

# Solid Copy



The CW Operators Club Newsletter  
June 2025 — Issue 185

## President's Message

Have you ever wondered about the "CW" in CWops and the way it is synonymous with the mode classed as A1A and the Morse code that it conveys and which we all use?



The recipients of CWops' **Advancing The Art of CW Award**. Stories begin on page 8.

(Continued on page 2)

**CWops "CWT" 1 hour 'tests**  
**Every Wednesday** at 1300z and 1900z  
**Every Thursday** at 0300z and 0700z  
Exchange: name/number (members)  
name/SPC (non-members)  
**Avoid DX Pileups!**

**CWO Mini-club 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, [GWØETF](#)  
Vice President: John Glover, [W2QL](#)  
Secretary: Jim Talens, [N3IT](#)  
Treasurer: Craig Thompson, [K9CT](#)  
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Director: James Brooks, [9V1YC](#)  
Director: Bert Banlier, [F6HKA](#)  
Director: Allan Mason, [VK2GR](#)  
Director: Riki Kline, [K7NJ](#)  
Director: Ken Tanuma, [JN1THL](#)  
WebGeek: Dan Romanchik [KB6NU](#)  
Newsletter Editor: Dick Strassburger, [N9EEE](#)

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As an abbreviation for "Continuous Wave" the logical side of me sees it as both a misnomer and a conundrum, and I do like a conundrum which can keep me entertained for hours.

The term really is simple and unambiguous - a wave continuing uninterrupted (in the language of theoretical physics from minus infinity to plus infinity). It would show on an oscilloscope as a straight line displaced from the zero line and on a spectrum analyser as a sharp spike at the relevant frequency point. For a truly "continuous" tone the theory tells us this peak would have a bandwidth approaching zero, an amplitude approaching infinity and an area of one; and this was how I naively imagined a CW signal in my earliest days in the hobby! Of course as soon as we enter the real world and begin switching this waveform on and off it occupies real bandwidth and takes up the classic shape we are all familiar with on our panadapters. It is also now carrying information unlike a *continuous* wave, becoming broader as that information rate (aka "CW" speed) increases. It begins to resemble an amplitude modulated signal on our oscilloscope. Switching this tone is done according to the code we call Morse and has led to some using the term Interrupted Continuous Wave or ICW although this in itself is something of a contradiction.

So where did the term CW come from? Some Wiki historical background reading informs me it originated to contrast a new method of producing self sustaining oscillations using thermionic tubes from the previous technique based on damped waves using spark gap transmitters. Vacuum tube oscillators were developed around 1913 and gradually replaced the inefficient and spectrum wasteful spark gap transmitters which were finally outlawed in the early 1930s. So there was an understandable element of context in the adoption of the term, and I'm sure we can all forgive history and the early pioneers for that. I definitely won't be starting a campaign to adopt A1A instead. Long live "CW!"

\*\*\*\*\*

I enjoyed reading Dick's piece in last month's *Solid Copy* based on his interviews with Bruna Begali. I'm reticent to join any congregation worshipping a particular equipment badge when high quality alternatives are also available but Begali are renowned for producing a huge range of superb Morse keys, and I have two. The Sculpture Mono and HST3 are very different in look and design but both are a joy to use, and occasionally switching between them seems to keep my CW experience fresh and interesting. The differences in feel are subtle and not enough to persuade me to prefer one over the other.

In my experience the same cannot be said for the keyers or PC interfaces that are required to convert the operation of the paddle into Morse transmissions. The working principle of any keyer is to produce dits and dahs as the paddle contacts are made but for whatever reason not all keyers are born equal. I've always assumed this is down to how the algorithms are designed and in particular to the calculations for the various timing elements. The K1EL Winkey is the keying firmware in the Microham CW Keyer which I routinely use particularly when contesting. It interfaces with the contest logging program for automatic sending of calls and exchange elements via the keyboard and also has a stand alone mode for use without a computer. Despite having an impressive range of user adjustable timing settings I find for general ragchewing I prefer the built in keyer in my K3 or K2. The differences are subtle and difficult to verbalise but the K3/K2 internal keyer just feels easier with a comfortable "swing" and I prefer it. The same can be said of my ancient Idiom Press Logikey K-3 keyer which is only largely ignored as I have to dig out the

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manual any time I need to adjust anything! I've come across others making similar comments regarding favourite keyers so I don't seem to be alone. Naturally straight key users will delight in the knowledge that none of the above applies to them ;-)

Whatever, let's just get on the air and enjoy our CW!

**73, Stew GWØETF**, President (CWops #919)

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## Editor's Note: We Were There

This issue of *Solid Copy* features the 2025 Hamvention. Many members contributed photos of the CWops Dinner at Dayton as well as random photos from Hamvention that make for a nice pictorial of the activities that took place this year in Xenia, Ohio. One item that is missing in this issue, but will appear next month, is my interview with Mike March of March Magnetic Keys. He ran out of his highly sought-after keys; I ran out of time.

I've been a ham for over 40 years and "Dayton" continues to amaze me. Last year, I was wowed by the indoor displays and educational forums. However, I completely missed the Flea Market. My strategy this year was to spend Friday at the Flea Market and Saturday at the DX Forums (there were two of them running concurrently) and the indoor displays I missed last year...no repeats. My first stop was the Begali exhibit to provide Bruna with a copy of her interview from last month's *Solid Copy*. Of course, it was jammed with buyers. On Saturday, I spent considerable time at Yaesu...I think the new Yaesu FTX-1 Optima was the new product showstopper. And I spent even more time at Flex... Flex fans will probably say the new 500 watt Aurora transceiver took the honors though I think their 8400/8600 series is quite the attention-getter. And it seemed there were more parts retailers than I noticed last year, which is great for the tinkers in the hobby.

The Flea Market did not disappoint me. I only made it through the racetrack infield before dehydration and a racing heartbeat ended that outing, but what a great day it was. The plethora of multitude was simply amazing. I don't think I've ever seen that many used keys of such variety on display. I fell victim a couple of times to the "Well, I didn't come here to buy this, but..." I needed small paddles for POTA, but instead bought beautiful brass paddles made by a local ham who was well-known for his quality keys. And I didn't "need" another EFHW, but the Spooltenna...

The CWops Dinner at Dayton was packed...I mean packed...with 144+ attending. You've read comments elsewhere about the density of our gathering, but viewing it on the positive side, it's always fun to meet or reconnect with those you spend time with on the radio. For me, I love thanking those who contribute articles, ideas, and their personal stories for our monthly newsletter, *Solid Copy*. Any I finally met my QSO Buddy in person, Gary AE4GS, who is now a new CWops member. No matter where it will be held in the future, the CWops Dinner at Dayton is the perfect kick-off to Hamvention.

**73, Dick N9EEE**, (CWops #3113)

**Editor, Solid Copy** (SolidCopy@cwops.org)

# Ops News and Notes

[Duncan \(Mac\) Fiskin, G3WZD](#)

We regret to report the following Members have become Silent Keys.

Condolence cards have been sent on behalf of CWops.



**Steve Morris, W5BIB**  
#2350 on  
15<sup>th</sup> April, 2025



**Keith Dutson, NM5G**  
#2570 on  
13<sup>th</sup> May, 2025

Welcome to another [Ops News and Notes](#) and, as always, thanks for the contributions. Please do keep the submissions coming, and there's no need to wait until the Editor's monthly call for articles or my reminder (thank you to those who sent items early). Remember, a significant percentage of our membership do not subscribe to the cwops.io email reflector so, if you post something and think it may be suitable for Ops News and Notes, please copy it to my [email](#) address.

Congratulations to John, K4BAI #76, who has been inducted into the Contest Hall of Fame! (N&N Ed: thanks to Tim K9WX #1462 for the news)

**Mike, M0AGP #3246** This popped into my head, and I wrote it down before I forgot it. (To the tune of Simon & Garfunkel's ***The Sound of Silence***)

## ***The Sound of Static***

Hello static my old friend  
I've come to listen to you again.  
Because a signal softly creeping  
Left an echo of some code beeping

And the signal that had echoed in my brain  
Still remains  
Within the sound of static

In a darkened room I sat alone  
With narrow filters on my 'phones  
By the warmth of my kW amp

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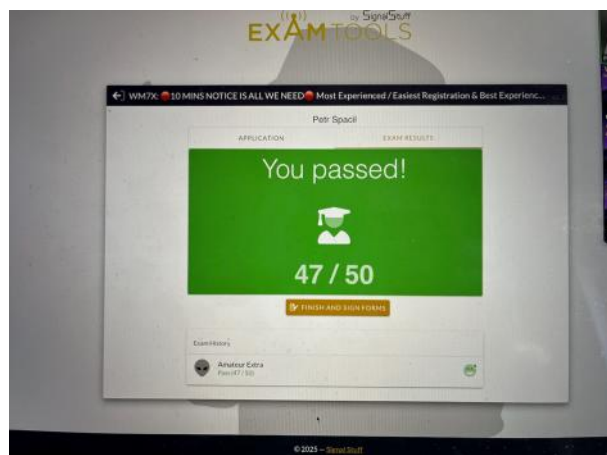
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Turned down the RF as the signal ramped  
When my ears were stabbed by the crash of a lightning strike  
That split the night  
And touched the sound of static

And in the pileup there I saw  
Two hundred people maybe more  
People talking without speaking  
People listening to the code beeping  
People sending songs that voices never shared  
And we all dared  
Disturb the sound of static...

And the people bowed and prayed  
To the DX god they made!  
And my amp flashed out its red warning  
From the power it was forming  
But the words of the people were hidden by the JA wall  
And still they called  
Into the sound of static.

**Petr, OK1FCJ/OL8R/KR4DRS** I'd like to share some joyful news with you. Today, I managed to pass the EXTRA exam. It took several weeks of studying, understanding not only many technical details but also the specifics of operating in the U.S. and the related conditions. I'm really happy about it. Once again, thank you very much (Jim, N3JT) for allowing me to use your address as my mailing address.

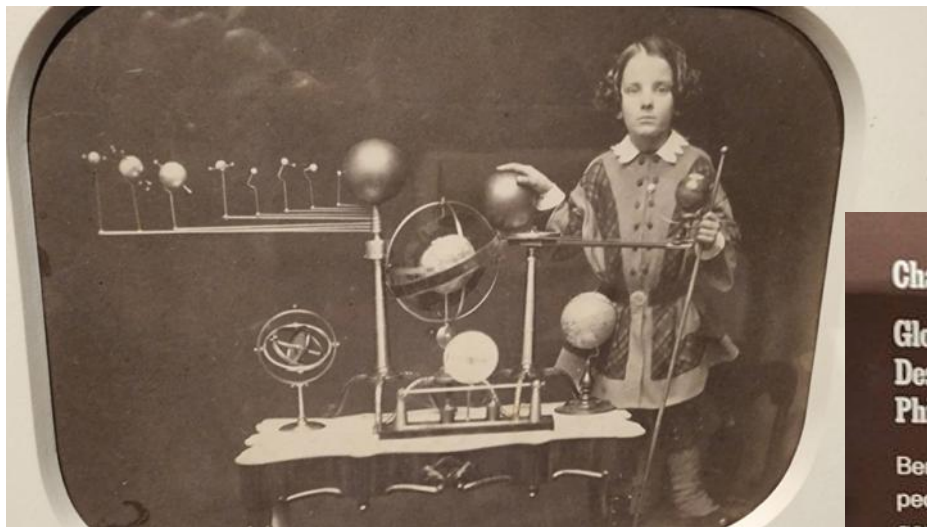


American Radio Relay League VEC		Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination	
Test Site (City/State):	Online / Remote	Test Date:	Jun 02, 2025
<b>CREDIT FOR ELEMENTS PASSED VALID FOR 365 DAYS</b> You have passed the written element(s) indicated at right. You will be given credit for the appropriate examination element(s) for up to 365 days from the date shown at the top of this certificate.			
<b>LICENSE UPGRADE NOTICE</b> If you also hold a valid FCC-issued Amateur radio license grant, this Certificate validates temporary operation with the operating privileges of your new operator class (see Section 97.9(b) of the FCC Rules) until you are granted the license for your new operator class, or for a period of 365 days from the test date stated above on this certificate, whichever comes first.			
<b>LICENSE STATUS INQUIRIES</b> You can find out if a new license or upgrade has been "granted" by the FCC. For on-line inquiries see the FCC Website at <a href="http://wireless.fcc.gov/licenses/">http://wireless.fcc.gov/licenses/</a> ("Click on Search Licenses" button), or see the ARRL Web at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/fcc/search">http://www.arrl.org/fcc/search</a> or by calling FCC toll free at 888-225-5322, or by calling the ARRL at 1-800-594-0300 during business hours. Allow 15 days from the test date before calling.			
<b>THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT A LICENSE, PERMIT, OR ANY OTHER KIND OF OPERATING AUTHORITY IN AND OF ITSELF. THE ELEMENT CREDITS AND/OR OPERATING PRIVILEGES THAT MAY BE INDICATED IN THE LICENSE UPGRADE NOTICE ARE VALID FOR 365 DAYS FROM THE TEST DATE. THE HOLDER NAMED HEREON MUST ALSO HAVE BEEN GRANTED AN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE ISSUED BY THE FCC TO OPERATE ON THE AIR.</b>			
Candidate's Signature <i>Spacil</i>	Call Sign KR4DRS (If none, write none)	VE#1 <i>Spacil</i>	AJ7TM Call Sign
Candidate's Name Petr Spacil		VE#2 <i>Carl</i>	KU1U Call Sign
Address 6017 Woodley Rd		VE#3 <i>Jim</i>	NZ1M Call Sign
City McLean	State VA	Zip 22101-3345	
To check the authenticity of this CSCE visit <a href="https://exam.tools/validate/26aa5eb">https://exam.tools/validate/26aa5eb</a>			

**Jim, N3JT #1** Nina and I are in Manhattan for a few days. Today we visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, which is just colossal. There is a special exhibit of early photographs, from 1830 through 1910.

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**N3JT in 1960 with his Novice spark rig**

Actually, it is an 1857 photo as described below.

**Charles G. Crane (active 1850s-60s)**

**Globe-Type Electrostatic Machine  
Designed by Benjamin Franklin,  
Philadelphia, ca. 1866**

Benjamin Franklin designed this peculiar machine, a static-electricity generator. With a turn of the crank, the glass globe spins and rubs against the leather pad in the contraption's middle, producing an electrical charge. The machine survives at the Franklin Institute.

**Miri, ZA1RR #3279** ZA1RR CQ World Wide WPX. All Bands CW Single Op Low Power 1.284.380 Points. Every QSO made with paddle. A little bit of tiring but also nice. We suggest to every radio lover to visit Albania. Us, as Radio Sport Tirana assure you an environment with radio and antenna , but also the license to work in radio. Whoever is interested, just [email](#) me right away.

Until the next News and Notes, QAC.

**73, Duncan G3WZD** (CWops #1979)

NewsAndNotes@CWops.org



# How We Were

[Ian Capon](#), GWØKRL

EA6BF, Josep Torres, CWops #3072



*Above, EA6ACC at that time. Working IOTA back in 1992 at age 26.*



*And here, EA6ACC from my home station in 1995 at age 30.*

So now it's your turn, do you have a picture to share accompanied by a brief paragraph description, of your early days in radio, experimenting, exploring or just "being a ham".

Please send it to [Ian Capon](#).

**73, Ian GWØKRL** (CWops #2896)



# Award for Advancing the Art of CW

[Riki Kline](#), K7NJ (CWops #275)

There are three recipients of the Award for Advancing the Art of CW in 2025.

## Mark Bosma, VK2KI

**For creating and encouraging activity resulting in many new CW operators in Australia.**



Mark originated and is still active in the **Weekly CW QRS NET** which is an informal uncontrolled 6-hour weekly activity spread out over 20-30 KHz. QRS is the rule. Procedures and courtesy are emphasized. The CW QRS NET has been active for more than five years.

He publishes the **CQ QRS RagChew newsletter** sent weekly by email. The latest edition includes over 100 pages of high quality articles and photos. "Newsletter" is an understatement, it's truly a CW Magazine.

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### **Fabian Kurz, DJ5CW (ex DJ1YFK)**

**Created - and continues to create - projects that advance CW:**



**LCWO - Learn CW Online** - All that's needed is a computer with an internet connection. CW is sent by the computer. Students send CW using their mouse button or a key with an adapter. There are loads of options including converting text to Morse code.

**CW Club RBN Spotter** can be set up to spot stations according to their club affiliation, e.g. CWops, FISTS, FOC, etc.

**CWops Awards Tool** is very useful for tracking the status of the many CWops member awards.

**EBOOKS2CW text to CW converter** converts entire e-books to CW audio files.

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**Martin Kratoska, OK1RR**

**Teacher and author of many articles about Morse telegraphy.**



Martin founded and maintains the <https://telegrafie.cz> website including numerous articles covering most every topic in CW operation. OK1RR's website is not in English. For translating to English using the Chrome browser, just right click anywhere on the web page, and a drop-down menu appears. Click on "Translate to English". That's it! It works amazingly well and translates the entire website to English.

He is a pioneer and designer of innovative Morse teaching methods and aids.

# CW Open 2025 – Awards Qualification Changes

[Bruce Meier](#), N1LN (CWops #1141)

The 2025 CW Open is only 3 short months away and I want to let everyone know there will be some changes this year with the award qualification process. I have been the Manager of the CW Open since 2017 and every year ICOM America has totally funded the cost of trophies, plaques and shipping. I am very pleased to announce that ICOM America will continue to be the sponsor for this event in 2025. Not wanting to take advantage of ICOM, some changes in the award process need to be implemented. The reason for these changes is directly associated with the increasing cost of global shipping charges. Let me give you a couple examples of why something needs to be done.

In 2024 there were twelve plaques and six trophies shipped. Fortunately, several winners qualified for both so there were fourteen total shipments. The shipments included seven to Europe, two to Asia/Pacific and five to North America. The most expensive single shipment cost \$174.40. The shipping cost has been increasing every year and I don't want to even think what it might be this year. So, it is time to be a good partner and make a change. In short, going forward we will issue a maximum of nine plaques.

Below is an explanation of the change to be implemented for the 2025 CW Open.

## AWARDS:

- ◇ Trophies will be eliminated
- ◇ Plaques will be continued, but participation and qualification in all three sessions will now be required.
- ◇ Certificates will be distributed for single session qualifiers

Qualification for a plaque (Maximum of 9 plaques, i.e., 3 regions x 3 power levels)

- Individual must participate in all three sessions with a minimum of 100 QSOs in each session
- Plaques would be awarded based on the highest total score based on the sum of all three sessions
- Plaques will be awarded to all three regions for all three power levels.

Qualification for a certificate. Awards for individual sessions will continue, but winners will now receive a certificate (Maximum of 27 certificates)

- To qualify a minimum of 100 QSOs must be attained in the session
- Certificates will be issued to all power levels (High, Low, QRP)

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- Certificates will be issued to all regions (1, 2, 3)
- Certificates will be distributed using email to the winner's email address.

Thank you for your continued support of the CW Open and we hope this year will be another great participation and propagation year.

**73, Bruce N1LN** CWops #1141  
CW Open Manager

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## Game On!


### Club Competition in the DX Marathon

#### CWops vs LICW vs SKCC

**Winning club takes bragging rights into 2026.**

How to play...work DX...log it...[submit \(or update\) your entry to DX Marathon](#)...**declare your club**. Be sure to upload/update your entry each month so progress can be tracked. More details next month.

### IMPORTANT!!! DECLARE YOUR CLUB

 **DX Marathon 2025 Submission**

Start

DX Marathon Site

Entrant Information for **N9EEE**

Contact Information

Name

Email Address

Dick Strassburger

dick.strassburger@gmail.com

Station Information

Callsign

CQ Zone

Grid Location

N9EEE

4

EN53vb

City

Country


Pewaukee

United States

Other

Club Name

CWops



Soapbox

I'm a QRPer running 5 watts or less into an End Fed Half Wave antenna sloping up to 40 feet. I'm still working on DXCC. Enough contacts, not enough confirmations. Need to land more QSLs.



## CWops Dinner at Dayton

Over 144 CWops members gathered at Rona Banquet for the annual CWops Dinner at Dayton held the evening before the commencement of Hamvention in Xenia, Ohio. Instead of dits and dahs, there were oohs and ahhs as face-to-face contacts were made with those bearing familiar callsigns emblazoned on shirts, hats, or name tags. I asked attendees to help capture the essence of the evening and received an overabundance of material. Rather than cull too deeply, here is the “stack” of what came in...I hope you enjoy them.

To kick off the evening, a message from our President, Stew Rolfe, GWØETF was read by N5KD, Pete Hicks, with an unmistakable air of “Britishness.” Click on the picture below to view the video.



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## Host and Presenters



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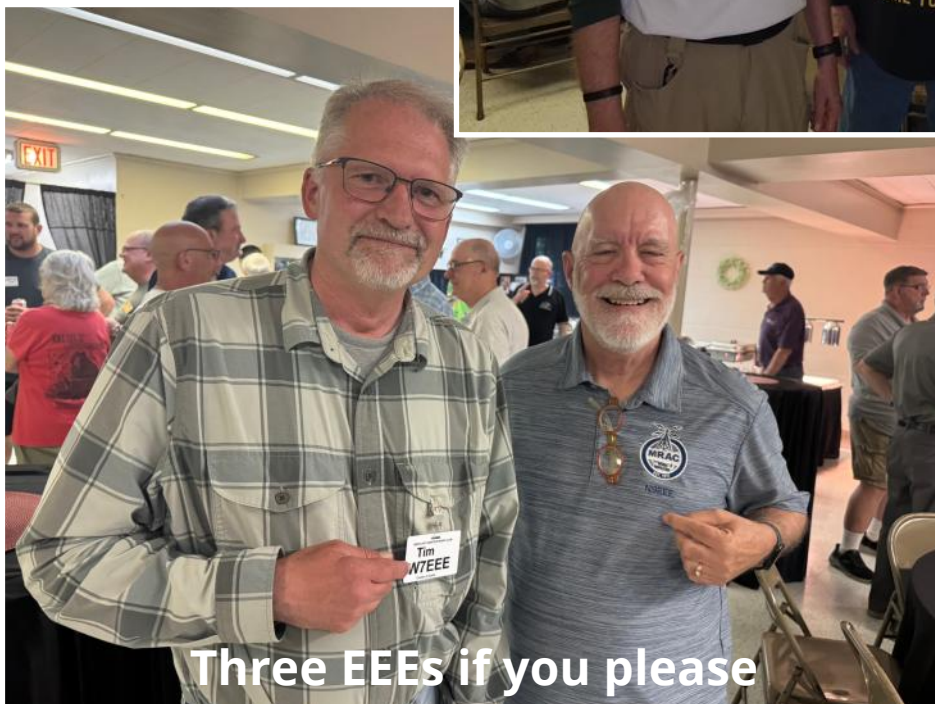


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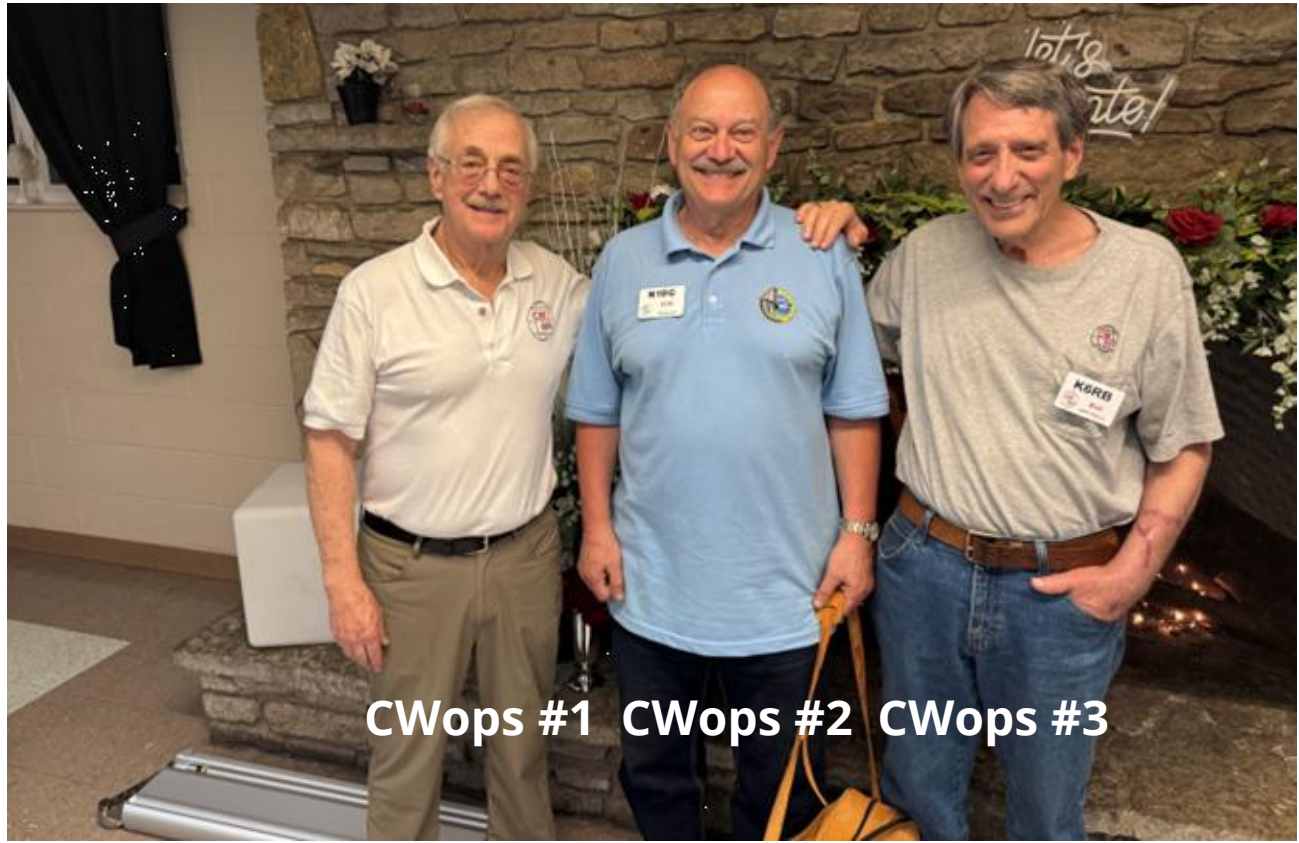


Three EEs if you please

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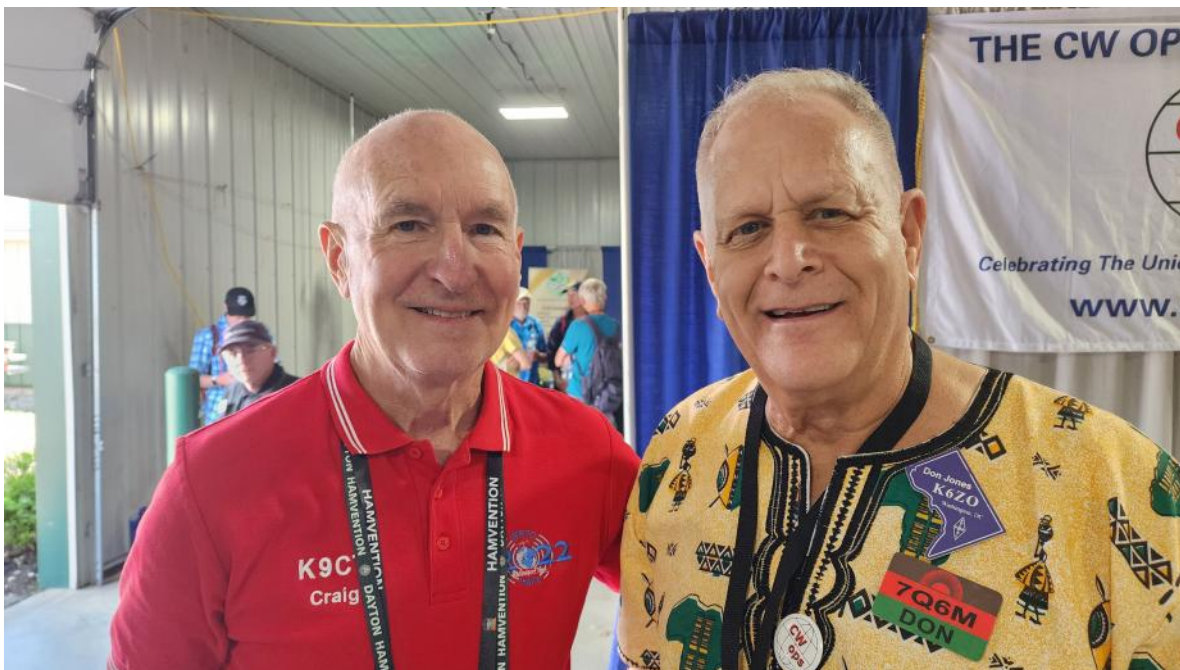
Even more pictures from Contest University and elsewhere around Hamvention can be viewed [here](#), thanks to K8CX.





# Hamvention 2025

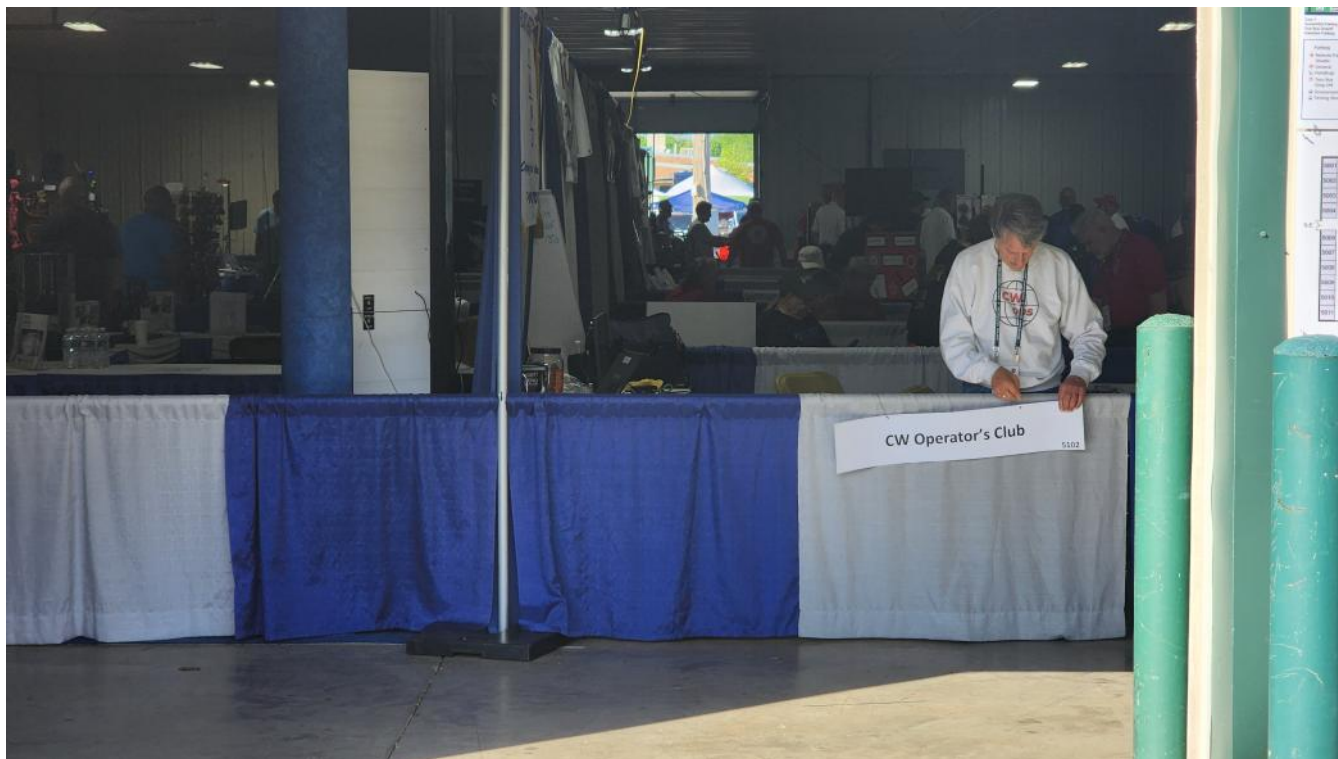
Shown below are random pics from members as they traversed Hamvention...



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# New Members

[Trung Nguyen, W6TN](#)

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

<u>CWops</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>CWops</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>CWops</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Name</u>
3731	N2EC*	Ed	3735	W3NCK	Nick	3739	W6KK	Fritz
3732	K8APP*	Car	3736	V85NPV	DJ	3740	N8KDC*	Ken
3733	NØKO	Rand	3737	K2RTR	Lin	3741	K5RG*	Ken
3734	K4EAK*	Skip	3738	MØSDV*	Jamie			

\* Lifetime member

As of June 8 2025:

**Need Sponsors:** KD1MD

**Invitations Extended:** W8HFY, VA3ICC, WB2KWC

For more details about nominees and up-to-date status, check the ["Members only"](#) page on the website. For information about joining CWops, check the ["Membership"](#) page on the website.

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** (CWops #1707), Membership Manager

Did your **CALL SIGN** change recently?

Did you move to a **NEW ADDRESS** or change your **NAME** ?

Congratulations!

Help us keep our **DATABASE UP-TO-DATE**

Click [HERE](#) to update your contact information.

# Giving Back Update

[Rob Brownstein](#), **K6RB** (CWops #3)

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. The operators' schedule appears on the next page.

Here are the May 2025 results (GB hosts are shown in **bold**):

<b>GW2CWO</b>	PA3BGO/P G4HIF	DL7EQ PA3ADU	SP4MG OM3TBG	F6DOV G0BLQ	DJ3AS HA7MG	HB9BGL	PA5BU
<b>JG1UQD</b>	JJ1FXF/QRP JA4MRL JN7DOR	JK1QYL JG1BGT(2)	JJ0SFV JE1CAS	JE7RMT(2) JM4AOA	7K1CPT JA4EVH	JM1MKH JJ0VNP	JN1FAO JA7KED
<b>JJ1FXF</b>	JJ0SFV(2) N7MM HL1MIM	JM1MKH JR7DIJ JG1BGT	BA4II JN1MET WX7V	JH4FUF JK1PWT HL5JZ	JK1WCW JA4IJ KE7LOY(2)	JN1FAO 7K1TSV	JR2AWS NE5A
<b>JK1QYL</b>	JG1BGT(6)  JF1LXO(2) JJ0VNP JA5IVG	JH2HTQ JF0RRH JE1CAS(2) JN1MET JS2KZM	KE7LOY(2) JA4MRL JH5FVM JR3MWP JA4IJ	JN7DOR JQ3KBC/3 JR2AWS JA4EVH JJ1SWI	JJ0SFV(3) JJ2XMJ JK1PWT JS2KNN JR0CWZ	JJN1FAO(3) JL2SQK(2) JH1BMN N6TI 7K1TSV(2)	Q2NUD JR8IUH/1 JG7AJE JK1XDX JA5FGC
<b>JM4AOA</b>	7K1TSV JK1EVU	JA6BZH JL2SQK	JE7RMT JR6SBI	JG1UQD	JH2HTQ	JJ0SFV	JJ2OXS
<b>JO1DGE</b>	JA5FGC JJ0XEQ JM1MKH JR2AWS	JA6FOF JJ1VCU JM8QGN JS2KNN	JA6TSJ JK1PWT(3) JN1FAO JS2OVO	JG1BGT(8) JK1TCV JN7DOR KE7LOY(2)	JH2WTQ JK1WCW JP2RKL KE7LOY(2)	JH5FVM JK7UST JQ2NUD	JJ0SFV(3) JL2SQK(4) JR0CWZ
<b>K7NJ</b>	W6GDR W3ICH	KR2Q KC2KME	W6VD	VE7KBZ	K7RVX	KA6IOM	K6LEN
<b>K8UDH</b>	W0GB	AA0Y	NU0I				
<b>MØWDD</b>	DJ3BU ON6YX	EI3CC	F/DL3IA	G4DUC	M0IYP	M0TJU	MM0NJC
<b>W2XS</b>	WA4IAR	W0NV	AC1AE	W8KM	VE2VIA		
<b>W5DT</b>	W4ISA KE1TLG	WA3ZKI KC8YTU	KA8UGQ	W6GRT	N3BTM	NJ8D	K4GM
<b>W7IY</b>	KD1MD K0IEO	KD2WHG	N4IAM	N1CT	KE3V	VE3GND	K4SUE

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<b>W8OV</b>	K0CDJ	W7VHW	KE1TLG	K0FYI	KN4UDT	WB3WIK	
<b>7N2XZB</b>	JA4MRL JP2RKL JS2OVO JS1CII	JA7KED JK1PWT 7K1TSV JJ0SFV	JH2HTQ JR6SBI JN1MET JM2LOF	HL1MIM JG1BGT JQ3FRX JK1WCW	7N3WRE JN7DOR JA5FGC JL1DZP	JA4EVH JR2AWS JS2KZM JN3CEL	JA4IJJ(2) JH1EZO JR2MCN JL2AQE
<b>7L2VPL</b>	RK0JT N8AI JA4IJJ	HL5JZ JG6YOU JL2SQK	DU1UAR K6CTW	JJ0SFV JO1UFB	JA4IJJ JA6TSJ	JR7DIJ 7K1TSV	JJ0VNP JL1STV

Giving Back Operating Schedule - 7 PM Local												
October - April: 40m & 80m   May - September: 40m & 20m												
Frequencies: 7.035 - 7.039, 3.535 - 3.539, 14.035 - 14.039 MHz   JA - 7.028 +/-												
UTC+10	UTC+9	UTC+7	UTC+3	UTC+2	UTC+1	UTC/BST	UTC-1	New York UTC-4	Chicago UTC-5	Denver UTC-6	Los Angeles UTC-7	Hawaii UTC-10
<b>MON</b>												
VK1CWO	JØ1DGE							W2XS				
<b>TUE</b>												
	JR1WYW	E25JRP		SV2BBK		GW2CWO		WE5P	K8UDH	K7NJ	W7ZDX	
	7N2XZB								W8OV			
<b>WED</b>												
	7J1ATG							N8DD				
<b>THURS</b>												
	JJ1VNV			SV2BBK				KV8Q	N5OT	K7NJ	W7ZDX	
								W7IY				
<b>FRI</b>												
	JK1QYL			SV2BBK		GW2CWO		N2GSL	AAØYY		K6RB	
						MØWDD						
<b>SAT</b>												
	JJ1FXF							W5DT				
	JM4AOA JG1UQD											
<b>SUN</b>												
	JJ1FXF							W5DT				
	JM4AOA											



# CW Academy

[Bob Carter](#), WR7Q and [Roland Smith](#), K7OJL



As of late May, the 2025 May/June semester is at its midpoint. Current enrollment stands at 308 students, distributed as follows: 107 at the Beginner Level, 69 at the Fundamental Level, 76 at the Intermediate Level, and 56 at the Advanced Level. These students are engaged in 47 classes taught by 34 advisors. Historically, the May/June semester has the lowest student enrollment. Looking ahead, 140 students have already registered for the upcoming September/October semester.

Around June 1st, advisors were asked to confirm the active enrollment in their classes. This process accounts for students who may have withdrawn or joined late, and it is a crucial preparatory step for end-of-semester activities.

In the final week of June, advisors will evaluate their students to determine if class objectives have been met. Once all student evaluations for a class are complete, advisors will be able to register to teach in the September/October semester.

Following the evaluation period, advisors will issue certificates of completion to their students. Subsequently, students will be invited to evaluate their respective classes and the curriculum.

These steps will conclude the May/June semester, allowing preparations for the September/October semester to become the primary focus as the academic cycle begins anew.

Looking towards the September/October semester, students registered for this term will be prompted beginning July 15th to confirm their availability and submit class schedule preferences. Student assignments to advisor-led classes are scheduled for August 10th, with classes commencing around September 1st.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments please contact either Bob Carter WR7Q ([kcgator@gmail.com](mailto:kcgator@gmail.com)) or Roland Smith K7OJL ([rolandksmith@gmail.com](mailto:rolandksmith@gmail.com))

**73, Roland K7OJL**

CWA Admin





# CWops Tests (CWTs)

[Rich Ferch, VE3KI](#)

As of June 1, we had completed 88 of this year's 210 CWT sessions. There are still two members who have reported scores in all of the CWTs so far: K4PQC and WF4I.

In total, there have been 21,638 claimed CWT scores reported to 3830scores.com this year, with a total of 1,276,744 reported QSOs (of course, most QSOs were reported twice, so the actual total number of QSOs that took place is somewhat over half this number). The median score is 47 QSOs, while the arithmetic average of all submitted scores is 59 QSOs, both down again from last month.

The most popular of the four CWT sessions continues to be the 1900z session, with an average of 352 participants in each 1900z CWT. The 1300z session is next with an average so far this year of 327 participants. The 0300z session is considerably less popular, with an average of 223 participants and decreasing, while the 0700z session has had an average participation so far this year of 82.

The monthly average numbers for the first five months for each session are tabulated below (the April numbers include the 0330z and 0700z sessions on May 1). The numbers in parentheses are the year-over-year percentage changes from last year's numbers.

	1300z	1900z	0300z	0700z
January 2025	326 (-9%)	360 (-11%)	256 (-9%)	80 (-13%)
February 2025	340 (-5%)	384 (-1%)	253 (-5%)	83 (-12%)
March 2025	335 (-10%)	356 (-8%)	215 (-8%)	82 (-14%)
April 2025	316 (-16%)	327 (-12%)	194 (-17%)	80 (-14%)
May 2025	322 (-9%)	338 (-4%)	194 (-12%)	85 (-7%)

Enjoy the CWTs and keep those reported scores coming!

**73, Rich VE3KI** (CWops #783)  
CWT Manager



# CWops Member Awards

[Bill Gilliland](#), WØTG



## Monthly Update

During May, one additional member submitted logs and the number of active participants in the awards program is currently 206.

The **ACA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2025 have **KR2Q** in first place and leading second place **AA3B** by 214 QSOs. The top ten ACA totals this month are: **(1) KR2Q, (2) AA3B, (3) KY4GS, (4) K3WW, (5) N5RZ, (6) KO4VW, (7) KC7V, (8) NA8V, (9) N5TJ, and (10) K7QA**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 527 QSOs.

The **ACMA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2025 have **AA3B** in first place and leading second place **KR2Q** by 368 QSOs. The top ten ACMA totals this month are: **(1) AA3B, (2) KR2Q, (3) N5RZ, (4) KY4GS, (5) K3WW, (6) OM2VL, (7) KC7V, (8) K7QA, (9) NA8V and (10) N5TJ**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 1727 QSOs.

The **CMA** QSO totals and rankings for the end of May 2025 have **AA3B** in first place and leading second place **K3WW** by 3501 QSOs. The top ten CMA totals this month are: **(1) AA3B, (2) K3WW, (3) N5RZ, (4) KR2Q, (5) N5ZO, (6) DL6KVA, (7) NA8V, (8) W1RM, (9) F6HKA and (10) VE3KI**. The separation between first place and tenth place is 6575 QSOs.

The number of participants who have contacted CWops members in 100 or more DXCC entities remained unchanged this month at **92**.

The number of participants who have accomplished CWops WAS remained unchanged this month at **269**.

You can see complete rankings for all award categories at <https://cwops.telegraphy.de/scores>.

## CWops Award Tools Participation

At the end of 2024 we had 280 active participants in the Member Awards Program. As of Jun 1, 2025, we have 206 active participants. If you have not yet submitted any logs for 2025, please do so soon, and we can include your score among the participants.

The Top 100 and the Searchable and Sortable Scores Table show rankings and scores for active participants only. To be an active participant and be included in awards scoring including the ACA, ACMA and CMA competitions, you must have submitted a log during the current year. To see rankings and scores for both active and inactive participants please use the Score Overview Table where inactive participants are listed with ACA and ACMA scores of zero, but their scores in other categories are listed at the highest level that was previously submitted.

You can see the final 2024 scores or final scores for any other year by going to the Score Overview Table and selecting the desired year from the "Final scores:" list at the top of the page.

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All scores categories on the page will then show the final scores and standings for the end of the selected year.

The Searchable and Sortable Table can graph your current year's ACA scores by date and allows you to compare your progression to that of others. Check the Plot button for the calls you wish to see plotted and they will all appear on the same graph.

The CWops Award Tools website main page provides a means of printing your CWT Participation Certificate. You may request a downloadable certificate by clicking the "CWT certificate download" selection at the top of the page. For more information about CWT Participation Awards, please go to <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>.

### **CWops Member Awards Program Overview**

Several operating awards are available for contacting CWops members. These include **Annual Competition Award (ACA)** recognizing the total number of CWops members contacted during the current year, **Annual Cumulative Membership Award (ACMA)** counting QSOs with members on all bands (once per band) during the current year, **Cumulative Membership Award (CMA)** counting QSOs with members on all bands (once per band) since January 3, 2010, **CWops WAS** award for contacting members in all 50 states, **CWops DXCC** award for contacting members in countries on the ARRL DXCC list, **CWops WAE** award for contacting members in Europe, and **CWops WAZ** award for contacting members in each of the 40 CQ zones. All contacts must be via CW and between current CWops members. To qualify for these awards, you must submit your logs via the tool at the CWops Award Tools [website](#). You can also print out your awards certificates at that same website.

A set of tools for managing your awards status is provided on the CWops Award Tools website and if you regularly upload your logs your awards will be automatically tracked for you. To view complete data for all currently active participants and see where you and others rank among active participants in the awards program, use the [online tools](#). For more details on the tools provided, see the [August 2021 Solid Copy](#) article.

### **Please Join Us!**

Fabian, DJ5CW, who created the website and the tools, made it extremely easy to participate in the awards program.

If you are not among the CWops members who are currently participating, please join us! It adds a lot of friendly competition and fun to your operating.

### **More Information**

View our website for more information on the [CWops Awards Program](#). Send your feedback, questions or comments to [cwopscam@w0tg.com](mailto:cwopscam@w0tg.com).

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**Here are the Top 100 ACA, ACMA and CMA QSO totals as of June 1, 2025.**

**ACA**

Rank	Call	ACA
1	KR2Q	1587
2	AA3B	1373
3	KY4GS	1320
4	K3WW	1171
5	N5RZ	1141
6	KO4VW	1098
7	KC7V	1087
8	NA8V	1083
9	N5TJ	1066
10	K7QA	1060
11	AA2IL	1007
12	N7US	975
13	W4CMG	972
14	KG9X	957
15	WT9U	936
16	K1VUT	930
17	OM2VL	929
18	F6HKA	923
19	DL6KVA	882
20	NJ3K	861
21	WT3K	829
22	K9WX	827
23	W9ILY	821
24	KC3M	799
25	EA6BF	770
26	W8FN	761
27	N5KD	757
28	VE3TM	754
29	K1SM	752
30	K1DJ	745
31	N9FZ	735
32	WN7S	733
33	K3QP	718
34	KM4FO	717
34	N4DW	717
35	WØUO	712
36	F5SGI	701
36	KW1X	701
37	K1AJ	697
38	AC6ZM	677
39	K3ZA	669
40	NA4J	668
40	WS7L	668

**ACMA**

Rank	Call	ACMA
1	AA3B	4405
2	KR2Q	4037
3	N5RZ	3277
4	KY4GS	3119
5	K3WW	3097
6	OM2VL	2779
7	KC7V	2727
8	K7QA	2724
9	NA8V	2722
10	N5TJ	2678
11	KO4VW	2558
12	DL6KVA	2229
13	WT9U	2104
14	K1VUT	2087
15	KG9X	2062
16	N7US	2009
17	AA2IL	1996
18	W4CMG	1955
19	F6HKA	1821
20	K9WX	1705
21	EA6BF	1692
22	NJ3K	1616
23	W8FN	1590
24	W9ILY	1546
25	N5KD	1507
26	N5XE	1502
27	K1AJ	1498
28	N4DW	1482
29	WS7L	1477
30	WN7S	1476
31	KC3M	1414
32	WT3K	1385
33	KM4FO	1379
34	K1DJ	1373
35	VE3TM	1360
36	KW1X	1337
37	N2UU	1322
38	WØUO	1315
39	EA6EJ	1311
40	K1SM	1288
40	KW7Q	1288
41	W5AL	1285
42	NA4J	1268

**CMA**

Rank	Call	CMA
1	AA3B	14840
2	K3WW	11339
3	N5RZ	10522
4	KR2Q	10363
5	N5ZO	10203
6	DL6KVA	9650
7	NA8V	9648
8	W1RM	9442
9	F6HKA	8994
10	VE3KI	8265
11	K3WJV	8228
12	OM2VL	7986
13	K7QA	7869
14	KG9X	7779
15	KC7V	7729
16	N7US	7679
17	W9ILY	7429
18	WT9U	7087
19	K1VUT	6962
20	WØVX	6864
21	N4DW	6855
22	K3JT	6697
23	K9WX	6649
24	KY4GS	6532
25	N5TJ	6379
26	K6NR	6130
27	K1DJ	6091
28	SM6CUK	6055
29	WT3K	6050
30	N1DC	6031
31	N2UU	6024
32	W4WF	6002
33	K4IU	5961
34	WN7S	5816
35	9A1AA	5665
36	AA5JF	5516
37	W8FN	5483
38	G4BUE	5457
39	AC6ZM	5407
40	WØUO	5359
41	KO4VW	5306
42	VE3TM	5269
43	K1SM	5265

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### ACA

41	N3CKI	666
42	W5AL	664
43	KØWA	661
44	AA5JF	660
45	N5XE	647
46	EA6EJ	642
46	KV8Q	642
47	KW7Q	641
48	W1RM	636
49	AF5J	628
50	VE3KI	622
51	DL5XL	613
52	N9UNX	608
52	WU6P	608
53	N2UU	607
53	ND9M	607
54	VK2GR	606
55	K3JT	596
56	WE4AUB	580
57	K4TZ	577
58	N1DC	570
59	K6NR	562
59	W4WF	562
60	K4IU	559
61	W9CF	555
62	N2EIM	550
63	WØVX	545
64	NE5A	543
65	SM6CUK	538
66	KR3E	529
67	K4GM	525
67	VE9KK	525
68	MØRYB	521
69	KB8GAE	518
70	OZ3SM	514
70	VE3MV	514
71	G4PVM	513
72	KYØQ	511
73	DF7TV	508
74	AF4T	488
75	KT4XN	484
76	VE3KIU	467
77	GWØETF	465
78	W3WHK	459
79	WB5N	458
80	WØTG	453
81	K1RF	452
82	WS1L	443
83	KT5V	440

### ACMA

43	AF5J	1258
44	F5SGI	1240
45	WØVX	1225
46	SM6CUK	1217
47	VE3KI	1191
48	AA5JF	1185
49	DL5XL	1178
50	N9FZ	1177
51	AC6ZM	1165
52	N3CKI	1156
53	W1RM	1130
54	K3JT	1111
55	WU6P	1106
56	ND9M	1097
56	W4WF	1097
57	MØRYB	1094
58	K3ZA	1082
58	K4IU	1082
59	W9CF	1068
60	KV8Q	1065
61	OZ3SM	1049
62	G4PVM	1030
63	N9UNX	1025
64	K3QP	1023
65	VE3MV	1018
66	K6NR	1009
66	WS1L	1009
67	WØTG	1007
68	WE4AUB	994
69	K4GM	984
70	VK2GR	979
71	K4TZ	961
72	G3NKC	960
73	KYØQ	955
74	N1DC	912
75	AF4T	890
76	KØWA	882
77	WB5N	868
78	VE9KK	833
79	W3WHK	826
80	DM6EE	817
81	LY2MM	815
82	KB8GAE	809
83	K1RF	808
83	K9CW	808
84	DF7TV	796
85	NE5A	793
86	N5ER	777
87	KT4XN	772

### CMA

44	NJ3K	5230
45	GWØETF	5078
46	N5XE	5057
47	NA4J	5000
48	AA2IL	4947
49	F6JOE	4883
50	WA4JUK	4775
51	OK1RR	4742
52	WS7L	4703
52	K4GM	4703
53	K3QP	4687
54	K1AJ	4577
55	KT5V	4546
56	VE3MV	4487
57	VK2GR	4419
58	OZ3SM	4416
59	I2WIJ	4406
60	EA6BF	4391
61	DJ5CW	4304
62	W6AYC	4276
63	KØWA	4248
64	KM4FO	4218
65	N5KD	4192
66	KYØQ	4128
67	DF7TV	4102
68	F5SGI	4063
69	DM6EE	4057
70	W4CMG	4046
71	WØTG	4029
72	WS1L	4026
73	G4PVM	3988
74	AF5J	3980
75	NE5A	3957
76	KØTC	3953
77	N1EN	3952
78	W3WHK	3933
79	KV8Q	3903
80	WU6P	3869
81	ND9M	3841
82	KKØU	3827
83	MØRYB	3808
84	W2CDO	3785
85	KW7Q	3723
86	AF4T	3680
87	SMØHEV	3600
88	EA6EJ	3582
89	HB9ARF	3562
90	K4TZ	3557
91	N3CKI	3488

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### ACA

84	DM6EE	437
85	G3NKC	432
86	G3LDI	423
87	LY2MM	422
88	K9CW	417
89	KE4CR	409
90	N5ER	408
91	AC3RA	406
92	W2VM	405
93	WA5PFJ	404
94	KKØU	402
95	9A1AA	401
96	K9CPO	400
97	HB9ARF	393
98	KQ4E	392
99	W8EWH	382
100	KØTC	379

### ACMA

88	G3LDI	764
89	VE3KIU	732
90	KR3E	724
91	HB9ARF	720
92	SMØHEV	707
93	GWØETF	693
94	SP7OGP	672
95	OK1RR	666
96	W8OV	658
97	IN3FHE	638
98	NB7O	631
99	AC3RA	624
100	KQ4E	623

### CMA

92	K3ZA	3389
93	KR3E	3327
94	4X6GP	3274
95	NN4K	3234
96	K2YR	3220
97	G3LDI	3208
98	W7GF	3101
99	W2VM	3092
100	W8OV	3075

**73, Bill WØTG** (CWops #1873)

CWops Operating Awards

## mini-'Test Schedule

SPEED	XST	DAY	TIME (UTC)	EXCHANGE	SPONSOR LINK
20 - 25	MST	Monday	1300 - 1400z	Name + QSO serial number	<a href="#">International CW Coun-</a>
20 - 25	MST	Monday	1900 - 2000z	Name + QSO serial number	<a href="#">International CW Coun-</a>
20 - 25	MST	Tuesday	0300 - 0400z	Name + QSO serial number	<a href="#">International CW Coun-</a>
QRS	AWT	Wednesday	1145 - 1200z	RST + Name	<a href="#">A1Club</a>
20+ wpm	AWT	Wednesday	1200 - 1300z	RST + Name	<a href="#">A1Club</a>
25+ wpm	CWT	Wednesday	1300 - 1400z	Name + CWops # (or S/P/C)	<a href="#">CWops</a>
25+ wpm	CWT	Wednesday	1900 - 2000z	Name + CWops # (or S/P/C)	<a href="#">CWops</a>
25+ wpm	CWT	Thursday	0300 - 0400z	Name + CWops # (or S/P/C)	<a href="#">CWops</a>
25+ wpm	CWT	Thursday	0700 - 0800z	Name + CWops # (or S/P/C)	<a href="#">CWops</a>
< 20 wpm	SST	Friday	2000 - 2100z	Name + S/P/C	<a href="#">K1USN</a>
< 20 wpm	SST	Monday	0000 - 0100z	Name + S/P/C	<a href="#">K1USN</a>





# QTX Report: Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

**Enzo, MØKTZ**

Since I accepted to serve as a QTX facilitator a couple of years ago, I have asked myself several times “Why?” No folks, I don’t mean “Why did I accept to work through this stuff?” HI HI I am actually very happy I did, as this has been a fantastic ride so far. What I ask to myself is: Why any ham should be interested in sending reports about their ragchewing activity? Why should they do that if there is no prize to be won; no place in a *palmares*; no reason whatsoever to let other people know what they have been up to in the last month?

The answer has always, punctually come from your soapboxes. Not from their content, which is indeed varied, very interesting, heart-felt, and personal, and tells more about each of you than about your motivations to support the QTX/mQTX gang. But from the fact that you keep sending those comments, every month, and you keep sending your reports, no matter how many or how few QSOs you have managed to put in the log. Ultimately, this programme is about one single aspect of ham radio: sharing.

And the soapbox for this month has lots of stuff you have decided to share with our QTX/mQTX family: personal experiences on exploring the 30m band (N9EEE) personal preference (or availability!) for operating times (ABØWW), personal goals and quests (K7WM, MØMZB), personal activities and other hobbies that take away time from ham radio, or make that time much more valuable and joyful, as we have the chance of finding another individual on this planet that shares our same passions.

I was (positively!) stunned by two comments in particular. One from Les MMØUMH Les, who has reported about his great QTX this month, and the other one by Chris N8AI, who lamented being 1 QSO shy of qualifying for the QTX-30 certificate. Les did not need to take the burden of reporting his only QTX, but he did because he cares to share his ham radio life with like-minded people (that’s us, waving at Les! Well done Les!). And Chris could have instead reported a total of 30 or 31 QSOs on 30m (nobody checks your logs!) just to grab the special commemorative QTX-30 certificate, but he did not, because a ham is first and foremost a loyal and dependable human. These two comments clearly show why the QTX/mQTX activity is here, and why it is thriving: because of you.

Getting back to the QTX-30 event in May, I have received mentions to that activity from (# QSO on 30m): N2DA (1), K8UDH (4), N9FZ (6), WS1L (8), N9EEE (21), KG5IEE (22), N8AI (29), MØMZB (30), AAØYY (36), VE3WH (57), WA4IAR (57), and your scribe (10). All those operators will receive a QTX-30 commemorative certificate (please write me an email if I forgot anyone), and the certificates sent to those who got 30 QSOs or more will contain a special mention about that. But there is intentionally no scoreboard and no glory, as each of us has already collected the best and most valuable prize of all: sharing the experience of using Hertzian waves to talk to almost-perfect-strangers, hundreds and thousands of miles away, to celebrate human ingenuity, passion, dedication, and the love for the only communication mode that speaks our heart and soul all the way through: CW.

**72/73 de Enzo, MØKTZ** (CWops #3206)

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## 2025 Total Number of Hours Worked: 1418

(based on avg 20 min QTX, 10 min mQTX)

Call	Hrs	Call	Hrs	Call	Hrs	Call	Hrs	Call	Hrs
WA4IAR	154.5	N7HCN	59	AJ1DM	19.7	AE4GS	7	W6QX	3.2
VE3WH	131	KCØVKN	54	DL5XL	13.3	W8OV	6.2	KB4DE	3.2
WS1L	116.8	KR2Q	52.5	N9EEE	13.2	SV2BBK	5.3	DF7TV	2.7
KY4GS	112.5	GØFOZ	44.3	F5IYJ	12.7	MØSDB	5	MMØUMH	2.5
N8AI	89.8	K9OZ	43.7	N9FZ	12.2	PE2V	4.8	K7VM	1.8
MØKTZ	87	DK9HE	41.2	NØBM	9.2	N5LB	4.7	W3WHK	1.3
KB6NU	62	KG5IEE	40.7	ABØWW	8.2	PG4I	4.5		
MØMZB	61.8	N2DA	22.3	VK3QB	7.7	KE4I	3.8		
AAØYY	61.7	K8UDH	20.3	GWØETF	7.3	K4LFL	3.8		



**N7HCN:** The thing that hooked me on the hobby was the opportunity to hear from DX operators about all the unique little differences between my life here and life in their countries. I am getting to the point where a DX QTX from a "common" entity is more delightful than a "599" from a rare one.

**VE3WH:** It was a good month for conversational CW. One QTX was a 1920s to 1921 Vibroplex Martin Jr. Bug Rag Chew with Mike WØVTT. 30m is an excellent place to find rag chews.

**WA4IAR:** 30-meter totals are 39 QTX and 18 QTXM the extra points added to the totals already. My most operated band is 30-meters, I find it easier to get longer QSOs there. Again thanks for running the QTX program a good incentive to make conversations not just contacts.

**WS1L:** For the month I had 2 QTX on 30-meters and 6 mQTX. Interesting QSO's with Jenna N4JEH about her new dorm room station, John KMØI about college sports, Earl K4BSK about home repairs, Jim KF7E about our experiences with LPDA antennas and Dan KB6NU about POTA antennas.

**GWØETF:** Unfortunately away for much of the month..;-)

**NØBM:** Difficult month to get on the air with family responsibilities. And the propagation was poor. Learned a lot about remote operation from N8AI in a 40-meter QSO, though.

**KR2Q:** A busy month at work did not allow me much activity this month. e.g., after WPX CW, I have made zero Qs of any time duration.

**N2DA:** Enjoyed the ragchew skeds on 40-meters with the usual sked buddies. Also enjoyed a QSO on 30-meters with Mark AAØYY last month.

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**PG4I:** Excellent 40 minute ragchew with Tord SM3EVR this month.

**MØMZB:** The totals I have entered include the 30m bonus already. on 30m I managed 18 QTX and 12 mQTX, so just about reached the combined total of 30 QSOs for the May 30m challenge. It was good to have a go on 30m, I don't have a resonant antenna on this band, but following this months challenge I just might build one. This months total includes several sessions on the Bug Users Net, which represents the first time I have joined a CW net. Almost all of my QSOs this month have been via a bug key. Highlights of the month included a QSO with MØKTZ on 40m in which I used a bug, paddle a straight key at various points.

**ABØWW:** Earliest QTX was with W7QQQ (3:30 AM local) and longest was with NX6BC; all of us had a lot to say.

**W6QX:** Off to a good start this month then distracted by work travel. Looking for more QSOs in June.

**K7WM:** I've just started with the SKCC Marathon Award (QSOs at least 1 hour). The QTX bug has bitten me and am looking forward to many conversations on the air.

**DL5XL:** I was quite busy with other things in May and could not spend too much time on the radio. Calling CQ on 30m was not as productive as I hoped it would be. Nevertheless, I had a few nice ragchews. The conversation with Ian, IK4EWX, was particularly interesting. He was using a Frattini Prestige bug by I1QOD - a key I had not heard of before. I asked a few questions, and he described this dual lever bug in detail. His fist was pleasant and easy to copy, so I really enjoyed the conversation.

**N8AI:** I HAD (9) QTX AND (20) mQTX on 30m out of the total for May (one shy!). I QSO Fred KE8TBM twice for long chat, he is a truck driver and my older son just went out on his own with Prime, Inc. Trucking.

**KG5IEE:** Of my total, 12 QTX and 10 Mini-QTX were on 30-meters. Enjoyed the QTX-30 event. Had a nice QSO with WØGIB who has been a ham only 4 years. He has his dad's old call sign and all of his dad's old logbook going back to 1934. Also had a nice QSO with N9EEE who happens to be our *Solid Copy* editor.

**AJ1DM:** In addition to my usual ragchew friends, I had the pleasure of ragchews with my students W1SIM and N8TDV. Great fun! 73 de John AJ1DM

**N9EEE:** QTX-30: 10. mQTX: 11. I fell short of the target 30 QSOs to qualify for a special certificate due to personal time availability and the difficulty of finding more QSOs. It was an interesting experience and I learned a lot about 30-meter propagation and human behavior. I used RBN to visualize my reach each time I came on the band. Seeing my signal spread across the USA yet receiving very few replies - 20m and 40m were busy - led to some inferences about operator preferences and behavior. Because of this and those I did talk to, it felt like I was meeting a core group of ragchewers on 30m - like hanging with the cool kids. The notion that propagation on 30-meters is like a mix of 20m and 40m never bore out for me. And surprisingly, I was never able to

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have a QSO with my QSO Buddy 575 miles away at any time during the month. As another observation, I couldn't help but also notice the heavier skew of activity in EU vs the USA throughout the month. Overall, I met some new nice new contacts that focus on 30-meters and plan to spend a fair amount of time on that band. My intrigue for 30-meters has been heightened and I'm curious to learn more about its dynamics throughout the rest of the year.

**KB6NU:** I didn't hit my 1 QTX/day goal this month. My excuse is that I was in Dayton for several days attending Hamvention. I had a couple of nice in-person QTX contacts there, but I guess those don't count. :)

**N9FZ:** Got 6 m/QTX QSOs on 30m. May seems to have blown by very quickly and I'm glad to get the operating time in that I could. June is shaping up to be the same.

**MM0UMH:** Only one mini-QTX this month, but it was with an OM I hadn't worked before and very enjoyable. I must try harder as I much prefer a rag chew.

**K8UDH:** During May I had several ragchew QSOs with hams who had similar hobbies, in addition to Ham Radio. Dale, K9SK, really enjoys model HO trains and shared his enthusiasm. My model trains are Lionel O gauge. On 30-meters I had 4 QSOs: 2 QTX and 2 mQTX.

**DK9HE:** I had this month a great and very interesting 40 min chat with Andy DL3AZ about antenna building.

**W3WHK:** Long QTX with N2EC. I nominated him for CWops, and now he's a member!

## QTX Certificates

Upon reaching the 100, 500, and 1000 QTX levels, members can download and fill out one of the certificates below.



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### QTX - May 2025

<u>Call</u>	<u>QTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>QTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>QTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>QTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>QTX</u>
VE3WH	104	N7HCN	33	KY4GS	13	W6QX	5	NØBM	3
WA4IAR	100	KB6NU	27	KG5IEE	12	N9FZ	5	W3WHK	1
MØMZB	66	KCØVKN	25	K8UDH	12	N5LB	5	PG4I	1
N8AI	47	DK9HE	23	KR2Q	9	DL5XL	5	GWØETF	1
WS1L	43	K9OZ	20	GØFOZ	8	W8OV	4		
AAØYY	39	N2DA	15	AJ1DM	8	K7VM	4		
MØKTZ	37	N9EEE	14	F5IYJ	7	ABØWW	4		

### mQTX - May 2025

<u>Call</u>	<u>mQTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>mQTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>mQTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>mQTX</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>mQTX</u>
VE3WH	58	GØFOZ	41	KR2Q	10	PE2V	8	W6QX	3
MØKTZ	53	MØMZB	32	KG5IEE	10	VK3QB	5	K7VM	3
N8AI	53	AAØYY	31	GWØETF	10	PG4I	5	W8OV	2
WA4IAR	48	KB6NU	13	DL5XL	10	N9FZ	5	AJ1DM	2
WS1L	46	DK9HE	12	N7HCN	9	KB4DE	4	NØBM	1
KY4GS	42	N9EEE	11	ABØWW	9	K8UDH	4	MMØUMH	1

### QTX - Total 2025

Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX	Call	QTX
WA4IAR	381	K9OZ	131	AJ1DM	47	ABØWW	11	W3WHK	3
VE3WH	319	MØMZB	130	F5IYJ	38	MØSDB	8	SV2BBK	3
WS1L	261	AAØYY	127	N9EEE	29	KE4I	8	PG4I	2
N8AI	190	DK9HE	107	N9FZ	24	W6QX	7	MMØUMH	1
KY4GS	181	KR2Q	101	DL5XL	19	K4LFL	7	DF7TV	1
N7HCN	165	KG5IEE	80	NØBM	16	PE2V	6		
KCØVKN	162	N2DA	67	N5LB	14	VK3QB	5		
MØKTZ	139	GØFOZ	52	AE4GS	14	K7VM	4		
KB6NU	139	K8UDH	47	W8OV	12	GWØETF	4		

### mQTX - Total 2025

Call	mQTX	Call	mQTX	Call	mQTX	Call	mQTX	Call	mQTX
KY4GS	313	KR2Q	113	K8UDH	28	N9EEE	21	K4LFL	9
MØKTZ	252	MØMZB	111	ABØWW	27	KB4DE	19	KE4I	7
WS1L	179	KB6NU	94	SV2BBK	26	PE2V	17	W6QX	5
WA4IAR	165	KG5IEE	84	N9FZ	25	MØSDB	14	K7VM	3
GØFOZ	162	DL5XL	42	N7HCN	24	DF7TV	14	W3WHK	2
N8AI	159	VK3QB	36	AJ1DM	24	AE4GS	14		
VE3WH	148	GWØETF	36	PG4I	23	W8OV	13		
AAØYY	116	DK9HE	33	NØBM	23	MMØUMH	13		



# My Story: New Member Introductions

Compiled by [Tim Gennett, K9WX](#) (CWops #1462)

## Ian Dent, GØAYN CWops 3729

I was licensed in 1981 and have kept the same callsign, GØAYN ever since.

My first “shack” was in the bedroom of my parents’ house when I was still living at home and I got into Morse code because it was the only way I could use the radio late at night when the family were in bed and I had my headphones on. I was encouraged in and taught Morse code by G3CQO, who had the patience of a saint. I quickly got the hang of it and used to enjoy our Saturday evening sessions on the key.



**Ian GØAYN and XYM Trev**

I studied Electronic Engineering with Telecoms at University in Newcastle and I used to be on the design team for the IBM PC when it came out in its various iterations. My part of the work involved TEMPEST testing, as it fitted nicely with my interest in RF. The company I was working for at the time began to suffer some financial difficulties and we were bought out by the Canadian company, Dowty. At the same time, I decided to apply for a job in the UK Government, working in the Foreign Office (similar to US State Dept). I joined them in 1986 and have been with them ever since (almost 40 years). I love my job and have been lucky enough to have worked all over the world at various points in my career.

I first met Jim, N3JT on air back in 1981/2 and we have been firm friends ever since. I love QRQ and Jim was one of the first US hams I was able to work regularly who enjoyed ragchewing at 50/60wpm. Many of my various business trips have taken me to DC and I always planned extra time into those so that I could have dinner with Jim and Nina and meet some of the hams in W3/W4 land. Many have remained good friends to the day and I’m looking forward to re-connecting with them again.

Over the years, I’ve been in FOC, VHSC/SHSC/EHSC (high speed clubs) and CWops have made me very welcome after an almost 20-year gap in my activity due to restricted QTHs and overseas postings. In addition to ham radio, I’m a composer and musician in my spare time and I write mostly orchestral, choral and piano pieces. I live in Bristol in the South West UK, and my daughter Beth (27) lives around 5 miles away with her partner.

Hope to see you all on the bands!

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## **Steve Ireland, VK6VZ CWops #3725**

Ninety-eight per cent of operation here is CW/Morse. I mainly use a single-lever Scheunemann Einhebel 3 paddle with an old Samson ETM-9C keyer. As well as CWops, I'm a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia, the Radio Society of Great Britain, First Class CW Operators Club (FOC) #1693, VK Contest Club and the True Blue DXers Club. I also hold the callsign VL6T (for contesting), VK6BA (mainly for boat anchor activities/local QSOs) and am additionally licensed as G3ZZD and VY2LF.



These days I operate from 1.8 MHz to 28 MHz and my favourite band has always been “topband,” where currently have 238 DXCC countries confirmed, along with 39 CQ zones. My “Elmer” on 1.8 MHz was Mike Bazley VK6HD (SK), whose encouragement and friendship I much miss.

I've always enjoyed contesting, in particular on 1.8 MHz, and achieved the single-operator top score in the world in the 1999 Stew Perry 160 m Distance Challenge. Back in 2004 I was lucky enough to be invited to join a multi-operator team for the 2004 CQ WW CW 160 m Contest at VY2ZM, led by Jeff Briggs K1ZM. This may sound strange but putting up Beverages in 25-degree temperatures in snow with Jeff, Peter WW2Y and Rob K2WI was just about the best radio fun ever!

I was first licensed at age 15 in the United Kingdom as G3ZZD in 1971, after a couple of years as a shortwave listener. My first station was a World War II National HRO MX and a homebrew 1.8 MHz AM/CW transmitter (8W DC input from a 5763 valve) made by my dad's brother, George. Later, a 3.5 – 28 MHz 10 W CW transmitter with a Geloso VFO was added. This entire station cost about 40 UK pounds and was funded by my 'before school' job delivering newspapers.

After visiting Western Australia for a holiday, I migrated here from North London in April 1989. My father, “Ozzie” (SK) was a RAF navigator in World War II, trained for Bomber Command, who learnt CW as part of his training in case the radio operator was killed or injured. When I QSYed down under, Dad decided to become a radio amateur too so we could talk to each other over the air, passed his CW test first time at age of 69 and became GØTYJ.

My happiest radio memories are talking to Dad on 14 MHz on the long path, with him in his tiny wooden shack heated by a Kenwood TS830S and Collins 30L1 linear, with my mother Yvonne sitting beside him.

I am a retired journalist and have written regularly on amateur radio for magazines in the UK, USA and Australia over the last 40 years. I'm lucky enough to live on half an acre in a semi-rural small town and have a home-made cubical quad antenna for HF, plus a 160 m doublet at 20 m above the ground for the rest. Hope to meet you on the bands!

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### **Chris Kaysen, KN6RDC CWops #3730**

I grew up near the beaches of Southern California, but somewhere along the way, the mountains seemed closer, and I realized I felt just as thrilled scrambling up a ridge as I did paddling into a set.

When I got licensed in 2021, I immediately jumped into Summits on the Air. I quickly found that I didn't want to carry big HF gear up a mountain, so I started looking for another way. That's when I found Morse code. I signed up for CW Academy, with Chris (KF7WX) as my advisor. His patience and encouragement made CW feel possible even when I struggled. Before I finished the beginner course, I was activating summits almost exclusively CW. I was hooked.

The journey kept rolling into the Intermediate course with Tim (W7EEE), whose enthusiasm made CW even more exciting, and then into the Advanced course with Joe (AA2IL), who pushed me to sharpen my skills and showed me how deep this rabbit hole really goes. I'm incredibly grateful to all three for giving their time, support, and sharing their passion. They opened a door for me I didn't even know existed. Along the way, Fred (KT5X) also left a big impression. His smooth, ultralight SOTA style showed me you don't need heavy gear to be effective. That mindset stuck with me and shapes how I operate today.



Eventually, life moved me north to Southwest Idaho, with new mountains, new trails, and a deeper love for being outside with a radio in my pack. I especially enjoy hiking with my wife and two sons, sharing time outdoors together whenever we can. Joining CWops feels like coming full circle. It's a way to give back to a community that took a clueless new ham and helped turn him into someone who feels at home on the air.

### **Carson Wang, K8APP CWops #3732**

I was honored to be nominated to join CWops. I'm Carson, known as "Car" in contests. As a software engineer, I like to turn caffeine into code and bring ideas to life with Arduino and Raspberry Pi. When I'm not debugging or building, I am likely making another POTA antenna, restoring an old J-38 key, or designing and 3D printing radio accessories.

Morse code has been an integral part of my life since childhood. At just 7 years old, I found joy in building a straight key crafted from empty toothpaste tubes and a wooden board. That small creation was more than just a project; it was the beginning of a lifelong passion.

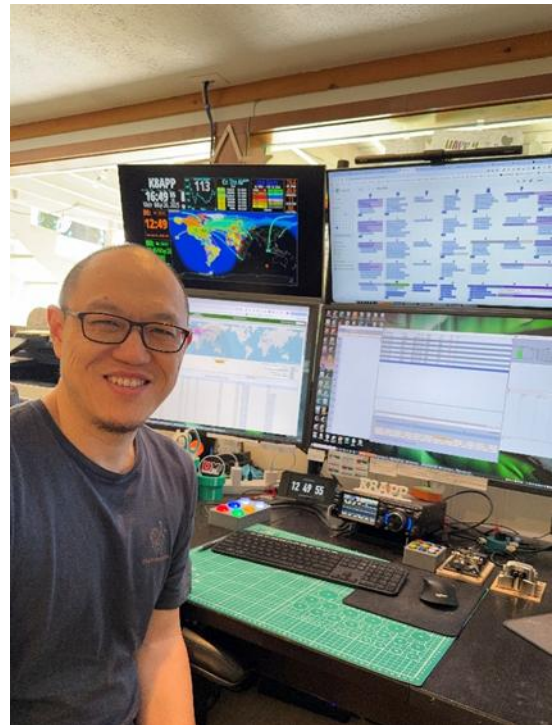
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As I grew older, my love for crafting and designing deepened, blending seamlessly with my fascination for radios.

I was born and raised in China, unaware of the existence of ham radio. In 2006, I moved to the United States, and two years later, in 2008, I earned my first amateur radio license and learned CW code letters. Yet, as life often does, it led me down different paths, and for 16 years, I remained off the air. Despite that, Morse code never left my mind—it became a form of meditation, a rhythm I carried with me through the years. There is something profoundly calming about the simplicity and precision of dits and dahs—a quiet language that transcends the noise of everyday life.

Finally, in 2024, I get a new license, reigniting my passion for radio and rediscovering the artistry of Morse code. Now, with new projects in mind and a rekindled enthusiasm, I continue to build, create, and use Morse code not just as a tool but as a personal escape—an elegant way to connect, reflect, and immerse myself in a world shaped by precision and craftsmanship.



### **Randy Fish, NØKO CWops #3733**

A big thank you to WAØI, K4FN, W6SX, KO4VW and WA3AAN for sponsoring me to become a CWops member. I look forward to improving my CW skills and making new contacts.

No big, long biography with me. I'm just a humble hillbilly from the Ozarks that enjoys ham radio. First licensed as Novice in 1991 as KBØJUF, then Technician as NØSAH, then Extra as vanity call NØKO. Retired from 25 years' service as radio operator with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Now just enjoying life in "Booger County," Douglas County Missouri grid EM36UV. Looking forward to learning from other operators and meeting you on the air!



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### **Ed Cabic, N2EC CWops #3731**

I am honored to have been invited to be a new member of CWops. I have long admired the quality operators in the club and feel lucky to be counted among your ranks.



I started in amateur radio when I was 10 years old when my father and I enrolled in a class run by our local club, the Columbia Amateur Radio Association in Columbia, MD. We got our Novice and Technician licenses quickly, got involved in the club, had lots of fun on the air running nets, participated in Field Day, and worked DX. While I had passed my 5 wpm test, I learned it in a way that didn't end up making me a consistent CW operator at first.

When I went off to college at Cornell University to study Electrical and Computer Engineering the hobby lay somewhat dormant as I had a lot of other things demanding my time. While there I worked at a commercial radio station run by a corporation of students, WVBR-FM, where I was a DJ, and eventually became the President and General Manager and for a time Chief Engineer, keeping me busy on another set of frequencies. Eventually a few years after graduating, I upgraded to my Extra class license.

In recent years, I started getting much more involved in the hobby again, becoming very active in Parks on the Air. I quickly learned that CW was a bit of a superpower for portable operations, so I decided to give CW another try after learning of the Koch method and audio-first methodology. Very quickly I found that CW was my favorite mode, and my microphone started gathering dust. I now have 300 activations in POTA in 16 states with 12.6 thousand QSOs and the vast majority (10.4 thousand) are on CW. When my father became silent key I applied for his call, N2EC, and am proud to be able to keep it on the air.

I also became very active in the Long Island CW Club as an instructor and have taught their be-

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ginner, intermediate, and kids classes for several years now. I continue to work on raising my skill and my speed and am an avid ragchewer, POTA activator, DXer, and contester. I also am deeply invested in the education aspect of our hobby and try to give back when I can as an instructor and Elmer. I enjoy building kits, designing antennas, operating satellites, and discovering new facets of this incredible hobby. I publish a weekly podcast and newsletter called Amateur Radio News and Notes that covers news in the hobby, upcoming contests and DX on the air, interesting radio content on the internet, and solar conditions at <https://mvarc.substack.com/>. I also periodically post things I've been up to with radio at my personal site <https://n2ec.us/>. I look forward to meeting many of you on the air and in person very soon.



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