



Commemorative Paddle from Tokyo

CWops “CWT”

Every Wednesday

Regular Tests: Full Speed

Start times: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (+1)

1-hour each session

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

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

President: Rob Brownstein [K6RB](#)

Vice President: Peter Butler [W1UU](#)

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](#)

Table of Contents

[President's Message](#)

[From the Editor](#)

[News & Notes](#)

[How We Were – K2VCO/4X6GP](#)

[My Return to Israel](#)

[N3JT Reception in Tokyo](#)

[CW Academy](#)

[CWops Tests](#)

[CWops Awards](#)

[New Members](#)

[Nominees](#)

[QTX Report](#)

[Operating Events](#)

President's Message

I have a bunch of things to tell you. First, I



want to thank you all for your votes nearly two years ago that gave me the privilege and honor to serve as CWops' president. Recently a change was voted into the Bylaws that would allow a president to run again. I

have been asked by many members to consider doing just that. After giving it a lot of thought - I am engaged in many different things right now - I've decided to run again as president. I think the club is doing great and I want to make sure I don't cause any bumps in the road by stopping just as things are moving forward. I will spend my two years – if elected – continuing to improve and expand CW

Academy, and to make sure that great managers continue to run the key elements of the club (Solid Copy, CWT, CW Open, QTX, and CW Academy).

Two years ago, when I was elected, one of my first orders of business was to talk to the managers of CWT, CW Open, QTX and CW Academy to express to them my views about what's working and what needs to be changed, and that ushered in several new managers – Hank W6SX, John K1ESE, Dean NW2K and Will WJ9B. I also stepped down from editing Solid Copy and Rick N6XI stepped up and took the reins. He has done just an incredible job, as have the other managers.

When I first approached Hank, he said he would give it two years, and he has. Hank has indicated to me that he still stands by that commitment term. So, January 2015 will be the start of new management of CWT. I have not yet reached out to anyone and welcome your emails of interest. CWT is one of our most important CWops programs. It provides a very popular weekly outlet for pent up CW activity, and it has been a great way for non-members to be noticed and invited to join the club. I'm looking for someone with the same kind of enthusiasm as Hank, and someone who participates regularly in CWT.

Finally, the club is in financially excellent condition. Our accumulated funds can be used to expand our award sponsorship activity – geared, of course, to spurring on more CW interest and activity. It is currently being used to finance our expanded CW Open awards program, our CWT participation medallions, and the new QTX achievement medallions. We have always been interested in supporting CW training activities, such as grants for equipment to clubs with ongoing CW training programs. What we've discovered, though, is that the world's most successful CW training program is CW Academy. Yes, our own program!

There are many things we can be doing to improve our ability to train CW aspirants, both in terms of the numbers accommodated by our program and the quality of tools we make available for training. There is also another program – a dream of mine – geared to rejuvenating ham radio. I believe that CW could be the way to bring in a new generation of young folks to our hobby, and I want to inaugurate a program geared specifically to that endeavor. For lack of a better name, I call it “Youth CW Academy” and my initial ideas are for building a program aimed at youth 19 years old and under. I will have more to say about this very soon, but one part of the concept will require an investment of funds which we have at our disposal and have been earmarked for CW training. So when you look at our current financial statement and see an accumulation of funds, we do have a program in mind that will require significant funding and, if it meets my expectations, it will do more for bringing young amateurs into the fold than any programs fielded to date. So, stay tuned.

73,

Rob K6RB

[*Back to Contents*](#)

[*Next article*](#)

From the Editor



Busy Months

It's a busy time of year for North American ham radio! October kicked off with the California QSO Party, considered by many US hams as the start of the "contest season." It concluded with the "other mode" of CQWW. Many rag chewers flee to the WARC bands during these exercises, good places to escape the din of contesting. But if you are among them, please consider also spending a few hours handing out QSOs to the hungry on the "contest bands." It's a great way to hone you station, operating skills and your code speed. Then comes November with the ARRL Sweepstakes, first on CW and then, well, ... the CW bands are very quiet Stateside during the third weekend of November. Of course, our members outside the US and Canada enjoy relative freedom from pileups of eager North Americans, a great time for them to chew the rag amongst themselves without having to contend with us.

Your Editor has been busy with family affairs, some travel and the momentous conclusion of the Baseball World Series, yet another North American obsession. I live in Northern California and the San Francisco Giants have long been my favorite team. They just won their third title in five years and the streets of SF are exploding with joy. Even the season's first torrential rain failed to deter the faithful who mobbed the city today (October 31) to cheer their returning heros. [Here's what it was like.](#) Reporters are using "the D word" – dynasty! It reminds me of the "dynasty years" of NCCC, SMC, PVRC and others in radiosport.

Did I say travel? Ann and I made our almost-annual pilgrimage to KH6 this past month with our son, daughter-in-law and cute-as-a-button grandson, age 4. I took along my KX3 and scored a long, bamboo pole to hang a random wire off our sixth floor balcony in a relatively inconspicuous position. It didn't seem to get out as well as it had on our 2013 trip, but I did manage some CW QSOs including an FB 30-minute rag chew with Lee W4EDE, CWops #30, in Miami, almost 4800 miles (7700 km) away.

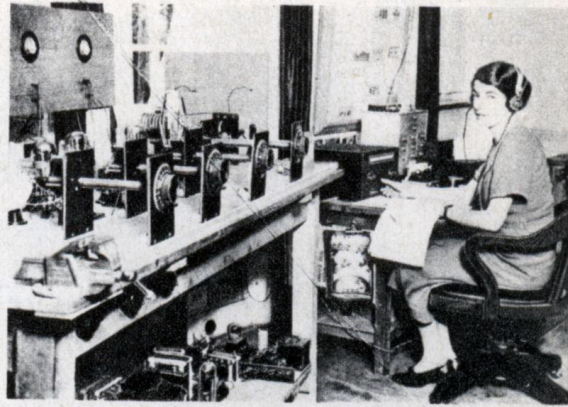
I got the bamboo off the estate of Alan AD6E who is now a Maui resident. His beautiful, hillside QTH at 500' (150m) has a great view of central Maui, the Pacific Ocean and a clear shot toward Asia, North America and Europe. So far the fruit trees eclipse his antenna farm, consisting as it does of a few parallel dipoles drooping off a push-up mast. But the location is outstanding and he is getting out well. He advises us to QRX for future steel and aluminum on the farm. Meanwhile, the bananas, mangos, papayas, pineapples, coconuts, macadamia nuts and jackfruit are outstanding!

Mike N4GU sends the following scan from the February 1936 issue of long-defunct *Modern Mechanics* ("Yesterday's tomorrow today"). It is newsworthy mainly because of how mundane the accomplishment would be today!

Feminine "Ham" Heard 'Round The World

RADIO amateurs of six continents were contacted within 6 hours and 20 minutes recently by Miss Nellie Corry, young British radio enthusiast. The feat, regarded as a record in amateur broadcasting circles, is all the more remarkable in that Miss Corry accomplished it on a home made set costing less than \$20.

Miss Corry built her transmitter in her home at Walton-On-The-Hill, Surrey, England, during her spare time. Working on a 10-meter wavelength on the occasion of her record breaking broadcast, she contacted amateur stations in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and the two Americas.



Radio history was made by this young lady when she contacted radio amateurs on 6 continents in 6 hours, 20 minutes. She made her record breaking transmitter during spare time.

As noted by Rob K6RB, our long-serving, hard-working CWT Manager Hank W6SX will complete his two year term this year. Hank has not only managed the tests and written the reports for Solid Copy but also been a mainstay of the activity on the air, showing up in most sessions and often making over 100 QSOs in an hour-long, weekday session with his array of wire antennas. Congratulations on a successful tenure, Hank – and thanks!

K1DW notes a common mistake made by CW beginners and suggests that CWA instructors keep it in mind:

In my classes at times students get frustrated when copying code. When a copy mistake is made the student will verbalize (#\$@%##) and miss more letters/numbers. My advice is "do not speak when a mistake is made. Refocus on the rest of the word and on the next word, etc." If more mistakes are made, keep trying. Do not stop. Keep focusing on copying what is being sent until the end. In the real CW world requests for repeats are normal to fill in lost information.

That's all for this month, friends. I hope you enjoy this issue.

73,

Rick N6XI

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next article](#)

News & Notes

Jerry AC4BT

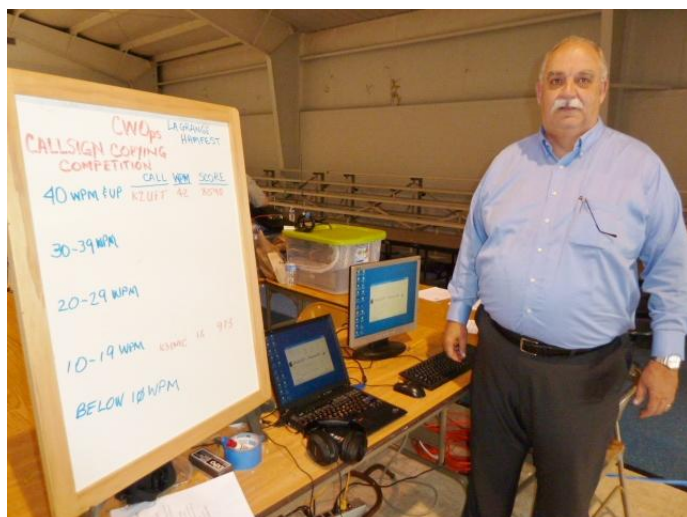
This is a column where members can report their activities, happenings and achievements, both radio-related and personal. Please send brief notes to Jerry AC4BT at jveisskohl@gmail.com

Pete, W1RM: A moment of panic! Every morning I turn my station on and the LogiKey K-5 happily sends --- -- to let me know it's powered up and working properly. Well this morning no such luck! I disconnected the K-5 from the power source (it gets power through my K3), let it sit for about 10 minutes to let it fully discharge. I checked the cable and sure enough, 13 volts was present. I turned the K3 off, reconnected the keyer and was greeted with --- --! Whew. To be safe, I ordered a spare K-5 today. Not having my trusty K-5 keyer working would be the equivalent of shoving a gob-stopper in my mouth!

Fabio, IK0IXI: On Oct. 25th I will take part in the GQRP Mini Convention in Rishworth, West Yorkshire, UK. As Club Representative for Italy, I will be there for my very first time. This year is the 40th anniversary of GQRP Club 1974 - 2014.

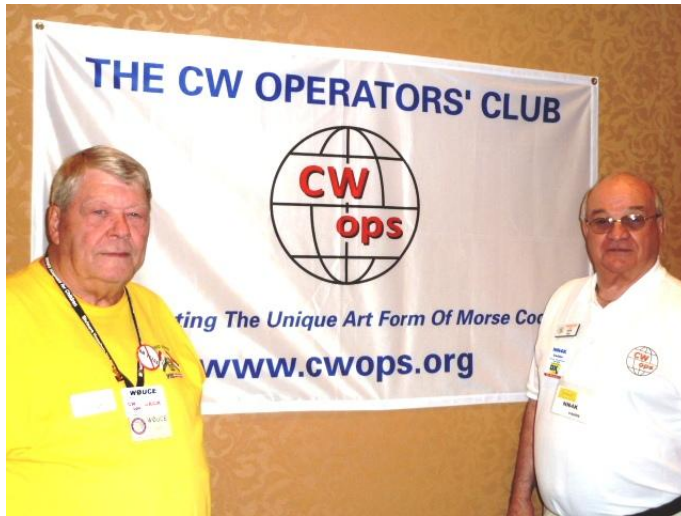
Chris, G4BUE (N4CJ): I will be QRV 29 October-18 December as N4CJ from our Florida QTH. I will also be QRV 19 and 20 November as W1AW/4, on 17m between 1000-1200z and on 12m between 1200-1400z, as part of the ARRL's Centennial QSO Party from Florida.

Mac, NN4K: The La Grange Amateur Radio Club, La Grange, GA, held their one day hamfest on Oct. 11, 2014. The "CW Call Sign Copying Competition" was conducted at the CWops table by SE-US Ambassador NN4K – Mac. There were four competitors with three of them copying in the 40+ wpm range. K2UFT, Dick, #209 won first place with his 42 wpm speed. Close behind was CWops member Rick Dingler, N4RLD #744 with 41 wpm recorded. The photo below is of Rick next to the CWops table showing the leaderboard, laptop, monitor and keyboard for the contestant.



Mac, NN4K: The SEDCO (South Eastern DX and Contesting Organization) W4DXCC Convention was held at Pigeon Forge, TN, on September 27, 2014. It was very well attended with about 250 hams listening to a dozen half-hour presentations that we like to hear about. Examples include propagation, antennas, DXpeditions and operating. Several CWops members were present.

W0UCE, Jack Ritter, presented on CWops and what our organization does and told the audience about CW Academy. He asked how many present would be interested in getting into the CW Academy to polish up on their cw skills. It was estimated that 30-40% held up their hands. That means a lot of prospects for future semesters of CWA. The CWops Banner was on display during the meeting and banquet that was held on Saturday evening. The photo below shows L-R W0UCE Jack and NN4K Mac in front of the banner.

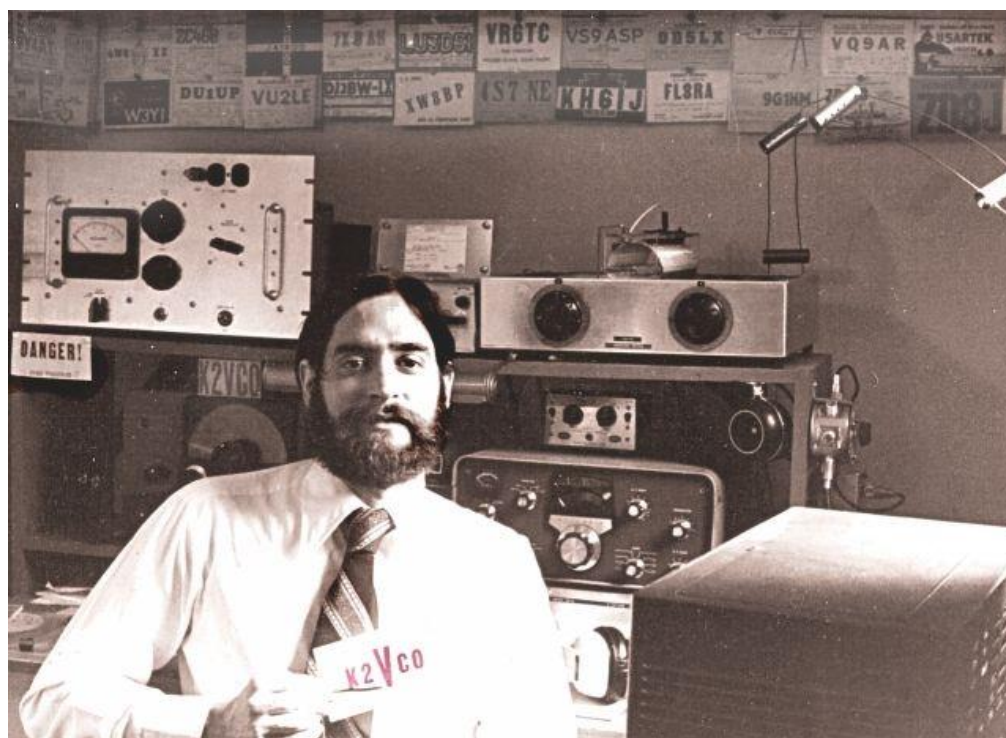


[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

How We Were – K2VCO/4X6GP

by Hank W6SX



These are Vic Rosenthal, CWops #5: K2VCO circa 1977, 4X6GP circa 1982. See his article on his [return to Israel](#) in this issue.

Lots of wonderful and memory-evoking QSL cards on the wall! KH6IJ would have been a CWop. Note that the Ranger VFO is on the low end of the band – probably 028. Note the real open-wire feedline.

Now that's a *How We Were*. Please send me YOUR photos, everyone. w6sx@arrl.net

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

My Return to Israel

Vic Rosenthal K2VCO/4X6GP

As some of you know, I lived on a kibbutz in Israel for nine years during the 1980s. My call was 4X6GP and I was blessed with a rural location about a mile from the Mediterranean with a nice slope down to the beach from my house. In those days you just put up an antenna, and I made a 50 foot mast in the kibbutz welding shop and pushed it up against the building with a tractor borrowed from the dairy. I had a three element tribander on top and it worked remarkably well.

My kids pretty much grew up there, but after nine years I had had enough of kibbutz life and we went back to the US. My two younger kids went to high school and started college in the US, but when they reached the age of 19 they went back to Israel for army service and, as often happens, got married and stayed. Meanwhile my wife and I started a business and kept ourselves occupied. She was active in multiple charitable groups and of course I had my radio. But she always missed Israel and our kids, and an increasing number of grandkids.

A couple of years ago, she made me one of those non-refusable offers: “I’m going back to Israel in two years, and I’d like you to come.”

“Er, OK,” I said. “But what about our cats? And what about the hundreds of pounds of amplifier parts that I’ve collected, the amplifiers I built, the model train layout, my antennas...?”

“I’m sure you can figure out what to do, dear.”

“I’ll do it. But I’m not living anywhere I can’t have an antenna.”

So began a period of frantically finding places for stuff. A contester from Oklahoma who was building a multi-multi station drove up in a van and left with a massive collection of QRO parts. One homebrew amplifier went to Florida and another to Canada. The train layout was taken apart and the trains went to an auction house. I sold the beam and the tower, the HRO and other boat anchors. Every day I took stuff to auction, gave it away, recycled it, or just threw it in the trash. We had yard sales, sold things on Craigslist and talked friends into taking things, including our cats. We had a big house in Fresno and apartments in Israel are small.

I told my daughter, who lives in Rehovot, that we’d be happy to live nearby and provide babysitting for her three preschoolers. (My wife would handle that part.) All she had to do was find us an apartment that we could afford on the top floor of a reasonably tall building with roof access. And she did it! We put our Fresno house up for sale and bought the apartment. It is on the 10th floor, and there is also a single room on the roof connected to the rest of the apartment by a stairway. There is

a nice roof area around it that serves as a patio, and the top of the little room is about 35 meters above ground. That's my combination shack and workshop, and that's where I'm sitting right now.

Before we left I bought a Cushcraft R8 vertical and, not knowing how noisy the location was, a Pixel Loop receiving antenna. One day the movers came and stuffed everything we were taking into a 20-foot container, which we would see eight weeks later. Then we vacated our house, spent the next month or so cat sitting for a friend and a week in a hotel. Finally we sold our car, and drove a rental to Los Angeles where we got on a plane, and about 15 hours later we were in Israel – with two suitcases and four duffel bags of possessions to support us for a month until the container arrived.

While I was waiting I dealt with bureaucratic details including getting my license back – no problem, an Israeli call is for life. You just pay a small fee every year for having a station – and getting a “non-ionizing radiation permit.” This is a new thing that resulted from national hysteria over the “dangers” of RF. It is more complicated than the US RF safety rule, and requires that you submit actual calculations of field strength at various locations around your antenna. With this and a license in hand, thanks to a massive lobbying effort by the Israel Amateur Radio Club, you can get automatic planning permission for a vertical nine meters in length or a wire antenna attached to existing structures. If you want a more elaborate antenna, prepare to hire an engineer and jump through who knows how many hoops, including getting neighbors to sign off.

The obsession about RF hazards is interesting. When I told the guy in charge of building maintenance about my plan to put a vertical on the roof, he wasn't interested in how heavy it was or how I planned to guy it. All he wanted to know about was “radiation!”

In early October I finally got the permit. My daughter's husband is an engineer, so I explained to him that he needed some practical experience to go with all the theory he'd learned in school, and he helped me put the R8 up. And I must say it works very well, even for an antenna with close to unity gain. The 35-meter height seems to help a lot. Of course I would like a beam, but I have been working more or less everything I can hear, and even busting pileups pretty easily. I only rarely use my amplifier. I have been pleasantly surprised at how quiet the location is, and the Pixel Loop helps a lot. My next project is to put up 6 and 2 meter beams, which are small enough to not scare anyone.

As you can imagine, a lot of things are very different here from the US. But we speak the language well enough and we have our kids nearby to help. When I look back at the last year or so, I am amazed at what we accomplished and how few serious problems we had. At age 71, moving halfway around the world is not a piece of cake.

I have already worked a few CWops members and I'm always looking for more. If you hear 4X6GP, give me a call.

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

N3JT Reception in Tokyo

Atsu JE1TRV

We had a wonderful meeting with Jim N3JT and Nina KE4PSV at a Sushi restaurant in Akasaka, Tokyo on Oct. 24. Five JA hams attended the meeting: JA1NUT Shin, 7J1ABD/WA6URY Dan, JE1TRV Atsu, JA7QLP Hiro and JA1GQC Kazu. Four of them are CWops members. We enjoyed a nice chat, sushi and sake.

As a small gift, we presented an engraved, wooden paddle with Jim and Nina's callsigns on it. *[See Page 1. – Ed.]*

In the rest of their trip they will visit Kyoto in early November, then go back to the US. CWops member JA3AVO Masumi, who lives near Kyoto, will plan another meeting there.

Here are some photos:





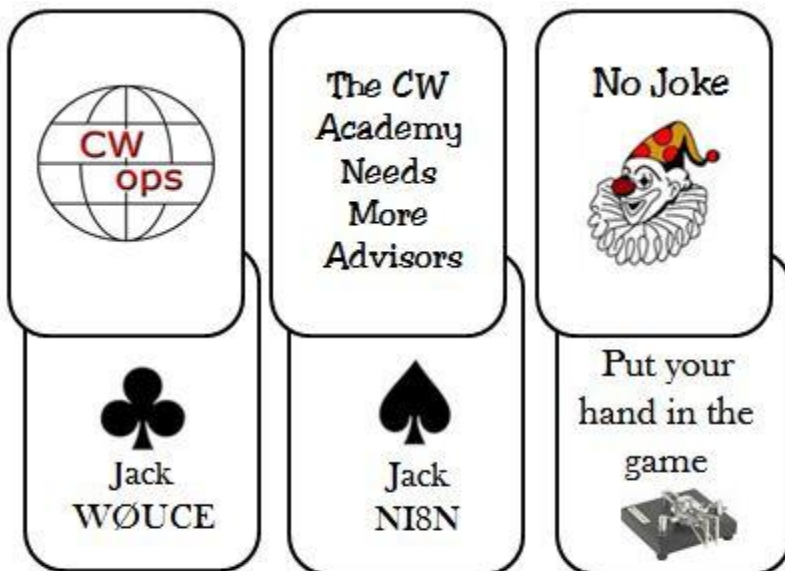
[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)



CW Academy

Jack W0UCE



Club Members, Level II and III Class Graduates
We need you! Join CWA's Pair of Jacks
for Level I, II & III Associate Advisor Training
Workshops coming in December!
To register - e-mail wOuce@nc.rr.com

73,

Jack

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

Very Special Slow-Speed CWops Tests

Hank Garretson W6SX

Very Special Slow-Speed CWops Tests 12 November

We will have Very Special Slow-Speed CWops Tests on 12 November. We will again be welcoming enthusiastic CW Academy graduates to the wonderful world of on-the-air CW. These guys and gals are the new blood and future of ham radio. Our job is to make them feel welcome and eager to come back for more, to help the tentative make the jump to full-fledged CW aficionados.

CWops Tests rules are at <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html> . We will have our normal three sessions, 1300-1400Z Wednesday, 1900-2000Z Wednesday, and 0300-0400Z Thursday (Wednesday night).

CWops Tests exchange. Members: Name and CWops Member Number. Nonmembers: Name and State, Province, or DX Country Prefix. **CW Academy graduates: Name and CWA.**

Everyone limit speed to 20 WPM maximum. CQ at 20 WPM. Even when you are working someone you normally work at 35 WPM, please send no faster than 20 WPM. When you answer someone CQing at less than 20 WPM, answer at his speed. When someone answers your 20 WPM CQ at a slower speed, match his speed.

Thank stations by name. Make the new guys feel welcome.

If appropriate, help stations by explaining CWT exchange.

If someone wants to rag chew, rag chew for a bit.

Send lots of FBs and other encouragement.

Us working us – we do that all the time. Please make a special effort to work the new guys.

Send a welcoming QSL card or email to each new station worked.

Our Very Special Slow-Speed CWops Tests are not just for CW Academy graduates. Please talk about the event at your local clubs. Encourage CW-tentative hams to get on and have fun. Help, encourage, mentor.

Mark your calendars. Very Special CWops Tests 12 November: The graduates are our new blood. They are the hams who will carry on the CW tradition. Let's make a very special effort to get on and make the graduates feel welcome. Let's infect them with the CW bug.

The first rule of CW is to have fun and to share the fun.

This month, more than ever let's share the fun with our Very Special Slow-Speed CWops Tests.

CW Exuberantly,

Hank W6SX

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

CWops Awards

Pete W1RM and Peter W1UU

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.

Call	ACA	CMA		Call	DX Total		Call	WA S		Call	WA E
AA3B	656	4446		W1RM	132		N5RR	50		K0DTJ	6
F6HKA	595	2911		OH2BN	112		W1RM	50		G0DJA	7
W1RM	540	3256		F6HKA	111		W4VQ	50		K6DGW	8
VE3KI	528	2810		W4VQ	111		F6HKA	50		W6KY	16
N5RR	517	3162		N5RR	93		W1UU	50		4Z1UF	21
K6RB	473	2639		EA8OM	93		AD1C	49		K6RB	21
W0VX	459	1969		AA3B	85		FG8NY	49		N1EN	22
FG8NY	425	1866		DL8PG	83		K6DGW	49		AD1C	25
G4BUE	420	845		VE3KI	83		VE3KI	49		F5MKN	26
DL8PG	416	1525		EA1WX	80		K6RB	48		GW0ETF	27
F5MKN	405	692		PA7RA	79		EA8OM	48		N1ZX	28
N1EN	376	879		W0VX	79		GW0ETF	48		W1UU	28
AD1C	375	1465		KZ5D	78		K1ESE	48		NN6T	29
EA8OM	365	1284		K1ESE	77		KZ5D	48		EA1WX	30
KZ5D	336	3239		W9ILY	74		NN6T	48		W0VX	31
K1ESE	324	1409		G4BUE	73		W0VX	48		K1ESE	31
W9ILY	317	1926		KR3E	73		W6KY	48		FG8NY	32
GW0ETF	292	1162		AD1C	71		W9ILY	48		W9ILY	32
W1UU	257	1458		NN6T	67		AA3B	48		DL8PG	33
PA7RA	212	1100		FG8NY	63		F5MKN	48		PA7RA	33
W6KY	208	1573		GW0ETF	63		DL8PG	48		KR3E	34
K0DTJ	162	417		W1UU	63		KR3E	47		KZ5D	34
NN6T	160	1444		N1ZX	62		G4BUE	47		G4BUE	34
K6DGW	130	1200		F5MKN	55		EA1WX	46		VE3KI	34
NU7Y	93	130		W6KY	54		N1EN	46		EA8OM	36
AB7MP	58	77		N1EN	51		N1ZX	45		F6HKA	36
OH2BN	45	530		4Z1UF	50		K0DTJ	45		W4VQ	36
N1ZX	26	688		K6RB	49		PA7RA	44		AA3B	37

G0DJA	16	23	K6DGW	29	OH2BN	42	N5RR	37
SM6CNN	0	2392	K0DTJ	23	4Z1UF	36	OH2BN	40
N2UU	0	1774	G0DJA	10	NU7Y	33	W1RM	43
W4VQ	0	1743	NU7Y	6	AB7MP	26		
EA1WX	0	1426	AB7MP	3	G0DJA	8		
KR3E	0	1136						
PA4N	0	955						
OK1RR	0	893						
W5ASP	0	893						
WX7SJ	0	397						
PA1FOX	0	5						

Congrats to Peter W1UU as the newest member of the CWops WAS 50 club.

73,

Pete W1RM

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

New Members

Colin Jenkins KU5B

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

1355	KA3DRR	Scot
1356	VE2BZO	Andre
1357	G3SVK	Fred
1358	K1QX*	Craig
1359	W9PJ	Paul
1360	VE1RGB	Gary

* = Life Member

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

Current Nominees

As of October 31:

Need Sponsors: K6ZO, WB2UZE, KD7UI, WR5J, G3XLG

Invitations Extended: VE7FO, N7DXT, W6NEV

For more details about nominees and up-to-date status, check the “Members Only” pages on the Website: www.cwops.org.

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

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

QTX Report

Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

QTX is a way of counting conversational CW QSOs. One point is awarded for each QSO of 20 minutes or longer. We have two ways to recognize QTX activities - the QTX Plaque and the QTX Achievement Medal.

QTX Plaque Standings

The QTX Plaque is awarded to the operator with the most QTX points at the end of the year. These are the standings at the end of September and year to date for 2014:

<u>Call</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>CY2014</u>
N5IR	72	499
WB6BEE	67	540
K5LY	55	425
K5KV	52	448
NN6T	49	343
KI4XH	39	684
N1ZX	36	277
K4AHO	30	223
WA3NZR	24	126
KE6OIO	15	110
IK0IXI	14	46
K6HP	12	46
K0DTJ	8	79
N5RR	7	34
N4SR	6	90
K8QI	5	46
K6HTN	4	29
JE1TRV	3	69
K6RQT	2	6
WA8IWK	0	69
K6RB	0	53
W6JMP	0	27
W5JQ	0	21
KC9EE	0	19
W4VQ	0	7
HB9CVQ	0	5
KC0VKN	0	5
K3GHH	0	3
ZS1C	0	2
N1EN	0	1

Again this month Bill N5IR was at the top of the list. Don WB6BEE, Lee K5LY, Benny K5KV, and Glen NN6T also made up ground on our to-date leader Fred KI4XH this month. The race is tightening up a bit.

Personal bests for August were NN6T, KE6OIO, and WA3NZR.

Total QSOs were 500, down 88 from last month's record. Reporting stations were 19, same as August.

QTX Manager QTX Achievement Medals

QTX Medals will be awarded at the end of the year for 400 QTX points (Gold), 300 QTX points (Silver), and 200 QTX points (Bronze).

We are up to nine QTX Achievement Award qualifiers:

Gold Achievement Level

KI4XH
WB6BEE
N5IR
K5KV
K5LY

Silver Achievement Level

NN6T
K1ESE

Bronze Achievement Level

N1ZX
K4AHO

At this point it looks like the current Silvers have a shot at Gold and the Bronze have a shot at Silver. It also looks like WA3ZNR and KE6OIO may also make it into the medals. Perhaps there will be a surprise from someone in the pack.

Submit Your QSOs

Submit your monthly points by the 5th of the month to compete in the QTX Plaque standings. Submit your points anytime for Achievement Awards. There is still time to win an Achievement Award Medal.

Thanks to all for your participation.

John K1ESE, CWops #792

QTX Manager

QTX – All About Conversational CW

[Back to Contents](#)

[Next Article](#)

Upcoming CW Operating Events

Joe Staples, W5ASP

This brief list of operating events is intended to provide members with options for using and improving their CW skills in less intense and more casual on-the-air activities.

November plays host to two of the most significant CW contests of the year ... Sweepstakes CW and CQWW CW... one on the first day of the month and the other on the last. Both are intense, demanding and long. Many of our CWOps members have "been there, done that" and probably will again. But it is possible to take a very different perspective and to approach these weekends with a different attitude. Let's consider CQWW CW from another view point.

According to Randy K5ZD, last year's contest featured over two hundred DXCC entities with all 40 CQ Zones active. Rather than taking the conventional approach of working as many as you can as fast as you can, why not set your sights on a reasonable subset of contacts selected to achieve a simpler goal. You could decide to selectively make a single contact with each new country you encounter until you have DXCC, either on all bands or on a single band. It's certainly doable, and quite suitable as a casual approach to operating during a CW contest: kind of a "kid in a candy store" scenario.

Another option would be to select a specific group of DX stations to seek out and work. One choice would be the Brits. There are always a bunch of Gs, GMs, GWs, GJs, etc. around the bands anxious for a Q. Or focus on gathering up all of the South American countries. This can be a bit of a challenge on CW. Other similar schemes will occur to you with a little thought.

If you prefer a more serious task, try working just one entity in each CQ Zone. The high bands are the best hunting grounds. Keeping an eye on the packet spots can be a big help, assuming you're not a "purist." However, if you do resort to packet be sure you hear the station give his call before dropping your call in.

Then there is the Sprint approach. Go for broke for a short period of time, say one or two hours. Repeat this later when the propagation has switched. The results may surprise you. It also gives you plenty of time to rake the leaves or wash the car ... if that's your thing on the weekends.

A lot of the ideas outlined above can be applied to Sweepstakes. Getting a "Sweep" in the shortest possible time or on a single band should satisfy any serious CW aficionado.

As you can see, this sort of operating relieves one of the burden of slugging it out with the hard core contesters, and makes for a more relaxed and comfortable weekend. The idea is to take advantage of the unique opportunity presented by the super contests with little or no downside.

November Events

ARRL Sweepstakes CW
NAQCC Sprint
CQWW DX CW

2100Z Nov. 1st– 0300Z Nov.3rd
0130Z - 0330Z, Nov. 20th
0000Z Nov. 29th – 2400Z Nov. 30th

[Back to Contents](#)

-30-
