256	57	111							Senegal											
*KA3DRR/6	9,490	64	32	33	*NFBM	32,364	108	43	73	*W0RO		88,835	248	54	109							Sudan											
*W6ARUS	4,830	38	21	25	*WBAN	31,581	101	47	74	*W0R0		85,559	206	60	101							Tanzania											
*W6VAR	2,829	35	20	21	*W8HMK	26,510	115	38	72	*NN7A/8		83,559	248	54	109							Zambia											
*W6NOL	2,457	39	31	32	*WB2DFC/8	17,836	132	32	59	*NFB0		54,796	165	45	88							Zimbabwe											
*KD6WKY	24	4	4	4	*K8VUS	13,725	75	25	50	*K0CN		50,025	136	53	92							ASIA											
*AE9F/6	21	21,641	127	21	46	*K8RJW	6,321	57	17	32	*W0R0		45,261	149	48	93							Afghanistan										
*AC6VN	16,409	125	20	41	*K8WGA	6,148	69	26	32	*K0CV		42,768	148	56	76							Armenia											
*K6CVN	2,244	34	16	28	*N8KV	2,808	35	17	22	*K0KJ		41,064	150	37	79							Asia											
*N6P4I/W6	682	93	14	17	*K88M	216	23	12	12	*K0JL		34,510	143	39	80							ASIAN RUSSIA											
*W7XZ/6	7	14,945	99	26	35	*N8IW	48	3	3	3	*N0ZK		26,214	93	35	67							ASIAN RUSSIA										
*KU6T	468	23	7	6	*K8AJ5	21	76,705	244	26	89	*N0CK		21,756	98	32	52							ASIAN RUSSIA										
K7GK	A	2,397,520	2026	146	314	*K8IR	42,816	176	22	74	*K0STQ		17,550	88	30	60							ASIAN RUSSIA										
K07AA	A	1,610,631	1360	132	327	*W8GOC	23,068	117	18	55	*W1W0		16,800	102	34	50							ASIAN RUSSIA										
AB7E		889,014	1005	103	263	*K8LTL	4	1	1	1	*N1WQ/0		16,368	159	42	51							ASIAN RUSSIA										
K4XU/7		663,518	708	102	259	*N8BHL	14	35,552	172	24	64	*K0VBU		13,650	70	30	48							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K07X		530,131	598	117	232	*WB8MIW	14	35,490	153	25	66	*W7KU/0		12,467	75	39	52							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7RL		489,294	746	85	161	*K8WQL	7	26,435	147	24	61	*N0RAA		10,842	88	35	43							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7ZA		487,760	548	112	223	*N8BV	7	134,232	373	32	104	*W0RMA		10,452	74	35	43							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K88N/7		474,369	511	110	233	W9RE	A	4,350,170	3000	138	419	*W0RU		10,108	75	33	43							ASIAN RUSSIA									
WA7LT		441,197	654	103	180	N9CK	A	1,622,754	1283	121	356	*K0HNC		9,867	77	27	42							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7GQ		375,136	461	100	204	K9MA		954,404	892	106	292	*K3O50/0		9,288	107	35	37							ASIAN RUSSIA									
N7BV		333,900	455	113	187	W9OP		861,510	813	103	287	*WS0P		5,100	46	23	27							ASIAN RUSSIA									
KN7T		273,900	478	77	143	K9OM		427,035	493	96	247	*NV0P		4,620	57	23	43							ASIAN RUSSIA									
WGAE/7		271,636	491	83	153	AB9H		207,888	358	74	170	*K0ITC		3,942	34	23	31							ASIAN RUSSIA									
AB7R		210,128	467	78	106	W3HDH/9		204,726	355	67	162	*N0BM		3,740	45	16	24							ASIAN RUSSIA									
W7YS		146,688	296	59	133	WT9U		190,670	354	73	157	*N0R		3,600	41	19	26							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7MS		130,851	375	75	126	W9DLC		157,030	286	61	144	*N0BUJ		2,695	30	17	18							ASIAN RUSSIA									
N17R		118,864	289	55	97	NJ9Z		126,210	250	73	137	*K0VE		1,900	31	12	26							ASIAN RUSSIA									
NN7ZZ		115,630	297	56	99	N9FC		115,884	256	54	120	*N0IBT		1,890	35	14	13							ASIAN RUSSIA									
KS7T		112,412	255	63	116	KY9KY0		113,796	307	51	123	*WB6TMV/0		275	26	6	5							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K17Y		102,180	248	57	99	K9MMS		87,204	213	64	105	*W0RT	21	2,028	28	9	17							ASIAN RUSSIA									
KN7K		96,714	239	63	99	K9OKK		30,996	115	38	85	*K50M	14	40,140	212	26	64							ASIAN RUSSIA									
N7RK		83,951	192	72	107	K9FD		21,340	91	48	62	*N0GOS		21,000	128	22	48							ASIAN RUSSIA									
W7IIT		83,776	221	52	84	N9IJ		6,273	53	15	36	*N9HDE/0	7	560	15	9	11							ASIAN RUSSIA									
NE9Z/7		56,604	180	68	110	WB9AYW		2,596	26	20	24													ASIAN RUSSIA									
N6KW/7		47,672	148	50	68	KK9V	28	392	13	5	9													ASIAN RUSSIA									
K17N		45,879	152	55	68	W9XT	21	137,391	423	29	94	AL1X	A	16,280	400	11	9							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7UN		41,580	182	47	79	K9UQN	14	121,068	375	29	89	KL8DX	A	351,820	1638	27	71							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7DD		21,079	95	37	70	K9GN		33,453	192	18	45	*KL1JP	A	18,282	155	34	32							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K0IP/7		19,796	113	40	58	W9VA	7	59,772	214	27	75	*KL7R	A	12,190	109	24	22							ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7EIQ		12,222	75	25	38	AG9S	3.5	33,015	145	24	69	*KL2R	14	168,630	963	27	50							ASIAN RUSSIA									
N7TL		10,788	109	42	51	W9YGE		19,527	132	20	49													ASIAN RUSSIA									
W7BUB		7,980	70	35	35	W9SE		15,183	108	18	45													ASIAN RUSSIA									
KF7P		6,264	96	26	28	N4TZ/9	1.8	33,768	195	19	65													ASIAN RUSSIA									
WA0KDS/7		96	4	4	4	*K9QVB	A	526,815	606	95	250													ASIAN RUSSIA									
KC7UP	14	7,847	59	21	38	*K9QA	A	357,995	489	84	199													ASIAN RUSSIA									
W7MA	7	529,851	1178	36	125	*K09MS		300,384	407	84	204													ASIAN RUSSIA									
N6MA/7	3.5	40,990	217	26	56	*W9ILY		291,540	423	69	189													ASIAN RUSSIA									
N7UA	1.8	122,100	565	27	73	*W9LHG		177,242	523	71	150													ASIAN RUSSIA									
K7UIR		16	2	2	2	*W9VQ		103,785	219	56	129													ASIAN RUSSIA									
*W7YAQ	A	797,568	804	120	252	*N9TF		99,568	232	62	134													ASIAN RUSSIA									

Bulgaria				*OK1UKV				*M/YO4RDW				*UA4PAQ				*UA3AO			
LZ3FN	A	3,111,212	3954 121 373	*OK1BLU	*	69,056	340 36 130	*G4ERW	3.5	53,118	577 12 66	*RA3ST	*	302,742	808 60 218	*UA4PCA	*	20,907	165 21 48
LZ1BJ	*	1,038,360	2052 83 257	*OK2PAD	*	68,971	346 35 132	*M0YOM	*	952	34 4 24	*RN4SN	*	291,278	622 78 220	*RA6YJ	*	14,384	165 14 48
LZ2JR	*	255,118	782 62 137	*OK2DW	*	67,734	392 29 130	*M4T	1.8	11,925	280 6 39	*UA1CEC	*	209,466	465 93 288	*RA10GP	*	11,175	64 23 52
LZ1ZJ	*	18,240	118 35 60	*OK2BNC	*	54,768	245 36 76	(OP: G0VOR)				*RW4AD	*	289,440	1043 50 190	*RN4AO	*	10,317	112 16 41
LZ1NG	28	6,320	164 9 31	*OK1DC	*	52,578	199 38 100	*G3VYI	*	4,972	112 7 37	*RW3TA	*	277,695	803 55 200	*UA1ZZ	*	9,656	126 22 46
LZ5A	21	124,470	512 34 101	*OK2KV	*	46,284	208 34 80	*G3SNU	*	437	38 3 16	*RW6HP	*	272,986	761 63 196	*RW4LQ	*	7,473	110 12 35
(OP: LZ2PS)				*OK1MV	*	38,481	222 27 100	Estonia				*RW6FP	*	266,310	649 64 205	*U3DI	*	4,968	36 19 27
LZ2HR	14	158,984	873 30 89	*OK1DRX	*	37,506	216 40 101	ES7GM	A	1,441,706	2454 103 366	*RA6FP	*	258,210	687 63 222	*U4PAY	*	2,840	38 12 28
LZ2NG	7	39,264	340 22 74	*OK1AKB	*	30,988	190 30 92	ES2MC	21	91,590	415 33 96	*RK6ASV	*	241,920	474 71 209	*RA4LK	*	777	13 9 12
LZ3YV	*	1,755	34 9 18	*OK1NE	*	24,852	182 24 90	ES4RD	14	71,520	418 27 69	*RX3VF	*	240,382	710 55 208	*RW6HA	14	219,778	798 36 122
LZ1SDR	3.5	25,200	397 13 47	*OK2BME	*	24,638	390 23 74	ES2EZ	7	106,875	653 29 96	*RA3MR	*	232,584	648 53 211	*RZ4AG	*	213,598	788 34 112
*LZ2SX	A	744,832	1254 83 269	*OK2AJ	*	22,248	160 19 53	ES5QX	3.5	335,658	1824 30 99	*RU4LM	*	229,457	488 64 205	*UA1AFT	*	189,895	586 37 126
*LZ5XO	A	682,506	1702 74 223	*OK2SWD	*	22,078	194 19 64	ES4RX	1.8	18,571	417 8 41	*RK4YJ	*	222,666	490 59 163	*RW6FZ	*	130,788	890 26 82
*LZ1WJ	*	255,047	546 81 218	*OK2TEO	*	21,525	207 24 81	*ES3RF	A	222,588	662 48 195	*UA4AAC	*	221,991	696 45 186	*RA3UAG	*	117,683	511 34 103
*LZ1IKY	*	230,010	738 57 196	*OK1MNV	*	15,554	85 31 46	*ESSDB	*	202,872	529 50 187	*RK3AQW	*	221,850	654 60 195	*UA6LCN	*	112,464	412 34 110
*LZ1PJ	*	191,520	518 53 171	*OK2KFK	*	13,800	122 27 65	*ES5EP	*	118,846	510 38 144	*RA3LO	*	218,621	532 58 193	*UA6NZ	*	106,140	522 28 88
*LZ1FH	*	187,875	747 36 131	*OK7N	*	11,775	112 20 55	*ES4MM	21	19,505	128 23 60	*RU3XY	*	217,728	632 57 186	*RN1NW	*	99,960	531 27 78
*LZ3ZZ	*	173,990	439 73 181	*OK1PV	*	7,182	61 19 35	*ES1CN	*	5,891	70 12 31	*RA4WA	*	210,666	648 48 175	*RX3DBG	*	98,280	589 27 81
*LZ1ONK	*	100,130	432 39 131	*OK1ARO	28	315	13 5 10	*ES8DH	14	30,375	216 24 51	*UA6FZ	*	204,228	595 53 191	*UA10DM	*	24,480	150 22 50
*LZ4AE	*	97,481	430 38 109	*OLBA	*	24	6 3 5	*ES6KW	3.5	7,742	152 9 40	*UA6GX	*	176,596	499 57 155	*UA10EX	*	23,400	231 14 51
*LZ1BP	*	91,584	396 32 112	(OP: OK1CZ)				European Russia				*RU3DM	*	173,396	309 69 199	*RA6MS	*	20,473	251 11 48
*LZ100SO	*	55,878	261 32 70	*OK2HZ	21	57,116	216 30 79	RG3K	A	2,554,040	3149 121 415	*RW6MBC	*	170,178	449 50 176	*UA3DCM	*	19,136	117 27 77
(OP: LZ2VP)				*OK2HBY	*	56,805	216 31 74	RM3F	*	2,164,862	2864 113 365	*UA3DCW	*	164,318	491 44 150	*RX3AGQ	*	16,646	192 12 46
*LZ195IR	*	43,912	386 18 70	*OK2BIU	*	6,384	83 16 32	UA4WKW	*	2,940,084	2539 123 426	*RK3FJ	*	163,618	581 44 159	*RJ3AM	*	12,155	175 10 45
(OP: LZ1ZF)				*OK2YT	14	111,735	452 26 91	RU3UR	*	1,680,602	1948 118 421	*RA4ACK	*	163,592	498 56 186	*UA3DTS	*	1,794	36 7 19
*LZ1HW	*	34,968	105 51 90	*OK1FGE	*	43,092	274 22 59	RO4W	*	1,654,554	2536 106 367	*UA4FUW	*	158,884	452 60 193	*RK4SA	7	212,824	899 35 113
*LZ3TL	*	33,345	227 38 97	*OK7SX	*	28,032	247 19 54	RG6G	*	1,376,356	2188 115 331	*RA6RI	*	155,400	705 35 133	*RV6LFE	*	154,845	785 31 104
*LZ1ZM	*	32,342	251 23 80	*OK1TFH	*	17,952	143 19 47	RK3ZZ	*	1,145,540	1388 109 399	*RZ10K	*	153,164	500 50 186	*RA6FLQ	*	147,680	809 28 102
*LZ2DF	*	31,625	233 23 92	*OK2PHI	*	3,914	71 11 27	UA4WKW	*	2,940,084	2539 123 426	*RL3DF	*	152,304	411 55 173	*RU1QQ	*	99,120	593 27 93
*LZ1ZF1	*	1,634	36 7 12	*OK5SWL	*	884	34 6 18	RU3UR	*	1,680,602	1948 118 421	*UA3VLD	*	148,733	398 46 175	*RU3PY	*	94,807	605 25 88
*LZ3PZ	21	3,332	44 13 21	(OP: OK2SWD)				RK3OH	*	1,021,989	1298 114 379	*UA3QAM	*	145,107	500 44 163	*RK6AX	*	83,160	584 24 86
*LZ9R	7	312,420	1299 36 128	*OK80D	7	102,816	575 25 94	UA1QM	*	974,160	1692 88 322	*RA6FUZ	*	144,320	473 47 158	*UA6GS	*	61,668	406 27 81
(OP: LZ3YY)				*OK1KJA	*	58,050	444 15 75	UA4PN	*	710,520	1470 80 292	*UA6YH	*	140,080	449 52 154	*RV4AP	*	26,208	198 17 67
*LZ1DNY	*	69,690	396 27 88	(OP: OK1GS)				RK4FM	*	657,412	1137 92 279	*UA3UDE	*	137,725	619 34 141	*RU3WR	*	18,216	177 16 56
*LZ2FM	*	34,310	214 21 73	*OK2BRS	*	48,504	434 18 68	RA6GW	*	606,177	676 114 357	*UA4WAW	*	135,800	531 44 150	*RN6MA	*	17,316	174 15 59
*LZ1MC	*	7,752	83 10 41	*OK1HCG	*	35,787	362 15 64	UA3Q8B	*	547,428	841 80 263	*UA1ORL	*	135,796	598 37 151	*RZ4HL	*	14,400	179 10 54
*LZ2SC	1.8	20,994	281 12 55	*OK7MT	*	28,392	183 16 68	RW4PY	*	503,355	1006 77 268	*RV3ZV	*	133,522	445 56 146	*RW3WX	*	14,378	138 21 58
Crete				*OK2UQ	*	8,154	92 11 43	RA6M4Q	*	498,639	965 82 265	*RZ1AP	*	131,340	488 56 143	*UA3DCE	*	8,176	117 9 47
*SV9COL	A	310,968	488 93 226	*OK1CRM	3.5	135,892	1114 21 85	RU3JN	*	498,348	615 102 334	*RU4SM	*	129,355	505 39 166	*RA3MAR	*	176	15 4 12
Croatia				*OK1DDQ	*	35,843	472 11 62	RA3NC	*	467,145	1094 66 249	*UA6GO	*	124,865	312 63 158	*RN3DOE	*	108	10 3 9
9A5K	A	3,902,379	3836 128 431	*OK1IBP	*	15,840	233 10 50	RA3NH	*	348,395	788 66 229	*UA4HP	*	124,845	485 39 164	*RN4AD	*	30	7 3 7
9A4WY	*	1,463,332	1932 104 324	*OK5OK	*	13,416	226 8 44	RA3UN	*	498,348	615 102 334	*RA3MB	*	123,305	281 66 205	*RZ3AM	3.5	91,756	636 28 85
9A2VR	3.5	192,270	1173 25 105	*OK1MNV	1.8	29,436	415 10 56	RA3NC	*	467,145	1094 66 249	*UA6GM	*	121,920	410 50 110	*R3SMGLRR	*	76,393	820 16 63
*9A2EY	A	333,432	829 56 288	*OK1JOK	*	21,945	384 8 47	RK3AJ	*	367,548	878 73 208	*RV300	*	108,070	349 56 158	*RZ3AV	*	61,503	612 15 68
*9A30B	*	232,921	610 59 188	*OK1KZ	*	4,134	113 5 34	RA3RN	*	348,395	788 66 229	*RN3ZB	*	104,160	351 48 162	*RA3OH	*	16,569	273 9 54
*9A2BW	*	182,284	554 54 175	Denmark				RA6AX	*	348,062	780 86 200	*RK4PB	*	103,412	409 48 158	*RN6FA	*	13,776	206 9 47
*9A6Z	*	172,536	555 56 181	OZ1JTE	A	485,520	994 79 261	RA4FO	*	345,280	874 74 246	*UA4HAM	*	101,908	399 39 107	*RW3LL	*	9,009	85 12 51
*9A2MF	*	78,754	265 42 127	OZ2SW	*	267,408	702 56 160	RU3ZV	*	334,422	855 70 227	*R03AB	*	101,314	414 43 136	*UA4NW	*	5,440	84 18 50
*9A2HQ	*	69,576	290 42 114	OZ2BK	*	202,520	550 61 183	UA3TCJ	*	330,336	720 67 119	*RA1TV	*	98,237	373 40 153	*UA3YCK	*	4,171	96 8 35
*9A5V	*	24,634	131 36 73	OZBEI	*	37,942	235 30 92	RW3DA	*	317,490	908 58 227	*RW1AM	*	91,304	248 57 145	*RK1AM	*	4,107	103 6 31
*9A3AR	*	18,480	142 29 81	OZ7RO	7	210,654	836 38 128	RW4HP	*	302,940	917 46 134	*RV6LCI	*	91,155	326 44 133	*UA6LFO	1.8	52,248	479 17 67
*9A2WJ	*	18,084	117 22 44	OZ7YL	A	22,356	172 18 63	UA3DGG	*	274,666	718 82 240	*RU3XB	*	87,300	380 36 144	*RA3ZC	*	18,700	317 8 47
*9A5BB	*	15,169	107 26 51	*OZ7BQ	A	401,565	944 58 227	UA3DFJ	*	264,990	435 95 268	*RU3UW	*	86,506	357 32 167	*UA4FRL	*	17,690	257 12 49
*9A5AX	*	13,230	111 30 60	*OU3A	*	159,467	561 44 165	RU6MD	*	254,926	706 64 214	*UA1TGG	*	82,950	385 30 120	*RV3XN	*	10,927	226 8 41
*9A9R	*	7,424	61 24 34	(OP: OZ5UR)				RV1CC	*	250,211	562 71 176	*UA4KQ	*	82,025	252 63 142	*RW3MR	*	9,353	178 7 40
*9A5YY	*	266	8 7 7	*OZ3SM	*	112,690	467 45 146	UA3EAA	*	242,780	685 49 195	*RV3YR	*	78,831	288 46 125	*RW4WY	*	3,168	74 5 19
*9A3VM	28	6,993	218 6 31	*OZ8PG	*	104,710	395 44 141	UA4LU	*	236,288	719 48 160	*UA3DFM	*	78,200	409 34 136	Faroe Islands			
*9A5ST	*	3,234	57 10 32	*OZ7TTT	*	88,025	352 40 135	UA3ICK	*	215,260	658 52 183	*RU3DU	*	72,756	342 40 132	*OY4M	A	16,800	100 11 45
*9A7B	14	1,476	45 5 7	(OP: OZ5WQ)				RV3WD	*	154,938	531 47 170	Finland							
*9A2FW	7	9,860	138 10 48	*OZ1AAR	*	50,720	217 41 119	RW4FE	*	117,414	264 61 137	OY4M	A	16,800	100 11 45	(OP: OH4JFN)			
Czech Republic				*OZ5RM	*	34,560	245 22 74	RU3MW	*	101,736	453 35 127	OH8X	A	3,484,635	3858 137 402	OG1M	*	935,070	1497 107 319
OL5Q	A	1,345,686	2169 92 242	*OZ1NF	*	28,676	174 30 77	RZ3BY	*	97,680	210 65 157	OH5YU	*	72					

*SQ9DXN	222,320	488	69	211	*Y07AWZ	92,129	409	39	142	*OM4KW	425,700	1372	51	207	Svalbard	98,208	367	37	62	UT2VU	26,970	165	19	74
*SP6DNZ	211,684	462	65	218	*Y05ODL	90,312	492	29	113	*OM4DN	284,748	805	50	194	UT1AJC	7,800	68	15	25	UT1S	97,353	1025	15	72
*SP2AYC	207,936	699	49	179	*Y02QY	87,987	310	55	156	*OM3R	216,090	802	43	167	Sweden	625,320	1454	76	248	UX6IR	68,646	495	22	80
*SN3B	185,383	598	45	164	*Y09FYP	81,361	285	50	147	*OM3BA	202,692	603	45	183	SEBX	579,714	1010	72	246	UR7EQ	60,040	643	14	65
*SP6LV	165,658	523	52	174	*Y08BPY	80,256	268	55	137	*OM7AT	122,100	405	47	138	SM5CIL	472,194	977	74	259	UR5AKU	39,105	353	15	64
*SP3DIK	140,049	378	55	134	*Y06HSU	77,035	253	51	104	*OM5NA	85,692	318	28	94	SMSOU	416,898	1036	59	199	UT5UGR	19,200	258	10	54
*SP3DSC	133,000	487	43	147	*YR8D	75,096	208	63	86	*OM4AY	48,556	303	21	101	SM5Q	373,333	364	71	216	UY3AW	17,408	214	10	58
*SP8EEX	128,380	441	45	151	*Y02ARV	68,586	242	44	125	*OM8KW	40,548	293	25	99	SM6NET	35,934	250	26	80	UT4VW	14,478	214	9	48
*SP9MZH	119,856	413	42	134	*Y08RFS	41,888	278	30	106	*OM7SR	14,664	190	23	81	SEBY	445,794	767	93	289	UV50Q	7,182	81	14	69
*SP7JDA	119,700	396	44	166	*Y06EV	32,725	129	34	85	*OM4TW	4,081	58	18	35	SMSAOG	373,326	837	59	199	UR5AS	48,150	494	21	69
*SP9FT	104,493	367	45	138	*Y04ASG	25,752	159	35	76	*OM4XA	79,144	371	27	77	SM5BYD	217,833	364	71	216	UR8LV	20,328	334	9	47
*SP8BFB	102,637	271	42	155	*Y05BXI	24,928	192	25	57	*OM3TB	55,332	377	21	66	SM38	210,366	496	55	206	UT1IR	19,722	307	10	47
*SP3HC	65,992	327	33	113	*Y09BPX	24,598	196	23	75	*OM1VA	19,800	171	18	42	SM7C	129,105	542	43	128	UT2IV	5,719	110	8	35
*SP7TES	64,170	201	42	73	*Y04UJ	20,570	207	27	83	*OM2WR	221,427	1136	31	108	SM7BSO	118,340	454	41	153	*US5XD	827,838	1304	101	330
*SP2HMN	58,706	210	39	110	*Y09HG	17,205	170	22	71	*OM2AK	40,753	398	15	68	SM7C	72,624	258	50	128	*UT7NW	815,868	1836	92	301
*SP2HXY	57,962	297	29	117	*Y0BAZQ	7,360	69	22	42	*OM3SX	32,364	115	30	94	SM7YEA	92,759	389	26	83	*US8ZY	731,724	1012	101	333
*SP9BGS	57,105	246	40	95	*Y04BTB	4,508	49	17	29	*OM8TT	42,344	598	10	57	SL7W	252,640	729	35	125	*UT2HO	522,016	1051	77	275
*SP2SWI	55,328	397	22	82	*Y07LTO	1,701	103	24	57	S50A	4,874,784	4007	155	453	SL8W	162,016	616	32	90	*UT5UN	418,134	912	70	237
*SP6BEN	53,108	202	39	103	*Y02A08	3,486	69	10	32	S50A	1,760,448	2021	123	396	SM6A	30,537	220	23	58	*UT5UQN	388,885	973	59	228
*SP9BJ	46,870	288	26	83	*Y04MM	32,760	192	24	54	S50A	1,691,884	2410	106	322	SM2JEV	23,310	146	16	58	*UT3UJZ	373,725	920	52	223
*SP5BMJ	45,510	326	27	102	*Y09CX	4,620	50	20	24	S53XX	1,323,736	1666	114	377	SM2CVH	167,314	1003	31	88	*UR5IFB	310,905	491	88	241
*SP3IOE	43,776	287	36	108	*YR8B	279,168	1233	30	98	S53XX	1,291,842	1380	126	383	SM6DHU	53,088	441	20	76	*UT8OR	305,868	751	66	218
*SP6AAZ	43,210	161	45	104	*Y09CWY	46,720	323	18	62	S59EJ	869,584	1435	90	301	*SM6HD	102,396	423	41	118	*UR4U	298,297	649	72	245
*SP4AAZ	43,090	305	38	117	*Y09AGI	45,109	419	18	61	S59EJ	187,960	318	78	176	*SM7EH	83,720	387	39	143	*UT3EV	289,632	791	49	175
*SP3FYX	41,392	242	29	75	*Y048EX	29,016	237	19	59	S59EJ	168,245	385	73	180	*SE6W	79,180	484	35	113	*UY5TE	252,240	783	48	192
*SP3DOF	37,734	261	27	87	*Y03BL	23,025	156	19	56	S59EJ	157,500	1172	20	85	*SM5CQJ	77,916	308	39	133	*UT7IVW	249,368	647	52	192
*SP9CKN	35,682	240	25	89	*Y03ZA	19,320	129	20	49	S59EJ	13,527	115	23	58	*SE6C	65,340	340	34	98	*UT2QO	245,079	692	53	208
*SP5GRU	32,760	181	35	105	*Y06EZ	912	59	11	27	S580	277,683	1057	37	110	*SM7BVO	61,744	264	36	100	*UT4EN	241,266	688	57	180
*SP5GRU	31,700	230	26	74	*Y07BGB	120	7	3	5	S53MM	554,266	2414	32	111	*SM7BJW	42,500	199	36	89	*UR8OR	233,975	614	56	189
*SP8Y	29,744	131	35	89	*Y05Q	198,006	1314	25	97	S57C	157,500	1172	20	85	*SM8Y	34,272	247	28	91	*UY2UQ	217,325	521	79	204
*SP5CGN	25,098	148	29	65	*Y050H	85,155	580	21	84	*S51F	1,323,736	1666	114	377	*SM7TZK	32,640	284	24	104	*UR1WU	216,936	717	40	167
*SP2AVE	21,984	117	29	67	*Y050DT	31,312	309	13	63	*S51F	1,291,842	1380	126	383	*SM6IQZ	27,068	161	36	98	*UX6IB	214,452	551	65	217
*SQ30GZ	21,681	181	28	71	*Y06KNY	7,216	79	10	47	*S51F	869,584	1435	90	301	*SE6C	65,340	340	34	98	*UT8OR	305,868	751	66	218
*SP4AVG	19,520	135	22	58	*Y060BA	1,034	63	11	36	*S51F	168,245	385	73	180	*SM7BVO	61,744	264	36	100	*UR4U	298,297	649	72	245
*SP9WTN	16,492	140	20	56	*Y06RIJ	240	11	6	9	*S51F	163,680	763	33	127	*SM7BJW	42,500	199	36	89	*UT3EV	289,632	791	49	175
*SP5ELW	15,980	75	30	55	*Y05KDX	47,640	808	10	50	*S51F	52,982	441	22	96	*SM8Y	34,272	247	28	91	*UY5TE	252,240	783	48	192
*SP9IHP	15,006	86	26	35	*Y02IS	18,312	346	9	47	*S51F	30,987	195	28	71	*SM7TZK	32,640	284	24	104	*UR5AR	219,325	521	79	204
*SQ8LEC	14,040	136	21	57	*Y02BFJ	1,500	50	5	25	*S51F	13,527	115	23	58	*SM6IQZ	27,068	161	36	98	*UY2UQ	217,325	521	79	204
*SP3GRQ	14,016	86	28	45	*Y02CJX	1,170	49	4	22	*S51F	45,900	238	28	72	*SM2JUR	25,984	195	29	87	*UR1WU	216,936	717	40	167
*SP58NB	10,366	72	24	49	IS0AFM	694,944	1645	72	216	*S51F	43,584	227	30	86	*SE6N	24,388	216	22	69	*UX6IB	214,452	551	65	217
*SP3CYV	8,432	96	17	51	IS0XDA	86,699	372	41	140	*S51F	101,700	463	27	86	*SE6N	24,388	216	22	69	*UT8I	212,895	657	52	197
*SN5B	7,980	124	18	52	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SE6N	24,388	216	22	69	*UR5MA	195,265	555	57	188
*SQ1EIX	6,314	54	29	48	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM7CWI	19,530	125	25	65	*UY5ME	189,999	592	52	175
*3Z30C	3,680	69	16	24	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*S03D	15,006	119	23	59	*UR4MH	181,356	559	56	182
*SN3Q	3,420	36	16	29	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SF5X	8,040	108	13	54	*UT4XU	176,484	477	52	179
*SQ9RPQ	930	27	11	19	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM8BDS	5,460	70	18	42	*UT5PH	173,195	600	51	184
*SP7FBQ	252	7	5	7	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM790X	5,332	68	16	27	*UT2LU	171,488	567	51	182
*SP7CCB	3	1	1	1	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM3RL	3,050	38	26	35	*UT1PO	171,288	555	49	167
*SQ9AAC	88	5	3	5	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM4TU	2,520	29	18	27	*US8IM	161,400	547	52	148
*SQ98DN	45,900	198	30	72	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UT3IB	160,449	386	59	178
*SP2GCE	30,121	169	27	64	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UT1IM	139,673	472	47	150
*SP8NR	198,156	657	36	111	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UYBCA	119,698	397	50	144
*SP8BVN	80,004	359	26	87	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UT4NY	114,257	353	44	143
*SP2FV	65,280	334	22	74	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UU2JA	110,876	305	49	163
*SP9NDV	45,990	270	21	69	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16	23	*UX3W	109,504	219	81	155
*SP8IOV	41,760	245	20	70	GM7V	2,762,620	3649	107	383	*S51F	279,900	1207	35	115	*SM6Z	2,106	26	16						

UW4E	2,799,567	3105	138	453
UT0AZA	1,138,800	2222	89	311
UW0L	467,062	941	78	269
UX4E	229,120	545	69	187
UU4JWC	92,700	443	46	160
UR6GWZ	78,588	347	43	134
UX8IX	48,184	291	32	120
OCEANIA				
Australia				
VK4TI	20,910	108	31	51
Christmas Island				
VK9XX	2,688	27	20	22
Guam				
AH2R	8,027,760	4512	168	456
Indonesia				
YE1C	408,969	760	76	167
New Zealand				
ZL2AGY	595,884	862	84	170
Northern Mariana Islands				
AH0/AH2Y	2,224,068	2472	108	211
Tonga				
A31A	2,012,940	2361	107	211
SOUTH AMERICA				
Argentina				
LT1F	4,704,576	3824	116	342
LU9HP	557,496	1196	62	116
Brazil				
ZW5UN	6,434,400	4400	146	414
PT5UN	785,628	726	126	345
PT2ZHA	610,701	971	84	189
Netherlands Antilles				
PJ4A	12,903,562	6407	157	549
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER NORTH AMERICA				
United States				
K1AR	8,809,122	4423	161	561
NZ1U	7,141,026	4280	144	510
K1RX	6,914,644	4082	142	496
K0TV/1	5,653,800	3109	148	527
K2LE/1	5,382,168	3179	139	488
N8RA/1	2,141,931	1553	119	398
W2YC	4,230,682	2487	140	494
K2AX	3,772,477	2341	133	468
W2CG	3,730,914	2377	133	461
WQ2N	605,154	716	81	237
WE3C	13,859,374	6148	174	644
NY4A	9,366,320	4927	155	555
N4WW	6,528,228	3588	162	551
K4VV	3,504,895	2436	129	416
KZ5P	340,561	615	91	208
W60AT	4,077,774	2596	159	447
N7AT	2,859,456	2068	151	411
W8BI	190,008	355	83	178
N0LJ/9	2,507,517	1618	148	459
N0NI	5,682,201	3149	169	552
K0IR	3,896,154	2419	155	466
NL7Z	2,608,016	3193	124	249
Canada				
VE9ML	1,012,662	1138	87	291
VE3FU	5,084,340	3578	136	470
6Y1V	17,192,104	10078	166	558
U.S. Virgin Islands				
KP2M	12,661,840	8183	151	501
AFRICA				
Canary Islands				
AN8R	4,721,541	4668	90	273
Madeira Islands				
CR3L	23,156,640	10946	159	561
Sierra Leone				
9L5A	18,256,248	9259	157	524
ASIA				
Asiatic Russia				
RK9XWA	1,921,764	2085	83	298
RK9CWW	1,599,612	1126	128	428
China				
B7M	916,254	1659	102	225
Cyprus				
C4I	14,693,712	7244	168	580
Japan				
JA1ZGP	1,212,189	1566	108	219
JA6ZPR	1,247,232	1502	100	236
South Korea				
HL0M8C	432,552	881	93	175
EUROPE				
Croatia				
9A7A	9,966,119	6470	175	646
Czech Republic				
OL4A	12,023,792	7549	182	666
Denmark				
OZ5E	2,345,424	3513	127	397
England				
G50	4,123,215	4487	113	418

European Russia				
RK3DXZ	1,329,356	2380	112	370
Finland				
OH2U	5,789,520	5064	162	558
OH2BJ	431,288	1165	76	243
Germany				
DL1A	6,824,235	5224	155	546
DL0AO	5,753,150	4368	150	539
DR5N	5,568,520	4654	142	538
DK0ED	1,742,789	1964	115	412
Hungary				
HG1S	7,685,265	5878	173	622
Italy				
IR4X	11,281,193	7081	182	665
Latvia				
YL4U	7,251,489	6590	153	558
Lithuania				
LY7Z	4,280,342	4049	143	495
LY2W	4,147,500	4392	144	481
Netherlands				
PI4COM	5,422,760	4458	152	572
PI4CC	4,020,000	3942	141	484
PI4WLD	21,000	149	19	51
Poland				
SN3T	1,107,792	1515	113	358
Serbia				
YT2W	7,402,428	6530	152	530
Slovenia				
SS2ZW	6,895,929	5617	164	555
Spain				
EA5CW	6,241,642	5905	151	520
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HB9CA	7,428,730	5927	152	558
Ukraine				
UR3QXX	463,752	1057	71	268
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VK6AA	12,331,144	6524	162	502

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DF0HQ	13,910,292	9349	185	706
Lithuania				
LY7A	6,715,034	6267	153	560
Luxembourg				
LX7I	14,234,072	10433	176	620
Spain				
EE2W	12,301,761	9719	168	585
Sweden				
SK3W	9,892,844	7589	171	635
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UU7J	10,486,896	7904	184	642
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Red cards: YL4L3A—unverifiable contacts and unclaimed assistance; HG5A (HA1CW)—unclaimed assistance and unverifiable contacts; RX4HZ—unclaimed assistance and unverifiable contacts.
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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 1991-1995:

1991: FCC adopts QCWA licensing proposal, eliminating code requirement for Technician license as of February 14; 220-222 MHz reallocated to Land Mobile Service; hams get secondary access to 218-219 MHz for high-speed

packet "backbone" networks, but two decades later, the primary user of the band has refused to approve a single application for amateur use.

1992: Heathkit leaves the amateur radio market; CQ introduces "Getting Started" video series with four VHS programs on different aspects of ham operating.

1993: FCC proposes vanity callsign system, allowing hams to choose their own calls; FCC enacts "pizza rule," modifying business communications prohibition to permit hams to use autopatch to do such things as ordering pizza, as long as the communication has no pecuniary benefit to the ham, or is made on behalf of his/her employer (a rule that is now coming under new scrutiny); Joe Taylor, K1JT, shares Nobel Prize in physics with Russell

Hulse, ex-WB2LAV, for discovery of binary pulsars and proving Einstein's Theory of Relativity was correct.

1994: FCC grants Novices full privileges on the 222 MHz band; sets aside 222.00-222.15 MHz for weak-signal operation only; 1st joint US/Cuban ham operation (in Cuba); CQ introduces annual *Amateur Radio Almanac*.

1995: CQ celebrates 50th anniversary with special issue and on-air events. Digital signal processing (DSP) makes significant inroads into amateur radio; U.S. Coast Guard discontinues use of Morse code on maritime bands.

Next month, we'll look at 1996 through 2000, featuring a new sunspot cycle, vanity callsigns, and license restructuring.

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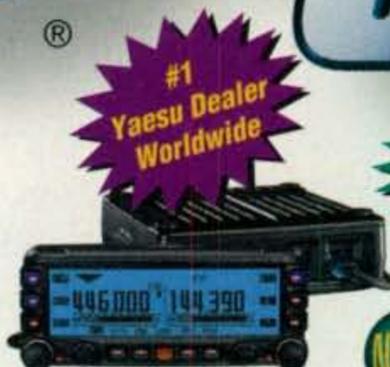
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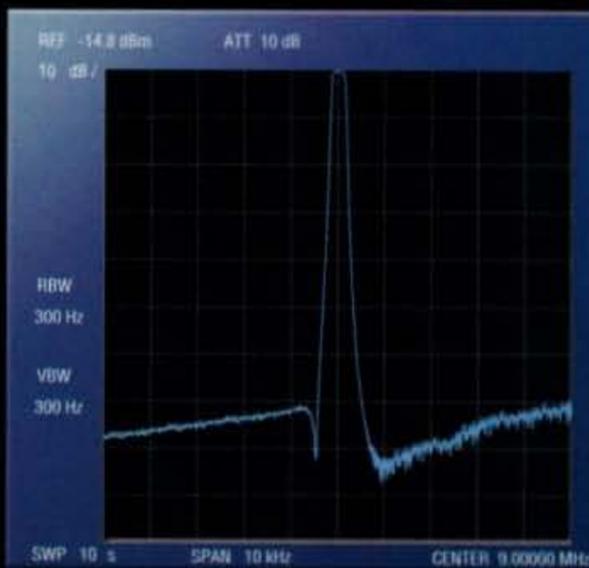
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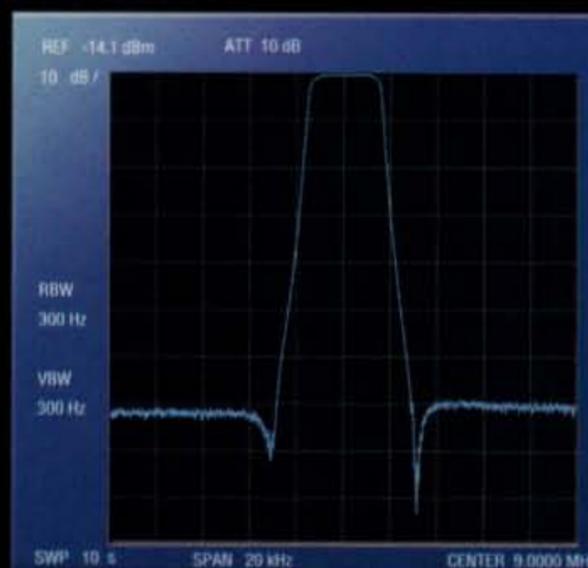
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