

Amateur Radio

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COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

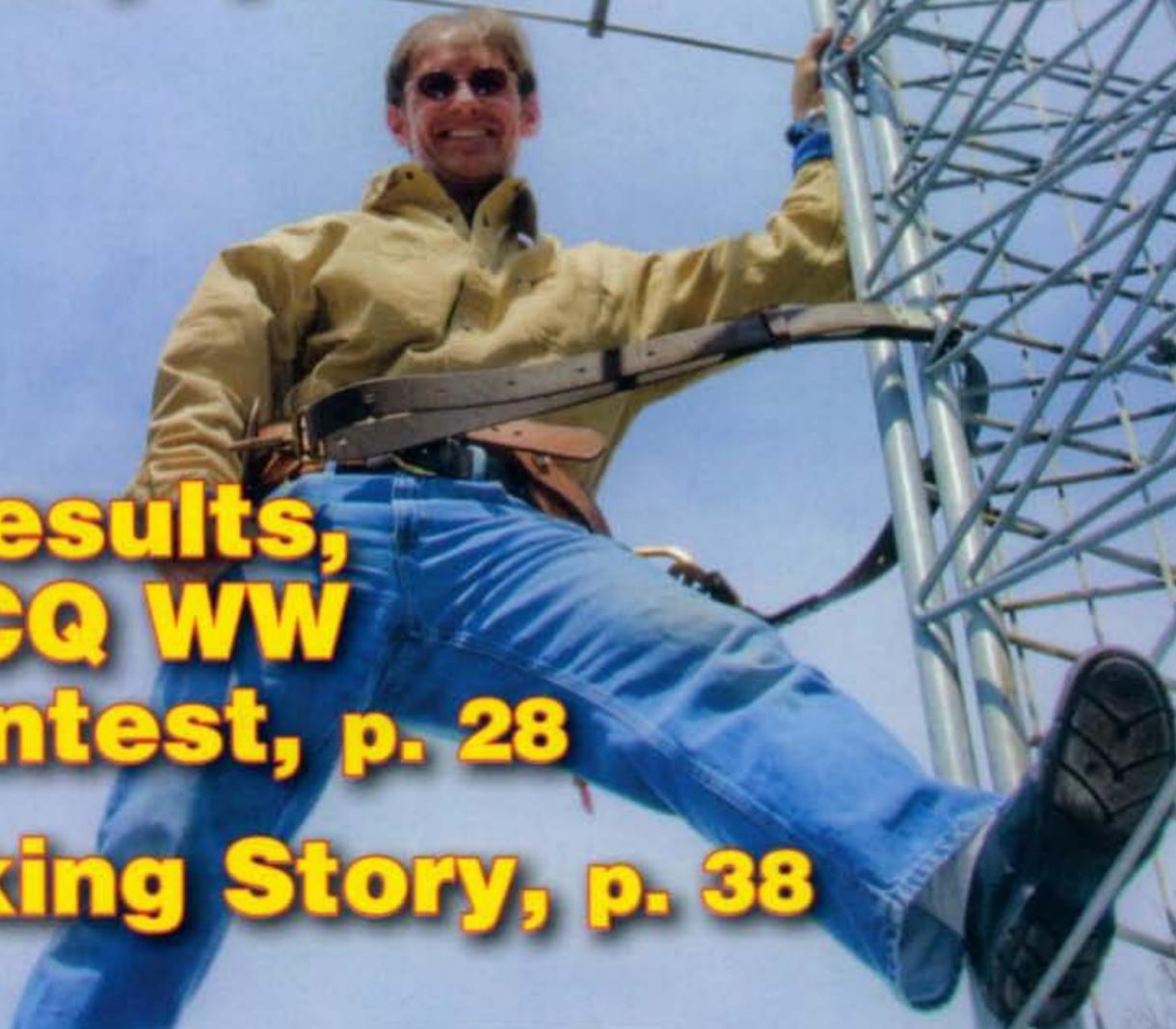
AUGUST 2011



• **“Invited to the Disaster,” p. 13**

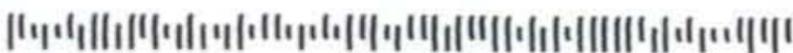
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• **A Striking Story, p. 38**



On the Cover: James Archer, N3ZS/5Z4FV with his 55-foot crank-up tower in Elverson, Pennsylvania. Details on page 80.

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Covers 6, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, and 40 Meters!

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!

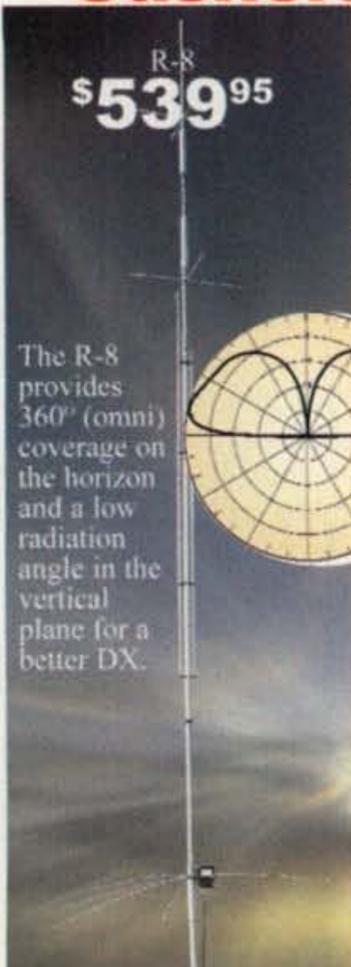
Rugged Construction: Thick fiberglass insulators, all-stainless hardware, and 6063 aircraft-aluminum tubing that is double or triple walled at key stress points handle anything Mother Nature can dish out.

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.

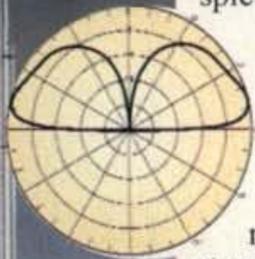
Legal-Limit Power: Heavy-duty components are contest-proven to handle all the power your amplifier can legally deliver and radiating it as RF rather than heat.

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!

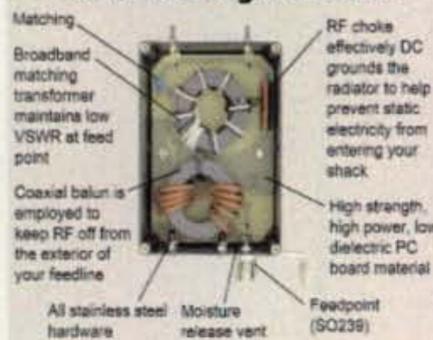
R-8GK, \$56.95. R-8 three-point guy kit for high winds.



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

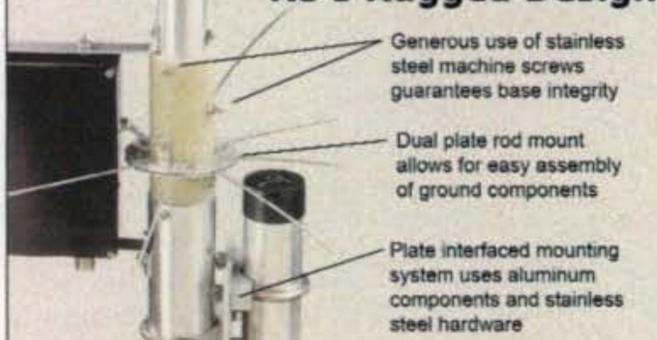


R8 Matching Network



Matching: Broadband matching transformer maintains low VSWR at feed point. Coaxial balun is employed to keep RF off from the exterior of your feedline. All stainless steel hardware. Moisture release vent. Feedpoint (SO239). High strength, high power, low dielectric PC board material. RF choke effectively DC grounds the radiator to help prevent static electricity from entering your stack.

R8's Rugged Design



Generous use of stainless steel machine screws guarantees base integrity. Dual plate rod mount allows for easy assembly of ground components. Plate interfaced mounting system uses aluminum components and stainless steel hardware.

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 for gain figures.

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



A-4S
\$699⁹⁵



A-3S
\$599⁹⁵

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



A270-10S
\$169⁹⁵

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.



A270-6S
\$129⁹⁵

Cushcraft Famous Ringos Compact FM Verticals



AR-2
\$64⁹⁵



AR-6
\$99⁹⁵



AR-10
\$109⁹⁵

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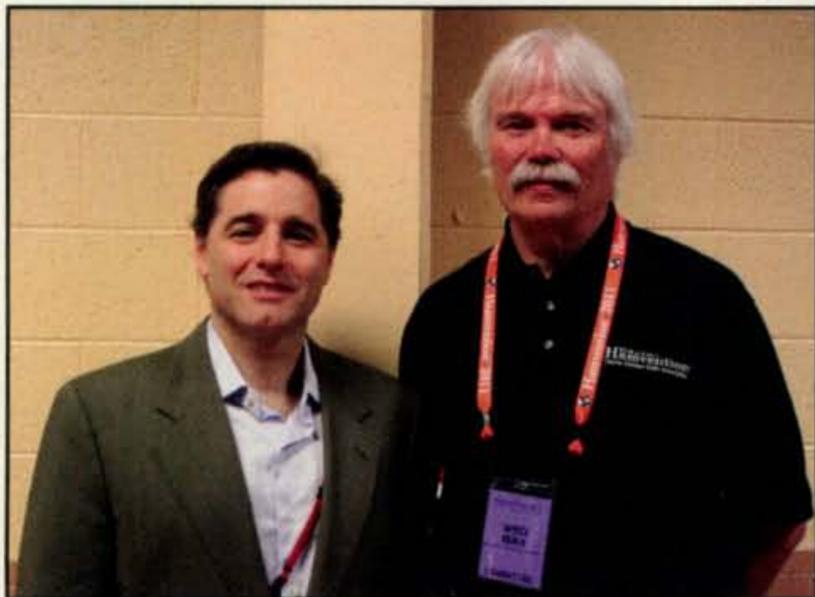
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Portuguese Edition of CQ to Debut in Brazil

A new Portuguese-language edition of *CQ* is due to be launched this month in Brazil. The new edition will be published by Radiohaus, a major Brazilian amateur radio dealer. It will be published bi-monthly and will contain a mix of articles translated from the U.S. edition and original material written specifically for the Brazilian ham audience. This is the same arrangement that *CQ* has with the publishers of its Spanish edition, *CQ Radio Amateur*.



FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski was escorted around the Dayton Hamvention® by 2011 show chairman Mike Kalter, W8CI. (Photo courtesy K0NEB)

FCC Chief Visits Hamvention®

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski made a surprise visit to the Dayton Hamvention® during an unplanned layover in Dayton. According to Hamvention officials, Genachowski was flying back to Washington on Friday, May 20, when his plane was diverted to Dayton because of severe weather in the Midwest. He was told he might have trouble finding a hotel room because of all the ham radio operators in town. After finding a room, he decided to visit the show on Saturday morning before returning to Washington. He spent about two hours at Hara Arena, talking with hams and checking out the equipment displays.

Astronaut Wheelock Praises Ham Radio at Dayton

A planned guest at this year's Dayton Hamvention® was Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, a callsign he's never used! "I call that my gravity callsign," Wheelock told *Newsline*. "My real callsign is NA1SS from the space station ..." He said that ham radio provided a great way to relax and decompress as he and his crewmates worked to fix a pump failure that required three spacewalks to repair. Plus, he said, "(h)aving you guys as an emergency contact for us around the globe was a warm, warm feeling for me as a commander..."

New Access Rules for QRZ.com

Users of the QRZ.com callsign database must now be registered and sign in before getting access to any name or address data. Owner Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, explained in a posting that routine access to the database was being slowed down by a growing number of automated systems trying to harvest massive amounts of data at one time. Registration is free; ham users may access a maximum of 150 callsigns/day (not including their own); non-ham users are limited to 25 lookups per day, and QRZ subscribers will continue to have unlimited access.

Progress, But No Changes Yet, in HR-607

A group of New York hams met in May with the sponsor of HR-607, the bill that would create a nationwide interoperable radio service for public safety officials, but at the cost of 420-440 MHz and 450-470 MHz. According to participants, Rep. Peter King (R-NY) promised to have the bill amended to remove the section that deals with auctioning off spectrum below 512 MHz, and staff members later confirmed that the Congressman had made that request to Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR), who is chairman of the Subcommittee on Technology, Communications and the Internet (and W7EQI). The committee is now in charge of the bill. Reportedly, Walden agreed to have the section removed, but as this is written in late June, no action had yet been taken on amending the bill.

Meanwhile, in the Senate, Senators Joe Lieberman (I-CT) and John McCain (R-AZ) introduced a companion bill to HR-607—S-1040—that does not call for auctioning off any spectrum below 1675 MHz. However, it would require the FCC to not renew current public safety licenses below 512 MHz unless the licensee can show that:

(A) that migration to a different spectrum band will cause considerable economic hardship to the State or local government jurisdiction in which such licensee is located;

(B) migration to a different spectrum band would adversely impact the ability of the licensee to protect and serve the community in which such licensee is located; or

(C) there are an insufficient number of frequencies above the 700 MHz band to support the land-mobile communications needs of the licensee.

New HF Radar Proposal Could Impact Ham Bands

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)—which regulates federal government spectrum usage and advises the president on telecommunications matters—has proposed establishing oceanographic radar allocations at several HF frequency segments, including the 60-meter amateur band and immediately adjacent to the 20-meter ham band. According to the ARRL, the recommendation to propose these allocations at next year's World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) came as a surprise to those members of a U.S. WRC working group set up by the FCC—including an ARRL representative—that had proposed different sets of frequencies and concluded that sharing between these radars and amateurs would be difficult at best. Apparently, there has not yet been an explanation of why NTIA made these specific proposals or why it disregarded the working group's advice. More to come on this one...

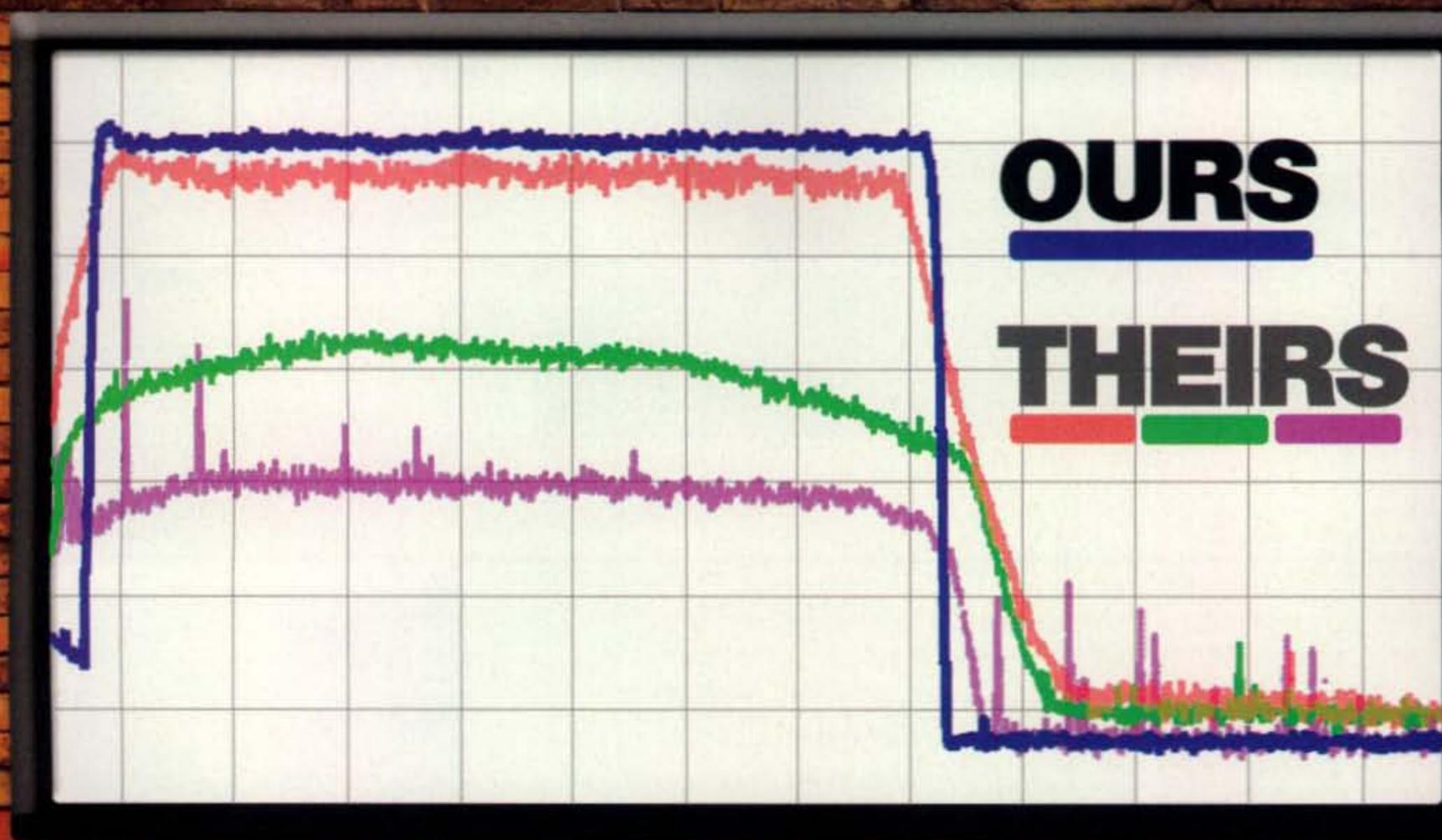
Japan Drops All Amateur Code Tests

Back in the 1950s, Japan became the first country to issue an amateur license that did not require a Morse code exam, the so-called Class 4 license. However, it has continued to require code tests for the Class 1 and Class 2 licenses, even as most of the rest of the world has ended amateur code test requirements. Now, according to *Newsline*, effective October 1, Japan will no longer require code tests for any class of amateur license. Interestingly, on an issue about which so many hams have been so passionate for so many decades, a request for comments on the proposed rule change drew only 39 responses.

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.

brick wall /brɪk - wɔːl/ - *noun*

anything or anyone that is impenetrable, unrelenting, or unyielding



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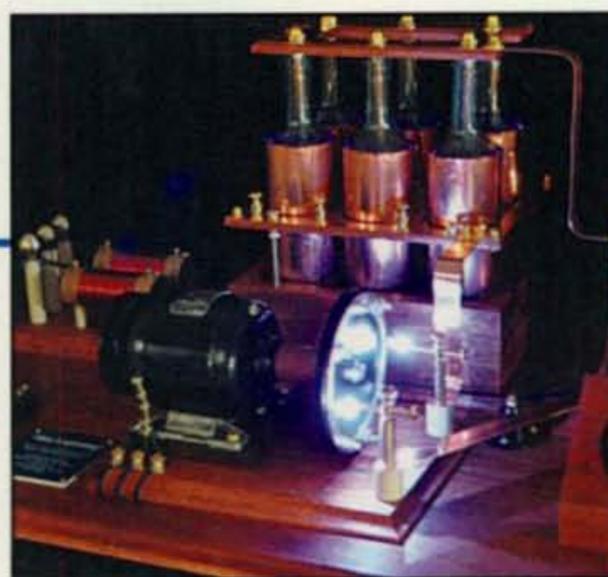
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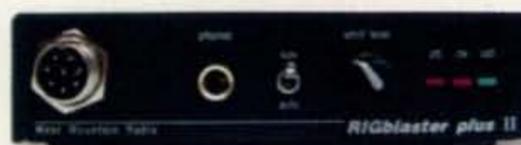


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- Triple-conversion super-heterodyne receiver architecture, using 69.450 MHz 1st IF
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- High-speed Direct Digital Synthesizer (DDS) and high-spec Digital PLL for outstanding Local Oscillator performance
- Original YAESU IF DSP advanced design, provides comfortable and effective reception. IF SHIFT / IF WIDTH / CONTOUR / NOTCH / DNR
- DSP enhancement of Transmit SSB/AM signal quality with Parametric Microphone Equalizer and Speech Processor
- Built-in high stability TCXO (± 0.5 ppm after 1 minute @ 77 ° F)
- Built-in automatic antenna tuner ATU, with 100 memories
- Powerful CW operating capabilities for CW enthusiasts
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- Optional Data Management Unit (DMU-2000) permits display of various operating conditions, transceiver status and station logging.
- Optional RF μ -Tune Units for 160 m, 80/40 m and 30/20 m Bands

Optional, YAESU Exclusive, Fully-Automatic μ -Tuning Preselector System!

Fully automatic, Ultra-sharp, External μ -Tuning Preselector (optional) features a 1.1" (28 mm) Coil for High Q

On the lower Amateur bands, strong signal voltages impinge on a receiver and create noise and intermod that can cover up the weak signals you're trying to pull through. YAESU engineers developed the μ (Mu) Tuning system for the FT dx 9000/FT-2000, and it is now available as an option for the FT-950. Three modules are available (MTU-160, MTU-80/40, MTU-30/20); these may be connected externally with no internal modification required! When μ -Tuning is engaged, the VRF system is bypassed, but the fixed Bandpass Filters are still in the received signal path.



Optional External Data Management Unit (DMU-2000) Provides Many Display Capabilities

Enjoy the ultimate in operating ease by adding the DMU-2000! Enjoy the same displays available with the FT dx 9000 and FT-2000: Band Scope, Audio Scope, X-Y Oscilloscope, World Clock, Rotator Control, Extensive Transceiver Status Displays, and Station Logging Capability. These extensive functions are displayed on your user-supplied computer monitor.



Shown with after-market keyer paddle, keyboard, and monitor (not supplied).



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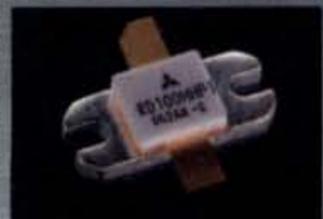
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The rugged FT-450D aluminum die-cast chassis, with its quiet, thermostatically controlled cooling fan provides a solid foundation for the power amplifier during long hours of field or home contesting use.



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The Chinese Connection

I'm in the middle of reading a fascinating book about Chinese voyages of discovery in the early 15th century¹. The author claims to have evidence that, among other things, the Chinese landed and established colonies in the Americas about 80 years before Columbus "discovered" the New World. I haven't gotten far enough in yet to comment on that, but the first part of the book lays the groundwork by discussing medieval Chinese history and culture and explaining how China spread its influence and came to dominate foreign trade in Asia and Africa at the time.

Despite having the world's largest army and navy, and having already invented gunpowder and developed firearms, this book's author says it wasn't China's style to simply invade a place and take it over. Rather, the Chinese sent treasure ships full of the finest goods, not only to trade but to bestow as gifts on local rulers. Once trading relationships were established, these rulers were given every imaginable luxury and invited to major events in China—with the Chinese providing transportation and picking up the tab for everything.

Of course, all this came at a price. If the foreign rulers wanted to continue to benefit from China's largesse, and if they wanted their highly profitable trade with China to continue and grow, then they had to pay tribute to China, both financially and by swearing allegiance to the Chinese emperor. The Chinese came to dominate the region, generally without firing a shot (even though they were the only ones at the time with guns). It would do us well here in the west to study more Chinese history.

I bring this up because, as many of you are aware, the past year has seen the introduction to the U.S. market of ham gear from China. The two major brands we have seen so far are Wouxon (pronounced OH-shin) and TYT (Quanzhou TYT Electronic Co.). The prices are very low and from all reports we've heard, the radios work well, too. At Ham-Com in Texas this past June, one dealer selling these new rigs wanted to be sure everyone in the hall knew how well they were doing, so the booth staff banged a big gong every time a ham bought one. Following a commercial tradition that is at least 700 years old, the Chinese are establishing themselves in the ham radio marketplace with quality goods at low prices that significantly undercut their competition.

Of course, their competition is acutely aware of this, especially the Japanese manufacturers who know from their own experience how effective this strategy can be. After all, it's been just over 40 years since the first ad for a Japanese radio appeared in U.S. ham magazines. The Japanese manufacturers used a similar approach, offering quality goods at low prices that significantly undercut their competition, starting with low-cost VHF-FM gear and then moving into higher-priced HF equipment as well.

Most of the "long-established" U.S. manufacturers (I put that in quotes because many of them had only been in business for about 40 years themselves at that point!) could not or would not respond effectively and eventually dropped out of the amateur market, giving the Japanese manufacturers market dominance for the past three decades. Now, the Chinese manufacturers appear to be adopting similar tactics, and the question becomes whether the Japanese manufacturers will learn from their own success and how (or if) they will adapt to meet this new challenge.

Ultimately, it will be up to you, the consumer, to decide which radios from which manufacturers give you the greatest value for your dollar. Other issues that may

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

merit consideration by consumers include possible Chinese government subsidies to hold down prices on exported goods, and questions about working conditions and worker pay at Chinese factories (we know nothing about these specific companies, only that this is an issue in the broader topic of U.S.-China trade). And, of course, we the consumers should not forget that the U.S. amateur radio manufacturing industry has rebounded, with newer companies taking leadership positions in several areas of the ham marketplace. One thing is certain: radios from China will be a part of the ham radio landscape for many years to come, and the presence of these new "players" in the market will continue to be seen in magazines, on dealers' shelves and at hamfests around America.

Dayton and Dallas

Speaking of hamfests, both Dayton and Dallas (Ham-Com) seemed to be down a little in attendance this year, but most dealers reported strong sales nonetheless. Getting to and from Dayton proved to be challenging this year—it took me 13 hours to get there from New Jersey, which wouldn't have been too terrible if I was driving ... but I was flying! And after the show, both Ad Manager Chip Margelli, K7JA, and *Popular Communications* and *WorldRadio Online* Editor Richard Fisher, KI6SN, got stranded overnight at different airports while trying to get home to California.

Ignoring all that, actually being at Dayton was its usual incredible experience. Yes, there was the sewer back-up that shut down nearly all of the restrooms on Saturday afternoon and sent sewage seeping across parts of the flea market. But on the other hand, there was the unplanned and unannounced visit on Saturday morning by FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski and the usual controlled chaos at the CQ booth.

Working a booth at Dayton is a lot like running a pile-up on a DXpedition. There's a constant line of people waiting to "work" you; you can only "work" one at a time, and you have to hope all the others behave until you get to them (99% of the time, they do). But the people you get to meet are the best part. Attendees at Dayton truly cover the full spectrum of the ham radio hobby. All, of course, are just-plain-hams, having fun and chatting on a first-name basis ... even though among those just plain hams were at least one Nobel laureate, two retired admirals, a former ambassador and at least one astronaut. It sure is a good thing we don't have to QSL all those "eyeball" QSOs at the booth!

A couple of issue notes: Our coverage of ham radio's response to the wicked spring weather across the U.S. continues this month with a detailed look at how SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) volunteers helped out in Joplin, Missouri after a massive tornado struck that city (p. 13); and Youth Editor Brittany Decker, KB1OGL, shares her experience with—and lessons learned from—a too-close-for-comfort encounter with lightning at her home in New Hampshire ("A Striking Story," p. 38). Plus, of course, we have the SSB results of last year's CQ World Wide DX Contest. Once again, this truly worldwide contest made its own propagation—nearly two dozen new records were set - and we received over 6500 logs, showing operation from 232 countries ... including China.

73, W2VU

Note:

1. Menzies, Gavin, *1421: The Year China Discovered America*, HarperCollins, New York, 2004.

hy-gain® HF VERTICALS

Self-supporting -- no guys required... Remarkable DX performance -- low angle radiation, omnidirectional... 1500 Watts... Low SWR... Aircraft quality aluminum tubing... Stainless steel hardware... Recessed SO-239 connect...

Two year limited Warranty...

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

AV-18HT, \$949.95. (10,12,15,20,40,80 M, 160, 17 Meters optional). 53 ft., 114 lbs.

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

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

AV-12AVQ, \$139.95. (10, 15, 20 Meters). 13 ft., 9 lbs. AV-12AVQ also uses Thunderbird beam design air dielectric traps for extremely Hy-Q performance. This is the way to go for inexpensive tri-band performance in limited space. Roof mount with AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

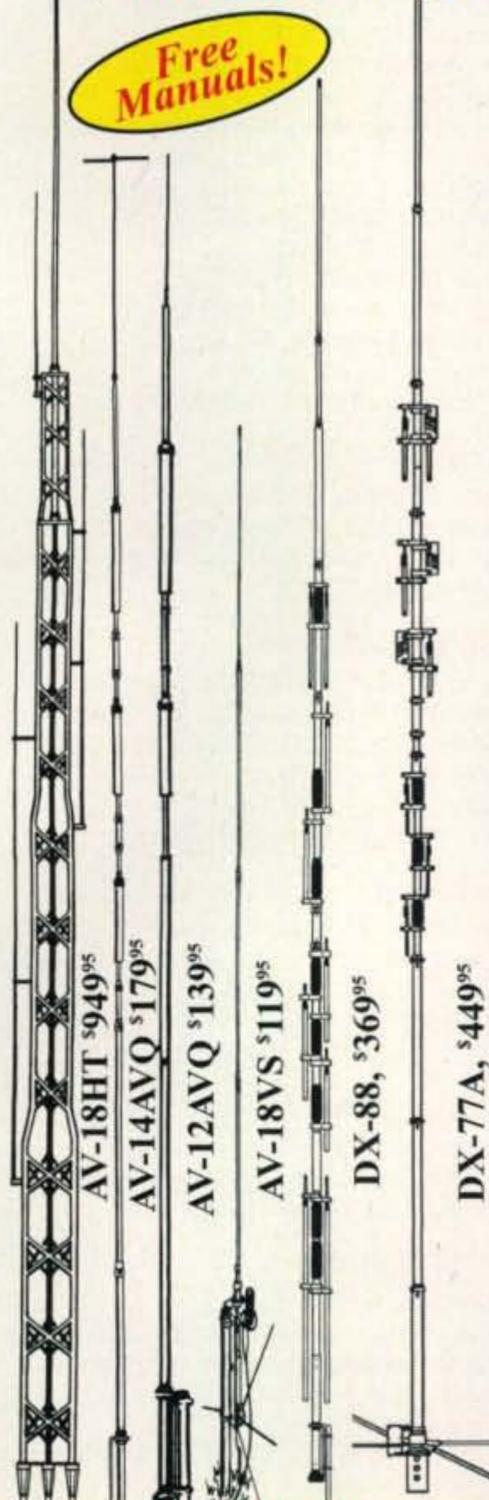
AV-18VS, \$119.95 (10,12,15,17,20,30,40,80 Meters). 18 ft., 4 lbs. High quality construction and low cost make the AV-18VS an exceptional value. Easily tuned to any band by adjusting feed point at the base loading coil. Roof mount with Hy-Gain AV-14RMQ kit, \$89.95.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Model #	Price	Bands	Max Power	Height	Weight	Wind Surv.	Rec. Mast
AV-18HT	\$949.95	10,15,20,40,80	1500 W PEP	53 feet	114 pounds	75 MPH	-----
AV-14AVQ	\$179.95	10,15,20,40	1500 W PEP	18 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-12AVQ	\$139.95	10,15,20 M	1500 W PEP	13 feet	9 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
AV-18VS	\$119.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	18 feet	4 pounds	80 MPH	1.5-1.625"
DX-88	\$369.95	10 - 40 M	1500 W PEP	25 feet	18 pounds	75 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"
DX-77A	\$449.95	10 - 80 M	1500 W PEP	29 feet	25 pounds	60 mph no guy	1.5-1.625"

Hy-Gain 160-6 Meters Self-Supporting Vertical

Full 1500 Watts, 43 feet, includes base mount

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

UPS SHIPPABLE

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

Exceptional Performance

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

Just talk with automatic tuner!

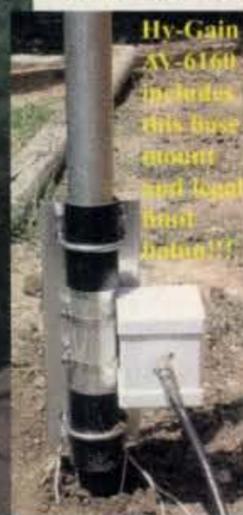
A wide-range automatic or manual antenna tuner at your rig easily matches this antenna for all bands 160-6 Meters. There's no physical tuning adjustments on the antenna -- you simply put it up!

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

Extremely low wind loading

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

Just 20 lbs., uses super-strong 6063



aircraft aluminum tubing. Stainless steel hardware.

Assembles in an hour

Ground mounting lets you hide antenna base in shrubbery. Requires ground system -- at least one radial. More extensive ground work better.

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International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend – The Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society is sponsoring the International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend August 6–7. Operating guidelines and scoring details can be found at: <<http://illw.org>>. This annual QSO party is held in conjunction with International Lighthouse-Lightship Week, August 1–8 and National Lighthouse Day, August 7. Further lighthouse information is on the ARLHS website at: <<http://arlhs.com>>.

2011 Hawaii QSO Party – 0400 UTC August 27 to 0200 UTC August 28. Operate 1.8 MHz to 28 MHz, Phone, CW, RTTY, and PSK31. Exchange: Hawaii Stations—county and islands. Non-Hawaii—S/C/P. Note: Kalawao County, *Battleship Missouri* (KH6BB), and Coconut Island (ALØHA) will be active. Logs due October 1. Information: <<http://www.karc.net/HQP>>.

Punta Gorda Lighthouse DXpedition, southern Humboldt County, California, in conjunction with the International Lighthouse weekend. For Punta Gorda Lighthouse information go to <<http://www.lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=63>>; e-mail: <AF6TS@arrl.net>.

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

K3D, honoring the world's first baseball game play-by-play broadcast at Forbes Field; August 5; North Hills ARC. Details: <http://www.nharc.org/K3D_Special-Event.html>.

N7C, commemorating the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II, Window Rock, Arizona; August 12–14 on 14.265 and 7.265 MHz. QSL information via N7HG and N7C.

W7SVD, commemorating the establishment of the National Park Service in 1916, Montezuma Pass high in the Huachuca Mountains of southeastern Arizona at Coronado National Memorial; August 27, portable operation from 1500–2300Z on 7.225, 14.275, 21.285, and 28.350 MHz SSB; 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, and 28.050 MHz CW; PSK31 and JT65 on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Send QSL and SASE to: W7SVD, 1955 Santa Teresa Dr, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635. Additional information: <<http://www.w7svd.net>>.

W8LKY, celebrating Carnation Days Festival, Alliance, Ohio; Alliance Amateur Radio Club; August 20 from 1400–2100Z on 7.045, 7.240±, 14.045, 14.200, 21.250 MHz. For certificate, write to: AARC-W8LKY, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601.

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

August 12–14, **2011 Pacific Northwest DX Convention**, Everett Holiday Inn, Everett, Washington; Western Washington DX Club. Information and registration: <www.wwdxc.org/convention>.

August 13, **Tri-State Amateur Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Show**, Veterans Memorial Field House, Huntington, West Virginia. Information: <<http://www.qsl.net/tara/>>. Contact: Judy Taylor, WD8EOP, 304-525-4237. (Talk-in 146.76 [PL 131.8]; exams)

August 20, **2011 East Central Illinois Hamfest**, Vermilion County Fairgrounds, Danville, Illinois; Vermilion County ARA. Contact Tuck Miller, NF9T, e-mail: <NF9T@arrl.org>, phone 217-516-8367; <www.vcara-hamfest.info>. (Talk-in W9MJL/R 146.820, –PL 88.5; exams 11 AM)

August 27, **Owen-Monroe Amateur Radio Hamfest**, Owen County Fairgrounds, Spencer, Indiana; Owen County ARA and Bloomington ARC. Contact Katie Smith, K9INU, e-mail: <K9INU@arrl.net>, phone 812-829-2140. (Talk-in KB9MZZ repeater 146.985 [PL 136.5]; exams 1 PM)

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.

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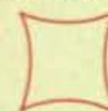
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ALS-500M comes on as needed. Excellent harmonic suppression, push-pull output, DC current meter. 13.8 VDC/80 Amps. 3 1/2 x 9 x 15 inches. 7 lbs.
\$849 Suggested Retail
 Choose ARI-500 for fully automatic bandswitching or ALS-500RC for manual remote control.

ALS-500MR, \$879, ALS-500M mobile amp plus ALS-500RC Remote Head.
 ARF-500K, \$179.95, Remote kit for older ALS-500M mobile amps with serial # below 13049. Includes filter/relay board for ALS-500M, ALS-500RC Remote Head, cables, hardware, instructions.
 ARF-500K2, \$289.95. Includes ARF-500K Remote kit for older ALS-500Ms plus ARI-500 Amplifier Radio Interface below.

Just turn on and operate -- no warm-up, no tuning, instant bandswitching. Compact. Ameritron's ALS-500M solid state mobile amp gives you 500 Watts PEP SSB or 400 Watts CW output! Covers 1.5-22 MHz, (10/12 Meters with MOD-10M, \$29.95 kit, requires FCC license).
Virtually indestructible! Load Fault Protection eliminates amplifier damage due to operator error, antenna hitting tree branches, 18-wheeler passing by. Thermal Overload Protection disables/bypasses amp if temperature is excessively high. Auto resets. Typically 60-70 watts in gives full output. ON/OFF switch bypasses amplifier for "barefoot" operation. Extremely quiet fan

New ARI-500, \$119.95, Amplifier Radio Interface reads band data from your transceiver so you can automatically bandswitch your ALS-500M amplifier. See right inset.



New ALS-500RC, \$49.95, Remote Head lets you mount ALS-500M amplifier anywhere and gives you full manual remote control. Select desired band, turn On/Off and monitor current draw on its DC Current Meter. Power, transmit and overload LEDs. RJ-45 cables plug into Amplifier/ Remote Head. Works with serial numbers above 13049 (below 13049 requires the ARF-500K, see below).
 ALS-500M, \$849, 500 Watt mobile amp.

Let your rig auto bandswitch your ALS-500M Amplifier

The ARI-500 Ameritron Amplifier Radio Interface reads band data from your Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood or Alinco transceiver so they can remotely and automatically bandswitch your ALS-500M amp. Lets you mount your ALS-500M out-of-the-way in your trunk. Works with serial numbers above 13049 (below 13049 requires the ARF-500K, see above). You can add the ALS-500RC for manual bandswitching and data monitoring, etc, see left description.

ARI-500 \$119.95
 Ship Code A ARI-500

Programmable Screwdriver Antenna Controller

10 Memories... Super Accurate... AutoPark™... StallProtector™... Super bright LEDs

Tuning your mobile screwdriver antenna couldn't be easier or more reliable!
 The SDC-102 lets you save 10 of your favorite screwdriver antenna positions in memory -- that's more than enough for all HF bands. Then, with a push of a button, you can quickly return to any saved position.
 Up/Down buttons let you manually move the antenna to any desired position. A 4-digit turns counter gives you precise antenna position -- you can see its super bright LEDs even in direct sunlight!
 Returning to a position from memory is extremely accurate for three reasons...
 A. The antenna always moves to its desired position from the bottom, insuring that the motor is always loaded the same.
 B. Ameritron's exclusive AutoPark™ feature automatically bottoms your antenna for parking in your garage and resets and calibrates your counter each time to elimi-

nate antenna slippage and turns count errors.
 C. The momentum of the moving antenna causes it to overshoot its stop point. Ameritron's exclusive Dead-OnSTOP™ feature automatically reverses the motor briefly just before it stops to eliminate overshoot and come to a precise stop.
 Ameritron's exclusive StallProtector™ feature prevents your expensive motor from burning out. Automatically detects motor stall and completely shuts off power to motor.
 Monitor motor current on LEDs for signs of trouble and to determine stall current.
 If you wire the motor backwards, you can reverse its direction from the SDC-102 front panel so the UP button is always up and the DOWN button is always down.
 Compatible with single and dual magnetic turns sensors. Requires 12 VDC.

SDC-102 \$129.95
 Suggested Retail



3 1/2 W x 3 1/4 H x 1 1/4 D inches.
 SRS-100, \$29.95. Magnetic sensor kit for High Sierra antennas to use SDC-102.
 SRS-1001, \$9.95. Magnetic sensor kit for Hi-Q Antennas to use SDC-102.

1.2 kW Screwdriver Antenna



SDA-100 lets you operate 3.5 to 30 MHz continuous with six foot whip at full 1200 Watts PEP.
 World's most rugged screwdriver antenna features... super heavy-duty commercial Pittman 12 Volt gear motor... stainless steel/ aircraft aluminum CNC machined components... 2-inch machine groove fiberglass coil form with 14-gauge wire wound at 8 turns per inch... built-in magnetic sensors... super durable Lexan cover...
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 SDM-100, \$99. Stainless steel mount.
 Saves \$16.85! SDA-110, \$509.95. Includes SDA-100, SDC-100, SWP-100.

Flat Mobile Wattmeter



AWM-35 \$159.95
 Suggested Retail
 Ultra-thin 1 5/8 inch flat mobile SWR/Wattmeter flat mounts on your dashboard wall or shelf for easy viewing. Lighted Cross-Needle meter and active electronics let you read true peak or average power in 3000/300 Watt ranges 1.8-30 MHz. "High SWR" LED. 5 W x 3 1/4 H x 1 5/8 D inches. Remote sensor with 25 feet thin, flexible cable is 3 1/2 W x 2 3/4 H x 2 3/4 D inches. Use 9V battery or 12 VDC.

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VX-7R/VX-7R Black

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Now available in Black!

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A panoramic view taken from The Salvation Army Oasis at Joplin shows the level of devastation in the area. The Oasis was the immediate emergency area from which food and drink was provided to responders and victims. It served as a distribution point for other supplies, as well. (Photographs courtesy of SATERN)

Salvation Army's Show of EmComm Force in Joplin

On the Heels of Disaster, SATERN Operators Rush to Assist Missouri Tornado Victims

Time was of the essence, and June Jeffers, KBØWEQ, wasted no time in getting to the point of her urgent e-mail: "We are now invited to the disaster."

In the wake of an EF5 tornado that tore apart areas of Joplin, Missouri on May 22, Jeffers, Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) Missouri-Kansas Division Coordinator, was putting out a call for qualified volunteers to help with emergency communications. SATERN had gotten the okay to help, and this was no drill.

In June, the Jasper County Coroner's Office and the Missouri Department of Public Safety put the storm's death toll in Joplin at 153.

On the Move . . . and Fast

A Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) team based in Pittsburg, Kansas was quick-

ly sent to Joplin on the heels of the storm "to help carry out mass feeding for residents and first responders through a mobile feeding kitchen capable of serving thousands of meals a day," said Patrick McPherson, WW9E, a retired Salvation Army Major and National Director and Founder of SATERN. Teams from Kirksville and Springfield, Missouri were also dispatched. There was an EF5 tornado, at the top of the measurement scale, with winds greater than 200 mph.

"The Kansas and eastern Missouri SATERN team was activated . . . along with team members and individuals (assisted) with communications in the affected area," McPherson said, providing help to survivors "in locating loved ones through a ham radio network." Communications in Joplin, WW9E said, were "challenged."

The MO-KAN Division of SATERN established nets on 3.920 MHz (75 meters) beginning on May 23 in support of the operation from 9 AM to 3 PM, and 3 PM to 9 PM.

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

Salvation Army mobile feeding units arrive in Joplin to assist residents after the tornado. All of these units were staffed by SATERN operators.



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radio gear they could deploy, what day and time they could report for duty, and for how long. "What date does your SATERN ID expire?" They thought of virtually everything. There was no time to be wasted on missteps.

Only SATERN operators in Kansas and Missouri were being sought as volunteers. "Our SATERN EmComm trailer will be on the way by the time you read this e-mail," Jeffers added. "It is set up with its own power source which can be used for recharging small radio batteries, so bring your charging equipment. We will need to start a schedule of those available through Sunday. Let us know what days and time you can spend."

Doing the Best They Can

KB0WEQ concluded her e-mail with an apology "for not getting this out earlier, as we needed to get the EmComm trailer headed out and I have been on the phone. I went to work today. However, I am now at home working on this deployment due to my fantastic chief, Max Sielert (Chief of Fire District No. 1)! He told me to go home and come back when I can."

Jeffers reminded everyone that "no one is to deploy unless you have my approval." She and Rich Britain, N0ENO, "will make the decision who will be deployed and we will send them the information they need by e-mail."

She recommended that everyone "keep checking your e-mail often. . . ."

SATERN's Brian Short, KC0BS, and Matt May, KC4WCG, discuss amateur radio's value in emergency communications on Kansas City's KCTV, shortly after the Joplin tornado. (YouTube screen capture)

"Bill Shillington, W9ZCL, Central Territorial Coordinator for SATERN, was dispatched to the tornado scene to assist in the general response," McPherson said. "Qualified SATERN members" who wanted to help with EmComm were directed to contact KB0WEQ, the Kansas State Coordinator, "who is compiling the database of potential SATERN assistance on scene," WW9E wrote.

"I appreciate the *at the ready* response of all those who are assisting the Salvation Army EDS response, not only in this disaster, but in all," he said, "in which the first step is *waiting to serve*."

Being Detailed in Needs Pays Off

Jeffers' call for help included a specific list of requisites, key in assuring operators are equipped and qualified to achieve the duties they are assigned. For example:

- Must have SATERN member ID with photo.
- Three operators needed to provide communications at canteens. Must have mobile 2-meters/440-MHz capable of at least 50 watts output and mobile APRS (*Automatic Packet Reporting System, the amateur radio-based protocol for real-time tactical digital communication of information.—ed.*)
- One operator to be a rover able "to do APRS and 2 meters/440 MHz at the

same time. Best if you have a pickup truck to deliver supplies, but a large vehicle would be great."

- SATERN magnetic signs for vehicles.
- Must have your own power source.
- Need net control operators with high-frequency amateur privileges to work from the EmComm trailer.

The shopping list went on to request respondents to describe what mobile



Salvation Army disaster officials meeting in Joplin included, from left, Dee Smith, Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services, Missouri-Kansas Division; Warren Hildebrandt, N9PGS, Amateur Radio Liaison for SATERN Midland Division; June Jeffers, KB0WEQ, MO-KAN SATERN Coordinator; and Richard Britain, N0ENO, Assistant SATERN Coordinator, MO-KAN Division.

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Destruction to this neighborhood is sober evidence of the destructive power of an EF5 tornado. The inscription on the house indicates that it has been searched for victims.

this is the best way I can get information out fast.”

Nets were subsequently held “9 AM to 3 PM to 9 PM on 14.265 or 3.920 MHz, whichever is working to receive and give information to members or anyone else. Anyone can check into these nets.”

Seizing PR Opportunities When the Time is Right

The SATERN Coordinator in Charge (CIC) for Monday and Tuesday—the days immediately following the deadly storm—was Brian Short, KC0BS. “He will be monitoring 147.21+ repeater in Joplin for SATERN operation. Any operators can contact him there,” an EmComm bulletin reported.

As the disaster response played out, KC0BS and Matt May, KC4WCG, were invited to appear on Kansas City’s KCTV Morning News to talk about amateur radio and its value in Joplin and other disasters. A YouTube video of the interview can be seen at: <http://bit.ly/l5WHpA>.

Short was a guest, as well, on the second episode of Bob Heil, K9EID’s, *Ham Nation* internet videocast talking about EmComm and ham radio’s use in everyday events. (To view the videocast, visit: <http://www.twit.tv/hn>.—ed.)

Intra-SATERN Communications

SATERN leadership placed high value on sharing details of each day’s events

in a series of e-mails that captured the thought and attention to detail that went into the organization’s tornado disaster response.

For example, these items randomly gleaned from a daily dispatch run through a list of *good-to-know* items for all volunteers:

- “We have been using between 8 and 10 operators per day. The food delivery seems to be very dependent on our radio operators.”

- “Our use of EchoLink has seen a few problems and we are trying to determine how to utilize this mode with the options we want. We felt that having the EchoLink connected 24/7 could possibly put an additional strain on the amount of *traffic* being put into the disaster area. Outside operators would then be capable of transmitting *into* the SATERN disaster repeater and this could create problems in getting the work done. So we attempted to set the EchoLink where it could be monitored *listen only* . . . Brian Short, KC0BS, and Gill Ludwig, WA0YCY, have been working to perfect this setup.”

- “At this time, MO-KAN leaders are scheduling operators for *deployment* through Friday, June 3. We have a Coordinator in Charge through that date.”

- “We have had APRS trackers—called RED BEES—on all the canteens since their arrival. These were provided by KC0BS (and) have been working very well in letting the APRS stations know where the moving canteens have been, and where they are currently located.” People were then directed to a website where they could “enter the City of Joplin, MO, and it will pull up the map showing activity of the moving canteens.”

Random Acts of Kindness and Efficiency

From the SATERN daily reports:

“The trustee of the 147.00 repeater sent out a call for assistance and Brian Short, KC0BS, helped the man, hauling four 80-pound bags of concrete for him. Brian indicated that after assisting this man, he was given exclusive use of his repeater for our SATERN operation. This is a very big deal for any repeater trustee to provide exclusive use of a repeater. We are extremely grateful for this, because without it we could be drastically hindered in our communications ability.”

“We did well getting volunteers through the weekend. I suspect everyone wanted to be there when the



Using amateur radio’s APRS mode, Brian Short, KC0BS, monitors a second day of storms approaching Joplin.

One Desperate Call for Help Scrambles Radio Operators to Southwest Missouri Hospitals

By Patti Flowers-Palmer, KDØAEL

This account of the immediate response to a call for help over ham radio from an Information Technology staff member at a hospital in Joplin—and the subsequent outpouring of assistance to facilities across the region—is from Patti Flowers-Palmer, KDØAEL, who described the response of the amateur radio community as “heartwarming and awe inspiring.”

On Sunday evening, May 22, Caleb Burns, KDØBWT, a young amateur finishing his post-SKYWARN net control duties, heard a voice calling for help over the 146.91-WØEBE repeater in Fordland (Missouri). The voice was coming from Freeman Hospital in Joplin after a devastating EF5 tornado had destroyed much of the community and its local-regional medical facility.

KDØBWT went into action:

Crucial medical supplies were ordered and medical teams were quickly called to duty. The initial plea for help was made by an IT person who had been asked to begin the transmissions. He was relieved by Thomas J Ellicott, NØEKP, who had been deployed to assist his stricken community.

As that transmission was taking place, my husband, Steve Palmer, KAØSPM, and I, along with Andrew Brashers, KDØHUN, and new ham Jonathan Rinty, KDØOSF—all who had been deployed as SKYWARN spotters—went into action by driving to Cox South Hospital in Springfield.

Tom Hargis, WXØSCL, and Jamas Justice, KDØGUU, who also had been deployed with SKYWARN, drove to St. John's Regional Medical Center, also located in Springfield. Both Cox South and St. John's are regional medical centers for Southwest Missouri.

Upon arriving and finding that the radio rooms near the Incident Command Centers (ICC) were empty, void of any amateur equipment, operators at each location went to the mobile units in their vehicles and began relaying information from doctors and nurses to begin the crucial process of the moving the injured from the overwhelmed Freeman Hospital to Springfield area trauma centers.

With immediate needs met, the hospitals worked with the amateurs to provide locations for the operators to set up mobile radios where communications could continue. One was located near a window in the ICC at St. John's for best antenna position. The other was in the ambulance bay of Cox South with access to a door where the coax feedline could reach outside.

As this was occurring, KDØBWT grabbed a handie-talkie and headed for a smaller local hospital, Ozarks Community, where he established emergency communications. A short time later, Pat Conway, WA6JGM, and Clifton Smith, KCØSQU, joined KDØBWT by taking a mobile base unit to Ozarks Community to set up a more permanent station.

The amazing band opening that had allowed the initial communications began to fade, and KAØSPM deployed to the National Weather Service Office in Springfield where the staff graciously allowed him to operate and relay messages via the Joplin-area 145.21 repeater, which had survived.

Before the night was over, there was a tremendous outpouring of assistance and offers of assistance from amateurs across the region, including: KB9YZE, KDØEUU, KDØGUR, KDØKNL, KDØJXI, ACØSR, KBØTPZ, KDØKPX, KDØGUS, KDØLPR, KDØLAM, KDØMME, K9JLS, KE5MED, KDØCNP, KBØOYD, KDØJEI, NØZGG, and KCØVGC.

During the week that followed, a number of amateurs continued to call to offer assistance, and they were directed to the coordinators of the CERT search and rescue effort.

The operator who received the first transmission was on his honeymoon and had been acting as net control for the Greene County SKYWARN!

Congratulations and thank you for your devoted service to the community, Caleb Burns, KDØBWT!

I wish to thank each and every amateur operator who offered their assistance. All the hospitals personally offered their thanks to the operators on duty.

When all else fails, Amateur Radio!



The American flag, flying above a field of devastation, illustrates the spirit of the Joplin tornado survivors and those who came to help.

President was. However (the volunteer number) fell off drastically beginning on Monday, May 30. We requested that ARES® (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) provide us operators in order to cover all the locations with communications. They were having problems, as well, since they had also received a request for CERT operators with radios. Both of us worked on getting more operators in order to continue."

"On Friday, May 27, Rich Britain NØENO, and I took a one-day trip to Joplin in order to get a better feel of the situation. We were being asked questions by the ARES® leaders, so we

wanted to know first hand what we were talking about. It was a very enlightening day.

"There is good news in the fact that Warren Hildebrandt, NØPGS, has been given the OK to proceed in organizing the Midland Division SATERN members for activation. I have stood in as a backup Coordinator since our last SATERN Coordinator passed away several years back. . . . Warren has been working with us daily since day one and has had the opportunity to observe our operation. He will be taking over the SATERN activity on Saturday, June 4. He is currently getting in

contact with his Missouri SATERN members to schedule for deployment next weekend.

"On Friday, SATERN radio traffic on VHF was very heavy in the morning as the pace of meal and beverage delivery was quite hectic. It decreased around noon as rain and lightning moved into Joplin. Along with that, on Friday many of the Divisional Salvation Army officers and leaders were able to observe the SATERN operation."

By the Numbers, for Example

How much time and energy went into the SATERN-coordinated disaster response? During a five-day period from May 23–27 alone, 583 hours were amassed by volunteers—511 in the field and 72 for administration.

Nineteen EmComm operators in that five-day period had stepped forward in support, coming from a wide area:

Warren Hildebrandt, NØPGS, Carthage, Missouri; Mark Parmley, NR4J, Gardendale, Alabama; Jim Andera, KØNK, and Tony Johnson, KDØKLD, Gardner, Kansas; Joe Krout, WØPWJ, and Ed Rust, KDØBKH, Kansas City, Kansas; Mike Asselta, KDØCDQ, and Brian Short, KCØBS, Olathe, Kansas; Chuck Simpson, KCØNUG, George McCarville, WBØCNK, Tom Griswold, KTØMG, and Herb Fiddick, NZØF, Overland Park, Kansas; Lon Martin KØWJ, Shawnee Mission, Kansas; and Henry Monton, WØIE, and Anna Monton, WØAJM, of Wichita, Kansas.

With the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between SATERN and the American Radio Relay League, ARES® members converged from Lenexa, Kansas, and Pierce City and Plattsburg, Missouri, as well, including: Katherine Parker, KDØETX; R. Kentch, KCØWSE; Kirk Joes, KDØAOK; and Cliff Beuterbauh, KDØNEM.

It's one snapshot in a collage of tireless EmComm work that the people of Joplin are likely to long remember.

Said and Done

In a posting of support on "The Unofficial Alberta (Canada) SATERN Blog," disaster responders were praised as "amazing volunteers . . . who run the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), also known as 'shadows,' (helping) Salvation Army personnel establish communications during relief efforts in Joplin. Relief efforts would not be the same without their assistance."

73, Richard, KI6SN



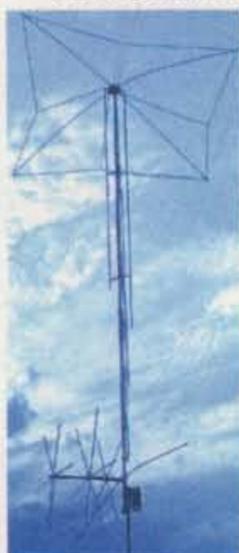
Jim Andera, KØNK, runs the SATERN EmComm Net for Salvation Army operations in Joplin.



The Salvation Army called in help from a number of divisions, territories, organizations and a host of volunteers. Note the Oklahoma/Arkansas division's mobile canteen and the SATERN volunteer with an ARES hat.

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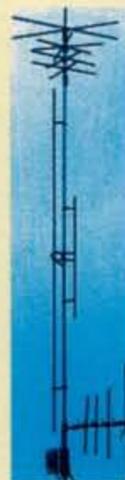
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It's a jungle out there in the sometimes harrowing halls of Hara Arena, where on Hamvention® weekend you have to claw your way through the hamming herds to try to see everything ... and even then, most of us miss something. Thus, with that in mind, we bring you our annual jungle "safari," highlighting all of the new products we were able to find as we rode through the trails on our highly trained CQ elephant.



The 2011 Dayton Hamvention® Safari Part I Transceivers, Receivers, and Amplifiers Getting the Signal Out So You Can Be Heard

BY JOHN WOOD,* WV5J

On this, its 60th anniversary, the 2011 Dayton Hamvention® is still the largest gathering of amateur radio operators in the world, and the world was well represented with hams being drawn to the big party in Ohio from all points of the compass. Manufacturers were also there to show their new products and *CQ* magazine gave them all a chance to be in the spotlight, to play a part in *CQ*'s 2011 version of its New Products "Safari."

I participated in this tour again this year, joining up with *CQ* Advertising Manager Chip Margelli K7JA, acting as tour guide through the various Hamvention® displays, and *CQ* Editor Rich Moseson W2VU, serving as the tour's photographer, recording images of new products debuted at this year's Hamvention® to accompany this article. Therefore, without

further ado, let's get this safari started so we can let you in on all of the new amateur radio products we saw and the new products that you'll be seeing either on the web or in person when they come to a ham radio retailer near you.

Starting with Icom

One of the first Hamvention® booths we visited inside Dayton's landmark Hara Arena was the Icom America booth, a location where we felt we were certain to find products on display that had never before been viewed by the general amateur radio public. We were not disappointed, for Icom was quick to show us not one, but two new yet distinctive all-mode amateur radio transceivers, the IC-9100 (photo A) and the IC-7410.

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Photo A— The IC-9100 is one of two new HF transceivers introduced this year by Icom at the Dayton Hamvention®. The second is the IC-7410. See text for details. (Unless otherwise noted, photos by W2VU)

MHz, and 1.2-GHz capability into one attractive package. The 1.2-GHz module is optional at an additional price of around \$600, and for that you can transmit from 1 to 10 watts out. On the other built-in bands, the IC-9100 transmits 100 watts SSB on HF, 6 meters, and 2 meters, and 75 watts on 70 centimeters.

On the front, Icom gives IC-9100 owners a monochrome display which seems appropriate given its fairly monochrome front panel that offers some color but overall has a ready-for-business appearance. The LCD display screen carries the load of operator information by providing frequency, channel name, channel number, a multi-function meter that operates as an S-meter, RF output meter, SWR meter, and ALC level report, while other areas of the display give the operator the function key assignments, a band scope, RTTY decoding, memory keyer content, a graphical SWR scale, the D-STAR callsign, message and DR list, and the GPS position information.

Besides AF and squelch controls for the receivers, the left side of the radio also offers the power switch, notch control, built-in antenna tuner (HF through 6 meters), plus controls and jacks for headphones, keyer, and microphone. On the right side lies the multi-function keypad, main tuning dial, and knobs to control RIT, transmit bandwidth, pass-band tuning, and memory-channel selection.

To improve reception of its double-conversion superheterodyne receiver and support many digital processing features, Icom has equipped the IC-9100 with 32-bit floating point DSP and 24-bit AD/DA converters. According to

Icom, the AGC level, which is controlled by the DSP unit, works for the desired signal and rejects blocking by strong adjacent signals out of the filter pass-band. The AGC time-constant preset gives the flexibility and speed needed for working pile-ups.

The IC-9100 also features optional D-STAR capability and a satellite mode that synchronizes the uplink and downlink frequencies and tracks the frequencies in the same tuning steps. There's much more this transceiver can do that we don't have room to mention, but that information will probably be available on the <www.icomamerica.com> website by the time you see this article in print.

The Icom IC-7410 is priced in the \$2000 range and is billed by the company as the "best balance of technology, performance, and fun." I was also told by Icom reps that the IC-7410 uses the same chassis and front panel as the IC-9100, with a notable difference being the reduced information relayed by the LCD multi-function display when compared to the IC-9100.

The IC-7410 also offers the latest in digital signal processing, a double-conversion superheterodyne receiver, HF through 6-meter capability, an RTTY demodulator and decoder, a simple band scope, ample CW functions, high-frequency stability, a voice synthesizer, two preamplifier types, automatic antenna tuner, CTCSS tone encoder and decoder functions, and a USB connector to facilitate PC control.

Elecraft KX3 Transceiver

One of the more intriguing designs for a new transceiver was the Elecraft KX3, a 160- through 6-meter all-mode, 10-watt unit that weighs in at around 24 ounces, and according to Elecraft, offers DSP-based features usually found only in larger radios (photo B).

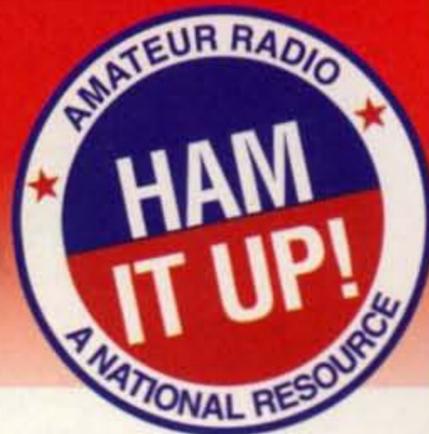
Elecraft is quick to point out that due to its small size and weight, this transceiver can operate from almost anywhere—a desktop to a picnic table or from a vehicle. With its optional battery pack, internal wide-range antenna tuner (ATU), adjustable KXP3 keyer paddle, and with the addition of a whip antenna, the radio can even be operated hand-held.



Photo B— Elecraft's new KX-3 is a hybrid of sorts, blending the high-end features of the K3 with the super-portability of the KX-1. (Photo by K0NEB)

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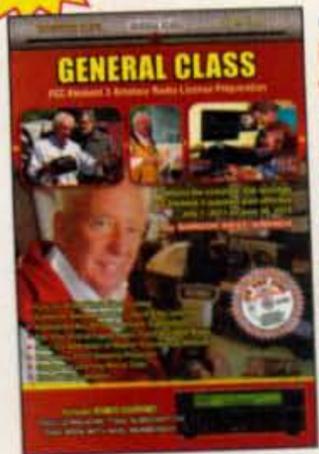
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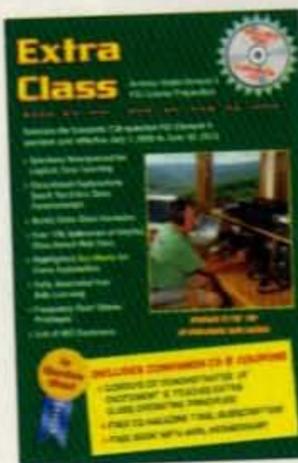
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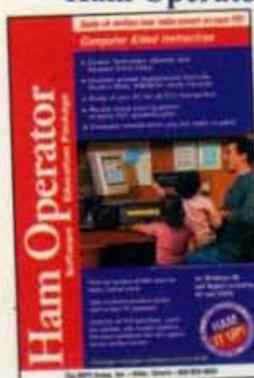
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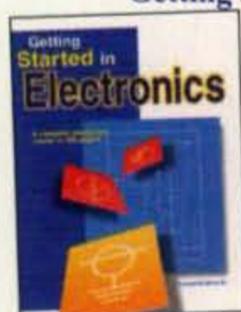
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On the receive side, the radio comes with a quadrature down-sampling mixer compatible with PC-based SDR (software defined radio), switchable pre-amps and attenuators, an internal CW keyer, passband tuning, automatic and manual notch filtering, a center-tuning indicator for CW and data modes, an eight-band receive audio equalizer, a built-in speaker, a built-in digital voice recorder, and as an option a narrow roofing filter with four bandwidths (500 Hz, 1500 Hz, 2700 Hz, and 3800 Hz) for excellent dynamic range.

Elecraft also offers an optional 100-watt KXPA100 amplifier for the days when a little more power seems necessary. Elecraft says it won't be accepting orders and shipping the units until sometime this coming fall or winter, so don't get your heart set on one for awhile. However, if you just have to have it as soon as possible, use the time wisely to save your dollars and read all the literature you can find on the KX3 transceiver.

Ten-Tec Model 599, "The Eagle"

Emerging from the hills of Tennessee, Sevierville, to be specific, is the Ten-Tec Model 599, more commonly known amidst a growing circle of amateur radio fans as "The Eagle" (photo C).

Priced at \$1995 with the auto-tuner and \$1795 without, The Eagle is an HF+6 rig and general-coverage receiver that spans the ham bands from 160 meters through 6 meters with adjustable power output (5 watts to 100 watts) and all IF digital signal processing.

While we were at the Ten-Tec booth at Dayton, company reps told us that The Eagle uses a down-conversion system called *ASR* that they say is a "comprehensive design philosophy that includes low-noise receiver technology blended with advanced software control."

Given the features provided and the price range, this positions The Eagle to squarely compete with HF 160- to 6-meter rigs offered by other manufacturers. In fact, The Eagle does offer some unique features that others may not have, such as a choice of 256 main dial background colors and 16 intensity levels. Buyers also have the choice of adding AM and FM capabilities if they wish, since in its basic form, The Eagle comes only with USB/LSB and CW modes.

With its small size (roughly 3 by 8.5 by 10 inches) and low weight of 7.5 pounds, The Eagle also is ideal as a carry-along ham rig for the car, the camper, or Field Day operation. There-



Photo C— The Eagle is Ten-Tec's newest HF + 6-meter offering, packing big-rig features into a small package.

fore, if you are considering the purchase of a moderately priced HF rig, don't forget to consider The Eagle by Ten-Tec.

MFJ-9200 "QR-Pocket" Transceiver

Yes, the folks at MFJ Enterprises have named it a pocket transceiver, and when you consider its size (4.8 by 3.15 by 1.34 inches; see photo D), it could easily fit in some of the pockets I've seen. Also, with the small size comes portability. This radio covers 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, and 15 meters by using com-

puter-modeled plug-in filter modules that reportedly yield no-compromise receiver performance. You pick your favorite band module at the time of ordering, and it comes with your MFJ-9200. Modules for other bands may be ordered for \$29.95 each.

With all the features MFJ's engineers have packed into this tiny 7.4-ounce jewel, it's obvious they didn't scrimp on the extras to make it, as MFJ claims, "the smallest and lightest backpack transceiver currently available."

For the price of \$249.95, the MFJ-9200 comes with the frequency module



Photo D— MFJ is moving from its single-band QRP (low-power) rigs to the MFJ-9200 "QR-Pocket" transceiver. It operates one band at a time, but you can change bands by swapping out band modules.

you specify and provides you with QRP+ (5 watts) of transmit power on every band, a programmable CQ message, built-in iambic keying, DDS frequency control, a selectable IF bandwidth for monitoring CW (600 Hz) or SSB (2.5 Hz), three main dial tuning rates, seamless QSK T/R switching, a precise 100-Hz readout, and a switched backlight for its digital display.

According to MFJ, the 9200 runs on any power source between 8 and 15 VDC and draws only 40 mA on receive with the digital display's backlight switched off. For more information on the MFJ-9200 and a laundry list of offered accessories, visit <www.mfjenterprises.com>.

Alinco DJ-G29T Portable

The Alinco DJ-G29T 222/900-MHz dual-band HT (yes, that's 222 and 900 MHz) is said by Alinco to be "ruggedly built to stand up to the elements!" A look at the specs and we find that statement to be verified. The 1-watt output DJ-G29T was built to IPX7 standards, meaning it can be submerged in 3 feet of water for up to 30 minutes. Assuming that is a worst-case scenario and that hams don't deliberately dunk their HTs in creeks and rivers, the DJ-G29T should be able to withstand the rigors of a cross-country walk, a city-wide tour, or a lost-child search. Thus, if you often find yourself in such situations, then perhaps the DJ-G29T is something to consider, particularly if you prefer to operate on the 222- or 900-MHz bands, for which it is often difficult to find gear. (Alinco is still making design tweaks to the exterior of the DJ-G29, so no photo is yet available.)

SSB Electronic LAN-SDR

Next on our list was a quick look at a unique product of Germany brought to us and the USA by one of our international friends, Willi Passmann, DJ6JZ. At his SSB Electronic booth, the star debuting was the SSB LAN-SDR (photo E).



Photo E—SSB Electronic from Germany introduced the new SSB-LAN SDR (software defined radio) receiver this year, which you can operate through your computer anywhere on your home WiFi network, as well as a software upgrade to the Perseus receiver, also seen here.

Yes, SSB Electronic has now combined the technology of an SDR with modern networking components to produce its SSB LAN-SDR.

It is called "a top-class receiver for the home network," and its prowess was displayed on a large-screen TV at Hamvention®. The SSB LAN-SDR with its network integration creates attributes that previously have only been available to a locally operated receiver. Now, however, due to LAN (Local Area Network) integration, this software-defined receiver which lends itself so easily to remote operation can be used comfortably from almost any spot in a computer-networked house.

This SDR connects to your computer through its own USB 2.0 interface, has two N-type connectors on back for antennas (software switchable), has double-notch filtering, and also has its own network Ethernet interface (10/100). The receiver tunes from .1 to 30 MHz and is designed to work with all Windows® operating systems from XP through Windows® 7. 32 and 64 bit. A plethora of information about what this SDR is receiving at any particular moment is displayed on the monitor screen.

Also new from SSB Electronic is a software upgrade for its Perseus SDR which allows it to be operated and tuned via the internet. According to SSB, that one improvement makes the Perseus a tool with a variety of uses, possibilities, and applications for its "direct sampling principle" and its powerful analog-to-digital converter.

With the ever-changing money market, it's tough to give an MSRP in either dollars or Euros, so if you want more infor-

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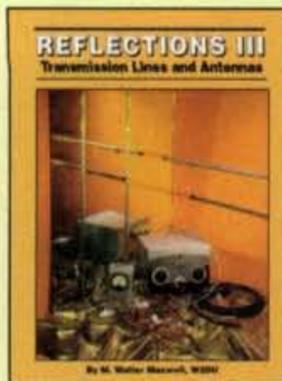
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mation about the radio and an accurate price, visit the SSB LAN SDR website at www.ssb.de/index.php?cat=c262_SSB-LAN-SDR.html.

Yaesu VL-2000 Amplifier/ VP-2000 Power Supply

Over at the Yaesu booth we found the company's newest item. Making its first public appearance in the U.S. was the VL-2000 amplifier and its matching power supply, the VP-2000 (see photo F). Looking like an amp that's ready to go to work making contacts, the Yaesu stat sheets tell us that the VL-2000 is an all-solid-state linear amplifier that covers 160 to 15 meters and the 6-meter band. It provides a 1500-watt power level on HF (full legal limit) and 1000 watts on 6 meters when wired for 220 VAC. When wired for 110 VAC, the amp provides 500 watts output. It features a built-in antenna tuner with memories, a front panel that sports two dual-function meters, and a rear panel that can handle five antennas. The separate VP-2000 power supply provides all the voltages the VL-2000 requires.

Specific price figures were not available during Hamvention®, but additional information about the VL-2000 and



Photo F— Yaesu has a new offering for those hams who feel that "life's too short for QRP," the new VL-2000 legal-limit amplifier and its matching VP-2000 power supply.

VP-2000 should be available on the web at www.Yaesu.com.

ACOM 1010 and 1011 Amplifiers

Making their joint debut at the 2011 Hamvention were the ACOM 1010 and 1011 linear amplifiers from the company based in Sofia, Bulgaria. Both amps are built small and lightweight for fixed or DXpedition and Field Day operations and both cover the 160- through 10-meter bands but utilize different tubes

that produce different output wattages. The ACOM 1010 (photo G) uses a single Svetlana 4CX800A (GU74B) high-performance ceramic-metal tetrode with plate dissipation of 800 watts, while the ACOM 1011 utilizes two 4CX250B (7203) ceramic-metal tetrodes with a total plate dissipation of 500 watts (forced-air cooling, grid-driven) for maximum efficiency.

ACOM has been developing products since 1988. It lists two U.S. dealers on its website: ACOM International at 4



Photo G— ACOM's Model 1010 is one of two new linear amplifiers the Bulgarian company introduced this year at Dayton.



Photo H— Rounding out the new amps at Dayton is the Expert 2K-FA fully automatic linear from Italian manufacturer SPE. Stay tuned for antennas and accessories in the September issue.

Marc Road, Medway, Massachusetts 02053, phone 508-533-7765, fax 508-533-7707, toll-free for USA at 1-866-533-ACOM (or 2266), e-mail: <k6nd@hfpower.com> or via the web at <<http://www.hfpower.com>>; and Array Solutions at 2611 N. Beltline Road, Sunnyvale, TX 75182, phone 214-954-7140. In addition, you may contact the dealer via e-mail at <sales@arraysolutions.com> or visit the company's website at <<http://www.array-solutions.com>>. Array Solutions had the amps on display at Dayton. For more information about either of these amplifiers, you can also visit <www.acom-bg.com>.

Expert 2K-FA Amplifier

Last, but definitely not least, we have the Expert 2K-FA 2-KW solid-state amp from SPE Co. of Rome, Italy (photo H). SPE reps at the booth were quick to let us know that this HF plus 6-meter amplifier is being billed as "The Most Advanced Solid State Automatic Linear Amplifier in the World." With a price quoted at \$7495 U.S., it's obvious that this product is built to be an addition to "a very-high-quality amateur's station."

That's not a description of my station and may not be of yours, but you may get an opportunity to operate this unit at some point in the future, so you should be aware that the company takes pride in its statement that "the operator has only to move the frequen-

cy tuning knob on the transceiver" and let the fully automatic Expert 2K-FA handle the rest.

The amp has a back panel with a USB port for PC control and downloading upgrades along with six antenna connectors, and the paperwork says it is capable of selecting up to three antennas on each band. It also has a 5.4x heat-sink surface and a total of four ventilation fans for continuous operation at any of three different power levels: full, 1 KW, and 500 watts. The front panel offers switchable operator selections for power, input antenna, and operating band, among others, plus a digital display that shows power output, operating band, input antenna, and PA gain in dB and more.

Weight for this contender comes in at just under 50 pounds, so I'll leave it to you to decide if it is lightweight (a relative term) or portable, as the reps mentioned. For more information about the Expert 2K-FA, visit the SPE website at <www.linear-amplifier.com>.

Summary

That pretty much covers the transceivers, receivers, and amplifiers that made their first public appearance at the 2011 Dayton Hamvention®. Stay with us for the second part of this grand CQ New Products Safari in the September issue, in which we will describe the new antennas and accessories found at Hamvention® 2011.

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Results of the 2010 CQ WW DX SSB Contest

BY BOB COX,* K3EST

Expanded Results on the Web

Editor's Note: Having more than 6500 logs submitted for the CQ WW SSB Contest is great, but it does put a squeeze on space. In order to assure that the efforts of all entrants are recognized through the publication of complete line scores, certain other elements of our contest reporting have been moved to the CQ website. Please visit the CQWW DX Contest page (follow the links from <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>) for QRM, expanded top scores listings, and more. —W2VU

The CQ WW is all about fun and lots of activity. Quiet bands come to life during the CQ WW. Let the entrant's comments describe the activity: "There was a huge amount of activity on all bands," DJ3WE. "Great contest as always. Lots of activity improved the score over last year and added some to the DXCC. What more could I ask?" VK4BL. "Band conditions were great. We did better than last year with more than 300 more QSOs," VE3DC.

The CQ WW is a good way to introduce new contesters to our sport, as commented others: "Three new contesters are now happy to take part in this big event," DP6T. "Some absolute 'newbies' to contesting on the team and they took to it like a duck to water. I think we have now converted them to contesting," GM2T. "I made my first U.S. contact, so very happy," M0TTE. "The Cambridge University Wireless Society's annual entry in CQ WW DX SSB was primarily aimed at introducing young amateurs to contesting. This year was no exception, as 10 out of the 14 operators were age under 30," M4A. "This was my first CQ WW SSB. I was very excited," YC1PEI. "This was my first World-Wide DX Contest, my second contest—ever," KG4WPD.

The CQ WW is about lots of DXpeditions: "My first chance to operate outside the USA, what a rush!" VP9/N1SV. "First time that I ever operated a contest from a DX location and it was the most fun I ever had. Felt great to have big contest stations calling me for once to get the multiplier," Z2/AC7GP. "It was good to have a large number of DXpeditions during the contest," AA6K.

The CQ WW is about learning propagation: "Working VR2ZQZ and B7P via LP Sunday morning on 10 meters was cool!" N5XJ. "The most fun contest of all. A special thanks to 9M6LSC for calling in on 20 at 2358 Sunday for a multiplier," W0UA. "Yes!! The bands were open. It was great to see 20 and 15 meters wall to wall with signals," WB6JJJ.

Once you listen to the bands during the CQ WW, you will be hooked. The scores list the

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



A73A. Standing (left to right): K5GN, K6JL, W6XD, N6AA, WB6BFG, AB6BH, N6VI, OH2KI. Sitting (left to right): A71AD, A71EL, A71CV, A71BX.



Ash, 3V8SS.

results of the efforts of all the entrants. A yearly reminder: If you want to know how long it is until the 2011 CQ WW SSB test, check out the website of OT5A: <<http://www.on7lr.org>>. Read on to see how you and your friends ended up. Everyone who operated the CQ WW SSB in 2010 was a winner.

High Power

Taking full advantage of the unique location of the Azores, Jeff, N5TJ, operating from CR2X, took the top spot. Jeff had to work lots of 3-pointers to overcome his disadvantage into Europe. Not very far behind in second place was Jim, W7EJ, operating from CN2R. Third place world went to 4L0A operated by Andi, UU0JM. Taking second place in Europe and fourth in the world was Tonno, ES5TV, operating from Montenegro as 4O3A. From Finland,

Marko, OH4JFN, took OH8X to third place in Europe. Doug, K1DG put his considerable skills to work to take the USA top position from New Hampshire. Richard, NN3W, operating from N3HBX, took second place from the Maryland countryside. Third place USA went to Ray, W2RE, from southeastern New York. The top West Coast scorer was Glenn, K6NA. Other worthy efforts from propagationally challenged areas were: VU2PAI, HS0ZEE, VK3TDX, VK4EMM, 9M8Z (9M6DXX), 3D2A (VK4AN), WH2D (K3UOC), YB1AR, V63CJB (JJ2CJB), T88DL (DL2OBO), and DU9RG.

The continental winners were: North America VY2ZM (K1ZM); Africa CN2R (W7EJ); Asia 4L0A (UU0JM); Europe CR2X (N5TJ); Oceania 9M8Z (9M6DXX); South America FY5KE (FY5FY); Japan JH4UYB; U.S. K1DG.

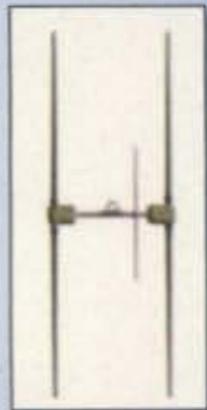
Low Power

To enter the low power category all you need is a transceiver and an antenna. You will be surprised by what you can work with 100 watts. Plus, making the Top Scores box really means something. Operating from beautiful Puerto Plata, located on the north coast of the Dominican Republic, Ted, HI3TEJ, took world top honors. World second place went to well-known contester S53R operating from ST2AR. Robert made a lot of people happy handing out his double multiplier. Third place in the world and number one in Asia was taken by Yuri, RG9A. 9A7P operated by Hrvoje, 9A6XX, took first place in Europe. Second place Europe was captured by Pasi, OH6UM, at OH2BH. Third place Europe went to low power champion Marius, YO3CZW. In the U.S., taking the top spot for the third year in row was Art, K1BX.

Which *SteppIR* Product is Best for You?

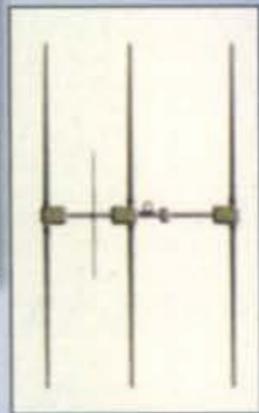
2, 3, and 4 Element Yagis

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



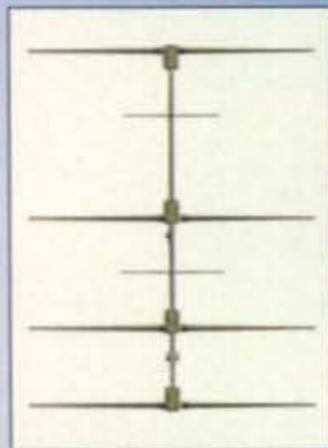
2 Element 20m-6m Yagi

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.

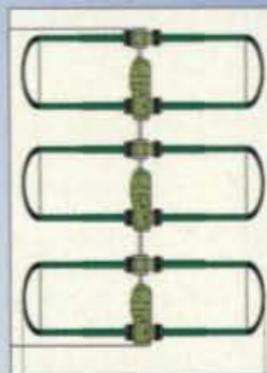


4 Element Yagi 20m-6m

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.

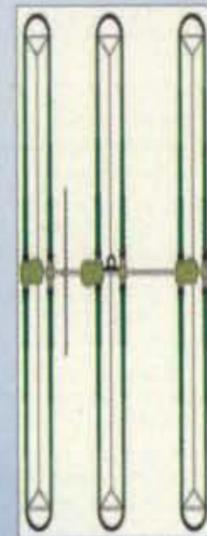
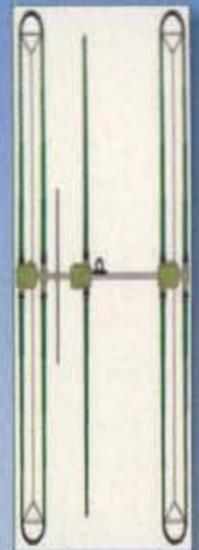


DB11 Yagi Antenna

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.

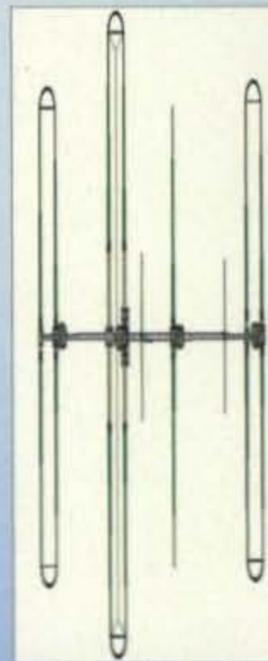
DB18 YAGI

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.

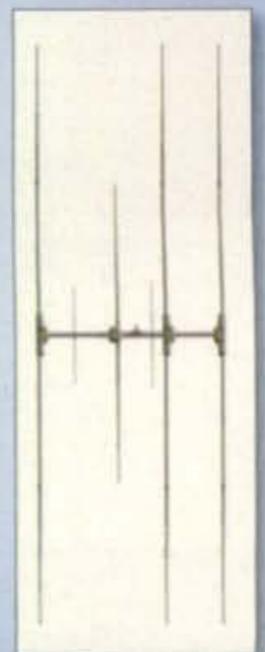


DB36 DreamBeam Yagi, 40m-6m

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.



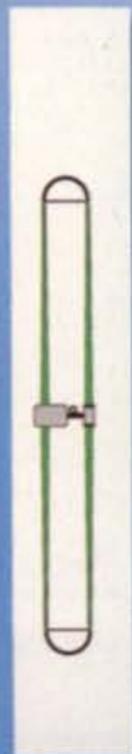
SmallIR Vertical Antenna 20m-6m

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.

SteppIR

2112 116th Ave NE Suite 1-5, Bellevue, 98004

www.steppir.com

Tel: (425) 453-1910 Fax: (425) 462-4415

Great operating, Art! Reprising his second-place finish last year was Ed, N1UR. Perennially near or at the top was Marvin, N5AW, taking the third position. N6RV, NQ7R, and K7ACZ made top scores from the U.S. west. V51YJ, ST2AR, 3V8SS, TA2/DL7BC, BA8CY, JY5CC, BW2/KU1CW, E21YDP, EY8CC, UN1O, 3D2A, and DV1JM all had excellent scores from interesting locations.

The continental winners were: North America HI3TEJ; Africa ST2AR; Asia RG9A; Europe 9A7P; Oceania DV1JM; South America HK6P; Japan JH3CUL; U.S. K1BX.

QRP

The QRP category really sharpens your tuning skills. Almost all the top scorers' QSOs are

search and pounce. The world winner this time was determined by 15 points! That equals less than 1/15 of a QSO. Coming out on top was Doug, KR2Q, from northern New Jersey, who just edged out Dima, RX1CQ, operating from his station just north of St. Petersburg (both will receive trophies!). Third place world went to Steffen, DM2DX, from west central Germany. Long-time QRPer Chris, KA1LMR, took sec-

2010 WW DX SSB TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

SINGLE OPERATOR
World All Band
CR2X (Opr.: Jeffrey Steinman, N5TJ)
Donor: Southern California DX Club

World Low Power
Ted Jimenez, HI3TEJ
Donor: Slovenian Contest Club

World QRP
Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q
Donor: Jeff Steinman, N5TJ

World Assisted
ER0WW (Opr.: Sergey S. Rebrov, UT5UDX)
Donor: Glenn Johnson, W0GJ

World Assisted Low Power
Miro Heleta, YU2A
Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED

U.S.A.
Doug Grant, K1DG
Donor: Potomac Valley R.C. – KC8C Memorial

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

U.S.A. QRP
Christopher M. Merchant, KA1LMR*
Donor: Pat Collins, N8VW

U.S.A. Assisted
Charles Fulp, K3WW
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

U.S.A. Assisted Low Power
Douglass M. Allen, K4LY
Donor: CQ Magazine

U.S.A. Zone 3
Glenn Rattmann, K6NA
Donor: Dave Pruett, K8CC & Greg Surma, K8GL

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

Canada
Jeffrey Briggs, VY2ZM
Donor: Contest Club Ontario – VE3WT Memorial

Caribbean/C.A.
TO7A (Opr.: Dmitry V. Stashuk, UT5UGR)
Donor: Alex M. Kasevich, W1CDC

Europe
4O3A (Opr.: Tonno Vahk, ES5TV)*
Donor: Potomac Valley R.C. – W4BVV Memorial

Europe Low Power
9A7P (Opr.: Hrvoje Horva, 9A6XX)
Donor: Scott Jones, N3RA & Tim Duffy, K3LR

Europe QRP
Dmitry A. Sokolov, RX1CQ
Donor: CQ Magazine

Europe Assisted High Power
OE4A (Opr.: Wolfgang Klier, OE2VEL)*
Donor: CQ Magazine

Europe Assisted Low Power
Boban Kojic, YT9A*
Donor: CQ Magazine

Russia
Vadim Ovsyannikov, R9DX
Donor: CQ magazine

Africa
CN2R (Opr.: James Sullivan, W7EJ)
Donor: CQ magazine

Asia
Donor: CQ magazine

Japan
Masaki Okano, JH4UYB
Donor: Tack Kumagai, JE1CKA

Japan Low Power
Eiji Souno, JH3CUL
Donor: Western Washington DX Club

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

South America
FY5KE (Opr.: Didier Bironneau, FY5FY)
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club

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

World – 21 MHz
HC8A (Opr.: Richard Smith, N6KT)
Donor: Robert Naumann, W5OV

World – 14 MHz
UP2L (Opr.: Vladimir Umanets, UA9BA)
Donor: North Jersey DX Assn. – K2HLB Memorial

World – 7 MHz
Jham Salim Gechem, HK1T
Donor: Fred Laun, K3ZO – K7ZZ Memorial

World – 3.7 MHz
Teemu S. Korhonen, SM0W
Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

World – 1.8 MHz
Mikhail V. Nabokin, RA9FW/9
Donor: CQ magazine

USA – 28 MHz
Colin S Jenkins, KU5B
Donor: Donald Thomas, N6DT

USA – 21 MHz
Victor Walz, N2PP
Donor: 11PM Dayton Pizza Gang

USA – 14 MHz
Frederick E. Lass, K2TR
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club – KC1F Memorial

USA – 7 MHz
Daniel S. Handa, W7WA
Donor: Stanley Cohen, W8QDQ

USA – 3.7 MHz
Joseph Gagliardi, Jr., AA1BU
Donor: CQ Magazine

USA – 1.8 MHz
Manuel Fonseca, Jr., W2MF
Donor: Glenn Johnson, W0GJ

Carib./C.A. (21 MHz)
Edwin Adalberto Nunez Redondo, HI3K
Donor: Nate Moreschi, N4YDU

Carib./C.A. Assisted (21 MHz)
Alfredo Velez Ramos, WP3C
Donor: CQ Magazine

Europe – 28 MHz
George Charokopakis, SV9GPV
Donor: Charles Dietz, W5PR

Europe – 21 MHz
Sebastien Le Gal, F8DBF
Donor: Tine Brajnik, S50A

Europe – 14 MHz
Olivier Seizelet, F1AKK
Donor: Charles Wooten, NF4A

Europe – 7 MHz
TM\$ST (Opr.: Gildas Balannen, F/TU5KG)
Donor: John Warren, NT5C

Europe – 3.7 MHz
SN3A (Opr.: Jurek Smoczyk, SP3GEM)
Donor: Ted Demopoulos, KT1V

Europe – 1.8 MHz
M8M (Opr.: Tony Preedy, G3LNP)
Donor: Robert Kasca, S53R

Oceania (14 MHz)
KH7Q (Opr.: Kurt M. Andress, K7NV)
Donor: Bruce D. Lee, KD6WW

Asia – 14 MHz
Khalid Al-Jardani, A4100*
Donor: Charles Shinn, W5PG

Japan – 14 MHz
Gou Hanazak, JA1QXY
Donor: Take Yokoyama, JL1BLW

MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER
World
D4C (Oprs.: I4UFH, I4YSS, IZ4DPV, IK1HJS, CT1ESV, YL2GM)
Donor: So. Calif. DX Club – W6AM Memorial

U.S.A.
K1LZ (Oprs.: K1LZ, KB1RDZ, KL1A, N2OW, K3JO, NU5Y, N8BO)
Donor: Carolina DX Association

Carib./C.A.
V26B (Oprs.: JA7HMZ, JA7GYP, JA7EPO)
Donor: Bob Raymond, WA1Z

Africa
CQ9T (Oprs.: CT3CD, CT3FQ, CT3HF, CT3KN)*
Donor: Doc Sayre, W7EW

Asia
P33W (Oprs.: RX9TL, UA2FZ, RA6LBS, RW4WR, R3DCX, RA3AUU)
Donor: Edward L. Campbell, NT4TT – AA6BB and KA6V Memorial

Japan
JI2ZJS (Oprs.: JA2AXB, JA2JSF, JH2UVL, JG2TSL, JL2TAW, JM2RUV)
Donor: Bob Epstein, K8IA

Europe
E7DX (Oprs.: 9A1TT, 9A5CW, 9A5K, E70R, E70T, E74AW, E76C, E77DX)
Donor: Bob Cox, K3EST

Oceania
AH2R (Oprs.: JI3ERV/NH2C, JG3RPL/N1BJ, JE8KKX/AH2K, NH2M, JH7QXJ/AH2Q)
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

South America
P49Y (Oprs.: AE6Y, K0DQ, N4OC, P43A)
Donor: Victor Burns, K16IM – The Cuba Libra Contest Club

MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO TRANSMITTERS
World
CN3A (Oprs.: IK2QEI, IK2SGC, IV3ZXQ, IV3TMV, S50A, S57AW, S50XX, CN8WK)
Donor: Array Solutions

U.S.A.
KC1XX (Oprs.: KC1XX, DL9DRA, K1EA, K1FWE, KM3T, N1KWF, WC1M, W1FV)
Donor: Kimo Chun, KH7U & Mike Gibson, KH6ND Dan Robbins, KL7Y Memorial

Europe
IR4X (Oprs.: I4VEQ, I4TJE, I4EAT, I4IKW, I4USC, I4LEC, I4AVG, I4YRW, IZ3EYZ, IK4ZGO, IV3YYK, IZ4BOY)
Donor: Aki Nagi, JA5DQH

Oceania
AH0BT (Oprs.: W1FPU/7L1FPU, W1NDE/JE1NDE, KW2X/JG7PSJ, AH0BR/JA1OJE, AH0BZ/JM3CRK)
Donor: Japan CQ Ham Radio

MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER
World
EF8R (Oprs.: EA8AH, EA8EW, EA8CAC, EA8RY, EA8ZS, EA5DY, ES2RR)
Donor: Dave Leeson, W6NL and Barb Leeson, K6BL

U.S.A.
K3LR (Oprs.: K3LR, N2NC, N5UM, W3TX, K8GL, W2RQ, W8JV, K8CX, N2NT, K1AR, N3SD, K3UA, DL6LAU, N3GJ, LU7DW)
Donor: Jim Lawson, W2PV Memorial

Europe
DR1A (Oprs.: DB6JG, DF6JC, DJ6ET, DJ7EO, DK2CX, DK6XZ, DL2YL, DL3BPC, DL3DXX, DL5CW, DL5LYM, DL5NDX, DL6FBL, DL8WPX, JK3GAD, PA1TX, PC5A, SV2KBS)
Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

Japan
8N5A (Oprs.: JM1UWB, JA5FBZ, JA5FDJ, JH5FIS, JH5RXS, JR5IAH, JR5JAQ, JJ5GMJ)
Donor: Masahiro Kitagawa, JH3PRR

CONTEST EXPEDITIONS
World Single Operator
V63CJB (Opr.: Seiichiro Miki, JJ2CJB)
Donor: National Capitol DX Assn. – Stuart Meyer, W2GKH Memorial

World Multi-Single
C91WW (Oprs.: G4LDL, G14FUM, ZS6JR)
Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED

World Multi-Multi
C37N (Oprs.: C31US, EA5BZ, C31CT, C31JM, C31MO, EA1DYY, EA3GHZ, EA3HCJ, EA5CEE, EA5KA, EA6DD, F2VX, F5HX, F5VLY, F6EXV)
Donor: CQ Magazine

*Second place



DX Colombia ARC: HK1R, HK1X, HK1N, HK1W, HK3JJH/1, HK1T.

The world winner in this tough category was Miro, YU2A. Miro put his location in southern Europe to good use. Second place in the world was Alex, PY2SEX, located in Campinas, Sao Paulo. Third place in the world went to another station from the Balkans, Boban, YT9A. The third position in Europe was taken by Aleksander, 9A3XV. In the U.S., Doug, K4LY, took away top honors and the new U.S. low power assisted trophy. Second place went to James, KS1J, located in Barrington, Rhode Island. Pat, N0HR, from out in Ames, Iowa rounded out the top three U.S. scores. From the U.S. West Coast, N6WS turned in a fine score. There were some real nice multipliers in this new category: XU7ACY, 6V7T, RV9UP, AY0DX, BD5BAJ, BD4HF, A65CA, JM1LRQ, and VK4LDX.

The continental winners were: North America NP3O; Africa 6V7T; Asia RV9UP; Europe YU2A; Oceania VK4LDX; South America PY2SEX; Japan JM1LRQ; U.S. K4LY.

Multi-Single

If you count all the operators who are part of multi-singles, you have a lot of operators. This fun category allows for more than one person to contribute to the score. A run station and a multiplier station allow for good use of different skills. The top score in the world went to the multi-national team at D4C. With the sun not cooperating, the Monteverde contest team just fell short of the African record. For the third year in a row, second place world went to the six-man Russian team operating P33W. The third position went to P49Y: "We had a great time in our first M/S effort from Aruba." The continent with the most multi-single operations is Europe. This year there were 177 different teams who put in a lot of hard work to have fun in the contest. Moving up to the top position in Europe was E7DX. Second place went to OM8A representing the Slovak Contest Group. Third place in Europe went to the RU1A contest club team. MS scores in the U.S. are usually close. Not so this year. Krassy's team at K1LZ took full advantage of the category's possibilities and registered 10-plus million points. The race for second place was taken by another New Englander, K5ZD/1. The team from Harrison, Arkansas, N5DX, took third-place honors. They had the highest score west of Massachusetts! K7RL took top honors from the U.S. West Coast. Some of the rarer ones appearing in many logs were: EF9K, AH2R, C91WW, TA7KA, BY4QA, BY8AC, BT4EXPO, A62ER, 9K2HN, OY6A, V6B, and DX1M.

The continental winners were: North America V26B; Africa D4C; Asia P33W; Europe E7DX; Oceania AH2R; South America P49Y; Japan JI2ZJS; U.S. K1LZ.

Multi-Two

The multi-two category is a real challenge. At least two operators are needed. The world's top team used eight operators to bring home the trophy. Operating from near the ocean, the multi-national crew of CN3A put Morocco in a lot of logs. Not far behind was CR3A, the CT3 Madeira Contest Team. They put their new callsign to very good use. Finishing out the top three world results was the Fortaleza DX Group, PW7T. The top three all were located very near salt water. The famous team from IR4X took first place in Europe. They have been having a good time on a mountaintop near Bologna for a very long time. Moving up from last year's finish into second place Europe was Radio Club Varazdin, 9A7A. Third place in Europe went to the Bavarian Contest Club station, DQ4W. Taking a break from their usual MM entry, KC1XX proved they were up

2010 WW DX SSB TOP SCORES IN MOST ACTIVE ZONES

Zone 3	K4ZW 4,844,712	RM3F 3,114,048
K6NA 2,467,150		US5D 3,112,246
W6YI 1,913,302	Zone 14	UA4W 2,867,056
K6XX 1,701,080	CR2X 15,256,808	
VA7FC 1,602,040	SJ2W 5,756,040	Zone 20
K5RR/7 1,524,135	GM5X 5,369,590	P3N 9,182,016
	GW9T 4,398,070	C4W 8,435,425
Zone 4	DC4A 4,089,407	YO9HP 3,542,022
VC3A 7,447,734		*JY5CC 2,422,154
VE3JM 5,236,938	Zone 15	*TA2/DL7BC 1,964,088
W9RE 4,472,940	403A 10,587,780	
VE3CX 3,384,368	OH8X 6,508,899	Zone 25
VE3UTT 3,258,063	OE3K 5,815,260	JH4UYB 4,453,610
	OH0B 5,761,276	JA7NVF 2,311,008
Zone 5	OE4A 5,371,993	JA2IVK 2,060,305
VY2ZM 9,863,138		JQ1BVI 2,018,975
K1DG 6,298,860	Zone 16	JA2PAC 1,915,128
NN3W 5,659,026	ER0WW 7,862,990	
W2RE 4,985,904	RX3APM 3,784,260	<i>*Low Power</i>

to the task in this category too by taking first place in the U.S. WE3C's station in eastern Pennsylvania took the second U.S. honors. Sig's team at N3RS took third place U.S. The far west U.S. station of NK7U again did a great job from eastern Oregon. There were several stations that put nice multipliers on the air and made big scores: S79K, ZS9X, AH0BT, B1Z, T70A, V84CQ, YE2R, and YE0X.

The continental winners were: North America KC1XX; Africa CN3A; Asia B1Z; Europe IR4X; Oceania AH0BT; South America PW7T; Japan JF2ZPA; U.S. KC1XX.

Multi-Multi

Many months of planning the station site, gathering operators together, planning the technology, and finally waiting to see what the sun deals us make for excitement. The top world score this year was made by EF8R operating from Gran Canaria. Second place went to PJ2T operating near Sint Martha's Bay located on the northwest coast of Curacao. The number three scorer in the world was A73A. This team has made a real splash at many radio conventions in the last year. They are to be congratulated for their enthusiasm. The M/M battle in the U.S. is always competitive. The CQ WW SSB seems to be a charm for K3LR. Repeating from last year, K3LR took top honors over friendly rival W3LPL, who took U.S. second place. Third place in the U.S. went to the team of K1TTT operating in far western Massachusetts. The top effort from the West Coast was N6WM. Repeating from last year, the top European score went to the fine operators at DR1A, the contest callsign of the DF0CG crew. Second place in Europe for the second year was DF0HQ, the club call of the Ilmenau Contest Club. Third place went to LZ9W located in a small hotel 60 km southwest of Sofia, Bulgaria. The Chinese team B7P made another big effort which allowed many contesters to log a new one. It was very nice to find C37N as a multi-multi. The Shikoku mountaintop QTH allowed 8N5A to take advantage of their special callsign and take top honors in Japan over the eastern Nara team of JA3YBK. WH2DX, BV100, DX1DBT, and VK4UC gave a lot of contesters a double multiplier.

The continental winners were: North America K3LR; Africa EF8R; Asia A73A; Europe DR1A; Oceania VK4UC; South America PJ2T; Japan 8N5A; U.S. K3LR.

Team Contesting

You can make a team with five contesters from anywhere. You can be on a team and still submit your score for your local club. This is a good way for former club members who live outside a club area to band together and name themselves for the old club and still submit for their local club. You need to register your team anytime before the contest begins. You can submit your team list to <teams@cqww.com>. Top honors in the team competition went to the Black Sea team. Second place went to the WWYC QRO LIDs. Third place went to another WWYC team, WWYC QRO LIDs #2. Congratulations to everyone!

The results of Team Contesting are as follows:

- 1. Black Sea team:** 4L0A (UU0JM), ER0WW (UT5UDX), RC0F (UU5MAF), TO7A (UT5UGR), VE2IM (VE3DZ): **38,608,937**
- 2. WWYC QRO LIDs:** 403A (ES5TV), NN3W, OH0B (OH2UA), OH8X (OH4JFN), YN2AA (N6GQ): **34,238,503**
- 3. WWYC QRO LIDs #2:** CR3L (DJ8OG), 9A7P (9A6XX), JY5CC, SJ2W (SM2WMV): **13,912,966**



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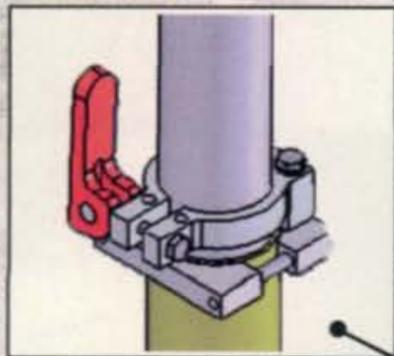
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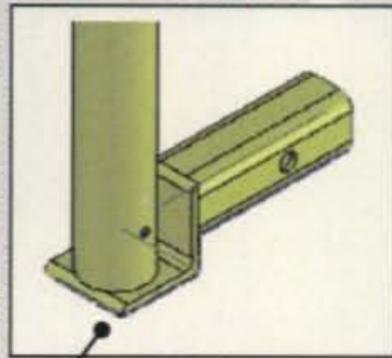
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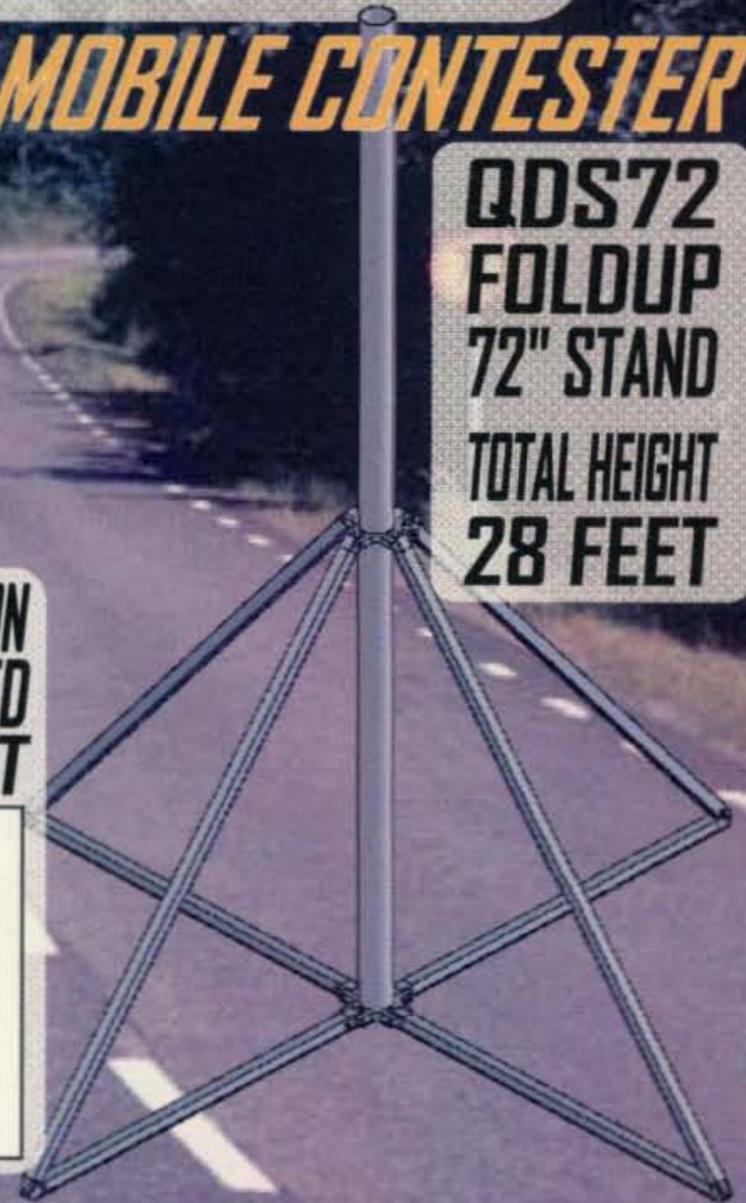


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4. Carolina DX Association: KI4TZ, KZ2I, N4PQX, W3GQ, W3OA: 5,760,167

5. WWYC Not So QRO LIDs: LN50 (LA6FJA), NH2T (KH2/N2NL), OH6GDX, PA2LS, OQ5M (ON5ZO): 5,421,158

6. Team Orca: VA7ST, VE7XF, VA7FC, VC3X (VE7VR): 4,324,132

7. JUMANJI – DX COLOMBIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (DXARC): 10M HK3JJH, 15M HK1R, 20M HK1X, 40M HK1T, 80M HK1W: 4,273,826

8. Contest Group du Quebec (CGQ team): VE2XAA, VA2SG, VA2UP, VA2EW (VE2TZT), VC2A (VA2WDQ): 2,833,408

9. Maritime Contest Club #2 – Time Bandits: VY2LI, VE9AA, VE9ZX, VA1CHP, VE1ZA: 2,303,186

10. Maritime Contest Club #1 – Halloween Hooligans: VE1OP, VE1ZD, VE1JS, VE1AL, VA1MM: 2,276,858

11. DXE Tigers: 4B2S, XE3N, 4B1EE, XE2AC: 2,167,679

12. WWYC Not So QRO LIDs #2: OH1F (OH1NOA), SM0W, DK5TX: 1,198,581

13. Grand Mesa #1: NX7TT, N0HF, WW0AL, W0ETT: 1,123,206

14. Grand Mesa #2: N0KE, W4ZW, W0RAA, AD1C, W0ZA: 890,348

15. Wireless Outback DX Crew: AA4XA, AA4ZU, K8DV, AA8HH: 522,454

16. Portage County Amateur Radio Service: KB8UUZ, KC8UNR, N8RLG, W8KNO: 244,236

17. Allegheny Valley Radio Association, Team #1: KB3LIX, KN3A, W3WC: 128,862

18. Dundee Amateur Radio Club: GM0BKC, MM0SVK, MM0DXD, MM0DRA, 2M0LEW: 100,907

19. TIF-TCSWAT Scouting and Guiding Federation of TURKIYE & TC Special Wireless Activity Team: TC87TC (TA1HZ), TA2KN (TA1GE), TB2MYE, TA1FR: 77,560

Records

Records exist for every mode in every country and continent. If you take a look at the records (cqww.com), you might find one you have a chance to beat. If you discover an error in the records list, please let us know at <questions@cqww.com>. Outstanding efforts of super operators resulted in the following new records. Congratulations!

World: 21 HC8A (N6KT), L7 EK6TA. **U.S.** A3.7 K6ND/1. **North America:** L3.7 XE1CQ, A14 VE6JY. **Africa:** A14 IG9S (IZ8GCE), A21 EF8A (EA8AUW), M2 CN3A. **Asia:** L7 EK6TA, A7 RW9USA, A3.7 RU9CK, A1.8 UA9MA. **Japan:** 7 JA0JHA, A7 JS3CTQ, A3.7 JA6SRB. **Europe:** A CR2X (N5TJ), Q7 S57SU, A7 TM9R (F5FLN). **Oceania:** 3.7 KH7X (KH6ND), Q7 VK2DX, Q3.7 KH6LC. **South America:** 21 HC8A (N6KT), A3.7 PY5QW.

Special Mention

The CQ WW is a great place to pick up new QSOs for your DXCC, IOTA, WPX, and many other awards. During the 2010 SSB contest there were 232 countries active! You can also be on the other end of a pile-up. Pick out a spot, jump on a plane and get on the air from an exotic location. Why not make a plan and travel to a nearby country that is rarer than your own?

Some of the callsigns making the contest more interesting for all of us were: VE2IM,

VE2DXY, VY0JA, OX2A, KG4EM, TO7A, VP2MDG, YN2AA, PJ7MF, V48M, IG9/I2ADN, IH9YMC, J28AA, 5Z4EE, 5R8UI, V51YJ, 9Q6CC, 6W1RY, ST2AR, 3V8SS, Z23MS, Z2/AC7GP, T6MB, T6AF, VR2YYW, VR2ZQZ, VR2PX, VU2PAI, VU2CDP, VU2RBI, VU2ABS, JY5CC, JD1AHC, A41OO, A41MX, HZ1PS, 7Z1TT, 7Z1SJ, HZ1DG, 9V1YC, 4S7AB, XX9AU, HS0ZEE, HS0ZCW, HS0ZDG, E21YDP, HS0ZJD, A61BK, UK9AA, XV2RZ, 9M2JKL, 9M2ODY, 9M2TO, 9M2PS, SV9COL, SV9GPV, TA1CM, 9H1XT, 3A2MG, 4O3A, GZ5Y, 9M8Z, 9M6BOB, 3D2A, V63CJB, T88DL, T88OM, FY5KE, HC8A, 8R1K, OA4SS, DT8A, ZF2AH, J3/AA8LL, J37K, VP5I, IG9S, IG9D, J28RO, TR8CA, 5N7M, 6V7T, 3V8BB, VR2XLN, XU7ACY, JT5DX, HZ1FS, HS0ZCX, A65BP, A65CA, XV1X, 3W1M, MU0GSY, MD2C, 9M6LSC, FO8RZ, NH2T, 8J1RL, V26B, AA9V/VP9, TI5N, HQ2W, VP5DX, A25HQ, D4C, EF9K, CQ9T, CQ3L, C91WW, 9K2HN, A62ER, A61BM, 9M2SMC, OY6A, GJ2A, GD0AMD, JW5E, AH2R, V6B, P49Y, PJ4X, V31BD, TI0RC, CN3A, CR3A, S79K, T70A, V84CQ, YE2R, YE0X, AH0BT, VP5T, A73A, C37N, SX5P, HB0/HB9AON, WH2DX, PJ2T.

Comments

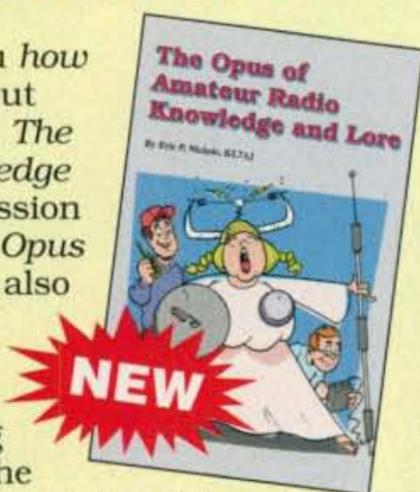
We received 6566 2010 CQ WW SSB contest logs of which 6446 were electronic! Thanks to all the contesters around the world who sent in a log. **Please send in your log no matter how small.** Submitting an electronic log is easy. Send your SSB log to <ssb@cqww.com> (CW to <cw@cqww.com>). Please send your log in Cabrillo format. If your radio has a computer

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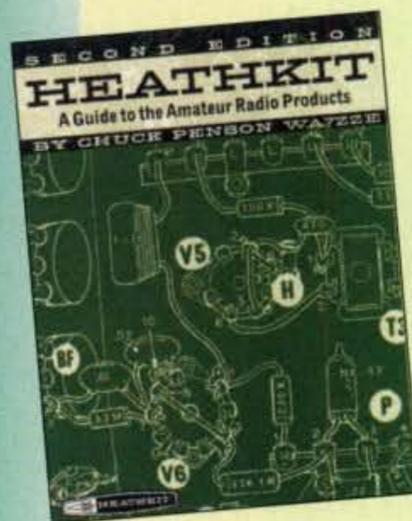
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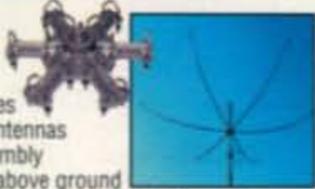
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0.625"	\$2.35	\$4.05	\$4.75
0.750"	\$2.65	\$4.35	\$5.35
0.875"	\$2.75	\$4.45	\$5.65
1.000"	\$2.95	\$4.65	\$5.95
1.125"	\$3.25	\$4.95	\$6.55
1.250"	\$4.15	\$5.85	\$7.75
1.375"	\$4.45	\$6.15	\$8.45
1.500"	\$5.25	\$6.95	\$9.65
1.625"	\$6.05	\$7.75	\$10.35
1.750"	\$6.85	\$8.55	\$11.05
1.875"	\$7.65	\$9.35	\$11.75
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2.125" D	\$9.25	\$10.95	\$13.15

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COM-BAL-11150ET	5 kW, side and top eyebolts	\$49.95
COM-BAL-11150S	5 kW, side studs/wingnuts	\$49.95
COM-BAL-11150T	5 kW, top studs/wingnuts	\$49.95
1:1 Dual Wire/Dual Core		
COM-BAL-11140T	5 kW, top studs/wingnuts	\$69.95
COM-BAL-11140S	5 kW, side studs/wingnuts	\$69.95
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COM-BAL-11150DS	5 kW, side studs/wingnuts	\$69.95
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COM-BAL-41130S	3 kW, side studs/wingnuts	\$59.95
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COM-BAL-41150T	5 kW, top studs/wingnuts	\$89.95
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Number groups indicate: QSOs/Zones/Countries on each band

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Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR2X	339/15/66	771/27/97	1915/30/107	2458/36/124	3018/37/130	910/27/95
CN2R	530/16/70	726/21/88	1211/29/99	1095/35/105	2701/36/115	757/24/77
4L0A	263/9/54	557/20/82	1887/33/116	1101/31/90	2095/26/89	716/15/57
4O3A	413/15/67	619/21/88	1817/37/112	1627/36/125	2292/36/128	241/23/68
FY5KE	21/8/15	419/14/53	879/27/84	1544/36/107	3024/30/109	547/20/61

USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K1DG	91/13/51	409/23/82	438/23/84	1179/34/107	1593/30/109	91/16/38
NN3W	53/10/23	290/23/77	646/27/93	1042/35/119	1310/32/120	109/18/41
W2RE	27/9/14	162/17/65	637/25/87	1235/35/112	1348/30/103	67/9/22
K4ZW	67/14/38	249/23/69	567/29/94	879/37/107	1135/31/103	84/17/37
W9RE	46/12/23	205/25/74	514/34/95	869/36/100	1101/32/110	108/15/31

WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
ER0WW	359/10/62	922/25/94	1372/37/125	1720/36/128	1338/38/138	119/21/52
KP3Z	137/12/27	581/22/70	886/34/109	1170/35/98	1399/32/91	300/15/29
PY1NB	16/5/5	71/17/45	612/32/99	599/36/108	1436/30/112	691/22/69
ZX2B	3/2/3	21/12/14	207/24/77	603/33/90	1865/35/120	1021/26/82
OE4A	152/7/51	475/18/80	618/35/123	989/37/120	1205/38/136	118/24/68

USA SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K3WW	91/13/43	178/24/76	218/28/96	927/36/116	785/31/122	81/15/36
AA3B	48/10/21	151/16/61	242/29/94	593/33/113	796/31/123	168/14/42
K0KX	16/7/6	82/20/42	221/32/83	778/36/128	703/33/127	118/9/23
K1KI	23/8/14	65/19/47	191/27/79	658/36/108	906/30/116	29/12/19
W4SVO	56/11/25	173/23/78	155/28/85	377/34/112	782/37/128	104/14/28

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
D4C	175/18/68	915/26/109	1138/38/122	2220/40/142	2845/38/154	1494/31/134
P33W	256/16/71	799/24/98	1665/39/132	1445/39/143	2882/39/158	729/28/103
P49Y	123/13/24	836/26/95	1618/34/106	1508/35/119	2665/33/120	739/18/36
PJ4X	79/9/15	751/26/79	1680/33/108	1049/35/114	2834/35/126	909/23/47
V26B	152/11/35	811/24/92	1500/31/108	1666/36/128	2562/34/134	958/23/49

USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K1LZ	105/14/65	340/27/96	1067/38/126	1540/39/142	1564/33/139	136/21/57
K5ZD/1	54/11/31	240/27/86	476/35/107	1403/37/130	1330/32/128	74/16/39
N5DX	57/14/36	152/27/78	718/36/112	1162/36/128	1224/33/128	58/14/31
W3BGN	79/13/45	189/25/77	521/34/105	1045/37/127	878/31/130	119/21/47
N2IC/5	29/11/17	142/27/69	851/36/99	645/37/127	1295/36/137	95/19/39

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CN3A	215/13/68	1685/28/117	2688/37/127	2705/38/143	4395/39/152	1066/30/119
CR3A	315/14/63	1160/25/107	2670/37/126	3116/39/139	4371/38/153	1107/32/117
PW7T	22/11/19	731/23/80	1327/35/103	2080/37/141	3956/36/143	633/25/100
KC1XX	86/15/57	584/29/102	1376/39/131	2546/39/151	2185/35/153	230/24/66
LP1H	7/4/5	179/25/35	384/29/68	2120/38/136	3903/34/133	1677/27/93

USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
KC1XX	86/15/57	584/29/102	1376/39/131	2546/39/151	2185/35/153	230/24/66
WE3C	94/21/67	408/29/100	1195/38/123	1723/39/144	1474/33/132	183/21/52
N3RS	53/12/28	441/26/86	972/37/119	1857/37/135	1380/34/132	209/21/57
K1RX	125/16/52	448/26/90	1028/33/109	1652/36/128	1311/31/134	131/15/36
NK7U	52/12/19	212/28/56	905/37/101	1860/38/136	1153/31/116	112/15/33

WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
EF8R	221/12/66	1404/25/106	2324/33/117	2311/38/136	4146/38/151	1618/32/129
PJ2T	401/16/41	1489/25/94	3208/32/119	3500/34/132	4010/33/115	1503/23/50
A73A	623/15/74	949/30/95	2378/36/131	2322/39/137	2988/39/150	1122/28/107
DR1A	1113/16/75	1923/27/112	3293/40/143	3658/40/155	2086/39/161	525/28/99
K3LR	401/24/77	1053/29/111	1657/39/138	2973/40/159	2577/36/155	482/22/77

USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K3LR	401/24/77	1053/29/111	1657/39/138	2973/40/159	2577/36/155	482/22/77
W3LPL	429/20/76	992/30/114	1731/37/129	2480/39/149	2129/35/149	387/23/66
K1TTT	223/15/53	500/26/92	698/34/106	1443/36/131	1267/32/131	243/17/44
KM1W	133/14/61	369/25/89	424/28/98	964/35/124	1174/32/132	183/17/45
W0AIH/9	164/13/36	317/26/75	585/35/100	1079/36/123	1217/35/133	205/16/38



EF8A operated by Edu, EA8AUW.

interface, please submit a log with **exact frequencies**. Exact frequencies help in the log checking process.

Before you submit your log, you can help us a great deal by double-checking your Cabrillo submission. Please make sure your category is correctly indicated in the Cabrillo header. If you did everything okay, you will get back an acknowledgment from the robot. If there was something wrong, you will get a message telling you what to do to correct the error. You can then resubmit your log to the same addresses. If you are having submission problems, we can help you at <questions@cqww.com>.

The CQ WW Contest Committee provides several ways for an entrant to check his/her log. Soon after you submit your log, a **log received list** with your category and score is posted on the CQ WW site (cqww.com, tab logs: received). Look over your data for accuracy. If you find an error, please let us know at <questions@cqww.com>. About one month before

the results become finalized in CQ magazine, you will receive a password via e-mail which will allow access to your log report at <http://cqww.com>. This is called your **report (rpt)**. Look over the report to verify again your category and other information. If you find an error, please let us know at <questions@cqww.com>.

Changes to the 2011 CQ WW rules: Remote receivers outside the limitations of Rule III.3 are not allowed. The only *exception* is public remote Skimmers which are allowed for the Multi-Operator, Assisted, and Xtreme categories. For all multi-operator categories: When two or more transmitters are present on a band, either a software or hardware device **must** be used to prevent more than one signal at any one time; interlocking two or more transmitters on a band with alternating CQs (to solicit QSOs) is not allowed. **For club scores to be listed an officer of the club must submit a list of eligible members for each contest.**

If you plan to try to make the Top Scores box, you can count on your log being carefully checked for rule compliance. Your competitors are relying on fair play. Running more power than the rules of your category allow, the use of undeclared packet, the use of additional operators for a single operator entry, two signals simultaneously on the same band, or on separate bands at the same time, if you are single operator, are violations of the CQ WW rules. The CQ WW has at its disposal many methods to verify the score of an entrant and ensure a fair contest.

Through our interaction with many entrants whose primary language is not English, we found that confusion might exist on the definition of the word "assisted." Ask yourself, "Did I have any help finding *any* QSO in my log?" If you can answer, "Yes, I did have help finding/spotting some QSOs in my log," you are in the assisted category. There are many new awards available for those who enter the assisted category. You can find an assisted category record that you can set or beat. You can find the complete CQ WW rules and records at cqww.com. The full rules for the 2011 contest will also be in the September issue of CQ magazine and on the CQ website.

MS and M2 categories: Please indicate in the submitted log which of your transmitters is making each contact. All contesting logging programs allow transceiver designation during setup. **U.S. Location:** For U.S. entrants please make sure your operating QTH is shown correct-

EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR2X	339/15/66	771/27/97	1915/30/107	2458/36/124	3018/37/130	910/27/95
4O3A	413/15/67	619/21/88	1817/37/112	1627/36/125	2292/36/128	241/23/68
OH8X	140/11/49	462/22/83	814/34/102	2313/36/113	1408/34/115	100/15/43
OE3K	342/13/57	446/20/77	1098/31/87	1321/31/92	1636/34/106	131/17/40
OH0B	456/15/62	686/24/86	1007/29/101	1656/31/105	1147/31/113	130/14/50

EUROPE SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

ER0WW	359/10/62	922/25/94	1372/37/125	1720/36/128	1338/38/138	119/21/52
OE4A	152/7/51	475/18/80	618/35/123	989/37/120	1205/38/136	118/24/68
SO8A	118/9/53	457/20/88	867/36/120	1219/34/109	849/35/110	45/16/32
HG10P	277/9/56	663/17/77	714/32/106	780/38/115	1253/37/125	50/20/48
GW9T	55/6/32	649/18/89	205/21/82	1079/33/105	1374/35/125	189/21/64

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

E7DX	324/15/71	1134/26/111	1461/40/131	1652/38/139	2015/39/156	406/26/96
OM8A	282/13/66	1030/32/120	1431/39/131	1588/39/141	1644/39/148	168/28/84
RU1A	128/15/65	1193/35/122	1227/38/129	1969/40/144	1428/37/152	100/29/84
UZ2M	218/14/68	885/30/101	1740/38/131	1548/39/142	1969/36/154	405/26/89
RL3A	113/13/63	902/34/118	1935/40/141	1648/39/134	1596/37/152	114/27/79

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

IR4X	247/11/60	941/27/105	1816/40/132	2222/39/137	2257/38/148	228/26/82
9A7A	171/11/60	1051/23/98	1075/37/126	1654/38/135	1486/39/138	232/27/87
DQ4W	239/10/57	883/18/87	1096/36/122	1782/35/128	1382/39/138	211/23/64
T70A	644/10/60	1386/17/90	2275/37/125	2069/33/110	1452/37/116	112/23/51
DL0CS	287/12/63	1136/19/93	1303/35/121	1556/36/125	1243/37/135	98/19/64

EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

DR1A	1113/16/75	1923/27/112	3293/40/143	3658/40/155	2086/39/161	525/28/99
DF0HQ	946/18/76	2120/29/113	2930/37/147	2647/39/150	1693/39/153	335/26/84
LZ9W	662/10/66	1534/20/94	2339/35/126	2819/40/139	2322/36/140	307/26/82
OT5A	971/13/67	1533/18/78	2214/36/116	2047/38/141	1341/38/141	335/24/77
EE2W	601/12/63	1133/24/105	1360/30/102	1975/37/120	2072/38/122	502/24/83

ly. We need this information to place you in the right call area within the results. **Single band entrants:** Single band entrants can make QSOs on other bands as a check log. Please submit the QSOs made on all bands you operate. Indicate in the comments section of the Cabrillo header that all contacts on your *non-entry* bands are to be a check log.

Thanks

Creating the results you see in *CQ* magazine is just the final product of a lot of work. Entrant log-submission problems, incomplete logs, forgotten band changes not in log, incorrect call indicated, and a myriad of other subtle problems are sorted out behind the scenes. Using an armamentarium of log-checking tools and data sources, the CQ WW Contest Committee has done its best to certify the winners.

The members of the WW Committee who provided insight into many contesting topics are: CT1BOH, DB7MA, DJ6QT, DL6RAI, E21EIC, ES5TV, F6BEE, G3SXW, HA1AG, IK2QEI, JE1CKA, K1AR, K1DG, K3LR, K3WW, K3ZO, K5TR, K5TR, K5ZD, K6AW, KM3T, KR2Q, KT3Y, LY3BA, LZ2CJ, N2AA, N2NC, N2NT, N3ED, N5KO, N6AA, N6TR, N6TW, N8BJQ, N9RV, OH2MM, OH6LI, PA3AAV, PP5JR, RA3AUU, S50A, US0LW, VE3EJ, W3ZZ, W5OV, W6OAT, W7EJ, W0YK, YU1EW, and ZS4TX. We would also like to thank those contesters other than committee members who helped translate the CQ WW rules into their language (cqww.com under rules): 3V8SS, SV1DPI, EA5RS, R3/SM6LRR, BA7JS, BA7NQ, and 9A6C. A special thank you to Ken, K1EA, who spent countless hours making the CQ WW results the best in contesting. Thanks as always to John, K1AR, and Tim, K3LR, for their advice. We want to thank Barry, W5GN, for providing the machinery that produces certificates in a timely manner. The CQ WW records are maintained by John, N2NC, and K3EST. Over many years, Sergio, EA3DU, Oms, PY5EG, and Jorma, OH2KI, have contributed in numerous ways to make the contest better. They have retired from the committee. We want to thank them for all their enthusiasm! Also, congratulations to John, VE3EJ, on his Contest Hall of Fame induction in 2011.

Congratulations to all the winners and entrants! 73, and CU in the 2011 contests!
Bob, K3EST

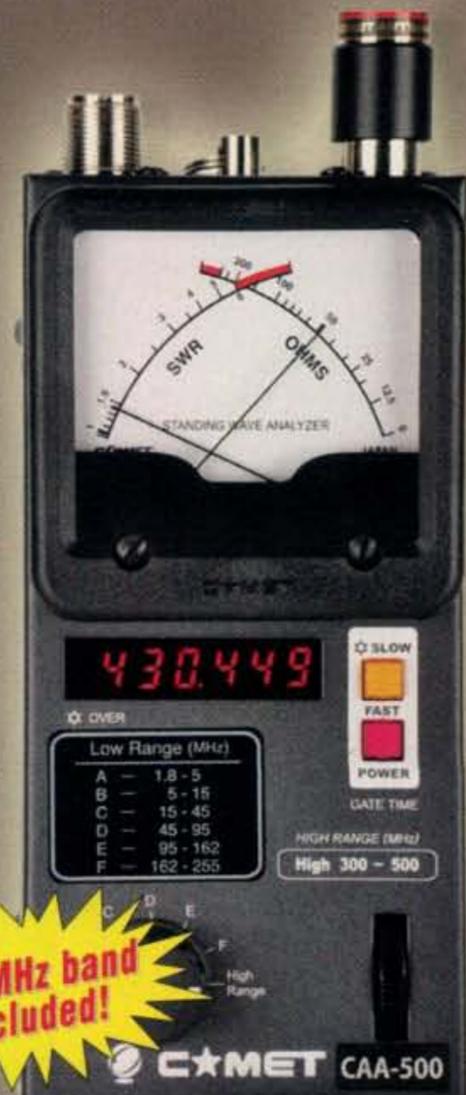
(Continued on page 100)

How Does Your Antenna Measure Up?

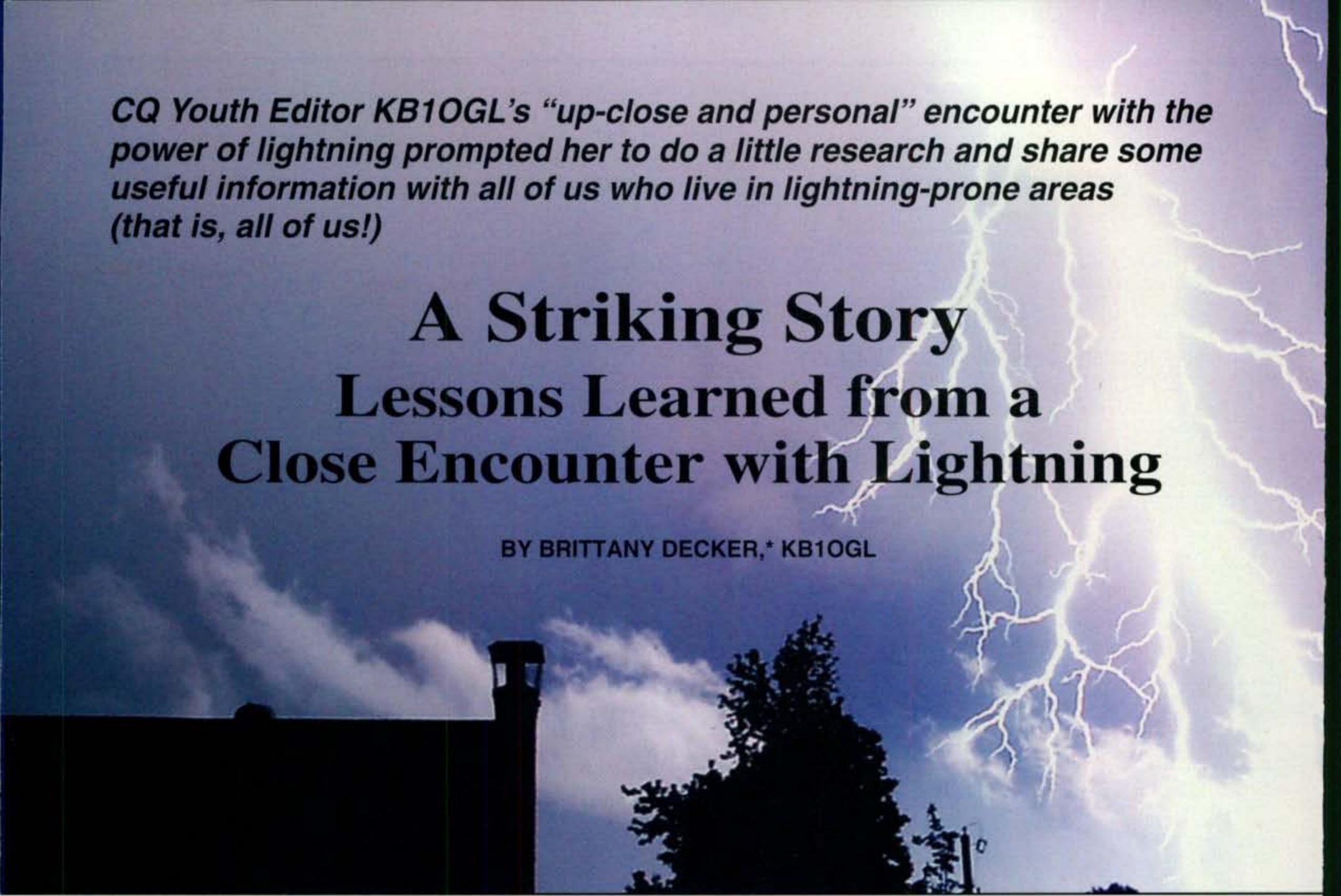
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CQ Youth Editor KB1OGL's "up-close and personal" encounter with the power of lightning prompted her to do a little research and share some useful information with all of us who live in lightning-prone areas (that is, all of us!)

A Striking Story

Lessons Learned from a Close Encounter with Lightning

BY BRITTANY DECKER,* KB1OGL

Are you doing enough to protect yourself and your home from possible lightning damage? (Photo by Mark Coldren, courtesy publicdomainpictures.net)

It was a beautiful August day in New Hampshire. Hot, humid, green, and full of summer smells. My brother, my mom, and I were all at Robinson Pond across the street swimming, when the skies started to cloud up and the humidity started to become oppressive. We felt a thunderstorm coming on. We started hearing distant thunder, but it seemed to be far enough away that we could just slowly make our way back home with no problem. My mom and brother went before my friends and I did, and just as we were catching up and crossing the street to my driveway, CRACK! I saw a red—that's right, red—flash above my house, which at that moment started to smoke profusely.

My heart started to race as I thought my house was on fire. Therefore, I went to the house immediately across the street, along with my mom, and we asked to use their phone to call the fire department. The house was not smoking as badly by this time, and we were a bit calmer. The firefighters checked

out the house and said there was no danger. Then we went inside to check out things for ourselves.

We discovered that the lightning had done quite a lot of damage. Our projector did not work, our washer didn't work, our TV was shot, and one radio was damaged beyond repair. Not only that, but our loop antenna had been seared and the two pieces were hanging from the trees looking quite shameful. We also had to catch our dog, Penny, because the dog fence console had been blown in two pieces along with the melted plug, which had been shot straight out of the light socket. Poor Penny had been right on our back porch when the lightning struck, and like the smart dog she is, she booked it right into the woods.

Now you may say that we are very unlucky for that sort of thing to happen. However, we were extremely lucky in one sense. As I said, the thunder had sounded far off, so my mom and my brother had gone to the hot tub to wash off their feet. The lightning struck *while their feet were in the hot tub*. It was a good thing my dad had installed a surge

protector in the hot tub, and it was also a good thing that it appeared afterward that the lightning's power had dissipated by the time it reached our hot tub. It had, in fact, reached the hot tub, because after that the jets and the heater didn't work. However, the surge protector apparently helped prevent any injuries, thank goodness.

Did Our Antenna Attract the Lightning?

After we collected ourselves, we began talking with the folks from the fire department. We asked if our antenna was to blame for the lightning strike. They said they didn't think so. However, we were not all that convinced yet. Regardless of whether anything in our yard was to blame, we were also to blame for putting our own lives in danger. It is a common misconception that if lightning (thunder) sounds like it is far away, you are safe for the moment. As our experience proves, looks, or rather sounds, that can be deceiving.

I asked lightning expert John Jensenius of the National Weather Service

*CQ Youth Editor, c/o CQ magazine
e-mail: <kb1ogl@cq-amateur-radio.com>

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We were very lucky that this blackened area of our roof, directly below where the lightning struck, was the only visible structural damage from the strike. (Except as noted, photos by the author)

in Gray, Maine, about protecting yourself from lightning. He said that if you hear thunder, you need to go inside immediately, because the lightning that caused it was at most 10 miles away,

meaning not as far off as you may think. The National Weather Service website states: "Other victims waited too long before seeking shelter. By heading to a safe place 5 to 10 minutes sooner, they

could have avoided being struck by lightning."

Error two was the fact that we just slowly made our way inside. We shouldn't have dipped our feet, or fooled around on the way home. We should have gone straight in. Granted, this wouldn't have prevented the lightning from striking; however, it would have greatly reduced the risk of any of us being injured or killed.

Richard Kithill of the National Lightning Safety Institute advises even more caution. He says that in addition to going inside, you also must not touch anything that could conduct electricity. This means no showers, no light switches, no touching televisions, etc. Don't even use a corded phone, as you could go deaf in a lightning strike! Imagine if we had been indoors touching the TV at that time. We would have gotten the "shock" of our lives.

Protecting Appliances

As for protecting our appliances, there was no safe thing we could have done from the time we heard the first crack of thunder. John Jensenius of NWS says that in order to be *completely* safe, you need to unplug everything, and it is not safe to start unplugging things once



This is a PolyPhaser VHF/UHF surge protector for your antenna feedline. It will protect your gear from induced currents from static discharge and nearby lightning, but not from a direct strike.



A similar surge protector from Alpha Delta.

you've heard thunder. Again, that means that the storm is within 10 miles.

The only way to save your appliances (including radios) from lightning is foresight. To sum it up, there are two main things you can do: First, check the weather every day. If lightning is in the forecast, make sure everything is unplugged before you leave for work or your daily activities. This means all power, and for us ham radio operators, coax cables. You must unplug everything well before the storm to eliminate the risk of being injured from the lightning. (You also need to balance the risk of a lightning strike against the risks of unplugging certain appliances, such as refrigerators and air conditioners, for the day. However, anything that won't be in use while you're away should be unplugged if lightning is in the forecast.—ed.)

Second, if you don't regularly check the weather or watch the news, and you think you might forget, it is a good idea to install a few things. First, as the National Electrical Code requires, you must have all grounds grounded to the same place. If not, you will have a grounds-voltage mismatch. Check with an electrician if you have added any grounds for your ham equipment. Next, you can buy surge protectors. Although they won't do much for a direct strike, if a nearby strike induces a power surge in your electrical line, surge protectors could save the frustration of having to replace damaged appliances. How-

ever, if it is a direct hit, a small surge protector cannot really be expected to reroute 200,000 to 300,000 volts of electricity.

For amateur radio operators specifically, it can be helpful to install surge protectors in coaxial feedlines as well as power lines to protect against currents induced on the antenna and feedline by a nearby strike. There are many different surge protectors to choose from, and two good companies that sell them are Polyphaser and Alpha-Delta. The pictures of the surge protectors I have included are from these companies. You can get plug-in surge protectors for about \$20 each. However, unplugging everything—radios and antennas—is still the best precaution, along with grounding your unplugged feedline.

At this point you may be asking, well, what about the good ole' lightning rod? Both Jensenius and Kithill agree that lightning rods will not prevent a strike, because lightning is capricious. Lightning rods really have only one purpose, which is to prevent fire by diverting the energy from a strike to ground and away from your house. Lightning searches for the most conductive object, and in the choice of wood versus metal, the lightning rod generally will win. Therefore, a lightning rod is a good idea overall, especially if you live in an area that is prone to frequent lightning strikes.

Now back to our original question. Was our antenna to blame for the lightning strike? The answer is simply no; it is not likely. Our antenna is about 100 feet in the air, and taller trees surround it. This means it is highly unlikely that our antenna coerced the lightning to strike our house.

This is how John Jensenius described the way lightning acts: First, when a bolt of lightning comes down, it is totally and completely random. This is called the *step leader*. When it reaches about 200 feet above ground, it looks for tall objects. That could mean objects of any material—wood, metal, anything. Since our antenna was under 200 feet in height, it is unlikely that this was the cause of the strike hitting our house.

If Someone is Struck...

Finally, if someone is, in fact, struck by lightning, call 911 immediately and begin performing CPR if the person is not breathing. This will help him/her survive until reaching a hospital. The National Weather Service website advises that lightning victims "do not carry an electrical charge, are safe to touch, and need urgent medical attention. Cardiac arrest is the immediate cause of death. Some deaths can be prevented if the victim immediately receives the proper first aid. Call for help. Call 911 or your local ambulance service. Give first aid. Do not delay CPR if the person is unresponsive or not breathing. Use an Automatic External Defibrillator if one is available. If possible, move the victim to a safer place. Lightning *can* strike twice. Don't become a victim."

About 58 people in the U.S are killed every year from lightning, and one of every ten people who are struck dies. My own experience serves as a scary what-could-have-been story that I hope will open your eyes to the danger of lightning as much it has opened ours.

Resources

National Lightning Safety Institute: <http://www.lightningsafety.com/index.html>

Polyphaser Corporation
<http://www.polyphaser.com/home.aspx>

Alpha Delta Communications:
<http://www.alphadeltacom.com/>

National Weather Service Lightning Safety:
<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>



What You've Told Us...

Our May survey asked about your attendance at hamfests and, for the first time, was available online on our Facebook page as well as in print. Among all respondents, 94% had been to a hamfest, convention or similar gathering at least once.

Broken down by type of gathering, 89% of you have been to a local hamfest or swap meet at least once, followed by 79% attending a regional hamfest, 53% an ARRL section, state or division convention, 34% the Dayton Hamvention®, 28% at least one ARRL national convention, and 21% a specialized convention or conference.

Interestingly, the numbers shifted around a bit when we asked you which types of ham gatherings you attend *regularly*. Local hamfests still came out on top, with 63%, followed by regional hamfests at 40%. ARRL section, state or division conventions dropped to 26%, followed by "none" at 19%, Dayton at 15%, specialized conventions at 9% and ARRL national conventions at the bottom of the list at 4%.

Asked for your usual reasons for attending hamfests, 82% of you responded "to shop for equipment," followed by "as a social event" (66%), "to attend forums" (45%), to sell equipment" (23%) and "to help as a volunteer" (14%).

We next asked which one of the following statements best reflected your feelings about hamfests. Your responses: "I go to hamfests to browse, even if there's nothing particular that I need" (47%); "I go (mostly) to socialize" (40%); "I go (mostly) to sell" (7%); "I don't go to hamfests" (6%); "I go (mostly) to buy" (5%) and "I go ... mostly for the forums" (5%).

Finally, 68% of you feel that the hamfests you've attended recently have met your expectations, while 13% each felt they exceeded expectations or did not meet expectations.

This month's free subscription winner is Stephen McBride, KI4VBA, of Clayton, NC.

Reader Survey August 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*.

Well, it turns out we made a last-minute substitution and didn't ask about your CW (Morse code) activities in May. So, since we asked about your phone (voice) activities last month, here are the same basic questions about your CW activity:

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

1. Do you currently operate CW at all on the air?
 - Yes.....26
 - No27
2. Approximately what percentage of your total operating is done in CW?
 - 100%.....28
 - 76-99%.....29
 - 51-75%.....30
 - 26-50%.....31
 - 1-25%.....32
 - None33
3. What type of operating accounts for most of your CW activity? (Choose one)
 - Contesting.....34
 - DXing.....35
 - Rag-chewing.....36
 - Traffic-handling.....37
 - VHF/UHF weak-signal (e.g., meteor scatter, moonbounce).....38
 - Other.....39
 - I do not operate CW.....40
4. What are your main motivations for operating CW? (Choose all that apply)
 - It's fun.....41
 - It's a ham radio tradition.....42
 - I can work stations/places on CW that I can't work on SSB.....43
 - I can work greater distances on CW than I can on SSB.....44
 - It's the only digital mode you can decode by ear.....45
 - I enjoy working CW in contests.....46
 - CW gets through when nothing else will.....47
 - Other.....48
 - I do not operate CW.....49
5. What was your main motivation for learning Morse code? (Choose one)
 - It was necessary to qualify for my ham license.....50
 - It was necessary for military/job requirements.....51
 - I wanted to learn a "language" that most people don't know.....52
 - It was a challenge to be met.....53
 - I wanted to get the benefits of operating CW for DXing and contesting.....54
 - Other.....55
 - I have not learned Morse code.....56
6. Did you pass an FCC (or equivalent) code test?
 - Yes, 20 words per minute (wpm).....57
 - Yes, 13 wpm.....58
 - Yes, 5 wpm.....59
 - No.....60

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

Isolation

In our experimentation efforts there is often the need to isolate one portion of a circuit from another. Whether this is to protect the circuit from the AC line, a high-voltage point, or to simply eliminate a ground loop, a way of breaking the electrically conductive path from one point to another while transferring the signal is useful.

This month we will look at a few ways to do this for both analog and digital signals. There are three common methods that can be readily used by the experimenter. These are inductive (transformers), capacitive, and optical. Each has its assets and

limitations, and we will examine applications of each technique.

The most basic form of isolation is the simple transformer. It consists of two or more windings, not necessarily connected to each other and usually wound on a metallic or non-metallic core. Since there is no direct conductive path between the windings, coupling is by magnetic means only. In the case of analog signals (such as audio), it is only necessary to choose the correct impedance and turns ratio for the specific application and you are in business. Typical isolation levels of 1500 volts between windings are common. Transformers are available in the audio range from frequencies as

*c/o CQ magazine

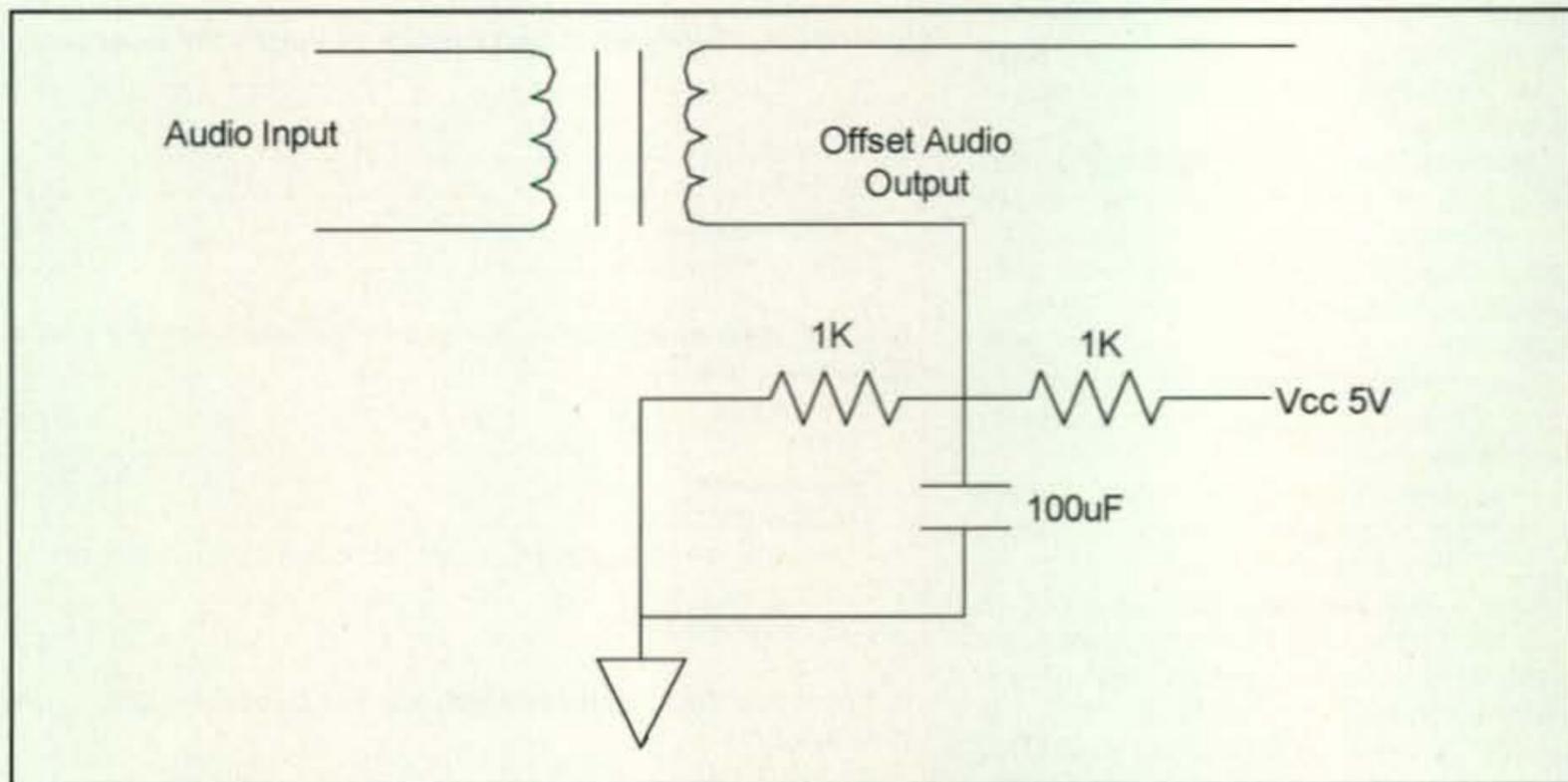


Fig. 1- Offset audio coupling stage.

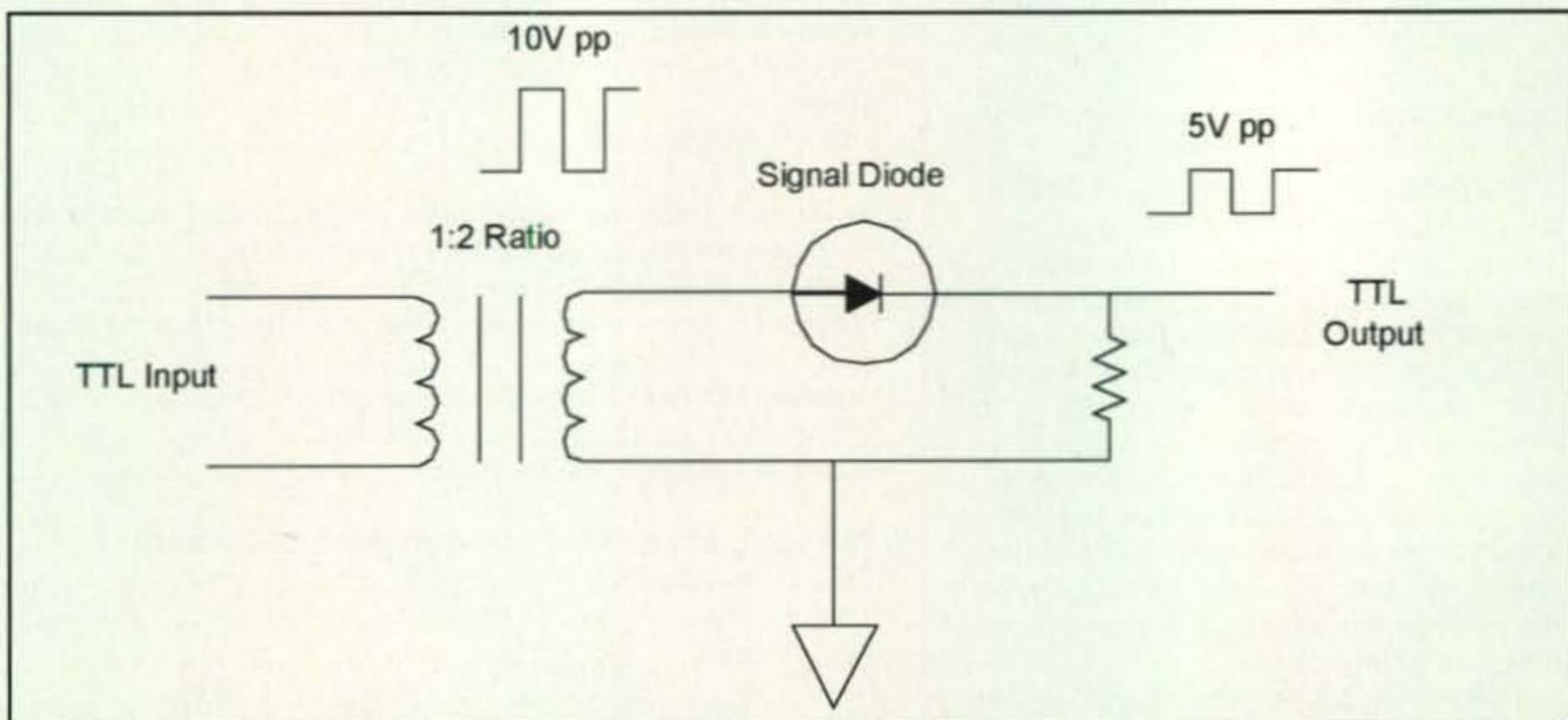


Fig. 2- Transformer coupled high-speed TTL signal.

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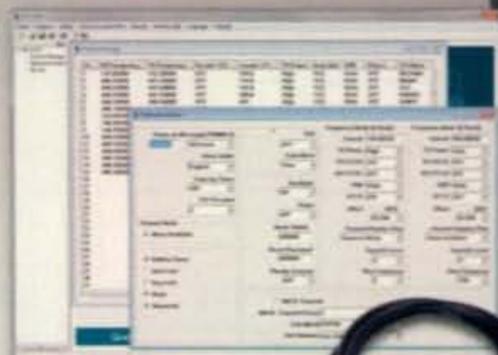
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low as 5–10 Hz all the way up to and into the GHz RF region. Very-wide-band transformers are also available from a few MHz to a GHz in one device, so you should not have any problem finding something that will suit your needs.

If you keep in mind that a changing magnetic field is required for any transformer to operate, you will realize that DC voltages cannot be directly accommodated. If you must pass an analog signal with a specific DC level, then you have to resort to a trick or two. As an example, fig. 1 is a circuit that will transmit an audio signal, offset by 2.5 volts from input to output. Since the DC level is known beforehand we simply bias the transformer secondary up by means of a simple Zener diode. Unfortunately, this technique only works with fixed offsets. A varying offset is beyond this simple approach.

One should note that analog signals are not the only ones that can be isolated with a transformer. Fig. 2 shows a TTL isolation system with a 1:2 step-up transformer. In this example, the 0- to 5-volt TTL signal is converted to a 10-volt pp signal by the transformer. The diode then cuts off the negative half cycle, and the result is a TTL signal at

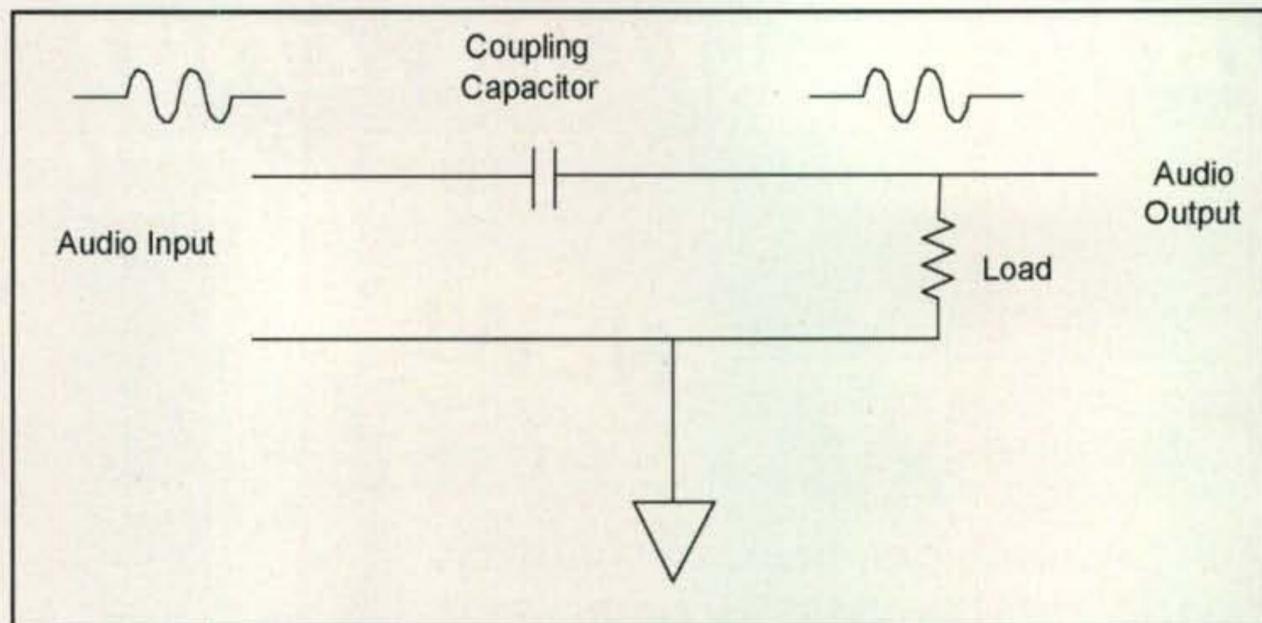


Fig. 3— Capacitor coupled audio stage.

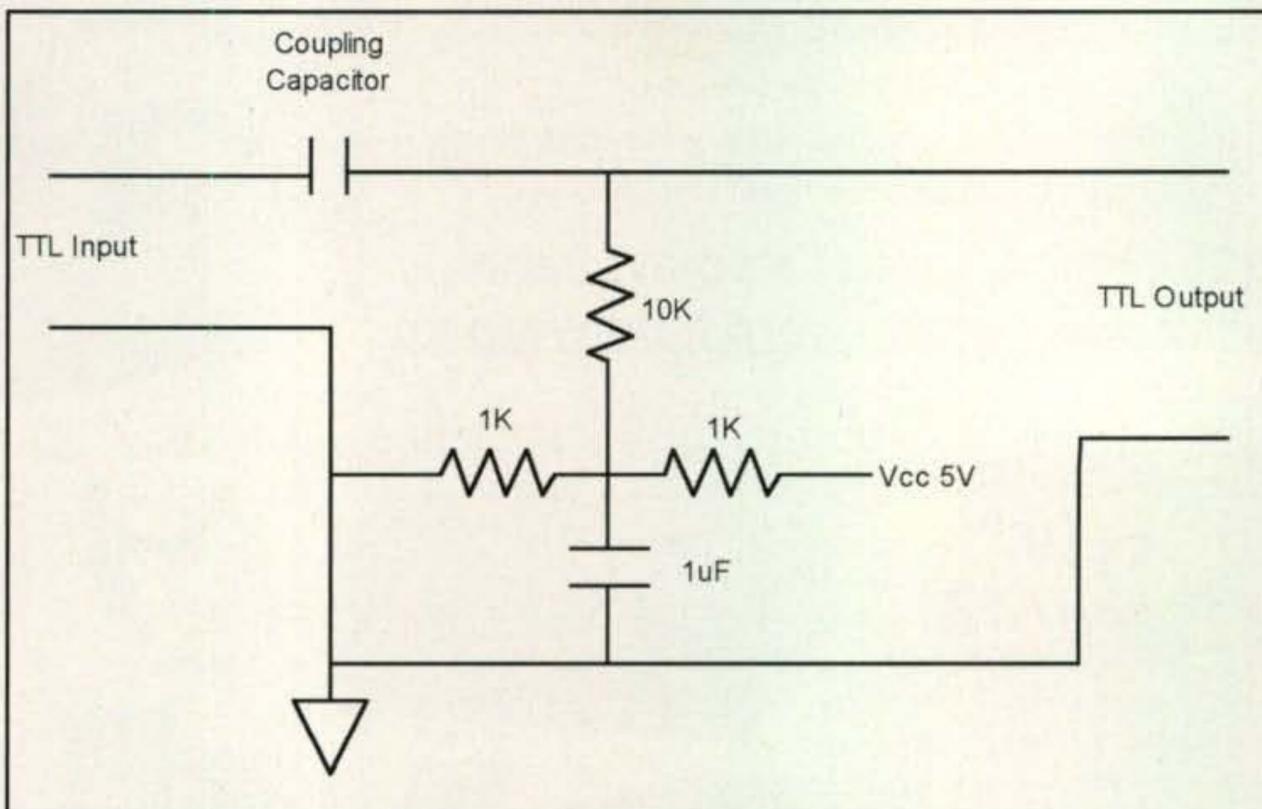


Fig. 4— Offset TTL AC coupled stage.

the correct 5-volt logic level. Note that this only works for data rates that are within the transformer's frequency range and that are essentially symmetrical with regard to duty cycle. For square-wave clock signals, for example, it is fine.

Isolation method #2 uses capacitors. Again DC coupling is not possible, but AC signals are passed with no problems as long as the values of the capacitors and other components are chosen properly for the bandwidths desired. Fig. 3 shows a capacitor coupled audio signal circuit as an example, although almost any analog signal can be handled as well. Note that in this configuration ground or the signal common point is not isolated. Digital signals can be capacitor coupled as well. Fig. 4 shows a TTL clock circuit that is similar to the one in fig. 1. Here the resistor net-

work raises the signal back to the TTL levels. As in the case of the transformer coupled system, however, DC is not isolated and duty-cycle distortion will occur for any significant symmetrical variations in the signal. Isolation is based on the breakdown voltage of the capacitor used and can easily be quite high.

The final isolation method we will discuss isolates DC levels as well as signals and does not have duty-cycle limitation for digital signals. This is optical coupling and is based on the fact that an LED can produce a beam of light which can then be detected by a photodiode. The opto-isolator is a common device that has both an LED and a photodiode in one package. Some devices can provide isolation factors of as much as 5000 volts, and their close cousin, the fiber optic system, can extend this to millions of volts if necessary. The

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enterprising amateur can even "roll his own" by coupling an LED to a photodiode with a short length of tubing, as shown in fig. 5.

Fig. 6 is a simple analog opto-isolation system. The LED is biased at 50% of its brightness, and the input analog sig-

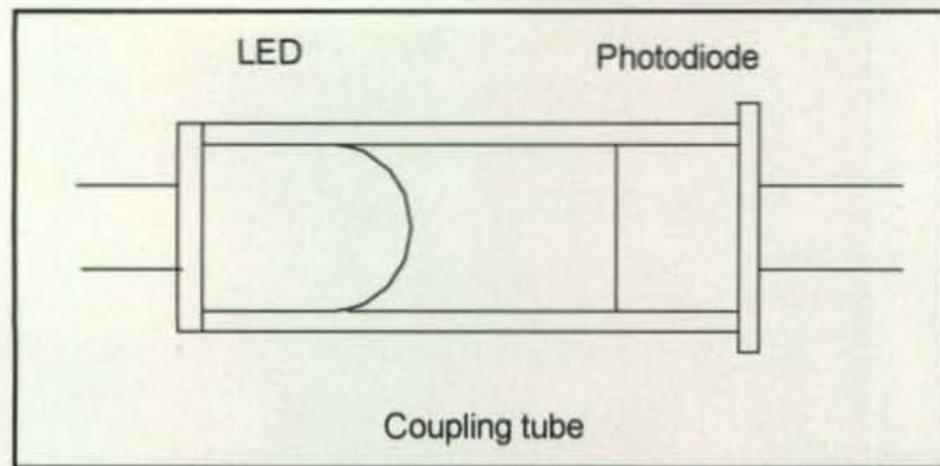


Fig. 5- Homebrew opto-isolator.

nal varies this brightness above and below this quiescent point much like AM modulation of a carrier—except that in this case the carrier is light! The received light is converted by a photodiode/op-amp circuit that reproduces the original signal. If the gains are set properly, the output voltage will very closely match the input voltage. Note that at zero input voltage the LED is at its 50% point and the photodiode output is at 50% of the V_{cc} voltage available. This is the zero point, and an offset voltage equal to this level is required to drop the zero signal output to actual zero.

Fig. 7 shows the digital approach. For logic 0 the LED is off and the first transistor is cut off. This causes the second transistor to conduct, with the result that the output is zero. For logic 1 the LED turns on, the first transistor conducts, and the second transistor cuts off, producing a positive output.

All of the above are simple approaches toward isolation, and all can be optimized for your particular application.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM

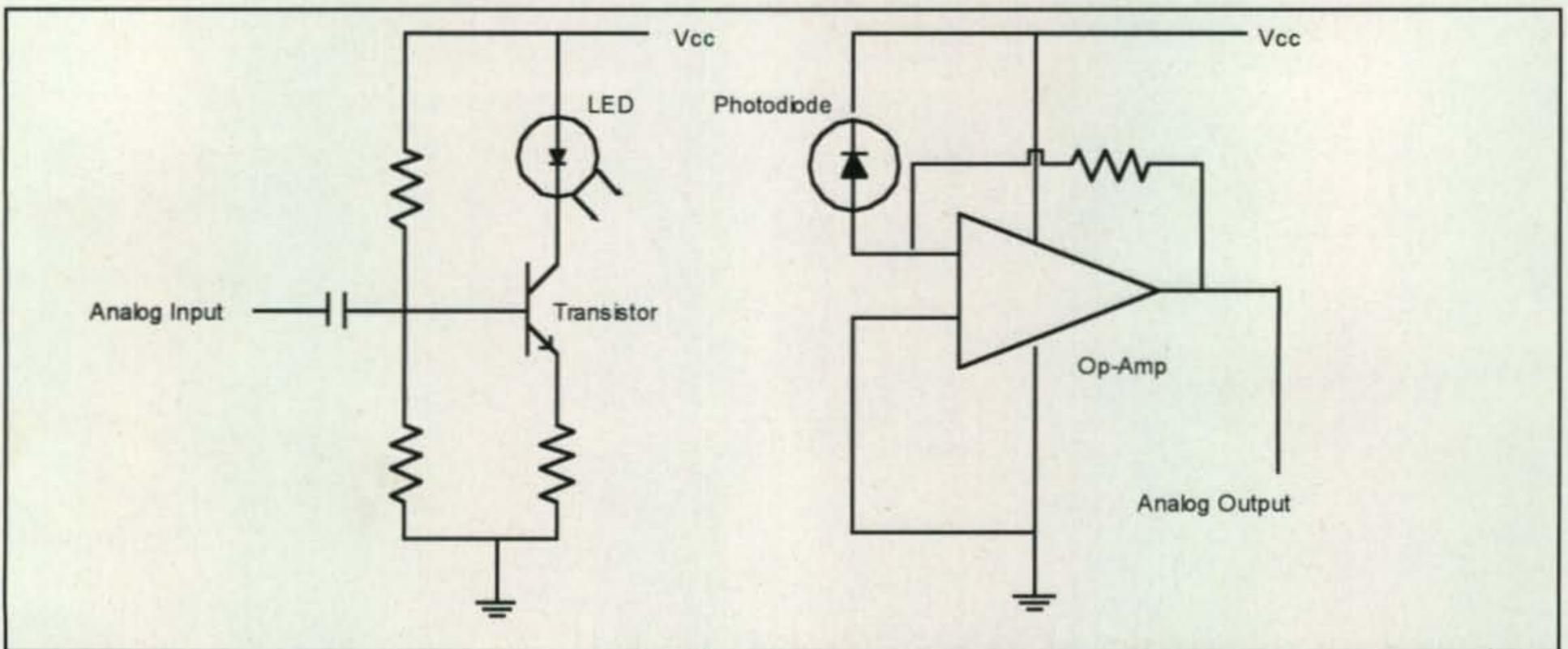


Fig. 6- Analog optical isolation system.

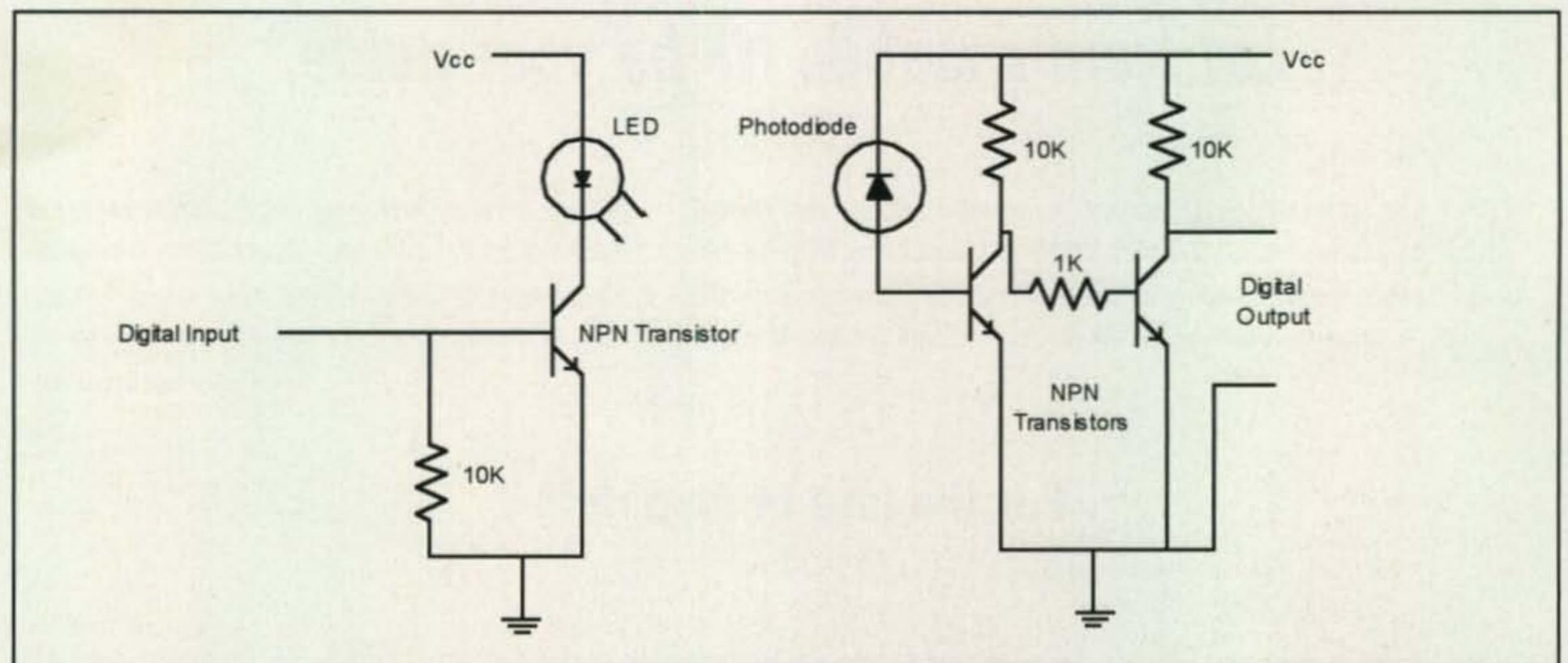


Fig. 7- Digital optical isolation system.

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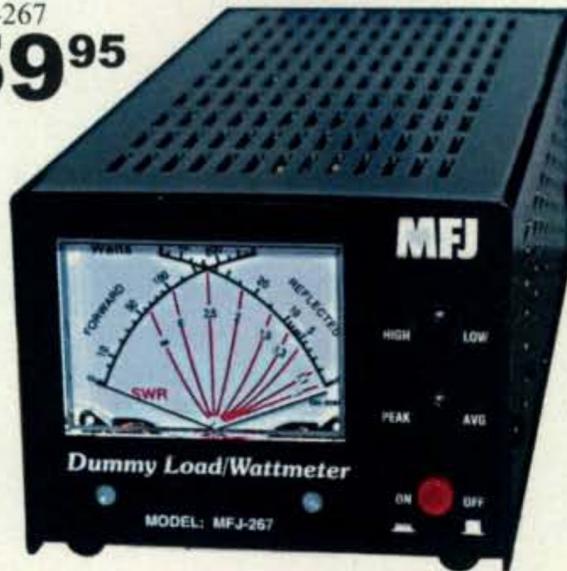
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Amateur Radio License Exams

There is more to them than you realize

The examinations required for the various ham radio licenses have changed many times over the years. First, a little history:

Amateur radio operator licensing has been in effect since December 1912, nearly a century ago. Under authority of the Radio Act of 1912, the Department of Commerce issued two ham operator licenses: Amateur First Grade and Amateur Second Grade. The Amateur First Grade required an essay-type examination and a 5 (later 10) words-per-minute code examination before a Radio Inspector at one of the Department's field offices.

A new top-level license was created in 1923, the Amateur Extra First Grade, which conveyed extra operating privileges. It also required a more difficult written examination and a code test at 20 words per minute.

The Amateur First Grade license was renamed Amateur Class in 1927 and then Amateur First Class in 1932. A year later, the old Federal Radio Commission (FRC) reorganized amateur operator licenses into Classes A, B, and C. In 1951, the FCC converted the A, B, and C classes into six license levels: Novice, Technician, General, Conditional, Advanced, and Extra Classes.

The new Novice Class was limited to a crystal-controlled, 75-watt station and the one-year license term could not be renewed. Novice power was eventually increased to 250 watts and renewal was permitted.

Besides answering multiple-choice exam questions, Novice and Technician Class applicants had to demonstrate 5 words-per-minute code (CW) proficiency. Conditional, General, and Advanced Class applicants had to pass 13 wpm code and Extra Class 20 wpm.

Before 1984, Novice exams were given by volunteers, but all other exams were administered at local Federal Communications Commission (FCC) field offices. The Novice written and code tests were given by a local General (or higher) Class radio amateur. The FCC provided the written exam and graded the test.

Applicants who lived more than 75 miles away from an FCC testing point were also allowed to be examined by a General (or higher) licensee, who would administer the 13-wpm code test, proctor the Element 3 (General Class) written test, and send the completed exam paperwork to the FCC. Successful applicants were issued a "Conditional Class" ticket. Conditional Class licenses were later converted to General in the mid-1970s.

Prior to 1987, the only difference between the requirements for Technician and General licenses was the Morse code test: 5 wpm being required for the Technician; 13 wpm for General. The Element 3 written test was the same for both classes.

The FCC introduced "Novice Enhancement" in 1987. The Element 3 questions were split into two new sections. Element 3A covered VHF theory and 3B, HF. Element 3A became a requirement for the Technician Class and Element 3B for General. Both classes required applicants to have previously passed the Novice Element 2 written exam and 5-wpm code.

The Technician Class license became the first license without Morse code testing, on February 14, 1991. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) regulations still required Morse proficiency for amateur radio operation below 30 MHz, however.

In 1994, Technician Class amateurs who passed a 5-wpm code test gained access to Novice HF privileges and the FCC started calling them "Technician Plus" operators.

Effective April 15, 2000, the FCC simplified the ham radio license structure by reducing the number of written examination elements from five to three and the code tests to only 5 wpm. Written Elements 2/Novice, 3A/Technician, 3B/General, 4A/Advanced, and 4B/Extra were reduced to 2/Technician, 3/General, and 4/Amateur Extra Class. Telegraphy Elements 1A (5 wpm), 1B (13 wpm), and 1C (20 wpm) became Element 1.

The Advanced, Technician Plus, and Novice Class licenses were deemed dispensable and were no longer issued. Existing holders, however, were "grandfathered." That is, they retained their operating privileges and would be allowed to renew their Novice and Advanced licenses indefinitely. Amateurs holding a Tech Plus license had their license renewed as Technician but still retained the 5-wpm code credit.

The Technician license required only passing Element 2. General Class required passing Elements 1, 2, and 3, and the Extra Class required Elements 1, 2, 3, and 4.

In 2003, the ITU changed the International Radio Regulations to allow each country to decide for itself whether Morse code testing should be required. Effective February 23, 2007, the FCC eliminated all (Element 1) telegraphy testing for all U.S. amateur operator licenses.

Regulation of Amateur Radio Operators

Amateur radio is quite different from Citizens Band radio. CBers do not have to pass any examinations nor meet any specific qualifications before being allowed to operate on forty 11-meter channels. Their transmitter power level is limited to 4 watts, communications distance is short, and only FCC-approved radios may be used. Unlike ham operators, CBers are not issued individual station call signs or licenses.

By contrast, ham operators can radiate up to 1500 watts, build and repair their own transmitting equipment, and each is granted an individual operator/station license and unique call sign by the FCC.

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Exam Element	Operator Privileges	Questions in Pool	Effective Until	Questions in Exam	Minimum Passing Score
2	Technician Class	394	June 2014	35	26
3	General Class	456	June 2015	35	26
4	Amateur Extra	738	June 2012	50	37

Table 1—Each written examination consists of a set of questions taken from a pool as shown above. The various question pools are revised on a four-year cycle. Each question pool is valid from July 1 to June 30 four years later. July 1 is selected as the beginning date to coincide with the amateur radio “hamfest” season, which begins with the Dayton Hamvention®, and local school and ham club training classes which historically start in the fall.

Radio amateurs have access to many frequency allocations throughout the RF spectrum, enabling effective communications across a city, a region, a country, a continent, or the whole world. The Amateur Radio Service is an international entity and exists in nearly every country.

The ITU, a specialized agency of the United Nations, is the governing body over worldwide information and communications technologies. Because radio waves do not respect international borders, representatives of nearly 200 countries meet periodically at the Geneva-based ITU to agree on global

telecommunications regulations ... including those pertaining to the Amateur Radio Service.

Both the requirements for and privileges granted to a ham operator vary from country to country, but generally follow the international regulations and standards established by the ITU at World Radio Conferences.

Article 1.56 of the current ITU Radio Regulations contains the international definition of the Amateur Radio Service. It defines ham radio as: “A radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by

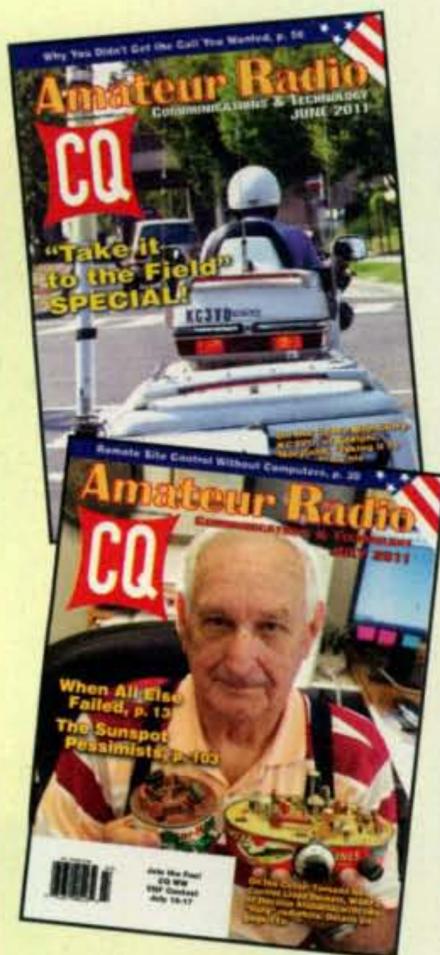
amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.” The FCC’s version goes a step further. It adds that another of the purposes of the Amateur Service is to provide emergency communications.

Both the international and U.S. regulations require that the qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station be verified. This confirmation is accomplished through the passing of various examinations.

Section S25.6(2) of the International Radio Regulations specifically states that “Administrations shall verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station. Guidance for standards of competence may be found in the most recent version of Recommendation ITU-R M.1544.”

This recommendation states “...that any person seeking a license to operate an amateur station should demonstrate theoretical knowledge of both international and domestic Radio Regulations, methods of radiocommunication, radio system theory (transmitters, receivers, antennas, propagation and measurements), radio emission safety,

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electromagnetic compatibility and avoidance and resolution of radio frequency interference."

Section 303(l)(1) of the U.S. Communications Act of 1934 requires the FCC to issue licenses only to persons it finds qualified. There is no statute that allows the Commission to grant any individual an exemption from the licensing requirements stated in Section 97.501 of the FCC's Amateur Radio Rules. This regulation provides that applicants for new amateur operator license grants—or for a change in operator class—must pass one or more specified examinations.

An amateur radio license is tangible evidence that a person is qualified to operate a radio transmitter on certain radio frequencies and that the holder has agreed to comply with the operating and technical parameters specified in the rules for that particular class of license.

Operation of an individual ham station requires an amateur operator license "grant" from the FCC. We say "grant," because you are licensed as a ham operator as soon as your callsign hits the FCC's computer system and is posted to its website. You do not have to wait for the actual paper license document to arrive before beginning your operation on the ham bands. Your paper license document that the FCC sends you is not even needed; it's the listing in the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) that counts. The fact is that no FCC enforcement agent has ever asked a ham operator to show his/her license.

Before receiving a license grant, you must pass one or more examinations to determine your operator class. A major reason for an examination is to ensure that potential licensees are fully aware of the interference potential and RF and electrical safety hazards of radio equipment.

Generally, the higher the class of license, the more frequencies and operating privileges are available to the applicant. Earning each higher class license requires passing a more difficult examination and each license must be obtained in order.

Ham Radio Exams Privatized

In the early 1980s, mainly due to budgetary constraints, a general trend toward privatization 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. The new testing procedure came to be known as the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator System, or for short, the VEC System.

In 1983, banks of multiple-choice license questions were developed by the FCC. Five different question pools from which the various examination questions would be drawn were produced for the five license classes in existence at the time.

Although regulated by the FCC, amateur radio license exams are now administered by volunteer groups of ham operators operating under supervisory organizations called Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. VEC organizations act as the link between the Volunteer Examiner (VE) testing teams and the FCC, which grants the station/operator license.

Today there are more than a dozen VECs and thousands of VEC-certified volunteer examiners. VEs must be 18 years old, have a squeaky-clean radio enforcement record, and hold an amateur radio license of a class higher than the examinee (if one exists).

The various examinations are administered by a team of three volunteer examiners who determine the license operator class for which you are qualified. The VEs grade the various tests and report the results to their VEC. If you have suc-

cessfully completed the required exams, the VEC will electronically file your license application with the FCC over the internet.

The VECs have their own amateur radio application form which they call the NCVEC Form 605. This is because the FCC's version is not suitable for use by the VEC System. The NCVEC Form 605 is available at all examination sessions. By law, you must provide your Social Security number (SSN) to the FCC before you can be granted a license.

Once the FCC receives the filing, your new license grant will be posted to its Universal Licensing System (ULS) website at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>. U.S. ham radio licenses are valid for a 10-year term and can be renewed indefinitely without cost.

Most new amateur radio operators start with the entry-level Technician Class operator license. Some newcomers, however, begin at the General Class. A few even begin at the Amateur Extra Class.

The Question Pools

In 1986, the FCC turned over maintenance of the written exam question pools to the Volunteer Examiner Coordinators. In turn, the VECs elected an internal Question Pool Committee (QPC) to update each question pool. Using Recommendation ITU-R M.1544 as guidance, there are ten topics—or sub-elements—covered in each of the Element 2, 3, and 4 question pools.

FCC Section 97.523 requires that only one question pool may exist for each license examination level and each must contain at least ten times the number of questions required for a single examination (see Table I). Furthermore "Each question pool must be published and made available to the public prior to its use for making a question set."

Every question set administered to an examinee is selected by the VE team or a VEC-provided computer program that randomly selects the appropriate number of questions from each sub-element. You receive a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) when you score a passing grade. If you already have been granted a license and callsign, the CSCE authorizes you to immediately begin using your newly upgraded operating privileges.

The questions and multiple-choice answers that appear on your written examination are taken word-for-word from the appropriate pool. There are nearly 1600 questions total in the three pools. These banks of questions are

revised and updated periodically by the VEC's Question Pool Committee to incorporate the latest rules, new technology, and interests of the amateur community.

Your written examination establishes your level of operational and technical ability in performing properly the duties of an Amateur Radio Service licensee. Once you pass an examination element you do not have to retake it. For example, a Technician Class ham needs only pass Element 3 to upgrade to General. (*Exception:* If your license has been expired for more than two years, in most cases you will need to retake any previously passed exam elements. There is a petition currently before the FCC to give lifetime credit for elements passed, but it has not yet been acted upon.)

The National Conference of VECs (NCVEC) has the current Element 2/Technician, Element 3/General, and Element 4/Extra Class question pools (complete with the correct answer identified) on its website at <http://www.ncvec.org/>. You can even take free practice amateur radio exams at <http://aa9pw.com/radio/> and <http://www.qrz.com/testing.html>.

Most amateur radio examinations are coordinated by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL VEC) or the W5YI VEC. Together they account for about 85 percent of all applicants tested. Both list examination location information on the following websites: <http://www.arrl.org/finding-an-exam-session> or http://www.w5yi.org/exam_locations_ama.php. Merely insert your state or zip code to find the nearest examination site. Some other VECs also list their upcoming exams on their website.

Your VE may charge you a reimbursement fee (\$15.00) for their out-of-pocket expenses incurred in preparing, processing, administering, or coordinating your examination. This fee is paid to the VE team when you take the exam.

It is important that you prepare for your examination by studying material based upon the question pools currently in use. These training instructions are usually in the form of audio and video tapes, manuals and books, and computer and live classroom courses.

Your operating authority begins when your license grant information appears in the Amateur Radio Service licensing information, available by searching the Universal Licensing System (ULS). These searches allow the viewing of pending applications and granted license information.

73, Fred, W5YI

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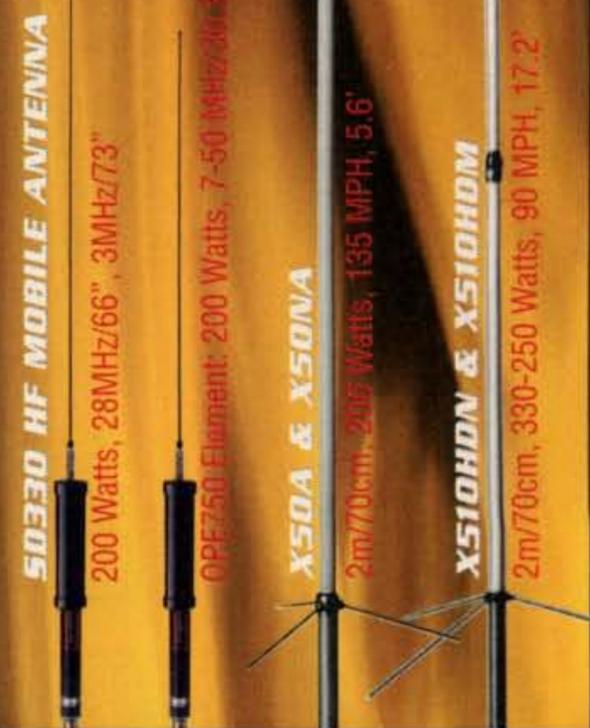
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Homebrewing and Kits: A Century-Old Ham Tradition

One of the really cool things about QRP (under-5-watt ham radio) is the homebrewing side of this facet of our hobby. QRP and homebuilt gear go hand in hand, just like cake and ice cream! Seriously, I doubt that there are many QRPers who do not build at least some of their own gear and/or accessories. What is it that draws these low-power denizens of the ham bands to engage in the “lost art” of homebrewing ham radio equipment?

For one thing, it is the ability to produce a working piece of amateur radio gear that they have built with their own hands. Another aspect is the idea that they can communicate on a worldwide scale (when propagation allows) using gear they have built in their own shacks! Finally, not everyone can do it, nor does everyone want to do it. Basically, it's a pride in accomplishment kind of thing.

Where did this homebrewing idea really begin? Glad you asked. Back at the turn of the last century, homebrewing was the only way that a radio experimenter (read that “radio amateur”) could put a signal on the air. Early amateur radio operators had to build their own gear in order to participate in this new horizon in physics called “radio.” Looking through old issues of *QST* you can see all sorts of RF-radiating “contraptions” that were used in 1914 and later. Some of them were true “widow makers” in that they could easily kill the operator if one were to place one's hands in the wrong place!

To further illustrate this point, my friend Hal, N4GG, undertook a retro-project. He built a working 1/2-KW rotary spark gap transmitter circa 1910–1915 (photo A). Hal nicknamed his creation “Blue Lightning” and for good reason! I have seen

this early ham radio transmitter in action at several local ham radio club meetings in the Atlanta area and it is, in one word, *impressive!* There is a certain ambiance about a working rotary spark gap that one should experience at least once in a ham radio lifetime. To hear and feel that “evil hiss” of the spark making-and-breaking as the rotary disk spins when the key is pressed and to smell the ozone is truly a magical moment. Then there is the eerie blue-white spark that emanates across the spark gap each time the key is closed. All this adds up to a unique ham radio experience. This is how they did it in the old days. Listening to Hal's warnings regarding the lethality of Blue Lightning conjures up visions of the very early days of our ham radio hobby and what it must have been like for those who were pushing the boundaries of communications technology at the time.

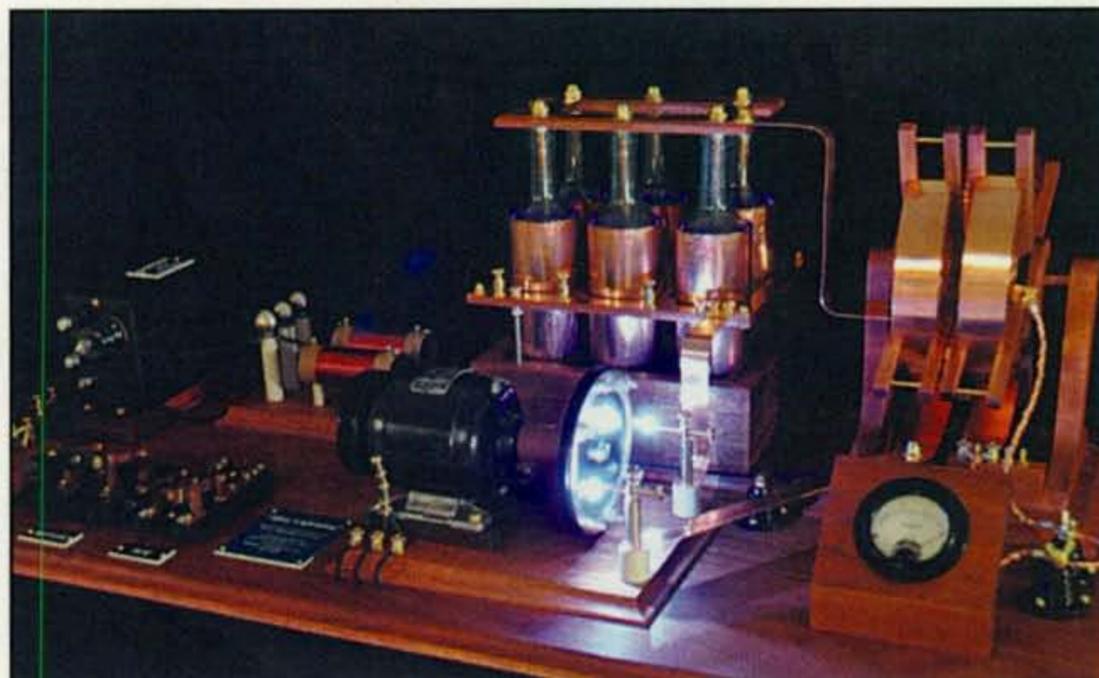
From Homebrew to Kits

The granddaddy of all kit companies was Heath Company in Benton Harbor, Michigan. It ruled the kit building world for nearly five decades and produced some of the most useful and prolific kits for amateur radio operators during that time. How did the Heath Company get its start? Glad you asked.

In 1912 Edward Heath of Chicago started a small company, the E.B. Heath Aerial Vehicle Co., and in 1926 began selling a single-engine light aircraft in kit form. Heath died in 1931 and the company reorganized and moved from Chicago to Niles, Michigan. By 1935 it was bankrupt and was rescued by Howard Anthony. He revived the company by selling accessories for light aircraft. After World War II, the Heath Company entered the electronics industry. The idea was to buy a large stock of surplus wartime electronic parts and repackage them as kits for various projects. In 1947 Heath introduced its first electronic kit, the

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

*Photo A—Hal Kennedy, N4GG, built this beautiful reproduction of a 1/2-KW rotary spark-gap transmitter circa 1910. This photo shows the rig running at about 200–300W output (there are 2000 AMPS across that arc!). Not only is it pretty to look at and watch in operation, it is a real thrill to hear the spark jumping every time the key is closed. The smell of ozone adds to the suspense!
(Photo courtesy ARRL; used by permission)*



O1 oscilloscope which sold for \$50, an unbeatable price for the time. The oscilloscope went on to become a huge seller, paving the way for a myriad of future kits covering all aspects of the consumer electronics and radio hobby industry during the next four decades.

I can remember building many of the Heathkits during my early years in ham radio. The GR-81 super-regenerative shortwave receiver was my first Heathkit build. The HR-10 (previously covered in this column) was my second try at a Heathkit. In 1973 Heathkit entered the QRP facet of our hobby with the release of its iconic HW-7 multi-band, CW QRP transceiver. The "Hot Water Seven" was my first QRP kit and I had a lot of fun with it. Heathkit followed the HW-7 with the HW-8 a couple of years later. The HW-8 had a much improved direct-conversion receiver, covered four bands (80/40/20/15 meters), had semi-break in keying, and between 1.5 and 3 watts output depending upon the band in use. The HW-8 holds the unofficial title of "the most modified Heathkit in history." My old friend, Mike Bryce, WB8VGE, publishes the *Hot Water Handbook*, detailing mods for the HW-7, HW-8, and HW-9 QRP rigs.

Honestly, I have lost count of the number of HW-8s I've owned and modified, but that number is sizeable! Currently I have two in my work area. One is await-

ing restoration and the other is strictly for parts, since there are virtually no spares available unless you cannibalize a non-working HW-8. Heath's final entry into the QRP arena was the much improved HW-9, which offered a super-het receiver and covered all nine HF bands.

The Kit is Dead! Long Live the Kit!

In the mid 1990s Heathkit got out of the electronic kit business and now concentrates on educational media. The loss was immediately felt by the entire ham radio community, especially the QRP fraternity. In a way, the demise of the Heathkit dynasty was a blessing, although many of us didn't look at it that way at the time. The dearth of ham radio kits from Benton Harbor created a major void within the ham radio hobby.

This void was quickly filled by QRPers themselves. In no particular order: Northern California (NorCal) QRP Club, New Jersey QRP Club, American QRP Club, QRP Amateur Radio Club International, Ft. Smith QRP Club, Ramsey Electronics, Vectronics, and others designed and kitted simple CW-only QRP kits and accessories.

One of the members of the NorCal group, Wayne Burdick, N6KR, offered a design he whipped up on a napkin at a NorCal meeting to Doug Hendricks,

K16DS, one of the prime movers in NorCal. Doug promptly took the design, had it built and beta tested, and then offered the NorCal 40 as an inexpensive 40-meter CW transceiver kit. It was a very impressive kit and provided many of us countless hours of enjoyment working the 40-meter band. An upgraded version of this kit is currently sold by Bob "QRP Bob" Dyer, K6KK, of Wilderness Radio (<http://www.fix.net/~jparker/wild.html>). Bob also has two other N6KR designs, the Sierra multi-band QRP rig that has been featured in many issues of the *ARRL Handbook* and the QRP "Cult Classic," the SST. The NC-40A, the Wilderness Radio version of the NorCal 40, is also used by a California Institute of Technology engineering school as an undergraduate project for its students. Now *that* is something for the record books!

The Burdick/Hendricks connection spawned two very interesting kit manufacturers: Doug Hendricks founded Hendricks QRP Kits (<http://www.qrpkits.com/>), which offers some very interesting and inexpensive pieces of QRP shackware.

Wayne went on to form Elecraft (www.elecraft.com) with Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, in Aptos, California. In the event you have been living under a rock for the last ten years, Elecraft has some of the most innovative kit radios and accessories in all of ham radio!

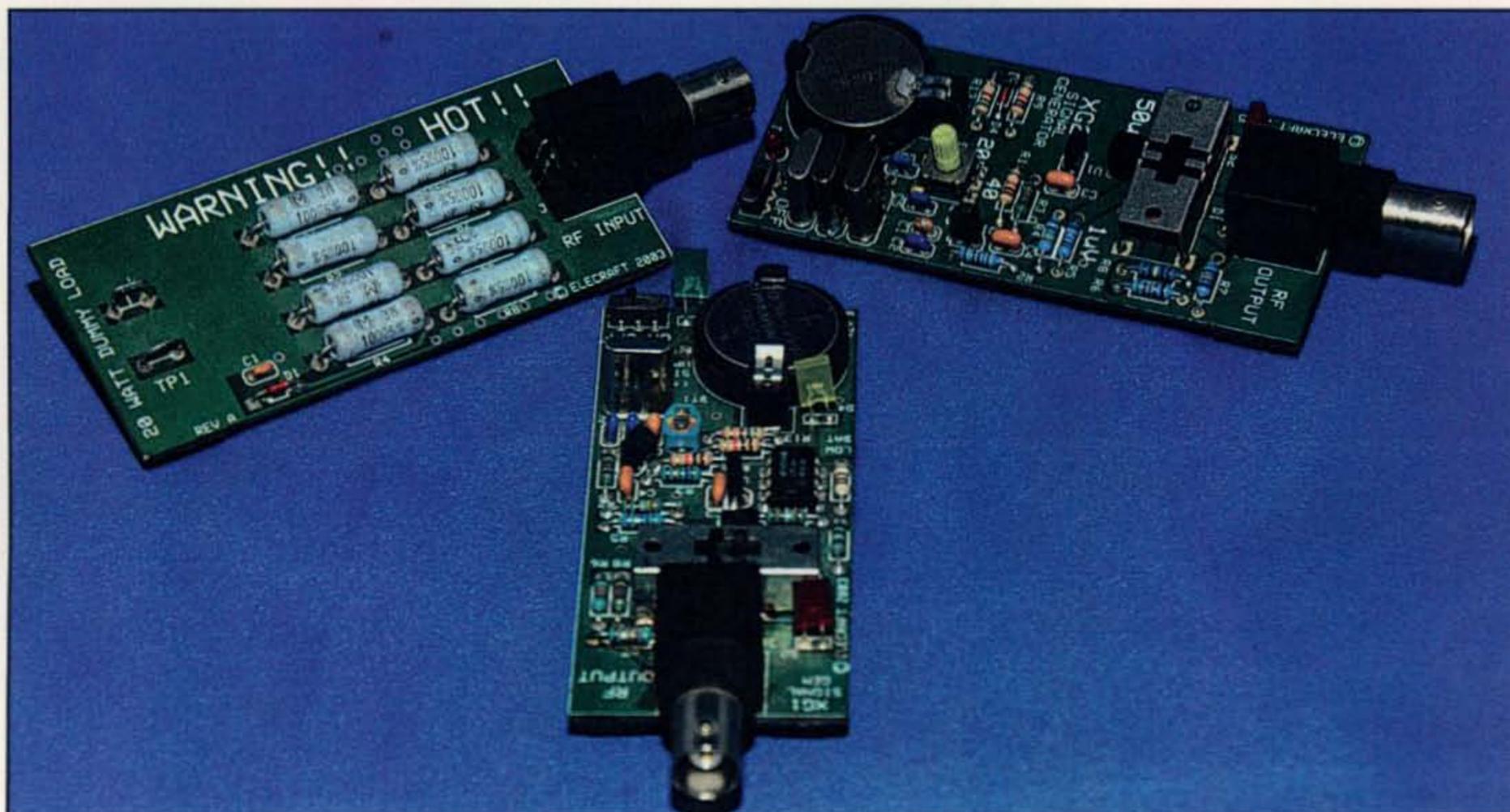


Photo B— Elecraft not only manufactures great transceiver kits but also offers a wide selection of small "kitlets" designed to augment your homebrew/test bench. Left to right: 50-ohm dummy load, XG-1 40-meter signal generator with dual outputs, XG-2 80/40/20-meter signal generator with dual outputs.

One of the problems with Heathkit radios was that their success rested upon the talent of the person doing the construction. More problems in Heath rigs were traced to poor soldering techniques than any other single thing. Repeatability in performance was always an issue with Heath gear.

Elecraft rigs have been designed from the drawing board up to offer a simple-to-build radio with exceptional specifications and repeatability in design and performance (see photo B). Additionally, the Elecraft design wizards have gone above and beyond to offer unique and cutting-edge (bleeding-edge?) technology in the form of their K2 and K3 transceivers. Having built two K2s and just recently completed the build on my first K3, I can say with authority that building an Elecraft kit is a very, very rewarding experience. To gild the lily, several K2 and K3 reviews favorably compare both radio sets with imported radios costing many times more. In the case of the K3, the receiver specs are superior to imported rigs costing over \$10,000! And it's a *kit*! I will be devoting a future column to the K3. Right now I have a steep learning curve ahead of me trying to figure out how to drive that rig!

OK, we have explored a bit of the history behind homebrewing ham radio gear, so now it is time to check out some really cool rigs that are readily available to anyone wanting to enjoy the art of building their own gear.

My Kit-Building Projects

First we'll go "retro" and showcase the AMECO AC-1 "clone," the GB-1 (short for "glow-bug," a nickname for tube-type QRP radios from the 1950s and '60s). My GB-1 came to me as a partial kit—punched chassis with the tube sockets, antenna connector, and two variable capacitors already mounted. I added a high-voltage transformer from Antique Electronics Supply (<http://www.tubesandmore.com/>) along with some of the high-voltage capacitors needed in the rig. The rest of the "stuff" I had in the junk box. *Note:* A well-stocked "junk box" is almost essential for anyone interested in homebrewing their ham gear. You will start small but soon have multiple pull-drawer parts cabinets along with boxes of radio-related "stuff," so don't sweat the small stuff; get busy and start collecting miscellaneous parts and start building your junk box.

As you can see in photo C, the GB-1 turned out very well, and it works great. This CW-only rig has an RF output of about 5–6 watts on 40 meters, keys very

well with no clicks or chirps, and is a pleasure to use. I have FT-243 style crystals covering both 80 and 40 meters, so all I really have to do is wind the 80-meter coil for this tiny rig to have a two-band transmitter. I use this rig in conjunction with my vintage Drake 2B tube-type receiver whenever I need to relive the old days of my ham radio youth!

Shown in photo D are my two Heathkit HW-8s. Believe it or not, the grungy rig with the bad cosmetics is my restoration unit and the better-looking HW-8 is the parts rig! The grungy rig is fully electrically functional and only needs a swap out of the front panel, knobs, and case clamshells to become fully restored. Rest assured, however, that there are a few mods I intend to put into this rig, including a working audio-

derived S-meter, upgraded active audio CW filter, and dial lights, along with an upgrade to the antenna and power connectors. One thing I will hasten to add regarding mods to the HW-8: If you are planning on restoring/modding/using an HW-8, be sure to install some type of reverse-power-polarity protection. The North Georgia QRP Club (NoGA: www.nogaqrp.org/) has a nifty little inexpensive kit called the NoGA PIG (Power Indicator/Guard) which provides over/under and low-voltage protection along with reverse-polarity protection! Trust me; it's worth the expense to add a PIG to your HW-8. Try finding those old ICs and transistors today! Ergo, the reason for the second HW-8 as a parts rig.

The next kit we'll examine is a preci-

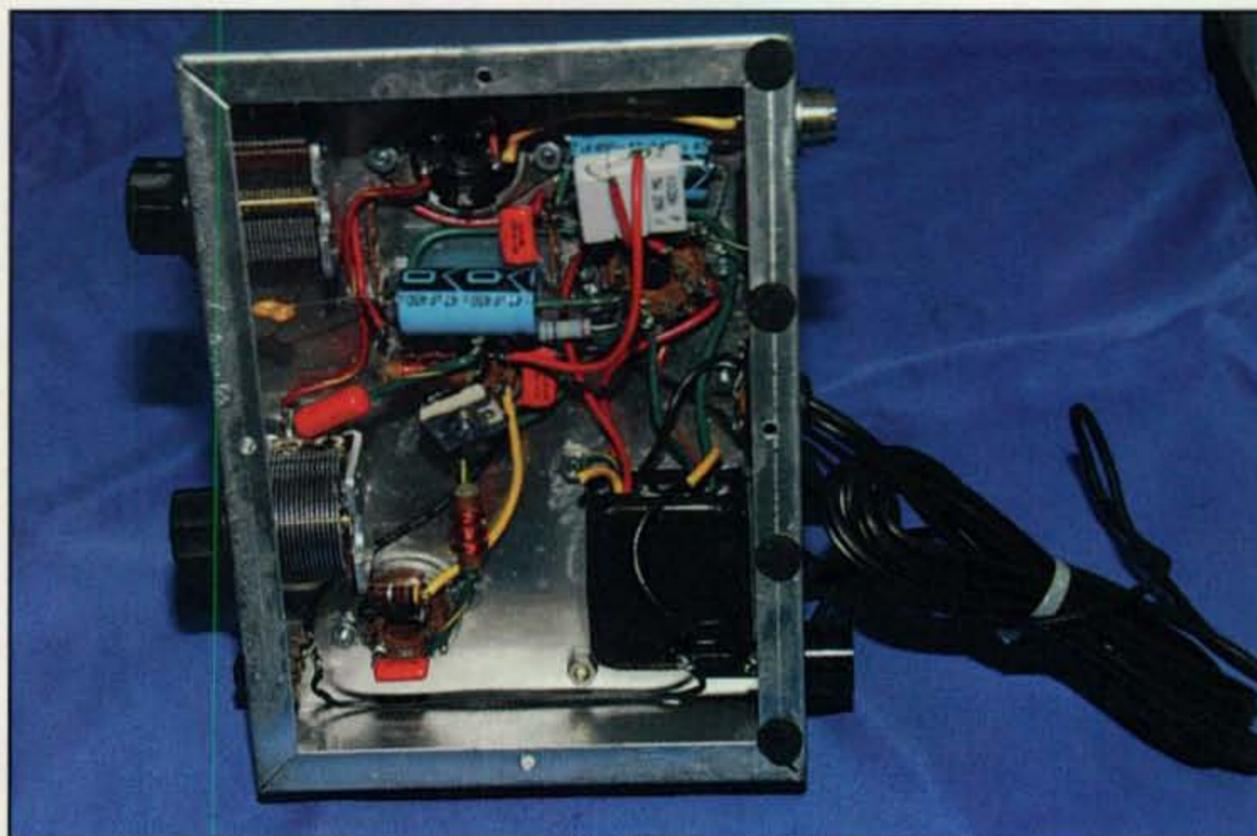


Photo C— These are shots of my Glow-Bug-1 clone of the popular AMECO AC-1 80/40-meter CW transmitter kit of the 1950s/60s. This kit was a great experience to build, as it brought back many fond memories of my early days in ham radio. Alas, this clone-kit is no longer available, but check out the internet auction sites. Occasionally one will turn up at a reasonable price.



Photo D— Two Heathkit HW-8s on the author's bench. The grungy-looking one is being restored, using parts from the nicer-looking (but not repairable) "parts rig."

sion frequency counter from M³ (pronounced "M Cubed"). Unfortunately, M³ is no longer in business. Mike Doty, W1MNE, one of the "three Mikes" in M³, advised me that they disbanded the company in June of 2010. However, I had several kits that Mike had provided me for my building pleasure. The freq counter was the kit I reviewed for *QST* several years ago. A quality precision counter good from DC to the gigahertz range is one very handy piece of test gear. The M3 kits (I've built three of them) go together without a hitch; just read the instructions thoroughly and, once calibrated, they are great additions to the test equipment on the workbench.

Finally, my newest acquisition, the Elecraft K3 mentioned above. It took me about eight hours to "build" this kit. This is a definite departure from previous Elecraft kits in that the majority of the construction takes the form of mounting sub-systems and daughter boards into the RF board or "mother" board and constructing the case. While there is no soldering with the K3 kit, it is a very detailed build, and my first word of caution regarding this kit is to thoroughly read *all* the instructions in the builder's manual. This includes the configuration and alignment sections. Without a doubt the most involved portion of the K3 build was doing a parts inventory. That took nearly two hours alone! Do not attempt to build the K3 *until* you do the parts inventory. You have so many different types and lengths of screws, lock washers, and standoffs that you can easily confuse some of them, which will result in problems and possibly cause damage to the K3 when power is applied.

I haven't explored the brave new world of software-defined-radio (SDR) kits, but that will be the subject for an entire column in the not-too-distant future. For now, I'm out of space and need to get this column on the wire to Hicksville. Until next time, have fun, explore the homebrewing side of the radio hobby, and I'll look for you on the bands.

73, Rich, K7SZ

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- RF Sensing
- Tunes Automatically
- No Interface Cables Needed



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 six foot DC power cable.

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 six foot DC power cable.

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.

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 six foot DC power cable. **Suggested Price \$159.99**

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Suggested Price \$199.99

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



- RF Sensing
- Tunes Automatically
- No Interface Cables Needed

AT-100Proll

This desktop tuner covers all frequencies from 1.8 - 54 MHz (including 6 meters), and will automatically match your antenna in no time. It features a two-position antenna switch with LEDs, allowing you to switch instantly between two antennas. The AT-100Proll requires just 1 watt for operation, but will handle up to 125 watts. Includes six foot DC power cable.

Suggested Price \$229.99

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 customer 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

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.

Suggested Price \$249.99



Designed to handle the higher power of the Tokyo Hi Power HL-45B.

NEW! Z-817H

The ultimate autotuner for QRP radios including the Yaesu FT-817(D) with addition of the Tokyo High Power HL-45B. The Z-817H interfaces to the CAT port (ACC) on the back of the radio with the provided cable. Tuning could not be simpler; one button push on the tuner and the Z-817H takes care of the rest. Switch to PKT mode, transmit a carrier, tune the tuner, then restore the radio to the previous mode! The CAT thru port on the back allows connection to the THP HL-45B for automatic band selection on the amp. The Z-817H will also function as a general purpose antenna tuner with other QRP radios or QRP radios with up to 75 watt HF amps. Powered by four AA internal Alkaline batteries (not included), so there are no additional cables required. 2000 memories cover 160 through 6 meters. Latching relays, so power consumption is Zero when not tuning.

Suggested Price \$159.99



AT-1000Pro

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

Suggested Price \$599

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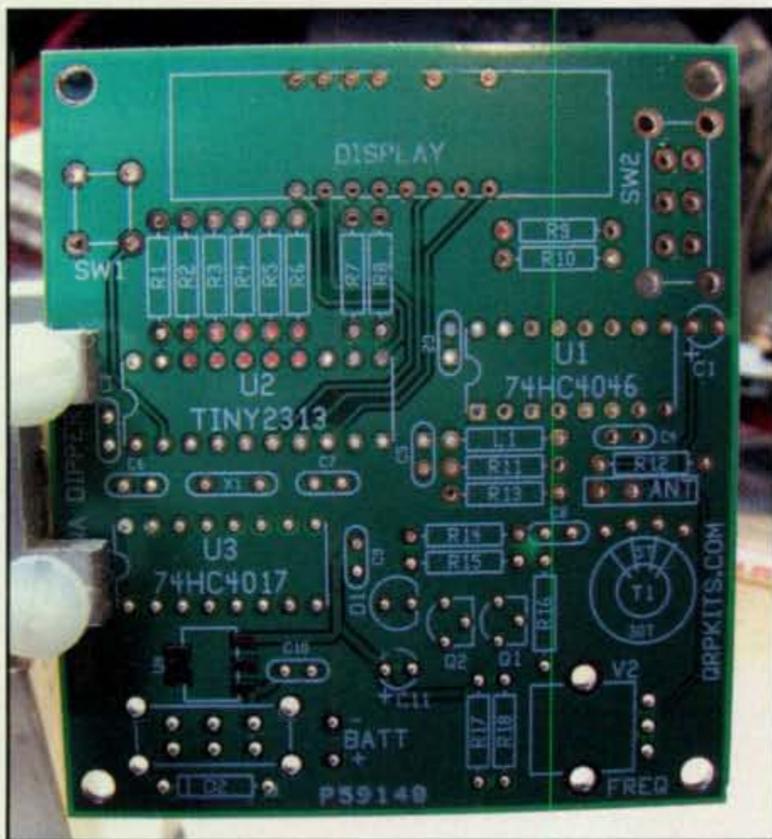
New Kits at Dayton

Every year, the Dayton Hamvention® brings with it a variety of new kits for amateur radio operators. This year was no exception.

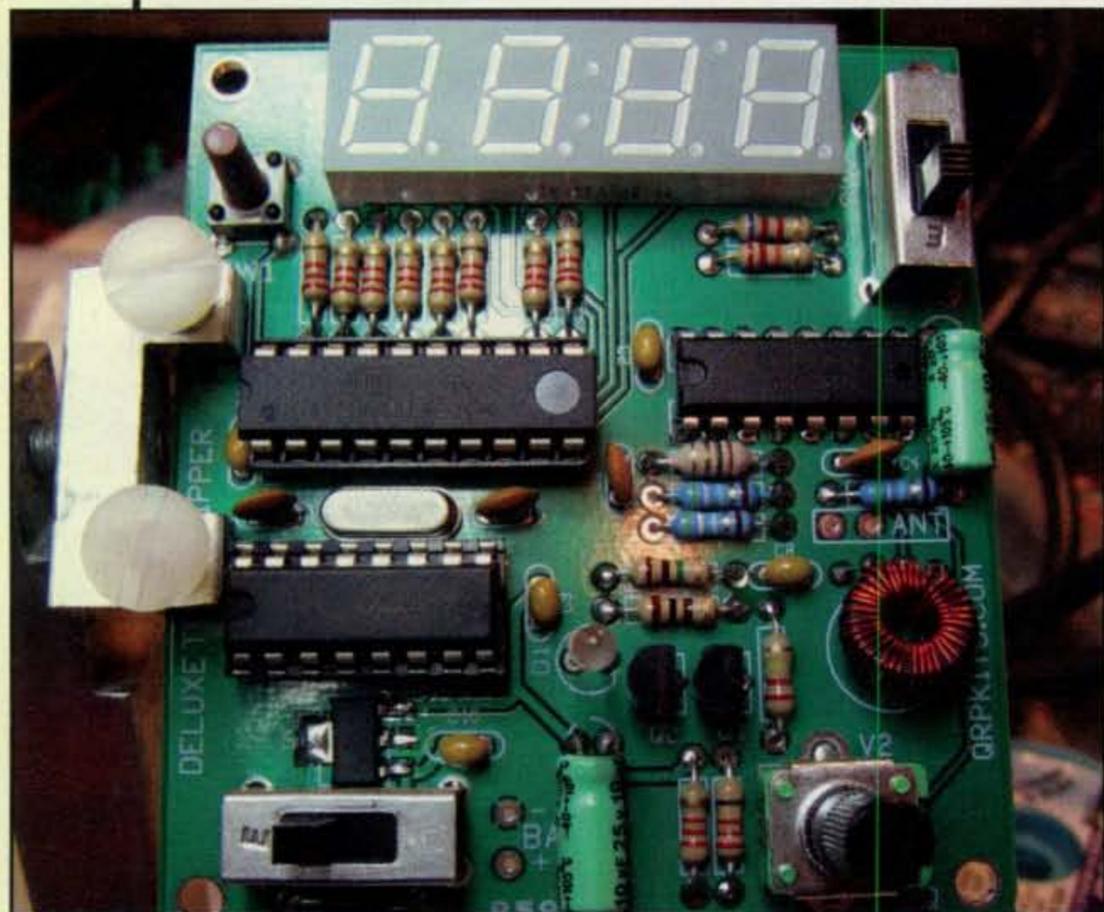
Deluxe Tenna Dipper

One of the kits introduced at Dayton is the Hendricks Deluxe Tenna Dipper kit, which was the first to hit my bench. This kit is a wonderful addition to the tool bag of any ham who needs to tune or test an HF antenna. The Deluxe Tenna Dipper is handheld in size and provides a very quick and simple way to test the resonant frequency of an HF antenna at home or in the field. It operates from the 160-meter

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e-mail: <k0neb@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Deluxe Tenna Tuner board ready for assembly.



band to 10 meters in two overlapping ranges. Mine goes from about 1.8 MHz to 31 MHz.

This kit is based on a previous kit sold by the 4-State QRP Group called the Tenna Dipper, and both were designed by Steve Weber, KD1JV. The original kit worked in the same fashion as the new one, but output its tuned frequency in Morse code. The way it worked was to connect the unit to the antenna in question and tune it until the red LED went dim or completely out. The user then pushed the button and read the frequency in code. It made the kit inexpensive and small, but unless you were good at reading code, it had little appeal. The Deluxe Tenna Dipper operates much the same, but displays the frequency in a bright, four-character LED digital display. It still has the bright red LED which indicates when you have found the resonant frequency. The circuit operates somewhat like a Wheatstone bridge does for measuring unknown resistances, and when the load in question approaches 50 ohms, the light goes out. For most antennas—such as verticals, beams, and dipoles—the light indeed often can go completely out when tuned to the resonant frequency, or multiple frequencies on multiband antennas. With antennas such as the popular G5RV design, the light may sometimes only dim, but not go out, when it approaches a resonant frequency, meaning the resonant point is not quite 50 ohms. This is why an antenna tuner is often necessary when using this type of antenna.

Assembly of this kit takes about 2½ to 3 hours if you also take the time to place the supplied decals on the case, a process that should be completed before the rest of the final assembly. An alternative to the decal procedure is to use a label-making device such as the Brother P-Touch series to produce labels for the front panel. Using their clear tape with black lettering option, you can produce very good front-panel labels without having to go through the longer decal-application procedure.

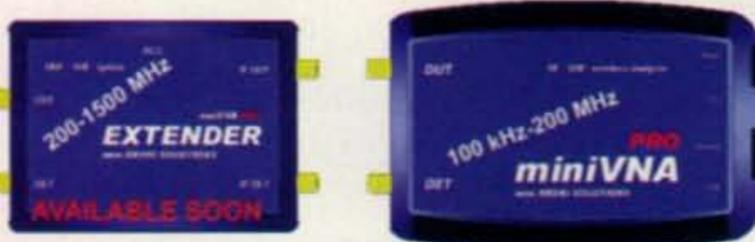
After you have sorted the parts, assembly on the well-marked board begins with a single surface-mount part, a voltage regulator. This part is very easy to install, following the directions in the manual. You can use the same soldering iron you use to assemble the rest of the kit, and placement of this part is very easy, as it is not too small. After this part, assembly begins with the resistors, followed by the capacitors, diodes, and other semiconductors, and then the switches. Placing the finished kit into the included case is very easy, with just four screws. Be prepared to supply six AA batteries to power it up and you are ready! I found that I was able to hold a general-coverage HF receiver next to it and hear its signal as I tuned near where the receiver was listening to verify the accuracy of the readout in the Deluxe Tenna Dipper. Using the extra resistor supplied with the kit, you can test the Dipper's reaction when a 50-ohm load is connect-

Deluxe Tenna Tuner board with all components mounted. Note the surface-mount part on the lower left part of the board.

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ed. I also had a 50-ohm BNC LAN terminator handy, which worked perfectly. There is a front-panel button to increase the precision of the frequency display from 10 kHz to 100 Hz, but I didn't find it necessary to use that precise readout to get my Pac-12 portable vertical antenna tuned where I wanted to operate.

This kit sells for \$75 and is available from Hendricks Kits at <<http://www.qrp-kits.com>>. (For more on this kit, also see this month's "QRP" column—ed.)

Elecraft KX-3

A big eye-opener at Dayton was the introduction by Elecraft of a transceiver kit that combines the front panel of the K3 with the portability of the KX-1. The new KX-3, which will be available by late 2011, is a modular kit that requires no soldering. The boards come pre-assembled, and the builder assembles the case and mounts all of the boards and component assemblies into it and performs the final adjustments. It features all-mode operation and many of the features of the K3 in a very small and portable case. You can see more information on the upcoming Elecraft KX-3 at <<http://www.elecraft.com>>.

No trip to Dayton would be complete

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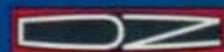
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Deluxe Tenna Tuner completed but before decals are applied. You can use the provided decals or save time using a labeling kit with clear tape (see text).

without a stop at Four Days In May, the annual QRP gathering. At FDIM, I got to see first hand the new SS-40 40-meter CW receiver kit offered by the 4-State QRP Group. This kit has 150 parts, so it is not a quick one-evening build, but all parts are through-hole except, again, for one lone surface-mount part that is easy to install. What sets apart this receiver kit is its high performance specs, which include -132



Buildathon at Four Days In May (FDIM) assembling the "Sudden Squall" QRP transceiver kit.

dBm sensitivity, great selectivity provided by a crystal IF filter, and an extremely low noise floor, making it easier to hear those weak signals. Combine all of this performance with practically no drift, and you have a very affordable and high-performance receiver for 40 meters CW for only \$50. You can download the manual or order this kit from 4SQRP at <http://www.4sqrp.com>.

Also at FDIM, I was pleased to see a large group of kit builders in the Thursday evening buildathon putting together Rex Harper, W1REX's "Little Squall" CW transceiver kit. In addition, I was honored to participate in Rex's first-ever simultaneous online stream-

ing video kit-build session held at FDIM. Hams from all over the world had their Crystal Checker kits mailed to them and participated via video streaming and online chat room in the step-by-step construction at the same time as a group at FDIM. This simple kit was made so that the online participants would solder their parts to the board while builders with Rex at FDIM could simply plug their parts into sockets on the board. A 100% success rate was achieved! Once completed, the kits fit perfectly into an Altoids® tin. Rex also introduced a fun, simple QRP dummy-load kit designed for those in-hotel QSO parties that are popular at QRP hamfests. This kit, designed to act as a 50-ohm load to a low-power transmitter and yet radiate enough RF for near-field communications, sells for \$10 and is available at <http://www.qrpm.com> as the "Dummy Load Construction Set."

Summary

This year at Dayton it was wonderful to see so many new kits offered and hear of many new ones on the horizon. If you hear of any new kits, be sure to e-mail me and I'll check them out!

As always, I returned home from Dayton with kits to build, tired feet, and lots of digital photos. You can see all of my Dayton slide-show compilations at <http://www.youtube.com/joehusker>, and one of the 2011 shows not on YouTube is at <http://www.vimeo.com/24390342>.

See you at the Huntsville Hamfest in August!
73 de Joe, KØNEB



Prototype of the new Elecraft KX-3 portable all-mode transceiver kit.

Good Things Come in Small Boxes

A Chat with Designer KD1JV, plus Two QRP Rig Mini-Reviews

By their very nature, QRP things come in QRP-sized containers, whether they are boxes, cans or tins. This month we highlight some small items and have a talk with a small-radio designer.

Steve "Melt Solder" Weber, KD1JV

Chances are good that if you're an active QRPer, you've heard of Steve Weber, KD1JV. Mr. "Melt Solder" has been designing and selling his own variety of innovative small radios and accessories for several years.

Steve is an avid backpacker, and as such he tries to hike a segment of the Appalachian Trail every year. Several years ago, he decided to build a small rig that he could operate from camp in the evenings. His goal was to build a rig small and light enough that it wouldn't be a burden to carry long distances, yet have enough features to make it truly useful. The result of his efforts was a radio that met his immediate goals, but as we now know, it turned out to be so much more than that.

The little transceiver featured a DDS (direct digital synthesis) based VFO and was small enough to fit in an Altoids® tin. After giving it the requisite field trials, he bragged about it on the QRP-L e-mail reflector. Surprisingly, quite a few guys liked the idea and bugged him about making it into a kit and selling it.

The one he had made for himself was not reproducible in kit form. Lots of work went into making it salable. "What made the new version possible was my development of the OR gate driven 2N7000 final," Steve explained. "Not only did this reduce the footprint of the transmitter enough so everything could now fit on one board (less band filters), it could produce up to 5 watts out on all the bands without the need for gain controls or frequency compensation networks."

Steve made a run of 50 of these kits, simply called the ATS (for Appalachian Trail Sprint). These sold out in a flash, indicating the presence of a market for this kind of radio. Since then there have been the ATS-2, ATS-3, ATS-3A, ATS-3B, and ATS-4. There's no telling how far this family of little trail radios will go. If my math is correct, something such as 850 of the ATS series kits have gone out the door.

Tracing their development, they've gone from three bands to four bands to six bands to five bands. They've gone from plug-in band modules to slide-switch band changing. They've gone from Altoids® size boxes to a plastic case which had room for batteries, back to the Altoids® size, and

finally to the current model, which is the first to come with its own custom-fabricated metal box. Photo A shows an ATS-3A with one of its band modules along with the latest model, the ATS-4.

The frequency readout went from an audio enunciator to a single-digit display to the current three-line LCD which displays frequency, battery voltage, and an S-meter, plus momentary displays for RIT, XIT, code speed, manual frequency jumps and keyer memories. Also, the rig now offers PSK-31 capabilities through a laptop or PDA.

Most of the feature creep has come directly from input by users. The AT Sprint Yahoo group (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AT_Sprint) is a pretty lively one, often with messages such as "In the next ATS, I'd like to see . . .". This is followed quickly by a chorus of "Me Too" messages whereupon Steve studies the issue to decide its feasibility. Usually a year goes by and out comes the new model with a whole bunch of new features. Other times change is forced by the discontinuation of a critical part, such as the analog AGC chip which went out of production when the cell-phone makers went digital. This chip had allowed Steve to build a rig without a bulky audio gain control (!), and is one reason the ATS-4 had to grow to accommodate this monstrous item. It's still a small box, being just 30% larger than the original Altoids® tin.



Photo A— The Altoids®-size ATS-3A with one of its band modules shown beside the newer ATS-4, which trades the modules for internal switching.

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I asked Steve when he sold his first kit. "My very first kit was the 'Deluxe DDS VFO' published in 73 magazine in 1993," he recalled. "It used the first DDS chip designed specifically for that application by Analog Devices, the AD7008. The kit was very expensive at \$250, so only a handful were sold."

"Over the years other versions of DDS VFOs were produced as new parts were introduced and became somewhat more affordable," said Steve. "Other kits, such as keyers and accessories, were produced because of something I desired to have or from suggestions gleaned off QRP-L."

Steve also designs rigs for Doug Hendricks of Hendricks QRP Kits (<http://www.qrpkits.com/index.html>). Some of the designs started out as items that Steve built for himself, such as the MMR transceiver. He designed this rig as an entry in an ARRL design contest. Doug liked it so much that he snatched the design to fill out his product lineup. Others, such as the PFR-3 transceiver, were done at Doug's request. If you hold the PFR-3 and the ATS-4 side-by-side, you'll see the strong family resemblance.

I recently built an ATS-4. I hesitate to do an actual review of the rig because

Steve is no longer selling them. He does limited runs of a rig, usually 100 to 200, depending on a variety of factors. I can only say that it's wise to get onto the Yahoo group to see what's being discussed. The approach of a new offering is well-documented, and he offers the items to list members before going to the general public. The mail list is also where the older models are bought and sold, so if you see one you can't live without, the mail list is the place to be.

To be able to make something so small and with so many features requires the use of surface-mount parts. I've come to enjoy building SMT rigs, so this one went together pretty easily. Steve's instructions are as good as any, and my ATS-4 would have played perfectly from the start if I'd only bothered to solder both ends of a particular inductor chip!

I have to say that I enjoyed using my ATS-3A on the trail, but with the ATS-4, its digital frequency readout, built-in band switching, and the addition of 15 meters, I feel I'm in the lap of minimalist luxury! The receiver draws about 30 mA at 12 volts, and the transmitter puts out 5 watts with a current draw of 750 mA, so a small 2.2AH SLA battery will easily last for an entire FYBO ("Freeze Your Buns Off" QRP competition each winter).

What's next to come from the Melt Solder shack? Steve would only say that he has several products on the bench. We'll just have to tune in to the Yahoo group or check in on Hendricks QRP Kits to find out what's been cooking.

Deluxe Tenna Dipper

Speaking of Steve Weber, he recently designed a new antenna analyzer for Hendricks QRP Kits. Called the Deluxe Tenna Dipper, this unit is capable of determining the 50-ohm resonant frequency of an HF antenna. It's small, self-contained, and comes in a kit form that is easily assembled in an evening or two (photo B). The documentation for the unit is up to the usual Hendricks standards.

Applying power, the first thing you notice are some familiar-looking component parts: a KD1JV Digital Dial frequency readout and the red LED eye of a Tayloe SWR bridge. What Steve has done is taken some off-the-shelf parts, whipped up a little additional circuitry, waved his magic wand, and come up with a really useful little device.

How does the dipper work? Very simply, you attach your antenna's feedline, adjust the frequency of the internal

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oscillator, and when the LED extinguishes, read the resonant frequency of your antenna on the digital display.

The first thing I did with the completed unit was hook it up to the lead-in of my R7 vertical. This antenna covers 40 through 10 meters and so provides seven opportunities to find SWR dips. The Dipper found all seven resonant spots where they were supposed to be. Ditto on my Yagi. To check the Dipper's accuracy, I recorded all of the resonant points from these antennas and then did the same run with an MFJ-259 analyzer and an AEA VIA-HF graphing analyzer. There were slight variations from unit to unit, but for the most part the Dipper gave the same answers. For what it's worth, I don't really know which unit was more accurate, as they all said just about the same thing.

Besides checking the resonant frequency of an existing antenna, the Dipper should be quite useful in adjusting portable antennas in the field. To do this, you would simply set the display to read the frequency where you want your antenna to be resonant and then adjust the antenna until the SWR LED extinguishes.

There are circumstances where the tuning rate is a little too fast to easily zero in on the null. I'm sure space and cost would prevent the use of a 10-turn pot, but on several occasions I found myself wishing for one.

Since this unit obviously does not provide as much information as, say, an MFJ-259, one could question what its place is in the antenna analyzing world. To noodle that out, I decided to take an arms-length view and ask the following two questions:

What does it do? Easy answer, it tells you the frequency(ies) at which an antenna is resonant.

What doesn't it do? At that point of lowest SWR it doesn't



Photo B— The Deluxe Tenna Dipper from Hendricks QRP Kits, showing that the attached antenna is resonant at 7.060 MHz.

tell you what the numerical SWR is, nor does it give you any information about the resistive or reactive components of the impedance. For that matter, compared to something like an AIM 4170 VNA, it gives very little information.

However, it does answer the big question, which is "Where is my antenna resonant?"

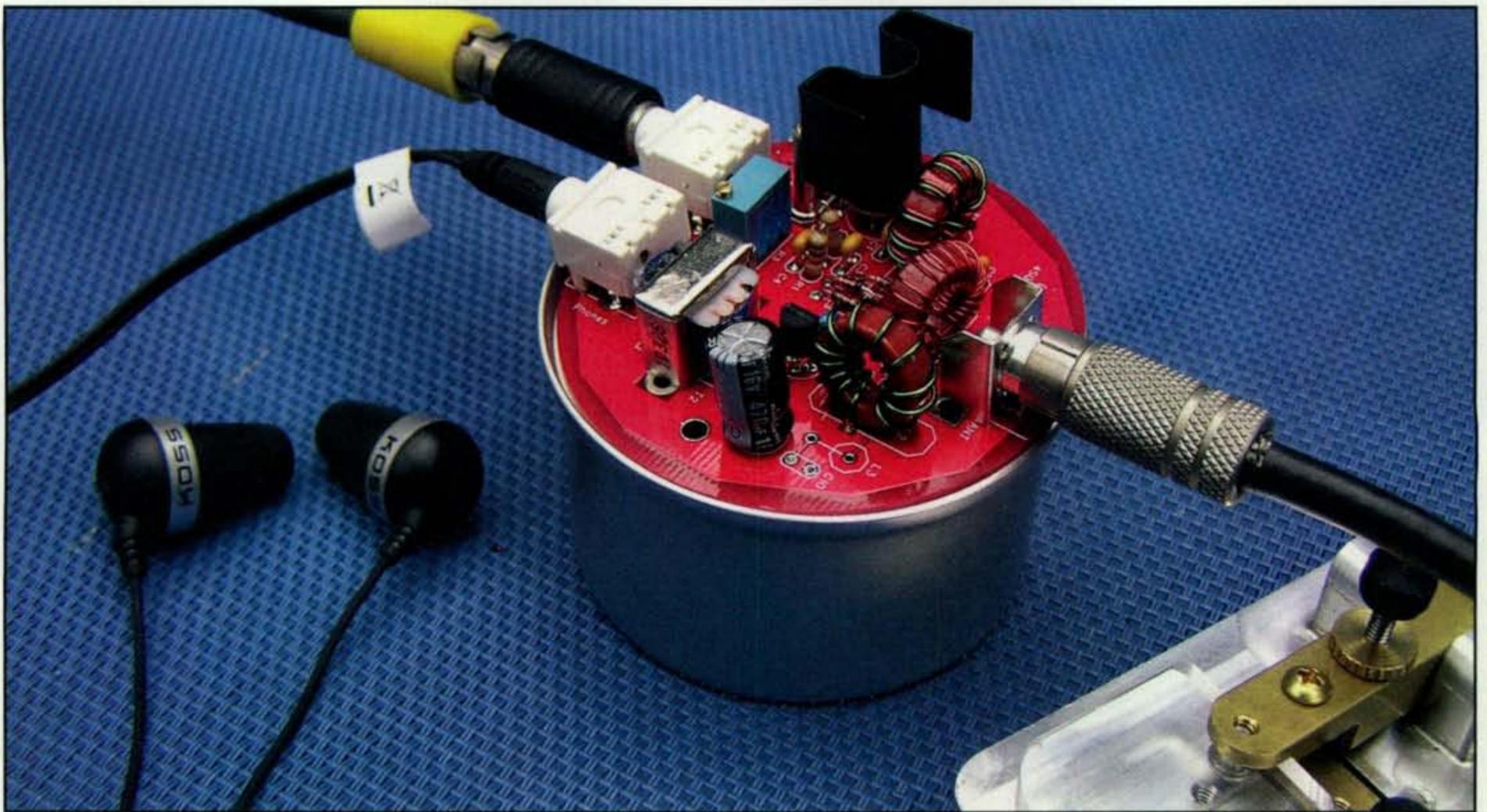


Photo C— The very small HamCan from the Four State QRP Group.

What most of us need is something that tells us we are not going to blow up our rigs, and the Dipper provides that information. To a certain extent we all like to read the meters to learn the *real truth* about the antenna under test, but there are so many occasions when all we need to know is just that one important piece of info, and the Deluxe Tenna Dipper provides it without drowning us in data overload.

(For more on this unit, see this month's "Kit-Building" column—ed.).

Radio Minimalism for the Masses

My wife and I were on the way to the local coffee emporium one morning when the conversation turned, as it often does, to minimalist radios. "What do you want for lunch today?" she asked. "How about deviled ham sandwiches?" I replied.

"Huh?" She was baffled. In our 43 years of marriage, she's never made a deviled ham sandwich, and I'm sure the last one I had was made by my mom sometime back in the 1950s. "I have a can of the stuff and we need to use it so I can use the can," I replied.

"Oh, you mean like the bag of 400 Altoids® mints we have because you needed the boxes?" How well she knows me.

I'd recently taken possession of a Ham Can, a kit offered by the Four State QRP Group (www.4sqr.com). Like a Tuna Tin Two, the Ham Can is a rig designed to use a food container as its base (see photo C). Actually, the can does double duty as the base for the circuit board and a container for the power supply, which is a 9-volt battery.

Designed by Dave Cripe, NM00S, the Ham Can is a minimalist transceiver employing only two transistors. One transistor is an oscillator that does double duty, acting as the regenerative detector on receive and the oscillator/PA on transmit. The second transistor is the audio amp which drives your headphones. There are only 25 parts in the whole transceiver. It comes supplied with a 7122-kHz crystal.

I generally build kits at a leisurely pace. This one took a whole two hours. All of the parts are through-hole, and the

connectors mount on the board so that when you've finished stuffing and soldering the board, the rig is ready to go.

However, not mine. I heard signals in the receiver and the transmitter was making lots of RF. I called CQ for quite while but nothing happened. I tried again the next night and again no luck. After some snooping around, I discovered that I was transmitting on 7120 kHz but receiving on 7250! No wonder nobody came back to my calls. I shot an e-mail to Terry, WA0ITP from the Four State group. Both he and Dave, NM00S, the designer, responded immediately. The upshot was that the receiver doesn't like ferrites in the antenna path and I was using a tuner with a ferrite balun. I switched to a Z-match, after which the RX and TX were happily reunited on the same frequency.

My experience with regenerative receivers has been spotty, but this one is quite smooth and glitch-free. The regen control is a little board-mounted multi-turn trimmer that isn't in the least bit touchy. The transmitted signal has just enough of a "crystal" sound to make it a good running mate for an old hand key.

The Ham Can is a fun and easy project that when you feel overrun by SDRs and microprocessed signals can provide you with a shot of "doing more with less." Thanks to the Four State QRP Group for this little shot of minimalism.

Ten-Tec R4020

I recently had the opportunity to spend some quality time with a Ten-Tec R4020. This rig inverted some preconceived notions I had about it, turned my thoughts upside down as it were, so I thought I'd turn this review upside down and start at the end. Bottom line: It is an amazingly competent little rig with plenty of features and operating conveniences. Once you become familiar with the operating controls it's quite easy to use—smooth QSK, good keying, and a receiver that's pleasing to use (photo D).

Quite honestly, I was expecting something a little less polished, maybe because of its heritage, being the "Son-of-First-



Photo D— The Ten-Tec R4020 makes going portable an easy matter.

Radio-from-China." First impressions being what they are, I picked it up and was surprised by the solidity and heft. Applying power, the display comes on with bright white letters on a blue background and it just looks happy to be alive, ready, and eager to play radio. There's lots of info on that display, too—mode, frequency, signal strength in receive, battery voltage, and memory location are displayed along with RIT and attenuator, if used. Since one of the power options is an internal battery pack (8 AA cells), it's a helpful feature to be able to monitor the battery voltage.

Things I like about this rig, in no particular order, are the following:

- DDS frequency control. More and more little radios are turning to digital frequency synthesis in lieu of traditional VFOs and this is commendable. Stability and wide tuning range are among the benefits; even though this rig can transmit only on the 20- and 40-meter bands, it can receive from 5 to 16 MHz.

- Variable IF bandwidth. During casual operating and while tuning the band I like a fairly wide bandwidth; 500 Hz just seems too pinched. With the R4020 you can choose between CW and SSB modes and among four bandwidth settings in each mode. I spent most of my operating time in the SSB mode at 2200

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2540F-PL-50	50	\$61.95
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Photo E— Danny, K9KHJ, has one of the tidiest shacks known to hamdom!

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Hz. It won't transmit SSB, but my ears appreciate the wider filter setting.

- Smooth QSK. Most of today's QRP designers have solved the mystery of good QSK, and the R4020 is no exception—no clunks, pops, or thuds. If there's a strong signal in the pass band, the transition from transmit to receive can be a bit fuzzy but it's nothing objectionable.

- Good-sounding transmit signal. When heard from afar, this radio has a pleasing and stable signal with no chirps or key clicks, even when your batteries have drooped to 9 volts. Really! Recently I ran into Terry, WA0IPT, who was operating as K6JSS/Ø in Iowa. It wasn't until we were well into the chat that I noticed the battery voltage was down to 9.5. I'd filled the battery packs with fresh AA alkalines a couple of months prior to this contact, so they did have quite a bit of use on them. At 9.5 volts the rig was still putting out 2.5 watts.

Another evening I answered a weak CQ from 9-land and Danny, K9KHJ, came right back to me. It turns out Danny was running his HB-1A, the predecessor to this rig. This was probably the first HB-1A-to-R4020 QSO on record. It also turns out that Danny uses his rig as the main radio in his tidy little station; check out photo E. If you don't have much space to devote to radio, the

R4020 would do a creditable job as the centerpiece of a minimalist QRP station. Kind of makes me think of those pictures of "World's Messiest Hamshack," but in reverse.

The only thing that feels below par on this radio is the encoder. It's very heavily detented, feeling something like a 20-position rotary switch, and a bit floppy to boot. The floppiness is no doubt because it also serves as the push button to change tuning rates. Also, the tuning rate of 100 Hz per click in its slowest tuning mode is a bit on the fast side for me. Beyond these nits, there's not much to pick at on this radio.

Now for some details that should have come at the beginning: The R4020, which covers the 40- and 20-meter bands, and the R4030, which covers the 40- and 30-meter bands, are sold by Ten-Tec (www.tentec.com; 800-833-7373).

To The Field

As I submit this column I'm starting to pull the Field Day gear out of storage in anticipation of another good weekend in the woods. As you're reading this, FD '11 is history. I hope you had as great a time as I hope to!

72/73, Cam, N6GA

Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) and FLDIGI

BY DON ROTOLO, *N2IRZ

digital connection

I'm always on the lookout for new digital communications software, which I then bring to you, dear readers. But this is a double-edged sword: The bleeding edge is nice, but it can be pretty lonely trying for a QSO with this month's brand-new digital mode. A reader sent me some information about the Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS, pronounced "N-Beams"), which is a software suite presently used by several EmComm (Emergency Communications) groups throughout the United States, and I thought would be a perfect topic for this month's column.

NBEMS isn't really a single piece of software. Instead, it is a system having several components that work together to deliver communications capability for EmComm applications. At the heart of the system is FLDIGI (Fast Light DIGital, a modem application), a new-old software written by Dave Freese, W1HKJ (and several others) that is an outstanding program for digital communications enthusiasts in its own right. I say new-old because this application appears to have been around for a few years, but I'd never heard of it until now. Once you see its capabilities, you'll also wonder why it's such a well-kept secret.

The first very unusual thing about FLDIGI is that it capably works with so many digital modes, from CW, PSK31, and RTTY to Throb, Domino EX11, and Olivia. See the Resources box for a listing of the modes FLDIGI operates.

The second very unusual thing about FLDIGI is that it is available for Linux and Mac OS X, along with the usual Windows® versions. Those of us

using Microsoft's operating systems are a bit spoiled, since virtually everything is available for Windows®. Our friends using Apple computers and Linux are often not so fortunate. FLDIGI and its related components are a welcome exception. Fig. 1 shows a screen shot of the download page on which the various versions are shown.

The Components of FLDIGI

Let's first look at the components of this software suite. FLDIGI is the main software application used by NBEMS and really is all that's necessary. For some specialized tasks, there are a few additional programs that would surely come in handy. Oh, and they are all offered for free. In fact, on W1HKJ's website he answers the question "How can I support FLDIGI?" with this eloquent text:

I have received several requests for information on providing support for fldigi. I have been blessed with good health and sufficient income to allow me to enjoy our great hobby for over 54 years. I consider fldigi and all of the other software as my gift back to all of the great hams with whom I have QSO'd over the years and to those I still hope to catch on the waterfall. So monetary support is not needed or solicited.

Instead I request that you make a contribution to your favorite charity. Name me in recognition or simply make an anonymous contribution; either suffices. You would do me great honor if your contribution were made to the Gideons International through their gift Bibles recognition program.

Thanks, Dave, for your generous gift to the amateur radio community. (Ed. note: CQ does not endorse any specific charity; we are simply relaying W1HKJ's request regarding his program.)

*P.O. Box 114, Park Ridge, NJ 07656
e-mail: <n2irz@cq-amateur-radio.com>

Fig. 1— W1HKJ's software download page at <<http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html>>. This lists all of the various applications for the supported operating systems, including Windows®, Mac OS X, and Linux. Here is also where you'll find the documentation and, if you're interested, the source code as well.

	Linux Binary	Windows Setup	OS X dmg	Puppy Pet (1)	Source	Help	Release Info
Fldigi / Flarg	fldigi-3.21.10.bin README	fldigi-3.21.10	fldigi-3.21.10	fldigi-3.21 flarg-4.3	fldigi-3.21.10	Fldigi-Help Flarg-Help Fldigi pdf file Beginners Guide pdf file	Maint'
RigCat Xmls	xml archives	updated on 11 Apr 2011		pet libs	required for all fldigi applications		
Flwrap	flwrap-1.3.1.bin	flwrap-1.3.1	flwrap-1.3.1	flwrap	flwrap-1.3.1	Flwrap-Help	Maint'
Flmsg	flmsg-1.1.6.bin	flmsg-1.1.6	flmsg-1.1.6	flmsg	flmsg-1.1.6	Flmsg-Help	Maint'
Flwkey	flwkey-1.0.0.bin	flwkey-1.0.0	flwkey-1.0.0	flwkey	flwkey-1.0.0	Flwkey-Help	Initial
Flrig	flrig-1.1.3.bin	flrig-1.1.3	flrig-1.1.3	flrig-1.1.3	flrig-1.1.3	flrig-help	Maint'

(1) Puppy / NBEMS [How-To-Install](#)

RPMS for Open Suse: [DL8FCL rom's](#)

Debs for Ubuntu: <https://launchpad.net/~kamalmostafa/+archive/fldigi> [How To Install from Kamal's PPA](#)

Past versions of software: [Berlios archives](#)

Wiki for fldigi/fldigi etc.: [Wiki](#)

3 party software applications for use with fldigi/fldigi: [3rd party software](#)

FLDIGI doesn't offer any new modes. Rather, several existing modes are combined into a single, small, easy-to-learn package (fig. 2). All of these features are big advantages for EmComm work. Since we can't always count on fully-trained help in an emergency, the short learning curve and fast deployment help get the system up and running quickly. Since we can't always pick which computers are available, having a small and portable application allows us to use whatever computer resources are available. Small, too, is not an understatement. The FLDIGI install package weighs in at just under 4 MB, and when fully installed with all the options is under 14 MB.

There is also a "Slow CPU" mode. If you happen to have an older computer with a CPU speed of less than around 700 MHz, check off a box in the configuration screen and the application will compensate for that.

This wide variety of supported digital modes (and some other features we'll discuss in a moment) makes it very flexible, yet another clear advantage for EmComm. As we know, band conditions during an emergency can't be chosen, so instead we need to have the flexibility to choose the best mode for the situation. FLDIGI gives us that choice. Olivia is quite slow, but gets through in really poor conditions, while

MT63-2k is plenty fast when the band is wide open. Not only is this an advantage for EmComm, but casual users will find it great for casual ragchews as well. With all this flexibility and advantages, no wonder NBEMS uses FLDIGI.

To ensure the maximum flexibility in communications, FLDIGI has a few optional applications—all of which are also available for Linux and OS X as well as Windows®—to help overcome digital mode limitations when necessary. These optional additional programs include FLWRAP, FLARQ, FLMSG, and FLRIG. Let's now take a look at each of these.

Additional Programs

Emergency communications are not always limited to text messages, and sometimes the only modes that work are those that don't guarantee data integrity from end to end. FLWRAP "wraps" a text message with an error-free shell, guaranteeing the integrity of a message. Looking at PSK31, anyone who has used the mode knows that received text can be garbled, even in pretty good conditions. This is fine for casual operating, since it doesn't really matter if the fellow is from PittV3rgh or Pittsburgh, but in most EmComm work, getting things accurately is often important. Even modes such

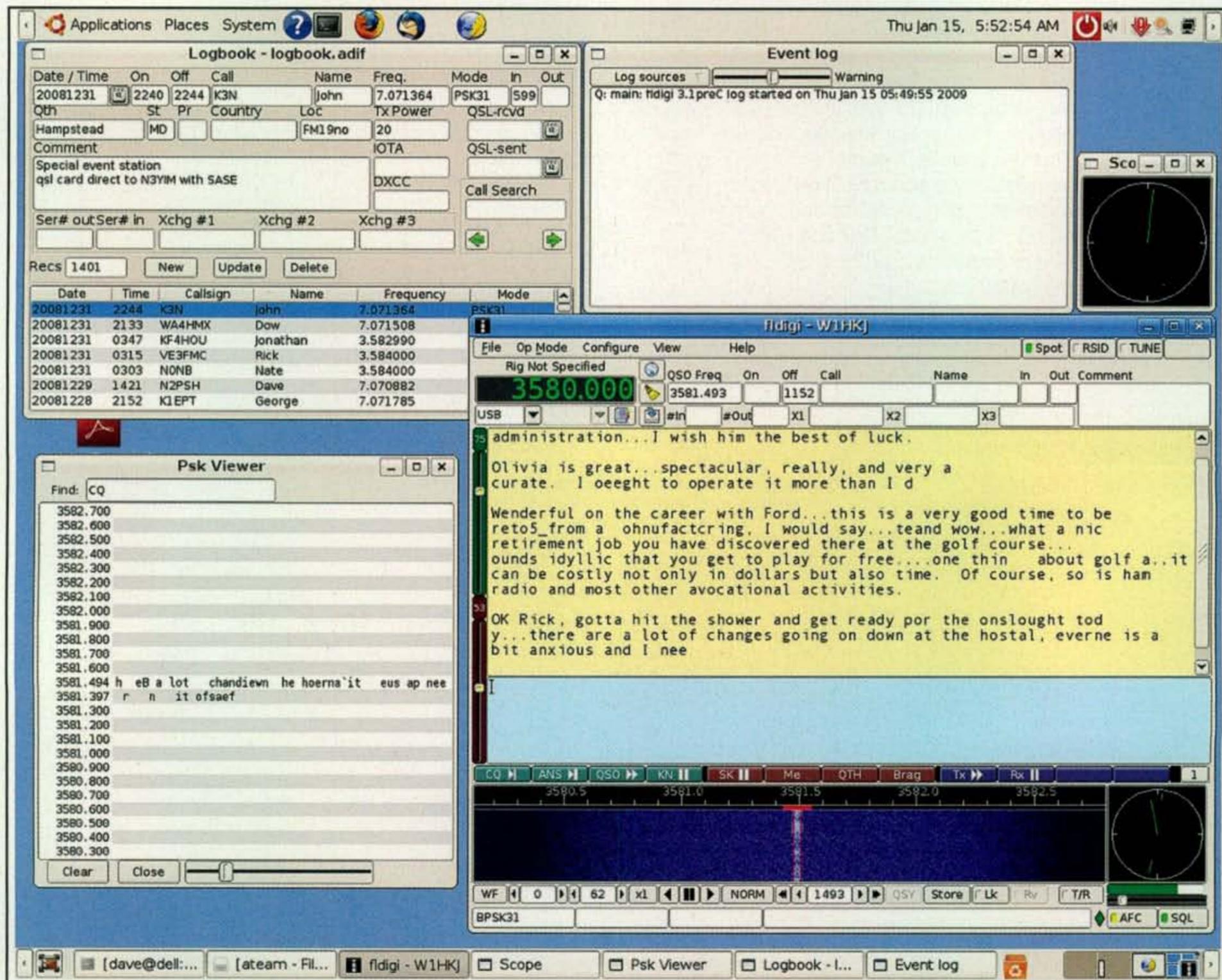


Fig. 2— The main FLDIGI window, along with Event Log, Logbook, and PSK Viewer windows, shown running in Ubuntu Linux. Configuring and using FLDIGI is about as easy as it looks. The short learning curve is a big advantage in emergency situations when experienced operators may be unavailable. (Image courtesy Dave Freese W1HKJ)

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as Olivia can still have errors, despite lots of error correction. FLWRAP allows you to send error-free text using a non-error-free mode.

Sometimes, FLWRAP isn't enough. For example, a small MS Excel spreadsheet might need to be moved over the air. FLARQ is an application that is used to transfer computer files. It adds an ARQ (Automatic Repeat reQuest) layer to whatever mode you're using. The information is then sent in relatively small blocks, and if an error is detected, the receiving station automatically requests that the block is sent again. Most modes support the use of FLARQ, but not all do; this is explained in the documentation.

FLMSG helps the operator format messages into standard message formats, such as ICS-205, ICS-206, ICS-213, ICS-214, and ICS-216 forms, in addition to ARRL Radiograms and plain text messages. There's no reason standard message formatting shouldn't be handled by your computer, whether for routine traffic handling or within NBEMS.

Last, we have FLRIG which offers computer control of several different brands and models of amateur transceivers. Don't confuse this with simple PTT control (which is already a part of FLDIGI). We're talking about frequency, mode, and other major functions. There are many software applications that allow you to control your radio via computer, and this is another one, small and efficient like the rest of the Fast Light applications.

That's our quick tour of the NBEMS applications. All of the installation files can easily fit on a CD or memory stick for on-the-fly installations on just about any computer. Once installed, the applications don't consume a lot of resources and are easy to uninstall without a trace later. For casual use, it never hurts to be familiar with your emergency software. FLDIGI actually is quite comfortable to use, with a rich feature set, making it my new favorite on the air.

Do Your Homework and Plan Ahead

If you have plans to use this for EmComm work, you'd do well to verify the modes and frequencies being used in your area. Google "NBEMS" for some suggestions and ideas about how others around the country are using these applications.

One thing I need to mention whenever I talk about digital sound-card modes: It really is critically important that you properly set your transmit audio and (to

a lesser extent) RF power levels. Search YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com>) for "PSK31 Level K7AGE" for a nice video explaining how to do this. Although this shows PSK31, it's valid for all sound-card digital modes.

Some digital modes, such as MT63 and Olivia, depend upon accurate sound-card clock frequencies to tune and decode signals. Sound cards generally don't hold the kind of frequency accuracy desired for optimal performance, so it's a good idea to calibrate your sound card. You only have to do this once. In a pinch you can get away without it, but it's best to do it if you can.

The Pennsylvania Situation Report page (see Resources) has (amongst many resources) a small program named CheckSR.exe at <http://www.pa-sitrep.com/checksr/> that can be used to calibrate your sound card. Included with the FLDIGI installation is a receive-only mode that lets you calibrate your sound card against WWV. Either way, it's easy to do and will make a difference in performance for those frequency-sensitive modes.

Getting the software is as easy as visiting the download page. W1HKJ maintains a website with all the latest downloadable versions (see Resources). Download all the programs available for your operating system (even if you have no plans on using all of them, you never know if you'll need them later). For Windows®, they are self-installing .exe files, so installation is as easy as a double-click.

I recommend reading the documentation carefully. It turned out that I had a few copies of a file called "cygwin1.dll" and I had to find and remove some incompatible versions. I have no idea what the file does, but once I'd followed the instructions, everything worked perfectly.

Also, allow the program to install the desktop shortcuts; otherwise you have

to go to C:\My Programs and double-click the runtime.exe file. When FLDIGI first runs, the automatic configurator starts, which is a handy way to set up the program with minimal effort. Of course, you can also configure or change everything from the Configure menu at any time.

When I set up the various displays and modes, I used the information on the Pennsylvania Situation Report home page. Although I'm not expecting to work any EmComm, my reasoning was that "it can't hurt," and I wanted to have a guide to accepted and published standards as I set up everything.

Remember my June column, where I discussed online user groups? Well, as expected, there's also a Yahoo! group with nearly a thousand members dedicated to NBEMS, all ready to help get you up and running. They are a wealth of helpful information, and even though I did not need to join—the message database is open to non-members and has lots of information—any serious users are well advised to become a member of the group.

Summary

That's NBEMS in a nutshell. Although I touched upon a few important points with the installation and configuration, for two reasons I'm not going to explain in detail how to install, configure, and use the software. The first reason is that I'm simply out of space this month. The second reason is that the on-line resources are quite good. To find out how to get the NBEMS software programs, install, configure, calibrate, use, and troubleshoot them check out the Resources box.

This month's column idea came from a reader just like you. Do you have an opinion on what you'd like to see here? Drop me a line. Until next time . . .

73 de Don,

Resources

The main software page: <http://www.w1hkj.com/>. This also links to the Download page and several other valuable resources, including "Sights & Sounds of Digital Signals" and all the documentation.

The best setup and use information for NBEMS that I've found is on the Pennsylvania Situation Report home page: <http://www.pa-sitrep.com/NBEMS/index.html>. Be sure to download the PowerPoint presentation, which covers the modes and settings best suited for EmComm work, and pay special attention to slide 8, which shows the sound-card calibration details.

Two presentations on NBEMS, one that covers all the basics and a second offering some detail on FLMSG: <http://www.arrl.org/nbems>.

Modes supported by FLDIGI v3.21.10 (some variants are not shown here): CW; DominoEX 4, 5, 8, 11, 16, 22; Feld-Hell, FSK-Hell, FSK-Hell 105; MFSK-8, 16, 16 pix; PSK/QPSK 31, 63, 125, 250; Olivia (various tones and bandwidth); RTTY (various baud rates, shifts, data bits, etc.); Throb-1, 2, 4, X-1, X-2, X-4; Thor-4, 5, 8, 11, 22. As receive-only modes, there's WWV (calibrate sound card to WWV) and Freq Analysis (receive only; be ready for the ARRL Frequency Measuring Test).

Installation Potpourri: We hear from some car companies and readers

Lots of correspondence this time around; many thanks to those who took a few minutes to share their experiences in setting up and operating mobile gear. With the ever-growing variety of vehicles in the marketplace, and a corresponding increase in their complexity, sharing your stories through this column is a great way to benefit those of us who love to operate on the road.

Guidance from Above

No I'm not referring to The Great Ham In The Sky; in this case it's the vehicle manufacturers.

You may recall we set out to get information right from the source on installing mobiles in some specific vehicles. While the inquiries we made were not comprehensive or exhaustive, here's what we've learned.

Honda was rather brief: It does not offer support for mobile radio installations as it is not a component that comes with the vehicle.

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

There was no response to my inquiries from General Motors or Chrysler.

Toyota sent a very professional response that addressed the complexities of electronics and their potential interaction. With its letter was an attachment that stated:

Installation of a 2-way radio in Toyota vehicles should not present problems under the following conditions:

- The transceiver must be type-accepted by the FCC, and not modified in any way.
- Maximum output power complies with FCC regulations (100 watts).
- All installation and operating instructions provided by Toyota and the equipment manufacturer must be followed closely.
- The antenna must be installed as far away as possible from all vehicle electronic control modules (ECM) or other onboard computers/sensors.
- Antenna and power cabling must not be routed along side or in conjunction with the vehicle wire harness. It is always preferable to cross vehicle harness (sic) at right angles when possible. Antenna and antenna cabling should be properly adjusted to obtain the lowest possible standing wave ratio (SWR).

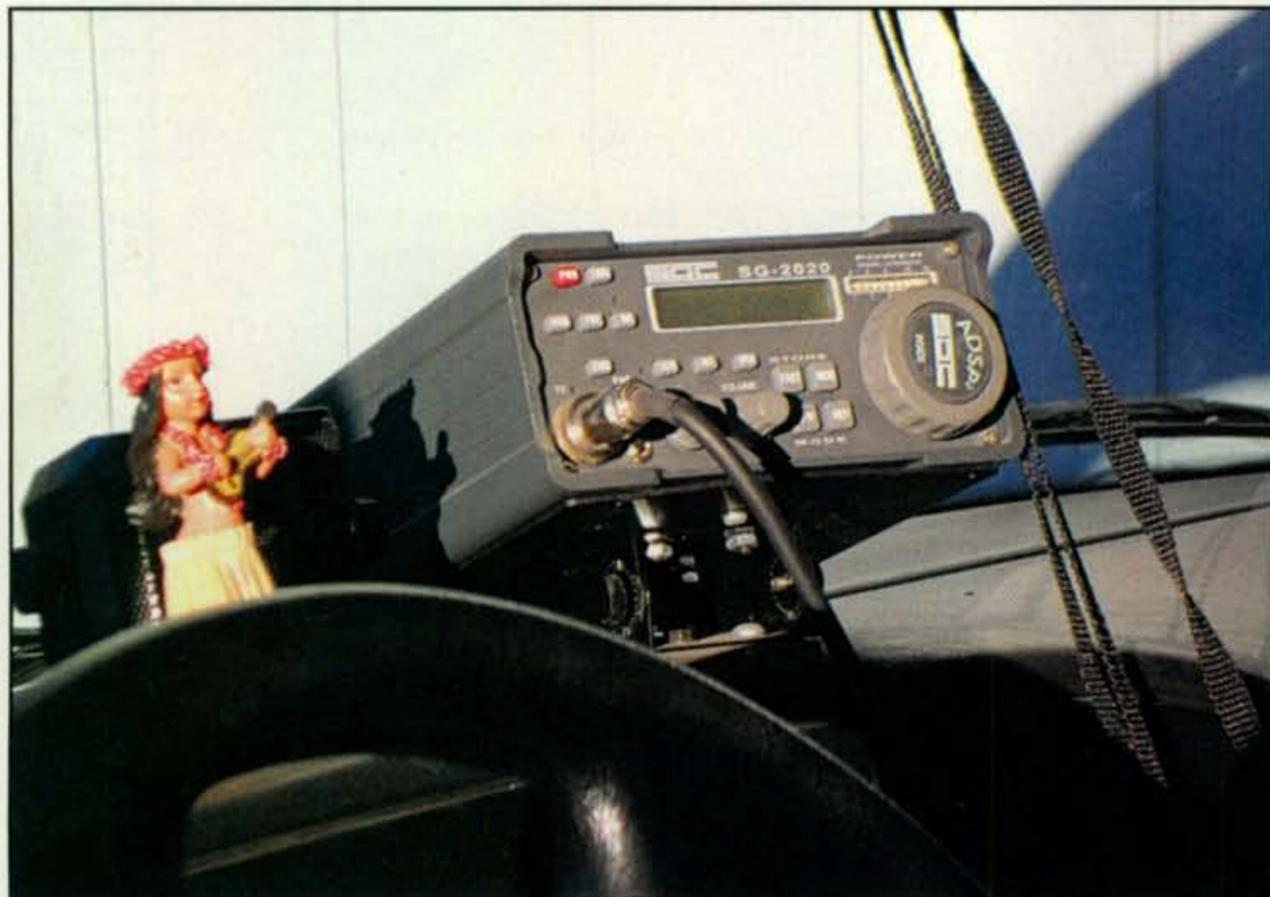


Believe it or not, this impressive stack is Curt's first effort at cabinetry. Made to serve multiple roles for ham radio, commercial and volunteer fire functions, the operator has it all at his fingertips. (AL7LQ photo)

Note: Toyota repair manuals will be revised in the 1994 model year to include this information: The current "10 watts maximum power" limitation will be deleted.

It must be emphasized that, under the terms of Toyota's new vehicle warranty, any

damage caused by RF energy from a higher power mobile radio is specifically excluded from coverage because it is not the result of faulty material or workmanship. Accordingly, all such responsibility is assumed by the owner."



AL7LQ's HF setup is an SG-2020 with ADSP2 installed. It's mounted on the dash and the power output is set at 10 watts PEP. That hula dancer might just catch a chill in Alaska! (AL7LQ photo)



WA7ZBO created a modular drop-in unit with his rigs and speakers nicely arranged. (WA7ZBO photo)

Ford also sent a detailed response that included a reference to a mobile radio installation guide at its public website, <www.fordemc.com>. The manual I downloaded was dated March 1998 but I can only assume the information is still valid or it wouldn't be there, right? In its response, Ford also stated, "We design and validate our vehicles will function correctly with these radio systems that use up to a 100 watt amplifier."

Ford also added, "As for hybrids and electric vehicles, the high voltage section of the vehicle is isolated on its own ground system and is heavily shielded. Also the high voltage cables run under the vehicle."

Our thanks to Toyota and Ford for their detailed responses.

Reader Experiences

Sadly, here's the experience of John Holmes, W9ILY, which is all too common:

I thought I'd drop you a line about my recent experience with a brand new 2011 Hyundai SantaFe. I discussed my need for a vehicle in which I could use my HF equipment (100 watts only) with the dealer's salesman. The salesman was never able to provide me with any info. He did arrange for me to meet their service manager for his assistance, which I did. Unfortunately, he was not at all helpful and really was not aware of anything related to my issue. The only thing that I received was a suggestion to check on YouTube for info, which I did. I found installation tips, but not for my new vehicle, of course. I sent an email to Hyundai Customer Relations explaining what I was looking for. They responded that the local service manager could provide me with the needed info, which of course was not the case. I notified Hyundai Customer Relations that I had already tried their suggestion and my results. They then suggested I try a different dealership.

I now have my new SantaFe V6 that I like very much. Generally, when we take trips, my mobile operation is not made while in motion but while parked. So, I don't think this will be a really huge issue. At least I hope not. If you discover any information from Hyundai about their requirements, I would really appreciate your passing them along.

In a relatively short amount of time, Hyundai has become a major player in the vehicle marketplace. Let's hope their customer support develops at an equally rapid rate.

North to Alaska!

At the opposite end of today's jam-packed passenger car is the versatile van, which offers "the wide open spaces" of its cavernous cargo area and

accessible roofline. Curt Law, AL7LQ, wrote to share some photos of his rig, which fills multiple roles. Curt operates a mobile radio business and serves his community's fire department as well, so both he and his van have to be excellent at multitasking.

The IC-F1721D is set to scan about 10 channels. This includes all the 2M frequencies used on Kodiak Island. The priority channel is set for the ARES repeater. The IC-F221 UHF transceiver is also scanning the ham frequencies and my company's commercial repeater. So, I can get a call from a ham or the office. The priority channel on this is set to my company's channel. The Motorola sits on the national 6M simplex frequency (52.525 MHz—ed.). The AN/URC-101 scans two tower frequencies. The IC-F1020 is always on the main borough fire channel.

Space limits keep us from sharing additional photos of the two neat rows of antennas on the roof and some other details but Curt's installation seems well suited for the rugged conditions of Alaska. And serious mobile operators looking for a dedicated operations vehicle would do well to consider a new or used van for the ultimate in versatility—and elbow room.

Busy in the Beehive State

And speaking of new vehicles, Larry Jacobs WA7ZBO writes from Utah to share how he approached mounting his rigs in a new truck:

I had to switch my mobile gear over from my old truck to my new truck. After seeing the hatchet job I did on my old truck, I decided to try a modular approach. Using a shelf board from Home Depot, I mounted my two radios, MFJ power box, two speakers and LDG tuner in a one piece unit. Mounting in the truck is limited to two screws, one acting as ground connection.

A small cut in the carpet allows power in and coax out. The HF antenna is an ICOM AH-2b fed via an LDG 1:1 balun. I'm not sure if that's needed but it does make a nice terminating point.

My old truck had major strapping between body parts but new info is the isolating of body panels is (part of the) anti-corrosion plan. Still looking into this.

Good call on investigating the isolation of vehicle panels; this could be yet another new wrinkle in the list of challenges we face in mobile operations. The conventional wisdom states that vehicle panels such as doors, hood, trunk lid, exhaust pipes, pickup bed, etc., should all be electrically bonded (grounded) for quietest operations,

especially on HF. If manufacturers are now isolating panels to prevent bimetallic corrosion, it could be an issue.

Great Canopy!

And if you find mobiling on the ground a bit boring, you can always join the hams at the Southgate, California ARC for some "Parachute Mobile" communications. While they always seem headed in one direction, a parachute mobile

contact may be a unique QSO to enter in the logbook. Check them out at: <www.southgatearc.org/news/march2011/parachute_mobile.htm>.

That rounds out this visit. Thanks to our contributors for sharing their photos and experiences. If you'd like to join in, please send an e-mail to my address shown at the beginning of this column.

Enjoy great hamming and stay safe.
73, Jeff, AA6JR

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Maritime Mobile Grid Expedition to CM93

The following summary is from Barry Garratt, KS7DX, of the June 8–12, 2011 maritime mobile trip to CM93:

First, I would like to thank all the folks who sent Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, and me notes thanking us for doing the trip. It was an adventure, to say the least, and we were very happy to have handed out the grid to so many people who needed it for FFMA.

Hearing Mark Ammann, KMØA, calling early Saturday morning, giving him the grid and then hearing him say it was the last one he needed, had to be the highlight of the whole trip. When we left on Wednesday, he needed two, and to find out we gave him the last was just unbelievable!

We had planned to be in the grid late Wednesday afternoon or early evening, but we left later than anticipated and our leaving late, combined with headwinds, forced us to overnight off the coast of Santa Cruz Island. We had no way of letting anyone know we were delayed but figured everyone would know something had delayed us.

We arrived at Santa Rosa on Thursday and proceeded to set up the stations and get the 6M7JHV antenna installed. Once it was installed, we determined very quickly that it wasn't going to be very good. It was moving around a lot with the rolling of the boat and the constant wind, so we took it back down and replaced it with our spare 3-element beam. Even that antenna was moving around a lot, but with its wider pattern and shorter boom it was easier to move as the boat changed position.

Adding to our antenna problem was the fact that the boat changed position a lot! We'd no sooner get the antenna pointing east and the boat would swing on the anchor and all of a sudden the antenna was pointing west or some other oddball direction. The winds and currents didn't do us any favors. Combine those factors with QSB on the band and you begin to understand why we were loud one minute and gone the next!

Once we had the 3-element beam up, I started to check out things, set levels, etc., and in doing so I started calling Jim Skjervem, KS7S. As soon as the first TX sequence ended and I was back in receive, I heard Bruce Junkin, KI7JA, calling me. I immediately answered him and the pile-up started! There were three or four stations at a time calling, so as fast as I would work one I had another ready to go.

Looking at the log I was averaging one station every five minutes for the first hour. Not a great run-rate for SSB/CW, but not too bad for meteor scatter. I quit shortly after that and Dennis took over mainly on CW for the rest of the evening.

e-mail: <n6cl@sbcglobal.net>

VHF Plus Calendar

August 2	Moon perigee
August 6	First quarter Moon
August 12	<i>Perseids</i> meteor shower
August 13	Full Moon
August 18	Moon apogee
August 21	Last quarter Moon
August 29	New Moon
August 30	Moon perigee

—EME conditions courtesy W5LUU

Friday morning was again very good for meteor scatter. I added more contacts to the log before Dennis took over on SSB and CW. Friday turned out to be our best day during the whole trip in terms of contacts. The band stayed open until well after midnight with lots of double hop to the East Coast.

When the band would start to dry up, Dennis switched to beacon mode and eventually someone new would call. What became abundantly clear was that the majority of signals we were hearing came from stations with stacked arrays and power. And there we sat with a lowly 3-element beam waving in the breeze!

Saturday morning, of course, was the red-letter day, with Mark KMØA being the first in the log on SSB. The opening was short lived into MO. Even so, I switched to ISCAT and worked a few in that mode with some SSB and FSK in between. Running WSJT V7 on FSK and V9 on ISCAT meant I could switch between modes quickly and that helped with the short openings. My last digital contact was with Doug, VE5UF.

After that contact I went to SSB and got ready to start the contest. Once the contest started, it was tough to hold our QRG with so much activity. I had no way of knowing how great the sporadic-E was except by what I was working and what I heard other stations working. I ended up having to do search & pounce to be able to work anyone. Being called by some VE3s and some W1 and W2 stations was very cool, though. Dennis took over on CW around 0045 UTC but found the band starting to fade for us.

The weather had been deteriorating all day and according to NOAA it wasn't going to get any better through the night. With the band conditions not great we decided to take a break and have supper and see how band conditions were later on. We never got the chance!

We had no sooner started to eat supper when the weather really turned on us. The anchor was holding, but the seas were getting rougher and the winds were increasing badly. In fact, the boat was rising and falling so much that the anchor chain occasionally would whip and jump the cogs in the

windlass. The latest NOAA weather forecast wasn't encouraging, with forecasted winds gusting over 50 mph and seas running 8 to 11 feet. We decided rather quickly to, as the saying goes, "get the heck out of Dodge!"

Getting the anchor up and stowed took more time and effort than any of us thought it would take. After several attempts and a frustrating moment when it jumped its guide and had to be levered back into place, it finally was stowed safely and we began heading for cover. By now it was 9:15 PM and too dark to find another anchorage, so with the wind pushing us east we decided to head for Oxnard, CA.

For the next seven hours I sat on the floor of the fly bridge navigating from the charts and GPS while Ken did his best to keep us heading in the right direction. The autopilot wouldn't hold us, so Ken had to constantly correct for the wave action and try and keep us upright. No easy task in 8-ft. plus waves and heavy wind. We were being forced more out to sea because we couldn't turn across the waves to get closer to the islands. Eventually we got some protection from Santa Cruz Island. Additionally, as we approached the eastern tip we were able to turn north and slip between it and Anacapa Island.

Once we cleared Santa Cruz and Anacapa, we were out in the Santa Barbara channel and the waves weren't quite as bad but the wind was still howling and pushing us around. Visibility eventually improved, and we could occasionally see the glow from the lights at Oxnard. Finally we got behind the seawall of the Channel Island Harbor and a pilot boat came and directed us into a temporary slip for what was left of the night. It was now 4:30 AM.

We spent the next morning getting down the antenna and mast and cleaning up the mess inside the boat. Once that was done, we transferred to another slip at the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club for the rest of the day. We overnighted there Sunday and headed for home Monday morning. After stopping for fuel at Long Beach, we finally made it back to Seal Beach around 5 PM.

Other than the weather and lack of propagation at times it was good trip and there are 300 or so folks who no longer need CM93. As mentioned in earlier posts, QSLs go to our home addresses which are okay on QRZ.com. I've posted some pictures of the trip at the following: <<http://picasaweb.google.com/VE3CDX/GridCM93xwJune2011>>. Clicking a photo will make it bigger. Enjoy!

Very 73, Barry, KS7DX, Dennis, K7BV, and Ken

News from K7BV

The following are a couple of items from Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV. First, his account that was posted on the Yahoo WSJTgroup of giving Mark Ammann, KM0A, his grid numbers 485 and 486 for the FFMA:

I think the CN-CM-DM grid trip can generally be called a success. The majority of the trip was devoted to WSJT meteor scatter because of the hours most of the travel-

ing occurred as well as the fact that Es didn't show when it was daylight. The one exception was the two days on the CN77-78 border line where Es did appear. I started the trip as planned ugly early Monday AM. Over the next 24 straight hours, I covered several CA and OR grid border lines and individual grids. I had to grab 3 hours sleep after 28 straight hours, though.

While the actual purpose of the trip was to work in a booth at the SeaPac convention in Seaside, OR, I went up to the CN77/78 line to see if I could help KM0A, W0FY, and others from the Leader Board with these two grids. Wednesday was a long day of only meteor scatter SSB/CW/Digital contacts and

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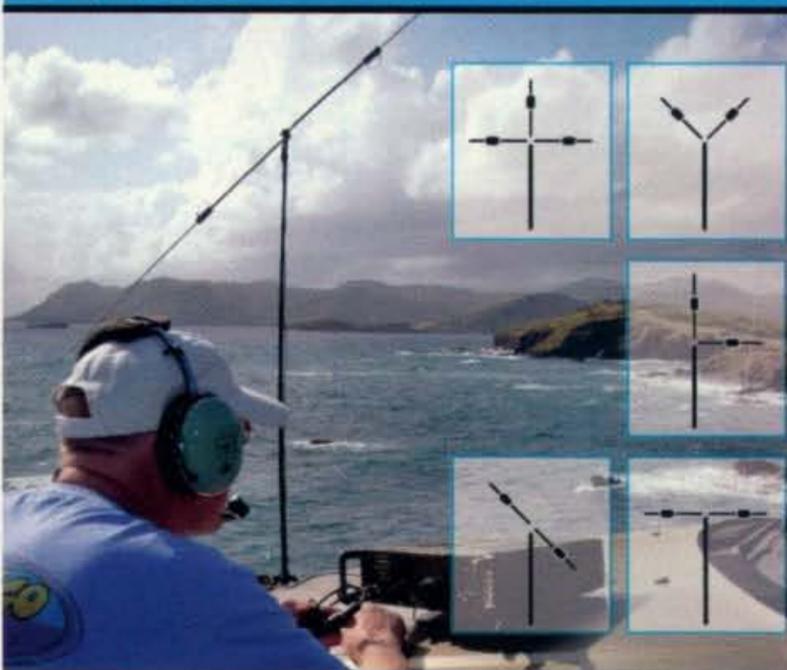
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Preparing to leave Seal Beach. From left to right: the author, Barry Garratt, KS7DX, Ken, the boat captain, and Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV.

a few very short Es. I took the antenna down and went to the hotel about 7 PM thinking the band was dead and gone for the day. After climbing into my pajamas and bed, the phone rang. It was Mark, KM0A, calling to tell me the band was open for him into CN87

not far from me. I jumped out of bed and ran to the car. I raced back to the border-line setup spot alongside Hwy 101 and pulled the generator, antenna, and push-up mast out of the rear of the SUV. I fired up the amp and the FT-450 and then called Mark on the cell

to tell him I was ready to go. We agreed on 50.090 MHz to see if the band would still support a QSO since conditions had faded. . . . I could not hear any signals on the band. As I spun the dial down to 090, I heard a series of Vs beings sent. Shoot; the frequency was in use! Hmmm, Mark, are sending Vs by any chance? Mark responded, "Yes." I said, "Well, listen to your receiver, as you are gonna like this! A few moments later, Mark had grids numbers 485 and 486 in the log.

I worked a few more guys, primarily in MO, before the band appeared to close. I did have one very strong QSO with K7TNT during the MO QSOs, confirming the fact that WY was the first hop for me, with MO being the second footprint. I kept the CQ beacon going and did manage to scare up a few other QSOs before it truly was wrung out for the night. Thursday had a number of short Es openings in the morning and then a long opening in the late afternoon and evening south to CA, NM, and most of the 7th call area.

Thanks for the fun, everyone. I will answer cards after getting back from the CM93 boat gird trip.

Second are two short excerpts from Dennis's blog concerning his bout with cancer: <<http://k7bvcancer.blogspot.com/>>

Officially Cancer Free – Life is Good!

I simply do not know what to say or even what to think, for that matter: I am cancer

On the Cover...

Steppin' out ... for James Archer, N3ZS/5Z4FV, of Elverson, Pennsylvania, accessing his 55-foot automatic crank-up Tri-Ex tower is as easy as stepping off his roof! Of course, if he were doing it for real, James would be wearing all of the necessary climbing and safety equipment. At the top of the tower are a Telrex 5-element, 15-meter monobander (at 60 feet) and a Cushcraft A3WS dual-bander for 12 and 17 meters (at 70 feet).

Inside his shack, James runs a Yaesu FT-990 transceiver and an Alpha Power 91B amplifier. He focuses almost exclusively on DXing and is working toward a spot on the DXCC Honor Roll. He currently has 301 countries confirmed.

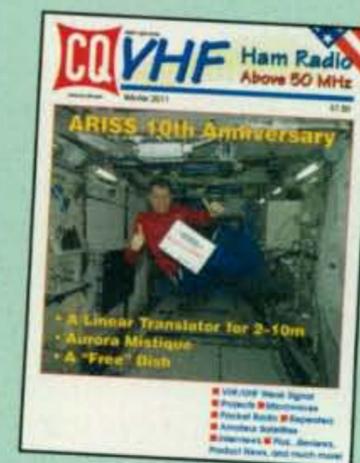
Born and raised in Kenya, James grew up in Uganda, then returned to Kenya as a teenager to work as a pilot for that country's national parks. He received his first ham license in Kenya, on the strength of his pilot's license, for which you needed to pass a Morse code test and be able to repair your plane's radios. James recalled that he went to the licensing agency in his pilot's uniform and the clerk there told him, "If you can fly an airplane, you can operate a radio," and issued him his ham license!

Today, James works as an international environmental engineer, helping Fortune 500 companies "to meet their global environmental challenges." While he has lived in the US for the past 20 years, much of his time has been spent on the road, so far working in 48 of the 50 states and 60 different countries. His career isn't leaving much time for ham radio or flying at the moment, but he did make time back in 1991 to lead the 5X1DX expedition, which was the first DXpedition to Uganda after 20 years in which no ham radio was permitted there. "That was so much fun," he said. "One of the greatest things you can do in amateur radio is go on a DXpedition." (Cover photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI)

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KS7DX—two versions of WSJT running, V7 on the left and V9 on the right. The ICOM 706MKII G is running HF and 2 meters. The 6-meter antenna is in use on the upper deck, which is why there is an open port on the Bird wattmeter. The duct tape on the side of the RigBlaster is for an emergency repair for the power supply.



The maritime mobile QTH, Loon's Call, anchored off Santa Rosa Island.

free. Such a short, simple four-word sentence. Yet there is not a football coliseum big enough to contain all that those words represent to me in past history and future that can now unfold.

Thank you for all you have given of yourselves so I can live today. I will keep you informed of my sloooooow but sure recovery progress. Hugs and kiss for all . . . even those ugly Ham Radio buddies, hi.

W7GJ to Activate Western Samoa this Month

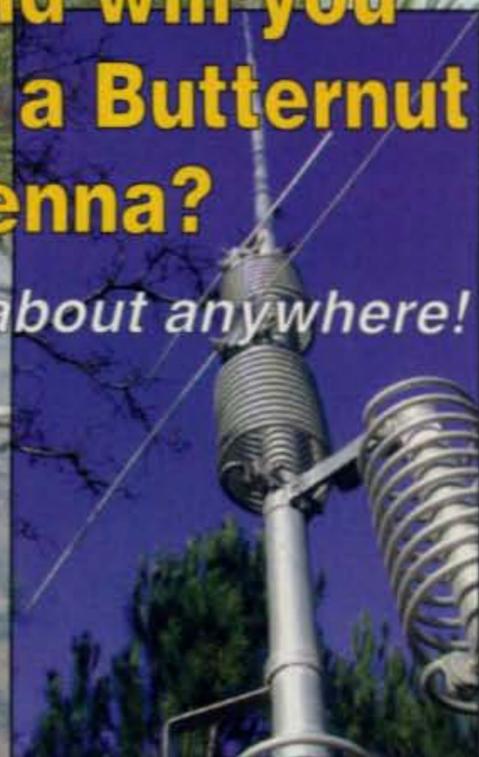
Lance Collister, W7GJ, will activate

Western Samoa on EME this month. In preparing for this column, complete details can be found at: <<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/Samoa2011.htm>>. I asked him if he had anything he wanted to tell us in our preparing for his trip. Here is his response:

I really appreciate whatever exposure I can get! I am *amazed* at the number of good 6-meter stations *who have WSJT capability* and still do not know about this opportunity to snag a rare one! I think the important thing to get across is that if you have good

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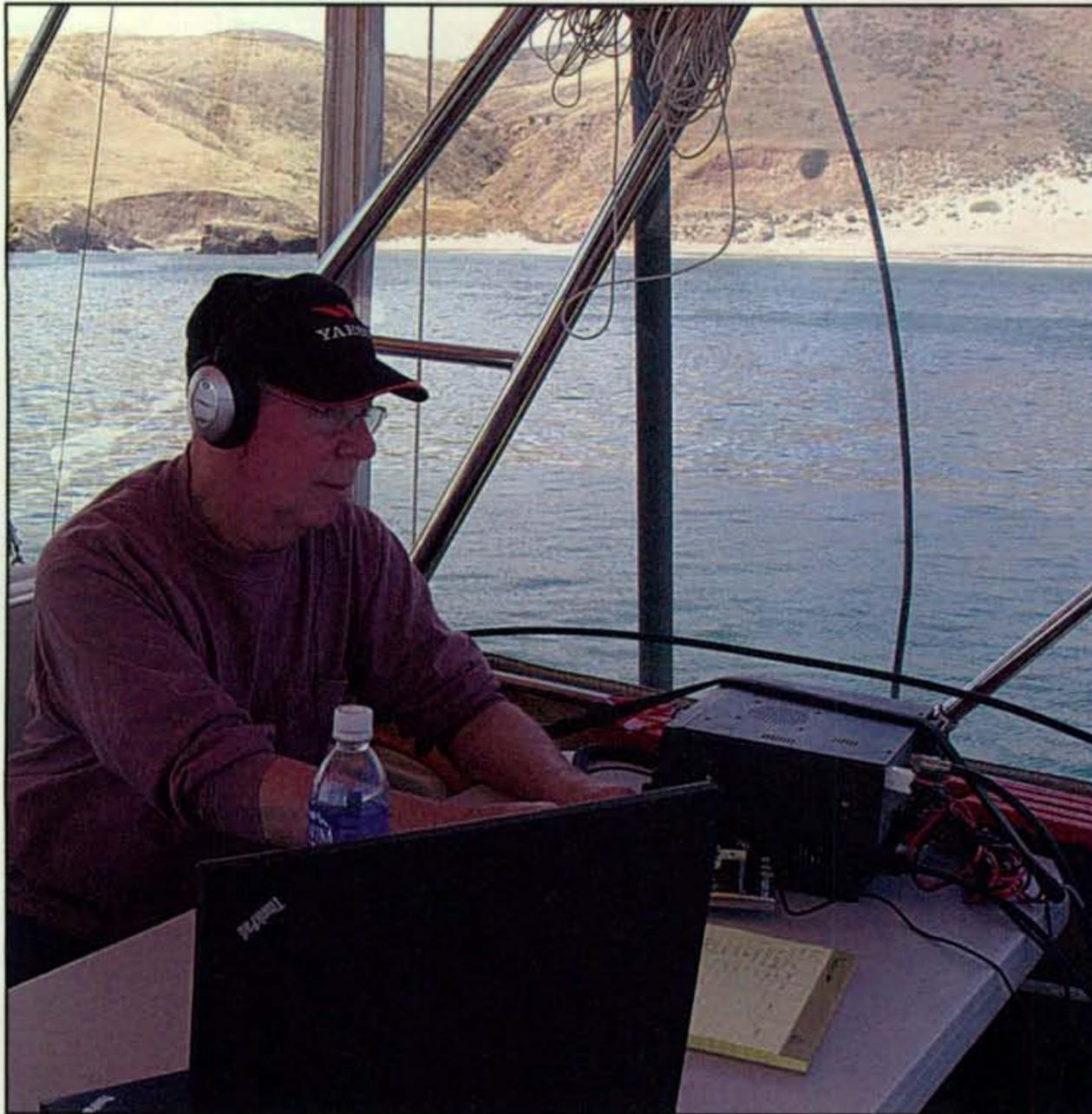
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Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, working the pile-ups.

ground gain (a flat, clear area west of your antenna), and an amplifier, you have a very good chance of completing with me during your moonset! The smallest station I worked on the last two DXpeditions was N3CXV with his 6M5X Yagi. Ground gain where the antenna is installed is a very significant part of the equation in whether there will be enough overall gain to make the half-million mile trip to the moon and back.

Please sign in on the ON4KST EME chat page and find out where the other stations are calling so you can spread out with 200 Hz between each other. [Editor's note: First time access to the ON4KST chat page requires a quick registration.] Also, please read the procedure notes on my web page: <<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/jt44.htm>>. There will not be much time to work horizon-only stations and we will have to try to do it as smoothly as possible.

I made 26,000,000 miles worth of contacts on 6 meters last fall from Fiji. I hope to hand out a new DXCC to many 6-meter DXers again this time. Thanks again and VY 73, Lance.

W7EME to Activate BL02

Jeremy Alexander, W7EME, plans to activate BL02 in Hawaii between July 31 and August 9, 2011. He will be QRV on 144.141 MHz, \pm EME, using second sequencing. He will be using 1 KW, with two 17-element long Yagis.

A New "The World Above 50 MHz" Editor

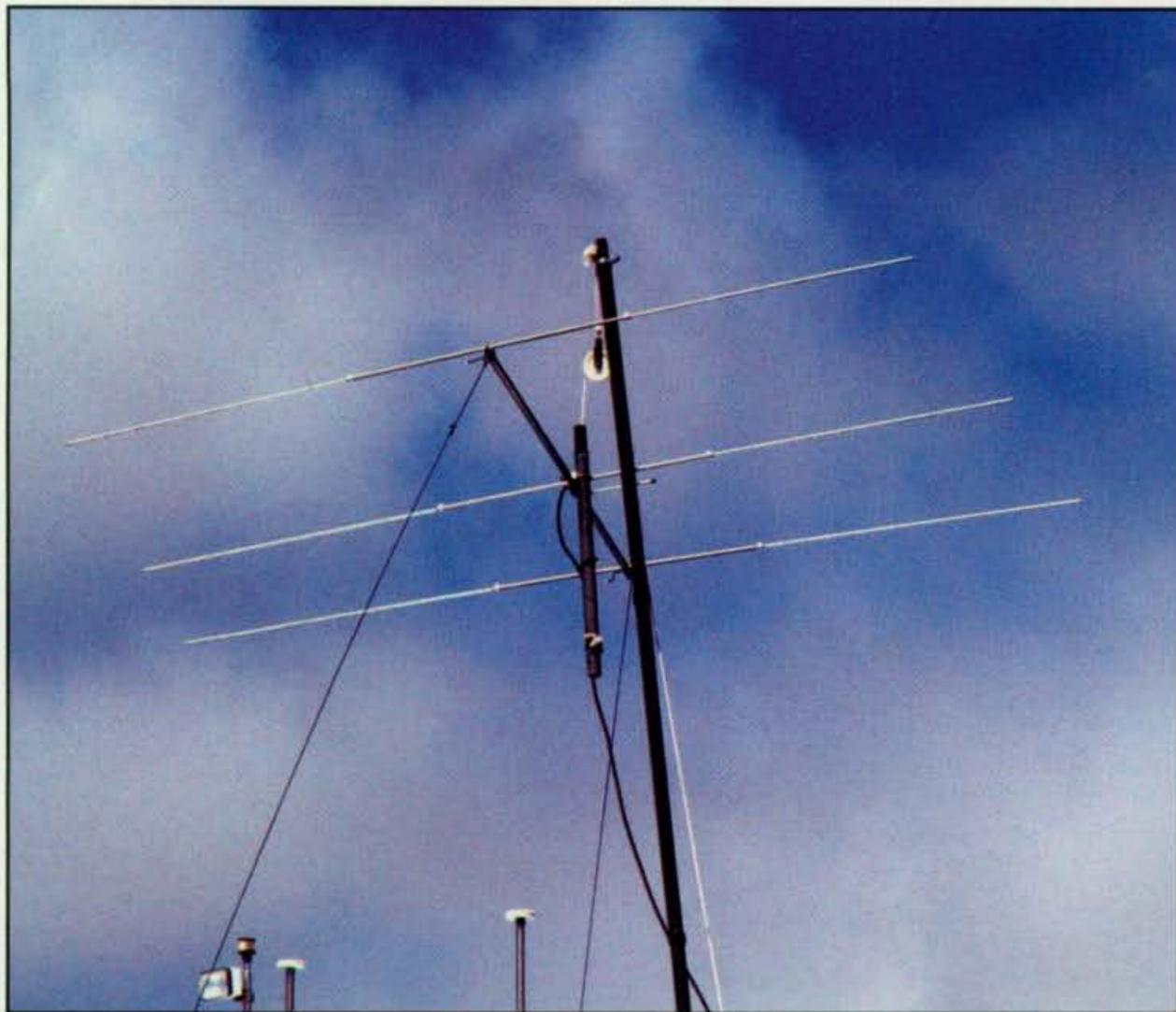
Effective with the August column, Jon Jones, NØJK, has become the new editor of "The World Above 50 MHz" column in QST. Jones succeeds Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, who held the post for nearly ten years, concluding with last month's column. Your editor congratulates Gene for his excellent work during his tenure and looks forward to working with Jon in the future.

New Weak-Signal Records

The following is from DUBUS:

In Vol. 40, First Quarter issue is the following report. New Tropo World Record: On February 7, 2011 DL7QY in JN59BD and F6DKW in JN18CS completed a 579 km QSO on 24 GHz, eclipsing the previous record of 543 km, which took place on September 7, 2002 between W5LUA in EM13QC and WW2R/5 in EM41HC.

In Vol. 40, Second Quarter issue is the following report. New World Record on 76 GHz: On March 8, 2011 DL2AM, DL2GWZ, and DJ5AP made a 228 km contact on 76 GHz between Zugspitz (JN57LK) and Feldberg (JN47AU). This record eclipses the previous record of



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177 km set by AD6FP, KF6KVG, and WØEOM.

COØOM QSL Route

Arnie Coro, CO2KK, advises that he will relay QSL cards that he receives at his post office box to CO3JY, the QSL manager. Arnie's postal address is: Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich, P.O. Box 6363, Ciudad de la Habana 10600, Cuba. Arnie states that one should not include currency with the QSL card. However, IRCs will be accepted.

Silent Keys

The following amateurs have been reported as Silent Keys: Jon Casamajor, K6EL, and Cor Maas, VE7BBG. Their passing has left a sense of loss for their friends and amateur radio in general.

Current Contests

There are two important contests of note: The **ARRL UHF and Above Contest** is scheduled for August 7-8. Complete rules can be found in the July issue of *QST*. The first weekend of the **ARRL 10 GHz** and above cumulative contest is scheduled for August 21-22. The second weekend is September 18-19. Complete rules for this contest also can be found in the July issue of *QST*.

Current Hamfest

The annual **Huntsville, Alabama, Hamfest** will be held August 20-21 at the usual South Hall of the convention center in Huntsville. There are several VHF-related forums scheduled. For more information, see: <<http://www.hamfest.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, email, etc., please contact the person listed with the announcement. The following conference organizer has announced a call for papers for its forthcoming conference:

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, 2011 and should be submitted to: Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, or via the internet to <maty@arrl.org>. For suitable topics and submission guidelines also contact Maty via e-mail, plus check <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

Meteor Showers

Beginning around July 17 and lasting until approximately August 24, you will see activity tied to the *Perseids* meteor shower. Its predicted peak is August 13, 2011 between 0100-1330 UTC. The *κ-Cygnids* meteor shower is expected to peak on August 18. The visually-impossible *γ-Leonids* is expected to peak August 25, around 1600 UTC. However, this shower may have gone

dormant. The *α-Aurigids* is expected to peak around September 1.

For more information on the above meteor shower predictions, see Tomas Hood, NW7US's propagation column elsewhere in this issue. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net/calendar/2011>>.

And Finally . . .

With this column I begin my 21st year as the editor of this, your column. I am glad to report that there is lots of good news this month. I thank everyone who has contributed to the plethora of news this month and over the past 20 years. I look forward to receiving your input in the coming months and years.

Until next month...73 de Joe, N6CL

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County Hunters Aid Tornado Victims, plus IARU Awards

April and May 2011 saw a series of deadly tornadoes strike the central and southeastern United States. A force 3 storm (winds of from 150 to 165 mph) struck well-known county hunter Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, of Snow Hill, North Carolina on Saturday, April 16th. The storm completely destroyed his home, a second structure, his tower and antenna, plus several vehicles. Hollis and his wife Sandy, W4SMT, were in the house when the tornado struck, but survived uninjured.

In short order, members of Hollis's local radio club, the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, and many county hunters started to collect donations to help Hollis cover the many items lost in the tornado that regular insurance does not cover. The effort was coordinated by Bill Pedersen, KM1C, and Dave Langley, W4YDY. At the time this column was written (in late May 2011), the amount collected was estimated to be in excess of \$6000. This includes at least three individual contributions of \$500.

KC3X earned USA-CA #538 in 1987, and earned the subsequent 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Time Around awards offered by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC).

The heart-warming generosity of the County Hunter fraternity was displayed for one of its own in a terrible natural disaster. This shows how just one group, among many, of ham radio operators can come together and help those in need.

IARU Awards

Begun in Paris, France, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has been the watchdog and "spokesman" for the world amateur radio community since 1925. The IARU Constitution, last amended in 1989, organizes the Union into three Regional Organizations that correspond with the three radio regions of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The IARU represents the political and administrative side of the hobby, and is not really well known by many amateurs, who are more interested in operating than in legalities. One of the tools used by the IARU to publicize its background role was the creation of awards which require contacting specified numbers of its member countries, sort of like a DXCC for each region. Note that in the list of countries shown for each of the three awards, some countries within the region are not active members of the IARU, and consequently are not valid for the award.

Region I Award—Administered by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). Contact the required number of stations in countries whose national societies are members of the Region I

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

USA-CA Honor Roll

500

VE3EK	3540
K8DV	3541
ON4RO	3542

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.

Division of the IARU. This award may be endorsed for a single mode or band including 2 or 6 meters, and for contacts made by satellite. The three classes are:

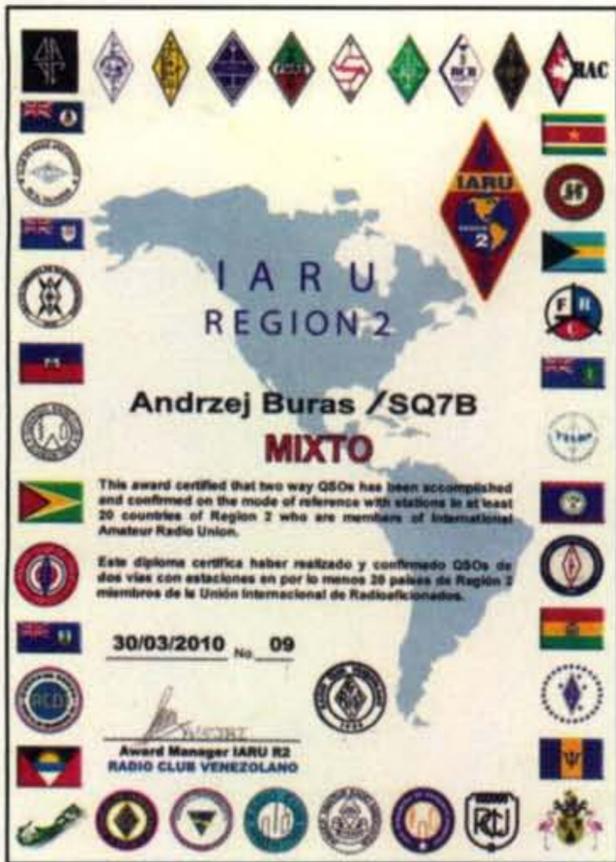
- Class 1—All member countries on the current list
- Class 2—60 member countries
- Class 3—40 member countries.

A special version of the award is available, in the same three classes, for confirmed contacts on the 28-MHz band since July 1, 1983.

Submit a list of countries in prefix order, callsign, and all QSO details, including band, mode, etc. A special application form is available via e-mail or SASE from the HF Awards Manager listed below. Please note that a certified list signed by the applicant and his/her national society awards manager confirming QSL cards are held must be submitted for all Class 1 applications. For Class 2 and Class 3 awards, General Certification Rules apply; General Certification by two radio amateurs or local club officials stating the QSLs have been examined is satisfactory proof. Please note e-QSLs are not



The IARU Region I Award is administered by the Radio Society of Great Britain.



The Radio Club Venezolano sponsors the IARU Region II Award.

acceptable as proof of a QSO. Cost of this award is US\$6, 6 Euros, or £3 UKP.

RSGB HF Awards Manager: John Dunnington, G3LZQ, Box-36, Gilberdyke, East Yorkshire, HU15 2WX England. Internet: <<http://www.rsgb.org/spectrumforum/hf/hfawards/iarureg1.php>>.

Countries of IARU Region I: 3A, 3B, 3C, 3DA, 3V, 4L, 4O, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 7P, 7X, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9Q, A2, A4, A6, A7, A9, C3, C5, C9, CN, CT/CU/CT3, DL, EA, EI, EK, EL, ER, ES, ET, EU, EY, EZ, F/TK, G/GI/GJ/GM/GU/GW, HA, HB0, HB9, I/IS0, J2, JT, JY, LA, LX, LY, LZ, OD, OE, OH/OH0/OJ0, OK, OM, ON, OY, OZ, PA, R, S5, SM, SP, SU, SV, T7, T9, TA, TF, TJ, TN, TR, TU, TZ, UN, UR, V5, XT, YI, YK, YL, YO, YU, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB2, ZS.

Region II Award—Administered by Radio Club Venezolano (RCV). The IARU Region II sponsors and the Radio Club of Venezuela administers this award for contacting at least 20 countries or entities of the 44 which comprise IARU Region II. Contacts on or after April 16, 1964. The official application form IARU Region II provides must be used; located on the internet site <<http://www.iaru-r2.org>>.

The application must be sent together with a certification from an IARU Member Society authorized person (i.e., an official DXCC or WAC card checker, your country's award manager, etc.) that your cards have been checked. If this is not possible, it will be mandatory to provide a photocopy of both sides of the

QSLs valid for the award. Electronic verifications are not accepted.

The Region II countries are: Anguilla, Antigua, Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Montserrat, Netherland Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States (including Alaska), Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The award may be endorsed for all Mixed, Phone, CW, Digimodes, or Satellite. Contacts may be made on the amateur bands 160 through 6 meters, endorsable for any single band or mixed bands. All contacts must have been made from the same country and must be two-way QSOs. No use of cross-mode operation, except for satellite.

Up to a four-month delay may be expected to receive the award. Send the application, cards, or copies and fee of \$US10 or 10 current IRCs. Mail application to: Radio Club Venezolano, Award Manager IARU-R2, PO Box 20285 Caracas 1020-A, Venezuela. E-mail: <awardmanager@iaru-r2.org>; internet: <<http://www.iaru-r2.org>>.

Region III—Administered by the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters (NZART). Contact stations in member countries after April 5, 1982. The basic award requires seven Region III areas; Silver endorsement 15 areas; Gold endorsement 20 areas.

Eligible countries list: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, China (PRC),



The Region III Award is sponsored by the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters group.

Chinese Taipei (Formosa), Fiji, French Polynesia (FO8 only), Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands (VR6), Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Vietnam. (One contact per country allowed.) Plus one or more country credits from U.S. territories in the Pacific: Guam, Northern Marianas, American Samoa, Wake Island, Baker Howland Group, as represented by the ARRL; or one from Chagos Archipelago (VQ9), represented by RSGB. Current total of available "countries" is 31.

Apply to: NZART Awards Manager, PO Box 1733, Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand. Internet: <<http://www.nzart.org.nz/assets/awards/iaru-region-iii-log.pdf>>.

We're always on the hunt for new awards to feature in these pages. I invite your e-mails to the address shown on the first page of this column.

73, Ted, K1BV

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DX News, Six Meters, and QSLing

It's been a fairly quiet summer DX season so far. The Sun has been playing games with us. The on-again, off-again status of activity on the Sun has many wondering what the heck is going on. Frankly, I don't think anyone knows, and definitely not for sure. They seem to be "guessing" (although with knowledge as far as that is deemed possible as far as nature goes), kind of like those who predict the end of the world. Therefore, we'll just have to wait it out for the Sun to finally do whatever it's going to do. For now, then, just make the most of whatever we have in the way of propagation and be thankful we have that.

Hams keep asking me when this country or that country is going to be on the air. I only wish I could answer all those questions. There are some that we just know are not going to be on for the foreseeable future. Places such as Yemen and North Korea are not going to be granting permission for any activity that I can foresee. There are some on the African continent that won't be seeing much, if any, action any time soon either. Entities such as Libya, Sudan, and Somalia are off the table, in my opinion. However, that is my opinion, and everyone is entitled to their own opinion.

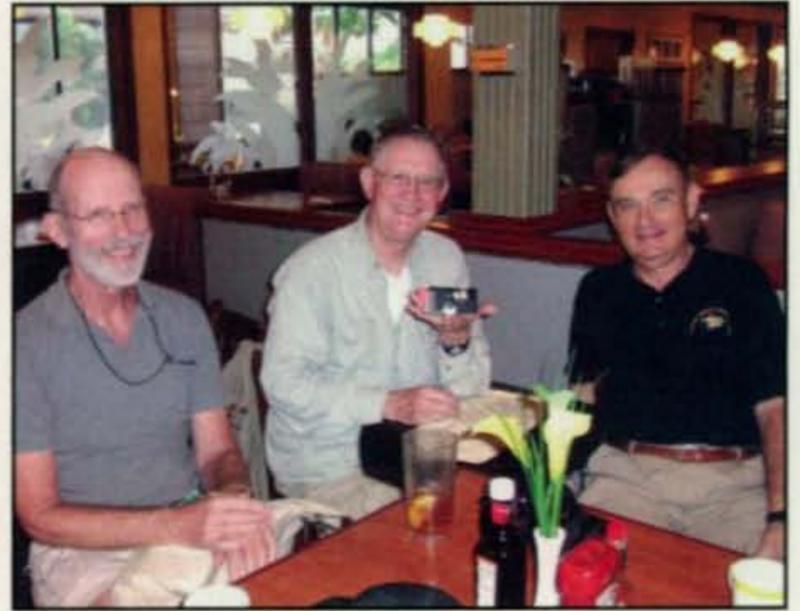
DX News, Old and New

There were some trips announced too late to get them in the July column. Stan, SQ8X, took a team to **Jan Mayen** as **JX5O**. Ron, WA8LOW, and a

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



These are the ops who put Mayotte on the air in April as TO2FH. Left to right are: Fernando, PY4BZ; Alex, PY2WAS; and Ric, PY2PT. They reported 11,300 QSOs in the six-day operation. Equipment failure prevented them from working digital modes. (Photo courtesy of Ric, PY2PT)



Rick, AI5P, spent some time on Pacific islands and on his way home stopped in Hawaii. Here he is having breakfast with local DXers. Left to right: Bill, KH6OO, Rick, and Dan, KH6P. (Photo by Tets, AH7C, and sent courtesy of Dan, KH6P)

few of his friends were set to operate from **KH8, American Samoa** the end of July into the first two weeks of August. Members of the Hellenic ARA of Australia were active from **Lord Howe** as **VK9HR** in mid-July, too.

ET3AA in **Ethiopia** got good news for the antenna system in May. The club station was updated with a new 17-element log periodic antenna covering 6–30 MHz. Professor Doctor Schroeder, the head of the Tech Faculty at the University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and Hans Timmerman, President of IARU Region I, cut the ribbon for the opening the "new" hamshack. The antenna update was the result of donations from Support to The Amateur Radio Service (STARS) and individuals through the efforts of Sid, ET3SID. By the end of July the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society (EARS) hoped to have more than 25 members taking the radio exam for that country.

E4, Palestine! Even with all of the unrest in the Middle East, there is a report that HB9IQB has been granted a license to operate from Palestine during the second and third weeks of December 2011. Time will tell if this really happens.

Other activities announced for time periods later in the year and into early 2012 are:

4W6A, Timor Leste for September
3D2/R, Rotuma for September/October
YJ, Vanuatu for September/October
9N, Nepal for November
C21AA, Nauru for November/December
HK0NA, Malpelo for February 2012

In addition, after all the time and effort spent to put together a DXpedition to **Midway, KH4**, a new

The WPX Program

CW	
3267.....UA3QNS	3268.....UA1TGQ
SSB	
3096.....I6DVX	3098.....UA3QNS
3097.....WD0BMS	3099.....UA9YF
Mixed	
2154.....ZL3PAH	2158.....UA3QNS
2155.....UA3RAB	2159.....I8JIT
2156.....ZS6GRL	2160.....PA0QRB
2157.....Y11RZ	
Digital	
56.....ZS6GRL	58.....K13F
57.....VA7CRZ	59.....R9OSN

CW: 500 UA1TGQ. 650 UA3QNS. 800 JH6JMM. 3300 KF2O. 3600 WA5VGI. 4600 N5NO.

SSB: 450 I6DVX. 500 WD0BMS. 550 N4GOA. 600 UA9YF. 650 UA3QNS. 2750 WA5VGI. 3600 KF2O.

Mixed: 500 UA3RAB. Y11RZ. I8JIT. 650 PA0QRB. 850 ZS6GRL. 1100 UA3QNS. 4150 WB2YQH. 4200 ON4CAS. 4500 KF2O. 5200 N4NO.

Digital: 800 KF2O. 850 ZS6GRL.

160 meters: UA3QNS

80 meters: UA3QNS

40 meters: ZL3PAH, UA3QNS

20 meters: ZS6GRL, UA3QNS

15 meters: ZS6GRL, UA3QNS

10 meters: UA3QNS

Asia: UA3QNS

Africa: UA3QNS

Europe: UA3QNS, R9OSN

Oceania: UA3QNS

N. America: UA3QNS

S. America: UA3QNS

Award of Excellence: AG4W, UA3QNS

160 Meter Bar: AG4W, UA3QNS

Digital Bar: AG4W

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, WD9IC, 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, IN3NJB, S50A, IK1GPG, AA6WJ, W3AP, OE1EMN, W9IL, I7PXX, 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, AB1J, DM3FZN.

160 Meter Endorsements: N4MM, W4CRW, K5UR, VE3XN, DL3RK, OK1MP, N4NO, W4BQY, W4VQ, KF2O, W8CNL, 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, IN3NJB, S50A, IK1GPG, AA6WJ, W3AP, S53EO, S57J, DL1EY, DJ1YH, KU0A, VR2UW, UA0FZ, DJ3JSW, OE6CLD, HB9BIN, N1KC, SM5DAC, S51U, RA0FU, CT4NH, EA7TV, LY3BA, K1NU, W1TE, UA3AP, OK1DWC, KX1A, IZ5BAM, DL6ATM, W2OO, RU3DX, WB9IHH, G4PWA, OK1FED, EU1TT, S53MJ, DL2KQ, RA1AOB, UA9CGL, SM6DHU, K0DEQ, DK0PM, SV1EOS, N4GG, UA4RZ, 7K3QPL, EW1CQ, UA4LY, RZ3DX, UA3AIO, UA4RC, N8BJQ, UA3BS, UA9FGR, UT3UY, WA5VGI, UR5FEO, N3RC, UT3IZ, RU3ZX, YO9HP, RA3DNC, K8ZT, KE5K, JH8BOE, S58MU, UX1AA, DM3FZN.

Complete rules and application forms may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope (foreign stations send extra postage for airmail) to "CQ WPX Awards," P.O. Box 355, New Carlisle, OH 45344 USA. Note: WPX will now accept prefixes/calls which have been confirmed by eQSL.cc. Other electronic QSL confirmation means are not accepted.

*Please Note: The price of the 160, 30, 17, 12, 6, and Digital bars for the Award of Excellence are \$6.50 each.

CQ DX Awards Program

SSB

2569WA4NEL

SSB Endorsements

340I8KCI/341	275N3KV/290
340W7OM/340	275WD8EOL/282
330W9SS/339	275IW0HOU/278
320KD5ZD/328	3.5/7 MHzWA4NEL
320W0ROB/324	

CW Endorsements

330W7OM/339 330N7WO/332

RTTY Endorsements

330NI4H/339

The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. We recognize 341 active countries. 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.

Communications Officer was assigned to the island by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is Joe, W5FJG, and he will be active from Midway for about a year. He had minimal equipment when he arrived but is expanding his station. He has an IC-7000 and an R5 vertical antenna. As soon as a much-needed power supply gets out there, he will be more active on the air. Early reports only reflect SSB operation. There is no indication if he can/will be working any CW while there.

Six-Meter Activity

Six meters is getting a lot of attention. With more and more radios coming out with 6 and even higher VHF/UHF bands, "built-in" folks are taking an interest in using those bands. Also, this time of year, 6 meters gets very active. I am getting a large number of reports from U.S. DXers who are working some pretty fair DX on the "Magic Band." With the sun playing its games, the Magic Band is holding its own and providing a lot of fun and many "counters" for VHF DXCC, the DX Challenge, and other

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QSLing and LoTW, via G3TXT

I received an interesting paper from Nigel, G3TXT, a well-known DXpeditioner, on the subject of QSLing and the ARRL's Logbook of The World. Here's what Nigel had to say:

LoTW:

The unintended consequences?

By Nigel, Cawthorne, G3TXF

Any new development, however successful, can bring with it unintended consequences. The DX-Cluster is arguably one of the contributory causes for much of today's poor pile-up operating behavior, and even worse, the outlandish radio *thuggery* of the D-QRMers. A complete litany of the unintended consequences of the internet as a whole is just too long to list, but probably starts with large-scale global-crime and ends with your junk mail.

The introduction of the ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) is without doubt one of the most significant operational innovations for HF DXers of the past decade. The ability to be able to upload your log and automatically receive credits for the ARRL's DXCC and Worked All States (WAS) awards has revolutionized these major DX programs. Getting credits for many of the current total of 3,400 potential band-slots of the ARRL's DX Challenge is made so much easier by using LoTW.

Traditionally, the submitting of paper QSLs to either a local DXCC Checker, or to ARRL Hq., has always been part of the administrative process of keeping your DXCC score up to date. With the rapid expansion of LoTW, an ever-increasing proportion of DXCC claim updates are made using paperless "LoTW credits." In my own case, recent DXCC update submissions have been about half-and-half—i.e., 50% paper QSLs and 50% LoTW credits, but with the LoTW element becoming more significant with each submission.

However, despite the welcome increase in LoTW activity, traditional QSL cards still have an important role to play in the world of Amateur Radio and DX awards. Remember that LoTW only works for the awards run by the ARRL. Other major DX operating award programs such as the RSGB's IOTA and Commonwealth Awards, as well as the award programs of all other national societies (apart from the ARRL), are not catered to in LoTW.

Speedy LoTW up-loads are always good news. More and more ultra-friendly DXpeditions are uploading their logs to LoTW, if not "live" during the operation then immediately after they return home. There's a discernible warm glow of grati-

5 Band WAZ

As of June 1, 2011, 848 stations have attained the 200 zone level and 1733 stations have attained the 150 zone level.

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

RW3PZ N8BJQ RA0FF R7AY

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

N7US, 199 (18)	K8PT, 199 (26)
N4WW, 199 (26)	N8AA, 199 (23)
W4LI, 199 (26)	HB9ALO (1)
K7UR, 199 (34)	IN3ZNR, 199 (1)
IK8BOE, 199 (31)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
JA2IVK, 199 (34 on 40)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
IK1AOD, 199 (1)	JA1DM, 198 (2, 40)
VO1FB, 199 (19)	9A5I, 198 (1, 16)
KZ4V, 199 (26)	G3KMQ, 198 (1, 27)
W6DN, 199 (17)	N2QT, 198 (23, 24)
W3NO, 199 (26)	OK1DWC, 198 (6, 31)
RU3FM, 199 (1)	W4UM, 198 (18, 23)
N3UN, 199 (18)	US7MM, 198 (2, 6)
W1JZ, 199 (24)	K2TK, 198 (23, 24)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	K3JGJ, 198 (24, 26)
SM7BIP, 199 (31)	W4DC, 198 (24, 26)
N4NX, 199 (26)	F5NBU, 198 (19, 31)
EA7GF, 199 (1)	W9XY, 198 (22, 26)
JA5IU, 199 (2)	KZ2I, 198 (24, 26)
RU3DX, 199 (6)	W9RN, 198 (26, 19 on 40)
N4XR, 199 (27)	W5CWQ, 198 (17, 18)
HA5AGS, 199 (1)	I5KKW, 198 (31&23 on 20)
N5AW, 199 (17)	UA4LY, 198 (6&2 on 10)
JH7CFX, 199 (2)	IK4CIE, 198 (1, 31)
K7LJ, 199 (37)	K2FF, 198 (18, 23)
RA6AX, 199 (6 on 10m)	JA7XBG, 198 (2 on 80&10)
RX4HZ, 199 (13)	JA3GN, 198 (2 on 80&40)
K0GM, 199 (17)	K2FF, 198 (18, 23)
S58Q, 199 (31)	
KQ0B, 199 (2 on 10)	
K9OW, 199 (34 on 10)	
G3NKC, 199 (31 on 10)	

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

I3VJW (170 zones) RN6FK (190 zones)
LU2FYU (165 zones)

5 Band WAZ updates:

K0GM (200 zones) W7VJ (200 zones)
VE3XN (200 zones) SP6EQZ (190 zones)
N6UK (180 zones) LU4FPZ (193 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>.

tude generated amongst the whole DX-community whenever a major DXpedition uploads its logs to LoTW within days of the end of the operation. On the other hand, the LoTW foot-draggers who argue that they want to withhold uploading their logs, be it for three months, six months, or even a year, based on some confused reasoning that they will somehow be missing out on their precious "QSL dollars" just leaves a sour taste.

One of the "unintended consequences" of LoTW has therefore been the debate over the timing of uploads following a

The WAZ Program

6 Meters

104UX0FF (26 zones) 105EI3IO (30 zones)

17 Meters SSB

50K2FF

20 Meters SSB

1201R7AY

15 Meters CW

341K2FF 342K8VFV

17 Meters CW

77JA1AYV 78K2FF.

80 Meters CW

85RW3PZ 87R7AY.
86N4MM

160 Meters

379US5CB (30 zones) 381EI3IO (40 zones)
380UX0FF (31 zones)

All Band WAZ

Mixed

8802K9CT 8808K6GEP
8803SP5APW 8809OK1DMP/QRP
8804W4UR 8810UA3QNS
8805VA3NQ 8811W8KHP
8806UX0FF 8812UA2AB
8807K8DV

SSB

5164K2SHA 5166WF2F
5165I6DVX 5167WA9PIE

CW

631WA6KHK

RTTY

215K9MM

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>.

DXpedition. LoTW upload timings currently range between "instantaneous" and "never," with some "LoTW foot dragger" DXpeditions hovering around six months. Hopefully over time the immediate uploading of logs to LoTW at the end of a DXpedition will become standard practice. DXers the world over are massively grateful (just see the numerous positive comments on the CDXC reflection) to DXpeditions that upload their logs immediately.

LoTW's threat to QSLing. However, another unintended consequence of LoTW is possibly more serious, as it threatens one of the longest traditions of the hobby of Amateur Radio: the QSL Card. To put it bluntly, more and more operations are using LoTW as an "excuse" not to reply to requests for paper QSLs. Just look on QRZ.com. You will find an ever-increasing number of stations (be they DXers, contesters, or even some small DXpeditions)



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20-6 meters *Fixed or Portable Operation*

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radio not included

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CQ DX Honor Roll

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CW

N0FW.....340	EA2IA.....340	K9BWQ.....339	K3JGJ.....338	K9OW.....335	JA7XBG.....330	IK0ADY.....326	WA4DOU.....314	K4EQ.....279
K2TQC.....340	N7FU.....340	N4MM.....339	F3TH.....336	K2OWE.....334	W4UW.....330	F6HMJ.....326	YO9HP.....314	4Z5SG.....277
WB4UBD.....340	K4IQJ.....340	W7CNL.....339	DL3DXX.....336	W4MPY.....334	K8SIX.....329	EA5BY.....326	ON4CAS.....312	WA2VQV.....277
K3UA.....340	K4MQG.....340	N5ZM.....339	N5FG.....336	K5UO.....334	W7IIT.....329	WG5G/QRPP.....325	K0KG.....312	
N4JF.....340	W8XD.....340	N4AH.....339	YU1AB.....336	N6AW.....334	K1FK.....329	W9IL.....319	WD9DZV.....310	
K2FL.....340	N7RO.....340	K9IW.....339	UA0MF.....336	HB9DDZ.....334	W6OUL.....327	OZ5UR.....318	KT2C.....302	
WK3N.....340	N5FG.....340	K8LJG.....339	W0JLC.....335	G3KMQ.....332	KE3A.....327	CT1YH.....318	HA5LQ.....302	
N4NX.....340	K4CN.....340	W7OM.....339	VE3XN.....335	K6LEB.....332	K6CU.....327	EA3ALV.....317	N2LM.....300	
K9MM.....340	OK1MP.....340	K7LAY.....338	N4CH.....335	N7WO.....332	W1DF.....327	RA1AOB.....315	K4IE.....296	
W4OEL.....340	K4JLD.....339	KA7T.....338	PY2YP.....335	K5RT.....330	KA3S.....326	W6YQ.....314	N2VW.....281	

SSB

XE1AE.....341	EA2IA.....341	W6BCQ.....340	W2CC.....338	WS9V.....336	W2FKF.....335	CT1AHU.....330	XE1RBV.....319	AD7J.....306
N0FW.....341	IN3DEI.....341	VE2GHZ.....340	K3LC.....338	VE3XN.....336	YU3AA.....335	N1ALR.....330	VE7SMP.....318	HB9DQD.....305
K6YRA.....341	DU9RG.....341	K2FL.....340	4Z4DX.....337	K9HQM.....336	W7BJN.....335	K7HG.....329	ON4CAS.....317	4Z5FL/M.....304
IK1GPG.....341	K4MQG.....341	K9BWQ.....340	W4WX.....337	VE3MR.....336	W4UW.....335	N5YY.....329	N8SHZ.....314	K7SAM.....303
K2TQC.....341	N4MM.....341	K7LAY.....340	I0ZV.....337	VE3MRS.....336	K1UO.....335	KE4SCY.....328	IV3GOW.....314	I3ZSX.....302
K4MZU.....341	K9MM.....341	W6DPD.....340	OE2EGL.....337	AA4S.....336	HB9DDZ.....335	K6GFJ.....328	W6NW.....312	AE9DX.....300
K5OVC.....341	K3JGJ.....341	K8LJG.....340	W4ABW.....337	PY2YP.....336	K8SIX.....334	KD5ZD.....328	KU4BP.....312	4X6DK.....299
DJ9ZB.....341	N5ZM.....341	YU3AA.....340	DL3DXX.....337	K9OW.....336	KE3A.....334	W9GD.....327	N2LM.....312	WD9DZV.....299
OZ5EV.....341	N7RO.....341	W7OM.....340	VE1YX.....337	EA5BY.....336	N2VW.....334	SV3AQR.....326	KA1LMR.....310	K7ZM.....298
K3UA.....341	KE5K.....341	AB4IQ.....340	N4CH.....337	XE1J.....336	JA7XBG.....334	VE7EDZ.....326	RA1AOB.....310	W9ACE.....292
WB4UBD.....341	K4IQJ.....341	W8ILC.....340	EA3BMT.....337	OE3WWB.....335	K5UO.....333	W1DF.....324	G3KMQ.....310	W6MAC.....290
N4JF.....341	N5FG.....341	K0KG.....339	IK0AZG.....337	N6AW.....335	K5RT.....332	W0ROB.....324	XE1MEX.....310	N3KV.....290
VE2PJ.....341	K4CN.....341	W7FP.....339	YU1AB.....337	IK8CNT.....335	W0YDB.....332	W4MPY.....323	I0YKN.....308	WD8EOL.....282
WK3N.....341	OZ3SK.....341	W4UNP.....339	UA0MF.....337	EA4DO.....335	WA4WTG.....332	T8II.....322	XE1MW.....307	N3RC.....278
N4NX.....341	OK1MP.....341	K9IW.....339	KZ2P.....336	CT3BM.....335	ZL1BOQ.....332	YO9HP.....322	AA1VX.....306	IW0HOU.....278
K4JLD.....341	I8KCI.....341	W9SS.....339	W8AXI.....336	K8LJG.....335	W9IL.....332	KW3W.....322	W5GT.....306	WA5UA.....276
N7BK.....341	K5TVC.....340	N7WR.....339	VK4LC.....336	W3AZD.....335	F6HMJ.....331	W6OUL.....320	K4IE.....306	

RTTY

WB4UBD.....339	N5FG.....336	K3UA.....333	K4CN.....323	WK3N.....314
NI4H.....339	N5ZM.....335	OK1MP.....333	UA0MF.....318	K8SIX.....298

saying that because they have uploaded their logs to LoTW, there will not be any paper QSLs available at all.

Sorry, but to use the current parlance, this is just "out of order!" The collecting of QSLs for contacts made with out-of-the-way or otherwise interesting places has been a long tradition within Amateur Radio. The cost of the QSLs themselves can hardly be an excuse, particularly when it's probably but a small fraction of the overall cost of the operation. The refusal to provide any QSLing for special calls or other contest calls just seems selfish and disingenuous. There are many competent and enthusiastic QSL Managers who are only too willing to provide an excellent service to contesters and DXpeditioners who may not be interested in handling and processing of QSL cards themselves. To refuse to provide any QSLs at all (either directly or through a helping QSL Manager) just because the log has been uploaded to LoTW seems, in some way, to be an abuse of LoTW itself.

An Amateur Radio license is a privilege. A special callsign (be it DX callsign or contest callsign) is an even greater privilege. With privilege comes responsibility. Within Amateur Radio the courtesy of a QSL is a long-held tradition. To draw on the privileges (by running pileups in a contest with a special callsign) but without accepting the responsibility somehow

seems one-sided. "Look at me, I've got a nice contest callsign. Hopefully more people will call me because of my snappy contest call. That'll increase my enjoyment of the privilege of operating. But no, I won't bother to do any QSLing. I can't be bothered. I'm here to draw pleasure from the privilege of my special call, but I'll ignore the responsibility."

So, it seems there are two major unintended consequences of LoTW. One centers round the time that it takes to upload a DXpedition log. Hopefully, peer pressure (combined with the realization that there is no significant reduction in "QSL income") will encourage all DXpeditions, both large and small, to upload their logs immediately after they get home. The



The annual Dayton Hamvention® SWODXA DXpedition of the Year award resulted in two winners this year. Here, team members of ZL8X, Kermadec and VP8ORK, South Orkney receive their awards during the DX Dinner on Friday evening in Dayton. (Photo courtesy of David, K4PZT)

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other unintended consequence is slightly more insidious. It's the spreading of the "because I have uploaded to LoTW I will cease QSLing altogether" syndrome.

Let's all encourage the continuing improvement in the speed of post DXpedition LoTW uploads, but let's also register our clear

disapproval of the distinctly ham unfriendly "I've uploaded to LoTW, hence I won't QSL" excuse.

Happy DXing and QSLing in 2011.

—Nigel, G3TXF

With that, I'll leave it to you to ponder the LoTW and QSLing situation and possibly comment on it. Until next time, enjoy the chase, and Have Fun!

73, Carl, N4AA



Left to right in this photo are Phil, W9IXX; John, N7CQQ; Lynn, W4NL; and Mike, N9NS. Phil hands one of the laminated maps of Kanton Island in Central Kiribati, signed by all the team members of T31A, to Lynn, congratulating him on working T31A. W4NL was Number One on the Club Log list for the World, and of course, all of North America. He was the first station to work T31A 19 times on the various bands/modes where they were available. (Photo courtesy of Phil, W9IXX)

QSL Information

EG7SDC via EA1AUM
EG7SE via EA4URE
EG7SSM via EA7URM
EG8AAD via EA8RCP
EG8DIA via EC8ADW
EG8FSA via EA8RKL
EG8FVC via EA8RKL
EG9A via EA4URE
EG9IA via EA4URE
EG9IC via EA4URE
EG9Z via EA9LZ
EH1DAA via EA1WS
EH1PAZ via EA1RCM
EH5FL via EA5FL
EH5H via EA5FL
EH5URJ via EA5FL
EH5VE via EA7URD
EH6R via EA6AZ
EH7H via JA1HGY
EH7VE via EA7URD
EH9IC via EA4URE
EI/DG5SDQ via DG5SDQ
EI/DL3OCH via DL3OCH

EI/G7VJR via G7VJR
EI/GI0NCA via GI0NCA
EI/HA0HW via HA0HW
EI/OM7CA via OM7CA
EI/ON4EI via ON4EI
EI/W4MPS via W4MPS
EI09VOR via EI8DD
EI0W via EI2JD
EI2GBW via EI9JO
EI2VDO via DL1DA
EI6DX/6W via RX3RC
EI7DAR via EI2JD
EI9JF via LZ3HI
EJ/DL8AAV via DL8AAV
EJ0GI via EI2SDR
EJ1DD via EI7CC
EJ3HA via EI3HA
EJ4GRC via EI8DD

(The table of QSL Managers is courtesy of John Shelton, K1XN, editor of "The Go List," 106 Dogwood Dr., Paris, TN 38242; phone 731-641-4354; e-mail: <golist@golist.net>; <<http://golist.net/>>.)

Ergonomics

A ham in a typical radio contest can be compared to a runner in a marathon. Each must prepare in advance to be competitive and must run the event as an endurance contest. Like the marathoner, the contester must have the right strategy, the right equipment, and the proper mindset.

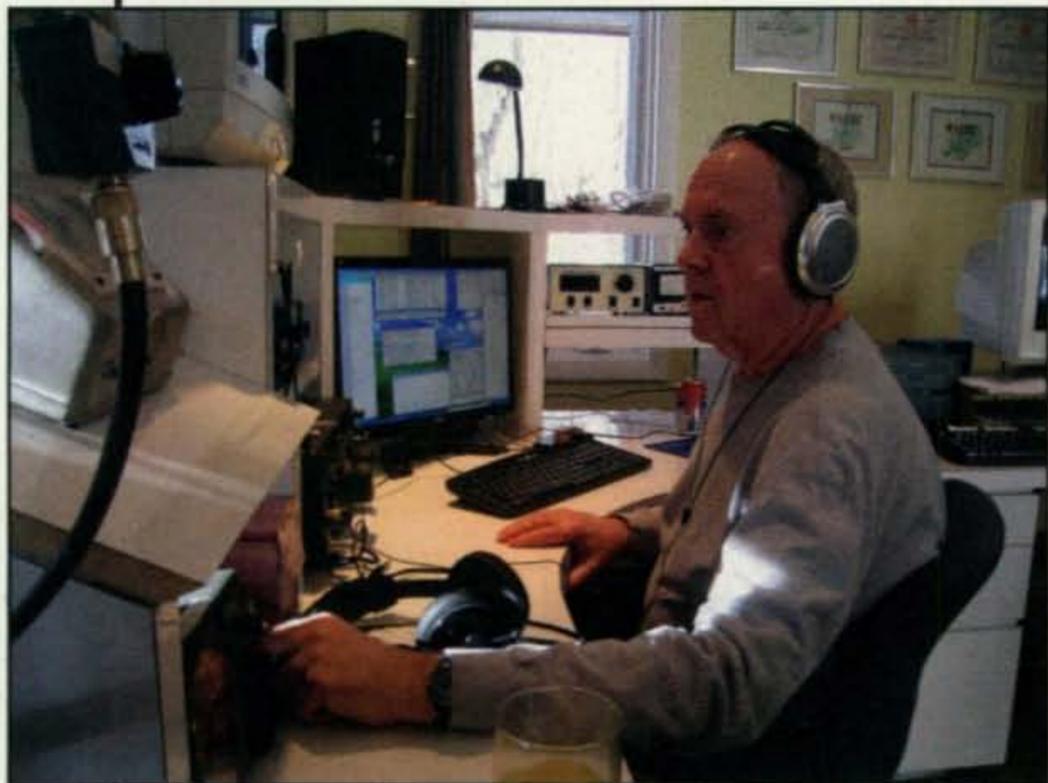
For contesting, the right equipment includes having an appropriate contest-grade radio, antennas, filtering, switching equipment, keying devices, computers, interface cables and other hardware. All of these items are important in the heat of battle. However, it may be even more important to have the right "software"—the proper chair, operating table, and ergonomics—so that you can maximize your "time in the seat."

Shack Furniture

The *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* defines ergonomics as "an applied science concerned with designing and arranging things people use so that the people and things interact most efficiently and safely—called also biotechnology, human engineering, human factors." For radio amateurs, the operator-to-radio interface can make the difference between winning and losing. An improper chair or a table at the wrong height can cause discomfort, fatigue, and loss of concentration. Good ergonomics can help you achieve your goals by helping you stay in the chair and continue to make contacts.

A good chair should provide support, be comfortable, and allow free movement of your arms. It should not chafe, cut, or cause any pain. The seat should have some cushioning but not compress so much that you will feel the wood or metal base. It

*P.O. Box 657, Copiague, NY 11726
e-mail: <n2ga@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Les, W2LK, at the controls of one of the radios at Andy's multi-multi operation at K2LE in Vermont.

Calendar of Events

All year	CQ DX Marathon
July 30–31	RSGB IOTA Contest
Aug. 6	European HF Championship
Aug. 7	SARL HF Phone Contest
Aug. 6–7	North American CW QSO Party
Aug. 6–7	ARRL UHF Contest
Aug. 13–14	Worked All Europe CW Contest
Aug. 13–14	Maryland-DC QSO Party
Aug. 20–21	SARTG RTTY Contest
Aug. 20–21	North American SSB QSO Party
Aug. 20–22	New Jersey QSO Party
Aug. 27–28	YO DX Contest
Aug. 27–28	SCC RTTY Championship
Aug. 27–28	Ohio QSO Party
Aug. 28	SARL HF CW Contest
Sept. 3–4	All Asian SSB Contest
Sept. 10–11	Worked All Europe SSB Contest
Sept. 10–11	ARRL September VHF QSO Party
Sept. 25–26	CQ WW RTTY DX Contest

Basic information on many of these events may be found in WorldRadio Online's Contest Corner at <www.worldradiomagazine.com>. For complete information on any of these contests, see their respective sponsors' web pages.

should allow some air flow if possible and be made of soft, yet durable fabric. The base of the chair should be secure. If a rolling chair is utilized, consider one with five versus four legs to prevent a tip-over. The ability to adjust the height of the chair is important, as you want to position yourself so both your feet and arms are comfortable. I prefer chairs with padded and adjustable armrests, but some operators prefer chairs without arms. The back of the chair should support your back properly. Again, an adjustable back is preferred to allow the chair to be positioned so it supports you when you are seated at the operating table. A chair with some back movement might also allow you to shift positions to tolerate longer stints seated.

Your operating table or desk is another component in the ergonomic equation. Key factors in a good operating table include one that is at the proper height, has enough room for all of the necessary equipment, and allows positioning of that equipment in an optimal way to allow easy manipulation of controls. Another consideration is the arrangement of your equipment. You must decide what will gear will be closest to you and where it will be placed. Consider placing the most-frequently used items nearest to you and those things that are less used farther away.

Equipment Layout

Many contesters today utilize computers as the primary component during contest operating. As such, consider positioning your computer display at the center of your operating table, directly in front of you. It should be at a good focal distance for your eyes and at the right height so your neck is in a

comfortable position. You don't want to look up or down too much, so the screen has to be elevated just right. You might want to consider a shelf or shelves to hold your display screen and some of your other equipment.

Your keyboard and mouse are also important items and should be placed properly. The keyboard will be the most touched device during the contest, especially if you plan on "running" a lot. The height of the keyboard is paramount; it must allow you to position your arms and wrists in a comfortable way. Some contesters place the keyboard directly on the operating table in front of the radio. I personally prefer a keyboard drawer. In this configuration the keyboard is slightly lower than the table and closer to you. This allows you to move slightly closer or farther from the screen. It also lets you move your hands above the keyboard easily to tune or adjust the radio. Some keyboard drawers also position the mouse or other pointing device on the drawer. This takes it off the desk to allow other accessories such as paddles, switches, and antenna rotators to be closer.

The layout of your station can also be done in different configurations depending upon the your room and the space you have available. Options include straight, corner, U-shaped, or V-shaped. Placing items in any configuration besides a straight table permits the gear to wrap around you to make it easier to reach controls. The U-shaped pattern is becoming more popular. You can place your monitor in the center with one radio on each side for a single-operator, two-radio (SO2R) setup. This makes it easy to know which radio is your "left" and which is your "right" when you are fatigued. Your switching scheme should have left and right marked clearly as well. If you are a single radio operator, place the radio where it can be easily reached with your preferred hand for tuning. I tune with my left hand and leave my right hand free for the mouse, antenna rotator, or paddles. When operating with one radio, I place it slightly to the left of the display with my rotator close at hand on the right.

Headsets, boom microphones, and foot switches are other equipment that should be chosen with proper ergonomics in mind. It is good to have a variety of headsets so you can switch off during the contest. Headsets can cover the ears completely or rest on top of the ears. You may prefer one type over the other, but having both will allow you to switch back and forth. Use the one that feels comfortable and doesn't give you

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George, N2GA, reaches for nearby rotor controls at Andy's multi-multi station at K2LE in Vermont.

This adds flexibility and allows changes to be made easily. Wires and cables can be added, changed, and removed. It also makes tracking down problems much quicker and easier without having to crawl underneath desks or move equipment. Clearly label all of your coax feedlines, switches, and controls. Make sure the writing is legible and easy to read. It is easy to make mistakes during the middle of a contest when you are tired and may not be thinking clearly. Proper labeling helps prevent that from happening.

Proper ergonomics also means removing items that are in the way of controls and equipment. Many hams are pack rats and collect a lot of stuff. Some of it can accumulate and get in the way. Take the time to remove the clutter around the shack. Put away things you want to keep; throw out, sell, or give away the stuff you don't need. It makes no sense to arrange and label your gear and then have a pile of junk obscuring it.

Eat, Drink, and ... Stay Awake!

Like the athlete, you need fuel to keep you going during a long contest. Choose the proper food and drink that will invigorate you and keep you energized. Don't eat heavy meals that will make you sleepy. Consider small, frequent meals to equalize your blood-sugar level. Diet is a personal choice and every successful contester has his/her own eating and drinking plan. If you haven't considered this in the past, try protein-rich sources of food for long-term energy. Drink enough fluids so you don't dehydrate. Avoid all alcoholic beverages (until after the contest). Most of all, have the food ready and available to eat. Think about keeping a small cooler near you at the operating location so you can snack and drink when needed without having to get up.

In Closing . . .

More time in the chair will equate to more contacts, and the longer you are able to sit, the higher your score will be and the better you will do. Create an environment that is conducive to long-term operating. This will maximize your comfort and minimize distractions. Good lighting, proper ventilation, and temperature control will also help. Your radio shack should be a place where you want to spend time, not a cave that you can't wait to crawl out of! Take the time to create the right ergonomic setting and it will pay off in higher scores, less pain and fatigue, and just plain more fun.

73, George, N2GA

a headache. Consider removing the headset and using an external speaker for part of the contest to also give your ears a rest. If you use a boom microphone, position it so that you don't have to stretch your back and neck to speak into it. The same goes with a footswitch; make sure it is right underfoot, so to speak, to prevent having to lunge for it

when you want to transmit. Consider switching to VOX operation for phone contests for at least part of the time as well to give your feet a rest.

Keeping Everything Accessible

When setting up a new station, leave room to walk behind the operating table.



Mel, K2SG, operating the Order of Boiled Owls Field Day station KW2O at the Long Island Maritime Museum in Sayville, New York.

Setting It Straight

A Quick Look at Current Cycle 24 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, May 2011: 42

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2010: 27

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, May 2011: 96

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2010: 88

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, May 2011: 9

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2010: 6

One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots

Observed Monthly, May 2010: 9

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2009: 8

10.7 cm Flux

Observed Monthly, May 2010: 74

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2009: 75

Ap Index

Observed Monthly, May 2010: 8

Twelve-month smoothed, November 2009: 5

Have you heard a fellow amateur radio operator make the statement, "a solar flare is heading our way, so conditions will be terrible"? Even the news media makes statements like this, as do popular blogs: "A spectacular coronal mass ejection on June 7 sent a solar flare heading our way at a speed of 1400 km/s. The flare, said to be of medium size, is likely to result in spectacular aurora and other space weather effects with the potential to cause some communications, navigation, and power-grid problems." (Do a search on your favorite internet search engine for "solar flares heading our way," and look at how popular this phrase has become.) The problem with these statements is that they are inaccurate.

Solar flares do not head our way, in the way that these statements imply. Faithful readers of this column know that solar flares often trigger a complex series of events that may lead to the release of solar plasma clouds that do head our way, but also know that the flare itself is a nearly instant release of energy much like the burst of light of a flash bulb on a camera.

Solar flares are good examples of some of the most energetic natural explosive events known to man. Complex magnetic looping structures concentrated in an active sunspot region suddenly snap apart. Radiation is emitted across virtually the entire electromagnetic spectrum, from longwave radio frequencies, through the optical spectrum (the bright flash of a solar flare that is seen by the

*e-mail: <nw7us@nw7us.us>

LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for August 2011

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 1-4, 6-16, 20, 23-24, 27-28, 31	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 2-3, 5, 17, 21-22, 25, 29-30	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 26	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: 18-19	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: N/A	C-D	D	E	E

Where expected signal quality is:

A—Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9.

B—Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.

C—Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.

D—Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, with considerable fading and noise.

E—No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Find the *propagation index* associated with the particular path opening from the Propagation Charts appearing in *The New Shortwave Propagation Handbook* by George Jacobs, W3ASK; Theodore J. Cohen, N4XX; and Robert B. Rose, K6GKU.

2. With the *propagation index*, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the path opening for any given day of the month. For example, an opening shown in the Propagation Charts with a *propagation index* of 2 will be good (B) on August 1st, fair (C) on the 2nd and 3rd, good (B) on the 4th, 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.

naked eye), to x-rays and gamma rays at the shortest wavelength end. The amount of energy released is the equivalent of millions of 100-megaton hydrogen bombs exploding at the same time!

This release of energy is nearly instantaneous—and because this radiation of light and radio energy travels at the speed of light, it takes only about eight minutes for the energy to reach Earth. When an x-ray flare occurs on the Earth-facing side of the Sun, it takes only eight minutes for full impact of the flare's energy to reach our planet! That's why it is misleading for someone to say, "a solar flare is heading our way and the HF bands are going to be terrible tonight," as if sometime in the coming hours, the results of the flare are going to make it here.

The x-rays from these events penetrate into the lower ionosphere and cause the D-region, which acts as a sponge that soaks up radio signals, to become more energized. The more ionized the D-region, the higher the frequencies that are absorbed and the stronger the absorption of the lower frequencies. Thus, radio signals from distant locations that travel through a flare-enhanced ionosphere are absorbed and become inaudible. These fadeouts, which used to be called radio blackouts but are now known as Sudden Ionospheric Disturbances (SIDs), last only minutes for minor

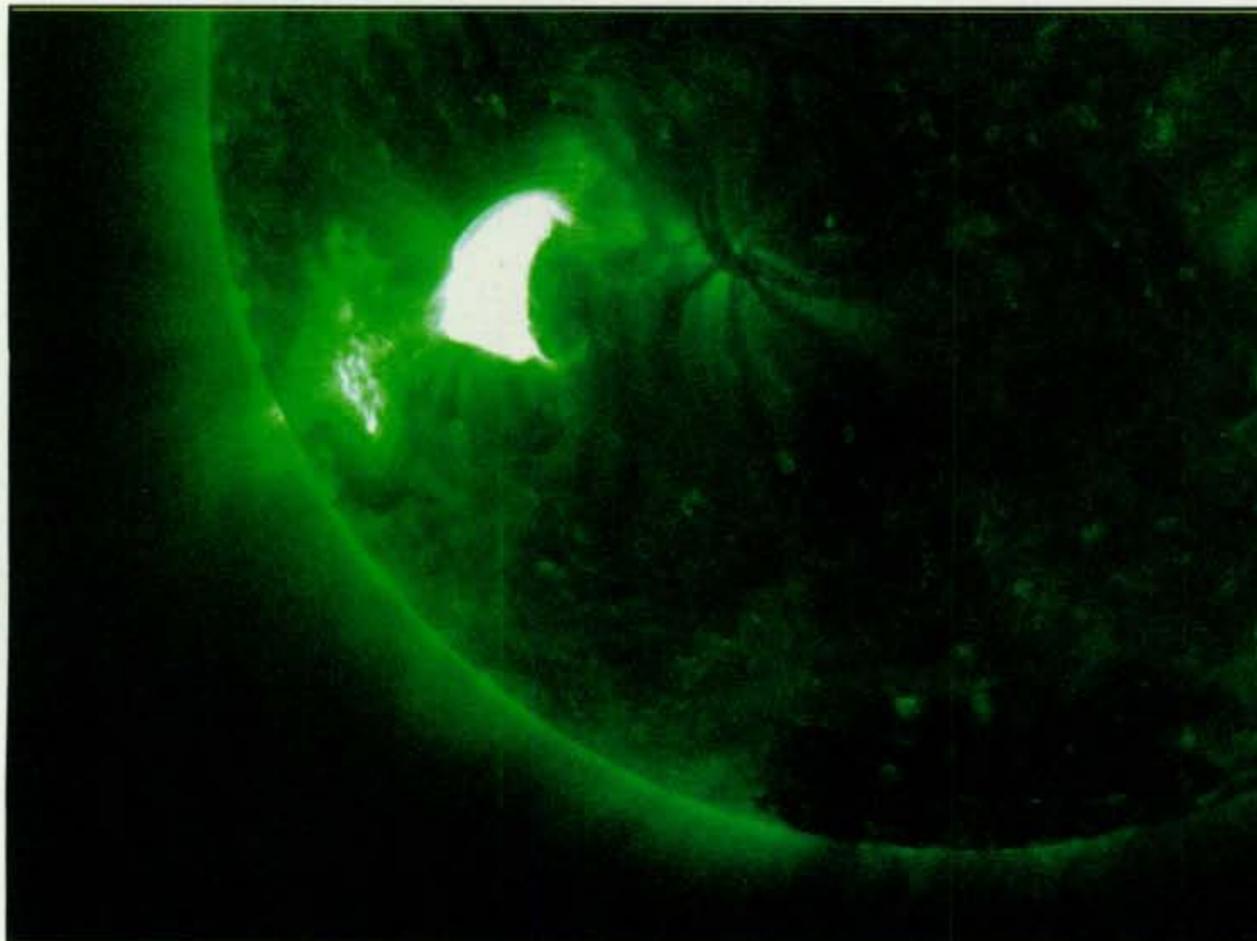


Fig. 1— Nearly two dozen flares were unleashed in just over two days (April 21–23, 2011) from the tangled magnetic fields of active region 11195. In this wavelength of extreme ultraviolet light (94 Angstroms), the flares appear as rapid brightenings of the strong active region. In this image, the very bright flash is just one of the x-ray flares in the sequence of the dozens during this period. The vertical line seen in this image is a reaction of the CCD in the telescope to the overwhelmingly bright light. What we are actually looking at is ionized iron heated to over 6 million degrees. Now that is HOT! (Source: Solar Dynamics Observatory [SDO]/Atmospheric Imaging Assembly [AIA])

flares, to maybe an hour or so for the largest of flares. Once the flare is exhausted, the x-ray radiation fades and the ionosphere recovers to its normal level of ionization.

It might be that there is confusion about what actually may be heading toward the Earth when people talk about a “solar flare is heading our way.” As all of this magnetic energy is being released during the explosive moment of a solar x-ray flare, and the Sun heats and accelerates the Sun’s plasma caught up by the complex tangle of magnetic fields, and sometimes releases these plasma particles as huge clouds out into interplanetary space. These billion-ton clouds are known as coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and they ride the solar wind out away from the Sun.

A CME travels very fast, but not as fast as the speed of light. Depending on how intensely the plasma is ejected during the explosive solar flare, the coronal mass ejection could take anywhere from one to four days to arrive at Earth, if the CME was directed toward Earth. Not all CMEs are ejected toward Earth.

If a CME is directed toward Earth, it

can cause a lot of havoc. When it hits our magnetosphere, we could see the geomagnetic activity turn stormy, which will cause longer-term degradation of HF propagation, as well as trigger auroral conditions. Geomagnetic activity has the effect of lowering the ionization of the various ionospheric layers, which brings down the maximum usable frequency (MUF) over a given signal path. This lowering is much like what happens at night, when the ultraviolet radiation of the Sun is blocked and the ionosphere settles down. The stronger and longer the geomagnetic storm, the more depressed the ionospheric propagation becomes.

Some people think of the coronal mass ejection and the resulting geomagnetic storms collectively as a “solar storm.” This may lead some to think of this as the “solar flare that is heading our way leading to bad radio conditions.” However, now we know that a solar flare is a nearly instant event that affects radio propagation on the sunlit side of the Earth, with a possible longer-term event known as the coronal mass ejection. But wait! There is one more related event.

Readers of this column know that the Sun is always generating a solar wind. The solar wind is made up of protons and other particles that stream out away from the Sun with varying speeds. When CMEs plow through interplanetary space, they plow through this gaseous material, first in the Sun’s atmosphere and then out in the solar wind. Shock waves in front of the CME can accelerate these protons in our direction, causing what we know as “the proton storm.”

When these accelerated protons are aimed toward Earth, they penetrate our magnetosphere and are funneled down toward the polar regions, forced along the Earth’s magnetic field lines. These highly energized protons cause the D-region of the ionosphere to become highly ionized, effectively absorbing first the lowest wavelengths of the high-frequency spectrum, then moving on to the highest of the shortwave spectrum if the proton storm is extremely intense. This is known as a polar cap absorption (PCA) event, and this can occur as quickly as within hours of an x-ray flare, or perhaps days after the flare. When a PCA occurs, and radio signals over the polar regions are absorbed, it shuts down radio paths between DX locations, depending on the polar paths, such as between central Europe and the United States.

August Propagation

At last! With August comes a shift from summertime to wintertime ionospheric conditions in the Northern Hemisphere. While most days in August will exhibit summertime conditions, conditions will begin to conform more to a winter pattern of higher daytime and lower nighttime usable frequencies. Moving into August, summer conditions caused by the Sun-baked, thinned ionosphere will prevail. However, as we move into September, with less sunlight over the pole, the maximum usable frequencies should become higher, with longer windows on higher bands.

Being in mid-summer with low 10.7-cm flux numbers, 20 meters will be the most usable DX band. The low bands are too noisy and experience a high amount of absorption. The higher bands (10 and 12 meters) are usually dead due to low summertime MUFs. Fifteen meters will become more usable in the morning and evening hours following the greyline, with peaks during the afternoon. Twenty meters, though, is where August activity will be strongest.

Daytime: While the 15-, 17-, and 20-

meter bands should be open for DX throughout the daylight hours, peak signals are expected during an approximate two-hour window immediately following sunrise and again during the late afternoon. Occasional fair openings might occur on 10 and 12 meters during the hours of daylight, particularly along an arc extending across central Africa, Latin America, and into the far Pacific area. Peak conditions should occur during the afternoon hours, but as we move into September, earlier and later windows will open.

Nighttime: Between sundown and sunrise 20 meters is expected to be the best DX band. Openings should be possible to nearly all areas of the world, often with exceptionally strong signal levels. Until midnight, good DX conditions may be found on 15 and 17 meters

for openings toward Latin America, the far Pacific, and into Asia. Fairly good nighttime DX conditions are also expected on 30, 40, and 80 meters despite the high static at times. Openings should be possible before midnight along an arc extending from northern Europe, through Africa, and into Latin America. By late August it should be possible to work some DX on 160 meters during the hours of darkness. Conditions on this band, as well as on 40 and 80 meters, will tend to peak just as the sun begins to rise on the light, or easternmost, terminal of a path.

Short-Skip Conditions

For openings over distances ranging between 50 and 250 miles, use 80 and 40 meters during the day, and 80 and

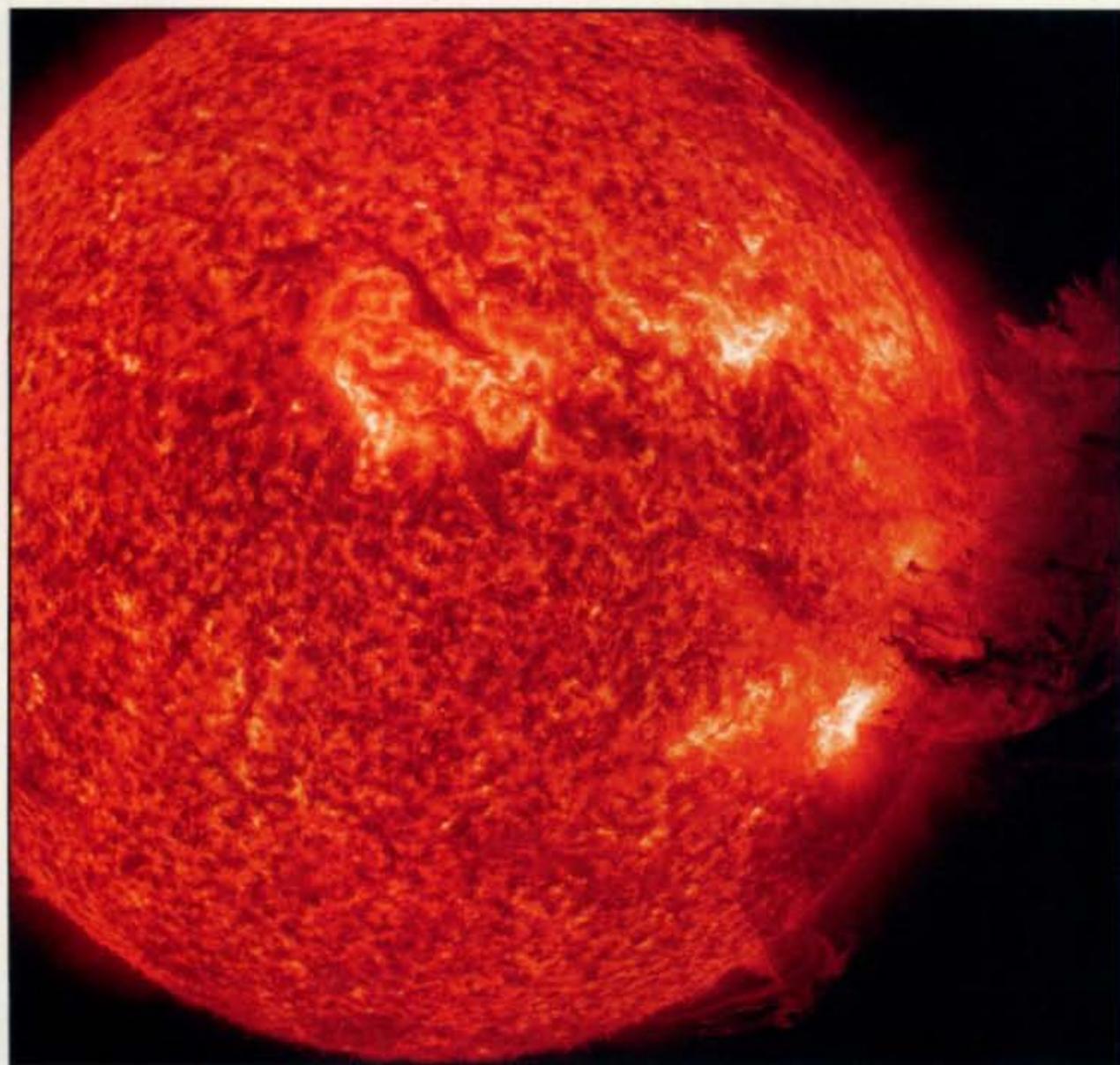


Fig. 2— The Sun unleashed an M-2 (medium-size) solar flare with a spectacular coronal mass ejection on June 7, 2011. The large cloud of particles mushroomed up and fell back down looking as if it covered an area of almost half the solar surface. (Watch the movie at <<http://nw7us.us/m2cme01.html>>.) SDO observed the flare's peak at 1:41 AM ET. SDO recorded these images in extreme ultraviolet light that show a very large eruption of cool gas. It is somewhat unique because at many places in the eruption there seems to be even cooler material—at temperatures less than 80,000 K. When viewed in SOHO's coronagraphs, the event shows bright plasma and high-energy particles roaring from the Sun. This Earth-directed CME moved at 1400 km/s, but missed the Earth. However, the CME did trigger a proton storm causing a polar-cap absorption event (PCA; see text). (Source: SDO/AIA)

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160 meters at night. Between 250 and 750 miles, the best bands should be 40 and 30 meters during the day, and 40 and 80 meters at night. For openings between 750 and 1300 miles, the best bands should be 20 and 17 meters during the day, with some fairly good openings also possible on 15 meters. From sundown to midnight try 40 and 30 meters. From midnight to sunrise try 80 meters. Between 1300 and 2300 miles, the best daytime bands should be 20 and 17 meters, with some activity on 15. Try 30 and 40 meters during hours of darkness.

VHF Conditions

Sporadic-E propagation usually tapers off during August, but it may offer fairly frequent opportunity on 10 meters. Some 6-meter sporadic-E openings are expected during the month over distances of approximately 750 to 1300 miles. Be sure to check the 2-meter band for an occasional sporadic-E short-skip opening between approximately 1200 to 1400 miles. While sporadic-E short-skip openings may occur at any time, there is a tendency for them to peak between 8 AM and noon, and again between 6 PM and 9 PM local daylight time.

Aurora? This year there is a very good chance for aurora-mode propagation events during August. We expect coronal mass ejections this month, as well as the likely recurring coronal holes that will contribute to high-speed solar winds. The CME-related massive clouds of plasma will race toward Earth on the elevated solar winds after an x-ray flare and will trigger aurora and geomagnetic storms. Auroral-scatter-type openings, on both 6 and 2 meters, can range from a few hundred up to about a thousand miles, and they usually are characterized by very rapid flutter and Doppler shift on SSB signals.

Also this month, for the very patient, check the 6-meter band for possible trans-equatorial (TE) openings between 8 and 11 PM local daylight time. This type of propagation favors openings from the southern tier states into deep South America, with the signal path crossing the magnetic equator at a right angle. TE openings during August are rare, but they can occur. Very weak signals and severe flutter fading usually characterize them.

Also check out *CQ VHF* magazine for more details on VHF propagation and conditions. If you use Twitter.com you can follow @hfradiospacewx for hourly updates that include the K-index num-

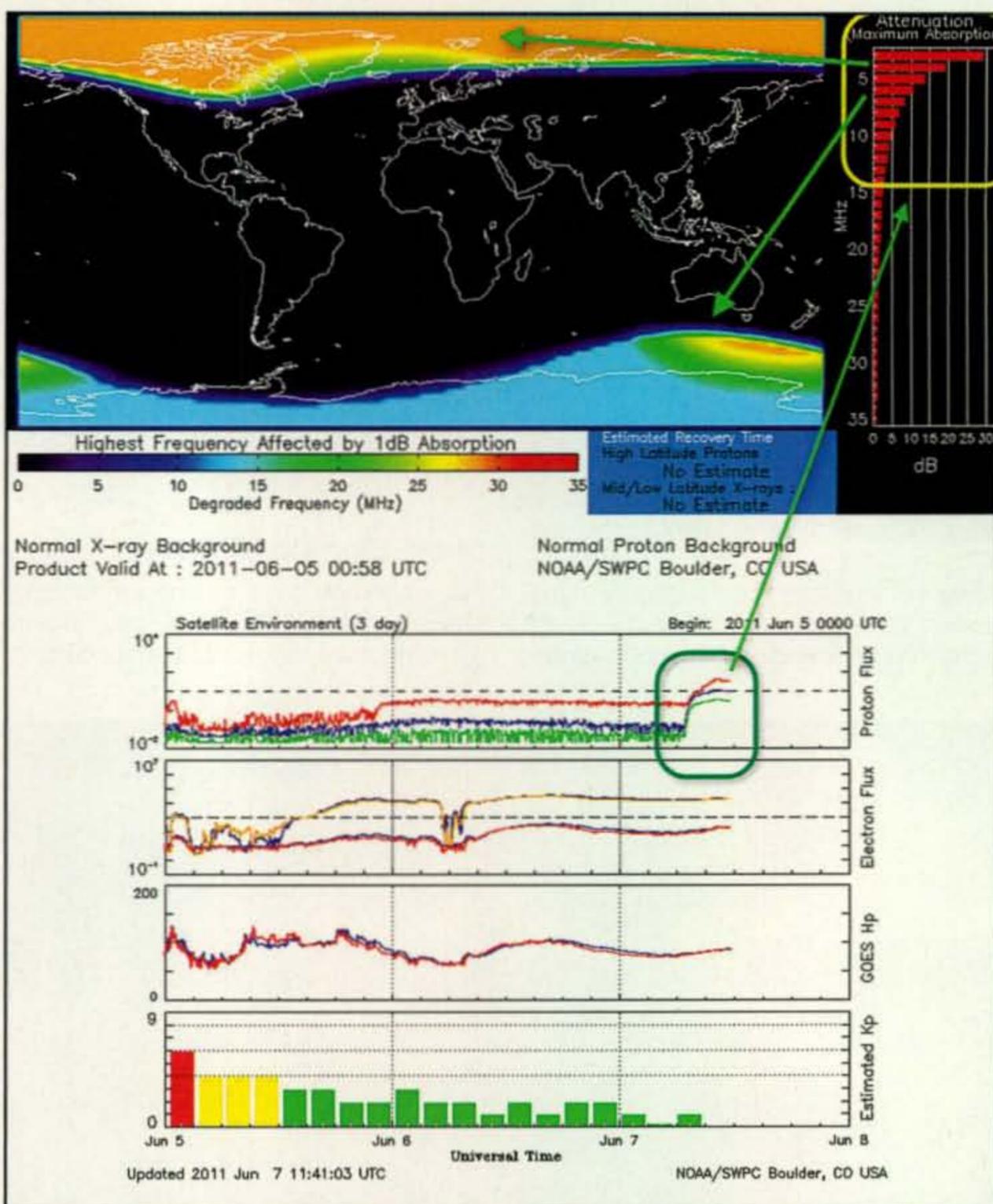


Fig. 3— A polar-cap absorption event (PCA) ensued on June 7, 2011, causing degradation of shortwave radio propagation over the polar regions. In the top graphic, the right-side chart indicates what frequencies are being absorbed and at what level of attenuation, while the map reveals the regions affected. In the bottom plot, notice the arrival of the high-energy proton "cloud" (circled) in the proton flux graph. This proton storm lasted days, affecting trans-polar radio signal propagation (see text). (Source: NOAA/Space Weather Prediction Center)

bers. You can also check the numbers at <<http://sunspotwatch.com>>.

Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 95.9 for May 2011, down from April's 112.6. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on November 2010 is 87.7, up from October's 85.3. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for August 2011 is 117, give or take about 9 points. Expect strong openings on higher bands primarily on paths between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres;

expect an abundance of daytime activity on 15 and 17 meters.

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for May 2011 is 41.6, down from April's 54.4. The lowest daily sunspot value of 8 was recorded on May 24. The highest daily sunspot count was 82 on May 30. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on November 2010 is 26.5, up from October's 23.2. A smoothed sunspot count of 63, give or take about 9 points, is expected for August 2011.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-index (*A_p*) for May 2011 is 9, as it was for April. These figures still indicate very quiet geomagnetic conditions

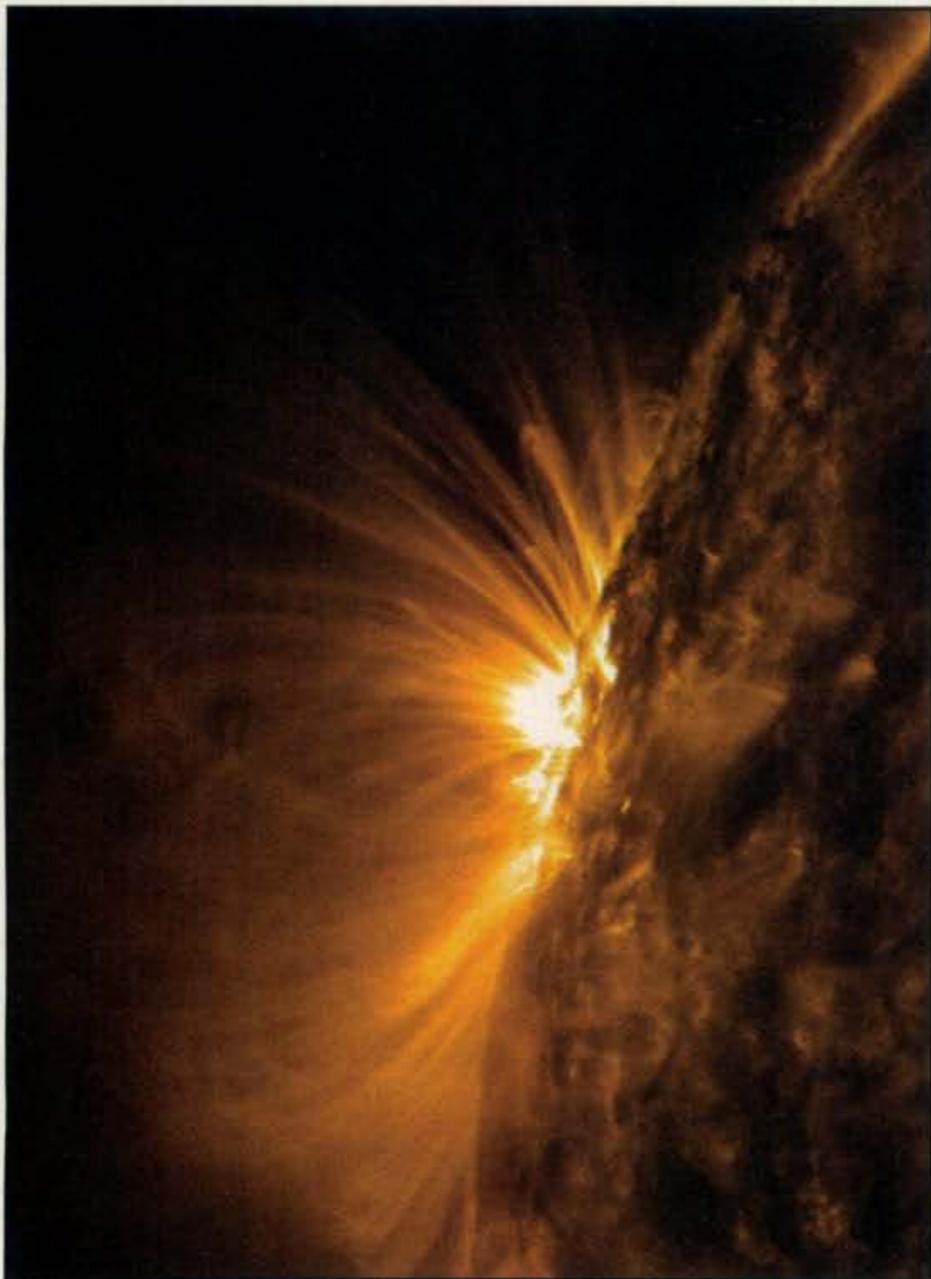


Fig. 4— A beautiful view of the complex magnetic structure seen above active sunspot region 11236. These twisted magnetic structures, which extend from deep inside the Sun, punching out through the sunspots, sometimes burst and explode into powerful x-ray flares (see text). This image was captured on June 14, 2011 at 0055 UTC at the 171-Angstrom wavelength. (Source: SDO/AIA)

overall, but June became a much more active month, so this will be seen in the next issue of this column. The 12-month smoothed *Ap* index centered on November 2010 is 6.4, the same as October's 6.4. Expect the overall geomagnetic activity to vary greatly between quiet to moderate storm level during August, since the increased sunspot activity also includes flares and related space weather. Refer to the Last-Minute Forecast on the first page of this column for the outlook on conditions during August. You can find the online version of this outlook at <<http://sunspotwatch.com>>.

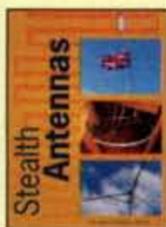
I welcome your thoughts, questions, and experiences regarding this fascinating science of propagation. You may e-mail me, write me a letter, or catch me on the HF amateur bands. Please come and participate in my online propagation discussion forum at <<http://forums.hfradio.org/>>. If you are on Facebook, check out <<http://www.facebook.com/spacewx.hfradio>> and <<http://www.facebook.com/NW7US>>. Speaking of Facebook, check out the CQ Amateur Radio Magazine fan page at <<http://www.facebook.com/CQMag>>.

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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Number groups after call letters denote following: Band (A = all), Final Score, Number of QSOs, Zones, and Countries. An asterisk (*) before a call indicates low power. Certificate winners are listed in bold. (All country terminology reflects the DXCC list at the time of the contest.)

2010 SSB RESULTS SINGLE OPERATOR NORTH AMERICA

United States					
Call	Score	QSOs	Zones	Countries	
K1DG	A	6,298,860	3801	139	471
K8PO/1		3,211,992	2565	119	348
WV1WW		2,604,246	1967	117	365
(OP: KK1KW)					
N1DD		837,494	853	87	280
W1RZF		590,744	801	62	212
W1STT		467,558	525	92	275
K1LU		443,460	585	76	209
N1IX		385,758	538	62	199
W1MAW		372,600	501	73	197
K1QS		297,245	498	54	167
K1RM		291,902	523	53	153
W1FM		245,931	405	70	169
KB1W		243,540	405	51	174
NN1N		236,208	257	90	246
W1ZZ		189,745	251	65	212
AK1N		146,412	294	61	135
K1YSY		133,965	268	54	141
N1ZJ		121,040	266	53	125
K1BV		111,800	300	29	101
W3IZ/1		99,280	268	29	107
W2QQ/1		90,216	214	51	117
NU3C/1		79,994	397	19	55
AJ1E		66,096	172	43	110
W1XX		57,970	163	59	96
N1QEH		47,736	170	27	75
W1WEF		45,360	155	51	75
K1HI		44,268	134	42	82
WM1G		29,495	143	26	59
WA1OUH		23,415	91	33	72
KB1ODD		16,240	82	34	46
WR7Q/1		8,418	48	31	38
W1TR		7,524	64	19	38
W1MSN		4,180	43	11	27
W1AW		364	11	6	8
W3EP/1	28	25,315	161	18	43
K1WHS		17,160	116	17	38
W3UA/1	7	362,943	958	35	112
AA1BU	3.7	112,655	386	19	86
K1UD		13,862	109	13	45
KM1R	1.8	4,788	92	11	25
K1HAP		3,503	61	9	22
*K1BX	A	2,278,402	1764	117	352
*N1UR		1,617,337	1413	109	328
*N1PGA		713,215	794	87	248
*K1HT		304,689	471	60	171
*N1BJO		242,209	403	67	160
*W1JL		224,536	389	63	158
*W2JU/1		204,955	342	68	161
*W1WBB		204,140	336	66	170
*NJ1H		157,056	309	62	140
*WA1DRQ		124,875	259	56	129
*K1VJS		121,752	265	47	124
*W1QCE		120,156	312	57	129
*KA1GEU		100,905	241	43	112
*KT1VT		90,746	226	45	112
*W1DYJ		66,284	186	44	102
*KB1THU		49,500	157	40	85
*KA1C		47,880	179	33	81
*K1VU		29,154	113	40	73
*KB1REQ		27,342	107	31	67
*N1NN		24,380	100	29	63
*W1SRB		15,051	96	34	53
*KC2KTZ/1		14,707	75	25	52
*W1K		13,680	67	24	48
*KB1FRK		6,664	53	17	39
*N1RNR		5,858	56	19	39
*KB1NHV		5,460	51	25	40
*N1BM		4,416	69	31	33
*KA1VMG		4,094	40	18	28
*W1CRK		3,432	38	19	25
*K1EP		864	18	16	16
*KB1SXZ		741	14	7	12
*WK1L		620	18	9	11
*KB1QEM		459	14	8	9
*K1QED		169	8	6	7
*AE1P	28	784	23	7	7
*AB1J		561	21	4	7
*N1NK	21	120,536	135	24	98
*N1WRK		28,500	352	15	60
*W1NK		3,010	34	12	23
*KG1V	14	21,692	118	15	53
*NX1T	7	13,520	91	16	49
W2RE	A	4,985,904	3476	125	403
N2LT		2,128,647	1693	118	335
W2XL		1,161,315	1105	96	297
NX2X		1,141,875	1119	93	282
N2GC		819,927	783	94	297
WA2CNAH		754,389	835	80	247
N2RJ		546,840	739	62	217
KA2D		445,676	538	79	229
N2MUN		301,455	474	56	175
W2LU		269,824	464	75	197
KW2J		244,933	390	66	161
N1JP/2		235,200	354	57	188
K2NV		230,964	401	64	164
N2ED		193,998	389	60	157
KM2O		153,842	300	56	138
K2FU		136,837	289	55	138
K2FJ		127,846	315	64	130
N2PKB		122,880	231	54	138
K2JMY		114,660	272	58	137
K3QDV/2		113,025	288	40	125
N2BEE		92,016	235	41	121
W2FUI		59,055	163	37	90
K2MK		57,323	161	38	95
W2MKW		57,000	196	31	83
WB2KLD		54,981	171	31	92
N2CK		51,480	177	32	78
N2ZN		27,621	105	30	69
N2EK		26,695	127	29	66
NQ3N/2		21,975	108	16	59
NC2T		21,600	81	39	69
W2UDT		19,800	101	28	62
KB2KDL		10,584	59	28	44
K2YR		1,189	19	12	17
W2RR	28	16,808	127	15	33
N2PP	21	522,543	1275	30	119
K2TR	14	948,084	2229	37	127

W02Y		45,220	182	17	68
WS9M/2		20,979	129	14	49
K2XA	3.7	110,401	386	26	87
W2MF	1.8	19,670	113	13	57
W2VO		7,952	59	15	41
*K2CS	A	426,897	547	77	214
*W2TF		348,704	492	77	195
*WA2JOK		309,149	449	77	230
*K2DER		217,350	386	52	158
*N2JF		200,688	353	57	169
*KV2M		196,452	364	64	150
*K1TN/2		195,545	301	72	187
*W2CCW		143,260	304	49	141
*AB2TC		123,900	304	38	112
*N2GA		114,134	273	39	110
*W2NTV		102,705	214	61	144
*N2MTG		78,210	199	54	111
*W2W		67,298	182	55	99
*K2QJB		63,945	178	40	105
*K2CYE		49,674	171	25	77
*WA2LXE		37,742	133	36	77
*K2RET		37,510	138	32	78
*W2VU		36,108	123	39	79
*N2NOM		25,900	111	37	63
*N1IA/2		20,152	89	26	62
*KB2MN		19,201	89	33	58
*K2GLG		17,464	93	23	51
*KA2ANF		16,254	90	27	59
*AB2IO		14,746	79	24	49
*K3DUB/2		13,332	84	19	47
*K9CHP/2		12,530	73	25	45
*K2PH		10,512	62	28	45
*WA2YSJ		9,996	59	25	43
*WB2SXY		9,849	66	27	40
*WA2MCR		8,944	71	16	36
*K2WUF		8,001	67	24	39
*K2JKUJ		5,141	51	19	34
*KB2DE		4,902	45	12	31
*AE2NG		4,033	43	12	25
*N3LZG/2		3,600	38	12	28
*K2SYF		3,431	30	20	27
*WA2LUY		3,404	32	18	28
*W2HCB		3,240	42	21	24
*WY1H/2		2,360	39	17	23
*KA2AAM		2,272	30	13	19
*K2IZ		2,124	29	16	20
*K2ZVM		1,904	31	12	22
*K2ZSKG		1,288	17	12	16
*K2TZY		1,190	22	15	20
*N2LK		1,150	23	11	14
*K2AMP		660	13	10	12
*KA2FHN		364	12	6	8
*KA2IBN		340	20	5	12
*WA2ACV		90	5	5	5
*K2JF		70	6	5	5
*W3EH/2	28	320	13	6	10
*KX2S	21	90,145	292	27	94
*WB2AJO		24,472	113	18	58
*K2TJ		23,840	112	20	60
*W2ARP		9,686	72	16	42
*W2LHL		2,016	32	9	23
*K2TVJ		551	13	7	12
*N2BEG		198	10	5	6
*K2JRD		20	2	2	2
*N2GM	14	145,280	427	30	98
*K2BOW</					

*F2AR	*	423,384	813	74	238	*DKSD	*	225,990	373	81	229	*DL1PF	*	2,048	36	14	18	IZ6ERS	7	185,045	1559	30	89	*YL2GUV	21	50,310	171	36	94						
*F6DR	*	366,240	801	67	213	*DK7CH	*	192,254	609	61	184	*DL1LS	*	1,920	44	10	27	IZ1GAR	*	137,600	958	27	101	*YL3BZ	*	34,486	175	24	62						
*F6FTB	*	256,824	711	54	192	*DL2F	*	215,215	702	57	159	*DG5FE	*	1,887	48	13	27	IZFYF	1.8	68,769	807	12	69	*YL2CI	3.7	50,932	698	11	57						
*F5POJ	*	198,198	494	54	177	(OP: DL2FDL)						*DL1A2A	*	1,794	36	13	26	*IR4T	A	1,086,912	1389	110	349												
*F5PAL	*	171,564	503	51	153	*DL1DVE	*	192,413	400	65	182	*DF1MM	*	1,760	19	13	19																		
*F6DRP	*	140,275	491	44	111	*DK3WN	*	189,120	563	55	185	*DG1EHG	*	1,638	49	11	31	*IK2DZN	*	661,728	1038	94	272	LY2J	A	830,973	1494	98	331						
*F8EWX	*	108,702	397	40	143	*DL1TRK	*	177,000	483	60	176	*DK2PZ	*	1,591	26	12	25	*IK2QLX	*	303,098	674	72	222	LY2MM	*	746,736	1352	83	293						
*F4EWU	*	100,080	362	52	128	*DM2AWM	*	160,714	475	51	163	*DM3F	*	1,419	37	13	20	*IK2GLB	*	343,990	596	77	233	LY2XW	*	129,400	341	64	136						
*F4GBW	*	93,415	393	42	115	*DL8ULO	*	136,728	511	47	169							*IW4EGX	*	250,498	581	63	188	LY2AE	21	47,523	243	30	63						
*F4AGR	*	87,127	282	42	109	*DL1VJL	*	136,530	363	55	150							*IZ2JPN	*	235,675	536	70	205	LY1XA	*	31,929	164	26	61						
*F50HH	*	74,889	335	41	118	*DP4M	*	132,858	505	42	156							*IK7NXU	*	224,145	476	79	214	LY1CT	*	20,280	176	17	48						
*F4FSV	*	72,038	263	48	133							(OP: DH5FS)						*IZ5IMD	*	217,338	434	72	195	LY2BR	1.4	544,663	1824	38	123						
*F4GSD	*	71,070	291	40	98	*DF5AN	*	131,660	315	57	170	*DF7JC	*	1,152	24	11	21	*IK8NSR	*	182,925	447	61	164	LY5KT	3.7	45,895	664	8	59						
*F4ERS	*	68,211	217	47	96	*DF9FT	*	126,672	341	52	122	*DL7FA	*	1,044	33	9	20	*IK3FMB	*	181,424	544	63	169	LY2OU	1.8	24,759	451	9	54						
*F1MLN	*	56,736	244	32	64	*DL4OCH	*	123,578	357	54	140	*DG0SK	*	1,025	39	12	29	*IW0EAC	*	180,858	366	79	179	*LY4T	A	873,585	1386	85	320						
*F5MLB	*	50,260	257	39	101	*DH6BH	*	122,904	333	65	151	*DN1OSK	*	676	23	7	19	*I17K	*	152,460	427	72	180	*LY2K	*	484,704	1007	74	250						
*F5RD	*	49,274	227	42	100	*DG2JA	*	114,432	362	49	143	*DL7LZ	*	561	15	7	10	(OP: IZ7KHR)						*LY4K	*	61,272	305	37	111						
*F1EQB	*	33,000	249	26	94	*DF6IS	*	105,789	420	40	157	*DD5AN	*	18	3	3	3	*IZ5YXK	*	109,098	255	64	145	*LY2N	*	51,870	219	40	90						
*F4EZG	*	30,622	161	37	85	*DL3ZAI	*	100,392	296	50	128	*DL3VZL	28	13,797	118	15	58	*IK7RVY	*	94,500	332	49	131	*LY4BP	*	44,069	245	34	93						
*F5BTH	*	29,768	178	35	87	*DF6OC	*	99,328	457	38	156	*DL1ARD	*	1,512	32	8	16	*ISD0F	*	84,150	295	50	137	*LY1K	*	42,656	228	35	89						
*F8DYD	*	24,651	128	31	68	*DL9LF	*	98,022	322	46	140	*DJ0MCZ	21	108,460	423	30	86	*IK3SSW	*	71,732	335	38	120	*LY1DJ	*	29,400	214	27	93						
*F6GPT	*	24,534	143	28	59	*DL2DQL	*	93,312	305	53	139	*D06SR	*	15,372	137	19	42	*IZ1ANZ	*	67,890	254	44	111	*LY2BFB	*	23,716	167	32	66						
*F6API	*	19,272	153	26	62	*DL5DTG	*	92,820	383	44	151	*DH3RB	*	13,224	108	18	40	*IZ40YP	*	67,068	302	45	117	*LY1NDN	*	20,619	186	22	65						
*F5GGL	*	17,978	102	28	73	*DL4EBA	*	91,492	362	45	133	*DL5KUD	*	4,608	49	15	21	*IW5ECP	*	62,266	244	46	117	*LY2OM	*	11,200	90	20	50						
*F4DFR	*	13,776	113	26	58	*DL6NAL	*	81,304	357	46	156	*D04TP	*	2,376	33	9	18	*IZ7BAS	*	56,244	237	38	91	*LY2AT	*	8,880	100	22	58						
*F4GMP	*	12,500	104	22	53	*DL4VAJ	*	88,540	290	48	142	*DL1FZZ	*	2,013	21	14	19	*IZ2BKA	*	55,583	233	41	122	*LY2LB	*	4,746	64	15	27						
*F4XKR	*	12,375	79	29	46	*DL2SWR	*	87,668	246	58	144	*DL1NPF	*	1,026	36	7	12	*IK1ZOE	*	47,128	257	38	99	*LY48	28	440	18	8	12						
*F4SBU	*	12,276	111	20	46	*DL1TPY	*	83,838	316	47	131	*DL1DWR	*	1,500	11	4	4	*IW0QZT	*	44,712	237	35	103	*LY2ND	21	8,550	113	18	39						
*F4ETG	*	7,975	94	12	43	*DF2KD	*	78,407	347	45	116	*DJ2GMS	*	15,975	151	15	56	*IZ5MMK	*	43,885	215	34	97	*LY5S	7	5,537	115	9	40						
*F1SMV	*	5,264	69	17	39	*DL6RBO	*	73,568	246	48	104	*DL4JYT	*	9,360	92	14	51	*IK2YSJ	*	38,624	241	37	105	*LY1G	3.7	80,360	691	20	78						
*F4CVI	*	4,814	60	17	41	*DL1DTL	*	72,800	273	39	101	*DL3BWF	*	5,150	57	17	33	*IK2YXP	*	33,916	151	38	84												
*F4FBP	*	4,617	79	17	40	*D01CS	*	72,225	305	36	99	*DL6UAM	*	3,108	56	9	28	*IK1DFH	*	32,750	184	32	99												
*F1ICS	*	4,543	66	16	43	*DL3WKG	*	67,056	310	36	140	*DL1DUU	*	1,961	46	10	27	*IZ3FJZ	*	28,413	157	31	46												
*F1SRU	*	4,176	64	14	34	*DL8BIT	*	64,255	234	45	136							*IZ5RWK	*	27,489	249	25	94												
*F5AGQ	*	2,400	30	15	25							(OP: LX1ER)						*IK7WPD	*	26,676	150	38	79												
*F1PYN	*	2,365	36	13	30	*DL5ZB	*	61,910	177	56	95	*DH7LF	*	60,345	249	42	107	*DL1SBF	*	56	4	3	4	*IK2IKW	*	24,600	149	32	88						
*F1LPN	*	2,242	47	13	25	*DH7LF	*	59,664	166	53	79	*DL2VK	*	57,663	283	48	101	*DL3KDC	3.7	360	26	2	18	*IV3NVB	*	24,510	129	42	87						
*F1WHP	*	2,030	40	15	20	*DMSJL	*	57,663	283	48	101	*D01HGS	*	57,304	263	35	81	*DJ8ES	1.8	2,535	62	6	33	*IK3ARJ	*	22,544	167	28	83						
*F4FXH	*	1,540	32	12	23	*D01HGS	*	56,960	203	42	86	*DF5BM	*	56,960	203	42	86							*IK2LFD	*	19,928	130	30	64						
*TM4FO	*	576	30	4	14	(OP: F4FOO)						*DL1JGG	*	55,854	299	44	130							*IW0GUH	*	19,800	78	36	64						
						*DL1JGG	*	55,854	299	44	130	*D01WHU	*	53,476	308	27	89							*IK4RVG	*	17,982	172	24	87						
						*D01WHU	*	53,476	308	27	89	*DL2ASB	*	52,804	236	46	126							*IV3IDP	*	17,460	141	23	74						
						*DL2ASB	*	52,804	236	46	126	*DK7FP	*	43,335	259	28	70							*IW2MYH	*	16,983	120	38	73						
						*DK7FP	*	43,335	259	28	70	*DK6AY	*	40,103	229	25	94							*IW1RHR	*	14,076	110	27	75						
						*DK6AY	*	40,103	229	25	94	*D02MS	*	38,184	148	45	84							*IK3MLR	*	14,065	113	24	73						
						*D02MS	*	38,184	148	45	84	*DM2JT	*	38,100	293	32	118							*IK8MG	*	13,943	148	17	56						
						*DM2JT	*	38,100	293	32	118	*DL5ASE	*	36,288	160	34	50							*IK3MNS	*	13,928	107	26	61						
						*DL5ASE	*	36,288	160	34	50	*DL3MVC	*	36,168	221	32	105							*IZ1HDR	*	13,224	104	26	61						
						*DL3MVC	*	36,168	221	32	105	*DK6NF	*	35,708	157	36	77							*IZ8GBT	*	11,178	78	30	51						
						*DK6NF	*	35,708	157	36	77	*DL1HSI	*	33,660	227	25	85							*IW7BIM	*	10,836	115	25	61						
						*DL1HSI	*	33,660	227	25	85	*DF4TD	*	33,078	139	33	116							*W5EDI	*	9,750	55	32	46						
						*DF4TD	*	33,078	139	33	116	*DM3NDW	*	31,552	206	27	89							*I1QBI	*	9,700	94	18	57						
						*DM3NDW	*	31,552	206	27	89	*DL3KZC	*	31,255	152	32	63							*IZ2LQD	*	8,509	76	24	43						
						*DL3KZC	*	31,255	152	32	63																								

Northern Ireland				Norway				Poland				Sardinia				Scotland				Serbia				Shetland and Fair Isle				Sicily				Romania				Slovakia				Slovenia				Spain				Sweden			
G14XF	A	6,786	71 17 41	LA9BM	A	988,144	1787 89 320	SP9LJD	A	4,088,993	3794 123 404	SN9P		560,142	871 83 286	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM5X	A	5,369,590	5048 134 456	YT3H	A	64,974	247 36 111	GZ5Y	A	168,702	497 51 135	IT9JOF	A	866,248	1473 82 246	Y050EF	A	601,650	856 107 275	IT9YAO	14	23,184	352 14 49	EA1DR	A	3,345,741	3468 118 365	SJ2W	A	5,756,040	4835 139 451
*G10KVM	A	297,387	798 41 132	LA1J		703,468	1499 70 214	SN8B		1,364,808	1870 98 358	SP3GXD		528,970	1007 91 247	GM70AW		5,292	73 18 45	YT5T		198	6 5 6	EA1DR		2,176,564	2506 111 383	SM6BGG		963,680	1562 82 235																				
*G14AM		168,948	529 48 186	LA1PHA		80,640	286 43 125	SN9P		560,142	871 83 286	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM2Y		2,133	37 13 14	YT7D		93,438	757 23 64	EA3CI		1,533,088	2243 94 274	SM5Q		789,488	1013 98 326																				
*G14JTF		114,680	379 39 149	LA1KOA		35,860	288 25 85	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM2V	14	1,094,317	3439 36 125	EA5E		628,125	921 90 285	SM5W		773,280	1195 88 272																								
*G14DOH		28,569	165 26 63	LA1LPA		27,060	148 38 85	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP8TOV		262,474	611 67 196	GM4JR	A	368,985	800 59 196	EA7KW		624,588	1178 69 207	SM6JY		202,470	579 56 199																								
*210GWA	7	3,264	39 14 37	LA1MJA	28	3,060	46 12 22	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4W	A	77,958	253 53 130	EA8AV		461,433	816 83 218	SI3A		112,499	297 55 136																								
				LA1NJA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP7HOA		2,346	26 16 18	GM4V		77,958	253 53 130	EA9AV		461,433	816 83 218	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1OJA	1.8	1,855	52 6 29	SP8TOV		262,474	611 67 196	SP6EQ		322	9 7 7	GM4X		77,958	253 53 130	EA10V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1PJA	A	164,436	538 49 164	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SP5EWX	28	46,452	299 23 75	GM4Y		77,958	253 53 130	EA11V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1QJA		100,488	338 51 107	SP5EWX	28	46,452	299 23 75	SQ6R	21	84,370	335 30 88	GM4Z		77,958	253 53 130	EA12V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1RJA		87,792	417 32 145	SQ6R	21	84,370	335 30 88	SP2010FCY		3,700	44 20 30	GM4AA		77,958	253 53 130	EA13V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1SJA		69,736	338 39 145	SP2010FCY		3,700	44 20 30	SP7CXB		800	15 10 15	GM4AB		77,958	253 53 130	EA14V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1TJA		43,168	253 27 115	SP7CXB		800	15 10 15	SP7HQA		2,346	26 16 18	GM4AC		77,958	253 53 130	EA15V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1UJA		22,422	182 29 82	SP7HQA		2,346	26 16 18	SP8TOV		262,474	611 67 196	GM4AD		77,958	253 53 130	EA16V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1VJA		16,016	109 29 75	SP8TOV		262,474	611 67 196	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4AE		77,958	253 53 130	EA17V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1WJA		11,218	90 27 52	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4AF		77,958	253 53 130	EA18V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1XJA		5,015	67 17 42	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4AG		77,958	253 53 130	EA19V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA1YJA		4,756	59 18 40	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4AH		77,958	253 53 130	EA20V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA20JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP8TOV		262,474	611 67 196	GM4AJ		77,958	253 53 130	EA21V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA21JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4AK		77,958	253 53 130	EA22V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA22JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4AL		77,958	253 53 130	EA23V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA23JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4AM		77,958	253 53 130	EA24V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA24JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4AN		77,958	253 53 130	EA25V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA25JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4AO		77,958	253 53 130	EA26V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA26JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4AP		77,958	253 53 130	EA27V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA27JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4AQ		77,958	253 53 130	EA28V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA28JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4AR		77,958	253 53 130	EA29V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA29JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4AS		77,958	253 53 130	EA30V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA30JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4AT		77,958	253 53 130	EA31V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA31JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4AU		77,958	253 53 130	EA32V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA32JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4AV		77,958	253 53 130	EA33V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA33JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4AW		77,958	253 53 130	EA34V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA34JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4AX		77,958	253 53 130	EA35V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA35JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4AY		77,958	253 53 130	EA36V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA36JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4AZ		77,958	253 53 130	EA37V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA37JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4BA		77,958	253 53 130	EA38V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA38JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4BB		77,958	253 53 130	EA39V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA39JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4BC		77,958	253 53 130	EA40V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA40JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4BD		77,958	253 53 130	EA41V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA41JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4BE		77,958	253 53 130	EA42V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA42JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	SP3GKH		528,970	1007 91 247	GM4BF		77,958	253 53 130	EA43V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA43JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	SP6DNZ		365,024	452 98 254	GM4BG		77,958	253 53 130	EA44V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA44JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	SP9WZJ		356,586	637 78 231	GM4BH		77,958	253 53 130	EA45V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								
				LA45JA	21	72,192	235 34 107	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	SN5V		229,414	554 71 180	GM4BI		77,958	253 53 130	EA46V		71,730	476 22 68	SM6LV		297,556	516 56 199																								

R2AD	*	36,736	315	20	62	K1IM	14	343,640	899	34	108	AD4EB	*	1,448,241	1226	108	345	W6DPD	*	129,940	261	54	124	KA9FOX	*	7,986	48	23	43
JH3DMQ	*	36,646	201	24	49	K6ND/1	3.7	98,832	338	26	90	W3GQ/4	*	1,414,272	1118	119	345	K6ST	*	127,982	289	66	112	N7MB/9	21	107,865	310	32	103
JR1NKN	*	29,232	179	25	47	*KS1J	*	1,041,100	1021	84	275	W3OJA/4	*	1,398,400	1118	119	341	N6XT	*	55,808	171	42	86	KK9V	*	33,672	139	19	73
UT6IS	*	22,242	187	20	46	*K2TE/1	*	1,030,000	933	94	306	N4KG	*	1,131,928	887	123	353	K6JH	*	49,181	124	75	112	W9HX	14	41,208	157	26	75
YB2OK	*	17,816	102	26	42	*W1KT	*	646,235	571	101	320	K5EK/4	*	1,127,742	909	122	340	W6E2	*	46,928	163	46	66	W9JA	7	54,670	205	30	80
FSASD	*	14,946	134	17	30	*N1API	*	477,102	656	62	200	N4PQX	*	1,112,105	834	123	362	N6OPR	*	44,821	149	52	81	*K9OR	A	12,495	58	30	55
SQ9AOR	*	10,100	100	19	31	*K1LD	*	383,070	421	84	255	N3MK/4	*	1,084,272	891	112	349	N6VH	*	35,814	140	46	48	*K9AIH	*	10,010	71	28	42
ON3TO	*	9,800	112	16	40	*W1CTN	*	372,465	510	77	202	N4ZZ	*	1,057,374	1066	89	277	KF6I	*	30,976	147	30	58	*K9IRO	*	8,415	59	18	37
DO8CW	*	9,648	108	16	32	*WB1DX	*	336,770	498	68	170	NF4A	*	1,007,247	868	111	320	N6RK	*	29,116	94	45	71	*AG3R/9	*	1,815	21	15	18
WA6FGV	*	9,350	76	18	32	*NF10	*	249,830	323	79	222	N4DJ	*	801,192	750	101	298	W6SZG	*	26,442	96	43	70	*N9TF	21	72,610	255	27	79
LA8WG	*	8,688	117	13	35	*KE1V	*	240,816	401	65	167	K3IE/4	*	792,800	741	98	302	NEB1	*	4,366	45	16	21						
W1IG	*	8,000	60	15	35	*W1AIR	*	148,417	291	53	140	N4RA	*	710,232	675	109	295	W6TDG	*	3,096	26	20	23						
7N4WPP	*	7,439	80	17	26	*W1MSW	*	122,018	290	45	124	W4JAM	*	610,228	621	101	272	A1G2	*	1,568	19	12	16						
OK1XYZ	*	4,216	68	12	22	*NE1F	*	113,096	200	61	150	W7DO/4	*	595,712	617	89	269	N6ML	21	197,136	518	34	110						
OZ6OM	*	4,200	48	17	25	*K2RS/1	*	109,385	246	46	121	WDPV/4	*	592,253	623	90	259	W6SR	*	147,576	419	32	97						
JA1NWP	*	2,048	28	14	18	*K1X1	*	61,976	183	37	90	W2YE/4	*	547,136	603	87	245	NK6A	*	52,866	218	27	62						
JF4CAD/3	*	1,625	28	10	15	*K1LOG	*	36,652	112	38	81	K6W4	*	418,992	484	93	243	W6RKC	*	26,220	135	26	43						
IZ6CKO	*	1,440	38	8	16	*K1SUB	*	31,825	122	28	67	K4DXA	*	317,245	367	95	240	K6OY	3.7	12,950	69	27	47						
BG9ATY	*	1,280	42	12	20	*AA1AR	*	31,734	105	47	76	NC4MI	*	310,521	465	72	195	*N6WS	A	581,704	626	108	236						
JA1KPF	*	1,206	29	7	11	*W1TO	*	26,315	98	24	71	K3KJ/4	*	294,532	351	80	234	*K3FV/6	*	144,824	319	68	104						
JJ3CJD	*	1,173	24	12	11	*N1HTS	*	22,072	97	26	63	AA4NC	*	285,516	358	89	219	*K6GP	*	113,220	237	69	116						
DJ3GE	*	459	16	7	10	*AK1Q	*	7,280	55	24	41	KR4F	*	266,970	314	97	233	*W6KY	*	91,060	230	60	85						
OK1AU	*	435	19	7	8	*K81SUN	*	2,860	27	19	25	N4CW	*	251,520	289	80	240	*N6YEU	*	69,088	201	44	83						
JR8QUR	*	320	13	7	9							N4DWK	*	245,644	320	77	206	*W4JAT/6	*	63,450	185	45	90						
JR2EKD/2	*	255	11	7	8	N2MM	A	2,466,828	1766	127	419	W4VIC	*	219,492	358	59	175	*K6AAB	*	58,561	165	63	94						
N6H/7	*	195	9	6	7	W1GD/2	*	2,220,807	1413	135	434	K4KR	*	212,212	296	76	210	*W6GMP	*	49,345	149	58	81						
AB8FJ	*	56	5	4	3	W2IRT	*	2,020,200	1316	126	429	W4JVN	*	212,004	335	72	162	*N6EE	*	34,553	127	43	66						
BG6AHU	*	2	1	1	1	W2RD	*	1,629,824	1082	138	406	N09E/4	*	209,000	331	79	171	*W6BET	*	16,146	96	35	43						
IBUZF	14	61,700	391	24	76	N1IBM/2	*	1,156,270	974	100	330	N4LV	*	192,935	333	68	167	*K6WKY	*	13,923	90	42	49						
RU9UN	*	37,293	150	24	69	N2WK	*	1,010,230	756	119	375	KU4V	*	182,439	313	74	159	*N1WC/6	*	8,316	55	41	43						
VA7IR	*	28,405	229	25	40	AB3CX/2	*	1,008,435	927	94	301	W84ROA	*	139,578	200	73	185	*N6BH	*	5,880	70	21	21						
9A2EY	*	27,848	299	11	58	W2YR	*	978,360	793	116	349	W4PHS	*	132,225	335	64	151	*AF6EV	*	3,234	29	21	21						
HAGIAM	*	26,001	233	18	63	KF2D	*	876,322	629	127	394	NW4V	*	131,733	302	44	109	*K6LE	*	2,769	29	19	20						
IV3AOL	*	21,888	175	20	52	W2LE	*	618,268	731	85	226	AK4I	*	124,320	267	56	129	*N06K	*	1,134	21	14	13						
SM6CRM	*	18,496	212	13	51	N2SQW	*	114,054	707	77	245	W4OV	*	112,723	260	54	115	*K6NUL	*	458	14	9	9						
SP3ORM	*	15,568	220	10	46	K2EP	*	613,647	599	96	273	N4TB	*	102,588	242	49	117	*N0DS	28	1,241	32	8	9						
9A8MM	*	15,080	178	12	53	K2OMP	*	573,699	612	92	265	K4EDI	*	99,750	213	68	142	*W6AFA	21	221,615	658	31	96						
UA1CEC	*	14,112	220	11	45	W6XR/2	*	504,828	500	99	280	K2SD/4	*	98,379	246	47	106	*N0HE	*	11,924	109	19	25						
OR2F	*	14,040	187	10	50	K2XF	*	466,872	598	74	220	AJ3G/4	*	96,292	235	51	130	*WV6E	7	9,975	80	23	34						
						(OP: ON8LDS)						N4VW	*	90,480	198	56	118												
M/YO4RDW	*	13,629	204	12	47	W3AFS/2	*	369,052	399	100	259	N4JOW	*	70,994	179	50	104	K8LL/7	A	1,490,951	1197	125	344						
CT1ESG	*	12,825	139	12	45	K2KQ	*	335,610	379	87	243	NV4A	*	65,376	167	41	103	K7WP	*	1,148,112	1180	114	288						
H40GK	*	10,890	170	9	46	K2CJ	*	247,679	374	53	180	K2SX/4	*	55,320	172	33	87	K67H	*	688,828	790	102	235						
UT5UPL	*	8,316	117	12	42	N1EU/2	*	219,504	309	70	199	K1ZW/4	*	54,442	127	54	113	KN5H/7	*	645,909	596	118	289						
SP8AWL	*	5,472	40	16	32	W2NO	*	174,470	299	63	176	W4AS	*	48,450	136	48	102	K7UA	*	612,696	776	78	216						
BD4HY	*	4,953	78	15	24	KC2NB	*	171,891	313	52	161	N4DK	*	46,764	162	30	78	WU9B/7	*	476,520	547	98	232						
GW8VSW	*	4,440	114	6	31	WK2H	*	149,220	301	46	134	N3FP/4	*	41,514	138	33	78	K7ABV	*	314,783	487	72	161						
SO4O	*	4,264	82	10	31	K2QMF	*	144,980	259	63	157	K4IDD	*	38,778	113	45	93	W6X7P	*	306,735	602	63	132						
RA9MU	*	4,247	56	8	23	K2BK	*	143,934	323	39	122	N4NM	*	34,020	129	35	73	K6KR/7	*	256,377	412	72	155						
E76EA	*	3,760	101	11	38	AB2DE	*	123,008	202	69	179	W4GHD	*	29,234	115	35	59	AF7Z	*	235,750	395	77	153						
M0JBA	*	3,648	91	8	30	WA2ETU	*	117,486	207	72	142	W4AEJ	*	27,104	88	45	76	K7EG	*	216,216	405	65	133						
OM8JP	*	2,812	50	10	27	K2QPN	*	107,712	221	55	137	K4VCT	*	22,724	103	32	60	W07K	*	186,308	448	72	116						
HS8JYX	*	1,826	35	7	15	W2GDJ	*	102,336	199	50	142	KD4K	*	17,766	83	34	60	NW7E	*	169,460	272	74	155						
IZ2OKG	*	1,824	48	6	26	KC2LST	*	100,386	227	43	126	NY4I	*	16,684	80	31	55	W7LB	*	153,225	263	81	146						
W98NO/8	*	1,834	21	10	12	W2RZS	*	42,210	144	25	80	N4UC	*	11,857	67	24	47	K7VIT	*	143,206	288	68	125						
UU7JF	*	589	27	6	13	K2GN	*	24,486	96	36	70	WA2BCK/4	*	9,450	50	22	48	N7RK	*	140,700	255	78	132						
BH7NLD	*	561	28	8	9	WF2B	*	2,8																					

AFRICA				Cyprus				Vietnam				GBOVXE				OH3FM			
African Italy				P3Z	21	541,120	1269 36 124	XV1X	A	262,143	806 62 127	G3UEG	*	838,493	872 110 353	OH1MM	*	143,451	299 65 166
IG9S	14	1,223,320	2473 39 131					3W1M	21	1,056,424	2815 36 130	G3RXQ	*	707,168	1070 91 301	OH2LU	*	79,212	279 41 120
(OP: IZ8GCE)				Georgia				EUROPE				OH6TN							
IG9D	3.7	290,535	1016 17 88	4L8A	14	1,101,488	2343 38 134	Aland Islands				OH8KA							
(OP: IZ8TDP)				Hong Kong				Aland Islands				OH2BP							
Canary Islands				VR2XLN	A	821,058	1374 112 234	OH0Z	A	1,846,858	1775 123 443	OH1HB							
EAB/DL6MHW	A	1,944,153	2062 76 261					OH0K	3.7	119,944	1208 18 76	OH3JR							
EC8AFM	*	367,026	549 61 185	India				Austria				OH4KA							
EF8A	21	1,273,000	2965 34 118	VU3DJQ	7	11,500	95 15 35	Austria				OH8L							
(OP: E8BAUW)				Israel				Austria				OH6M							
*E8BAJC	A	19,838	90 33 58	4X8A	21	810,805	1898 36 119	OE4A	A	5,371,993	3557 159 578	OH8A							
*E8BMT	28	276,906	744 27 106	Japan				Austria				OH6DX							
				JQ18VI	A	2,018,975	2006 137 278	OE8Q	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH280							
Djibouti				JH1NBN	*	1,545,272	1548 130 289	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH3JP							
J28RO	A	411,522	692 54 160	JK10PL	*	405,476	503 113 221	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH6OS							
(OP: FS1RO)				JF10PL	*	187,458	361 81 118	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH4KZM							
Gabon				JS1KQD	*	129,923	308 60 113	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH3LQK							
TR8CA	A	495,880	748 71 174	JH10VY	*	41,184	138 39 78	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247	OH2LNH							
Nigeria				JA11Z	*	34,102	113 51 67	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
SN7M	28	302,380	862 26 104	JA1PTJ	*	28,244	113 33 59	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: OM3CGN)				JF1RYU	*	13,578	67 39 54	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
Senegal				JH1QDB	*	2,574	37 12 14	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*6V7T	A	1,704,024	2014 75 247	JA10GT	28	10,896	93 21 35	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: F5RAV)				JN1NDY	21	376,887	1185 32 99	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
South Africa				JE1LFX	*	209,088	723 31 77	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
ZS2DL	A	583,380	690 79 236	JQ1NGT	*	81,224	382 24 64	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
ZS5ZZ	*	42,700	158 36 64	JH1ACA	14	230,462	645 36 103	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
ZS9Z	21	290,133	725 27 84	*JM1LRQ	A	248,235	413 91 156	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
Tunisia				*JA1IST	*	211,404	376 80 143	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
3V88B	A	1,146,092	1166 90 272	*JA1BJI	*	191,350	384 81 134	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: YT1AD)				*7L1FFH	*	148,176	297 83 133	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
				*JA1JQY	*	17,487	102 28 39	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
ASIA				*7N2UQC	28	5,217	70 15 22	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
Asiatic Russia				*JA1BPA	21	480,440	1100 36 105	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA90CQ	A	1,940,840	1657 103 337	*JR4PMX/1	*	180,125	518 32 99	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
R9WR	*	1,538,310	1828 78 257	*J01WKO	7	23,406	108 25 58	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RN9CM	*	1,295,424	1118 117 351	JA2IVK	A	2,060,305	2242 125 252	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RBMC	*	1,219,392	1130 113 351	JA2XCR	*	686,868	755 117 247	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RK9AJZ	*	795,520	905 90 262	JH2FXK	*	419,917	549 94 195	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RA9AAA	*	666,152	828 76 230	JR2PMT	*	227,255	397 82 133	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9CDC	*	640,480	749 81 229	JG2REJ	*	70,176	198 49 87	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RM9RZ	*	512,952	582 88 260	*JK2VOC	A	93,562	288 65 98	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RBFR	*	489,155	570 89 272	*JF2QZH	*	91,609	221 60 101	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
R9WW	*	383,565	537 60 213	*JG2KXG	14	270,413	700 37 106	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9CGL	*	349,531	521 85 214	J03DDD	A	1,242,344	1594 114 218	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9AGX	*	196,928	304 68 204	JA3AOP	*	1,111,120	1255 108 232	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9OC	*	167,400	309 56 160	JN3SAC	*	189,475	380 71 131	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RW9W	*	161,304	380 47 141	J53CTQ	7	178,688	523 35 93	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RA9JBA	*	157,932	421 43 121	*JL3VUL/3	A	163,755	485 34 101	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
R8TR	*	150,842	296 53 146	*JA3PYC	*	88,312	240 51 101	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RK8I	*	80,343	291 31 82	J04CFV	A	118,816	294 72 116	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RM6W	*	52,932	174 42 90	JM4WUZ	21	140,530	476 31 84	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RX9CAZ	*	30,303	127 28 63	JA6BZI	A	1,164,486	1107 125 296	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9LBQ	*	528	15 11 13	JH6CDI	A	681,926	618 142 327	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9LP	*	480	11 9 11	JA6SRB	3.7	7,950	74 19 34	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9UR	28	85,736	433 18 48	*JA6DJ	14	51,000	247 27 58	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RC9F	*	33,418	209 14 48	JA7ZP	A	291,765	424 102 163	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UI9I	14	631,630	1601 35 131	JA7KY	*	768	15 12 12	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: RM9I)				JA7OWD	28	66,374	375 24 53	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RK9DM	*	263,750	772 31 94	JG7AMD	14	34,320	163 26 52	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RK9YWE	*	164,992	510 32 96	*JH7XVB	A	21,576	116 38 49	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: RA9YTX)				*JA7KOC	21	99	5 4 5	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RW9USA	7	1,028,340	2426 38 136	JH8SLS	A	213,066	302 92 175	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RK9AX	*	182,308	640 28 91	JA8JMG	14	31,836	158 30 54	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
RU9CK	3.7	260,837	892 23 86	JF9JTS	A	296,478	631 59 122	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
UA9MA	1.8	37,700	201 9 56	JR9GMS	*	10,582	51 34 40	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RV9UP	A	685,377	992 82 219	JH9URT	7	42,504	204 28 56	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RW9C	*	584,974	763 73 225	*JH9JJD	21	12,862	97 17 42	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9DZ	*	405,650	619 67 199	JA0FVU	A	1,159,872	1320 116 220	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RK9DC	*	221,184	471 48 144	JH0INP	*	315,715	451 90 181	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9CIN	*	89,490	250 42 115	JH0NOS	7	37,499	208 26 51	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*R9MC	*	83,681	236 51 106	JH0MHR	3.7	924	18 10 12	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9MX	*	47,144	127 40 126	*JA0NFP	21	33,384	203 25 53	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RZ9WU	*	34,782	164 27 75	*J0NLSL	*	22,572	138 22 54	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9AMO	*	26,400	135 25 63	Kampuchea				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RW9WW	*	13,040	70 25 55	*XU7ACY	A	444,542	994 77 149	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*UA9QA	*	4,585	54 11 24	Kazakhstan				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RV9CP	21	220,610	714 29 101	UN7MMM	A	1,762,611	1999 79 244	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9U9/9	*	138,572	562 23 75	UN0L	*	1,050	23 12 18	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*UA9CAX	*	56,357	247 23 74	UN0LE	*	336	9 7 9	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9UAG	*	31,416	225 19 49	UN4PG	28	53,898	312 21 57	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RA9UN	*	14,202	152 14 40	UN8GV	21	498,617	1583 27 106	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*RW9TP	14	74,648	238 32 92	UN2E	*	220,288	701 29 99	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
Asiatic Turkey				UN7TO	*	120,239	577 24 65	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*TA3CM	A	2,368	32 10 22	UN9PQ	14	72,540	309 24 69	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*TA4ED	14	140,580	627 21 69	UP7A	7	313,560	1011 26 91	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
*TC4I	*	38,916	223 13 56	Kyrgyzstan				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: TABU)				*EX8LF	28	1,896	45 8 16	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
China				*EX7ML	21	110,688	530 22 74	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BA7ID	A	214,872	616 60 108	Mongolia				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BY3MM	*	185,442	818 66 120	JT5DX	7	977,618	2558 37 130	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
(OP: BA3CE)				Saudi Arabia				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BD4CB	*	105,846	289 47 130	HZ1FS	A	1,180,005	1440 63 228	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BG3FQF	*	3,560	37 14 26	South Korea				OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BA4KP	21	136,188	792 26 71	DSSOND	A	28,800	78 40 64	OE8UQ	*	675,011	1018 90 247								
BA4RF	14	233,378	881 36 96																

DB2B	3.7	89,531	923	16	81	IO3T	*	97,300	389	33	107	*SP2EWO	A	268,150	427	86	224	*OM3NI	A	102,476	378	44	143	UT7EZ	*	165,015	324	77	116								
DO4DXA	*	35,700	381	12	73	IK1ZNM	*	1,705	25	13	18	*S09G	*	129,888	502	50	148	*OM5UM	*	41,890	265	33	109	UX0FF	*	140,118	347	70	172								
DK9HN	*	22,715	297	12	65	IR8R	14	472,862	1780	39	130	*SP5BNB	*	100,989	232	71	158	*OM7YC	*	21,631	161	28	69	UR5EPG	*	108,575	303	61	154								
*DF2RG	A	480,522	713	88	269	I5FCK	7	128,832	773	29	93	*SQ8LSC	*	99,552	301	54	129	*OM3ZBG	*	5,481	94	18	45	UT2M	*	102,476	505	48	139								
*DM6DX	*	377,536	579	86	261	I1NVU	3.7	47,736	367	17	85	*SP6QNU	*	99,182	345	46	156	Slovenia																			
*DF2AJ	*	369,408	708	76	236	*IK6OIN	A	490,912	828	84	284	*SP1MWN	*	96,073	354	49	142	S58M	A	2,448,516	2814	126	440	UT1AA	*	88,510	336	43	124								
*DL0NG	*	182,532	500	59	187	*IR8W	*	238,996	537	69	229	*SN7S	*	73,146	363	40	106	S53M	*	1,564,500	1641	107	340	US3IZ	*	87,636	278	53	148								
*DL4MNG	*	161,040	472	48	192	*IZ6NCN	*	132,239	445	51	172	*SP7SZW	*	68,908	382	33	128	(OP: S5320)																			
*DJ3HW	*	159,609	322	70	179	*IZ5RYG	*	127,451	298	62	171	*SN4W	*	67,236	341	39	117	S56A	*	1,304,546	1195	127	451	UV7QA	*	87,236	263	60	166								
*DL5GAC	*	101,712	346	44	112	*IZ2KTF	*	86,104	306	46	142	*SP8QED	*	38,350	197	36	94	S540	*	68,952	335	38	118	UU2JQ	*	69,536	184	54	110								
*DK4WF	*	71,050	262	62	141	*IZ2NYY	*	44,238	196	39	107	*SQ3RX	*	27,108	189	29	79	S5BR	21	617,526	1413	39	143	UT2IW	*	41,580	150	47	93								
*DK6AH	*	70,928	240	54	122	*IZ1NES	*	30,324	139	38	95	*SQ7OTB	*	24,565	101	34	51	S50K	14	1,063,728	2932	38	140	UT0CK	*	37,380	218	31	109								
*DL8ZAJ	*	63,124	230	50	122	*IZ5RLK	*	18,432	139	29	67	*SP6FXV	*	24,440	100	44	60	S51NM	*	10,304	79	16	40	UT3WX	*	15,264	152	21	75								
*DK7ZH	*	55,096	296	33	109	*IZ1MHY	*	5,040	40	25	35	*SP6JOC	*	18,000	164	17	63	S56X	7	435,183	2060	36	123	UT3UA	*	7,872	50	27	37								
*DH4PSG	*	48,238	176	52	126	*IZ0LHL	*	780	13	8	12	*SQ3LMY	*	15,960	188	18	58	S51CK	*	308,980	1839	30	110	UT3N	*	4,898	46	26	36								
*DL1DBR	*	44,676	211	43	110	*IW1QN	21	181,104	527	38	116	*SP6IHE	*	5,070	39	29	36	S56P	1.8	124,896	1138	16	80	(OP: UT3NK)													
*DL7UIO	*	39,930	163	30	57	*I7CSB	*	48,160	205	30	82	*SQ4OLP	*	1,485	25	13	20	*S59AA	A	417,197	550	95	296	UT7MW	28	54,815	409	22	73								
*DL9ECA	*	28,672	131	40	88	*IZ4AFW	14	4,545	72	11	34	*SN1Z	*	1,040	14	12	14	*S52DK	*	351,900	706	71	205	UZ5Q	*	5,104	64	14	30								
*DL5ASK	*	26,250	128	31	74	*IK4SPB	7	16,745	164	16	89	*SQ7MHN	*	1,008	14	12	12	*S53F	*	300,048	612	75	261	(OP: UY5OZ)													
*DK1JP	*	24,282	123	30	41	*IK0XBX	1.8	15,190	252	9	53	*SQ8JLN	*	130	6	5	5	*S57AD	*	31,553	238	26	113	UU7J	21	457,794	1663	37	137								
*DL7TJ	*	22,987	141	33	94	Kaliningrad										*SP5ES	*	6	1	1	1	*S57EA	*	17,888	118	31	73	(OP: UJ1AZ)									
*DL2YCA	*	16,290	138	23	67	UA2FT	A	2,484	29	16	20	*SP3LWP	28	25,596	168	19	60	*S51D	7	121,240	591	31	109	UT8LN	*	280,896	857	38	138	(OP: UY5E0Z)							
*DC2CB	*	16,000	123	29	71	Latvia										*SQ8IFG	21	87,846	308	34	87	EA5BY	A	1,494,763	1442	122	447	UR6J	*	107,569	427	32	89	(OP: UV5E0Z)			
*DJ2MX	*	15,826	104	22	60	YL6W	A	2,138,334	2270	131	412	*SQ8IFG	21	87,846	308	34	87	EA11R	*	847,242	1485	94	269	UT7E	14	335,550	1751	35	115	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DK4VY	*	15,456	139	26	70	YL8M	*	82,344	247	59	160	*SP6ZC	*	66,759	214	34	85	EA7RU	*	830,718	1108	82	265	UY4WWA	*	97,416	458	31	101	(OP: UR5MW)							
*DGFAY	*	14,758	152	19	75	YL2PP	28	3,036	33	14	30	*HF2010CY	*	5,616	66	16	32	ED4A	*	566,835	1037	84	261	UU9CW	*	167,702	873	32	110	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DL4EBW	*	13,944	128	21	63	YL2KO	21	783,372	1860	38	156	*SN3C	14	117,859	412	35	114	EA1PP	*	414,596	783	71	197	UU1AZ	*	28,314	315	19	59	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DL9GTI	*	12,516	65	34	50	YL2BZ	21	586,467	1422	38	151	*SP4DZT	*	112,592	577	27	97	EE3R	*	342,576	456	97	254	UX2X	3.7	213,250	1425	27	98	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DL3DRN	*	12,250	78	30	40	YL3AGV	21	22,120	212	15	55	*SP5AUJ	7	58,191	290	28	91	EA4ETW	*	322,301	548	86	201	UU5U	*	187,880	1376	26	96	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DB5SB	*	11,088	103	26	62	LY5E	A	1,521,153	1777	110	367	*SN9Y	*	4,074	85	7	35	EA1BLA	*	243,366	493	74	208	UU9L	*	43,932	459	16	68	(OP: UR5WMM)							
*DK4IO	*	9,177	68	28	41	LY2TS	*	156,562	519	49	162	*CT2IPG	A	260,760	559	64	182	EA1CDI	*	48,416	179	47	89	UX7LL	*	440	15	7	15	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DL1VTL	*	8,256	75	24	62	LY2CX	*	122,175	324	68	157	CT1ETW	*	6,384	72	21	55	EA3AR	*	40,112	216	26	66	UR5AS	1.8	52,548	600	16	71	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DG2BHB	*	7,923	108	13	44	LY3CY	*	112,665	495	36	149	CT1EAT	*	3,604	39	16	18	EA1AW	*	37,990	169	44	101	*UT2IO	A	263,934	678	66	213	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DF6VC	*	4,424	44	22	34	LY7M	*	86,580	392	39	146	CT1BOL	28	23,718	172	17	50	EA4WL	*	6,783	62	16	41	*UR6MX	*	155,448	347	47	157	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DL1SVA	*	4,416	38	21	25	LY1R	28	40,850	315	22	73	CT1FJL	21	167,118	660	33	105	EA4DEC	*	5,520	36	27	33	*UT8EL	*	138,645	399	59	178	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DK6RS	*	1,456	27	13	13	*LY2BVB	A	137,108	358	57	170	CT1ETX	14	146,418	684	30	108	AM1Q	21	445,055	1297	39	128	*US7LM	*	117,943	346	51	152	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DL3EBX	*	1,218	41	5	24	*LY2SA	*	41,922	173	43	94	*CT1HMN	A	281,488	610	61	180	EA1AE	*	14,592	107	21	43	*US4IQS	*	75,816	288	39	117	(OP: UT5LO)							
*D06SD	*	832	19	12	14	*LY2RJ	14	22,500	112	34	56	*CT2CRP	*	78,715	326	42	131	EA1BFZ	*	528	11	6	10	*U4IJS	*	43,992	186	38	103	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DJ7IK	*	672	14	8	13	*LY4G	14	48,500	307	25	72	*CT1AOZ	28	23,732	128	19	49	AN5E	*	47,975	247	35	82	*UT7Q	*	129,336	617	35	101	(OP: UT5LO)							
*D01RTO	28	1,500	36	6	14	Macedonia										*CT2IVH	*	12,906	101	16	38	EA4DW	*	63,999	247	35	82	UT7M	*	10,476	132	9	45	(OP: UT5LO)			
*DR2K	21	135,579	460	34	95	Z35T	21	292,060	1015	37	133	*CT2JBG	7	25,353	212	15	56	EA7LL	7	471,450	1765	36	114	*UT2IV	21	92,720	447	31	91	(OP: UT5LO)							
*DL5ALW	14	9,027	87	12	47	Z37M	14	322,000	1607	32	108	Y09HP	A	3,542,022	3459	143	460	EE3E	*	225,736	1107	32	107	*UT2AB	*	9,936	83	20	49	(OP: UT5LO)							
SV1DPI	A	849,884	1209	116	392	Z36N	1.8	16,245	271	8	49	Y03APJ	*	1,334,275	1764	107	368	EA3ATM	*	144,774	861	31	95	*UT7Y	14	193,893	811	35	112	(OP: UT5LO)							
SV2FLQ	*	109,410	433	56	154	Moldova										Y04DW	*	617,335	1253	85	226	EA7KB	*	97,163	513	26	95	UT7Q	*	129,336	617	35	101	(OP: UT5LO)			
SV3AQR	21	68,560	716	21	59	ER0WW	A	7,862,990	5830	167	599	Y08WW	*	175,845	349	88	197	EA7W	3.7	60,900	503	18	87	*UT7M	*	10,476	132	9	45	(OP: UT5LO)							
SV2QCD	7	475,600	1975	37	127	*ER2RM	A	340,407	707	70	257	YR0R	*	167,968	515	53	128	ED5J	*	6,780	99	10	50	*UT7M	7	92,35											

*LR4E	28	296,846	1078	25	78	W4EEQ	22,506	98	31	62	BY8CN	253,045	652	72	149	DL0IL	607,752	1275	81	286	Svalbard	2,082,600	2149	116	329
*LT4S	*	185,565	933	26	63	W4UVA	22,272	99	32	64	BY1SK	65,394	297	45	81	DM7C	560,865	977	94	323	Sweden	1,232,007	2766	76	281
*LU7YZ	*	130,385	594	25	64	N5DX	5,406,882	3371	160	513	BD4TS	46,151	209	54	79	DF0DA	510,864	975	78	289	1,955,626	1716	85	288	
*LU7HZ	*	94,146	493	24	54	N2IC/5	5,137,170	3057	166	488	BG4UNB	11,280	126	26	54	DK0HF	334,464	714	73	195	63,441	308	37	122	
*LU3JVO	*	64,294	382	21	40	K5NA	4,173,048	2460	173	553	Cyprus	19,267,610	7776	185	705	DP9I	269,136	688	65	187	56,250	339	32	118	
*LW5EAE	*	51,578	316	23	51	N5YA	929,919	937	107	294	P33W	82,635	283	22	83	DK0ALK	199,320	418	60	160	14,420	119	22	48	
*LU7CAW	*	5,808	50	15	33	N9MBS/5	490,893	607	84	223	P39P				DK0RX	194,307	526	60	179						
						W5RTA	106,560	347	66	114	Japan	777,170	1054	95	215	DR2P	94,050	378	52	173	Switzerland	3,311,550	2897	152	523
						Aruba	2,708,328	1748	153	435	JA1YPA	85,888	284	52	76	DK5ON	86,020	465	26	89	1,136,220	2326	93	342	
P40P	14	595,136	1572	32	104	W6LH	915,343	835	118	289	JE1YEM				DK0GYB	28,336	283	34	120	695,400	1395	86	294		
*P4/W5AJ	1.8	170	8	3	7	NX6T	675,816	862	105	243	J2ZJS	3,322,053	3052	133	308	SX1L	1,959,594	2535	120	426	628,942	1054	81	233	
						KH6SP/W5	443,136	502	114	270	J1ZZEY	1,468,324	1686	123	251	SZBL	132,300	892	43	132	188,370	517	65	208	
						W6KA	167,280	383	77	128	JA2ZJW	305,440	757	57	109	Hungary	8,035,965	5066	169	620	Ukraine	9,498,524	6765	183	685
						W6YRA	45,600	183	47	67	JJ3Y8B	353,800	665	92	152	1,793,890	2248	124	399	3,079,576	2759	161	537		
						N6EP	33,210	156	31	51	JE7YSS	72,772	291	28	64	Ireland	623,880	1483	93	337	1,607,398	2806	90	332	
						Brazil	5,558,720	3425	142	438	K7RL	3,135,383	2325	151	378	EI0W	823,880	1483	93	337	415,008	880	77	275	
PY1NB	A	5,533,276	3720	132	386	W7VJ	2,091,408	1783	137	329	W7VM	1,081,698	1245	128	289	Isle of Man	34,146	258	25	101	228,112	775	56	213	
ZX2B	*	1,944,972	2117	103	245	N6LO/7	729,011	901	101	222	W7TV	392,329	537	96	191	Italy	8,100,928	4804	174	640	137,280	426	59	181	
PV2P	*	1,847,043	2314	85	212	W7TVC	392,329	537	96	191	W7TVC	148,604	309	62	132	1,689,225	1712	118	387	137,280	426	59	181		
PP1CZ	*	1,555,188	1619	104	257	KG7C	148,604	309	62	132	W7UN	75,544	228	55	87	1,226,556	1749	107	385	20,895	190	28	77		
ZY2C	*	795,981	1074	99	204	K7UN	75,544	228	55	87	K8AZ	4,175,850	2287	161	518	1,338,005	1931	93	270	20,895	190	28	77		
ZV2K	*	222,185	541	60	125	K8AZ	4,175,850	2287	161	518	WC5B/8	7,259	75	26	35	1,056,998	1599	102	341	1,196	38	8	18		
PS2S	*	77,490	342	38	52	WC5B/8	7,259	75	26	35	KD9ST	1,898,600	1307	141	409	1,015,959	1543	112	367	OCEANIA	2,680,507	2478	117	304	
PY5KA	*	51,555	217	51	54	KD9ST	1,898,600	1307	141	409	KC9ARR	251,340	410	64	172	1,338,005	1931	93	270	Australia	2,680,507	2478	117	304	
PY3PA	*	14,274	82	30	48	K9WJU	235,986	453	65	157	K9WJU	235,986	453	65	157	1,945,152	2164	129	447	181,170	443	64	101		
PY2LGR	*	461,630	1286	33	97	N0NI	4,091,373	2421	165	498	K9WJU	235,986	453	65	157	1,918,103	2709	105	346	Guam	5,640,882	3972	143	364	
ZV2V	21	341,125	1017	31	94	W0MA	565,160	599	99	256	N0NI	4,091,373	2421	165	498	1,689,225	1712	118	387	Hawaii	5,346,695	4421	149	288	
PY2NZ	*	88,576	283	32	96	KD0S	356,365	518	74	189	K0JDD	272,384	422	80	186	1,226,556	1749	107	385	Indonesia	682,378	1000	80	191	
PR7AR	14	345,054	1058	34	97	K0JDD	272,384	422	80	186	KL7/N0HJZ	755,058	1904	62	121	1,338,005	1931	93	270	27,962	148	24	58		
PY7ZY	*	184,287	454	36	105	Alaska	755,058	1904	62	121	KL5DX	236,232	621	58	95	1,056,998	1599	102	341	Micronesia	804,650	1400	86	123	
PT5T	7	637,604	1355	40	132	KL5DX	236,232	621	58	95	KL7AIR	225,784	561	58	109	1,015,959	1543	112	367	New Zealand	296,650	696	57	113	
PR7DZ	*	144,531	558	26	75	Antigua & Barbuda	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bermuda	4,461,691	4184	111	346	1,005,771	1370	108	373	Philippines	1,275,080	1924	80	171	
PY5QW	3.7	1,104	51	11	13	Bermuda	4,461,691	4184	111	346	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	370,566	1018	70	236	93,250	309	48	77		
*PY2SEX	A	2,430,330	2085	126	300	AA4V/VP9	4,461,691	4184	111	346	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	294,000	617	64	216	10,586	99	26	41		
*PX2T	*	611,800	1313	48	127	Canada	2,101,920	2948	80	222	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	146,400	398	69	171	SOUTH AMERICA	5,484,882	4186	134	360	
						Canada	2,101,920	2948	80	222	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	51,100	247	38	108	Argentina	5,484,882	4186	134	360	
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	33,976	262	31	106	LU1MA	3,650,352	3001	120	332	
						AA4V/VP9	4,461,691	4184	111	346	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Jersey	1,338,531	1744	94	343	LU1UM	2,336,322	2447	113	254
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Kaliningrad	8,156,016	5222	177	659	LO7H	1,532,330	1865	100	210
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Latvia	2,381,427	3091	125	454	LO0H	935,550	1509	83	160
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Belarus	77,441	344	48	113	L73D	864,396	1439	76	158
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Belgium	2,713,880	2288	136	478	L25X	248,162	687	49	118
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bosnia-Herzegovina	12,185,136	6992	184	704	LTD5	246,915	610	69	108
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulgaria	4,705,855	4125	156	563	LU1YY	127,334	726	63	135
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulgaria	4,705,855	4125	156	563	LO4D	34,831	289	22	39
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulgaria	4,705,855	4125	156	563	Aruba	14,084,807	7489	159	500
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulgaria	4,705,855	4125	156	563	Bonaire	13,529,100	7302	161	489
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulgaria	4,705,855	4125	156	563	Brazil	10,737,792	5252	171	546
						VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	VE26B	13,060,125	7649	159	546	Bulg									

W8BI	700,138	743	107	287
KC8IMB	220,340	403	68	162
NØIJ/9	2,398,284	1711	143	415
KTØR	1,500,884	1348	112	331
NØMA	755,200	714	104	296
KØGED	677,707	783	87	250
Belize				
V31BD	4,213,343	5151	97	282
Canada				
VE9ML	776,424	927	86	260
VE2DXY	1,320,359	2028	83	248
VE3RM	3,258,450	3010	113	337
VE3MIS	2,592,632	2428	119	350
VE3DC	660,804	1674	66	146
VE6FI	3,526,352	3914	121	312
VE7SV	6,256,017	5120	140	387
VE7GL	3,649,434	3752	128	315
VE7SCC	312,223	1247	55	82
Costa Rica				
TØRC	5,059,478	5168	123	344
AFRICA				
Madeira Islands				
CR3A	32,470,760	12739	185	705
Morocco				
CN3A	33,320,736	12754	185	726
Seychelles				
S79K	13,495,020	6850	154	536
South Africa				
ZS9X	7,479,420	4936	143	416
ASIA				
Asiatic Russia				
RZØWWA	788,385	1132	80	231
China				
B1Z	3,373,374	3639	130	336
BY4IB	22,950	166	37	48
Japan				
JF2ZPA	24,250	119	33	64
EUROPE				
Austria				
OE5T	1,438,815	2198	91	264
Belgium				
OT2A	7,462,559	5859	150	539
Croatia				
9A7A	9,106,461	5669	175	644
Czech Republic				
OL1X	5,597,820	4821	144	537
OL1C	135,326	444	42	100
Denmark				
OZ5GX	422,675	1432	64	211
England				
M4A	5,175,775	4448	147	502
M9X	3,910,920	4256	128	470
G50	2,693,668	2882	119	410
G4IY	1,809,120	2498	96	384
G6MC	1,624,624	2115	105	367
European Russia				
RK4WWQ	1,485,378	2446	104	373
Germany				
DQ4W	8,473,101	5593	161	596
DLØCS	7,593,795	5623	158	601
DR5N	5,631,626	4596	142	537
DKØED	2,653,110	2760	130	485
DP3E	1,732,320	2033	122	418
DL3G	1,319,544	1835	108	384
DLØUM	706,537	1141	89	302
DP4W	503,338	891	82	252
DP4D	337,362	757	81	273
DLØERP	66,612	423	35	147
Hungary				
HG7T	4,810,887	4455	141	480
Ireland				
EI9E	7,304,896	6507	137	491
Italy				
IR4X	13,885,885	7711	181	664
IR8A	1,004,496	1938	93	315
IO1BP	48,860	275	44	96
IK1TWC	31,737	127	51	98
Netherlands				
PI4DX	6,107,400	5272	154	542
PI4W	731,640	1371	87	315
PA3ØRCK	44,764	261	37	87
Norway				
LN2T	1,073,478	1763	84	343
LA1K	363,716	823	67	249
Poland				
SN2K	5,450,025	4136	158	577
SP4KNA	1,182,612	1162	130	426
Portugal				
CR5T	1,291,206	1927	96	330
Romania				
YO3KSR	568,050	1373	85	265
San Marino				
T7ØA	8,427,883	7938	157	552
Sardinia				
IMØC	202,276	734	46	198
Scotland				
GM2T	3,927,208	3994	133	471
GM6NX	1,524,755	2219	105	362

IR9Y	6,840,558	4914	167	619
IR9W	3,760,274	4354	128	446
Slovakia				
OMØA	1,612,772	2526	105	377
Slovenia				
SS2ZW	6,081,803	4796	151	528
Spain				
EE2K	3,654,738	4058	125	429
AM1W	2,550,832	2569	112	412
AM1A	1,640,364	2259	100	373
ED1RCM	816,205	1423	86	291
ED1T	710,832	1551	83	271
Sweden				
SK3W	3,342,628	2688	144	478
SK6AW	1,139,192	2066	69	245
OCEANIA				
Australia				
VK4KW	6,999,635	4858	147	374
VK1CC	3,121,248	2889	117	299
VK4HH	450,660	778	80	142
Brunei				
V84CQ	559,728	1138	57	127
Hawaii				
KH7CW	4,530,864	3801	139	285
Indonesia				
YE2R	4,999,390	3584	142	375
YEØX	4,516,432	3821	116	323
New Zealand				
ZM4T	5,601,050	4613	133	322
Northern Mariana Islands				
AHØBT	8,844,867	5928	149	382
SOUTH AMERICA				
Argentina				
LP1H	14,556,432	8270	157	470
Brazil				
PW7T	18,244,437	8749	167	586
PR5D	2,568,025	2589	112	273
ZY6Z	1,414,230	1971	81	214
Chile				
CE4CT	9,674,544	6046	154	430
CE1Z	207,774	796	49	70
Uruguay				
CV5D	2,094,000	2260	116	259
MULTI-OPERATOR				
MULTI-TRANSMITTER				
NORTH AMERICA				
United States				
K3LR	21,247,382	9143	190	717
W3LPL	17,824,653	8148	184	683
K1TTT	7,760,808	4374	160	557
KM1W	6,054,300	3247	151	549
WØAIH/9	5,060,268	3567	161	505
N6WM	4,445,070	3231	166	444
NA2U	3,293,920	2054	143	452
K7ZSD	2,881,578	2416	135	336
WX3B	2,835,129	1857	140	443
NE3F	2,713,815	1850	142	443
W5WZ	2,348,650	1951	137	398
WG3J	1,065,600	1215	111	333
AK8E/7	840,112	923	107	257
NE1B	686,517	678	95	282
W4CAR	22,042	114	43	64
Canada				
VE5PV	3,134,120	3461	119	300
VE7HPS	49,664	199	53	75
Turks & Caicos				
VP5T	10,848,474	8782	137	409
U.S. Virgin Islands				
KP2M	11,686,380	8462	149	461
AFRICA				
Canary Islands				
EF8R	29,023,327	12024	178	705
ASIA				
Asiatic Russia				
RKØSWB	33,660	239	41	69
China				
B7P	8,971,872	6170	171	501
Japan				
8N5A	11,462,762	6992	170	483
JA3YBK	7,659,160	4999	152	432
JA7YRR	5,927,992	4645	147	371
JA2YKA	82,336	305	67	99
Qatar				
A73A	23,364,120	10382	187	694
Taiwan				
BV100	339,456	1317	79	125
EUROPE				
Andorra				
C37N	5,636,928	7508	111	433
Belgium				
OT5A	10,659,128	8441	167	620
Bulgaria				
LZ9W	12,613,744	9983	167	647
Czech Republic				
OK70	3,474,240	4025	125	403
Dodecanese				
SX5P	5,261,168	5884	149	567
England				
MØHFC	65,512	464	37	115

RW3GW	1,615,440	2361	118	390
RY6Y	1,398,123	2009	119	412
France				
TM10	3,840,220	5085	151	477
Germany				
DR1A	21,624,680	12598	190	745
DFØHQ	16,439,906	10671	188	723
DP6T	2,544,375	2472	137	488
Hungary				
HG1S	9,635,052	6983	166	632
Italy				
IQ8MD	2,733,192	3573	128	433
Liechtenstein				
HBØ/HB9AON	4,488,926	5466	107	426
Lithuania				
LY7A	8,273,300	7502	155	587
LY2W	6,785,786	6127	152	555
Netherlands				
PA6Z	7,991,649	6870	162	595
PI4D	1,424,137	2375	103	330
Poland				
SP7PDL	16,390	169	26	84
Scotland				
GMØB	8,129,580	7000	149	541
Spain				
EE2W	9,864,040	7643	165	595
EA3EBN	2,799,940	2917	129	443
Sweden				
SK6D	1,651,184	2453	106	390
Ukraine				
UR3ØXX	400,512	948	73	263
OCEANIA				
Australia				
VK4UC	3,225,156	2695	136	325
VK3FRC	302,868	687	72	116
Guam				
WH2DX	2,689,934	3074	117	220
Philippines				
DX1ØBT	652,032	1110	93	163
SOUTH AMERICA				
Brazil				
ZY5Z	3,220,593	3405	110	271
Chile				
CE1A	2,315,700	2688	113	219
CE1D	163,254	540	69	100
Curacao				
PJ2T	27,984,516	14111	163	551
Check Logs				
4Z4DX, 8J1RL, 8M8YY, 8A5CW, 8D7IH, 8D8BQA, BY4XZ, BY5CD, CE3PG, CX4AD, DC2IP, DG5YIS, DJ8RS, DL1KUR, DL1LTK, DL2OE, DL4SVA, DL5CL, DL5JAG, DL5MG, DL6GV, DL7FAZ, DL7VMM, DL8MBS, DL8NO, DM5DX, DR2Q, E74WN, E74Y, E77M, EA1CBX, EA1CE, EA1FDI, EA1GFT, EA2IV, EA2KY, EA2RY, EA3FAX, EA3GLB, EA3JL, EA4MA, EA5HT, EA7ATX, EA7LS, EB1IF, EB3CW, EB3FIS, EC7AMY, EE50, EH5I, E17JK, F4DLM, F4FDQ, F5LMJ, F5MUX, G1FON, G3RWL, G6FOP, GM3C, GW4BLE, GWØETF, HA6PX, HA7JL, HA8DM, HA8TP, HSØZDY, IKØEIE, IK2AØD, IQ3UD, IT9DAA, IW5EIJ, IW7ECJ, IZ1SCF, IZ5MOQ, JA1TRC, JA2KVD, JG3WCZ, JI2KXX, JI1CS, K3MJ, K6VAR, K8YTO, KØBL, KB2WAW, KB9WQJ, KP4KE, KTØP, LA2NI, LA2PC, LA4RT, LA8AJA, LA8HGA, LP2F, LU6DO, LY2CO, LZ1JZ, M6KLO, N2CG, N3YIM, N6MZ, N9LF, NE4W, OE6IMD, OH1ØI, OH6GD, OH7KBF, OK1DMP, OK1ES, OK1FAI, OK2CSU, OK2PCL, OK4MM, OK7RJ, OK7SX, OM7ANO, OM7RC, OØ90, OZ1AXG, PAØRR, PA3EBP, PA4AO, PA50, PDØMMF, PD2EDR, PF5X, PP5VB, PYØFF, PY2EYE, PY2LED, PY2WB, R7FK, R7GX, R7HF, RA2FN, RA3DA, RA3LAL, RA3XDX, RA3ZOM, RA3ZV, RA4CON, RA9ØDW, RK1AØ, RN1A, RU3EJ, RU3FN, RU4CS, RU6HL, RU9YF, RV3ID, RV3LO, RWØAQ, RX9WN, RZ4FWA, S51AY, S51JQ, S5ØD, SMØØ, SM4ØHF, SM4F, SM4YPH, SM7LPY, SN5Y, SN9Z, SO2Ø, SO5S, SO7Ø, SO8ØJ, SP2FOV, SP2MHD, SP2QCU, SP2WGB, SP3CGK, SP3DØF, SP3DSC, SP3DV, SP3HC, SP3UIW, SP4YLA, SP5ATO, SP5CIB, SP5COF, SP5EAO, SP5ELW, SP5GDY, SP5GTI, SP5ICS, SP5LGN, SP5QNI, SP5VYI, SP6CZ, SP6M, SP6NVN, SP6ZC, SP7CVW, SP7HOV, SP8AJK, SP8EEX, SP8FHM, SP9AJM, SP9CVY, SP9FTJ, SP9GKJ, SP9HZW, SP9IKS, SP9MDY, SP9WZS, SQ1VAA, SQ5M, SQ8VJ, SQ9IWT, SQ9SBI, SV18FW, TMØRDR, UA1AIR, UA1AJW, UA1NFA, UA1ØRT, UA3AGW, UA3ØLC, UA3SAØ, UA3SKV, UA6GR, UA6GU, UA9CEP, UA9LGD, UA9SOR, UN6G, UN7BEW, UN7ECA, UN7LAN, UR4IOR, UR5ZMK, URSZTH, US5EEK, US5NGH, US5VX, UT1HT, UT1IA, UT2XX, UT4UKW, UT4WA, UT7NY, UT7WZA, UUØJC, UU2JG, UXØZAB, UX1AA, UY5AO, VA1TM, VE2TZI, VE3KZ, VK3FGR, W7VS, W8TN, YL2TD, YL5T, YØ2CMI, YØ2MKL, YØ2MLC, YØ3BA, YØ3CCC, YØ3HOT, YØ4ASG, YØ6CFB, YØ6KNE, YØ6OAF, YØ8ØDP, YØ9KPM, ZL4CR, ZS9Z.				

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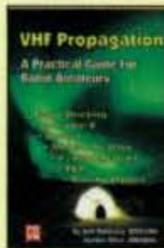
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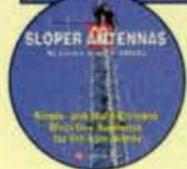
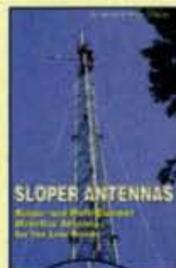
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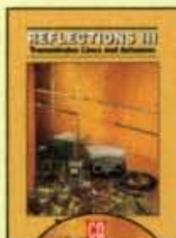
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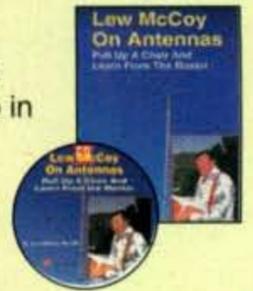
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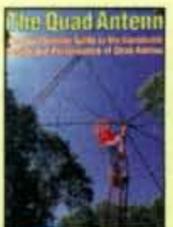
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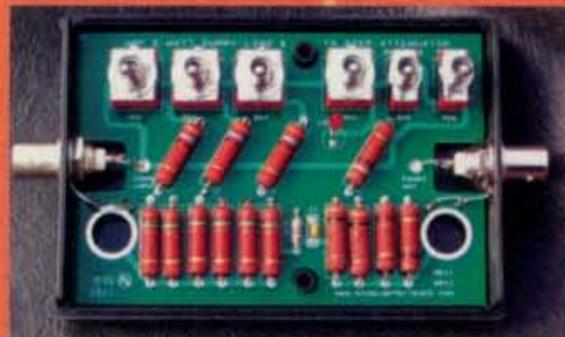
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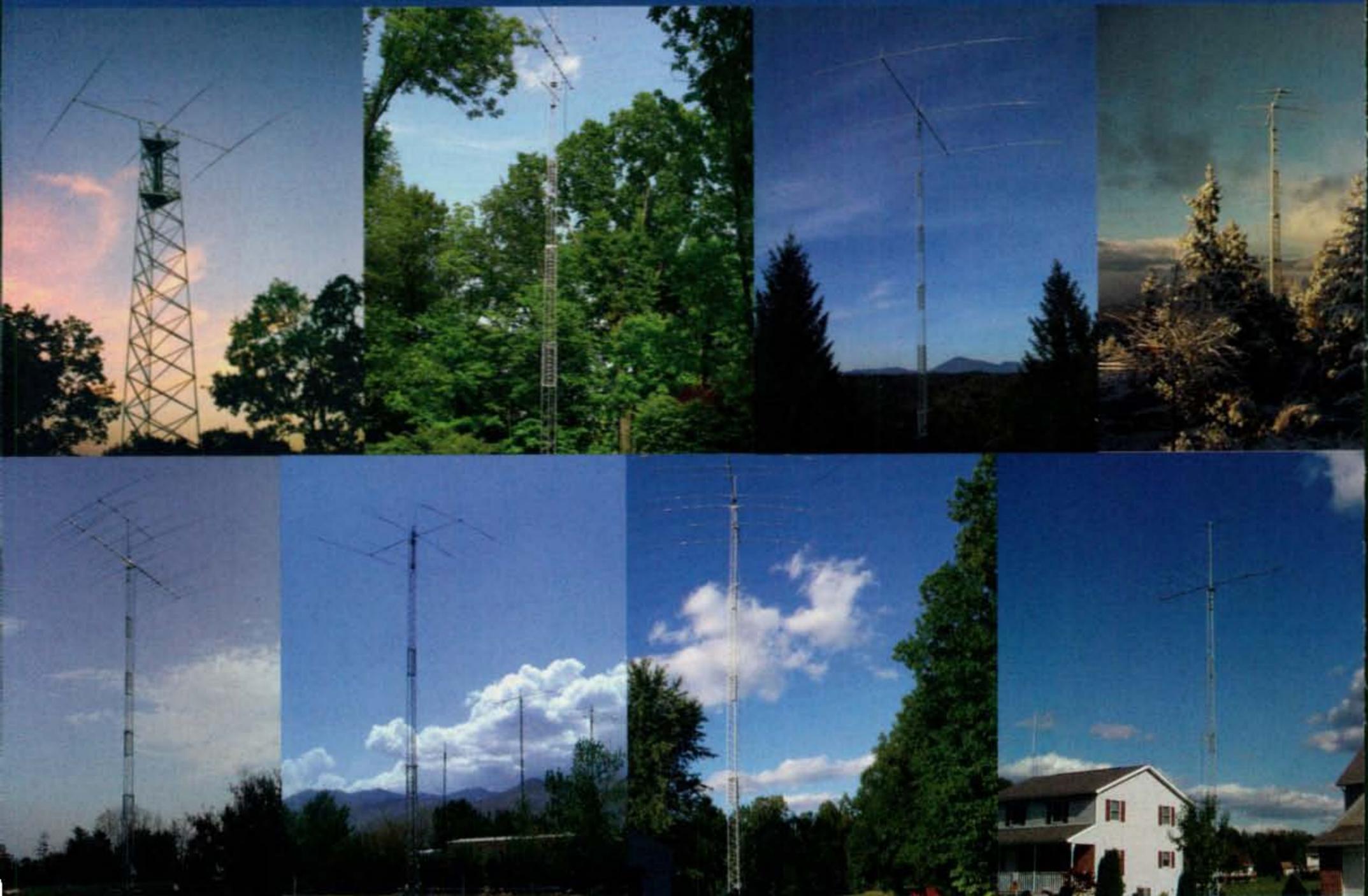
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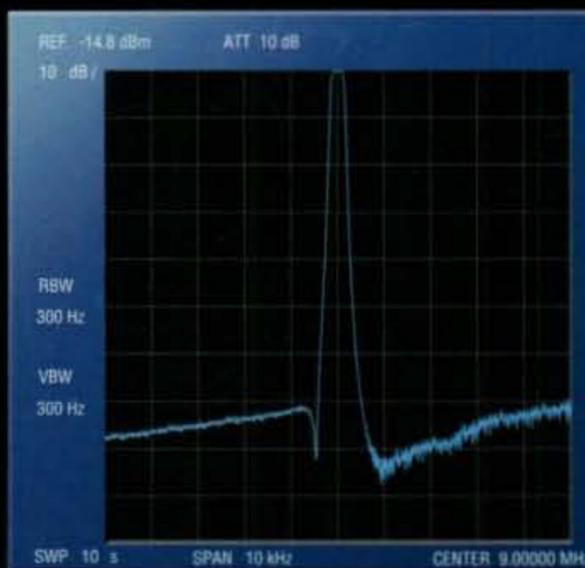
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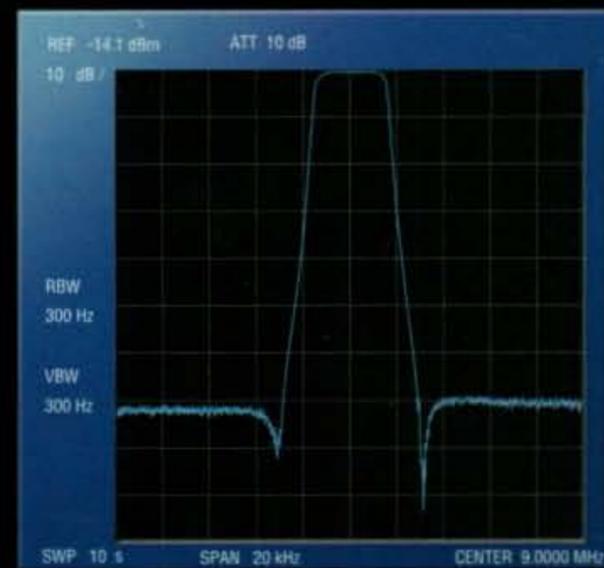
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