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# Amateur Radio

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY  
MAY 2022



# CQ

## ***Morse Code Mini-Special!***

- **Who Really Invented Morse Code? p. 8**
- **CW Results, 2021 CQ WW DX Contest, p. 11**
- **CQD, SOS and the Sinking of the Titanic, p. 24**

## ***Plus...***

- **DX Under the Volcano, p. 76**

On the Cover: A rainbow over the Caribbean creates the perfect backdrop for W2APF's Buddipole Hexbeam antenna as he operated a one-person DXpedition "under the volcano" from Montserrat as VP2MDX. Details on page 76.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MAY

**SANDWICH, ILLINOIS** — The Kishwaukee Amateur Radio Club will hold The Dekalb Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, May 1 at the Sandwich Fairgrounds, 1401 Suydam Road. Contact: Bob Yurs, W9ICU, (815) 757-3219. Email: <w9icu@arrl.net>. Website: <www.karc-club.org>. Talk-in 146.730 (PL 100).

**TOLEDO, OHIO** — The Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Services will hold its Trunk Sale & Swap Meet from 9 a.m. to noon, Sunday, May 1 at the Toledo Speedway, 5639 Benore Road. Phone: (567) 318-2291. Email: <lucascountyares@gmail.com>. Website: <http://tinyurl.com/lcaresswap>. Talk-in 146.610- (PL 103.5).

**CADILLAC, MICHIGAN** — The Wexaukeee Amateur Radio Club will hold the Cadillac Amateur Radio and Computer Swap from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May at the Mackinaw Trail Middle School, 8405 Mackinaw Trail. Website: <www.wexaukeearc.org>. Talk-in 146.98. VE exams, card checking

**PERU, INDIANA** — The Cass County, Grant County, Miami County, and Kokomo Amateur Radio Clubs will hold the North Central Indiana Hamfest and 2022 ARRL Indiana State Convention from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, May 7 at the Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds, 1029 W. 200 North. Contact: Mitch Miller (765) 661-5893. Email: <ncihamfest@gmail.com>. Website: <http://nci-hamfest.com>. Talk-in 147.345+ (PL 131.8). Free VE exams.

**SUCCASUNNA, NEW JERSEY** — The Splitrock Amateur Radio Association will hold the 2022 North Jersey Tailgate Hamfest beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, May 7 at the Roxbury Senior Center, 72 Eyland Avenue. Email: <hamfest@splitrockara.org>. Website: <www.splitrockara.org>. Talk-in 146.985- (PL 131.8). VE exams, DXCC card checking.

**SUPERIOR, WISCONSIN** — The Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club will hold its HAMFEST! From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, May 7 at the Head of Lakes Fairgrounds-Multi-Purpose Building, 4700 Tower Avenue (WI Hwy. 35). Contact: Robert Schultz, KCØNFB, (218) 481-7458. Email: <arac\_hamfest@charter.net>. Website: <http://thearac.org>. Talk-in 146.940- (PL 103.5), 147.000- (PL 103.5), or 146.940- (PL 151.3). VE exams, card checking.

**XENIA, OHIO** — The Dayton Amateur Radio Association will hold the Dayton Hamvention from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, May 20; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 21; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, May 22 at the Greene County Fairgrounds, 120 Fairgrounds Road. Phone: (937) 276-6930. Email: <info@hamvention.org>. Website: <http://hamvention.org>. Talk-in 146.940- (PL 123) or 146.985- (PL 123). VE exams, special event station W8BI.

**DEPAUVILLE, NEW YORK** — The Thousand Islands Repeater Club will hold its Sixth Annual Hamfest / Swapmeet from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 21 at the Depauville Fire Department Banquet Hall, 15191 School Street. Email: <kc2tirclub@gmail.com>. Website: <www.tirepeater-club.com>. VE exams.

**GOSHEN, CONNECTICUT** — The Southern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club will hold its 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamfest from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 21 at the Goshen Fairgrounds, 116 Old Middle Street. Contact: Lee, K1LEE, (860) 435-0051. Email: <k1lee@arrl.net>. Website: <www.sberk.org>. Talk-in 147.285+ (PL 77). VE exams.

**VERDI, NEVADA** — The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society will hold the Reno Ham Swap beginning 8 a.m. Saturday, May 21 at the Cabela's Parking Lot, 8650 Boomtown Garson Road. Email: <info@renohamswap.com>. Website: <www.renohamswap.com>. Talk-in 147.210+ (PL 100).

**WEST FRIENDSHIP, MARYLAND** — The Maryland FM Association will hold the Memorial Day Tailgate Hamfest from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, May 29 at the Howard County Fair Grounds on Route 144. Phone: (301) 641-5313 (6-10 p.m.). Email: <marylandfm@verizon.net>. Website: <http://marylandfm.org>. Talk-in 146.16+ (PL 107.2) or 449.0- (PL 107.2). VE exams.

## JUNE

**FAIR LAWN, NEW JERSEY** — The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will hold its Hamfest beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, June 4 at Memorial Park on Berdan Avenue & 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Phone: (201) 791-3841. Email: <fairlawnarc@yahoo.com>. Website: <hamfest.fairlawnarc.org>. Talk-in 145.470- (PL 167.9).

**HILTON, NEW YORK** — The Rochester Amateur Radio Association will hold the 93<sup>rd</sup> Rochester Hamfest from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, June 4 at the Hilton Exempt Club, 137 South Avenue. Phone: (585) 210-8910. Email: <hfproducer@rochesterham.org>. Website: <www.rochesterham.org>. Talk-in 146.61 (PL 110.9) or 444.45 (PL 110.9).

**HUDSONVILLE, MICHIGAN** — The Independent Repeater Association will hold the 2022 Hudsonville IRA Hamfest from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, June 4 at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds, 5235 Park Avenue. Phone: (616) 209-9296. Email: <hamfest@w8ira.org>. Website: <www.w8ira.org>. Talk-in 147.16. Free VE exams.

**SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI** — The Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club will hold its Annual Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 4 at the Salvation Army Springfield Headquarters, 1707 W. Chestnut Expressway. Website: <www.smarc.org>. Talk-in 146.910- (PL 162.2). VE exams.

**CHELSEA, MICHIGAN** — The Chelsea Amateur Radio Club will hold its 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Chelsea Swap & Shop from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, June 5 at the Chelsea Fairgrounds, 20501 W. Old US Highway 12. Contact: Michelle Dye, KD8GWX, (734) 717-5660. Email: <wd8iel@gmail.com>. Website: <www.wd8iel.com>. Talk-in 145.450 (PL 100). Card checking.

**MENDOTA, ILLINOIS** — The Starved Rock Radio Club will hold its Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, June 5 at the Mendota Tri-County Fairgrounds, 503 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. Email: <starvedrockhamfest@gmail.com>. Website: <www.w9mks.org>. Talk-in 147.120+ (PL 103.5). VE exams.

**LIME RIDGE, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club will hold the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Bloomsburg Hamfest from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 11 at the Lime Ridge

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## Icom, DX Engineering, Team Up for Dayton Megaprize

Icom America and DX Engineering have joined forces to assemble the largest-ever grand prize in the history of the Dayton Hamvention.® The prize package, which will be given away on the closing day of the 2022 Hamvention, has been dubbed the “Icom America Dream Station Package” and is valued at close to \$20,000.

According to DX Engineering, the package includes four transceivers, covering 1.8 MHz to 1.2 GHz and designed for home, mobile, and portable use, along with a variety of station accessories. The transceivers include the IC-7851 home station for HF/50 MHz; the portable IC-705 for QRP on HF through 450 MHz, the IC-9700 multimode VHF/UHF/1.2 GHz rig and the ID-52A VHF/UHF/D-STAR handheld. A complete list of the equipment and accessories included in the Dream Station Package may be found at <<https://tinyurl.com/5dy22dzj>>.

## New FCC License Fees Take Effect, Crash Licensing Computers

The new \$35 fee for most amateur radio license applications (exceptions: license upgrades and administrative updates) took effect on April 19<sup>th</sup> and the updated software for processing batch applications from the volunteer examiner coordinators crashed within hours. According to the ARRL, the system was down for four days, going back online on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, but resulting in a backlog of unprocessed applications. The League says applicants should expect delays in normal FCC turnaround times.

A related item: The ARRL-VEC reports that the League’s Youth Licensing Grant Program took effect along with the new fees on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Under the program, ARRL will reimburse the \$35 filing fee for successful new license candidates younger than age 18 for tests administered through the ARRL-VEC. The League has also reduced its exam fee for candidates under 18 from \$15 to \$5. Details may be found at <<https://tinyurl.com/mv3zjwct>>.

## IARO Region 1 Youth Summer Camp to be Held in Croatia

The International Amateur Radio Union’s Region 1 youth summer camp is back after a 2-year Covid hiatus, and is scheduled for August 6-13<sup>th</sup> in Croatia. According to *Newsline*, attendance is open to amateurs ages 15-25 living in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East, along with guests from other parts of the world. Campers will be organized into teams led by a team leader between the ages of 18 and 30. Attendance is limited to 80 total participants. For more information, visit the IARU Region 1 Youngsters on the Air website at <<http://ham-yota.com>>.

The Youth on the Air program for IARU Region 2 — North and South America — is seeking a host for its 2023 summer camp program. The timeframe would be one week between June 1<sup>st</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> and the host would need to be able to arrange meeting rooms, event space, and lodging for up to 55 campers and staff, along with space for three simultaneously operating HF stations. Detailed information and a host application form are available at <<http://youthontheair.org>>.

Finally in this month’s young ham roundup, May 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for nominating candidates for Amateur Radio Newsline’s Bill Pasternak Memorial Young Ham of the Year

award. Nominees must be age 18 or younger, living in the continental United States, and demonstrating “talent, promise, and a commitment to the spirit of ham radio,” according to Newsline. Nomination forms may be found at <<http://arnewsline.org>>. [CQ is a co-sponsor of the Young Ham of the Year award.]

## Hams in Bosnia and Herzegovina Respond After Earthquake

An earthquake measuring 5.7 on the Richter scale rocked Bosnia and Herzegovina on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, resulting in one fatality, many injuries, and considerable property damage. Southgate Amateur Radio News reports that the nation’s ham radio emergency network was activated within 5 minutes after the quake, which was felt as far away as Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro.

Following established emergency plans, three teams were mobilized and established a network on VHF repeaters, along with a digital link to the capital of Sarajevo and HF nets on 80- and 40-meter voice and digital modes. The networks were planning to remain active until the risk of aftershocks had passed.

## Hawaiian Hams Conduct Statewide Disaster Drill

Hawaii’s Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) sponsored a statewide disaster drill on April 16<sup>th</sup> to assess its members’ abilities to provide emergency communications in the event of a natural disaster. The scenario was a 4-day rain and windstorm battering all of the state’s islands, taking out power, internet, and cell phone towers, according to the *ARRL Letter*. The hams operated under the structure of the Incident Command System. State, local, and federal agencies also took part. Hawaii Office of Homeland Security Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Everett Kaneshige noted that “having multiple outlets for communication during a crisis is critical,” and added that it was “exciting to see the incorporation of innovative technology, such as the amateur radio-developed GPS software mapping capabilities.”

## INDEXA Names Humanitarian Fund in Memory of JH1AJT

The International DX Association (INDEXA) has renamed its humanitarian fund the Zorro Miyazawa, JH1AJT, Hams with Hearts Fund, in memory of Zorro, who founded and endowed the fund in 2016. JH1AJT, also a member of the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame, became a Silent Key in March. According to *Newsline*, the fund helps provide assistance to humanitarian aid projects undertaken by amateurs during DX-peditions. INDEXA said it is “proud and grateful to be able to sustain Zorro’s legacy through this fund.”

## Canadian Hams Authorized Special Prefixes to Honor Queen’s Jubilee

Canada’s communications regulator is allowing hams to use special prefixes between May 15<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup> in honor of Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee, marking her 70 years on the throne. The *ARRL Letter* reports that all hams in Canada may choose to use the special prefixes. They include VG, VX, XK, and XJ. In addition, the Canadian government’s special event station listing shows two specific Jubilee-related special event operations planned, with callsigns XM3A and VB3Q70.

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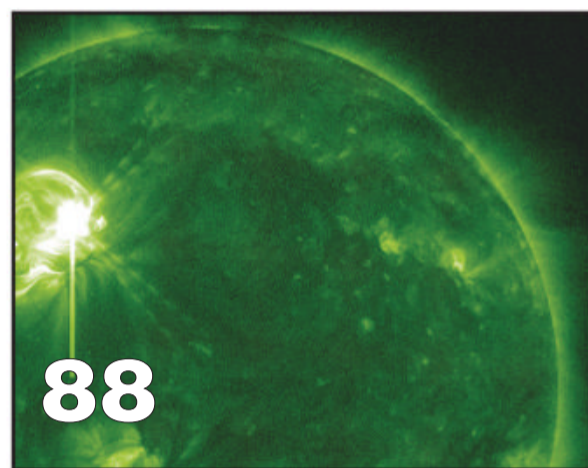
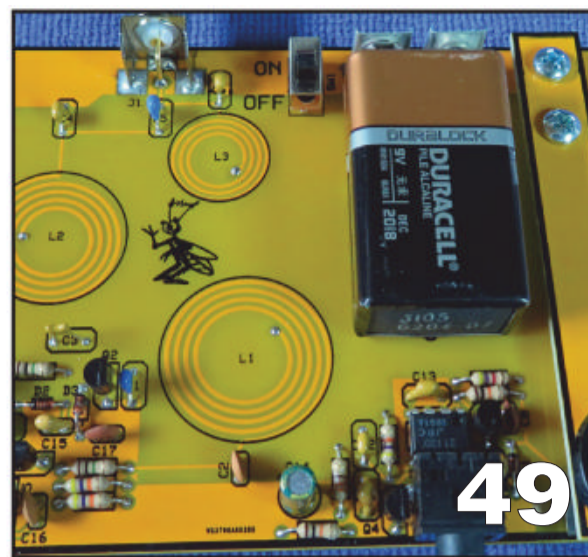
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## 76 COVER: DX: UNDER THE VOLCANO: A DXPEDITION TO MONTSERRAT

By Thaire Bryant, W2APF

After Covid cut short a trip to the Canary Islands in 2020, W2APF and his wife were finally able to return to winter traveling this past February, escaping the New Hampshire winter to spend time in the sun – and Thaire on the air as VP2MDX – from Montserrat, in the shadow of the Soufriere Hills volcano. But his Buddipole Hexbeam had a clear shot over the Caribbean from their rented house on Garibaldi Hill. (Cover photo by Thaire Bryant, W2APF)



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**FOCUS ON:** The 73<sup>rd</sup> running of the CQWW DX CW Contest filled up the bands with Morse code. How did you do this year? Find out on pages 11 & 94! That’s not all, read all about who invented Morse Code on page 8, and the role it played in the sinking of the Titanic on page 24!

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# COMPROMISE WAS NOT AN OPTION FOR THE NEW HG3 QRO-A!

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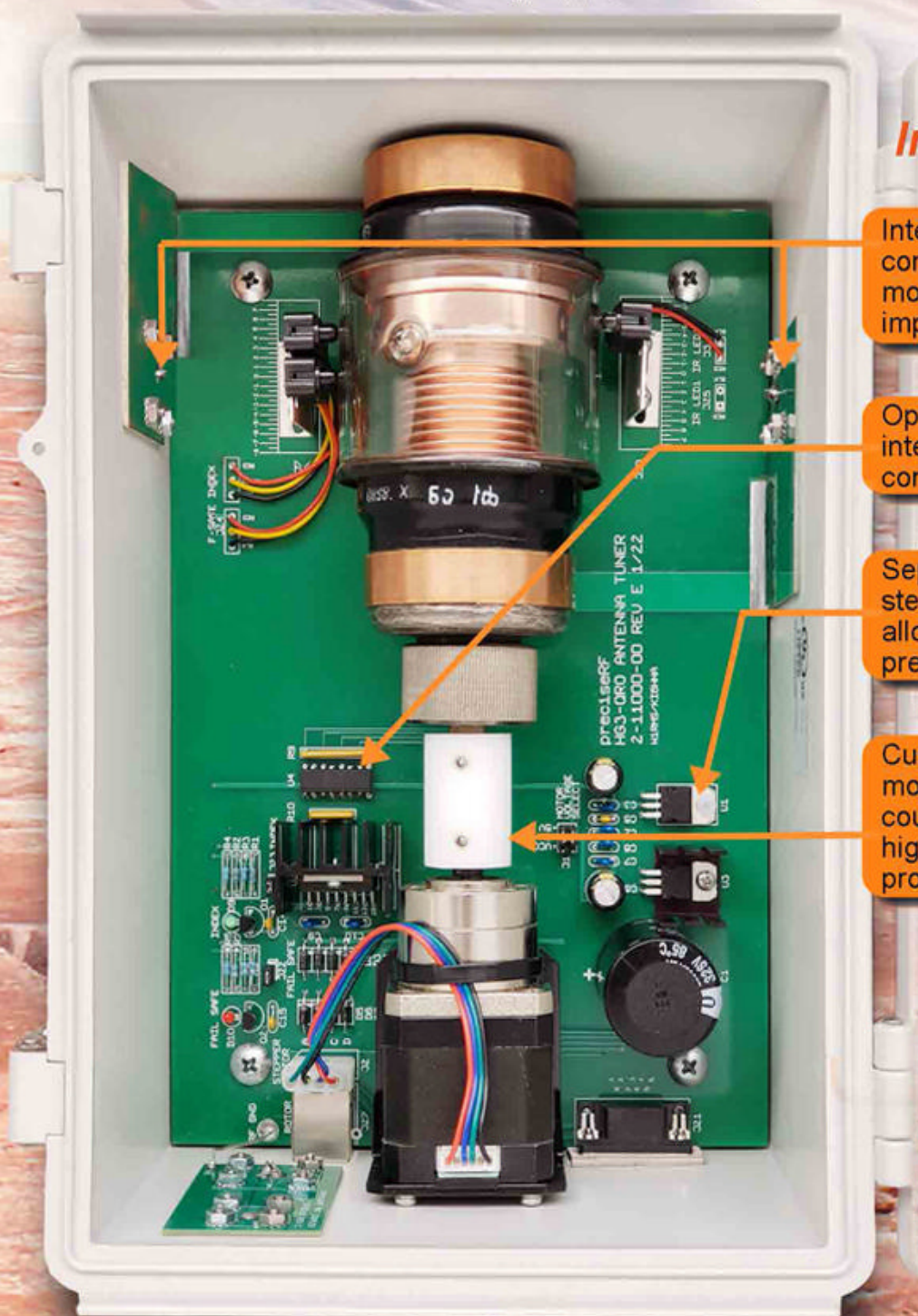
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# ZERO BIAS: A CQ Editorial

BY RICH MOSESON,\* W2VU

## Ham Radio's Cultural Heritage

**D**ah-di-dah-dit dah-dah-di-dah. For the yet unschooled, that's our name (CQ) in Morse code. For over 100 years, Morse code has been an essential part of the fabric of amateur radio, starting in the earliest days of radio communication, when it was the only available option, and continuing today, when knowledge of the code is optional but still very popular. Today, in fact, hams are pretty much the sole protectors of this cultural heritage of communications technology.

I bring this up because this issue turned itself into a Morse code mini-special, with three code-focused articles that span the history of its use as a communication tool. Our lead feature, "Who REALLY Invented Morse Code?" (p. 8), goes back to its earliest days, before the days of radio, when the telegraph produced the first revolution in modern communications technology. (You may be surprised by N5SK's answer to the question in the title, so be sure to read his article.) Our third article, "CQD, SOS and the Sinking of the Titanic" (p. 24), recounts the event that cemented the importance of wireless as a tool for emergency communications and led to the regulation of radio by the U.S. government, including formal recognition of amateur radio (via licensing and limiting us to "useless" wavelengths below 200 meters, which set the stage for the next revolution, instantaneous worldwide communication via shortwave). In between those two articles, we have the results of last year's CW weekend of the CQ World Wide DX Contest (p. 11), in which more than 8,600 hams submitted logs containing some 4.5 million Morse code contacts.

In the wake of additional telecommunication revolutions, from satellites to cell phones and the internet, Morse code has kind of been left behind, except by us hams, even 15 years after the elimination of the code test requirement for getting a ham license in the U.S. Here in ham radio world, the code is alive and well, and growing in popularity. We've lost track of how many hams licensed in the past 15 years have told us of their goal of learning and using code on the air.

You may have noticed that so far, I have made only one reference to "CW" as an abbreviation for Morse code. That's not an accident. That's because the two historical articles I've discussed predate CW, but not Morse code. The telegraph, of course, was the original form of landline communication. And the wireless stations of 1912, when Titanic sank, consisted of spark-gap transmitters using "damped waves," which started out very strong (and broad) as a spark was generated and then lost strength, or amplitude, as the energy from the spark dissipated. The revolution that led to narrower signals on specific frequencies was the development of *continuous amplitude wave* transmissions, which maintained the same level of strength as long as the transmitter was generating a signal. This was soon shortened to continuous wave, and abbreviated CW. Just as AM and single sideband later battled for supremacy in HF voice communication, spark and CW sparred on the airwaves a century ago. CW eventually became not only the dominant means of sending Morse code, but the only means after spark was outlawed due to its extreme spectrum inefficiency. The battle is long over but the abbreviation remains!

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

Fifteen years ago, when the FCC dropped the code test requirement for ham licenses, many amateurs predicted a quick death for CW on the ham bands. We disagreed strongly at the time, predicting that all the benefits that made CW a popular mode would keep it that way, even without anyone being forced to learn it. We're not big on saying we told you so, but we told you so. CW remains highly spectrum-efficient, highly power-efficient, capable of being encoded and decoded without a computer, ideal for low-power and portable use, and able to get a message through when voice won't cut it. All of these benefits are keeping Morse code alive and well on the ham bands, and keeping ham radio as a vital protector of this living cultural heritage connecting us with the earliest days of electronic communication.

We'll close with this poem by H. Russell Smith, NØQLT, from his book, *Time Machines, Annoying Minotaurs, and Other Childish Pursuits*, and published with his kind permission:

CW  
*It's not noise; very comforting  
Sounds issue from the cans  
My ears, they hear through static  
Tap, tap in echoing rhythm.  
It is a song from a faraway land  
Something I heard long, long ago.  
I feel for the key, no, for the bug—  
And sing back in ghostly refrain.*

### Some Staff Changes...

We would like to welcome two new members of our contributing staff. Martin Butera, PT2ZDX/LU9EFO, is now a Contributing Editor-at-Large. Martin has been providing a steady stream of fascinating interviews and other articles recently from his home base in Brazil, and he's got more in the pipeline. This month, he fills in as guest Emergency Communications editor, a position we're still looking to fill on a permanent basis, so if you're interested, drop me an email.

We also welcome José Castillo, N4BAA, as our new Worked All Zones (WAZ) Award Manager. José has been licensed since 1977 and holds 37 out of the 38 different "flavors" of WAZ, needing only 80-meter RTTY to have them all and — we believe — become the first person to do so. José succeeds John Bergman, KC5LK, who has stepped down after administering ham radio's second-oldest active award program for nearly a decade. We thank John for his contributions and look forward to working closely with José in the future. All WAZ-related correspondence should be directed to José at <n4baa@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

### Dayton

The Dayton Hamvention® will be back in person this year for the first time since 2019, but we have decided to wait one more year before returning to Xenia. We weighed many factors, including the once-again climbing Covid numbers as well as the very high cost of travel and shipping right now and our still-very-tight finances. On balance, we determined that the benefits of being there — which are many — were outweighed this time around by the costs, monetary and otherwise, of making the trip and being in close indoor contact with 30,000 or so fellow hams. We hope to see many of you there next year.

— 73, Rich, W2VU

*It's been lonely...*

**Come see us!**



**Hamvention 2022  
May 20th – 22nd, 2022  
Booth #3806**

**Visit our booth to learn about radio programming.**

*Questions answered... Issues solved... New friends made... Old friends to see and visit with.*

*"Always believe you can."  
"You fail only when you cease to try." – Albert  
Einstein*

## NEWS BYTES

### **Be Prepared: Another Active Hurricane Season Predicted**

Researchers at Colorado State University<sup>1</sup> are predicting an above-normal Atlantic hurricane season for 2022. Hurricane season runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> each year, although the storms don't always respect those dates.

CSU's center for Tropical Weather and Climate Research issued its annual forecast in early April, predicting 19 named storms, 9 hurricanes and 4 major hurricanes this year, versus the 30-year average from 1991-2020 of 14.4, 7.2, and 3.2 respectively.

The forecasters noted that "Current weak La Niña conditions look fairly likely to transition to neutral ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillation) by this summer / fall, but the odds of a significant El Niño seem unlikely. Sea surface temperatures averaged across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic are currently near average, while Caribbean and subtropical Atlantic sea surface temperatures are warmer than normal. We anticipate an above-average probability for major hurricanes making landfall along the continental United States coastline and in the Caribbean."

The researchers concluded, "As is the case with all hurricane seasons, coastal residents are reminded that it only takes one hurricane making landfall to make it an active season for them. They should prepare the same for every season, regardless of how much activity is predicted."

Hams living in hurricane-prone areas should first ensure that they and their families are well-prepared for hurricane

damage and extended power outages, then take advantage of available training through FEMA, the National Weather Service, and local emergency communication groups in order to be able to help effectively if needed.

Amateurs in potentially affected areas should monitor the Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz USB during the day and 7.268 MHz LSB at night. The net is activated whenever a tropical system reaches hurricane status and is within 300 miles of a populated land area, or at the request of forecasters. For more information on the Hurricane Watch Net, visit <[www.hwn.org](http://www.hwn.org)>.

**Note:**

1. When asked "Why study hurricanes in Colorado?" the late Dr. Bill Gray, founder of the Tropical Weather and Climate Research Center at Colorado State, responded simply, "Storm surge can't get you at 5,000 feet!"

### **2022 Atlantic Hurricane Names**

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has issued the following list of names for Atlantic tropical storms and hurricanes in 2022: Alex, Bonnie, Colin, Danielle, Earl, Fiona, Gaston, Hermine, Ian, Julia, Karl, Lisa, Martin, Nicole, Owen, Paula, Richard, Shary, Tobias, Virginie, Walter. If there are more than 21 named storms in a given season, names will be used from a supplemental list maintained by the WMO. Name lists repeat on a six-year basis, except that names of storms that are exceptionally deadly or costly will be replaced on the rotating lists.

For many years, the author — and your editor — were firmly convinced that the “Morse code” of dots and dashes was actually invented by Morse’s assistant, Alfred Vail. But N5SK says recent research he has conducted tells a different story.

## Who REALLY Invented Morse Code?

BY STEVEN KARTY,\* N5SK

**W**ho really invented Morse code? This is almost like asking, “Who’s buried in Grant’s Tomb?”

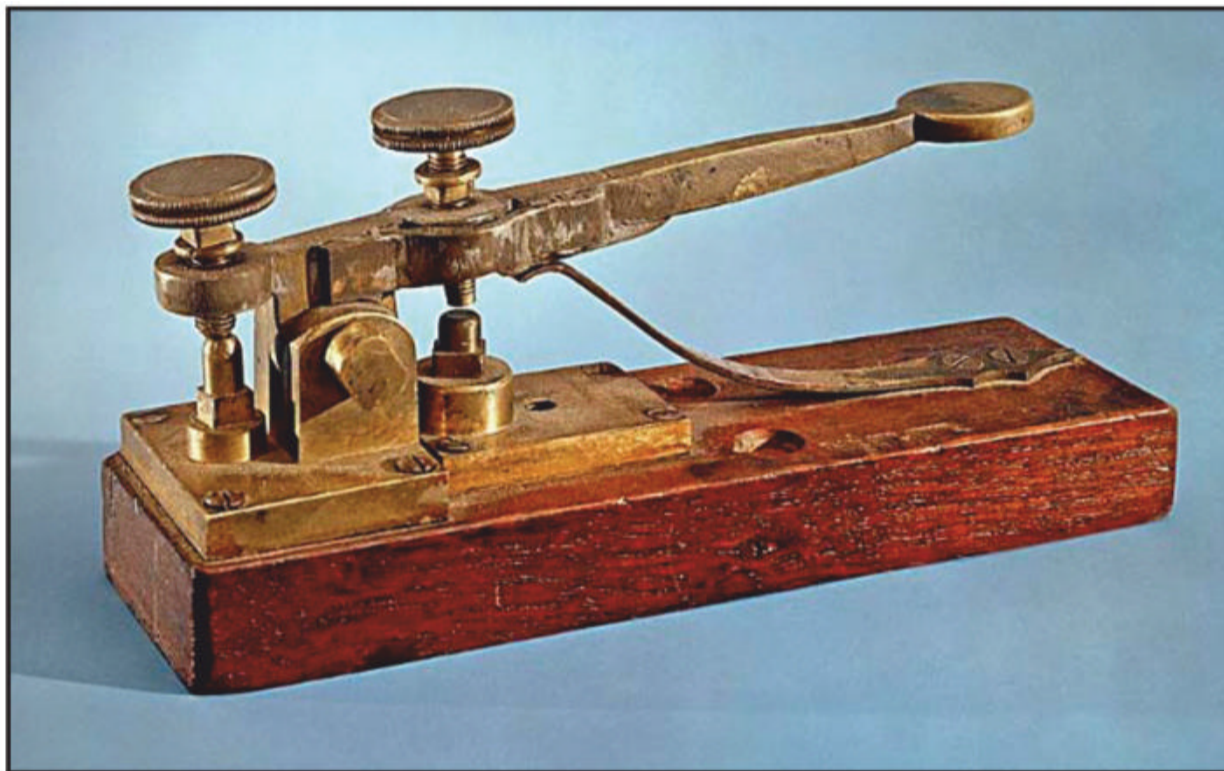
Many publications, including encyclopedias and reference books, credit the invention of Morse code to Samuel F.B. Morse. Many people know that Morse sent the message “What hath God wrought?” from Washington, DC to Baltimore, but few know that Alfred Vail (Morse’s collaborator) received that message. When I was learning CW for my Novice license in 1960, I found a library book that said how upset Vail was because he wasn’t credited for inventing Morse code.

Many years later, I found some Internet sources<sup>1,2</sup> and YouTube videos<sup>3,4</sup> that say Alfred Vail invented Morse code. These fit into my preconception, and I was convinced that Alfred Vail invented Morse code. My belief was also reinforced when I found that Fort Monmouth, New Jersey used to be named Camp Alfred Vail, in recognition of Vail inventing Morse Code. This is supported in a booklet entitled *A Concise History of Fort Monmouth, New Jersey* (Prepared by the Staff of the Historical Office, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, Fort Monmouth, NJ, 1985) that states:

*“On 15 September 1917, only three months after its establishment, the camp was placed on a semi-permanent basis and officially named Camp Alfred Vail. [4]*

*Vail, an associate of Samuel F.B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, was credited with devising the Morse alphabet of dots, dashes, and spaces. It was felt that in view of his great contributions to wire communications it was proper that his name be commemorated in a Signal Corps Camp.*

\* Email: <kartys@gmail.com>



*This 1844 telegraph key by Alfred Vail, improving on Morse’s original design, is believed to be from the first Baltimore-Washington telegraph line. (Photo from National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution)*

*4. Order 122, Office of the Chief Signal Officer, 21 Aug 17. Born at Morristown, NJ, in 1807, Alfred E. Vail graduated from the University of the City of New York in 1836 and early became associated with Samuel F.B. Morse. Vail’s mechanical knowledge greatly expedited the first experiments in telegraphy. He devised the Morse alphabet of dots, dashes, and spaces. His automatic roller and grooved lever embossed on paper the characters that were transmitted. Vail was the superintendent of construction of the original telegraph line between Washington and Baltimore. Inventor of the finger key, he received the first message successfully transmitted in 1844. In view of the great contributions made by Vail to wire communications, it was proper that his name be commemorated in a Signal Corps training camp.”*

But more recently, I found another YouTube video from a much more cred-

ible source than any of the others: It is a presentation<sup>5</sup> by Dr. David P. Hochfelder, N2HTA, Associate Professor of History, University at Albany, who uses primary source material for his research. His talk covers the historical controversy between supporters of Alfred Vail and Samuel Morse over the issue of which man actually invented the telegraph code commonly known as Morse Code. This video was taken on September 12, 2016 at the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association General Meeting. Professor Hochfelder is author of *The Telegraph in America, 1832-1920* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012). As much as I wanted to believe Vail invented Morse code, none of the references I found supporting this identified any primary source material to substantiate their contentions.

Morse’s original receiving apparatus was too fragile to be practical. Vail was a skilled and experienced machinist

who developed his expertise working in his father's machine shop (Speedwell Iron Works) that built steam engines. Vail invented and built a greatly improved receiving apparatus for Morse that used a steel point to make sequential marks (corresponding to numbers) on a moving paper tape. Vail's receiving apparatus used a solenoid to pull the steel point down onto the moving paper tape, which was advanced by a clockwork mechanism. Morse's original code used numbers corresponding to words so that the receiving operator would have to count the number of marks on the paper tape and manually transcribe them into words from a dictionary (lookup table). Morse and Vail both realized that Morse's original code was cumbersome and impractical. According to Professor Hochfelder's YouTube video, Morse completely revamped his original number code (without Vail's help) to make it into a usable alphabet code. The resulting alphabet code (known as Morse code) uses combinations of short and long marks corresponding to individual characters (alphabetic letters, numbers, and punctuation).

Telegraph operators noticed they could hear the steel point hitting the paper tape and that it was easier to copy by ear than it was to look at the paper tape. Telegraph sounders eventually replaced Vail's receiving apparatus. A sounder is similar to an electromechanical relay, so its armature produces audible clicks. The original, or American, Morse code was used on wirelines but not on radio. The code used on radio is the International Radiotelegraph Code, which consists of short and long tones called *dits* and *dahs*. Although many characters are similar between both codes, some are completely different. Other inventors had previously developed other codes for different uses.

Professor Hochfelder believes that Vail had no hand in developing the alphabet code because Vail never claimed inventing it. Vail published a pamphlet in which he only claimed inventing three things: The transmitting key, the recording register (the receiving apparatus), and a particular method for lengthening the lifespan of batteries. Vail also wrote his father a private letter that said, "Professor Morse has invented a new plan of alphabetic and has thrown aside the dictionaries." This is supported by another Website I found<sup>6</sup> and in the last three references<sup>7,8,9</sup> that contain the primary source material Professor Hochfelder mentioned to me. The story continues that Morse's brother Sydney owned a New York newspaper, and Morse went to its printing shop, determined what the more frequently used letters were (by counting the number of type pieces in each bin), and developed the alphabet code to use shorter codes for the more frequent letters.

Vail was an outstanding inventor who wrote several pamphlets about his own electromechanical inventions in the 1840s. Morse was a talented portrait painter and a successful businessman but he wasn't an engineer and had no scientific background. Morse had nowhere near Vail's technological abilities with electromechanical devices. Professor Hochfelder's YouTube video also mentions that Morse used Joseph Henry's and Michael Faraday's work without crediting them.

Speaking of credit, one other contribution by the Vail family was a loan to Morse from Alfred's father, Stephen Vail, for developing, patenting, and improving the telegraph. When a working system was not completed by the agreed-upon deadline of January 1, 1838, both Morse and the elder Vail became impatient. Alfred got the system working several days later and, with 2 miles of wire looped around his workshop at his father's Speedwell Iron Works in New Jersey, he sent Morse a message written down by his father, "A patient waiter is no loser." It was the actual first message sent by telegraph, on

January 6, 1838, rather than the better-known "What hath God wrought?" message sent by Morse at the telegraph's first public demonstration in 1844.<sup>10</sup>

Vail's personal profit from his work on the telegraph was negligible, and he died poor in 1859, just before the outbreak of the Civil War, in which the telegraph became an indispensable tool of communication.

## Back to Grant's Tomb...

I assume that President Grant is buried in Grant's Tomb, and now I also believe that Samuel Morse really did invent the code named after him. I am ending this article on a related joke that one of my sons (KD4BYW) made up while he was studying for his Novice license — back when it still required copying 5 WPM code: What swims underwater and goes *dah di dah dit?* Morse Cod.

### Notes:

1. Morse Code or Vail Code? in the April 2001 issue of The Propagator on pages 5 to 7. <<https://tinyurl.com/2m3rec4x>>

"Did Samuel F.B. Morse Invent the Code as We Know it Today? Franklin Pope and William Baxter give some answers." By Neal McEwen, K5RW

Franklin Pope was a telegraph inventor, entrepreneur, and writer. He may be best known for his partnership with Thomas Edison in the telegraph services business in the early 1870s. Alfred Vail was one of Samuel Morse's partners and a contributor in the development of the telegraph. William Baxter was Vail's laboratory assistant at the Speedwell Iron Works where early developments were made. Quoting from Pope's article in April 1888 issue of The Century: Illustrated Monthly Magazine, titled "The American Inventors of the Telegraph, with special references to the services of Alfred Vail": Alfred Vail and his young assistant, William Baxter, were engaged night and day in pushing forward the construction of the new machinery. Writing of this period, Mr. Baxter says: Alfred's brain was at this time working at high pressure, and evolving new ideas every day. He saw in these new characters the elements of an alphabetical code by which language could be telegraphically transmitted in actual words and sentences, and he instantly set himself at work to construct such a code. His general plan was to employ the simplest and shortest combinations to represent the most frequently recurring letters of the English alphabet, and the remainder for the more infrequent ones. ... After going through a computation, in order to ascertain the relative frequency of the occurrence of different letters in the English alphabet, Alfred was seized with sudden inspiration, and visited the office of the Morristown local newspaper, where he found the whole problem worked out for him in the type cases of the compositor.

2. Did Samuel F.B. Morse Invent the Code as We Know it Today? in the January 2010 issue of the CAARA Newsletter on pages 14 to 17. <<https://tinyurl.com/4f5t7ztz>> (This article is the same as the previous reference. Neal McEwen said Karen Weiss found and sent it to him.)

3. Man Behind Morse Code <<https://tinyurl.com/4b6bf5pd>> — Morse's original code was too complicated because it only transmitted numbers to represent each word. The operator had to go through thousands of pages in a codebook (lookup table) to find the number that matched the word, which was slow and cumbersome. Vail in just a few months developed a better way to send a message, which was letter by letter. Vail had his assistant William Baxter help him go through newspapers and count letters to see which signals should be shortest for the letters that are used the most. The telegraph patent that was granted to Morse listed both codes, but Vail's was easier to use and was quickly adopted. Morse got all the credit because Vail's name was not on the patent.

4. How Samuel Morse, a Racist Painter, Stole the Telegraph. By Kathy Joseph Balistreri <<https://tinyurl.com/mrxcn9r7>>

Kathy Joseph Balistreri contends that although Samuel Morse is known as the inventor of the telegraph, it was really invented by Joseph Henry, Leonard Gale, and Alfred Vail. Morse collected and applied their ideas to gain fame and money. But his primary motivations were ego, tragedy, and xenophobia. Morse received a lot of help from Professor Leonard Gale (head of Chemistry at the University of the City of New York where they both worked), but Professor Gale never received anything from Morse for all of his work. Joseph Henry once said, "If I could live my life again, I might've taken out more patents."

(Kathy Joseph Balistreri is a Physics teacher and historian who makes videos on YouTube under the title "Kathy Loves Physics & History." She

recently finished a book which will be available in 2022 on the history of electricity called “The Lightning Tamers: Wild Tales of How We Electrified Our World”. Go to <http://kathylovesphysics.ck.page> to join her mailing list.)

5. “Who Invented Morse Code?” by Professor David P. Hochfelder, N2HTA <<https://tinyurl.com/5645sbak>> — This YouTube video was presented by Dr. David P. Hochfelder, N2HTA, Associate Professor of History, University at Albany. His talk covers the historical controversy between supporters of Alfred Vail and Samuel Morse over the issue of which man actually invented the telegraph code commonly known as Morse Code. This video was taken at the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association General Meeting on September 12, 2016. Professor Hochfelder is author of “The Telegraph in America, 1832-1920” (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012. His presentation is much more credible than anything else I’ve been able to find.

6. Alfred Vail Explained <<https://tinyurl.com/yuthh9je>> — Morse supporters say that Alfred Vail, in public and private writings, never claimed that he developed the alphabet code. According to one researcher, in a February 1838 letter to his father, Judge Stephen Vail, Alfred Vail wrote “Professor Morse has invented a new plan of an alphabet, and has thrown aside the Dictionaries.” In an 1845 book that Alfred Vail wrote describing Morse’s telegraph, he also attributed the code to Morse.”

7. The following is from Vail’s papers at the Smithsonian Institution Archives: Alfred to Messrs S. Vail & Son, Feb. 7, 1838, from DC.

We exhibited to Franklin Institute on Thursday, “with perfect satisfaction though the Machine did not exhibit its writing so successfully as at New York — for this reason — Prof. M has invented a new plan of an Alphabet — and has thrown out the Dictionaries — When this plan is improved it will no doubt be better than the old ...”

(Hence Professor Hochfelder’s conclusion that Vail did not come up with the code, though it’s clear that Morse’s telegraph couldn’t have worked without Henry’s work on electromagnets and Vail’s work on the instrument.)

8. “Two Controversies in the Early History of the Telegraph” by David Hochfelder <<https://tinyurl.com/mw9anzw>> — IEEE Communications Magazine, February 2010, Pages 28 to 32.

The following is from the “Introduction By Editor” (Mischa Schwartz) to the History of Communications column, which featured this article by David Hochfelder: “Two related questions emerge from these controversies over the invention and early commercialization of the telegraph. First, how could Morse, a man with little scientific training or mechanical skill, invent the telegraph? Second, how should we apportion credit for the telegraph among Morse, Henry, and Vail? The author’s conclusion is clear: Morse was the one who succeeded in reducing the invention of telegraphy in the United States to practice, but he relied on the substantial contributions to the then-new science of electricity by Henry and the mechanical ingenuity of Vail. Without the help of either one, the Morse telegraph would not have been successful as a commercial system. As another interesting note, the author points out that the Morse code was developed by Morse himself, despite frequent comments that Vail was the one who developed the code.”

The article itself contains the following: “The most controversial question surrounding Vail’s work on the telegraph is whether he invented the alphabetic code commonly known as Morse code. However, this claim surfaced only after his death in 1859; his widow and sons seem to have generated this claim to enhance his reputation. In both his public and private writings Vail himself never claimed to have invented the code, but forcefully asserted his claims to the sending key and recording register. On the contrary, during the few times he discussed the code he always credited Morse. For example, in February 1838, while Alfred and Morse were exhibiting the telegraph at Philadelphia’s Franklin Institute, Alfred wrote his father, “Professor Morse has invented a new plan of alphabet and has thrown aside the Dictionaries.”

9. “Description of the American Electro Magnetic Telegraph: Now in Operation Between the Cities of Washington and Baltimore” by Alfred Vail <<https://tinyurl.com/4b4arjxp>> — Page 32 of this booklet contains the alphabet code followed by “Such is the alphabet given above. This conventional alphabet was originated on board the packet Sully, by Prof. Morse ...”

10. “A patient waiter is no loser”: Today in history,” The Star-Ledger, Newark NJ Jan 6, 2008 <<https://tinyurl.com/3mwrxddn>>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from Page 2)*

Community Center, 6405 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Contact: Dave, WC3A, (570) 951-9694. Email: <[ten\\_speed\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:ten_speed_99@yahoo.com)>. Website: <<http://qsl.net/cm-arc>>. Talk-in 147.225+ (PL 85.4). VE exams.

**LOCKPORT, NEW YORK** — The Lockport Amateur Radio Association will hold its **First Annual Summer Hamfest** beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, June 11 at the Cambria Volunteer Fire Hall, 4631 Cambria-Wilson Road (Rt. 425). Website: <[www.lockportara.us](http://www.lockportara.us)>. Talk-in 146.820 (PL 107.2). VE exams.

**KAUKAUNA, WISCONSIN** — The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club will hold its **Sunshine Swapfest!** Beginning 7 a.m., Saturday, June 18 at the Starlite Club, W2091 County Road JJ. Contact: Anthony Mach, AB9IO, (920) 858-6300. Email: <[hamfest@fcarc.club](mailto:hamfest@fcarc.club)>. Website: <[www.fcarc.club](http://www.fcarc.club)>.

**KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE** — The Radio Amateur Club of Knoxville will hold its **55<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamfest** from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, June 18 at the Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Avenue. Contact: Lou Dreinhofer, WB3JKQ, (865) 621-0715. Email: <[ldreinho@att.net](mailto:ldreinho@att.net)>. Website: <[www.w4bbb.org](http://www.w4bbb.org)>. VE exams.

**MONROE, MICHIGAN** — The Monroe County Radio Communications Association will hold the **Monroe Hamfest and Computer Show** from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, June 19 at the Monroe County Fairgrounds, M-50 at Raisinville Road. Contact: Fred VanDaele, K8EBI, <[ka8ebi@yahoo.com](mailto:ka8ebi@yahoo.com)>. Website: <[www.mcrca.org](http://www.mcrca.org)>. Card checking.

### JULY

**HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs’ Club will hold its **51<sup>st</sup> Annual Firecracker Electronics Expo and Hamfest** and **2022 ARRL Pennsylvania State Convention** beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, July 2 at the Harrisburg Postal Employees Picnic Grounds, 1500 Roberts Valley Road. Contact: Terry Snyder, WB3BKN, (717) 896-0256. Email: <[wb3bkn1@gmail.com](mailto:wb3bkn1@gmail.com)>. Website: <[www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)>. Talk-in 147.075 (PL 123). DXCC / WAS/ VUCC card checking.

**PLAINS, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Murgas Amateur Radio Club will hold the **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wilkes-Barre Hamfest and Computerfest** beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, July 3 at the Polish American Veterans, 2 South Oak Street. Contact: Herb, K2LNS, (570) 829-2695. Email: <[murgasarc@gmail.com](mailto:murgasarc@gmail.com)>. Website: <<http://hamfest.murgasarc.org>>. Talk-in 146.610- (PL 82.5). VE exams

**CAMILLUS, NEW YORK** — The Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse will hold **Roger’s RAGS Hamfest 2022** from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, July 9 at the Camillus Elks Lodge #2367, 6117 Newport Road. Contact: Jerry Wright, NK2C, <[wrightjk@gmail.com](mailto:wrightjk@gmail.com)>. Website: <[www.ragsclub.org](http://www.ragsclub.org)>. Talk-in 146.91- (PL 103.5). VE exams.

**ROSEVILLE, MINNESOTA** — The **MAGIC Repeater Club** will hold the **MAGIC TAILGATER** from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 9 at the Galilee Lutheran Church, 145 N. McCarrons Boulevard. Contact: Leon Dill, WØCOE, (651) 688-9964. Email: <[w0coe@arrl.net](mailto:w0coe@arrl.net)>. Website: <[www.magicrfepeater.net](http://www.magicrfepeater.net)>. Talk-in 145.170 (PL 100). VE exams.

**SMITHTOWN, NEW YORK** — The Suffolk County VHF/UHF Association will hold its **Hamfest 2022** beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, July 9 at The Elks Lodge Field, 120 Edgewood Avenue. Contact: Scott Miller, NQ2F, (516) 658-5120. Email: <[nq2f@optonline.net](mailto:nq2f@optonline.net)>. Website: <<http://hamradioexamsny.yolasite.com>>. VE exams, DXCC card checking.

**FERNDALE, MICHIGAN** — The Flying Beers International will hold the **Flying Beers International Swap Meet III** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, July 10 at the Ferndale FOP, 2233 Burdette Street. Website: <[www.facebook.com/flyingbeersinternational](http://www.facebook.com/flyingbeersinternational)>. Talk-in 442.600+ (PL 123). VE exams,

**ALEXANDER, NEW YORK** — The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club will hold the **Batavia Hamfest** beginning 6 a.m., Saturday, July 16 at the Alexander Firemen Grounds, 10708 Alexander Road (Rt. 88). Contact: Luke, M2GDU, <[luke48@gmail.com](mailto:luke48@gmail.com)>. Website: <[www.w2so.org](http://www.w2so.org)>. Talk-in 147.285 (PL 141.3).

**ATHENS, TENNESSEE** — The McMinn County Amateur Radio Club will hold its **18<sup>th</sup> Annual MCAARC Hamfest** beginning 7 a.m., Saturday, July 16 at the McMinn County Expo Center, Athens Regional Park on Decatur Pike. Phone: (423) 368-1473. Email: <[kc4jy@yahoo.com](mailto:kc4jy@yahoo.com)>. Website: <[www.mcminnarc.com](http://www.mcminnarc.com)>. Talk-in 146.060- (PL 141.3) VE exams.

**PEOTONE, ILLINOIS** — The Kankakee Area Radio Society will hold **KARSFEST 2022** beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, July 17 at the Will County Fairgrounds, 710 S. West Street. Contact: Art Reis, K9XI, (815) 348-7752. Email: <[karsfest@gmail.com](mailto:karsfest@gmail.com)>. Website: <[www.w9az.com](http://www.w9az.com)>. VE exams, card checking.

**LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN** — The Central States VHF Society will hold the **54<sup>th</sup> Annual CSVHFS Conference** from Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23 at the Radisson Hotel La Crosse, 200 Harbor View Plaza. Email: <[registration@csvhfs.org](mailto:registration@csvhfs.org)>. Website: <<http://2022.csvhfs.org>>.

# CW Results of the 2021 CQ World Wide DX Contest

## *The CQWW Fills the Bands — Again!*

*“My first contest from home using an L-match to a rain spout! But it was the CQWW and always great fun! –DM5US*

BY JOHN DORR,\* K1AR

If there is any doubt that you’ve seen the last of the CW glory days, don’t give up hope just yet. All one needs to do is to listen to the bands during a CQWW CW contest and you’ll discover that our cherished mode is still alive and well. It was no different in the running of the 73<sup>rd</sup> CQWW. The bands were jam-packed from end-to-end with contest activity; 20 and 15 meters experiencing activity well above 14/21.100 MHz.

Of course, another measure of activity is the number of logs we receive. On CW, 8,613 logs were received, bringing the “both modes” total for 2021 to 17,720 entries — a new record for the CQWW. These logs represent over 9.6M (million) total QSOs or an average of 522 contacts per log. The numbers are simply staggering.

One of my favorite parts of this job is reading your soapbox comments. Believe it or not, I read them all! You can do so for yourself by checking out <cqww.com/results>. Here’s just a representative sample, reflecting the enthusiasm and excitement created by the CQWW each year:

*“This was my first CQWW in 62 years of hamming! It was fun to see what could be done with low power and very modest antennas.” –K7ZX*

*“Every QSO is a sip of joy when made with 5 watts.” –ON6NL*

*“I really had a ball this year and enjoyed working all bands. What a nice contest!” –PA3DTR*

*“... It’s amazing when 40,000 friends get on the air and make some noise!” –K5GN*

\*Email: <cqk1ar@gmail.com>



Here’s the PJ2T team that won World #1 in Multi-Multi from Curacao. Kneeling from left to right were: Roger, G4BVY; Geoff, WØCG/PJ2DX; Rich, NN3W; Jon, KL2A. Standing left to right were: Martin, G4XUM; Pete, K8PGJ; Brooke, N2BA; Ray, ND8L; and Rich, M5RIC.

So, now that the case has been made for the CQWW being a great contest, let’s move on to the results.

### **Some Fantastic Results this Year!**

While band conditions weren’t quite as good as they were during the SSB weekend, there was still plenty of excitement and fun to be had by all on CW. The impact was felt from an increase in multi-op entries (2021 – 298; 2020 – 191). Let’s all hope they’ll be back in full force for 2022.

The World Single Operator race was dominated, yet again, by perennial top-finisher Dan Craig, N6MJ, as he drove

the TI7W superstation to a dominant victory at 16.1M, besting the amazing effort by CR6T (op. CT1ILT) at 12.1M. Dan perfectly played the 2BSIQ (Two Band Synchronized Interleaved QSOs) game to a grand total of 11,300 QSOs. That’s an average of 235 QSOs/hour for the entire 48-hour contest! If you want to hear what his 464-hour sounded like, take a listen to <<https://tinyurl.com/4cpfd93v>>.

The U.S. Single-Operator All Band (SOAB) results were also led by another top-tier operator, Kevin Stockton, N5DX, who piloted N2QV to a 10.1M win, besting super-op W1KM who came in second at 7.5M. It’s worthy of note

that several non-East Coast stations made the Top-10 this time around, led by N2IC (NM) at 5.7M, W9RE (IN) at 5.2M, and N9RV (MT) at 4.5M. Congrats to all!

The SOAB Low Power (LP) category was a little closer as Bud, AA3B, fired up his V26K station, achieving a final tally of 11.5M, beating out the SSB SOABHP winner, Juan, EA8RM, who posted an impressive score of his own at 10.9M. Bud has enjoyed an amazing run from Antigua, hav-

ing won this category 16 times in the past 23 years. It finally took a pandemic to end his last winning streak at seven consecutive victories.

The SO Assisted race was won again by P44W (W2GD) who continues to travel to Aruba each year and post winning results. John's 11.9M final score bested outstanding op Stan, ZF5T (K5GO)'s, solid effort of 9.0M. Randy, K5ZD, led the U.S. field again with a terrific score of 8.9M, coming in third in the world.

## 2021 WWDX CW PLAQUE WINNERS AND DONORS

### SINGLE OPERATOR, ALL BANDS

**World**  
T17W (Opr.: Dan Craig, N6MJ)  
Donor: Vibroplex

**World - Low Power**  
V26K (Opr.: Bud Trench, AA3B)  
Donor: Slovenia Contest Club

**World - QRP**  
PZ5CO (Opr.: Dimitry Kryukov, RA3CO)  
Donor: Bob Evans, K5WA

**World - Assisted**  
P44W (Opr.: John Crovelli, W2GD)  
Donor: Robert McGwier, N4HY

**World - Assisted Low Power**  
P3AA (Opr.: Sergey Popov, RN3QO)  
Donor: Mike Charteris, VK4QS

**World - Assisted QRP**  
DM2M (Opr.: Pit Schmidt, DK3WE)  
Donor: Steve "Sid" Caesar, NH7C

**U.S.A.**  
Kevin Stockton, N5DX  
Donor: Frankford Radio Club

**U.S.A. - Low Power**  
Mark Speck, KØEJ  
Donor: North Coast Contesters

**U.S.A. - QRP**  
Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q  
Donor: Andy Blank, N2NT - W3ZZ Memorial

**U.S.A. - Assisted**  
Randy Thompson, K5ZD  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**U.S.A. - Assisted Low Power**  
Jim Bowman, KS1J  
Donor: LA8W/LN8W & LA Contest Club

**U.S.A. - Zone 3**  
Bob Wolbert, K6XX  
Donor: Arizona Outlaws Contest Club

**U.S.A. - Zone 4**  
Steve London, N2IC  
Donor: Central Texas DX and Contest Club - K6RV Memorial

**U.S.A. - Zone 5**  
Greg Cronin, W1KM\*  
Donor: Carolina DX Association - N4ZC Memorial

**Europe**  
CR6K (Opr.: Filipe Lopes, CT1ILT)  
Donor: Florida Contest Group - W3AU Memorial

**Europe - Low Power**  
IY3A (Opr.: Matteo Marzilli, IZ3EYZ)  
Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR

**Europe - QRP**  
Tine Brajnik, S5ØA  
Donor: Sergio Cartoceti, IK4AUY - I4FAF Memorial

**Europe - Assisted**  
ERØDX (Opr.: Sergiy Rebrov, UT5UDX)  
Donor: IR4X Monte Capra Contest Team - I4IND Memorial

**Africa**  
Juan Hidalgo, EA8RM  
Donor: Ralph "Gator" Bowen, N5RZ - K5KA Memorial

**Asia**  
Masaki Masa Okano, JH4UYB  
Donor: DFW Contest Group - W5PG Memorial

**Carib./C.A. - High Power**  
V48A (Opr.: Bob Brockman, WX4G)\*  
Donor: DFW Contest Group - W5PG Memorial

**Carib./C.A. - Low Power**  
VP9I (Opr.: Jeff Kinzli, N6GQ)\*  
Donor: Albert Crespo, NH7A

**Oceania**  
VK6T (Opr.: Kevin Smith, VK6LW)  
Donor: Ken Hoppe, KH7R

**Oceania - Assisted**  
John Hillyer, NH7T  
Donor: Koa Contest Club

**South America**  
Alexey Ogorodov, HC2AO  
Donor: Dave Farnsworth, WJ2O

**South America - Southern Cone (CE, CX, LU)**  
CB3R (Opr.: Dercel Gonzalez (Willy) Williams, XQ3SK)  
Donor: Dale Long, N3BNA

**Scandinavia (LA, OH, OZ, SM)**  
Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR  
Donor: Chas Weir, Jr., W6UM - W3FYS Memorial

**Baltic (ES, LY, YL)**  
Jonas Urbonas, LY4T  
Donor: Lithuanian Radio Sports Federation - LY2OO Memorial

**Canada - High Power**  
VE2IM (Opr.: Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ)  
Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ & Jim Roberts, VE7ZO

**Canada - Low Power**  
Igor Mordick, VA3FF  
Donor: Maritime Contest Club - VE1AL Memorial

**Japan - High Power**  
JE6RPM (Opr.: Katsuhiko Kondou, JH5GHM)\*  
Donor: Phil Yasson, AB7RW

**Japan - Assisted**  
Hajime Hazuki, JR2GRX  
Donor: Aki Nagi, JA5DQH

**ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU)**  
Nikom Deesai, HS5NMF  
Donor: Champ C. Muangamphun, E21EIC - Siam DX Group

**ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU) - Assisted**  
Ron Schiltmans, DU3T  
Donor: Champ C. Muangamphun, E21EIC - Siam DX Group

### SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

**World - 28 MHz**  
PR5B (Opr.: Alan Laure Santamaria, PY2LSM)  
Donor: Joel Chalmers, KG6DX

**World - 21 MHz**  
PX2A (Opr.: Fabio Alexandre Azevedo, PY2BK)  
Donor: CWOps

**World - 14 MHz**  
OH8X (Opr.: Pasi Luoma-aho, OH6UM)  
Donor: North Jersey DX Assn. - W2JT Memorial

**World - 7 MHz**  
KP2M (Opr.: Philip Allardice, KT3Y)  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**World - 3.5 MHz**  
4L/LY4ZZ (Opr.: Algis Sadaunikas, LY2BMX)  
Donor: Family of Fred Capossela, K6SSS

**World - 1.8 MHz**  
NP2J (Opr.: Daniel Flaig, K8RF)  
Donor: Kenneth Byers, Jr., K4TEA

**U.S.A. - 28 MHz**  
Jeff Stuparits, W4DD  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**U.S.A. - 21 MHz**  
Marvin Bloomquist, N5AW  
Donor: Adrian Ciuperca, KO8SCA

**U.S.A. - 14 MHz**  
Dan Handa, W7WA  
Donor: Northern Illinois DX Association

**U.S.A. - 7 MHz**  
Brian Edward, N2MF  
Donor: Gene Shablygin, W3UA

**U.S.A. - 3.5 MHz**  
K2ZW (Opr.: Hajime Kato, JO1RUR)  
Donor: Bill Feidt, NG3K

**U.S.A. - 1.8 MHz**  
John M Slusser, WF2W  
Donor: Jeff Briggs, K1ZM

**Europe - 28 MHz**  
Lluís Presseguer Capdevila, EA3NO  
Donor: Jay Pryor, K4OGG

**Europe - 21 MHz**  
Dmytro Pavlik, UZ5DX  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**Europe - 14 MHz**  
DMØA (Opr.: Heiko Marschollek, DK3DM)  
Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation

**Europe - 7 MHz**  
4O3A (Opr.: Dragan Djordjevic, 4O4A)  
Donor: Ivo Pezer, 9A3A

**Europe - 3.5 MHz**  
OHØTA (Opr.: Pekka Holstila, OH2TA)  
Donor: Frankford Radio Club - K3VW Memorial

**Europe - 1.8 MHz**  
S5ØC (Opr.: Sine Mermal, S53RM)  
Donor: Pat Barkey, N9RV & Terry Zivney, N4TZ

**Asia - 14 MHz**  
UPØL (Opr.: Vladimir Vinichenko, UN9LW)  
Donor: Ralph "Gator" Bowen, N5RZ - W5FO Memorial

**Asia - 7 MHz**  
UP4L, Valeriy Zhilyayev, UN7LZ  
Donor: Rich Gelber, K2WR

**Carib./C.A. (21 MHz)**  
WP4WW (Opr.: Jose A. Rivera-Salaman, KP4JRS)\*  
Donor: David Hodge, N6AN

**Canada (14 MHz)**  
Gabor Horvath, VE7JH  
Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ

**Japan - 21 MHz**  
Akito Nagi, JA5DQH  
Donor: Bob Wilson, N6TV

**Japan - 14 MHz**  
Tutomu Kubota, JK1OLT  
Donor: Chris Terkla, N1XS

### OVERLAY CATEGORIES

**World - Classic**  
Doug Grant, K1DG  
Donor: CWops

**U.S.A. - Classic**  
W4CB (Opr.: Bud Hippisley, W2RU)\*  
Donor: CWops

Despite conditions being slightly down from SSB, LU2DX still managed to make 1,910 QSOs on 10 meters to place first with a score of 670,000 (K). The “money” bands of 15 and 20 meters supported million+ winning scores from ZY5T (PP5JR) and ED8W (EA1DAV), respectively.

The Classic overlay folks were also out in force this time around as Doug, K1DG, captured the World high with a HP score of 3.5M. Winning the world from the U.S. is no easy

feat. One of our accuracy champions this year, VP9I (N6GQ), outpaced his competitors with a LP entry of 2.9M.

As already mentioned, the bands were again alive with multi-ops. It began to feel like the old days as P33W posted a 23M Multi-Single score, beating LZ5R by over 8M points. W3LPL stepped back from its usual Multi-Multi (MM) configuration to win U.S. Multi-Single with a fine score of 14.2M. The Multi-Two (M2) teams were led by the CR3DX team, who

**Japan – Classic**  
Kunishige Shimokawa, JA6BZI  
Donor: Hajime Kato, JO1RUR

**World – Rookie**  
LS2D (Daniel Dours, LU1DJK)  
Donor: CWops

**U.S.A. – Rookie**  
Stan Swanson, W4SSF  
Donor: CWops

**Europe – Rookie**  
Serge Kurskov, EU1VA  
Donor: EA Contest Club

**ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU) -  
Rookie Setio Wahono, YC4SIZ**  
Donor: Champ C. Muangamphun, E21EIC - Siam DX Group

**World – Youth**  
Janko Mihailovic, YT0C  
Donor: Zoli Pitman, HA1AG

**North America – Youth**  
Dawson Morton, KE8HBV  
Donor: IARU Region 2 for YOTA

**Europe – Youth**  
Sven Lovric, DJ4MX  
Donor: IARU Region I Youth Working Group

**Asia – Youth**  
Riku Suda, JR2KHB  
Donor: YOTA Japan

**Oceania – Youth**  
Karunya Saka Listianto, YD2UWF  
Donor: IARU Region 3

**World – Explorer  
Single Operator**  
9G5FI (Opr.: Tom Hitzner, DL2RMC)  
Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation

**World – Explorer  
Multi-Operator**  
RW0A (Oprs.: RA0AM, RA0AAC, R0AI, RG0A, RM0A,  
RU0A, RU0AM, RV0AR, RW0AR, RZ0AT, UA0APV,  
UF0B, RC9O, UA9PM, RA9P, R9IR, RM9I, RU9I, RC9HB,  
RC9HC, RW9USA, RV9UP, UA9UR, RZ9UN, RK9UE,  
RA9USU, RX9UK)  
Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER

**World**  
P33W (Oprs.: RA3AUU, RW4WR, UA4FER, R4FO, R3DCX,  
RA2FA)  
Donor: Friends of Rich - KL7RA Memorial

**World – Low Power**  
FY5KE (Oprs.: F5HRY, FY5FY, F6FVY)  
Donor: EA Contest Club

**U.S.A.**  
W3LPL (Oprs.: W3LPL, NI1N, K3MM, N3OC, K3RA, W3UR,  
NN3W, WR3Z, KD4D)  
Donor: Douglas Zwiebel, KR2Q

**U.S.A. – Low Power**  
K1XM (Oprs.: K1XM, KQ1F)  
Donor: CWops

**Africa**  
CR3X (Oprs.: R7KW, RW7K, YL3JM)  
Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation

**Asia**  
RA9Y (Oprs.: RA9Y, RW9OW, RZ9YI, RL9Y, R8OA, R8OM,  
RO9O, RQ9O)\*  
Donor: Steve Merchant, K6AW

**Carib./C.A.**  
ZF1A (Oprs.: W9KKN, K16RRN, KN8U, WD6T, NT6V, N2NL)  
Donor: CWops

**Europe**  
LZ5R (Oprs.: LZ1NK, LZ2HM, LZ2PL, LZ2XA, LZ3ND,  
LZ3ZZ, LZ5DB)  
Donor: Gail Sheehan, K2RED

**Europe – Low Power**  
DP7D (Oprs.: E79AA, DH6JL, DH8AF, DC9RI, DL1REM,  
DJ4MH)  
Donor: Marco Holleyn, DJ4MH

**Oceania**  
DX9EVM (Oprs.: DU9XL, DU9CA, DU9HRG, DV9ARA,  
DV9BTO, DU9AQB, DV9ILK)  
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

**South America**  
PJ4A (Oprs.: KU8E, K4BAI, PJ4NX)  
Donor: Araucaria DX Group

**Canada**  
VE3EJ (Oprs.: VE3EJ, VE3EK, VE3MM, VE5MX)  
Donor: John Sluymer, VE3EJ - VE3TA Memorial

**Japan**  
JA7ZFN (Oprs.: JH7XMO, JG7PSJ, JI7GBI, JP7DKQ,  
JA1CTB)  
Donor: Madison Jones, W5MJ

**ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU)  
E2A (Oprs.: E24OYI, E25KAE, E29TGW, E20NKB, E21EIC)**  
Donor: Bruce Frahm, K0BJ

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO TRANSMITTERS

**World**  
CR3DX (Oprs.: OM2VL, OM3BH, OM3GI, OM3RM, RC5A)  
Donor: Array Solutions

**U.S.A.**  
KC1XX (Oprs.: K1CC, K1QX, K1TR, KM3T, KC1XX, N1EZ,  
NN1C, W1FV, WA1Z)  
Donor: Robert Kasca, S53R

**Europe**  
ES9C (Oprs.: ES2MC, ES2NA, ES2RR, ES4RD, ES5JR,  
ES5NY, ES5QA, ES5RY, ES5TV, ES6QC, ES7GM, OK1JD,  
OZ1AA, OZ7AM, SM0OEK, YL3DW, YL3JA)  
Donor: D4C Monteverde Contest Team - IR4X Monte Capra  
Contest Team - I4EAT memorial

**ASEAN (XZ, HS, XW, XU, 3W, 9M, 9V, V8, YB, DU)  
7A2A (Oprs.: YB0ECT, YC1SDL, YB2DX, YB2XVT)**  
Donor: Champ C. Muangamphun, E21EIC - Siam DX Group

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI TRANSMITTER

**World**  
CR3W (Oprs.: DJ2YA, DK7YY, DL1CW, DL5AXX, DL5CW,  
DL5LYM, DL7UGN)  
Donor: The K2GL Operators - K2GL Memorial

**U.S.A.**  
K3LR (Oprs.: K3LR, DL1QQ, K4RO, K3UA, N2NC, W2RQ,  
N3SD, K5GN, N4YDU, N6TV, N6AN, N3GJ)  
Donor: Ham Radio Outlet - W6RJ & N6RJ Memorial

**Europe**  
TK0C (Oprs.: S53F, S53MM, S53BB, S53CC, S53WW,  
S53RM, S53ZO, S57AL, S57L, S57K, S55OO)  
Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

**Africa**  
3B8M (Oprs.: G0CKV, M0SDV, M0CFW, KX7M, W6NV)\*  
Donor: EA9EO Memorial

**Asia**  
JA3YBK (Oprs.: JG3KIV, JG3MRT, JG3WDN, JH4NMT,  
JR4ISF, JF4FUF, JM4MGM)  
Donor: Nodir Tursun-Zade, EY8MM

#### CONTEST EXPEDITIONS

**World – Single Operator**  
C56XA (Opr.: Alan Ibbetson, G3XAQ)  
Donor: Friends of Phil - N6ZZ Memorial

**World – Multi Operator**  
9X4X (Oprs.: 4X1VF, 4Z1DZ, 4Z4KX, 4Z5MU, 4Z5LA)  
Donor: CWops

#### SPECIAL AWARDS

**World SSB/CW Combined**  
Juan Hidalgo, EA8R  
24,349,929  
Donor: Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD

**U.S.A. SSB/CW Combined**  
Robert L. Shohet, KQ2M  
13,324,236  
Donor: Bob Shohet, KQ2M

**Europe SSB/CW Combined**  
Richard Tucek, OM7RU  
5,403,595  
Donor: World Wide Radio Operators Foundation

**Triathlon Award - World RTTY/SSB/CW Combined**  
Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ  
20,390,645  
Donor: DX Lodge Roatan (HQ9X)

**Triathlon Award - Europe RTTY/SSB/CW Combined**  
Andrius Ignotas, LY7Z  
15,540,569  
Donor: Bavarian Contest Club – DL8WPX Memorial

**World Combined SSB/CW Score 160 Meters**  
NP2J (Opr.: Daniel Flaig, K8RF)  
232,644  
Donor: Team IB9T/IR9Y - IT9ZGY Memorial

**World Combined SSB/CW Score  
Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter**  
PJ2T (Oprs.: W0CG, NN3W, KL2A, G4BVI, G4XUM,  
M5RIC, K8PGJ, N2BA, ND8L,  
K1EP, NG7M, KO8SCA, YO8WW, AC6ZM, N6AA, WI9WI,  
VE4GV)  
57,162,464  
Donor: Friends and Family of Gene – N2AA Memorial

#### CLUB

**U.S.A. SSB/CW**  
Frankford Radio Club  
407,770,996  
Donor: Northern California Contest Club

**DX SSB/CW**  
Bavarian Contest Club  
278,153,499  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

\*Second Place



**Table 1**

Total Op Hrs	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	Total	% of all
0.1-5	1	144	306	331	22	26	830	15.3
5.1-10	6	155	512	382	22	22	1,099	20.2
10.1-15	2	133	505	312	18	24	994	18.3
15.1-20	5	88	452	261	11	11	828	15.3
20.1-25	3	92	364	197	11	10	677	12.5
25.1-30	2	58	201	110	6	9	386	7.1
30.1-35	2	56	249	142	6	11	466	8.6
40.1-45	2	10	62	31	4	5	114	2.1
45.1-48	0	5	20	9	0	0	34	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>2,671</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>5,428</b>	

Median for all logs – 13.9 hours  
 \*SOAB entries only

Table 1. Total number of SOAB logs by operating time and continent.

**2021 CQWW DX CW TOP SCORES**

<p><b>WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band</b></p> <p>TI7W (N6MJ) .....16,102,800                  CR6K (CT1ILT) .....12,055,652                  N5DX (@N2QV) .....10,090,280                  VE2IM (VE3DZ) .....8,339,100                  VY2TT (K6LA) .....8,035,280                  VY2ZM (K1ZM) .....7,865,424                  EA6FO (EA3M) .....7,577,968                  W1KM .....7,479,282                  KQ2M .....6,595,160                  CF3A (VE3AT) .....6,350,676</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>PR5B (PY2LSM) .....751,940                  PY2YU .....316,134                  OA4O (EA7TN) .....287,056</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>PX2A (PY2BK) .....1,225,431                  5Z4VJ (G3AB) .....1,074,502                  4Z4AK .....729,864</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>OH8X (OH6UM) .....1,102,304                  UPØL (UN9LW) .....945,345                  DMØA (DK3DM) .....873,216</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>KP2M (KT3Y) .....1,392,000                  UP4L (UN7LZ) .....1,371,534                  EY8MM .....1,247,376</p> <p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>4L/LY4ZZ (LY2BMX) .....648,733                  K2ZW (JO1RUR) .....387,226                  OHØTA (OH2TA) .....382,916</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>NP2J (K8RF) .....190,848                  VE3ZI .....149,876                  R3XA .....68,796</p> <p><b>LOW POWER All Band</b></p> <p>V26K (AA3B) .....11,459,091                  EA8RM .....10,918,560                  VP9I (N6GQ) .....5,040,460                  IY3A (IZ3EYZ) .....3,347,729                  HC2AO .....3,220,700                  LY4L .....2,725,757                  KØEJ .....2,538,729                  4U1A (HB9RB) .....2,146,428                  OL5Y .....1,919,152                  N4TZ .....1,897,198</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>PY2EX .....180,705                  EA3NO .....63,570                  JT1CO .....30,228</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>FR4KR (FR8UA) .....509,232                  LS2D (LU1DJX) .....461,160                  EC7R .....204,156</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>4L2M .....491,840</p>	<p>C56XA (G3XAQ) .....422,928                  PY2NY .....371,228</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>VK9DX .....560,959                  RX1A .....306,204                  EU2F .....306,016</p> <p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>CO2JD .....112,608                  OM3ZWA .....103,923                  UN7LDR .....82,244</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>YT8A .....78,988                  OM5NL .....64,255                  HI3AA .....36,960</p> <p><b>QRP All Band</b></p> <p>PZ5CO (RA3CO) .....4,187,771                  3V8SS (KF5EYY) .....2,063,608                  S5ØA .....1,297,660                  KR2Q .....888,998                  LY5G .....597,870                  OK7CM .....450,840                  N3CZ .....449,350                  JH1OGC .....361,944                  DL1JDQ .....342,954                  JR4DAH .....311,520</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>VR2T (VR2ZQZ) .....69,651                  EA5Y .....16,281                  DG3T (DF5RF) .....4,130</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>LZ2RS .....71,944                  UT5EOX .....42,840                  JQ1NGT .....40,588</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>US5VX .....87,668                  NK3U .....87,300                  EA2CAR .....63,714</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>E77T .....90,432                  IW3ILM .....35,928                  AC2YD .....33,046</p> <p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>E77Y .....63,217                  OK1FKD .....16,830                  SM6DOI .....16,695</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>DL1AOB .....14,681                  HA1TI .....8,568                  YT2T .....6,364</p> <p><b>ASSISTED HIGH POWER All Band</b></p> <p>P44W (W2GD) .....11,884,950                  ZF5T (ZF9CW) .....9,024,639                  K5ZD .....8,943,750                  TO7A (UT5UGR) .....8,616,426                  K1ZZ .....8,145,450                  VA2WA .....8,080,182</p>	<p>4X6FR .....7,939,968                  K3WW .....7,359,330                  ERØDX (UT5UDX) .....7,068,072                  AA1K .....6,951,717</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>LU2DX .....670,473                  VR2XAN .....265,306                  VK4SN .....195,225</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>ZY5T (PP5KR) .....1,213,950                  CR2X (OH2GEK) .....989,010                  9A3TR .....806,607</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>ED8W (EA1DAV) .....1,154,264                  YT3X .....1,104,928                  HGØY (HA7GN) .....896,289</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>V3X (K4XS) .....1,253,440                  S52AW .....1,038,606                  S51YI .....949,268</p> <p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>9A6A .....568,282                  RD8D (R9GM) .....527,202                  OMØM (OM3CGN) .....519,420                  YL3CW .....519,384</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>9A5W .....240,350                  LY7M .....226,904                  YL3FT .....211,310</p> <p><b>ASSISTED LOW POWER All Band</b></p> <p>P3AA (RN3QO) .....6,046,456                  R8CT .....3,896,280                  9A2EU .....3,062,748                  UT4LW .....2,854,645                  OE2S (OE2VEL) .....2,646,952                  SN7Ø (SP7IVO) .....2,628,285                  UW6E (UR6EA) .....2,438,289                  DJ5MO .....2,412,860                  DJ4MX .....2,409,584                  PA9M .....2,185,920</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>PX5M (PP5BT) .....205,308                  4F3BZ .....122,775                  IR9K (IT9BXR) .....72,944</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>HK3RD (HK3TU) .....581,276                  CO8LY .....435,996                  PY2WH .....354,688</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>RA9AP .....501,819                  GW5R (GW3YDX) .....489,216                  UR7GO .....468,625</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>OL9R (OK6RA) .....591,712                  UA9CTT .....410,312                  UA9W .....356,278</p>	<p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>UX2X (UT2XQ) .....307,280                  YT5DM .....206,030                  M6W (G3VWV) .....161,116</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>HAØHV .....92,224                  SP2EWQ .....85,095                  E79D .....82,004</p> <p><b>ASSISTED QRP All Band</b></p> <p>DM2M (DK3WE) .....1,627,480                  ON6NL .....1,034,450                  LZ6Ø (LZ3DX) .....737,702                  KP4AA .....645,344                  US3EO .....508,431                  K8ZT .....415,820                  TM7Y (F8BDQ) .....412,920                  MW9W (GWØKRL) .....410,225                  M7R (GØTPH) .....372,912                  HG5Ø (HA5ØB) .....370,735</p> <p><b>28 MHz</b></p> <p>4I1EBC .....64,113                  LT7D (LU7DZ) .....49,056                  YT2RX .....8,544</p> <p><b>21 MHz</b></p> <p>SP7M .....60,960                  HA3JB .....59,040                  CT9/MØBLF .....43,656</p> <p><b>14 MHz</b></p> <p>EF3Ø (EA3Ø) .....263,664                  RT4W .....148,292                  DL1EFW .....131,040</p> <p><b>7 MHz</b></p> <p>EA5DF .....150,892                  M3A (MØUKR) .....104,178                  HA4FY .....45,738</p> <p><b>3.5 MHz</b></p> <p>HA6FQ .....129,948                  OL4W (OK1IF) .....122,304                  SP5ES .....58,044</p> <p><b>1.8 MHz</b></p> <p>OL1A (OK1CW) .....55,708                  IKØXB .....19,530                  US1UP .....18,338</p> <p><b>MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER High Power</b></p> <p>P33W .....23,465,442                  LZ5R .....15,150,240                  PJ4A .....14,785,245                  TM6M .....14,715,348                  W3LPL .....14,233,680                  IR4M .....13,497,792                  K1LZ .....13,441,032                  OM7M .....13,349,390                  ZF1A .....12,380,560                  E7DX .....12,333,750</p> <p><b>Low Power</b></p> <p>FY5KE .....10,398,990</p>	<p>CR3X .....9,440,051                  UN4Q .....5,879,500                  DP7D .....5,034,042                  E7CW .....4,397,645                  SX9V .....3,807,069                  V31MA .....3,792,492                  IO3F .....3,717,888                  PY3CW .....3,608,252                  K1XM .....3,546,447</p> <p><b>MULTI-OP TWO TRANSMITTER</b></p> <p>CR3DX .....31,115,616                  PJ4K .....27,498,782                  KC1XX .....17,591,384                  ES9C .....16,974,906                  UA4M .....12,893,463                  ED1R .....12,669,750                  K9CT .....11,848,431                  NP4Z .....11,633,400                  N4WW .....11,145,765                  HG7T .....11,135,828</p> <p><b>MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER</b></p> <p>CR3W .....36,547,042                  PJ2T .....27,176,800                  TKØC .....24,945,742                  3B8M .....23,263,935                  K3LR .....21,666,486                  M6T .....19,115,393                  LZ9W .....18,651,576                  NR4M .....16,390,766                  OL3Z .....16,257,684                  DFØHQ .....16,242,592</p> <p><b>EXPLORER SINGLE-OP</b></p> <p>9G5FI .....5,094,778                  RL6M .....2,437,624                  LT6M .....1,716,975                  OP5T .....1,291,806                  OH2XX .....910,140                  HB9CVQ .....808,752                  W6CZ .....121,912                  RUØLL .....73,710                  KB2S .....34,625                  YO2GL .....16,936</p> <p><b>EXPLORER MULTI-OP</b></p> <p>RWØA .....22,823,619                  RM9A .....19,537,012                  W9SN .....10,080,180                  EA4KD .....9,278,269                  9H6A .....3,019,275                  RT4D .....2,932,900                  IQ4RN .....1,814,472                  DQ6ØANT .....922,875                  SN6E .....862,638                  W5NN .....601,236</p> <p><b>ROOKIE High Power</b></p> <p>LB5GI .....490,471                  ED2B (EA2ESB) .....480,754                  W4SSF .....443,256                  KD9PLD .....364,180                  AC3LZ .....110,143                  DM2HK .....91,512</p>	<p>SP6MAA .....23,424                  VA6BGE .....13,392                  W6DMW .....10,010</p> <p><b>Low Power</b></p> <p>LS2D (LU1DJX) .....874,551                  EU1VA .....759,610                  OK5MAX .....580,890                  VA3ØKG .....443,520                  EA4HKF .....173,964                  UBØAZR .....119,441                  SQ5VCO .....104,650                  IR4Q (IU4MRU) .....79,734                  ZS6KVZ .....58,608                  N3AML .....57,986</p> <p><b>CLASSIC High Power</b></p> <p>K1DG .....3,547,492                  VA2EW .....3,226,264                  OHØZ (OH6EI) .....2,949,753                  G9W (MØDXR) .....2,774,376                  UA9MA .....2,683,878                  IR1G (IZ1LBG) .....2,669,224                  WH7T (WH7W) .....2,518,999                  W4CB (W2RU) .....2,414,160                  PS2T (PY2ZEA) .....2,373,555                  W1WEF .....2,357,783</p> <p><b>Low Power</b></p> <p>VP9I (N6GQ) .....2,935,723                  4U1A (HB9RB) .....2,146,428                  N8II .....1,341,780                  EI7EE (OZ2I) .....1,150,253                  ON4CT .....1,013,498                  UW8SM .....953,544                  RA9SF .....854,441                  EC3A .....756,945                  WQ5L .....704,536                  OK1TA .....683,235</p> <p><b>YOUTH High Power</b></p> <p>YTØC .....2,782,500                  SA6NIA .....209,019                  IR1N (IU1LCU) .....157,950                  R5CA .....150,336                  EI8KW .....118,320                  JR2KHB .....114,882                  KE8HBV .....85,932                  W7AOF .....51,182</p> <p><b>YOUTH Low Power</b></p> <p>DJ4MX .....2,409,584                  LY5AX .....601,868                  IU4FNO .....478,800                  DB5DY .....278,239                  SP5WAZ .....155,448                  YD2UWF .....123,695                  VE3OMV .....73,872                  IUØLJD .....69,440                  JI1UPL .....61,620                  YO2NWW .....47,472</p>
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achieved a tremendous score of 31.1M. The MM giants were dominated by the effort of CR3W, beating the PJ2T group with a final score of 36.6M. The U.S. presence was alive and well with the K3LR group back on the air again as a MM, placing fifth in the world and first in the U.S. at 21.7M.

A well-deserved set of kudos go out to those of you who participated in our new overlays: Youth and Explorer. As a reminder, the Explorer overlay has been created to allow amateurs to competitively participate in the CQWW Contest while experimenting creatively with internet-linked stations and other new technologies. The goal is to encourage innovation in operating

strategies, station design, and technology adaptation.

It was exciting to see first-time Youth entry Janko, YTØC (YU3EEA), handily win the HP category with a final tally of 2.9M and Sven, DJ4MX, top the LP list with score of 2.4M. Our Explorers were out in force as 22 entries checked out the new category won by 9G5FI (SO) and RWØA (MO).

Finally, congratulations to this year's club winners — the Frankford Radio Club (U.S.) and the Bavarian Contest Club (DX). The number of club entries continues to grow as we received entries from 74 U.S.-based groups and 211 DX organizations. The criteria for being a valid club entry is simple: Any group with

<b>UNITED STATES SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band</b>		<b>3.5 MHz</b>	K2KW ..... 17,608	K1RQ ..... 398,970
N5DX (@N2QV) ..... 10,090,280	W3LL ..... 69,635	W8UVZ ..... 15,870	KT4XA ..... 206,114	W1FM6 ..... 9,424
W1KM ..... 7,479,282	NGØC ..... 10,620			
KQ2M ..... 6,595,160		<b>ASSISTED LOW POWER All Band</b>	<b>MULTI-OP TWO TRANSMITTER</b>	
N2IC ..... 5,757,054	<b>1.8 MHz</b>	KS1J ..... 2,042,975	KC1XX ..... 17,591,384	
NN7CW ..... 5,314,569	WD8DSB ..... 1,656	NF3R ..... 1,837,374	K9CT ..... 11,848,431	
		W3KB ..... 1,710,345	N4VW ..... 11,145,765	
	<b>QRP All Band</b>	W1QK ..... 1,610,308	K1RX ..... 11,126,227	
	KR2Q ..... 888,998	N1EN ..... 1,476,540	ND7K ..... 8,072,136	
	N3CZ ..... 449,350			
	W6JTI ..... 278,710	<b>28 MHz</b>	<b>MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER</b>	
<b>28 MHz</b>	NDØC ..... 203,625	NJ4Q ..... 1,612	K3LR ..... 21,666,486	
W4DD ..... 24,420	WB2CPU ..... 125,741		NR4M ..... 16,390,766	
K4WI ..... 20,591		<b>21 MHz</b>	K1TTT ..... 13,880,754	
KJ9C ..... 13,965		W9XT ..... 231,012	KØRF ..... 8,302,584	
	<b>21 MHz</b>	N3UA ..... 123,318	K1KI ..... 6,995,950	
	KW7R ..... 15,488	WF7T ..... 72,800		
	KH6KG/W5 ..... 8,060		<b>EXPLORER SINGLE-OP</b>	
	KF4AV ..... 5,838	<b>14 MHz</b>	W6CZ ..... 121,912	
		K4FN ..... 47,544	KB2S ..... 34,625	
<b>14 MHz</b>	NK3U ..... 87,300	K2RK ..... 45,153	N1RBD ..... 3,977	
W7WA ..... 455,295	K2GMY ..... 15,876	N2EIM ..... 27,477		
N7TU ..... 422,890	N1AIA ..... 15,372		<b>EXPLORER MULTI-OP</b>	
W6YA ..... 389,532		<b>7 MHz</b>	W9SN ..... 10,080,180	
	<b>7 MHz</b>	AA4NP ..... 54,684	W5NN ..... 601,236	
	AC2YD ..... 33,046	KØXP ..... 54,611		
	N5ER ..... 16,640	W4RN ..... 48,925		
<b>7 MHz</b>			<b>ROOKIE High Power</b>	
N2MF ..... 864,912	<b>3.5 MHz</b>	<b>3.5 MHz</b>	W4SSF ..... 443,256	
W7RM (N6TR) ..... 663,375	WØCW ..... 9,844	N4IJ ..... 81,782	KD9PLD ..... 364,180	
NN1N ..... 572,859	KQ2RP ..... 3,280	WB2AA ..... 48,380	AC3LZ ..... 110,143	
		KU1N ..... 20,060	W6DMW ..... 10,010	
	<b>ASSISTED HIGH POWER All Band</b>	<b>1.8 MHz</b>		
	K5ZD ..... 8,943,750	K4YJ ..... 2,790	<b>Low Power</b>	
	K1ZZ ..... 8,145,450		N3AML ..... 57,986	
	K3WW ..... 7,359,330	<b>ASSISTED QRP All Band</b>	W1VKE ..... 34,404	
	AA1K ..... 6,951,717	K8ZT ..... 415,820	KD9OIN ..... 11,520	
	N3RS ..... 6,413,205	KR4AE ..... 104,139	KD2SGM ..... 9,063	
		N4NM ..... 41,846	W7VC ..... 6,815	
	<b>28 MHz</b>	KA4RRU ..... 15,288		
	N6SS ..... 24,217	KG7CW ..... 11,900	<b>CLASSIC High Power</b>	
	KU5B ..... 12,430		K1DG ..... 3,547,492	
	K5FP ..... 6,396	<b>21 MHz</b>	W4CB (W2RU) ..... 2,414,160	
		KG1E ..... 11,776	W1WEF ..... 2,357,783	
	<b>21 MHz</b>		K2NV ..... 1,916,112	
	WB9Z ..... 438,087	<b>14 MHz</b>	K9MA ..... 1,569,006	
	N7AT (K8IA) ..... 360,503	W2VRK ..... 21,483		
	N4ZR ..... 304,260	K9AXT ..... 9,486	<b>Low Power</b>	
			N8II ..... 1,341,780	
	<b>14 MHz</b>	<b>3.5 MHz</b>	WQ5L ..... 704,536	
	W8AV ..... 445,704	N6MZ ..... 1,886	N1DC ..... 670,677	
	W2UP ..... 298,112		K1HT ..... 667,926	
	N5YT ..... 262,636	<b>MULTI-OP SINGLE TRANSMITTER High Power</b>	WB8JUI ..... 507,863	
		W3LPL ..... 14,233,680		
	<b>7 MHz</b>	K1LZ ..... 13,441,032	<b>YOUTH High Power</b>	
	NA3M ..... 871,998	W2FU ..... 9,683,139	KE8HBV ..... 85,932	
	W1VE ..... 593,640	K9RS ..... 7,498,491	W7AOF ..... 51,182	
	WA3C ..... 429,918	K8AZ ..... 7,295,499		
	<b>3.5 MHz</b>		<b>Low Power</b>	
	K9GS ..... 293,733	<b>Low Power</b>	KG5HVO ..... 35,061	
	W3NO ..... 170,496	K1XM ..... 3,546,447		
	WA1T ..... 147,196	NJ4P ..... 2,350,560		
<b>7 MHz</b>				
W3EF ..... 138,990	<b>1.8 MHz</b>			
WA1FCN ..... 137,830	N1PGA ..... 26,122			
W1NN ..... 102,960				

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3CX800A7	4CX5000A	833A
3CX1200A7	4CX7500A	833C
3CX1200D7	4CX10000A	845
3CX1200Z7	4CX15000A	6146B
3CX1500A7	4CX20000B	3-500ZG
3CX3000A7	4CX20000C	3-1000Z
3CX6000A7	4CX20000D	4-400A
3CX10000A7	4X150A	4-1000A
3CX15000A7	572B	4PR400A
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Category	Table 2A							% of Total Logs
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	ALL	
SOAB High Asst	2	141	655	701	18	19	1,536	26.8
SOAB High U	5	155	277	248	26	13	724	12.6
SOAB Low Asst	4	126	700	347	20	41	1,238	21.6
SOAB Low U	10	285	868	427	28	37	1,655	28.8
SOAB QRP Asst	1	7	59	14	2	3	86	1.5
SOAB QRP U	1	27	112	38	6	5	189	3.3
Explorer M	0	2	6	2	0	0	10	0.2
Explorer S	1	1	6	3	0	1	12	0.2
Multi-2	1	13	23	19	3	2	61	1.1
Multi-Multi	2	6	13	12	2	1	36	0.6
Multi-Single High	0	22	66	32	1	2	123	2.1
Multi-Single Low	2	19	31	6	5	5	68	1.2
ALL	29	804	2,816	1,849	111	129	5,738	100.0
% by Continent	0.5	14.0	49.1	32.2	1.9	2.2	100.0	

Table 2A. Number of All Band / Multi-Op entries by category and continent

Type	Table 2B						
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	Total
Assisted	30.4	37.0	52.9	59.8	40.0	53.4	52.7
Non-Assisted	69.6	63.0	47.1	40.2	60.0	46.6	47.3
Total Logs	23	741	2,671	1,775	100	118	5,428

Table 2B. % split between Assisted / Non-Assisted SOAB logs by continent

## 2021 CQWW DX CW BAND-BY-BAND BREAKDOWN — TOP ALL BAND SCORES

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

### WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
T17W	474/14/47	1431/26/79	3039/29/101	2899/35/102	2923/31/94	534/17/25
CR6K	597/15/62	1367/20/74	2594/28/97	2064/33/91	2138/34/92	929/25/75
*V26K	263/12/41	1145/16/73	2232/26/96	2071/31/94	2091/30/91	323/15/44
*EA8RM	149/10/40	1004/18/64	1849/24/79	1309/22/67	2027/25/75	1219/23/69
N5DX	179/18/52	1041/27/85	1867/35/98	1695/28/91	1153/26/90	67/17/29

### USA TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
N5DX	179/18/52	1041/27/85	1867/35/98	1695/28/91	1153/26/90	67/17/29
W1KM	208/15/48	1087/23/72	1175/27/87	1119/28/89	1153/26/92	60/13/23
KQ2M	100/12/45	544/18/69	1146/26/88	1151/33/96	1250/30/104	64/17/34
N2IC	37/16/20	194/23/59	1428/34/89	1213/32/94	1043/29/90	84/15/33
NN7CW	86/14/38	376/18/64	1270/23/82	1149/27/87	1103/25/84	26/9/10

### WORLD SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
P44W	328/18/59	825/22/81	1377/32/113	1083/33/107	1571/32/108	880/20/61
ZF5T	535/17/64	844/25/82	1065/31/103	1510/35/104	1848/34/103	158/15/28
K5ZD	124/16/58	564/25/87	1311/32/111	1417/32/113	1110/29/115	77/19/38
TO7A	235/13/41	896/22/70	1825/28/92	1634/30/95	1725/27/84	358/20/37
K1ZZ	92/16/53	500/27/93	1354/34/116	1616/32/116	456/30/115	72/18/40

### USA SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K5ZD	124/16/58	564/25/87	1311/32/111	1417/32/113	1110/29/115	77/19/38
K1ZZ	92/16/53	500/27/93	1354/34/116	1616/32/116	456/30/115	72/18/40
K3WW	69/14/46	495/22/86	1376/34/119	1395/31/111	770/27/101	51/18/29
AA1K	113/17/56	463/26/89	1050/33/112	1380/34/113	841/29/108	41/16/24
N3RS	60/13/44	452/23/83	1039/33/115	1007/33/111	905/28/111	47/18/29

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
P33W	421/21/80	1497/32/105	2846/37/131	2369/39/131	2159/36/129	399/30/87
LZ5R	181/19/73	1203/32/107	3183/38/137	2518/39/133	1804/37/133	175/29/87
PJ4A	150/16/50	925/25/82	1684/36/118	1732/36/110	1745/32/116	997/22/68
TM6M	178/18/74	1094/32/101	2513/37/130	2294/38/129	1857/37/130	355/27/78
W3LPL	73/21/70	1041/31/102	2150/39/128	1618/38/133	1433/33/124	57/22/54

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
W3LPL	73/21/70	1041/31/102	2150/39/128	1618/38/133	1433/33/124	57/22/54
K1LZ	163/19/75	1099/28/100	2040/36/129	1266/36/124	1397/32/120	136/24/69
W2FU	102/17/54	763/26/93	1468/34/124	1292/37/124	1146/32/119	57/20/43
K9RS	61/17/49	451/26/92	1308/34/116	1165/35/118	923/30/117	31/18/29
K8AZ	64/17/54	505/26/88	1122/33/118	1191/34/118	828/31/117	42/20/41

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR3DX	580/18/66	1419/29/91	3406/36/124	2743/38/121	3805/38/118	1553/30/89
PJ4K	473/18/64	1222/29/95	3901/37/125	3103/36/117	3210/34/116	815/21/65
KC1XX	197/20/69	1523/32/105	2199/38/126	2068/36/128	1768/32/124	155/24/63
ES9C	1047/23/82	2435/34/105	2733/39/133	2670/38/126	2059/36/127	324/28/78
UA4M	773/20/74	1827/33/103	2927/37/130	2029/38/124	1874/34/117	392/25/64

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
KC1XX	197/20/69	1523/32/105	2199/38/126	2068/36/128	1768/32/124	155/24/63
K9CT	178/22/64	722/31/96	1675/37/121	1915/38/131	1276/32/120	133/19/38
N4WW	70/17/54	682/26/93	2045/37/126	1635/37/123	1220/32/119	106/16/37
K1RX	145/16/57	833/26/89	1499/29/105	2077/34/121	1375/29/104	91/19/38
ND7K	74/17/30	449/29/73	1625/38/116	1573/36/121	1223/34/113	88/16/25

### WORLD MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR3W	1073/18/67	2328/31/97	3480/37/126	3419/37/130	3089/38/129	1624/29/94
PJ2T	756/21/68	1717/27/91	3123/32/109	2999/36/109	3205/34/109	1187/25/75
TK0C	1970/20/82	3435/33/107	4698/36/130	3666/36/119	2719/37/125	877/27/89
3B8M	201/13/44	670/32/76	1915/35/108	2880/38/117	3302/37/125	1897/30/98
K3LR	493/23/74	1621/32/105	2674/38/134	2656/38/136	1901/35/130	405/25/64

### USA MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
K3LR	493/23/74	1621/32/105	2674/38/134	2656/38/136	1901/35/130	405/25/64
NR4M	364/20/68	1281/31/101	2301/37/129	2218/36/126	1701/29/117	209/20/49
K1TTT	425/20/68	1110/29/98	1888/36/122	2010/36/120	1213/29/114	355/21/54
K0RF	186/21/48	408/30/86	1227/37/117	1963/36/117	980/34/118	106/18/34
K1KI	90/15/54	499/25/90	1244/33/114	984/34/107	987/30/105	65/17/26



Often confused with a NASA ground control operation, here is the TI7W station that Dan, N6MJ, steered to a solid #1 World SOAB win!

### EUROPE TOP SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

Station	160	80	40	20	15	10
CR6K	597/15/62	1367/20/74	2594/28/97	2064/33/91	2138/34/92	929/25/75
EA6FO	498/12/51	1488/19/71	2276/28/83	1996/31/78	1438/26/76	374/15/46
YR8D	554/12/53	1565/20/70	1108/27/84	1914/28/84	757/30/85	32/9/13
J42L	341/9/42	791/22/58	1675/24/79	1692/29/73	1057/31/75	104/18/39
G4BUO	255/12/42	580/14/56	1022/25/81	1039/27/77	662/26/67	105/14/41

### EUROPE SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED ALL BAND

ERØDX	266/6/39	1561/25/86	1656/33/117	1552/35/110	1301/33/113	76/17/39
HA8A	380/13/60	670/21/74	1991/37/120	1064/34/109	642/36/117	115/25/58
SN7Q	290/17/65	1075/30/93	1009/35/115	1070/34/104	833/33/98	104/19/47
HG8R	285/17/60	716/26/82	1458/37/122	995/32/106	838/37/106	93/20/43
UW1M	94/10/48	614/19/76	2428/37/127	1489/34/108	751/33/105	112/22/42

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

LZ5R	181/19/73	1203/32/107	3183/38/137	2518/39/133	1804/37/133	175/29/87
TM6M	178/18/74	1094/32/101	2513/37/130	2294/38/129	1857/37/130	355/27/78
IR4M	130/20/76	902/31/100	2223/38/137	2395/39/135	1432/37/122	93/29/83
OM7M	244/23/86	1317/35/107	2208/38/135	2289/39/131	1305/38/126	83/27/81
E7DX	204/19/79	1057/34/106	2339/37/133	2057/38/131	1435/38/134	151/30/79

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER

ES9C	1047/23/82	2435/34/105	2733/39/133	2670/38/126	2059/36/127	324/28/78
UA4M	773/20/74	1827/33/103	2927/37/130	2029/38/124	1874/34/117	392/25/64
ED1R	467/16/68	1408/29/95	2726/37/124	2339/34/109	2065/37/118	477/20/63
HG7T	519/17/68	1580/32/98	2364/37/129	2050/36/119	1136/36/111	108/20/48
SK3W	809/22/75	1467/33/97	2256/38/135	1944/35/117	1162/37/118	129/23/62

### EUROPE MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

TKØC	1970/20/82	3435/33/107	4698/36/130	3666/36/119	2719/37/125	877/27/89
M6T	1320/18/75	2841/37/114	3741/38/137	2509/39/132	1409/37/122	514/28/92
LZ9W	1326/17/75	2269/36/114	3969/36/135	2949/39/130	1716/37/124	290/26/65
OL3Z	1231/16/67	2399/30/95	3435/37/135	2296/37/125	1335/37/117	288/27/81
DFØHQ	1251/19/80	2061/32/101	3596/38/142	2113/38/128	1199/37/125	328/27/81

### TOP SCORES IN VERY ACTIVE ZONES

#### Zone 3

K6XX	2,950,973
K6NA	1,870,506
WJ9B	1,761,823
VA7ST	1,110,417
W7YAQ	1,054,620

#### Zone 4

CF3A (VE3AT)	6,350,676
VE3JM	6,012,744
N2IC	5,757,054
W9RE	5,233,512
N9RV	4,469,155

#### Zone 5

N5DX (@N2QV)	10,090,280
VY2TT (K6LA)	8,035,280
VY2ZM (K1ZM)	7,865,424
W1KM	7,479,282
KQ2M	6,595,160

#### Zone 14

CR6K (CT1ILT)	12,055,652
EA6FO (EA3M)	7,577,968
G4BUO	3,561,980
G9W (MØDXR)	2,774,828
MØX (MØRTI)	2,088,304

#### Zone 15

*IY3A (IZ3EYZ)	3,347,729
OHØZ (OH6EI)	2,963,072

OM7RU	2,917,980
*LY4L	2,725,757
IR1G (IZ1LBG)	2,669,224

#### Zone 16

EW2A	1,921,565
RD4F	1,637,820
R5AJ	1,575,180
UA6CC	1,422,891
EW1I	1,362,030

#### Zone 20

YR8D (YO8TTT)	5,142,790
J42L (N5ZO)	5,052,874
C4W (5B4WN)	3,097,192
YM7KA (TA7I)	1,847,040
4Z4AK	729,864

#### Zone 25

JH4UYB	4,541,460
JE6RPM	
(JH5GHM)	3,965,890
JO4JKL	3,767,720
JF2QNM	2,071,779
DS4EOI	1,560,287

\*Low Power

Call	Cont	Category	Raw QSOs	% Error Rate	Bad QSOs
VP9I (N6GQ)	NA	SOAB LP	5,014	0.84	42
W1KM	NA	SOAB HP	4,846	0.91	44
NN7CW	NA	SOAB HP	4,050	0.99	40
N2IC	NA	SOAB HP	4,031	0.79	32
OM7RU	EU	SOAB HP	3,360	0.98	33
LY4T	EU	SOAB HP	2,804	0.89	25
9N7AA (S53R)	AS	SOAB HP	2,280	0.88	20
VE6BBP	NA	SOAB HP	2,111	0.76	16
LB6GG	EU	SOAB LP	2,078	0.72	15
YL2VW	EU	SOAB HP	2,055	0.73	15
VA7ST	NA	SOAB HP	2,034	0.79	16
K8GL	NA	SOAB HP	1,853	0.70	13
RD4F	EU	SOAB HP	1,818	0.50	9
K6NA	NA	SOAB HP	1,645	0.85	14
SP1AEN	EU	SOAB LP	1,644	0.73	12
J11RXQ	AS	SOAB LP	1,496	0.60	9
HB9ARF	EU	SOAB LP	1,422	0.84	12
K1GU	NA	SOAB HP	1,235	0.65	8
9A2EY	EU	SOAB LP	1,230	0.81	10
JH1QDB	AS	SOAB HP	1,165	0.77	9
R5AK	EU	SOAB HP	1,150	0.96	11
RA3NC	EU	SOAB HP	1,147	0.52	6
UA4AGT	EU	SOAB LP	1,124	0.80	9
EA3ICJ	EU	SOAB LP	1,114	0.54	6
SP7IIT	EU	SOAB HP	1,104	1.00	11
NAØN	NA	SOAB LP	1,070	0.19	2
VE3KP	NA	SOAB HP	1,045	0.96	10
G3ZGC	EU	SOAB HP	1,041	0.38	4
W7YAQ	NA	SOAB HP	1,010	0.59	6
S58MU	EU	SOAB LP	1,010	0.69	7
UD6M	EU	SOAB LP	1,006	0.80	8
G4DDL	EU	SOAB LP	1,005	0.80	8

Table 3. Single Operator accuracy leaders (>1,000 QSOs)

Year	160	80	40	20	15	10	Total
2021	280	786	1,337	1,322	1,059	158	4,944
2020	278	873	1,350	1,367	1,133	213	5,213
2019	296	832	1,325	1,494	448	46	4,441
2018	290	791	1,382	1,485	402	16	4,367
2017	265	800	1,289	1,301	673	48	4,376
2016	257	747	1,175	1,247	672	78	4,175
2015	190	681	1,276	1,197	1,263	421	5,027
2014	180	557	1,104	1,090	1,268	1,399	5,598
2013	172	575	1,121	1,019	1,218	1,165	5,270
2012	193	601	1,016	1,058	1,193	852	4,913
2011	177	554	1,108	924	1,051	1,286	5,100
2010	246	744	1,181	1,147	905	169	4,392
2009	240	663	1,137	1,142	529	50	3,761
2008	244	691	1,043	1,133	284	21	3,415

Table 4. Number of total QSOs in CQWW CW per band by year (in '000s)

four or more entries can compete in this popular part of the CQWW contest.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and especially those who submitted your logs.

### How Much Time Did You Operate in the CQWW CW Contest?

Well, the Single Ops backed off just a little in median operating time for the 2021 contest (See *Table 1*). Last year's metric of 14.7 hours dropped by 5.5% to a level of 13.9 hours, still impressive when you consider that half of us operated at least 29% of the total available hours in the contest. For many of you, I think you can break down a typical CQWW this way:

- Friday night: Operate the contest until you get tired. Sleep.
- Saturday AM: Work the high bands for a few hours.
- Saturday Afternoon: Run errands for XYL / partner.
- Saturday Evening: Work contest for an hour or two. Go out to eat with XYL / Partner. Return to contest. Sleep.
- Sunday Morning: Work the high bands.
- Sunday Afternoon: Watch TV with XYL / Partner in between an occasional hour here and there to operate.
- Sunday Evening: Eat quick dinner with XYL / Partner and finish last hour or two of contest.
- Sunday Evening after contest: Brief conversation with XYL / Partner; Pass out.

And, of course, there is that "special" group of 45+ hour ops. That train has long since left my station, but it's exciting to see 34 operators making that level of commitment (I will add that there were 51 last year!).

### Which Category is Your Favorite?

The popularity of the Assisted category continues to grow as it has now become the dominant leader in all CQWW categories (see *Tables 2A* and *2B*). For example, when considering all assisted category groups, there were 2,860 entries vs. 2,568 unassisted logs. For the first time, more than half of this year's Single Operators used assistance, a 3% year-over-year increase from 2020. Use of assistance was particularly popular in North America and Europe, which is in striking contrast to Asia, where nearly 63% of entrants chose to be unassisted. As the sunspots light up the ionosphere, I expect this trend to continue.

**Table 5**

Entity	AS	EU	NA	OC	Total
BY	5	0	0	0	5
DL	0	2	0	0	2
E7	0	1	0	0	1
EI	0	1	0	0	1
I	0	4	0	0	4
JA	6	0	0	0	6
K	0	0	4	0	4
LY	0	2	0	0	2
SM	0	1	0	0	1
SP	0	1	0	0	1
UA	0	1	0	0	1
VE	0	0	1	0	1
YB	0	0	0	2	2
YO	0	1	0	0	1
YT	0	1	0	0	1
Total	11	15	5	2	33

*Table 5. Total number of Youth entries received by entity / continent*

### Accuracy at its Finest!

Yet again, there were some standout accuracy champions in the CQWW. It's a true accomplishment to see incredible sub-1% results (see *Table 3*) with so many competitors. Whether you marvel at VP9I (op. N6GQ) only busting 42 QSOs out of 5,014 contacts or NAØN logging just two bad QSOs in a log of over 1,000 contacts, the results are equally impressive for everyone making this chart. Congratulations on a job well done!

### Here Comes the Sun!

There's no debate that the CQWW contest is a QSO machine and the 2021 CW edition was no exception: ~4.9M QSOs (see *Table 4*). In fact, if you do the math, over the past 10 years (2011-2021), there have been approximately 53.4M QSOs made in the CQWW CW contest alone! That's 31 QSOs per second for all 480 hours of operation.

While the best is yet to come in Cycle 25, I'm happy to report that 10 meters is slowly coming back to life. A quick look at the peak years of Cycle 24 is the proof to that claim. Let's keep our fingers crossed for this fall being a banner year.

### Some Youthful Entries

While the total number of youth overlay CW entries in this first year was a little disappointing, there was broad participation from around the world (see *Table 5*). For the 2021 CQWW as a whole, however, we received 136 entries — a decent overall showing for the first year of this new overlay category. Several of this year's youth participants submitted logs for both modes. It's fair to say that 100% of you were enthusiastic and excited to participate in this new approach in the CQWW contest.

I'm optimistic that participation will grow as the word continues to spread. You can help us by passing the word — at your club meetings, on email reflectors, social media and, yes, even "on the air." Enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm as we strive to support more youth activity in the world's largest contest.

### Being Careless About Spots

I thought it would be helpful to provide some representative samples of busted callsigns that we found in this year's logs

**Table 6**

Real call	Bad spot	# QSOs made
TKØC	TK9C	62
	TKØK	8
	KØC	4
	AKØC	1
	EKØC	1
	TKØF	1
	TKØN	1
	TK1C	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>
UA4S	UA4I	55
	UA4H	8
	UA4SE	6
	UA4A	2
	UA4N	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>
RWØA	RMØA	16
	RW9A	10
	NWØA	4
	RWØW	3
	RUØA	3
	RW1A	2
	RWØT	2
	RWØI	1
	RWØAF	1
	RWØAE	1
	RWØAD	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>
ES9C	EI9C	73
	IS9C	8
	ES6C	5
	ES9CE	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>
JF1NHD	JF1NSD	56
	<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>
EE3M	EI3M	55
	<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>
VE7JH	VE7JS	47
	<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>
DFØHQ	DLØHQ	12
	DF1HQ	10
	DLØSQ	8
	DFØSQ	7
	DFØFQ	5
	DFØHMT	2
	DFØQH	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>
EA8RM	EA9RM	34
	EA8IM	11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>

*Table 6. Representative sample of busted spots found in CW logs*

# Being an Explorer — The RWØA Contest Story

The successful performance of UCØB in the Multi-Distributed category in last year's CQWW WPX CW contest stimulated our Siberian team (Krasnoyarsk, RWØA; Novosibirsk, RC9O; Tomsk, R8IZ; Kemerovo, RT8U; and Prokopievsk, UA9UR) for another experiment. This time, we decided to try the new CQWW category for Multi-Multi stations — M/M Explorer. The new category promised new possibilities. Why not try it?

All the distributed team positions had improved their antenna setups during the summer. A simple analysis of spring contests showed that the number of participants from YB on 21 MHz become larger than the traditionally active group of JAs! At RWØA, we built a new 2x5-element Yagi stacked beam antenna fixed at 135°, to take advantage of all the YB signals coming into our QTH. We also installed another 2x5-element 21-MHz system fixed into the direction of Europe. The guys from RT8U built a Spitfire antenna for 80 meters, switchable to EU/AS. The team from UA9UR also improved their stacked beams for 21 and 28 MHz. Not to be outdone, RC9O used a large crane to repair his 3-element 160-meter antenna.

Even with all the station improvements, we were realistic about achieving a top score. We simply hoped to have a lot of fun operating in the Explorer category with a multi-QTH distributed team. This pushed us to prepare and participate in all of the contest action.

Similar to the CQWW WPX, we organized a DXLOG network of 17 computers along with a central server located in Kemerovo. Our band-by-band operating schedule for each QTH (RUN and S&P) was made based on propagation analysis and the review of our logs from previous CQWW contests. The concept remained the same — maximize the time of operation from RWØA on each band with a minimum of three transmitters simultaneously. We also utilized permitted networked resources such as KiwiSDR and WEBSDR for remote receiving and for our own signal checking, which helped us to move a RUN station from position to position and stay away from bad frequencies.

The first 10 hours of the contest were especially exciting. Our QSO summary rate did not go below 400 per hour and actually hit more than 500 per hour with more than 15 QSOs per minute a few times! The 40-meter band turned out to be very effective and was open almost all the time except for two hours on Sunday morning when the level of our signals in EU dropped to almost zero. The first night surprised us with good propagation on 20 meters. We logged NA stations for about 2 hours, which



Explorer Team staffing the station from RWØA.

Organizing five distributed Explorer teams across six bands and 24 hours from RWØA. Not an easy task!

is usually very rare. It was also unusual to see the QSO rate on the 80-meter band being nearly the same as 20 meters. The ionosphere was quiet for the whole contest, so we had good openings on the 21- and 28-MHz bands during daytime.

There is no contest without Mr. Murphy playing jokes on us. The team at Kemerovo had to repair a Beverage antenna during a cold night in the forest. One of the amplifiers became intermittent in Krasnoyarsk. Our team members in Prokopyevsk were spending time fixing a high-voltage power supply. But every problem we encountered was successfully overcome by the team. In the end, we finished with 13,000 QSOs and 24M points on Monday morning!

Of course, we have lots of log data, but here is the rough distribution of QSOs for each station:

**RWØA:** 4,000 QSOs  
**R8IZ:** 2,700 QSOs  
**RC9O:** 2,550 QSOs  
**RT8U:** 1,700 QSOs  
**UA9UR:** 1,700 QSOs

Perhaps even more exciting was the fact that we had 27 Siberian operators participating on the “**Central Siberia DX Club**” team from five positions:

**RWØA:** RAØAM, RAØAAC, RØAI, RGØA, RMØA, RUØA, RUØAM, RVØAR, RWØAR, RZØAT, UAØAPV, UFØB  
**RC9O:** RC9O, UA9PM, RA9P  
**R9IZ:** R9IR, RM9I, RU9I, RC9HB, RC9HC  
**UA9UR:** RW9USA, RV9UP, UA9UR  
**RT8U:** RZ9UN, RK9UE, RA9USU, RX9UK

We hope it was not our last team effort. Thank you to all who called us and who answered our calls! Special thanks to the teams of CR3W and TKØC who stimulated us to concentrate and work harder!

– 73, Leonid, RAØAM, on behalf of the RWØA team

## A Youthful CQWW

BY SVEN, DJ4MX (19 years old!)



CQWW CW Low Power Youth champion, Sven, DJ4MX, ready for action.

**T**his past CQWW was my first serious entry in the world’s best contest. It was a blast! Although having received my license in 2017, I officially fell in love with CW contesting just 18 months ago.

My initial strategy was to participate with a Multi-Op team. The plan was that my dad (DJ2MX) and I travel to Bosnia and join the Multi-Single team at E7DX. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the trip, so I decided to try out the new Youth overlay as a single operator from our home station in Munich after my dad found a local club station to use. With just a few days to go and the contest rapidly approaching, I was really motivated to get the best results possible. My goal was to operate more than 40 hours, even though I had never previously operated so many hours. But, before the contest even started, I unknowingly made the mistake of going into the contest with 15 hours of “awake time.”

After the first 24 hours and having 1,200 QSOs in my log without a break, I was thrilled to see what was possible with 100 watts from our modest station. Additional motivation came from my real-time standing in the online scoreboard. As a result, I somehow got the crazy idea to operate the next 24 hours without a break! But, even at my young age of 19 years, it wasn’t easy! Within just a few hours after my crazy idea began, I struggled to stay awake, hoping for sunrise and the expectation that daylight and new action on the high bands would keep my eyes open. My wish came true as the band was filled with JAs on 15 meters, keeping me really busy. However, the inevitable feeling of tiredness came again as I fell asleep a few times, albeit for only one or two minutes.

It turned out that the last four hours were the hardest, and especially the 35 minutes right before the end of the contest. At that point, I decided to stop, because I was simply too tired to get any new QSOs into my log. In the end, however, I logged almost 2,200 QSOs with my logging program showing an operating time of 47:26 hours, an accomplishment that makes me especially proud.

The new youth overlay is a great addition to the CQWW, and I really hope it gets more people of my age into CW operating and contesting overall. Thanks for a great contest and see you in the next one!

– 73, Sven, DJ4MX



## CLUB SCORES

### UNITED STATES

Club	# Entrants	Score
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	271	407,770,996
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	250	370,916,531
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	256	189,861,299
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	175	87,903,698
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	76	72,709,639
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	96	67,807,030
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	99	54,156,776
NORTH COAST CONTESTERS	22	54,073,386
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	70	39,771,679
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN	131	37,759,237
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	50	31,910,518
SOUTHEAST CONTEST CLUB	49	28,838,318
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB	28	25,692,346
WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB	54	20,213,427
DFW CONTEST GROUP	41	17,737,700
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB	30	16,378,060
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP	30	15,884,909
NE MARYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CONTEST SOCIETY	36	14,777,587
BAY AREA DXERS	17	14,564,287
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	36	14,221,240
HUDSON VALLEY CONTESTERS AND DXERS	33	12,823,759
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB	49	12,791,964
SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP	26	11,431,180
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION	27	11,172,920
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	24	9,401,579
NIAGARA FRONTIER RADIOSPORT	22	8,489,032
GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP	5	7,590,051
SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION	26	6,497,770
KANSAS CITY CONTEST CLUB	14	6,299,259
BIG SKY CONTESTERS	7	6,092,283
TEXAS DX SOCIETY	15	5,036,406
THE VILLAGES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	16	4,067,968
DEEP DIXIE CONTEST CLUB	12	3,410,596
ROCHESTER (NY) DX ASSN	20	3,315,558
CWOPS	11	3,185,108
NORTH TEXAS CONTEST CLUB	8	3,181,429
CTRI CONTEST GROUP	10	3,015,399
HILLTOP TRANSMITTING ASSN	5	2,770,354
ARKANSAS DX ASSOCIATION	9	2,605,417
NORTH CAROLINA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	7	2,529,857
SILVER SPRINGS RADIO CLUB	7	2,477,214
BRISTOL (TN/VA) ARC	12	2,149,655
LOUISIANA CONTEST CLUB	5	1,858,218
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSN	7	1,779,098
IOWA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	4	1,555,877
FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB	6	1,404,188
MILFORD OHIO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	4	1,337,064
MOTHER LODE DX/CONTEST CLUB	13	1,075,694
KANSAS CITY DX CLUB	7	1,022,235
MERIDEN ARC	12	969,594
SOUTH JERSEY RADIO ASSOCIATION	8	957,908
BELLBROOK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	6	846,494
CENTRAL VIRGINIA CONTEST CLUB	4	667,945
SOUTHWEST OHIO DX ASSOCIATION	7	517,459
METRO DX CLUB	9	491,973
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DX/CONTEST CLUB	6	480,309
SKYVIEW RADIO SOCIETY	5	450,775
NEW PROVIDENCE ARC	7	450,104
HEARTLAND DX ASSOCIATION	7	407,237
GREAT PLACES CONTEST CLUB	4	383,541
PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE	4	352,904
NORTHERN ARIZONA DX ASSN	5	256,341
ARC EMCOMM SRVC	7	201,742
PANHANDLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	4	189,493
ALEXANDRIA RADIO CLUB	4	153,921
REDWOOD EMPIRE DX ASSOCIATION	4	153,393
BOLINGBROOK ARS	5	116,416
LAKE AREA AMATEUR RADIO KLUB	5	91,387
STERLING PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	4	70,258
UTAH DX ASSOCIATION	4	55,841
LONG ISLAND CW CLUB	5	28,266
OH-KY-IN ARS	4	22,080
NORTH SHORE RADIO CLUB IL	4	13,942
DOWNEY ARC, INC.	4	6,438

### DX

Club	# Entrants	Score
BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB	327	278,153,499
ITALIAN CONTEST CLUB	269	235,056,854
RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB	130	156,872,655
EA CONTEST CLUB	94	146,376,317
RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION	168	133,767,930
CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	103	108,603,466
BALTIC CONTEST CLUB	32	96,589,338
UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	181	82,061,536
ARAUCARIA DX GROUP	72	71,544,438
CONTEST CLUB SERBIA	57	55,249,019
CLIPPERTON DX CLUB	27	53,297,454
CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB	61	51,931,579
BELOKRANJEC CONTEST CLUB	22	50,945,302
CONTEST CLUB FINLAND	56	46,904,745
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RADIO CLUB	56	38,388,482
LZ CONTEST TEAM	4	37,166,882

Club	# Entrants	Score
LU CONTEST GROUP	43	35,149,174
CONTEST CLUB BELGIUM	60	34,049,850
HA-DX-CLUB	18	32,419,199
LA CONTEST CLUB	13	32,063,479
SP DX CLUB	116	27,626,169
CHILTERN DX CLUB	26	26,044,175
SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB	43	24,342,313
VK CONTEST CLUB	41	21,201,613
RIO DX GROUP	93	18,900,031
CZECH CONTEST CLUB	30	16,854,397
CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	15	14,070,495
SOUTH URAL CONTEST CLUB	19	13,559,356
LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB	36	13,554,654
ORCA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	39	13,445,966
BELARUS CONTEST CLUB	31	12,944,628
CATALONIA CONTEST CLUB	25	12,319,383
URAL CONTEST GROUP	24	11,925,032
RSGB CONTEST CLUB	11	11,418,058
SIAM DX GROUP	23	10,560,938
NICOSIA CONTEST GROUP	4	10,385,416
5NNDXCC	35	10,280,120
CENTRAL SIBERIA DX CLUB	8	10,095,623
MARITIME CONTEST CLUB	16	9,786,894
RUSSIAN CW CLUB	60	9,395,298
599 CONTEST CLUB	18	9,118,325
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA CONTEST CLUB	9	8,845,795
WEST SERBIA CONTEST CLUB	11	8,446,059
RTTY CONTESTERS OF JAPAN	4	8,333,160
DANISH DX GROUP	36	7,870,859
RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN GREECE	6	7,664,042
NORFOLK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	13	7,340,880
ARCK	32	6,761,842
INTEREST GROUP RTTY	9	6,238,392
JSFC	4	6,159,002
ASSOCIACAO DOS RADIOAMADORES DO PARANA	10	6,098,997
THRACIAN ROSE CLUB	43	5,822,661
VU CONTEST GROUP	18	5,565,899
ARIPA DX TEAM	10	5,564,713
ARABIAN GULF DX GROUP	5	5,484,742
SKY CONTEST CLUB	4	4,913,906
EUROPEAN DX CONTEST CLUB	4	4,881,644
THREE A'S CONTEST GROUP	9	4,859,892
CS PETROLUL PLOIESTI	7	4,483,772
CE CONTEST GROUP	16	4,338,929
GIPANIS CONTEST GROUP	13	4,264,659
GMDX GROUP	9	3,889,761
RADIOSPORT MANITOBA	6	3,887,123
KEYMEN'S CLUB OF JAPAN	44	3,699,668
COCKENZIE AND PORT SETON ARC	6	3,586,290
SOUTHERN OSAKA CONTEST CLUB	11	3,563,084
WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS	17	3,546,893
ORARI LOKAL KAB BOGOR	12	3,509,079
IRKUTSK RADIO CLUB	9	3,489,762
RADIOCLUBUL RADU BRATU	6	3,471,437
YB-LAND DXING PASSION IS	177	3,277,362
VERON A63 FRIESE WOUDE	4	3,134,327
RADIO CLUB BUNSCHOTEN	5	2,833,168
ARKTIKA	14	2,809,128
CDR GROUP	39	2,739,356
VLADIMIR CONTEST GROUP	12	2,677,874
UNION FRANCAISE DES TELEGRAPHISTES	10	2,606,379
GUNMA CONTEST CLUB	9	2,564,348
VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY RADIO CLUB	14	2,533,688
SASKATCHEWAN CONTEST CLUB	10	2,523,314
INDIOS DX TEAM	4	2,164,210
CABREUVADX	47	2,056,385
LITHUANIAN CONTEST GROUP	5	2,023,742
UA2 CONTEST CLUB	12	1,918,614
SHARKS DX TEAM	10	1,916,718
SP-CW-C	8	1,904,482
SANTIAGO DE CUBA CONTEST TEAM	4	1,839,194
CLUB DE RADIO EXPERIMENTADORES DE OCCIDENTE	6	1,786,914
IVANOVO DX CLUB	7	1,785,165
KOREA DX GROUP	6	1,763,126
SPANDAU DXERS	8	1,748,043
UBRO	8	1,711,397
RIIHIMAEN KOLMOSET	6	1,662,311
FUCHU AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	10	1,644,540
S51DSW	7	1,539,539
NORTHERN GREECE CONTEST TEAM	4	1,521,633
DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY ARS	4	1,511,194
ZRHB	7	1,462,083
YU1ANO & YU1A CONTEST TEAM	13	1,408,682
OKAYAMA DX CLUB	10	1,408,539
VOT PZK	13	1,384,626
STOCKPORT RADIO SOCIETY	7	1,364,405
SAO PAULO CONTEST GROUP	8	1,335,548
599 DX GROUP	20	1,309,206
ALRS ST PETERSBURG	11	1,287,414
YB LAND DX CLUB	43	1,246,467
GUARA DX GROUP	13	1,099,964
LKK LVIV SHORTWAVE CLUB	15	1,073,219
RADIO CLUB VENEZOLANO CARACAS	7	1,032,921
SHAKHAN CONTEST CLUB	6	1,012,122
ALBERTA CLIPPERS	4	953,081
NOVOKUZNETSK RADIO CLUB	11	941,177
SK5AA VASTERAS RADIOKLUBB	15	938,837
JAPAN LID CLUB	4	924,735

Club	# Entrants	Score
DEBRECEN UNIVERSITY RADIO CLUB	4	864,001
HEREFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	8	834,703
CSA STEAUA BUCURESTI	5	822,202
RU-QRP CLUB	16	798,630
KING'S LYNN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	6	791,676
VERON A03 AMERSFOORT	6	785,402
UR-QRP-CLUB	12	772,916
GRUPO ARGENTINO DE CW	5	771,207
SK6AW HISINGENS RADIOKLUBB	7	770,722
ADMIRA ARAD	8	705,521
PEMBROKESHIRE CONTEST GROUP	7	695,610
NEWBURY & DISTRICT ARS	5	693,686
CWJF GROUP	5	692,597
VRZA VERENIGING VAN RADIO ZEND AMATEURS	5	689,331
JAPAN CONTESTER'S CLUB	4	640,637
YO DX CLUB	12	627,073
CSR BRAILA	8	621,403
CLUB RADIOAMATEUR VE2CWQ	6	621,080
SK6QA STENUNGSUND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	6	616,239
YYP CLUB	6	608,284
UNIO DE RADIOAFECCIONATS DEL VALLES ORIENTAL	4	551,730
RADIO CLUB VENEZOLANO	4	544,248
R4F-DX-G	5	532,936
BAHIA DX GROUP	4	523,895
SWINDON & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	4	522,919
KRIVBASS	7	521,491
MDXC	4	484,963
GERMAN DX FOUNDATION	6	484,561
VOLYN CONTEST GROUP	7	476,521
OBNIINSK QRU CLUB	5	452,223
YB6_DX COMMUNITY	18	437,561
9M HF & DX CONTEST GROUP	6	428,839
CHILEAN PACIFIC DX GROUP	8	428,620
CMDXGROUP	14	411,162
FALCONS DX GROUP	13	391,654
BLACKWOOD & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	4	388,086
SK6EI SKOVDE AMATORRADIOKLUBB	6	387,420
RADIO CLUB KVARNER RIJEKA	11	384,169
JUST FOR FUN CONTEST CLUB	8	356,914
NATIONAL CHILDREN'S PALACE	8	355,559
CSM BOTOSANI	6	346,674
CWSP	8	338,966
CS SATU MARE	4	337,055
RUSSIAN DIGITAL RADIO CLUB	7	327,051
MOSCOW RADIO CLUB	4	321,296
MEDITERRANEO DX CLUB	8	317,731
SHARP HAM CLUB	5	317,614
GRUPO DXXE	10	300,336
OK QRP KLUB	6	294,354
7A DX-CONTEST CLUB	10	290,486
LA-DX-GROUP	5	282,047
CSM CRAIOVA	6	281,569
LITTLE GUN CLUB	4	280,432
FIFTH OCEAN	5	274,652
GRIMSBY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	4	271,399
SAYAN DX CLUB	6	268,561
PHILIPPINE AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE	7	267,709
VFDB	4	255,610
GLOUCESTER AMATEUR RADIO & ELECTRONICS SOCIETY	4	254,558
HARWELL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	4	242,342
YO3KEX	4	235,085
TDR	4	209,821
TORBAY ARS	6	209,461
CS SILVER FOX DEVA	5	185,345
MISSISSAUGA ARC	4	182,942
SP9PGE	4	172,204
TALL TREES CONTEST GROUP	6	161,339
DONBASS CONTEST CLUB	4	153,822
KOREA CONTEST CLUB	5	134,571
MUMBAI AMATEUR RADIO INSTITUTE	7	122,545
KIROVOGRAD REGION RADIO CLUB	4	110,790
SPORT CLUB MIERCUREA-CIUC	4	108,262
YB7-DX CLUB	15	106,891
LA4O	4	102,028
ECHELFORD ARS	4	99,238
DX2EVM SCAN INTERNATIONAL	6	95,686
TRAC	5	94,229
THE AKITA DX ASSOCIATION	7	91,987
SP9PBB	5	87,822
CSM CLUJ-NAPOCA	4	68,187
LOMZA AND DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY CONTEST GROUP	4	67,484
IFM DX-TEAM	4	63,360
RADIO CLUB DE PANAMA	4	55,717
RADIO CLUB ETERNAUTAS	6	55,298
HAMILTON ON ARC (AGGREGATE)	5	55,259
DX1EVM SCAN INTERNATIONAL	5	47,315
G8AMC	4	44,930
ORARI LOKAL KEDIRI	18	44,594
SPDXT	5	34,934
ORARI LOKAL BOGOR	5	34,808
SATARA INSTITUTE OF HAMS	4	34,026
EDIT14	5	30,066
BOGOR DX CLUB	5	25,220
SINGLE FIGHTER DX GROUP	5	22,776
NORTHEAST RADIO GROUP	4	21,356
OLDHOUSERADIOCLUB	4	8,326
LABRE-RS	4	2,259

coming from bad Cluster spots (and the occasional RBN reporting error) (see *Table 6*). I'll admit, especially when you are in search & pounce (S&P) mode, that it's tempting to engage in the "click, work, next" mode of operating. What's missing? LISTEN! As with previous years, there were literally thousands of bad calls in submitted logs that came from logging a bad call on the screen vs. the one that was actually being used on the air. Taking a few extra seconds to listen and ensure you have it right is just good operating!

## Some Thoughts From Your Director

Well, after countless hours of work, thousands of text and email messages, phone calls, Zoom sessions, and other methods of communicating, I'm happy to say the results for the 2021 CQWW contest season are now complete. I'm proud of the progress we have made as a committee in advancing the state of the art in log-checking as each year more progress is made to ensure the results that we publish are as accurate as possible. It's almost unfathomable to think of the days of paper logs and checking without computers. But we are still years away from simply hitting a magic function key to generate the results that you read each year. Manual intervention is inevitable as we strive to "get things right."

One piece of advice I can offer to everyone — experienced or not — is to be sure to read the rules as there are almost always a few updates from one year to the next. A significant number of warnings were issued to some entrants this year that came from their lack of reading and understanding the rules of the game.

As I mentioned in the SSB results, one of the ongoing challenges we face continues to be the lack of recording your audio during the contest as clearly stated in the rules for top competitors. My suggestion is to view this requirement as a tangible way to improve your operating skills vs. a burdensome act by the log-checkers. I learn something new every time I listen either to my own recordings or those of someone else. Don't put yourself in the position of being reclassified (or worse) if asked to supply this log-checking tool that we use, albeit on rare occasion, when needed.

## Some Closing Words

Unfortunately, I only get two opportunities per year to publicly offer my sincere thanks to a special group of dedicated testers — the CQWW Contest Committee. With respect and great pride I acknowledge the following members who helped produce the results you are reading: CT1BOH, José Nunes; EA4KD, Pedro Vadillo; ES5TV, Tonno Vahk; F6BEE, Jacques Saget; GØMTN, Lee Volante; HA1AG, Zoli Pitman; IK2QEI, Stefano Brioschi; JH5GHM, Katsuhiko (Don) Kondou; K1DG, Doug Grant; K1EA, Ken Wolff; K3LR, Tim Duffy; K3WW, Charles Fulp; K3ZO, Alfred A. (Fred) Laun, III; K5ZD, Randy Thompson; KR2Q, Doug Zwiebel; LA6VQ, Frode Igland; LU5DX, Martin Monsalvo; MØDXR, Mark Haynes; OH6LI, Jukka Klemola; PA3AAV, Gert Meinen; RA3AUU, Igor (Harry) Booklan; S5ØA, Tine Brajnik; S5ØXX, Kristjan Kodermac; UA9CDC, Igor Sokolov; VE3EJ, John Sluymmer; VK2IA, Bernd Laenger; and YO3JR, Andrei (Andy) Ruse. Without a doubt, this is the best team in all of contesting!

As I finish writing these results, the Solar Flux Index is sitting at 101 (156 two weeks ago!). Indeed, the sun has come to life, creating great promise for another amazing CQWW this year. I hope to hear you on SSB on October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and CW on November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022! — 73, John, K1AR

(Scores on page 94)

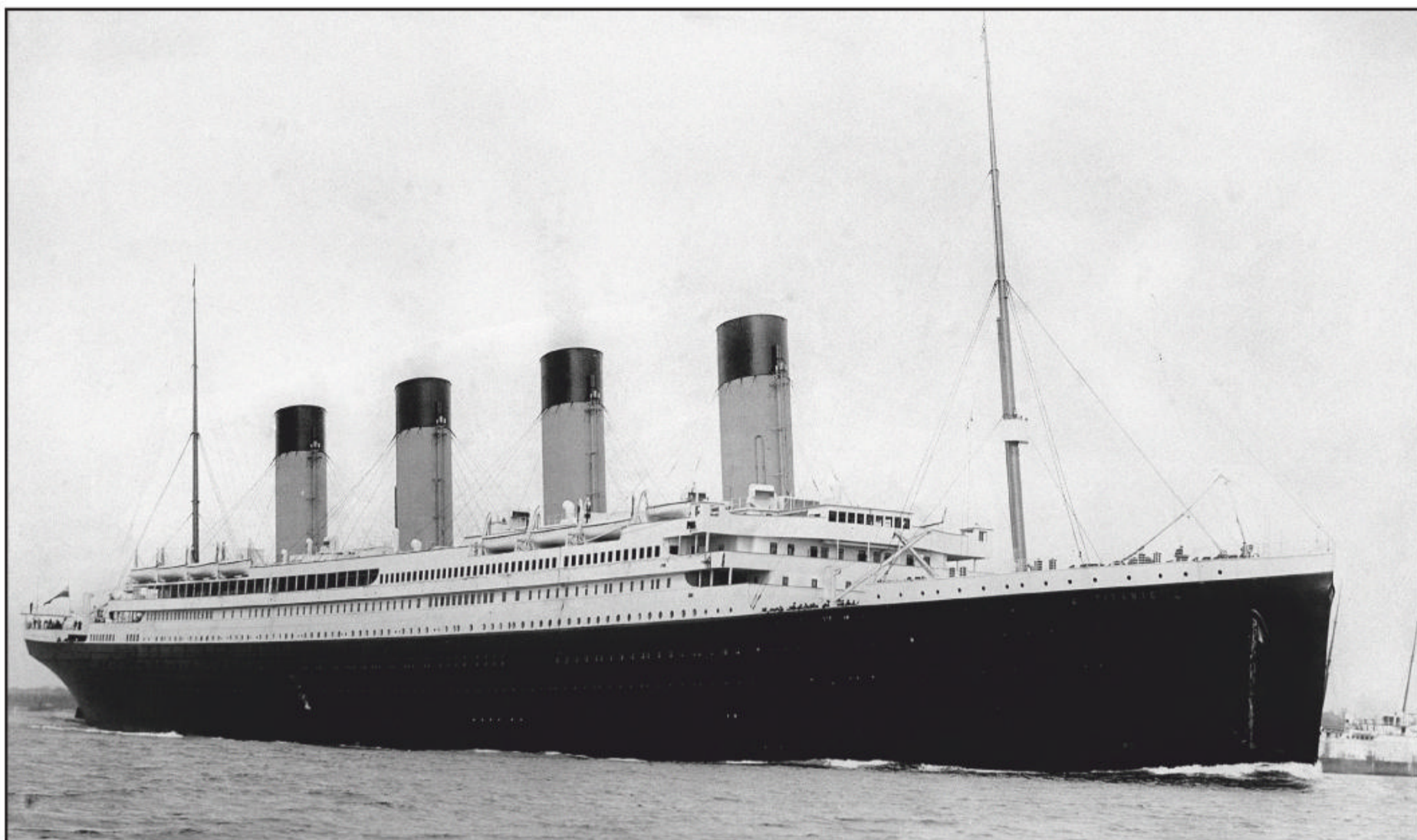


Photo A. The RMS Titanic departing Southampton on April 10, 1912. (Photo by John Parrot / Stocktrek images / GettyImages)

*Two different distress calls, an arrogant radio operator and intense competition between cruise lines were among the issues that contributed to the sinking of the RMS Titanic in 1912 and the associated loss of life. Could the tragedy have been prevented? KA8TVY looks at the role of wireless in events leading up to the sinking and the efforts to save lives after the ship struck an iceberg.*

# CQD, SOS and the Sinking of the Titanic

## ***Was the Tragedy Preventable?***

BY HORACIO FALCIGLIA,\* KA8TVY

**H**am radio, our hobby, emphasizes the art of communication. Our art is unselfish and compassionate to others, and we mobilize quickly to help others in cases of emergencies such as tornados, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes. Our roots of service go back 110 years ago when the radio operators on the RMS Titanic helped to save 705 lives.

A recent article by Erin Blakemore in *National Geographic*<sup>1</sup> has corrected some misconceptions I had on that tragic event

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I would like to share it with my fellow hams. I am also motivated by a recent court ruling<sup>2</sup> by U.S. District Judge Rebecca Beach Smith in favor of RMS Titanic, Inc. (May 18, 2020) that paved the way to the future recovery of the Marconi telegraph from the wreck of the Titanic. The recovery was postponed until this year, due to financial, legal, and Covid pandemic factors. Yet numerous organizations — including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) — are strongly opposed to the salvage plan. NOAA argues that the planned expedition violates an agreement between United States and the United Kingdom that ban commercial exploitation of the ship's remains. "The wreck is a recognized memorial to the 1,522 passengers who went down with the ship."

“Just like a lion is much better appreciated in the wilds of the African savannas than it is stuffed in a museum, so too does the Marconi apparatus best tell its story and share its value where it is,” wrote David Conlin, Chief of the U.S. National Park Service’s Submerged Resources Center, in a court filing quoted by *National Geographic’s* Kristin Romey.

Even though Conlin’s court filing is supported by many investigators, in my opinion, years of rust, corrosion and a continuous 6,000 pounds of pressure per square inch over time will destroy the Marconi telegraph, and I am in favor of its recovery. Among other values, it has a great historical significance. The telegraph is located in the “silent” radio room within the bow section of the wreck. As I wait for the recovery of the Marconi invention that lies at a depth of two and a half miles on the Atlantic Ocean floor, I reflect on the communications between Titanic and surrounding ships on that frigid night of April 15, 1912.

### Before the Iceberg

The White Star Liner RMS Titanic (*Photo A*), 882 feet 9 inches, was the largest steamship in the world the time, and on its maiden voyage sailed out from Southampton, England to New York on April 10, 1912, and it was outfitted with a powerful Marconi telegraph in its radio room. The “MGY,” radio call-sign of Titanic, had an emitting power of 5 kilowatts and worked in the frequency of 500 kHz (600 meters). Unfortunately, many other ships used the same frequency, leading to frequent interference.

The radio room (similar to *Photo B*) actually consisted of three different rooms: The operator’s room, a bedroom and the “silent” room that contained the transmitting equipment. It was built with “state-of-the-art” wireless in use at the time, including the most advanced synchronous rotary spark discharger on the transmitter. It had guaranteed a working range of up 250 miles but it could maintain communications up 2,000 miles at night. It had a four-wire antenna suspended between the ship’s two masts, 250 feet above the sea.

At that time, the telegraph was not intended to be used as an emergency device. Two radio operators were employed by the Marconi Company, Chief Telegraphist Jack Phillips (*Photo C*) and his assistant, Harold Bride, were on the night of April 14<sup>th</sup> very busy sending “Marconi-grams” from passengers to both shores. Earlier that day, Phillips and Bride had spent 7 hours repairing

a burned out and grounded secondary transformer in the Marconi wireless set. The backlog of outgoing messages was overwhelming as the two operators tried to send them to the Marconi station at Cape Race, Newfoundland. In addition to the telegrams, there was also a famous poker game going on that required a torrent of personal messages from well-to-do passengers, at around 11 p.m., Phillips received a Morse message from Cyril F. Evans, also a 20 years old Marconi operator, on a nearby British ship, the SS California. Evans warned Phillips, “we have seen three large icebergs 5 miles to the south”.<sup>3</sup> The California was closer to Titanic than any other ship, only 6 miles away, and it could have reached Titanic before it sank. Jack Phillips was unfortunately overwhelmed with traffic between the ship and the east coast and he rudely answered Evans, saying, “Shut up! I am busy! I am working Cape Race!” Obviously, Phillips ignored the warning.

Captain Edward J. Smith was a veteran sailor of 43 years. He was also planning to retire after this maiden voyage of Titanic. Smith was sailing the massive ship at the top speed of 22 knots in iceberg-heavy waters of the North Atlantic. The previous Artic win-

ter was a very mild and allowed many icebergs to be transported south by the Labrador Current.

There was a very cold artic front, a moonless night with the air very clear. The lookouts noticed a haze on the horizon ahead of them and could not see the iceberg until too late. then 370 miles off the coast of Cape Race, Titanic struck the iceberg at 23:40. Once seawater begun flooding Titanic’s compartments Smith asked Phillips to transmit for help. Phillips shifted from telegram sending to the Marconi distress message, “CQD.” This code was sent by merchant ships since 1899. It was proposed by the Marconi Company and adopted in 1904. It meant CQ “calling anyone,” plus “D” for distress or danger. The CQ call was originally used in landline telegraphy in the United Kingdom. French was the official international postal service language and the word “securite” was used to mean “safety” and “pay attention.” The letters CQ, when pronounced in French, resemble the first two syllables of “securite” and it was quickly adopted as a shorthand for the word. In English-speaking countries, the meaning of the abbreviation was changed by some to “seek you.”<sup>4</sup> To add to the confusion of



*Photo B. Marconi wireless operator receiving wireless messages as the Empress of Britain ship crosses the Atlantic Ocean, circa 1934. (Photographer unknown; Heritage image.com)*



*Photo C. Titanic telegraph operator Jack Phillips sent CQD and SOS messages for help until the ship lost power and sank. His transmissions were received by liners hundreds of miles away. (1912, photographer unknown, Heritage image.com)*

that moment, there was another competing distress signal, “SOS,” which was coming into use at the time. As most of us know, three dots . . . , three dashes - - - and another three dots . . . SOS is very simple to send in an emergency and impossible to confuse with other calls. Some have interpreted it to be short for “save our ship” or “save our souls.” The article by Erin Blakemore mentioned that the assistant telegrapher, Harold Bride, “was more relaxed, enough to joke that perhaps Phillips should try and send SOS as well.” He said to Phillips, “it’s the new call and it may be your last chance to send it.”

### **Response to the Distress Call**

One of the first ships to receive the Titanic CQD was the German SS Frankfurt.<sup>5</sup> The Frankfurt was 150 miles from Titanic. Its crew included a Telefunken wireless operator, W. Zippel, who had not heard the first distress call. He answered a second call from Phillips who was sending Titanic’s coordinates. Zippel transmitted, “What’s up old man?” Phillips was tense enough to answer, “you fool, you stand by and keep out!” It was later revealed that Phillips has miscalculated Titanic’s coordinates and the Frankfurt then was only 20 miles away. Bride was also upset with Zippel because of longstanding competition between Marconi and Telefunken operators. Marconi policies had forbidden operators to trade contacts with competitors. In the meantime, Cyril Evans the SS California operator, after what he considered an insulting answer by Phillips, consulted his captain who said, “It is not safe to keep going, because of the icebergs we have seen; let’s stop sailing for the night,” and he allowed Evans to go to sleep at 11:30 p.m. There is also another version and it’s that Evans was following the law that said, “Wireless operators from American and British vessels must shut off their receivers at midnight.” This was another tragic twist of events that prevented the California from helping to save more lives.

### **From SOS to GDMSS**

Germany was the first country to adopt the SOS distress signal On April 1, 1905.<sup>11</sup> The first recorded use of the SOS as a distress signal was June 10, 1909, by the Cunard liner *Slovenia* when she was wrecked off the Azores. Two ships received the SOS and went to the rescue. Two months later, the wireless operators of the *Arapahoe* sent the SOS signal when their ship was disabled by a broken propeller off the coast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

In 1908, an international group including the United Kingdom had ratified SOS as the official distress signal<sup>2</sup> and eventually replaced the CQD call, but British and Marconi telegraph operators took their time adopting the new signal. The United States did not initially sign the SOS agreement. In 1912, after a Congressional inquiry into the Titanic sinking, the Senate concluded that wireless communications at sea should be 24 hours a day and called for regulation of the American radio industry that resulted in the Radio Act of 1912. The new law also made SOS the official distress call for U.S. shipping. The law also restricted amateur use of longwave frequencies.

Today, large ships have stopped using Morse code in favor of the satellite Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).<sup>2</sup> In 1995, the Coast Guard abandoned Morse code, the casualty of newer technologies, and today Morse code is used primarily by ham radio operators.

According with Blakemore, “these messages were downplayed by other operators and sloppily related to others. Phillips and Bride could send or receive one message at a time and their frequencies were ‘jammed’ by other radio operators with irrelevant questions.”

Harold Thomas Cottam was the Marconi operator on the SS *Carpathia*, a British Royal Mail liner.<sup>6</sup> The *Carpathia* was about 58 miles from Titanic. Cottam received a message from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, stating they had private traffic for Titanic. So Cottam, knowing Phillips was overwhelmed, decided to give him a hand. Roughly 10 minutes after Titanic begun transmitting CQD, Cottam relayed the Cape Cod message to Titanic. In reply, Jack Phillips answered, “Come at once. We have struck a berg. It is CQD old man. Here is the position, report it, and get here as soon as you can.”<sup>6,7</sup> Phillips continued to plead for help, now switching between CQD and SOS following Bride’s advice.

At the Senate inquiry following the disaster, *Carpathia*’s captain, Arthur Rostrom, stated: “The whole thing was absolutely providential. I will tell you this, that the wireless operator was in his cabin at the time, not on official business at all, but just listening as he was undressing. He was unlacing his boots at the time. He had this apparatus on his ear. And then the message came in. In 10 minutes, maybe he would have been in bed, and we would not have heard the message.”<sup>8</sup>

Construction defects in Titanic produced a 300-foot-long gash that flooded six or more of the ship’s 16 compartments. Four were the critical number of flooded compartments that the ship could tolerate without sinking and this was Titanic’s undoing. At 01:40 on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Jack Phillips sent to the Russian American Line ship, the SS *Birma*, the message, “we are sinking fleet passengers being put into boats.” The first lifeboat was lowered to the sea at 12:45 a.m., one hour after the ship struck the iceberg, but Titanic carried life boats for only 1,178 passengers of a total of 2,227.

Around 1:45 a.m. Cottam received from Titanic the final

**As a ham radio operator, I meant to write this article to pay homage to the three radio operators — Jack Phillips, Harold Bride, and Harold Thomas Cottam — who, in addition to the Marconi telegraph, were instrumental in saving 705 lives that night.**

message, “Come as quickly as possible, old man, the engine room is filled up to the boilers.” Carpathia’s operator Cottam replied that, “All our boats were ready and we are coming as hard as we could come.”<sup>7</sup> Carpathia arrived to the distress position after 4:00 a.m., one and a half hours after Titanic went down and five hours before any other ship.

The musicians and the orchestra, trying to maintain the spirits up and distract the passengers from panicking, kept playing on the deck until the end. Jack Phillips had been relieved from his post and he could have survived, but instead heroically kept transmitting until 2:17, when he lost power, just three minutes before sinking. Captain Smith was last seen going to the bridge and before he went down with the ship said, “Well boys, you have done your duty and done it well. I ask no more of you. I release you.” At the time of sinking, radio operator Phillips was seen swimming toward an upturn boat, but he perished, most likely from hypothermia; his body was never recovered. Harold Bride survived in an upturn boat and was rescued by Carpathia with only a frostbite foot injury. At the time of Carpathia arrival to the place of sinking, Cottam recalled seeing floating wood and debris at the scene but no bodies. For the next four and a half hours, the ship took 705 survivors from Titanic’s 20 lifeboats before setting course for New York. Titanic was lost with 1,522 souls. Cottam and Bride knew each other and were personal friends. The irony was that, in the closing months of World War I in 1918, off the southern coast of Ireland, the Cunard steamer Carpathia was struck by three torpedoes from a German U-boat and sank very quickly. However, only five sailors lost their lives. Carpathia joined the Titanic at the bottom of the ocean.

As a ham radio operator, I meant to write this article to pay homage to the three radio operators — Jack Phillips, Harold Bride, and Harold Thomas Cottam — who, in addition to the Marconi telegraph, were instrumental in saving 705 lives that night. I revere them as true heroes and I am honored and proud to do so.

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# CQ CLASSIC: A Novice Transmitter for 2 Meters

This issue contains an article by Steven Perry, W2HAF, about his experience 65 years ago building a transmitter from a 1952 *CQ* article along with his dad. To help you better follow along with his project, we reprise that original article here, from the November 1952 “Special Novice Issue,” published soon after the introduction of the Novice class license.

A note for those of you who looked at this article’s headline and said, “A Novice transmitter for 2 meters? How can that be? Novices don’t have privileges on 2 meters.” Back in the day, they did. The original Novice license — non-renewable and good for only one year — granted limited (crystal control and 75 watts maximum power) CW privileges on 80 and 11 meters (yes, 11 meters was still a ham band in the early 1950s) as well as voice privileges on a portion of the 2-meter band.

Here’s WN2IHM’s article on a simple 2-meter transmitter that even a Novice could build...



## Putting the 6146 on Two Meters

BY ROBERT V. MORRIS, WN2IHM

This transmitter is representative of a modern attempt to fire up on 144 mc. With the usual precautions in making short direct leads the Novice, or old-timer, should have no trouble airing a healthy sounding signal. One word of advice: provide plenty of ventilation for the 6146 final amplifier and do not place any pressure on the plate cap when the tube is hot.—Editor.

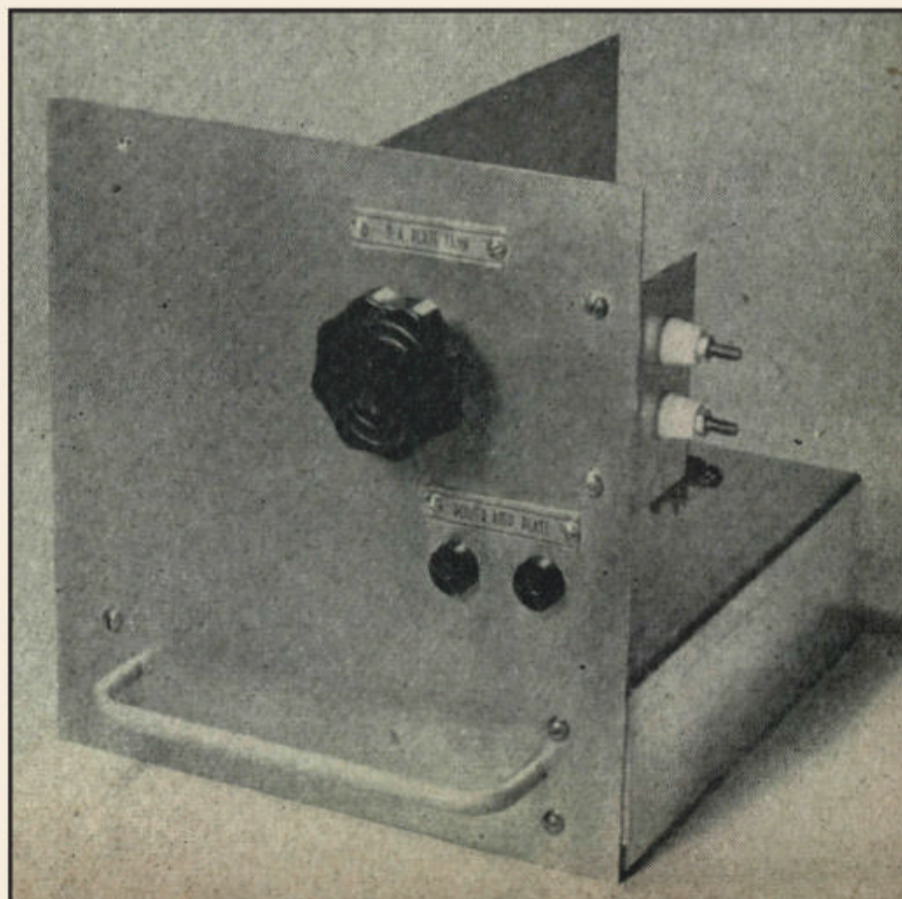
A number of months ago I decided to concentrate on designing a two-meter transmitter that would fit in nicely with my existing power supply (about 200 ma.) and modulator. Basically, it should be very simple and straightforward, using the latest tube types in the v.h.f. category. I wanted to use a starting crystal frequency around 8 mc. and multiply it 18 times in easy steps. The transmitter was for Novice operation, so the power input could not be more than 75 watts. I settled for something under this to be on the safe side.

Reviewing the currently available tubes showed that the final product could be constructed with far greater ease than I had anticipated. A dual triode tube (12AU7) would work as a crystal oscillator on an overtone mode from the 8-mc crystal<sup>1</sup> with the 24-mc output from the first triode section coupled to the second triode. This section would then triple the frequency to about 72 mc. At this point a 5763 tube would be able to double the output of the 12AU7 stage into the two-meter band. The one watt from the doubler is more than sufficient to drive the 6146 final amplifier. Coupled to my 25-watt modulator, the 6146 would draw approximately 40 or 45 watts input—a nice respectable figure for a Novice phone transmitter. Also, if a

smaller modulator was available it would be possible to directly substitute a 2E26 tube for the 6146 final amplifier. This would cut the power requirements about in half.

### Construction

The assembling, wiring and chassis preparation need only take a few hours. The chassis itself is a *Bud AC-405* aluminum with the dimensions of 7x7x2 inches. The panel



The front view shows the clean simplicity of the transmitter. Only four tuning adjustments are necessary and three of them are mounted behind the panel. The tip jacks are for a 0-200 millammeter to measure the plate current.

1. As an overtone oscillator it will probably work on a very large percentage of 8-mc crystals. However, there may be one or two crystals that will refuse to oscillate. Obviously, if you are sure of the circuit wiring the best solution is to replace the crystal. The new one will probably start right off.—Tech. Ed.

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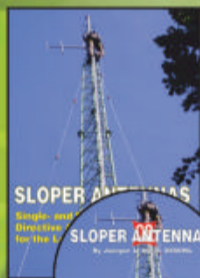


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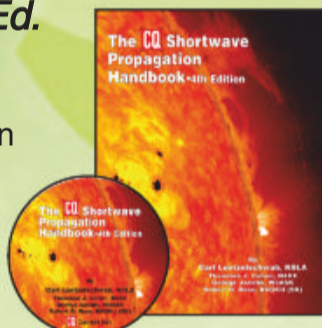
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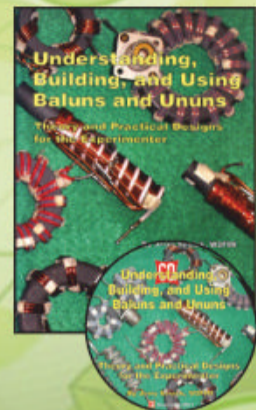
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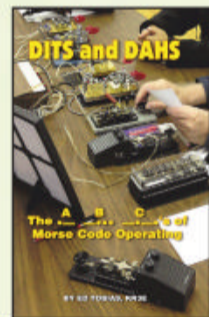
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was a piece of 1/16 inch thick 7x14 aluminum cut to make two equal 7x7 pieces. One piece is the front panel and the other is used as the bottom plate of the chassis. We also cut out a 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 7 inch piece which is mounted on spade lugs to become the shield between the driver and final output stages. Lastly, a small piece of aluminum that is about 2 x 2 should be bent to make the L-bracket that supports the antenna output terminals.

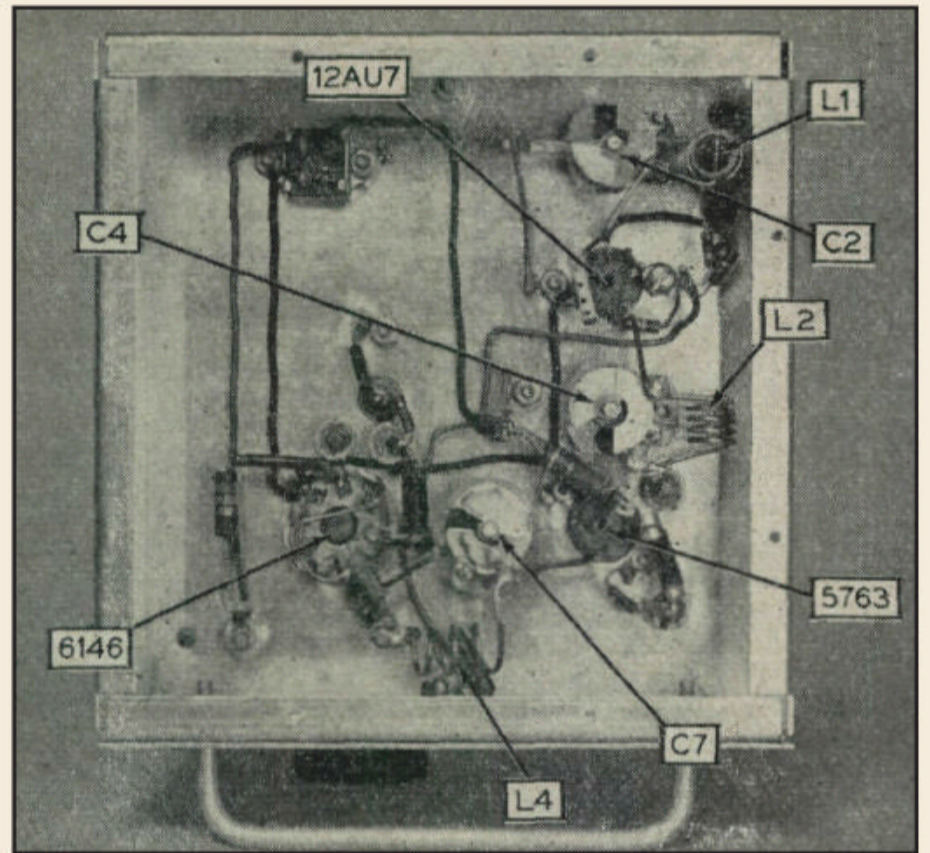
The actual location of tube sockets, etc. is not a critical item. The photographs show the positions of the major components quite clearly as very few parts are required in the construction of this transmitter. The tip jacks on the front panel are across the 100-ohm resistor *R10*. Variable condensers *C2*, *C4* and *C7* are all mounted to the top of the chassis to insure short leads. The power cables go to a 4-prong Jones plug which could be easily replaced with a terminal strip if so desired.

### Tuning Up

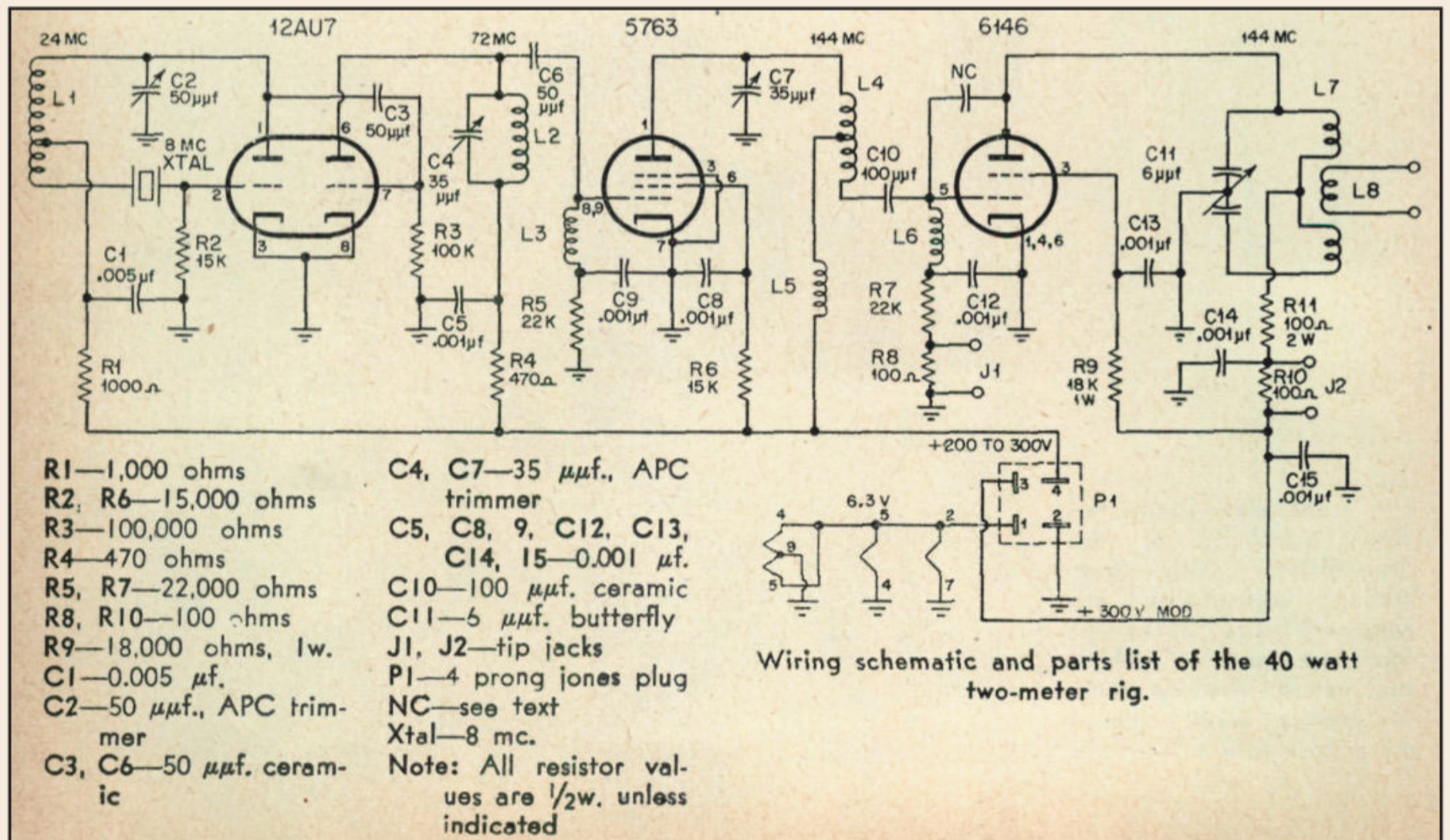
The first thing to look for after the wiring has been completed and thoroughly double checked is that the oscillator circuit is crystal controlled. The old stunt of pulling out the crystal is not a good check with this type of oscillator. A much better one is to apply about 150 volts to the first triode section of the 12AU7 tube. Connect a milliammeter in the lead to the tap on coil *L1*. Then adjust condenser *C2* for a dip in the plate current. Also tune in the signal around 24 mc. that should show up in your receiver. Once the crystal is oscillating the frequency as observed on the receiver should not vary appreciably when tuning *C2*. If it does vary the tap on *L1* is too close to the plate end of the coil and should be moved towards the crystal end. If the stage refuses to oscillate with a good

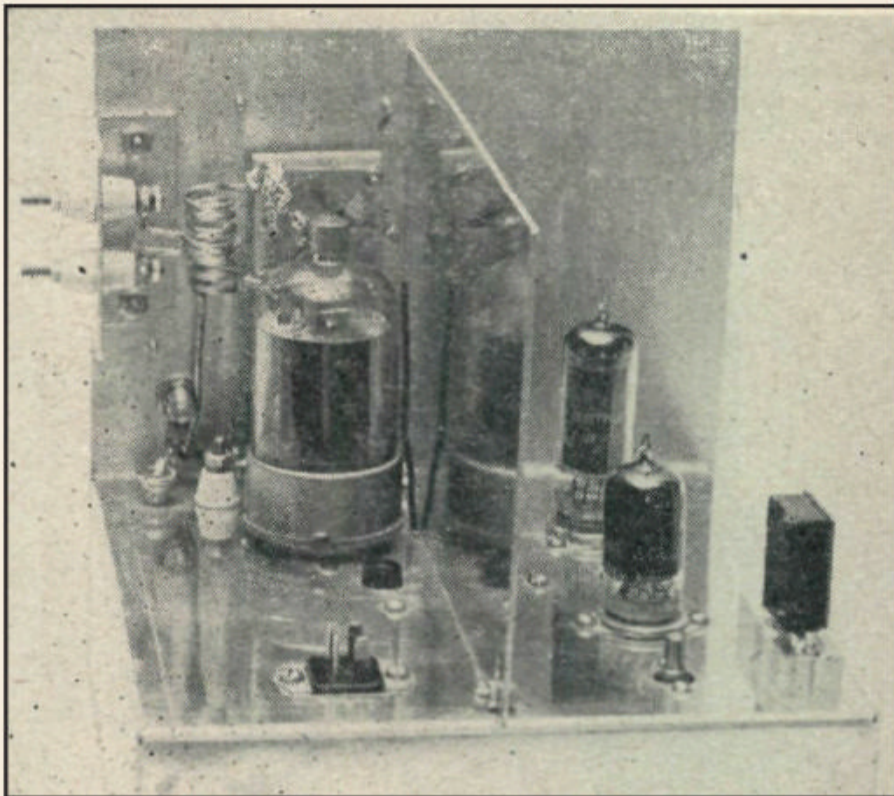
crystal the tap is too close the crystal end and should be moved further up the coil towards the plate.

After disconnecting the temporary arrangement outlined above plug in all the tubes and measure the resonant frequencies of the LC circuits in the 12AU7 plate and the 6146 plate and grid. If they are too far out adjust the coils till they peak up near the appropriate multiple of our 8-mc crystal. Now connect an 0-10 milliammeter into the tip jacks *J1*. Disconnect the plate and screen voltages on



It probably doesn't seem possible to crank up on two-meters with so few parts. Any modulator having up to 25 watts output can be used with the 6146 power and a 2E26 final.





A rear view showing the shield between the final amplifier and doubler stages.

the 6146, but apply about 250 volts to the 12AU7 and the 5763. Adjust *C2*, *C4* and *C7* for a maximum reading (grid current). It is not advisable to adjust *C2* unless absolutely necessary. This condenser should be set so that the oscillator will start off everytime that power is applied to the transmitter.

When the circuits have been aligned the final ampli-

COIL TABLE	
L1—18 turns #16, 1/2" dia., close wound, tap 5 turns from xtal	
L2—4 1/2" turns #14, 1/2" dia., 1/2" winding length	
L3, L5, L6—Ohmite Z-144 choke	
L4—4 turns #14, 1/2" dia., 1" winding length	
L7—6 turns #14, 1/2" dia., 1" winding length, 1/4" space for L9	
L8—2 turns #14, 1/2" dia.,	

er grid current should be about 1.6 ma. This will drop the very slightest amount when plate voltage is applied to the plate of the 6146 tube.

It was found that the grid to plate capacitance of the final stage was effectively "negative" and additional capacity was added to neutralize the final.\* A wire was brought through the chassis from the grid side of the 6146, as shown in the photograph.

The final plate voltage should not exceed 300 volts. Adjust the loading to bring the plate current up to about 140 ma. with a 200 milliammeter inserted in *J2*. With the plate voltage applied it may be necessary to retouch the tuning of *C4* and *C7*. With everything working properly a dummy load consisting of a 25-watt lamp should light to full brilliance. If the builder wants to key this transmitter it will be necessary to place some fixed bias in series with *R8* and then key the oscillator and doubler stages.

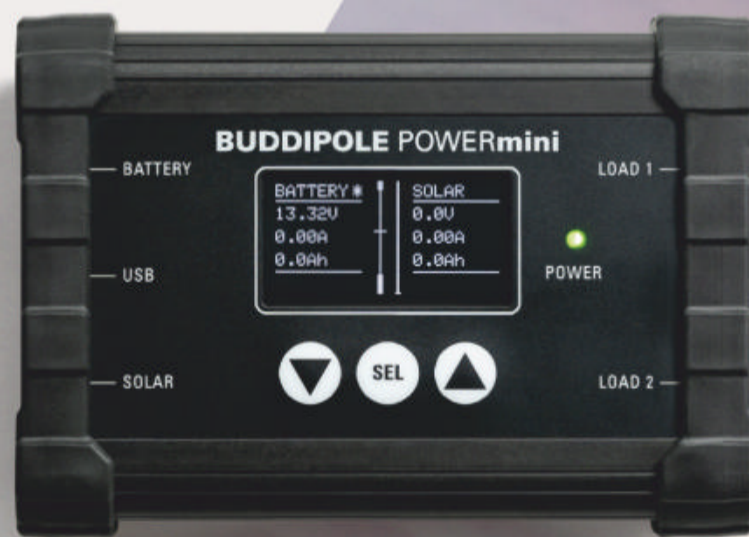
\*This process is detailed in the very handy booklet released by Eimac as their Application Bulletin No. 8. It is entitled, "The Care and Feeding of Power Tetrodes." See particularly page 18 and figure 82.

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Sixty-five years ago, W2HAF and his dad built a 2-meter transmitter from plans in a 1952 CQ article. He's still got both — the radio and the magazine ... and here's his story.

# Looking Back: A Classic CQ Transmitter Project

BY STEVEN E. PERRY,\* W2HAF

Seventy years ago, in November 1952, CQ published a "Special Novice Issue."<sup>1</sup> (Photo A). The front cover photo showed a three-tube 2-meter transmitter (Novices originally had limited phone privileges on 2 meters — ed.) I recently pulled that issue off the shelf and reread a well-written issue. I found it to be an enjoyable trip down memory lane since I grew up in and started my early engineering education and career in the vacuum tube era.

I am now 81 years old and have been continuously licensed since 1955, starting as KN9AXG. My father, Rollo, was

KN9AXF. Dad's interest shifted to restoring a 1925 Model T, although he remained interested in the hobby and what I was doing in it. He did not pursue another ham license for a number of years, when he became WB9VEU.

## Building the Transmitter

Back to the 1952 CQ, that cover photo came from an article inside by Robert Morris, WN2IHM, titled "Putting the 6146 on Two Meters." (The original article is reproduced as this issue's "CQ Classic." See page xx. — ed.) My father and I had looked over Morris's article a couple of times and found the transmitter to be an interesting and uncompli-

cated project. One Saturday evening in 1957, while I was working in our ham shack, Dad came in and suggested we start building it. We quickly agreed on a division of labor. He would do the sheet-metal work and I'd do the wiring and testing. Dad was very skilled at metalwork without the typical tools of a metal shop, such as a shear, brake and hole punches. This was a chance for me to learn his tricks and I jumped at it.

We went to work and covered the existing holes in a preciously used chassis and made the front panel using aluminum from a pre-World War II 5-meter transmitter. When we finished the sheet-metal work around midnight, new holes for the tube sockets had been



Photo A. The November 1952 issue of CQ was a "Special Novice Issue" featuring a 2-meter transmitter built around a 6146 final amplifier tube. The original Novice license included voice privileges on 2 meters.

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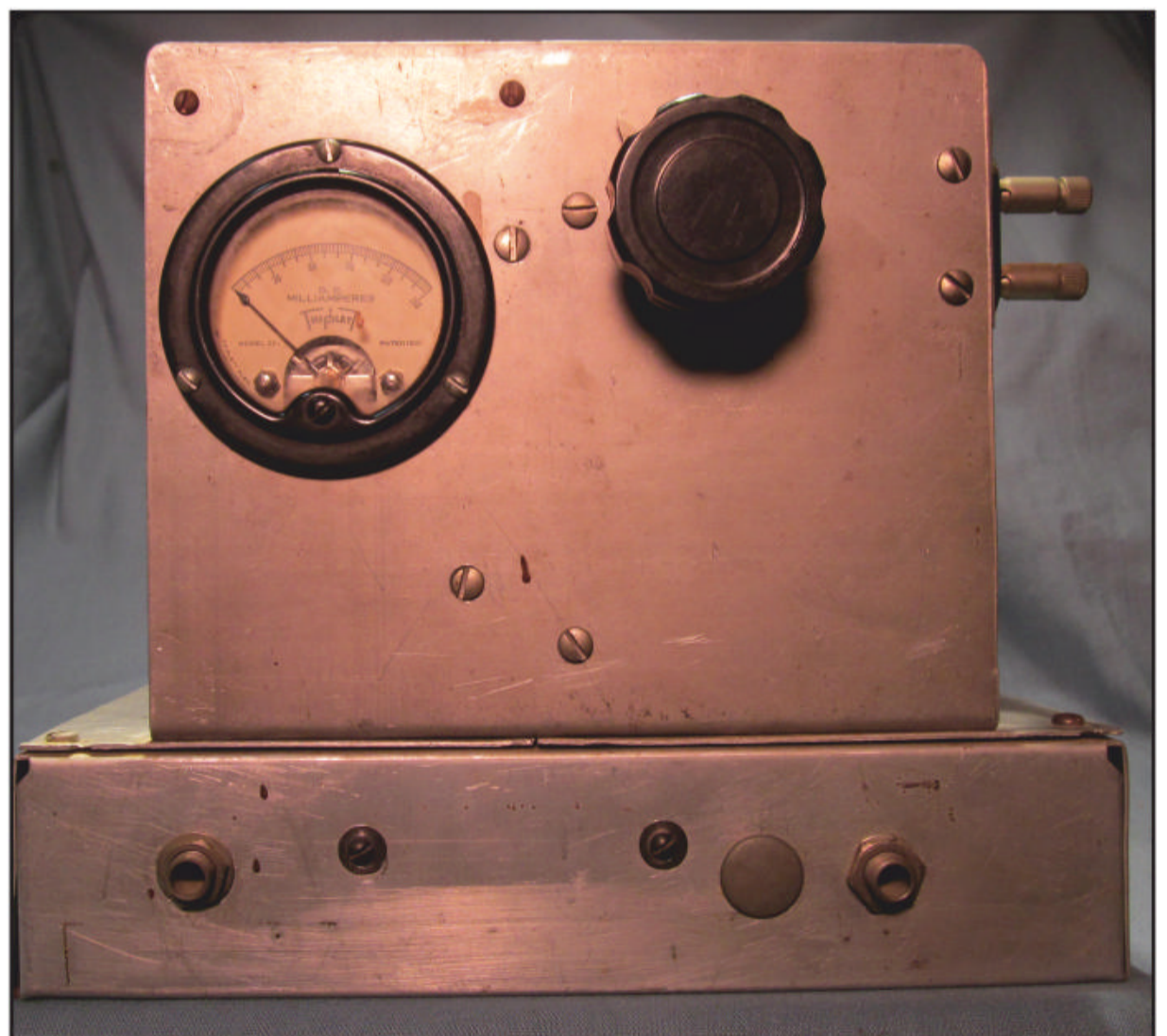


Photo B. Front view of the transmitter based on Robert Morris's 1952 CQ article that was built by the author and his father. (Photos B-D courtesy of the author)

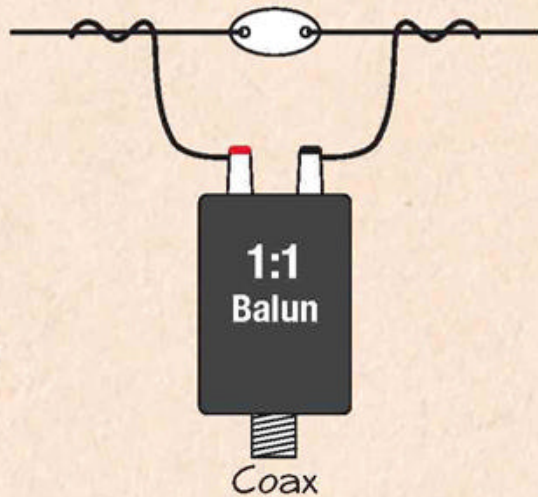
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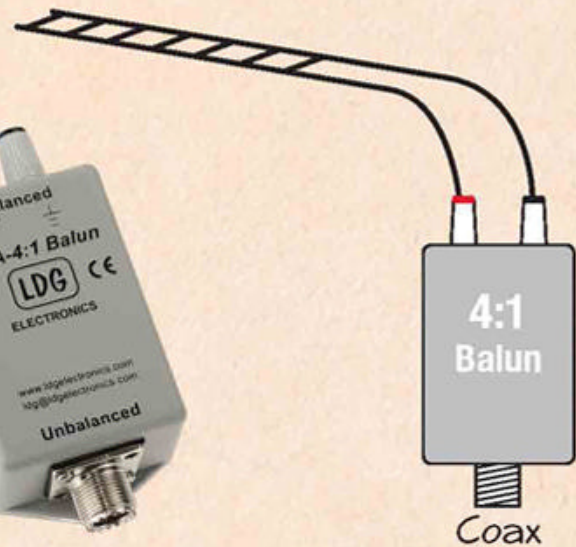
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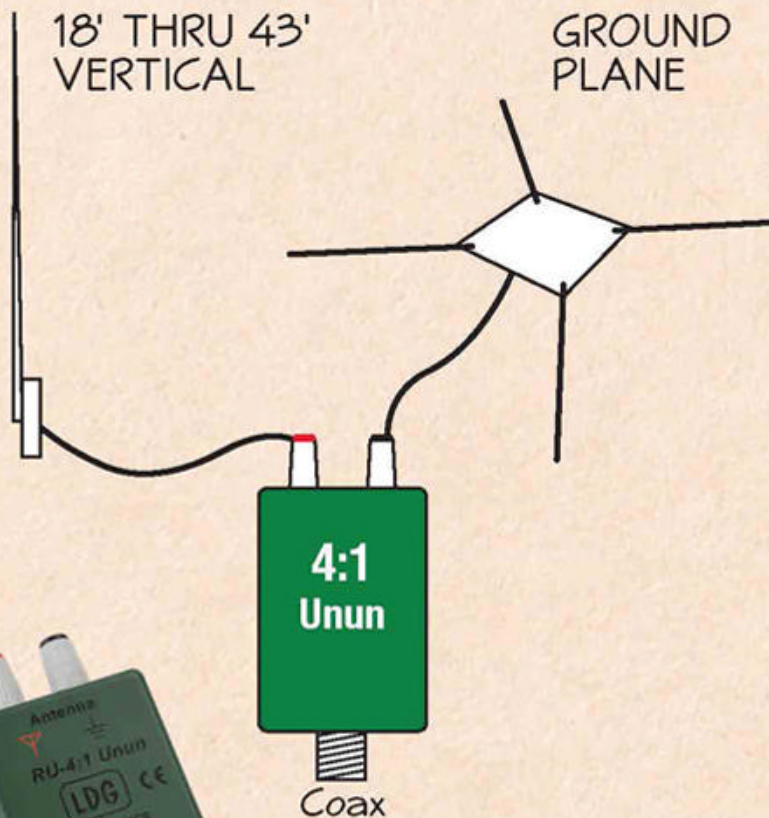


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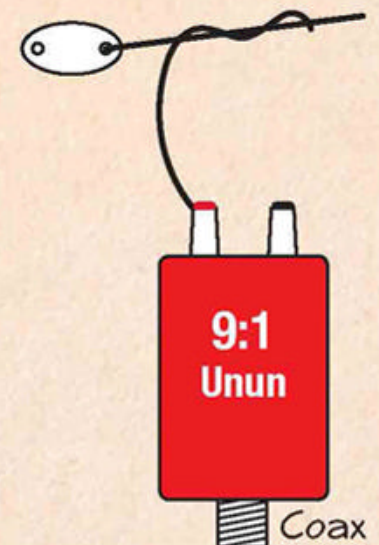


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PLANE



END FED WIRE  
30' - 135'



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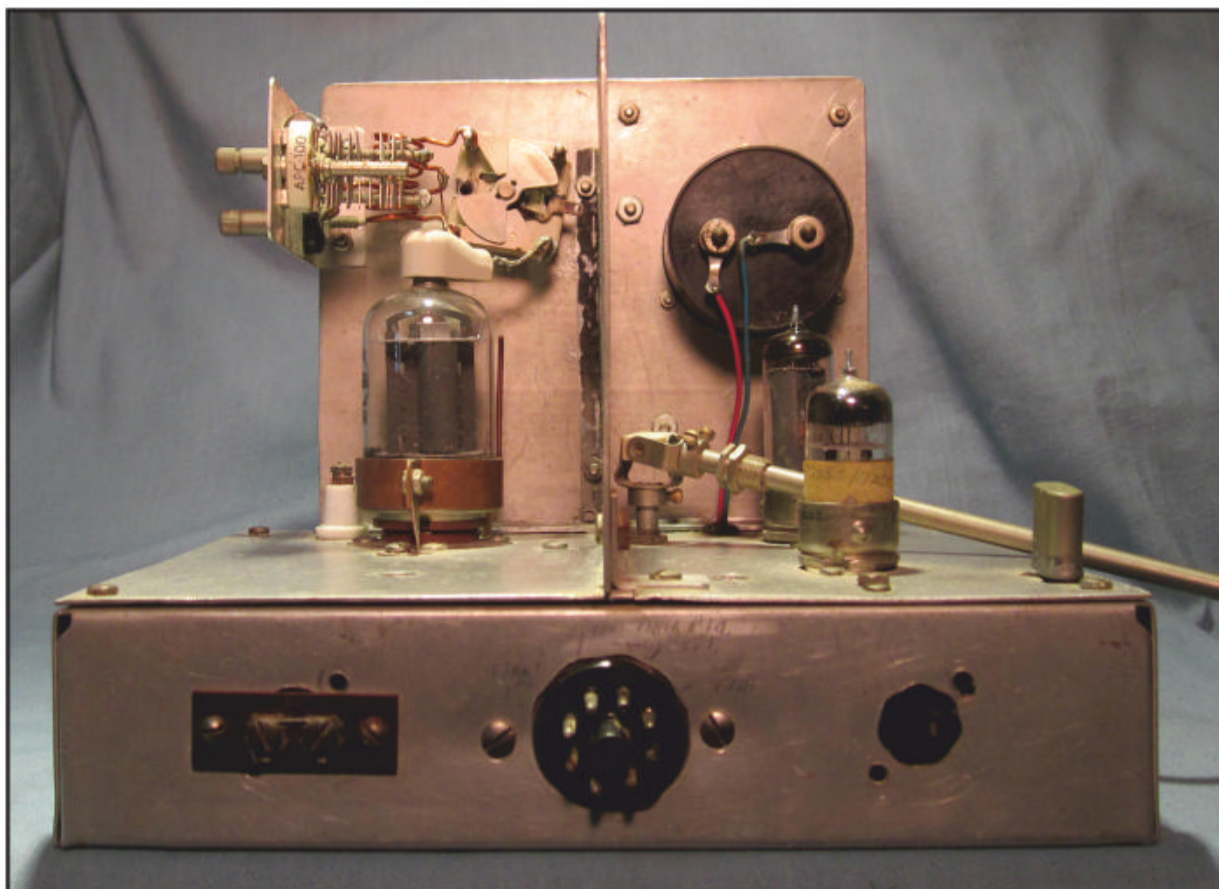


Photo C. Rear view of the completed transmitter.

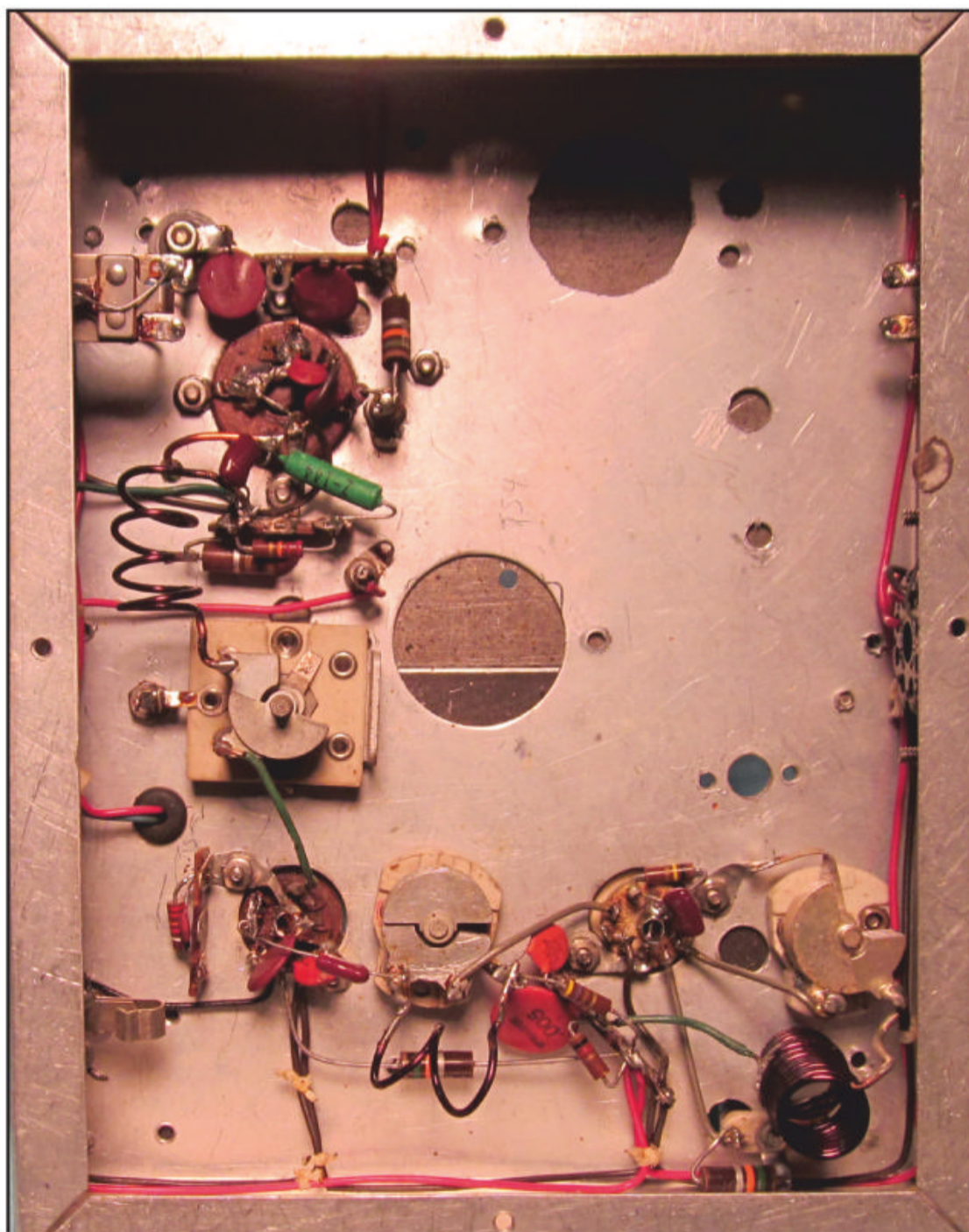


Photo D. Underside of the transmitter. Note the discrete components and point-to-point wiring of these days before the advent of printed circuit boards, and the covered holes for components from the chassis previous life.

made in the chassis and a meter hole had been cut in the front panel.

Over the next couple of weeks, when schoolwork permitted, and with a couple of trips to Selectronic Supply in Peoria (our go-to ham supplier) for parts we did not have in our junk box, I completed the transmitter's wiring (see *Photos B, C, and D*).

### The Next Step...

Testing did not go well. I could not get the oscillator working. A couple of ham friends looked at it and threw up their hands or suggested other but more complex oscillator circuits. It turns out the solution was right there in the article, in black and white, but more on that later. The transmitter was placed on a shelf. There it languished for nearly two decades while I went off to college, moved to Long Island, got married and began my career as an electronic engineer. Finally, this little transmitter made the trip east from Illinois in the mid-1970s when my parents came for their annual vacation.

### Take Two

I resolved at that point to get that transmitter working or learn the reason why it wouldn't, so Dad and I took it into my shop. We had the oscillator running in less than an hour after I re-read the article, including the note about moving the tap on the oscillator tank coil. A 15-watt light bulb dummy load was glowing shortly thereafter. I have asked myself many times why I did not adjust that tap initially instead of walking away. While I believe it was immaturity, schoolwork, and pressure to make progress on a DeVry correspondence course also contributed.

Today, this little transmitter remains on a shelf, waiting to go on the air. All it needs is a power supply and a modulator (*and probably some new capacitors after all these years – ed.*), but I have not been active for many years. It would be fun to make at least one contact with it, but I no longer have a shack and most of my gear is packed away.

It would be interesting to know — but we never will — how many hams built the transmitter from Morris's 1952 article. But I thought you might like to look back 70 years and see that at least one ham did, and got it working.

#### Notes:

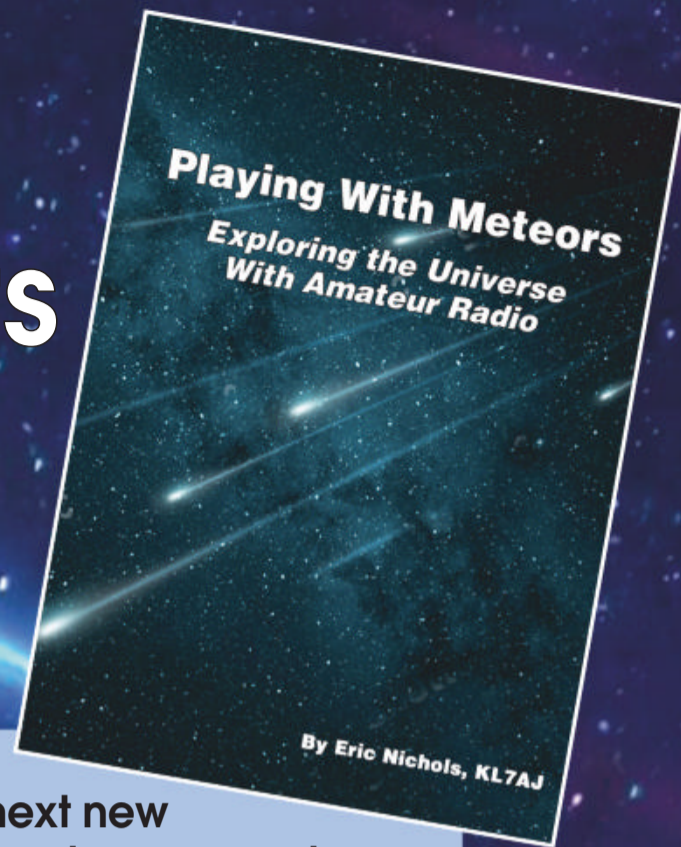
1. The "Special Novice Issue" followed the FCC's creation of the Novice license in 1951. At the time, it was a one-year non-renewable license with limited privileges, including CW on the 80 and 11-meter bands (yes, 11 meters!) and phone on part of 2 meters. (Source: *CQ* 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue, January 1995)



# Playing With Meteors

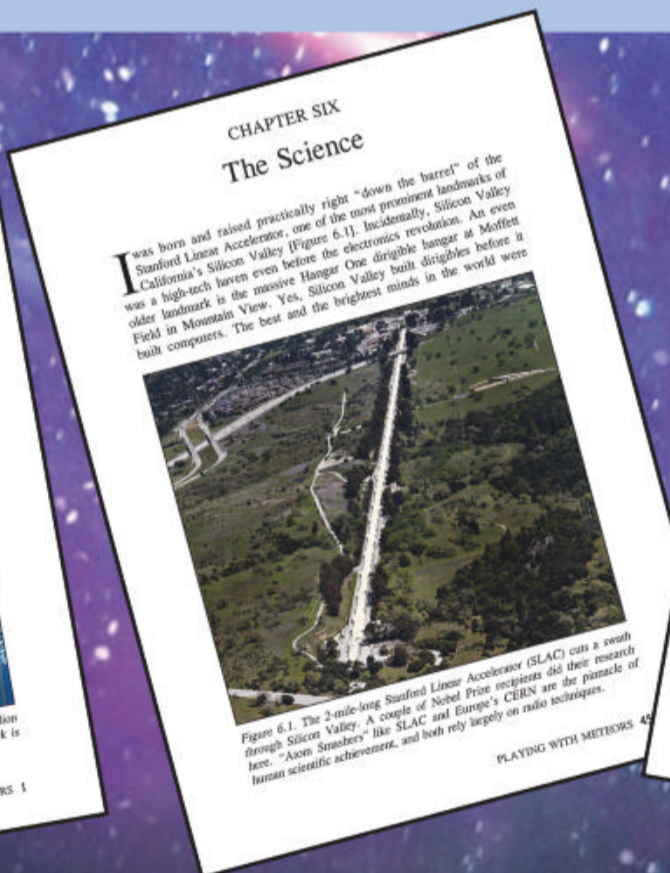
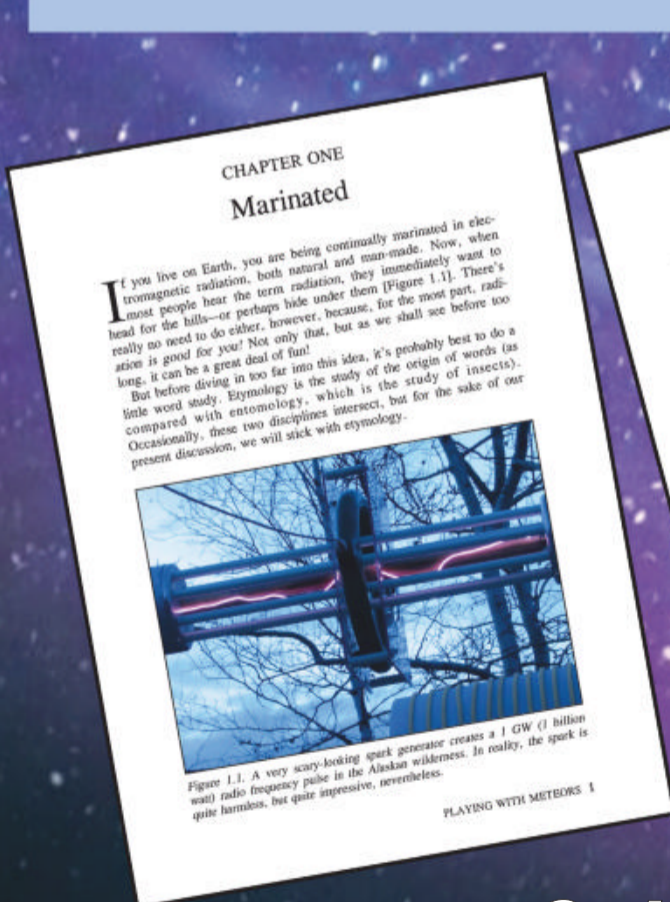
## Exploring the Universe With Amateur Radio

By Eric Nichols KL7AJ



Wouldn't it be a blast to be a master of technology rather than to be at its mercy? Or better yet, to actually create the next new thing? While it's true that a lot of what we consider high-tech involves computer technology, an equal or greater part of the next new thing is going to involve wireless, also known as radio. In fact, our entire universe is connected by radio, and the entire universe is the radio amateur's sandbox.

In *Playing With Meteors*, author Eric Nichols takes you on a tour of the opportunities that amateur radio can bring you, and how you can leverage the knowledge you gain in "hobby radio" to a career in hi-tech, or just to being smarter than your "smart devices" (and maybe even some of your friends).



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*Announcing:*

# The 2022 CQ World Wide VHF Contest

**Starts: 1800 UTC Saturday, July 16, 2022**

**Ends: 2100 UTC Sunday, July 17, 2022**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Paper logs are no longer accepted, see Section XII**

## I. Contest Period

27 hours for all stations, all categories. Operate any portion of the contest period you wish. (*Note: Exception for QRP Hilltopper.*)

## II. Objectives

The objectives of this contest are for amateurs around the world to contact as many amateurs as possible in the contest period, to promote VHF, to allow VHF operators the opportunity to experience the enhanced propagation available at this time of year, and for interested amateurs to collect VHF Maidenhead grid locators for award credits.

## III. Bands

All amateur radio frequencies on 50 MHz (6 meters) and 144 MHz (2 meters) may be used as authorized by local law and license class. Note exceptions in Rule XI for common repeater frequencies and 146.52 MHz.

## IV. QSO Alerting Assistance

Definition: The use of any technology or other source that provides callsign or multiplier identification along with frequency information about a signal to the operator. This includes, but is not limited to, use of DX Cluster, packet, local, or remote callsign and frequency decoding technology (e.g., CW Skimmer or Reverse Beacon Network), or operating arrangements involving other individuals.

1. All stations are allowed to use QSO Alerting Assistance.

**No self-spotting or asking to be spotted is allowed.**

2. Stations attempting digital EME or digital meteor-scatter QSOs are allowed to spot the callsign, frequency, and sequence only. **Caution:** To ensure strict compliance with these rules, the adjudication process will include review of real-time and archived transcripts from websites used to coordinate alerting data during the contest period.

3. The use of non-amateur means to effect a QSO is not allowed. This includes use of the telephone, and website posts providing information beyond that of callsign, frequency, and sequence.

4. Rovers may use APRS to announce their location.

## V. Categories of Competition

For all categories (except Rover): Transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500-meter diameter circle or within the property limits of the station licensee's address, whichever is greater.

1. **Single Operator—All Band.** Only one signal allowed at any one time; the operator may change bands at any time.

2. **Single Operator—Single Band.** Only one signal allowed at any one time.

3. **Single-Operator All-Band QRP.** There are no location restrictions — home or portable — for stations running 10 watts output or less.

4. **Hilltopper.** This is a single-op QRP portable category for an all-band entry limited in time to a maximum of 6 continuous hours. Backpackers and portables who do not want to devote resources and time to the full contest period are encouraged to participate, especially to activate rare grids. Any power source is acceptable.

5. **Rover.** A Rover station is one manned by no more than two operators, travels to more than one grid location, and signs "Rover" or "/R" with no more than one callsign.

6. **Multi-Op.** A multi-op station is one with two or more operators and may operate 6 and 2 meters simultaneously with only one signal per band.

Stations in any category, except Rover and QRP Hilltopper, may operate from any single location, home, or portable.

## VI. Exchange

Callsign and Maidenhead grid locator (4 characters, e.g., EM15). Signal reports are not required and should not be included in the log entry.

## VII. Multipliers

The multiplier is the number of different grid locators worked per band. A grid locator is counted once per band. Exception: The rover who moves into a new grid locator may count the same grid locator more than once per band as long as the rover is himself or herself in a new grid locator location. Such change in location must be clearly indicated in the rover's log.

1. A rover station becomes a new QSO to the stations working him or her when that rover changes grid locator.

2. The grid locator is the four-character Maidenhead grid (e.g. EM15).

## VIII. Scoring

One (1) point per QSO on 50 MHz and two (2) points per QSO on 144 MHz. Allowed modes are "PH" (SSB, AM, FM), "CW" and "DG" ("digital" modes such as FT8, FT4, and MSK144). **Entrants are requested to stop using "RY" or "PH" for QSOs made using "digital" modes.** Work stations once per band, regardless of mode. Multiply total QSO points times total number of grid locators (GL) worked.

**Rovers:** For each new grid locator visited, contacts and grid locators count as new. Final Rover score is the sum of contact points made from each grid locator times the sum of all grid locators worked from all grids visited.

**Example 1.** K1GX works stations as follows:

50 QSOs (50 x 1 = 50) and 25 GLs (25 multipliers) on 50 MHz

35 QSOs ( $35 \times 2 = 70$ ) and 8 GLs (8 multipliers) on 144 MHz K1GX has 120 QSO points ( $50 + 70 = 120$ ) x 33 multipliers ( $25 + 8 = 33$ ) = 3,960 total points.

**Example 2.** W9FS/R works stations as follows:

From EN52: 50 QSOs ( $50 \times 1 = 50$ ) and 25 GLs (25 multipliers) on 50 MHz

From EN52: 40 QSOs ( $40 \times 2 = 80$ ) and 10 GLs (10 multipliers) on 144 MHz

From EN51: 60 QSOs ( $60 \times 1 = 60$ ) and 30 GLs (30 multipliers) on 50 MHz

From EN51: 20 QSOs ( $20 \times 2 = 40$ ) and 5 GLs (5 multipliers) on 144 MHz

W9FS/R has 230 QSO points ( $50 + 80 + 60 + 40$ ) x 70 multipliers ( $25 + 10 + 30 + 5$ ) = 16,100 total points

## IX. Awards

Electronic certificates will be made available for download for everyone who submits an entry.

Geographic areas include states (U.S.), provinces (Canada), and countries, and may also be extended to include other subdivisions as justified by competitive entries. U.S. Rover certificates are issued on a regional basis.

Plaques will be awarded to the highest scoring stations where sponsored. They are offered in various categories on a sponsored basis. Clubs and individual plaque donors are sought and may find information on how to sponsor a CQWW VHF Contest plaque at [www.cqww-vhf.com/plaques.htm](http://www.cqww-vhf.com/plaques.htm).

## X. Club Competition

The club score is the total aggregate score from logs submitted by members. There are two separate club competition categories.

**1. USA Clubs:** Participation is limited to club members residing within a 250-mile radius circle from the center of club area.

**2. DX Clubs:** Participation is limited to club members residing within EITHER the DXCC country where the club is located OR within a 400-kilometer radius circle from the center of club.

**General club rules:**

**1.** National organizations (e.g., JARL, REF, or DARC) are not eligible for the club competition.

**2.** Spell out the full name of the club. See examples of active club names at <https://cqww-vhf.com/clubnames.htm>.

**3.** Single-operator entries may only contribute to one club. Multi-operator scores may be allocated to multiple clubs as a percentage of the number of club members participating in the operation. The log entry must spell out the full club name (and club allocations if multi-op).

**4.** A minimum of three logs must be received for a club to be listed in the results. Checklog entries are not counted for the club score.

## XI. Miscellaneous

An operator may sign only one callsign during the contest. This means that an operator cannot generate QSOs by first signing his callsign, then signing his daughter's callsign, even though both callsigns are assigned to the same location.

**A station located exactly on a dividing line of a grid locator must choose only one grid locator from which to operate for exchange purposes.**

A rover cannot give out a different multiplier without moving the complete station at least 100 meters.

Making or soliciting QSOs on the national simplex frequency, 146.52 MHz, or your country's designated national simplex frequency, or immediately adjacent guard frequen-

cies, is prohibited. Use of commonly recognized repeater frequencies is prohibited. Recognized FM simplex frequencies such as 146.49, .55, and .58, and local-option simplex channels may be used for contest purposes.

Aeronautical mobile contacts do not count.

Contestants should respect use of the DX window, 50.100-50.125 MHz, for intercontinental QSOs only. UTC is the required logging time.

## XII. Log Submissions

Log entries must be submitted by **July 28, 2021** to be eligible for awards.

**The CABRILLO file format is the standard for logs.** See [cqww-vhf.com/cabrillo.htm](http://cqww-vhf.com/cabrillo.htm) for detailed instructions on filling out the CABRILLO file header. Note: U.S. stations must indicate the station location in the CABRILLO header (e.g., LOCATION: OH).

**Web upload of Cabrillo log files is the only method of log submission.** Web upload is available at [cqww-vhf.com/logcheck](http://cqww-vhf.com/logcheck).

An ADIF Converter is provided for convenience and, at present, is suitable only for FIXED station logs (sorry Rovers). It is available at <https://cqww-vhf.com/adif/>.

**Entry Confirmation:** All logs received will be confirmed via email. A listing of logs received can be viewed at [https://cqww-vhf.com/logs\\_received.htm](https://cqww-vhf.com/logs_received.htm).

## XIII. Declaration

Your submission of a log entry affirms that: (1) you have abided by all the rules of the contest as well as those of your country's licensing authority; (2) you accept any decisions made regarding your entry by the contest's adjudication process which are official and final.

## Message from the Director

Thank you all for your interest and participation. Let's hope for some good propagation conditions on the 50- and 144-MHz bands during this coming July. And don't let your computer make all of your contacts. Remember that microphones and keys can also be used and such use is encouraged.

## Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc. Since 1939

For 75 years the Young Ladies' Radio League, Inc. (YLRL) has helped women find their voice in Amateur Radio with members of all ages and interests.



The YLRL sponsors a number of certificates for both YLs and OMs. Members can earn special YL Certificates.

**YL-Harmonics** is our bi-monthly publication highlighting what women are doing in Amateur Radio.

YLRL gives out scholarships to YLs each year.

For more information on the YLRL, the current dues amounts, weekly YL Net locations or how to join please go to our website at [www.ylrl.org](http://www.ylrl.org) or contact the Publicity Chairwoman, Cheryl Muhr, NØWBV at [n0wbv@earthlink.net](mailto:n0wbv@earthlink.net). All Officer information is also listed both on the website and in each edition of the magazine and you may contact any Officer as well.



With thanks to the OMs who encourage and support us.

**Visit us at [www.ylrl.org](http://www.ylrl.org)**



# MATH'S NOTES

BY IRWIN MATH,\* WA2NDM

## Inexpensive Lightning Protection

This month, as we have promised, in our efforts to produce projects that are useful, easy to build and low cost, we would like to offer an interesting accessory that will be of use to almost any amateur with an outdoor antenna.

We are all familiar with the damage and havoc a lightning strike can cause when it occurs in the vicinity of an amateur radio station with an outdoor antenna, particularly one mounted high up and in the clear. While nothing can prevent the disastrous results of a direct strike, measures can be certain be taken to prevent the problems of a nearby strike. A typical lightning strike of millions of volts can easily cause thousands of amperes to flow with the result that the field created by such a strike can induce dangerous voltages into nearby antennas or transmission lines. The best prevention is, of course, to always disconnect the antenna during any potentially hazardous weather but the projects described here can help when one doesn't have the time, simply forgets or is away from home during a thunderstorm. This is the "lightning arrestor." Before starting, however, I would like to state that neither of the lightning arrestors to be described are equal to the commercial types specifically made for this purpose. They will, however, protect against some discharges that could easily take out your equipment and, at the least, are certainly better than no protection at all.

### Coaxial Lightning Arrestor

Since most antennas are connected to transmitters, receivers, or transceivers with coax we will start there. An inexpensive coaxial cable compatible lightning arrestor can be easily made from a common PL-259 female-to-female adapter such as the Amphenol type 83-1J. You will need a #51 drill bit, a 2-56 tap (and tap handle), a 2-56 x 1/2-inch long machine screw, a #2 lock washer, a crimp-type #2 lug and two 2-56 hex nuts. Referring to *Figure 1*, first carefully drill a hole through one side of the adapter at the center as shown. Very slowly and carefully start drilling through the brass outer sleeve of the adapter

but stop as close to the center conductor as you can without actually passing through it. Be careful with the drill bit as it can break easily. Using a power drill (at a slow speed) or a drill press to cut through the brass is OK, but as soon as you are through the metal, immediately remove the drill bit and use your thumb and forefinger to finish the job through the plastic. If you look through one end of some versions of the adapter, the insulating plastic material is clear enough (Amphenol in particular) and, with a good light on the other side, you can actually see the progress of the drill. Remember to avoid damaging the center conductor. Next carefully tap the hole you just drilled. Allow the tap to pass only through the brass. Try

not to damage the plastic insulation. Now thread one hex nut, the crimp-type lug, the second hex nut and finally the lock-washer onto the screw. Now screw the assembly into the hole you just tapped. *Figure 2* is an exploded view of what the final assembly should look like. Such an assembly should be fine for transceivers in the 100-watt class. Higher powered units or linear amplifiers would need a bigger gap.

To adjust the unit, first connect your ohmmeter to the center conductor of the adapter and the shell. Slowly turn the machine screw clockwise until it just shorts to the center conductor, then turn it two full turns counterclockwise. If there is any plastic left preventing actual contact, clear it out with a needle or

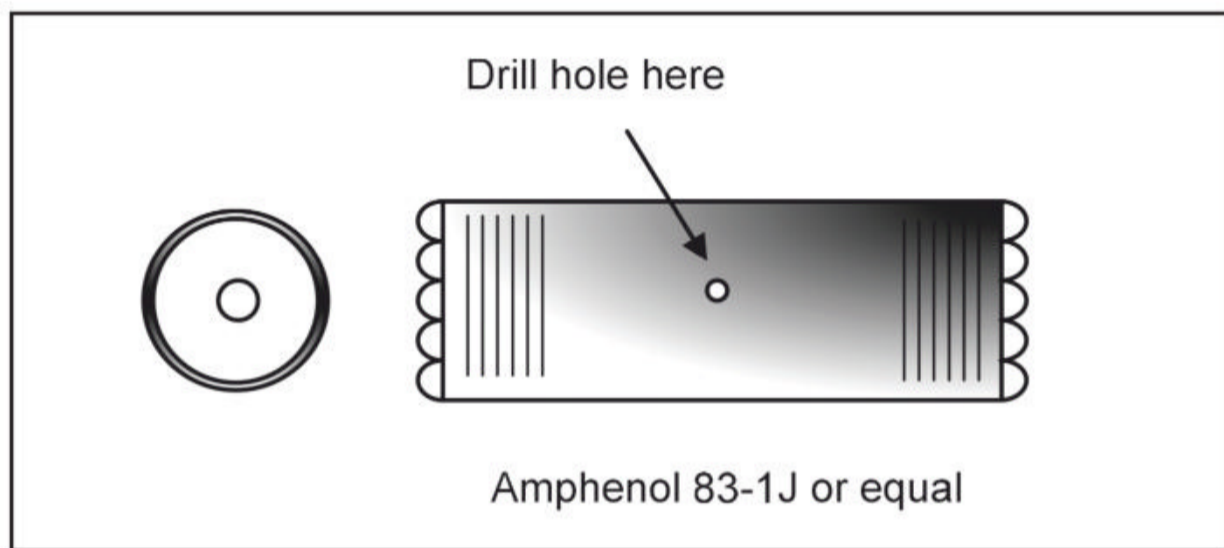


Figure 1. Location for tap drill

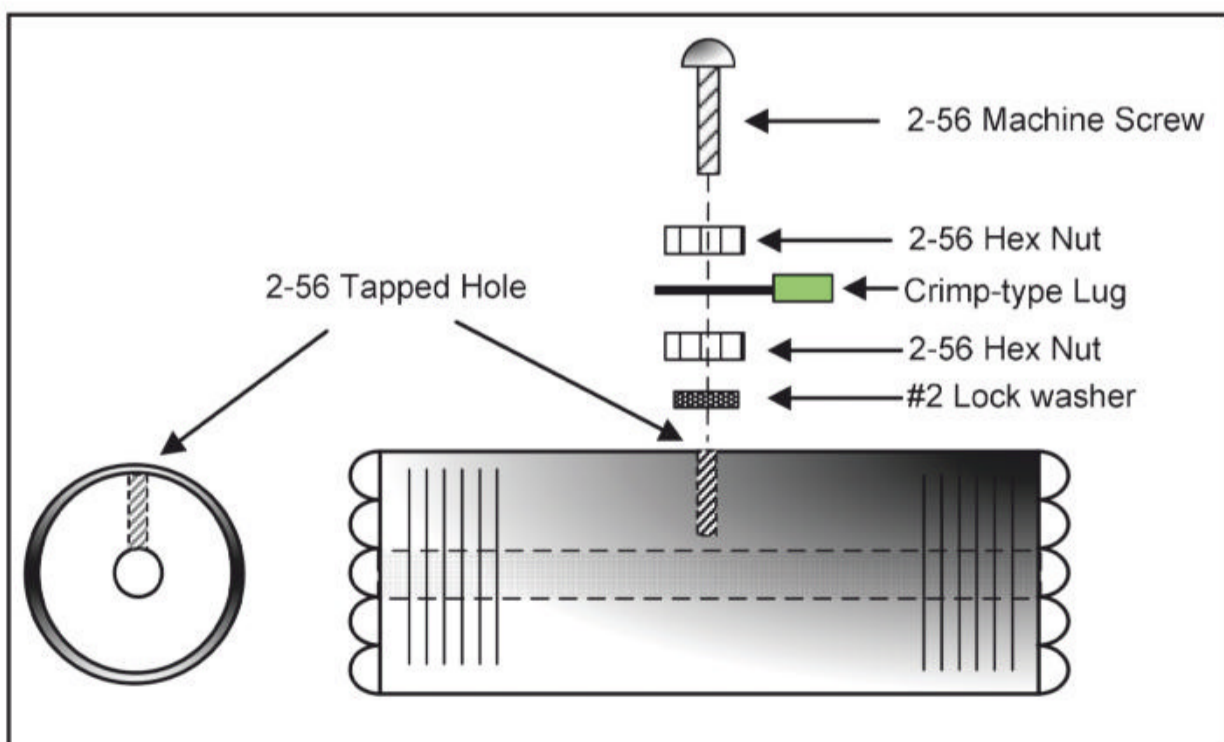


Figure 2. Component assembly details

\*c/o CQ magazine

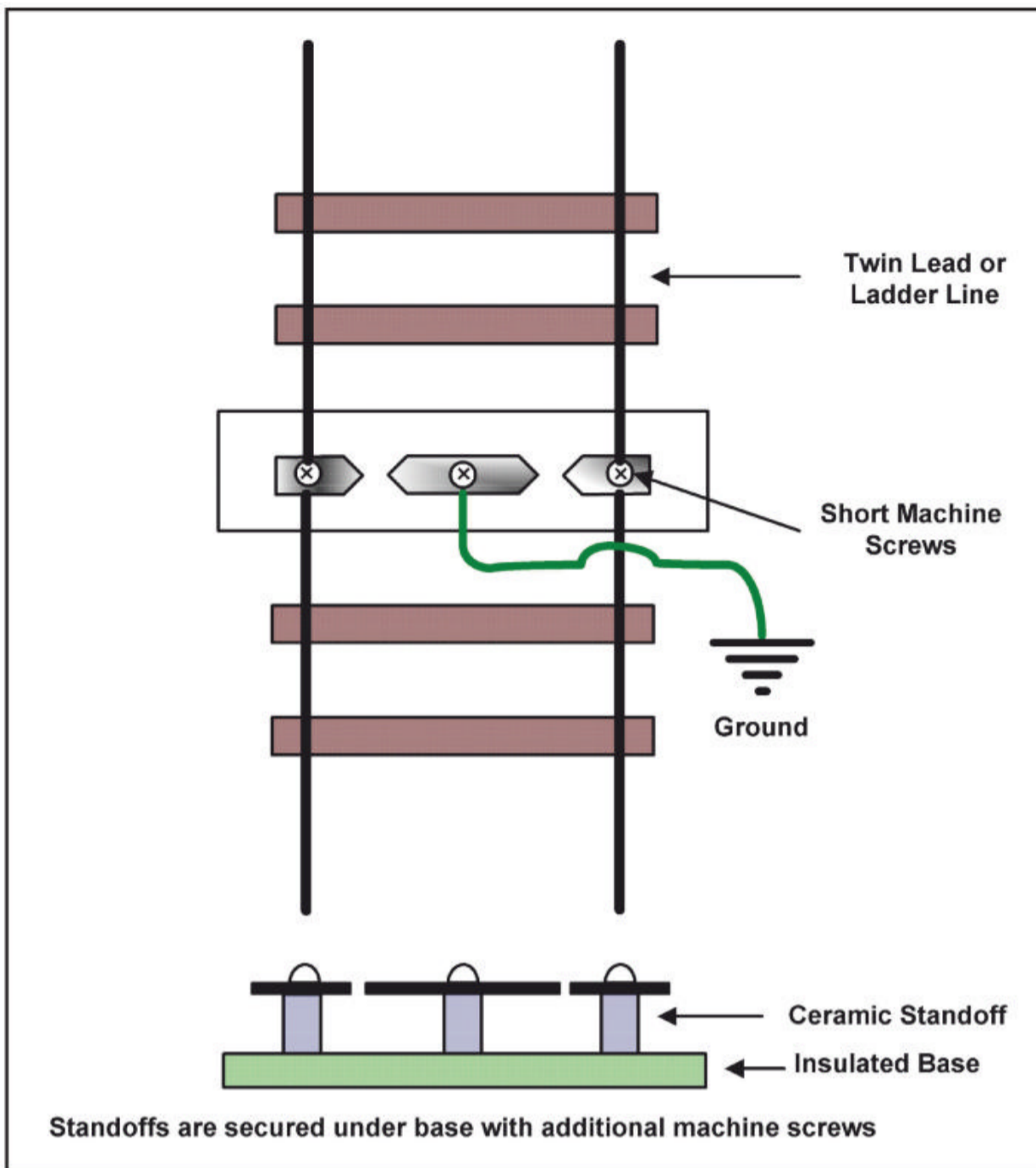


Figure 3. Lightning arrester for balanced lines

other such implement that will fit into the hole.

Next, ensuring that there is *no* actual contact, connect the adapter in series with your transmitter and a 50-ohm dummy load. Now key your transmitter (in the CW mode) at full power (a duration of one “dit” will be enough) to be sure that the gap doesn’t arc. If it does, turn the 2-56 screw another full turn counterclockwise and repeat the procedure until you reach the point where the gap doesn’t arc at the maximum power level you plan to use (or that your radio will produce). Now repeat this process with the actual antenna you plan to use. This will assure that the gap will not short the coax on signal peaks.

If the actual SWR with the antenna is higher than that of the dummy load, the gap may again arc and you will have to turn the 2-56 screw a bit further counterclockwise. Once you have found the correct setting, tighten the first hex nut (on top of the lock-washer) to secure the screw in position. It would be a good

idea to also use a bit of paint or nail polish to make sure the screw will not move in the future. Next, tighten the second nut over the crimp-lug and connect a #10 to #14 wire from the lug to a good earth ground. Once again recheck that the center conductor of the adapter to be absolutely sure it is not shorted to the shell. Finally, if the arrester is located outdoors, cover it with some sort of weatherproofing material. While this arrester is obviously not as perfect as a gas discharge or similar commercial type, it is certainly better than using nothing at all.

### Balanced Line or Twinlead

Figure 3 is a lightning arrester designed for use with balanced line or twinlead. This is an older design and has been described many times in the past. Three insulated stand-off insulators are arranged on an insulating base with approximately the same spacing as the twinlead or ladder line you are using. A double-sided metal gap and two single

gap elements are then cut from 1/16-inch-thick sheet metal and secured to the insulators as shown. It is a good idea to use sheet metal that is treated to prevent rust, such as copper or even the galvanized-type iron or steel that heating ducts and accessories are made of. The two conductors of the transmission line are then secured under screws and washers as shown. Finally, the center gap portion is connected to ground through a #10 to #14 wire. The insulators are of the type that is not threaded through but only a short distance in on either side such as the Keystone 7700 series. If ceramic is not available, you can always use polystyrene rod instead and thread each end a short distance into the rod. The spacing of the gaps is adjusted in a similar manner as the coaxial arrester, just wide enough to prevent arcing at maximum power and worst-case SWR.

Both of the arrestors described are generally passive and should not upset the impedance (or SWR) of your setup significantly from 160 meters to at least 10 meters.

Good luck and please let us know of your successes (or failures).

– 73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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# THE LISTENING POST

BY GERRY DEXTER

## Radio Ukraine Lives On Via WRMI

~ Lately, the media have been focused on the war in Ukraine and it's virtually impossible to keep up with daily — sometimes hourly — news updates. So far, about the only semi-stable news is that WRMI is airing Radio Ukraine International from 1200-1300 UTC, currently on 5010 kHz. (RUI, itself, is long gone from shortwave). You might also check other WRMI frequencies just in case. There is a I-o-n-g listing in the 2022 *World Radio TV Handbook* (WRTH [p. 512]).

~ Radio Japan (NHK) has discontinued its service in Spanish, effective as of last March.

### Listener Logs

Your shortwave broadcast station logs are always welcome. But please ensure to double or triple space between the items, list each logging according to the station's home country and include your last name and state abbreviation after each. Also needed are spare QSLs, station schedules, brochures, pennants, station photos and anything else you think would be of interest. The same holds true for amateur radio operators who also listen to shortwave broadcasts ... I know you're out there! You, too, are also most welcome to contribute!

Here are this month's logs. All times are in UTC. If no language is mentioned, English is assumed.

**ALASKA—KNLS** via Anchor Point on 9520 at 1200 with woman giving an introduction, brief singing, man continued into a brief radio play which included traditional Chinese music. (Taylor, WI)

**ASCENSION—BBC-South Atlantic Relay** on 15400 at 1224 with short talks in French. (Brossell, WI)

**AUSTRIA—Austrian Radio International**, 6155 via Moosbrunn at 0559 with music opening and a man speaking German, right into the news. (D'Angelo, PA)

**AUSTRALIA—Reach Beyond** on 11900 via Kununurra with talks in Kurdish at 1245. (Brossell, WI)

**BOLIVIA—Mosoj Chaski** via Cochabamba on 3310 with woman speaking in Quichua at 0940. (Taylor, WI)

**BOTSWANA—Voice of America Relay** via Mopeng Hill on 6175 at 0426 with man speaking possibly in Shona. (D'Angelo, PA)

**BRAZIL—(all in Portuguese –GLD)**

**Voz Missionaria** possibly via Camboriu on 9665 at 2206 with an apparent sermon, (Brossell, WI) On 9666.6 at 0053 with man preaching and frequent screaming outbursts. (Taylor, WI)

**Radio Brazil Central** via Goiania on 11815 at 0155 with man hosting program of nice pop vocals. (D'Angelo, PA)

**Radio Inconfidencia** via Belo Horizonte on 15190 at 1253 with the clearest signal from them I've ever heard. (Brossell, WI)

**CANADA—Bible Voice** on 13300 via Nauen (Germany) at 2142 with a slow-paced sermon in Nuer. (Taylor, WI) On 15310 at 1614 with talks in Oromo. (Brossell, WI)

**CHINA—China Radio International** on 11620 via Xi'an in Japanese at 1210; on 11875 via Urumqi in Russian at 1728; on 11630 via Mali at 2011 with program on the wealthy vs. those without. (Brossell, WI) On 11820 via Xi'an at 0034 with Chinese vocals, talk in Cantonese, woman hosting program of local



*Grrr! Wolverine Radio issued this QSL recently. Its content may not be much but some pirates do have attractive QSLs.*

vocals to 0057\*. (D'Angelo, PA) On 13770 via Xi'an at 0003 with woman reading the news in Vietnamese followed by talk features. (D'Angelo, PA) On 15125 via Beijing at 0015 in English with an interview on China / Russia. (Sellers, BC)

**CNR-1** via Ge'eremu on 4800 in Mandarin with alternating male and female announcers; also on 6175. (Taylor, WI)

**Voice of the Strait** on 4940 via Fuzhou at 1240 in Mandarin, man and woman alternating short sections each; on 4900 which was running a few seconds behind. (Taylor, WI)

**PBS Xinjiang** on 6120 via Urumqi in Uighur with man droning on at 1232. (Taylor, WI)

**ECUADOR—HCJB** on 6050 via Pinchincha at 0349 with woman in Spanish hosting music, flutes at 0400, man giving station ID, then more vocals. (D'Angelo, PA)

**ENGLAND—BBC** on 12065 via Madagascar with interview in Somali; on 21470 via Vatican at 1455 in Somali Arabic, news headlines at 1449, off at 1500. (Taylor, WI) On 15325 via Philippines in Burmese at 1333. (Brossell, WI)

**FRANCE—Radio France International**, 5925 via Issoudun at 0601 with woman giving announcements in French, then man reading the news. (D'Angelo, PA) On 15340 via Issoudun at 1758 with program going off and being jammed by possible Oromo Media (to Ethiopia) which also went off with tones at 1801. (Taylor, WI)

**GERMANY—Deutsche Welle** on 15275 via France relay in Amharic at 1605. (Brossell, WI)

**Radio Omerang** on 15215 via France at 1604 in Frisian, German, and English on the German high school system, including general information in English in this annual broadcast. (Taylor, WI)

**GUAM—Adventist World Radio** on 9975 via Agana in Cantonese at 1338. (Brossell, WI)

**INDIA—All India Radio** on 9620 via Bengaluru at 1826 with South Asian music alternating with Indian film soundtrack music, man with Arabic commentary to 1900 close. (Taylor, WI) On 11560 via Bengaluru in Dari at 1417. (Brossell, WI) On 15030 via Bengaluru in Swahili at 1253. (Taylor, WI)

\*c/o CQ magazine

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**TWR India** on 12075 via Armenia in Maghi at 1343 with South Asian music, man with closing announcements, opening in Hindi at 1345. (Taylor, WI)

**IRAN—VOIRI** on 9510 via Sirjan in Pashto at 1310 with woman with flat intonation reminding me of the “dead lady” on Radio Tirana years ago. (Taylor, WI) (*Or the “dead lady” with news at 0100 on RAI-Italy back then? –GLD*)

**JAPAN—Radio Japan** on 6190 slightly on top of PBS-Xinjiang; Japan had a periodic chiming musical bridge over talk; it was really a mess here, must have been a cacophony for listeners in Asia. (Taylor, WI) On 15130 at 2013 in Japanese. (Brossell, WI)

**KUWAIT—Radio Kuwait** in 5960 via Sulaibiyah with two men and a discussion in Arabic, another man with announcements and more music from 0426. (D’Angelo, PA)

**MYANMAR—Myanmar Radio** on 5985 via Yangon in Burmese at 1248 with distinctive BB music and a male announcer. (Taylor, WI)

**NIGERIA—Voice of Nigeria** on 11770 via Abuja at 1842 with woman speaking in English but poor modulation left only a few words intelligible. (Taylor, WI)

**NORTH KOREA—KCBS** on 11710 in Korean at 1213. (Brossell, WI)

**OPPOSITION—Voice of Tibet** (via Tajikistan to China) on 9864 at 1306 with woman speaking in Tibetan, later the frequency had jumped to 9886 with man and woman alternately talking; off on sked at 1330. (Taylor, WI)

**Radio Erisat** (via Madagascar to Eritrea) on 11690 with man speaking in Tigrinya, vocal segment, another talk; seemed to go off at 1857. (D’Angelo, PA)

**Dimitse Weyane** (via France to Eritrea) on 15160 in Tigrinya at 1539 with slow speaking woman, later station ID, announcement and close at 1559. (Taylor, WI)

**Iran International** (via Tajikistan to Iran) on 15629.8 in Pashto at 1248 with man and woman alternately talking. (Taylor, WI)

**Radio Manara International** (via France to Nigeria) on 15285 at 1608 with man speaking in Hausa, instrumental music, another man talking until the station went off at 1658. (D’Angelo, PA)

**Echo of Hope** (South Korea to North) on 9105 with distinctive flute, station ID, announcement, and apparent news. (Taylor, WI)

**Radiyoni Diree Shaggar** (via France to Somalia) on 15415 at 1617 in Somali against pulse-type jammer. (Brossell, WI)

**Denge Welat** (via France to Turkey) on 9525 at 2122-2159\* with non-stop Kurdish vocals; then cut in mid-song. (D’Angelo, PA) On 11540 (via Moldova) at 1450 in Kurdish with man and woman talking alternately. (Taylor, WI)

**Radio Rayceep** (jammer from Turkey against Kurds) at 1446 with man (possibly Erdogan) giving a speech. (Taylor, WI)

**PERU—Radio Tarma** via Tarma on 4775 at 1012 with contemporary Andean music, commercial mentioning Tarma, more similar music. (Taylor, WI)

**PHILIPPINES—Far East Broadcasting** on 9875 via Bocaue with woman speaking in the Mein language to 0000 close. (Taylor, WI)

**PIRATES—Philo Radio (Zeeky)** on 6927 upper sideband (u) at 2323 ending song, wicked laugh, music box, man talking, electric guitar, heavy metal. **Hellifknow** on 6927 at 2207 with man talking about the music, causing QRM to 6925, more rock at 2305 then a station ID at 2308. **Not Clever Name Radio** on 6920

at 2132 with woman and station ID, then rap, possible FDR speech. **Lincolnshire Poacher** (possibly) on 6915u at 0110 with woman giving 5-digit numbers. **Texas Radio Shortwave** on 6205u at 2318 with pop, Slow-Scan TV (SSTV) / FAX. **Incel Alert Radio** on 6932 lower sideband (lsb) at 0002 with man speaking at length, occasional station IDs, Rolling Stones. (Hassig, IL)

**10 Watts and a Wire** on 4185 at 0018 with all ZZ Top things, SSTV at 0037, another at 0056, off at 0200. **Hellifknow Radio** on 6930 at 0224, indistinct, then contemporary dance things, station ID over music at 0226, possible station ID

ALL INDIA RADIO NEWS		
AIR WORLD SERVICE		
Language	Timings(IST)	Short-Wave Frequency
Dari	1000-1130 & 1900-2030	15030 & 9950 kHz
Pashto	1000-1130 & 1800-1930	11560 kHz
Chinese	0515-0645 & 1600-1730	13795 kHz
Nepali	0715-0845 & 1430-1600	11560/9950 kHz
Tibetan	0630-0800 & 0415-1745	9875/11590 kHz
Baluchi	0830-1000 & 1800-1900	9950 kHz

All India Radio highlights its Asian language offerings.



Hams marked the Voice of America’s 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with this QSL.

again at 023, SSTV, poor at 0300 with another SSTV. **WFDR** on 6940 at 2223 with FDR speech. **Radio Ronin Shortwave** on 6940 at 2159, IS, station ID, talk, blues number, off briefly, canned station ID with frequency and sound effects. **Radio Casablanca** on 6905u at 2359 with novelty country, email, part of Texas Shortwave's memorial service for Dr. Tim who had passed away. **Good Times Radio** at 2229 and remixed numbers, then other era pop. **Radio Pushka** on 6020 at 0050 with mellow vocals. **CDO** on 4185 at 0146 with an SSTV that didn't decode; others followed that did. **Wasteland Radio** on 6925u at 2149 with an echoey station ID and off at 2151. (Taylor, WI)

**REPORTED IN EARLIER LP COLUMNS:** **Outhouse Radio**, **Radio Free Whatever**, **Mix Radio International**, **Clever Name Radio**, **Undercover Radio**, **Sycko Radio**, **Wolverine Radio**, **WTF Radio**, **Helliflknow Radio**, **Captain Morgan Shortwave**, **Radio**, **WDOG**.

**MALAYSIA**—**Sarawak FM** on 9835 via Kajang at 1254 with contemporary vocals, no Iran that morning. (Taylor, WI)

**MYANMAR / CHINA**—**Thazin Radio / CNR-6** via Beijing on 6165 at 1241; Thazin with mellow Burmese music, CNR in Mandarin. (Taylor, WI)

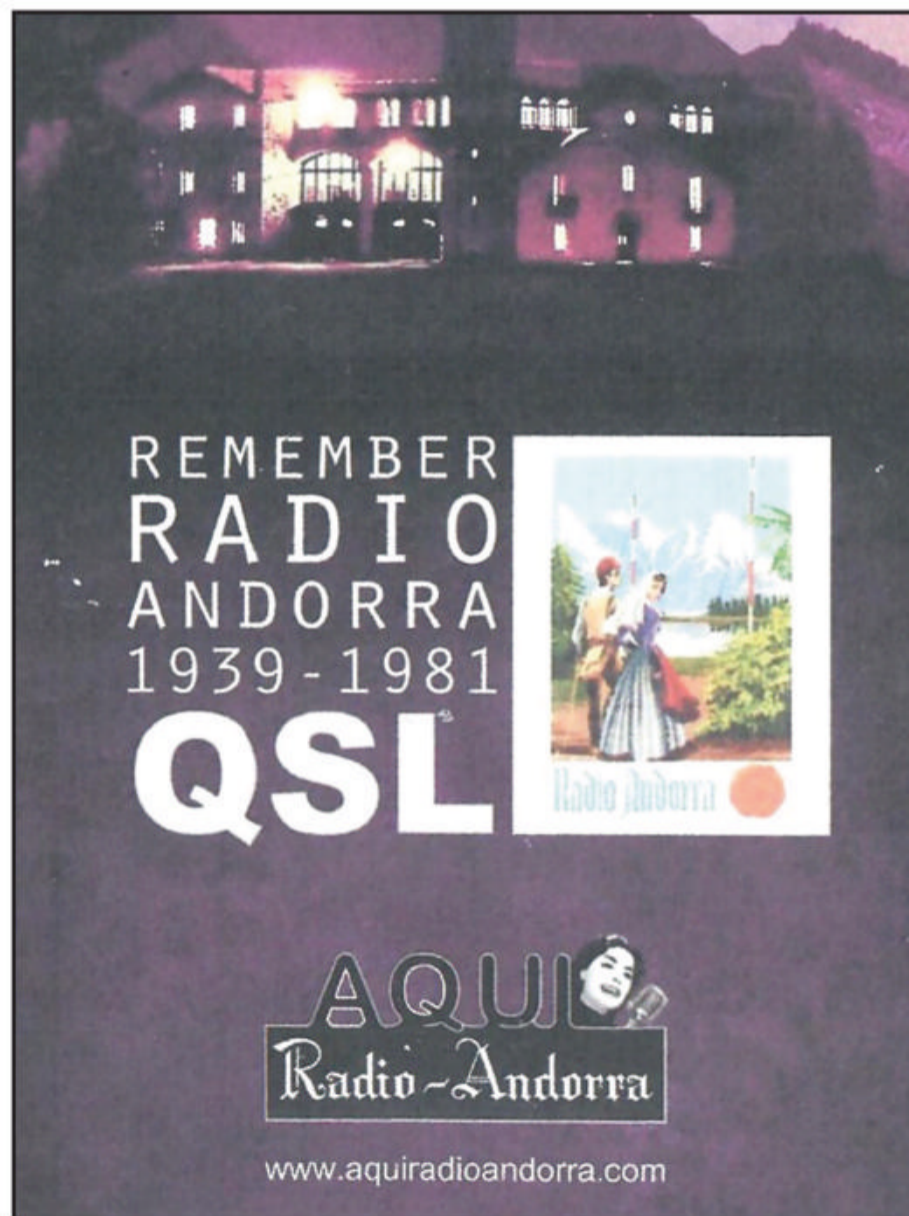
**ROMANIA**—**RRI** on 5990 via Galbeni at 0123 with man talking about Ukraine, into music bridge; also on 7315. (Sellers, BC)

**SOUTH KOREA**—**KBS World Radio** on 15575 in Korean at 1435. (Brossell, WI)

**SPAIN**—**REE** on 11685 via Noblejas at 2302 with man reading the news in English, many items about Spain. (D'Angelo, PA)

**SUDAN**—**Republic of Sudan Radio** on 7205 via Omdurman in Arabic at 0115 with a man talking and Arabic music. (Taylor, WI)

**SRI LANKA**—**Sri Lanka BC** on 11905 via Trincomalee, carrier on, NA, indigenous music, then woman into Bangla, man with



Radio Andorra was saluted recently on its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary via Gavar, Armenia. The real Radio Andorra has not been on shortwave since 1981.

## WHAT'S NEW

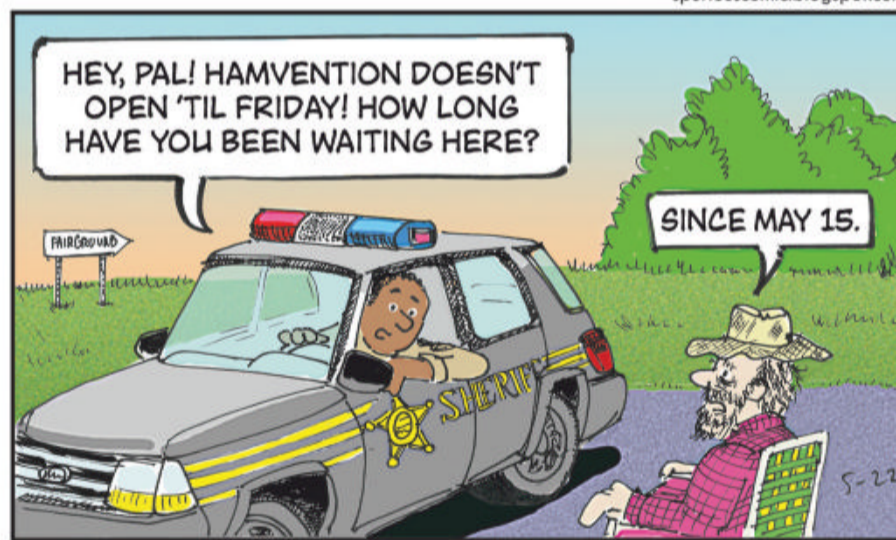
### Electric Radio's New March-April Issue Ships

No reference on radio books of interest would be complete without mention of a modern classic, *Electric Radio* magazine. *Electric Radio*, or "ER" as it is known by its readers, is the modern-day equivalent of 1940/50s vintage *QST*. Published once per month, each issue numbers close to 60 article pages relating to equipment, people, and companies that influenced the growth of amateur radio in the past and present. The current publisher and editor is Ray Osterwald, NØDMS. The magazine was first established in May 1989 by Barry Wiseman, N6CSW. In 2002, ownership of ER changed to Ray, who continues the tradition of providing interesting reading to the vintage communications equipment user and collector. Visit the ER website for complete information and to purchase a subscription: <[www.ermag.com](http://www.ermag.com)>.



### SPURIOUS SIGNALS

By Jason Togyer W3MCK  
spuriouscomic.blogspot.com



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# BEHIND THE BYLINES...

## ... a little bit about some of the authors whose articles appear in this issue

**H. Russell Smith, N0QLT** (Poem, "CW," within Zero Bias, p. 6), is an electrical engineer and author of *Time Machines*, *Annoying Minotaurs*, and *Other Childish Pursuits* and *Windmills*. He is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and lives near Joplin, Missouri. Although he's not super good at it, CW is—and always has been—his favorite mode.

**Steven Karty, N5SK** ("Who REALLY Invented Morse Code?" p. 8), is a former manager of the Department of Homeland Security's SHARES (SHARED RESOURCES) High Frequency program. Licensed since 1960, has written extensively in the ham literature on digital communications as well as several articles for *CQ* on protecting your station from lightning and electromagnetic pulse (EMP) voltage surges. He has recently been researching the early history of Morse code.

**Dr. Horacio Sergio Falciglia, KA8TVY** ("CQD, SOS and the Sinking of the Titanic," p. 24), is a Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital / University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in Ohio. He holds a General Class amateur license and belongs to the ARRL and the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society. He lives in Cincinnati.

**Steven E. Perry, W2HAF** ("Looking Back: A Classic CQ Transmitter Project," p. 32), says his early ham radio experiences launched his career as an electronic engineer. He's arranging with a nearby ham who's a "boat-anchor" enthusiast to try to get his little transmitter working and maybe even make a contact or two with it! He'll let us know if they're successful.

**Martin Butera, PT2ZDX/LU9EFO** (Guest columnist, "Emergency Communications," p. 45), has been a frequent contributor to recent editions of *CQ* and is now our newest Contributing Editor. He has an "at large" portfolio which will let him continue to write about a wide variety of topics.



possible Islamic prayer, woman at 0037 then more vocals. (Sellers, BC)

**TAIWAN**—RTI on 9555 via Paochung in Mandarin at 1203. (Brossell, WI)

**THAILAND**—Radio Thailand on 13750 via Ban Dung on with bells / gongs, HSK9 station ID repeated several times to 0005, then woman hosting program in English and splatter from Cuba on 13740. (Sellers, BC) At 0023-0029\* with business news in English, station ID, and woman reading station promos. (D'Angelo, PA)

**TURKEY**—Voice of Turkey on 6125 via Emirler at 0424 with woman hosting English program with Turkish music and short talks, nice station ID at 0439. (D'Angelo, PA) On 15450 with opening English station ID at 1300. (Brossell, WI)

**UNITED STATES**—VOA/Deewa Radio on 11825 via Thailand at 1253 in Mandarin; on 12035 via Thailand in Pashto at 1318. (Brossell, WI)

**Radio Free Asia** on 9305 via Tajikistan at 1251 with man and woman speaking in Tibetan, a CNR-1 jammer almost always here but not to 9255 today. (Taylor, WI) On 11955 via the Northern Marianas Relay with woman reading the news in Burmese at 1000. (Taylor, WI) On 15265 via Biblis (Germany).

**Radio Liberty (RFE/RL)** on 15310 via Woofferton (England) in Uzbek at 1425. (Brossell, WI)

**Radio Farda** on 12005 via Woofferton in Farsi at 1346. (Brossell, WI)

**Adventist World Radio** on 15215 via Nauen in Hindi at 1554, (Brossell, WI) on 11730 via Germany at 1733 in Oromo with woman and man talking briefly then back to woman talking. (Taylor, WI)

**WBCQ** via Monticello on 4790 at 2254-0002 with multiple station IDs opening test message at 2300 and old-time jazz, nice station ID at 2359 followed by *Alan Weiner's Worldwide* program at 0000, this block started on March 1. (D'Angelo, PA) At 0147 with test in English, eventual WFMU station ID with FM frequency and 6190 WBCQ station ID and web address, off at 0201. (Taylor, WI)

**WJHR** via Milton (Florida) on 15555 at 1801 with usual male preacher, station ID sequence of gospel singers, then a full legal station ID. (Taylor, WI)

**VIETNAM**—Voice of Vietnam on 9840 via Son Tay at 1300 signing on in Indonesian, woman and man talking, second man giving longer talk section, brief digital signal on 9833 for about 30 seconds. (Taylor, WI) At 2331 with woman reading the news. (Sellers, BC) On 12020 via Son Tay at 1311 in Indonesian. (Brossell, WI)

**ZAMBIA**—Voice of Hope on 11680 via Makeni Ranch at 0410 with religious vocal, woman with "Living by Faith" feature, later man giving station ID, then more religious vocals. (D'Angelo, PA)

## Quien Sabe (Who goes there?)

~ On 9290 at 1301 with woman possibly reading the news, then into religious format, signal was too poor to get an idea of the language but seemed almost English or Korean at time, suddenly disappeared in mid-sentence at 1334. (Taylor, WI)

## As Time Goes By

~ La Voix du Pathet Lao clandestine from Sam Neua, Laos, at 1212 UTC on January 29, 1972 in Lao.

## Thanks for Your Logs

Thank you to the good guys this month, who include: William Hassig, Mt. Pleasant, IL; Harold Sellers, Vernon, BC; Rich D'Angelo, Wyomissing, PA; Mark Taylor, Madison, WI; Rick Barton, El Mirage, AZ; and Bob Brossell, Pewaukee, WI.

Until next month ... Keep on keepin' on, and ... be sure to Celebrate Shortwave!

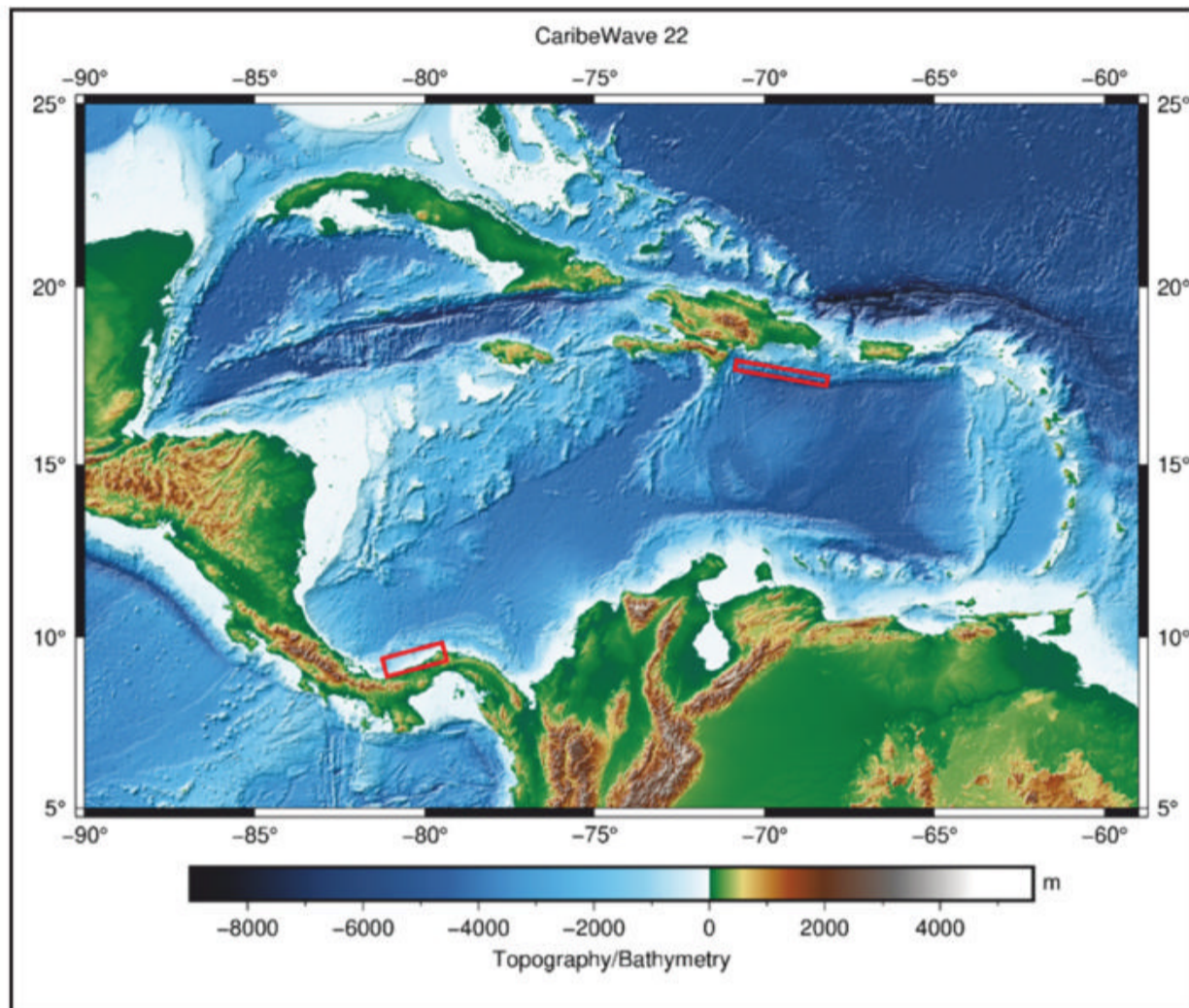
# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

## Radio Club Venezolano Participated in the CARIBE WAVE 2022 Emergency Exercise

BY MARTIN BUTERA,\* PT2ZDX / LU9EFO



Figure 1. CARIBE WAVE 2022 simulated two different scenarios, each involving a tsunami touched off by a large earthquake. The two red rectangles indicate the locations of the exercise earthquakes. (Map courtesy tsunamizone.org)



Our correspondent in Brazil fills in once again this month as we continue to search for a permanent Emergency Communications Editor, sharing another report on amateur radio EmComm in South America and an interview with the editor of the Venezuelan Radio Club's magazine, Henry Hernández Gonzales, YV5TT. –W2VU

**T**he Venezuelan Radio Club (YV5RCV – YV5AJ – YV5RNE) is one of the oldest amateur radio institutions in South America, this year celebrating the 88<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. It is a radio club that has always been committed to society, through its permanent collaboration in different catastrophes and emergencies.

And on this occasion, it was one of many institutions taking part this past March in the important CARIBE WAVE 2022 exercise.

With its lengthy coastline along the Caribbean Sea, Venezuela is not immune to the risk of tsunamis, which is why its participation in CARIBE WAVE 2022 was very significant, if not crucial.

CARIBE WAVE is the annual tsunami exercise of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Warning System against Tsunamis and other Coastal Hazards in the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC),

\* Email: <martin\_butera@yahoo.com.ar>

which is part of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. The U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, is also a key participant.

The NOAA / UNESCO IOC International Tsunami Information Center Caribbean Office serves as the exercise coordinator for the Caribbean Tsunami Information Center. The Caribbean regional risk management organizations CEPREDENAC [Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America], CDEMA [Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency] and EMIZA [French Interministerial for the Main Zone of the Antilles], also contribute to the success of the exercise.

The purpose of CARIBE WAVE 2022 is to validate and promote tsunami preparedness efforts in the Caribbean and adjacent regions. An annual regional exercise, CARIBE WAVE 2022 was held on March 10, 2022, beginning at 1400 UTC.

CARIBE WAVE 2022 simulated two different scenarios. Each participating country selected the scenario that best fit its objectives. The first scenario simulated a tsunami generated by a magnitude-8.0 earthquake located west of the "Trench of the Dead," south of the Dominican Republic. The second scenario simulates a magnitude-8.3 earthquake and tsunami along the North Panama Deformed Belt (see Figure 1).

For them, CARIBE WAVE 2022 tested communications between the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) and





*Venezuelan hams participating in CARIBE WAVE 2022 set up their portable stations on a cool, foggy, morning. (Photos courtesy Radio Club Venezolano and YV5TT)*



*The HF portion of the portable station, getting power from the truck battery. The weather had improved by the time this photo was taken!*

the Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) and the National Tsunami Warning Centers (NTWC). Each country and territory decided if and how the messages would be disseminated within its area of responsibility.

Each of the 48 CARIBE-EWS member countries and territories participated in CARIBE WAVE 2022, for which local coordination was freely left to the corresponding activities within each jurisdiction. All National Tsunami Warning Focal Points and Warning Centers officially designated by CARIBE-EWS will receive products from the PTWC.

Venezuela's national amateur radio association, Radio Club Venezolano, participated in CARIBE WAVE 2022. To learn more about the club's participation, we interviewed Henry Hernández Gonzales, YV5TT, editor of the only magazine on radio amateurs that exists today in Venezuela, called "Magazine de Radio del Radio Club Venezuela." [Its next issue will be its 100<sup>th</sup>, which is quite an achievement in light of the political and economic crisis that Venezuela is currently going through.]

**CQ:** Henry, which scenario did Radio Club Venezuela choose and for what reason?

**Henry Hernández Gonzales, YV5TT:** In the case of Venezuela, the first scenario was chosen and with good reason. The Trench of the Dead is considered the second fault system of high seismic hazard for the Dominican Republic.

It is a production structure that is located in the Caribbean Sea, to the south of the island and forms part of the northern fringe of the Caribbean Plate, a very complex zone from a geotectonic point of view.

Experts in the area have already begun to study this area due to that it has produced large-scale movements. The most recent was the magnitude-5.8 earthquake that occurred in May 2021 on Saona Island. In this trench, there is an area of a large landslide and that is a bit worrying, because a landslide can occur there and cause a tsunami.

**CQ:** Henry, I know there are studies on this fault zone. What else can you tell us about this?

**YV5TT:** Yes, this fault is already being studied. There are very interesting studies carried out by Santiago Muñoz, director of the island's National Geological Service (SGN).

In the last four years, there have been 146 telluric movements of magnitude 3.5 to 6 in the country. In the Surco de los Muertos, as it is also known, only nine have originated with a magnitude of 3.5 to 5.6. Close to it, 26 events have originated, according to statistical data provided by the Seismological Institute of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo (UASD).

However, this little seismic movement that the trench presents should not be a reason for indifference. According to Santiago Muñoz and the geologist Osiris De León, when an



*Yves Reol, YV5YVE, reports information on his VHF/UHF handheld during the exercise.*



*Net control for the amateur radio portion of the exercise was at YV5FUN, the amateur station at the Fundacion Venezolana de Investigaciones Sismologicas, or Venezuelan Foundation for Seismological Investigations.*

active fault is not releasing energy, it is because there is a “lock,” which indicates that it is “extremely dangerous” because the energy is accumulating and the day it released, it produces a highly dangerous seismic event.

Muñoz himself said he was very concerned, since the “trench of the dead” is only approximately 80 to 100 kilometers to the south of the island, in a depression 5.5 kilometers (3.4 miles) deep and there is data from historical earthquakes that caused damage at times when the city of Santo Domingo was not so developed, but now any type of earthquake that occurs in this area would be significant.

Both experts recalled that “Azua” in 1751 suffered an earthquake accompanied by a tsunami, which destroyed a large part of this province, and its epicenter also occurred in this trench.

In addition to the places mentioned, according to Osiris De León, Santo Domingo and the towns in the eastern part of the country, such as San Pedro and La Romana, could also be impacted by a movement in this area. “It can even affect the southern area of Puerto Rico, because that fault extends to there. Everything will depend on where the fault breaks.” There is also an oceanographic study sponsored by the Spanish government, which showed that the so-called “Megasplay of the Dead,” located in the middle part of the slope of the Deformed Belt of the Dead, shows similarity to another existing fault in Nakai, Japan, which has generated earthquakes of magnitude 8 on the Richter scale.

The researchers of the Caribenorte project determined that “the Megasplay of the Dead, almost in all probability, was the cause of the earthquakes of magnitude 8 of 1751, and magnitude 6.7 of 1984,” being the first cause of destruction in the south of the Dominican Republic.

According to the developers of the oceanographic work, it is an area with active deformation, with seismic danger and in a certain form of tsunami, which contains a high level of danger.

**CQ:** *Can you estimate the occurrence of the next intense event at this location?*

**YV5TT:** Well, according to Osiris De León, the calculation of the recurrence period of earthquakes is a statistical analysis that is made based on the historical behavior of the fault, “but it does not necessarily mean that it is so, because these data fall within the range of probability ... You have a probability that the next seismic event on that fault could happen in the next 30 to 40 years, but it doesn’t necessarily have to be that way. It all depends on the amount of energy stored on that fault and the energy that was released. with that earthquake.”

**CQ:** *Do you know the reason for the origin of the name of the “Trench of the Dead”?*

**YV5TT:** Yes, of course. In colonial times, when the pirate ships came to attack, since this place is very deep, great movements were generated in the water, so it seems that on this edge between the exit of Santo Domingo and that difference in elevation when going down to 5,000 meters, caused many pirate ships to disappear, and since then they warned each other of the danger of the “Trench of the Dead.”

**CQ:** *Knowing about this fault, if one day there is a major event there, what can be done?*

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**YV5TT:** Well, the specialists recommend that the population stay informed about these issues, to know how to react in the event of a tidal wave or earthquake. "If you hear on the radio that the earth trembled in a certain place and the epicenter was in the sea, then what you should do is remain calm, if you are near the site, get away and try to go up to an area of less danger."

**CQ:** Henry, finally tell us how the Radio Club Venezolano participated in the simulation of CARIBE WAVE 2022?

**YV5TT:** Well, according to what was established and ratified by decree of the national government, the radio amateurs, through the National Emergency Network of the Venezuelan Radio Club, in one of its functions such as providing support to authorities in communications, in conditions of adverse natural events, as was the case of the CARIBE WAVE 2022 simulation. All radio contact logistics were deployed throughout the areas foreseen as affected within the exercise, in addition to the support of all colleagues who from their stations were attentive to any report or relief during it.

The confluence of information was received from the headquarters of FUNVISIS (the Venezuelan Foundation for Seismological Investigations), which, operating under its callsign YV5FUN, was the link between our operators and the Vice Ministry of Risk Management, whose operational base was at the headquarters of VEN911.

*We thank the Radio Club Venezolano and colleague Henry Hernández Gonzales, YV5TT, for the interview, photographs and data provided for this article.*

#### Sources:

- <[www.tsunamizone.org](http://www.tsunamizone.org)>
- *Radio Magazine*, Year 9, number # 99 March / April 2022
- Radio Club Venezolano, Regional House San Antonio de los Altos Urb. Rosaleda Sur – San Antonio de los Altos Miranda State – Venezuela

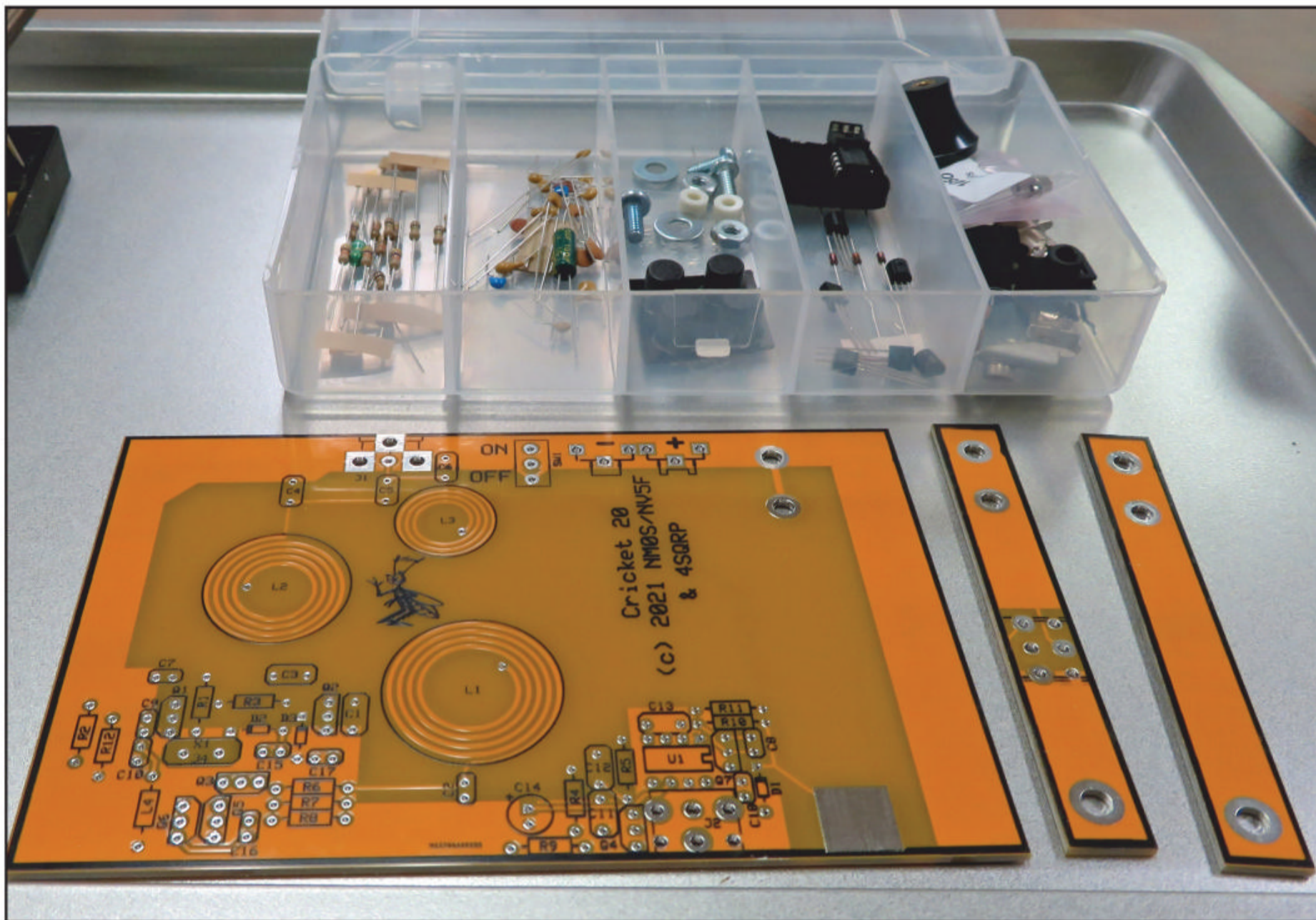
#### **Help Wanted – Emergency Communications Editor**

CQ continues to look for a new Emergency Communications Editor. If you're an experienced EmComm leader and at least a reasonably good writer, with time to prepare and write a monthly column, please contact Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, via email at <[w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com)>.

# KIT BUILDING

BY JOE EISENBERG,\* KONEB

## Warm Weather Brings Out the Crickets!



The PC board and parts are sorted and ready to begin assembly.

**W**ith warmer weather here, the sound of crickets becomes a staple of our Midwest evenings. The other sound of Crickets (with a capital C) comes from the new kit from the Four State QRP Group. The 20-meter version of the popular Cricket series of kits is now available. The previous versions of these kits covered 80, 40, and 30 meters. Originally designed by David Cripe, NMØS, the 20-meter version was developed by David as well as Virginia Smith, NV5F. Virginia also designed the new Cricket logo present on the 20-meter kit.

Like its predecessors, the 20-meter Cricket puts out almost 1 watt of CW RF and receives quite well. There are no controls for volume or fine tuning, but the genius of many kit builders have added those features as documented in the groups.io bulletin board devoted to this series of kits. There are no toroids to wind as the inductors are spiral wound on the PC board. I fill the vias with solder on those coils. There

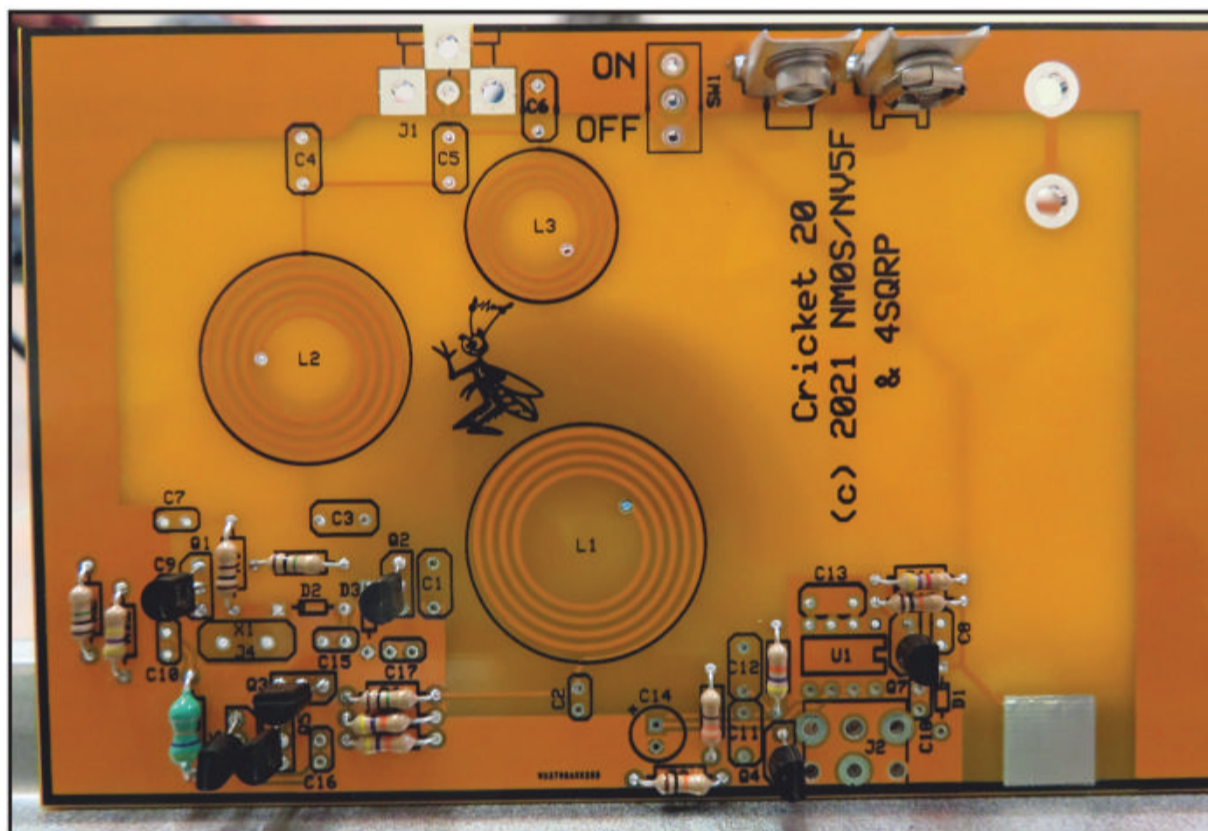
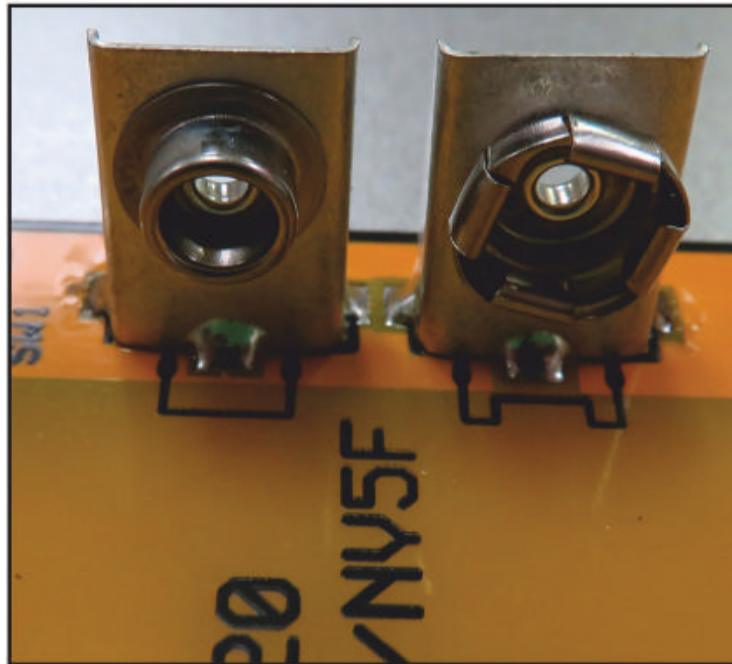
is a debate about the need to do this, but it takes so little time that I do it just to be sure. The reason for this is to reinforce the connections between the top and bottom layers on the PC board that make up the inductors. Vias are the tiny copper cylinders that connect the top and bottom layers of a double-sided PC board. In the case of this type of inductor, soldering them gives that connection added strength.

I partially assembled my Cricket at a local QRP/kit-building club to share the experience with others and finished it at home. Using a small parts container made it easy to sort the parts and safely transport them when building partly away from home. I noticed that, like many recent kits, the capacitors are very difficult to read. Using a component tester made that an easy task and made sure the capacitors being used were within tolerance and ready to go. Using a lighted magnifier, especially on the tiny blue capacitors, still makes it very difficult to read their value markings. A component tester makes identification an easy task.

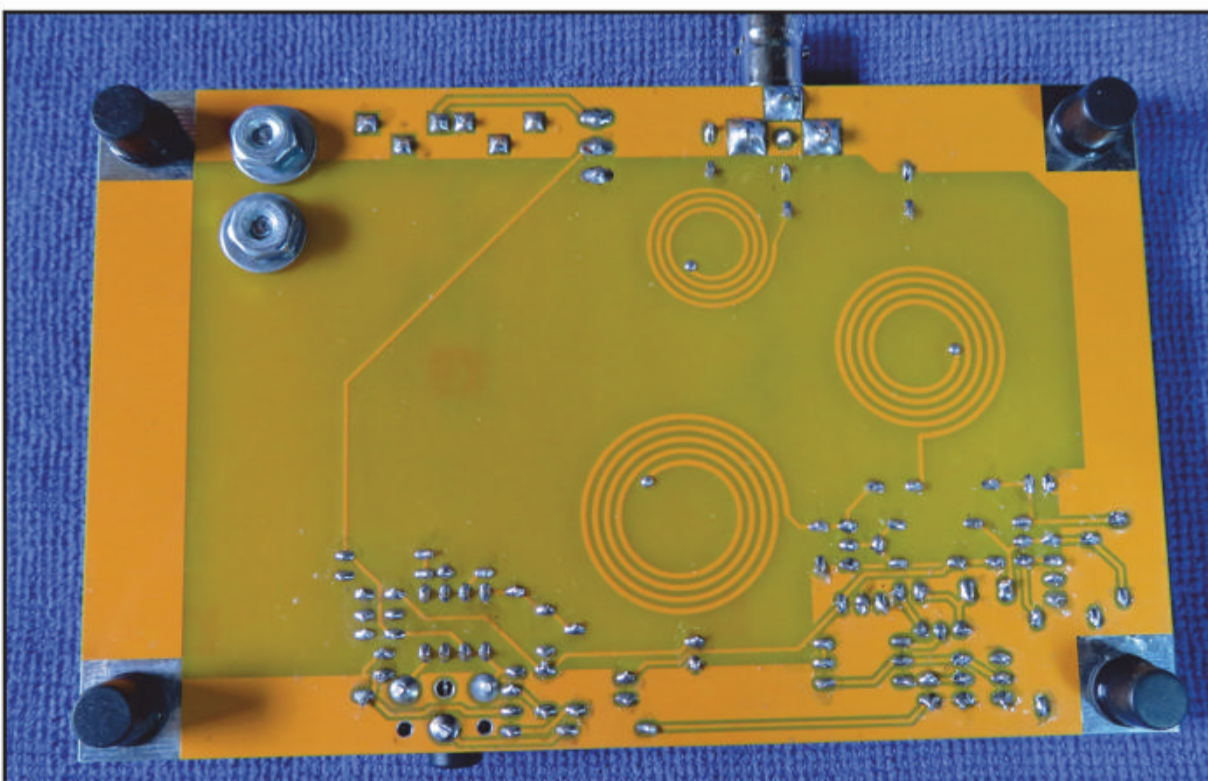
A small 6-pin IC socket is provided with the kit, but not for mounting the 8-pin IC. It is to be cut apart and used as a crystal socket as per the instructions. The 8-pin IC is sol-

\*7133 Yosemite Drive, Lincoln, NE 68507  
email: <k0neb@cq-amateur-radio.com>  
Hamfest Hotline #5855

The 9-volt battery tabs are the first things placed on the board and I recommend soldering them using enough solder to secure them to both the top and bottom sides of the board to provide the strength needed to handle repeated removal and installation of the 9-volt battery. Be careful to not cause a short between them when soldering.



Partially completed Cricket PC board. Notice the three vias in the spiral wound inductors have not been filled yet.



A view of the bottom of the PC board before the modification was made under D1.

dered directly to the board. The 20-meter Cricket comes with two crystals, one for 14.050 MHz and the other for 14.060. The previous kits only came with one crystal. There are sources for additional crystals for this band as well as for previous versions of the Cricket.

Expanded Spectrum Systems is a great source of high quality crystals in different sizes for this series of kits as well as most other QRP kits. Go to <[www.expandedspectrumsystems.com](http://www.expandedspectrumsystems.com)> to check out their big selection of crystals.

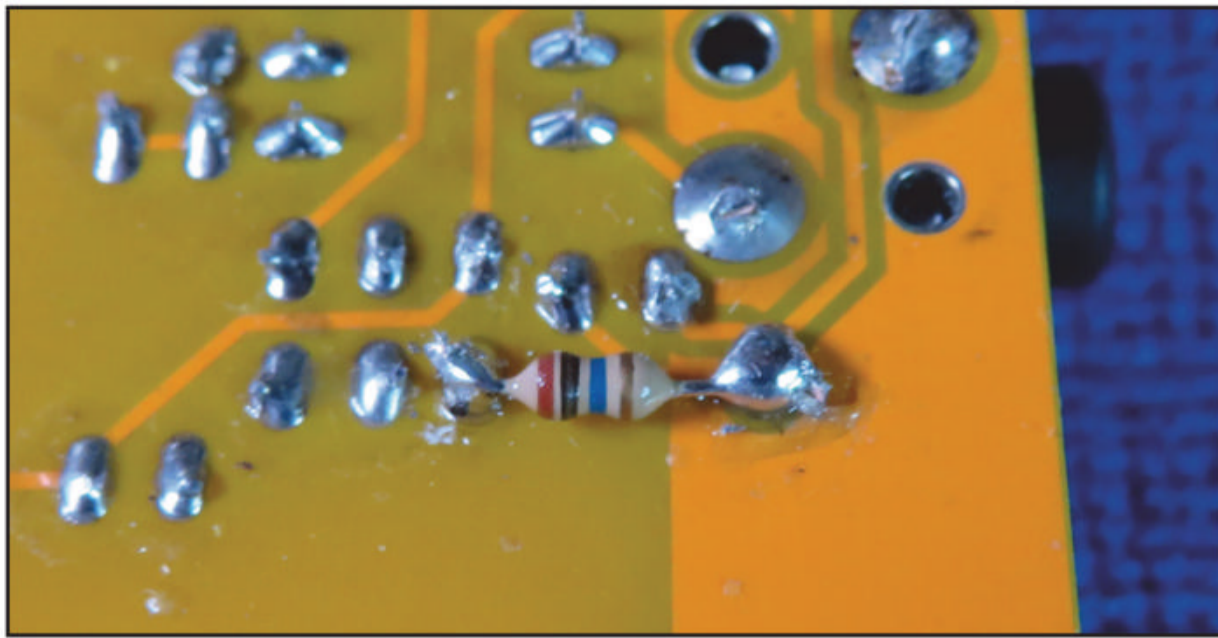
Rex Harper, W1REX, also has a variety of crystals available at <[www.qrpme.com](http://www.qrpme.com)>. Look for a good, affordable, component tester at <[www.wiredco.com](http://www.wiredco.com)>.

The Cricket series of kits are great for someone who wants an easier experience in building a good solid QRP CW transceiver. The parts placement is very straightforward. The instructions have you mounting all the resistors and one molded inductor first, followed by the semiconductors and the capacitors. The jacks and key installation follow. Yes, the straight key is a part of the kit. The material for it just snaps off the main board as well as a keyer adapter, which allows you to choose to use your own straight key or paddle with keyer. When snapping off these pieces from the main board, a very rough edge is exposed. Using an emery board very quickly smooths the edges that were exposed.

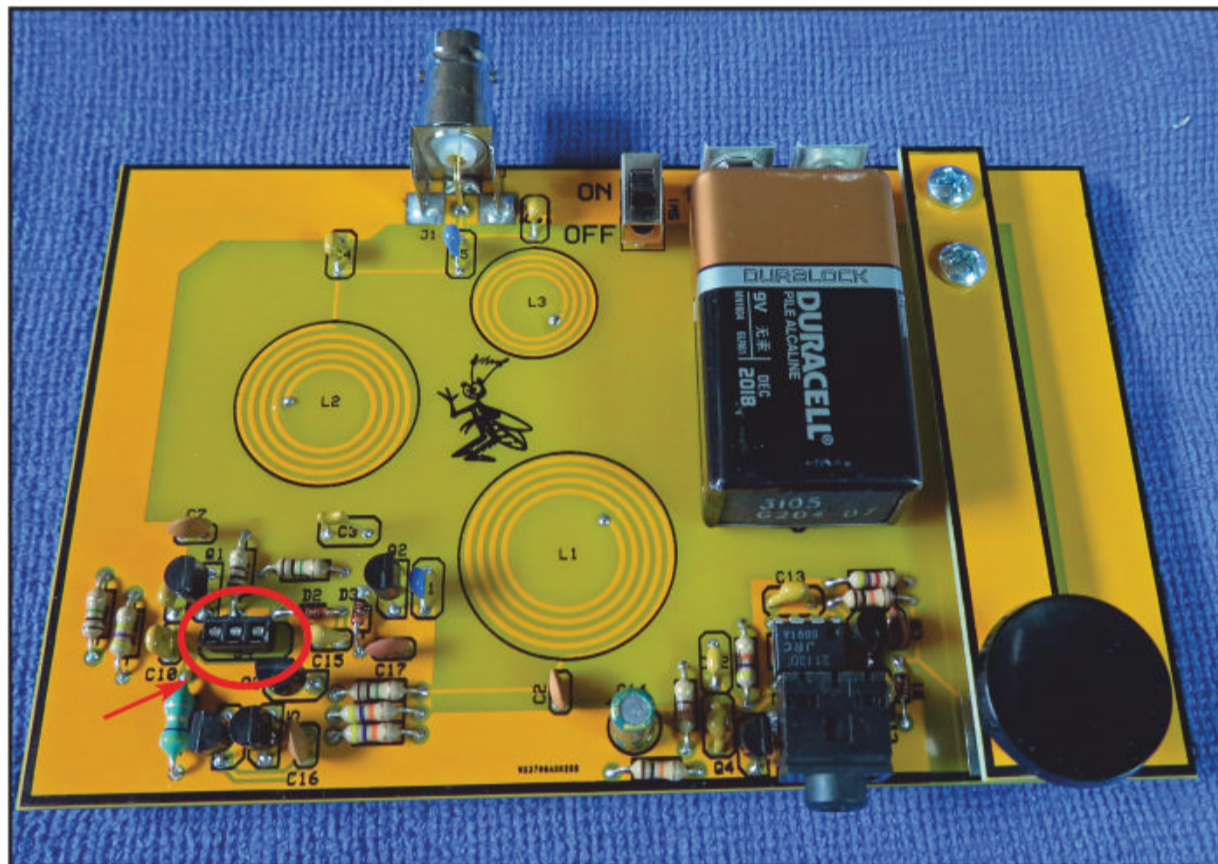
### Fixing an Earlier Issue

An issue with lower receive audio output was discovered by many builders and using a 10-megohm resistor across D1 seems to help. Another issue is that when using certain kinds of headphones, the CW sidetone goes away. This is because of the way the audio output is configured. When I used a set of Bose noise-cancelling headphones, the sidetone was not audible. The reason is that the Bose headset has active noise-cancelling electronics between the input and the transducers. Using an unamplified Heil ProSet 7 headset, the sidetone was audible. Using an external amplified speaker works as well, but some of these will keep the CW sidetone from working.

Testing my Cricket, I got about 0.8 watts out with a fresh 9-volt battery. The Cricket lends itself better to being put into a 3D printed plastic case than a metal case. The reason is that the inductors on the PC board would be adversely affected by placement close to or inside a metal structure. The Cricket series of kits, including this lat-



The 10M resistor is soldered below D1.



The completed Cricket 20 with the crystal unplugged to show the crystal socket made from part of a 6-pin IC socket.

est one, are available from the Four State QRP Group at <[www.4sqr.com](http://www.4sqr.com)>. Look for more kits coming from the Four State team in the near future.

### Coax Switch and a BNC Adapter

When recently adding a coax switch to my station at home, I got one with four inputs so I can select between four different HF rigs and have one output being a cable with a BNC connector on the end so that I do not need to use a coax adapter when connecting to a kit radio placed on my main radio desktop. Most kit radios use the BNC type of RF connector, so an adapter is only needed if the kit has an SO-239 output. A good quality coax switch allows me to keep my radios connected and lets me quickly connect a kit to my full array of HF antenna options. I use the AlphaDelta 4-position coax switches which can be seen at <[www.alphadeltaradio.com](http://www.alphadeltaradio.com)>.

Hamvention® is almost here, so be sure to say hi if you see me wearing my famous hat at Dayton as well as at other regional hamfests. I plan on going to Huntsville as well as being a speaker at the Northeastern HamXposition in Marlborough, Massachusetts in August right after Huntsville.

– Until next time,  
73 de KØNEB  
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## Foxhunting Pranks and Championship Opportunities

**J**ammer tracking, noise location, search-and-rescue — these are some of the reasons why hams learn about radio direction finding (RDF). But no matter what your purpose, you'll find that it takes experience out in the field to become proficient with your equipment. Fortunately, practicing is lots of fun when hams get together to hold mobile hidden transmitter hunts, which they call T-hunts, foxhunts, or bunny hunts.

Hams sometimes ask, "What's so tough about mobile T-hunting? You just take a bearing, plot it, and follow it to the T. No problem!" Well, either these people haven't done much hunting, or they're incredibly lucky, or they have never gone up against a world class hider.

Even in the simplest hunts, it's typical for one or more teams to become completely baffled at some point. When the goal is to bamboozle everyone, there is no end to the stunts that an imaginative huntmaster can employ (see example in *Photo A*).

### Dirty Tricks 101

Most of my "Homing In" columns provide ideas to help the hunters. To even the score, it's time to help the hidiers to prolong the suspense and the fun. But don't let the title fool you. You don't have to do anything illegal or unsafe to put on a tough hunt (and you shouldn't). Just use your ingenuity.

When a T-hunt is a difficult challenge, everyone benefits. The hider gets the satisfaction of knowing that the winners are working for their reward. The hunters gain valuable experience that may be useful on an RDF search / rescue effort, when lives are at stake. Most RDF fans would rather be foxhunting than doing any other ham activity. So, the longer the hunt lasts, the more fun they have that day.

Devious hiding tricks fall into four basic categories:

1. Deceptive signal parameters
2. Inaccessibility

\*P.O. Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837  
email: <k0ov@homingin.com>  
Web: <www.homingin.com>



*Photo A. It's not easy to tell, but one of these innocent-looking scraps of wood has a hidden QRP transmitter and wire antenna inside. Walking by the pile, would you have suspected it? The clever carpentry was done by Tom Curlee, WB6UZZ. (Photo by Joe Moell, KØOV)*

3. Indirect signal paths (reflections)
4. Concealment and camouflage

Typical rules for beginners' hunts call for the fox to transmit a continuous carrier with constant power and antenna polarization. If the fox is on a repeater input, the hider may transmit for 15 seconds, then be silent for a minute or so.

If hunt rules allow it, vary the hidden transmitter power. This is particularly hard on hunters who use a beam, attenuator, and S-meter to get bearings, because that method relies on constant signal level for its accuracy. On the other hand, variable signal strength will not affect Doppler<sup>1</sup> or time-difference-of-arrival<sup>2</sup> RDF sets, so long as the signal exceeds the set's minimum sensitivity threshold.

To advance to an even higher degree of difficulty, try sending very short bursts of signal, if rules permit. Legendary southern California foxhunter Milt Ronney, WA6FAT, turned an easy hunt into tricky one on a very rainy night when he put the T in a replica of a medieval tower, transmitting for a fraction of a second every few seconds. This also favored the hunters with Doppler sets.

If you don't mind waiting a long time for the hunters to arrive and you are prepared to be the object of their outrage, combine short transmissions with varying power. This gimmick was used some years ago at a hamfest hunt in San Diego, where expensive prizes were at stake. The hider, wanting to separate the skilled hunters from the lucky ones, set up the T to cycle on and off every half second, with each transmission at a different power level, randomly selected.

Not to be outdone, other hidiers such as John Moore, NJ7E, of Phoenix, have built microprocessor or PIC-based controllers that generate random transmission lengths, random time between transmissions, and random power levels.

### Antenna Antics

If rules allow it, use creativity in your transmitting antenna system. A well-placed directional antenna can make your fox signal appear to come from the wrong direction and the wrong location. This technique is popular in southern California due to the many local hills and nearby mountain ranges that can reflect VHF signals.

Horizontal signal polarization is tough on hunters with Dopplers or other sets with vertical whips. When you hunt a cross-polarized T, the direct signal is attenuated while bounces from buildings and terrain features tend to stand out. With any luck, the contestants will spend valuable time chasing reflections.

Every so often, a fox uses circular polarization. Depending on the terrain, it can confound the hunters. If you have unlimited real estate available at the hiding site, try a very long Yagi suspended by ropes, or a circularly polarized helix with screen reflector like the one in *Photo B*.

How about a moving antenna? One hunter adapted a motorized camera pan-tilt mount to slowly change the polarization of his Yagi from vertical to horizontal and back again, giving a very interesting effect. Steve Sable, N8NYU, made a similar setup using a windshield wiper motor.

By rotating a transmitting beam in azimuth, you can “light up” nearby hills in various directions. If you’re with the T, you can turn the antenna manually. For an unattended setup, add a motor. Consider a mechanism that sweeps the beam like an oscillating fan instead of making it go in circles, so you don’t need slip rings in the coax line. The antenna should move slowly, so that the effect is not too obvious.

### Concealed in Plain Sight

When asked to name a memorable T-hunt, most RDFers will bring up one in which the T was concealed from view in a particularly clever way. Christie Edinger, KØIU, showed her acting skills by portraying a bag lady in a mall parking lot on a Fullerton Radio Club night hunt. She pushed a junk-laden shopping cart around the lot for three hours with the transmitter concealed among the refuse (*Photo C*). After 15 miles of mobiling and a drive around the parking lot, would you have suspected her?

Shopping carts are “liberated” from supermarkets every day, but KØIU asked permission to borrow this one. “In case security guards thought we had stolen the cart, we had the manager give us his business card with a note on the back,” she explained. “He was willing to loan us a brand new cart, but we picked out a ratty looking one with good wheels. After the hunt, we took it right back.”

Even a so-called “beginners” hunt can include a clever concealment surprise. At an ARRL convention in Ventura, California, Darryl Widman, KF6DI, put on an event especially for brand new RDFers, an on-foot hunt on the hotel grounds. Darryl encouraged everyone to give it a try, even those with no special RDF gear. He said that the “body shielding” maneuver with a handi-talkie or scanner was adequate for getting bearings.

As usual, most of these new hunters assumed that the hidden T would be in plain sight, so they hunted mostly with their eyes, not their radios. That was the wrong thing to do! The rig was concealed inside a hollowed-out telephone book underneath a pay phone in the hotel lobby. (OK, this was quite a few years ago!) Most hunters ignored the



*Photo B. Gary Holoubek, WB6GCT (pictured), and Tony Levand, now AA9CC, assembled this 16-foot-long circularly polarized beam with 6- x 6-foot screen reflector in a wilderness park for a Fullerton Radio Club mobile T-hunt. It shot lots of signal down the canyon, where it was several miles to the closest road. But it gave very little signal to the rear, where the approaching road came within a hundred yards. (Photo by Joe Moell, KØOV)*



*Photo C. Christie Edinger, KØIU, under the tattered straw hat, plays a “bag lady” as fox for the Fullerton Radio Club’s monthly nighttime mobile hunt. Look closely to see the battery in the shopping cart. (Photo by Joe Moell, KØOV)*





*Photo D. This is Blue, who had a great time hunting radio foxes with her dad, Byon Garrabrant, N6BG, at a Yuma Hamfest. (Photo by Joe Moell, KØOV)*



*Photo E. Dick Arnett, WB4SUV, conceals a miniature 2-meter transmitter inside a log for the on-foot transmitter hunt at a pre-Covid Hamvention. There will be another multi-fox hunt at Hamvention 2022. (Photo by Bob Frey, WA6EZV)*

innocent-looking white pages and kept poking around for something in plain sight that looked like a radio.

Many memorable T-hunts involve lakes and rivers. Baffling bearings can result when the signal source is at the surface of a body of water, due to signal reflections from nearby and distant shores. For one Fullerton Radio Club hunt, the hiders transmitted from a rubber duck. No, not a flexible helical 2-meter whip, it was a real rubber duck, floating on a small lake in Tri-County Park. The real ducks ignored it, mostly.

### Keep It Fun

As you can see, being the hidden fox is an opportunity to unleash all your creativity. But don't forget to be fair and to match your subterfuge to the skill level of the hunters. If the majority of them are beginners, go easy by giving plenty of signal, frequent (if not continuous) transmissions, and lots of encouragement. Give them a challenge, but not an impossible task.

As your group's average skill level and equipment inventory increases toward the "expert" category, you can make hunts tougher by including stunts like those described above. Of course, you shouldn't do anything illegal or make the hunt unsafe for yourself or any hunter. Remember that if participants don't have fun (however they define it), they won't come out to hunt you again next time. Your goal should be to increase the level of camaraderie of the hunt group.

### CQWW Foxhunting Weekend May 14-15

An excellent time for your club to have foxhunting fun is the annual CQ World Wide Foxhunting Weekend, which takes place May 14-15, 2022. This is the most informal of all the

CQ contests — just an opportunity for your club or other ham group to have some fun finding transmitters, either in vehicles or all on foot. Use the international rules or write your own. Make it easy or hard, depending on the skill level of the foxhunters in your area. Talk it up on the local repeater and social media to find out what your friends have in mind.

More about Foxhunting Weekend is in the February and April issues of *CQ*. It's also on my website.<sup>3</sup> After the foxhunting, be sure to send me stories and photos for the follow-up article.

### Convention Fun and Championship News

On-foot foxhunting was on the program at the 2022 Yuma Hamfest and Southwestern Division ARRL convention on February 16 (*Photo D*). Marvin Johnston, KE6HTS, led a workshop for building measuring-tape antennas and offset attenuators from kits he provided. Then the attendees put their new tools to the test on a five-fox walking course set by Joe Loughlin, KE6PHB, and Joe Coronas, N6SZO, of San Diego. Several other foxhunters from San Diego were there to provide instruction and assistance, including going out on the course with the fledgling foxhunters when appropriate.

The annual record for most transmitters in an on-foot foxhunt is almost always achieved by the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Club. Their Hamvention® hunts (*Photo E*) seem to get bigger every time. With the move to Xenia, the hunt organizers found a new location at James Ranch Park, directly across from Greene County Fairgrounds.

Foxhunting at Hamvention 2022 is scheduled to begin with a 90-minute forum on Saturday at 9:15 a.m. in Room 3. Moderator will be Dick Arnett, WB4SUV, with additional information from Bob Frey, WA6EZV; Brian De-Young, K4BRI; and others. Then on Sunday, it's back to James Ranch Park for another challenging on-foot hunt with prizes for the winners.

It would be great if more hamfests and ham radio conventions would offer RDF talks, demonstrations, and contests as part of the official program. If you're on the planning committee for such a get-together, why not add a T-hunt as a change of pace? If you do, please let me know at least three months in advance, so I can mention it in this column.

International-rules, on-foot transmitter hunting (also called radio-orienting and ARDF) is finally making a comeback in 2022. After being postponed twice, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) ARDF World Championships will take place from August 28<sup>th</sup> through September 3<sup>rd</sup> in Zlatibor, Serbia.

World Championships feature classic competitions on 2 meters and 80 meters, plus sprints and foxoring (a blend of foxhunting and orienteering). National teams may send only three persons per age / gender category. Team members are responsible for their own registration / room / board fees and for transportation expenses to and from Serbia.

USA's Letter of Intent to Participate has been sent to the organizers. The final team roster will be submitted in July. Team USA selection in competed categories where more than three wish to attend is being based on performances and standings in the 2021 USA ARDF Championships last October in North Carolina and the 2022 USA ARDF Championships in Virginia during April. The categories for males under 50 and for females of all ages are likely to have uncontested openings, so it may be possible for inexperienced radio-orienters in these ranges to join the team.

Even if you don't qualify to be on USA's team to the World Championships, you can compete for awards in Serbia. For three days prior to the World Championships, the Serbian organizers will put on the third ARDF World Cup with classic competitions and the sprint for individuals. This will be excellent training and there will be medals for the best performers in each age / gender category for each event, regardless of nationality.

If you are interested in traveling to the 2022 ARDF World Championships as a member of Team USA or as an individ-

ual to the World Cup, please contact Ruth Bromer, WB4QZG, the Chair of USA's Selection Subcommittee, by email.<sup>4</sup> Do not contact the championships organizers in Serbia directly. If you have not been to an overseas ARDF event before, include your full name, callsign, mailing address, phone number, and date of birth.

If you wish to participate as a citizen or resident of another North or South American country, contact IARU Region 2 ARDF Coordinator Ken Harker,


WM5R.<sup>5</sup> Canadians should also contact that country's ARDF Coordinator Joe Young VE7BFK.<sup>6</sup>

For more about the 2022 ARDF World Championships and World Cup, visit the World Championships website of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia,<sup>7</sup> where you can download the latest bulletins and learn about Covid protocols.

Next time, I'll have a wrap-up of USA's national ARDF championships for 2022 at a new venue near Triangle, Virginia. Happy Hunting!

**NOTES:**

1. <[www.homingin.com/SCalStyle.html#doppler](http://www.homingin.com/SCalStyle.html#doppler)>
- 2 <[www.homingin.com/equipment.html#tdoa](http://www.homingin.com/equipment.html#tdoa)>
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7. <<https://ardf2022.org>>



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# MOBILING

BY JEFF REINHARDT,\* AA6JR

## Spring Into Action!

**F**or mobile radio enthusiasts, spring is “*the most wonderful time of the year ...*” (apologies if that’s your favorite Andy Williams holiday tune). The snow, ice, and frigid temperatures have left the northern states and hopefully highway departments have been busy filling in those annoying potholes. All that and more begs us to once again hit the open road, assuming we get some relief from elevated fuel prices, which in my part of the world have been quite impressive, (Photo A).

But don’t let high fuel costs keep you locked in your den. Here’s a little perspective: If you’ve traveled overseas to Europe or Asia, or recently visited California, you’re already familiar with the notion that some folks here, and across the pond, have been paying \$6, \$7, \$8 or more per gallon for a long time, and they’ve adjusted to it. Some of the coping mechanisms include driving more efficient vehicles, making shorter trips, combining trips with others, and perhaps giving up on fossil fuels completely by purchasing an electric vehicle.

How does this relate to mobiling? Easy! Let’s say you’ve been working on an elusive award like Worked All States on a given band or the CQ USA Counties Award. A short trip to a hilltop or into a nearby county can make you both a “hunter” and perhaps a valued contact for others. And with most of us sporting laptop computers these days, digital operations and/or logging (while stationary, of course, unless you have a driving teammate along) are easily accomplished without the need for external power. More on that topic later.

Another method is to combine pleasures and take a portable “go kit” on your vacation. Mine consists of an Outbacker tri-split antenna, a Diamond K-400 hatch / trunk mount antenna, and a Yaesu FT-857 transceiver, all of which fit easily into a suitcase. I bring along power adapters that include a cigar lighter plug and spring-loaded battery clamps. A few years back, I had a most enjoyable mobiling experience in Hawaii with this setup, visiting three different islands and using that versatile gear in rental cars. It was the first time I had to manage significant pileups.

So, it’s possible to be resourceful, fuel-efficient, and active on the bands with just a dash of imagination and perhaps taking on some new challenges.

### Who Has the Power?

In previous editions of this column, we have discussed the many nuances now encountered when providing power to your mobile transceiver, especially in newer vehicles. As discussed, going directly to the vehicle’s 12-volt battery is no longer recommended by several manufacturers, as it interferes with the power management systems found in modern vehicles. Some systems monitor the negative side of the battery, others the positive, depending on the automaker. Best to check with your manufacturer or dealer before connecting your rig.

However, I’ll offer another creative workaround solution. As I live in an area prone to blackouts, I recently purchased a Duracell PowerSource™ “gasless generator” (*their term, not mine –ed.*) (Photo B).

What it really is, is a large battery with an inverter that can

deliver up to 1,440 watts continuous through a number of outlets. They include four 120-volt AC, a 12-volt DC accessory socket, USB ports, and 12-volt DC rear terminal binding posts, the latter intended for supplemental power to the unit through the connection of an external “daisy chain” battery. But I see no reason why those binding post terminals couldn’t be a source of 12-volt power for mobile or portable radio operations. The Duracell package also includes an informative LCD panel that monitors the unit’s various functions.

Consider the advantages of placing one of these units, well-secured of course, in the trunk or storage area of your car or SUV to power your mobile rig. No concerns about draining your vehicle’s battery or upsetting its charge management



Photo A. Fuel prices can seem daunting, but the smart planner can manage costs and still enjoy summer travel. (Photo by AA6JR)



Photo B. The Duracell PowerSource™ battery package is a versatile package for home, mobile, portable, or field use. (Courtesy of Duracell)

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

system. No electrical noise making its way into your radio's power leads from the vehicle's computers or electrical motors like fuel pumps, wipers, electric power steering, or HVAC systems.

The versatile Duracell unit can be recharged by plugging it into an AC outlet, but it can also receive power directly from a solar panel (40 to 100 watts), as it has its own internal solar panel regulator. The unit might also prove to be a handy item to have for Field Day or other portable operations, as well as mobile.

The one downside is that it's heavy — you won't want to carry it very far. I'm also unsure if the product is still manufactured. However as this was written, it was available through several online vendors. I bought mine through Costco. Also bear in mind there are at least two different output capacities and the prices vary. While this may sound like a commercial, it's not, I paid for the unit out of my own pocket. While I have not yet had to use it under power failure conditions, it's nice to know my refrigerator has something to fall back on when the commercial power goes away, without the need to run a noisy gas-powered generator.

## Road Trips

What with the sunspot cycle perking up, and summer's Sporadic-E ( $E_s$ ) propagation opportunities abounding, it would seem to be smart to monitor the airwaves as one makes tracks for various vacation or pleasure trip destinations, be it to national park, a hamfest, or to visit Aunt Minnie. While high-frequency (HF) and 6-meter opportunities may present themselves, don't overlook the opportunity to monitor the national calling frequency on 2 meters, 146.52 MHz, especially in areas where cell phone service is "iffy." I've seen a few RVs and SUVs with 146.52 placarded on the back of the vehicle, which is a standing invitation to meet another ham, or perhaps pick up a call from someone who has a special need for assistance.

Also remember that most VHF or multi-band transceivers have extended receive capabilities that include the NOAA weather frequencies. They can prove to be useful when adverse weather conditions occur along your travel route. Make sure they're programmed into your memory channels before you depart.

## Got a Checklist?

All good pilots have a checklist to ensure a safe and well-executed trip. Today we have the advantage of cell phones that can hold a permanent checklist of items to take along or dou-

ble-check before departure. It can help avoid that awful, "how could I possibly have forgotten that cable?" moment that it seems we all have encountered at one time or another.

## Don't Forget a Radio "Checkup"

With the winter weather behind us, it's a good time to double-check your radio's

electrical and antenna connections to ensure they're solid, free of corrosion, and protected from the elements. Remember, your vehicle and radio gear are subject to wide swings in temperature and humidity throughout the year and the laws of physics make no exceptions. Put another way, a well-maintained installation makes for a happy operator.

Have a great summer season, and happy mobiling! — 73, Jeff, AA6JR


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Staatsburg, NY 12580



# THE HAM NOTEBOOK

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY WAYNE YOSHIDA\*, KH6WZ

## What's That Noise?

This is a follow-up from my August 2021 QSO Today Expo presentation called “No Tools Troubleshooting” in which I introduced a thinking process to observe and assess things to achieve a result or conclusion. This thinking process can apply to other things besides ham radio equipment, and the more you practice this way of thinking, the better you become. It is a powerful tool for troubleshooting all aspects of life.

If you missed that online event, you can read my supplemental information posted on my blogsite, <<https://tinyurl.com/3w73jrc>>.

One of the observations that drew several comments was the section on using our sense of hearing as a troubleshooting tool. “What’s that noise?” can be a useful path to take in diagnosing a radio problem.

Let’s take a look at some of the unusual or abnormal noises that may happen as we use our radios.

First, we should define or distinguish “noise” versus “sound.” For this discussion, we will define noise as something bad or unwanted and a sound as something normal or good.

In addition, because noise is so broad and affects many things in a radio, let’s limit this discussion to mobile and portable FM operations and equipment.

### Quiet is Good

When talking about FM, we should have a simple understanding of a technical term called “quieting.” This term describes how strongly an FM signal is heard in a receiver. If a receiving station is close to the transmitting station, and there is no interference, the signal is said to be “full quieting.” It is a descriptive term and the signal is not only strong, but it is also clear and without any noise. It is as if the person at the transmitter is speaking clearly to you in person.

If the station moves away or something blocks the signal path, the signal strength diminishes, and the signal begins to sound noisy. This noise can

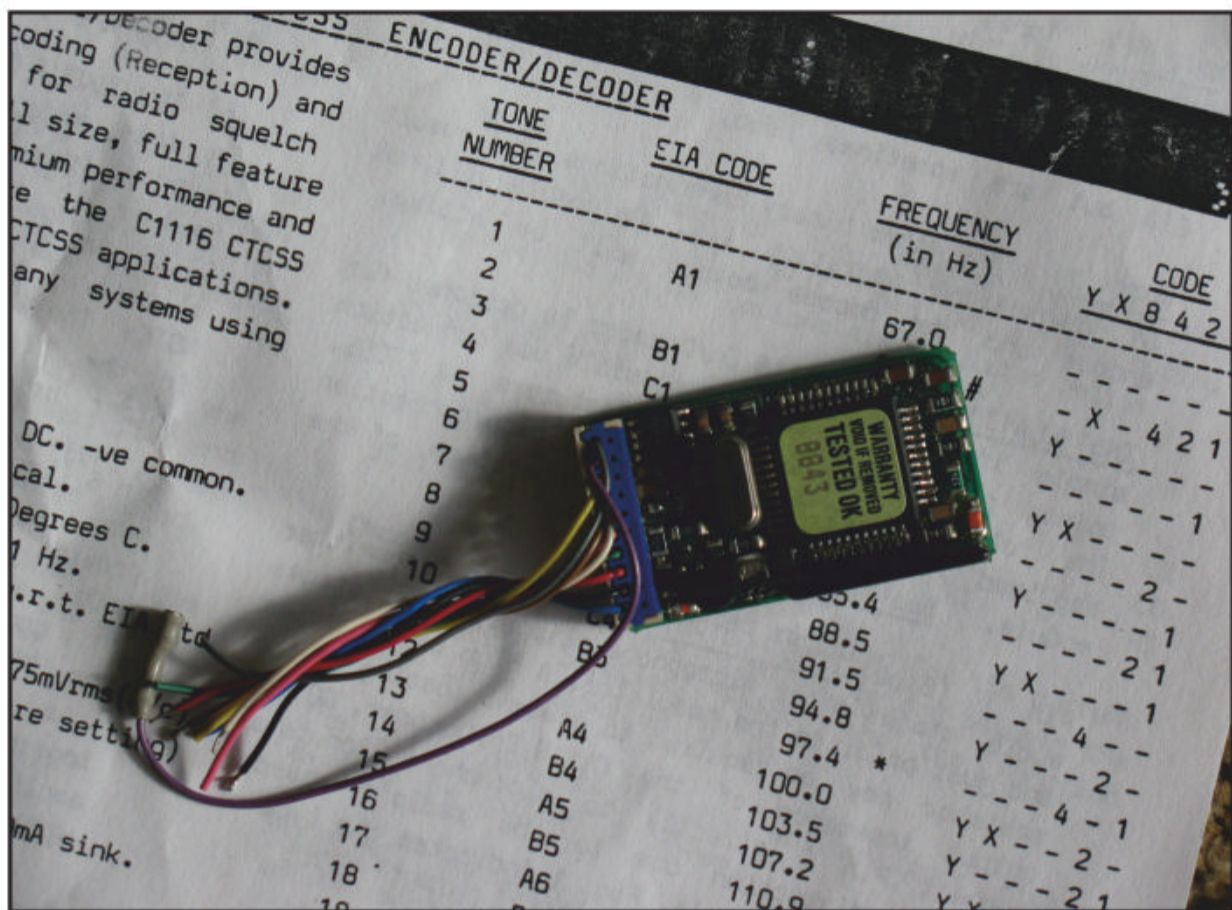


Photo A. A very old tone generator board with an adjustment for the tone output. Most radios today have a sub-audible tone generator built-in. (All photos by KH6WZ)

often be described as “crunchy” or distorted. Many times, the receiver S-meter will go up and down quickly, and the signal has a “fluttering” quality. This means that the radio signal is becoming weaker, and is no longer quieting the receiver as the noise is becoming stronger than the radio signal.

Try this experiment on your FM rig: Move the radio squelch control fully counterclockwise. This “opens” the squelch, and the receiver produces an irritating hissing noise. This is the sound of no signal. Nothing is coming in to quiet the receiver.

But when someone transmits on frequency, the signal makes the noise go away (the receiver is quieting) and you hear the person talking.

A few nights ago, as I drove home from dinner with a friend, I put my dual-band rig in scan mode. Most of the stations on the various repeater channels were coming in loud and clear.

But a few stations made me think, “what’s that noise?” since there were some other noises coming in along with their voices. Well, okay, the dog barking in the background is easily diagnosed, but not so easily fixed.

However, there were two or three stations that had a slight “buzzing” or “growling” noise superimposed on top of their voices. While not terribly offensive, the noise was enough to make me wonder if it’s my radio, the repeater, or the other station’s transmitter.

Then I realized something: All of the repeaters programmed into my radio require a certain PL or sub-audible tone for access.

One of the main purposes of a sub-tone is to make a repeater “private,” that is, that the tone is a secret and those who do not belong cannot access the repeater. Another purpose for sub-tone access is to help prevent interference from other repeater systems.

But wait a second. If CTCSS is sub-audible, then how come I can hear it when listening to the repeater?

One reason could be my excellent hearing. Another, more likely, reason is a maladjusted tone generator in the transmitting radio. If the tone is set too high, the tone can be heard as a slight buzzing noise on the transmitted signal.

Oddly, in some radios, there is no adjustment for the tone output. Equally odd is that not everyone will hear the

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PL noise, or it is not loud enough to be an annoyance to some people.

In some radios, the tone generator has a variable control, either as a part of the radio or on the tone generator itself (*Photo A*). Sometimes, it may be a selection from the radio menu.

This is one of the noises that happens in many, but not all radios, and there may or may not be anything you can do to correct it.

### Similar, But Different Noises

The “PL buzz” described above is different from a noise coming from an AC-operated power supply, as when a mobile radio is used in a fixed station.

In this case, the power supply that converts household AC into 12-volts DC is not working right, and it is allowing some of the AC to come out of the DC output. Something is likely to be wrong with the filter circuit in the power supply.

An easy way to verify whether the power supply is broken is to swap out the power supply. Even if you do not have a second power supply, you can substitute another high current, 12-volt power source for your station power supply. This is most easily done with a portable automotive booster battery, like the one shown in *Photo B*. You can easily make one like I did, as shown in *Photo C*.

If you do not have one of these you can try using your automobile battery and connect your radio to your car battery with a pair of jumper cables. Be careful when you do this, to ensure you do not touch the positive line from the battery to any part of the car body or the radio case (ground).

If this procedure makes you nervous, ask a friend with some radio and/or car experience to help you. The idea here is to verify that the noise problem goes away when you change the power supply: This verifies that the problem is not in the radio, but rather something happening outside of the radio, in other words, the power supply.

So, if you are able to say the buzzing or humming noise is coming from a bad power supply, now what?

You can either buy a new power supply, or have it checked so that it can be repaired. This decision should be based on the cost of a new power supply, versus the cost of repairing the old unit. Generally, a new 12-volt power supply capable of handling the typical 50-watt, 2-meter FM mobile rig should be rated at about 12 amps minimum. To be sure, check the radio specifications for the power supply requirements during transmit.

Typical power supplies for ham radio applications are rated at 12 volts and 20 amps, so this provides some extra power for a small accessory, such as a battery charger. The cost of a new 20-amp power supply varies from about \$60 to \$250 or more, so it may be worth checking to see if it can be repaired. Your local ham radio dealership would be a good place to ask for assistance on this, or they can recommend a place that may be able to repair the unit.

### Condition Substitution

Quite often, particularly in mobile stations, a high-pitched whine comes from

a transmitting station. Most of the time, the noise varies with engine speed. Generically, this automotive noise is called “alternator whine” even if it is caused by something else.

This whine can be caused by the electrical charging system, most likely the alternator, but it can also come from an electric fuel pump, the ABS system, or the ignition system. In addition, all current automobiles have at least one microprocessor, and many vehicles have several. Because these car computers run many complex digital signals to control various systems, and because digital signals usually mean



*Photo B. A booster battery like this can be used to power a mobile rig temporarily as you make tests and adjustments. Do not touch the positive cable to any electrical ground!*

*Photo C. I made this handy portable power box for portable operating.*



“square waves,” the car computers can be a source of interference and noise. Remember, square waves produce an infinite number of odd harmonics, and sine waves produce an infinite number of odd and even harmonics. In any case, a computer can be a source of many noises we do not want to hear in our radios.

A simple cure to the alternator noise, even if the noise is not caused by the alternator, but something else in the vehicle, is a large filter choke. This is a large coil of wire, would around a big ferrite “donut,” as shown in *Photo D*. Commercial versions of this automotive filter choke are available from your ham radio equipment dealer, or car audio shops. Check to ensure the filter’s current rating is enough to run your radio equipment. It may be a good idea to buy the biggest noise filter available, so you can be sure it will run without any problems. This filter is inserted into the positive power lead, between the battery and your radio. One of the best places to mount a power line filter is inside the vehicle, just before the wire goes into the radio, as you can see in *Photo E*.

I have found that a noise filter installed in this way cures 99% of the alternator whine types of noises coming from mobile radio stations. I have to mention

one instance of a noise that I could not cure, however. Years ago, I had a two-seat Toyota sports car. Since there was very little room in the cockpit for radios, I mounted the radio on the passenger side of the center console. I mounted a very tiny external speaker near the top of the windshield, underneath the rear-view mirror, using the mirror bracket for support. This car produced enough noise that the speaker would produce a

high-pitched whine *even when the radio was turned off*.

Somehow, I determined that this was most likely coming from the electronic ignition system. When the radio was on, and the receiver was working (that is, when someone was transmitting to me), the radio receiver was strong enough to override the whining noise. But when the radio was in standby mode, the whining was very loud. I installed a small



*Photo D. Left: A toroid choke found in my junk box. Right: A store-bought DC line filter.*



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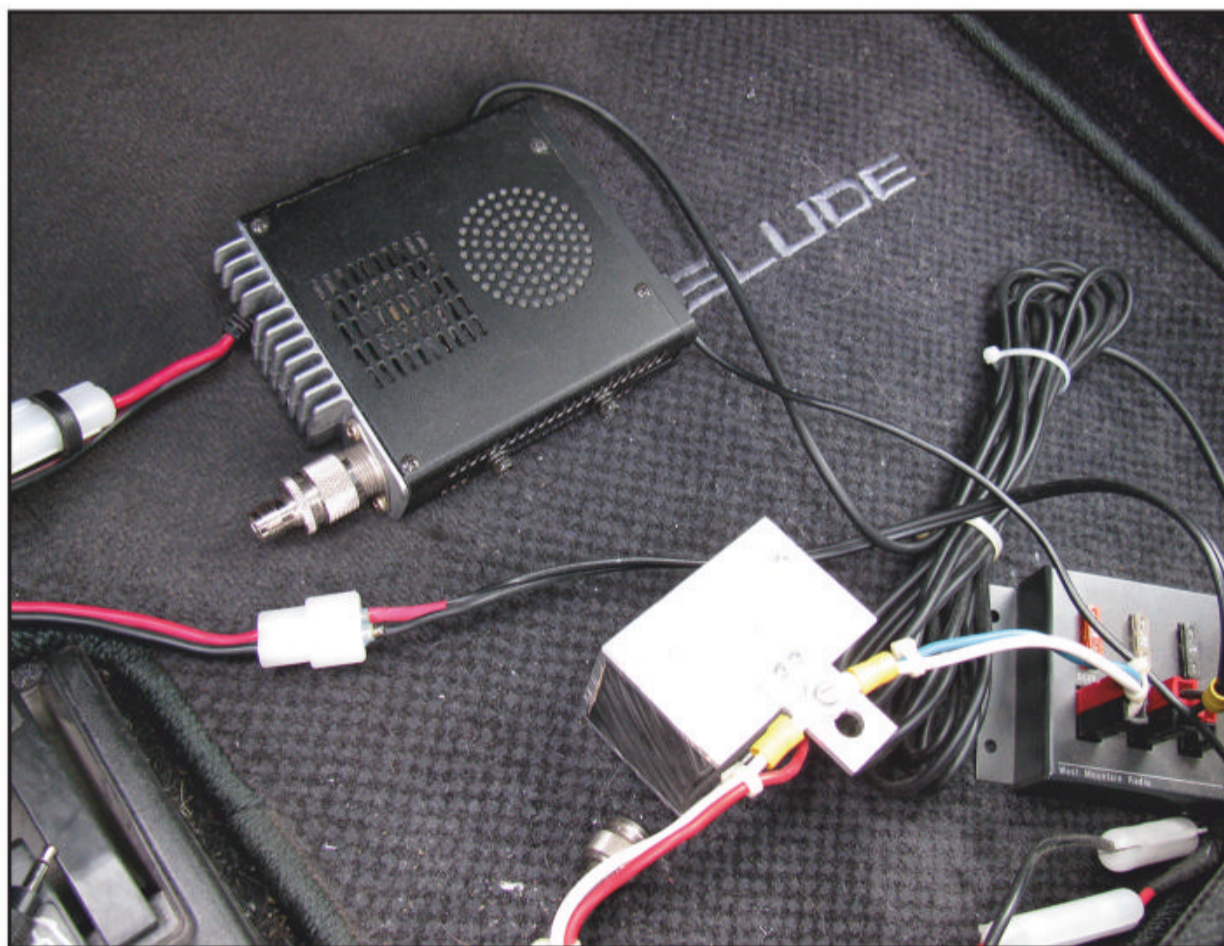
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*Photo E. A mock-up / breadboard of a mobile rig, noise filter, and multiple 12-volt DC outlet.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

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# LDG

## LDG Electronics

**Everywhere you look, there's an LDG!**

switch in one of the speaker-mounting holes so that I could disconnect the speaker from the radio, which made the noise go away. When I wanted to use the radio, I would flip the switch so the speaker was connected to the radio. This was a minor inconvenience, but it did mask the whining noise. I call this a “band-aid” solution, because I never solved the problem, I only masked it to make the problem go away.

### Something In the Air

So far, most of these noises have been coming from the radio or the radio power supply. But there are many noises that come from the surrounding radio-garbage in the air around us.

For example, in some parts of the U.S., hams operating on the UHF-FM band (420 to 450 MHz) may hear noise from radar systems. The noise sounds somewhat like an electric shaver, but higher in pitch, and it usually comes and goes in strength and sometimes in frequency, probably due to the “sweeping” of the radar signal. We must understand that amateur radio is a “secondary user” in the 420 to 450 MHz band, so if ham radio operations cause interference to radar, or other licensed, shared services, the ham radio operations must move, shut down, or eliminate interference.

In any case, this noise must be tolerated, since the radar system is the primary user of this band.

### A Bad Mix

No discussion of VHF-FM and repeater operating would be complete without a mention of an interference noise called

*intermod*. Intermod is short for intermodulation. This is when two or more transmitted radio signals on different frequencies mix, and are received at the same time. As you can imagine, this can create a messy situation, and this can be heard on your radio as a very irritating noise.

In many areas, this intermod situation seems to be growing. Pagers, cellphones, data links, alarm systems, and other wireless devices contribute to radio wave pollution — the noise floor. As the number of systems grows, so does this mixing of different frequencies, and the result is a noisy radio. In addition to this RF pollution, many radios are capable of receiving more than the ham radio bands, meaning that such radios may be more susceptible to intermod.

One way to deal with this is to advance the squelch control. But this adjustment must be balanced between getting rid of interference and completely locking out the desired signals. Another way to battle intermod is with a suitable filter, to minimize the unwanted frequencies coming into your radio. But remember, if you like a fully quieting FM repeater signal, and want to also listen to the out-of-ham band services like the local air traffic controllers, a filter will limit your enjoyment of the non-ham frequencies.

As we can see, along with all of the good sounds coming from our radios, there are many unwanted and irritating noises in our ham radio equipment, too. Some are considered normal and must be tolerated, and some noises can be cured, either by finding the core cause of the problem, or finding some solution or alternative to make it “just go away.”

– 73, Wayne, KH6WZ



# LEARNING CURVE

BY RON OCHU, KOØZ

## DIY Coax Service Entrance



Photo A. Allan Koch, KA8JUN, with his son Brian, NØBMK. (Photo by KOØZ)



Photo C. Brian's exterior wall. Note the siding removal and placement of the weatherproof enclosure. (Photo by NØBMK)

**M**y thanks go out to my friend Allan Koch, KA8JUN's, son, Brian Koch, NØBMK of Allendale, Michigan for this month's column topic (*Photo A*). Not too long ago, Brian texted me for suggestions on where to mount his antenna (*Photo B*), how to ground it, and how he could route the coax into his QTH (home). I was happy to offer suggestions to get him started. Brian has a very nice, suburban home and he wanted to safely and aesthetically route his coax into his radio shack (radio room). Before starting, NØBMK wisely networked with his local ham radio buddies for their input, and the final product of his research is a functioning work of art.

### Coax Service Entrance Planning

Once NØBMK determined where he wanted to locate his coaxial cable service entrance on his home's exterior wall, he first called his local utility companies to see where he could safely hammer an 8-foot, copper-clad ground rod next to his service entrance. With the help of his father-in-law, Alan

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Photo B. NØBMK's roof-mounted dual-band antenna. (Photo by Brian Koch, NØBMK)



Photo D. Brian's interior wall with the 1.9-inch OD PVC pipe protruding into his shack. (Photo by NØBMK)



Photo E. One can never have enough GREAT STUFF™ foam spray on hand. (Photo by KOØZ)

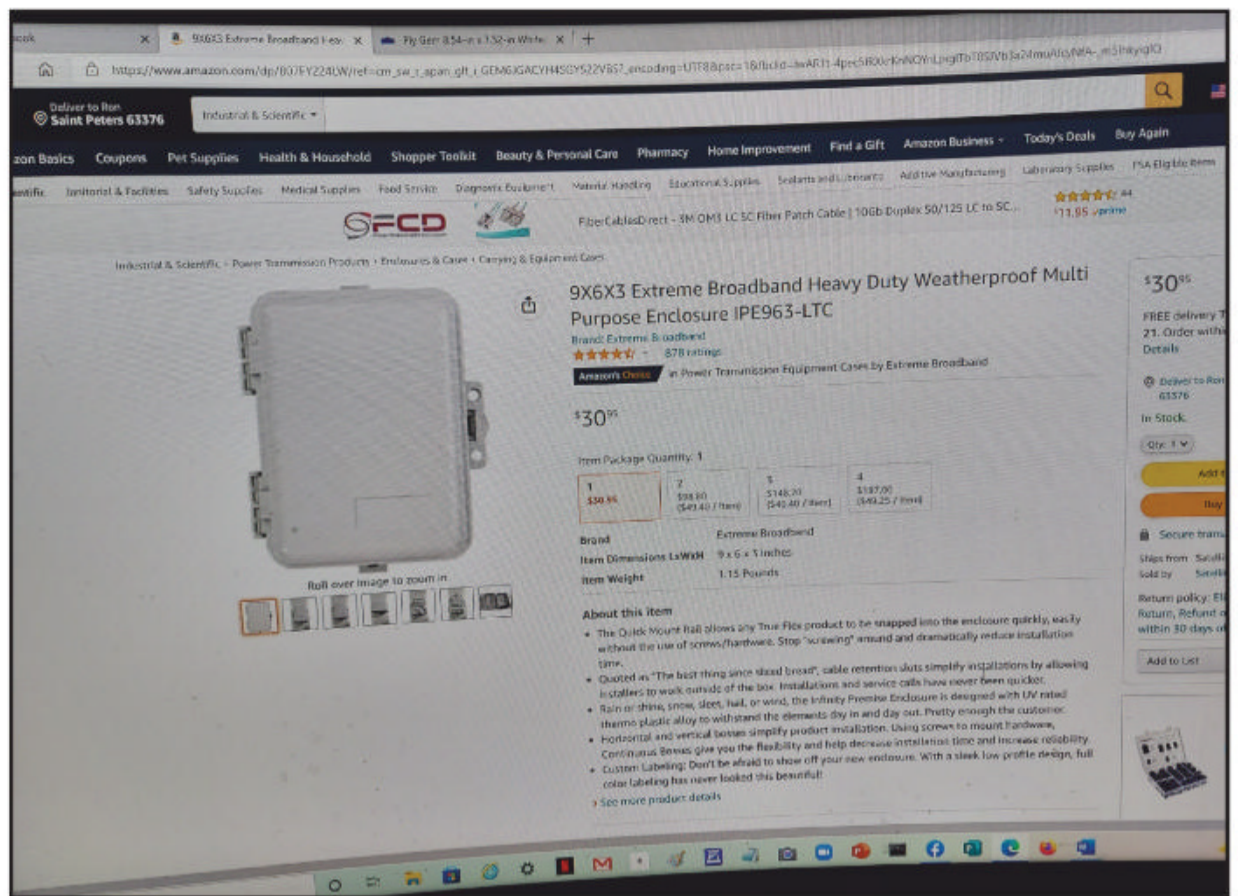


Photo F. Weatherproof enclosure from Amazon serves as an exterior coax service entrance into the QTH. (Photo by KOØZ)

Weber, they removed some of his home's siding, drilled a 2-inch hole through the exterior wall and into his shack (Photo C) to insert a PVC pipe (Photo D). The 2-inch hole nicely accommodates a 1.5-inch PVC pipe, which has a 1.90-inch OD (outside diameter) to serve as a coax conduit between the exterior and interior walls. Brian recommends keeping a can of GREAT STUFF™ spray foam (Photo E) handy for filling in gaps or crevices around the PVC pipe and the hole to eliminate openings for unwanted bugs and critters. After coax is routed into the PVC pipe, any remaining empty space inside the PVC is filled with steel wool to discourage any pests that may somehow manage to find their way into the entrance.

### Installing the Exterior Enclosure

All of Brian's research paid off with his selection of an exterior weatherproof enclosure that he found on Amazon.



Photo G. NØBMK's finished exterior coax entrance. (Photo by NØBMK)



Photo H. Inside NØBMK's weatherproof enclosure. Note the Alpha Delta gas discharge lightning protector in line with the antenna coax and the grounding cables from the Alpha Delta and from the shack to an outside ground pipe. (Photo by NØBMK)

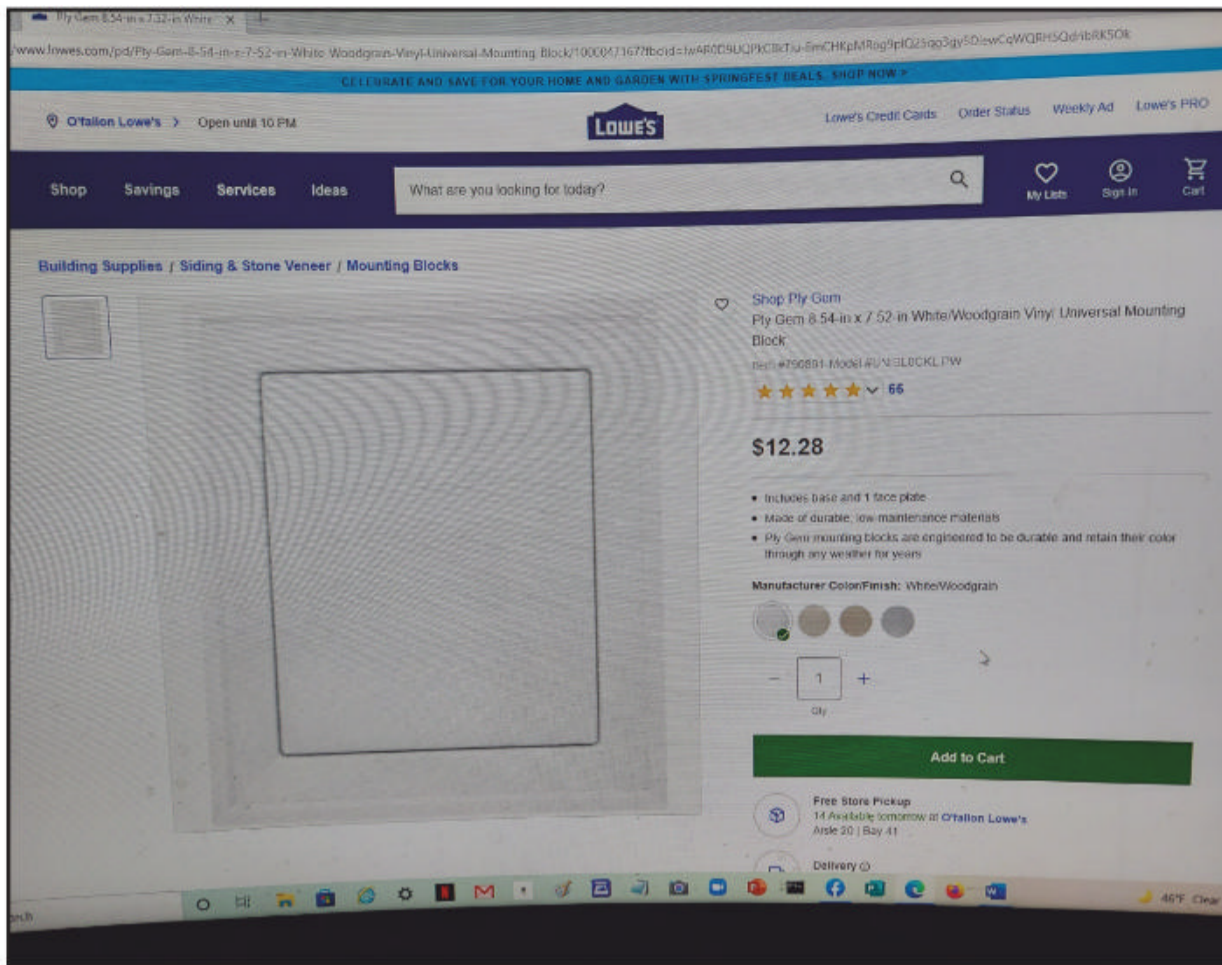


Photo I. Lowe's mounting block used to accommodate the PVC pipe into Brian's interior shack wall. (Photo by KOØZ)

com <<https://tinyurl.com/4htaynw4>> (Photo F). It is aesthetically pleasing, it looks very professional, is weather-proof, and it was easy to work with.

He drilled a hole in the enclosure's backside to accommodate the 1.90-inch OD PVC pipe (Photo G). The enclosure's bottom has openings lined with

foam rubber to allow coax, lightning protection, and a ground wire to be placed inside the weatherproof enclosure away from the elements (Photo H).

### Interior Aesthetics

With the exterior entrance completed, it was time to put the finishing touches to

the interior service entrance. Brian selected a mounting plate from Lowe's <<https://tinyurl.com/3nvfhh84>> (Photo I). A hole was drilled into the mounting plate to accommodate the PVC pipe. NØBMK placed the mounting block over the PVC pipe, and he now has a nice-looking coax entrance inside his shack that leads to the outside entrance (Photo J). Better yet, an XYL (ham jargon for wife) could overlook and approve this addition to her hubby's "man cave" without too much difficulty. As an additional bonus, the 1.9-inch OD pipe offers Brian extra room to run more coax through if he ever chooses to expand his antenna farm.

### Worth the Effort

A little planning can go a long way. Initially, Brian reached out to as many hams as he could to seek out their advice. In the process, NØBMK learned more about antenna mounting, grounding, coax cable, and coax service entrances that he could ever have dreamt possible. He now has a FB (ham jargon for "fine business," which means great) operating system in his shack (Photo K). If you need further information, please feel free to contact Brian via his email address: <[Bmkjunkmail13@gmail.com](mailto:Bmkjunkmail13@gmail.com)>. Thank you, Brian, for this month's topic and thank you for reading CQ magazine.

— Until next month, 73 and GL,  
Ron KOØZ

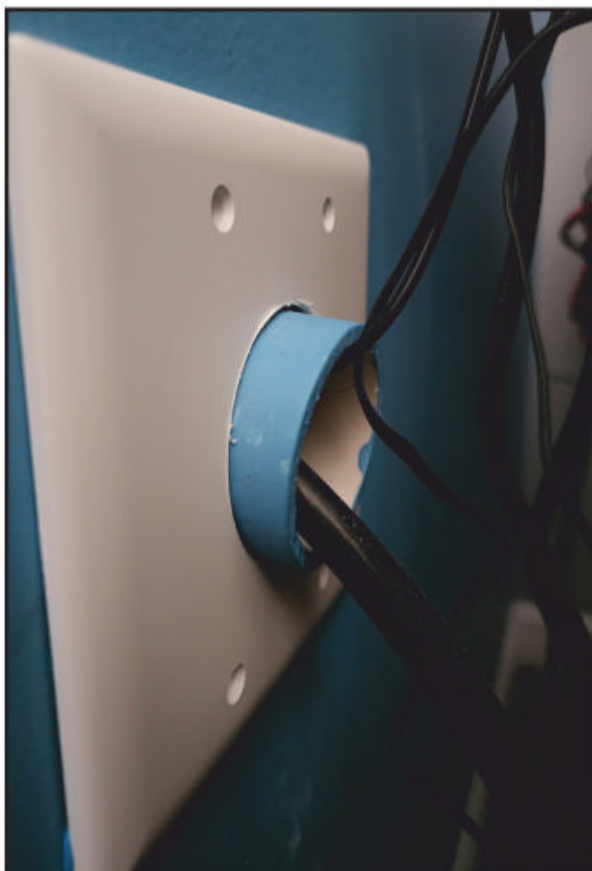


Photo J. Adding the mounting block nicely finishes Brian's coax entrance into his shack. (Photo by NØBMK)



Photo K. Brian, NØBMK's, rigs. (Photo by NØBMK)

# MICROCONTROLLERS IN AMATEUR RADIO

BY JACK PURDUM,\* W8TEE

## The C Preprocessor

**W**hen you hit the compile button for your compiler, there's a whole bunch of stuff that takes place that isn't obvious while the code compiles. In general terms, the C compiler:

- 1) invokes a preprocessor pass on the code;
- 2) performs syntax / semantic checking;
- 3) if everything is correct, the compiler generates an intermediate code file, and
- 4) the linker then stitches your code and library code together to produce an executable program.

It does all of this very quickly.

Unfortunately, a lot of C tutorials overlook some of the things you can do using *preprocessor directives*. Table 1 presents the preprocessor directives. Note that preprocessor directives are processed by the preprocessor pass, not actually by the compiler. Also note that none of the preprocessor directives ends with a semicolon. Let's take a closer look at some of these.

### #define and Symbolic Constants

I really don't like "magic numbers" in my code, especially numbers that might be scattered throughout the program. Back in the 1970s, there was a gas shortage and the federal government required states that wanted to continue receiving federal highway funds to implement a new maximum speed limit of 55 miles per hour. Many state programs that figured out fines for speeding tickets used code like:

```
if (currentSpeed >= 70) {  
    FigureTicketCost(currentSpeed);  
}
```

It would seem simple enough to change the above to 55 and be done with it. Unfortunately, there may be dozens of places that had something similar, but applied to trucks with so many axles, buses, etc. No problem, you say: Just do a global search-and-replace. Bad idea.

\* <jack52443@yahoo.com>

If you do a global search-and-replace on 70, guess what happens to this statement:

```
milesViaRoute70 = thisCity - thatCity;
```

The statement becomes:

```
milesViaRoute55 = thisCity - thatCity;
```

after a global search and replace. Not good. Instead, suppose we torch the magic number and instead use:

```
#define MAX_FED_HWY_SPEED      70  
// some left-out code...  
if (currentSpeed >= MAX_FED_HWY_SPEED) {  
    FigureTicketCost(currentSpeed);  
}
```

A *#define* can be used to define a *symbolic constant* for use in the program. The convention is to use uppercase letters for symbolic constants so they are not confused with variables. Technically, symbolic constants don't have an entry in the compiler's *ad hoc* symbol table. Now, anywhere the preprocessor finds the text MAX\_FED\_HWY\_SPEED in the source code, it removes that constant and replaces it with the two text characters "70". If the Feds change the maximum speed to 55, one change:

```
#define MAX_FED_HWY_SPEED      55
```

a recompile of the code, and you're done! No risky global search-and-replace, or otherwise search the source code. Also, which makes more sense?

```
if (currentSpeed >= 70) {  
or  
if (currentSpeed >= MAX_FED_HWY_SPEED) {
```

Symbolic constants make the code easier to read.

**Table 1. Preprocessor Directives**

Directive	Meaning
#define	Define symbolic constants or macros
#include	Include the text in a file at this point in the program
#ifdef	Like an if statement block based on a symbolic constant or macro
#ifndef	If the symbolic constant or macro is not defined
#undef	Undefine a symbolic constant or macro
#if	Preprocessor if control block
#else	Preprocessor else control block
#elif	Continuation of if block (like and else-if)
#endif	End preprocessor if control block
#error	Indicate an error during the compile process
#pragma	A compiler specific action taken based on a token value in the #pragma

# WHAT'S NEW



## PreciseRF Updates its QRO Mag Loop

PreciseRF has updated its high-powered magnetic loop antenna with an improved stepper motor and a bump to the full legal limit. The HG3 QRO-A remotely-tuned mag loop antenna covers the 80- to 10-meter bands and can handle a full 1,500 watts of power.

Most of the improvements were made to the stepper motor with a new high-Q vacuum capacitor, which allows for the full legal power limit. Additional enhancements include:

- Integrated capacitor-to-radiator connections with six times more copper surface for improved efficiency
- Optical isolated driver interface allows for a longer control cable and RFI rejection
- Separate logic circuit and stepper motor power supplies allow for smoother and more precise tuning.
- Custom high-voltage Delrin motor-to-capacitor shaft coupler for greater high-power and high-voltage protection

PreciseRF also fine-tuned the stepper motor as it now offers 45,000-step resolution and 511 Hz of resolution bandwidth, which allows users to set their band preferences spot on. Included Rapid Tune technology automatically scans each band for the lowest standing-wave ratio (SWR) and is compatible with most high-frequency radios. The HG3 Plus controller also received a new firmware update, which allows for better SWR performance.

The new HG3 QRO-A is available now and has a suggested retail price of \$3,025. For more information, contact PreciseRF, 13690 Wisteria Drive NE, Aurora, OR 07002. Phone: (503) 915-2490. Website: <www.preciserf.com>.

## #define and Macros

Another magic number you see a lot in source code files is something like:

```
int numberOfStudents[200];
// some more code...
for (int i = 0; i < 200; i++) {
```

If the number of students increases to 210, you now have to go through the entire program and change all uses of 200 as it pertains to the array. Again, an error-prone process, especially in C because C contains no runtime checks on array bounds. Some languages do such checks, but to me, that's a language that still hasn't shed its training wheels.

What if we did this instead?

```
#define NUMBER_OF_ELEMENTS(x) (sizeof(x) / sizeof(x[0]))
// left out code...
for (int i = 0; i < NUMBER_OF_ELEMENTS (numberOfStudents); i++) {
```

Note that the *#define* in this example is creating an expression that contains a variable (e.g., *x*) in its definition. Because the macro is passed a parameter for use in the macro, such macros are called *parametized macros*. Now, if you change the size of the array, it is automatically adjusted where the macro is called.

Another parametized macro that many people have seen is:

```
#define MAX(a,b) ((a)>(b) ? (a) : (b))
// left out code
biggestValue = MAX(x, y);
```

The *MAX()* macro finds the larger of the two parameters passed to it. Both parametized macros should cause an itch on the back of your neck. Why? Note that there is nothing defining the data type used in either macro! That is, they can be used with any data type ... the macro is typeless! If you wrote regular C code to find the maximum of two numbers, you would have to define the data type being used in the comparison. If you needed to find the maximum value for an *int*, *long*, and *double*, you'd have to write three different functions. This makes macros more flexible than straight C code.

## #if, #else, #ifdef, #ifndef, #elseif, #endif

This group of preprocessor directives are all variations of *if* and *if-else* C statements. For example:

```
#if key == straightKey
    portPin = 22;
#else
    portPin = 23;
#endif
```

If this case, the preprocessor directive is used to assign the pin number for a key port depending upon the value of *key*. All of the *#if\*\** preprocessor directive blocks are terminated with a *#endif*

One directive I use a lot is to toggle debugging code (i.e., aka scaffolding code) into and out of a program. Example (the first line shown below is near the top of the source code file):

```
#define DEBUG // Comment out for production code
// a bunch of left out code...
#ifdef DEBUG
    Serial.print("Variable x = ");
    Serial.println(x);
#endif
```

Note what happens when the symbolic constant *DEBUG* is defined. In that case, the debugging print statements are compiled into the program. However, if I comment out the *DEBUG* symbol, that symbolic constant is no longer defined, so the *#ifdef DEBUG* expression is logic false, and the debugging code is not present in

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the compiled program. This is a good way to have debug code when you need it, but don't generate the debugging code when you don't need it.

Answer this: What would happen if I replace the line above with `#ifdef DEBUG1` instead of `#ifdef DEBUG`? Because `DEBUG1` is not defined, the print statements are not compiled into the code.

So what?

Think about it. What if you have several dozen such pieces of scaffolding code scattered throughout the program? This would result in an avalanche of debugging print statements creating a forest-for-the-trees problem. You can use the trailing digit trick (`DEBUG1`) to turn off a single debug block while leaving all the others intact.

## #include

This preprocessor directive has two main variations:

```
#include <myHeader.h>  
#include "yourHeader.h"
```

The difference is whether the include file name is surrounded with angle brackets (`<>`) or double quotes ("`"`).

`<>` When you use angle brackets (we are assuming you are using an IDE and not a command line version of a compiler), the compiler searches the default path name for the compiler's libraries. For example, if you are trying to include a library for an Arduino Nano and the compiler is installed on `C:\Arduino1.8.19`, the brackets cause the compiler to look in `C:\Arduino1.8.19\libraries`, because that is the default include directory. If the compiler cannot find it, it issues an error message.

" " When you use double quote marks, the compiler first looks in the directory where the source code files are located. If it cannot find the specified file in the source code directory, it then searches the default include directory (i.e., the one search when using brackets). If the file is still not found, the compiler sets fire to your compu ... no it doesn't. It just issues a "file not found" error message.

## Non-Standard Libraries

More and more, we are seeing programs that take advantage of special libraries that are written for various displays, sensors, and other external devices. For example, suppose you wrote a library named `MyLibrary` and you host it on your website. I urge you to include it in your programs using the following format:

```
#include <MyLibrary.h> // http://MyWebsite.com/  
Libraries
```

All too often, people use non-standard libraries (i.e., a library that is not distributed with the IDE or one of its software patches) but don't tell the reader where to find the code. You can avoid a lot of support headaches if you simply supply the URL where they can download the library as a comment in your `#include` directive.

## Conclusion

While we haven't covered all of the preprocessor directives, we have discussed those most-frequently used. Of all of these, try to use the `#define` directive to get rid of magic numbers. Even if you don't think the constant will change, a symbolic constant can make it a lot easier to read your code.

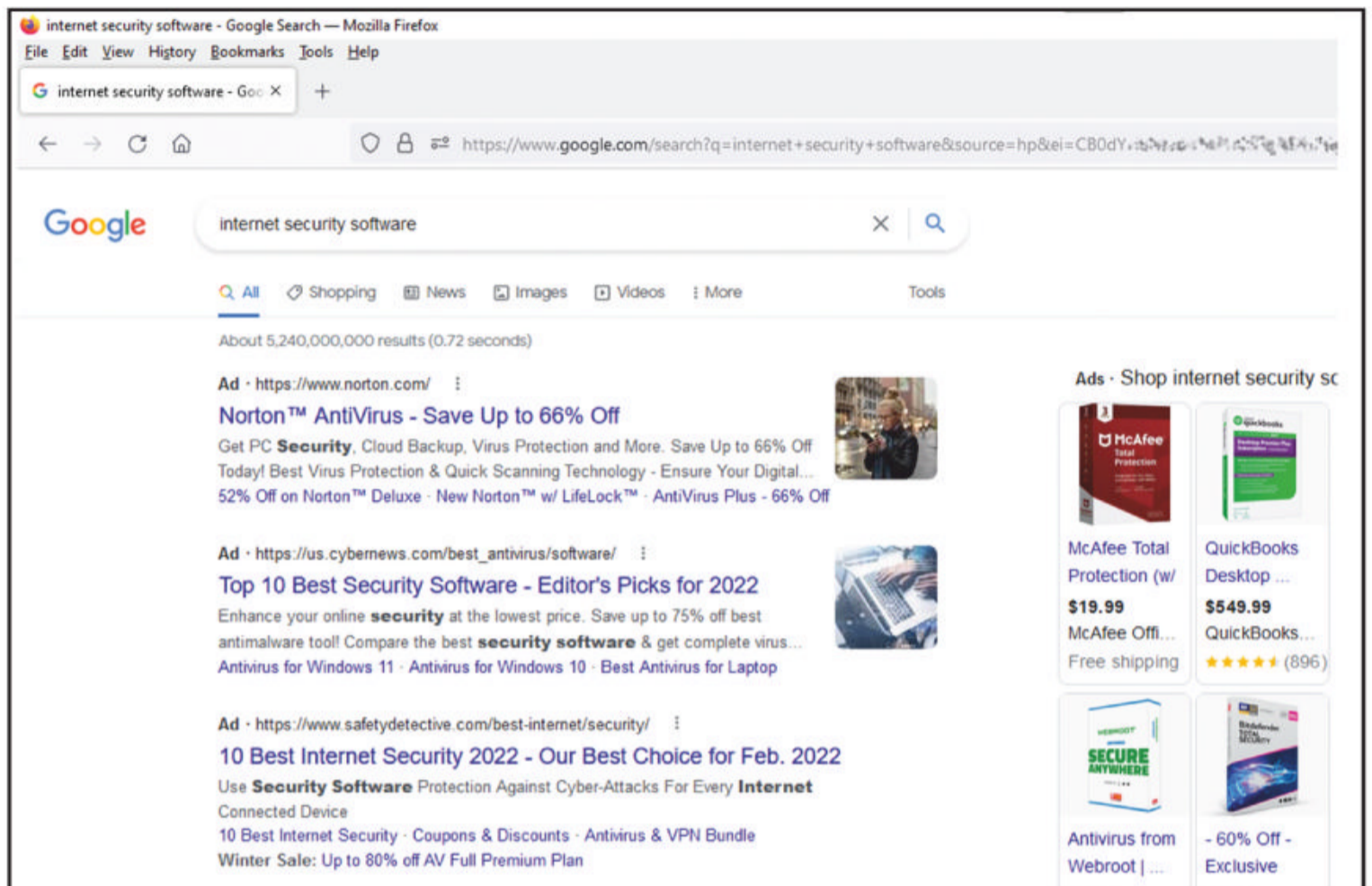
# DIGITAL CONNECTION

BY DON ROTOLO,\* N2IRZ

## Computer Security

### Avoiding Computer Maladies Like the Plague

Figure 1. Internet security software options abound. This search found over 5 billion web pages associated with internet security software, and the advertisements show some for under \$20. Just pick a reputable company and you should be fine. Check out online reviews (from neutral third parties like magazines; beware of sites with a bias) to learn about features and problems.



Get on the security soapbox every couple of years, and this is the month for that. If you run modern internet security / anti-virus software and manage your home network settings, then you might not find a lot new here. But with the dramatic increase in new computer viruses and malware attacks, at least some cursory protection is mandatory. I'm not going to blame any particular country, but some actively encourage hackers.

Hopefully, your home system is a small fish in a big sea, and for the most part you're not an interesting target. One of my relatives, who is much older than me and therefore should know better, flat-out refuses to pay for virus protection. I convinced him to get the free version his cable company was offering (which is actually pretty good), but he goes out into the dangerous world with little protection. The last time he lost his data to a virus (late last year), I finally refused to help him. He ended up having to buy a new computer and was a little humbled, but not nearly enough in my opinion. Don't be like him!

#### Passwords

I still meet people who admit their password is "password" or "12345". Unbelievable. I've written before about using a password system (March 2018 for example) which allows you to generate good passwords that are almost trivial to

remember, yet very strong and different for each application or website you use. If you use just one or two passwords for everything, you open yourself up for massive fraud or identity theft should the password become known somehow.

I use two password systems, along with the password wallet application KeePass. The "weaker" system is for things of little consequence, such as for a local retailer's "loyalty" club. The "strong" system is for things of greater importance, such as my Google account. KeePass is used for really important things, like bank accounts. The password systems allow me to access websites (for example) that I may not have visited for years, without having to look up my password, handy when I'm not at home where my master password file is found.

KeePass creates passwords that are particularly complex and random, the kind you don't really want to have to type in. The security benefit is not outweighed by the inconvenience. I do have KeePass on both my home system and as an app on my phone, so as long as I have one of those, I can access things. The KeePass database is portable, meaning that it can be stored on multiple devices and accessed from any of them. KeePass does require a master password to open the database, but I've committed a particularly strong one to memory.

Wait a sec: Master password file? Yup. Although it is a bad practice to store your passwords on paper (safe deposit box or fire safe being an exception), I do but I don't. The website, user name, and password system in use is written down, but not the actual password. That means you might see "weak

\*c/o CQ magazine

Email : <N2IRZ@cq-amateur-radio.com>

core” as the password, but you can’t do much with it. Plus, the file is stored encrypted and password-protected by Microsoft Excel. This security can be broken, but not easily — and even if it is, a thief won’t see any passwords, just which system I use there. But having such a document would be very handy should my wife become a widow.

The bottom line is this: Use strong passwords. There are many ways to do this, including with apps like KeePass, which I trust because it is open source. But do it, somehow.

## Your Phone

That small but powerful computer in your hand also has its vulnerabilities. Instead of a simple 4-digit passcode, use the more secure setting of 6 or more characters, and set the phone to erase itself after 6 or so incorrect guesses. Biometric identification (your face or fingerprint for example) is fairly secure, unless you’re involved in a business where they won’t hesitate to chop off your index finger to get access. (Sorry, my Sicilian heritage is showing. There is no Mafia and we’ll kill anyone who says there is).

## Anti-Virus Software

I had been a many-decade user of McAfee products until recently. While the performance was perfectly fine, the constant pop-ups for advertising purposes and the apparently ineffective settings to suppress them finally got to me. I went with another vendor and so far I am satisfied, but time will tell. There are hundreds of options out there. See *Figure 1* for a sampling.

The key is that for just a few dollars — less than a nice lunch — you can buy anti-virus software on sale that’s good for multiple devices for a year. Prior to renewal time, check local retailer’s websites for the sale again, and repeat the cycle. If necessary, call the company and whine that you’d like to renew but full price is too much, can they do anything for you? As a ham, frugal is my middle name.

Set the software to update and scan regularly and automatically. If it has a “paranoid” setting use it, later throttling it back to eliminate any really bothersome things like flagging every website as dangerous. The idea is to check every file, email, USB stick, etc. that goes in to or comes out of your machine, along with “signature” detection, flagging suspicious activity that could be a virus it doesn’t yet know about. Most AV software does this intelligent monitoring automatically, and can prevent most big headaches.

## Email

Of course, you also have to be intelligent. You know of the Nigerian prince who died and left you US 37 million\$ if you just verify your bank account, but phishing emails are even more pervasive than ever. I get messages all the time posing as FedEx, LinkedIn, UPS, USPS, several banks, credit cards, even Facebook. Messages with foreign alphabets, or professing her lust for me, are also not good. Don’t even open them, just delete them.

If you do happen to open one, be extremely cautious. Clicking on a link could download a virus. Anyone asking for details (fill in this form to unlock your banking account) not only gets the details you typed in, but a pretty good idea of where and who you are: Your browser is generally quite promiscuous in spilling details like your IP address, physical location, computer and local network details, and far more. Unless you protect yourself, that email link you clicked can gather all that info, even if you angrily decide to “show them” by entering false information. They can get to know a lot about

you, most importantly that you’re a genuine address and you clicked on the message: You are now a target.

## Firewall

A firewall can help limit this information spillage. There are many kinds of firewall, but the one you get with your internet security software (a step up from basic anti-virus) is probably just fine, considering the small fish — big sea situation. Use your favorite internet search engine — remembering that

The image shows a screenshot of a web browser's system information page. The page is titled "MORE INFO ABOUT YOUR SYSTEM:" and contains several sections of technical data:

- MORE INFO ABOUT YOUR SYSTEM:** Introduction text explaining the purpose of the page.
- YOUR REFERRER:** States "We couldn't tell where you came from..." and provides a link "What is my referrer?".
- WIFI DETAILS:** Provides a link "What is my WiFi?" and text "Discover your Access Point, WiFi channel and more."
- IP ADDRESS:** Shows the public IP address "68.119.55.29" and includes a link "Use a VPN to help stay private and secure."
- LOCAL IP ADDRESS:** Shows "Detection blocked by your web browser" and a link "Detect your local IP manually".
- LOCATION:** Shows "Roswell, United States, Earth (Approximate)" and text "Your IP address can reveal your location."
- INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER:** Shows "CHARTER-20115" and a link "Our best guess".
- INTERNET SPEED:** Provides a link "Test your internet speed" and text "Use this tool to test how fast your internet connection is".
- COMPUTER SCREEN:** Shows "1920 x 1080 Pixels" and "24 bit" with text "The resolution and color depth of your screen."
- BROWSER WINDOW SIZE:** Shows "1936 x 1056 Pixels" and a link "Resize your browser to see this change".
- DO NOT TRACK SETTING:** Shows "Do Not Track is Enabled" and text "Ask websites to not track you."

*Figure 2. Here is an example of some of the information that is collected from your browser and computer system. Using a VPN along with effective firewall and browser settings can limit this significantly. Most of my settings were left open to collect this image.*



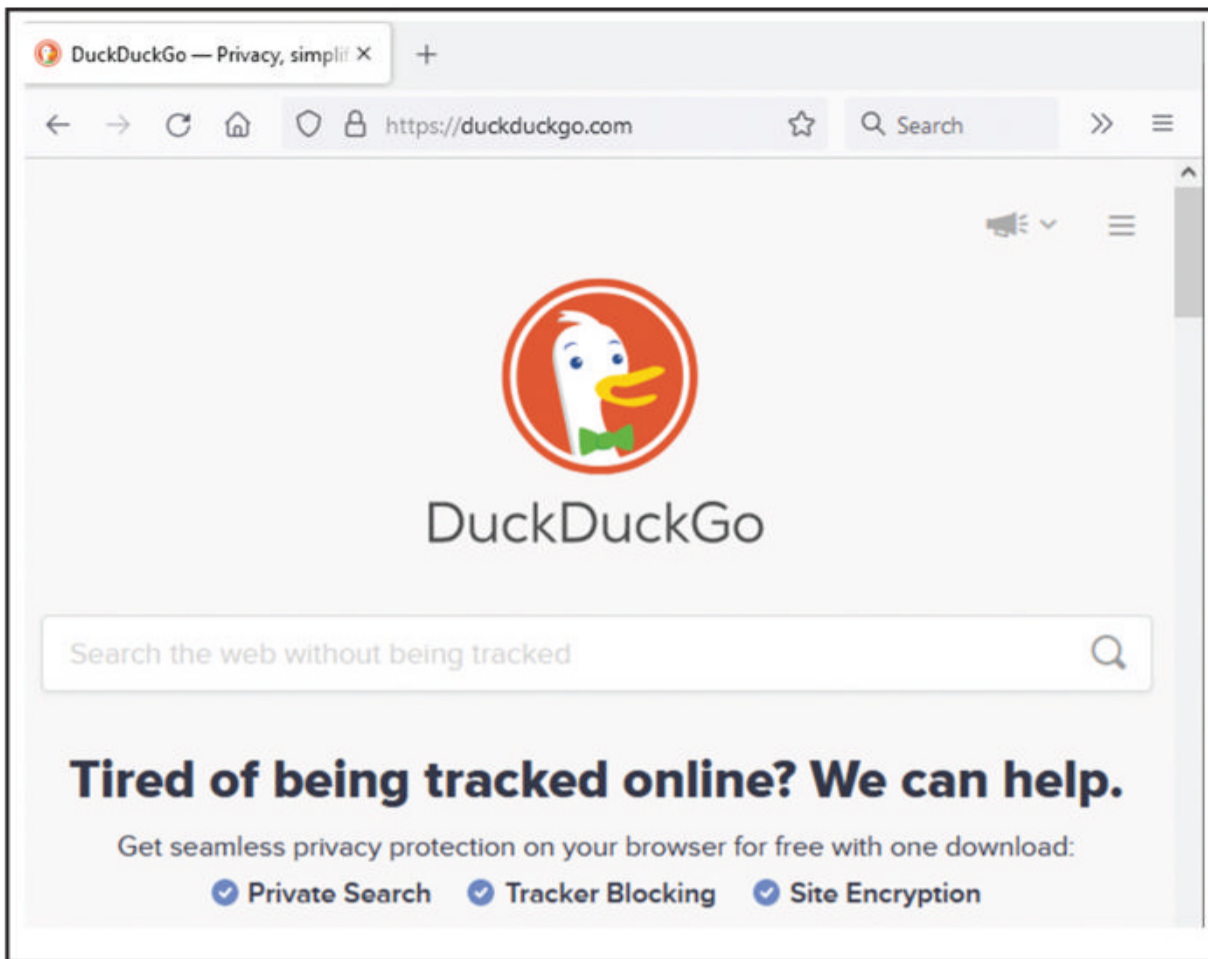


Figure 3. If you don't want your web search information tracked and sold, look for a search engine (such as Duck-Duck-Go) that will help you find what you're looking for without the tracking stuff. (This is not an ad for Duck-Duck-Go; it's just the best-known of non-tracking search engines.)

Google records this along with all that spillage info and uses it to make money — and look for “info from browser.” It can be an eye-opener, but use care: A malicious site can fool you into clicking on something. I used <www.deviceinfo.me> which did not require me to click anything.

Google and others collect information about every search you make, and ties that together with anything else it can

learn about you (Figure 2). They make money by selling this information to advertisers and others who think you are swell and want to know more about you. Some search engines, such as the much-advertised Duck-Duck-Go (Figure 3) are just as effective, without the tracking stuff.

### VPN

Many internet security packages include

a Virtual Private Network, or VPN, to significantly limit what information can be gathered. A VPN acts like a tunnel or wormhole ... you go in one side and what comes out the other side isn't easily linked back to you. The other end sees the VPN's IP address and details, not yours. VPNs also encrypt the data, so someone listening in to your traffic won't be able to read it easily. Some VPNs cost a few dollars, some are included or free. Just remember that the VPN company itself can see both sides of the connection, so be sure you trust *them*.

Using a VPN is generally simple. You just turn it on, but because of the extra computing happening, it may slow your connection a little. Using a VPN on an open Wi-Fi system — think Starbucks or the airport — helps prevent someone from seeing all your information. Without one, it is actually easy to hack into the Wi-Fi and gather all sorts of details that can be used to attack you. Search on sidejacking, packet sniffing, evil twin, and man-in-the-middle hacks for some basic examples.

The bottom line here is that a VPN goes a very long way towards keeping your internet presence secure. Use one if you can.

### Local Router

The internet router used at your home (or business or ...) should also be secured. At a minimum, change the default password for accessing it, set a good password for Wi-Fi, and disable “remote administration” so someone can't come in from outside your network and access the router. It can be a good use of your time to learn about the other features of the router and use them. A website like <https://routersecurity.org> has good advice for this.

You can also use network-attached devices to enhance your security. These live on your local network and look at the traffic passing through, taking action as needed. One such device is the Pi-hole <https://pi-hole.net> which has a focus on blocking advertising. You can use a Raspberry Pi to run it, and it replaces the default Domain Name Server (DNS) assigned by your internet provider.

The intent of this month's column is to motivate you to think about and take action for your digital security. There is a lot of evil out there, and nobody else is going to protect you from it. Take some action, the more the better, because eventually even a small fish gets caught and eaten.

– Until next time, 73 de N2IRZ.

# VHF PLUS

BY TRENT FLEMING,\* N4DTF

## Waiting for Sporadic-E

### Plus Meteor Scatter Mornings

**A**s I write this, many of us are eagerly awaiting the spring/summer Sporadic-E ( $E_s$ ) season on 6 meters. I'm seeing a lot of FT8 activity, less phone and CW for now. Both  $E_s$  and Transequatorial Propagation (TEP) have been active modes, with a number of U.S. hams working into South America recently (see *Photo A* for a graphic of the March 15<sup>th</sup> opening). As previously mentioned, I have FT8 fully functional now, using my IC-7700, and will look forward to not only phone, but FT8 contacts. Please keep those activity reports coming so that I can share them.

### Getting the Most Out of Our Hobby

You'll recall that one of my recurring themes has been helping new hams get the most out of their license privileges. This time I wanted to discuss the educational value of catalogs. Call me old-fashioned, but I love catalogs. In the spring, various fly-fishing catalogs show up that to me serve as harbingers of better weather and days on the water. I often read these cover to cover. I feel the same way about ham radio catalogs, any time of the year. Websites and new product emails are great, but the catalog presents a different experience. In addition to its portable, offline capability (*just like a print magazine!* —ed), a full-line catalog from any vendor presents — are you ready? — an educational opportunity. For most of us, perusing the pages of ham radio and electronics catalogs gave us early insight into the wide range of radios, antennas, and accessories available, as well as an understanding of the use of these components. Sure, there is a Sears Wishbook element to these, drooling over the next cool thing, etc., but there is also an education to be had

\* <n4dtf@cq-amateur-radio.com>

*Photo A. Six-meter TEP (transequatorial propagation) opening on March 15, 2022 between the southeastern U.S. and central South America (Maps courtesy DXmaps.com)* →

in terms of what's available, components that solve a problem you are having (or didn't realize you had), and a general understanding of the basics of getting a shack up and running.

### N4DTF Shack Report

Keeping you updated on developments at my station ... Most importantly, I was able to lower my 6-meter antenna and

troubleshoot what was causing high SWR. My first harmonic provided a lot of the heavy lifting. Fortunately, it was as simple as replacing the cable, and all is now well as I prepare for another 6-meter season. Other projects include a successful implementation of HF in my Tahoe, using an FT-857D and a 40-meter monoband antenna. The problem, as is apparently the usual in mobile

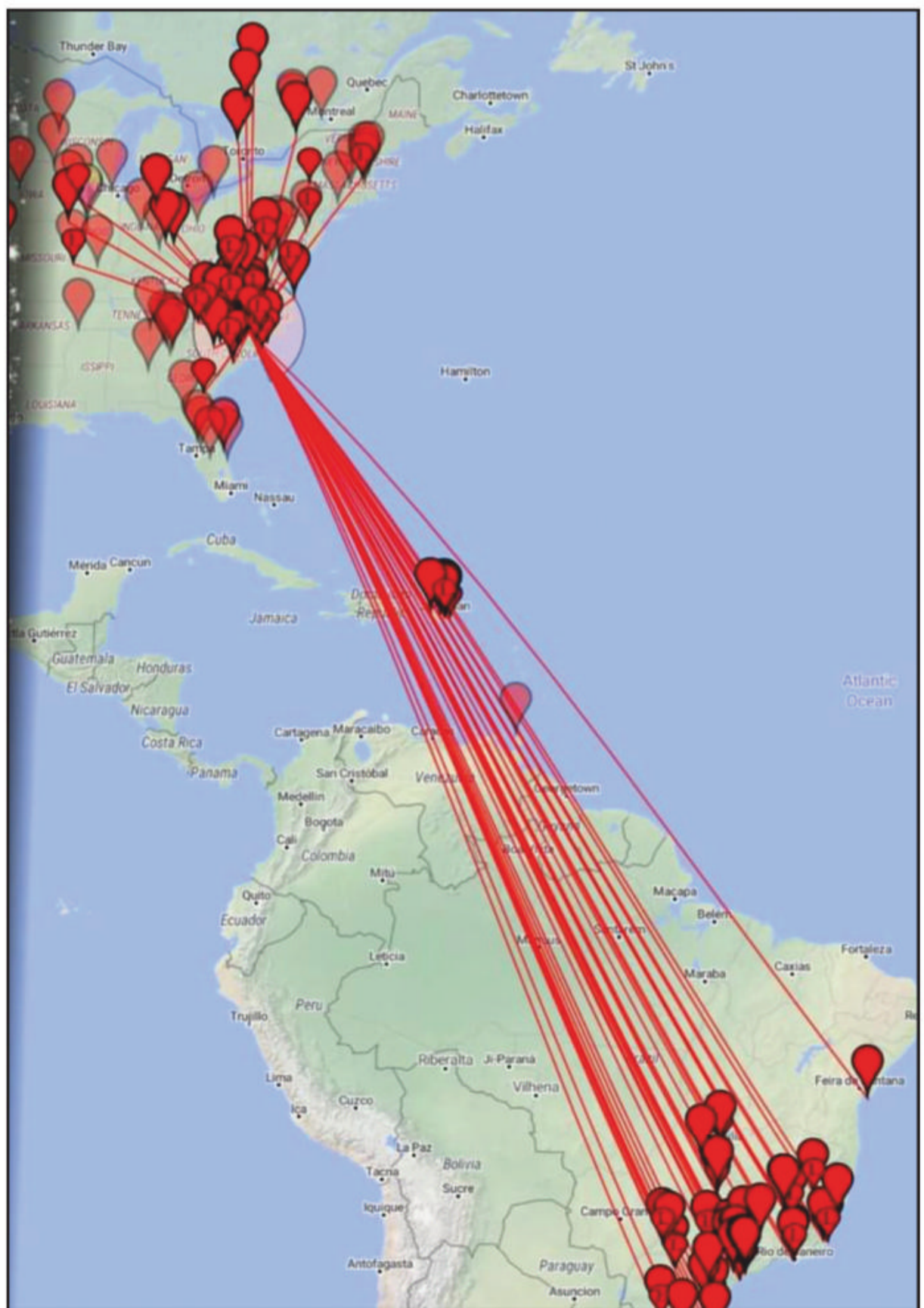




Photo B. A bracket mount on the hood of N4DTF's vehicle solved problems in his mobile installation caused by poor grounding.

implementations, was grounding. A bracket mount, firmly attached under the hood, solved the issue (Photo B). So far, the antenna also performs well on 15 and 6 meters, with very little tuning. I hope to have some success mobile on both FM and SSB on 6 meters this year. If you are mobile on either mode, please do send along reports of your activities.

### New 6-Meter Operating Award

Lee Kermode, KZ4RR, writes with news of a new operating award for the Meteor Scatter Mornings group. Previously you've seen me write about this group that meets beginning around 7 a.m. eastern time on 50.145 MHz to attempt phone contacts on meteors. From Lee:

*Meteor Scatter Mornings was started in 1981 when Tom, K8MMM, and Lee, WA8LRE (KZ4RR), started working every morning on 6-meter (meteor) scatter. In 2006, Mike, W8IF, and DeRG, K9DRG, joined in on the fun. Since then, over 100 stations representing 20 states, the Cayman Islands, Canada, and Mexico have participated. The group focuses on weak-signal scatter and tropo using conventional modes of SSB and CW only. Meteor Scatter Mornings meets every morning on 50.145 MHz*

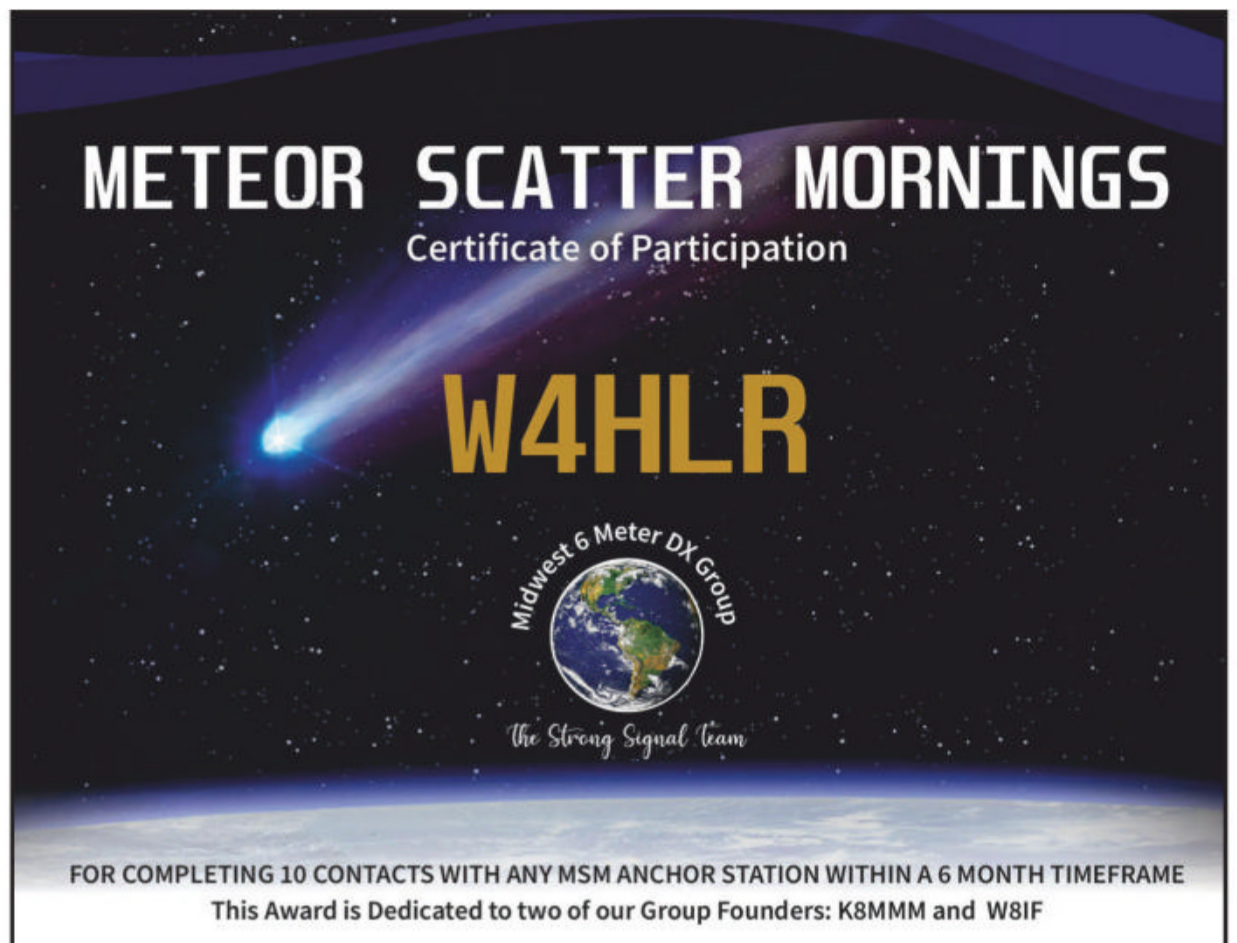


Photo C. Meteor Scatter Mornings certificate for working at least 10 of the group's "anchor stations" within six months via 6-meter meteor scatter (CW or voice only).

Table 1

Meteor Scatter Mornings Anchor Stations as of March, 2022

Alabama - N4WXU, K4WI	Missouri - KØKKO
Cayman Islands - ZF1EJ	North Carolina - W4MW
Connecticut - WZ1V	Ohio - WZ8D, KW8F
Florida - KZ4RR, W4ICU, KZ4TT	Ontario - VE3EDY
Georgia - K4CKS	Tennessee - W4HLR
Indiana - K9DRG, W9FNB	Texas - W3UUM, NZ5F
Kentucky - W9DR	Virginia - KG4HOT, N4ASF, KD4AA, W4TJ
Louisiana - KE5JXC	Wisconsin - K9KHW, W9NHE
Michigan - W8JER, N8JGG	Wyoming - K7TNT
Minnesota - KØGUV, KØKIF	

*from 7-8 a.m. ET. MSM is not a net — just a place to meet and make weak-signal contacts — please join us.*

To qualify for the certificate (Photo C), a station must make 10 contacts with any "anchor station" within a 6-month timeframe. See Table 1 for a list of anchor stations. Lee says it's permissible to work the same anchor station 10 times, but the group encourages participants to work as many anchor stations as possible within the 6-month timeframe.

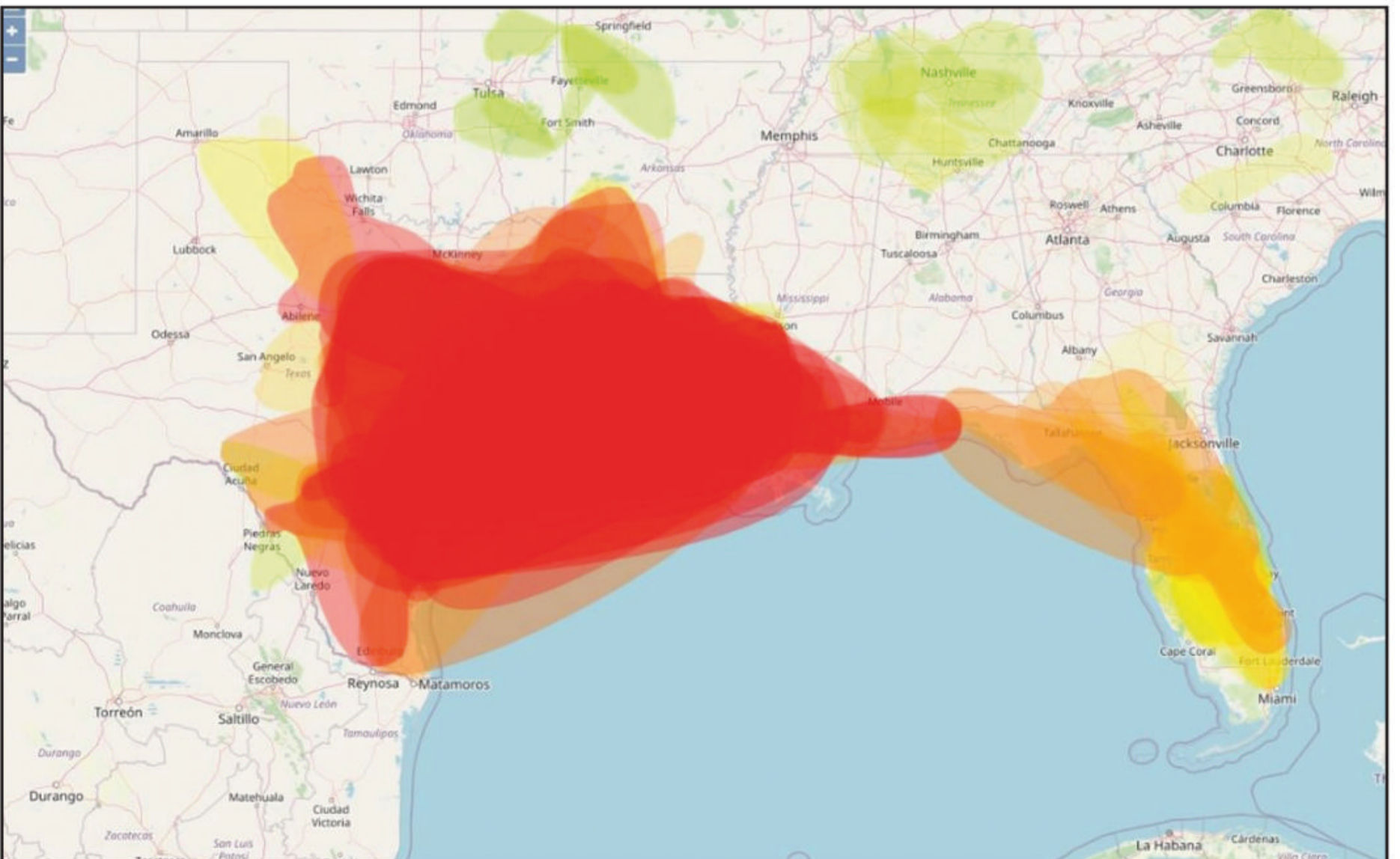
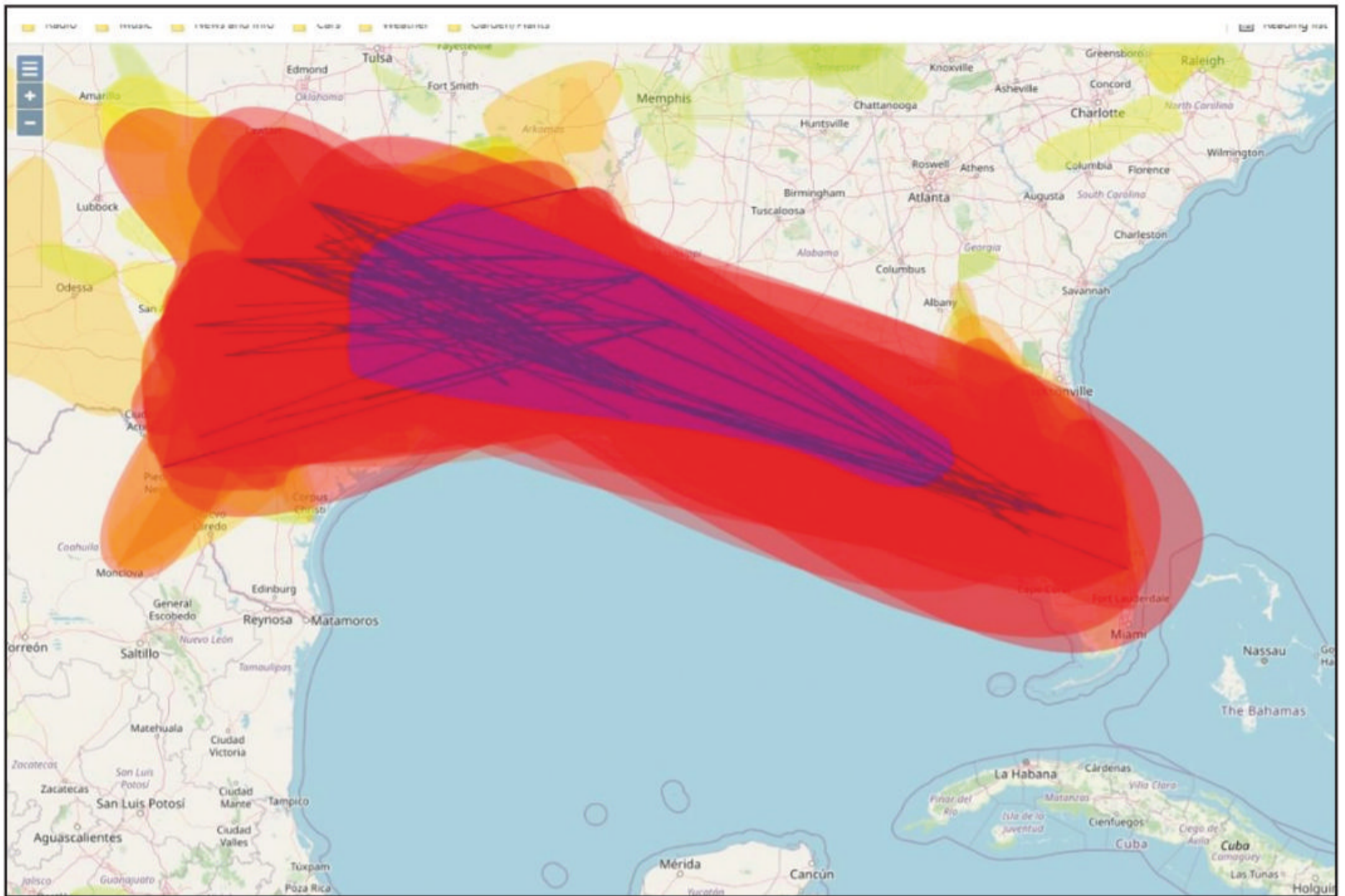
Submit date, time, and Anchor Station Worked to: Howard Runions, W4HLR, Program Administrator, email: <hired-dux@yahoo.com>.

We appreciate Lee sending along this information, and hope that many of you

will try to get on the air with the Meteor Scatter Mornings group.

### On the Air

Around these parts (I'm in EM55, near Memphis, Tennessee), we enjoy the Florida and Alabama Gulf Coast. Many pilgrimages are made each year to enjoy the sunshine and surf along this stretch, alternatively referred to as the Emerald Coast or the "Redneck Riviera." For hams, there is another reason to love this area, and that's the outstanding tropospheric propagation. Our friend David Thier, WA3GWK, lives along the coast in this paradise and keeps us posted on tropo activity. See Photos D and E for examples of the outstanding propagation on March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.



Photos D and E. March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> saw great tropo openings along the Gulf coast.

# AWARDS

BY STEVE MOLO,\* KI4KWR

## Parks On The Air (POTA) Awards

Recently I was attending a Parks On The Air (POTA) activation here in Alabama and a new amateur mentioned that there are awards for POTA activators and hunters. So let's dive into this and see what you are possibly eligible for already.

POTA awards are available in two categories: for *activators* who operate portable from a designated park, and for *hunters* who are the amateurs who make contact with the activators. Let's start with what the POTA website describes as Standard Awards:

### For Activators:

- Bronze Award (*Photo A*): Work from 10 different reference areas (POTA's name for a designated park; POTA limits eligible parks to state / provincial or national / federal parks — county and municipal parks don't count).
- Silver Award: Work from 20 different reference areas.
- Gold Award: Work from 30 different reference areas.
- Platinum Award: Work from 40 different reference areas.
- Diamond Award: Work from 50 different reference areas.
- Sapphire Award: Work from 75 different reference areas.

### For Hunters:

- Bronze Award: Work 10 different reference areas.
- Silver Award (*Photo B*): Work 20 different reference areas.
- Gold Award: Work 30 different reference areas.
- Platinum Award: Work 40 different reference areas.
- Diamond Award: Work 50 different reference areas.
- Sapphire Award: Work 75 different reference areas.

## Getting Advanced

The next set of POTA awards available are Advanced Awards, named for endangered plants and animals found in some of the POTA areas and around the world.

Versions of each are available to Activators and Hunters:

- Arizona Agave Award: Work/work from 100 different reference areas.
- Enrubio Award: Work/work from 200 different reference areas.
- Ouachita Mountain Goldenrod Award: Work/work from 300 different reference areas.
- Stenogyne Kanehoana Award: Work/work from 400 different reference areas.
- Howard's Spectacular Thelypody Award (*Photo C*): Work/work from 500 different reference areas.
- Texas Wild Rice Award: Work/work from 600 different reference areas.
- Wiggin's Acalypha Award (*Photo D*): Work/work from 700 different reference areas.
- Georgia Aster Award: Work/work from 800 different reference areas.
- Rafflesia Flower Award: Work/work from 900 different reference areas.

- Western Prairie Fringed Orchid Award: Work/work from 1,000 different reference areas.
- Echinacea Paradoxa Award: Work/work from 1,500 different reference areas.
- Glandularia Tampensis Award: Work/work from 2,000 different reference areas.
- Heliconia Angusta Award: Work/work from 2,500 different reference areas.



Photo A. Sample Bronze Activator certificate, the first Parks on the Air award level for activators. See text for details (Images courtesy POTA website)



Photo B. The second POTA standard award level is silver. This certificate shows the version for "hunters," who seek out contacts with activators.

\*Email: <KI4KWR@cq-amateur-radio.com>

- Argyroxiphium Sandwicense Award: Work/work from 3,000 different reference areas.
- Acacia Koaia Award: Work/work from 3,500 different reference areas.
- Kokia Drynarioides Award: Work/work from 4,000 different reference areas.
- Acampe Longifolia Award: Work/work from 4,500 different reference areas.
- Virginia Big Eared Bat Award: Work/work from 5,000 different reference areas.
- Tipton Kangaroo Rat Award: Work/work from 5,500 different reference areas.
- Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Award: Work/work from 6,000 different reference areas.
- Red Wolf Award: Work/work from 6,500 different reference areas.
- Pronghorn Antelope Award: Work/work from 7,000 different reference areas.

- Ocelot Award: Work/work from 7,500 different reference areas.

There are several more categories that I could mention and the article would cover 4-7 pages of content on each award and sample photos. Obtaining the awards is easy once you've worked the required number of stations (or from the required number of locations). All it takes is logging into the POTA webpage at <<https://pota.app/#/>> and signing up if you aren't already. This page shows current activations and has a spot page that updates every minute or so, which is very handy. Nobody thought that POTA, which had its inception several years ago, would be what it is today.

Any questions you may have about POTA and how it is all done, check out <<https://parksontheair.com>>, which not only includes the U.S. but is now international, with over 111 DX entities and growing.

Parks on the Air would not be as big as it is today without Jason Johnston, W3AAX, and his team of administrators and support staff who keep this program alive. Don't forget to support the program since, like any program, it does have costs on the back end. If interested, you can donate via the link on the POTA website.

Hope to see some of you at Dayton Hamvention® in Xenia this month ... 73.

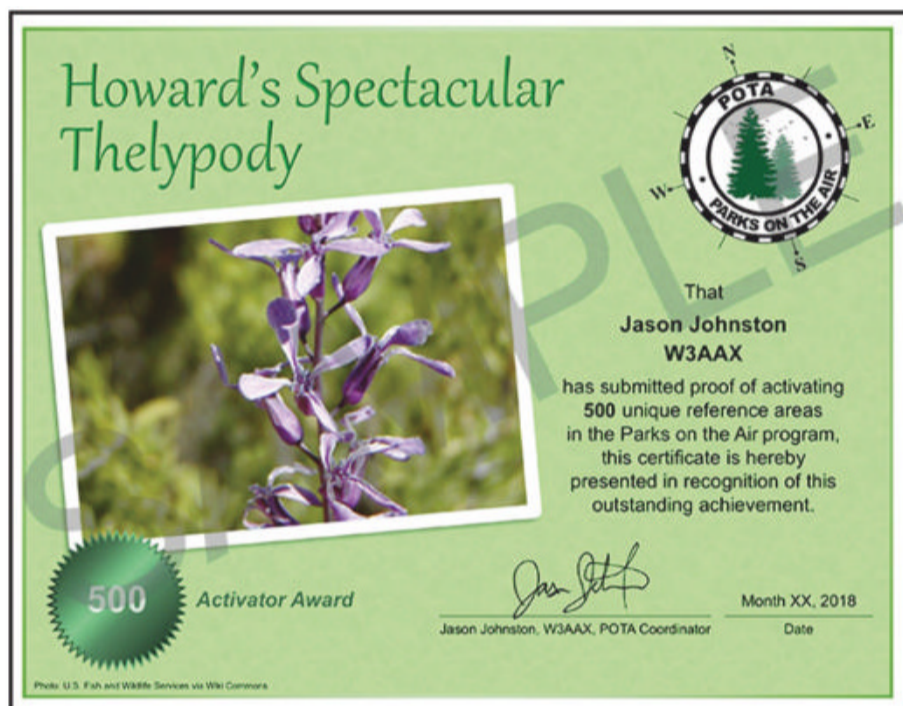


Photo C. Advanced awards are named after endangered species, with versions of each available to both activators and hunters. This one is for activating 500 or more designated park locations.

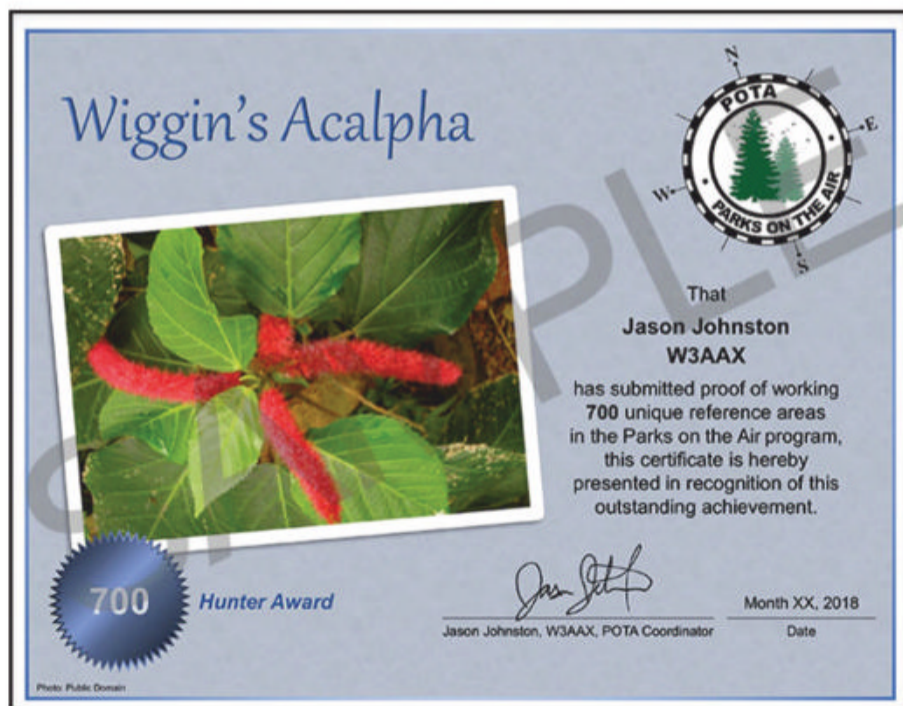



Photo D. This advanced POTA award goes to hunters who make contact with activators in at least 700 approved park locations.



Phone: 559-834-4300 Email: tashjian@msn.com

## 2022 Amateur Radio Towers

Tashjian Towers Corporation has the objective of engineering, designing, and manufacturing the best crank-up towers in the world. This catalog covers the crank-up tower line of products.


When a customer orders a tower, the ship date, shipping expenses, sales tax, will be determined. Written quotations will be provided and a signed proposal will constitute an order to proceed. Payment is due upon shipment. Larger towers will require a deposit.

**Engineered Towers**  
Tashjian Towers are engineered to hold today's bigger amateur antenna. Tashjian Towers are rated to meet the current ANSI EIA RS 222 Standard, Rev. "H". Stamped plans to your specific wind speed, topography are available by experienced registered professional civil engineers.

**Superior Strength**  
Tashjian uses ASTM A513 1026 Type 5 tubing for tower legs. This high strength tubing allows for larger antennas at code wind speeds. W towers have pulley frames on one side, LM tower 2 sides, and DX towers all three sides.

All Tashjian Towers include the tower base, an operation manual, and winch. Delivery or lead time are 3 months but currently building towers to ship from stock. Cost to ship a Tashjian Tower is lower than other crank up tower manufacturers. Installation is available in California by Tashjian Towers a licensed contractor in Ca.

Part #	Tower Model	ANTENNA AREA TIA Rev-H 100 MPH	Price
433-4000	MW33	45	\$ 5,365
451-4000	WT-51	12	\$ 4,063
467-4000	WT-67	11	\$ 7,171
437-4000	LM-237	20	\$ 3,462
454-4000	LM-354	18	\$ 6,244
456-4000	LM-354HDSP	45	\$ 11,187
470-4000	LM-470	24	\$ 12,608
582-4000	LM-584	13	\$ 13,535
480-4000	DX-70	45	\$ 18,912
483-4000	DX-70HD	70	\$ 27,749
481-4000	DX-86	26	\$ 20,334
484-4000	DX-86HD	38	\$ 29,788
482-4000	DX-100	24	\$ 35,227
485-4000	DX-100HD	40	\$ 38,934
526-4000	TM-370HD	28	\$ 15,265
527-4000	TM-490HD	42	\$ 20,518
528-4000	TM-5100RHD	32	\$ 33,064



## Under the Volcano: A DXpedition to Montserrat

BY THAIRE BRYANT, W2APF

*DX conditions continue to get better every day. I hope everyone is enjoying the slow increase of sunspots that we are seeing. I've been catching frequent openings to Asia and South-east Asia on 20, 17, and 15 meters. It has been a lot of fun! This month we turn the keyboard over to Thaire Bryant, W2APF, so he can share his experience operating from one of the most beautiful islands in the Caribbean, Montserrat. –N200*



VP2MDX QSL Card (all photos courtesy W2APF)

In February 2020, my wife and I had escaped the ice and snow of northern New Hampshire and rented a house in Fuertaventura, the Canary Island closest to Africa. I brought my trusty KX3, KXPA100, a Delta Loop, and an 88-foot doublet and was ready to spend a month working the world as EA8/W2APF. The weather was a lot better than New Hampshire's, I was interesting DX, and the local restaurants were great. The only big negative was the seasonal "la calima" or sandstorm that carried red sand from the Sahara

\*email: <n200@comcast.net>



Montserrat station all packed to fly.

across the Canaries. During these storms, visibility was down to 10 feet and everyone stayed in their houses.

Near the end of the month our son-in-law, an infectious disease physician at Massachusetts General Hospital, began to sound the alarm about this new thing called Covid. He advised getting home as fast as possible. That warning was prescient as Las Palmas shut down a hotel and quarantined 1,000 guests for this new disease brought to the Canary Islands by some visitors from northern Italy.

Our plans had called for a three-day stop in Madrid on the way home to visit the great museums. Instead, we hid in our hotel room and ordered room service until we could get a plane home. Arriving in New Hampshire, we went directly into quarantine and luckily had not contracted anything nor brought anything home with us.

Fast forward through two years of masking, vaccinations, boosters, and a lot more radio time than even I had dreamt possible, and we were both looking for a change of scenery. We also wanted to get away from winter in New Hampshire. Debbie had a new knee, and I had a new carbon fiber and titanium leg (thanks to an accidental fall while dismantling a tower), so neither of us was interested in skiing or any other winter activity. The question was where to go safely with Covid still an issue. In August, we settled upon the island of Montserrat, VP2M. We had been there in 1995, just a few months prior to the volcano starting to act up, and had loved the island for its beauty and very friendly local population. They had locked down very successfully, had begun a successful masking protocol and had reasonable success with vaccinations. Through February 2022, they had had only two deaths due to Covid, and only 164 cases in total. We were safer there than in New Hampshire! As of the 19<sup>th</sup> of February, the day we returned home, they had zero active cases of Covid on the island!

### A Radio-Friendly Location

We found a house that looked to be both comfortable and very radio-friendly on a promontory called Garibaldi Hill. It had a clear takeoff in all directions and space for antennas.

The big problem was that the island was still closed to visitors. We quickly found a workaround. Montserrat had a "remote worker program" and was admitting folks who could come for longer periods and work remotely. The island has great internet, much better than New Hampshire's rural areas, and the program enabled the island to replace some of the income lost by the tourist trade. It entailed us getting an interview and background check by our local sheriff, providing proof of income, health insurance, vaccination, a place to live, and a job description. I explained that I was planning on doing research into worldwide HF radio propagation

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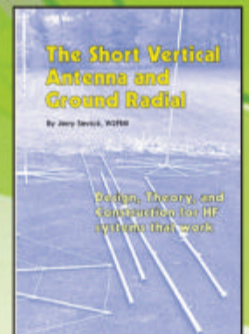
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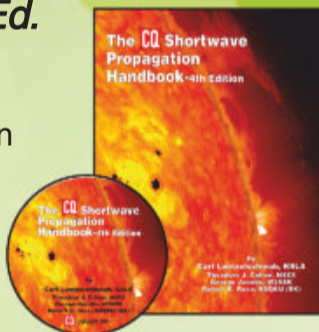
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by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

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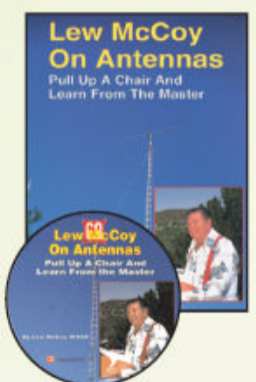
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The author's Elecraft station set up at VP2MDX.

using simple wire antennas. I applied for and received the callsign VP2MDX and the remote worker stamp.

We had our permit to travel, our airline tickets and a house to rent. My next job for equipment and antennas. I have trav-

eled the world for years pre-Covid with my KX3 and had just received the 12-year-old wonder back from Elecraft after a tune up. My KXPA100 amp had always worked well and with a PX3, a Begali Adventurer paddle and a power supply,

I was ready to go. All I needed was to settle on antennas. I had read a lot about Hexbeam antennas and saw a lot of pluses over the 88-foot doublet I usually traveled with. The big problem was weight and set up. I even planned a lunch with Mike Traffie, the original developer of the Hexbeam. Mike assured me that the design would meet my needs but, sadly, he had no parts left to construct one. I checked out others on both sides of the Atlantic and found that they were either too heavy, too expensive, or unobtainable in time for our trip.

In researching Hexbeams, I came across a YouTube video of Jason, KC5HWB, putting up a Hexbeam made by BuddiPole. It was easy to assemble, weighed less than 7 pounds, and paired very well with a Mastwerks mast and tripod. It all fit nicely in a snowboard carrier made by SportTube and made the airline weigh-in at under 50 pounds, including 75 feet of coax and a 12-meter Spiderbeam mast for my doublet to use for 30, 40, and 80 meters. The only problem was that they were not yet available for sale.

I have known Budd Drummond (BuddiPole's founder) for many years, both through BuddiPole and his many DXpeditions to the Caribbean. I found out that the company was now being managed by his son, Chris. I took a chance, emailed Chris and explained my plans for a trip to Montserrat. I asked if there was any chance of getting one of his Hexbeams in time for the trip and

## CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll

The CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll recognizes those DXers who have submitted proof of confirmation with 175 or more grid fields. Honor Roll listing is automatic upon approval of an application for 175 or more grid fields. To remain on the CQ DX Field Award Honor Roll, annual updates are required. Updates must be accompanied by an SASE if confirmation is desired. The fee for endorsement stickers is \$1.00 each plus SASE. Please make all checks payable to the Award Manager, Keith Gilbertson. Mail all updates to Keith Gilbertson, KØKG, 21688 Sandy Beach Lane, Rochert, MN 56578-9604.

### Mixed

K2TQC.....288	N8PR.....229	OK1AOV.....208	HA1ZH.....190
W1CU.....267	HA5AGS.....228	F6HMJ.....206	BA4DW.....188
VE7IG.....254	9A5CY.....227	KF8UN.....205	K2AU.....187
HAØDU.....253	K9YC.....227	OM2VL.....205	K8YTO.....186
OM3JW.....253	VE3ZZ.....226	VE7SMP.....204	WO7R.....185
W6OAT.....252	KØDEQ.....221	RW4NH.....203	N3RC.....184
HA5WA.....250	WI8A.....219	K1NU.....201	K2SHZ.....182
IK1GPG.....245	HA1AG.....218	HB9AAA.....200	KJ6P.....180
OK1ADM.....245	JN3SAC.....214	N5KE.....200	W6XK.....180
K8SIX.....240	HA9PP.....213	W3LL.....199	W5ODD.....177
HA1RW.....239	WA5VGI.....213	NIØC.....196	NØFW.....176
VE3XN.....239	IV3GOW.....211	ON4CAS.....194	WA9PIE.....176
I6T.....230	W4UM.....210	HB9DDZ.....193	HB9BOS.....175
K8OOK.....229	N4MM.....208	N4NX.....192	NKØS.....175

### SSB

W1CU.....249	KØDEQ.....198	N4MM.....189	NØFW.....176
W4ABW.....202	W4UM.....198	WA5VGI.....189	DL3DXX.....175
VE7SMP.....201	JN3SAC.....191	W3LL.....187	

### CW

W1CU.....253	JN3SAC.....211	OK1AOV.....198	N4MM.....186
HA5WA.....234	DL3DXX.....210	WA5VGI.....197	OK2PO.....184
DL6KVA.....233	DL2DXA.....209	NIØC.....196	N4NX.....177
KØDEQ.....214	W4UM.....201	HB9DZZ.....189	N7WO.....175

### Digital

W1CU.....195	HA5WA.....177	KØDEQ.....175
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he graciously let me order one along with the Mastwerks mast and tripod. SportTube supplied the case and it all arrived about three weeks before our departure. I had wanted to do a dry run of the assembly process but the weather in New Hampshire refused to cooperate.

My entire Elecraft station travels in a Pelican case that I

## The WPX Program

<b>CW</b>	4388.....W2SUB	1692.....W9NB
4045.....VE3UZ	4389.....AE5FY	1693.....KA5WMF
4046.....N1CEO	4390.....JL1UXH	1694.....CT1BWU
4047.....K1OJ	4391.....JJ1MBU	1695.....KDØFYF
4048.....OK2CSU	4392.....KE8OTO	1696.....N2YCH
4049.....N7MB	4393.....NQ7G	1697.....W2SUB
4050.....K5QR	4394.....JE1WBA	1698.....AE5FY
4051.....DC1YY	4395.....W4RFA	1699.....JL1UXH
	4396.....K1OJ	1700.....JJ1MBU
	4397.....N9BSA	1701.....NQ7G
<b>SSB</b>	4398.....EA2EXS	1702.....W4RFA
4410.....N5UWY	4399.....N7MB	1703.....OE3SMA
4411.....VE3UZ	4400.....WP4JLZ	1704.....KD2RUY
4412.....IU4LEC	4401.....JQ2MPJ	1705.....W4MRW
4413.....WQ9F	4402.....W1BUB	1706.....N9BSA
4414.....IZØFYW	4403.....UT7EF	1707.....KDØFYF
4415.....N7MB	4404.....W9CHI	1708.....JR8SUM
4416.....K5QR	4405.....RØLHQ	1709.....DU1/NFØØ
4417.....4X6HX	4406.....W9HJ	1710.....K5QR
4418.....W9CHI	4407.....K3LSU	1711.....KE8LFC
		1712.....W1BUB
<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Digital</b>	1713.....G1III
4382.....N5UWY	1687.....N5UWY	1714.....JHØEJF
4383.....W1DNP	1688.....W1DNP	1715.....JG1JPE
4384.....VE3UZ	1689.....NN3Y	1716.....W9HJ
4385.....NN3Y	1690.....ZR2BK	1717.....WA4TG
4386.....ZR2BK	1691.....GØOFD	1718.....K3LSU
4387.....N2YCH		

**CW: 650:** N7MB, OK1UU. **900:** VE3UZ. **1000:** N6PEQ, OK2CSU. **1500:** K5QR. **1750:** JA7FFN. **2500:** W3LL. **5150:** W8IQ.

**SSB: 350:** PU4MMZ, K1OJ, K5QR. **400:** IU4LEC, IZ7AUE. **500:** N5UWY. **550:** GØOFD. **600:** N7MB. **650:** VE3UZ, AI1W. **750:** IZ4DPV. **850:** OK1UU. **950:** K6VXI. **DK6MP.** **1200:** 4X6HX.

**Mixed: 450:** JJ1MBU, AB5WX, UT7EF. **500:** NN3Y, IW7DVM, IZ7AUE, W1BUB, N9BSA. **550:** N2YCH. **600:** W1DNP, N8OCJ, K3LSU. **750:** GØOFD, NQ7G, W4RFA, N3AML. **800:** JE1WBA. **850:** KF8QL, WQ9F. **900:** N1CEO, AJ6X. **1000:** IZØFYW, K6VXI, N7MB. **1050:** N5UWY, KM4VI. **1100:** IZ4DPV, JL1UXH, DK6MP. **1150:** AIWW. **1200:** W4DWS, HB9ECS. **1250:** HB9HIT. **1350:** KC1ERO, W9HJ. **1450:** PU4MMZ, NU6S. **1750:** VE3UZ. **2000:** OK1UU. **2100:** K5QR. **2300:** JR3UIC. **2550:** K4HB. **4200:** W3LL.

**Digital: 350:** KD2RUY, KE8LFC, G1III. **400:** ZR2BK, W2SUB, AE5FY, JJ1MBU, AB5WX, W1BUB. **450:** IZ4DPV, NN3Y. **500:** N5UWY, N9BSA, N8OCJ. **550:** N2YCH, W3LMC, OK1ZHV, JR8SUM, JG1JPE. **600:** W1DNP, N3AML, K3LSU. **700:** NQ7G, IZØFYW. **750:** AI1W, W4RFA, WQ9F. **800:** KF8QL, CT1BWU, N1CEO. **850:** KC1ERO. **900:** K5QR, AJ6X. **1000:** JL1UXH, WW5XX, KM4VI. **1050:** W4DWS, HB9ECS. **1250:** HB9HIT. **1350:** PU4MMZ, W9HJ. **1450:** OK1UU. **1950:** JF3UIC. **3050:** W3LL.

**160 Meters:** W4DWS, VE3UZ, AI1W, N7MB, W9HJ  
**80 Meters:** KF8QL, GØOFD, HB9ECS, N7MB, K5QR, NU6S, W9HJ  
**60 Meters:** W9HJ  
**40 Meters:** W1DNP, HB9HIT, GØOFD, AI1W, W4RFA, N7MB, G1III, OK1UU, W9HJ, K3LSU  
**30 Meters:** HB9HIT, HB9ECS, N6PEQ, W9HJ  
**20 Meters:** N5UWY, VE3UZ, KF8QL, NN3Y, AI1W, AE5FY, NQ7G, JE1WBA, W4RFA, OK2CSU, W3LMC, N3AML, N7MB, K5QR, DK6MP, UT7EF, W9CHI, JHØEJF, W9HJ, N8OCJ  
**17 Meters:** HB9ECS, OK1UU, W9HJ  
**15 Meters:** W4DWS, HB9HIT, VE3UZV, HB9ECS, LA7EIA, N7MB, K5QR  
**12 Meters:** OK1UU  
**10 Meters:** IZ4DPV, PU4MMZ, KE8OTO, LA7EIA, KC1ERO, 4X6HX, WP4JLZ, OK1UU  
**6 Meters:** IZ4DPV

**Africa:** K5QR  
**Asia:** VE3UZ, CT1BWU, IW7DVM, JL1UXH, JJ1MBU, JE1WBA, OK2CSU, N7MB, KC1ERO, JR8SUM, DU1/NFØØ, K5QR, 4X6HX, DK6MP, UT7EF, RØLHQ, JG1JPE  
**Europe:** N5UWY, VE3UZ, ZR2BK, GØOFD, IU4LEC, CT1BWU, N2YCH, AI1W, JL1UXH, JE1WBA, W4RFA, OK2CSU, OE3SMA, IZØFYW, EA2EXS, N7MB, JR8SUM, K5QR, 4X6HX, DC1YY, DK6MP, G1III, UT7EF, W9HJ, N8OCJ  
**Oceania:** JL1UXH, JJ1MBU, JE1WBA, LA7EIA, K5QR, OK1UU, JG1JPE  
**North America:** N5UWY, W1DNP, VE3UZ, NN3Y, CT1BWU, KA5WMF, N2YCH, N1CEO, PU4MMZ, W2SUB, AI1W, AE5FY, JL1UXH, KE7OTO, NQ7G, W4RFA, K1OJ, OK2CSU, KD2RUY, WQ9F, IZØFYW, W4MRW, N9BSA, N7MB, K5QR, 4X6HX, WP4JLZ, KE8LFC, W1BUB, W9CHI, W9HJ, WA4TG, K3LSU  
**South America:** HB9HIT, VE3UZ, HB9ECS, AI1W, N6PEQ, K5QR, OK1UU, W9HJ

**30M Bar:** N6PEQ  
**17M Bar:** KØDEQ  
**6M Bar:** KØDEQ

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. and the ARRL Logbook of The World (LoTW).

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

take as carry-on. The SportTube held the antennas and was checked. I also brought my KX2 for radio on the beach with a new AX-2 17-meter whip. Even though we had eight cancelled flights in eight hours, we managed to get to Antigua an hour early with all our luggage and equipment. The 15-minute flight to Montserrat was in a 6-passenger plane and the only way to enter with Covid restrictions. A taxi brought us to our house, our host did grocery shopping, and we went into quarantine for five days.

## Quarantine Hamming

We arrived on Saturday evening and by early afternoon on Sunday, the antennas were up and an operating position was established on the deck overlooking the pool, lush green vegetation, and the blue waters of the Caribbean. Nevis and Redonda were just 30-40 miles away. On a few days, pods of humpback whales swam past the island. We could hear the surf at Isles Bay beach just 400 yards below the house. It was the perfect Covid and winter getaway. The island was so safe that we left the station set up all month, protected from the rain and looking out at the rainbows we saw nearly every day. By 4:00 p.m. local (2000 UTC), I was ready to check into the Collins Collectors Net and got to chat with old friends, Michael, WØJAM, and David, K2DP. I am a regular net control on this net from New Hampshire using my Elecraft K4D, KPA1500 and M<sup>2</sup> log periodic at 60 feet. The reports I

## CQ Names New WAZ Award Manager

Jose Castillo, N4BAA, has been named the new CQ WAZ award manager. All inquiries regarding the WAZ award program should be made to N4BAA.

Jose Castillo, N4BAA  
 6773 South State Road 103  
 Straughn, IN 47387  
 Email: [Jose-Castillo@verizon.net](mailto:Jose-Castillo@verizon.net)

Unfortunately, the WAZ update for May will be combined with the June update as N4BAA assumes the manager's position from John Bergman, KC5LK.

## The CQ DX Field Award Program

### Endorsements — Mixed

K8OOK.....	229
OK1ADM.....	245

The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Keith Gilbertson, KØKG, 21688 Sandy Beach Lane, Rochert, MN 56578-9604 USA. Please make all checks payable to the award manager.

## CQ DX Awards Program

### New Award SSB

KM4VI.....	2667
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The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, Please make checks payable to the Award Manager, Keith Gilbertson. Mail all updates to Keith Gilbertson, KØKG, 21688 Sandy Beach Lane, Rochert, MN 56578-9604 USA. 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

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*BuddiPole Hexbeam on Garibaldi Hill*



*Woodland's Beach on Montserrat*



Montserrat's "Soufriere Hills" Volcano



Frankie, VP2MNI, and Thaire, VP2MDX/W2APF

got showed that I was just as strong with 100 watts and the Hexbeam. So good, in fact, that I operated as net control on two other Sundays. That first QSO led to over 1,300 more, about 500 on CW and over 800 on SSB.

### Contacts in Demand

I had not expected that Montserrat would be as sought after as it was. There are relatively few local amateurs active on HF and with Covid, not many other operators had visited. I enjoy CW and at home, operate CW about half the time.

On Montserrat, every time I went on CW I got spotted immediately by W3LPL's skimmers and would be deluged with calls. I tried working split and it helped some, but my logging skills and lack of computer rig control made it very difficult. Next year, I will be ready with a new logging program, computer control of the rig, and with a lot more CWT's under my belt, I hope to better handle the pileups.

In all, I worked every state but Hawaii, six of seven continents, 66 DX entities and had the thrill of giving an ATNO (*All-Time New One*, for the uninitiated) to a lot of folks. The propagation gods smiled and 10, 12, 15, and 17 meters were great. Best DX was VK9 on 40-meter CW and TZ4 on 10-meter CW. I got Jacky, ZL3CW, on 10-meter CW and SSB as well as Roger, ZL1XR, on 15 meters.

The BuddiPole Hexbeam and the Elecraft KX3 station made an awesome combination. I almost forgot to mention one of the great touches on the MastWerks mast and tripod. The tripod has a hand crank rotator like the window cranks we used to have in cars. How many of us are blessed with an XYL who not only appreciates the hobby but will run out to the pool deck and crank the Hexbeam orientation from Europe to the U.S. as propagation changes? Or bring out a cold Carib for the parched operator running a pileup!

### Fun Off the Air as Well

It wasn't only ham radio. We got to explore the island, hike

(with permission and a police escort) into the volcano exclusion zone and see the devastation in Plymouth that in 1995 was the prettiest capital city in the Caribbean. We peeked at the ruined hulk of Air Studios. It was built by Sir George Martin, the Beatles' manager, in 1979 as a state-of-the-art recording studio. From then until it was destroyed by Hurricane Hugo in 1989, it hosted, among others, Paul McCartney, Elton John, Sting, Jimmy Buffet, Dire Straits, Culture Club, Duran Duran, and the Rolling Stones. Sir

George's house is now a restaurant, Olveston House, located on Penny Lane!

We met a lot of the local expats who spend the winter there away from the U.S., Canada, and the UK. We found a wonderful house for next winter and we found a new winter home for years to come. I joined the Montserrat Amateur Radio Society and made a lot of new friends. DXing under the volcano was one of our most enjoyable vacations. I'll be listening for you next year in Montserrat!

## The WPX Honor Roll

The WPX Honor Roll is based on the current confirmed prefixes which are submitted by separate application in strict conformance with the CQ Master Prefix list. Scores are based on the current prefix total, regardless of an operator's all-time count. Honor Roll must be updated annually by addition to, or confirmation of, present total. If no up-date, files will be made inactive.

### MIXED

9459.....9A2AA	4757.....I2MQP	3099.....N6FX	2400.....N7ZO	1870.....N5KAE	1480.....K4JKB	1217.....AB1QB	1032.....DG5LAC	757.....WB3D
8188.....K2VV	4681.....JH8BOE	3077.....K1PL	2394.....AE5B	1828.....K7LV	1462.....AC7JM	1204.....VA2IG	1023.....N4WQH	736.....JA3MAT
8143.....W1CU	4673.....NN1N	3059.....NXØI	2391.....WO7R	1824.....WF7T	1462.....DL4CW	1201.....K9BO	1016.....W9QL	711.....AG1T
7922.....9A2NA	4574.....JN3SAC	3028.....IK2DZN	2391.....IZØFUW	1821.....PY5FB	1447.....K3XA	1167.....WA9PIE	1012.....NØVVV	695.....W8WDW
7059.....EA2IA	4517.....IK2ILH	2987.....AG4W	2356.....NE6I	1746.....K6UXO	1437.....KC1UX	1153.....N3CAL	1010.....VE3RZ	682.....AI8P
6577.....KF2O	4462.....K1BV	2968.....AB1OC	2322.....N6PM	1741.....N6PEQ	1422.....I2VGW	1148.....SP8HKT	1007.....AA4QE	675.....AB1Q
6040.....KØDEQ	4342.....WB2YQH	2963.....N3RC	2225.....JH1APK	1711.....NS3L	1408.....NH6T	1141.....4F3BZ	1006.....NØRQV	674.....N5JED
5715.....S53EO	4298.....VE3XN	2712.....W2YR	2203.....K1IU	1707.....K4WY	1398.....ES4RLH	1137.....YO5BRZ	1000.....WB6IZG	661.....AL4Y
5677.....ON4CAS	4251.....N1RR	2697.....AK7O	2176.....V51YJ	1667.....AD3Y	1361.....VA3VF	1136.....KØ9V	999.....N3DF	633.....TI5LUA
5602.....ON4APU	4249.....WD9DZV	2651.....HK3W	2159.....VA7CRZ	1643.....SV1DPI	1333.....AF4T	1116.....YU7FW	995.....PU2GTA	621.....K4HDW
5539.....N4NO	4241.....N6QQ	2642.....AA8R	2133.....KØKG	1639.....N7QU	1322.....AA4FU	1112.....N6MM	966.....W6WF	616.....AC6BW
5509.....N8BJQ	4215.....W3LL	2616.....9A2GA	2113.....W2FKF	1616.....TA1L	1301.....KB9OWD	1107.....PY2MC	953.....JP1KHY	605.....IW2FLB
5482.....VE1YX	4201.....YO9HP	2591.....IK2RPE	2077.....JH1QKG	1612.....W1FNB	1301.....K1DX	1100.....WA3GOS	919.....ON7MIC	
5453.....YU1AB	3818.....K9UQN	2589.....DG7RO	2056.....NKØS	1590.....JF1LMB	1301.....KM5VI	1109.....KE8FMJ	889.....WU1U	
5396.....N6JV	3793.....AB1J	2583.....PA2TMS	2046.....YO8CRU	1570.....PY5VC	1299.....JA6JYM	1088.....NJ4Z	866.....K2KJ	
5387.....W9OP	3538.....9A4W	2550.....K6ND	2016.....N2WK	1568.....N3AIU	1295.....NIØC	1084.....KG4JSZ	857.....R1AV	
5215.....I5RFD	3459.....W9IL	2457.....K5UR	1995.....JR3UIC	1524.....NH6T/W4	1280.....WF1H	1069.....IZ4MJP	835.....K6RAH	
4970.....WA5VGI	3130.....SV1EDY	2538.....K4HB	1972.....K3CWF	1540.....WU9D	1260.....UR6LEY	1058.....N6DBF	801.....N2YU	
4934.....W9OO	3109.....W6XK	2420.....WA6KHK	1955.....NIØC	1484.....FG4NO	1219.....K6HRT	1036.....DL5KW	758.....N4JJS	

### SSB

7045.....OZ5EV	3172.....YO9HP	2515.....W9IL	2093.....W2WC	1587.....N3XX	1146.....SQ7B	1004.....WA5UA	758.....IV3GOW	637.....K5WAF
6334.....9A2NA	3141.....DL8AAV	2483.....AG4W	2084.....K5UR	1550.....IK2RPE	1136.....K3CWF	978.....EA7HY	724.....WF1H	630.....W6US
6145.....K2VV	3127.....N8BJQ	2451.....EA3GHZ	2082.....WD9DZV	1442.....DG7RO	1112.....NH6T	957.....W9QL	724.....W3TZ	624.....K6KZM
5404.....VE1YX	3108.....I4CSP	2443.....JN3SAC	2076.....K2XF	1393.....N5KAE	1098.....K4CN	934.....PY5VC	717.....KØDAN	606.....KJ4BIX
5149.....KF2O	3101.....WA5VGI	2335.....KG1E	2048.....W4QNW	1389.....NKØS	1096.....JA7HYS	931.....YB1AR	717.....N3JON	604.....GØBPK
4916.....EA2IA	3090.....N1RR	2327.....K1PL	1955.....EA3NP	1386.....HK3W	1093.....N6MM	929.....NS3L	714.....YB2TJV	600.....WU1U
4410.....I2MQP	3067.....N6QQ	2326.....CX6BZ	1935.....SV1EOS	1386.....IK4HPU	1089.....IZ8FFA	919.....KA5EYH	713.....JH1APK	600.....WA3PZO
4165.....KØDEQ	2990.....KF7RU	2209.....IK2QPR	1884.....WA6KHK	1371.....VE6BF	1089.....IT9ABN	893.....W9RPM	710.....WA9PIE	
3681.....N4NO	2984.....K17AO	2201.....NQ3A	1879.....K3IXD	1338.....NE6I	1063.....W6XK	889.....N3AIU	700.....N4FNB	
3622.....I8KCI	2946.....PT7ZT	2200.....N6FX	1848.....AB5C	1334.....EA3EQT	1042.....IZØBNR	875.....K7SAM	700.....JA1PLL	
3585.....SV3AQR	2903.....IN3QCI	2198.....AB1OC	1825.....KQ8D	1264.....N6PEQ	1032.....DG5LAC	854.....K6HRT	694.....KG4HUF	
3505.....NN1N	2857.....4X6DK	2155.....K9UQN	1812.....K6ND	1262.....K7LV	1031.....K4CN	833.....DK8MCT	690.....W6PN	
3456.....W9OO	2650.....IK2DZN	2131.....N3RC	1646.....VE7SMP	1258.....N1KC	1031.....IK8OZP	808.....UR6LEY	684.....KØ9V	
3416.....W3LL	2595.....EA1JG	2122.....AE5B	1641.....AE9DX	1222.....YF1AR	1022.....NW3H	802.....N6OU	675.....F1MQJ	
3348.....CT1AHU	2582.....PA2TMS	2113.....W2FKF	1624.....W2YR	1187.....IZ1JLG	1012.....KU4BP	801.....K3XA	655.....VA3VF	
3274.....YU7BCD	2576.....AA1VX	2106.....NXØI	1622.....K5CX	1183.....K1IU	1006.....NJ4Z	766.....I2VGW	647.....YB8NT	
3174.....I3ZSX	2568.....SM6DHU	2094.....I8LEL	1611.....W2ME	1150.....VE6BMX	1004.....K4HB	763.....K4JKB	640.....UA9YF	

### CW

7543.....WA2HZR	4162.....WA5VGI	3031.....EA7AAW	2357.....W9HR	1708.....NIØC	1421.....KN1CBR	992.....F5PBL	807.....N5KAE	620.....AF5DM
7200.....K2VV	4076.....I7PXV	2948.....IK3GER	2291.....N3XX	1691.....K1IU	1389.....IT9ELD	968.....K3CWF	783.....YB1AR	615.....JH6JMM
6024.....9A2NA	3974.....JN3SAC	2943.....N6QQ	2212.....AC5K	1620.....DG7RO	1342.....VE6BMX	962.....K7LV	752.....K6HRT	608.....W9RPM
5392.....EA2IA	3804.....W9OO	2915.....KA7T	2160.....NXØI	1595.....PY5FB	1235.....JH1APK	944.....AB1OC	743.....JA5NSR	600.....NY4G
5261.....KF2O	3675.....NN1N	2811.....OZ5UR	2022.....AF5CC	1572.....W2YR	1220.....AA4FU	908.....NH6T	738.....NH6T/W4	600.....IK2SGV
5160.....N4NO	3555.....N1RR	2679.....W9IL	1998.....K5UR	1555.....K1PL	1210.....DL4CW	897.....HK3W	732.....SQ7B	
5282.....N6JV	3504.....YU7BCD	2548.....EA2CIN	1973.....N3RC	1508.....W6XK	1196.....N3AIU	891.....DK8MCT	727.....JF1LMB	
4946.....W8IQ	3462.....K9UQN	2531.....I2MQP	1905.....WA6KHK	1505.....R3IS	1098.....LU5OM	890.....NS3L	722.....WA9PIE	
4916.....IZ3ETU	3279.....IØNNY	2497.....W3LL	1832.....N4YB	1483.....VE1YX	1062.....K3XA	889.....N3AIU	720.....K4CN	
4886.....I3FIY	3214.....SM6DHU	2490.....N6FX	1762.....K6ND	1480.....WO3Z	1036.....DL5KW	864.....YO5BRZ	652.....IK2DZN	
4874.....KØDEQ	3159.....WD9DZV	2477.....VE6BF	1744.....NE6I	1458.....AG4W	1027.....AE5B	848.....PY5VC	636.....NKØS	
4773.....N8BJQ	3041.....YO9HP	2424.....W2WC	1727.....K6UXO	1443.....WA2VQV	997.....N6PEQ	821.....HB9DAX	629.....IV3GOW	

### DIGITAL

3187.....KØDEQ	2139.....WA5VGI	1704.....IK2DZN	1309.....WU9D	1093.....K1IU	992.....N3DF	862.....JP1KHY	750.....NH6T/W4	611.....KØ9V
2996.....W3LL	2217.....YO9HP	1643.....N3RC	1308.....NKØS	1091.....VA3VF	992.....K9UQN	855.....R1AV	681.....PY5VC	600.....ADØFL
2948.....N8BJQ	2103.....K2YYY	1501W2/JR1AQN	1227.....ES4RLH	1089.....AC7JM	983.....PU2GTA	812.....UR6LEY	680.....K2KJ	
2827.....WD9DZV	2004.....N6PM	1500.....JH1APK	1218.....W1FNB	1060.....AF4T	966.....NS3L	811.....WF1H	672.....K9AAN	
2690.....KF2O	1836.....AG4W	1426.....AB1OC	1189.....JF1LMB	1051.....KH6SAT	947.....I2VGW	810.....N3CAL	670.....IV3GOW	
2628.....W6XK	1818.....W1EQ	1378.....K3CWF	1150.....N1RR	1047.....RW4WZ	917.....K7LV	800.....WA3GOS	668.....KA5EYH	
2558.....NT2A	1790.....JN3SAC	1353.....K1PL	1149.....W9IL	1021.....NN1N	881.....NE6I	783.....YB1AR	654.....JA3MAT	
2251.....EA2IA	1759.....N7ZO	1345.....KC1UX	1112.....AB1QB	1009.....GUØSUP	870.....WB6IZG	758.....N4JJS	640.....WA9ONY	
2242.....HK3W	1710.....NXØI	1319.....W2YR	1108.....KE8FMJ	1002.....NØRQV	866.....SQ7B	750.....ON7MIC	636.....W9RPM	

### REMOTE OPERATION

<b>CW</b>	<b>MIXED</b>	<b>SSB</b>	<b>DIGITAL</b>
7277.....K9QVB	4026.....N1RR	2953.....N1RR	671.....N1RR
3292.....N1RR			

# CONTESTING

BY TIM SHOPPA,\* N3QE

## Field Day's New Playing Field

The usual patterns of participation in ARRL Field Day were greatly upset in 2020 and 2021 by the Covid-19 pandemic and associated ARRL temporary rule waivers. As the pandemic fades away, the most impactful of the rule waivers — allowing home non-emergency class D stations to work other class D stations for points — is continuing, at least for 2022. This month we will look at the recent gyrations in Field Day participation and share some thoughts about maximizing your Field Day score.

Why write about ARRL Field Day in a contesting column? The deepest traditions of ARRL Field Day emphasize teamwork, community outreach, outdoor food and fun, and technical skills above any point total. At the same time, like any contest, Field Day also has a well-defined exchange, points, categories, a multiplier, extremely detailed rules, and a total

score. All the usual contest strategies and communications skills can be pushed to their limits as hams make QSOs under low-power, portable, and emergency conditions.

ARRL Field Day has six classes of entry. Yearly Field Day entry statistics by class are presented as the bar chart of *Figure 1*. For a typical club class-A entry, the participation of multiple members at the station, as well as potentially a separate GOTA (Get-On-The-Air) callsign and station, are collected under a single entry. As your eye moves from left to right across *Figure 1*, note that entry statistics changed slowly from 2002-2019, but in 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic upset many clubs' planning and entries under class A, with only a partial restoration to more normal category choices in 2021.

Class A Field Day stations, which are portable stations set up by three or more club members, have traditionally been the backbone of ARRL Field Day activity. *Figure 1* shows it was the most common entry class all the way up through 2019. In 2020, a sharp drop in class A entries occurred. You

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Photo A: In June 2017, 80 members of the Columbia Amateur Radio Association and Potomac Valley Radio Club assembled an extensive portable station for ARRL Field Day at Triadelphia Ridge Elementary School in Ellicott City, Maryland. The W3AO entry was as a Class 16A station. The "16" denotes 16 active transmitters; the "A" refers to the entry being from more than three members in a club. In this view you see experienced contest operators busy racking up points at 10 active HF positions.



might recall that in 2020 we understood very little about how Covid-19 was transmitted and quarantine rules were being enforced at many municipal and school parks where class A stations have been set up in the past. The next year, 2021, many of us were vaccinated and we understood that outdoor activity had a very low risk of transmission, and class A entry statistics recovered at least partially.

Smaller portable stations, set up by just one or two persons, are class B in Field Day. Class B had been increasing slowly in popularity up through 2019, and the pandemic conditions of 2020 saw a marked rise in class B entries. Note that on *Figure 1*, despite the wild gyrations in entry statistics in 2020 and 2021, the sum of class A and class B entries remained nearly constant through the pandemic. One hypothesis consistent with this is that many medium-sized class A club efforts dropped down to just two participants.

Hams with mobile stations enter Field Day as class C. Numerically, this has always been the smallest of the entry groups, with the exception of 2020 when a sharp rise in popularity of class C resulted in 1,086 mobile entries submitted.

Hams with home stations operating on regular commercial power sources have always been able to enter Field Day via class D entries. *Figure 1* shows that class D entries had slowly been increasing in popularity up through 2019, but were never more than 25% of entries.

Prior to 2020, class D entries did not earn points for working other class D stations. This was consistent with Field Day's emphasis on portable and emergency-power operations, and made it unique among the ARRL on-air events. Up through 2020, calling CQ as a class D station was awkward and uncommon; any class D station that tried would get callers that were other class D stations and neither side would earn any points for the QSO. Instead, class D stations entered largely as search-and-pounce efforts, working the numerous emergency-powered and portable stations on the air.

In 2020 the ARRL issued a temporary rule waiver in response to the pandemic: "For Field Day 2020 only, class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other class D stations, for points." A record 6,318 hams chose to enter as Class D in 2020, more than 60% of the total entries.

## Calendar of Events

<b>All year</b>	<b>CQ DX Marathon</b>	<a href="http://bit.ly/vEKMWD">http://bit.ly/vEKMWD</a>
Apr. 30-May 1	Florida QSO Party	<a href="http://www.floridaqsoparty.org">www.floridaqsoparty.org</a>
Apr. 30-May 1	SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest and Club Challenge	<a href="http://www.n6nb.com/sbmsrules.htm">www.n6nb.com/sbmsrules.htm</a>
Apr. 30-May 1	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	<a href="http://www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php">www.ukeicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php</a>
May 1	AGCW QRP/QRP Party	<a href="http://bit.ly/3bwH1aZ">http://bit.ly/3bwH1aZ</a>
May 4	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en</a>
May 4-5	MIE 33 Contest	<a href="http://www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/index-e.html">www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/index-e.html</a>
May 7	Microwave Spring Sprint	<a href="https://bit.ly/3Fazrjf">https://bit.ly/3Fazrjf</a>
May 7	RCC Cup	<a href="http://bit.ly/3rH8ttL">http://bit.ly/3rH8ttL</a>
May 7-8	7th Area QSO Party	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/2p9cx67k">https://tinyurl.com/2p9cx67k</a>
May 7-8	10-10 Spring CW Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc">http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc</a>
May 7-8	ARI DX Contest	<a href="http://www.ari.it">www.ari.it</a>
May 7-8	Delaware QSO Party	<a href="http://www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/rules.htm">www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/rules.htm</a>
May 7-8	F9AA Cup, Digi	<a href="https://bit.ly/3JkNipO">https://bit.ly/3JkNipO</a>
May 7-8	Indiana QSO Party	<a href="http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html">www.hdxcc.org/inqp/index.html</a>
May 7-8	New England QSO Party	<a href="http://www.neqp.org/rules">www.neqp.org/rules</a>
May 8	WAB 7 MHz Phone	<a href="http://bit.ly/31yE4kT">http://bit.ly/31yE4kT</a>
May 9	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
May 11	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/</a>
May 14-15	Canadian Prairies QSO Party	<a href="https://cpqp.ve6hams.ca">https://cpqp.ve6hams.ca</a>
<b>May 14-15</b>	<b>CQWW Foxhunting Weekend</b>	<a href="http://www.homingin.com/joek0ov/nfw.html">www.homingin.com/joek0ov/nfw.html</a>
May 14-15	CQ-M International DX Contest	<a href="http://cqm.srr.ru/en-rules">http://cqm.srr.ru/en-rules</a>
May 14-15	Veron SLP Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2L9eT1L">http://bit.ly/2L9eT1L</a>
May 14-15	Volta WW RTTY Contest	<a href="http://www.contestvolta.it">www.contestvolta.it</a>
May 14-15	50 MHz Spring Sprint	<a href="https://bit.ly/3Fazrjf">https://bit.ly/3Fazrjf</a>
May 18	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
May 18	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en/</a>
May 21	Arkansas QSO Party	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/4wbxudfb">https://tinyurl.com/4wbxudfb</a>
May 21	UN DX Contest	<a href="http://undxc.kz/rules-eng">http://undxc.kz/rules-eng</a>
May 21	YOTA Contest	<a href="http://www.ham-yota.com/contest">www.ham-yota.com/contest</a>
May 21-22	Baltic Contest	<a href="http://www.lrsf.lt/en">www.lrsf.lt/en</a>
May 21-22	His Majesty King of Spain CW Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3lWxYjf">https://bit.ly/3lWxYjf</a>
May 21-22	NZART Sangster Shield Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/3aviX6h">http://bit.ly/3aviX6h</a>
May 21-22	SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/H0lqQf">http://bit.ly/H0lqQf</a>
May 23	QRP ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint	<a href="http://www.qrparci.org/contests">www.qrparci.org/contests</a>
May 26	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
May 26	QRP Minimal Art Session	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/4s9evnbj">https://tinyurl.com/4s9evnbj</a>
<b>May 28-29</b>	<b>CQWW WPX CW Contest</b>	<a href="http://www.cqwpx.com">www.cqwpx.com</a>
May 30	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>

In 2021, the class D waiver continued, with the text of the rule reading “For Field Day 2021 only” and implying that this was still a temporary condition. Comparing 2021 vs 2020 in *Figure 1*, you will find that Class D entries in 2021 certainly declined but it remained by far the most popular entry category.

**The 2022 Field Day rules continue to allow class D stations to work any other station for QSO points.** Field Day rule 4.6 has been reworded — no longer is this mentioned as a change for this year only, instead the rule reads “NEW for 2022: Class D may work all Field Day stations.” This seems to me to imply a permanent shift in Field Day rules, enhancing the number of hams participating from their regular home stations. **It also makes Field Day less unique in the roster of ARRL on-air events: No longer will each point-earning QSO in Field Day meet the ARRL stated objective of encouraging hams to, “learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.”**

My prediction is that 2022 Class D entry counts will be similar to 2021. Certainly, some of them will be prominent on the

air, calling CQ, and fundamentally changing the uniqueness of Field Day.

Hams with home stations who operate their radios on emergency power have always been able to enter Field Day as class E. A wide variety of power sources are used in this category, including batteries, solar power, portable generators, and whole-house generators. Class E entries showed strong growth in 2020, with a slight decline in popularity in 2021.

The class F entry for Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) was introduced first in 2003. There was a decline in 2020 in EOC entries, with a slight recovery in 2021.

Looking at the strong spike in 2020 entries in *Figure 1*, you will find that the 10,212 entries made in 2020 Field Day is a high-water mark for entries into any on-air amateur radio event. It even surpasses the record-high 9,797 logs submitted in the 2021 CQWW DX SSB contest.

**Total participants in ARRL Field Day dropped dramatically in 2020.** The form used to report ARRL Field Day results ask not just for your entry category, but also the number of participants in your effort. The count of participants includes

June 1	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en</a>
June 3-5	PODXS 070 Club Three Day Weekend Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2Srdp8A">http://bit.ly/2Srdp8A</a>
June 4-5	10-10 Open Season PSK Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc">http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc</a>
June 4-5	ARRL International Digital Contest	<a href="https://contests.arrl.org/dig">https://contests.arrl.org/dig</a>
June 4-5	IARC Region 1 Field Day	<a href="http://bit.ly/3cC0HKf">http://bit.ly/3cC0HKf</a>
June 4-5	KANHAM Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3MG6jVR">https://bit.ly/3MG6jVR</a>
June 4-5	Kentucky QSO Party	<a href="http://www.kyqsoparty.org">www.kyqsoparty.org</a>
June 4-5	RSGB CW Field Day	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
June 4-5	Tisza Cup CW Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/55jbf22">https://tinyurl.com/55jbf22</a>
June 4-5	UKSMG Summer Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/mwh56dys">https://tinyurl.com/mwh56dys</a>
June 5	Cookie Crumble QRP Contest	<a href="https://w3atb.com/cookie-crumble">https://w3atb.com/cookie-crumble</a>
June 6	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
June 8	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en</a>
June 11	Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint	<a href="http://jsfc.org/apsprint">http://jsfc.org/apsprint</a>
June 11-12	Portugal Day Contest	<a href="https://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php">https://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt/rules.php</a>
June 11-12	REF DDFM 6M Contest	<a href="http://concours.r-e-f.org/index.php">http://concours.r-e-f.org/index.php</a>
June 11-12	GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3MGsrzr">https://bit.ly/3MGsrzr</a>
June 11-12	DRCG WW (RTTY)	<a href="http://www.drcg.de">www.drcg.de</a>
June 11-12	VK Shires Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/2p8h4wen">https://tinyurl.com/2p8h4wen</a>
June 11-13	ARRL June VHF QSO Party	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf">www.arrl.org/june-vhf</a>
June 15	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
June 15	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	<a href="http://www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en">www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en</a>
June 16	SARL Youth Sprint	<a href="http://bit.ly/H0lqQf">http://bit.ly/H0lqQf</a>
June 18	AGCW VHF-UHF Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3lw91PK">https://bit.ly/3lw91PK</a>
June 18	ARRL Kids Day Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/kids-day">www.arrl.org/kids-day</a>
June 18	FIRAC VHF Contest	<a href="http://www.firac.de/index.html">www.firac.de/index.html</a>
June 18-19	All Asian CW DX Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3HVjkra">https://bit.ly/3HVjkra</a>
June 18-19	IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest	<a href="https://bit.ly/3r1kqvT">https://bit.ly/3r1kqvT</a>
June 18-19	SMIRK Contest	<a href="http://www.smirk.org/contest.html">www.smirk.org/contest.html</a>
June 18-19	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	<a href="http://www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html">www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html</a>
June 18-19	Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest	<a href="http://urdx.org/rtty/">http://urdx.org/rtty/</a> (If Ukrainian stations are back on the air)
June 18-19	West Virginia QSO Party	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/3dz7awsx">https://tinyurl.com/3dz7awsx</a>
June 19	WAB 50 MHz Phone	<a href="http://bit.ly/31yE4kT">http://bit.ly/31yE4kT</a>
June 23	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>
June 25	UFT QRP Contest	<a href="http://www.uft.net/concours-qrp-uft">www.uft.net/concours-qrp-uft</a>
June 25-26	ARRL Field Day	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/field-day">www.arrl.org/field-day</a>
June 25-26	His Maj. King of Spain SSB Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/1cKAR5V">http://bit.ly/1cKAR5V</a>
June 25-26	Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	<a href="http://urdx.org/">http://urdx.org/</a> (If Ukrainian stations are back on the air)
June 27	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	<a href="https://bit.ly/31qpcJl">https://bit.ly/31qpcJl</a>

not just the hams who operated on-air during Field Day, and for the larger efforts it usually includes club supporters (licensed and not licensed) who helped set up the station as well as those who support the operations either technically or nutritionally. The bar graph of *Figure 2* displays the number of Field Day participants as holding steady through 2019. In 2020, the number of class A participants dropped from over 30,000 to less than 6,000, sharply depressing the total participant count

that year. In 2021, the participant count rebounded, especially due to class A stations that took advantage of the open-air ventilation to attract their club members back to an outdoor activity. My prediction is that in 2022, the total participant count will rise to the 30,000 level but not quite reach the 35,000 participants participating in Field Day events pre-pandemic.

**In Field Day, your power level determines your multiplier.** The widespread availability of rigs in the 100-watt class

makes them by far the most common choice for Field Day operations. In Field Day, entering at 100-watts power earns you a multiplier of 2 applied to your QSO points. The smallest of gas-powered 120-volt AC generators is often pressed into service for Field Day stations using these rigs.

A substantially larger multiplier of 5 is available if you use no more than 5 watts, and your rig is powered on a battery charged from a source other than commercial mains or engine-powered generator.

If you've been activating for Summits on the Air (SOTA) or Parks on the Air (POTA) recently then you already have a portable battery-powered station that gets you most of the way to qualifying for the 5-point QRP multiplier. Many of these rigs have been optimized for low-current operation; for example the Elecraft KX3 draws less than 0.25 amps on receive, and under 3 amps on transmit, giving a net average battery drain under 2 amps in heavy contest-style duty cycle that is half receiving and half transmitting. This class of QRP rig is also usually spec'ed as working down to 8 volts of battery power, and battery choices frequently include lightweight lithium or lithium power cells.

A typical 12-volt-powered base or mobile 100-watt-class HF rig can also be pressed into QRP service with battery power, but will need a bigger battery because the final transistors in these rigs are biased to draw many amps even at QRP power levels. As an example of battery budget for this class of rig, my Ten-Tec Eagle draws 1.25 amps in receive and peaks over 10 amps while key-down, even when transmit power is only 5 watts. Look up the detailed requirements of your rig and you'll conclude that a much larger battery is needed, likely an automotive or — even better — deep-cycle marine battery.

If you plan to operate battery power throughout Field Day weekend, you'll need either a substantial battery fully charged before the event, or a smaller battery that you can charge during the event. Twelve-volt DC solar panels producing 80 or 100 watts in full sunlight have become readily available in recent years and are a popular choice.

Up through and including 2020, any Field Day station could go high power with a multiplier of only 1. As long as a handful of such stations were on the bands, the more common 100-watt stations could still effectively share the bands. If you look at *Figure 3*, where the distribution of multipliers is shown, you see that in 2020, the same year there

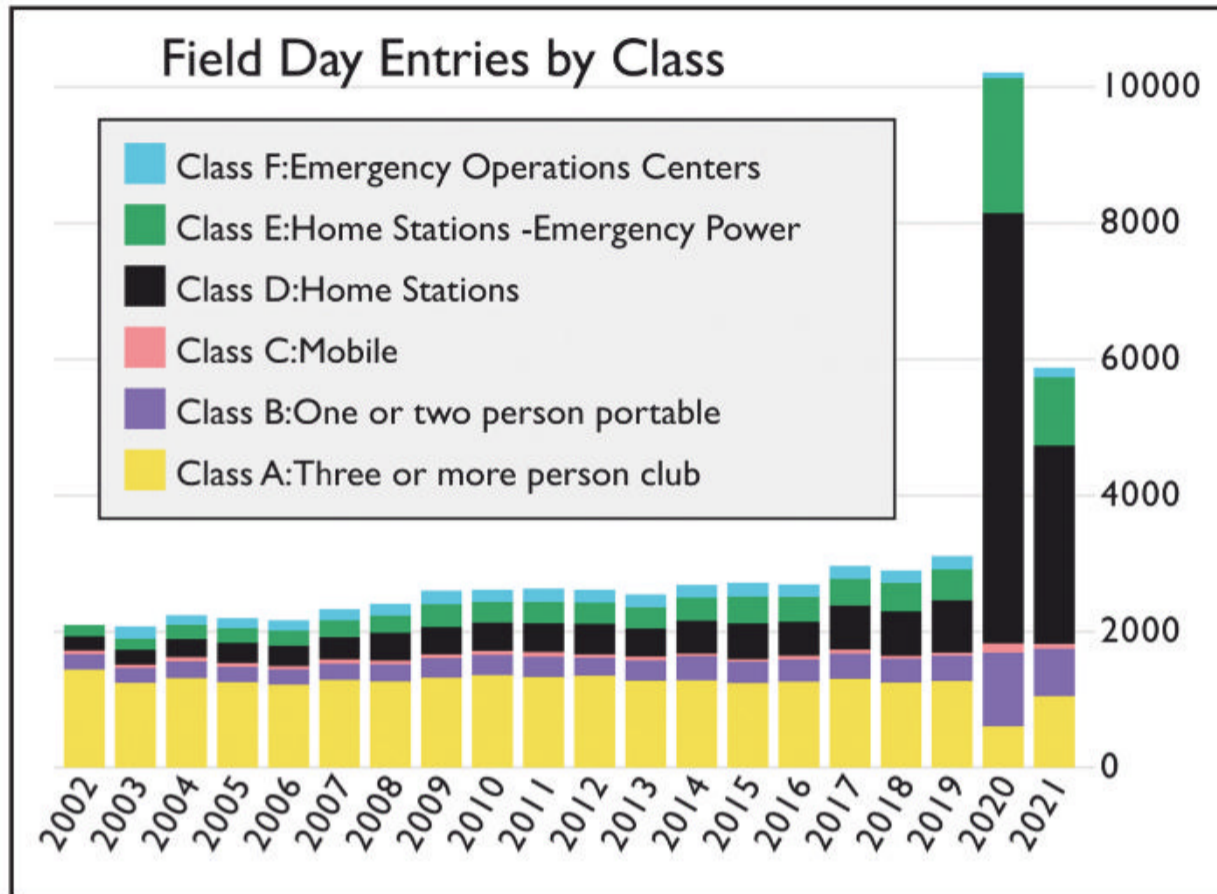


Figure 1. ARRL Field Day entries by class, 2002-2021.

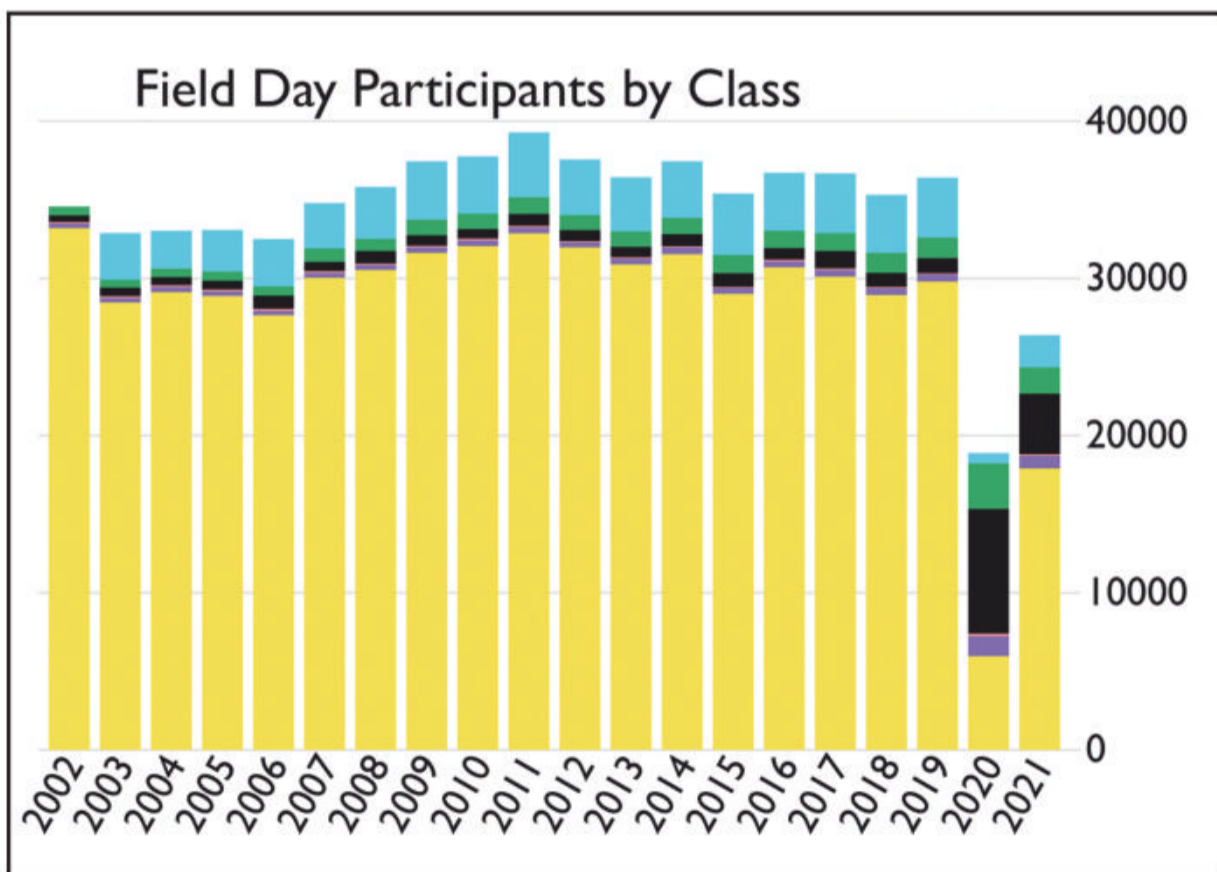


Figure 2. ARRL Field Day participants by class, 2002-2021. The color-coding for each class can be found in the legend of Figure 1.

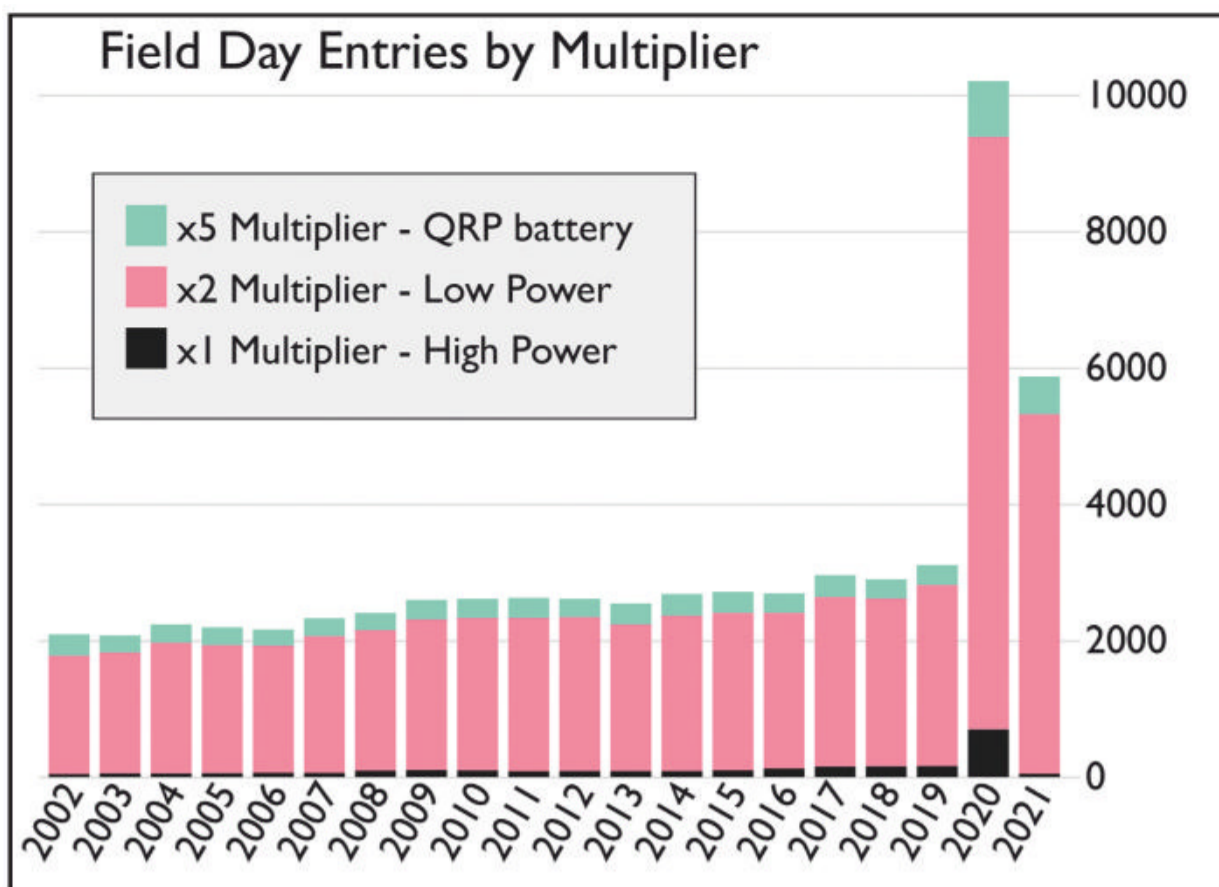


Figure 3: ARRL Field Day entries by multiplier, 2002-2021.

was a sharp growth in home class D and E stations, there was also a substantial increase in high power Field Day entries. The QRM from these high-power stations dominated the bands, especially the already crowded phone segments, prompting the ARRL to put a rule waiver in place for 2021: “Class D and class E stations are limited to 150 watts PEP.”

In the 2022 rules, the ARRL has included Field Day in its new definition of low power as being a maximum of 100 watts, and the new Field Day rules eliminate the multiplier of 1 as “all Field Day stations are limited to a maximum 100 watts Peak Envelope Power (PEP) transmitter output, regardless of operating class.”

**The listing of club aggregate scores begun in 2020 for Field Day continues into 2022 as well.** To ensure all members contribute to your club’s aggregate score, communicate in advance to your club members the exact spelling they should use in the ARRL Field Day entry.

**Maximize your Field Day score through choice of modes.** ARRL Field Day awards 1 point for each phone QSO, and the phone segments of the 40-meter and 20-meter bands are completely packed from top to bottom. Highly skilled phone operators will be competing against each other for run frequencies, giving other Field Day stations the opportunity to search-and-pounce for 1-point phone QSOs in congested conditions. As sunspot numbers continue to rise through 2022, expect

activity on the 15- and 10-meter phone bands to rise as well.

If your skillset and portable station support CW or digital mode operation, QSOs you make in those modes yield 2 points each. I’ve observed increasing CW activity on Field Day over the past decade, thanks in large part by efforts by the CW Operators Club (CWOps) to educate hams in this power-efficient and bandwidth-conserving mode. Note that while operating CW, calling CQ at speeds slower than 20 words per minute (WPM) broadens the pool of available callers who are not the operators who you would work during regular CW contest activity, that is almost all higher than 25 WPM today.

Digital activity in Field Day has shifted from RTTY to PSK31 to FT8 in the past years. The required Field Day exchange of class and ARRL section is not part of the usual FT8 exchange, and you must configure WSJT-X to use special Field Day exchanges. Full details on Field Day setup are in the WSJT-X Quick Start guide at <<https://bit.ly/3DonOG9>>.

**Unlike a regular contest, the Field Day rules award bonus points for activities other than just QSOs.** For 2022, the Field Day rules for the 100-point media publicity bonus explicitly mention your local news outlet’s Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram presence. Also of note to contesters is that you can copy the special ARRL Field Day message for a 100-point bonus as early as Friday evening prior to any Field Day QSOs.

**Submitting your Field Day log has**

**extra steps over and above a typical contest.** Review the online entry form at <<https://field-day.arrl.org/fdentry.php>> before Field Day weekend to make sure you collect all the needed documentation for your effort. Digital pictures are encouraged and accepted as evidence that you qualify for several of the possible bonus point categories. If you’ve used a contest logger during Field Day, you have a Cabrillo file you can submit, but you will still need to fill out the online “Band / Mode QSO Breakdown” form showing power and unique QSOs per band and mode. If you logged using paper, cellphone notes, or anything other than a Cabrillo log, you will need to supply a list of stations you worked per band and mode or a traditional dupe sheet.

Field Day 2022 is June 25-26<sup>th</sup>, with station setup for portable stations beginning the day before.

**A new weekday CW event emphasizes activity between 20 and 25 WPM.** The International CW Council’s **MST** or **Medium Speed Test** emphasizes skill building in the 20-25 word per minute range using a friendly contest-like exchange of name and state (or DX country). This event will be held three times each Monday beginning May 2, 2022. Find more details at <<https://bit.ly/3Dm55ee>>.

## May and June Contest Highlights

**Contest University** is being held in-person this year on Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>, just before the beginning of the Dayton Hamvention®. Find registration details and the multi-track course outline at <[www.contestuniversity.com](http://www.contestuniversity.com)>.

The **CQ World Wide WPX CW Contest** is May 28-29<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day weekend in the U.S.). As sunspots and solar flux increase in this cycle, high-band 3-point DX QSOs during daylight hours will be easy, but don’t neglect the 6-point intercontinental QSOs that will be possible on the 40-meter band even before sunset. Find full rules at <<https://cqwpw.com/index.htm>>.

The very next weekend, June 4-6<sup>th</sup>, is the inaugural running of the **ARRL International Digital Contest**. This new contest uses all non-RTTY digital modes, with the WSJT-X modes of FT4 and FT8 sure to dominate. Full details are at <<https://contests.arrl.org/dig>>.

The **ARRL June VHF Contest** is June 11-12<sup>th</sup>. While 6-meter FT8 operation will always have activity, when conditions are good you’ll find much higher rates on the CW and SSB parts of the band. Full rules are at <[www.arrl.org/june-vhf](http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf)>.

# PROPAGATION

BY TOMAS HOOD,\* NW7US

## Solar Cycle 25 is Very Much Alive

### Quick Look at Current Cycle 25 Conditions: (Data rounded to nearest whole number)

#### Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, February 2022: 66  
12-month smoothed, August 2021: 36

#### 10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, February 2022: 109  
12-month smoothed, August 2021: 86

### One Year Ago:

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

#### Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, February 2021: 8  
12-month smoothed, August 2020: 9

#### 10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, February 2021: 74  
12-month smoothed, August 2020: 74

So far, Solar Cycle 25 is outpacing the official predictions as we saw in April, which excited the ham radio community as the 10.7-cm radio flux daily readings peaked at 160, breathing life into the higher bands of the shortwave radio spectrum (*also known as HF, for the high frequency segment of radio spectrum [3-30 MHz] –ed*).

Some spectacular moments occurred in April, including the strongest X-ray flare, which measured X2.2 (See scales in *Figures 1a, 1b, and 1c*), peaking at 03:57 UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) on April 20<sup>th</sup>. This erupted from a sunspot region, numbered as Active Region (AR) 2992, that was just rotating out of Earth's view yet caused a radio blackout over the sunlit area of Earth, mostly over Asia during those hours.

The effects from a solar flare arrive in approximately 8 minutes because the emissions from the flare travel at the speed of light. If a flare erupts and triggers the ejection of coronal mass plasma, it results in a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME). If the CME is directed toward the Earth, this plasma might intersect with Earth within two to four days, depending how much speed is involved. Because a solar flare takes only 8 minutes to arrive, they usually result in radio blackouts of shortwave frequencies on the sunlit side of Earth. The X2.2 flare of April 20<sup>th</sup> caused an R3-level radio blackout (also known as a Sudden Ionospheric Disturbance, or SID). They can last from 10 minutes to several hours <<https://g.nw7us.us/3vCJGdt>>.

A large sunspot region, AR 2993, rotated into Earth view and on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 01:59 UTC erupted with a strong X-ray flare that peaked at M9.6. This caused a radio blackout over Asia and the Pacific region. An X1 flare was observed at 03:34 UTC on April 17<sup>th</sup> from newly numbered sunspot region AR 2994.

It is normal to see back-to-back X-ray flares during the active years of a solar cycle, and we are entering that period now. Of course, with such activity, we will experience radio blackouts, as well as CMEs that could result in significant geomagnetic storms. Cycle 25 has had a number of strong flares, and flares are occurring more frequently simply because there are more frequent and a greater number of sunspot regions (*for the top 10 X-ray flares so far in Cycle 25, see Table 1 –ed*).

All this activity raises the sustained energy level that creates our ionosphere. With more solar energy bombarding the ionosphere, higher frequencies are refracted, opening our upper amateur radio bands to worldwide DXing. Stay tuned to this column for the ongoing progress of Cycle 25.

### May Propagation

Not only are we expecting the exciting return of F-region propagation on higher amateur radio bands like 10, 12, and 15 meters for long-range DXing, but we also expect the annual summer sporadic-E ( $E_s$ ) season to begin around May 1<sup>st</sup>, sometimes during the last week of April. The  $E_s$  activity is usually sparse during the first two weeks of May and then it picks up to approximately 60% by the end of May. This is

### LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for May 2022

Propagation Index	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
<b>Above Normal:</b> 1, 3-4, 6, 11, 14, 16-20, 22-24, 28, 30-3	A	A	B	C
<b>High Normal:</b> 2, 5, 9-10, 15, 26, 29	A	B	C	C-D
<b>Low Normal:</b> 7, 13, 21	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
<b>Below Normal:</b> 25, 27	C	C-D	D-E	E
<b>Disturbed:</b> 8, 12	C-D	D	E	E

Where expected signal quality is:

A--Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9

B--Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.

C--Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.

D--Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, with considerable fading and noise.

E--No opening expected.

### HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Using the **Propagation Charts** appearing in "The CQ Shortwave Propagation Handbook, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition," by Carl Luetzelschwab, George Jacobs, Theodore J. Cohen, and R. B. Rose.

a. Find the *Propagation Index* associated with the particular path opening from the **Propagation Charts**.

b. With the *Propagation Index*, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the path opening for any given day of the month. For example, an opening shown in the **Propagation Charts** with a *Propagation Index* of 2 will be fair to poor on May 1<sup>st</sup>, fair from May 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, and good on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and so forth.

2. Alternatively, you may use the *Last-Minute Forecast* as a general guide to space weather and geomagnetic conditions throughout 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 geomagnetic conditions. In general, when conditions are High Normal to Above Normal, signals will be more reliable on a given path, when the ionosphere supports the path that is in consideration. This chart is updated daily at <<http://SunSpotWatch.com>> provided by NW7US.

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great news for 10-meter enthusiasts because they will see a mix of both short-range communications via the E-region and an enhancement from the F-region when the 10.7-cm radio flux rises above 110 (and in April, it rose to at least 160). Certainly, this is the season to get those antennas and radios working on this author's favorite DX band.

On 15 meters, fairly good openings are possible toward the south during the late afternoon and evening but now east-west propagation paths are opening up for strong DX. Numerous short-skip openings, between about 600 and 2,300 miles, should be possible almost daily. Expect the same conditions, but with longer openings, on 17 meters.

During May, the 20-meter band is the daytime workhorse. Opening shortly after sunrise, good DX conditions are expected to one area or another, even into the nighttime hours. Expect the band to stay open to southern and tropical areas through much of the night, especially for stations at low to mid latitudes. DX conditions should peak around the gray-line terminators (morning and evening), with openings possible to almost all areas of the world. Very frequent short-skip openings are also forecast for distances between about 350 and 2,300 miles. Quite often, especially during the late afternoon, optimal conditions may exist for both short and long skip, and stations a few hundred miles away will be heard at the same time as DX stations from several thousand miles away, causing considerable interference (QRM).

Want a band that could well be your wild card player when geomagnetic conditions get rough after major CMEs pound the Earth's magnetosphere? Try the 30-meter band! Using

**Table 1**

	Peak	Active Region	Date (UTC)
1	X2.2	AR 2992	20 April 2022
2	X1.5	AR 2838	31 July 2022
3	X1.3	AR 2975	30 March 2022
4	X1.1	AR 2994	17 April 2022
5	X1.0	AR 2887	28 October 2021
6	M9.6	AR 2975	31 March 2022
7	M9.6	AR 2992	21 April 2022
8	M7.3	AR 2992	20 April 2022
9	M5.5	AR 2929	20 January 2022
10	M4.7	AR 2860	28 August 2021

Table 1. Top Ten X-ray Flares in Cycle 25

Scale	Description	Effect	Physical measure	Average Frequency (1 cycle = 11 years)
G 5	Extreme	<b>Power systems:</b> Widespread voltage control problems and protective system problems can occur, some grid systems may experience complete collapse or blackouts. Transformers may experience damage. <b>Spacecraft operations:</b> May experience extensive surface charging, problems with orientation, uplink/downlink and tracking satellites. <b>Other systems:</b> Pipeline currents can reach hundreds of amps, HF (high frequency) radio propagation may be impossible in many areas for one to two days, satellite navigation may be degraded for days, low-frequency radio navigation can be out for hours, and aurora has been seen as low as Florida and southern Texas (typically 40° geomagnetic lat.).	Kp = 9	4 per cycle (4 days per cycle)
G 4	Severe	<b>Power systems:</b> Possible widespread voltage control problems and some protective systems will mistakenly trip out key assets from the grid. <b>Spacecraft operations:</b> May experience surface charging and tracking problems, corrections may be needed for orientation problems. <b>Other systems:</b> Induced pipeline currents affect preventive measures, HF radio propagation sporadic, satellite navigation degraded for hours, low-frequency radio navigation disrupted, and aurora has been seen as low as Alabama and northern California (typically 45° geomagnetic lat.).	Kp = 8, including a 9-	100 per cycle (60 days per cycle)
G 3	Strong	<b>Power systems:</b> Voltage corrections may be required, false alarms triggered on some protection devices. <b>Spacecraft operations:</b> Surface charging may occur on satellite components, drag may increase on low-Earth-orbit satellites, and corrections may be needed for orientation problems. <b>Other systems:</b> Intermittent satellite navigation and low-frequency radio navigation problems may occur, HF radio may be intermittent, and aurora has been seen as low as Illinois and Oregon (typically 50° geomagnetic lat.).	Kp = 7	200 per cycle (130 days per cycle)
G 2	Moderate	<b>Power systems:</b> High-latitude power systems may experience voltage alarms, long-duration storms may cause transformer damage. <b>Spacecraft operations:</b> Corrective actions to orientation may be required by ground control; possible changes in drag affect orbit predictions. <b>Other systems:</b> HF radio propagation can fade at higher latitudes, and aurora	Kp = 6	600 per cycle (360 days per cycle)

Figure 1. The NOAA Space Weather Scales were introduced as a way to communicate to the general public the current and future space weather conditions and their possible effects on people and systems. Many of the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) products describe the space environment, but few have described the effects that can be experienced as the result of environmental disturbances. These scales are useful to those who are interested in space weather effects. The scales describe the environmental disturbances for three event types: Geomagnetic storms (G), solar radiation storms (S), and radio blackouts (R). The scales have numbered levels, analogous to hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes that convey severity. They list possible effects at each level. They also show how often such events happen, and give a measure of the intensity of the physical causes. (Courtesy of Space Weather Prediction Center / NOAA) (Continued on next page)

Scale	Description	Effect	Physical measure (Flux level of >= 10 MeV particles)	Average Frequency (1 cycle = 11 years)
S 5	Extreme	<b>Biological:</b> Unavoidable high radiation hazard to astronauts on EVA (extra-vehicular activity); passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk. <b>Satellite operations:</b> Satellites may be rendered useless, memory impacts can cause loss of control, may cause serious noise in image data, star-trackers may be unable to locate sources; permanent damage to solar panels possible. <b>Other systems:</b> Complete blackout of HF (high frequency) communications possible through the polar regions, and position errors make navigation operations extremely difficult.	10 <sup>5</sup>	Fewer than 1 per cycle
S 4	Severe	<b>Biological:</b> Unavoidable radiation hazard to astronauts on EVA; passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk. <b>Satellite operations:</b> May experience memory device problems and noise on imaging systems; star-tracker problems may cause orientation problems, and solar panel efficiency can be degraded. <b>Other systems:</b> Blackout of HF radio communications through the polar regions and increased navigation errors over several days are likely.	10 <sup>4</sup>	3 per cycle
S 3	Strong	<b>Biological:</b> Radiation hazard avoidance recommended for astronauts on EVA; passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to radiation risk. <b>Satellite operations:</b> Single-event upsets, noise in imaging systems, and slight reduction of efficiency in solar panel are likely. <b>Other systems:</b> Degraded HF radio propagation through the polar regions and navigation position errors likely.	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 per cycle
S 2	Moderate	<b>Biological:</b> Passengers and crew in high-flying aircraft at high latitudes may be exposed to elevated radiation risk. <b>Satellite operations:</b> Infrequent single-event upsets possible. <b>Other systems:</b> Small effects on HF propagation through the polar regions and navigation at polar cap locations possibly affected.	10 <sup>2</sup>	25 per cycle
S 1	Minor	<b>Biological:</b> None. <b>Satellite operations:</b> None. <b>Other systems:</b> Minor impacts on HF radio in the polar regions.	10	50 per cycle

Scale	Description	Effect	Physical measure	Average Frequency (1 cycle = 11 years)
R 5	Extreme	<b>HF Radio:</b> Complete HF (high frequency) radio blackout on the entire sunlit side of the Earth lasting for a number of hours. This results in no HF radio contact with mariners and en route aviators in this sector. <b>Navigation:</b> Low-frequency navigation signals used by maritime and general aviation systems experience outages on the sunlit side of the Earth for many hours, causing loss in positioning. Increased satellite navigation errors in positioning for several hours on the sunlit side of Earth, which may spread into the night side.	X20 (2 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	Less than 1 per cycle
R 4	Severe	<b>HF Radio:</b> HF radio communication blackout on most of the sunlit side of Earth for one to two hours. HF radio contact lost during this time. <b>Navigation:</b> Outages of low-frequency navigation signals cause increased error in positioning for one to two hours. Minor disruptions of satellite navigation possible on the sunlit side of Earth.	X10 (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	8 per cycle (8 days per cycle)
R 3	Strong	<b>HF Radio:</b> Wide area blackout of HF radio communication, loss of radio contact for about an hour on sunlit side of Earth. <b>Navigation:</b> Low-frequency navigation signals degraded for about an hour.	X1 (10 <sup>-4</sup> )	175 per cycle (140 days per cycle)
R 2	Moderate	<b>HF Radio:</b> Limited blackout of HF radio communication on sunlit side, loss of radio contact for tens of minutes. <b>Navigation:</b> Degradation of low-frequency navigation signals for tens of minutes.	M5 (5 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> )	350 per cycle (300 days per cycle)
R 1	Minor	<b>HF Radio:</b> Weak or minor degradation of HF radio communication on sunlit side, occasional loss of radio contact. <b>Navigation:</b> Low-frequency navigation signals degraded for brief intervals.	M1 (10 <sup>-5</sup> )	2000 per cycle (950 days per cycle)

Figure 1. Continued. Top scale is for solar radiation storms (S); bottom is for radio blackouts (R).

Morse code on CW or FT8, this band will play a major role in DX propagation, with somewhat better nighttime propagation than the 40-meter band, and solid daytime propagation into many areas of the world. Exotic DX can be found here on any of the authorized and popular modes. Check this band often during the day.

Because the hours of darkness are growing less as we move closer to the summer season, fewer DX openings are expected on the lower HF bands. The higher level of static that plagues the high frequencies, because of the summertime electrical storms and the propagation of this noise, makes it more difficult to receive the weaker DX signals.

On 40 meters, we still expect fairly good openings to several areas of the world from shortly before sunset, through the hours of darkness, until shortly after sunrise. Good daytime short-skip openings can be expected over distances between approximately 150 and 750 miles, with nighttime openings extending up to the one-hop limit of 2,300 miles. On the lower bands, though, long-range DX is becoming less likely. Do take advantage of the excellent short-skip openings that are forecast for the daylight hours over distances ranging between 50 and 250 miles. During the hours of darkness, the short-skip range should increase up to approximately 2,300 miles.

### VHF Conditions

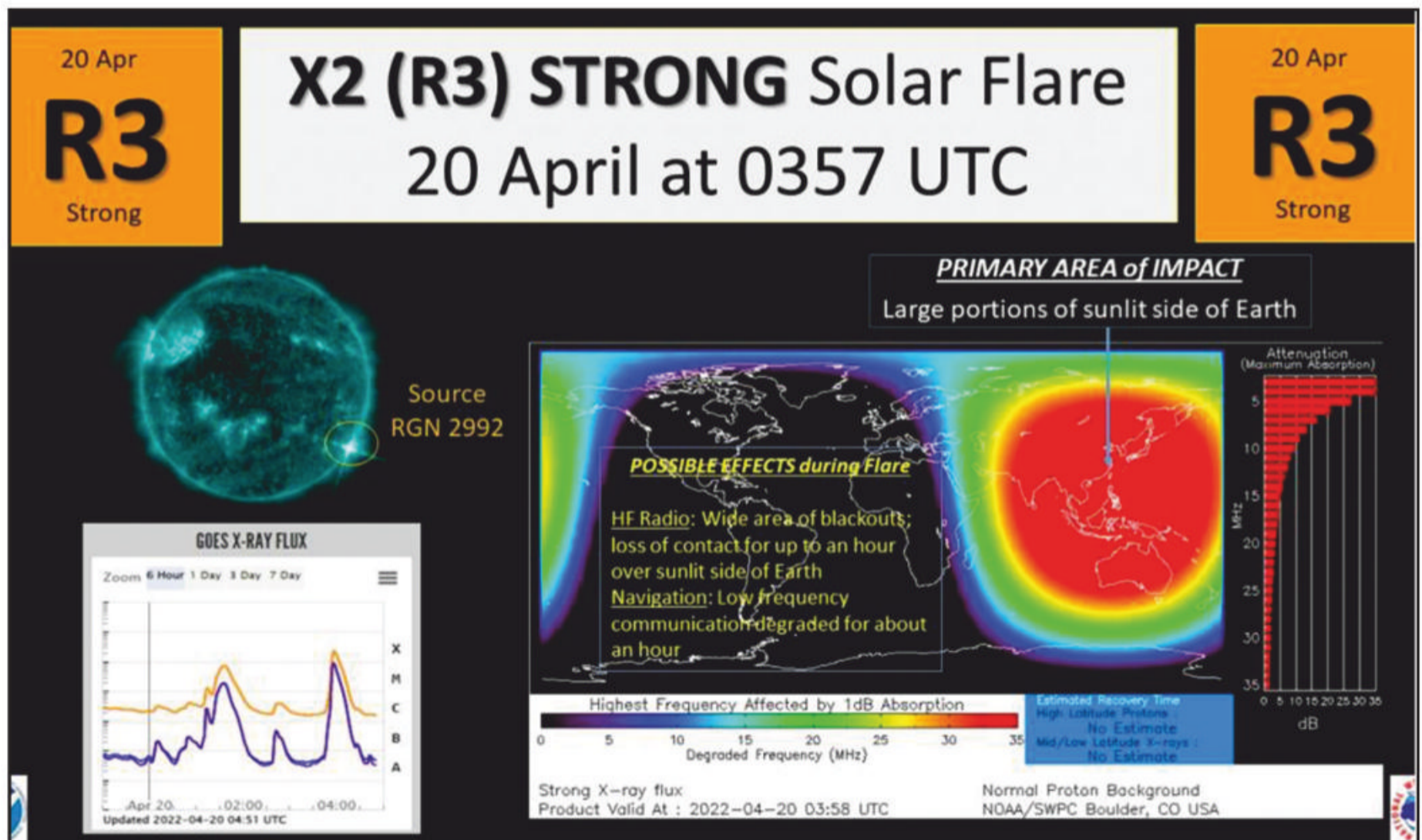
As expected on 6 meters, we should see opportunities for short- to medium-distance DX by way of E<sub>s</sub> propagation with

short-skip openings likely to occur over distances of approximately 1,000 to 1,400 miles. Although E<sub>s</sub> openings can take place at just about any time, the best time to check is between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and again between 6 and 10 p.m. local daylight time. During periods of intense and widespread E<sub>s</sub> ionization, two-hop openings considerably beyond 1,400 miles should be possible on 6 meters. Short-skip openings between 1,200 and 1,400 miles may also be possible on 2 meters. With higher 10.7-cm Radio Flux levels, we expect some F-region propagation on 6 meters, so watch for those openings!

It is possible that we could see occasional trans-equatorial propagation (TEP). A seasonal decline in TE is expected during May. An occasional opening may still be possible on 6 meters toward South America from the southern tier states and the Caribbean area. The best time to check for 6-meter TEP openings is between 9 and 11 p.m. local daylight time. These TEP openings will be on north-south paths that cross the geomagnetic equator at an approximate right angle.

For a detailed list of meteor showers, check out <<https://tinyurl.com/f9v7fj2u>> for a complete calendar of meteor showers in 2022.

If you use Twitter.com, you can follow <@hfradiospacewx> for hourly updates that include the K index numbers. You can also check the numbers at <<https://SunSpotWatch.com>>, where this columnist provides a wealth of current space weather details as well as links. Please report your observations of any notable propagation conditions, by writing this



An X2.2 flare (R3-Strong Radio Blackout) occurred at 11:57 p.m. EDT on April, 19, 2022 (20 / 0357 UTC). The flare erupted from a region just beyond the southwest limb of the Sun — likely former Region 2992. The strong flare was associated with multiple bursts on specific radio frequencies to include a burst of 509 solar flux units on 2695 MHz. Additionally, a Type II radio sweep was detected by the USAF Radio Solar Telescope Network (RSTN), with an estimated velocity of 1630 kilometers per second. This radio signature is often indicative of a potential coronal mass ejection (CME). SWPC forecasters are waiting for available coronagraph imagery from the NASA / SOHO LASCO instrument to confirm if a CME took place, and if so, analyze accordingly. However, as the source region of the flare was beyond the southwest limb, initial analysis suggests any CME is unlikely to have an Earth-directed component. (Courtesy of Space Weather Prediction Center / NOAA)



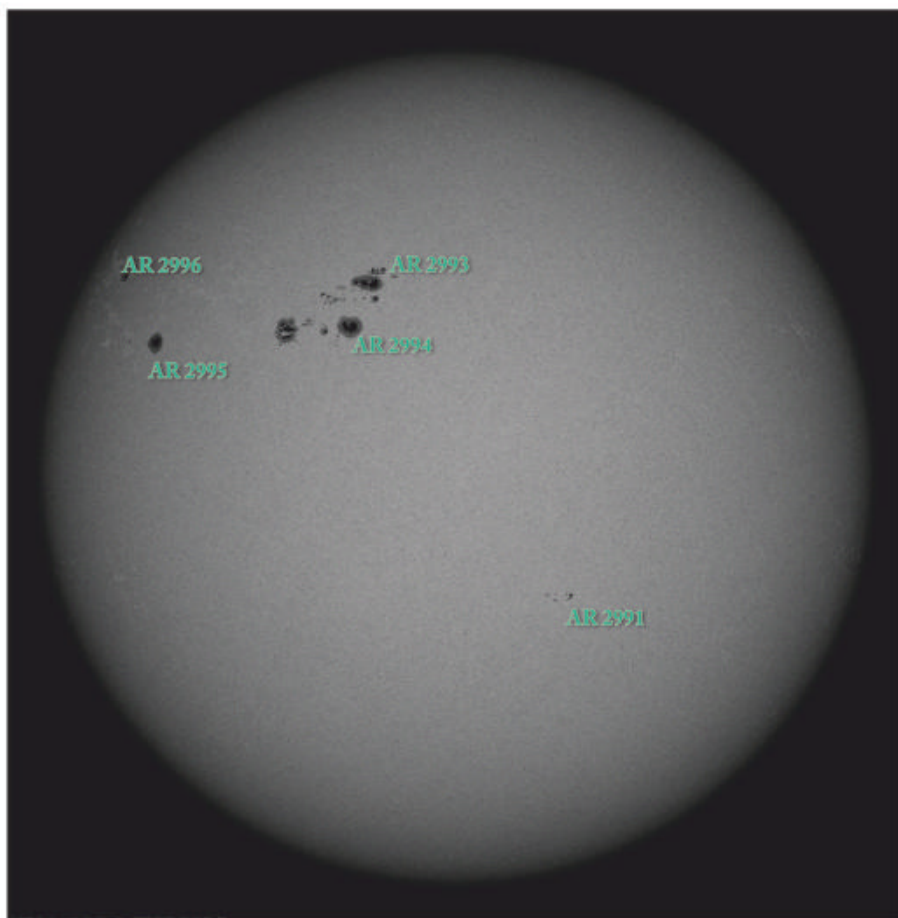


Photo A. On April 21, 2022 at 1511 UTC, the Solar Dynamics Observatory spacecraft HMI instrument captured this white-light (visible) image of the sunspots AR 2991, AR 2993, AR 2994, AR 2995, and AR 2996. At press time, moderately strong X-ray flares were erupting from these active regions. The Sun is truly coming awake, with the current cycle exceeding the expectations in the official forecast. (Courtesy of SDO/HMI)

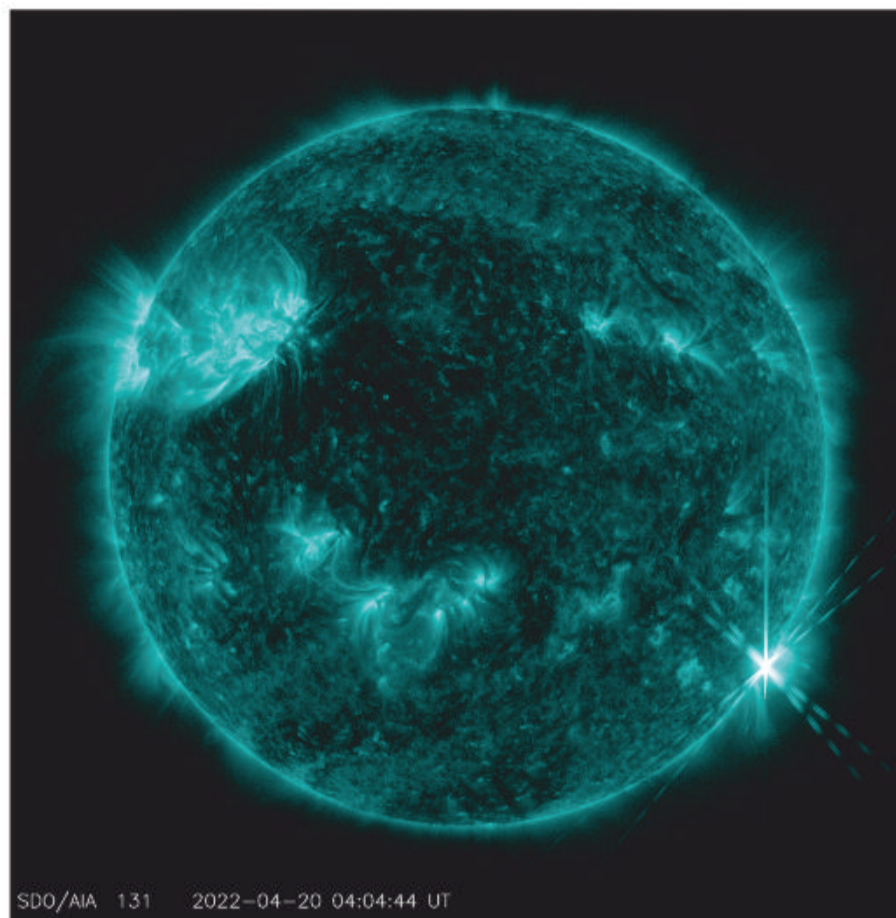


Photo C. In this view at the invisible wavelength of 131 Angstroms, we see the flash of the X-ray flare that erupted on April, 20 2022, peaking at 03:57 UTC with a peak of X2.2, which is the strongest solar X-ray flare yet recorded in Solar Cycle 25. This caused a radio blackout on the sunlit side of Earth, and originated in the departing (rotating out of view) AR 2992. This strong flare, even though off to the side of the solar disc and pointed away from Earth, produced a Type II Radio Emission and a 10-cm Radio Burst, which is notable. (Courtesy of SDO/AIA)

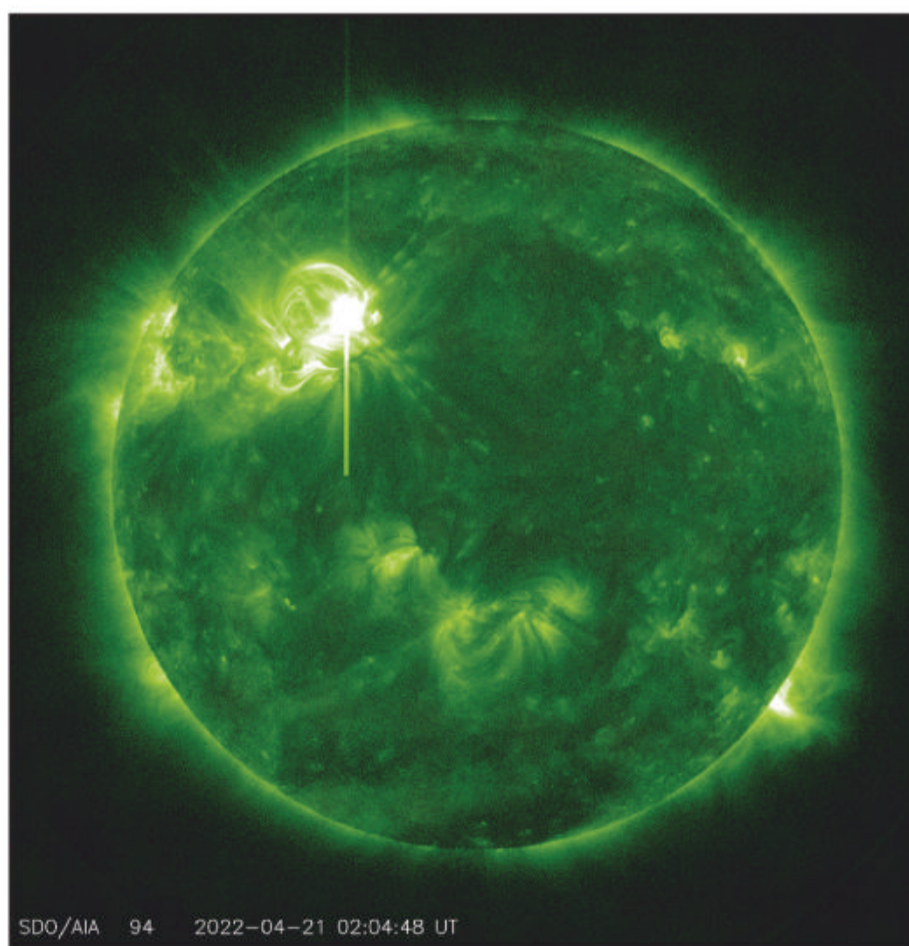


Photo B. In this view at the invisible wavelength of 94 Angstroms, we see the flash of the X-ray flare that erupted on April 21, 2022, peaking at 01:59 UTC with a peak of M9.6. This caused a radio blackout on the sunlit side of Earth. (Courtesy of SDO/AIA)

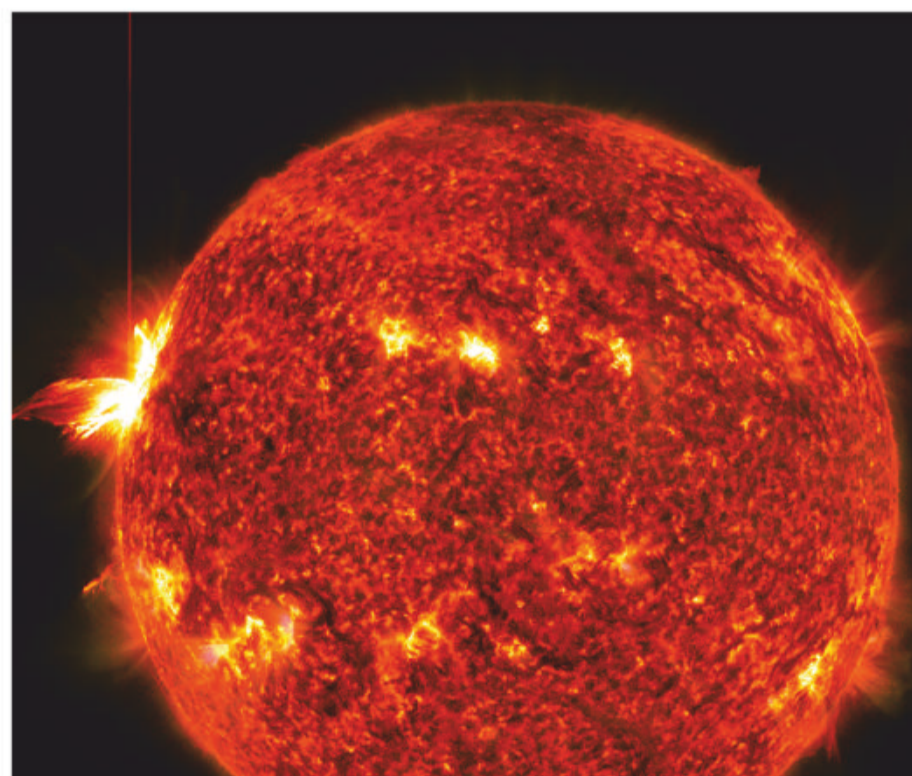


Photo D. This image was captured by SDO's AIA instrument at the invisible wavelength of 171 Angstroms on April 17, 2022 and records the X-ray flare eruption that peaked at X1.1. The source is from a sunspot active region just rotating into view, AR 2994. The event was responsible for a Strong (R3) level radio blackout affecting the sunlit side of Earth. (Courtesy of SDO/AIA)

columnist via Twitter, or via the Space Weather and Radio Propagation Facebook page at <<https://fb.me/spacewx.hfradio>>.

### Current Solar Cycle Progress

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for February 2022 was

65.61, up from January's 56.97, but down from 69.42 in December 2021, yet still up from significantly up from November's 36.03. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on August 2021 is 36.1, up from February's 31.8. A smoothed sunspot count of 52, give or take about 7 points is expected for May 2022.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 109.15 for February 2022, up from 104.05 for January. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on August 2021 is 85.70, up from 83.10 for July. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for May 2022 is 93, give or take 8 points.

Geomagnetic activity level this month is expected to range from quiet to stormy, resulting in occasional degraded propagation this month. Remember that you can get an up-to-the-day **Last-Minute Forecast** at <<https://SunSpotWatch.com>> on the main page.

I welcome your thoughts, questions, and experiences regarding this fascinating science of propagation. You may email me, write me a letter, or catch me on the HF amateur bands. If you are on Facebook, check out <<https://fb.me/spacewx.hfradio>> and <<https://fb.me/NW7US>> — speaking of Facebook — check out the *CQ Amateur Radio* magazine fan page at <<https://fb.me/CQMag>>. Also, please check out the new alternative social networking ham radio group at <<https://amateurhamradio.locals.com>> and please share this with your amateur radio friends and clubs.  
— 73, Tomas, NW7US

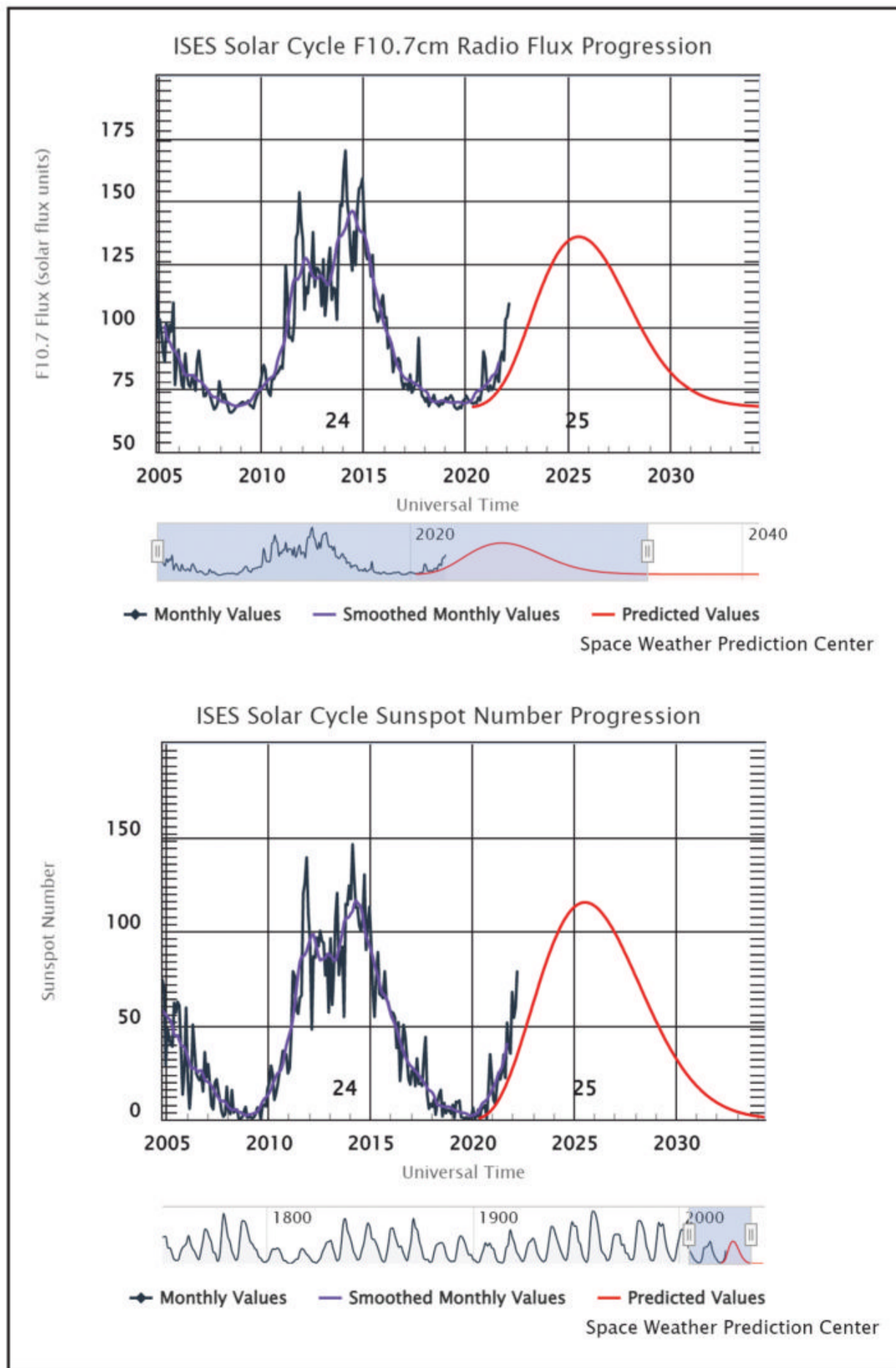


Figure 3. It continues to be clear that this cycle, Cycle 25, is outpacing the forecast (so far)! The increase in each plot shows a faster rise in overall solar activity and resulting solar flux each month of this cycle. With a 10.7-cm Radio Flux climbing at least to 160 during April 2022, the 10-meter band had plenty of east-west DX over 3,000 kilometers or greater paths. Could this cycle also prove to be a stronger one than is expected? (Courtesy of SWPC/NOAA)

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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. An "A" after the band indicates Assisted category. Certificate winners are listed in bold. Late logs and logs not eligible for an award are listed in *italics*.

# 2021 CQWW DX CW RESULTS

## SINGLE OPERATOR

### NORTH AMERICA

#### United States

Table listing call signs, scores, and counts for United States operators. Includes categories like District 1, District 2, District 3, District 4, and District 5. Operators include W1KM, KQ2M, N1UR, etc.

Table listing call signs, scores, and counts for District 1 operators. Includes operators like K1DBO, W1HNZ, WK1J, etc.

Table listing call signs, scores, and counts for District 2 operators. Includes operators like K1DBO, W1HNZ, WK1J, etc.

Table listing call signs, scores, and counts for District 3 operators. Includes operators like W3AVP, K3KU, K3NNO, etc.

Table listing call signs, scores, and counts for District 4 operators. Includes operators like K3QP, K3BAAY, K3BXX, etc.







Table with columns for Candidate, Party, District, and Vote Count. It lists candidates across various districts (District 1, District 2, District 3, District 4, District 5, District 6, District 7, District 8) and includes their respective party affiliations and total votes received.





*OK1CZ	1.8	34,209	509	11	52	G1SCT	"	248,682	688	56	161	G3SVL	"	17,225	178	12	53	RK3T	"	1,033,515	2065	81	234	UA3AB	"	171,430	542	44	114	
*OK1JOK	"	18,536	328	9	47	G4SGI	"	103,428	398	42	111	*G4U	AA	915,120	1760	81	291	(OP: RX4W)						R2AX	"	168,054	491	59	163	
*OK2BRQ	"	7,995	215	7	34	G3T	"	70,104	290	36	91	*M3AWD	"	384,636	954	58	208	R3FX	"	868,027	1859	93	260	RL3T	"	165,870	546	55	139	
OL0W	AA	3,541,744	2970	162	494	G5DXC	"	13,896	102	24	48	*G2K	"	375,446	915	54	208	R3OM	"	773,277	1483	91	292	RM3A	"	162,740	652	39	119	
OL50DJ	"	1,530,360	1771	126	394	G6VMR	"	10,962	79	23	35	*G4P	"	370,575	1046	56	169	RC3U	"	677,082	1210	90	253		(OP: RN3AC)					
OL70DG	"	1,482,152	2323	95	303	M0NPK	"	3,822	49	15	24	*G0MFR	"	360,646	811	70	216	R5AK	"	671,772	1139	93	263	RW3WX	"	161,568	478	62	154	
OK1DO	"	1,254,528	1088	128	400	G4FKA	28	18,135	221	15	50	*2E0INN	"	305,996	830	55	172	RA3NC	"	583,083	1141	70	263	R5CA	"	150,336	500	52	180	
OK2QA	"	1,190,068	1913	99	275	M6O	21	345,138	1371	30	93	*G3VMW	"	222,888	543	54	168	R3OQ	"	300,032	756	78	215	UA3R	"	145,236	482	56	140	
OK1PI	"	314,875	629	83	146	G2O	"	38,340	294	19	52	*G0FGI	"	178,176	408	52	180	UC5C	"	150,080	412	52	108		(OP: UA3RC)					
OK2OP	"	298,110	753	63	222	G9D	"	37,248	255	20	44	*G4RQI	"	73,370	297	32	78	RT2H	"	144,270	525	46	164	RT3N	"	133,200	424	51	174	
OK1LO	"	135,401	367	59	144	G3WGN	1.8	2,565	46	9	36	*G00OR	"	65,272	247	45	119	R3BV	"	97,467	455	37	122	RA3U	"	127,836	397	60	152	
OK4X	"	132,765	614	35	132	*G4DDL	A	443,088	997	64	208	*G0RXA	"	63,050	287	34	96	RC2A	"	90,916	230	71	167	RC3FL	"	122,570	387	58	180	
OK2FB	"	123,214	348	52	130	*M2J	"	368,460	767	64	203	*G4BRK	"	59,099	386	27	86	RA3BQ	"	80,272	242	63	110	RM5W	"	117,467	352	56	117	
OK2RU	"	53,911	154	63	106	*G3SVK	"	165,007	758	39	118	*G4RTU	"	43,032	244	34	98	RV3TG	"	23,287	149	26	65	RU3SD	"	98,230	315	47	162	
OK6CX	"	28,985	167	30	55	*M0UURL	"	136,880	574	35	110	*G4PFZ	"	42,525	216	40	95	R325RF	"	17,160	206	20	68	RU3XY	"	88,740	353	46	128	
OK7GU	"	3,150	70	9	33	*G4POF	"	121,899	374	45	134	*M0WJG	"	34,364	224	30	91		(OP: RV1AQ)				RA3S	"	85,942	182	79	115		
OL5M	28A	57,116	337	29	80	*G0BKC	"	102,256	335	45	121	*2E0OBO	"	32,207	186	31	76	RV3ZD	"	13,287	142	28	75	R5AF	"	74,053	398	34	115	
OK8AW	21A	102,544	442	29	75	*G3WRR	"	94,000	318	45	143	*M0IPU	"	31,140	153	33	57	UA3LEO	"	11,340	59	35	49	R2IN	"	69,685	299	51	130	
OL9Z	14A	831,660	2425	37	129	*G4HJV	"	80,234	255	46	108	*G7TWC	"	28,188	138	33	75	RU3XW	"	8,001	110	13	50	UA3AGW	"	64,515	160	56	109	
OL8M	"	589,518	1692	37	125	*G0VWL	"	59,605	290	30	101	*M9N	"	26,010	201	28	74	RV3FT	"	6,640	120	10	10	UA3MCH	"	48,162	192	41	97	
OL5W	"	8,732	111	13	46	*G4DYC	"	40,992	220	29	83	*M3R	"	25,752	188	28	83	UA3UBT	"	6,313	75	15	44	RT5Q	"	28,925	160	29	60	
OL7R	3.5A	484,843	2384	31	106	*G4EBK	"	31,578	171	31	83	*G3WGE	"	24,476	135	34	82	UA3DSN	"	72	4	3	3	UA3QLC	"	15,600	72	34	46	
OK1DX	"	344,988	1835	29	97	*G4FV	"	29,618	209	28	90	*G0JDL	"	21,093	211	21	68	R3LC	28	11,760	90	20	36	UA3AIF	"	13,182	67	40	38	
OK1VK	"	272,867	1697	27	92	*M0CVO	"	28,667	245	27	82	*G4RCD	"	19,656	155	28	63	R3XM	21	203,840	688	32	108	AK3TT	"	3,760	59	15	32	
OK1RR	"	185,004	1312	20	88	*G4HYG	"	27,451	205	26	71	*G4OMG	"	14,940	178	21	62	RV3VR	"	28,652	246	22	54	R2AQO	"	1,890	21	15	15	
OK1TN	"	120,320	1037	20	74	*G5C	"	24,415	213	22	73	*G3KNU	"	10,070	90	21	32	RT5T	14	105,156	665	23	75	R3QF	"	1,334	16	13	16	
OK1P	"	94,221	774	17	70	*G4OTV	"	23,230	200	29	86	*M0JSB	"	8,320	90	20	45	RY3F	7	36,404	380	17	59	R3PJM	"	54	3	3	3	
OK5M	"	53,889	695	12	59	*G0OSK	"	13,083	123	23	66	*2E0EBM	"	7,488	61	24	40	UA3WF	"	19,765	203	18	49	RM2E	28A	8,802	89	19	35	
OK1CF	1.8A	63,341	451	20	77	*M0LDW	"	11,869	84	28	55	*G4AWA	"	2,697	29	16	15	RW3YA	3.5	18,044	367	10	42	RL3A	21A	459,030	1332	37	128	
OK5ET	"	42,192	518	14	58	*G4BEE	"	7,104	76	23	51	*2EOWPM	"	1,386	37	10	23	R3XA	1.8	68,796	742	16	68		(OP: RL3FT)					
OK1ATP	"	25,631	330	13	58	*M0WEL	"	5,719	61	17	26	*M0TKM	"	1,160	26	10	10	RM2P	"	22,260	390	10	50	UA3KW	"	174,584	632	33	106	
OK2SG	"	16,678	247	13	49	*G0FCU	"	3,276	86	23	55	*G0TSM	28A	15,504	117	18	50	RK3DK	"	2,484	72	8	28	RA3SI	"	158,168	616	33	103	
OK1DWJ	"	2,535	27	16	23	*G3XTZ	"	2,178	44	9	9	*G4RGK	"	14,049	146	16	47	*R5FQ	A	476,309	994	76	255	RN3BL	"	104,228	408	34	108	
*OK7W	AA	1,759,279	2574	100	333	*G3YZO	"	1,692	33	11	25	*M0NQN	"	2,356	42	10	21	*RN5AA	"	450,109	873	79	240	RU3DNN	"	60,486	365	29	73	
*OK5MAX	"	580,890	1164	81	254	*G6GLP	"	1,247	25	12	17	*G8P	21A	247,648	761	35	107	*RX3Q	"	386,941	1274	56	183	RV3LO	"	14,250	84	29	46	
*OK5OK	"	525,672	1228	66	232	*M0NPT	"	625	23	8	17	*M2U	"	12,427	129	14	29	*RT3C	"	355,470	897	68	221	RM3E	14A	57,456	193	36	116	
*OK1MAW	"	430,012	675	91	246	*M0KNG	"	70	6	2	3	*G3RXP	"	160,885	573	27	88	*R2PA	"	301,126	597	76	198		(OP: UA3DPX)					
*OK1SI	"	186,408	572	54	162	*G9V	28	10,098	110	14	40	*G4ERW	"	52,779	289	20	53	*R3OR	"	272,209	778	66	193	R2CA	"	37,318	182	25	69	
*OK1UKY	"	113,876	467	46	120	*G4AFS	"	7,072	68	15	37	*M4M	"	1,092	30	6	15	*RV3ZN	"	167,722	955	51	163	R3EG	"	7,958	139	11	35	
*OK1DPU	"	106,196	402	42	149	*M4M	"	1,092	30	6	15	*G4KIV	"	1,050	34	5	16	*R3AQ	"	174,908	370	66	226	RC3W	7A	138,918	664	34	103	
*OK7TJ	"	97,908	362	38	126	*G6C	21	13,662	147	13	33	*G6C	21	13,662	147	13	33	*RT2X	"	171,094	610	50	152		(OP: RA5W)					
*OK4DZ	"	95,580	314	44	74	*M3M	"	12,240	129	15	33	*M5EVT	"	64,175	558	16	69	*RM5X	"	168,840	564	50	166	RN5M	"	3,000	29	17	23	
*OK1BLU	"	90,666	315	52	155	*G4OTU	"	10,812	149	13	38	*G8AJM	"	34,020	327	16	68	*M2T	"	156,816	536	50	148	RV3A	3.5A	70,956	457	28	80	
*OK1BR	"	73,304	319	38	98	*M1TZR	"	7,128	86	14	22	*G3VDB	"	33,280	376	12	53	*UA3DSS	"	148,114	424	62	144	R2DFD	"	20,618	324	11	50	
*OK1KT	"	69,595	294	41	114	*M0SEV	14	27,600	312	15	45	*G3RLE	1.8A	4,018	91	8	33	*R2U	"	134,974	449	61	156	RX3APM	1.8A	201,006	1166	28	89	
*OK2YZ	"	65,160	232	50	131	*G4WGE	7	55,505	441	17	68	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*RX3VF	"	133,536	488	46	168	R5WW	"	43,142	572	14	60	
*OK1TRJ	"	55,728	303	32	97	*G4RMV	"	19,782	186	15	48	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*UA3YDI	"	131,880	523	47	163	RT3G	"	33,594	472	12	54	
*OK1FFW	"	51,696	201	47	97	*G4L	3.5	60,344	605	16	60	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*RZ3AV	"	128,466	514	46	137	RK3BX	"	29,040	498	11	49	
*OK1WSL	"	45,954	295	36	102	*G3YRZ	"	480	25	4	16	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*RA3AOS	"	122,683	377	53	156	R3XX	"	12,648	246	10	41	
*OL0M	"	43,306	195	39	79	*G2X	1.8	26,733	416	11	46	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*RD3AD	"	118,482	499	40	146	RZ2A	"	2,960	65	6	34	
*OK1DOY	"	32,318	122	45	98	*M0NDZ	"	8,352	151	10	38	*G4N	"	55,505	441	17	68	*RA3GAA	"	117,480	454	46	132	RD3AW	"	6	1	1	1	
*OK7SE	"	26,260	140	32	69	G6T	AA	1,832,224	2115	117	379	*G4N	"	55,50																



Table with 4 columns: Country, ICAO, IATA, and various statistics. Includes sections for Denmark, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, and Jersey.

*I28CLM	"	12,584	59	37	51	IC8POF	"	13,504	169	13	51	*YL3BU	"	59,925	354	29	112	PA00	"	1,196,214	1404	129	257	Northern Ireland					
*IU6AIG	"	12,549	113	27	62	I7CSB	"	5,781	111	8	39	*YL3GAZ	3.5A	61,712	659	14	62	PA2PKZ	"	1,140,005	1738	100	315	GI4FUE	3.5	21,090	197	15	59
*IC8/	"					*IK6VXO	AA	2,023,522	1840	131	395	*YL2II	"	7,056	134	11	38	PA1T	"	1,079,677	1726	98	285	*MI5I	A	1,501,904	2720	76	268
UR8QX	"	11,328	110	17	47	*IZ4JMA	"	1,223,851	2122	81	272	*YL1ZF	1.8A	64,190	877	13	57	PA4WM	"	1,025,352	1382	103	301	(OP: GI0RQK)					
*IZ8HUW	"	10,873	186	19	64	*IZ2MGN	"	728,688	935	113	343	Lithuania				PA1M	"	928,908	1205	96	327	*Z10WLZ	"	23,672	206	24	64		
*IN3ZWF	"	10,143	114	16	53	*IQ8XF	"	581,328	888	84	283	LY4T	A	1,942,250	2779	109	348	PA5WT	"	786,980	1328	82	279	GI5I	AA	1,873,880	3187	89	306
*IW2CAM	"	8,526	66	26	32	*IK1SOW	"	507,350	824	78	287	LY1N	14	6,426	72	15	39	PA0VAJ	"	686,880	1696	63	207	(OP: GI4DOH)					
*IZ3EAX	"	8,190	98	16	49	*IU4FNO	"	478,800	722	84	258	LY1DZ	3.5	195,000	1299	26	78	PA3GRM	"	628,429	1309	67	240	MI0BPB	21A	122,976	622	23	73
*IU0MVD	"	7,009	84	13	30	*IK3YBX	"	404,240	729	77	233	LY2NK	1.8	66,920	907	13	57	PA60	"	626,916	1232	72	195	*MI0I	AA	21,605	116	38	107
*IK2UJF	"	7,006	86	13	49	*I1JTQP	"	391,248	745	74	230	*LY4L	A	2,725,757	3532	128	375	(OP: PA1CW)											
*IZ2ABZ	"	6,873	79	16	63	*I2XIP	"	351,657	471	93	276	*LY2MC	"	209,842	594	61	178	PA7LV	"	605,682	952	103	296	(OP: MI0RRE)					
*IK2CMI	"	6,767	87	14	53	*IK1AYT	"	335,838	768	57	194	*LY1M	"	165,482	467	50	144	PA7JWC	"	513,765	1027	81	234	(OP: PA8AD)					
*IW0AEN	"	6,014	74	20	42	*IK0NOJ	"	275,370	653	71	203	*LY3K1	"	57,200	336	32	98	PE6Q	"	434,520	1077	68	216	(OP: PA8AD)					
*IK6XEJ	"	5,950	49	20	30	*I0G0J	"	254,400	871	58	182	*LY2SQ	"	12,635	63	35	60	PA5N	"	358,678	999	61	201	LA7SI	"	83,496	348	41	127
*IU6DVS	"	5,537	47	20	29	*IV3DXW	"	235,352	333	101	302	*LY3Q3	"	11,712	144	15	49	PA4M	"	344,847	748	56	157	LA6XI	"	27,730	150	40	78
*I28ENA	"	4,800	55	20	44	*IW5EDI	"	222,363	489	68	211	*LY3QN	"	2,480	54	12	28	PG3N	"	333,508	703	74	227	LA9VPA	"	5,576	76	14	27
*IK7UKF	"	4,698	91	13	41	*I1RJP	"	205,660	552	74	152	*LY7X	1.8	27,864	522	10	44	PC4H	"	331,692	841	57	205	LA7NFA	14	51,852	325	23	64
*IZ6WSJ	"	4,268	47	18	26	*IZ2FME	"	192,984	607	57	201	(OP: LY3DA)				PA4OES	"	285,354	765	57	192	LA3MHA	1.8	15,892	248	15	43		
*I2ORX	"	3,818	57	15	31	*IU0ITX	"	191,406	609	48	171	LY7Z	AA	5,300,632	3977	181	583	PA4EL	"	198,900	348	83	177	*LB6GG	A	939,726	2063	73	260
*IK2NUX	"	3,780	45	16	29	*IK1TTD	"	187,935	583	56	199	LY5E	"	4,512,520	3510	181	559	PA1B	"	143,312	418	53	155	*LA2HFA	"	307,184	720	68	224
*IZ5IMB	"	2,928	33	19	29	*IZ2OOS	"	176,967	619	36	123	LY5W	"	3,572,130	2820	171	542	PA3GDD	"	114,000	545	36	114	*LB2WG	"	53,900	366	26	114
*IK2TKX	"	2,730	67	9	33	*I0/S58Y	"	161,348	483	49	160	LY5R	"	2,932,822	2472	151	468	PE1RDP	"	105,765	384	46	119	*LA4CIA	"	51,136	247	47	141
*IK2QVT	"	2,236	40	17	26	*IZ2JQP	"	156,123	439	56	153	LY4A	"	2,895,072	2817	159	477	PA0M	"	98,841	298	47	94	*LA/G3SWC	"	26,620	206	24	86
*IZ2ABI	"	2,193	50	17	34	*IR2X	"	141,904	445	51	145	LY9Y	"	1,901,229	2000	138	423	PA5TT	"	76,160	263	44	96	*LA9DK	"	16,368	140	24	69
*IU1CYF	"	1,960	36	13	27	*IK4QMU	"	121,624	351	44	140	LY2TS	"	1,349,420	1949	101	335	PA1H	"	74,635	259	54	61	*LA6GX	"	6,003	93	15	14
*IK0ALT	"	1,911	48	13	26	*IC8FBU	"	115,241	458	46	117	LY2MM	"	1,213,674	1537	106	320	PA3GCU	"	62,964	290	35	97	*LC4U	"	1,760	72	13	42
*IK2REA	"	980	25	10	18	*IU7LMX	"	105,664	288	57	151	LY2SA	"	835,635	1055	123	370	PH0AS	"	43,358	186	43	90	*LB1R	"	1,600	47	11	29
*IU2MCH	"	760	19	7	13	*IZ1GSO	"	101,067	419	36	141	LY2SAX	"	595,211	735	107	324	PA0INA	"	38,640	152	49	89	*LA9WDA	14	22,113	255	16	47
*IZ5HQB	"	300	10	6	6	*IK4ZIF	"	82,488	215	70	98	LY2A	"	510,113	676	88	205	PA5KM	"	26,992	104	46	66	*LA6PB	"	2,888	79	8	30
*IK8SCR	"	96	8	5	7	*IK2ZRS	"	74,998	280	46	108	LY2CX	"	273,105	488	108	249	PB5DX	"	22,610	166	20	65	*LA0GE	7	28,543	295	16	57
*IU3BPW	"	7	7	2	5	*IW3JFJ	"	68,497	326	39	104	LY4OO	"	244,305	429	85	182	PC2K	"	9,416	92	28	60	*LB5DI	"	1,519	65	6	25
*IR4Q	28	4,644	77	11	25	*IU2JWF	"	68,388	213	48	116	LY1CT	"	190,518	617	52	174	PA5FN	"	12,545	150	13	52	*LA3RK	3.5	15,848	247	11	45
*IZ5TJD	"	943	39	8	15	*IZ1DXS	"	61,858	220	44	113	LY2BAW	"	172,556	444	62	179	PF6W	"	8,892	92	16	23	*LC9X	1.8	20,600	393	9	41
*IZ2BMM	"	154	8	3	4	*IW1RLC	"	56,248	312	35	123	LY1LB	"	754	32	9	17	(OP: PD2R)				*LA6OP	"	3,950	78	6	44		
*IQ2GM	21	22,512	172	23	44	*IK6OIN	"	55,836	234	41	91	LY5O	28A	6,292	79	17	35	PA0ABM	"	1,856	47	7	25	LA8OM	AA	3,285,828	4530	98	344
*IK2YUZ	"	3,052	79	12	16	*IW5EIJ	"	52,096	204	42	106	LY2N	21A	302,176	927	36	116	PA1TK	"	1,540	33	11	17	LA7GIA	"	1,168,058	2432	79	247
*IW5ELA	"	450	14	11	14	*I10K	"	49,731	255	36	101	LY2CO	14A	103,173	520	28	91	PI4DX	28A	86,576	479	29	83	LA0CX	"	883,452	1861	79	253
*IK1YRA	14	41,625	238	27	84	*I3JUK	"	46,800	273	28	47	LY2LE	7A	303,116	1011	38	128	PA5MW	21A	158,625	549	35	106	LB5GI	"	490,471	798	84	229
*I2DJX	"	27,968	199	17	47	*I1A	"	46,800	273	28	47	LY2YK	"	56,444	308	31	72	PI4COM	14A	691,656	1851	39	129	LC8P	"	262,917	677	54	169
*IW2ESL	"	9,408	121	11	37	*IU8LMC	"	42,456	213	39	144	LY2NY	"	226,968	681	35	112	PA3A	"	64,676	389	18	58	LA3TK	"	175,398	345	61	185
*IU4CSS	"	4,551	67	13	24	*IK2QIK	"	40,128	241	32	100	LY2YX	"	174,496	991	31	102	PA1WX	"	19,600	128	25	45	LA8HGA	"	159,744	697	39	89
*IZ2GMT	"	3,060	73	6	30	*IV3IPS	"	39,690	202	30	60	LY2W	"	12,716	114	19	25	PE5TT	"	4,914	100	9	33	LA9OI	"	85,260	271	43	102
*I4IKW	7	112,036	402	36	112	*IV3HAX	"	35,787	127	45	106	LY2FCO	14A	103,173	520	28	91	PA1CC	7A	874,310	2795	37	133	LA8CJ	"	55,755	183	46	89
*IV3EAD	"	99,428	547	27	79	*IK5AFJ	"	33,984	264	26	92	LY2LE	7A	303,116	1011	38	128	PA0Q	"	19,456	241	14	50	LA7XK	"	11,097	100	23	58
*IK8FIQ	"	85,211	455	31	98	*IZ3ASA	"	28,224	153	30	96	LY2FN	7A	303,116	1011	38	128	PC3T	3.5A	166,380	999	28	90	LA7AZ	"	7,872	98	19	45
*I3LGP	"	59,048	391	18	74	*IW7DMH	"	26,520	160	32	88	LY2X	"	174,496	991	31	102	(OP: PY2SEX)				LC5K	"	6,534	55	25	41		
*IZ7XIB	"	42,330	387	16	67	*IZ0AEX	"	20,696	144	28	76	LY7M	1.8A	226,904	1512	26	87	*PA2TA	"	629,674	1390	69	229	*SP5AUC	A	754,475	1693	72	221
*IU5ICR	"	33,390	361	12	58	*IW1CHX	"	18,624	102	36	45	*LY8A	AA	1,844,466	2157	124	383	*PA8MM	"	523,005	1090	72	221	SP7FAP	"	434,988	1205	64	253
*IQ5OX	"	31,076	387	13	55	*IK2LOL	"	14,620	101	23	61	*LY5I	"	1,484,863	1851	118	369	*PC1PM	"	505,080	1117	73	232	SQ5J	"	299,096	1013	56	162
*IZ2AJE	"	24,120	295	17	50	*I23ZOO	"	11,036	118	17	72	*LY7R	"	1,390,770	2117	95	364	*PA3DUU	"	340,791	730	67	186	SP9ENV	"	261,326	637	67	180
*IZ4OSH	"	23,785	236	15	52	*IU0PJS	"	10,332	101	26	56	*LY2DX	"	729,960	1212	81	304	*PA0CMU	"	83,655	436	29	70	SP5ATO	"	251,122	506	67	174
*IK5BDG	"	16,244	153	14	48	*IK3TPP	"	8,284	56	30	46	*LY5AX	"	601,868	1240	97	237	*PC5Q	"	332,189	774	66	187	SQ3DIK	"	224,595	618	56	181
*IZ4GRP	"	15,428	190	12	46	*IZ7ECL	"	7,504	55	27	40	*LY5XX	"	593,058	1478	68	223	*PG2AA	"	330,642	954	58	176	SQ9DXN					

















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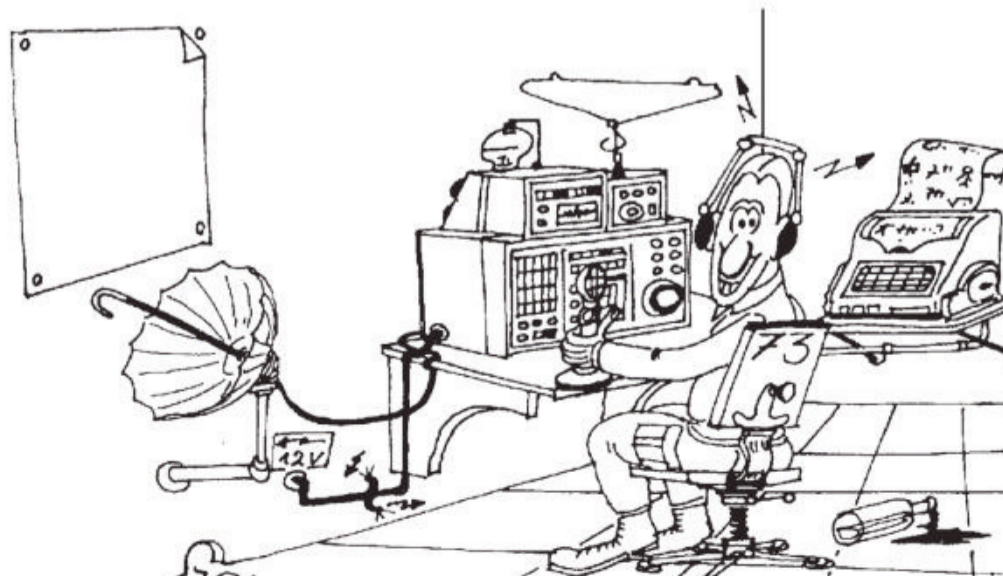
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