



# Amateur Radio

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

MAY 2011

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

# CQ

- Results, 2010 CQ WW RTTY DX Contest, p. 14
- Results, 2010 CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend, p. 26
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 6196 JEFFERSON HWY  
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**On the Cover:**  
 Bob Fulton, KB9MMJ,  
 of Lyons, Wisconsin,  
 with his collection  
 of classic gear.  
 Details on page 98.







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The Cushcraft R8 is recognized as the industry gold standard for multi-band verticals, with thousands in use worldwide. Efficient, rugged, and built to withstand the test of time, the R8's unique ground-independent design has a well-earned reputation for delivering top DX results under tough conditions. Best of all, the R8 is easy to assemble, installs just about anywhere, and blends inconspicuously with urban and country settings alike.

**Automatic Band Switching:** The R8's famous "black box" matching network combines with traps and parallel resonators to cover 8 bands. You QSY instantly, without a tuner!

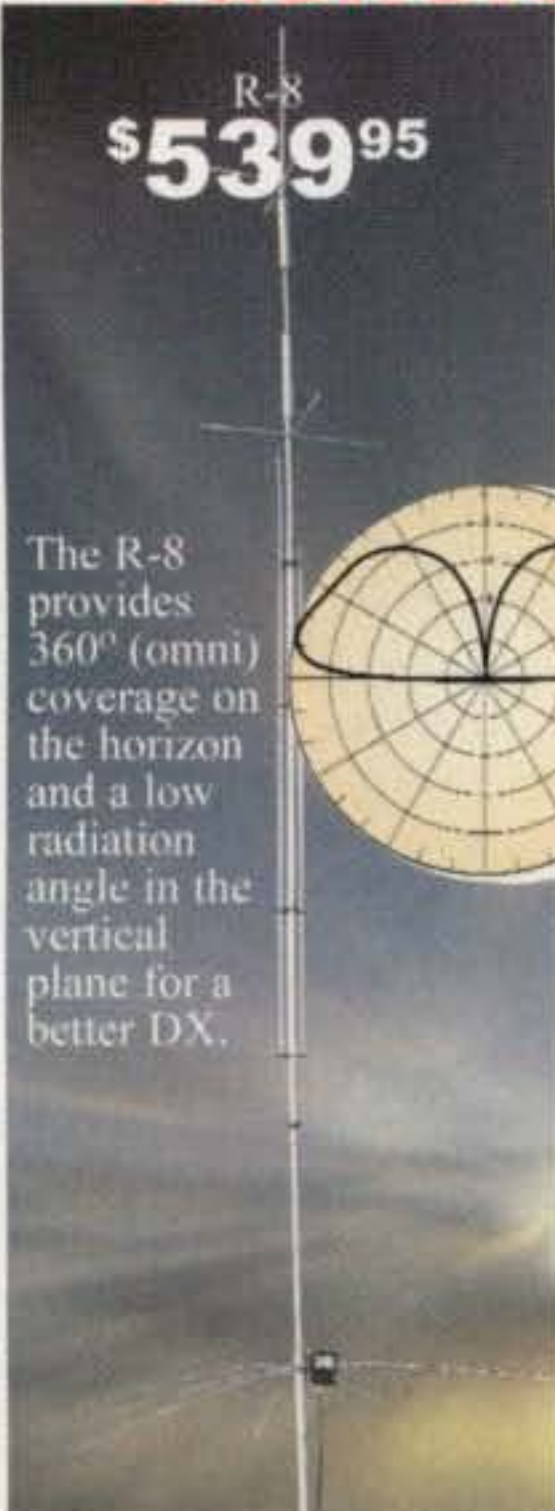
**Rugged Construction:** Thick fiberglass insulators, all-stainless hardware, and 6063 aircraft-aluminum tubing that is double or triple walled at key stress points handle anything Mother Nature can dish out.

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

**Legal-Limit Power:** Heavy-duty components are contest-proven to handle all the power your amplifier can legally deliver and radiating it as RF rather than heat.

The sunspot count is climbing and long-awaited band openings are finally becoming a reality. Now is the perfect time to discover why Cushcraft's R8 multi-band vertical is the premier choice of DX-wise hams everywhere!

R-8GK, \$56.95. R-8 three-point guy kit for high winds.



The R-8 provides 360° (omni) coverage on the horizon and a low radiation angle in the vertical plane for a better DX.

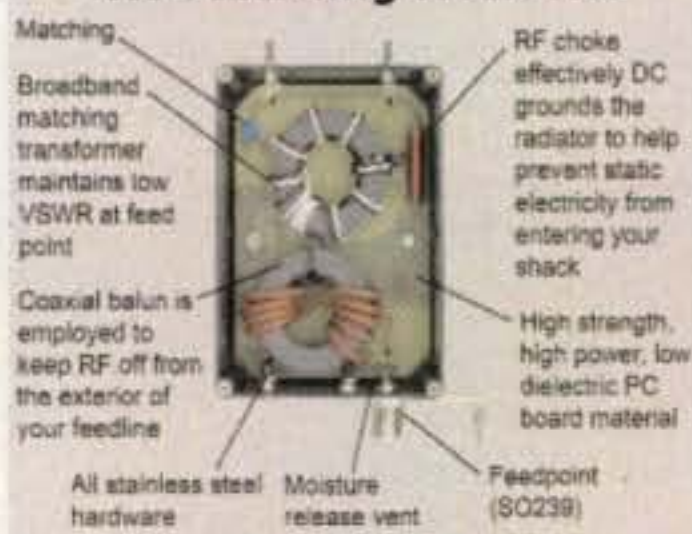
## MA-5B 5-Band Beam Small Footprint -- Big Signal



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

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

### R8 Matching Network



### R8's Rugged Design



## Cushcraft 10, 15 & 20 Meter Tribander Beams

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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



### Cushcraft Famous Ringos Compact FM Verticals



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

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## Hams "a Lifeline" After Quake, Tsunami in Japan

Japanese amateurs were providing "a lifeline for rescue teams and those at local shelters" in the wake of the disastrous 9.0 earthquake and 30-foot tsunami that struck northeastern Japan on March 11, according to International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 Secretary Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP. Most ham operations were on UHF, as well as 7.030 MHz SSB. For more detailed coverage of the ham radio response to the disaster in Japan, see our special report on page 13 of this issue.

Meanwhile, ham radio disaster-relief operations in New Zealand were reported to be winding down as commercial services came back online in and around Christchurch, which was hit by an earthquake on February 22. Details on the ham response there are in this month's "Public Service" column on page 44.

## Hamvention® Award Winners Announced

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association has named the winners of its prestigious Hamvention® awards for 2011. Shirley Roberts, N8LX, of Dayton, was named Amateur of the Year (see our profile of Shirley on page 44); Roy Lewallen, W7EL, will receive the Technical Excellence Award for his development of EZNEC antenna modeling software. The Special Achievement Award goes to Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, founder of QRZ.com. The Albemarle Amateur Radio Club of Charlottesville, Virginia, was named Club of the Year. The awards will formally be presented at the Dayton Hamvention® in May.

## Russia Joins CEPT

Many hams from the U.S. and Europe visiting Russia should find it easier to operate there, as the Russian Federation has decided to join the CEPT (Council of European Post and Telecommunications administrations) agreement on amateur radio licensing. No effective date has been announced. According to a posting on the Southgate Amateur Radio Club's news page, officials of IARU Region 1 consider the decision "a major step forward to achieve worldwide radio amateur roaming." American hams holding Extra or Advanced Class licenses may operate in CEPT countries without special permission. General Class licensees have restricted privileges. Novices and Technicians have none.

In other DX news, Southgate also reports that the new government of southern Sudan has issued its first amateur license, for a DXpedition scheduled for July. No call-sign has yet been issued, as the International Telecommunications Union has yet to assign a prefix for Southern Sudan. Also, *The Daily DX* reports that the planned DXØDX expedition to the Spratly Islands has been postponed again, this time until next April. Team leader VK3FY said the delay was due to circumstances beyond their control and was "in the best interests of the team of operators."

## Alleged Pirates Indicted in Deaths of Hams

Thirteen alleged pirates from Somalia and one from Yemen have been indicted by a federal grand jury in Virginia on piracy, kidnapping, and firearms charges. They were captured at sea by the U.S. Navy after allegedly taking over a sailing vessel off the coast of Africa and killing the four crew members on board, three of whom were hams. According to *Newsline*, the four had been delivering Bibles around the world. The suspected pirates will stand trial in Norfolk, Virginia.

## FCC Changes Amateur Spread-Spectrum Rules

Responding to a petition filed several years ago by the ARRL, in March the FCC issued new rules for using

spread spectrum in the amateur bands. According to *Newsline*, the Report and Order eliminates the requirement for automatic power control to keep transmitted power to the minimum necessary to maintain a communications link. At the same time, however, the order reduced the maximum power output allowed for an amateur spread-spectrum transmitter from 100 watts to 10 watts PEP.

## ARISS Achieves New Milestone

AMSAT reports that a ham radio contact between astronaut Cady Coleman, KC5ZTH, aboard the International Space Station, and students from several schools in Poland, marked the 600th school contact for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. The contact took place on March 17.

In other space and satellite news, AMSAT also reports that the ARISSAT-1 satellite, now on board the ISS awaiting a July launch, was scheduled to be turned on from inside the station on April 12 as part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first manned space flight, by Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin in 1961. Two new ham satellites, FASTRAC-1 and FASTRAC-2, successfully separated from one another on March 15 (they had been launched as a single nanosatellite last November, according to the ARRL), and hams were invited to help track them. FASTRAC is a project of the University of Texas.

As of press time, there is bad news for three other ham satellites: Explorer-1, KySat-1, and Hermes all were lost in a launch failure. According to Southgate News, the three satellites were on board an Orbital Sciences Taurus XL rocket which failed to reach orbit after a March 4 launch.

## Senegal Telecom Institute Gets Ham Station

A ham station operating on HF and VHF has been set up at an international telecommunications institute in Dakar, Senegal, and a training module on amateur radio has been added to the programs offered there. According to Southgate News, the station, sponsored by IARU Region 1's "Support to the Amateur Radio Service, or STARS, program, opened recently at Ecole Supérieure Multinationale des Télécommunication, or EMST, which has been designated as the first ITU Centre of Excellence. The facility is used to train future telecom engineers and regulators from 14 African countries.

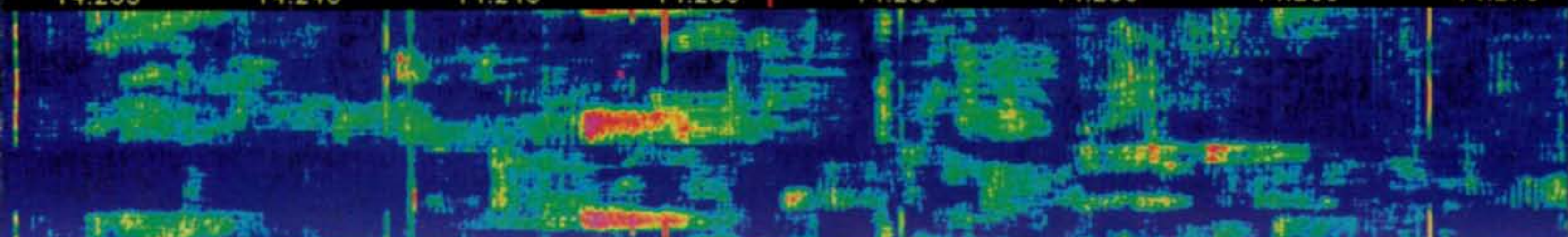
## Bell Labs Develops Tiny Cellular Antenna

A team of researchers at Alcatel-Lucent's Bell Labs has designed and built a cell-site in a two-inch cube, a development that could revolutionize the way cell-phone calls and data are routed. According to a Bell Labs news release and news reports, the lightRadio™ cube consists of three stacked circuit boards—one each for the antenna, the radio, and the network connection—and it would not have to sit on top of a tall tower. It is estimated that wide-scale deployment of these devices could increase network capacity by up to 30 percent and reduce or eliminate the need for controversial cell towers.

Connection to ham radio? The possibility exists for adaptation to the amateur repeater network and the potential for changes in some restrictive antenna ordinances, many of which were enacted in response to the building of cell-site towers. (*News continued on p. 10*)

*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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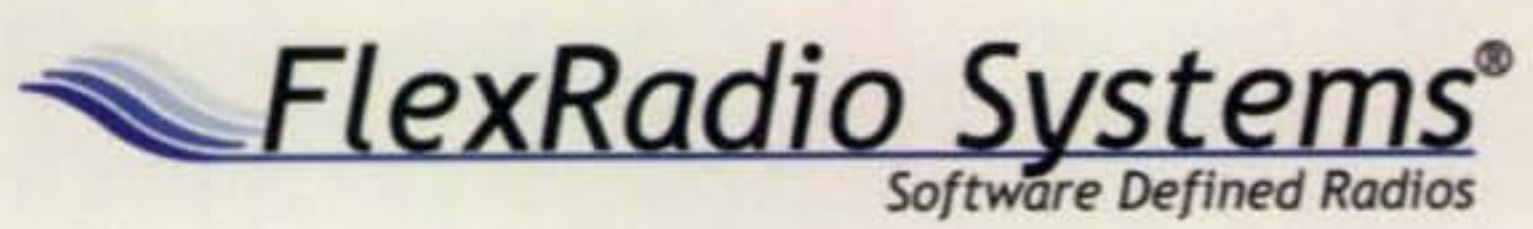
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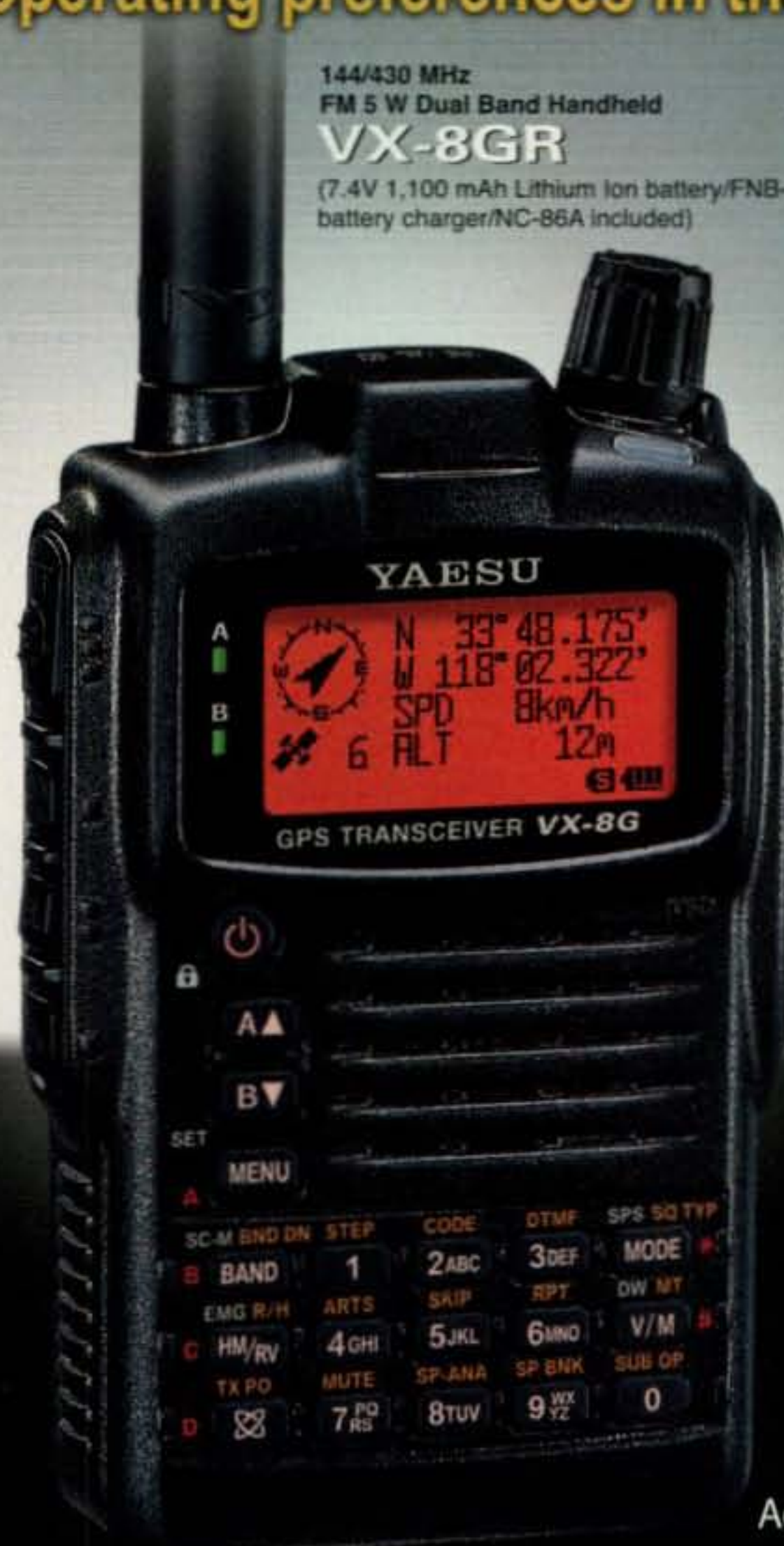
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(7.4V 1,100 mAh Lithium Ion battery/FNB-101LI and battery charger/NC-86A included)

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Actual Size

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All-in-one Prestigious Tri-band Transceiver  
Bluetooth® for hands-free Operation with optional accessories  
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## VX-8GR NEW

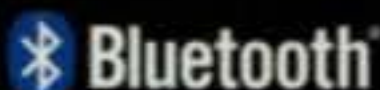
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## Japan and Ham Radio Emergency Communications

**W**hile sitting in the airport on March 11, waiting for a flight to Charlotte, North Carolina, my Blackberry® started buzzing with news of a major earthquake in Japan. By the time I landed, we were hearing about the tsunami as well. Of course, at that early stage, no one here had any idea of how massive this natural disaster had been, or that it would be followed by a manmade catastrophe as workers at the damaged Fukushima nuclear power plant tried frantically to prevent a full meltdown. As I write this a week later, the nuclear disaster is still unfolding, and the scope of damage to both the immediately-impacted areas and Japan's economy is becoming manifest. Even offices and factories far from the quake zone have been essentially shut down due to suspension of service on Japan's high-speed rail lines (the country's commuting lifeblood) and rolling power blackouts throughout the country. Ham radio manufacturers were affected to varying degrees, based on the proximity of their factories to the quake zone (see our special report on p. 13).

What I *wasn't* hearing in those early hours, though, were reports of ham radio activity and requests to keep frequencies clear for HF emergency traffic. While Japan is the source for most of our ham radio equipment today, it seems that that country has a different model than we do for amateur radio emergency communications and a different perception of what hams should do in a disaster. Unlike in the US and many other places, hams in Japan do not serve as "communication first-responders," setting up temporary stations capable of operating without commercial power and keeping information flowing while primary public safety and cellular systems get back up to speed. According to CQ Advertising Manager Chip Margelli, K7JA, who is very familiar with amateur radio in Japan, one main reason for this is because Japan's commercial and public safety communications infrastructure is very robust and less prone to overload or failure in an emergency than similar systems elsewhere. So the need for ham radio support in the early hours of a disaster is greatly reduced. (Of course, no one was anticipating a 30-foot tsunami.)

It was only after several days—as power began to be restored to affected areas—that hams began setting up stations at shelters and emergency operating centers, and that the Japan Amateur Radio League's headquarters station, JA1RL, began serving as a focal point and clearinghouse for reports from around the country. Ham radio's role of providing backup and supplemental communications is intact in Japan, just not its "first responder" role.

This could be where amateur radio emergency communications in the US eventually ends up, if the planned nationwide interoperable public safety radio service now being promoted by the FCC and Congress ever gets up and running. But it's doubtful that it will. Interoperability is about more than just having radios that can talk to each other, it's also about having people—trained communicators—who can talk to each other in a language that everyone can understand clearly the first time around. We have so many jurisdictions with so many different protocols and even different 10-codes that just putting everyone together on

the same frequency will not solve our interoperability problems during large-scale emergencies.

The Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) were developed to try to combat this non-technical obstacle to interoperability but their success has been marginal at best and we are starting to hear rumblings that proposed new NIMS guidelines water down already thin requirements for training and coordination. We haven't seen the specifics yet, but our sense is that, here in the United States at least, amateur radio emergency communications—combining personal equipment, frequency agility and trained operators—will continue to be a vitally important part of emergency and disaster response for a long time to come. It's still the only thing proven to work "when all else fails."

Again, we have a special report on page 13 of this issue on the disaster in Japan and the ham radio response. Most of it is culled from reports that CQ Public Service Editor Richard Fisher, KI6SN, and I have posted on our new CQ News page on the web (<http://CQNewsroom.blogspot.com>) as events unfolded. If you haven't checked it out yet, please do. We've got links and photos and other cool stuff. We also posted regular updates on our four magazine Facebook pages and sent out periodic updates to our CQ and *WorldRadio Online* e-mail lists. Be sure to check out our news page regularly (you can link from our home page) to keep updated on this and other ham radio stories.

### On the Hamfest Trail

The Charlotte Hamfest was my reason for being at the airport when news of the Japanese earthquake broke. With its new location in Concord, there's no longer any chance of sharing space with the woodworking show (longtime readers will recall multiple comparisons between the hamfest and the wood show in this column, by both my predecessor, K2EEK, and me). This year, though, we shared the facility with the North Carolina state high school wrestling championships. A little bit of confusion, but also a great opportunity for the hamfest volunteer posted outside the wrestling entrance to not only direct people looking for the hamfest to the right place, but also to explain to many high schoolers and their families what a hamfest and ham radio are all about.

As with Orlando in February, attendance at Charlotte seemed to be up over last year and it was quite crowded into the afternoon on Saturday. We even managed to do a little bit of business on Sunday! As always, the Carolina DX Association dinner was a highlight of this trip ... and the highlight of the dinner for me was two ex-Brooklynites each trying to outdo the other on who was more of a "real" Brooklynite (kind of like being a "real" ham!). It ended in a draw, each reluctantly admitting that the other might indeed actually have come from that storied borough of New York City. Next hamfest for me is Dayton; I hope to see many of you there.

To close on a serious note, we extend our condolences to our industry colleagues, friends and fellow hams who lost loved ones in the quake and tsunami, and our hopes and prayers are with all of those who are struggling to recover. May the spirit of ham radiofriendship help you through these difficult times.

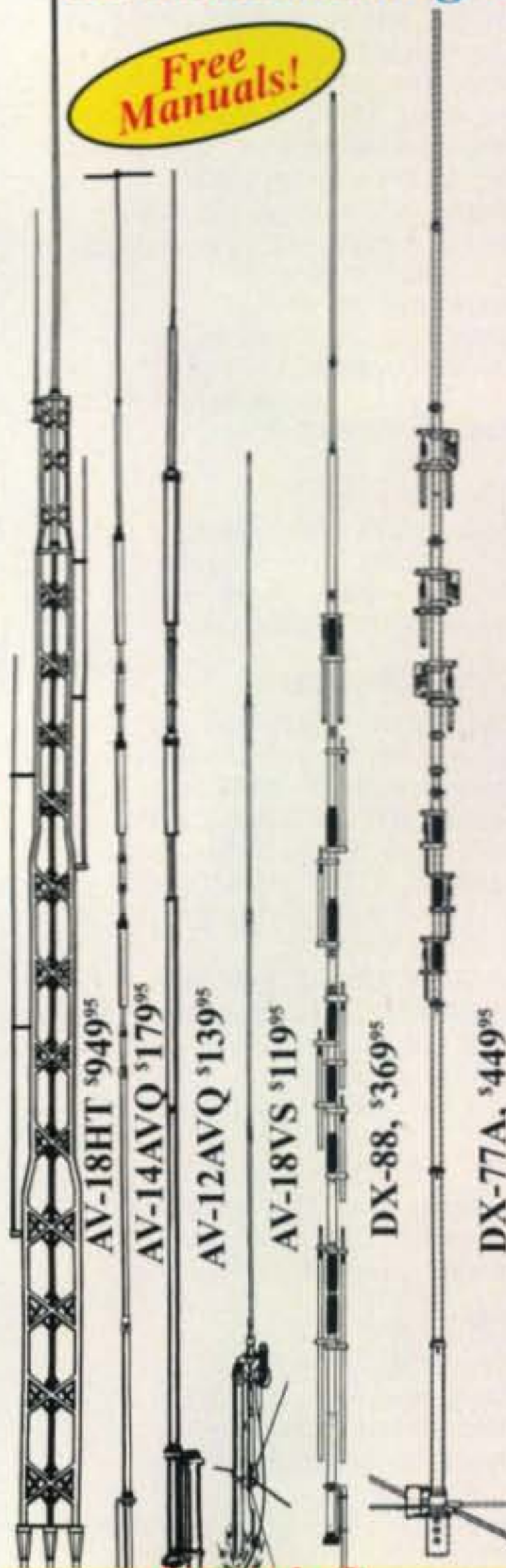
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AV-14AVQ	\$179.95	10,15,20,40	1500 W PEP	18 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-12AVQ	\$139.95	10,15,20 M	1500 W PEP	13 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-18VS	\$119.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	18 feet	4 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
DX-88	\$369.95	10 - 40 M	1500 W PEP	25 feet	18 pounds	75 mph <sub>avg</sub>	1.5-1.625"
DX-77A	\$449.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	29 feet	25 pounds	60 mph <sub>avg</sub>	1.5-1.625"

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**USS Yorktown Back on the Air** – From May 14 1200Z to May 15 0400Z the callsign NWKJ will be back on the air for the first time in 41 years. *Yorktown* will be activated by the South Carolina Navy Marine Corps MARS members as well as operators from Region Four for the annual military cross-band test. They will be operating on the following frequencies: 4010 kHz LSB, 7348 kHz LSB, 14478.5 kHz USB, and 20994 kHz USB. POC: Fred Hambrecht, NNNØGBS, 129 Indian Trace Court, Gilbert, SC 29054 (commercial: 803-657-3602)

• **The following hamfests, etc., are scheduled for May:**

May 7, **49th Annual Cadillac Swap, Cadillac, Michigan;** Wexauke Amateur Radio Club; Cadillac Junior High School, 500 Chestnut St. For information and reservations: Alton McConnmell, phone 231-867-3774, e-mail <nu8l@yahoo.com>. Wexauke Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 163, Cadillac, MI 49601. (Talk-in 146.98 MHz [no PL]; exams)

May 16, **Flea at MIT,** Cambridge, Massachusetts, Albany and Main St., Cambridge, MA. Sponsored by the Harvard Wireless Club (W1AF), the MIT Electronics Research Society, the MIT UHF Repeater Assn. (W1XM), and the MIT Radio Society (W1MX) For space reservations and details go to <www.swapfest.us>. (Talk-in 146.52 and 449.725/ 444.725 W1XM/R, PL 114.8)

May 20–22, **Dayton Hamvention®,** Dayton, Ohio, Hara Arena. Complete details can be found at: <http://www.hamvention.org/>. **(See us at the CQ Booth)**

May 20, **Dayton Hamvention® DX Dinner™** sponsored by the Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA). In conjunction with the Dayton Hamvention®. The dinner will be held on Friday, May 20, at the Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Boulevard: web <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dayoh-dayton-marriott>, phone 937223-1000. The “DXpedition of the Year” will be announced. Program details and a list of the prizes available are available at: <http://www.swodxa.org> or <http://www.swodxa.blogspot.com>. Check or money order for tickets, payable to SWODXA, should be sent to Kirk Swallow, W8QID at 3137 Compton Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45251. Be sure to include an SASE for ticket return.

May 29, **Memorial Day Hamfest,** Howard County Fairgrounds, Rt. 144, West Friendship, Maryland. Contact: Maryland F.M. Association, Inc., PO Box 351, Hanover, MD 21076 (e-mail: <wa3mnn@verizon.net>). (Talk-in 146.16/ 146.76, 223.16/224.76, 449.0/444.0, PL 107.2)

*Please submit hamfest and special event announcements at least three months in advance by e-mail to <hamfest@cq-amateur-radio.com> or <specialevent@cq-amateur-radio.com>, or by postal mail to: CQ Magazine, Attn: Hamfests (or Special Events), 25 Newbridge Rd., Hicksville, NY 11801.*

## Ham Radio News (Continued from page 2)

### QRM from Plasma TVs

Hams in Ontario, Canada are reporting that they are getting considerable HF interference from plasma-screen televisions and have asked the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) for help. Southgate News reports that RAC has asked its members who own plasma TVs to gather data and report on their own interference problems as well as possible solutions. Specific makes and model numbers are requested along with descriptions of the HF ham station, antenna, and exact nature of the interference. RAC would also like to hear from hams who have plasma TVs but *do not* experience interference problems. Reports should go to Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, RAC VP/Industrial Liaison, at <ve3lc@rac.ca>.

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Accompanied by volunteer operator Vicki Boriac, Santa Cruz (California) ARES® team member Don Taylor, K6GHA, sits at the controls of the ham station in the county Emergency Operations Center after a tsunami threat was issued March 11 – waves that subsequently damaged parts of the central California coast. (Courtesy of Craig Smith, W6WL)

## ***Special Report:* Amateurs Join Rescue Effort in Wake of Japan Quake, Tsunami**

BY CQ STAFF

**A**t CQ press time, radio amateurs, relief agencies and government officials across Japan were providing disaster relief in the wake of the 9.0 magnitude earthquake March 11, the subsequent tsunami that ravaged the nation's Sendai region, and the severe damage that put parts of the nation's nuclear power program in peril.

The latest report from International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee Chairman Jim Linton, VK3PC, indicated the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) headquarters station, JA1RL, and other amateur stations were on the air providing emergency communications.

News updates posted to the *CQ Newsroom* <<http://www.CQNewsroom.blogspot.com>> were assembled from information posted on the Southgate Amateur Radio Club website, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and other sources.

"JA1RL continues to operate under instruction to be an emergency traffic center and (is) increasingly receiving help from JARL members in the affected area," Linton said. "It is using 7 MHz SSB, 144 MHz SSB/FM and 430 MHz SSB/FM. Many other stations are active—including some battery powered and others using small generators—and are using various frequencies to exchange rescue and disaster relief operation information with JA1RL and others."

Ken Yamamoto, JA1CJP, Secretary of IARU Region 3, also noted, "In less damaged areas, the electric power supply is being restored gradually and local amateur radio club members have started to establish stations at shelters."

"The radio equipment manufacturers offered hundreds of handheld VHF/UHF transceivers to the JARL for use at refugee centers and local disaster relief centers," Yamamoto said. "These transceivers should help to establish mutual communications between refugee disaster relief centers and to facilitate smooth and appropriate delivery of disaster relief goods."

Yamamoto added that the JARL "talked to the Radio Authority and 300 VHF/UHF transceivers were verbally given their licens-

es. After each transceiver got its callsign indication, (the radios) were sent out to the disaster area with spare batteries."

At press time there had been no call for foreign radio amateurs to assist in the relief effort.

### **Readying for a Tsunami in Hawaii and the Mainland**

In Hawaii, Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, told the ARRL shortly after the earthquake struck that the region was preparing for the predicted tsunami that was making its way across the Pacific Ocean: "The water level at Kahului Harbor—the main harbor on the Island of Maui—dropped five feet at 3:54 HST (1354 UTC). A quake measuring 4.5 was felt in Hawaii, 150 minutes following the Japan tremor."

Although on a scale nowhere near the destruction in Japan, the most serious damage in Hawaii occurred near Kealahou Bay and Kailua-Kona on the Big Island. Haleiwa and Keehi Lagoon on Oahu, and areas of Maui and Molokai, were hit, as well.

Along the west coast of the U.S. mainland, Santa Cruz County Amateur Radio Emergency Services®, on California's central coast, reported that after the earthquake, "sirens wailed and reverse 911 (calls) alerted residents in low-lying beach zones of Santa Cruz County" to the impending danger of the tsunami.

According to Bill Conklin, AF6OH, Santa Cruz County ARES® public information officer, early Friday morning operators on the team "activated the Santa Cruz County Tsunami Resource Net in advance of the anticipated 5- to 7-foot wave. It was expected to reach the Santa Cruz Coast around 8 AM.

"More than 30 local ARES® radio operators manned agencies including the Santa Cruz County Emergency Operations Center, evacuation centers, the American Red Cross, Salvation Army Corps Canteen Truck One, Santa Cruz County Harbor Coast Guard Auxiliary and a number of local fire departments," he said in a release. "In addition to the served agencies, a number of hams provided remote observation of the coastline and communications capabilities at the evacuation centers."

(Continued on page 50)



# Results of the 2010 CQ WW RTTY DX Contest

BY ED MUNS,\* WØYK



Robert, ST2AR, prolifically supplying the ST mult in recent CW and RTTY contests, led Single-Op Low Power and set a new Africa record.



Zik, VE3ZIK/DK8ZZ/YT3ZZ, operating as 9A/VE3ZIL from the 9A3MR QTH on Murter Island took 4th place Single-Op 20M Low Power.

**T**he 24th annual CQ WW RTTY DX Contest (the world's largest RTTY competition) enjoyed the best band conditions we've seen in recent years, enabling over 5,000 participating stations to make 1.2M QSOs, a 20% growth over 2009. Refreshingly, 10-meter activity was significantly up, especially on north-south paths. The number of submitted logs grew 16% to 2681. This set the stage for another round of record-breaking performances by the top stations, with many participants at all levels reporting personal-best results. For the contest 146 countries and all 40 zones were active.

Twelve new world records and 28 new continental records were set by the winners. In several cases, more than one station broke the record! Numerous country and area records were also broken. This is a tribute to increased participation, improved operating skill, and (slowly) improving solar conditions. Here are the highlights:

## Single Operator Low Power

**Single-Op All Band Low Power.** Robert, ST2AR, took first place world and broke the Africa record by 33% with 3.6M points. Robert's error rate was only 20% of the contest average at just 0.7%. The next three places were nearly tied at about 3.0M points: Ted, HI3TEJ, Enrico, 6V7X (IK2FIL), and Filipe, CR6K (CT1ILT). Filipe lifted the European record by 33%. In the U.S., Mark, N2QT, dominated with 2.3M points.

**Single-Op 80-Meter Low Power.** Jan, OK2ZAW, won with 76K, barely missing the European record.

**Single-Op 40-Meter Low Power.** Dalibor, E79D, broke the world record by 22% (330K).

**Single-Op 20-Meter Low Power.** Gennady, EU1DX, won with 364K, just 0.3% short of the European record. Moreover, the next two entrants—Roberto, IT9STX, and Karel, OK2ZI—were nearly tied with Gennady.

**Single-Op 15-Meter Low Power.** Jack, FY1FL, blew away the world record by 68% with 508K.



Sunset highlighting the E76C/E7DX antenna farm.

**Single-Op 10-Meter Low Power.** Alexandre, PY2SEX, raised the world record by 84% to 116K.

## Single-Op High Power

**Single-Op All Band High Power.** After Val, EF8M (RD3A), smashed the world record by 20% in 2009, Ed, P49X (WØYK), raised it another 20% this year to 10.6M. Arunas, LY5E (LY2IJ), was second with 5.1M, setting a new European record. Dennis, W1UE, took third and broke the North America record by 10% with 4.2M.

**Single-Op 80-Meter High Power.** Zelimir, 9A2DQ, won with 248K, while Franco, I4AVG, was close by with 238K.

**Single-Op 40-Meter High Power.** Chris, SO4M (SP4K), broke the world record by 7% for 670K. Rick, KI1G, took third, breaking the U.S. record by 63% with 473K.

**Single-Op 20-Meter High Power.** RTTY newcomer John, KK9A, took first place in the world and raised the North America record by 8% with his 776K finish. Sobon, SN7Q, was second with 754K. Jerry, WB9Z, was fourth overall with 610K and broke the U.S. record by 35%, second to KK9A for that area.

\*e-mail: <w0yk@cqwrrtty.com>



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## 2010 CQ WW RTTY CONTEST PLAQUE WINNERS AND SPONSORS

### Single Operator High Power

**World:** Sponsored by John Orton, W5JBO. **Winner:** P49X (op: Ed Muns, W0YK)  
**Asia:** Sponsored by Alex Panoiu, YO9HP. **Winner:** Masaki Okano, JH4UYB  
**Europe:** Sponsored by Andrei Stchislenok, EW1AR/NP3D (in Memory of EU1MM).  
**Winner:** LY5E (op: Arunas Vaglys, LY2IJ)  
**North America:** Sponsored by PJ2S Group. **Winner:** Dennis Egan, W1UE  
**South America:** Sponsored by Radio Club Cordoba, LU4HH. **Winner:** LV5V (op:  
 Jorge Krienke, LU5VV)  
**Canada:** Sponsored by Contest Group du Quebec. **Winner:** Nick Lekic, VE3EY  
**Japan:** Sponsored by Darrell Penrod, K9MUG. **Winner:** Harumi Kukit, JF1PJK  
**USA:** Sponsored by Joseph Young, W6RLL. **Winner:** Larry Brockman, N6AR/4

### Single Operator Low Power

**World:** Sponsored by Don Hill, AA5AU. **Winner:** ST2AR (op: Robert Kasca, S53R)  
**Asia:** Sponsored by Jim Reisert, AD1C. **Winner:** Yuri Kurinyi, RG9A  
**Europe:** Sponsored by Tyler Stewart, K3MM. **Winner:** CR6K (op: Filipe Monteiro  
 Lopes, CT1ILT)  
**Oceania:** Sponsored by Doug Faunt, N6TQS. **Winner:** Felimon Morano, Jr.,  
 DV1JM  
**North America:** Sponsored by Joseph Young, W6RLL. **Winner:** Ted Jimenez,  
 HI3TEJ  
**South America:** Sponsored by Trey Garlough, N5KO. **Winner:** Luis Felipe  
 Arango, HK6P  
**Canada:** Sponsored by Bob Loranger, VE2AXO. **Winner:** Fabi Bertolotto, VA2UP  
**Japan:** Sponsored by Charles Anderson, KK5OQ. **Winner:** Nobuo Matsuoka,  
 JA6GCE  
**USA:** Sponsored by George Johnson, W1ZT. **Winner:** Mark Sihlanick, N2QT/4

### Single Operator Assisted

**World:** Sponsored by Mike Sims, K4GMH. **Winner:** 5B/UT0U (op: Serge  
 Rebrov, UT5UDX)  
**Asia:** Sponsored by Lakshman "Lucky" Bijanki, VU2LBW. **Winner:** Vandim  
 Ovsyannikov, R9DX  
**Europe:** Sponsored by Jeff Demers, N1SNB. **Winner:** LZ8E (op: Boyan Petkov,  
 LZ2BE)  
**North America:** Sponsored by George Marzloff, K4GM. **Winner:** Mike Sims,  
 K4GMH  
**USA:** Sponsored by Derek Steele, J39BS. **Winner:** Barry Gardner, W3FV

### Single Operator Single Band

**World 28 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Steve Hodgson, ZC4LI. **Winner:** Juan  
 "John" Manuel Morandi, LU1HF  
**World 21 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Steve "Sid" Caesar, NH7C. **Winner:**  
 LP2F (op: Ezequiel Reinaldi, LU1FDU)  
**World 14 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Kenneth Young, AB4GG. **Winner:**  
 John Bayne, KK9A/4  
**Europe 14 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Bob Raymond, WA1Z. **Winner:**  
 Sobon Krzysztof, SN7Q  
**North America 14 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Patrick W. Soileau, ND5C.  
**Winner:** Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z  
**USA 14 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Jamie Punderson, W2QO. **Winner:**  
 Richard Strand, KL7RA  
**World 7 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Abroham Neal Software by K3NC.  
**Winner:** SO4M (op: Chris Krassowski, SP4K)  
**North America 7 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Don Reed, K2OGD. **Winner:**  
 Rick Davenport, KI1G  
**World 3.5 MHz High Power:** Sponsored by Glenn Vinson, W6OTC. **Winner:**  
 Zelimir Klasan, 9A2DQ

### Multi-Op Single Transmitter Low Power

**World:** Sponsored by David Robbins, K1TTT. **Winner:** S50A (S50A, S50XX,  
 S57AW)  
**North America:** Sponsored by Dennis Conklin, AI8P. **Winner:** VP9I (ND8L, WW3S)

### Multi-Op Single Transmitter High Power

**World:** Sponsored by Kevin Rowett, K6TD. **Winner:** ES9C (YL2KF, ES5RY,  
 ES5TV, ES2DW, ES5TF, ES10X, ES4BO, ES5GP, ES5NHC, ES2NA)  
**North America:** Sponsored by Steve Jarrett, K4FJ. **Winner:** K4FJ (K3KG, K4FJ)

### Multi-Op Two Transmitter

**World:** Sponsored by Ed Muns, W0YK. **Winner:** EF8M (RD3AF, RZ3AZ, EA8CAC,  
 OH1RY)  
**Europe:** Sponsored by CT3 Madeira Contest Team CR3A/CQ9K. **Winner:**  
 IT9BLB (IT9BLB, IT9MBZ, IT9MUO, IT9PAD, IT9RGY, IT9VDQ, IT9ZMX)  
**North America:** Sponsored by Steve Merchant, K6AW. **Winner:** NR4M (K3NC,  
 K4EC, K4GM, K4ZW, K7SV, N3ZV, NR4M)  
**USA:** Sponsored by Fred Dennin, WW4LL. **Winner:** K0IR (K0IR, K0JJR, K0RC,  
 W0AW, W0BV, WA0MHD)

### Multi-Op Multi-Transmitter

**World:** Sponsored by KA4RRU RTTY Team. **Winner:** CR3L (DJ6QT, DJ6XV,  
 DK1QH, DK4QT, DL1YFF, DL6TK)  
**North America:** Sponsored by Cuzco Contest Club, WK1Q. **Winner:** K1TTT  
 (AK2D, AK2X, K1MK, K1SFA, K1TTT, KB1SUA, N2JFS, NW2Q, W1EQO,  
 W1TO, WA1ZAM)  
**USA:** Sponsored by David Robbins, K1TTT. **Winner:** KA4RRU (KA4RRU, N4DXS,  
 K3UI, W4DC, K4RG, KD6AKC, KD4BHR, SADIE)

### Club Competition

**World:** Sponsored by Potomac Valley Radio Club. **Winner:** Bavarian Contest Club  
**North America:** Sponsored by Northern California Contest Club. **Winner:** Northern  
 California Contest Club

## CLUB SCORES UNITED STATES

Club Name	No. Entries	Total Score
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB.....	32	26,621,146
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB.....	38	26,415,821
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB.....	33	21,944,141
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN.....	35	8,666,712
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB.....	16	8,580,063
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP.....	17	7,967,047
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS.....	21	6,205,706
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP.....	13	4,360,042
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB.....	10	4,329,163
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB.....	23	3,788,152
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO.....	6	3,507,358
CTRI CONTEST GROUP.....	4	3,455,334
WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB.....	13	3,097,197
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP.....	8	3,049,470
SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB.....	12	2,030,701
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB.....	3	1,732,659
ORDER OF BOILED OWLS OF NEW YORK.....	7	1,503,047
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB.....	13	1,490,355
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB.....	8	1,295,814
BERGEN ARA.....	5	1,292,648
ROCHESTER (NY) DX ASSN.....	6	1,255,465
SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION.....	7	1,079,772
ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.....	3	1,064,321
KANSAS CITY DX CLUB.....	4	988,540
HUDSON VALLEY CONTESTERS AND DXERS.....	3	722,597
ALLEGHENY VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION.....	3	547,440
LOW COUNTRY CONTEST CLUB.....	3	456,353
NORTH CAROLINA DX AND CONTEST CLUB.....	3	423,358
DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.....	3	365,893
NORTH TEXAS CONTEST CLUB.....	3	183,573
METRO DX CLUB.....	3	181,534

### DX

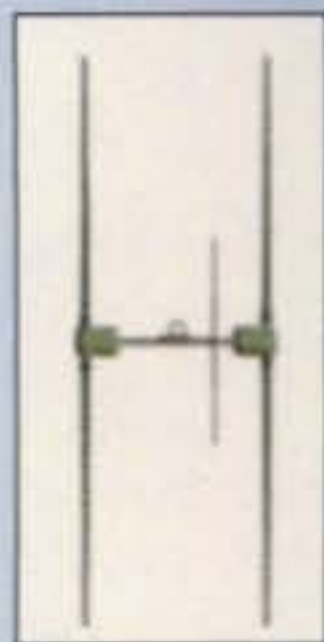
BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	72	32,850,470
RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION.....	52	31,451,915
UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	29	28,859,194
SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB.....	11	15,850,575
LU CONTEST GROUP.....	16	15,519,822
CONTEST CLUB FINLAND.....	11	15,312,938
URAL CONTEST GROUP.....	7	12,064,852
CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO.....	24	10,363,685
HUNGARIAN DX CLUB.....	5	10,335,374
ARAUCARIA DX GROUP.....	9	9,195,203
SP DX CLUB.....	22	8,178,398
LITHUANIAN CONTEST GROUP.....	4	7,652,616
BRITISH COLUMBIA DX CLUB.....	3	7,015,222
CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	14	6,993,076
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA CONTEST CLUB.....	5	6,772,943
BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB.....	21	5,861,297
MARITIME CONTEST CLUB.....	7	5,031,921
LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	8	4,053,585
SOUTH URAL CONTEST CLUB.....	5	3,996,347
CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC.....	6	3,867,241
BRITISH AMATEUR RADIO TELEDATA GROUP.....	4	3,247,450
DL-DX RTTY CONTEST GROUP.....	15	2,710,002
TEMIRTAU CONTEST CLUB.....	4	2,518,653
GRUPO DXXE.....	3	2,384,630
GIPANIS CONTEST GROUP.....	4	2,213,217
RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN GREECE.....	5	2,204,477
VK CONTEST CLUB.....	5	2,167,658
CSTA BUCURESTI.....	6	2,155,490
VU CONTEST GROUP.....	5	1,632,755
GMDX GROUP.....	5	1,273,429
FOX CONTEST CLUB.....	3	1,244,524
RTTY CONTESTERS OF JAPAN.....	9	1,230,735
WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS.....	6	1,192,285
MEDITERRANEO DX CLUB.....	4	1,063,902
DONBASS.....	4	1,013,648
RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB.....	7	996,478
CANTAREIRA DX GROUP.....	9	912,315
KRIVBASS.....	3	851,339
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RADIO CLUB.....	4	811,750
LA CONTEST CLUB.....	3	633,332
CHILTERN DX CLUB.....	4	587,166
DOMODEDOVO.....	3	472,420
NANAIMO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION.....	3	254,346
BALATON RADIOAMATEUR DX CLUB.....	3	252,543
IVANOVO DX CLUB.....	4	198,716
YO DX CLUB.....	3	181,435
ALRS ST PETERSBURG.....	3	169,845
RIO DX GROUP.....	4	141,341
YU CONTEST CLUB.....	4	25,909



# Which *SteppIR* Product is Best for You?

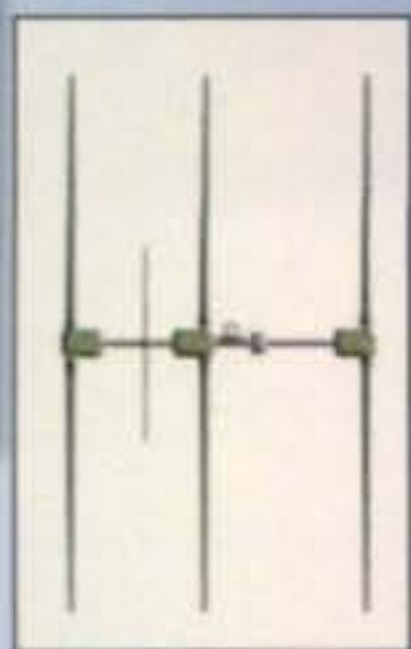
## 2, 3, and 4 Element Yagis

For the hams who are fortunate enough to have towers in their backyards. Gain and directivity is yours with a SteppIR Yagi.



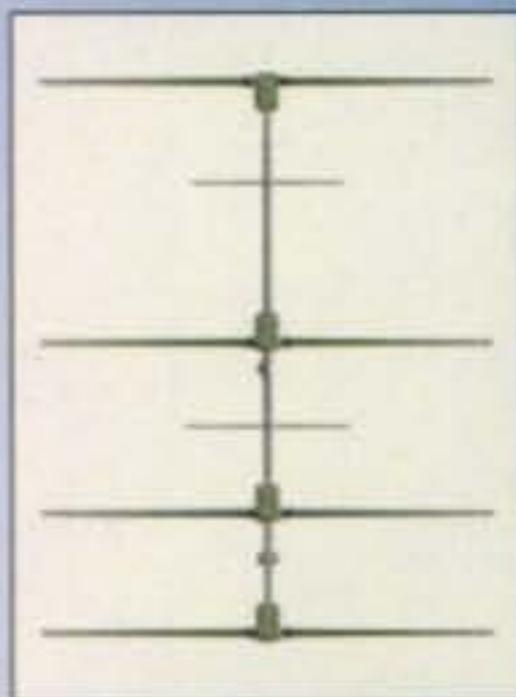
### 2 Element 20m-6m Yagi

2 element Yagi, 20m-6m continuous coverage; 57" boom, 36 ft longest element, 18.2 ft turning radius, 6 sq ft wind load, 30 lb; SDA 100 controller included.



### 3 Element Yagi 20m-6m

3 element Yagi, 20m-6m continuous coverage; 16 foot boom, 36 ft longest element, 19.7 ft turning radius, 6.1 sq ft wind load, 51 lb; SDA 100 controller included.

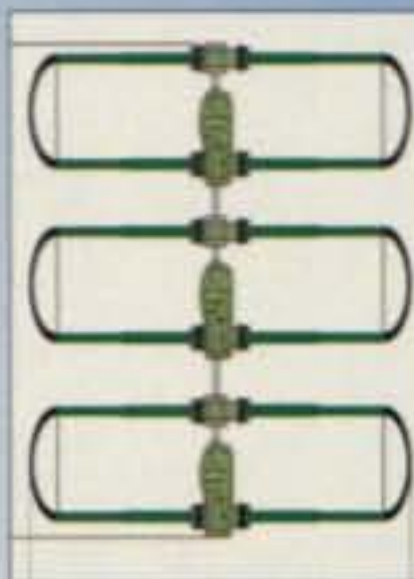


### 4 Element Yagi 20m-6m

4 element Yagi, 20m-6m continuous coverage; 36 ft longest element, 24.1 ft turning radius, 9.7 sq ft wind load, 99 lb; SDA 100 controller included.

## Dream Beam Series Yagi's

The Dream Beam series offers antennas for both space limited Hams as well as the "Big Guns" who have the space and want the very best.

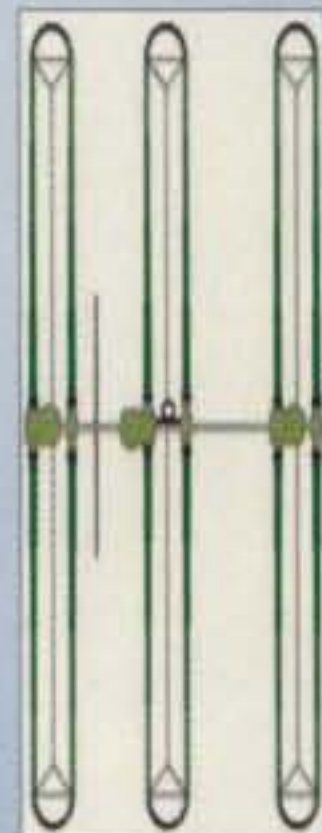


### DB11 Yagi Antenna

DB11 Yagi, 18.5 ft element length, 11 ft boom, 10.8 ft turning radius, 61 lb, 5.9 sq ft wind load; 2 active elements on 20m; 3 active elements on 17, 15, 12, 10, 6m.

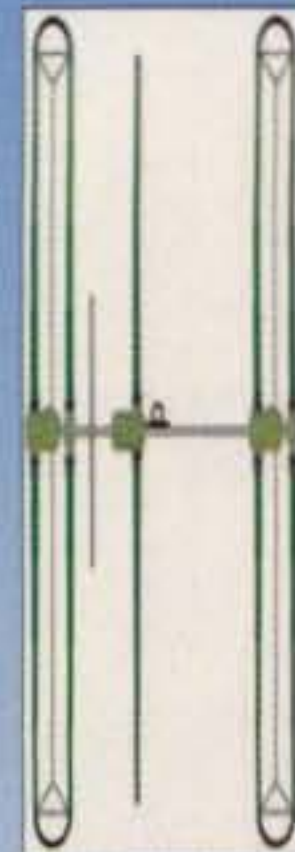
### DB18 YAGI

Dreambeam DB18 yagi, 3 el on 20m-6m, 2 el on 40/30m, 18 ft boom; Does not include optional 6m passive element kit; Includes SDA100 controller.



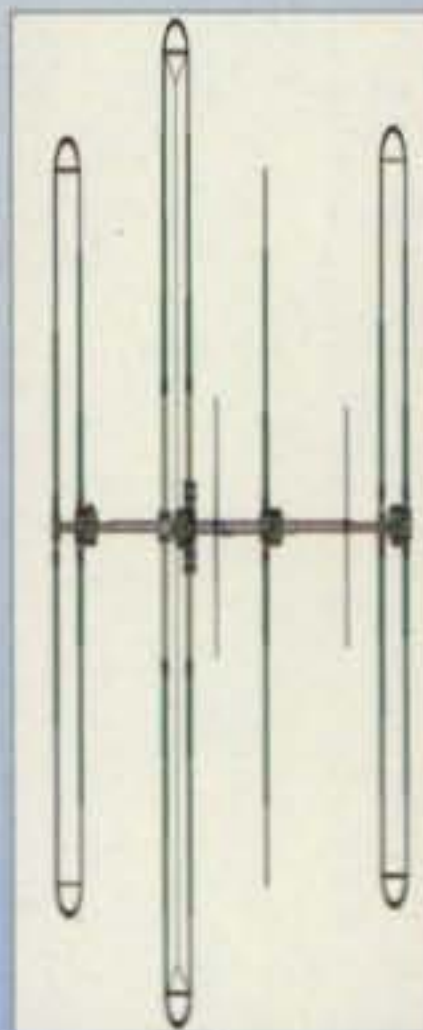
### DB18E YAGI

Dreambeam DB18E, 3 el 30m-6m, 2 el 40m, three looped elements, does not include optional 6m passive element kit, 18 foot boom; Includes SDA 100 controller.



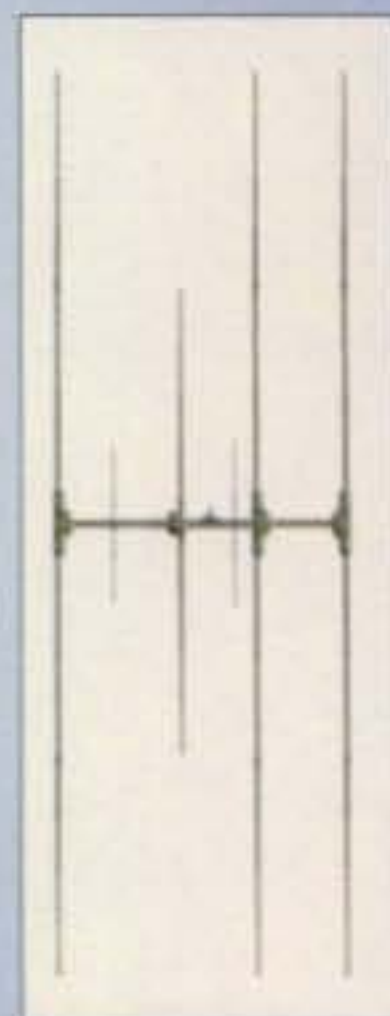
### DB36 DreamBeam Yagi, 40m-6m

DreamBeam DB36 4 element Yagi, 40m-6m continuous coverage; 36ft boom, 48 ft longest element, 26 ft turning radius, 17.5 sq ft wind load, 160 lb; SDA 100 controller included.



### MonstIR 4 Element Yagi 40m-6m

MonstIR 4 element Yagi, 40m-6m continuous coverage with full length elements; 34ft boom, 70 ft longest element, 39.7 ft turning radius, 23.9 sq ft wind load, 160 lb; SDA 100 controller included.



## Vertical and Dipoles

For the ham who may not have a tower, but a tree or two for a dipole. SteppIR verticals work great when there are no tall structures around to hang some wire. And, the low take-off angle can be your friend.



### BigIR Vertical Antenna, 40m-6m

BigIR vertical antenna, 40m-6m continuous coverage, 32 ft length, 15 lb total weight, 2 sq ft wind load; EIA 222C wind rating when guyed; Comes with SDA 100 controller and 1.5" mounting pole; Does not include optional 80m coil.



### SmallIR Vertical Antenna 20m-6m

20m-6m continuous coverage, 18 ft total length, 12 lb weight, 1 sq ft wind load; EIA-222C wind rating without guys.



### 20m-6m Dipole

20m-6m continuous coverage dipole; 36 ft element length; Comes with SDA 100 controller.



### 40m-6m Loop Dipole

40m-6m continuous coverage, 39 ft total length; SDA 100 controller included.

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# MFJ-259B World's most popular Antenna Analyzer is super easy-to-use!



MFJ-259B  
**\$289<sup>95</sup>**

*The MFJ-259B is the world's most popular Antenna Analyzer and the easiest to use! Just select a band and mode. Set frequency. Your measurements are instantly displayed!*

### Handheld Antenna Lab

Owning the MFJ-259B is like having an entire antenna lab in the palm of your hand!

Measure SWR quickly or make sophisticated measurements such as Return Loss, Reflection Coefficient, Resonance, Complex Impedance (R+jX), Impedance Magnitude (Z) plus Phase in degrees. Covers 1.8 to 170 MHz -- no gaps.

### Coax Analyzer

Determine coax cable velocity factor (Vf), loss in dB, coax length, distance to open or short plus detect wrong coax impedance.

### Frequency Counter

Measure frequency of external signals using the separate BNC counter input.

### Signal Generator

Use as a signal source 1.8-170 MHz with digital dial accuracy for testing and alignment.

### Inductance and Capacitance

Measure Inductance (uH) and Capacitance (pF) at RF frequencies not at audio frequencies used by most L/C meters.

### Digital and Analog Meters

A high-contrast backlit LCD gives precision readings and two side-by-side analog meters make antenna adjustments intuitive.

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Velvet-smooth reduction drive tuning and precision air-variable capacitor makes setting frequency easy and stable.

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Battery-saver, low-battery warning, battery voltage meter and charger are all built in. Use ten Alkaline, NiCad or NiMH AA batteries (not included) or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312D, \$15.95. 4Wx6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>Hx2D inches.

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Find true antenna resonant frequency  
Tune antenna quickly for minimum SWR  
Match complex loads to your feedline  
Adjust mobile whips without stressing finals  
Determine safe 2:1-SWR operating windows  
Adjust tuners without generating QRM  
Find exact location of shorts and opens  
Cut stubs and phasing lines accurately  
Check cable for loss and contamination  
Find value of unknown coils and caps  
Test RF transformers and baluns

Troubleshoot filters and networks  
Find self-resonance and relative Q  
Check patterns and compare gain  
MFJ-259B does all this and more!

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**MFJ-29C, \$24.95.** Tote your MFJ-259B anywhere with this genuine MFJ custom carrying case. Special foam-filled fabric cushions blows, deflects scrapes and protects knobs and meters from harm. **MFJ-39C, \$24.95.** Like MFJ-29C, but for MFJ-269.

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**MFJ-92AA10, \$29.95.** Ten MFJ SuperCell™ Ni-MH AA rechargeable batteries.

**MFJ-99B, \$88.90. Save \$7!** MFJ-259B Deluxe Accessory Pack: MFJ-29C Pouch, 10 Ni-MH batteries, dip coils, AC adapter. **MFJ-98B, \$88.90.** Like MFJ-99B but for MFJ-269.

**MFJ-99, \$60.85. Save \$5!** Like MFJ-99B, less batteries, for MFJ-259B. **MFJ-98, \$60.85.** Like MFJ-99 but for MFJ-269.

**MFJ-99C, \$40.90. Save \$5!** AC Adapter and 10 Ni-MH batteries for MFJ-259B/269.

**MFJ-917, \$29.95.** Current balun lets you make balanced line antenna measurements on HF with your MFJ Analyzer. **MFJ-7702, \$3.95.** MFJ-917 to MFJ Analyzer adapter.

**MFJ-731, \$99.95.** Tunable RF filter allows accurate Antenna Analyzer measurements in presence of strong RF fields. 1.8-30 MHz.

**MFJ-5510, \$9.95.** Cigarette lighter cord.

## MFJ-269 ... 1.8-170 MHz and 415-470 MHz plus 12-bit A/D!

The MFJ-269 does everything the MFJ-259B does - and much more!

### Expanded Frequency Coverage

MFJ-269 adds UHF coverage from 415 to 470 MHz -- right up into the commercial band. With it, you can adjust UHF dipoles, verticals, Yagis, quads and repeater collinear arrays with ease -- plus construct accurate phasing harnesses and timed cables. Also use it as a signal source to check UHF duplexers, duplexers, IMD filters and antenna patterns.

### Much Better Accuracy

New 12-bit A/D converter gives much better accuracy and resolution than common 8-bit A/D converters -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

### Complex Impedance Analyzer

Read Complex Impedance (1.8 to 170 MHz) as series equivalent resistance and reactance (Rs+jXs) or as magnitude (Z) and phase (degrees). Also reads parallel

MFJ-269

**\$389<sup>95</sup>**

equivalent resistance and reactance (Rp+jXp) -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

### Coax Calculator™

Lets you calculate coax line length in feet given electrical degrees and vice versa for any frequency and any velocity factor -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

### Use any Characteristic Impedance

You can measure SWR and coax loss with any characteristic impedance (1.8 to



170 MHz) from 10 to over 600 Ohms, including 50, 51, 52, 53, 73, 75, 93, 95, 300, 450 Ohms -- an MFJ-269 exclusive!

### Logarithmic Bar Graph

Has easy-to-read LCD logarithmic SWR bargraph and SWR meter for quick tuning.

Uses instrumentation grade N-connector to ensure minimum mismatch on all frequencies. Includes N to SO-239 adapter.

### MFJ-269PRO™ Analyzer

Like MFJ-269, MFJ-269PRO but has extended commercial frequency coverage

**\$419<sup>95</sup>**

in UHF range (430 to 520 MHz) and ruggedized cabinet that protects LCD display, knobs, meters and connectors from damage in the field/lab.



## MFJ-266 ... Wide range 1.5-185 MHz and 300-490 MHz!

**New!**

MFJ-266  
**\$349<sup>95</sup>**

The compact MFJ-266 covers HF (1.5-65 MHz) in 6 bands, plus VHF (85-185 MHz) and UHF (300-490 MHz).

In Antenna Analyzer mode, you get Frequency, SWR, Complex Impedance (R+jX), and Impedance Magnitude (Z) all displayed simultaneously on a high-contrast backlit LCD (SWR only on UHF).

In Frequency-Counter mode, the MFJ-266 functions as a 500-MHz counter with up to 100 Hz

resolution and measures relative field strength of a signal and its frequency and can be used for tracking measurement interference.

MFJ-266 also functions as a 10 dBm signal source with digital-frequency readout. It can also measure inductance and capacitance at RF frequencies.

Features include solid-state band switching and electronic varicap tuning with a smooth 10:1 lockable vernier tuning drive.

Use eight AA alkaline batteries or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312D, \$15.95. Includes N-to-SO-239 adapter. 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>Wx6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>Hx2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>D inches. 1.3 lbs.

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HF/6m/2m/70cm/23cm<sup>1</sup> Transceiver

# IC-9100

For years, the attention to receiver design focused on the HF bands, leaving the upper bands a bit neglected. Icom changed the ham world with the introduction of the IC-7800, which incorporated a new front-end design just for 6m. Now, Icom's introducing the newly FCC approved IC-9100, extending the latest in front-end technology up to more of the VHF/UHF bands. 2m, 70cm, and 23cm<sup>1</sup> enthusiasts can now benefit from high-end IF-DSP performance too!

100/100/100/75/10<sup>1</sup> Watt Output<sup>2</sup>

AM, FM, SSB, RTTY, CW, & DV<sup>1</sup>

Satellite (Mode B/J/L<sup>1</sup>)

Independent Receivers

3kHz/6kHz 1st IF "Roofing" Filters<sup>1</sup> (HF/6m)

Two Independent 32-bit IF-DSP Systems

Double Conversion Superheterodyne with Image Rejection Mixer (HF/6m/2m/70cm)

Type B USB for Rig Control and Audio



  
**ICOM**



# BAND-BY-BAND BREAKDOWN—TOP ALL BAND SCORES

Number groups indicate: QSOs, Countries, Zones, US/VE on each band

## WORLD TOP SINGLE OP ALL BAND

Station	80	40	20	15	10
P49X	360/51/19/49	1197/75/22/57	1298/71/27/57	1689/92/30/56	403/44/21/48
LY5E	483/61/17/8	612/94/30/39	1258/101/35/55	670/107/36/34	51/35/15/0
W1UE	394/51/15/50	709/64/21/48	1061/87/31/50	721/75/22/26	86/15/11/29
*ST2AR	75/37/8/4	371/51/15/30	398/71/28/31	1183/89/33/47	310/55/13/0
FM5CD	177/48/16/37	462/64/18/52	879/75/28/57	949/72/23/52	45/15/10/11

## USA TOP SINGLE OP ALL BAND

Station	80	40	20	15	10
W1UE	394/51/15/50	709/64/21/48	1061/87/31/50	721/75/22/26	86/15/11/29
*N2QT/4	226/33/12/44	524/62/20/50	740/82/30/38	429/76/24/18	33/13/9/3
N6AR/4	208/42/12/42	311/58/18/44	686/84/33/45	292/73/23/25	31/12/10/2
N4ZZ	199/12/7/44	557/49/13/54	759/72/24/44	422/65/22/19	3/3/3/0
W4PK	155/29/9/39	481/59/18/50	630/64/20/39	348/57/22/11	24/8/8/4

## WORLD MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
ES9C	412/66/20/20	874/102/32/40	1382/113/36/54	687/117/34/22	56/38/16/0
IK4MGP	347/62/16/21	648/87/31/48	949/104/33/56	1051/110/36/54	76/52/21/0
UZ2M	254/59/16/9	879/101/31/43	1159/106/37/56	842/114/34/28	33/31/14/0
E74KC	387/56/14/20	663/73/23/42	1107/91/33/54	909/101/34/50	56/49/20/0
EB1LA	328/59/14/32	618/82/24/51	1029/93/35/56	881/103/35/49	22/22/13/0

## USA MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
K4FJ	260/41/14/48	534/71/21/48	995/95/32/49	551/87/28/22	17/15/11/4
W0LSD	217/18/11/46	684/75/30/54	614/85/30/52	386/80/26/33	76/18/11/18
W1DX	39/25/10/13	619/73/23/48	784/86/32/41	230/61/21/12	13/6/5/1
KF6T	111/10/10/42	598/57/26/55	482/85/31/52	394/59/26/39	25/10/11/4
NC4CS	17/14/7/5	570/58/18/49	683/78/24/48	337/73/22/14	9/9/6/0

## WORLD MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER LOW POWER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
*S5DA	348/59/19/13	719/89/29/48	696/101/34/54	605/108/34/50	39/37/19/0
*YU2A	149/44/8/2	453/67/19/34	722/71/28/49	689/78/27/42	24/17/11/0
*UP6P	96/36/11/0	412/69/21/13	623/77/29/42	683/75/27/0	75/24/9/0
*VP9I	75/8/6/24	674/63/18/55	555/71/20/51	385/67/22/36	18/13/8/2
*F1AEY	166/46/9/3	529/62/16/30	682/70/27/45	183/58/28/5	11/5/4/0

## USA MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER LOW POWER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
*KDBAKI	124/17/10/41	292/42/13/48	256/55/14/39	110/43/18/10	3/3/3/0
*KE4UNA	53/2/3/27	173/27/12/37	177/40/15/31	230/58/22/18	12/6/6/0
*W4UAL	0/0/0/0	76/14/10/31	132/31/18/32	187/53/19/12	18/8/6/0
*AC0E	23/3/4/16	123/6/7/36	37/7/8/16	30/20/13/2	5/5/5/0

## WORLD MULTI-OP TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
EF8M	746/68/20/50	1552/87/30/55	1743/102/33/56	2285/114/35/55	570/80/27/5
CR3A	376/60/16/45	1003/70/22/51	1978/90/30/56	1952/99/33/57	82/42/19/2
HC8/K6AW	253/50/14/42	710/68/22/53	1333/83/33/57	1871/93/31/56	623/44/19/54
IT9BLB	435/62/16/22	830/85/27/45	1365/92/34/57	1189/108/37/51	107/49/24/0
T70A	838/64/18/19	914/85/28/43	1703/99/34/54	749/90/31/38	71/35/16/0

## USA MULTI-OP TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
NR4M	479/47/16/50	904/77/25/57	1197/94/30/48	815/94/31/36	58/14/11/12
K0IR	444/46/17/53	796/75/28/54	916/96/33/48	378/71/29/30	118/15/11/32
W1BV	170/19/9/43	521/59/17/46	882/72/21/44	376/68/23/22	7/3/3/2
W1MAT	114/28/11/28	321/58/17/43	731/81/27/48	260/65/21/19	7/4/4/1
WY3P/4	104/27/10/25	259/49/13/40	296/57/16/34	336/57/15/20	30/10/8/4

## WORLD MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
CR3L	404/56/14/33	774/65/17/49	1078/82/27/52	1685/85/26/52	195/50/17/0
HG1S	668/58/15/22	999/90/30/49	1212/107/36/54	827/105/36/44	98/42/17/0
K1TTT	652/64/21/53	1223/84/28/56	1435/98/36/53	799/85/27/39	124/22/13/21
LX7I	610/60/15/23	1043/76/23/50	1449/94/34/55	840/100/32/48	39/24/13/0
Z37M	827/67/21/23	1121/91/28/44	1229/95/33/54	606/101/35/32	117/40/18/0

## USA MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	80	40	20	15	10
K1TTT	652/64/21/53	1223/84/28/56	1435/98/36/53	799/85/27/39	124/22/13/21
KA4RRU	395/26/10/51	777/69/21/54	987/87/31/48	474/70/23/22	78/14/10/17
N2PA	231/18/8/47	327/47/16/50	386/61/22/33	220/52/21/19	3/3/3/1
KT0R	32/2/3/19	284/29/12/50	430/67/18/38	101/26/16/13	2/2/2/1

by 47% to 4.4M, and fourth place Mike, G4GMH, lifted the North America record 13% to 4.3M.

**Single-Op 80M.** Robert, G16K, and Alajos, HA3LI, both broke this world record with 211K and 135K, respectively. Sixth place Paul, W8AEF/7, established the first North America record with 43K.

**Single-Op 40M.** The first three places all broke the prior world record of 495K: S52X with 646K (31%), Miro, OK3R (OK1DVM), with 645K (30%), and Vladan, YT1VP, with 547K (11%).

**Single-Op 20M.** Zoran, E76C, won with 984K, breaking the European record by 25%. Ruslan, EO3Q (UR3QCW), also broke the prior European record with 792K for second place. Fourth place Joel, VE6WQ, broke the North America record by 36% with 781K.

**Single-Op 15M.** Carlos, CT3FQ, nearly doubled the world record with 819K. Fabien, TK5MH, also broke the prior world record with 498K, setting a new European record. John, ZL1BYZ, finished 5th worldwide with 265K and raised the Oceania record 85%. Icko, JA1BPA, finished 6th with 259K to lift the Asia record over 2.5 times.

**Single-Op 10M.** Vladimir, UT1IA, won and set a new European record with 10K.

## Multi-Operator

**Multi-Single Low Power.** S50A (S50A, S50XX, and S57AW) broke the world record by 11% with 4.1M. Fourth place VP9I (ND8L, WW3S) won North America with 2M.

**Multi-Single High Power.** The top seven finishers each broke the European record! ES9C (YL2KF, ES5RY, ES5TV, ES2DW, ES5TF, ES1OX, ES4BO, ES5GP, ES5NHC, and ES2MA) led with 5.84M, followed closely by IK4MGP (I4EWH, I4FYF, I4IFL, I4EWH, IK2QEI, IK3QAR, IK4DCW, IK4HVR, IK4MGP,

IK4WMH, IV3TMV, and IV3ZXQ) with 5.80M. Eighth place PJ2S (K3RWN, AB3ER, KG3F, KB3EYY, and K3RMB) won South America with 3.8M and 10th place K4FJ (K3KG and K4FJ) won North America with 3.3M.

**Multi-Two.** This world record was moved up 58% to 16.9M by the familiar EF8M callsign (RD3A, RZ3AZ, EA8CAC, and OH1RY). Second place CR3A (CT3BD, CT3DL, CT3DZ, CT3EE, CT3EN, CT3IA, CT3KU, and CT3KY) also broke the prior world record, by 5% for a score of 11.2M. Tenth place VE7SV doubled the Canadian record to 3.5M.

**Multi-Multi.** CR3L (CT3BD, CT3DL, CT3DZ, CT3EE, CT3EN, CT3IA, CT3KU, and CT3KY) came out on top with 7.7M and third place K1TTT set a new North America record with 6.5M. Ninth place VE7UF doubled the Canadian record to 3M.

## Clubs

**United States.** The top three were the same as last year, but in reverse order. The Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) won with 26.6M ever so narrowly over rival Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) with 26.4M. Last year's winner, the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC), came in third with 21.9M.

**Europe.** Typically, the Bavarian Contest Club (BCC) and the Rhein Ruhr DX Association (RRDXA) dominated the Europe club competition. The BCC came out on top again with 32.9M to beat RRDXA's 31.5M. Third place Ukrainian Contest Club continues to apply pressure with its 28.9M points.

**World.** These three European clubs also took the top three places in the world club competition. The three US clubs above filled the next three places worldwide.

## Logs

The quality of the logs was about the same as in 2009, which is



### EUROPE TOP SINGLE OP ALL BAND

Station	80	40	20	15	10
LY5E	483/61/17/8	612/94/30/39	1258/101/35/55	670/107/36/34	51/35/15/0
Y09HP	346/55/14/11	784/82/26/45	827/94/35/48	436/96/33/20	46/24/13/0
RG3K	307/52/13/4	649/81/26/38	900/89/32/50	654/89/28/23	17/11/8/0
*CR6K	142/42/9/7	472/62/18/46	773/76/27/52	747/84/28/49	39/20/12/1
SP9LJD	210/44/11/7	494/67/22/44	832/67/26/55	642/76/32/44	6/5/4/0

### EUROPE MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER

ES9C	412/66/20/20	874/102/32/40	1382/113/36/54	687/117/34/22	56/38/16/0
IK4MGP	347/62/16/21	648/87/31/48	949/104/33/56	1051/110/36/54	76/52/21/0
U22M	254/59/16/9	879/101/31/43	1159/106/37/56	842/114/34/28	33/31/14/0
E74KC	387/56/14/20	663/73/23/42	1107/91/33/54	909/101/34/50	56/49/20/0
EB1LA	328/59/14/32	618/82/24/51	1029/93/35/56	881/103/35/49	22/22/13/0

### EUROPE MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER LOW POWER

*S50A	348/59/19/13	719/89/29/48	696/101/34/54	605/108/34/50	39/37/19/0
*YU2A	149/44/8/2	453/67/19/34	722/71/28/49	689/78/27/42	24/17/11/0
*F1AEY	166/46/9/3	529/62/16/30	682/70/27/45	183/58/28/5	11/5/4/0
*9A7T	187/47/10/14	332/66/24/30	330/66/26/45	257/76/31/26	36/16/12/0
*LZ9R	253/49/10/6	357/70/22/23	530/70/24/32	219/60/26/12	21/15/10/0

### EUROPE MULTI-OP TWO TRANSMITTER

IT9BLB	435/62/16/22	830/85/27/45	1365/92/34/57	1189/108/37/51	107/49/24/0
T70A	838/64/18/19	914/85/28/43	1703/99/34/54	749/90/31/38	71/35/16/0
IQ1RY	581/63/17/20	997/87/29/51	1143/93/33/55	703/85/35/50	29/13/11/0
DQ4W	601/64/15/17	800/86/27/42	1144/96/33/55	684/93/33/42	91/42/18/0
PI4CC	523/56/14/23	710/76/22/35	1202/91/34/54	501/92/31/39	74/27/14/0

### EUROPE MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER

HG1S	668/58/15/22	999/90/30/49	1212/107/36/54	827/105/36/44	98/42/17/0
LX7I	610/60/15/23	1043/76/23/50	1449/94/34/55	840/100/32/48	39/24/13/0
Z37M	827/67/21/23	1121/91/28/44	1229/95/33/54	606/101/35/32	117/40/18/0
LZ9W	270/50/8/1	908/73/26/42	1324/94/33/53	822/85/32/43	226/45/19/0
OH6R	499/55/11/1	1191/95/33/45	1299/99/33/51	353/75/25/11	46/29/13/0

not bad but still has lots of opportunity for improvement. One of the biggest problems was the omission of "DX" in the received QTH field for non-US/VE QSOs. This is easy for the participant to check and fix with a text editor before submitting the log. Another common problem is incorrect, or "busted," callsigns of stations worked. There were 14,449 unique calls that were only worked once across all logs. Virtually all of these are busts of legitimate calls and 65% were validated as such with the QSOs removed from the logs. There were also a number of QSOs that recorded the wrong frequency/band. 79% of all logged QSOs were in both logs and could be cross-checked. Of those cross-checked QSOs, 3.6% were bad and not credited: 1.6% were not in the log of the other station (NILs), 1.4% were busted callsigns, and 0.6% were busted QTHs.

In summary, there were accuracy errors and there were log-format errors. Accuracy errors need to be reduced while operating, but log-format errors should be found and fixed after the contest before submitting the log. The log submittal process uses a "robot" server that receives logs and inspects them for format errors. The participant is notified immediately on the log submittal web page, or via immediate e-mail from the robot. This notification explains what format errors, if any, were found. The participant should make corrections and resubmit. Only the most recently submitted log file is ultimately used in log checking. Participants are encouraged to request their Log Check Report (LCR) from <w0yk@cqwrrty.com> and review the log errors. Compare your individual results to the overall numbers above and decide how you want to change your operating style to improve in the next contest.

The contest website, <www.cqwrrty.com>, is a rich source of information about this contest and participants should take



The EF8M team (left to right) Alexandr, RZ3AZ, Val, RD3A/EF8M, Pekka, OH1RY, and Juan, EA8CAC, increased the Multi-Two record by 58 %.



The German team at CR3L precisely assembling antennas for their win in Multi-Multi (neatly dressed in their red jumpsuit uniforms).

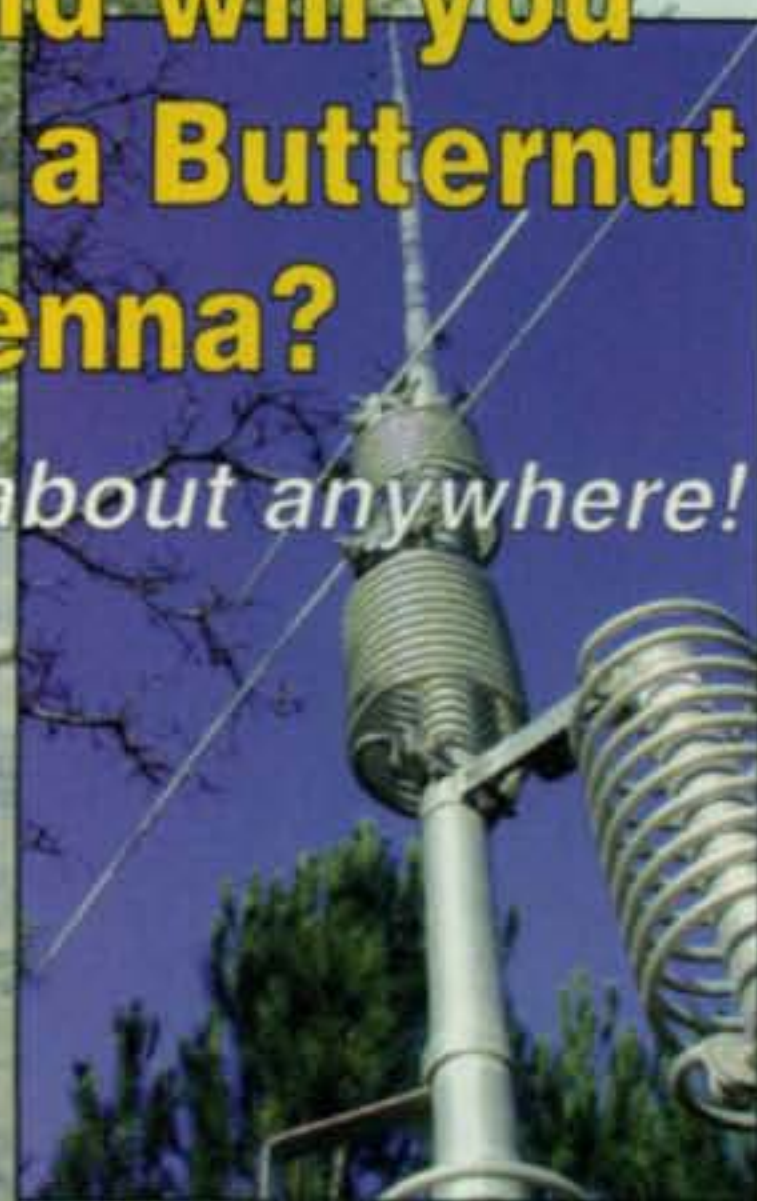


The Chispero ("Sparky") amplifier at LP2F occasionally livens up the contest with its arcing crashes.



# Where in the world will you find a Butternut antenna?

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## TOP SCORES IN VERY ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3		Zone 14		Zone 20	
K7QQ	1,381,024	*CR6K	2,921,906	UV5U	1,694,476
VA7KO	937,664	DL4MDO	1,788,010	*ERØFEO	1,692,000
K7AR	916,584	F5VKT	1,708,080		
W6AEA/7	706,192	PA7LV	1,559,880		
*VA7ST	631,104	*DL9YAJ	1,554,953		
Zone 4		Zone 15		Zone 25	
N4ZZ	1,768,824	LY5E	5,082,540	JH4UYB	2,438,595
VE3EY	1,723,496	SP9LJD	2,793,672	*JA6GCE	1,213,576
AB4GG	1,632,138	S51A	2,393,703	JF1PJK	1,193,790
VE3DZ	1,627,200	OM5ZW	1,676,640	JA1OVD	964,899
N8BJQ	1,540,080	*HA8BE	1,548,120	JA6BZI	792,465
Zone 5		Zone 16			
W1UE	4,234,020	RG3K	3,245,504		
*N2QT/4	2,281,132	UA4HOX	2,282,893		
*VA2UP	2,123,655	UR7GO	2,146,690		
N6AR/4	1,882,800				
W4PK	1,714,788				

\* Low Power

advantage of it in preparation for the next one on 24–25 September 2011.

Also, for expanded tables, QRM, and multi-station operators, go to the CQ website, <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)>, and also to the RTTY contest website mentioned above.

### Summary

Thanks again to all participants for making this the most popular RTTY contest of the year. Just like every contest, it is largely dependent on the many casual contest operators who in aggregate account for many of the QSOs in our logs.

Outside the contest itself are a number of people, most of whom are volunteers, who devote countless hours in support of this 48-hour event each year. Ken, K1EA, provides the log checking software and consulting during log check. Mark, K6UFO, stands by for any log checking tasks that he can lend a hand with. Mike, K4GMH, manages the CQ RTTY Contest plaque program. Barry, W5GN, manages the certificate printing and mailing. Both the plaques and certificates take many hours of diligent effort to ensure accuracy. Randy, K5ZD, set up the original website and continues to consult on its evolution as well as the searchable scores database that he set up with Don, AA5AU. This is a remarkable resource that not only archives all the results history of every submitted log since the beginning, but serves as the master database from which records are determined dynamically for



Miro, OK3R (OK1DVM), virtually tied for 1st place in Single-Op Assisted 40M, breaking the world record, running SO2R (single-band) with new Elecraft K3s.

most any category and geography the user chooses. And Gail, K2RED, of CQ magazine, expertly edits and assembles the output from log checking into this published article, as she does for all of the CQ contests.

Many participants responded to a request for photos. The overwhelming number of received photos is far too much for this article, so all will be posted in a gallery on the contest website. In the next contest, be sure to take photos and send them in with your comments and stories.

I look forward to seeing everyone again in the 25th annual CQ WW RTTY Contest at the end of the summer.

73, Ed, WØYK

(Continued on page 106)

### Important Online Resources

CQ WW RTTY website: <http://www.cqwwrtty.com/>  
CQ website: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>  
Cabrillo log file spec: <http://www.cqwwrtty.com/logs.htm>  
Club name list: <http://www.cqwwrtty.com/clubnames.htm>  
List of logs received: [http://www.cqwwrtty.com/logs\\_received.shtml](http://www.cqwwrtty.com/logs_received.shtml)

Log submissions: [rtty@cqww.com](mailto:rtty@cqww.com)  
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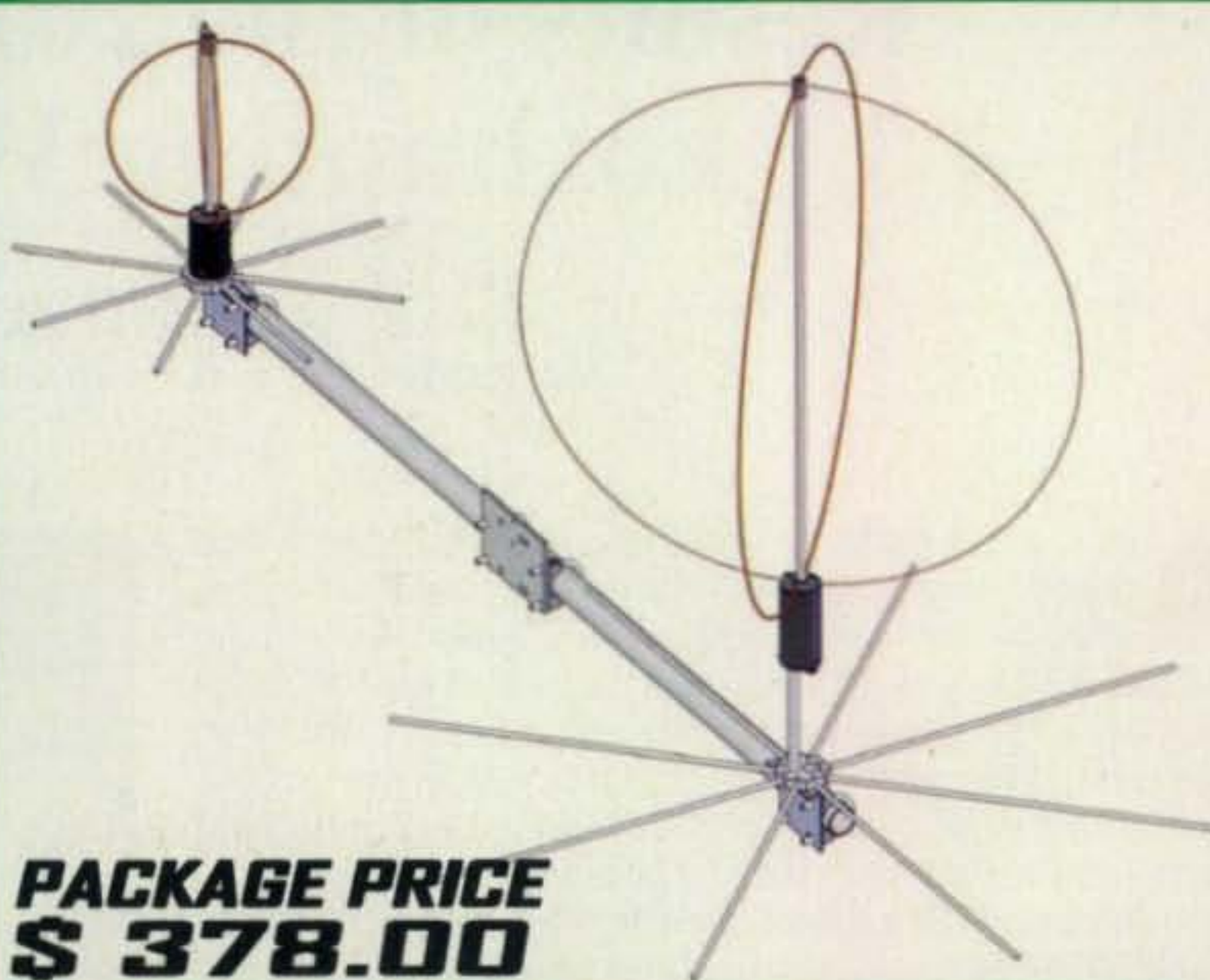
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## The 14th Annual CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend May 14–15, 2011

*Plus*

## Results of the 2010 CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend

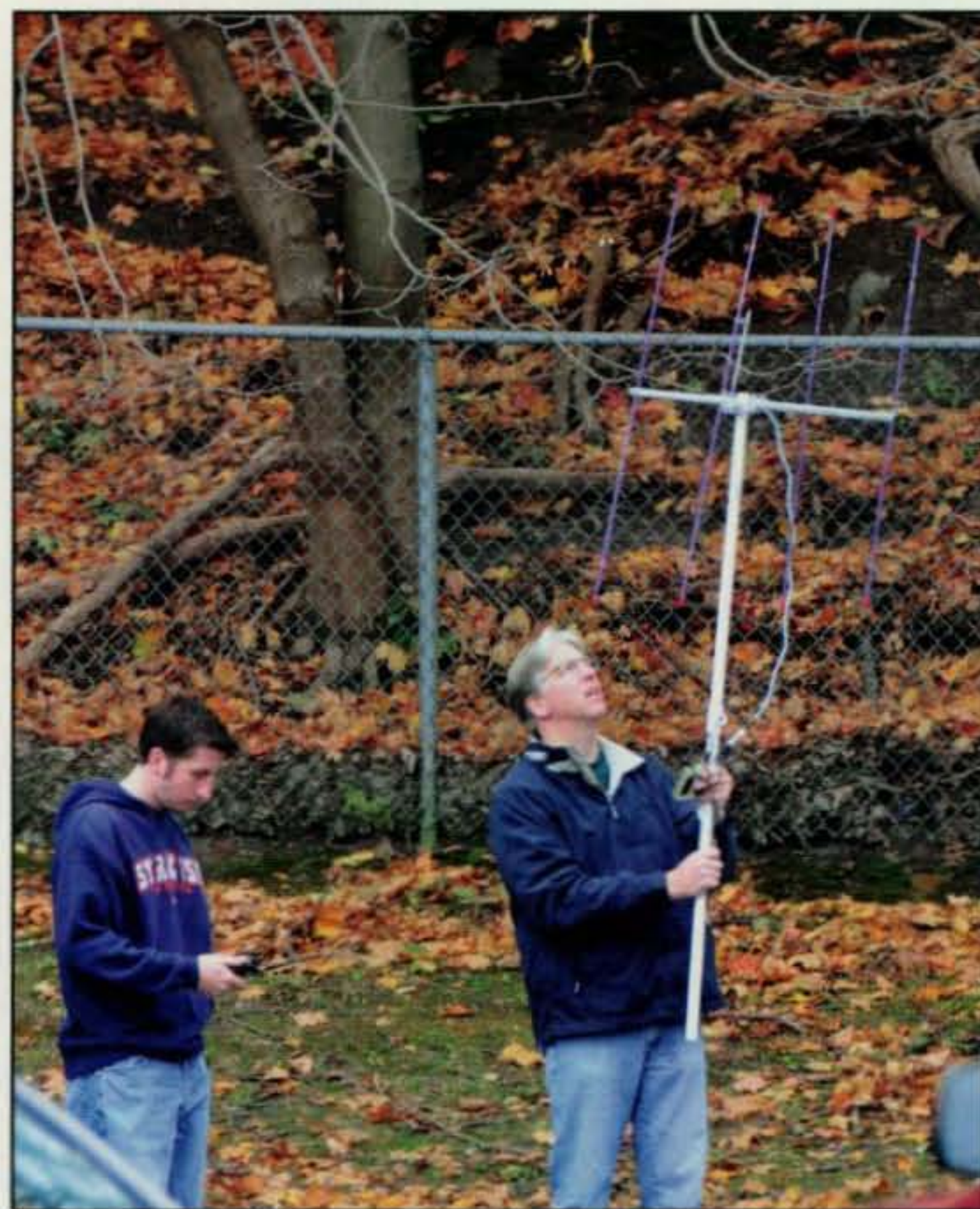
BY JOE MOELL,\* KØOV  
Moderator, CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend

**“A**fter each foxhunt here in west Michigan I find myself driving away thinking, ‘What a blast! This was the best hunt yet!’” Those were the enthusiastic words of Mike Hill, W8DER, as he posted the results of a hidden transmitter hunt in the Wolverine State. “And then the next one comes along and it is just a little better yet.”

Every year during the CQ World-Wide Foxhunting Weekend hams discover and rediscover the fun of using radio direction finding (RDF) techniques to track down transmitters that their fellow hams have put in unusual places for them to try to find. How this search for radio signals came to be called “foxhunting” is for the historians to fret about, but don’t worry, no furry critters are being harmed.

As always, my 2010 Foxhunting Weekend announcement brought a big batch of reports about hams having fun. Rules were determined locally, so few hunts were alike, except for the on-foot radio-orienteeing events that follow standard rules of the International Amateur Radio Union. As you prepare for Foxhunting Weekend 2011, read on to find out how groups of your fellow hams had a blast doing transmitter hunting all last year.

Radio foxhunting in cars is often called T-hunting. W8DER was raving about a T-hunt that was put on by Sheila Bosscher, K8AJ. He wrote: “Sheila picked a hiding place that shocked most of us who are used to finding the fox in an obvious ham vehicle in a public park, cemetery, or on a country road. Instead, her lair was a playground park in an upscale residential neighborhood. Surrounded by a row of tall pine trees, a lake, and a metal container, she sat in the back seat



Brian Donovan, K2AS (holding antenna), and his son Greg are regulars at Xerox Amateur Radio Club foxhunts. They were winners on this hunt in 2010. (Photo by Bob Scott)

\*P.O. Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837  
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of a borrowed car. Although it was adjacent to the residential street, it was only visible for an instant as we passed by. We were tipped off by the smallest of black magnetic antennas on the roof."

Where was Sheila's OM, Tom, K8TB? He was one of the hunters, testing his new Doppler RDF system. The other teams were using 2-meter Yagis or cubical quads on their vehicles. They had started out from a parking lot in Holland, Michigan after writing down their odometer readings. The winner would be the one who had the fewest elapsed miles from there to K8AJ's location. That turned out to be the team of Laryn Lohman, K8TVZ, and Ike DeWitt, K8EMU. Time of arrival didn't matter, except that there was an overall two-hour time limit.

At the start, each hunting team was given a packet of sealed envelopes, each labeled with a time when it could be opened. Inside each was a clue such as the one for 8 PM that read, "Hope you're not heeding Horace Greeley's advice tonight." If any of the teams had indeed been following Greeley's urging to "Go west, young man," they would have been in Lake Michigan by then!

Most ham radio foxhunts take place on weekends, but this Michigan group prefers to do it on Tuesday evening, starting at 7 PM and ending in time to get together for supper or dessert at a local restaurant. Often the hider stays with the transmitter and makes regular voice transmissions with taunts and clues. This night, Sheila saved her voice and used a PicCon fox controller board<sup>1</sup> to key the transmitter and send random tones at regular intervals.

Such a controller in an unattended foxbox can add difficulty to the hunt, as it did for the Murgas Amateur Radio Club of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Hider John Mehalick, W3MTP, had scouted several locations in advance for Foxhunt Weekend, but he left it to his son Nathan to make the final choice. Nathan's answer was "How about in the hollow log by the river?"

In his report John wrote: "This log is under the Pierce Street Bridge. A big tree had been cut down in 4-foot sections and the center of one section was rotted out. Nathan and I put the box in a tree section that was not facing the road."

W3MTP continued: "The log was off First Avenue near the new boat launch on the Kingston side of the Susquehanna River. The transmitting antenna was a J made from 450-ohm ladder-line. It and the coax were painted hunter green and hung in the weeds next to the tree section. It was quite low and most of the signal was going under the Pierce Street Bridge."

To add to the intrigue, John placed an empty foxbox by the tire of his jeep as a decoy. He left his MFJ Antenna Analyzer transmitting at very low power on the fox frequency in the vehicle, hoping to confuse the RDF equipment of the hunters. Bob Michael, N3FA, was the first to arrive and had to kick the box by the tire to be sure it was not what he was looking for.

### Foxhunting, Geocaching, and Blackjack

Xerox Amateur Radio Club (XARC) holds two transmitter hunts each year. The first is in May for Foxhunting Weekend



Paul Gruettner, WB9ODQ, was huntmaster for the foxhunt at the annual AES Superfest in 2010. He also competed in the USA ARDF Championships in Ohio on Foxhunting Weekend, where he had to run through this creek on the way to the finish line in the 80-meter event. (Photo by Joe Moell, K0OV)

### 2011 CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend May 14-15

CQ magazine has designated May 14-15 as the CQ World-Wide Foxhunting Weekend and is encouraging all hams and radio clubs to hold hidden transmitter hunts. Since the primary objective is more hunt participation, we don't insist that your event be on that weekend. Any time in the spring is fine with us!

CQ doesn't impose any rules or offer any awards for the World-Wide Foxhunting Weekend. It's all up to you and the hams in your hometown. For many clubs, Foxhunting Weekend kicks off a season of regular transmitter hunts. For others, it's a special once-a-year event, like Field Day.

Some hams prefer formal transmitter hunts with carefully crafted boundaries, specifications for signal parameters, time limits, and so forth. Others are completely content with just having at least one signal to hunt. No need for any more regulations, they say.

Make your Foxhunting Weekend activities into a magnet for every club member. Better yet, include the whole community, especially young people. Invite a Scout troop to experience on-foot transmitter tracking or to ride along with the mobile hunters. Look for opportunities to incorporate foxhunting into Scout activities such as Camporees, Scout-O-Ramas, and Jamboree-On-The-Air. Seek out other youth groups that might be interested.

Whatever your club's RDF contesting style, be sure to keep safety in mind. Don't put transmitters where someone might be injured getting to them. Make sure that all transmitting and receiving antennas are eye-safe. Always be mindful of your own physical limitations and never take chances behind the wheel.

Afterwards, write up the results and send them to me. The list of information in a complete CQ Foxhunting Weekend report is posted at my web site: <[www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com)>. Besides the details of date, location, hiders, and winners, CQ's readers also want to know what was unique about your hunt and what lessons (positive and negative) you learned from it. Don't forget to include some sharp action photos. The higher the resolution, the better.

—73, Joe, K0OV



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*Ski Country Amateur Radio Club held its annual picnic and foxhunt at the home of Pat Scully, K0VK, near Glenwood Springs, Colorado. This year's hunt was unusual because after finding this old metal tub, hunters had to determine which of the identical containers inside held the miniature transmitter. Bob Ludtke, K9MWM, and Phil Krichbaum, N0KE, were the winners. (Photo by Bob Cutter, KI0G)*

and the second is on a Saturday in October before the weather gets too cold. John Dickason, N2JAC, and Bob Scott won the 2010 spring hunt and set out to put on an unusual and challenging event in the fall. In their announcement, they gave it the following mysterious title "Geofoxblackcachehuntjack."

"While scouting for hiding spots, I forgot to turn off my APRS beacon," John wrote. "So I was worried that someone might have noticed me driving around the finish area weeks before the hunt. Fortunately, nobody did."

"The starting point was Spring Lake Park in Penfield, where everyone practiced close-in hunting of the microfox that Fred Miller, WO2P, brought along. First-time hunter Bill Bukowski, KC2YPJ, got body-fade lessons and a chance to practice his technique, which would prove to be quite valuable later."

"The official hunt began with an index card revealing the first fox frequency



*In San Luis Obispo, California, the Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club held an international-rules 2-meter foxhunt on the campus. Before the hunt, members built measuring-tape antennas and offset attenuators in one of the labs. (Photo by Sam Vigil, WA6NGH)*

and advising hunters to not give away the fox's location once found. Five teams were up to the challenge and within 20 minutes, all had found the first fox transmitter in a tree near the creek in the park. There, each received a card that had coordinates to a geocache, the frequency of the main hidden transmitter, and instructions to take a playing card from each of the two locations to build a blackjack hand.

"As the day got warmer and sunnier, all five teams drove to Durand Eastman Park near the golf course, where they found the geocache and got their first playing card. By design, the second fox signal was not detectable from the start, but from the geocache, all teams heard it and began their second RDF activity. 'Foxhunt adrenaline' adversely affected a couple of teams that day. One hunter left an antenna at the start and had to meet up with the huntmasters to retrieve it, causing a delay of several crucial minutes. Another hunter was closing in on the second fox when he locked his keys in his car."

"Teams then followed their bearings southwest while listening for clues on the XARC repeater every 30 minutes. In Gates Memorial Park, a 7-watt transmitter with a directional antenna was about 15 feet up in a tree. The back entrance to the park was accessible from Fox Run road, a fact that was not lost on the huntmasters, as the final clue was 'look for the fox in the street name.'

"Brian Donovan, K2AS, and his son came in first place with a perfect blackjack hand, an ace from the transmitter, and a king from the cache. Bill the rookie hunter bravely accepted my word in the invitation that the fox could be hunted with just an HT and a rubber-duck antenna. Using just his newly learned body-fade technique, Bill found both transmitters, a feat that not even some of the experienced teams could duplicate that day."

### Get Some Fresh Air

Every year brings more reports of Foxhunt Weekend events that are all on foot, no vehicles involved. They are a magnet for young people, because they reward physical ability instead of driving and street navigation skills. The magnet for adults is often food, such as the hot dog cookout after the second Fox-hunting Weekend hunt of the Gallatin Ham Radio Club of Bozeman, Montana.

Tom Lewis, AB5CK, reports that there were three hidden transmitters. One was in an underground service compartment for an irrigation system. He says that the signal had the hunters convinced that it was within the concrete and stone structure of the nearby drinking fountain.

Art Jury, KF7GD, put out a series of 2-meter transmitters on the beautiful University of Washington campus in early April. As he looked for them, Neil



Robin, WA7NBF, reminisced about his own college years. "It's been a long time since I had a chance to walk around these grounds on a nice spring day with cherry blossoms blooming," he wrote. "But talk about reflections! All of those tall beautiful stone-faced buildings, probably with steel frames. Most of my time was spent trying to separate direct signals from reflected ones."

"Since most of my hunts use horizontal polarization, I fell into the trap of assuming that all foxes were horizontal. Wrong. Most of these were vertical. I finally started testing the signals in both planes and noticed that the most reliable and stronger ones were vertical. I should have known better, and my advice to newcomers is to check both polarizations with their beams."

Rich Patrick, KR7W, organized a Foxhunting Weekend multi-fox event at Ft. Steilacoom Park southwest of Tacoma, Washington. At about a square mile, it is large enough for a very challenging hunt. According to WA7NBF: "It's a mixture of terrain, hills to more than 300 feet, plus flat land area. You can include Pierce College grounds to the west for a seamless transition. It has a lake which makes it interesting from reflections and finding out that you're on the wrong side! The terrain is a little more arid than the typical dense rain forests we usually have."

A park of that size is large enough for an official international-rules radio-orienting course. Championship Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) events take place in large forests with up to five transmitters to be found by each hunter, depending on age and gender. The start and finish are in separate locations. Total distance from the start to each of the five transmitters in optimum order and then to the finish is typically three miles or more. The five transmitters all are on one frequency in a five-minute cycle. First #1 transmits for a minute, then #2 for a minute, and so on, with #1 returning to the air after #5.

### Medals in Ohio

USA's 2010 championships of ARDF took place on Foxhunting Weekend near Cincinnati.<sup>2</sup> It attracted radio-orienters from 15 states plus representatives from Australia, Canada, Germany, and Sweden. Prior to the championship hunts on the weekend, were two days of optional ARDF training in other nearby woods.

Heading up the organizing effort were Bob Frey, WA6EZV, and Dick Arnett, WB4SUV. Both of them have collections of medals earned at previous USA

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Special certificates were awarded to winners of the Xerox Amateur Radio Club's Foxhunting Weekend event. (Courtesy John Dickason, N2JAC)

championships and each has represented the USA at the World Championships in 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2006. Assisting were members of the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society, Butler County VHF Association, and Orienteering Cincinnati.

Late in the afternoon before the 2-meter event, torrents of rain and hail buffeted the area for several hours. By starting time in Hueston Woods, the skies were cloudy, the trails were extra muddy, and the humidity was high. Besides mud all over their shoes, competitors crossed the finish line with mud on their knees, backsides, and faces as evidence of the unsure footing.

Sunday's 80-meter event was in the Miami University Natural Area, a patchwork of developed and undeveloped parcels with plenty of trails. The course-setters decided to spice up the contest by placing the finish corridor through Harker's Run, a creek that bisects the mapped area from north to south. The recent rains had doubled the water volume in the creek that day, but it was still crossable and a good way to wash the mud from pants and shoes.

Via the web, I learned of numerous other radio-orienteering events, including one in early May in Crescent Park, South Surrey, British Columbia. This well-attended session was organized by Amel Krdzalic, VA7KBA. Several of the attendees ended up on Team Canada for that country's first appear-

ance in the ARDF World Championships in Croatia in September.<sup>3</sup>

**Build Your Own**

In foxhunting, 2010 was the year of the antenna workshop. There were more opportunities than ever to build simple direction-finding equipment at hamfests and local hunts. Marvin Johnston, KE6HTS, and I put on three sessions in southern California parks where newcomers assembled kits for measuring-tape 2-meter antennas<sup>4</sup> and offset attenuators.<sup>5</sup> After that, there were beginner-level transmitters to find, plus a full-sized ARDF course.

Other clubs are picking up on the idea, including the Whitman (Massachusetts) Amateur Radio Club, which had a session of its School of Electronic Excellence devoted to building measuring-tape Yagis at the home of Ron Stundze, KB1OEQ. Project instructor was Bill Hayden, N1FRE.

On a sunny Saturday in May, members of the Amador Amateur Radio Club in California met at the American Legion ambulance training room to build and test foxhunting antennas from kits made up by Dave Nicholson, KB6PNT. According to Chuck Bland, NA6BR: "By noon, the antennas were complete. I disappeared with the fox to hide it and then the hunt was on. About 15 minutes later, George Cusack, K6GTC, was first on-scene and started looking on foot.





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Joseph Betz, KF3DI and Anthony Dennis, KB3PKW, are on their way to third and fourth place in the Foxhunting Weekend event of Murgas Amateur Radio Club in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. (Photo by John Mehalick, W3MTP)

About 10 minutes after that, others started to trickle in. This ended-up being a bit of a spectator sport, as the transmitter was hidden near the Argonaut High School FFA Pig Pen. Luckily for the hunters, it wasn't inside the fenced area."

Long-time hunter Paul Shinn, K6FRC, helped out and reported that all of the beginners found the hidden transmitter with no hints. He added: "The third team to arrive, screaming loudly as they pulled in the parking lot, were two girls whose names I did not get. They were just thrilled to beat all the boys! Their enthusiasm for their victory was hilarious."

There were also more opportunities last year to find foxes at hamfests and ARRL conventions. Paul Gruettner, WB9ODQ, reported: "For the past six years, AES has asked the Milwaukee Fox Hunt Club to hold a hunt on the back of their property during the Superfest. We typically have up to eight transmitters and give hunters one hour to find as many as they can."

Paul was huntmaster for this year's AES Hamfest hunt, putting out seven hidden transmitters. "What made it a real challenge this year is that several of the transmitters shared the same fre-

quency, although they were not transmitting at the same time," he wrote. "None of the hunters were able to find all of them. At the end of the hour of searching, Brian Jansen, KC9GMW, took first place honors, finding six of the seven. Bernie Gratz, WA9BFH, was a close second, finding four. Some were very difficult to spot, even when you were right on top of them. The one that was left unfound was tucked up inside the louvers of a ventilation fan."

### Try Something Different

If your club holds regular foxhunts and everyone has become quite proficient at it, why not provide a new challenge this year? For instance, instead of just one transmitter by one hider, give everyone a chance to hide. One participant starts out by hiding the foxbox. The first person to find it takes it and re-hides it somewhere else. First to arrive at the second fox location hides it a third time, and so forth. This variation goes by several names, including "progressive," "football," and "leapfrog" hunt. It's best to keep it simple by giving each hider only 10 or 15 minutes to find a new hiding spot.

How about a cooperative hunt, where all teams collaborate instead of compete? It's great practice to get ready for the need to rapidly track down interfering signals, either unintentional or malicious. Hold the hunt on a simplex frequency and have everyone exchange bearings and report their progress on a repeater.

Two meters is the most popular band for RDF contesting nowadays, but there are many other options. Loop or ferrite-rod antennas are compact, lightweight performers on 80 meters and are very easy for young people to carry. Kids can also tote a Yagi for the 440-MHz band more easily than one for 2 meters. Six meters or 10 meters might make a good change of pace for your next mobile hunt.

Consider adding some new technology, such as APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System). This was tried in the San Diego area on a hunt last summer, with several of the hunters' cars equipped to transmit their positions so that the hidden operator could see their progress toward him. Unfortunately, the huntmaster's setup had problems that kept him from receiving the packets well at his location, but the hunters could be seen in progress on the internet by their families at home.

Hams in the San Francisco Bay area tried a "parrot" hunt with a hidden "sim-

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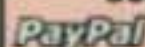
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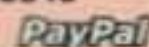
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A special Foxhunting Weekend cake by April Moell, WA6OPS, awaited finishers at an on-foot transmitter hunt in Placentia, California. A workshop for building measuring-tape antennas and offset attenuators preceded this hunt. (Photo by KØOV)

plex repeater" that recorded incoming short audio messages and then retransmitted them on the same frequency. This repeater fox was in the car of Linda Ferguson, KE6BEO, on top of Communications Hill in San Jose, about 14 miles from the hunt starting point. Co-conspirator Don Ferguson, KD6IRE, was in Boat Ramp Park with a transmitter and four-element beam, sending transmissions to the parrot fox from 12 miles away. In his report, KD6IRE explained: "The control fox would transmit for 10 seconds and then go off for 30 seconds while the parrot fox repeated the 10-second message and then went off. There would be 10 seconds of silence and the cycle would repeat. Any change in the control fox transmissions would be copied by the parrot fox."

A bunch of vehicles moving erratically with strange antennas on them will attract attention. Don't be surprised if people ask what you're doing. You can use it as an opportunity to tell them about amateur radio. Better yet, consider some local press publicity. OurLosBanos.com had a fine article that included a great series of photos from a hunt of the Los Banos Amateur Radio Club.<sup>6</sup> My favorite is the mast-mounted log-periodic antenna, complete with rotor, attached over the front license plate to the bumper of one hunter's T-bird.

I am eager to read your reports of 2010 foxhunting activities and the new ideas that you come up with. Happy hunting!

#### Notes

1. <<http://www.byonics.com/piccon/>>
2. Many more photos and stories of the 2010 USA ARDF Championships are in the "Homing In" column of *CQ VHF* magazine for Summer 2010.
3. Many more photos and stories about ARDF Team USA and the 2010 World ARDF Championships are in the "Homing In" column of *CQ VHF* magazine for Fall 2010.
4. <<http://www.homingin.com/equipment.html>>
5. <<http://www.homingin.com/joek0ov/offatten.html>>
6. <[http://www.ourlosbanos.com/stories/04142010\\_fox\\_hunt\\_lbarc.html](http://www.ourlosbanos.com/stories/04142010_fox_hunt_lbarc.html)>

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# Inexpensive SWR Measurements

Occasionally in the past we have presented various methods for making assorted measurements using inexpensive equipment or "bargains" bought on the internet. Continuing in that tradition, this month we would like to offer a couple of ways to achieve proper matching to an antenna without resorting to expensive equipment, a topic we chose based on questions we have received from readers. While simple, these circuits will allow you to not only achieve rough estimates of SWR, they will also allow you to get a reasonable match to an antenna. This should be of particular interest to the amateur on a budget. Although the various circuits are quite inexpensive, they are capable of doing a decent job.

Fig. 1 is a very simple way to assure that an antenna is properly matched without "tuning up" at full power (or measuring SWR directly), thereby disturbing anyone who happens to be on or near the desired operating frequency. The circuit consists of a simple bridge that will indicate when an antenna or antenna/tuner combination is at the proper setting to achieve a 1:1 SWR match (or at least a low SWR match). The circuit relies on a dummy load which dissipates most of the power produced by the transmitter. Loosely coupled to the load (through a 1.5K resistor) is a network of three resistors forming a bridge with the antenna serving as the fourth leg.

In operation the voltage at the junction of the two 100-ohm resistors is exactly half of the input voltage (at the top of the 1.5K resistor). The voltage at the junction of the 50-ohm resistor and the anten-

na will also be at half the input voltage but only when the impedance of the antenna matches 50 ohms. As a result, at a "perfect match" the voltage across the bridge will be zero. At any other impedance there will be a voltage that is different and the meter will move away from zero. Also note that the meter is in a diode bridge so any offset voltage will deflect the meter in a positive direction.

When building the circuit, be sure to match each resistor in the bridge as closely as possible. The two 100-ohm resistors are not especially critical as to absolute value (they can be 5% resistors), but they must match each other as closely as possible (to at least 1%). The 50-ohm resistor, on the other hand, should be a 1% device (or better). You can select one from a bunch you may have on hand, or parallel two chosen 100-ohm resistors to get closer to 50 ohms. It would also be helpful if each of the resistors has a decent power rating of at least 1/2 watt.

The 1.5K resistor is used as a coupling resistor from the dummy load and should have a rating of between 3 to 5 watts if you intend to apply higher power to the bridge. The 1N34A diodes are germanium types, chosen for their low forward voltage drop. You might be able to get away with 1N4148-volt diodes, but then the power needed to operate the bridge might have to be too high. The 10K pot is used as a sensitivity control and can be replaced with a fixed value of 1K to 10K if the output power of your transmitter can easily be adjusted. The meter can be a low-cost 100- $\mu$ A full-scale instrument. Also note that the dummy load does not have to be built inside the bridge circuit, but can be connected externally to the input by means of a "T"-type connector.

\*c/o CQ magazine

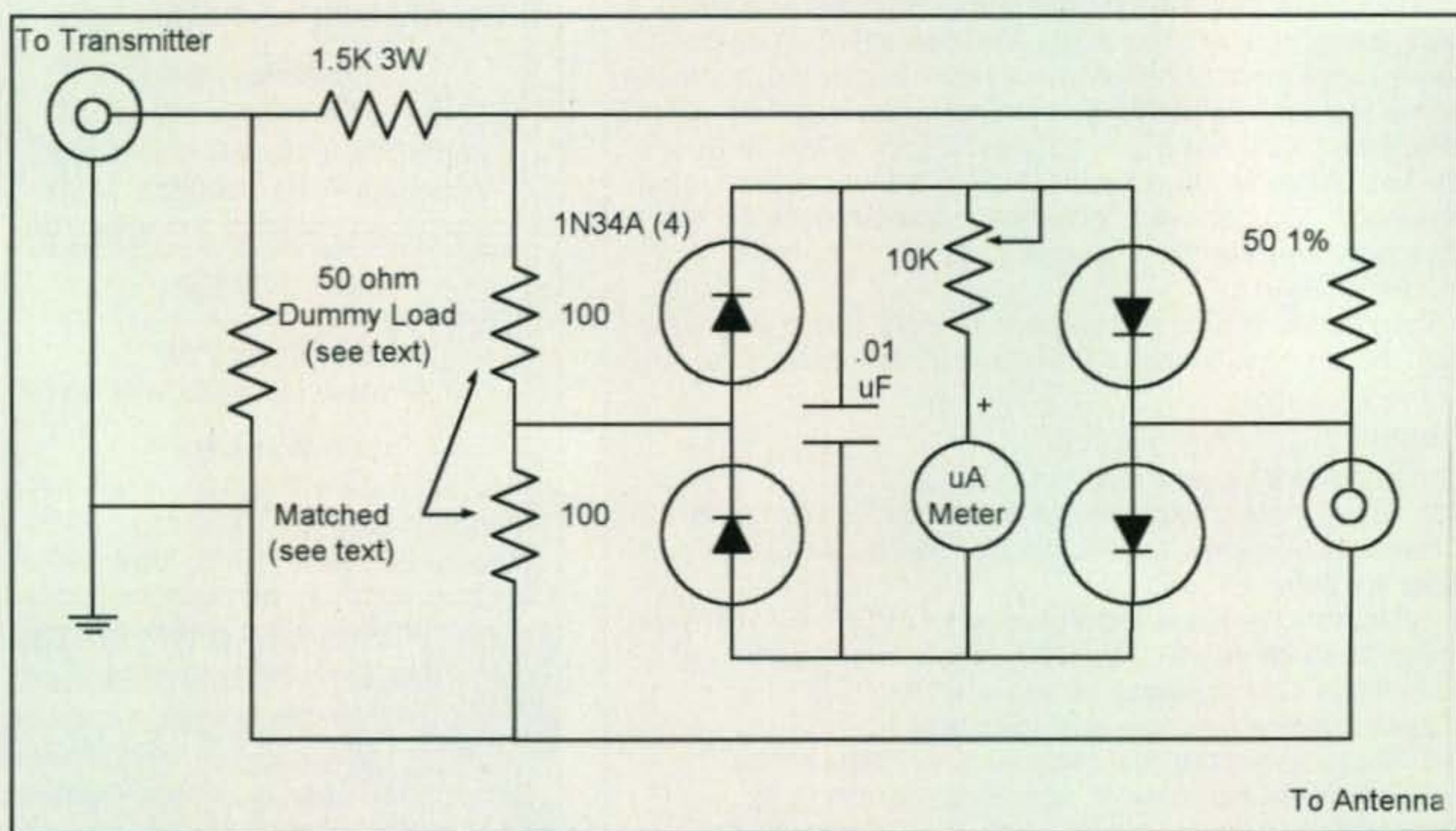


Fig. 1— Simple antenna tuning aid.

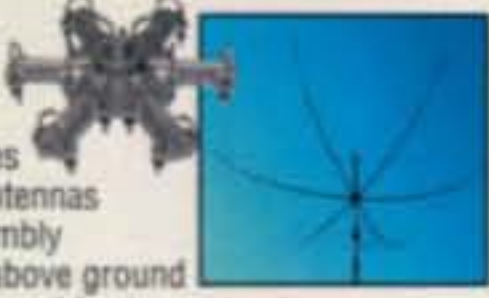


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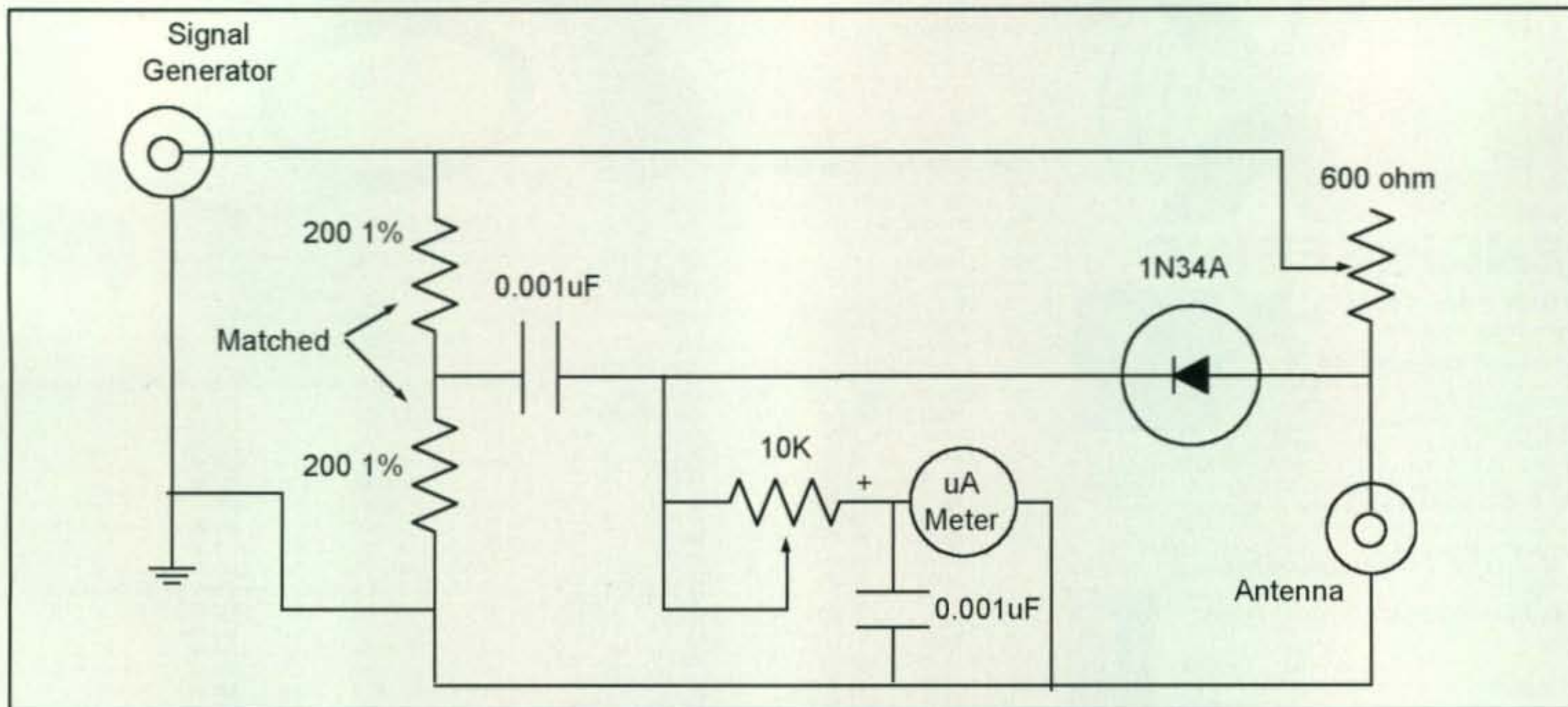


Fig. 2— Antenna impedance meter.

When using the bridge you simply need to connect the transmitter to the dummy load and to the input of the bridge (via the "T"). Then connect the antenna (along with whatever antenna tuner you might have) to the output of the bridge. Slowly adjust the output of the transmitter until you get a reading of about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  scale on the meter. Be careful to not apply too much drive or you may overheat the bridge resistors.

Now adjust your antenna tuner (if you have one) or whatever transmitter matching network you are using for a dip in the meter reading. If the meter pins during this operation, simply reduce the transmitter output. What you are looking for is a clearly noticeable dip (as you adjust the antenna matching), indicating the point of lowest possible SWR. In some cases there will never be a true zero reading, since stray coupling and capacitive and inductive reactance of the antenna will always produce some offset.

If you wish to see what this might be under actual SWR conditions, first replace the antenna with a 50-ohm resistor. The meter should now show no deflection (or at least very little), as the SWR is 1:1. Now replace the 50-ohm resistor with a 75-ohm resistor. This will produce an SWR of 1.5:1 and a subsequent meter reading. Finally, replace the 75-ohm resistor with a 100-ohm resistor. This will produce an SWR of 2:1 and you will get an even higher reading. These three points should enable you to get a reasonable idea of where you are and what to expect from the circuit. Remember, this circuit is not really intended to be a precision SWR bridge, but rather simply a tuning aid. Once the antenna tuner is adjusted properly, remove the bridge and turn the transmitter to full power.

Fig. 2 is a little bit more elaborate at very little additional cost. It is a variation of the old Heathkit antenna bridge and has the advantage of being able to esti-

mate actual antenna impedance values. As you can see, this circuit is also a bridge, but in this case with a variable potentiometer as one leg. As in the circuit of fig. 1, the bridge will balance when the unknown impedance (in this case the antenna and tuner) is equal to the setting of the potentiometer. By providing a scale that matches the resistance of the potentiometer (and a knob with a pointer), you can simply adjust the pot for a null and then read the impedance directly from the scale.

To use this meter you must have an RF signal generator that covers the frequency range you wish to measure. You first set the generator to your desired operating frequency. Next you simply connect the antenna and adjust the potentiometer for a dip. The reading on the potentiometer scale (at the dip) is the impedance of the antenna at the generator's frequency. The accuracy of this device is probably only about 10–20%, but that is good enough for most applications. As in the first case, the 200-ohm resistors should be matched and the potentiometer should be a carbon or conductive film type. Wire-wound potentiometers will have inherent inductance and will compromise the accuracy of the unit. With the values chosen, impedances from 0 to 600 ohms can be determined.

I sincerely hope this is of interest to you and that you will not be afraid to try one of the circuits with your equipment. You will not only save some money, you might actually learn something in the process.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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

Our February survey asked about how you make your ham radio buying decisions. First of all, over 90% of the readers who responded have purchased at least one piece of ham gear in the past five years—71% within the past year and 21% one-to-five years ago. Only 6% had not bought any ham gear in more than five years.

Nearly one third of you (32%) made your most recent purchase of ham equipment online, while 24% ordered by phone, 22% went to a store and 19% bought their gear at a hamfest. Only 7% bought stuff at another ham's home or someplace else. Dealers continue to be your preferred source (65%) for buying gear, followed by private purchases from another ham (18%), direct from the manufacturer (15%), and other (1%).

Your primary consideration in deciding which radio to buy fell out as features (48%), followed by brand reputation and experience (30%), with price a distant third (16%). Recommendations from others did not play a significant role. Deciding *where* to buy your rig came down to dealer reputation (34%) and price (27%), followed by dealer knowledge about the radio (10%), ease of ordering (8%), dealer friendliness (7%), dealer inventory and service after the sale (5% each). In addition, 3% reported an "other" primary consideration and 2% do not buy from dealers (which means, of course, that 98% do!).

This month's free subscription winner is Harry Jones, N4CWP, of McLean, Virginia.

## Reader Survey May 2011

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

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

This month, we're going to repeat our survey from ten years ago on hamfests to see how much the answers change.

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

1. Have you ever attended a hamfest, convention, or similar ham radio gathering (not including operating events or club meetings)?
 

Yes .....	1
No .....	2
  
2. Which of the following have you attended at least once? (Circle all that apply)
 

Local club hamfest/swap meet .....	3
Regional hamfest .....	4
ARRL section, state or division convention .....	5
ARRL national convention .....	6
The Dayton Hamvention® .....	7
Other regional or national conference or convention (e.g., AMSAT or Visalia DX) .....	8
None .....	9
  
3. Which of the following do you attend regularly? (Circle all that apply)
 

Local club hamfest / swap meet .....	10
Regional hamfest .....	11
ARRL section, state or division convention .....	12
ARRL national convention .....	13
The Dayton Hamvention® .....	14
Other regional or national conference or convention (e.g., AMSAT or Visalia DX) .....	15
None .....	16
  
4. What are your usual reasons for attending hamfests? (Circle all that apply)
 

To shop for equipment and accessories .....	17
To sell equipment and accessories .....	18
To attend forums and talks .....	19
As a social event .....	20
To help as a volunteer .....	21
Do not attend hamfests .....	22
  
5. Which *one* statement below best reflects your feelings about hamfests?
 

"I go to hamfests to browse, even if there's nothing particular that I need." .....	23
"I go to hamfests to buy; I know what I want and go home if I don't find it." .....	24
"I go to hamfests to sell, and might bring something new home with me as well." .....	25
"I go to hamfests to socialize, and if I happen to see something I like, I'll buy it." .....	26
"I go to hamfests mostly for the forums; I'm not really interested in buying or selling." .....	27
"I don't go to hamfests." .....	28
  
6. How did you feel after leaving the hamfests you've attended recently?
 

Generally exceeded expectations .....	29
Generally met expectations .....	30
Generally did not meet expectations .....	31

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



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## Dayton's "Amateur of the Year"—EmComm

**R**ecognizing that a lack of equipment and ability were insurmountable barriers at the time, Shirley Roberts let her license lapse many years ago—dropping out of amateur radio. However, in 1986 the encouragement of friends brought her back. Now, 25 years later, N8LX finds herself the 2011 Dayton Hamvention® Amateur of The Year. EmComm, not surprisingly, played a role in her selection.

"This prestigious award goes to an amateur who has demonstrated significant contribution to amateur radio as well as related public service," the Hamvention® announcement noted. "Shirley exemplifies all of the deepest aspects of this award."

Like so many radio amateurs, while Roberts sees public service as an inherent responsibility, it is not an all-consuming pursuit to her. She eagerly serves when called upon, and N8LX has a portfolio that shows it.

Well more than a decade ago, during a conversation on the Fairfield (Ohio) Amateur Radio Association's 145.19 FM repeater, Roberts noticed the fellow on the other end was having some sort of problem. "He was a trucker and he told me he had a toothache he hadn't done anything about. He was starting to get incoherent and had pulled off the road." *But what road?*

In order to get him help, Roberts, of Dayton, knew she'd need to determine his location. The 145.19 machine was a wide-area repeater, so he could be virtually anywhere in the Dayton-Fairfield-Cincinnati area.

"I had an outside antenna," Roberts recalled, "and could hear him on the repeater's input. From that, and from the vague description of the area he gave me, it meant he wasn't too far away from me."

She called a ham acquaintance who was good at direction finding—DFing. "By the time we were done (talking), he'd decided to go out and try to find this trucker," Roberts recalled. "He got several other (DFers) involved."

By the time the ailing driver was found, "he was losing his faculties," Roberts said. "He'd driven into some bushes along an exit off a main highway," so it was fortunate the DFers were able to find him.

The trucker ended up in the hospital. "He wasn't there very long," Roberts said. However, everyone seemed to think her actions, and those of the DFers, could well have saved his life. "I'm glad I started talking on the repeater with him when I did," she said.

According to her *bio*, Roberts, who is sight impaired, served as a SKYWARN® liaison, as well, handling preliminary check-ins while net control operators were enroute to a communications command center.

"On one occasion, she agreed to be the net control during a flood—a circumstance that she assumed would be brief," her *bio* noted. "The



*Shirley Roberts, N8LX, was a two-fisted communicator when this photograph was taken, a handie-talkie in each hand. Her public service and emergency communications experience were part of the criteria on which she was selected the 2011 Dayton Hamvention® Amateur of the Year. (Courtesy of N8LXK)*

event resulted in many hours over a three-day period. Because this was her first time conducting a net, it was a *hands-on* learning experience."

Roberts was so successful in handling the flood emergency, "she was asked to be an ARES® net control. For her net control activities, she used a Braille PDA (personal digital assistant) to keep track of callsigns and other net information."

She is an active member of the American Council of the Blind Radio Amateurs and a member of QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association). Additionally, she holds life memberships in the American Radio Relay League and Handihams®.

Roberts graduated from Meadowdale High School in Dayton, going on to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in social work from Wright State University. She is president of ACB-Diabetics in Action, a national organization providing support and information for blind and visually impaired people with diabetes. Roberts is on the board of directors of the American Council of the Blind of Ohio, as well.

N8LX will receive the Amateur of the Year Award at the 2011 Dayton Hamvention®, which runs from May 20–22 at the Hara Arena.

### SKYWARN® Operators on the Storm Front and in the Paper

"In the *Orlando Sentinel*/Lake County edition there is a nice article by Kerri Anne Renzulli about ama-

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



teur radio's involvement in SKY-WARN®," wrote Ted Luebbers, K1AYZ, Lake County, Florida Amateur Radio Emergency Service® public information officer.

The February story, focusing on how SKYWARN® assists the National Weather Service, "resulted from a news release that I sent (in January)," he said. "She called me for an interview and we had a discussion about amateur radio and what took place during the SKY-WARN® net. I also suggested she get in touch with Scott Spratt of the NWS in Melbourne, which she did. This should help us have a good turnout for the upcoming SKYWARN® classes." *Indeed.*

Headlined "Amateur Radio Spotters Swing Into Action During Weather Emergencies," Renzulli's story told *Sentinel* readers, "the spotters comprise the Lake County ARES®, who volunteered most recently during (a January) storm when 'straight-line winds' gusting from 60 to 70 mph damaged 30 homes in Groveland."

"The NWS in Melbourne is using Doppler radar to look at large areas in the sky," Luebbers was quoted as saying. "They can't see what is going on down my street. . . . From my location, I might be able to spot something they missed or indicate where a front is moving that would allow them to warn a community."

Lake County SKYWARN® has a robust history of jumping into the action when storms rip through this region of central Florida, which is prone to severe weather. The January 25 storm cited in the *Sentinel* story gives a fine example—a giant weather system packed with violent thunderstorms, high winds, heavy rain, hail, and tornadoes.



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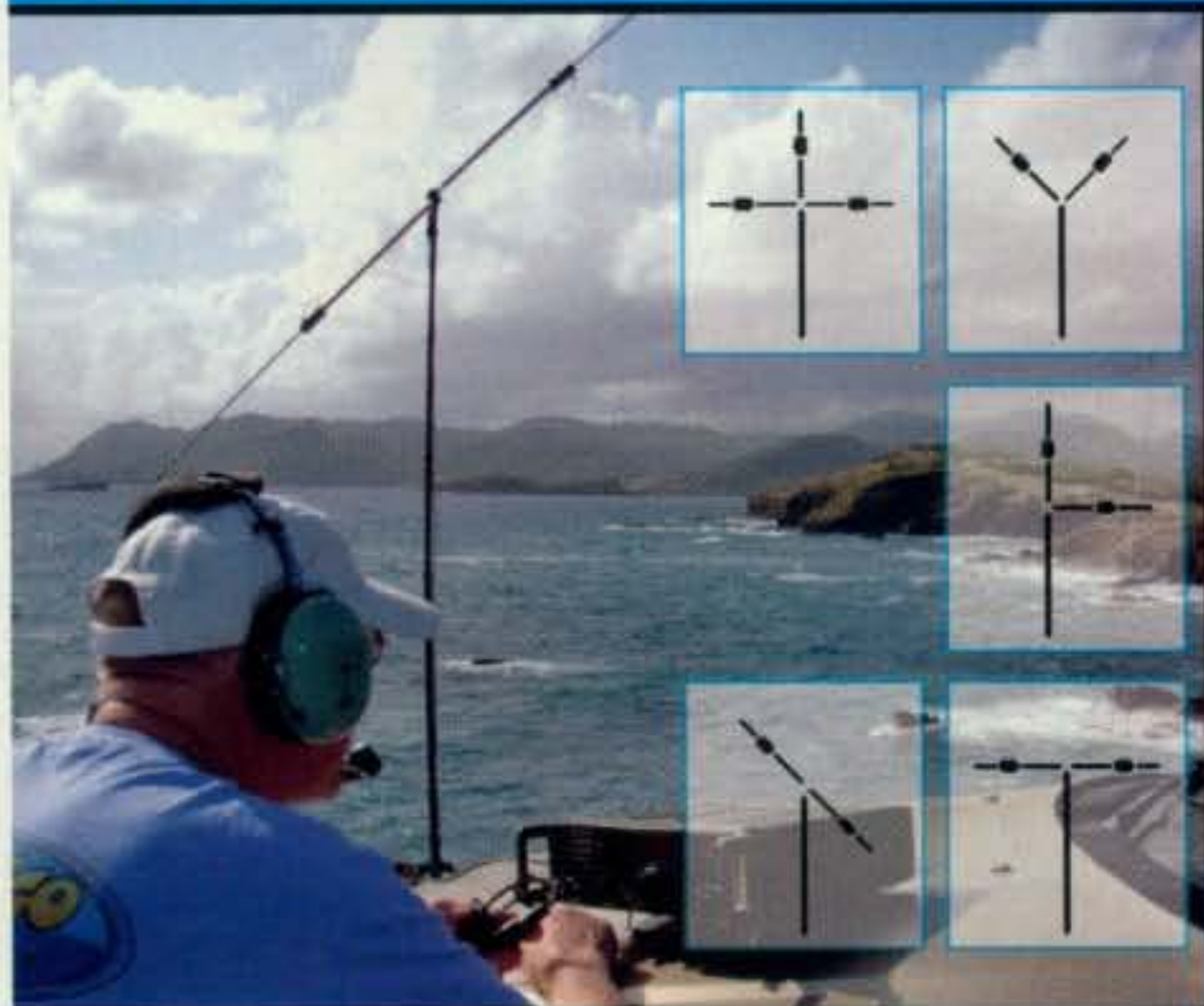
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As the front rolled in, SKYWARN® operators rolled out.

"At 2:10 PM, Emergency Coordinator Strait Hollis, KT4YA, activated the Lake County ARES® radio net, which stayed on the air until 7:20 PM to report adverse weather conditions in Lake County neighborhoods," Luebbers said. Forty-five radio amateurs from Lake County and surrounding areas checked into the VHF net and stood by until the dangerous storm had passed.

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## Amateur radio spotters swing into action during weather emergencies

By Kerri Anne Renzulli, CORRESPONDENT  
February 23, 2011

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Topics

### Health Spotlight

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**Florida Agriculture commissioner wants to take over school cafeterias**  
A few months after asking education leaders to hold off on banning flavored milk in public schools, Florida's agriculture commissioner is...



**Health Central hospital in Ocoee decides to partner with Orlando Health**  
Health Central, one of the last remaining independent hospitals in Central Florida, decided Tuesday to partner with Orlando Health in a...

The Orlando (Florida) Sentinel newspaper's website featured a story about SKY-WARN® activities after a severe weather front moved through Lake County in the central part of the state in January. (Orlando Sentinel web page)



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"It appears that a tornado may have touch down in Groveland," Luebbers said. Scott Spratt, a meteorologist from the National Weather Service, sent investigators to the area to verify the suspicion. "Damage to dwellings and trees had been reported in that area. The SKYWARN® net received reports of heavy rain, high winds, and downed power lines."

"Many of the Lake County amateur radio operators have become trained NWS SKYWARN® Weather Spotters to become qualified to report dangerous weather conditions," Luebbers said. For more information on SKYWARN®, visit the organization's internet site: <<http://www.skywarn.org>>.

(To see the full Orlando Sentinel web story "Amateur radio spotters swing into action during weather emergencies," visit: <<http://bit.ly/evF7Jo>>.—ed.)

## Story: Georgia Hams are "More and More of a Resource"

Under the headline 'Hams' Play Big Part in Tracking Storms, radio amateurs in Hall County, Georgia, got accolades

from the region's fire chief for playing "a key role in many places in Georgia when events such as snowstorms occur."

"Hall County relies on a network of more than 30 amateur radio operators in times like these, according to fire chief David Kimbrell, who also serves as the county's Emergency Management Agency director," the AccessNorthGA.com internet story by Editor Ken Stanford noted on January 11.

"There are 36 spotters located throughout the county with amateur radio operators (who) are keeping us abreast of the weather conditions," Kimbrell was quoted in the story. "They've been around a long time and they're just becoming more and more of a resource."

Kimbrell said the radio amateurs, who serve the Gainesville region, "feed infor-

mation from individual locations to Hall County's Emergency Operations Center, helping track a storm all the way through the county," adding: "They were instrumental in helping track Sunday night's snowstorm (January 9). They alerted the Emergency Operations Center when the snow started in South Hall and relayed messages as it began in other places."

According to its website, Hall County Fire Services "protects 394 square miles, with a population of over 173,000."

(AccessNorthGA.com can be visited at: <<http://www.accessnorthga.com>>—ed.)

## ... On the Other Hand

This, from Cincinnati.com posted January 31: "Tonight's weather-spotter

## Hams Support Christchurch EmComm Effort After 'Quake

Radio amateurs providing disaster communications in Christchurch, New Zealand were "extensively supporting the urban rescue operation" following the devastating earthquake that struck February 22, according to Stuart Smart, ZL4FZ, of the region's Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC).

"There (were) about 250 staff in the field and all of that communication (was) coming back through AREC," Smart reported.

In early March, rescue efforts were shifted to a recovery phase, according to a report from Jim Linton, VK3PC, chairman of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 3 Disaster Committee. Christchurch Mayor Bob Chapman announced the change, with a death toll at

161 and 200 people missing, the report, posted on the Southgate Amateur Radio Club website, said.

Under arrangements with New Zealand Civil Defense and Emergency Management, AREC members are trained in disaster response, Linton said. "Operations have been confined to VHF frequencies and avoided use of HF (high frequency) channels identified for that purpose."

"Some 67 percent of affected people have had water supplies restored, and even fewer are reconnected to the sewer, while 27,000 are without power," Linton reported in early March. "The Minister of Civil Defense declared a State of National Emergency which (had) been extended until midnight March 7."

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The screenshot shows the AccessNorthGA.com website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "SEARCH: AccessNorthGa.com The Web" and a "search" button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with links for HOME, NEWS, SPORTS, WEATHER, COMMUNITY, CLASSIFIEDS, EXTRA, media center, and my access. Underneath the navigation menu are links for LOCAL & STATE, OBITUARIES, BUSINESS, POLITICS, AP GEORGIA HEADLINES, AP TOP HEADLINES, and US NEWS. The main content area displays a news article titled "'Hams' play big part in tracking storms" posted on Tuesday, January 11th, 2011 at 2:00 PM. The article is by Ken Stanford, Editor. The text of the article is partially visible, matching the text in the main body of the page. At the bottom of the article, there are links for EMAIL STORY, CONTACT EDITOR, PRINT, and BOOKMARK.

AccessNorthGA.com Editor Ken Stanford wrote an article highlighting how Hall County (Georgia) fire officials were assisted by radio amateurs around Gainesville when a rare snow blanketed the region. (AccessNorthGA.com web page)



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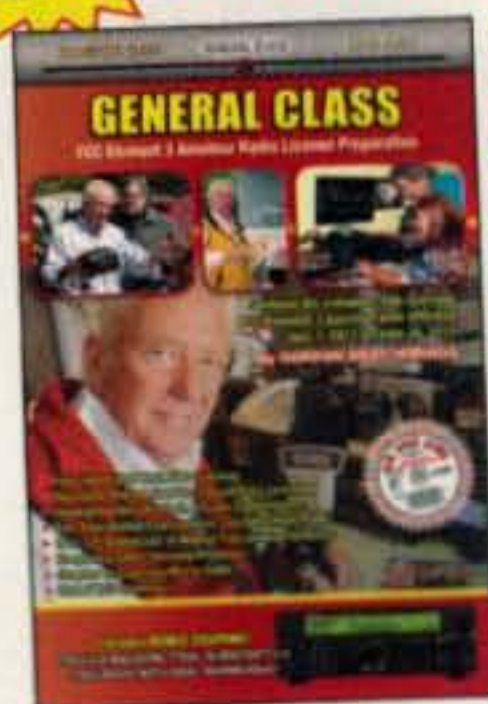
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An informational booth introducing the three Military Auxiliary Radio System branches—Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps—was quickly put together for the National Guard Bureau's 2011 Domestic Operations Conference outside Washington, DC in January. MARS members, many of whom are radio amateurs, have assisted in emergency communications both in the United States and beyond its borders. For the full story on MARS' participation in the conference, see the April edition of WorldRadio Online magazine free on the web at: <<http://www.WorldRadiomagazine.com>>. (Photograph courtesy of N4WWL)

training class at New Richmond High School has been canceled because of a forecast of bad weather."

At the time, a nasty frontal system was moving through the Ohio Valley, bringing freezing rain to the region, according to meteorologist Mary Jo Parker of the National Weather Service. The school is about 25 miles east of downtown Cincinnati.

"We want to provide our citizens with a safe training program and will reschedule this weather-spotter training class at a later date," Beth Nevel, director of the Clermont Emergency Management Agency, was quoted in the story. "... we need our citizens to be careful when traveling and be extra cautious of possible icy road conditions."

(Safety first, spotter classes later—a good plan.—ed.)

### Study: Social Media will Play Increasing Role in EmComm

A former contributing editor for *Homeland Protection Professional* and *Science Spectra* magazines and writer for the internet site Homeland1 says EmComm "has become more than a static, one-way link between command elements."

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*Tweet this:* "Emergency communications takes on new partner," by Doug Page and published on the Homeland1 website, cites a study that "looks at the role of the public as a participant in the process of emergency communications through the vehicle of social networking." A secondary headline for his piece notes: "Rise of Twitter and other social media boosts public's role as participant in the emergency communications process."

The study results, "which appeared in a 2010 issue of the *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*," Page writes, "proposes a four-channel model of communication, incorporating newer mobile technologies such as cell phones and internet-based tools like Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, and Google Maps as a way to build a more robust emergency management communication structure than currently found in command centers for large-scale emergencies."

"Emergency response agencies and emergency managers must begin to view the public and media as partners in providing information for collective problem-solving," Laura Pechta, of the

Department of Communication, Wayne State University, said in Page's article.

Pechta noted that "the increasing use of social media in public-to-public communication during crises and disasters puts the public now at the center of a crisis, conveying important information and response needs," Page said.

"The application of new social media or Web 2.0 technologies increases the speed and richness of information shared across groups," Pechta said in Page's story. "Monitoring and use of these approaches by agencies will be necessary to maintain the most up-to-date and robust information to make decisions and respond to ongoing disasters."

(To see Doug Page's full Homeland1 story, visit <<http://bit.ly/dQMfdE>> on the Homeland1 website.—ed.)

That's it for this time. Do you or your emergency preparedness group have a story to share with CQ readers? If so, please contact me at the snail mail or e-mail address listed on the first page of this column. Until next month . . .

73, Richard, KI6SN

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As expected, Conklin wrote, "the devastating tsunami waves impacted the coast and did an estimated \$15 million damage to Santa Cruz Harbor. More than 100 boats—including fishing vessels, pleasure boats and yachts—were either damaged or sunk as a result of the waves.

"Santa Cruz was not alone in receiving significant damage as a result of the powerful waves," he added. "Crescent City, located approximately 500 miles north of Santa Cruz, also received heavy damage causing California Gov. Jerry Brown to declare these areas disaster zones. One person died as a result of being swept out to sea with the high waves."

### In Space: EmComm Help from Above

Meanwhile, the International Space Station digipeater was made available on 145.825 MHz to handle Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) traffic in the Japanese disaster area.

"A power outage has affected the Pacific side of some of the northeast region (JA7) of Japan. This has meant APRS mobile activity in this area—such as the Wakayama Red Cross JA3FRI-12—cannot be seen," the Southgate ARC website reported.

"Following a request from Japan, (APRS developer) Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, posted a notice to the AMSAT Bulletin Board regarding the availability of the ISS AX.25 Packet Digipeater for APRS use:

"We have advised ... that the ARISS APRS digipeater can be used over Japan. Any APRS operators in the affected area can switch to the ISS digipeater by simply changing frequency to 145.825. ISS is coming over Japan about six times a day in the afternoon.

"We hope the astronauts can be sure to keep APRS digipeater operating over Japan on 145.825. We hope that stations *not* in the disaster area monitor the ISS downlink for emergency traffic and can IGATE the downlink into the APRS Internet System."

### Amateur Radio Equipment Manufacturers Report Status

In the wake of the multiple disasters, concern quickly turned toward the status of the employees of amateur radio equipment manufacturers with facilities in Japan, and their families.

#### ICOM

Ray Novak, N9JA, ICOM America's Division Manager for Amateur and Receiver Products, in a statement said that no one on the company staff was known to have been injured as a result of the earthquake or tsunami.

The company's facilities suffered only minor damage, but interruptions were anticipated from vendors in ICOM's supply chain in the earthquake-tsunami zone and that other issues, such as rolling power blackouts, may slow production.

There was no damage "reported at ICOM's headquarters in Osaka or at either of our two main factories in Wakayama," the statement said. "Both Osaka and Wakayama are located far south of the most severely affected areas. ICOM did suffer some minor damage at our Tokyo and Sendai branch offices."

"Most of ICOM's facilities and systems are ready to get back to normal business," the statement continued. "However, supplier logistics, commuting issues and future power disruptions will affect our company. It is too soon to tell how big an impact the earthquake and its aftermath will have on ICOM."

ICOM's America's internet homepage is: <<http://www.icomamerica.com>>.

#### Kenwood

The president of Kenwood USA said the company's staff in Japan was safe and facilities there were undamaged. In addition, Junji Kobayashi said in a statement posted on the company's website <<http://www.kenwoodusa.com>> that there has been no impact on Kenwood's equipment production since its main factories are located in Malaysia.



*A packet digipeater aboard the International Space Station was made available for amateur radio APRS traffic from earthquake-affected areas of Japan when power outages on the ground made usual channels inoperative. (Courtesy of NASA)*

Kobayashi said Kenwood's corporate offices are south and west of the quake zone, but "power outages and interruption of mass transit have kept most of Kenwood's staff at home since the earthquake." However, he said, "we expect the infrastructure to improve in the coming week and our operations to fully resume accordingly."

"We appreciate the concern for our employees expressed by all those who have contacted us," Kobayashi added. He promised additional updates as conditions warrant.

#### Yaesu

On March 16, it was reported that production of Yaesu radios at Vertex Standard's factory in Fukushima, Japan, had been temporarily halted due to earthquake damage. All Vertex Standard employees and their families were said to be safe.

In an open letter to the amateur radio community, Vertex Standard CEO and President Jun Hasegawa expressed his gratitude for the many "kind words and thoughts about us during this difficult time." He reports that all Vertex Standard employees and their families are OK, although the company has not been able to reach its many dealers and subcontractors located near the coast. "We just hope that they are alive," he wrote.

Hasegawa also reported that the Yaesu factory in Fukushima suffered "minimal" damage from the earthquake but had been temporarily shut down nonetheless. He said he "expects it to be back in normal operation within one to two weeks and asks for everyone's understanding and cooperation."

However, some production of Yaesu amateur radio equipment continued, according to Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, Executive Vice President of Yaesu Amateur Radio Sales, who said in an item in the *CQ Newsroom* that "Yaesu also has a plant in China that is in full production."

Yaesu's website is: <<http://www.yaesu.com>>.

*(For updates on EmComm activity in Japan and the latest emergency traffic frequencies, visit the CQ Newsroom: <<http://www.CQNewsroom.blogspot.com>>. Also, watch for the June edition of CQ for an insight from former Eastern Pennsylvania Section Emergency Coordinator (and former CQ "Public Service" Editor) Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO, on whose watch U.S. radio amateurs responded during the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident in 1979.—ed.)*



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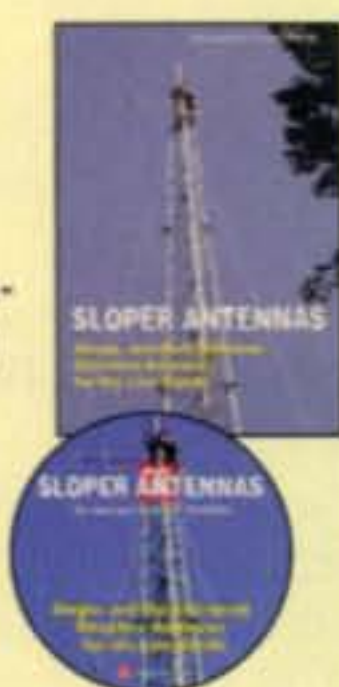
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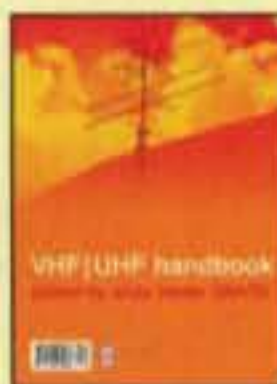


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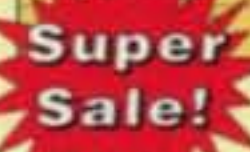


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## From the Mailbag: Answers to Your Amateur Radio Questions



**W**e constantly get letters and e-mails from our readers asking questions and seeking information about certain subjects of interest to ham operators. We save up the questions of general interest and every once in a while, we include them in one of our "mailbag" columns. It has been a while since we did this, so here goes.

**Q:** Bob, W8RID (Twinsburg, OH) writes: "If they let Extra Class VEs test Extra Class applicants, why can't General Class VEs administer General exams? Volunteer Examiners should be able to test up to the level of license that they hold."

**A:** Section 97.509 (b) of the rules specifically states:

"Each administering VE must:

(3) Be a person who holds an amateur operator license of the class specified below:

(i) Amateur Extra, Advanced, or General Class in order to administer a Technician Class operator license examination;

(ii) Amateur Extra or Advanced Class in order to administer a General Class operator license examination.

(iii) Amateur Extra Class in order to administer an Amateur Extra Class operator license examination.

So why does Sec. 97.509(b) allow Extras to test Extras, but Generals can't administer exams to Generals? You can blame Congress, not the FCC.

In the early 1980s, mainly due to budgetary constraints, a general trend towards privatization of government services developed at the FCC. In 1982, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation authorizing amateur radio operator license examinations to be prepared and administered by volunteer ham radio organizations. Up until that point it was illegal for individuals to perform work previously handled by federal employees.

On September 13, 1982, Congress approved an amendment to the Communications Act which provided for the use of volunteer examiners in the Amateur Radio Service. That new Section 4(f)(4)(A-B) reads:

"The Commission, for purposes of preparing or administering any examination for an amateur station operator license, may accept and employ the voluntary and uncompensated services of any individual who holds an amateur station operator license of a higher class than the class of license for which the examination is being prepared or administered. In the case of examinations for the

highest class of amateur station operator license, the Commission may accept and employ such services of any individual who holds such class of license."

That enabling legislation is crystal clear. VEs must hold a higher license class—if one exists—to examine applicants for a ham ticket. The FCC couldn't change that even if it wanted to. It requires a change by Congress.

**Q:** I understand it is unlawful to receive some over-the-air radio transmissions. Which ones are illegal?

**A:** Section 705 of the Communications Act covers "Unauthorized Publication of Communications." This section primarily deals with divulging and using radio communications and generally does not prohibit the mere interception of radio transmissions.

Section 705 prohibits a person from using an intercepted radio communication for his or her own benefit where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. To the extent these conversations are radio transmissions, there would be no violation of Section 705 if there were no divulgence or beneficial use of the conversation.

This means that if you inadvertently happen to overhear your neighbor's cordless telephone conversation or listen to radio transmissions on your radio receiver or scanner (such as from police radio or ship-to-shore radio telephone calls), you do not violate the Communications Act.

The Communications Act allows the divulgence of certain types of radio transmissions. The law specifies that there are no restrictions on the divulgence or use of broadcast radio transmitted to the general public. Also all transmissions by amateur or citizens band radio operators may be freely divulged.

The mere interception of some radio transmissions may constitute a criminal violation of other federal or state statutes. For example, interception of cellular calls is illegal. In the case of cellular phone calls, the law equates monitoring of a cellular phone call to divulgence.

This is true even though the transmission can easily be intercepted, since some older cellular radio networks still operate in the analog FM mode. The trend, however, is toward proprietary digital multiplex transmissions, which most radio receivers cannot interpret. You may, however, listen to all other non-encrypted, non-cellular communications.

Some states prohibit equipping a motor vehicle with a radio receiver or radar detector that is capa-

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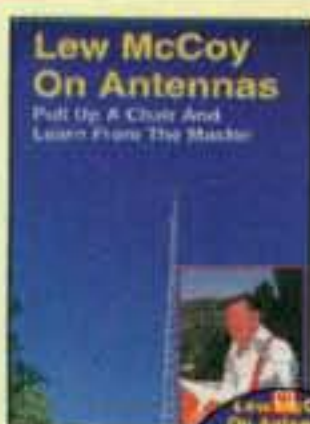






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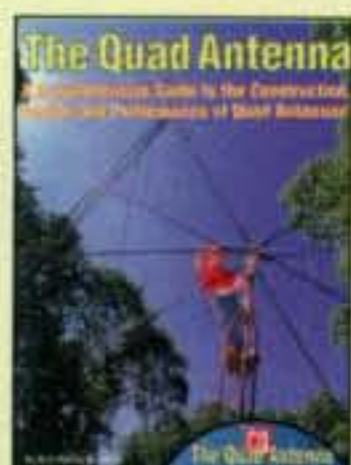
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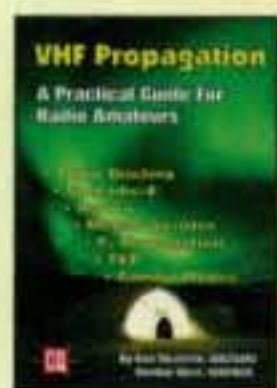


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**Q:** How can I get help about accessing and using the various FCC online services available to amateur radio operators?

**A:** All FCC services are accessed online by using your personal computer. While still available, the FCC is just about out of the paper business. Everything today is done over the internet.

First of all you need to bookmark this website on your computer: <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur>>. It is the doorway to the FCC's involvement in amateur radio. Here you will find links that will answer nearly all of your licensing, examination program, and callsign-system questions. More links explain how to complete common online electronic filing tasks such as changing your address, checking application status, renewing or replacing a lost license, and obtaining a vanity callsign.

At the bottom left side of this page are links to the Part 97 Rules and the Universal Licensing System. The ULS page has more links to system features and how to submit applications and search for licensing and application information.

You can talk to a live support person by calling the FCC's ULS hotline at toll-free phone (877) 480-3201, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM ET (except federal holidays.) "Help" requests can also be e-mailed to the FCC by filling out an online form located at <<https://esupport.fcc.gov/request.htm>>.

**Q:** Former CQ Contributing Editor Karl Thurber, W8FX (Millbrook, AL) writes, "I enjoyed your very detailed December 2010 CQ article, particularly the information on ULS and CORES. I am still somewhat confused by the relationships between ULS and CORES, especially since my license renewal was last made in 2003 and will be coming up again. Is it best to update CORES and ULS before processing our renewals, or does it make a difference?"

**A:** There is a lot of confusion about the COMmission REGistration System (CORES) and how ham operators are involved. Managed by the Office of Managing Director (OMD), CORES can be thought of as simply a listing (database) of all people (citizens and aliens) and companies that transact some sort of business with the FCC. Not just ham operators, everyone.

The CORES database includes the name, address, and tax ID number (usually a Social Security Number or Employer ID Number) of anyone filing applications or making payments to the FCC. Once registered, the CORES program generates a 10-digit Federal Registration Number (FRN). These publicly-available FRNs are used to identify entities rather than SSNs or EINs, which are never disclosed.

This number is used in all dealings to uniquely identify the entity in all transactions with the FCC. There are millions of applicants in the CORES database. You can't conduct "business" of any kind with the FCC without an FRN. Most ham operators get their FRN as a result of a batch filing by a VEC as part of the licensing process. The FRN can also be obtained electronically through the FCC webpage: <<http://www.fcc.gov/frnreg>>.

The Universal Licensing System (ULS) is a Wireless Bureau database containing a listing of all applicants that have some sort of permit, authorization, or license from the FCC. A Radio Service Code indicates the appropriate service. Regular amateur radio license holders are coded "HA," while vanity callsign holders are coded HV. There are more than a hundred different codes covering dozens of different radio services.

Both the CORES and ULS databases must be kept current by the applicant and basically contain the same information (name, address, telephone, etc). However, only CORES con-



tains the TIN (Taxpayer Identification Number.)

Most ham operators believe that once they update their FCC's Universal Licensing System listing they have fulfilled their obligation to keep their address current. This is *not* correct. The CORES database is separate from ULS and also must be updated. Strangely, correcting the ULS database does not update the CORES database. Both databases use the same FRN and password to access them. In reality, practically no one updates their CORES information even though the law requires them to do so.

In 2007, I submitted a petition to the FCC asking it to automatically update CORES when an applicant updates his/her ULS listing. On December 7, 2010, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM, MD Docket No. 10-234) seeking to make a number of significant changes to CORES. One of the changes being considered is my proposal. The comment period is now over and radio amateurs may only have to update ULS in the future, instead of both CORES and ULS. For now, though, you must still update both databases if you change your name or address.

**Q:** Does the amateur radio bill recently introduced into Congress stand a chance of passing?

**A:** I would like to think that it does, but I am less than hopeful. The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act, which died in the previous Congress, was reintroduced on January 5 in the 112th Congress as HR 81. The sponsor is Representative Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Similar legislation was introduced into and approved by the Senate last year, but the House declined to take it up.

The bill had dozens of co-sponsors last year. This year's bill is exactly the same as last year. So far (after one month) the bill has attracted only one co-sponsor.

The objective of the bill is for the Secretary of Homeland Security to study the uses and capabilities of amateur radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief and to identify and make recommendations regarding impediments to amateur radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations.

Private land uses are regulated by a complex, overlapping set of federal,

state, and local regulations, and Congress has shown little inclination to get involved in residential zoning ordinances, community standards, and contractual deed restrictions that were previously agreed to or known. CC&R's (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions) are difficult to repeal when there are a large number of neighbors. Even if the bill is approved, the legislation only mandates that a study be completed.

**Q:** What are CEPT and IARP amateur radio licenses?

**A:** In addition to the primary amateur radio operator license issued to an individual, there are two bilateral licenses that may be issued to non-U.S. citizens by foreign countries that are recognized by the U.S. The CEPT radio amateur license is issued by a country belonging to the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. An IARP (International Amateur Radio Permit) is issued by a (Caribbean, Central or South American) country that is a member of the Inter-American Convention (CITEL).

U.S. citizens holding a General, Advanced, or Amateur Extra Class amateur radio operator license may also operate temporarily in most European countries that are members of CEPT. There are also a few non-European nations that are members of CEPT—e.g., Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Peru, and South Africa.

All you need is a copy of the FCC's Public Notice, proof of U.S. citizenship, and a copy of your FCC license. These documents must be shown to proper authorities upon request. The Public Notice (printed in three languages: English, French, and German) and additional information on CEPT licensing can be found on the FCC's Amateur Service website.

U.S. citizens may operate temporarily in ten North and South American treaty countries under an IARP without further licensing. According to the CITEL agreement, an IARP is issued by a membership society of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). Applications are available from the ARRL, which also issues the permit. The permit describes its authority in four different languages.

There are two classes of IARPs. Class 1 carries all operating privileges. Class 2 IARPs are equivalent to our current Technician Class operator license.

Participating IARP countries are Argentina, Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela. 73, Fred, W5YI

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## May is Mobile Month

**H**am radio mobile operations are alive and well, from the robust "hilltopper" trucks to the most discreet "stealth" installation and everything in between. Ham gear and a vehicle go together like warm cookies and a glass of cold milk.

Don't think, either, that mobile operations pertain just to wheeled vehicles. Marine mobile operations are not only popular but have added benefits in the form of operator safety and a great mobile platform usually with no nearby obstacles, not to mention a great ground plane. Also, with a gracious private pilot's permission, I've had the thrill of operating aeronautical mobile, actually speaking with unsuspecting members of the family who I spotted driving along while I was floating above. I have also made a contact while riding the rails.

Other non-conventional platforms include a friend who chats while "bicycle mobile," another who operates "motorcycle mobile," but I have yet to bag a coveted contact with a unicycle or a skateboarder. After all, one has to have goals.

There's another form of mobile operations I find interesting and that is from unmanned conveyances such as ATV transmissions from model

aircraft, electric trains, and remote-control cars. Those pictures are now easier than ever to enjoy, as minicams and transmitters keep getting smaller and smaller. The first time I saw a model train camera I was blown away at the model scenery coming alive as the camera-equipped locomotive travelled along its route. I know those transmissions are technically "remote," but hey, if it moves, I consider it "mobile." Amateur radio is an amazing pursuit when you consider the many permutations and opportunities it offers.

### Coincidence?

The month of May is also "Dayton Month," which is a happy coincidence. If you can make it to the annual festivities at the Dayton Hamvention® (mobiling there, of course) you will be treated to the latest and greatest in terms of rigs, antennas, and accessories that will add to your operating enjoyment. However, if you cannot make the trip, you can still enjoy some of the benefits.

An increasing number of Dayton forums and activities are now available on the web, so be sure to check out that source. Also, many of the manufacturers and dealers celebrate the time of the Hamvention® by running "Dayton specials" with reduced prices at their stores nationwide, not just

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



*Motorcycle mobile using VHF is one thing, but how about a motorcycle mobile HF contact? The Yaesu crew at Dayton can tell you how it's done! (AA6JR photo)*



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for the fortunate few (thousand) at the Hara Arena. If you're considering a purchase, now would be the best time to ask your favorite vendor if there are any special "coupons" or promotions you should know about.

By checking the ads and articles in this publication, you'll probably see that there are several new products of interest to the mobile operator. Rigs are getting smaller, but the list of standard features continues to grow. Every major manufacturer offers rigs that have detachable control panels and displays, offering excellent flexibility in mounting your gear in today's vehicles.

As mentioned in previous columns, several vehicles now place the car's 12-volt battery in the trunk, making direct access to that power source easier and less complex than running cables through the firewall into the engine compartment. Combine that with a remote-head radio and a trunk-mount antenna, and you have a nice compact package with minimal wiring.

## What's New with Car Manufacturers?

Last time around I mentioned we'd try to get updates from the car manufacturers

on their policies for mounting mobile radios in their respective vehicles. I must admit I fell a bit behind on my communications with them, but I have since

addressed that—on my end. Hopefully, we'll get replies from all or most of the major auto makers, but my early efforts have not been promising. It would seem



*On one of my trips to Dayton I thought I might become a storm chaser, but instead I became the "chasee!" Be sure to inspect your antenna (and perhaps your underclothing) after an encounter with severe hail. (AA6JR photo)*





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## 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**

- RF Sensing
- Tunes Automatically
- No Interface Cables Needed



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**



## AT-600Pro

The AT-600Pro handles up to 600 watts SSB and CW, 300 on RTTY (1.8 – 30 MHz), and 250 watts on 54 MHz. Matches 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 it with longwires, random wires and antennas fed with ladder line just by adding a balun. Two antenna ports with a front-panel indicator, and separate memory banks for each antenna. LED bargraph meters shows 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**



## Z-11Proll

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

**Suggested Price \$179.99**



radio not included

## Z-817

The ultimate autotuner for QRP radios including the Yaesu FT-817(D). Tuning is simple; one button push on the tuner is all that is needed - the Z-817 takes care of the rest. 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.**



## 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.

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## AT-1000Pro

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- 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**



## NEW! YT-450

LDG's newest tuner is specially designed for Yaesu's newest 100 watt radios. The YT-450 interfaces directly with the Yaesu FT-450 and FT-950 radios, making integration easier than ever. Simply connect the tuner to the radio with the supplied cables and you are ready to operate. DC power and all control is done through the interface cable. Just press the tune button on the tuner and the rest happens automatically: mode and power are set, a tune cycle runs and the radio is returned to its original settings. It will quickly match nearly any kind of coax fed antenna with an SWR of up to 10:1. 2000 memories recall settings in an instant! An extra CAT port on the back allows seamless connection to a PC. You have the newest radio, now get the newest tuner to go with it! **Suggested Price \$249.99**



## 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**



## 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**



## 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**



**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**



## NEW! YT-847

YT-847 Autotuner is an integrated tuner for the Yaesu FT-847. An included CAT/Power cable interfaces with your FT-847. Just press the tune button on the tuner and everything else happens automatically! The mode is set to carrier and the RF power is reduced, a tune cycle runs and the radio is returned to the original settings. Also includes coax jumper cable. **Suggested Price \$249.99**

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the RF engineers are not well known to the folks in the PR section.

Nevertheless, we'll press for answers, because mobile radios are important to many fleet buyers (police, taxi, and fire vehicle purchasers), so it's reasonable to think that supporting mobile two-way radio operation is not unheard of to companies that court these large-volume buyers. One example includes a rather well-known manufacturer at a time when it seems that nearly every police agency in the country uses one of its makes as a radio platform. So far it has taken its Media Relations group two-and-a-half months to process my request for information—after having received an acknowledgment they'd get on the request "ASAP."

Info from the manufacturer is important in that more and more RF devices are going into cars, including RFID "keys" that aren't keys in the traditional sense. Sensors for those "keys" are located in several positions around the vehicle. RFID, satellite-radio, and broadcast-radio antennas are being embedded in spoilers, outside rearview mirrors, and in front, rear, and now side windows—and that's just a beginning. In order to avoid a costly mistake that either voids the warranty or damages the vehicle, mobile-radio installers and operators need to be aware of sensitive areas and if there are any transmit power limitations or optimal antenna locations.

There are many new and exciting vehicles on the road and more new models coming soon. In the meantime, if you intend to install a mobile transceiver in a new car, be sure to check with your dealer to determine if there are cautions, restrictions, or guidelines *before* you buy. Most dealers have a "hotline" to their respective manufacturers for technical questions. Perhaps a short cut would be to ask if they have a tech advisory sheet on how to install a mobile radio in a fleet vehicle. Hopefully, you won't experience the strange reaction one of my previous cars had: Each time I transmitted on 40 meters the windshield wipers would cycle one time. I eventually cured the problem. I sold the car.

### Easy Installation! Well, Maybe

From the standpoint of available space, about the easiest vehicle in which to install mobile radios is an RV such as a motorhome. It's also nice to set up gear in a fifth-wheel rig or travel trailer, but that doesn't mean you're off the hook with planning, avoiding existing wiring

and entertainment devices—and don't forget grounding. It's important to bond the metal elements, body to frame, etc. RF has funny traits and it turns up in some of the strangest ways.

I'd love to share with our readers photos of some of the attractive and creative RV installations hams have achieved. Please e-mail your photos along with your tips and advice to my e-mail address shown on the first page of this column.

RVs come in all shapes and sizes, from campers on mini pickups to those well into six-figure diesel pusher rigs. Just recently, Volkswagen announced it was introducing a new version of the VW mini bus, the previous version of which also served as a camper. No doubt that will bring back many memories for Grateful Dead fans. Alas, there's no more band to follow. Perhaps a robust audio system will help fill that gap, but I digress. Forgive my preoccupation with the original VW bus. I had to follow too many along California Highway 1 and up steep mountain grades. Perhaps the new model will have a few more horses in the stable.

### The Skyhook

As sure as spring follows a long, hard winter, we'll pass along the annual reminder to check the condition of your mobile antennas, their mounts, and the coax connections. Winter's freeze-thaw cycles, endless moisture, road salt, and ice can combine to degrade your antenna's performance. Remove the antenna, give it a close inspection, and clean up the electrical contacts; this goes double for trunk-lip antenna mounts. Take a good look at the base, ground connections, and the condition of the coax. The best radio in the world can have its performance suffer from a poor antenna system. An investment of a few minutes can keep your rig performing at its best.

### Photos

I've received promises from a few e-mail correspondents who said they'd share photos of their installation experiences. Right now, the photo supply is lower than a snake's belly in Death Valley, so I'm hoping some of you can come through with some photos you are willing to share with other mobile operators and readers of this column.

Enjoy those motor trips (especially to and from Dayton) and those QSOs that make travel even more fun.

73, Jeff AA6JR



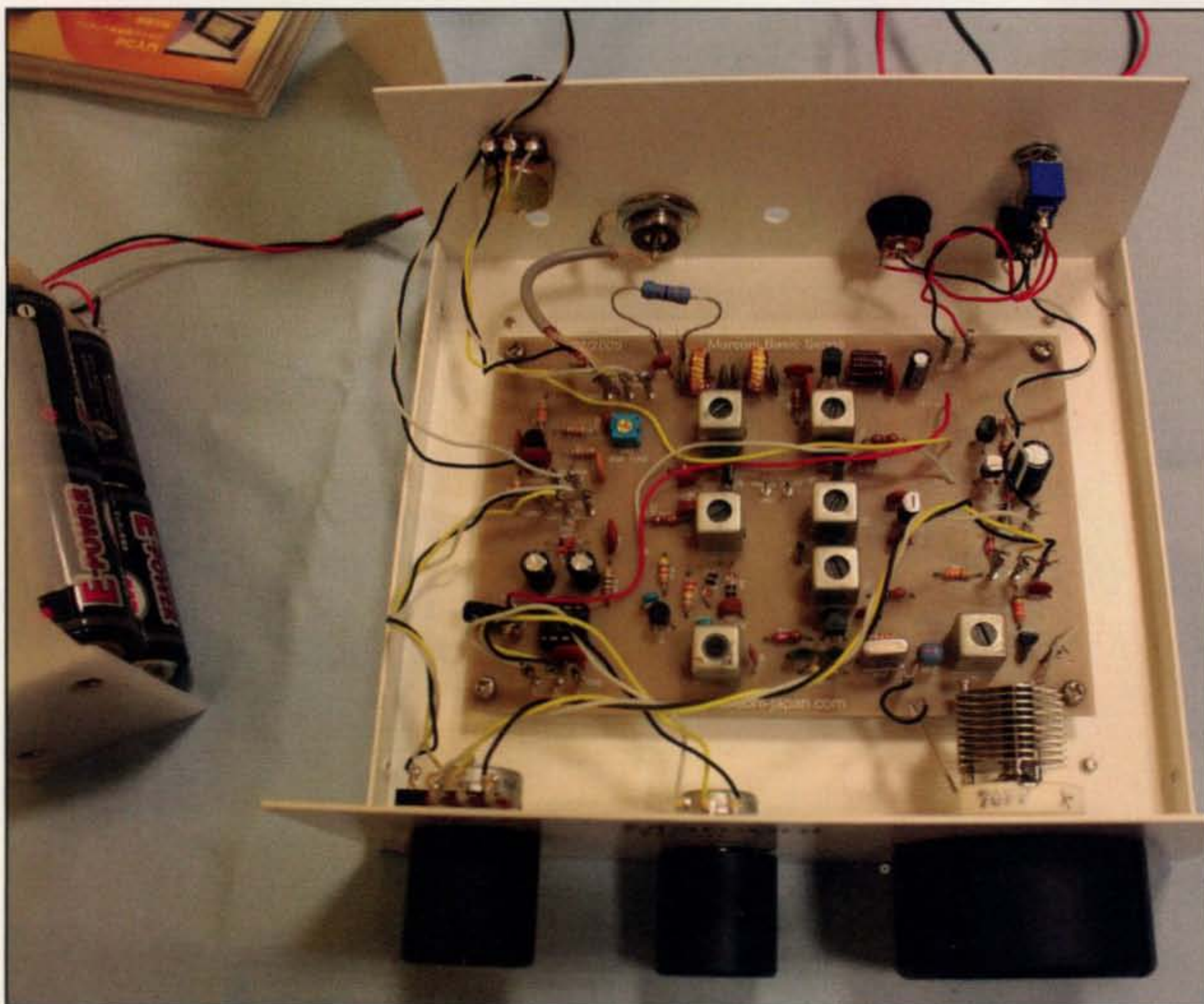
## Several New Kits to Debut at Dayton

**W**ith the Dayton Hamvention® fast approaching, I thought it would be good to look at a kit that has been seen there many times. This kit is the Basic-7, a 40-meter CW transceiver made by Marconi of Japan. It features a rather heavy-duty case, a VFO, and a single-sided board. All the knobs, connectors, and case parts are included. Connections to the board are made by terminal posts, something I have not seen in a long time. This makes it easy to remove connections when servicing the board.

The instructions can be downloaded as PDF files and are available in English and Japanese. The directions are written in English, and they suggest printing sheets that have the parts outlined on them

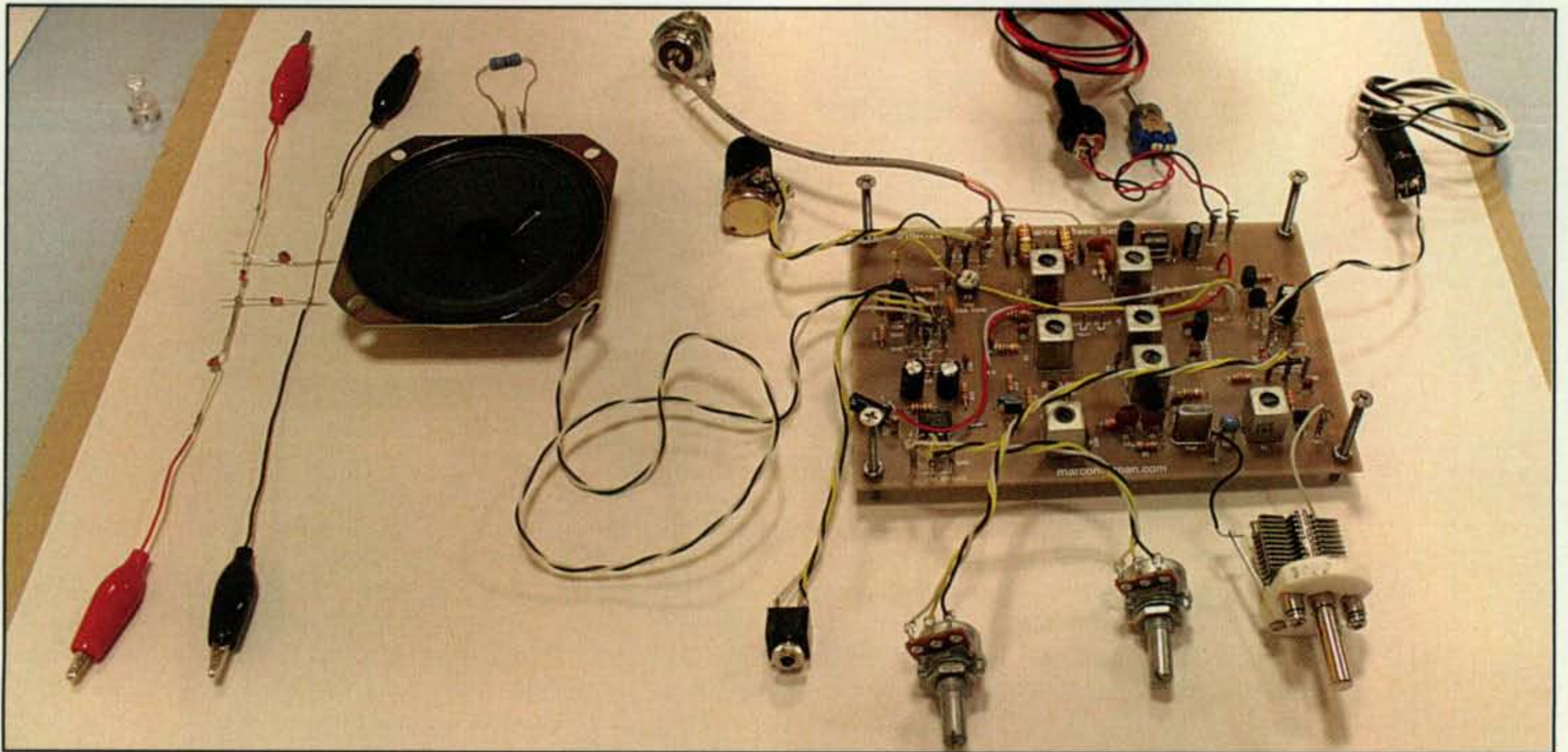
for inventory purposes. These parts identification sheets are designed for the builder to tape each part to its outlined spot on the paper. It is a great idea for sorting the parts and checking for missing parts, but also time consuming if the parts are taped to the sheets as suggested. I simply laid the parts onto the sheets to inventory them and then placed them into my usual tackle-box sorting bins. Taping the parts to the sheets does keep them from being lost, but also makes for a very time-consuming building process and can easily tear the paper when they are removed. Instead of part-by-part assembly instructions, the company simply shows you a photo of a completed stage plus the schematic for that stage to identify which parts are placed where on the board. The builder builds it a stage at a time, completing tests after each stage, a real good idea.

\*7133 Yosemite Drive, Lincoln, NE 68507  
e-mail: <k0neb@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Top view of the Marconi Basic-7 kit, a 40-meter CW transceiver kit from Marconi of Japan.





*The Basic-7 assembled and ready for placement in the case.*

An interesting feature of this kit is that it includes the parts to make an RF probe and a dummy load to assist in checking out the kit after assembly. The instructions also have the builder go through a number of tests as each stage of the radio is added, from the very beginning when you verify the power supply is connected correctly to the keying circuits and the others as they follow. Be sure to use the dummy load as directed to protect the output transistor during testing.

Once all of the parts are assembled, the controls already have the leads cut for the parts to fit in the case, so the board mounts in the case and all of the controls and jacks fit into

their mounting holes. A bit unusual is the fact that two of the controls, an attenuator and the main power switch, are located on the rear panel. The knobs in front are quite large and easy to use, but no markings are provided to calibrate the VFO, a task that can be remedied with a label maker.

The Basic-7 kit is available at the following site, <<http://marconi-japan.com/Basic7Kite.aspx>>, or see the booth at Dayton near the ARRL Expo area.

### **A Rig with Only 26 Parts!**

The Four State QRP Group has released its new kit for 2011. It is a 40-meter CW transceiver with a parts count of only 26! It is built on a round board, similar to the tuna-tin series of kits, but smaller and sized to fit in a "deviled ham" can. The transceiver features a regenerative receiver and puts out 1/2 to 1 watt of RF. With just three toroids to wind, it makes for a great group kit-building project you can get on the air within a short time. Be sure to have a dummy load handy for testing it as well as a set of earbuds for the receive audio. Check it out at <<http://www.4sqrp.com>>.

### **New Goodies from KI6DS**

Doug Hendricks, KI6DS, has quite a few new kits ready to be unveiled at Dayton this year. First, he is introducing a 30-meter version of the already popular NADC-40, which is a 40-meter CW transceiver with VFO and digital display. Another introduction is the Digital Tenna Dipper, a device to test antenna tuning without using your radio. Related to that kit is a digital antenna analyzer with digital display of SWR, impedance, etc. This kit will be competitive with the MFJ antenna analyzers. It promises a 2 x 16 character LCD display, long battery life, a custom case, and many useful functions, and is designed by Dan Tayloe, N7VE.

Doug also has a kit introduced around the beginning of the year that is ideal for first-time kit builders and clubs looking for a group building project. The \$18 Code Practice Oscillator kit even comes with a key you assemble yourself. The battery is also included and the kit is available now. It assembles quickly and is a great tool to teach both kit-building and



*The 4SQR Hamcan transceiver from the Four States QRP Group has only 26 parts.*



Morse code. When building this as a group project, be sure to have a drill handy to make the holes needed to mount this kit properly. I would highly recommend this kit for its simplicity and the ability to begin a code class once the kits are assembled. Morse code instruction goes great when every student has their own key and oscillator they built themselves!

Another kit Hendricks will introduce at Dayton is the Weber 3-band CW transceiver kit. This kit allows the builder to choose three HF bands and offers digital display of the operating frequency, making it a great addition to any QRP shack! Look for Doug at Dayton in the North Hall, or at <<http://www.qrpkits.com>>.

### Hamfest Bargains

Good things to watch out for at spring hamfests are soldering irons and soldering accessories. A solder-roll holder can be quite useful in keeping your pound rolls of solder from getting in the way and will also allow you to better control the solder as it is fed from the roll. When buying a used soldering station at a hamfest, be careful that you can find spare parts for it, such as tips and heating elements. This can be difficult for some discontinued irons, while oth-

ers, if they are common models, can have parts available for a long time to come. Also be on the lookout for inexpensive irons that you can use with last month's soldering-iron controller I described here in this column.

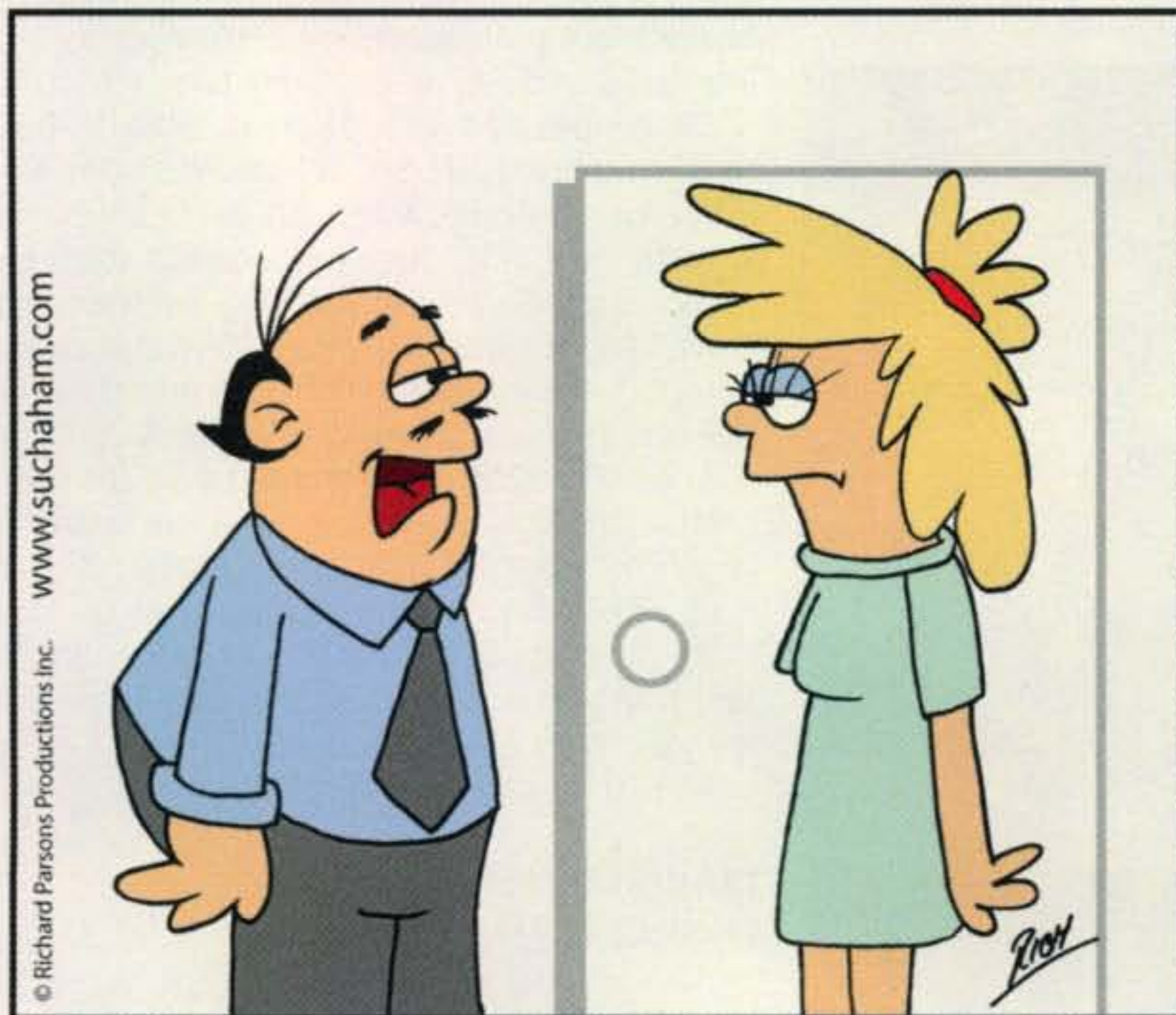
A small 12-volt mini component fan can cost as little as 50 cents and can keep away the solder smoke. They can be as small as 1-2 inches across, and not very thick. This size of fan is often found in a parts bin or large Styrofoam® bulk packaging in the fleamarket.

Bulk buys on parts, such as rails of IC sockets of various sizes and styles, are also great fleamarket bargains. Keep an eye out for popular values of components, such as resistors, capacitors, transistors, ICs, and other parts being sold in bulk at reasonable prices. I often find myself buying 100 parts for the same price that I pay for one or two at a retail outlet. I simply sort them and store them and put them in parts bins for when they are needed in the future to replace a missing kit part or to perform repairs or modifications to kits.

Look for the "Cat In The Hat" at Dayton and be sure to say hi!

73 de Joe, KØNEB

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## QRP in Your Pocket and 100 Watts in Your Car

It seems to me that the month or two prior to the Dayton Hamvention®, some manufacturers hold on to their new creations and look forward to launching new apps, radios, or radio accessories before the estimated audience of more than 20,000 ham radio aficionados who attend this annual gathering. That's understandable. After all, they want to have something new to talk about when hams come by their booths and ask, "What's New?"

I ask the same question here each and every month, and this month we have some interesting answers, particularly from our Starkville, Mississippi friends at MFJ. For this month in "What's New," we present a quick overview of two very new items from MFJ—the MFJ-9200 QR-Pocket Six-Band CW Transceiver and the MFJ-266 Antenna Analyzer—along with a look at a Yaesu rig that has received a makeover, a quick mention of a new version of a friendly logging application, a look at a new book, and some thoughts about what gear may be coming our way from China.

However, I believe I will have much more to present to you in the days and weeks following this year's Dayton Hamvention®, May 20–22, at the Hara Arena. If you plan to attend, look for me. I'll

\*1870 Alder Branch Lane, Germantown, TN 38139  
e-mail: <wv5j@cq-amateur-radio.com>

be easy to spot, since I'll be the one going from booth to booth asking the question "What New?"

### MFJ-9200 QR-Pocket™ Six Band Transceiver

From what is being described by the folks at MFJ as nothing short of a "quantum leap over traditional designs," company officials recently previewed at the Charlotte Hamfest the MFJ-9200 (photo A)—a compact, six-band QRP CW transceiver that MFJ says provides "an unprecedented number of features for a very affordable price."

MFJ credits direct-digital synthesis and micro-processor technology for making the MFJ-9200 so compact (4.8" × 3.15" × 1.34") and lightweight (7.4 ounces). According to MFJ, this makes the MFJ-9200 QR-Pocket Radio the smallest and lightest backpack transceiver currently available.

I have to agree with MFJ that the MFJ-9200 qualifies as a bold new addition to its line of QRP transceivers. The MFJ-9200 covers 80 through 15 meters using computer-modeled plug-in filter modules that yield no-compromise receiver performance and solid QRP+ transmit power on every band. There's also built-in iambic keying with a manual-key sensor, a programmable CQ message, and seamless QSK T/R switching. DDS frequency control delivers rock-solid stability, precise 100-Hz readout, and eight memory channels per band. Plus, you get a choice of three main-dial tuning rates and RIT with 10-Hz tuning resolution.

Other features include selectable IF-bandwidth for monitoring SSB or CW, a 20-dB front-end attenuator for overload protection, and a switched backlight for the LCD display. There's also plenty of receiver overlap for monitoring international short-wave broadcasts. The MFJ-9200 runs on any power source between 8 and 15 VDC and draws only 40 mA on receive with the display backlight turned off.

The MFJ-9200 is protected by MFJ's famous No Matter What™ one-year limited warranty. MFJ will repair or replace (at its option) your MFJ products no matter what for one complete year.

Be sure to check out this unit at the next hamfest that you and MFJ attend. But if you can't wait for that, give MFJ a call at 1-800-647-1800 or go online to <www.mfjenterprises.com>.

### MFJ-266 HF/VHF/UHF Digital SWR Analyzer

Put simply, the MFJ-266 (photo B) covers 1.5–185 MHz plus 300–490 MHz and can display SWR, complex impedance, and impedance magnitude simultaneously—all on the same green LCD screen.



Photo A—MFJ chose the Charlotte Hamfest in March to preview its new MFJ-9200 QR-Pocket™ Six Band CW QRP Transceiver.





Photo B—MFJ has officially released its newest antenna analyzer, the MFJ-266, so expect it to be a feature item at the MFJ booth at upcoming hamfests. Price information on this newest item from MFJ had not been released as of this writing, but suffice to say this handheld unit has the capability of performing a lot of tasks in the shack or out in the field that pertain to antennas and much, much more.

The big news about this new antenna analyzer, though, is its small size, which makes it easier to use since it fits comfortably in one hand. That makes measurements easier to take whether you are working in the shack or hanging off a tower.

When compared to other MFJ antenna analyzers such as the MFJ-269, the smaller size is due to the sacrifice of two analog meters on the front of the unit, resulting in the MFJ-266 measuring 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches wide. Height and depth remain the same as the other MFJ units at 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" and 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", respectively, but weight comes in at a seemingly lighter 1.32 lbs.

What this meter can measure is impressive, because you can use it to calculate capacitance, inductance, field strength, frequency, plus generate test signals. You can also fine-tune stubs, analyze coax, baluns, and transformers, and perform many other RF-related tasks in the shack or on the road. It's a powerful wide-range signal source, L/C meter, network analyzer, RF field-strength meter, and a 500-MHz frequency counter all in one small package.

To some, it may read as a laundry list of capabilities, but the MFJ-266 truly

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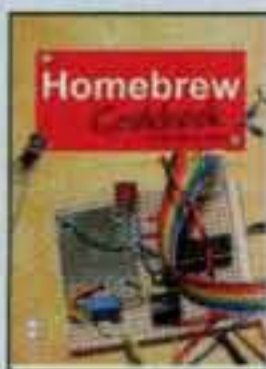
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Photo C—Yaesu seems appropriately proud of the new version of the FT-450, this one designated the FT-450D. It's a compact unit that is filled with some very nice features, including an automatic antenna tuner and a large and informative front-panel display.

covers all bases—from 160 meters through 6 meters, the FM broadcast band, the aircraft band, 2 meters, 70 cm, plus VHF/UHF commercial two-way frequencies. To be more specific, 1.5–2.7 MHz, 2.5–4.8 MHz, 4.6–9.6 MHz, 8.5–18.7 MHz, 17.3–39 MHz, 38.7–71 MHz, 85–185 MHz, and 300–490 MHz.

Tuning is accomplished through the use of a 10:1 vernier drive and a built-in dial lock that prevents any accidental frequency change while making measurements. MFJ tells us that reading the

LCD screen is easy in any light with switched backlighting supplied.

In its Frequency Counter Mode, the MFJ-266 can track down powerful signals that can disrupt accurate SWR readings. When picked up by an antenna under test, these signals may compete with the analyzer's internally generated test signal to make SWR readings appear artificially high. All handheld antenna bridges are subject to additive interference, but the MFJ-266 can detect the presence of an

To log this record, click the (add) button. To view or modify the record, click the (details) button.

call	date-utc	(utc)	city	state	country	band	mode	qso-conf
XE2DX	2011-02-23	15:21			Mexico	20 m	Phone	
KJ4QKL	2011-02-23	15:11	Falls Church	VA	United States	20 m	Phone	
VE3DX	2011-02-23	15:21	Barrie	ON	Canada	20 m	Phone	
KL7DX	2011-02-23	15:06	Anchorage	AK	Alaska	20 m	Phone	
KC8VDW	2011-02-23	15:11	Columbus	OH	United States	20 m	Phone	
PY2ABC	2011-02-23	15:20			Brazil	20 m	Phone	
KB2WOL	2011-02-23	15:10	Beaver Dams	NY	United States	20 m	Phone	

call WA0H utc 2011-02-24 13:46 Local 2011-02-24 08:46 update time

Jerry Gentry .. Springfield .. MO .. United States

notes 08:46

their report to me my report to them

frequency

add change delete

map details awards

setup help other stuff

cancel

show pin map

show pin map

was	+	dxcc	5	cnty	+	1010	1	itu	6	sec	+	grids	+
iota	0	wpx	+	fist	0	qcwa	+	waz	6	wac	2	qsos	20

Band 20 meters Mode phone + need for award bearing 310 NW

Photo D—Here is a screen shot from the latest version of MicroLog. This should give you an idea of the information that can be readily handled by this ever-evolving application.



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offending signal, display severity, and identify the frequency.

The MFJ-266's internal stimulus generator also functions as a steady tunable signal source, supplying a +2 dBm (or 2 mW) CW carrier across the entire tuning range. You can use this signal to drive mixers, low-power amplifier stages, or filters, and use it as a source for checking antenna patterns on a range. Add a step attenuator and it becomes a low-level signal source for testing receivers and pre-amplifiers. Also, push-button band switching lets you toggle across the spectrum with ease.

The MFJ-266 can be powered from eight internal AA alkaline batteries or from the optional 12-VDC/110-VAC adapter, MFJ-1312D (\$15.95). With the long storage life of alkaline batteries, your analyzer will always be ready to go when you are. Current consumption is approximately 30 mA in counter mode and 140 mA in analyzer mode.

As with the MFJ-9200, the MFJ-266 is protected by MFJ's famous No Matter What™ one-year limited warranty.

To place an order with MFJ, get a free catalog, or for your nearest dealer, call 1-800-647-1800, fax 1-662-323-6551, or write to MFJ, 300 Industrial Park Road, Starkville, MS 39759. You can

also go online to the company's web-site: <<http://www.mfjenterprises.com>>.

**Yaesu/Vertex Standard FT-450D Transceiver**

With an LCD multi-function display, a strong assortment of illuminated keys, and a fast 400-MHz built-in IF DSP, the new FT-450D transceiver (photo C) from Yaesu has earned a spot on the consideration list of anyone looking for a take-anywhere HF/50-MHz amateur transceiver.

Weighing in at 7.9 pounds and measuring 9"W x 3.3"H x 8.5"D, the FT-450D easily fits the definition of compact, which means it's ready to go on a Field Day trip, to serve as a primary HF station for an emergency operation, or to stay at home and be your favorite contesting station.

What makes this radio so versatile? Yaesu starts with a rugged aluminum die-cast chassis, adds in a 100-watt power amplifier, and cools it with a thermostatically controlled fan. Next comes features such as the 10-kHz roofing filter; speech processor; built-in electronic keyer; 300-Hz, 500-Hz, and 2.4-kHz IF CW filters; a 20-second digital voice recorder; a digital microphone equaliz-

er; and a built-in automatic antenna tuner. Add in the large informative display, the IF digital signal processor, and a street price of under \$900, and you have a rig that most any ham would love to operate.

For more details visit <<http://www.vertexstandard.com>> on the web.

**New Version of MicroLog**

Software author Jerry Gentry, WA0H, tells me he has added so many new features to his popular MicroLog program that it constitutes an entirely new release of the product, which runs under Windows® XP, Windows® Vista, and Windows® 7 (both 32- and 64-bit versions). (See photo D.)

Since its first release in March of 2004, Jerry has consistently improved his logging application and has written into his latest version numerous features such as multiple ways to search the U.S. Canadian Callbook, including by county, giving the operator the choice of date formats, a choice of which fields to display in the log table on the main screen, and a choice of from over 50 modes of communication, such as Echolink, D-STAR, and PSK-31.

Purchase of this new version will also



allow you the option of replacing the U.S. map on the main screen with DX spots from the OH8X Summit; the use of QCWA, 10-10, and FISTS numbers; and the capability of updating the built-in U.S./Canadian Callbook for up to one year. Jerry has also made available a new Field Day module if needed.

The revised MicroLog application on CD sells for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and can be purchased at the <www.wa0h.com> website. A free trial version of the application may also be downloaded from the same website.

## Rumors from China

Recently in this column we took a look at a couple of radios from China, in particular the Wouxun (pronounced *O-Shing*) KG-UVD1P dual-band portable and the GRECOM PSR-700 EZ Scan-SD scanner. At the time, there was a vague reference made to a dual-band mobile also anticipated to be coming from China. Since then, we've found out that a new HT, the UVD3, is now on the market and that the dual-band mobile is expected to receive the designation KG-UV920R and was scheduled to be released in early 2011. Well, so far, not much has been heard or seen of this ham rig even though you may catch a few rare photos of the unit scattered around the World Wide Web. There's also one website where you can "make a reservation" for the mobile rig when it does finally arrive on the U.S. market.

Another piece of information found on the web claims that the dual bander will

operate on 2 meters with power settings of 50 watts, 25 watts, and 5 watts; and the UHF ham band with 40 watts, 20 watts, and 5 watts; and will be able to receive commercial AM and FM broadcasts.

It will be interesting if the information we've gleaned so far about this dual-bander becomes fact upon the release of the actual radio, but you can be sure that when it does hit the U.S. market, we'll try to be among the first to let you know about it.

## Book Corner

**Extra Class License Manual.** The ARRL has just released its ninth edition of the *Extra Class License Manual* (photo E), which includes all of the exam questions with the answer key for use from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2012.

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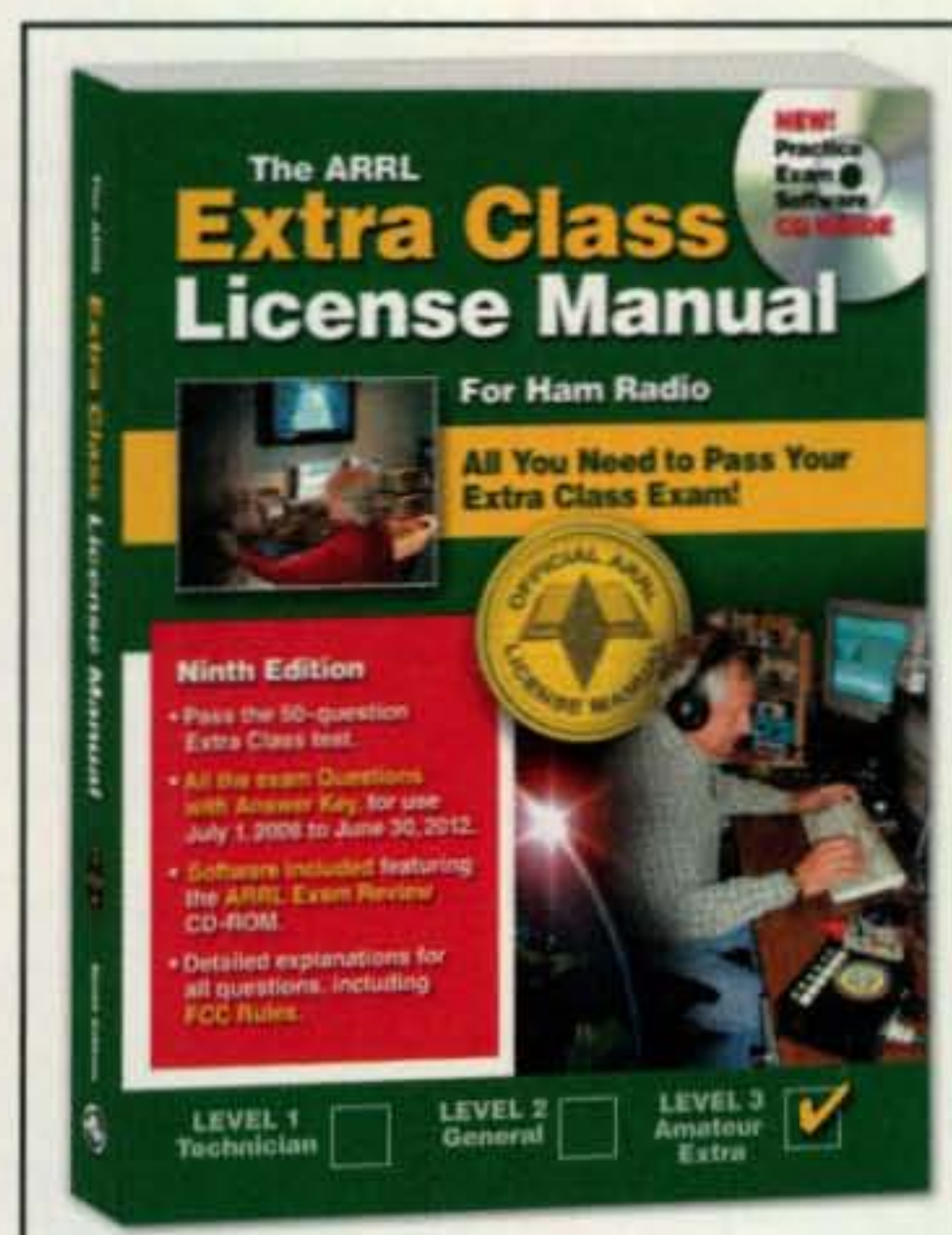


Photo E— The ARRL has just released the ninth edition of its Extra Class License Manual. For all of you who have decided to upgrade to Extra, here's a comprehensive way to do it.

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## Website of the Month

Have you been out cruising on the internet and stopped by <WWW.smeter.net>? If so, then you've probably listened to the Salt Lake City, Pahrump, and Dallas receivers on cell phones, smartphones, pocket PCs, or PDAs that have Windows® operating systems. There's a lot on this site for anyone, especially a ham, to explore and read, so take your time, read, and be sure to poke around in the corners.

That's about it for the month of May. With the 60th annual Dayton Hamvention® just around the corner, we should have a lot of new products to look at in the near future, so look forward to it. I know I will! 73, John, WV5J

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

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## A New Kind of Place . . . A Different Sort of Club Meeting

I received an Arduino Uno microcontroller kit for Christmas. I wondered what to do with this thing, so I used my favorite internet search engine to find as much information as I could about the Arduino microcontroller family. References for this interesting piece of technology and what people are doing with it are everywhere, and the "References" section at the end of this column names just a few. Plus, fellow *CQ* columnist Don Rotolo, N2IRZ, introduced us to the Arduino Uno in the February 2011 issue of *CQ*, on page 79.

As I bookmarked certain web pages for further study, I came across a blog site for a hardware hacker group in the Los Angeles, California area called Crash Space. They even have a section for ham radio ("Radio Mondays"). I think the home page provides a great short description of what kind of place Crash Space is: ". . . We are a collection of hackers, programmers, builders, makers, artists and people who generally like to break

***The ham radio Crashers are designing a robot that will have a variety of radio gear on it.***

things and see what new things we can build with the pieces."

The ham radio Crashers are designing a robot that will have a variety of radio gear on it. They are also discussing radar systems and radiolocation theory, and will examine specific examples of small radar equipment that hackers can get and modify easily, such as the Mattel Hot Wheels® radar speed gun. Next on their schedule are experiments on X-Bee low-power digital radios.

Radio Mondays are held every Monday at 8 PM and are open to walk-in visitors. Justin Corwin from the group said, "A good 10 percent of our members have been people who just heard about one of our public events and came out looking for their specific interest. Radio Mondays, the Mega Take Apart, and Hand Made Music are probably the top three for walk-ins."

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



Photo 1— "Show and Tell" at a Crash Space meeting. It is interesting to compare what's different between a Crash Space gathering and a typical ham radio club meeting. Here, Crash Space member Theron Trowbridge demonstrates his extra-large monome. (See text for more details.)



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I had to go there to see what kind of place this is. I decided to go on "Public Night" when guests can stop by to see what the group is about and meet the members. Fortunately, the Crash Space is not too far away from my office and was an easy drive, even in traffic.

I have been aware of places like this from reading magazines such as *Make* and watching the occasional public television shows that cover amateur science events. There's "The Crucible" in Oakland, California and "Make: NYC" in New York City.

### Taking a Tour

I became fascinated by the various blog entries by the members and their projects and activities. One thing that really stood out was the very interesting and eclectic collection of people in the group, which included young men and women. The second thing I noticed is the very interesting concept of the Crash Space itself: It is a collection of hardware hackers, artists, and technologists with interests in computer hardware and software, rocketry and aerodynamics, machining and metal working, and other things. They have

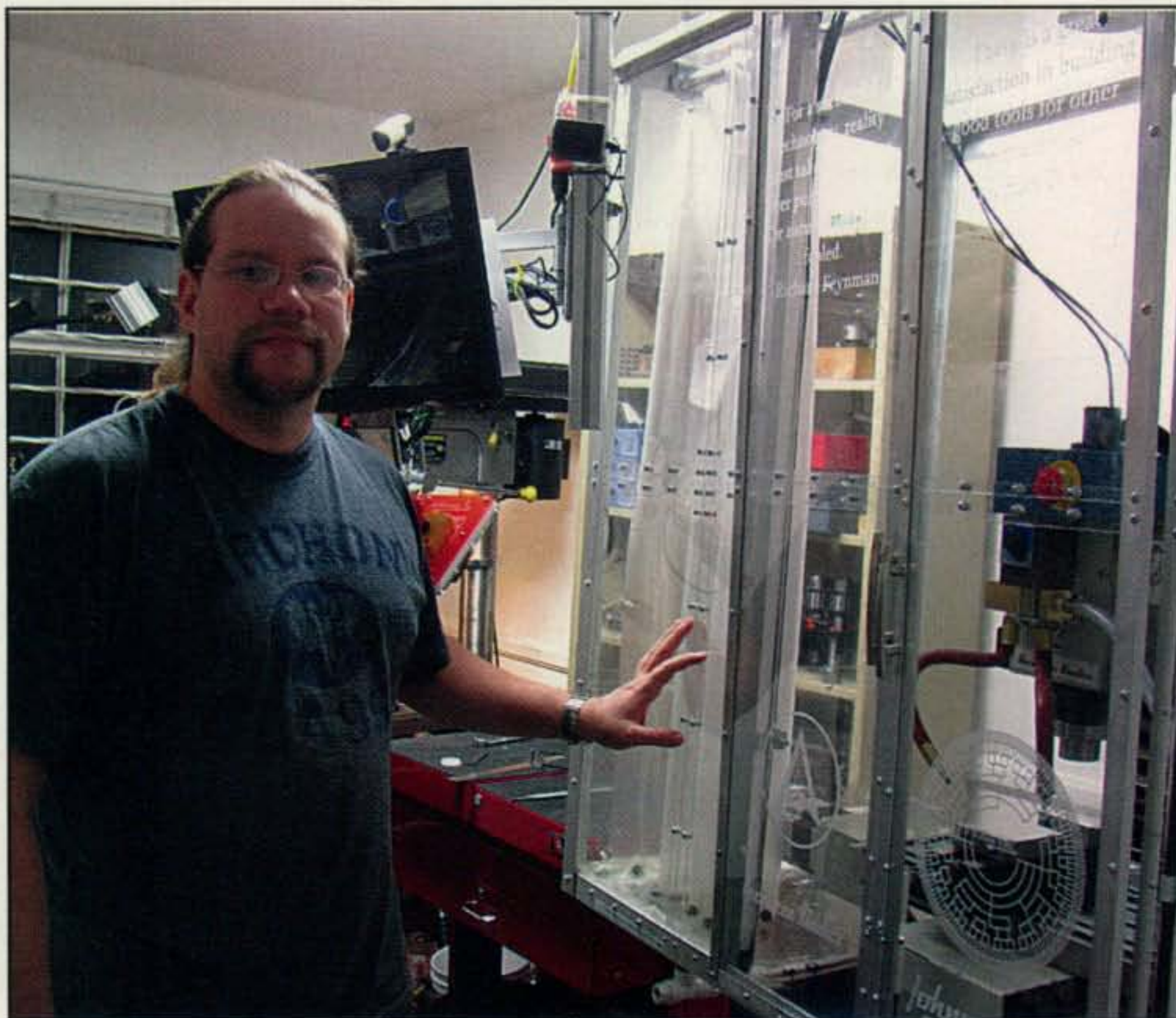


Photo 2—Justin Corwin in front of Johnny 5, the rebuilt and modified CNC milling machine at Crash Space.



meetings every night, and have group activities such as building projects, including a capacitance-meter kit.

During my visit on Public Night, Theron Trowbridge demonstrated a large monome he constructed (see photo 1). A monome is an adaptive computer interface, but is a little difficult to explain. Check the monome community website for more information. The buttons light up and change functions according to custom programming. Theron used the laser cutter to build a custom case for each module, and put together several modules to form one unit. You can make these instruments from kits (refer to the "References" section for more information).

The group exists solely on donations from local companies and the members. It has a pretty impressive machine shop, which includes a CNC mill, with an interesting modification: A modified computer-game joystick can be used to control the X- and Y-movements of the cutter head. The controller is wireless, of course, so the operator can move around the machine as the material is being worked (photo 2).

Another interesting machine in their shop is a small laser cutting/marking machine and a 3-D printer. The 3-D printer is an interesting piece of equipment. It interfaces with a computer and just about any three-dimensional drawing can be turned into a plastic object (see photos 3 and 4).

I noticed a laptop computer mounted on one of the walls (photo 5). More than a strange wall decoration, the computer is called the Space Presence Monitor. Members check-in on the computer then push the big button. The button is backlit with LEDs, and different colors indicate which people are in the Space. The main purpose of this monitor is to let others remotely check to see if anyone is "home." They can go

to a web page, poll the Presence Monitor, and see who is there so they can get into the building.

### Can Ham Radio Clubs Adapt and Evolve?

After my visit, I thought about the new people I had met and the exciting projects they were working on. I thought about the enthusiasm of the group and was impressed with the way everyone interacted with each other, imparting knowledge to others and contributing to the Space. There is definitely a "buzz" going on at Crash Space. It has a pull, or an attrac-

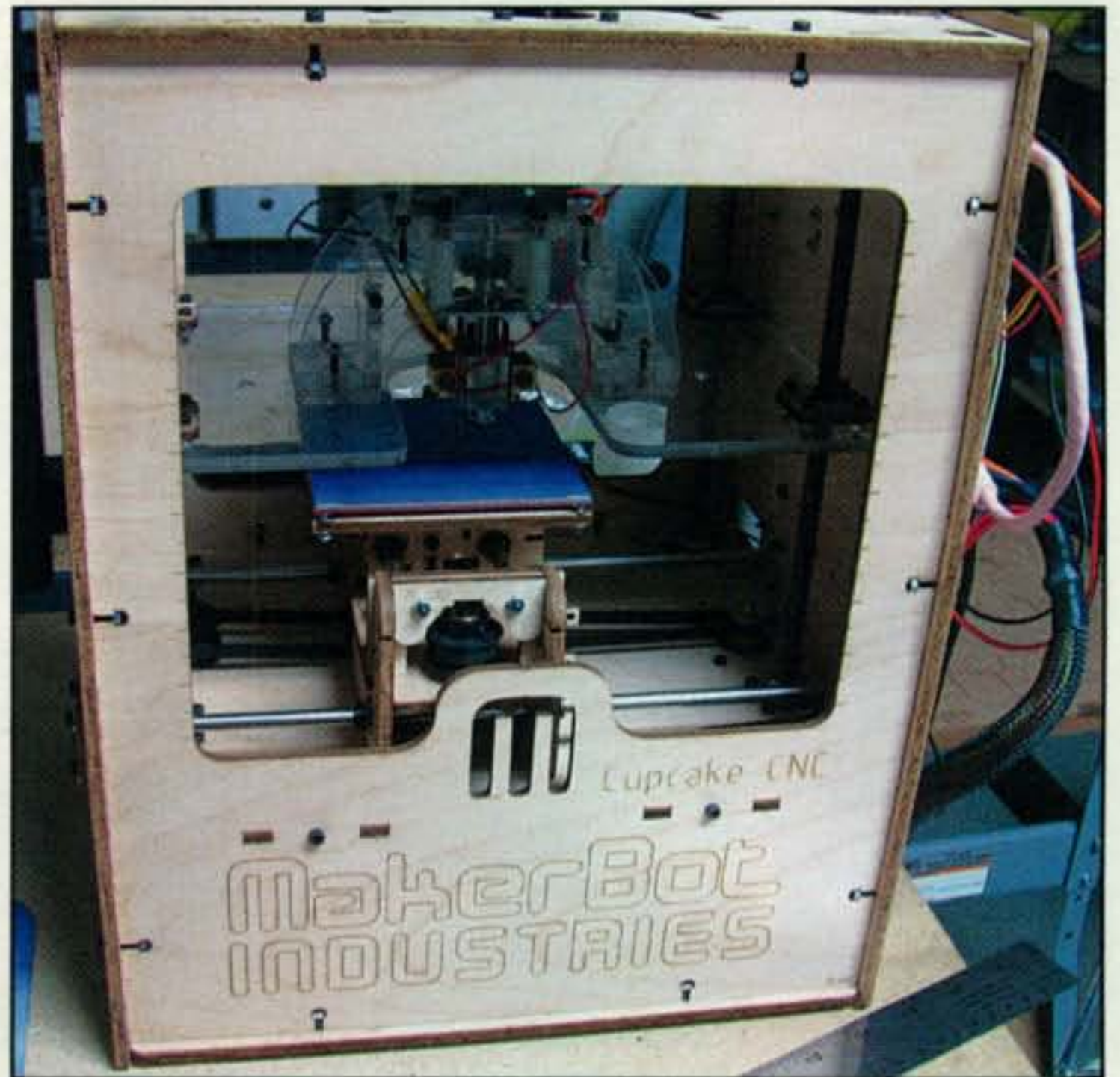


Photo 3— Here is a front view of the MakerBot Cupcake CNC (Computer Numerical Controlled) 3-D printer. It uses plastic filament to print objects from your computer.

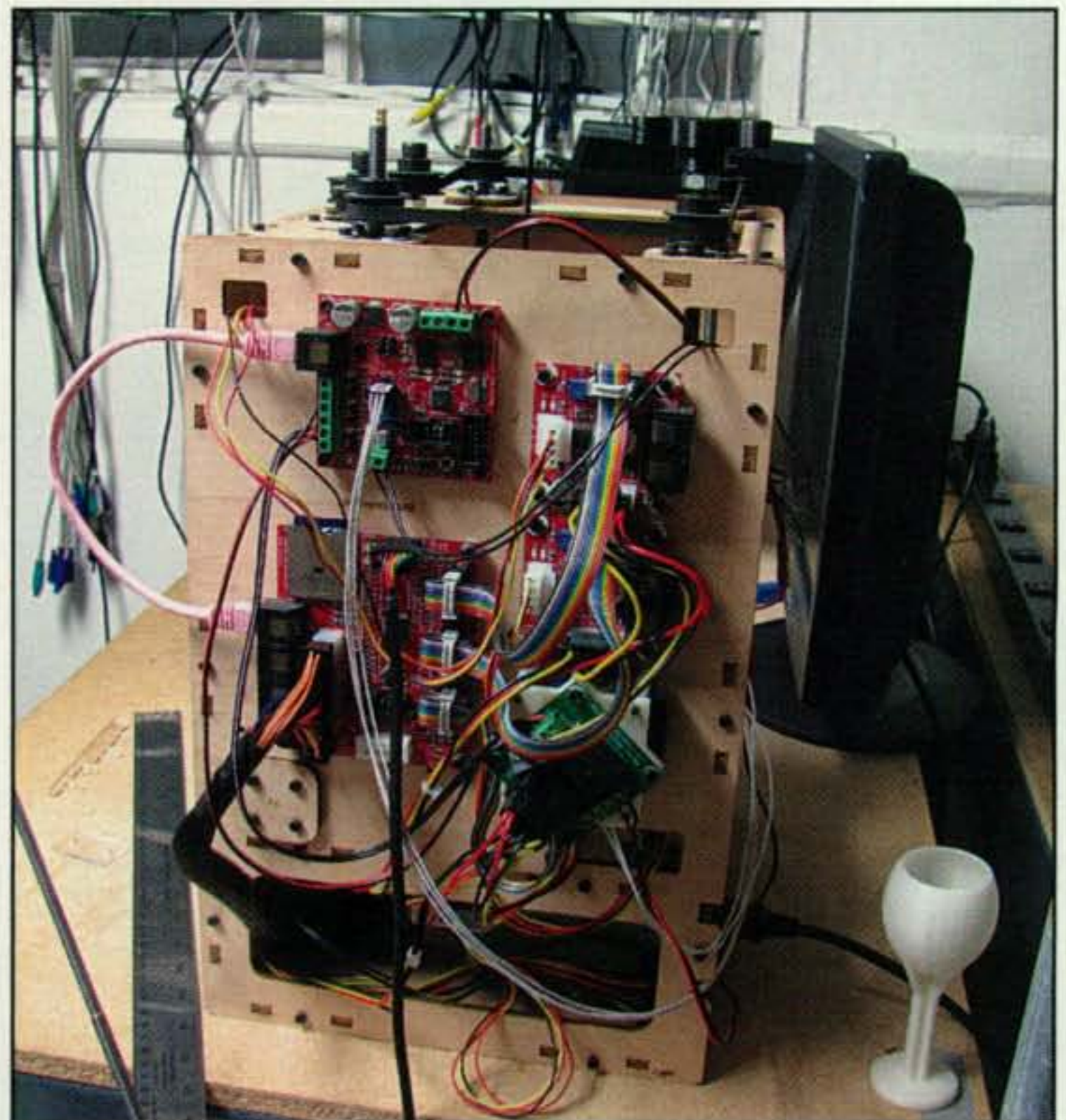
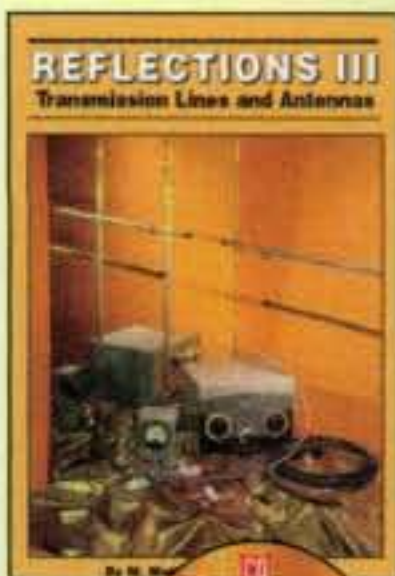


Photo 4— A side view of the MakerBot 3-D printer.

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tion, to it, very much like the way a moth is drawn toward a light at night.

I compared what I saw and experienced at Crash Space to every ham radio club I have ever visited or joined. The differences are amazing. The two groups are almost complete opposites. I feel that if our typical ham radio clubs fail to consider adopting a different concept, memberships may continue to decline.

I am not saying that all ham radio clubs are boring, are full of old and old-fashioned people, and do not have exciting projects going on, but I am saying that our "radio-only" clubs may need to consider including other related activities as part of their clubs so that younger and non-radio technology people may be encouraged to take an interest in ham radio.

For example, Crash Space has "How to Solder" classes and group-build projects. It has a "show and tell" where everyone takes a turn to talk about his or her current project. Any radio club could hold an event like this, but this is only a beginning. Another example could be more advanced classes, such as how to use a network analyzer or transistor curve tracer.

**Something Different, Fresh, and Exciting to Consider**

The Crash Space structure may be an interesting way to form a new sort of ham radio club. In other words, it would be a club that is not limited to only ham radio. It would include mul-

*Photo 5— The notebook computer on the wall is not a decoration. It is something called the "presence monitor." (Photo ← courtesy of JustinCorwin. See text for details.)*



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multiple, yet related interests and meet at one location so that all groups can interact and exchange ideas.

For example, a ham radio club that includes amateur astronomers may include satellite operation and Earth-Moon-Earth activities. Another example might be a public service ham radio organization such as RACES or ARES working with CERT and the Red Cross and NOAA (some groups already do this). How about a ham radio club with APRS and T-hunting activities combined with geo-caching and backpacking or camping?

As I think a bit more about this concept, I recall my experience as an Explorer Scout many years ago. Our post was sponsored by a local aerospace company, and we were involved in rocketry, electronics, and computers. I got involved in the electronics section, but also did some things with the rocket guys and a little bit with the computer group.

It was organized the way the sponsoring company worked, and we designed and built projects following its procedures. We had a design team, a documentation team, a manufacturing team, and so on.

The main lesson we learned, though, was that our teams worked together, and broke big projects into small sections that finally mated together and formed a single completed unit. It was a fascinating experience. Some of the most interesting projects happened when several unrelated groups got together and interacted. For example, the rocketry group made a fleet of rockets. The electronics group made the launcher. The comput-

er team tracked the rocket and calculated the altitude achieved.

Another thing our ham radio clubs can consider is the use of social networking to publicize their activities so others may enjoy learning about them and may become interested enough to join the fun. The younger generation is very "connected," and their messages are spread instantly and widely through blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and so on. So if more of our projects and activities get publicized this way, we might get more people interested in what we are doing. (*Among CQ's 5000+ Facebook "fans," 40% are under age 45, and nearly 80% are younger than 55. How does that compare with your club's membership?—ed.*)

This story started out as a quest to learn more about an interesting Christmas gift, and turned into a new philosophy of what ham radio clubs could become. All of us should think about where our next generation of hams will come from. We must expose youngsters to ham radio, so they can be aware such a thing exists. We must make it interesting enough to capture their curiosity, and publicize how much fun it can be.

Imagine a club like this in your neighborhood. Where else can one learn how to barbecue smoke a rack of spare ribs properly, program an Arduino Uno to do something useful or entertaining, meet other people with varying yet common interests, have access to CNC machines, learn from real rocket scientists, learn how to make clothing out of fiberoptic fabrics, and oh yes, talk about ham radio? 73, Wayne, KH6WZ

## References

- Arduino Microcontrollers: <<http://www.arduino.cc>>
- Crash Space: 10526 Venice Blvd., Culver City CA 90232; <[www.crashspace.org](http://www.crashspace.org)>
- The Crucible: 1260 7th St., Oakland, CA 94607; <<http://thecrucible.org>>
- Make Magazine: 1005 Gravenstein Highway North, Sebastopol, CA 95472; <<http://makezine.com>>
- Make: NYC: Bug Labs, 598 Broadway at Houston, 4th floor. New York, NY 10012; <<http://www.makenyc.org>>
- Mattel Hot Wheels® Radar Gun: "Mattel Makes a Real Radar Gun, On the Cheap," by David Carey, published on the EE Times website, June 26, 2007; <<http://www.eetimes.com/design/microwave-rf-design/4009957/Mattel-makes-a-real-radar-gun-on-the-cheap>>
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- XBEE Basics: <<http://forums.trossenrobotics.com/tutorials/how-to-diy-128/xbee-basics-3259>>
- MakerBot Industries, LLC: 3-D Printer; <<http://www.makerbot.com>>
- The Monome: <<http://monome.org>>
- Geocaching - The Official Global GPS Cache Hunt Site: <<http://www.geocaching.com>>
- Flickr (photo and story sharing): <<http://www.flickr.com>>
- Twitter (A real-time information network): <<http://twitter.com/>>
- Instant Messaging and Chat: A simple tutorial on IM can be found here; <<http://communication.howstuffworks.com/instant-messaging.htm>>



# Fighting TVI in the Digital World

**A**h, the good old days of TVI. Squawking noises coming out of the speaker and a hypnotic pattern of black bars across the screen. Today, with digital TV (photo A), just a few video blocks and then the TV freezes up. The good news is that now the neighbors (or family members) can't recognize your voice. The bad news: TVI filters such as the ones in photo B are as rare as a good 6146, and if you are lucky enough to find one, it is probably for 300-ohm twin lead.

Again, back in the good old days the rotary TV tuner had tuned circuits such as the one in photo C that tuned the tuner to each channel as you changed channels. I would like to thank Roger, N5PGH, for digging deep into his junk box for those tuners. The digital tuners have very little filtering, and in the case of the \$40 converters in photo A, no filtering at all. The front ends are wide open. Now it's not your rig's harmonics that tear up the TV, but basic fundamental overload.

## Build Your Own Filter

A low-pass filter such as the Johnson or Drake low-pass filters on your rig are not going to help with overload. And again, high-pass TVI filters are very hard to come by these days. Therefore, here is how we can build some.

All inductors are just two turns of solid wire 18-22 gauge wound on a pencil (photo D). No, I'm ahead of you on this one. I got enough feedback on an AMSAT diplexer built this way; *it doesn't matter if you use a #2 or a #3 pencil!*

First, we have the single-stage filter in fig. 1 and photo E—just two connectors, a pair of 10-pF capacitors, and that two-turn coil wound on a pencil. From the analyzer sweep in Plot 1, you can see that first marker is at 30 MHz. Thus, we have more than 45 dB attenuation of HF signals and about a dozen dB of attenuation of the FM broadcast band. Filter loss is in the 1–1.5 dB range out to 800 MHz. This filter will help will most fundamental overload TVI problems.

For those who like to go one step more, we have a two-stage filter in fig. 2 and photo F. An extra coil and a 5-pF cap are the only additional parts. Again, as I will show, we have a pretty wide window for our filter, so don't be afraid to use 4.7- or 5.6-pF caps. And if you get desperate, the 5 pF can be two 10-pF caps in series.

Now in the analyzer sweep in Plot 2, you can see the HF band is in the analyzer noise, >55 dB down. If you are having overload problems on 6 meters, you might want to consider this two-stage filter and the 45 dB or so of filtering it will give you. Also, that pesky FM band is about 35 dB down;

again about 1–1.5 dB of filter loss between 170 MHz and 800 MHz.

## Tuning

Coming up with a filter that didn't need tuning was one of my initial hang-ups for this project. Back in the days when you wanted the TVI filter to block everything below 52 MHz, yet pass the Channel 2 video carrier at 55.25 MHz, making that happen took a bit of adjusting on special test equipment.

In this digital TV era there are very few DTV stations actually using Channels 2 through 6, and as



Photo A—A \$40 HDTV converter and its simple tuner.



Photo B—Vintage 52-MHz high-pass TVI filters.

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



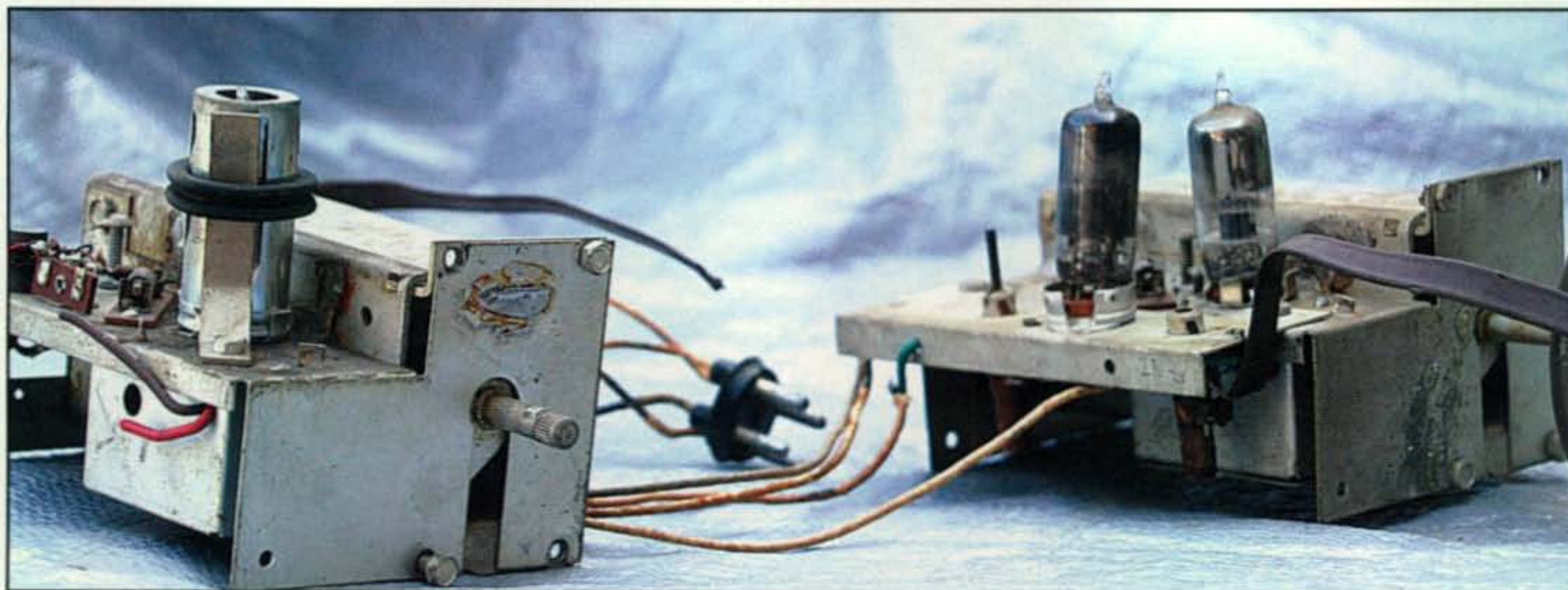


Photo C— Vintage TV tuners.

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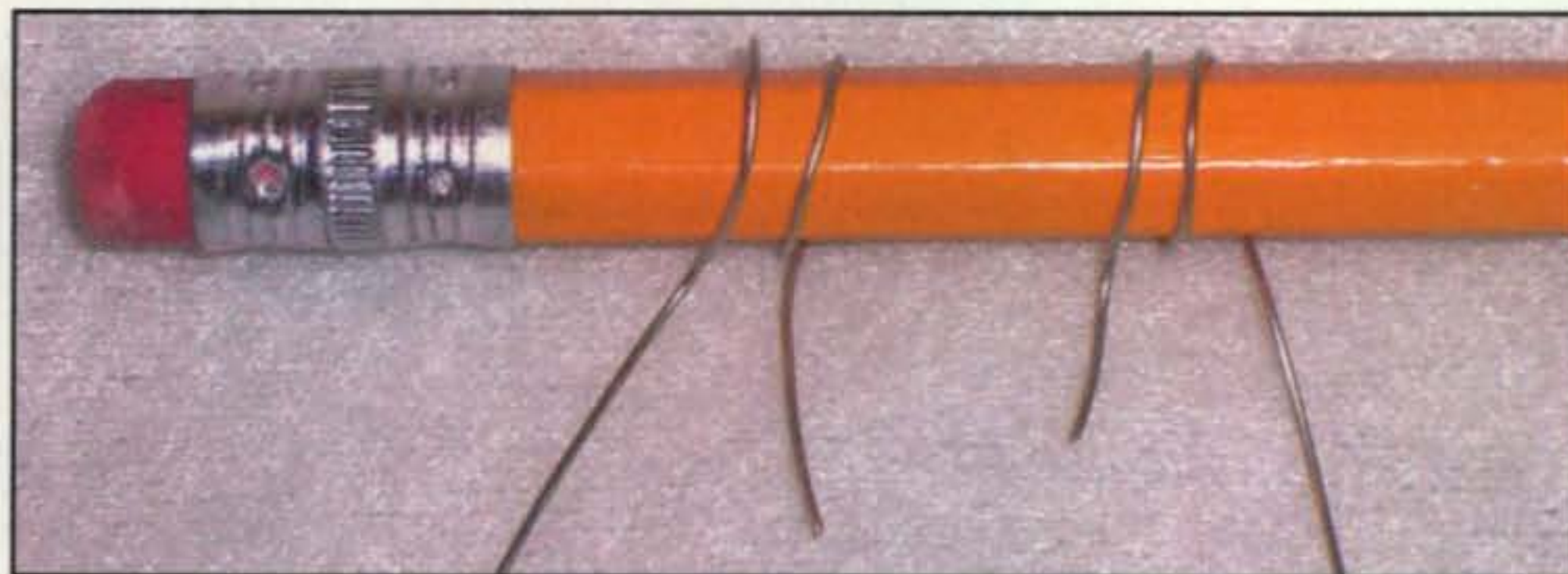
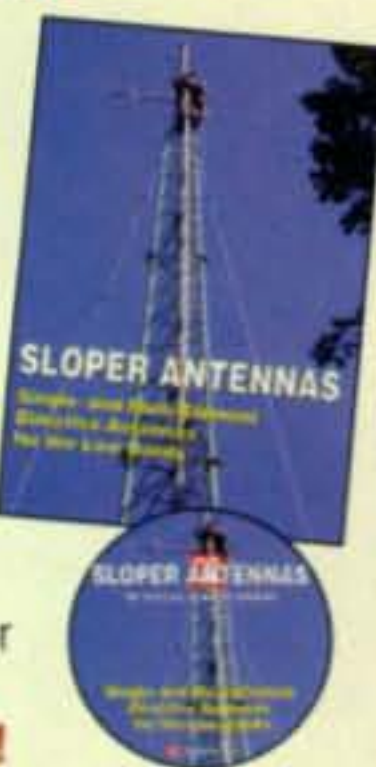


Photo D— Winding the coils for the high-pass filter.

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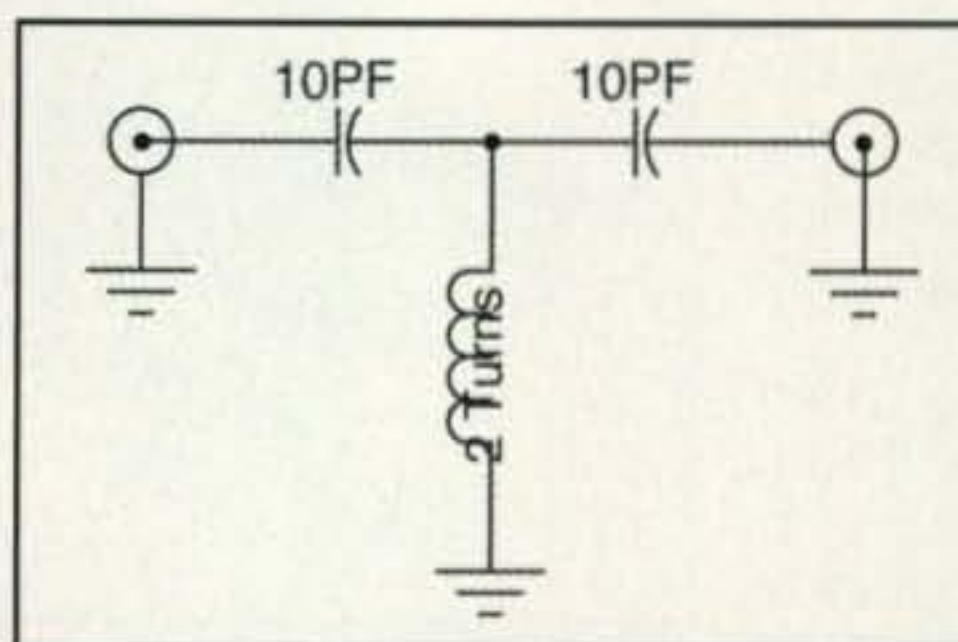


Fig. 1— Schematic of the single-stage TVI filter.

I will explain shortly, we really want to filter out the FM broadcast band as well. This means we need a high-pass filter that cuts off somewhere between 110 MHz and 170 MHz. That's a pretty big target, so we can have a simple filter that doesn't need precision parts and has a lot of wiggle room for component tolerance.

Of course if you have a sweeper, network analyzer, or spectrum analyzer with a tracking generator, then by all means adjust the filter for best response.

Note that I said actually using TV Channels 2–6. When the analog stations got their DTV assignments, most

of the assignments were in the UHF band. A few—not many, but a few—moved back to their old analog channels. To keep the viewers happy, the TV set may show Channel 4, but the set is really on a UHF channel. You might want to check <[www.tvfool.com](http://www.tvfool.com)> or <[www.antennaweb.org](http://www.antennaweb.org)> and see what channels are actually used in your area. If your favorite station is still using a channel between 2 and 6, you're back to looking for one of those vintage 52-MHz high-pass filters.

**FM Broadcast Overload**

Back in the analog days, if you put up an antenna in the air and measured all the RF power hitting the antenna, this is what you would get: About half of the RF energy was your local TV channels and about half was the FM stations. The FM stations run just about the same power as the VHF TV stations and about equal numbers in most areas. There is a lot of variability, of course, but these numbers were typical for most urban areas.

Now we go to digital. The digital TV stations are running 10 dB less power on VHF and 7 dB less power on UHF.



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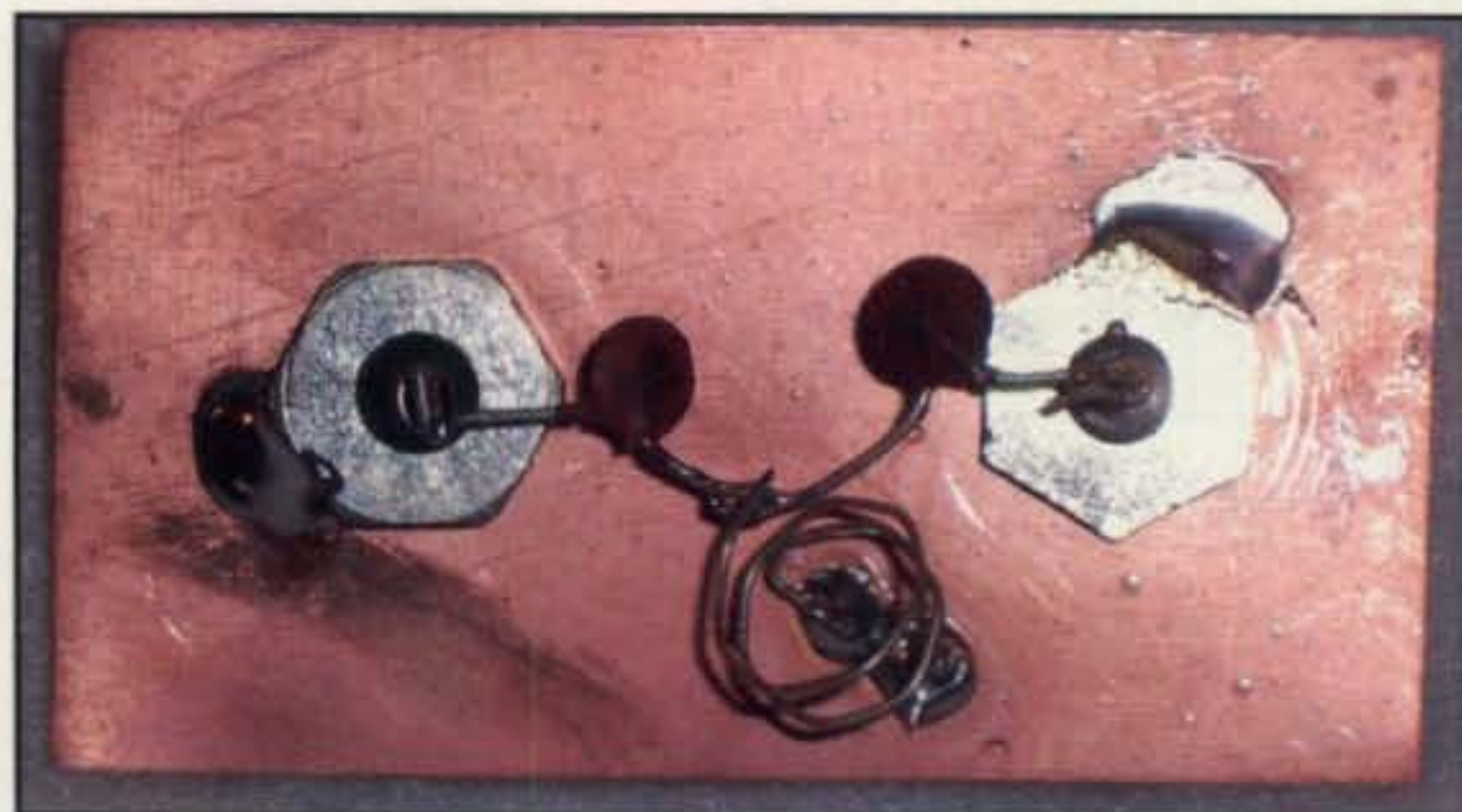


Photo E— Single-stage TVI filter.

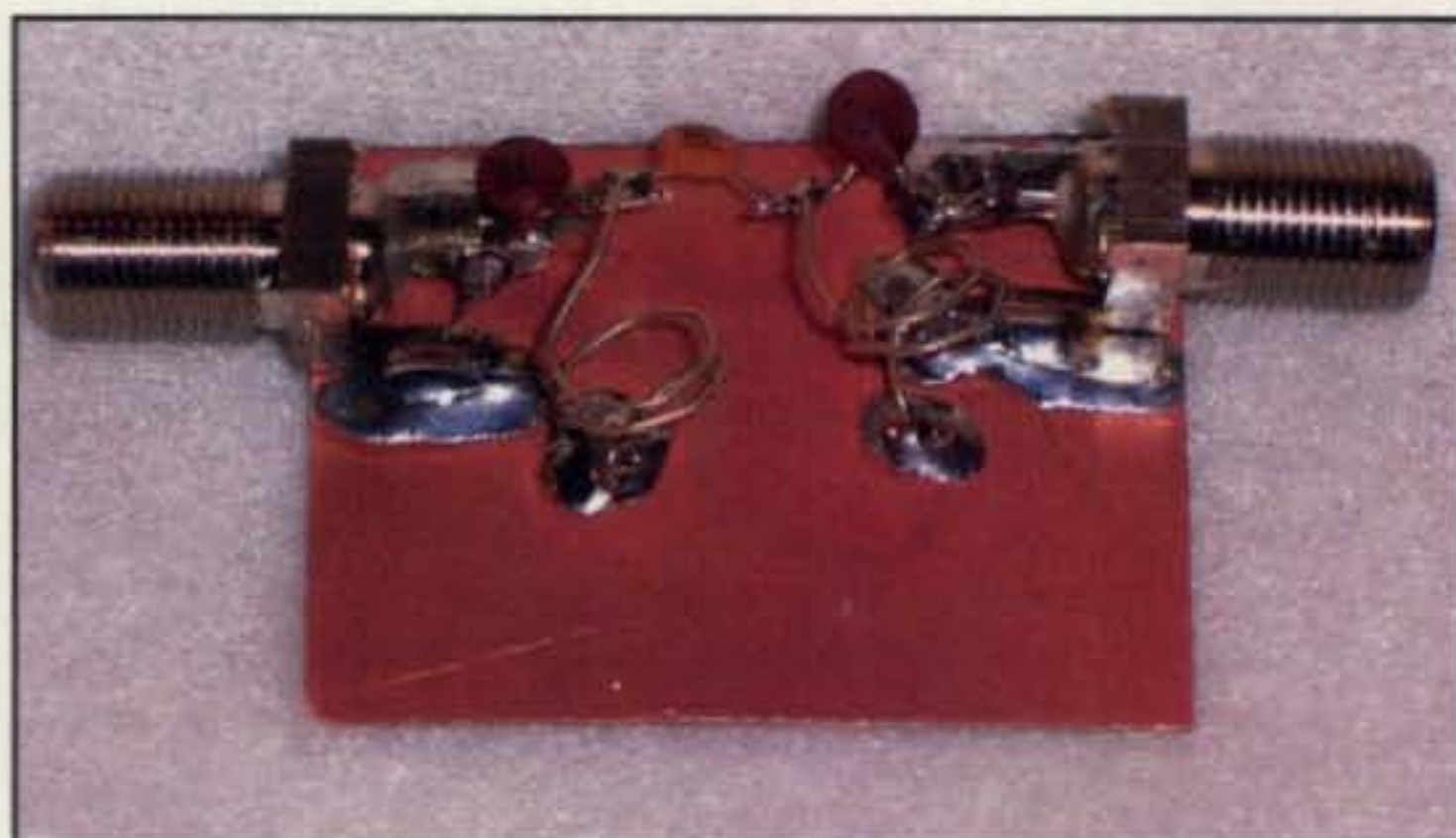


Photo F— Two-stage filter

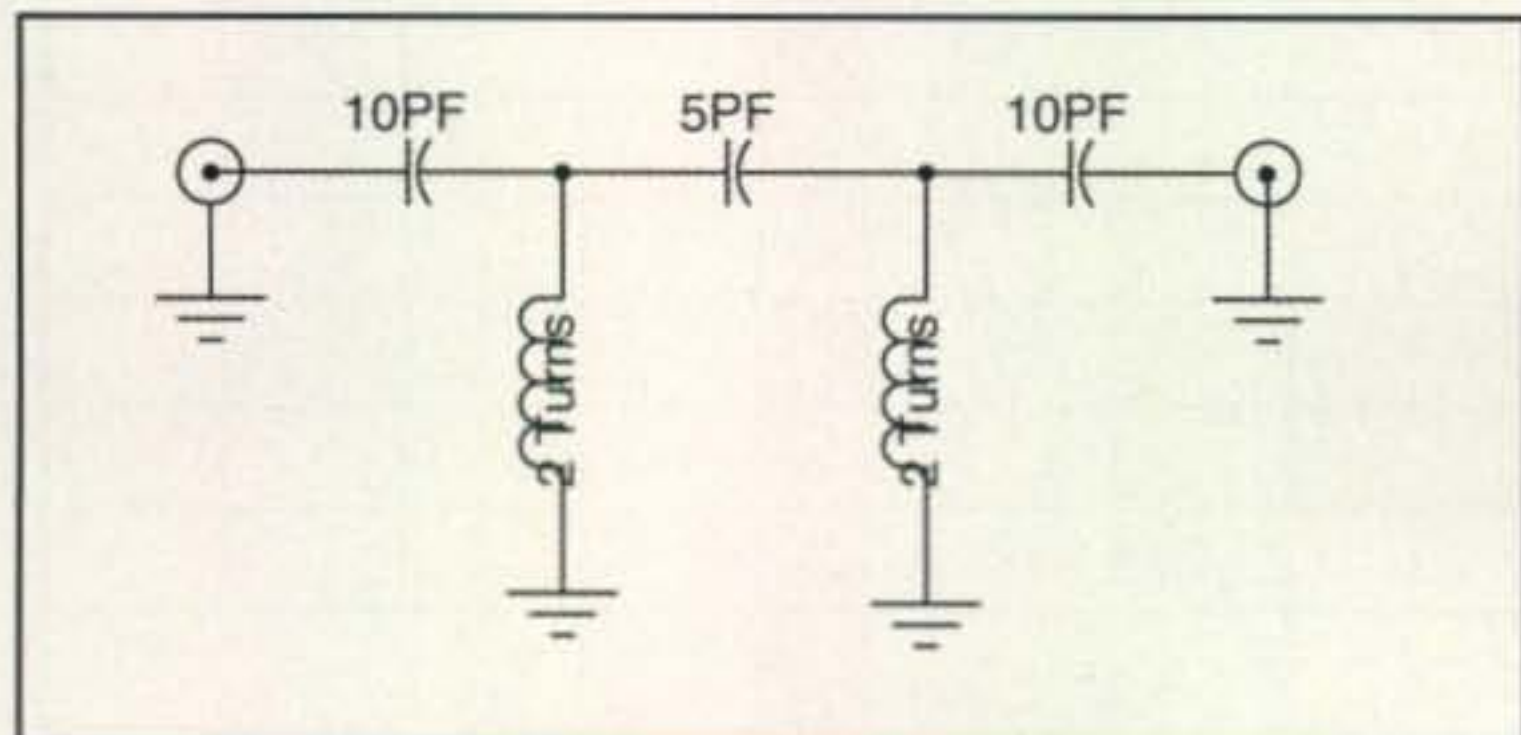


Fig. 2— Schematic of the two-stage TVI filter.



Photo G— FM trap filter.



At the same time the FM stations have added secondary transmitters transmitting their HD music in addition to the analog music. Now that outside antenna or even that pair of rabbit ears on top of the TV has around 80% of its energy coming from the FM stations. The FM signals are *blasting* a tuner with no rejection. Having trouble picking up a HDTV station transmitting between channels 8 and 13? These HDTV channels are the second harmonic of the FM band. In many cities, the TV stations using 8 though 13 are giving away FM trap filters such as the one shown in photo G. I have to use FM traps on my HDTVs in this area.

Building your filter in a shielded box

### An Interesting Coax Tip from "Papa Bear's CB Shop"

When making coax jumpers for RG-58 and RG-8, quite often one of those fine shield wires gets out of place and shorts out the coax jumper. A continuity check shows a short between the center conductor and shield. Bummer!

Cut off an end, usually the wrong end, and try again.

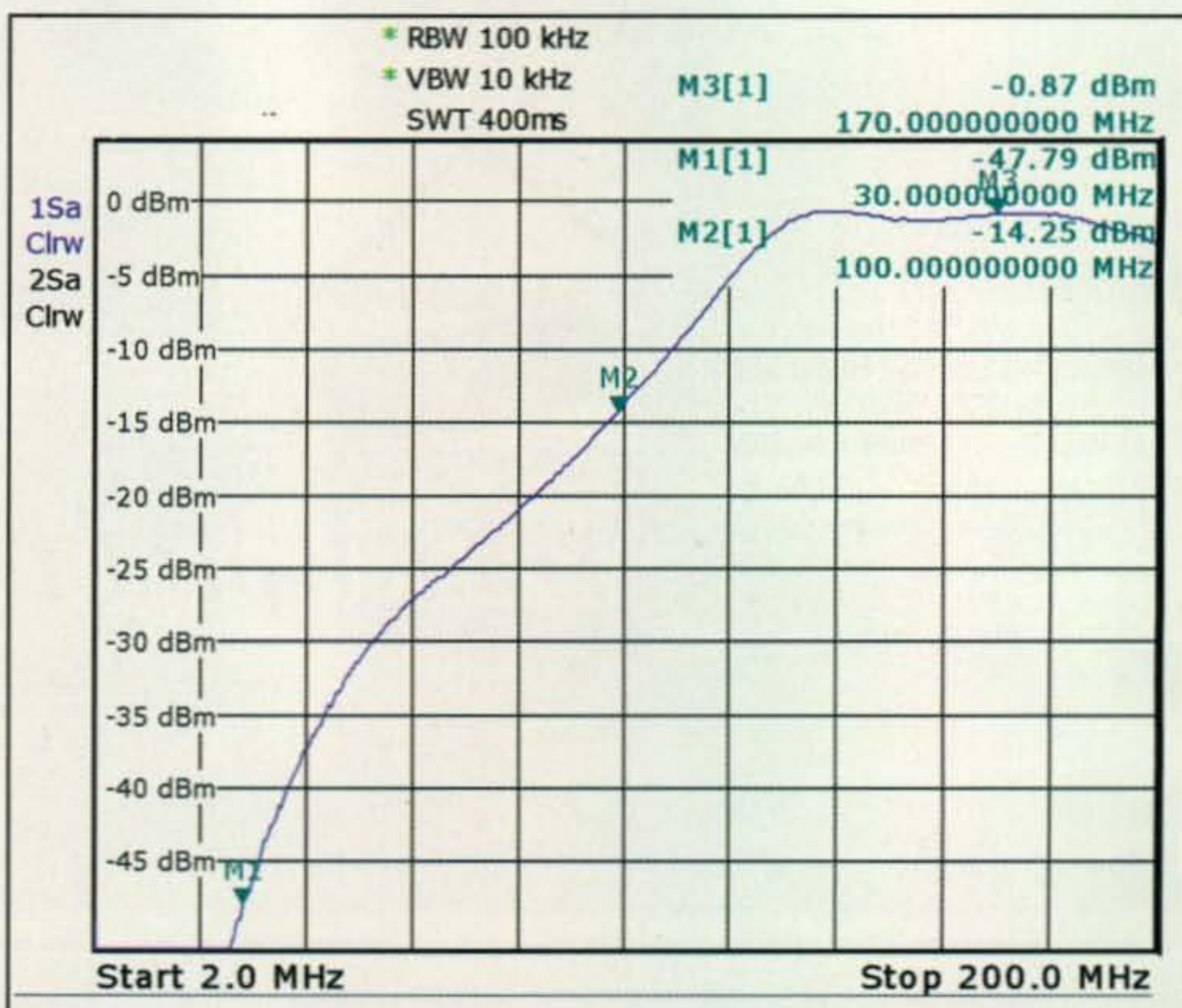
Papa Bear always did his continuity check with a 12-volt, 30-amp power supply. "A few would make a pop noise, but I never found a shorted one."

would be better, but a lot harder to photograph. However, even this "dead-bug" filter works pretty well.

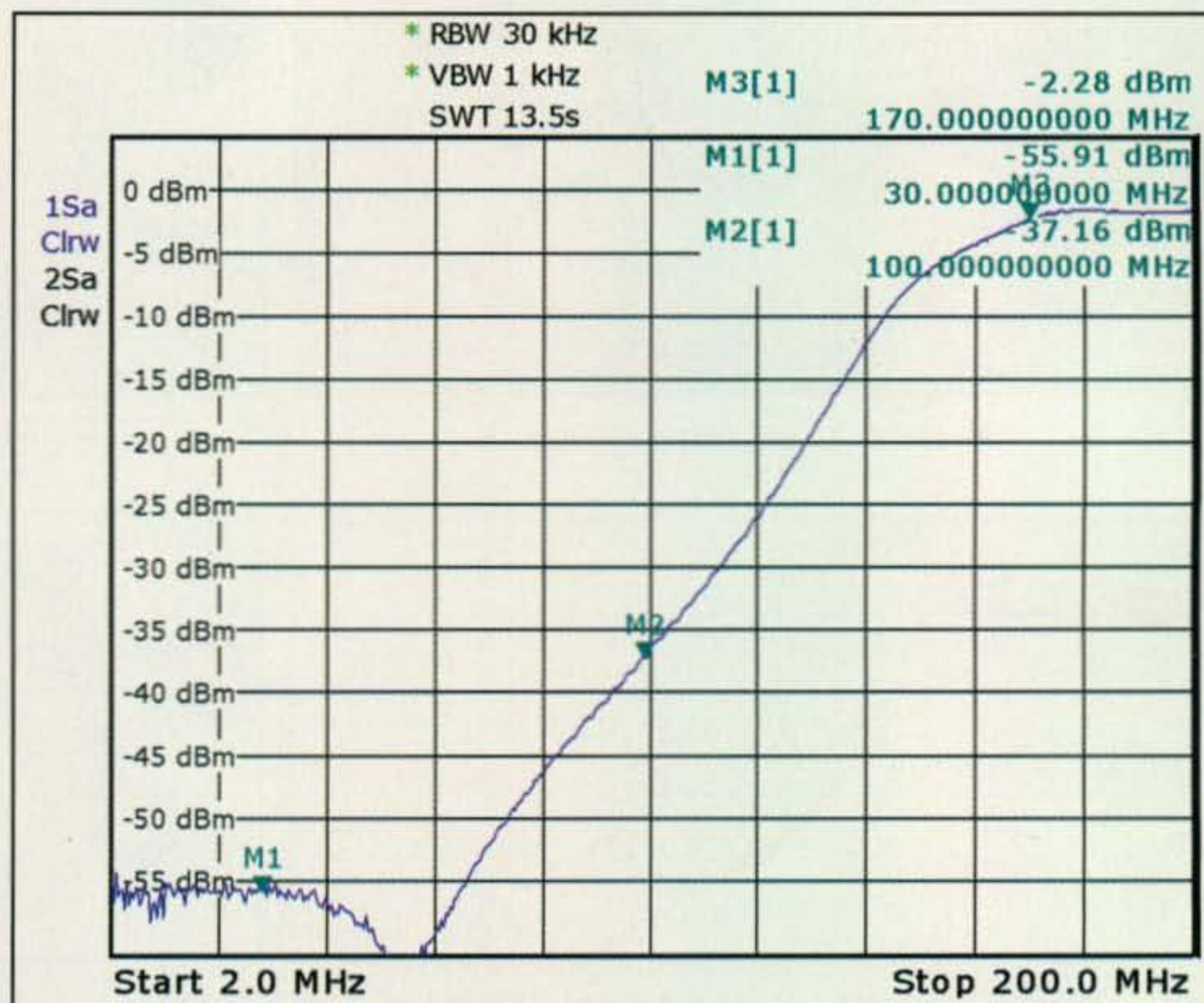
As always we welcome your technical questions and topic suggestions. Just drop a snail mail to my QRZ.com

address or an e-mail to <wa5vjb@cq-amateur-radio.com>. For other antenna articles and projects, you are welcome to visit <www.wa5vjb.com>.

Spring is in the air. Now go get some more antennas up before it gets too hot!  
73, Kent, WA5VJB



Plot 1— Frequency response of the single-stage TVI filter.

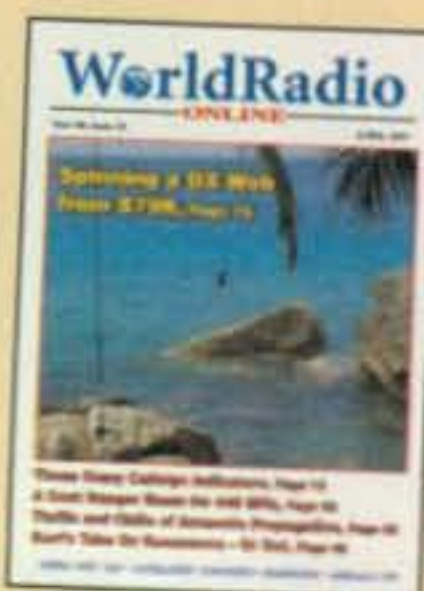


Plot 2— Frequency response of the two-stage TVI filter.

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# The Other Side of 2 Meters

**O**kay, you are a relative newcomer to ham radio. You've had your license for a while and have your "shack-on-the-belt" rig. What else is there? Well, Bucky, cinch up your seat belt, cause we're gonna take a ride!

For one thing, we in North and South America have a real "gift," that of a full 4 megahertz of 2 meters. That's right . . . our band here in the International Telecommunications Union's "Region 2" covers 144 through 148 MHz, whereas the rest of the world only has 2 MHz of the spectrum (144–146 MHz). We enjoy a *huge* amount of 2-meter spectrum and that's a very good thing!

The lower end of 2 meters has a plethora of activity that is often overlooked by the ham radio newcomer. There is so much emphasis placed on the FM portion of the band that it's easy to lose sight of the lower end of 2 meters where we can find weak-signal stations on single sideband (SSB) and Morse code (CW), plus beacons, moonbounce (also called Earth-Moon-Earth, or EME), and satellite communications. There is literally a whole new world of ham radio below 145 MHz.

## Starting Out on the "High Bands"

It is no secret that assembling a station, whether it is an HF or VHF/UHF (also called "VHF+") station, can be a costly and very time-consuming task. However, with a little homework and some frugal purchases it will be possible to get on the air without taking out a second mortgage or hocking the family jewels.

If you are newcomer to the ham radio hobby, having just received your newly minted license, or even if you've been around the block a couple of times in our hobby, it soon becomes apparent that one of the least expensive trinkets you procure is your transceiver! I know that 's hard to believe, but buying a good used VHF+ transceiver—or one of the new generation of "do-it-all" black boxes (such as the Yaesu FT-857 or 897) that cover all of the HF spectrum plus 6 meters, 2 meters, and 70 centimeters—is only a small part of the overall expense of assembling a station.

If you shop around on the internet, or at hamfests, you will find a bargain or two that will go a long way toward getting on the air. Many hams have a substantial investment (\$400 to \$600, depending on options and buying used) in their rig, but are still not on the air! The radio is only one part of the station equation. Now you need to start seriously looking at antennas, rotors, towers/masts, power supplies, linear amplifiers, pre-amplifiers, coaxial or hardline cable, antenna switches, VSWR/power meters, and the list goes on, seemingly forever. So as you can plainly see, the transceiver is only a relatively small expenditure compared to the entire station full of gear that will allow you to communicate effectively.

This column will explore how to set up a VHF+ station using some common sense, some homework, and frugal buying practices. With the economy in such turmoil and the dollar taking a beating everywhere, saving money on the essentials for a good VHF+ station should be a top priority.

First of all, you must understand that you *really* don't need the biggest, latest and greatest transceiver on the market. Buying a used multi-mode VHF/UHF transceiver will save you money that you can use on other station accessories to personalize your new station. Let's get to it, shall we?

First of all, I like older, well-made used gear over some of the latest offerings. Why? Even though they might be 20 to 25 years old, they are solidly made. Most of them originally sold for many hundreds of dollars, and you can now pick them up on internet auction sites or at hamfests for pennies on the dollar. Now, that makes a lot of sense in today's economy!

Secondly, these older radios can easily be upgraded (if they need it) by adding external pre-amps and linear "brick" amplifiers. These add-ons can also be had for a song on the internet or at hamfest fleamarkets.

What are my personal picks for a good starter radio for the high bands? Glad you asked. One of my all-time favorite radios is the Kenwood TS-700A, an early 1980s 2-meter multimode rig with about 10–12 watts of RF output. The Yaesu FT-



*My VHF+ workhorse, the Yaesu FT-726R. This is an "oldie-but-goodie" that has three bands in one box. Currently I have 144-MHz and 432-MHz modules installed (one of these days I'll find a 6-meter module!). I bought this rig about three years ago for \$400 including shipping thanks to an internet auction site. Not a bad deal! It has the satellite board installed that gives me full duplex on both bands so I can hear my downlink signal while transmitting on the satellite uplink.*

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



221R is another oldie but goodie that is a solid performer from the same period. Both of these are 2-meter radio sets, and we'll concentrate on that band for now. Recently I picked up a KLM 2000, a dynamite 2-meter multimode from the late 1970s, for \$50 plus shipping from an auction site. I presented this prize to a good friend as a wedding present, since both he and his new wife were hams and neither had a 2-meter rig with which to play on the lower end of 2 meters.

Of course you can opt for newer gear at an increase in initial cost. However, if you are doing this on a restricted budget, you won't have as much money to spend on other things for the station. My personal VHF+ station has a Yaesu FT-726R tri-band VHF/UHF transceiver that uses plug-in modules to cover the various bands. It has a full-duplex satellite board that allows you to listen to your downlink signal from the "bird" while you are transmitting on the uplink. It has a digital VFO and readout and cost me approximately \$400 on the internet. Add about \$200 for its successor, the FT-736, a quad-band transceiver. Power output on my 726 is about 10–12 watts on 6 meters, 2 meters, and 70 cm. The 736 has a higher power output and a better receiver section. However, for my initial \$400 investment, I have received countless hours of fun on the high bands at reasonable cost.

A quick look through older issues of *CQ*, *QST*, *ham radio* magazine, and *73 magazine* should yield ads and product reviews on most of this older gear. As a matter of fact, the ARRL published a set of books a few years back (*The ARRL Radio Buyer's Source Book, Vols. 1 & 2*) that is a compilation of *QST* product reviews that take in everything from HF radios to VHF/UHF rigs, accessories, antenna rotors, etc. Therefore, if you are really into doing some research, hit the ham radio fleamarkets and locate copies of these out-of-print books and use them for reference. They are a gold mine of information for someone wanting to buy a used rig. Of course, if you are an ARRL member, you can peruse the back issues of *QST* online and glean a lot of good info on your prospective piece of VHF hardware that way.

Don't forget the members of your local ham radio club. Put the word out at a meeting or on the club website that you are interested in starting to explore the weak-signal end of the VHF/UHF bands and need some guidance. The weak-signal crowd is a great bunch and always stands ready to help a new-



*This Mirage 2-meter mast-head preamp is one very nice piece of VHF+ gear at a reasonable list price of \$199.95. Sure it sounds like a lot of money, but it really improves your 2-meter reception while keeping the overall noise to a bare minimum.*

comer to their special facet of the ham radio hobby. You never can tell; maybe one of the experienced club members has an older VHF+ rig that he/she might loan you for a trial run, or possibly sell you outright. Either way you are on the road to having a great time in ham radio!

### Gain vs. Noise ... Life at VHF

The first thing that anyone who's been in the VHF+ business for a while will tell you is that "noise" is bad! The second thing they will tell you is that you need all the receiver gain you can handle and then some. They are right on both counts, within reason. The old adage "you can't work 'em if you can't hear 'em" is oh so true. However, misapplied receiver gain can be a bad thing. To fully understand where we are going with this we need to lay some ground work regarding *noise*, *gain*, and *noise figure* (NF), and define some terms.

All receiving systems (starting at the antenna and ending at the speaker or headphones) generate noise. This noise is a product of electrons moving within a solid-state device (transistor, FET, etc.), mixing products within the IF (intermediate frequency circuits), synthesizer phase noise, atmospheric noise, and a host of other factors, including oxidized connections on your antenna boom to element clamps, and poor solder connections on your coaxial cables, just to name a couple. This noise is cumulative. This total system noise needs to be kept to an absolute

minimum to be sure you can work the weak ones on the bands. Your system noise initially is set at the antenna and increases as you progress toward the receiver. That is why experienced VHF+ operators insist on placing any receiver preamps as close to the antenna as possible. That way the noise factor (that little number in dB that is specified by the manufacturer) of the preamp is factored in prior to any additional noise generated by the rest of the system. If your preamp is capable of 20 dB of gain, and is placed close to the radio as opposed to at the antenna, any noise generated in the system is also amplified by the gain of the preamp!

The reason is relatively simple to understand if you look at the situation from a noise point of view rather than a signal (S-meter) standpoint. Let's say your super-hot preamp has a gain factor of 20 dB. *That's a lot of gain!* The noise factor (NF) is the amount of noise generated internally inside the preamp and must be factored into the entire equation. Normally the NF of a preamp is around .8 to 3.0 dB, depending upon manufacturer, circuit layout, and the solid-state devices employed. What this means, in effect, is that along with 20 dB of gain, the preamp will inject between .8 and 3.0 dB of noise into the system. The normal ears can hear a 1-dB change. While it might be hard to distinguish a noise increase of .8 dB, most people will definitely hear a 3.0-dB change. Therefore, you may be able to actually hear a change in back-



ground noise when you switch in the preamp.

By placing the preamp at or near the antenna feed point (these are called "mast-head preamps") you can keep the overall system noise in check and provide gain at the same time. The gain of the preamp is secondary to the NF. If you are going to sacrifice anything, sacrifice gain in favor of noise. In other words, drop a few dB of signal gain in favor of a decreased NF. This will allow you to hear the weaker stations and not cover them up with the system noise of your station.

Mirage and Applied Receiver Research both market very well-designed mast-head preamps for a number of bands. They are not cheap, but you get what you pay for. I have used the 2-meter and 70-cm Mirage preamps with great results. And at my location, with my limited antennas, I need all the help I can get!

### Thick as a Brick

Among the many things one can acquire at hamfest fleamarkets is a "brick" amplifier. They get the "brick" pseudonym since they are normally a compact solid-state amp with an extremely large heat sink attached. The shape and weight equate to a "brick." Now you know!

Normally these amps take between 2 to 15 watts input and yield somewhere between 10 to 85 watts output on your favorite VHF+ band. Recently I procured an old Tokyo Hy-Power 85-watt (CW/SSB) linear power amp that features a 15-dB receiver preamp. Total cost—\$20! I really didn't expect the amp to work, especially at that price. However, after firing it up on the bench I was rewarded with about 80 watts output on 2 meters while driving the amp with the FT-726 in the CW mode running about 10 watts key-down output. Hmm ... that was about right! The receiver preamp worked, too, so I was really ahead of the power curve on this particular purchase. Twenty bucks for a 60-watt increase in RF output (about 9 dB of gain): is not bad! Moral of the story: There are real good deals out there; you just have to look for them.

That's it for this month, gang. We will return to the VHF+ topic again and continue our quest to build a quality, high-band station on a budget. In the interim, don't forget to drop me an e-mail with feedback regarding the "Learning Curve."

73, Rich, K7SZ



This is the back end of the Mirage control box. Notice that it takes 12 VDC and this is applied to the coaxial cable going to the mast-head preamp to provide working voltages for the preamp circuitry. Nice, neat and clean.

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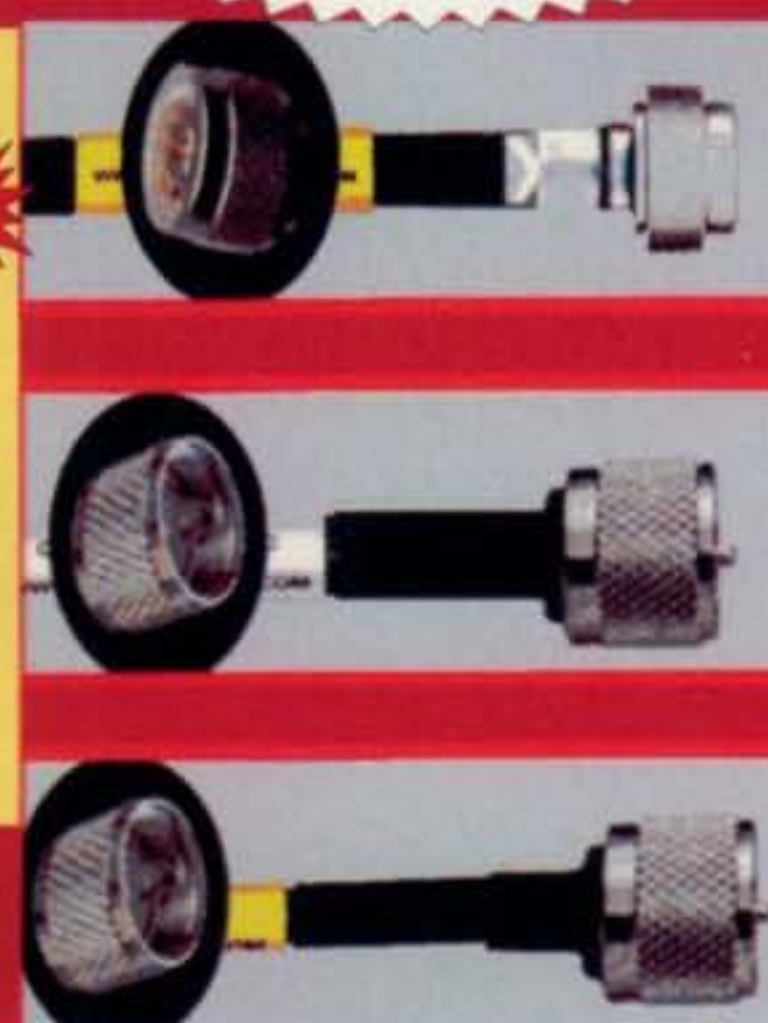
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## Sporadic-E Propagation and the VHF+ Bands

From the middle of this month through the end of July, and again in late November to early January, sporadic-E propagation appears more frequently on the VHF+ frequencies in the Northern Hemisphere.

This type of propagation occurs when there's a sporadic ionization of the E-layer (the layer between 90 and 160 km above the Earth). The ionization takes the form of clouds of ionized gases that move, growing larger and more intense, and then shrink and dissipate. These ionized clouds appear in the late morning and late afternoon local time. Late-afternoon ionization can last until well after sundown.

For example, one evening I was listening to a local net on a 2-meter repeater. A new ham checked in at nearly 2300 local time to exclaim that 10 meters was "just hopping with signals." I picked up the clue and immediately turned on my 6-meter radio. The last of the signals on that band faded around 0100 local time. I then switched to 10 meters, where propagation continued for another hour or so.

Sporadic-E ionization propagation has properties similar to other forms of E-layer propagation. Depending on the density of the ionization, there's a critical frequency (CF), a lowest optimum frequency (LOF), and a maximum usable frequency (MUF); over this range of frequencies usable signals are refracted back to Earth. The CF frequency refracts signals sent straight up straight back down. The LOF is the lowest frequency that will sustain propagation. The MUF is the maximum frequency that can sustain propagation. The MUF is usually about five times the CF. Although the LOF of a sporadic-E event has been detected as low as 14 MHz, interest in the low end hasn't been as strong as interest in the MUF of a particular opening. This is partly because it's very difficult to distinguish sporadic-E propagation from other forms of propagation happening at the same time.

As VHF+ operators, we're interested in knowing how high in frequency we can use this mode of propagation. Obviously, 50 MHz is the VHF+ band that benefits most from sporadic-E. However, 144 MHz and, on very rare occasions, 222 MHz have experienced sporadic-E propagation. The historic 220-MHz contact between Bill Duval, K5UGM (in Irving, Texas), and John Moore, W5HUQ/4 (near Jacksonville, Florida), on June 14, 1987 at 1544 UTC is the first known documented sporadic-E contact ever made on that band.

Sometimes clouds of ionization may be in just the right places to cause double-hop sporadic-E propagation. Clouds are less often in enough of the right places to induce triple-hop, or greater, sporadic-E. For example, almost every summer hams living on the upper eastern coast of the United

### VHF Plus Calendar

April 30–May 1	SBMS 2 GHz and Up Club Contest. Third weekend of DUBUS EME contest.
May 3	New Moon
May 5	The $\eta$ Aquarids meteor shower peak
May 7-8	Fourth weekend of DUBUS EME contest
May 10	First quarter Moon
May 15	Moon perigee
May 17	Full Moon
May 20-22	Dayton HamVention®
May 24	Last quarter Moon
May 27	Moon apogee

States experience a few days of multiple-hop sporadic-E into Europe. Sometimes this propagation extends as far south as the Carolinas. Occasionally, there are openings between the West Coast and the Far East. Once in a while, stations in parts of the United States are able to complete their WAS (Worked All States) award when either Hawaii or Alaska stations come in via a multiple-hop sporadic-E path.

For the 6-meter operator, the most popular propagation mode is sporadic-E. It affords regulars to the band opportunities to talk across the country and, on occasion, to foreign countries. It's the most ready-avenue (and probably the first introduction to) DX for the VHF+ operator. Because of its nature, it doesn't take much power to work stations.

What causes sporadic-E? No one seems to know, exactly. Wind shear gets most of the blame because it seems to cause a bunching up of ions, creating a cloud of ionization. However, the wind-shear theory looks questionable when sporadic-E is present without it. The "old wives' tales" of amateur radio that associates sporadic-E propagation with thunderstorms has been given new emphasis with the research work of the Fermi satellite (see below). There is some correlation between E-layer propagation and aurora (more commonly known as auroral-E), as well as meteor showers.

Will sporadic-E occur in your neck of the woods? It depends on where you live. Sporadic-E seems to be most prevalent in the southwestern part of the United States.

How can you learn to depend on sporadic-E propagation? Start by listening to 10 meters. If you hear exceptionally loud signals from an area that's not too far from you geographically, you may want to turn on your 6-meter radio—especially if the "skip" starts to shorten considerably. Once on 6 meters, you can begin listening to see when the skip shortens on the band. You might even find some propagation on 2 meters. Of course, such propagation doesn't always occur. In fact, it only occurs about 10 percent (or less) of the time that it occurs on 6 meters.

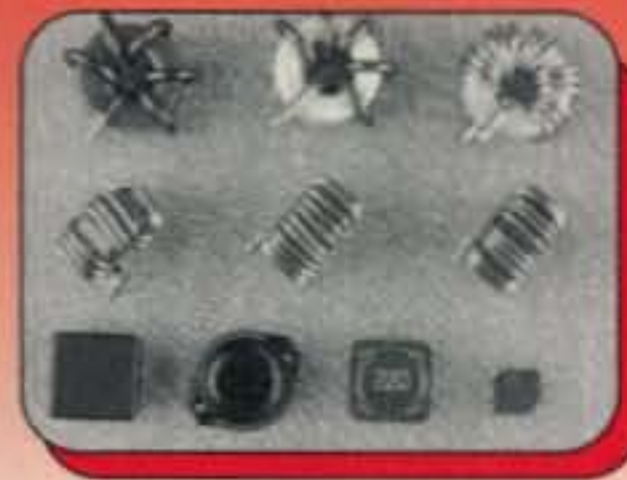
Some hams keep an ear on a clear frequency near the highest frequency on the commercial FM

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spectrum (108 MHz). When signals start coming in from a distance, it would be wise to immediately turn on your 2-meter radio and start transmitting. Sometimes we can "create" our own opening. When listening to the 2-meter band, you can detect all sorts of propagation, from sporadic-E, to tropo, to meteor showers, by listening to a clear frequency on that band.

During high sunspot activity, when F2 type propagation is present more often, sporadic-E has been known to contribute to the lengthening of a path of a propagated signal. For example, frequently DX contacts appear to have been assisted by sporadic-E. Stations in a DX location, such as New Zealand, could be working stations in Arizona when a path opens to Oklahoma for the ZLs, because at the same time a sporadic-E path exists between Arizona and Oklahoma. It appears that the signal took a ride on F2 to Arizona and then hopped a ride the rest of the way via sporadic-E.

Sporadic-E propagation presents an opportunity to communicate with far-away amateur radio operators, while running marginally equipped stations using very low power. Sometimes you'll

find that the signal strength of the station you're working is so intense that you would think it was local. However, you need to work that station quickly, because sometimes an opening closes as soon as it appears. Such is the nature of the clouds that make up sporadic-E propagation.

### Thunderstorms and Sporadic-E

I led my March column with a brief report on NASA's Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope's discovery concerning some of the high-energy gamma-ray photons from the terrestrial gamma-ray flashes (TGFs) that were being converted into pairs of electrons and positrons. There also was a NASA sidebar that showed a plume of gamma rays that extended upward as high as 600 km. At the following site is a NASA video that illustrates what happens during some thunderstorms: [http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/videogallery/index.html?media\\_id=49435631](http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/videogallery/index.html?media_id=49435631).

Once you watch the video, you may ask yourself this question: Is there a positive correlation between thunderstorms and sporadic-E propagation? The video shows how a plume of gamma rays

leaves a thunderstorm and focuses upward, as high as 600 km. At this height, the plume passes through the E-layer, which is between 90 and 160 km. Does E-layer ionization occur when this plume passes through the E-layer?

### Ham Radio Satellites Separate

The following is from Southgate ARC:

Sebastian Munoz, KE5FKV, reports that the two Amateur Radio FASTRAC AX.25 satellites, Sara Lily (437.345 MHz FM) and Emma (145.825 MHz FM), have successfully separated in space.

Sebastian writes: First of all I wanted to thank the HAM radio community all over the world for supporting our project; your support has been incredible and we really value it.

On Monday, March 14, 2011, after a few months of initial operations, we started one of the most exciting phases of our project by separating both of our girls so that they can compute on-orbit real-time relative navigation solutions while both of them are freely drifting from one another.

We sent the command to separate them at 21:56:11 UTC, and over the next few passes we will be checking to confirm their separation. We will continue to update the satellites' TLEs on our website: [http://fastrac.ae.utexas.edu/for\\_radio\\_operators/users/phpBB3/predictedorbit](http://fastrac.ae.utexas.edu/for_radio_operators/users/phpBB3/predictedorbit).



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php>. We really appreciate all of your help so far and we hope that we can continue to count on it.

Thanks again. 73, Sebastian Munoz, KE5FKV, FASTRAC Student Program Manager

## A Reoccurring 2-Meter Activity Night

The following is from Todd Sprinkmann, KC9BQA via the VHF reflector:

Widespread 144 MHz activity occurs every Wednesday night across a large part of the USA. This has been going on for years now, and it keeps expanding and getting better.

When operators check into our nets, we encourage them to slide down on 144.220 and lower, and to call CQ and create their own activity. If dozens of ops in different states and grids do this, then weak-signal 2-meter activity will be able to come alive. Get on board and start enjoying 2 meters on Wednesday nights.

The net controls are: (1) WB9LYH, EN54cl, middle of WI; 144.240 MHz, starting at 0000 UTC. Mark starts by looking north-east and then goes clockwise a full 360 over the next 60-90 minutes. When WB9LYH isn't available, I take over from EN63ao. (2) K8TQK, EM89je, south-central OH; 144.250 MHz, starting at 0030 UTC. Bob starts out looking north, and then goes clockwise a full 360 over the next hour or so. (3) KA0KYZ, EN33qw, far southeast MN; 144.230 MHz, starting at 0200 UTC. Terry starts out looking east, and then goes clockwise in a 360 over the next 30-60 minutes. Terry is often on for a few hours on Wednesday nights. I suspect this net will become very popular as the word gets out about reliable late-evening activity on 2 meters. You night owls, help promote this option.

Additionally, there are also SWOT nets (www.swotrc.net) out of EL99 (0000 UTC) and EM12 (0200 UTC) on 144.250 MHz every Wednesday night. Most of the eastern half of the USA is within range of one of these five nets.

If you have a computer near your rig, register for and log onto the free, real-time VHF ON4KST.com chat that is available anytime, day or night. Post who you're hearing and where you are calling CQ in that chat, and start making more contacts. Check into the IARU Region 2 Chat for 144-432 MHz. The chat celebrated its one-year anniversary on March 11, 2011. If you are unsure of how to register, click on this link for instructions: <<http://kc9bqa.com/?p=3765>>. Please help spread the word and improve VHF. Websites: <<http://www.kc9bqa.com>> for frequent VHF/UHF updates and <<http://www.wivuch.com>> for Wisconsin VHF/UHF County Hunters Award. 73 de Todd Sprinkmann, KC9BQA, EN63ao, 40 miles north of Milwaukee.

## Current Contests

European Worldwide EME Contest 2011: Sponsored by DUBUS and REF,

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the EU WW EME contest is intended to encourage worldwide activity on moon-bounce. Information for this contest is available at the following website: <<http://www.marsport.org.uk/dubus/EMECContest2011.pdf>>.

**Spring Sprints:** These short duration (usually four hours) VHF+ contests are held on various dates (for each band) during the months of April and May. Please check my "VHF Plus" column in CQ magazine for a future announcement.

**2 GHz and Up World Wide Club Contest:** Sponsored by the San Bernardino Microwave Society, this contest runs the second weekend of May. Rules are available at the following URL: <[http://www.ham-radio.com/sbms/2011\\_2ghz-up\\_test.pdf](http://www.ham-radio.com/sbms/2011_2ghz-up_test.pdf)>.

The **June VHF QSO Party** will be held June 11-13.

### Conference and Convention

**Southeast VHF Society:** Their 15th annual conference will be hosted in Huntsville, Alabama, April 29-30. For information on registering for the conference, please check the society's website at <<http://www.svhfs.org/>>.

**Dayton HamVention®:** The Dayton HamVention® will be held as usual at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio May 20-22. For details, please see the website <<http://www.hamvention.org>>. As usual, TAPR and AMSAT are sponsoring a joint banquet on Friday evening. For more information, see the AMSAT website: <<http://www.amsat.org>>. At the same time, the Weak Signal Group is sponsoring a banquet. For more information, contact Tony Emanuele, WA8RJF, at: <[wa8rjf@arrl.org](mailto:wa8rjf@arrl.org)>.

### Calls for Papers

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

**Central States VHF Society Conference:** Technical papers are solicited for the 45th annual Central States VHF Society Conference to be held in the Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas area. Paper submission due date is May 1. For more information please contact Kent Britain, WA5VJB, at <[wa5vjb@flash.net](mailto:wa5vjb@flash.net)>. Also, see the society's website: <<http://www.csvhfs.org/2011conference/callforpapers.html>>.

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the **30th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference** to be held September 16-18 in Baltimore, Maryland, and publication in the conference *Proceedings*. Presentation at the conference is not required for publication. Submission of papers is due by July 31 and should be submitted to: Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, or via the internet to <[maty@arrl.org](mailto:maty@arrl.org)>. For suitable topics and submission guidelines also contact Maty via e-mail and check <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

**Meteor Showers**  
May minor showers include the following and their possible radio peaks: May 6;  $\eta$ -Lyrids, May 9;  $\epsilon$ -Arietids, May 9; May *Arietids*, May 16; and  $\sigma$ -Cetids, May 20.

For more information on the above meteor shower predictions, as well as sporadic-E, please see Tomas Hood, NW7US's "Propagation" column, and visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net>>.

**PZ5RA Confirmations**  
W0W0I suggests 6-meter DXers wishing paper QSL verification of PZ5RA QSOs dispense with mailing SAE and cash to PZ5RA. Multiple attempts to QSL by mail have proven useless. Ramon tells that W0W0I mail delivery from the USA is unreliable, and he does not accept registered mail. Ramon periodically uploads to LoTW for DXCC credit purpose.

### And Finally . . .

In this issue I have once again approached the subject of sporadic-E and thunderstorms. If you have not done so already, please take a look at the NASA video that I mentioned earlier in this column. It may give you something interesting to think about. Hopefully, I will have more to write about this controversial subject in a future column.

As usual, there will be lots of exciting things happening at the Dayton Hamvention®. Perhaps you will find something in the swapmeet that you can make into a project you think might be of interest to this column's readers. If so, please let me know so that I can include your story in a future column.

Again, thank you very much for your support of this, your column.

Until next month...73 de Joe, N6CL

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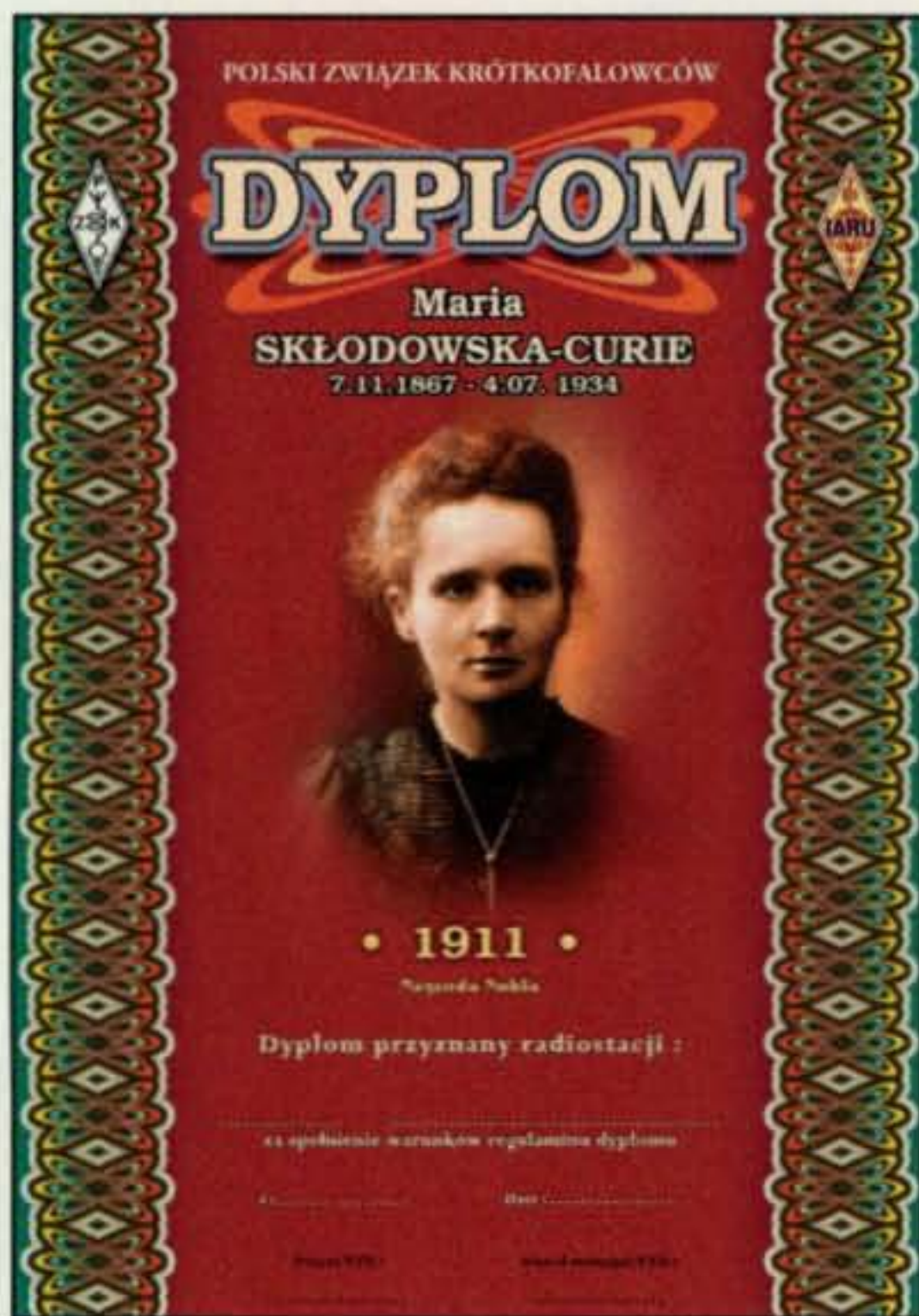
# Honoring Madame Curie's Nobel Prize

**M**aria Sklodowska-Curie (07/11/1867–04/07/1934) was born in Warsaw, Poland. She studied in Paris, where she obtained advanced degrees in physics and conducted her subsequent scientific work. She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity, and the first person honored with two Nobel Prizes—in physics and chemistry. Maria Sklodowska-Curie was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903 in recognition of her research in the field of radioactivity. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize. She created theory of radioactivity and techniques for isolating radioactive isotopes, and she also discovered two new elements, polonium and radium. Madam Curie, as she was known, was the sole winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1911. As one of the most famous female scientists to date, Madam Curie is an icon in the scientific world. The following award from Poland honors her.

## Maria Sklodowska-Curie Award

The award is issued to commemorate Maria Sklodowska-Curie on the 100th anniversary of her being awarded her second Nobel Prize, in chemistry. The award will be granted for making QSOs with Polish stations only in the calendar year 2011,

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



The Maria Sklodowska-Curie Award is being issued in honor of the 100th anniversary of her being awarded her second Nobel Prize, in chemistry. The award will be granted for making QSOs with Polish stations only in the calendar year 2011.

and requires you to earn a total of 100 points. Each QSO with a Polish amateur station = 1 point, and with every special event station (e.g., HF100MSC, SO100MSC, SN100MSC, SP100MSC) = 5 points. At least one QSO with a special event station is mandatory. The award will be also granted for QSOs with five special event stations.

Any bands and modes may be used, and any duplicate QSO with the same station is valid when made on another band or on another mode. Award applications will be accepted March 31, 2012.

Award applications are accepted in any form (abstracts of electronic logs as well as all kinds of paper forms). Send the application along with the 5 Euro fee (via Registered Mail) to the following address: Polski Związek Krótkofalowców, Award Manager PZK, P.O. Box 54, 85-613 Bydgoszcz 13, Poland. E-mail: <sq7b@pzk.org.pl>; Internet: <http://awards.pzk.org.pl/html/Sklodowska.htm>.

## Awards from Colombia

These featured awards are those from our south-

### USA-CA Special Honor Roll

Jerry Nowicki, KG8N  
USA-CA All Counties #1212  
February 9, 2011

Thomas A. Coulson, K8YJ  
USA-CA All Counties #1213  
February 12, 2011

Sandra Tennyson, NØXYL  
USA-CA All Counties #1214  
February 17, 2011

### USA-CA Honor Roll

500		2000	
SM5EDX	3532	KG8N	1408
KG8N	3533	K8YJ	1409
K8YJ	3534	NØXYL	1410
NØXYL	3535	K7ZYV	1411
1000		2500	
KG8N	1809	KG8N	1325
K8YJ	1810	K8YJ	1326
RW2A	1811	NØXYL	1327
NØXYL	1812		
1500		3000	
KG8N	1519	KG8N	1237
K8YJ	1520	K8YJ	1238
NØXYL	1521	N9XYL	1239
K7ZYV	1522		

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.



ern neighbor, Colombia, and specifically the Colombian League of Amateur Radio (LCRA). The award requirements are fairly stiff, but the active operator should have a fairly good chance of earning ZHK award, which requires contacting all ten of the HK call areas.

**General Requirements:** The awards are available to any amateur in the world

**Diploma Departamentos de Colombia**

Orogado a:  
**HK3CW**  
Roberto Rey C.

Nº. 001

Make two-way contact with each of the 32 departments of Colombia to earn the Worked Colombian Departments Award.

**Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados**

Orogado a:  
**ZHK**  
Juan Reyes - HK4DR  
Bogotá, Mayo 10 de 2010

Nº. 001

For the Diploma ZHK, contact stations in each of the 10 zones (call areas) of Colombia.

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who meets the requirements. They may be endorsed for all Phone/SSB, CW, Digital, and Mixed Modes. Colombian stations must submit QSL cards when applying for an award, along with a list of contacts, including call sign of station contacted, department name, UTC, date, and mode. Foreign stations must send a list (no QSL cards) with the stamp of an IARU member society. Apply to: Liga Amateur Radio Colombiana, Contests and Diplomas, Apartado Aereo No. 584, Santa fé de Bogotá, Colombia. Internet: <[http://www.lcra.org.co/seccion.php?ids=40&nombre=concursos\\_y\\_diplomas](http://www.lcra.org.co/seccion.php?ids=40&nombre=concursos_y_diplomas)>

**Worked Colombian Departments.** Make two-way contact with each of the 32 departments of Colombia. Contacts on or after January 1, 1970 count towards the award.

The Departments of the Republic of Colombia are:

Amazonas, Antioquia, Arauca, Atlantic, Bolivar, Boyacá, Caldas, Caquetá, Casanare, Cauca, Cesar, Chocó, Córdoba, Cundinamarca, Guainia, Guaviare, Huila, La Guajira, Magdalena, Meta, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Putumayo, Quindío, Risaralda, San Andrés y Providencia, Santander, Sucre, Tolima, Valle del Cauca, Vaupés, and Vichada.

The cost of the award of the departments of Colombia is \$20col for HK and \$US15 for all others.

**Diploma ZHK.** Contact stations in each of the 10 zones (call areas) of Colombia on or after January 1, 1970.

The 10 zones of Colombia are:

Zone 1: Atlantic, Bolivar Córdoba y Sucre Córdoba, and Sucre.

Zone 2: Guajira, Magdalena, Cesar, and Norte de Santander.

### The First USA-CA All Counties Recipient in the Czech Republic

Antonin Blaha, OK1APV

USA-CA All Counties #1210, December 17, 2010

The USA-CA Award for non-American stations is one of the most difficult awards. I started in 1967 and I got the last county in 2010. In the past my activity varied in accordance with the propagation, and sometimes was very little due to my occupation.

I got my call sign, OK1APV, in 1966. At the beginning I was allowed to work only on 160 and 80 meters with 10 watts. Later I was allowed to work with 50 watts, and then gradually with 200 watts on all bands. The best band for me was 40 meters. I used 200 watts and an G5RV antenna, all homemade. I think that my signals were very good and I could work all continents, but I preferred to work the U.S. stations, including the mobile stations.

The first information for me concerning the USA-CA was in 1969. It interested me very much and I started to hunt everybody I heard. There was a lack of information about who would travel and where, as there were not many OK stations that could give me some help, so I had to find some information on the bands. The Czech ham magazines did not publish anything about it and I was not able to get the U.S. magazines. All the necessary information I had to find out on the bands.

A great help was to participate in U.S. contests, QSO parties, and County Hunter activities. I even got some awards for first place in the DX category. I got some new counties. Later I was on the County Hunters Net and that helped me very much. The perfect organization and fb net controls. I got information about lists of the /M stations and information about the dates of their activities. Some of the call signs I can remember even now. Without their help it wouldn't have been possible to get the award. Some of them were: N9AG, KV0E, NG0T, WA6VJP, W1TEE, N5QQ, N0CYB, W0GXQ, and many other excellent operators. Apologies to those I forgot to name here. Many thanks, friends.

Most of my Qs were on CW because I did not have any commercial equipment. I got only about 66 counties on SSB. The big problem was to copy the call signs and the names of the counties. Some signals were very weak. Improvement came with the internet, where there was a lot of information about activities, sometimes a long time before the start of an activity. I have been using a PC since 2006. Others were using the PC much earlier. A big help was the USA Road Atlas. I had chance to follow the routes to where the expedition travelled. Sometimes I waited in a queue and when it was my turn the propagation had ended. I had to wait for a new expedition.

It was very exciting to get a new county. When the propagation was good I was on the band almost every night. I worked the next to last county I needed on September 18, 2010 at 16:48 GMT. I worked Eddy and Barbara, W5/G4KHG, from Carton County, NM. After that QSO I was very happy, and I thank my XYL Eva, who has tolerated my hobby for many years. (Thanks a lot, Eva!)



The First USA-CA All Counties Recipient in the Czech Republic, Antonin Blaha, OK1APV, USA-CA All Counties #1210.

At the end, though, I had found that as of November 15, 2001 there was a new county, Broomfield, CO, and that there was only one station there, W0QE. I checked my logs and found my QSO with him. I worked him on May 4, 2003. Immediately I sent him my QSL card direct and it was the last county, #3077.

I received these endorsements:

Sept. 20, 1980, USA-CA 500, #1517, All CW

Sept. 20, 1980, 1000, #623, CW

Sept. 13, 1982, 1500, #607, CW

Feb 25, 1984, 2000, # 609, CW

Apr. 23, 1985, 2500, #583, CW, #1 in OK

Dec. 17, 2010, 3000, #1235, CW/SSB

Dec 17, 2010, 3077, #1210, CW/SSB, first in OK

My station is all homemade: antennas are LW, G5RV 3-el Yagi, quad, and dipoles. I bought an old Kenwood TS-520 in 1998. I have had a Kenwood TS-830 + SB-200 since 1998. I also have a Yaesu FT1000 MP + ACOM 1010.

There are about 115,000 QSOs in my logs.

I would like to thank all the U.S. operators who helped me with the outstanding success of getting the USA-CA All Counties award as a first in OK country. A lot of thanks to all the operators who congratulated me on that success and who still remember my call sign, OK1APV. I wish good luck to all USA-CA County Hunters.

—73, Tonda, OK1APV



Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados

The Diploma CHK will be awarded to any licensed amateur radio operator who proves two-way contact with at least 100 amateur radio stations in Colombia.

Zone 3: Cundinamarca, Meta, and Vichada.

Zone 4: Antioquia and Choco.

Zone 5: Valle del Cauca and Cauca.

Zone 6: Caldas, Tolima, Risaralda, Quindío, and Huila.

Zone 7: Santander, Boyacá, Arauca, and Casanare.

Zone 8: Nariño, Putumayo, and Caqueta.

Zone 9: Amazonas, Vaupés, Guainía, and Guaviare.

Zone 10: Island territories San Andrés/Providencia and Malpelo.

The cost of the Diploma ZHK is \$20col for HK and \$US10 for all others.

**Diploma CHK.** The diploma will be awarded to any licensed amateur radio operator who proves two-way contact with at least 100 amateur radio stations in Colombia on or after January 1, 1960. Valid prefixes for the CHK diploma are HK, HJ, 5K, and 5J. Provide complete contact information including station contacted, UTC, date, and mode. The cost of the Diploma CHK is \$20col for HK and \$US10 for all others.

We're always looking for new awards from your group or club to publicize in this column. Please contact me via e-mail: <k1bv@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

73, Ted, K1BV

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# The Sunspots Are Back!

**A**h, signs of spring are in the air (as I write this in early March), and are we ever happy to see/feel them. A huge surprise in the way of solar activity came about for both weekends of the ARRL DX contest. The CW weekend (February 19–20) was good, but the SSB weekend (March 5–6) was *very* good. A solar flux of nearly 150 was reported for Sunday, with a couple of reports showing long-path openings from Florida to BV, and K3LR reporting an opening to JA at 1330Z. Considering all we have been through for the past few years, these reports are outstanding. Now keep hoping for it to continue, please!

## DXpeditions of Note

**CY0, Sable Island** was finally put on the air in early March. After all the headaches and delays, Randy, N0TG, and friends were able to reach the island on Saturday, March 5th. I'll have more on their activity next time.

In the past month we had two very good DXpeditions: S9DX from Sao Tome and TJ9PF from Cameroon.

The **S9DX** team consisted of Rene, DL2JRM; Sid, DM2AYO; Rolf, DL7VEE; Ulli, DD2ML; Klaus, DK1AX; Jurgen, DF1AL; Robin, DO2XX; and Harry, DM5TI. These eight ops did a super job as evidenced by the wrap-up report on their website:

All good things must come to an end, and after 13 days of operation the S9DX DXpedition has come to its final QSOs. Overall, around 66,697 contacts were made. It was achieved by a small team of eight operators ranging in age from 21 to 71 years old with different backgrounds and different amateur radio experience. Detailed planning and preparations started long before we made the first QSO and

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



These eight German ops posted an outstanding 67,000 QSOs from Sao Tome as S9DX in February. (Photo from the S9DX website, <<http://s9dx.hkmann.de/>>)

in the end allowed us to achieve our goals. The three stations consisted of Elecraft K3 transceivers, Tokyo Hy-Power THP HL-550fx amplifiers, MicroHam MK II interfaces, and SteppIR antennas. It has been great fun for us to please the ham radio community worldwide with the ability to work a new country, on a new band or mode. There may, as always, have been something that could be improved, but we tried our best to provide a contact. We realize that many wishes were fulfilled and as a whole the amateur community was well behaved when it came to the pile-ups. We should never forget that amateur radio is a hobby. Thanks to all of you who made our DXpedition a success and we apologize for those who did not make it into the log.

*For the team of S9DX, Harry, DM5TI*

The **TJ9PF** Cameroon operation was sponsored by F6KOP (Radio Club Provins). The team was large, consisting of F4AJQ, F5UFX, F2JD, F6ENO, F5EOT, F8BJI, F1HRE, F6BIV, F5PED, F1NGP, F5VHQ, FM5CD, DJ7JC, I2VGV, ON7RN, and three from the USA—K4SV, N2WB, and N6OX. These 18 ops did an outstanding job from February 11–20, providing a total of 67,570 QSOs with 18,267 unique callsigns.

The last posting on their website says:

The last QSO has been logged at 1200Z. The first target of 80,000 QSO wasn't reached, but despite all of the problems they suffered with electricity, static, and propagation they finally stopped at about 67,611 QSOs.

One of the most important things is they have once again broken the RTTY QSOs number world record in a DXpedition, with more than 17,000. They kept the previous record since they broke it for the first time in 2009 during the TS7C expedition. They also keep the Digital DXpedition QSO World record. Yann, F1NGP, has uploaded the complete logbook on the "Club\_log" website at: <<http://www.clublog.org/charts/?c=TJ9PF&a=embed>>. The corrections to be made will be considered when Yann will be back home. They are all occupied dismantling and packing the gear. They have no more time, for the bus will pick up them at the hotel at 1700 for driving to the airport. Many thanks to all of you who made TJ9PF a success.

*73, from the TJ9PF team  
Forwarded by Maurice, F5NQL*

## Club Log Charts

A number of DXers have started making a challenge of the Club Log charts on these DXpeditions. If you are not familiar with the Club Log website, you might want to take a look at <<http://www.clublog.org/>>. Fig. 1 is a sample of the Log Chart for TJ9PF showing all of the QSOs I had with the team. The boxes change from red to green when the DXpedition logs are uploaded and a QSO with your call is shown for the respective band/mode. It's great fun to challenge your local DXing friends to see who can fill in the most boxes.

There are some other "fun" links that will show where you "rank" in your particular CQ Zone



and/or in your continent based on the number of green boxes you have. Many DXpeditions are making use of Club Log for their log search, and it can be quite useful and a lot of fun.

## Getting New Ones by Working Contests

Working contests can be a very useful tool in your quest to work new ones. Some places that see little "normal" activity are the places that folks go to just for a contest. The Caribbean is especially active during contests, but you will also find some Pacific islands and others that see activity just for a contest.

### 5 Band WAZ

As of March 1, 2011, 836 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1713 stations have attained the 150 zone level.

New recipients of 5 Band WAZ with all 200 zones confirmed:

OZ8BZ IT9PKO

The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (zones needed, 80 or 40 meters):

N4WW, 199 (26)	K9OW, 199 (34 on 10)
W4LI, 199 (26)	G3NKC, 199 (31 on 10)
K7UR, 199 (34)	K8PT, 199 (26)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	K9UP, 199 (21)
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)
N6HR/7, 199 (37)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
N4XR, 199 (27)	W7VJ, 198 (34, 37)
HA5AGS, 199 (1)	W9RN, 198 (26, 19 on 40)
VE3XN, 199 (26)	W5CWQ, 198 (17, 18)
N5AW, 199 (17)	I5KKW, 198 (31&23 on 20)
JH7CFX, 199 (2)	IV3MUC, 198 (1&31 on 40)
K7LJ, 199 (37)	UA4LY, 198 (6&2 on 10)
RA6AX, 199 (6 on 10m)	IK4CIE, 198 (1, 31)
RX4HZ, 199 (13)	JA7XBG, 198 (2 on 80&10)
K0GM, 199 (17)	HB9ALO, 198 (1, 31)
S58Q, 199 (31)	JA3GN, 198 (2 on 80&40)
KQ0B, 199 (2 on 10)	

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

VE2BR (200 zones) IT9PKO (200 zones)

5 Band WAZ updates:

K9UP (200 zones) N6UK (179 zones)  
W2LK (187 zones) K6ZZ (190 zones)  
K6FW (180 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>.

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## The WPX Program

**CW**  
3261.....DK8MCT 3263.....WB3LHD  
3262.....UU2JFX

**SSB**  
3090.....DK8MCT 3091.....WB3LHD

**Mixed**  
2142.....DK8MCT 2146.....K9OHI  
2143.....KF6A 2147.....K4WY  
2144.....WB3LHD 2148.....N3ALN  
2145.....K1UR

**CW:** 450 WB3LHD. 700 DK8MCT. 750 JE3CYH. 3150 W8IQ.  
**SSB:** 450 WB3LHD. 550 N3ALN. 600 DK8MCT. 4550 I2PJA.  
**Mixed:** 600 KF6A, N3ALN. 650 K4WY. 950 WB3LHD. 1000 DK8MCT. 1300 AA1VX. 1400 DH5MM. 4050 JH8BOE. 4150 WA5VGI. 4600 I2PJA.

15 meters: WB3LHD

**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, LU3YL/W4, NN4Q, KA3A, VE7WJ, VE7IG, N2AC, W9NUF, N4NX, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, WD9IIC, W3ARK, LA7JO, VK4SS, I8YRK, SM0AJU, N5TV, W6OUL, WB8ZRL, WA8YTM, SM6DHU, N4KE, I2UIY, I4EAT, VK9NS, DE0DXM, DK4SY, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, I2DMK, SM6CST, VE1NG, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, H18LC, KA5W, K3UA, HA8UB, HA8XX, K7LJ, SM3EVR, K2SHZ, UP1BZZ, EA7OH, K2POA, N6JV, W2HG, ONL-4003, W5AWT, N3XX, HB9CSA, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, 9A2NA, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I6DQE, I1EEW, I8RFD, I3CRW, VE3MS, NE4F, KC8PG, F1HWB, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, KC7EM, YU1AB, IK2ILH, DE0DAQ, I1WXY, LU1DOW, N1IR, IK4GME, VE9RJ, NN1N, HB9AUT, KC6X, N6IBF, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HMJ, HB9DDZ, W0ULU, K9XR, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, IK2MRZ, KS4S, KA1CLV, WZ1R, CT4UW, K0IFL, WT3W, IN3NJ, 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, TF8GX, S58MU, UX1AA

**160 Meter Endorsements:** N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, VE3XN, DL3RK, OK1MP, N4NO, W4BQY, W4VQ, KF2O, WB8CNL, W1JR, W5UR, W8ILC, K9BG, W1CU, G4BUE, LU3YL/W4, NN4Q, VE7WJ, VE7IG, W9NUF, N4NX, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, W3ARK, LA7JO, SM0AJU, N5TV, W6OUL, N4KE, I2UIY, I4EAT, VK9NS, DE0DXM, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, SM6CST, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, H18LC, KA5W, K3UA, K7LJ, SM3EVR, UP1BZZ, K2POF, IT9TQH, N6JV, ONL-4003, W5AWT, N3XX, F6BVB, YU7SF, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, K9LJN, YB0TK, K9QFR, W4UW, NX0I, WB4RUA, I1EEW, ZP5JCY, KA5RNH, IV3PVD, CT1YH, ZS6EZ, YU1AB, IK4GME, NN1N, W5ODD, I0RIZ, I2MQP, F6HMJ, HB9DDZ, K9XR, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, KS4S, KA1CLV, K0IFL, WT3W, IN3NJ, 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, S58MU, UX1AA.

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.





A few of the operators at TJ9PF: Yann, F1NGP; Bob, N6OX; and Jean-Paul, F8BJI. (Photo courtesy of Dave, K4SV)



When planning a two-week trip to a far-off place with no RadioShack around the corner, you have to be sure and take everything you might need. Here are the bags packed and ready to transport to Cameroon for the TJ9PF operation. (Photo from the TJ9PF website <<http://www.tj9pf.fr/>>)

	10m	12m	15m	17m	20m	30m	40m	80m	160m
PH	Red	Green	Green	Red	Green	White	Green	Red	Red
CW	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
RTTY	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	White

Fig. 1— N4AA's sample of Log Chart for Qs with TJ9PF.

You don't have to go "full bore" in a contest. You can S&P (search and pounce) just looking for new ones. If you are able, you can use the Cluster network to spot the ones that you need and just work those. Just in case you are not "up to speed" with your CW, you can really increase your ability by working CW contests, both sending and receiving.

### Morse Code Use Increasing

Speaking of CW, I was reminded of an

item I recently saw about the use of Morse Code. Take note of the following:

An analysis by *WorldRadio Online* columnist Randall Noon, KC0CCR, suggests that levels of on-air ham activity and Morse Code usage both have increased since the FCC dropped the requirement for Morse Code testing in early 2007. Noon is the magazine's FISTS columnist. FISTS is an organization that promotes the use of Morse Code among hams.



Bob, W7YAQ/T30YA (left), and Bill, N7OU/T30OU, planted their 160-meter vertical in the water of the lagoon on Tarawa. Are those cans in their hands? Well, they say the cans were "XXXX beer from VK4." They spent 13-plus days on Tarawa in February making 22,826 QSOs, including 1098 on RTTY. The rest were on CW. (Photo courtesy of Bill, N7OU)

## The WAZ Program

### 6 Meters

100 .....OK1RD (25 zones)

### 10 Meters SSB

591 .....IT9PKO

### 15 Meters SSB

646 .....IT9PKO

### 40 Meters SSB

111 .....IT9PKO

### 17 Meters CW

76 .....K8VFF

### 160 Meters

369 .....OZ8BZ (34 zones) 370 .....S53R (40 zones)

### All Band WAZ Diamond Jubilee

104 .....JR6IKD 107 .....DL3DXF  
105 .....JH8CZB 108 .....JA7MSQ  
106 .....LY3BM

### Mixed

8780 .....WD6FF 8784 .....SM5CAR  
8781 .....DC9ZP 8785 .....VK3HJ  
8782 .....VE5TLW 8786 .....RK3ZZ  
8783 .....LA6JKA 8787 .....IW0HQE

### SSB

5154 .....KD0HUC 5155 .....IZ2ACD

### CW

617 .....UR5AO 620 .....DF3DK  
618 .....JR1AHP 621 .....DJ5FZ  
619 .....OH1LFF

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>.



## 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

6271.....9A2AA	4290.....I2PJA	3967...ON4CAS	3105...KC9ARR	2530.....YO9HP	2192.....N2SS	1512...WD9DZV	976.....KM6HB	653.....KK3Q
5919.....K2VV	4250.....S53EO	3892...YU7BCD	3104.....K9UQN	2511.....W6OUL	2001.....K0KKG	1463.....N3RC	964.....K8ZEE	650.....N3YZ
5575.....W1CU	4158.....N6JV	3773.....IK2ILH	3091.....9A4W	2499.....VE6BF	1971.....W2FKF	1462.....DL4CW	815.....KL7FAP	649.....RA9OO
5013.....EA2IA	4129.....S58MU	3770.....W9OP	3007.....W2WC	2493.....I5RFD	1936.....AG4W	1446.....DF3JO	781.....V51YJ	644.....KW0H
4979.....9A2NA	4078.....K0DEQ	3712...WB2YQH	3003...JN3SAC	2440.....K5UR	1905.....W7CB	1337...K6UXO	726.....K5IC	636.....ZS2DL
4949.....W2FXA	4057.....I2MQP	3474...SM6DHU	3001.....K1BV	2428.....N6QQ	1862.....VE9FX	1322.....AA4FU	723.....K0DAN	616.....DL5JH
4676.....N4NO	4044.....KF2O	3305...JH8BOE	2922...OZ1ACB	2338.....I2EAY	1818.....KX1A	1269...K5WAF	707...W1/E74OF	600.....IK1RKN
4399.....YU1AB	4022.....N9AF	3242.....N8BJQ	2724.....W2OO	2233.....AB1J	1655...SV1DPI	1116...YU7FW	682.....AI8P	600...KB9OWD
4344.....VE3XN	4019...WA5VGI	3207.....W9IL	2559.....W3LL	2116.....AE5B	1593.....S55SL	982.....IW0HOU	662.....JA7OXR	

### SSB

5122.....I0ZV	3536.....N4NO	2779...YU7BCD	2333.....W9IL	2094.....I8LEL	1927.....AE5B	1612.....AG4W	1377...EA3NP	978.....EA7HY
4520.....K2VV	3323...OE2EGL	2761...KF7RU	2326...CX6BZ	2093...W2WC	1889...N6QQ	1611...W2ME	1258...N1KC	965...VE6BF
4505...VE1YX	3296...KF2O	2711...LU8ESU	2288...W3LL	2076...K2XF	1879...K3IXD	1534...AE9DX	1145...EA3EQT	883...WA5UA
4422...OZ5EV	3229...CT1AHU	2689...WA5VGI	2210...SV3AQR	2072...K5UR	1844...YO9HP	1480...AB5C	1089...IZ8FFA	875...K7SAM
4371...F6DZU	3108...I4CSP	2595...EA1JG	2209...IK2QPR	2066...IK2DZN	1825...KQ8D	1464...VE7SMP	1083...KX1A	758...IV3GOW
4238...I2PJA	3047...K0DEQ	2497...S58MU	2201...NQ3A	2041...N8BJQ	1758...W6OUL	1463...I2EAY	1042...IZ0BNR	741...WD9DZV
4003...9A2NA	3022...I8KCI	2471...I3ZSX	2157...W2OO	1986...DL8AAV	1719...K9UQN	1410...S55SL	1031...IK8OZP	717...K0DAN
3843...I2MQP	2903...IN3QCI	2451...EA3GHZ	2107...N6FX	1971...W2FKF	1711...JN3SAC	1395...PT7ZT	1022...NW3H	637...K5WAF
3741...EA2IA	2857...4X6DK	2417...SM6DHU	2099...K17AO	1935...SV1EOS	1623...VE9FX	1386...IK4HPU	1012...KU4BP	600...WA2BEV

### CW

5464...K9QVB	3750...VE7CNE	2914...SM6DHU	2529...IK3GER	2101...I2MQP	1665...YO9HP	1210...DL4CW	813...VE9FX
5413...WA2HZR	3676...S58MU	2884...I7PXV	2503...I0NNY	2101...W9HR	1445...EA2CIN	1160...AA5JG	794...LA5MDA
5277...K2VV	3506...9A2NA	2723...EA7AZA	2502...JA9CWJ	1983...EA7AAW	1429...WO3Z	1147...WD9DZV	753...F5PBL
4215...N4NO	3483...WA5VGI	2721...K9UQN	2473...OZ5UR	1979...K5UR	1424...N6QQ	1125...I0WOK	749...AE5B
4182...N6JV	3379...K0DEQ	2670...KA7T	2434...W9IL	1959...W6OUL	1336...WA2VQV	1109...VE1YX	695...S55SL
4024...LZ1XL	3046...YU7BCD	2632...W2ME	2424...W2WC	1917...W2OO	1312...K6UXO	1102...IT9ELD	629...IV3GOW
3918...VE7DP	3034...KF2O	2631...N8BJQ	2373...VE6BF	1848...I2EAY	1223...KX1A	1049...K5WAF	615...JH6JMM
3780...EA2IA	3018...W8IQ	2617...JN3SAC	2342...N6FX	1768...AC5K	1220...AA4FU	821...HB9DAX	600...IK2SGV

### DIGITAL

1534...W3LL	1133...N6QQ	1009...GU0SUP	836...K0DEQ	641...KF2O
1291...N8BJQ	1066...YO9HP	894...AG4W	692...WD9DZV	629...W2OO

Writing in the February issue of *WorldRadio Online*, Noon based his analysis on a combination of FCC licensing statistics and published results of ARRL Field Day activity from 2005 to 2009. He used Field Day data on the assumption that "people who participate in Field Day are at least minimally active hams."

Comparing statistics for Field Day activity with the total number of licensees, Noon determined that both the raw number and the percentage of licensed hams operating in Field Day had

increased since 2007. In addition, he found that the number of Morse code (CW) contacts during Field Day had increased as well, hitting an all-time peak in 2009. This is significant, he says, "because it is assumed that hams will use the same modes on Field Day that they do when operating at other times."

Since the FCC stopped requiring code tests, Noon concluded, "it appears that CW has gained in absolute usage because the newer hams licensed since 2007 appear to be more active-

### The CQ DX Field Award Program

#### CW

62.....RN3AKK

#### Mixed Endorsements

250.....K2TQC/268      200.....9A5CY/223  
 225.....VE7IG/239      150.....G0DEZ/150

#### CW Endorsements

100.....RN3AKK

The basic award fee for subscribers to *CQ* is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest *CQ* mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.



C-31XR

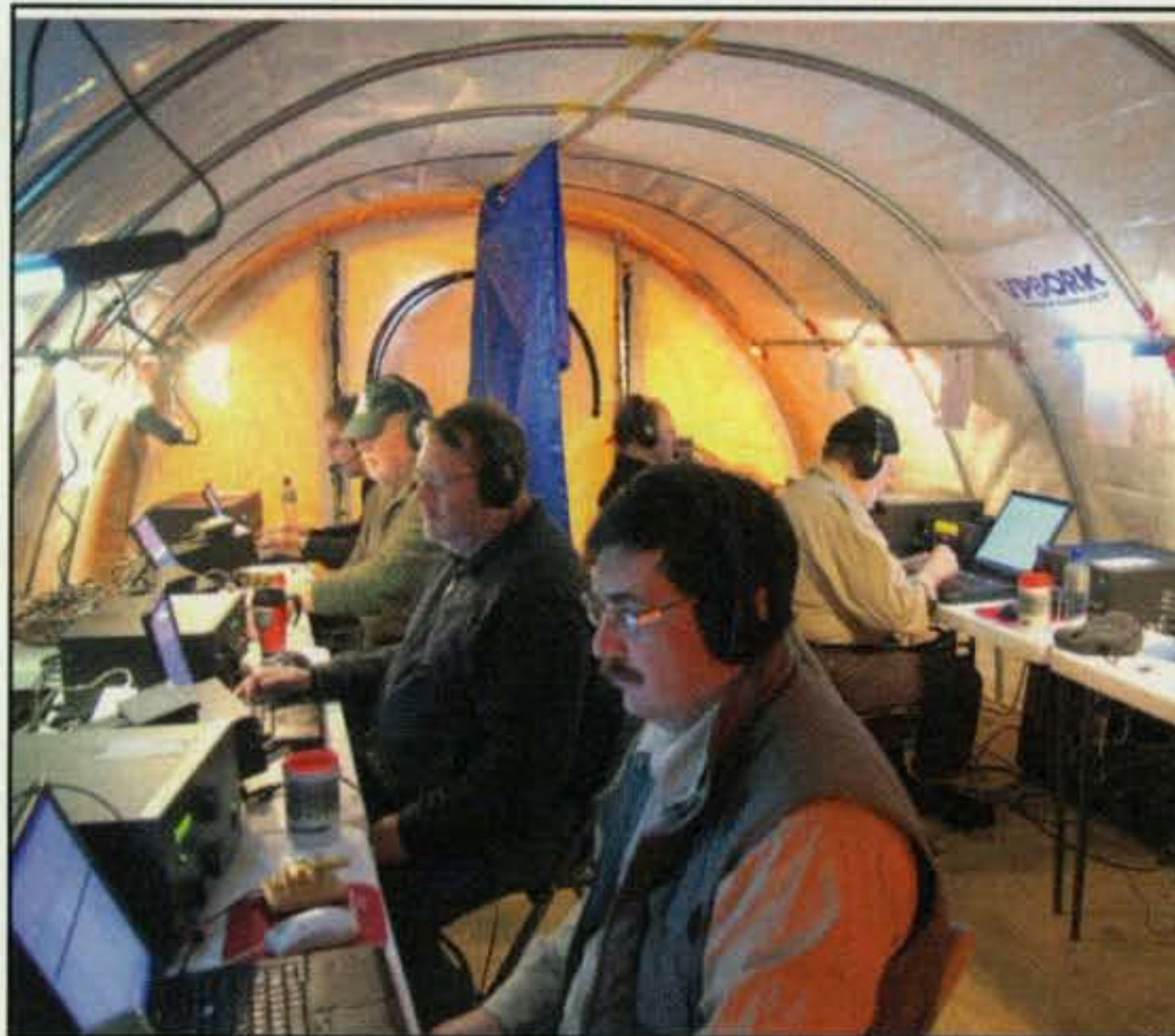
3 Bands, 20 -15 -10  
 3 elements on 20m  
 4 elements on 15m  
 7 elements on 10m  
 Boom length: 31 ft.



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VP8ORK in action. Here are six of the ops handing out those Qs to the deserving. (Photo courtesy of Chaz, W4GKF)



## CQ DX Awards Program

### SSB

2565 .....RNN3AKK

### CW

1120 .....RN3AKK

### SSB Endorsements

340 .....IN3DEI/341	340 .....K9BWQ/340
340 .....N7BK/341	340 .....K7LAY/340
340 .....N5FG/341	340 .....K8LJG/340
340 .....K4MQG/341	330 .....K9IW/339
340 .....K3JGJ/341	330 .....N1ALR/330
340 .....KE5K/341	320 .....W0ROB/323
340 .....K4JLD/341	300 .....AD7J/306
340 .....K9MM/341	275 .....AE99DX/291
340 .....K4JLD/340	

### CW Endorsements

340 .....N5FG/340	330 .....K9IW/339
340 .....K4MQG/340	330 .....K4JLD/339
340 .....N7FU/340	330 .....K3JGJ/338
340 .....W8XD/340	330 .....K7LAY/338
340 .....K9MM/340	330 .....KA7T/338
330 .....K4LJG/339	275 .....WA2VQV/276
330 .....N4MM/339	200 .....RN3AKK/210
330 .....K9BWQ/339	3.5/7 MHz .....RN3AKK

### RTTY Endorsements

330 .....NI4H/338      330 .....N5FG/336

The basic award fee for subscribers to *CQ* is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest *CQ* mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. As of October 12, we recognize 341 active countries, pending a final decision on the former Netherlands Antilles. Please make all checks payable to the award manager. Photocopies of documentation issued by recognized national Amateur Radio associations that sponsor international awards may be acceptable for CQ DX award credit in lieu of having QSL cards checked. Documentation must list (itemize) countries that have been credited to an applicant. Screen printouts from eQSL.cc that list countries confirmed through their system are also acceptable. Screen printouts listing countries credited to an applicant through an electronic logging system offered by a national Amateur Radio organization also may be acceptable. Contact the CQ DX Award Manager for specific details.

ly engaged in the hobby, as evidenced by the higher levels of participation in Field Day.

(WorldRadio Online is available online only, in PDF format. View or download the issues at <<http://www.worldradiomagazine.com>>.—ed.)

I hear some newer licensees talking about "code readers" and I have to wonder why. I tried a few of the devices a number of years ago and found them to be pretty unreliable overall. If I had a strong, stable signal (no QSB and no interference), they would usually copy that signal. If there was any fading or interference, forget it. Now I will admit I have not tried any of today's "gadgets," but I doubt that much has changed over the years. Sure a computer can send code, but I personally don't think there will ever be a substitute for the human ear in distinguishing those dits and dahs

through the noise, especially in a contest environment.

As I write this, I still have a few hours to operate in the ARRL SSB contest, so I'll do that and be back next time with more DX news. Until then, enjoy the chase, and do Have Fun! 73, Carl, N4A

## 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 .....268	KF8UN .....205
HA0DU .....240	OK1AOV .....205
VE7IG .....237	RW4NH .....203
W1CU .....235	N4MM .....202
VE3XN .....234	W4UM .....202
HA5AGS .....228	K8OOK .....195
N8PR .....223	N4NX .....192
9A5CY .....223	ON4CAS .....191
HA1RW .....220	HA9PP .....190
HA1AG .....218	BA4DW .....188
K0DEQ .....216	HB9DDZ .....188
K8SIX .....215	IV3GOW .....184
W6OAT .....212	K2SHZ .....182
VE3ZZ .....207	K1NU .....180
HA5WA .....206	W5ODD .....177
F6HMJ .....206	N0FW .....176
JN3SAC .....206	

### SSB

W1CU .....213	W4UM .....184
W4ABW .....202	N0FW .....176
K0DEQ .....192	DL3DXX .....175
VE7SMP .....190	JN3SAC .....175
N4MM .....186	

### CW

DL6KVA .....233	OK1AOV .....196
W1CU .....229	HB9DZZ .....186
DL2DXA .....209	OK2PO .....184
K0DEQ .....207	N4MM .....179
DL3DXX .....203	N4NX .....177
JN3SAC .....200	N7WO .....175
W4UM .....197	

## QSL Information

E5NOU via N7OU  
 E51PMR via PA3LEO  
 E51SIX via W5GJ  
 E51SNL via PA3LEO  
 E51WET via SM6WET  
 E51WWA via AD7AF  
 E51XBG via HB9XBG  
 E51XIW via PA3LEO  
 E7/N4EXA via K2PF  
 E709WRC via E77E  
 E70R via E77E  
 E73A via 9A2AA  
 E73DX via DJ2MX  
 E73ENS via E73Y  
 E73J via E77E  
 E73M via E73Y  
 E73MMM via E73Y

E73TW via E73Y  
 E73W via E73Y  
 E74A via K2PF  
 E74AW via E77E  
 E74EBL via E77E  
 E74KC via E73Y  
 E74X via E77E  
 E75A via E77E  
 E75DX via E77E  
 E76AQ via E73Y  
 E76C via E77E  
 E77A via 9A2AA  
 E77DX via E77E  
 E77XZ via DK6XZ  
 E78A via E73Y  
 E78G via E77E  
 E78MS via E77E

E7DX via E77E  
 E7HQ via E77E  
 EA/DL1DA via DL1DA  
 EA0JC via EA4URE  
 EA3/F5GPE via F5GPE  
 EA3APX via EA4UV  
 EA5/G0KOM via G0KOM  
 EA5/ON7VMR via ON7VMR  
 EA5/UT2XD via UT2XD  
 EA5/YO4RFV via YO4RFV  
 EA5HQ via EA4URE

(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](mailto:golist@golist.net)>; <<http://golist.net/>>.)



# Identify!

## May's Contest Tip

Make sure to participate in this month's big contest, the CQ WPX CW Contest, May 28–29, where everyone is a multiplier! Your callsign prefix may make you a rare station and you can work anyone, anywhere.

**Y**ou're tuning the bands searching for a contact when you come across a large pile-up. Many stations are calling and you hear someone answering. "59 100" is sent and the calling stations respond with their exchange. "Thanks" and the pile-up resumes. You listen for a while and this repeats a number of times. The calling stations are sending their calls, but all you ever hear from the responder is "thanks" or "QRZ?" After ten contacts, you wonder if the person on the receiving end will ever identify. Right then, he sends his call, but part of it is wiped out by another station. The calling resumes and the pattern repeats. What is wrong with this picture?

Many factors can create scenarios like the one above. DX spotting networks can promulgate worldwide the location of an unusual station. Constant calling by DXers or contesters looking to snag that rare one can create a cacophony of sound. Operations from normally inactive entities can create substantial demand while putting a heavy burden on the operator who may not be used to dealing with such large, unruly pile-ups. Let's look at this situation from two different perspectives: first from that of the station responding to the call and then from the viewpoint of the calling station.

Simply put, for any contact to be successful, there must be a calling station and an answering one. In the good old days when radios were crystal-controlled and shacks were warmed by the glow of tubes, someone would call CQ and then tune the entire band to find someone answering him. Of course with today's modern equipment, our listening bandwidth has constricted significantly. The use of narrow bandpass filters sometimes causes us to miss a caller who is just a hundred Hertz off. Regardless of the listening window, it is important for us to know who we are calling and for the calling station to know who is responding.

For the station who is scanning the band and searching for stations to contact, the most important piece of information needed is the other station's callsign. This allows the "search and pounce" operator to determine if he or she has already worked that person. If so, it's time to move on to the next caller. Once a station's needed status is determined, a multiplier check can be performed. Will this contact result in a score multiplication because they are a new multiplier (country, state, section, prefix, etc.) based on the contest rules? Sometimes a new multiplier can be identified just

\*P.O. Box 657, Copiague, NY 11726  
e-mail: <n2ga@cq-amateur-radio.com>

## Calendar of Events

<b>All year</b>	<b>CQ DX Marathon</b>
May 7–8	7th Area QSO Party
May 7–8	New England QSO Party
May 7–8	ARI DX Contest
May 7–8	Indiana QSO Party
May 7–8	10-10 Spring CW Contest
May 7–8	CQ-M Int'l DX Contest
May 14–15	Volta WW RTTY Contest
<b>May 14–15</b>	<b>CQ WW Foxhunting Weekend</b>
May 21–22	King of Spain CW Contest
<b>May 28–29</b>	<b>CQ WW WPX CW Contest</b>
Jun. 4–5	Alabama QSO Party
Jun. 4–5	SEANET Contest
Jun. 4–5	10-10 PSK Contest
<b>July 16–17</b>	<b>CQ WW VHF Contest</b>

from a callsign, but other times the exchange itself must be heard before this can be determined. Obviously, stations searching the band are waiting to hear a callsign. If they hear a station making contacts but not giving a callsign, they have three choices: to wait and continue to listen for the callsign, to call without knowing the callsign, or to bypass the station and move on to someone else. Which of these choices do you make when someone doesn't give his/her callsign?

For the calling station, maximizing "run rate" (the number of valid contacts per hour) is of foremost importance. To improve your score in any contest, you should try to contact the most stations in as many places as possible. The calling station wants to make many contacts quickly. Once you find an open frequency and call CQ, the first thing you need to do is to get someone else's attention. Your CQ message should do that. There are many ways to call CQ and some depend on the mode being used (CW, RTTY, SSB). For our purposes, we will confine ourselves to CW and SSB operating. Many things can factor into your exact CQ call and you should be flexible depending upon conditions. A longer CQ might be necessary under poor band conditions, if you are running low power or QRP, or when rates are low. A shorter CQ might be better when activity is high; you're at a big gun station or are operating from a rare location. In all cases, though, the most important thing provided in the CQ message should be your callsign! That's what the answering station needs to know to determine if you're a needed contact.

I took a small survey at my local contest club, the Order of Boiled Owls of New York, to get members' opinions on calling CQ. Tom, KA2D, uses two different CQ messages. His primary one is "CQ TEST KA2D KA2D CQ," or when band is hot, "KA2D TEST." Ted, K2QMF, uses "CQ TEST K2QMF K2QMF TEST." Ted, primarily a CW operator, says "short and sweet! You don't need 'de' (from). Also, the last "TEST" is sent faster." Tony, N2UN, uses "TEST N2UN N2UN" and says to





### On the Cover

When people comment on the large collection of old radios and accessories in his ham shack, Bob Fulton, KB9MMJ, says he tells them, "you should see what the basement, the garage and the attic look like!" Most of Bob's radios are in working order, he says, but some, "I haven't even had time to fire up."

Bob keeps busy between his job at a musical instrument manufacturing company, being a volunteer firefighter for more than 40 years and scouring hamfests and garage sales for still more old radios.

"I started playing with radios when I was young," notes Bob, who lives in Lyons, Wisconsin, about 35 miles southwest of Milwaukee. "I started out listening to AM, then shortwave ... when I was 14, I made money by fixing old black and white TVs." Bob says he's been an avid shortwave listener for decades and, although he's been inactive in that area for the past several years, "I got an (ICOM) R-75 (receiver) last year, so I think I'll be doing a lot more of that."

When he joined the fire department, Bob's radio interests expanded to scanners and CB, and ultimately to ham radio. "I've been an avid hamfester for more than 35 years," he noted, "but I've only had my ham license since January, 1996." He currently operates exclusively on VHF and UHF, mostly on 2-meter FM.

Bob's collecting began by thinking "I'd like to have an old CB like I had; and I'd like to get an old monitor radio like I had..." And for the past ten to 15 years, as time has allowed, Bob has slowly been picking up good deals at hamfests and garage sales and on eBay. Overall, Bob estimates that he has more than 600 items in his collection, but notes that "I lost count after 500." (Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI)



Vadim, R9DX, took third place Single-Op Assisted in last year's CQ WW RTTY Contest and set a new Asia record from this clean operating position. (For details of the 2010 CQ WW RTTY Contest, see the results elsewhere in this issue.)

"make the message as short as possible. There is no ambiguity in this message." Frank, N2FF, uses a short "CQ TEST N2FF" call. Mike, N2YBB, states he uses "CQ [contest-name] CQ [contest-name] de Norway Two Yokohama Bravo Bravo (repeat) - Contest." He says he "uses non-accepted phonetics because for some strange reason no one ever gets 'YANKEE'." It comes

back as every other letter." Les, W2LK, uses "CQ (test or SS or other abbreviation) W2LK CQ." He opines that it is "fast and clearly identifies the caller. Ending in CQ lets a late tuner know I am running." Bill, NA2M, uses on SSB: "CQ Contest November Alpha 2 Mike." On CW, Bill uses: "CQ test NA2M." Mel, KS2G, says, "My theory is that the CQ message should be long enough to



Max, KH6ZM, is a familiar callsign in most recent contest logs and placed fifth Single Op, 15 meters, High Power, breaking the Oceania record in last year's CQ RTTY Contest in September 2010.



'establish a presence' so that it will be evident to S&P stations tuning the band, but short enough to not make them wait too long to respond." Mel says that it "should include clear phonetics on phone." He uses "CQ CQ CQ CONTEST, CQ CQ CQ (CONTEST NAME) FROM KS2G KILOWATT SIERA TWO GERMANY CONTEST." Phil, N2MUN, likes "CQ CQ CONTEST, THIS IS N2MUN N2MUN." Diane, K2DO, says "it depends on the contest." Most often, Diane uses "CQ Contest, CQ Contest K2DO K2DO calling CQ Contest." Diane encourages callers to "use internationally recognized phonetics." On CW, I personally use "CQ TEST N2GA N2GA," when it's slow and "N2GA TEST" when it's hot.

How often should you sign your call? This question is a hot topic of debate among contesters. With the advent of spotting assistance, many stations do not wait to hear the spotted station's callsign before responding. Do you think this is a good idea? I also asked this question of some of my contest club members and they had many similar opinions. Ted, K2QMF, stated, "Packet Cluster spots sometimes have the station callsign wrong! You should wait on frequency until the station signs his call to be sure you have it correct!" Tom, KA2D, says, "Spotted stations need to ID more frequently ... if a spotted station does not ID, I will move on. To those who spot, before posting, check to make sure the station's call is correct and you typed the correct call. Sunday spots are terrible, why?" Tony, N2UN, says "The accuracy of packet spots is terrible. Make sure you have all the information correct before spotting any station. Don't repeat recent spots. Don't spot common stations/multipliers.

I favor a rule which would prohibit spots of stations in your own country (state, etc.). Absolutely, never spot yourself—a prohibited practice in some contests."

As far as signing your callsign after a completed exchange, there is a great divergence of opinion as whether it is necessary after each QSO. Tony, N2UN, says, "Sending your callsign during every QSO is the best practice. It is extremely inconsiderate not to send your call, because it creates wasted time for many stations." Les, W2LK, adds, "Nothing is more frustrating than finding out the station you are waiting for has already been worked. It also helps the running station to prevent dupes due to busted spots." Mel, KS2G, says, "Stations should give their callsign EVERY time. Despite what many ops



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## CQ The Radio Amateur's Journal

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think, there is no substantial time saving in *not* giving their callsign, particularly since they inevitably have to contend with stations who make dupe contacts, not knowing who they're calling, and with contacts in which they have to break the flow of their run to give their callsign to stations who work them and then ask for their callsign." Diane, K2DO, agrees and says, "Every time. Because it takes very little time and is good operating practice."

Others disagree slightly, such as Tom, KA2D, who states, "I would prefer after each QSO, but if stations keep calling, after every five or so QSOs." Frank, N2FF, says, "This practice is changing. Five years ago the answer was after every call. That is changing with packet and telnet usage increasing. In many cases, the station have already been posted many times. But those listening to the pile-up need to be able to check that the call is correct as posted. So it is probably a good idea for the station running to send the call every three to five stations worked." Ted, K2QMF, says "If I have a pile-up, I only give my call every third or fourth QSO. If you have a pile-up, the callers already know who you are."

Regardless of which camp you are in, it is evident that most contesters think you need to sign your callsign at least once every three to five contacts. Going more than that is unacceptable. You should try to be conscious of people asking for your call, either by "?" or "CL?" in CW or "What's your call?" in SSB. You should identify more often if you hear a lot of that or if band conditions are poor. On sideband, try to use the standard international phonetic alphabet if at all possible.

What should you do if you have many stations calling you? Les, W2LK, says, "I usually speed up a bit to run them faster but not past the point where I can operate effectively, keeping my error rate as low as possible and not losing any callers.

I am, of course, thinking of CW, but phone needs to be spoken as tersely as possible for maximum speed, too." Frank, N2FF, agrees: "Send faster in CW contests. Increasing the keyer speed to 35 or 38 wpm seems to scare off some of the less-experienced stations calling and decrease the size of the pile-up. Use the clarifier to listen slightly off frequency. If I was a rare DX stations with a very big pile-up, I would direct the calling stations to go 'Up 1.'" Ted, K2QMF, adds, "Use the narrowest RX filter. Listen off to the sides of the pile-up. Go back to a station with only part of his call. Get the rest of it when he comes back to you and the pile-up has stopped calling." Tom, KA2D, suggests, "Go split up or down, zone calling. As I have limited CW skills, I could not increase my sending speed." Phil, N2MUN, would "try taking last two or call areas or just stay calm and work through it." Tony, N2UN, adds in jest, "Record it and play the recording at the next club meeting!" Mike, N2YBB, agrees: "Put a big smile on my face. (I should be so lucky!)"

The next time you tune the bands and come across a contest pile-up, I hope you run into one of the better operators. Listen to the method he or she uses to thin the pile. Notice the cadence of the operating, the smoothness, and the rhythm. Be aware of how and when they sign their callsign. Take the time to notice if they are answering callers who are exactly on frequency or if they are listening a little up or down? The best operators each have their own style; however, they all have commonalities that make them effective. Use that information to find your own style and improve your contest operating.

73, George, N2GA



# More Sunspot Cycle 24 History Has Been Made!

## A Quick Look at Current Cycle 24 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

### Sunspots

Observed Monthly, February 2011: 29  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2010: 17

### 10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, February 2011: 95  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2010: 81

### Ap Index

Observed Monthly, February 2011: 5  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2010: 6

## One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

### Sunspots

Observed Monthly, February 2010: 19  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2009: 5

### 10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, February 2010: 85  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2009: 72

### Ap Index

Observed Monthly, February 2010: 4  
Twelve-month smoothed, August 2009: 4

Last month this column reported how February 2011 saw the end of a year-long stall in the rise of sunspot activity in new sunspot Cycle 24. It was not an anomaly; the slumber is over and the change has been noticed by any amateur radio operator venturing onto the day-time DX ham bands. Reports from around the world during the 2011 ARRL DX Contest Phone weekend (March 5–6) expressed surprised exhilaration that the 10-meter band was alive with activity equal to that of as long ago as 2004! In the week that followed, the DX clusters were flowing with the evidence of worldwide path openings on most of the higher amateur radio bands, with the openings on 20, 17, and 15 meters staying open much longer than expected.

What sparked all of this excitement? The month of March began with the 10.7-cm flux already at a record high for sunspot Cycle 24, with the daily radio flux reported as 111! As the ARRL contest weekend commenced, the radio flux had risen to 114. This level of energy had not been seen since 2005, six long years ago!

Finally, by March 8 the daily 10.7-cm radio flux reading reached a new record for the new cycle—a very welcomed 155! This was the highest level of solar energy since July 23, 2004, when the daily radio flux reached 165. That is a very long seven

\*e-mail: <nw7us@nw7us.us>

## LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for May 2011

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 2-3, 7-10, 12-21, 26-27, 29-30	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 1, 6, 24-25, 28	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 4, 11, 23, 31	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: 5, 22	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 fair (C) on May 1st, good (B) on the 2nd and 3rd, poor (D) to fair (C) on the 4th, with no opening possible on the 5th, etc.

3. As an alternative, the Last-Minute Forecast may be used as a general guide to space weather and geomagnetic conditions through the month. When conditions are Above Normal, for example, the geomagnetic field should be quiet and space weather should be mild. On the other hand, days marked as Disturbed will be riddled with geomagnetic storms. Propagation of radio signals in the HF spectrum will be affected by these conditions. In general, when conditions are High Normal to Above Normal, signals will be more reliable on a given path, when the path is ionospherically supported.

years since we've witnessed this level of solar energy ionizing the F-region, enabling worldwide DX!

Other records were broken during the same week: On the same day, March 8, the total smoothed observed sunspot count was 137. The highest previous count was six years earlier, back on July 7, 2005, when the daily number was 149. Interestingly, the total combined sunspot area reached an incredibly huge size of 1650 "solar hemisphere" units (the units of sunspot area is millionths of the Sun's visible hemisphere). The last time the Sun was that covered by sunspots was January 18, 2005, when the combined size of that day's sunspots (109) also equaled 1650.

What does all of this mean? This author believes that it is safe to state that the new sunspot Cycle 24 is finally showing a steady and more rapid rise in overall level of activity and energy. The trend numbers of this cycle do show this. The good news is that the Provisional International monthly mean sunspot number for February 2011 is 29.4; that's the highest so far in Cycle 24, starting with August 2009 when the monthly count was zero.



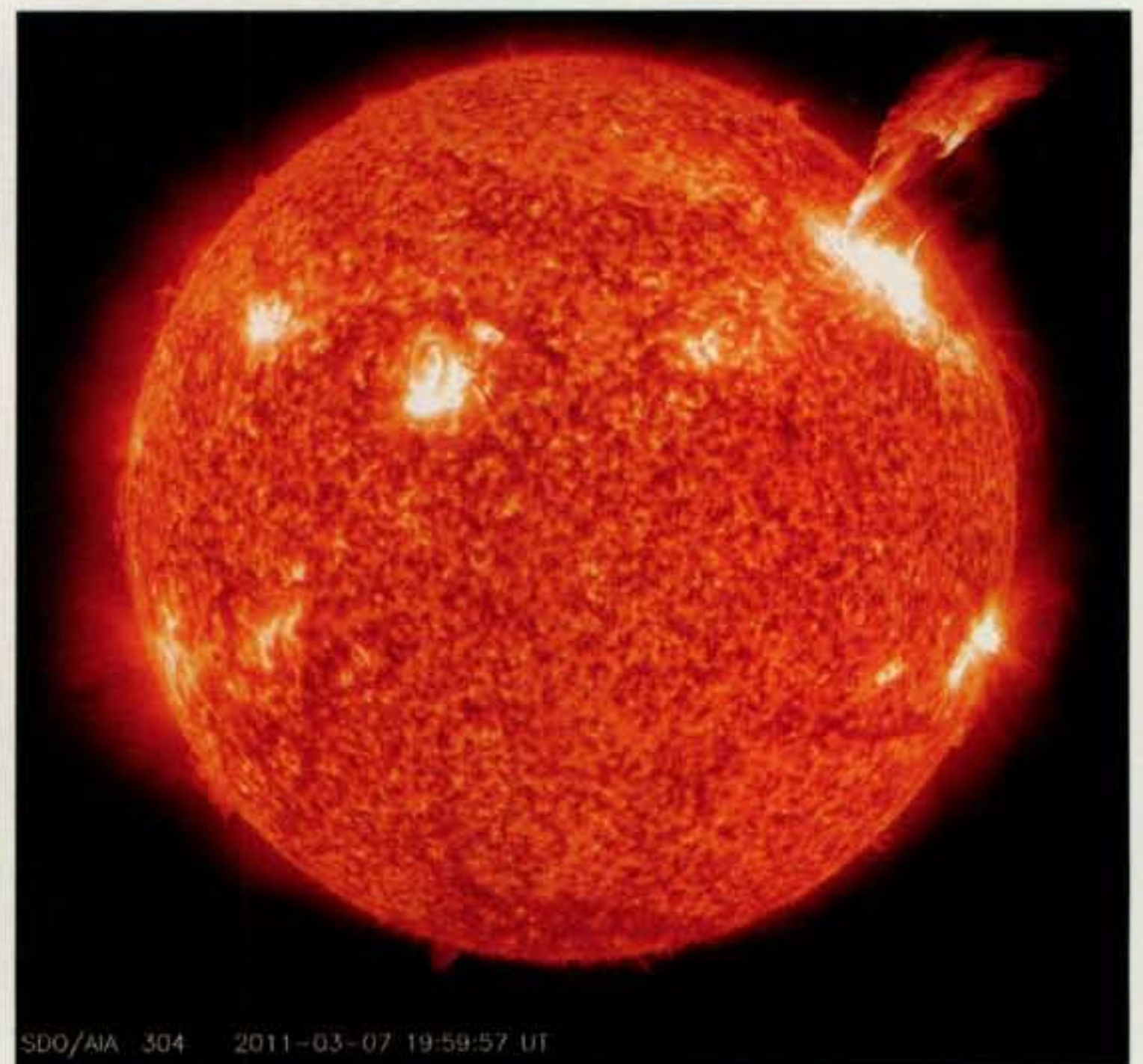
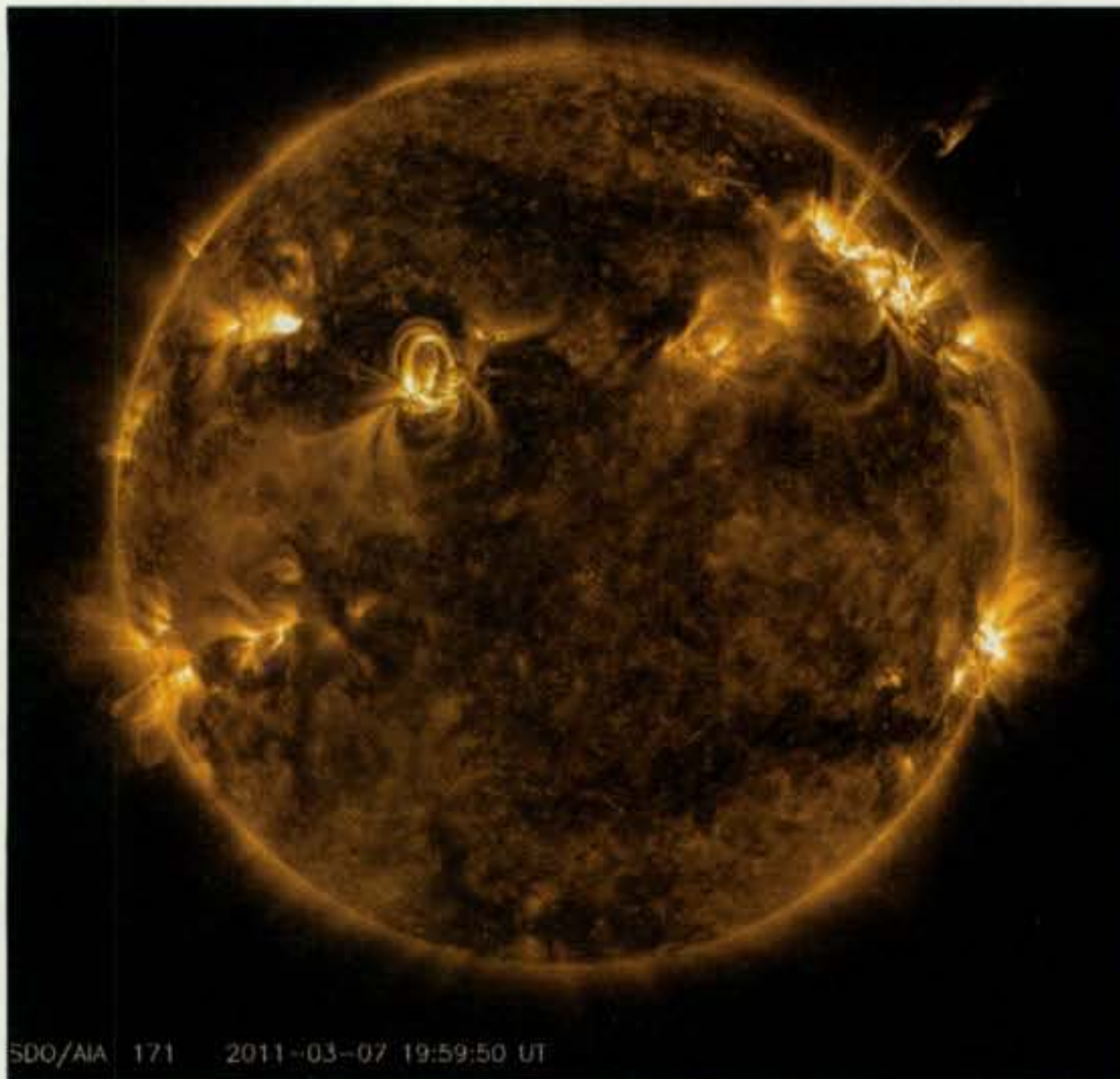


Fig. 1— With numerous active regions populating the Sun's surface during the first weeks of March 2011, it is no surprise that over about two days (Mar. 6–8, 2011) the Solar Dynamics Observatory spacecraft saw X-ray flares and coronal mass ejections popping off in many directions. These two images were taken in extreme ultraviolet light; the yellow is at the 171-Angstrom wavelength and the red image is at the 304-Angstrom wavelength as seen by the SDO Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA), an array of four telescopes that observes the surface and atmosphere of the Sun. Besides the many storms, the Sun was alive with arcing loops revealing magnetic field lines interacting above the active regions. It was quite a dynamic display and further evidence that the Sun is really coming out of its long solar minimum period of reduced activity. (Credit: SDO/AIA)

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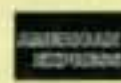
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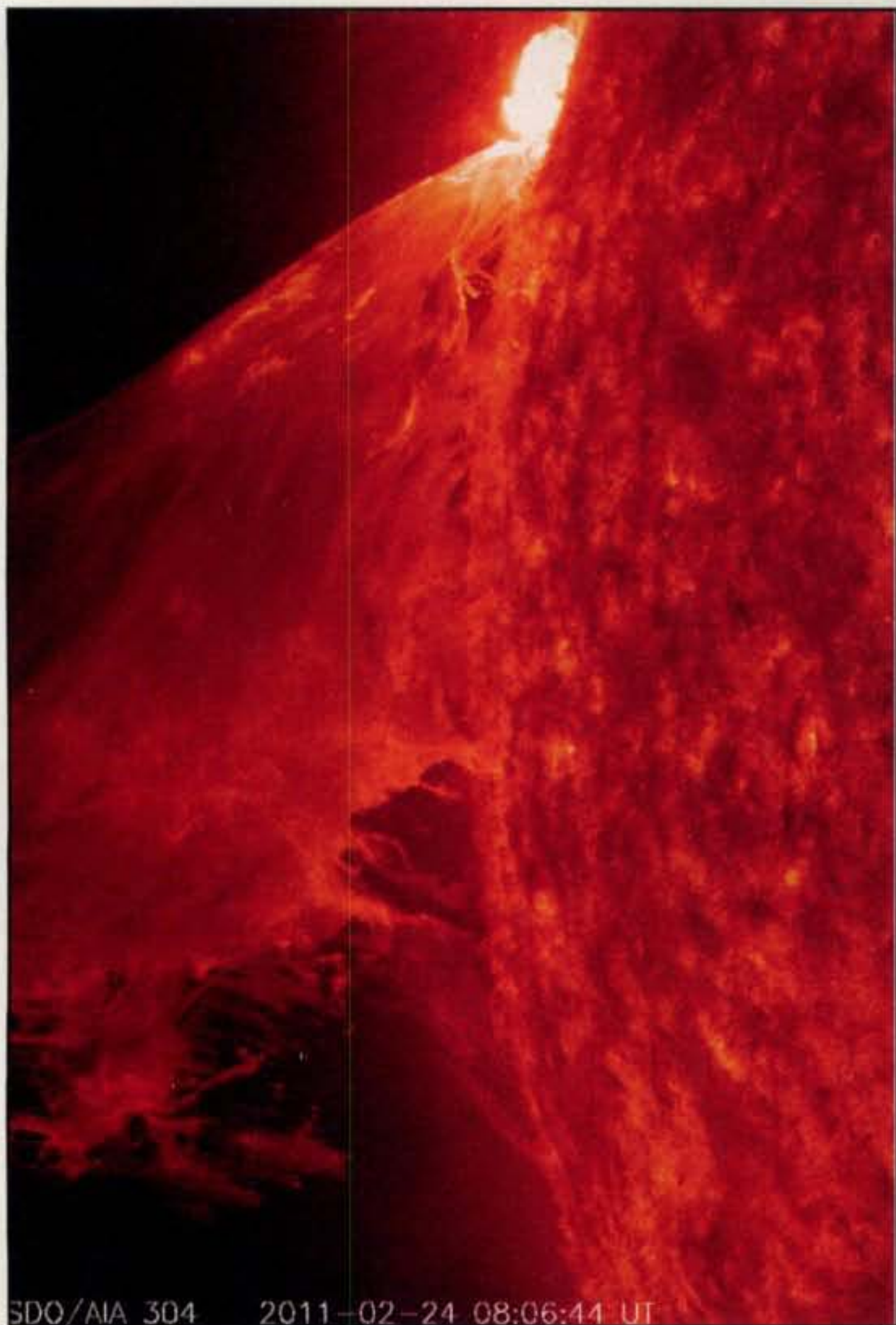
Just like February, March also had quite a few X-ray flares, including another X-class eruption. Some of the M-class flares were associated with CMEs (coronal mass ejections) that were directed toward Earth, so within three days of those eruptions minor geomagnetic storm conditions developed, causing some degradation of ionospheric radio propagation. During one passage of a CME, a proton storm ensued, making trans-polar radio DXing impossible. Of course, on the sunlit side of the Earth each flare caused a short-term sudden ionospheric disturbance (also known as a radio blackout). These chaotic conditions come with the increased and welcomed sunspot activity; we have to accept the occasional bad with the overall great conditions when the Sun's energy is on the rise.

As this column goes to press, the sunspot activity has somewhat decreased, but it is clear by close examination of the STEREO Behind and Ahead images that now allow us to see completely around the entire Sun, that there is plenty of sunspot activity coming our way. This will be a very active month for HF communications!

### May Conditions

Not only are we expecting the exciting return of F-region propagation on higher amateur radio bands such as 10 and 15 meters for long-range DXing, but we also expect the annual summer sporadic-E (Es) season to begin around May 1 (sometimes during the last week of April). The Es activity is sparse during the first two weeks of May and then it picks up to about 60 percent of the days by the end of May. This is great news for 10-meter enthusiasts, because we will see a mix of both short-range communications via the E-region propagation, but an enhancement from the F-region when the 10.7-cm radio flux rises above 110. Certainly, this is the





SDO/AIA 304 2011-02-24 08:06:44 UT

Fig. 2— Monster Prominence. When a rather large-size (an M3.6 class) X-ray flare exploded near the eastern edge of the Sun, it blew out a spectacular, waving mass of erupting plasma that swirled and twisted over a 90-minute period (Feb. 24, 2011). This event was captured in extreme ultraviolet light by NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory spacecraft (at the 304-Angstrom wavelength in this image). Some of the material blew out into space and other portions fell back to the surface. A solar prominence (also known as a filament when viewed against the solar disk) is a large, bright feature extending outward from the Sun's surface. Prominences are anchored to the Sun's surface in the photosphere, and extend outwards into the Sun's hot outer atmosphere, called the corona. A prominence forms over time scales of about a day, and stable prominences may persist in the corona for several months, looping hundreds of thousands of miles into space. Scientists are still researching how and why prominences are formed. The red-glowing looped material is plasma, a hot gas comprised of electrically charged hydrogen and helium. The prominence plasma flows along a tangled and twisted structure of magnetic fields generated by the Sun's internal dynamo. An erupting prominence occurs when such a structure becomes unstable and bursts outward, releasing the plasma. When a prominence erupts, the released material is part of a larger magnetic structure called a coronal mass ejection (CME). When directed toward Earth, CMEs can interact with our magnetic field and trigger a geomagnetic storm, with bright auroras and the potential for disturbance in communications and electrical power networks. (Credit: SDO/AIA)

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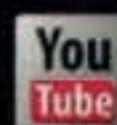


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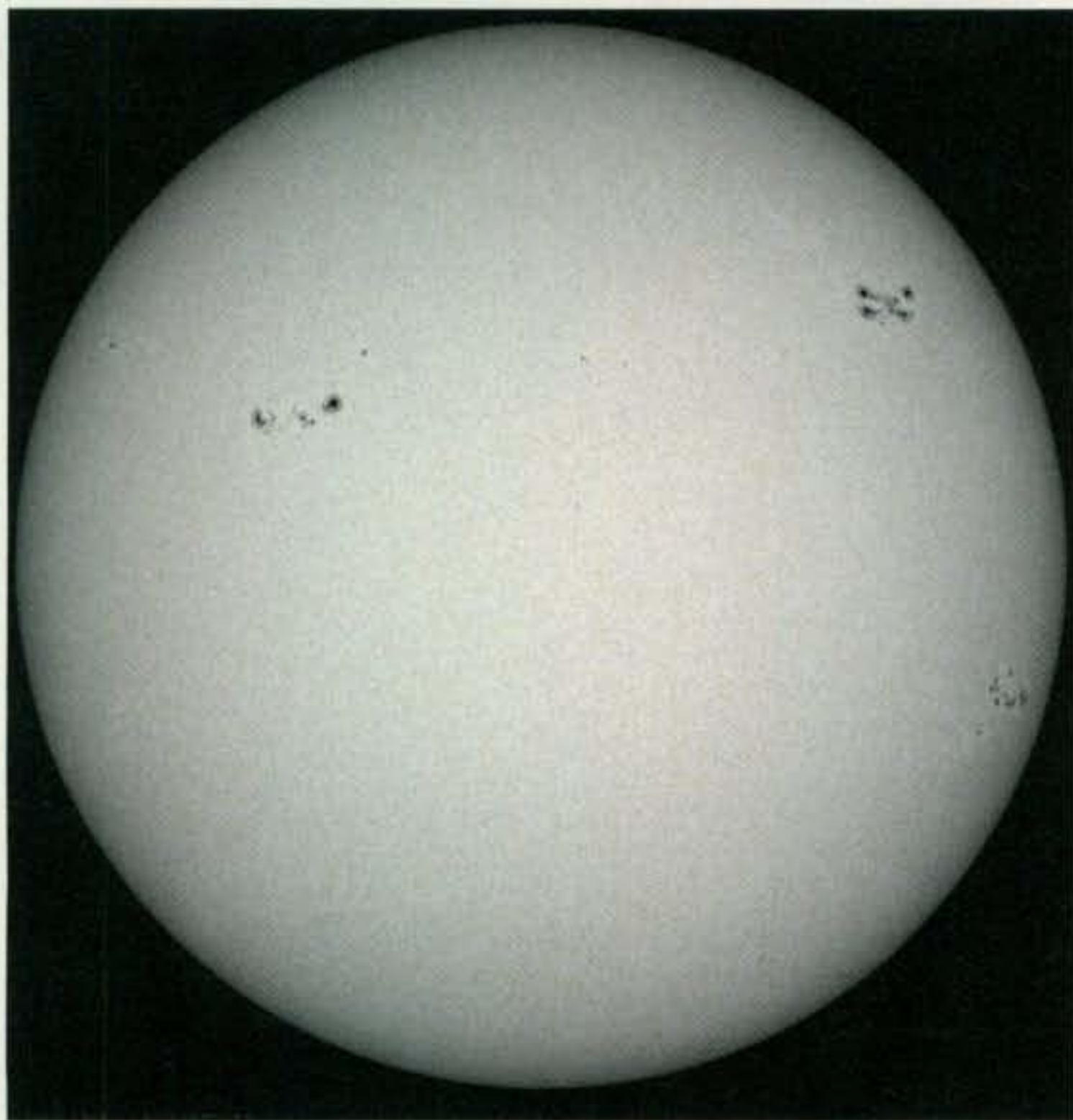
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*Fig. 3—The Sun as seen by the Solar Dynamics Observatory's Helioseismic and Magnetic Imager (HMI) on March 7, 2011. Records were broken during this week of March, when sunspot numbers and the 10.7-cm radio flux levels reached the highest yet in new sunspot Cycle 24 (see text). These sunspots are huge; and the largest sunspot regions are very complex, resulting in many moderately-strong X-ray flares erupting back-to-back, day after day as these sunspots rotated across the visible solar disc. This level of solar energy has not been seen since 2004 and early 2005, and the results were spectacular on the shortwave amateur radio bands, as DX was alive and well even on 10 meters. (Credit: SDO/HMI)*



*Fig. 4— Even after the intense energy seen in early March 2011, the Sun continued to provide the energy needed for 20-meter DX. This image is a combined view at the 171, 193, and 211 Angstrom wavelengths as seen by SDO/AIA, and reveals beautiful magnetic loops and plasma arches above active regions. It is an exciting time as we witness the rise of the new sunspot cycle. (Credit: SDO/AIA)*

season to get those antennas and radios working on this author's favorite DX band.

On 15 meters, fairly good openings are possible toward the south during the late afternoon and evening. Numerous short-skip openings between about 600 and 2300 miles should be possible almost daily. Expect the same conditions, but with longer openings, on 17 meters.

The real day-time work band during May is 20 meters. Opening shortly after sunrise, good DX conditions are expected to one area or another through the evening hours. Expect the band to stay open to southern and tropical areas through much of the nighttime hours, especially for stations at low to mid latitudes. DX conditions should peak around the grey-line terminators (morning and evening), with openings possible to almost all areas of the world. Very frequent short-skip openings are also forecast for distances between about 350 and 2300 miles. Quite often, especially during the late afternoon, optimum conditions may exist for both short and long skip, and stations a few hundred miles away will be heard at the same time as DX stations from several thousand miles away, causing considerable interference (QRM).

Want a band that could well be your wild-card player when geomagnetic conditions get rough after major coronal mass ejections pound the Earth's magnetosphere? Try 30 meters. Using JT65A or Morse Code, this band will play a major role in DX propagation, with somewhat better nighttime propa-

gation than 40, and solid daytime propagation into many areas of the world. Exotic DX can be found here on any of the authorized and popular modes. Check this band often during the course of the day.

Because the hours of darkness are growing less as we move closer to the summer season, fewer DX openings are expected on the lower HF bands. The higher level of static that plagues the high frequencies (because of the summer-time electrical storms and the propagation of this noise) makes it more difficult to receive the weaker DX signals. On 40 meters, we still expect fairly good openings to several areas of the world from shortly before sunset, through the hours of darkness, until shortly after sunrise. Good daytime short-skip openings can be expected over distances of between approximately 150 and 750 miles, with nighttime openings extending up to the one-hop limit of 2300 miles. On the lower bands, though, long-range DX is becoming less likely. Do take advantage of the excellent short-skip openings that are forecast for the daylight hours over distances ranging between 50 and 250 miles. During the hours of darkness, the short-skip range should increase up to approximately 2300 miles.

### VHF Conditions

As expected on 10 meters, we should see the opportunity for short- to medium-distance DX on 6 meters by way of sporadic-E propagation with short-skip openings likely to occur over distances of approximately 1000 to 1400 miles. Although sporadic-E openings can take place at just about any time, the best time to check is between 10 AM and 2 PM and again between 6 and 10 PM local daylight time. During periods of intense and widespread sporadic-E ionization, two-hop



openings considerably beyond 1400 miles should be possible on 6 meters. Short-skip openings between about 1200 and 1400 miles may also be possible on 2 meters.

At the same time, however, the forecast does not call for the F-region to become energized nearly enough to support worldwide DX. It is possible that we could see occasional trans-equatorial propagation. A seasonal decline in trans-equatorial (TE) propagation is expected during May. An occasional opening may still be possible on 6 meters toward South America from the southern tier states and the Caribbean area. The best time to check for 6-meter TE openings is between 9 and 11 PM local daylight time. These TE openings will be north-south paths that cross the geomagnetic equator at an approximate right angle.

Don't forget to check out *CQ VHF* magazine for more details on VHF propagation and conditions. If you use Twitter.com, follow @hfradiospacewx for hourly updates that include the K-index numbers. Also check the numbers at <<http://sunspotwatch.com>>.

### Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for February 2011 is 29.4, over a 10-point jump up from January's 19.0, and the highest yet in new sunspot Cycle 24. The lowest daily sunspot value of 9 was recorded on February 6 and 7. The highest daily sunspot count was 53 on February 14. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on August 2010 is 17.4, up from July's 16.8. A smoothed sunspot count of 50, give or take about 9 points, is expected for May 2011.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 94.5 for February 2011, up significantly from January's 83.7. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on August 2010 is 80.7. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for May 2011 is 107, give or take about 9 points. If we do see this high a flux in May, expect openings on 12 and 17 meters primarily on paths between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres; expect even more activity on 15 and 17 meters.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (*Ap*) for February 2011 is 5 (January's adjusted is now 6). These figures still indicate very quiet geomagnetic conditions overall. However, this

is slowly changing now that we are seeing a rise in solar energy and sunspot activity. The 12-month smoothed *Ap*-index centered on August 2010 is 6.2, about the same as for July. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to vary greatly between quiet to minor storm level during May; expect more geomagnetic activity as we continue into the new sunspot cycle. Refer to the Last-Minute Forecast on the first page of this column for the outlook on conditions during this month. You can find the online version of this outlook at <<http://sunspotwatch.com>>.

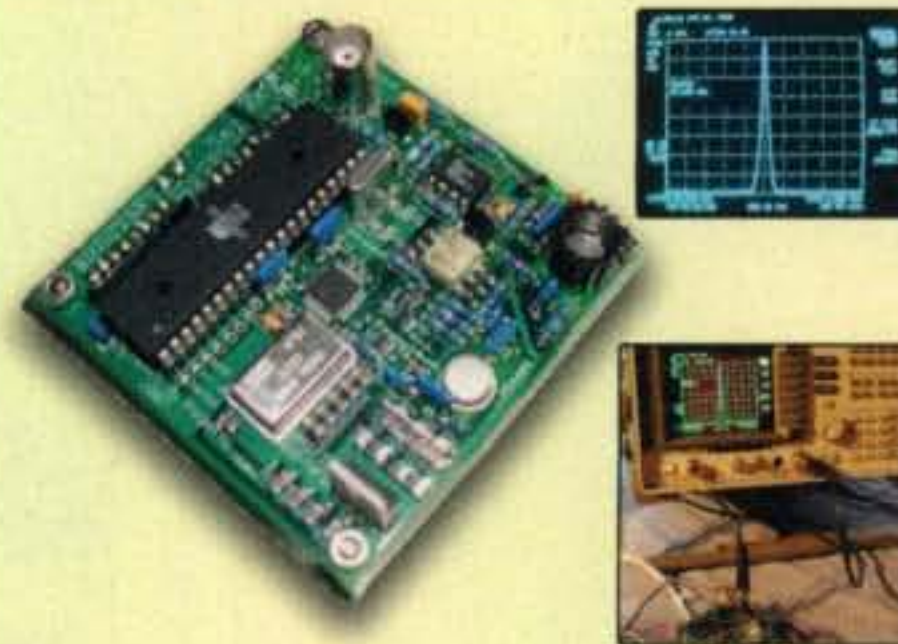
I welcome your thoughts, questions, and experiences regarding this fascinating science of propagation. You may e-mail me, write me a letter, or catch me on the HF amateur bands. Please come and participate in my online propagation discussion forum at <<http://hfradio.org/forums/>>. If you are on Facebook, check out <<http://tinyurl.com/fbwx>> 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

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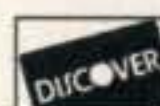
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United States		292	100	203
<b>W1UE</b>	<b>A 4,234,020</b>	<b>2,971</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>64</b>
W1ZK	619,820	757	164	64
W1RY	553,014	749	166	58
AE1P	552,896	823	149	61
W1ZT	517,440	617	181	69
K1FWE	445,155	683	147	52
K3IU/1	358,160	504	151	59
NR1X	239,364	503	109	47
W1UJ	106,774	248	100	40
K5ZD/1	103,930	217	111	44
W5MPC/1	54,808	165	79	33
W2QQ/1	46,311	166	60	30
K1GE	26,829	97	63	27
<b>AE1T</b>	<b>14 163,116</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>K1HG</b>	<b>7 473,280</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>30</b>
W1NK	2,457	33	14	10
<b>AC10</b>	<b>3.5 19,683</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>*K1IMI</b>	<b>A 1,134,684</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>66</b>
(OP: N4CW)				
*WA1EHK	827,343	910	211	76
*NJ1H	415,233	553	171	70
*K1IB	262,818	398	144	56
*KA1C	260,848	460	136	55
*W1CCCE	256,074	413	149	55
*W2JU/1	155,475	311	114	46
*KB1KD	124,678	310	93	35
*KK1X	111,090	306	78	46
*KF1D	88,146	237	86	39
*W1MIG	84,346	232	74	42
*KB1JUF	81,500	252	71	32
*N1QD	73,112	225	70	29
*NX1T	69,375	186	80	49
*AA1AR	46,810	138	74	38
*W1MAW	46,767	195	52	30
*W1FA	44,640	159	59	30
*KB1GKN	32,226	123	58	31
*AB1HL	31,372	118	65	28
*NE1B	30,780	109	62	28
*AJ1E	18,800	92	43	19
*W1TO	16,732	73	50	28
*KJ1J	6,600	63	22	13
*W1QH	6,432	51	24	17
*W1MJ	4,602	50	20	8
*KX9X/1	480	10	9	2
(OP: KX9X/1)				
<b>*AB1J</b>	<b>7 76,398</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>NO2T</b>	<b>A 877,560</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>65</b>
N8CL/2	509,796	815	133	53
W2LE	280,896	457	137	45
N2EIK	262,625	579	99	33
NX2X	232,826	455	106	37
WS9M/2	151,683	348	102	47
K2NV	122,325	270	95	43
N2ZN	57,086	184	62	31
N2WLS	37,389	140	61	29
W2HIY	12,194	79	30	23
<b>K2EN</b>	<b>21 13,340</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>K2ZC</b>	<b>14 108,324</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>15</b>
W2IUC	28,620	157	46	19
<b>W1TY/2</b>	<b>7 180,369</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>W02N</b>	<b>3.5 52,574</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>12</b>
*N2ZAK	663,168	833	187	73
*K2DBK	317,438	522	142	54
*KA2CYN	237,446	493	122	47
*K2DSL	230,651	480	112	51
*WA2MCR	227,146	403	128	53
*KA2D	226,632	388	125	51
*N2LK	142,544	303	106	50
*KC2RXS	106,344	266	94	46
*KA2FHN	95,256	244	99	43
*AD2TM	91,492	239	79	34
*KS2G	88,725	270	70	33
*K2TWI	63,450	165	92	32
*WB2SXY	53,098	175	70	32
*KB2NB	53,010	170	71	32
*WB2PJH	48,490	168	64	28
*K3UK/2	37,929	161	50	35
*KC2GLG	36,663	147	52	27
*WB2ABD	21,460	118	35	27
*KA2ANF	18,018	81	46	27
*K2DB	14,601	70	46	24
*WA2LXE	12,663	86	34	15
*WB2TPS	3,741	32	27	13
*N1IA/2	836	14	7	1
<b>*KR2Q</b>	<b>14 7,239</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>K30K</b>	<b>A 273,996</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>49</b>
N3DX	225,568	350	142	60
N3TR	129,168	240	124	55
K3GMT	123,578	290	98	35
N3XL	120,059	306	85	46
N3NZ	116,997	323	76	35
N3INJ	104,760	266	92	33
N3BNA	83,424	204	95	48
WA3FRP	28,520	94	65	39
W3RAR	21,115	95	44	26
N3MX	5,828	44	28	18
<b>A13Q</b>	<b>14 70,110</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>*W3LL</b>	<b>A 1,336,485</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>80</b>
*KB3LIX	441,540	630	169	56
*KW3W	396,585	555	161	62
*W0BR/3	315,986	602	126	48
*N3WZR	269,458	528	116	48
*N3CHX	222,135	445	120	45
*KB3CTX	137,555	358	84	41
*NBNA/3	130,248	260	106	50
*W3AG	115,218	243	109	47
*K3TN	102,666	225	102	49
*AB3IC	97,760	213	102	41
*W3BUI	95,728	227	91	43
*WB9KPT/3	87,507	227	88	41
*KN3A	67,971	190	82	30
*K3NK	57,524	159	78	37
*W3SFG	16,320	100	33	22
*N3JNX	2,856	34	19	13
<b>*AB3S</b>	<b>3.5 1,537</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

AG4W	1,427,403	1,477	215	86	152
W0YR/4	1,197,437	1,337	175	68	118
W4VIC	572,082	733	177	62	79
K4HMB	548,604	727	155	63	93
NJ2F/4	547,740	713	172	72	114
K4EU	547,049	717	159	65	87
W2YE/4	513,912	707	160	63	99
K4ADR	487,306	709	158	60	116
K4HAL	471,968	726	142	54	105
WY4Y	414,201	687	139	62	102
(OP: NS3Q)					
WB4MSG	371,112	614	131	53	98
K4CX	308,880	628	119	53	114
A14WW	276,399	507	130	47	84
W1AJT/4	223,270	374	140	58	71
K4SKB	221,343	382	137	50	80
W7DQ/4	216,428	341	136	55	53
W4UK	157,437	496	76	28	49
W4KLY	126,485	307	90	45	70
N4PSE	108,665	363	52	39	120
N5WR/4	86,520	242	79	27	62
NT4TS	75,601	192	85	39	49
N4FY	68,992	202	65	45	66
AJ4FM	67,792	204	77	29	46
W4PHS	59,823	229	56	26	71
W7HJ/4	59,500	176	70	42	63
WA80JR/4	58,904	212	61	33	54
WA4ZXV	51,745	152	82	39	10
W5XB/4	49,920	157	64	48	44
N3UA/4	42,510	136	69	35	26

*N3CZ/4	92,130	237	90	40	36
*WB8SKP/4	81,060	214	81	52	60
*KM4JA	79,130	222	72	47	74
*KM4RK	78,507	209	83	45	55
*KE1F/4	77,976	443	48	15	51
*N2WN/4	75,152	226	66	36	74
*W4TIJ	69,801	211	78	35	46
*N4MM	63,072	169	81	35	28
*KU8E/4	55,115	185	60	34	57
*ND1Y/4	54,670	199	59	32	63
*K4FTO	52,773	175	67	32	48
*KJ4VVR	44,063	170	57	32	50
*N4W0	40,004	176	50	30	57
*KX40	32,725	123	56	31	32
*N4AU	32,264	118	59	25	25
*KB4KBS	30,380	120	57	28	39
*KT0P/4	24,400	102	51	25	24
*KV4CN	22,264	99	49	22	21
*AA4U	21,146	97	47	23	27
*W4GAC	21,014	104	48	23	8
(OP: KP2N)					
*K4PBY	20,165	104	40	26	43
*NR4C	19,980	98	39	21	30
*K14SP	19,504	98	41	28	37
*K4EDI	17,922	109	29	24	50
*W5NYC/4	15,252	106	30	19	33
*N4JIK	13,932	83	33	24	29
*W4OTN	11,135	67	33	23	29
*K1GU/4	10,790	78	30	11	24
*W4BK	10,184	82	24	17	35

*AD5LU	149,872	387	86	52	94
*NN5T	147,403	318	98	52	73
*K5DD	85,840	239	87	43	55
*W5JBO	83,013	295	56	32	89
*N5MOA	64,792	174	76	55	51
*NK5G	55,428	199	64	34	51
*N5PU	53,144	168	67	37	42
*N5UWY	46,916	177	54	45	49
*WA9AFM/5	25,410	117	44	34	43
*K5NDC	1,271	25	10	11	10
<b>*N5ER</b>	<b>14 138,861</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>41</b>
*WMSDX	98,868	401	61	26	45
*AE5MM	8,494	73	27	14	21

<b>K6LRN</b>	<b>A 520,785</b>	<b>756</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>145</b>
NN6XX	404,735	707	119	66	120
W6SX	276,148	761	61	47	154
K6DGW	218,920	619	67	51	142
W4UAT/6	218,124	412	90	63	96
WU6W	71,553	229	57	42	84
N5KO/6	66,898	197	59	48	59
K6TD	62,823	217	48	33	48
N6PE	59,032	184	67	45	45
N6RI	49,704	176	56	43	53
K6IP	44,198	158	51	39	64
WB6JJJ	43,248	156	53	42	64
N6BM	39,325	152	48	33	62
K6XX	22,632	115	30	29	23
NY6I	13,483	7			







*JH8SIT	14	57,166	209	55	25	21	*E73X	10,890	115	35	10	0	RW4W	1,515,138	1,689	272	95	35	<b>Finland</b>													
*JG8IBY	7	216	18	5	4	0	*E73EJ	555	18	10	5	0	RM3F	1,500,408	1,416	295	103	70	OG4X	A	1,087,450	1,292	195	74	81							
JA9CWJ	A	232,128	393	115	54	39	<b>Bulgaria</b>						UA3PAB	1,414,875	1,682	242	78	55	OH2RI	*	310,236	563	178	53	20							
JF9KVT	*	171,769	348	95	52	34	LZ2GA	14	55,319	196	67	29	11	UA3QGT	1,000,025	1,306	191	66	68	OH7JIT	*	78,892	211	108	41	14						
*JA9LX	A	99,981	729	85	54	22	LZ2BA	21	10,019	108	32	11	0	RD3DT	316,120	977	215	73	47	OH2BBT	*	32,205	117	61	37	15						
*JH9VUU	14	8,878	23	27	14	5	*LZ2XF	A	102,684	269	109	44	19	R3PA	316,216	576	166	57	9	*OH3QJ	A	129,129	625	54	23	14						
JH0INP	A	483,000	653	147	81	52	*LZ2DF	A	26,038	129	69	25	0	RM3Q	270,884	511	155	64	22	*OH2NT	14	232,628	594	140	40	7						
JA0FVU	*	413,899	587	145	74	32	*LZ3FF	14	116,840	447	61	26	28	UA3WQ	211,990	463	106	51	8	*OH8TV	*	191,649	462	131	48	14						
JH0NOS	*	30,115	112	59	29	7	*LZ1QV	7	16,280	143	42	11	2	RT4SA	145,275	293	156	51	38	*OH4AB	*	64,357	217	105	31	3						
JH0UMV	21	36,624	157	55	24	5	<b>Corsica</b>						RU4CO	113,059	304	131	36	0	*OH1LWZ	*	63,126	289	96	27	1							
*JY4NE	A	403,880	744	132	38	14	*TK/OK1HGM	21	21,896	174	34	13	9	UA6HAZ	99,200	295	123	37	0	*OH2NFN	*	56,810	130	57	25	3						
<b>Jordan</b>						<b>Crete</b>						UA3FD	91,091	246	116	41	12	*OH2LZI	*	26,350	246	84	21	20								
UN5J	A	25,721	108	46	32	11	SV9AHZ	A	639,450	854	188	70	57	R3KM	81,300	232	87	40	23	*OH6BA	1.4	44,968	229	57	19	12						
UN7PL	7	157,464	497	56	24	28	*SV9COL	A	118,260	373	101	42	19	UA4NC	63,027	216	111	30	0	*OH1TN	3.5	50,282	400	52	9	1						
UN1L	14	235,260	914	71	19	0	*SV9FBK	A	96,066	233	119	40	3	RU6YK	58,656	286	61	19	14	F5VKT	A	1,708,080	1,615	240	79	121						
*UN6G	A	263,576	535	137	45	6	*SV9YL2VW	*	18,080	101	48	20	12	RN3A	49,355	193	79	35	1	F5OAM	*	822,364	1,080	183	61	88						
*UN7TW	*	102,725	208	127	47	1	<b>Croatia</b>						UA3DOL	38,320	147	70	34	3	F5CQ	*	465,696	551	144	55	109							
*UN9LU	21	21,516	121	49	17	0	9A7R	28	30,266	176	55	19	0	UA3DPT	29,760	162	49	23	8	F8BNN	*	260,148	500	148	53	27						
*UN7JC	14	267,220	631	90	34	31	9A5Y	21	691,621	1,290	113	36	54	R6LA	26,400	106	74	31	0	F5GFA	*	142,158	371	110	39	25						
*UN5C	*	132,020	502	64	23	5	9A9A	*	676,400	1,304	111	36	54	R5ACQ	2,508	27	23	15	0	F5TMJ	*	56,742	157	82	36	29						
*UN8PT	*	23,432	147	40	16	2	9A2DQ	3.5	248,214	934	71	21	31	R6AM	21	169,592	516	90	31	15	F4FFZ	*	21,097	114	30	15	28					
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>						<b>Czech Republic</b>						R7HF	16,218	121	36	17	0	TM0T	7	564,499	1,379	91	30	52								
*EX2U	A	70,305	239	78	31	0	OK2PCL	A	406,565	499	162	74	69	RK3DXZ	6,110	56	33	14	0	F5AMH	*	65,554	435	45	12	16						
<b>Lebanon</b>						<b>Denmark</b>						RN4WZ	14	283,008	956	88	30	16	*F4FDA	A	632,910	750	221	73	71							
*OD5U	A	99,498	241	90	28	20	OK1FRO	*	63,754	235	88	29	10	RN3T	226,187	732	80	29	28	*F8FTB	*	539,964	756	189	64	65						
<b>Mongolia</b>						<b>Germany</b>						RY6Y	7,696	109	29	8	0	*TM3T	*	495,976	959	186	53	8								
JT5DX	A	1,076,625	1,578	182	68	11	OK1GK	*	57,424	140	65	40	23	RT2T	7,650	72	36	12	2	*F5RD	*	362,234	565	162	56	60						
*JT1DA	A	158,946	627	77	41	0	OK1MSP	*	55,772	145	73	44	29	RX3F	7	149,600	617	76	25	9	*F5LCU	*	232,886	434	127	42	49					
<b>Qatar</b>						<b>United Arab Emirates</b>						RU6VJ	7,850	76	39	10	1	RX3CM	3.5	25,599	243	43	10	0	*F1IWH	*	140,868	365	111	38	23	
*A71CV	21	298,248	785	86	28	15	OK2SFP	*	22,950	147	51	16	8	R3BY	267,300	532	135	54	31	*F5LMJ	*	37,152	155	80	26	7						
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>						<b>England</b>						*R07M	A	694,152	1,016	212	69	30	*F8KKH	*	35,464	163	80	24	0							
*721SJ	A	553,014	714	166	64	36	OK2EQ	*	18,786	172	51	37	13	*R06GA	A	633,750	878	220	70	35	*F4FEP	*	17,280	98	49	23	8					
*HZ1DG	14	1,575	21	10	7	8	OK1FJD	21	250,158	538	106	33	34	*UA4FBG	*	540,981	826	179	69	31	*F4FSB	*	10,187	76	42	15	0					
<b>Singapore</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*UA4AL	*	431,935	674	198	68	21	*F5GGL	*	5,858	50	43	15	0							
9V1YC	A	15,544	122	33	25	0	OK1KMG	*	5,175	43	24	16	5	*RD1AW	*	223,232	470	151	61	26	*F2FZ	*	3,160	29	19	16	5					
<b>South Korea</b>						<b>Aland Islands</b>						*RN4SN	*	299,854	514	225	70	18	*F6AUS	21	6,681	47	22	15	14							
DS5QLJ	A	105,105	302	90	47	6	OK1EP	*	119,416	445	64	19	35	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	*F5BEG	14	299,105	728	81	29	53					
HL5JCB	*	26,772	113	52	34	6	OK2VGR	3.5	23,874	162	47	14	8	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	*F1EBN	*	54,868	179	58	20	38					
*6K5AQY	A	61,364	208	60	39	17	*OK1VRF	A	529,540	703	193	69	57	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	<b>Germany</b>											
*HL1VAU	*	58,653	181	75	50	8	*OK1DBE	*	512,064	809	174	59	55	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL4MDO	A	1,788,010	1,432	275	89	126					
*HL5YI	*	37,950	135	59	40	11	*OK2UHP	*	249,964	540	136	39	34	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DD1JN	A	1,236,407	1,335	238	83	88					
*DS3BNU	*	17,834	90	42	28	4	*OK2EA	*	221,847	440	136	48	35	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL1RYD	*	594,567	688	226	77	58					
<b>Taiwan</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK9WI	*	559,932	688	208	72	68
BU2AU	A	26,025	144	45	30	0	*OK1FHI	*	134,470	252	109	39	22	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK3GI	*	543,462	683	164	62	92					
*BV1EK	A	63,042	180	75	49	9	*OK2JNB	*	121,329	279	107	43	33	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK3GI	*	543,462	683	164	62	92					
*BU2AV	14	1,224	32	9	9	0	*OK3MO	*	37,350	196	62	19	9	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DJ1TU	*	533,572	685	206	69	56					
<b>Tajikistan</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DJ1TU	*	533,572	685	206	69	56
EY7AD	A	395,370	704	148	59	0	*OK2ZJ	14	358,136	815	94	30	54	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK9ZP	*	355,019	530	183	65	39					
<b>Thailand</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK1AX	*	344,799	556	164	52	57
*E21YDP	A	808,500	991	206	76	18	*OK2DWD	*	74,144	279	61	21	10	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DF5BE	*	334,369	584	166	51	42					
<b>UK Bases on Cyprus</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*OK2SVD	*	18,939	139	31	11	17	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL4ME	*	323,155	620	162	59	24
ZC4LI	21	389,424	1,025	81	30	22	*OK2BWK	*	9,672	67	42	16	4	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DM2BPG	*	283,008	485	161	60	43					
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*OK2ZAW	3.5	76,302	457	58	13	10	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL5MEV	*	232,029	398	171	56	22
A618K	A	1,519,336	1,432	244	82	38	*OK1DX	*	20,250	188	45	8	1	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DF2MT	*	209,605	437	97	46	42					
*A65BR	A	4,089	32	28	19	0	<b>Denmark</b>						*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DF2TT	*	166,135	306	137	54	32						
<b>Uzbekistan</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						QZ2TF	A	205,274	461	113	43	41	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DD2ML	*	161,655	334	91	42	62
*UK7AZ	21	70,746	333	60	18	0	OZ1JTE	7	54,891	125	44	62	7	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL1YTC	*	119,568	272	112	42	34					
<b>West Malaysia</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						OZ6TL	7	24,970	175	102	11	10	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DJ2IA	*	115,640	263	141	55	0
9M2CNC	A	1,608,616	1,615	235	88	38	*5P9X	A	498,775	808	187	56	38	*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DL4PY	*	107,952	288	76	32	48					
*9M2TO	A	224,841	552	97	36	16	<b>England</b>						*R03M	*	172,326	333	169	53	9	DK9MDM	*	105,651	224	110	51	28						
<b>EUROPE</b>						<b>EUROPE</b>						*OZ4VW	*	270,912	394	153	70	49	DK6CQ	*	99,651	225	102	35	40							
OH0AL																																



*D09PL	83,172	360	79	23	14	I2BJAI	432	9	9	9	0	*ER3MM	21	32,384	132	55	25	12	*SP5XOV	47,747	162	85	34	14			
*D2JAX	79,500	243	110	38	2	I2VGV	15,600	98	45	20	0	*ER6A	7	283,968	897	84	28	32	*SP2FUD	44,988	184	38	18	36			
*DF9DD	79,360	219	96	41	18	IK3ASM	8,496	70	32	16	0	Netherlands										*S06NEG	44,982	155	63	32	24
*DL7UM	77,672	250	101	32	13	I2BCCW	6,355	68	29	11	1	PA7LV	A	1,559,880	1,531	239	78	103	*SQ2HNA	37,044	188	70	25	3			
*D08DG	77,506	238	88	34	21	I20KBR	387,345	1,122	76	27	44	PG3N		661,608	895	185	62	77	*SP9FT	34,125	110	46	33	26			
*D09BC	76,517	317	78	29	12	IV3XPP	73,440	519	51	14	7	PA3EBP		490,960	712	189	56	59	*SP7CCB	32,832	164	65	25	6			
*DL5SWB	72,570	277	91	27	5	I5WNN	73,350	393	59	16	15	PA3EVS		233,200	443	121	51	48	*SP2SGN	31,824	135	67	24	13			
*DL5JH	72,215	213	82	30	31	I4AVG	237,896	851	72	24	35	PA3EVY		119,279	270	96	40	45	*SQ6FHP	26,341	187	57	14	0			
*DL6NDW	71,685	250	97	26	12	*I27KHR	887,445	1,036	202	80	87	PABLLOU		117,012	249	107	44	45	*SP7FDV	26,226	126	62	24	8			
*DC2KN	71,592	203	89	37	26	*IK0CHU	587,898	734	199	73	70	PA2ALF		74,295	254	84	32	11	*SP9CCA	22,842	111	66	28	0			
*DL1HSI	68,705	204	102	38	11	*IK2YSJ	408,320	619	182	60	48	PA4B		38,907	150	41	22	36	*SP6BEN	21,330	94	50	27	13			
*DK4IO	66,885	197	93	38	16	*I23ETU	337,425	523	167	60	48	PA0LSK		20,128	116	37	14	23	*SP9ERL	18,676	86	56	27	9			
*DL2VVG	65,330	213	97	30	12	*IK5FKF	331,676	499	172	63	48	PA0VST		8,580	48	26	22	18	*SP8LXE	13,090	79	44	20	6			
*DK1LRS	61,750	239	92	29	4	*IW2MYH	307,932	480	166	61	41	PA1CW	21	17,490	99	39	19	8	*SP6BSL	12,432	61	42	27	5			
*DM4YWL	60,970	219	91	27	12	*IW7EBE	305,900	528	172	65	29	PA5A		2,176	23	17	12	5	*SP4PBI	8,976	59	45	19	4			
*DM5WH	57,566	288	86	21	0	*IW2MXY	293,447	466	140	53	66	PA3BWA	3.5	70,389	414	48	12	21	*SP7FBO	8,378	61	37	18	4			
*DL3EBX	57,330	244	92	20	5	*IK4QUJ	269,568	563	125	42	49	*PA1CC	A	1,000,800	999	245	83	89	*SP5BUJ	7,380	56	38	19	3			
*DJ6UP	53,312	197	76	32	11	*IWSALG	244,343	444	129	52	48	*PA3DBS		643,761	847	215	68	56	*SQBJLN	4,472	38	31	21	0			
*DD0DRK	53,025	233	71	23	11	*I0YOV	235,926	362	150	67	40	*PA3FH		545,340	804	184	57	57	*SP3UOG	3,569	29	19	15	9			
						(OP: DL4HTK)						*PA3BWA	3.5	70,389	414	48	12	21	*SQ3LVF	2,640	40	24	9	0			
*DL7UMK	52,785	164	79	36	20	*IK1RKU	234,465	433	132	55	44	*PA3DBS		643,761	847	215	68	56	*SP5APW	1,829	20	11	11	9			
*DF8UO	48,462	179	90	30	3	*I2XLF	220,881	453	129	44	40	*PA3BWA	3.5	70,389	414	48	12	21	*SP1RKR	2,222	40	14	8	0			
*DL0BIT	45,474	136	85	43	15	*IK7RVY	203,944	399	126	50	36	*PD7BZ		286,549	511	139	52	50	*SP4DM	1,288	20	13	10	0			
						(OP: LX1ER)						*PD5LO		278,586	613	106	33	59	*SP3HC	48,256	168	62	26	16			
*DL1LQA	39,984	152	82	24	13	*IW2NRI	126,616	284	122	47	27	*PE1OYB		243,980	474	134	49	37	*SNIT	33,449	155	48	22	13			
*DJ3GE	39,491	190	73	20	8	*I24AFW	122,555	254	100	39	54	*PA3T		218,440	465	160	55	0							(OP: SQ1RET)		
*DG3RCE	35,720	179	71	24	0	*I21ANZ	113,035	255	101	47	37	*PA9DD		197,208	405	137	45	34	*SP5CJQ	22,344	102	61	23	0			
*DK4JPC	33,784	131	60	30	13	*I2BGR	108,605	321	72	38	35	*PA2W		149,422	373	124	35	23	*SQ9AOR	6,909	49	27	16	6			
*DL5ASK	33,335	120	64	28	21	*I2TFJ	82,350	241	94	36	20	*PA2CVD		149,100	373	104	33	38	*SP9CLU	4,598	44	21	14	3			
*DL1JB	27,839	139	67	22	8	*I3VJW	76,760	204	90	41	21	*PA1RBZ		142,101	396	118	33	20	*SP2FOV	87,472	328	63	24	25			
*DH5MM	27,750	96	60	30	21	*IV3KSE	72,600	211	90	36	24	*PA3ANN		134,560	395	110	32	18	*SP5ECC	50,313	233	60	22	11			
*D01CDE	23,322	116	46	23	9	*IK5ZTT	71,248	210	89	32	25	*PGTV		131,144	305	127	37	30	*SN3C	44,945	200	38	16	35			
*DJ8OP	22,344	118	50	25	9	*IK2NCF	68,150	204	89	32	24	*PA3EWG		128,744	403	109	32	13						(OP: SP3ASN)			
*D01BEN	21,844	103	58	28	0	*I21JLN	64,200	177	76	39	35	*PA0TCA		115,368	254	105	41	38	*SP9CTS	25,875	150	40	17	18			
*DK6NF	21,082	100	45	22	16	*IK2DKX	62,720	201	88	30	22	*PA8KW		78,568	208	97	36	28	*SP2MKI	3,900	39	15	12	12			
*DL6UAM	17,040	150	51	9	0	*IW1QLH	57,256	170	74	33	29	*PA3GXT		78,242	253	98	32	12	*SP6EY	59,432	389	51	12	13			
*DL2JRM	15,688	99	51	18	5	*I21DXS	53,397	135	74	42	37	*PD6W		59,730	257	69	21	20	*SQ8JX	32,395	298	45	8	2			
*D06GZ	14,160	94	38	14	7	*I0ZUT	47,760	173	71	24	25																
*DF6WE	14,112	93	52	20	0	*IV3ARJ	46,657	232	74	16	7	*PA4JJ		57,912	198	70	33	24									
*DL3DXF	12,008	62	46	30	0	*IK8MYM	42,742	131	89	44	9	*PD3EM		48,048	187	63	24	25	*CR6K	A	2,921,906	2,173	284	94	155		
*DK9MH	11,970	92	47	16	0	*IK1ZOE	41,250	163	67	27	16	*PA0FLE		47,652	199	80	26	8						(OP: CT1ILT)			
*DL2AJB	10,478	77	42	16	4	*IK2AHB	37,823	126	48	30	31	*PA3ARM		38,164	146	71	24	21	*CT1BXE	736,501	1,188	160	49	72			
*D01UDW	8,004	64	39	19	0	*I2BZN	36,040	149	68	25	13	*PA3AQL		32,960	152	72	24	7	*CT1BXT	423,514	490	192	75	71			
*DK4EF	6,240	56	33	17	2	*IK2WFN	33,463	130	56	30	23	*PA7RA		19,035	100	40	25	16	*CT1EEK	186,588	575	79	24	39			
*DL7UGO	6,027	50	30	15	4	*I2TEUB	32,574	98	65	46	11	*PA3GMM		13,419	85	51	20	0	*CT2IRY	104,808	341	74	22	36			
*DK3PM	5,643	43	37	18	2	*IK8NSI	31,302	122	65	25	21	*PA3GVI		8,262	75	38	14	2	*CT1FUH	58,368	275	56	17	23			
*DL6UAA	4,095	41	30	15	0	*I2BCLM	30,422	112	64	36	6	*PA3GEO		2,145	31	22	10	1	*CR5A	1,344	26	17	5	2			
*DL0EA	3,900	49	28	11	0	*IV3XNF	28,684	128	54	26	21	*PA3CMF		1,375	25	14	8	3						(OP: CT1FFU)			
						(OP: DJ2IA)						*PC5F	21	551	10	10	9	0									
*DL2DWP	3,120	41	27	12	1	*IK3CST	27,209	142	65	22	4	*PD1DX	14	246,015	586	84	31	50									
*DL4ALI	2,250	35	19	11	0	*IW4EQI	27,195	98	56	37	18	*PD1KSA		209,457	561	80	28	45	Y09HP	A	3,463,356	2,439	351	121	124		
*DL0MFL	1,200	25	16	6	2	*I2ZPCJ	26,992	89	51	36	25	*PE2KP		87,984	317	63	25	29	Y05OEF	388,077	603	167	62	48			
						(OP: DL2JRM)						*PA1VC		14,674	112	34	11	13	Y09CWY	90,949	390	63	21	19			
*DL5HF	836	19	16	6	0	*IK4ZHH	24,341	103	51	29	21	*PD0MD		11,016	102	36	10	5	Y2U	7	4,026	59	26	7	0		
*DL6JMR	390	12	8	5	0	*I2Z0BS	23,871	85	69	40	0	*PA5PR		8,722	83	31	10	8	Y03APJ	A	1,376,110	1,204	293	94	95		
*DL5KUD	21	76,506	235	74	30	19	*IK7WPD	20,124	97	53	28	5							Y03FOM	456,783	584	193	76	52			
*DJ0MCZ	69,716	236	69	23	24	*IK4XQT	13,224	109	43	15	0								Y08RFS	257,712	476	156	50	30			
*DL3FBB	46,942	185	62	25	11	*IK2GWH	12,870	79	55	17	6								Y06HSU	161,200	330	130	61	17			
*DJ6TK	24,095	112	47	20	12	*I23GNG	12,859	70	42	18	17								Y08WW	143,592	333	105	50	31			
*DL3ARK	23,028	109	41	19	16	*IK2AUK	11,620	76	47	18	5								Y06DBL	120,560	309	121	32	23			
*D06SR	9,588	81	30	17	0	*IK2IKW	11,277	87	43	20	0								Y04AAC	102,805	317	103	35	7			
*D07UB	6,732	55	26	17	1	*IV3DYS	10,530	98	43	11	0								Y03CEN	86,005	214	99	46	22			
*D04TP	6,466	45	30	15	8	*I250QX	10,458	74	39	1																	







ASIA					Denmark					Iceland					Y03JW				
<b>Asiatic Russia</b>					OZ1FAO A 53,430 160 79 36 22					TF3AO A 405,328 952 118 33 45					Y05BBO 21 76,388 263 65 29 19				
R9DX	A	4,401,027	3,063	335 111 67	<b>Dodecanese</b>					<b>Isle of Man</b>					<b>Scotland</b>				
RX0AT	*	1,616,576	1,435	276 90 50	SV5DKL 21 102,231 406 68 28 15					MD2C A 1,754,280 1,638 244 80 116					MMDEAX A 789,705 995 205 71 69				
RN9CM	*	1,215,071	1,142	264 87 26	<b>England</b>					<b>Italy</b>					<b>Serbia</b>				
RXB0AW	*	967,554	1,194	193 66 35	M7T A 1,616,688 1,762 239 74 99					IV3JCC A 1,378,972 1,189 268 103 105					YU8NU A 936 15 10 9 7				
RM9RZ	*	363,050	495	187 69 9	M0AFZ * 243,165 511 136 45 34					IZ4GWE * 1,371,000 1,148 291 103 106					YT1VP 7 547,284 1,280 97 31 49				
R9SA	*	339,355	369	239 84 12	M0VBY * 106,930 282 112 35 23					IK1SOW * 424,463 565 193 65 59					YU7U 3.5 186,060 582 82 26 32				
RA9AC	*	288,768	399	179 65 12	M2G * 68,643 341 51 19 17					IK0TUM * 260,160 406 176 67 28					YU5A 3.5 903 22 17 4 8				
RA9JP	*	214,272	738	83 25 0	M0TJU * 44,671 154 87 29 15					IK5ZUB * 111,420 260 104 42 34					<b>Sicily</b>				
RK9KW	*	184,260	410	120 43 3	G3IGU * 12,851 87 54 17 0					IK2JUM * 105,000 240 98 51 26					IT9JOF A 400,680 633 155 61 54				
RA9DZ	*	111,071	360	79 30 0	G1RHZ * 9,180 78 38 14 2					IK3XZG * 93,960 244 93 41 28					IW9FRA * 295,200 395 171 72 57				
RADANO	*	68,960	158	108 46 6	M0UNI 14 98,698 346 68 24 30					IKWGYC * 65,250 203 108 37 0					IT9FGA * 3,476 28 23 21 0				
UI9I	*	61,800	198	60 39 21	<b>European Russia</b>					IK2LLOL * 57,404 194 47 21 45					IT9JDH 3.5 39,375 305 58 9 4				
UA00BR	*	41,088	151	67 27 2	RZ3AXX A 3,363,027 2,290 372 125 122					IW2MZX * 41,790 164 53 25 27					<b>Slovakia</b>				
RU0LI	*	38,115	143	65 30 4	R7LV * 2,447,873 1,705 368 134 99					IK2GZU * 40,256 122 77 39 20					OM3NI A 299,520 499 157 58 41				
UA90Z	*	32,076	143	61 20 0	RA6XV * 882,833 1,311 181 68 52					IK2SIOM/S * 35,400 137 82 32 6					<b>Slovenia</b>				
RADSMS	*	7,785	84	26 17 2	RA4FUN * 648,096 839 231 80 33					IK0MOM * 34,632 109 57 42 12					S5BR A 3,459,925 2,294 323 121 151				
RABAM	14	209,984	576	73 26 37	R2AT * 577,369 885 199 66 34					IK2WPO * 4,029 31 29 18 4					S59AA * 336,540 500 171 63 50				
RUGAT	*	14,952	96	30 14 12	RK4S * 432,816 701 197 65 22					IK2ORX * 2,204 21 15 15 8					S520T * 38,860 108 67 45 22				
RK9AX	7	209,898	638	81 27 9	RX38X * 316,050 586 163 53 29					IK0EIE 21 190,008 439 101 34 33					S51CK 14 448,740 986 96 33 51				
<b>China</b>					<b>Faroe Islands</b>					<b>Lithuania</b>					<b>Spain</b>				
BD4SO	A	90,678	312	74 49 4	OY3JE A 591,052 1,006 181 55 30					LY9Y A 2,235,450 1,779 315 187 103					EASDKU A 845,840 895 219 78 91				
BD9BNC	*	16,683	103	39 25 3	<b>Finland</b>					LY2SA * 140,059 252 129 62 36					EA10S * 409,129 602 148 46 83				
BD2BT	*	3,120	29	25 14 0	OH2XX A 141,574 410 72 33 37					LY5W 3.5 11,582 140 36 5 0					AN2X * 154,703 293 104 51 62				
BG7IBS	21	104,370	398	69 25 4	OH2LNH * 138,573 379 128 36 9					<b>Moldova</b>					<b>Switzerland</b>				
<b>Cyprus</b>					<b>France</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Sweden</b>				
SB/UTBU	A	7,798,700	4,149	363 129 158	F8CRS A 240,713 338 150 59 68					PABWRS A 1,097,928 986 281 101 86					SM6U A 857,025 1,089 178 70 77				
<b>Hong Kong</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Northern Ireland</b>					<b>Switzerland</b>				
VR2XLN	A	764,106	959	294 97 21	DL1QW A 964,689 871 260 93 98					G16K 3.5 210,600 777 65 18 37					EA3GYK * 94,168 256 97 37 24				
<b>India</b>					<b>Greece</b>					<b>Norway</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
VU2NKS	A	508,295	632	201 79 6	SX25JMO A 2,049,663 1,923 282 91 94					LA9TY A 171,566 348 148 53 17					UW8I A 2,013,903 1,584 316 115 98				
<b>Japan</b>					<b>Hungary</b>					<b>Poland</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JM1XCW	A	1,713,710	1,488	205 98 116	HA1TNX A 1,202,094 1,322 228 74 92					SN2K A 3,067,152 2,453 314 110 104					UT4ZG * 1,327,728 1,366 254 93 70				
JH4UTP	*	1,055,808	1,118	210 99 42	HA1DAE * 585,600 671 220 79 67					SO6I * 830,736 786 274 98 60					UX1UX * 1,034,676 1,254 233 74 62				
JA2BQX	*	586,450	672	162 91 64	HA9PP * 439,231 589 162 65 72					SP3GXH * 709,925 792 206 77 82					UT8EL * 713,864 878 253 78 31				
JA1WSK	*	459,610	576	158 77 60	HG8C * 389,480 573 160 62 58					SP3BJK * 661,881 855 216 72 53					UT1PA * 354,835 601 166 53 46				
JA2FSM	*	329,630	529	116 70 52	<b>Belarus</b>					SN140MPR * 183,819 384 136 46 31					UY7C * 347,750 625 182 50 38				
JA1IZZ	*	304,128	427	134 76 46	EW8DD A 995,982 1,240 210 73 56					SP6JZP * 159,030 396 133 37 16					UT4ZK * 220,320 327 191 77 20				
JA6DUJ	*	241,996	432	122 55 25	EV1P/7 * 72,450 277 73 32 10					SP3GAX * 148,122 284 129 55 27					UT9FJ * 162,150 287 139 63 28				
7K2UCD	*	235,004	431	107 69 42	EW8OF * 16,692 149 36 12 4					SO4R * 86,375 335 84 27 14					UT0RM * 52,716 163 80 39 19				
JH2FXK	*	191,100	316	111 60 39	<b>Belgium</b>					SP5OJX * 34,020 138 62 25 18					UX0FF * 34,860 135 58 32 15				
JN3SAC	*	146,608	289	112 56 19	ON6NL 21 242,556 528 105 32 37					SP1S * 26,656 95 63 38 11					UR4IOR * 5,831 49 29 20 0				
JA7ZP	*	130,660	262	96 55 37	OP4A 14 90,152 323 63 22 33					SP9CVY 28 330 10 6 5 0					UT11A 28 10,010 82 38 17 0				
JR2PMT	*	115,101	215	103 60 26	ON4BHQ * 82,340 290 54 20 41					SP8ONZ 14 329,718 733 97 32 50					UT5ERP 21 10,608 89 36 13 2				
JH0MHR	*	111,186	230	89 56 29	<b>Bosnia-Herzegovina</b>					SP1CQZ 7 59,968 460 47 11 6					E03Q 14 791,910 1,721 99 34 56				
JH4CFV	*	102,070	258	79 63 31	E71DX A 30,385 137 72 25 6					SP1MHZ 3.5 42,273 355 50 9 2					UW1M * 783,178 1,664 107 34 53				
JA1XRH	*	95,025	216	78 60 37	E77DX 21 274,816 695 77 28 47					<b>Portugal</b>					<b>Switzerland</b>				
JA1EMQ	*	86,618	197	79 54 28	E76C 14 984,144 1,927 189 37 57					CT1HMN A 374,010 569 148 55 70					HB9CRV A 400,074 669 162 60 40				
JH1ECF	*	57,600	173	71 36 13	E7BT 7 336,256 980 87 27 34					YQ6A A 1,070,040 1,009 264 105 75					UW5A 3.5 75,816 281 70 22 25				
JA2KYC	*	55,044	166	69 43 20	<b>Croatia</b>					<b>Romania</b>					<b>Switzerland</b>				
JA1BWA	*	53,992	162	69 52 15	HA7MB * 293,966 506 155 58 40					Y07DAA * 541,170 753 228 80 7					F08RZ A 341,578 501 69 62 102				
JF2OZH	*	38,493	121	64 40 13	HA2EDA * 91,091 187 64 50 55					Y03BL * 53,350 201 76 32 0					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JL8MBF	*	32,980	143	57 35 5	HASNB * 17,415 104 55 21 5					<b>Scotland</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
7M400S	*	21,168	94	41 31 12	HG3FMY 28 451 14 6 5 8					<b>Y03JW</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JA1SJV	*	11,529	77	30 19 12	HASUK 21 50,295 171 56 26 23					<b>Y05BBO</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JR1UMQ	*	2,310	24	20 12 1	HG3FMZ 14 117,428 403 69 24 31					<b>MMDEAX</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JL1DLQ	*	1,534	21	16 10 0	HA3LI 3.5 134,654 702 63 16 14					<b>YU8NU</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JA7KY	*	858	13	5 8 9	<b>Hungary</b>					<b>YU7U</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JA10GT	28	759	14	12 11 0	<b>Italy</b>					<b>YU5A</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JA18PA	21	259,022	691	78 31 25	<b>Belgium</b>					<b>YU9JOF</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JH9KVF	*	168,664	515	70 29 17	<b>France</b>					<b>YU9FGA</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JR1NHD	*	147,712	424	72 31 25	<b>Germany</b>					<b>IT9JDH</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JS1KQD	*	21,097	106	45 22 6	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JM2RUV	*	11,590	69	35 19 7	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JA2VHG	14	3,432	37	21 11 1	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JJ0MPI	*	2,268	32	12 11 5	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
7L410U	7	30,710	180	37 21 16	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
JF1RYU	*	26,640	162	30 22 20	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
7L20HM	*	1,377	20	11 11 5	<b>Denmark</b>					<b>OM3NI</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
<b>Kazakhstan</b>					<b>France</b>					<b>Latvia</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
UN4PG	28	2,212	30	19 9 0	F8CRS A 240,713 338 150 59 68					YL9T A 1,946,610 1,706 316 188 79					EA3ALV * 80,750 206 108 44 18				
UN9PQ	14	73,170	295	59 20 11	F4GGD * 178,200 509 119 46 0					<b>Lithuania</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
<b>Kuwait</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Lithuania</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
9K2HN	A	263,484	575	105 30 21	DL1QW A 964,689 871 260 93 98					LY9Y A 2,235,450 1,779 315 187 103					EA4GB * 51,920 175 77 41 0				
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Lithuania</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
HZ1PS	A	705,165	902	161 58 46	DL8OH * 690,654 809 184 78 92					LY2SA * 140,059 252 129 62 36					EA7HNN * 41,750 145 80 27 18				
<b>South Korea</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Lithuania</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
DSSDNO	A	177,174	361	98 63 32	DL1NEO * 601,640 746 219 75 62					LY5W 3.5 11,582 140 36 5 0					EB1DMQ * 9,604 93 33 10 6				
HL2DYS	14	4,000	36	26 14 0	DL8SCG * 560,880 596 201 92 76					<b>Moldova</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
<b>Tajikistan</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
EY8MM	A	993,114	1,112	216 79 23	DL6JZ * 541,632 593 212 81 79					PABWRS A 1,097,928 986 281 101 86					EA1AOM * 1,539 26 16 8 3				
<b>EUROPE</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
<b>Austria</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
OE50VIE	A	103,341	313	101 42 4	DK1FW * 531,600 515 247 91 62					PA1TX * 401,710 587 173 63 53					EC7KW 28 3,875 42 15 10 8				
<b>Belarus</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
EW8DD	A	995,982	1,240	210 73 56	DL4LAM * 314,140 490 177 58 43					PA3HP * 76,145 198 83 38 36					EDSJ 21 77,220 267 66 26 25				
EV1P/7	*	72,450	277	73 32 10	DL2IAN * 284,748 474 135 53 56					PEABAS * 72,224 213 90 33 25					EA2TA * 4,326 38 20 19 3				
EW8OF	*	16,692	149	36 12 4	DK1BX * 268,736 421 177 69 26					PASST * 65,565 166 90 45 20					AN5E 14 244,120 817 76 27 33				
<b>Belgium</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
ON6NL	21	242,556	528	105 32 37	DL5KUT * 247,506 439 101 42 70					PASO 21 21,294 106 58 23 5					EH7Z * 70,224 440 51 18 8				
OP4A	14	90,152	323	63 22 33	DLJ1AA * 220,704 396 140 56 46					PA3EWP 14 102,729 324 49 19 53					AN1A 7 149,296 536 70 22 32				
ON4BHQ	*	82,340	290	54 20 41	DK0AE * 216,900 392 140 56 45					PD4X * 14,091 98 30 11 20					EC1KR * 47,168 217 45 14 29				
<b>Bosnia-Herzegovina</b>					<b>Germany</b>					<b>Netherlands</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				
E71DX	A	30,385	137	72 25 6	DL9CR * 120,060 293 109 43 28					PIACOM 7 255,398 818 83 27 33					EB3CML * 4,329 44 19 8 12				
E77DX	21	274,816	695	77 28 47	DL5AN * 104,076 204 98 53 45					<b>Northern Ireland</b>					<b>Ukraine</b>				



Guam				Kazakhstan				AD8P				KØIR															
KH2/N2NL	A	2,259,180	1,656	235	123	104	*UP6P	A	2,285,807	1,889	281	97	55	WY7SS	*	921,492	995	222	89	118	3,347,586	2,652	303	118	217		
Hawaii				EUROPE				WY7SS				W18V															
KH7B	14	122,880	324	52	27	49	Belgium				W1MAT																
(OP: AH6RR)				*ON4ANL				A				WY3P/4															
Indonesia				A				464,984				796				W8BI											
YB2ECG	A	59,452	227	51	33	5	Bulgaria				3,477,010				2,548												
YC2LEV	21	42,600	194	53	22	0	*LZ9R				A				Canada												
New Zealand				A				1,338,909				1,380				259				108							
ZL1T	A	60,032	161	51	45	32	Croatia				A				259				108								
ZL1BYZ	21	264,821	653	61	30	46	*9A7T				A				259				108								
ZL3PAH	7	36,990	139	45	18	27	A				1,383,381				1,142				271				103				
SOUTH AMERICA				A				149,687				367				126				40							
Argentina				A				1,471,248				1,571				241				84							
AY8A	A	1,014,585	956	169	74	120	France				A				92,169				246								
(OP: LU8ADX)				*DJ7JC				A				92,169				246				112				43			
LW5EAE	*	226,765	370	104	51	54	Germany				A				92,169				246								
LU3JVO	*	37,714	118	43	30	36	*RK2FWG				A				9,912				74								
Brazil				A				9,912				74				42				17							
ZX2B	A	4,734,415	2,679	291	105	199	Poland				A				937,296				1,146								
(OP: PY2MNL)				*SQ2ØØFC				A				937,296				1,146				229				86			
PY2NQ	*	929,160	888	169	71	116	*SP1KRF				A				314,000				565								
PW2B	*	32,475	151	43	21	11	*SN9ØHRS				A				44,343				168								
PY4EK	21	58,289	258	47	14	16	*YU2A				A				2,507,862				2,037								
PY7ZY	*	10,638	69	28	15	11	A				2,507,862				2,037				277				93				
PY2LCD	*	9,682	81	31	16	0	*OM3KWZ				A				961,632				1,121								
PT9PA	*	6,478	53	25	11	5	A				961,632				1,121				232				78				
Chile				A				961,632				1,121				232				78							
3G3P	A	81,730	254	69	36	5	Slovakia				A				961,632				1,121								
(OP: CE3PG)				*S5ØA				A				4,148,732				2,407				394				135			
Colombia				A				4,148,732				2,407				394				135							
HK1R	A	279,840	534	67	35	74	Slovenia				A				4,148,732				2,407								
Paraguay				A				4,148,732				2,407				394				135							
ZP9EH	A	104,652	234	66	33	54	Spain				A				1,039,272				1,432								
Venezuela				A				1,039,272				1,432				168				50							
YW5T	A	840,584	804	150	65	143	*ED2V				A				1,039,272				1,432								
(OP: YV5JBI)				*EB5AL				A				584,354				810				193				61			
YY4ALK	21	24	2	2	2	0	Sweden				A				85,995				256								
MULTI-OPERATOR				A				85,995				256				90				34							
SINGLE TRANSMITTER LOW POWER				A				85,995				256				90				34							
NORTH AMERICA				A				85,995				256				90				34							
United States				A				85,995				256				90				34							
*KDBAKI	A	486,652	785	160	58	138	Ukraine				A				43,901				125								
*KE4UNA	*	389,424	645	133	58	113	*UT2MA				A				43,901				125								
*W4UAL	*	189,774	413	106	53	75	*UU4JWC				A				25,500				127								
*ACØE	*	46,324	218	41	37	70	OCEANIA				A				23,779				105								
Bermuda				A				23,779				105				36				18							
*VP9I	A	1,953,904	1,707	222	74	168	SOUTH AMERICA				A				820,556				753								
Canada				A				820,556				753				180				81							
*VE7NSR	A	8,330	52	24	21	25	Argentina				A				249,400				378								
Mexico				A				249,400				378				97				52							
*XE1TD	A	3,344	42	7	10	21	Brazil				A				349,877				633								
U.S. Virgin Islands				A				349,877				633				81				37							
*KP2D	A	1,283,136	1,161	235	89	165	MULTI-OPERATOR				A				3,314,416				2,357								
AFRICA				A				3,314,416				2,357				309				106							
Ceuta and Melilla				A				3,314,416				2,357				309				106							
*EF9K	A	496,989	713	154	42	37	SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER				A				2,281,669				1,977								
ASIA				A				2,281,669				1,977				276				108							
Asiatic Russia				A				2,281,669				1,977				276				108							
*UAGAYA	A	200,970	439	102	39	24	United States				A				1,860,904				1,685								
Japan				A				1,860,904				1,685				251				91							
*JM1NKT	A	149,917	308	116	64	17	K4FJ				A				1,678,182				1,610								
MULTI-OPERATOR				A				1,678,182				1,610				221				104							
SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER				A				1,678,182				1,610				221				104							
NORTH AMERICA				A				1,678,182				1,610				221				104							
United States				A				1,678,182				1,610				221				104							
*K4FJ	A	3,314,416	2,357	309	106	171	WØLSD				A				1,619,250				1,616								
*WØLSD	*	2,281,669	1,977	276	108	203	W2WHP				A				1,583,031				1,557								
*W1DX	*	1,860,904	1,685	251	91	115	K7BTW				A				1,285,568				1,651								
*KF6T	*	1,678,182	1,610	221	104	192	N1MGO				A				1,158,192				1,318								
*NC4CS	*	1,619,250	1,616	232	77	116	N2BJ/9				A				1,009,562				1,237								
*W2WHP	*	1,583,031	1,557	235	85	151																					
*K7BTW	*	1,285,568	1,651	171	86	167																					
*N1MGO	*	1,158,192	1,318	207	77	148																					
*N2BJ/9	*	1,009,562	1,237	172	80	139																					

## Looking Ahead in



Here are some of the articles we're working on for upcoming issues of CQ:

- "Take it to the Field" Special in June
- The Sky is NOT the Limit!
- Fishing for QSOs
- Antennas and HOAs: The "Full Disclosure" Approach

Do you have a ham radio story to tell? See our writers' guidelines on the CQ website at <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/guide.html>

SOUTH AMERICA				Argentina				A				4,516,698				2,428							
LS1D	A	4,516,698	2,428	313	112	206	Brazil				A				1,107,045				1,109				
L73D	*	445,632	584	105	51	108	*PY2KJ				A				271,411				452				
Brazil				A				1,107,045				1,109				177				71			
ZW5B	A	1,107,045	1,109	177	71	89	Netherlands Antilles				A				3,807,468				2,459				
PY2KJ	*	271,411	452	97	45	61	Uruguay				A				1,935,450				1,451				
MULTI-OPERATOR				A				1,935,450				1,451				207				80			
TWO TRANSMITTER				A				1,935,450				1,451				207				80			
NORTH AMERICA				A				1,935,450				1,451				207				80			
United States				A				1,935,450				1,451				207				80			
NR4M	A	5,323,464	3,453	326	113	203																	

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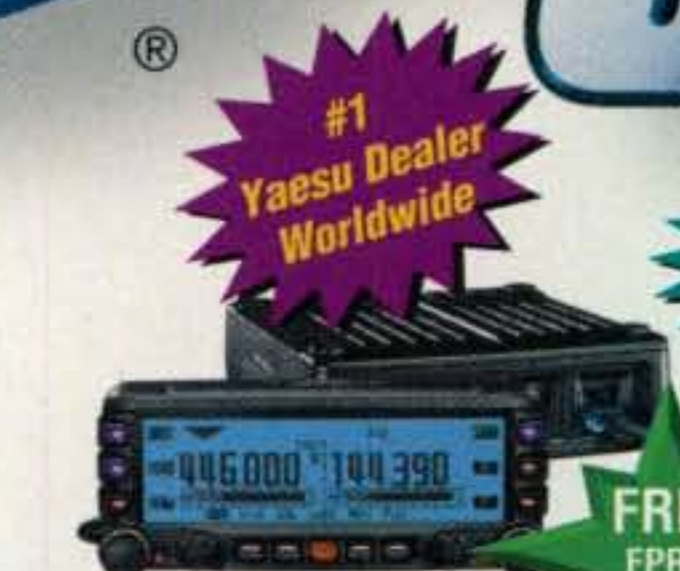
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# NEW COMPACT HF TRANSCEIVER WITH IF DSP

A superb, compact HF/50 MHz radio with state-of-the-art IF DSP technology, configured to provide YAESU World-Class Performance in an easy to operate package. New licensees, casual operators, DX chasers, contesters, portable/field enthusiasts, and emergency service providers- YAESU FT-450D...This Radio is for YOU!



Compact size: 9" X 3.3" X 8.8" and Light weight: 7.9 lb

HF/50 MHz 100 W All Mode Transceiver

## FT-450D

With Built-in Automatic Antenna Tuner

- NEW** Illuminated Key buttons
- NEW** 300 Hz/500 Hz/2.4 kHz CW IF Filters

- NEW** Foot stand
- NEW** Classically Designed Main Dial and Knobs
- NEW** Dynamic Microphone MH-31A8J Included

- Large informative Front Panel Display, convenient Control knobs and Switches
- The IF DSP guarantees quiet and enjoyable high performance HF/50 MHz operation



Handy Front Panel Control of Important Features including:

- **CONTOUR Control Operation**  
The Contour filtering system provides a gentle shaping of the filter passband.
- **Manual NOTCH**  
Highly-effective system that can remove an interfering beat tone/signal.

- **Digital Noise Reduction (DNR)**  
Dramatically reduces random noise found on the HF and 50 MHz bands.
- **IF WIDTH**  
The DSP IF WIDTH tuning system provides selectable IF passband width to fight QRM.  
SSB - 1.8/2.4/3.0 kHz, CW - 300 Hz/500 Hz/2.4 kHz
- **Digital Microphone Equalizer**  
Custom set your rig to match your voice characteristics for maximum power and punch on the band.
- **Fast IF SHIFT Control**  
Vary the IF SHIFT higher or lower for effective interference reduction / elimination.

### More features to support your HF operation

- 10 kHz Roofing filter
- 20 dB ATT/IPO
- Built-in TCXO for incredible  $\pm 1$  ppm/hour (@+77°F, after warm-up) stability
- CAT System (D-sub9 pin): Computer programming and Cloning capability
- Large, Easy-to-See digital S-meter with peak hold function
- Speech Processor
- QUICK SPLIT to automatically Offset transmit frequency (+5 kHz default)
- TXW to monitor the transmit frequency when split frequency operation is engaged
- Clarifier
- Built-In Electronic Keyer
- CW Beacon (Up to 118 characters using the CW message keyer's 3 memory banks)
- CW Pitch Adjustment (from 400 to 800 Hz, in 100 Hz steps)
- CW Spotting (Zero-Beating)
- CW Training Feature
- CW Keying using the Up/Down keys on the microphone
- Two Voice Memories (SSB/AM/FM), store up to 10

■ The rugged FT-450D aluminum die-cast chassis, with its quiet, thermostatically controlled cooling fan provides a solid foundation for the power amplifier during long hours of field or home contesting use.



MOS FET RD100HFF1



seconds each

- 20 second Digital Voice Recorder
- Dedicated Data Jack for FSK- RTTY operation
- Versatile Memory System, up to 500 memory channels that may be separated into as many as 13 Memory Groups
- CTCSS Operation (FM)
- My Band / My Mode functions, to recall your favorite operating set-ups
- Lock Function
- C.S. Switch to recall a favorite Menu Selection directly
- Dynamic Microphone included
- IMPORTANT FEATURES FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED OPERATOR - Digital Voice Announcement of the Frequency, Mode or S-meter reading

For the latest Yaesu news, visit us on the Internet:  
<http://www.vertexstandard.com>

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

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