

# Amateur <sup>75</sup><sup>th</sup> Radio

Year!

COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY  
JULY 2019

# CQ

- **Repurposing Computer Power Supplies, p. 10**
- **Results: 2019 CQ WPX RTTY Contest, p. 16**
- **Dayton Photo Tour, p. 24**

On the Cover: Fifty years since the first manned moon landing ... how long until the first lunar DXpedition? See pages 4 and 8.



*twyzer*  
00 W3MCK

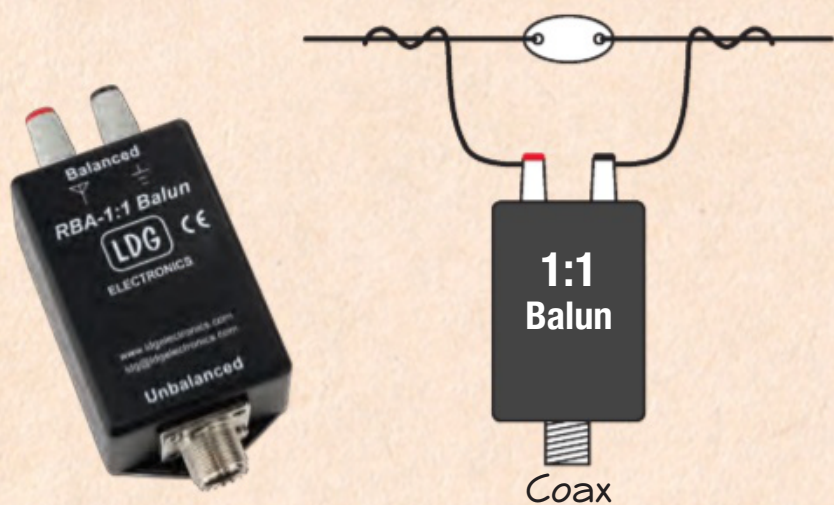
# WHERE TO USE LDG BALUNS & UNUNS

# LDG

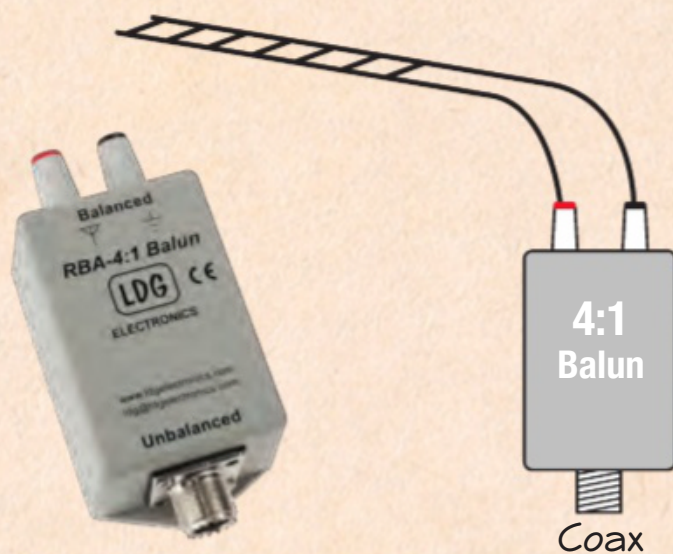
Not sure which balun or unun is right for your antenna? See our handy chart below to help you determine which is the best fit for your set-up. All LDG baluns and ununs handle up to 200 Watts PEP and cover frequencies from 1.8 to 30MHz. Visit us at [www.ldgelectronics.com](http://www.ldgelectronics.com) or see your favorite dealer today to learn more and to see our full line of products.

**\$30** ea. | 200 Watts PEP  
1.8-30MHz

DIPOLE  
Length =  $468/\text{freq}$

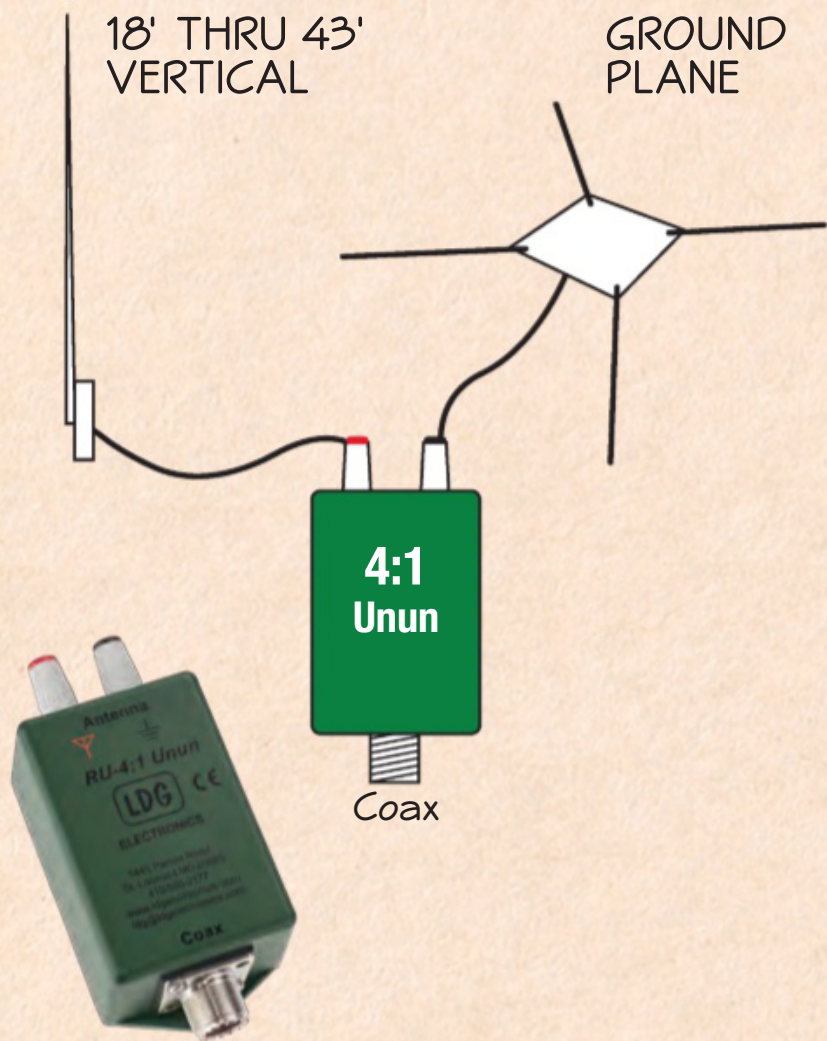


LADDER LINE/TWIN LEAD



18' THRU 43'  
VERTICAL

GROUND  
PLANE



END FED WIRE  
30' - 135'



>30' Coax Cable

# HF ANTENNA MATCHING ACCESSORIES

## High Power



**AT-1000PROII**  
QRO Auto Tuner to 1000W  
• Switch L Network  
• Dual Antenna  
• 1000W SSB / 350W Digital  
• USB Control

**AT-600PROII**  
600 Watts to Mid Size Amps  
• Dual Bargraph  
• 1.8 to 54MHz  
• 600W SSB / 200W Digital  
• USB Control



**AT-200PROII**  
200 Watts Desktop  
• Tunes 10:1 SWR  
• 2 Year Warranty  
• 250W SSB / 100W Digital

## Desktop

### Our Most Popular Desktop Tuner



**AT-100PROII**  
• Dual Bargraph  
• Auto / Semi-Auto Mode  
• 125W SSB / 30W Digital

## Balun / Unun



- RU 1:1 UNUN
- RU 4:1 UNUN
- RU 9:1 UNUN
- RBA 4:1 BALUN
- RBA 1:1 BALUN
- 200W SSB

## Icom

Tuner dedicated to Icom radios with seamless integration.



**IT-100**  
• AH-3 & AH-4 Compatible  
• Includes Interface Cable  
• 125W SSB / 30W Digital

## Zero Power

### Go Box Ready!



**Z-100 PLUS**  
• Low Cost  
• Highly Portable  
• 125W SSB/30W Digital



**Z-817**  
• FT-817/818 Compatible  
• Operates on 4 AAs  
• 20W SSB/5W Digital

**Z-11PROII**  
• LED SWR Indicator  
• 10:1 SWR  
• 125W SSB/30W Digital



## Yaesu

Tuner with built in Yaesu/antenna tuner interface.



**YT-1200**  
• 2000 Memories  
• For FT-991A, FTdx-1200, FTdx-3000, FT-450 and FT-950  
• 125W SSB/30W Digital



**YT-100**  
• 2000 Memories  
• For FT-100, FT-857 and FT-897  
• 125W SSB/30W Digital

## Remote

### ATAS Compatible

Remote tuners mounted at or near the feedpoint minimize coax SWR losses.

- Includes Controller/Bias T
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- 600W SSB/200W Digital for RT-600
- 125W SSB/30W Digital for RT-100



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## JULY

**HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club will hold its **48th Annual Firecracker Electronics Expo and Hamfest** beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, July 6 at the Harrisburg Area Community Center, 3599 Industrial Road. Contact: Terry Snyder, WB3BKN, P.O. Box 355, Halifax, PA 17032. Phone: (717) 896-0256. Email: <wb3bkn1@gmail.com>. Website: <www.w3uu.org>. Talk-in 146.13+ (PL 100). DXCC / WAS card checking.

**OAK CREEK, WISCONSIN** — The South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club will hold its **Swapfest 19'** beginning 6:30 a.m., Saturday, July 6 at the American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Avenue. Contact: Karen, KC9WQJ, (414) 578-0492 or Mike Lea, W9MRL, (262) 880-2091. Website: <www.qsl.net/wa9txe>. Talk-in 146.91.

**SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA** — The Rowan Amateur Radio Society will hold the **34th Annual Firecracker HAM-FEST** from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, July 6 at the Salisbury, NC Civic Center, 315 Martin Luther King Avenue, S. Contact: Doug Spriggs, W4DCS, (704) 762-0192. Email: <w4dcs@arrl.net>. Website: <www.rowanars.com>. Talk-in 145.41 (PL 136.5) or 146.52. VE exams.

**PLAINS, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Murgas Amateur Radio Club will hold the **40th Annual Wilkes-Barre Hamfest and Computerfest** beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, July 7 at the Polish American Veterans, 2 South Oak Street. Contact: Herb, K2LNS, (570) 829-2695. Email: <murgasarc@fmail.com>. Website: <http://hamfest.murgasarc.org>. Talk-in 146.61 (PL 82.5). VE exams.

**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA** — The Indianapolis Hamfest Association will hold the **49th Annual Indianapolis Hamfest** from 2-7 p.m., Friday, July 12 and from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, July 13 at the Marion County Fairgrounds, 7300 E. Troy Avenue. Phone: (317) 829-6868. Website: <www.indyhamfest.com>. DXCC card checking.

**ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Wattsburg Wireless Association will hold the **18th Annual Northwest PA Hamfest** beginning 7:30 a.m., Saturday, July 13 at the Greene Township Municipal Building, 9333 Tate Road. Email: <hamfest@wattsburg-wireless.us>. Website: <www.wattsburg-wireless.us>. VE exams.

**PHOENIXVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Mid Atlantic Amateur Radio Club will hold the **Valley Forge Hamfest** beginning 8 a.m., Saturday, July 13 at the Kimberton Fire Co. Fairgrounds, 762 Pike Springs Road. Contact: Jeremy Carlo, N2ZLQ, (917) 612-2163. Email: <n2zllq@marc-radio.org>. Website: <www.marc-radio.org>. Talk-in 146.13- (PL 131.8) or 147.06+ (PL 131.8). VE exams.

**ROSEVILLE, MINNESOTA** — The Minnesota Amateur Group of Independent Communicators will hold the **16th Annual MAGIC TAILGATER** from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 13 at the Galilee Lutheran Church, 145 N. McCarrons Boulevard. Website: <www.magicrepeater.net>. Talk-in 145.170 (PL 100).

**TEXAS CITY, TEXAS** — The Tidelands Amateur Radio Society will hold the **Texas City, Tidelands Hamfest** from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, July 13 at the Doyle Convention Center, 2010 5th Avenue North. Contact: TARS, P.O. Box 73, Texas City, TX 77592. Website: <www.tidelands.org>. Talk-in 147.14 (PL 167.9) or 442.025 (PL 103.5). VE exams, T-hunt.

**AUGUSTA, NEW JERSEY** — The Sussex County Amateur Radio Club will hold the **41st Annual SCARC Hamfest** beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, July 14 at the Sussex County Farm & Horse Show Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Road. Phone: (973) 862-8197. Email: <hamfest@scarcnj.org>. Website: <www.sussexhamfest.org>. Talk-in 147.30+ (PL 151.4). VE exams.

**ESSEX, MONTANA** — The 85th Annual Glacier-Waterton International Hamfest will be held Friday, July 19 through Sunday, July 21 at the Glacier Meadow RV Park, 15735 U.S. Highway 2 East. Email: <directors@gwhamfest.org>. Website: <www.gwhamfest.org>. VE exams, T-hunt.

**RENO, NEVADA** — The Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society will hold **NVCON** and **2019 ARRL Nevada State Convention** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, July 19 and from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at the Boomtown Casino Hotel, 2100 Garson Road. Phone: (775) 453-4142. Email: <info@nvcon.org>. Website: <http://nvcon.org>. VE exams, special event station.

**ALEXANDER, NEW YORK** — The Lancaster Amateur Radio Club will hold the **Batavia Hamfest** beginning 6 a.m., Saturday, July 20 at the Alexander Firemen Grounds, 10708 Alexander Road (Rt. 98). Contact: Luke, N2GDU, <luke48@gmail.com>. Website: <http://w2so.org>. Talk-in 147.285 (PL 141.3). VE exams

**CARY, NORTH CAROLINA** — The Cary Amateur Radio Club will hold its **47th Annual SWAPFEST** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at Harold Ritter Park, 301 West Lochmere Drive. Website: <www.caryarc.org>. VE exams.

**CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON** — The Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society will hold the **21st Annual Ham Radio Tailgate Swap Meet** from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 20 at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds, 2555 N. National Avenue. Contact: John, (360) 273-5929. Email: <k7osk@boatanchor.com>. Website: <http://cvars.org>. Talk-in 147.060+ (PL 110.9).

**ELYRIA, OHIO** — The Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society will hold **NOARFEST** from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 20 at Lorain County Community College-John A. Spitzer Conference Center, 1005 N. Abbe Road. Contact: Carl Rimmer, W8KRF, (216) 256-9624 (before 9 p.m.). Email: <noarsfest@noars.net>. Website: <www.noars.net>. Talk-in 146.70- (PL 110.9).

**KENAI, ALASKA** — The Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club will hold the **12th Annual Kenai Peninsula Hamfest** from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at the Kenai American Legion Hall, 902 Cook Avenue. Contact: Ed Cole, KL7UW, (907) 776-5829. Email: <kl7uw@acsalaska.net>. Website: <www.kl7uw.com>. Talk-in 146.88-. VE exams.

**LOUISA, KENTUCKY** — The Big Sandy Amateur Radio Club will hold its **Hamfest** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at the Lawrence County Community Center, 205 Bulldog Lane. Contact: Tom Lykins, K4LID, (606) 638-4735. Email: <k4lid@panix.com>. Website: <http://bsarc.org>. Talk-in 147.390 (PL 127.3).

**SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS** — The Motorola Amateur Radio Club will air special event station **K9MOT** to commemorate Motorola's contribution to the Apollo program. Frequencies include 3.83, 7.23, 14.245, 21.435 MHz for SSB; 3.543, 7.043, 14.043, 21.043, 28.043 MHz for CW. QSL to Motorola ARC, P.O. Box 59701, Schaumburg, IL 60159. Email: <k9mot@arrl.net>. Website: <www.qsl.net/k9mot>.

**SLIDELL, LOUISIANA** — The Ozone Amateur Radio Club will hold the **2019 Slidell EOC Hamfest** from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Saturday, July 20 at the John Slidell Park Gymnasium, 105 Robert Boulevard. Email: <hamfest@w5ala.net>. Website: <www.w5ala.net>. Talk-in 147.27+ (PL 114.8). VE exams.

**PEOTONE, ILLINOIS** — The Kankakee Area Radio Society will hold **KARSFEST 2019** beginning 6 a.m., Sunday, July 21 at the Will County Fairgrounds. Contact: Art Reis, K9XI, (815) 348-7752. Email: <karsfest@gmail.com>. Website: <www.w9az.com>. VE exams, card checking.

**SOMERSET, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Somerset County Amateur Radio Club will hold the **Somerset County PA Hamfest** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, July 21 at the Somerset County Technology Center, 281 Technology Drive. Contact: Stew, AK3J, (814) 444-0637. Email: <ak3j@arrl.net>. Website: <www.k3smt.org>. Talk-in 147.195+ (PL 123) or 443.250+ (PL 123). VE exams.

**VAN WERT, OHIO** — The Van Wert Amateur Radio Club will hold the **31st Annual Van Wert Hamfest** beginning 8 a.m., Sunday, July 21 at the Van Wert County Fairgrounds, 1055 S. Washington Street. Contact: Steve Kouts, WA8WKF, (419) 771-8152. Email: <secretary@w8fy.org>. Website: <http://w8fy.org>. Talk-in 146.850.

**WASHINGTON, MISSOURI** — The Zero Beaters Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual **Hamfest** from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday, July 21 at the Washington Elks Hall, 1459 West 5th Street. Contact: Bruce Serbus <k0dkcf@sbcglobal.net>. Talk-in 147.24+. VE exams.

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## “Near-Normal” Atlantic Hurricane Season Predicted

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting a “near normal” Atlantic hurricane season this year, with between 9 and 15 named storms, of which 4 to 8 might become hurricanes, half of which could become major hurricanes (category 3 or higher). The forecast from NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center does not predict the possibility of landfalls. Forecasters say competing climate factors will likely cancel out each other’s effects, leading to the likelihood of an average season. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30 of each year.

## Hurricane Response Was Key Element of Amateur Radio Demonstration

A major hurricane with mass casualties in the mid-Atlantic and New England states was the scenario for a demonstration of amateur radio’s ability to transmit and receive messages without commercial power, telecommunications infrastructure, or permanent stations. The ARRL reports that the demonstration involved roughly a dozen hams from South Carolina to Maine and was held in coordination with both the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the American Red Cross. A combination of voice and digital modes was used by participating hams to transmit messages to ARRL Headquarters station W1AW, from which they were relayed to a joint Red Cross-FEMA meeting under way in Baltimore. The League reports that Red Cross officials monitoring the test were impressed with hams’ ability to match Red Cross message formats in their digital messages, which were sent using *fldigi* and *flmsg*.

## FT4 Beta “Release Candidate 7” in Use Until Mid-July

An improved “release candidate” version of the WSJT-X 2.1.0 digital program suite — including the new contest-focused FT4 mode — was made available for testing in early June and should be in use through the end of the CQ World Wide VHF Contest on July 21. Release candidate 7 was issued after a “serious bug” was discovered in version 6, according to the ARRL. The newest version features several enhancements over previous release candidates. A mock contest was held on June 4 and 5 to test the new software under “real-world” conditions. Co-developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, reported on QRZNow.com that he operated for approximately three hours, making 143 contacts in 29 states, 5 Canadian provinces, and 15 DX locations. FT4 was not available for use during the ARRL June VHF Contest or ARRL Field Day. It is unclear whether it will be available during the CQ World Wide VHF Contest on July 20-21, as Taylor says he anticipates a “general release” version of the software by “mid-July.” For more about FT4, see this month’s “VHF-Plus” column on page 76.

In a related item, the ARRL reports that the latest *TQSL* update for its Logbook of the World (LoTW) program includes FT4 as a submode of MFSK. In addition, the 11.8 update includes two new satellites, AISAT-1 and PO-101.

## ARRL Seeking Volunteer Monitors

The ARRL is in the process of replacing its decades-old Official Observer (OO) program with a new joint ARRL/FCC

*Volunteer Monitor* program and is now accepting applications. According to the *ARRL Letter*, Volunteer Monitors will listen both for improper activity and exemplary on-air behavior. In one significant change from the OO program, all VM reports will go to ARRL headquarters, which will issue advisory notices.

VM applicants must be ARRL members who have never been in trouble with the FCC themselves, must be able to use state-of-the-art receiving equipment and must be able to access remote receive sites if requested. Applicants will be vetted and interviewed by ARRL staff, and then undergo a training and certification program. Appointments will be valid for three years, unless terminated sooner by the ARRL.

Complete information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/y2u5l4ud>; applications should be emailed to [volunteer-monitor@arrl.org](mailto:volunteer-monitor@arrl.org).

## Milestones: Another Krenkel Award and YASME Recognitions

AMSAT President Joe Spier, K6WAO, has been honored with Russia’s E.T. Krenkel Medal for “outstanding global contributions to amateur radio.” According to the AMSAT News Service, Spier held several leadership positions in the organization before becoming its president. He is also a long-time supporter of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Spier is the second U.S. ham awarded a Krenkel medal this year. Last month, we reported that Ellen White, W1YL, the *grand dame* of DXing, had been similarly honored.

The YASME Foundation announced its 2019 Excellence Award winners at the Dayton contest forum. Angel Vazquez, WP3R, the Head of Telescope Operations at Puerto Rico’s Arecibo Observatory, was honored for his disaster relief work following Hurricane Maria, and “as an outstanding ambassador for amateur radio,” according to a YASME news release. Nikola Percin, 9A5W, was also honored for outstanding work in advancing amateur radio in Croatia and his work in recruiting young amateurs. In addition, the foundation announced three \$5,000 grants, one each to the Foundation for Amateur Radio and the ARRL for scholarships, and one to Italy’s WRTC2022 committee for “general support.” YASME will also sponsor the so-called “Widow’s Ball” at WRTC2022.

## Additional News Throughout This Issue

This is a very “newsy” month and we have additional news items spread around this issue, including:

- Tornado Damages Dayton’s Hara Arena; Local Hams Respond – page 47
- CQ Inducts Ten to Amateur Radio, Contest and DX Halls of Fame – page 32
- Dayton Awards Honor Citizen Science, WRTC Management, Telegraph Key Art and Radio Club Recruitment – page 24
- Changes Coming to U.S. Shortwave Broadcasting – page 42, and
- Is Digital-Only AM Broadcasting on the Horizon? – page 9

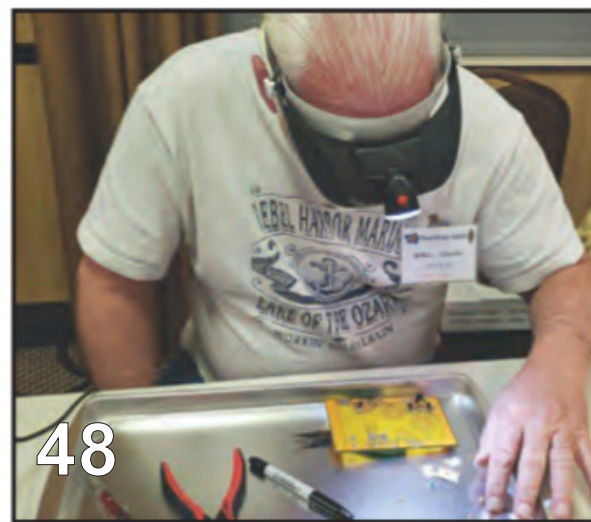
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## COVER: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF MEN WALKING ON THE MOON

Apollo 11 landed the first men on the moon 50 years ago this month. NASA is now planning to return. Could there be a lunar DXpedition in our not-too-distant future? Or are these astronauts making Moon-Earth-Moon contacts with another lunar colony? See Zero Bias on page 8 for more.  
(Cover illustration by Jason Togyer, W3MCK)



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## Multi-mode Digital Voice Receiver

Get your hands on the industry-leading analog and digital voice receiver that automatically recognizes and monitors popular digital modes including APCO P25, DMR, dPMR™, NXDN™, MOTOTURBO™, D-Star™, Digital CR, Yaesu System Fusion, Kenwood and Alinco EJ-47U formats. You also get analog AM, WFM, NFM, CW and Upper & Lower Sideband reception.

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*For more information on the AR-DV1, go to [www.aorusa.com](http://www.aorusa.com)*

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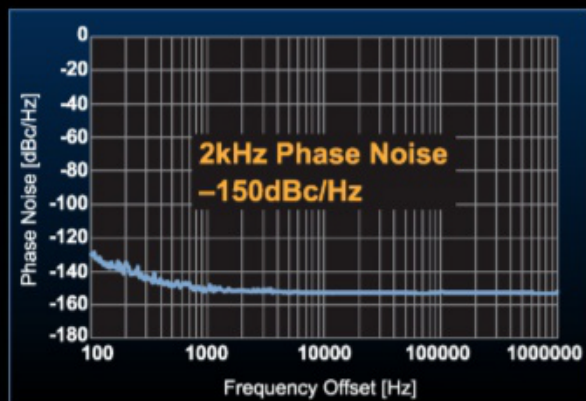
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BY RICH MOSESON,\* W2VU

## Of Eagles and Earthbounce

**B**oy Scout camp. Sitting on the floor of the rec hall, watching a grainy black-and-white image on a TV that one of the camp directors had brought in for all of us to watch, and listen, as Neil Armstrong counted down the number of feet to the lunar surface and then announced, after the picture had briefly gone black, “Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed.” Cheers and applause, then holding our breaths as Armstrong and crewmate Buzz Aldrin climbed down the ladder and became the first humans to set foot on ground that wasn’t on the Earth.

It was July 20, 1969 — 50 years ago this month — and I remember the Apollo 11 moon landing like it was yesterday. And if you’re age 55 or older, there’s a good chance that you do as well. It was a moment of national pride for Americans, to be sure, but also an amazing achievement to be shared by the whole world — as Armstrong famously put it — “one giant leap for mankind.” The moon landing marked a high point for science and technology that has not been equaled since.

Is there a ham radio connection here? Of course. Even though none of the three astronauts on Apollo 11 (Armstrong, Aldrin, and command module pilot Michael Collins) was a ham, there were many hams who worked on the Apollo program, as well as the preceding Gemini and Mercury missions. The space program was the highest of high-tech at the time and ham radio was a natural companion. In addition, the amateur radio space program had been growing up side-by-side with government and commercial space programs.

This year also marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AMSAT, the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, which was formed at the suggestion of then-CQ Propagation Editor George Jacobs, W3ASK. The Washington, DC-based AMSAT took on the mantle of leading the amateur satellite program from the west-coast-based Project OSCAR, which was finding it difficult to get launch approvals without connections in Washington. Hams at NASA began planting the seeds for amateur radio on manned space flights, which first came to fruition in 1983 when

Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL (SK), operated on 2 meters from the space shuttle. The success of this operation led to the development of SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment, which morphed into today’s ARISS, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. As a result, many of today’s astronauts hold ham licenses and operate from orbit.

NASA is now planning a return to manned lunar missions, with a goal of again landing men (and hopefully, women, this time) on the Moon within five years. With the number of astronauts who hold amateur licenses, it is quite likely that at least some members of future lunar crews will also be hams, which means we definitely could see ham stations on the Moon in the not-too-distant future. CQ cartoonist Jason Togyer, W3MCK, came up with the possible scenario on this issue’s cover as a tribute to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing with a nod toward the future as well. What we couldn’t quite figure out, though, was whether the astronauts on the cover are talking to hams back on Earth or contacting a distant lunar base via Earthbounce, perhaps also known as M-E-M or Moon-Earth-Moon. We’ll just have to wait and see on that little detail! But we’ll be certain to provide full coverage of the first lunar DXpedition ... and of what happens when you try to bounce a radio signal off the *top* of the ionosphere!

### Meanwhile, Back on Earth...

The history of the amateur satellite program illustrates once again the role that hams can play as citizen scientists, working alongside professionals in various fields. In reviewing AMSAT’s history in the special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue of the *AMSAT Journal*,<sup>1</sup> I was reminded of the many contributions the amateur satellite program has made to space science and the satellite industry. It was hams who developed cubesats, showed that GPS worked from *above* the satellite constellation and made the first satellite-to-satellite link between OSACRs 6 and 7. This paved the way for NASA’s Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS) system that maintains near-constant communication for several satellites, including the International



*Dayton Amateur of the Year Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, with CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, at the 2019 Dayton Awards Banquet.*

Space Station and the Hubble Space Telescope.

Citizen science was also front-and-center at this year’s Dayton awards banquet, where Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, was honored as Amateur of the Year. Frissell (an Eagle Scout) was recognized primarily for his work as the founder of HamSci, a citizen science initiative that encourages collaboration between radio amateurs and ionospheric scientists. (See our Dayton photo essay, as well as our own CQ Hall of Fame induction article, elsewhere in this issue, for additional recognitions at Hamvention®.)

While it is always a pleasure to attend these banquets and meet each year’s honorees, this one was special for me, as I’ve known Nathaniel since he was 15, and his skills as a leader and organizer, as well as a top-notch researcher, were evident early on. Nathaniel has already established himself as one of our hobby’s next generation of leaders.

I was as impressed with Nathaniel’s acceptance speech as I have been with the work that got him there, and particularly with his closing remark — which I can’t top so I’ll use it as my closing as well — that “awards are not just a recognition of what you have done, but an affirmation of what you should continue doing.” Congratulations to all, and keep on doing what you’re doing!

– 73, Rich, W2VU

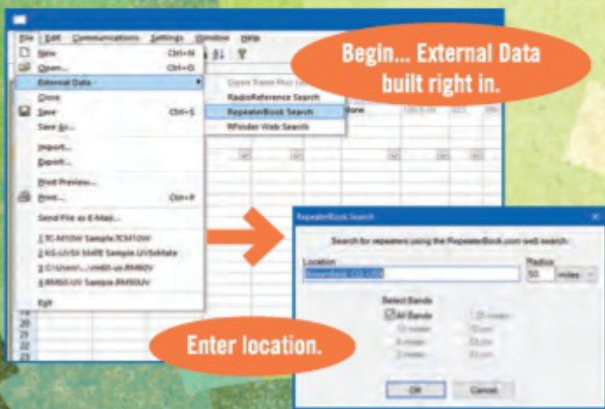
#### Note:

1. See <<https://tinyurl.com/y3t346t7>>

\*Email: <[w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com)>

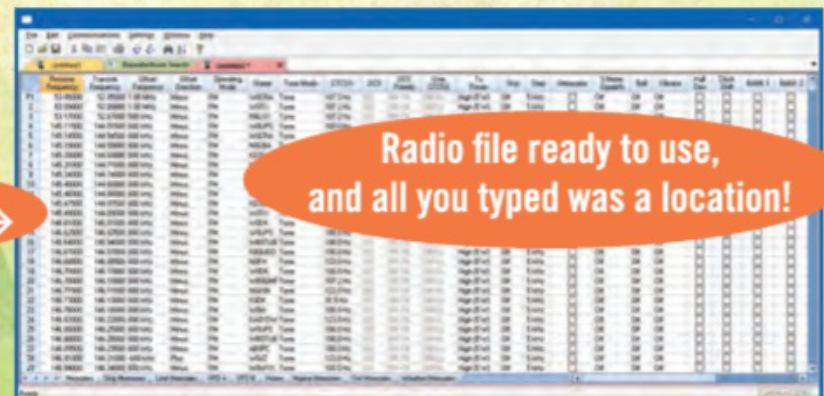
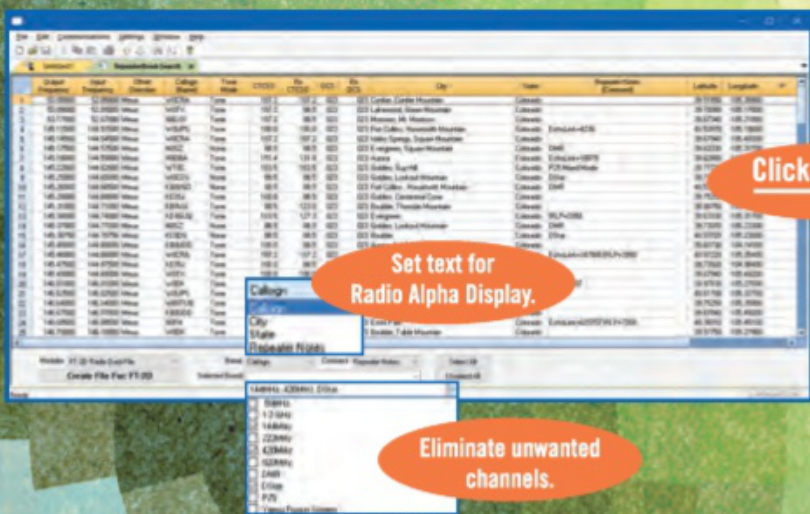
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## NEWS BYTES

### Digital-Only AM Broadcasting?

The following is from Communications Horizons editor Rob de Santos, K8RKD:

The future of the AM broadcast band in the U.S. has continued to be in doubt despite several initiatives by the FCC to give it renewed life. Only FM translators have seen much impact until now. The broadcast industry seems to be taking the lead to help itself. Recently, a petition was filed with the FCC<sup>1</sup> to allow AM stations to go fully digital and forego the analog mode entirely.

Texas-based Bryan Broadcasting has asked the FCC to authorize it to go "HD" 24 hours a day without any of the analog overlap currently common to digital AM in the U.S. Several stations, most recently WWFD of Frederick, Maryland, are doing or have done this experimentally. Major industry associations, including the National Association of Broadcasters, have backed the proposal. Along with other proposals to move to digital (e.g. authorize DRM), it now seems broadcasters will no longer wait for the FCC to lead. -RDS

**Note:**

1. <<https://tinyurl.com/y5p7wjhw>>

*This radio won't do you much good if broadcasters are successful in bids to abandon analog broadcasting on AM and go all-digital. You'll need to have an "HD"-capable receiver to listen.*



If you're like most of us, you probably have a perfectly working power supply from a long-dead computer (maybe more than one) sitting around your shack because "it might come in handy someday." K8HSY and WB5VQX say someday is now and show you how to convert a computer power supply into something useful for ham radio or other applications.

## Putting a Computer Power Supply to Work in Your Ham Shack

BY RON MILLIMAN,\* K8HSY AND MIKE MILLIMAN,# WB5VQX

**W**e had a few scavenged tower case computer power supplies kicking around for a while (Photo A). So we launched an investigation online into how these power supplies could be put to new uses and found some excellent instructions. With the use of a talking multimeter, we were able to successfully convert a couple into a 12-volt DC ham shack power supplies and have been using it to run Ron's Kenwood TM V7A transceiver, using a 300-watt supply, and Mike's  $\mu$ Bitx transceiver, using a 200-watt supply, for a while with no issues. The photos in this article are of Mike's build, which also brings out the 5-volt and 3.3-volt supplies out for future use.

The links below will take you to articles explaining the conversion. After the links, we will give a detailed description of the connectors and pin configurations and what we did to determine the various wires and pinouts. We did this with a standard 20-pin ATX style power supply unit (PSU), and it's a bit of a challenging project, so this article is just for awareness and to encourage you to give it a try. Check out this online guide to start: <<https://tinyurl.com/y94dhs8w>>.

The following link contains pinout tables for the ATX style PSU; we're interested in the 20-pin connector, but we have included the 24-pin information for those converting a newer style ATX PSU: <<https://tinyurl.com/yakcjcwe>>.

---

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Here is some additional information based on our experience that you might find useful if you decide to tackle this project. There is normally a label on one side of the power supply that will tell you its parameters, such as "12 VDC, 6 amps, 200 watts max" (Photo B).

It's not an exact conversion, as you can see: 200 watts divided by 12 volts equals approximately 16.7 amps, yet the supply says max 6 amps at 12 volts. The difference comes in when you consider that the power supply is designed to put out more than just +12 VDC. The



Photo A. Some of the old desktop computer power supplies we had lying around, waiting to be repurposed.

total wattage rating of the supply is the sum of all of the outputs of all the various voltages, while the 6-amp rating of the 12-volt supply applies only to that portion of the supply. So, that means the maximum output of the 12-volt supply is 72 watts, with another 128 watts available for the other voltages. But note that the pictured power supply specifies a maximum of 125 watts for the combination of both 3.3-volt and 5-volt

supplies. The remaining 3 watts will cover the low-current -12 volt and -5 volt supplies. When you convert one of these supplies, you must ensure that you do not draw more power from each voltage than that particular section of the supply is capable of handling, and that the total power draw of all supplies does not exceed the overall rating of the supply (200 watts in this case).

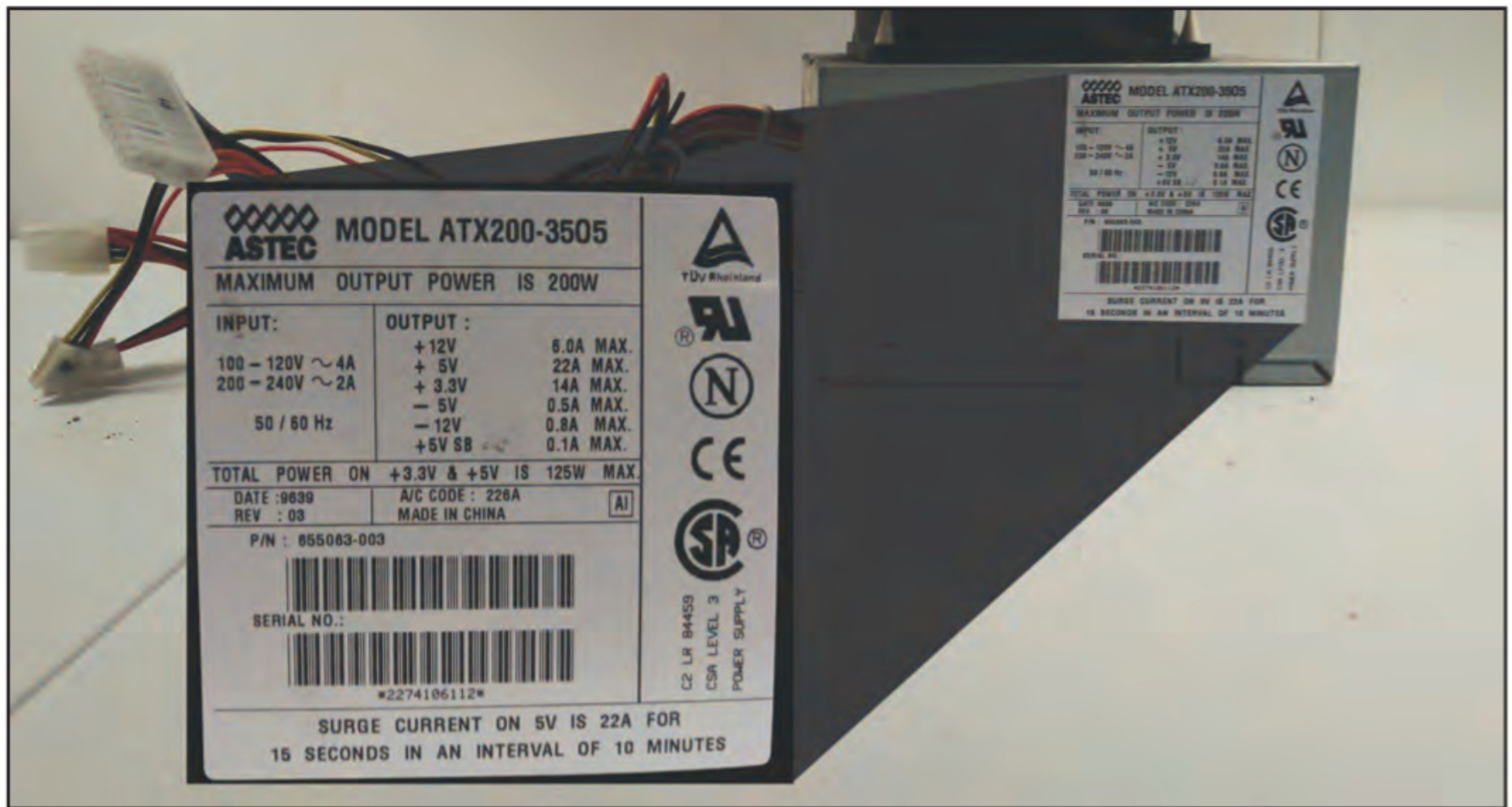


Photo B. Power supply specification label.

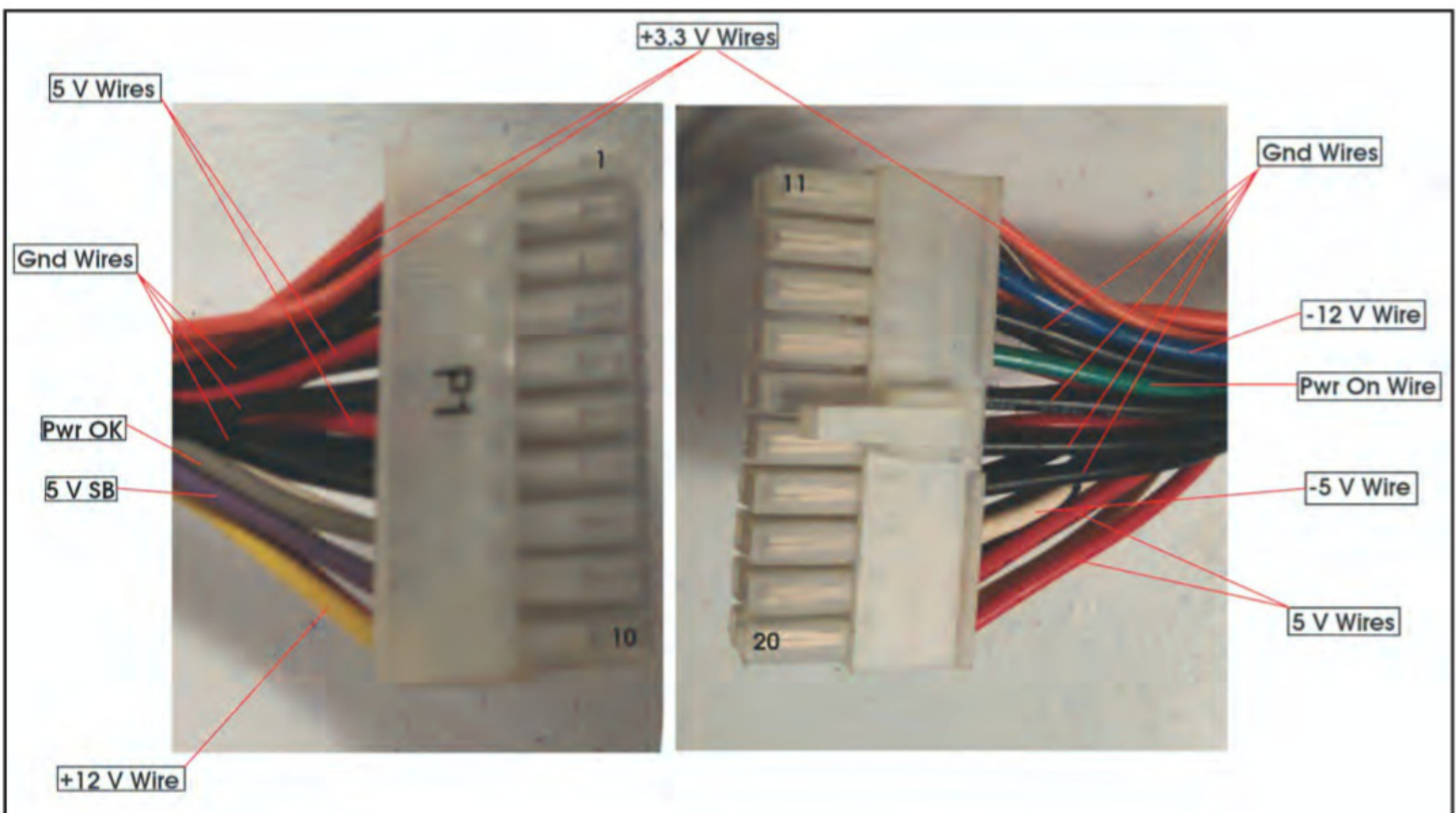


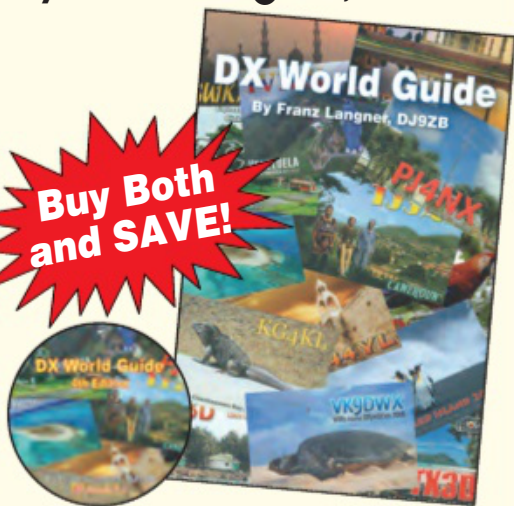
Photo C. 20-pin connector wiring.

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As this conversion involves only the 12-volt supply, we are limited to 6 amps from the 12-volt line, and this will not exceed the 200-watt limit, so there are no worries. If you decide to expand on this and use the 5-volt and/or the 3.3-volt supplies, be sure to calculate the expected power draw from each voltage and add them all together to ensure you do not overload the supply.

With the newer Pentium and up supplies, more chips have gone to 12 volts, so there is more current-handling on the 12-volt end. Most high-quality desktop supplies are rated around 17 amps, but

that rating might be total current. Remember, in a lot of the computer supplies, there can be more than one 12-volt rail. Those specs are usually available for most PSUs online somewhere.

## Untangling the Wires

When you get into the supply, the sheer number of wires and connectors can be a little overwhelming until you separate them out and realize you only need to worry about a few of them. In addition to the main 20-pin connector, which you can't miss, there are also several 4-pin Molex connectors daisy-chained to-

**Table 1**

Pin No.	20-Pin Connector			24-Pin Connector		
	Name	Color	Description	Name	Color	Description
1	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC
2	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC
3	COMMON	Black	Ground	COMMON	Black	Ground
4	5V	Red	+5VDC	5V	Red	+5VDC
5	COMMON	Black	Ground	COMMON	Black	Ground
6	5V	Red	+5VDC	5V	Red	+5VDC
7	COMMON	Black	Ground	COMMON	Black	Ground
8	Pwr Ok	Gray	Power OK	Pwr Ok	Gray	Power OK
9	5VSB	Purple	+5VDC Standby Power	5VSB	Purple	+5VDC Standby Power
10	12V	Yellow	+12VDC	12V	Yellow	+12VDC
11	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC	12V	Yellow	+12VDC
12	-12V	Blue	-12VDC	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC
13	COMMON	Black	Ground	3.3V	Orange	+3.3VDC
14	Pwr On	Green		-12V	Blue	-12VDC
15	COMMON	Black	Ground	COMMON	Black	Ground
16	COMMON	Black	Ground	Pwr On	Green	
17	COMMON	Black	Ground	COMMON	Black	Ground
18	-5V	White	-5VDC	COMMON	Black	Ground
19	5V	Red	+5VDC	COMMON	Black	Ground
20	5V	Red	+5VDC	-5V	White	-5VDC
21				5V	Red	+5VDC
22				5V	Red	+5VDC
23				5V	Red	+5VDC
24				COMMON	Black	Ground

*Table 1. Pinouts for both 20- and 24-pin ATX computer power supply connectors. Only a few of the wires will be used for 12-volt purposes.*

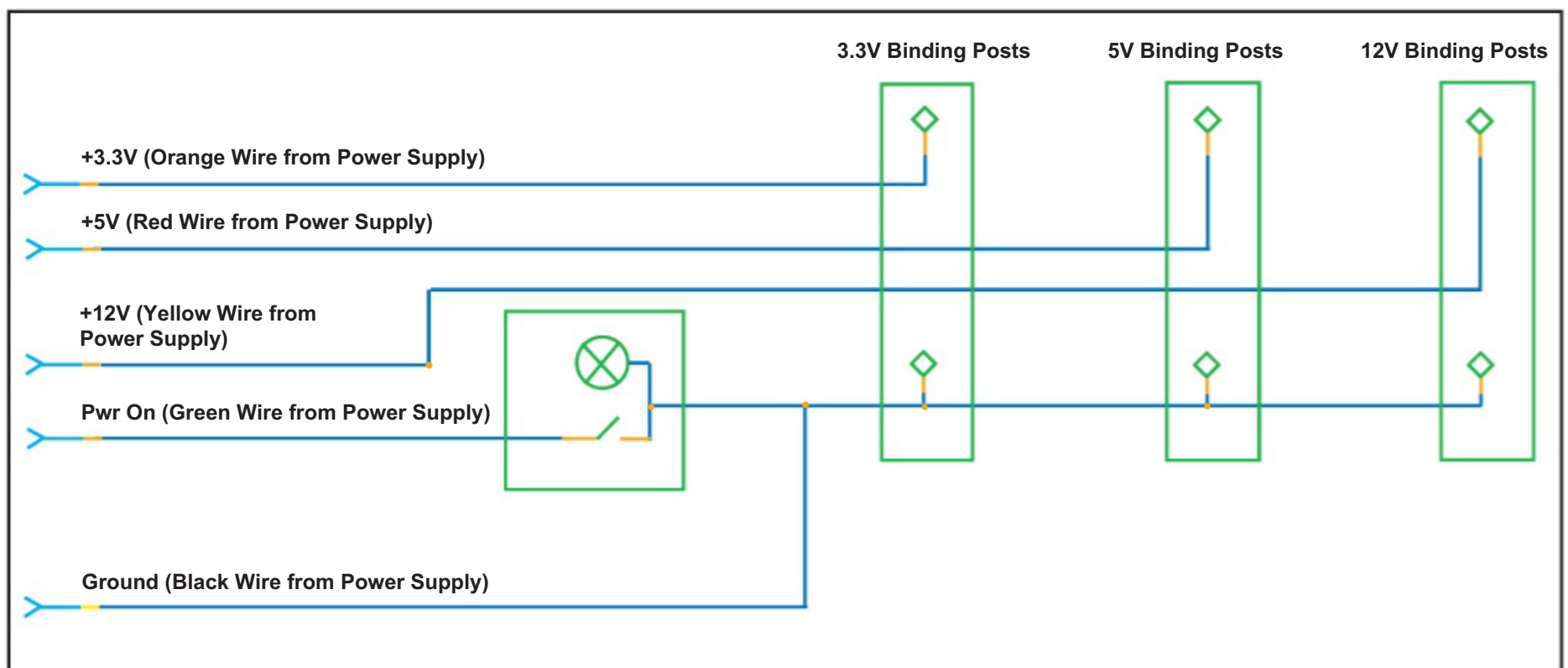


Figure 1. Power control switch and indicator schematic.

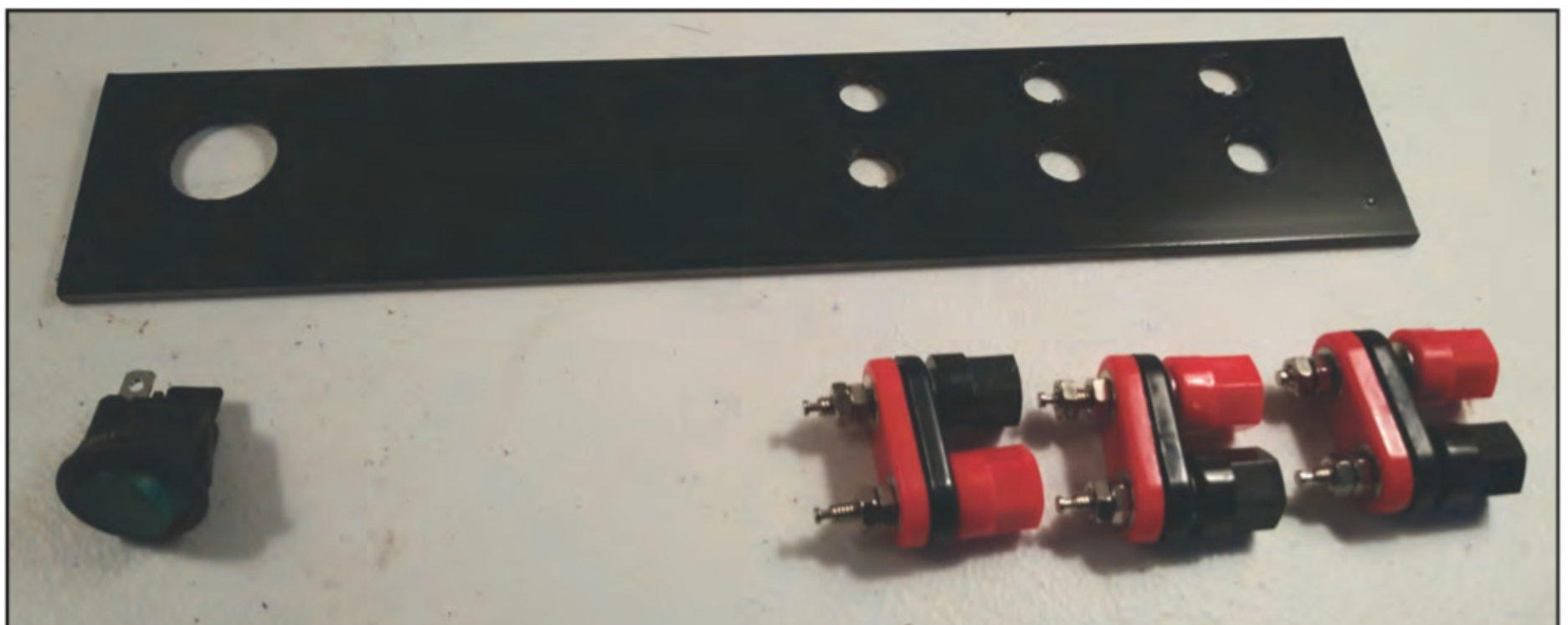


Photo D. Parts used for Mike's build.

gether for hard drives (there may be as many as eight of them); and at the end of this string of Molex connectors, there is usually a small floppy drive pigtail connector (quite tiny). There is also a square 4-pin block connector on its own. The square block connector has two +12 volt and two ground wires on it as well, and likely comes from the same rail as the 4-pin rectangular Molex connectors.

The wires on the main 20-pin (or 24-pin) connector are color coded. These are the same for all ATX power supplies (*Photo C*):

- +3.3V wires are orange
- +5V wires are red
- -5V wires (if they are present) are white
- +12V wires are yellow
- -12V wires are blue
- ground wires are black
- "power on" sensor is green

- + 5V standby power is purple
- "power good" indicator is gray

The green power-on sensor wire is internally connected to 5 volts through a pull-up resistor. If you connect this wire to ground (any black wire), the power supply will turn on. The purple standby power wire puts out +5 volts even if the rest of the power supply has not yet turned on, allowing you to power any circuit that might control the ON/OFF signal. The gray "power good" indicator is at 5 volts if each of the output wires is operating at the correct voltages and could be used to power a LED indicator.

The large 20-pin motherboard connector is made up of two rows of 10 pins each. If you are holding the connector with the guide key on the top (this is a piece of plastic that sticks out from the long side of the connector shell), pin one is the leftmost pin on the bottom row (it's square), pin 10 is the rightmost on the bottom row, pin 11 is the leftmost on the top row,



Photo E. Assembled panel with all parts mounted.

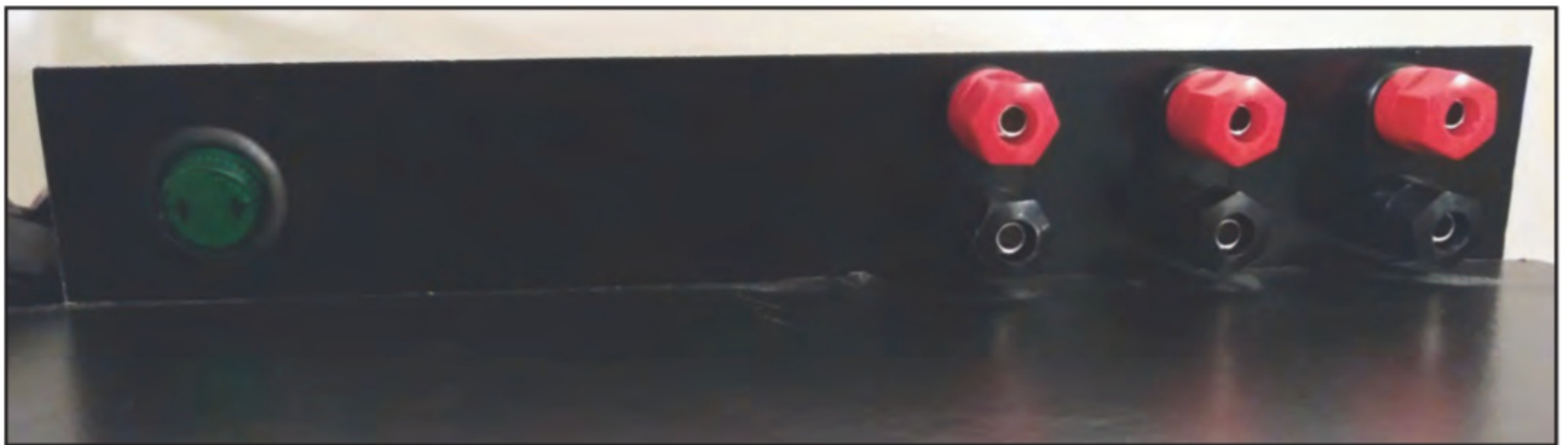


Photo F. Panel installed at operating position.

and pin 20 is the rightmost pin on the top row (also square). So for reference, pin one is directly below pin 11, and pin 10 is directly below pin 20. The 24-pin connector is arranged in the same way except there 12 pins in each row instead of 10; therefore, the bottom row starts on pin one at the left and has pin 12 on the right end and the top row has pin 13 on the left and pin 24 on the right. All of the pin references in this article will refer to the 20-pin connector, so if you are using a PSU with a 24-pin connector, you will have to make the necessary adjustments. See *Table 1* for the pinouts for each type of connector.

The only wires that we need to be concerned for our purposes are the green wire to pin 14, and any of the black wires (we used the one from pin 13). You have to tie the green wire to ground or any of the black wires to make the power supply turn on. Cut the green wire anywhere you like. Then, cut the black wire going to pin 13; it'll be the pin towards the longer section of pins and wires on the connector, not on the shorter side. Then, strip the green and black wires and tie them together using tape or heatshrink to insulate the splice (a small blue wire-nut will work nicely as well), or the green and black wires may be connected to a SPST switch to allow turning the supplies on/off from the switch. Mike used a 12-volt lighted rocker switch for both on/off control and indication (see schematic, *Figure 1*). This tells the computer power supply to turn on.

Next, you will need one of the yellow +12 volt DC wires. We used a 12-volt wire from one of the four Molex connectors, as these have a higher current rating than those on the ATX connector. Holding the 4-pin Molex connector (of which there will be several daisy-chained together on each computer PSU) with the key guide on top of the shell, the right pin is

**Table 2. Parts List**

Qty	Item
1	Aluminum panel (salvaged from an old piece of electronics, drilled, and painted)
1	Illuminated 12-volt rocker switch (All Electronics P/N LRS-29G, any SPST switch will do)
3	Binding posts (All Electronics P/N BP-25)



Photo G. Completed project powering a µBitx transceiver.



+12 volts, the two center pins are ground and the left pin is +5 volts. Cut a yellow wire off the 4-pin Molex connectors (remember, it's the right-hand pin and wire when holding the Molex connector with the key guide on top). Then cut the wire right next to that for the ground. Now, you can just strip these and tie them straight to your radio's DC cord, or you can use some banana terminals, binding posts (as Mike did), Anderson Power Poles, or whatever you want to make quick and easy connections.

You can cut the ATX connector right off and tape up the ends of the wires at this point as you will not need anything else for a plain 12-volt PSU. If you want to build something with USB charging power etc., you can certainly get the parts easily enough and use any +5 volt wire as per the pin out table to create a charging port for your phone or whatever. In fact, a typical 250-watt PSU can provide 2-amp charging to probably 3 or 4 devices at once if you use the high current +5 volt wires found on the 4-pin hard drive Molex connectors. If you want a secondary lower-current 12-volt line, use the +12 volt wire from pin 10 on the ATX connector as well ... great for shack accessories, etc.

## Check Your Work

We used a multimeter throughout to check for ground continuity and for 12 volts once I tied the green and black wires together. The green wire does show 5 volts when not shorted to ground, but it uses a pull-up resistor so, once you ground it, it just turns the supply on and off. As noted earlier, you can put a switch between the green wire and ground if you want to be able to turn the PSU on and off if it doesn't have its own switch on the back.

This is a very rough conversion, and you can get as fancy and tidy as you want. Possible enhancements include mounting binding posts and/or USB ports on the PSU chassis, cutting all unnecessary wires inside the chassis to make a nice clean build, adding meters, etc. Mike made a panel to attach to his operating position with binding posts and a switch (see *Photos D-G*).

## A Few Precautions

An article appeared in *QST* a few years ago that included a warning that you should use good-quality, well-shielded supplies because the usual computer does not supply much current at 12 volts; so cheaper supplies may get hot when converted and subjected to heavy

loads. Also, the older supplies on XT and ATX boards had a more limited 12-volt supply capability; most of those chips ran at 5 volts, so the 12 volts was just for powering the fan and disk drives. In addition, cheap unshielded supplies may emit loads of RF, causing birdies that can get into your receiver. These are all valid and should be taken into consideration.

Another caution is that some computer power supplies don't regulate all their output voltages independently. What this does is cause the 12-volt line to change voltage if the load on the 5-volt line is heavy. Switching power supplies do what they do by sending a variable-width pulse through the primary of their power transformer. This pulse width controls the output voltage of the whole transformer, so taps off of the secondary may not show the proper voltage if the transformer sees a high load on the 5-volt line because that is where the voltage regulator sits. The 5-volt line regulates very nicely under a heavy load, but the other voltages may go too high as the comparator adjusts the pulse width to make the 5-volt output happy.

Unless you add a 5-volt USB charging port or something, load restrictions aren't really an issue when using just

the high-current 12-volt rail supplying the 4-pin Molex connectors. With a good quality, shielded supply, this makes a small, cheap and useful shack power supply. Computer PSUs tend to be very well-regulated and clean and for usually quite a bit less, even new, than your typical 23-amp supply from Samlex, Pyramid, etc. A local shop has a 500-watt computer PSU for \$39. This would conservatively provide 15 amps at 12 VDC, more than enough to run a couple dual-banders at 50 watts forever.

These supplies are not great for full 100-watt HF rigs, as those are looking for 22 amps minimum at 13.8 volts, but any mobile rig is going to run fine at 12 volts as that is what the batteries in our cars put out. If you can scavenge a couple of these PSUs for free, you could certainly run them in parallel for more current capability. We would suggest running a good, high-current, 12-volt regulator and balancing resistors between the supplies if you are going to parallel them.

We hope this helps and motivates you, as it did us, to dig into those old PSUs sitting around collecting dust. They can be used for far more than ham radio stuff. They can power 12-volt LED lighting, motors, and plenty of the new kit-style devices that are out there.

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VISA

# Results of the 2019 CQ WPX RTTY Contest

BY ED MUNS, WØYK

One of the best contests, I enjoyed ... E74EB  
 Another great RTTY contest even the poor props couldn't stop the fun ... HSØZED  
 Super contest, TNX ... IZ2ZQP  
 Superrrr contest. Wow ... SN2WOSP  
 Great time with my wife sharing time in contest and family! ... XE2N  
 I love CQ WPX RTTY Contest ... YBØNDT  
 Fantastic contest weekend with CQWW WPX RTTY 2019!  
 Thanks to organizers and operators! ... KF4QFJ  
 Enjoyed the contest ... ZL2RX  
 One of the best contests of the year! ... K9OM  
 Another great contest! ... KX4KU  
 Always an awesome contest! ... WX6V



EB8AH won Multi-Single Low Power. The team consisted of (from l. to r.) Kari, OH4KA; Jouni, OH8GDU; Jari, OH8WW; and Pekka, EA8AH.

\* P.O. Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877  
 Email: <wøyk@cqww.com>

The 25<sup>th</sup> installment of the CQ WPX RTTY Contest experienced similar bottom-of-the-cycle propagation as last year. The number of submitted logs was down 7% to 3,099. Another 2,018 calls appeared at least three times in these logs for an overall participation exceeding 5,000 active stations.

Both 15 and 10 meters remained at a 10-year low in activity, same as last year. For example, only nine stations made 10 or more contacts on 10 meters, led by W5PR with 34. The top QSO achiever on 15 meters was CR3DX, followed by eight stations in South America. Table 1 shows percent of QSOs by band, across all logs received for the last 10 years.

Multi-Two station CR3DX achieved the highest QSO total with 5,003, as well as the most 20-meter contacts with 1,791. Single-band 80-meter OL4C made the most 80-meter QSOs with 1,137 and Multi-Multi 9A1A made the most on 40 meters: 1,752. Once again, 9A1A led with the most prefix multipliers at 1,154, though down from prior years' efforts.

New records were set at the World (3) and Continent (11) levels, three times the new records set in 2018 (1 and 4, respectively). Despite poor propagation, it is still possible to set or break a major record:

	World		Continent	
	New	Avail	New	Avail
SO10	0	3	0	18
SO15	0	3	0	18
SO20	1	3	3	18
SO40	0	3	0	18
SO80	0	3	3	18
SOAB	0	3	0	18
MSH	1	1	1	6
MSL	0	1	3	6
M2	1	1	1	6
MM	0	1	0	6
Total	3	22	11	132

First time RTTY test ... DH2WQ  
 My first CQWW RTTY Contest ... DG5MLA  
 First time in this contest ... G3YCH  
 First time entering this contest. Nice to get some DX (DX for me!) ... G6EES  
 My first participation in this contest ... HB9TZU  
 This contest was first RTTY contest for me ... JH4FUF  
 My very first RTTY contest. Lot of fun ... OH2BEN  
 It was my first RTTY contest ... SP2WGB  
 First RTTY Contest ... KD4LEM

Band	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
80	13%	15%	11%	11%	8%	7%	10%	17%	17%	20%
40	27%	28%	23%	26%	21%	21%	23%	33%	36%	35%
20	36%	35%	27%	28%	22%	21%	25%	36%	41%	41%
15	23%	21%	30%	29%	28%	27%	32%	14%	5%	5%
10	0.5%	1%	9%	6%	21%	25%	11%	0.1%	0.03%	0.05%

Table 1. Band-by-band breakdowns of QSO percentages, 2010-2019.

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Gedas Lucinskas (LY9A) and Mindis Jukna (LY4L)

Rig used: 2 x FTDX5000MP



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Sulaiman, 7Z1SJ, won 40 meters in the 150-station field, followed by Carlo, I3PXN, and Toomas, ES5RY.

Mohamed, 5C5W (CN8KD), handily won 20 meters for the second year in a row with Simon, MIØM, (MIØSAI) taking second place in this largest single-band category.

Julio, PX2A (PY2XV), won 15 meters over the other next six finishers, also from South America. Next came the top European, Victor, UR5QU.



Julio, PY2XV, won SO 15 meters Low Power as PX2A.



15-meter stack at PX2A.

Takeshi, JF1OVA, won 10 meters with just six QSOs. That just about sums up the high bands.

### High Power (980)

Ed, P49X (WØYK), won All-Band, his 11<sup>th</sup> highest score out of 13 consecutive entries in this contest. Jan, OL9A (OK2ZAW), just squeaked by Kris, SN7Q (SP7GIQ), for second place. Bud, AA3B, topped the North American field for 4<sup>th</sup> place overall.

Jan, OL4C (OK1NP), took first on 80 meters with Filippo, IQ1RY (IZ1LBG), close behind in the all European entries that comprise the first 16 finishers. Then came George, VE3NZ, who was first in North America.

Nicola, IZ4NIC, won 40 meters after a close second place in 2018. Miha, S53M (S51FB), took second with Dick, K9OM, and Victor, WQ5OO, very close for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in North America.

Oliver, V37DX (DH8BQA), won 20

## 2019 CQWW WPX RTTY TOP UNITED STATES SCORES

SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER ALL BAND		QRP ALL BAND		*AA8SW .....50,800	
AA3B	6,363,225	K2YG	325,125	*KB7AK	16,878
ACØC	4,734,210	WE4M (N2QT)	171,589	*W2XK	9,420
WK1Q (K1MK)	4,091,472	W6QU (W8QZA)	130,529	<b>7 MHz</b>	
N3QE	3,576,573	K2YGM/4	60,248	*KG5THG	108,896
W3FV	2,817,944	K19S	45,408	*K7HKR	20,000
AK1W (K5ZD)	2,650,428	W3IQ/8	37,642	*ADØTZ	1,092
WK7S (K6LL)	2,647,040	KC9NBV	15,808	<b>TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT HIGH POWER ALL BAND</b>	
WV1K (N1IXF)	2,646,340	N6MA/7	10,360	N3QE	3,576,573
K5DU	2,402,848	W1IG	10,200	KØ7SS	1,453,998
KZØUS (W7RY)	2,256,961	K1SX	10,146	NR4Ø	1,349,964
<b>28 MHz</b>		<b>14 MHz</b>		W2CDO/3	1,337,628
KZ5MM (W5PR)	1,680	WE6EZ/5	37,960	KI6DY/Ø	1,317,833
NA4W (K4WI)	1,457	N1VVV	1,178	N5HC	1,252,679
<b>14 MHz</b>		<b>7 MHz</b>		WS6X/4	1,218,150
N2MM	879,660	KH6KG/W5/5 (KH6KG/W5)	107,146	AD5XD	1,120,419
WW2DX	857,760	WD9FTZ/8	60,836	WA7AN (K9DR)	978,147
W9ILY	337,625	W4ER	4,070	AA3S	973,352
AA7V	172,974	<b>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER (HIGH)</b>		<b>14 MHz</b>	
4U1WB/3 (AJ3M)	123,750	NV9L	5,172,516	W9ILY	337,625
<b>7 MHz</b>		KZ7X (W7WW)	3,347,888	AA7V	172,974
K9OM/4	2,380,644	W4MLB (AF4Z)	1,261,379	W9IL/4	51,471
WQ5OO	2,371,200	WV4P	1,159,368	KI7DG	4,590
WX5S/6 (N6DE)	1,640,640	NXØI	1,053,308	<b>7 MHz</b>	
K8IA/7	1,334,742	KM4OQO	589,157	K9OM/4	2,380,644
K4WW	498,324	AK9D/Ø (KCØVTJ)	557,648	<b>3.5 MHz</b>	
<b>3.5 MHz</b>		K5RZA	532,860	K8YE	26,208
KT4RR (W5MX)	374,550	WU6TT (W6DR)	143,374	<b>LOW POWER ALL BAND</b>	
N6SS/7	373,632	AA4YL	132,273	*W3RGA	854,700
KW7MM	96,600	<b>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER (LOW)</b>		*NY6DX/2	852,550
NØOK	31,878	*NG1R (W1QK)	842,160	*W4LC	663,995
K8YE	26,208	*KD6TR/7	115,291	*KA2D	519,183
<b>LOW POWER ALL BAND</b>		*ADØLI	115,206	*K3RWN	491,808
*KK9A/4	3,844,440	*KN4DUA (AC6ZM)	93,694	*AB4SF	459,792
*K9NR	1,067,472	<b>MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER</b>		*WB5TUF	451,400
*KF2Ø	1,067,392	K9CT (K9WX)	8,789,400	*W4PJW	422,712
*WW3S	959,104	NCØDX (WØLSD)	4,603,284	*KF4FC	422,196
*AA2MF/4	942,028	KE1S (W1AN)	2,823,680	*K8LS/5	376,567
*W3RGA	854,700	KB8Ø	2,786,488	<b>14 MHz</b>	
*NY6DX/2	852,550	KT7E (K7ZS)	2,464,020	*KF6RY (W6ZL)	141,705
*W4LC	663,995	KB3VQC	2,291,460	*N2YBB	62,757
*N2HMM	633,204	W7II/Ø	1,376,845	*N2MUN	55,242
*KA2D	519,183	NX6T (N6NC)	1,101,672	*AB1J	45,675
<b>21 MHz</b>		K5MXG	332,766	*W4RRE	40,800
*W4UAL (K4CWW)	3,354	W4CDA (KG4UQL)	15,045	*N9TF	40,588
<b>14 MHz</b>		<b>MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER</b>		<b>7 MHz</b>	
*KU2M	398,195	NR4M (KS4Q)	8,264,608	*KS4AA	413,400
*KF6RY (W6ZL)	141,705	AA5AU/4 (N1MGO)	6,915,392	*WK9U	324,480
*WB2NVR	72,160	NA5NN (K2FF)	3,570,905	*KK8MM	148,104
*N2YBB	62,757	WV6I (N6WM)	2,967,636	*K5IB	106,760
*N2MUN	55,242	KU1CW/7	2,939,696	*WN4AFP	84,940
<b>7 MHz</b>		KA6BIM/7	941,460	<b>3.5 MHz</b>	
*KS4AA	413,400	<b>ROOKIE HIGH POWER ALL BAND</b>		*AB9YC	55,620
*WK9U	324,480	KN4BIT	17,355	*N9SE	37,800
*W2VTV	209,720	<b>LOW POWER ALL BAND</b>		*W9RF (1)	26,040
*KK8MM	148,104	*W9JWC (KD9LSV)	320,597	<i>*Low Power</i>	
*KG5THG	108,896	*AA4LS	286,464		
<b>3.5 MHz</b>		*AJ3C	69,185		
*WB8BZK/9	266,960				
*K2DFC	73,114				
*AB9YC	55,620				
*W9RF (1)	26,040				
*KU7T	11,926				

meters and missed the North America record. Alex, EM2G (UR7GO), and Pal, HG8R (HA8JV), were very close for 3rd and 4th to top the European contenders.

Eugenio, CV7S (CX7SS), won 15 meters again this year.

Chuck, KZ5MM (W5PR), diligently won 10 meters with 34 QSOs over nearly 8 hours.

Students 10-15 years old, for some their first contest ... ES5YG Licensed from 2018 December, age 14 ... HA1DD

Age 14 years and licensed from December 2018 ... HA1LZ

Martin, 16 years old ... IN3EY

I am only one YL and youngest ham operator. I am 12 years

old. My license start from 15th of January 2019 ... JT1YL

## Multi-Operator (134)

Multi-Single is the most popular multi-operator category, by far:

<b>MSL</b>	<b>MSH</b>	<b>M2</b>	<b>MM</b>
43	49	27	15

### Multi-Single Low Power (43)

EB8AH (OH4KA, OH8WW, OH8GDU, EA8AH) set a new

world record with their clear win over rival African station ED9E (EA9CD, EA9FY, EA9AAU, EA8ACD, EA9ACP, EA9ACT, EB9DG, EA7KI, EA7KP). 9A7T (9A2EU, 9A5MR, 9A4OP, 9A5CB) was third, to lead the Europeans in the next four places, followed by a new Asia record by TC7G (TA7AZC, TA7AOF, TA7EB, TA7EA). PR2E broke the South America record.

## Multi-Single High Power (49)

First place went to S52X (S50XX, S52K, S52X, S55G, S55Y, S56Y, S57AV, S57NA) to upset last year's winner HG1S (HA1TJ, HA1DAI, HA1SN, HA1DAE). PJ4Z (WW4LL, NN9DD) took third to beat last year's second place team at 9A5D (9A3AW, 9A3ID, 9A3VM, 9A7Z). Eighth place NV9L (NV9L, K9CS, N9TK, N9LAH, WB9Z) won North America.

## Multi-Two (27)

CR3DX (CT3BD, CT3DZ, CT3EN, CT3KY, OM2KW, OM3RM, OM7LW) set a new world record by 30%, which was set by the same team at CR3A in 2017. DP9A (DG1HWM, DK1DSA, DK4WA, DL5YYM, DL8UAT, DL9NDV, DM5JBN) and S549APR (F5RAV, S50LD, S51TC,

## 2019 CQWW WPX RTTY TOP EUROPE SCORES

SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER ALL BAND		MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER (HIGH)		7 MHz		LOW POWER ALL BAND	
OL9A (OK2ZAW).....	7,501,256	*IK0PRP.....	13,794	IU1JCZ.....	252,778	M0UNI.....	287,364
SN7Q (SP7GIQ).....	7,327,350	*I3FGX.....	12,276			IZ5EME.....	284,896
LZ5K (LZ5DB).....	6,206,922	*IK2TDM.....	6,272			LC2C (LB1HI).....	284,088
G2F (M0CKE).....	5,453,461					UT5LA.....	227,392
UW1M (UR5MW).....	4,853,499	<b>14 MHz</b>					
S53X.....	4,809,946	*MI0M (MI0SAI).....	989,097			<b>3.5 MHz</b>	
ER4A (UT5UDX).....	4,658,812	*LZ2JA.....	618,412			IZ3SQW.....	1,471,808
YO9HP.....	4,646,763	*G8X (G4FJK).....	519,870			EU4E.....	903,000
OM2VL.....	4,572,454	*IW9FDD.....	436,482			SV2BXA.....	788,900
EM0I (UT2IZ).....	4,314,363	*UR2Y (US0YW).....	428,922			IK3ORL.....	767,382
						SP5DL.....	696,672
		<b>7 MHz</b>					
		*I3PXN.....	909,828			<b>LOW POWER ALL BAND</b>	
		*ES5RY.....	795,142			*IK3TPP.....	1,962,378
<b>21 MHz</b>		*US7KC.....	784,728			*CT7AJL.....	1,877,580
CR6T (CT1ESV).....	141,588	*SQ7CL.....	746,232			*S57U.....	1,671,047
I4LCK.....	124,435	*UR5WCQ.....	743,208			*OE2E (OE2GEN).....	1,605,285
I5MXX.....	55,622					*R7MM.....	1,599,520
YT0Z (YU1ZZ).....	25,004	<b>3.5 MHz</b>				*UT5EPP.....	1,576,988
EA5FID.....	14,784	*SQ4NR.....	1,036,112			*ON5GQ.....	1,555,113
		*YT2AAA.....	975,154			*LX5IGRY (LX1ER).....	1,512,480
		*OM3ZWA.....	915,356			*IT9VCE.....	1,426,620
		*DF1MM.....	901,600			*DL3SYA.....	1,365,210
		*UZ2HZ.....	880,896				
<b>14 MHz</b>						<b>21 MHz</b>	
EM2G (UR7GO).....	1,774,326	<b>ORP ALL BAND</b>				*UR5QU.....	31,752
HG8R (HA8JV).....	1,726,112	F5BEG.....	1,263,072			*YT8A.....	14,544
UA5C.....	1,566,600	DK7HA.....	1,181,768			*IK0PRP.....	13,794
S57DX.....	1,430,860	OK2FD.....	1,017,144			*I3FGX.....	12,276
LZ6Y (LZ1KU).....	1,326,378	IK2XDE.....	919,224			*IK2TDM.....	6,272
		MM3AWD.....	774,060				
		YU1ANO (YU1LM).....	493,800			<b>14 MHz</b>	
		DD2ML.....	429,852			*IW9FDD.....	436,482
		EW8G.....	203,889			*UR2Y (US0YW).....	428,922
		LZ3RR.....	146,496			*IZ8EFD.....	396,535
		SN2WOSP (SP2UUU).....	117,624			*IK4LZH.....	291,078
						*R5ACQ.....	276,318
<b>7 MHz</b>							
IZ4NIC.....	4,987,776	<b>14 MHz</b>				<b>7 MHz</b>	
S53M (S51FB).....	4,239,172	IZ7FLP.....	629,880			*UR5WCQ.....	743,208
DM6DX.....	2,298,772	HG3IPA (HA3JB).....	124,020			*OK2RU.....	677,758
YU1AU.....	2,204,488	UX8ZA.....	40,040			*IW2MXY.....	563,550
S51CK.....	2,027,880	RA3XEV.....	5,150			*ED4T (EA4CWN).....	439,704
		IU2IGX.....	1,350			*Z37DX (Z33F).....	328,636
<b>3.5 MHz</b>							
OL4C (OK1NP).....	2,907,656	<b>7 MHz</b>				<b>3.5 MHz</b>	
IQ1RY (IZ1LGB).....	2,780,558	DL5RK.....	538,986			*SQ4NR.....	1,036,112
UX2X (UT2XQ).....	2,278,100	LZ2TU.....	195,456			*DF1MM.....	901,600
IZ0KBR.....	1,567,392	EE3X (EA3KX).....	185,220			*UZ2HZ.....	880,896
IZ3SQW.....	1,471,808	YT5DEY.....	171,720			*OK4GP.....	728,460
		R9FBT.....	150,144			*E77EA.....	724,880
<b>LOW POWER ALL BAND</b>							
*IK6VXO.....	5,471,250	<b>3.5 MHz</b>				<i>*Low Power</i>	
*IT9RGY/4.....	4,846,776	YO9BCM.....	282,978				
*TM3Z (F4DSK).....	4,807,728	YO8WW.....	96,570				
*403A (409TTT).....	3,917,716	YT5YTT.....	67,704				
*SO9M (SQ9UM).....	3,428,040	SQ2NNN.....	65,268				
*LY6A.....	2,532,050	US3IW.....	57,348				
*UW6E (UR6EA).....	2,355,029						
*IK3TPP.....	1,962,378	<b>14 MHz</b>					
*CT7AJL.....	1,877,580	Y04FPF.....	329,708				
*IK0CHU.....	1,797,070						
<b>21 MHz</b>							
*UR5QU.....	31,752						
*YT8A.....	14,544						

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER (LOW)		MULTI-OPERATOR TWO TRANSMITTER		7 MHz		TRIBANDER/SINGLE ELEMENT HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
*9A7T (9A2EU).....	3,851,712	DP9A (DG1HWM).....	8,815,636	DP6M (DK9IP).....	3,206,245	DM5TI.....	2,514,642
*OT6M (ON9CC).....	3,566,196	S549APR (F5RAV).....	8,813,808	DM5TI.....	2,514,642	M7T (G3YYD).....	2,485,311
*DQ4W (DL1MAJ).....	2,242,800	DP7D (DF2SD).....	8,478,900	UZ1WW.....	2,260,995	UZ1WW.....	2,260,995
*LY5W (LY2BVQ).....	2,150,448	LY9Y (LY7Z).....	8,055,696	YL1S (YL1ZF).....	2,243,822	OZ0JD.....	1,889,146
*PI4CG (PD2PKM).....	2,089,790	C37URA (C31CA).....	4,405,040	DR7B (DL2JRM).....	1,657,370	DK1FW.....	1,611,039
*RA3Y.....	1,937,920	DL0CS (DG8LG).....	3,482,850	DL0HMK (DF2HN).....	1,602,255	UV7V (UX1VT).....	1,433,124
*RK3PWR (R3PJL).....	1,758,834	ED2C (EA2VE).....	2,133,472				
*ED3D (EA3AYQ).....	1,469,093	OM3KFF (OM4DW).....	1,342,224			<b>21 MHz</b>	
*PI4VAD (PA3DUU).....	811,966	SP5KCR (SQ5WWK).....	498,344	EA5FID.....	14,784	EA3OH.....	3,293
*EA4URE (EB2DSP).....	767,618	EA3MR.....	334,887				
						<b>14 MHz</b>	
						EF1Z (EA1BD).....	872,534
						SX73SC (SV2BFN).....	742,118
						IU4CHE (PARA).....	713,904
						RU5TT.....	495,720
						UC6N.....	363,747
						<b>7 MHz</b>	
						IT9RZU.....	839,160

MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER		ROOKIE HIGH POWER ALL BAND	
9A1A (9A5W).....	18,965,990	Y04FPF.....	329,708
UB6B (R7AB).....	10,614,186		
LY2W (LY1FW).....	9,164,328		
LZ60KAA (LZ1AO).....	7,224,150	<b>14 MHz</b>	
S50A.....	4,622,298	S53TM.....	353,772
DG0RO.....	4,191,894		
DR3W (DL3ABL).....	2,467,839		
ED2V (EA2CYJ).....	304,554		



Multi-Two K9CT won North America and was 4<sup>th</sup> worldwide (near to far: Jim, N7US; Larry, KT9L; Tim, K9WX).

S51ZJ, S55KZ, S56B, S56DE, S57PM, S59MZ) are virtually tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. K9CT (K9WX, AI9T, ND9G, K9CT, KT9L, N7US) was first in North America for 4<sup>th</sup> place worldwide.

#### Multi-Multi (15)

World record holder 9A1A (9A5W, 9A9A, 9A6A, 9A7R, 9A7C, 9A8A, 9A3SMS, 9A5PL, 9A5AEU, 9A7ROR) again took top honors as they have

every year since 2012. UB6B (R7AB, R7DA, RA6YDX, R6YP, R7TU, RU7A) and LY2W (LY1FW, LY2FN, LY2MM, LY2NY, LY2PAD, LY2W, LY5O) took the next two places. NR4M (KS4Q, K5OF, NR4M, W4GO, K4GM, K3NC, N4DXS, KA4RRU, K3UI, N3ZV, N3AIU) won North America and AA5AU (N1MGO, AA5AU, WS7I, K3ZV, W4AAW, KT1I, KJ0D, W4TMO @W4AAW) was second in North

### 2019 WPX RTTY PLAQUE WINNERS AND DONORS

#### SINGLE-OPERATOR HIGH POWER

World: Jeff Blaine, ACØC. Won by: **Ed Muns, P49X (op. WØYK)**  
 USA: Abroham Neal Software by K3NC. Won by: **Bud Trench, AA3B**  
 USA: 7th Call Area: Hank Lonberg, KR7X (in memory of Bob Wruble, W7GG).  
 Won by: **Dave Hachadorian, WK7S (Op. K6LL)**  
 Europe: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **Jan Sustr, OL9A (Op. OK2ZAW)**

#### SINGLE-OPERATOR LOW POWER

World: Mike Sims, K4GMH. Won by: **Andrea Tonci, IK6VXO**  
 North America: Alabama Contest Group. Won by: **John Bayne, KK9A**  
 Europe: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **Gabry Iuliani, IT9RGY/4**  
 Asia: Doug Faunt, N6TQS. Won by: **Yuri Kotelnikov, RT9S**  
 Oceania: Doug Faunt, N6TQS. Won by: **Ozkan Ozal, TA7I**

#### SINGLE-OPERATOR QRP

World: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **Gendron Gerard, F5BEG**

#### SINGLE-OPERATOR SINGLE BAND

World 7 MHz: Steve Bookout, NR4M, and the "Goat Farm Gang". Won by: **Nicola Bughignoli, IZ4NIC**  
 World 14 MHz: Steve "Sid" Caesar, NH7C. Won by: **Olivier Droese, V37DX (Op. DH8BQA)**  
 World 14 MHz Low Power: Kenny Young, AB4GG. Won by: **Mohamed Kharbouche, 5C5W (Op. CN8KD)**  
 World 21 MHz: Wray Dudley, AB4SF. Won by: **E. Eugenio De Marino, CV7S (Op. CX7SS)**

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE-TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER

World: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **S52X (Op. S5ØXX, S52K, S52X, S55G, S55Y, S57AV, S57NA)**  
 North America: Mike Benjamin, W2GR. Won by: **NV9L (Op. NV9L, K9CS, N9TK, N9LAH, WB9Z)**

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TWO

World: Steve Bookout, NR4M, and the "Goat Farm Gang". Won by: **CR3DX (Op. CT3BD, CT3DZ, CT3EN, CT3KY, OM2KW, OM3RM, OM7LW)**  
 North America: Ed Muns, WØYK. Won by: **K9CT (Op. K9WX, AI9T, ND9G, K9CT, KT9L, N7US)**  
 Europe: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **DP9A (DG1HWM, DK1DSA, DK4WA, DL5YYM, DL8UAT, DL9NDV, DM5JBN)**

#### MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

World: Steve Bookout, NR4M, and the "Goat Farm Gang". Won by: **9A1A (9A5W, 9A9A, 9A6A, 9A7R, 9A7C, 9A8A, 9A3SMS, 9A5PL, 9A5AEU, 9A7ROR)**  
 North America: BeLoud.US. Won by: **NR4M, The "Goat Farm Gang" (Op. KS4Q, K5OF, NR4M, W4GO, K4GM, K3NC, N4DXS, KA4RRU, K3UI, N3ZV, N3AIU)**  
 Europe: FlexRadio Systems. Won by: **UB6B (R7AB, R7DA, RA6YDX, R6YP, R7TU, RU7A)**

#### CLUB COMPETITION

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

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America and 6<sup>th</sup> worldwide using the W4AAW Virginia station all remotely.

## Club Competition

**DX:** The Bavarian Contest Club dominated again this year with 81 logs for first place. Also repeating last year's 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish was the Ukrainian Contest Club with its 55 entries. Third place was the Slovenia Contest Club with 11 logs.

**USA:** Fourth place overall and repeat USA winner was the Potomac Valley Radio Club with 59 logs, followed by the Northern California Contest Club with 53 logs and 5<sup>th</sup> place overall. The Society of Midwest Contesters was close behind with 55 logs.

## Closing

A searchable database of the results from every CQ WPX RTTY Contest is available at <[www.cqwpxrty.com/scores.htm](http://www.cqwpxrty.com/scores.htm)>. The search criteria are very versatile, allowing one to see results and records for virtually any



The ED9E team was 2<sup>nd</sup> in Multi-Single Low Power.

## 2019 WPX RTTY CLUB SCORES

United States			DX		
Club	# Entrants	Score	Club	# Entrants	Score
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	59	35,242,211	BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB	81	83,265,012
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	53	31,408,821	UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	55	49,640,391
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	55	30,346,097	SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB	11	35,337,350
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	29	20,382,544	CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB	8	24,019,614
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	26	14,198,369	RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION	59	23,738,163
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	24	12,513,511	VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY RADIO CLUB	7	21,478,103
KANSAS CITY CONTEST CLUB	5	8,715,899	INTEREST GROUP RTTY	12	20,051,285
GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP	4	8,491,143	ITALIAN CONTEST CLUB	38	19,932,604
WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB	16	8,265,822	HA-DX-CLUB	7	18,604,897
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	14	8,257,567	CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	24	7,815,059
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	5	4,980,747	LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB	12	7,800,369
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN	22	4,119,693	RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB	10	6,321,454
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB	7	3,989,121	EA CONTEST CLUB	17	6,255,352
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	12	3,800,103	BELARUS CONTEST CLUB	7	5,081,232
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB	7	3,261,802	CONTEST CLUB FINLAND	10	4,183,118
CTRI CONTEST GROUP	6	3,252,121	SKY CONTEST CLUB	3	4,046,260
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	9	2,970,545	SOUTH URAL CONTEST CLUB	4	3,953,599
DFW CONTEST GROUP	9	2,952,873	ARAUCARIA DX GROUP	8	3,719,809
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION	7	2,923,323	CHILTERN DX CLUB	5	3,693,797
NIAGARA FRONTIER RADIOSPORT	8	2,308,865	ARIPA DX TEAM	4	3,527,761
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	17	1,818,148	ORCA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	10	3,391,461
ORDER OF BOILED OWLS OF NEW YORK	8	1,642,385	CONTEST CLUB SERBIA	7	3,337,574
SHENANDOAH VALLEY WIRELESS	4	1,271,062	RUSSIAN DIGITAL RADIO CLUB	15	2,940,697
NORTH COAST CONTESTERS	8	1,198,152	RIIHIMAEN KOLMOSET	3	2,866,862
BRISTOL (TN/VA) ARC	4	1,087,569	LA CONTEST CLUB	4	2,734,540
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB	11	979,503	RTTY CONTESTERS OF JAPAN	9	2,708,969
SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP	8	861,780	CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	7	2,697,690
METRO DX CLUB	4	819,657	YB LAND DX CLUB	42	2,685,038
NORTH CAROLINA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	3	775,661	KRIVBASS	4	2,588,940
NEW PROVIDENCE ARC	3	741,253	WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS	5	2,483,560
TEXAS DX SOCIETY	6	726,556	TRAC RADIO AMATEUR CLUB TRABZON BRANCH	5	2,097,701
SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	5	703,051	CATALONIA CONTEST CLUB	4	1,996,239
THE VILLAGES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	6	624,655	SK5AA VASTERAS RADIOKLUBB	3	1,535,765
SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION	7	611,383	SP DX CLUB	14	1,474,606
DEEP DIXIE CONTEST CLUB	3	574,414	YO DX CLUB	4	1,449,551
UTAH DX ASSOCIATION	3	409,240	CLIPPERTON DX CLUB	3	1,406,136
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DX/CONTEST CLUB	3	337,002	CE CONTEST GROUP	4	1,292,438
NE MARYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CONTEST SOCIETY	3	278,896	RIO DX GROUP	8	1,290,978
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSN	4	181,885	THRACIAN ROSE CLUB	5	1,264,593
MERIDEN ARC	3	158,008	GIPANIS CONTEST GROUP	5	1,090,945
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP	4	71,147	MEDITERRANEO DX CLUB	3	1,046,480
			VK CONTEST CLUB	3	914,816
			THAILAND DX ASSOCIATION	3	755,788
			SPALDING & DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	4	593,539
			LU CONTEST GROUP	7	539,294
			TORBAY ARS	4	504,405
			SK6AW HISINGENS RADIOKLUBB	4	452,613
			YB6_DXC	3	441,445
			SIAM DX GROUP	4	417,307
			SINGLE FIGHTER DX GROUP	8	330,038
			MARITIME CONTEST CLUB	3	315,094
			VU CONTEST GROUP	3	283,996
			ARCK	5	273,099
			NEWBURY AND DISTRICT ARS	5	239,775
			DANISH DX GROUP	3	231,576
			NORFOLK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	3	221,697
			599 CONTEST CLUB	5	201,729
			CDR GROUP	4	152,369
			CHILEAN PACIFIC DX GROUP	3	144,452
			RU-QRP CLUB	5	134,375
			LA-DX-GROUP	3	63,382



combination of category and geographic area in the world. It's a fine way to "level the playing field" and see how one's operating stacks up against other similar stations.

Log Check Reports (LCRs) can suggest ideas to improve operating accuracy. This valuable information is available upon request to <w0yk@cqwpxrtty.com>. As well, we now have capability to email each participant a link to his/her personal LCR. You can compare your log check statistics with the averages across all logs in this contest. This year's statistics are very close to last year. This may be due in part to improved log-checking algorithms:

- 1.1% busted (incorrect) received callsign
- 1.5% busted serial number received
- 1.6% NIL (Not In Log)
- 4.2% total error rate
- 9.2% score reduction (with penalties and lost mults, score reduction is higher than raw error rate)

Achieving a zero error rate may mean that too much time is being spent on accuracy. Speed and accuracy are a trade-off for optimal communication.

Certificates are available online for download and printing locally. The link for your certificate is on the far right of your score listing in the Scores Database at <www.cqwpxrtty.com/scores.htm>.

Sponsoring a plaque is an opportunity to give back and show appreciation for the contest. You can choose an unsponsored plaque in any category, whether listed or not at <www.cqwpxrtty.com/plaques.htm>. Contact <w0yk@cqwpxrtty.com> to sign up.

A number of volunteers work tirelessly in the background to bring contests to us. Ken, K1EA, and Randy, K5ZD, continue to improve and support the log checking and website software. KM3T, N5KO, and K5TR quietly manage the IT infrastructure behind the log submittal robots, log storage, and log-checking software. The WWROF (World Wide Radio Operators Foundation) provides financial support for the IT services required, among other support for contesting in general. All of us can help with our donations to WWROF, so please consider this way to give back to radiosport. Finally, thanks to Jason, KD2IWM, Managing Editor at *CQ Amateur Radio*, for his supportive editing work on these results.

The 26<sup>th</sup> CQ WPX RTTY Contest will be held on 8-9 February 2020. I look forward to seeing everyone again then!

(Scores on page 97)

### NEW! NEW! NEW!

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*Another year, another Dayton ... as usual, there was something for just about everyone at this year's Dayton Hamvention®, held once again at the Greene County Fairgrounds in nearby Xenia, Ohio. Here's a sampling of who and what we saw...*

## The Dayton Trifecta

*The Dayton Hamvention's Third Year at the Greene County Fairgrounds was Nearly Perfect*

**TEXT BY RICH MOSESON,\* W2VU**

**PHOTOS BY W2VU; JOE EISENBERG, KØNEB; BOB SCHENCK, N2OO; AND BOB HOPKINS, WB2UDC**

**I**t was Dayton, so there were thunderstorms — although fewer than usual — and mud, although less than usual. Overall, the weather was excellent, the food offerings were great, and — oh, yes — there was the hamfest, with new gear from major manufacturers, forums hosted by experts in

their fields, award dinners and, of course, the flea market! The Hamvention's third year at Xenia's Greene County Fairgrounds was, in our view, the best one yet.

Here's a pictorial sampling of what we saw, and what you might have missed (even if you were there). You'll find more about Hamvention — including more photos — in several of our columns in this issue.

*\* Editor, CQ <w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com>*

### The Flea Market

Once again, the old adage rang true ... if it exists, you can likely find it in the Dayton flea market. Most of what we saw even had a radio connection...



*This way to the bargains ... and other people's trash that might just become your treasures! (Flea market photos by W2VU)*



*It's a good thing he has side-view mirrors! If you were looking for restored Drake gear, this was the SUV to visit!*



*Clearly, KB1JEY was enjoying his time in the sun ... selling stuff would be a bonus!*



*With all due respect, this looks like a case of someone's wife saying, "It goes to the flea market or it goes in the trash ... and don't bring any of it back!"*



*Some vintage gear, on the other hand, looked very well cared-for.*



This was W2VU's flea market prize — a stack of Radio magazines from the 1930s. Radio was CQ's predecessor.



Maybe I'll sell some stuff. If not, I'll just sit here and play my music!



QRP kit-maker Rex Harper, W1REX (center) designed this LED light key (left) for Scout troops and enjoyed showing off his 19<sup>th</sup>-century telegraph lineman's portable key (right) for testing repaired lines.

## New Gear

Dayton has traditionally been a place and time for manufacturers to launch new models. Columnist Joe Eisenberg, KØNEB, wasn't chained to a booth, so he managed to get out and see some of the new goodies. Here's a sampling:



The new Icom IC-9700 triband VHF/UHF all-mode radio.



Named with a nod to the legendary FT-101 transceiver of the 1970s, Yaesu's new FTDX101D transceiver is a top-of-the-line software defined radio covering the HF bands plus 6 meters.



Elecraft debuted its new K4 SDR HF transceiver at Dayton.



The new MFJ RigPi Remote Station Controller produces a big display on the video screen from a very small and feature-filled box. Microcontrollers Editor K8ZT discussed the RigPi in his June column. It was designed by Howard Nurse, W6HN, son of former Heathkit President David Nurse, W8GCD (SK).



The new Yaesu FT3DR handheld offers 5 watts of analog FM or digital C4FM audio on 2 meters and 70 centimeters.

## People

Ham radio is a social hobby as well as a technical one, and one of the great parts of going to any hamfest is the chance to catch up with old friends and to make some new ones. All that is amplified at Dayton, with attendees coming from all over the world. We'll start our people photos at our "home away from home" for the weekend...



CQ Managing Editor Jason Feldman, KD2IWM, and Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, during a quiet moment at the CQ booth. (KØNEB photo)



Things were a bit busier when DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO, stopped by with his camera. Busy helping customers are (L-R) Editor W2VU; VHF-Plus Editor Tony Emanuele, K8ZR; and Ad Manager/Associate Publisher Dottie Kehrwieber. (N2OO photo)

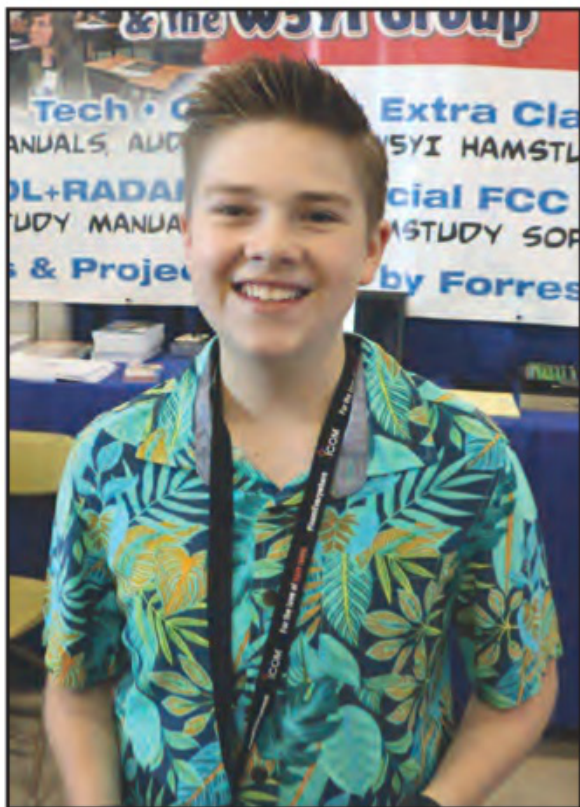


We had a visit from (and delightful chat with) veteran DXpeditioners Susan Meckley, W7KFI; Don Jones, K6ZO; and Steven Wilson, KA6S. Last November, Susan and Don operated the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest from Malawi as 7Q7M and 7Q6M, respectively. (W2VU photo)

Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, led a Friday afternoon forum on CQ's upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He had help from Microcontrollers Editor Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, and frequent author Bob Hopkins, WB2UDC, who also shot this photo.



"Ham Radio Roundtable" host Tom Medlin, W5KUB, and Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, launch one of several ham radio-equipped balloons released on a breezy Saturday. (KØNEB photo)



Actor Jet Jurgensmeyer, KEØUWZ, who plays “Boyd” on Fox TV’s “Last Man Standing” program, visited Hamvention from Hollywood, as did “Last Man Standing” Executive Producer John Amodeo, AA6JA (not pictured). (KØNEB photo)



The Youth Tech booth’s learn-to-solder program drew a steady stream of interested young people. (W2VU photo)



Marty Sullaway, NN1C (center), poses at the Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) booth with two leaders of the newly formed Young Amateurs Radio Club. YARC is planning to launch a U.S. version of Europe’s Youth Contesting Program during this month’s IARU HF Championship contest. (W2VU photo)



Keepin’ it legal ... Hamvention Chairman Jack Gerbs, WB8SCT; Greene County Sheriff Gene Fischer, KX8GCS, who became a ham after working with the Hamvention folks; and Hamvention official spokesman (among other things) Michael Kalter, W8CI. (KØNEB photo)

## Hamvention Awards Banquet

The Dayton Hamvention is the venue for a variety of award presentations, including CQ's DX and Contest Hall of Fame inductions (see article elsewhere in this issue as well as this month's DX and Contest columns), but the "star of the show" is the Hamvention's own very prestigious awards, which are presented each year at an invitation-only banquet. CQ was invited to attend and chronicle the event...



The Hamvention banquet was held for the first time this year at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs, Ohio, not far from Xenia. (Banquet photos by W2VU)



A lot of effort went into the very creative microphone centerpiece placed on each table.



The banquet was attended by a variety of "movers and shakers" in the ham radio world, in addition to Hamvention committee members and award recipients.





Dayton Amateur of the Year awardee Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF (center); flanked by his wife Rachel, W2RUF; and fellow New Jersey ham (and Nobel laureate) Joe Taylor, K1JT. Frissell was recognized for organizing the HamSci program, which encourages collaboration between radio amateurs and ionospheric scientists. In accepting his honor, Frissell said that “awards are not just a recognition of what you have done, but an affirmation of what you should continue doing.”



Dayton’s Technical Achievement Award this year went to telegraph key designer and manufacturer Pietro Begali, I2RTF. He is accompanied in this photo by Hamvention Awards Committee Chairman Frank Beafore, WS8B.



Dayton’s Club of the Year award this year went to New Hampshire’s Nashua Area Radio Society, which — among other achievements — holds seven licensing classes each year, has a 93% success rate on license exams and is responsible for 230 new or upgraded licenses in the past four years.



The Special Achievement Award for 2019 went to Chris Janssen, DL1MGB, in recognition of his work as chairman of the 2018 World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC2018) event last year in Germany.

**Postscript** – Barely a week after Hamvention ended, on the night of Memorial Day, a swarm of tornadoes swept through Dayton and surrounding areas, causing significant damage and, amazingly, only one death. One of the structures that was heavily damaged by one F3 tornado was Hamvention’s former home, Hara Arena in the Dayton suburb of Trotwood (see photo in this month’s Emergency Communications column). While the arena had been closed for the past three years and in a state of disrepair (even before it closed), those of us who had been there so many times in the past couldn’t help but look in awe at those photos, recognizing specific places that we’d been that felt the full force of the tornado. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Dayton and surrounding areas who suffered losses as a result of these tornadoes and/or flooding caused by the same weather system.

Announcing:

# 2019 CQ Hall of Fame Inductees

**CQ** magazine is pleased to announce its 2019 Hall of Fame inductees, including two new members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame (including one group), three inductees into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame and five new members of the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to amateur radio; *and* those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to amateur radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. This year, we are inducting five new members, bringing to 326 the total number of members inducted since the hall's establishment in 2001.

The 2019 inductees (listed alphabetically) are:

- **John Attaway, Sr., K4IIF (SK)**, served for more than 20 years as CQ's DX Editor, proposing the establishment of the CQ DX Hall of Fame in 1967. Professionally, John was a chemist who spent 26 years as Director of Scientific Research for the Florida Department of Citrus, where he worked to improve the quality of Florida orange juice. He served on several industry committees and was named to the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame in 2001.

- **Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ**, author of the DXLab software suite, which he makes available to the amateur community at no charge and without advertising. Dave also volunteered his time and talent over several years to help the ARRL resolve major issues with its Logbook of the World electronic confirmation service.

- **Doreen Bogdan-Martin, KD2JTX**, Director of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Telecommunication Development Bureau and the first woman ever to hold a senior elected position in the ITU.

- **Predescu Florin Cristian, YO9CNU**, founder of Europe's Youngsters On The Air (YOTA) program to encourage young people to become hams and be active on the air; and

- **Ellen White, W1YL**, the *grand dame* of DXing, served as the ARRL's Deputy Communications Manager, was QST magazine's DX editor, recorded QST on tape for the Library of Congress's talking book program for the visually-impaired, and was instrumental in the founding of Murphy's Marauders (the predecessor of today's Yankee Clipper Contest Club) and the Florida Contest Group. She was also recently awarded Russia's E.T. Krenkel Medal for outstanding global contributions to amateur radio.

## CQ DX and Contest and Halls of Fame

The CQ DX and Contest Halls of Fame honor those amateurs who not only excel in personal performance in these major areas of amateur radio but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways.

The **CQ DX Hall of Fame** was established in 1967 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and DXpeditioning. This year, we induct one individual and one group. The 2019 inductees are:

**Joe Taylor, K1JT** – Nobel Prize winning-astronomer who has revolutionized the face of DXing with his suite of



Joe Taylor, K1JT (left), is inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame by CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO. (Photo by Robert Pantazes, W2ARP)

WSJT weak-signal digital modes, including FT8, which is capable of decoding signals well below the noise level. The modes pioneered by Joe have kept the HF bands busy and the DXers active even during the current solar minimum. Other WSJT modes have also revolutionized VHF/UHF DXing via moonbounce and meteor scatter. Taylor shared the 1993 Nobel Prize in physics for the discovery of binary pulsars and is a member of the inaugural (2001) "class" of inductees to the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

**Silvano Borsa, I2YSB, and the Italian DXpedition Team** – The Italian DXpedition Team has made more than 20 major DXpeditions in the past 20 years, mostly to Africa, where its members have activated more than a dozen rare countries,



John Miller, K6MM (left), accepts the DX Hall of Fame plaque on behalf of Silvano Borsa, I2YSB, and the Italian DXpedition Team. (Photo by Robert Pantazes, W2ARP)

making nearly 1.4 million QSOs along the way. In addition, the team has arranged for the donation and delivery of two ambulances from Italy to Somalia, one of the many countries it has activated.

In addition to team leader Silvano Borsa, I2YSB, the Italian DXpedition Team members include: Alfeo Caputo, I1HJT; Vincio Ravizza, IK2CIO; Angelo Selva, IK2CKR; Marcello Cassinelli, IK2DIA; Stefano Casari, IK2HKT; Angelo Gino Zambaiti, IK2RZP; and Mac Shimamoto, JA3USA.

The **CQ Contest Hall of Fame** was established in 1986 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to the art of radio contesting. The 2019 inductees are:

**Bruce Horn, WA7BNM** – provides a great service to the contesting community via web-based resources for many popular contests. He maintains the most comprehensive contest calendar on the web, and he developed the popular

<3830Scores.com> website where contesters go to post raw scores after an event ends, to compare notes and search past contest logs. He is also past manager of the North American QSO Party and developed the log submission apps on the *National Contest Journal* website.

**Dean Straw, N6BV** – is an outstanding contesteer, a talented writer, editor, presenter and educator, and has advanced the state of the art in antennas, computer modeling, propagation, and contest planning and preparation. As an ARRL staff member for 15 years, he edited multiple editions of *The ARRL Antenna Book* and several other publications. He also developed the High Frequency Terrain Analysis (HFTA) software, which revolutionized antenna system planning by linking antenna design, installation height, tower location, surrounding terrain, and the expected angles of propagation to target regions. His work with the propagation prediction program VOACAP revolutionized the way we plan for contests, allowing specific band opening predictions dependent on solar conditions to indicate when band changes and operations should be planned.



CQ Contest Editor David Siddall, K3ZJ (left), presents CQ Contest Hall of Fame plaque to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM (center), May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at the Contest Dinner in Dayton, Ohio. Bruce was introduced by fellow CQ Contest Hall of Famer Dick Norton, N6AA (right). (Photo by Bob Wilson, N6TV)



David Siddall, K3ZJ, presents CQ Contest Hall of Fame plaque for Kresimir (Chris) Kovarik, 9A5K (SK), to Chris's friend, Krassy Petkov, K1LZ. (Photo by Bob Wilson, N6TV)



John Miller, K6MM (right), accepts CQ Contest Hall of Fame plaque on behalf of Dean Straw, N6BV (not present), as introduced by CQ World Wide DX Contest Director John Dorr, K1AR. (Photo by Bob Wilson, N6TV)

**Kresimir "Chris" Kovarik, 9A5K (SK)** – developed the DXLog and KLog programs, competed in the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) and served the broader amateur radio community in Europe as past president of the Croatian Amateur Radio Association and as vice-chairman of the IARU Region 1 HF Committee. He became a Silent Key earlier this year.

Formal inductions to the CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame were conducted in conjunction with the Dayton Hamvention® in May. DX Hall of Fame inductions were conducted at the Dayton DX Dinner by CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO. Contest Hall of Fame presentations were made at the Dayton Contest Dinner by CQ Contest Editor Dave Siddall, K3ZJ. A video of the 9A5K Contest Hall of Fame induction shot by Marty Sullaway, NN1C, is on YouTube at <<http://nn1c.org/9A5K>>. Bob Wilson, N6TV (a 2017 Contest Hall of Fame inductee), shot a video of the N6BV presentation, which is at <<https://youtu.be/jXZ7qWgBzVw>>.

Our thanks to all and congratulations to the inductees!

**Announcing:**

# 2019 CQWW DX RTTY Contest

September 28-29

Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; Ends 2359 UTC Sunday

*Join more than 6,000 participants from over 150 DX entities and all 40 CQ Zones in the world's largest RTTY contest.*

**T**he CQ World Wide DX RTTY Contest (CQWW RTTY) offers 48 hours of non-stop DX chasing fun. Whether you are competing for awards, looking for a few new band-countries, or simply filling the logbook, the CQWW has something for everyone. Check out the Classic and Rookie Overlay Categories.

## Contest Basics

Working stations is easy. Exchange and log signal report and your CQ Zone number, e.g 599 14. Continental U.S. and VE stations also send QTH, e.g., 599 05 MA. If you're not sure which zone you're in, visit <<http://bit.ly/1BHtmsP>>. Generally speaking, the U.S. West Coast is in Zone 3, the East Coast is in Zone 5, and the rest of the lower 48 is in Zone 4.

Contacts are only valid on the 3.5-, 7-, 14-, 21-, and 28-MHz amateur bands. Please observe established band plans.

## Scoring

Final score is based on QSO points earned for each contact times the number of multipliers worked.

Multipliers are the number of DX entities worked on each band plus the number of CQ Zones worked on each band plus the number of US/VE QTHs worked on each band.

Contacts with other continents count three points each. Contacts with the same continent, but different country, count two points. Same country contacts count one point.

Don't worry about calculating your score; the contest log checking software will do that for you when you submit a log.

## Entry Categories

The competition is divided into Single Operator and Multi-Operator categories. Single Operator categories also offer two additional Overlay categories.

**Single Operator (all bands or any single band):** only the one operator finds, makes, and logs all contacts.

- High power: Up to 1,500 watts
- Low power: 100 watts or less
- QRP: 5 watts or less

**Single Operator Assisted (all bands or any single band):** the one operator may use the DX Cluster or other tools to help find contacts. The one operator must make and log all contacts.

**Classic Overlay:** Allows the use of only one radio, no QSO finding assistance, and only counts the first 24 hours of operating time — off times are a minimum of 60 minutes during which no QSO is logged. Single Operator Assisted entries are not eligible for this Overlay category.

**Rookie Overlay:** Only open to operators who were first licensed as radio amateurs less than three (3) years before the date of the contest. Indicate date licensed in the soap-box field of your log.

**Multi-Operator:** More than one person is involved in operating the station.

**Single-Transmitter:** This category allows one transmitter to work any station. It may change bands as many as 8 times per hour. Note: A second transmitter may be used to work multipliers only. This category has some very specific restrictions so please read the full rules carefully.

- High power: Up to 1,500 watts
- Low power: 100 watts or less

**Two-Transmitter:** Allows the use of two transmitted signals on two bands. Each station may change bands as many as 8 times per hour.

**Unlimited:** Allows the use of one transmitted signal on each of the five bands.

## Awards

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

## Submitting Your Log

All entrants who use a computer to log the contest or prepare their contest logs **MUST** submit their logs electronically. Electronic logs should be in the Cabrillo format. Upload your log on the Web at <[www.cqww.com/logcheck/](http://www.cqww.com/logcheck/)>. The website also includes a utility to convert your ADIF format log file if needed. See full rules for instructions regarding paper logs.

All entries must be sent **WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS** after the end of the contest: No later than 2359 UTC **October 4, 2019**. Resubmitting an entry after the deadline will result in it being considered as a late log.

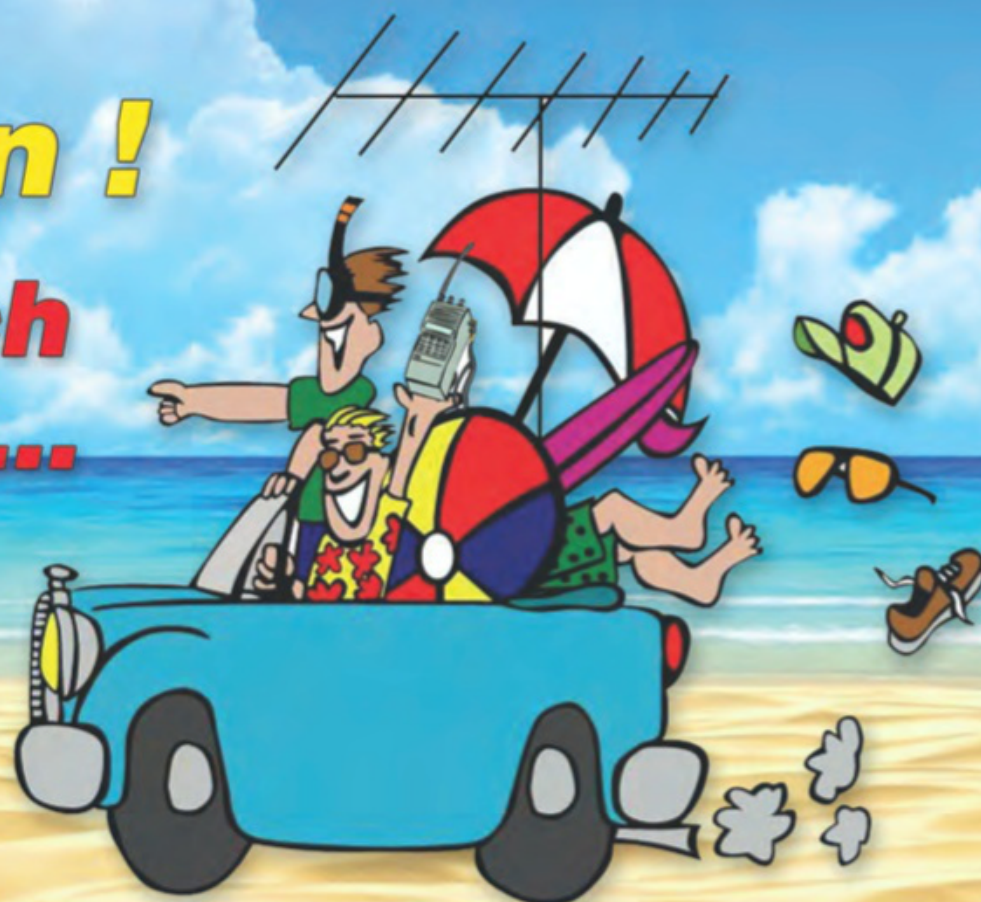
Only one entry is permitted for each callsign. Any log submission will replace any previous submissions.

## Full Rules

The complete rules of the CQWW RTTY DX Contest are available in different languages on the Web at <[www.cqwwrtty.com/rules.htm](http://www.cqwwrtty.com/rules.htm)> and in English only on the CQ magazine website at <[www.cq-amateur-radio.com](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)> (Look for link on home page or the CQWW RTTY DX Contest main page). Please review the rules before the contest. Questions may be submitted by email to <[questions@cqwwrtty.com](mailto:questions@cqwwrtty.com)>.

# Fun in the Sun!

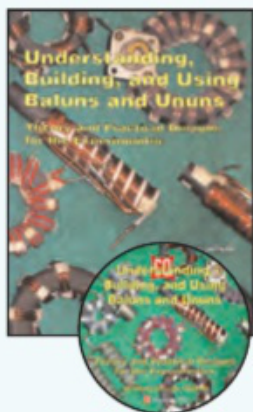
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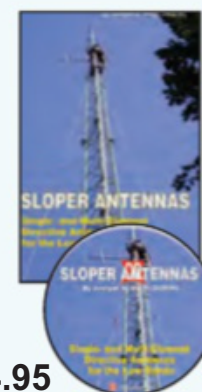
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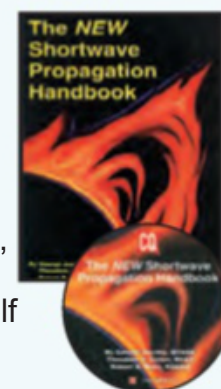


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*Did you ever have a contact that just didn't make sense from a typical propagation perspective? If you've spent enough time on the air, chances are good that your answer is yes. W2IY shares one of his unusual propagation experiences and would like to hear about yours as well.*

## An Odd HF Propagation Experience

**BY MICHAEL TORTORELLA,\* W2IY**

**I**t was a dark and stormy night in Downeast Maine. Well, dark. Stormy, not so much, this time. If you read my brief story in June 2016 CQ,<sup>1</sup> you may recall that a vacation in Southwest Harbor, Maine, is a summer tradition for my family. While there, I set up a portable station to enjoy some ham radio while away from home. This story concerns some interesting propagation oddities on HF that I experienced during my stay in Maine two years ago, in July 2017.

If you don't have access to the original article, here is a brief summary of the station setup. The transceiver is a TenTec Eagle running 100 watts and the antenna is a Mini-Products C-4 vertical dipole. This antenna is quite short, only about 10 feet in overall height, fed in the center (so no radials), and *very* heavily loaded at top and bottom (*Photo A*). The transceiver is controlled by a Windows 7 laptop running DXLab for day-to-day operation and N1MM Logger+ for contests. Both the IARU and IOTA contests occur during our stay and I enjoy operating in both, even though the station is far from competitive.

### A Quiet Band (or Not)

This story is not about a contest, though. If you have been on HF at all in the past year or two you know that propagation is pretty poor for DX on 20 and 15 meters, and essentially nonexistent for DX on 10 meters. I want to share with you my experience with what looks like a bit of anomalous propagation. Here's the background: I am listening on the CW portion of 20 meters at about 0200-0300 UTC, about 10 to 11 p.m. local time in Maine. As you would expect, the band is dead. But not quite! There are two or three very strong DX signals thundering in at over S-9, from UA9/UAØ, UA1, and OH. There is nothing to be heard on frequencies between these three stations. Quiet. Dead quiet. But three huge DX signals, all workable easily with my 100 watts and C-4 vertical. This persists for perhaps 10 minutes or so, after which either the signals fade, the band goes completely dead and nothing is heard, or a different set of very strong, discrete signals appears.

I related this experience to CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, who told me it reminded him of some 6-meter openings he'd experienced in the early 2000s, at the peak of solar cycle 23. He recalled them being called "spotlight openings" that appear between two very specific parts of the world, with very strong signals that are inaudible to anyone else who is outside of that path. This seems like an apt term for what I experienced on 20 meters, as described above. I was not



*Photo A. W2IY's portable antenna used on his annual vacations to coastal Maine. (Photo by Andrea G. Blum)*

\* [w2iy@verizon.net](mailto:w2iy@verizon.net)

able to tell whether anyone else on the band was hearing the stations I was hearing, but I feel reasonably certain that there must have been other stations (geographically) near the ones I was hearing, and I was not able to hear them at all. In other words, it's hard to imagine that the only station that was on the air from where the UA9 was located was the one I was hearing. It was late afternoon at that location when I experienced this; it seems unlikely that no one else from there was on the air at that time. All this points to a very narrow opening to a very small geographic area.

This has happened to me more than once, and other friends have indicated to me that they have also experienced this phenomenon. So I think it may not be terribly unusual, and it would be interesting to figure out what is causing this. If you accept the standard ionospheric reflection model, the MUF (maximum usable frequency) at these times is way below 14 MHz and nothing should be reflected off the ionosphere at this high a frequency. However, the ionosphere is not uniform: Levels of ionization may differ from place to place. With my professional background in probability and statistics, I began to

think of explanations like: Some small clouds of higher ionization appear at random places and times, allowing propagation between me and other very specific, discrete locations. The clouds soon dissipate and the strong signals disappear. The clouds would have to be fairly small (because otherwise more propagation to a wider geographic area would be apparent) and form and dissipate quickly (otherwise the resulting propagation would persist for a longer time). However, I don't have enough physics knowledge to speculate about where such cloud(s) might be coming from or how they might arise.

### Do You Have a Similar Story?

I have asked a couple of our local propagation gurus about this and have not yet been able to stimulate any interest. I think it would be interesting to hear whether others have experienced this phenomenon, where they are located, what time(s) and frequencies it was noted, and other related information. An interesting study could be developed to help learn more about propagation in times of zero to very few sunspots, and perhaps flesh out a richer picture of how the ionosphere works. (*We've checked*

*in with a couple of our own propagation gurus — through emails and previously published articles — and they've got a few ideas. See the sidebar. — ed.)*

So if you have seen this in your operations, please send me some information: Your call, the date, UTC time, and frequency of the contact, your QSO partner's call, whether your antenna is horizontal or vertical (to try to get a sense of what your takeoff angle might be), your output power, and the great circle distance from you to your QSO partner. With enough data we may be able to draw some pictures similar to the maps of VHF sporadic-E openings. With some reasonable assumptions, we might then be able to guess at where a reflecting ion cloud might hover, and this might allow us to assess how plausible is this as a reasonable explanation for what we are seeing (hearing). If enough responses are received, I will analyze them to see what we might learn from the phenomenon and report back here. Thanks in advance for your efforts and interest.

### REFERENCES

1. M. Tortorella, "Weekend at IOTA's," CQ, June 2016, pp. 13-15.

## Our Propagation Experts: It's Probably a Duct ... or Sporadic-E ... Maybe Both

Brief, narrowly-defined band openings have been described in CQ before, but mostly in relation to 160-meter propagation. In the December 2005 issue, Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, wrote an article titled "Ducting and Spotlight Propagation on 160 Meters." He defined spotlight propagation as "a small geographic area that is favored with good propagation at any given time," adding that "Oler and Cohen suggested that spotlight propagation is simply the unpredictable result of coming out of a duct. I agree wholeheartedly with this, and I further believe that irregularities in the ionosphere are generally the cause."

Carl was referring to a two-part CQ article by Cary Oler and Ted Cohen, N4XX, titled "The 160-Meter Band: An Enigma Shrouded in a Mystery," that appeared in the March and April 1998 issues. We asked N4XX about Michael's experience, and he replied, in part...

"Perhaps the MUF — the *real* MUF on the path of interest (better, the HPF, or *highest possible frequency*) happened to pop up on those paths, yielding the opening. Remember, what we call the MUF really is a median value. This could result in "spotlight" propagation if the HPF just happened to be between the stations mentioned. What the MUF was on any particular day really is not that important here ... it's just a statistical number and may or may not be relevant at any specific point in time.

"Regardless, we're talking signals over the North Pole, and it would be interesting to know what the levels of solar and geomagnetic activity were at the time. I suspect we're dealing with some kind of sporadic-E propagation here ... in, out, gone in a flash, with humongous signals for a short period of time. I used to love watching for sporadic-E openings on VHF

TV when I lived in Milwaukee ... infrequently caught stations up to 600 miles away with perfect pictures and sound for up to 10 minutes ... only to have them take a deep dive and disappear, never again to be seen. Glorious stuff."

*W2VU's two cents:* While ducting is normally associated with MF bands, such as 160 meters, and with VHF/UHF bands, it only makes sense that the phenomenon also occurs in between those two ranges on the HF bands, except that we often don't recognize it because we *expect* long-distance QSOs on HF. Likewise, while sporadic-E is usually associated with the 28-MHz and higher frequency bands, it very likely occurs on the middle HF bands as well, but again, isn't recognized as such unless it results in out-of-the-ordinary propagation. One other possibility to consider is a combination of these modes. It was a July morning in OH and UA1 and late afternoon in UA9/UAØ when W2IY heard these signals, prime time for summertime sporadic-E. It's possible that he was at one end of a duct whose other end was at the midpoint of sporadic-E openings in Europe and Asia to both the east and west. The signals were very strong as long as the conditions were optimal, but dropped out when either the sporadic-E openings ended or the duct closed or moved.

One of the wonderful things about ham radio is the opportunities we have to conduct citizen science by gathering data on unusual propagation that can then be analyzed by propagation scientists. If you have had similar experiences, please send your data to W2IY, who will collect it and see if there is enough *there* there to pass along for additional research and analysis.

Most commercial radios today have excellent audio filtering on both receive and transmit. But sometimes you might want to build a customized filter, either for use with a bare-bones rig, to make up for less-than-stellar mics or speakers, or just to impress your friends! WB9YBM draws us a map.

## Active Audio Filter Design

BY KLAUS SPIES,\* WB9YBM

The standard L-C filter design, a longtime staple in RF and audio applications, is a time-proven technique in both high-, low-, and band-pass applications. L-C filters, whose characteristics are determined by varying combinations of inductance (L) and capacitance (C) — are very capable in handling the power and higher frequencies coming out of a transmitter when reducing harmonics to desired levels. Especially with high-Q components, there is minimal degradation in output power levels.

In low-power audio applications, however, even minimal loss of signal can become an issue. For such applications, therefore, a different approach needs to be considered. Initially, amplification can be added between stages of a passive L-C filter, but a bit more research will show that an amplifier can be configured to act as both an amplifier *and* a filter. This is typically referred to as an *active audio filter*.

Several different approaches come to mind, the first being a simple transistor amplifier. While this is certainly an option, the average home-brewer is not inclined to do design work on two fronts: First to choose the appropriate transistor amplifier, then modify that research to include filtering. To make project work easier, a simpler approach would be useful. Enter the ubiquitous 741 op-amp (operational amplifier). This common op-amp is a time-proven device that's cost effective, easily obtained, and easy to work with.

Armed with these preliminary criteria, we've narrowed our focus to allow for an easier grasp of what needs to be done. There is a plethora of reference resources available to the hobbyist: My objective here is to filter through all of those options and pull them together into one easy resource for active audio filter design. This includes notes on considerations I've discovered while designing and building several such filters for both work and home applications.

### How Much is Your Butter Worth?

The two most common filter types are the Butterworth and Chebyshev response. Both are built with the same components and have similar circuit design characteristics, as shown in the schematics (Figures 1-3). The difference between the two response types is that the Chebyshev design has a steeper roll-off than the Butterworth response. The other difference is that the Butterworth has a flat gain response before (or after) the roll-off ("before" in the case of low-pass, and "after" in the case of high-pass), while the Chebyshev response has a 0.5-dB ripple.

The schematics in Figures 1 and 2 each show a two-stage, or "second-order" filter. Since a second-order filter can be as easily built (i.e., with as little loss) as a first-order filter, a second-order filter provides the "best bang for the buck." These

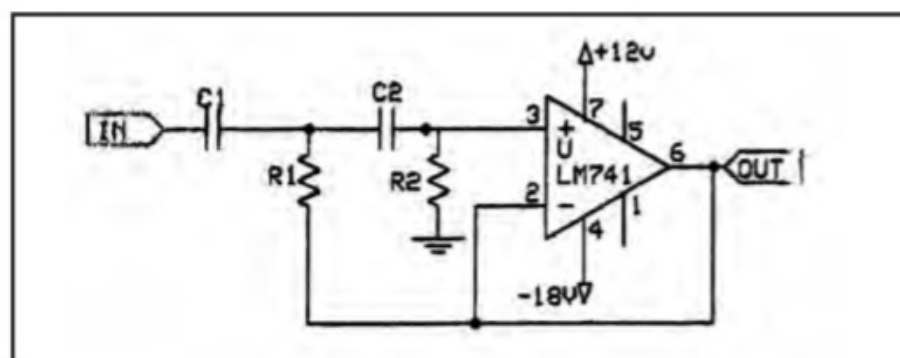


Figure 1. Second-order high-pass filter

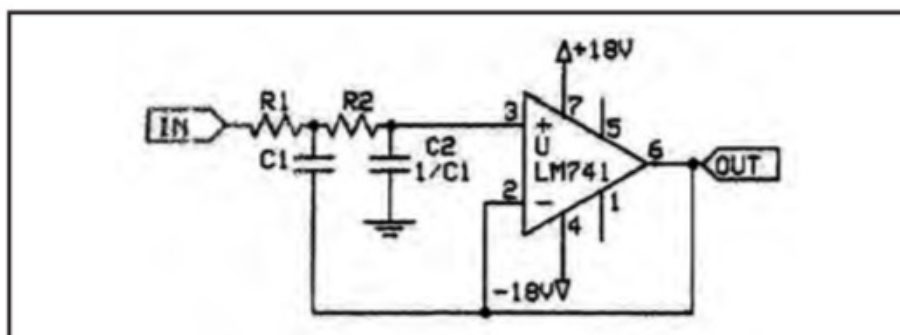


Figure 2. Second-order low-pass filter

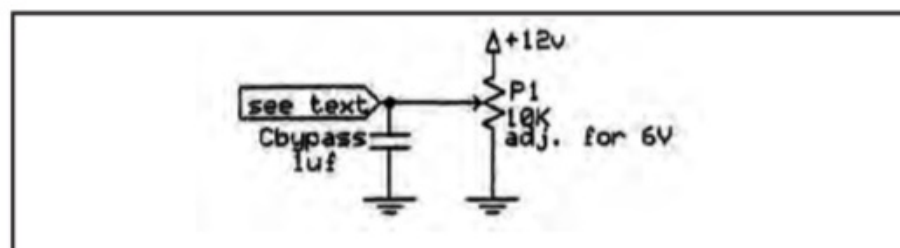


Figure 3. Modifications needed for single-supply circuits

two-stage filters can be chained together to form fourth-, sixth-, eighth- (and so on) order filters.

To convert a high-pass filter as seen in Figure 1 into a low-pass filter as shown in Figure 2, the position of the capacitors and resistors are simply swapped.

The schematics also show the wiring typical to split-supply operation used with op-amps. To power these filters to something in more typical use in the hamshack, remove the side of all components going to ground and connect to the wiper arm of P1 (see Figure 3). Also remove the negative supply to the op-amps (pin 4) and connect that to ground. (I've found the filters operate equally well in either configuration).

### Determining Values for Your Needs

To begin calculating the 3-dB roll-off point of the filter (called " $W_0$ ") use the formula  $W_0 = 2\pi f$  where  $f$  = frequency of choice

\* email: <wb9ybm1@yahoo.com>

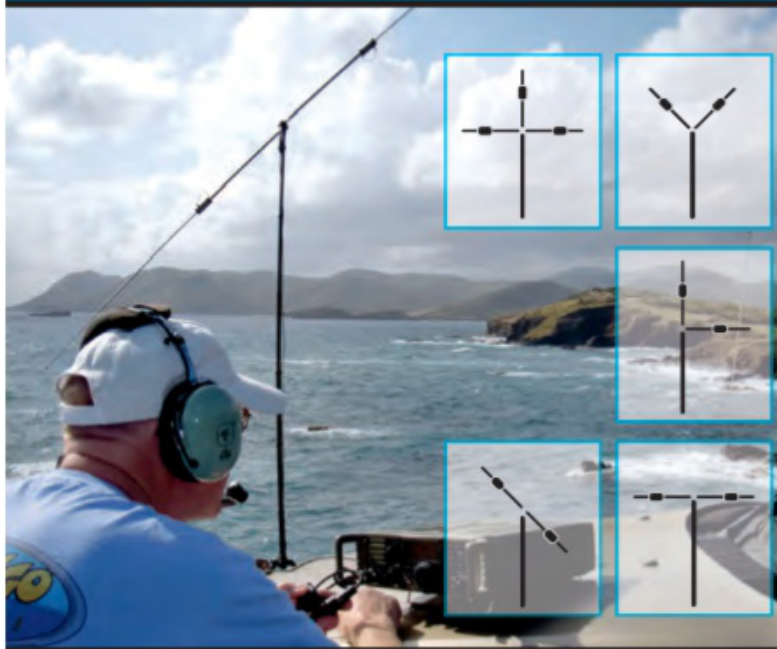




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Table 1. Normalized Capacitance Values, Butterworth Response

N	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	C11	C12	C13	C14	C15	C16
1	1.000															
2	1.420	0.704														
3	1.000	1.000	1.000													
4	1.080	0.926	2.620	0.381												
5	1.000	1.240	0.806	3.240	0.309											
6	1.040	0.962	1.420	0.704	3.860	0.259										
7	1.000	1.100	0.909	1.600	0.625	4.480	0.223									
8	1.020	0.980	1.200	0.830	1.800	0.550	5.120	0.195								
9	1.000	1.060	0.940	1.300	0.769	1.000	1.000	5.760	0.174							
10	1.020	0.980	1.120	0.893	1.420	0.704	2.200	0.454	6.400	0.156						
11	1.000	1.104	0.906	1.300	0.769	1.520	0.658	2.400	0.417	7.020	0.142					
12	1.000	1.000	1.080	0.926	1.260	0.794	1.640	0.609	2.620	0.382	7.660	0.130				
13	1.000	1.020	0.980	1.120	0.893	1.340	0.746	1.760	0.568	2.820	0.355	8.300	0.120			
14	1.000	1.000	1.060	0.943	1.180	0.847	1.420	0.704	1.880	0.532	3.020	0.331	8.940	0.112		
15	1.000	1.020	0.980	1.100	0.909	1.240	0.806	1.500	0.666	1.000	1.000	3.240	0.309	9.560	0.105	
16	1.000	1.000	1.040	0.962	1.140	0.877	1.300	0.769	1.580	0.633	2.120	0.472	3.440	0.291	10.200	0.980

in Hertz.  $W_O$  is expressed in radians since the filters have poles that can be charted on an X-Y graph.

To calculate the capacitance values of low-pass filters, assume each resistor to be 10K in value (final values will be scaled later after preliminary calculations are completed), using the fol-

lowing formula:  $C = C_n / W_O R$  where  $C_n$  is chosen from the normalized capacitance values in either *Table 1* (for Butterworth response) or *Table 2* (for Chebyshev response), and  $W_O$  is determined by the previously discussed formula. After a bit of practice, it will be easy to develop a "feel" for which start-

ing values of resistors will provide reasonable capacitance values based upon values (standard sizes) available.

One cautionary note about resistor values: While resistances of 10K or less may be viable results on paper (through calculations), actual operation has proven that those values (10K and less)

are typically too low to let the circuit function properly. Under those conditions, the roll-off response can be off by a factor of anywhere from 10 to 100.

For high-pass filters, the same tables apply and the following formulas are used:

- Normalized resistance values ( $R_n$ ) are calculated as  $R_n = 1 / C_n$ ;
- To calculate resistor values from normalized resistance values,  $R = R_n Z$ ;
- $Z$  is calculated with the formula used for normalized capacitance values,  $Z = C_n / CW_0$  except that in this case we substitute " $R_n$ " for " $C_n$ " and " $R$ " for " $C$ ".

The following formulas are utilized for scaling normalized values to new values:

$$C_{new} = C_{old} / K_m K_f \text{ where}$$

$$R_{new} = K_m R_{old}, K_m = \text{normalized resistance value and } K_f = 2\pi f C.$$

### Now You Can Roll Your Own

At this point, we should have enough information to calculate high- and low-pass filters for most standard audio applications. While much of this has been done for us by the engineers who initially designed our transmitters and receivers for optimum operation (i.e., a


**Table 2. Normalized Capacitance Values, Chebyshev Response, 0.5dB ripple**

N	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10
1	1.000									
2	1.720	0.581								
3	1.000	3.420	0.292							
4	1.420	0.704	5.880	0.170						
5	1.000	2.360	0.424	9.080	0.110					
6	1.360	0.735	3.620	0.276	13.020	0.077				
7	1.000	2.180	0.459	5.160	0.194	17.680	0.057			
8	1.360	0.735	3.220	0.310	6.940	0.144	23.060	0.043		
9	1.000	2.120	0.472	4.420	0.226	8.960	0.112	29.160	0.034	
10	1.340	0.746	3.060	3.260	5.780	0.173	11.220	0.890	35.980	0.02728

balance of reasonable audio quality versus the limitations imposed by maximum allowable bandwidth), there are still situations in which we might want to "tweak" the quality of our transmitted audio due to such things as a less-than-perfect microphone, or our received audio because of poor audio reproduction of those teeny-tiny hand-held speakers, or even in repeaters (especially split-site repeaters) with their extensive audio pre-processing. Or maybe you'd just like to impress visitors to your hamshack with studio quality received audio.


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# MATH'S NOTES

BY IRWIN MATH,\* WA2NDM

## Multicolor LEDs

It is well-known fact that the primary colors we all know (red, blue, and green) can be mixed to essentially create all colors. For example, red + blue = magenta, red + green = yellow, and green + blue = cyan. If all of them are mixed together, we get white and obviously, if we do not use any, we get black<sup>1</sup>. This fact is used in electronic displays of all types and many types of printed pictures. A simple magnifying glass or jeweler's loupe will clearly show this — just look at your computer monitor with one. With this in mind, we thought that perhaps we could do this with separate LEDs. In looking at the internet we found that several articles on the subject had been written and, since it is easy to experiment with this, we thought it might be of interest to our readers.

Figure 1 is a schematic of a simple experimental test setup we came up with. It consists of a regulated 5-volt power supply; three 100-ohm, 5-watt, wire-wound potentiometers; three fixed 50-ohm resistors; as well as red, blue, and green LEDs; and a common closed circuit phone jack, the purpose of which we will explain later. The potentiometers are used to vary the current to the independent LEDs while the resistors protect the LEDs against full voltage, which can destroy them. By the way, these values can (and should) be varied to use whatever you may have on hand, as they are not critical. The main point when doing this investigation is to assure that you will not exceed the maximum current rating of the LEDs you use. This can be calculated by the following formula:

$$R = (5 - V)/I$$

where

$V$  = the forward voltage drop of the LED used and

$I$  = the maximum allowable current.

Keep in mind that various LEDs will have different forward voltage drops so be sure to do the math for each one you plan to experiment with and look at the appropriate data sheet for the specific devices you use.

\*c/o CQ magazine

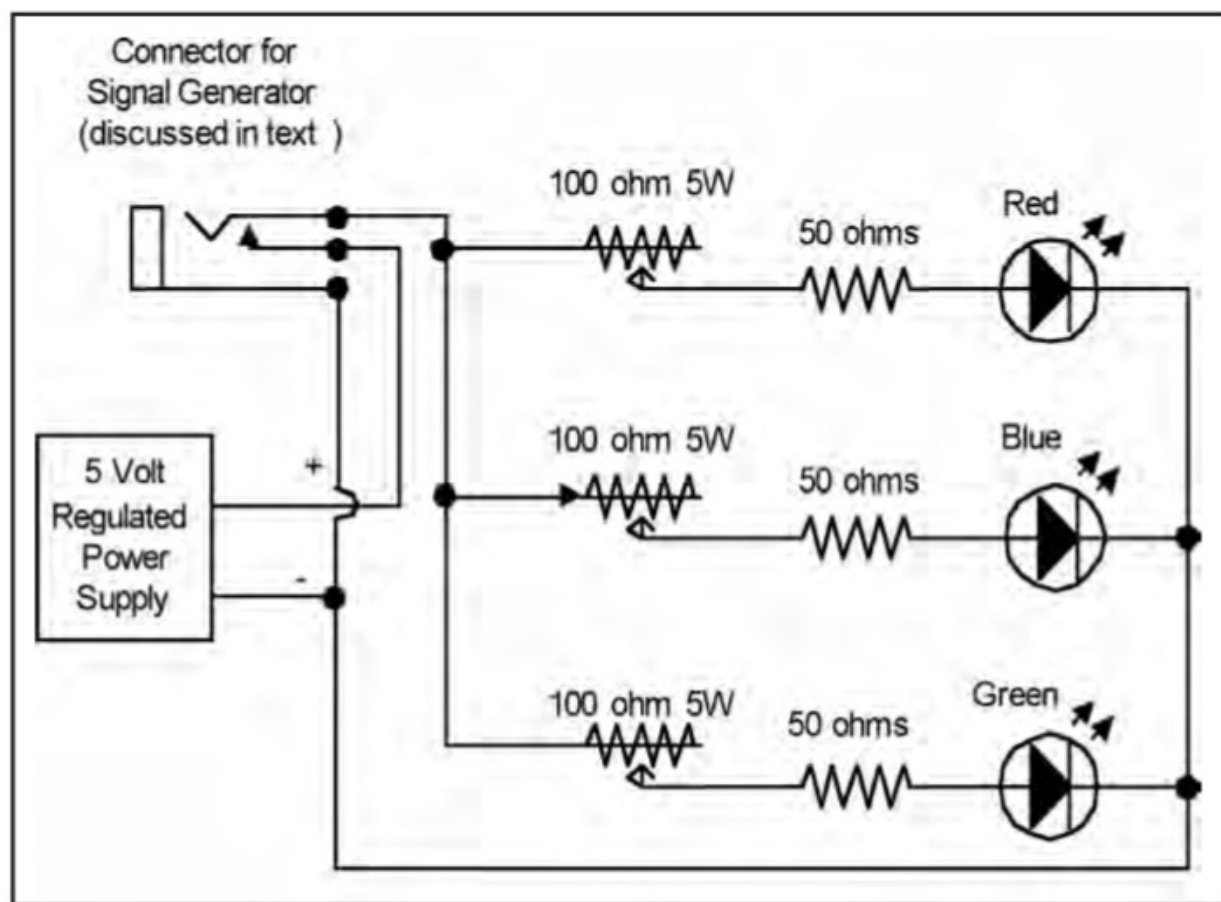


Figure 1.

Use the closest standard values you have (or can obtain) and make sure that the power supply you use can provide at least 1/2 amp to cover all of the requirements (resistors and LEDs) as well as to assure that the voltage will remain steady regardless of the various currents. The choice of the actual LEDs is up to you, but if you consult the catalogs of most electronic supply companies, you will find a very wide range in the primary color outputs. In fact, you will also see that LEDs are available with colors slightly above or below their ideal color and these are worth experimenting with as well.

To get the full effect, it is important to group the LEDs as close together as possible. If you purchase leaded LEDs, they will be easier to work with and can be mounted in a simple piece of wood or metal so that the device housings are touching each other. In fact, the closer they are to each other, the better the

results will be. In your monitor screen, tiny surface-mount devices are used and they are so close that your eye just sees them as single points. Note that only red, blue, or green LEDs are used.

When you look at Figure 1, you will also see the closed-circuit phone jack type connector we mentioned earlier. This is used if you want to use pulses to control LED duty cycles or pulse rates for further experimentation. With this circuit, you will require 5-volt pulses with enough current to light the LEDs. Many signal generators that can provide higher current TTL pulses can be used for this phase of the investigation, or you can design your own pulse generators. Keep in mind that the circuit is only a starting point. Using Figure 1 as a starting point and your imagination, you can easily design other test circuits to experiment with individual LED pulsing, etc. It is up to you.

— 73, Irwin, WA2NDM

### Notes:

1. These are the primary colors and color mixes of light and electronics, including television. But they are different from the primary colors of pigments that you may remember learning about in art class — those primary colors are red, yellow, and blue, with all three mixing to form black, and white being the absence of all color. In the printing world, all different colors may be created by mixing four primary colors: cyan, magenta, yellow, and black.

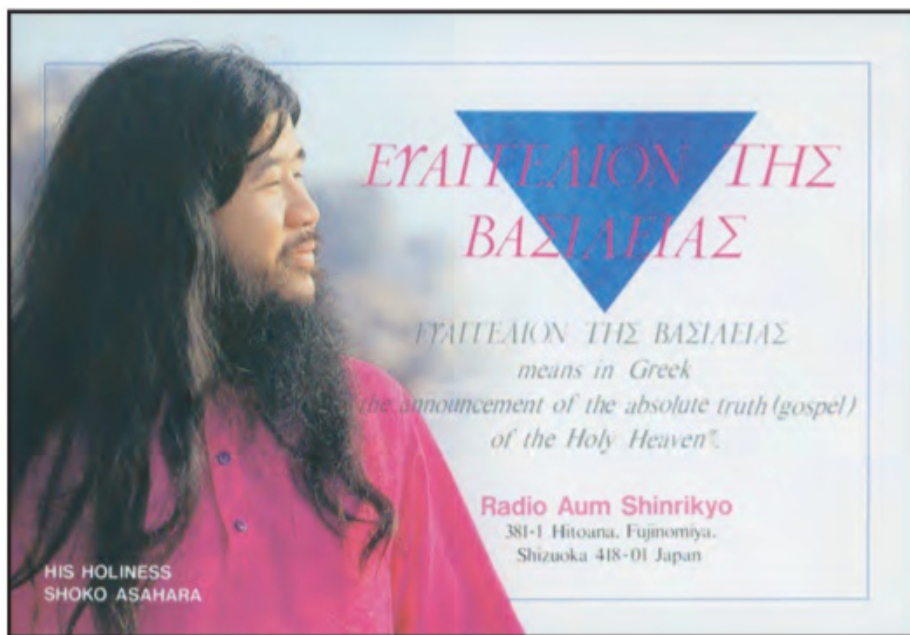
# THE LISTENING POST

BY GERRY DEXTER

## Big Changes Coming to U.S. Shortwave, But Not in A Good Way

~ Once again, the geniuses at the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) in Washington D.C. are playing around with the country's international shortwave voices. The USAGM's Greenville, North Carolina site's transmitters, used mostly for Radio Marti, are to be replaced as the current units are nearly worn out. The new units are said to be more efficient and less expensive to operate. The Voice of America (VOA) will cut back on the use of English and make serious reduc-

*\*c/o CQ magazine*



A QSL from Japanese broadcaster Radio Aum Shinrikyo, 15485 kHz. The leader, Shoko Asahara, was responsible for the 1995 Sarin gas attack on a Japanese subway. The attack killed 13 and injured many others. Asahara and six other cult members were executed for the attack.



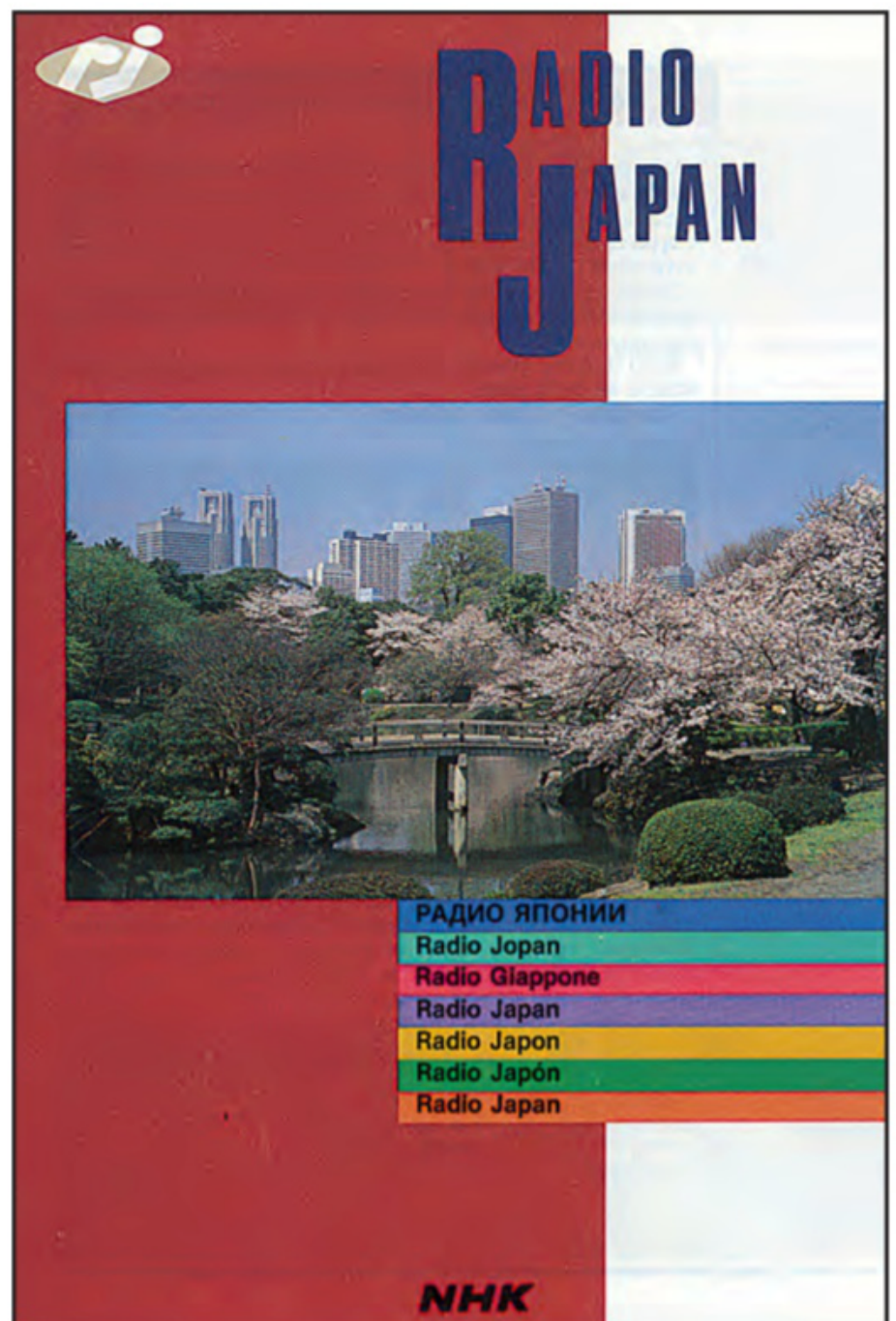
A far better and way more innocent "cult" gathered in Lake Geneva (WI) a few years ago. From left to right were GLD, Bill Dvorak (WI), Tim Noonan (WI), Mark Taylor (WI), and Tom Gavaras, (MN).

tions in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Russian; and the VOA service to Afghanistan will be limited only to TV.

Further, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty will eliminate Radio Marshaal and reduce broadcasts in Pashto to Afghanistan and Pakistan. RFE/RL will also delete its Georgian service and make several cuts or deletions to its Balkans service.

During this dash to the doors, Radio Free Asia will also eliminate Cambodian and Mandarin from its schedule (really, to Asia? -ed) Mind you, all these changes are only proposed. Some cutbacks may not even happen or may not be as serious as advertised. But be advised ... changes are coming.

~ Wontok Radio Light has returned to the air on 7325 kHz from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. PNG stations are among our favorite DX targets so I'm especially pleased to welcome this one back.



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~ Radio Sultanate of Oman is now using 9620 kHz. I'm unsure if this replaces 15140 kHz, which the station has used since it went on the air in 1970, or whether the 31-meter outlet is only an addition.

~ Bangladesh Betar currently seems to be running only with its external service.

~ Radio Xoriyo Ogadenya and the Voice of Independent Oromiya have abandoned their efforts against Ethiopia, confirming an item I had in a "Listening Post" column a few months back.

~ Radio Nigeria at Kaduna is no longer being relayed by Issoudun, France. (Seems as soon as I announce something like this, they promptly give it up! -ed)

~ Bolivia's Radio Yura has been reactivated on variable 5985 kHz. This one is most frequently heard in the early morning hours. Say plus or minus 1000 hours.

~ A DXer in Spain received a letter from LRA36 in Argentine Antarctica

informing him that it operates only on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1230-1400 UTC. That may be another reason why it is so seldom reported.

~ One of the transmitters on Saipan (run by IBB for Radio Free Asia) has returned to the air after taking a

Typhoon hit. The IBB/Tinian site is also reported to be active again.

### Leading Logs

Remember, your shortwave broadcast station logs are always welcome. Please ensure to double or triple space between the items, list each logging



All India Radio sent this card for its site at Jaipur on 4910 kHz. It still operates on that frequency today.

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. 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. After you've read the printed logs, you'll find more online at <[www.cqpluslisteningpostblog.com](http://www.cqpluslisteningpostblog.com)>.

**CHINA**—China National Radio/PBS Voice of the Strait, Guinan, 4900 at 1128 in Mandarin, woman hosting a music program; PBS Xizang, 4920, Baiding at 1126 in Tibetan with alternating male and female announcers; 7270-Hot Hot at 1206 in Mongolian, man and woman speaking alternating between them with woman conducting an interview. (Taylor, WI)

**ERITREA**—Voice of the Broad Masses, Asmara, 7180 (INTRUDER) pounding in at 0328 with an HOA program in vernacular. (KB2DMD, PA)

**GUINEA**—Radio TV Guineenne,

Conakry, 9650 at 2145 with indigenous music and someone speaking French, xylophone-like music and possible news at 2200. (Sellers, BC) Very nice signal in the 2200 hour, then off at 2221. (Figliozzi, NY)

**MALI**—Radio Mali, Bamako, 5995 at 2246 with a man and woman reading the news in French. RHC was due to sign on here at 2300. (Figliozzi, NY)

**OPPOSITION**—Nippon No Kaze (Japan to North Korea), 9685 with pop vocals at 1510. (Barton, AZ)

Echo of Hope (South Korea to North Korea), 3985 at 1013 with man speaking at length in Korean, 6250 with Korean pop music at 1157. (Taylor, WI)

You'll find more logs on line at <[www.cqpluslisteningpostblog.com](http://www.cqpluslisteningpostblog.com)>.

### QSL Quests

Radio Free Asia has just announced the issuance of its 70<sup>th</sup> QSL card version. This design commemorates the memory of Lee De Forest who was so instrumental in the development of radio. The 70<sup>th</sup> QSL card will be used through August of this year, so if you want one you'd better hurry and get a report off to RFA, 2025 M Street NW, Washington, DC, 20036. <[www.rfa.org](http://www.rfa.org)>.

### Back in the Day

Malawi Broadcasting Corporation, Kimbe, running 100 kilowatts with English on 3380. Heard at 0409 UTC on September 27, 1995. Sign on was at 0301 UTC.

### Just Sayin'

When somebody (usually a service person) says "(I'll) be right back" you can take that to mean sometime within the next 20 seconds, or 20 minutes, or maybe two hours. Even, at the extreme, two weeks!

### Thanks for Your Logs

High fives and all that to: Harold Sellers, Vernon, BC; William Hassig, Mt. Vernon, IL; Bob Brossell, Pewaukee, WI; Art Delibert, North Bethesda, MD; Rick Barton, El Mirage, AZ; John Figliozzi, Half Moon, NY; and Richard Parker, KB2DMD, Pennsburg, PA. Thanks to each of you!

Until next month, good listening and ... Celebrate Shortwave!

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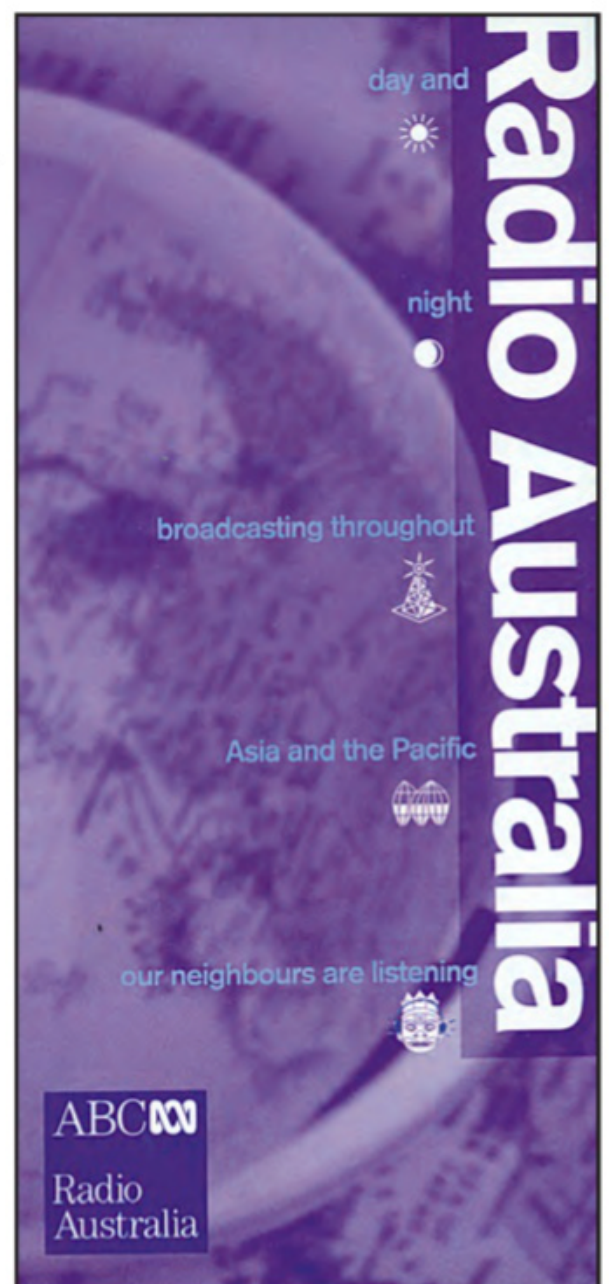


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The reverse side of this folder from Radio Australia has tips on how to listen to them. You'd get nowhere if you tried those tips today!

# WHAT'S NEW

## Mastwerks Debuts New Tripod Antenna Masts at Hamvention®

Mastwerks, a spinoff company from Buddipole, debuted the RTS-1500 series, the newest line of lightweight collapsible antenna masts featuring a tripod, at the 2019 Dayton Hamvention®. Constructed from ultra-rugged, nylon-reinforced custom injection-molded parts, custom aluminum tubing, and stainless steel, the new tripod masts are available in three different heights (4, 7, and 10 meters; or 13, 23, and 33 feet, respectively).

A new patent-pending mast tube shape and adjustable angle struts prevent rotation within itself and removes rotational force on the collar locks, making the RTS-1500 series of antenna masts ideal for field use. Quick-release lever locks enable fast and secure height changes and single-hand operation.

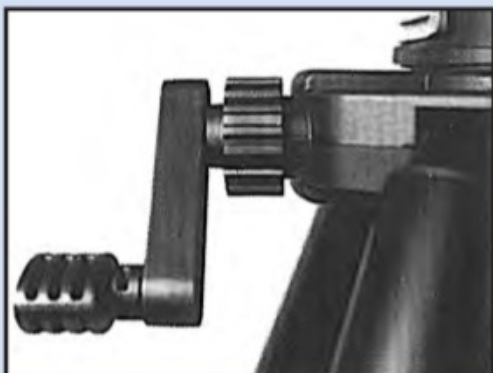
Continuing the ease-of-use theme, the RTS-1500 features a unique hand crank that will rotate the tripod effortlessly and lock it into position automatically, meaning you can deploy directional Yagis or dipoles in the field quickly. Mastwerks also gave a sneak peek at a new remote-controlled motorized rotator with an electronic compass that will automatically turn the antenna in any direction without having to crank it. Watch for that in the fall.

As of presstime, all of the masts and tripods are only available in black, with camouflage being considered. The 4-meter mast collapses to 0.61 meters (2 feet), the 7-meters to 1.22 meters (4 feet), and the 10-meters collapses to 1.625 meters (5 feet, 4 inches). Combined weights are: 4 meters, 3.75 kilograms (8.3 pounds) with the mast and tripod; 7 meters, 4.9 kilograms (10.8 pounds); 10 meters, 6.25 kilograms (13.8 pounds).

Mastwerks says the new tripod and masts are available now, with the motorized rotator and electronic control unit available in the fall. For more information, contact Mastwerks (503) 372-6474. Email: <info@mastwerks.com>. Website: <www.mastwerks.com>.



*Mastwerks' upcoming motorized rotator and electronic control unit with compass is planned for a Fall 2019 release. (Photo by Jason Feldman)*



# EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

BY WALT PALMER,\* W4ALT

## *Interview With a Dead Man*

I had an interesting experience last week. I interviewed a dead man.

I know I will never win a Pulitzer with my writing or interviewing skills, but I now envision a place in a dusty corner of *Ripley's Believe It or Not*. We sat down following a local Auxcom event, and I started the interview this way, "So Deadman, how did you get into this predicament?"

My first indication that he really was not that dead is during my initial phone call, he eagerly agreed to meet me anywhere to pass along his messages. Deadman — to whom I'll also refer from time to time as Charlie, even though that isn't his real name — had been aware of his high blood pressure since he was a young man, and he didn't help his situation with some high stress situations along the way. He became overweight, smoked, and although a fair athlete in school, did no exercise for over four decades. Sound familiar?

Having explained his background, Deadman was adamant that we are each responsible for our own health, and he had been personally responsible for his own untimely death. He said, "No one knows your bad health habits better than you!"

Charlie told me he'd been at an evening event, felt tired, sat down to rest, and remembers nothing more. They now tell him he died. Fortunately, two people saw that he was unresponsive, stretched him on the floor, called 911, and started CPR. Another player went to fetch an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), only to find it locked up, then ran quite a distance to find another AED. The paramedics soon arrived and rushed Charlie to the ER where they did an excellent job of resuscitating him and putting him into a medically induced coma. The doctors told his wife that the strength of his heart suffered from his lack of an exercise regimen.

I was taking notes furiously while Charlie told his story. Later, as I reviewed my notes from the conversation, I noticed I had scribbled on the margin, "Why, why, why did I eat all those potato chips for lunch? And that ice cream last night?"

Charlie suddenly asked me if I had heart trouble. "Me? Why, do I look it?" I could suddenly feel the unattractive fat bulging over my belt, and then he slipped in a right hook by reminding me that exercise alone is not enough to lose all that weight. He got me on age as well because he then went on to add, "We all need to change our eating habits as we age."

Deadman didn't tell me one piece of new information during this entire interview, but the way he told me — so wonderfully happy about still being alive — is what got my attention.

His second message was also as passionate. Just because people technically know how to use first aid equipment does not mean they will. He went on to add that many freeze in the face of emergency.

I can hear some reader sitting in front of the television saying to his wife, "I don't want to get dead exercising like that Deadman guy, so turn up the volume and pass the potato chips." But the real message here is that Charlie, because of his own personal exercise schedule, and of proper med-

ical attention, is alive because of his own attention to exercise, and with the prompt action of trained bystanders.

Information about diet and exercise is abundantly available, but many people are not paying attention. That's the reason I have written in this playful format for such a serious subject. Deadman doesn't care if you have a daily exercise regimen, or walk around the block, just keep moving and exercise. And for all of us — pay attention to one another and take immediate action when we recognize a friend who needs help.

Charlie expects to do something that few dead people do — he will soon go to Hawaii to visit his son — who is a company commander in the United States Marine Corps and a soon-to-be father — and a new grandbaby.

### **The EmComm Connection**

As I gathered my thoughts to write this story, I began to realize the stress placed upon us as emergency communicators. Whether working in a shelter, at an outdoor public event, or even dining out at a restaurant, are you prepared and properly trained to spring into action to save a life should that moment arise?

Are you prepared to provide manual CPR?

"Oh, yeah. I took Red Cross classes in 1999, so I am ready."

Not so fast there, buck-o. There is new thinking regarding the proper method to administer this lifesaving maneuver. In the "good ol' days," the recommended CPR sequence was five chest compressions followed by a rescue breath. Today the procedure calls for 30 compressions followed by two rescue breaths.

And how about the Heimlich maneuver for a choking victim? Can you perform this procedure effectively and without hesitation? How about if the victim is too big for you to reach around? What will you do?

Can you spot a stroke victim? Can you perform FAST, and I don't mean quickly, but follow the Face, Arms, Speech, and Time protocol?

If you survive an active shooter event, are you ready to "stop the bleeding, stop dying"?

We have been trained to observe and identify emergency exits (both regular and non-traditional) when entering public places. Do you also keep a mindful eye for AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) and fire extinguishers?

As emergency communicators, we are sometimes assigned to very public events. Our responsibility includes being on the lookout for unusual packages or unattended backpacks, individuals acting oddly, people with unusual bulges or uneven apparel bulkiness, and reporting anything suspicious to the proper authorities.

We as emergency communicators are a part of the elite side of the population. In the United States, 46% of adults do not know how to perform CPR. If you are one of the 46%, take the time to receive proper training. Learn how to perform the Heimlich maneuver. Know how to identify a stroke victim.

We are volunteers, but we are professionals.

---

\* email: <w4alt@cq-amateur-radio.com>



## Ohio Hams Respond to Memorial Day Tornadoes

Amateur radio emergency communicators responded to an outbreak of tornadoes in Ohio on Memorial Day that killed one person and caused extensive damage, including to Hara Arena, the (former) longtime home of the Dayton Hamvention.

According to ARRL Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Stan Broadway, N8BHL, the storms came just as Ohio ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) was about to launch a partnership with the state emergency management agency's "Watch Desk," under which both HF nets and a statewide DMR (digital mobile radio) talkgroup would alert some 2,000 Ohio amateurs of emergencies in order to provide enhanced "situational awareness" to state officials.

"We got to launch that system under pressure Memorial Day Monday evening," Broadway reported, "as severe storm systems swept across Ohio, producing over 33 tornado warnings and 9 confirmed touchdowns. One person died and there were multiple injuries. Hundreds of homes and buildings were damaged, mainly in western and south-central Ohio. The largest storm (an EF-3) seriously damaged portions of Dayton including destroying Hara Arena, home for years to Hamvention."

Ohio AuxComm station W8SGT was activated and received situation reports through the night from amateurs in affected areas. Broadway said the information was fed

directly into the state's "WebEOC" software to help the Watch Desk determine the need to ramp up to assist county EMA directors' requests for aid.

Broadway also noted that the operation "was not without problems," explaining that "the storms were so intense that desense significantly restricted our communication. Later, on Tuesday, we lost the ability to connect with our local DMR repeater. That was resolved Wednesday as the radio programming was changed. After storm passage, HF became more usable, both on the state 3.902 MHz SSB net, and 3.585 MHz Ohio Digital Emergency Net (OHDEN) in case forms would be transmitted. First-tier communications remained solid in most of the affected areas, but amateur operators were able to provide situational awareness that enhanced their response."

Most of the Ohio ARES nets closed down by Wednesday evening, two days after the storms struck. However, officials in the Youngstown area requested continued ARES activation to help with damage assessment from storm related flooding.

The hams' contributions were noted and appreciated by state emergency management officials, said Broadway, noting that, "as the state EOC opened its full session on Tuesday morning, recognition was given to the amateur radio operators who worked through the night to assist."

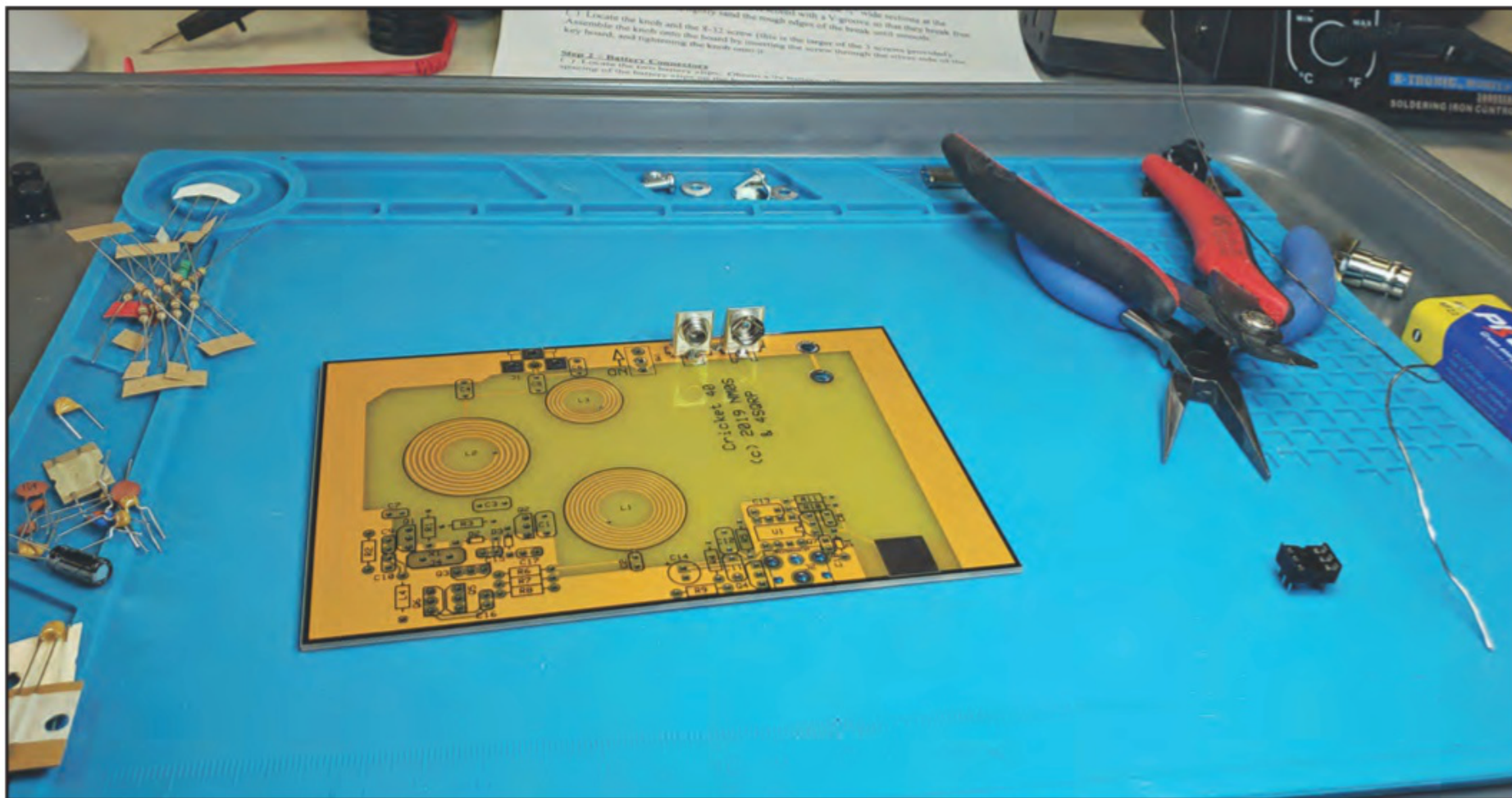


*This drone image shows just some of the damage inflicted on Hara Arena, former home of the Dayton Hamvention®, by an EF-3 tornado on May 27. The complete drone video of the scene is online at <<https://tinyurl.com/y3d4u5lt>>. (WHIO-TV photo)*

# KIT-BUILDING

BY JOE EISENBERG,\* KØNEB

## A Great Time At Ozarkcon



The 40-meter Cricket with the 9-volt battery tabs mounted and the rest of the parts yet to be assembled.

Every year, the Four State QRP Group puts on an outstanding QRP conference in Branson, Missouri. Ozarkcon has become an annual trek for me as it offers great seminars and a huge group kit-build, as well as a great place to hold a convention. This year was no exception, and a big announcement was made about an upcoming new kit to be offered. Attendance for 2019 grew to over 200, a landmark in the growth of this great gathering.

### Building a Cricket

The group kit-build this year was the third in the “Cricket” series of kits designed by David Cripe, NMØS. The Cricket is a very simple 1-watt CW transceiver, and has excellent receiver sensitivity and stability. The first one, released two years ago, was for 80 meters, followed by the 30-meter version last year. This year’s Cricket will probably be the most popular yet, as it is for the 40-meter band. With the sunspot cycle approaching its low point, 40 has become one of the most active bands for QRP operators. The 40-meter Cricket was made available for the very first time to the builders at Ozarkcon.

The Cricket features coils that are spiral wound as part of the PCB, so there are no toroids to wind. The parts are relatively easy to work with, and it is powered by a single 9-volt battery. An on/off switch, a BNC antenna jack, and a

headset jack are provided on the board. The straight key is a part of the kit as well, and is a part on the main board. An alternative part is provided that allows you to connect your favorite straight key or keyer output if desired. This year, we had over 50 builders assembling the kits all at once with a



Kurt Zoglmann, ADØWE, uses a rather unique board holder made from stiff wires and alligator clips.

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

nearly perfect outcome and lots of signals from table to table and later from room to room in the hotel. Assembly time varied from about an hour or so for the most experienced builders to about three hours for newer builders.

You can order the new 40-meter Cricket at [www.4sqr.com/cricket40.php](http://www.4sqr.com/cricket40.php) for \$33.50 including shipping in the U.S.

### Group Kit-Build Logistics

With plenty of help ensuring each builder had what he/she needed, the build went smoothly. The directions were pre-printed for each builder, making for easy inventory of the parts and allowing everyone to build at their own pace.

With so many builders at once, the logistics of doing a group kit-build of this size come to mind. Of course, the first consideration should be the kind of tables that are used, and how to protect the tabletops and keep our parts from disappearing. We used plastic-topped tables, so being extra careful to protect the surface from damage by hot solder was a must. I prefer to use a cookie sheet with a lip around it so my parts don't end up either rolling off of the table or getting lost in the carpeting. The cookie sheet also keeps the hot solder that inevitably falls from my work from burning the table or any covering placed on it.

Power for soldering and lighting is the next consideration, and the use of outlet strips and extension cords must be done carefully to avoid overloading the circuits in the facility where you are holding your event. It wouldn't impress the site owner if we tripped circuit breakers! A typical soldering iron we hams most often use for building kits draws less than 30 watts, but that, along with an LED or fluorescent magnifying lamp, can still add up. The best bet is to use cords drawing from as many different outlets as possible to avoid the AC circuit overload problems. Most typical outlets are on a 15 or 20-amp circuit breaker, allowing for a few users to be connected on one circuit.

Ten builders with soldering irons only draw about 300 watts total at peak draw. I often bring a roll-up extension cord that allows me to plug into a wall outlet and access four breaker-protected outlets, letting one other builder share my connection with me. The cord I use is available at this link <https://tinyurl.com/y2cj46yt> or other sources that carry the Woods 2801 Extension Cord.

I have found 10-15 builders to be the ideal number for a group kit-build, to



Charles Jackson, WØCCJ, was nearing completion of his Cricket 40.



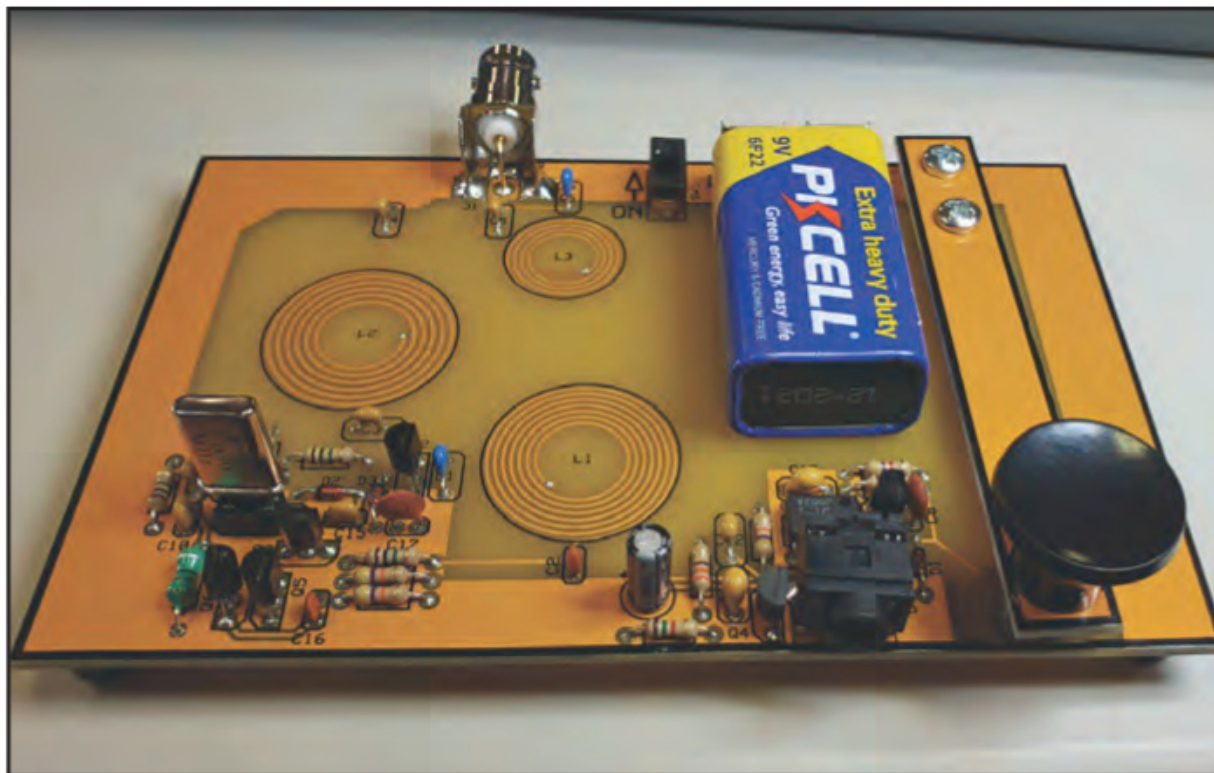
Ed, WG5F, and Karen Meyer, W5KKM, assemble their Crickets, taking a break from their duties as the prize committee for Ozarkcon.

prevent the instructor and helpers from being overloaded, especially if there are a number of beginners. Ozarkcon has a lot of experienced builders, so the larger group is easier to handle. At 10-15 builders, power outlets and strips are easier to deal with. Some groups buy a bunch of inexpensive strips and plug them into the outlets or to cords and get them plugged in to make for much quicker seating and assembly time.

If your club is interested in putting on a group kit-building experience, I can give you more specific suggestions tailored to your needs and perhaps even appear in person to help or lead.

### The Nouveau 75

The next big news from Ozarkcon was the preview of the new Nouveau 75. This kit, which should be available at Dayton or just after is a 75-meter AM QRP transceiver. David Cripe, NMØS,



*My completed Cricket 40 ready to be tested.*



*Twenty-five-foot extension cord reel with outlets.*

took the Small Wonder Labs version of this transceiver, updated it, and created the PCB case and made it into a very updated and synthesized radio. The new kit is a hybrid, meaning that there are a number of surface mount parts that are already mounted to the PCB. So, there is no surface mount

assembly needed. There are, however, a few toroids that need to be wound. There will be about 30 through-hole components to mount as well as the case assembly, but no point-to-point wiring as in the original K1SWL-designed kit. David used my Retro-75 kit I assembled nine years ago to test

and compare its performance with the new transceiver.

The Nouveau 75 will cover about 3 to 6 MHz on receive, making for some enjoyable shortwave listening, including such stations as WTWW and WBCQ. The digital display will make tuning easy, and I look forward to building and writing in detail about this great new kit soon. Watch <4sqr.com> for availability.

With the summer partly over, it is time to look forward to seeing as many of my readers as possible at the Huntsville Hamfest. See you in Huntsville!

*– Until next time, 73 de KØNEB*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(from page 2)*

**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA** — The Central States VHF Society will hold the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual CSVHFS Conference from 3-8 p.m., Thursday, July 25; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, July 26; 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, July 27; and Sunday July 28 at the Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, 5353 N. 27<sup>th</sup> Street. Email: <registration@csvhfs.org>. Website: <http://2019.csvhfs.org>. DXCC / VUCC / WAS / WAC card checking.

**OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA** — Ham Holiday 2019 and the 2019 ARRL Oklahoma State Convention will be held from 3-9 p.m., Friday, July 26 and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 27 at the Oklahoma City Community College, 7777 S. May Avenue. Website: <http://hamholiday.com>. VE exams.

**CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA** — The Cumberland Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold the CVARC Hamfest 2019 from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, July 27 at the Cumberland Valley Engine & Machinery Association Show Grounds, 1501 Criders Church Road. Email: <hamfest@w3ach.org>. Website: <http://w3ach.org>. Talk-in 147.120+ (PL 100). VE exams.

**MONUMENT, COLORADO** — The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will hold the PPRAA 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Ham Radio Megafest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 27 at Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Road. Email: <megafest@ppraa.org>. Website: <http://ppraa.org>. Talk-in 146.970- (PL 100). VE exams.

**WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA** — The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society will hold the WCARS Hamfest 2019 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, July 27 at the Haywood County Fairgrounds, 758 Crabtree Road. Email: <wcars.nc.hamfest@gmail.com>. Website: <www.wcars.org>. VE exams.

**RAVENNA, OHIO** — The Portage Amateur Radio Club will hold its Hamfair 2019 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, July 28 at the Maplewood Career Center, 7075 State Route 88. Contact: Joanne Solak, KJ3O, (330) 274-8240. Email: <kj3o@arrl.net>. VE exams.

**UTICA, NEW YORK** — The Utica Amateur Radio Club will hold RadioCom 2019 from 8 a.m. to noon, Sunday, July 28 at the Deerfield Firehouse Grounds, 5476 Trenton Road. Contact: Bob Decker, AA2CU, (315) 797-6614. Email: <tb2626@yahoo.com>. Website: <www.uticaarc.com>. Talk-in 146.76-. VE exams.

## AUGUST

**CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS** — The West Central Illinois Hamfest will be held from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 3 at the Macoupin County Fairgrounds. Contact: Jim, N9LQF, (217) 248-3548. VE exams.

**GROVE CITY, OHIO** — The Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club will hold the 2019 Columbus Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 3 at the Aladdin Shrine Center, 1801 Gateway Circle. Website: <www.columbushamfest.com>. Talk-in 146.760- (PL 123). VE exams.

**TRUMANSBURG, NEW YORK** — The Tompkins County Amateur Radio Club will hold the Ithaca Hamfest from 7 a.m. to noon, Saturday, August 3 at the Trumansburg Fairgrounds. Email: <ne2t@arrl.net>. Website: <http://tcara-ny.org>. VE exams.

**VINTON VIRGINIA** — The Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold the Roanoke HamFun from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 3 at the Vinton Moose Lodge, 2127 E. Washington Avenue. Website: <http://roanolehamfest.info>. Talk-in 146.985- (PL 107.2). VE exams.

**BERRYVILLE, VIRGINIA** — The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club will hold the 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Berryville Hamfest beginning 6 a.m., Sunday, August 4 at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 W. Main Street. Contact: John, WD4GEK, (540) 436-3818 or (540) 333-0837. Email: <berryvillehamfest@gmail.com>. Website: <www.svarc.us>. VE exams.

**FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA** — The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will hold the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Ole Fashioned CFARS SwapFest from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, August 10 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street. Contact: David, KR4OE, (910) 624-1394. Email: <kr4oe@nc.rr.com>. Talk-in 146.910- (PL 100). VE exams.

**HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA** — The Tri-State Amateur Radio Association will hold its 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Hamfest from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday, August 10 at the New Baptist Church, 610 28<sup>th</sup> Street. Contact: Fred Herr, WD8AGH, (304) 736-2057. Email: <wd8agh@gmail.com>. VE exams, card checking.

**ONALASKA, WISCONSIN** — The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold its Swapfest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 10 at the Onalaska American Legion, 731 Sand Lake Road. Contact: Greg Miller, KA9FOZ, (608) 792-7841. Email: <ka9foz@gmail.com>. Talk-in 146.970 (PL 131.8). VE exams, DXCC / VUCC / WAC / WAS / 160m card checking.

**RACINE, WISCONSIN** — The Megacycle Club of Racine will hold its Free Fest from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, August 10 at the Greater Racine Kennel Club, 6320 Six Mile Road. Contact: Dan, KA9OIL, <ka9oil@yahoo.com>. Website: <www.w9udu.org>. Talk-in 147.270+ (PL 127.3).

**O'FALLON, MISSOURI** — The St. Charles Amateur Radio Club will hold the SCARC Hamfest from 7 a.m. to noon, Sunday, August 11 at the O'Fallon Elks Lodge, 1163 Tom Ginnever Avenue. Contact: Michael Maninger, KCØGKN, (636) 697-5381. Email: <scarc.hamfest@gmail.com>. Website: <http://wb0his.org.hamfest>. Talk-in 146.670- or 145.330-.

**HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA** — The Huntsville Hamfest Association will hold the Huntsville Hamfest and 2019 ARRL Alabama State Convention from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, August 17 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, August 18 at the Von Braun Center, South Hall, 700 Monroe Street W. Contact: Mark Brown, N4BCD, (256) 503-8887. Email: <mark.n4bcd@yahoo.com>. Website: <www.hamfest.org>. Talk-in 146.94 (PL 100) or 145.33- (PL 100). VE exams, DXCC card checking, Young Ham of the Year presentation.

# LEARNING CURVE

BY RON OCHU, KOØZ

## Maker Spaces

**T**he British poet, John Masefield, penned the line in his poem *Sea Fever*, “And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by.” Masefield’s line, combined with the adage, “Give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime,” serves quite well for this month’s theme.

### Meet George

Please meet George Fetters, chairman of the board, Inventor Forge Maker Space (IFMS) (*Photo A*) of St. Peters, Missouri, <[www.InventorForgeMakerSpace.org](http://www.InventorForgeMakerSpace.org)>. George is an enthusiastic individual with a clear vision. George is all about “open source” and assisting people with technology by making it more accessible to anyone with an interest. In fact, George and his six fellow board members dedicate a good chunk of their personal time making Inventor Forge available to over 90 members. Social media attracts a few members, but word of mouth is by far the best way, so far, of

attracting new members. Typically, word of mouth generates one to two new members a week. The goal is to reach 150 members.

Inventor Forge Maker Space’s mission is to promote an interest in science, technology, engineering, art, and math. It is a registered 501 (c)(3) nonprofit serving St. Charles County, Missouri and surrounding areas. Makers, innovators, students, and startups are all welcome. Anyone with an interest in the mission is welcome to become a member. Members pay monthly dues, sign a liability waiver, and have access to 3-D printers, laser etchers, woodworking tools, metalworking tools, CNC milling machines, T shirt presses, banner makers, and a plasma cutting machine (*Photo B*). All the tools are available for member use after they’re certified to use them properly. Instructions are available to members so they can acquire certification.

### Classes and Expansion

In addition to some expensive technology, IFMS also offers classes in electronics, soldering, Arduino and Rasp-



*Photo A. George Fetters, technology enthusiast, DIYer, and IFMS chairman. (All photos by KOØZ)*



*Photo B. Two IFMS members working on a wood project.*



Photo C. Microwave enthusiast Herbert Ullmann, AF4JF, with his 1.2- and 10-GHz rigs.

berry Pi projects, sewing, and jewelry making. Future plans include expanding into the arts by offering pottery kilns, leatherworking tools, painting, and crafts. Presently, IFMS is comprised of approximately 65% male and 35% female members, but the board hopes more women will avail themselves of the group's facilities and services. George speculates the current mix is the result of traditional societal views about male roles. However, more women are involving themselves with STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and he hopes that more women will find IFMS. The group is diligently working to be even more inclusive.

Diversity in membership brings in people with different interests and talents, but it also serves to generate different, new, and exciting ways to accomplish things. George is constantly amazed at creative approaches members bring to a project. Many times, George thought to himself, "I wouldn't necessarily approach a project that way," only to find – to his amazement – that the different approach was often a better one. DIYers (do it yourselfers) enjoy sharing and trying out new technologies with IFMS providing tools that many hobbyists wouldn't have ready access to use.

### AF4JF

For example, Herbert Uhlmann, AF4JF (Photo C), is passionate about microwave communication. Herbert introduced me to George and IFMS. A big part of the allure of ham radio



Photo D. 2018 Microwave Update (MUD) poster.



Photo E. Paul Wade, W1GHZ, microwave enthusiast and guru.

microwave enthusiasts, but at the same time a large drawback, is limited availability of parts and their subsequent cost, especially when it comes to microwave antennas and feed horns. Commercially-made microwave antennas above 10 GHz are not very affordable for ham radio operators. The surplus market offers some parts, but, for the most part, microwave enthusiasts need to fabricate their own antennas and associated parts. At the 2018 Microwave Update Conference (MUD) (Photo D), Paul Wade, W1GHZ (Photo E), shared his thoughts and experiences with milling his own waveguide transitions and feed horns (Photo F) at a local maker space. Paul used a CNC to fabricate his feed horn.

CNC (computerized numerical control) uses a program of computer commands to control a machine, whether it be a milling machine or a lathe. These programs can be shared, and results duplicated. Submitting an individual, custom-made request to a business can prove to be very expensive and beyond the range of a hobbyist. That's where a maker space can come in very handy. AF4JF wants to experiment with a dual-band (10 and 24 GHz) feedhorn; however, there are very few easily found. Consequently, Herbert learned how to use a CNC metal lathe (Photo G). AF4JF is taking his newly learned CNC skills and after he finishes his first feed horn, plans to produce additional feed horns for area microwave enthusiasts when his work schedule allows him time. Sharing skills and resources in a DIY

(do it yourself) manner is a cornerstone of amateur radio.

## DIY is Maker Space

Historically, DIY (do it yourself) was an integral part of being a radio amateur. In the early days of amateur radio, commercially made radios either didn't exist or were way too expensive for the typical ham to purchase. Scrounging up electronic parts by "cannibalizing" junk radios and TV sets was the norm. Grinding down crystals to operate on a specific frequency was the tried-and-true method employed by radio amateurs before VFOs (variable frequency oscillators) proliferated, thereby liberating hams from crystal operation. Can

you imagine operating in those gone by years before VFOs?

For example, in years past, if I wanted to operate 40-meter phone, my transmitter would have been crystal controlled. Perhaps, I only have a 7.230-MHz crystal. I am calling, "CQ," and you hear my call, but the nearest crystal frequency you have in your stock is 7.250 MHz. The difference in frequency would force me to search the band and listen for each your signals, which could take minutes. There's a very good chance that we would miss each other entirely. If we had made a sked (schedule) beforehand, our chances of making a contact dramatically increase. Still, not operating on the same frequency grows wearisome after



Photo F. W1GHZ CNC-machined microwave parts.



Photo G. Herbert Ullmann, AF4JF, explaining the ins and outs of an IFMS metal lathe.

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Photo H. IFMS 100-watt laser available to members.



Photo I. An electronics/soldering station for IFMS members.

a while. I may get tired of that, and I may decide to grind my crystal down to bring it closer (higher in frequency) to 7.255 MHz. Of course, I'd need to be careful not to break the wafer-thin crystal plate. Ham radio clubs offered advice and assistance with grinding crystals as well as parts. Fortunately, frequency selection is no longer a matter of keeping a stock of crystals close at hand (unless you're into vintage radios).

DIY still exists in ham radio, and it's very prevalent in ham radio niches such as the microwave and QRP (low power) communities. Microwave enthusiasts fabricate a lot of their own equipment, which requires advanced metalworking tools. Many QRP operators live to design and to build transceivers. 3-D printers are increasingly popular with hams for fabricating plastic boxes and enclosures.

The St. Louis QRP Society is a club that will spend an enjoyable evening *not* discussing minutes, treasury balances, or committee reports. Rather, their time is spent poring over block diagrams or schematics of the latest QRP rig, antenna tuner, or antenna. The DIY spirit is alive and well in groups such as this one. Ham radio used to be more like these groups. Readily made, off the shelf rigs are very nice, but there's something to be said for making a project work from scratch or a kit. We're putting electron-

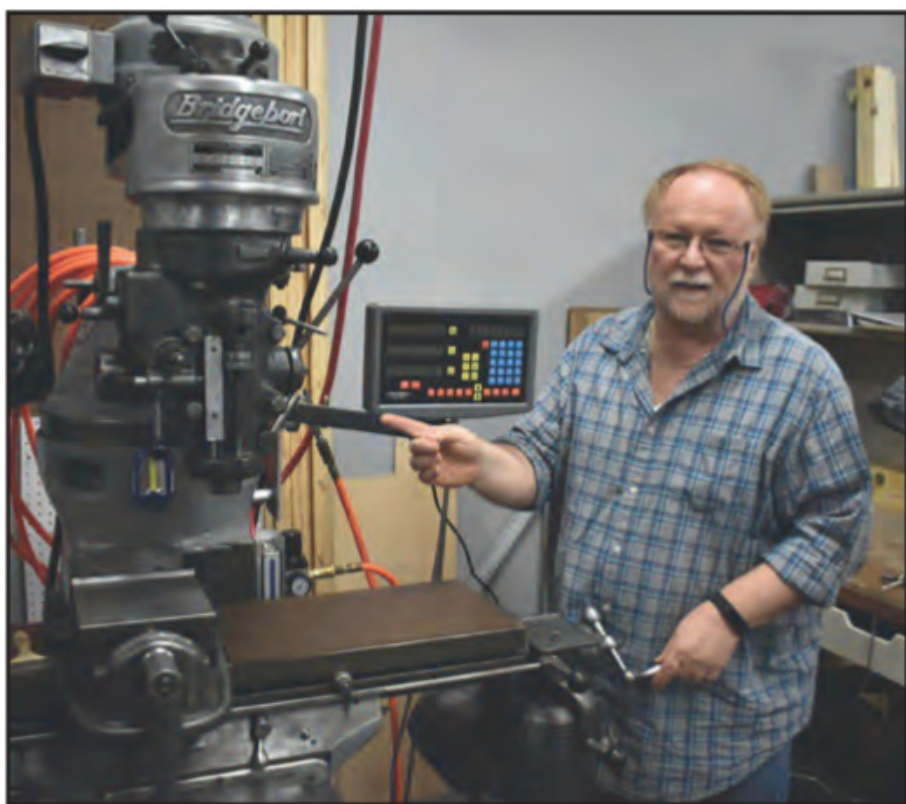


ics theory into practice. Add to this mix the adage, “necessity is the mother of invention,” combined with desire and willingness to learn and you have the recipe for a maker space such as IFMS. The spirit and trappings of yesteryear’s hams are alive and well in maker spaces across the nation.

Three years ago, George started IFMS meetings at the local library. The first few meetings saw a lot of interest and there were as many as 30 people, but nothing was getting done. It was akin to herding cats. Consequently, George and two other enthusiasts gathered a few others, collected dues, and rented a small space to meet and to gather tools. Soon a “Field of Dreams” scenario began to unfold. “Build it and they will come.” As more members joined, IFMS started running out of space. Fortunately, the St. Charles County Economic Development Center (EDC) heard about IFMS and met with George. Monetary grants and a much larger meeting space

became available with the aid of EDC. IFMS members have continuous access to the equipment to work on projects. Dues assist with rent and purchasing more equipment. IFMS has a 100- and 60-watt laser for etching and burning (*Photo H*). There’s an electronics corner with soldering station (*Photo I*) and a Bridgeport mill (*Photo J*). IFMS listens to its members and additional space and equipment is being continuously added as resources allow.

Meanwhile, as AF4JF learns more about metalworking, he is getting other hams involved and he’s making friends at IFMS and introducing them to ham radio. There’s talk among some of the members of experimenting with high-altitude ballooning and ham radio. Paul Wade’s microwave horn made at his maker space and presented at the 2018 MUD (*Photo K and L*) is what inspired AF4JF to see if St. Peters has a maker space.



*Photo J. Herbert, AF4JF, standing next to the Bridgeport milling machine.*

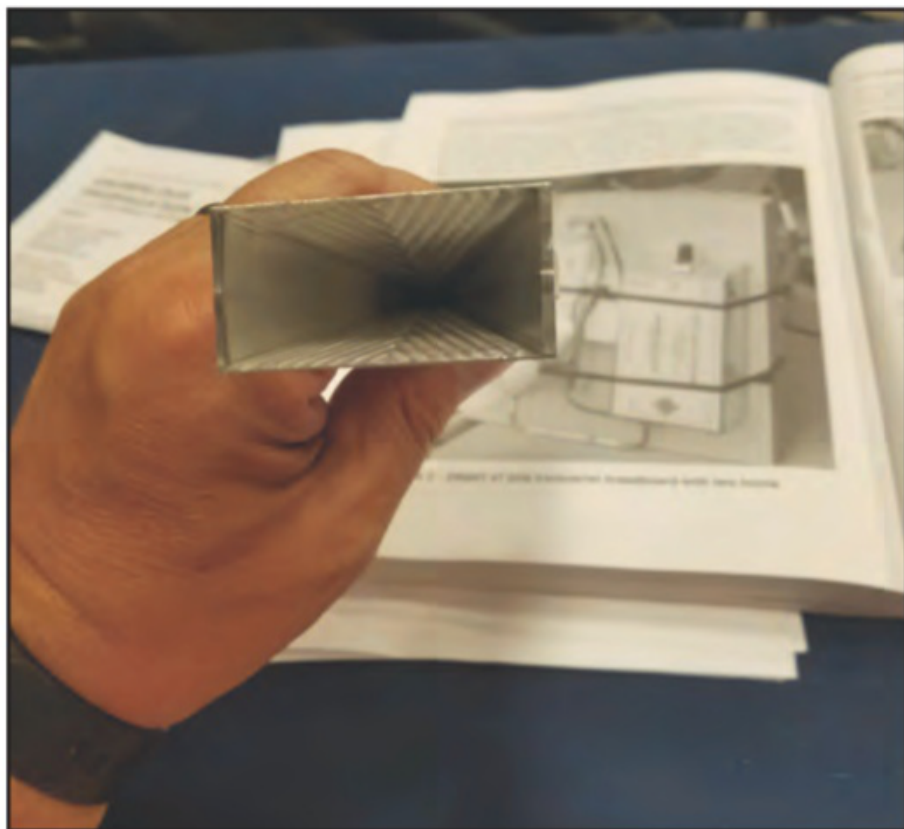
## That’s a Match

No doubt about it, ham radio enthusiasts are a perfect match for maker spaces. This is where folks of all ages are gathering with a vision and a purpose. Maker spaces are perfect for hams to locate hard-to-find tools and make new friends. Maker spaces and their members epitomize life-long learning; thereby, providing not only the proverbial ship and a star, but also the adage, “teach a man to fish, he’ll eat for a lifetime!”

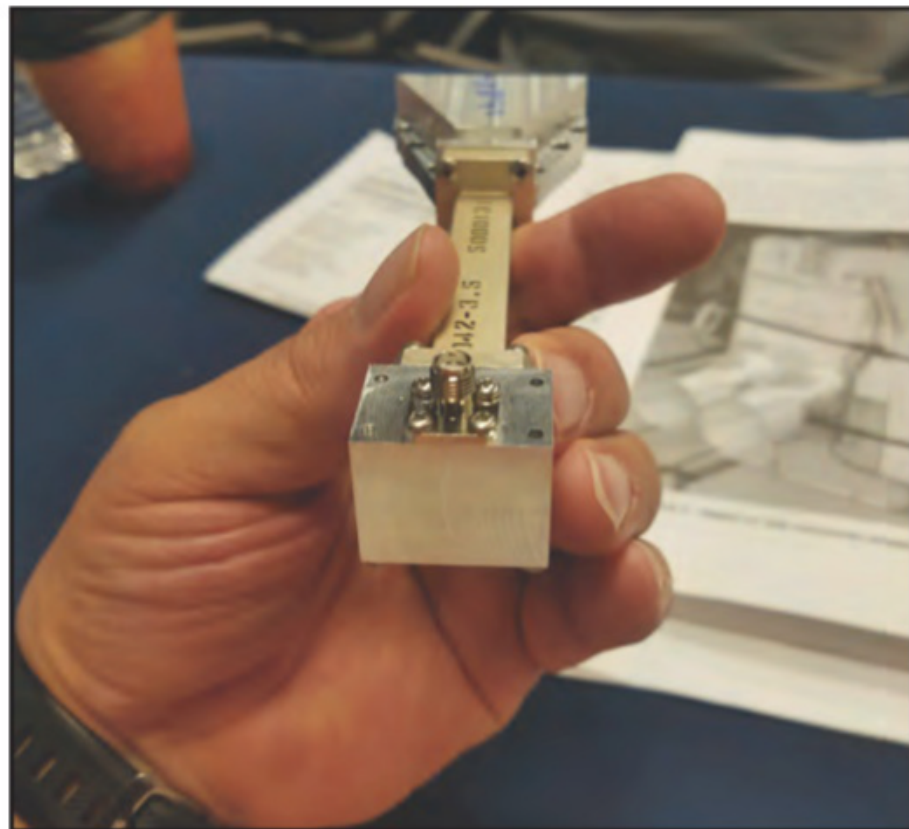
## Reader Feedback

I’d like to thank readers who take time to send me emails. It’s good to hear from you. It’s nice to know that you enjoy the column. Jagur Thomas, N7HEX, emailed me to point out that there are also slow-scan television (SSTV) apps for Android and iPhones. These apps can listen to SSTV audio from a transceiver and decode it to produce a picture. They can even take a picture and convert it to audio tones that can be played from the phone to a rig’s microphone to transmit a SSTV picture. Personally, I’ve not purchased, or have I tried these apps, so I can’t comment on them from personal use, but they are worth checking out. I thank Jagur for making me aware of them.

Thank you for reading CQ and I hope to hear you on the air.



*Photo K. Front view of W1GHZ feed horn, milled at a maker space and shown at MUD.*



*Photo L. Another view of the W1GHZ maker space-milled microwave feed horn.*

# THE HAM NOTEBOOK

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY WAYNE YOSHIDA\*, KH6WZ

## Here and There, This and That

### Miscellaneous Life Changes and Projects on the Workbench

This is one of those “column deviations” that happens once in a while. My new day job is filled with multiple projects and priorities, short deadlines, and lots of stress. In other words, it’s the same as my previous job, but slightly different.

Because of the job change, my daily routine and pastime activities also must change. Throw in some unplanned emergencies and things in my life get really complicated. I am sure everyone goes through this once in a while.

So, this column is a recap of radio-related things going on, either in my head or on my workbench. Some of these ideas or things may appear in a future installment of my “Ham Notebook” column.

#### Maker Faire Bay Area

This amazing event is the same weekend as the Dayton

email: <[kh6wz@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:kh6wz@cq-amateur-radio.com)>

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/in/wayneTyoshida](http://www.linkedin.com/in/wayneTyoshida)



Photo A. This is the warning sign for the Tesla coil under construction for the 2019 Maker Faire season. The sign indicates the nature of Maker Faire events: Hands-on displays.

Hamvention®, a truly unfortunate conflict. As this is being written, I am once again scrambling to get some new Maker Faire projects built, tested, and running.

One of the new items for this year’s show is a small Tesla Coil, powered by a 12-volt wall wart power supply. It will be used to generate artificial lightning for the lightning detectors (300-kHz receivers) also on display. The warning sign for this item is shown in *Photo A*. The whimsical wording is inspired



Photo B. This is a view of the high-voltage circuit for the miniature Tesla coil for Maker Faire and similar educational demonstrations and events.

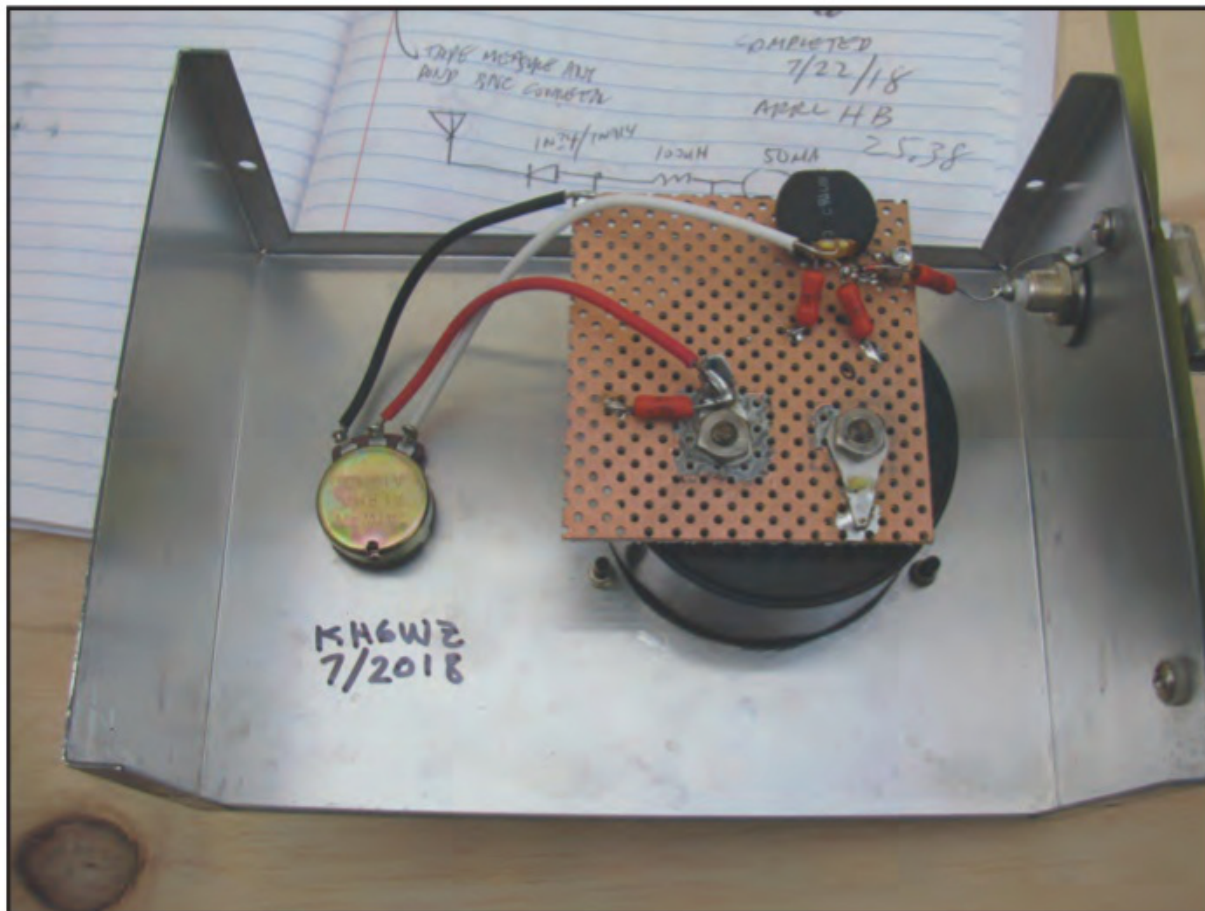


Photo C. I always wanted to build a field-strength meter, and finally completed one. It is a simple and useful piece of test equipment — and an excellent item to demonstrate radio frequency energy at Maker Faire events.

by other typical warning signs seen at Maker Faire events I've visited. The high voltage module is presented in *Photo B*. A mount and display stand are needed to complete the project for kid-safe, hands-on demonstrations.

A field strength meter is easy to build and can be a handy instrument for any-

one with a transmitter. I wanted to make one of these for a very long time. My completed version is shown in *Photos C* and *D*. It features a vintage 4-inch diameter Triplett meter and a tape-measure antenna. A BNC connector is also included so another or different antenna can be connected. It covers HF to VHF



*Photo D. An inside view of the field-strength meter shows how simple it is. A BNC tee is temporarily in place so other antennas can be attached. In normal demonstration use, a length of tape measure is used as an antenna for that "Maker Faire look."*



*Photo E. Some of the useful items found at the local radio swap meet. These items will find new life as useful instruments for my shop, shack or workbench, or as Maker Faire demonstration projects.*

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*Photo F. A local electronics surplus and recycling center held an open house event. Racks and bins filled with interesting and amazing items were there for browsing and purchase. A nice surprise: Buyers earned a free breakfast burrito with any purchase.*

bands. The circuit appears in many issues of *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications*. The meter will be placed next or near to the various transmitters we will have on display at the Faire, so the meter needle will wiggle when the transmitters are working.

I also have some homebrew VHF and UHF mobile and portable antenna ideas to try. The ideas come from the need to outfit my new car (2018 Chevy Volt) with my dual-band mobile radio and control head. Since I am a “maker,” I decided it would be a good time to consider mak-

ing, rather than buying, my next set of mobile antennas (antennae?). Some requirements I wrote down in my ham notebook include performance that comes close to or meets store-bought antenna or antennas and must be as weatherproof as commercial units. One dual-band (2m/70cm) antenna is the goal, but two single-band antennas would be acceptable. A low profile would be desirable so the car and antenna can enter and exit covered parking lots, but is not a necessity. So, my homebrew mobile antenna could be anything from a quarter-wave or bottom- or center-loaded whip to a patch or ring type of design. This should be fun.

### **Swap Meet and Surplus Treasures**

I absolutely love finding surplus electronic and mechanical things, not for what they are, but for what they can become. I am fortunate to live within a reasonable driving distance of the famous TRW Swap Meet, which is actually located on the Northrop Grumman parking lot in Redondo Beach, California. I picked up some nice items that will undertake a transformation into something interesting and useful for either Maker Faire demonstrations or for use in my ham radio activities.



*Photo G. More racks of things ... here are some potentially useful items for any electronics lab.*

Some of the items appear in *Photo E*. The vintage Simpson 260 VOM, functional but with a cracked and broken case, was a bargain at \$10. How could I pass that one by? And the 7-segment LED displays, about 3-inches by 5-inches each, will make a nice indicator for — something. A giant frequency display, perhaps. In the back are three brand-new Bud aluminum chassis

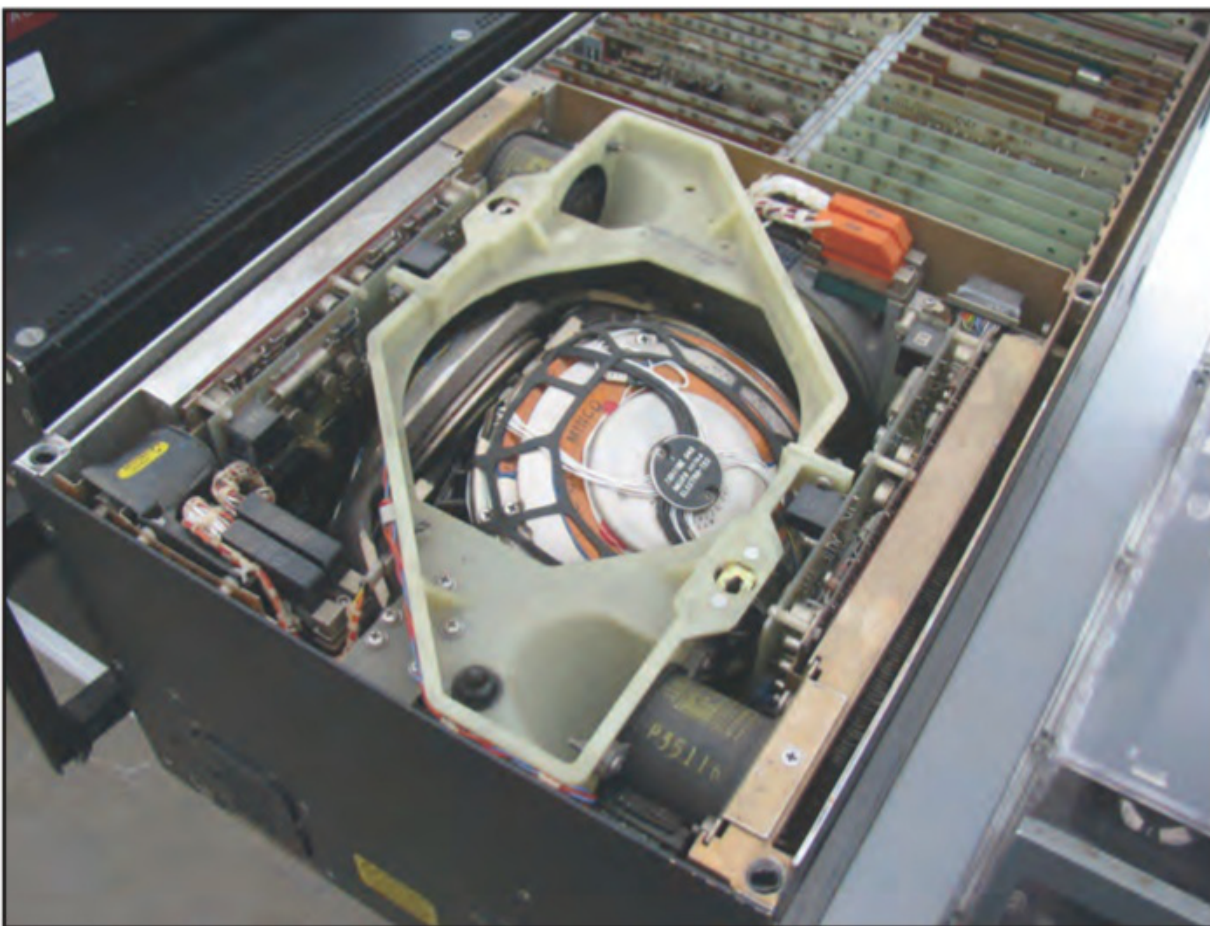
boxes, a bit large, but at \$5 each, it was something I had to buy. They may be the perfect chassis for the vacuum tube projects on my “Things to Do” list.

Another excellent bargain-hunting event took place earlier this week: A local electronics salvage company held an open house event, see *Photos F and G*.

In addition to the useful items for sale,



*Photo H. I really wanted to buy one of these avionics units, but it was out of my budget. The gyro unit would make an interesting do-nothing piece of technical art in my living room. Too bad.*



*Photo I. Here is a closer look at the gyro unit inside.*

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*Photo J. Some of the items I acquired at the open house event. These items will be diverted from the landfill and become useful demonstration units or will have new functions in upcoming projects.*

there were two outstanding items I really wanted, but I kept my mind in check and let them pass.

The first item, priced at over a thousand dollars, is a gyroscopic aircraft auto-pilot unit. There were four such units, one from a military aircraft and three from commercial passenger jets, shown in *Photo H*. A closer look at the gyro section is in *Photo I*.

The second item, which was too big to fit into my car: An airport beacon or some sort of radar unit. I don't have a good picture showing this, unfortunately. If nothing else, the aluminum (fiberglass?) radome could be the basis of an R2D2 robot or something.

I've been looking for surplus barcode scanners for a while, so when I saw a box of them at a reasonable price, I grabbed two. I think they might make a handy housing for either a laser (using the built-in laser unit) or a 10-GHz communicator (using a Gunnplexer unit) pair.

In *Photo J*, at the lower left corner, under the coax jumpers, is a set of fiber-optic ring lights. I can put these to good use for macro- and micro-photography. I don't have a light source, but should be able to make one easily. On the bottom of the stack, not clearly visible, is a nice Sorenson variable power supply. It is in a 1U-size rack cabinet, and goes from zero to 33 volts and zero to 33 amps. Other items visible in the picture include unknown portable test instruments, which I purchased for their nice cabinets.

### **The Job and Career**

As mentioned at the beginning of this column, my new day job is busy and stressful, but I consider it the good kind of

stress. This is because I have gone through the same situations throughout my entire career as a technical writer, and because I am learning new things on all fronts at the office. It is the excitement of change and the ability to use all of my past experience with writing and editing, computer applications, engineering documents and engineers, and adapting to the new environment.

But the best part of my new job: I was recruited away from my previous company, a place where I enjoyed my work, the company and its products, and its mission and vision. But the new opportunity was too good to pass up. It's nice to be noticed and wanted.

Years ago, I often argued with an older co-worker. That person used to say, "Don't argue with me, I have over 20 years of experience." To me, that response is the same as "because I said so."

Although I would comply, I never respected that person. And this is the reason I never liked speaking or hearing about anyone's "x years of experience," because without a reason, it simply means someone is of a certain age, or at least, just old. I have much more respect for people who prove their experience and expertise by demonstrating with their actions and decisions or how they perform their everyday tasks and assignments.

That's all I have for this month's column. As always, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions for topics to explore, let me know via email. Think of this column as a springboard for starting discussions or inspiring you to create or make or contribute something to *CQ* magazine and our audience.

– 73, Wayne, KH6WZ

# DIGITAL CONNECTION

BY DON ROTOLO,\* N2IRZ

## *Innovation Past Forward: The New Computer Museum of America in Roswell, Georgia*

**T**hink for a moment about what you know: A lifetime's accumulation of facts and skills, and likely ever-increasing. How did you get all that? For many of my generation — the baby boomers — we got it from our parents and older siblings. I learned electronics first from my older brother, who eventually graduated as an electrical engineer (as did I). Another older brother taught me how to work on cars. Colleagues at work fostered a love for ham radio and fooled me into passing my Novice code test. And, of course, my father who, owning his own manufacturing company, taught me to be fearless in approaching new challenges. He didn't have the money to hire outsiders to repair his machinery, so he did it himself.

This brings up the question: How will today's youth learn these kinds of skills? Now that we have millennials entering their parenting years, do they have the skills needed to pass on to their kids? After all, modern American society is becoming less and less dependent on the blue-collar skills so prevalent in the second half of the last century, as more and more cling to the fallacy that everyone should go to college. I've seen so many high school students who have never used a screwdriver, and that makes me cringe.

While I am trying to become part of the solution by mentoring the local high school's FIRST Robotics team, I am not alone. This month, in celebration of its grand opening in its permanent exhibition space, after years of development and local pop-up exhibits, we'll take a close look at the new Computer Museum of America in Roswell, Georgia.

Lonnie Mimms, the founder and primary driver of the CMoA, has been collecting computers and technology over a period of 40 years. Having insider connections, knowing the industry, and being in the right places at the right times, he has amassed one of the world's most comprehensive collections of computing artifacts and equipment. From his vision of preserving these items as tools of learning, so future generations can learn about and be inspired by the development of these technologies, and born of a project to simply catalog and archive all this "stuff," came the idea for a museum unlike any other.

When we think of a museum, we think of rooms full of lifeless exhibits, each artifact with a small card explaining what it is and its significance in the history of something. Certainly not every museum is like this: Some, like Liberty Science Center (in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty in Jersey City, New Jersey) have some "cool" exhibits geared towards making science fun for kids, but even that, for the most part, is a collection of artifacts with little cards.

The CMoA has a somewhat different vision: Bring this stuff to life, make it inspiring and memorable. Not only explain what it is, but why it was important. Get stories from the people who used or designed or installed these things, introducing the human factor to better explain their meaning and



*A SCALBI 8H microcomputer. Before the Altair 8080, there was the SCALBI (pronounced "sell-bee"). Announced to the world with a tiny ad in QST in March 1974, it sold as a kit starting at \$440, but with the full 16k of Random Access Memory the price jumped to over \$3200. Based on the Intel 8008, this is one of the very first personal computers.*

significance. The ultimate goal is to develop a deep understanding of the origins and effects of the technological revolution that computing has spawned in our modern society.

In an online article by Appen Media <<https://bit.ly/2WoHbbX>>, museum Vice President Karin Mimms (Lonnie's wife) said, "It's more than just a technology museum, it's an innovation center. People think, 'oh, it's just computers.' But it goes into so many other areas, because computers have touched every industry known to man."

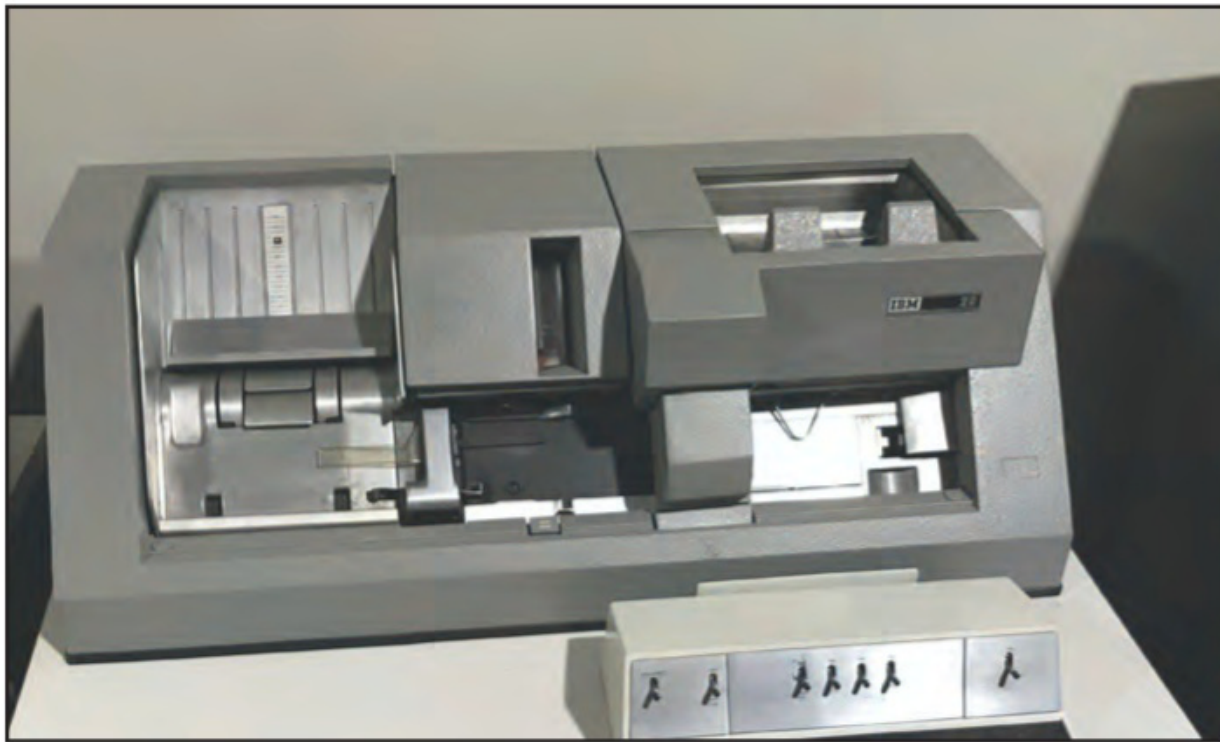
Full disclosure: I am not at all involved with the CMoA, and my impressions come entirely from a single visit several months before the museum is scheduled to officially open to the public. I visited one evening as part of a small group of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) members, based out of Georgia Tech in Atlanta, who got a sneak peek of the work-in-progress. I also gleaned some newer information from its website <<https://computermuseumofamerica.org>>.

Roswell, Georgia is a mid-size city "outside the perimeter" (OTP) to the north of Atlanta. With a population of nearly 100,000 and a land area of over 40 square miles, it is a mix of solid suburbia and intensive highway retail. The main east-west highway, Georgia Route 92, has a speed limit of 45 MPH but it still takes nearly a half hour to get from one end of town to the other (outside rush hour) because of the traffic lights. Old historic Roswell, centered near town hall and Canton Street, is a lively collection of (mostly) outstanding restaurants, fascinating and eclectic shops, and even two

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\* c/o CQ magazine

Email: <[N2IRZ@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:N2IRZ@cq-amateur-radio.com)>



*An IBM Model 29 card punch machine. Before hard disks, floppies and cassette drives, the only way to store computer programs was a physical piece of card stock known as a punch card, with punched holes representing ASCII characters. These cards each stored a single line of computer code and were carried around in shoeboxes and wrapped with rubber bands to ensure they stayed in the correct order — “dropping your deck” was a traumatic event, since re-sorting the scattered cards was a day’s work. I recall many late nights in engineering school working on just such a machine.*

craft breweries spread out over a couple of easily-walkable blocks. There seems to be a celebration or festival almost every weekend, as well as the terrifically popular (and family- and pedestrian-friendly) Alive after Five event on the third Thursday of each month.

As is typical for such a setting, the retail businesses are clustered along Route 92 and the major north-south highway, Georgia Route 9. (Hardly anyone uses the route numbers, as these roads have names, but these change names unexpectedly several times as they make their way through town). Along with stand-alone stores and small strip malls are some

larger mall-like clusters, although none has more than a dozen or so stores. And, as we all should know from hearing the news, retail brick-and-mortar stores are currently suffering from a downturn. You probably know of a shopping mall in your town that is half empty, or worse.

It is in one of these under-utilized small malls — the Roswell Town Center — that the CMoA makes its home. Located right next to the busiest intersection in town (corner of routes 92 and 9), on the lower floor near the Aurora movie theater and the WhirlyBall Atlanta space, is the huge exhibit space housing CMoA. Inside the museum are dozens of supercomputers and computing-related exhibits designed to spark the imagination. When I visited, only the lower floor was in use, but there are plans to more than double the size of the museum by expanding to a second floor.

We entered off to the side of the supercomputer gallery and started at the timeline of how computing came to be. The mint-condition computers (yes, we can call them that) were the big draw for a geek like me, but probably a greater attraction for most folks are the explanations of their significance, which were in the draft stages when I visited. Instead of leaving most of the details to the imagination, which younger or disinterested visitors might not capture, this was all spelled out in the displays that I saw.

Of course, any museum dedicated to something the visitor already finds interesting will be a good place to visit. However, what about those who are not really interested? Many years ago, I visited the Belskie Museum of Art & Science <[www.belskiemuseum.com](http://www.belskiemuseum.com)> in Closter, New Jersey. Abram Belskie was a talented sculptor who, amongst several sculpting talents, later specialized in bas-relief medals. The coin-like medals, and the processes used to sculpt and fabricate them, was shown in the tiny museum and was fascinating for me, because I could understand what I was seeing.

Not so for my daughter, who had been assigned a visit for her schoolwork: There was little interpretive or explanatory information. The cards simply show a few dry facts about each artifact.

It should be different in the CMoA: Enthusiasts will certainly see lots of things that are fascinating, but even the non-enthusiast, dare I say even the mildly bored and hostile visitor, will find the visit satisfyingly interesting.

Turning the corner from the timeline, you are immediately attracted to the Apollo space flight display. We’ve all heard the stories about the Apollo flight computers and how ridiculously low-performing they were compared to, say, a mod-



*This Cray DD49 hard disk drive, tucked off in a corner of the supercomputer gallery, was the most interesting artifact for me. The size of a large filing cabinet, it has a capacity of perhaps 100 MB and cost several tens of thousands of dollars new. Compare that to my 5 TB portable HDD that I bought at Costco for \$129, which is a little bigger than a deck of cards.*





*The gentleman at the center, one of the IEEE group, tells stories to the group about the Cray XMT he'd spent a good portion of his career with. Chief Advocacy Officer Todd Peneguy (right, with name badge) wants some of the (unclassified) stories to be included with the exhibit.*

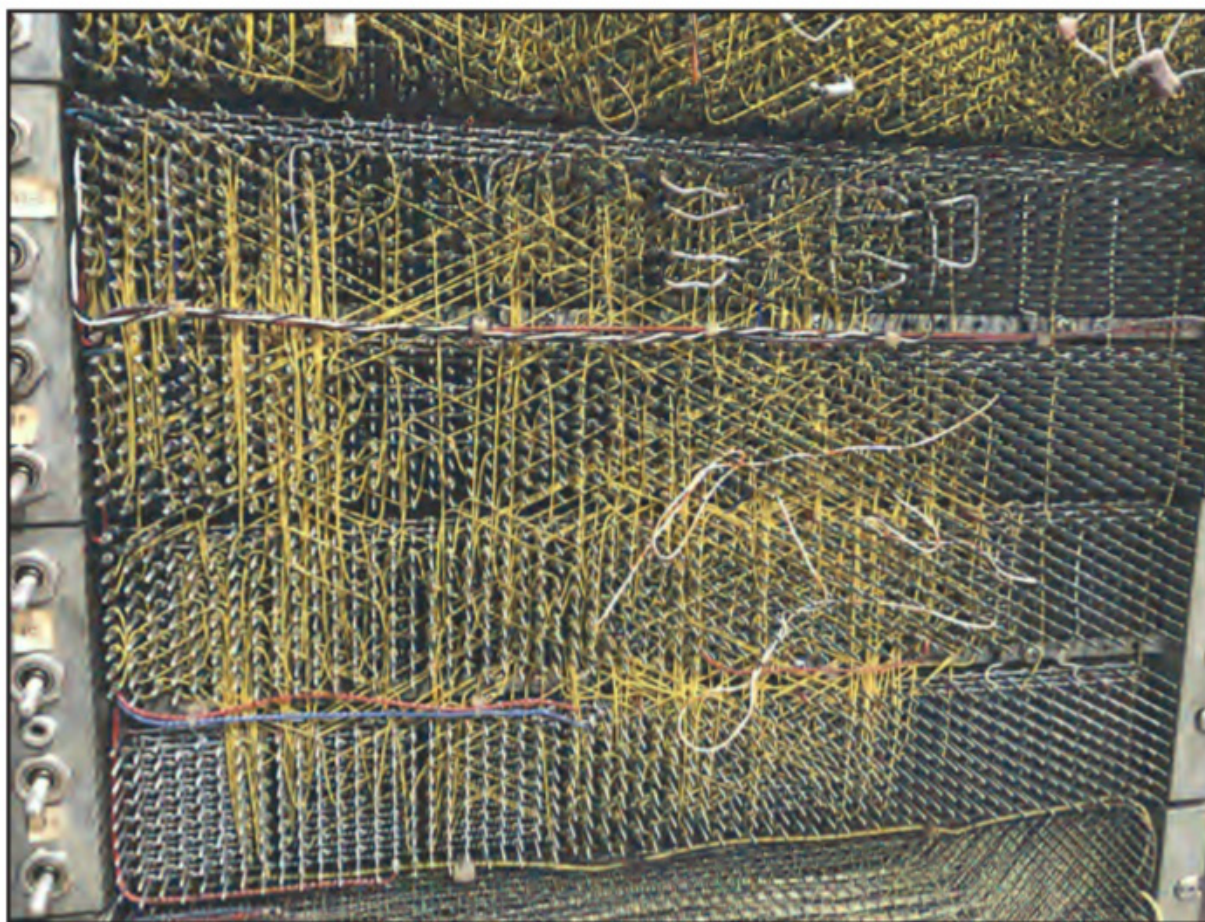
ern \$5 Raspberry Pi Zero microcontroller. But the display, with several attractive displays to draw you in, shows why NASA didn't use the more powerful processors available at the time, and why it really wasn't necessary anyway. (After all, they did complete their missions, right?)

But to walk right into the spaceflight display is to go right past all those PDP computers and the punch card display. There's a wall dedicated to Byte magazine, showing hundreds of colorful covers from the magazine's days, and a peek around the corner of the supercomputer gallery.

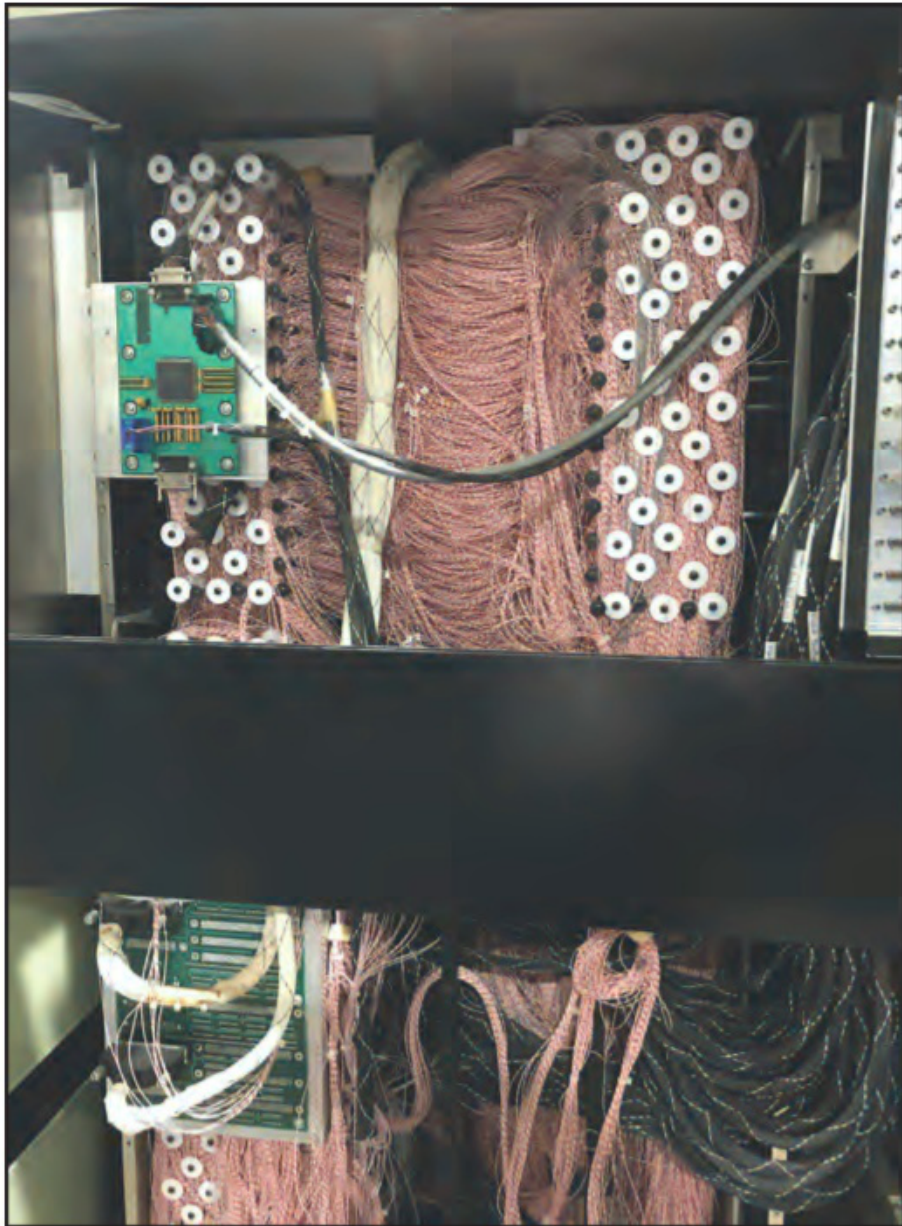
Sprinkled around the supercomputers (dozens of them!), but in their own spaces, are displays about some of the most difficult computing problems, which form the reasons for even creating those supercomputers: The human genome, weather and climatology, atomic energy, cryptography, energy exploration and engineering design, to name a few. Each of these displays is quite good in its own right, but combined together helps us better understand why anyone would try to even build a supercomputer. And these are not just dry displays of fact. For example, the climatology and weather area has a dynamic sculpture representing the mathematics of a tornado and thundercloud, to show how supercomputers made better weather prediction possible.

On the other end of the scale, there is a series of video game consoles in the vintage arcade, and visitors are encouraged to play them. Remember Pong? If not, you really need to play a game or two. The museum creators envision many displays being rotated every 18 months or so.

They started on the first floor, according to Chief Advocacy Officer Todd Peneguy, because they weren't sure the second floor could handle the weight of the supercomputers. Plans for the additional space include maker spaces, co-working offices, discovery spaces, classrooms, and other amenities. The basic idea is to develop into a technology learning and innovation



*Wire Wrap Hell. Before printed circuit boards were widely used, one-off and low-production circuits were interconnected using wire-wrap techniques, where the special wire was wrapped around square pins to make a connection. This photo shows about one-third of the open side of an older supercomputer in the PDP gallery. The white wires are repairs.*



*Cray Guts. This photo shows the innards of a piece of super-computer. I'm not sure who thought using all the same wire color was a good idea.*

center which, given the proximity of Georgia Tech and other prominent universities, is sorely needed in the Atlanta area. Peneguy feels that there is no reason that Atlanta cannot become more of a technology and innovation center of the country, and that this venue is going to help spark that fire.

The museum will celebrate its grand opening on Saturday, July 20, not coincidentally the 50th anniversary of man's first landing on the Moon. If you find yourself traveling near Atlanta in the future, try to make some time to head north on Route 400 into Roswell and spend a few hours at the CMoA.

*– Until next time, 73 de N2IRZ.*



*A NASA space suit in the Apollo display area. Some of the artifacts in the display are quite rare and seldom seen by the public. This photo was taken before the signage was installed.*



*The founder of the CMoA, Lonnie Mimms (white shirt, at left) explains the significance of the different systems generations in the PDP gallery. This was taken before the final signage was placed.*

# MAGIC IN THE SKY

BY JEFF REINHARDT,\* AA6JR

## "Return With Us Now..."

"...to those thrilling days of yesteryear..." So went the intro to the weekly adventures of *The Lone Ranger*.

**L**ike all good technical publications, CQ does well in keeping readers informed on the latest new amateur radio equipment and technology, software programs, operating modes, and the like. In these pages you'll also find news, regulatory info, contest results, awards updates, and other contemporary developments. But it seems appropriate here, in the summer of 2019, to take a temporary vacation-time leave of the "here and now" and reflect on some of the "blasts from the past" because, well, this year calls to mind some pretty significant milestones.

### Like it Was Yesterday

Using the cover date of this magazine as a benchmark, exactly 50 years ago, the world held its breath as the Apollo 11 mission built toward its climax. The hopes and prayers of billions across the planet were reflected in white knuckles, eyes riveted on flickering TV screens, and ears straining to decipher the raspy transmissions of the Lunar Module *Eagle* making its harrowing descent to the Moon's Sea of Tranquility. And then — planet-wide jubilation with the message, "Tranquility Base here, the *Eagle* has landed."

If you were part of that experience, it's a moment in time you'll never forget, along with where you were and who you were with. If you're too young to have been in that moment, it was like few others. The turmoil of the 1960s came to a momentary stop. For the duration of the astronauts' time on the Moon, our culturally and politically fragmented planet was one. While the mission was the manifestation of American ingenuity and determination, the accomplishment was indeed celebrated by all mankind. Hard to believe it was 50 years ago — but if you want an indicator as to how far we've come in a short amount of time, 50 years prior to the moon landing, aviation and radio com-

munications were both in their infancy. Looking at where we are now, the list of technological advancements derived from America's investment in the space program might occupy this entire publication, and maybe then some, as the list keeps growing.

Just a month after the lunar mission came Woodstock, a summer musical celebration that became much more than the sum of its parts. It evolved to represent so many things, including a generation. It was an exclamation mark on an amazing decade overflowing with history, both good and bad, a closing of

the book on many pre- and post-war societal norms and the beginnings of many new chapters in music, culture, business, technology, how we viewed others, the environment, and more. What the space program was to technology, the culmination of the '60s at Woodstock was a demarcation point indicating the world's culture was now being redefined and reset by the post-war (or baby boom) generation.

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\*5904 Lake Lindero Drive, Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
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A 1986 Heathkit catalog still offered amateur radio gear but by then, the "build it yourself" era was coming to a (temporary) close.

were at the cutting edge of technology from the earliest days of radio up through the space program, including the early experiments with satellites that included monitoring the mysterious beeps from *Sputnik* through the launches of early amateur radio communication satellites.

We were (and are) the builders, the tinkerers, counted among the engineers who perhaps cut their teeth building crystal sets or soldering joints on a homebrew or Heathkit rig. We learned the new "language" of a schematic diagram. We reveled in the latest developments, ranging from transistors to integrated circuits and then developing new applications for these wonders, not just radio-related, like repeaters. Choose an item, from the musical *Moog Synthesizer* to life-saving medical equipment and ultimately to the now-many generations of computers that have transformed life on this planet at an amazing pace. Electronics are at the core of most of the major developments we can identify over the last 60 years.

### The "It" Factor

So what was the "it" that ignited your interest in radio? That certain spark that drove your interest to learn about this mysterious means of communication

that perhaps encouraged you and millions of others to explore the technical aspects that may have led to a career in electronics, engineering, or just the enjoyment of our hobby? It's that certain quality that goes beyond the question of "why" and replaces it with "why not?" While difficult to identify, that same "it" is still out there, perhaps landing today on a young student who may be tomorrow's designer of a communications repeater based on the Moon, or a device that makes today's pocket phones look like crude antiques. The evolution of contemporary and future devices rests on the pyramid of visionary inventors, developers, tinkerers,

engineering professionals, investors, and builders who made today's devices possible. While the years may pass by, the drive to advance our knowledge and culture is relentless.

### Back to the Future

In tune with this bit of reminiscing, I'm a bit of a pack rat, but from time to time I go through the accumulated boxes in my storage areas to dispose of the items accumulated over the decades. My most recent motivation has been scanning into the computer the boxes of old fading photos to preserve and share them with my kids and future generations. Also in those boxes are remnants

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- ★ FET Front End Attenuates Overloads
- ★ Instantaneous Cool Performance

- ★ Series Gate Automatic Noise Limiting
- ★ Dual Conversion on all Bands
- ★ Illuminated Calibrated "S" Meter

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- No External Switching Required
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HA-255



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99 P 25298W No Money Down* Shpg. wt., 11 lbs.	Net 32.85
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422 Lafayette Cat. No. 730

\*See Page 23 for Full Details on Easy Pay Plan

Lafayette offered electronics and home entertainment enthusiasts a wide array of choices in its catalogs. This 1973 edition had a section devoted to the ham radio audience.

of past (pre-digital) decades including some old catalogs that have been fun to reexamine. It's a hoot to see the "new" technologies of yesteryear and the prices asked for those treasures against the backdrop of today. I'm loathe to assign the catalogs to the recycle bin, as there aren't too many printed versions distributed anymore. Yet I'm sure my descendents might wonder, "What did he keep these things around for?"

So I've chosen a few examples to share with you (see photos) in the hope they may bring back a memory or generate a chuckle. After all, it's summer and what better time is there to kick back from the everyday bustle, sip a cool drink, and take a few deep and relaxing breaths?

And since it's summer, it may be ideal to stroll outdoors on a comfortable evening and take a look up at the Moon that's been there so long; a mystery to ancient civilizations, a companion to young lovers, a riddle to be solved by early mathematicians and a wonder to behold through even a crude telescope. After thousands of years of human history and countless eons before, man finally set foot on it just five short decades ago. So what's next? Yes, there's so much more to learn, many more challenges to take up, and countless technical obstacles to overcome but maybe tonight, take a brief moment to look up and enjoy what's been accomplished using *The Magic In The Sky*.

## BEHIND THE BYLINES...

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

**Ron Milliman, K8HSY** (co-author, "Putting a Computer Power Supply to Work in Your Ham Shack," p. 10), is a business consultant and retired professor of marketing at Western Kentucky University. He is also past president of the South Central Kentucky Council of the Blind. Ron has been a ham since 1957, loves CW, and currently chases DXpeditions and special event stations.

**Michael Tortorella, W2IY** ("An Odd HF Propagation Experience," p. 36), wrote about his summer vacation ham activities on Maine's Mount Desert Island (home of Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park) in the June 2016 issue of CQ ("Summer at IOTA's"). Subsequent email discussions with CQ Editor W2VU about some unusual propagation led to his writing this article.

**Klaus Spies, WB9YBM** ("Active Audio Filter Design," p. 38), is a frequent contributor to CQ, offering a variety of practical projects for the ham shack, although this one is a little more theoretical than most. Look for upcoming articles from Klaus on using your radio's squelch circuit for more than keeping the radio quiet when a frequency isn't busy, and on bringing new life to older VHF/UHF radios.

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1V2	2.38	6BZ5	2.95	6J85	4.45	12AT7/ECC81	3.19
2AV2	2.94	6CB6A/6CF6	3.06	6JCS	4.17	12AU7A/ECC82	2.87
3A3/3AW3	3.75	6CG3/6CE3/6CD3	3.76	6LQ6/5JE6A	7.79	12AV6	2.38
3AT2	3.64	6CG7/6FO7	2.84	6JH6	3.29	12AX7A/ECC83	2.59
3CU3A	4.69	6CG8A	3.99	6JS6B	6.99	12BA6	2.68
3DB3	4.10	6CJ3/6DW48/6CL3	3.49	6JUBA	4.13	12BE6	2.84
3GK5	3.59	6DQ6B/6GW6	4.99	6KA8	4.55	12BY7A/12BV7	3.29
3HM5/3HA5	3.59	6EA8	3.68	6KD6	7.89	12GN7A	5.19
4B25	3.29	6EH7	3.55	6KE8	5.89	17J2B	3.59
4EJ7/LF184	3.39	6EJ7/EF184	3.29	6KT8	4.99	23Z9	4.45
5GH6	4.38	6EW6	3.25	6KZ8	3.79	24LQ6	7.79
5LJ8	4.10	6GF7A	4.94	6LB6	7.89	33GY7A	5.99
5U4GB	2.87	6GH8A	2.94	6L6GC	5.89	35W4	2.11
6AQ5A/6HG5	3.15	6GJ7/ECF801	2.79	6LJ8	4.10	38HE7	6.85
6AU6A	3.05	6GM5	3.92	6LJ8	4.49	50C5	2.87
6AW8A	4.17	6GU7	3.89	6LJ8A/6KD8	3.64	70Z5	2.59
6BA6/EF93	3.12	6GY6/6GX5	3.19	6U10	3.78		
6BA11	4.55	6HB7	3.59	6V6GTA	4.27		
6BK4C/6EL4A	6.97	6HMS/6HA5	3.57	6Z10/6J10	5.89		

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In 1977, Radio Shack offered everything from room-filling stereo systems to a pack of resistors. It even offered replacement tubes, with a convenient tube tester at most locations.

# GORDO'S SHORT CIRCUITS

BY GORDON WEST, WB6NOA

## *But ... It Worked LAST Year!*

**S**easoned hams know the routine well — another public service event requesting ham radio support. Been there, done that, right?

After nearly 50 years of a monthly weekend standing on a street corner, radioing in bib numbers, or broadcasting a lost child report, I *always* find that my grab-and-go radio bag of tricks (*Photo A*) has something that's gone wrong since the last time I grabbed-and-went! These public service events are good training for all of us to check our response gear often!

Here are some of my notes of my on-scene go-bag bloopers:

- My favorite headset on which the flexible ear pad covering has disintegrated to a sticky blob
- My new headset mic level way too hot for local crowd noise, or totally unusable in the wind (*Photo B*)
- Lost my CTCSS cheat sheet to figure out what tone 4Z is in Hertz in the comms plan



*Photo A. Is your grab-and-go radio bag re-checked to make sure everything is working properly?*

\*CQ Contributing Editor

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e-mail: <wb6noa@cq-amateur-radio.com>



*Photo B. Crowd noise may cause over-deviation on a new headset until the mic gain is properly adjusted.*

# K4 HIGH-PERFORMANCE DIRECT SAMPLING SDR



## A direct-sampling SDR you'll love to use

Our new K4 features advanced signal processing, a 7" touch display, and controls optimized for ease of use. It includes single or dual panadapters, a high-resolution tuning aid, and built-in data modes. Via the Internet, a K4 can be 100% remote controlled from a PC, tablet, or even another K4, with panadapter data included. Work the world from anywhere, in style!

## Modular and upgradeable, with 3 models to choose from

The basic K4 covers 160-6 m, with dual receive on the same or different bands, and new DSP features such as advanced NR. The K4D adds diversity receive. The K4HD builds on the K4D, adding a dual superhet module for extreme-signal environments. Any model can be upgraded, and future enhancements such as a planned internal VHF/UHF module can be added as needed.

## Key Features

- Modular, upgradeable design
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Photo C. Make sure your HT's mic plug is fully seated.



Photo D. A portable shortwave set can help track grow-light ballasts.

- Working my handheld on which the remote mic plug wiggled out a micron (Photo C) to put the unit in transmit without my knowing it (thank goodness the rig has a timeout timer circuit!)

- NiCad battery back with initial full charge, going dead halfway through the event (the pack was only 8 years old!). Now I use the AA alkaline trays for which I know the freshness of the cells.

- At Quartzfest, dust getting into the talk-in radio's plastic mic jack and receiver — good signal, just no TX audio.

- Intermittent rubber duck? I only dropped the HT once! Nope, antenna fine, but the internal SMA jack solder con-

nection broke off at the board. I used flexible conductive solder wick for a new connection from board to jack.

Another learning experience for new hams doing local public service support comms through a distant repeater is desensitization. Every time street corner ham A gets close to rover 1 a few yards away, they can't talk to each other ... until they are separated by a hundred feet! This is a common "problem" with new hams on 2 meters with a tight 600-kHz offset — nearby HTs just can't take the overload.

And of course, the inevitable last-minute frequency change problems for those hams with no-name Chinese radios that

nearly defy field programming by the tone pad. Anytime I have a ham tell me that programming by hand is a snap, I give him or her one of my import radios, and say I need 147.000 MHz with a positive split, DCS of 343, medium power, long squelch hang time. End of discussion.

So next time your communications team says “yes” to supporting a public service event, take an assignment, bring your radio go-kit, and then sorta-smile when you find something inside that worked 5 years ago, but no longer plays perfectly today. It comes with being a

ham, so have plenty of backups. And check out your go-bag gear before you grab and go.

### Tracking Down the New QRN

“QRN” = *Noise!* Lots of noise lately! From HF to 2 meters, we are getting bombarded with QRN.

But before we can try to eliminate a noise problem, we need to positively identify what noise we are trying to silence.

Both the 2-meter ham band and the VHF marine band at 156 MHz are

smack dab in the radiated noise window from some name-brand and no-name light-emitting-diode (LED) light bulbs. When viewed on a spectrum analyzer, home LED bulb noise may have little effect on HF, but peaks between 140 and 170 MHz.

Here’s a tip for tracking down a noisy bulb: Tune in a 24-hour weather station around 162.500 MHz, and dial in a *weak* one just above your 2-meter receiver’s noise floor. With the volume way up, start turning off or unscrewing home LED bulbs. When the distant weather station suddenly comes in clearly, you’ve found the suspect bulb. Try another brand of bulb as a replacement.

Sometimes moving your 2-meter base antenna to the other side of the house will help, too. Keep in mind that home light bulb LED noise usually travels only about 100 feet from the source. Your rooftop 2-meter antenna might be mounted right over your radio room’s LED track light system.

On high frequency, here in California, our laws now permit home growing of certain plants for personal recreational use. It is the grow light BALLAST that may radiate an S-9 buzz that comes and goes as timers turn the systems on and off. RF ballast buzz can travel several blocks.

Time to walk the block discreetly with a portable HF SSB/CW receiver, such as the Yaesu FT-817/818. Tune in continuous WWV transmissions at 5, 10, or 15 MHz (*Photo D*) as a constant signal source. As you get closer to the source, WWV will begin to disappear in the noise, as you also reduce the telescopic whip to the point you can hear the noise with almost no antenna. Chances are you found the possible location of the broadband noise. Then you need to hope that you and that neighbor are friends, and can come up with an alternate RF ballast to run the grow lights.

Perhaps suggest to a neighbor they program their lights to come on when they are less likely to *interfere* with area communications systems, like local *police* or fire calls. Maybe run them midnight to daybreak?

These “hydroponic” systems are tearing up HF reception for *blocks* — not just your own house with an LED porch light.

With LED lights QRNING VHF, and grow-light ballasts killing HF reception, we hope the ARRL will continue its efforts to convince the FCC to step up enforcement of non-certified noise radiating RF ballasts coming in from noisy suppliers.

**Thanks for Your Check-In, John**  
I like to eavesdrop on nets around the country, and enjoy the professional net

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Photo E. Run your net with a smile and interact with those who check-in.

controllers who make these nets so important to the growth of ham radio. Here in my area of California, I sometimes hear local 2-meter net control stations who roll their call downs so impersonal and robotic, I now see why new hams don't come back for future check ins.

Nets are fun gathering spots for local news, club meetings, solar reports for HF, wants or listings for items to sell or give away, link info for SDR stations on the internet ... offering net listeners *more* than just rolling down the list, calling callsigns, one after another.

But the clincher, in *my* opinion, is a net controller who will call a station in disinterest, the station replies, and without acknowledging that station, rolls on to the *next* callsign.

Many new stations may think their new radio is not reaching net control, as they didn't get that friendly "Thanks, Paul,

for the check-in tonight..." and the net controller just moves on to the next station to call, and again, not acknowledge that station that everyone else indeed heard over the repeater or simplex.

Let's have fun with our regular net check-ins. Rotate an experienced friendly net controller (*Photo E*) with a new ham net controller, to show them the simple ways to make the net more than just a rundown of callsigns with no acknowledgements to each participant. The more news and fun we can make during our weekly ham nets, the greater potential to grow your organization and our ham radio service.

### New General Class Question Pool

On July 1, the General Class element 3 question pool was revised to add a few questions on digital operation, and while several questions that no longer reflect current popular technology were eliminated. If you have an older book to study for your element 3 General Class exam, you will likely still do well on the exam, as the *majority* of questions didn't change at all.

Take some practice exams on the internet, and you will likely only find a couple of exam questions that do not look familiar, but have logical common-sense correct answers. Of course, my new General book (*Photo F*) has the latest pool, for exams given between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2023.

If you are *teaching* ham classes to your club, take advantage of the W5YI/Gordo free updated instructor program, and download the free instructor guidebooks, with all the details on how to roll a ham class with the reorganization of the updated question pools for easier teaching by topic areas.

Go to <[www.haminstructor.com](http://www.haminstructor.com)>, get logged in, and take advantage of the *free* instructor materials that you may download and print for your upcoming classes this summer and fall.

Hope to meet up with your clubs or hamfest on SKYPE. Contact me at <[GORDO@WB6NOA.com](mailto:GORDO@WB6NOA.com)> and let's put a program together.

Happy E<sub>s</sub> this summer to you all!

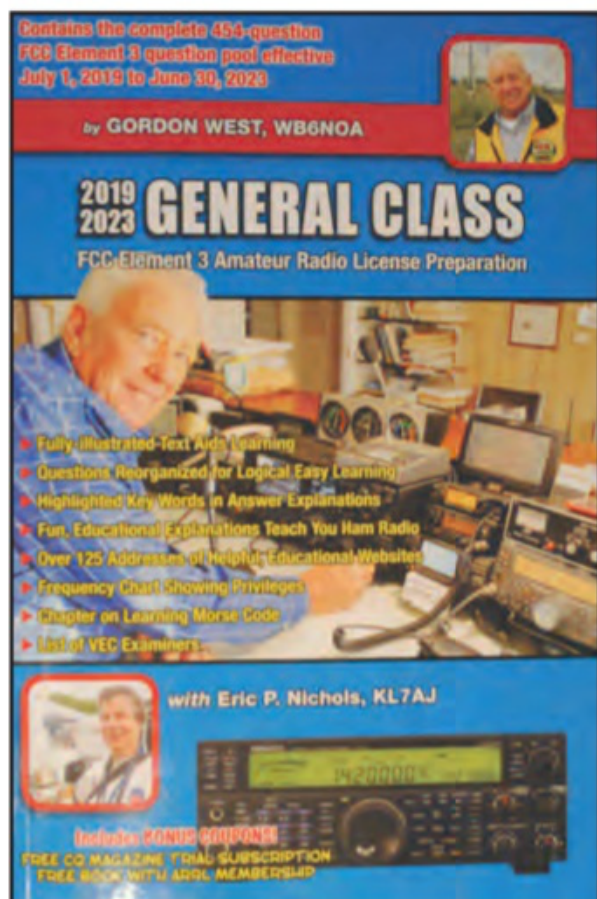


Photo F. The new 2019-2023 Gordo General Class book.



"Ham Nation" recently celebrated its 400<sup>th</sup> podcast with Joe Walsh, WB6ACU; Bob Heil, K9EID; Gordo; and all the hosts.

BY JOHN LANGRIDGE,\* KB5NJD

## Calculating EIRP – It’s Not as Tough as You Might Think

**A**s I prepare this column in early spring, we are 18 months into activity on the 630- and 2200-meter bands regulated under FCC Part 97 rules and, out of the scores of questions that I receive between each article, only two have ever been on the subject of how to take measurements that lead to determination of *Effective Isotropic Radiated Power*, or EIRP. That potentially means a couple of things:

1) Most people “get it” and the procedures are straightforward. Procedure-driven individuals will generally find this to be the case; or

2) Amateurs are rolling the dice using best-guess tactics and don’t have a clue what is actually being radiated from their antennas.

The truth probably lies somewhere between the two.

### A Nebulous Undertaking

It’s true that determining accurate EIRP values for a suburban backyard antenna for use below the AM broadcast band can be a nebulous undertaking in which even the most care-

ful measurements might result in errors as high as three to six decibels. Even so, I’ve been careful to stress that amateurs should exercise due diligence in determining their station parameters and in getting that information, and how they arrived at their values, on paper. While I don’t expect anyone to show up on most amateurs’ doorsteps, scrutinizing their operation, it’s important for us to show that we know what we are doing and instill confidence, which can go a long way in the future when we ask the FCC for things like power increases.

Why is it so difficult to make accurate determinations of EIRP at these frequencies? It may not be if you happen to live on an unobstructed, flat, antenna range with careful control of the ground conditions, but the majority of operators on both bands face the reality of operating MF and LF from “typical” small plots of land, often in suburban residential areas that are surrounded by the spoils of urban sprawl including houses, trees, power lines, light poles, water towers, and cell towers, to name just a few. All of these things can be detrimental to antenna measurements. Remember that the near-



Photo A. Here is a common General Electric thermocouple-type RF ammeter. For vertical antennas, the meter leads can be inserted in the output lead of the antenna tuning unit to the antenna, but mount the meter as if it were at high potential to avoid arcing to other objects and creating bigger problems. With loops, simply insert the meter anywhere in the loop circuit. Near the feedpoint is often the most convenient location, but for small loops, current distribution is relatively constant so it can be inserted anywhere along the radiator.



Photo B. This very busy image shows the common arrangement used at KB5NJD for measuring total system resistance. The center conductor of the analyzer (pink wire) interfaces with the input of the loading coil. The ground lead (red wire) connects to the ground bus in the antenna-tuning unit (ATU). Note that the ATU ground jumper can be seen disconnected in the lower right of the image. This removes the LC matching network from the circuit for the purpose of these measurements. The coax is also disconnected at the input of the ATU (not shown).

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Duncanville, TX 75137  
<kb5njd@cq-amateur-radio.com>

Photo C. This modified spreadsheet allows the user to enter values of measured feedpoint resistance (total system resistance) and adjust the values of applied power in order to achieve desired EIRP. Frequency and radiation resistance estimates must also be entered. These can be determined from modeling or from WØYSE's spreadsheet also mentioned in this article. Only modify the blue values!

Monopole Radiation Factor	3		
Frequency	474.5 kHz		
Total resistance	22.5 ohms		
Power input	60 Watts		
$I_r$	1.6 A		
Rrad	0.6300 ohms		
Efficiency	-15.6 dB		
EIRP	5.04000 W	=	7.0 dBW
		=	37.0 dBm

field radiation on these bands can extend hundreds — if not thousands — of feet from the antenna. Traditionally, the most accurate data are found using field strength measurement techniques just as they are used in the broadcast industry. Unfortunately, these techniques are often beyond the scope of most amateurs' capabilities due to the cluttered near field previously mentioned, as well as a lack of readily available, inexpensive, commercially-calibrated equipment. Most broadcast-band, field-strength meters have to be excluded as well as they do not cover either of our bands and, even if the controls allowed operating in the spectrum of interest, antenna and instrumentation calibration would be in question. And it goes without saying that since we are dealing with absolute measurements, a simple relative field-strength meter that often utilizes telescoping antennas will not provide the desired results.

Some amateurs have successfully built and calibrated field strength measurement antennas for use with selective level meters and other RF voltmeters,<sup>1,2</sup> but this approach is more of an academic project and does not account for the problems associated with the realities of urban and suburban life. And one should not underestimate the importance of making accurate measurements in the calibration of the instrumentation as well as the actual measurements for the transmitting antenna in question. These are NOT the places to cut corners. Fortunately, there are other acceptable measurement methods that allow amateurs to get "close enough" and are perfectly legal.

## Measurement Techniques

One of the most common techniques available to amateurs for making EIRP determinations for vertical and loop antennas involves measuring antenna current. When coupled with accurate estimates of radiation resistance and the gain factor, calculating EIRP is a breeze:

$$P_{EIRP} = I^2 \times R_r \times G_a$$

Where:

$P_{EIRP}$  = EIRP in watts

$I$  = measured RF antenna current in amps

$R_r$  = estimated radiation resistance in ohms

$G_a$  = gain factor, ("3" for most loops and verticals using perfect ground gain values)<sup>3</sup>

Current is most commonly and accurately measured using a thermocouple-type RF ammeter (*Photo A*). However,

meters in usable ranges from one tenth of an amp up to three or four amps for verticals and up to 10 amps for loops have become scarce in recent years, and those that can be found may be damaged. Most often, when problems exist, the meter movements are fine but the thermocouple junctions are damaged. My success rate with hamfest-acquired thermocouple-type RF ammeters is about 50%.

For verticals, the meter can be inserted into the antenna lead on the either side of the loading coil at the antenna feedpoint, but is most often found on the high voltage side between the loading coil and antenna, so ensure that the meter is completely floating above ground potential to avoid arcing. With loops, the meter is usually inserted at the feedpoint in the antenna lead itself. In either configuration, the meter resistance is generally less than an ohm but it is common in broadcast installations to use a bypass switch or jumper around the meter when measurements are not being taken in order to reduce overall antenna loss resistance.

It's often handy to determine the necessary current required to achieve the EIRP limit for the band of interest (5 watts EIRP on 630 meters and 1 watt EIRP on 2200 meters for most) and that's accomplished by simply rearranging the formula and solving for current. Required antenna current can then be adjusted by increasing or decreasing final amplifier power output to the antenna. When making current measurements, the antenna should be both resonated and matched, and the transmitted signal should be a sine wave carrier (a CW carrier is fine). Mismatched antennas can result in erroneous or diminished results, so keep that in mind. Every dB counts for our compromise systems.

Another popular and related method for determining EIRP often used with verticals is to measure the total system resistance (also known as the feedpoint resistance) of the resonated but unmatched antenna, using an antenna analyzer that covers the frequency range of interest. Unlike measuring antenna current to calculate EIRP, this approach doesn't need power to be applied to the antenna to make the determination but taking measurements is very straightforward for those who can follow directions. This approach can also be used to check the values determined from other methods and generally both results should be relatively close.

## Making Your Measurements

The first step is to ensure that the antenna is resonated on the measurement frequency using an analyzer or even a "scope match"<sup>4</sup>. At the antenna feedpoint, the center con-

Operating Frequency	<b>0.475 MHz</b>	Frac lambda		Sine of Deg
Vertical section (Gv)	<b>43 FEET</b>	0.0208 WL =	7.472561 Degrees	0.130051 (not used)
Top wires (if used)	<b>100 FEET</b>	0.0483 WL =	17.37805 Degrees	0.298675 = <b>It</b>
Total Length	<b>143 FEET</b>	0.0690 WL =	24.85061 Degrees	0.420254 = <b>lb</b>
Degree-Ampere Area, A	<b>6.39166 Deg-Amps</b>			
Vertical section	<b>0.0208 wl</b>	7.4726 Degrees		
(1) by LaPort's equations: Rr =	<b>0.4964 ohms of Radiation Resistance</b>			"(1)" $A = \frac{G_s}{2} \left( \frac{I_t}{I_b} + 1 \right)$
<b>CALCULATION OF ERP USING Rr:</b>				
Current into base of antenna	<b>1.443 Amperes (RMS**)</b>			
<b>**Note:</b> If your RF ammeter measures "average" current, multiply the reading by ~1.11 to get RMS)				
(2) by Fritz's equations: TRP	<b>1.03358 W</b>	=	<b>0.1 dBW</b>	<b>30.1 dBm</b>
EIRP	<b>3.10075 W</b>	=	<b>4.9 dBW</b>	<b>34.9 dBm</b>
ERP	<b>1.88610 W</b>	=	<b>2.8 dBW</b>	<b>32.8 dBm</b>

Figure 2. WØYSE's spreadsheet is based on Laport's calculations, which utilize the main attributes of a short vertical antenna — including physical height and the total length of top loading wires — to accurately determine radiation resistance. Users can also manipulate RF current values to determine necessary values to achieve a certain EIRP. These values are referenced to the user-defined antenna attributes. Again, modify only the blue values!

ductor of the antenna analyzer should be connected directly to the input of the antenna's loading coil. Ground for the analyzer is accomplished with a short lead to the antenna's ground system. No coax is used here. The ground connection should be solid on both the antenna side and at the analyzer. I have soldered a heavy lead to the shell of a PL-259 for the ground connection at the analyzer. I used to use small alligator clips on the analyzer connections to the antenna but these really need to be solid connections to ensure low resistance (see *Photo B*).

The matching circuit should also be removed from the antenna system as we are trying to determine the value of resistance for the resonated antenna, not the value required to match the feedline to the antenna. This is the part that can get a bit complicated, however, because there are a number of ways to match an antenna, including split-winding transformer, grounding the bottom of the loading coil (autotransformer), and an LC network to name just a few. If you are using transformer coupling, the transformer will have to be removed for this measurement and the analyzer connected directly to the loading coil and ground lead. It's handy to design antenna tuning units with jumpers for this reason. If the autotransformer approach is used, simply remove the ground tap connection of the loading coil. In the case of the LC network, which is what I use in my system, I have a jumper between the coil tap and capacitor bank that I disconnect to make measurements. Your measurements should only include the loading and radiator in series plus the ground connection for the analyzer.

Once the physical connections are complete, double check that the resonant frequency has not changed. Resonance is the point where the reactance (X) value is zero (or near zero in real world situations). If resonance did change, the matching device was also supplying some degree of loading. This is not uncommon behavior, but the antenna should be adjusted so that it is once again resonant. At this point, simply read the value of resistance, which contains all of the loss resistances such as ground, environmental, loading, and con-

ductor losses and a very small, real contribution in our case from radiation resistance. My Rig Expert AA-30 analyzer displays the resistance as "R." I like to make these measurements with my body located some distance from the antenna to avoid any coupling. I rarely see much change, but better safe than sorry. I'm not saying you need to read the value with binoculars from across the backyard, but just be mindful of your location with respect to the loading and radiating element.

### Playing With the Numbers

Now that you have a system resistance value to work with, its time to play with the numbers. The variation on the formula previously presented certainly can be used in conjunction with a few other formulas to arrive at the required transmitter power for the measured system resistance to achieve 5-watts EIRP, but I like to use a spreadsheet to help speed the process of manipulating the numbers (see *Fig. 1*). This heavily modified spreadsheet<sup>5</sup> originated from amateurs on the Radio Society of Great Britain's RSGB-LF email reflector back in 2012. It's a reasonable calculation tool but there were some problems with the original version, most notably with the way that radiation resistance was determined. I stripped out all of those calculations, instead choosing to use a different source for determining the radiation resistance, which was deemed more accurate and reliable. What remains is another form of the same formula previously specified in addition to current calculations that are based on applied power to the antenna and feedpoint (system resistance) that was measured in previous steps. By adjusting the value of applied power (power input), one can arrive at values necessary to achieve the desired EIRP level.

I've not said much about radiation resistance up until this point but the value that you use in your calculations is very important. If you don't get this part right, you might as well not be going to the trouble to make these calculations. There are a number of methods for determining radiation resistance

and it is always a derived (never measured!) value. As I mentioned previously, the method originally used in the spreadsheet was a poor estimation, over-inflating the radiation resistance value so that it was reporting 5-watt EIRP for much lower power levels applied to the antenna. In short, the operator was being “shortchanged” and had the right to apply more power to the antenna than the calculations were reporting.

For antenna modelers, radiation resistance values can be determined for the *unloaded* radiator and are often referenced to the perfect ground gain model, which helps us remain legal since real-world values can never exceed this theoretical value. This is why the spreadsheet uses a “monopole radiation factor” of 3, which is a derived value for the 4.77 dBi attributed to the ground model for verticals.

For those not interested in the tedium associated with antenna modeling, there is another spreadsheet that I like to use by Neil Klagge, WØYSE<sup>6</sup>, that was developed with the help of Rudy Severns, N6LF, and is based on the highly-accurate Laport calculations for determining EIRP, radiation resistance<sup>7</sup>, and antenna current for user-provided antenna dimensions (see Fig. 2). These calculations are usable for vertical antennas up to 30° tall (about 175 feet), which will include most of the antennas on the air and can be utilized for determining both current required to achieve maximum legal radiated power and radiation resistance values for making calculations with measured values of current that were described initially in this article, in addition to the total system resistance method. In both spreadsheets, only values in blue may be manipulated.

### DO Try This At Home

EIRP determination is generally not a difficult undertaking using the approaches described but sometimes the task of manipulating the values can be overwhelming. Download the spreadsheets linked at the end of this article, play with the numbers that are in blue font and observe how the various dependencies change as you change values. It’s fascinating to watch how these values are interrelated.

A closing note: My April column unintentionally confused EIRP with actual radiated power. Please see “Oops” on page 110 of the June issue of CQ for a discussion. If you have questions or comments, please contact me at <KB5NJD@gmail.com>.

### Notes/References

For your convenience, the following links, in addition to bonus material, may be found at <<http://njdtechnologies.net/cq/>>.

1. Field strength measurements by W1TAG: <<https://tinyurl.com/y37mselz>>
2. ON7YD’s comments on field strength measurements to determine ERP (not EIRP!): <<https://tinyurl.com/yxskzhux>>
3. N6LF’s discussion of soil conditions and how monopole radiation factor is determined: <<https://tinyurl.com/y5b73gpe>>
4. KL7L’s excellent video tutorial on scopematch: <<https://tinyurl.com/y3z6dfag>>
5. Modified spreadsheet for total system resistance method of EIRP determination: <<https://tinyurl.com/y6rcw79k>>
6. WØYSE’s spreadsheet relating antenna physical attributes, antenna current and radiation resistance: <<https://tinyurl.com/y6347obq>>
7. WØYSE’s discussions of a variety of related topics, including the mathematics of determining radiated power, current measurements, and associated calculations: <<https://tinyurl.com/y4tk5j4w>>

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# VHF PLUS

BY TONY EMANUELE,\* K8ZR

## GridXpeditions, FT4, and More

**T**he K5N team of Dan Bates, N5TM; Bill Simpson, N5YA; Kyle De Haas, KA5D; Kourt De Hass, KB5PRZ; Ivan De Haas, KG5UNR; and Marshall Williams, K5QE, will take to the road in July with the intent of activating grid DL89 in Study Butte, Texas, just west of the Big Bend National Park; and DL79 in Presidio, Texas, both rare grids and high on the FFMA's list of most wanted grids<sup>1</sup>. Though the plan is somewhat fluid as this is written in late May, the team plans on being QRV on 50 MHz on July 6<sup>th</sup> from DL89 and from DL79 on July 9<sup>th</sup>, depending on actual station setup and tear-down.

Operation will take place on SSB and CW whenever Sporadic-E ( $E_s$ ) is evident due to the much higher QSO rates associated with those modes. K5N will operate FT8 or MSK144 when band conditions dictate. Following the usual standard practice, the DXpedition will transmit the first sequence when operating the digital modes. The DXpedition expects to have access to the internet at both locations and will use the chat page <<http://chat.n5tm.com>> available on the Slack VHF Chat system for you to contact N5TM.

### CY9C St. Paul Island DXpedition

The veteran team of Murray Adams, WA4DAN; Pat Dolan, N2IEN; Phil McBride, VA3QR; Lee Imber, WW2DX; Bill Engel, K5DHY; Dan Sullivan, W4DKS; and Will Roberts, AA4NC, will activate St. Paul Island, Nova Scotia, Canada, FN97, using the callsign of CY9C, from July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup> on 6 and 2 meters.

Given its location, St. Paul Island is not an easy grid/DX entity to work because, for most of North America, multiple hop  $E_s$  is necessary. Of course, FT8 will be a game changer and it is safe to say that for many people, the mode will result in a new DX entity on 50 MHz that might not have been possible on SSB or CW. Conditions will dictate which mode, SSB, CW or FT8, the team will use during its stay.

### VHF Plus Calendar

CQ World Wide VHF Contest: July 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
Central States VHF Society Conference: Lincoln, NE July 25<sup>th</sup> - July 27<sup>th</sup>  
ARRL 222 MHz & Up Distance Contest: August 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
ARRL 10 GHz & Up Contest: August 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>  
ARRL September VHF Contest: September 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>  
ARRL 10 GHz & Up Contest (Weekend 2): September 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
ARRL EME Contest 2.3 GHz & Above: September 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

The well-equipped station will run 500 to 800 watts to a 6-element Yagi on SSB, CW, FT8, and EME on 6 meters. On 144 MHz, the team will run 1-kilowatt SSPA to a pair of custom-designed and optimized 10-element Yagis.

The CY9C crew encourages smaller stations (i.e. low power and a single Yagi with or without elevation) to try and

work the 2-meter station. You should check in on their website <<http://cy9c.com/index.html>> for the latest updates.

### Buzzards, Satellites and FT4

Bob Yates, W4GCB, of LaGrange, Georgia in grid EM73, reports that the Buzzard Net convenes every Monday evening at 2230 UTC on 50.155 MHz.



Photo A. Bill Koch, W2RMA, standing on 5-story parking garage in Virginia Beach, Virginia, FM26au, looking toward the north, while scouting locations for ARRL's 10-GHz and Up Contest. See text for more details. (Courtesy of K1RZ)

c/o CQ magazine  
email: <[k8zr@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:k8zr@cq-amateur-radio.com)>

The net averages nearly 100 check-ins with that number doubling if E<sub>s</sub> is in play. Net controls are Ed Ekkebus, KE4EE, and Rob Momon, N4VPI, who follow an “around the compass” format beginning north and moving clockwise, continuing until 0015 UTC or later depending on activity. Six check-ins to the net will qualify you for a Buzzard number and certificate. To date, over 200 stations have earned that honor<sup>2</sup>.

At the other end of the spectrum, the IARU Satellite Coordination Panel has announced the amateur radio frequencies for the Australian 76-GHz CubeSat CUAVA-1, which is expected to launch from Japan in July 2019 into a 400-kilometer orbit. The downlink frequencies are: 437.075 MHz, 2404.00 MHz, 5840.00 MHz, and 76.800 GHz, while the uplink frequencies are: 145.875 MHz, 2404.00 MHz, and 5660.00 MHz. Hopefully, the launch will be a success.

The VHF Super Conference was held in Sterling, Virginia in late April with 200-plus participants who experienced a first-class conference in every respect. Presentation topics ranged from large vertical arrays for 6 meters to optical communications, with a wide variety of topics in between. Joe Taylor, K1JT, took the opportunity to introduce the WSJT FT4 protocol for digital contesting<sup>3</sup>.

Described as an experimental digital mode, FT4 was designed specifically for contesting. Like FT8, it uses fixed-length transmissions composed of structured messages with formats optimized to meet the minimum standards required for a valid QSO<sup>4</sup>. The FT4 transmit/receive sequences are 6 seconds long vs. 15 seconds for FT8 (i.e., 2.5 times faster) and comparable to those of RTTY contesting. See the WSJT-X website for additional details regarding the specifics of the protocol. As of presstime, the general availability (GA) release of WSJT-X 2.1.0, which will include FT4, is scheduled for July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Bill Koch, W2RMA, and Dave Petke, K1RZ, took advantage of the assembled masses attending the Super Conference to organize a 10-GHz “make some noise” activity event Wednesday evening and Thursday morning prior to the start of the conference. Their intent was twofold: To encourage 10-GHz operation by both home stations in the general area and conference attendees willing to operate portable/rover while Bill and Dave scouted potential operating sites along the Atlantic Ocean from Norfolk, Virginia and north for possible use the first weekend of the ARRL 10 GHz and Up contest in August.

Dave reached out to experienced rovers Brian Skutt, N3IQ, and Christophe Huygens, ON4IY, for advice on possible operating sites and strategies. Many may remember that ON4IY roved with Bill Seabreeze<sup>5</sup> (SK) W3IY/R. ON4IY was able to attend the conference, giving it special meaning for those who worked the pair in the ‘90s and early 2000s.

Armed with suggestions from N3IQ and ON4IY, Bill and Dave assembled a plan that included a total of 13 sites

spread over grids FM26, FM17, FM27, and FM28. After agonizing over a starting point — further south into North Carolina or start at Virginia Beach and go north — they elected to start at Virginia Beach, FM26au. The location was chosen because it had a 5-story parking garage on the beach (*Photos A and B*). It also provided good visibility in the various directions of the 12 other stations that planned on being QRV from home or portable on Wednesday evening and/or Thursday morning.

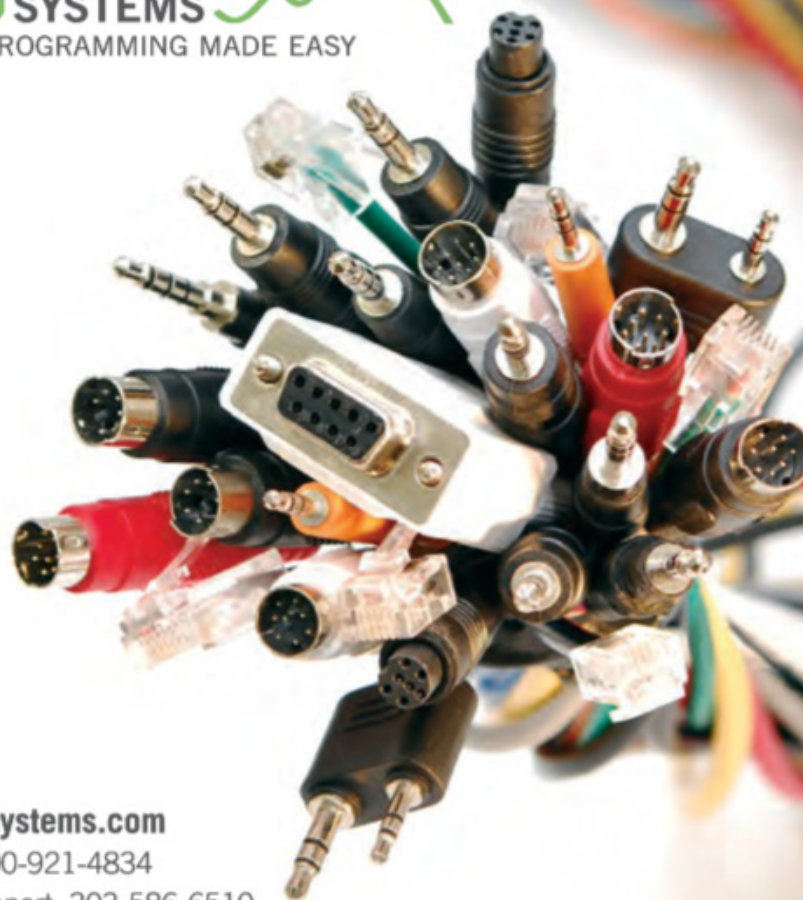
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Dave Petke, K1RZ, FM26au, waiting to receive W2RMA's signal. (Courtesy of W2RMA)

stands, offering an incentive — and some might claim a necessity — during what can be a warm 10 GHz and Up contest along the Atlantic seaboard. As Bill noted, “It was a lot of driving but we learned a lot about potential spots and access. All in all, a fun day and a half!”

### On the Bands

The North Texas Microwave Society (NTMS) has aligned its 2-meter activity night to coincide with the Southeast VHF Group's (Florida and Georgia) and it paid off in May when several stations worked across the Gulf of Mexico on 144.174 MHz using FT8. An example of what was worked was submitted by Brad Fuller, WQ5S, in EM13. He worked AF5CC, EM04; W5AFY, EM03; N5PGH, EM13; NN5DX, DM80; N5WDK, EL19; K5GZR, EL29; KO4MA, EL88; and WB4OMG, EL98, for his best DX of 1,693 kilometers (~1,052 miles). The Southeast VHF Group meets on the FT8 calling frequency of 144.174 MHz on Sunday night at 2030 EDT (Monday @ 0030UTC) and the NTMS ops start a half hour later at 0100 UTC.

Multi-hop E<sub>s</sub> was in action the last weekend in May with many locations in North America taking part in the band openings. A few in the Midwest worked their first Europeans of the E<sub>s</sub> season (Figure 1). Though there are no guarantees, the last week of June into the first week or two of July historically has seen multi-hop E<sub>s</sub> openings to Europe and Asia on 6 meters.

– 73 and CU on the bands, Tony, K8ZR

Those stations included: W3SZ, W3EKT, W4DEX, W3IP, K3TUF, K1TEO, N9ZL/R, K8ZR/R, W3HMS/R, K1MAP/R, K3HWC/R, and WA3USG/R.

By all accounts, the “make some noise” event was a success. Many QSOs in excess of 300 kilometers (186 miles) were made. Ed Bruns, W3EKT, was able to work his fifth grid, qualifying for VUCC on the band, while Bill and Dave verified operating sites from Virginia Beach to Delaware. Many of those sites are conveniently located near ice cream

### Notes:

1. FFMA Fred Fish Memorial Award. Requirements: work & confirm all 488 Maidenhead grid squares in the 48 contiguous US.
2. See: <<https://tinyurl.com/y3mtcagd>>
3. Developed by Joe Taylor, K1JT; Steve Franke, K9AN; and Bill Somerville, G4WJS.
4. Call signs of both stations, an agreed upon exchange of information such as grid square or signal report and acknowledgment by both stations that the information has been received.
5. Sadly, Bill became a silent key in 2005.

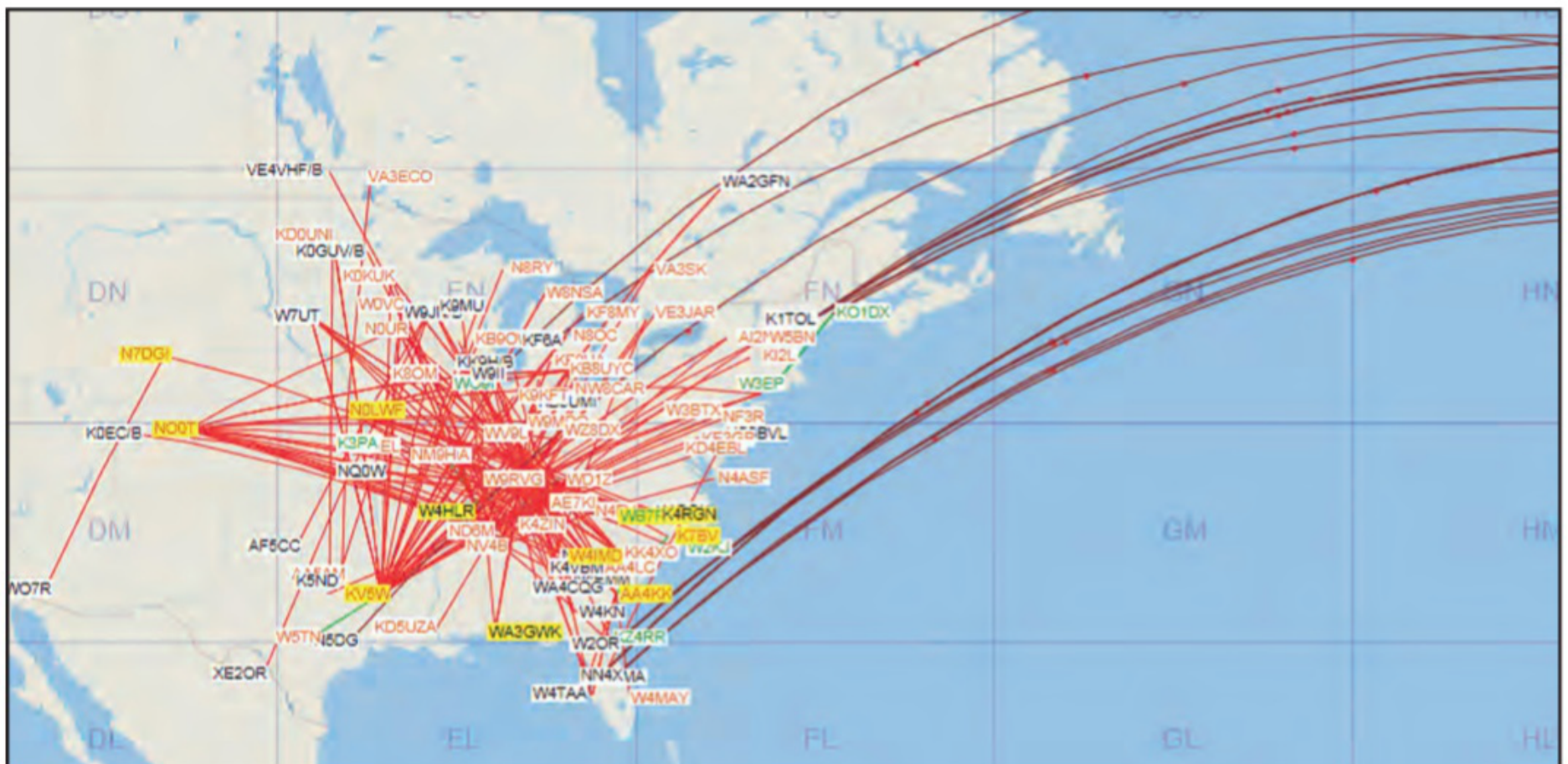


Figure 1. Six meters came alive in late May as shown in this map from May 24<sup>th</sup>. (Courtesy of DX Maps <[www.dxmaps.com](http://www.dxmaps.com)>)



# WHAT'S NEW

## Elecraft Releases K4 Transceiver

Elecraft introduced its newest flagship transceiver, the K4, at the 2019 Dayton Hamvention®. The new K4 has taken many of the best features of the K3 and P4 line of transceivers and blended them with a top-of-the-line SDR and a large touch screen for ease of use. Elecraft noticed the recent revolution in direct sampling and SDRs; however, rather than rush out a new transceiver, it took the best ideas, tested them, and quietly merged them into a new kind of radio.

In particular, operators who've used Elecraft's K3S transceiver and P3 panadapter will find the K4's controls familiar, and its complement of I/O compatible with their existing stations.

They'll also discover the bright, 7-inch touch display, which combines a large panadapter with three multi-function controls and includes a unique built-in help system.

There are three K4 models to choose from: the basic K4; the K4D, which adds diversity receive capability; and the K4HD, which goes a step beyond other direct-sampling SDRs, adding a dual-superhet module for the ultimate in blocking and close-in dynamic range.

The K4 and K4D, like other "pure" direct-sampling radios, do not require crystal roofing filters. Digital signal processing is used to provide advanced demodulation, filtering, and signal display. The K4HD can operate either in direct-sampling or superhet mode. Typically, the latter is only needed in the presence of extreme signals.

Flexibility — now and in the future — was a major design goal for the K4. All of Elecraft's transceivers can be tailored to your current needs. Modules are segmented strategically to allow updates at moderate cost, so you won't have to invest in a new radio every couple of years.

With the K4, you can operate at the radio itself or from anywhere — whether it's your living room, back porch, or halfway around the world. One K4 can control another, including streaming panadapter display. You can also use a tablet, netbook, or desktop PC. When operating the radio directly, you can use both the built-in large, full-color touch LCD and an external monitor (HDMI), with different content combined with a rich set of real controls. Elecraft's advanced fine-tuning aid, with its resampled bandwidth as narrow as +/- 1 kHz, is displayed separately from the main panadapter. You can turn it on by tapping either receiver's S-meter or by tapping on a signal of interest.

Per-VFO transmit metering makes split mode completely foolproof. Band-stacking switches and per-receiver controls are both intuitive and versatile, adapting to operating context. Usage information on these and other features is just one tap away, thanks to the radio's built-in help system. Application programmers will benefit from the K4's easy-to-use command set, including many new commands for setting up the panadapter and audio streams.

The K4 includes dual receive from 100 kHz to 54 MHz. An internal VHF/UHF module is also planned, but its frequency range has not yet been finalized. The RF signal



chain in the K4 incorporates parallel hardware processing of data streams, including a dedicated DSP subsystem. This, combined with silent, PIN-diode T/R switching, ensures fast CW break-in. Data and speech-processing delays are also minimized.

Standard DSP features include easy-to-adjust, per-mode RX/TX equalization; clean, punchy RF speech processing; full DVR capabilities; and several built-in data decode/encode modes. Direct-sampling technology results in an ultra-flat passband response for clean RX and TX audio. Since the signal chain is software-defined, the DSP can be field upgraded to add new algorithms and operating modes.

The rear panel includes all the RF, analog and digital inputs and outputs you'll need to complete your station, featuring three antenna ports for HF and one for VHF/UHF, external amp RF sample input, ground wingnut, Ethernet port, two USB ports, RS-232 and ACC, front and rear mic and key, and HDMI. All K-line accessories are supported, including amps, ATUs, and our K-Pod station controller. The HDMI video output supports an external display with its own user-specified format.

You can upgrade or add options as desired, or as new technology becomes available. This extensibility applies to software as well. The K4's powerful, fast-starting CPU provides unlimited expansion opportunities.

An optional KAT4 ATU has a nominally 10:1 matching range. It includes three antenna jacks, any one of which can be selected as an input for one or both receivers. An expansion slot is reserved for a high-performance VHF/UHF module (expected in 2020), with output of approximately 15 watts. This module will support all modes. A no-soldering kit version of the K4 is planned for later release. Builders will learn about advanced radio technology as they proceed. All modules are pre-aligned and tested.

A Basic K4 with wide-range dual receive has a suggested retail price of \$3995; the K4D with diversity receive and the K4HD with a dual superhet module each have a suggested retail price of \$4695.99. For more information, contact Elecraft, 125 Westridge Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076. Phone: (831) 763-4211. Email: <sales@elecraft.com>. Website: <www.elecraft.com>.

# AWARDS

## Focus on CQ Awards: iDX – CQ’s “Secret” Award

Plus ... Meet the New USA-CA Custodian Brian Bird, NXØX

While we continue our search for a successor to K1BV as Awards Editor, we’ll continue to profile CQ’s own operating awards with a close-up look at CQ’s iDX Award, an award aimed at beginners to grow their interest in DXing. –W2VU

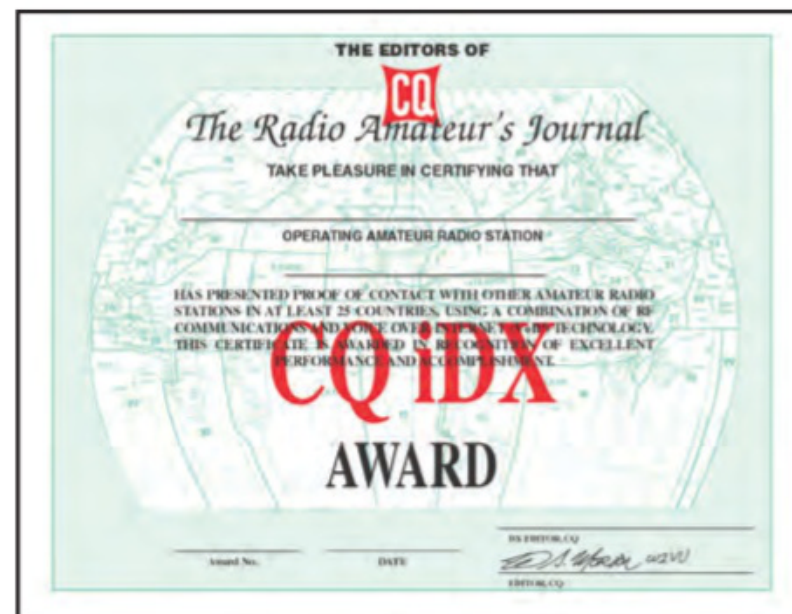
There’s really nothing secret about CQ’s iDX Award, except that very few people even know it exists, especially those hams it is aimed at — newcomers to DXing and award-chasing. The CQ iDX Award is an introductory award, along the lines of old-time Novice awards, which encourages the development of a DXing “mindset” by recognizing the accomplishments of those amateurs who make confirmed contacts with between 25 and 100 different DX countries (“entities”) through the use of internet-linked repeater systems or remote bases. Now, before you start writing to us in ALL CAPS that internet-linked contacts, such as via D-Star, Echolink, etc., aren’t *real radio*, keep in mind that for many new hams, these systems that connect to and through repeaters provide their first opportunities to make contact with hams in faraway places. We want to encourage this, because if you find you enjoy contacting faraway hams through repeaters and the internet, then you’re more likely to want to do the same using only the ionosphere. Our goal with the iDX award is to create new DXers.

Because this is an introductory award, because many repeater-only hams do not yet have traditional QSL cards, and because these contacts do/will not count toward traditional DXing awards, our confirmation requirements are somewhat more relaxed for this award than for traditional DX awards (see rules for specifics). However, since it is still an amateur radio award, we do require that at least one end of each contact must be made by amateur radio. Computer-to-computer contacts, while possible on such systems as Echolink, will *not* count for this award. At least one person in each contact must be on the radio. All contacts must be made after 0000Z on January 1, 2006. For gathering verifications, we encourage use of technology to avoid the inconvenience, expense, and delay of postal mail whenever possible. The complete rules follow.

### RULES: THE CQ iDX AWARD

1. The CQ iDX Award is an introductory award for contacts made between licensed amateurs in different countries by means of Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) linking systems. These systems include, but are not limited to, IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project), EchoLink, WIRES, and internet-linked remote base systems, which use the internet and VoIP to connect amateur radio repeaters and operators. At least one station in each contact must be transmitting via radio in the amateur bands (e.g., computer-to-computer Echolink QSOs do not count toward this award). SWLs may qualify by monitoring the required contacts and receiving confirmation from at least one of the stations involved.

2. The basic award is issued for confirmed VoIP contacts with amateurs in at least 25 countries. Endorsement stickers are issued for 50, 75, and 100 confirmed coun-



tries. All contacts must have been made after 0000 UTC, January 1, 2006.

3. All contacts must be two-way (SWLs must monitor two-way contacts). Confirmations are required. For the purposes of this award *only*, acceptable confirmations include traditional QSL cards, electronic/online confirmations from sources approved by CQ (see CQ website for details) and verifiable emails. All confirmations must contain the callsigns of both stations, the name, mailing address, and location of the sending station (if different from the mailing address at the time of contact) and details of the contact, including date, time, mode and frequency band used by the sending station for the contact (if the station accessed the amateur bands via the internet, the confirmation should indicate “Internet” in place of frequency), and must state that the contact is via VoIP (including specific system name). Email confirmations must also include the sender’s valid email address and must be dated within 60 days of the contact for which credit is claimed. CQ reserves the right to spot-check confirmations.

4. Applications should be submitted on the official CQ iDX Award application (form 2006-A). Reasonable facsimiles or computer printouts are also acceptable. Contacts should be listed in alphabetical order by callsign prefix. Listings must include the frequency band (or internet) used by each station, as well as the VoIP linking system used. Confirmations must be verified by one of the authorized checkpoints for the

### Help Wanted: CQ Awards Editor

As of this issue’s deadline, we were still looking for a successor to K1BV as CQ Awards Editor (as noted elsewhere in this column, Brian Bird, NXØX, has agreed to take on the role of USA-CA Custodian). Awards Editor candidates should be accomplished “wallpaper” collectors with a passion for discovering and sharing information on operating awards from around the world, have the time to research and write a monthly column, and be able to reasonably express themselves with the written word. If you’re interested in taking on this role, please contact Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, at <w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

CQ DX Awards, or must be included with the application. Return postage must be included.

5. An SASE must be enclosed with all endorsement applications. Stations outside the United States must include an SAE with two IRCs for airmail return.

6. Any altered or forged confirmations will result in permanent disqualification of the applicant.

7. Fair play and good sportsmanship in operating are required for all amateurs working toward CQ DX Awards. Repeated use of poor ethics will result in disqualification of the applicant.

8. A fee of \$6 is required for CQ subscribers applying for a CQ iDX Award certificate. A copy or scan of the latest CQ mailing label must be attached for the subscriber discount. For non-subscribers the certificate fee is \$12. Endorsement stickers are \$1 each for all applicants. IRCs (International Reply Coupons) are acceptable in lieu of check or cash, where available.

9. All contacts must be with land-based or shipboard amateur stations. Contacts with aircraft are not acceptable. Contacts from international waters are not acceptable. Shipboard stations must be in the territorial waters of a country, no more than 12 miles (19 kilometers) from shore, operating in accordance with that country's laws and regulations, and the confirmation must indicate the country from whose waters the shipboard station is operating. The CQ DX Award countries list or ARRL DXCC Countries List determines what entities are considered separate countries. In the event of differences between the lists, the CQ DX Award countries list will govern.

10. In the event of any disputes or disagreements, decisions of the CQ DX Awards Manager shall be final.

11. All checks must be made payable to Keith Gilbertson. Applications should be sent to Keith Gilbertson, KØKG, CQ DX Awards Manager, 21688 Sandy Beach Lane, Rochert, MN 56578-9604 USA.

## Introducing CQ USA-Counties Award Custodian Brian Bird, NXØX

*Last month, we announced the appointment of Brian Bird, NXØX, as the new custodian of the CQ USA-Counties Award (USA-CA). Our announcement included a basic introduction, but Brian promised a more detailed one for this issue, outlining his experience as a county-hunter and his plans for the award going forward. Here it is... –W2VU.*

Hello everyone, I'm Brian Bird, NXØX, from Duluth, Minnesota. First of all, I would like to thank Ted Melinosky, K1BV, for his contributions to the USA-CA award program these past 21 years as award custodian. THANK YOU, TED!

I am very honored to be selected as your new USA-CA award custodian. I'm looking forward to carrying on with the great history and tradition of this award and any challenges that may lie ahead. Part of being the USA-CA awards custodian is to not only handle the issuing of awards that have been earned in a timely manner, but giving you the public recognition so rightfully deserved for earning such a prestigious award.

One of the first items discussed with Rich, W2VU, was a possible refresh of the award rules to reflect the times we live in today. The few new rule changes announced last month were generally dealing with the ever-increasing cost structure for international mailings, electronic award submissions and payments, my contact information, and a couple of minor wording changes. The updated USA-CA award rules were updated and posted June 1<sup>st</sup> to CQ's website.

As of this writing, I am still waiting for the records to be shipped from Ted. When I receive them, I'll need a few weeks to organize and sort through everything so I know where to begin and what I have. I hope to be all spooled up by the time you read this. Along with the transfer of the custodian duties to me and updated award rules, this was also a good time to update and refresh the plaque for the "Whole Ball of Wax." More on this in the coming months.

A little about myself ... I started out in ham radio back in the early '90s and worked for the awards that most folks start out with, such as WAS, DXCC, etc. After reaching those goals I'd set for myself, I gravitated towards working all 3,077 (actually 3,076 at that time) counties as I had a good start with my previous contacts. I really started getting serious

with county hunting in the late '90s and earned the "Whole Ball of Wax" award in 2004 by working and confirming all 3,077 counties on mixed modes. Within the next year, I finished working them all on SSB while my wife Shari, KBØMHH, also finished working them all for her full USA-CA award in 2005. Shari and I have met many friends through county-hunting and even hosted the national county hunters convention in 2011. Chasing and working the counties has also been a good family bonding opportunity with my father, Cliff, ACØB. He really got hooked on working the counties during that same timeframe and earned his full USA-CA award in 2004.

Quick story ... My father and I were finishing up our USA-CA awards that same timeframe in the spring of 2004. It became a little friendly competition between us to see who would complete the award first. With him down to his last couple and me looking for my final coveted county, my father and mother drove out and made a special trip from Minnesota to Carter County, Montana, to "put out" the county mobile for the county hunting group, but more importantly, for my last to finish. So the next month, I returned the favor and made a mobile trip to Clay County, Tennessee, to put out *his* last county. I know I'm going to get asked this, so yes, I did also make a trip a year later to help my wife finish up *her* last county, Talbot County, Maryland. I would not have heard the end of that if I had not done that for her, haha. It was a fun time.

Ok, back to a little about myself. My time spent now on the radio between work and my other interest of aviation has been to complete my last handful of contacts for the DXCC Honor Roll and CQ's 5-Band WAZ award. I'm also working on finishing USA-CA all CW, with just over 400 to go. A "little" side adventure for Shari and me has been getting out and putting counties on the air. So far, we have put out 1,459 different counties and have completed putting out over 10 different states. So I'm sure at some point we will make it a goal to put out and run all 3,077 counties.

I can only hope that I serve you all with the same great service of my predecessors and please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have. I hope that you may find many new counties just up the band...

*DXers and Dayton/Xenia*

**H**aving just returned from the annual Dayton Hamvention® held in Xenia, Ohio I thought it might be good to detail my perspective as a DXer to this year's event.

I have been attending Hamvention off and on since 1975. I probably missed five or six over that span but I never kept track. In my memory, there have been three hotels where the DXers gathered. Some of you old timers will remember the "Biltmore" from the '70s. When that hotel closed, the venue moved to the Admiral Benbow Sheraton Hotel a few blocks away. After a few years, that hotel also closed and the main DXers' venue moved to the Crowne Plaza Hotel across the street and it has remained there since then. What I remember from the old days was a bunch of "younger" DX enthusiasts and bathtubs full of iced down beer in multiple rooms and hospitality suites that ran to 3 or 4 a.m. every night. Such is not quite the case anymore. Yes, there are still a couple of hospitality suites, and iced beer. But they are generally almost empty by midnight now. A sign of our age, and the times, I guess.

The Friday evening DX Dinner, organized by the Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA), was always held at the Crowne Plaza but several years ago, after a rather poor experience with the food and the service, the DX Dinner was moved to the Dayton Marriott where it remains today. This is the venue for DX award presentations. This year, as noted in this column, I was proud to induct two more into the CQ DX Hall of Fame. It also hosts the SWODXA DXpedition of the Year award, which, in my opinion, has become the worldwide standard for this acknowledgment every year. This year's recipient was the KH1/KH7Z Baker Island DXpedition. This year also featured the first Island Radio Expedition Foundation (IREF) IOTA Expeditioner of the Year award, which was presented to Cezar Trifu, VE3LYC.

The Contest Dinner continues at the Crowne Plaza on Saturday evening and Tim Duffy, K3LR, runs Contest University from the Crowne Plaza on



Your editor, N200; W4 QSL Bureau Manager Paul Sturpe, W3GQ; CQ DX Hall of Fame inductee Joe Taylor, K1JT; Gary Dixon, K4MQG; and Richard Williams, W3OA, after the DX Dinner. (Photo by John Scott, K8YC)



KH1/KH7Z DXpedition of the Year! N1DG holds the SWODXA DXpedition of the Year award and K6TD holds the Japan International DX Meeting DXpedition of the Year award, both presented at the DX Dinner. (Photo by John Scott, K8YC)

\* Email: <n200@comcast.net>

Thursday. So, essentially, the Crowne Plaza has become the “contesters’ hotel.” It is worth noting that there were a few “issues” at the Crowne Plaza this year related to the hotel and its location.

Obviously, there’s a lot of mixing between DXers and contesters. I consider myself a DXer who likes to dabble in contests. As I get older, the thought of going on a DXpedition to some uninhabited island in the sub-Antarctic has become physically and financially less appealing. As such, running in a contest gives me the adrenaline rush I need from time to time on the air. But my heart is on the DX side. But I digress.

I am beginning to wonder if DXers could consider a move to the hotel where the DX Dinner is hosted? I am certainly not the one to do anything about this other than to float the thought. I already know of many DXers who stay at the Marriott. Other than the DX Dinner, I do not know of any other “official” hospitality suites or events that are held there specifically for DXers. And I am sure there are many other considerations of which I am unaware. I just thought that I would state the obvious and see if anyone in authority has the same thoughts.

As for the new Hamvention venue in Xenia, I have been to all three that have now been held at the Greene County Fairgrounds. The first year was a learning experience for everyone. Last year, appropriate adjustments were made and it got much better. This year, in my opinion, I felt that the Hamvention folks did a stellar job putting everything together. Also worth noting is that the forum rooms at Xenia are simply awesome, well lit, large, and air conditioned. The DX forum was held at a prime time and was well attended. The Hamvention committee deserves kudos for a job well done. I felt that it took over 20 years to finally kind of figure out the right format for handling the Hara Arena location, but only 2 years to get Xenia set up right. I am also sure that the Hamvention folks will continue to make even more improvements in the future at Xenia. I want to convey my personal appreciation for a job very well done.

One last note: Late on Monday, May 27, and into early Tuesday, May 28, multiple tornadoes ripped through the Dayton area causing extreme damage along an eerie path that ran across the north side of downtown and east almost all the way out to Xenia. One of the first things to get hit was the old Hara Arena. There are multiple pictures online of the resulting damage. Although Hara had its issues, it also held many fond mem-

ories for me from nearly 40 years of attending the Hamvention there, including those hot and sweaty rooms where the DX forums were held. Fortunately for me, I also remember many of the forums, and the people who attended them. From everything I have seen to date, the new venue in Xenia is great. I am looking forward to next year.

### CQ DX Hall of Fame Induction

Once again this year, I had the honor of inducting the newest members of the



*Dayton is all about meeting old friends! Here are Bill Barr, N4NX, and Bob, N200.*

CQ DX Hall of Fame at the DX Dinner (Thanks to SWODXA for again providing this venue). The basics about our new inductees are in the general CQ Hall of Fame article elsewhere in this issue (which also includes inductees into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame and the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame), but I wanted to add a little detail here about our newest honorees.

### Italian DXpedition Team

Silvano Borsa, I2YSB, and his Italian

## The CQ DX Field Award Program

### New Awards – CW

HA5WA .....73      4F3BZ .....75  
OK1DKR .....74

### New Awards – Mixed

KG4LUN .....162      N3JNX .....164  
NØKOE .....163

### Endorsements – CW

HA5WA .....235      OK1DKR .....100, 150

### Endorsements – Mixed

K9YC .....227      W6OAT .....249

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.

## The WPX Program

### CW

3897 ..... K4KZ

### SSB

4209 ..... VA3ZNQ      4210 ..... K4KNO

### Mixed

3839 ..... G4CTY      3841 ..... IU8IYE  
3840 ..... K4KZ      3842 ..... LA7EIA

### Digital

1033 ..... WA1VGM      1037 ..... JE2DLR  
1034 ..... W3LMC      1038 ..... SP5GSM  
1035 ..... G4CTY      1039 ..... ADØCS  
1036 ..... K4KZ

**CW: 400:** K4KZ. **600:** MØDHP. **700:** OH1LAR. **2650:** KB1EFS. **4900:** W8IQ. **7900:** WA2HZR.

**SSB: 450:** W5UJ. **700:** HB9EFK. **800:** OH1LAR. **1050:** KE4KMG. **1600:** HB9MXY. **1750:** K6FG. **2800:** PT7ZT.

**Mixed: 450:** W5UJ, LA7EIA. **550:** N4CQR. **650:** K4WRX, N3DF. **800:** K4KZ. **850:** W1KE, MMØRYP. **1000:** KBØHL. **1100:** OH1LAR. **1750:** JR3UIC. **1800:** HB9EFK. **1900:** HB9MXY. **3300:** KB1EFS.

**Digital: 350:** G4CTY. **450:** K4KZ. **500:** SP5GSM. **550:** N4CQR. **650:** N3DF. **700:** HA9PP. **850:** W1KE, JE2DLR. **900:** HB9MXY. **950:** EA3UU. **1150:** K6FG. **1350:** JR3UIC. **1500:** HB9EFK. **2150:** KB1EFS.

**160 Meters:** K4KZ, KB1EFS, HB9EFK, K6FG

**80 Meters:** KB1EFS

**60 Meters:** KB1EFS

**40 Meters:** K4WRX, PDØDNA, K6FG

**30 Meters:** KB1EFS

**20 Meters:** K4KNO, JE2DLR, JR3UIC

**17 Meters:** KB1EFS

**15 Meters:** K4KZ, KB1EFS

**12 Meters:** KB1EFS

**10 Meters:** KB1EFS

**6 Meters:** KB1EFS

**Asia:** HB9MXY, JE2DLR

**Europe:** HB9MXY, G4CTY, K4KZ, JE2DLR, IU8IYE, LA7EIA

**Oceania:** JE2DLR, HA9PP

**North America:** HB9MXY, W3LMC, K4KZ, JE2DLR, ADØCS

**South America:** HB9MXY, K4KZ, HB9EFK, K6FG

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.

DXpedition Team were nominated by the Northern California DX Club. The group has been prolific in its travels, and the nomination listed the following major DXpeditions it has conducted over the past 20 years: 5U1A – Niger – 2002; Somalia – 6OØCW – 2005; 6OØN – Somalia – 2006; J2ØMM, J2ØRR – Djibouti – 2007; 9L1X – Sierra Leone – 2008; 9G5TT, 9G5XX – Ghana – 2009; 5V7TT – Togo – 2010; 5M2TT – Liberia – 2011; TU2T – Ivory Coast – 2011; 6OØCW – Somalia – 2012; TT8TT – Chad – 2012; XT2TT – Burkina Faso – 2013; TO2TT – Mayotte – 2013; 9J2T – Zambia – 2014; TY1AA – Benin – 2014; 9QØHQ – Rep. of Congo – 2015; 5ZØL – Kenya – 2015; 3XY1T – Guinea – 2016; TL8TT – Central African Republic – 2017; J5T – Guinea Bissau – 2017; TJ2TT – Cameroon – 2018; 9XØT, 9XØY – Rwanda – 2018; TT8RR, TT8XX – Chad – 2019 (delayed due to security issues; 5XØT, 5XØX – Uganda scheduled for October 2019.

Over the years, according to NCDXC, the Italian DXpedition Team has 1,385,650 contacts, not including this year's operations. According to the GDXF DXpeditions Honor Roll, the

Italian DXpedition Team has made 21 "mega DXpeditions," more than any other group that is listed.

The team makes a major effort to work all of the bands and to leave no geographic area underserved. The Italian DXpedition Team has set a very high standard for operating and QSLing. Their contributions to the global DX Community are enormous. In addition, the Italian DXpedition Team has facilitated the donation and transportation of two ambulances from Italy to Somalia.

### Joe Taylor, K1JT

Already a member of the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame for his professional achievements as a Nobel Prize-winning

## The WAZ Program

### SINGLE BAND WAZ

#### 6 Meter Updates

141 .....DK1FW, 26 Zones      122 .....EA8DBM, 38 Zones

#### 15 Meter RTTY

12.....SP6TRX

#### 20 Meter SSB

1253.....SP6TRX

#### 160 Meter

579 .....SV8GFW, 39 Zones

#### 160 Meter Updates

573 .....W7AH, 32 Zones      521 .....RN3QN, 40 Zones  
546 .....DK1FW, 35 Zones

### ALL BAND WAZ

#### CW

1026.....IZ2FLX      1028 .....W7GF  
1027.....IZ8VYU

#### Digital

83 .....ZS1XG      86 .....JAØCIU  
84 .....JH3LIB      87 .....IZ8VYU  
85 .....F6DHD

#### Mixed

9707 .....EA2BD      9714 .....N2ZZ  
9708 .....W7JET      9715 .....K4ZOT  
9709 .....N4RT      9716 .....OM2AGN  
9710 .....WB6EWM      9717 .....IZ2FLX  
9711 .....WF4W      9718 .....OZ6KK  
9712 .....JH3LIB      9719 .....KØCOM  
9713 .....K4JKB

#### SSB

5442 .....IZ8VYU      5444 .....JJ1ENZ  
5443 .....N6PAT

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, John Bergman, KC5LK, 125 Deer Trail, Brandon, MS 39042-9409. The processing fee for all CQ awards is \$6.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$12.00 for nonsubscribers. Please make all checks payable to John Bergman. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. KC5LK may also be reached via e-mail: <kc5lk@cq-amateur-radio.com>.

## 5 Band WAZ

As of May 15, 2019

2136 stations have attained at least the 150 Zone level, and  
1019 stations have attained the 200 Zone level.

As of May 15, 2019

**The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ** (Zones needed on 80 or other if indicated):

CHANGES shown in **BOLD**

Callsign	Zones	Zones Needed	W1FZ	199	26
AK8A	199	17	W2LK	199	23
DM5EE	199	1	W3NO	199	26
EA5RM	199	1	W4LI	199	26
EA7GF	199	1	W4UM	199	23
H44MS	199	34	Callsign	Zones	Zones Needed
HA0HW	199	1	W6DN	199	17
HA5AGS	199	1	W6RKC	199	21
I5REA	199	31	W9XY	199	22
IK0XB	199	19 on 10M	WA0MHJ	199	23
IK1AOD	199	1	WA2BCK	199	23
IK8BQE	199	31	9A5I	198	1, 16
IZ3ZNR	199	1	EA5BCX	198	27, 39
JA1CMD	199	2	F5NBU	198	19, 31
JA5IU	199	2	G3KDG	198	1, 12
JA7XBG	199	2	G3KMQ	198	1, 27
JH7CFX	199	2	HB9FMN	198	1 on 80 & 10
JK1BSM	199	2	JA1DM	198	2, 40
K1LI	199	24	JA3GN	198	2 on 80 & 40
K2RD	199	18	JA7MSQ	198	2 on 80 & 10
K4HB	199	26	JH1EEB	198	2, 33
K5FUV	199	23	K2EP	198	23, 24
K5TR	199	22	K2TK	198	23, 24
K7UR	199	34	K3JGJ	198	24, 26
K9KU	199	22 on 15	K3LR	198	22, 23
KB0EO	199	23	<b>K3PA</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>18, 23</b>
KZ4V	199	26	K4JLD	198	18, 24
N3UN	199	18	K5OT	198	18, 23
N4NX	199	26	KZ2I	198	24, 26
N4WW	199	26	N2QT	198	23, 24
N4XR	199	27	N4GG	198	18, 24
N8AA	199	23	N8TR	198	18, 23 on 10
RA6AX	199	6 on 10M	UA4LY	198	6 & 2 on 10
RU3DX	199	6	UN5J	198	2, 7
RWOLT	199	2 on 40M	US7MM	198	2, 6
RX4HZ	199	13	W5CWQ	198	17, 18
RZ3EC	199	1 on 40M	W6OUL	198	37, 40
S58Q	199	31	W6TMD	198	34, 40
SM7BIP	199	31	W9RN	198	26, 19 on 40
SP3RBG	199	2 on 10M	WC5N	198	22, 26
VE2TZT	199	23	WL7E	198	34, 37
VO1FB	199	19	ZL2AL	198	36, 37
W1FJ	199	24			

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

Callsign	5BWAZ #	Date	# Zones
F5VHQ	2132	2019-04-27	152
K7VV	2133	2019-04-27	200
JH9DRL	2134	2019-04-28	167
JA0CIU	2135	2019-04-30	184
K1ACL	2136	2019-05-10	166

Updates to the 5BWAZ list of stations:

Callsign	5BWAZ #	Date	# Zones
LU2DX	2035	2018-05-30	195
ON6KE	1847	2019-05-10	181
K1BD	1337	2019-05-10	193
K3PA	1941	2016-10-16	198

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

5BWAZ #	Callsign	Date	All 200 #
2133	K7VV	2019-04-27	1019

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, John Bergman, KC5LK, 125 Deer Trail, Brandon, MS 39042-9409. 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 John Bergman. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. KC5LK may also be reached via e-mail: <kc5lk@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).



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## 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

8771.....9A2AA	5070.....N8BJQ	3739....WD9DZV	2394.....AE5B	1813.....IZØFUW	1462.....DL4CW	1260.....UR6LEY	1016.....W9QL	708.....N4JJS
7815.....K2VV	4773....WA5VGI	3611.....W200	2368.....HK3W	1767.....JR3UIC	1460.....N6PM	1219.....K6HRT	1012.....NØVVV	682.....AI8P
7415.....9A2NA	4771.....I2MQP	3539.....AB1J	2340.....NE6I	1718.....N5KAE	1447.....K3XA	1217.....AB1QB	1010.....VE3RZ	680.....JA6JYM
7262.....W1CU	4681.....JH8BOE	3538.....9A4W	2293....WA6KHK	1711.....NS3L	1422.....I2VGW	1167.....WA9PIE	1007.....AA4QE	661.....N3DF
6452.....EA2IA	4583.....W900	3459.....W9IL	2203.....KI1U	1667.....AD3Y	1408.....NH6T	1153.....N3CAL	1006.....NØRQV	661.....AL4Y
6292.....KF20	4574.....JN3SAC	3099.....N6FX	2176.....V51YJ	1652.....N6PEQ	1398.....ES4RLH	1137....YO5BRZ	919.....ON7MIC	633.....TI5LUA
5581....ON4CAS	4561.....NN1N	3073.....IK2DZN	2133.....KØKG	1647.....9A2GA	1361.....VA3VF	1136.....K09V	919.....KC1UX	621.....K4HDW
5477.....N4NO	4521.....IK2ILH	2968.....AB10C	2109.....W2FKF	1643.....SV1DPI	1341.....W1FNB	1116.....YU7FW	913.....K9BO	616.....AC6BW
5489.....S53EO	4462.....K1BV	2866.....AG4W	2100.....N7ZO	1616.....TA1L	1322.....AA4FU	1107.....PY2MC	889.....WU1U	609.....R1AV
5355.....KØDEQ	4306....WB2YQH	2757.....NXØI	2016.....N2WK	1570.....PY5VC	1301.....JF1LMB	1100....WA3GOS	835.....K6RAH	605.....IW2FLB
5332.....W90P	4298.....VE3XN	2697.....AK70	2013.....JH1APK	1568.....N3AIU	1301....KB9OWD	1074.....WU9D	757.....WB3D	600....WA3QWA
5262.....I5RFD	4201.....YO9HP	2589.....DG7RO	1930.....K3CWF	1524....NH6T/W4	1301.....K1DX	1069.....IZ4MJP	736.....JA3MAT	
5294.....YU1AB	3831.....W3LL	2550.....K6ND	1888....VA7CRZ	1484.....FG4NO	1301.....KM5VI	1032....DG5LAC	726.....JP1KHY	
5273.....VE1YX	3821.....N6QQ	2528.....W6XK	1828.....K7LV	1480.....K4JKB	1295.....NIØC	1023....N4WQH	718.....KE4PLT	
5126.....N6JV	3764.....K9UQN	2508....PA2TMS	1821.....PY5FB	1462.....AC7JM	1280.....WF1H	1019.....N6MM	711.....AG1T	

### SSB

6535.....OZ5EV	3318.....W3LL	2595.....EA1JG	2098.....K5UR	1641.....AE9DX	1209.....N6PEQ	1012.....KU4BP	808.....UR6LEY	684.....K09V
5958.....9A2NA	3274....YU7BCD	2568....SM6DHU	2094.....I8LEL	1622.....K5CX	1187.....IZ1JLG	1004.....K4HB	802.....N6OU	675.....F1MQJ
5934.....K2VV	3172.....YO9HP	2532.....W9IL	2093.....W2WC	1611.....W2ME	1183.....KI1U	1004....WA5UA	801.....K3XA	655.....VA3VF
5297.....IØZV	3108.....I4CSP	2508....PA2TMS	2088.....N3RC	1587.....N3XX	1150....VE6BMX	1000.....N6MM	766.....I2VGW	647.....YB8NT
5198.....VE1YX	3090....WA5VGI	2451.....EA3GHZ	2076.....K2XF	1550.....IK2RPE	1146.....SQ7B	978.....EA7HY	763.....K4JKB	644.....JH1APK
5008.....KF20	3073.....I3ZSX	2443.....JN3SAC	2013.....NXØI	1442.....DG7RO	1124.....K3CWF	957.....W9QL	758.....IV3GOW	640.....UA9YF
4752.....EA2IA	3062....DL8AAV	2362.....AG4W	1988....W4QNW	1388.....NKØS	1112.....NH6T	947.....W6XK	724.....WF1H	637.....K5WAF
4513.....I2MQP	3050.....N8BJQ	2335.....KG1E	1955.....EA3NP	1386....IK4HPU	1098.....K4CN	934.....PY5VC	724.....W3TZ	630.....W6US
4208.....I2PJA	2990.....KF7RU	2326.....CX6BZ	1935.....SV1EOS	1371.....VE6BF	1096....JA7HYS	931.....YB1AR	717.....KØDAN	624.....K6KZM
3939.....KØDEQ	2984.....KI7AO	2209.....IK2QPR	1879.....K3IXD	1357.....HK3W	1089.....IZ8FFA	929.....NS3L	717.....N3JON	606.....KJ4BIX
3685.....N4NO	2936.....N6QQ	2201.....NQ3A	1874....WD9DZV	1338.....NE6I	1089.....IT9ABN	919.....KA5EYH	714.....YB2TJV	604.....GØBPK
3555....SV3AQR	2903.....IN3QCI	2200.....N6FX	1848.....AB5C	1334....EA3EQT	1042....IZØBNR	893.....W9RPM	710.....WA9PIE	600.....WU1U
3433.....NN1N	2658.....PT7ZT	2198.....AB10C	1825.....KQ8D	1312.....N5KAE	1032....DG5LAC	889.....N3AIU	700.....N4FNB	600....WA3PZO
3399.....I8KCI	2857.....4X6DK	2122.....AE5B	1812.....K6ND	1262.....K7LV	1031.....K4CN	875.....K7SAM	700.....JA1PLL	
3333.....W900	2650....IK2DZN	2109.....W2FKF	1789....WA6KHK	1258.....N1KC	1031.....IK80ZP	854.....K6HRT	694.....KG4HUF	
3333....CT1AHU	2623.....W200	2105.....K9UQN	1646.....VE7SMP	1222.....YF1AR	1022.....NW3H	833.....DK8MCT	690.....W6PN	

### CW

7131....WA2HZR	4198.....IZ3ETU	2948.....IK3GER	2357.....W9HR	1744.....NE6I	1342....VE6BMX	962.....K7LV	821.....HB9DAX	652.....IK2DZN
6878.....K2VV	4093....WA5VGI	2915.....KA7T	2295....EA7AAW	1727.....K6UXO	1295.....NIØC	944.....AB10C	783.....YB1AR	629.....IV3GOW
5633.....9A2NA	4046.....I7PXV	2811.....OZ5UR	2291.....N3XX	1691.....KI1U	1295.....AG4W	935.....K3CWF	782.....F5PBL	620.....AF5DM
5058.....N4NO	3974.....JN3SAC	2806....WD9DZV	2212.....AC5K	1620.....DG7RO	1220.....AA4FU	908.....NH6T	752.....K6HRT	615.....JH6JMM
5052.....EA2IA	3584.....NN1N	2685.....W200	2211.....W3LL	1595.....PY5FB	1210.....DL4CW	903.....N6PEQ	743.....JA5NSR	608.....W9RPM
5043.....N6JV	3523.....W900	2667.....W9IL	2022.....AF5CC	1505.....R3IS	1200....KN1CBR	891.....DK8MCT	738....NH6T/W4	605.....NKØS
5028.....KF20	3504....YU7BCD	2615.....N6QQ	2010.....K5UR	1480.....W03Z	1197....JH1APK	890.....NS3L	732.....SQ7B	600.....NY4G
4697.....W8IQ	3318.....K9UQN	2531.....I2MQP	1969.....NXØI	1443....WA2VQV	1196.....N3AIU	889.....N3AIU	722.....WA9PIE	600.....IK2SGV
4634.....YU7LS	3279.....IØNNY	2490.....N6FX	1880.....N3RC	1389.....IT9ELD	1098.....LU5OM	864.....YO5BRZ	720.....K4CN	
4452.....KØDEQ	3214....SM6DHU	2477.....VE6BF	1772....WA6KHK	1357.....W6XK	1062.....K3XA	848.....PY5VC	711.....JF1LMB	
4394.....N8BJQ	3041.....YO9HP	2424.....W2WC	1762.....K6ND	1348.....VE1YX	1027.....AE5B	842.....HK3W	692.....N5KAE	

### DIGITAL

2629.....N8BJQ	1889.....HK3W	1426.....AB10C	1149.....W9IL	1047....RW4WZ	901.....W1FNB	810.....N3CAL	672.....K9AAN	611.....JP1KHY
2558.....NT2A	1790.....JN3SAC	1335.....K3CWF	1129.....NK\$\$S	1021.....NN1N	898.....K9UQN	800....WA3GOS	670.....IV3GOW	609.....R1AV
2474.....W3LL	1756....K\$\$DEQ	1325.....W200	1112.....AB1QB	1009....GU\$\$SUP	866.....SQ7B	798.....KC1UX	668.....KA5EYH	600.....N1RR
2361.....KF20	1734.....AG4W	1259.....N6PM	1093.....KI1U	1002....N\$\$RQV	858.....WU9D	783.....YB1AR	654.....JA3MAT	600.....AD\$\$FL
2348.....N6QQ	1704....IK2DZN	1254.....JH1APK	1091.....VA3VF	971.....JF1LMB	830.....NE6I	750.....ON7MIC	652.....N3DF	
2218.....YO9HP	1600....WA5VGI	1250W2/JR1AQN	1090.....K2YYY	966.....NS3L	824.....EA2IA	750....NH6T/W4	640....WA9ONY	
2141....WD9DZV	1465.....N7ZO	1227.....ES4RLH	1089.....AC7JM	947.....I2VGW	812.....UR6LEY	708.....N4JJS	636.....W9RPM	
1901.....W6XK	1456.....N3RC	1206.....NX\$\$I	1051....KH6SAT	917.....K7LV	811.....WF1H	681.....PY5VC	611.....K09V	

### REMOTE OPERATION

<b>CW</b>	<b>MIXED</b>	<b>SSB</b>
7319.....K9QVB	3983.....N1RR	2923.....N1RR
3253.....N1RR		



Only in Xenia ... N200 with Kristen Andrews, KB3OQV ... who also ended up on the front page of the local Dayton newspaper!

astrophysicist, Joe Taylor, K1JT, was honored this year specifically for his contributions to the art of DXing. He was nominated by both the Northern Illinois DX Association and the South Jersey DX Association.

Joe's WSJT suite of weak-signal digital modes has revolutionized DXing, starting on VHF and UHF with modes that made meteor scatter and moonbounce accessible to many more stations, and then on HF with JT9 and, most recently, FT8 (and its new contest-focused derivative, FT4, which is profiled in this month's VHF-Plus column—ed). While FT8 was originally intended for VHF/UHF use, the SJDXA nomination notes that it quickly found favor on the HF bands as well.

"Very quickly, it was discovered that low-power, very simple, stations could make contacts on HF that were never before possible (DX!). Within a year, more FT8 QSOs were being made than by the established SSB and CW modes, as documented in ClubLog statistics. It will not replace those modes, but it became a new weapon in the arsenal of DXers, many of whom had never operated a digital mode ... (M)ost large DXpeditions are now including FT8 in their operating plans ... Not since the invention of single sideband transmission has there been a mode that has taken off so quickly and made itself a part of the DX community."

— I will see ya' in the pileups! de N200

### 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	VE3ZZ.....223	NIØC.....193
W1CU.....260	KØDEQ.....221	N4NX.....192
VE7IG.....254	HA1AG.....218	K1NU.....191
HAØDU.....253	JN3SAC.....214	W3LL.....191
OM3JW.....253	HA9PP.....213	HA1ZH.....190
W6OAT.....249	W4UM.....210	BA4DW.....188
IK1GPG.....245	WA5VGI.....209	HB9DDZ.....188
OK1ADM.....244	OK1AOV.....208	K2AU.....187
HA5WA.....243	N4MM.....207	K8YTO.....186
K8SIX.....240	F6HMJ.....206	WO7R.....185
HA1RW.....239	KF8UN.....205	N3RC.....184
VE3XN.....239	OM2VL.....205	K2SHZ.....182
I6T.....230	VE7SMP.....204	KJ6P.....180
N8PR.....229	RW4NH.....203	W5ODD.....177
HA5AGS.....228	IV3GOW.....201	NØFW.....176
9A5CY.....227	HB9AAA.....200	WA9PIE.....176
K9YC.....227	N5KE.....200	HB9BOS.....175
W18A.....227	W3LL.....195	
K8OOK.....224	ON4CAS.....194	

#### SSB

W1CU.....239	W4UM.....198	W3LL.....184
W4ABW.....202	JN3SAC.....191	NØFW.....176
VE7SMP.....201	N4MM.....187	DL3DXX.....175
KØDEQ.....198	WA5VGI.....185	

#### CW

W1CU.....249	DL3DXX.....203	OK2PO.....184
HA5WA.....235	W4UM.....200	N4MM.....183
DL6KVA.....233	OK1AOV.....198	N4NX.....177
KØDEQ.....214	WA5VGI.....192	N7WO.....175
JN3SAC.....211	NIØC.....190	
DL2DXA.....209	HB9DZZ.....186	

#### Digital

W1CU.....192
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## SPURIOUS SIGNALS

By Jason Togyer W3MCK  
spuriouscomic.blogspot.com



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# CONTESTING

BY DAVID SIDDALL,\* K3ZJ

## North American QSO Parties and Worked All Europe DX CW Contests Provide Mid-Summer Opportunities

*Plus: Russian and Bulgarian Ops in Annual WRTC-like Competition; RSGB IOTA Contest Activates Islands Worldwide; North American QSO Party Activates Three Modes in Three Weekends; World Radiosport Team Championship Qualification Rules*

**J**uly and August offer multiple interesting opportunities to sample mid-summer propagation. Last month, ARRL Field Day, the IARU HF Contest, and CQ's own World Wide VHF Contest were highlighted here. Don't forget to get on the air for the last two, which are held during the middle of this month: July 13-14 for the IARU HF competition and July 20-21 for the CQWW VHF contest. Last month's column has details and links.

If you can't sleep the night before the CQWW VHF, here's an idea: See how many Russian Radiosport Team Championship (RRTC) stations you can work. Top Russian contesters will compete multi-single style as teams located in the field using special callsigns, similar to last year's World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC2018) in Germany.

This competition is on a smaller scale than the WRTCs, but it was from these annual Russian contests that the WRTC designed its Field Day-style operations when the event was hosted in Russia back in 2010. Activity will be for just eight hours, from 0700 through 1500 UTC on Saturday, July 20. Everyone except the Russian competitors should follow the IARU HF Championship rules and use any of the logging programs for that contest. The CQWW VHF and NAQP RTTY QSO contests begin three hours later, so there's no conflict.

Later in the month, the Radio Society of Great Britain's Islands on the Air (IOTA) contest will play upon the airwaves. This contest is described briefly below. The important thing to note is a rules change this year. Signal reports no longer are part of the required exchange. While not unique — grid squares instead of signal reports have long been the norm for VHF and UHF contests — this is the first HF competition that comes to mind that has dropped signal reports from the exchange. The island designator used in the exchange is equivalent to a grid square and this change long has been discussed among IOTA aficionados.

The North American QSO Party (NAQP), sponsored by the ARRL's *National Contest Journal*, brings out hundreds of club participants vying for a club trophy that annually moves to the winning club. The trophy winner is determined by a unique scoring system based on contest points and the number of individual club participants. The rules governing the NAQP club challenge are at <http://naqpc.org/rules.htm>. This is a three-part domestic contest held on three separate Saturdays. Each Saturday is devoted to a single mode — CW, SSB, or RTTY. Power is limited to 100 watts for competitors, and small stations with just wires or a vertical can do extremely well.

email: <k3zj@cq-amateur-radio.com>



*Shown speaking at Contest University 2019 in Dayton are (L-R) Bryant Rascoll, KG5HVO; and Chris Hurlbut, KL9A. Both were WRTC2018 competitors in Germany. Bryant — who is also the current Newsline Young Ham of the Year — talked about bringing new blood into contesting. Chris presented a tutorial on serious contesting from a remote station. (Photo by K3ZJ)*

Finally, we look at the rules that are governing the WRTC2022 competition to be named a team leader and a seat in northern Italy at the event itself. Each WRTC organization adopts its own rules for its version of the event, with the advice of the WRTC Sanctioning Committee. While many of the rules are carried over from event to event, changes also are made each time that may be based on local conditions and preferences, the evolution of technology, and other factors. As noted elsewhere in this month's column, the idea of portable operations with equal antennas was an innovation adopted by the Russian organizers in 2010 and carried forward by the organizers of WRTC2014 and WRTC2018. Below we look at the WRTC2022 qualification rules. (The competition rules that will govern during the competition itself are expected to be adopted closer to the time of the event itself.)

### Russian Radiosport Team Championship (RRTC)

The annual Russian Radiosport Team Championship (RRTC), organized by the Russian Amateur Radio Union (Soyuz

Radiolyubitelei Rossii — SRR), will be held on Saturday, July 20, from 0700 to 1500 UTC on 40-10 meters, employing both CW and SSB. This is the Saturday immediately after the IARU HF Championship. Use your same logging program and module that you use for the IARU HF Championship.

Highly competitive operating under equalized conditions was pioneered in Russia around 1980. The Field Day-style competition is an effort to “level the playing field” by creating as equal conditions as possible — geographic location, antennas, power, etc. The RRTC developed over decades and its structure formed the basis for introducing field operations and identical antennas at the World Radiosport Team Championship in 2010 (WRTC2010) that was held near Moscow. Similar WRTC field operations with identical antennas also was adopted for the WRTC2014 competition held near Boston, and again for WRTC2018 held near Wittenberg, Germany.

Between 25 and 30 teams from all over the Russian Federation are expected to participate, including three or four youth teams. The callsigns used for this event generally have been some of the same ones used at WRTC2010, from the block R31A-R39Z.

Similar teams may be competing with each other in Bulgaria at the same time under identical rules, but we were not able to confirm Bulgarian plans by our deadline. If you hear stations using the callsign block LZØAA-LZØAF and sending a three-character code as their exchange, those are members of the Bulgarian contingent. Those stations can be worked in the exact same manner as the Russian teams and will welcome your three-point QSO.

Participants can make QSOs among themselves and with the rest of the world, so everybody is invited to the party. For the participants, QSOs outside of their own ITU zone count the maximum three points, so they will be happy to work you.

## Calendar of Events

### All year

### CQ DX Marathon

### <http://bit.ly/vEKMWD>

July 1	RAC Canada Day Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/yydd2ud9">https://tinyurl.com/yydd2ud9</a>
July 1	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<a href="http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a">http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a</a>
July 1-7	10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc">http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc</a>
July 6	FISTS	Summer Slow Speed Sprint <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y2u8zgif">https://tinyurl.com/y2u8zgif</a>
July 6-7	Marconi Memorial HF Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/y3k7a6cf">https://tinyurl.com/y3k7a6cf</a>
July 6-7	DL-DX RTTY Contest	<a href="http://www.drcg.de">http://www.drcg.de</a>
July 6-7	Original QRP Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/y3j7ca3j">https://tinyurl.com/y3j7ca3j</a>
July 6-7	PODXS 070 Club 40 Meter Firecracker Sprint	<a href="http://bit.ly/2FUmeOL">http://bit.ly/2FUmeOL</a>
July 10	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<a href="http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a">http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a</a>
July 13	FISTS Summer Sprint	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/y2u8zgif">https://tinyurl.com/y2u8zgif</a>
July 13-14	IARU HF Championship	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship">www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship</a>
July 13-14	Veron SLP Contest	<a href="http://swl.veron.nl/Rules_SLP.html">http://swl.veron.nl/Rules_SLP.html</a>
July 20	RSGB 2nd 40m QSO Party	<a href="http://bit.ly/2YS3E2O">http://bit.ly/2YS3E2O</a>
<b>July 20-21</b>	<b>CQWW VHF Contest</b>	<b><a href="http://www.cqww-vhf.com">www.cqww-vhf.com</a></b>
July 20-21	North American RTTY QSO Party	<a href="http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>
July 21	CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/yxar3mmt">https://tinyurl.com/yxar3mmt</a>
July 25	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	<a href="http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a">http://bit.ly/2RsAJ4a</a>
July 27-28	RSGB IOTA Contest	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/y4bxmq5d">https://tinyurl.com/y4bxmq5d</a>

Aug. 3	European HF Championship	<a href="http://bit.ly/H2eMg5">http://bit.ly/H2eMg5</a>
Aug. 3-4	10-10 Int'l Summer Contest SSB	<a href="http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc">http://bit.ly/1FrFeBc</a>
Aug. 3-4	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2IJZcy9">http://bit.ly/2IJZcy9</a>
Aug. 3-4	North American CW QSO Party	<a href="http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>
Aug. 4	SARL HF Phone Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/H0lqQf">http://bit.ly/H0lqQf</a>
Aug. 10-11	Worked All Europe CW Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2vufgcb">http://bit.ly/2vufgcb</a>
Aug. 10-11	Maryland-DC QSO Party	<a href="http://www.w3vpr.org/node/325">www.w3vpr.org/node/325</a>
Aug. 17-18	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up">www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up</a>
Aug. 17-18	SARTG RTTY Contest	<a href="http://www.sartg.com">www.sartg.com</a>
Aug. 17-18	North American SSB QSO Party	<a href="http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf">http://ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf</a>
Aug. 17-18	International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – ILLW	<a href="https://illw.net/">https://illw.net/</a>
Aug. 17-18	RDA Contest	<a href="http://rdaward.org/rdac1.htm">http://rdaward.org/rdac1.htm</a>
Aug. 17-18	CVA DX Contest CW	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/yytjqqglp">https://tinyurl.com/yytjqqglp</a>
Aug. 17-18	KCJ Contest	<a href="http://www.kcj-cw.com/e_index.htm">www.kcj-cw.com/e_index.htm</a>
Aug. 18	ARRL Rookie Roundup RTTY	<a href="http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup">www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup</a>
Aug. 18	NJQRP Skeeter Hunt	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/y5vqmw3z">https://tinyurl.com/y5vqmw3z</a>
Aug. 18	SARL HF Digital Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/H0lqQf">http://bit.ly/H0lqQf</a>
Aug. 24-26	Hawaii QSO Party	<a href="http://hawaiiqsoparty.org/">http://hawaiiqsoparty.org/</a>
Aug. 24-25	Kansas QSO Party	<a href="http://www.ksqsoparty.org/">www.ksqsoparty.org/</a>
Aug. 24-25	Ohio QSO Party	<a href="http://www.ohqp.org/index.php/rules">www.ohqp.org/index.php/rules</a>
Aug. 24-25	SCC RTTY Championship	<a href="http://bit.ly/l6rx9O">http://bit.ly/l6rx9O</a>
Aug. 24-25	YO DX HF Contest	<a href="http://www.yodx.ro/en/english">www.yodx.ro/en/english</a>
Aug. 24-25	50 MHz Fall Sprint	<a href="http://svhfs.org/wp/2019-fall-sprint-rules/">http://svhfs.org/wp/2019-fall-sprint-rules/</a>
Aug. 24-25	CVA DX Contest SSB	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/yytjqqglp">https://tinyurl.com/yytjqqglp</a>
Aug. 25	SARL HF CW Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/H0lqQf">http://bit.ly/H0lqQf</a>
Aug. 31	Colorado QSO Party	<a href="http://ppraa.org/coqp">http://ppraa.org/coqp</a>
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	UK/EI DX Contest	<a href="http://bit.ly/2RpKsVT">http://bit.ly/2RpKsVT</a>

### Sept. 28-29

### CQWW RTTY DX Contest

### [www.cqwwrtty.com](http://www.cqwwrtty.com)

– Contest Calendar compiled by Cathy Ross



The Russian Radiosport Team Competition was the model for WRTC competitive siting for the past three WRTC events held in Moscow, Boston, and Wittenberg, Germany. The original event will take place on July 20 this year, and participation worldwide is welcome during the 8-hour event.

As in the IARU HF contest, multipliers count once per band even though each station can be worked for points twice on each band — once each on CW and SSB.

Unique to this competition, every two hours, each team changes its callsigns and exchange. The teams send a three-character code as their exchange while everyone else sends their ITU zone (the same as in the IARU HF Championship). You may work the same team four times on the same band/mode and not even know it.

Log submissions are accepted worldwide for the four hours immediately following the end of the contest. The log submission deadline this year is Saturday, July 20 at 1900 UTC. Computer checking of the logs commences at 1900, and the final results are announced Sunday morning local time. Upload your log to: <https://tinyurl.com/y5gtgn4c>. The complete rules in English are at <https://tinyurl.com/y6qzmz8xp>. (Click on "English" at the top of the screen if they appear in a different language.)

We usually do not elaborate on competitions with limited participation from North America, but sometimes it is interesting to review unique contest formats and accept the challenge to try something a little different. For those of us in North America this year, if conditions are good, I would expect that some of these stations will be workable on 40 meters at the start of the contest, and later on 20 meters from as early as 1100 or 1200 UTC. The stations all are feeding their 100 watts to dipoles mounted



Signal reports no longer are mandatory in the RSGB's Islands on the Air Contest (see text for details). This year's event will be held over the weekend of July 27-28.

at about 32 feet on 40 meters and to tribanders at 33 feet on 20 meters.

### RSGB Islands on the Air (IOTA) Contest

Don't forget the RSGB IOTA Contest, especially if you live or are vacationing on an island. This contest attracts good participation worldwide, but especially in Europe. Last year, approximately 2,200 logs were submitted. Both CW and SSB are used on 80-10 meters (excluding the WARC bands). The 2019 contest period commences at 1200 UTC on Saturday, July 27, and runs through 1200 UTC on Sunday, July 28.

Note that the rules have been changed this year in one major respect. Stations no longer are required to send signal reports ("59" or "599"). Non-island stations may just send their serial number, and island stations may send just their serial number plus IOTA island reference (such as "EU115"). If you are not sent a signal report, log 59 (SSB) or 599 (CW). If you are not sent a serial number, log "0".

RSGB provides a handy beginners guide for new entrants. Check it out here at <https://tinyurl.com/y2pvlhzh>. Logs must be submitted within five days of the contest end at <https://tinyurl.com/y2o4ote8>.

### North American QSO Party (NAQP)

NAQP contests are sponsored by the *National Contest Journal* and run twice each year. There are three separate Saturdays on which the 12-hour summer NAQP contests are held, one each for RTTY, CW, and SSB, in that order. Each mode runs from 1800 UTC, Saturday to 0600 UTC on Sunday. This year, the NAQP RTTY launches at 1800 UTC on Saturday, July 20, and continues until 0600 UTC on Sunday, July 21. CW is held from 1800 UTC on Saturday, August 3, through 0600 UTC on Sunday, August

4. The final leg, SSB, takes off at 1800 UTC on Saturday, August 17 and ends on Sunday, August 18 at 0600 UTC.

Complete rules for all three NAQP events are found at [www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf](http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf). Some of the most expert operators are found in these contests, and major clubs compete for bragging rights and a trophy based on scoring all six yearly events. Note that the maximum output power recognized for awards is 100 watts. The logs of stations running more than 100 watts are classified as check logs.

### Worked All Europe DX Contest (WAEDC) CW

The annual WAEDC CW contest will be held from Saturday, August 10 at 0000 UTC through Sunday, August 11 at 2359 UTC. Bands used are 80-10 meters (excluding the usual WARC bands). Note that the rules state that the IARU band plan should be followed and further, that for CW, "no operation to take place on: 3560-3800; 7040-7200; 14060-14350 kHz." In this competition, single operators are limited to 36 hours of operating out of the 48-hour total contest period.

A unique aspect of this contest is that any station activating a WAE country for the contest from which no log has been received for the last three years will be recognized as a "WAEDC Hero" and receive a special prize. For 2019, these countries are: 1AØ, C3, HV, JW/b, JX, OY, R1F, SV/A, and T7.

Note a significant change in this year's rules. The log submission period has been shorted significantly. Logs are due seven days after the end of the contest. Also, don't forget the recording rule instituted last year for top competitors. Upon request of the contest manager, the top three entrants of every category have to send an audio recording consisting of both the received and transmitted signal for the entire operating period. If a station fails to send the

requested recording, all not directly checkable QSOs may be removed. The complete contest rules are located at <<https://tinyurl.com/y82wy2wm>>.

## WRTC2022 Qualification and Competition Rules (Part 2)

Qualifying as a team leader at WRTC-2022 is not for everyone. Top-notch competitors fully occupied by family matters, daily work, or similarly finding themselves with limited time for ham activities sometimes do not vie for a WRTC seat because of the time and rigor required. Others just are not interested, have other priorities, or may not be up to it physically. That being said, many contesters figure out how to make time and engineer a serious run at qualifying. It is a matter of personal priorities and interests, as well as an assessment of available station facilities.

An interesting aspect is that the organizers do not require any sort of statement of intent to enter the qualifying competition. If you enter a contest, you are automatically entered into the WRTC qualifying tabulations. Only after the qualifying events end must interested competitors apply to the WRTC for a team leader slot. The top scorer or scorers from each selection area who apply by the deadline will be offered the team leader seats unless a disqualifying factor is found. The qualifier truly is whomever makes the cut based upon published criteria and then applies to participate in the event.

Scores are calculated for every en-



WRTC2022 organizers receive a \$5,000 check from the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF) to kick off their fundraising efforts in the U.S. From left, Claudio Veroli, I4VEQ, Organizing Committee; Carlo De Mari, IK1HJS, President; and John Dorr, K1AR, Founding Director of WWROF. (Photo by N6TV)

trant in an eligible event and displayed on the web in a searchable tabulation organized by selection area. If you enter one or more of the eligible contests, your call and position within your selection area will be displayed on the WRTC qualification standings. The standings information for WRTC2022 will be posted shortly on the group's website and be updated continuously as final contest results become available. In the meantime, to see how you did in the qualifying rounds for WRTC2018,

check out your call at <<https://tinyurl.com/y2mxdx4w>>. When available, a similar listing for WRTC2022 will be available at <<http://wrtc2022.it/en/>>.

In an attempt to attain a roughly level playing field, geographic areas based on a mix of geography and contest participation are drawn up. The competition for seats is limited to other contesters resident in the same "selection area." There are 37 selection areas: 10 from Europe, 10 from North America, 7 from Asia, 4 from Africa, 3 from Oceania, and 1 from the Caribbean. More than one team may qualify from some of these areas, but only one-per-country in most (not all) cases.

The qualifying events consist of 24 eligible contests spread over two years, starting with the ARRL DX CW contest in February 2019 and ending with the CQWW CW contest in November 2020. The top 12 scores for each operator are counted for one's WRTC qualification score, subject to certain limitations. A serious entrant usually must compete in at least 12 of the individual qualifying events, and many participate in more.

Navigating to qualification success is enhanced by carefully assessing the capabilities of the station(s) that will be used, selection of contests to enter, and the category in each contest in which to compete.

Next month, we will explore these WRTC subjects, and also note news from the WRTC organizers as they ramp up fundraising for the event.

– Until next month, 73, Dave, K3ZJ



## Oops...

### It's All in the Call

The dyslexic transposition gremlins were busy rearranging callsigns for June's cover story, "Finding My True North," by Mark Schreiner. Mark's callsign is NK8Q, and we had it right on his article and the first of three mentions in the table of contents, but transposed his prefix to KN8 in the other two mentions and on the cover itself. We apologize and will be sending the gremlins to bed without their niddler!

# PROPAGATION

BY TOMAS HOOD,\* NW7US

## The Solar Wind

### A Quick Look at Current Cycle 24 Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

#### Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, April 2019: 6  
12-month smoothed, October 2018: 4

#### 10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, April 2019: 72  
12-month smoothed, October 2018: 70

#### A<sub>p</sub> Index:

Observed Monthly, April 2019: 6  
12-month smoothed, October 2018: 7

### One Year Ago: A Quick Look at Solar Cycle Conditions

(Data rounded to nearest whole number)

#### Sunspots:

Observed Monthly, April 2018: 5  
12-month smoothed, October 2017: 10

#### 10.7-cm Flux:

Observed Monthly, April 2018: 70  
12-month smoothed, October 2017: 75

#### A<sub>p</sub> Index:

Observed Monthly, April 2018: 7  
12-month smoothed, October 2017: 10

In recent months, we've noted some rather geomagnetically-stormy days, with a correlated degradation of radio signal propagation on the shortwave spectrum. The question is asked, "If we're not seeing many sunspots, and few if any solar flares, why are we having days with high geomagnetic activity and rough propagation?" To answer that, let's review some core ideas involved in space weather and radio propagation.

The Sun, and each planet, has a magnetic structure. The Earth has a north pole and a south pole, with magnetic field lines running between them, forming a donut shape of magnetic flux energy. The Sun has a magnetic structure, as well. It can become quite complex, with several intertwined poles. The Sun even reverses its northern and southern poles each solar cycle.

The Sun's magnetic field permeates the entire solar system, and beyond. This region that stretches from the Sun outward past the end of the solar system is called the heliosphere. The magnetic field that originates in the Sun and stretches out through the heliosphere is called the Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF). The IMF interacts with the Earth and is a primary cause of space weather.

The IMF sprawls out away from the Sun in the form of a huge "current sheet," a vast expanding surface where complex magnetic field lines run from one solar pole far out into the solar system, then arch back again along this sheet to return to the sun's other pole.

We have spacecraft that measure the IMF near the Earth; one measurement is known as the "B sub-Z" (B<sub>Z</sub>), which provides a way to observe the polarity at the spacecraft. The IMF magnetic field lines have polarities that change from north (seen as a positive B<sub>Z</sub>) to south (indicated by a negative B<sub>Z</sub>).

The huge solar current sheet that expands away from the sun is 10,000 kilometers (6,215 miles) thick and extends past the orbit of Pluto. The entire heliosphere is organized around this giant sheet, which carries an electrical current that is

about 16 orders of magnitude less than that of the current carried in an ordinary light bulb.

Ordinarily, the current sheet circles the Sun's equator, spreading out in a wavy sheet that might resemble a dancer's skirt that flies up while the dancer is spinning. As Earth orbits the Sun, it dips in and out of the main structure of this wavy current sheet. On one side of the sheet, the Sun's magnetic field lines point northward. On the other side, they point southward.

Space is not a vacuum, at least in our solar system. The Sun's atmosphere extends very far out from the Sun. Space

### LAST-MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for July 2019

Propagation Index	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
<b>Above Normal:</b> 2, 6, 13, 15-16, 19, 26, 29	A	A	B	C
<b>High Normal:</b> 1, 3-4, 7, 9, 11-12, 14, 17-18, 20, 25, 27-28, 30-31	A	B	C	C-D
<b>Low Normal:</b> 10, 21-22, 24	B	C-B	C-D	D-E
<b>Below Normal:</b> 23	C	C-D	D-E	E
<b>Disturbed:</b> 5, 8	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 New Shortwave Propagation Handbook," by 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 1 will be poor to fair on July 1, while on July 2 propagation will be fair, then on July 3 and 4, poor to fair conditions, 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 <http://SunSpotWatch.com> provided by NW7US.

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in our system is filled with plasma, a low-density gas in which the individual atoms are charged. The temperature of the Sun's atmosphere is so high that the Sun's gravity cannot hold on to it. The plasma streams off the Sun in all directions at speeds of about 300 to 400 kilometers per second (about 1 million miles per hour). This is known as the solar wind.

The speed of the solar wind fluctuates, and sometimes the wind carries with it magnetically complex plasma clouds. These clouds are regions where high-speed wind catches up with slower-speed wind, resulting in a twisting of the IMF's magnetic signature.

South-pointing solar magnetic field flux lines tend to connect with Earth's own magnetic field (think of holding two bar magnets together, one bar magnet's northern pole against the other bar's southern pole). Solar wind energy can then penetrate the local space around our planet and fuel geomagnetic storms.

### Coronal Holes

At times, weak magnetic regions emerge on the Sun. Because of the weak magnetic structure and the resulting

low density in these regions, solar plasma tends to "pour out" of these regions, billowing away from the Sun on the solar wind. These regions are known as "coronal holes" because of the way solar plasma escapes the Sun's gravitational and magnetic hold.

The corona is so hot that the gases in it lose some of their electrons in the powerful collisions between atoms, becoming ions. This creates "electrified gas," or "plasma." The solar plasma is a mixture of positively- and negatively-charged electrons.

An example of plasma can be seen by looking at a neon light. You are looking at plasma; gas inside the tube is energized to the point where light is emitted. Because plasmas are electrically conductive, they can steer magnetic fields. And they are steered by magnetic fields. Over coronal holes, solar magnetic fields are stretched and dragged into interplanetary space by the inertia of the expanding plasma that spirals out on the solar wind.

The speed of the solar wind is high (on average 600 to 800 kilometers/second) over coronal holes and low (roughly 300 km/s) over the rest of the Sun. Plasma streams that have

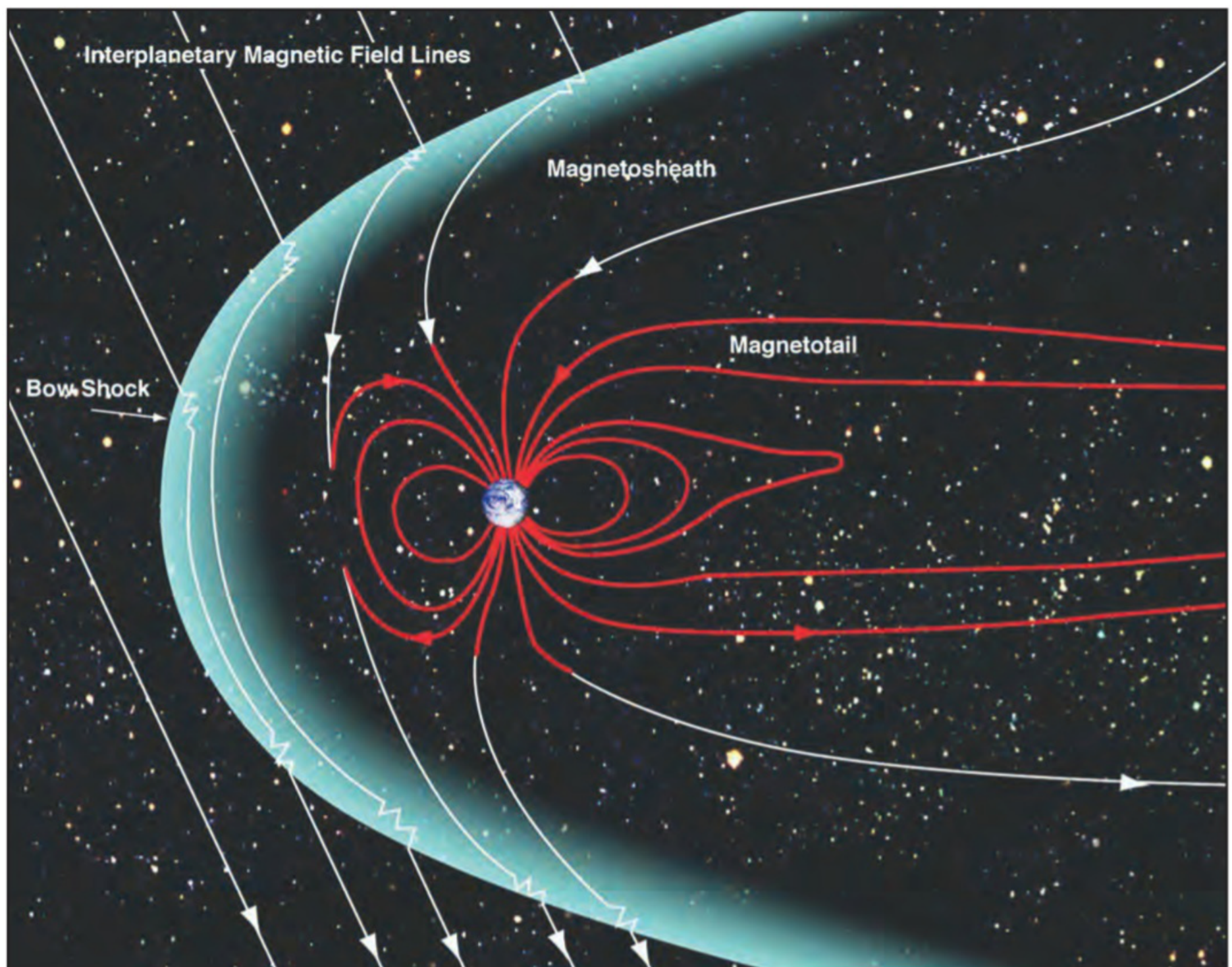
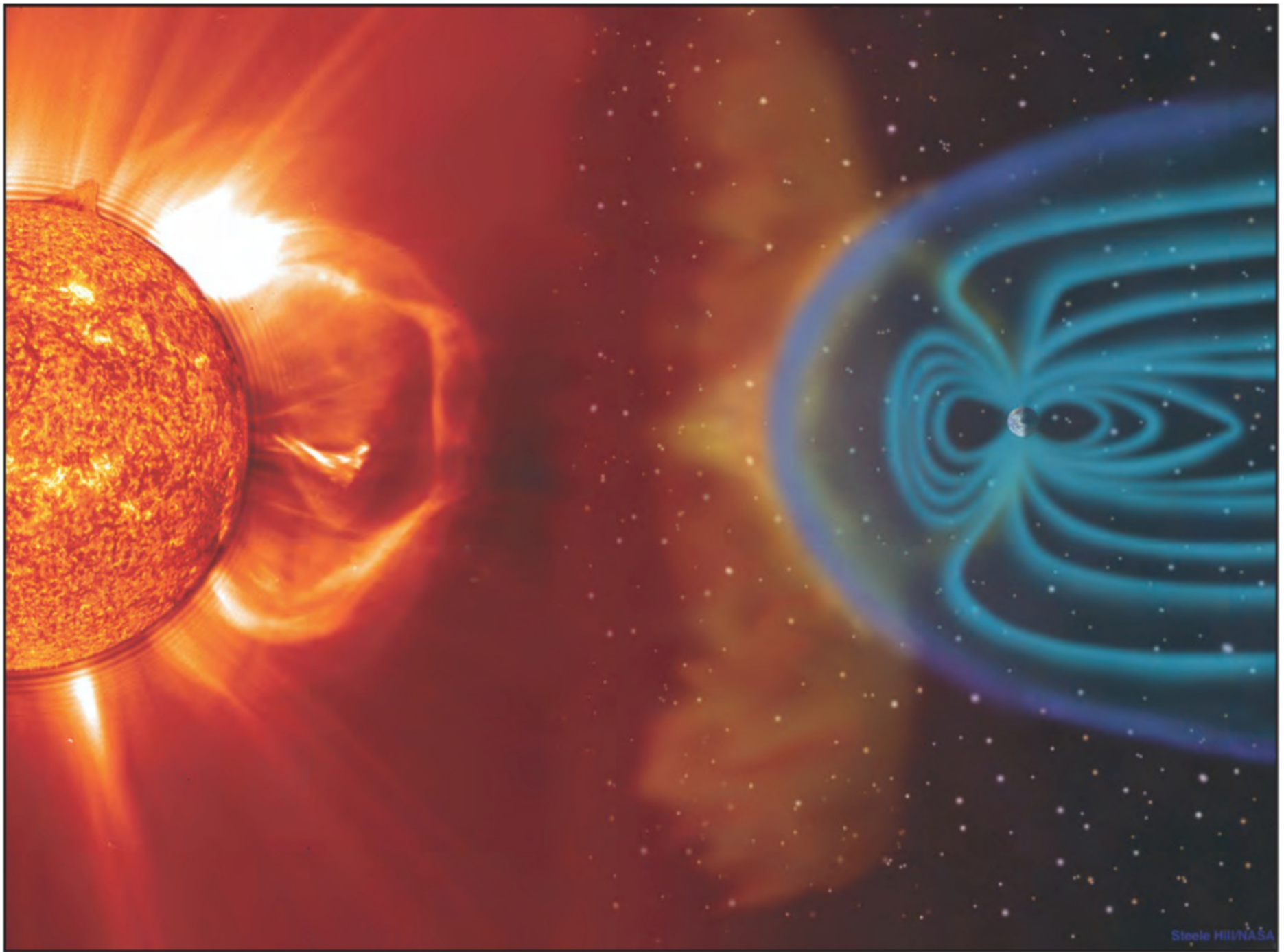


Figure 1. A diagram of a portion of the magnetosphere. Note that the magnetotail is huge; it is stretched out far away from the Earth and the Sun, by the pressure of the solar wind. The Sun-Earth connection involves the ever-present solar wind, and the Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF). The solar wind can cause geomagnetic storms and aurora (see text) during its interaction with the magnetosphere. Credit: NASA



*Figure 2. The Sun-Earth Connection. NASA and solar scientists watch the Sun in an effort to better predict space weather — blasts of particles and magnetic field elements from the Sun that impact the magnetosphere, the magnetic bubble around the Earth. Filled by charged particles trapped in Earth's magnetic field, the spherical comet-shaped magnetosphere extends out 40,000 miles from Earth's surface in the sunward direction and more in other directions, especially out away from the Sun and Earth, as the magnetotail. Source: Steele Hill/NASA/SOHO*

escaped from coronal holes ride the solar wind at much greater speed than the “quiet” solar wind.

Coronal holes follow the rotation of the Sun, taking about 27 days for a full revolution around the Sun. This means that if the coronal hole lasts long enough, we'll see it influence space weather every 27 days. When a coronal hole survives to make it around a second time, it is said to be “recurrent.” Coronal holes, then, are typically long-duration features.

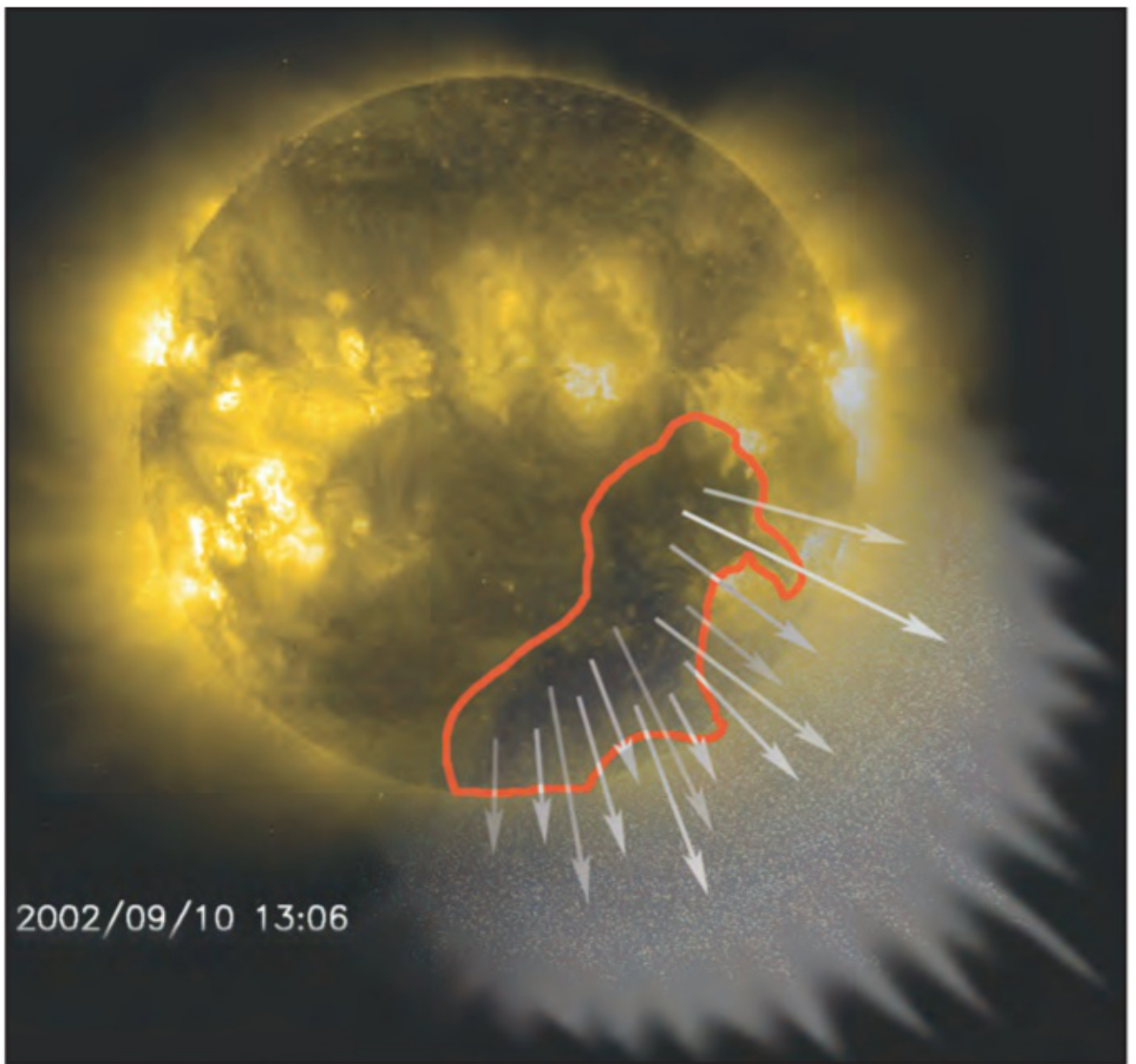
Coronal holes are largest and most stable at or near the solar poles, and are a source of high-speed solar wind. However, those holes situated at or near the solar equator tend to have the greatest impact on the Earth.

The Earth has a magnetic field with a north and a south pole that is enclosed within a region surrounding the Earth called the magnetosphere. As the Earth rotates, its hot core generates strong electric currents that produce the magnetic field, which reaches 36,000 miles into space. The magnetosphere prevents most of the particles from the Sun, carried by solar wind, from impacting the Earth. The solar wind distorts the shape of the magnetosphere by compressing it at the front and causing a long tail to form on the side away from the Sun. This long tail is called the magnetotail.

Geomagnetic disturbances are generated by encounters with southward-oriented magnetic fields of the IMF and solar wind, and the density and speed of the solar wind. The ability of the solar wind to disturb the Earth's magnetosphere is a function of its speed and the strength and orientation of the magnetic fields. In the presence of a strong southward magnetic field component (seen as a  $B_z$  with a negative index), a “connection” is made between the solar wind's magnetic fields and the Earth's magnetic fields (picture two pole magnets, where the north pole of one “connects” with the south pole of the other).

If the coronal hole is positioned along the Sun's equator, and is facing Earth, the plasma and solar particles from the coronal hole will pass by the Earth as the Sun rotates. The enhanced solar wind, dense with the extra solar plasma and with the speed elevations and variations caused by the coronal hole, buffet the Earth. If the magnetic orientation of the solar wind is southward, the coronal-hole-enhanced solar wind causes geomagnetic storms (some with aurora), and degrades ionospheric propagation for days at a time. Because the coronal hole may last long enough to rotate back into Earth-directed position 27 days later, these stormy conditions will recur as well.

Figure 3. Coronal holes appear as dark areas of the corona when viewed in ultraviolet light. This large hole area seen here on 10 September 2002 had a direct impact on Earth. Coronal holes are often the source of strong solar wind gusts that carry solar particles into space. This one spewed a large stream of charged particles out to our magnetosphere and beyond. Solar wind streams take 2-3 days to travel from the Sun to Earth, so it probably originated from the Sun about 9 September. The magnetic field lines in a coronal hole extend out into the solar wind rather than coming back down to the Sun's surface as they do on other parts of the Sun. Although they are usually located near the poles of the Sun, coronal holes can occur at other places as well (see text). Source: NASA/SOHO →



Geomagnetic activity is measured around the world, and is reported by the "K-index." These worldwide measurements are averaged and combined into the "Planetary K-index" ( $K_p$ ), which is calculated and reported every three hours. These are then used to calculate each day's "Planetary A-index" ( $A_p$ ). The higher these indices, the greater the geomagnetic disturbance. The  $K_p$  ranges from 0 (no activity; all quiet) to 9 (major storm level). If the  $K_p$  rises above 4, it is typical to see aurora; the greater the  $K_p$ , the stronger the possible resulting aurora. Of course, the stronger the geomagnetic storm, the greater the degradation to radio propagation on the high frequencies.

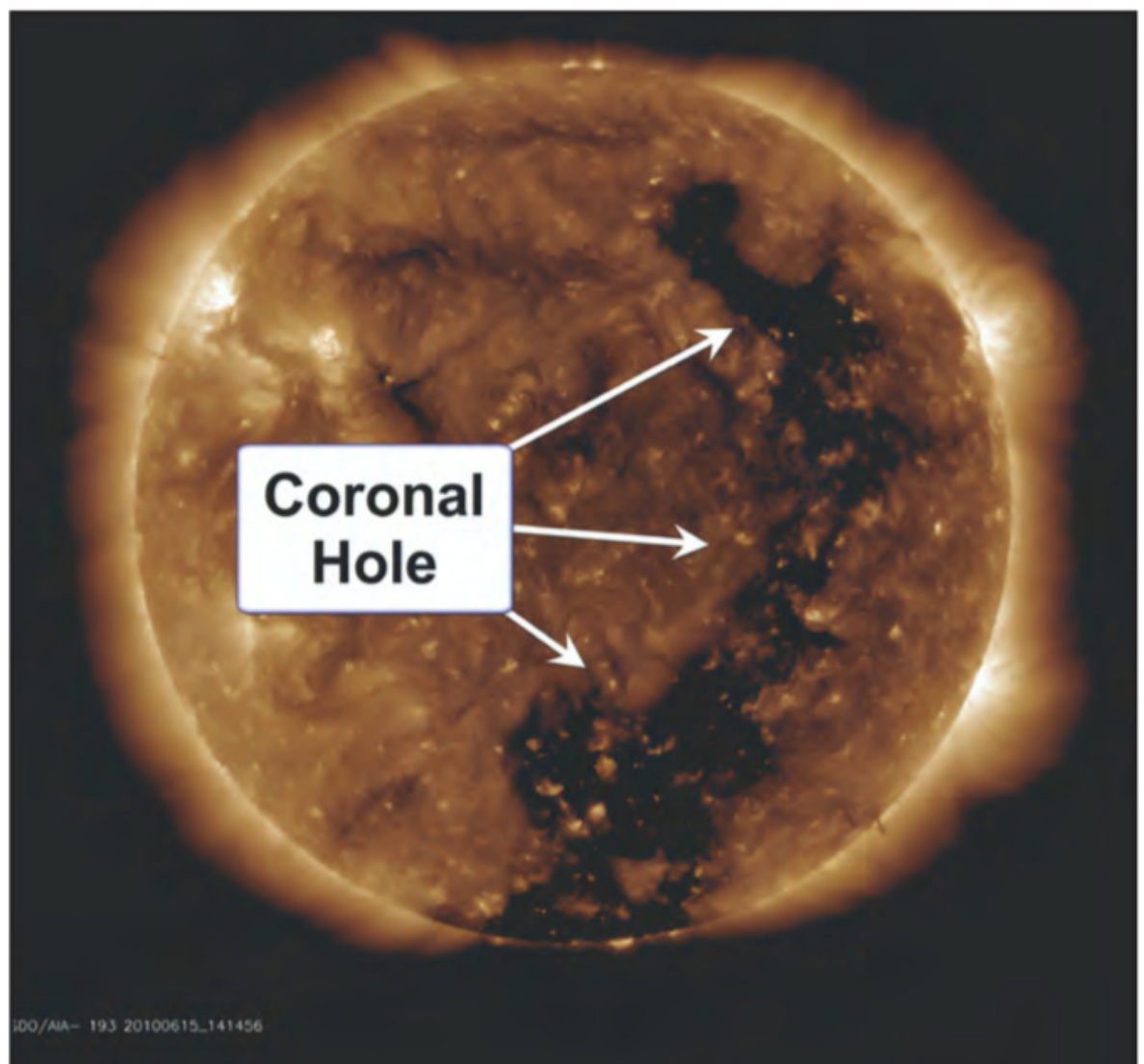
The ionosphere is affected by these changes due to the disturbance created by the solar wind. Because the Earth's magnetic field becomes disturbed, with quickly moving and chaotic magnetic field lines, the ionosphere experiences a decrease or even a depletion of ionization. Depressions in ionospheric density cause major communications problems because radio frequencies that previously had been

refracting off the ionosphere now punch through. The Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) on a given radio signal's path can be decreased by a factor of two during an ionospheric storm event

(a substorm). Storm effects are more pronounced at high latitudes.

During the declining phase of a solar cycle (as we are in with the current cycle), we see more coronal holes than during

Figure 4. Coronal holes are large regions in the corona that are less dense and cooler than surrounding areas. The open structure of their magnetic field allows a constant flow of high-density plasma to stream out of the holes. There is an increase in the intensity of the solar wind effects on Earth when a coronal hole faces us (see text). Source: SDO/AIA →





the beginning phase of a cycle. At any time, though, geo-effective (Earth-facing) coronal holes are a source of frustration for those involved with shortwave radio communications. Coronal hole activity often contributes to days of very poor propagation on the high frequencies (30 MHz and below). On the other hand, when these geomagnetic storms and aurora occur, VHF may come alive via exotic aurora-mode propagation.

This July, we'll see days when recurring coronal holes may dominate space weather. Solar activity will be low to moderate, so those days affected by coronal holes will likely exhibit poor HF propagation. There may be days when it will be a challenge to hear the station you're hunting for, and for another station to hear your signals.

I've provided live updates of the  $K_p$  and  $A_p$  indices, as well as other space weather and radio propagation data, at my webpage, <<http://SunSpotWatch.com/>>. Next month, we'll look at more space weather science. Stay tuned!

### HF Conditions

Solar activity is expected to be at about the same level as we observed last year at this time of year — no sunspot activity. This results in low Maximum Usable Frequencies (MUFs). Yes, there might be a sunspot or two, but it is unlikely that we'll see any this month.

Even so, shortwave radio listeners may expect fair openings into most areas of the world throughout the day on 22, 19, and 16 meters, and amateur radio operators may expect the same on 20, 17, and perhaps 15 meters. Through the summer, you can expect propagation between north and south regions during the daylight hours. Twenty through 17 meters will be the strong daytime bands, with 20 (amateur) and 19 (SWL) remaining popular throughout the year. Reception of stations located in tropical or equatorial areas may be possible well into the hours of darkness. For distances between 800 and several thousand miles, expect exceptionally strong signals. Multi-hop signals will be observed.

For the SWLer, 25 and 22 meters will remain open from just before sunrise to a few hours past sunset. From late afternoon to well into darkness, expect these bands to offer worldwide coverage.

Thirty-one meters and the 30-meter amateur band are year-round power bands with outstanding domestic and international paths, around the clock. During periods of low geomagnetic activity this summer, these bands may offer long distance DX all through the night.

### A Vote For FT8

Editor, CQ:

Have just read and re-read my May 2019 issue; you see, I am a new subscriber to CQ after a 55+ year drop in my original subscription from my earliest days in ham radio (January, 1956).

FT8 (discussed in "Digital Connection," p. 64) has been given a "bad rap" by "amateur radio operator syndrome," a specific disease that affects many of us who are given bad and/or poor information; or when we make that very first contact with a new radio and never again read the user manual.

As noted in the CQ May issue, FT8 is *great* for contest operators and/or DX hunters who only need a "hello and goodbye" contact. However, in my experience, roughly one in 10 US stations and one in 20 DX stations will exchange more than the usual two FT8 exchanges. I have had as many as eight exchanges, taking more than just a few minutes, similar to a non-digital CW or voice contact.

Back to the user manual, TX MACROS has the ability to send many 13-digit FREE messages, resulting in more than a "hello and goodbye" contact. I have been on FT8 since January 2018, operating 6-160, including 60 meters, and I am having a good time using my basic station. It does not matter what time of day or night it is when using FT8, as I can always find a band with FT8 signals, resulting in new contacts.

So far, I have 13 prepared 13-digit "free messages" [select TAB 2 located below ERASE on the screen=FREE MSG]. I send one or more of these as the contact dictates, and always end the contact with the built-in 73.

I have no knowledge of other digital modes used, PSK, JT-65, FT-4, FT-9, etc. and I have not yet learned the benefits of using the "waterfall" on my laptop computer—too busy having fun on FT-8.

In the spirit of ham radio, I hope to read from you and/or work you on FT-8.

47 & 73,

*Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB*

*Digital Connection editor Don Rotolo, N2IRZ, replies:*

Hello Dennis,

Welcome back to the hobby. I am sure you'll find some things are changed, but for the most part it's still about people and communicating. Some of the communication tools might be a little different, but soldering irons and PL-259s haven't changed.

Your point that 13 characters can lead to meaningful communications is not incorrect. Indeed, I am sure that I could make myself understood over the distances, a point I alluded to in my article by mentioning that 13 characters every 30 seconds is better than nothing when the chips are down. After all, 20 dB below the noise isn't something trivial: Most modes would be happy to be recognizable 3dB above the noise! And, having something so robust definitely removes a lot of the work from making contacts.

Nonetheless you should keep in mind the ham who spends 30 to 45 minutes on a contact - like me. You see, I am not normally an extrovert, and speaking with strangers in person is very stressful for me. A day in the booth at Dayton saps all my energy, and I have to be alone and quiet for a few hours afterwards to recharge. On the air, it's the opposite: I gain energy from hearing about others. It is a great way for me to turn a cruddy day at work into a good one, without resorting to alcohol or drugs, as some do.

I know you're just getting started, and it is not always easy to find back issues of CQ, but now that you have everything connected for FT-8, you also have all you need to work PSK-31. While you can't work stations 20 dB below the noise, you don't need a lot of power (10 watts is recommended) to go around the world. Plus, using PSK-31 will give you a much better idea of the value and use of the waterfall display. I highly recommend downloading and installing FLDIGI for this (and several other digital modes). DigiPan is another good program you might consider instead, but having one is as good as the other, and together they are redundant. There is a lot of info on these programs on the Internet, and installation and setup are not difficult. I urge you to give it a try, so you can compare the modes.

If typing isn't your thing - when I switched from 2 fingers to 3 a few years ago, I got 50% faster - PSK-31 software also supports macros just like FT-8. But long ragchews are a lot easier, faster, and technically more challenging. After all, I use radio because it's difficult - if I want a clear and perfect voice connection, I use my telephone.

You mention DMR: I wrote extensively on this mode not that long ago as well.

Thanks for writing, and I wish you well!

Vy 73,

*Don N2IRZ*

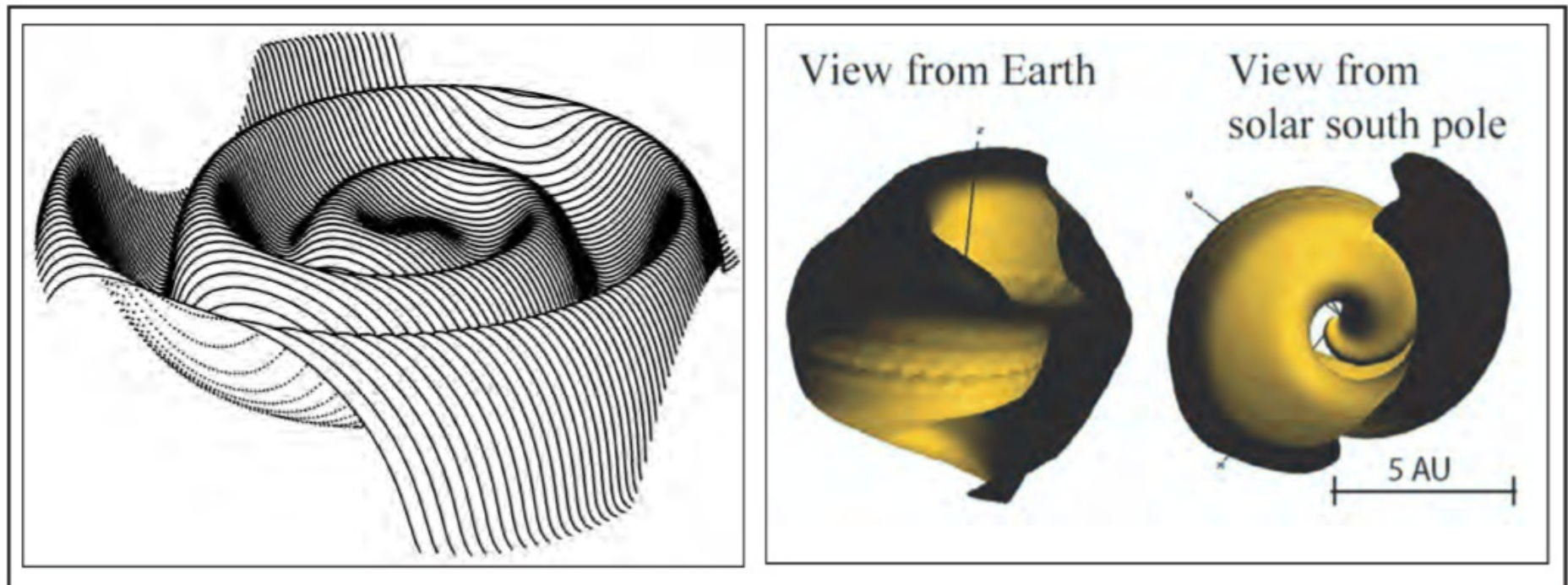


Figure 5a (left). The heliospheric current sheet is shaped like a ballerina's skirt. The sheet extends to the outer reaches of the Solar System, resulting from the influence of the Sun's rotating magnetic field on the plasma in the interplanetary medium. On this sheet ride the solar winds (see text). Credit: J. R. Jokipii, University of Arizona.

Figure 5b (right). The shape of the heliospheric current sheet in March 2000 as calculated by the Blue Horizon super-computer using data from several spacecraft. Source: NASA

Forty-one and 49 meters offer domestic SWLing propagation during daylight hours and somewhat during the night, and the same on the 40-meter amateur band. The tropical bands (60, 75, 80, 90, and 120 meters) are not noticeably affected by the solar flux, but are degraded during geomagnetic storminess. Through the summer, expect these bands to be more challenging, though less this year than last year.

Overall, daytime bands will open just before sunrise, and last a few hours after dark. Look higher in frequency during the day, as these frequencies will be less affected by any solar storms occurring, and more broadcasters have transmissions in these upper bands.

## VHF Conditions

July is one of the noticeably more active months of the year for VHF propagation between stations from about 500 to about 3,000 miles apart. Strong signals appear on the lower VHF spectrum, and then quickly fade away. Experienced VHF DXers know this season as the Sporadic-E ( $E_S$ ) season, and July is in the very peak of the yearly season that begins in May, and ends by September.

$E_S$  propagation affects the highest frequencies of the short-wave spectrum, as well as the lower to (sometimes) mid-VHF spectrum. It occurs most frequently during late spring and early summer.  $E_S$  propagation does not typically last very long, but the openings can be quite strong. The key to  $E_S$  is the chemistry and physics of Earth's atmosphere.

$E_S$  propagation tends to occur in two peaks during the daylight hours centered on either side of noon.  $E_S$  occurrence during the year seems to follow a similar trend, with the main peak in the late summer, and a second but weaker peak occurring in the winter. During the winter peak,  $E_S$  is most common just after sunset. The summer daytime peak is in the morning between 7 a.m. and noon, local time. A secondary peak occurs between 8 and 10 p.m. However, observations over many decades show a slightly stronger likelihood of  $E_S$  in the morning than in the afternoon or evening. Despite the apparent greater likelihood of  $E_S$  in the morning hours, however, this diurnal characteristic is much less

noticeable in the day-to-day casual observation of DXers. In addition, check for  $E_S$  after dark.

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 <<http://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 April 2019 was 5.5. The 12-month running smoothed sunspot number centered on October 2018 was 4.1. A smoothed sunspot count of 5, give or take about 5 points, is expected for July 2019.

The Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, BC, Canada, reports a 10.7-cm observed monthly mean solar flux of 72.4 for April 2019. The 12-month smoothed 10.7-cm flux centered on October 2018 is 70.3. The predicted smoothed 10.7-cm solar flux for July 2019 is 66.

The observed monthly mean planetary A-Index ( $A_p$ ) for April 2019 was 6. The 12-month smoothed  $A_p$  index centered on October 2018 was 7.1.

Geomagnetic activity this month should be mostly quiet with fair-to-good propagation conditions, except for those days indicated in the Last-Minute Forecast during which we expect degraded propagation (remember that you can get an up-to-the-day Last-Minute Forecast at <<http://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 <[www.facebook.com/spacewx.hfradio](http://www.facebook.com/spacewx.hfradio)> and <[www.facebook.com/NW7US](http://www.facebook.com/NW7US)>. Speaking of Facebook, check out and follow the CQ Amateur Radio magazine fan page at <[www.facebook.com/CQMag](http://www.facebook.com/CQMag)>.

– 73, Tomas, NW7US

# 2019 CQWW WPX RTTY Contest Line Scores

Number groups after call letters denote following: Band (A = all), Final Score, Number of QSOs, and Prefixes. An asterisk (\*) before a call indicates low power. Certificate winners are listed in bold-face. Late logs are listed in *italic*. (Note that country names and groupings reflect the DXCC list at the time of the contest.)

SINGLE OPERATOR NORTH AMERICA United States-District 1			
<b>WK1Q</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>4,091,472</b>	<b>1562</b>
AK1W	"	2,650,428	1374
WV1K	"	2,646,340	1359
K1SM	"	692,265	695
WX1S	"	423,258	392
N1MD	"	380,640	507
NC1CC	"	376,030	578
AA1O	"	328,950	393
W1SS	"	306,660	493
KR1CW	"	257,754	406
W1TO	"	242,292	340
WK1J	"	195,808	339
N6EE	"	193,050	249
W2DAN	"	190,292	423
W1SJ	"	183,920	381
NV1Q	"	149,730	322
W1HBR	"	131,202	308
WA2HIP	"	76,752	231
NG1I	"	58,875	209
K1RO	"	51,054	197
WB1AEL	"	40,341	142
K3IU	"	31,240	126
<b>KV1J</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22,374</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>*W1ARY</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>415,896</b>	<b>565</b>
*KB1LRL	"	238,854	394
*KA1C	"	232,440	422
*NN1D	"	200,859	356
*W1DYJ	"	161,408	299
*N1API	"	118,784	232
*NA1S	"	92,565	209
*KG1V	"	83,398	216
*AE1T	"	41,890	153
*AB1ZQ	"	40,710	166
*AA1SU	"	39,055	154
*KC1SA	"	36,153	175
*W1MJ	"	25,245	135
*WA1N	"	3,520	50
*K1LHO	"	3,071	47
*W1ZFG	"	1,296	28
*K1ECU	"	825	16
*KJ1J	"	336	14
<b>*AB1J</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45,675</b>	<b>180</b>
*K1NZ	"	112	8
<b>WK1Q</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>4,091,472</b>	<b>1562</b>
AK1W	"	2,650,428	1374
WV1K	"	2,646,340	1359
K1SM	"	692,265	695
WX1S	"	423,258	392
N1MD	"	380,640	507
NC1CC	"	376,030	578
AA1O	"	328,950	393
W1SS	"	306,660	493
KR1CW	"	257,754	406
W1TO	"	242,292	340
WK1J	"	195,808	339
N6EE	"	193,050	249
W2DAN	"	190,292	423
W1SJ	"	183,920	381
NV1Q	"	149,730	322
W1HBR	"	131,202	308
WA2HIP	"	76,752	231
NG1I	"	58,875	209
K1RO	"	51,054	197
WB1AEL	"	40,341	142
K3IU	"	31,240	126
<b>KV1J</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22,374</b>	<b>172</b>
<b>*W1ARY</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>415,896</b>	<b>565</b>
*KB1LRL	"	238,854	394
*KA1C	"	232,440	422
*NN1D	"	200,859	356
*W1DYJ	"	161,408	299
*N1API	"	118,784	232
*NA1S	"	92,565	209
*KG1V	"	83,398	216
*AE1T	"	41,890	153
*AB1ZQ	"	40,710	166
*AA1SU	"	39,055	154
*KC1SA	"	36,153	175
*W1MJ	"	25,245	135
*WA1N	"	3,520	50
*K1LHO	"	3,071	47
*W1ZFG	"	1,296	28
*K1ECU	"	825	16
*KJ1J	"	336	14
<b>*AB1J</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>45,675</b>	<b>180</b>
*K1NZ	"	112	8

District 2			
<b>K2NV</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>903,150</b>	<b>790</b>
N2CU	"	701,362	740
K2RET	"	610,368	661
WS9M	"	568,480	755
K2RB	"	515,680	632
KB2CKN	"	292,575	492
WB2WPM	"	286,620	469
WC2L	"	254,358	374
W2YK	"	247,687	341
WB2PJH	"	174,867	387
NT2A	"	98,236	193
KE1IH	"	88,060	243
W2LE	"	85,470	211
K2QB	"	84,838	242
W2JK	"	54,016	184
KA2AEY	"	38,350	168
K2PAL	"	34,452	127
K2XA	"	9,512	45
KC2LST	"	2,988	42
KC2KZJ	"	1,482	21
<b>N2MM</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>879,660</b>	<b>834</b>
WW2DX	"	857,760	819
W2DFC	"	3,500	58
W2TT	"	3,243	59
<b>K2UF</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>206,496</b>	<b>290</b>
WR2G	"	11,660	58
<b>*KF2O</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>1,067,392</b>	<b>733</b>
*NY6DX	"	852,550	873
*N2HMM	"	633,204	734
*KA2D	"	519,183	570
*NS2N	"	300,852	441
*K2AL	"	260,308	451
*WB2COY	"	243,273	440
*KC2WUF	"	155,820	315
*KS2G	"	149,100	327
*WA1FXK	"	143,902	355
*AC2OC	"	111,834	272
*WA2QAU	"	111,300	302
*N2FF	"	86,636	204
*WB2NFL	"	82,852	231
*K2DAR	"	56,028	164
*W2JV	"	52,745	177
*ND2K	"	39,804	147
*K3UK	"	36,108	165
*W2DXE	"	23,166	115
*KD2DWW	"	12,610	86
*K2TV	"	12,561	92
*W2XK	"	9,420	67
*AG2AA	"	8,874	68
*AH2O	"	6,100	61
*K2YR	"	5,883	63
*AK2S	"	5,104	55
*K1NY	"	3,515	40
*AC2QH	"	2,356	33
*W2KYM	"	1,980	37
*KD2DXJ	"	1,696	35
*W02N	"	1,144	25
*KB2URI	"	3	3
<b>*KU2M</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>398,195</b>	<b>511</b>
*WB2NVR	"	72,160	210
*N2YBB	"	62,757	199
*N2MUN	"	55,242	202
*N1IBM/2	"	16	4
<b>*W2VTV</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>209,720</b>	<b>307</b>
<b>*K2DFC</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>73,114</b>	<b>214</b>
<b>AA3B</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>6,363,225</b>	<b>2311</b>
N3QE	"	3,576,573	1711
W3FV	"	2,817,944	1459
KA3GIK	"	2,190,460	1275
K2LNS	"	1,462,447	1084
W2CDO	"	1,337,628	969
AA3S	"	973,352	867
K3MD	"	921,120	875
W2GPS	"	494,490	548
AB3CV	"	420,985	420
N3XL	"	297,184	465
NF3R	"	266,252	405
WA3AAN	"	214,136	398
KW3A	"	206,944	381
N8WXQ	"	206,205	404
K3AU	"	170,310	325
K3PP	"	153,135	290
KG4USN	"	131,744	273
W8LYJ	"	120,109	273
NN3RP	"	79,315	233
K3ATO	"	60,060	214
N3FJP	"	48,070	154
W3GVX	"	40,940	120
K3UL	"	36,736	158
KC3DRZ	"	32,745	163
K3TEF	"	24,832	119
WN3I	"	21,080	108
N3DUE	"	20,114	110
KD3TB	"	11,466	79
W3MF	"	3,024	28
K3OQ	"	1,188	22
<b>4U1WB</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>123,750</b>	<b>461</b>

District 3			
<b>NY3B</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>128,128</b>	<b>230</b>
N3ZP	"	14,396	73
<b>*WW3S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>959,104</b>	<b>813</b>
*W3RGA	"	854,700	858
*K3RWN	"	491,808	676
*N3ATE	"	386,316	490
*KB3LIX	"	249,755	413
*K3AJ	"	213,192	364
*KE3GK	"	205,994	347
*K3URT	"	175,112	379
*KQ3F	"	138,567	277
*KE3ZT	"	121,824	326
*K3NDM	"	103,680	283
*KA3FZN	"	95,931	229
*N3HEE	"	93,073	260
*AJ3DI	"	81,322	219
*ND3R	"	78,814	211
*WA3ZSC	"	75,118	209
*AJ3C	"	69,185	208
*AB3XJ	"	69,000	182
*W3KB	"	59,850	147
*K3STL	"	54,696	198
*N3CHX	"	40,064	198
*N5TB	"	34,814	135
*NE3R	"	33,078	149
*NC3P	"	29,488	118
*NG3Y	"	27,250	159
*N3WT	"	25,344	116
*AI3KS	"	23,364	119
*KA3PMW	"	18,144	111
*KN3A	"	17,328	91
*N3VN	"	16,942	129
*NS3X	"	15,075	102
*N3MWQ	"	12,160	98
*AB3SX	"	11,830	82
*WA3MD	"	10,921	76
*N3WMC	"	10,362	95
*KX2S	"	6,776	64
*N3RDV	"	4,956	48
*WS3C	"	4,922	54
*W3BUI	"	3,705	42
*N3JIX	"	2,340	31
*W3DQT	"	1,100	22
*AA3EE	"	798	20
*K3LT	"	594	23
*N3WD	"	532	21
*K3UA	"	78	6
<b>*W3IDT</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>83,808</b>	<b>207</b>
*W3FA	"	2,288	28
<b>K4GMH</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>1,793,704</b>	<b>1180</b>
N6AR	"	1,590,924	1100
NR4O	"	1,349,964	1192
K5EK	"	1,342,632	963
WS6X	"	1,218,150	1045
K4FX	"	1,114,920	937
AD4EB	"	1,035,776	981
N4QS	"	1,004,625	827
AA4DD	"	969,848	922
KT4Q	"	890,416	957
K8AC	"	864,860	894
WJ2D	"	662,075	652
N4ZZ	"	601,725	668
W1IE	"	593,135	633
NS4X	"	519,435	799
K4XL	"	519,048	504
W4GKM	"	460,600	729
AF4RK	"	458,920	622
K2WK	"	444,242	533
A14WW	"	411,220	558
AD4TJ	"	406,144	556
K5VIP	"	397,823	450
KA1AF	"	396,900	546
WB4YDY	"	392,660	541
N4CF	"	380,770	511
K4NV	"	354,548	490
W1GKT	"	324,318	537
K8LF	"	319,658	441
W4UK	"	309,600	568
K4GM	"	304,896	500
KM3U	"	274,833	502
KY4NA	"	270,137	401
N4CW	"	254,012	317
W3SA	"	227,916	426
W3YY	"	199,272	298
NY4I	"	194,23	

















*Y09CWW	"	208,620	308	228	EA20K	"	6,912	59	54	*HB9ØGKM	"	270	10	10	
*Y02LXW	"	176,475	256	181	<b>EA5FID</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14,784</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>77</b>					(OP:HB9GKM)	
*Y07CVL	"	136,152	224	183	EA30H	"	3,293	37	37						
*Y04UQ	"	87,162	187	146	<b>EF1Z</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>872,534</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>481</b>						
*Y06DBL	"	61,366	137	122						(OP:EA1BD)	<b>UW1M</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>4,853,499</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>723</b>
*Y04RST	"	55,626	147	127	EA2KU	"	168,240	353	240						(OP:UR5MW)
*Y08AAZ	"	51,831	138	117	EC1RS	"	98,623	248	193	EMØI	"		4,314,363	1834	713
*Y04SI	"	47,936	137	107	EA1EPM	"	9,248	72	68						(OP:UT2IZ)
*Y04DW	"	31,450	92	85	EB1DMQ	"	2,196	39	36	UZ1WW	"		2,260,995	1128	579
*Y02LEA	"	22,464	83	72	<b>EA1XT</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>993,672</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>373</b>	UV5U	"		2,033,120	1104	524
*Y09IOE	"	22,327	92	83	EA3AQ	"	89,440	156	130						(OP:UX1UA)
<b>*Y02IS</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>149,408</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>232</b>	EB1IC	"	54,000	117	108	UV7V	"		1,433,124	871	484
<b>*Y04BEW</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>127,820</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>166</b>	EA1DA	"	44,650	120	95						(OP:UX1VT)
*Y04CVV	"	85,936	160	131	<b>*EA4BAS</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>800,793</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>399</b>	UY5VA	"		1,329,999	918	451
<b>*Y06FPW</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>107,388</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>157</b>	*EA4GOY	"	769,776	604	348	UT3RS	"		1,311,380	926	476
*Y08DHA	"	49,820	127	106	*EB5CUZ	"	256,300	357	233	UWØK	"		1,243,000	725	452
					*EA1IYK	"	253,565	367	235						(OP:USØKW)
					*EA5HYJ	"	222,640	331	230	UZØU	"		1,048,172	783	428
					*EA7GV	"	194,970	308	201						(OP:UY5ZZ)
					*EA5HRT	"	185,640	312	204	UR5CN	"		901,407	742	377
					*EA3HKA	"	154,587	294	227	UR5R	"		862,150	656	430
					*EA4AAZ	"	142,128	240	189						(OP:UTØRM)
					*EB1EB	"	113,828	199	143	UX5UO	"		605,917	589	367
					*EA3HWE	"	106,582	206	161	UR4EI	"		485,268	495	318
					*EC7AT	"	63,992	194	152	UZ5ZU	"		453,568	481	304
					*EB5CS	"	48,951	133	111	UT2UB	"		285,250	376	250
					*EB3EKZ	"	46,979	136	109	UT5ECZ	"		189,711	281	197
					*EA1EWY	"	25,284	107	86	UT3UV	"		47,092	151	122
					*EA5ERA	"	12,903	81	69	US2YW	"		39,930	127	110
					*EB1BCG	"	12,154	66	59	UR7R	"		3,225	45	43
					*EA4CRP	"	4,403	40	37	UY5QZ	"		525	16	15
					*EA4FIT	"	540	12	12	UT7E	"		120	8	8
					<b>*EF3C</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>91,509</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>177</b>						(OP:UV5EOZ)
										(OP:EA3CV)	<b>EM2G</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1,774,326</b>	<b>1153</b>	<b>678</b>
										(OP:OH2HOD)					(OP:UR7GO)
					*EA5/OH2HOD	"	83,772	215	179	US7IY	"		118,818	274	207
										UR5FBM	"		36,720	130	120
					*EA1BDX	"	76,736	194	176	<b>UT4U</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>1,507,488</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>492</b>
					*EA7ZC	"	42,588	142	126						(OP:UT5UJO)
					*EA7AH	"	19,936	98	89	UY1HY	"		1,264,384	684	449
					*EA7IA	"	12,075	81	75	UT7FA	"		598,104	472	324
					*EA2CCG	"	5,661	55	51	UT5LA	"		227,392	276	209
					<b>*ED4T</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>439,704</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>279</b>	US11V	"		103,008	172	148
										(OP:EA4CWN)	<b>UX2X</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2,278,100</b>	<b>1002</b>	<b>550</b>
					*EA2BNU	"	320,640	322	240						(OP:UT2XQ)
					*EA3CI	"	145,280	209	160	UT2AU	"		419,440	395	280
					*EB7KA	"	64,350	141	117	UT3N	"		212,716	289	214
					*EA7JZZ	"	45,696	106	102						(OP:UT3NK)
					<b>*ED3Y</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>285,348</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>*UW6E</b>	<b>A</b>		<b>2,355,029</b>	<b>1196</b>	<b>563</b>
										(OP:EA3EGB)					(OP:UR6EA)
					*EA4DB	"	64,560	136	120	*UX1UX	"		1,709,840	1035	536
										*UT5EPP	"		1,576,988	1074	476
										*UX7QV	"		940,752	806	376
										*UT7IS	"		860,200	723	391
										*UT8EL	"		858,526	734	394
										*UT3SO	"		654,288	564	344
										*UR7CB	"		606,210	571	334
										*UR6IM	"		583,375	595	359
										*UR7CT	"		535,516	525	332
										*UR6QS	"		440,412	483	294
										*UT5UN	"		401,841	443	297
										*UR4LBF	"		396,429	434	293
										*UY5UF	"		393,907	403	289
										*UR7EC	"		353,700	411	270
										*UR3PA	"		319,084	375	241
										*UR5ZGY	"		306,153	443	261
										*UR5LY	"		269,724	313	247
										*UY5TE	"		263,624	365	248
										*UR4LG	"		259,650	354	225
										*UT2SQ	"		240,720	308	240
										*UT5CL	"		236,520	299	219
										*UR3QTN	"		232,388	314	218
										*UTØCK	"		221,778	332	222
										*UT2QQ	"		219,240	313	232
										*UR4CU	"		198,260	292	230
										*UR7QM	"		197,344	304	224
										*US5CDH	"		179,270	274	197
										*UV3RT	"		169,388	265	212
										*UX1VX	"		162,240	251	192
										*UR5ZDZ	"		160,752	277	197
										*UT8AS	"		158,760	262	180
										*UW5U	"		155,246	243	182
															(OP:UY2UA)
										*UT4UQ	"		144,786	246	177
										*UR4MG	"		140,686	250	182
										*US7IB	"		128,505	257	195
										*UT7MR	"		126,400	235	158
										*UT8IK	"		117,490	219	155
										*UTØNT	"		99,358	198	151
										*UT3IA	"		98,343	204	147
										*UT1UL	"		71,687	157	133
										*UY5QQ	"		65,100	150	150
										*UT4UFU	"		64,896	152	128
										*US5QUB	"		54,210	141	130
										*UX4CR	"		50,941	144	121
										*US5LOC	"		28,644	108	93
										*UX5UN	"		24,548	84	76
										*UR5XMM	"		23,004	91	81
										*UT5UHX	"		18,942	89	82
										*UX7VA	"		16,020	93	89
										*US7IID	"		10,044	65	62
										*UT9UZ	"		7,740	47	45
										<b>*UR5QU</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>31,752</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>108</b>
										<b>*UR2Y</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>428,922</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>351</b>
															(OP:USØYW)
										*EM9Q	"		359,597	494	329
															(OP:UR9QQ)
										*UY7C	"		337,608	462	324
															(OP:UR3CMA)
										*UT1AA	"		195,027	375	251
										*UT2EF	"		135,072	272	224
										*UR8QR	"		105,252	246	196



JH3DMQ	28	21	3	3
C06EC	"	2	2	2
JR1NKN	21	840	21	21
HG3C	"	799	18	17
IZ3NVR	"	242	11	11
DL2TM	"	12	3	3
YC3RJL	"	8	2	2
IZ7FLP	14	629,880	651	435
A71AE	"	349,279	433	287
HG3IPA	"	124,020	263	212
			(OP:HA3JB)	
UX8ZA	"	40,040	151	130
WE6EZ	"	37,960	183	146
JH1APZ	"	30,906	121	102
NP4AW	"	10,899	74	63
RA3XEV	"	5,150	52	50
YC8AO	"	1,512	31	27
IU2IGX	"	1,350	28	25
RW3AI	"	1,250	25	25
N1VVV	"	1,178	31	31
EA3FHP	"	1,173	25	23
UA0SBQ/QRP	"	1,155	21	21
N9EP	"	120	12	12
Y08SMV	"	84	6	6
XE1TRY	"	28	4	4
DL5RK	7	538,986	447	313
LZ2TU	"	195,456	257	192
EE3X	"	185,220	234	189
			(OP:EA3KX)	
YT5DEY	"	171,720	236	180
R9FBT	"	150,144	218	184
OK1NG	"	127,280	203	172
KH6KG/W5	"	107,146	235	169
			(OP:KH6KG/W5)	
C08RCP	"	89,244	160	134
R7RAG	"	72,898	148	127
Y09GSB	"	68,696	142	124
YU1ZMT	"	63,984	139	124
WD9FTZ	"	60,836	177	134
ON3DI	"	50,096	109	101
S56ZVD	"	43,890	118	105
UT4UEI	"	20,880	77	72
KP2DX	"	15,812	68	59
			(OP:KP2BH)	
TB7BIY	"	14,308	51	49
DL3ZID	"	11,130	58	53
OL120AB	"	10,608	52	51
			(OP:OK4RM)	
M2M	"	8,624	48	44
			(OP:G0WAT)	
JF1RYU	"	7,052	45	41
YL3FW	"	6,806	43	41
JH7BMF	"	4,440	30	30
Z32ID	"	4,422	33	33
W4ER	"	4,070	39	37
YB6DE	"	2,784	27	24
S57LR	"	2,700	27	27
JE1CAC	"	2,352	21	21
DU9CA	"	696	13	12
DF7DR	"	552	12	12
N4RLI	"	308	11	11
YD0RXA	"	176	8	8
JR0BUL	"	6	1	1
Y09BCM	3.5	282,978	305	237
Y08WW	"	96,570	167	145
YT5YTT	"	67,704	142	124
SQ2NNN	"	65,268	143	126
US3IW	"	57,348	132	118
N9SE	"	37,800	160	105
JM1NKT	"	5,796	64	42
JG1LFR	"	5,494	59	41
PA0AWH	"	3,080	28	28
KB2HSH	"	2,280	34	30
SP9RQH	"	1,748	23	23
KK7A	"	1,242	26	23
ES3VI	"	756	14	14
YG3FZR	"	24	4	3
YD3UX	"	4	2	2

**MULTI-OPERATOR  
SINGLE TRANSMITTER HIGH POWER  
NORTH AMERICA**

United States				
W4MLB	1,261,379	1219	491	
WV4P	1,159,368	1066	469	
KM40QQ	589,157	596	353	
AA4YL	132,273	269	213	
K5RZA	532,860	746	321	
WU6TT	143,374	380	209	
KZ7X	3,347,888	2242	664	
NV9L	5,172,516	2320	828	
NX0I	1,053,308	1317	428	
AK9D	557,648	916	364	
Belize				
V31YN	1,028,970	946	370	
Canada				
VA3LML	611,694	610	306	
VE7KW	1,156,858	1104	397	
ASIA				
Japan				
JA1ZGO	396,200	448	283	
JH0MUC/0	76,310	195	130	

9M2TO	West Malaysia	218,688	295	201
<b>EUROPE</b>				
Croatia				
9A5D	7,577,856	2408	897	
Czech Republic				
OK7O	4,607,442	1772	717	
OK1KSL	4,071,375	1647	693	
European Russia				
RK3DXW	1,470,269	1100	503	
Fed. Rep. of Germany				
DR5N	6,936,615	2110	855	
DP6K	1,856,634	1073	507	
DF5MA	1,704,528	1002	534	
DM3X	791,879	641	373	
Finland				
OH2HAN	3,677,955	1507	683	
OH2KW	1,895,398	1146	521	
OH5Z	375,552	406	288	
Greece				
SZ1A	4,825,316	1909	734	
Hungary				
HG1S	8,441,062	2467	938	
HG7T	6,878,075	2128	895	
Italy				
IQ2CU	1,327,293	835	451	
IQ3PN	119,880	239	185	
Poland				
SP2KPD	1,076,306	772	406	
Romania				
Y03GNF	156,416	253	188	
Serbia				
YT6T	98,826	239	181	
Slovak Republic				
OM4Q	1,186,844	789	428	
Slovenia				
S52X	9,838,584	2659	972	
S59T	59,623	122	109	
Sweden				
SK7K	2,621,808	1306	578	
SJ3A	720,918	578	363	
Switzerland				
HB90TTK	3,674,240	1546	640	
Ukraine				
UZ2I	6,701,338	2409	826	
UV7U	358,449	415	273	
UZ4E	39,140	117	103	
<b>OCEANIA</b>				
Australia				
VK5GR	569,772	498	306	
Indonesia				
YE1C	309,760	453	256	
Philippines				
DX9EVM	6,201	46	39	
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>				
Bonaire				
PJ4Z	8,016,843	2416	823	
Uruguay				
CX5A	1,345,352	896	424	

**MULTI-OPERATOR  
SINGLE TRANSMITTER LOW POWER  
NORTH AMERICA**

United States				
*NG1R	842,160	781	440	
*KN4DUA	93,694	263	158	
*KD6TR	115,291	365	223	
*AD0LI	115,206	350	211	
Mexico				
*XE2N	16,660	129	98	
<b>AFRICA</b>				
Canary Islands				
*EB8AH	7,818,720	2304	840	
Cueta & Melilla				
*ED9E	5,274,636	1828	667	
<b>ASIA</b>				
Asiatic Turkey				
*TC7G	2,103,582	1013	447	

*BH2RO	China	131,716	305	149
Japan				
*8N1UEC	3,680	48	40	
*JK2VOC	49,005	147	121	
<b>EUROPE</b>				
Belgium				
*OT6M	3,566,196	1401	657	
Croatia				
*9A7T	3,851,712	1340	743	
*9A7B	141,939	235	189	
Czech Republic				
*OK1RPL	388,188	414	263	
*OK1OFM	3,432	37	33	
Estonia				
*ES5YG	218,763	310	223	
European Russia				
*RA3Y	1,937,920	1156	512	
*RK3PWR	1,758,834	1210	517	
*UA6KAC	240,030	397	270	
Fed. Republic of German				
*DQ4W	2,242,800	1129	560	
*DG7RO	452,960	458	304	
*DQ4X	219,008	318	236	
*DJ1XT	183,872	280	208	
*DL70BRD	78,546	181	159	
*DL19RIC	14,823	66	61	
Lithuania				
*LY5W	2,150,448	1051	568	
Macedonia				
*Z33A	277,610	339	230	
Netherlands				
*PI4CG	2,089,790	1126	530	
*PI4VAD	811,966	606	362	
Poland				
*SP9ZHP	735,128	611	344	
*SN9A	148,185	247	185	
*SN0UNESCO	8,448	52	48	
Serbia				
*YU7KMN	38,318	132	119	
Slovak Republic				
*OM3KSI	61,347	169	143	
Slovenia				
*S51DX	314,430	355	235	
Spain				
*ED3D	1,469,093	956	479	
*EA4URE	767,618	563	422	
Ukraine				
*UR4RWW	170,016	245	184	
<b>OCEANIA</b>				
Indonesia				
*YE1ZAZ	28,282	129	79	
Philippines				
*4D3X	840,408	763	291	
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>				
Brazil				
*PR2E	361,760	481	272	
Chile				
*CB3ET	124,148	265	164	

**MULTI-OPERATOR  
TWO TRANSMITTER  
NORTH AMERICA**

United States				
KE1S	2,823,680	1415	640	
KB3VQC	2,291,460	1496	633	
W4CDA	15,045	100	85	
K5MXG	332,766	587	278	
NX6T	1,101,672	1352	429	
KT7E	2,464,020	2008	585	
KB8O	2,786,488	1825	632	
K9CT	8,789,400	3430	950	
NC0DX	4,603,284	2581	756	
W7II	1,376,845	1188	509	
Cuba				
T43MY	299,820	427	228	
<b>AFRICA</b>				
Madeira Islands				
CR3DX	24,254,241	5003	1111	
<b>ASIA</b>				
Hong Kong				
VR2CC	711,624	760	298	



*W9AKS	"	61,372	200	134	VU2IBI	"	35,696	114	97	*DL6NWA	"	403,480	424	308
*NE9M	"	31,350	155	95	JA9CCG	"	33,936	127	101	*G1P	"	389,776	425	272
				(OP:KEØL)	IT9JQY	"	31,899	103	93					(OP:MØIEP)
*KØ8V	"	5,292	44	42	JA6BCV	"	30,086	109	98	*HA7MB	"	389,550	409	294
*W3FA	"	2,288	28	26	JF2FIU	"	29,316	117	84	*CO2RQ	"	387,972	394	234
*KC9YL	"	50	5	5	VE2SCA	"	27,846	99	91	*S57SWR	"	372,000	390	248
*AB9YC	3.5	55,620	174	135	PA5WT	"	21,728	102	97	*DF3EH	"	364,958	415	313
*W9RF	"	26,040	115	84	VE7BC	"	18,544	96	76	*SP6MLX	"	341,922	346	294
					EB2RA	"	16,704	72	64	*MW6M	"	334,552	435	284
					YC2HML	"	7,656	83	44					(OP:GW4BVJ)
					UR7R	"	3,225	45	43	*MØORD	"	333,105	368	265
DK7HA	A	1,181,768	749	449	IK2IKW	"	1,496	23	22	*7N2UQC	"	330,336	452	248
IK2XDE	"	919,224	681	408	EA5FID	21	14,784	90	77	*RU5X	"	323,563	386	257
SN2WOSP	"	117,624	206	156	EA3OH	"	3,293	37	37	*PA3DBS	"	304,678	377	242
				(OP:SP2UUU)	V37DX	14	2,396,328	1497	696	*JM1MTE	"	303,178	382	241
RA3DJJA	"	60,288	161	128						*DL1EAL	"	284,260	345	244
OP4A	"	32,040	99	89	EF1Z	"	872,534	744	481	*IW4EJK	"	275,776	330	248
DH5MM	"	23,384	85	74						*RU4PH	"	265,370	361	238
Z35M	"	18,288	76	72	SX73SC	"	742,118	752	442	*IZ3XNJ	"	246,225	319	245
DU1AVC	"	14,168	76	56						*OH1NOA	"	216,910	309	218
YC1HBP	"	5,425	57	35	IU4CHE	"	713,904	679	417	*OZ1A00	"	208,437	295	201
JA1GZK	"	4,500	45	36	RU5TT	"	495,720	578	405	*IK3YBX	"	205,091	295	241
YB2NDX/1	"	2,700	40	27	UC6N	"	363,747	497	339	*EW7A	"	194,670	292	206
GW1YQM	"	2,673	33	33	DL1DTL	"	286,431	400	307	*IV3BCA	"	180,675	258	225
YB2VMC	"	1,239	29	21	JA9CWJ	"	227,592	316	261	*DJ6OZ	"	160,816	255	184
DQ5M	"	50	5	5	J13BFC	"	114,190	230	190	*CS25FOQ	"	154,585	272	215
				(OP:DK6SP)	EC1RS	"	98,623	248	193					(OP:CT1FOQ)
IZ3NVR	21	242	11	11	7K4VPV	"	67,792	176	152	*9H1CG	"	152,536	250	184
YC3RJL	"	8	2	2	SV9COL	"	62,310	194	155	*DG9BEO	"	150,696	244	184
EE3X	7	185,220	234	189	LX1HD	"	42,656	149	124	*SM6FZO	"	146,400	259	183
				(OP:EA3KX)	OM2AGN	"	26,000	103	100	*DF7JC	"	145,054	243	182
R9FBT	"	150,144	218	184	M3I	"	24,411	109	103	*UT4UQ	"	144,786	246	177
CO8RCP	"	89,244	160	134	RAØAM	"	23,040	98	90	*UC4I	"	140,010	251	195
R7RAG	"	72,898	148	127	YC9SBP	"	4,070	49	37	*JH3WKE	"	136,752	254	168
JF1RYU	"	7,052	45	41	JK3NSD	"	420	12	12	*IK8IOO	"	130,468	248	193
JM1NKT	3.5	5,796	64	42	IT9RZU	7	839,160	514	378	*E13CTB	"	127,737	237	171
JG1LFR	"	5,494	59	41	MØUNI	"	287,364	290	231	*IK5QPS	"	122,998	213	178
YG3FZR	"	24	4	3	IZ5EME	"	284,896	272	232	*IT9CIL	"	118,370	239	190
YD3UX	"	4	2	2	LC2C	"	284,088	317	228	*RØUT	"	114,896	255	167
DP6M	A	3,206,245	1281	707						*YC4FIK	"	112,320	252	130
				(OP:DK9IP)	UT5LA	"	227,392	276	209	*Z32U	"	108,188	186	148
DM5TI	"	2,514,642	1211	626	G4PIQ	"	209,280	242	192	*EC6DX	"	104,248	211	166
M7T	"	2,485,311	1267	597	VE3GYL	"	184,072	257	173	*DK7TM	"	103,520	208	160
				(OP:G3YYD)	IZ4DZD	"	109,744	183	152	*DJ7UC	"	103,125	205	165
UZ1WW	"	2,260,995	1128	579	LN50	"	44,160	118	96	*IWØGYC	"	99,200	198	155
YL1S	"	2,243,822	1138	581						*PD8DX	"	97,340	183	155
				(OP:YL1ZF)	F4CWN	"	36,080	96	88	*SFØZ	"	96,200	199	148
OZØJD	"	1,889,146	1081	518	YC2EEE	"	16,704	89	58					(OP:SMØHEV)
DR7B	"	1,657,370	989	494	DL7LX	"	8,190	46	45	*DD5MA	"	93,060	161	141
				(OP:DL2JRM)	SM3LBP	"	1,512	18	18	*IK2ØVT	"	80,352	172	144
DK1FW	"	1,611,039	911	527	IZ3SQW	3.5	1,471,808	791	464	*VE7KAJ	"	79,560	243	156
DLØHMK	"	1,602,255	966	479	EU4E	"	903,000	584	375	*IT9ACJ	"	76,320	176	144
				(OP:DF2HN)	SV2BXA	"	788,900	561	350	*VE3SST	"	73,250	202	125
UV7V	"	1,433,124	871	484	IK3ORD	"	767,382	541	363	*PG1R	"	72,618	172	147
				(OP:UX1VT)	SP5DL	"	696,672	495	354	*DL4NER	"	71,103	155	137
UT3RS	"	1,311,380	926	476	S58Q	"	471,576	394	294	*SV8PMM	"	69,000	141	125
VE2FXL	"	1,288,686	883	427	UT3N	"	212,716	289	214	*DL8ZAJ	"	68,961	157	127
YØ3RU	"	1,243,778	846	461						*UY5QQ	"	65,100	150	150
DHØGHU	"	1,162,544	703	452	UN4PG	"	164,952	191	158	*EC7AT	"	63,992	194	152
VA1XH	"	1,138,440	744	424	YF3CYT	"	120	10	6	*JF1WNT	"	63,041	168	121
DF8QB	"	1,080,660	765	434	YF3CYS	"	84	7	6	*IZ5FSA	"	59,605	148	131
F5ØAM	"	1,019,187	742	403	YF3DFB	"	40	5	4	*ØK1BJ	"	58,179	153	123
GW5NF	"	1,004,805	755	405	*ZZ2T	A	2,290,635	1219	545	*YØ4RST	"	55,626	147	127
GW6A	"	983,970	706	435						*JE2BOM	"	52,530	142	103
				(OP:YØ6BHN)	*IK3TPP	"	1,962,378	988	583	*JA7MWC	"	51,584	152	104
LC1C	"	954,890	720	410	*CT7AJL	"	1,877,580	1107	513	*JA9LX	"	51,528	154	113
DP8M	"	952,204	641	418	*S57U	"	1,671,047	1001	469	*JR9TUG	"	49,714	209	106
				(OP:DL6NDW)	*ØE2E	"	1,605,285	945	495	*8T8S	"	48,990	137	115
ØE5BGN	"	951,048	680	408										(OP:VU2AE)
UR5CN	"	901,407	742	377	*R7MM	"	1,599,520	990	520	*ØK1SI	"	47,672	116	101
LX2LX	"	798,553	620	379	*UT5EPP	"	1,576,988	1074	476	*PDØWR	"	43,505	126	113
				(OP:LX1NØ)	*ØN5GQ	"	1,555,113	980	497	*GW4JBQ	"	43,120	125	110
DL1NEO	"	715,806	492	399	*LX5IGRY	"	1,512,480	875	460	*BH6KWC	"	41,019	152	113
LY4ØØ	"	681,291	538	351						*R6KEE	"	38,280	138	120
RO9A	"	644,385	529	357	*IT9VCE	"	1,426,620	987	465	*SV2/SV7CUD	"	37,142	111	98
ØE2LCM	"	610,644	500	337	*DL3SYA	"	1,365,210	882	462					(OP:SV7CUD)
I2DJX	"	585,980	495	353	*VE3DZ	"	1,343,160	894	455	*DM3PKK	"	36,360	114	101
IK1BPL	"	536,406	492	338	*F8BDQ	"	1,157,940	725	420	*EW1P	"	34,823	114	97
XE1HG	"	500,992	630	304	*SE4E	"	1,131,936	807	416	*SF5M	"	34,216	113	104
UR4EI	"	485,268	495	318										(OP:SM5SYØ)
UZ5ZU	"	453,568	481	304	*4U1A	"	1,104,450	746	398	*IK8ARF	"	33,708	113	106
DF1LON	"	439,485	394	353	*ER1PB	"	1,093,036	796	379	*JA1IE	"	33,215	120	91
VA7FC	"	429,216	601	272	*EF8Ø	"	962,340	640	373	*YL2IP	"	32,334	112	102
IW3FVZ	"	411,220	394	290						*DF1LX	"	30,728	101	92
HAØHW	"	289,560	335	228	*RW7M	"	960,300	811	396	*SP9HZW	"	26,487	93	81
IZ4FUE	"	270,912	342	249	*UX7QV	"	940,752	806	376	*ØG4M	"	26,481	107	97
IK2QIN	"	267,336	337	237	*ØG3P	"	923,292	660	412	*ØPØJ	"	26,160	101	80
DF2LH	"	248,148	301	226										(OP:ØN5GF)
DJ8EW	"	246,240	295	240	*EA8PT	"	917,228	650	403	*LA8ØKA	"	24,928	96	82
JØ7KMB	"	223,776	312	216	*VE2BVV	"	791,056	646	392	*ZL3VZ	"	24,414	88	78
VU2DED	"	199,310	276	190	*MW9W	"	689,409	606	353	*UR5XMM	"	23,004	91	81
JN3SAC	"	195,Ø83	282	203	*GUØSUP	"	686,810	517	397	*DL5GAC	"	22,517	99	89
JA3HBF	"	189,420	300	205	*TI2ØY	"	616,050	652	333	*JM8FEI	"	19,698	99	67
IZ1PLH	"	187,425	256	225	*UR7CB	"	606,210	571	334	*UT5UHX	"	18,942	89	82
R3YC	"	167,Ø56	3Ø1	197	*YT1TX	"	6Ø3,372	5Ø7	3Ø8	*JJ1KZZ	"	17,810	7Ø	65
V31FO	"	159,954	218	159	*KH6CJJ	"	581,166	646	249	*PH4E	"	17,Ø43	77	69
				(OP:DH8BQA)	*IU8DKG	"	54Ø,834	455	326	*SD6M	"	16,827	86	79
DL1DAW	"	153,126	242	181	*ØG95AA	"	493,ØØØ	517	34Ø	*JG3SVP	"	16,776	91	72
LU1BJW	"	149,1ØØ	28Ø	175						*ØH8GET	"	16,Ø48	75	68
7L4IOU	"	123,5Ø8	244	154	*ØG8T	"	486,972	496	334	*S57KM	"	15,686	79	62
IZ4VSD	"	122,61Ø	248	2Ø1	*SM5S	"	468,958	465	287	*SP5BUJ	"	15,128	66	61
JA1QØW	"	116,16Ø	222	165						*JA9EJG	"			

*JA8CEA	"	4,800	40	40
*JE2CPI	"	4,389	38	33
*VU2EEI	"	4,256	36	32
*VO2AC	"	2,604	32	28
*JA8KGG	"	2,070	25	23
*11DXD	"	1,880	20	20
*JA7FDA	"	1,155	23	21
*PY2XC	21	63,315	170	135
*L77D	"	45,235	148	109
				(OP:LU6DC)
*UR5QU	"	31,752	130	108
*YV1SW	"	18,174	85	78
*YT8A	"	14,544	86	72
*IK0PRP	"	13,794	80	66
*I3FGX	"	12,276	75	66
*IK2TDM	"	6,272	53	49
*M7P	"	2,844	38	36
				(OP:G6NHU)
*IW9FDD	14	436,482	576	354
*UR2Y	"	428,922	535	351
				(OP:US0YW)
*IZ8EFD	"	396,535	496	355
*IK4LZH	"	291,078	424	309
*R5ACQ	"	276,318	438	301
*EW7BA	"	218,430	362	270
*OQ4B	"	191,439	331	239
				(OP:ON4BHQ)
*VE3TM	"	166,852	303	236
*DL3KVR	"	160,035	294	235
*Y02IS	"	149,408	294	232
*DF4WC	"	133,760	273	209
*DL4FCH	"	113,629	247	199
*MM2T	"	65,286	190	162
*IK4DCX	"	62,424	173	153
*JK8PBO	"	51,604	154	133
*RA9AFZ	"	43,440	128	120
*R3LC	"	36,176	140	119
*UA4WGM	"	25,724	118	109
*9G2HO	"	21,420	91	84
				(OP:9G5SA)
*KP4JFR	"	11,222	69	62
*RA4L	"	8,645	67	65
*JA4RMX	"	7,850	58	50
*EA2CCG	"	5,661	55	51
*G4NXG/M	"	5,220	46	45
*DU1/PG5V	"	846	19	18
*SP5XOV	"	510	15	15
*UR5WCQ	7	743,208	500	358
*OK2RU	"	677,758	466	349
*IW2MXY	"	563,550	436	325
*ED4T	"	439,704	366	279
				(OP:EA4CWN)

*KP3LH	"	369,846	370	243
				(OP:KP3LR)
*Z37DX	"	328,636	333	242
				(OP:Z33F)
*EA2BNU	"	320,640	322	240
*DL5KUD	"	296,000	302	250
*2E0CVN	"	199,200	248	200
*Z39A	"	198,018	251	193
*CM8NMN	"	135,150	198	159
*VE10P	"	112,420	171	146
*MM1PTT	"	108,936	177	153
*OK1PMA	"	60,720	129	115
*IV3IXN	"	58,032	117	117
*YB2WA	"	47,840	142	92
*JF3PLF	"	32,706	106	79
*WP4WW	"	31,600	89	79
				(OP:KP4JRS)
*PP7DX	"	28,826	77	71
*JH1APK	"	5,340	33	30
*JH4FUF	"	2,808	27	26
*EU6AA	"	2,544	25	24
*JA3HKR	"	768	12	12
*SQ4NR	3.5	1,036,112	654	406
*DF1MM	"	901,600	613	400
*UZ2HZ	"	880,896	598	384
*OK4GP	"	728,460	504	355
*E77EA	"	724,880	533	340
*UT5PY	"	613,760	504	320
*IX1CLD	"	455,182	414	287
*S53NW	"	445,356	414	278
*IZ3KKE	"	420,320	385	284
*RU4I	"	297,600	319	248
*UA5F	"	271,200	299	240
*S52WD	"	241,108	293	218

*IW2HUS	"	229,512	281	219
*SP5VIH	"	228,060	286	210
*M6BIR	"	147,060	225	171
*LY2EW	"	136,224	211	172
*HA1WD	"	109,440	188	152
*S53BB	"	102,102	186	143
*EA4DB	"	64,560	136	120
*9A1AA	"	61,180	135	115
*SQ9PPT	"	45,136	119	104
*JF3BFS	"	12,960	86	60
*IZ5OQX	"	11,088	61	56
*IK2LLOL	"	6,004	39	38
*Z33F	"	4,356	34	33
*9M4DXX	"	2,000	20	20
				(OP:JE1SCJ)
*YC2VOC	"	1,520	27	20
*JA0GCI	"	966	21	21
*YG3FZT	"	2	1	1

#### CHECK LOGS

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LY9Y's antenna farm.



Andy, LY9Y, and son Andy, LY7Z, operate as LY9Y and take 6<sup>th</sup> place in Multi-Two.



**Looking Ahead...** Here are some of the articles we're working on for upcoming issues of **CQ**.

- \* Results: 2019 CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest
- \* The Kits of Dayton
- \* QRP: Powering Up With Lithium

#### Plus...

- \* Rules, 2019 CQ World Wide DX Contest

#### Upcoming Special Issues

- October:** Emergency Communications
- December:** Technology
- February:** QRP
- June:** Take it to the Field

Do you have a hobby radio story to tell? Something for one of our specials? **CQ** now covers the entire radio hobby. See our writers' guidelines on the CQ website at <http://bit.ly/2qBF0dU>.





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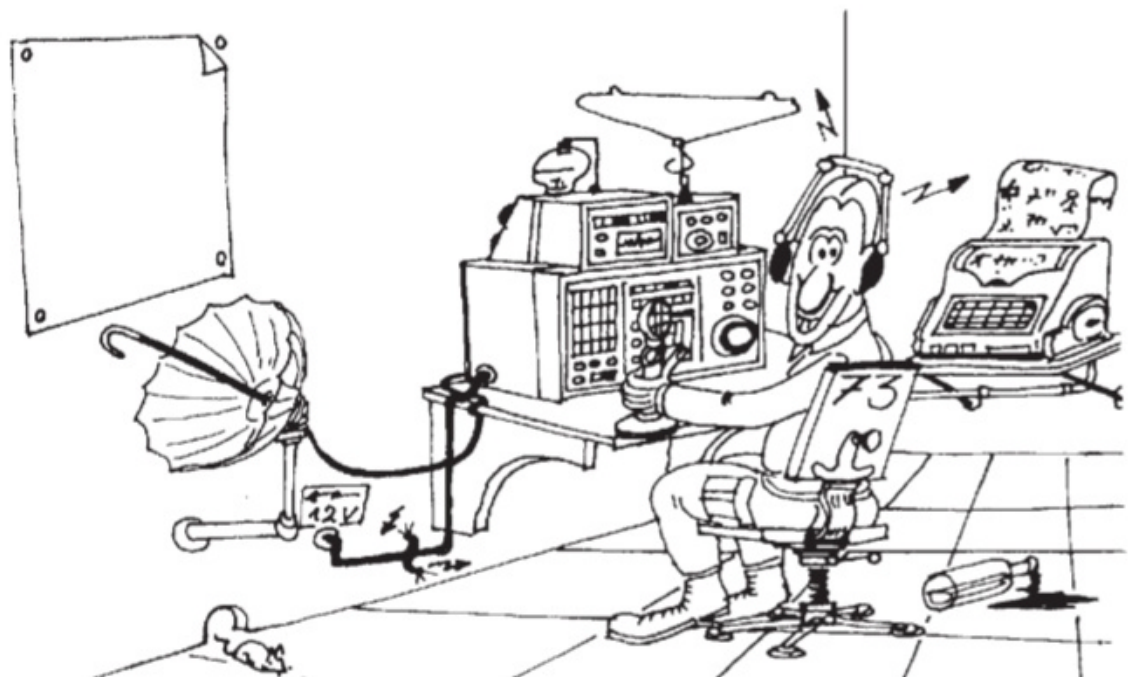
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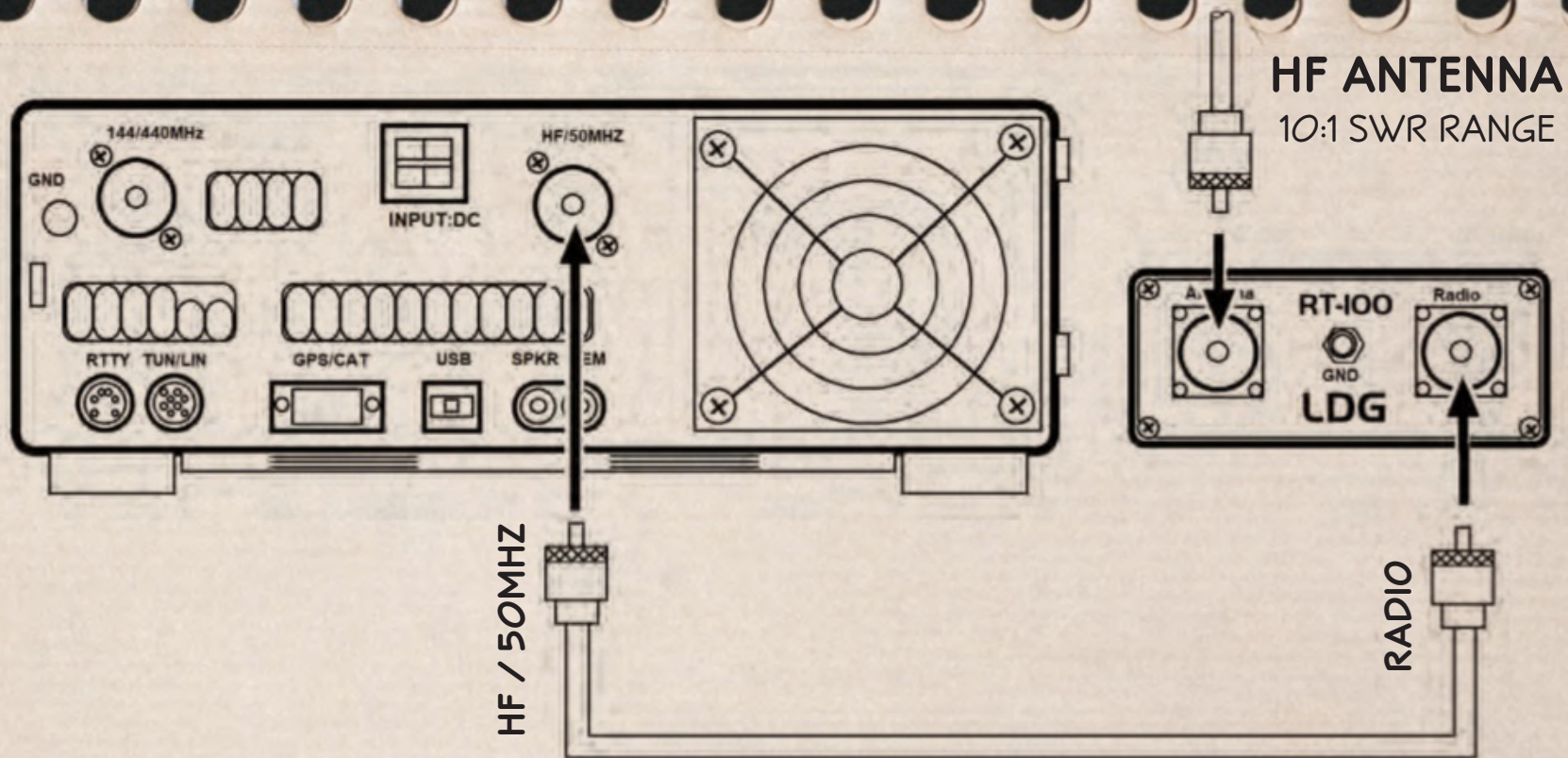
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# FT3DR

