



# Solid Copy

*The International CWops Newsletter*

December

2013

Issue No. 47



RemoteRig RRC-1258 MkII Pair

## CWops "CWT"

**11, 25 December 2013 \*\*\* Q out \*\*\***

Start times: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (12, 26 December)

1-hour each session

Exchange: name/number (members)  
name/SPC (non-members)

## CWA Days

**4, 18 December 2013: 1300Z, 1900Z, 0300Z(+1)**

## CWops "neighborhood"

Look for CWops on 1.818, 3.528, 7.028, 10.118,  
14.028, 18.078, 21.028, 24.908, 28.028, 50.098

## CWops Officers and Directors

### Officers

President: Rob Brownstein, [K6RB](#)

Vice President: Art Suberbielle, [KZ5D](#)

Secretary: Jim Talens, [N3JT](#)

Treasurer: Craig Thompson, [K9CT](#)

Director: Bert Donn, [G3XSN](#)

Director: Vidi La Grange, [ZS1EL](#)

Director: Nodir Tursoon-Zade, [EY8MM](#)

Webmaster: John Miller, [K6MM](#)

Editor/Publisher: Rick Tavan, [N6XI](#)

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## President's Message

This is the month when we give and receive gifts, and make resolutions for ourselves that we hope to carry out in the next 12 months. One of my resolutions for 2014 is to recruit more advisors for CW Academy. It really bothers me that we are



advisor- rather than demand-limited. I always have more signups than I can accommodate and our backlog is quickly approaching one year! We all know that if we sign up for something that will take a year to occur it is highly unlikely that we'll wait. The same is true for our CW Academy students.

When they sign up, they are ready to go. A year later, perhaps, not so much. So, please, consider volunteering as an advisor for CW Academy. It is the best way to give something back to this hobby that we all love so much.

The results for CW Open 2013 are out and they are impressive. We have managed in just three CWO events to have attracted a sizable number of participants in Europe. Now I'm hoping to do the same in Asia. I heard lots of JAs and BAs in the most recent CQ WW CW event. I hope we can convince some of them to take part in next year's CW Open, too. One way we hope to do that is by having a new award structure that acknowledges winners both overall and by region. That will help to create a more level playing field.

Our CWTs continue to grow in popularity and my thanks to Hank W6SX for taking it on with great enthusiasm in 2013. QTX is also growing in popularity and John K1ESE deserves all the credit for new growth. Thank you, John.

The club is approaching 1,000 members, and new people seem to be just as enthusiastic about joining as the original group back in 2010. A lot of this interest is stirred up by word-of-mouth of existing members and by enthusiastic welcome to new participants in CWTs. Whenever you work someone who sends an S/P/C instead of a number in CWT, please remember to finish the exchange with a "welcome." It does make a difference. If you work someone more than once on a CWT day, consider emailing and asking them if they are interested in joining. Most are interested.

I want to wish all of you an early Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. I wish you all the best in 2014.

73,

**Rob** K6RB

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## From the Editor – 2013: A Great Year, A Sad Year



It's hard to believe that 2013 is coming to an end. It has been "the best of times and the worst of times." On the good side, radio conditions have been pretty good, with record participation and results in many major contests. Even rag-chewing and casual operating events seem to be on an upswing. Sadly, however, we have lost too many good hams. This month alone I have received notice of the passing of CWops members [Dave Beckwith W2QM](#), Stewart Woodward K4SMX, and Clive Whelan GW3NJW. The greater amateur radio fraternity also noted the loss of Juscelino Kubitschek PY1JKO, former President of Brazil.

We have a packed issue this month, with results from the [2013 CW Open](#), a heart-warming [tribute to the CW Academy](#), the first installment of K6RB's [DXpedition to Mozambique](#)

travelogue, announcement of a new [CWops Awards Program](#) and the usual columns and reports. I hope you enjoy every word. If you do, let me know. If you don't, well, ... let me know that, too. Constructive criticism is almost as important to your newsletter as the material you all contribute. Keep it coming!

In the photo below, your CWT Coordinator Hank W6SX shows off the handsome CWops cap that he won by achieving the first-ever, CWT Hat Trick in the challenging QRP category. Nice carve, too, Hank!



In a DX pileup recently I heard an almost-local, whom I did not recognize, operating poorly, signing his call almost continuously and missing at least two attempted responses from the DX station. Instead of writing him off as a hopeless lid, I wrote him a letter, a very polite email apologizing for unsolicited advice and suggesting he try listening longer between calls. His response was very encouraging: "Many tnx Rick and I surely do not mind your note. ... I will try to listen more closely and hopefully that will get the job done. ... Again, I appreciate your email. I wish that everyone wrote respectful criticism." Wow! There is hope. Let's continue to lead by the example of good operating practice and make helpful suggestions when appropriate.

At N6XI, progress continues on my remote radio setup. After some delicate negotiations, I finally succeeded in getting a broadband Internet connection at my remote site in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of Northern California. Four years ago, the local cable TV provider had been singularly uncooperative when I complained of multiple outages per hour. The operator, a national company, had recently purchased the shoddy, rural cable plant from a local company and seemed overwhelmed by how poorly it was built. An individual subscriber was simply too minor an issue to dispatch a technician. I had to give up and go to telco ADSL. Although reliable, performance was poor – OK for email and light Web surfing

but once I installed RemoteRig boxes it was clearly inadequate. So I went back to the cable company, which had garnered some kudos for its work upgrading the municipal cable plant, and invited them to try again. The national dispatcher was optimistic even though I warned that the run from the street to my house was in poor condition. The installer got it working but agreed that it would not be reliable – the two spliced segments of RG6 were inadequate for the 500' (170m) run. He phoned in a replacement order for RG11 and left. An hour later, a rude lady called and informed me rather bluntly that their Sacred Rules do not permit them to service ANY customer whose house is more than 300' (100m) from the utility pole. She didn't want my business. After one hour of actually quite adequate service, they cut me off. Several weeks later, I visited the company in person to return their modem and managed to score a conversation with a real person, a manager who was authorized to think. He said I sounded like a reasonable guy and promised to look into it. He visited my property and agreed to let a crew attempt to run RG11, but without any promises. It seems the underground conduit carrying the RG6 was undersized, too. Well, they did it, at no charge to me, and I now have good service at 30 Mb/sec down and 2Mb up. It has made a world of difference in the remote station performance. I can listen to dual channel audio (main and sub-receivers) that doesn't snap, crackle or pop (at least, not often). Perseverance paid off! I'm now QRV from 160 through 10 (6M to follow soon) whether I'm there in person or at the other QTH in Silicon Valley. CU on the air.

73,

**Rick** N6XI

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## CWops Awards Program

**Pete Chamalian W1RM**

Thanks to the functionality of CAM, the CWops Award Manager software created by N5RR and available to members at no cost, members can not only keep track of their ACA and CMA totals but also DX, WAS and WAE totals. For more information on CAM and the link to get your copy, please see the Members Only page, <http://www.cwops.org/members/index.html>.

You can claim credit for a member operating from a home QTH or as part of a DXpedition or other portable operation. The key is to know that you've worked a CWops member. This is especially true for the various DXpeditions that our members have been on. Sometimes the ops will identify themselves and sometimes you can get that information from the online logs. Members operating with a call not their own are encouraged to let others know by posting that information on the reflector.

Starting in January we will post the DX, WAS and WAE totals of members wishing to submit them. The chart will be updated monthly and published in *Solid Copy*. Send your totals by the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month for DX, WAS and WAE to [CWopsAwards@Comcast.net](mailto:CWopsAwards@Comcast.net). This will allow time to accumulate, update the information and get it to the *Solid Copy* editor by his deadline.

Currently members can print their own ACA and CMA certificates but we hope to expand that to include DX, WAS and WAE certificates as well. More on that soon.

73,

**Pete** W1RM

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## 2013 CW Open – Results

August 31, 2013

*Sponsored by CWops and ICOM America*

*by Dean Faklis NW2K*

### Introduction and Summary

The CW Open consists of three separate, four-hour sprints known as “sessions.” The objective is to work as many CW stations worldwide as possible within each session. Each station may be worked once per band in each session. Entry can be made to any or all of the sessions. Each session is scored separately. Entries into multiple sessions are added together to form a combined score. Additionally, there is a team competition, which is unconstrained by geographical location.

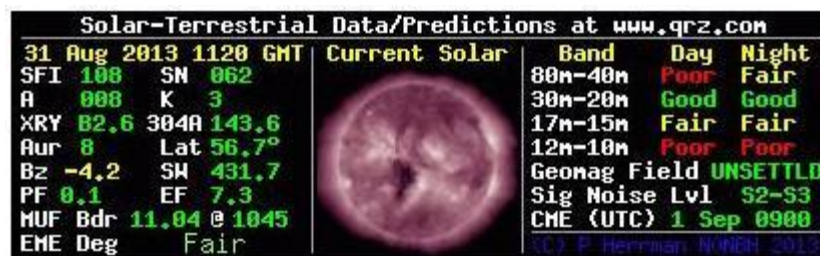
On August 31, the sessions were as follows: 1: 0000–0359z, 2: 1200–1559z, 3: 2000–2359z.

The awards provided by **ICOM America** are beautiful trophies and plaques. Please be sure to check out ICOM at: <http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/>.

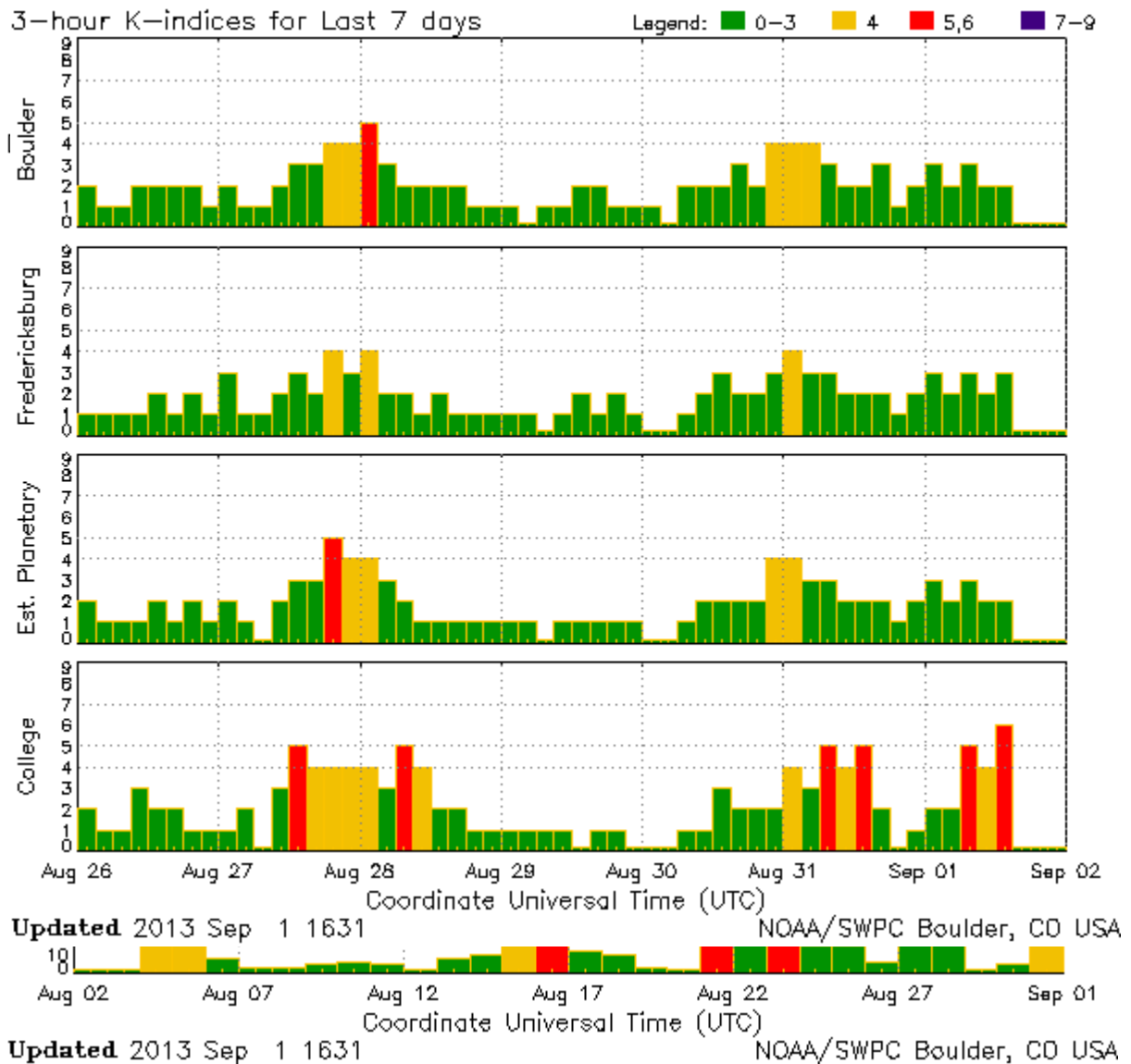
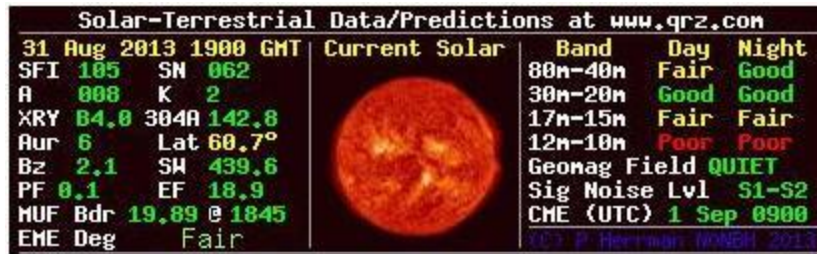
International participation skyrocketed this year to 94,723 QSOs (29,419, 36,934, 28,370 in Sessions 1, 2, and 3 respectively) and 847 logs were submitted and adjudicated (257, 337, 253 in Sessions 1, 2, and 3). Excellent activity from everywhere! In addition to the scores, please be sure to read the soapbox comments for all three sessions which are available on the Web site. The soapbox is a great place to gain information on actual operations and experiences. See <http://www.cwops.org/cwo2013-final.html>.

### Conditions and Propagation

Conditions were OK, but certainly not excellent. Here are a few informative charts:

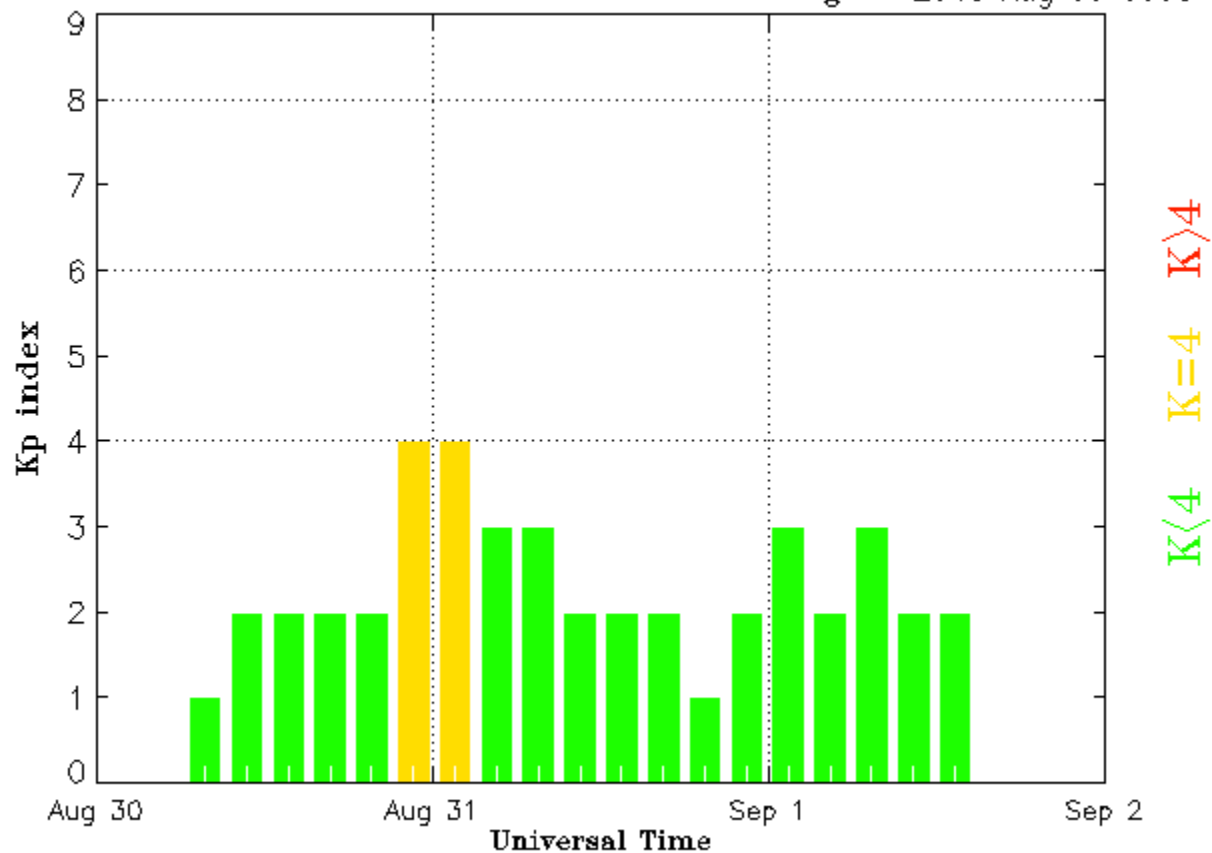






### Estimated Planetary K index (3 hour data)

Begin: 2013 Aug 30 0000 UTC



Updated 2013 Sep 1 16:30:10 UTC

NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

### 2013 Results – General Comments

The overall results are presented by session (1, 2, 3) and power level (HIGH, LOW, QRP). The tables are located in separate PDF files on the CWops website. Top Ten lists were then created by session and power level to highlight the fine achievement of the leading Ops. These Top Tens are here in *Solid Copy*. Additionally, tables were created to illustrate the top combined scores, which are also listed below. Finally, the team competition is discussed and summarized near the end of this report. Plaques and Trophies will be mailed soon!

### A Note on Log Checking

All submitted logs were checked for accuracy and scoring issues. Every log received was checked by computer to cross check each and every QSO. If the “other” log was available, all parts of the QSO were checked. If a QSO was un-checkable because the other log was

not available, then some parts could still be checked by recognizing that others who worked the same station had similar (in most cases exact) reported exchange information.

All log checks resulted in a RPT (report) file detailing each and every deduction. If you would like to receive your RPT file, let us know with an email to [CWO@cwops.org](mailto:CWO@cwops.org).

### **A Note on Accuracy**

There were plenty of Golden Logs! 7 in Session 1, 11 in Session 2 and 14 in Session 3. Golden Logs are error-free and contain 50 or more QSOs. The Golden Logs are highlighted in Gold in the results. Of special mention with two Golden Logs: Ned K1GU (Session 1: 297/163, Session 3: 267/206) and Mark KI0I (Session 1: 152/97, Session 2: 50/47). Even with the complicated CWO exchange, several Ops had QSO error rates below 1%. Check out the Top Ten boxes below to see how the leaders did in terms of accuracy.

Even though all logs are checked by computer, there is human intervention in generating the results documents. Please check your scores and send us a note if we made a mistake ([CWO@cwops.org](mailto:CWO@cwops.org)).

## **Thanks to CWops and ICOM!**

<http://www.cwops.org/>

<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/>

**Special Thanks to the fine Ops around the World** that participated in the 2013 CW Open.

See you next year on September 6, 2014! Details here: <http://www.cwops.org/cwopen.html>



## Top Tens – Session 1

### Session 1

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
AA3B	AA3B	AA3B	BUD	418	214	89452	9	HIGH	Y	Y
N4AF	N4AF	N4AF	HOWIE	376	219	82344	12	HIGH	Y	Y
NO3M	NO3M	NO3M	TY	412	198	81576	3	HIGH	Y	N
K0RF	K0RF	K0RF	CHUCK	380	214	81320	8	HIGH	Y	Y
K5OT	K5OT	K5TR	LARRY	368	198	72864	5	HIGH	Y	N
WJ9B	WJ9B	WJ9B	WILL	348	201	69948	9	HIGH	Y	N
W1FJ	W1FJ	W1FJ	AL	355	193	68515	13	HIGH	N	N
N6RO	N6RO	N6RO	KEN	356	192	68352	11	HIGH	Y	N
N1LN	N1LN	N1LN	BRUCE	328	201	65928	10	HIGH	N	N
W4NZ	W4NZ	W4NZ	TED	341	181	61721	3	HIGH	Y	N

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
W1UJ	W1UJ	W1UJ	JAY	317	177	56109	3	LOW	Y	N
W1RM	W1RM	W1RM	PETE	276	193	53268	8	LOW	N	Y
VE3DZ	VE3DZ	VE3DZ	YURI	314	169	53066	4	LOW	N	N
N7XU	N7XU	N7XU	DICK	283	186	52638	9	LOW	Y	Y
W1NN	W1NN	W1NN	HAL	301	172	51772	4	LOW	N	N
K0AD	K0AD	K0AD	AL	276	156	43056	4	LOW	Y	N
KU8E	KU8E	KU8E	JEFF	261	161	42021	10	LOW	N	N
W3KB	W3KB	W3KB	KEITH	262	156	40872	7	LOW	N	Y
NW2K	NW2K	NW2K	DEAN	256	145	37120	1	LOW	Y	Y
WT9U	WT9U	WT9U	JIM	234	152	35568	3	LOW	N	N

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
W7ZRC	W7ZRC	W7ZRC	ROD	189	123	23247	1	QRP	N	N
W6JT	W6JT	W6JT	FRANK	154	101	15554	0	QRP	N	N
N4OO	N4OO	N4OO	BRIAN	136	101	13736	2	QRP	N	N
K4ORD	K4ORD	K4ORD	RILEY	131	102	13362	2	QRP	N	N
K1IMI	K1IMI	K1IMI	BERT	128	97	12416	0	QRP	N	N
K2UFT	K2UFT	K2UFT	DICK	106	95	10070	2	QRP	N	N
W1UU	W1UU	W1UU	PETER	107	81	8667	4	QRP	N	Y
WC7S	WC7S	WC7S	DALE	85	69	5865	17	QRP	N	N
N0EF	N0EF	N0EF	JOHN	84	66	5544	9	QRP	N	Y
N8XX	N8XX	N8XX	HANK	79	63	4977	1	QRP	N	N

Gold indicates a Golden Log, 50 or more QSOs. "Busts" is the number of busted QSOs.

The high-power pack leader was Bud AA3B with Howie N4AF and Ty NO3M in second and third. Bud completed an impressive 418 Qs with 214 multipliers for an average rate of 105 Qs/hour. Chuck K0RF and Larry K5OT (@K5TR) rounded out the top 5 in HP.

In the low power category, Jay W1UJ edged out Pete W1RM to win the session. While Jay held the QSO lead, Pete put up an impressive 193 mults. Yuri VE3DZ posted 314 Qs to finish third just ahead of Dick N7XU and Hal W1NN.

The QRP gang saw Rod W7ZRC win with a comfortable lead over second place finisher Frank W6JTI. Brian N4OO, Riley K4ORD and Bert K1IMI, finished in a tight pack 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place. Interestingly, no QRPers utilized SO2R techniques and only two entered assisted.

## Top Tens – Session 2

### Session 2

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
AA3B	AA3B	AA3B	BUD	383	289	110687	4	HIGH	Y	Y
UA5C	UA5C	RD3A	ALEX	328	304	99712	9	HIGH	N	N
N3BB	N3BB	N3BB	JIM	386	230	88780	7	HIGH	Y	N
K0RF	K0RF	K0RF	CHUCK	337	229	77173	2	HIGH	Y	Y
N4AF	N4AF	N4AF	HOWIE	327	236	77172	6	HIGH	Y	Y
DL5AXX	DL5AXX	DL5AXX	ULF	307	244	74908	3	HIGH	N	N
W4DXX	W4DXX	W4DXX	ERIC	327	225	73575	19	HIGH	N	Y
N6RO	N6RO	N6RO	KEN	332	219	72708	5	HIGH	Y	N
RG9A	RG9A	RG9A	YURI	294	246	72324	9	HIGH	Y	Y
K5OT	K5OT	K5TR	LARRY	325	219	71175	5	HIGH	Y	N

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
N5AW	N5AW	N5AW	MARV	316	194	61304	1	LOW	Y	N
W1RM	W1RM	W1RM	PETE	245	199	48755	3	LOW	N	Y
VE3DZ	VE3DZ	VE3DZ	YURI	228	188	42864	0	LOW	N	Y
N7XU	N7XU	N7XU	DICK	230	176	40480	7	LOW	N	Y
W0UO	W0UO	W0UO	JIM	238	161	38318	0	LOW	N	N
KU8E	KU8E	KU8E	JEFF	230	157	36110	4	LOW	N	N
YU2A	YU2A	YU2A	MIRO	215	161	34615	7	LOW	N	N
W3KB	W3KB	W3KB	KEITH	213	160	34080	7	LOW	N	Y
K0AD	K0AD	K0AD	AL	219	153	33507	6	LOW	Y	N
NW2K	NW2K	NW2K	DEAN	210	148	31080	1	LOW	N	Y

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
UA7G	UA7G	UA7G	VAL	153	122	18666	9	QRP	N	N
RW3AI	RW3AI	RW3AI	VAL	110	85	9350	1	QRP	N	N
N4OO	N4OO	N4OO	BRIAN	108	81	8748	3	QRP	N	N
K1IMI	K1IMI	K1IMI	BERT	93	88	8184	1	QRP	N	N
K2UFT	K2UFT	K2UFT	DICK	79	65	5135	3	QRP	N	N
WA8HSB	WA8HSB	WA8HSB	JOHN	78	65	5070	0	QRP	N	N
WC7S	WC7S	WC7S	DALE	71	55	3905	4	QRP	N	N
N8XX	N8XX	N8XX	HANK	64	56	3584	2	QRP	N	N
N6GA	N6GA	N6GA	CAM	61	47	2867	1	QRP	N	N
VA2FDT	VA2FDT	VA2FDT	SZABI	51	49	2499	3	QRP	N	N

Gold indicates a Golden Log, 50 or more QSOs. "Busts" is the number of busted QSOs.

Again, Bud AA3B achieved the top spot in HP with Alex UA5C (@RD3A) a close 2<sup>nd</sup>. Alex posted the highest score outside NA with a record 304 mults! Jim N3BB finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and Chuck K0RF edged out Howie N4AF by one point to finish 4<sup>th</sup>.

In LP, Marv N5AW cleaned house, with 316/194. Pete W1RM posted his second 2<sup>nd</sup>, with Yuri VE3DZ posting his second 3<sup>rd</sup>. And within the theme, Dick N7XU secured his second 4<sup>th</sup>. Jim W0UO climbs into 5<sup>th</sup> with 238/161.

In QRP, Val UA7G outscored Val RW3AI with Brian N4OO in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bert K1IMI and Dick K2UFT complete the top 5. Note: zero SO2R and zero assisted stations.

## Top Tens – Session 3

### Session 3

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
AA3B	AA3B	AA3B	BUD	400	279	111600	3	HIGH	Y	Y
N4AF	N4AF	N4AF	HOWIE	374	278	103972	8	HIGH	Y	Y
DL5AXX	DL5AXX	DL5AXX	ULF	336	261	87696	5	HIGH	N	Y
K4RO	K4RO	K4RO	KIRK	307	248	76136	11	HIGH	Y	Y
K5OT	K5OT	K5TR	LARRY	332	226	75032	6	HIGH	Y	N
N4PN	N4PN	N4PN	PAUL	315	232	73080	13	HIGH	N	N
N1LN	N1LN	N1LN	BRUCE	305	238	72590	10	HIGH	N	N
K4BAI	K4BAI	K4BAI	JOHN	308	233	71764	1	HIGH	N	N
N6RO	N6RO	N6RO	KEN	313	216	67608	6	HIGH	Y	Y
WD0T	WD0T	KD0S	TODD	293	215	62995	3	HIGH	Y	N

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
W1RM	W1RM	W1RM	PETE	294	226	66444	8	LOW	N	Y
W1UJ	W1UJ	W1UJ	JAY	280	205	57400	7	LOW	Y	N
VE3DZ	VE3DZ	VE3DZ	YURI	264	217	57288	3	LOW	N	N
N5AW	N5AW	N5AW	MARV	254	199	50546	5	LOW	Y	N
W3KB	W3KB	W3KB	KEITH	223	173	38579	2	LOW	N	Y
W0UO	W0UO	W0UO	JIM	216	169	36504	4	LOW	N	N
K0AD	K0AD	K0AD	AL	214	170	36380	5	LOW	Y	N
NA8V	NA8V	NA8V	GREG	209	166	34694	2	LOW	N	N
NW2K	NW2K	NW2K	DEAN	222	154	34188	1	LOW	Y	Y
N7XU	N7XU	N7XU	DICK	208	157	32656	6	LOW	N	Y

Call	Operator	Station	Name	QSOs	Mults	Score	Busts	P	SO2R	Assisted
K1IMI	N4CW	K1IMI	BERT	124	104	12896	1	QRP	N	N
W7ZRC	W7ZRC	W7ZRC	ROD	106	89	9434	0	QRP	N	N
KT8K	KT8K	KT8K	TIM	92	80	7360	1	QRP	N	N
KU7Y	KU7Y	KU7Y	RON	82	70	5740	2	QRP	N	N
N6GA	N6GA	N6GA	CAM	78	67	5226	1	QRP	N	N
N8XX	N8XX	N8XX	HANK	68	56	3808	4	QRP	N	N
VA2FDT	VA2FDT	VA2FDT	SZABI	58	50	2900	3	QRP	N	N
WC7S	WC7S	WC7S	DALE	52	51	2652	8	QRP	N	N
WB5BKL	WB5BKL	WB5BKL	NICK	55	44	2420	1	QRP	N	Y
W1UU	W1UU	W1UU	PETER	41	40	1640	1	QRP	N	Y

Gold indicates a Golden Log, 50 or more QSOs. "Busts" is the number of busted QSOs.

With an even 400 Qs, Bud AA3B wins the Hat Trick in HP with Howie N4AF a close 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ulf DL5AXX, with a huge signal here stateside, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> ahead of Kirk K4RO. Larry K5OT regains a position in the top 5.

Pete W1RM wins LP with 294/226 ahead of Jay W1UJ and Yuri VE3DZ. Marv N5AW achieves 4<sup>th</sup> with Keith W3KB earning a top 5.

Bert K1IMI posts an impressive 104 mults to win QRP ahead of Rod W7ZRC and Tim KT8K. Ron KU7Y and Cam N6GA finish 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. The QRP category continues to be an important component of the CW Open and it's increasingly competitive.



## Combined Scores – Top Tens

Call	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	P
AA3B	89452	110687	111600	311739	HIGH
N4AF	82344	77172	103972	263488	HIGH
K0RF	81320	77173	61056	219549	HIGH
K5OT	72864	71175	75032	219071	HIGH
N6RO	68352	72708	67608	208668	HIGH
N1LN	65928	69173	72590	207691	HIGH
K4BAI	56960	67095	71764	195819	HIGH
UA5C	28200	99712	62640	190552	HIGH
N4PN	51240	57974	73080	182294	HIGH
WJ9B	69948	62150	45448	177546	HIGH

Call	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	P
W1RM	53268	48755	66444	168467	LOW
VE3DZ	53066	42864	57288	153218	LOW
W1UJ	56109	30368	57400	143877	LOW
N5AW	18054	61304	50546	129904	LOW
N7XJ	52638	40480	32656	125774	LOW
W3KB	40872	34080	38579	113531	LOW
K0AD	43056	33507	36380	112943	LOW
W0UO	30552	38318	36504	105374	LOW
W1NN	51772	30429	22680	104881	LOW
NW2K	37120	31080	34188	102388	LOW

Call	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Total	P
K1IMI	12416	8184	12896	33496	QRP
W7ZRC	23247	0	9434	32681	QRP
N4OO	13736	8748	0	22484	QRP
UA7G	2244	18666	0	20910	QRP
K2UFT	10070	5135	900	16105	QRP
W6JTI	15554	0	0	15554	QRP
K4ORD	13362	0	0	13362	QRP
N6GA	4914	2867	5226	13007	QRP
W1UU	8667	2346	1640	12653	QRP
WC7S	5865	3905	2652	12422	QRP

In HP, Bud AA3B wins it all with his combined 1201/782 for an average rate of 100 Qs/hour. Howie N4AF is right there in 2<sup>nd</sup>, but Bud's performance in Session 2 was commanding. Chuck K0RF finished 3<sup>rd</sup> with Larry K5OT in 4<sup>th</sup> and Ken N6RO in the 5<sup>th</sup> spot.

Consistency was the name of the game in LP with Pete W1RM on top with Yuri VE3DZ a close 2<sup>nd</sup>. Jay W1UJ, Marv N5AW and Dick N7XU round out the top 5.

Bert K1IMI edged out Rod W7ZRC for the top spot in QRP with Brian N4OO finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> just ahead of Val UA7G. Dick K2UFT brings home the honors in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Team Competition – Eighteen Teams Participated, Crushing Last Year's Record!**

<b>Team Competition</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
Thursday Night Sprinters	1493394
SECC and Friends	1307459
Texas Ten	857230
NCC/MRRC #1	680326
FRC	588212
GCG	523934
PCC	422749
Russian CW Club	357370
CCO	317585
MWA	277064
SMC	155491
UCG	149824
NCC/MRRC #2	135125
Niagara Frontier Radiosport	126589
QRP Rockcrushers	79653
DONBASS Contest Club	48181
QRP Bulldozers	43009
Roman DX Club	14097

For team membership lists, see the Web site.

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## **A Tribute to CW Academy**

**A journey that took fifty years to complete has a happy ending!**

**Gene Trasti - W6JMP - CWops #1120**

She led me down a long hall to a closed door. Her tentative knocks were met with a gruff "yeah." "He's here" she said. "Come on in" replied a voice from the other side of the door. As the door opened, I was introduced to my first view of a ham shack. A darkened room,

filled with the smell of a mixture of stale cigarette smoke, coffee and what I soon was to learn was the distinct smell of vacuum tube ham radio gear. As a sixteen year old I was here to take my novice amateur radio test which included the dreaded five word per minute Morse code test. The year was 1959.

There were no Volunteer Examiners so if you wanted a ham radio license you had to find a friendly ham who would agree to test you. I had been trying to learn Morse code for months. The accepted method of learning, as I was told, was to start slowly so you could count dits and dahs and distinguish individual letters of the alphabet, a practice that was still haunting me over 50 years later. Somehow I managed to receive and send code in a manner that met with my teacher's approval.

This was just the beginning of the challenge. Novice licenses were good for one year and were non-renewable. That meant that, as a teenager, I had to pass the theory and a 13 wpm code test for a General Class license if I wanted to continue in ham radio ... and I had only a year to do it. The theory was a "slam dunk." CW was another story. Several months of working CW as a novice and countless hours of practice did little to improve my CW skills as I was still counting dits and dahs. To take my General exam I needed to convince my father to drive me to downtown Los Angeles to the FCC field office. As if there wasn't enough pressure, my father announced on the trip to LA that I best pass the test this time- he wouldn't be driving me again.

"When you get to the code test, ask to use headphones and be sure to sit facing a wall." I don't remember who gave me that advice but I believe to this day that that simple suggestion saved my ham radio career. The FCC examiner placed the paper tape into the machine, pressed the start button and thus began five minutes of absolute terror. There was no sample QSO with a multiple question quiz to follow. There was no way to anticipate a word, because there were no words, just mixtures of letters, numbers and punctuation. To pass, one needed to copy one full minute perfectly out of the five minutes sent.

With a swipe of a pen many of those standing in line in front me were informed that they had failed the code test. When it was my turn in front of the FCC examiner, I watched with my heart in my throat as he reviewed my copy as I knew that each check of the pen was a CW error. There were a few checks but no swipe of the pen. Instead, a simple "you passed."

As a reward for passing my general exam, my dad bought me a used Viking Valiant and finally a microphone. The God-Awful military surplus hand key went into my junk box as I never intended to use it again.

My story is one played out by hundreds if not thousands of hams from the same era. CW was viewed as an obstacle and due to antiquated teaching methods we lost interest in pursuing the mode. That was then, this is now. Over the years it finally occurred to me that being a complete ham radio operator included the ability to send and receive CW. The efficiency of CW as a mode is undisputed and ham operators were actually having fun with CW – who knew?

So over fifty years later, here I was trying to re-learn CW. Even with updated methods, like "Koch," my progress was painfully slow. Despite all the tapes and gimmicks, I was still counting dits and dahs. Then one evening while surfing the Internet I stumbled across WØUCE's website. I clicked on Jack's Morse code page and read his white paper about teaching and learning Morse code as a language, CW Operators Club and CW Academy.

I immediately registered for a class and soon received notification that I was scheduled to be in an upcoming Level II class because I was copying around 15 wpm. I then received an e-mail from Jack who informed me he would be the instructor for the class I would be in. He provided an overview of the class which would be conducted using the Internet and a free interactive video chat application called OOVOO and he requested I provide him with a list of personal goals I wanted to achieve and problems I was having with improving my proficiency in Morse code.

Before the class started Jack called me on the phone to answer questions and had a get to know each other conversation. During our first interactive class Jack told all his students that by the end of the eight week course we would be copying 25 wpm - Yeah, right. He told us to put down our pens and pencils as we would be copying in our heads starting the very first night. Jack's online class included word games, sentence building, QSO exchanges, contesting practice, tips on working DX and the CWops Club CWT mini tests. His homework assignments and practice sessions with other students were truly unique and more importantly loads of fun.

As it turned out Jack was wrong. At the end of his course I passed his 30 wpm proficiency examination. Jack is my hero and CWops has become an important part of my amateur radio life. When I started CW Academy I was copying around a sweaty palm, pencil in hand at 15 wpm. I now enjoy QSOs copying in my head at around 25 to 30 wpm. I am still improving and I now copy contest calls and exchanges at up to 40 wpm. Thank you Jack and thank you CW Academy. I'm finally finishing something I started over 50 years ago.

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## My Ultimate Wireless Adventure

**Rob K6RB**

*[This is the first installment of a fascinating travelogue by our President K6RB. Stand by for more! – Ed.]*

On October 9, at 10:30 AM, I began my ultimate wireless adventure: I set out on a journey to join up with 13 other ham radio operators, on the shore of the Indian Ocean, in Xai Xai (pronounced 'shy shy') Mozambique. The goal was to converge on Xai Xai, set up several HF radio stations and antennas, and spend about 10 days making thousands of contacts with hams located everywhere in the world. The challenge was to set up the stations and antennas quickly and efficiently; then after the operating period was over, to disassemble everything and leave our location in Xai Xai exactly as we found it.

We planned to have four HF stations located two to a building, and at least one lower frequency HF antenna (for 1.8 and 3.5 MHz), a variable frequency vertical antenna (for 7.0, 10, 14, 18, 21, 24 and 28 MHz), a hex beam for 14, 18, 21, 24 and 28 MHz, and possibly two more (a second low-band HF antenna and an inverted “vee” dipole).

At any time, there would be four operators serving four-hour shifts on different bands and using CW, SSB, and RTTY. So long as there was propagation and other hams to provide contacts, the stations would be on the air.

This was my first such adventure. I had often thought about going on a DXpedition but the timing was always wrong. This time, during my trip to Tokyo at the end of August, I was again invited to take part, and all the stars were aligned.

So, here I am, sitting at my laptop in Xai Xai, Mozambique, on Monday, October 14. We all arrived safely, and spent the first day getting the stations and some of the antennas ready. I made the first contact at around 2 PM local time, with a ham in Massachusetts. I was given the honor of making that first contact because this was my first DXpedition.

What I plan to do is give you a run down on what it was like making the trip, here, and what it took to organize 15 very different people into a unified team that has met several challenges in these first few days and managed to deal with all of them, so far.

Starting tomorrow (Tuesday) we will begin operating in earnest. I will give you a day-by-day run down on how we're doing, problems that have come up, solutions that were applied, and the human drama of it all. I will also try to give you a sense of the personalities of the 14 other team members, and how we managed to overcome Murphy's Law challenges and managed to keep things together.

### **Plans are made**

About six months before we all met up in Pretoria, the two organizers of the DXpedition had already begun working on its feasibility. Tom N4XP and Don N1DG were both veterans of many DXpeditions. So they knew two things: (1) no matter how meticulously you plan it all out, it will never be exactly as you planned, and (2) Murphy's Law is alive and well during DXpeditions.

They had put together a list of operators that they thought would be good team members and began inviting them to take part. As they would say later, that list was in flux from the outset. People would say “sure,” and within hours, days or weeks have to opt out. Each time that happened, they had to come up with a replacement. They wanted to have 14 operators on hand in Mozambique and a bunch playing support roles in other countries. Probably half of the final 14 were replacements for the original list, with some coming on board less than two weeks before we headed out.

## **The 14 Souls**

So, who joins these kinds of things? First, I would suggest you go to <http://www.c82dx.com> and click on the “team” item. Then, click on each photo to find out who these crazy people are. For now, though, I’ll just tell you their names, calls and homes: Don N1DG is from Massachusetts; Tom N4XP, Wey K8EAB, Tad WF4W and Bill N4NX hail from Georgia; Kevin K6TD, Rusty W6OAT and I K6RB live in the San Francisco Bay Area; Ken JN1THL comes from Tokyo; Charlie NF4A is from the Florida panhandle; Chris ZS6RI and Tjerk ZS6P live in Pretoria; Ray N9AJ travels a lot but gets his mail in Washington state; and Neil VA7DX comes from British Columbia but he says he spends half his life in Africa.

We all have very different life stories but what binds us is our common interest in wireless communication.

## **The convergence**

Rusty decided to come to South Africa a week before we were all slated to meet up. Neil flew into Pretoria to attend a team meeting then flew back to Maputo Mozambique to rent a car and meet us in Xai Xai. The rest of us formed a convoy. The lead vehicle had four people in it – Tjerk, Tom, Ken and Don. The middle vehicle – a rented van – had Chris, Ray, Bill, Wey, Tad, Kevin, Rusty and me in it. And the last of the convoy had Ian and Charlie. That’s 14, but Neal was going to meet us in Xai Xai. That’s 15. Ian, who is not a ham, was nevertheless a key member of the team. He was one of the three drivers, and was the chef who was to keep us all sufficiently nourished while in Xai Xai.

Originally, I was part of an advance team with Ian, Kevin and Charlie that left for the border on Saturday afternoon pulling the smaller of the two trailers with Ian’s and Chris’ 1997 Land Rover. However, when we hit Middelburg, the vehicle developed mechanical trouble and we had to be towed into Middelburg, and spend the night there. That was the first of challenges to the plan.

The next morning, the rental vehicle pulling the larger of the trailers was joined by Ian’s and Chris’ small station wagon which was pulled into service to replace the non-operational Land Rover. Tjerk was to meet us there in his vehicle and take on three other passengers. We met near an off ramp of the highway and began the long trek to Xai Xai.

## **At the border**

Crossing the border was a two-step process. First we had to pass through the South African border, exchange some paperwork and show our collective passports; then we had to enter Mozambique. At the latter border we had to go through customs with the two trailers and again each of us had to get our passports (with visas) stamped. At both borders, it was important that someone stayed with the trailers to watch over the payloads to prevent theft.

In fact, it was interesting to see at points along the route in South Africa road signs that read “hijacking hot spot” and other signs saying do not stop. Things went from bad to worse once we hit Mozambique. Each time you passed through a town, there was a spot where



“police” or at least people wearing some sort of uniform and carrying weapons, would wave you over and try to figure out how to hit you up for money. We were doing really well until we hit Maputo. Then we got held up for about \$250 in “fines” because some of us had done what many other drivers had done – relieved ourselves by the side of the road – in total darkness. But, evidently, it wasn’t dark enough. We were spotted, pulled over, and there was no getting away without the perfunctory bribe.

**Xai Xai at last**

*[to be continued]*

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## **Dave Beckwith W2QM, SK**

**by Joe Pontek, Sr., V31JP**



**David Beckwith, W2QM**

Dave Beckwith was born August 5, 1923 and passed on October 30, 2013 at age 90, having celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> year as a ham. I had the opportunity and great pleasure to talk with Dave one more time a few weeks earlier, using Skype. He sounded great, but was having health issues. It had become more difficult to be active, even with the station at his assisted care

residence, and that frustrated him. We always kept an ear out for each other when on the air and we both missed the personal meetings at Dayton in the NJDXA hospitality suite.

Dave was first licensed in July, 1938 as W8SHC in Syracuse, New York, USA. He served in the Army during World War II as a radio operator in the infantry. When he came back, his call changed to W2SHC. He graduated from Syracuse University and married Beverly. They moved to New Jersey and Dave joined the North Jersey DX Association, eventually becoming its president. He earned his Amateur Extra Class license in 1968. He made DXCC #1 on the DXCC Honor Roll in 1979. In 1978, Dave was appointed to the DX Advisory committee and served for 10 years on DXAC. He retired and moved to Florida in 1989. He had 380 countries including all on the present DXCC list except North Korea. Dave and Beverly have two sons, Edward and Bruce. He also had three grandchildren, Jessica, Jason and Jenna and three great-grandchildren, Noah, Cole and Jack. None are hams.

Art WA8VSJ met Dave when he was in Florida. Art tells that Dave was instrumental in doing all the sound and lighting wiring in the theatre in Rainbow Bay and it is still in use to this day. Art's experience with Dave started in 2003. He was a big help to Art and all the hams that have lived in their complex. When Art went to Florida and realized that he would only have an R8 at 13 feet and worried that he would not be able to work any DX, it was Dave who showed him that he had been doing it since the middle 80s. At last count, Dave had about 385 countries confirmed and many of those he worked from down there with his vertical. In 2010, he was the last man standing at the Dayton DX dinner DXCC count down. Dave invited Art and Greg W8ZKT to the NJDXA suite. All you heard from everyone there was what a great guy their former president Dave was and how much he contributed to ham radio. As Art said, "One of the saddest parts of Dave's passing is that I did not know him longer. His contribution to ham radio is legendary, but to me his biggest contribution was being such a great person."

Rest in peace, Dave.

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## CW Academy – Growing!

**Rob K6RB and Will WJ9B**

We had a good group of students who completed Levels 1 and 2 courses during the September-October 2013 semester.

### **Level1**

<b>Call</b>	<b>Name</b>
AC8JW	John
AG6FU	Phil
AL7LH	David
K3XD	Derek
K6ZIZ	Chuck
KB4FZE	Robert
KB7QDX	Mike
KD6CUB	Sean
KD8FJO	Paul
KI6MWY	Rosalin
KJ4GVJ	Jim
N3GBL	Chris
N4KD	Dave
N5SEZ	Ray
NN0Z	John
NR3P	Paul
NS9Y	Tom
VE7HMN	Robin
W2DZ	David
W3GWC	Gerald
W3UC	Jamie
WB2MSC	Marc

### **Level 2**

<b>Call</b>	<b>Name</b>
AK4YH	Gil
K6HP	Ed
KC7PM	Ted
KJ5WU	Kurt

KN9V	Ed
NF7D	Bob
NP3K	Charlie
W9XC	Les
WK6I	Jeff

We have 77 students signed up for January-February 2014. Right now, we have all of them taken care of by our current group of advisors except for one group of Level 1 students in the PST/MST time zone, and one group Level 2 in the same time zone. Someone(s) in either the PST, MST or CST time zone would be able to accommodate these students. We'll need volunteers by mid-December or we'll have to push these 10 out to April-May 2014. If you have the time and interest in advising one of these groups, please email us ([rob@baymoon.com](mailto:rob@baymoon.com)) and let us know. Also, fill out an advisor signup sheet on the website inside the section under the CW Academy tab. Anyone who volunteers will be brought up to speed by either Rob or Will. It's a very satisfying experience. We promise you.

We are still working on the new tool prototype for supporting both sending and copying practice. The copying practice portion works great. The sending practice portion is still a work in progress. We hope to have it fully functional and tested in time for April-May semester.

Thank you to all the volunteer advisors who have helped tremendously toward fulfilling our CW Academy mission. Starting in January 2014, any advisor who has served six semesters (the equivalent of two full years) will receive a beautiful service-award plaque. And, anyone who serves 12 semesters will receive the ultimate award plaque. We will let you know in January who our first recipients will be.

73,

Rob and Will

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## CWT Mini-Tests

### CWT Participation Awards—Final Countdown

by **Hank Garretson W6SX**

There is only one more month to earn CWops Test Participation Points for 2013. You earn one point for each CWT session in which you make ten or more contacts. You don't have to be a CWops member to earn points, but you must be a member at the end of the year when the awards are presented. To earn a Gold award, you need 60 points, Silver, 40, and Bronze 24. You don't have to be competitive to earn points, just active.

Below are Participation Points through the November events. Please check your points, and please let me know if I've made an error. It's important that your points are correct because we plan to send out awards immediately after the first of the year.

Seven ops have already earned Gold with three more within striking distance. Twelve have already earned Silver with another twelve in the running. Thirty-four have earned Bronze and seventeen can still claim a Bronze.

Let's all get on for as many sessions as we can and close out 2013 with a bang.

NW2K	66	SM3CER	38	SM6CUK	25	K0DTJ	18	AA4FU	14	SM5ALJ	11
UR5MM	66	F5IN	37	VA2FDT	25	N8AA	18	K0VBU	14	W6KY	11
W6SX	66	K4ORD	37	Y05OHO	25	SM6FKF	18	KR8V	14	K9JM	10
N5RR	64	KC4D	37	GW0ETF	24	W7ZRC	18	WD0T	14	SM5CSS	10
VE3KI	62	N3JT	37	K1SM	24	K4RO	17	WN4AFP	14	W1FJ	10
W4TTM	62	US0MF	37	K4RUM	24	K5AX	17	K1ESE	13	WA6URY	10
WJ9B	60	SM4DQE	36	NA4K	24	K6DGW	17	K2CYE	13	K1ZZI	9
N4FP	58	SM5BKK	36	PA4N	24	N4YDU	17	K3MD	13	K2LE	9
N4AF	56	N4ZZ	35	W0VX	24	VE2FK	17	SM00Y	13	K3GHH	9
W0UCE	56	W3KB	33	DL8PG	22	W2RU	17	W0BH	13	N2JJ	9
NN6T	50	K4BAI	32	K2ZR	21	W5ASP	17	W6BK	13	N3ZZ	9
NW0M	50	N0TA	32	OH2BN	21	W5ZR	17	W7GB	13	W1UJ	9
F6HKA	49	K1DW	31	W1RM	21	W6JMP	17	W9SZ	13	W4DXX	9
N4DW	49	N5ZO	31	K4FT	20	FG8NY	16	AD1C	12	DL3AZ	8
K1GU	45	K0RF	30	W9ILY	20	N0AC	16	K6NV	12	K5FP	8
KW7Q	45	WQ3E	30	WA8HSB	20	N1LN	16	N4HAI	12	KI7Y	8
K6RB	43	WX7SJ	28	K2SX	19	NS9I	16	NN4K	12	NM5M	8
N5AW	43	DJ10J	27	N6RO	19	SP1AEN	16	K4HQK	11	W3SFG	8
W4VQ	42	PA3DBS	27	W1NN	19	W4VIC	16	K4VU	11	W7CT	8
KJ9C	39	W1UU	27	W4NZ	19	DF6RI	15	K6RQT	11	AF9W	7
N8BJQ	39	SM6CNN	26	AA2ZW	18	KU7Y	15	KZ5D	11	G4CPA	7
W9CC	39	N3AD	25	EA8OM	18	W4BQF	15	N1ZX	11	K2UFT	7

K6IFF	7	K4IU	4	N1EN	3	K9CW	2	W4RK	2	KD8SAV	1
KY4F	7	K4JAZ	4	N2MM	3	KA3QLF	2	W4ZYT	2	KE5MI	1
NA8V	7	KC9EE	4	N3ND	3	KC0VKN	2	W6CT	2	KG3V	1
UA6HZ	7	KK4XX	4	N5KY	3	K07X	2	WM9Q	2	LA6FJA	1
W4UX	7	KR7C	4	NG7M	3	KU7T	2	WT5RZ	2	LZ2FM	1
W8CAR	7	KS5A	4	NM2L	3	KV1E	2	3Q3E	1	N1DN	1
ZS1EL	7	N5QQ	4	S56A	3	N3KR	2	AC5GG	1	N2ZN	1
AC4CA	6	N6XI	4	VO1QU	3	N3QE	2	AC7JW	1	N2ZX	1
K1SE	6	N8EA	4	W1ZT	3	N4CW	2	AD4J	1	N3UA	1
KG5U	6	NT6X	4	W2LK	3	N4DU	2	AE6Y	1	N4QS	1
R6AF	6	SM00Y	4	W4OC	3	N4GG	2	AI6O	1	N4UP	1
W2CS	6	W6NF	4	W4PM	3	N4UC	2	DF1LX	1	N5NU	1
W7WHY	6	WB9G	4	W7FB	3	N5JR	2	DK8EB	1	N6GQ	1
WB5BKL	6	4Z4DX	3	W9TC	3	ND3D	2	DL5YL	1	N7RR	1
K0UK	5	AA9A	3	JA1GZV	2	NG7Z	2	EA1WX	1	N9XX	1
K4DJ	5	AF5DM	3	JF2IWL	2	NJ4X	2	HB9CVQ	1	NA6M	1
K8QI	5	AI5AA	3	K0AD	2	NR1X	2	JA4MRL	1	NE7D	1
K9GS	5	CO1IR	3	K2NV	2	OM0DX	2	JN1THL	1	NM5S	1
KI0I	5	K1SX	3	K2QB	2	ON5UK	2	K4EDI	1	NU8Z	1
N3AM	5	K4SKA	3	K2RD	2	PA7RA	2	K4QPL	1	OH5UK	1
N4PD	5	K5EMI	3	K2SAN	2	R7AO	2	K4YYL	1	OK1ZE	1
RX6CB	5	K5RT	3	K2ZR	2	RV3ZN	2	K5LY	1	PA0CMU	1
VK7CW	5	K9MM	3	K3JT	2	SM0AIG	2	K6LY	1	PA0MIR	1
W4AU	5	K9MMS	3	K3STX	2	TF3DC	2	K6MM	1	PA1FOX	1
W4YE	5	KA0IQT	3	K4GM	2	US9PA	2	K7CU	1	SF3A	1
W6EU	5	KR5R	3	K4GMH	2	V31JP	2	K7RF	1	UY5MB	1
W6RKC	5	KU8E	3	K7WP	2	VE2BZO	2	K7WPK	1	VE3GFN	1
K2QMF	4	N1DC	3	K9CT	2	VE5UF	2	K9JWV	1	VE3GNA	1



VO1BQ	1	W1EBI	1	WE5UF	1	WS0MF	1	XE2X	1
VU2PTT	1	W1WEF	1	WK6I	1	WT6P	1		
W0UA	1	W9XC	1	WN4R	1	WW9R	1		

## Going for Score

CW fans, we named the CWops Test a test, not a contest. CWTs offer something for everyone. You can get on and make a few contacts with fellow CW enthusiasts. You can get on and extend a friendly welcome to nonmembers trying a CWT for the first time. Or, if inclined, you can whet your competitive juices and try for a high score. Or all of the above, all in one session.

If you're going for score, you might find this exchange with my friend W2RU interesting.

W6SX wrote:

So what does the following tell us about my antenna and/or operating strategy? Lowest mult count by far among everyone around me in standings.

K0RF	111	69	1	7,659	
N6RO	107	60	1	6,420	NCCC
W2RU	98	64	1.0	6,272	CLARA
KZ5D	91	56	1.0	5,096	Louisiana Contest Club
W6SX	87	51	1	4,437	NCCC
K5RT	79	56	1	4,424	DFW Contest Group
K4BAI	80	55	1.0	4,400	SECC
W0BH	79	52	1	4,108	
W4NZ	82	49	1	4,018	TCG
KC4D	69	53	1.0	3,657	PVRC

W2RU replied:

“This topic touches on some questions I posed a few weeks ago about optimizing one's CWT score—in contrast to optimizing QSOs. It seems to me that some have been informally measuring results in CWTs by QSO totals, not by scores—as though we are in some way treating the CWT ‘multiplier’ as an aberration of a strangely designed contest.

“So ... to maximize your QSO total, you are starting on the highest possible band and working your way down, band by band, through the 60-minute period. As a result, you are accumulating QSOs on the highest/lowest bands with other fanatical participants having big signals there. But it is at the expense of working the pool of ‘casual’ or less-endowed participants who naturally gravitate to their ‘most probable’ band(s)—which in this most recent 0300Z CWT were forty and eighty meters.

“Net result: You have a bunch of multi-band QSOs with a handful or two of stations who generate for you only that same ‘handful or two’ of multipliers the first time you work each one—while, at the same time, I was working forty meters ‘dry,’ in the process losing some rate and QSO total by struggling with weak signals. By definition, every contact I made on forty (which was my first band) was a new multiplier. In contrast, when you arrived on forty after working whatever you worked on twenty, you probably encountered that same half-dozen or so stations on forty, and they generated absolutely NO new multipliers for you.

“If you want to maximize score in CWT, you have to get rid of the idea that working W4NZ or W2RU on six bands is a good thing. It's not; this is not the DX Contest, where each multiplier can be a new multiplier on each new band you go to. Nor is it the Sweepstakes, where the number of multipliers is rigidly fixed. As I suggested when I first mused about QSOs vs. score, most of the time you will maximize your multiplier count by spending as much time on a single band as conditions and participation will support. If those two factors (conditions and participation) don't support spending the entire hour on a single band, then you should time your activity on two bands to maximize the geographical disparity of the stations most likely to work you on the two bands. That is, go for short skip on eighty, long skip on forty or twenty, etc.

“Given all of that, maximizing score requires a heads-up, real-time assessment of how much to sacrifice rate (QSO total) in order to gather enough mults such that QSOs x mults is optimized. Score optimization will seldom occur at one end or the other of the QSOs vs. mults decision matrix.”

Bud has a fifty-seven-year track record of beating me in just about every contest we both entered. Nevertheless, his approach doesn't seem to work for W6SX. For me, CWTs are generally participation limited. On each band, I run out of stations to work—I end up working just about everyone I can hear. Probably because I'm antenna limited and because forty and eighty have a lot more to give to east-coast participants. In any case, Bud's last paragraph says it all.

What works for you?

CW Exuberantly,

*Hank* W6SX

CWT Manager

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## From the VP – ACA/CMA Scores



<u>Call</u>	<u>ACA</u>	<u>CMA</u>
KZ5D*	566	2964
AA3B	542	3662
F6HKA*	530	2070
VE3KI*	525	2261
N5RR*	510	2784
W1RM	424	2639
SM6CNN	417	2392
DL8PG*	375	1252
K6RB	367	2014
W9ILY*	355	1576
NN6T*	325	1055
W0VX	309	1300
PA4N	303	955
EA8OM/DJ1OJ*	292	1836
N2UU*	284	1731
AD1C	242	1009
W6KY	237	1412
K6DGW*	237	1039
WX7SJ	224	375
W1UU	219	1250
OK1RR	183	893
PA7RA*	168	945
N1ZX	139	616
W5ASP*	119	893
EA1WX	114	1206
W4VQ		1202

\* = updated data

## **73, *Art*, KZ5D**

The Annual Competition Award (ACA) is based on the number of members worked each calendar year. You get one point per member worked, once per year. It resets to zero at the beginning of each year. The Cumulative Member Award (CMA) is based on how many members you've worked since January 3, 2010 on each band and continues to grow in perpetuity. The Cwops Award Manager (CAM) software, available at no cost, will help you keep track of your ACA and CMA totals.

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# **Secretary's Report**

**By Jim N3JT and Colin KU5B**

With great pleasure we welcome the following new members to CWOps:

1235 KK4XX\* Dave

1236 ZS6RI Chris

1237 SM5ALJ Ben

1238 NP3K\* Charlie

1239 WA7HJV\* Jack

1240 KC9EE Gare/Gary

1241 KG5U Dale

1242 KA5KPE Bob

1243 N8FF Ken

\* = Life Member

Jim Talens, N3JT

Secretary, CWops

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## Current Nominees

As of November 29:

Need Sponsors: AC6YY

Invitations Extended: WA4STO

For more details about nominees and status, check the “members only” on the Website: [www.cwops.org](http://www.cwops.org)

For information about joining CWops, check the Website under “membership.”

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## QTX Report

### Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

*QTX is a program for members who enjoy casual CW QSOs. Any time you have a QSO that goes over 20 minutes, jot down the call sign of the other station, and before the fifth of the next month, go to the [CWOps website QTX page](#) in the Members Only section and put in your total.*

To get the most enjoyment out of operating CW there are several different sets of skills to employ. For testers it's speed and accuracy. For rag chewers it is enlarging your vocabulary. There are some words that each of us can recognize at any speed, fast or slow. For unfamiliar words, a slower speed is needed to figure them out letter by letter. Through routine rag chewing you increase your vocabulary of familiar words and become a more proficient CW operator.

Mom used to say that if you increase your vocabulary you will sound smarter. That may not always be true, but you will enjoy CW a bit more.

Here are the QTX results for October 2013 and year to date.

<u>Call</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>CY2013</u>
WB6BEE							34	47	69	71			221
N6TT		51	77	55	63	59	54	53	81	69			562
KI4XH								25	14	50			89
N1ZX					16	24	18	18	30	44			150
N5IR	41	24	44	41	23	44	46	36	40	41			380
K5KV	10	19	5	5	3	34	24	20	16	37			173
NN6T		39	42	41	49	36	31	44	43	36			361
K5LY				36	41	26	46	36	25	28			238
K4AHO	31	24	26	20	21	31	34	35	32	22			276
KE6OIO			14	11	7	11	15	12	9	13			92
W0VX									9	11			20

WA8IWK	8		8	6		7	9	5	14	8	65
N5RR				11	6	9	12	3	2	7	50
JE1TRV	9	11	23	7	5	11	8	10	13	6	103
K8QI		7	10	8	8	3		8	2	6	52
WA3NZR	28	13	20	19	18	12	11	18	3	5	147
K6HTN	6	2	4	3	1		5	3	3	3	30
K6RB	14	3	6	8	3	6	21	5	8	2	76
W5JQ		7	5	2	2			1	2	2	21
KC0VKN										2	2
K0DTJ	6	6	4	18	9	13	5	16	6	1	84
AA5SR			12	66	48	24					150
N4SR				15	12		20	7			54
VE7ALQ			22	31							53
N3IQ			9	5	3	5	4				26
W6JMP	2	2	2	3					6		15
K6RQT					9	6					15
HB9CVQ		2		1	2	3					8
W1UU			7								7
G4CPA					3	1		2			6
DL8PG	4										4
W4VQ					2						2
N1DG		2									2
K3GHH									1		1
K2XX				1							1

WB6BEE slid past N6TT for this month. N6TT still holds a wide lead for the year. 2013 personal bests this month for WB6BEE (71), KI4XH (50), N1ZX (44), K5KV (37), and W0VX (11). Congratulations!

Total QSOs were up 36 from September. Reporting stations were down by one to 21.

Thanks to all for your participation.

73,

*John* K1ESE, CWops #792

*QTX - All About Conversational CW*

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