

Greetings, 3905ers!

I'm presently loading up the car for our northward trek to the Eyeball, with stops in SC, WV, PA, CT, MA, on the way. We'll be on the road first thing Monday morning with some warm clothes, just in case. Jenny and I are looking forward to seeing all the smiling faces in Laconia, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones, assuming no road calamities and no hurricanes threatening the house.

After I run through the meager list of awards this week, I'll remind you about my forthcoming vacation, and will tell you when to expect awards earned recently, or awards you expect to submit in the next few weeks.

This week was a light one for awards – just nine certificates for awards, endorsements, and appreciation. Six members in four call areas earned them, and we gained no new members.

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

FIRST CALL AREA

MIKE RUSH, KU1V (*Master #79*), of Nashua, NH, received **Baker's Dozen Certificate of Appreciation** #3509 on 20M SSB from N5WGA. Thanks for your mobile work, Mike! I look forward to seeing you in your home state!

PAUL LOURD, W1IP, of Wilton, CT, received **Baker's Dozen Certificate of Appreciation** #3507 on 40M SSB from N5WGA. Thanks for your road trips, Paul, and see you at the Eyeball!

FOURTH CALL AREA

DAVE YARBROUGH, AI4K (*DX Bureau Co-Mgr*), of Atoka, TN, received **Baker's Dozen Certificate of Appreciation** #3508 on 40M SSB from N5WGA for operating club station AI7B. Congratulations Dave! Thanks for your road work and we will see you soon at the Eyeball!

FIFTH CALL AREA

CHUCK AMMONS, N5WGA, of Valliant, OK, earned four awards: On 40M SSB, **Baker's Dozen Award #3507** (W1IP) and **#3508** (AI4K operating AI7B); on 20M SSB, **Baker's Dozen Award #3509** with KU1V; plus, Chuck endorsed his **Crossword Puzzle Award #44** to Level 3. Congratulations on a big week, Chuck, and I'm keeping my fingers crossed about the mail – dropped them at the Post Office this morning! We'll see...

NINTH CALL AREA

CHUCK BARNETT, KM9U (*CW Nets Coordinator*), of New Whiteland, IN, earned **Beat the Clock Award #11** on 40M CW. Congratulations, Chuck!

VIRGIL WARREN, W9WWG, of Fountaintown, IN, earned **Night Owl Award #434** on 75M SSB. Congratulations, Virgil, and please get some sleep now!

And that's a pre-Eyeball wrap! See you on the other side!

As I mentioned at the outset, Jenny and I will be departing for about three weeks starting Monday morning, August 26. Therefore, I will be issuing no awards until on or about Friday, September 13. If you earned any of the awards I described above and will be attending the Eyeball, namely, KU1V, W1IP, and AI4K, I'll personally hand them to you in Laconia. If you're not on the attendee list, namely N5WGA, KM9U, and W9WWG, I have already sent them via USPS or email as of this morning, based on your expressed preference.

I'll put on another club hat for a brief digression. If you haven't yet signed up for the Mobile Shootout, please do so ASAP, so Dwight, WF4H, and I can plan accordingly. We have eleven combatants signed up thus far; the measurement station, test equipment, and the most important component, The Spreadsheet Queen, will be loaded up Monday morning. Remember, all paid Eyeball attendees are welcome to compete, and all attendees are invited to watch the Shootout. If you want to get your hands dirty, please contact Dwight, WF4H, who is coordinating the volunteer squad.

So, all that having been said, I wish safe and comfortable travel to all you who are converging on Laconia less than two weeks from now! I'm looking forward to a fruitful, enjoyable, and relaxing event. Tom has gone to great lengths to make this Eyeball one to remember. Lots of food, fun, festivities, and best of all, camaraderie and bs! I am bringing a bottle of Florida craft moonshine for the raffle. (Plus, I'll bring the formula for the antidote for the lucky winner). See you in Laconia!

Respectfully submitted,

Ben - AE4NT
Awards Secretary

P.S.

If you find any typos, please bring them to my attention at the Eyeball. I am bringing a pharmaceutical product as a gift for the first to do so.