

### Another Hobby Revealed



**Greek Island** by Theo, SV2BBK. [Story page 9.](#)

### President's Message

The Annual CWO event is over and the results are being tabulated. The three, four-hour sessions were well attended, and participation increased. It was a great way to spend 12 hours operating CW in a friendly, competitive way. Several teams were formed with some unique names. A posting on our reflector about the results but I'll wait until all the logs are re-



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#### **CWops "CWT" Every Wednesday**

Start: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (+1), 1 hour each session

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

#### **Avoid DX pileups!**

Next slow speed CWT is November 11-12.

#### **US Vanity Callsign web site:**

<http://cwomc.org>

**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 "and up"

#### **CWops Officers and Directors**

President: Mac McDonald [NN4K](#)

Vice President: Peter Butler [W1UU](#)

Secretary: Jim Talens [N3JT](#)

Treasurer: Craig Thompson [K9CT](#)

Director: Stew Rolfe [GW0ETF](#)

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

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Director: Bert Banlier [F6HKA](#)

Director: Barry Simpson [VK2BJ](#)

Director: Riki Kline [K7NJ](#)

WebGeek: Dan Romanchik [KB6NU](#)

Newsletter Editor: Tim Gennett [K9WX](#)

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viewed and finalized. It seems like the results are much bigger than 2019's.

The increased activity is related to CWops growth since a year ago. There are still a lot of CW enthusiasts in the world who haven't joined us yet, but I hope they will soon. We are doing a solid job of increasing CW activity on the bands. When Solar Cycle 25 is further along, we will be showing our presence on 10 and 15 meters. I remember what it was like to operate 10 meters at night. You don't want to miss the next opportunity.

The Covid-19 Pandemic influence is still with us. Interactive life has been impacted socially and business-wise. I'm not alone when I feel grateful that ham radio has provided an outlet for staying connected. The audio-video conferences are being appreciated for the service they provide. The recent "[QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#)" event was well done. It shows what can be done and it was very innovative. If we are still restricted, something like it again in the future will be different and useful. Congratulation to all who were involved with this venue. I'm hoping we can go back to big and small hamfests again, but we'll have to see what is happening next year.

Autumn has arrived and the associated changes in daylight hours, plant foliage and temperature speak to us as leading indicators to get things finished up and ready for the ham radio contest season. Best wishes to all who will be active, and I hope you can use it to fulfill some of your goals. The September-October CW Academy Semester has started, and we have a lot of classes going on for Beginners, Basic, Intermediate and Advanced students. Work is ongoing to get some focused activity for the CWA students to operate in a CWT-like weekly event. The day will be different than the regular CWTs so look for details to be announced. We have been training them and we need to make a space for them to practice their developing skills.

Thanks for all the contributions you make to CWops.

CW Forever!

**73, Mac NN4K**, President

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## From the [Editor](#): Can You Hear Me Now?

A recent thread on the CWops reflector about sidetone frequency got me thinking. Always a dangerous prospect but, in this case, it worked out well for me.

[The original August 30 post from Jim, KE8G](#), asked, "I am curious as to what frequency folks are using for their sidetone." Two weeks and 51 posts later it seems we had worked the topic to a its end. And, of course, there is a link to at least one YouTube video explaining what a sidetone is along with a reference to a scholarly article on the role of ear



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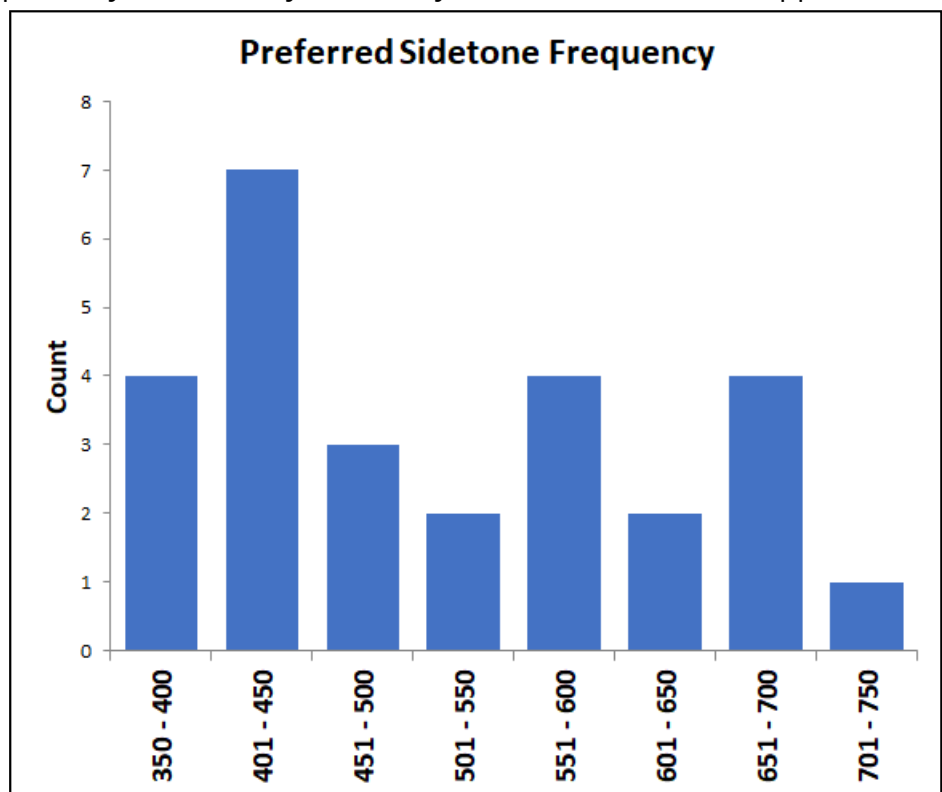
size and shape as determinants in hearing. And some interesting number crunching about the number of CW signals that can fit into a given filter bandwidth based on the sidetone frequency.

But there was also a wealth of data as responders provided their preferred pitch and I decided it was time to revisit my preferred pitch.

A bit of background: I learned CW at the age of 42 when I was first licensed in 1993. Not ideal from a learning perspective as it seems those who learn CW at a relatively young age learn faster and acquire more fluency, but my 42 year old brain and ears were all I had to work with. It was a time before the home computer had become ubiquitous and my primary learning tool was a set of audio cassettes produced by Gordon West, WB6NOA. Those cassettes used a CW pitch of 800 Hz. I didn't have much in the way of local support or Elmers, so I thought everyone must use 800 Hz and that's what I used for probably the first 20 year's of my ham radio career. I dropped down to 700 Hz a few years ago based on advice from some other thread in an online group.

Then along came KE8G's question and a bunch of folks shared their preferred pitch. I aggregated these responses and added a couple more from local friends who are highly skilled CW operators.

What I learned: most folks were using a much lower pitch than my 700 Hz tone and everyone was using a lower pitch than the 800 Hz pitch I used while learning. The average of all responses was about 525 Hz and something around 450 seemed to be the most common. Was I missing something?



Nothing about this involves the acoustic preferences of my ears. I've managed to avoid hearing aids and my hearing acuity is pretty flat in the 1000 Hz and below range. I listened to some CW using a 450 Hz sidetone and that seemed to be too big a leap. So I used 500 Hz for the 800 plus QSOs I made in the CW Open, several state QSO parties, the September 9 CWTs and the [inaugural K1USN SST](#).

The first few QSOs were a challenge. (What's that noise? Oh, wait, someone is calling me.) But the brain can be remarkably adaptive and as I made the last of those 800 QSOs I decided that 500 Hz was a good place to be and I plan to stick with it for now.

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No, I've not suddenly become a candidate for one of the high speed CW clubs. But one advantage of the lower pitch is a remarkable reduction in the "swoosh-swooshing" noise as the radio switches back and forth between TX and RX while using full breaking keying. I like that.

So, for now, I'm at 500 Hz. I'll see how that goes for another month or so and might try moving a bit lower to see how I like that. But I think it's unlikely I will go back up to 700, and I appreciate the willingness of the group to share their ideas.

**73,**

**Tim K9WX** Editor

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## News and Notes

### [Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT](#)

**Belatedly, we regret to report that the prior holder of N1CC, James Laporta (CWops #1335), became a SK on 9/20/17.**

**David Minster, NA2AA CWops #1198 has just been appointed the new ARRL CEO:** <http://www.arrl.org/news/board-of-directors-elects-new-arrrl-ceo-david-minster-na2aa>

**Jim, NJ3T:** Under the guidance of W4DD, I am surveying my neighborhood with a K3, GPS and laptop in the car to develop a map of the hot spots of powerline noise that can be given to Virginia Energy in identifying faulty hardware needing repair.

Hopefully over time this will lead to being able to hear weaker signals on the HF bands!

**ARRL:** Congratulations to Craig Thompson, K9CT (CWops treasurer), for being the twelfth recipient of the [ARRL Fred Fish Memorial Award](#). This award recognizes those exceptional amateur radio operators who have confirmed contacts on 6 m in each of the 488 grid squares that comprise the continental United States.

**Chuck, WS1L:** The big project this month was definitely getting the Hexbeam and 35-foot push-up mast installed and guyed at its full height. There were definitely quite a few iterations as I experimented with guying.

The next project is going to be trying to get an Inverted-L up for Top Band. I have the space, and the trees, but I think I will wait until the leaves fall to get this underway. I still have a large tuning capacitor and coil from my prior QTH, so with any luck I'll have at least part of the 160 season left

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when I'm QRV. Since my existing dipole isn't great on 80, I may try to make the Inverted-L do dual-band duty. I've seen articles on it, and some research is needed.

Alongside that I'm likely to install a K9AY array for low-band receiving. That should be enough antenna work to keep me busy this fall and winter. Hope to see you all on the bands!

**Gary, AF8A:** I had a bang-up time in the Ohio QSO Party in late August, operating from a temporary locale with a 40/80 trapped dipole at about 40 feet (12 meters). The low bands were generally cooperative, with 80 meters being the best band for Ohio stations. Overall, I made 606 CW QSOs across 45 US states, 4 CA provinces, 3 DX locales (DL, OM, ZA) and 51 of Ohio's 88 counties. There were 450 unique calls in my log, of which 209 were CWops members.

The photo (below) is of me preparing SkookumLogger just prior to the start of the event. Thanks one and all for the QSOs!



**Craig, K9CT (CWops Treasurer):** Received a thank-you note from Peter, K8KP, CWops # 2226: "Hi Craig, thanks to you and to CWops for the 2018 CQWW-CW Plaque! I received the Plaque last week, it certainly made my day (and my week!). CWops does so much to promote CW and support Ham Radio, very proud to have become part of it. And grateful for the recognition for CQWW-CW."

# K1USN's New Weekly Slow Speed Test

The CWops Club (CWops) promotes the art of CW for those who wish to expand and improve their on-the-air experiences. CWops' CW Academy (CWA) program has produced thousands of successful graduates who have gone on to become everyday CW operators. Hundreds of CWA grads have become CWops members after demonstrating their ability to understand and communicate in CW at speeds of 25 WPM and higher!

CWops' three weekly 25 to 40+ WPM CWT sprints are exciting, stimulating and a great way to improve CW copying ability, operating skills, and propagation knowledge. The CWTs create bonds of friendship among CW-loving operators around the world.

Now, for those just getting started in CW contesting and others who prefer a more leisurely pace, several members of both the K1USN Radio Club and CWops (N1DC, K1RV, K1DJ, N1VH, K1TH) are starting a weekly one-hour slow speed CW contest, the SST. Special thanks to non-CWops member W1VP for all his behind the scenes efforts.

## Please join us!

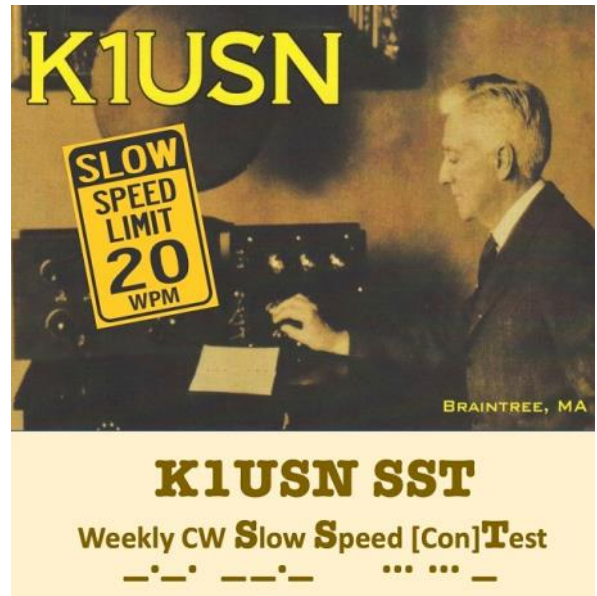
K1USN's new Slow Speed Test is designed to encourage and assist those who signed up for CWA to learn CW or to improve their CW skills but are not yet copying 25 WPM, as well as all others who feel like "taking it slow and easy" once per week both for their own pleasure and to help others out.

CWops currently offers a total of nine "slow speed" CWT's per year just after the three CWA graduations where all are asked to slow down to 20 WPM. Many CWA grads make contacts in those sessions, enjoying a well-earned rush of accomplishment. The SST will expand those opportunities for success to 52 weeks per year!

All of us old enough to remember our Novice days recall the rush of adrenalin and the sweaty grip on our J-38 (or Radio Shack) keys during those very first CW QSOs. This is what it must feel like for the new CW operators we want to encourage.

The weekly slow speed SST is also for operators who currently participate in regular CWT sessions, but only as S & P (Search and Pounce) entrants. The weekly 20 WPM or slower SSTs can build their confidence to find open frequencies and begin calling CQ, first in the SSTs and then in the more crowded and frenetic full speed CWTs. Successfully crossing that CQing threshold is another real accomplishment!

We hope many SST participants become sufficiently comfortable with CW contesting to enjoy the regular higher speed CWT sessions, other big CW contests, and smaller local and regional QSO parties, using N1MM+ (or other) computer loggers, spotting networks, call history files, live online



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scoring, etc. We welcome everybody to join in the SSTs whether high speed CW contesting is your goal or not, including new ops making their first attempts at completing a CW QSO.

In addition to SST's 20 WPM upper speed limit, we ask all to be patient, supportive, and willing to slow down further as necessary to assist another op in completing an SST QSO.

CWA recommends using electronic keyers and paddles, but if you are more comfortable with some other device, please feel free to join us in the SSTs using a straight key, cootie key, bug or paddles. Unlike high speed contests, where QSO rate is king and a CQing/"running" station expects only the required exchange and confirms a contact with simply "dit" or "R", the SST encourages sending brief friendly greetings to the other Op.

Friendliness is part of taking it slow and easy! So please join us in the SSTs! All you need is an HF radio, an antenna, and the desire to become, and assist others to become, better CW operators!

### ***Editor's Note:***

The inaugural SST was held on Monday September 14 and judged to be a great success by the organizers. My experience: I called CQ for the full hour at 18 wpm or less. I logged 57 stations, 17 of whom were either new in my log or new on CW. There were several others who called me that I was unable to work either because their signal was too weak or they were keying by hand and their keying was too jumbled to copy. Those numbers far exceeded my expectations and I will definitely plan to participate in future SSTs.

### **Time and Day: 0000 UTC Monday (Sunday 8 PM EDT)**

Suggested initial SST frequencies:

- 80 meters 3.532 - 3.539
- 40 meters 7.032 - 7.039
- 20 meters 14.032 - 14.039

Exchange: Name + state/province/country

Sample SST QSO

K1RV: CQ SST K1RV

N1DC: N1DC

K1RV: N1DC Pi MA

N1DC: GE Pi RICK MA

K1RV: GL RICK TU K1RV SST

**For more info or questions about our SST, please email us**

**at: [k1usn.radioclub.sst@gmail.com](mailto:k1usn.radioclub.sst@gmail.com) or visit us at <http://www.k1usn.com/sst> Additional info about our SST will be found at: <https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>**

**The K1USN SST N1MM+ UDC (User defined Contest) file will available for download here: <https://n1mmwp.hamdocs.com/manual-supported/contests-setup/setup-udc-contests/>**



# Giving Back Update

## [Rob Brownstein K6RB](#)

CWops' Giving Back (GB) program is meant to provide on-air QSO experience and practice for anyone who wants it. It was initially intended as a way for our CW Academy students to get some on-air experience. We all know that when there is activity on the bands, these days, it's usually a DXpedition pileup or a contest. Today's CW aspirants have had little chance to work others who are skilled at CW, operate at moderate speed, and are committed to helping. That's the mission of Giving Back.

The GB volunteers get on the air at approximately 7 PM local time and seek out CQers, or call CQ, and engage in routine QSOs including some conversational tidbits. Here is the current schedule:

Giving Back Operating Schedule 7 PM Local Time 40 m									
	UTC+3	UTC+2	UTC+1	UTC	EDT	CDT	MDT	PDT	UTC-10
Mon				GM0EUL		AF8A	K8UDH	NS6W	N6HCN
Tues		SV2BBK	PG4I	GW2CW O		WE5P		K7NJ	K6RB
Wed				G0HKC	DF7TV	N4TMM	K5XU	KU7Y	
Thurs		SV2BBK		G2CWO					WU6X
Fri		SV2BBK				VE3FXX W2LCQ			K6RB
Sat					VE3FXX				
Sun						N9EP		K6RB	

Those interested in working these folks and practicing should look for them at around 7 PM in each time zone. They will usually send a "CWA" just before signing after a CQ. This identifies them as GB volunteers and lets others know these people are there to help. Here are the results of July's GB efforts:

### Stations Worked

**AF8A:** WB4DKF, KA5JRX, VE9BEL, N2ANL, N4HOE

**AH6KO:** K6XDX, AE5I, WA6MOW, WA6L, AI6ZL, N6FMF, W0OJ, NN6T, AA4GA, WA6SVX, FK6HM, K6ICS, KG7MVH, W7DRA, KC7PBH

**G2CWO:** F4GOP, F4HGB, DL6KW, EA8AF

**GM0EUL:** DG2VM, G4VIW/A, DL3HA3, G0OXT

**GW2CWO:** UY7WM, US7WA, UA1QW, DH2FW, DD5T, UN7JGY, UR7QC, OK1VU, EA8AF, DL3EBQ, **RX6FJ,** IT9VJO, G4RAV, ON6BV, OK1YR/P, PA2SAM, DL3JST/MM, UT9IU, F6EIF, G4HWK, UA6AK, SQ5VCO, R5CW, YU9CF, LA2HFA, YO3FU, UG5F, F5OGL, IZ2EWR, IU6LPT, SV1CEI, R8WF, ON6PJ, DJ8CR, IK5PWJ, DM3ZM, SM1TDE, DL8NBM, EW7BW, UR5QVF

**K6RB:** WB5YUZ, TI5/N3KS, XE2ES, N5JO, WJ7S, N7GR, AA7CU, WB9PRG, KG7V, WB8APR, W2PIX, KA3JPE, NR1Z, LU5UEA, N0IK

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**K7NJ:** KI5DDO, NB5Q, WA7WWW, N6BS, AE4ED, K5HMG, K6TTT, NJ8D, AA6PC, KA0SIX, WA9GUS, W2PIX, WJ7S/P, CO3CF, KK4BMB, KM6TVV, KG5OUH, WB9JPH, AA1C, KI0GIU, KB5RCF, W1BLU, LU8MHL, KA3JPE, WB2KMR

**K8UDH:** KA1NSV, WT9Q, WB8DQT, K0VD, KG5IEE, WB8AFR, KJ5XF

**KH6LC:** KB7WDP, NU6J, KG6NRV, TI2KWN, KL2S, K6XDX, K7SAX, WA7DAX, WA1TUT, W1YL/7, KB1FGC, XE2HQI, KB9LLD, K6DF

**N4TMM:** N2ANL, K8TED, K8MPH, K3TF, K3LU

**N6HCN:** KD0MGE, W6KSR

**N9EP:** KJ6HYJ, NC0U, W0KOM, W1AAF

**PG4I:** YT7MK, EA1FGN, G4JKO, SQ9BZY, IU3EGK, EA6ACA, IK2TKX, OE6AJD, EA7KHF, DL9RCH, OE5WLL, R8WF

**SV2BBK:** I6WJB, SQ5VCO, R6DMT, IZ3NWT, YT7MK, E73KM, DL8JDX, HB9EPE

**VE3FXX:** NI4E, K2ZD, KN4ZQ, K8MPH, N3FZ, K9GVM, AA8KY, K8WHA, K2ANL, WB9FMP, W3CFE, AI7G, W1DLC, K1HZD

**W8OV:** N3YWQ, K9ETC, K4NAX, WX9U, K3DY, WA2PCN, W0/E74ZH

**WE5P:** N1PVP

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## Another Hobby Revealed

### [Theo Mastakas, SV2BBK](#)

We hams are a multifaceted group with radio interests ranging from moon-bounce and contact with the International Space Station, long path communicators using digital, Morse code and voice techniques, to homebrewing and programming. Our professional and work experiences are even broader, of course, reflecting just about every occupation and career one can imagine. But in an article that appeared on eham.net a while ago entitled "Other Hobbies Revealed," a fascinating array of non-radio hobby interests appeared that included photography, fishing and hunting, radio-controlled model flying, woodworking, hiking (with SOTA), astronomy and so many more. Most of us have hobbies other than ham radio, and I'd like to share mine with you.



I enjoy painting watercolours. Not so many hams seem to do this in a serious, committed way so I suppose I am a bit unique in that regard. But it gives me great satisfaction because some of my paintings hang on hams' walls, even in the United States and elsewhere. During a chat on the air with N3JT I revealed my painting interest and Jim asked to see a few of my works. Jim noted that

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"the strength of our club, of ham radio people in general, lies in their former occupations and alternate hobbies. Ham radio is just one aspect of their lives, after all." I think most would agree with that observation, especially during these times of marginal propagation when we so often turn our radios off in frustration. After seeing a few of my watercolours, Jim suggested, with Editor Tim's concurrence, that I write an article for Solid Copy that shares my watercolour hobby, and I agreed.

Even when I was very young I drew sketches of what I saw in life, but it wasn't until my late 20s or early 30s that I started to paint seriously, first with oils and later with watercolours. I never attended an art school or used a private tutor, so it would be accurate to say that I am self-taught. For years I read books on painting techniques, studied the works of successful artists, watched instructional DVDs, and visited exhibitions – all to develop the basic skills needed to produce acceptable pictures on paper in watercolour. With continued practice over many years I believe I have developed a level of success and competence in watercolour painting. In many ways it is not unlike becoming a skilled CW operator, with continued practice and refinement needed to reach a proficiency goal.

I tend to favor landscapes and cityscapes, indoor or outdoor perspectives, and I use photographs and sketches to guide me when painting in my home studio. When travelling I identify special sites that in my mind's eye I imagine on paper, and on arrival home I try to reproduce those images in watercolour. Embedded in the images are emotions that I feel, too. For example, I travel often to the Netherlands, where my mother is from, and am fascinated by the unique cloud formations I see over the sea. The watercolours of those places carry a special focus that reflect to some degree how I feel about the sites depicted. Also, I am influenced by the English watercolour school and especially like to paint line and wash watercolours, which are a combination of watercolour paint with typically fine liner pen. For those I endeavour to paint with a loose, fresh and simple style.

The American artist Fairfield Porter once said, "When I paint I think that what would satisfy me is to express what Bonnard said Renoir told him: make everything more beautiful." In the examples I am sharing with you in this article I hope you find some of that interest and beauty. Painting for me is an endlessly fascinating and enjoyable activity, conducted strictly for my own satisfaction and pleasure. If others appreciate what I have done it is even more satisfying and makes the process and time dedicated to the effort doubly worthwhile.

The next time you have a ragchew with someone ask about their other interests or hobbies. It deepens the friendship and adds to your own world experience. Between painting and my work career I am on the air, mostly on 30, 40 and 20 m looking for DX and ragchew, and of course the occasional CWT session! CU there!!

**Editor's note:** All artwork (page 1 and pages 9 through 14) copyright Theofanis Mastakas 2020.

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**Top: Mills; bottom: Old Tractor**

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**Top: Tower Bridge; bottom: Skutsje**

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**Top: Pieria; bottom: Upriver**

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Top: Venice; bottom: Village Lane



# Remembering: The Soviet-Canadian Transarctic Ski Expedition

[Fred Eisel, HB9DAX](#) Signing as EX0VE and CI8UA

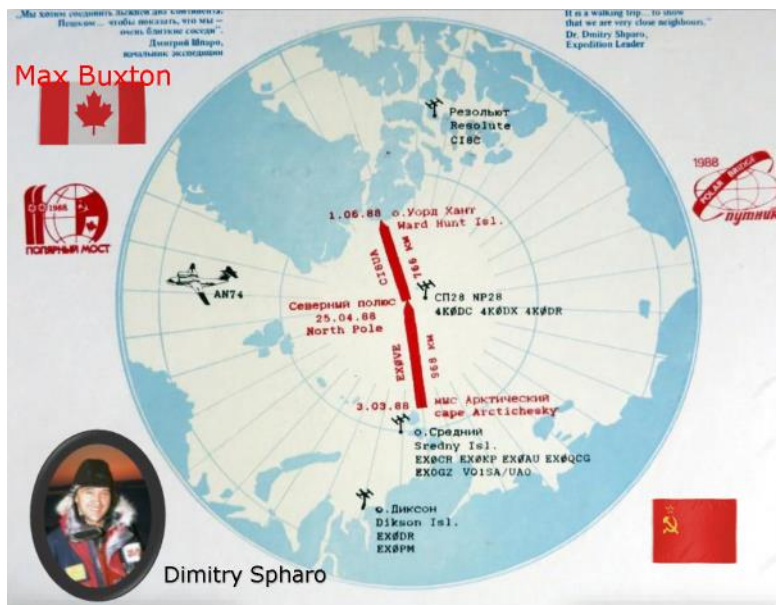
My best experience as a radio amateur was pure coincidence, when the 1988 ski expedition of Russians and Canadians took place from March to June.

Already at that time, I was fascinated by the Arctic and in 1988/89 at sunspot maximum No 22, I managed to do CW and SSB QSOs with little power with the base stations EX0CR-CI8C and the ski expedition EX0VE-CI8UA as well as with the drift station NP 28 4K0DR.

The Soviet-Canadian Polar Bridge Expeditions 1988 started on March 3, 1988 as a group of 13 Russian and Canadian skiers from cape Arctichevski, across the North Pole to Canada. The 9 Russians and 4 Canadians reached the Pole on April 25, 1988 and finished the expedition on Ward Hunt Island on June 1, 1988.

During this 91-day expedition they had to cover more than 1700 km under extreme conditions with up to -40° degrees Celsius. On April 26, 1988 they reached the North Pole and were warmly welcomed by a group of journalist and radio amateurs who were involved in support and communication. They were flown in by a helicopter from NP 28 of the Soviet drift ice station about 30 km away from the North Pole. A Party was organized with champagne and caviar.

For the skiers, their 750 km journey continued to Ellesmere Island where they successfully arrived on June 1, 1988 at 1335 UTC, all 13 participants were happy and satisfied.




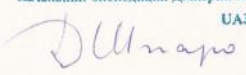
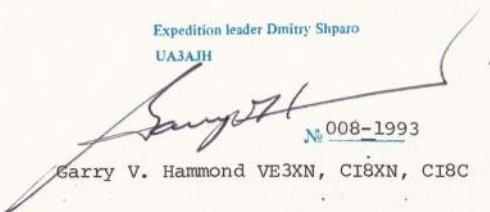
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The KW equipment consisted of a 10-watt TRX of Soviet design, it weighed 1,2kg without batteries and had 6 quartz controlled frequencies. It worked on the bands 80/40/20 m in CW and SSB. The lithium battery supplied approximately 2,5 amperes at 12 volts with the mast consisting of 5 composite skis. Every day at 1100 UTC the skiers rested for about 7 hours and turned their TRX on for about 2 hours to relay their positions with longitude and latitude and weather conditions for Ski Trek Amateur Radio base stations.

USSR - CANADA SKI TREK CLUB STATIONS				
1054, ARCTIC, 7000 34 <b>EX8KP</b> FREQUENCY TOL. 170 32		MOVING GROUP LOC. 1054 <b>EX8VE</b> 1054 32		
6100K, TOL. 170 31 <b>EX8PM</b> FREQUENCY TOL. 170 31		1054 32 <b>CIBUA</b> 1054 32		
TO RADIO HB9DAX				
DATE	DTG	HRZ	SWAT	RST
27.05.88	07:20	15	6-4	575
QSL via UNCEP, box 88, MOSCOW, USSR. 791 to day 83				

It was a great time learning a lot with great DX conditions and friendship that are still alive today.

СОВМЕСТНАЯ СОВЕТСКО-КАНАДСКАЯ ТРАНСАРКТИЧЕСКАЯ ЛЫЖНАЯ ЭКСПЕДИЦИЯ JOINT SOVIET-CANADIAN TRANSARCTIC SKI EXPEDITION	
	
<b>ДИПЛОМ DIPLOMA</b>	
HB9DAX      M A N F R E D      E I S E L	
<p>ОБЛАДАТЕЛЬ ЭТОЙ НАГРАДЫ ПРОДЕМОНСТРИРОВАЛ ВСЕМУ РАДИОЛЮБИТЕЛЬСКОМУ СООБЩЕСТВУ СВОИ ВЫДАЮЩИЕСЯ СПОСОБНОСТИ И ПРОФЕССИОНАЛИЗМ В МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЙ ЛЮБИТЕЛЬСКОЙ РАДИОСВЯЗИ, СУМЕВ УСПЕШНО УСТАНОВИТЬ СВЯЗЬ С ТРЕМЯ СТАНЦИЯМИ В КАНАДСКИХ СЕВЕРО-ЗАПАДНЫХ ТЕРРИТОРИЯХ; ТРЕМЯ СОВЕТСКИМИ СТАНЦИЯМИ, РАСПОЛОЖЕННЫМИ ЗА ПОЛЯРНЫМ КРУГОМ; ОДНОЙ СТАНЦИЕЙ В СТОЛИЦАХ ДВУХ СТОРОН: ОТТАВЕ И МОСКВЕ; ОДНОЙ ИЗ БАЗОВЫХ РАДИОСТАНЦИЙ СОВМЕСТНОЙ СОВЕТСКО-КАНАДСКОЙ ТРАНСПОЛЯРНОЙ ЛЫЖНОЙ ЭКСПЕДИЦИИ 1988 ГОДА.</p>	<p>THE HOLDER OF THIS AWARD HAS DEMONSTRATED TO THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY OUTSTANDING ABILITY AND PROFESSIONALISM IN INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS BY SUCCESSFULLY CONTACTING THREE STATIONS IN CANADA'S NORTHWEST TERRITORIES; THREE SOVIET STATIONS BEYOND THE NORTH ARCTIC CIRCLE; ONE STATION IN EACH OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGIONS OF OTTAWA AND MOSCOW; AND ONE BASE CAMP COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE DURING THE JOING SOVIET-CANADIAN TRANSPOLAR SKI EXPEDITION OF 1988.</p>
<p>Начальник экспедиции Дмитрий Шпаро UA3AJH</p> 	<p>Expedition leader Dmitry Shparo UA3AJH</p>  <p>№ 008-1993 Garry V. Hammond VE3XN, CI8XN, CI8C</p>



# My First Five Years in CWops

[Gary Stone, N5PHT](#)

It has been a great pleasure and honor to be a member of CWops. I thought it might be nice to write a few notes about my first 5 years. I became a member on August 14, 2015. Perhaps something in this article will encourage members to get involved and be very active, on the air and in the club.

Please understand it is not a “look what I have done” list but rather a glimpse at the aspects that have given me a new lease on joy in ham radio! After struggling with CW for the first 10 or 15 years of being a ham, I have to credit CWops with my current love of CW. I passed the required 5 wpm for Novice and the then required 13 wpm for General and set my little hand key aside for many years. Then chasing DX got me interested again in CW and CWops helped me to be a competent CW operator, primarily through the CWTs and the QTX program.



I would like to share some of my experiences with different aspects of this fine Club.

**Nominating / Sponsoring.** First let me again thank those ops that took the time from their day to sponsor me into the club: K6RB, N3JT, NA6O, NP3K, NS9I, W6SX, K4GM and W4CC. So, have you nominated and/or sponsored anyone? I can tell you from my personal perspective, it is heart-warming to be “selected” for something! I won't go into tearful childhood memories but suffice it to say having classmates pick teams, I heard more than once, “OK, we will take Gary this time.” ha ha. It is wonderful to be able and privileged to nominate or sponsor hams to become CWops members. I read time and time again in the email reflector discussion about the process and I believe some have taken it very wrong. Please do take a little time to read the rules and they are really basic and clear in my view. We are NOT an “elite” club. Yes, we have some basic membership requirements and the bar is high enough in my view. We don't need to add our own personal criteria into the mix!

**CWT.** This is the event that got me interested in CWops. I stumbled onto a CWT and thought it could be fun and a great way to improve my CW. I made it through a few sessions and the offers to join the club began. I first turned a few down (including N3JT if I recall correctly!) but eventually felt I was able to handle 25 wpm and meet the basic requirements. I sat on the edge of my seat but not for long as the Sponsors came quickly. The CWTs are great and I guess some know me

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for my CWT "streak." As of this writing I have not missed a session since I became a member. That comes to 771 sessions currently. My family knows "Wednesday is his radio day - leave him alone!" My Grandson had the good courtesy to be born NOT on a Wednesday. Yes, I will certainly have to miss one at some point but so far it has been a fun ride. Here are some stats that some might find interesting:

- Average number of Qs of all 771 sessions: 68.9 (53,132 CWT Qs).
- Number of CWT contacts (of the above) from a campground: 5,649 in various US States. All of the RV contacts were with 100 w and wires.

It was sometimes very challenging to keep a steak going. Especially during my RVing years as you are not in control like at a home station. I know too well that look in a park ranger's face that says, "You can't put that wire up like that!!!" At least once I had to repair an antenna under my Jeep headlights to get my 10 contacts. During thunderstorms I sometimes dangerously got on for a quick 10 contacts with the XYL glaring at me all the while reminding me, "that coax comes right into the house!!" Or when we were camping, "You know you don't have a bunch of ground rods here like at home." (But please note my XYL is a super supportive non-ham). Operating in a CWT session when deathly sick is not very fun I can tell you from experience. Well, as the CWT Manager, Rich VE3KI reminds us each month "We do it because it is fun."



Lastly on the CWTs I have over 600 contacts in my log with each of these fine hams: AA3B, K3WJV, K3WW, K7SV, N3JT, W6SX and WJ9B. I have not met in person anyone in that list but feel like they are friends! (side note: I have had the pleasure during travels to meet in person about a dozen CWops members and that has been great - not bad considering I have never been to Dayton)

**QTX.** Rag chewing has always been a favorite and the CWops Club certainly has plenty of opportunity to rag chew with like-minded hams! I was honored to be the QTX Manager for a few years and found it rewarding but got to be a bit much for me and I let it go but grateful to have had the opportunity. I have the QTX plaque on the wall for the top QTX numbers in 2016 and in 2017 - thanks CWops. I believe rag chewing is a great way to pass some time and to get to know other ops.

**Facebook Group.** I was approved by then President K6RB to start the CWops Facebook Group. It

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has been fun, and the moderation is easy with this great group of ops. If you have not joined and are interested, please send a quick request and get in the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1621569471440493>

**Operating Records.** As a 2 term US Marine I guess it is ok to sometimes "stand up and be counted." I **think** I hold the following records in CWops. But if wrong please correct me and I will stand - or actually probably sit corrected!!

- Most consecutive (without a miss) CWT sessions. I know a few members have over 1000 CWTs to their credit but I think I have the most without a miss at 771 as of this writing - but maybe UR5MM or VE3KI or others have more consecutive or not?
- Most QTX points in a month and in a year: The month record is Dec of 2016 with 170 in one month and the year is 2017 with 1055.
- Perhaps the only CWops member with Gold in both CWT and QTX (4 years)?

It feels strange to claim those records but please let me know if someone topped any of them. All in fun and would love to see all of them smashed by someone else!

In summary, it has been a fun 5 years of CW joy! Getting to be in the hoops with some of the best CW operators in the world is indeed an honor and I am not a super CW op but count it quite rewarding to be selected to be a member striving to be better all the time. I have many mentors to inspire me for sure! A heartfelt thanks to all involved in this great CW Club. Now God willing onto the next 5 years.

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## Antenna Installation in the Villages, Florida

[Gary Sienkiewicz , W2TR](#)

I am sometimes asked what kind of antenna installation I have at my home in the Villages, Florida. Here are some photos.

The HF Vertical consists of a Tarheel Model 100 Screwdriver Antenna Coil connected by a short jumper wire to a metal Flagpole atop a Black Acetal Rod Insulator as the radiating element. This can be seen in Photo 1 and also in the background of photo 2. The antenna mount is a Rohn Roof Mount Frame. The radials are held in place with inexpensive bricks. This Tarheel installation, which also works on 160 meters, can be remotely tuned from indoors for my Flex 6400 and Elecraft KPA500/KAT500 combo.

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**Photo 1: Vertical antenna in two parts**

The rotatable antennas (Photo 2, below) consist of a Hustler 20 m dipole and a 2 element 6 meter Yagi, both mounted on a black acetal rod mast (foreground).



**Photo 2: Vertical antenna in the background, rotatable antennas in the foreground.**

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The other 2 antennas are a VHF/UHF ground plane (Photo 3) and a 4 element 2 meter Yagi atop outdoor umbrella stands (Photo 4).



**Photo 3: 2 m vertical antenna in foreground.**



**Photo 4: 2 m Yagi antenna in foreground.**

# CW Academy

**Kate Hutton K6HTN Joe Fischer AA8TA Bob Carter WR7Q**

As we approach the Autumnal Equinox, the Autumn CW Academy session for 2020 is underway. This semester we have 558 students who are taking a class. As usual, the majority of them are in North America with the second-largest group in Europe and the rest in other parts of the world.

For students who live outside of North America and Europe, usually the only way for them to participate in a class is to adjust their schedules to join a class in one of those two areas. We hope that we can get advisors in Asia to help train students in that area. Many students there are very interested in taking a class. Joe is working with a student in New Zealand, for example, but that is not the same as being in a class with other students and an advisor who can listen and offer guidance. Kate has a five-person Central time zone class that includes someone (a youth student) in India & a gentleman in Australia. The India student is awake & functioning at 6 am & the Australian has a more civilized 10 am class.

We are very pleased to have 81 advisors with us this semester. Many have been with us for many sessions and we do have several advisors helping us for the first time. This is a higher number of advisors than we have had in recent semesters and it is with much appreciation to them for taking time to lead a class. Several advisors are leading more than one class which is also very much appreciated.

We would like to acknowledge the following advisors who are with us this semester.

Ken, AA5CF; Jim, AA5W; Joe, AA8TA; Scott, AA9SN; Ken, AC5EZ; Buzz, AC6AC (3 classes); Alan, AD6E; Jed, AD7KG; Bill, AG4EA; John, AJ1DM; Jack, AK7O; Keith, G0HKC; Duncan, G3WZD; Roberto, IK1HGE; Alan, K0AD; Jerry, K0ES; Bill, K0MP (2 classes); Bruce, K1BG; Craig, K1CHM; Rich, K1DJ; Dallas, K1DW (2 classes); Michael, K1LHO; Dennis, K2SX; Mark, K5GQ; Ed, K6HP (2 classes); Kate, K6HTN (2 classes); Peter, K6PB; Rob, K6RB; Tom, K7MOZ (2 classes); Roland, K7OJL; Bruce, K8UDH; Gregg, KA7MDM; Ken, KD2KW; Charles, KG5FZ; Mike, KI7OMH (2 classes); Joe, KK5NA (2 classes); David, KK6M (2 classes); David, KM3A; David, KT5V; Tom, KV8Q; Will, MI0WWB; Bill, N0DNF; Bryan, N3FZ; Mike, N5WNG; Jamie, N6JFD; Mike, N7ID; Jack, N7JP; Jim, N7MU; John, N8AA; Chris, N8AI; Gary, N8LR; George, N9DXP; Ed, N9EP; Mac, NN4K (2 classes); Ryan, NN7M; Serge, NS6W; Quinton, NU7Y; Konrad, SQ6GIT; Carole, VA7QCE; Tony, VE2KM (2 classes); Ron, VE3FXX; Kevin, VE7KHI; Bill, W0EJ; Tom, W0FN; Phil, W2OZB; Bill, W3PNM; Christian, W4ALF; Carl, W4IF; Tim, W7EEE; Rick, W7VQ; Mark, W8EWH; David, W8OV; Ted, WA3AER; Doug, WA6L; Tom, WA9CW; Terry, WB0JRH; Andy, WB7DKZ; Kenneth, WF6F; Bob, WR7Q; Jim, WT8P and Hanz, YL3JD (2 classes).

Note: due to the way our scheduling system works, a few of these advisors may have split their students into more than one class which is not shown here.

**73,**

***Kate K6HTN, Joe AA8TA, Bob WR7Q***  
CW Academy Managers



# CWops Tests

[Rich Ferch, VE3KI](#)

As of September 1, we had held 105 CWT sessions in 2020. After consolidating scores from people who have used more than one call sign, etc., my list of 2020 CWT participants has 1211 entries, of whom 914 are CWops club members. The list is posted in the Files section of the CWops groups.io group, in file "topslst.txt". You can search for your callsign in the list to check on your progress towards a participation award. There are 14 people who have participated in all 105 sessions.

The CWTs appear to have settled into a fairly stable pattern. We see about 360 scores submitted for the 1300Z session, about 380 scores for the 1900Z session, and about 260 scores for the 0300Z session each week.

With that many participants, and with usually only one or two bands open, stations calling CQ are generally squeezed in quite tightly. It can be challenging to find a frequency to call CQ on. There is one technique for finding a CQ frequency that I would like to discourage, though, and that is the "might makes right" technique of simply landing on a frequency and starting to call CQ without listening first. This is sometimes dressed up by prefixing it with QRL? followed immediately without a pause by the CQ message. This kind of thing gives the CWTs and CWops a bad reputation.

Before transmitting on a frequency, listen first. For how long? Well, you might not be able to hear both sides of an ongoing QSO. If it is a CWT QSO, you should listen at least long enough for a typical contest transmission to complete and hand over from the station you can't hear to the station you can hear. Sometimes that is not enough, and it is to guard against this possibility (or likelihood, in the case of an ongoing non-CWT QSO) that you start out with a QRL? (or just ?). You are expecting that if there is a QSO ongoing on the frequency, one of the stations in the QSO will hear the QRL? and respond. However, you need to take into account that they may be straining to hear a weak signal when they are surprised by your QRL?, and it can take a while for them to react and respond by reaching for the paddle and sending something. Of course, you are hoping there is no such response, but just in case there is one, you need to allow enough time for it. Sending a QRL? without waiting for long enough to hear a response is not useful – it just adds to the QRM.

Another operating practice that requires taking some time to listen is that of actually calling CQ. Occasionally I run across someone who is sending CQs in rapid succession with very little time between them, so little time that I am unable to get their attention and initiate a QSO. This might be the result of using a "CQ repeat" feature in logging software configured with too short a repeat interval. That's not a good way to make QSOs. If you can't hear other stations responding to your CQ, you are not calling CQ, you are beaconing. You need to allow enough listening time between QSOs so that you can actually hear and react to someone calling in response to your CQ. You might not want to wait so long that the dead air invites someone to try to take over the frequency, but a length of time sufficient to send a call sign seems appropriate.

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The first line in the DX Code of Conduct is “I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling”. That’s not bad advice for testers either. A QSO is a two-way communication – listening is just as important as talking.

We do the CWTs because they’re fun; let’s all make sure they continue to be fun for everyone.

73,

**Rich, VE3KI**

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## New Members

**[Trung Nguyen W6TN](#)**

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

CWops	Call	Name
2671	K5ME*	Bob
2672	HB9AJY*	Fritz
2673	XE1IM	Sal
2674	SP2R	Darek
2675	AF4T	Doug
2676	KX2P	Jeff

CWops	Call	Name
2677	DL5CW*	Paul
2678	KA4RUR	Fred
2679	AD4N	Ray
2680	AA5CF*	Ken
2681	W2MKM*	Ed
2682	W7LG*	Mike

CWops	Call	Name
2683	KG5OWB*	Terry
2684	K5TR*	George
2685	UR7GO	Alex
2686	KK6ZHK*	Ken
2687	DF5EG	Joe

\*Life Member

## Current Nominees

As of September 8, 2020

**Need Sponsors:** W0CD, W0ECS, GM4WZG, W1GF

**Invitations Extended:** WA6SVX, NK4O, YT5FD, OZ1AAR

For more details about nominees and up-to-date status, check the “Membership” then “Members only” page on the website: <http://www.cwops.org>. For information about joining CWops, check the “Membership” page on the website: <http://www.cwops.org>

Notes: If you have updated your personal info, e.g., new QTH, new callsign, or additional callsign, please send it to [membership@cwops.org](mailto:membership@cwops.org) so I can add it to the roster. Vice versa, if your callsign becomes inactive I can remove it, too. Then the roster will be accurate and current for our usage.

73,

**Trung W6TN**, Membership Manager



# CWops Member Awards

## [Bill Gilliland W0TG](#)

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. [Use the new online tool to submit your data.](#) It's easy! (Watch the tutorial if you have not used the online tool before.)

This table is a composite of scores from the old system and the new. Anyone who submitted logs via the new web page will see those submitted scores here. Those who have not adopted the new process will see scores they reported via the old system. Anyone who see errors in their scores should report them to [cwopscam@w0tg.com](mailto:cwopscam@w0tg.com).

Members whose call signs are in **RED** have achieved a milestone: 100 DX entities, 40 WAE entities, 50 states (WAS).

Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
AA3B	1528	9923	W1RM	208	W4VQ	60	W1RM	59	UR5MM	39
K3WW	1384	7494	F6HKA	189	WT9U	50	UR5MM	58	W1RM	38
N5RZ	1297	4492	DL6KVA	161	WT2P	50	DL6KVA	58	OK1RR	38
K3WJV	1234	5236	W4VQ	155	WA9LEY	50	OH2BN	55	OH2BN	38
W1RM	1217	6823	UR5MM	152	WA4JUK	50	F6HKA	53	N8BJQ	38
NA8V	1214	5671	G4BUE	149	W9ILY	50	VE3KI	50	F6HKA	38
F6HKA	1128	6096	OH2BN	148	W7GF	50	OK1RR	49	AA3B	38
WT9U	1117	4005	OK1RR	141	W6KY	50	9A1AA	49	9A1AA	38
N8BJQ	1106	6400	VE3KI	134	W1UU	50	DJ1YFK	48	W4VQ	37
K4WW	1102	3079	N8BJQ	125	W1RM	50	G4BUE	47	VE3KI	37
K7QA	1083	3232	K3WW	125	W0EJ	50	AA3B	47	G4BUE	37
VE3KI	1044	5859	AA3B	125	VK7CW	50	N8BJQ	46	W0VX	36
W4PM	1038	2122	K1ESE	120	VE3KI	50	K3WW	46	N5PHT	36
K3JT	1021	3571	9A1AA	119	NU7Y	50	G4HZV	46	K3WW	36
K1VUT	1017	3302	AC4CA	118	NA8V	50	PG4I	45	DL6KVA	36
KG9X	1002	3459	W0VX	117	NA6O	50	K3WJV	45	AC4CA	36
I2WIJ	1002	2133	N5IR	116	N8BJQ	50	W4VQ	44	N5RR	35
N7US	982	3897	N5PHT	113	N7US	50	SM0HEV	44	ON4CAS	34
AC6ZM	972	1796	W9ILY	111	N5RZ	50	IK0YVV	44	N1EN	34
N4ZR	939	3122	EA8OM	111	N5RR	50	W9ILY	43	IK0YVV	34
K1DW	896	3987	K1SM	110	N5PHT	50	NA8V	43	4X6GP	34
K8JQ	891	3795	N1EN	109	N5IR	50	K1ESE	43	W9ILY	33
K1ESE	888	4368	VK7CW	105	N4ZR	50	I5EFO	43	VK7CW	33
N1DC	885	3406	N5RR	105	N2UU	50	N5RR	42	NA8V	33
W4WF	885	2329	4X6GP	105	N2RC	50	N2UU	42	N5IR	33
AC3BU	883	2024	N2UU	104	N1EN	50	M0RYB	42	K1ESE	33
K9WX	877	3273	K3WJV	104	N1DC	50	EA8OM	42	K0VBU	33

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
WA4JUK	876	2557	W1UU	103	KY7M	50	DL5DBY	42	I5EFO	33
DL6KVA	875	4127	I5EFO	103	KU7Y	50	AC4CA	42	K1SM	32
NA4J	842	1963	NA8V	102	KE4S	50	4X6GP	42	I5IYJ	32
KE8G	841	2591	N7US	101	K9WX	50	N5IR	41	WA9LEY	31
WN7S	830	2261	IK0YVV	101	K8JQ	50	K1SM	41	RM2D	31
K6NR	827	1888	AE1T	101	K8AJS	50	HB9ARF	41	N7US	31
K8AJS	813	3267	ON4CAS	99	K7QA	50	G3LDI	41	N5RZ	31
K1DJ	808	3001	EA1WX	99	K6NR	50	RM2D	40	N2UU	31
N5PHT	797	4202	K0VBU	98	K5IX	50	K8AJS	40	W1UU	30
KV8Q	788	1742	WA9LEY	95	K5CM	50	W0VX	39	OK1RP	30
WT2P	786	3467	K8AJS	95	K5AX	50	SM7IUN	39	NA6O	30
9A1AA	768	3202	WT9U	93	K4WW	50	N4ZR	39	N2RC	30
W9ILY	754	4408	N5RZ	92	K4GM	50	N1EN	39	KR3E	30
K2TW	750	2254	N4ZR	90	K3WW	50	LA8OM	39	K3WJV	30
W0VX	730	4427	K1DJ	90	K3WJV	50	K1DJ	39	N4ZR	29
K4TZ	730	1741	K1DW	88	K3SEN	50	IT9MUO	39	K8AJS	29
N2UU	727	4296	N2RC	87	K3JT	50	I2WIJ	39	K3JT	29
W6LAX	720	1208	F6JOE	87	K2QB	50	G4NVR	39	IT9VDQ	29
CO8NMN	708	1923	KY7M	86	K1ESE	50	AE1T	39	WT9U	28
KT5V	707	2282	KR3E	86	K1EBY	50	MI0WWB	38	N5AW	28
NJ3K	694	1217	RM2D	85	K1DW	50	M0DHP	38	KT5V	28
NR3Z	684	1170	K3JT	85	K1DJ	50	LB6GG	38	K1DW	28
VE3TM	666	1069	I5IYJ	83	K0VBU	50	K3JT	38	K4GM	27
W1UU	663	3227	DJ1YFK	83	K0MP	50	IT9VDQ	38	DJ1YFK	27
WS1L	650	1128	AD1C	83	IK0YVV	50	DK1WI	38	WT2P	26
W3WHK	646	2109	K4HQB	81	I5EFO	50	DF7TV	38	N1ZX	26
WA9LEY	644	2990	PG4I	80	G4BUE	50	SM5IMO	37	KU7Y	26
KK0ECT	640	1275	NA6O	80	F6JOE	50	OZ3SM	37	K7QA	26
VE3MV	631	2144	K9WX	80	F6HKA	50	KR3E	37	K5ZD	26
K0TC	629	2070	N1DC	79	F5MNK	50	K3MD	37	K5CM	26
IT9MUO	597	1924	K5AX	79	EA8OM	50	K1DW	37	K4HQB	26
K0VBU	595	4266	DL8PG	79	AE1T	50	G4ILW	37	K2QB	26
W2NRA	580	1929	SM0HEV	77	AD1C	50	F6JOE	37	K1DJ	26
N5IR	578	3743	N1ZX	77	AC4CA	50	W1UU	36	WA4JUK	25
K4GM	577	2853	IT9VDQ	77	AB7MP	50	SQ9S	36	V31MA	25
K3SEN	577	2029	WA4JUK	76	AA8TA	50	G4DRS	36	LA8OM	25
K0MP	574	1691	K4GM	76	AA3B	50	EA1WX	36	KE8G	25
AG4EA	567	1002	WT2P	75	WN7S	49	WA4JUK	35	K9WX	25
KB8GAE	565	1307	G4HZV	75	WB5BKL	49	ON4VT	35	IT9MUO	25
OZ3SM	557	1115	G3LDI	75	WA3GM	49	ON4CAS	35	I2WIJ	25

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
DF7TV	557	792	LA8OM	74	W4WF	49	N7US	35	HB9ARF	25
KB4DE	554	1085	KE4S	74	W4PM	49	N5RZ	35	DK1WI	25
K5ZD	550	2306	HB9ARF	74	W4ER	49	N1DC	35	SM0HEV	24
WA2USA	550	1080	K2QB	73	W3WHK	49	K5ZD	35	K4WW	24
W8DN	543	1295	IT9MUO	73	W2NRA	49	K0VBU	35	DL4FDM	24
KT4XN	542	1327	K7QA	72	W0VX	49	IN3FHE	35	PG4I	23
KE4S	537	2257	KE8G	71	VE3MV	49	WT9U	34	N1DC	23
W8OV	535	1490	K5ZD	71	VA7ST	49	PA3HEN	34	K8JQ	23
LB6GG	529	1050	I2WIJ	71	NN4K	49	PA3BFH	34	K6NR	23
W2VM	519	1565	DL5DBY	71	NA4J	49	N5AW	34	G4HZV	23
AA8TA	510	1849	DK1WI	71	N5AW	49	K4HQB	34	DF7TV	23
W0TG	501	1538	N5AW	70	N2WK	49	K1VUT	34	WE5P	22
SM0HEV	499	1065	K4WW	70	N1ZX	49	IK0NOJ	34	NA4J	22
NN4K	498	2180	W2NRA	69	KV8Q	49	DL4FDM	34	N2WK	22
KF8O	495	970	N7WY	68	KT5V	49	W4PM	33	KG9X	22
K6KM	493	836	F5MKN	68	KM4FO	49	W2NRA	33	KE4S	22
N3FZ	486	1143	OZ3SM	67	KK0ECT	49	SV2BBK	33	G3LDI	22
KC8J	482	984	SM7IUN	66	KG9X	49	K7QA	33	W7GF	21
W1EQ	480	862	N2WK	66	KE8G	49	G3WZD	33	W4PM	21
W4VQ	458	3034	VE3MV	65	KE4RG	49	F5IYJ	33	SM7IUN	21
M0RYB	457	1026	V31MA	65	K6RB	49	SP1D	32	OZ3SM	21
KC4WQ	454	694	OK1RP	65	K6DGW	49	N2WK	32	K6DGW	21
W8FN	450	2055	M0RYB	65	K4TZ	49	N2RC	32	K3SEN	21
K4AFE	446	1896	KT5V	65	K4HR	49	KY7M	32	K1EBY	21
K5QR	445	674	G4NVR	65	K4AFE	49	I5IYJ	32	G4DRS	21
HB9ARF	443	1732	SM5IMO	64	K3MD	49	F5MKN	32	W2NRA	20
K1EBY	441	2368	K1EBY	64	K1VUT	49	EA4OR	32	W0TG	20
AA8R	436	964	W3WHK	63	K0TC	49	EA3FZT	32	VA7ST	20
SQ9S	433	831	KG9X	63	DL6KVA	49	DK3WW	32	NN4K	20
G4BUE	424	3816	K3DMG	63	AC6ZM	49	CO8NMN	32	JF2IWL	20
NG1R	413	828	VA7ST	62	AC3BU	49	VK7CW	31	IN3FHE	20
W2XYZ	412	584	K1VUT	62	W8OV	48	VE3MV	31	CO8NMN	20
N4CWZ	403	611	K8JQ	61	W8FN	48	V31MA	31	AC3BU	20
SP1D	398	669	K5CM	61	W8DN	48	OK1RP	31	AA8R	20
KM4FO	393	1425	G4DRS	61	W6LAX	48	N1ZX	31	W4ER	19
DJ1YFK	383	1804	CO8NMN	61	W2VM	48	KE4S	31	W3WHK	19
K4EES	377	678	W4PM	60	W0TG	48	K5AX	31	VE3MV	19
G3LDI	376	1648	NA4J	60	VE3TM	48	K4WW	31	SQ9S	19
RM2D	375	1332	K3SEN	60	UR5MM	48	K4GM	31	M0RYB	19
G4HZV	368	1269	F5IYJ	60	OK1RR	48	DL8PG	31	KB8GAE	19

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
N1RM	367	490	DL4FDM	60	NJ3K	48	DL4KG	31	K4HR	19
W1AJT	359	431	DF7TV	60	N7WY	48	DD7CW	31	K0TC	19
K2YR	352	481	SQ9S	59	KT4XN	48	WA9LEY	30	G4NVR	19
OK1RR	341	2707	ON4VT	59	KR3E	48	NA6O	30	F5IYJ	19
G4NVR	341	1195	M0DHP	57	KE6K	48	KE8G	30	WN7S	18
UR5MM	340	2920	K4QS	57	KB8GAE	48	K1EBY	30	WA3GM	18
PG4I	335	726	W6KY	56	KB4DE	48	DL5JQ	30	W8FN	18
NU7Y	331	1435	NN4K	56	KA9BHD	48	W3WHK	29	ON4VT	18
K8RJW	327	685	LB6GG	56	K6KM	48	N5PHT	29	NU7Y	18
G4DRS	324	955	K6RB	56	K5ZD	48	K4QS	29	M0DHP	18
W6TN	324	950	IN3FHE	56	K4QS	48	K2QB	29	KE6K	18
VA7ST	322	2579	WE5P	55	K4HQK	48	G0ELZ	29	K6KM	18
NA6O	319	3352	AC3BU	55	K3DMG	48	NN4K	28	K4AFE	18
WE5P	315	911	IK0NOJ	52	K2TW	48	KG9X	28	K1VUT	18
WA5PFJ	315	695	G4ILW	52	K1SM	48	K9WX	28	IK0NOJ	18
AB7MP	313	1259	AA8R	52	IT9VDQ	48	AD1C	28	WB5BKL	17
OH2BN	312	1309	WN7S	51	IT9MUO	48	AC3BU	28	W4WF	17
DK3WW	311	491	KU7Y	51	I2WIJ	48	WT2P	27	SP1D	17
SM7IUN	305	737	K4AFE	51	EA1WX	48	W4WF	27	SM5IMO	17
KE4RG	304	1138	W2VM	50	DL8PG	48	VA7ST	27	LB6GG	17
W8XC	303	636	W0TG	50	9A1AA	48	NA4J	27	KV8Q	17
G3WZD	297	578	K4HR	50	4X6GP	48	M0NGN	27	KK0ECT	17
KD2KW	294	413	K0TC	50	WT8P	47	K8JQ	27	K0MP	17
VE6JF	287	824	W4WF	49	WA2USA	47	K3SEN	27	DL4KG	17
W3RZ	278	478	M10WWB	48	W8XC	47	K2TW	27	DK3WW	17
KJ4M	276	1078	K2TW	48	W6TN	47	K3DMG	26	W8DN	16
AJ1DM	274	774	W8DN	47	W2NO	47	G0MGM	26	W6TN	16
DL5JQ	266	381	N3FZ	47	VE1OP	47	WN7S	25	W2VM	16
N1EN	264	2444	NR3Z	46	SM5IMO	47	NR3Z	25	VE3TM	16
W7GF	263	982	DK3WW	46	ON4CAS	47	NJ3K	25	NR3Z	16
DL5DBY	261	1123	SP1D	45	OH2BN	47	G4LPP	25	N3FZ	16
PA3BFH	260	427	G0MGM	45	NR3Z	47	W2VM	24	DL5DBY	16
4X6GP	257	1755	W4ER	44	LA8OM	47	VE3TM	24	W8XC	15
WB5BKL	255	1275	G3WZD	44	KJ4M	47	N1RM	24	W8OV	15
N7SU	255	495	DL4KG	44	KF8O	47	K6RB	24	NJ3K	15
WT8P	255	491	KT4XN	43	KC8J	47	N3FZ	23	NG1R	15
KE6K	244	946	KB8GAE	43	K4EES	47	K5QR	23	M10WWB	15
DD7CW	235	325	K6NR	43	I5IYJ	47	K5CM	23	KT4XN	15
N7MU	219	536	W8FN	42	HB9ARF	47	EA1DP	23	KM4FO	15
EA4OR	205	368	NJ3K	42	DK1WI	47	AA8R	23	KE4RG	15

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
W6GMT	198	391	KV8Q	42	CO8NMN	47	SP2R	22	KB4DE	15
NF5KF	198	289	KK0ECT	42	AG4EA	47	NG1R	22	G4ILW	15
KI3F	197	308	WA3GM	41	AA8R	47	DL8BH	22	G3WZD	15
MI0WWB	192	492	SV2BBK	41	WS1L	46	AC6ZM	22	AJ1DM	15
GD4EIP	184	199	PA3BFH	41	WE5P	46	W8DN	21	AC6ZM	15
DL4KG	181	261	K3MD	41	WA5PFJ	46	KT5V	21	AB7MP	15
PA3HEN	173	270	WB5BKL	40	VE6JF	46	JF2IWL	21	WA2USA	14
M0DHP	170	504	W8XC	40	V31MA	46	GD4EIP	21	W2NO	14
K1IG	168	215	PA3HEN	40	RM2D	46	F5PBL	21	VE6JF	14
KA9BHD	157	755	DL5JQ	40	N7SU	46	DL1NKB	21	N7MU	14
SV2BBK	155	342	NG1R	39	N3FZ	46	W0TG	20	N0PP	14
KU7Y	154	1674	DD7CW	39	N0PP	46	K4HR	20	KC8J	14
EA3FZT	149	240	VE3TM	38	KC4WQ	46	K4AFE	20	K5QR	14
KG5VK	147	163	EA4OR	38	K8RJW	46	WE5P	19	K2TW	14
OK1RP	136	701	AA8TA	38	K5QR	46	KT4XN	19	AG4EA	14
K9CPO	135	154	W8OV	37	JF2IWL	46	K0TC	19	AA8TA	14
ON4VT	131	678	K6DGW	37	G3LDI	46	GW4MVA	19	W3RZ	13
G4LPP	131	183	W0EJ	36	DL5DBY	46	WB5BKL	18	SV2BBK	13
W8EH	130	149	EA3FZT	36	AJ1DM	46	WA3GM	18	KJ4M	13
AF4T	128	139	AC6ZM	36	W1EQ	45	WA2USA	18	KF8O	13
M0NGN	117	138	W2NO	35	W0PHX	45	W6KY	18	K4TZ	13
AF3K	116	618	JF2IWL	35	OZ3SM	45	W2NO	18	K4EES	13
EA1DP	104	131	M0NGN	34	NG1R	45	VE1OP	18	W6LAX	12
G0ELZ	89	202	KM4FO	33	N4CWZ	45	K6NR	18	PA3BFH	12
K8MP	84	89	KB4DE	33	G4NVR	45	G4RCG	18	KA9BHD	12
GW4MVA	82	95	G0ELZ	33	G4HZV	45	AG4EA	18	DD7CW	12
DL8BH	81	115	W7GF	32	AF3K	45	W8XC	17	WS1L	11
AA0O	75	85	VE1OP	32	W3RZ	44	W8FN	17	WA5PFJ	11
DL1NKB	73	99	K5QR	32	W2XYZ	44	PA0VLD	17	W1EQ	11
F5IYJ	72	672	AG4EA	31	SM0HEV	44	KB8GAE	17	W0PHX	11
SP2R	65	90	WA2USA	30	PG4I	44	KB4DE	17	M0NGN	11
G4ILW	59	693	NU7Y	29	ON4VT	44	W4ER	16	KC4WQ	11
LA8OM	54	1370	K4TZ	29	N7MU	44	KV8Q	16	K8RJW	11
I5EFO	52	1447	W6TN	28	KD2KW	44	WS1L	15	K2YR	11
ON4CAS	39	1131	KC8J	28	K2YR	44	W1EQ	15	EA4OR	11
K4NE	29	77	KA9BHD	28	G4DRS	44	KU7Y	15	AF3K	11
KM3A	28	33	G4LPP	28	N5KW	43	K8RJW	15	W2XYZ	10
VK7CW	20	1809	EA1DP	28	N1RM	43	W8OV	14	N7SU	10
PA0VLD	20	37	AJ1DM	28	KI3F	43	W2XYZ	14	KI3F	10
DD5KG	17	18	WS1L	27	F5IYJ	43	AA8TA	14	K1OJ	10

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
AC4CA	0	4479	W3RZ	27	DJ1YFK	43	W1AJT	13	K1IG	10
N5RR	0	4223	KE6K	27	DF7TV	43	KF8O	13	GD4EIP	10
K6RB	0	4032	KE4RG	27	W6GMT	42	K0MP	13	G0ELZ	10
K5AX	0	3634	K6KM	27	W1AJT	42	AJ1DM	13	DL8BH	10
N2RC	0	3271	DL8BH	27	SM7IUN	42	KK0ECT	12	DL5JQ	10
KY7M	0	3252	N1RM	26	N7ID	42	KI3F	12	WT8P	9
AE1T	0	3206	N0PP	26	SQ9S	41	KE4RG	12	W6GMT	9
F6JOE	0	3002	KF8O	26	M0RYB	41	KC8J	12	PA3HEN	9
IK0YVV	0	2958	K0MP	26	DL4FDM	41	K6DGW	12	N7ID	9
K5CM	0	2866	GD4EIP	26	NA1VT	40	WA5PFJ	11	N1RM	9
EA8OM	0	2758	F5PBL	26	LB6GG	40	KM4FO	11	KG5VK	9
K1SM	0	2566	K8RJW	25	SP1D	39	KA9BHD	11	G4LPP	9
N5AW	0	2510	DL1NKB	25	K1IG	39	K4TZ	11	F5PBL	9
N2WK	0	2339	K5IX	24	IN3FHE	39	W3RZ	10	DL1NKB	9
N7WY	0	2303	AB7MP	24	G3WZD	39	W0EJ	10	WX5CW	8
K4HQB	0	2193	W1EQ	23	W4MDV	38	NF5KF	10	W4MDV	8
K6DGW	0	2122	SP2R	23	W9KM	37	NA1VT	10	W1AJT	8
AD1C	0	2101	NF5KF	22	NF5KF	37	N5KW	10	NA1VT	8
W6KY	0	2088	G4RCG	22	KB8PGW	37	K2YR	10	KD2KW	8
K4QS	0	2069	WA5PFJ	21	IK0NOJ	37	W6TN	8	G4RCG	8
K2QB	0	2023	W6LAX	21	DK3WW	36	SM7CIL	8	EA3FZT	8
EA1WX	0	1961	K4EES	21	OK1RP	35	N0PP	8	EA1DP	8
DL8PG	0	1789	GW4MVA	21	MI0WWB	35	KJ4M	8	AF4T	8
K3DMG	0	1773	W2XYZ	20	GD4EIP	35	KD2KW	8	SP2R	7
K3MD	0	1734	KJ4M	19	G0MGM	35	K5IX	8	SM7CIL	7
K4HR	0	1698	AF3K	19	W8EH	34	W6LAX	7	N5KW	7
IT9VDQ	0	1618	VE6JF	18	K9CPO	34	KG5VK	7	K9CPO	7
KR3E	0	1602	KI3F	18	M0DHP	33	K6KM	7	GW4MVA	7
V31MA	0	1520	KC4WQ	18	KG5VK	33	K4EES	7	N4CWZ	6
SM5IMO	0	1382	K2YR	18	AF4T	33	K1IG	7	W9KM	5
N1ZX	0	1348	W0PHX	17	G4ILW	30	AF3K	7	PA0VLD	5
W4ER	0	1311	PA0VLD	17	PA3BFH	29	VE6JF	6	AA0O	5
WA3GM	0	1230	W1AJT	16	K8MP	29	NU7Y	5	W8EH	4
F5MNK	0	1111	N7MU	16	DL4KG	29	KC4WQ	5	KM3A	4
W2NO	0	961	K1IG	15	G4RCG	28	AB7MP	5	K4NE	4
DK1WI	0	908	NA1VT	14	K4NE	27	W7GF	4	K8MP	3
K5IX	0	892	N5KW	14	EA4OR	27	W6GMT	4	DD5KG	3
I5IYJ	0	837	KD2KW	12	DL5JQ	27	KE6K	4	AF9W	3
IN3FHE	0	769	SM7CIL	11	AA0O	25	K9CPO	4		
VE1OP	0	768	KG5VK	11	SV2BBK	23	AF4T	4		

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
W0EJ	0	754	K1OJ	11	DD7CW	23	W0PHX	3		
JF2IWL	0	674	WX5CW	10	AF9W	23	N7SU	3		
DL4FDM	0	646	W6GMT	10	G0ELZ	21	N4CWZ	3		
N5KW	0	639	N7SU	10	WX5CW	20	WT8P	2		
N0PP	0	550	N7ID	9	G4LPP	19	N7MU	2		
G0MGM	0	495	WT8P	8	M0NGN	18	N7ID	2		
W0PHX	0	426	W4MDV	8	KM3A	17	KB8PGW	2		
IK0NOJ	0	366	AF4T	8	PA3HEN	16	DD5KG	2		
N7ID	0	311	N4CWZ	7	SM7CIL	13	AA0O	2		
NA1VT	0	306	K9CPO	7	GW4MVA	13	WX5CW	1		
KB8PGW	0	284	KB8PGW	5	F5PBL	13	W9KM	1		
W9KM	0	236	W9KM	4	EA1DP	13	W4MDV	1		
W4MDV	0	225	DD5KG	4	DL8BH	11	KM3A	1		
F5PBL	0	134	AA0O	4	EA3FZT	10	K1OJ	1		
G4RCG	0	131	W8EH	3	DD5KG	10				
AF9W	0	59	K4NE	3	DL1NKB	8				
WX5CW	0	49	KM3A	2	SP2R	3				
SM7CIL	0	35	K8MP	2	K1OJ	3				
K1OJ	0	29	AF9W	2	PA0VLD	2				

## QTX Report

### Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

[Bruce Murdock K8UDH](#)

I often receive comments from ragchewer's about the number of ragchew QSOs they had while they were on the air for the Giving Back Program. It seems like many slower speed operators like to ragchew a little bit. QSOs with them are opportunities to say more than a basic information exchange. The conversation goes to subjects like our rigs, antennas, CW Academy, the weather, where we grew up, or whatever. It reminds me of the days many years ago when we were anxious to exchange addresses during our QSO so we could mail a QSL card. It was well before the time of QRZ lookups and most of us couldn't afford the luxury of a Callbook so we sent our address as many times as necessary to make sure the other guy got it, and then we would get that QSL card.

We encourage new CW operators to get on the air and enjoy CW in as many ways as they want, not just ragchewing. The key point is – **Get on the Air**. The SST now offers another CW activity for slower speed operators to learn, including ragchewers. It's a great idea. I'll be on the air during the SST to help and encourage as many new CW operators as I can. I hope they enjoy the SST as

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much or more than ragchewing. Everyone needs to discover what they like to do with CW and reevaluate their goals. There are so many ways to enjoy CW. Whatever we do, it's all good.

Here are the comments and reports from our ragchewers.

### **Comments from QTX submissions**

**N8AI:** Best QTX of the month was 54 minutes with WB8ZAS Randy who saw my Drake Twins in my dorm room when he was a freshman and learned the code in one week on his own. He just retired to South Dakota and is hiding his wire antennas from the HOA in his attic.

**G2WZD:** Quite a good month with some fun MQTX QSOs, inc a nice DX QSO with ZL.

**W3PNM:** Not a lot of time this month due to birth of a granddaughter. Longest rag chew lasted 50 minutes.

**WS1L:** Had a nice chat with Eric, NI4E, joined by Roscoe the Radio Cat. I also enjoyed working Wolf, NN7CW/M as he was driving home from work in Florida.

**AA5AD:** Much better this month. More time to operate helps, even with a tropical storm right in the middle of things!

**W9EBE:** I had a number of excellent QSOs this month using my paddles, bug, cootie, and straight key. Thanks for the contacts! ~73 es ZUT~

**KC0VKN:** A good month for ragchewing! Several really hot days strung together, no reason to do anything but hop in the shack!

**KB6NU:** I had several memorable QTXs this month, including one with WA3IGU while operating the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend at the Pointe aux Barques Lighthouse at the tip of Michigan's Thumb and a couple with DX stations.

**KG5IEE:** Had a really fun hour-plus QSO with Bill WA4FAT. He is pursuing the SKCC Marathon Achievement Award to work 100 different SKCC members in an hour-long QSO. The award has only been given once. GL Bill.

**N6HCN:** Fewer August QTX but longer ones! Topping the 60 minute mark: Bing K6YUF and Alan AC2K. Afraid my CQ is being heard with dread. Especially by XYs.

**K8UDH:** It's not very often that you have an opportunity for a 68 minute ragchew QSO, but it happened to me. I had the pleasure of working Bill WA4FAT. It was a really fun ragchew QSO.

### **Awards and Medals for 2020**

Medals for 2020 are awarded for three different levels in QTX.

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Gold – 400 QTX QSOs  
Silver Medal – 300 QTX QSOs  
Bronze – 200 QTX QSOs

Our Gold Medal earners so far are Art (K8CIT) with 1005 QTX QSOs, Joe (KC0VKN) with 574 QSOs, and Bill (N5IR) with 505 QSOs. Gary (N5PHT) with 378 QSOs, Tom (DL5DBY) with 332 QSOs, Chip (W9EBE) with 328 QSOs, and Chris (N8AI) with 324 QSOs have qualified for a Silver Medal. Our Bronze Medal earners are John (K1ESE) with 245 QSOs and Chuck (WS1L) with 214 QSOs.

### QTX for August 2020

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
K8CIT	125	W9EBE	39	N6HCN	13	W3PNM	4
KC0VKN	73	F5IYJ	28	K4AHO	13	SV2BBK	1
N5IR	63	KB6NU	23	KG5IEE	12		
N8AI	51	WS1L	17	N5PHT	10		
K5YQF	40	AA5AD	16	K8UDH	9		

### MQTX for August 2020

Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX
N8AI	45	KG5IEE	15	G3WZD	6	N6HCN	3
W9EBE	21	K5YQF	14	N5PHT	5	W3PNM	2
K8CIT	20	WS1L	10	K4AHO	4		
AA5AD	17	SV2BBK	6	K8UDH	4		

### QTX for 2020

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
K8CIT	1005	KB6NU	183	KG5IEE	43	K6DGW	6
KC0VKN	574	K5YQF	171	W3PNM	43	W5LA	5
N5IR	505	N6HCN	127	AA5AD	42	AB7MP	4
N5PHT	378	K4AHO	118	SV2BBK	25	WA2USA	4
DL5DBY	332	K2KRG	111	WB6TOU	23	G3WZD	3
W9EBE	328	F5IYJ	103	IK0IXI	22	KU7Y	3
N8AI	324	AJ1DM	82	W3WHK	22	KR4TH	1
K1ESE	245	K8UDH	59	EW6BS	15		
WS1L	214	AG4EA	50	N5LB	9		

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## MQTX for 2020

Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX
DL5DBY	655	K8CIT	96	K5YQF	47	W3WHK	12
N8AI	438	AA5AD	93	MI0WWB	47	WB6TOU	11
W9EBE	240	K1ESE	84	W3PNM	26	AB7MP	9
SV2BBK	184	K4AHO	54	K6DGW	23	KU7Y	5
WS1L	158	N6HCN	54	AG4EA	22	W5LA	5
K2KRG	134	KG5IEE	53	K8UDH	22	N5LB	3
N5PHT	122	G3WZD	52	AJ1DM	17	KR4TH	1

Everyone is welcome to submit their ragchew QSO data. You don't have to be a member of CWops to join the fun. Please let me know if you spot any errors or omissions. You can submit any missing ragchew QSOs for any month in 2020 at any time. Just make a separate report for the month via the QTX Submission Form on the CWops website. Your ragchew QSOs totals will then be up to date in Solid Copy.

Thanks for participating in CWops ragchewing

73,

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## My Story: New Member Biographies

### Darek Zajac, SP2R

Hello to all Colleagues. I am very glad to be a member of CWops. As I can remember, I always loved telegraphy, and that more of it came to me easily.

I began to be interested in short waves in at the age of 14 - in a technical school. I saw an advertisement for admission to the club - SP4PBV - went - signed up and became actively part of it. I learn telegraphy there. I remember perfectly - at first, I learned all the signs as dots and dashes - and at home began to practice writing texts in a notebook. Then came the QSO's, work on increase speed - after started the CW speed competition - first in Poland - then abroad - in Germany. At the same time, fought in competitions in my club.



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Then my life went along a different path. First institute in Warsaw - then finishing Moscow power Institute and work in Moscow - this is in Russia. My adventure with short waves had been stopping for a long time.

Sometime around 2012 I met in Moscow friend of my childhood – Stanislav, SP4NKJ – he told me about the new things in CW, new technologies, new transceivers, beacons and servers. Everything seemed to me like something new!

My business went very well - started to bought transceivers - first FT897, after 2 months FT450, after 2 months. FT950 and finally FT3000. It was easier with great antennas - ordering and install a mast of 30 m and a Yagi for 40-10 m. And then it started to be reality - competitions, or rather speed - it was my dream and happiness.

Now I live in Poland - I have temporary problems with antennas - but there is a plan - soon I'll start in full.

Participate exclusively in CW LP ALL. Invite all to contact.

### **Bob Knibb, K5ME**

As a teen I was introduced to ham radio by a series of articles in *Boys Life* magazine, especially one about Vic Clark, W4KFC. He went on to become one of hamdom's heroes as a contester, as well as head of the Federal Aviation Administration. My novice station was a Hallicrafters S-38C and a home-brew 10-watt crystal-controlled rig. After upgrading to General I bought a crystal for what turned out to be the frequency of a state traffic net, so I became a traffic handler, eventually becoming an Official Relay Station. My high school science teacher let me form a ham club at school. He eventually became a ham, too.



It was no surprise to my parents that I studied electrical engineering at the University of Maryland. I didn't need a radio in my dorm room because the ham club station was just across the parking lot. Graduating in 1962, I went into the U.S. Navy for a tour as a radioman aboard a destroyer in the Atlantic.

After leaving active duty I worked for the then-Weather Bureau. I was an equipment designer, then a manager of maintenance from Fort Worth, Texas, and later nationally from Maryland.

After retirement, my wife and I went traveling in a fifth-wheel RV. We full-timed for about ten years, visiting the 48 contiguous states, all the Canadian provinces, and several states in Mexico. We always stopped for the weekend when there was a big contest on.

Now at age 80 I no longer think of DX-peditions or towers. I am content with my 100-watt Elecraft and R8 vertical. I like having a wire up for 80/160-meters, but the wind keeps taking it down for

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me. I've been enjoying a lot of contesting this year while sheltering from the pandemic.

Thanks to Hank W6SX for sponsoring me for the CW Operators Club, and all the members who have been so welcoming while I participated as a non-member.

### **Fred Carslick, KA4RUR**

I would like to thank Mike (WB0SND) for nominating me and all of the other sponsors.

I got my Novice license April of 1979 at Coast Guard Radio Station Miami FL/NMA. Was a Radioman at various CG stations and ships for 25yrs.

After retiring from the CG in 2000, worked at various Maritime Coastal station as a CW operator and on various tankers as a Radio Officer. I very seldom talk about my code speed, but I have been known to copy over 45 wpm, but now days I keep it at 18wpm.

My operating mode is QRP, which I have been doing since obtaining my license, my rig is an HW8 with a Barker and Williamson apartment antenna.

My hangout frequency is 14.060khz. Thanks again to all of the different CWops members for making the organization so great and thank you so much for letting me join.



### **Tom Martin, DF7TV**

Now that I am a member since about three months, I think it is time to say Thank You!

My thanks go to Keith GØHKC for my nomination as well as to Will MIØWWB, Fanis SV2BBK and Hanz YL3JD for being my sponsors within two days after my nomination.

Seen the 10 years existence of CWops, three months is a short period. But within this period, I was already able to work over 500 different members, either in conversational QSOs or during contests. So, my thanks go as well to the whole CWops community for being very active.

It is due to Hans Kretschmar DF1SR (SK), my Elmer in a ham radio course in 1979 that I got my license. I have been active in portable operations in Germany and in France in CW mode.



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QRP transceivers like the Elecraft KX1 and K2 were fun to build and to use. Actually, I like to operate from the club station DKØSU due to its antennas (... the X7 beam for the 20, 15 and 10m band being my favourite). Being an electronics engineer I love home-brewing and antenna experiments.

After my studies I have been working in the intellectual property field as a patent-engineer. There have been long pauses in my ham radio activity. But then there was the 2016 Christmas party at the club station DKØSU of the ARC at the University of Stuttgart. During this event Relly DJØMCH infected me with the DX-virus. This infection took a serious development and thanks to the well-equipped club station (and LoTW) I got my DXCC-CW within three months of activity in 2017.

Apart from hunting for new entities/band slots I like to chat and to work all areas of foreign countries. Sprints, contests and special event activities regularly attract my attention. So far I am not a real contester but I always try to do my best within a given short time frame of a few hours. Thanks to CWTs I am getting better in the RUN-mode of N1MM Logger+.

When I heard of the CW Academy, I did not hesitate to sign up for an Advanced Course to improve head copying and accuracy in sending Morse code. I like to thank advisor Keith GØHKC and assistant-advisor Kit GØJPS and my fellow student colleagues for the very enjoyable and fruitful time spent together during the course.

Since August 2020 I participate in the Giving Back program of the CW Academy. I am glad to have been accepted into CWops and look forward to working a lot of you on the air.

### **Andreas 'Paul' Paulick, DL5CW**

I was born in 1958 in Eastern Germany and got my first Ham Radio license at the age of 16 in March 1975. My first callsign was DM3PFF. Until 1990, the year of the reunification of Eastern- and Western Germany, I never had the chance to experience the other side of the pile ups.

Nevertheless, it took up to 2003 before I participated in my first DXpedition to Kerkennah Island, Tunisia TS7N. In the following years I attended more or less large DXpeditions every year. As you can see in my callsign - CW is my favored mode and I especially like beautiful CW pile ups.

I'm much more a DXer than a rag-chewer, so you'll find me mostly on the



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DX-scene, chasing new Challenge points and IOTA.

I am member of the Bavarian Contest Club and operate at most major DX contests in the M/M category at the contest station DR1A in Goch near the Dutch border. During the last "World Radiosport Team Champion" (WRTC 2018) in Wittenberg, Germany, I was as the "Antenna Chief" responsible for all antennas of the 65 WRTC sites.

Of course, I'm interested in DXing itself. My last "All Time New One" was K5P on Palmyra & Jarvis Islands. Now only P5 - North Korea is still missing for the DXCC Honor Roll #1.

By the way - most people call me by my nickname 'Paul' rather than using the real first name.

Here you'll find some of my previous DXpeditions and IOTA activities:

4L/DL5CW, 4U1VIC, 5A7A, 9L0W, A25/DL7DF, A35YZ, CR3W, EJ/DL5CW Great Blasket EU-007, J79CW, JW/DL5CW, KP2/DL5CW, OJ0X, P4/DL5CW, PJ2/DL5CW, PJ4/DL5CW, PJ4Y, SW9CW, TK/DL5CW, TS7N, TX5K Clipperton, V5/DL5CW, VK9DLX and VK9LM Lord Howe, VP2EDL, XR0YD, XV4D, XX9D, Z60A, ZL8X ... and some more.

## **Salvador Duarte XE1IM**

I began doing ham radio in 1998, learned CW on my own to obtain my permit. Without knowing I began counting dots and lines, which didn't help me increase my speed; therefore, I had to learn to listen to the sounds, and that's how I managed to advance a bit further. I've always been an autodidact in radio and CW; which is my favorite mode to do radio.

I like DX a lot and I'm always looking to do DX. I like chatting with my friends on SSB 7.087 and can find me from 13 to 14 hrs UTC. I enjoy chatting in CW, I'm very pleased to know that CWops has useful resources to practice and reward those who use and enjoy CW in each of its forms.

Chatting through CW I met Peter (W1UU), who kindly asked if I would like to join CWops, and (together with three other excellent members of CWops) was the way I was able to obtain my membership. I really like the organization and the world of friends and resources to keep learning, enjoying and improving my CW. Thanks for the opportunity, Peter.

At the beginning I built my own antennas G5RV Dipole,



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Yagi 10 and 15 m, until I managed to get a Yagi HY-GAIN TH3 Cushcraft. I also built an 80 m delta loop full wave, an IRLP node and Echolink; which was just for a fleeting moment. I've experimented with other modes, like PSK3, RTTY, FT8-4, DMR, SSTV, etc. My favorite has always been CW.

I like to read a lot, especially anything related to radio. I also like photography a lot, it's another hobby that I'm passionate about.

I have a degree related to the management of information systems, which is my main job. I also participate in the family business, dedicated to the field and the production and sale of rice.

I've been married to Patty for more than 30 years, have three children and two grandsons, who make my world whole. When I've got free time, it goes entirely to radio

I hope to find you enjoying CW very soon. I'll keep practicing and I hope to improve my knowledge and dexterity on CW; and I wish to help those who want to learn and improve their CW.

### **Doug Jones, AF4T**

Age 64, married. Currently working as a commercial credit analyst in the retail private label division of one of the larger banks.

When I was young, I always loved visiting my paternal great uncle "Doc" W4ABX (SK). Watching him fire up the Heathkit DX-100 and talk to people in exotic far-away places was amazing. With his encouragement and help, I joined the ranks as Novice class licensee WN4MYZ in 1969 at age 13 1/2. Within a couple of years, I had worked my way up to Advanced class and traded the N in my callsign for a B.

Took a couple of years off the air while in college but picked it back up in 1978 with the proverbial "wire out the window" ... of a 17th floor apartment! And upgraded again to Extra class and received my current call sign AF4T.



In 1982, a combination of several things caused me to go mostly QRT, except for 2 m for a while and occasionally being guest operator or Field Day with the local club. I kept the license renewed, though. This hiatus ended up lasting for 36 years. After my parents passed away, I found myself with a suburban lot big enough to put up an antenna and no restrictive covenants ... and so I find myself back on the air again.

Much has changed since the 70's and 80's. For example, I don't need a room full of teleprinters, punched tape machines, and modulators to get on RTTY; Doc would have been amazed if he could have seen it. But when you get down to it, to me real ham radio is when you're pounding

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the brass! (Except these days, you're probably pounding plastic ...)

PS: The picture is older, I wish my hair was still that color.

### **Ed Post, W2MKM**

I've recently re-engaged in more serious ham radio activities, CW contesting and now building a more competitive station (90 foot Luso crank up going up in the fall, with JK aluminum going on top).

I've been a member of the Frankford Radio Club since the late 80s (licensed in '77) though largely dormant in the 90s and 00s and had the benefit of learning and operating with some of the best CW and contest operators out there, K2TW, W2GD, KU2C to name just a few, I still have a long way to go.



I've made my career as a technology consultant for the last 30 years plus in the Financial Services industry, outside of work and ham radio, I'm an active sporting clays shooter, fly fisherman, home brewer and cyclist .. yeah I know too much going on .. but I can't help myself. My wife Kelly (soon to get her ticket) and I live on a small farm here in Hunterdon County, NJ and enjoy time keeping the place looking great and creating habitat for all kinds of wildlife, flora and fauna (and towers). My son Ian is also a ham and following in his OM's footsteps as a tech consultant, daughter Kelly Anne, a producer of ecommerce web sites and an active equestrian.

Thank you again Tom K2TW, John W2GD and each of my sponsors, I look forward to working you soon with my shiny new CWOps #268.

### **Sam McGlynn, K0VD**

While I had no exposure to ham radio when growing up, from scouting I developed an interest in science and exploration. My interest in ham radio came about fairly recently, coinciding with my Air Force retirement in 2018. I was learning about different applications of software defined radio and ham radio licensing was noted as a requirement for certain experiments. My initial investigations of ham radio sent me down a rabbit hole, resulting in my passing of the Technician and General class licensing exams 8 days later. Needless to say, I was hooked.

Living under the restrictions of apartment life has shaped my initial ham radio focus areas. Without the ability to setup an external antenna or operate at higher power, I sought to do my best under the circumstances, passing the Amateur Extra class exam, operating portable, participating in EMCOMM, and most recently supporting remote amateur radio license testing as a volunteer examiner. I have also built an effective ceiling-mounted 40m full wave loop antenna that has so

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far allowed me to make contacts in Europe, South America, and Oceania.

These apartment restrictions were also a factor in my interest in CW as I had learned how much more effective CW was than SSB for the same amount of power. As a history buff and communications specialist, I had an appreciation for Morse Code's legacy from the earliest days of radio communications and its civilian and military use throughout the 20th century. I also sought the challenge of learning to operate Morse Code at high speed, which



was how I learned about CWops and CW Academy. Thanks to Joe KK5NA and Mark K5GQ who were my CW Academy advisors and are fantastic mentors. I also want to thank Nizar K0NM for his article "Learning CW at 70", which I recommend as a inspirational guide for learning CW at any age (*CQ Amateur Radio*, Sep. 2018, pp. 38-40). Joe, Mark, and Nizar's contributions to ensuring the future of CW are a great credit to CWOps.

Currently I operate entirely CW and primarily contests, although I plan to do more rag chews. Since Feb 2020, I have worked most every evening CWT and many contests and state QSO parties. While not yet competitive, I do enjoy beating my personal best. I hope to complete WAS soon.

I currently work in the cybersecurity field.

Besides ham radio, I also enjoy sci-fi, hiking, photography, reading, and travel, which I hope to pick up again once Covid-19 restrictions are behind us. In the future I look forward to joining a DX-pedition where I can combine some of these interests.

Thanks to Mark K5GQ, Joe KK5NA, Bruce K8UDH and Gary N5PHT for their nomination and sponsorship of my CWops membership. I am honored to join such a highly esteemed group of CW operators.

### **Terry Griffey, KG5OWB**

I am honored to be a member of CWops. My dad was an electrician and telephone technician stationed in India during WWII. He learned CW in the Army and used it while enlisted. Dad bought a couple of toy, wired practice keys for us and we spent many winter nights in our Iowa farmhouse conversing using CW. We moved to town and opened a hardware store and I never thought about CW until about 4 years ago.

I spent many years as a musician traveling the country and eventually settled in Los Angeles. I worked as a composer doing scores for film and television. Electronic music was becoming digital in the 80's and I took an interest in electronics and taught myself computer programming. As

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time went on, I took a greater interest in computer technology in general.

I relocated near San Antonio in the early 90's and transitioned into technology work. I worked on mainframes, mid-range and PCs in about all facets. I took a job as a technical consultant in 2000 that required 100% travel. I spent 20 years in that job eventually moving into cyber-security as a focus.

In 2016, I decided to get an HT and get on the air. Got my tech and followed that with my General. Remembering those times with my Dad doing CW, I decided to re-learn it. I looked for training and CWops Academy was highly rated. Doug, VE3MV, was my level 1 advisor. Class was fun but required a lot of breaking bad habits. Enrolled in Level 2 and Joe, KK5NA, was my advisor. We lost some people in that class and it ended up with George, W0PHX, and I in the class. We got extensive sending and receiving time with very focused instruction. George and I became good friends and practice buddies. We met multiple times a week for 30 minutes on our own and practiced sending and receiving, moving from simple words to eventually chatting about work, family and etc. What a great experience! I had to wait about 6 months to get into the Level 3 class and it was also with KK5NA. That class was fun but challenging.



George, W0PHX, introduced me to park activations. That is my favorite CW activity and I try to get out at least a couple of times a month. In October, I will be operating as special event station K5G for the "Get Your Park On! activity sponsored by WWFF, to celebrate Earth Science Week and bring attention to our parks and natural resources. See my QRZ page for schedule!

I am now retired and spending much more time enjoying ham radio, especially CW. Thanks to my nomination supporters and all the Ops who have helped me along the way. Once I get settled into my new retired lifestyle, I would like to start giving back to help others as I have been helped.

### **George Fremin, K5TR**

I fell in love with radio in about 1975 at the age of 12. The CB radio boom was in full swing and the father of a friend that lived across the street had a CB radio in his truck and we spent a lot of time out there listening to the activity. It was pretty much all I talked and dreamed about. I kept bugging my father to let me get a CB radio and he did get me some Radio Shack walkie talkies that had three channels in them so we could be on more than just channel 14. He also hooked up his Hallicrafters S40 that he had had since high school. He never got his ham radio license when he was young for a number of reasons. But he did know that if I wanted to do a radio hobby, ham radio was much, much better than CB radio. He pointed me towards a ham radio class

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and we both ended up getting licensed. He has never made very many contacts, but he has helped me along in this hobby. He got WB5UKU and my first call was WB5VZL. We started with a TS-520 and wires in a ground floor apartment and I have never stopped exploring ham radio.

Over the years I have mostly been a reluctant CW op. Only doing it to pass the tests or to work some DX or make contacts in a contest. I never was very good at it. I suspect that is because I did not practice much (at all) and as a result I stuck to



SSB operating. I never have really learned how to copy in my head but a few times in my ham life I have managed to get OK at CW. I have always wanted to improve my CW skills and I envy my friends that do conversational CW at 40+ wpm. Early this year I setup my station so I could use it remotely and then the Coronavirus showed up. Suddenly I am spending all of my evenings and weekends at home and getting on the radio often because I now have a way to do that during the week with the remote station. This led to getting on in the CWTs and spending more time on CW and that has led to doing CW ragchews and wanting to get better at CW and really learn how to copy in my head this time so I can do conversational CW. I am still working on the head copy stuff. And I still get very lost at times, but I am improving.

A big thank you to KM4FO for inviting me to join. I am happy to be here and happy to support CW Ops and the good things that CW Ops is doing for CW and ham radio.

I have tried most of wide variety of things this hobby has to offer but the largest constant has always been contesting. Mostly HF and mostly SSB but I also do CW and VHF/UHF contests as well. Many years were spent learning contesting at other people's stations but in the last 18 years I have been building and working on my own station on a hill west of Austin Texas. I am active on almost all the bands from 1.8 MHz to 10GHz. And looking forward to many more years of exciting fun in this great hobby.

I have been on one large DX-pedition to VP8THU/VP8GEO, I competed at WRTC in Brazil and have operated as DX from a few places around the world. I have been on the air with my call signs WB5VZL, K5TR, 5W1FS, ZK1ZG and from friends' stations N5AU, W5KFT, 6D2X, HC8N, KT5J, N3BB, VP8GEO, VP8THU.

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### **Fritz Dellsperger, HB9AJY**

1960, when I was 14 years old, my grandfather gave me the book "SOS at Midnight" for Christmas. This exciting amateur story was probably the beginning of my enthusiasm for this hobby. The second book by the same author, "DX brings Danger", confirmed my enthusiasm for radio technology. Both books are in my bookshelf waiting for my grandson.



I learned CW in 1966/1967 during my military service in a signal corps and got my license and callsign HB9AJY in 1967. After this time, I was a very active ham until 1987, operating most exclusively in CW, and took part in many single and multi-operator contests. From 1987 to 2018 I was engaged in other activities, taking care of family and professional career. That's why all my ham equipment (Drake TR7) was stored in a cabinet at attic. After retirement I was looking for some activities for long winter days. So, I refurbished the TR7, erected a new 6-band ground-plane in my backyard and refreshed my CW skills. At January 2nd 2019, I was ready for my first QSO since more than 30 years.

Attending a USKA Academy lecture on DXing, held by the best HB-DX-Cracks, I learned about modern DX operating using sophisticated hard- and software. This eye opener was a welcome kick to buy some new state of the art equipment.

Today my station includes FlexRadio 6400M, PA Expert 1.3k-FA and Xiegu G90 for my Motorhome. Logging software is LOG4OM and N1MM+ for contests. I very much enjoy scanning the bands for new DXCC and participate in most major CW contests. My passion is CW and I love rag-chewing. The CWT test on Wednesday is part of my weekly schedule.

I am member of USKA (Union of Swiss Shortwave Amateurs), AGCW-DL #4124, HTC #374, CWops #2672 and SDXF.

### **Ken Bain, AA5CF**

I'm honored to be nominated and accepted into this organization. I want to publicly thank Mark Tyler, K5GQ, for the nomination and his mentorship.

I've been interested in any type of radio since I was in elementary school. I would lay in bed at

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night and listen to Wolfman Jack on a transistor radio my grandfather gave me. I was amazed that I could hear a station out of Chicago down in South Texas. I've been hooked ever since.

In 1975 at the age of 13, I practiced code with a neighbor kid and we both passed the Novice exam. I built a Heathkit DX-60B and paired it with a 1962 Mosley CM-1 receiver and I was on the air. I upgraded to General in 1977 but got off the air during college. I hung a wire in the dorm and used a receiver to stay in touch



with the hobby. My radio background guided me to earn a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M University.

Besides being a radio nut, I was also a huge fan of the space program. When I graduated from A&M, I was fortunate to get a job working in Mission Operations at the Johnson Space Center. I spent half of my NASA career as a Space Shuttle Guidance, Navigation, & Control flight controller in Mission Control. The second half of my career was working with the management team over systems flight controllers for both the Space Shuttle and the International Space Station. These were busy times, and once again I wasn't able to get on the air much, but always had a receiver on and stayed abreast of all that was going on in the hobby. Once I retired from NASA and had more free time, I was able to ratchet up operations and get back on the air. I upgraded to Extra and rebuilt the shack when we moved to the Hill Country in Texas.

Back in the 70's when I learned code, I could never break the 15-wpm barrier. I decided to attend the CW Academy going through Level 1 with John McVey, K4AFE, and the Intermediate Level with Mark Tyler, K5GQ. These guys and that program got me up to 25 wpm rather quickly. I wanted to give back to the program, so I'm now serving as an Advisor for the 2020 Fall Session Basic program. I've made many friends as a result of this program and highly recommend it to anyone learning code.

My passion is building, rebuilding, restoring, and operating boat anchors. My current shack consists of my original Novice station (DX-60B and Mosely CM-1), Kenwood TS-830S, Kenwood TS-520S, Collins S-Line, Johnson Ranger, Swan 600 Twins, and a Hammarlund HQ-150. I've rebuilt/maintained all of these rigs and rotate through them keeping them in service. I enjoy operating all of them and look forward to meeting you on the air.

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## **Ken Knaus, KK6ZHK**

I'd like to acknowledge and thank Eric, NM5M, for sponsoring my CWops membership. We had a very nice rag chew some months ago where I casually mentioned my interest in CW Ops, and of course that started the ball rolling.

I started in amateur radio as a teenager back in the 60's. I was based in Long Island, NY with call signs of WN2CVI and then WB2CVI. I did mostly CW, all with a straight key. When I started college, I let my license lapse (dumb decision!), but amateur radio did springboard my interest in electrical engineering (with focus on semiconductor physics), resulting in undergraduate and graduate degrees in that area. I then moved out to northern California and worked for Hewlett Packard for my whole career (36 years).

In 2015, I decided to get back into ham radio, and discovered that a whole lot had changed about the testing. But I was glad to see CW was alive and well like it was many years before! In 2017, I finally got a Kent paddle and practiced on that quite a while before venturing out on the air. Having zero familiarity with paddles and only limited experience with a straight key from half a century earlier, it was a challenge (but fun!) coming up to speed on that (no pun intended).

Other modes I enjoy are FT8, FM satellites, and occasional SSB. In spite of the low solar activity, I also enjoy running QRP with a mag loop/Elecraft KX3. After recently moving from Santa Clara, CA to Sedona, AZ, I became a member of Yavapai County ARES/RACES. I am quite blessed and fortunate to live in such a beautiful area, but it has its share of risks, mainly fires and flash flooding. Sedona is in the middle of the Coconino National Forest. See my QRZ page for some spectacular pictures of the area.

My other interests include road and mountain biking, hiking and church ministries. I have been filming and video editing all our church services due to the Covid19 pandemic. My XYL, son and myself are also involved in a disability ministry, Joni and Friends ([joniandfriends.org](http://joniandfriends.org)).



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I look forward to meeting other CWops members on the air. I am primarily a rag chewer but do enjoy the weekly CWTs. I primarily hang out on 40, 30, 20, and 17 meters.

### **Bernie McIntosh GM4WZG/GM4X**

Gained the licence in the 1970s at the first opportunity when I left school (school would not give the permission needed to take the exam any earlier). I do have memories of building simple radios much earlier and even making my own spark transmitter from plans in a library when I was around 12 years old. Receivable on medium wave radio and all other frequencies! Apologies to the world, but the book didn't say anything about why they're a bad idea.

Subsequently passing the Morse test to gain the class A licence, held me in good



stead as all I could afford was a home-made CW TX coupled with an old boat anchor of a receiver. No complaints though, the magic of radio was now part of my life. Fast forward many years throughout which as a Chartered Engineer my amateur RF knowledge and electronics skills has often given me an advantage in the professional workplace – a great advert for the self-training aspect of ham radio.

Now more or less retired, CW is really the only mode I use although I have a penchant for internet linked DMR which provides a great ability to practice foreign language skills with like-minded people worldwide at Q5 copy. No, it's not actually radio, I have real CW radio for that, but the people side of DMR is 100% ham radio ethos and it's good fun.

I love contesting and don't care too much about the old 599 report debate. To me the measure of my antennas and station is how I manage to perform during the contest and it tells me more than any individual report ever could. It's exciting to go fast enough in the contest but don't try to chat to me at 40 wpm+ (yet!). However, outside of the contest, chatting at a somewhat more moderate speed is so relaxing it should be prescribed as a stress antidote by doctors everywhere. So if you hear me on air, do give me a call and have a chat.

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I've always liked making things, usually electronics, RF and/or microprocessor related. Recently the 3D printer and laser cutter has become an indispensable part of my toolset too. The growth in low cost PCB fabrication has added much utility by bringing professional looking projects within easier reach. SMD work at home is now affordable and a pleasure. Going back to basics, antennas remain a constant fascination for me and the older I get the more I seem to realise how much I still don't know about the physics of radio waves which gives even more opportunity for discovery and learning.

Some things never change though and just as when I was 12 and avidly read every book in the library on RF and electronics, today I love to read just about everything I can about , well, RF and electronics. The difference is that nowadays there is sooooo much more of it !!

With thanks to my sponsors, I am honoured to become a member of CWops and be part of an organisation that endeavours to keep the art and science of Morse communication not just alive, but alive and kicking.