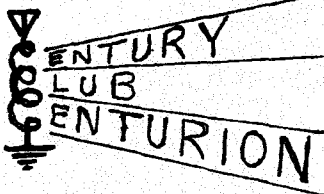


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VOL. I, No. 1

The 3905 Century Club, Inc.

September, 1979

The President's Corner, by Keith Brown, WD4ROD

"Good evening; this is the 3905 Century Club; your Net Control Station is WD4ROD/4." Hold it; there is something wrong! Why "port 4"? As I'm sure you have guessed by now, this was the opening statement of the nets while being run from "Eye-Ball Two", in Bowling Green, KY.

Let me go back to the beginning and fill you in on some Club history. Last year (1978), was the year of the first annual 3905 Century Club get-together. W4NVF, Howie Gould, was the Club President. The idea of our getting together was mentioned and snowballed into what we have, today. In 1978, we had 25 stations represented; in 1979, we had 40+ stations present, so, in effect, the get-together doubled in size, in one year.

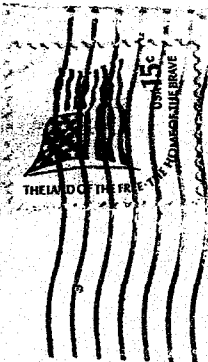
In 1979, we were fortunate enough to have door prizes to give away. Dentron Radio gave us two field strength meters for prizes. They were the only commercial firm to send us anything, and we thank them very much. The other door prizes were purchased by some of the Club members who wish to remain unidentified. We also wish to thank them very much.

The committees who put together "Eye-Ball 2" did a super job. The chairmen were: W43ZMY, WA4RRR, WA4TQE and W4PTW. The Century Club thanks the committees for going the extra mile to make "Eye-Ball 2" a great success.

I would like to include in this column some of the highlights of the get-together:

As I was coming into BWG, between 2 & 3 AM, who was still manning the repeater but WA4RRR. Alice talked me into the motel. So, who are waiting for me there but WA4MNM and WA4TQE! After a short chat, we all sacked out. Friday morning, we all headed to Beech Bend Park. After a couple hours of making new friends and greeting old ones, we got to work setting up the station and finally got on the air. In the meantime we were using the BWG repeater to talk everyone into the park. I feel that this is an opportune time to thank the Bowling Green hams for the use of their repeater and for their help in guiding us around the area.

The band finally opened up, and we were able to get enough signal reports to know that our set-up was going to be able to run the net. Friday night, we had 96 check-ins, and Saturday, 99. If you checked in, you know that anyone who wanted to, acted as NCS, one night or the other. They did a fine job under very adverse conditions. (Continued, Page 2.)



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THE CENTURY CLUB CENTURION
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We held business meetings on Saturday, and got a lot of input for the Board of Directors. It was a tremendous thrill for me to get to "eye-ball" people who I've talked to for so long. I feel that KA2BWT's dad should get the father-of-the-year award. He came all the way from NY on the motorcycle so Mike could be there.

The most photographed person was probably Bill, WA2LWU. I was impressed very much with the group.

We had a banquet Saturday evening, before the net, at a local cafeteria, and as the proceedings started, KA1BBD, KB4JO and WB3FID asked for time after dinner, for some fun. Let me say this: They brought the house down. I won't go into details, here, but WA3ZMY got some very appropriate awards.

W4PTW is trying to put together a pictorial book of "Eye-Ball 2" which will be available, at our costs for printing, postage and materials, if the pictures come out okay.

There will be a commemorative QSL card for everyone who worked a BWG station, as soon as they can be printed.

All good things must come to an end and so did "Eye-Ball 2". Sunday morning, WA4MNM and K8SGI got me on the road where I met KB4JO, and we then ran tandem to Ashville, NC, where Tom headed home, and I headed back to work.

I'LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR, AT EYE-BALL THREE!!

73s, Keith.

"Eye-Ball West", by Steve Blackburn, WB7NSE

"Eye-Ball West" got an early start by WB6TVX and WB6VLN, Roni and Tom, stopping in Boise, on Monday, Aug. 6, and checking into the net from WB7NSE's station. Then, they went on to Montana and down into Wyoming. On Thursday, Aug. 9, AF7G, Dave and family, joined Steve in Boise, and at 5 AM, Friday morning, they caravanned to Wyoming. At Crater of the Moon, Idaho, they picked up W6PIO, on 2 meters, via the Driggs, ID .34 - .94 machine; he was mobile in Wyoming, about 50 miles from the Trangle C Ranch (where "Eye-Ball West" took place.) He told them he had visited with K6ACX, in Las Vegas, two nights earlier. When Steve and Dave crossed the Continental Divide, they picked up the gang at the ranch, on .52, and talked the remaining 15 miles in. They arrived at 4 PM, and hurriedly went to work setting up the TS 820 and the GSB 201 amplifier. A 10' pole was tied to the lodge chimney and a 140' dipole was stretched out from there in a semi V configuration. Since the lodge sits at the base of a hill, the antenna matching became very difficult, and they had to settle for a VSWR of 2:1, on each band. By the time it was all functional, it was too late to run NCS from there, so WD0CCL ran 40, that night. They did run the Late 75, however, and the 40 and Late 75, on Saturday night.

There were eleven members and their families, in attendance. All who wanted, took turns as NCS, on both 40 and 75. The daytime activities were horseback riding, swimming, fishing and napping to be rested for the late, 0500 - 0800 net, on 75. There was a nice, big barbecue picnic, on Saturday afternoon, at 0000, with fresh caught trout, courtesy of Porter, N7AHK, and Don, WB0OPI, who caught them in the Wind River, which runs about 300 yards from the lodge.

Judy and Don camped in their motor home, Roni and Tom camped in their camper, and all the rest had cabins.

Everyone became good friends and the talk immediately turned to the question of where we will hold "Eye-Ball West", next year. All the kids who came had a ball with the ranch activities, and a better behaved bunch never got together, anywhere; they were a real joy! The radio shack, in the lodge, was sooooo comfortable! There were huge couches and overstuffed chairs, along with a perpetual coffee pot, all in front of a gigantic stone fireplace making it nice.

After it was all over, on Sunday, WD0GAH, WB0OPI, K6ACX, WB7NSE and W6JGY caravanned back to Jackson, and 2 metered all the way.

In attendance were: Frank, K6ACX; Ed, W6PIO; Graham, W6JGY; Tom, WB6VLN; Roni, WB6TVX; Phil, W7KRJ; Steve, WB7NSE; Dave, AF7G; Porter, N7AHK; Judy, WD0GAH; and, Don, WB0OPI. Graham, W6JGY, flew into Jackson, then rented a car to the ranch; all the rest drove from their various QTHs.

73s, Steve.

Notes from the Secretary, by Bill Herbert, WA2ZYM

Welcome to what I hope will be the first of many columns from your secretary. The purpose of this column will be to keep you abreast of rule changes, new awards, answer questions and generally to be of help in smoothing your way through the 3905 Century Club's extensive awards program.

At the August meeting of the Board of Directors, several items of interest, affecting the awards program, were discussed. First of all, through sheer oversight, a rule was left off the 100 pt. check sheet. You cannot use the same state twice under the state capitol category. This has always been a rule, but, for some reason, it was not on the sheet.

The next item concerns combos, the category that allowed a station to contact two co-located stations, on the same call. It was supposed to be used only in the combo category on the 100 and 500 pt. sheets. Many people have been using this method to gain prefixes on the 1000 pt., and other awards. Since there was no effective way to police this, the Board decided that, effective Oct. 1, you can no longer work two stations on the same call. You may work $\frac{1}{2}$ the combo on the first round and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ on the second round, or the next night, or the next YEAR, for that matter. If you choose to use them as a combo, that is okay, or you may use them any other way that is otherwise allowed under the rules.

A decision was made pertaining to the operation of the nets and the subject of "passing". Effective Oct. 1, if there are less than 75 original check-ins, passes will not be picked up. If there are 75, or more, check-ins, passes will be picked up after the first late check-in period. This ruling is mandatory for all NCSs.

(Continued, Page 3.)

Now, are you open to some suggestions on how to speed up the awards applications that you have been submitting IN DROVES? (As I list these suggestions, please remember that all officers, directors, NCSs, awards managers, etc. are volunteers, and they appreciate anything that can be done to avoid making their jobs more difficult.)

It may seem that your application is taking a long time to be processed. Please allow about 4 weeks to receive your award. Any longer than this and you should start an inquiry. Now, here are the promised suggestions:

1. Print or type your application, legibly.
2. Make sure that you have read AND UNDERSTAND the rules for the particular award. If you are not sure, ask for clarification before you submit it. This will save postage and letters.
3. Submit the correct fee in check or money order, made out to the "3905 Century Club, Inc." Also, be sure to include enough postage for the Awards Manager to return your QSL cards to you. If you want them returned certified or registered mail, don't forget the extra fees involved.
4. For speedy processing, include a stamped envelope addressed to the Secretary, so the Awards Manager will have it to forward your approved application. He has to pay the postage if you don't so he, understandably, will otherwise wait for three or four applications before sending them on, rather than sending them one at a time.
5. Make sure the QSL cards are in the order listed on the sheet. This saves a lot of time. Also, if you send in more than one application at the same time, and there are cards used on both, please note this fact on the applications.
6. Make ABSOLUTELY SURE that you have your name, address and call CORRECTLY and LEGIBLY entered on the bottom of the sheet. If it cannot be read, the award cannot be issued!
7. Lastly, but most important, make sure that you send the award application to the right person - the AWARDS MANAGER, not the Call Area Director. Your Area Director is the "mayor", the Awards Manager is the "City Clerk", of your call area.

Once you have submitted the application, please be patient. Your cards should come back in about two weeks, and the award itself in four weeks. If you have not heard anything by then, make inquiries. First, contact the person to whom you originally sent the application. Then, contact the Club Secretary. Hopefully, the tie-up will soon be found and straightened out. As I mentioned at the beginning, the purpose of this column is to answer questions. If you are in doubt, or have questions on any awards or rules, please let me know. I will do my best to answer them here. In the meantime, good luck with the awards program.

73s, Bill.

Silent Keys.

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of the following Club Members:

WB4BMA	John Blanton, Huntsville, AL
WBPNP	George McGohan, Monroe, OH
WB9GIW	Jon Scudieri, Gardner, IL

Editorial, by Tom Bowers, WD4CQY.

"Hello out there in Century Club Land! My name is the 'Century Club Centurion', and I'm the new kid on the block. I'll be coming to visit you, quarterly, for as long as you want to pay my fare; and, I truly hope we both enjoy my visits.

"My first edition is a little fatter than I had intended, because I had so much to tell you: All about both sections of 'Eye-Ball Two'; about some of the problems at our membership and awards factory, in Troy, NY; and, of course, the biography of my parent, the Century Club.

"And, I wanted to express my deep gratitude, to each of you, for the magnificent subscription support you gave me, in the short time since my impending arrival was announced.

"If you like what I say, tell your friends; if you don't, tell me.

"BCNU.

"The Century Club Centurion".

Centurion Staff.

Editor, Publisher, Circulation Manager, Proof Reeder, Subscription Manager, Go-fer and Janitor:
Tom Bowers, WD4CQY.

THE HISTORY OF THE 3905 CENTURY CLUB, INC.

Early in 1976 - the U.S. Bicentennial Year - a "Bicentennial 'Worked All States' Net" was organized to meet nightly at 3905 kHz, in the 75 meter phone band.

After December 31, 1976, some of the regulars of the "BiCWAS Net" were reluctant to let go of the many friendships that they had formed and the structured operation that had permitted these friendships, simply because the Bicentennial Year was over. So, in January, 1977, these "regulars" began discussions on the formation of a permanent net on 3905 kHz.

It was decided that a solicitation would be made to obtain a charter-membership of 100 amateurs to provide initial funding for printing the awards certificates and for postage requirements anticipated. The charter subscription drive was so successful that 128 Charter Members were accepted before the charter membership drive could be "turned off". (The 100 - member target and the club's operating frequency inspired the club's name - The 3905 Century Club - which was suggested by Emil Scholz, W1EJI, now /4, in Port Richey, FL.) The Club commenced net operations on February 17, 1977.

By late 1977, the Club had grown to a size where it was thought necessary to formalize its administration. The Club's "faithful" appointed a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Publicity and Promotions Officer, and one Director to represent each of the U.S. call-areas and one for DX members.

In the Spring of 1978, it was decided that it was best to incorporate the Club. On September 4, 1978, the Club became the 3905 CENTURY CLUB, INC. - a corporation not for profit - incorporated in the State of Florida.

The further growth of the corporation militated the formation of a net on another band. Accordingly, a nightly net was formed, in September, 1978, on the 40 meter phone band, on or near 7233 kHz.

During 1978, free QSL bureaus were formed for each of the two nets. In addition, Awards Managers were designated for each U.S. call-area and for DX participants.

On January 28, 1979 (GMT date), an election was held ON THE AIR and IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CLUB'S ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, for our first constitutionally-elected President and Vice-President. (Directors previously had been elected by mail.) Provisions were made for non-duplicative voting on both of the Club's net frequencies, during the normal four-hour net time. 144 members' votes were duly recorded. This number represented 37% participation.

In addition, since the formation of the administration and the Board of Directors, the Club has conducted monthly ON-THE-AIR Board of Directors' Meetings. This, coupled with our on-the-air elections, we believe, makes us unique in U.S. amateur radio.

At the end of May, 1979, our two nets show a combined membership of 714 (with several duplicates - net-to-net - and 3 Silent Keys.) In addition, we have strong indications that, at least, an equal number of stations have joined us at least once, who have not pursued confirmed contacts on our nets to the degree necessary to gain them our 100-point Award - the criterion establishing "membership". Therefore, we believe that, over the last 27 months, our nets have been "visited" by nearly 1,500 amateurs from throughout the Western Hemisphere and Oceania!

(June 1979)