

### Update: QSO Today Expo



CWops will be a part of the 2021 QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo. [Story by W1UU on page 11.](#)

### President's Message

In my column last month I hinted that it was the 12 wpm Morse test that motivated me to first use CW. When first licensed with limited funds and no workshop facilities, a QRP 80m



CW transmitter was easy to build and quickly got me on the air. I occasionally though find myself pondering on what I would have done if I'd been in the situation of all new licensees

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### **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, [GW0ETF](#)

Vice President: Peter Butler, [W1UU](#)

Secretary: Jim Talens, [N3JT](#)

Treasurer: Craig Thompson, [K9CT](#)

Director: Theo Mastakas, [SV2BBK](#)

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Director: Matt Frey, [CE2LR](#)

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Director: Barry Simpson, [VK2BJ](#)

Director: Riki Kline, [K7NJ](#)

Director: Ken Tanuma, [JN1THL](#)

WebGeek: Dan Romanchik [KB6NU](#)

Newsletter Editor: Tim Gennett [K9WX](#)

### Table of Contents

<a href="#">President's Message</a> .....	1
<a href="#">From the Editor: Signals Wild Signals Caged</a> ...	3
<a href="#">News &amp; Notes</a> .....	5
<a href="#">K6RB: Giving Back Update</a> .....	10
<a href="#">W1UU: QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo</a> .....	11
<a href="#">K7NJ: CWops Award for Advancing the Art</a> ...	12
<a href="#">K6TOR: Adventure on Angel Island</a> .....	13
<a href="#">W8UA: An Attic Antenna Farm</a> .....	16
<a href="#">W5XX: Locating the "Dream DX QTH"</a> .....	19
<a href="#">CW Academy</a> .....	21
<a href="#">CW Tests</a> .....	23
<a href="#">New Members</a> .....	28
<a href="#">CWops Member Awards</a> .....	29
<a href="#">QTX Report</a> .....	37
<a href="#">My Story: New Member Biographies</a> .....	42

*(Continued from previous page)*

nowadays who have HF access without any knowledge or experience of Morse and CW. Imagining myself as someone in this situation with perhaps a second hand IC7300 and some wire in the garden, I may quickly become disillusioned, getting out on SSB but soon discover PSK or FT8 and suddenly I'm filling my logbook with callsigns from all over the world – what excitement! I'm not a fan of these modes but I think understanding their attraction to newcomers in particular can help us appreciate the challenge we face in maintaining and promoting our mode of choice. A case of 'know thine enemy' perhaps?

So the challenge is to spread the word amongst those who consider CW as a mode for others and not themselves, to pique interest in a positive, friendly and encouraging way. In CWops we have the Ambassador program which tasks these volunteers to do just this by visiting clubs, attending hamfests and penning articles for local publications, all of which remains possible even now using remote conferencing etc. Toward the end of last year Peter W1UU, who is the Chair of the Ambassador Committee ran a program to complete all the positions in North America; thanks to him all are now filled and we are very grateful to Peter and all the individuals who put themselves forward. The next task is to fill the empty areas in the rest of the world; these can be seen on the website and if anyone is interested we'd love to hear from you!

Individuals can make a difference of course. Extol the virtues of CW over coffee or a beer at your local club and give a talk now and then. During lockdown I've been doing this via our club Facebook page and I now have a class of 5 lined up for Morse lessons – 4 have joined as Foundation licensees within the past 12 months. Your page on qrz.com is the first port of call for many who work you on the air, maybe on other modes; make sure it's attractive and worth reading and include a paragraph or two about why you think CW is great (and don't forget a paragraph about CWops with the logo prominently displayed..!). We all know about the obvious advantages of using CW versus phone but perhaps we don't pay enough attention to features which may be less evident to the uninitiated. Unlike most other data modes CW involves personal interaction just like SSB/FM; you are conversing but with your fingers not your voice. You can share a joke, laugh or have a grumble, something you can't do with FT8 or other macro driven data modes. I sometimes hear comments like *"I'd like to learn Morse but it seems so much effort and I can still use SSB/PSK/FT8..."* I like to counter by asking why folk bother learning a musical instrument; nobody has to and it takes effort and time (far more than learning Morse!) so why would anyone want to? The answer of course is that learning any skill is immensely satisfying and gives great pleasure when put into practice. Rob K6RB touched on this in his 'Why We CW' article in last [December's Solid Copy](#) – it's probably my biggest grin factor when it comes to CW.

There are a couple of new initiatives to help with our mentoring particularly for large parts of Region 1. Firstly we have expanded the Giving Back program to include 80m as well as 40m. We were finding the skip on 40 in the early evening usually too long for our target audience. It's often a bit long on 80m now but will improve as the days lengthen, and we still have 40m available. Some of us post intentions on the CW Academy Facebook page beforehand and Fabian's (DJ1YFK) excellent Club RBN Spotter at <https://rbn.telegraphy.de/> will provide real time frequency information. Secondly the K1USN Radio Club have kindly agreed to add a second Slow Speed conTest (SST) at 2000z every Friday beginning this month (February). This will be ideal for Europe and we'll be hoping it becomes as successful as the original held at 0000z each Sunday.

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Also CWops are participating in the [QSO Today HamExpo](#) over the weekend of March 13-14. This is a virtual 'Hamfest' in which W1UU and NM5M will be presenting talks on behalf of the club. There will be a CWops 'booth' where visitors can drop by and a series of round tables (aka 'breakout rooms') for us to use. This is all new technology for me and I'm looking forward to being part of it as time permits – unfortunately I'm also committed to the RSGB Commonwealth Contest that weekend along with many other G and VE contesters in particular. More details will no doubt appear in due course.

Have a good month and may the vaccine be with you....

**73, Stew GW0ETF**, President

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## From the [Editor](#)

I yield my column space this month to Wayne Burdick, N6KR, one of the co-founders of and chief technology officer for [Elecrafter](#). He wrote about his love of CW for this column in the August 2020 issue of *Solid Copy* ("[On Second Thought, I'll take the Stairs](#)") and provides another reflection on the same subject this month. Thanks again, Wayne!

## Signals Wild Signals Caged

[Wayne Burdick N6KR](#)

My son is an avid birdwatcher. As his understudy, I've learned the names of the birds that hang out in our yard and gather at local wetlands.

On a recent walk we saw one of our favorites, an American kestrel, a small raptor that terrorizes lizards and mice in the foothills on both sides of the San Francisco Bay. The bird's coloration is a surprising mix of blue, brown, orange, yellow, and white, adorned with an array of black dots.

Finding a kestrel in the wild is like stumbling upon a rare gem, lying on the ground.



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The bird reminded me that when I was a kid, I often hunted for gems of a different sort: DX. I was a novice, and in the early 1970s, novices were limited to working DX Of The First Kind. CW.

Like brightly colored birds, each CW signal arriving from a distant land was unique.

Several factors were involved. In those days most ops used bugs or straight keys, so each operator had an identifiable fist. Rigs were not as stable as they are now, yielding timbres with a motley mix of buzz, drift, and chirp. Add fading and noise to the mix, and you had no shortage of audible intrigue.

In fact -- trust me on this one -- RST reports haven't always ended with a dependable "9." I once gave out an RST of 332. I'll never forget that poor soul's chaotic whoop, best described as a singular blend of yodel and kazoo.

Over time I became something of a CW pathologist, keenly aware of each station's affliction, including my own. These variations were useful. You could tell who you'd already worked. If you were a regular on the novice bands, you'd even get to know fellow travelers by their frequencies, since many, like me, were "rock-bound" -- slaves to a handful of crystals. VFOs were starting to make an appearance in novice gear...but see "chirp," above.

Now, in 2021, the chirp is gone.

CW signals still have many distinguishing traits, though. These include speed, keying weight, the operator's affectations and favored prosigns, and direction-specific propagation anomalies.

Here's where we stretch the central metaphor to just about max.

If randomly occurring CW signals on our bands are creatures of the wild, then...are FT8 stations the caged occupants of an urban zoo? Don't get me wrong: It's a pleasant place, with free tram rides, open 24 hours a day. The diversity of species is unprecedented.

But imagine, on a given day, that you've sampled the zoo's exotic offerings, memorized the brochure, bought the t-shirt, and partaken of the sumptuous snack bar. What next?

Take a walk on the wild side.

Yank the cord and jump off the tram at an unmarked stop. Hop the fence. Work your way down the unpaved trail from the upper mesa to the open savannah, then sit on the ten-foot wall and dangle your feet over the edge.

Welcome to the ecosystem of beings who are free to roam. They may be camouflaged, blending into the background. And if you listen carefully, you'll hear a hundred variations on their timeless song...CQ.



# News and Notes

## [Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT](#)

We regret to report that [K6QU](#), Jerry Lewine (CWops #715), became a SK on Dec 22, 2020.

### **Bruce, W8HW: ARRL CW Honor Roll**

Please help me celebrate some exciting news 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 **ARRL CW Honor Roll!**

**Jim, N3JT:** The tree trimmers in our community in Florida either pulled on one of the ropes I use to stabilize my R9 vertical or dropped a palm frond on a rope, causing a reshaping of the antenna as the photo below shows. Luckily, the damage was confined to one of the traps, which will be easy to replace.

They denied responsibility but agreed to pay half the repair, which of course will be the cost of the part plus 3 dB in labor!!

### **Jim, N3JT: Sometimes it just doesn't go right!**

In an effort to get Dennis, W2DWL a final sponsor I sent him a text message using what I recalled was his cell number in my conversation list from a similar effort some weeks ago. I noted in the text message a 20m frequency at about 3:30 pm local time and more or less heard him very weakly on that frequency. I then texted that we should try 30m instead.

I called Dennis on 30m and who comes back to me but Pat, VK2IOW. I asked Pat to QRX so I could call Dennis a few times. but there was no response. I then texted Dennis to again try 20m but I could not copy so I texted a final time suggesting we go back to 30m. There was Pat again on 30m. It was then I looked more closely at my list of text numbers and saw that I had been texting Pat the whole time instead of Dennis!

I am still afraid to ask if I awakened Pat with my texts! Later, I found the right number for Dennis and we made our two contacts. He is now a new CWops member. It was great fun, though, to work Pat long path (twice) on 30m.

**Jay, VY1JA:** I want to express by heartfelt thanks for the get-well card that CWops sent me. It was very thoughtful and represents CWops very well.

I am in the list of those diagnosed with Alzheimer's. a disease that is expected to become, like



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Polio, a thing of the past in the not-too-distant future. When it is conquered, those of us cured will have to replace lost memories with new ones. For now, we must keep active with the good people around us so that they do not become forgotten. What you are doing helps to keep CWops in my heart.

Thank you and please pass my thanks on to the many CWops members for your friendship and for the contacts we have had over the years.

**Kate, K6HTN:** As you may know, Glenn Killam VE3GNA, in Ontario, Canada originates nice welcoming radiograms to new US CWops members. These are relayed through Radio Relay International and the National Traffic System, often by CW operators who were trained by the CW Academy.

The radiogram preamble contains the "town and state" of the person asking that the message be sent, however. So, even though they are not truly "DX radiograms," they do now list Stew Rolfe GW0ETF as the sender of the message, in BANGOR NORTH WALES.

It is a good thing, sometimes, to give the relay operators a "pop quiz" to keep them on their toes. With that in mind, I reflect that only by a small accident of geography, it could have been LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL instead of BANGOR! Imagine ...

### **Hank, W6SX:    dB for Free—An Antenna Exercise for Little Pistols**

Great articles by KV8Q and N7WY plus commentary by K9WX in last month's Solid Copy prompted me to offer some thoughts on antenna system design.

<https://wwwrof.org/webinar-archive/db-for-free-an-antenna-exercise-for-little-pistols-by-hank-garretson-w6sx/>

The presentation uses **my** situation and antenna as an example, but the important message is **The Process**

- Present Situation
- Objective(s)
- Analysis--Extra brains very helpful
- Choice
- Test
- Results
- Repeat

Use me as an illustrative example but apply the process to **your** situation.

The process is never-ending. The video is seven years old and I have made many iterative changes since then. That's the fun of ham radio—always working to make things better.

If anyone would like an updated slide deck, email me at [w6sx@arri.net](mailto:w6sx@arri.net)

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**Kermit W9XA:** The ARRL Board of Directors has posted the rosters for the [DX Advisory Committee](#) and the [Contest Advisory Committee](#). These appointments include:


For the DX Advisory Committee: CWops member David Norris, K5UZ, Delta Division Director (Board Liaison). For the Contest Advisory Committee: CWops members Craig Thompson, K9CT, Chair and Central Division Representative and Bill Lippert, AC0W, Dakota Division Director (Board Liaison).

K9CT reports, "CAC has several recommendations that HQ is working on right now that were presented in 2020. I would like your input on ARRL contest related items for CAC to work on. I am personally aware of the conflict between January VHF and NAQP SSB and also the issue that FT8/4 has brought to VHF Contests. They are on the list!"

**QSO Today Podcast:** [Recently featured interviews with CWops members](#) Jerry AC4BT and Peter W1UU.

**AC4BT**  
1/30/2021 0 Comments


**EPISODE 338 - JERRY WEISSKOHL - AC4BT**



Jerry Weisskohl, AC4BT, always had a love of radio and short wave listening. He got a late start in amateur radio but thinks that the art and practice of CW, or Morse code, is exactly what quiets and relaxes the mind after an engaging day as a computer scientist. AC4BT has taken lead roles with CWops and CW Academy and is my QSO Today.

**W1UU**  
1/23/2021 0 Comments

**EPISODE 337 - PETER BUTLER - W1UU**



Peter Butler, W1UU's ham radio journey began with the purchase of a J38 code key and a trip to the library. Sputnik inspired Peter to a career in microwave engineering reinforced by this ham radio interest. Peter is the Vice President of CWops and actively involved in sharing his love for CW and good operating practice with the hundreds of amateurs who are signing on to do the same. W1UU is my QSO Today.

**The cover of the February 2021 issue of QST** featured a photograph of CWops members John W2GD and Dave N3RD working on a tower belonging to CWops member Ed W2MKM. Ed described [how it came to be in a post to the CWops listserv](#). Have CWops members been featured in the journals of other national ham radio organizations? Send that news to Jerry AC4BT so it can be recognized in future issues of *Solid Copy*.

QST cover image used with permission, February 2021 QST; copyright ARRL.

**Hans PA0Q:** Dear CW OM! My callsign has been changed from PA1HR into PA0Q.



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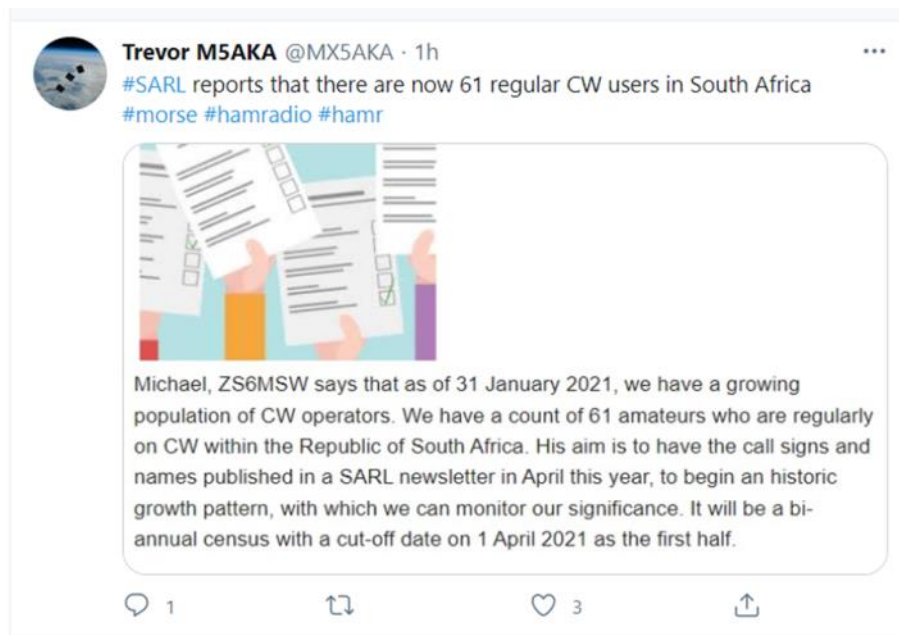
**Mark, VE3BXG:** I am having fun with my new radio, a Flex 6400M. I'm impressed by the ease of use, the 8-inch, high-definition screen, and the receive quality. The audio-peaking filter, something I have not had before, makes a huge difference when trying to copy weak CW signals. I am also impressed by Flex customer service. The radio I purchased failed after 9 days due to a faulty ADC card. Not wanting me to be without a radio for an extended period of time, Flex sent me a loaner unit via overnight UPS to cover me while my radio was being repaired.

Also finally got around to dealing with an RF issue. Near-field radiation from my half-wave 40m dipole which runs the length of my house about 10 feet above the roof ridge line was setting off my hard-wired fire alarms whenever I ran more than 80 to 100 watts of power.

Occasionally the threshold is as low at 50W. The trigger-point varies for reasons that are a mystery to me. I did two things: spread some aluminum foil as best I could in the difficult to access crawl space under the roof, and choked the wires leading into the smoke detectors. It's still not perfect, but now I can run 150 to 200 watts, and only set off two or three isolated chirps rather than a full-blown alarm. Still annoying but better than it was. And my radio-controlled garage door isn't spontaneously opening anymore!

I operate on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters, but it's *almost* only on 40 where I have the problem. 20-meter radiation will occasionally trigger a chirp or two from the alarms when my beam is pointed in a particular direction, and 15-meter radiation occasionally triggers the chimes on our clothes-dryer!

### **Tim, GW4VXE: CW Operators in South Africa**



**Duncan, G3WZD:** Although not quite long enough to qualify as even MQTX QSOs, highlights of the month were QSOs, all well before the mid-point of the semester, with four of my Basic class

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students: David CT7AUP, Leon S55AC, Mike SP2J & Neno 9A6ZE.

Together with Gerard PA2G, who I worked when he was my Beginner student, I now have for the first time a clean sweep of everyone in my class. I also worked my recently joined Associate Advisor, Theo PA3HEN/PF6IK (CWops 2481), so truly a 'Full House'!

### **Brian, ND3F: Elmering in 2020—A fun journey**

Silas, 9 years old, now W3SED, visited the N3IQ club shack in August 2020. His Dad, Steven, and Silas were extremely interested in radio, asked great questions, and asked for and received a Morse demonstration (and FT8 and sideband, too). I had a CW reader in my logging program that helped a bit.

Silas asked what it would take to get a license, and I told him—his Dad thought it would be a great experience, so we scheduled weekly Zoom calls, and provided him a copy of the ARRL Technician guide. He also signed up for K3RA's superb license class, held on-line this time.

By November, he was ready to take the test, so I picked him up as his home, and we went to York, PA for the in-person exam. He was the youngest person there and wasn't too overwhelmed by the environment and all the adults. He passed, and a few days later he got his callsign, KC3QMU.

We set him up with an FM radio, power supply, and a small antenna and programmed in the local repeaters. One of the nearby machines is part of the "East Coast network", and his first contacts other than me were across the nation—he was thrilled (and so were his parents). We also filed for a vanity callsign with his initials, and that was awarded a few weeks later—W3SED. David Collingham, K3LP (SK), a friend, business associate, and neighbor, quietly mentored young potential hams all his life.

When his students got their ticket, he would set them up with a starter radio. Sometimes, I had the honor of a visit from Dave—usually on his way to the airport—because he knew I tried to keep a fixed-up old but good transceiver "in stock" that he could give to a new ham in need. I decided to continue the tradition in honor of K3LP and found a primo FT-847 (from a CWops member) at a great price! Silas has that radio on the air, and is learning CW.



**Silas, W3SED learning Morse**

Terry, W8ZN provided a nice shack computer. We built an antenna for 10M, 6M, 2M, and 70cm with a single feedline, and he has made contacts on all those bands. We're still working out the details for FT8.

The experience has been good for him, and fun for me, too!

Silas has already recruited some others, and we are having a weekly licensing course Zoom call—he helps and is very compelling to the adults in the class.

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Some observations:

- Silas has not met any other young hams yet. His parents are appropriately concerned that all of his ham radio friends are adults—that's a big change—most of my ham friends were my age or so.
- The databases that we all rely on have loads of personal information—his parents are wary of potential targeting, and Silas is learning not to say too much over the air. That's new to me, too.
- Silas has strong computer skills and appreciates radio-computer automation. That's cool.

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## Giving Back Update

### [Rob Brownstein K6RB](#)

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

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

<b>Giving Back Operating Schedule 7 PM Local Time 7.035-7.045 MHz</b>										
	<b>UTC+3</b>	<b>UTC+2</b>	<b>UTC+1</b>	<b>UTC/BST</b>	<b>UTC-1</b>	<b>UTC-5</b>	<b>UTC-6</b>	<b>UTC-7</b>	<b>UTC-8</b>	<b>UTC-10</b>
<b>Mon</b>				GM0EUL		AF8A	K8UDH	NS6W	N6HCN	KH6LC
<b>Tues</b>		SV2BBK	PG4I	GW2CWO		WE5P		K7NJ	K6RB	
<b>Wed</b>				G0HKC	DF7TV	N4TMM	K5XU	KU7Y		
<b>Thurs</b>		SV2BBK		G2CWO						AH6KO
<b>Fri</b>		SV2BBK				VE3FXX	KG5U		K6RB	
<b>Sat</b>			LA1IO			VE3FXX	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

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as GB volunteers and lets others know these people are there to help. Here are the results of January's GB efforts:

**Volunteer: Stations Worked**

**AF8A:** WB5KHB, NJ3B

**G2CWO:** IU0AHC, S53OP, IT9RDG, EW2AR, EA1FL, OE6JTD, R2DGA, E77F, IK7UKF, IK5XCT, IZ3SOI, RZ3AEN, G3WGE, F5VBU

**GW2CWO:** I5ECW, M0MQV, HB9EPE, RV9FF, OK1FLK, OK2PAY, GM0PKF, G0VQW, RW1AI, R2DMW, G4KJS, 2E0KJC, SP3DGV, OZ8KWB, PA3ABR, M6ITH, HA3UH, UR5LEH, S52TW, OK2PRQ, RC7KB, HB9DAX, YU1ZH, YO3FFF

**K6RB:** K4JJW, N5CW, N2GG, W0GAS, N2UJ, W3WW, K5YZW, WA4PKL, W3CFE, KI6UP, NJ8D

**K7NJ:** KE8AQW, WB7BNE, KB0EDE, KD0APS, N2GG, PT2NP, K5SNA, W1LY, K8OIP, AC5P, K3JN, KJ4RMJ, KA0JRG, KO5SX, N9ITO, VA3NIR, KI4MZC, WB4DKF, W6GRT, K5CSK, K4JJW, K5DU, K9SSB, K0ODF, KB9GUX, KB5RCF, W7DRA, KB0HQD, KB9ZR, K9OAG, W5FBQ, K2OHK, KI4IO, K9EW, KN4VCE, WA4JYX, N4UZZ, NP3V, N0KTB

**KH6LC:** XQ3SK/4, N1SNB, WA9GQT, W9KNI, KI6NTB, W3FE, K9FN, WA0USA, KC8UR

**N4TMM:** W9KMF, AE8EA, NR8M, K2ERG, K2MZ, N2ANL, W2CW, W1DV

**SV2BBK:** OK2PIM, YU2CW, IN3FUC, OK3EE, DG8AE, R4SA, DM7EE, IK3UMZ, F8CGY, DK2SG

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## Update: CWops and the [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) March 13-14, 2021

[Peter Butler W1UU](#)

This [URL is the most recent announcement](#) for a virtual Ham Expo where CWops has a "Virtual Booth." This is a worldwide event!

All members should review this announcement for you possible participation. In Summary:

There will be two 1-hour presentations: NM5M on CWAcademy and W1UU on 'The New Frontier of CW Operating'. These are scheduled in the program. Please note that the times are given in Pacific Standard Time (PST).

Additionally there is a CWops "Virtual Booth" available over the entire time period. The team of AC6ZM, N5OT, W5LA, and W1UU are producing the materials and assembling the technical requirements. The location of the virtual Ham Expo will be inside an Amazon S3 server system.

As a Virtual exhibitor, attendees can visit the CWops booth and if any questions, they can be di-



**Peter W1UU, CWops vice president**

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rected to a breakout room, we call a "round table." The technology allows up to 8 "round tables" consisting of 8 "chairs." There will also be a larger conference room that may hold up to 100 attendees. While everything would be based on a "Zoom concept," the technology changes internally within the Amazon servers. You control from your computing device!

CWops believes strongly that the COVID issues require everyone to Stay Safe. It also means you can attend the exhibition without the expenses of travel, hotel, food expected in live venues! This is a situation where members can also socialize "after hours" no matter what time zone you are in. There is the possibility you can show yourself operating your station (time limited!). These details are being worked out by our team.

Once QSO Today goes on-line, we need to have members to serve as "booth duty." Please volunteer brief periods of time!

Sorry, but we don't have free tickets to hand out!

Your Board of Directors have supported our efforts to use the latest technology to continue showing our mission to promote "The Art Form of CW" and the CWA. Our revised Ambassador Program has been put in place so CWops can continue finding "Forums of Interest".

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## **The CWops Award for Advancing the Art of CW**

**[Riki Kline, K7NJ](#)**

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.

### **Criteria**

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

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- Note: The award is **not** limited to amateur radio operators or their organizations.

### **Nomination**

Nominations may be made by anybody (not limited to CWops members). Nominations should be emailed to <[awards@cwops.org](mailto:awards@cwops.org)> with a copy to <[secretary@cwops.org](mailto:secretary@cwops.org)> . 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.

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## **W6P Radio Adventure on Angel Island**

### **[Rick Ellis, K6TOR](#)**

Playing radio in the great outdoors is so much fun! Eleven San Francisco Radio Club members did a Trifecta by activating SOTA, POTA and USI using special event call sign W6P. Three teams hiked to different locations on Mount Caroline Livermore on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay last November. We made QSOs with 5-20 watts using SSB, FM and CW reaching as far as Finland and New Zealand. You can see the whole Trifecta team and details in [the links at the end of this story](#). Jeff KK6JJZ submitted an article to QST for later in 2021. I will focus on the SOTA team and CW here.



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I was on the SOTA team at the mountain summit and had a blast as the CW operator. For SOTA VHF, Grant KN6LJX and Randy KM6JLP operated FM simplex with a Yaesu FT60 5 watt FM radio with a Yagi making 40 QSOs as far as 45 miles away. Our SOTA SSB operator, club president Antonis AA6PP, used an Elecraft KX3 15 watt radio and made 39 SSB QSOs as far as New Hampshire. I operated CW using a Xiegu G90 20 watt radio making 59 QSOs including DX.



Both Antonis and I used 6 Ah LiFePO4 batteries and End Fed Half Wave wire antennas on 6 meter masts for HF on 40 and 20. Half of my CW contacts were on the 17m band to avoid the ARRL CW Sweepstakes contest. It was nice to know that the tuner in the G90 radio will tune all Ham bands from 80 – 10 meters even though my EFHW 42ft antenna was designed for 40, 20 and 10.

How did we get there? The Trifecta group took a ferry from the picturesque town of Tiburon on the north side of San Francisco Bay to Angel Island. Our SOTA team hiked two miles up about 800 feet for an hour each carrying 25 pound packs of gear.

Why so much weight if the radios and batteries are only a few pounds? We brought lots of water and warm clothing as the mountain can get cold, foggy and windy in the middle of the Bay. As it turned out, it was sunny and in the 50's. If you have a well-designed pack with padded waist belt, 80% of the weight is on your hips and it feels like nothing for a short 2-mile hike. I carry 23

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pounds golfing using a bag with a waist belt. It is so much easier using your hips than carrying radio or back-packing or golf gear on your shoulders. The weight ends up on your hips anyway, why not put it there directly?

We had a few extras too. Antonis brought the Elecraft panadapter and battery, which wasn't used much as he was running on a couple of frequencies. I brought a 2 lb Apple MacBook to use with a WinKeyer. But... I forgot the cable to the WinKeyer. It had dropped on the floor at home in the dark the night before.



We promoted the Trifecta and we expected many chasers so I thought the WinKeyer and laptop would be nice. As it was, I used the laptop just for logging and a Begali Adventure Mono paddle for all sending. I am new to Ham radio and CW this year and got on HF in May after 50 years away. Using a paddle is completely new to me so sending errors were not uncommon! I also carry a CWMorse straight key as a backup and it weighs nothing. One contact on 17 meters, John ZL1BYZ using 100 watts and a 3 element Yagi in New Zealand, had to send many times to get his call through the QSB. Rather than send the usual "5NN" I tried to paddle "32N" but nothing came out right – the perils of a new CW op in a pile up. Anyway, contact was made and John and I made contact again the following week on another SOTA summit. Also made contact with Jari OH1XT in Finland and we had the advantage of his high power and great antennas.

At one point while operating, I was startled to hear a thunk on the ground and noticed power reduced to 1 watt. It took a moment to realize the antenna wire had blown off the mast! I shouted to Randy for help and we got it back up, secured it with tape and got back to working more chasers.

The club Trifecta team had a fantastic time hiking together on this radio adventure in the great outdoors. We highly recommend it to you for the joy of being outside and the low noise HF conditions away from civilization. CW is a big plus too when you are far away in the high Sierra Nevada mountains, or in my case, Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks in Utah recently. Our club will certainly plan more activations together.

- [SOTA: Summits On The Air](#), [POTA: Parks On The Air](#), [USI: US Islands On The Air](#)
- W6P Trifecta photos on QRZ.com: <https://www.qrz.com/DB/w6p>
- San Francisco Radio Club- Trifecta OTA: <https://www.sfarc.org/w6p-sfrc-special-event.html>



# An Attic Antenna Farm

**Javan Miller W8UA**

After spending my first several months as a ham just lurking around 2m and 70cm, I participated in my local club's Field Day event and decided it was time to move beyond only nets and such like and join the ranks of those on HF. Following having numerous discussions with my friends about different radios, browsing through DX Engineering's web catalog, and having nightly discussions with my Dad (K8KX), we finally made the anticipated trip to the DX Engineering showroom and brought back an SDR desktop transceiver. Okay, we got the easy part over with (for me at least), purchasing a rig, but I could tune across the entire RF spectrum, and only receive two birdies. Oh, yeah, I may need an antenna as well!

Unfortunately for farmers of this breed, my parents' medium-sized lot has a total of five trees over the 20 feet mark but are about 400 feet away from the QTH. These are good for a different project, but I do not need a beverage antenna yet. At this point, it sounds like my best option is a tower, but no, due to the unsightliness, that is not an option either. So, welcome to my attic, which is the home of all antennas at this QTH.

## Choosing an antenna

After my Dad and I researched different multiband antennas, we decided on a fan dipole. Since we had no experience with building antennas, a member of my local club suggested that although many are successful with fan dipoles, they can be a bit tricky to tune if they are confined in a small area. So, we decided on a 40m off-center-fed or simply OCF dipole. My Dad started to model different OCF's with [MMANA-GAL Basic](#), which is a very easy to use, free antenna modeling program. Since we found out right away that the common 1/3 – 2/3 ratio used for OCF's excluded the use of 15m unless a wide-range tuner is used, we discovered the 1/6 – 5/6 ratio which covers 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, and 6m.



**W8UA and his most recent award: Single Operator, Mixed Mode, QRP: 1st Place Ohio Section; 1st Place Great Lakes Division; 2nd Place W/VE**



### Balun Designs current balun

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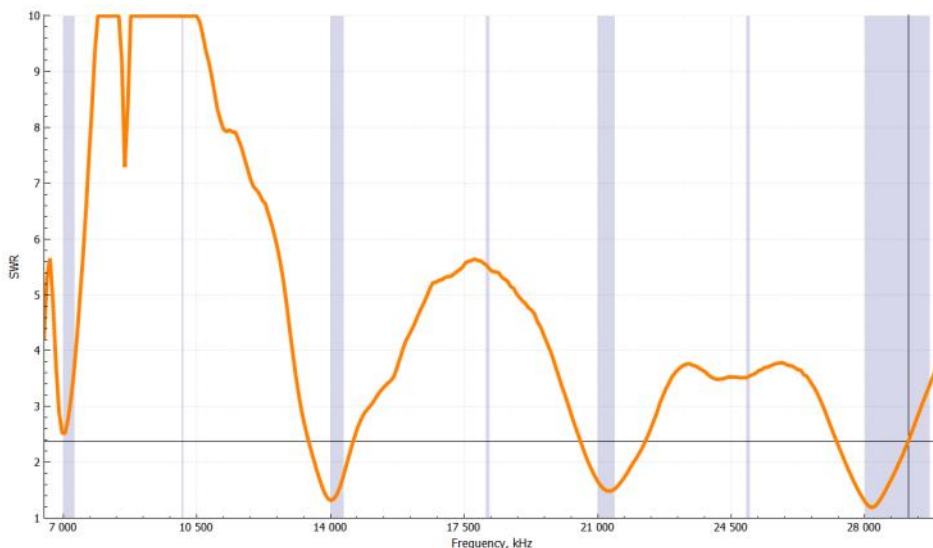
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## Building and installing the antenna

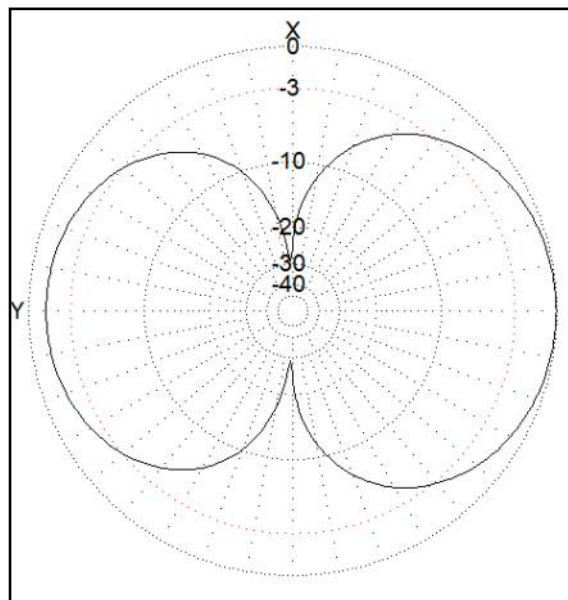
The local ham that recommended the OCF to us suggested that we follow his design and use the Balun Designs 4:1 current balun. Although the manufacturer reveals what is in the magic box to us: “this balun is a hybrid combination of a 4:1 voltage balun and a 1:1 current balun,” we went ahead and purchased it. After ordering a spool of wire, we decided that it was finally time to install our first HF antenna!

Unfortunately, we did not adhere to the adage of putting up antennas in the cold, and we picked a nice warm weekend in summer (the weekend of IARU HF World Championship) to do the install. After placing  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch PVC pipe between the rafters to support the wire, we strung the wire through holes we had drilled through the PVC tubing. I think we may have taken excessive measures to prevent sag and insulate the wire from the wood rafters, but we were just getting in the game of antenna building and had no experience with what was necessary.

I have found modeling to be quite beneficial for multi-band antennas such as my OCF, as it can be useful to know at which angles I have gain, and at which I have nulls. Luckily, on 20m, I have quite a bit of gain to Europe, although there is little power heading south toward South America. [See 20m pattern, right.] There are quite a few nulls on the higher frequency bands, but I have not found that to be too much of a problem so far. But of course, “if ya’ don’t hear ‘em, ya’ don’t work ‘em,” so I do not know what I am missing out on in the nulls. The OCF works well all the way up to 6m, and I have confirmed 42 states and several countries with FT8 on VHF.



Measured 40m OCF SWR



20m pattern

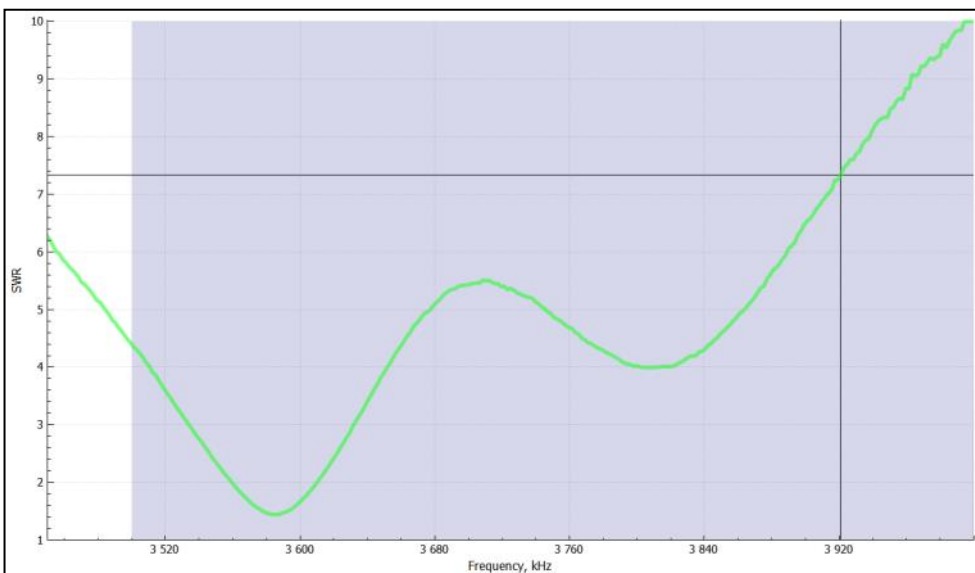
## Designing and installing other antennas

After I got a small amount of experience with contesting, I quickly found a desire for a beam for at least one HF band. I wanted to either select 20m towards Europe or 15m towards the South,

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but due to the orientation of my house, I decided to build a 15m beam. After some antenna modeling, I found that a Mox-on beam would be the best way to go for my situation due to the wide beamwidth and high front-to-back ratio they have, as well as taking up less space in my attic than would a traditional two-element Yagi. Significant gain over the OCF towards certain countries is quite evident.



**Measured 80m dipole SWR**

Since the OCF only operates 40-6 meters, I quickly found a need for an 80m antenna. For several contest weekends in the summer, I put up an 80m dipole outside supported by a short mast constructed of PVC tubing, but that could not stay up long for structural and aesthetic reasons. Okay, back to the drawing board with my modeling software. After learning about putting inductors in an antenna design, I started playing around with loaded 80m dipoles with the inductors in the middle of each leg, which proved to be a reasonable compromise between inductor size and placement efficiency.

Utilizing the air-core inductor formula, 
$$L(\mu H) = \frac{d^2 n^2}{18d + 40l}$$
 where L = inductance, d = coil diameter, l = coil length in inches, and n = number of turns; I wound two 50  $\mu$ H coils and put them in the middle of each thirty-foot leg of the antenna.

### What's next?

I am planning on installing a 130-foot-tall self-supporting tower next summer – umm, no. Let's try it again. I am planning on installing several more antennas in my attic. As many others did, I enjoyed reading the article "Indoor Antennas for VHF Weak-Signal Work" in the November 2019 *QST* written by N1LF on his attic VHF antenna system. I am planning on installing horizontal antennas for 2m and 70cm so I can explore the world of VHF beyond repeaters. Since my attic filled with rafters is not conducive to a rotatable beam, I am planning on making a stack of 2m dipoles for gain in the elevation pattern. I also want to get a permanent antenna up for 160m, but that will be a later project.

### How do they work?

I guess this is the place where we are supposed to talk about how our antennas work. Overall, I have been very impressed with the results of my attic antenna farm. Clearly, my antennas do not compare favorably to the average participant of the "triband-wires" overlay, but I have finished

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second place in the QRP category for NAQP SSB and RTTY, as well as setting a record in the 8<sup>th</sup> call area for Rookies in the CQ WPX CW contest. My record for CWT has been 91 Q's, although I am hoping next summer to be able to operate every CWT and reach 100 Q's with more practice contesting, and of course, more antenna optimization.

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## Locating the “Dream DX QTH” for Suburban Retirement (or maybe for any Ham moving to the ‘Burbs)

[Mal Keown, W5XX](#)

Now the children's college is funded, the job is secure, no car notes, the 1200 square foot QTH on a quarter acre in the city is nearly paid for, and the XYL is a happy camper. Despite the good life, maybe it's time to start looking for that ideal “Dream DX QTH” for retirement. How about 100 acres along the Maine Coast with a nice home and a finished outbuilding for a shack, and for the XYL a few nearby relatives and a mega shopping center in the vicinity.

Keep dreaming! There is not a 100-acre plot available in Maine, no mega shopping areas, and your XYL doesn't have any close relatives within a thousand miles of Maine.

Now for plan B. How about a rural QTH close to the XYL's family, and within an hour of a mega shopping area? No way. The XYL doesn't want anything to do with living the rural life.

Now for plan C. After negotiation, it looks like it's going to be the suburbs. After an extensive search under XYL supervision (and sometimes daughters), her dream retirement home is located with 2500 square feet with a patio for entertaining, close to relatives, and five miles from the local mega mall. However, guess what? Out of view of the XYL, the QTH has three acres on a lot sloping toward a lake in the direction of Europe with a mortgage only twice what the DXer is currently paying. Wow! Things are looking better.

Time passes. Now the XYL and the DXer are considering asking the real estate agent to start drawing up the closing papers on the “Dream Retirement DX QTH.” Hold it!!! There may be some considerations to be dealt with.

How about line noise? It may be a wonderful QTH but not so wonderful if all the DXer hears is S9+20 from 160 to 6.



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How about an HOA? Nothing but a Florida Flagpole in the front yard. No way!

How about hostile neighbors? Surely you don't want to deal with an army of belligerent seniors yelling insults as they push their walkers into your Dream QTH's front yard.

Is there any possibility that the land could be conscripted for a highway? A pipeline? A shopping center? industrial development? low cost housing?

Is the area susceptible to hurricanes or wildfires?

Is there a large mountain between the Dream QTH and Europe or JA?

Will there have to be a major cut/fill or logging operation to make room for towers and four squares.?

A lot of grim thoughts.

Assuming after several visits to the potential QTH with a portable RF Sniffer, the DXer finds no substantial line noise, the HOA is Ham Friendly, and intel reveals good news neighbors, plus all of the other bad news wickets noted above have been jumped or compromised. Now it's time for an antenna farm survey.

Are there obvious locations for towers? Can the towers be located far enough away from power lines and surrounding structures to avoid a big problem if one of them failed? Can the towers be positioned such that they could be used as a phased array for 80 or 160? And most importantly, would the proposed tower locations interfere with the XYL's view of the Lake?

And the potential problems go on. Is there a problem running power to the shack site? Are the potential shack and tower locations subject to mud, snow, flash flood, or drainage problems?

Is there enough room between the tower bases and the tower guy poles to stay away from property lines? Did you say guy poles? Yes, guys wires must be considered in a suburban environment for tall towers. Ideally, the guys need to be above ground to avoid grass cutting and pedestrian and forest creature traffic. Nothing will arouse the ire of the XYL or female neighbors more than finding a strangled Bambi hung up in guy wires ready for gutting.

What will the Antenna Farm look like in ten years? Will little trees become large monsters that may have limbs hanging over guy wires?

Will grass cutting be a problem for the radial field? Nothing is more aggravating than wrestling with a pair of pliers trying to cut wire from around a lawn mower blade.

Will furry creatures be a problem chewing on transmission lines? How about snakes or other vermin coming into the shack via transmission lines?

Are there any Cable TV lines close to the antenna farm?

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Is the ground around the proposed tower and guy pole locations stable?

Are there buried utilities that might cause problems with tower bases, guy poles, or radials?

All of this looks grim. It looks like the DXer will never have a competitive antenna farm. Is he doomed to 100 watts and a 14AVQ until he goes on to his QTH in the Sky? Not so? He says adamantly "This is my competitive Dream Retirement DX QTH, and I intend to have a devastating signal into Europe and JA."

Obviously, there will have to be some rule bending and compromises, but keep in mind how warm and fuzzy the DXer will feel when he knows his buddies are complaining about him consistently being the first though in a pile up into Europe on a cold February Day.

What to do? The key here is to identify the problems before the situation develops. Be prepared to diplomatically compromise and bend some rules as you work your way through the "Dream Retirement DX QTH" challenges.

How grim it would be to move into the "Dream Retirement DX QTH" without any "DX planning" and find out that there is 20 over 9 lines noise, a hyper active senior citizen HOA squad with nothing better to do than torture DXers, or there is no room to fit in a four square.

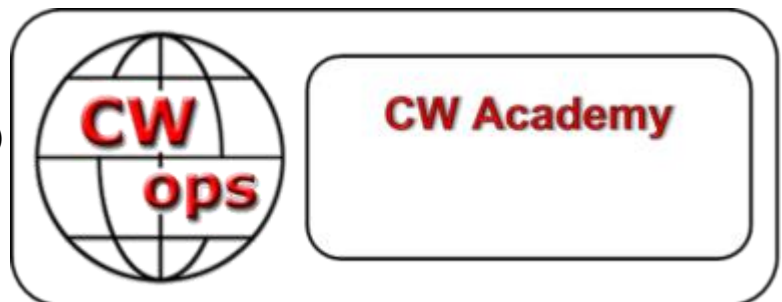
Think carefully before you buy!

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## CW Academy

[Kate Hutton K6HTN](#) [Joe Fischer AA8TA](#) [Bob Carter WR7Q](#)

The CW Academy offers four class levels at this time, being taught three times per year. The beginner class (which was called Level 1 until a couple of years ago) is designed for people who have some or no background in Morse code. Also, important to note...this can be learned at "any age". Occasionally, somebody



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who learned Morse code through scouting, self-learning to get a license that required Morse code skills or other ways, will sign up for a beginner class because they forgot a lot of characters.

As is true for all of our classes, the beginner class emphasizes hearing each character as a separate, distinct sound, not as being composed of smaller sounds. Students are also introduced to the idea of hearing short words in their heads and learn basic on-air techniques.

The basic class (what used to be Level 2P) was recently introduced with the goal of helping students pick up the instant character recognition (ICR) skill. This is the ability to hear a character sound and immediately recognize what it was without actively thinking about it. The beginning class also incorporates these ideas but the basic curriculum uses a more intense approach.

The intermediate class ([what used to be Level 2](#)) is an intense course in hearing multi-character combinations and words as sounds. Students learn to copy short phrases and exchanges, while learning to copy in their heads (with minimal writing). Also getting comfortable with higher speeds. On-air activities, such as contests or casual QSOs are encouraged to help the learning process.

The advanced class (what used to be Level 3) helps the student to hear words and exchanges in their heads and get used to writing down just the important items they hear, such as call signs and names. Contesting at around 30 WPM or higher is worked on or practice in other on-air exchanges and QSOs is done. Skills, such as copying from behind, are introduced.

The basic, intermediate and advanced classes have practice material including plain text and QSO audio files available in the [student resources](#) area of the CW Academy web site. These can be used to help a potential student judge what class level would best to help them. The syllabus for each class is also available there and a potential student can try a few of the lessons in the early part of the class to see how well they might do. On the student [signup form](#), there are short audio files designed to help a potential student decide what class they should take. If there are any questions about this, please contact one of us at [class resolutions](#).

For advisors, all of the material in the student resources area should be an aid to decide which class matches your situation the best. Generally, an advisor should be comfortable handling the lessons himself/herself at the end of a certain class.

Our classes can be challenging but most students get a lot out of any of them. More than three thousand students have successfully completed these classes, many have become advisors and have become members of CWops. More importantly, they are having fun on the air with CW.

**73,**

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

# CWops Tests

[Rich Ferch, VE3KI](#)

Here are the final results for the CWT participation awards for 2020.

There were 10 members who submitted claimed scores for all 159 CWTs in 2020:

159 CWTs: Gold+	
AG4EA	N4DT
K0MP	N5PHT (W0C)
K3WJV	NJ8V
KC8J	W0TG (N5T)
N0TA	W2NRA



Of course, those 10 all qualified for gold medals. There were 136 more members who reached the gold medal level, 136 who made silver, and 146 who qualified for bronze, listed below. When someone used more than one call sign in CWTs during 2020, the other call signs appear in parentheses after the main call sign.

The actual numbers of CWT sessions credited to each participant are listed in the "toplist\_2020.txt" file that can be found in the [Files area for the CWops group on the groups.io web site](#) where you can see how you did relative to your friends.

I have sent the list of medal recipients to Rob K6RB, minus the call signs of members who have asked not to have medals mailed to them. As in past years, Rob will place the order with our supplier and when he receives the medals, he will prepare packages to be mailed using the postal service. If past history is a guide (which may not be quite as accurate this year as in previous years), you should be looking forward to getting your medals in late May, give or take a few weeks.

73,

**Rich, VE3KI**

Gold
9A1AA AA3B AB7MP AC6ZM (K4O) AD8J

Silver
4X6GP AA2AD (K3CWO) AB1BX AC4CA AD0AB

Bronze
2E0OBO AA0O AA4NP AA4WW (KR4WI) AA8R

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Gold (Continued)	Silver (Continued)	Bronze (Continued)
AF8A (KN8CWO, WW0WWV)	AD4EB	AA8TA
AH6KO	AE1T	AA9SN
CO8NMN	AF5DM	AB0TX
DJ1OJ (EA8OM)	AG3I	AE4Y
DL6KVA (DQ10CWO, DR10CWO)	AH6VV (W9CJ)	AG4CC
F6HKA	DK9PY	AI6O
G3LDI	DM6EE	DF7TV
G3YLA	E74X	DJ4MX (9A0YOTA, 9A5MX, DB0YOTA)
G4CCX	G3WZD (G2CWO, GB8CWO)	DK5KK (DQ10CWO, DR10CWO)
G4DYC	I5ECW	DL1NKB
G4HZV	IK3YBX	DL5DBY
G4LPP	K0AD	DL8TG
G4NVR (G2CWO, M2D)	K0INN	EA1X
I2WIJ	K0WA	EA5IUY
I5EFO	K1BZ	FG8NY (TO10CWO)
K0PD	K1EBY	G4PVM (GM4PVM)
K0PK	K1NY	GM0EUL (GM2CWO)
K0TC	K1SM	GW0ETF (GW2CWO, GW4J)
K0TG	K1YY	IK0YVV
K0VBU	K3DMG	IK5VLL
K1DJ	K3JT	IN3FHE
K1DW	K3SEN	IT9MUO
K1GU	K4FN	K0FX
K1RV (K1USN)	K4GM	K1CTR
K1VUT (K1USN)	K4GMH	K1SEC
K2SX	K4HR	K1SEI
K2TW	K4ITV	K2HZO
K3PP	K4KSR	K2WK
K3WW	K4NMR	K2YR
K3ZGA	K4RO	K3ATO
K4BAI (N4B)	K4RUM (KE2CWO)	K3ESE
K4IU	K4WW	K3FH
K4OAQ	K5ME	K3IE
K4TZ	K6KM	K3MD (K3CWO)
K5CM	K7AZT	K3SW
K5GQ	K7QA (W7CWO)	K4AFE
K5QR	K7RL	K4EES
K5WQG	K7UT	K4FT
K6RB	K8BZ	
	K8FC	

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Gold (Continued)	Silver (Continued)	Bronze (Continued)
K7SV (KX4CWO) K8JQ K9ZO KB4DE KC4WQ KD2KW KE2D KE4RG KE8G (KN8CWO) KF8O KG5U KG9X (W9CWO) KI7Y KJ9C KM4CH KM4FO KT4XN KV0I KW7Q M0RYB MI0WWB (GI2CWO) N2UU N3CI N3JT N3QE N3RD N4DPM N4FP (N4FCG) N4ZZ N5AW N5RZ N5XE N7US N8AA (KN8CWO) NA8V NF8M (K2BSA/8) NN4K NW3Y OH1ZAA (OH2MZA, OH3BCX, OH4BCS, OH5ZA) OZ3SM	K8GT K8RJW K9MA K9WX KA5M (K5M) KB3AA KB3ML KC2LSD KI6OY KJ4M KK6M KK7A KM4WHO KR2AA LB6GG LZ1HW (LZ10CWO) N0AC N1DC (K1USN) N1LN N2EI N2EY N2WK N3AD (V26M) N3SD N4AF (W4A) N4EII N4GL N5EE N5KW N5TOO N5ZO (8Q7ZO, NT6Q) N6TVN N7WY N8BJQ NA4J NE0DA NE7EE NF5KF (F5PBL, LZ5KF) NG1R NJ3K NM5G	K4HQB K4LW K4QS K5DU K5NT K5OY K5PI K5XU K5YZW K6AR K6NR K6PB K6TTT K8AJS K8CMO K8FC K8MR K8PK K8WWS K9DX K9NW KA7MDM KC4D KE4KY (KY4NA, W4PF, WX4W) KE4S KE6K KG5HVO KH6AQ KI3F KK0ECT KM0O KV8Q KX4KU LZ5DB (LZ5R) M0DHP (G2CWO, M2U) M0NGN N1VH N2NT N2YO N3AM

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## Gold (Continued)

SM0CUH (SE0C)  
SM0HEV (SF1Z)  
SM00Y (SC10CWO,  
SM0Y)  
SM4DQE (SE4E)  
SM5ALJ (SE5L - Silent  
Key)  
SM5IMO  
SM6CUK (SA6G,  
SF10CWO)  
SM6JWR (SD6F)  
SM6MCW (SM6M)  
SM7CIL (SM5CIL)  
SQ9S (SN10CWO)  
UR5MM (EM10CWO)  
UW7LL  
UX1HW  
UY1HY  
VA3PM  
VA3SB  
VE2FK (CF2FK, VE2HB)  
VE3FP  
VE3KI  
VE3MV  
VE3NNT (VC3CWO)  
VE6JF  
W1QK (N1C, W1QI)  
W1TO  
W1UU (KK1CWO)  
W1WEF (KK1CWO)  
W2TR  
W4IT  
W4SPR  
W4XO  
W5TM  
W6LAX  
W6SX (K1CX, W7QM)  
W6TN  
W7OM  
W8BG  
W8DN

## Silver (Continued)

NN5O (KD5DD)  
NR3Z  
OK1RR (OL10CWO)  
OK2NAJ  
OK5MM (OK5M)  
PA0INA  
PA3AAV  
PA3DBS  
PA3HEN  
S55N  
SM1TDE (SD1A)  
SM5BKK (SI5Y)  
VE2AXO  
VE3EJ  
VE3GFN  
VE3MA  
VE3TW  
W0EJ  
W0LPF  
W1RM (K2D, W1C)  
W2NO  
W2VM  
W2XYZ  
W3UL (AC3U, V47UM)  
W3WHK (K3CWO)  
W4ER  
W4VG  
W5LA (W5L)  
W5MJ  
W6GMT  
W6KC (W6ML)  
W7GF  
W7IY (W4Y)  
W7LG  
W8CAR (K8O)  
W9NXM  
WA3AER  
WA5PFJ  
WA6URY  
WA8KAN  
WA9CW

## Bronze (Continued)

N3FZ (K3M)  
N4BP  
N4CU  
N4DW  
N4KS  
N4OI  
N4YDU (AJ3AA)  
N4ZR  
N5IR  
N7SU  
N8DNA (N8W)  
N8LR  
N8UM  
ND4Y  
ND9M  
NJ4Q  
NS8O (N8C)  
NU7Y  
OH2BN  
OK4MM  
PE2K  
PY4XX  
RT5P  
SA0BXV  
SA6BGR (SD6M)  
SM5SIC (OH1SIC, SM5S)  
SM6LRR (RM2D)  
SP1D  
SV2BBK  
US0MF  
US0YW (UR2Y)  
UX2HB  
VE2BZO  
VE3DZ (VE2IM)  
VE3MGY  
W0OR  
W0UO  
W1EQ  
W2OZB  
W3FV  
W3MA

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## Gold (Continued)

W8FJ  
W8MET  
W9CC  
W9ILY  
WA2USA  
WA3AAN  
WA3GM  
WA5LXS  
WA8Y  
WA9LEY  
WA9MNF  
WB4HRL  
WJ9B  
WT9U

## Silver (Continued)

WB5BKL  
WD4CFN  
WJ7S  
WM6Y  
WN7S  
WO9B  
WS1L  
WT3C  
WX4W

## Bronze (Continued)

W3TB  
W3US  
W4NBS  
W4VQ  
W4YE  
W6WG  
W8FN  
W8OV (K5A)  
W9RE  
WA4JUK  
WB7DND  
WB8JAY  
WC7Q  
WD6T (N6O)  
WG3J (AA3J)  
WO6W  
WQ3E  
WR7Q  
WT2P  
WT3K (AC3BU)  
WT8P  
WU6X



# New Members

## Trung Nguyen W6TN

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

CWops	Call	Name
2782	WA5YOM*	Tim
2783	KC3FQF*	Rosti
2784	G3SZU/ KH6ZU/M4X*	Keith
2785	W0GAS*	GregSA1
2786	VE3BXG*	Mark
2787	OK4RM*	Jindra
2788	W8NIC	Larry
2789	SA1CCQ*	Eddie

CWops	Call	Name
2790	W2MSW*	Mark
2791	VK2IOW*	Patrick
2792	KI6M*	Hans
2793	AC4DP*	Dave
2794	KJ5Y	Pat
2795	VE4XT	Kelly
2796	K0FUZ	John
2797	M0ORD	Roger

CWops	Call	Name
2798	W2DWL	Dennis
2799	N9VJ*	Chuck
2800	N5KD*	Pete
2801	DJ2MX*	Mario
2802	DL1VDL	Hardy
2803	TF3JB*	Jonas
2804	N3MM*	Harry
2805	KB9S*	Mark

\*Life Member

## Current Nominees

As of February 8, 2021:

**Need Sponsors:** F6BCW, NE4EI, WB8YHD, NI4U, WD9CUU, K1ECU, K7ENH, W4LJ

**Invitations Extended:** IK1PML, N2GM, EI6FR, K9XW, N4NTO

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

For information about joining CWops, check the "Membership" page on the website: <http://www.cwops.org>

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

73,

**Trung W6TN**, Membership Manager



# CWops Member Awards

## [Bill Gilliland W0TG](#)

The Annual Competition Award (ACA) is based on the number of members worked each calendar year. You get one point per member worked, once per year. It resets to zero at the beginning of each year. The Cumulative Member Award (CMA) is based on how many members you've worked since January 3, 2010 on each band and continues to grow in perpetuity. [Use the new online tool to submit your data](#). It's easy! (Watch the tutorial if you have not used the online tool before.)

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

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

Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
AA3B	1000	10411	W1RM	208	WT9U	50	W1RM	59	UR5MM	39
K3WW	943	8021	F6HKA	194	WT2P	50	UR5MM	59	W1RM	38
K3WJV	771	5754	DL6KVA	164	WF7T	50	DL6KVA	58	OK1RR	38
NA8V	743	6164	W4VQ	155	WA9LEY	50	OH2BN	55	OH2BN	38
KG9X	731	4119	UR5MM	154	WA4JUK	50	F6HKA	54	N8BJQ	38
WT9U	720	4492	G4BUE	149	W9ILY	50	VE3KI	50	F6HKA	38
AC6ZM	717	3042	OH2BN	148	W8XC	50	OK1RR	49	AA3B	38
N5RZ	689	6314	OK1RR	141	W7GF	50	DJ1YFK	49	9A1AA	38
K1VUT	686	3873	VE3KI	134	W6KY	50	9A1AA	49	W4VQ	37
N7US	672	4577	W9ILY	129	W4VQ	50	G4BUE	47	VE3KI	37
VE3KI	662	6250	N8BJQ	126	W1UU	50	AA3B	47	G4BUE	37
K3JT	652	4053	K3WW	125	W1RM	50	N8BJQ	46	W9ILY	36
W4WF	616	3092	AA3B	125	W0EJ	50	K3WW	46	W0VX	36
K4WW	615	3575	K1ESE	121	VK7CW	50	G4HZV	46	N6WM	36
N8BJQ	610	6713	9A1AA	119	VE3KI	50	W9ILY	45	N5RZ	36
K9WX	589	3689	W0VX	118	NU7Y	50	SM0HEV	45	N5PHT	36
K6NR	588	2958	AC4CA	118	NA8V	50	PG4I	45	K3WW	36
N1DC	583	3807	N5IR	117	NA6O	50	K3WJV	45	DL6KVA	36
AC3BU	575	2806	N5RZ	114	N8BJQ	50	IN3FHE	45	AC4CA	36
K8AJS	564	3618	N5PHT	114	N7WY	50	W4VQ	44	N5RR	35
K1EBY	557	3162	N1EN	112	N7US	50	NA8V	44	UT3UZ	34
NA4J	539	2561	EA8OM	111	N5RZ	50	K1ESE	44	ON4CAS	34
K2TW	534	2753	K1SM	110	N5RR	50	IK0YVV	44	N1EN	34
K7QA	527	3725	W1UU	106	N5PHT	50	N2UU	43	K1ESE	34
AA5JF	513	1287	K3WJV	106	N5IR	50	M0RYB	43	IK0YVV	34
W1RM	498	7151	4X6GP	106	N4ZR	50	I5EFO	43	4X6GP	34
K1DJ	485	3367	VK7CW	105	N2UU	50	DL5DBY	43	VK7CW	33

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
WN7S	483	2746	N5RR	105	N2RC	50	DK9PY	43	NA8V	33
AF4T	483	1506	N2UU	105	N1EN	50	4X6GP	43	N5IR	33
WA4JUK	459	2901	NA8V	104	N1DC	50	SM7IUN	42	K0VBU	33
KE8G	433	2860	N7US	103	KY7M	50	N5RZ	42	I5EFO	33
K3ZA	433	1044	I5EFO	103	KU7Y	50	N5RR	42	W1UU	32
K8JQ	431	4087	IK0YVV	101	KE4S	50	N5IR	42	KC7V	32
DL6KVA	427	4555	AE1T	101	KC7V	50	G3YLA	42	K1SM	32
VE3TM	403	1703	ON4CAS	99	K9WX	50	G3LDI	42	I5IYJ	32
WW3S	402	626	EA1WX	99	K9OZ	50	EA8OM	42	DK9PY	32
N2UU	395	4551	UT3UZ	98	K8JQ	50	AC4CA	42	WA9LEY	31
KV8Q	395	1993	K0VBU	98	K8AJS	50	OZ3SM	41	RM2D	31
KT5V	393	2656	K8AJS	97	K7QA	50	LB6GG	41	NG7M	31
W6LAX	391	1460	WT9U	96	K6NR	50	K8AJS	41	N7US	31
VE3MV	375	2520	N6WM	96	K5IX	50	K3JT	41	N2UU	31
W3WHK	375	2362	WA9LEY	95	K5CM	50	K1SM	41	OK1RP	30
W1EQ	369	1267	IN3FHE	92	K5AX	50	HB9ARF	41	NA6O	30
W0TG	363	2092	K1DJ	91	K4WW	50	EA4OR	41	N7RD	30
K4TZ	354	1962	DK9PY	91	K4GM	50	UW7LL	40	N2RC	30
K6KM	347	1454	N4ZR	90	K3WW	50	SQ9S	40	KR3E	30
NR3Z	344	1676	K1DW	89	K3WJV	50	RM2D	40	K8AJS	30
NJ3K	339	2002	NG7M	88	K3SEN	50	N1EN	40	K3WJV	30
DK9PY	335	2910	N7WY	88	K3JT	50	M0DHP	40	WF7T	29
I2WIJ	335	2463	K3JT	88	K2QB	50	K1DJ	40	SM0HEV	29
N4FP	328	1612	N2RC	87	K1ESE	50	G4NVR	40	OZ3SM	29
K5HEM	325	728	F6JOE	87	K1EBY	50	G4ILW	40	N4ZR	29
KC7V	320	4139	KY7M	86	K1DW	50	G4DRS	40	KT5V	29
LB6GG	320	1572	KR3E	86	K1DJ	50	W0VX	39	K3JT	29
W2NRA	319	2134	KC7V	86	K0VBU	50	SP2R	39	K1DW	29
KT4XN	318	1604	DJ1YFK	86	K0MP	50	SM2CEW	39	IT9VDQ	29
W1AJT	318	1034	SM0HEV	85	IK0YVV	50	N4ZR	39	9A2AJ	29
W4NBS	309	1748	RM2D	85	I5EFO	50	MI0WWB	39	WT9U	28
K2YR	309	1226	N7RD	85	G4BUE	50	LA8OM	39	N5AW	28
W2VM	301	1874	CT1DRB	85	F6JOE	50	K5ZD	39	K5ZD	28
F6HKA	295	6496	PG4I	84	F6HKA	50	K3PP	39	I2WIJ	28
WA2USA	290	1360	N1DC	84	F5MNK	50	IT9MUO	39	DJ1YFK	28
K0TC	289	2340	I5IYJ	83	EA8OM	50	I2WIJ	39	WE5P	27
KA1YQC	287	593	AD1C	83	DL6KVA	50	DF7TV	39	N7WY	27
K5QR	280	1456	K5ZD	82	DK9PY	50	AE1T	39	KJ9C	27
K9OZ	274	2805	K4HQK	81	AE1T	50	WA4JUK	38	K7QA	27
AG4EA	268	1202	WA4JUK	80	AD1C	50	UT3UZ	38	K4GM	27

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
W8OV	265	1720	OZ3SM	80	AC4CA	50	PA3HEN	38	IN3FHE	27
K5YZW	260	928	NA6O	80	AB7MP	50	N1DC	38	WT2P	26
WS1L	258	1653	K9WX	80	AA8TA	50	IT9VDQ	38	WA4JUK	26
K1ESE	254	4589	G3LDI	80	AA3B	50	G3WZD	38	W4WF	26
KE6K	253	1090	K5AX	79	WN7S	49	DM6EE	38	PG4I	26
K4GM	252	3030	DL8PG	79	WB5BKL	49	DK1WI	38	N1ZX	26
SM0HEV	252	1459	KJ9C	78	WA5LXS	49	CT1DRB	38	KU7Y	26
KB4DE	251	1203	K1EBY	78	WA3GM	49	WT9U	37	K9WX	26
W1UU	250	3456	N1ZX	77	W8FN	49	SV2BBK	37	K9OZ	26
OZ3SM	247	1679	K4GM	77	W8DN	49	SM5IMO	37	K6NR	26
N4CWZ	246	883	IT9VDQ	77	W4WF	49	RT5P	37	K5CM	26
UR5MM	238	3096	DL5DBY	77	W4PM	49	PA3BFH	37	K4HQB	26
KM4FO	230	1588	WT2P	76	W4NBS	49	KR3E	37	K2QB	26
W2XYZ	221	901	WF7T	76	W4ER	49	K3MD	37	K1EBY	26
M0RYB	206	1320	KE4S	76	W3WHK	49	K1VUT	37	K1DJ	26
W2CDO	205	901	G4HZV	75	W2NRA	49	K1DW	37	G4DRS	26
WA5LXS	204	1509	LA8OM	74	W0VX	49	F6JOE	37	CT1DRB	26
K3SEN	202	2169	KE8G	74	VE3TM	49	DL4KG	37	V31MA	25
N5IR	201	3939	K7QA	74	VE3MV	49	AC3BU	37	UW7LL	25
K9CPO	199	625	I2WIJ	74	VA7ST	49	W1UU	36	SM2CEW	25
KF8O	191	1131	HB9ARF	74	OK1RR	49	SP1D	36	LA8OM	25
W9ILY	189	5049	SM7IUN	73	NN4K	49	ON4VT	36	KE8G	25
AA8R	187	1113	K4WW	73	NJ3K	49	F5IYJ	36	K4WW	25
G3LDI	179	1782	K2QB	73	NG7M	49	EA1WX	36	IT9MUO	25
OK1RR	176	2983	IT9MUO	73	NA4J	49	9A2AJ	36	HB9ARF	25
9A1AA	174	3345	WE5P	71	N7RD	49	PF5X	35	DK1WI	25
KC8J	169	1246	K4HR	71	N6WM	49	PA7RA	35	SM7IUN	24
W8XC	165	828	K3PP	71	N5AW	49	ON4CAS	35	PY4XX	24
W6TN	164	1024	DK1WI	71	N2WK	49	N7WY	35	NA4J	24
WA5PFJ	164	827	W2NRA	70	N1ZX	49	N7US	35	N1DC	24
KE4RG	155	1204	N5AW	70	KV8Q	49	K0VBU	35	KG9X	24
W7GF	154	1183	G4NVR	70	KT5V	49	G4LPP	35	K3PP	24
PF5X	152	576	G4DRS	70	KM4FO	49	EA5IUY	35	G3LDI	24
KE4S	151	2426	M0RYB	69	KK0ECT	49	EA3FZT	35	DL4FDM	24
W8DN	150	1487	KT5V	69	KJ9C	49	DD7CW	35	DF7TV	24
W4VQ	147	3130	SM2CEW	68	KG9X	49	N5AW	34	KE4S	23
G4LPP	142	689	KG9X	68	KE8G	49	M0NGN	34	K8JQ	23
RT5P	138	403	K1VUT	68	KE4RG	49	K4HQB	34	K4HR	23
KB8GAE	136	1389	F5MNK	68	KC8J	49	K1EBY	34	G4NVR	23
G3WZD	134	845	VE3MV	67	KB4DE	49	IK0NOJ	34	G4HZV	23

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
NG7M	128	3923	UW7LL	67	K6RB	49	DL4FDM	34	EA4OR	23
AB7MP	125	1344	SQ9S	67	K6KM	49	W4WF	33	W7GF	22
G4HZV	121	1394	9A2AJ	67	K6DGW	49	W4PM	33	W2NRA	22
W2TT	118	567	W3WHK	66	K5ZD	49	W2NRA	33	W0TG	22
NU7Y	115	1611	N2WK	66	K5QR	49	VE3MV	33	SQ9S	22
M0NGN	112	329	W4WF	65	K4TZ	49	PY4XX	33	N2WK	22
EA4OR	110	1318	VA7ST	65	K4HR	49	N6WM	33	KO8SCA	22
DJ1YFK	109	1996	V31MA	65	K4AFE	49	KC7V	33	K5QR	22
PA3HEN	109	451	OK1RP	65	K3PP	49	K7QA	33	AC3BU	22
G3SZU	104	112	EA4OR	65	K3MD	49	VE3TM	32	WN7S	21
G4NVR	100	1365	AC3BU	65	K2TW	49	N2WK	32	W4PM	21
N7SU	98	582	SM5IMO	64	K1VUT	49	N2RC	32	W4NBS	21
EA5IUY	97	655	NA4J	64	K0TC	49	KY7M	32	VE3TM	21
HB9ARF	92	1840	F5IYJ	64	EA4OR	49	KJ9C	32	VA7ST	21
DM6EE	84	855	LB6GG	63	AF4T	49	KE8G	32	SP1D	21
G4DRS	78	1353	K3SEN	63	AC6ZM	49	KE4S	32	PA7RA	21
VE6JF	78	962	K3DMG	63	AC3BU	49	K5QR	32	M0RYB	21
K1IG	74	316	DF7TV	63	9A1AA	49	K4WW	32	K6DGW	21
F5IYJ	73	775	CO8NMN	63	WM6Y	48	K4GM	32	K3SEN	21
SP1D	70	986	K8JQ	62	W8OV	48	I5IYJ	32	K1VUT	21
MI0WWB	70	601	ON4VT	61	W6LAX	48	F5MNK	32	G3WZD	21
SV2BBK	66	408	M0DHP	61	W2VM	48	DK3WW	32	DM6EE	21
K0MP	60	1780	K9OZ	61	W0TG	48	CO8NMN	32	DL5DBY	21
M0DHP	59	632	K5CM	61	UR5MM	48	W3WHK	31	CO8NMN	21
4X6GP	53	1840	W4PM	60	N5XE	48	VK7CW	31	AC6ZM	21
SP2R	42	555	G3WZD	60	KT4XN	48	V31MA	31	AA5JF	21
OH2BN	34	1319	DM6EE	60	KR3E	48	OK1RP	31	W4ER	20
PG4I	31	832	DL4FDM	60	KO8SCA	48	NR3Z	31	W3WHK	20
G4ILW	22	815	WN7S	59	KE6K	48	N1ZX	31	NN4K	20
G0ELZ	22	226	W4NBS	59	KB8GAE	48	KO8SCA	31	M0DHP	20
WT8P	19	538	KO8SCA	59	KA9BHD	48	KG9X	31	LB6GG	20
N1EN	15	2490	G4ILW	59	K4QS	48	K5AX	31	K6KM	20
WE5P	12	1215	PY4XX	58	K4HQK	48	DL8PG	31	JF2IWL	20
AA0O	7	487	PA7RA	58	K4EES	48	DF4ZL	31	F5IYJ	20
N5XE	4	1581	K4QS	57	K3DMG	48	WA9LEY	30	DL4KG	20
AJ1DM	3	895	W6KY	56	K1SM	48	W1AJT	30	AI60	20
G0DJA	2	31	NN4K	56	IT9VDQ	48	NJ3K	30	AA8R	20
DF7TV	1	987	K6RB	56	IT9MUO	48	NG7M	30	VE3MV	19
K4NE	1	86	G3YLA	56	I2WIJ	48	NA6O	30	PF5X	19
W0VX	0	4522	SP1D	55	EA1WX	48	N5PHT	30	KB8GAE	19

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
AC4CA	0	4479	PF5X	55	DL8PG	48	K3SEN	30	K2TW	19
N5PHT	0	4303	VE3TM	54	AI60	48	DL5JQ	30	K0TC	19
K0VBU	0	4266	NR3Z	54	AG4EA	48	AC6ZM	30	AF4T	19
K1DW	0	4250	K5QR	54	AF3K	48	N7RD	29	WM6Y	18
N5RR	0	4223	K2TW	54	AA5JF	48	K4QS	29	WB5BKL	18
K6RB	0	4032	K0TC	54	4X6GP	48	K2TW	29	WA3GM	18
KJ9C	0	3968	AC6ZM	54	WT8P	47	K2QB	29	W8OV	18
G4BUE	0	3862	W2VM	53	WS1L	47	G0ELZ	29	W8FN	18
K5AX	0	3634	W0TG	53	WE5P	47	WT2P	28	ON4VT	18
WT2P	0	3586	K6NR	53	WA2USA	47	WN7S	28	NU7Y	18
NA6O	0	3352	W8DN	52	W6TN	47	WF7T	28	NR3Z	18
N2RC	0	3271	MI0WWB	52	W2NO	47	SV9RNG	28	N5XE	18
KY7M	0	3252	IK0NOJ	52	W1EQ	47	PA5KT	28	KE6K	18
K5ZD	0	3210	DL4KG	52	W1AJT	47	NN4K	28	K4AFE	18
AE1T	0	3206	AA8R	52	VE6JF	47	NA4J	28	IK0NOJ	18
N4ZR	0	3122	W8XC	51	VE1OP	47	K9WX	28	W8XC	17
VA7ST	0	3088	KU7Y	51	SM5IMO	47	K8JQ	28	W8DN	17
WF7T	0	3060	K4AFE	51	PY4XX	47	K4HR	28	W2VM	17
N7WY	0	3045	W8FN	49	ON4CAS	47	DL1NKB	28	SM5IMO	17
F6JOE	0	3002	M0NGN	49	OH2BN	47	AD1C	28	N4FP	17
WA9LEY	0	2990	KT4XN	49	NR3Z	47	WE5P	27	MI0WWB	17
IK0YVV	0	2958	SV2BBK	47	N4FP	47	W2VM	27	M0NGN	17
K5CM	0	2866	NJ3K	47	LA8OM	47	VA7ST	27	KV8Q	17
EA8OM	0	2758	N3FZ	47	KY0Q	47	SV2BXA	27	KT4XN	17
W8FN	0	2707	KV8Q	47	KJ4M	47	W2CDO	26	KP4AF	17
K3PP	0	2572	G4LPP	47	KF8O	47	W1EQ	26	KK0ECT	17
K1SM	0	2566	AF4T	47	K2YR	47	K3DMG	26	K0MP	17
N5AW	0	2510	RT5P	46	I5IYJ	47	GW4MVA	26	G4ILW	17
CO8NMN	0	2440	DK3WW	46	HB9ARF	47	G0MGM	26	DK3WW	17
N2WK	0	2339	W8OV	45	DK1WI	47	AF4T	26	AF3K	17
N6WM	0	2273	W4ER	45	CO8NMN	47	W8DN	25	WS1L	16
NN4K	0	2245	PA3BFH	45	AJ1DM	47	PA0INA	25	WA2USA	16
K4HR	0	2212	KB8GAE	45	AA8R	47	N4FP	25	W6TN	16
K4HQB	0	2193	G0MGM	45	WA5PFJ	46	G3SZU	25	VE6JF	16
W4PM	0	2122	EA3FZT	45	W2XYZ	46	AA5JF	25	SV2BBK	16
K6DGW	0	2122	AF3K	45	W2CDO	46	WS1L	24	PA5KT	16
AD1C	0	2101	SP2R	44	V31MA	46	W8FN	24	NJ3K	16
W6KY	0	2088	PA5KT	44	UW7LL	46	N1RM	24	N3FZ	16
K4QS	0	2069	PA3HEN	44	SP1D	46	K6RB	24	KM4FO	16
K2QB	0	2023	N5XE	44	SM0HEV	46	K6NR	24	KB4DE	16

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
EA1WX	0	1961	EA5IUY	44	RM2D	46	AF3K	24	K5YZW	16
AA8TA	0	1950	DD7CW	44	OZ3SM	46	N3FZ	23	WA5LXS	15
IT9MUO	0	1924	AI60	43	N7SU	46	KT5V	23	NG1R	15
K4AFE	0	1909	AA5JF	43	N4CWZ	46	K5CM	23	NF8M	15
AI60	0	1846	KK0ECT	42	N3FZ	46	K0TC	23	KJ4M	15
VK7CW	0	1809	WS1L	41	N0PP	46	EA1DP	23	KE4RG	15
DL8PG	0	1789	WB5BKL	41	KC4WQ	46	AA8R	23	KC8J	15
K3DMG	0	1773	WA5LXS	41	K8RJW	46	W4NBS	22	G4LPP	15
K3MD	0	1734	WA3GM	41	K5HEM	46	W0TG	22	AJ1DM	15
KU7Y	0	1674	W1AJT	41	K3ZA	46	NG1R	22	AG4EA	15
IT9VDQ	0	1618	N4FP	41	JF2IWL	46	KT4XN	22	AB7MP	15
KR3E	0	1602	K3MD	41	G4HZV	46	DL8BH	22	W6LAX	14
W4ER	0	1582	DL5JQ	40	G4DRS	46	W8XC	21	W2XYZ	14
KO8SCA	0	1556	NG1R	39	G3LDI	46	N5XE	21	W2TT	14
V31MA	0	1520	KB4DE	39	DL5DBY	46	KV8Q	21	W2NO	14
WB5BKL	0	1460	W1EQ	38	CT1DRB	46	KB4DE	21	W1EQ	14
I5EFO	0	1447	K6KM	38	AA0O	46	JF2IWL	21	W1AJT	14
N7RD	0	1437	AA8TA	38	WW3S	45	GD4EIP	21	RT5P	14
DL5DBY	0	1417	W7GF	37	W0PHX	45	F5PBL	21	N7MU	14
SM5IMO	0	1382	K6DGW	37	ON4VT	45	AG4EA	21	N0PP	14
LA8OM	0	1370	W0EJ	36	NG1R	45	WA2USA	20	KF8O	14
UW7LL	0	1362	KM4FO	36	NF8M	45	W8OV	20	K5HEM	14
N1ZX	0	1348	W2NO	35	KA1YQC	45	KA1YQC	20	K4TZ	14
RM2D	0	1332	JF2IWL	35	K5YZW	45	K9OZ	20	G3YLA	14
WM6Y	0	1308	WA2USA	34	G4NVR	45	K4AFE	20	EA5IUY	14
KK0ECT	0	1275	AG4EA	34	F5IYJ	45	W2XYZ	19	EA3FZT	14
IN3FHE	0	1253	SV9RNG	33	DF7TV	45	KB8GAE	19	AA8TA	14
KJ4M	0	1242	KP4AF	33	AB7RW	45	WB5BKL	18	W3RZ	13
WA3GM	0	1230	G0ELZ	33	9A2AJ	45	WA5PFJ	18	PA3BFH	13
CT1DRB	0	1146	AJ1DM	33	W3RZ	44	WA3GM	18	KH6TU	13
N3FZ	0	1143	WM6Y	32	SM7IUN	44	W6KY	18	KA1YQC	13
NF8M	0	1133	W6TN	32	SM2CEW	44	W2NO	18	K9CPO	13
ON4CAS	0	1131	W2TT	32	PG4I	44	VE1OP	18	K8RJW	13
SM2CEW	0	1114	VE1OP	32	PA5KT	44	K9CPO	18	K4EES	13
F5MNK	0	1111	KF8O	32	N7MU	44	K2YR	18	K2YR	13
UT3UZ	0	1035	DL1NKB	32	N4GL	44	G4RCG	18	DD7CW	13
AF3K	0	983	DF4ZL	32	KH6TU	44	PA0VLD	17	AB7RW	13
W2NO	0	961	W2CDO	31	KD2KW	44	NF8M	17	WA5PFJ	12
SQ9S	0	953	NU7Y	31	SQ9S	43	N4GL	17	KA9BHD	12
SM7IUN	0	918	NF8M	31	N5KW	43	KF8O	17	K3ZA	12

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
DK1WI	0	908	K4TZ	31	N1RM	43	K8RJW	17	AA0O	12
K5IX	0	892	SV2BXA	30	M0RYB	43	AJ1DM	17	W2CDO	11
G3YLA	0	884	KE4RG	30	LB6GG	43	W4ER	16	W0PHX	11
PY4XX	0	861	KC8J	30	KI3F	43	W2TT	16	SP2R	11
9A2AJ	0	841	K5YZW	30	K9CPO	43	K6KM	16	PA3HEN	11
I5IYJ	0	837	W2XYZ	29	DJ1YFK	43	WA5LXS	15	N4GL	11
NG1R	0	828	K2YR	29	WU6P	42	KU7Y	15	KY0Q	11
K4EES	0	793	WA5PFJ	28	W6GMT	42	KE4RG	15	KC4WQ	11
VE1OP	0	768	W6LAX	28	UT3UZ	42	K5YZW	15	WU6P	10
KA9BHD	0	755	N4GL	28	N7ID	42	K0MP	14	SV9RNG	10
W0EJ	0	754	KE6K	28	K1IG	42	AA8TA	14	N7SU	10
KY0Q	0	752	KA9BHD	28	IN3FHE	42	KM4FO	13	KI3F	10
K8RJW	0	735	KA1YQC	28	G3WZD	42	KC8J	13	K1OJ	10
ON4VT	0	719	K8RJW	28	W2TT	41	WM6Y	12	K1IG	10
PA5KT	0	707	GW4MVA	28	G3YLA	41	W6LAX	12	GD4EIP	10
OK1RP	0	701	EA1DP	28	DL4FDM	41	KP4AF	12	G0ELZ	10
KC4WQ	0	694	W3RZ	27	NA1VT	40	KK0ECT	12	DL8BH	10
JF2IWL	0	674	K0MP	27	KR4WI	40	KI3F	12	DL5JQ	10
DL4FDM	0	646	G3SZU	27	WA5BDU	39	K6DGW	12	DL1NKB	10
N5KW	0	639	DL8BH	27	PF5X	39	K4TZ	12	WW3S	9
KH6TU	0	631	PA0INA	26	DM6EE	39	AA0O	12	WT8P	9
N4GL	0	574	N1RM	26	W4MDV	38	ON6PJ	11	W6GMT	9
N0PP	0	550	N0PP	26	K1LHO	38	KJ4M	11	SV2BXA	9
N7MU	0	536	GD4EIP	26	WB4OMM	37	KA9BHD	11	N7ID	9
PA7RA	0	518	F5PBL	26	W9KM	37	K5HEM	11	N1RM	9
EA3FZT	0	500	K9CPO	25	PA7RA	37	K3ZA	11	KG5VK	9
G0MGM	0	495	K5IX	24	NF5KF	37	K1IG	11	G3SZU	9
DK3WW	0	491	K4EES	24	KB8PGW	37	G0DJA	11	F5PBL	9
N1RM	0	490	AB7MP	24	IK0NOJ	37	W6TN	10	WX5CW	8
W3RZ	0	478	K5HEM	23	EA5IUY	37	W3RZ	10	WB4OMM	8
PA3BFH	0	477	VE6JF	22	DD7CW	37	W0EJ	10	W4MDV	8
DD7CW	0	472	NF5KF	22	M0DHP	36	NF5KF	10	NA1VT	8
DL4KG	0	457	KJ4M	22	DL4KG	36	NA1VT	10	KD2KW	8
W0PHX	0	426	G4RCG	22	DK3WW	36	N5KW	10	G4RCG	8
KD2KW	0	413	AA0O	21	OK1RP	35	VE6JF	8	EA1DP	8
W6GMT	0	391	K1IG	19	MI0WWB	35	SM7CIL	8	SM7CIL	7
DL5JQ	0	381	KI3F	18	GD4EIP	35	N0PP	8	OK4MM	7
IK0NOJ	0	366	KC4WQ	18	G0MGM	35	KD2KW	8	N5KW	7
N7ID	0	311	K3ZA	18	W8EH	34	K5IX	8		
KI3F	0	308	W0PHX	17	G4LPP	34	K4EES	8		

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Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
NA1VT	0	306	PA0VLD	17	KI7RS	33	W7GF	7	PA0INA	6
AB7RW	0	301	N7MU	16	KG5VK	33	NU7Y	7	N4CWZ	6
NF5KF	0	289	AB7RW	16	G4ILW	33	KG5VK	7	KR4WI	6
KB8PGW	0	284	NA1VT	14	EA3FZT	32	OK4MM	6	K4NE	6
KR4WI	0	255	N5KW	14	M0NGN	31	K1LHO	6	G0DJA	6
WA5BDU	0	243	G0DJA	14	PA3BFH	29	N4CWZ	5	DF4ZL	6
W9KM	0	236	KY0Q	13	K8MP	29	KE6K	5	WA5BDU	5
WU6P	0	234	KH6TU	13	SV2BBK	28	KC4WQ	5	W9KM	5
W4MDV	0	225	ON6PJ	12	KG5U	28	AI60	5	PA0VLD	5
SV2BXA	0	211	KD2KW	12	G4RCG	28	AB7MP	5	K1LHO	5
GD4EIP	0	199	WW3S	11	SP2R	27	W6GMT	4	W8EH	4
K1LHO	0	192	SM7CIL	11	K4NE	27	AB7RW	4	ON6PJ	4
GW4MVA	0	192	N7SU	11	DL5JQ	27	WW3S	3	KM3A	4
DF4ZL	0	177	KG5VK	11	PA3HEN	26	W0PHX	3	KG5U	3
WB4OMM	0	169	K1OJ	11	SV9RNG	23	N7SU	3	K8MP	3
SV9RNG	0	164	WX5CW	10	G0ELZ	23	KY0Q	3	DD5KG	3
KG5VK	0	163	WB4OMM	10	AF9W	23	KR4WI	3	AF9W	3
W8EH	0	149	W6GMT	10	KP4AF	22	WT8P	2		
DL1NKB	0	146	OK4MM	10	WX5CW	20	N7MU	2		
F5PBL	0	134	WU6P	9	RT5P	18	N7ID	2		
G4RCG	0	131	N7ID	9	GW4MVA	18	KB8PGW	2		
EA1DP	0	131	N4CWZ	9	DL1NKB	18	K4NE	2		
DL8BH	0	115	WT8P	8	KM3A	17	DD5KG	2		
KI7RS	0	110	W4MDV	8	G3SZU	15	WX5CW	1		
KG5U	0	93	K1LHO	8	SV2BXA	13	WU6P	1		
K8MP	0	89	KR4WI	6	SM7CIL	13	WA5BDU	1		
KP4AF	0	88	KI7RS	6	OK4MM	13	W9KM	1		
PA0INA	0	86	K4NE	6	F5PBL	13	W4MDV	1		
AF9W	0	59	KB8PGW	5	EA1DP	13	KM3A	1		
WX5CW	0	49	W9KM	4	DL8BH	11	K1OJ	1		
OK4MM	0	40	DD5KG	4	DD5KG	10				
PA0VLD	0	37	WA5BDU	3	G0DJA	7				
SM7CIL	0	35	W8EH	3	DF4ZL	7				
KM3A	0	33	KM3A	2	PA0INA	3				
K1OJ	0	29	KG5U	2	K1OJ	3				
ON6PJ	0	21	K8MP	2	PA0VLD	2				
DD5KG	0	18	AF9W	2	ON6PJ	2				





# QTX Report

## Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

[Bruce Murdock K8UDH](#)

I don't think we'll forget 2020 any time soon. It was an extremely challenging time for everyone. Ham radio, and especially CW, didn't change very much and it often helped us forget about the world's problems. Lots of conversational CW QSOs is one way to have fun with CW.

Art (K8CIT) was the high scorer with an amazing score 1520 QTX QSOs in 2020! He had more QTX QSOs than anyone I could remember in recent years so I did some research by looking back in *Solid Copy*. I found that Art has the **HIGHEST QTX TOTAL** since the program began in January 2012.

QTX Annual Records								
2012	John	K1ESE	483		2017	Gary	N5PHT	1,055
2013	Steve	N6TT	619		2018	Bill	N5IR	765
2014	Fred	KI4XH	965		2019	Bill	N5IR	608
2015	Bill	N5IR	873		2020	Art	K8CIT	1,520
2016	Gary	N5PHT	978					

Art received a handsome plaque (right) commemorating this accomplishment. All of the medal winners are shown in the Awards and Medals for 2020 section below. Congratulations to all of you.

### December Comments from QTX Submissions:

**MI0WWB:** Rag chewing is work in progress!

**N6HCN:** Over 1 QTX/Day in December, with very few repeat stations! Most QRQ: Ed, NA5G, thanks for the iambic workout! Happy New Year everyone, ZUT!

**G3WZD:** Some nice QSOs this month, including one with a potential candidate for CWops membership! 73 es VY HNY to all. Duncan

**W1AJT / VE3UTT:** Inspired by my CWops membership, these QSOs are my first CW ragchews, without a keyboard, since the late 1960's. I am trying to get those skills back. The QSO's were from Dec. 27 to 29.



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**KC0VKN:** 2020 is done! Thanks to everyone for the QSO's.

**K8CIT:** Well, it's been quite a ride this past year. Now it's time for me to retire from this and let someone else win it. 73, and happy new year,

**WS1L:** K5BTV and K3TF both broke the 40 minute mark in QSO's this month. AA5AD and N3HAM were both interesting QSO's about their museum ship operations on USS Razor-back and USS Olympia. Talked big band music with Art, KA9ZAP and bluegrass music with Adam, NA4IE.

**W9EBE:** My longest QSO this month was with Dave/K3DGR -- 49 minutes. Thanks, Dave! HNY to all. 73 es ZUT

**N8AI:** KW7Q Steve goes out on 300 foot research vessel to take radar readings on clouds over the ocean. Trying to quantify whether more clouds increase or decrease Earth's temperature. He should take along AOC and show her what a big heat sink the ocean is.

**WA2USA:** It never ceases to amaze me how small the world really is. I had an hour long Q with a ham who lives in Utah who once lived 20 miles from where I grew up in upstate New York on the St. Lawrence River. We're the same age and both of us were licensed in 1965 in the same month.

**W3WHK:** Particularly interesting QSOs with Orestes CL3OR in Havana, and W8UA(14-year-old CWops member).

**AA5AD:** First time ever to have more QTX than Mini's, also best ever total for a month. Wanted to finish as strong as possible, though still short of my goals. Thanks to everyone who had a rag chew with me in 2020! Still have a goal of a 30 QTX month in the near future!

**KB6NU:** Not sure what to attribute my higher score to this month, but it was a good one for QTX QSOs.

**KF9VV:** First time reporting. Parsing logs is a fun exercise!

**AJ1DM:** My rig decided to go belly-up partway through the month and I'm really starting to miss rag-chewing. Hopefully the folks in Watsonville will be able to resuscitate my K3 pretty soon so I can get back to it! HNY to all my rag-chewing friends! 73 de John AJ1DM

**K1BZ:** Thanks for promoting CW, love the weekly CWT contests... ! /DL

### **January Comments from QTX Submissions:**

**G3WZD:** Quite a busy month, Bruce, including a couple of nice QTX contacts, which makes a change for me. 73, Duncan

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**K6DGW:** Volunteered for a project so on-air time was somewhat restricted. Project is almost done, might do better in Feb

**MI0WWB:** Just for the Record!

**W3WHK:** Nice to chat with N3ZN, the man who makes the paddles!

**W9EBE:** Although my totals for January weren't my highest, you can bet that every QSO I had that qualified for QTX and MQTX were most enjoyable! And that's what it's all about, right? ~ZUT~

**WA2USA:** I had several interesting Q's. One with a bee keeper with his own honey business and another operating portable in his mobile home testing antennas. Rag chewing reminds me of my novice days. Great fun.

**AA5AD:** Some other radio activities got in the way of my ragchewing time this month, but still started with 8, my goal is to break 100 this year and possibly double that---we'll see! I think I'm getting better at keeping the other op "on the hook" for 20 minutes.

**N6HCN:** COVID & property mgmt company canceled my annual "Rain & Radio" trip, impacting January QTX operations. But enjoyed some marathon QSOs with Fred K1NVY, Alan AC2K, Rob N6KIX, Bing K6YUF and Bob NW8L.

**K1BZ:** 630 Meters /DL

**N8AI:** W1XAW Ed in South Portland, ME told me in 30 minutes on 40m that he skis, sails and mountain bikes. Has kept TS940S alive with a fan on the PS.

**N0BM:** A couple of great ragchews, including one with a retired teacher. He spent bout 30 years in public ed and then another 15 teaching special needs students in a health care setting. He operated using a balcony mounted whip antenna and about 50 watts. It was a gas

**W1AJT:** Longest was with ZS1C and all were with DX on 4 different continents.

**N5IR:** Rig down for two weeks...withdrawal set in.

**N3FZ:** I've been using QTX to try to get my code speed up. I did this last year with CWT and my contesting speed shot up by 7-10 wpm. I'm hoping that I can pull my QTX speed to 30-35 wpm from 27 or so wpm. Those QRQ guys 35+ are amazing! I'd love to join those ranks.

**AJ1DM:** A little light on qtx this month due to downtime for rig repairs. 73

**K8UDH:** January was a ruff month. Very little time to get on-the-air. I need to pick up the pace to reach my goal, which is a Silver Medal for 2021.

## **Awards and Medals for 2020**

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

Gold – 400 QTX QSOs

Silver Medal – 300 QTX QSOs

Bronze – 200 QTX QSOs

The Gold Medals earned in 2020 are:

- Art (K8CIT) with 1520 QTX QSOs, Joe (KC0VKN) with 840 QSOs, Bill (N5IR) with 683 QSOs, Chris (N8AI) with 538 QSOs, John (K1ESE) with 516 QSOs, Gary (N5PHT) with 433 QSOs, and Chip (W9EBE) with 424 QTX QSOs.
- Tom (DL5DBY) with 398 QSOs and Chuck (WS1L) with 332 QTX QSOs have qualified for Silver Medals.
- Our Bronze Medal earners are Dan (KB6NU) with 270 QSOs, Cecil (K5YQF) with 231 QSOs, John (N6HCN) with 222 QSOs, and Phil (F5IYJ) with 219 QTX QSOs.

Congratulations to all.

### QTX for December 2020

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
K8CIT	140	WS1L	34	WA2USA	13	KF9VV	4
K1ESE	92	KB6NU	34	AJ1DM	10	G3WZD	2
KC0VKN	78	W9EBE	30	KG5IEE	10	W1AJT	2
N8AI	63	AA5AD	21	N5PHT	6	SV2BBK	1
K9OZ	57	K4AHO	20	K8UDH	4	K1BZ	1
N6HCN	37	K5YQF	19	W3WHK	4		

### MQTX for December 2020

Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX
N8AI	78	KG5IEE	14	N6HCN	6	K8UDH	1
K1ESE	31	K8CIT	12	W2USA	5	K1BZ	1
SV2BBK	25	W9EBE	11	WS1L	4	W1AJT	1
AA5AD	18	G3WZD	11	DL5DBY	3		
MI0WWB	16	K4AHO	11	K5YQF	2		
KF9VV	15	W3WHK	7	N5PHT	1		

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## 2020 Totals for QTX

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
K8CIT	1520	K5YQF	231	AG4EA	50	G3WZD	6
KC0VKN	840	N6HCN	222	W3PNM	49	W5LA	5
N5IR	683	F5IYJ	219	WA2USA	44	KF9VV	4
N8AI	538	K4AHO	179	W3WHK	33	AB7MP	4
K1ESE	516	AJ1DM	131	SV2BBK	30	KU7Y	3
N5PHT	433	K2KRG	111	WB6TOU	23	W1AJT	2
W9EBE	424	AA5AD	85	IK0IXI	22	K1BZ	1
DL5DBY	398	K9OZ	80	K6DGW	17	KR4TH	1
WS1L	332	K8UDH	79	EW6BS	15		
KB6NU	270	KG5IEE	73	N5LB	14		

## 2020 Totals for MQTX

Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX
DL5DBY	737	K2KRG	134	K6DGW	41	WB6TOU	11
N8AI	631	N5PHT	132	K8UDH	32	AB7MP	9
W9EBE	312	KG5IEE	114	W3PNM	29	KU7Y	5
SV2BBK	309	N6HCN	86	W3WHK	28	W5LA	5
WS1L	193	K4AHO	84	AG4EA	22	N5LB	3
K1ESE	174	G3WZD	81	AJ1DM	19	K1BZ	2
K8CIT	151	M10WWB	63	KF9VV	15	KR4TH	1
AA5AD	143	K5YQF	54	W2USA	11	W1AJT	1

## QTX for January 2021

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
KC0VKN	85	W9EBE	28	KF9VV	7	G3WZD	2
K1ESE	79	K4AHO	22	AJ1DM	5	K6DGW	2
K9OZ	62	KG5IEE	21	W3WHK	5	K1BZ	1
N8AI	52	WS1L	19	K8UDH	4	SV2BBK	1
N5IR	37	N6HCN	18	N5LB	4	W1AJT	1
WA2USA	35	EA2AJB	10	N5PHT	4	M10WWB	1
F5IYJ	32	AA5AD	8	N3FZ	4		
KB6NU	32	K5YQF	8	N0BM	3		

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## MQTX for January 2021

Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX	Call	MQTX
N8AI	67	K6DGW	12	K1BZ	4	AJ1DM	2
SV2BBK	31	G3WZD	9	W1AJT	4	N5PHT	2
W2USA	20	K4AHO	8	WS1L	4	K5YQF	1
W9EBE	20	KF9VV	8	N3FZ	4	K8UDH	1
KG5IEE	15	MI0WWB	6	N0BM	3		
AA5AD	12	W3WHK	5	N6HCN	3		

Thanks for participating in CWops ragchewing and have fun with CW.

73,

**Bruce K8UDH**, QTX Manager

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## My Story: New Member Biographies

### Tim N Vandagriff, WA5YOM

Thanks for the opportunity to join such a fine group of Amateur Operators. Special thanks to those that had the confidence in my skills to nominate and sponsor me.

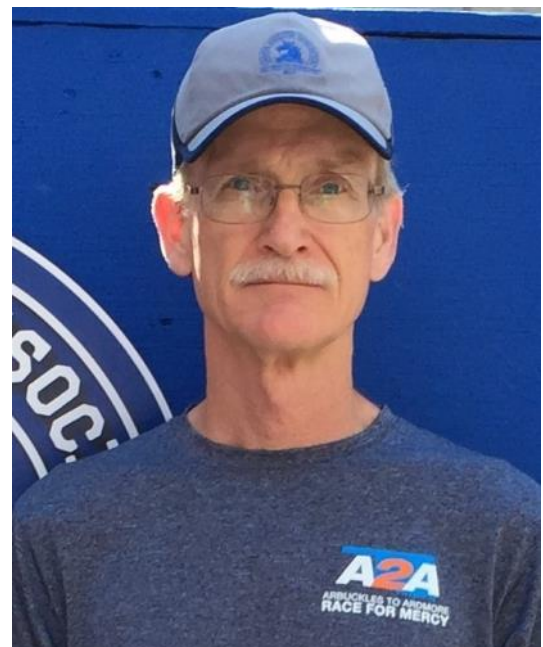
I am a member of SKCC #13242, Life Member of INDEXA, Life Member of ARRL, member of QCWA, and 10-10 International.

I am a recent widower. My wife Georgia was KB5DCV and we were married 37 years. She passed on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 from Alzheimer's disease. I have a daughter, Dana, that lives in Brooklyn NY. My dad is 97 years old and his callsign is WA5YON.

I was born in Dallas, Texas, raised in Rochester, NY, and have lived in Ardmore, Oklahoma since 1969 except for shorts stints in Durant, Oklahoma and Orlando, Florida while attending college.

I am 68 years old and a retired Electrical Engineer. I worked in tire manufacturing for the same company for 43 years. Most of those years were spent in electrical controls design, machine au-

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tomation programming and project management.

I became interested in radio during my early teen years. My dad was a radio operator on an LST during WWII so when he discovered my interest in radio he suggested I consider Ham Radio as a hobby. We decided to study for our Novice license together. We made a simple key out of a piece of spring steel. It wasn't long before we passed our Novice test in the spring of 1968. My callsign was WN2GTQ and my Dad's was WN2GTS. Within the first year I had a 20 WPM ARRL Code Proficiency Certificate and I had graduated to a bug. By the time I received my General class I was using a Heathkit HD-10 Keyer which I later connected to a Vibroplex Vibrokey.

I have been active all the years that I have been licensed, some years more than others. During those years I have mostly enjoyed DXing and Casual Contesting. Recently I have returned to the joy of Rag chewing.

The CW mode has always been my passion and I use CW about 90% of the time. I also operate, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Most of my activity is on the HF bands.

My CW operating goal is to increase my speed and become more proficient copying in my head. I find the CWops Test very enjoyable and I have already noticed improvements.

I have restored a few Vibroplex Bugs but my pride and joy is my I1QOD Magnetic Prestige Chrome BUG. I am awaiting delivery of my I1QOD Marconi Deluxe Straight Key.

My current station consists of a FlexRadio 6700, FlexRadio PGXL Amplifier, and a 4O3A 8X2 antenna switch. Antennas currently include a EFD for 80-10, Bazooka for 40 and a C3S Yagi for 20-15-10. My latest project will consist of reconfiguring my station into a Rack assembly. I also have my original Novice station consisting of a Heathkit DX60B and HR10B.

Besides Ham Radio I am a avid Marathon runner, enjoy woodworking and gardening. I hope to meet many CWops on the bands.

### **Keith Radford, G3SZU**

Hello fellow members, I'm so pleased to be a part of the group and so grateful to Bud AA3B for nominating me, Martin OK1RR, Adi PE2K and Frank K1EBY for sponsoring me.

I was born into a coal-mining family in Robin Hood country, Nottinghamshire in 1947 and at eighteen years old, left home to work in Nottingham for what is now BT (British Telecommunications). After college, university and moving around with my job, I finished up in Cambridge (UK) where we lived for many years. There I managed computing & network groups but eventually moved on to our National Health Service as a director. Upon my retirement, we moved northwards in 2001 and I was able to increase my amateur radio activity.

We now live on the northwest coast of England near the Victorian seaside town of Morecambe which gives its name to the Bay. I'm married to Barbara, who originally came from this area and we have five, grown-up children.

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My interest in radio started at the age of ten when the school caretaker introduced me to crystal sets and helped me build one. From then on I was absolutely hooked on all things radio. I eventually took my exam and Morse test and got my full licence in 1964 as a sixteen year old schoolboy and I've been enjoying CW ever since. That's fifty six years...I think I'm beginning to get the hang of it.....some might disagree...!

I like doing particular CW contests and have a contest call-sign, M4X. I've recently discovered CWT and rediscovered CW rag-chewing which are both rather enjoyable. I operate from 160m thru 10m but don't do much beyond 6m on VHF/UHF, although I am a member of the South Lakeland Repeater Group.

Besides amateur radio operating, I enjoy computing, homebrew constructing, all things technical and with Barbara, holidays. Barbara and I love cycling when the weather is good enough – living next to the Irish Sea can be a bracing and/or wet experience and I can sadly confirm the weather and temperature are nothing like Hawaii, where we make regular visits to see our friends – hence my KH6ZU call-sign.

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I've a website which gives more incriminating details – [www.g3szu.co.uk](http://www.g3szu.co.uk)

I'm really looking forward to making the most of my CWops membership – it's rekindled my enthusiasm and I'm so pleased and honoured to belong to the club – I look forward to working you!

## **Jindra Vavruška/ OK4RM and OM0RM**

When I started thinking about my ham radio bio, I quickly realized that CW is my main mode, and if there were no digital modes, it would be almost exclusively my only working mode.

I first encountered ham radio in 1980. A classmate proposed "to visit a radio club because they are giving away electronic parts for free." Yes, there was an interesting surplus of E180F's and 6L50's (soon to be used, HI).

Our radio clubs took part in army preparation of conscripts, teaching them telegraphy and radio contact protocol basics. I knew "written Morse code" since young age, so hearing "real Morse" was an irresistible challenge. Our lessons would start after the conscripts were gone, but our progress was rocket-fast.

It didn't take long and I made my first CW QSO on 80m at OK1KCU club, under encouraging supervision of Jarda, OK1DCU. (My counterpart was YU5FET. Why do I remember that?)

Shortly after I passed exams, so not only my regular CW operation became legal, but I also obtained my first license, OL4BEV, on 3 November 1981. Two 6L50 came handy for an illegal PA to improve my chances on 160 meters, my only permitted HF band.

A few years later I had to pass another exam to obtain a regular license to replace the temporary OL callsign and I got OK1FOU.

Over the years my country changed regime, split, I was busy in my new job, got married and let my license expire, like many others. Fortunately, friends from the "old" OL times later convinced me to renew. Since then, my ham radio activity became a permanent struggle because I never had any suitable house or land where I could place a reasonable antenna. Also, my event mismanagement was revealed: date of our marriage happens to coincide with 3rd Subregional VHF+UHF contest, in our land called just "THE Field Day", an event not less important than Christmas or national holiday.

Thanks to loving patience of my XYL, I was able to dedicate more time and effort to the hobby. Last few years a group of my fellow ex-OL friends and ham radio veterans fosters a small group



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of youngsters who gradually gain more interest and proficiency in ham radio. I also had the honor to assist "basic education" in telegraphy of a small group of children led by Miloš, OK7ZM, at the National Technical Museum. It is a great fun, although lockdown and other inconveniences in the past year reduced our meetings significantly.

Since last July I have my own house, since October I even have a vertical on the roof, and thanks to the extensive home office regulations, I can go on air very often, almost at any time I wish.

Since I am not a passionate contester or expedition hunter, I also spend much of my hobby time developing ham radio software or learning software development. And finding bugs in my friends' software. I became virtually a routine tester of HamRacer and SpiderKeyer.

I got used to work from portable locations, go SOTA when time allows, and operate from my wife's family house in Slovakia, my beloved second home, as OM0RM.

I would like to thank Martin, OK1RR, for his sponsorship, nomination and his obvious influence on the speed of my nomination and membership admission. Without exaggeration, if I remember well, this is the greatest expression of appreciation by Martin that I experienced in my whole life.

## **Mark Wiatroski, W2MSW**

My interest in Amateur Radio started back in the early 1970's. My sister's boyfriend at the time owned a multi-band short wave radio. I used to listen to short wave stations. I also heard garbled voices and some Morse code. I recognized the sound of Morse code from my days in the Boy Scouts but had no idea what those garbled voices were all about. One day, my father's golfing buddy, Joe Lyman, K2UEU (SK) explained to me that the voices were amateur radio operators working SSB.

My high school days passed and my interest in Amateur Radio peeked again during my Sophomore year in college. I learned about a local radio club, IRAC (Irvington Radio Amateur Club), K2GQ, and started attending their weekly meetings. The Elders in the club were very helpful and I slowly learned the Morse Code. I was administered the Novice test by my Elmer, Ed Surmaitis, WA2MYZ (SK) and passed. I secured my first call WN2DUX in early 1976. I trekked to the FCC Headquarters on Varick Street in New York City a year later, secured my General Ticket and my call was changed to WA2DUX.



As with many of us, life happened (work, marriage and children) and although I never let my li-

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cense lapse I really didn't spend much time on the air. I did secure my Advanced License in the late 1980's. I secured my vanity call, W2MSW in 2016 and earned my Extra Ticket in the early Summer of 2020. I really wanted the Extra Class privileges so I could chase some CW DX stations!

With the children grown and out of the nest I got to spend more time on the air and my interest in increasing my code speed became my focus. To that end, I attended my first CWops class in early 2017. My speed gradually increased and I was ready for my next CWops class which I took in early 2020.

My current station consists of a Kenwood TS-590 as my main rig and I also have an Elecraft KX2 which I use for QRP. My primary antenna is a G5RV and I also have a 20m Delta Loop. My station is rounded out by my Begali Signature key and my Begali Traveler Light key.

Even though I've been licensed for over 40 years I still get excited every time I walk down the basement stairs and into my shack.

I am truly honored to have been sponsored and accepted into the CWops organization and I look forward to helping advance the art of CW.

### **Mark Schacter, VE3BXG**

Born in Thunder Bay, Ontario (just north of the border with Minnesota) in 1957, I came to ham radio relatively late in life. Got my license at 60. Started out operating SSB but within a few months began learning Morse code and am now 99% CW. I live in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada's capital city.

For the past 20+ years I have worked as a management consultant, helping public-sector and not-for-profit organizations be better at developing strategies and measuring/managing organizational performance. I'm self-employed, which allows me to squeeze in radio time whenever I feel like it! I'm also a fine-art photographer. Three books of my work have been published, and my work can be seen at <http://www.luxetveritas.net>



The first thing I did after becoming a CW Ops member was to sign up as an Advisor. I have a lot of adult education experience. It's gratifying to help people learn, and I look forward to working with CW students. The most important thing I have learned from my own continuing experience

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of building my CW skills is that there is no substitute for practice, practice and more practice. And the more on-air practice the better (though all of the on-line and smart-phone CW training apps are also great training tools that I continue to use for my own development).

So to hams who are at an early stage in their CW journey, I say get on the air as soon as you possibly can. Always try to do your best, but don't worry about making mistakes or feeling foolish. Just dive in off the deep end. It's the best way to learn. And you'll find that most hams will be very tolerant of your imperfections! We were all beginners once, and we are all still trying to get better.

## **Johannes "Hans" Stosch, KI6M**

Hello friends and thank you for letting me join CWOps. I am thankful to Jim (N3JT), Hank (W6SX), Bud (AA3B), and Rob (K6RB) who supported my candidacy. I am very honored to be part of this special group of operators.

I am 46 years old and work as Professor of Music in Southern California. My field is orchestra conducting. Besides the university, I conduct a professional orchestra in Michigan and the largest Youth Orchestra in Orange County. The intersection of patterns, rhythm, and language in regards to CW has always fascinated me.



My hobbies are, of course, radio (CW only at this point). I enjoy SOTA activations and overall QRP. I am happiest when I am hiking up to a peak in solitude and feel part of nature. My plan for the not too distant future is to hike the John Muir Trail and activate SOTA peaks along the way. I work mostly CW on 40, 30, 20, and 17m. My antennas are a vertical Diamond CP5H (40/20), a ham-stick dipole (30m), and a simple wire dipole (17m). I wish I could find the space for an 80m antenna. My main rig is an ICOM IC-7300 (100W); I also use an MTR-3B and SW-3B (both <5W) for mobile QRP operations. Looking forward to using my new QCX mini for 17m portable.

Growing up in my native Germany, I began my interest in radio by listening to international shortwave stations. I loved climbing in trees and experimenting with various kinds of wire anten-

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nas. I started to learn Morse code in order to get my license but got sidetracked with school and college. After finally settling in California, I went back to the hobby in 2015 and got all licenses in short order. I am having fun building various QRP antennas and tuners from QRPguys kits.

I am married to a pianist who is equally busy and so far tolerates my radio hobby. She even hikes along to some of the SOTA peaks with me.

I have been licensed since 2015. My journey in CW was helped tremendously by the Long Island CW Club, in particular Jerry (WB0JRH) and my CW Academy Intermediate and Advanced Advisors Kevin (VE7KHI) and Ed (K6HP)

## **James Douglass, AC0E**

I first got into radio in 1970 when I enlisted in the United States Army.

The only things I did NOT want to be were a clerk, because I couldn't type, or a radio-operator, because they carried not only their own gear in the field but also the radio. To add fuel to that fire you were up where the officer was who, by default, a primary target of the opposition....

Did I also say I was not a rocket scientist?



The first thing that happened was I got talked into enlisting for an additional year (4 years) but I was joining an elite secret organization called the Army Security Agency!

So off to the Secret ASA Training Base I went, Fort Leonard Wood, MO for basic training. I really wasn't in the US Army, my recruiter told me. Actually we were a hidden organization that only wore the uniform as a cover to conceal our true identities.....

Then to another Secret ASA Training Base just outside of Boston, MA at a place called Fort Devens (is the reader beginning to see a pattern here?) where I spent the summer of 1970 trying to figure out where all the keys were located on a "Mill" and what were all the funny sounding beeps coming from the headsets I was provided.

I graduated from Basic Morse Code (BMC) School in August of 1970 and thankfully was sent to Radio-teletype Intercept School.

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Three, not 4 years (a year drop for good behavior), later I left the United States Army Security Agency and went to Electronics School on the GI Bill.

I opened a small electronics repair shop in 1975 after the post Viet Nam draw down flooded the tech market where I was and the only way to stay busy was open my own shop to keep from losing all I had learned about radio/electronics.

In 1977 I passed my Novice ticket administered by Duke Ellington, W0FDY (SK).

In 1978 I was hired by the City of Boulder, Colorado to work in their radio shop. I replaced another tech who had taken a position in Montana. That guy's name was Ken Kopp, K0PP.

My supervisor in the radio shop was a guy named Tom Debacher, N0CH (SK)

Our department head, and the guy who hired me, was Robert (Bob) McCaa, K0RZ.

In 1978.... passed my Extra Class exam at the FCC Field Office, (high up in a building in downtown Denver). I immediately filled out a form 610 requesting a 1x2 callsign and mailed it the same day..... about 30 days later I received two (2) letters from the FCC. The first was my form 610; which in my haste to get my new 1x2 callsign I had failed to add MY SIGNATURE....

The second letter was my newly assigned callsign & license. That callsign was, and is, AC0E.

In 1979 I hired on with Cities Service Gas Company in April of as a Communications Technician. This was due to Guy Baker, N0GB, telling me of the openings on a new 600 mile pipeline project and would include the construction of a 27-hop microwave system.

In 1983 I hired on with Sunflower Electric Cooperative back in my home town of Garden City, Kansas. This was to build and maintain a 14-hop microwave system to support the generation and transmission of electric power. I was hired by a friend of mine, Rod Hogg, K0EQH.

In 1986 I hired on with Mobil Pipeline Company and worked as a Communications Technician in the Gulf of Mexico.

In 1993 to 2020 came back to work in our family roofing business and have since retired to doing amateur radio and enjoying my children and grandchildren.

Much more to the story but I would have to tap another keg so if you have read this far you will have to wait.....For the rest of the story....

## **Kelly Taylor, VE4XT**

When you want to make Kelly Taylor, VE4XT, feel old, just remind him that in 2022, it will have been 40 years since he got his ticket at age 15.

If the callsign sounds familiar, you've probably worked him in SS, WW, WPX, both of the Radio Amateurs of Canada contests (Canada Day and Winter), the odd IARU and in ARRL DX from time

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to time. Or, you've read him either in the pages of QST or on the [arrrl.org](http://arrrl.org) website: he's been the author of Sweepstakes results articles since the 2001 ARRL SS Phone.

Contesting, particularly on CW, a mode where even small stations can make noise, is his primary ham radio activity. Don't ask him about FT8: he doesn't see the point. His primary radio is an IC-756 Pro III, with an IC-735 as backup and a TS-530s as a vintage toy.

Outside ham radio, he's into archery, is a volunteer for Archery Manitoba, Archery Canada and the Automobile Journalists' Association of Canada.

Interrupting his primary activities is work, as a senior editor at the *Winnipeg Free Press*, and as a freelance automotive journalist. He loves to travel and currently lists Madrid and Toyko, in that order, as his favourite cities on Earth.

Married and with two grown sons, Spencer and Austin, a silver medallist at the World Archery Youth Championship. He lives in Winnipeg and in Grand Marais, Manitoba, where a Carolina Windom gets him on the air.

### **Dennis Lerro, W2DWL**

Thank you for accepting me into CWops, it is truly an honor to be part of such an esteem group of operators.

I am 68 years old and have been married to my lovely wife going on 44 years, and we have one daughter and two grandchildren. Our youngest granddaughter has shown some interest in ham radio as she sees Pop Pop sending code. Hopefully she will pursue it, but for a 11-year-old with a cell phone its not likely as of yet.

I have an identical twin brother, Nick, W3NRL, who is also a serious ham, but not much for CW, and does enjoy all other modes of operating.



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My hobbies are of course ham radio, I love running QRP, 5-10 watts, and sometimes when conditions call for more power, I'll run 20 watts out of my G90. I run a mcHF QRP radio and a Xiegu G90, I also have my old FT 897D.

I recently added an Sigma SE HF X-80 end fed ground vertical antenna to my antenna farm, which is proving to be a outstanding antenna; and a home brewed G5RV Jr.

I no longer have the gumption to run an amp, besides can't be bothered with the loading the plate and all that, as I am getting older all I want to do is turn on the rig hit the auto tuner and go. Besides it's more of an accomplishment making a contact with 5 to 10 watts and the person you're making contact is running 800 watts. So, what I have learned about my shack, less is more, more fun.

While I favor the HF bands, I can be found on 146.520 FM simplex as well as APRS, and I also enjoy Fusion (C4FM) and can be found on American Link-Wires X, and on DMR Tri-State and Global WW (TG:91), and GMRS.

And while I do love ham radio I also love to go fishing, mostly freshwater fishing. I have made my own rods that I use all the time, when my health allows for me to get to the many lakes where I live in southern New Jersey.

### **Adrian Stimpson, VE7NZ**

Thank you to Keith, VE7KW for sponsoring me. It is an honour to be part of CWops.

Why am I holding a light bulb?  
Well, my Morse code experience started with light, not sound. At nine years old I wired up two light bulbs with push button switches so my brother and I could sit on either side of our bedroom door and practice sending messages to each other. Don't be impressed that I was nine, my brother was six!



We built on our success by setting up a light on our house and our friend's across the street so we could send messages between us. This was followed by a RadioShack key and practice oscillator, then a Heathkit iambic keyer, and, at age 15, passing the 10 wpm requirement for the Canadian "Basic" Amateur Radio licence. After a year of operating CW on HF with a Heathkit DX60B (using a light bulb again – for tuning to maximum brightness, a questionable idea now I think about it) I passed the Advanced test at 15 wpm. Despite this giving me full HF voice privileges, CW remains my passion.

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While I now have an IC-7610, my main radio for the last 25 years was a Kenwood TS-870 which I bought on the recommendation of an engineer who said it was the best CW radio on the market. Today I can switch between the radios and have yet to find a weak CW signal that the 7610 can hear that that 870 can't!

I am excited to see the work the CW Academy is doing to promote CW. One can play music on many instruments, CW just happens to be one we enjoy. And that joy is hard to describe to others, but when you are up late at night in a warm, low lit ham shack pulling information out of the noise, it's almost romantic. My wife has a different view, but that's ok, I just reply dah-dah-dah-dit -dit twice.

## **Greg Smith, W0GAS**

If on the air, I'd send: "Born 1953  
Denver, ham since 2016."

I'm a retired corporate, contracts, and commercial lawyer. I had my own practice for the last 30 years and worked on a number of interesting things over the years. I was fortunate.

My interest in ham radio started when I was young, probably late elementary school or early junior high school. I even built a nice Heathkit receiver (HR-10b?). The single thing that deterred me from pursuing a license at that time was the Morse code requirement. Back then I had zero interest in learning it. I thought Morse code was, at best, only required for historical, not practical reasons.

Fast forward to 2016. While at a dinner a friend, I learned that his father had been licensed and that my father-in-law also had been licensed (my father-in-law is Jack and his call was W1WWE and then K0CBG). The conversation led to me confirming that the code requirement was no more and so I decided to read about ham radio, which led to taking the test and joining a local club. I quickly upgraded to Amateur Extra and got on the air.

Right after passing the Amateur Extra exam, I surprisingly found myself interested in CW. When I bought my first paddle, I was told that the Extra exam would be easier than learning how to operate CW well. The salesman at HRO was right. After a few months foundering on my own, I signed up for the beginning class of CWA - and, here I am. I'm a big fan of CWA. One aspect of CWA that isn't discussed much is the fact that the classes lead to friendships. In each of my classes, I developed friendships that I hope will last a lifetime. It might have something to do with sharing the challenges and issues related to learning.



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I'm looking forward to meeting more members on the air and improving my CW skills.

### **John Caulfield, KØFUZ**

Great to be a member of CWops and thanks to those who supported me along the way.

I have been a ham since 1961, always enjoying some level of activity as family and job responsibilities would allow.

I got a degree in electrical engineering because I wanted to figure out how my ham radio

worked – I am still learning. I spent my career as a Sales Engineer calling on electric utilities, selling products involving Transmission and Distribution - everything from the electric meter socket on your house to all the great things you see inside substation fences! For the past 15 years I have been very involved with photography.

I enjoy CW and SSB from 80 through 10 meters. The heart of my station is a Flex6400 and a Hex beam. But when I think of ham radio it is the friends I have made along the journey – they are the inspiration and Elmers.

My wife, Laura, of 48 years has “supported my efforts” and occasionally asks – “what does that thing do?” We live in Kansas and our three daughters live in California – how/why did that happen?

Most recently, I have been enrolled in the CW Academy Intermediate Class. I am grateful to Tom, WA9CW and Steve, WD4CFN - their patience and pushing has been inspiring.



### **Jónas Bjarnason, TF3JB**

First licensed as TF3JB on January 11, 1974. Changed to TF2JB 1995-2012 when living at Hvanneyri QTH (western Iceland). QRV again as TF3JB from Reykjavík (the capital) as of August 2012.

Privileges include all bands, all emission types and full



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RF power.

I have been a member of our national association, Icelandic Radio Amateurs (ÍRA) more or less since 1973. During that time I've had the opportunity to serve within the association and participate in various activities of this great hobby. I am currently serving as president of the ÍRA; my 3rd term since 2018.

We lived in the United States (1990-1995) and I was granted a reciprocal license by the FCC. During our stay I completed my postgraduate studies in NYC and CT along with my XYL, Helga María. We both loved the time in the States.

Operating: Approx. 90% CW. When possible I participate in contests; CW...sometimes Phone.

### **Hardy Buettig, DL1VDL**

My name is Hartmut Buettig, my nickname "Hardy" was created by my sisters during our childhood.

I was born in 1952 in Dresden. I became interested in Hamradio in 1964, when the radio club DM5DL was founded at my school. I was fascinated by the antennas and radios in the shack, that was all new for me. I started as SWL in 1965 (DM-3946/L).

Learning CW for the examination was an odd fish. Being young and nosy I connected in spring 1967 by unfair means the BC348 RX of the club to the 230V mains and started it with a big bang. I was not aware that the RX was fitted with two banana plugs to test it with 28V DC, because a motor generator was inside. The filaments of all tubes burned down. Our tolerant chief operator Pit, DM5DL, proposed two ways to solve the dilemma. I got the chance to train CW and pass the examination within one year or he would tell the bad story to my father and ask him to pay for the repair. I was deeply grateful to him and learned CW intensive. I passed the examination in November 1967 und got my first call sign DM5VDL in March 1968.



A Vibroplex-bug aroused my interest. I preferred CW from the early beginning. Later I build my first squeeze key based on the design of the ETM-3. In 1975 I was able to join the HSC (776). Our radio club was a great camaraderie. We found a second contest QTH in the suburbs. Planning the WADM and WWDX CW contests I got the idea to activate the DM1-prefix first time. The trick was my proposal to use in parallel the calls DM5DL/1 and DM5DL/2 at different locations during our contest activities. The chief-op and the administration accepted that proposal.

My further calls were DM2GDL, Y27DL, now I am holding DL1VDL and the AGCW club call DL0DA. I operated from 4U1UN, CT3, EA6, EA8, HB9, HB0, LA, LG5LG/SJ9WL, OE, OK, ON and T77IARU. I served DARC as HF-Manager from 1992 to 2005 and attended the IARU conferences in Belgium, Norway and San Marino. From 2011 to 2017 I served the HSC as secretary.

I have studied electrical engineering at the Dresden University of Technology. My work life was

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always connected with particle accelerators. A started my career in 1975 at a cyclotron. From 1998 until the retirement in 2018 I had the pleasure to participate in the design, assembling and operation of the superconducting LINAC ELBE. Now I am not bored and I am busy with CW on the air, riding my bicycle, writing the weekly propagation report for the DARC broadcast and helping with hardware to establish radio astronomy at our local observatory.

I am happily married since 1977 with Kerstin, we have two children and two grandchildren. I am member of the CW-Clubs AGCW, HSC and FOC.

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

### **Chuck Koehler, N9VJ**

Hello to all. I am grateful to now be a member of CWops and as others have helped me, I look forward to helping others learn CW.

I have had a lifelong fascination with radio technology and as a child I spent many hours reading books from the library on amateur radio but having no resources available to me at the time I wasn't able to earn a license until 1996 while I was in graduate school. Even though I had taught myself Morse code and forgotten it a few times over the years, the code requirement had passed by that point. Having only the Technician license at that time and no HF equipment, I lost interest in local repeater operations. While I maintained my license, I did not return to active ham radio activities until 2016. During that time, I married my wife Christine in 1996, earned my Ph.D. in 1998, and had 5 children. At the end of 2016 I upgraded to General 2017 and by early 2017 I passed the Extra exam. Feeling that I missed out on all the fun and needing another big challenge, I signed up for the April 2017 Level 1 CWA class.



My first HF rig was a FT-991 and my first key was a Begali Expedition, but now I am running a Kenwood TS-590SG and I use either a ZN-9 iambic key or a Begali Blade straight key. As for an antenna, I have a EFHW dipole, but the installation is a bit limited to the power lines along the property line.

I have had great fun taking the various levels of the CWops CWA classes and having the pleasure of meeting up with Tom, WA9CW and Steve, WD4CFN who have been great CW mentors.

Professionally, I have a Ph.D. in Materials Science and currently work as the Director of Product Development at Platypus Technologies near Madison, WI. I lead applied surface science research and commercialization efforts for industrial hygiene sensors.

From 2008 until 2020 I worked as a Staff Engineer at A.O. Smith Corp. I worked on developing / improving / implementing sensors into their various products.

Finally, as a Scoutmaster in the BSA, I am doing what I can to build interest in ham radio with

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Scouts. For the past 3 years I have helped organize our local JOTA event and I enjoy helping scouts earn their Radio merit badge.

### **Eduardas (Eddie) Pilipavicius, SA1CCQ**

It is an honor to be a new CWops member, 2789! I would like to thank CWops for accepting me and my sponsors for recommending me.

I am 37 year OM. Married to a woman of great patience and have a wonderful three year old second operator.

Already at a very early age I was interested in radio and electronics. Voice traveling through the air always had mystical attraction. In 2012 I took my amateur radio certificate at Kristianstad radio club, SK7BQ. Very soon I understood that I had to learn CW to be able to enjoy my radio hobby even more. After trying to learn code on my own I took a telegraphy course at our local radio club. I am very grateful to teacher Leif SM7NCI for all help.

I collect keys and enjoy operating different types of keys. You can often hear me operating straight key on the bands. I am also a member of SCAG, FISTS and SKCC.

My modest station consists of Kenwood TS-940s, 8-band GP, dipole and a lot off keys.

See you on weekly CWT!

### **Dave Prudhomme, AC4DP**

First of all, I would like to thank Van Richardson, N5TOO, for his mentorship, Elmering, and patience in my journey into CW. I would also like to thank the members who supported my nomination.

I was born in Colorado Springs, CO in 1970. Growing up there at the foot of the rockies, my first foray into radio was with a Radio Shack / Realistic Patrolman SW-60. I got a bit of the SWL-bug, transfixed with the distant, echoey, static-filled signals from far off lands. By this time, the early- to mid- 1980's, the Cold War was still in full swing. I recall stumbling upon a number's station or two and thinking that I was eavesdropping on the pulse of history-in-the-making.

As I got older, my radio interest was pushed aside by a love affair with aviation. I would go on to

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get my pilot's licenses, a degree in aviation from the University of North Dakota, and a career as an airline pilot.

It wasn't until after the financial troubles of the late 2000's that my interests turned back to radio. During this time, I came to believe that the preservation of older, more resilient and robust technology and know-how was really important. So I decided that I could do my part and become a ham.

I have many weaknesses and limitations in life - don't we all - but I was "blessed" with a talent for taking multiple choice tests. This, plus the FCC's publication of the test bank questions, allowed me to eventually pass the Amateur Extra exam.

Honestly, to this day I'm more excited about doing more with less, about mastering the foundational basics of radio, than I am about the latest digital innovations. With nothing more than 100 watts and a simple antenna, working a European station on a CWT brings a thrill surpassing anything I'd feel from getting a digital HT programmed just-right. I'm not disparaging those who are digital aficionados, not at all. I'm thankful that amateur radio is a big and diverse hobby.

Apart from the radio, my interests are wide and varied, perhaps even nerdy, they include:

- Following Formula One auto racing. (Who will eventually unseat Mercedes? Come on... we're waiting!)
- Enjoying classical music, especially the classical piano repertoire. (I love listening to the 20th century greats, from Vladimir Horowitz to Glenn Gould.)
- Spending time in kayaks and canoes, especially in my earlier days (My longest trip was a 6-day journey down a section of the Mississippi in a 17' sea kayak.)

Going forward I'm looking to enhance my skill level as there is still so much to improve. It's an honor to be a part of CWOps and I cannot think of a better organization for fostering the art and science of CW to new generations. I am certainly looking forward to further developing my CW skills, getting to know the CWOps community, and helping to encourage the art of CW.

### **Justin Marchetta. NE2V**

I first became interested in ham radio in the late 1980's when my uncle, Glen KE2AN, gave me a tour of his shack and let me listen to a QSO on 20 m. I obtained my Technician license in 1992 at the age of 13 and was assigned callsign N2QOR. Shortly thereafter I was introduced to the world of contesting by John, W2GD, and Dan, W2NO, who Elmered me in the art of CW contests. In 2005, I upgraded and obtained callsign NA2JM and in 2016, I obtained my current callsign NE2V.

I am a member of the Frankford Radio Club and



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Splitrock Amateur Radio Association, and a former member of contest team K2TTT (SK).

Professionally, I am an attorney licensed to practice in New Jersey, New York, Texas and the District of Columbia. I concentrate my practice in aviation law and governmental matters, as well as regulatory, land use, and zoning issues. I serve as Volunteer Counsel for the ARRL, through which I assist fellow hams with enforcement and regulatory actions, antenna and structure related complaints, and property disputes.

## **Mark Choate, AA0YY**

Hello to all my brothers and sisters in Morse. It's an honor and privilege to be part of this group. A special thanks to Joe KK5NA, my CWA advisor, and those who sponsored me. Thank you thank you thank you.

I became a ham back in 1990. There was still a code requirement then so I had to learn it. I hated it! I only did it to get the General Class license. Which was 13 wpm at that time. But somewhere along that road I began to like it.... No, prefer it to all other modes. It also helped that my first few Elmers were advocates of CW so a lot of my exposure was to that mode. So it began.



The first few years the solar cycle was great! You could lay a piece of coax across your lawn and work the world on HF barefoot. My skill just naturally progressed with time but I had developed a few bad habits, one of which was I used a pen & paper. That tended to limit my CW speed to my writing speed. As I aged, and arthritis set in from twisting too many nut drivers my whole life, it really became a problem trying to keep up. I operated around 18 wpm most of the time and for years never improved on my skill. I knew what I had to do. I needed to lose the pencil.

Fast forward to May 2020. I retired from the Postal service where I had worked in every area of maintenance they offered. COVID hit in March and I couldn't get out of there fast enough. I was hanging Plexiglass in every Post Office in the St. Louis area. Anyway, now I'm retired and now there is no excuse. Everyone is on lock down. I got the time. I signed up with CW Academy. My instructor Joe KK5NA introduce me to several learning tools, warned me of some pit falls to avoid, and encourage me along the way. As they say, the rest is history.

Other hobbies are motorcycles, woodworking, quilting (yes I quilt, my wife taught me) and photography my grandson who is 9 years old.

I have two adult boys, and currently no pets but I sure love dogs. Been married to my one and only gal Christine N0VGR since 1983. She retired in May as well, but quickly rejoined the work force, working for the local school district as a substitute nurse. She's an RN. It keeps her license active and is going to help when I buy that Elecraft amplifier Hi Hi.

I was in the US Navy, enlisted, "blue shirt", Aviation Electronic technician. Seven years active duty

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and three more in the reserves. My QRZ page has several picture and some of this same info if you are so inclined.

I play in some contests.... Usually not for a score but to cherry pick the DX. I can see the fun and excitement of "running" them in a contest so I don't poo poo contesting but will often escape to the WARC band for a rag chew and everybody wins.

If you hear me on, please say hello. I am so stoked for CW now. I give the credit to CWops and the CW Academy program

### **Lahra "Flip" Svare, KT9X**

I am a ham radio operator, Harley biker chick, gamer, author and musician. Throughout my life I have loved to fish, hunt, shoot trap, off-road ATV and shoot pool. I got my nickname "Flip" after rolling my 1964 Chevelle Malibu, four times, while attempting to go around a corner on a highway in rural Wisconsin. I was 16. I've been Flip ever since. I am retired from being a: fire chief, sheriff's posse member, bond enforcement agent, emergency communications coordinator, search & rescue volunteer, commercial EPDM roofer, web programmer & IT professional, among other things.

I work no more than 100 watts and spend some of my radio time working QRP/QRPP. I enjoy CW mode the most. You'll find me on the low end of 40 or 80 meters or the WARC bands, most frequently. I also love contesting, DXing, rag chewing, HF nets and talking to far away friends. My husband, N9DRS, and I live full-time in our RV and my RV HF station is a lot of fun. I have played acoustic guitar for over 52 years now. I love to read and I write blogs, short stories, submit freelance journalism and have a novel in the works.



Along the way on my ham-life journey, I've become a Volunteer Examiner for three different VECs, I've written articles, I've blogged, and I've taken most of the EmComm and FEMA classes in emergency communication. I've been on TV promoting Field Day and I've done radio shows talking about ham radio and even about being a YL (young lady) in radio.

I'm on the HF radio almost every day, and I enjoy it now even more than I did when I started, back in 1994. I love being a ham!

### **Mike Padron, N1CC**

I am honored to join your prestigious organization and I will endeavor to be a productive member. I am grateful for my nomination and sponsors.

I live in Scottsdale, AZ with my wife Laurie, our 17 year old daughter Julia (KJ7QIO), and our pups

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Maggie and Guapo.

I grew up on Long Island, NY and was fascinated with radios and airplanes. I was active on CB as a young kid, and even had a rig on my paper-route bike. I was intrigued by Sunday morning DX. The desire to speak to people far away and travel to their countries shaped my life. I began attending amateur radio classes on weekends. That was my first exposure to CW and I licensed as a Novice in 1974 at the age of 14 (WN2WHP).



My education and flying career consumed the next 18 years. When I finally settled in as an airline Captain, I moved to Sanibel Island, Florida and again turned my attention to amateur radio. I re-licensed as a Novice (KD4KQH) and progressed to Amateur Extra later that year (AC4TJ). The world was changing fast. Global supply chains were formed creating great opportunities. I enjoyed living in Alaska and Hawaii, where I predominantly flew the south pacific - pilot heaven.

My focus turned to raising a family. The joy of my life has been introducing my daughter to aviation and amateur radio, specifically CW. Julia soloed on her 16th birthday and became a ham shortly after turning 17. Her first QSO was CW.

## **Didier Cadot, F6BCW**

Born in 1951

SWL 1966/1970 – F6BCW since 1970. Member of REF – UFT – CDXC – F6KJS – CanHam Group – CWops – F6KOP

Call for long stays: FO8EG 1973/1975 – FM0COO 1976/1978 – CT2FN 1983/1986 – FM5ES 1986/1988

Call for short stays: 6W/F6BCW 1976 – J28/F6BCW 1990 – TX5EG 2012 & 2017 – TX7T 2019 – FO/F6BCW 6 months since 2012 – FG/F6BCW 2019 – FM/F6BCW, many times since 1999.

Who am I? Engaged in the French Navy as a Radio (operator, technician, then development engineer), I left the Navy in 1990. I then created my SME / SMI Strategic Consulting Company, focused on the Quality, Safety, and Environment sectors. I sold my business in 2016, I was 65 years old.

Since the age of 16, I have always volunteered in Radio Clubs. I started teaching CW and technique in 1969, and I never stopped.

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My technical passion is the development of antennas in order to optimize their performance in their environment.

My traffic passion is CW, which I consider to be the ultimate radio craft activity. In 1990 I had counted more than 110,000 CW QSOs, out of competition. Since that date I stopped counting ... I practice the Pickaxe, the Vibro, the electronic manipulator and the PC keyboard.

My passion, DXing, has always been great human and radio adventures for me.

I operate on all bands from 160m to 2m.

