

The Centurion

©The Official Publication of the 3905 Century Club, Inc.

This space reserved for the 3905 Century Club's new logo when available

40M
12000 PT #1
N5GAP

In this Issue

Mobile QSL'ing Tips	Page 2
Lurking SWL's	Page 2
Expedition	Page 3
BOD Meeting	Page 5
Subscriber Notices	Page 5
Awards Update	Page 5
Vip Directory	Page 6

'93 Eyeball
August 6th, 7th & 8th
Mountain Home, AR

Editors Corner

By Jim Byrd



My first issue of the Centurion is in the past. In it's self a learning experience. Besides a few mistakes in dates and other items all went well, except for the printer. Had a little problem with some of the pictures we ran. There quality was not the best, but again a learning experience. I believe most of the problems have been worked out. We'll see when we get this issue back from the printer (of course it's to late by that time).

I want to thank all of you for the feedback that I received, both good and bad. As I have stated before, this is a newsletter by and for the members of the 3905 Century Club Inc. I do request and want your ideas, articles and comments.

The comments I received most was, y'all wanted more pictures. This request I can comply with without to much of a problem. Pictures is one of the more expensive items to go into our newsletter. But I will include all that the budget allows.

The second most wanted was pictures of our officers and information about them. This I agree with y'all, but ran across a roadblock in this area. I sent about twenty-three letters to our officers requesting pictures and info. Sorry to report as to date (which has been over a month) have not received one reply. Sorry folks but I tried, guess this series died in it's infancy. I will keep trying but cannot promise anything. But don't let this small hurdle discourages us, keep your request and wants coming and I will try to comply if at all possible.

Hope to see y'all at the Eyeball, I'll be there with camera and note pad in hand.

Eyeball Update

I did not receive an update from the Eyeball coordinator, so I will have to pass on just what I have (being from just north of the eyeball site, I am very familiar with the area). It seems as though the 1993 Eyeball is going to be one of our best. Glenn K15RN has a lot of things in the works and a lot of door prizes and gifts on hand to make it a exciting event for everyone. VE testing will be available for those that want to upgrade. If you have not had a chance to visit the Ozarks this will be a treat for you and your family. In the general area of Mountain Home is a bonanza of tourist attractions and beautiful scenery. Within a 50 mile radius of Mountain Home there is enough things to see and do that you could stay a month and still not take it all in, plus if you are a fisherman you have a real treat in store. The lakes in the area support some of the best Trout and Bass fishing in the country. With bingo and nets operating at night there should be something for everyone.

Those that attend the eyeball this year will, I'm sure, be talking about the area and it's attractions for a long time to come.

1st Masters Degree

By Jim Byrd KD5FW

Wendell Turner AB6TX (EX KE6BV) has applied for the Master's Degree. This is the highest honor afforded a Century Club member. With the Certificate many club privileges are heightened. Some of which include; permanent VIP status, permanent advisory member of the Board of Directors. The one line I like on the information sheet is, The applicant must

See Master's Page 5

TIPS ON MOBILE QSL'ing

*W*orking mobiles on the net can be great fun and can be a large help in pursuing some of the more difficult awards offered on the net. Operating mobile can also be a great thrill when you receive many calls from the list of check-ins. (a smile comes to me when I go "up for grabs" and I hear a roar of a pile-up!!)

The down side to all this fun is the QSL work after the contacts are made. Stations that operate mobile only periodically don't generally experience the crush of QSL cards that an active "mobileer" does after a road trip!

So now that we have overstated the obvious lets look at ways to minimize the work for the mobile operators.

The first thing that is imperative is that both signal reports and the state of the mobile be clearly visible on the QSL card. (preferably the front!). This reminder is stated every night in the preamble and is probably the most frequently forgotten of all the reminders. Since we try to operate a vehicle, navigate, and talk on the radio we don't log. If we did, we would still rather see the information on the card than look it up in the log that was written in the dark in cramped quarters.

The second way that we can reduce the work for the mobile station is by use of the "Mobile Reply Card" or "MRC". This card is a generic card that is divided up so that many contacts, usually 11 can be written on the one QSL card. For our net you would make two of these cards up with all of the contacts you wish confirmed. You would then send them via the QSL buro or as directed by the mobile. The mobile station would then sign one of the cards and return it to you via the buro or direct. Just think of the savings in postage alone not having to pay for the ten cards more than required. One quick note, send the station one of your good QSL cards for the first contact you make since he will appreciate a look at the card you talked the xyl into or spent mucho bucks for.

Attention Hams: There's an SWL Lurking in the Shadows?

By Sue Shepherd KD4TRY



Sue Shepherd KD4TRY

*T*o begin this article I would like to let everyone know just how much I am enjoying my contacts on The Century Club nets. I got my No-Code Tech license in September of 1992 and in January of 1993 a friend of mine introduced me to the Century Club net frequencies and peaked my interest in receiving the SWL award on the different nets. Very diligently I listened to what I felt was a bunch of bees and static until I picked out enough contacts at 2 per night to have enough to get my 100 point SWL awards on 40, 75, and 160 meters. I filled out the QSL cards and sat back and waited to be a part of all this fun and madness. Paul, N4BPH, my husband, had already upgraded the last of February so he was having the fun and I was bored not being able to talk too. You know how some women are!

After a lot of hard work, I finally passed the CW test and finally I was a General and could start making my own contacts. Boy was this fun.

I am still waiting on my SWL cards for the contacts. You know if you listen to the

nets that you will hear someone asking another ham about a QSL card but you will never hear a Short Wave Listener ask about their card. They are still waiting! I sent out 4 cards per call area per net and I am still waiting for cards on all 3 frequencies. I am normally a very patient person but as of March 6, 1993 calendar date, I can no longer get any SWL contacts and its a shame that the regular hams on the nets will lay an SWL card to the side and possibly loose it in the shuffle of his QSL cards and it never gets answered.

If you think about it this could be the reason that there are so few SWL awards issued to date. It is very discouraging! The regular hams even request another ham to send the card DIRECT because the contact is needed for 1K or 2K or higher. What about the SWL Award or the 100 Point Certificate? Don't they count? Have we all forgotten how excited we were when we were starting out?

Surely we are not so hardened that we are only interested in what WE, ourselves are doing and to heck with the newcomers!

Hopefully the SWL's out there will hang in there. I recently received a beautiful SWL card from Canada. It was a SWL card! I personally got excited because it was a special card and another potential ham. Good luck to all the SWL's out there!

Some mobiles on the net may not operate in enough states to warrant MRC usage but as the summer approaches more stations will be travelling and with the contributions of the "trucking" ham community it is a nice gesture to reduce their work so that their off days are not spent with "QSL CRAMP".

The MRC cards are available from any printer of QSL cards for a very low cost, usually around 1 cent each, or if you know a county hunter they should have a supply available.

Just one last thing, Rick N4OZI, will by the time this is printed have seen MRC's and know what to do with any forwarded to him. For those who don't know Rick volunteered to be the QSL manager for Jim AC4GY and Bobbie AC4GX our version of the "Road Warriors".

73's for now

Larry R. Langs VE3LRL

