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Amateur Radio

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY
NOVEMBER 2022

CQ

- **DXing With Wolves, p. 8**
- **Results: 2022 CQ WPX CW Contest, p. 13**
- **The Almost Heathkit, p. 26**
- **Using an HF Window on 6 Meters, p. 43**

On the Cover: Jelmer Vos, DJ5MO, makes the most of his cozy attic ham shack in Halle, Germany, taking second place worldwide in the Tribander/Wires Low Power overlay of the 2022 CQ WPX CW Contest. Contest results on page 13; more about Jelmer on page 18.

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announcements

NOVEMBER

BELTON, MISSOURI — The Raytown Amateur Radio Club and the Southside Amateur Radio Club will hold the Raytown & Southside Hamfest from 7:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday, November 5 at the Mill Creek Upper Elementary School, 308 South Cleveland Avenue. Email: <info@southsidearc.net>. Website: <http://southsidearc.net>. Talk-in 145.17- (PL 151.4) or 147.12+ (PL 151.4). VE exams.

CONGRESS, ARIZONA — The Hassayampa Amateur Radio Klub will hold the HARKfest Tailgate Hamfest from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, November 5 at the North Ranch Escapees RV Park, 30625 S. Highway 89. Contact: Duane Grooms, KD0KYK, <djgrooms@yahoo.com>. Website: <www.harkaz.org>. Talk-in 146.620 (PL 162.2). Free VE exams, ARRL card checking.

ENID, OKLAHOMA — The Enid Amateur Radio Club will hold 2022 Enid Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, November 5 at the Stride Bank Center, 301 S. Independence Avenue. Website: <www.enidarc.org>. Talk-in 147.375- or 444.825+. VE exams.

LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA — The Alfred Memorial Radio Club will hold the Stone Mountain Hamfest and the 2022 ARRL Georgia Section Convention from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, November 5 and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 6 at the Gwinnet County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway. Website: <www.stonemountainhamfest.com>. VE exams.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA — The Sarasota Emergency Radio Club will hold the 2nd Sarasota Emergency Radio Club Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Sarasota Red Cross, 2001 Cantu Court. Email: <serc@n4ser>. Website: <http://n4ser.org>. Talk-in 146.73-

KAUKAUNA, WISCONSIN — The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club will hold its 2022 Swapfest beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, November 6 at the Starlite Club, W2091 County Road JJ. Website: <www.fcrc.club>. Talk-in 146.76 (PL 100). VE exams.

ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA — The North Fulton Amateur Radio League will hold HamJam 2022 from 8:15 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, November 12 at the Reston Ridge Community Center, 3655 Preston Ridge Road, Suite 100. Contact: Web Lamboley, W3WL, <weslamb@aol.com>. Website: <http://hamjam.info>.

BROOKLINE, MISSOURI — The Nixa Amateur Radio Club will hold NARCfest 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, November 12 at The Barn House, 5484 W. Sunshine Street. Phone: (417) 501-4429. Email: <hamfest@nixahams.net>. Website: <https://smlrs.info>. Talk-in 147.015+ (PL 162.2). VE exams.

MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN — The U.S.S. Cobia World War II submarine will air special event station NB8QV from 1400-2100 UTC Saturday, November 12 and from 1400-2100 UTC, Sunday, November 13 to celebrate Veterans Day Weekend. Frequencies include 7.240± and 14.240± MHz. QSL a #10 SASE to Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, 4932 S. 10th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220-9121. Website: <www.qrz.com/nb9qv>.

MARANA, ARIZONA — The Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold the Tucson Hamfest from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, November 12 at the Marana Middle School, 11285 West Grier Road. Email: <hamfest@tucsonhamradio.org>. Website: <www.tucsonhamradio.org>. VE exams, ARRL card checking.

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA — The Montgomery Amateur Radio Club will hold the MARC Hamfest and 2022 ARRL Alabama State Convention from beginning 8:30 a.m., Saturday, November 12 at the Alcazar Shrine Temple, 555 East Boulevard. Contact: Lew Nyman (334) 354-1933. Website: <www.w4ap.org/marc>. Talk-in 146.84- (PL 123). VE exams.

FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA — The Playground Amateur Radio Club will hold the Boondocks Swapfest and Open House from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, November 19 at the club property, 17 First Street SE. Website: <www.w4zbb.org>.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA — The Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society will hold the 50th Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, November 19 and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, November 20 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Avenue. Phone: (260) 579-2196. Website: <www.fortwaynehampfest.com>. Talk-in 146.880-. VE exams, DXCC / WAS card checking.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA — The Elkhorn Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold 2022 Northeast Nebraska Hamfest from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, November 19 at the CHC Hall, 105 West Elm Avenue. Contact: Aaron Mathis, KT0Q, (802) 989-9246. Email: <kt0q.ne@gmail.com>. Website: <www.qsl.net/evarc>.

PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY — The New Jersey Antique Radio Club will hold its Fall Swap Meet and Ham Fest from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, November 19 at the Parsippany PAL Building, 33 Baldwin Road. Contact: Richard Lee, (914) 589-3751 or Sal Brisindi (732) 857-7250. Email: <radiorich@prodigy.net> or <salb203@aol.com>. Website: <http://njarc.org>.

FAIRLAWN, NEW JERSEY — The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will hold its After Thanksgiving Auction beginning 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 25 at the Fair Lawn Senior Center, 11-05 Gardiner Road. Email: <fairlawnarc@yahoo.com>. Website: <auction.fairlawnarc.org>. Talk-in 145.470- (PL 167.9).

DECEMBER

ARCHBOLD, OHIO — The Fulton County Amateur Radio Club will hold Winterfest 2022 from 8-11 a.m., Saturday, December 3 at the Ruyhley Park Pavilion, 320 W. Holland Street. Contact: Bryan Patterson, KB8ELG, (419) 250-6694. Email: <kb8elg@hotmail.com>. Website: <http://k8bxq.org>. Talk-in 147.195+.

(Continued on page 46)

KD2JTX Elected ITU Secretary-General

Doreen Bogdan-Martin, KD2JTX, has been elected as Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, the first woman to hold the position. She takes the reins of the United Nations agency for telecommunication regulation on January 1, 2023. Bogdan-Martin has been Director of the ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau since 2019, at that time becoming the first woman to hold a senior leadership position in the agency. She is the second radio amateur to hold the agency's top spot. Dr. Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT, was Secretary-General from 2007 to 2014.

WRC-23 to be Held in Dubai

The International Telecommunication Union has announced that the 2023 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-23) will be held from November 20th through December 15th in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. WRCs are held every three to four years, at which time delegates from around the world review and, as needed, revise the ITU Radio Regulations, which provide an international framework for regulation of the RF spectrum and the orbits of communications satellites. The Radio Regulations include the basic structure of the Amateur Radio Service, including frequency allocations and license requirements. The ARRL and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) are always involved in pre-conference deliberations and send observers to the conferences.

Hams Respond to Hurricanes Fiona and Ian

Amateur radio emergency communicators had a very busy month in September, with two major hurricanes wreaking havoc from the Caribbean to Canada. In addition to the various local EmComm organizations that were active in affected areas, the Hurricane Watch Net collected information on a broad scale to funnel to the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida.

According to HWN Net Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, the net activated four times for Hurricane Fiona as it swept through Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica before turning north and slamming into the Maritime Provinces of Canada. The net re-activated on September 26th for Hurricane Ian as it moved through the Cayman Islands and western Cuba before setting its sights on the west coast of Florida, where it caused historic levels of damage. The storm crossed the Florida peninsula and made land-fall again in South Carolina, but as a much weaker system. Graves reported that the net's volunteers racked up nearly 40 hours of on-air time for Fiona, followed by 93 hours for Hurricane Ian. The net forwarded nearly 200 surface reports to the National Hurricane Center and was involved in notifying officials of at least two people in Florida in need of being rescued. SATERN, the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network, was also heavily involved in relief efforts.

YOTA Camp '23 Set for Canada

The third summer camp program for young radio amateurs from the Americas has been scheduled for July 16-21, 2023 at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. According to the Youth on the Air (YOTA) organization, a team from the Radio Amateurs of Canada will serve as the local host for the camp. The previous two camps were held at the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting in Ohio.

Online applications will be accepted at <http://youthontheair.org> starting December 1st from amateurs aged 15-25 residing in North, Central, or South America. A maximum of 30 campers will be accepted. Priority will be given to first-time applicants and those living outside the U.S. Returning campers will serve as leaders during the camp. The YOTA organization encourages potential campers from outside Canada to start now on the process of obtaining a passport and any visas that may be necessary. More information is available on the YOTA website or from Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG director@youthontheair.org.

VOA Headquarters Named Historic Site in Journalism

Speaking of the Voice of America, the Society of Professional Journalists has designated VOA's Washington, DC, headquarters as a Historic Site in Journalism. "For 80 years, the Voice of America has been a source of solid and honest journalism," according to a society announcement. "From its beginning in 1942, despite being a U.S. government agency, through custom, charters and law the editorial independence of VOA journalists has not wavered." A bronze plaque attesting to its status as a National Historic Site in Journalism will be installed outside VOA headquarters at 330 Independence Avenue in Washington.

RSGB to Host Transatlantic Centenary Tests

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its "transatlantic tests" with a series of special event operations during the month of December. According to the ARRL Letter, the RSGB will be using five call signs, which the organization originally held in the 1920s: G5WS, "the first to get across" in the one-way tests of 1922; G5AT and G6XX, used during additional tests in 1923; G6ZZ, used for the first railroad-mobile amateur tests in 1924, and G3DR, originally used in the Scottish Highlands, which will now be operated as GM3DR. Variations on these calls will also be activated in different regions of the United Kingdom that are separate DXCC entities, according to the ARRL, including GM5WS (Scotland), GW5WS (Wales), GU5WS (Guernsey), GD5WS (Isle of Man), GJ5WS (Jersey), and GI5WS (Northern Ireland). Additional details are available from RSGB at <https://rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests>.

Arecibo Observatory to Be Replaced by Education Center

The National Science Foundation has decided not to rebuild the iconic radiotelescope at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico, instead winding down current scientific projects there and converting the facility to an educational center "to serve as a hub for STEM education and outreach."

In an announcement in mid-October, NSF said it was soliciting proposals to manage the education, research, and outreach elements of the new center. The announcement also specified that "(t)he solicitation does not include rebuilding the 305-meter telescope (which collapsed in 2020) or operational support for current scientific infrastructure, such as the 12-meter radio telescope or Lidar facility." According to Angel Vazquez, WP3R, the head of telescope operations at Arecibo, all current scientific work at the facility will end on September 30, 2023.

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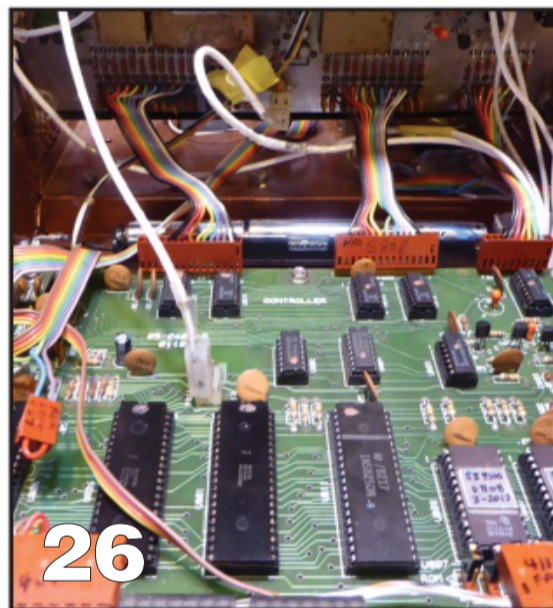
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By Bud Trench, AA3B

Jelmer Vos, DJ5MO, of Halle, Germany, piloted his home station to second place worldwide in the Tribander / Wires overlay of the 2022 CQWW WPX CW Contest's Single-Op / Low Power category. Contest results begin on page 13; Jelmer's story is on page 18. (Cover photo courtesy of DJ5MO)



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By Bud Trench, AA3B

FOCUS ON: Happy Thanksgiving! This is the month we all give thanks for everything we are grateful for. Contesters give thanks for the rise of Solar Cycle 25 helping them achieve great scores in the CQWW WPX CW contest on pages 13 and 100. And CQ is thankful to John Sweeney for leading the CQ Marathon on page 40 and Jeff Reinhardt for penning his Mobilizing column on page 69. Plus Joe Eisenberg has a gift guide for Kit Builders on page 56.

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zero bias: a cq editorial

BY RICH MOSESON,* W2VU

The “C”s of the Season

Autumn is prime time for contesting (one “C”), with the CQ World Wide DX Contest’s SSB weekend just past at the end of October and the CW weekend (second “C”) coming up at the end of this month. Then, as we move into colder weather and start to hibernate in our ham shacks and workshops, it’s a perfect time to build stuff, making “construction” our third “C” of the season. The software side of our hobby also gets in on the alphabet action, with much programming for microcontrollers being written in the “C” computer language. This issue touches on all four of them.

Contesting is front-and-center this month, from our cover to the CW results of this year’s CQ WPX Contest, the announcement of next year’s CQWW 160-Meter Contest and our lead feature story from South America about a group that takes contesting to new heights ... literally! “Contesting With Wolves” (p. 8) is kind of a cross between Summits on the Air and competitive contesting. Plus, Contesting Editor N3QE analyzes the most — and least — active CQ zones in the CQWW and WPX Contests. N2NT brings us the rules for our first big contest of 2023, the CQWW 160-Meter Contest on January 27-29 (CW) and February 24-26 (SSB). Finally, as contest DXpeditions start making a comeback after the “Covid pause,” DX Editor N2OO brings us an update on a concept that likely will shape the face of DXpeditions moving forward, the Northern California DX Foundation’s “Rig in a Box” program that will allow DXpeditions to ecologically fragile locations to set up equipment with a minimal footprint on the desired location and then operate the gear remotely from a boat anchored offshore.

Also in the competitive sphere, KØOV reports in his “Homing In” column on the 2022 world championships of amateur radio direction finding, also known as ARDF or “foxhunting.”

CW is our second “C” ... which loops us back to our cover and the WPX CW Contest results. “Cover dude” DJ5MO tells us (p. 18) that Morse code gives him higher contest scores from his location in Europe, running low power with a triband beam and wire antennas for the low bands. The strategy seems to work well for him, since he placed second worldwide in the WPX Contest’s tribander / wires overlay category. Overall participation in this year’s event was down compared with 2021 for several reasons, but there were still enough stations on the air to account for nearly 2 million verified QSOs ... all in CW! (So much for the death of Morse code...)

As colder weather settles in here in the Northern Hemisphere and most of us cut back on our outdoor activities, construction season informally gets under way, and we’ve got the nuts and bolts (resistors and capacitors?) in several articles this month. In “The Almost Heathkit,” former Heathkit technician Bob Sumption, N8RS, tells the story of the ill-fated Heath SS-8000 transceiver, how he came to build the only one (of the original three) still in exist-

tence, and his role in building the prototype of its successor, the SS-9000. We follow Bob’s story with a CQ Classic review of the SS-9000 from back in 1984.

One of the things hams love to build is antennas, and CP6CL tells us how he got an HF Windom antenna to also “play well” on 6 meters. “Ham Notebook” editor KH6WZ shares some of his space this month with Devon Day, KF6KEE, who reports on a high school radio club whose members constructed handheld Yagi antennas with built-in attenuators for foxhunting fun, and got transmitter-hunting tutorials from some of the top people in the field, including our own “Homing In” editor KØOV. Plus, Kit-Building Editor KØNEB offers some holiday gift ideas for builders, including a combination soldering iron and hot air tool for working with surface-mount components.

Our fourth “C” is the computer language of the same name, and Microcontrollers Editor W8TEE continues his series on C-language “pointers” and other tips on successful coding for microcontrollers, which have become an integral part of many ham projects. On a similar theme, Digital Editor N2IRZ reports on his recent trip to the ARRL / TAPR Digital Communications Conference and some of the software and hardware projects that were presented there. (And speaking of projects, be sure to check out our new 2023-24 Ham Shack Project Calendar — yet another “C” — as well as our traditional Amateur Radio Calendar, both of which are available now. Check out our ads in this issue and order on our website. Speaking of ads, please support our advertisers and encourage those companies you don’t see here to share their products in our pages.)

Back to the “C”s, it’s amazing just how versatile a single letter of the alphabet can be! Oh ... let’s add one more: Cranberry sauce, to go with your Thanksgiving turkey! We wish all of our U.S. readers a Happy Thanksgiving and remind you that if family time gets a little overwhelming, the CQWW DX CW Contest can offer you a respite during the long weekend, as well as an opportunity to introduce interested family members to contesting, CW and construction (perhaps with a dash of “C” programming) in your ham shack.

— 73, Rich, W2VU



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

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1	146.37500	146.20500	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	McCan	Tone	107.2 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				Analog	DR	1	
2	146.31000	146.29000	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	RayCFARS	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
3	146.30500	146.29500	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Dimes	T Sgl	162.2 Hz	162.2 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
4	146.25000	144.65000	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Lagasin	Tone	118.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
5	147.24000	147.84000	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Carthage	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
6	146.85000	147.45000	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	HagerMh	Tone	162.2 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
7	146.43000	144.63000	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Radford	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
8	146.78000	146.18000	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Clarks	Tone	88.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
9	146.74500	146.14500	0.000	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Dillon SC	T Sgl	82.5 Hz	82.5 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
10	146.52000	146.52000	0.000	Simplex	Analog	25 KHz	None	None	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
11	147.36000	147.36000	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Lbr 2	Tone	82.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
12	147.18500	147.78500	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Lbr3	Tone	88.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
13	147.04500	147.64500	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	RD	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
14	147.05000	147.75000	0.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Santod	Tone	82.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater				DR	DR	1	
15																		
16	224.30000	222.70000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Elmer228	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
17	224.54000	222.94000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Kelly	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
18	224.80000	223.20000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Raleigh	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
19	224.68000	223.08000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Wilmington	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
20	224.82000	223.22000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Lunderton	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
21	224.20000	222.60000	1.600	Minus	Analog	25 KHz	Wilmington	Tone	91.5 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
22																		
23	444.40000	448.40000	5.000	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Fayetteville	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
24	438.10000	441.10000	10.00	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	St Pauls	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							
25	442.10000	447.10000	5.00	Plus	Analog	25 KHz	Radford	Tone	106.8 Hz	100.0 Hz	Repeater							



news bytes

KM4BUN Receives Young Ham of the Year Award

Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN, of Cumming, Georgia, was presented with the Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year award at last summer's Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. McElroy, who is 18, is a sophomore at Georgia Tech and actively promotes science, technology, engi-

neering, and math (STEM) careers among girls and young women. See our August issue's "News Bytes" column for more about Audrey. Corporate co-sponsors of the YHOTY program include Yaesu USA, CQ magazine, Heil Sound, Gigaparts, and Radiowavz. (Photos courtesy Joe Eisenberg, KØNEB)



Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN, with some of the goodies presented to her as this year's Young Ham of the Year. Her swag also includes all current CQ publications and a radio from Yaesu.

2022 Young Ham of the Year presentation. From left to right, Steve Molo, KI4KWR from Gigaparts (also CQ's Awards Editor); Nomi Romero from Yaesu; CQ Kit-Building Editor Joe Eisenberg, KØNEB, representing CQ; Young Ham of the Year Aubrey McElroy, KM4BUN; award presenter and emcee Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, of Amateur Radio Newsline; and from Radiowavz, H.J. Hohensee, KDØDTS, and Emmett Hohensee, WØQH.

With the fall contest season fully under way, Contributing Editor-at-Large Martin Butera takes us on a visit to an unusual contest station on a mountaintop in Brazil, and interviews team leader Fabio Lima, PY2RMZ.

Contesting With Wolves — The ZV4SL Serra do Lopo Contest Station

BY MARTIN BUTERA,* PT2ZDX / LU9EFO

The “Serra do Lopo” contest station can be considered without a doubt as a different sort of contest station, located in a rare or at least atypical place. The name of the station comes from the Serra do Lopo, or Wolf Mountains, given that name due to the large number of wolves that inhabit the region (*Photo A*).

Serra do Lopo is located on the border between the cities of Extrema, in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, and Joanópolis in the state of São Paulo, Brazil. The Pico do Lopo (*Photo B*), is the highest point of the mountain at 1,750 meters (5,740 Feet) high. The only access is through trails along so-called “Rota dos Ventos.”

The path begins at the foot of the huge mountain, passing through forests and streams. The ascent covers about 600 meters (1,968 feet), but it takes almost two hours to climb, so it is necessary to be in good physical condition.

To find out more about this contest station, we interviewed its team leader, Fabio Lima, PY2RMZ, a radio amateur with extensive contesting experience (*Photo C*).

Let ‘s Get Started!

CQ: The first thing that comes to mind is to ask you how the idea came about of setting up a contest station at 1,750 meters elevation?

Fabio Lima, PY2RMZ: First of all, I would like to thank *CQ* magazine for providing us with this space from Serra do Lopo, since we are a small group that is still emerging as a contest station. Many thanks from me, Fabio, PY4YY/PY2RMZ; Marcio, PU4MDO; Guilherme, PY2ITM; and Marcelo Pera, PY2AE.

Returning to your question, the idea arose when I visited the place in 2018 and at that time I met Marcio, PU4MDO, a resident of the region, a radio amateur and caretaker of the house that is located on top of the mountain.

I remember our first participation was in the national VHF contest and we operated with the ZV4RCA callsign.

It was a lot of adventure ... a lot of DX in the upper part of the Serra do Lopo. I felt that it was the perfect place to set up a serious contest station and since then we have not stopped working on improving day by day.

CQ: Well, if we talk about places, Brazil is a huge country, with a lot of countryside and incredible islands. Why did you choose a mountain to set up the contest station?

PY2RMZ: Three details made Serra do Lopo the ideal place. First, the altitude of 1,750 meters; it is more than per-



Photo A. The ZV4SL QSL card, showcasing the wolves for which the Serra do Lopo mountain is named (Note the “SL” in the callsign to match the location). (Photos courtesy of the author)

fect to mount antennas. Second is the trail, a bit slow to climb but if one is in good physical condition, it is easy to reach; and third, the camp. When we reached the top, we discovered an old deactivated cell phone tower, which serves as support for our antennas. Next to the tower there was a building that was used for cell phone transmitters and for technicians. In the past, they often spent weeks assembling or repairing the systems, so there is a house, with some rooms, a kitchen and bathroom.

That construction served us a lot of support and complements perfectly with our tents and all the external elements that we set up every time we climb to the top (*Photos D-F*).

CQ: How many members are involved or make up the station’s team?

PY2RMZ: We are a small group of about five people, which is always rotating and we are always open to receiving other colleagues to participate in a contest.

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Email: <martin_butera@yahoo.com.ar>



Photo B. Pico do Lopo is the highest point of the mountain at an altitude of 1,750 meters, or 5,740 feet.

We know that there are usually many radio amateurs who have never experienced operating from a contest station on top of a mountain, so if you are reading this interview, live in Brazil or anywhere in the world and want to join, just contact us. We are waiting for you.

Another thing I would like to say is that you don't need to have experience in contesting, just have the desire to participate and have fun with us.

CQ: How do you configure the field of antennas and the transmitters in general?

PY2RMZ: We have a tower where the antennas are installed and configured according to the type of VHF or HF event. For HF, we have the following antennas: Triband 3-elements for 10 / 15 / 20 meters; a 7-element tribander, also for 10 / 15 / 20 meters; one simple monoband 5 elements for 10 meters; a full dipole for 40 meters and a full dipole for 80 meters.

On VHF, we have the following antennas (*Photo G*): MA6000 vertical, phased 5x2 Quadra Cúbica (cubical quad), a Yagi with 11 elements phased X2 and another 3-element Yagi (*Photo H*).

CQ: Has the Covid-19 pandemic affected the team in any way, for example when meeting?

PY2RMZ: Luckily we were always able to meet for the contests, taking the precautionary measures, which we all already knew.

The pandemic has made many of us reflect on the importance of natural spaces. Here in Brazil, we are surrounded by incredible places. During the transit of the pandemic, which the whole world is still going through, the competition season took much more courage for all of us who make up the

team, because it makes us feel free. The pandemic was without a doubt chaotic, with a lot of fear, many quarantines, lockdowns, and many restrictions. Currently being able to go out and be in contact with nature is something fantastic and even more so if you can make use of a contest station with these characteristics.

CQ: Often, camping or portable contest stations are not taken seriously by other contesters. Why do you think this happens?

PY2RMZ: Well, it is something that I can understand. There are countless contest stations around the world that are



Photo C. Fabio Lima, PY2RMZ, operating the ZV4SL contest station.



Photo D. The ZV4SL contest station, on the Serra do Lopo peak 1,750 meters above sea level.

super-equipped, many of them are huge and colossal.

Right here in Brazil we have big stations like PX2A or ZW5B, and usually when talking about contest stations, that's the image that comes to mind.

Many of our fellow hams may think that we are just a group of crazy people ... Camping is fun, but let me tell you,

camping-contesting is twice as hard as just camping. There are two lists of things not to forget, the things for camping and the things for the radio.

Forgetting something at home would be fatal. My QTH in the city of Sao Paulo, is about 120 kilometers (75 miles) away. It's about 2 hours driving along the highway. Adding it all up, I

mean going down the mountain, going home, driving up the mountain again and hiking back up, it would take me 8 hours in total.

That is why creating a competitive contest station is not an easy task, much less at 1,750 meters high. All of us who make up the Serra do Lupo team spend a lot of time planning the competitions in advance. Planning for a contest, for example like the next CQ World Wide, starts several months before.

Every time we arrive, we have to start assembling everything from scratch again and again ... the antennas that we are going to use, the location that we are going to choose, going up to the old tower to place more antennas, the transmitters, the amplifiers, the switches, the power supplies, hardware.

Beyond the radio, then you must organize everything that has to do with food and camping. That's why the work here never ends, unlike at a conventional contest station where the transmitters, the towers and everything you need is already waiting for you.

Ahhh, and then disassembling the complete station can take two days, since the material has to be lowered little by little.



Photo E. One of the tents used by the ZV4SL team to camp at the highest point of the mountain.



Photo F. The ZV4SL shack, next to the hang-gliding free-flight jump ramp, located at the highest point of the mountain.

In 2019, we used the callsign ZZ4A from Serra do Lopo. We organized a team with colleagues: Tony, OA4DX; Marcio, PU4MDO; Sandro, PY2SR; and me. We got the third position at the national level, placed fifth in South America and 19th worldwide in the CQ World Wide WPX Contest.

Then in the CQ WPX for 2021, also with the callsign ZZ4A, this time operated only by me in the Single-Op Low-Power 10-meter category, I obtained tenth place worldwide.

Perhaps over the years we will be able to achieve more and better positions at the world level and thus they will begin to take more account of us (laughs)...

CQ: I imagine that the climatic issue is something very important. What is it like to transmit and compete at 1,750 meters high?

PY2RMZ: It's a very good question ... In contests, most operators are looking for the highest score possible. Here we compete not only for points, but it is also a competition, so to speak, with the climate. The weather in the mountains is difficult to predict, the winds are very strong, many times we have to lower the masts of the antennas to the ground and wait for the gusts to pass, so that they are safe. Here it is impossible to use the rotor, everything is done manually.

The worldwide contests, both the CQ World Wide DX and the CQ World Wide WPX, take place in very different months and it is quite a challenge to prepare for what awaits us on the mountain.

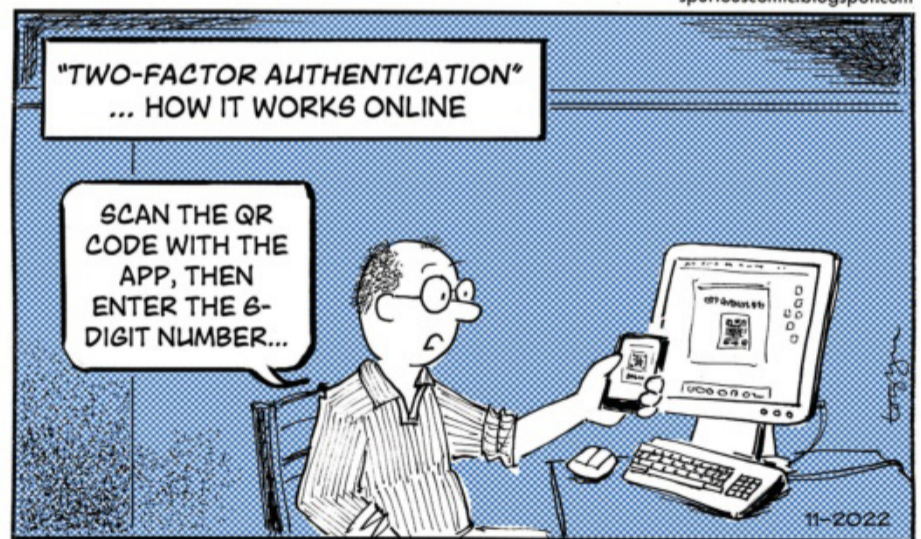
CQ: Do you compete in other contests apart from those sponsored by CQ magazine?

PY2RMZ: Worldwide on HF, our focus is the CQ contests. We also compete in many national contests, especially VHF, taking advantage of the height of the station.

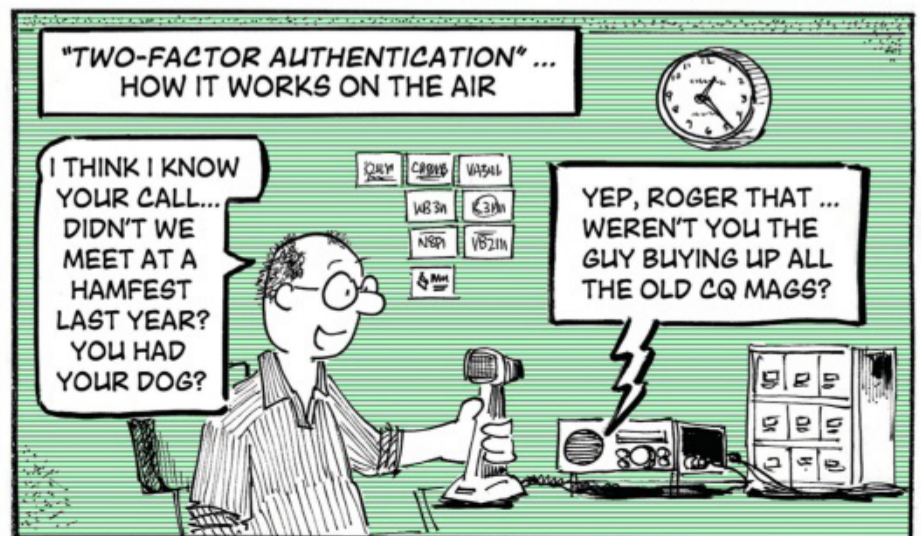
CQ: How are you organized to eat and sleep in the mountains, in full competition?

SPURIOUS SIGNALS

By Jason Togyer W3MCK
spuriouscomic.blogspot.com



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Fabio achieved a new balance with radio and nature. Of course, there are many other radio amateurs like him who love mountains.

PY2RMZ: We know that a key aspect of the contest is to keep the team well fed, but we don't follow any special diet; on the contrary we eat everything, a lot of barbecues (laughs).

At night if there is no propagation, we take a break and warm up at the foot of a campfire. Our idea is to have an experience beyond the contest; participate, but stay connected with the place and the nature that surrounds us. In the mountains we have a 360° view; at night the stars light up and the sunrises are spectacular. On the other hand, sleeping in a bag on a thin self-inflating mattress must be a taste or an acquired skill (laughs).

CQ: I imagine that caffeine is not lacking (laughs)...

PY2RMZ: We are lucky to be located in the south of the state of Minas Gerais, which is the main producer and responsible for most of the specialty coffee crops in the country.

Back to PT2ZDX...

Exploring in some way is something inherent to human beings. Fabio Lima knows it very well, it was for this reason that he created, together with his radio colleagues, a different concept of a contest station in Brazil.

I don't know if you've ever noticed, but contest stations often don't have windows. On the other hand, the Serra do Lopo contest station has a 360° window, where you can see an incredible view of the Jaguari dam to the south, the Itapeva Mountain Range and Vale do Jaguari to the north, the city of Joanópolis to the east and, to the west, the neighboring Serra das Anhumas.

Fabio achieved a new balance with radio and nature. Of course, there are many other radio amateurs like him who love mountains. Perhaps in the future, the best contest stations may look like ZV4SL.

Photo G. VHF antennas outside the ZV4SL contest station.



Photo H. The group's 3-element, 6-meter Yagi, topped by the flag of Brazil, atop Serra do Lopo.

In addition to the photos illustrating this article, be sure to check out these great videos of the ZV4SL contest station on Serra do Lopo:

- <<https://youtu.be/m8WRh8ZvWII>>
- <https://youtu.be/aL_bZ27zA0I>
- <<https://youtu.be/CNwPLSK1to8>>
- <https://youtu.be/oYRE8_BNZRo>

Results of the 2022 CQ World Wide WPX CW Contest

BY BUD TRENCH*, AA3B

Thank you, Oleg, EI7KD, for the opportunity to take part in my favorite contest. – EI/US2YW

First time ever that I participated in a WPX CW Contest! My little QRP station, it gave me a lot of satisfaction! – IZ4AFL

What great fun. Of course, the conditions are never perfect but that did not spoil the fun. – TF1AM

The band are the bands. Nothing broke, everything worked, Yeah! I had fun. – WA8Y

One of my mentors advised that increased sunspot activity brings both improved propagation and increased likelihood of solar disturbances. His wisdom proved accurate for the 2022 edition of the CQWW WPX CW contest. We were teased by conditions prior to the contest, particularly on the high bands. However, the K-index started to shoot up the day prior to the contest and peaked at 7 around 0600 UTC on the first day, meaning that geomagnetic storms were going to be part of our reality for yet another Cycle 25 operating event.

Figure 1 provides a recap of the CQWW WPX CW logs processed for 2022. Nearly 2 million (M) QSOs were validated based on logs received from 127 DXCC entities. Twenty meters was the most active band, accounting for 39% of all QSOs, followed by 15 and 40 meters at roughly 25% each.

Participation was down by over 20% compared to 2021 and QSOs were off by 31%. Europe was particularly impacted with QSO reductions of 44% from last year. The likely contributing factors to the reduced participation include the war in Ukraine, CQ's policy restricting participation by stations in Russia and Belarus, and resumption of life as normal after Covid-19 impacts.

Single Operator Stellar Performances

Figure 2 shows the breakdown of Single Operator category selections by continent. The percentages of entries in

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OM2VL was one 17 Single Banders who operated the full 36 hours enabling a 20-meter High Power win.



WM3T (NY3A) watching the spectrum on his way to third-place finish in the Single-Op All Band Low Power category.

Metric	Continent							2021
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	ALL	
Logs	24	731	2,006	1,552	175	178	4,666	5,960
Operators	26	819	2,272	1,665	199	188	5,169	6,637
DXCC	10	25	50	20	11	11	127	134
Prefixes	16	210	606	523	80	78	1,513	1,819
Reported QSOs By Band (Post Log Checking)								
160M	0	516	16,715	569	41	0	17,841	38,379
80M	605	3,806	93,237	18,814	349	286	117,097	225,368
40M	3,701	25,182	275,477	167,645	7,856	5,902	485,763	787,066
20M	6,496	56,985	378,079	290,171	16,186	15,127	763,044	1,263,208
15M	8,524	83,574	167,941	179,120	20,580	27,191	486,930	397,031
10M	2,952	21,084	28,212	21,270	8,991	25,959	108,468	171,229
All	22,278	191,147	959,661	677,589	54,003	74,465	1,979,143	2,882,281
Average Productivity								
QSOs/Log	928	261	478	437	309	418	424	484
QSOs/Opr	857	233	422	407	271	396	383	434

Figure 1. 2022 activity level summary by continent

each of the three power categories are nearly identical to the 2021 profiles, suggesting that single operators are creatures of habit when it comes to category choices.

Figure 3 provides operating times for the Single-Op All Band categories. As in 2021, about 60% of the operators exited after 12 hours and 90% by 24 hours. There were 136 entrants in the All Band category along with 17 Single Banders who went the full 36 hours.

CR3DX (OM3RM) was the winner of the Single-Op High Power (HP) category, as he was in 2019. Note that CR3DX operated by OM3GI was also the winner 2021, so CR3DX has appeared in the number 1 slot for three consecutive years. H25A (LZ2HM) came in second, despite having the most frequently busted call (406 times) in the contest. LZ5R (LZ5DB) had the highest multiplier count of any single operator and repeated as number three.

P44W (W2GD) notched his sixth Single-Op Low Power (LP) win at his home away from home in Aruba. VE3DZ was planning a vacation-style operation from Bermuda but changed his plans after obtaining special call sign VP9UKR (Support Ukraine). He put together a competitive low power SO2R station using equipment and supplies borrowed from the locals to achieve second place. Third place went to WM3T (NY3A) who returned to the LP category for the first time since 2003.

K3WW can add achieving a second consecutive victory in the Single-Op

Category	Continent							Average per Entry	
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	All	Op Time (Hours)	Score Reduction
Single Op High Power Entries									
All Band	6	143	399	551	33	20	1,152	15	10%
Single Band	2	67	205	105	18	26	423	14	11%
Single Op Low Power Entries									
All Band	6	250	694	609	48	55	1,662	12	11%
Single Band	3	161	298	120	32	52	666	9	13%
QRP Entries									
All Band	0	26	86	58	12	3	185	11	9%
Single Band	0	30	67	29	21	7	154	9	13%

Figure 2. Single operator participants by continent

9A22Y is an inspirational Multi-Two effort powered by remote operations from Ukraine!

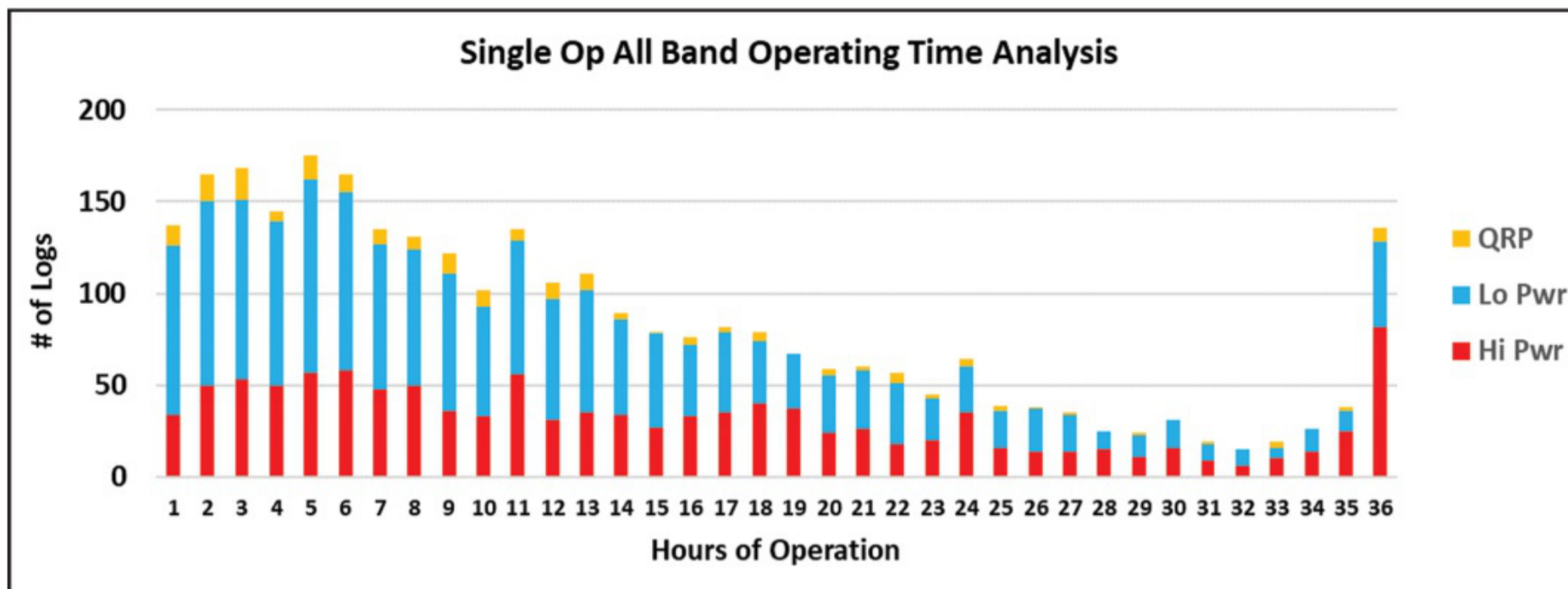


Figure 3. Single operator all band operating time histogram

QRP category to his extensive list of radiosport accomplishments. DM2M (DK3WE) moved up to second from his fourth place QRP finish in 2021.

Single-band highlights included OL1A (OK1CW) achieving his TENTH consecutive 160-meter QRP win. OL4W (OK1IF) also continued his win streak with a fifth 80-meter QRP victory. DQ2C (DL2SAX) narrowly beat HA1TJ in the 80-meter HP category in a race that boiled down to log accuracy. 9A5Y (9A3LG) decided to spend a “few minutes” checking out 40 meters, which turned into a full out effort and a 40-meter HP win. The difference between OM2VL and PP4T (PY2LSM) in the 20-meter HP category was likely operating time; OM2VL came out on top thanks to operating the maximum time permitted. EF3O (EA3O) won 15-meter QRP after winning 20-meter QRP in 2021. LU8DPM, operated by LU1DJX who was a Rookie in 2021, dominated the single-band 10-meter LP category.

Additional Opportunities to Excel – Overlays

The Single Operator Tribander – Wires (TB-Wires) overlay is for participants with antennas that meet the following requirements: A single feedline for the single antenna used on 20 / 15 / 10 meters and single-element antennas for 160, 80, and 40 meters. Separate receive antennas are not permitted. This is the most popular overlay as shown in Figure 4.

CT3KN captured his first ever win of the HP TB-Wires after finishing third in both 2020 and 2021; his score was up by more than 60% from last year. N3QE had the best HP TB-Wires results in

North America (NA) and was second overall. The top two spots in the LP TB-Wires both belong to Germans: DK5DQ (#1) and DJ5MO (#2). NU2A (N2YO) found his new Hex Beam to be a strong performer on his way to the top LP TB-Wires score in the U.S.

The Classic overlay is for single operators using one radio, without QSO finding assistance, and their score is based

on the first 24 hours of their airtime. There were 43 Classic overlay participants who made it to the 24-hour operating time limit. KP2M (KT3Y) was the top gun in the HP Classic for the second year in a row. Second place was earned by ED8W (OM5RW). NN7CW tried the HP Classic for the first time with impressive results – he was first in the U.S. In the LP Classic, the World cham-

Category	Continent						A11	Average per Entry	
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA		Op Time (Hours)	Score Reduction
High Power Overlay Entries									
TB-Wires	3	24	75	90	7	5	204	16	10%
Classic	1	10	50	58	11	7	137	13	9%
Rookie	0	2	3	2	0	0	7	8	25%
Youth	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	28	11%
Low Power Overlay Entries (Includes QRP)									
TB-Wires	1	52	163	90	13	13	332	14	9%
Classic	2	54	158	96	16	10	336	11	12%
Rookie	0	6	11	14	4	0	35	12	14%
Youth	0	13	7	7	2	1	30	12	7%

Figure 4. Single-Op overlay participation summary

Achievements by Operators Aged 25 or Younger	Call	Age
Highest 60 minute rate (125)	M6T (M0SDV)	21
Lowest Score Reduction (1.2%)*	W8UA	16
Youngest Op, Youth Overlay Top 10, High Power	EA2RCP (UR5YK0)	15
Youngest Op, Youth Overlay Top 10, Low Power	EI8KW	13
Highest QRP Score (63K)	YC1LJT	21
Highest Single Band Score (675K)	IR1N (IU1LCU)	24

*Score greater than 100K

Figure 5. Noteworthy achievements by operators aged 25 or younger



panion was UN4L and KR5X (K1BX) was runner up, with VX3KI (VE3KI) a close third.

The Rookie Overlay is intended to attract new contesters licensed under three years. There were 43 Rookies this year, of which 13 are in their final year of eligibility with 19 in Year 2 and 11 in Year 1. YD6HVF was the newest Rookie, licensed in April 2022. Congratulations to OL2J (OK5MAX) for a dominant win in LP Rookie; his was the highest score among all Rookies. KO4VW won the U.S. LP Rookie honors. The HP Rookie winners were EI6LA (World) and K3KEK (U.S.).

LU8DPM (LU1DJX) dominated the 10-meter Single Band Low Power category.

2022 CQWW WPX CW TOP SCORES

WORLD

Single Op All Band High Power
CR3DX (OM3RM)17,938,549
H25A (LZ2HM)15,775,552
EF8R (EA8RM)15,511,572
LZ5R (LZ5DB)15,020,324
CR6K (CT1ILT)12,874,720

Single Op 28 MHz High Power
LW1F (LU5FC)3,374,198
PY2BK2,880,060
LT6M (LU8MHL)1,909,096

Single Op 21 MHz High Power
ZX5J (DJ4CW)6,937,200
P49Y (AE6Y)6,579,417
TM4W (F4DXW)3,699,186

Single Op 14 MHz High Power
OM2VL5,226,681
PP4T (PY2LSM)4,817,925
YT3X4,772,196

Single Op 7 MHz High Power
9A5Y (9A3LG)4,760,184
OK7W4,647,882
S52AW3,501,575

Single Op 3.5 MHz High Power
DQ2C (DL2SAX)840,360
HA1TJ820,800
SP2PIK (SP2MKI)779,898

Single Op 1.8 MHz High Power
YT8A205,380
LY0A (LY7M)196,784
9A73KD (9A2KD)159,782

Single Op All Band Low Power
P44W (W2GD)9,775,087
VP9UKR (VE3DZ)6,089,928
IY3A (IZ3EYZ)6,083,261
WM3T (NY3A)4,784,650
OL5Y4,634,916

Single Op 28 MHz Low Power
LU8DPM (LU1DJX)2,230,039
PQ5B (PP5BZ)1,637,057
LO7H (LU1HLH)1,216,656

Single Op 21 MHz Low Power
ED1R1,702,272
ES7A (ES7GM)867,336
YT9W857,584

Single Op 14 MHz Low Power
IF9A (IT9PPG)2,021,976
ES7GN1,774,590
YU5M1,703,592

Single Op 7 MHz Low Power
YU7WW1,330,875
E797WARD (E73AA)999,792
OM3CQ894,516

Single Op 3.5 MHz Low Power
SO7M (SP7IFM)456,092
OL5J413,492
YU1ED400,325

Single Op 1.8 MHz Low Power
OK6Y (OK2PTZ)142,943
SN0R (SQ9IAU)114,695
DR90TJU (DL6KWN)93,888

Single Op All Band QRP
K3WW2,747,416
DM2M (DK3WE)2,539,839
ON6NL1,646,390
LY9A1,600,446
DK7HA1,540,554

Single Op 28 MHz QRP
4I1EBC246,120
4F3OM99,962
N4IJ34,845

Single Op 21 MHz QRP
EF3O (EA3O)585,849
AA1K310,100
SV1JG195,597

Single Op 14 MHz QRP
KA4RRU504,138
S51Z340,008
G2X (G0DCK)231,192

Single Op 7 MHz QRP
OK6OK440,134
CO8OH273,726
PG2AA269,598

Single Op 3.5 MHz QRP
OL4W (OK1IF)352,268
SP7M83,467
UN9LDC44,436

Single Op 1.8 MHz QRP
OL1A (OK1CW)82,533
DL1AOB31,920
HA1TI6,496

Multi-Single High Power
D4Z18,939,090
UP2L17,128,440
ZF1A14,483,864
E7DX13,296,761
WU2X12,942,860

Multi-Single Low Power
UN4Q7,613,994
LY5W4,626,680
YL4U3,686,245
LY2J3,375,952
JA6GCE3,319,845

Multi-Two
ES9C18,247,320
IQ2CJ17,908,800
OL3Z15,595,524
HG7T15,153,544
DQ1A13,992,564

Multi-Multi
9A1A25,605,468
YT5A23,229,255
LZ9W22,185,384
NH7T16,202,780
LN8W13,743,581

Multi-Distributed
ZM1A15,617,665
PV2K12,026,916
OT7T8,870,960
EA1URA5,083,644
9H6A4,397,221

Rookie High Power
EI6LA182,640
DL3ON117,192
K3KEK54,927
VA6BGE17,316
9V1PL2,320

Rookie Low Power
OL2J (OK5MAX)1,440,738
KO4VW358,848
VE3KOT319,956
KY4ID286,976
KY4GS256,038

Classic High Power
KP2M (KT3Y)9,048,600
ED8W (OM5RW)8,393,936
ZF2SS (KO7SS)6,550,155
PJ2T (WI9WI)5,996,067
DJ5MW5,106,240

Classic Low Power
UN4L3,115,080
KR5X (K1BX)2,393,373
VX3KI (VE3KI)2,377,648
9M6NA (JO4JKL)1,890,900
WQ5L1,799,634

Tribander / Wires High Power
CT3KN9,169,552
N3QE5,525,370
HZ7C (7Z1SJ)4,084,800
MM9I4,066,440
LZ3ZZ3,846,699

Tribander / Wires Low Power
DK5DQ3,852,505
DJ5MO3,681,558
DL4FN3,301,500
SP9XCN3,072,784
DL6RAI2,945,070

Youth High Power
M6T (M0SDV)5,380,608
YT0C4,900,386
EA2RCP (UR5YKO)1,668,641
LY5AX1,519,144
IR1N (IU1LCU)675,288

Youth Low Power
5B4AQ (DK6SP)3,983,847
KM4SII1,903,611
YD2UWF401,792
JI1UPL211,816
EI5LA206,590

UNITED STATES

Single Op All Band High Power
AA3B10,836,378
K1LZ7,688,480
AJ1I (K1ZZ)7,505,722
NU5A (K5GN)7,397,958
KQ2M7,148,424

Single Op 28 MHz High Power
WB9Z248,492
NS1L (N6SS)240,990
K3PA96,520

Single Op 21 MHz High Power
K3UA (@K3LR)3,342,324
K1KI2,288,363
K2SSS2,121,668

Single Op 14 MHz High Power
K3LR (N2NC)3,918,096
NA6TT (N6CW)2,253,916
N2BA1,951,460

Single Op 7 MHz High Power
AB3CX2,562,390
WK1O2,218,755
K0RF1,922,778

Single Op 3.5 MHz High Power
W3BGN258,318
WV4P59,408
W6XI7,398

Single Op 1.8 MHz High Power
K5UR11,376

Single Op All Band Low Power
WM3T (NY3A)4,784,650
KQ1F (K1XM)4,596,647
AC1U (N1UR)3,651,552
KD5DD (N4OGW)3,438,336
WN1GIV (N4BP)3,207,048

Single Op 28 MHz Low Power
NN4AC (N3AC)12,328
W6JPL (K6ICS)8,586
NC6V7,938

Single Op 21 MHz Low Power
WB4TDH441,976
N5JR437,076
WA1FCN225,568

Single Op 14 MHz Low Power
W7UT280,606
NU8A198,484
KW6AA126,492

Single Op 7 MHz Low Power
AA4NP442,884
W0NI411,424
NS3T224,612

Single Op 3.5 MHz Low Power
N4OO19,440

Single Op All Band QRP
K3WW2,747,416
N7IR575,016
W1FJ557,406
W6JTI515,147
AC2YD419,547

Single Op 28 MHz QRP
N4IJ34,845
KW7R3,267
W2VRK1,440

Single Op 21 MHz QRP
AA1K310,100
WA6FGV14,364

Single Op 14 MHz QRP
KA4RRU504,138
W5LA25,414
KF4AV18,792

Single Op 7 MHz QRP
K4XL134,550



The Youth overlay was offered for the first time this year targeting operators aged 25 or younger. The 38 Youth overlay participants ranged in age from 13 to 25 years. It is encouraging to see that the average operating time for Youth Overlay High Power participants was the highest of any single-op cohort at 28 hours, and their average score reduction was the lowest at 7%.

M6T (MØSDV) has an impressive resume at age 21 including multiple contest and DX expeditions; he can now add a World win of the HP Youth overlay to his list of achievements. YTØC, also age 21, was second overall, and

NU2A (N2YO) earned the top U.S. score in the Low Power, Triband-Wires Overlay category.

NE6M.....31,165	W4RYW.....8,680
Multi-Single High Power	
WU2X.....12,942,860	KU1CW.....5,565,120
WK9M.....5,184,927	AG3I.....3,921,148
N4QS.....3,907,139	
Multi-Single Low Power	
KA9VVQ.....89,056	NJ1F.....20,520
Multi-Two	
NI4W.....13,354,120	K9CT.....11,896,596
KC7V.....8,248,756	NX6T.....7,584,168
WD6T.....6,810,027	
Multi-Multi	
NR6O.....9,373,580	KT7E.....3,720,276
WA3EKL.....2,186,794	K3CT.....738,204
KD2RD.....492,633	
Multi-Distributed	
WC7Q.....3,237,696	WU5K.....973,080
Rookie High Power	
K3KEK.....54,927	
Rookie Low Power	
KO4VW.....358,848	KY4ID.....286,976
KY4GS.....256,038	KI2D.....61,533
KO4AWC.....36,285	
Classic High Power	
NN7CW.....4,899,223	KM1W (W1UE).....4,048,380
KZ5D.....1,930,494	K6AR.....1,696,080
AJ6V.....1,575,890	
Classic Low Power	
KR5X (K1BX).....2,393,373	WQ5L.....1,799,634
NK4O.....1,056,480	K3JT.....1,034,055
W4SPR.....930,465	

Tribander / Wires High Power	
N3QE.....5,525,370	KQ4R.....3,206,952
AB2E.....2,308,493	N1TO.....2,263,734
K3MD.....2,100,189	
Tribander / Wires Low Power	
NU2A (N2YO).....2,621,457	WC4E.....1,966,888
NE9U.....1,792,089	N1EN.....1,645,622
K1TR.....1,636,944	
Youth Low Power	
KM4SII.....1,903,611	W8UA.....167,307
KE8HBV.....105,780	KD9LSV.....57,057
N4JEH.....1,440	

EUROPE

Single Op All Band High Power	
LZ5R (LZ5DB).....15,020,324	CR6K (CT1ILT).....12,874,720
OMØR (OM3GI).....10,051,683	HG3R (HA3NU).....9,962,304
OM7M (OM5ZW).....9,812,789	
Single Op 28 MHz High Power	
HA5JI.....491,436	YT1X.....333,720
DH8BQA.....242,170	
Single Op 21 MHz High Power	
TM4W (F4DXW).....3,699,186	S5ØK.....2,940,520
EF5U (EA5U).....2,602,410	
Single Op 14 MHz High Power	
OM2VL.....5,226,681	YT3X.....4,772,196
ED3O (EA3CX).....4,767,360	
Single Op 7 MHz High Power	
9A5Y (9A3LG).....4,760,184	OK7W.....4,647,882
S52AW.....3,501,575	
Single Op 3.5 MHz High Power	
DQ2C (DL2SAX).....840,360	HA1TJ.....820,800
SP2PIK (SP2MKI).....779,898	

Single Op 1.8 MHz High Power	
YT8A.....205,380	LYØA (LY7M).....196,784
9A73KD (9A2KD).....159,782	
Single Op All Band Low Power	
IY3A (IZ3EYZ).....6,083,261	OL5Y.....4,634,916
MX7DX (MØUNN).....4,473,546	OL9R (OK6RA).....4,412,529
SN7O (SP7IVO).....4,333,274	
Single Op 28 MHz Low Power	
SV2BOH.....120,310	IR4Q (IU4MRU).....71,808
S53V.....49,457	
Single Op 21 MHz Low Power	
ED1R.....1,702,272	ES7A (ES7GM).....867,336
YT9W.....857,584	
Single Op 14 MHz Low Power	
IF9A (IT9PPG).....2,021,976	ES7GN.....1,774,590
YU5M.....1,703,592	
Single Op 7 MHz Low Power	
YU7WW.....1,330,875	E797WARD (E73AA).....999,792
OM3CQ.....894,516	
Single Op 3.5 MHz Low Power	
SO7M (SP7IFM).....456,092	OL5J.....413,492
YU1ED.....400,325	
Single Op 1.8 MHz Low Power	
OK6Y (OK2PTZ).....142,943	SNØR (SQ9IAU).....114,695
DR9ØTJU (DL6KWN).....93,888	
Single Op All Band QRP	
DM2M (DK3WE).....2,539,839	ON6NL.....1,646,390
LY9A.....1,600,446	DK7HA.....1,540,554
DG3T (DF5RF).....1,473,528	
Single Op 28 MHz QRP	
HG3IPA (HA3JB).....18,177	YO8WW.....3,838
DL1EFW.....2,310	
Single Op 21 MHz QRP	
EF3O (EA3O).....585,849	SV1JG.....195,597
LZ2RS.....151,751	

Single Op 14 MHz QRP	
S51Z.....340,008	G2X (GØDCK).....231,192
9A2EY.....129,480	
Single Op 7 MHz QRP	
OK6OK.....440,134	PG2AA.....269,598
SP6EY.....149,568	
Single Op 3.5 MHz QRP	
OL4W (OK1IF).....352,268	SP7M.....83,467
SP8OOE.....23,310	
Single Op 1.8 MHz QRP	
OL1A (OK1CW).....82,533	DL1AOB.....31,920
HA1TI.....6,496	
Multi-Single High Power	
E7DX.....13,296,761	ED7W.....11,123,304
HG6N.....10,375,088	SP8R.....10,306,780
OK5Z.....9,199,883	
Multi-Single Low Power	
LY5W.....4,626,680	YL4U.....3,686,245
LY2J.....3,375,952	HG22TISZA.....2,856,646
HG5C.....2,586,337	
Multi-Two	
ES9C.....18,247,320	IQ2CJ.....17,908,800
OL3Z.....15,595,524	HG7T.....15,153,544
DQ1A.....13,992,564	
Multi-Multi	
9A1A.....25,605,468	YT5A.....23,229,255
LZ9W.....22,185,384	LN8W.....13,743,581
OT7T.....8,870,960	EA1URA.....5,083,644
9H6A.....4,397,221	EA4URE.....4,375,952
OG3B.....3,541,488	
Rookie High Power	
EI6LA.....182,640	DL3ON.....117,192

Rookie Low Power	
OL2J (OK5MAX).....1,440,738	YO3HEX.....159,525
IR4Q (IU4MRU).....71,808	SP5DJ.....58,283
OE8ACT.....18,297	
Classic High Power	
DJ5MW.....5,106,240	TM5T (F5VKT).....2,674,212
LZ7J (LZ1CL).....2,366,640	HA8DU.....1,981,288
YL2VW.....1,974,820	
Classic Low Power	
DL1WA.....1,329,705	DK3YD.....1,176,418
OLØA (OK1CZ).....1,108,870	5Q6EE (OZ2I).....1,093,533
DJ3HW.....777,621	
Tribander / Wires High Power	
MM9I.....4,066,440	LZ3ZZ.....3,846,699
DL3UB.....3,704,472	IO6A (IK6QON).....3,677,714
9A2AJ.....3,674,835	
Tribander / Wires Low Power	
DK5DQ.....3,852,505	DJ5MO.....3,681,558
DL4FN.....3,301,500	SP9XCN.....3,072,784
DL6RAI.....2,945,070	
Youth High Power	
M6T (MØSDV).....5,380,608	YTØC.....4,900,386
EA2RCP (UR5YKO).....1,668,641	LY5AX.....1,519,144
IR1N (IU1LCU).....675,288	
Youth Low Power	
EI5LA.....206,590	IUØLJD.....105,525
DP4X (DJ4MX).....35,868	2MØGUI.....21,060
E7ØAW.....14,382	

On the Cover



Jelmer Vos, DJ5MO, has been a ham since 1996 and a contester since 2001, but he says he's still learning, "which is what I really like about our hobby in general and HF contesting in particular." Born in the Netherlands, Jelmer has lived in Germany since 2009. He works as an (RF) IC design engineer and is married with two children.

Introduced to radio as a young teen via CB and shortwave listening, Jelmer received his first amateur license at age 17. He says he had limited antenna possibilities at his parents' house, but tried several homemade wire antennas, along with building his own amplifiers and tuners. As an electrical engineering student at the time, Jelmer says his early ham experience "really helped in learning HF design."

Asked to join a multi-op contest team at PA1TT in 2001, he quickly became addicted to contesting. He and a group of friends decided to form their own contest group, PA6Z, and built a well-equipped multi-op station, which was in use until 2012, when the owner sold the property. Living in Germany at that point, Jelmer decided to focus on contesting from his home station (an IC-7700 transceiver, a tribander with 3 elements each on 20 and 15 meters plus 5 elements on 10, a rotary dipole for 40, a full-size dipole on 80 and an inverted-L on 160).

"Single-op contesting from home is really different from a multi-op situation," Jelmer noted. "I had to learn a lot, e.g., when to be on what band, when to sleep, and what antennas work best in my situation." He adds, "I prefer CW for contesting, and usually participate in the low power section of the CQWW and CQ WPX as main events. Having only a moderate station from my location in Europe, I believe the best result can be achieved with low power CW." It's clearly an effective strategy, as Jelmer finished this year's WPX CW Contest (results article on page 13) in second place worldwide in the Tribander / Wires overlay of the Single-Op / Low Power category! (Cover photo courtesy DJ5MO)

Category	Continent							Average per Entry	
	AF	AS	EU	NA	OC	SA	All	Op Time (Hours)	Score Reduction
Multi-Single HP	1	13	27	21	2	3	67	33	12%
Multi-Single LP	0	5	20	3	3	0	31	26	11%
Multi-Two	0	4	19	12	1	0	36	40	12%
Multi-Multi	0	3	4	7	1	0	15	36	10%
Multi-Distributed	0	2	7	3	1	1	14	36	15%

Figure 6. Multi-Operator participation summary



OL2J (OK5MAX) was the winner of the Rookie Overlay.



M6T (MØSDV) at age 21 took first place in the High Power Youth Overlay.

Highest QSO Points/QSO by Stations Operating 36 or More Hours														
Category	Africa		Asia		Europe		N. America		USA		Oceania		S. America	
Single Op AB HP	CR3DX	3.61	C4W	3.33	S53MM	2.94	CF2T	3.28	K3RA	3.02	VK6T	4.02	-	-
Single Op AB LP	-	-	5B4AQC	3.74	OL9R	2.88	VP9UKR	3.31	KQ1F	2.90	9M6NA	3.31	P44W	3.71
Single Op AB QRP	-	-	-	-	DK7HA	2.45	K3WW	2.59	N7IR	2.02	-	-	-	-
Single Op SB HP	-	-	-	-	OK7W	3.31	K3LR	2.22	NA6TT	1.88	-	-	-	-
Single Op SB LP	-	-	-	-	ES7A	1.95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Single HP	D4Z	3.59	UP2L	3.43	DA2X	2.73	ZF1A	2.93	WU2X	2.89	7A2A	3.10	CE3CT	3.39
Multi-Single LP	-	-	UN4Q	3.23	DP7D	2.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Two	-	-	BH3GIY	2.04	DM6V	2.70	VX9ML	3.58	WD6T	2.44	-	-	-	-
Multi-Multi	-	-	JA3YBK	2.43	9A1A	2.55	KL7RA	2.90	NR60	2.18	NH7T	3.45	-	-
Multi-Distributed	-	-	9M2A	2.33	OT7T	2.39	WC7Q	1.83	WC7Q	1.83	ZM1A	3.66	PV2K	3.03

Highest Mults Worked/Total Mults (%) for Stations Operating 36 or More Hours														
Category	Africa		Asia		Europe		N. America		USA		Oceania		S. America	
Single Op AB HP	CR3DX	77%	C4W	61%	LZ5R	83%	AA3B	71%	NU5A	65%	VK6T	53%	-	-
Single Op AB LP	-	-	5B4AQC	44%	IY3A	67%	WM3T	56%	KQ1F	53%	9M6NA	37%	P44W	63%
Single Op AB QRP	-	-	-	-	DM2M	45%	K3WW	46%	N7IR	26%	-	-	-	-
Single Op SB HP	-	-	-	-	OM2VL	71%	K3LR	62%	NA6TT	53%	-	-	-	-
Single Op SB LP	-	-	-	-	IF9A	54%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Single HP	D4Z	77%	UP2L	78%	E7DX	82%	ZF1A	74%	WU2X	74%	7A2A	44%	PR2E	70%
Multi-Single LP	-	-	UN4Q	57%	LY5W	61%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multi-Two	-	-	BH3GIY	34%	ES9C	90%	NI4W	81%	K9CT	79%	-	-	-	-
Multi-Multi	-	-	JA3YBK	59%	9A1A	94%	NR60	70%	KT7E	53%	NH7T	68%	-	-
Multi-Distributed	-	-	9M2A	34%	OT7T	72%	WC7Q	53%	WC7Q	53%	ZM1A	72%	PV2K	72%

Figure 7. QSO point and multiplier capture performance benchmarks

16-year-old W8UA was the HP U.S. Youth winner. The LP Youth overlay champion is 5B4AQC (DK6SP), age 24, followed by KM4SII, age 19. Figure 5 exhibits additional young operator noteworthy achievements.

Multi-Operator Masters

Figure 6 shows the breakdown of Multi-Op participation by continent. The percentage spreads of Multi-Op station types reflect a reduction in Multi-Single LP and increase in Multi-Two operations as compared to 2021.

An all-Swiss team of operators came together to celebrate the 70th birthday of Philippe, HB9ARF, and to pilot D4Z to number 1 in the Multi-Single HP category. The Multi-Single HP winner from 2020, UP2L, was second. WU2X was fifth overall and was the only U.S. station in the Multi-Single HP top 10. The Multi-Single LP category was won decisively by UN4Q. The team at ES9C returned to the Multi-Two category for the first time since 2008 and earned a narrow win over IQ2CJ. The highest scoring Multi-Two operation from the U.S. was at NI4W. The 9A1A ops rejoiced at returning to the Multi-Multi category post Covid-19. Despite heavy

Best 10, No Reduction		Best 10, Single Op, >1000 QSOs		
Call	QSOs	Call	QSOs	Reduction
K1HT	233	DK1KC	1,211	0.5%
AB1J	221	SP9XCN	1,680	0.9%
OM7AT	209	WX8C	1,545	1.1%
7K3CZU	174	OV3X (OZ8AE)	1,020	1.1%
AB1U (W6RKC)	141	DL7URH	1,090	1.4%
OH5ZA (OH1ZAA)	140	AJ1I (K1ZZ)	2,656	1.5%
F1TRE	130	DK5DQ	1,812	1.5%
VE2QV	126	DL4FN	1,683	1.7%
JE8KKX	124	KR2Q	1,764	1.8%
K1TW	116	YL2PJ	1,147	1.8%

Best Multi-Op by Category, >500 QSOs			
Category	Call	QSOs	Reduction
Multi-Single HP	WU2X	3,979	4.4%
Multi-Single LP	OZ/DJ5LA	1,023	4.7%
Multi-2	WD6T	2,869	4.7%
Multi-Multi	AG1C	563	7.3%
Multi-Distributed	WU5K	926	5.8%

Figure 8. Exemplary log accuracy

Single Op HP Peak Rates		Single Op LP Peak Rates		Single Op QRP Peak Rates	
Call	Rate	Call	Rate	Call	Rate
CR6K (CT1ILT)	234	P44W (W2GD)	145	DC9RI	110
LZ5R (LZ5DB)	227	P3AA (RN3QO)	142	K3WW	106
H25A (LZ2HM)	217	UN4L	139	LZ50YE(LZ1YE)	90
EF5Y (EB5A)	204	HF74QMP (SP9GFI)	134	LY9A	84

Multi-Op by Category Peak Rates		
Category	Call	Rate
Multi-Single HP	ZF1A	159
Multi-Single LP	UN4Q	133
Multi-2	ES9C	241
Multi-Multi	9A1A	385
Multi-Distributed	OT7T	299

Figure 9. Peak 60-minute rates

How do competitive operators maximize their scores in the WPX contests? It often boils down to selecting bands, on-times, and operating techniques that maximize QSO point production from multiplier-rich regions.

QRN from local thunderstorms, they secured the Multi-Multi category win. YT5A and LZ9W also reported battling heavy QRN but persevered to place second and third, respectively. The teammates at NR6O reported highly variable band conditions and great times on their way to first place in Multi-Multi in the U.S. ZL3CW and ZL3IO decided to try the Multi-Distributed category on the Thursday before the start of the contest. Their approach to synchronizing stations was to share logs via email every several hours. This low tech, two-person team, took ZM1A to top of the Multi-Distributed category. Second place went to PV2K and the winning Multi-Distributed score in the U.S. belongs to the WC7Q team.

Performance Benchmarks

How do competitive operators maximize their scores in the WPX contests? It often boils down to selecting bands, on-times, and operating techniques that maximize QSO point production from multiplier-rich regions. *Figure 7* provides benchmarks for QSO point and multiplier productivity for stations that operated 36 or more hours. The highest QSO points / QSO ratio was 4.02 achieved by VK6T (VK6LW), followed

2022 CQWW WPX CW PLAQUE WINNERS AND DONORS

SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

WORLD - High Power: Steve Bolia, N8BJQ Plaque. Won by: CR3DX operated by Tibor Ferenec, OM3RM
 WORLD - Low Power: Caribbean Contesting Consortium Plaque. Won by: P44W operated by John Crovelli, W2GD
 WORLD - QRP: Bill Parker, W8QZA Plaque. Won by: Charles D Fulp Jr, K3WW

USA - High Power: Martin Huml, OL5Y Plaque. Won by: Bud Trench, AA3B
 USA - QRP: John T. Laney, K4BAI Plaque. Won by: Gary Hembree, N7IR**
 USA Zone 3 - High Power: Northern California Contest Club Plaque. Won by: ND7K operated by Timothy Coker, W4IX @N6WIN
 USA Zone 3 - Low Power: Arizona Outlaws Contest Club Plaque. Won by: Willie Baber, WJ9B
 USA Zone 4 - High Power: Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z and Val Hotzfeld, NV9L Plaque. Won by: NU5A operated by David McCarty, K5GN
 USA Zone 4 - Low Power: Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z and Val Hotzfeld, NV9L Plaque. Won by: KD5DD operated by Torsten Clay, N4OGW
 USA Zone 5 - High Power: Steve Narducci, W9SN Plaque. Won by: Krassimir Petkov, K1LZ**

EUROPE - High Power: Ivo Pezer, E73A/9A3A Plaque. Won by: LZ5R operated by Milen Dimov, LZ5DB
 EUROPE - Low Power: Vitor Santos, PY2NY Plaque. Won by: IY3A operated by Matteo Marzilli, IZ3EYZ
 EUROPE - QRP: Bruce Olney, WY7N Plaque. Won by: DM2M operated by Pit Schmidt, DK3WE

AFRICA: Michael Perry, WM1K Memorial by N1RR Plaque. Won by: EF8R operated by Juan Hidalgo, EA8RM**
 ASIA: Rick Tavan, N6XI Plaque. Won by: H25A operated by Andrey Sachkov, LZ2HM
 NORTH AMERICA* - High Power: Louisiana Contest Club Plaque. Won by: KP2M operated by Philip Allardice, KT3Y
 NORTH AMERICA* - Low Power: Dick Green, WC1M Plaque. Won by: VP9UKR operated by Yuri Onipko, VE3DZ
 NORTH AMERICA* - QRP: Dale Martin, KG5U Plaque. Won by: Edibel Frias Mesa, CM3EFM
 SOUTH AMERICA: Andrew Faber, AE6Y Plaque. Won by: PJ2T operated by Jim Fitzpatrick, W19WI**
 OCEANIA - High Power: Lloyd Cabral, KH6LC Plaque. Won by: VK6T operated by Kevin Smith, VK6LW
 OCEANIA - Low Power: Wes Printz, W3SE/ZL3TE Plaque. Won by: Rob Van Geen, NH6V @KH6LC
 CANADA - High Power: Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Plaque. Won by: VC2A operated by Victor Androsov, VA2WA
 CANADA - Low Power: Contest Club Ontario Plaque. Won by: CG2Z operated by Pierre Loranger, VA2CZ
 JAPAN: Wes Printz, W3SE/ZL3TE Plaque. Won by: Masa Okano, JH4UYB
 ASEAN (3W 9M 9V DU HS V85 XU XW XZ YB): Champ C. Muangamphun E21EIC Plaque. Won by: Ron Schiltmans, DU3T

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

WORLD - 28 MHz Low Power: Six Stars Contest Station LS1D Plaque. Won by: LU8DPM operated by Mario Andraca, LU1DJX
 WORLD - 14 MHz: Gene Walsh, N2AA Memorial (by K2SS, K2TW, KR2Q, W2RQ, NN4X) Plaque. Won by: Laszlo Vegh, OM2VL
 WORLD - 7 MHz: Tennessee Contest Group Plaque. Won by: 9A5Y operated by Rc Jan Hus, 9A3LG
 WORLD - 3.5 MHz: Ranko Boca, 4O3A Plaque. Won by: DQ2C operated by Dr Harald Gerlach, DL2SAX
 WORLD - 1.8 MHz: Dusko Dumanovic, ZL3WW Plaque. Won by: LY0A operated by Algirdas Uzdonas, LY7M
 USA - 21 MHz: Charlie Wooten, NF4A Plaque. Won by: Phil Koch, K3UA @K3LR
 USA - 14 MHz: Kansas City DX Club Plaque. Won by: K3LR operated by John R Golomb, Jr, N2NC
 USA - 3.5 MHz: Wes Printz, W3SE / ZL3TE Plaque. Won by: Steven Sussman, W3BGN
 USA - 1.8 MHz: Jim Galm, W8WTS Plaque. Won by: Rick Roderick, K5UR
 EUROPE - 21 MHz: Vince Weal, K4JC Plaque. Won by: TM4W operated by Van Langenhoven Stephane, F4DXW
 EUROPE - 3.5 MHz: Ranko Boca, 4O3A Plaque. Won by: Felber Gyula, HA1TJ**

OVERLAY CATEGORIES

WORLD - Tribander/Single-Element: Scott Wright, K0MD Plaque. Won by: Ricardo Martins, CT3KN
 USA - Tribander/Single-Element: Mike Polom, NE8P Plaque. Won by: Tim Shoppa, N3QE
 USA - Tribander/Single-Element Low Power: Ron Sigismonti, N3RS Plaque. Won by: NU2A operated by Ciprian Sufitchi, N2YO
 EUROPE - Tribander/Single-Element: Matija Brodnik, S53MM Plaque. Won by: John Dundas, MM9I
 WORLD - Rookie: Val Edwards, W8KIC Memorial by K3LR Plaque. Won by: OL2J operated by Adam Stepanek, OK5MAX
 USA - Rookie: Chris Kantarjiev, K6DBG Plaque. Won by: Steve Randall, KO4VW

Category/Overlay	Region	New Record		Previous Record		
		Call	Score	Call	Score	Year
Multi-Multi	Oceania	NH7T	16,193,474	ZL6QH	16,143,840	2004
Multi-Distributed	Oceania	ZM1A	15,617,665	No Entry	-	-
Multi-Single Low	Asia	UN4Q	7,613,994	HS0ZIA	5,235,307	2015
QRP 20M	North America	KA4RRU	504,138	AA2A	487,461	2021
QRP 15M	Oceania	KH6ZM	169,332	YB5AQB	33,504	2006
QRP 80M	Asia	UN9LDC	44,436	JH10GC	26,307	2011
Low 160M	Oceania	KH7M (KH6ZM)	100	YC0LOW/0	96	2007
Classic High Power	Africa	ED8W (OM5RW)	8,393,936	No entry	-	-
Classic Low Power	Oceania	9M6NA (J04JKL)	2,720,945	V73NS	376,124	2020
Classic Low Power	North America	KR5X (K1BX)	2,393,373	W9SN	2,352,499	2021

Figure 10. New regional records

EUROPE - Rookie: G0CKV, OH1VR, OH2BH, OH2KI Plaque. Won by: Rafal Lukawiecki, EI6LA**
WORLD - Youth: Ukrainian Contest Club Plaque. Won by: M6T operated by Jamie Williams, M0SDV
EUROPE - Youth: G0CKV, OH1VR, OH2BH, OH2KI Plaque. Won by: Janko Mihailovic, YT0C**

MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE-TRANSMITTER

WORLD: Walter Skudlarek, DJ6QT memorial by Rhein-Ruhr DX Association Plaque. Won by: D4Z operated by HB9AMO, HB9ARF, HB9CAT
WORLD - Low Power: Mike Goode, N9NS Memorial by Hoosier DX and Contest Club Plaque. Won by: UN4Q operated by UP1G, UA4Z
USA: Phil Allardice, KT3Y Plaque. Won by: WU2X operated by N2QV, K5GO, N5DX
EUROPE: Andy Ruse YO3JR/YR1A Plaque. Won by: E7DX operated by E70T, E74A, E76C, E77EA, E77C, E77DX
NORTH AMERICA*: Rich Strand, KL7RA Memorial Plaque. Won by: ZF1A operated by NN1C, UT5UDX, W9KKN, KI6RRN
ASEAN (3W 9M 9V DU HS V85 XU XW XZ YB): Champ C. Muangamphun E21EIC Plaque. Won by: E2A operated by E21EIC, E29TGW

MULTI-OPERATOR, TWO-TRANSMITTER

WORLD: UA1DZ Memorial by W3UA Plaque. Won by: ES9C operated by ES2RR, ES2MC, ES5TV, ES4RD, ES5RY, ES5JR, YL3DW, ES1BVG, ES5QA, ES2ADF
USA: Florida Contest Group Plaque. Won by: N14W operated by N4WW, K0LUZ, N4KM, K1MM, W4WF
EUROPE: Tom Georgens, W2SC Plaque. Won by: IQ2CJ operated by IK2JUB, IK2QPR, IK2YCW, IK3QAR, IK4VET, IZ1LBG**

MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

WORLD: Steve Merchant, K6AW Plaque. Won by: 9A1A operated by 9A5W, 9A9A, 9A7R, 9A6A, 9A5E, 9A3SMS, 9A8A, 9A2EU, 9A7DR
USA: Mori Young, KR5V Memorial by N5RZ Plaque. Won by: NR6O operated by N6RO, K3EST, K6AW, N6WM, WA6O, WD6T, WX5S, WU6P
EUROPE: Jeff Demers, N1SNB Plaque. Won by: YT5A operated by YT1AD, YT2T, YT3W, YU1BV, YU1KX, YU1YV, YU2FG, YU6DX, YU8A, YU9DX, R7KW**

MULTI-OPERATOR, DISTRIBUTED

WORLD: Sid Caesar, NH7C Plaque. Won by: ZM1A operated by ZL3CW, ZL3IO

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

WORLD - Contest Expedition: Phil Goetz, N6ZZ Memorial by Paul Goetz Plaque. Won by: P49Y operated by AE6Y**
CHINA - Any Multi-op Category: Andrey Sachkov, LZ2HM Plaque. Won by: BA7MT operated by BH7KBE, BH7PFH, BD7JPC, BG7PXC, BD7KBB

COMBINED AWARDS

WORLD - Combined Score on SSB and CW: Yuri Blanarovich, K3BU Plaque. Won by: Andrey Sachkov, LZ2HM
USA - Combined Score on SSB and CW: Bill Fisher W4AN Memorial by KM3T Plaque. Won by: Richard F Didonna, NN3W
WORLD - Combined Prefixes on SSB and CW: Norm Koch, WN5N Memorial by K2RED Plaque. Won by: Milen Dimov, LZ5DB
CALIFORNIA - Combined score on SSB and CW: Northern California Contest Club Plaque. Won by: Marko L Myllymaki, N5ZO
CQ WPX Contest Triathlon Award - Combined Score on RTTY, SSB, and CW (min 500 QSOs per mode): DX-Lodge Roatan (HQ9X) Plaque. Won by: Milen Dimov, LZ5DB
CALIFORNIA - Combined Score on RTTY, SSB, and CW: Northern California Contest Club Plaque. Won by: Bob Wolbert, K6XX

CLUB AWARDS

World - Combined SSB/CW: CQ Magazine Plaque. Won by: Yankee Clipper Contest Club
USA - Combined SSB/CW: Marty Sullaway, NN1C Plaque. Won by: Potomac Valley Radio Club**
World Triathlon (CW/SSB/RTTY) - Combined Score on RTTY, SSB, and CW (min 500 QSOs per mode): DX-Lodge Roatan (HQ9X) Plaque. Won by: Bavarian Contest Club

* Applies only to North American stations outside the USA and Canada

** Denotes awarded to runner-up in category



5B4AQC (DK6SP), age 24, was in first place in the Low Power Youth Overlay category.

CLUB SCORES

UNITED STATES

Club	# Entrants	Score
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	150	267,888,655
Potomac Valley Radio Club	187	193,613,516
Frankford Radio Club	124	155,174,214
Northern California Contest Club	96	132,573,889
Florida Contest Group	67	74,264,644
Society Of Midwest Contesters	115	57,626,631
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	50	54,197,103
Southern California Contest Club	53	54,052,109
Willamette Valley DX Club	47	43,650,500
Central Texas DX And Contest Club	18	33,312,689
Western Washington DX Club	28	26,755,198
Minnesota Wireless Assn.	75	22,299,796
Tennessee Contest Group	39	21,511,032
Alabama Contest Group	19	21,113,681
Texas DX Society	11	18,764,632
Mad River Radio Club	24	17,685,093
DFW Contest Group	30	14,992,740
Swamp Fox Contest Group	19	13,202,827
North Coast Contesters	17	11,876,595
South East Contest Club	36	11,272,663
Kentucky Contest Group	22	11,213,255
Deep Dixie Contest Club	10	9,778,029
Northeast Maryland Amateur Radio Contest Society	25	9,449,825
Carolina DX Association	5	7,684,438
Grand Mesa Contesters Of Colorado	28	7,556,274
Big Sky Contesters	9	7,348,498
Hudson Valley Contesters And DXers	23	7,125,528
Niagara Frontier Radiosport	18	6,260,640
Order Of Boiled Owls Of New York	13	4,375,229
Kansas City Contest Club	12	4,001,836
Bay Area DXers	9	3,606,108
Spokane DX Association	17	2,547,580
Heartland DX Association	7	2,330,044
CWOPS	7	2,288,554
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	10	1,957,258
Bristol (Tn/Va) ARC	12	1,653,338
The Villages Amateur Radio Club	4	1,572,542
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	7	1,306,937
South Jersey Radio Association	8	1,298,421
New Providence ARC	7	1,298,346
Northeast Wisconsin DX Assn.	4	1,275,286
Hilltop Transmitting Assn.	4	1,147,434
Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society	5	1,037,140
Rochester (Ny) DX Assn.	7	909,143
Hamilton Amateur Radio Club	5	724,497
North Fulton Amateur Radio League	4	592,859
Metro DX Club	4	344,778
Kansas City DX Club	5	344,419
Oh-Ky-In ARS	7	285,502
Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society	4	238,729
Skyview Radio Society	4	139,386
Southwest Ohio DX Association	5	85,707
Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club	5	54,384
Granite State ARA	4	36,186

DX

Club	# Entrants	Score
Italian Contest Club	149	238,552,119
Bavarian Contest Club	219	230,353,552
Araucaria DX Group	60	128,611,360
EA Contest Club	65	117,405,998
Croatian Contest Club	35	85,698,306
Contest Club Ontario	63	83,129,369
Rhein Ruhr DX Association	86	82,950,298
Baltic Contest Club	21	78,064,539
Contest Club Serbia	29	72,119,542
Milara Contest Club	5	58,522,718
HA-DX-Club	15	45,241,104
Slovenia Contest Club	21	43,090,464
Contest Club Belgium	30	42,965,607
Belokranjec Contest Club	10	35,944,632
Clipperton DX Club	15	32,778,334
Lu Contest Group	32	32,745,641
Rio DX Group	61	31,319,287
La Contest Club	8	29,233,463
Contest Club Finland	35	29,189,340
Orca DX And Contest Club	17	28,861,488
Czech Contest Club	21	28,682,422
Kaunas University Of Technology Radio Club	39	27,609,669
VK Contest Club	24	27,106,903
Contest Group Du Quebec	10	25,353,540
Catalonia Contest Club	18	23,956,457
SP DX Club	59	21,018,454
Latvian Contest Club	25	19,132,681
Crows Contest Team	4	16,819,510
West Serbia Contest Club	8	15,115,790
Siam DX Group	22	14,964,634
Radio Amateur Association Of Western Greece	7	14,940,520
Ukrainian Contest Club	9	13,393,246
Associacao Dos Radioamadores Do Parana	9	13,259,962
Chiltern DX Club	9	12,430,052

Club	# Entrants	Score
CE Contest Group	15	11,153,695
RSGB Contest Club	7	10,558,614
RTTY Contesters Of Japan	4	10,249,788
Danish DX Group	19	10,074,882
Thracian Rose Club	30	9,986,250
Vrhnika Contesters	4	9,905,422
European DX Contest Club	5	9,464,658
YB-Land DXing Passion Is	170	9,048,483
5NNDXCC	28	8,024,301
Maritime Contest Club	16	7,362,512
Aripa DX Team	7	6,330,226
Cdr Group	31	6,280,485
599 Contest Club	13	5,819,108
Radioclubul Radu Bratu	5	5,810,813
Ubro	10	5,618,474
ZRHB Contest Club	9	5,590,404
GMDX Group	6	5,537,436
Interest Group RTTY	10	5,388,106
Radiosport Manitoba	9	5,123,286
YB Land DX Club	36	5,004,781
CSA Steaua	4	3,940,974
Okayama DX Club	6	3,897,586
Pelila Up	4	3,110,281
CWSP	7	3,067,325
SP-CW-C	6	2,992,666
Union Francaise Des Telegraphistes	6	2,954,797
Gunma Contest Club	13	2,826,497
Mediterraneo DX Club	4	2,765,404
Bosnia And Herzegovina Contest Club	6	2,717,460
Keymen's Club Of Japan	32	2,622,469
SKØQO Sodertorns Radioamatorer	4	2,323,924
Sharks DX Team	10	2,310,178
Vytautas Magnus University Radio Club	5	2,205,385
SK6AW Hisingens Radioklubb	11	2,181,170
YU1ANO & YU1A Contest Team	6	2,059,211
CS Petrolul Ploiesti	6	1,975,503
599 DX Group	8	1,966,759
Riihimaan Kolmoset	5	1,920,394
Philippine Amateur Radio League	7	1,898,444
VU Contest Group	13	1,763,190
CSM Craiova	6	1,733,429
Fuchu Amateur Radio Club	10	1,676,010
Peterborough Amateur Radio Club	7	1,368,115
Cubanos Libres De Patria Y Vida	4	1,348,918
Chilean Pacific DX Group	6	1,228,287
Cabreuvadx	42	1,203,744
Japan Contesters Club	4	1,069,314
YO DX Club	10	948,444
Falcons DX Group	23	937,363
Sharp Ham Club	7	856,729
Lithuanian Contest Group	6	839,128
CSU Pitesti	5	809,119
SK5AA Vasteras Radioklubb	6	789,016
Harcerski Klub Lacznosci Sp6zhp	5	784,402
CWFJ Group	4	757,911
Radio Club Kvarner Rijeka	9	743,884
Club De Radio Amateur Del Estado De Guanajuato	4	738,167
National Children's Palace	5	677,972
YYP Club	6	670,788
Korea Contest Club	4	615,859
SP9PBB	7	613,056
King's Lynn Amateur Radio Club	8	581,370
Radio Club Venezolano Caracas	5	569,821
West Borneo DX Club	8	526,661
Tipalayo DX Club	5	505,274
Admira Arad	4	487,747
Guara DX Group	9	485,576
7A DX-Contest Club	13	460,430
Nesrac Malaysia	4	448,647
RAAC Cyclades DX Club	4	435,119
World Wide Young Contesters	5	426,408
Grupo DXXE	5	386,848
SK6EI	4	380,667
Radio Officers Assn. RS	4	373,332
9M HF & Amp DX Contest Group	4	356,119
YB6_DX Community	23	307,053
Online Amateur Radio Community	5	295,453
DX101 Contest Club	4	278,386
CSU Brasov	6	251,638
Orari Lokal Bogor	11	165,366
Just For Fun Contest Club	7	119,425
Radiofarol DX Group	8	108,069
Norfolk Amateur Radio Club	4	102,308
SPDXT	4	78,459
A1 Club	5	73,462
The Akita DX Association	4	60,992
Orari Lokal Kediri	6	45,946
NIAR	9	14,770
Radio Club De Panama	4	13,901
Single Fighter DX Group	4	12,516
YB7-DX Club	4	11,941

Club scores with 4 or more entries.

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It Pays to Pay Attention

How do you make a great product even better? You listen to your customers. The heart of an MLA is the tuner. We made so many improvements to it that we now call it the HG3 QRO-A. The HG3 Plus Controller also received new firmware and an improved SWR function. *Some limitations may apply or are optional.



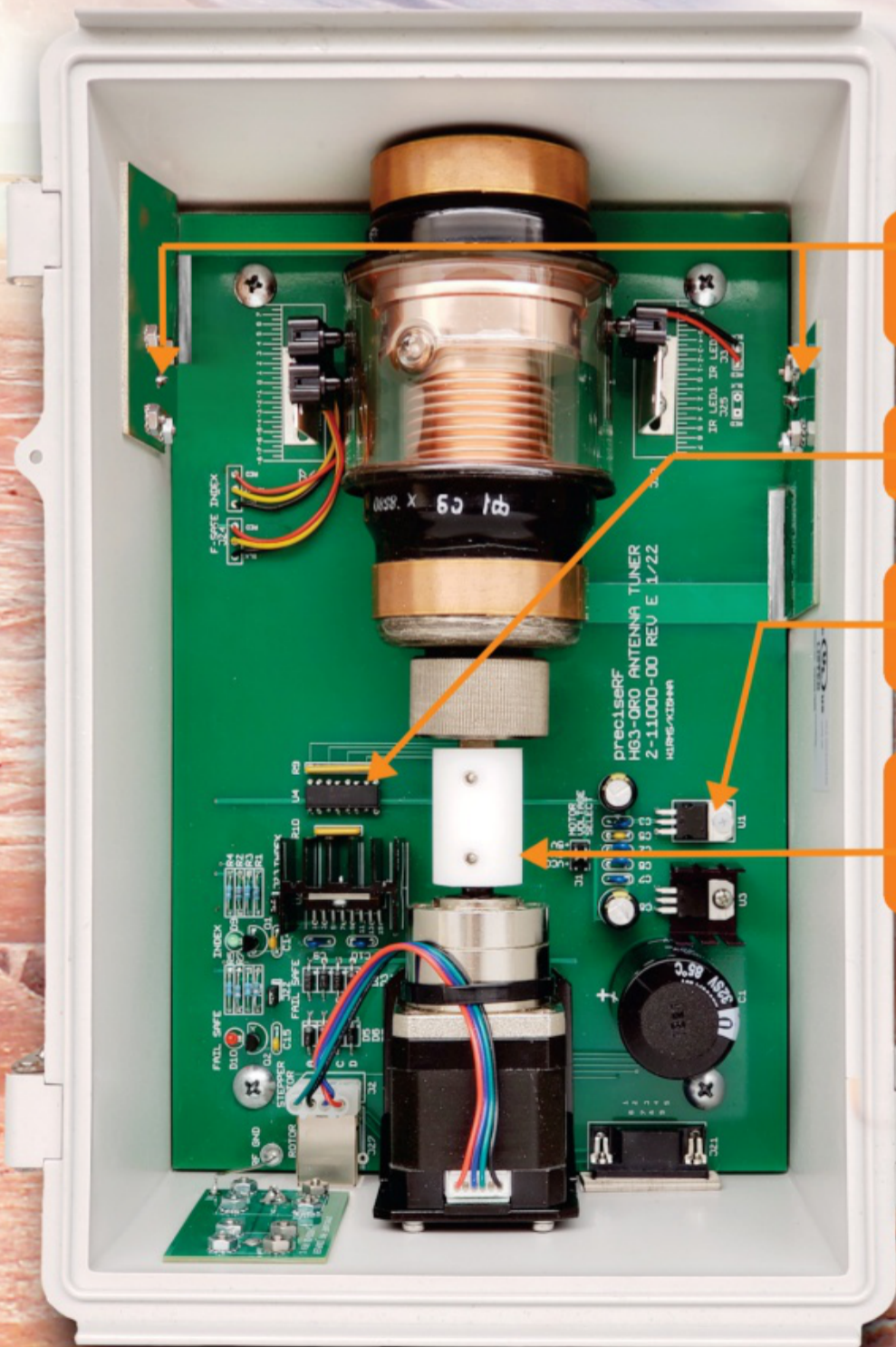
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by 5B4AQC (DK6SP) (age 24 and LP) at 3.74. The 9A1A crew captured an amazing 94% of all multipliers identified during the log checking process and LZ5R (LZ5DB) was way out in front of all other Single-Ops with an 83% yield.

Check out *Figure 8* to behold the operators who did their utmost to copy the correct calls and serial numbers. DK1KC had only one Not In Log and one incorrect exchange out of 1,211 QSOs — absolutely astounding!

The 2022 rate leaders are provided in *Figure 9*. Note that 14 of the 17 calls shown in *Figure 9* contain four characters which likely contributed to their amazing rates. Imagine how hard HF74QMP had to work to earn a spot on this list!

All world records were unchanged; however, 10 new continental records were established as shown in *Figure 10*. Note that KH6ZM accounted for two new single band Oceania records: QRP 15 meters (KH6ZM) and Low Power 160 meters (KH7M).

Opportunities for Improvement

Enforcement actions were limited and included warnings for out-of-band operation, disallowing the Classic Overlay for stations that were assisted, and disallowing the TB-Wires Overlay for stations using improper antenna configurations.

I received lots of traffic this cycle regarding the TB-Wires Overlay. The purpose of the TB-Wires Overlay is to enable competition by similarly equipped stations, thus the restrictions on the number and types of antennas. It is not intended to cover all potential “antenna deprived” scenarios. It is important to note that only one antenna, fed by a single feedline, is permitted on 20 /15 /10 meters. Please review the rules and FAQ regarding the TB-Wires Overlay and reach out to me if you have questions.

Final Thoughts, Observations, and Praise

My goal while preparing this article was to highlight operating excellence, and I am pleased to observe that 127 calls were cited for their accomplishments. I particularly enjoyed studying the achievements of the Rookie and Youth operators as I anticipate seeing their calls highlighted in future contest results.

It is inspiring to share that 21 Ukrainians competed in WPX CW despite adversity they faced from the war. Many of their operations were

remote or hosted by stations in safe havens. This terrible conflict cannot end soon enough.

The administration of the 2022 CQWW WPX CW would not have been possible without the support of 3V8SS, CT1BOH, DL6RAI, EA4KD, ES5TV, F6BEE, I2WIJ, IK2QEI, JK3GAD, K1AR, K1DG, K1EA, K5TM, K5TR, K5ZD, KM3T, KR2Q, LA6VQ, N5KO, N6TR, N8BJQ,

OH6LI, OK2FD, PA3AAV, PY2WS, S50A, S50XX, SV1DPI, VE3TM, W0YK, WA7BNM, and YO3JR. Please join me in praising their contributions to the radiosport community and CQWW WPX contests.

I hope to see you in the next CQWW WPX CW contest on May 27th and 28th, 2023. Thank you for your participation and 73.

(Scores on page 100)



VK6T (VK6LW) had the highest average QSO points to QSOs ratio of any full time participant.



CR6K (CT1ILT) is the rate champion.

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The 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference, or WARC-79, was generally very good for hams. But it knocked a brand-new Heathkit off the production line. Here's the behind-the-scenes story of how WARC-79 sidelined the Heath SS8800 ... from the man who owns the only one in existence.

The Almost Heathkit

BY BOB SUMPTION,* N8RS

In 1977-1979, a new top-of-the-line 6-band synthesized HF transceiver kit was being developed at Heathkit to replace the well-known SB104. Named the SS-8000, it featured fully synthesized operation with a greenish blue vacuum-fluorescent dual digital frequency display for split channel operation; selectable receiver passband shift; 2.1-kHz, 400-Hz, and 200-Hz selectable crystal filters for SSB, CW, and RTTY; noise blanker; RIT; adjustable speech compression; very fast up and down tuning buttons to zip quickly across the band; and a big central tuning knob. This transceiver (*Photo A*) was also capable of being operated digitally by computer for remote operation. The tuning steps were in 100-Hz increments. These are regarded today as rather large steps but operating it, I find it tunes nicely.

Development of this deluxe transceiver was nearly completed as the year 1979 rolled around. Three test SS-8000 transceivers (called proof build kits) were assembled by three of the technicians in Heathkit amateur radio engineering. As far as I have been able to find out by talking to other ex-Heathkit employees, Bill Johnson was president of Heathkit in 1979, the head engineer of the SS-8000 project was Bob Groh. The technicians who worked on the SS-8000 transceiver and built the three proof-build units (of which only one exists today) were Lewis Lambert, then WD8LDV; Bob Mann, W8LHP; and Dave Poplewski, KC8IV (now SK).

As 1979 rolled along, the SS-8000 was moving quickly out of the design stages and getting ready to become a real Heathkit. The very first draft assembly manuals were written ... and then came the news that the World Administrative Radio Conference in Geneva,

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Photo A. The author with his Heathkit SS-8000 — the only one in existence. (Photos courtesy of the author)



Photo B. The remake of the SS-8000 ... the Heath (not a kit) SS-9000 9-band synthesized transceiver, including 30, 17, and 12 meters. Only 350 were built. All were fully assembled and tested at the Heathkit factory in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Switzerland, had approved three new HF ham bands, 30, 17, and 12 meters. This made the SS-8000 transceiver kit obsolete just before it was to be offered for sale. Despite Heathkit spending thousands of dollars developing this deluxe state-of-the-art transceiver, the whole project was simply cancelled. Two of the three proof-build SS8000s were taken apart and disposed of, so all

that remained of the SS-8000 project was a single assembled example sitting on a shelf in the Heathkit amateur radio design department.

I left Heathkit to work at a TV station when entire departments at Heathkit were shut down and the employees' jobs were eliminated. At that time, I thought the last SS-8000 had been taken apart and sold for scrap, but I was wrong. It had

been taken apart but all the parts were placed in a big box and stored in someone's basement or garage.

The Replacement Model...

In 1981, I was working in the Heathkit amateur radio service department under Ed Mosher, WA8ZVO, when a job opening was posted on the bulletin board for someone with a lot of building experience to work on a new 9-band version of the SS-8000 to be named the SS-9000. This would not be a kit, as it was decided that the average amateur radio operator would not have access to the type of equipment necessary for proper alignment and there were close to 3,500 parts in the SS-9000, so it would be fully assembled and aligned in the Heathkit plant. I spoke to my boss about this job opening and he said, "This is Heathkit. If you see a job posted and you think you can do that job, they will give you a chance. If you succeed, then you will be given that job. If you don't succeed, you will be right back here in the service department."

So I applied for the job and was interviewed by Earl Harris, W8OT, the head of the engineering department, and told I would be working on the new SS-9000 synthesized HF transceiver. I was given two weeks to assemble the first SS-9000 from scratch. And so I started out in Heathkit engineering close to January 1, 1982 as I recall. I found myself in an office cubicle with tools, test equipment, and two big workbenches. I remember the first day saying to myself, "Where do I start?" and answering myself, "With the chassis, of course," and I also had that one and only SS-8000 sitting on the shelf overhead which is very similar to the SS-9000 but with three fewer bands.

Then I became aware of what a great team I was working with in Engineering. Bill Linebaugh showed me how to make circuit boards and do silk-screen printing and Bob Hutchins made the first SS-9000 wiring harness for me. Others who helped were the SS-9000 engineer, also my new boss, Jerry Tolsma, plus Lewis Lambert, Ron Dillon, and Terry Purdue, who designed the synthesizer board. This was a great team indeed!

With the help of all of the guys in Heathkit amateur radio engineering, I finished the very first working SS-9000 in eight days (*Photos B-F*) and secured a job as lead technician on the SS-9000 project. My job then was building several of the SS-9000 transceivers, testing power amplifiers for the SS-9000 and checking the assembly line to see that the transceivers were being properly assembled. The people on the SS-

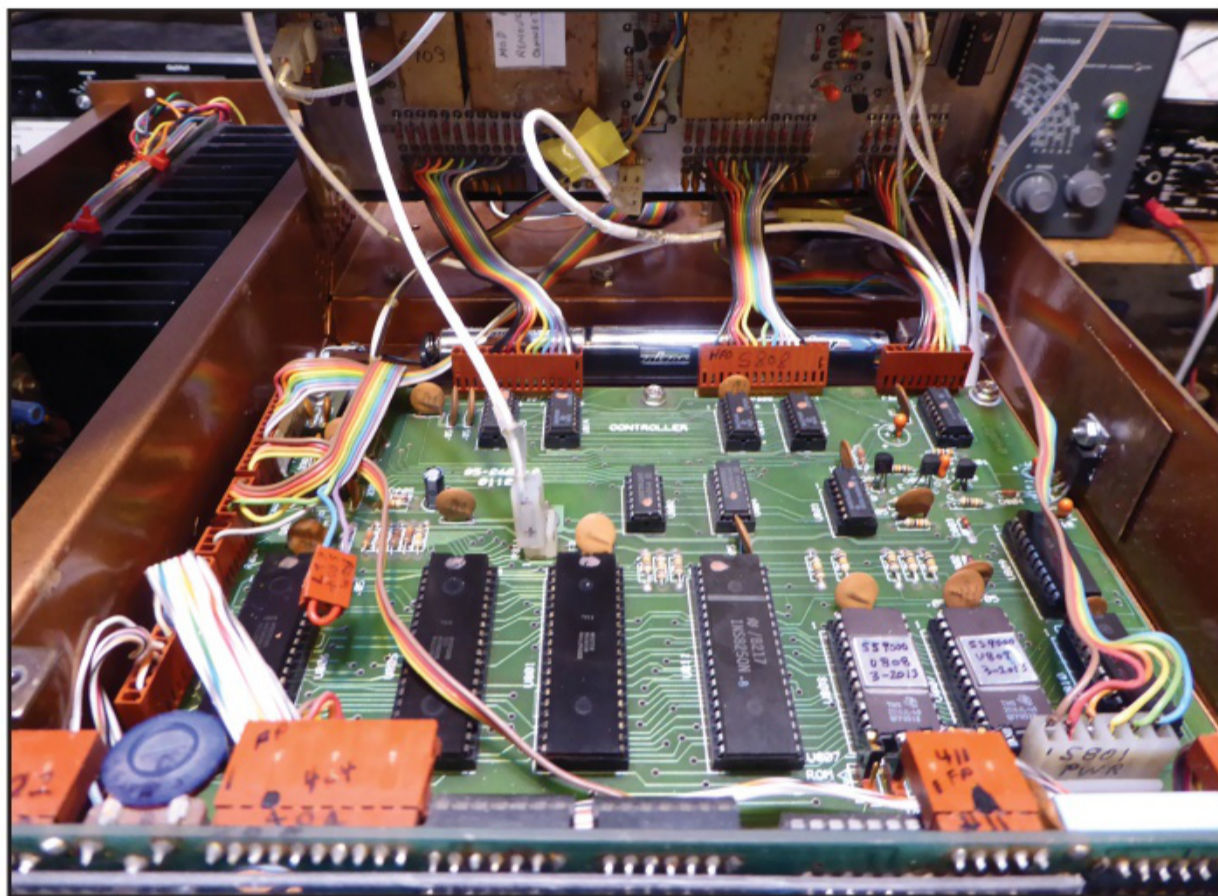


Photo C. The SS-9000 controller board with the two programmed Eproms at the lower right.

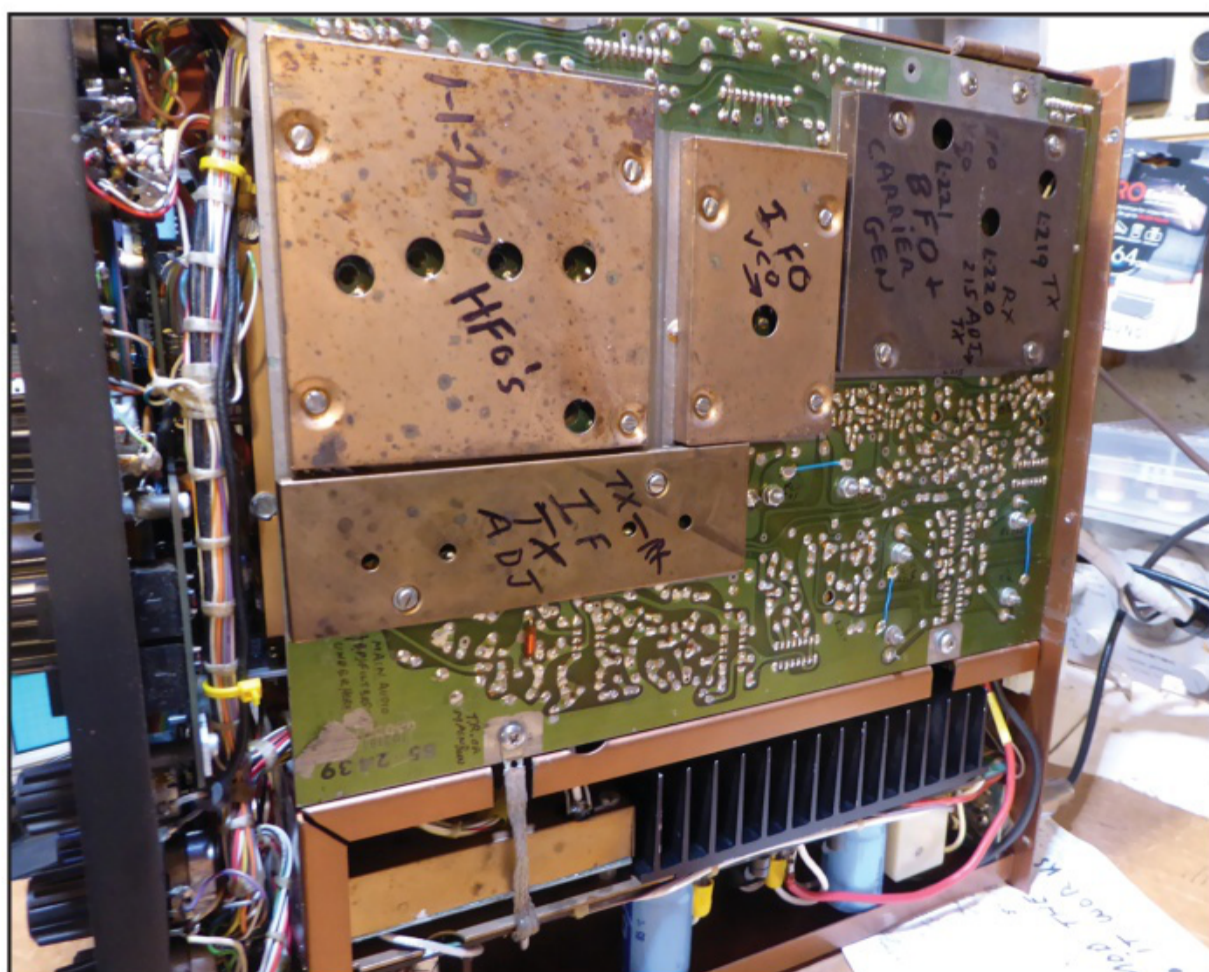


Photo D. Bottom view of the main (transmit-receive) board of the SS-9000.

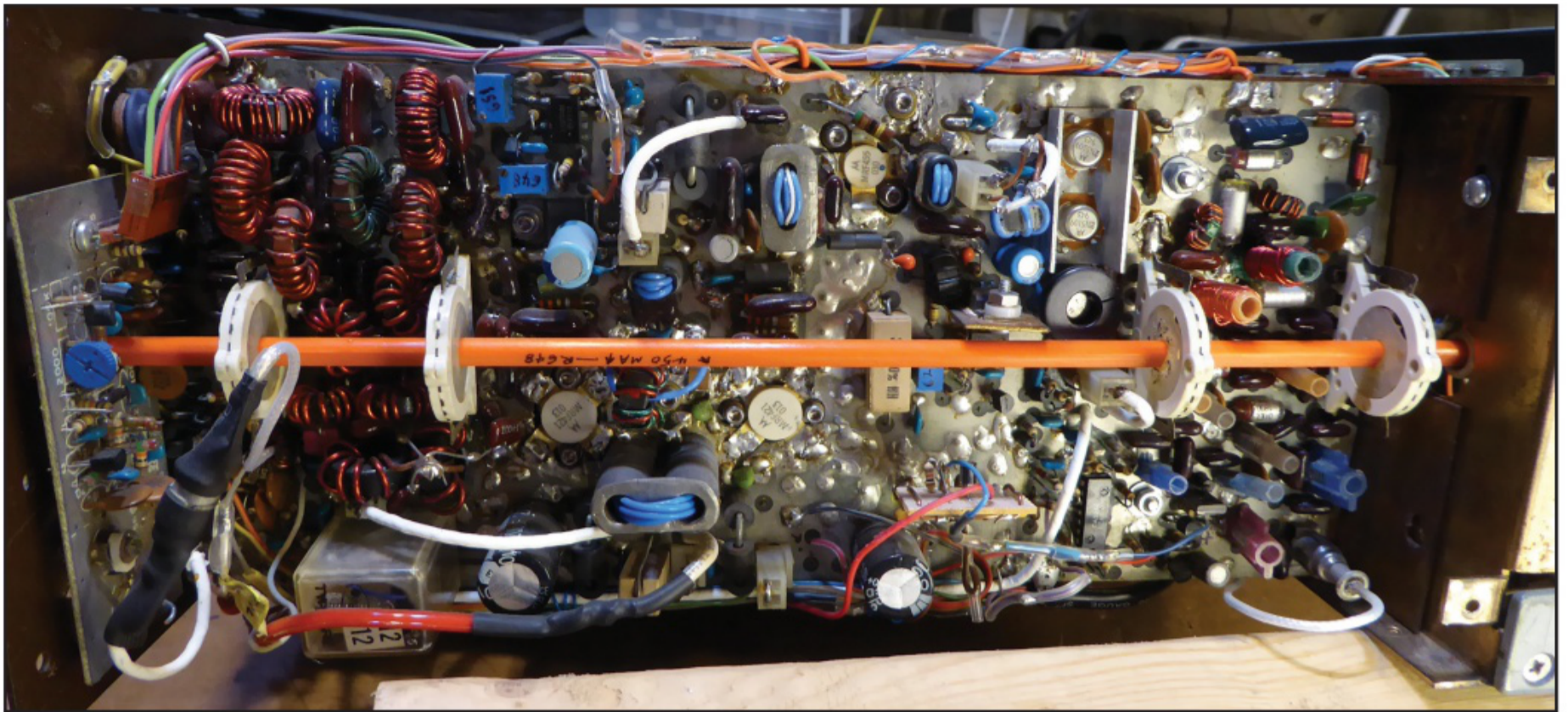


Photo E. The SS-9000 RF power amplifier board with the input band filters on the right and the output toroid filters on the left. The four band switches can be seen with the orange switch shaft that turns them.

9000 assembly line sure did a good job. I found very few errors in assembly.

The End of the Beginning

The first run was to be 375 SS-9000 transceivers, but the assembly line was stopped as Heathkit was going out of the ham radio business. Total production was close to 350 units completed. Leftover parts and chassis were sold as scrap.

Those 350 fully assembled SS-9000s were all sold. As I recall, the price started at more than \$3,000 (over \$9,400 in

today's dollars, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics—ed.) and then Heath lowered the price due to slow sales and being about to shut down.

Interesting sidenote: The serial numbers on the production units were simply peel-and-stick white paper stickers, most of which have not survived the 40+ years since production, so many of the SS9000s in use today are without serial numbers. At the time, I questioned the use of the plain paper serial number stickers but nothing was done about it as Heathkit was going out of the ham

business. I also questioned the lack of any voltage measurements on the schematics and was told, "If you want to do that go ahead," so I added voltage measurements to the schematics. I was thinking of guys like me — Heathkit customers out there trying to repair their SS-9000 transceivers.

The Rest of the Story

It was 2015, and while surfing the internet and looking at Heathkit items for sale on eBay as I often do, I was very surprised to see offered for sale a large box of SS-8000 transceiver parts. The listing said SS-8000 transceiver for sale, but all I saw in the pictures was a big box of very dirty circuit boards, loose parts, and an SS-8000 front panel. It was what I would call an extremely severe basket case. The end result of all this was that I purchased the box of parts and eventually re-assembled a working Heathkit SS-8000 transceiver — the only one in existence!

It was a long and difficult task as many parts were missing or damaged, the wiring harness was all chewed up by rodents. It took well over 200 hours of work at the bench and a lot of additional work searching for parts and circuit boards. (The author documented this project in a series of six YouTube videos. Part 1 is at <<https://tinyurl.com/2u373pcc>> and the wrapup is at <<https://tinyurl.com/2t3xv8vj>>. Ed.)

I wish to thank Bob Mann, W8LHP; Gary Franklin, K8BKB; Earl Harris, W8OT; and David Poplewski, KC8IV (now SK) for information and help.

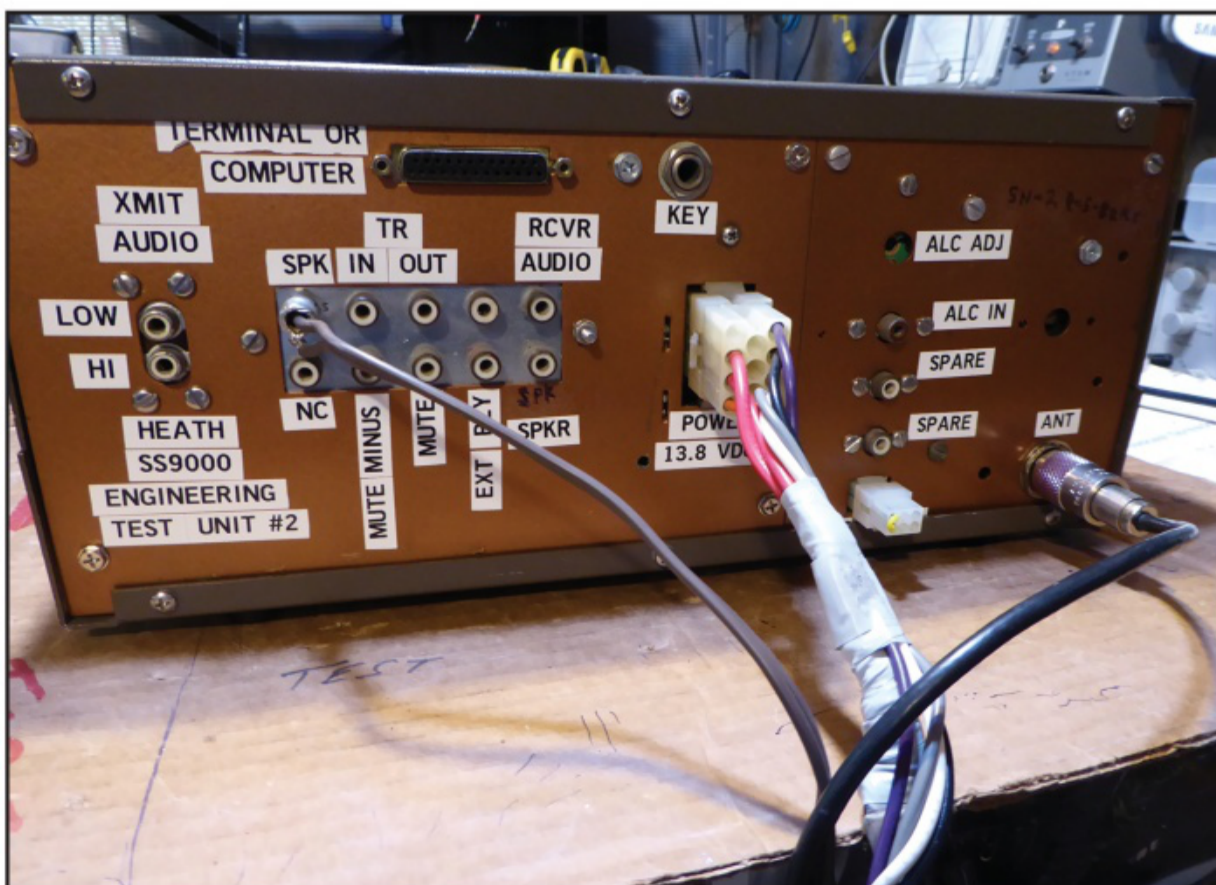
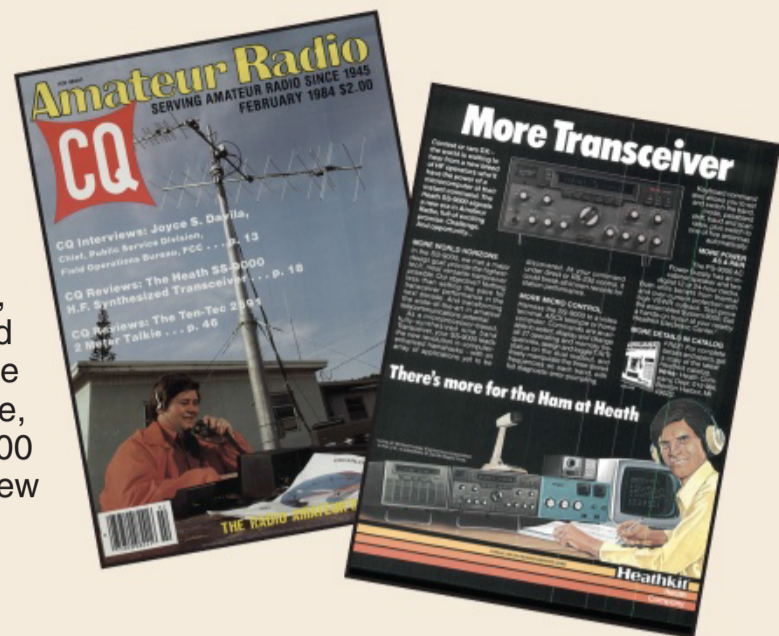


Photo F. Rear view of SS-9000 number one. It had no labels or markings on the back so I made labels for it with a label maker.

CQ CLASSIC:

The Heath (Not a) Kit

Elsewhere in this issue, former Heathkit technician Bob Sumption, N8RS, provides the background for the Heathkit-that-never-was, the SS-8000, and how it was transformed into the SS-9000, one of the last ham rigs the company built and on which he was chief technician, building the prototype, and supervising the construction of additional units. *CQ* reviewed the SS-9000 in February 1984, and we thought it would be appropriate to reprint that review as this month's "CQ Classic." – W2VU



CQ REVIEWS:

The Heath SS-9000 H.F. Synthesized Transceiver

BY JOHN J. SCHULTZ, W4FA

The Heath SS-9000 h.f. all-band transceiver has been a fairly long time in coming on the market. However, it is now available as Heath's top-of-the-line transceiver. It is only available as a completely assembled unit, and the only accessories available for it are a matching power supply and a service manual. No other accessories are available simply because a full range of filters is standard with the SS-9000.

By now everyone who has followed the Heath line of amateur radio products knows that there is something very new and different about the SS-9000. It is not simply a transceiver one can manually tune and operate, but rather it can be completely remote controlled via a terminal.

However, as tempting as it is to race on to describe the computer controlled possibilities of the SS-9000, we'll first

describe it as a manually operated transceiver. This should give the reader a feel for the capabilities of the unit as a radio, and then we'll go on to the terminal control possibilities for the unit. After that, if one basically can understand what the radio can do and how it can be controlled, one will easily be able to appreciate some of the new possibilities it opens up for all sorts of innovative ideas regarding h.f. transceiver usage.

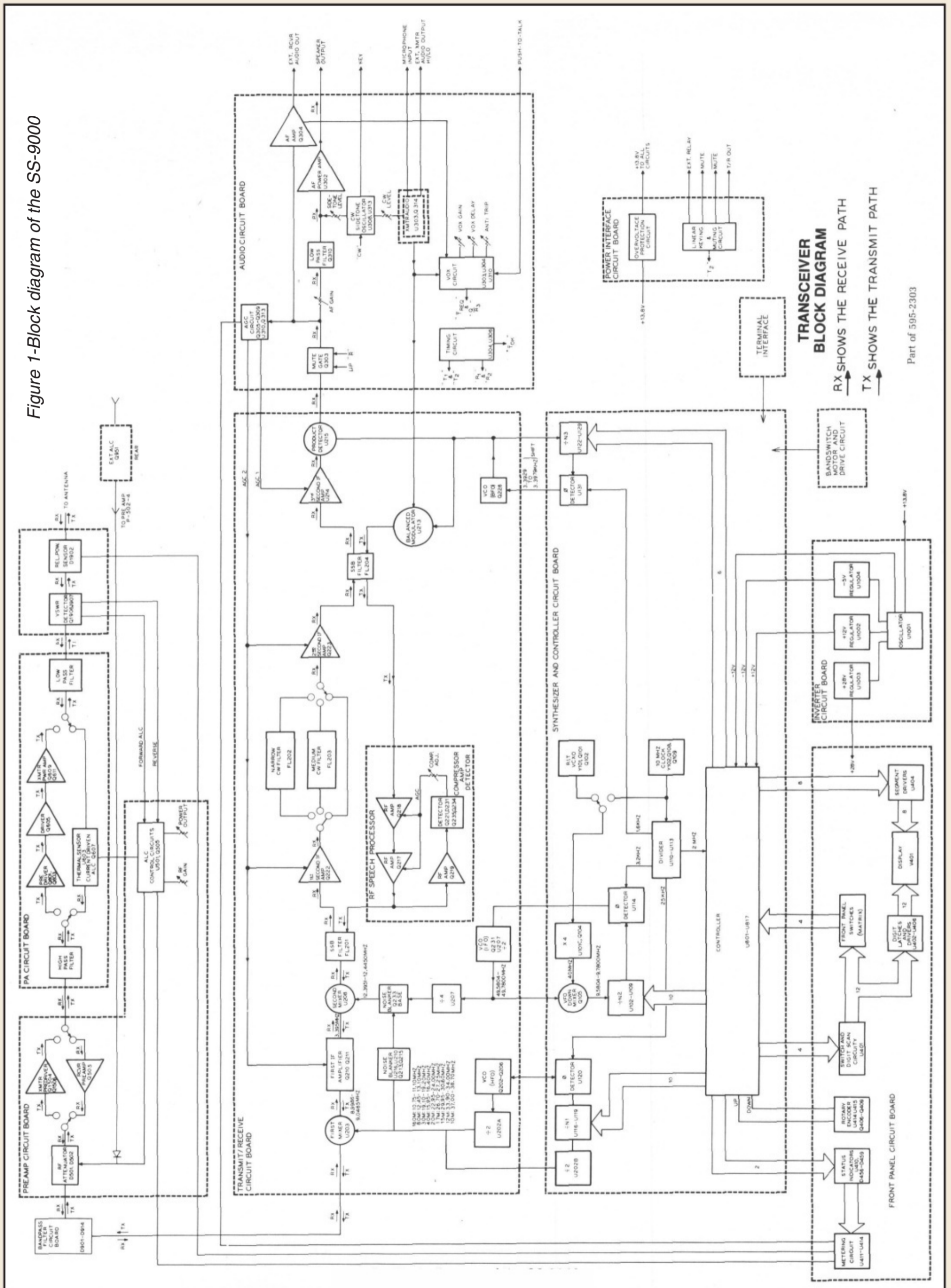
Specifications

Table I lists the general specifications for the SS-9000. Basically, the transceiver is an amateur-band-only unit designed for s.s.b., c.w., and RTTY service. All control frequencies within the unit are frequency synthesized. Two six-digit frequency displays are provided for what are essentially the v.f.o. A/B frequencies. There is also one frequency memory per band. Tuning of the transceiver is done by a main tuning control which has a fixed tuning rate of 5 kHz/revolution. Table II shows the transmitter specifications. The transceiver is rated to deliver 100 watts PEP and 100 watts carrier on c.w./RTTY into a 50 ohm load. The automatic cutback in power output when the load v.s.w.r. reaches 2:1 is only to 80 watts. As



The SS-9000 on the operating table with the PS-9000 power supply below it.

Figure 1-Block diagram of the SS-9000



TRANSCIVER BLOCK DIAGRAM
 RX SHOWS THE RECEIVE PATH
 TX SHOWS THE TRANSMIT PATH

Part of 595-2303

shown in the table, a combination time/temperature factor also determines the power output. The rest of the specifications regarding carrier suppression, unwanted sideband suppression, harmonic radiation, etc., are all quite good, being in the 50 + dB range. Table III shows the receiver specifications. The sensitivity is very respectable for a modern-day transceiver. The s.s.b. shape factor is 2.38 (6/60 dB), which, on the other hand, is not exceptional for a modern-day transceiver. Image rejection and i.f. rejection are specified at a very good -70 to -90 dB. RIT is provided with a specified range of ± 250 Hz.

Circuitry

Figure 1 shows a block diagram of the SS-9000's circuitry. If one concentrates on the Preamp, PA, Transmit/Receive, and Audio circuit boards, it is fairly easy to follow the receive/transmit signal flow paths.

Received signals first pass through separate low-pass and high-pass filter assemblies on the PA circuit board. They are then applied to a receive pre-amplifier which is followed by a PIN diode attenuator (which acts as the r.f. gain control) and an assembly of nine electronically switched bandpass filters. The signal goes on to the first mixer stage where it is mixed with the h.f.o. signal and translated to a 9 MHz i.f. This is followed by an amplifier and band-pass filter stage, and then the signal goes on to a second mixer. In the second mixer the signal is mixed with an approximately 12.4 MHz i.f.o. frequency and translated to its final i.f. of 3.395 MHz. This signal then passes through the main s.s.b. filter, further amplification, either of the two c.w. filters when desired, more amplification, and then on to a product detector. Final audio amplification of the audio output of the product detector is preceded by a low-pass filter stage.

For transmit, microphone input signals are amplified and applied to a balanced modulator stage which produces a d.s.b. signal at the 3.395 MHz i.f. This signal passes through a first s.s.b. filter and then, if it is activated, through the r.f. speech processor circuit. After that circuitry, it passes through a second s.s.b. filter and then is translated to the 9 MHz i.f. The signal is then further translated to its final output frequency and amplified through an amplifier chain to its final output level.

A basic frequency standard and three synthesizer loops for the voltage-controlled oscillator sections are on the

GENERAL	
Frequency Readout	Two 6-digit electronic displays
Readout Accuracy.....	To the nearest 100 Hz
Frequency Control	Synthesized VFO, HFO, and BFO for stability and easy tuning
Tuning	100 Hz per step. 5 kHz per knob rotation. Pushbuttons provided for up/down tuning (rate is internally adjustable).
Operation	Split transmit/receive or transceive from either readout.
Synthesized Lock Indicator	Visual indication when the synthesizer is un-locked. Transmitter is disabled when the synthesizer is un-locked.
Frequency Coverage (megahertz)	1.8 to 2.0*. 3.5 to 4.0*. 7.0 to 7.3*. 10.1 to 10.15. 14.0 to 14.350*. 18.068 to 18.168*. 21.0 to 21.450*. 24.890 to 24.990. 28.0 to 29.7. WWV@15.0
* Extended receiver coverage (above and below these bands).	
Frequency Stability	Less than 3 ppm drift from turn-on for first 15 minutes. Less than 3 ppm/hour drift after 15 minutes warm-up. Less than 20 ppm drift from 0° C to +40° C. (Single crystal-controlled 10 MHz frequency standard.)
Modes of Operation	LSB. USB. CW-Wide. CW-Medium (400 Hz filter). CW-Narrow (200 Hz filter). RTTY (LSB, 400 Hz filter).
Operating Temperature Range	0° C to +40° C
Speech Processing	Adjustable RF speech compressor.
IF Shift	Incremental plus and minus passband shift (- 600, - 400, -200, - 100, 0, +100, + 200, and +400 Hz) in the SSB modes.
Power Requirements*	11 to 16 VDC with a nominal current maximum of 25 amperes at 100 watts CW output. Receiver current is 2 amperes nominal.
Front Panel Connectors	Microphone, headphones.
Rear Panel Connectors & Control.....	Antenna (SO-239). Linear ALC In. Linear ALC Adjust. Low Power Enable. Spares (5). DC Power Input. CW Key Jack. External Transmit Audio In (2). Speaker Out. External Receiver Audio. T/R In. T/R Out. Mute. Mute (inverted). External Relay (linear). RS-232 Computer interface.
*All specifications are referenced to 13.8 VDC at 25°C ambient.	

Table 1-General specifications of the SS-9000.

TRANSMITTER											
RF Power Output	SSB: 100 watts PEP. CW & RTTY: 100 watts.										
Duty Cycle.....	100% with appropriate automatic power output reduction by an internal thermal sensor. This reduction is determined by the time factor and the ambient temperature. The nominal parameters are as follows: Ambient Temperature: + 25° C. Supply Voltage: + 13.8 VDC. Frequency: 14.1 MHz. Mode: CW key down, 100% duty cycle Example: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Power Output</th> <th>Time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>100 watts</td> <td>0 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>80 watts</td> <td>3 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>60 watts</td> <td>10 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>40 watts</td> <td>Infinite</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Power Output	Time	100 watts	0 min.	80 watts	3 min.	60 watts	10 min.	40 watts	Infinite
Power Output	Time										
100 watts	0 min.										
80 watts	3 min.										
60 watts	10 min.										
40 watts	Infinite										
Load Impedance	50 ohms.										
VSWR	This Transceiver is stable at any VSWR and load impedance. The VSWR cutback circuitry guarantees at least 80% of rated power at any VSWR less than 2:1 and a minimum of 15 watts at any VSWR.										
Transmitter Protection.....	Thermally protected. High VSWR cut-back. Overcurrent protection.										
Carrier Suppression	50 dB down from a 100 watt, single-tone (1000 Hz) output.										
Unwanted Sideband Suppression.....	55 dB down from a 100 watt, single-tone (1000 Hz) output.										
Harmonic Radiation	50 dB down below 50 MHz; 65 dB down above 50 MHz.										
Spurious Radiation.....	50 dB down, except at 17 meters (40 dB down).										
Third Order Distortion	30 dB down from a 100-watt, PEP; two-tone output.										
T/R Operation	SSB: PTT or VOX. CW: Semi break-in.										
CW Sidetone	To speaker or headphones (800 Hz tone, adjustable level).										
Microphone Input	High impedance (25 k ohm) with a rating of -55 dBm.										
Front Panel Meter	Receive: S units. Transmit (selectable: ALC, relative RF power, or speech compression).										
Phone Patch Impedance.....	4 ohm output to speaker, high impedance input to transmitter.										
Available Accessories	AC power supply/speaker with built-in dual time 12/24-hour clock. Customer Service Manual.										
Cabinet Dimensions.....	6-1/8" high x 14" wide x 13-3/4" deep (15.6 X 35.6 x 34.9 cm).										
Weight.....	35 lbs (15.9 kg).										

Table II- Transmitter specifications of the SS-9000.

Transmit/Receive board (h.f.o., i.f.o., and b.f.o. signals) form the synthesizer.

A simply labeled block "controller" is, however, the "intelligent" heart of the SS-9000. As can be seen from figure 1, this element performs an interface function between external commands (via front-panel controls or from a terminal interface) and the internal circuits on all of the previously mentioned circuit boards. The controller consists of a CPU, a peripheral interface adapter, a static memory interface, a read-only memory, 256 bytes of CMOS RAM, and various latches and gates.

The block marked "Terminal interface" contains an asynchronous communications element (ACE). This device performs the functions of the conventional UART and has an internal software programmable baud rate generator, modem control, and self-test functions.

Physical Construction

The specification tables give the size and weight data for the SS-9000. The front panel is of die-cast zinc construction with a brushed metal rim around the entire front panel and again around the frequency display area. The panel has a two-tone light/dark gray finish, and the control markings, which are all cast and raised from the panel, are painted white. Various LED's indicate the setting of functions such as RIT on/off, Noise Blanker on/off, etc. The two frequency readouts use green LED displays. The transceiver is enclosed by a two-part rolled steel enclosure such that one can access either the top or bottom half of the interior. Overall, the external appearance of the SS-9000 is very impressive. The knobs all have a very smooth operating feel, and they are well spaced and logical in their arrangement. The photographs illustrate what one sees if one starts to take the top and bottom covers off of the SS-9000. Although the preceding circuitry description may have sounded a bit simple, the SS-9000 is a very complicated "machine" inside. However, it is extremely well constructed. All of the components are very neatly mounted, the PC boards are absolutely "clean," and there is a generous amount of individual copper shields around sensitive circuit areas. The front panel hinges forward for service accessibility, and all of the main circuit boards fan out for easy access without having to use extenders. For service access, should it ever be required, the construction of the SS-9000 has to be rated as outstanding. The arrangement of the PA stages within the transceiver is par-

ticularly interesting. As can be seen from the photographs, the PA stage is mounted internally with its heat sink and does not need any fan!

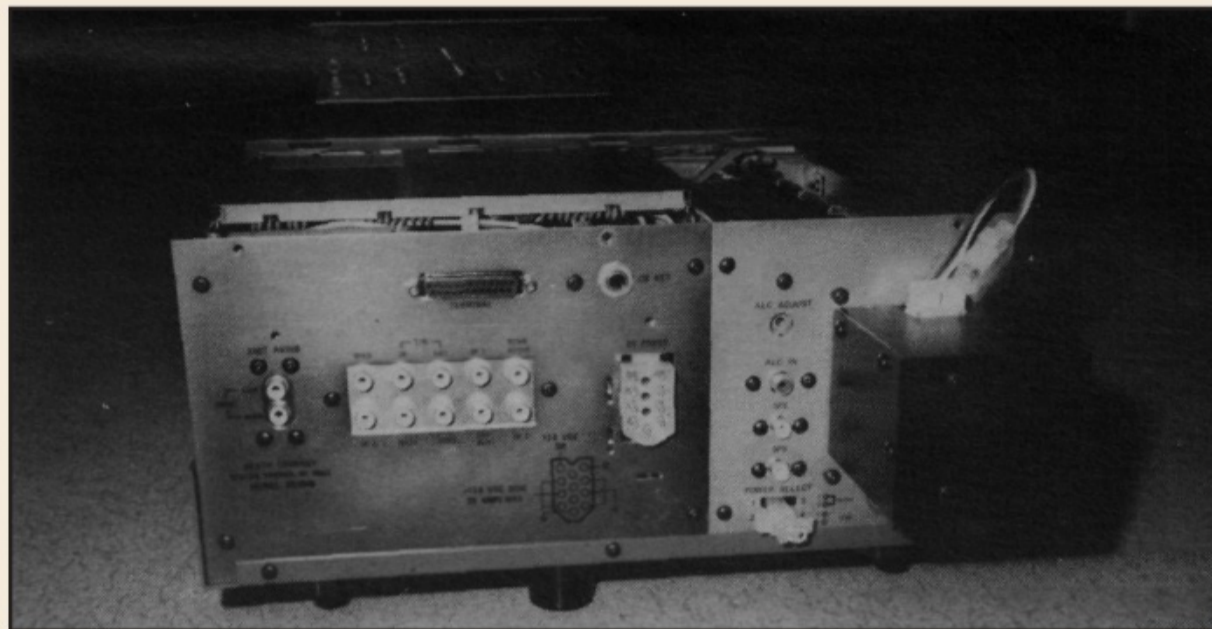
Controls and Operation

Figure 2 shows the front-panel controls on the SS-9000 in detail. Many of the controls are self-explanatory, and

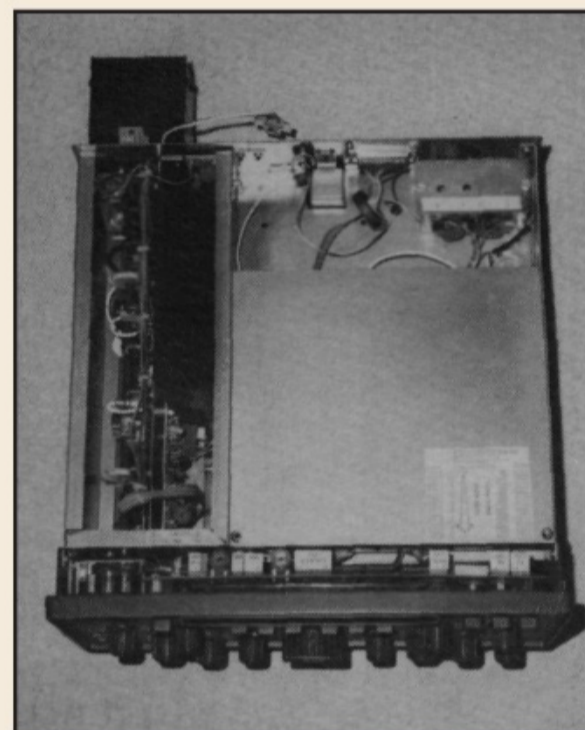
obviously Heath labored quite a bit on the subject of which functions should be assigned front-panel controls in order to achieve operating ease and clarity, versus having the front panel look like the cockpit of a commercial airliner.

Separate a.f. and r.f. gain controls are available as well as a.g.c. selection which includes an "off" position. The RIT

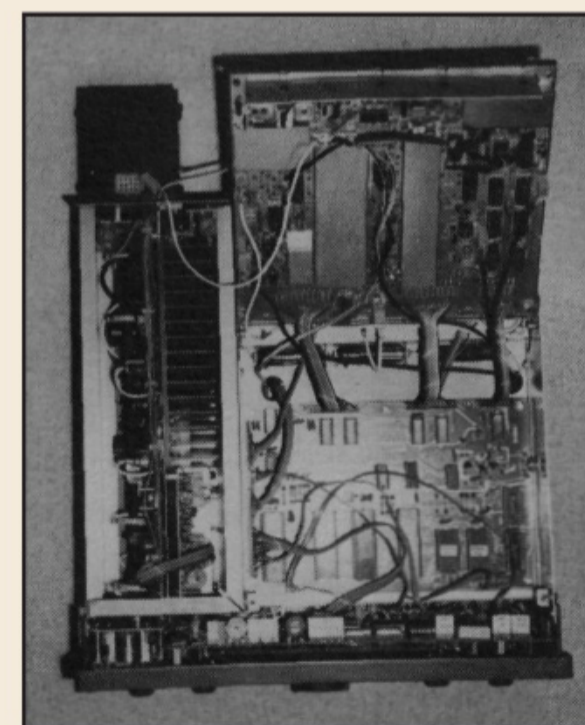
knob is conveniently located next to the main tuning knob. The Passband Shift Control will slide the fixed i.f. filter bandwidth above or below the i.f. center frequency. The Main Tuning is noted as adjusting the receive frequency in 100 Hz steps and that is true, but the coverage per revolution is 5 kHz. The meter indicates S units in receive and a.l.c., power output or compression level in transmit. The Meter Select pushbutton changes the meter function, and as it is alternatively depressed, the LED's for ALC, PWR, or COMP will be illuminated. In a similar manner, if the pushbuttons for TUNE, RIT, or NB are depressed, the LED's above them will



Rear panel of the SS-9000. The box on the right contains the bandswitch motor. External connections are provided for just about any purpose: linear amplifier, ALC, audio connections, PTT, etc.



Just taking the top cover off the unit, one notes the very clean, well-shielded construction.



One shielded cover hinges upward to reveal still more PC boards and individually shielded assemblies. Note the heatsink on the left for the internally mounted PA stage.

RECEIVER	
Sensitivity	0.3 μ V for 10 dB (S + N)/N SSB on the 40 thru 10 meter bands; 0.5 μ V on the 160 and 80 meter bands.
Selectivity	2.1 kHz at 6 dB down; 5 kHz at 60 dB down.
	CW filters:
	CWM: 400 Hz at 6 dB down; 1.5 kHz at 60 dB down.
	CWN: 200 Hz at 6 dB down; 1 kHz at 60 dB down.
Overall Gain	Less than 1 microvolt for a .25 watt audio output.
Audio Output	1.5 watts into 4 ohms at less than 10% THD.
AGC	Fast-attack with switch selectable Off, Fast, and Slow decay.
Intermodulation Distortion 20 kHz spacing	-70 dB
Image Rejection	-80 dB (except -65 dB on the 17 and 12 meter bands).
Second IF Rejection	-90 dB.
First IF Rejection	-80 dB (except -60 dB on the 40 and 30 meter bands).
Internally Generated Spurious Signals	Generally below the noise level; all below 1 μ V equivalent.
RTT	\pm 250 Hz.

Table III- Receiver specifications of the SS-9000.

pletely a manual start/stop one. The rate of scanning can be set internally to be from 2.5 to 270kHz/sec. Any user should find most of the controls to be extremely easy to understand. The pushbuttons under the dual frequency display are also extremely easy to use, but they do require just a small bit of explanation. Between the two frequency displays there are four LED's. The upper set has red LED's and is associated with the T (transmit) pushbutton. The lower set has green LED's and is associated with the R (receive) pushbutton. By using the pushbuttons, one can set the right or left digitally displayed frequency to be both the receive and transmit frequency, or one to be the receive frequency and the other the transmit frequency, or vice versa. So, split frequency operation is possible over the complete extent of any one band.

The pushbuttons marked D and M with the arrows control the memory function on each band. The memory operates as shown in figure 3. There is one memory per band, and if the D→M pushbutton under either display is pressed, the displayed frequency will go into memory, erasing whatever frequency was in memory. The displayed frequency does not change, so one can go on tuning. The D↔M pushbuttons under each display simply exchange the displayed frequency and the frequency in memory. One push on the switch will call up the memory frequency on the display, and another push will restore the originally displayed frequency. The frequency written in memory is not affected by use of the D↔M pushbutton. The transceiver will also remember which v.f.o. was set up for receive and transmit on each band. The dual v.f.o./memory system is not the most elaborate one found in a manual transceiver, but it is very straightforward and easy to use.

Performance

Table I indicated that the actual frequency coverage extended beyond some band edges. The actual frequency coverage of the SS-9000 unit tested is shown in Table IV. As can be seen, there is quite generous extended coverage on some bands. It's only too bad that the 30 meter coverage couldn't be extended down to 10.0 MHz.

As was mentioned before, the arrangement of the various controls is nicely done and the transceiver is very easy to use in practice. The 5 kHz tuning rate is a nice compromise for s.s.b.

Band	Low Freq. (MHz)	High Freq. (MHz)
10	28.000.0	29.700.0
12	24.890.0	24.990.0
15	20.925.0	21.760.0
17	17.699.0	18.200.0
20	13.925.0	15.000.8
30	10.100.0	10.150.0
40	6.925.0	7.375.0
80	3.425.0	4.075.0
160	1.745.0	2.055.0

Table IV-Actual SS-9000 frequency coverage

and c.w. tuning, especially when using the narrow c.w. filter. Unfortunately, one has to take the top cover off to set the scan tuning rate and once it's set, that's it. The front-panel selection of two tuning or scan rates would have been a helpful feature. The manual tuning "feel" is excellent—smooth without being too loose. The simple pushbutton marked Tune is a very great convenience feature, and it's hard to understand why more transceivers don't have such a feature. When the pushbutton is depressed, the transceiver is keyed in the c.w. mode. Since the PA is automatically s.w.r. protected, to adjust an antenna tuner, for instance, one simply presses the Tune button and adjusts the tuner. The power output automatically comes up as the tuner is adjusted to present a 50 ohm load to the SS-9000.

On receive, one gets the impression that received signals sound very "clean." This was confirmed by bench measurements which showed the SS-9000 to easily meet its claimed specifications. A few very minor spurious signals (equivalent to less than 0.5 μ V) were found on the upper end of 10 meters, but they would never be noted in actual operation. The s.s.b. selectivity is adequate except for extreme conditions when a bit better shape factor would be helpful. The passband shift is moderately helpful under bad QRM conditions. The RIT control actually had a range of \pm 400 Hz and was perfectly adequate for s.s.b. or c.w. use, but the received frequency display does not indicate the offset set by the control. The display itself is perfectly stable and flicker-free. It is also easy on the eyes with its green color. Heath does not give overload specifications and overload measurements were not made, due to a lack of time before changing QTH's, but the impression one gets when operating the lower end of 40 meters at night is that the SS-9000 can easily hold its

own. The noise blanker is very effective against almost any impulse (e.g., ignition) type noise. Overall, on receive the SS-9000 demonstrates excellent performance, although some operators might like to have more QRM fighting aids (e.g., variable bandwidth tuning and a notch filter).

On transmit, the SS-9000 also easily meets its specifications. The power output ranged from 105 to 110 watts over the entire range of the transceiver. The PA was absolutely stable with any type of mismatched load. With a proper load, it easily maintained full power output for repeated full 5 minute periods before the automatic circuitry started to reduce the output to prevent overheating. There is no fan, so operation is perfectly quiet. On s.s.b. the third order IMD products measured a respectable -32 dB. Keying is smooth and semi-break-in is possible since the VOX delay time can be used to adjust the transmit hold-in time on c.w. Sidetone monitoring is provided with adjustable level at a fixed 800 Hz frequency. The r.f. speech processor is very effective, and numerous on-the-air reports of "very, very good" audio were received (a common, medium-impedance dynamic microphone was used). The only awkward thing about the processor is that one must note the meter scale reading when the meter is set to Comp with the tune switch activated and then adjust the compression-level control to that same meter reading while transmitting. There is no separate "compression" scale on the meter.

Terminal Interface

The 25-pin "D" connector on the rear panel of the SS-9000 is the key to unleashing the real capabilities of the transceiver. It is the RS-232C signal-level standard in/out terminal which allows the transceiver to interface with an ASCII terminal, modem, or computer. If you have a Heath H-19 or Zenith Z-19 video terminal, you just plug the extension cable that comes with the terminal into the SS-9000. If you do not have that equipment, instructions are given for general interconnection.

Commands will be accepted by the transceiver to control and monitor all functions that are under the control of the microprocessor in the order received, and if they are not in the proper syntax, the transceiver will generate one of 12 error codes (e.g., numbers which will indicate attempted out-of-band operation, improper switch command, etc.). The same command that

can be used to set a parameter to a particular value also allows one to examine the currently set value of that parameter. Table V shows the commands accepted by the transceiver. One can, for instance, note that one command will print the current setting of the bandswitch, and then the same command can be used, if desired, to change bands. Expressions are used to specify

frequencies for either the display or memory. The transceiver can do numerous things under terminal control which it cannot do under manual control. The scan rate can be set as desired, frequencies can be added to or subtracted from the left or right displays or memory on different bands, memory frequencies may be combined for use on one band instead of having just one memory per

band, etc. Basically, the SS-9000 can be commanded by a terminal to do anything except turn itself on.

In practice, this means that one can sit at a terminal and completely control the transceiver. For example, one might ask for a listing of frequencies and various control settings. Then by keystroke, one can change bands, put different frequencies in the v.f.o.'s, tune or scan up and down from a set frequency, adjust the passband shift, etc. On s.s.b. one still needs audio in/out connections to the transceiver. However, with a suitably equipped terminal, c.w. and RTTY can be automated for all practical purposes.

Since the SS-9000 can be terminal-controlled, it can, of course, be operated by a computer program. What sort of program one might want to devise is left up to the imagination. One could write a program for the transceiver to check certain frequencies on certain bands at specific times, to scan specific band segments at certain times, to set up itself for a certain mode of operation on a specific frequency at given times, etc. If a signal-recognition device could also be integrated into the system, a computer program could be written such that the transceiver would search various segments of various bands and sound an alarm when a specific signal is found. It probably will not be too long, for instance, before stations who like to keep DX schedules will be using computer-controlled transceivers to automatically search out the best band, including crossband possibilities, and frequencies with the least QRM for their schedules immediately before the schedule time starts and to set up the transceiver at each end for operation.

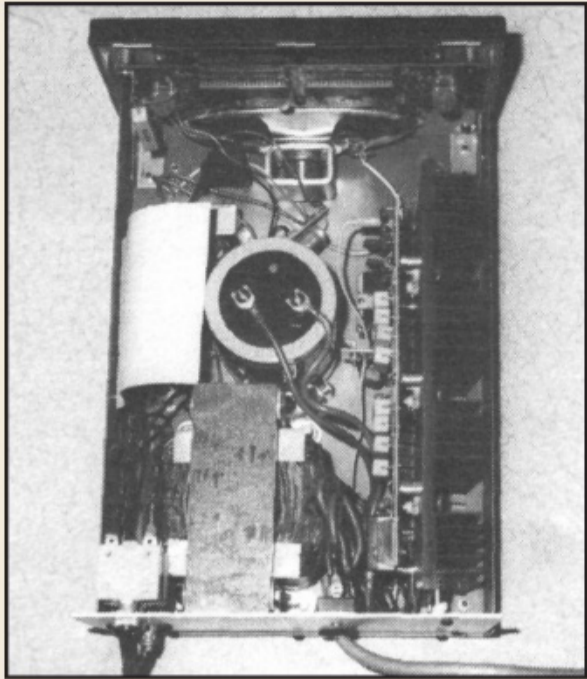
The software demonstration package (5¹/₄ inch diskette) which comes with the SS-9000 doesn't suggest anything like the foregoing idea. However, it does introduce one to terminal control of the SS-9000 in a very practical manner by asking the operator to perform various control functions from a keyboard and then performing various control functions on its own for illustrative purposes. Although it has a "teaching" function, it also illustrates how the SS-9000 can be controlled by a computer program.

Antenna Switch Interface

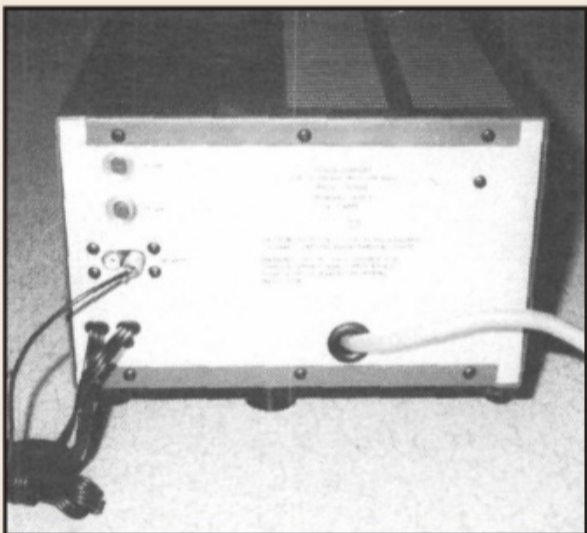
The bandswitch on the SS-9000 is controlled for non-manual operation by a motor assembly on the rear of the transceiver. The motor assembly has some external connections such that it can be interfaced with the Heath SA-1480 Remote Coax Switch. When this

COMMANDS	
BR[ate] =	Prints the current Baud Rate setting.
BR[ate] = n	Sets the Baud Rate setting.
	where: n = 50, 75, 100, 150, 300, 600, 1200, 1800, 2000, 2400, 3000, 4800, 7200, or 9600.
BA[nd] =	Prints the current Band switch setting.
BA[nd] = n	Rotates the Band switch to the n meter band.
	where: n = 16[0], 8[0], 4[0], 3[0], 2[0], 17, 15, 12, or 1[0].
MO[de] =	Prints the current Mode switch setting.
MO[de] = n	Sets the Mode to n.
	where: n = LO[wer], UP[per], W[ide], M[edium], N[arrow], or R[TTY].
SH[ift] =	Prints the current PASSBAND SHIFT switch setting.
SH[ift] = n	Sets the Passband Shift to n.
	where: n = -6[00], -4[00], -2[00], -1[00], 0, 1[00], 2[00], 4[00].
S[can] =	Prints the current SCAN switch setting.
S[can] = n	Sets the Scan rate to n.
	where: n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,12,13, 14,15, or 16 NOTE: 1 = approximately 2.5 kHz per second; 16 = approximately 300 kHz per second.
SW[it]ch =	Releases all switches to their physical settings. NOTE: This includes the BAUD RATE switches.
L[ock]	Locks all switches to their current state.
PS[witch]	Prints the switch settings. NOTE: An "L" (locked) appears after any switch setting that was set from the terminal
PF[req]	Prints the frequencies in memory for all bands.
PF[req]<band>	Prints the frequencies in memory for <band>, where <band> is one of the values for n listed in the BA[nd] command (see above). NOTE: The frequencies that are selected for receive and transmit are indicated by R and T respectively.
RI[ndicator]	Toggles the receive indicator for the current hand
RI[ndicator]<band>	Toggles the receive indicator for <band>
TI[ndicator]	Toggles the transmit indicator for the current band
TI[ndicator]<band>	Toggles the transmit indicator for <band>.
RE[ceive]	Sets the Receive mode.
TR[ansmit]	Sets the Transmit mode.

Table V-Terminal commands for the SS-9000.



A look inside the PS-9000 power supply. Note the hefty heatsink on the right side for the regulator pass transistors



A rear view of the PS-9000. Separate line cords are provided for the power supply/clock circuits and there are two circuit breaker resets (one for each of the two 110 V primary windings on the power transformer).

is done, any one of up to five antennas can be automatically selected when the bandswitch on the SS-9000 changes.

Accessories

The main accessory for the SS-9000 is the PS-9000 power supply. It is styled to match the SS-9000 and basically supplies a regulated 13.8 v.d.c. output with a 25 ampere intermittent or 15 ampere continuous rating. It has current limiting and thermal protection but no apparent over-voltage crowbar circuitry. Filtering in the unit is mainly provided by a hefty 39,000 mF capacitor. Construction is quite rugged, and it can be set up to operate on 110/220 volt, 50/60 Hz.

The unit also contains two independent 2400-hour format clocks and a good-quality speaker. Two separate

line cords are provided so the clocks can remain on an unswitched line and the power supply itself can be connected to a station's "big switch" a.c. line. The clocks can be set by front-panel pushbuttons, and an internal adjustment is provided to set the brightness of each clock. The clocks use the line frequency for timing purposes and must be reset if an a.c. power interruption should occur.

The only other accessory for the SS-9000 is a service manual costing \$35.00. The owner's manual which comes with the SS-9000 gives very complete and clear installation and operating instructions. However, the SS-9000 is a complex unit, and it makes

good sense for detailed service information to be contained in a separate manual. The manual itself was not examined, but considering the clarity of the owner's manual and all other Heath manuals, it undoubtedly is of the same high quality.

Summary

The SS-9000 is a very high quality transceiver in every respect—construction, performance, and control. It is also an expensive transceiver. In considering purchase of the unit, one primarily would have to balance the cost of the unit against one's anticipation of making use of its extraordinary terminal control possibilities.

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Announcing:

The 2023 CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest

CW: 2200Z January 27 to 2200Z January 29
SSB: 2200Z February 24 to 2200Z February 26

DEADLINES FOR LOG SUBMISSIONS ARE 5 DAYS!

I. OBJECTIVE:

For amateurs around the world to contact other amateurs in as many U.S. states, Canadian provinces, and countries as possible utilizing the 160-meter band.

II. BAND USE:

1810-2000 kHz in ITU Region 1. 1800-2000 kHz in ITU Regions 2 and 3. All entrants are encouraged to spread out as much as possible, obeying frequency restrictions and power limits for their own country. Any violations of the ITU band use may result in disqualification.

Please be aware and considerate of other users of data modes such as FT8 in the contest band segments.

III. CATEGORIES:

For Single Operator Assisted Only: The use of one and only one remote receiver located within 100 kilometers of the main transmitter site is permitted, in addition to the receiver at the transmitter site. WebSDRs are OK, but must be located within the 100-kilometer limit. The rule is designed to accommodate new technology, and for those who experience high noise levels at the transmitting site. Anyone found using a remote receiver outside the limit will be subject to disqualification.

For all categories: The main site is defined as all transmitters, receivers, and antennas must be located on the same contiguous property. If the property is not contiguous, then all equipment must fall within a 1,500-meter radius. All antennas must be connected by wires to the main station. This rule applies to all entrants.

There is only ONE CQ Running frequency allowed for each station. "Flip Flopping" between two frequencies during the same time period (thus taking up two frequencies) is unsportsmanlike and will result in disqualification.

The use of any so-called "Chat Rooms" via the internet or similar means for communication between stations or operators during the contest period is strictly prohibited. Do not arrange or confirm QSOs by any other means than the use of the 160-meter band and the same mode as used in the contest. Any such use may result in disqualification at the discretion of the committee. The use of self-spotting is not allowed in any category.

Remote operation for UNASSISTED entries is permitted under the following conditions:

- The use of any receiver located away from the main site is strictly prohibited.
- The use of a separate receiver at the remote-control operator location is strictly prohibited.
- Any receiver not physically located at the main TX site is strictly prohibited. This includes receivers linked via the internet or RF that are not located at the main TX site.

- If the remotely operated station is located in another DXCC entity, it is required to comply with all local country regulations.

Operating time: Each contest is 48 hours long and starts at 2200Z. Single operator stations may only operate 30 out of the 48 hours. Multi-Operator stations may operate 40 hours. Off times must be a minimum of 30 minutes in length for all categories.

(A) Single Operator: One person performs all of the operating, logging, and spotting functions. Maximum operating time is 30 hours. QSO finding assistance is NOT allowed* (See definition below). Only one transmitted signal is allowed at any moment in time. Maximum power is 1,500 watts total output.

(B) Single Operator / Low Power: Same as (A) with the exception that the output power shall not exceed 100 watts. Stations in this category compete with other Low Power stations only.

(C) QRP: Same as (A) with the exception that the output power shall not exceed 5 watts. Stations in this category compete with other QRP stations only. Note: All QRP stations may use *QSO finding assistance*.

(D) Single Operator Assisted / High Power: Same as (A) with the following exceptions: The use of *QSO finding assistance* IS allowed. The use of one and only one remote receiver within 100 kilometers of the transmitter site is allowed.

(E) Single Operator Assisted / Low Power: Same as (D) with the following exceptions: Output power shall not exceed 100 watts.

(F) Multi-Operator: HIGH POWER ONLY. All rules apply as in Single-Op Assisted (except remote receivers ARE NOT allowed); however, more than one operator (person) is involved in the operation. Maximum operating time is 40 hours. Only one transmitted signal is allowed at any moment in time. Maximum power is 1,500 watts total output or the output power allowed by your country, whichever is less.

*QSO FINDING ASSISTANCE: The use of any technology or other source that provides callsign or multiplier identification of a signal to the operator. This includes, but is not limited to, use of a CW decoder, DX cluster, DX spotting websites (e.g., DX Summit), local or remote callsign and frequency decoding technology (e.g., CW Skimmer or Reverse Beacon Network), or operating arrangements involving other individuals.

IV. EXCHANGE:

RS(T) and state for U.S., province for Canada, and CQ Zone for DX. Note: Zones are location indicators only and do not count for multipliers.

V. MULTIPLIER:

U.S. States: (48 contiguous states); U.S. District of Columbia (DC) (1)

Canadian Provinces: (14) VO1, VO2, NB, NS, PEI (VY2), VE2, VE3, VE4, VE5, VE6, VE7, VE8 (NWT), VY1 (YUK), VY0. Note VO1 and VO2 are separate due to tradition.

DXCC countries plus WAE countries: WAE: 1AØ, 3A, 4O, 4U1I, 4U1V, 9A, 9H, C3, CT, CU, DL, E7, EA, EA6, EI, ER, ES, EU, F, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GM/s, GU, GW, HA, HB, HBØ, HV, I, IS, IT (without IG9/IH9 Zone 33 which are listed in Africa), JW, JW/b, JX, LA, LX, LY, LZ, OE, OH, OHØ, OJØ, OK, OM, ON, OY, OZ, PA, R1F, RA, RA2, S5, SM, SP, SV, SV/A, SV5, SV9, T7, TA1, TF, TK, UR, YL, YO, YU, Z6, Z3, ZA, ZB.

VI. POINTS:

Contacts with stations in own country: 2 points.

Contacts with other countries on same continent: 5 points.

Contacts with other continents: 10 points.

Maritime mobile contacts count 5 points. There is no multiplier value for a maritime mobile contact.

VII. SCORING:

All stations — the final score is the result of the total QSO points multiplied by the sum of all multipliers (states, VE provinces, DX countries).

VIII. AWARDS:

Certificates will be awarded to all entries. They are downloadable and located here: <<https://cq160.com/scores.htm>>.

Trophies will be awarded for top scorers in many categories. The trophies and donors for all categories can be found here: <<https://cq160.com/plaques.htm>>.

If you are interested in sponsoring a plaque, please contact us at: <questions@CQ160.com>.

IX. CLUB COMPETITION:

Any club that submits at least three logs may enter the Club Competition. The name of the club must be clearly identified under club competition on the summary sheet, or summary portion of the Cabrillo log. Please make sure all entrants from your club use the same club name (spelled the same) in the Cabrillo entry. Most club names can be found here: <<https://cq160.com/clubnames.htm>>.

Non-compliance with this request may result in your score not being credited to your club's entry.

X. LOG INSTRUCTIONS:

The deadline for log submissions is 5 days from the end of the contest.

For CW this is 2200 UTC February 3, 2023.

For SSB this is 2200 UTC March 3, 2023.

The submission of Cabrillo logs is required. Please submit CQWW 160 Meter Contest logs via the web upload tool found at: <<https://cq160.com/logcheck>>.

Paper / Disk logs: Paper logs or other formats than Cabrillo are no longer accepted for submission.

For hardship cases that require more time for log submission, send an email

to <director@CQ160.com>. We will make every effort to accommodate you if you have a valid reason for delay.

Cabrillo formatted logs are received by a log processing robot. If your log has been submitted correctly, the robot will reply with a confirmation. If there is a problem with your log, the robot will send you an error message containing suggestions for how to fix your log. Read this email carefully. Most log submission problems are minor and can be corrected in one pass. Submit your log as many times as needed. The last submitted log will be the version that counts for your official entry. You can check the status of your log at our web page Log Received tab. Other inquiries may be sent to <questions@cq160.com>.

XI. PENALTIES AND DISQUALIFICATION:

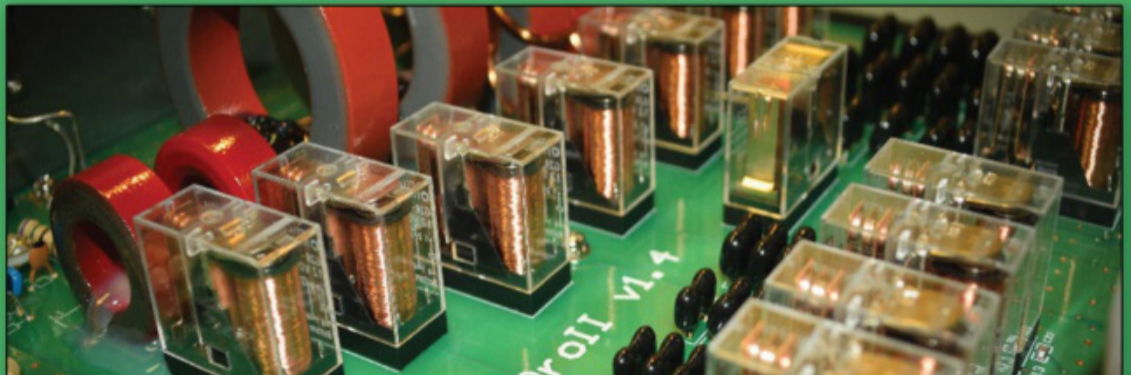
Logs will be cross checked and penalties will be applied at the committee's discretion for contacts determined to be bad or busted. The bad QSO is removed and a penalty of two more equivalent QSOs is applied to the points only. No penalty should be applied for unique QSOs unless they are deemed excessive. A log may be disqualified for violation of amateur radio regulations, unsportsmanlike conduct, or claiming excessive unverified contacts.

Report file outputs showing final score calculations will be available for all entrants after the results are published. The decisions of the CQWW 160 Contest Committee are final.

XII. DECLARATION:

By submitting a CQWW 160 Meter Contest log, and in consideration of the efforts of the CQWW 160 Contest Committee to review and evaluate that log, an entrant unconditionally and irrevocably agrees that he/she has: 1) read and understood the rules of the contest and agrees to be bound by them, 2) operated according to all rules and regulations that pertain to amateur radio for the station location, 3) agreed the log entry may be made open to the public, and 4) accepted that the issuing of disqualifications and other decisions of the Committee are official and final. If an entrant is unwilling or unable to agree to all of the foregoing, the entrant should not submit the entry or submit the entry as a Checklog only.

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Announcing:

2023 CQ DX Marathon

January 1 – December 31, 2023
Logs Due January 5, 2024

2022 Logs Due January 5, 2023

The 2022 DX Marathon ends December 31st, so please review your log and check for errors. The DX Marathon website <www.dxmarathon.com> has all the information on how to submit your 2022 log and contains many helpful hints on how to improve your score. The 2022 submission deadline is January 5, 2023 at 2359Z.

Beginning January 1, 2023, the DX Marathon will have a new Manager — Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W, (<wc3w@dxmarathon.com>; see announcement below). Mark is a well-qualified DXer and is building a team that will be expanding the DX Marathon so even more hams can participate. Look for future informational releases from Mark during 2023. I want to thank everyone who has made the last 17 years so very enjoyable managing the DX Marathon. — 73, John, K9EL

The CQ DX Marathon is designed to promote DXing activity throughout the year rather than only on contest weekends and during DXpeditions. Because activity is not concentrated in specific time periods, credit is given for contacts on all ham bands, including those not normally used for contesting (e.g., 60, 30, 17, and 12 meters).

Scoring is simple: You score one point the first time you work a new country and/or a new zone during the year. Add the points up at the end of the year for your total score. There are no multipliers.

Here are the complete rules:

Activity period: The CQ DX Marathon is a yearlong activity, beginning at 0000 UTC January 1st and ending at 2359 UTC December 31st. Each year's event is separate.

Frequencies: Any authorized amateur frequency may be used. Contacts through repeaters or satellites are not allowed for credit, nor are contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations. All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies — i.e., Echolink-type contacts do not count.

Modes: Any authorized amateur mode may be used, but three modes will be recognized in the DX Marathon — CW, Phone, and Digital. Except for single-mode submissions, cross-mode QSOs are permitted but the mode used by the DX station must be shown in the submission.

General: Each entrant in the DX Marathon may submit one log each year per operating location. Participants submitting logs for single-mode or single-band entries must include only those contacts in their submission. Logs submitted with multiple modes or multiple bands will not be considered for single-mode or single-band awards. Entries with two or more callsigns will count as a single entry only if all contacts were made by the same (single) operator at the same station using

the same antennas, and each callsign used is listed in the comments section of the submission form. Remote operation is permitted if all transmitters, receivers, and antennas are at a single physical location. A remote station in a different country than the entrant's country of license must comply with all local laws and regulations. If an entrant operates from both a primary station and a remote station, separate entries for each location may be submitted provided such separate entries have different callsigns or a portable callsign designator. Entries that include contacts made with the assistance of remote receivers and/or transmitters in addition to contacts from a primary station are not permitted.

Categories

There are three entry classes, "Formula," "Limited," and "Unlimited."

Formula: An entrant may choose one of two options in this class: (1) All contacts must be made with a maximum output power of 5 watts, regardless of band or mode; or (2) the operator may run a maximum of 100 watts output to a simple antenna, such as a vertical or dipole (see the appendix below for further rules on antennas used in either option for Formula Class). An operator in Formula Class must select QRP (5 watts or less) or 100 watts and limited antennas at the beginning of the year's DX Marathon and may not switch between entry modes during the year. All contacts must be made without the use of higher power or prohibited antennas to initially secure the contact. Use of spotting nets such as a DX Cluster® is allowed. Details of antennas used in either option of Formula Class must be included on the official submission form to qualify for Formula Class. Formula Class entries without antenna descriptions (type, height, and length, for example) may be re-classified to Unlimited Class.

Limited: Limited Class entrants are allowed a maximum output power of 100 watts and simple antennas, such as verticals or dipoles, plus small directional antennas such as Yagis and multi-element loop, hex, and quad-type antennas for the 6-, 10-, 12-, 15-, 17-, and 20-meter bands, and single-element rotatable dipoles for the 30- and 40-meter bands. See the Appendix below for further description of the Limited Class antennas that are allowed. All contacts must be made without the use of higher power or prohibited antennas to initially secure the contact. Use of spotting nets such as a DX Cluster® is allowed. Details of antennas used in Limited Class must be included on the official submission form to qualify for Limited Class. Limited Class entries without antenna descriptions (type, height, and length, for example) may be re-classified to Unlimited Class.

Unlimited: Any antenna or antennas may be used, along with any power level for which the operator is licensed. Use of spotting nets such as DX Cluster® is allowed.

Scoring

Each country worked is worth one point. Each CQ zone worked is worth one point. The total score is the sum of zones

and countries worked on any mode and any authorized band. There are no multipliers of any kind. Each country and zone count only once. A single QSO may count for both a country and a zone. If, during the year, you work 238 countries and 37 zones, your score is 275. If you work all 40 zones and 150 countries, your score is 190. The CQ DX Countries List and the CQ Zone List constitute the official lists. The lists are available on the DX Marathon website. In the case of ties, the operator whose last scoring contact was earlier chronologically will be judged the winner. Decisions of the DX Marathon Manager are final.

Submissions

Submissions must be made electronically via the DX Marathon upload webpage, <www.dxmarathon.com/logupload.htm>. If the participant is not able to use the upload link submissions may be sent via email to <logs@dxmarathon.com>. A Microsoft Excel® template into which contacts may be entered is available for download from the CQ DX Marathon website at <www.dxmarathon.com>. The website also provides other options for those without access to Excel®. Software is available to generate the DX Marathon submission form direct from an ADIF file. All submissions must be received by January 5, 2024. If your primary callsign changed during the year, please enter your current callsign at the top of the DX Marathon entry form and add previous (or contest) callsign(s) in the comments section of the form.

Verification: QSLs are not required. The operator is expected to claim contacts only from stations the operator has every reason to believe are legitimate, and only to claim contacts in which an accurate two-way exchange was clearly accomplished (see Appendix for further explanation). Scores will be adjusted by the DX Marathon committee for claimed contacts with pirates or any station not considered legitimate. Submissions may be penalized or voided in cases of fraud or poor sportsmanship. Every QSO may be subject to verification by the DX Marathon Manager. Decisions of the DX Marathon Manager are final.

Clubs: Clubs are strongly encouraged to use the framework of this contest for intramural and regional competitions. Please be sure to enter your club's name on the submission form.

Results: The final listing of official scores and winners will be published in *CQ* magazine and/or the CQ website and the DX Marathon website.

Awards

Plaques: The DX Marathon will award plaques as follows: Highest overall score in Unlimited Class; highest overall score in Limited Class; highest overall score in Formula Class, both 5-watt and 100-watt options; highest overall CW only, highest overall SSB only and highest overall Digital only scores; highest overall score for single-band entries for the 10-, 12-, 15-, 17-, 20-, 30-, 40-, 60-, and 80-meter bands; highest overall score for each of the 6 continents and highest overall CW scores in Europe and North America. Plaques for CW, SSB, band, and continent winners are awarded regardless of class and may only be awarded if the winning scores in those categories are at least 50% of the score of the overall DX Marathon Unlimited Class winner. Entrants may receive only one plaque per year. In the case of a participant qualifying for more than one plaque, that participant will receive a plaque for the highest level based on the above order.

Certificates: Certificates are awarded to qualified participants in this order: Highest overall score on the 160-, and 6-

meter bands; highest overall score for each of the three modes on each continent with the exception of CW in Europe and North America; highest overall score in each CQ zone; highest overall score in each country; highest overall score for each class in the U.S.; highest overall score in Unlimited, Limited, Formula 100 watt and Formula 5 watt classes in each U.S. callsign district; highest overall score in each Canadian callsign district. Plaque winners are not eligible for certificates. Only one certificate will be awarded per entrant. In the case of a participant qualifying for more than one certificate, that participant will receive a certificate for the highest level based on the above order. In all cases, the rulings of the Marathon Manager are final.

Youth Overlay: In 2022 we introduced the new Youth overlay category. The Youth category for 2023 is open to anyone who was born on January 1, 1998 or later. Special Youth certificates will be awarded to the highest Youth score in each of the six continents. To enter in the Youth overlay, the entrant must use the comments box at the bottom of the DX Marathon entry form and clearly state that it is a Youth entry and clearly state their date of birth. All Youth entries may be subject to age verification.

Appendix

Formula Class antennas, option 1: Operators selecting the 5-watt option are limited to antennas on a single tower and whose height does not exceed 65 feet or 20 meters above ground elevation. Wire antennas may also be used but must meet the criteria of the 100-watt option and may be tower-supported at only one point.

Formula Class antennas, option 2: Antennas for operators choosing the 100-watt option must be either simple verticals or wire antennas lacking significant gain. No arrays are allowed, whether vertical or horizontal. Wire antennas, regardless of type, may not exceed 130 feet or 40 meters in length, may not be higher than 65 feet or 20 meters above ground at any point of the antenna and may be tower-supported at only one point. The tallest point of vertical antennas used may not be higher than 65 feet or 20 meters above ground. Yagis, quads, and rotatable dipoles may not be used in this category. There is no limit on the number of antennas that may be used if each antenna meets the above criteria.

Limited Class Antennas: Antennas for Limited Class include all Formula Class option 2 antennas for use on all bands plus directional antennas such as Yagis and multi-element loop, hex, and quad-type antennas on the 20- through 6-meter bands. Directional antennas with no more than 3 elements per band are allowed on the 20- through 6-meter bands. Boom length may not exceed 16 feet (5 meters) for antennas with booms. Single-element rotatable dipoles are allowed for the 30- and 40-meter bands. Directional antennas and rotatable dipoles must not be higher than 50 feet (15 meters) above ground and all directional antennas must be on a single tower or support.

Contacts: Each contact for a claimed country or zone must be a solid contact. The station claiming a contact with another station is expected to have had his or her callsign fully and accurately received and transmitted by the other station, and to have copied his/her own call being correctly sent by the other station. For example, K2MGA may not claim credit for a QSO with a DX station who had his call as K3MGA, even though in many cases the DX station would QSL the contact with the correction made (after receiving a card from K2MGA, realizing the error, and correcting his/her log). For a contact to count, both stations must correctly copy both callsigns completely.

Introducing New DX Marathon Manager Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W



Incoming CQ DX Marathon Manager Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W. (Photo courtesy of WC3W)

Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W, has been appointed as Director of the CQ DX Marathon by CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU. Mark succeeds John Sweeney, K9EL, who has held the post since the program was reinstated in 2006.

An electrical engineer, Mark has been a ham radio operator since age 12. He currently lives in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, with his wife of 49 years. Both his wife and two adult children are licensed hams. Due to antenna restrictions in

Wohlschlegel says his goals for the DX Marathon program include working to double participation over the next 3-5 years

his home community, Mark and a ham friend have built a remote station about 80 miles from his home QTH (photos on QRZ.com). Mark and his wife spend about five months of each year in Grand Lake, Colorado, where he has a small HF station and a UHF repeater.

Mark's operating preferences are CW, FT8, and SSB, in that order. He routinely chases DX on all bands. Besides amateur radio, Mark flies single-engine airplanes, enjoys motorcycle riding and sailing, and is a musician in his church.

Wohlschlegel says his goals for the DX Marathon program include working to double participation over the next 3-5 years by increasing the number of categories and encouraging greater participation by DX clubs around the world.

"I want to thank John Sweeney for getting the DX Marathon up and running in 2006 and guiding it successfully through the past 16 years," said Moseson. "Building an activity like this from the ground up is a huge challenge. I also look forward to working with Mark in the future. I am very impressed with his dedication to the DX Marathon program and his vision for its future."

Wohlschlegel will take over as DX Marathon director with the 2023 running of the year-long activity.

behind the bylines...

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

Bob Sumption, N8RS ("The Almost Heathkit," p. 26), is a former Heathkit engineering employee and Extra Class ham active since 1958. He was the Lead Technician on the Heath SS9000 project and builder of the very first Heath SS9000 at Heathkit Engineering in January 1982.

José Carlos León Ortega, CP6CL ("Using an HF Windom Antenna on 50 MHZ," p. 43), was born and grew up in Havana, Cuba. He attended the University of Havana, from which he earned a Bachelors degree in physics, a Masters in microelectronics and electromedicine, and a Ph.D. in the same fields in 1997. For 20 years, he worked at the Central Institute of Digital Research in Havana, designing electronic equipment for medicine, and taught postgraduate courses at the University of Havana and at the José Antonio Echeverría Polytechnic Institute, also in Havana.

He has lived in Bolivia since 2000, where has worked in several universities, in academic boards as Head of Department, Postgraduate Director and Dean.

His first amateur radio license — CO3CL — was received in 1983. Since 2015, he has held the Bolivian callsign CP6CL. José has written many scientific articles published in various international journals about the physics of semiconductors and radio amateurs. This is his second article for CQ.

Update On CQ DX Marathon Program

The administration of the CQ DX Marathon program is in transition from John, K9EL to Mark, WC3W. Mark has structured an organization to diversify the administration of the DX Marathon among a team of volunteers. In addition, a management team has been formed to provide direction for the expansion of the program in future years. The management team has developed a vision / mission statement for the CQ DX Marathon Program.

The DX Marathon's original mission was to provide an incentive for HF DXing activity throughout the year, rather than being concentrated on major contest weekends and operations of DXpeditions. An additional mission is to create a measurement tool of the increasing effectiveness that both ham radio equipment and operators have in pursuing DX on multiple bands and multiple modes of operation (CW, SSB, digital) on a year-to-year basis. The mission includes tripling the number of participants over the next 3-5 years.

Mark says: "I feel that the vision statement and growth targets are very realizable. We are on the upswing of Cycle 25, which should provide lots of opportunities for operators to work lots of DX. This, combined with the growth of FT8, makes it possible for many more operators who do not have 'mega-stations' to work some very exciting DX."

"Our objective during 2023 is to ensure a smooth transition from K9EL to our team of volunteers. The second objective will be to organically grow the number of participants."

"We already have some exciting changes being made that will be released toward the end of this year in addition to an FAQ section on the DX Marathon website."

Using software modeling and on-air experience, CP6CL shows that a Windom antenna intended for use on HF, from 80 to 10 meters, is also an effective antenna for 6 meters.

Using an HF Windom Antenna on 50 MHz

BY JOSÉ CARLOS LEÓN ORTEGA,* CP6CL

I have always been a person who likes challenges. On the other hand, I have always thought that doing amateur radio activity with large and expensive antennas is not especially challenging. Using directional antennas with several kilowatts of power, with the same approximate propagation conditions for all, always guarantees the success of the communication, of course, with a little skill and patience to look for the opportunity in the pileup.

As far as I am concerned, despite having a very large and long piece of land on which to be able to install any type of antenna aimed in any direction, I have always practiced amateur radio with a Windom antenna, oriented east-west, with dimensions for the 80-meter band (13.9 + 27.9 meters, or 45.6 + 91.5 feet) and with it I have worked all the HF bands (except 160 meters, for which I have a 57-meter / 187-foot-long inverted L).

One day, with the purchase of a new 6-meter radio (a gift from a good friend), I wondered whether this antenna could

also work on 50 MHz. I did my calculations and simulations and dared to use it. Here are the results that give rise to this work.

The Windom Antenna

This antenna dates back to 1929 and was developed by Loren Windom, W8GZ.¹ There have been many variants and redesigns of it,² but the original design remains to this day. It is a multiband antenna fed at a strategic point where the voltage waveforms coincide in a region of space (66% of its length) and this means that the coupling impedance does not change much over several bands (see *Figure 1*).

At least on 80 (3.5 MHz) and even multiples of it (7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz), the antenna works properly, achieving very good results. Its radiation patterns allow me, at least from my location in Bolivia (CP6), to contact stations in Europe, East Asia, West Asia, North America, and North Africa with relative ease (see *Figure 2* for 10-meter example).

But, what about 50 MHz and this antenna? That was exactly the question I asked myself and the first thing I set for

* Email: <josecarlosleon48@yahoo.com>
Website: <www.udi.edu.bo>



Figure 1. Windom wave distribution for amateur HF band signals on six HF bands. Note the convergence at 66% of the 80-meter length.

Call	Grid	Date	Time	Band	Mode	RST sent	RST rec.	Freq. MHz
VR2XMT	OL72cm	20220405	032630	6 m	FT8	-16	-12	50.313
BV6KO	PL03de	20220405	033330	6 m	FT8	-20	-10	50.313
VR2CC	OL72ch	20220405	033630	6 m	FT8	-18	-10	50.313
BV6CC	PL03ca	20220405	034000	6 m	FT8	-15	-19	50.313
VR2XYL	OL72cm	20220405	032300	6 m	FT8	-19	-11	50.313
BA7IO	OL73eb	20220405	032030	6 m	FT8	-14	-24	50.313

Table 1. QSOs made with east Asia during an opening on 50 MHz using the Windom antenna.

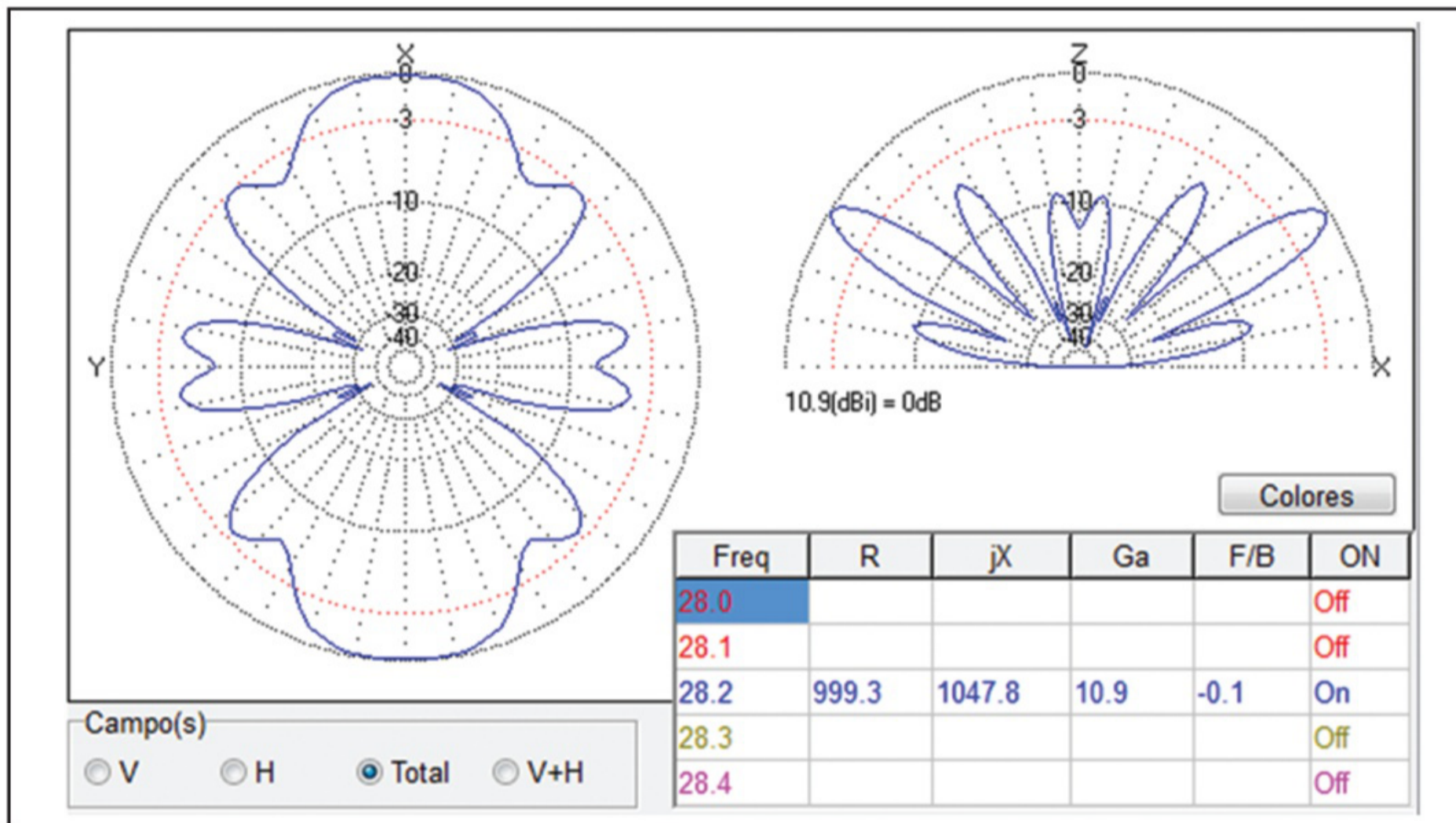


Figure 2. Windom radiation diagrams for 10 meters.

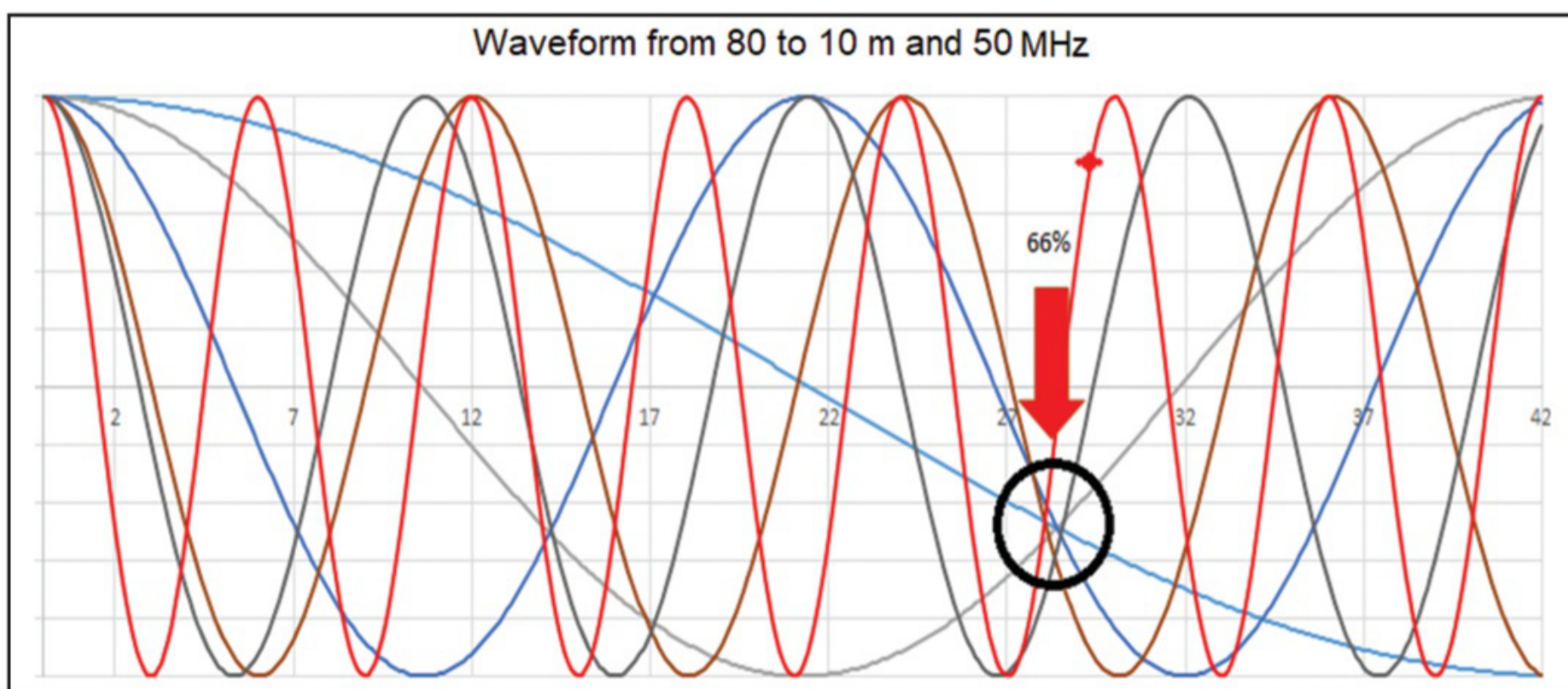


Figure 3. The 50-MHz waveform (red) also passes close to the 66% point.

myself as a challenge was to characterize it for that band. If the distribution of the 50-MHz waveform is plotted together with the signals shown in *Figure 1*, the following results (seen in *Figure 3*) are observed: The waveform of the 50-MHz signal (in red in the figure) also passes very close to the point of interception of the other waveforms (66%, already typical of this type of antenna).

In other words, the impedance at the feed point for the 50-MHz band has a value very close to the impedances of the remaining HF bands. This was the first clue I had to get excited about using this antenna on 6 meters.

The only things missing were the calculations of other parameters such as gain, impedance, etc., and for this a simulation was carried out with the Mmana v.3.0.0.31 software. The results are shown in *Figure 4*.

Note the following from *Figure 4*:

1. Impedance at the feed point is close to 200 ohms, which matches very well with 50 ohms and a 4:1 balun.
2. The inductive component is low (barely 90 ohms), which can be eliminated with an antenna coupler.
3. The SWR is also very low and can be brought to an optimal level with a coupler.

4. The gain of the antenna is 14.5 dBi, equivalent to a Yagi with 6 or 7 elements.

5. The radiation angle is very low, which is very good for DX.

I have to confess that the results surprised me. That's when I decided to get the radiation patterns. It can be seen from *Figure 5* that this is an antenna with many radiation lobes for many places, practically for the 360° of the circumference, and that makes it omnidirectional. Just what I was looking for to make CQ calls when the band opens up.

In addition, in the vertical radiation pattern (*Figure 6*), some peaks with very low angles (marked with arrows) are very opportune for DX, in my case directed towards Europe, Western Asia, Eastern Asia, and North Africa. In other words, communication with Japan was guaranteed. I just had to wait

for the appropriate band opening (this is 6 meters, after all!).

QSOs

Table 1 shows the contacts made one day during an opening with East Asia. The FT8 contacts were made dynamically and sequentially (report, response report, RR73m and 73), without the need to repeat frames. The countries contacted on this occasion were Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China.

If the vertical radiation pattern is superimposed with a map centered on Bolivia³ (*Figure 7*), it is observed that indeed some of the strongest lobes are directed toward the contacted region, which surely coincided with an opening of the Magic Band that day. The approximate distance of these QSOs was 19,000 kilometers (11,800 miles). All the contacts were made with a FT655s transceiver, with 100 watts of power and an MFJ 6-meter tuner, Model MFJ-

F (MHz)	R (Ohm)	jX (Ohm)	SWR 50	Gh dBd	Ga dBi	F/B dB	Elev.	Ground
50.0	217.6	90.77	5.15	---	14.51	-1.78	17.0	Perfect

Figure 4. Simulation results with Mmana V.3.0.0.31.

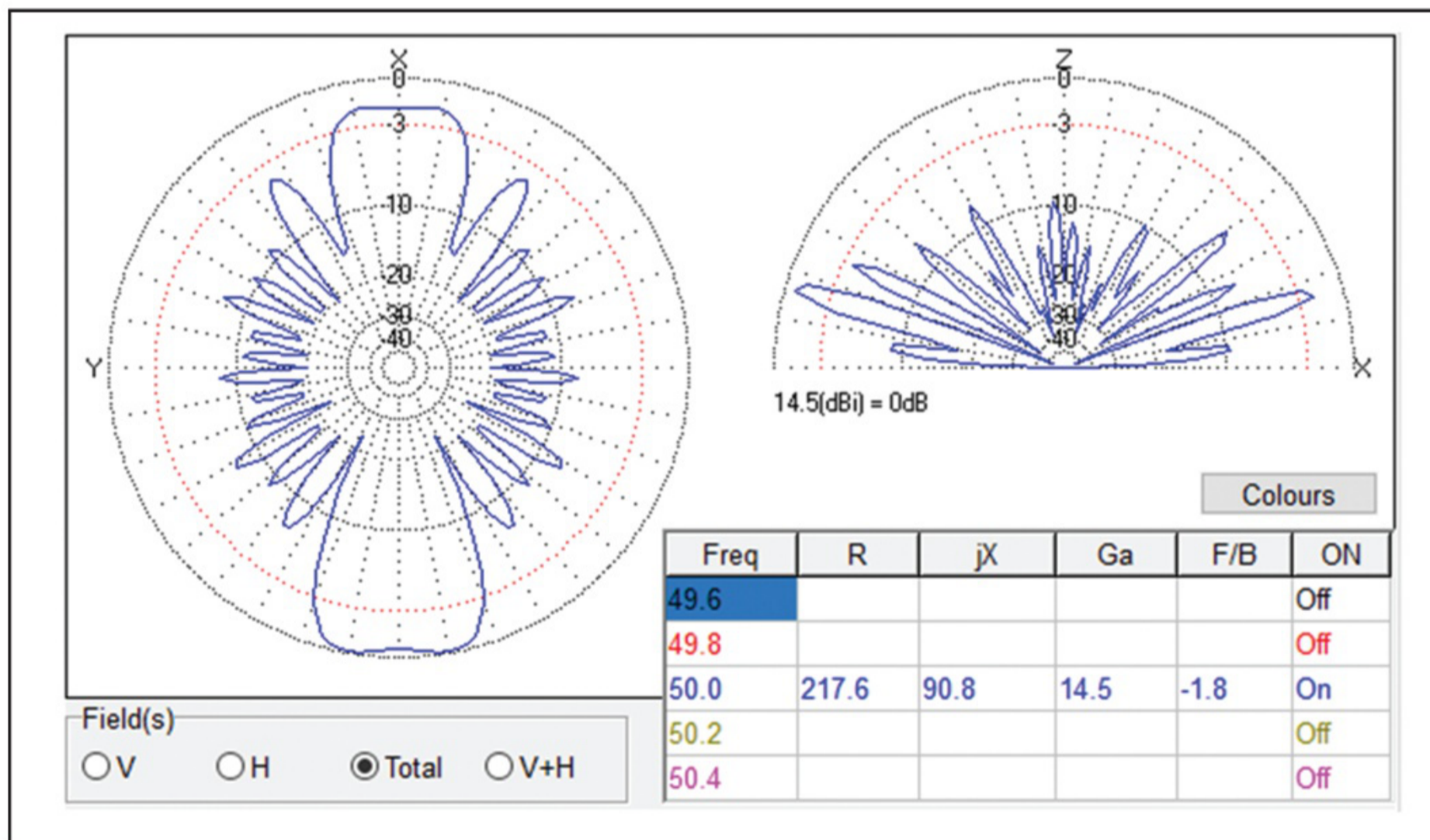


Figure 5. Windom radiation patterns for 50 MHz.

announcements

(from page 2)

TROY, MICHIGAN — The L'anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club will hold its 49th Annual Swap & Shop from 8 a.m. to noon, Sunday, December 4 at the Balkan American Community Center, 1451 E. Big Beaver Road. Contact: Russ Price, N8HAR, <n8har1977@gmail.com>. Website: <www.n8lc.org>. VE exams.

PLANT CITY, FLORIDA — The Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council will hold the 47th Annual Tampa Bay Hamfest and the 2022 ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention from 1-6 p.m., Friday, December 9 and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, December 10 at the Strawberry Festival Grounds-Expo Building, 301 N. Lemon Street. Website: <www.tampabayhamfest.org>. Talk-in 147.165+ (PL 136.5). VE and commercial exams, DXCC / WAS / IARU / VUCC card checking.

MINDEN, LOUISIANA — The Minden Amateur Radio Association will hold the MARA Christmas Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, December 17 at the Minden Civic Center, 520 Broadway. Website: <http://n5rd.org>. Talk-in 147.300. VE exams.

JANUARY 2023

LOCUST FORK, ALABAMA — The Blount County Amateur Radio Club will hold Freezefest 2023 from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, January 7 at the Locust Fork High School Cafeteria, 155 School Road. Website: <http://w4blt.org>. Talk-in 146.700- (PL 91.5). VE exams. Contact: Jack (407) 443-1963.

ORLANDO, FLORIDA — The K4KDI Winter Tailgate 2023 will be held on 6 a.m. to noon, Saturday, January 14 at the South Conway Road Baptist Church, 6099 S. Conway Road. Website: <https://k4kdi.square.site>.

PONCHATOULA, LOUISIANA — The Southeast Louisiana Amateur Radio Club will hold the SELARC 41st Annual Hammond HamFest from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, January 21 at the Ponchatoula Community Center, 300 N. 5th Street. Contact: Tyrone Burns, N5XES, (985) 687-2139. Email: <wb5net@arrl.net>. Website: <www.selarc.org>. Talk-in 147.000- (PL 107.2). VE exams.

QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA — Quartzfest 2023 will be held from Sunday, January 22 through Saturday, January 28 at Bureau of Land Management property outside Quartzsite. Contact Kristyn Weed, KR1SS, <KristynWeed@gmail.com>. Website: <www.quartzfest.org>.

ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN — The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club will hold its 55th Annual Swap & Shop from 8 a.m. to noon, Sunday, January 22 at the Royal Oak Farmers Market, 316 E. Eleven Mile Road. Email: <hazelparkswap@gmail.com>. Website: <www.hparc.org>. Talk-in 146.640 (PL 100).

COLINSVILLE, ILLINOIS — The Saint Louis & Suburban Radio Club will hold Winterfest 2023 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, January 28 at the Gateway Convention Center, One Gateway Drive. Website: <http://winterfest.slsr.org>.

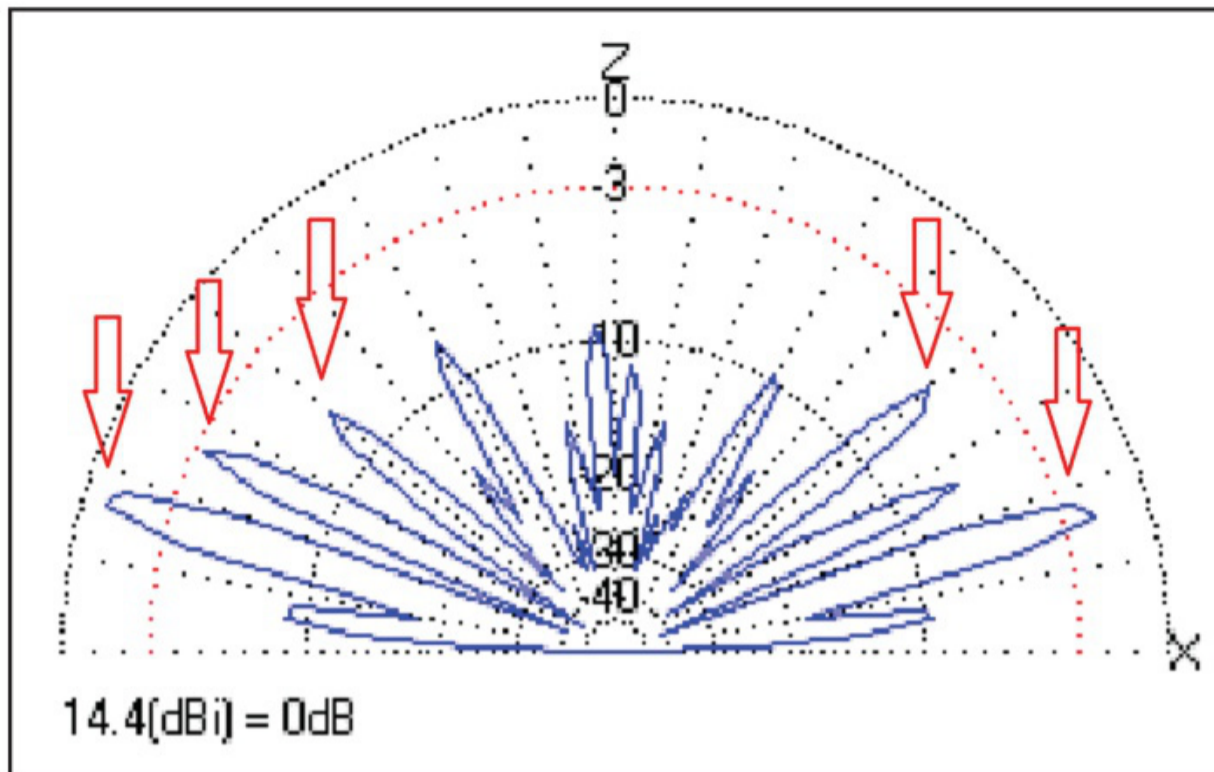


Figure 6. Low lobes in the vertical radiation pattern.

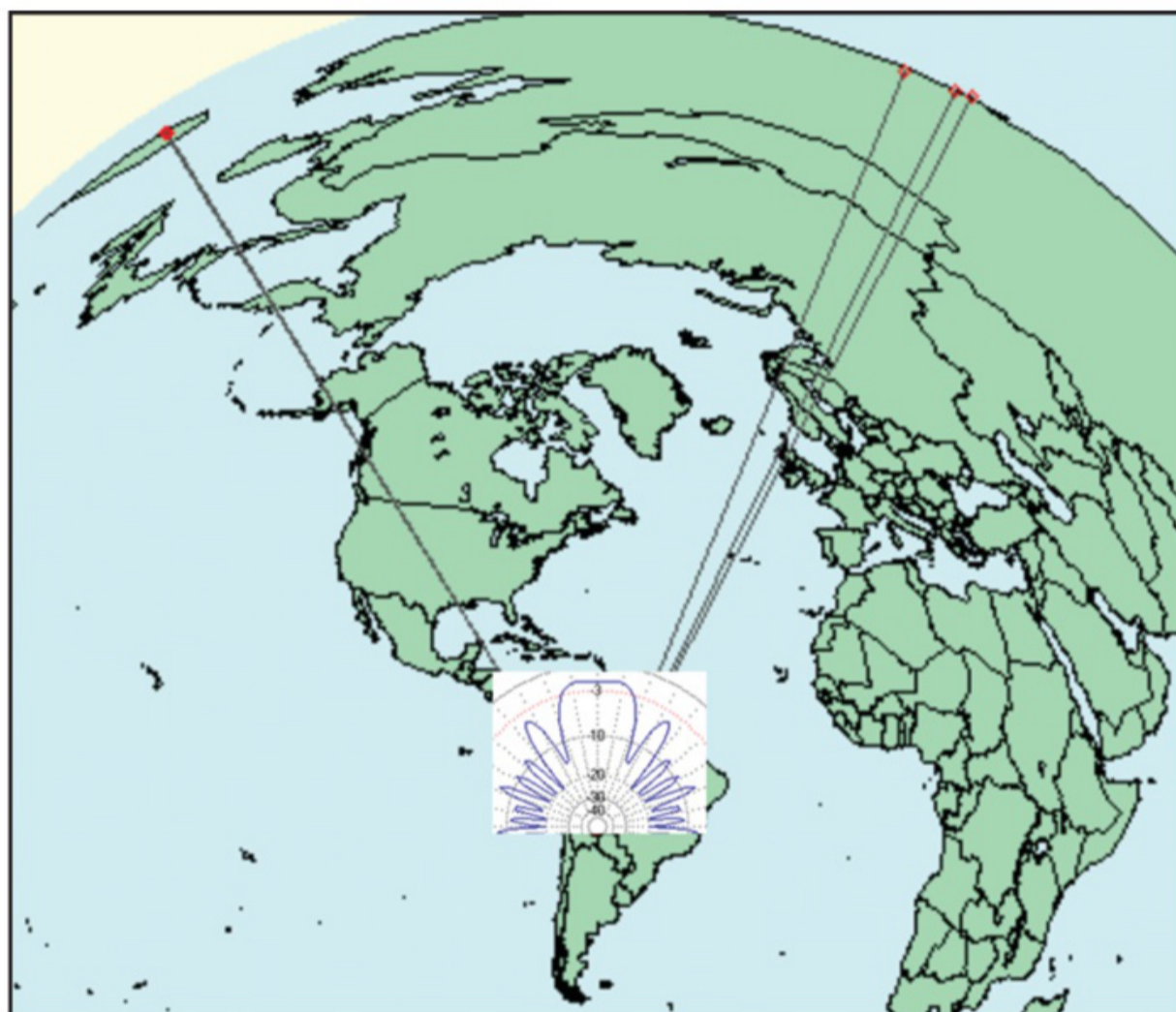


Figure 7. Map with superimposed vertical radiation patterns.

906. The widespread opening lasted about two hours.

Conclusions

The Windom antenna for 80 meters can work fine in the 50-MHz band. Contacts in all directions (360°) can be guaranteed, depending on the directions of the band openings. With only 100 watts, contacts can be made up to 19,000 kilometers away.

Recommendations

I recommend this approach, above all, for those people who have large plots of land but cannot make large investments of money in antennas.

Notes:

1. <https://tinyurl.com/mr2rk92n>
2. <https://tinyurl.com/4hhnz9j8>
3. <https://tinyurl.com/5276rwez>

math's notes

BY IRWIN MATH,* WA2NDM

Fusion Cooking in Amateur Radio?

This month I have something quite different for you, so please bear with me. I am sure that many of you are familiar with the topic of “fusion cooking,” which describes converting a food that has been a “standard” staple for many years into something the “experts” consider real progress. An example of this is the so-called “pizza-bagel” which takes a delicious bagel, normally eaten with cream cheese and lox (smoked salmon) or butter, into a creation that uses tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, etc. to “create” a unique new “modern” treat. Or, what about a “croissant-wich” which takes a delightful delicious French croissant, cut in half and then used to make a sandwich with God-knows what inside — sacrilege! I, for one, consider these not necessarily clever or progressive but actual examples of encouraging those who are not familiar with either bagels or croissants to never even attempt to know (or enjoy) what the originals actually taste like. What a loss!

In this vein I also believe that this type of “fusion-cooking” approach has its rough counterpart in our hobby that I have come to call “fusion-amateur radio.” Let me explain. Those old timers among us are well aware of the technique of dipping and loading a final, adjusting coupling to achieve a low SWR in order to obtain the maximum output between a transmitter and an antenna, experimenting with all sorts of circuits, antennas, and other approaches as well as even using a spectrum analyzer to see what is happening on either side of the transmitting or receiving frequency. Well, with the new “fusion-rigs,” everything is done for you at the push of a button (and obviously for a “fusion” price). For an amateur radio rag chews or contest addict who only wishes to talk or make the most contacts he or she can, which constitute a significant part of the hobby, these advantages are probably considered OK and even welcomed. The other part of the hobby in which technically-oriented amateur radio operators actually want to learn, experience and understand what is really going on between the microphone / key and antenna, is then short-changed. What have they learned, or for that matter, experienced from a fusion rig? It is almost like saying that if you never get burned with a soldering iron you may never truly understand what soldering really is.

I know that there will be many of you who probably think I am backward in thinking or even in the process of developing Alzheimer's and I do understand your thoughts. However, I know personally that the thrill of amateur radio started for me when as a youngster I made my first contact with a rig I built from scratch, copying, and trying to understand a schematic diagram from an article written in an old magazine which I did not quite understand (not to mention getting soldering burns along the way). This experience was what introduced me to a hobby that I still love and have loved (and have written about) for a good portion of my life. Although I can now afford the bells and whistles of today's “modern” state-of-the-art rigs and do not have to actually understand technically what I am doing, I can also communicate with a modern cell phone and basically do the same or similar thing, especially if I dial numbers at random and hopefully reach others having similar desires. Knowing what is going on inside the phone electrically is not necessary or even important in this case.

Please understand that I have no problem with modern amateur radio equipment and their manufacturers. In fact, I truly respect, marvel and am certainly very glad to see just how clever and creative people can be. Neither do I suggest that we go back to the days of spark coils and vacuum tubes, but I also think that it is important to at least understand what the “originals” actually were in order to respect what forward-looking designers (including amateurs in many cases) were and are able to achieve. Then one can truly appreciate where we have come from, where we are heading and intelligently decide what path (or paths) he or she wishes to follow.

As a final comment, if I have offended anyone with the above, I truly apologize. It is just one man's point of view. Your comments are welcome.

– 73, Irwin, WA2NDM

*c/o CQ magazine

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the listening post

BY GERRY DEXTER

Good News: The WRTH Lives On!

~ We've been rescued! Pulled out of our funk by a German organization called the Radio Data Center, which moved into the breach and bought the rights to World Radio Publications, the publishers of the *World Radio TV Handbook* (WRTH). Further, the organization plans to continue publishing the *Handbook*, beginning with a 2023 edition. No official announcement has been released yet, but they already have a website <www.wrth.org> so the move appears pretty solid. As Gabriel Heater used to say on his nightly Mutual Radio broadcast, "Ah ... there's good news tonight."

~ There appears to have been some recent activity from Radio Congo, Brazzaville, in the Republic of the Congo. This from a Spanish DXer who notes what he believes is them on 6115 kHz closing abruptly at 1843 UTC. He has heard African music and commercials; both contents were consistent with his previous logs. That's all fine for Spain, but the 1800 hour doesn't help us in the U.S., propagation-wise.

~ Speaking of QSLs (which we weren't), Radio Free Asia has announced the release of its 26th anniversary QSL card. The new "Giving Voice to the Voiceless" QSL will confirm reports to Radio Free Asia, 2025 "M" Street, Suite 300, Washington DC. Or you can send email requests to <qsl@rfa.org>.

Listener Logs

Remember, 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 for you 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 9795 with man and woman speaking in English and a pop number at 1202. (Sellers, BC)

ALGERIA—Radio Algerienne on 7200 via Bechar at 0435 with Arabic songs. (Sellers, BC) At 0500 with 5+1 time pips and a man reading the news in Arabic, off at 0504. (D'Angelo, PA) On 9585 via

France in Arabic at 2259, off at 2300. (Taylor, WI)

AUSTRALIA—Reach Beyond on 9610 via Kununurra at 1230 in Hindi. (Brossell, WI)

ASCENSION ISLAND—BBC North Atlantic Relay on 7345 at 0636 with an interview. (Sellers, BC)

BOTSWANA—Voice of America Relay on 4930 via Mopeng Hill at 0510 with woman hosting a magazine program. (Barton, AZ) On 5925 at 0344 interview-



Radio Algerienne's Chaine 3 network was the first to be relayed by the new Bechar site.



One of the ultra-modern studios / control rooms at Radio Kuwait.

*c/o CQ magazine

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ing a writer. (Sellers, BC) On 15580 at 2013 with U.S. and Afro pop music. (Brossell, WI)

CANADA—CFRX via Toronto on 6070 at 0731 with an interview about a movie. (Sellers, BC)

Bible Voice on 15310 via Nauen at 1615 with excited man speaking in Oromo. (Barton, AZ) At 1605. (Brossell, WI) At 1656 in Somali, into possibly Tigrinya at 1700. (Taylor, WI)

CHINA—China Radio International on 7350 via Kashi at 0012 with man and woman hosting English features; on 15600 via Beijing at 0032 with continuous instrumental music in their Portuguese service. (D'Angelo, PA) On 11660 via Kashi in French at 2208; on 11955 via Kunming at 2218 in Tagalog; on 11975 via Mali at 2156 in French; on 15335 via Shijiazhuang in Russian at 1243. (Brossell, WI) On 13685 via the Mali relay at 1922 with woman speaking in Arabic, then closing announcements. (D'Angelo, PA)

COLOMBIA— On 4940 via Macaio with an evangelism format in Spanish at 0942 with woman and romantic ballads. (Taylor, WI)

ENGLAND—BBC, 15435 via Philippines in Korean at 1615. (Brossell, WI)

IBRA Media / Radio Sama on 15510 via Woofferton at 1830 with Middle Eastern vocals, off just before 1900. (Barton, AZ)

FRANCE—Mini Transit Sailing on 13735 via Issoudun at 1509 with man speaking a few words in English, instrumental music at 1530, very weak and closed at 1540. (D'Angelo, PA) *(I think Rich meant the rest was in French. -GLD)*

GUAM—Adventist World Radio on 9895 in Korean at 1239. (Brossell, WI) On 12080 via Agat at 1620 closing in English at the bottom of the hour. (Barton, AZ)

Trans World Radio / KTWR on 9910 via Agana ending Mandarin at 1212 with station ID, and contact information then

off, sked says there should be English at 1215. (Sellers, BC) On 15200 at 1606 in Ukrainian. (Brossell, WI)

HAWAII—WWVH on 15000 via Kokole Point at 1259 with a woman giving full station ID + address, WWV was just audible underneath. (Taylor, WI)

INDIA—All India Radio on 11560 via Kingsway at 1149 in Tibetan with woman talking for over 10 minutes; CNR-1 jammer was not in harmonic with 11610 on this day. (Taylor, WI) On 15030 via Bengaluru in Dari at 1456. (Brossell, WI)

JAPAN—Radio Japan on 7355 via Yamata at 0429 opening sign on, woman reading the news in English. (Sellers, BC) On 11625 via Yamata at 2030 with long talk in Japanese; on 11655 at 1500 with a typical magazine program in Japanese. (Barton, AZ) On 9750 in Japanese at 1236. (Brossell, WI)

Radio Nikkei One on 3925 via Nagara at 1050 with Japanese and English pop music. (Sellers, BC)

Network One on 6055 via Nagara at 0922 in Japanese with local rap, Nikkei Two was way better at 0924. (Taylor, WI)

KUWAIT—Radio Kuwait on 15530 via Kabd at 0458 with Arabic music, sign on at 0500, poor and hard to tell it was English. (Sellers, BC) At 0505-0548, pleased to hear RK in English again with a religious program to 0530, then some music, followed by news in English, but was beginning to fade by 0540. (D'Angelo, PA)

MADAGASCAR—World Christian Broadcasting on 13760 via Majahanga at 0348-0359* with man and a creation segment in English, New Life ID at 0354, then gave English schedule, and a nice vocal selection to close. (D'Angelo, PA)

African Pathways Radio on 11825 with English sign-on at 0400, Bible message, and music. (Sellers, BC) On 11965 via Mahajanga with an English health feature at 2022, followed by a Bible for Children series, station IDs. (D'Angelo, PA)

Madagascar World Voice / Radio Feda on 13670 via Majahanga in Arabic at 1915. (Brossell, WI)

MALI—Radio Mali via Bamako on 5995 at 0653 in French, local music, possible news headlines at 0701. (Sellers, BC)

MEXICO—Radio Educacion via Mexico, D.F. on 6185 at 0100 with mariachi music. (Barton, AZ) At 0728 in Spanish with upbeat instrumental music, man and woman giving the station ID at 0733. (Sellers, BC)

NETHERLANDS—The Mighty KBC on 9925 via Nauen at 0102 hosting program on vintage Euro pirates, playing rock and airing ads for various KBC imports, began closedown at 0056. (D'Angelo, PA)

NEW ZEALAND—RNZ Pacific on 7245 at 0802 with news in Pidgin; on 9700 at 0645 interviewing a reserve bank executive. (Sellers, BC) On 15720 via Rangitaiki at 0448 on an increasing number of dog attacks there. (Sellers, BC)

NIGERIA—Voice of Nigeria on 7255 via Abuja in Hausa at 0630 with wooden drum, talk. (Sellers, BC)

NORTH KOREA—Voice of Korea on 11735 in Korean at 1239. (Brossell, WI) On 12015 at 1530 with patriotic music and man speaking in Russian. (Barton, AZ)

KCBS on 3250 with long talk in Korean at 1215; on 3320 ditto at 1216. (Barton, AZ) On 6099.9 via Kujang in Korean with DPRK opera at 1021. (Taylor, WI)

OPPOSITION—Furusato No Kaze (Japan to North Korea) on 9705 at 1450 in Japanese with woman hosting program of lively pop music. (Barton, AZ)

Echo of Hope (South Korea to North) on 9095 with long talks in Korean at 1030, changes to 9100/9105 each Monday morning here. (Barton, AZ) On 9105 with man speaking in Korean

and harmonics on 3985, 4890, 5995, 6350 (irreg.) to 1109, 6250 was missing. (Taylor, WI)

National Unity Broadcasting Station (via Taiwan to North Korea) on 7200 at 1219 with woman and upbeat talk in Korean, light vocal, interview with man. (Taylor, WI)

Radio Free North Korea (via Uzbekistan to North Korea) on 11510 at 1317 with woman speaking in Korean and interview with man. (Taylor, WI)

Radioni Dirree Shaggar (via France to Somalia) on 15415 at 1609 in Somali. (Brossell, WI)

PERU—Radio Logos via Chazuta on 4810 in Spanish at 1039 with low key talk, woman joining him around fade out. (Taylor, WI)

PHILIPPINES—Far East Broadcasting on 9795 via Iba in Vietnamese with preacher at 1109. (Sellers, BC) On 12055 via Bocaue at 0001 in Lu and female vocals in Lahu and almost Pacific-Island type music at 1045. (Barton, AZ) In Khmer at 1255, Southeast Asian music, male announcer, then Cambodian instrumental music. (Taylor, WI) On 9920 via Ibo in Bahnar at 1245; on 12095 at 1225 in Mien. (Brossell, WI)

PIRATES—Pirate Radio Relay Network on 6950 upper sideband (u) at 2341 with drums, singing, sound effects, hard rock guitar and more drumming before going off at 2349, station ID from HFU. Free USB on 6925u at 0130 with variety of rock, pop music, and with some slow-scan TV (SSTV). Thunder Chicken on 6930u / 6932u at 0032 / 2138 with segued jazz vocals, SSTVs, station ID at 0143. Bad Dog Radio on 6925u 0125 hosted by Uncle Bob with some political flavor, SSTVs. (Taylor, WI)

WDOG on 6950u at 0111 with rock, progressive rock. QRM Radio on 6950u at 2243 weak with rock under noise, SSTV/FAX, and more of it at 2318. (Hassig, IL)



The antenna field at WWVH, Hawaii, WWV's sister station in the Pacific.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED—Clever Name Radio, Sycko Radio, WHIZ, Radio Free Whatever, Ballsmacker Radio, Wolverine Radio, Captain Morgan, WDDR, Corn Desert Outpost, WTF Radio Worldwide, Mix Radio Intl.

SAO TOME—VOA Relay on 6080 via Pinheira with news in English at 0407. (Sellers, BC)

SAUDI ARABIA—Al-Azm Radio on 11745 via Jeddah at 0032 with male and female announcers and a discussion in Arabic, some nice vocals at 0042. (D'Angelo, PA)

SINGAPORE—BBC Far East Relay on 9410 via Kranji at 1117 discussing native American actors. (Sellers, BC) On 11695 via Kranji at 1207 with a piece on Pelosi's trip and other news items. (Taylor, WI)

SOUTH KOREA—KBS World Radio on 6015 via Hinminjok in Korean at 1053 with low-key DJ with possible station ID at the top of the hour. (Taylor, WI) On 15575 via Kimjae with IS at 0157 opening in Spanish, theme music, Korean tips. (Barton, AZ) At 1456 with man speaking in Korean and news. (D'Angelo, PA)

SRI LANKA—Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corp. on 11905 via Trincomalee at *0028-0055* with O/C, drums, vocals, woman giving announcements and program of vocals. (D'Angelo, PA)

TAIWAN—Radio Taiwan Intl. on 9555 via Paochung in Mandarin at 1227. (Brossell, WI) On 13590 via Paochung at 2300 with station ID and woman speaking in Korean. (Barton, AZ)

THAILAND—Voice of Thailand on 9390 at 1200 with time pips, English sign on, female announcer. (Sellers, BC) On 15590 via Udon Thani at *0000-0029* with English news, usual station IDs, ads, promos. (D'Angelo, PA)

TURKEY—Voice of Turkey on 9830 with news at 2204. (Brossell, WI)

UNITED STATES—VOA on 13755 via the Northern Marianas relay in Mandarin at 1453; on 15119 via the Philippine Relay in Mandarin at 1432. (Brossell, WI)

Radio Free Asia on 11570 via Kuwait Relay in Tibetan at 1209. (Brossell, WI)

RFE / Radio Liberty on 15255 via the Thailand relay in Tajik at 1435; on 15310 via Woofferton in Uzbek at 1444. (Brossell, WI)

Mashaal Radio on 15365 via Thailand relay in Pashto at 1246. (Brossell, WI)

WJHR via Milton on 15555 at 1947 with preacher taking show and taking questions from the congregation. (Taylor, WI)

VANUATU—Radio Vanuatu via Port Vila on 11835 third harmonic with island music at 0804, just beginning to fade in. (Sellers, BC)

VIETNAM—Voice of Vietnam on 9840 via Sontay at 1143 ending English news with feature on concerts. (Sellers, BC) On 12020 via Sontay in Japanese at 1220. (Brossell, WI)

ZAMBIA—Voice of Hope-Africa on 9680 via Makeni Ranch at 0440 with man hosting religious program, pop vocals after the hour. (Barton, AZ)

Quien Sabe

Nothing new this month, but I'd remind you to keep an ear on the 9900-kHz area for that periodic mystery Arabic station and that near permanent but still unidentified Colombian / Venezuelan on 4940 kHz.

QSL Quests

Want to get foreign mail? Try these trusted verifiers: Radio Free Asia, Trans World Radio, Adventist World Radio,

Vatican Radio, CRI, Radio Taiwan ... even those f**** pirates.

As Time Goes By

Mamore Radiodifusion via Guyamaren, Bolivia, on 4602 kHz at 0243 UTC on June 24, 1972 in Spanish using just 850 watts.

Thank You

Thank you to: Harold Sellers, Vernon, BC; Rick Barton, EL Segundo, AZ; Rich D'Angelo, Wyomissing, PA; William Hassig, Mt. Pleasant, IL; Mark Taylor, Madison, WI; and Robert Brossell, Pewaukee, WI.

Until next month, keep on keepin' on and Celebrate Shortwave!

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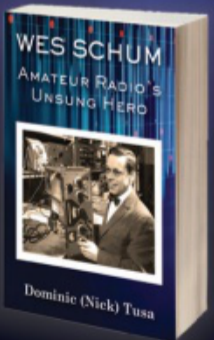




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BY JOHN FERGUSON,* K3PFW

Planning

Plans are nothing, planning is everything.
—General Dwight D. Eisenhower

The quotation above has been around in several versions, with “Ike” himself repeating it differently several times. No, it is not a contradiction, but a very definitive statement on the difference between “things” and “actions.” To add value to this premise, Prussian Field Marshal Helmuth von Moltke is given credit for the oft quoted phrase, “No plan survives first contact with the enemy.” Things are fragile; thoughts, ideas, and mental processes are resilient, and can last forever.

Emergencies by their very nature are unplanned, not necessarily unforeseen. Conditions can develop that are conducive to something happening. It then becomes a “when,” not an “if.” Think hurricane season which just passed, although technically we are not officially clear until the end of the month. We’ve had a ringside seat here to Hurricane Ian, rated as a “hundred-year storm.” Incidents don’t necessarily take our calendars and schedules into account, however, and can be decidedly annoying in that way. Yet our response to same must be organized and planned to be effective.

So, what could happen in your area and how and why should you plan, if the plan may not fit? You will learn from experience, and from talking to others around you, what you might expect. History will tell you a lot, as in “that area always floods when we get heavy rain to the north.” Look at what has happened in the past. It provides knowledge of experience. Consider what has been done to mitigate those previous situations. On the other hand, what has happened to make things possibly worse? What changes have occurred in the last five years and what could happen with some of the new developments, industries, and businesses around where you are? What will your auxiliary communication support group be expected to do or provide, and where? Doing something now, and again next year, and even the year after that, to plan what kind of response you might need to support would be excellent practice, even though you might never get to test the plan. It’s the process of planning that is important.

Making a Basic Plan

A first step in the planning process might be considered the “What if?” stage. Analyzing what is and could be an issue that you might have to consider. We are communicators. We don’t “put out the fire.” That’s not our job, and we don’t need to figure that part out. We need to develop some ideas as to what and how we will perform our role, and you don’t do that in a vacuum. You need to meet with, and work with, the agencies and groups you may need to support, who are probably working on their “What ifs,” too.

Nearly all disasters of any size are going to displace people from their homes, and require that the response and

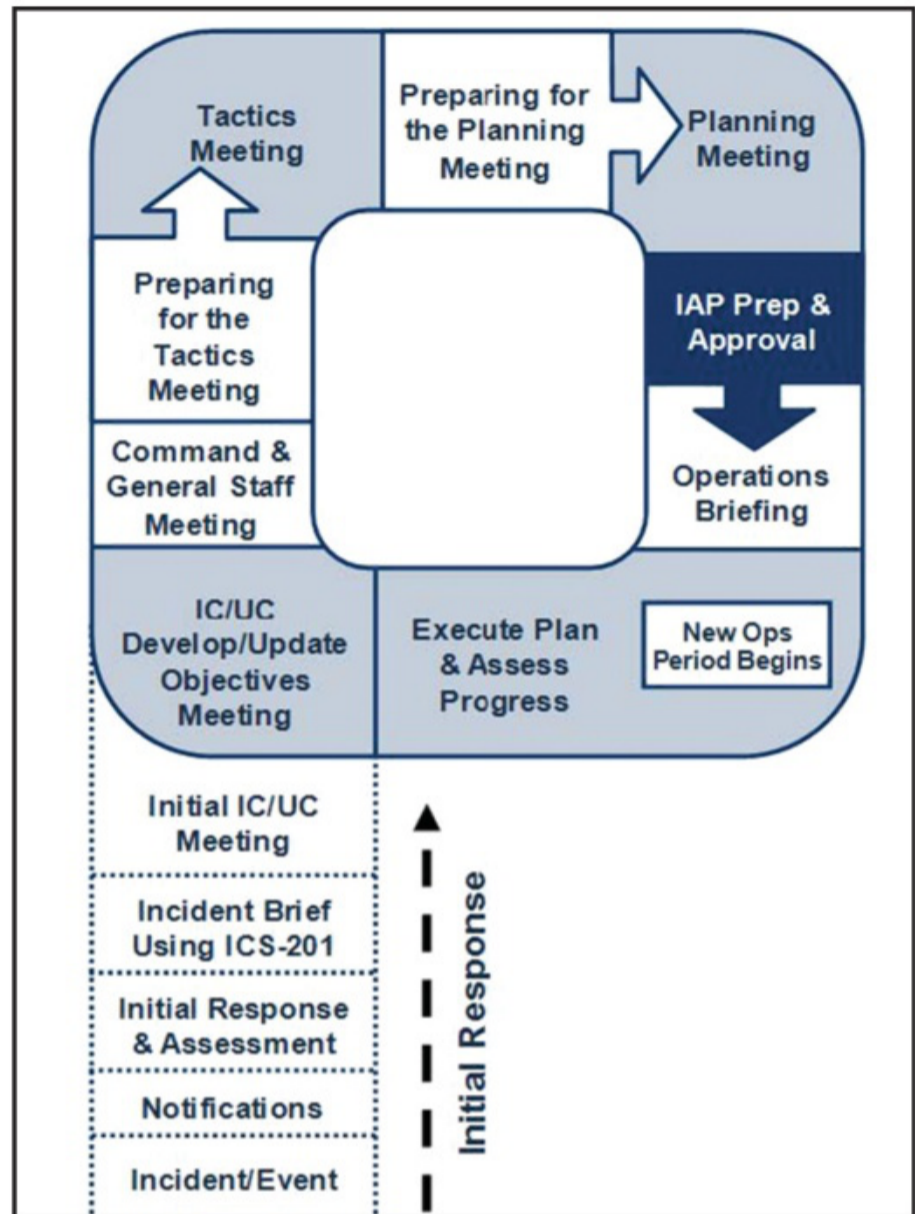


Figure 1. The “Planning P.” cycle then repeats itself until the incident is successfully resolved.

recovery agencies, both government and non-government (NGOs), open shelters. State, county, and city governments, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army are all involved in the sheltering process. This is a common occurrence across the range of bad things that can happen, from fires to floods and hurricanes; and a good place for hams to help. But how and when, with what and whom? Asking questions, of yourself, others, and managers in the agencies responsible for opening the shelters, will get you a whole lot of information.

Now you need to take the information that you’ve learned and start working on your plan. In this exercise, the overall objective is to provide communication for a shelter. What kind of information will need to be exchanged between locations will be the first issue to solve. If the disaster is large and the sheltering activity will be ongoing for multiple days or weeks, be prepared to handle a bunch of health and welfare traffic. What will be your primary objectives be, and what kind of strategy will be needed? Keep in mind as you develop your plan that what you are looking at now may not be exactly what you will face later. For the first draft, keep it broad; don’t get bogged down in details.

Next, when you have a draft plan, share it with your people and the agencies you will be supporting. Get feedback.

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Politely accept criticism. Then re-draft the plan. When you think it's ready for what may come, this would be a good time to test it in a simulation. A table-top exercise would be a good place to work out any remaining kinks. Most agencies will eventually hold full-scale exercises to test their readiness. Try to be included. These types of exercises don't happen often, due to the expense involved. After you have had a chance to test the plan, in an exercise or during the real thing, evaluate how well it worked, and what revisions might be necessary.

For something like a shelter communication support incident, you know basically what you are going to do and where you are going to do it; the only change might be the "who." But what happens if we now get into an extended operation that might drag on for days? Your plan will now be folded, spindled, mutilated and stretched, and you will have new issues to work out. Planning is an active verb.

Disasters don't come just from Mother Nature. You might also consider doing some "what ifs" on technology failures. Think through what the loss of internet service over a wide area might be like. We all get upset when we can't get to our email or surf the net for an hour or so. Regional power failures (remember Texas in the winter of 2021?), think about the impact if that went on for three or four days? Next month the featured topic for *CQ* will be technology. This column will be looking at technology from a different angle, such as how we deal with the loss of it, and what can you do with it.

Incident Command System Planning

At the center of the success and effectiveness of the Incident Command System (ICS) is the planning process. All response and recovery operations should be managed under the ICS because it is mandated by FEMA. We, as providers of auxiliary communication support, must be aware of the

aspects of the ICS and comfortable with their application, and the planning process is a critical part. Getting the basic ICS training from the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) online courses is not only a great way to learn about the ICS but is a requirement for volunteers in almost all situations. Taking advantage of the free courses available on the EMI course list is a great way to increase your knowledge in a whole range of disaster related subjects.

The ICS "basic four" are the minimum requirements for most volunteers:

- IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
- IS-700: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System
- IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction

The ICS is an amazing, scalable system for managing just about anything, but exceptional when facing an emergency or disaster situation. From the initial response through the recovery process, there is an ongoing continuous planning process that keeps everything focused on getting results. At the center of this is the "ICS Planning P" (*Figure 1*). The ICS planning process develops the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and every managed incident will have one. It can be as simple as a single sheet of notebook paper, handwritten for a small incident, or it can be several notebooks thick for a major public event. The event will be broken into separate operational periods, and there will be a planning process for each period. This is where the "Planning P" comes in.

For the sake of clarity, although the terms are frequently used interchangeably, we will call an unscheduled emer-

gency response to something an “incident” and the response to a calendar-scheduled activation an “event”. The lexicon of ICS tries to avoid double meanings, but sometimes words get used in other situations. A nuclear reactor emergency, for example, is called an event. I sure wouldn’t think that I would want to schedule one.

The initial response to an incident, fire accident, or HAZMAT spill is really more of a reactive response. The response to the incident begins with a dispatch of appropriate units. As the units arrive on scene, the ranking officer begins to direct the activities of the responding units with tactics that experience has shown may work. As things begin to develop, more decisions become necessary. You may have heard the term “size up.” This is the quick overview and decision-making period, maybe seconds to minutes, when the officers in charge use their observations, their training, and their experience to develop tactics and utilize resources. This initial period is where experience is probably more important than training, although the training is necessary and required to work at this level. The stem of the Planning P is where the initial response is occurring and when personnel work to gain awareness of the situation and establish the organization for incident management. The individual in charge of the response is the Incident Commander (IC). This may be the first officer on scene, or a later ranking arrival. For mega-events, the Incident Command, or Unified Command may actually be located away from the action. Unified Command (UC) is best described as a “committee that speaks with one voice.”

Usually, if the plan is a simple one, it can be shared orally with the responders. In the beginning of an incident, the situation can be in chaos and situational awareness hard to obtain, so the IC often develops this initial plan quickly and with incomplete information. If, instead of a two-car accident, where the

initial dispatch was for a “motor vehicle accident I 495, north of exit 12,” units arriving on scene find 40 vehicles in a massive pileup, this now enters the lexicon of an “expanding incident.” You gotta hate those, they can ruin your day. Unfortunately, situations like this happen frequently and the smooth transition of the response to ramping up as needed is where the training and discipline of the responding units come into play. Most response type units have outline plans for types of responses that can be called into use as the situation is analyzed. The plan for mass casualty might fit this example. Most response agencies will have several mass casualty plan outlines. That might now trigger mutual-aid agreements with surrounding area units, local hospitals start holding staff and clearing the emergency receiving area, etc. All of this is still technically in the initial response stage. As the incident management effort grows, additional lead time, more staff, information systems, and technologies are brought into play and will enable more detailed planning. Those in the planning process have a voracious appetite for hard information. Numbers, facts, credible observations; these all need to be communicated back to the planning team members.

The steps for the formal planning process are essentially the same as for the first responders on-scene determining initial tactics and for personnel now developing the formal written IAPs. The incident personnel, initially on-scene, perform the steps in the leg of the “P” only one time. Once they are accomplished, incident management shifts into a cycle of planning and operations, informed by ongoing situational awareness and repeated each operational period.

The following are brief descriptions of the meetings and briefings that are repeated each operational cycle until the conclusion of the incident or event. In other words, the staff keeps going around the body of the “Planning P,” until the incident

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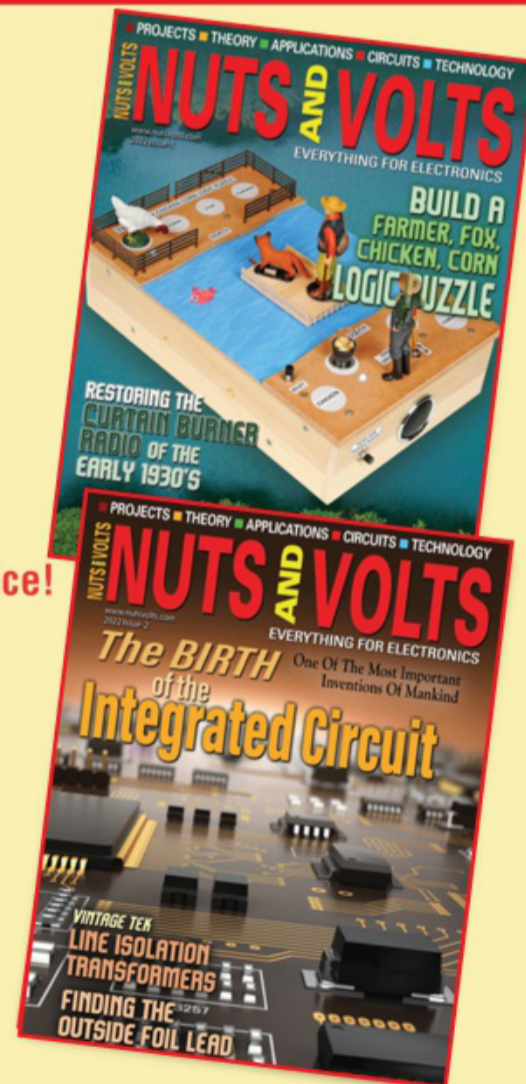
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is over. These points are extracted from the March 2018 Incident Action Planning Process E/L/G 0300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents, ICS 300 4.

1. Objectives Development / Update: The IC/UC establishes the incident objectives for the initial operational period. After the initial operational period, the IC/UC reviews the incident objectives and may validate them, modify them, or develop new objectives.

2. Strategy Meeting / Command and General Staff Meeting: After developing or revising the incident objectives, the IC/UC typically meets with the Command and General Staff, and sometimes others, to discuss the incident objectives and provide direction.

3. Preparing for the Tactics Meeting: Once the approach to achieving or working toward achieving the incident objectives is determined, the Operations Section Chief and staff prepare for the Tactics Meeting by developing tactics and determining the resources that will be applied during the operational period.

4. Tactics Meeting: In the Tactics Meeting, key players review the proposed tactics developed by the Operations Section and conduct planning for resource assignments. The OPS Section Chief leads the Tactics Meeting, and key participants include the LOG Section Chief, Safety Officer, a Planning representative and other invitees, preparing for the Planning Meeting.

5. Planning Meeting: Following the Tactics Meeting, staff collaborate to identify support needs and assign specific resources to accomplish the plan. The Planning Meeting serves as a final review and approval of operational plans and resource assignments developed during and after the Tactics Meeting. At the end of the Planning Meeting, Command and General Staff confirm that they can support the plan.

6. IAP Preparation and Approval: Based on concurrence from all elements at the end of the Planning Meeting, the Incident Commander or Unified Command approves the plan.

7. Operational Period Briefing: Each operational period starts with an Operational Period Briefing. Incident supervisory and tactical personnel receive the IAP during the briefing. Members of the Command and General Staff present the incident objectives, review the current situation, and share information related to communications or safety. Following the Briefing, supervisors brief their assigned personnel on their respective assignments.

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kit building

BY JOE EISENBERG,* KONEB

Holiday Gifts for Builders

With fall's chill in the air, we know that the holiday shopping season is upon us. So, whether you are shopping for a fellow kit builder or leaving hints for someone who might be shopping for you, here are a few suggestions to make the gifting process go a lot easier.

Heating Up Winter's Chill

As Tim Allen would say, "It's Tool Time." With surface-mount (SMD) components becoming more common in kits as well as surplus PC boards being plentiful containing surface-mount parts, a heat tool is very handy. For a long time, I have used one sold by Hobby Lobby for ink embossing for about \$20, but the main drawback is the lack of temperature control as well as a very broad heat and air output. For many years, hot air rework stations have cost in the order of several hundred dollars, making them out of reach for the typical kit builder.

But just as low cost HTs invaded the amateur market, so have low-cost soldering tools. The LRT 8868 Hot Air Rework

Station combines a digitally temperature-controlled hot air tool with a digitally controlled soldering iron. All of this for around 40 bucks. When using this tool to remove or solder in place a SMD part, the hot air tool is used to concentrate heat on the small area of the PC board in question. Soldering SMD parts can be done using solder paste, with is really a mixture of solder and flux into a greyish paste delivered by a syringe. When I am using a hot air tool to solder a part, I place tiny "mouse droppings" of solder paste on those spots and use a pair of tweezers to place the part on those pads before applying heat. This tool comes with three different sized nozzles to control how much of the PC board will be heated.

Applying heat to those pads allows the flux to melt and the solder to begin to flow and do its magic. Often, it is difficult to control exactly how much solder paste comes out of the syringe onto the pads, and that results in some pads having solder bridges. The LRT 8868 has a soldering iron attached that has a variety of tips, including a very sharp conical tip, ideal for working with SMD components. By holding the soldering iron tip horizontally across the pads that are unintentionally bridged, the excess solder can be drawn to the tip and taken away.

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The LRT 8868 has both a digitally controlled heat tool and a digitally controlled soldering iron. The kit comes with two sets of tweezers, five different soldering tips, three different heat nozzles, some solder wick, a tip cleaning sponge, and a sample-sized roll of solder.



The soldering and heat tools plug into the base.

Because this tool doesn't have a heavy transformer, it can be easily transported to use for group kit building. Each side has independent temperature control, and I found setting the soldering iron to 300° C and the hot air tool to 400° C worked well. There is a cradle for the hot air tool as well as for the soldering iron. Placing the hot air tool into the cradle begins a programmed cooldown process. The kit comes with five additional soldering tips of various sizes and shapes as well as three different size heat nozzles, two different types of ESD-protected tweezers, a roll of solder wick, and a tiny roll of solder. A small soldering tip cleaning sponge is included as well, although the tool has no place to put the sponge.

When desoldering a SMD part, I simply heat it with the hot air tool while holding on to it with tweezers and carefully lifting it off the board as soon as it completely loosens up. The hot air tool can also be used to shrink heat-shrink tubing. It doesn't say what kind of solder is supplied with it, but it is a very small amount. I highly recommend using 63/37 solder, rosin core no clean for best results when soldering kits. Building the Four State QRP Group's 4S-Dummy Load kit as I featured in the July 2022 issue is a great way to practice using this tool to assemble an easy SMT-based kit.

You can find this low-cost hot air rework station along with a multitude of similar tools on Amazon. The link for this item is: <<https://amzn.to/3cSKpSt>>. The LRT 8868 sells for \$39.99 and is shipped free if you are a member of Amazon Prime, and often in just a day or two.

The 63/37 solder is available at many electronics stores, such as Microcenter or Harbor Freight. The link for the recommended solder at Harbor Freight is: <<https://bit.ly/3Qlh0hj>> and it sells for \$19.99 for a half pound roll. Remember that Harbor Freight often puts out coupon deals including 20% off, so watch for those when shopping for soldering irons and solder there.

Light the Night!

When building kits, adequate lighting and magnification are a must. Using a type of light that accurately illuminates things like resistors helps eliminate errors caused by misidentifying color-coded values. I recommend a light that offers true white light. Some builders prefer a more mellow "warm" white light, which is OK for doing most building, but can sometimes make an orange strip appear brown, etc. But with personal preferences varying, this magnifying light allows you to change the color temperature of the light, allowing bright white for parts identification or a softer light if your eyes prefer for the rest of the project <<https://a.co/d/42GT5Z7>>. For



Both tools have cradles for safe storage. In addition, cradling the heat tool triggers an automatic cooldown mode. Setting the soldering iron for 300° C and the heat tool for 400° C seems to work well.

\$32.99, this magnifying lamp is hard to beat and has full control of the light brightness and color temperature with a control on the cord. It comes with a clamp mount, which is appropriate for a workbench. There are similar lamps available with your choice of mounting platform, either a clamp or a weighted base.

Protecting Against Electrostatic Discharge

Finally, with the cold weather months upon us, there is an increase in static electricity in our homes, especially those of us who live where it gets very cold. Raising the temperature from below freezing outdoors to a comfortable room temperature greatly lowers the relative humidity. Humidifiers help, but aren't always completely effective in preventing damage to sensitive CMOS devices. Having a soldering mat not only helps protect your work surface, it can help in ESD mitigation as well.

Electrostatic discharge can be felt when you touch a grounded object, like a wall switch, etc. Static discharge voltages as low as 30 volts can damage CMOS devices, and these cannot always be felt. This soldering mat not only has heat protection for your work surface, but it also has a full ESD connection set, including a wristband for the user. For \$19.99, it is hard to beat this soldering mat. I highly recommend placing a soldering mat in a cookie sheet to also keep your smallest parts from straying. You can find this soldering mat on Amazon at: <<https://a.co/d/jhXxJeQ>>.

Travel Plans

I look forward to getting a break from the cold weather this season and seeing everyone in Orlando in February at Hamcation® or in Yuma.

– Until next time, 73 de KØNEB

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME-

the biggest Internet portal,
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fresh magazines, hot games,
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Unlimited satisfaction one low price

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Protect your downloadings from Big brother

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homing in

BY JOE MOELL, * KØOV

Foxhunting at the Championships in Bulgaria and a Youth Camp in Ohio

It began as a private hunting ground for Bulgarian kings. Now it's a modern ski resort in the Rila Mountains, complete with fine hotels and one of the world's greatest biathlon courses. That's Borovets, located about 25 miles southeast of Sofia, the capital city of Bulgaria.

During the first week of September, Borovets was the site of the 20th World Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), hosted by the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs (BFRA).

These championships were a long time coming. World Championships are normally held in even-numbered years in Europe or Asia. National amateur radio societies make proposals to the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) ARDF Working Groups in hopes of hosting. A proposal by The Amateur Radio Union of Serbia (SRS) to host in 2020 was accepted back in 2017. The pandemic forced SRS to cancel and reschedule for 2021, but that also became a no-go. It was thought that Covid-19 case counts would be significantly lower and travel restrictions would be lifted in time for another try in 2022, but many Asian countries were still under severe limitations. Korea was the only nation in IARU Region 3 that submitted a Letter of Intent to participate.

Two Dozen Selected

This spring, the ARRL ARDF Team Selection Subcommittee optimistically announced that 24 people were being offered the opportunity to represent the U.S. at the 2022 World Championships. If all had accepted, this would have been the largest ARDF Team USA ever to participate in the World Championships and would have included 17 men, 6 women, and one youth.

Countries in the former Soviet bloc, such as Russia, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic, have traditionally been the big winners at the world ARDF Championships. Most have established



Vadim Afonkin, KB1RLI, added to his collection of medals by winning gold in the M50 category on 80 meters at the 2022 World Championships in Bulgaria. (Photo courtesy of BFRA)

national teams that train together all year and whose travels are supported by their governments. In the past, it was not uncommon for these three nations to win over 90% of the medals. But these countries' predominance has lessened as radio-orientees in more countries, including the U.S., have improved their performances.

By contrast, Team USA members are true amateurs, who train mostly in their home states and pay their own way to all events. That makes our progress in the sport quite remarkable. The last time BFRA hosted the World Championships was 2006 and it was a memorable year for Team USA. Team members reported that the courses were physically and mentally the toughest they had ever encountered. There was also an outbreak of noro-

virus among the attendees that sidelined some team members.

Despite these adversities, Nadia Scharlau, now KO4ADV, captured a bronze medal in the 2006 80-meter classic event. Stateside radio-orientees have continued to improve and at the last pre-Covid championships in Korea during 2018, our 11-member team garnered a total of 10 medals. So that set the stage for fierce competition among the European and American radio-orientees in 2022.

Everything changed on February 24th, when Russian forces invaded Ukraine. The Russian Ministry of Sports considers Serbia to be a "friendly" country, so the Russian ARDF team continued making plans to attend. IARU leaders did not ban the Russians, but competitors from Ukraine and numer-

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ous other countries immediately made it clear that they would not participate if Russians were allowed to be there.

Serbian leaders realized that the greatly reduced attendance due to the war, plus the continued high incidence of Covid and travel restrictions in Asian countries, meant that hosting the championships would not be economically viable for them. On May 9th, SRS announced cancellation of the Serbian events. IARU Region 1 leaders immediately sought another national society to take on the championships on short

notice. On June 8th, BFRA stepped forward and offered to host at the Borovets resort on the same dates. Bulgaria had no Covid-related entry and stay restrictions

The matter of Russian or Ukrainian competitors at the World Championships was settled on July 2nd, when the Russian Ministry of Sports announced that the Russian team would not be permitted to attend because, as a member of the European Union, Bulgaria was considered an “unfriendly country” to Russia.

To nobody’s surprise, 2022 attendance was off by over 30% compared to the last World Championships in 2018. For the first classic event, the 207 starters included 25 from Ukraine, 33 from the Czech Republic, and 17 from Slovakia. Almost all of the rest were from other European countries. The only competitor from Asia was Inwon Lee, HL2IYI, from Korea. Because of the lateness of the announcements, the difficulties of air travel and concerns about Covid and other illnesses, there were only four members of Team USA: Elizabeth Afonkin (W19), Vadim Afonkin, KB1RLI (M50), Gheorghe Fala (M21), and Alexander Myachin (M50). This was our smallest team since the U.S. first attended the World Championships in 1998.

Triumphing on 80 Meters

As a prelude to the World Championships for national teams, BFRA hosted the World ARDF Cup for individuals from August 24th through 27th. In the 80-meter classic competition on August 26th, Alexander Myachin and Vadim Afonkin, KB1RLI, took second and third place, respectively, finding four required foxes in a 6.1-kilometer route.

With that auspicious beginning, the stage was set for even better news on September 1st in the second classic event of the World Championships. This day featured two full five-fox courses, one on 2-meter AM and the other on 80-meter CW. Groups of competitors in different categories started at 5-minute intervals, some for one band and the rest for the other band. They sought the required transmitters for their category and then rushed to the finish, which was in a different location from the start.

In ARDF, the required foxes may be found in any order. There is a continuous transmitter on a separate frequency near the finish to help those who get lost, lose their map, or break their glasses. Measured point-to-point from start to each fox and then to the finish by the shortest route, the courses for various categories ranged from 4.7 to 5.8 kilometers. But, it wasn’t always possible to run point-to-point in these difficult courses.

On this day, KB1RLI triumphed over two dozen other competitors in the M50 category, finding five 80-meter fox transmitters in just 53:04. He was 24 seconds ahead of Zbynek Zacek from the Czech Republic, who took second place. Normally, the M50 category competitors are required to find only four of the five transmitters, but this event was unusual because M21 and M50 were required to



Elizabeth Afonkin was the youngest member of ARDF Team USA at the 2022 World Championships in Bulgaria. Here she is punching in at the finish of a competition on 80 meters. (Photo courtesy of BFRA)



An offset attenuator for foxhunting was an ideal first construction project for the Youth on the Air (YOTA) camp participants. (All YOTA camp photos courtesy Neil Rapp, WB9VPG)

find all five on a course with an optimum route of almost 5 kilometers.

In World Championship classic events, there are medals for the first three individuals in each category. There are also national team awards in each category, based on the aggregate scores of the two or three individual team members. The team members are not permitted to assist each other on the courses. In addition to Vadim's individual gold medal, he and Alexander Myachin captured bronze for Team

USA in the M50 team aggregate score standings.

Congratulations to Vadim and Alexander. Another up-and-coming member of the team was Elizabeth Afonkin, the teenage daughter of Vadim, who competed in the W19 category for women ages 19 and under. She did not win World Championship or World Cup medals in Bulgaria, but this was not surprising because so many in her category were considerably older. But back in July 2022, Elizabeth ran in the

15th Balkan ARDF Championship and ARDF Black Sea Cup. There in the W16 category for ages 16 and under, Elizabeth took second place in all four events, which had course lengths up to 4.5 kilometers. Congratulations to Elizabeth!

Here's to even better times next year. Radio-orienteers in the Czech Republic had been originally scheduled to host the World Championships in 2022 and are now on track to put on a make-up championship event at Liberec in the Jizera Mountains during the summer of 2023. Our team members will be selected from best performers at the 2022 and 2023 USA ARDF Championships. Watch for more information in my "Homing In" website¹ and in future columns.

Youth on the Foxhunt

Radio foxhunting was an important part of the second Youth-On-The-Air (YOTA) summer camp near Cincinnati, Ohio from June 12-17, 2022. Headquarters for a week of amateur radio learning and mentoring was the Voice of America Museum in West Chester, Ohio. YOTA is following in the footsteps of the very successful Youngsters-On-The-Air movement in Europe and elsewhere. YOTA camp is for already-licensed hams between the ages of 15 to 25 living in North, Central, or South America.

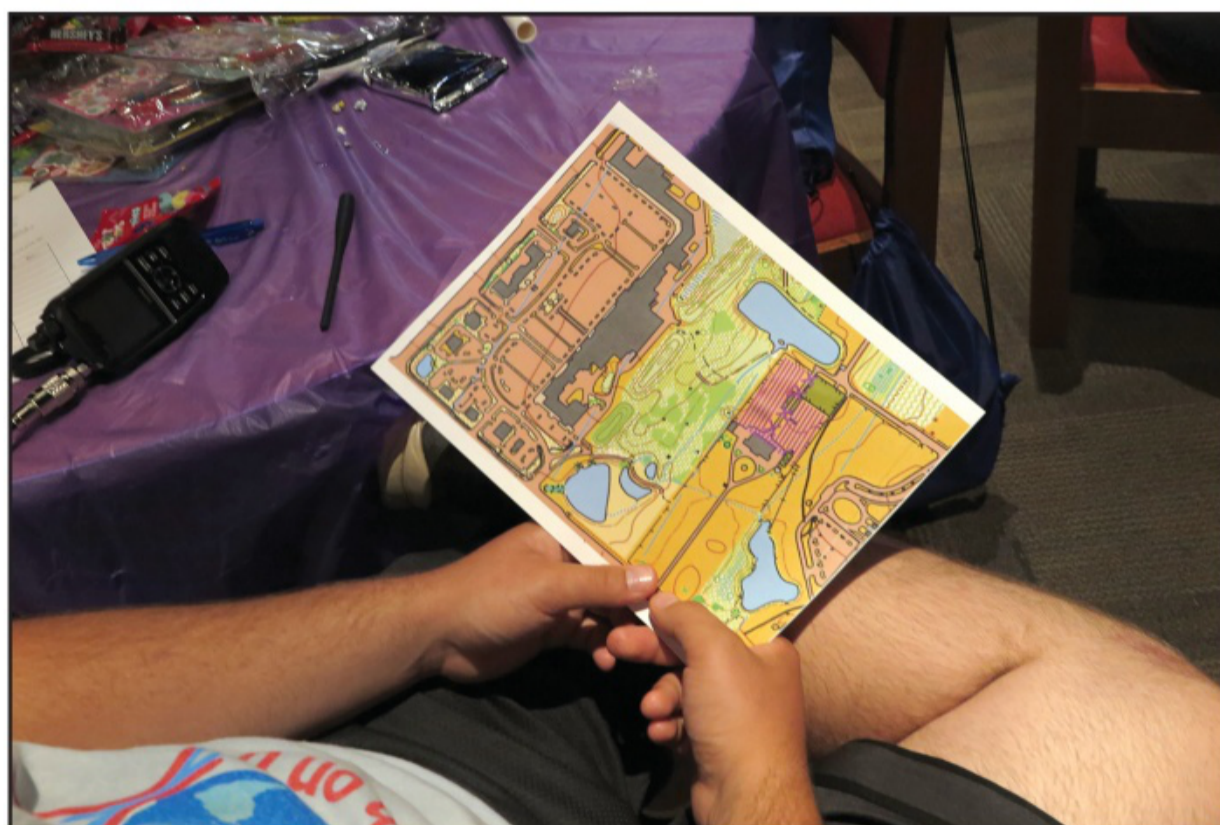
The Cincinnati area has been a center of excellence in radio-orienteering since 2003, when U.S.'s national ARDF championships took place there. Cincinnati hams have hosted subsequent championships in 2010 and 2017 and have put on a forum and on-foot foxhunt at Hamvention® almost every year. YOTA's ARDF advisor is Bob Frey, WA6EZV, of Hamilton, Ohio. Bob is a frequent medal winner at USA's ARDF championships and has competed at the World Championships four times between 2000 and 2006.

Last year at USA's first YOTA camp, Bob set up a foxoring course on 80 meters. Campers constructed their own 80-meter ARDF sets² from kits to use on the course. For 2022, the foxhunting focus was on 2 meters. Campers were invited to build their own measuring-tape Yagis and active attenuators to use connect to ID-52A handi-talkies that were provided to all campers by Icom.

The measuring-tape antennas were the standard WB2HOL design³ with added coax wrap baluns. Attenuator kits came from 3rd Planet Solar.⁴ "I 3D-printed the attenuator board cases from STL files provided by KC9ON," Bob



A YOTA camp participant works on her 2-meter measuring-tape Yagi antenna for foxhunting.



YOTA foxhunters were given an orienteering map of the hunt area.

explained. "With minor exceptions, all of the kits worked very well. Of course, this was the first time soldering for many of the campers, so we had to fix some cold solder joints. R&L Electronics provided cables, jumpers, and connectors to complete the setups."

The kit-building session took place on Monday. On Thursday afternoon, WA6EZV set out a short ARDF course with five QRP transmitters on the grounds. He then gave a presentation on basic direction-finding and navigating skills, handed out orienteering maps, and the hunt was under way. "I

started them out at 5-minute intervals and then watched the fun," Bob wrote. "There were 22 on the hunt and they all had a great time, cheered on by the camp staff."

Kudos to WA6EZV for putting on a successful radio-orienteering activity at the YOTA camp. Hat tips also to his helper Jocelyn Brault, KD8VRX and to Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG.

It's Texas in 2023

Eastern Texas will be the site of the next Championships of ARDF for the U.S. New Mexico Orienteers will host from

April 19-23, 2023, using maps provided by North Texas Orienteering Association. The Meet Director will be Jerry Boyd, WB8WFK. Course designers will be Nadia Schlarlau, KO4ADV and Charles Scharlau, NZØI.

Practice, training, and equipment testing will take place on Wednesday, the first day. That will be followed by four days of competitions in sprint, foxoring, and classics (2 and 80 meters). Medals will be awarded for each event in each of the IARU age / gender categories.

All hunts will take place in the 3,026-acre Cooper Lake State Park near Sulfur Springs, Texas. Sulfur Springs is about 95 miles northeast of Dallas-Fort Worth airport. To avoid an advantage of familiarity, anyone planning to participate in these championships may not enter the wilderness areas of the park until the first day of competition. However, the camping areas may be entered via the main roads. Camper, tent, and cabin camping are available and encouraged.

Bulletin One from the organizers⁵ has more information about this embargo and the competition schedule. The official event website is being prepared. In the coming weeks, there will be postings there about rules, frequencies, registration, and lodging available by link from the "Homing In" site.

USA's ARDF Championships are open to anyone of any age who can safely navigate in the woods with handheld radio gear for several kilometers. Don't worry if you are inexperienced at radio-orienteering, as this is a chance to learn from experts. An amateur radio license is not a requirement. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

This is my last call for reports of activities during the CQ Worldwide Foxhunting Weekend back in May. I will be reporting on Foxhunting Weekend in my next column. In addition to the details of date, location, hiders and winners, CQ's readers also want to know what was unique about your hunt and what lessons (positive and negative) you learned from it. Don't forget to include some sharp action photos, the higher the resolution, the better. Also, if your club did foxhunting with Scouts during Jamboree-On-The-Air in mid-October, I want your stories and photos of that as well.

Happy hunting!

Notes:

1. <www.homingin.com>
2. <www.sdr-kits.net/R3500D-ARDF-Kit>
3. <<https://tinyurl.com/2tc3cru6>>
4. <<https://tinyurl.com/4t4fmpnx>>
5. <<https://tinyurl.com/3vmt6yzs>>



Where is it? YOTA camp foxhunters are seeking five hidden transmitters.



YOTA camp staff cheered on the foxhunters.

the ham notebook

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY WAYNE YOSHIDA*, KH6WZ

Maker Faire®, T-Hunting for Fun, and Other Things

It was so great to be a Maker at the recent Maker Faire® Orange County (California)^{1,2}. Although it was a one-day only event, there were a lot of visitors and exhibitors. The Orange County Fairgrounds is an excellent venue, with plenty of parking. The location is also a big plus for out-of-town visitors, since there are many tourist attractions in the area, including Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, and for hams, Ham Radio Outlet.

But the best news came toward the end of the day: Maker Faire Orange County will happen in 2023. Details, including show dates, are to be determined, but I am already sketching out some ideas for new displays and demonstrations.

There was a short notice on Facebook, and the timing was very tight. I barely had time to enter an application, make my plans, and ensure my projects were working.

Unfortunately, I did not have enough time to create something new, and I barely had enough time to fix some things before the event. But, as they say in the business, the show must go on.

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As always, there were some ham visitors to the Maker Faire, and there was another Maker display featuring ham radio, with a focus on AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation)³, ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station), and CubeSatSim⁴. I was glad to see Mike Spohn, N1SPW, and his demonstrations showing how hams can communicate via satellite and talk directly to astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS). This is a great idea, presenting a different angle on ham radio's capabilities (*Photo A*).

Maker Faire and ham radio are a great match for many reasons. Not only is it a great venue to demonstrate ham radio, but it can also be used to practice emergency preparedness, network for jobs and career management, socializing, public speaking, recruiting new radio club members, and encouraging kids to become interested in electronics and technology.

My angle on ham radio at Maker Faire events continues to be a way to change and enhance the ham radio image. By that I mean to make ham radio a service to the community, a positive influence on kids, education and social balance, and equity.



Photo A. Great to see another ham radio booth at Maker Faire, but with a different angle: Mike Spohn, N1SPW, demonstrates ham radio space satellite equipment and operating.

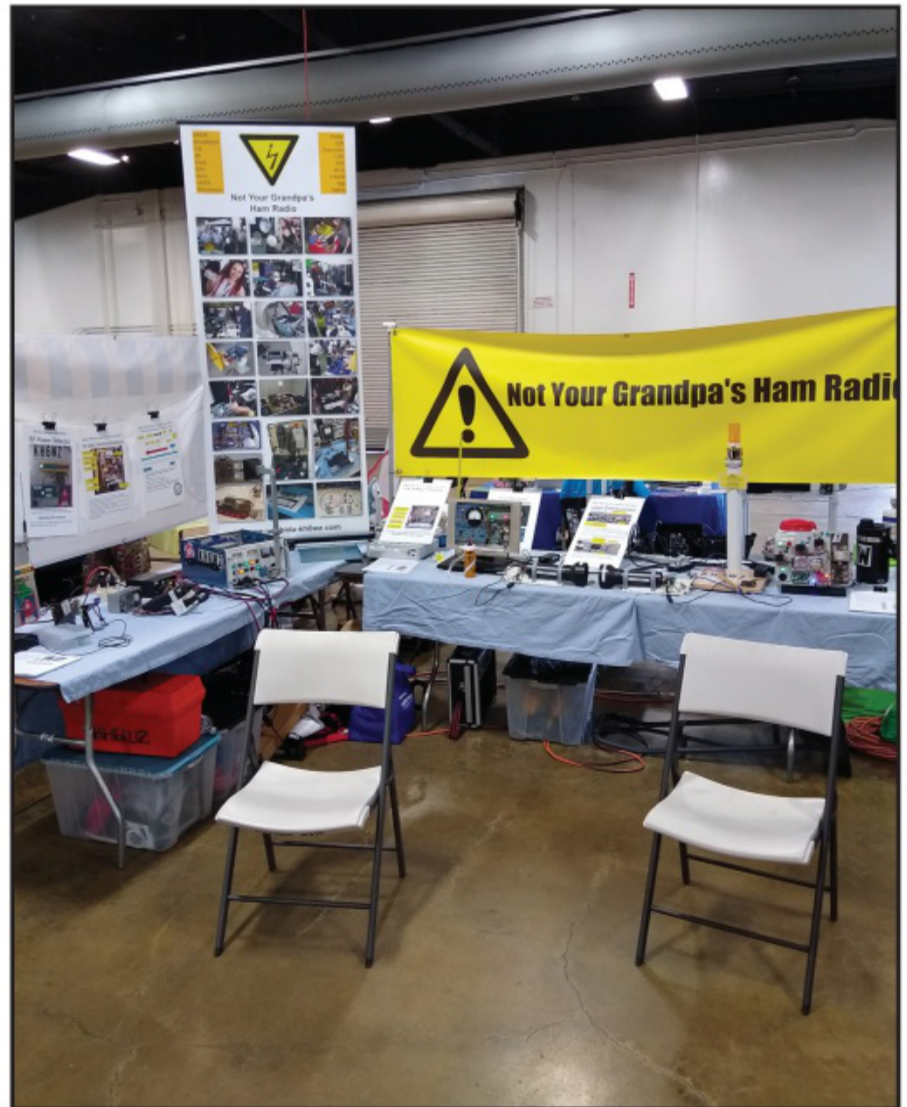


Photo B. "Not Your Grandpa's Ham Radio" at Maker Faire Orange County 2022. The emphasis is homemade projects and electronics and radio technology education for youngsters.



Photo C. Weather before and during the event was unstable, and I hoped for some natural lightning to detect. Fortunately or unfortunately, I had to use my artificial lightning sources at showtime.

Here are some highlights from Maker Faire Orange County, 2022:

- A view of the booth, freshly set up, minutes before the show opened (*Photo B*).
- The lightning detector / 300-kHz receiver is shown in *Photo C*. Interestingly, we had thunderstorms a few days before the event, and a little bit of rain on show day. I hoped the detector would have something to find, but the weather improved. I had to create some artificial lightning with my little Tesla coil and my re-packaged BBQ striker.
- The Oakwood School in North Hollywood made an appearance as seen in *Photo D*. This private school has an amazing program that teaches students how to think and to be creative in solving problems. A link⁵ to a video featuring Marcos Arias, STEAM Chairman, explaining their program and their modified definition of the acronym STEAM can be found in number 5 in the References section. The video will be on the home page toward the bottom.
- Among my favorite things to watch are the robotics displays and competitions. My favorite robot from Maker Faire Orange County is the FIRST Robotics Competition team from Valley Christian High School in Cerritos, California. Their robot is called “Phineas” and features, “climbing capabilities and an automated target-acquisition system.” As I watched these creations competing, I could not believe the robots were designed and built by high school students. I wish I had robotics in high school. I don’t have a good image of this robot, and the 51 second video I made is grainy. So, take a look at the link I pasted in number 6 of the References section to see Phineas in action⁶.
- FIRST[®] stands for “For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology,” a non-profit organization founded by Dean Kamen, the inventor of the Segway.

While on the topic of ham radio and education, please read the sidebar article about how a local high school ham radio club increased fun and excitement during the pandemic. It is written by Devon Day, KF6KEE, who claims to



Photo D. Oakwood School in North Hollywood, California, featured interesting contests and games to encourage problem-solving skills.



Photo E. A crimping tool kit for crimp-type coaxial connectors. The ratchet and die are the critical tools.

be retired, but seems to be constantly busy with things to do and helping the community.

More on the PL-259 Connector

Soldering PL-259 connectors always seems to draw comments. Here are some great comments and my replies to this critical soldering skill.

Janice, KO4UWU, asked about the various types of solder, solder flux, soldering irons and stations.

Jon, KZ1G, wonders how I get the connector shell hot enough for soldering, with that little soldering iron. Jon also mentioned that he has tried many methods for soldering the PL-259 but has moved on to crimp connectors that work well.

I like to refer people to the Elecraft website, since they sell products in kit form. Although these hints focus on printed circuit board assembly and soldering, the information is very useful for all electronics work, and has very useful advice on tools and solder. The document can be found on their website: <<https://tinyurl.com/46s2mf6e>>.

Regarding soldering irons and soldering stations, I have been using my Weller WTCPT soldering station since I was in high school (1970s). However, that model has been discontinued.

Follow the guidelines in the Elecraft document and you will make a wise choice.

Some examples include Weller model WE1010NA, and chisel-shaped tips rated at 850° F. Another alternative might be the Hakko FX888D-23BY, which can be adjusted to 899° F.

I do not have any connection with these soldering tool companies or their sellers, and I have not tried either the Weller or the Hakko unit. I am sure your local electronics parts or ham radio store can make a good recommendation, if you describe the features mentioned.

Speaking of tools, here is one of my favorite ham radio construction blog sites. Look at the Dave Richards, AA7EE, site for good advice, and lots of projects that look like fine art. Dave makes projects using the “Manhattan” style. The URL for his construction hints page is listed under #7 in the References section.

Here are some additional hints for PL-259 soldering success:

1. Start with high-quality connectors. I buy connectors from my local ham radio dealer, who stocks Amphenol and other manufacturers’ products. The connectors I buy are silver-plated brass and have Teflon® insulation. Do not buy connectors with plastic insulators.

2. If the connector is nickel-plated, I use a round rattail file and remove the plating around the area that contacts the braid, where the holes are.

3. This addresses Jon’s question:



Photo F. A crimp-type PL-259 properly installed on LMR400 coax. A length of weatherproof heat shrink tubing over the crimp and outer jacket will be added as a finishing touch.

When soldering the shell to the cable braid, I hold the entire iron tip (not the point) firmly against the connector barrel. Hold the iron tip and its shaft firmly against the shell until the solder starts to melt.

As the solder melts, move the iron around the barrel and feed the solder into the hole where you can see the braid.

Feed the solder so it wicks into the braid and into the shell holes. Make sure you can see the molten solder wicking into the connector (capillary action). This is the indicator that you have the shell hot enough to make the solder flow correctly.

If the solder is not flowing, but seems to be balling up, or rolls off the shell, this means you do not have enough heat. It may also mean your connector is not clean. Or you did not remove the nickel plating as I mentioned earlier. Go back and file that chrome off.

During the process, always keep the iron in contact with the barrel until you have soldered the braid to all four of shell holes.

The 800° tip and holding the entire tip against the shell are the keys to success to ensure enough heat is hitting the connector.

Regarding the crimp-style PL-259 connectors, I agree this may be a better way of making the right connection, and many of my friends are having good

success. I have not tried this method since I have dozens of traditional, solder-on style PL-259s on-hand. Having the right ratcheting tool and compatible connectors are the keys to success of getting crimp-style connectors properly assembled. Notice the term is “crimp-type” and not “solderless.” The center pin must be soldered to the cable.

Dennis Kidder, W6DQ, recommends the tool kit pictured in *Photo E*. It is available from DX Engineering⁸. Other retailers may have similar tools. A completed PL-259 on LMR-400

is shown in *Photo F*. Dennis also recommends adding weatherproof heat shrink tubing over the cable for the final touch.

One Final Thought

I highly recommend all hams find and join a local ham radio club — this way, you will be able to find some good, in-person help from people. The CQ website has a list of radio clubs, searchable by state. Go here: <<https://tinyurl.com/7u7e3vyyv>>. — 73, Wayne, KH6WZ

References

1. Maker Faire Orange County (Calif.) <<https://oc.makerfaire.com>>
2. My favorite way to explain Maker Faire is this video <<https://youtu.be/Wlw4qRJ5YZo>>
3. Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT) <www.amsat.org>
4. The CubeSat Simulator Project Page (CubeSatSim) <<http://cubesatsim.org>>
5. Oakwood School STEAM Program, North Hollywood, CA <<https://tinyurl.com/y7bt2hfx>>
6. “Phineas” by students from Valley Christian High School in Cerritos, California <www.epicrobotz.org/welcome>
7. Dave Richards AA7EE Manhattan-style construction and hints <<https://tinyurl.com/4a3k54as>>
8. DX Engineering PL-259 connectors and connector assembly tools <www.dxengineering.com>

Sato Academy High School Installs New Antennas and Tries Fox Hunting to Boost Excitement and Fun

BY DEVON DAY, KF6KEE



Photo G. Devon Day, KF6KEE, helps students build a tape measure Yagi for ARDF, a new activity at Sato Academy High School Radio Club. (Photo courtesy of Devon Day, KF6KEE)

Keeping a high school amateur radio club fresh and interesting can be tricky. There is a balance between building student confidence using an amateur radio and learning new and interesting things. Throw in a pandemic and that challenge gets even more intense. We have to keep radio fun.

This year, we played a lot of ham “Hide and Go Seek,” installed two HF Comet 250 B antennas and added guy lines to a 2-meter Yagi antenna on top of the school’s auditorium. We added six mag-mount antennas to our club’s 10 Yaesu FT 60-R Go Bags to improve our signal strength in and around steel buildings during a school evacuation or emergency drills.

We have begun a weekly net on the local Long Beach Repeater Associates, K6CHE, repeater on Tuesdays at 2:50

p.m., local time. That has given students practice as net control operator and has drawn in adult radio operators from all over Southern California.

Recently, four student radio operators traveled from Long Beach to Fullerton to meet with the Fullerton Radio Club, W6ULI, to build a Yagi antenna with an attenuator for tracking transmitters and compete in a low-key foxhunt (transmitter hunt).

Marvin Johnston, KE6HTS, taught the antenna clinic. Student operators from Sato Academy of Math and Science, Liam, Samuel, Emmett, and Jared all had a chance to build parts of an antenna.

International Amateur Radio Direction Finding champion Jay Thompson, W6JAY, came by and agreed to take all of us out on to the foxhunt course and show us some of the nuances he learned over the years. Having an experienced ARDF competitor showing us the basics was a huge help. In our case, our mentor has won 18 medals in international competition. We had one of the very best.

Liam Van Citters, KN6QXK, also joined us as we started our first foxhunt.

The terrain at Hilltop Park in Fullerton is very hilly and rough. Finding a transmitter was made more difficult as the signals bounced back from adjacent hills and valleys.

Jay and Liam took the lead. The rest of us did our best to keep up. In the end, Jay and Liam found all three transmitters.

All of this was possible because of the invitation from Joe Moell, KØOV, who has authored over 200 articles about ARDF and has written a book on the subject (*and is CQ’s “Homing In” columnist – ed*). Joe was enthusiastic about the Sato Academy Radio Club coming out for Saturday’s antenna clinic and T-hunt which he organized and directed.

Back at Sato Academy of Math and Science, Liam demonstrated how to use our newly made T-Hunt antennas. We used one of our Yaesu FT 60-R radios to act as the transmitter.

The experience of trying something new and working with another amateur radio club was a great one. Reaching out into the radio community helped keep the fun in the Sato Academy Amateur Radio Club.

microcontrollers in amateur radio

BY JACK PURDUM,* W8TEE

Using C Pointers: Step 2

In Step 1 of this series, we showed how much work the compiler has to do to process simple statements like these:

```
int x;
int y;
x = 5;
y = x;
```

After the definition (*not* declaration) of *x* and *y*, verbalizing the last statement, we can say: “Find the lvalue (i.e., memory address) of *x*’s bucket and grab the rvalue inside that bucket. Now get the lvalue of *y*’s bucket, and take *x*’s rvalue (i.e., 5) and dump it into *y*’s bucket located at its lvalue.” Note: “normal” assignment expressions in C involve taking the rvalue of one variable and making it the rvalue of a different variable. That is, assignment statements are usually rvalue to rvalue.

We can illustrate this with *Figure 1*. When we defined *x*, assumed the compiler assigns it memory address 1000. When we defined *y*, the compiler assigned memory address 1002. On the Arduino Uno or Nano, integer values are 16-bit numbers, so 2 bytes of memory are allocated for each variable. On a 32-bit processor, each variable would have been assigned 4 bytes of memory. (The compiler doesn’t necessarily place the addresses next to each other.) *Figure 1* shows the location in memory (i.e., the lvalue) of the two variables as well as their values (rvalue). Sticking with our bucket analogy discussed in my previous column, the variables are depicted as buckets residing in memory.

Why Use Pointers?

In some cases, your only option is to use pointers. As we’ve discussed, a function can only return a single value. Consider the following example:

Listing 1. Using a function to change values.

```
/*****
Purpose: Set the value of y based on the value of x and
reassign x
```

Argument list:

```
int a      the input value that determines b’s value
int b      the dependent variable
```

Return value:

```
void
*****/
void MyFunction(int a, int b)
{
    if (a < 10) {
        a = 1;
        b = 20;
    } else {
        a = 2;
    }
}
```

```
    b = 50;
}
}

void setup() {
    int x = 5;
    int y = x;

    MyFunction(x, y);
    Serial.print("x = ");
    Serial.print(x);
    Serial.print(" y = ");
    Serial.print(y);
}

void loop() { }
```

When I run this program, the output is: *x = 5, y = 5*. What? We want the value of *x* (i.e., its rvalue) after the call to *MyFunction()* to be either 1 or 2 and the value of *y* (rvalue) should be either 20 or 50. What went wrong?

Nothing.

The code does what it was told to do. Keep in mind that, when using a variable in a function call, the compiler *copies* the rvalue of the variables used in the function call. The compiler fetches the *rvalues* of *x* and *y* from their buckets and *copies* those values to a chunk of memory called the *stack*. Assume the lvalue of *x* is 1000 and the lvalue of *y* is 1002 in *setup()*. Note what this means: Because the stack is located in a different part of memory, the lvalue of the stack is different than the lvalues of either *x* or *y*. When program control gets to the *MyFunction()* code, the compiler has already told the function the lvalue of the stack. Let’s say we’re running this code on an Arduino Nano where an *int* takes two bytes of storage (i.e., *x* and *y* have 2-byte buckets) and we assume that the lvalue of the stack is memory address 4000.

The computer’s stack is like a stack of plates at a salad buffet in a restaurant. If you put another plate on the stack, what used to be the top of the stack (plate 4000) is now “one plate below” the top of the stack (TOS). To the computer, the TOS is now plate 3999. In other words, a computer stack grows downwards in memory.

Because the compiler knows there are two *int* variables passed to the function, it generates code that goes to the stack’s lvalue of 4000 and pops bytes 4000-3999 into *a* and bytes 3998-3996 into *b* in the code in Listing 1. Variables *a* and *b* are temporary variables that are located on the stack (memory addresses 4000-3996). Therefore, the lvalue of *a* is 4000, and the lvalue of *b* is 3998. Because the lvalues of *x* and *y* (1000 and 1002) are not the lvalues of their copies *a* and *b* (4000 and 3998) in *MyFunction()*, there is no way for *MyFunction()* to have access to or change their original values.

Function calls that use copies of the parameter variables use a process of *Call by Value*. Call by Value simply means the needed function parameter rvalues are *copied* onto the stack and the function call is made. Because *MyFunction()* has no clue as to the lvalues of *x* and *y*, it is impossible for

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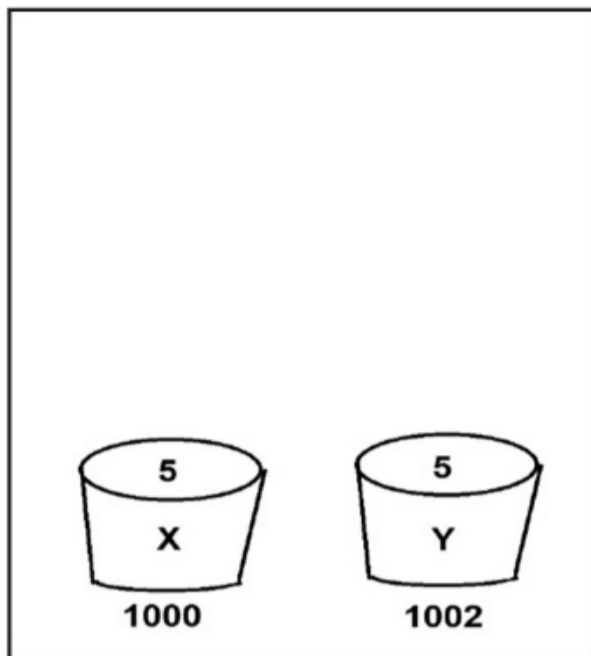


Figure 1. Variables *x* and *y* represented as buckets in memory.

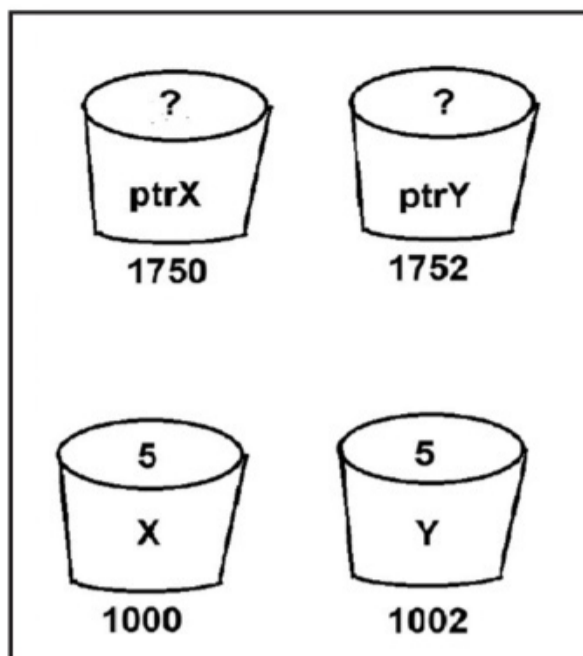


Figure 2. Memory after defining the pointer variable *ptrX* and *ptrY*.

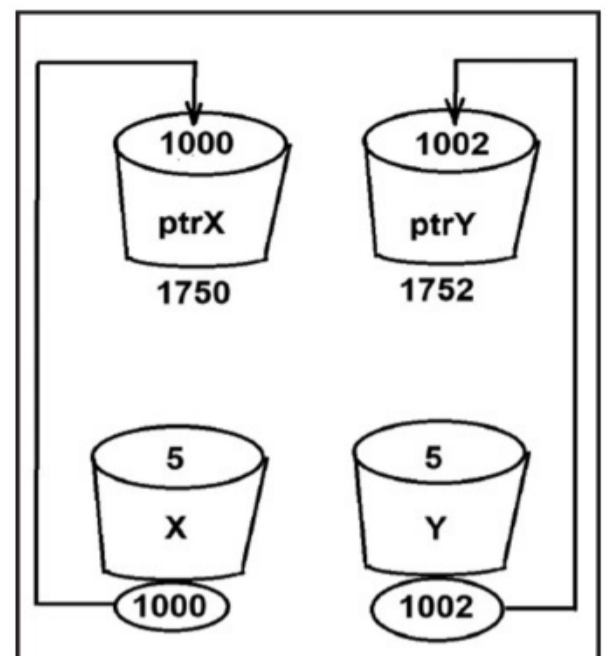


Figure 3. Memory map after pointer initialization.

the function to change their rvalues back in *setup()*. (The reason is because *x* and *y* are “out of scope” when executing the *MyFunction()* code. Scope is a topic of another column.)

The point is: If you need to change the value of one or more variables in a function, you need to use a special mechanism known as a pointer.

What is a Pointer?

A pointer is a special kind of variable that should only hold two things: 1) a memory address (i.e., an lvalue), 2) a null (i.e., `\0`). Because a pointer can only hold a memory address, the number of bytes used by a pointer is always the same for any given machine; the size of a memory address on the host machine (2 bytes for 16-bit processors, 4 bytes for 32-bit machines). Because pointers are different than “regular” variables, we need different syntax to define a pointer so the compiler can keep things straight. Suppose we want to define a pointer for each variable in our sample program above. We can do it with the following syntax:

```
int *ptrX;
int *ptrY;
```

When the compiler sees the asterisk (*), called the *indirection operator*, just before the variable names, it makes a note in the symbol table that these are pointer variables. Because they are pointers, each one is given the same sized bucket; 2 bytes for 16-bit machines, 4 bytes for 32-bit machines. This is shown in *Figure 2*. (The compiler doesn’t confuse the multiply operator with the indirection operator because the semantics are different. Multiply requires two operands, indirection only requires one.)

We have assumed the compiler placed the two pointer variable buckets at memory addresses 1750 and 1752. We show the rvalues for both pointer variables in *Figure 2* as question marks because they hold whatever random bit pattern existed when they were allocated. Those rvalues are useless to us as they stand, because their values are garbage. Indeed, many a beginning programmer has written their name into the middle of the operating system because they used a pointer with an unknown rvalue.

Recall that a statement like:

```
x = y;
```

causes the compiler to go through this process:

1. find the memory address of *y* (i.e., its lvalue)
2. go to that memory address and get the value stored there (its rvalue) and store it temporarily
3. Now get memory address of *x* (its lvalue)...
4. ...and pour *y*’s rvalue bytes of data into *x*’s bucket (its rvalue)

Note the process: A “regular” assignment statement is the movement of one variable’s rvalue (*y*) into the rvalue of the other variable (*x*) ... rvalue to rvalue, remember? To make a pointer useful, we must tie the pointer with the variable it is associated with. The question, therefore, is: How can we assign the lvalue of one variable into the rvalue of a pointer variable? Easy! Initialize the pointer variable with the memory address (lvalue) of its intended partner.

Initializing a Pointer

What we need is a mechanism to tie the pointer to its associated variable. We can do that with a pointer assignment statement:

```
int x = 5;
int y = x;
int *ptrX;
int *ptrY;
```

```
ptrX = &x;           // Pointer assignment statements
ptrY = &y;
```

The ampersand in the last two statements is called the *address-of operator*. The *address-of operator* tells the compiler to fetch the address of *x* (its lvalue) and assign that into the rvalue of *ptrX*. After this first lvalue-to-rvalue pointer assignment takes place, we say that *ptrX* is *initialized to point to variable x*. Then we initialize *ptrY* to point to variable *y* in the next statement. After pointer initialization statements, the memory map looks like *Figure 3*.

Note that the rvalue of the pointer variables are the lvalues of their associated variables. Always remember: *An uninitialized pointer always points to trouble!*

Icom IP110H WLAN Transceiver



Icom has introduced its newest license-free wireless local area network (WLAN) transceiver, the IP110H. This compact and lightweight handheld radio is designed for those needing to stay connected while on the move.

With the IP110H, you can quickly make all, group, talkgroup, individual, and telephone calls with the push of a button. While doing so, you can communicate with teams like a telephone conversation with Icom's Simultaneous TalkListen function. With most two-way radios, if you are receiving, you cannot transmit. TalkListen makes conversations more natural by allowing users to talk and receive at the same time, streamlining communications. An optional Bluetooth® headset (VS-3) is available for discreet or hands-free use though one is not required for full TalkListen functionality.

The IP110H is small in size, only measuring 2.2- x 3.8- x 1-inches, but it was constructed using a durable waterproof and dust-tight design (IP67/IP54) that meets MIL-STD-810-G. In addition, the IP110H has over 20 hours of battery operating time so users can focus on the task at hand. Other features of the IP110H include audio recording for instant review, 1,000-mW audio output, incoming call and message vibration alerts, and Over-the-Air programming (OTAP). Safety features include Motion / Stationary Detection, Man Down, and Lone Worker, all of which send an emergency call when triggered.

Icom has not released pricing for the IP110H. The IP110H is shipping and available for immediate purchase only through Network Certified dealers. To find a dealer who is certified to sell the IP110H, check out the Icom where to buy link, select Network. <<https://tinyurl.com/muenujnt>>.

An uninitialized pointer could have any unknown bit pattern as its rvalue and if you try to make an assignment with it, who knows where your data might go?

Using a Pointer

Let's stick with our example above and say we have changed the code to the following:

```
int x = 5;
int y = x;
int *ptrX = &x;           // Define and initialize the pointers
int *ptrY = &y;
```

```
MyFunction(ptrX, ptrY);
```

Note that we are now passing the pointers to `MyFunction()` instead of copies of the variables `x` and `y` rvalues. Using pointers in the function call means we are passing lvalues to `MyFunction()`, not rvalues like before. This process of using pointer variables in a function call is referred to as call by reference. Because call by reference is much different than call by value, we need to let `MyFunction()` know that it's receiving lvalues, not rvalues, for the function parameters. Therefore, we change the first line of the function definition to:

```
void MyFunction(int *a, int *b)
```

This new function definition tells the compiler that it is being passed pointer variables rather than regular variables. And because we have initialized the function parameters of `MyFunction()` properly, *the rvalues of the pointer variable function parameters are the lvalues of some other variables*. Read that last sentence over and over until you're sure you understand it. Now, let's present the function code to properly use those pointers.

```
void MyFunction(int *a, int *b)
{
    if (*a < 10) {
        *a = 1;
        *b = 20;
    } else {
        *a = 2;
        *b = 50;
    }
}
```

The asterisk operator used in the statement expressions above is called the *indirection operator*. Consider, for example, the statement:

```
*a = 1;
```

Remember, variable `a` at this pointer is the lvalue of `x` back in `setup()`. The asterisk tells the compiler: *Hey! I'm a pointer variable holding some other variable's lvalue. So take my lvalue and indirectly go to that memory address, and store the value 1 in that bucket*. Because `ptrX` is an `int` pointer, it knows to form that constant 1 as a 2-byte `int`.

Note what just happened. You assigned the value 1 at `x`'s memory address and, in the next statement, stored 20 at `y`'s memory address using the process of indirection. Now when you run the program, `x` now equals 1 and `y` now equals 20. This is all possible because we changed `MyFunction()`'s parameters from copies of `x` and `y` (i.e., call by value) to pointers for `x` and `y` (i.e., call by reference).

Conclusion

In the next column we will show you some examples of how you might want to use pointers in your own programs. For now, try to create some of your own programs that use pointers. For example, create an array of random numbers, and search for the minimum and maximum values and use pointers to set `min` and `max` defined in `setup()` and display their values.

Fast Forward

Joe Goodham prepared for his morning trip to the office in the usual way. Usual, that is, for the work “week” that requires appearing at the office twice each week; his assigned days are Tuesday and Friday. After the pandemics of 2020, 2026, and 2031, remote work had become the norm but business school research had determined that an office presence twice each week was best for productivity, management updates, and to advance team projects that drew on the synergy emerging from face-to-face meetings. Each employee was assigned specific days so that a work surface could be shared among the rotating staff presence in the newer, downsized offices.

He eased himself into the compact but comfortable confines of his car and ordered it to prepare his customary decaf Americano brew as the auto eased onto the street for the 25-minute commute to the office park / residential plaza, a mixed-use structure that was a small community of about 2,500 people, give or take.

Joe activated the mobile ham radio but before he could monitor the bands, his communications implant signaled a message from his wife; her gentle voice wished him a good day, and would he please remember to pick up a small gift for their daughter, whose birthday is tomorrow. The reminder was committed to the implant’s memory as a nudge set for when he would leave the office, as detected by the implant’s GPS and motion detectors.

Turning his attention back to the radio, his implant linked to the control module, which informed him that solar conditions were about average that day. The display screen lit up with a depiction of conditions, a representation of the D, E, and F layers at that moment and the receiver had found a few DX contacts that may be possible on 20 meters, a station calling CQ on 17 and a local roundtable discussion on 40. Joe told the radio to find the CQ and responded to the caller with his ID and began a pleasant QSO with the station located in the Canadian Maritimes. The Canadian was impressed with Joe’s mobile signal, which sprang from a microtuned antenna that continually optimized both input and output. The autologger had already captured the essential information from the contact and forwarded the data to the central logbook; at the same time, notification of the contact in progress was also available to every ham connected to the worldlink. While the two were conversing, the data stream between the two stations brought up the name, location, and even a photo of the conversants, a brief biography and the weather conditions at each location. The data screen also flashed a message saying another two stations had begun a contact on a frequency just a few Hertz away; no problem, the narrow digital signals had made QRM a thing of the past.

While listening, Joe sipped his coffee as the self-driving car slipped along the boulevards. He briefly took notice of the close integration of cross-traffic at a busy intersection; continuously integrated vehicle-to-vehicle communications had made traffic signals (and driver-piloted vehicles) obsolete in the early part of the 2030s. As a result of the traffic man-



A somewhat younger version of your author in front of the Cannonball Run Pub in Wyoming, New York, circa 1998.

agement systems, accidents and police traffic enforcement were no longer costly problems. The vehicle spoke a gentle reminder that he would arrive at the office in less than 5 minutes, so Joe wrapped up the contact and bade 73 to his Canadian contact, took a last sip of coffee, and made a mental note to review his award eligibility status on the home viewer, when he returned that evening. Since all data everywhere was now in The Cloud, information was always available, be it on a viewer, eyeglass projection, a wristband, or verbally through the implant.

Joe’s car eased itself into the company-provided inductive charging port, the hatchway opened and Joe began his workday in a good frame of mind as he tried to imagine how his hobby could get any better.

Back to The Past (Present?)

While we’re not quite living *The Jetsons* lifestyle (even though 2022 was the year in which George was supposedly born), the future is being shaped as you read this page. Self-driving cars are a reality, already traveling the streets of San Francisco in taxi service and they will soon appear in Austin and Phoenix. You can read more about this amazing project at <www.getcruise.com>

Imagine how mobile operations might change as you travel solo and work contacts to your heart’s content. CW or digital modes could be done while working a key or keyboard. And while I’m sure there are some who are doing that now, the danger of distracted driving would be erased, even for those drawn into a compelling 2-meter roundtable discus-

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sion. Emergency responders or weather observers could be free to report their findings in great detail. I'm sure we're just scratching the surface, but the common denominator is that many mobile functions that were best accomplished by two persons in a vehicle could soon be achieved by one. So, are we ready to create the future of mobiling?

A Late Autumn Story

Shifting gears (a little mobiling humor), I'll share a true story from my youth that took me years to assemble.

My college life was rather lean economically. Like the old joke goes, "I was so broke, I couldn't pay attention ..." I was getting by through working minimum-wage jobs, a few small grants, some student loans (all paid back in full, thank you) and acting as an RA my senior year. A feisty little VW transported me from my freshman through junior years but its rust-ridden body and chassis fell victim to the salt-strewn winter highways of upstate New York. Alas, the Bug was beyond repair and my budget would not allow for repair or replacement. But back in those days, it was still possible to get around by displaying one's thumb to cover some pretty good distances or just get across town.

My college was located in the little village of Geneseo, New York, a bucolic setting aside the sprawling agricultural Genesee River valley. The campus is

right out of a movie set, ivy covered brick buildings set on a hillside with magnificent views.

One weekend, I had thumbed my way to Buffalo, some 70 miles distant. Though I can't recall the exact purpose, I think there was a woman involved. If you ever read Kerouac's *On The Road*, you get an idea of the serendipity of hitchhiking as a hit-or-miss mode of travel. Sometimes you did well, other times you shivered in the rain. I'm often taken back to those days when I hear Simon & Garfunkel's *America* — "It took me four days to hitchhike from Saginaw ..." Sadly, it's no longer wise or safe to engage in the practice. But I digress.

While returning from Buffalo, I got out of the city to US 20 and was picked up for few short stints that took me into farm country. Dusk was beginning to set in that autumn evening and I began to walk as the passing traffic grew scarce. A few cars rushed by and my hopes were waning as the cold began to cut through my jacket. Then, a sports car passed, but pulled over. The deep-voiced middle-aged driver asked where I was headed, I told him and he said, "get in" and I did. No sooner did I close the door when I said, "This is a Lamborghini Miura." The driver responded, "Not many people would know that," because at that early date, Lambos were pretty rare. He said I can take you down 63 to 19; after that, you're on your own." I said I was grate-

ful for the ride and added that if he wanted to use any of the capabilities of that amazing car, that was OK with me. We didn't chat much, but I enjoyed the warmth and any attempts at conversation would be challenged by the "music" from the mid-engine V-8 mounted just behind my head.

At the Route 19 intersection, I bade my thanks to the driver as he headed off to the little hamlet of Wyoming, New York. As a cold mist set in, I was (kind of) lucky to catch a ride to my destination in the open cargo bed of a pickup truck, but hey, it was a ride.

The Radio Connection

It was only a few years (yes, years) later that I put the pieces of this story together and came to the conclusion that the Lamborghini driver was most likely Brock Yates, an amazing man of many talents, race car driver, author, broadcaster, editor of *Car and Driver* and other magazines, creator of the famous (but illegal) *Cannonball Baker Sea-To-Shining-Sea Memorial Trophy Dash*, screenwriter including the *Cannonball Run* and *Smokey and the Bandit* films, which made Yates a lot of money off the presence of CB radios in cars and trucks across the U.S. And I dare say, many of us (now hams) were among the millions of CB users in the 1970s (I still have two). Yates and his late wife Pamela were also restaurateurs, as owners and operators of the now defunct Cannonball Run Pub in Wyoming, New York.

Some years later, a bit older and a tad more prosperous, I did a return trip to upstate New York and made it a point to stop and have an adult beverage at the pub (see photo), the walls of which were covered with racing memorabilia, much of it autographed by some of the world's most famous drivers. Sadly, Mr. Yates wasn't there that day, and he passed away in 2016. So I was never able to fully confirm my suspicions, or convey my thanks for a ride given to a shivering, starving, student that cold autumn night. But in support of my presumption, the population of Wyoming doesn't exceed three digits and most of the vehicles found in that area are made by John Deere, so my supposition seems pretty strong that he was the Lambo pilot.

The roundabout end to this story is that mobile radios figured prominently in his string of film successes, just one more example of taking a good idea and putting it to a new, fascinating and in his case, lucrative use.

— Happy Mobiling!
73, Jeff

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digital connection

BY DON ROTOLO,* N2IRZ

The 2022 ARRL & TAPR Digital Communications Conference

Some Notes From the 41st Annual DCC



Some of the attendees at the 41st annual ARRL & TAPR Digital Communications Conference held in Charlotte, North Carolina last September. While not yet finalized, next year's DCC will most likely happen in Phoenix, although there was some discussion of having it virtually as was done in 2021.

In the middle of September, I drove to Charlotte, North Carolina to attend the 41st annual ARRL & TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC). Originally known as the Computer Networking Conference (CNC), this annual event has people from the breadth of humanity, hams and non-hams, experts and beginners, gathering together to find out where the state of the art lies in digital communications. When TAPR (Tucson Amateur Packet Radio) joined with the ARRL to run these conferences, the name DCC was adopted.

As a short 4-hour drive from Atlanta, along with a \$99-a-night discounted room rate, this was yet another opportunity to meet with fellow enthusiasts in person instead of yet another Zoom meeting. I was fortunate at Hamvention to avoid the recent bat sniffles plague, but at the Huntsville Hamfest I did manage to catch Covid-19 for the very first time. Thankfully the vaccines and boosters did their job and I suffered only a mild sore throat for a few days along with about a half-day of fever. Yes, I am fully vaccinated and boosted: In the immortal words of John Cleese, "Well, I may be an idiot, but I'm no fool."

The range of presentations was only exceeded by the opportunities for personal networking and conversation. This month, I'll just touch on several topics of interest, and over the course of the next several months we will take a closer look at a few.

GPS Receiver Board

Jason Rausch, K4APR, gave the first presentation on Saturday morning about his work on an integrated APRS tracker that he developed and showed at the conference. I'll write more about that some other time, because what interested me even more was his low-cost GPS receiver board.

The GPS receiver board is about the size of a USB memory stick. Using a Radionova M10578-A2 GPS chipset, it delivers GPS data as you might expect, along with a 1PPS (one pulse per second) output. The Radionova chipset is known to be one of the best around, with high sensitivity for faster and more robust satellite acquisition. If you have any potential use for GPS data, this would be a very nice solution.

Folks interested in running APRS on a computer (such as a laptop or Raspberry Pi) would find this small (just under 1 x 2 inches) board quite handy. Since all GPS receivers deliver fairly accurate time information, it can also be handy for digital modes (such as FT8) and other activities that need

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accurate timing. It has a 1PPS output for super-accurate timing applications in the lab. He is also developing a version suitable for the workbench: A little bit larger, with five LED indicators and some other useful features.

With lots of handy features, such as SMA connectors for the included magnetic-mount antenna and 1PPS output, power to support an active antenna, micro-USB connector (a cable with a USB-A connector is also included) and onboard CR2032 battery to help with faster GPS fix acquisition, it should deliver everything you'd want in a GPS receiver, even your location (imagine that). Two DIP switches select the serial data rate, and the board includes LED indicators for power, valid GPS fix, and 1PPS status.

While still in the development stages, he expects to make these available in the \$70 range through his company, RPC Electronics, LLC, before the end of the year. Visit his website <www.rpc-electronics.com> for more information.

1PPS and Precision Timing

Speaking of 1PPS, John Ackermann, K8UR, gave a fascinating presentation that explained in plain language some of the pitfalls of relying on GPS for precision timing. The 1PPS output is extraordinarily clean, often offering accurate timing to within about a hundred nanoseconds to NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) time. However, many GPS chipsets have the ability to multiply upwards the 1PPS output to much higher frequencies, well into the megahertz range. Setting your GPS chip to, say, a 10 MHz output sounds all well and good to get a stable and accurate laboratory reference.

Laboratories (including those of advanced amateurs) often have test equipment that needs a very accurate and stable time base to deliver high-quality measurements. One can also use such a reference signal as a means of maintaining excellent frequency stability in radio transmitters and receivers. The temptation to just use the GPS chip's 10 MHz output and say it's good is a misplaced idea. As John explained, you'll get 10 million pulses out of the chip every second, but not every pulse is the same size: The chip's internal clock isn't as accurate, so to deliver the 10-MHz output, the chip will actually skip pulses so that there's only 10 million of them. In other words, while the 10-MHz output will average to a fairly precise 10 MHz over time, in any given second it can stop pulsing long enough

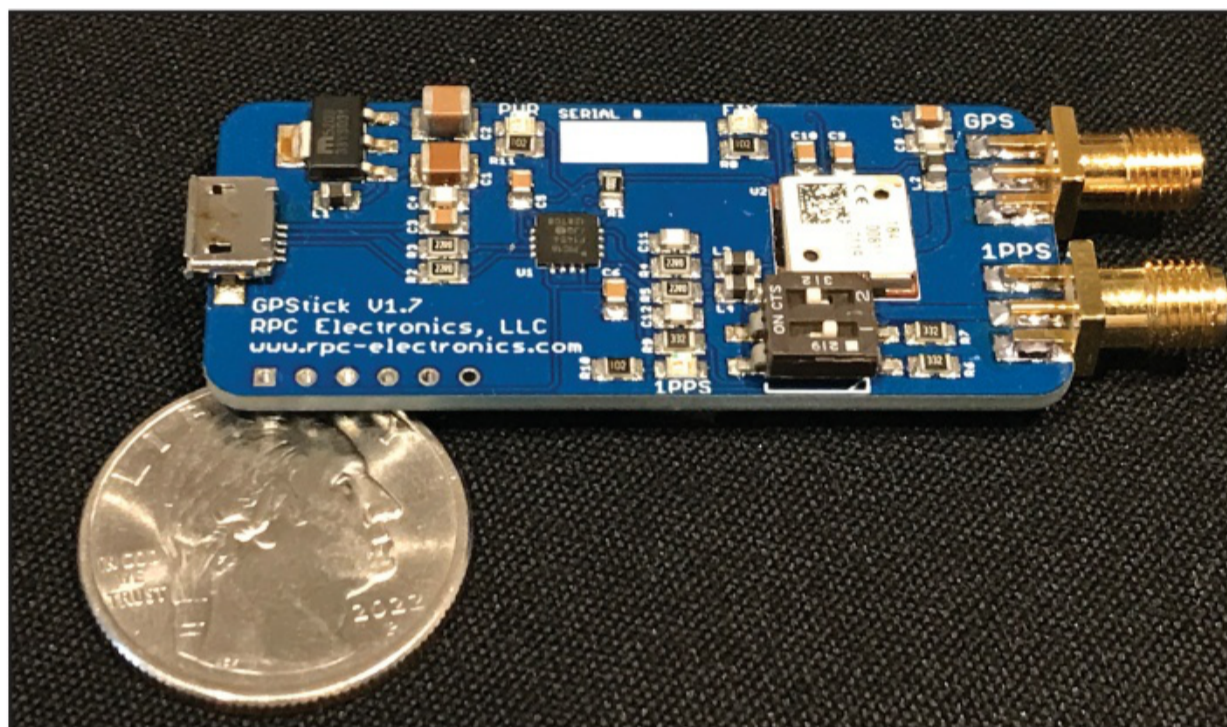
to introduce glitches into your equipment and measurements.

A GPS Disciplined Oscillator (GPSDO) makes use of the GPS 1PPS signal to discipline an external oscillator to deliver an accurate frequency output. It does this by comparing the phase of the GPS signal to that of the oscillator and, based on the error found, nudging the oscillator with a very slow Phase-Locked Loop (PLL) to move back toward the correct frequency. But this is not a trivial endeavor, particularly if you want a good reference signal.

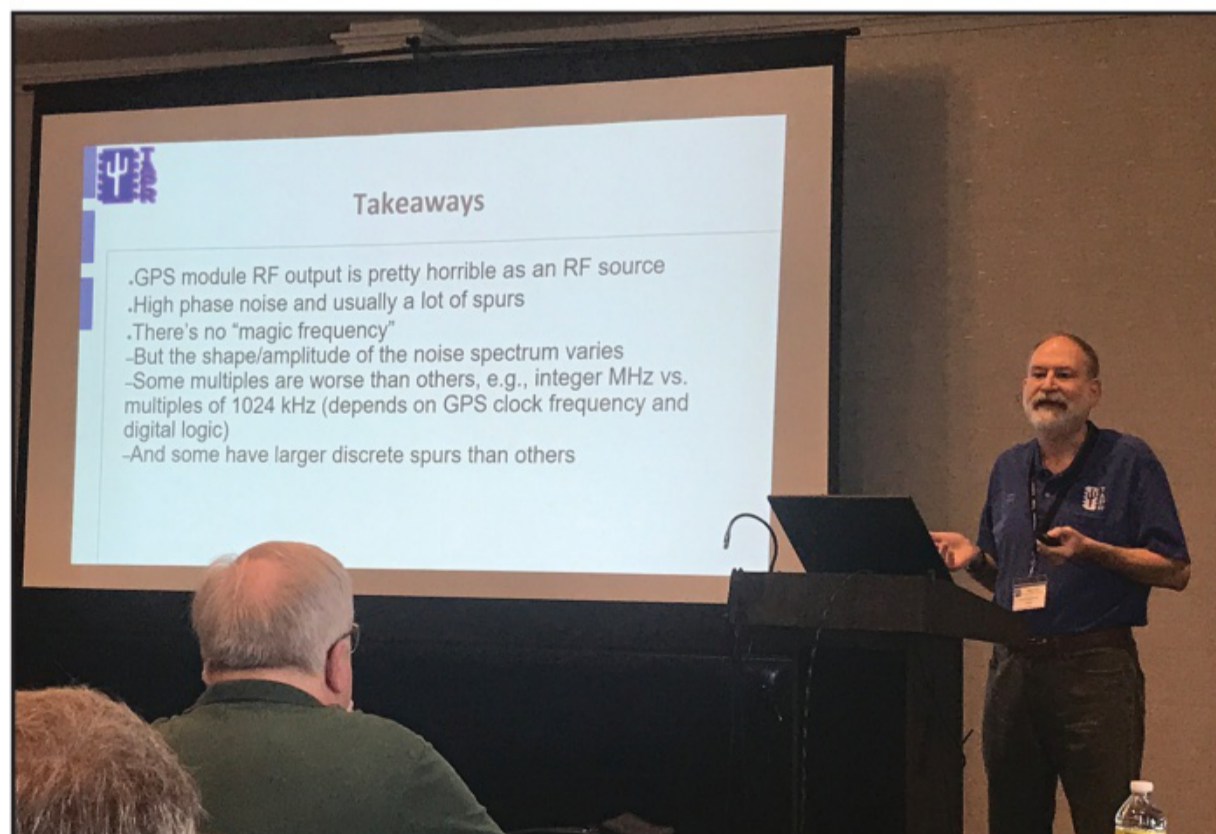
A GPS chip's RF output cannot be used to replace a GPSDO, but John

explained that "jitter attenuator" chips exist that basically perform the PLL and oscillator function to simplify the delivery of an accurate and stable RF clock. Hams call it phase noise, computer folks call it jitter, but they are the same thing: Instability of the reference. But beware, they are measured differently and cannot be directly compared.

These jitter attenuator chips are developed to clean up any noise from wiring, connectors, and other local sources, in the lab-wide reference signal. As such, they tend to have faster PLL loops, since they expect to start with a fairly good signal. Nonetheless,



The GPStick from RPC Electronics. Tiny yet powerful, this inexpensive GPS receiver offers a precision 1PPS output along with adjustable USB baud rates and an onboard battery to ensure quick fix acquisition from a cold start.



John Ackermann, N8UR, at the 2022 DCC in Charlotte, presenting his thoughts on getting precise timing from a GPS receiver.

they do have applications for GPS-derived reference signals, and they are considerably easier to implement than a traditional GPSDO.

M17 Digital Voice

I had the pleasure of sharing a table at dinner with some of the folks involved with the M17 Project <m17project.org> team. They are developing a new digital radio protocol for data and voice for the ham community. The digital voice (DV) part of the protocol uses the free and open Codec 2 voice encoder.

Those of you involved with DV can remember several years ago some DV modes used a certain DV codec without paying the licensing fees. When the codec's owner pointed this out, a minor panic to find a replacement occurred, resulting in (at least) Codec 2.

Anyway, The M17 project is working on software and hardware designs that are open source, meaning they can be copied, modified, and shared freely to maintain amateur's ability to tinker with things.

While still months or years away from being ready, they are working and moving everything forward, a little at a time. Right now, Ed Wilson, N2XDD, told me that they are looking for volunteers to help, especially as they move from design into hardware. If you're at all interested, or perhaps even qualified, I urge you to give them a shout via their website. They did get some help in the

form of a grant from ARDC, which brings me to my next topic.

ARDC

Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) is a philanthropic organization dedicated to the support, promotion, and enhancement of digital communication, as well as to broader communication science and technology. It offers

grants large and small to people and teams aligned with their philanthropic goals, such as The M17 Project and TAPR. The group has funded a total of 61 new projects with over \$5.6 million so far in 2022, ranging from \$15,000 to over \$1 million.

ARDC traces its roots to 1981 when, at the beginning of the internet, Hank Magnuski, KA6M, was assigned the



Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) presented a grant to allow these University of Scranton (PA) students attend the DCC in Charlotte. Their advisor, Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, is in the gray shirt at front right.



Rosy Schechter, KJ7RYV, the executive director of ARDC, presenting at the DCC Saturday banquet. Her topic was creating the right environment to welcome new amateurs to the hobby.

Class A 44.0.0.0/8 block of 16.7 routable IP addresses for amateur radio use, establishing AMPRNet. Many years later, in 2019, a fraction of those addresses — then and now having a value in the tens of millions of dollars — were sold off and ARDC was created and funded. According to one attendee, they should be able to fund a few million dollars' worth of grants every year in perpetuity with the proceeds.

This year's DCC was originally planned in 2019 for 2020, but then Covid happened. While a typical DCC attracts over a hundred attendees — and TAPR negotiated its contract based on that historical figure — the reality of 2022 meant that somewhat fewer people registered. Even though the contract was fairly generous and low-priced, as it was negotiated in 2019, there was still a significant funding shortfall. ARDC stepped in to relieve this financial burden from TAPR, and those ARDC representatives in attendance were thanked enthusiastically.

One of ARDC's goals is the support and growth of amateur radio. Funding the travel expenses for a group of students from the University of Scranton to attend the DCC this year was part of that. Rosy Schechter, KJ7RYV, the executive director at ARDC, gave a wonderful talk at the Saturday banquet on the topic of welcoming new participants to amateur radio. I wish I could relate her points more accurately, but the gist is to be welcoming, meet them where they are, ensure that knowledge

transfer happens, and follow through to ensure they are getting what they need.

If you or your group might have a need for funding, I urge you to contact ARDC. They are always looking for worthy projects to fund, and yours might just qualify. Visit <www.ampr.org> to get more information on grants: What ARDC is looking for, their requirements, and to learn how to complete their online application. Grants are awarded twice a year, so if you miss the next deadline, there's always another on the horizon.

FST4W

One of the most interesting presentations was delivered by Gwyn Griffiths, G3ZIL, on the topic of some findings regarding the FST4W mode on VLF. Gwyn wasn't there in person, instead sending on a pre-recorded presentation, but he made an interesting point.

FST4W is part of the WSJT-X package and offers WSPR-like transmissions on the 630- and 2200-meter bands. With QSO time slots of 120, 300, 900, and 1,800 seconds (that's 15 minutes!), it has unbelievable performance in the presence of noise, pulling valid signals from something like -30 dB from the noise floor. With a bandwidth on the order of 0.5 Hz, this kind of performance isn't all that shocking.

One would think that by increasing the time period, we'd get much better performance, and that is true — to a point. The weakness that G3ZIL presented, which actually shows the longer-time modes to be almost unusable in certain

circumstances, flies in the face of reason, but when we stop to consider it, actually makes perfect sense.

That weakness is frequency stability. Just like we hear a lot more noise when trying to decode a narrow CW transmission while using a wide SSB filter, FST4W with its narrow bandwidth underperforms when the transmitter and/or receiver drift in frequency by something on the order of 1 Hz. And, having any radio system maintain that kind of frequency stability over a 15-minute period is a bit of a stretch, especially when compared to a 120-second period.

The conclusion is that unless such stability can be maintained, the performance of FST4W-1800 drops off like a rock when either side of the conversation drifts in frequency even just a little. Without any drift, it offers superior performance to the other versions of this mode.

It struck me as odd that the 1,800-second mode might perform poorly in the real world, but the reasons for that phenomenon make sense to me. I guess this would be a good use for a GPSDO.

TAPR

And, finally, we come to the host of the DCC, Tucson Amateur Packet Radio. Although it hasn't been based in Tucson for quite some time, and its main focus isn't packet radio anymore, the organization is working on several really interesting projects, such as the Tangerine SDR (Software-Defined Radio) and TAPR TICC. During the annual membership meeting, it was noted that around 25 of the TAPR TICC (a time-stamping counter with a 60-picosecond resolution) kits flew off the shelves in August alone. You can read about these and other projects, as well as the products, services, and documents TAPR offers to the amateur community, at <www.tapr.org>.

TAPR is stable financially, but if you are a digital radio enthusiast, please consider offering some support. Become a member, write for the TAPR *Packet Status Register*, volunteer to help with a project, or pitch a project you'd like to do with them. Without our support, organizations like this eventually run out of money and enthusiasm and just wither away.

That's all for this month, but I have a couple of ideas for what we'll explore in the coming year. If YOU have any ideas, please drop me a line, as it would be great to hear from you.

— Until next time, 73 de N2IRZ

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learning curve

BY RON OCHU, KOØZ

Going in (Auroral) Circles

Ah, it is November. A nip is in the air, summer's heat and humidity become a distant memory; Thanksgiving and the holiday season are nearing. November is also a time when we spend more time indoors, which means more time to make radio Qs (QSOs: contacts / conversations) both near and far. HF DXing (long distance radio contacts made using the high-frequency shortwave bands) is near and dear to this columnist's heart. Antennas are a vital component to successfully work DX. Directional antennas like Yagis (*Photo A*) and cubical quads (*Photo B*) are DX operators' favorite antennas because they concentrate RF (radio frequency) emissions in a desired azimuth (direction). Of course, omnidirectional HF antennas (*Photo C*) can also work DX stations, but directional antennas make working DX, especially rare DX with hundreds trying to call the station (or a pileup), easier to put into your logbook. But antennas are only a part of the equation to working DX.

Where to Point the Antenna?

An omnidirectional antenna radiates in all directions, so knowing where to concentrate RF energy is not as important as when using a directional antenna. Which azimuth (bearing) do I need to point my directional antenna to concentrate my RF in the DX's direction?

This is where great circle bearings come into play. Since elementary school, most of us have viewed our planet either in terms of a globe or a Mercator map projection (*Photo D*). Mercator maps depict accurate continental shapes, but not size and distances. On the other hand, an azimuthal map accurately depicts direction from a central point (*Photo E*), in this case, it's centered on Cairo, Egypt. This is known as a great circle bearing. A ham radio operator in Cairo, Egypt, wishing to work a station in Brazil would need to point his directional antenna slightly southwest. Looking at a Mercator map projection, it doesn't appear to be much different.

*Email: <ko0z@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo A. The Yagi is a popular directional antenna. Rotor motors are used to move directional antennas. (Photos courtesy of Wikimedia Commons, except as noted)

Now let's look at an azimuthal map centered on the central part of the U.S. The world looks a lot different in terms of direction (*Photo F*), especially when compared to the Mercator map projection shown in *Photo D*. According to the Mercator map, if I wanted to work Spain, I would need to point my antenna due east. However, the azimuthal map informs me that a due east heading would concentrate my signal toward central Africa. In fact, Spain's heading is closer to 60° and not 90°. From the central U.S., Australia can be found between 250 and 300°. Good to know if I wish to work eastern or western Australia. Australia lies along a more

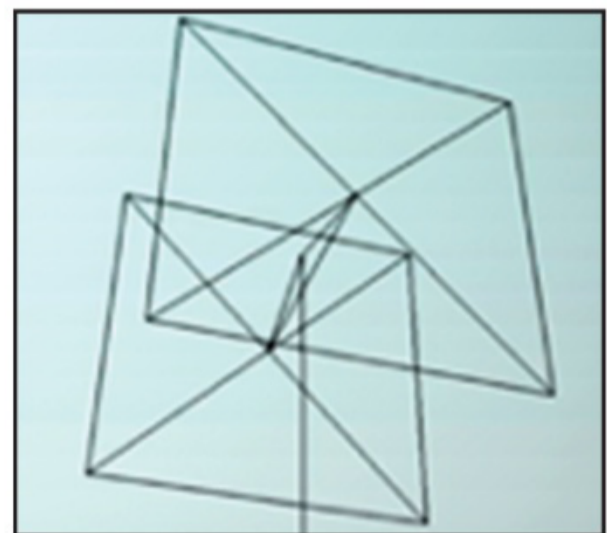


Photo B. A cubical quad is another popular directional antenna.

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westerly direction than what a Mercator map indicates.

Obviously, knowing which true direction to aim a directional antenna increases chances for a successful QSO. Where can I obtain an azimuthal (great circle) map? Fortunately, you can download a personalized azimuthal (great circle) map for your QTH thanks to the generosity of Thomas Epperly, NS6T. He maintains a website, <https://ns6t.net/azimuth/azimuth.html> that will generate a map centered on your QTH (location). Knowing true direction is important, but there's another factor to our equation: QRN.

QRN

QRN, also known as static, comes from a variety of sources. Some static is generated by man-made sources (*if the source is man-made, it is called QRM*

—ed) such as arcing power lines and electric motors. Most static comes from natural sources such as lightning strikes and space weather effects. Our sun constantly produces a solar wind that envelopes our solar system and our planet (*Photo G*), which causes atmospheric noise.

Solar wind is a plasma stream of charged particles emanating from our sun. These particles interact with Earth's magnetic field, which protects our planet from our Sun's harmful radiation. This magnetic field is created by Earth's molten iron core. One of the drawbacks to this molten core is that it causes earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis, but we can be grateful that it produces a strong, protective, magnetic field to protect our fragile, life-supporting atmosphere from being stripped away by the solar wind.



Photo C. A vertical antenna is omnidirectional. It can transmit and receive in all directions. (Photo by KOØZ)



Our sister planet, Mars, has a very thin atmosphere. Many scientists have theorized that Mars once had a more substantial atmosphere, but it was stripped away by the solar wind. It is thought that Mars's molten core solidified over time; thereby greatly reducing its magnetic field and any subsequent protection from solar wind impacts. After a long time, it has rendered Mars a cold, desert-like planet.

Aurora

Periodically, our sun produces intense coronal mass ejections and solar flares that, combined with the solar wind, impact Earth's magnetic field. This interaction with our planet's magnetic field can produce amazing light displays known as the Aurora Borealis (northern lights) and the Aurora Australis (southern lights) (*Photo H*). These phenomenal light shows are beautiful, but they are made up of charged particles that interact with Earth's ionosphere. We know HF radio waves are refracted in the ionosphere, which creates "skip zones," thereby allowing our signals to reach distant continents. However, if the ionosphere becomes "too" charged, HF signals can be absorbed in an ionospheric region called auroral circles.

We have two auroral circles. One is centered around the North Pole and the

Photo D. A Mercator projection is a commonly used map to depict the world. It accurately depicts continent shapes but not their true size or distance from each other.



Photo E. Azimuthal (great circle) maps are ideal for showing true bearings from a central spot. This map is very useful for hams using directional HF antennas.

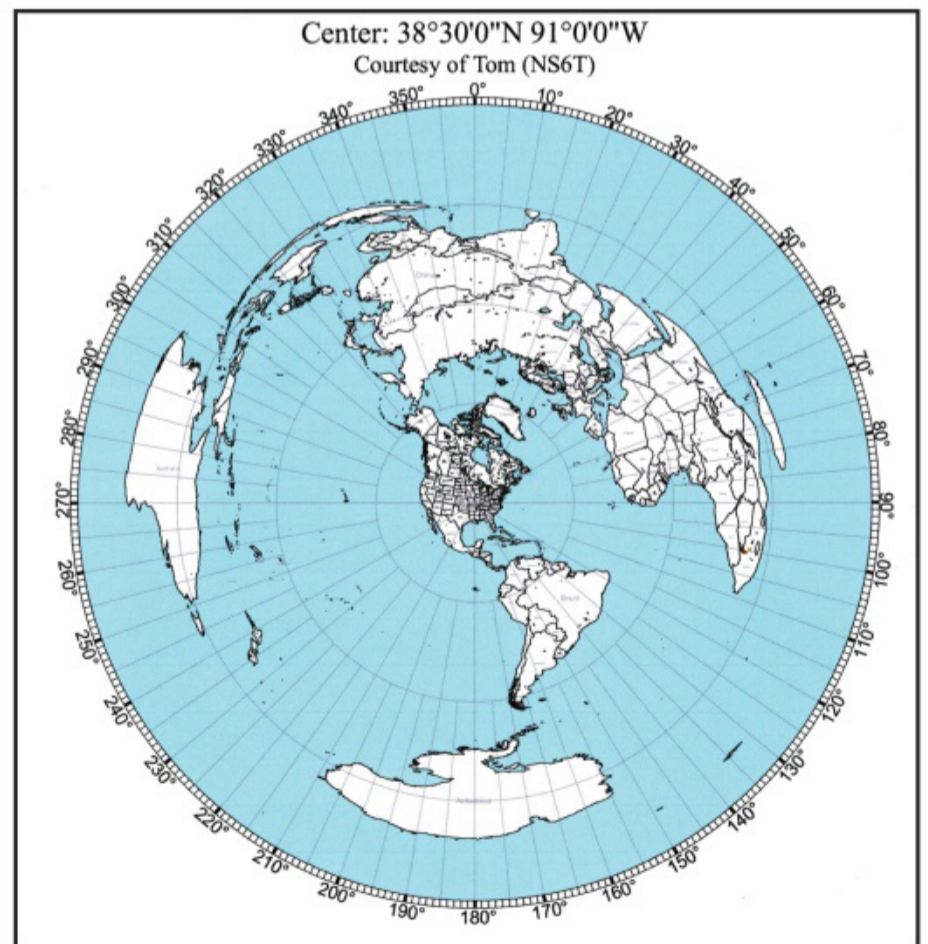


Photo F. An azimuthal (great circle) map generated from NS6T's website centered on my grid square EM48 in the central U.S. (Courtesy of <<https://ns6t.net>>)

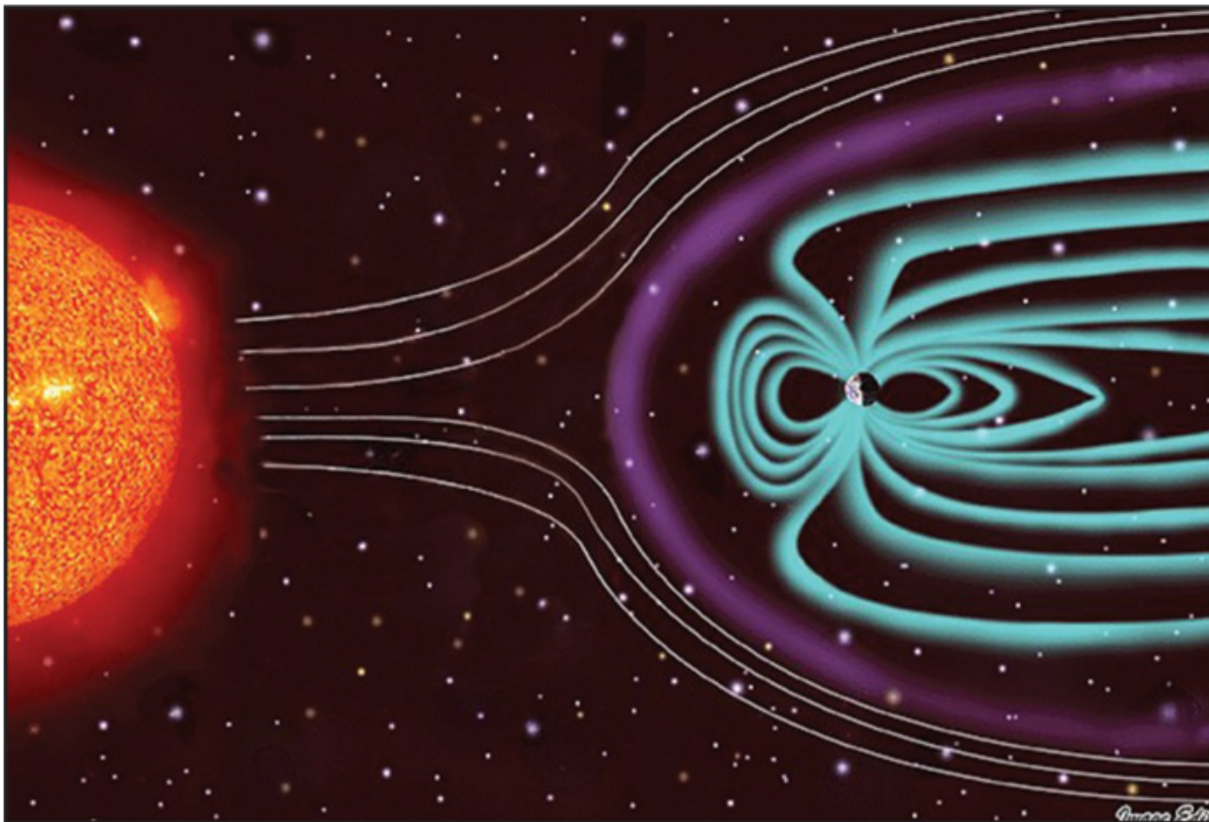


Photo G. The sun emits particles in what's known as the solar wind. Solar wind interacts with Earth's magnetic field which in turn affects DX propagation.



Photo H. Our sun's solar wind interacting with our Earth's magnetic field is responsible for aurora. If the ionosphere becomes very charged, radio signals can be absorbed along certain paths.

other the South Pole (*Photos I and J*). The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Prediction Center (NOAA SPC), using the Ovation Aurora model, publishes a daily aurora forecast <<https://tinyurl.com/db9eusx8>>. Examining *Photos I and J*, the auroral circle is clearly seen. Green indicates a probability of aurora of approximately 2 to 45%. The darker the color the greater the probability. What is interesting to note is the oval can increase in size and

expand outward as energy levels increase with solar interaction. *Photo K* is a fine example of intense auroral activity. This event took place on September 8, 2017. The red is indicative of intense auroral activity in the ionosphere that extends well toward the northern U.S. border.

Combining Circles

We now have two predictive "tools" in our DX toolbox. We have a great circle

bearing (azimuthal) map, and we have a website to forecast aurora. Using our great circle bearing map centered on the U.S., we see it looks similar to the map used by NOAA's SPC Ovation forecast model. This is very helpful for amateur radio operators. For example, if we wish to direct our antenna toward England, a heading of 45° would work nicely. On most days we should have a good, clear path. However, if a geomagnetic storm is in progress like the one depicted in *Photo K*, it's easy to see that the 45° heading to most of Europe passes right through the "red" area in the auroral circle. There is very high chance that RF signals are being absorbed along that path until the storm subsides. All we would hear would be static. If there are days when the band(s) appear to be "dead," then check out the aurora forecast model. This model's product is not minute by minute, but it does give a very good picture of current activity. Likewise, check out the southern hemisphere aurora forecast model. Next, check to see if your intended DX path passes through these circles.

Other Factors

There are other space weather factors to consider such as solar indices, CME (coronal mass ejections), solar flares and radio blackouts, but we'll save those for a later date. In the meantime, a great website that gathers all this useful information in one place can be found at <<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation>>. DX.QSL.net does a wonderful job of maintaining this website to provide a "one-stop space weather DX propagation shop."

Multidisciplinary Ham Radio

Ham radio has many facets. It is truly multidisciplinary. Combining a great circle map with an auroral forecast model is just one facet. Communications, meteorology, electronics, physics, engineering, public service, radiosport (contesting), writing, propagation, digital and software development are just a few of its disciplines. It is hard for an inquisitive mind to become bored with this hobby.

Going In Circles

I hope this little foray into circles piqued your interest in space weather as applied to DX propagation. It is a fascinating subject area and it's fun to correlate band conditions with space weather related events. The term "atmospherics" is beginning to be

parsed out with more data and a deeper understanding of ionospheric propagation.

Whenever I sit down at my operating desk, I dutifully check out space weather conditions to get an inkling of ionospheric propagation and compare it to my real-time listening conditions on my transceiver. Thank you for reading *CQ* and I look forward to working you on the bands!

– 73 from Ron, KOØZ

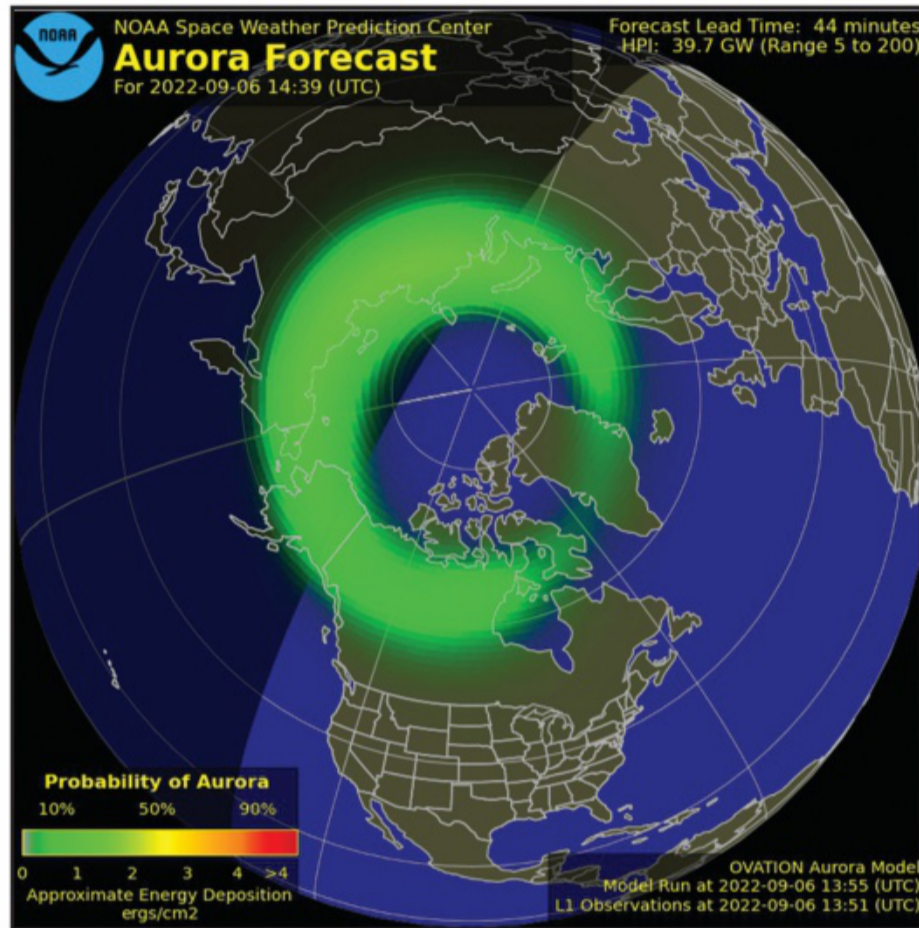


Photo I. NOAA's SPC Ovation northern hemisphere model. On this day, the probability of aurora activity and subsequent RF absorption is low.

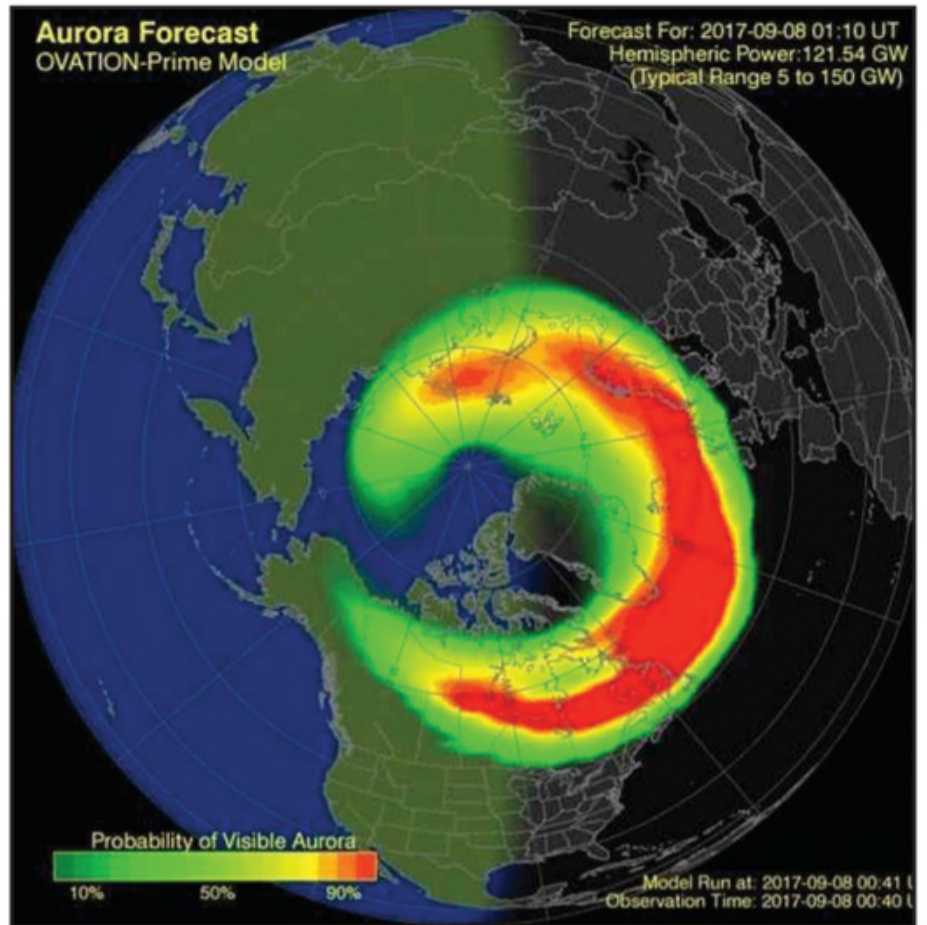



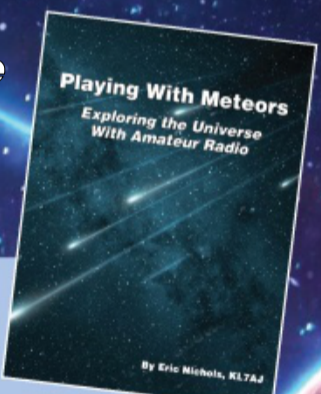
Photo K. NOAA's SPC Ovation model shows a forecast of high auroral activity in the northern hemisphere. RF paths from the U.S. to Europe will most likely be temporarily affected or absorbed.



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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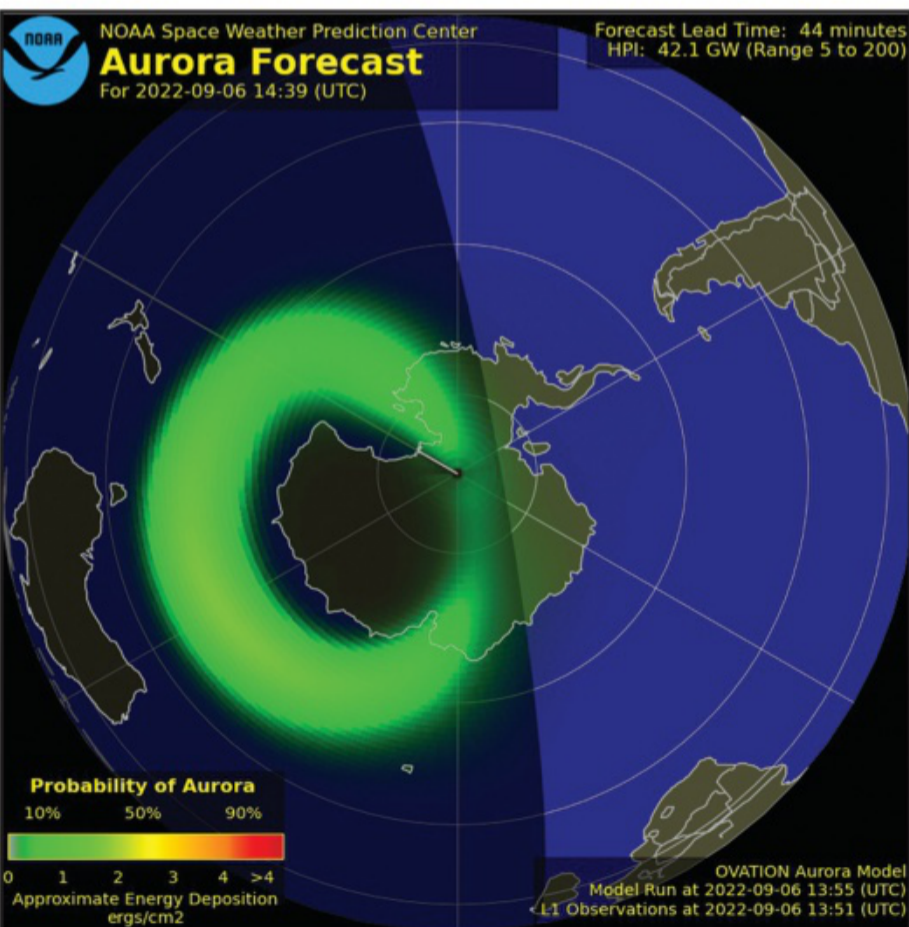


Photo J. NOAA's SPC Ovation southern hemisphere model.

Sporadic-E Season Wrap-up and Planning for 2023

As we enter late fall, it is time to look back on the summer Sporadic-E (E_s) season and begin making plans for next year. I've had a good VHF season dating back to April, and have begun getting my QSLs in order, following up on some older ones, generally making sure I have confirmations for all my activity. On 6 meters, I've added a couple of dozen new grids this year, and I've also added new grids on 2 meters and 432 MHz. In most years, November presents a low point in VHF activity, especially 6-meter E_s . Never stop listening or calling occasionally, especially as the next couple of years offer the potential for F_2 on 6 meters, as sunspots increase. My suggestion is to set up alerts from one of the propagation sites, such as <dxmaps.com>, so that you are made aware of any activity if you are away from the radio. Remember, too, that mid-December to early January can bring a brief, but enjoyable E_s season, including the opportunity to work into the South Pacific. In general, however, you can expect less activity than we have seen during the summer E_s season, as well as the excellent tropo some parts of the country have seen recently.

In terms of preparing for next year, perhaps it is time to take stock of your shack. If you will indulge me, I want to start with some fundamentals. Your antenna and transmission line are critical to your success. I suggest you sketch out your current setup, paying particular attention to each step in the transmission line. Direct connection from your rig to your antenna is perhaps the most ideal, but for many of us there are "extras" like switches, transverters, amplifiers, and even meters. Insertion loss is of course a concern, but a bigger concern is likely the condition of the jumpers you are using, as well as the final transmission line to the antenna. Start with an antenna analyzer or NanoVNA and check each step of the way. The time you spend ensuring your transmission line and associated connections are in the best working order will pay dividends in terms of better reception, improved power out, and less potential stress on your radios from SWR issues.

Second, based on the results of your analysis, consider whether your antennas are functioning well. Connectors may be aging, perhaps elements are loosened or bent. Once again, work done to improve the antenna will reward you with better operating conditions. Don't forget your rotator. Check your compass points alignment, control cable and connections, and mechanical connections to the mast. If you are using an older control unit, is it time to consider an upgrade that provides computer control? If you have lightning protection on your feed lines, do you also have protection on your controller cables?

It is a good idea to review your operating plans and goals and think about any new bands or modes you wish to add. This can range from adding a new radio to adding a transverter, to simply adding an antenna for a band you already have on a radio. Many VHF operators have newer radios that offer 1.2 GHz, and as I wrote last year, this band can be your gateway to SHF activity. Perhaps a higher-power transverter would let you eliminate an amplifier in your transmission line, taking out a device and a couple of connectors and thus removing some



Photo A. The Kenwood TS-930s that I've recently been restoring.

potential points of failure. If you enjoy FM activity on 2 meters and above and currently use a vertical, adding a vertically polarized beam will allow you to work more distant repeaters, and take part in simplex nets or other activity more effectively. I'm sure you will think of something you'd like to add or change.

Around here, I'm still deciding about new antennas and feed lines, and believe that 902 MHz is a band worth exploring. I'm also going to do some basic housekeeping, rearranging operating positions to allow cable access from the rear, and generally tidying up things. Also, the HF bands are heating up nicely and I expect to spend some time adding some DXCC band counters, while continuing to monitor for VHF plus activity.

Please write and let me know about your plans, goals, successes, and failures. We learn from each other!

From the N4DTF Shack

Radios on my bench recently included a Kenwood TS-930 (Photo A). This unit had been stored away for many years in an attic. While I was able to restore it to working order, there were some things that would have made that task a little easier. So I thought that I'd offer a few thoughts on properly storing a radio that you don't intend to use for an extended period of time. First, please consider keeping it in a temperature and humidity-controlled environment: That means indoors with proper heating and air conditioning. Second, cover the unit to prevent dust from getting in (plastic wrap, large sealable plastic bags are all acceptable, but make sure not to use tape as it may mar the surface of the radio). Third, identify and remove batteries (see Photo B). This was the single biggest issue with the TS-930, as you can see in the photo. To be fair, our friend had no reason to open the unit, and was not aware that there were batteries inside. A review of the manual will help you to ascertain whether your unit includes batteries for memory protection or other reasons. The corrosion was cleaned up, and any further damage prevented,

* <n4dtf@cq-amateur-radio.com>



Photo B. A little-known internal battery holder made a mess of the 930 prior to restoration.

in part because he brought me the unit before trying to turn it on ... and I of course had a look inside before I applied power. Back to storing your radio: If you have the original packaging, great (yes, it really is a good idea to keep the original packaging). Replace the radio in the packaging just as you took it out and seal up the box with packing tape. If you don't have the original packaging, take time to cut some foam or egg crate material to pack the item securely in a box large enough to accommodate it. Protecting connectors and knobs is critically important, as damage to these is often difficult to repair. Finally, remember to include in the box any cables, manuals, and notes about modifications or repairs, as well as any quirks (the radio's not yours) that you have noticed.

Finally, let me make this radical suggestion: If you really don't need that radio and have no real plans for it, consider selling it or even giving it to a fellow ham to help them get started, or allow them to get on a new band or mode. While some of us enjoy restoring and operating older equipment, you will find that the pace of innovation in our industry will render many "current" radios hopelessly behind the times relative to newer units in just a few years. You'll also reduce a little clutter, and possibly help someone else enjoy the hobby more (especially if you throw a little "elmering" in with the radio). I would love to hear your stories about repurposing a radio you no longer need or want.

Another item on my bench is a rotor controller that clearly experienced some component damage from a stray electrical event. A couple of resistors, three diodes, and two voltage regulators bit the dust. Visual and olfactory examination pointed out the problem. This one will be relatively easy to repair, but I mention it because it points how just how sensitive our equipment is. While many of us focus on grounding and lightning protection — as we should — we should also spend time addressing protection on the "power in" side of our components. I'm a big fan of Uninterruptible Power

Supply (UPS) solutions. UPSs provide protection against several common types of failure in electronic components. First, by providing a regulated supply of power to your devices, they reduce the chance of failure from power spikes and surges that escape the naked eye yet put much strain on various components. Second, in the event of a short-term power failure (less than 3-5 minutes) they can easily maintain power to your devices and prevent the frustrations of radios or computers resetting or rebooting unnecessarily. Finally, in the event of a longer outage, they provide time for you to properly power down your devices and avoid corrupted files or other problems. This can be a lifesaver if you are operating digital modes or have a contest software file open. A part of navigating the melding of computers and radios is investing in solutions that minimize the chance of failure.

Please share your tips for protecting equipment and of course, your war stories.

On the Air

6 Meter Successes

Faithful reader Mario Karcich, K2ZD, writes as follows:

"I guess the last of the E season here was August 16th when at 1218 UTC I worked 9K2GR at 16dB, 1309 9K2YM at -13dB and at 1310 9K2OW called me with a -09 dB signal. On Sept 7th, I worked Lance, TO7GJ, Mayotte at 2254 UTC on Q65A EME. He was -26dB and I received a report of -23dB. *This was my 6-meter DXCC Number 222 and the FIRST North American contact with Mayotte on 6 meters.*"

Mario, thanks as always for your report, and congratulations on more milestones and another successful 6-meter season! Check out Mario's QRZ page, you will be impressed at his long involvement with 6 meters and his successes on that band, and others.

222 Activity in Pacific Northwest

Yes, I do write about 222 MHz a lot. I believe it is a great band, with many opportunities for weak signal, digital, and even FM activity. You may be aware of the weekly 222 Activity Night held on Tuesdays, beginning around 7:30 p.m. local time. This is not region specific, but there are many operators in New England who regularly are active. This month, I wanted to provide reports from the other side of the country, to encourage those outside of New England to get on 222 and make some noise.

Dave Miller, VE7HR, is in CN89 and offered the following report regarding Tuesday night, August 30th:

"Strange propagation last night. Rick, W7RNB, was blasting the grill cloth off my speaker, unlike the last couple of weeks. Jim, K7ND, was quieter than normal.

Tom, KE7SW, was up and down and able to copy direct pointed 161° or 360° using our North Shore mountains as a reflector. It was good to hear Mike, K7MDL, and Eric, N7EPD."

Jim, K7ND, offered a complementary report from Fox Island, Washington, in CN87. He reports record-setting temperatures around the Puget Sound on August 30th. "The following stations checked in on 222 that evening: W7RNB, KG7PD, N7MWV (CN86), KE7SW, KB7IOG, W7GLF, N7EPD, VE7HR (CN89), K7MDL (CN88), W7YOZ. Dave, VE7HR, (see above) was a bit weaker here than the last few weeks. I looked south and east with no results."

That's it for this month ... I hope you have found encouragement to make some changes or improvement in your shack, contributing to a more enjoyable on-air experience. Please do let me know of your activities whether on the air, on the bench, or visiting a hamfest. — 73, Trent, N4DTF, EM55

awards

BY STEVE MOLO,* KI4KWR

Worked All Italian Provinces Award

CQ USA-CA Update

500 County Level

OK1FPG – Award number 3831 dated April 20, 2022
AA5JF – Award number 3832 dated May 17, 2022
WC4J – Award number 3833 dated June 12, 2022
LA4CAA – Award number 3834 dated June 16, 2022
K9MRQ – Award number 3835 dated June 20, 2022
JA6VQA – Award number 3836 dated June 22, 2022
IK5BSC – Award number 3837 dated June 22, 2022
JH1FSB – Award number 3838 dated July 17, 2022
JA9LX – Award number 3839 dated July 19, 2022
JAØFLL – Award number 3840 dated August 10, 2022
K5JC – Award number 3841 dated August 17, 2022
CE4WT – Award number 3842 dated August 21, 2022
JA1XEC – Award number 3843 dated September 24, 2022

1000 County Level

WC4J – Award number 1947 dated June 12, 2022
NF5KE – Award number 1948 dated June 22, 2022
JA1IAZ – Award number 1949 dated August 8, 2022
K5JC – Award number 1950 dated August 17, 2022

W6OAT – Award number 1951 dated August 19, 2022
OK6DJ – Award number 1952 dated August 25, 2022
N7WFK – Award number 1953 dated September 20, 2022

1500 County Level

W6OAT – Award number 1602 dated August 19, 2022
OK6DJ – Award number 1603 dated August 25, 2022

2000 County Level

W6OAT – Award number 1477 dated August 19, 2022

2500 County Level

W6OAT – Award number 1396 dated August 19, 2022

3000 County Level

W6OAT – Award number 1295 dated August 19, 2022

3077 County Level - Whole Ball of Wax

OM2VL – Award number 1270 dated August 7, 2022
W6OAT – Award number 1271 dated August 19, 2022

During Huntsville Hamfest 2022, an amateur operator spoke to me about an award his family back in Italy had for Worked All Italian Provinces. Wish he would have given me his information so I could give some credit for an award I did not really know about.

The award is offered by A.R.I. (Associazione Radioamatori Italiani, Italy's national ham radio association) for HF bands, to radio amateurs around the world and the rules seem to be fair in obtaining the requirements for the award. The award is issued to radio amateurs / Shortwave Listeners (SWLs) worldwide who can prove to have made two-way radio contacts or heard stations in a minimum number of Italian provinces or territories. There has been an update for a new multi-band classification and is listed in the application which will be linked at the end of the article for anyone interested.

Now the best part of this award is the QSO start date being June 2, 1948, but has the exemption for Italian provinces that became established after 1948. There is a table on their website <<https://tinyurl.com/2j99844t>> that lists all the provinces. It was last updated in 2017, with three provinces deleted and one renamed.

So, what bands can this be obtained on, you may wonder; all HF bands from 160-10 meters are in play for the award, including the WARC bands (30, 17, and 12 meters) so fair play for all entities. The award has several mode categories: Mixed, Phone, CW, or Digital and let us not forget the SWL version for listeners. There is a slight catch where the version you choose to work cannot be upgraded so you would need to apply for a separate award in this case.

*Email: <KI4KWR@cq-amateur-radio.com>

Types of Awards

We start with the Basic Award which is two levels. The first is 75 different provinces for Italian applicants and 60 for foreign applicants ... seems fair to me. The award is issued as a PDF format, to keep costs down I would assume. Now as I read up on the award to explain to everyone reading the article there is now the Multi-band Classification and Honor Roll.

To keep how it is explained, I am providing what is stated online exactly as it is written:

“Since this edition of the Rules the Provinces can be accredited even on more HF bands. For each QSO / Province accredited on each band is attributed one point, and a proper classification will be kept for this kind of participation. The classification is specific by mode, same as Basic Award; different modes mean different multi-band classifications, so different Basic Awards as specified in previous chapters. The theoretical max number of points reachable is 990 (110 provinces — deleted included — multiplied by 9 HF bands). The Honor Roll level is established at 500 points. The Honor Roll will be published on ARI website <www.ari.it>, with the complete Multi-band Classification and in the magazine Radio Rivista.

The participation to the Multi-band Classification and upgrades are electronically managed. Those who already got the Basic Award with previous version of these rules will have their score confirmed but they must send the complete GCR list of previous QSOs in electronic format with first request of upgrade.”

So let's make the adventure even more interesting with upgrades to the basic award. So, after you have obtained the

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on Our Ends!**

Basic Award, you can ask for credits for new QSOs you obtain but only done once in the calendar year. The Italians take very great pride, no doubt, for this award and publish participant scores on <www.ari.it> and in the ARI magazine, *Radio Rivista* (see <<https://tinyurl.com/2673p7ey>> for 2022 versions).

We also have activations for the provinces which reminded me of Parks on the Air-like activations but for the provinces, of course each province has a numbered code, in the format WAIP-XX. The group has a dedicated award and class for people who activate at least 10 Italian provinces with HF operations as a resident or portable / temporary, but foreign operators can certainly participate by contacting the award manager.

How to Apply for the W.A.I.P Award

The manual method involves filling out the WAIP2 form as PDF or manually filling it out and scanning the form and sending via email. The second method, which is likely the most common, is a version of the form in Excel which you fill out and send as an attachment to the awards manager for submission. But wait, you can easily send your ADIF format log and just fill in the Comment field with the code for which province you worked.

There are two forms, the WAIP1 and WAIP2, which must be sent to the manager at <waip@ari.it> for award submission. Claimed contacts must be through either paper QSL card, EQSL, or Logbook of the World (LoTW). I would suggest, if using paper QSL cards, to scan them and email the scans to the awards manager if required by them. For SWLs, one QSO / QSL can be claimed for crediting only



the province of the station who confirmed the QSL and not that of the worked station if the QSO was between Italian stations. So, I am sure the WAIP Manager can request to check any QSO being claimed which makes perfect sense to me.

Cost for the Award

The Basic Award is free and provided as a PDF file. The group does not suggest asking for a classic paper award, but if you do, it is subject to a charge of 15 Euros plus shipping fees. So why not keep it simple, in my opinion, and download the PDF?

Application link: <<https://tinyurl.com/ctu52kdr>>

Website: <<https://tinyurl.com/2j99844t>>

NCDXF DXpedition RIB Project (Radio In Box)

This month, we turn the keyboard over to Gregg Marco, W6IZT, who is on a team sponsored by the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) to create “RIBs” for DXpedition use (A “RIB” is a self-contained “Radio In a Box”). In my August DX column, we first introduced you to RIBs and their potential impact to the future of DXpeditions. This month, Gregg will provide some more detail into the project.

I personally find this aspect fascinating and a step into keeping amateur radio alive on many of the most sensitive entities around the globe! I think that you will agree after reading this that the RIB team is taking us into the future of DXpeditions. I wholeheartedly endorse this project and want to thank NCDXF for its sponsorship. I want to also acknowledge George Wallner, AA7JV; Gregg Marco, W6IZT; Mike Snow, KN4EEI; Don Greenbaum, N1DG; and Hal Turley, W8HC, among others, for their participation in this awesome project. For a more detailed article on the RIB project, please read the article in the NCDXF Spring 2021 Newsletter at <<https://tinyurl.com/2n4hk9zx>>. Now, here’s Gregg. – N2OO

In the August issue of CQ, N2OO shared his thoughts on DXing, Past, Present and Future. His perspective on future expeditions caught my eye. We agree with Bob that future DXpeditions to environmentally sensitive areas may be quite different than we have seen in the past. The days of mega-DXpeditions to environmentally protected areas are likely behind us. Getting permission to activate these entities has become increasingly difficult, and the costs are continuing to rise. These environmentally protected areas dominate the top 25 most wanted DXCC entities. A new approach is needed, one that is less invasive, has a smaller footprint, and one that can support projects that the managing entity and/or other ecological interests desire to complete.

The Rig in a Box, or RIB (*Photo A*), is a solution that was developed by George Wallner, AA7JV. In 2020, the NCDXF funded the construction of six RIBs that would be made available to DXpeditions in hopes that a smaller, less invasive, approach would enhance our ability to gain permission to activate rare environmentally protected DXCC entities. What began as a Rig in a Box has opened the door to potential new concepts for low impact minimally invasive expedition techniques.

The RIB itself is a remotely controllable, rapid deployment, fully self-contained, hardened communications platform consisting of:

- A 1.5-kilowatt, water-cooled HF multi-mode radio
- A monitoring and control system
- Antenna switching and tuning

*email: <n2oo@comcast.net>

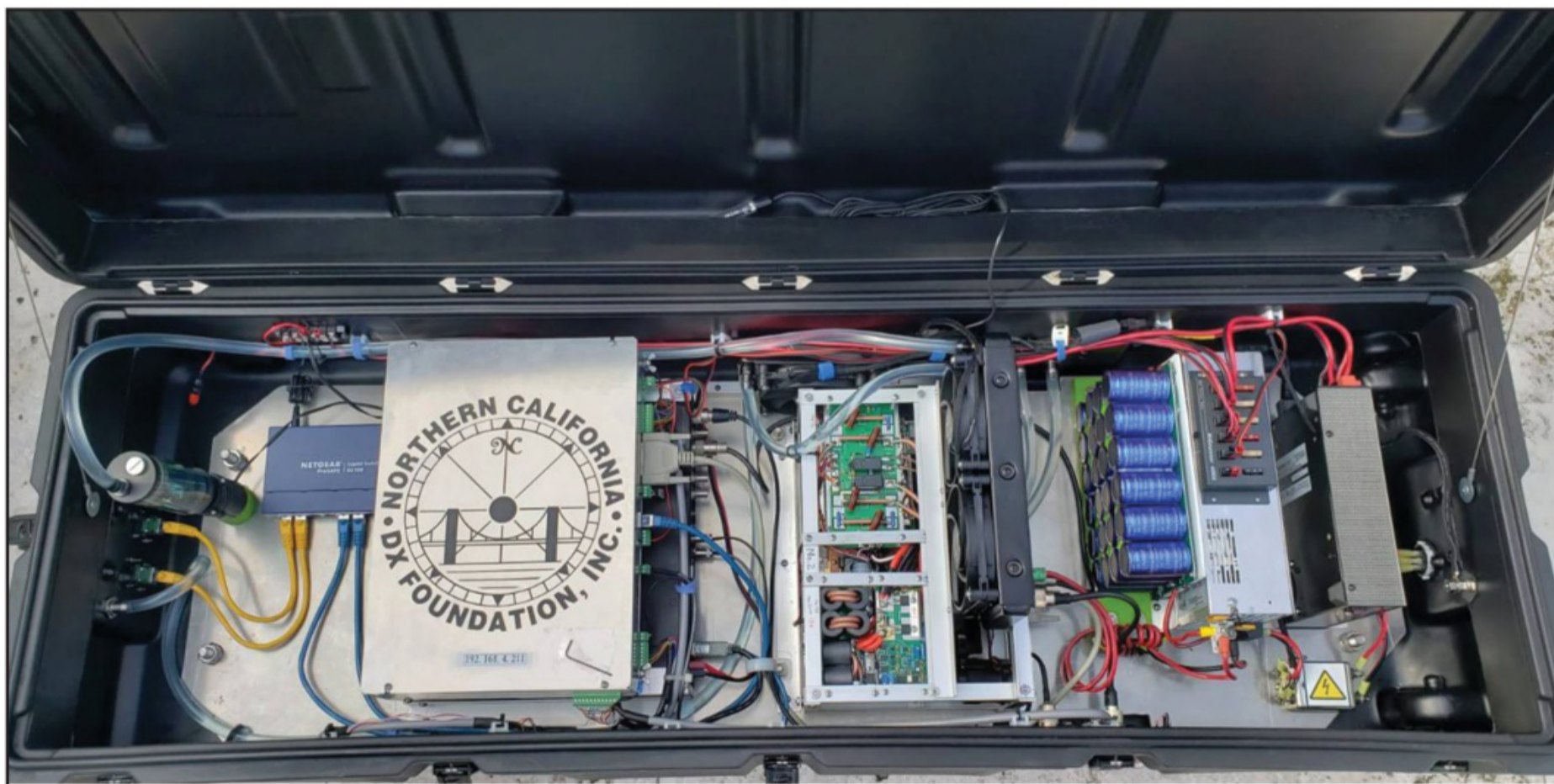


Photo A. Inside look at the RIB. Power supply on right, radios on left.



Photo B. George Wallner, AA7JV, and Mike Snow, KN4EEI, deploying full RIB package on an island in the Bahamas.

5 Band WAZ

As of September 1, 2022
2412 stations have attained at least the 150 Zone level, and
1107 stations have attained the 200 Zone level.

As of September 1, 2022
The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (Zones needed on 80
or other if indicated):
CHANGES shown in **BOLD**

Callsign	Zones	Zones Needed	Callsign	Zones	Zones Needed	Callsign	Zones	Zones Needed
AK8A	199	17	USØSY	199	1 on 15M	US7MM	198	2, 6
DM5EE	199	1	VK3HJ	199	34	W2IRT	198	28, 28
EA5RM	199	1	VO1FB	199	19	W5CWQ	198	17, 18
EA7GF	199	1	W1FJ	199	24	W7AH	198	22, 34
H44MS	199	34	W1FZ	199	26	W9RN	198	26, 19 on 40M
HAØHW	199	1	W3LL	199	18 on 10M	WC5N	198	22, 26
HA5AGS	199	1	W3NO	199	26	WL7E	198	34, 37
I5REA	199	31	W4LI	199	26	Z31RQ	198	1, & 2 on 10M
IKØXBX	199	19 on 10M	W6DN	199	17	ZL2AL	198	36, 37
IK1AOD	199	1	W6RKC	199	21			
IZ3ZNR	199	1	W6TMD	199	34			
JA1CMD	199	2	W9OO	199	18 on 10M			
JA5IU	199	2	W9XY	199	22			
JA7XBG	199	2	9A5I	198	1, 16			
JH7CFX	199	2	AB4IQ	198	23, 26			
JI4POR	199	2	DL6JZ	198	1, 31			
JK1AJX	199	2 on 10M	EA5BCX	198	27, 39			
JK1BSM	199	2	F5NBU	198	19, 31			
JK1EXO	199	2	F6DAY	198	2 on 10M & 15M			
K1LI	199	24	G3KDG	198	1, 12			
K1OA	199	28	G3KMQ	198	1, 27			
K4HB	199	26	HB9FMN	198	1 on 80M & 10M			
K5TR	199	22	I1EIS	198	1 & 19 on 10M			
K7UR	199	34	JA1DM	198	2, 40			
KZ4V	199	26	JA3GN	198	2 on 80M & 40M			
N3UN	199	18	JA7MSQ	198	2 on 80M & 10M			
N4NX	199	26	JH1BNC	198	2 on 80M & 10M			
N4WW	199	26	JH1EEB	198	2, 33			
N4XR	199	27	KØDEQ	198	22, 26			
N6PF	199	23 on 10M	K1BD	198	23, 26			
N8AA	199	23	K2EP	198	23, 24			
N8DX	199	23	K2TK	198	23, 24			
N8TR	199	23 on 10M	K3JGJ	198	24, 26			
RA6AX	199	6 on 10M	K3LR	198	22, 23			
RU3DX	199	6	K3WA	198	23, 26			
RWØLT	199	2 on 40M	K3XA	198	23, 34			
RX4HZ	199	13	K4JLD	198	18, 24			
RZ3EC	199	1 on 40M	K9MM	198	22, 26			
S58Q	199	31	K11G	198	24, 23 on 10M			
SM7BIP	199	31	KZ2I	198	24, 26			
SP9JZU	199	19 on 10M	LA3MHA	198	31 & 32 on 10M			
			N4GG	198	18, 24			
			NXØI	198	18, 23			
			ON4CAS	198	1, 19			
			OZ4VW	198	1, 2			
			RL3FA	198	2 on 80 & 10M			
			UA4LY	198	6 & 2 on 10M			
			UN5J	198	2, 7			

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

Callsign	5BWAZ #	Date	# Zones
OP4K	2408	09/01/2022	197
LY5W	2409	09/01/2022	200
K6UIP	2410	09/08/2022	164
G8GNI	2411	09/24/2022	150
EA5HM	2412	09/24/2022	175

Updates to the 5BWAZ list of stations:

Callsign	5BWAZ #	Date	# Zones
VE3UZ	2345	12/17/2021	183
K1TZQ	2405	8/19/2022	174
W6WF	2213	5/10/2020	162
IUØLFQ	2195	2/23/2020	194

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

5BWAZ #	Callsign	Date	All 200 #
2409	LY5W	9/1/2022	1107

Rules and applications for the WAZ program may be obtained by sending a large SAE with two units of postage or an address label and \$1.00 to: WAZ Award Manager, Jose Castillo, N4BAA, 6773 South State Road 103, Straughn, IN 47387. The processing fee for the 5BWAZ award is \$10.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$15.00 for nonsubscribers. An endorsement fee of \$2.00 for subscribers and \$5.00 for nonsubscribers is charged for each additional 10 zones confirmed. Please make all checks payable to Jose Castillo. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. N4BAA may also be reached via email: <n4baa@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

*Please note: Cost of the 5 Band WAZ Plaque is \$100 shipped within the U.S.; \$120 all foreign (sent airmail).

The WPX Program

CW	
4067	N7ZUF
SSB	
4442	DD5VL
4443	RQ7L
Mixed	
4487	W4GOV
4488	KB1UZ
4489	K9SUL
Digital	
1818	JP1GHJ
1819	SV1OCA
1820	W4GOV
1821	KB1UZ
1822	KE7IN
1823	DL1LTG
1824	W7AJC
1825	IU4AAJ
1826	W5FO
1827	YDØBJJ
1828	KD5DDV

CW: 400: VE3FAC. 5200: W8IQ.

SSB: 500: K6VHF. 650: DD5VL. 950: DL6JZ. 1000: N7ZUF.

Mixed: 500: AB9BH, VE3FAC, W8BO. 600: JP1RLN. 650: N1IVY, JP1RLN. 750: W4GOV, KD2RUY. 1000: JG1JPE. 1100: JG1JPE. 1150: KM4VI. 1350: M7ZUF, IK8FLW. 1500: N8IK. 2450: N6PM. 6100: ON4APU.

Digital: 350: N1IVY, KE7IN. 400: AB9BH, W8BO. 450: DL1LTG. 600: JP1RLN. 650: JP1RLN. 750: W4GOV, KD2RUY. 800: N7ZUF. 1000: JG1JPE, N8IK. 1100: SV1OCA, JG1JPE. 1150: G8GNI. 1700: K6VHF. 1950: W9VOB. 2300: N6PM.

160 Meters: G8GNI
 40 Meters: N7ZUF, W8BO
 30 Meters: JG1JPE, N8IK
 20 Meters: JG1JPE, N7ZUF, SV1OCA, W4GOV
 17 Meters: JP1RLN, JG1JPE, AB9BH, N8IK
 15 Meters: JG1JPE, N7ZUF, JP1RLN, YDØBJJ
 6 Meters: DL6JZ, G8GNI

Asia: N8IK, N7ZUF, JP1GHJ, YDØBJJ
 Europe: JP1RLN, N7ZUF, DD5VL, VE3FAC, W4GOV, DL1LTG, IU4AAJ, YDØBJJ
 Oceania: N7ZUF, N7ZUF, W9VOB
 North America: JG1JPE, DL6JZ, N7ZUF, W4GOV, KB1UZ, KE7IN, W7AJC, W5FO, KD5DDV, K9SUL
 South America: DL6JZ, N8IK

Award of Excellence: TF3JB
 160M Bar: TF3JB
 30M Bar: TF3JB
 17M Bar: TF3JB
 12M Bar: TF3JB
 6M Bar: TF3JB
 Digital Bar: TF3JB

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.

- RX antenna system
- System networking
- Power conditioning

In a typical RIB deployment, the RIBs would be placed on an island (*Photo B*) and the participants would operate from a boat, significantly reducing the DXpedition's on-island footprint. Network connectivity from the boat to the island is over a 900 MHz point-to-point wireless bridge. Testing has confirmed that up to six RIBs could be easily supported over a single 900-MHz wireless bridge at a range of up to 4 miles over open water.

The modular design of the RIB impacts many aspects of a DXpedition and provides us with an opportunity to optimize almost every step of the DXpedition process. We foresee a move away from a megateam approach to one with fewer operators, and for longer durations.

The typical mega-DXpedition would have a cargo container full of equipment. The transit time of a container from the U.S. to New Zealand can take 8 weeks or more in each direction, all the time being exposed to marine climate. Our approach would be to ship the gear via air freight with the RIB and associated equipment shrink-wrapped to pallets. Air freight would take just a few days, and becomes viable as we are shipping far less equipment, and no operator infrastructure.

With less equipment and fewer ops, we don't need a vessel capable of transporting a dozen ops and a cargo container full of gear. This opens the door to utilize smaller vessels at a significantly lower cost. It is our observation that the number of viable boats has diminished significantly in the post-COVID world. Smaller vessels may be

The WAZ Program

SINGLE BAND WAZ

6 Meter	
197	IUØLFQ
12 Meter Digital	
7	K3FRK
15 Meter Digital	
13	N6PAT
17 Meter CW	
136	JF3LOP
17 Meter Digital	
28	JA7HRM
20 Meter Digital	
53	JR3UIC
54	JR1HYA
55	KE8FMJ
56	JA7HRM
57	OH1LR
30 Meter CW	
171	JF3LOP
40 Meter Digital	
27	JA7HRM
80 Meter CW	
114	SP9JZU
160 Meter	
697	R7LP33 Zones

ALL BAND WAZ

CW	
1208	YB1UUN
1209	HA1AC
1210	VE9VIC
1211	IK4MTF
Digital	
382	W9CY
383	YB1UUN
384	K4SAF
385	DD8BA

386	EA4/K1WE
387	JF1OCQ
388	K8YC
389	KE8FMJ
390	JA7HRM
391	OH1LR
392	AG1A
393	WB5KFP

Mixed

10292	ND4V
10293	YB1RUS
10294	W9CY
10295	RU9SO
10296	SP8ALT
10297	RQ7L
10298	K4SAF
10299	VE6SH
10300	NZ6E
10301	OZ9QW
10302	JR3UIC
10303	EA4/K1WE
10304	K5DNL
10305	LU3OZ
10306	W5WGF
10307	K9WX
10308	DG1KBY
10309	JF1OCQ
10310	AK6A
10311	KE8FMJ
10312	OH1LR
10313	AG1A
10314	IK4MTF
10315	KF6JOQ

SSB

5544	ND4V
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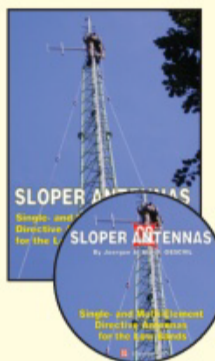
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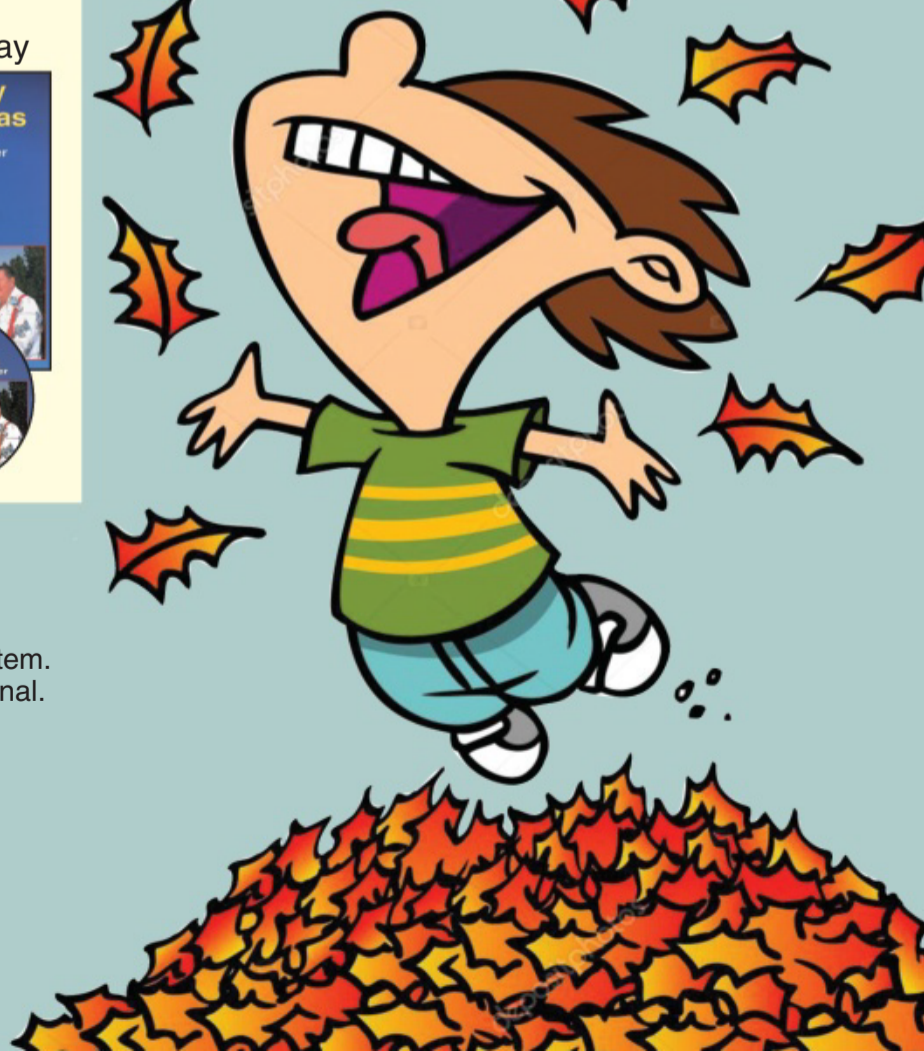




Photo C. RIB being loaded onto boat used for island landing.



Photo D. One RIB completely set up on the island.

our only option to get to these remote protected locations.

Typically, a large-scale expedition would use multiple full-sized resonant antennas. Our approach also differs from this model. We have been testing, and continue to test, multiband vertical antennas that can be easily deployed in a matter of minutes by one or two people. They can have remote tuners at the base, enabling a single antenna to serve multiple bands. The tuner also compensates for the effect that the tides have on the tuning of the antenna. On one recent trip, we had a single station on the air within 45 minutes after arriving on the island!

We have made several trips to the Bahamas to test the RIBs, emulating how the solution would be deployed and operated in a DXpedition environment (Photos C, D, and E). Operating in major contests is the best proving ground we have. The team is proud of the results that we have been able to achieve. We hope to be on the air again this year as C6AGU in the CQWW CW and ARRL 160 contests.

The CQ DX Field Award Program

	Digital Endorsement	
NKØS.....		50 MHz
	Mixed Endorsement	
NKØS.....		1.8 MHz
K1NU.....		204
W9RPM.....		184

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

No Update

The basic award fee for subscribers to *CQ* is \$6. For non-subscribers, it is \$12. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest *CQ* mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00 each plus SASE. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are free. All updates and correspondence must include an SASE. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards may be found on the <www.cq-amateur-radio.com> website, or may be obtained by sending a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope to CQ DX Awards Manager, 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 acceptable. Contact the CQ DX Award Manager for specific details.

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	HA1RW.....239	W18A.....219	KF8UN.....205	ON4CAS.....194	K2SHZ.....182
W1CU.....267	VE3XN.....239	HA1AG.....218	OM2VL.....205	HB9DDZ.....193	KJ6P.....180
VE7IG.....254	I6T.....230	JN3SAC.....214	K1NU.....204	N4NX.....192	W6XK.....180
HAØDU.....253	K8OOK.....229	HA9PP.....213	K1NV.....204	HA1ZH.....190	W5ODD.....177
OM3JW.....253	N8PR.....229	WA5VGI.....213	VE7SMP.....204	BA4DW.....188	NØFW.....176
W6OAT.....252	HA5AGS.....228	IV3GOW.....211	RW4NH.....203	K2AU.....187	WA9PIE.....176
HA5WA.....250	9A5CY.....227	W4UM.....210	HB9AAA.....200	K8YTO.....186	HB9BOS.....175
IK1GPG.....245	K9YC.....227	N4MM.....208	N5KE.....200	W07R.....185	NKØS.....175
OK1ADM.....245	VE3ZZ.....226	OK1AOV.....208	W3LL.....199	N3RC.....184	
K8SIX.....240	KØDEQ.....221	F6HMJ.....206	NIØC.....196	W9RPM.....184	

SSB

W1CU.....249	VE7SMP.....201	W4UM.....198	N4MM.....189	W3LL.....187	DL3DXX.....175
W4ABW.....202	KØDEQ.....198	JN3SAC.....191	WA5VGI.....189	NØFW.....176	

CW

W1CU.....253	KØDEQ.....214	DL2DXA.....209	WA5VGI.....197	N4MM.....186	N7WO.....175
HA5WA.....234	JN3SAC.....211	W4UM.....201	NIØC.....196	OK2PO.....184	
DL6KVA.....233	DL3DXX.....210	OK1AOV.....198	HB9DZZ.....189	N4NX.....177	

Digital

W1CU.....195	HA5WA.....177	JN3SAC.....175	KØDEQ.....175
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Photo E. Two RIBs set up on an island.

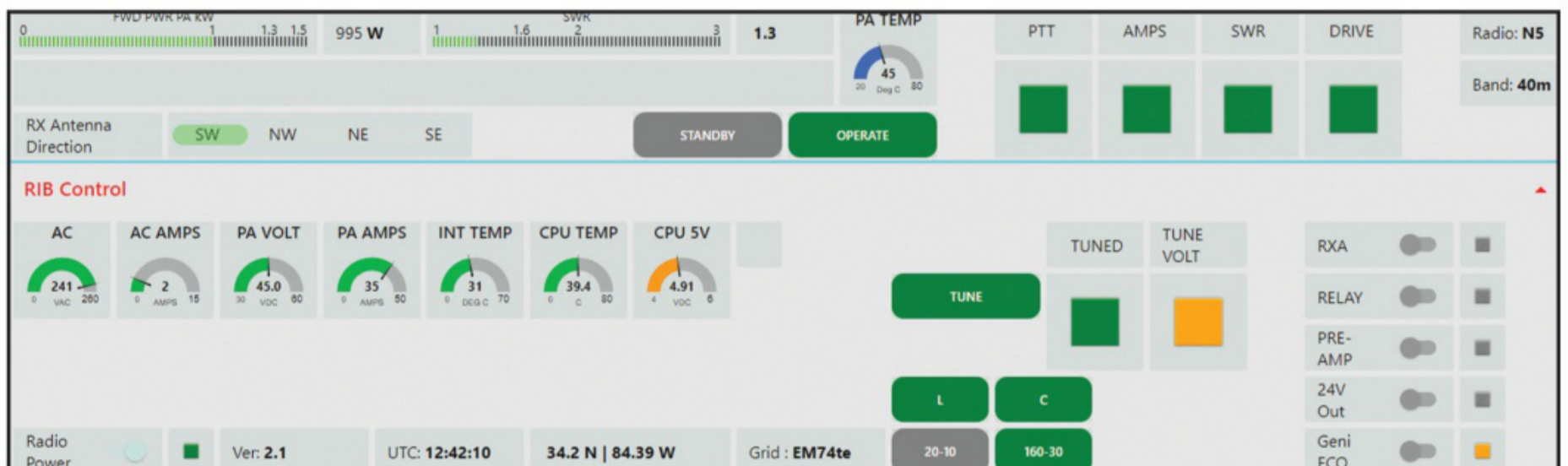


Photo F. Computer screen shot of software that remotely controls RIB.

Over the past two years, the RIB has received incremental improvements, some in hardware, but mostly in software, to simplify operation and to improve system monitoring (*Photo F*). The operator experience is no different than if the radio was sitting in front to them.

On our trip to the Bahamas in late June and early July, we brought along a STARLINK satellite terminal. We were all amazed at the performance. Throughput exceeded our

expectations. Lower in cost than both VSAT and BGAN, STARLINK can enable a DXpedition to be a much more interactive experience for the DX community. Suffice it to say that the DXpedition experience of the future can be much more than filling band slots. STARLINK latency is not much different than a terrestrial internet connection. Perhaps N2OO's vision of working a pileup on Heard Island from his living room will become a reality.

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

9677.....9A2AA	4763.....KW9A	3109.....NXØI	2450.....N6PM	1870.....N5KAE	1524.....NH6T/W4	1217.....AB1QB	1032.....DG5LAC	757.....WB3D
8602.....9A2NA	4757.....I2MQP	3099.....N6FX	2420.....WA6KHK	1854.....AC7JM	1484.....FG4NO	1204.....VA2IG	1023.....N4WQH	750.....AB1Q
8188.....K2VV	4703.....IK2ILH	3077.....K1PL	2400.....N7ZO	1828.....K7LV	1480.....K4JKB	1201.....K9BO	1016.....W9QL	736.....JA3MAT
8188.....W1CU	4681.....JH8BOE	3028.....IK2DZN	2391.....WO7R	1824.....WF7T	1462.....DL4CW	1167.....WA9PIE	1012.....NØVVV	711.....AG1T
7059.....EA2IA	4423.....N1RR	2987.....AG4W	2391.....IZØFUW	1821.....PY5FB	1447.....K3XA	1153.....N3CAL	1010.....VE3RZ	695.....W8WDW
6955.....KF2O	4574.....JN3SAC	2968.....AB1OC	2356.....NE6I	1820.....WU9D	1422.....I2VGW	1148.....SP8HKT	1007.....AA4QE	682.....A18P
6040.....KØDEQ	4462.....K1BV	2965.....W2YR	2252.....JH1QKG	1746.....K6UXO	1408.....NH6T	1141.....4F3BZ	1006.....NØRQV	678.....WE8L
5859.....ON4CAS	4342.....WB2YQH	2963.....N3RC	2225.....JH1APK	1741.....N6PEQ	1398.....ES4RLH	1137.....YO5BRZ	1000.....WB6IZG	674.....N5JED
5715.....S53EO	4298.....VE3XN	2697.....AK7O	2203.....K11U	1711.....NS3L	1361.....VA3VF	1136.....KØ9V	999.....N3DF	661.....AL4Y
5602.....ON4APU	4241.....N6QQ	2651.....HK3W	2176.....V51YJ	1707.....K4WY	1333.....AF4T	1116.....YU7FW	995.....PU2GTA	633.....T15LUA
5539.....N4NO	4215.....W3LL	2642.....AA8R	2159.....VA7CRZ	1684.....W1FNB	1322.....AA4FU	1112.....N6MM	966.....W6WF	621.....K4HDW
5508.....N8BJQ	4201.....YO9HP	2616.....9A2GA	2133.....KØKG	1667.....AD3Y	1301.....KB9OWD	1107.....PY2MC	953.....JP1KHY	616.....AC6BW
5482.....VE1YX	3978.....WD9DZV	2591.....IK2RPE	2113.....W2FKF	1643.....SV1DPI	1301.....K1DX	1100.....WA3GOS	919.....ON7MIC	605.....IW2FLB
5453.....YU1AB	3818.....K9UQN	2589.....DG7RO	2056.....NKØS	1639.....N7QU	1301.....KM5VI	1109.....KE8FMJ	889.....WU1U	
5396.....N6JV	3793.....AB1J	2583.....PA2TMS	2046.....YO8CRU	1616.....TA1L	1299.....JA6JYM	1088.....NJ4Z	866.....K2KJ	
5387.....W9OP	3538.....9A4W	2550.....K6ND	2016.....N2WK	1590.....JF1LMB	1295.....NIØC	1084.....KG4JSZ	857.....R1AV	
5215.....I5RFD	3459.....W9IL	2532.....AE5B	1995.....JR3UIC	1570.....PY5VC	1280.....WF1H	1069.....IZ4MJP	856.....N2YU	
5039.....WA5VGI	3329.....W6XK	2457.....K5UR	1972.....K3CWF	1568.....N3AIU	1260.....UR6LEY	1058.....N6DBF	835.....K6RAH	
4934.....W9OO	3130.....SV1EDY	2538.....K4HB	1955.....NIØC	1547.....KC1UX	1219.....K6HRT	1036.....DL5KW	833.....N4JJS	

SSB

7200.....OZ5EV	3174.....I3ZSX	2532.....W9IL	2094.....I8LEL	1587.....N3XX	1146.....SQ7B	1004.....WA5UA	758.....IV3GOW	637.....K5WAF
6334.....9A2NA	3172.....YO9HP	2483.....AG4W	2093.....W2WC	1550.....IK2RPE	1136.....K3CWF	978.....EA7HY	724.....WF1H	630.....W6US
6145.....K2VV	3141.....DL8AAV	2451.....EA3GHZ	2084.....K5UR	1442.....DG7RO	1112.....NH6T	957.....W9QL	724.....W3TZ	624.....K6KZM
5404.....VE1YX	3138.....N8BJQ	2443.....JN3SAC	2076.....K2XF	1393.....N5KAE	1103.....W6XK	934.....PY5VC	717.....KØDAN	606.....KJ4BIX
5338.....KF2O	3108.....I4CSP	2400.....W4QNW	2008.....WD9DZV	1389.....NKØS	1098.....K4CN	931.....YB1AR	717.....N3JON	604.....GØBPK
4916.....EA2IA	3105.....WA5VGI	2335.....KG1E	1955.....EA3NP	1386.....HK3W	1096.....JA7HYS	929.....NS3L	714.....YB2TJV	
4410.....I2MQP	3067.....N6QQ	2327.....K1PL	1935.....SV1EOS	1386.....IK4HPU	1093.....N6MM	919.....KA5EYH	713.....JH1APK	
4165.....KØDEQ	2990.....KF7RU	2326.....CX6BZ	1884.....WA6KHK	1371.....VE6BF	1089.....IZ8FFA	893.....W9RPM	710.....WA9PIE	
3723.....I8KCI	2984.....KI7AO	2209.....IK2QPR	1879.....K3IXD	1338.....NE6I	1089.....IT9ABN	889.....N3AIU	700.....N4FNB	
3681.....N4NO	2946.....PT7ZT	2201.....NQ3A	1848.....AB5C	1334.....EA3EQT	1042.....IZØBNR	875.....K7SAM	700.....JA1PLL	
3585.....SV3AQR	2903.....IN3QCI	2200.....N6FX	1825.....KQ8D	1264.....N6PEQ	1032.....DG5LAC	854.....K6HRT	694.....KG4HUF	
3535.....KW9A	2857.....4X6DK	2198.....AB1OC	1812.....K6ND	1262.....K7LV	1031.....K4CN	833.....DK8MCT	690.....W6PN	
3456.....W9OO	2650.....IK2DZN	2155.....K9UQN	1668.....W2YR	1258.....N1KC	1031.....IK8OZP	808.....UR6LEY	684.....KØ9V	
3416.....W3LL	2595.....EA1JG	2131.....N3RC	1646.....VE7SMP	1222.....YF1AR	1022.....NW3H	802.....N6OU	675.....F1MQJ	
3348.....CT1AHU	2582.....PA2TMS	2129.....AE5B	1641.....AE9DX	1187.....IZ1JLG	1012.....KU4BP	801.....K3XA	655.....VA3VF	
3274.....YU7BCD	2576.....AA1VX	2113.....W2FKF	1622.....K5CX	1183.....K11U	1006.....NJ4Z	766.....I2VGW	647.....YB8NT	
3186.....N1RR	2568.....SM6DHU	2109.....NXØI	1611.....W2ME	1150.....VE6BMX	1004.....K4HB	763.....K4JKB	640.....UA9YF	

CW

7674.....WA2HZR	4164.....WA5VGI	3012.....WD9DZV	2357.....W9HR	1708.....NIØC	1421.....KN1CBR	992.....F5PBL	807.....N5KAE	620.....AF5DM
7200.....K2VV	4076.....I7PXV	2948.....IK3GER	2291.....N3XX	1691.....K11U	1389.....IT9ELD	968.....K3CWF	783.....YB1AR	615.....JH6JMM
6024.....9A2NA	3974.....JN3SAC	2943.....N6QQ	2212.....AC5K	1653.....W2YR	1342.....VE6BMX	962.....K7LV	752.....K6HRT	608.....W9RPM
5511.....KF2O	3804.....W9OO	2915.....KA7T	2203.....NXØI	1626.....W6XK	1235.....JH1APK	944.....AB1OC	743.....JA5NSR	600.....NY4G
5392.....EA2IA	3773.....KW9A	2811.....OZ5UR	2022.....AF5CC	1620.....DG7RO	1220.....AA4FU	908.....NH6T	738.....NH6T/W4	600.....IK2SGV
5160.....N4NO	3648.....N1RR	2667.....W9IL	1998.....K5UR	1595.....PY5FB	1210.....DL4CW	897.....HK3W	732.....SQ7B	
5282.....N6JV	3504.....YU7BCD	2548.....EA2CIN	1973.....N3RC	1555.....K1PL	1196.....N3AIU	891.....DK8MCT	727.....JF1LMB	
4992.....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	1087.....AE5B	889.....N3AIU	720.....K4CN	
4886.....I3FIY	3214.....SM6DHU	2490.....N6FX	1762.....K6ND	1480.....WØ3Z	1062.....K3XA	864.....YO5BRZ	652.....IK2DZN	
4874.....KØDEQ	3041.....YO9HP	2477.....VE6BF	1744.....NE6I	1458.....AG4W	1036.....DL5KW	848.....PY5VC	636.....NKØS	
4776.....N8BJQ	3031.....EA7AAW	2424.....W2WC	1727.....K6UXO	1443.....WA2VQV	997.....N6PEQ	821.....HB9DAX	629.....IV3GOW	

DIGITAL

3187.....KØDEQ	2251.....EA2IA	1711.....W2YR	1426.....AB1OC	1108.....KE8FMJ	992.....N3DF	862.....JP1KHY	750.....NH6T/W4	611.....KØ9V
3145.....KF2O	2242.....HK3W	1704.....IK2DZN	1378.....K3CWF	1093.....K11U	992.....K9UQN	855.....R1AV	681.....PY5VC	600.....ADØFL
2996.....W3LL	2217.....YO9HP	1657.....N1RR	1353.....K1PL	1091.....VA3VF	983.....PU2GTA	833.....N4JJS	680.....K2KJ	
2978.....N8BJQ	2103.....K2YYY	1643.....N3RC	1333.....W1FNB	1060.....AF4T	966.....NS3L	812.....UR6LEY	672.....K9AAN	
2872.....W6XK	1836.....AG4W	1633.....WU9D	1308.....NKØS	1054.....KW9A	947.....I2VGW	811.....WF1H	670.....IV3GOW	
2570.....WD9DZV	1818.....W1EQ	1551.....AC7JM	1227.....ES4RLH	1051.....KH6SAT	917.....K7LV	810.....N3CAL	668.....KA5EYH	
2558.....NT2A	1811.....NX\$I	1501W2/JR1AQN	1189.....JF1LMB	1047.....RW4WZ	881.....NE6I	800.....WA3GOS	654.....JA3MAT	
2366.....WA5VGI	1790.....JN3SAC	1500.....JH1APK	1149.....W9IL	1009.....GUØSUP	870.....WB6IZG	783.....YB1AR	640.....WA9ONY	
2308.....N6PM	1759.....N7ZO	1459.....KC1UX	1112.....AB1QB	1002.....NØRQV	866.....SQ7B	750.....ON7MIC	636.....W9RPM	

REMOTE OPERATION

<u>CW</u>	<u>MIXED</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>DIGITAL</u>
7277.....K9QVB	4026.....N1RR	2953.....N1RR	671.....N1RR
3292.....N1RR			

contesting

BY TIM SHOPPA,* N3QE

Getting in the Zone

Each fall, I send and copy many thousands of CQ zone numbers in my participation in the fall CQ World Wide DX Contests. The 40 CQ zones are also used as multipliers in scoring the CQWW DX Contests. Less major contests using the CQ zones in their exchange include DX stations in the CQ 160 Meter CW and SSB contests, the GACW WWSA CW DX contest, non-Japanese stations in the JIDX SSB and CW contests, the JT DX contest, and the World Wide Iron Ham contest.

In his article, “A Brief History of the CQWW Contest”, Bob Cox, W3EST, traces the origins of a 40-zone DX map to an *R/9* magazine award in 1934 (*the precursor of today’s CQ Worked All Zones, or WAZ, award – ed.*), which was later revised in 1936 by *Radio* magazine to boundaries very similar to today’s CQ Zone map. In the February 1936 *Radio* magazine article, “DX Zones of the World: A new DX Yardstick,” he finds a note that the zones were drawn with “no consideration to the number of amateurs which may be located within a particular zone, as this is a factor of no permanence.” You can read more about K3EST’s research into the evolution of the 40-zone map at the start of <https://cqww.com/history.htm>.

I analyzed the zone exchanges logged by contesters in publicly available CQWW CW and SSB logs from 2005-2021, and find that in the 21st century there remains a huge disparity in on-air activity by zone. For more than a quarter billion logged QSOs over these 17 years, I accumulated statistics for both the zone sent and zone received. The resulting distribution of contest QSOs by zone are shown in descending order in *Table 1*. Zone 14, Western Europe, appears in the logs 350 times more commonly than the rarest, Zone 34 covering Northeast Africa. Within the continent of North America, the West Coast (Zone 3) appears in logged QSOs less than a third of the time that the East Coast (Zone 5) appears, with the Midwest (Zone 4) in between.

In the public logs, the most common

email: n3qe@cq-amateur-radio.com

CQ Zone	Percent of logged QSOs
Western EU 14	20.67
Central EU 15	20.23
Eastern NA 05	11.45
Eastern EU 16	9.78
Central NA 04	7.24
Japan and Korea 25	4.22
Balkan 20	3.71
Western NA 03	3.22
West Indies 08	2.42
Western Siberian 17	1.89
Northwest AF 33	1.74
Central SA 11	1.62
Northern SA 09	1.60
Southeast SA 13	1.09
Eastern AS 24	1.03
Central Siberia 18	1.00
Southwest AS 21	0.78
Indonesian 28	0.60
Central America 07	0.48
Phillipine 27	0.47
Central Pacific 31	0.47
Central AF 35	0.43
Eastern VK 30	0.39
New Zealand 32	0.37
Southwest SA 12	0.33
Eastern Siberian 19	0.32
Southeast AS 26	0.29
Western SA 10	0.26
Southern NA 06	0.26
Northwestern NA 01	0.23
South African 38	0.20
Southern AS 22	0.18
North Atlantic 40	0.18
Northeast NA 02	0.17
Central AS 23	0.15
Western VK 29	0.12
Equatorial AF 36	0.12
Eastern AF 37	0.10
Madagascar 39	0.10
Northeast AF 34	0.06

Table 1. The 40 CQ Zones, arranged in order of increasing rarity. Data is from the “to” and “from” zone columns of CQWW CW and SSB public logs, 2005-2021, www.cqww.com/publiclogs.



Table 2. The top 20 most frequent pairings of zones logged in the CQWW CW and SSB contests, 2005-2021. In each pair of zones, the lower zone number is listed first.



CQ Zone pair	Occurrences
14-15	13873682
05-14	9555749
15-16	7838596
05-15	7753176
14-16	7075560
15-15	5864797
14-14	5686813
04-14	4433966
04-15	3553590
14-20	2941457
15-20	2572245
05-08	2011087
03-25	1982111
05-16	1970643
15-17	1554061
16-20	1552691
15-25	1528230
04-08	1466268
04-05	1400971
14-33	1259405

“to” and “from” pairs of zones found in the logged QSOs take place between Zone 14 (Western Europe) and Zone 15 (Central Europe). These will be at best 1-point QSOs, as they are both on the same continent. Also near the top of the list of common to-from zone combinations, which I list in *Table 2*, are contacts inside Zone 14, inside Zone 15, and between these zones and Zone 16 (European Russia and Ukraine), and the European part of zone 20 (the Balkan countries), all 1-point QSOs with a rich base of country multipliers.

The second most common combination of zones logged are three-point QSOs between the East Coast of North America (Zone 5) and Western Europe (Zone 14). To break out of North American and European activity, we have to go all the way down to the 13th most popular pairing of zones, which is between the West Coast of North America (Zone 3) and Japan and South Korea (Zone 25). At the 14th most popular pairing, we find Asiatic Russia (Zone 17) in communication with zone 15 in the middle of Europe. At the very bottom of the top 20, we find zone 33 in Africa making QSOs with zone 14 in Western Europe.

As you make QSOs during the 48-hour CQWW contest weekend, you’ll find that working a new zone will also usually result in working a new country. As a result, each new zone you work on each band will likely be a “double multiplier.” The N1MM+ contest logging program likely highlights callsigns that would be double multipliers in green, highlighting them as even more valuable than red single multipliers.

Contesters in the U.S. do not earn any points by working other U.S. hams in the CQWW CW and SSB contests, but they do earn country and zone credit. In the N1MM+ logger,

these new multipliers will be highlighted as multipliers even though they are not worth any points. Occasionally on the air you’ll hear the phrase “for the mult” along with a search-and-pounce station’s callsign when they’re working zero-point stations in their own country for zone and country multipliers. You don’t have to be sheepish going for these QSOs — multipliers count per band in CQWW, and you’ll miss out on a total of 12 multipliers each contest if you don’t work your own country and zone.

Your contesting program will often be able to auto-fill the zone exchange in CQWW contests for you. For CQ zone information, the callsign you type in is cross referenced against the patterns in the Country File currently installed on your computer. As travel restrictions worldwide are lifted and DXpeditions pick back up, keeping your Country File up to date will avoid zone confusion during the heat of the contest. If your logging PC is connected to the internet and you’re using the popular N1MM logging program, you can select the “Tools->Download And Install Latest Country File” menu option and in two mouse clicks be updated. If your logging computer isn’t on the internet or you are using a different logging program, you can visit the Country File website <www.country-files.com> in advance, manually download the country file, and sneakernet the file to your logging PC for installation.

For several common zones, the Country File is not the final word for zone determination. The callsign area in a U.S. ham’s callsign may not correspond to his geographic location, and some callsign areas span multiple CQ zones. The Country File contains special exceptions for several hundred com-

Calendar of Events

All year	CQ DX Marathon	http://bit.ly/vEKMWD
Nov. 1	Silent Key Memorial Contest	https://skmc.hu/en/rules.html
Nov. 2	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest SSB	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Nov. 2	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Nov. 5-6	IPARC Contest	www.iparc.de
****Nov. 5-6	Ukrainian DX Contest	http://urdx.org/rules.php?english *****CANCELED
Nov. 5-7	ARRL CW Sweepstakes	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
Nov. 6	High Speed Club CW Contest	www.highspeedclub.org
Nov. 7	RSGB Autumn Series, Data	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Nov. 9	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Nov. 12	FISTS Saturday Sprint	www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints
Nov. 12-13	10-10 Digital Fall Contest	http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc
Nov. 12-13	ARRL EME Contest	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
Nov. 12-13	CQ-WE Contest	https://cqwe.cboh.org
Nov. 12-13	JIDX Phone Contest	www.jidx.org
Nov. 12-13	OK/OM CW DX Contest	http://bit.ly/19rrRjl
Nov. 12-13	Worked All Europe RTTY Contest	https://bit.ly/36ubggF
Nov. 12-14	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 Memorial QSO Party	https://bit.ly/2FtzQEn
Nov. 12-14	PODXS070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	http://bit.ly/2Cq2yUA
Nov. 13	FIRAC HF Contest	www.firac.de/html/contest.html
Nov. 13-14	Fall Classic Exchange CW	www.classicexchange.org
Nov. 15-16	Fall Classic Exchange CW	www.classicexchange.org
Nov. 16	RSGB Autumn Series, SSB	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Nov. 16	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Nov. 18	YO International PSK31 Contest	www.yo5crq.ro/index.htm
Nov. 19	All Austrian 160M Contest	https://bit.ly/3fgsiUo
Nov. 19	Feld Hell Turkey Sprint	https://bit.ly/3asfcjj
Nov. 19	RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHZ Contest CW	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Nov. 19	SARL Newbie Party	http://bit.ly/H0lqQf
Nov. 19-20	LZ DX Contest	http://lzdxbf.bg/rulesen.html
Nov. 19-20	REF 160-Meter Contest	https://bit.ly/3iHzsQU
Nov. 19-20	SARL Field Day Contest	http://bit.ly/H0lqQf

mon U.S. and VE contest calls that are in zones; if you're working deep into non-contester population, especially new hams who have claimed vanity callsigns, you'll have to accurately listen for the zone to log it. Asiatic Russia spans multiple CQ zones as well (17, 18, and 19), and while the Russian letter and digit prefixes are a good clue as to the location of an Asiatic Russia call, you still should make an effort to log the correct zone. Tim Makins, EI8IC, maintains a particularly useful map showing the relation between Russian prefixes and CQ Zones at <<https://bit.ly/3SrKsEe>>.

What if you are called by a station that genuinely doesn't know their zone, or gives you a serial number instead of a zone? The CQWW Rules FAQ is very direct on the subject: "Log the zone based on their location." With a recently installed Country File, you'll be most efficient if you simply log the correct zone it recommends; trying to extract geographic details of a station (possibly a station with zero-point QSO value, if you're a U.S. station working another U.S. station) during the heat of a contest is never going to be worthwhile.

Can you review your log at the end of a contest using an online database to fill in missing zone numbers, or attempt to correct zone numbers that seem suspect? This is expressly forbidden by CQWW Rule IX.9: "Correction of logged callsigns and exchanges after the contest by using any databases, recordings, email, or other methods of confirming QSOs is not allowed." The CQWW FAQ expands that you are allowed to make corrections to your log after the contest but only from your own notes or memory, not from external sources like the DX Cluster, Reversebeacon spots, or DX newsletters. The prohibition on post-contest log corrections

is common among all contests, and makes it all the more important to have a recent Country File installed on your logging PC before the contest.

New Live-Streaming Opportunities for Assisted Ops in the 2022 ARRL Sweepstakes

Are you operating in a multi-op or in the Unlimited (assisted) single operator category in ARRL November sweepstakes? If so, think about live-streaming it as well. This is explicitly allowed — for the first time ever in any contest rules — by the 2022 Sweepstakes Rules, under section HCAT.2.2: "Entrants are permitted to use social media, video live streaming, and internet chat rooms."

I've done some investigation and the most comprehensive audiovisual approach to live-streaming in video-gaming is offered by Twitch, <www.twitch.tv>. The Twitch streaming tools offer excellent support for putting your face (via a webcam) on the screen along with your PC's screen, and many aspects of amateur radio contesting — scores, strategy, tactics, and mechanics — are shared with the multiplayer video gamers that make up the bulk of Twitch's customer user base.

Other streaming services may be better than Twitch for targeting amateur radio enthusiasts who might be older than the typical video gamer and frequent other social sites. In my time on Facebook; I've become a member of dozens of ham-radio oriented groups where a live-stream promoting amateur radio contesting would be entirely appropriate. If you've spent a time establishing a YouTube presence tailored around amateur radio, that would also be a good way to attract

Nov. 19-21	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
Nov. 19-21	AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 Memorial QSO Party	https://bit.ly/2FtzQEn
Nov. 20	FISTS Sunday Sprint	www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints
Nov. 20	Homebrew & Oldtime Equipment Party	www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html
Nov. 24	RSGB Autumn Series, CW	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Nov. 26-27	CQWW DX CW Contest	www.cqww.com/index.htm
Nov. 28	RSGB FT4 Contest Series	https://bit.ly/31qpcJl
Nov. 30	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest CW	https://ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
Dec. 1	QRP ARCI Top Band Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Dec. 2-4	ARRL 160-Meter Contest	www.arrl.org/160-meter
Dec. 3-4	PRO CW Contest	www.procontestclub.ro/PCC%20Rules.html
Dec. 3-4	FT Roundup	www.rttycontesting.com/ft-roundup/rules
Dec. 3-4	UFT Contest	www.uft.net/activites-et-concours/rencontres-uft
Dec. 7	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Dec. 10-11	ARRL 10M Contest	www.arrl.org/10-meter
Dec. 10-11	Veron 28 MHz SWL Contest	http://bit.ly/2L9eT1L
***Dec. 10-11	TRC Digi Contest	https://trcdx.org/rules-trc-digi/ CANCELED
Dec. 10-12	PODXS070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	http://bit.ly/2Cq2yUA
Dec. 11	CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	www.coloradoqrpclub.org/contests/snow.htm
Dec. 11	QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	www.qrparci.org/contests
Dec. 14	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Dec. 16	AGB Party Contest	http://ev5agb.com/contest/contests_e.htm
Dec. 17	RAC Winter Contest	www.rac.ca/contesting-results
Dec. 17-18	Croatian CW Contest	www.9acw.org/index.php/rules/english
Dec. 17-18	OK DX RTTY Contest	www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE
Dec. 17-18	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	www.kkn.net/stew/stew_rules.html
Dec. 18	ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
Dec. 21	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity	www.ft8activity.eu/index.php/en
Dec. 25	RAEM Contest	https://raem.srr.ru/rules
Dec. 26	DARC Xmas Contest	https://www.darc.de/?id=820
Dec. 30	YOTA Contest	www.ham-yota.com/contest
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Bogor Old and New Contest	https://contest.orari-bogor.org

fellow hams into contesting. Both Facebook and YouTube offer video streaming platforms for sharing both station video and audio as part of the new opportunity to live-stream within the contest rules.

A full-time entry in the ARRL Sweepstakes starts off with excellent rates late Saturday afternoon and into Saturday evening. During these busy times, most live-streaming efforts would largely be exhibiting your skills as you tune the band or run a frequency. The audio might simply be what you're hearing on your headphones during receive, and your own transmitted signal (CW or phone) while transmitting. Because you'll be so busy on the air, any expla-

nation of the contest — including a link to the rules — will best be shared in a video banner that you are displaying on the desktop.

Opportunities to deliver verbal commentary will likely pick up starting mid-morning on Sunday in Sweepstakes, when rates often take a nosedive. If you're running a CQ loop, you might bring a promotion of the contest more prominently into your livestream's audio mix. Take advantage of the slower rates to share some of the technological tools in the shack and on your desk that let you make QSOs and optimize your score. Highlight your long-term goals through your logger's rate meter and score totals, or explain how you're using

spotting assistance to pick off new QSOs and maybe even search for the rarest multipliers.

Speaking of rare multipliers in ARRL Sweepstakes, Gerry Hull, W1VE, again plans to activate the Yukon / Northwest Territories (NWT) using the technology of remote contesting. J. Parke Allen, VY1JA, hosts the remote activity via his station in Whitehorse. Gerry notes recent station improvements including a TS-590, an HF2K kilowatt solid-state amplifier, and plans to have single-band dipoles installed on a 70-foot mast in time for both modes of Sweepstakes.

November and December Contest Highlights

The ARRL November Sweepstakes contest — held on the weekend of Nov. 5-6th for CW, and Nov. 19-21st for SSB — has several rule changes above and beyond allowing assisted ops to live-stream. You can find the new rules and operating hints at <www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>.

The Deutsche Amateur Radio Club sponsors the Worked All Europe RTTY contest, a 48-hour event held the weekend of Nov. 12-13th this year. Activity is more expansive than the name implies; like most RTTY contests, everyone works everyone for points and multipliers. Additionally, any transcontinental station you work may result in up to 10 extra points via QTCs, a contest-based form of message passing. If you use the N1MM logger, Larry Gauthier, K8UT, has created a video covering the details of QTC exchange in this logger — you can find it on the N1MM website at <<https://bit.ly/3rn8YKP>>.

The world's largest CW contest, the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest, is Nov. 26-27th. NG3K, Bill Feidt, frequently updates his announced DXpedition page at <<https://bit.ly/3Sui98k>>, with new DXpeditions. An announcement near press time reveals that K6ZO, Don Jones, will be activating 7Q6M in Malawi. Follow the DX newsletters, update your country file, and join in for the CW DX action that weekend. Full rules are at <<https://cqww.com>>.

In the first two weekends of December, the single-band ARRL 160-Meter Contest (Dec. 2-4th) and ARRL 10-Meter Contest (Dec. 10-11th) are held. Frank Donovan, W3LPL, has been predicting exceptionally good conditions on the 10-meter band. The ARRL contest portal, at <<https://contests.arrl.org>>, will allow you to access the rules as well as view results from the previous solar cycle to see the fun we're in for as the solar flux rises.



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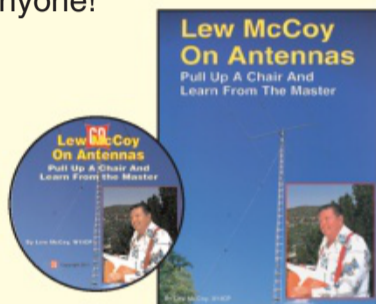
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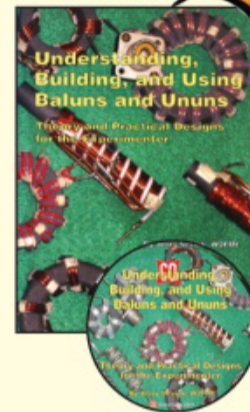
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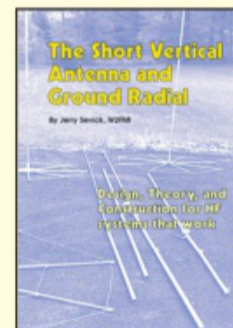
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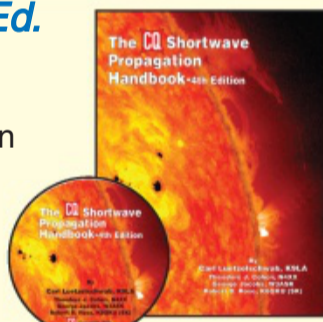
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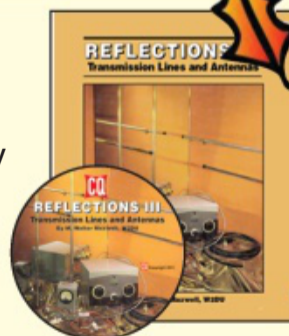
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propagation

BY TOMAS HOOD,* NW7US

November Shortwave Propagation

Quick Look at Current Cycle 25 Conditions: (Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, August 2022: 70
12-month smoothed, February 2022: 64

10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, August 2022: 118
12-month smoothed, February 2022: 109

One Year Ago: (Data rounded to nearest whole number)

Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, August 2021: 23
12-month smoothed, February 2021: 19

10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, August 2021: 78
12-month smoothed, February 2021: 78

Last month's column contained a detailed review of conditions expected during October. Let's look at what we can expect this month.

160 Meters: Expect an increase in DX openings on this band during the local hours of darkness, starting at dusk and lasting into the sunrise period. This season will mostly have stable conditions on this band and other medium-wave bands like 120 meters (for the SWLs among us). This winter will be reasonably quiet, though conditions may at times be marginal if the geomagnetic field activity becomes stormy. The combined effect of the decreased static levels and longer hours of darkness in the northern latitudes will make 160 meters a pleasurable band during winter. During this month's CQWW CW contest, participants should experience fair to good scores on this band. Look for openings toward Europe and toward the south from the eastern half of the U.S. and toward the south, the Far East, Australasia, and the South Pacific from the western half of the country. These openings should be strong during the contest period.

80/75 Meters: This should be a great band for DX openings to many areas of the world during the hours of darkness and into the sunrise period. Eighty meters becomes a reliable long-distance band throughout the entire period of darkness. The band should peak toward Europe and in a generally easterly direction around midnight. For openings in a generally western direction, expect a peak just after sunrise. The band should remain open toward the south throughout most of the night. Noise levels will be considerably down from October, and the period for band openings in a particular direction will be a bit longer. Some CQWW contest operators may take the challenge of operating exclusively on 80, an adventure in skill and patience. The conditions are expected to be favorable for high scores on this band.

60 Meters: Competing with both the 75- and 40-meter bands, this band may provide coverage during those periods when propagation is less useful on those bands. During hours of darkness, seasonal static levels are lower than they were during the summer, and nighttime Maximum Usable Frequencies (MUFs) on some paths could be just above 5

MHz this month. That results in possible DX until morning hours. The band should be open first for DX toward Europe and the east during the late afternoon. Signals should increase in intensity as darkness approaches and peak from an easterly direction closer to midnight, and from a westerly direction just after sunrise. Remember, just as with 80 / 75 meters, signals tend to peak as the sun rises on the eastern end of a propagation path.

40 Meters: Competing with the 80-meter band, this should be a hot DX band during the dark hours as the seasonal static levels are lower than they were during the summer. Nighttime MUFs on some paths could fall below 7 MHz this

LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for November 2022

Propagation Index	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 7, 9-11, 15-16, 19-20, 22-23, 25	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 3-6, 8, 12-14, 17-18, 24, 26, 30	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 1-2, 28-29	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
Below Normal: 21, 27	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: n/a	C-D	D	E	E

Where expected signal quality is:

- A--Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9
- B--Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.
- C--Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S3 and S6, with some fading and noise.
- D--Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, with considerable fading and noise.
- E--No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

- Using the Propagation Charts appearing in "The CQ Shortwave Propagation Handbook, 4th Edition," by Carl Luetzelschwab, George Jacobs, Theodore J. Cohen, and R. B. Rose.
 - Find the *Propagation Index* associated with the particular path opening from the Propagation Charts.
 - 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 3 will be fair to good on November 1st and 2nd, good from November 3rd through October 6th, and then excellent on November 7th, and so forth.
- 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 <<https://SunSpotWatch.com>> provided by NW7US.

* P.O. Box 110
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month, resulting in this band closing on those paths until morning hours. The band should be open first in the late afternoon for DX toward Europe, changing over to favor the west until after dawn. Signals should peak from an easterly direction closer to midnight, and from a westerly direction just after sunrise. Like 80 and 60 meters, signals here tend to peak as the sun rises on the eastern end of a propagation path.

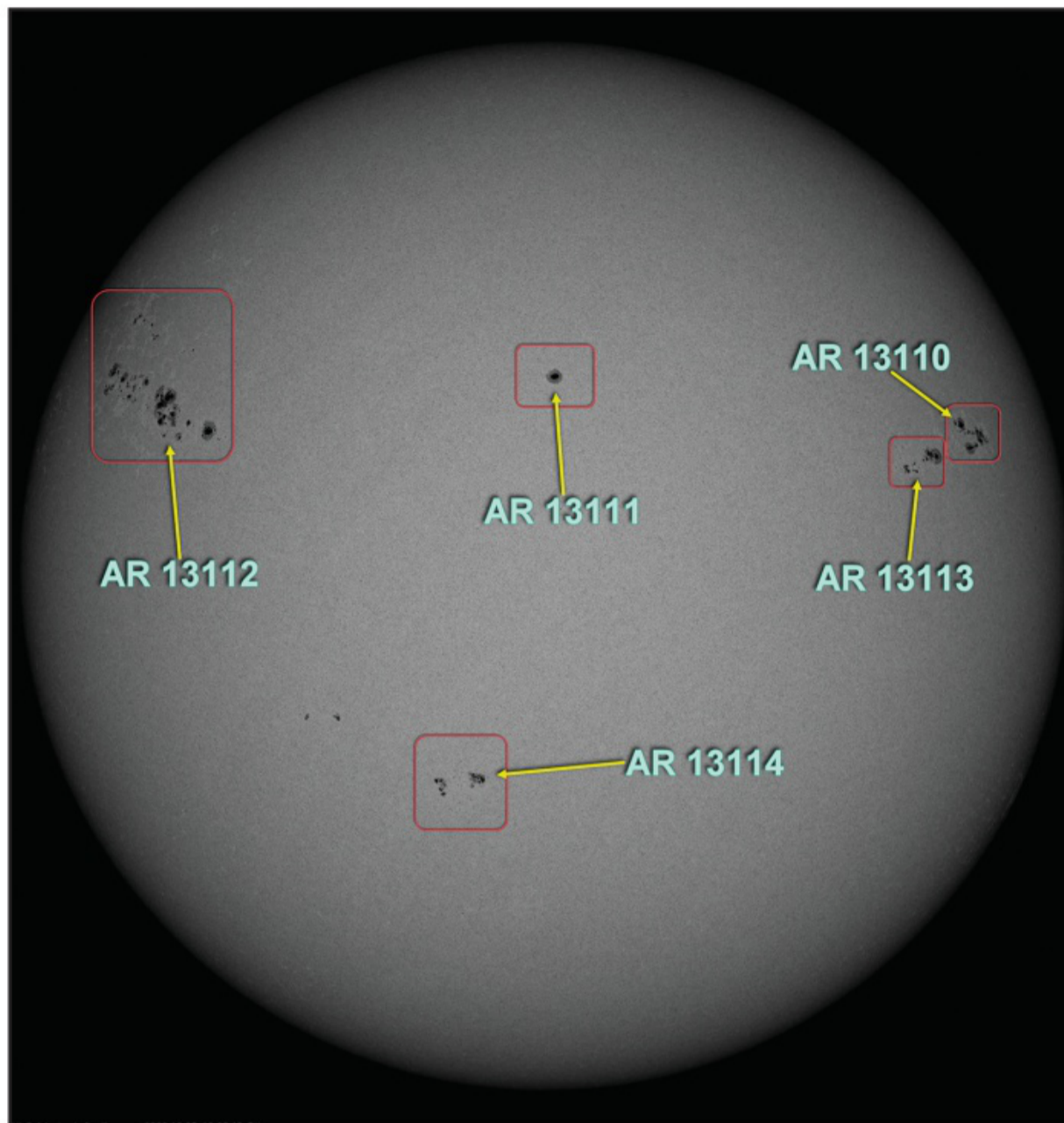
30 Meters: Competing with the 20-meter band, this band offers digital and CW operators an edge for hunting DX. Like other lower-frequency bands, this one should be open first for DX toward Europe and the east during the late afternoon. Signals should increase in intensity as darkness approaches and peak from an easterly direction closer to midnight, and from a westerly direction just after sunrise. What is great about this band is that it often has the best of characteristics found on both 20 and 40 meters, just shifting throughout the day.

20 Meters: DX openings should be possible on this band mostly during the day, and somewhat during the night depending on the path and the path's end points (where you are, and where your contact is, and the path between). However, because of the shorter daylight hours in the Northern Hemisphere, nighttime path openings on this band will be shorter this month compared to October, with signal peaks from about an hour or two after sunrise and again during the late afternoon and early evening hours for those paths that may be open. Don't forget to look for long-path openings for about an hour or so after sunrise and again for an hour or so before local sunset.

17 Meters: This band is becoming a contender for reaping great DX. Conditions for paths in the Northern Hemisphere will be poor to fair, but usable mostly at low latitudes to DX areas that are also at low latitudes. This is primarily a daytime band, and spend time hunting DX, as openings occur more often here than on the 15-meter band.

15 Meters: The conditions for propagation between U.S. and DX entities will be poor to fair on this band, especially at low latitudes. Fluctuating conditions are expected at these frequencies from shortly after sunrise through the early evening hours. The band could remain open into the evening toward southern and tropical areas.

12 Meters: Expect conditions on this band to be much like on the 10-meter band. A daytime band, fluctuating con-



We are now witnessing most days with not just a few sunspots, but with many, as can be seen in this white-light image taken on October 3, 2022. There is no missing the great progress of this cycle. Even the 10-meter band is alive with much activity from DX locations. (Courtesy of NASA/SDO)

ditions are expected at these frequencies from shortly after sunrise through the early evening hours. The band could remain open into the evening toward southern and tropical areas. Keep watching, as this band could provide a surprise or two this month.

10 Meters: With an expected 10.7-cm flux higher than about 115 on the best days of the month, this band will have some excellent conditions. Contest participants in low- and middle-latitude locations can expect daytime F-layer propagation contacts during the contest weekend, mainly on north-south paths, but possibly some good one-hop east-west propagation. If open, the band will peak right after sunrise, and just a bit before sunset, local time. Openings toward Europe and in a generally easterly direction, when they exist, will be short, peaking an hour or two before noon. Those toward South America and Africa peak during the early afternoon hours. Optimum condi-

tions toward the Far East, Australia, southern Asia, and the South Pacific are forecast for the late afternoon and early evening hours, especially from stations in lower latitudes. This band will require a lot of skill and better-than-average antennas.

VHF Conditions

The Leonids meteor shower is typically the big event for November. This shower is active from early November and lasts all month. For those readers who are attempting to fire up the VHF transceiver and activate the 6-meter beam antenna to propagate a signal off of the plasma trails of these meteors, there may be enough hourly activity this year to make this a hot event.

Working VHF propagation off meteor trails (the highly ionized plasma trails left by the meteor) requires some reasonable power and gain, and good operating skill. With the latest high-speed burst-mode CW software as well

as the WSJT modes,, you can possibly work even the smaller meteors. There is a guide written by Kirk, NTØZ, available as a PDF document located at <<https://tinyurl.com/d22t3snx>>.

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 columnist via Twitter, or via the Space Weather and Radio Propagation Facebook page at <<https://fb.me/spacewx.hfradio>>.

Current Solar Cycle Progress

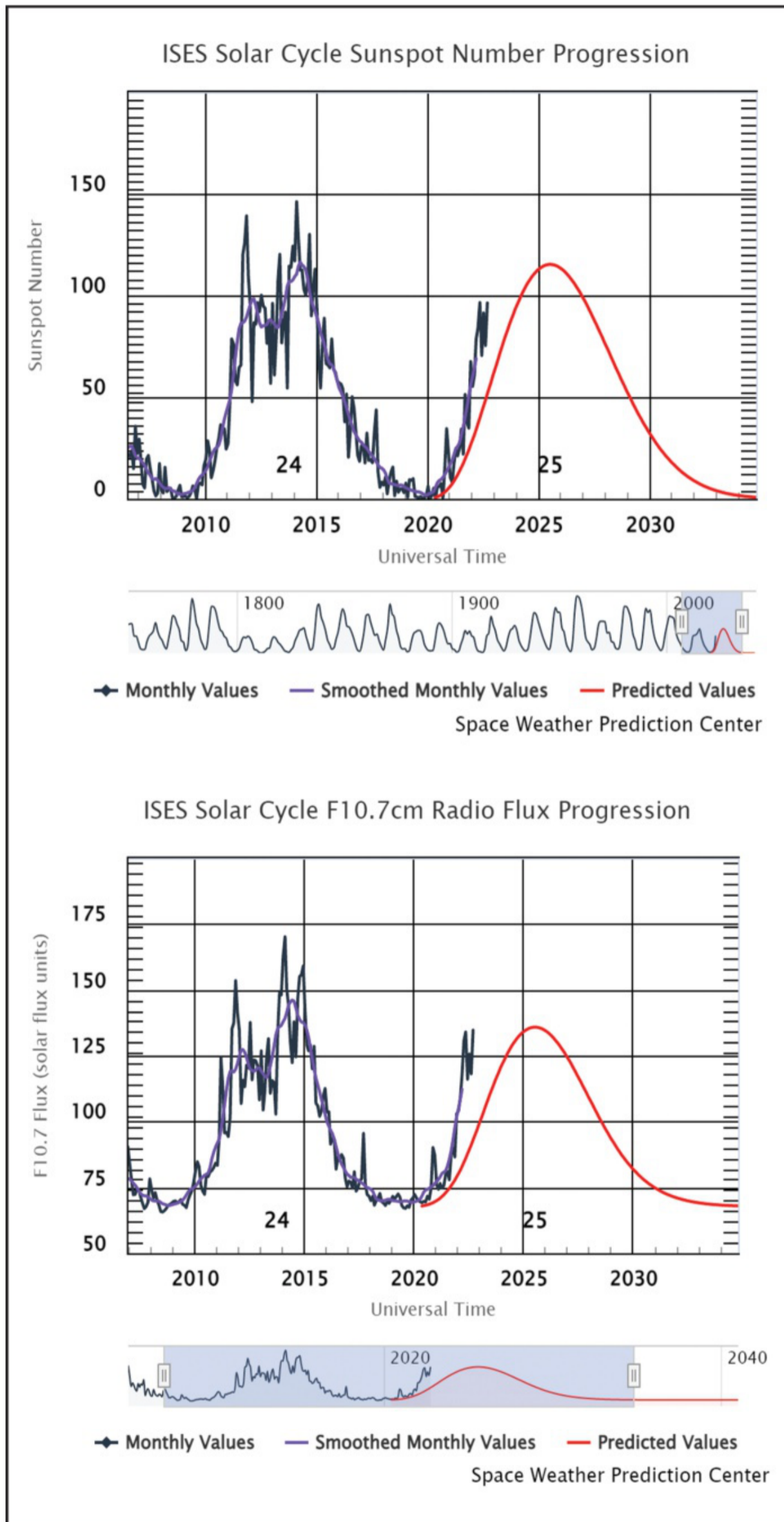
The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports that the monthly mean observed sunspot number for August 2022 was 69.74. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on February 2022 is 65.61. A smoothed sunspot count of 72, give or take about 7 points, is expected for November 2022.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 118.13 for August 2022. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on February 2022 is 109.15. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for November 2022 is 110, give or take 5 points.

Geomagnetic activity level this month is expected to range from quiet to stormy, resulting in occasional degraded propagation. 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



Impressive: The plots confirm that we are seeing a rapid rise of this cycle, Sunspot Cycle 25. If the trend continues upward, this cycle may well outperform the last several cycles (in terms of sunspot activity). (Courtesy of NOAA/SWPC)

our readers say...

Warmth in Antarctica

October author Ted Cohen, N4XX (“Antarctic Memories”) wrote the following to fellow author Stew Gilmor, W1FK, after reading his adjacent article, “The Chill in Antarctica”:

Great memories, Stew ... Loved the story about you and your soon-to-be-wife. With the equipment I had, the only messages I was able to get to my girlfriend, Susan, in Madison, Wisconsin (the woman who eventually would become my wife in 1964) was via CW. But in both our cases, ham radio came through for us when there was literally no other way to communicate with our loved ones.

– 73, Ted, N4XX (ex CE9AF, et al.)

WA2NDM’s Active Antenna

The following was directed to “Math’s Notes” editor Irwin Math, WA2NDM:

Howdy Irwin,

It was a pleasure reading your article, “An Active Antenna Project,” in the September 2022 issue of CQ. As an 81-year-old enthusiast of “rebuilding” old shortwave receivers, I’ve often wished for this very device. This weekend I ordered the few parts I didn’t have in my “junk box” and started construction.

For my construction, I’m adding a single SPDT (ON/OFF/ON) switch, located in the Active Antenna construction box. This switch will independently control the ON/OFF function of both the 9-volt battery and remote power supply. I’m also adding a SPST switch in the remote power supply construction box for ON/OFF control of the Active Antenna when it is located at a remote distance.

Thank you, Irwin, and thank you, CQ, for publishing a construction project that only requires basic electronic identification / construction skills and is useful regardless of the age of our equipment.

– Jerry L. Wilson, K5JLW
Huntington, Texas

FYI, I believe your article paragraph beginning with the words “Figure 2 is a schematic of the remote power ...” contains a typographical error. I believe the last sentence in this paragraph should begin with the word “Note” instead of “Not”.

WA2NDM replies:

Thank you for your comments, Jerry. I aim to please and will try to add as many of these types of projects as I can from time to time.

W2VU replies (regarding the typo):

Thanks for the catch, Jerry. You are correct, that should read “Note,” not “Not.” Sometimes, those “e”s fall off the ends of words and roll away, HI!

Please Keep Your Address Up to Date

Editor, CQ,

I would guess that most amateurs working toward USA-CA use some type of tracking program to help keep track of contacts, cards, etc. Recently MARAC’s new logger program added a feature to allow you to check the home county of stations you are working using the digital modes of WSJT. This feature is linked to QRZ.com and checks the grid square transmitted against the grid square listed in the station profile on QRZ. Since modes like FT8 and FT4 are basic contact modes it is difficult to exchange county information. After stepping away from working on this award for several years, I have started trying to finish working and confirming the last 400 counties I need for USA-CA. Since I have used the various logging programs made available by fellow county hunters, I applauded the new and updated logger program.

Since an accident in 2016 that has caused my hearing to decline, I pretty much live on FT8. I was truly excited about being able to check the home county of the station I was working. Imagine my surprise when I check a station using this new feature and the program says, “grids do not match.” I know we tend to be a mobile society and move around a lot more than we use to. But, aren’t we supposed to keep the FCC informed of our current address? When I get this message, I check the ARRL website and the FCC site to see if I can determine where the station I worked is actually located. I have found in numerous instances that QRZ, ARRL, and FCC sites all give a different address for the same station. Well, chalk that contact up as being useless for anything except the grid square they claim to be operating from. And if you want to use this information, it is best to hope they use LoTW. You certainly can’t mail a QSL card to the station to confirm anything needing a QSL card like USA-CA. And you can’t do eQSL either, when their profile says “I don’t use that.”

This is an open appeal to all my fellow amateurs to check your information and update it. You may not be chasing awards, but some of us are. And without your help, those of us working on awards can’t get the confirmations we need.

– Sandy Walker, WB4EVH

W2VU responds:

The FCC’s main concern is having an address at which you may be reached if Commission staff needs to contact you. They are less concerned with the physical location of your station at any given time (and considering how mobile many hams are — especially county hunters — this is probably a good thing). There are, of course, no requirements that you update your location information with QRZ.com or any other callsign server.

I would think that, if a person does not use an online confirmation database such as LoTW or eQSL, sending a physical QSL card to their address of record with the FCC (or their QRZ.com listing) would be a viable option. Even if they don’t have physical QSL cards of their own, they can respond with a confirmation letter that will be acceptable by just about all award programs.

However, your request for everyone to keep their location info up to date is a good one for many reasons.

– 73, Rich, W2VU

USA-CA Award Custodian Brian Bird, NXØX, adds:

Sandy,

I very much understand your concerns and your appeal to the general ham population. I would just like to point out one or two items from the USA-CA award standpoint.

Like you mention, there is some “guessing” taking place on what county you are in when software is trying to match the location of the station compared to the stations mailing address on file. That, in my opinion, is more of a MARAC concern (or should be) than CQ’s.

When applying for the USA-CA award through CQ, we do require a confirmation via either “hard card” QSL or eQSL. Doing so will confirm the station’s physical location on his end no matter how brief the contact was. MARAC’s awards do not require confirmations and hence the assumptions taking place on their end.

Even if you’re using the MARAC software for the initial USA-CA award — which, by the way, is a fantastic product that Don, K3IMC, has put many many hours into — you will still need to enter the contact as confirmed for the initial award, verifying the county.

I’d like to mention one other thing for clarification. At the present time, the only two ways to confirm contacts for the USA-CA award is either via a “hard card” QSL or via the eQSL website for electronic confirmations. Unfortunately, LoTW confirmations are not currently allowed for the USA-CA award.

– 73, Brian, NXØX
USA-CA Awards Custodian

*NQ4K	"	11,194	66	58	K6NR	"	1,601,664	1274	582	N7EPD	"	643,032	714	468	WB8AKW	"	560,303	744	391	W9SE	"	65	5	5	
*W3SI	"	4,914	65	63	AJ6V	"	1,575,890	1370	590	K6XT	"	434,250	667	375	K8PK	"	340,119	496	351	W9ILY	21	472,175	499	425	
*KB4DE	"	3,906	44	42	NF6A	"	1,481,800	1119	478	K7JQ	"	260,178	590	309	N18G	"	320,170	507	317	W9PA	"	94,554	208	206	
*N4JEH	"	1,440	47	45						(OP: K6XX)		221,451	315	291				(OP: W8CAR)	KN9P	"	196	14	14		
*WU4B	"	1,218	29	29	WA6KHK	"	1,064,700	1002	525	W7GF	"	183,312	395	268	WA8MCD	"	269,104	361	278	KK9V	14	87,261	218	177	
*K4RFK	"	176	12	11	AC6T	"	944,475	812	525	N7RVD	"	168,315	348	245	K8RR	"	161,920	329	253	K9STM	"	4,042	48	47	
*K4NNK	"	96	6	6	WQ6K	"	886,044	671	564	N7P	"	135,801	265	237	NO8C	"	135,361	326	223	K9OM	7	798,322	643	449	
*AA4NP	7	442,884	462	334						(OP: N6IE)		128,535	307	205	W8PI	"	97,970	202	194	*NE9U	A	1,792,089	1401	663	
*K4WW	"	21,728	111	97	KE1B	"	728,538	854	474	W7GES	"	120,750	295	210	K8MEG	"	93,879	220	183	*KY0Q	"	878,712	898	492	
*WB4FSF	"	55	6	5	K6RC	"	669,222	773	459	K6SEA	"	120,546	227	181	WA8LRW	"	83,213	223	173	*K9CW	"	621,432	711	411	
*KE0L	"	35	7	7	NW6H	"	597,698	735	394						(OP: KA6BIM)	KB8KMH	"	73,134	171	153	*NS9RC	"	496,834	855	394
*N4OO	3.5	19,440	102	80						(OP: K6RB)	K7HP	"	109,120	355	220	WB2RPW	"	68,385	269	235				(OP: W8LVN)	
					N6RV	"	513,936	589	387	N7ZUF	"	108,676	281	202	N8AA	"	60,830	199	154	*WD9CIR	"	415,233	671	351	
District 5					NN6DX	"	440,672	574	376	AA7A	"	103,158	247	198	NS8O	"	56,090	216	158	*N7ZZ	"	383,994	622	351	
NU5A	A	7,397,958	3491	986						(OP: W1PR)	KT7RC	"	89,250	355	210	W8IQ	"	42,723	187	141	*N9DJ	"	365,840	513	340
KT5J	"	6,637,306			K6OK	"	407,537	474	377						(OP: N6RC)	W0CG	"	39,437	141	113	*N9UA	"	324,480	456	338
					K6PO	"	387,720	535	359	KE2VB	"	81,144	255	184	K8CMO	"	28,386	146	114	*K9IUI	"	252,840	525	294	
					KU6F	"	365,568	674	336	N7GR	"	81,055	324	215	K8LX	"	14,651	111	91	*WB9HFK	"	217,056	445	266	
KN5A	"	5,655,832	2890	914						(OP: K6SRZ)	K7VIT	"	76,382	249	181	KX8AA	"	12,312	94	81	*WA9LEY	"	213,226	423	278
AD5A	"	4,027,644	2412	837	K6RIM	"	359,160	485	328	N9NA	"	71,280	268	180				(OP: K2CUB)	*K9X	"	199,120	297	262		
KK5I	"	3,209,976	2085	772	N6TQ	"	258,075	413	279	AD7XG	"	62,825	221	175	K8RCT	"	7,564	61	61	*K9WA	"	157,855	323	241	
					W6SX	"	210,280	513	280	NW7M	"	57,195	160	155	AA5TA	"	5,916	55	51	*WT9Q	"	145,976	270	257	
					NT6X	"	204,372	390	252	W7PV	"	53,040	224	170	KE8KES	"	2,485	38	35	*KE9SA	"	143,058	339	226	
N5RZ	"	3,113,014	1983	727	K6YK	"	191,178	344	258	K9PY	"	44,548	186	148	K8ESQ	"	2,310	36	35	*K9MA	"	129,570	299	210	
WX0B	"	2,981,664	2124	756	K6MM	"	179,219	345	277	W6KGP	"	43,310	184	142	KE8E	"	2,204	42	38	*N9UNX	"	129,310	241	193	
					N6GEO	"	125,171	300	199	K7HI	"	42,316	206	149	AJ8B	"	1,782	27	27	*W9QL	"	118,035	304	215	
KZ5D	"	1,930,494	1606	642	A16Z	"	112,545	231	183	WN7M	"	38,934	138	126	W8TOM	28	5,148	56	52	*N9SB	"	107,600	309	200	
KM5G	"	1,207,374	1131	534	W1RH	"	89,890	300	202						(OP: K7BTW)	KC9LA	14	80,180	212	190	*WU9D	"	91,556	268	188
N5EE	"	1,200,479	1162	541	K6FA	"	88,605	237	179	N7DSX	"	34,648	144	122	K8BB	"	24,961	155	109	*WA9LKF	"	59,472	231	177	
W5GN	"	987,460	968	509	K6EFA	"	81,832	258	193	KB7AZ	"	33,875	142	125	N8RY	"	364	15	13	*KD9LSV	"	57,057	179	143	
KT5C	"	891,632	1097	532	W6KC	"	79,808	263	172	K7UT	"	29,719	149	113	*NC8C	A	1,905,134	1466	623	*WB9UGX	"	53,460	224	162	
AC4CA	"	865,886	884	487	NN6C	"	70,064	171	151	W7PP	"	25,296	112	102	*AA8CA	"	1,606,416	1347	588	*W9VQ	"	46,580	149	137	
K5UV	"	559,767	818	403						(OP: W6SC)	W2HZ	"	17,958	93	82	*NN8U	"	1,246,848	1191	544	*KC9YL	"	45,582	173	142
K5TIA	"	505,172	623	391	W8GJK	"	59,250	216	150	K7MY	"	12,972	99	92	*K3JT	"	1,034,055	957	495	*W9JY	"	40,221	139	123	
N3BB	"	338,011	665	337	NK6A	"	54,670	200	154	NQ7R	"	11,692	77	74	*KV8Q	"	893,673	1009	459	*KC9IL	"	38,480	170	130	
N5TJ	"	259,369	406	323	AB1U	"	42,693	141	133	W6OAT	"	10,281	73	69	*N8BJQ	"	499,626	596	369	*K9GAA	"	29,592	132	108	
KA5M	"	236,530	400	310						(OP: W6RKC)	W7SLS	"	8,540	82	61	*N8LR	"	455,244	580	354	*KB9S	"	29,464	145	116
KM5VI	"	222,794	391	286	W6RGG	"	42,328	208	148	K2RD	"	4,515	48	43	*KA8JBK	"	409,024	641	352	*W9NXM	"	27,285	113	107	
K0NNM	"	208,075	466	287	W6GEE	"	30,856	150	116	WU6W	"	2,079	34	33	*WABMDC	"	404,481	615	357	*AG9A	"	17,459	82	79	
KD5J	"	134,692	352	223	N6WT	"	30,704	125	101	KG7MVH	"	1,131	34	29	*N8PE	"	386,750	589	350	*K7CS	"	15,910	103	86	
N5WNG	"	130,416	230	176	K6NV	"	29,766	162	121	KA7MDM	"	1,040	21	20	*K8BL	"	300,014	482	286	*K9OIN	"	14,356	83	74	
N5UI	"	130,301	320	229	N5KO	"	22,088	111	88	NS1L	28	240,990	436	290	*KE8PX	"	230,892	426	284	*KK9N	"	10,792	89	76	
N5CW	"	104,535	288	207	KF6NCX	"	18,088	144	119						(OP: N6SS)	*K7DR	"	221,112	399	249	*W8NWG	"	10,290	133	105
W2IY	"	95,118	257	191	K8TR	"	17,298	122	93	NO7R	21	879,674	933	569	*K3DMG	"	214,890	350	285	*N9CO	"	8,496	60	59	
N5XJ	"	82,044	214	172	N6IC	"	16,744	103	91						(OP: AA7V)	*W8ASA	"	188,650	297	275	*K9PMV	"	7,040	59	55
NE5A	"	71,103	232	173	K7GK	"	14,245	96	77	KN7Y	"	148,204	416	268	*WB8JAY	"	187,566	438	258	*K9CC	"	4,664	61	53	
AF5J	"	62,914	221	166	N6GP	"	7,686	68	63	WR5J	14	881,184	1018	548	*W8UA	"	167,307	313	217	*N8HWV	"	3,268	48	43	
K5NA	"	62,172	268	132	K6BEW	"	3,984	53	48						(OP: K7ZQ)	*AB8OU	"	128,952	297	216	*K9WIB	"	2,580	46	43
N5KD	"	56,826	191	154	KG6AO	"	2,552	32	22	K6KR	"	5,950	51	50	*AE8TF	"	123,336	308	216	*AA9RK	"	2,556	43	36	
K3KEK	"	54,927	217	153	W16X	"	2,432	38	38	N6MA	7	456,456	488	312	*N4LSJ	"	123,066	240	159	*WA9LKLZ	"	2,132	45	41	
N5UM	"	42,799	170	127	AF6SA	"	2,015	32	31	K7WP	"	387,807	444	313	*K8RG	"	117,316	292	211	*N9EDL	"	1,560	27	26	
WA5LHM	"	29,835	152	117	W6DMW	"	1,560	37	30	W6XI	3.5	7,398	56	54	*KE8HBV	"	105,780	252	205	*NV9X	"	672	30	28	
K5LY	"	29,524	148	121	W4NJK	"	493	32	29	*WJ9B	A	1,948,013	1439	629	*N8HHG	"	78,754	206	169	*K6PVZ	"	432	16	16	
W0ZW	"	20,910	96	82	K6VVK	"	40	5	5	*K6WSC	A	827,050	626	595	*WA8YZB	"	66,970	284	181	*KF9VV	"	320	20	20	
WA5LXS	"	20,564	102	97	K6NA	28	88,690	249	181	*AK6A	"	576,050	660	410	*WA8KAN	"	60,648	218	168	*NY9L	"	221	13	13	
W0VX	"	17,952	108	88	K6KM	"	5,400	51	45	*K7HBN	"	361,745	492	355	*N8EA	"	43,148	163	134	*KD9LTLN	"	64	17	16	
K7UD	"	16,744	102	92	KD6X	21	44,247	161	147	*W7OM	"	273,258	487	323	*NF8M	"	37,674	162	126	*N9UN	"	50	5	5	
K5CSK	"	10,804	82	74	KK6MU	"	783	29	27	*N7Y	"	216,576	433	288	*WA8RCN	"	37,555	186	145	*N9JR	"	3	1	1	
K7IA	"	8,410	61	58	NA6TT	14	2,253,916	1508	797	*WA0WWW	"	196,416	321	264	*K8WWS	"	32,804	165	118	*KB7ISP	28	1	1	1	
W5RF	"	6,435	60	55						(OP: N6CW)	*W7TMT	"	194,310	452	255	*W5DT	"	30,120	144	120				(OP: W9SE)	
WW5W	"	3,212	45	44	N6VOH	"	3,120	48	48	*WN6W	"	188,034	390	259	*WY8DX	"	28,662	120	102	*W9KHH	21	575	25	25	
K5PAR	"	780	20	20	NA2CC	"	2,880	37	36	*W4IDX	"	139,755	408	231				(OP: K8GT)	*WB7UOF	14	1	1	1		
KN5S	28	133	7	7	KB6CA	"	368	16	16	*AF7NX	"	131,124	349	223	*KB8TL	"									

Table with columns for call signs, numbers, and frequencies across various countries including Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, and others.

Sardinia		S52AW	7	3,501,575	1499	749	*SE0X	A	1,530,551	1118	671	Brunei Darussalam		SOUTH AMERICA																									
*ISOLYN	A	100,536	279	236	S51YI	"	3,429,760	1482	736	(OP: SM0MDG)		*V85T	A	78,076	237	149	Argentina																						
Scotland		S51J	"	1,790,393	1005	583	*SD6F	"	1,071,224	1169	518	East Malaysia		LU6D	A	778,008	720	421																					
MM9I	A	4,066,440	2189	840	S51DX	"	1,35,824	325	208	(OP: SM6JWR)		*9M6NA	A	2,720,945	1476	557	LU1DZ	"	332,588	445	268																		
GS4FOC	"	1,473,066	1490	567	S56X	1.8	114,063	300	197	*SM5CSS	"	714,560	831	464	LU3VED	"	320,866	398	301	LUWID	"	255,688	398	248															
MM3T	"	380,888	616	376	*S52W	A	2,191,368	1475	697	*SD0N	"	657,183	753	439	(OP: JO4JKL)		*9M6W	"	142,756	292	178	(OP: LW1EUD)																	
GM7V	"	351,182	607	338	*S56C	"	404,448	581	352	(OP: SM0NSJ)		628,367	880	401	LU1F	28	3,374,198	1635	734	LM1F	28	3,374,198	1635	734	(OP: LU5FC)														
GM2Y	"	62,790	227	182	*S58RU	"	91,245	319	204	(OP: SM6EWB)		351,210	576	345	LT6M	"	2,492,504	1348	658	(OP: SM6EWD)																			
GM4EVS	14	17,542	109	98	*S58D	"	72,316	233	179	*SM5MX	"	222,999	483	287	(OP: SM4DQE)		587,194	661	331	LO5D	"	416,262	483	318	LU7HN	"	225,504	356	243										
*MM2T	A	1,136,250	1070	505	*S51ZJ	"	57,638	200	161	*SM6TOL	"	221,392	500	274	FO/4Z5LA	21	28,551	131	93	LU8QT	21	1,342,653	949	519	LU6QU	"	473,850	524	351										
*MMW7YAQ	"	602,316	686	429	*S57KM	"	56,392	199	152	*SM3EAE	"	205,416	490	317	NH2DX	21	590,031	615	351	LU6UO	"	454,422	515	318	LU5OM	"	517,962	539	346										
*GM4X	"	94,430	279	190	*S52ON	"	27,945	129	115	*SM7CIL	"	185,444	422	259	(OP: KG6DX)					LU5FF	14	900,576	680	424	LU5OM	"	517,962	539	346										
*GM3W	"	36,250	176	145	*S53V	28	49,457	159	137	*SM5DXR	"	151,526	381	239						*LS5H	A	900,576	680	424	(OP: LW5HR)														
*2M0GUI	"	21,060	111	108	*S54X	7	756,966	571	469	*SF0A	"	149,492	372	266	(OP: SM0LPO)																								
*GM4NNC	"	2,814	71	67	*S51MM	3.5	211,932	328	261	(OP: SM6FZO)		87,780	299	210							*LV1F	"	452,184	548	332	(OP: LU4FTA)													
*GM4UYZ	14	1,302	32	31	*S57X	3.5	133,455	293	217	*SM5IMO	"	82,650	255	174	Hawaii																								
Serbia		EF5Y	A	9,124,640	3470	1120	*SM6S	"	70,686	220	187	AH6KO	A	3,846,284	1776	646	*LU5YF	"	435,045	467	299																		
YT0C	A	4,900,386	2106	898	EF1A	"	2,496,044	1560	692	(OP: EA1X)		70,686	220	187	KH6TU	"	3,726,080	1594	656	*LU1WUD	"	106,029	237	187	*LU9GBR	"	50,570	163	130	LU6OA	"	11,840	69	64					
YT6X	"	3,663,675	1694	855	EA5M	"	1,675,800	1248	588	*SK5AA	"	52,812	212	163	WH7T	"	3,615,320	1674	670	*LU6CTA	"	3,240	41	40	*LU7ETB	"	480	15	15	LU5FF	"	517,962	539	346					
YU7KW	"	1,537,056	1083	593	EA2RCP	"	1,668,641	1264	611	(OP: SM5KRI)		42,966	200	154	WH6R	"	230,208	361	218	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1DJX)									
YU7K	28	333,720	450	324	EA5FID	"	1,291,224	996	584	*SM7RYR	"	40,619	201	151	NH6N	"	203,550	268	177	*LO7H	"	1,216,656	900	497	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1HLH)									
YU7E	"	215,137	375	247	EA5JX	"	938,322	839	462	*SM6GBM	"	40,166	192	151	KH6Y	"	23,670	117	90	*LU4HK	"	375,182	443	298	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1HLH)									
YU7W	"	163,560	321	232	EB5F	"	305,322	492	337	*SM5LW	"	35,224	154	136	KH6AQ	21	1,108,532	922	431	*LU1II	"	7,500	52	50	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1HLH)									
YU7X	21	562,424	622	458	EC3AIT	"	79,728	206	176	*SM6MIS	"	34,250	177	137	*NH6V	A	4,571,559	1764	729	*LU2DPW	"	2,697	31	31	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1HLH)									
YT9A	"	400,785	485	347	EA4FME	"	43,350	174	150	*SM4EPR	"	14,329	106	89	*KH6CJJ	1.8	428,810	508	274	*AZ1A	14	78,604	185	172	*LU8DPM	28	2,230,039	1233	641	(OP: LU1HLH)									
YT7R	"	19,422	100	83	EA2BD	"	19,570	108	95	*SM5CCT	"	13,064	110	92	*KH7M	1.8	100	5	5																				
YT3X	14	4,772,196	2204	1053	EA3KE	"	15,225	146	105	*SM7BHM	"	12,516	99	84	(OP: SM5SYO)																								
YT2ISM	"	376,992	718	408	EC1KR	"	10,349	81	79	*SF5M	"	3,354	43	43	(OP: SM5COP)																								
YT1A	7	2,984,100	1343	686	EA7JW	"	1,848	23	21	*SM6DPB	28	16	4	4	Indonesia																								
YT4T	"	2,680,202	1273	686	EA7BUU	"	510	16	15	*SM6FPC	14	154,575	271	225	YB8UTI	A	527,724	579	274	P49Y	21	6,579,417	2461	949	YB2MM	"	250,848	354	234	Aruba									
YU1RA	"	978,164	717	473	EA5BY	28	32,825	135	101	*SM7ATL	"	12,125	105	97	YB2MQ	"	242,046	349	238	*P44W	A	9,775,087	2751	959	YB2HF	"	59,784	166	141	(OP: AE6Y)									
YU3K	1.8	858,514	718	454	EF5R	"	30,576	131	112	*SG2SOP	"	5,002	64	61	YB1DOL	"	35,856	122	108																				
YU7A	"	142,135	323	217	EA5GIE	21	2,602,410	1591	778	(OP: SM5EFX)					YB2S	"	35,380	146	116																				
*YU5T	A	553,737	785	393	EC5K	"	1,333,380	1060	626	Switzerland					YB1TQI	"	10,795	94	85																				
*YU1KT	"	270,230	473	305	EC4C	"	340,600	496	325	HB7X	A	6,372,564	2285	1012	YB2JAF	"	22,230	107	70	PQ5FB	A	3,204,430	1400	685	YB1TQI	"	3,774	41	37	Brazil									
*YU1XC	"	50,298	195	166	EA5O	"	104,742	237	198	HB9TOC	"	3,288,747	1674	759	YB2JAF	"	59,784	166	141	ZV5M	"	2,603,151	1293	603	YB2JAF	"	59,784	166	141	(OP: PY5AMF)									
*YU1ML	"	30,962	187	137	EF1C	"	19,380	144	114	HB9CVQ	"	1,569,862	1086	581	YB1DOL	"	35,856	122	108																				
*YU1ZZ	"	22,246	121	98	ED30	14	4,767,360	2290	1040	HB9JJC	"	844,246	760	494	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	XZ2E	"	1,810,053	1107	549	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YU1NR	"	918	28	27	EA3X	"	638,260	858	485	HB9KOG	"	96,886	241	193	YB1TQI	"	10,795	94	85	YB1VOY	"	542,340	513	345	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YU1LD	"	629	19	17	EA3OH	"	485,030	694	455	HB9AUK	"	39,729	143	123	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	PY5DK	"	70,044	169	156	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YT2RX	28	18,286	93	82	EB1A	7	3,154,094	1313	683	HB9CZF	"	23,114	96	91	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	PY2EU	"	25,602	110	102	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YT9W	21	857,584	840	532	*ED2R	A	415,596	679	354	HB9DVZ	"	9,271	80	73	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	PY2YU	"	22,074	91	78	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YU5M	14	1,703,592	1370	717	*EA4BAS	"	346,446	504	342	*HB9BXE	A	1,260,830	1109	590	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	PY2BK	28	2,880,060	1524	690	YB2S	"	35,380	146	116	(OP: PY2ZEA)									
*YU7WW	7	1,330,875	884	525	*EA5IFY	"	224,675	485	275	*HB9FAP	"	478,186	545	37																									

*PY4BZ	"	353,138	474	317	NX1P	"	79,459	260	181	KO4GOF	"	91	7	7	OK6OK	7	440,134	526	359	Romania				
*PR7GY	"	294,465	401	293	N0UR	"	75,396	251	183	JG1BGT	"	63	9	7	CO8OH	"	273,726	283	222	*YO3HEX	7	159,525	256	212
*PY2WMM	"	268,932	337	292	BD1KV	"	74,256	184	182	YF3BVD	"	40	4	4	PG2AA	"	269,598	433	294	Spain				
*PY4LH	"	209,836	334	251	JE3AKU	"	68,103	194	141	DC1MBR	"	8	2	2	SP6EYI	"	149,568	293	228	*EA4HKF	14	4,032	48	48
*PY2QT	"	145,632	250	222	LY5G	"	67,860	245	180	PA3GNZ	"	4	4	4	DJ2RG	"	142,044	355	228	OCEANIA				
*PY2FSR	"	67,795	171	149	OH3KQ	"	61,992	225	168	4I1EBC	28	246,120	426	210	K4XL	"	134,550	214	195	Australia				
*ZZ2WPX	"	40,572	136	126	HA2ZB	"	58,671	203	159	4F3OM	"	99,962	292	151	IW3ILM	"	104,715	240	195	Indonesia				
*PY2FCL	"	33,000	120	110	S53WW	"	51,538	196	146	N4IJ	"	34,845	138	115	YO8RIX	"	43,775	169	135	*YC9AAI	A	181,224	291	216
*PY2DPM	"	29,274	105	102	K8ZT	"	51,408	159	144	HG3IPA	"	18,177	95	83	HA3KGC	"	39,730	152	137	*YD2UFR	21	1,224	25	24
*PY1KO	"	15,168	82	79	WY7N	"	50,100	235	150	JG1RYQ	"	11,016	82	68	9A6TT	"	39,130	144	130	*YD6HVF	21	9	3	3
*PY2ARY	"	7,920	62	60	K3HW	"	49,932	165	146	3G3O	"	10,266	70	59	NE6M	"	31,165	137	115	CLASSIC				
*PU2USK	"	6,966	55	54	VE3KQN	"	49,105	148	115	PU2TWZ	"	4,928	67	64	OM3WZ	"	19,412	100	92	NORTH AMERICA				
*PY2NY	14	1,619,874	1003	558	L2ZAF	"	48,654	193	159	YB3BOA	"	4,095	45	35	W4RYW	"	8,680	74	70	United States				
*PT6B	"	35,964	128	111	KB8PGW	"	48,495	229	159	YO8WW	"	3,838	43	38	JK7UST	"	1,944	18	18	District 1				
*PY1SAD	"	9,720	62	60	NC1A	"	47,895	182	155	YB3BOA	"	4,095	45	35	DL2NY	"	966	23	23	KM1W	A	4,048,380	1853	714
*PY2MQ	"	119	7	7	K2WW	"	47,084	162	158	KW7R	"	3,267	39	33	K8BZ	"	555	15	15	WX7T	"	277,182	386	261
*PP2CC	3.5	1,452	22	22	K4PQC	"	43,890	168	133	DL1EFW	"	2,310	38	35	CO2KR	"	480	12	12	(OP: W1UE)				
*PY3YC	"	1	1	1	PA3DSB	"	43,186	202	151	E2IAOY	"	1,820	29	28	SO2U	"	435	15	15	(OP: K1RM)				
					DK7OG	"	42,408	187	144	W2VRK	"	1,440	33	32	(OP: SP2UUU)									
					KC2WUF	"	40,820	158	130	9A1VV	"	1,323	21	21	JH3DMQ	"	216	9	9					
					7K1CPT	"	40,530	149	105	PY1CMT	"	874	20	19	JG3DHN/1	"	136	9	8					
					LZ7DP	"	40,504	201	166	F8AKC	"	836	20	19	JK1DVP	"	104	8	8					
					IK3BVD	"	40,365	178	135	SP4NKJ	"	726	25	22	XQ3OP	"	98	7	7					
					G4FPA	"	39,102	164	133	N0JK	"	675	15	15	BG3LTM	"	16	4	4					
					DL2AOM	"	36,156	188	138	YC8RAG	"	672	16	16	BD4LB	"	2	1	1					
					G4BUE	"	34,710	174	130	LW9EKA	"	476	14	14	OL4W	3.5	352,268	559	322					
					BD3OOX	"	33,345	120	117	CS7AWB	"	448	16	16	SP7M	"	83,467	252	191					
					KK1CWO	"	31,824	135	102	S59GS	"	264	12	12	UN9LOC	"	44,436	100	92					
					OK1HCG	"	30,012	146	123	YB9GV	"	195	13	13	SP8OOE	"	23,310	134	111					
					S53FO	"	28,194	156	127	CO6EC	"	126	7	7	BH1APZ	"	40	5	5					
					WA4PGM	"	26,928	111	102	K2GMV	"	105	7	7	JH4RUM/4	"	1	1	1					
					DS1TUW	"	25,872	126	88	JH9ETC	"	8	2	2	OL1A	1.8	82,533	235	183					
					AC9VC	"	25,764	142	113	OH1MN	"	6	3	2	DL1AOB	"	31,920	149	120					
					G5BBL	"	25,752	130	111	KT3Q/Ø	"	2	1	1	HA1TI	"	6,496	62	56					
					DL8LR	"	25,536	134	114	MØHMJ	"	1	1	1	YT1BD	"	2,016	32	32					
					OK1DMP	"	25,443	105	99	EF3O	21	585,849	563	433	YP8A	"	1,431	27	27					
					W4ER	"	24,960	122	120	AA1K	"	310,100	410	350	WGQJ	"	9	3	3					
					NH6O	"	24,940	108	86	SV1JG	"	195,597	387	309	DL1AWD	"	1	1	1					
					V31MA	"	24,653	103	89	KH6ZM	"	169,332	296	206										
					KJ5T	"	22,684	137	107	LZ2RS	"	151,751	327	263										
					K2EKM	"	20,088	135	108	4Z4UO	"	80,290	182	155										
					A41CK	"	19,019	95	77	YC1LJT	"	63,245	157	139										
					SP6NIV	"	18,720	118	96	JR1NKN	"	52,246	186	151										
					OE7AFT	"	18,507	103	93	JE1CAC	"	51,430	154	139										
					DDØVS	"	18,437	126	103	HG3C	"	50,064	162	149										
					DL8ZAJ	"	18,330	108	94	4I1EBD	"	35,964	133	108										
					WC7S	"	18,252	156	117	PY2VQ	"	26,600	100	95										
					AA8ØY	"	17,860	116	95	YB8JEC	"	23,312	104	94										
					PY2IAX	"	15,484	91	79	BG7TWW	"	18,786	148	101										
					AF9J	"	15,322	126	94	VX6WQ	"	17,711	94	89										
					CM3EFM	"	15,247	94	79	SQ4HKU	"	14,742	96	91										
					YB1PEF	"	15,120	74	72	WA6FGV	"	14,364	124	108										
					BH4PVP	"	14,352	96	69	YØ8RAA	"	12,480	82	78										
					WR4I	"	14,276	85	83	IT9KCD	"	11,920	91	80										
					EA5FOG	"	14,248	121	104	PY2CER	"	11,760	100	98										
					ON5IA	"	13,083	101	89	YC4SIZ	"	6,944	58	56										
					AG8Y	"	12,879	115	81	JA1KPF	"	6,496	66	56										
					JE1PMQ	"	10,845	52	45	PA5DX	"	6,307	53	53										
					YB1TIA	"	9,912	72	59	DL2TM	"	4,576	50	44										
					W1TW	"	9,207	106	93	YL2HB	"	4,366	62	59										
					EA4U	"	8,437	65	59	YB3DXG	"	3,872	48	44										
					PA3MET	"	8,346	92	78	IZ2WYA	"	3,600	40	40										
					DL2PR	"	7,821	92	79	J11AEP	"	2,840	43	40										
					OM3CUG	"	7,448	64	56	B11JY	"	2,356	42	38										
					DL6MWG	"	7,300	82	73	YBØAZ	"	2,030	30	29										
					JR1XKU	"	7,290	67	54	YC1HBP	"	675	15	15										
					HB9LL	"	7,040	73	64	YCØBAS	"	675	15	15										
					PAØZAV	"	6,600	76	66	A5AMP	"	552	25	24										
					YD6ROA	"	6,440	70	56	BD7LZM	"	476	18	17										
					WØMB	"	5,547	46	43	SP9LAS	"	200	10	10										
					NN7SS	"	5,432	70	56	JG1GPY	"	189	9	9										
					G8AFN	"	5,278	62	58	BH3QKK	"	180	13	12										
					OK7PZ	"	4,950	59	50	BI4MUH	"	170	11	10										
					NO2D	"	4,788	61	57	WD6DX	"	112	8	8										
					W1ND	"	4,692	57	51	JK1CNL	"	80	20	20										
					HB9HDV	"	4,134	57	53	YC2MPF	"	65	5	5										
					VE7NI	"	4,042	50	43	JK1VUZ	"	35	5	5										
					BH1DYK	"	3,872	45	44	JØSFF	"	15	3	3										
					JR1UJX/2	"	3,680	54	46	YD6HVF	"	9	3	3										
					JR2EKD	"	3,360	48	40	KJØP	"	4	2	2										
					VA6TI	"	2,769	43	39	DO1HFS	"	1	1	1										
					N3PZ	"	2,295	28																

KM5VI	"	222,794	391	286	U.S. Virgin Islands					Thailand					France					Romania																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
N5UI	"	130,301	320	229	*KP2B	A	298,368	427	259	*E29AHU	A	28,197	177	117	TM0SOC	21	15,106	26	26	YO4NF	A	2,748,273	1940	737	YO3FF	"	17,205	121	111																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
WA5LXS	"	20,564	102	97	(OP: LU8EOT)					EUROPE					Greece					*YO5AVN					3.5	286,395	442	305																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*NN5T	A	405,000	576	324	AFRICA					Belgium					Hungary					*YO3APJ					A	221,125	409	305																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*W6FB	"	285,348	478	316	Canary Islands					ON4TTT					HG6O					*YO3GCL					"	108,680	272	209																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*K5MR	"	222,562	423	257	ED8M	28	1,342,250	93	83	*ON9TT	A	1,005,485	832	499	(OP: HA6OA)					*YO4AAC					"	81,055	292	215																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*K5GQ	"	137,632	257	187	EA8DIG	14	18,720	84	78	*ON4LY	A	277,932	485	318	(OP: OP5T)					*YO2IS					21	61,424	197	176																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*WR5P	"	123,824	355	218	Madeira Islands					*ON6NL					HG1A					*YO6LA					14	32,186	126	117																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
					CT3KN	A	9,169,552	2756	973	*OP0HQ	"	1,680	46	42	(OP: HA1ZN)					*YO4CSL					A	30,628	144	124																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
*NN5O	"	52,299	207	149	Morocco					*ON7NL					HA3OU					Scotland					MM9I	A	4,066,440	2189	840																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
*N5XE	"	39,045	141	137	*CN8WW	A	66,882	180	142	*ON6NL	A	1,646,390	1269	610	(OP: HA1ZN)					GM2Y					"	62,790	227	182																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
					ASIA					*ON5IA					HA8LLK					(OP: MMØDXH)					*MM2T					A	1,136,250	1070	505																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
					District 6					Bulgaria					HA1WD					(OP: GMØLIR)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
KE1B	A	728,538	854	474	Asiatic Turkey					LZ3ZZ					Ireland					Serbia					YT6X					A	3,663,675	1694	855																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
NN6DX	"	440,672	574	376	*TA7I	A	1,915,818	1051	538	LZ1HW	A	3,846,699	2116	831	21					YT3K					7	858,514	718	454																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
					*TA2IJ	"	54,808	161	136	*LZ1JZ	A	1,320,405	1225	565	64					YT8A					1.8	205,380	323	217																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
K6PO	"	387,720	535	359	*TA4RC	"	4,230	48	45	*LZ7DX	"	895,850	814	475	60					YT7R					21	19,422	100	83																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
W6SX	"	210,280	513	280	Georgia					*LZ2HT/P					Isle of Man					(OP: YU7BW)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
NT6X	"	204,372	390	252	*4L6QL	A	428,314	478	331	*LZ5ØYE	A	788,184	1005	492	A					*YT2RX					28	18,286	93	82																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
K6MM	"	179,219	345	277	India					*TK/F5NBX					Italy					*YU1LM					A	529,429	738	389																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
AIGZ	"	112,545	231	183	VU2YYF	A	548,772	624	329	Croatia					Ireland					Scicily					IT9SSI					A	207,000	444	300																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
W1RH	"	89,890	300	202	VU2IBI	A	19,530	104	93	9A2AJ	A	3,674,835	1806	815	21					Slovak Republic					*IT9RZU					28	6,448	54	52																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
NN6C	"	70,064	171	151	*VU3GDS	A	179,712	344	234	9A1KDE	"	55,485	151	135	A					Slovenia					*OM5KM					A	631,598	683	418																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
					*VU2DED	A	84,966	199	147	(OP: 9A2VR)					Slovenia					*OM5CM					A	400,860	559	340																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
NK6A	"	54,670	200	154	4Z5LY	A	2,707,250	1496	595	*9A1AA	A	2,623,050	1519	725	Slovenia					*OM6TU					3.5	55,664	206	142																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
AB1U	"	42,693	141	133	4XØA	28	159,936	304	224	*9A2R	"	386,616	468	362	Slovenia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*4Z4KX	3.5	249,872	246	184	*9A3MA	"	243,513	373	311	Slovenia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
K6NV	"	29,766	162	121	*4Z5MU	28	68,832	192	144	*9A4WY	"	150,480	341	240	Slovenia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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W6NCX	"	18,088	144	119	JK1LSE	A	821,486	890	431	OK1OA	A	1,042,080	891	501	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
WI6X	"	2,432	38	38	JR1GSE	"	541,296	715	358	OK2PF	"	18,954	91	81	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
*W7TR	A	157,950	323	234	JH1HIC	"	472,068	602	324	OK1QM	A	557,467	686	409	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					J7K4VPV	"	383,570	530	317	OK2GU	"	283,632	534	311	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
*K6CSL	"	23,192	134	104	JH1CTV	"	296,153	499	247	*OK1TRJ	"	147,150	318	225	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
*W6JPL	28	8,586	26	25	JQ1UXN	"	87,318	236	154	OK1DKKE	"	99,561	323	231	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					JJ1JPJ	14	6,608	58	56	Denmark					Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					JL1LNC	A	3,306	43	38	ØZ3SM	A	1,853,176	1366	692	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					JS1KQQ	"	341	11	11	OV3X	"	1,603,642	1020	643	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JA1PCM	A	164,138	296	214	*ØZ6TM	A	3,784	47	43	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JF1GZZ	"	136,128	311	192	*ØZ5DX	"	912	20	19	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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					*JK1JHU	A	82,634	250	158	GØMTN	A	3,463,920	2033	765	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JH1VIX	21	64,628	111	89	M7Q	"	398,008	491	356	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JG1XIO	A	56,548	174	134	G4LPD	"	105,328	264	227	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JF1WNT	"	52,864	185	118	G3TDH	"	21,079	116	107	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JF1JDG	"	50,939	170	133	*M6W	14	1,351,254	1149	678	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JJ1KZZ	"	33,284	113	106	*M2J	A	1,061,924	891	514	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JO1WIZ	"	22,113	117	91	*G4PVM	"	1,011,500	999	500	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JK1HWU	3.5	13,065	91	67	*MX1COL	"	83,888	284	214	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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					*JP1JZR	"	9,588	79	68	ES2/URØMC	A	229,308	505	291	Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
					*JJ1LRD	"	3,854	49	41	Fed. Rep. of Germany					Slovakia																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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Looking Ahead

Here are some of the articles we're working on for upcoming issues of **CQ**:

- So You Want to Go on a DXpedition?
- A Low-Voltage Transformer
- MF/LF – A Visit from Murphy
- A Low-Resistance Ohmmeter

Plus...

- Rules, 2023 CQ WPX RTTY Contest
- 2022 CQ Index

Upcoming Special Issues

February: QRP

June: Take it to the Field

October: Emergency Communications

*LS5H	A	900,576	680	424
*LV1F	"	452,184	548	332
*LU6ETB	"	480	15	15
Brazil				
PY3LX	28	34,800	73	66
*PY4LH	21	209,836	334	251
*PX1C	A	139,860	258	210
(OP: PY1JR)				
*ZV2F	"	6,210	73	54
(OP: PY2SFA)				
*PY2MQ	14	1,170	7	7
*PU3GLO	28	42	15	14
Chile				
*CE4WT	A	18	3	3
*3G3O	28	10,266	70	59
(OP: XQ3OP)				
*XQ3OP	7	98	7	7
Peru				
OA4SS	A	1,485,840	1071	453
Uruguay				
*CW3A	A	1,276,290	902	522
(OP: CX5CBA)				
YOUTH				
NORTH AMERICA				
United States				
District 4				
*KM4SII	A	1,903,611	1210	591
*N4JEH	14	1,440	47	45
*KO4GOF	A	91	7	7
District 8				
*W8UA	A	167,307	313	217
*KE8HBV	"	105,780	252	205
District 9				
*KD9LSV	A	57,057	179	143
Cuba				
*CO2KR	7	480	12	12
ASIA				
China				
*BD4VGZ	A	17,085	118	85
*BG5UZW	21	13,524	99	91
*BH2SWB	A	943	23	23
Cyprus				
*5B4AQC	A	3,983,847	1612	661
(OP: DK6SP)				
Japan				
District 1				
*J11UPL	A	211,816	466	232
*JG1CMT	"	476	14	14
District 2				
*JS2FLS	A	30,294	163	102
*JS2FZH	28	10,557	97	69
*J11NIU/2	A	55	5	5
District 3				
*JQ3BVC	A	138,159	393	189
Republic of Korea				
*DS1TUW	A	25,872	126	88
Singapore				
*9V1BX	A	171	11	9
Taiwan				
*BX2AHP	14	35,712	145	128
EUROPE				
Bosnia-Herzegovina				
*E70AW	A	14,382	106	94
Croatia				
9A3LET	A	120,420	271	223
England				
M6T	A	5,380,608	2314	904
(OP: M0SDV)				
Fed. Rep. of Germany				
*DP4X	A	35,868	153	122
(OP: DJ4MX)				
*DC2CL	"	32	4	4
Ireland				
EI8KW	A	140,224	343	224
*EI5LA	A	206,590	377	283
Italy				
IR1N	14	675,288	788	498
(OP: IU1LCU)				
*IU0LJD	A	105,525	248	201
Lithuania				
LY5AX	A	1,519,144	1273	566
Poland				
*SP5WAZ	3.5	7,192	26	24
Scotland				
*2M0GUI	A	21,060	111	108
Serbia				
YT0C	A	4,900,386	2106	898
Spain				
EA2RCP	A	1,668,641	1264	611
(OP: UR5YKO)				
Sweden				
SA6NIA	A	649,901	921	409

OCEANIA				
Indonesia				
*YD2UWF	28	401,792	211	170
*YC1LJT	21	63,245	157	139
SOUTH AMERICA				
Brazil				
*PY2POA	A	80,613	199	159
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE-TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER NORTH AMERICA				
United States				
District 1				
WK1Q		1,095,941	898	473
NC1CC		574,655	609	437
N1SOH		245,756	418	262
District 2				
WU2X		12,942,860	3979	1124
NY6DX		3,372,660	1729	820
W2ZQ		9,381	59	59
District 3				
AG3I		3,921,148	1974	812
ND3D		3,036,819	1527	733
District 4				
WK9M		5,184,927	2391	913
N4QS		3,907,139	2034	821
N4IQ		2,864,533	1832	721
District 5				
KJ5Y		1,936,145	1491	653
District 6				
WM6A		1,535,195	1443	641
N6MI		443,800	606	350
District 7				
KU1CW		5,565,120	2408	930
KU7T		3,139,830	1912	783
District 9				
KV3T		1,223,379	1335	543
District 0				
AD0LI		148,512	529	312
Canada				
District 3				
VE3YAA		956,250	715	450
District 7				
VE7SAR		1,988,928	1330	576
Cayman Islands				
ZF1A		14,483,864	4405	1124
AFRICA				
Cape Verde				
D4Z		18,939,090	4557	1158
ASIA				
Asiatic Turkey				
TC3X		3,053,474	1541	557
China				
BA7MT		1,445,080	1498	520
BI4SSB		1,328,185	1150	515
BA7LOK		1,023,630	1058	458
BA3RA		71,508	216	177
Japan				
District 1				
JA1ZGO		1,348,113	1069	507
JA1ZGP		2,784	30	29
District 3				
JL3ZHU		78,526	209	142
District 6				
JG6YLY		2,192,701	1429	613
Kazakhstan				
UP2L		17,128,440	4246	1176
Thailand				
E2A		4,579,380	2412	741
E2E		793,520	889	436
West Malaysia				
9M2S		2,975	39	35
EUROPE				
Austria				
OE1XTU		5,929	51	49
Bosnia-Herzegovina				
E7DX		13,296,761	4035	1247
Czech Republic				
OK5Z		9,199,883	3081	1141
OK7O		8,517,360	2988	1104
OL1C		2,488,650	1588	706
England				
MX4U		1,174,056	1129	568
M6N		20,384	100	91
Fed. Rep. of Germany				
DA2X		7,744,614	2639	1074
DP6A		6,546,384	2482	1014
DL0LA		6,238,990	2477	985
DB2WD		947,488	807	464
DQ9M		290,784	507	312
DM1T		282,953	449	319
Finland				
OI3SVM		8,640	72	64

TM1D	France	347,446	479	374
Hungary				
HG6N		10,375,088	3581	1136
HA3DX		5,804,490	2448	955
Italy				
II8K		8,873,032	3516	1162
Moldova				
ER3R		1,403,384	1134	607
Norway				
LN4BBC		242,888	576	313
Poland				
SP8R		10,306,780	3520	1210
SP6ZHP		187,726	428	253
Slovak Republic				
OM5WW		4,198,788	2033	828
OM4Q		2,656,428	1601	732
Spain				
ED7W		11,123,304	3761	1194
Sweden				
SJ2W		7,250,850	3211	1107
SK0QO		1,798,950	1300	670
OCEANIA				
Indonesia				
7A2A		4,376,440	2106	670
7A0D		191,070	307	193
SOUTH AMERICA				
Brazil				
PR2E		12,454,074	3568	1062
ZZ7A		5,519,457	2144	813
Chile				
CE3CT		4,507,161	1800	739
MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE-TRANSMITTER LOW POWER NORTH AMERICA				
United States				
District 2				
*NJ1F		20,520	98	95
District 9				
*KA9VVQ		89,056	300	184
Canada				
District 7				
*VA7MM		3,712	36	32
ASIA				
Asiatic Russia				
China				
*BY4DX		1,362,938	1284	523
Japan				
District 6				
*JA6GCE		3,319,845	1851	705
*JA6YLP		2,844	37	36
Kazakhstan				
*UN4Q		7,613,994	2716	867
West Malaysia				
*9M2U		216,908	403	257
EUROPE				
Bosnia-Herzegovina				
*E7CW		1,907,220	1176	717
Bulgaria				
*LZ6O		987,044	1035	508
Czech Republic				
*OL1B		160,060	377	265
Denmark				
*OZ/DJ5LA		1,255,680	1023	545
Fed. Rep. of Germany				
*DP7D		2,570,020	1364	755
France				
*F8KLY		613,080	706	468
Hungary				
*HG2TISZA		2,856,646	1685	782

*HG5C	2,586,337	1647	703
*HG6L	1,436,330	1039	578
*HA5KLR	10	3	2
Latvia			
*YL4U	3,686,245	2185	815
Lithuania			
*LY5W	4,626,680	2233	920
*LY2J	3,375,952	1910	821
Poland			
*3Z1K	1,826,895	1369	635
*SP8ZOC	34,320	172	156
*SN150JS	17,748	115	102
*SP9PBB	4,928	49	44
Republic of Kosovo			
*Z6BCC	2,254,608	1954	614
Romania			
*YO4KAK	7,700	80	77
Slovenia			
*S58MU	1,913,620	1475	587
OCEANIA			
Indonesia			
*7B1K	666	19	18
*7A9Y	75	5	5
Philippines			
*DX9EVM	319,713	486	237
MULTI-OPERATOR TWO-TRANSMITTER NORTH AMERICA			
United States			
NI4W	13,354,120	4592	1220
K9CT	11,896,596	4218	1193
KC7V	8,248,756	3832	1046
NX6T	7,584,168	3625	1032
WD6T	6,810,027	2869	973
KK6P	5,090,837	2766	863
N7DX	4,323,942	2419	837
WG3J	2,690,640	1710	720
NORTH AMERICA			
VC7M	8,675,924	3127	967
VX7GL	7,079,743	2721	869
*VX9ML	4,747,440	1754	755
VC6R	3,729,957	1962	737
ASIA			
BH3GIY	1,403,904	1343	512
BD4QA	654,884	868	404
BY1OK	373,750	671	325
*BY6LY	111,150	303	190
EUROPE			
ES9C	18,247,320	5978	1365
IQ2CJ	17,908,800	5202	1300
OL3Z	15,595,524	4695	1263
HG7T	15,153,544	4858	1247
DQ1A	13,992,564	4317	1214
IB8A	11,943,270	4365	1179
DM6V	11,814,625	3728	1175
9A22Y	11,720,034	3774	1198
S573M	11,572,818	3939	1173
LY4A	9,780,121	3869	1157
DP9A	9,555,663	3421	1157
SO4R	9,229,029	3736	1137
SZ1A	8,544,660	3793	1060
G5O	6,658,239	2906	973
OH9W	4,885,485	2791	957
OZ5W	4,381,446	2100	827
*EA3FZT	1,331,400	1270	600
*EA6URL	194,864	457	304
*DM5W	35,532	162	141
OCEANIA			
*7C8C	316,192	469	241
MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER NORTH AMERICA			
United States			
NR6O	9,373,580	4059	1060
KT			

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NOVEMBER 2022

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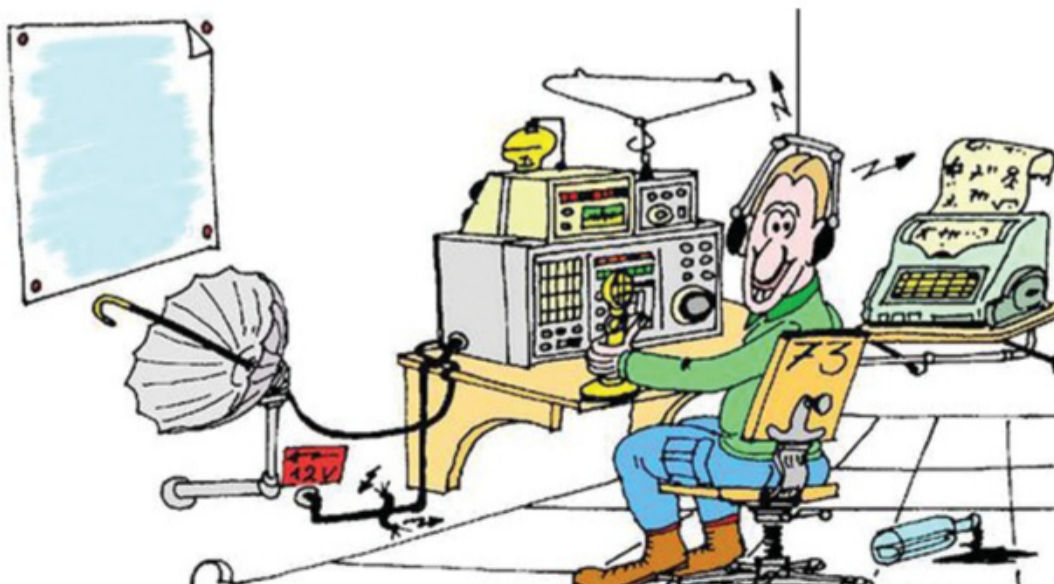
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