

The CW Operators Club Newsletter January 2021 — Issue 132



# **QSO Today Expo**



CWops will be a part of the 2021 QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo. <u>Story by W1UU on page 11</u>.

### CWops "CWT" Every Wednesday

Start: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (+1),1 hour each session Exchange: name/number (members) name/SPC (non-members)

Avoid DX pileups!

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: Stew Rolfe, <u>GW0ETF</u> Vice President: Peter Butler, <u>W1UU</u> Secretary: Jim Talens, <u>N3JT</u> Treasurer: Craig Thompson, <u>K9CT</u> Director: Theo Mastakas, <u>SV2BBK</u> Director: Raoul Coetzee, <u>ZS1C</u> Director: Raoul Coetzee, <u>ZS1C</u> Director: Matt Frey, <u>CE2LR</u> Director: Bert Banlier, <u>F6HKA</u> Director: Bert Banlier, <u>F6HKA</u> Director: Barry Simpson, <u>VK2BJ</u> Director: Riki Kline, <u>K7NJ</u> Director: Ken Tanuma, <u>JN1THL</u> WebGeek: Dan Romanchik <u>KB6NU</u> Newsletter Editor: Tim Gennett <u>K9WX</u>

# **President's** Message

It is with a sense of pride that I find myself writing the first President's Message of 2021. Being invited by the Board to consider succeeding Mac NN4K as the next President of CWops was a real



honour and I'd like to thank Mac and the rest of the Board for their encouragement and the membership for supporting my nomination.

Presiding over a club filled with such talent and

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enthusiasm and which is held in such high esteem is a humbling prospect and filling Mac's big shoes will be a daunting task. I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing Mac a happy and well deserved Presidential retirement.

I won't be known to many so a brief biography might be useful. I'm English by birth but have been living in the slate quarrying area of North Wales for approaching 50 years. I was licensed guite late (in 1986) but was obsessed with SWLing while at school in the 60s before being distracted by a life of university, climbing and travel. The Morse test was a requirement for HF access then and I wasn't going to waste all that effort so a CWop was born.



I first came across CWops in the early CWT sessions in 2011 (the 3830 archives are a fascinating resource) and it wasn't long before Pete W1RM offered to nominate me for membership. I have a modest shack in a small cottage garden and the generosity of the local farmer means I can avoid despoiling my wife's pride and joy by locating my mainly wire antennas in the field next door. I'm a keen 'middle of the road' contester with my short contest call GW4J but also spend time rag-chewing, something I'm probably guilty of neglecting too often.

I was a tutor for CW Academy until my wife retired and our social life went up a notch and made course scheduling difficult; I still try to make myself available as an associate and have so far managed to hold down a slot in the Giving Back program.

I have been the club Ambassador for NW Europe for a number of years during which time I like to think I may have contributed in some small way to the increase in membership and activity in the UK and perhaps further afield. I hold the licence for the club call G\*2CWO the use of which helps spread the word about our club. More recently I have served on the Board as its Europe member and I am very pleased to welcome Theo SV2BBK as my replacement.

2021 begins with some hope but no certainty about the short term future for everyone. When will we get to meet up with our fellow club members in person? Will Field Days go ahead this summer? And what about the Hamfests and Conventions that we missed last year?

For now we can still enjoy our unique privilege and get on the air and help to fill the bands with the sound of CW. My own New Year 'radio' resolution is to do more regular rag-chewing so hope-fully I will be saying 'Hello' to many CWops members over the next few months. Take care, stay safe and enjoy reading another fine issue of Solid Copy.....

73, Stew GW0ETF, President



# From the **Editor**: Spell It Out For Me

As a child, I could get off track and lost in the weeds quicker than any other kid I knew. If a teacher would tell me to get up and write something on the right chalk board, I would freeze in my seat because I didn't know if she meant my right or her right. When helping me with homework, my dad would often get frustrated at my ability to read different and contradictory meanings into the instructions. "Who has more trouble than you?" he would ask. It became one of those things he and I would joke about later in life. Not that I ever stopped having trouble, he was just relieved that, once I became an adult, he no longer had prime responsibility for keeping me out of the weeds. I still had an astounding ability to misunderstand directions and if you wanted me to do something, you had to spell it out for me.

I've always used wire antennas, hung from the trees around my house. To stay up in bad weather, they really need some sort of flexible suspension strategy to allow them to move with the wind. Through the years I would see articles or pictures describing how to design and build a suspension system. But like the kid tasked with alphabetizing the words in this quiz (right), the instructions were never sufficient for me to get the job done. I had lots of false starts.

Last year, local friend Steve W9TN came to the rescue with a simple drawing (<u>next page</u>) that helped

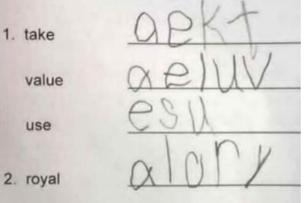
me get out of the weeds, providing sufficient detail to allow me to bridge from theory to practice. His drawing included putting a pulley on a loop, an idea that I had not noticed or appreciated in other mounting strategies. Who has more trouble than me?

So, I went on a pulley buying spree. Next problem: did you know that pulleys are rated in terms of the diameter of the line they are meant to carry, the diameter of the wheel and the pounds they can handle? I mean, who knew? Yet another opportunity for me to drift into the weeds.

But I persevered. I installed pulleys on my multiband dipole and my 160m sloper and they work FB, as we hams like to say. I love going out on a windy day and watching the counterweights bouncing up and down. Not sure what the neighbors think when they see me doing that, but if they ask, I plan to tell them I am doing my meditation exercises. <u>Check out this 30 second YouTube video</u> of the counterweight on the sloper. It's a thing of beauty.



#### Write these words in alphabetical order.







**An Update:** Dave K1VUT authored a story in the <u>December 2020 newsletter</u> about clipping on his transmitted CW signal while using a FlexRadio Maestro. I subsequently received an email from Vit OK5MM who relates his own CW experience with the Maestro.

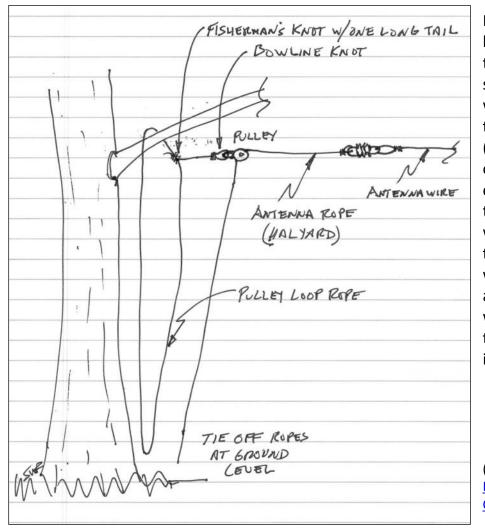
"I am using Flex 6500 for 2 years. I did not recognize any crucial troubles with CW until I have started to use Maestro. I was really very disappointed with CW keying. Fortunately there is a similar experience known in the Flex Radio community. I feel the most important was a solution from SM0HRP: <u>http://remotedxandcontestblog.sm0hrp.se/tag/rrc/</u>

"Basically, both audio and CW keying is managed by RemoteRig modems - RRC-1258MkII. I am using this for more than a year and CW keying seems OK. My station is approximately 500 meters off my house, located in old wineyards (<u>see my QRZ page</u>) and all is remotely controlled by my own Wi-Fi."

Thanks, Vit for this helpful information. He has agreed to write a feature article for *Solid Copy* detailing his solution in greater detail. Look for it in the April or May issue.

## 73,

### Tim K9WX Editor



How to install a pulley loop to hang an antenna to a tree or other vertical support. A counter weight can be used on the antenna rope (halyard) instead of tying off the line at ground level. I used a section of three inch PVC pipe filled with gravel for my counterweight. The gravel was added in incremental amounts until the correct weight was achieved for the weight of the antenna in question. -de K9WX

(Background image, page 3, <u>Dietmar Rabich / Wikimedia</u> <u>Commons.</u>)



# **News and Notes**

## Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT

We regret to report that W6IJ, Tommy Farr (CWops #111), became a SK on Dec 18, 2020.

We regret to report that <u>SM5ALJ</u>/SE5L, Ben Thorbjornsson (CWops #1237), became a SK on Dec 20, 2020.

We regret to report that <u>SP5ICQ</u>, Wieslaw Wojtasinski (CWops #2498), became a SK on Dec 25, 2020.

**Jim, N3JT**: **Amateur Radio License Map:** Here is a useful tool to help find Ham callsigns in the USA. You can also search by zip code which will show all the licensed Hams in your area in a nice map display. <u>https://haminfo.tetranz.com/map</u>

**Vic, 4X6GP**: I've been busy with numerous projects. One is to try to finally become proficient with the Linux command line, and learn something about the internals as well, which I'm doing with the help of a tiny and cheap Raspberry Pi computer.

Another is shortwave listening, with my regenerative receiver which I believe is described elsewhere in this issue, and an SDRplay RSPdx software-defined radio. This little (also not too expensive) device covers a huge frequency range, from 1 kHz (!) to 2 GHz. I have a loop antenna that works down to 30 kHz, and a discone that goes up to 1 GHz, so I can listen to much of that spectrum.

So interesting! I built a GPS-disciplined clock source for it, which makes it even more accurate than its built-in TCXO.

**<u>Chris, G4BUE</u>**: I have taken my two towers and antennas down ready for a move to a new QTH early in 2021, but I am staying on the air until the move with a simple wire antenna. I've sold the towers and antennas because the QTH move is a downsize to a smaller QTH where I will only be able to use wire antennas. Details about the new QTH to follow.

**<u>Stew, GW0ETF</u>**: When I'm having a bad day at the office (aka shack) and dits start disappearing from the end of H and 5 etc., the temptation is to start fiddling with the paddle tension settings. This is problematic if you don't have a baseline to work to.

I was watching a YouTube video by GOPNM where he showed how to set paddle tension with an instrument called a dynamometer. I dislike buying fancy tools that only ever get used once every few years (and you can never remember where you put them) so when I recalled that we have a nice set of old-style kitchen scales, I found they were supplied with a handy collection of small brass weights.

I now set each paddle to 20 gram tension by putting my Begali Signature on its side, place the 20g weight on the paddle finger piece and adjust the magnetic tension until it just makes contact. Dead easy and takes the stress out of tension adjustment!



**Theo, PA3HEN/ K4HEN:** Here is some info of a Special Event call PF6IK with a little bit of history. The call will be active from Jan 1, 2021 until Dec 31, 2021. My main mode is CW but I will be active in SSB too in order to give phone operators the possibility to work the call.

Special event call: P.F.6.I.K.

Spliethoff's Bevrachtingskantoor B.V.

Amsterdam – The Netherlands

1921 - 2021

m/v Keizersgracht, callsign: PFIK. Spliethoff's first owned vessel. This vessel's call sign has been used for the special event callsign: **PF6IK** 

**Spliethoff's Bevrachtingskantoor B.V.** is a Dutch shipping company. The head office is located in the port of Amsterdam. The company was



founded in 1921 by Johan Fredrik Spliethoff. He specialized as a freight broker in the transport of timber products from the Baltic Sea ports to Western Europe. In 1946 his son Herman Spliethoff commissioned the construction of the company's first new ship, the Keizersgracht, callsign PFIK. The ship was named after the canal in Amsterdam where Spliethoff had his office.

Ever since, the vessels of Spliethoff are named after the Amsterdam canals. Since the sixties, the colour of the Spliethoff ships is brown and all vessel names end with "GRACHT". In the twenty-first century, Spliethoff took over a number of shipping companies. Today, beside the brown "Gracht" -fleet, the Spliethoff Group comprises BigLift Shipping (formerly known as Mammoet Shipping), Sevenstar Yacht Transport, Transfennica, Wijnne Barends and Bore.

The core activity of the Spliethoff Group is sea transport. The Spliethoff group operates all kind of multifunctional ships of 2.050 up to 25.000 tons. Spliethoff offers all kind of specialized services; In addition to the worldwide transport of wood products, large projects, mainly for oil, gas, energy and telecommunications industry Spliethoff has;

- BigLift Shipping for heavy loads. The fleet of BigLift purpose-built heavy lift vessel has lifting capacity up from 2.200tons. BigLift is one of the most important carriers in the heavy cargo market.
- Sevenstar Yacht Transport. Sevenstar is world market leader in yacht transport by sea.
- Transfennica & Transfennica Logistics are operators in Container, Ro-Ro and door to door transport.



- Wijnne Barends is the shortsea company within the Group.
- Bore, a Finnish shipping company, is Europe's leading Ro-Ro tonnage provider.

For more information, visit: www.spliethoff.com

Marking the centenary of Spliethoff's founding, PF6IK will be operated exclusively from The Netherlands, mainly in CW. A special QSL card will be available via the Bureau or direct with SASE (No IRC's). See QRZ.com for address information.



### **Stew, GW0ETF:** Roll-out of an EU-centric K1USN Slow Speed ConTest!

Plans are underway to roll out a second weekly K1USN SST which will benefit Europe. These will run each Friday at 2000 UTC beginning on the 5th February and will follow the same rules as the existing Monday events. CWops would like to thank K1USN, the N1MM team and Bruce WA7BNM.

**<u>Chuck, WS1L</u>**: We've made it through our first real snowstorm (12-18 inches) with all antennas intact. Guess they need to be higher!

I've been putting the club call K1USN on the air Sunday nights in the SST, running about 13 wpm on 40 meters. I recognize many of the stations calling from the CWT's, so many thanks for slowing down! This Slow Speed conest is all about attracting the newcomer to CW and exposing them to some regular contesting practice.

Finally, I've started volunteering in the Radio Gang on the museum ship USS Slater in Albany, NY. They haven't had any regular operations for at least a year. Equipment is an Elecraft K2/100 and the original ships wire antennas for now, but there is an operable RCA TBL-8 400W CW transmitter I hope to learn to use in time for Museum Ship Weekend in June. Anyone else doing anything



similar? I'd like to exchange notes. Here's a quick photo of me in front of the TBL-8.

**<u>Giu, IT9VDQ</u>**: I had the honor of becoming a "CWops" member in December 2015. In recent years I have been more or less active in the various CWTs, especially from the contest QTH at 13:00z, taking advantage of my lunch hour.

In this hour of competition, the fun of the wildest pile-up of 20m alternated with the deadliest boredom of low sunspot periods; generally, an average of about 70/80 QSOs with negative peaks of 30/40 QSOs and a high of 140/150 QSOs. During the thousand contacts of these six years, I have always wondered what it would be like, for a European like me, to participate in a CWT from the CWops homeland, the USA, a question that naturally had always remained unanswered.

A few days ago, due to the travel restrictions here for the Covid-19 and still not having an Amateur Radio station at home after my last move, I had the idea of doing my personal CWT "from the USA" as SWL by connecting via internet to an SDR of Milford (PA), K3FEF, which for HF provides users with a G5RV antenna.

"Mammamia" what a surprise!

From my little experience in the CWTs, and given the time of the early morning in the USA, I tuned into 40m and at exactly 13:00z it sounded like the end of the world had broken out!

Dozens of CQs at 9+30 from many USA/VE. Many well know friend's callsigns QSO'ed a thousand times and other friends who answered them, and the frequency packed up to about 7,070: one

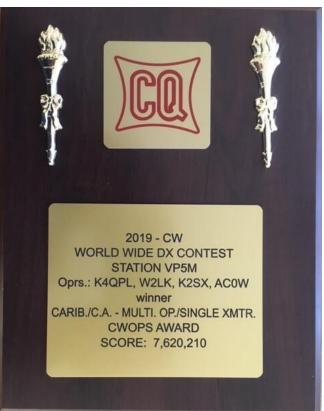
HRD after another, Call-Name-Number + Call2-Name2-Number2 when I could also hear the corresponding station; after about half an hour QSY on 80m for other HRD and the last fifteen minutes on 20m, to see how I listened to the EU Guys from the United States, pure fun!

In total 100+ HRD with a total of 200+ Callsigns!

**Jim Jordan K4QPL (VP5M):** What a great surprise and a holiday treat to receive this plaque (right) sponsored by CWops!

This beautiful acknowledgment of the team effort means a lot to us. It will be proudly hung on the wall at VP5M for all our visitors, hams and others, to admire.

Thanks to the officers and board for selecting the Caribbean/Central America region for this award and to each member for making it possible.



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**Barry, K2MF**: I realized long ago that you can never get a complete list of all CWops numbers from the CWops website because once somebody's membership term has expired, if they don't renew, they are dropped from that list and the next person who views this list no longer has access to their membership numbers.

At one point earlier in the previous decade when I first joined the club, I went looking for such a list to get me started and oddly, after enough searching, I found one somewhere (I don't remember where), but I realized that if I was ever going to be able to have access to a 'full list', I would have to build my own DB, which I did in Excel. So, I check the membership roster on <u>cwops.org</u> once a day at a minimum for any newly assigned membership numbers. This allows me to keep adding to the end of my DB of the full list.

Now here is where it gets interesting.

I have also combined this effort with a completely separate membership list of SKCC numbers, and I have written Excel functions which cross reference each list with each other and pull the corresponding membership number from the \*other\* club so that I can keep track of all those with membership numbers in both organizations. I did this more as a programming exercise than for any other reason except that I happen to like to do {array} function programming in Excel and it was a mental exercise. You utilize {array} functions when you want to build sub-lists of data based on some criteria which you define in the function.

So as of today, there are 1031 hams who have membership numbers in both organizations plus 43 others who are SKs. When the number hit 1000, I posted the list and made it available to everyone in a folder that has a few files in which I thought folks might have some interest. The link for anyone to view or download the files in this folder is:

### https://dropbox.com/sh/j7myn8gqf2uor76/AACmDo66P1-lbHrG32iep1U2a?dl=0

The file that contains the lists of those who have membership numbers in both clubs is: CWops-SKCC Members Data.xls.

I posted a message about this in both the CWops and SKCC <u>groups.io</u> groups when I made it available when it hit 1000 members this past October. It generated little interest in both groups, although a few said... "interesting".

Just recently, I replaced the file on 12/19/2020 when the number grew to 1025. I'll replace it again when it gets to 1050... etc.

So now you know why I like to view the Membership Roster on the <u>cwops.org</u> site.

**Bruce, W8HW:** Please celebrate some exciting news with me from the ARRL I was just told that I qualify for the CW Honor Roll. I have been on the Honor Roll for a while, but now add CW Honor Roll.

Because I am suffering with Covid-19, this is bright spot and exciting for me.



# **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 -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:

		G		Back O PM Loo				e		
	UTC+3	UTC+2	UTC+1	UTC/BST	UTC-1	UTC-5	UTC-6	UTC-7	UTC-8	UTC-10
Mon				GM0EUL		AF8A	K8UDH	NS6W	N6HCN	KH6LC
Tues		SV2BBK	PG4I	GW2CW O		WE5P		K7NJ	K6RB	
Wed				<b>G0HKC</b>	DF7TV	N4TMM	K5XU	KU7Y		
Thurs		SV2BBK		G2CWO						AH6KO
Fri		SV2BBK				<b>VE3FXX</b>	KG5U		K6RB	
Sat			LA1IO			<b>VE3FXX</b>	N8LR			

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 November's GB efforts:

### **Volunteer: Stations Worked**

AF8A: KI7NRI, WA1ZQX, NG9D, WA5SNL
AH6KO: N0FU, WB6KFG, KG7OSW, W0CCA, KH6DLK, WB7AEA, WA6OIB
DF7TV: DJ3KU, EA5JA, IU0JGN, PA2ST, US7WA
G2CWO: IU0AHC, S53OP, IT9RDG, EW2AR, EA1FL, OE6JTD, R2DGA, E77F, IK7UKF, IK5XCT, IZ3SOI, RZ3AEN, G3WGE, F5VBU
GW2CWO: I1JBO, YU7BR, IK4EWX, UT9IU, DL7VDX, OM3TLG, LZ2PG, E73ESP, YU5TM, HA7YUB, IZ5YGZ, OE1PMU, S51KD, IK5BCM, HA7RJA, IT9QAU, EW3RK, R5QL, LZ1YP, R7CA, YU1ZH, UA4FCO, RW6LI, R3LBF, RA1TI, IK7YZL, OK1WCF, IK4EWX, UR4LTL, UR4VWN, OK2BOU, R3QU, DK3WW, LZ1VFM, EA3FZS, OK2PLJ
K6RB: KK6ZHK, CO6DE, K7XU, KE7LOY, N5XZ, KN3PAT, WA6APN, W0/E74ZH, W0NF



K7NJ: KA4FDM, WD4MSM, KD2SRH, AC8PL, AG4OG, N2KOF, K5XOM, WZ6G, WA6MCL, N4FZ, KC3NDU, NA5N, AA8KY, N9ITO, WB4DKF, N6EAL, KI6M, KA2DDI, K4KO, WD4OHD, N4KWF, K9LCY, KA5FDX, W0KU, W4WF, W8AEW, WY3A, W0NF, W6BUX, WB7PNC, W2ACS, K0HNL, K6ZGN, WA4JYX, WA0USA, WB9TWJ, N8DXZ
K8UDH: NX9Z, KG5IEE
KH6LC: PY3EF, N6AF, K5KV, KG7OSW, K9UIY, W9VNE, KZ3Q, W3BZN, WB6VIC, K1QKZ, K5TF, 9J2BO, YV1LBB, N8RS
N4TMM: K0CDJ, N2CJO, AA7ZZ, KG5EM, W8AFS, KB6NU, K4YNG, W3LGX
N6HCN: K5KV, WA5PFJ, W7OWF
N8LR: NR1Z, KK4DM
SV2BBK: F6BPP, IK5ZWU, EA3IGR, G4LHI, F6BYZ, UR5FS, DL2SAS, OK2PIM, EA3CWT
WE5P: CE6DIJ, YV1LBB, K7SH, G3WZD, LZ3ZX, N4UZZ, W6FK, VA3CWT, CE2KMK, WA4MCE, IZ2QZH, W6GRT

# CWops to participate in <u>QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo</u> March 13-14, 2021

Peter Butler W1UU

CWops is making plans to participate in this exciting event using innovative technology! One part will be a scheduled video presentation of CWAcademy by Eric NM5M consisting of a pre-recorded discription of CWA followed by a live Q&A session. Eric is not new to doing this, having participated last August and resulting in a number of CWA signups! A second presentation by Peter W1UU will present "The New Frontier of CW Operating," also using the same format. In this presentation there will be short mini-presentations of our various activities.

There is more! CWops will have a virtual booth where you can see and talk with



Peter W1UU, CWops vice president

those who would like more information, just like we have done at Dayton and Hamcation. Using Zoom-like technology, we can have live interaction with those who are interested.

There is really more! Using the technology available to us, we expect to have virtual "round tables" where you can enjoy discussing your topics of interest. You can also go from table to table.



That means you can meet-up with your friends and you don't have to deal with transportation, lodging, meals and the system is open 48-hours. This will be very encouraging to our overseas members who can be virtually there!

There will be needs to have CWops members to provide "virtual booth duty" and help in moderating the virtual "round tables". We will need to have production assistance with members. We will need extra technical assistance to properly format the Zoom-like sessions to properly format our objectives. Please send an eMail to peter.w1uu@gmail.com with your insight and interests to make CWops a growing force in our activities!



Our Ambassador team will be consulted and they are expected to let the Ambassador Committee chairman (W1UU) know what other Virtual Ham events are likely in their territory of interest. Please go to the Ambassador page on the CWops web page to let your area Ambassador know of your information and interests!

Many technical details are being worked out, practically every day. You can register at <u>https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/tickets.html</u>

Several of us, including NM5M and myself are busy preparing our sessions.

Here is how you could help me: Do you have skills at video editing? Are you willing to be a part of

my team making a polished 1-hour presentation?

CWops will have a virtual booth. Are you willing to be a volunteer to participate in a scheduled session in a "breakout room" also called a 'virtual round table" and have skills coordinating this effort. If so please contact Peter, W1UU. On Febru-



The QSO Today virtual exhibit hall from August 2020

ary 1 is our deadline to upload our presentations, so time is short.



# The CWops Award for Advancing the Art of CW

# <u>Riki Kline, K7NJ</u>

CWops is pleased to announce that it is now accepting nominations for this prestigious award for the year 2021.

The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals, groups, or organizations that have made the greatest contribution(s) toward advancing the art or practice of radio communications by Morse code.

## <u>Criteria</u>

Candidates for the award may be one or more of the following:

- Authors of publications related to CW
- CW recruiters, trainers, mentors, coaches and instructors
- Public advocates of CW
- Organizers of CW activities
- Designers and inventors who advance the art or practice of CW
- Other contributors to the art or practice of CW
- <u>Note</u>: The award is **not** limited to amateur radio operators or their organizations.

## <u>Nomination</u>

Nominations may be made by anybody (not limited to CWops members). Nominations should be emailed to <<u>awards@cwops.org</u>> with a copy to <<u>secretary@cwops.org</u>>. In order to be considered, a nomination should be received by March 18, 2021 and include:

Name(s) and call sign(s) (if applicable) of nominee(s), and complete contact information including their postal address(es), email address(es), and telephone number(s).

A detailed explanation supporting nominee qualifications according to the above criteria.

Name, telephone number, email address, and call sign (if applicable) of the person submitting the nomination.

## Presentation of Award

A plaque is typically presented at the Dayton Hamvention. For 2021, since the Hamvention has been cancelled, the plaque will be mailed to the recipient.





# CW Operators Club Financial Report December 31, 2020

## Craig Thompson, Treasurer K9CT

### Cash Balances 12/31/2020

Hometown Community Bank	\$ 10,115.51
Bank of America	20,005.69
PayPal	13,529.98
Investment Account	<u>159,167.87</u>
Total Assets	\$ 202,819.05
Inflows	
Club Dues	\$ 40,678.68
Donation	60.00
Other Income	<u>0.00</u>
Total Inflows	\$ 40,738.68
Outflows	
Awards	\$ 7,481.00
Education	1,500.00
Marketing	988.95
PayPal Network Fees	1,583.35
Currency Conversion	347.36
Website	266.53
Licenses	<u>35.00</u>
Total Outflows	\$ 12,202.19

## **Overall Total**

\$ 28,536.49

#### Notes:

- 1. The CW Operators Club has \$165,188 held in reserve for memberships of more than 1 year (5-year and lifetime memberships). We also reserve a two-year budget of \$24,000, so \$189,188 for safekeeping.
- 2. Our budget is held currently at \$14,000 per year and we have money in reserve for a special CWops project.
- 3. Our reserve is held in conservative funds and returned just over 13% last year.



# **Huge Turnout of CWops in September NA Sprint**

## Art Suberbielle, KZ5D

More than half of the participants in the recent NA Sprint were CWops members. While the 4 hour Sprint is similar to the weekly CWTs, there are some notable differences that provide a different challenge to the contesters. For one thing, once you call CQ and make a QSO on a frequency, you must move to another frequency to answer another station or call CQ again. If you are S&Ping and answer a CQ, then you inherit the frequency to call CQ and make a contact. Afterwards, it's time to move. So this requires a different



The North American CW Sprint is sponsored by <u>NCJ, The National</u> <u>Contest Journal</u>

approach than the CWTs where you can hold a frequency by CQing or just S&P. As a result, the playing field is more level for everyone, regardless of the power or antennas.

The Sprint also does not allow the use of any spotting, so each op has more of a challenge to find a contact. Another difference between the two contests is that the Sprint runs for 4 hours, but only twice a year. And all contacts must be made on 20, 40, or 80 during the event. To be listed in the final scores, Cabrillo logs must be submitted. Although not necessary to participate, ops are encouraged to join a team of 5 to add some comraderie to the competition.

**The next CW Sprint** is set for 2300z Feb. 6, 2021 to 0300z Feb. 7. Get more details about the next NA Sprint here: <u>http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf</u>

# **CWops Member Scores - North American Sprint - Sep 2020**

(TT) Category Top Ten Finisher; \* Low Power; \*\* QRP

Call	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mults	Score	Team
AA3B	BUD	PA	73	134	94	301	41	12,341	
AB0S	TIM	KS	44	109	98	251	41	10,291	
AB9YC	*AJ	IL	23	52	1	76	27	2,052	SMC Brisket
AC6T	STEVE	CA	36	104	84	224	40	8,960	SCCC #2
AD6E	ALAN	CA	33	88	41	162	38	6,156	NCCC #3
AE6Y	ANDY	CA	72	126	88	286	42	12,012	NCCC #2
AJ1DM	*JOHN	RI	0	2	0	2	2	4	



Call	Name	QTH	20	40	80	-	Mults	Score	Team
KOAD	*AL	MN	35	104	79	218	39	8,502	
KOEU	*KEN	CO	45	124	110	279	43	11,997	GM Downhill Racers
KORF	CHUCK	CO	65	125	104	294	43	12,642	GM Downhill Racers
K1AR	JOHN	NH	57	122	105	284	42	11,928	CODE GUYS
K1DG	DOUG	NH	69	127	112	308	42	12,936	TEAM ROCKIN
K3JT	*TERRY	WV	0	43	0	43	20	860	
K3LR	TIM	PA	89	108	113	310	41	12,710	TEAM ROCKIN
K3UA	*PHIL	PA	31	76	121	228	42	9,576	TEAM ROCKIN
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	60	123	111	294	40	11,760	SESC #1
K4FN	*DAN	KY	14	101	66	181	39	7,059	
K4IU	*FRED	MN	11	97	94	202	39	7,878	
K4RO	KIRK	ΤN	81	138	107	326	42	13,692	TEAM HIRAM
K4XU	DICK	OR	69	107	107	283	42	11,886	Oregon Fire #1
K5PI	ROB	ΤX	81	125	101	307	43	13,201	Gang of Five
K5TR	GEO	ΤX	79	100	84	263	40	10,520	Gang of Five
K5ZD	RANDY	MA	86	124	105	315	41	12,915	CODE GUYS
K6KM	ROB	CA	17	29	24	70	26	1,820	NCCC #3
K6MM	JOHN	CA	29	65	0	94	34	3,196	NCCC #4
K6MR	KEN	CA	56	104	111	271	40	10,840	NCCC #1
K6NV	BOB	CA	6	29	23	58	25	1,450	
K6SRZ	ALAN	CA	70	93	57	220	39	8,580	NCCC #3
K7QA	ТОМ	MT	62	88	82	232	40	9,280	Big Sky Not Quite 5
K7RL	MITCH	WA	68	102	101	271	41	11,111	
K7SV	*LAR	VA	55	100	106	261	40	10,440	
K8MR	JIM	ОН	73	103	111	287	41	11,767	OHIO BOYS
K8NZ	*RON	ОН	11	85	92	188	39	7,332	OHIO BOYS
K9CT	CRAIG	IL	55	105	112	272	42	11,424	SMC Burnt Ends
K9KM	*HOWIE	IL	12	57	39	108	34	3,672	SMC Burnt Ends
K9NW	MIKE	IN	74	107	118	299	42	12,558	MULT MEN
K9ZO	**RALPH	IL	25	36	65	126	32	4,032	
KC2LSD	CODY	NJ	0	13	12	25	20	500	
KG9X	*FRED	IL	29	81	101	211	39	8,229	
KH6CJJ	*KENT	HI	45	0	0	45	27	1,215	GM Slalom Skiers
KI7Y	JIM	OR	26	74	51	151	35	5,285	Oregon Fire #1
KJ9C	MEL	MT	46	106	94	246	39	9,594	Big Sky Not Quite 5
KU8E	JEFF	GA	40	117	105	262	40	10,480	SESC #2
KW8N	BOB	ОН	51	101	102	254	42	10,668	CODE GUYS
KZ5D	ART	LA	85	119	94	298	41	12,218	Gang of Five
N0AC	*BILL	IA	23	97	81	201	39	7,839	
N0AT	*RON	MN	35	95	104	234	40	9,360	
NOAX	WARD	MO	69	125	107	301	39	11,739	SMC Burnt Ends
NOTA	JOHN	CO	29	122	75	226	40	9,040	GM Downhill Racers
N2IC(TT)	STEVE	NM	74	148	117	339	44	14,916	TEAM HIRAM
N2NL(TT)	DAVE	AL	86	141	98	325	43	13,975	TEAM HIRAM
N2NT(TT)	ANDY	NJ	80	145	113	338	42	14,196	TEAM HIRAM
N3AM	JOHN	MD	30	29	0	59	29	1,711	
N3BB(TT)	JIM	ТΧ	100	128	102	330	44	, 14,520	Gang of Five
. ,	-							-	5



Call	Name	QTH	20	40	80		Mults	Score	Team
N3QE	TIM	MD	86	119	115	320	42	13,440	
N3SD	*GREG	PA	0	27	77	104	37	3,848	MULT MEN
N3ZZ	ТОМ	CA	72	108	91	271	41	11,111	NCCC #2
N4AF	AL	NC	82	133	101	316	42	13,272	
N4DW	DAVE	ΤN	60	76	101	237	41	9,717	
N400	*BRIAN	GA	27	91	72	190	39	7,410	
N4YDU	NATE	NC	0	15	56	71	34	2,414	
N5RZ	GATOR	ТΧ	76	112	113	301	41	12,341	Gang of Five
N5TOO	VAN	GA	44	89	69	202	37	7,474	
N5ZO	MARKO	CA	74	128	110	312	42	13,104	SCCC #1
N6MJ(TT)	DAN	CA	104	137	101	342	42	14,364	SCCC #1
N6RK	RICK	CA	17	60	0	77	32	2,464	NCCC #5
N6TR	DON	OR	71	144	109	324	41	13,284	Oregon Fire #1
N6TVN	CARL	CA	28	0	0	28	18	504	NCCC #4
N6ZFO	BILL	CA	65	119	79	263	39	10,257	NCCC #1
N8BJQ	STEVE	OH	22	54	39	115	34	3,910	
N9NA	JOHN	AZ	0	10	18	28	15	420	Arizona Outlaws Guns
NA6O	GARY	CA	11	38	0	49	26	1,274	NCCC #3
NA8V	GREG	MI	57	101	115	273	42	11,466	MULT MEN
NF8M	*FRANK	MI	0	38	39	77	31	2,387	
NK4O	*AJ	FL	20	29	4	53	25	1,325	
NP2X	ED	KP2	78	115	72	265	39	10,335	MULT MEN
VE3YT	*VIC	ON	45	59	92	196	40	7,840	
WOUA	GEO	CO	42	108	95	245	40	9,800	GM Downhill Racers
W1FJ	AL	MA	61	94	100	255	39	9,945	
W1NN	*HAL	ОН	39	93	86	218	40	8,720	OHIO BOYS
W1UJ	JAY	MA	47	125	88	260	41	10,660	
W2GD	JOHN	PA	70	103	127	300	40	12,000	TEAM ROCKIN
W2MKM	ED	NJ	0	72	44	116	35	4,060	
W2RQ	BILL	NJ	68	103	124	295	40	11,800	TEAM ROCKIN
W3YQ	TIM	WV	57	101	90	248	41	10,168	MULT MEN
W4ER	**JOHN	AL	0	42	11	53	27	1,431	
W4NZ	TED	TN	45	109	92	246	39	9,594	SESC #2
W4WF	CHRIS	FL	72	102	85	259	42	10,878	SESC #1
W6SX	HANK	CA	56	94	115	265	41	10,865	NCCC #2
W7WHY	TOM	OR	58	75	90	203	40	8,920	Oregon Fire #1
W8CAR	DAN	OH	35	83	89	207	40	8,280	TWO GUYS
W8EN	RANDY	NC	42	79	99	2207	40 39	8,580	SESC #2
W9ILY	*JOHN	IL	42	20	38	58	26	1,508	5L5C #2
W9KKN	BILL	CA	39	20 82		191			NCCC #3
W9RKN W9RE	MIKE	IN	39 81	ە2 133		327	39 42	7,449	SMC Pulled Pork
			31	68	113 22	122		13,734	SIVIC FUILED FOLK
WA3AAN	GRANT	PA			23		34	4,148	
WA6URY		CA	6	26	18	50	24	1,200	
WB40MM	**STEVE	FL	9	0	0	9 777	9	81	
WD6T	DAVE	CA	69	117	91	277	41	11,357	NCCC #2
WF7T	*BRAD	TN	0	0	54	54 25 0	28	1,512	
WJ9B	WILL	ID	69	88	101	258	40	10,320	O
WS7L	CARL	OR	54	92	89	235	39	9,165	Oregon Fire #1



# **Regenerating Radio Fun**

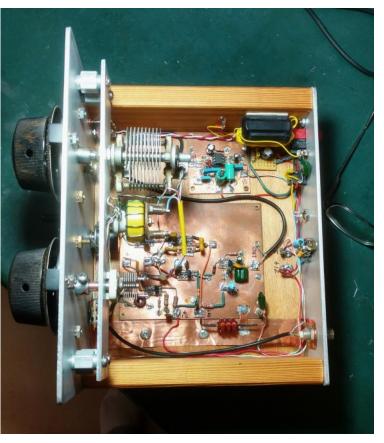
## Victor Rosenthal, 4X6GP

In 1954 I was 11 years old. I wanted to build a one-tube radio described in an old book I had, so I went to my local TV/radio repair shop to buy parts. The first thing I needed was an '01A tube. When the guy stopped laughing, he indicated that he didn't have one. My friend's father was a broadcast engineer who worked for RCA in New York, so I asked him. When *he* stopped laughing,

he said he would help me build a one tube radio with more modern parts. He taught us how to solder, to read resistor color codes, and provided parts to augment the ones we scrounged. His son and I both succeeded in building working radios using metal 6SK7 tubes as regenerative detectors. Unhappily, my friend never developed an interest in electronics as his dad had hoped, but I found that I loved building stuff.

My radio was battery operated, with a 6volt lantern battery for the filament and a 45-volt B battery for the plate. I could hear shortwave BC stations (Radio Moscow was everywhere), and sometimes even hams on 40 meters. I knew it was time to replace the batteries when all I could hear was RTTY from Press Wireless, whose very QRO transmitting facility was about half a mile away from my home.

### I also built a more sophisticated regen



with a 6SN7 as detector and amplifier from the ARRL handbook. For some reason, it never worked, possibly because of my tendency to substitute parts that I had around for parts that would cost money, even when they weren't *exactly* right (e.g., an audio output transformer from an old radio for the interstage transformer the Handbook called for). I also had an old National SW3 at one point, which sort of worked, but was very unstable.

Recently I was gripped with nostalgia for regenerative receivers (<u>a previous bout of nostalgia for</u> <u>813 transmitting tubes is described here</u>). But I no longer have a junk box of old tubes, plug in coils, and other nostalgia material. What to do?

Luckily, the regenerative receiver concept can be translated to modern components. In particular, JFETs make good regenerative detectors. <u>I stole a circuit from Dave, AA7EE</u>, although I made changes, mostly to make it possible to use parts on hand (I'm still as cheap as ever). You can see the results in the photos.



It's built using so-called "Manhattan" construction, in which "islands" of copper-clad PC board material are glued to a base of similar stuff. It allows for easy construction, excellent mechanical integrity, and a very good ground plane, important for stability. I used pieces of perf-board for the islands holding transistors and ICs. I ordered some lovely pre-made islands from QRPme, but they didn't arrive in time, so I just cut some out with my tinsnips.

The circuit begins with a broadband RF amplifier to isolate the detector from the antenna and to reduce radiation from the oscillating circuit. In the traditional regen, the detector itself employs positive feedback, but this design is somewhat different: a bipolar transistor RF amplifier with

positive feedback is connected in parallel with the link-coupled tuned circuit at the gate of a JFET that is used as an infiniteimpedance detector. The feedback amplifier acts as a Q-multiplier, greatly increasing the impedance (and thereby the selectivity and gain) of the tuned circuit at resonance. The detector is followed by one stage of audio amplification, which feeds an LM386 that provides enough audio to drive a speaker.

The receiver has an RF gain control that is just an attenuator at the antenna input,



regeneration and audio gain controls, and coarse and fine tuning controls. I built the detector tuned circuit with a large 2.5 cm toroid and no. 20 wire, to improve Q and stability. It covers about 6 to 10 MHz, and the two ancient National vernier dials provide a comfortable tuning rate. I made sure to thoroughly bypass and filter all power leads, including adding a 31 mix toroid at the power connector to completely isolate the radio from the power supply, in order to reduce "tunable hum" caused by the oscillator's signal getting into the power supply. It's very solidly built with minimal microphonic effects.

Performance is surprisingly good, once you understand how to balance the regeneration, attenuation, and audio gain controls. Maximum selectivity and gain appear just before and just after the point of oscillation. With strong SWBC signals, I usually reduce regeneration in order to get a broader passband and better audio. For CW and SSB reception, of course, the regeneration control must be advanced past the point of oscillation. If there is a lot of QRM, I set the regeneration as close to the point of oscillation as possible and reduce the signal strength with the attenuator. It sounds complicated, but you get used to it.

I'm still playing with it. I want to add a buffer amplifier and output to make it easy to measure the operating frequency with a scope or counter. And there are some mysterious noises at some frequencies that might be the dreaded "tunable hum." We shall see. In the meantime, after 60-odd years since I last built a regenerative receiver, the magic remains.



# My Attic Antenna Farm

## Tom Hain, KV8Q

I've been having fun with ham radio since December 7th, 1961, twenty years after Pearl Harbor. In those days, I ran an 807 putting out about 15 watts on my Novice frequency of 7.191. I replaced my mom's clotheslines with wire (called it an antenna) and reminded her not to hang clothes if she saw me sitting at my radio.

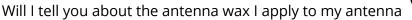
Lots has happened in the years since. Things like children, jobs, different houses, lots of wire antennas, and a few towers and beams tossed in for good measure. I've acquired 5BDXCC on CW and have done well in various contests over the years. It's been fun and I didn't want the fun to end when we downsized into a condo a few years ago.

After lots of thought, I decided on a MFJ-1788 as a tribander for 40, 20, and 15 meters. I mounted it in the attic above the garage about 12' above the garage floor. It is fed with 65 feet of RG-8X. The remote tuner doesn't use any additional cabling which is a real plus for me. Once I had this antenna up and functional, I could play around in some of the State QSO Parties and get back to working on getting a QSL card from all 3077 counties on CW.

It didn't take long to realize that I really need to come up with some sort of antenna for 80 meters. I tried a number of ideas and finally settled in on an Isotron-80. It is mounted 5 feet from the mag loop. Once I got it tuned, I was surprised at how well it actually played on 80 meters. Now, all I needed as something for 10 meters. I ended up with a dipole in the shack and, once again, it actually does quite well. My TenTec Eagle is happy with the situation and produces a reliable 100 watts for me on all bands.

Does my signal compare to folks running high power to a monobander at 70 feet? No.

Can I effectively use a band map to spot necessary multipliers? No. If I tried, I would have to re-tune the mag loop and the mult would be gone by then. The only things on my band map are my own spots.







The MFJ-1788 (top) and the Isotron-80 (bottom)



## (Continued from previous page) farm before each contest? No. Do I have fun? You betcha!!!

See you in the next contest. I'll be the weak guy in the pileup.



10m dipole.

# An Antenna for a Small Yard

# **Bob Rennard, N7WY**

My Cheyenne, Wyoming home is in a managed community with ample CC&Rs and my back yard is 20 feet deep and 40 feet wide, a challenging antenna environment. The <u>MFJ-2286 Big Stick kit</u> includes a base loading coil, 4 radials, a mounting bracket and a 200+ inch telescoping whip. It looked like a feasible stealth antenna solution as it had a low cross section, and almost all the parts I needed to get started.



The mounting bracket is similar to the <u>Workman RV1 CB antenna mirror mount</u>. It can be attached to either a horizontal or vertical part of a support mirror structure. I attached the bracket to a 6 foot piece of ½ inch threaded rod driven half-way into the ground at the intersection of the diagonals across my back yard. The mount includes an SO-239, the shell of which is in contact with the bracket. A 3/8-24 stud passes through an insulating washer keeping the stud from touching the bracket. The loading coil screws into a 3/8-24 coupling nut attached to the stud, and the whip screws into the top of the loading coil. I strung the radials outward toward the corners of the yard using lengths of string tied to the fence corners. Following the data sheet, I attached the copper alligator clip to the coil, checked the resonance frequency and made some minor adjustments. For a while I used a coaxial UNUN to work as an in-line choke.

Things worked OK, but not wonderful for a while. For example, after the April 7 1300Z CWT I worked UR7LY on 20 m CW so he would have WY to complete his WAS on CW. Then problems surfaced; specifically, erratic VSWR that caused issues with USB connections. I noticed that the whip had a tendency to retract slightly over time, so I placed Acco binder clips of different sizes to prevent retracting. The problem persisted. The coupling nut is 1-1/8 inches long and the mount-

ing stud and stud at the bottom of the loading coil meet end-to-end within the nut precluding the use of a star washer: the coil will unscrew from the stud over time. WY7AA, a friend, found some 1-1/2-inch-long coupling nuts which solve that problem. The problem persisted. Could it be that the alligator clip connection wiggled in the wind? To improve the force the clip put on the winding, I tried opening it wider so it bridged two adjacent turns. The copper clip failed and I replaced it with half of an alligator clip jumper that Radio Shack used to sell in blister packs a few years ago. Next, I worried that the electrical connections of the sections of the whip might be erratic. So, I grabbed some #20 hook up wire, attached one end to the top of the whip, stripped the other end, and anchored it under the whip where it mates into the coil. This was not the issue. The primary issue seems to be the alligator clip connection.



Figure 1 - Comparison of the load bearing area of the two insulators.

Then I noticed that at times the antenna was briefly, completely disconnected. This was traced to the socket within the SO-239 that mates the tip of the PL-259 being enlarged. The intermittent connection is exposed by the insulating washer being small so that there is little insulated load bearing surface to keep the loading coil and whip from wobbling around in the wind. I drilled a ½ inch hole in the bracket and replaced the MFJ stud and SO-239 with a <u>Breedlove 209 mobile antenna mount</u> which has much more surface area and a solid connection to the PL-259. No coupling nut is required with this mount (Figure 1).

Figure 2 (next page) - The next to final version of the antenna with the MFJ coil, extended jumper gripping two turns of the coil, the wire running from the coil to the top of the whip, and the



Breedlove mount.

WY7AA recently obtained a <u>Wolf River Take It Along anten-</u><u>na</u>. I was impressed with the solid connection the shorting connection makes with the coil. The downside is that MFJ claims KW power handling with their coil and the Wolf River Silver Bullet is only rated at 200 watts.

The antenna for next year will be the MFJ mounting bracket, a Breedlove mobile mount, a Wolf River Silver Bullet coil and the MFJ whip with the Acco clips. The MFJ radials are fine for 20 meters, but inadequate on 40 m. The coil is removed for wavelengths shorter than 20 meters. Improvements will be made to the feedline choke before the antenna is put back into service in WY next April. See Figure 3.

I got on the air in March 2020. A few days later my adjoining neighbor showed me some WWW research he had been doing instigated by his basement lighting turning off on my first dit or dah. <u>ARRL</u> published a note regarding certain Eaton arc-fault panel-mounted circuit breakers. They are very EMI susceptible. He had already called an electrician to have them replaced at Eaton's expense. We all need neighbors like them.

After patrolling the neighborhood, I determined that some unstable grunge on 14270 was coming from within our house. I installed two Zip cord DPST switches to allow me turn off the touch sensitive lighting controls in our backbar, returning them to operation should we ever have an indoor gathering again.



Figure 2, the next-to-the-final version



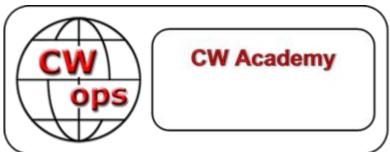
Figure 3, the version that will be used in 2021 with the Wolf River coil and the Breedlove mount.



# **CW Academy**

# Kate Hutton K6HTN Joe Fischer AA8TA Bob Carter WR7Q

By the time this report is published, the January-February 2021 semester will be well underway. This semester is one of our largest of all time; 591 students were placed into a class with 85 separate advisors. One of the frustrating things for us is that 158 students were not placed into a class either because no advisors were available for their areas or



due to not having enough advisors to handle all the students.

Is the increase in students due to the COVID virus situation that we have had to live with most of 2020? Hard to say definitely, but that is a likely explanation. Since we will not come out of this situation for many months, the April-May semester could also see a higher-than-average number of students.

For 2020, we 1,113 students signed up who were placed in a class. Of those, 894 successfully completed a class. There were 364 students who successfully completed a basic class, 255 successfully completed a basic class, 155 successfully completed an intermediate class and 120 successfully completed an advanced class.

There were 92 distinct advisors who assisted us by advising at least one class. A few advisors carried a high number of students in their classes and led more than two classes in the same semester.

The year 2020 saw a few efforts take off that are intended for students or anybody else who would like to make some contacts at a slower pace. The Giving Back program, described elsewhere in this newsletter, is not contest focused and a few others do use a fixed exchange. The K1USN club brought their Slow Speed (con)Test out and it has been very successful so far. It is great that so many on-air opportunities for people who are not comfortable at typical CWT speeds are now available.

Hopefully, you can see the impact that the CW Academy is having and how popular it is. We hope that anybody who has a passion for CW and for sharing that passion with others will consider helping us out as an advisor. Advisors do not have to be members of CWops and the rewards in helping students to succeed are immense just in seeing their happy reactions. Let's not let that student backlog grow.

73,

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

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# **CWops Tests**

# **Rich Ferch**, VE3KI

The first draft of the list of CWT medal recipients has been posted to the files area at the groups.io website, at <https:// cwops.groups.io/g/main/files/topslist.txt>. I am working out a few glitches, some reported by people whose own records disagreed with mine, and some I am finding from spot checks. If you find errors in that listing, please feel free to let me know so I can clean them up. The finalized list of medal qualifiers will be in the February newsletter. I am currently expecting the totals to be 146 Gold, 135 Silver and 146 Bronze medals.



If you believe that you qualified for a medal but do not want to receive one, let me know and we won't order one for you. We will still list your call sign in the list, so you will still be recognized, we just won't bother ordering a physical medal if that's what you prefer.

In the meantime, here a few statistics.

There were 159 CWTs in 2020, of which 9 were the last of the slow-speed versions (there will be no special slow CWTs in 2021). Resulting from those 159 CWTs there were more than 53000 scores uploaded to 3830scores.com, with a total of just over 3 million claimed QSOs. We averaged over 333 score reports in each CWT, so the global average score over all participants in all sessions was around 57 QSOs. That includes everyone from the newcomers or QRP stations in out-of-the-way locations making only a handful of contacts, all the way up to the top scorers who routinely made more than 200 QSOs in a session.

The highest number of QSOs in a single CWT last year (or ever) was 285, made by Chas K3WW in the 1300Z session on November 25. His claimed score was 72,390 – the first and so far the only time a score higher than 70,000 has been reported. Prior to this year, claimed scores over 50,000 were a rarity. A significant part of this increase is no doubt related directly to an increase in the number of stations available to work.

The most popular session was the 1900Z session, with an average of 379 claimed scores, and a peak of 451 scores submitted on April 8. The 1300Z session was not so far behind, with an average of 353 claimed scores, and a peak of 403 on May 27. The 0300Z session was not quite as popular, with an average of 269 scores uploaded, and a peak of 315 on November 19. These participation numbers are much higher than in 2019. Pandemic restrictions that led to a lot more people having the opportunity to participate on a weekday undoubtedly had a lot to do with this. It looks as if this state of affairs will continue for some time yet.

I hope everyone continues to enjoy the CWTs, and the associated chatter on the CWops group at groups.io. They give us something to think about that is a bit more cheerful than the nightly



news, and we can be thankful for that. Hang in there, folks, stay safe, and keep enjoying the CWTs!

73,

Rich, VE3KI

# **New Members**

# Trung Nguyen W6TN

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

CWops	Call	Name	CWops	Call	Name	CWops	Call	Name
			•				14/14/00	
2759	N4ARY*	A-Ray	2767	G4PIQ	Andy	2775	WW3S	Jim
2760	WS5C*	Will	2768	TA1UT*	Bora	2776	DL6RAI*	Ben
2761	K2ACX	Brian	2769	I8QFK*	Ben	2777	G4PFZ	John
2762	IK7UKF	Sal	2770	OE1TKW	Helmut	2778	VE3FU/VO2AC	Chris
2763	N0BK*	Bruce	2771	W8OU*	Andy	2779	DL5RMH	Martin
2764	N7DX*	Tony	2772	NOBM	Brian	2780	AC0E*	Jim
2765	AD4UM*	Joe	2773	VA3WHU*	Carole	2781	SQ5VCO*	Adam
2766	HA9RC*	Zoli	2774	WB0JRH	Terry			

\*Life Member

# **Current Nominees**

As of January 8, 2021:

Need Sponsors: W2DWL, VK2IOW, W8NIC, W2MSW, WA5YOM

## Invitations Extended: MOORD, IK1PML

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

Notes: If you have updated your personal info, e.g., new QTH, new callsign, or additional callsign, please send it to 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. <u>Use the new online tool to submit your data</u>. It's easy! (Watch the tutorial if you have not used the online tool before.)

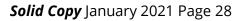
This table is a composite of scores from the old system and the new. Anyone who submitted logs via the new web page will see those submitted scores here. Those who have not adopted the new process will see scores they reported via the old system. Anyone who see errors in their scores should report them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

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

Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
AA3B	1662	10306	W1RM	208	WT9U	50	W1RM	59	UR5MM	39
K3WW	1565	7941	F6HKA	194	WT2P	50	UR5MM	59	W1RM	38
N5RZ	1514	6267	DL6KVA	164	WF7T	50	DL6KVA	58	OK1RR	38
NA8V	1398	6078	W4VQ	155	WA9LEY	50	OH2BN	55	OH2BN	38
K3WJV	1398	5488	UR5MM	153	WA4JUK	50	F6HKA	54	N8BJQ	38
W1RM	1377	7078	G4BUE	149	W9ILY	50	VE3KI	50	F6HKA	38
F6HKA	1302	6427	OH2BN	148	W7GF	50	OK1RR	49	AA3B	38
WT9U	1257	4374	OK1RR	141	W6KY	50	<b>DJ1YFK</b>	49	9A1AA	38
VE3KI	1250	6181	VE3KI	134	W4VQ	50	9A1AA	49	W4VQ	37
N8BJQ	1249	6637	W9ILY	129	<b>W1UU</b>	50	G4BUE	47	VE3KI	37
AC6ZM	1238	2818	N8BJQ	126	W1RM	50	AA3B	47	G4BUE	37
K4WW	1230	3460	K3WW	125	W0EJ	50	N8BJQ	46	W9ILY	36
K7QA	1219	3623	AA3B	125	VK7CW	50	K3WW	46	W0VX	36
K3JT	1207	3901	K1ESE	121	VE3KI	50	G4HZV	46	N5RZ	36
K1VUT	1201	3758	9A1AA	119	NU7Y	50	W9ILY	45	N5PHT	36
KG9X	1191	4010	WOVX	118	NA8V	50	<b>SMOHEV</b>	45	K3WW	36
N7US	1187	4462	AC4CA	118	NA6O	50	PG4I	45	DL6KVA	36
W9ILY	1133	5034	N5IR	117	N8BJQ	50	K3WJV	45	AC4CA	36
K3PP	1118	2572	N5RZ	114	N7US	50	<b>IN3FHE</b>	45	N5RR	35
K5ZD	1094	3210	N5PHT	114	N5RZ	50	W4VQ	44	ON4CAS	34
W4WF	1088	2836	EA8OM	111	N5RR	50	NA8V	44	N1EN	34
I2WIJ	1081	2357	N1EN	110	N5PHT	50	K1ESE	44	K1ESE	34
AC3BU	1075	2632	K1SM	110	N5IR	50	ΙΚΟΥνν	44	IK0YVV	34
K6NR	1070	2707	K3WJV	106	N4ZR	50	N2UU	43	4X6GP	34
DL6KVA	1044	4505	4X6GP	106	N2UU	50	I5EFO	43	VK7CW	33
K9WX	1044	3594	VK7CW	105	N2RC	50	4X6GP	43	NA8V	33
K1DW	1042	4250	N5RR	105	N1EN	50	N5RZ	42	N5IR	33



Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
K8JQ	1040	4067	N2UU	105	N1DC	50	N5RR	42	K0VBU	33
W4PM	1038	2122	NA8V	104	KY7M	50	N5IR	42	I5EFO	33
N1DC	1035	3707	<b>W1UU</b>	103	KU7Y	50	MORYB	42	K1SM	32
KJ9C	1020	3968	N7US	103	KE4S	50	<b>G3YLA</b>	42	I5IYJ	32
WA4JUK	1019	2777	I5EFO	103	KC7V	50	<b>G3LDI</b>	42	WA9LEY	31
K1ESE	1006	4532	ΙΚΟΥνν	101	K9WX	50	EA8OM	42	W1UU	31
NA4J	989	2326	AE1T	101	K9OZ	50	DL5DBY	42	RM2D	31
K8AJS	985	3510	ON4CAS	99	K8JQ	50	AC4CA	42	N7US	31
KE8G	981	2747	EA1WX	99	K8AJS	50	SM7IUN	41	N2UU	31
WN7S	968	2622	K0VBU	98	K7QA	50	LB6GG	41	OK1RP	30
K1DJ	964	3246	K8AJS	97	K6NR	50	K8AJS	41	NA6O	30
NJ3K	958	1928	WT9U	95	K5IX	50	K3JT	41	N7RD	30
N4ZR	939	3122	WA9LEY	95	K5CM	50	K1SM	41	N2RC	30
W8FN	930	2707	IN3FHE	92	K5AX	50	HB9ARF	41	KR3E	30
WS1L	921	1618	K1DJ	91	K4WW	50	UW7LL	40	K8AJS	30
CO8NMN	915	2440	N4ZR	90	K4GM	50	SQ9S	40	K3WJV	30
KV8Q	913	1927	K1DW	89	K3WW	50	RM2D	40	WF7T	29
K2TW	904	2490	K3JT	88	K3WJV	50	OZ3SM	40	N4ZR	29
N2UU	903	4517	N2RC	87	K3SEN	50	K1DJ	40	KC7V	29
KT5V	885	2503	F6JOE	87	K3JT	50	G4NVR	40	K3JT	29
N5PHT	884	4303	KY7M	86	K2QB	50	W0VX	39	K1DW	29
WT2P	877	3586	KR3E	86	K1ESE	50	SM2CEW	39	IT9VDQ	29
VE3TM	869	1542	DJ1YFK	86	K1EBY	50	N4ZR	39	9A2AJ	29
KO8SCA	859	1556	RM2D	85	K1DW	50	N1EN	39	WT9U	28
K4TZ	854	1915	N7RD	85	K1DJ	50	MI0WWB	39	N5AW	28
W3WHK	843	2314	CT1DRB	85	KOVBU	50	M0DHP	39	KT5V	28
NR3Z	843	1484	PG4I	84	KOMP	50	LA8OM	39	K5ZD	28
9A1AA	839	3305	SM0HEV	83	ΙΚΟΥνν	50	K5ZD	39	DJ1YFK	28
W0VX	833	4522	N1DC	83	I5EFO	50	K3PP	39	WE5P	27
VA7ST	829	3088	I5IYJ	83	G4BUE	50	IT9MUO	39	SM0HEV	27
N4FP	820	1567	AD1C	83	F6JOE	50	I2WIJ	39	KJ9C	27
W6LAX	820	1397	K5ZD	82	F6HKA	50	DF7TV	39	K7QA	27
VE3MV	767	2436	K4HQK	81	F5MNK	50	AE1T	39	K4GM	27
K0TC	764	2294	NA6O	80	EA8OM	50	<b>PA3HEN</b>	38	IN3FHE	27
OZ3SM	760	1610	K9WX	80	AE1T	50	IT9VDQ	38	I2WIJ	27
W1UU	756	3386	WA4JUK	79	AD1C	50	DK1WI	38	WT2P	26
K6KM	716	1329	K5AX	79	AC4CA	50	CT1DRB	38	WA4JUK	26
K5QR	711	1368	G3LDI	79	AB7MP	50	WA4JUK	37	PG4I	26
K3SEN	692	2150	DL8PG	79	AA8TA	50	SV2BBK	37	OZ3SM	26
AF4T	692	1279	KJ9C	78	AA3B	50	SM5IMO	37	N1ZX	26





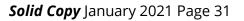
Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WA
N5IR	690	3906	N1ZX	77	WN7S	49	RT5P	37	KU7Y	2
W1AJT	685	961	K4GM	77	WB5BKL	49	PA3BFH	37	K9WX	2
K4GM	682	3001	IT9VDQ	77	WA5LXS	49	N1DC	37	K9OZ	2
W2NRA	679	2055	WT2P	76	WA3GM	49	KR3E	37	K6NR	2
WM6Y	676	1308	WF7T	76	W8XC	49	K3MD	37	K5CM	2
KT4XN	673	1537	OZ3SM	76	W8FN	49	K1VUT	37	K4HQK	2
DF7TV	673	986	KE4S	76	W8DN	49	K1DW	37	K2QB	2
W2VM	671	1806	K1EBY	75	W4WF	49	G4ILW	37	K1DJ	2
W1EQ	670	1154	G4HZV	75	W4PM	49	G3WZD	37	CT1DRB	2
WA2USA	667	1293	LA8OM	74	W4ER	49	F6JOE	37	W4WF	2
WA5LXS	658	1486	K7QA	74	W3WHK	49	DL4KG	37	V31MA	2
LB6GG	658	1420	HB9ARF	74	W2NRA	49	WT9U	36	UW7LL	2
K0MP	657	1775	KC7V	73	W0VX	49	W1UU	36	SM2CEW	2
SM0HEV	655	1397	K4WW	73	VE3TM	49	SP1D	36	LA8OM	2
KE4S	654	2409	K2QB	73	VE3MV	49	ON4VT	36	KE8G	2
W0TG	653	1958	IT9MUO	73	VA7ST	49	G4DRS	36	K4WW	2
SM2CEW	652	1114	I2WIJ	73	OK1RR	49	F5IYJ	36	K1EBY	2
AG4EA	649	1129	KE8G	71	NN4K	49	EA1WX	36	IT9MUO	2
K2YR	646	1082	K4HR	71	NJ3K	49	9A2AJ	36	HB9ARF	2
W8OV	645	1664	K3PP	71	NA4J	49	ON4CAS	35	DK1WI	2
WA9LEY	644	2990	DL5DBY	71	N7RD	49	N7US	35	PY4XX	2
KK0ECT	640	1275	DK1WI	71	N5AW	49	K0VBU	35	NA4J	2
K9OZ	639	2723	SM7IUN	70	N2WK	49	G4LPP	35	N1DC	2
K4HR	638	2212	N5AW	70	N1ZX	49	EA5IUY	35	K3PP	2
UW7LL	623	1362	G4NVR	70	KV8Q	49	EA3FZT	35	DL4FDM	2
W8DN	622	1391	W2NRA	69	KT5V	49	DD7CW	35	DF7TV	2
AA8TA	619	1950	SM2CEW	68	KM4FO	49	N5AW	34	KG9X	2
KB4DE	610	1151	N7WY	68	KK0ECT	49	K4HQK	34	KE4S	2
PY4XX	598	861	KT5V	68	KJ9C	49	K1EBY	34	K8JQ	2
IT9MUO	597	1924	K1VUT	68	KG9X	49	IKONOJ	34	K4HR	2
K0VBU	595	4266	F5MNK	68	KE8G	49	DL4FDM	34	G4NVR	2
WF7T	595	3060	WE5P	67	KE4RG	49	W4WF	33	G4HZV	2
KB8GAE	595	1340	VE3MV	67	KC8J	49	W4PM	33	G3LDI	2
W2CDO	591	849	UW7LL	67	K6RB	49	W2NRA	33	W7GF	2
M0RYB	589	1270	SQ9S	67	K6KM	49	VE3MV	33	W0TG	2
KF8O	583	1118	KG9X	67	K6DGW	49	PY4XX	33	SQ9S	2
KC8J	578	1192	9A2AJ	67	K5ZD	49	K7QA	33	SM7IUN	2
9A2AJ	568	841	W3WHK	66	K4TZ	49	EA4OR	33	N2WK	2
OK1RR	566	2963	N2WK	66	K4HR	49	AC3BU	33	KO8SCA	2
W2XYZ	563	842	MORYB	66	K4AFE	49	PF5X	32	K5QR	2



Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	W
NN4K	559	2245	VA7ST	65	K3PP	49	N2WK	32	AC3BU	
KC7V	556	3320	V31MA	65	K3MD	49	N2RC	32	WN7S	
SP1D	547	975	OK1RP	65	K2TW	49	KY7M	32	W4PM	
W4VQ	540	3123	W4WF	64	K1VUT	49	KJ9C	32	W2NRA	
K3ZA	539	880	SM5IMO	64	K0TC	49	KE4S	32	VA7ST	
N5XE	517	1581	F5IYJ	64	DL6KVA	49	K5QR	32	SP1D	
N4CWZ	512	797	NA4J	63	AF4T	49	K4WW	32	K6DGW	
SQ9S	510	953	LB6GG	63	AC6ZM	49	K4GM	32	K3SEN	
NU7Y	503	1593	K3SEN	63	AC3BU	49	I5IYJ	32	K1VUT	
KM4FO	501	1565	K3DMG	63	9A1AA	49	F5MNK	32	G4DRS	
N7RD	500	1437	DF7TV	63	WM6Y	48	DK3WW	32	CO8NMN	
W4ER	498	1582	CO8NMN	63	W8OV	48	CO8NMN	32	AC6ZM	
HB9ARF	492	1821	K8JQ	62	W6LAX	48	W3WHK	31	W4ER	
N3FZ	486	1143	ON4VT	61	W2VM	48	VK7CW	31	W3WHK	
K4AFE	463	1909	K9OZ	61	W0TG	48	V31MA	31	VE3TM	
G4BUE	462	3862	K5CM	61	UR5MM	48	OK1RP	31	NN4K	
AA8R	462	1022	G4DRS	61	N7WY	48	N1ZX	31	K6KM	
DJ1YFK	460	1977	AC3BU	61	N5XE	48	KO8SCA	31	JF2IWL	
UR5MM	458	3045	W4PM	60	KT4XN	48	KG9X	31	G3WZD	
KJ4M	456	1242	DL4FDM	60	KR3E	48	K5AX	31	F5IYJ	
K1EBY	455	2381	WN7S	59	KO8SCA	48	DL8PG	31	DL4KG	
G3LDI	455	1757	MODHP	59	KE6K	48	DF4ZL	31	AA8R	
KC4WQ	454	694	KO8SCA	59	KB8GAE	48	WA9LEY	30	VE3MV	
AF3K	453	983	PY4XX	58	KB4DE	48	VE3TM	30	<b>MORYB</b>	
G4HZV	446	1376	K4QS	57	KA9BHD	48	NR3Z	30	MODHP	
WE5P	446	1143	W6KY	56	K5QR	48	NJ3K	30	LB6GG	
CT1DRB	444	1146	NN4K	56	K4QS	48	NA6O	30	KB8GAE	
K4EES	444	793	K6RB	56	K4HQK	48	N5PHT	30	K2TW	
G4NVR	438	1354	<b>G</b> 3YLA	56	K4EES	48	MONGN	30	КОТС	
G3WZD	434	799	G3WZD	56	K3DMG	48	KE8G	30	AF4T	
EA5IUY	432	617	SP1D	55	K1SM	48	K3SEN	30	WM6Y	
K5YZW	428	797	КОТС	54	IT9VDQ	48	DL5JQ	30	WB5BKL	
NF8M	421	691	AC6ZM	54	IT9MUO	48	AC6ZM	30	WA3GM	
WB5BKL	415	1421	W2VM	53	I2WIJ	48	N7RD	29	W8OV	
NG1R	413	828	W0TG	53	EA1WX	48	KC7V	29	W8FN	
W8XC	407	787	K2TW	53	DL8PG	48	K4QS	29	PF5X	
N4GL	403	574	NR3Z	52	AF3K	48	K2QB	29	ON4VT	
PG4I	401	814	MI0WWB	52	4X6GP	48	<b>G0ELZ</b>	29	NU7Y	
KH6TU	394	631	K6NR	52	WT8P	47	WT2P	28	NR3Z	
W7GF	390	1133	K5QR	52	WS1L	47	WN7S	28	N5XE	



Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	
SM7IUN	384	880	IKONOJ		WE5P	47	WF7T		KE6K	l
				52 52	WE3F WA2USA		W1AJT	28		t
	384	798	G4ILW			47		28	K4AFE	1
IN3FHE	378	1253	DL4KG	52	W6TN	47	NN4K	28	IKONOJ	1
RM2D	375	1332	AA8R	52	W2NO	47	NA4J	28	W8XC	-
K8RJW	373	735	KU7Y	51	W1EQ	47	K9WX	28	W8DN	4
VE6JF	369	952	K4AFE	51	W1AJT	47	K8JQ	28	W2VM	1
AJ1DM	368	895	W8XC	50	VE6JF	47	K4HR	28	SM5IMO	-
N1RM	367	490	W8DN	50	VE10P	47	K2TW	28	N4FP	-
K9CPO	364	528	VE3TM	50	SM5IMO	47	DL1NKB	28	KV8Q	-
AB7MP	358	1303	PF5X	50	PY4XX	47	AD1C	28	KT4XN	-
W6TN	355	991	W8FN	49	ON4CAS	47	W2VM	27	KK0ECT	_
KE4RG	348	1181	KT4XN	49	OH2BN	47	VA7ST	27	K0MP	_
4X6GP	337	1836	NJ3K	47	NR3Z	47	K3DMG	26	DK3WW	
G4LPP	332	653	N3FZ	47	N4FP	47	GW4MVA	26	AF3K	
EA3FZT	328	500	KV8Q	47	LA8OM	47	G0MGM	26	WA2USA	
DD7CW	327	472	SV2BBK	46	KJ4M	47	WE5P	25	W6TN	
OH2BN	325	1315	RT5P	46	KF8O	47	W1EQ	25	VE6JF	
G4DRS	324	955	G4LPP	46	K2YR	47	<b>PA0INA</b>	25	NJ3K	
NA6O	319	3352	DK3WW	46	I5IYJ	47	N4FP	25	N3FZ	
G3YLA	314	884	AF4T	46	HB9ARF	47	AF4T	25	MI0WWB	
DL4KG	314	457	W8OV	45	DK1WI	47	W8FN	24	KM4FO	Ī
PF5X	312	426	W4ER	45	CO8NMN	47	W8DN	24	KB4DE	Ī
DK3WW	311	491	<b>PA3BFH</b>	45	AJ1DM	47	N1RM	24	K5YZW	Ì
N1EN	303	2484	KB8GAE	45	AG4EA	47	K6RB	24	DL5DBY	Ī
KA1YQC	296	364	G0MGM	45	AA8R	47	AF3K	24	WS1L	Î
KD2KW	294	413	EA3FZT	45	WA5PFJ	46	WS1L	23	WA5LXS	Ì
N7SU	291	554	AF3K	45	W2XYZ	46	W2CDO	23	SV2BBK	t
EA4OR	290	453	PA3HEN	44	W2CDO	46	N3FZ	23	NG1R	t
PA3BFH	286	477	N5XE	44	V31MA	46	KT5V	23	MONGN	İ
AA0O	282	375	DD7CW	44	UW7LL	46	K6NR	23	KJ4M	İ
W3RZ	278	478	MONGN	43	SP1D	46	K5CM	23	KE4RG	Í
K5HEM	277	434	EA5IUY	43	SM0HEV	46	КОТС	23	KC8J	1
WT8P	275	523	KK0ECT	42	RM2D	46	EA1DP	23	G4LPP	Í
PA3HEN	269	419	WB5BKL	41	OZ3SM	46	AA8R	23	G4ILW	Ĵ
DL5JQ	266	381	WA5LXS	41	N7SU	46	WOTG	22	AJ1DM	t
DL5DBY	261	1123	WA3GM	41	N4CWZ	46	SP2R	22	AG4EA	İ
MIOWWB	258	586	N4FP	41	N3FZ	46	NG1R	22	AB7MP	İ
MODHP	257	607	K3MD	41	NOPP	46	KT4XN	22	W6LAX	İ
KE6K	244	946	EA4OR	40	KC4WQ	46	DL8BH	22	W2TT	ĺ
MONGN	231	283	DL5JQ	40	K8RJW	46	N5XE	21	W2NO	İ

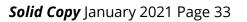




Call		<b>CN4</b> A		DY			0-11		Call	V
Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	W
K1IG	224	291	WS1L	39	K3ZA	46	KV8Q	21	RT5P	
N7MU	219	536	NG1R	39	JF2IWL	46	JF2IWL	21	N7MU	
RT5P	213	341	W1AJT	38	G4HZV	46	GD4EIP	21	NOPP	
W2TT	211	259	AA8TA	38	G3LDI	46	F5PBL	21	KF8O	
WA5BDU	206	243	W1EQ	37	DL5DBY	46	AG4EA	21	K5HEM	
SV2BBK	198	392	KB4DE	37	CT1DRB	46	WA2USA	20	K4TZ	
W6GMT	198	391	K6DGW	37	W0PHX	45	W8XC	20	<b>G</b> 3YLA	
NF5KF	198	289	W0EJ	36	ON4VT	45	W8OV	20	EA5IUY	
KI3F	197	308	K6KM	36	NG1R	45	KB4DE	20	EA3FZT	
KR4WI	197	255	W7GF	35	K5YZW	45	KA1YQC	20	AA8TA	
WU6P	186	234	W2NO	35	G4NVR	45	K9OZ	20	W3RZ	
GD4EIP	184	199	KM4FO	35	F5IYJ	45	K4AFE	20	W2XYZ	
F5IYJ	183	732	JF2IWL	35	DF7TV	45	KB8GAE	19	W1EQ	
ON4VT	182	719	WA2USA	34	AA0O	45	WB5BKL	18	W1AJT	
K1LHO	160	192	AG4EA	34	9A2AJ	45	WA5PFJ	18	PA3BFH	
KA9BHD	157	755	<b>G0ELZ</b>	33	W3RZ	44	WA3GM	18	KH6TU	
KU7Y	154	1674	AJ1DM	33	SM2CEW	44	W6KY	18	KA1YQC	
GW4MVA	147	192	WM6Y	32	PG4I	44	W2XYZ	18	K8RJW	
KG5VK	147	163	VE10P	32	N7MU	44	W2NO	18	K4EES	
OK1RP	136	701	KF8O	32	N4GL	44	VE10P	18	DD7CW	
W8EH	130	149	DL1NKB	32	KH6TU	44	K9CPO	18	WA5PFJ	
AB7RW	129	160	DF4ZL	32	KD2KW	44	G4RCG	18	NF8M	
DF4ZL	123	177	NU7Y	31	G4DRS	44	PA0VLD	17	KA9BHD	
G0ELZ	118	224	K4TZ	31	SQ9S	43	N4GL	17	K9CPO	
DL1NKB	116	146	W6TN	30	SM7IUN	43	KF8O	17	K2YR	
EA1DP	104	131	KE4RG	30	NF8M	43	K8RJW	17	EA4OR	
KI7RS	96	110	KC8J	30	N5KW	43	AJ1DM	17	W2CDO	
KG5U	84	93	W2TT	29	N1RM	43	W4ER	16	WOPHX	
K8MP	84	89	WA5PFJ	28	MORYB	43	K6KM	16	PA3HEN	
DL8BH	81	115	W6LAX	28	LB6GG	43	K2YR	16	N4GL	
PA0INA	68	86	W2CDO	28	KI3F	43	WA5LXS	15	KC4WQ	
SP2R	65	90	N4GL	28	K9CPO	43	NF8M	15	K3ZA	
G4ILW	59	693	KA9BHD	28	K5HEM	43	KU7Y	15	WU6P	
LA8OM	54	1370	KA9BIID KA1YQC	28	DJ1YFK	43	KE4RG	15	N7SU	
ISEFO	54 52	1447	K8RJW		WU6P	43	W2TT	14	KI3F	
				28						$\vdash$
ON4CAS	39	1131	K5YZW	28	W6GMT	42	K5YZW	14	K10J	$\vdash$
OK4MM	37	40	GW4MVA	28	N7ID	42	KOMP	14	K1IG	$\vdash$
K4NE	36	84	EA1DP	28	K1IG	42	AA8TA	14	GD4EIP	┢
KM3A VK7CW	28 20	33 1809	W3RZ W2XYZ	27 27	IN3FHE G3WZD	42 42	KC8J WM6Y	13 12	G0ELZ DL8BH	-



Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WA
PA0VLD	20	37	KE6K	27	G3YLA	41	W6LAX	12	DL5JQ	1
ON6PJ	17	21	K0MP	27	DL4FDM	41	KM4FO	12	DL1NKB	1
DD5KG	17	18	DL8BH	27	NA1VT	40	KK0ECT	12	WT8P	
AC4CA	0	4479	<b>PA0INA</b>	26	KR4WI	40	KI3F	12	W6GMT	
N5RR	0	4223	N1RM	26	WA5BDU	39	K6DGW	12	N7ID	
K6RB	0	4032	N0PP	26	W2TT	39	K4TZ	12	N1RM	
K5AX	0	3634	K2YR	26	KA1YQC	39	ON6PJ	11	KG5VK	
N2RC	0	3271	GD4EIP	26	W4MDV	38	KJ4M	11	F5PBL	
KY7M	0	3252	F5PBL	26	PF5X	38	KA9BHD	11	WX5CW	
AE1T	0	3206	K9CPO	24	K1LHO	38	K5HEM	11	W4MDV	
F6JOE	0	3002	K5IX	24	AB7RW	38	W3RZ	10	NA1VT	
IK0YVV	0	2958	K4EES	24	W9KM	37	W0EJ	10	KD2KW	
K5CM	0	2866	AB7MP	24	NF5KF	37	NF5KF	10	G4RCG	
EA8OM	0	2758	SP2R	23	KB8PGW	37	NA1VT	10	EA1DP	
K1SM	0	2566	NF8M	23	<b>IK0NOJ</b>	37	N5KW	10	AA0O	
N5AW	0	2510	VE6JF	22	EA5IUY	37	K3ZA	10	SP2R	
N2WK	0	2339	NF5KF	22	DD7CW	37	K1IG	10	SM7CIL	
N7WY	0	2303	KJ4M	22	MODHP	36	W6TN	8	OK4MM	
K4HQK	0	2193	G4RCG	22	DL4KG	36	VE6JF	8	N5KW	
K6DGW	0	2122	K5HEM	21	DK3WW	36	SM7CIL	8	KI7RS	
AD1C	0	2101	KI3F	18	OK1RP	35	N0PP	8	GW4MVA	
W6KY	0	2088	KC4WQ	18	MIOWWB	35	KD2KW	8	PA0INA	
K4QS	0	2069	K1IG	18	GD4EIP	35	K5IX	8	N4CWZ	
K2QB	0	2023	W0PHX	17	G0MGM	35	K4EES	8	KR4WI	
EA1WX	0	1961	PA0VLD	17	W8EH	34	NU7Y	7	K4NE	
DL8PG	0	1789	N7MU	16	KI7RS	33	KG5VK	7	DF4ZL	
K3DMG	0	1773	K3ZA	16	KG5VK	33	W7GF	6	AB7RW	
K3MD	0	1734	NA1VT	14	G4LPP	33	OK4MM	6	WA5BDU	
IT9VDQ	0	1618	N5KW	14	EA3FZT	32	K1LHO	6	W9KM	
KR3E	0	1602	KH6TU	13	EA4OR	31	AA0O	6	<b>PA0VLD</b>	
V31MA	0	1520	ON6PJ	12	G4ILW	30	KC4WQ	5	K1LHO	
SM5IMO	0	1382	KD2KW	12	<b>PA3BFH</b>	29	AB7MP	5	W8EH	
N1ZX	0	1348	AA0O	12	K8MP	29	W6GMT	4	ON6PJ	
WA3GM	0	1230	SM7CIL	11	MONGN	28	N4CWZ	4	КМЗА	
F5MNK	0	1111	N7SU	11	KG5U	28	KE6K	4	KG5U	
W2NO	0	961	KG5VK	11	G4RCG	28	W0PHX	3	K8MP	
DK1WI	0	908	K1OJ	11	K4NE	27	N7SU	3	DD5KG	
K5IX	0	892	WX5CW	10	DL5JQ	27	KR4WI	3	AF9W	
I5IYJ	0	837	W6GMT	10	SV2BBK	26	WT8P	2		
VE10P	0	768	OK4MM	10	<b>PA3HEN</b>	26	N7MU	2		1





Call	ACA	СМА	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE
W0EJ	0	754	WU6P	9	G0ELZ	23	N7ID	2
JF2IWL	0	674	N7ID	9	AF9W	23	KB8PGW	2
DL4FDM	0	646	WT8P	8	WX5CW	20	DD5KG	2
N5KW	0	639	W4MDV	8	RT5P	18	WX5CW	1
N0PP	0	550	N4CWZ	8	GW4MVA	18	WU6P	1
G0MGM	0	495	K1LHO	8	DL1NKB	18	WA5BDU	1
W0PHX	0	426	KR4WI	6	КМЗА	17	W9KM	1
IK0NOJ	0	366	KI7RS	6	SM7CIL	13	W4MDV	1
N7ID	0	311	KB8PGW	5	OK4MM	13	<b>КМЗА</b>	1
NA1VT	0	306	K4NE	5	F5PBL	13	K4NE	1
KB8PGW	0	284	AB7RW	5	EA1DP	13	K1OJ	1
W9KM	0	236	W9KM	4	DL8BH	11	AB7RW	1
W4MDV	0	225	DD5KG	4	DD5KG	10		
F5PBL	0	134	WA5BDU	3	DF4ZL	7		
G4RCG	0	131	W8EH	3	SP2R	3		
AF9W	0	59	KM3A	2	PA0INA	3		
WX5CW	0	49	KG5U	2	K1OJ	3		
SM7CIL	0	35	K8MP	2	PA0VLD	2		
K1OJ	0	29	AF9W	2	ON6PJ	2		

# QTX Report Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

### Bruce Murdock K8UDH

Sometimes things happen at the worst possible time. Such was the case for me this month. My computer crashed on January 5th, just before I sent my QTX report to Tim K9WX, the Solid Copy Editor. Now, one week later, my computer is still in the shop. So this month the QTX report will look a little bit different.

The award for the top QTX Score for 2020 goes to Art K8CIT with 1380 QSOs. Congratulations Art. He will receive a very nice plaque for his accomplishments. Also, medals will be awarded in three categories, Gold, Silver, and Bronze, and mailed to the recipients. I'll send an email to all medal winners, with copies to Rob K6RB, in confirmation of your outstanding accomplishments. Congratulations to everyone !!!!

The February Solid Copy will show all the totals for both QTX and Mini QTX for December 2020, the year 2020 in total, and January 2021.

73,

Bruce K8UDH, QTX Manager



# My Story: New Member Biographies

### Sal Scalise, IK7UKF

Hello friends, thank you for admission to your group, thanks also friends who have proposed and supported my candidacy: Miki (IZ2FME), Vanni (I5ECW), Joop (PG4I), and Max (I8NHJ). I'm very honoured to be part of your group.

This is for me an opportunity to continue my study of CW and improve in the practice of this Noble Art.

I'm 62, I'm a doctor, I have always worked and continue to do so, in field of emergency and urgency. Over the years I divided my work activity between surgery room, emergency department and currently, hyperbaric chamber.

My hobbies are radio, of course, scuba tek-diving, Aikido (3° Dan black belt) and photography.

I married to Antonella, her gave me a beautiful daughter, named Anna Agata.

I have been licensed since 1992, my call sign is IK7UKF.

After taking the examination, I actually worked very little in CW until I forgot it, great mistake, being more interested in SSB, packet and RTTY.



After a hiatus of 8 years, I went back to radio in 2015. At the end of 2017, the great love, which suddenly broke out without anything that could it make foretell. I remembered that there was a beautiful thing called telegraphy, but that I had totally forgotten. From that moment on it was a



continuous and no-stop gallop to try to make up for lost time.

I applied myself daily in the study of CW, which I had to learn from the basics again. After several months my first QSO and my first CQ WWDX CW arrived. As the number of my QSOs increased, I rediscovered a world that I thought had disappeared, a world of friends and teachers who had something to offer to others.

At that point...I unplugged all the microphones from my radios. Now I only work in CW.

To find new study mates and sparring partners, I created a chat on Telegram, exclusively CW oriented, which now gathers about 400 radio operators.

Now we are four admins in this group and other one is Ben (I8QFK) a very good CW teacher and a very good friend of mine, he's also a CWops member.

We organize basic and intermediate courses on line, sked on air, a CW Italian activity every Monday evening and in 2020 we organized our first contest.

As for me, I must say I don't really like world of contests, in fact there are very few in which I participate. Probably, if I have to choose between 50 QSOs and a friendly chat whit a friend, I would choose the second. This is because I consider rag-chewing a bigger pleasure and a continuous training.

### Bora Kasapoglu TA1UT

I was born in Ankara in 1980. I have been living in Istanbul, on the European Side since 2010. I am married and have a son born in 2019. I studied economics and I have been working in the health sector since 2004. After working at Johnson & Johnson, I continue at Bausch Health Company.

I met with amateur radio as part of my scouting studies when I was 12 years old. During the years I attended Jamboree On The Air, neither the internet nor mobile phones were common. I loved amateur radio, but I had to be 18 years old. During this time, I had talks with the CB.

In 1998, I applied to become an amateur radio operator. The exam included sending and receiving walruses. I passed the Morse exam under minimum conditions and never did CW work again.



In my country, people who practice walrus are very rare and those operators are respected. Of course, without using any decoder or application tool. I've completed DXCC over time, I enjoyed the SSB and digital modes very much. However, it was always my dream to do QSO with CW.



The Covid-19 Pandemic came to my country in March 2020 and our work from home started. There was an opportunity for me to do things that were postponed to the following years. I decided to learn Morse again. Every day I started a day to work with videos, CW Player. At the TRAC Kadıkoy association, of which I am a member, he opened CW lessons three evenings a week over VHF Repeater and I joined him.

After three months of preparation, I made my first QSO with 15 wpm on June 1, 2020. In about 6 months I managed to increase my speed to 27 wpm, get it right and write it. As of today, I have 750 CW QSO. I am uploading the QSOs to LOTW and have reached 66 DXCC for today.

I can QSO between 80-6 meters, I use Yaesu 991A and Icom IC-7410 with MA5B antenna. My output is 100 W. Still 1250 characters with 30 WPM every day; I practice reading letters, numbers and punctuation marks. I have a daily goal of 10 CW QSOs. I am the second CWops operator in my country. I want to try to radiate of Morse. I would like to thank TA7I for suggesting me, sponsors and officials who follow up on membership.

### Benvenuto "Ben" Sofia, I8QFK

I want to say thanks to my dear friends Michele IZ2FME, Claudio IK0XCB and Luigi IZ4KBW who sponsored me for joining to this prestigious club and, in particular, to my friend Sal IK7UKF who have had the beautiful idea to introduce me.

Honestly, I have visited many times the pages of CWops, especially those related to the Academy. So,



I'm glad to have the great possibility to continue in that as an active partner.

I practice rag chewing mainly in Italian and a few times in English, so this will be also an incentive to practice it in this direction.

I was born in 1961 and I live in Bagnara Calabra (RC). I was 14 when I started to learn telegraphy with my father Ugo, I8SOU, now SK. Since then, I have always practiced it and I have tried to improve it in terms of precision and speed.

I've been a radio amateur since 1975 and I got my license in 1981. Since then, I practiced exclu-

sively the telegraphy but, for many years, I have also practiced RTTY and the first digital modes. I have pursued the DX and the achievement of awards (DXCC - WPX etc.). I also like to be active in portable radio with my FT-817 and KX-2. In recent years, I have had the pleasure of being part of teams such as IQ2LS - Contest Team Lissone (MB) and II2S - Contest Team Patuzza (BS). I'm a member of the Italian Association Radioamatori (ARI) and Italian CW Clubs, such as Italian Telegraphy Club, Marconi Club ARI Loano, then FISTS, SKCC, HSC, VHSC. Now my interest is oriented to rag chewing that I'm practicing with my friends, using Italian language and sometimes even in English. This will be an opportunity to improve my English and expand my friendships.

Since some years, I have decided to dedicate myself to high speed. I am currently working to obtain the SHSC and EHSC awards. I would like to point out that I always support and invite those who transmit in QRS not to hesitate to answer my call, because I will be happy to adapt my speed to theirs. I do not forget when I had the same need and I found colleagues who always knew how to help me, in perfect ham spirit.

My favorite keys, the ones I use most, are:

- Straight Key: Marconi 213 by Alberto Frattini I1QOD.
- Paddle: Dual Paddle Iambic Chrome Traditional by Alberto Frattini I1QOD
- Single Lever Paddle: Chrome Deluxe Magnetic by Alberto Frattini I1QOD
- Bug: Vibroplex "Champion", "Lionel J36" and "Hi-Mound BK-100"

### Keyer: Superkeyer III - Winkeyer USB

In conclusion, I like to make myself available, as much as I can, to all those who want to discuss about the learning and deepening of telegraphy. The aim is to make our art known as much as possible and also to train operators who can spread the practice too. For this reason, I am very happy to be part of CWops and I hope to be able to cooperate with my job.

### Brian McInerney, N0BM

It's a privilege to join the organization and I thank those who nominated and sponsored my membership.

I've been continually licensed since 1965 when, as WN1GCC, I operated the school station K1UHA at Cathedral High in Springfield, MA. I've held the calls WA1GCC, WA3WVH, KD0NH in addition to my present call.

I operate primarily CW with recent forays into digital modes. I ragchew, contest some, handle traffic, participate in ARES. I've been an assistant division director, an assistant section manager, volunteer counsel, volunteer examiner, instructor and net manager. We have a number of fine clubs in the Twin Cities and I have belonged to and volunteered for a number of them.

I look forward to being active in CW OPS. See you on the bands.



## Terry Jackson, WB0JRH

My introduction to Morse Code came as a high-speed Russian morse code intercept operator while working for the Naval Security Group. I lived on the North Sea in Bremerhaven, Germany, 1966 - 1969.

I was first licensed as a ham in 1969. Shortly after I received my General license, I became a member of Navy MARS. I was busy for the next several years phone patching soldiers in Vietnam to their families and friends in the States. I found that very satisfying.

I have been an Advisor for CW Academy for four years working with beginners. I am also an instructor with the Long Is-



land CW Club, teaching intermediate students, along with QRQ high speed CW. I find both of these volunteer positions as a great way to give back to a hobby I love and respect. It is very uplifting to see so much interest in preserving such a wonderful Heritage as CW.

I have been retired from utility management for 12 years. Now I am able to focus on what I love. In addition to ham radio, I have been a homebrewer of good craft beer for 25 years (Boundary Waters Brewery). I am one of the only home breweries that have my own swag. I also love to make my own cheese from scratch, along with all kinds of smoked sausage, charcuterie and other meats. I live in NE Minnesota near Ely, which is the taking off point for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. I enjoy summer fishing and spending time in my Ice Castle on the lake in the winter months.

I am 76 years old and married with three children and one grandchild. Our oldest boy passed away a few years ago.

I look forward to my membership with CW OPS, and am thankful for my nomination and sponsors.

### Zoltan Schmidt, HA9RC

My name is Zoltan Schmidt, I was born in July 1956.

Finishing Electric high school, between 1973 and 1980, I started working at a big company at Miskolc (Lenin Kohászati Művek).

In 1972 I passed test for "operator," in 1973 for "class A," in 1978 for "class B" licence. I gained my full amateur radio licence in 1978.





I got married in 1975, I have four children and one of them is also a radio amateur (HA9MS).

In 1980, I have been required to become a solider, during this time I have worked as a telegraphist. After that, I became a sound technician at the Miskolc Cultural Center.

Currently, I am retired and I often dedicate hours of my daily life to QSO and taking part in amateur competitions too.

It is a great honour to be invited to the CW Operators' Club.

### Ben Büttner, DL6RAI

One day, as a SWL, I had listened to DL9LD, "Luck", a local ham (now sk) – who I did not know personally at this time. I was fascinated by the way he communicated with the world using CW – and so I wanted to learn it too.

But I had a hard time learning the code since I knew no hams at all. I had got hold of DL3VD's book *Morselehrgang*, built a sound generator and then recorded my own CW lessons on a tape recorder using a Morse key I had bought at a flea market. Initially I felt, I'd never learn it - but finally I managed the 12 wpm to pass the exam in April 1980.



Having tuned the HF bands as a SWL for a couple of years, I knew about DXCC and looked for new countries every day. Working ZL2MM on the other side of the globe one early morning in September 1980 on 15m CW from my modest station at home was a highlight I still remember today.

In 1981, while on a student exchange program, I had the opportunity to operate from the other end of a pile-up as GU5EAH from GU4EON's home – what a blast! Many activities followed, the most exotic one from Turkoman, when I took the chance to visit Victor, UH8EA (now N8OO) for CQWW Phone 1991 with a group from the Bavarian Contest Club (BCC).



In the 1990s I travelled to several Mediterranean islands with my friend Wolfgang, DL5MAE. Usually we would load up his Mercedes-Benz with HF and VHF equipment and antennas and headed south, visiting SV9, IS0, 9H, SV5, CT3 and 1A0. In 1997 I travelled to ZB2 and EA9 with Peter, DL2NBU.

In the late 1990s I joined Franta, DJ0ZY, developing and maintaining a Packet Cluster like software package called CLX, which became quite popular for a while. We closed down in 2003, when other DX Cluster software had become available.

The BCC organized a major project to break world records in the Multi-Multi category of the CQWW Contest in 1999 and 2000. My job was to set up the computer network – back then with K1EA's CT software on MS-DOS. Indeed, we achieved our goal both on SSB and CW. The SSB record from 1999 still stands today – 21 years later.

In 2002 and again in 2012 I had the chance to operate CQ WPX CW from KL7RA's station which was a great experience. Also operating from 4U1ITU, HB0, LX, C3, UA2, K3WW, TK, LY, 9Y, 9N7BCC, A61AJ, EA8, OY, 5B, V31RI, OH0W, 3V8BCC, VR2BG provided lots of insight how things sounded "from the other side."

Between 2002 and 2005 I was the WAE DC Contest Manager. We spent lots of time converting and fixing logs, since our policy back then was to accept any electronic log format. At that time, I was also a member of the CQWW Contest Committee lead by Bob, K3EST. Between 2007 and 2019 I was president of the BCC, one of the most successful contest clubs world-wide.

In 2014 an opportunity opened up to buy property in Aruba from Carl Cook, Al6V (now sk). Since then you can hear me somewhat irregularly signing P4/DL6RAI.

Next, I was heavily involved in the organisation of WRTC2018. My task was to provide "black boxes" for collecting online scores of all participants. We designed and built 70 RF-proof devices equipped with a Raspberry minicomputer and a GSM module to continuously report live scores during the event.



My typical operation of today takes place from my home using 100 watts and a 2 x 13m openwire fed dipole on all bands. Living in the countryside, I enjoy the luxury of almost no man-made noise. You can find me in most major contests, particularly on CW, RTTY and Digi modes. In 2020 I made around 17,000 QSOs and worked 183 DXCCs. My current DXCC total is 350, missing only P5, North Korea. Over the years I collected several premium awards like 5BDXCC, 5BWAZ and WAZ 160.

By the way, all of my home and expedition QSOs are on LoTW and Clublog. I am pretty sure, that many of you are already in my logs of the past 40+ years. So, I am looking forward to our next QSO!

Thanks to Sven, DJ4MX, who supported my nomination!

## John Aspland, G4PFZ

I was born in 1955 and after leaving school joined the family business as a butcher. I always had hobbies and played football and formed a band. It was in 1979 that I formed a band called 'Pastiche' and two members of the band were licensed amateurs. Ian (G4FOS) sadly SK, and Mike (G4KQY). As radio was often the topic of conversation, this piqued my interest and I was mentored by G4FOS to go on and obtain a license. As Ian and Mike were both 'A' licenses, I



didn't fancy getting a 'B' license so they could cheek me!

That meant learning the code! I set about learning with the help of a LP record and an early random Morse generator while also attending night classes for the radio theory and license conditions. I pushed my speed towards 16 wpm in order to take the 12wpm test and got the date through for my test at Mablethorpe on the east coast of England, before I had taken the City and Guilds amateur radio exam.

I remember the 180 mile round trip well especially on the way back after passing the test and



feeling really pleased with myself. All I had to do now was pass the exam which I did with honors and subsequently got issued with my 'A' license G4PFZ. No chance for my band members to cheek me.

l went on to teach and mentor 6 amateurs, one of which was my son Simon G7WAK. Sadly Simon was lost to a RTA (Road Traffic Accident) in 2011.

During my time in the band, we used to communicate on the way to and from gigs and one of my contacts was Roger Cooke G3LDI, who became a good friend and is highly regarded in this part of the world as a promoter of CW.

After being QRT for many years my interest in Amateur radio was resurrected in 2016. I was told that the local club, Norfolk Amateur Radio Club, met on Wednesday evenings at my old school.

I decided to attend and soon realised how the hobby had changed, with the PC being an integral part of a station. I found programs like Logger 32 and N1MM to be very good and learning how they work is great fun. I got my HF rig from the chairman of the club and was soon drawn into contesting. I told Mike G4KQY, and he also resurrected his interest. We now spur each other on with CW being our main interest. Roger told me about the CWTs and I started taking part. I needed to get my speed up if I wanted to join, and with much encouragement from the strong contingent of CW operators at our club and a new Begali Contour key, I have managed to get there. I must say a big thankyou to Roger G3LDI who nominated me and to all my sponsors. I am really pleased to become a member of CW Ops.

Details of my station can be found on QRZ.com

My other hobbies include golf, dancing and walking our dog 'Rigby'

The picture shows me in the shack with Rigby and you can see the lowered beam through the window.

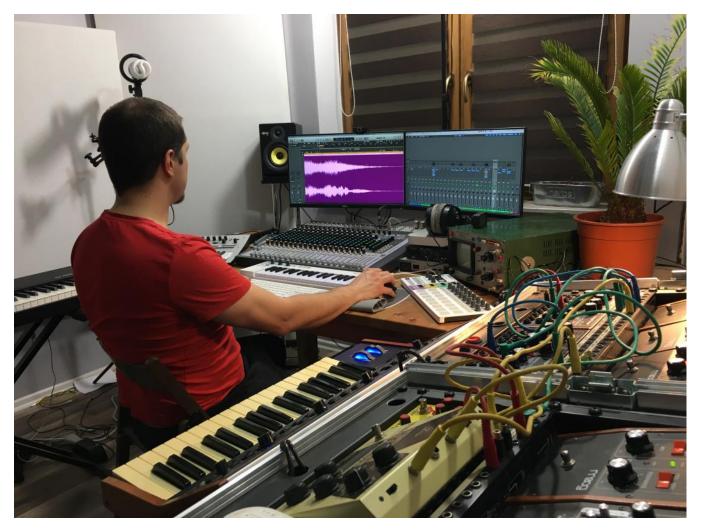
## Adam Pietruszko, SQ5VCO

I'm a very "fresh" op. I got licensed in February 2020, so I am very happy to join CWops after 11 months on the air. It was the goal that fuelled my practice and devotion to CW, ever since I learned about ham radio. I feel a dream came true (but the fun is just starting)!

Since me and my wife moved out from Warsaw (Poland) to the countryside in 2011, I considered looking into radiocommunication, as part of the romantic vision of living remote and a little prepper mindset. At that time, I had no idea how vast the ham radio hobby was, and I associated it more with CB (boy, was I misguided) and even considered putting a CB antenna up on the roof, but never got to it. Years later, in November 2019 I was reading a couple of prepper themed books (a great series beginning with *One Second After* and *Retribution: EMP Survival Story* by another author) and ham radio topic was mentioned. I thought, this might be an interesting thing to dive into.

So, my first thought was emergency communications. But as I read a bit about the hobby, Morse





code sparked my interest. The idea of communicating around the world, using this minimalistic mode and with a piece of wire in the backyard ignited my imagination. In the same way, as analogue synthesizers paid tribute to the dawn of electronic music, keeping morse code alive was paying respects to the pioneers of radio. I knew I was going to get licensed to do CW!

I'm an audio engineering teacher and a sound designer, specialising in synthesizers and electroacoustics, so understanding filters, signal paths, VFOs was a breeze, although learning about ham radio made me dive into the basics of electronic circuits, something I always wanted to do, but never had the time and reason to learn the basics properly. After getting an ARRL Handbook for Christmas and a Tecsun receiver I began exploring. By the time I got my ticket, I was half-way through learning the characters and went on HF late March 2020. At first, I was doing Phone, also as part of the MASR Emcom club I joined, but after learning the characters, I got a key (Prector by SP2SWT) straight away and went on the air. Now 99% of my contacts are CW. The purity of the mode and the effort needed to hone the skills is something that speaks to me deeply. My main interest in CW is ragchewing and DXing. Recently I did my first POTA activation and since I enjoy biking, hiking and horseback riding, I think I'll be doing more of that this year. Thanks to participating in CW Academy, I also got interested in some contesting. After 10 months on HF, I have



nearly 2600 QSOs (2/3 of them CW) and DXCC is just around the corner.

Modern times have blessed me with wonderful resources on learning the code. I was able to avoid the usual mistakes, thanks to the great insights available online. My first learning method was LCWO.net (thanks Fabian!) and later I discovered morsecode.ninja (I can't thank Kurt AD0WE enough!). The cognitive process of receiving CW is something that amazes me still. As a teacher I quickly found learning methods that suited me and was progressing pretty fast I think, working 20 WPM after 6 months. After the summer, I enrolled into CWA Intermediate. I would like to thank the advisor Roberto (IK1HGE) and my group mates Ben (PA2ST), Gopan (M0XUU/VU3HPF) and Toby (DL3TM) for helping me in the final stretch of getting my speed to the level allowing me to join the club! I would also like to thank my colleagues at MASR club for believing in me and cheering my progress. A nod also goes to the good ops of titawa.pl (3565 kHz in SP).

I'm looking forward to meet you all CWops on the air.

### Carole King, VA3WHU

l got my Basic With Honours licence in 2016.

Completed my Level 3 CWOPS course.

Completed my Canadian morse code qualification.

Had fun at the YLRL Forum at Dayton Hamvention in 2019

And used the Radio Room at the Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton where I have lived since I emigrated from England in 1984



