



The Centurion

Volume 2012, Issue 3 July-September, Priceless

Fall Colors



What dreadful hot weather we have! It keeps me in a continual state of inelegance.

~ Jane Austen ~

Summertime is finally here with all its lazy laid-back indolence. This is the time of year we take to the outdoors and take on the B-B-Q, head out on a leisurely stroll and picnic, donning on the swimming suits and plunge into the refreshing waters of delight. Summer is the time of year we can decide to take on many of those outdoor projects that we have put off through the winter. Some of us use this time to take a break and try to relax from the everyday hustle and bustle of our hectic and sometimes chaotic routines. We can even

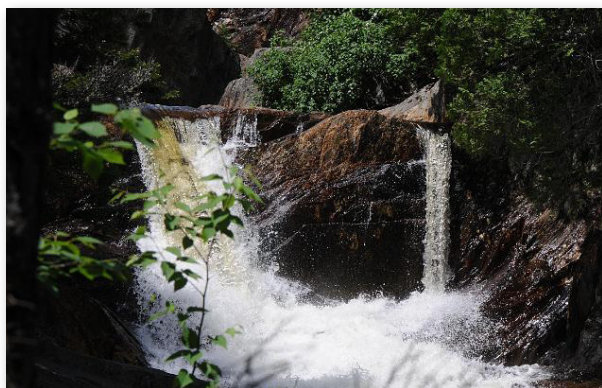
take this opportunity to get out of our houses and explore the world we live in. Travel to far reaches of the world, learn more about the many wonders we do not normally experience. We may even choose to renew old acquaintances or make new ones.

So pack up the family and head out to adventures unknown, or lay back and enjoy the quiet respite from the frantic world we create around ourselves. Best of all now, is the time to build, repair and try out all those wonderful plans that will keep us forging friendships, old and new through the 3905 Century club.



NEBRASKA 2012

Eyeball 2012, hosted by Glen Felt, WTOA, was held in Corn Husker country, eastern Nebraska to be exact, July 26 to Sunday July 29, 2012. The event location was held at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park in Ashland, NE



Never enjoyed myself more at a ham gathering. Glen, WTOA. And crew pulled off a whopper--and I mean it. The view from our rustic gathering place was spectacular, you could see for miles--and wild turkeys gobbled up, trying to get a VE test. The state park had everything for kids or adults. Even the weather blessed us with a day or two of beautiful weather. We all would like to thank ALL of the net controls and

those who relayed. Some stepped in a bit rusty, yet did a bang-up job. Others filled gaps.

Karl, KC0MS, wanted to advertise his Hog Calling, Inc. business. You've seen those hog calling contests at state fairs and on TV. Well hog callers apparently are in demand--I'm city folk and don't know much there.

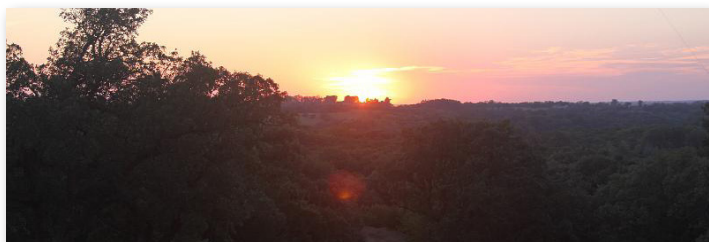
So Karl got some large Styrofoam balls, painted 'em red, and placed them on the stingers of a number of our mobile antennas, all while we were inside for the storm watching forum. The balls had the following printed on them:

"Hog Calling, Inc.--KC0MS, Karl--555-1212--SooooooooooooWeeeeeee!!"

Well the gals sell cosmetics, so we figured Karl was just going the same route. So if you know anyone that needs a hog caller, send 'em to Karl, I guess.



Carl
W900





Yes Carl, Glen put on a Great Eyeball, the company, the hospitality and the food. Glen, First Class and what a great location. A+++++ Thank You for the time and effort you put in, I must admit that talking with your XYL was fun.
Pete NJ9T

I want to add that the venue for the Eyeball was very family-friendly. I was concerned about taking Dawn and Mia to the Eyeball, fearing they would be bored - but no! There was lots to do. Mia got to ride her first pony, play in the water park and the many playgrounds and generally have a blast. Dawn liked it so much she wants to go back to Mahoney State Park soon.



As for the mobiles, I'm glad Dawn got to see all the mobiles lined up at the Eyeball. My modest HF mobile rig looks positively civilized up next to the others - so much so that she's no longer concerned that I've made my truck look ugly. :) Thanks guys - especially Glen WT0A's "capacitance footer". By the way Glen, did you install that, or did you just accidentally back into it and drive off?



All kidding aside, Glen did a great job at organizing the event. I can only imagine how much work went into getting that all put together.

Finally, it was a great pleasure to meet the other Eyeball attendees, and if possible we plan to be there next year.

Mick ACØTP



Thanks are in order to Glen, WT0A for keeping the consecutive string of quality Eyeballs going. Glen had picked an excellent site and all in attendance had a great time. The tour of the Air & Space museum was very special as well and was right next to the Eyeball site. All of the activities were well coordinated and if there was something that didn't go quite right, Glen kept it to himself, because no one else detected any major malfunction.

As the Shoot out coordinator, I appreciate Glen's attention to detail as the Shoot out site was great and everyone there had a memorable time. Of special interest was the "Capacitance BOOT" that Glen had on his truck. I honestly didn't think it would make much difference, but it did. I might have to re-think my initial thoughts about it.

All in all, I had a great time as usual and can't wait for the next one.

Again, thanks, Glen, for a wonderful weekend get-together with some of the finest people I know... You did a magnificent job!!!



Lon, K0WJ
I been a member of the Century Club since 1979 (20 yrs inactive)

however) never been to an eyeball. WOW my first eyeball in NE was great , Glen did a super job as an old hippie (maybe a hillbilly to since at time he lost his shoes)

My XYL loved it too, met many other yl and has a ball playing bingo even checked in a few times with me as a combo.

We already plan on going next year.

Thanks Glen

Jim N4ACS



I Hope all had plenty to eat.



Thanks to all for helping to make it a great event. I really enjoyed it even if I may have appeared a mite frazzled at times. More to come on the adventures of WTOA getting to and from the eyeball site.

Glen WTOA
2012 host

Eyeball 2012 Mobile Shootout Results

Wow! This year's Shootout revealed one overshadowing fact: the people that participate in our Shootouts are getting it. Let me explain. The smallest spread from first place to last place before this year happened in 2005 in Minnesota when last place was only 3.4dB down from the Top Gun. This year the difference was only 2.96dB – less than half an S-Unit.

New this year was an attempt to normalize test conditions by transmitting a signal periodically from my vehicle, recording that signal and using it to extrapolate a normalized score of the mobiles being tested immediately before and immediately after the test signal. I got this idea from W8JI who sat with me at last year's WØDXCC banquet in Leavenworth, KS. It makes a lot of sense considering that conditions always vary during any Shootout due to changes in humidity, and ground dew. I believe we will stay with this method for the foreseeable future.

Special thanks this year go out to Doug, WØWSP who did all of the score recording at the receive site. I'd also like to thank Jim, N5OHL for taking the pictures as well as Phil, K9ZK and Dean, N7XG who I stole a couple of photos from for this report.

Next year's Shootout may be the most valid one we've ever held in that Wyoming has some mountains we may be able to utilize enabling us to measure – according to the some pundits – a take-off angle of 25 to 27 degrees as well as the far field, that is, a path of more than five wavelengths. We may not test everyone that way, just enough to determine if it makes any significant difference in the final score order. I have my doubts, but the only way to move a theory to reality is to prove or disprove it with an action. The Wyoming mountains will help us with that action. I hope there are a few of you who will show up a day early to help test the theory.

The 2012 Shootout was held at the Mahoney State Park near Ashland, NE on a frequency of 7.178 MHz. The receive site was approximately two wavelengths from the transmitting site.

I think everyone had a good time – I know I did and am already looking forward to next year.

73 Everyone,
Lon, KØWJ

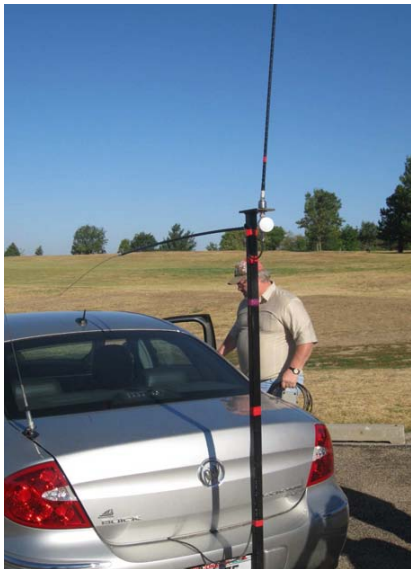


**1st Place and Top Gun:
Carl, W900.**

Carl utilized a 112" mast with an N9UCW modified Hustler Resonator which was mounted at the very top of the mast at a right angle providing some capacitive top loading. Out of the resonator was a 4+ foot whip providing some additional capacitance.

Please note what I have been saying all along,
and bears repeating here: the mast radiates
most of the signal in a center loaded vertical antenna,
so the longer the mast, the greater the efficiency.

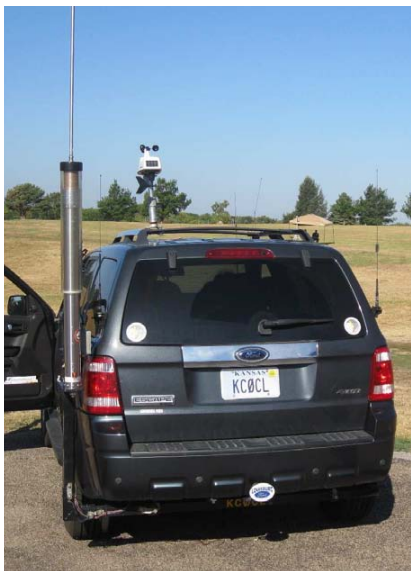
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2nd Place and Big Gun: Keith - KS9WI

Keith Had basically the same setup as last year when his setup also came in second, although the award went to his wife. Keith's mobile installation consisted of a Hamstick main radiator along with one Hamstick counterpoise. I'd like to see what would happen if he added at least one more resonant Hamstick counterpoise. Keith was only .2205 dB down from Carl's winning entry. I like his willingness to try something like this – experimentation is the essence of Ham Radio.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
2nd	3rd	KS9WI	Hamstick	Hamstick on mount approx. 18" above roof with a 40 Meter Hamstick counterpoise	Buick Sedan	Elevated Hitch	902	864	0.2205



3rd Place and Big Gun: Cal - KC0CL

If you didn't see Cal's unique mount, you missed out. Cal homebrewed a mount with a linear actuator which allows him to park his SUV in a standard garage by lowering his Scorpion antenna to a horizontal position.

I've always stated that mounting an antenna is an exercise in compromise, but Cal has managed to minimize those compromises as much as possible and still maintain a top-notch mobile system. How many of you were able to work him on the Four Corners after the Eyeball on a night when band conditions were FAR from ideal? I heard there were many.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
3rd	5th	KC0CL	Scorpion SA680	Home Brewed mount with antenna base at 4 feet using a Scorpion Cap Hat	Ford Escape	Left Rear	839	791	0.603



4th Place and Big Gun: Charles - AE5XL

Charles' Scorpion antenna was mounted such that the coil was well above the roof line and he ended up less than 1 dB down from the Top Gun – that's less than a quarter of an S-Unit in your receiver.

						Antenna			dB
ish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	Dow
der	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	To
th	6th	AE5XL	Scorpion SA680	Standard Scorpion 6 foot whip	Dodge RAM 2500	Center Behind Cab	816	770	Gu



5th Place: Glen - WTØA

Our most excellent Eyeball Commander had a trick up his sleeve or should I say up his truck's rear end? Glen had a contraption mounted to his receiver hitch that extended both under his truck bed as well as out behind the truck. This seems to have caused additional coupling of his truck body to ground. To check out Glen's "Capacitive Boot" for effectiveness, he removed it and tested again. His second test was down 73 mv from his first test and would have dropped him one place in the standings. Let's see if Glen adds a similar setup to the front and maybe both sides for the Wyoming Shootout!!!

						Antenna			dB
ish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	Front
der	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top
th	13th	WTØA	Homebrew	130" Mast with coil at top at right angle + 18" Whip in addition, Glen used a "Capacitive Boot" (See	Chevy Silverado	Mid Bed	840	745	Gur



6th Place: John - WK7K

The potential Eyeball Host for 2013, John came in 6th place this year with his Scorpion antenna mounted on his flat bed pickup with the coil well above the cab roof and included a Scorpion Cap Hat.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
6 th	8 th	WK7K	Scorpion SA680	Scorpion Cap Hat	Chevy Silverado Flat Bed	Mid Bed	794	729	0.95836



7th Place: Pete - NJ9T

Pete with his 3 inch in diameter Predator Screwdriver finished in seventh place. Pete bought a DX Engineering Cap Hat Hub, which sells under the name "Hot Rodz" and smartly replaced the DXE spokes with eighth inch Stainless Steel rods and arranged them to greatly increase the Cap Hat value over the DXE standard arrangement. Check out the pictures.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
7 th	7 th	NJ9T	Predator	DX Engineering hub w/72" x 1/8" SS to form 3-leaf clover hat approx. 3' in diam. And 3+ ft above main coil	Ford Escape	Hitch Receiver	725	684	1.23507



8th Place: Jim - N5OHL

Jim had some trouble with his original entry and borrowed a Hamstick and placed eighth. I was looking forward to his test and am sure he would have done much better with the tall mast and home brewed coil. He got it fixed after the Shootout, so we should see an improved score next year.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
8th	11th	N5OHL	Hamstick	None	Lincoln	Mid Roof Mag Mnt.	739	655	1.42322



9th Place: Tim - WØYV

Tim placed ninth with his Hi-Q antenna equipped with an Eggbeater style Cap Hat. Getting the Cap Hat farther away from the main coil would have improved his score. Mounting position on a van is always a difficult issue, but Tim's mount is about as good as possible. I'm sure he manages many contacts with his fine mobile setup.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
9th	1st	WØYV	Hi-Q	Eggbeater Hat 1' above main coil	Chevy Express	Receiver Hitch	621	621	1.65472



10th Place: Larry - KC9NCS

Larry finished tenth with a Hamstick and proved that eight dollars and a mount can put you on the air and be less than half an S-Unit down from the Top Gun.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
10th	12th	KC9NCS	Hamstick	None	GMC Envoy	Rear Hatch Right Side	680	603	1.78246



11th Place: Mick - ACØTP

In eleventh place was Mick, AC.ØTP with a Hustler resonator on a 54" mast. In an email to me, Mick states, "My goal was to not come in last, and I've learned I have some more things to do for the 2013 shootout! Hopefully most everyone else is thinking the same way as there is ALWAYS something that can be done to improve one's mobile setup.

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
11th	2nd	ACØTP	Hustler	54" Mast, Resonator and 24" Whip	GMC Sierra	Right Rear	628	601	1.7968



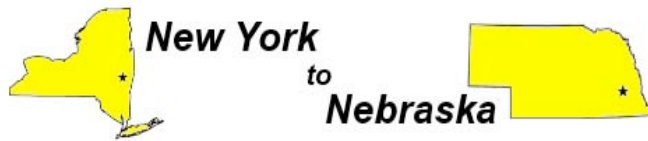
14th Place: Jay - NØPUI

Jay, NØPUI was this year's "Pop Gun." He's the only entrant I couldn't find a picture for, so I added the one above thinking that if Jay had one of these, he wouldn't need a mobile anyway, because he could just come visit in the blink of an eye. It's interesting to note that even though Jay finished last, his mobile signal was still LESS than half an S-Unit down from the Top Gun

						Antenna			dB Down
Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
14th	10th	NØPUI	Hustler	None	Dodge Charger	Right Rear	500	459	2.9675

Eyeball 2012 Shootout Summary

Finish	Test			Whip/Cap Hat		Mounting	Measured	Adjusted	From
Order	Order	Call	Antenna	Configuration	Vehicle	Position	Signal (mv)	Signal (mv)	Top Gun
1st	14th	W9OO	W9UCW Modified Hustler Resonator	112" Mast w/Resonator at top at right angle to mast +4' whip	Honda Civic	Beneath Rear Bumper	1025	909	0
2nd	3rd	KS9WI	Hamstick	Hamstick on mount approx. 18" above roof with a 40 Meter Hamstick counterpoise	Buick Sedan	Elevated Hitch	902	864	0.2205014
3rd	5th	KCØCL	Scorpion SA680	Home Brewed mount with antenna base at 4 feet using a Scorpion Cap Hat	Ford Escape	Left Rear	839	791	0.6038739
4th	6th	AE5XL	Scorpion SA680	Standard Scorpion 6 foot whip	Dodge RAM 2500	Center Behind Cab	816	770	0.7207315
5th	13th	WTØA	Homebrew	130" Mast with coil at top at right angle + 18" Whip in addition, Glen used a "Capacitance Boot" (See Pix)	Chevy Silverado	Mid Bed	840	745	0.8640761
6th	8th	WK7K	Scorpion SA680	Scorpion Cap Hat	Chevy Silverado Flat Bed	Mid Bed	794	729	0.9583635
7th	7	NJ9T	Predator	DX Engineering hub w/72" x ¼" SS to form 3-leaf clover hat approx. 3' in diam. And 3+ ft above main coil	Ford Escape	Hitch Receiver	725	684	1.235077
8th	11th	N5OHL	Hamstick	None	Lincoln	Mid Roof Mag Mnt.	739	655	1.4232258
9th	1st	WØYV	Hi-Q	Eggbeater Hat 1' above main coil	Chevy Express	Receiver Hitch	621	621	1.6547228
10th	12th	KC9NCS	Hamstick	None	GMC Envoy	Rear Hatch Right Side	680	603	1.7824657
11th	2nd	ACØTP	Hustler	54" Mast, Resonator and 24" Whip	GMC Sierra	Right Rear	628	601	1.7968941
12th	4th	NAØL	Tarheel 400A	6' Mast atop the Main Coil w/8 Spoke Cap, 2' dia. at the top	Ford Ranger	Rear Side	627	601	1.7968941
13th	9th	NN5G	Hamstick	None	4Runner	Mid Roof	648	595	1.840469
14th	10th	NØPUI	Hustler	None	Dodge Charger	Right Rear	500	459	2.967511



It was Monday, July 23rd and I was going through everything I needed ... anticipating an early start the next morning to the Eyeball in Nebraska. Kevin, (KD8EZS) had loaned me his club – WZ8RST and I had brought it to the 40 meter early net /P New York and had checked into the 40 meter CW net when a tremendous thunderstorm moved in. I quickly signed out of the net and grounded the open wire feed line just as a near strike happened, about 300' from the house. The power went out right after that and I wasn't able to access any damage until several hours later when power was restored. My home security system seemed to have taken the brunt of the strike – the panel display no longer functioned and the sexy female voice that confirmed commands was absent as well. Other immediately apparent casualties included the external video port on my laptop, one of the ports on my DSL router and my touch keyer was stuck in a continuous dah mode.

Tuesday morning I left bright and early as my goal was to reach the Ohio-Michigan-Indiana tri-state in time for the 40 meter early net. The tri-state was easy to find, only a few miles off of I-80 and I got there in plenty of time to take a few pictures:



On the OH-MI-IN tri-state



This is a shot of the survey marker located on the OH-MI-IN tri-state point.



Monument located 130 feet north of the OH-MI-IN tri-state

The next stop for me was to be the Wisconsin-Illinois state line and I had plenty of time to get there. Imagine my surprise when my s-meter got slammed to the pin when Craig, VE3CMB also checked in on this line. Although we never saw each other, best guess is that we were less than a mile apart. After 40 early I decided to hit the road (thinking the Iowa line wasn't too far away). Crossed the Mississippi River just as WB5FDP was closing out 75 early. All was not lost though as I was able to get checked into 40 meter late and made several contacts from Iowa.

I made it to the KOA campgrounds (only a few miles from the Eyeball) and set up camp early Thursday afternoon.



W2UJ's Presidential Palace

After getting settled in at the campground, I headed over to the Eyeball site and spent the rest of the day chatting with old friends that I've made over the past several years on the nets.

Overall, I can't say enough positive things about the Eyeball. Our host, Glen, WT0A certainly had it all together. Everything went off without a hitch and everywhere I looked ... everyone was having a great time. Lon's (K0WJ) shootout was it's usual success and his followup talk on mobile antenna installations the following day was well-received by all. Lon gave all of us a lot of good pointers that should tighten the competition for next year's shootout.

Reynolds, K0GND from Lincoln gave a presentation on emergency communications and storm watching and Dean, N7XG gave an in-depth presentation of the operation of the 40 meter bureau and the N7XG logger.

The 40 meter and 75 meter QRP nets were a big success (Dean, N7XG served as NCS for both nets) and all of us that participated have enough Nebraska contacts to last us through several progressives.

Glen went all out on feeding us. The food was simply outstanding and there was enough to feed an army. The Boy Scout Troop from Friend, NE, led by Eric, KB0AHK provided us with a top-notch cookout.

One item still remains a little puzzling about the Eyeball several spherical balls appeared on top of many of our vehicles (including mine). They had Karl, KC0MS's name on them along with a solicitation for Hog Calling. Karl disavows any knowledge of them.

The highlight of the Eyeball (for me) was the Annual Meeting and later the Presidential Awards Banquet. I think a lot of members got to see for the first time all of the work our Board does "behind the scenes" as well as having an opportunity to bring items of concern before the Board.

The Presidential Awards are chosen by the Club President (with recommendations and suggestions from the Board) to deserving Club members for their service over the past year. It was my great pleasure to select and honor the following Club members:

Outstanding NCS:

80m CW - David Feeney WN1F
40m CW - Rick Mobley (WB5FDP)
20m CW - David Feeney WN1F
80m RTTY - Milt Withers (AD5XD)
40m RTTY - Milt Withers (AD5XD)
20m RTTY - David Feeney WN1F
80m PSK - David Feeney WN1F
40m PSK - David Feeney WN1F
20m PSK - David Feeney WN1F
160m SSB Early - Steve Bartz (AD5UQ)
75m SSB Early - Ron Belanger K8PGM
75m SSB Late - Dave Meye (KL7QW)
40m SSB Early - Bob Wilson (KC1AU)

40m SSB Late - Dave Meye (KL7QW)

Certificates of Appreciation

Dean Davis (N7XG)
Gene Schneider (WM9H)
Ron Kaufman (N9KNJ)
Ronnie Stanley (NC4RS)
Jim Higgins (KB3PU)
Glen Felt (WT0A)
Ricky Asper (AC7RA)

Certificates of Appreciation (Net Coordinators)

David Feeney (WN1F)
Hugh McDonald (AC7XF)
Bill Hoek (N7WH)
Ed Herbrechtsmeir (K3QX)
George Huett (W6LJK)
Russ Sawyer (W2UJ)
Donnie Hurst (KG4ZOD)
John Patrick (WK7K)

Professional Drivers of the year

Steve Panattoni (N6RSH)
Jesse Cox (KF4PAF)

Casual Drivers of the year

Glen Felt (WT0A)
Karl Peterson (KC0MS)

Ambassador's Award

Kathy Krajewski (KB3NTJ)

K7MFG NCS of the Year

David Feeney (WN1F)

KD3FM Annual Service Award

Rick Mobley (WB5FDP)
Shep Kilby (KC2PUF)
Paul Kelley (NN5G)

My trip home was uneventful – I decided to drive straight thru with a few brief "naps". I managed to run Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York on the way back and arrived back home in New York a little after noon on Monday.

If you've never been to an Eyeball, I'd encourage you to try and make one. This was my second Eyeball and it truly eclipsed the first one. I'm waiting for next year's Eyeball to be announced so I can start making plans to attend. I sure

hope to see many of you there!

Russ – W2UJ, 3905CC President

Eyeball stories

W900, Carl

1. I memorized the state park map, yet became totally disoriented during my first trip in on Wednesday, before the eyeball. After a few circles around the park I pulled into a parking lot and got the map out. Someone started banging on my trunk--someone asking for pain!! It was some cowboy with a straw hat and beard. My luck. After a few shared glares he asked if I knew him. I was stymied. Dwayne, KD4POJ!! Glen, WTOA, and Dwayne Jr. were next to him. It was a 1 in a million shot to pull up next to them.

2. After the excellent forum on storm watching, eyeballers returned to the parking lot to find large, red Styrofoam balls on top of their antennas with an advertisement: "Karl - KCOMS - Hog Calling, Inc. - Call 773-3345 - SoooooWeeee!!" We figured Karl was simply advertising his business, as some of the gals sell makeup and stuff on the side. But antenna balls kind a went out of vogue about 30 years ago. Later, during the QRP nets in the parking lot, poor Karl was met with an array of barnyard sounds on the air. From what I gather, apparently this was the work of some trickster. I do have uses for the ball placed on my antenna--none regarding hogs!

3. I was publicly humiliated by president Russ, W2UJ, in front of the entire attendance. I started it by sending Russ a QSL for his first Master contact printed on a piece of toilet paper months ago, this due to a discussion he and others had on the net, basically stating they would take cards handwritten, chicken scratched, or even on toilet paper. Russ evened the score by presenting me with a certificate--the picture says it all.

4. Dave, KE9OI, was presented a special award for his years of excellent club service--that's what the box said any ways. Turned out to be a roll of toilet paper with his QSL printed on each sheet. I stood accused of pulling that stunt, and there's no way out of that one--and that was my limit.

5. Meeting Tim, W0YV, his wife Rosemary, and especially two of his children: Brenna, N0GSA and Mike, W0USS was a joy for all. Brenna and Mike proved to be A1 Operators in the QRP net rodeo, knocking off contacts like pros.

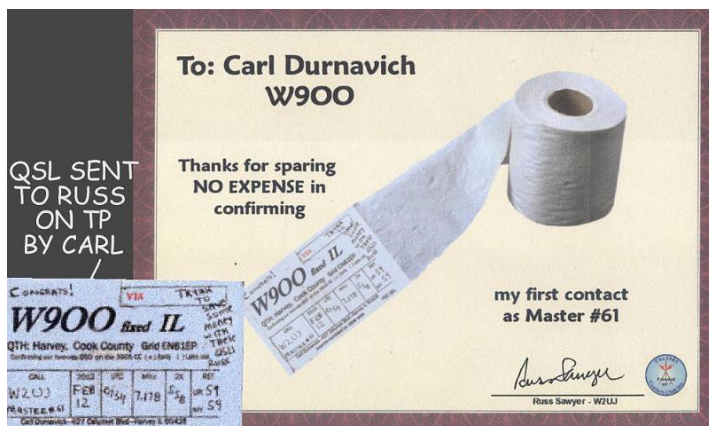
6. Peter, N2XTT, probably wonders why he kept receiving 22 reports from so many at the eyeball--I wasn't in on that gag, as I gave him 5 some things.

7. I ran the MN-SD-ND tri-state line, which is about 10 miles from the nearest human being and even further from any real town--and no cell phone service. The road to the marker is dirt and rain turned it into a sea of mud. At one point I thought my car was mired. I ended up fishtailing it to the line and leaving a mayhem of tire tracks. If you run that line and it rains, don't try it unless you have a truck with the right tires!

8. As I was told by some present at the time, apparently Larry, KC9NCS, was chased by a gaggle of wild turkeys in the parking lot. Knowing Larry I suspect those turkeys are cooked and on his dinner table now.

9. Arriving at the eyeball, I put out a call on 2 meter FM simplex and worked KQ0J. After some discussion, Joel turned out to be a ham I grew up with in the Chicago area!

10. Dwight, KJ4SGI, forgot to bring his mobile's power cord, much to his chagrin. Try to find something like that in the middle of Nebraska! Five minutes later I found one buried in my trunk, five minutes after a call for help on two meter simplex, Pete, NJ9T, said he had two in his trunk designed for that very radio!



Wandering Ham



KJ4OFD visiting KG4ZOD



KF4PAF visiting W0YV



KJ4OFD visiting KG4ZOD

I'm not Sure what this is about!! I received an envelope in the mail with 2 yellow banners, there was a note with them saying "Put these on Karls Antenna, Just do it and don't ask any questions" So, I'm kind a in the dark as to what it means about Karl's Hog Calling Business!! :) If someone would like to explain...Karl just didn't know how these yellow balls followed him to NC..



KF4PAF visiting W0YV



It was good to see Karl again, and to meet Keith (AB0VK) for the first time. We had a few of the local members of the club to come by, Ronnie (NC4RS), Jim (N4CE), Robert (KK4CMC).



From left to right: KC0MS, AB0VK, KG4ZOD, NC4RS, N4CE, KK4CMC.

We sat around and talked and ate Carolina Bar-B-Que. My Wife Ginger kept our glasses full of Tea!! And her and Karl didn't harass each other like they did last year when Karl came by "LOL" :)



Karl took 3 BB-Que sandwiches with them when he and Keith Left,,and needless to say Karl ate 2 more which made 5 total!! Keith did one!!! (4 total). But Who's counting, I guess, I am.



They worked the VA-NC line that night, then moved down to Georgia, on the way to the FL Cap, and made a lot of people happy. Thank you to Karl and Keith for making this trip and giving us a lot of mobile contacts!!!

I would Like to thank KG4ZOD and W0YV for sharing their Eyeball experiences with our members. It is great to see the friendships that we have forged through our common interest in Amateur Radio. Please keep sending in your pictures and stories so we can all share in the adventures of our members.

New Master 64



WOW! "I so excited I just can't hide it" To coin a phrase. That is the best way I can express my feelings about receiving Master Award 64. It is with deep gratitude to the members of the 3905 Century club that has lifted me up to this level of

excitement and satisfaction. Every contact made is between two people so this may seem like an award presented to one person but in fact it is an award for this person and to all the members that have made contact with them.

About 5 years ago I wanted to become more active in amateur radio. I wanted to do more than attend the monthly club meeting of the local club. Or check into the weekly ARES net. I thought I would try HF and see about working for some of the numerous awards available. I started working special event stations and working DX on 20M. After awhile I began wondering if there were nets available to help me work on my WAS award. I soon found the OMISS net, a great group and very friendly to the newcomers. They had many of their own awards and most seemed fairly easy to achieve. I needed a little more of a challenge. Shortly after joining OMISS I found the 3905 Century club. Another great group willing to help fellow hams earn their awards. The 3905 Century club seemed more formal and regimented in the way the nets are run. The awards that are offered also seemed fun and challenging. Something to work towards and not easily picked up like magazines at the local grocery store.

Checking in to the awards offered by the Century Club, I saw the ultimate award afforded by the club, The Masters Award. That sounded like something Fun to achieve. Little did I know how challenging it would be. So the journey began. I started checking into all the nets I could and making as many contacts that were possible. Over time I learned to pick out the signal reports through tough conditions and to pronounce so that the communicated information gets to the required destination. Speaking clearly and using phonetics.

I have picked up tips, hints and advice on how to improve my operation. I also received a tremendous amount of encouragement and help on the digital nets and mobile operations, to the point that I really enjoy the mobile, CW, RTTY and PSK nets.

I'm still not very good at CW or the other digital nets but I enjoy checking in and trying out and tuning my new found skills.

As the years have progressed I have found an increasing appreciation for all the members of the Century Club and I try to help out the club where I can.

Some of the advice I have picked up and want to pass along to the new members or to the rest of you working towards your own Masters Degree award.

When working on your progressive awards start with the 2K and work backwards. Fill the 2K first then as you get the extra contacts start filling in the 1K etc. This way you optimize the contacts you make and don't waste the contact the you may need later.

Prioritize your contacts on the nets.

1. DX
2. YL's
3. Mobile stations
4. Difficult states from your location.
5. Start working on states you need to fill in your progressive awards

Don't be afraid to call or make contact with direct stations. Yes you do run the risk of not getting a card and it may cost a few cents more but you may also miss getting a critical card the you may need for one of your awards.

Don't discount the Late nets. There have been many times that a rare state I need has showed up on the late net. Late nets are usually a little more relaxed with shorter lists so you can make more calls. Most late nets run until everyone has had their fill so try out the Late nets.

Get on the Digital nets! Everyone is super friendly and very helpful. I was scared to death of CW until I just tried it one night and I did make a lot of mistakes but the NCS and other members were forgiving and understanding and extremely helpful. I now love the digital nets and find them very laid back and relaxing.

Yes I have earned the Masters Degree awards but I have gained a whole lot more. Many great friendships have been forged and I hope many more to come. I hope that I can help all the aspiring Future Masters and I will try to do my best to uphold the integrity of the Club and encouraging the members and future members to do the same. The 3905 Century Club is a great organization and a Fantastic group I call friends.

Thank you all.

"Commodore" Ricky
Master 64

Award Listing

20 Meter CW 100 Point

W6LJK	61	20	George N. Huett	7/27/2012
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20 Meter CW Officers

WB5FDP	1	20	Ricky L. Mobley	9/30/2012
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20 Meter PSK Officers

W6LJK	2	20	George N. Huett	8/9/2012
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40 Meter CW 100 Point

W0PTL	206	40	Eric J. Johnson	9/4/2012
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40 Meter PSK 100 Point

K2UNI	77	40	Keith R. Tilley	8/24/2012
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40 Meter SSB 100 Point

K1HIF	2806	40	Michael J. Rush	7/26/2012
CM2ESP	2807	40	Raydel Abreu Espinet	9/4/2012
KK4KHU	2808	40	Robert A. Magill	9/24/2012
KW0LC	2809	40	Marlin E. Scheib	9/30/2012

40 Meter SSB 500 Point

AD4X	135	40	David T. Baxter	7/11/2012
WB2JVB	136	40	Paul J. Lourd	9/21/2012

40 Meter SSB 1000 Point

AD4X	569	40	David T. Baxter	7/11/2012
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40 Meter SSB 2000 Point

KJ4SGI	282	40	Dwight A. Greenberg	7/22/2012
KE5IAK	283	40	Stephen J. Neesley	7/31/2012

40 Meter SSB 4000 Point

N4ACS	94	40	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/6/2012
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40 Meter SSB 7000 Point

W9OO	37	40	Carl E. Durnavich	7/9/2012
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40 Meter SSB 8000 Point

W9OO	29	40	Carl E. Durnavich	8/13/2012
KT8D	30	40	John M. Fisher	9/5/2012

40 Meter SSB Clint Wise Mobile

W0WSP	46	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	8/17/2012
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40 Meter SSB Nite Owl

AA6MK	333	40	Michael W. Kelly	7/5/2012
N8BF	334	40	Byron J. Fiedler	7/17/2012

40 Meter SSB Nomad

W0PTL	218	40	Eric J. Johnson	7/17/2012
N8BF	219	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/25/2012

40 Meter SSB Numbers Racket

AA6MK	220	40	Michael W. Kelly	7/17/2012
KB0HV	221	40	Cary D. Altman	9/4/2012

40 Meter SSB WAC - General

KT8D	4	40	John M. Fisher	9/19/2012
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75 Meter SSB 100 Point

K1HIF	3006	75	Michael J. Rush	7/26/2012
N1SPX	3007	75	Charles W. Doolittle	8/7/2012
KC2KKX	3008	75	Peter B. Schiff	8/16/2012
KK4KHU	3009	75	Robert A. Magill	9/24/2012

75 Meter SSB 3000 Point

KT4CB	88	75	John V. Spillman	7/8/2012
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75 Meter SSB Clint Wise Mobile

W0WSP	28	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	8/23/2012
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75 Meter SSB Dictionary

N1CD	32	75	Carlene M. Drake	9/14/2012
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75 Meter SSB Numbers Racket

N1CD	178	75	Carlene M. Drake	9/14/2012
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75 Meter SSB WAC - General

KT8D	3	75	John M. Fisher	9/19/2012
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160 Meter SSB 100 Point

K4LAL	595	160	Lee A. Laws	7/13/2012
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Double Vision

KI4DFS	10	David C. Reece	7/8/2012
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Master Degree

AC7RA	64	Ricky J. Asper	8/26/2012
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Net Control Operators

WA3EOP	158	Page Pyne	7/31/2012
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Net Controllers Basic

NW4M	296	Kevin E. Qualls	7/11/2012
AE5XL	297	Charles L. Stout, III	7/11/2012
WU9T	298	Donald G. Chinnery	8/12/2012

Net Controllers Cum Laude

KL7QW	19	David E. Meye	7/11/2012
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Net Controllers Expert

K1EDG	83	Lloyd Ed Garrison, Jr.	7/11/2012
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Net Controllers Journeyman

WB0PYF	117	Raymond A. Myers	7/11/2012
VE3CMB	118	Craig McLoughlin	8/12/2012

Quarter Master

N4ACS	7	40	James F. Wood, Sr.	9/4/2012
KA2WQR	41	75	Gerald Heller	7/4/2012
KA2WQR	42	40	Gerald Heller	7/9/2012
N7JY	43	40	John L. Bartholomew	8/23/2012
N8BF	44	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/10/2012

Roaming Master

W9OO	1	Carl E. Durnavich	8/22/2012
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Alphabet 40 and 75 Meter SSB

W9ROG	600	40	Roger G. Callewaert, Jr.	8/2/2012
N8BF	601	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/25/2012

Bakers Dozen

AD4X	2422	40	David T. Baxter	7/11/2012
W9OO	2423	40	Carl E. Durnavich	8/22/2012
W9OO	2424	75	Carl E. Durnavich	8/22/2012
W4NFT	2425	40	James M. McKellips	8/26/2012
W4NFT	2426	40	James M. McKellips	8/30/2012
AA6MK	2427	40	Michael W. Kelly	9/1/2012
N4ACS	2428	40	James F. Wood, Sr.	9/4/2012
W0WSP	2429	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/4/2012
KT8D	2430	40	John M. Fisher	9/5/2012
KT8D	2431	75	John M. Fisher	9/5/2012
KT8D	2432	40	John M. Fisher	9/5/2012
N8BF	2433	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/10/2012
W0WSP	2434	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2435	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2436	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2437	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2438	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2439	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2440	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2441	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2442	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2443	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2444	75	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
W0WSP	2445	40	Douglas V. Aldrich	9/13/2012
KT8D	2446	75	John M. Fisher	9/19/2012
W4NFT	2447	40	James M. McKellips	9/23/2012
W4NFT	2448	40	James M. McKellips	9/23/2012
N8BF	2449	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/26/2012
N8BF	2450	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/26/2012
N4ACS	2451	40	James F. Wood, Sr.	9/28/2012

Bakers Dozen Cert of Appreciation

KF4LMY	2422	40	Kathy S. Beaird	7/11/2012
VE3CMB	2423	40	Craig McLoughlin	8/22/2012
VE3CMB	2424	75	Craig McLoughlin	8/22/2012
KF4PAF	2425	40	Jesse A. Cox	8/26/2012
N6RSH	2426	40	Steven D. Panattoni	8/30/2012
KC0MS	2427	40	Karl W. Peterson	9/1/2012
K7STM	2428	40	John B. Patrick	9/4/2012
W9JAY	2429	75	Jay W. Fadness	9/4/2012
W9OO	2430	40	Carl E. Durnavich	9/5/2012
VE3CMB	2431	75	Craig McLoughlin	9/5/2012
VE3CMB	2432	40	Craig McLoughlin	9/5/2012
KI4MMK	2433	40	Fritters Corner Radio Club	9/10/2012
WT0A	2434	75	Glen K. Felt	9/13/2012
WT0A	2435	40	Glen K. Felt	9/13/2012
WK7K	2436	75	John B. Patrick	9/13/2012
WK7K	2437	40	John B. Patrick	9/13/2012
VE9SX	2438	75	Melanie A. Wade	9/13/2012
VE9SX	2439	40	Melanie A. Wade	9/13/2012
KF4PAF	2440	75	Jesse A. Cox	9/13/2012
KF4PAF	2441	40	Jesse A. Cox	9/13/2012
KC0MS	2442	75	Karl W. Peterson	9/13/2012
KC0MS	2443	40	Karl W. Peterson	9/13/2012
W9JAY	2444	75	Jay W. Fadness	9/13/2012
N6RSH	2445	40	Steven D. Panattoni	9/13/2012
W8EMT	2446	75	Michael L. Stevens	9/19/2012
WT0A	2447	40	Glen K. Felt	9/23/2012
KC5BFB	2448	40	Jerry D. Hapner	9/23/2012
AJ4IM	2449	40	James W. Padgett	9/26/2012
KI4MMK	2450	40	Fritters Corner Radio Club	9/26/2012
K7STM	2451	40	John B. Patrick	9/28/2012

Canadian Call Area

KT8D	8	Northern	John M. Fisher	9/19/2012
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Certificate Hunters 40 and 75 SSB

N8BF	559	40	Byron J. Fiedler	7/17/2012
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DX 40 and 75 Meter SSB

AC7RA	216	75	Ricky J. Asper	7/18/2012
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Officers 40 and 75 SSB

AD4X	933	40	David T. Baxter	7/11/2012
AA6MK	934	40	Michael W. Kelly	7/30/2012
N8BF	935	40	Byron J. Fiedler	9/10/2012

Poker Players 40 and 75 Meter SSB

AA6MK	160	40	Michael W. Kelly	8/30/2012
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US Call Area

N4ACS	348	10	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	2	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	3	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	5	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	7	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	8	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012
N4ACS	348	9	James F. Wood, Sr.	8/17/2012

WAS 40 75 and 160 SSB

AD4X	1373	40	David T. Baxter	7/11/2012
K4LAL	1374	40	Lee A. Laws	7/13/2012
N8BF	1375	40	Byron J. Fiedler	7/17/2012
N4ACS	1376	40	James F. Wood, Sr.	7/26/2012

WAS Caps 40 and 75 SSB

AA6MK	541	40	Michael W. Kelly	9/19/2012
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WAS YL 40 and 75 SSB

KT8D	224	40	John M. Fisher	8/20/2012
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Notes from the editor

I would like to thank all those that have contributed to this edition of the Centurion. all the wonderful comments about the Eyeball really makes me jealous and sad I didn't go. A big Thanks goes to our President for his article about the eyeball and the presidential awards presented there. Thanks to W9OO for his take on the eyeball and to KG4ZOD for his Wandering hams pictures and comments. Thanks to Rick WB5FDP for providing all the awards information.

I welcome all comments and questions about this issue, the club or its operations.

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Thanks and 73's