Volume 2025 Issue 1

# THE 3905 CENTURY CLUB

# THE CENTURION

# NEWSLETTER

# WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR AND THE FIRST EDITION OF 2025!

Welcome to 2025 and the first edition of this year's Centurion!

With this edition, we will start our new cadence of publishing 5 times per year; February, April, June, September, and December.

As always, please continue sending me your articles and suggestions to <u>aa1qw@startmail.com</u>. The deadline for the next edition (April) will be March 20. I appreciate everyone's contributions and feedback.

73! -Brian, AA1QW

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



I guess the club survived the holiday season these past 2 months. Turkey in the oven, overeating, time to spend with the family, and even get on a few nets. For the 3 of us here in Salem the past 7 weeks were soggy and almost every day it was in the 40s with rain.

Our election committee completed the 2025 election and as a result I would like to welcome 2 new members of the board. **Sammy Samulenas**, **KB1XP** will be replacing **Tom Bates**, **AA1NZ** as the new 1st area director and **Robin Galyn**,

KE7RG will be relacing Ron Seese, WB7ASC as the new 7th area director.

After almost 12 years of working the nets, Byron Fieldler, N8BF completed the requirements for masters and will become Master number 81. Congratulations on a job well done. We all look forward to working you when you return home.

At the November 2024 the board of directors approved changes to the bylaws and one item (article III.C.7) jumped out at me regarding the use of nonapproved award applications like those in my logging software (Century Club Logger) would no longer be valid after December 1st. I contacted the chairperson of the by-laws committee, Eric AAOHF and asked him if the club would allow me an additional month to complete the required software changes, and he agreed. So, to make a long story short I spent most of my free time from mid-November to early January over the holidays updating all the CC Logger supported award applications to automatically fill out the approved forms on the club website. In this process I also made it much easier to submit applications by combining the required documents, forms into a single ZIP file. I will say that I could not have gotten this much done in such a

# FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

short amount time without the help of Dave Yarbrough, AI4K and Buddy Spiegel, W3BS. So as of version 6.0.05 the following award applications are now in compliance with the club:

- Progressive, all levels
- Alphabet Soup
- Auld Lang Syne
- Bakers Dozen
- Beat The Clock
- Ben Franklin
- Chain Letter
- Certificate Hunter
- Clint Wise

- Dictionary
- DX
- National Parks Tourist
- Nomad
- Nite Owl
- Quarter Master
- VIP/Officer
- Work 30
- Worked All States (all variants)

After completing the required changes for the Dictionary award, I did a little test to see how difficult it would be for me to create and submit the first endorsement and here is the amount of time I spent on each task:

- Initial selection of words 12 minutes
- Correcting the dups and finalizing the application 5 minutes
- Payment by PayPal, and emailing all documents to my AAM 2 minutes

So, compare this (about 20 minutes) to the laborious task of doing this by hand. I would estimate at a minimum of 4+ hours. And yes, these are real time savers.

One final note about the logger: It now supports integration to be able to send contacts to quickQSL much like you would do using Netlogger, highlight the contacts, export to ADIF, import into quickQSL and viola you are done. (yes, another time saver).

# FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

Finally, back to club business. Over the next several months you will start to see some little changes to the website to better keep you informed with club activities. I have been told by the membership committee to look forward to several new videos for both non-members and members. Look at the club's YouTube channel for these videos (links on the club's website). We will also be cleaning up many of the pages that will add clarity to the topics. Also, I invite everyone both members and non-members to the February Board of Directors meeting on the 8th when the board of directors will vote on article 6 of the by-laws. The big change here will be the definition of the QSL and will open the ability to grab QSL information on many of the public services like QRZ and LOTW.

Dean Davis, KL7OR, Master # 80

# BEN'S COLUMN

Notes from the Awards Secretary February 2025

# By Ben Goldfarb, AE4NT



# State Of The Awards Program

Happy New Year to all you award seekers out there! My first column of the new year provides a statistical summary of award activity and recognizes your award accomplishments during 2024.

Recapping 2024, we produced a total of 1,182 certificates, 256 of which were Baker's Dozen Certificates of Appreciation, netting out to 926 awards processed. From these awards, we generated \$2,445 in revenue for the

Club, or an average of \$2.07 per certificate. These numbers are up from 2023, except that the average revenue per certificate dropped \$0.20 due to a greater percentage of free Baker's Dozen CoAs in the mix of certificates (21.6% vs. 16.3%). We gained 28 new members in 2024, down from 40 in 2023 and slightly fewer than the 10-year average of 31.1 new members per year.

Next, I present other statistics, including highlights of our fellow members' outstanding accomplishments during 2024.

I will continue the convention of using an asterisk (\*) following a listed call sign to denote a Master's Degree holder, all of whom deserve our continuing recognition and admiration for their lofty achievement!

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### First and Last Awards

Here are 2024's first and last awards:

First: Mike Eberle, KIOHA, 100-Point Award #683, 160M SSB.

Last: Debbie Yarbrough, K9DBB, Baker's Dozen Certificate of Appreciation #3653 from K6YEK on 75M SSB.

### Certificate Types

| P 1              |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| Certificate Type | Count |  |
| Paper            | 806   |  |
| PDF              | 299   |  |
| Paper + PDF      | 23    |  |
| Plaque           | 1     |  |
| None             | 53    |  |



#### Awards Processed by Area (Excludes Bakers Dozen COAs)

| Area  | Count |
|-------|-------|
| DX    | 47    |
| 1     | 109   |
| 2 3   | 43    |
| 3     | 35    |
| 4     | 298   |
| 5     | 19    |
| 6     | 12    |
| 7     | 94    |
| 8     | 38    |
| 9     | 81    |
| 10    | 150   |
| TOTAL | 926   |



## Master's Degrees Awarded

Our Club's pinnacle recognition was conferred upon the following new Masters through resolutions by the Board of Directors:

#78: Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\* #79: Mike Rush, KU1V\* #80: Dean Davis, KL7OR\*

# **Overall Top Award Achievers**

Here's a list of our top ten awards earners for the year by number of awards. We boiled out Baker's Dozen Certificates of Appreciation, as we'll recognize those separately. In descending order of number of awards earned:

| Name             | Call Sign | Awards |
|------------------|-----------|--------|
| Buddy Spiegel    | W3BS*     | 126    |
| Bill Dobson      | N3WD*     | 35     |
| Byron Fiedler    | N8BF*     | 34     |
| Bill Fuller      | K6YEK     | 34     |
| Chuck Barnett    | KM9U      | 33     |
| David Feeney     | WN1F*     | 33     |
| Brian Chaloux    | AA1QW     | 32     |
| Mark Eberle      | KIOY      | 31     |
| Craig McLoughlin | VE3CMB*   | 29     |
| Mac McCracken    | W6PNY     | 26     |

Congratulations to all you overachievers!

Major Progressive Awards

Progressive awards are at the heart of our awards system, a measure of commitment and net presence. Two-thousand-point awards are needed on primary and secondary bands as one pre-requisite for the Master's Degree, our highest honor. In this section, we recognize those who earned level 1000 and greater during the year, and level 500 or greater for digital and CW operations and top band.

48,000 Points

Peter Summers, N2XTT\*, 40M SSB

47,000 Points Peter Summers, N2XTT\*, 40M SSB 26,000 Points Dick Harting, W2RCH, 40M SSB

25,000 Points Dick Harting, W2RCH, 40M SSB

24,000 Points Dick Harting, W2RCH, 40M SSB

23,000 Points Dick Harting, W2RCH, 40M SSB

20,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

19,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

18,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

17,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

16,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

15,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

14,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

13,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

12,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

11,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB

10,000 Points Dave Southern, KC9YY, 40M SSB

9,000 Points Dave Southern, KC9YY, 40M SSB

#### 7,000 Points

Doug Aldrich, AAOBH, 40M SSB Bill Dobson, N3WD\*, 40M SSB 6,000 Points Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 75M SSB

4,000 Points Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 40M SSB

#### 3,000 Points

Chuck Barnett, KM9U, 40M SSB Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 75M SSB Randy Hanrahan, K7PGL, 40M SSB Randy Hanrahan, K7PGL, 75M SSB

#### 2,000 Points

Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 40M SSB Debbie Yarbrough, K9DBB, 40M SSB Dave Yarbrough, AI4K, 40M SSB Rog Callewaert, W9ROG, 75M SSB Mark Eberle, KIOY, 40M SSB Brian Chaloux, AA1QW, 40M SSB Rich Sammarco, KN4CQB, 40M SSB Jeff McCulloch, K4JEL, 75M SSB Matt Taylor, K2YS, 40M SSB Mac McCracken, W6PNY, 75M SSB

#### 1,000 Points

Gary Slagle, K9GWS, 40M SSB Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 40M SSB John Webb, AK4AT, 40M SSB Roger Goodreau, W3ROG, 40M SSB Jay Wieland, N0PUI\*, 160M SSB Debbie Yarbrough, K9DBB, 40M SSB Dave Yarbrough, AI4K, 40M SSB Dave Yarbrough, AI4K, 40M SSB Dan Gallmeyer, W8JCS, 40M SSB Jeff McCulloch, K4JEL, 75M SSB Mac McCracken, W6PNY, 75M SSB

#### All-Time First Awards

Several all-time first certificates were issued during the past year. The recipients of these coveted Number One certificates were:

Peter Summers, N2XTT\*, 47,000-Point, 40M SSB

Bob Kyvig, WAOROH\*, Auld Lang Syne Mike Rush, KU1V\*, WAS Combo, 40M SSB Peter Summers, N2XTT\*, 48,000-Point, 40M SSB

#### WAS Awards

The Club offers several flavors of WAS Awards. We'll list General WAS Awards first, then we'll list the variants.

#### WAS General

Work all 50 states on a single band/mode.

Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 75M SSB (3 instances) Dan Gallmeyer, W8JCS, 40M SSB Alexis Alfaro, K2YEG, 40M SSB Mark Eberle, KIOY, 75M SSB Dick Powell, WK1J, 75M SSB Rick Hamann, NIOA, 40M SSB Chuck Barnett, KM9U, 40M CW Gary Slagle, K9GWS, 20M SSB David Feeney, WN1F\*, 20M PSK Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 160M SSB David Feeney, WN1F\*, 40M CW David Feeney, WN1F\*, 80M CW David Feeney, WN1F\*, 160M SSB Alan Longworth, KO4LEM, 40M SSB Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 40M SSB (8) instances) Virgil Warren, W9WWG, 40M SSB

#### WAS 2-Letter Calls

Work all 50 states using only 1x2, 2x2, and 2x1 call signs.

Glenn Silver, KM4P, 40M SSB Alan Longworth, KO4LEM, 40M SSB Virgil Warren, W9WWG, 40M SSB Roger Goodreau, W9ROG, 40M SSB Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 40M SSB Mark Eberle, KI0Y, 75M SSB Byron Fiedler, N8BF\*, 40M SSB Matt Taylor, K2YS, 40M SSB Byron Fiedler, N8BF\*, 75M SSB

#### WAS Capitals

Work at least 35 distinct state capitals.

Byron Fiedler, N8BF\*, 75M SSB, 40 Rog Callewaert, W9ROG, 40M SSB, 45 Bill Fuller, K6YEK, 40M SSB, 35 Rusty Kirkpatrick, WU2T, 75M SSB, 35 Rusty Kirkpatrick, WU2T, 40M SSB, 35 Ben Goldfarb, AE4NT, 40M SSB, 35

WAS Combo

Work combos in at least 35 states.

Mike Rush, KU1V\*, 40M SSB, 35 Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 40M SSB, 35 Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 40M SSB, 40

#### WAS YL

Work YLs in at least 35 distinct states. Required on primary band for the Master's Degree.

Mike Rush, KU1V\*, 40M SSB, 40 Randy Short, KY1KY (SK), 75M SSB, 35 Gary Slagle, K9GWS, 40M SSB, 40 Byron Fiedler, N8BF\*, 75M SSB, 40 Virgil Warren, W9WWG, 40M SSB, 35 Mac McCracken, W6PNY, 40M SSB, 35 Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 40M SSB, 35 Brian Chaloux, AA1QW, 40M SSB, 35 Mark Eberle, KI0Y, 40M SSB, 35 Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 75M SSB, 45

WAS - All Nets, Intermediate

Work all states using all bands and modes for club nets.

Bill Fuller, K6YEK

#### WAS In Order

Work all states in order of their incorporation into the Union.

David Feeney, WN1F\*, 40M SSB

#### WAS Same Station Mobile

Work all states with the same station operating mobile.

David Feeney, WN1F\*, 40M SSB, with KU1V

Peter Summers, N2XTT\*, 40M SSB, with KU1V

#### Worked All Century Club Nets

This is a difficult award, requiring not only a 100-Point Award on each of the Club's nets at the time the award is earned, but also proof of five contacts with other 100-Point Awardees on each net.

Eric Johnson, AA0HF\*, 14 Dayton Amateur Radio Association, W8BI, 14

Johnny Allen, KI4WCQ\*, 14 Chuck Barnett, KM9U, 14 Minnesota HF Amateur Radio Club, KJ6EEP, 14

#### Mobile/Portable Awards Clint Wise Awards

This award requires making mobile or portable contacts from at least twenty states. At Level 48 and higher, the Club provides a free commemorative plaque.

#### Mobile

Rog Callewaert, W9ROG, 40M SSB, 48 Dean Davis, KL7OR\*, 40M SSB, 20 David Feeney, WN1F\*, 40M SSB, 30 Bill Fuller, K6YEK, 40M SSB, 48 Debbie Yarbrough, K9DBB, 75M SSB, 20 Dave Yarbrough, AI4K, 75M SSB, 20 Bill Fuller, K6YEK, 75M SSB, 40

#### Portable

Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 40M SSB, 20 John Reisenauer, KL7JR, 75M SSB, 20

#### Top Ten Baker's Dozen CoAs

This category reflects who earned the most Certificates of Appreciation for their mobile/portable operation during the year, and their direct influence on Baker's Dozen Awards earned by others. Thanks to all our intrepid road warriors for all the contacts they generate from everywhere!

| Name             | Call Sign | CoAs |
|------------------|-----------|------|
| Dave Yarbrough   | Al4K      | 41   |
| Debbie Yarbrough | K9DBB     | 38   |
| John Reisenauer  | KL7JR     | 30   |
| Bill Fuller      | K6YEK     | 28   |
| Mike Rush        | KU1V*     | 24   |
| Brian Chaloux    | AA1QW     | 17   |

| Kirk Frazier   | AA1NA* | 13 |
|----------------|--------|----|
| Fred Caswell   | K1UU*  | 8  |
| Bill Dobson    | N3WD*  | 6  |
| Rog Callewaert | W9ROG  | 5  |

#### Nomad Awards

#### 75 Meters SSB

Bill Dobson, N3WD\*, 2000 Bill Fuller, K6YEK, 1200 John Reisenauer, KL7JR, 500 North County DX Association, KL7RST, 200 Roger Goodreau, W3ROG, 100

#### 40 Meters SSB

Bill Dobson, N3WD\*, 3100 Bill Fuller, K6YEK, 1700 John Reisenauer, KL7JR, 900 North County DX Association, KL7RST, 500 Roger Goodreau, W3ROG, 100 Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 100

#### National Parks Ranger Awards

Members who earned awards for their operation in National Parks in the U.S. and Canada during the year (highest level achieved shown).

Jay Wieland, NOPUI\*, 70 Mark Eberle, KIOY, 70 Craig McLoughlin, VE3CMB\*, 60 John Reisenauer, KL7JR, 50 Glenn Silver, KM4P, 40 Sammy Samulenas, KB1XP, 30

#### DX Awards

Several members completed their DX awards during the year. For three members, 75M DX was their final hurdle on the way to the Master's Degree. We have been seeing more DX stations on our nets this year. To those members who are working to bring them, good show! Good luck and Good DX in the New Year!

#### 40M SSB

Mac McCracken, W6PNY, 25 Joe Bevier, KF7HNC, 25

#### 75M SSB

Buddy Spiegel, W3BS\*, 25 Mike Rush, KU1V\*, 25 Dean Davis, KL7OR\*, 25

#### NCS Awards

Our NCSs are our life blood. Without them running the nets, we wouldn't exist. Our NCS Awards recognize levels of achievement by number of nets run:

Summa Cum Laude (3,000 points -750 nets) Jeff McCulloch, K4JEL

Magna Cum Laude (1,500 points -375 nets) Virgil Warren, W9WWG

#### Cum Laude (800 points - 200 nets)

Mac McCracken, W6PNY Chuck Barnett, KM9U Gene Marsh, W8NET\*

#### Expert (300 Points - 75 nets)

David Yarbrough, AI4K Debbie Yarbrough, K9DBB Dan Gallmeyer, W8JCS Paul Lourd, W1IP Mark Eberle, KIOY David Johnson, WA4NID Jonny Dorminy, KN4LGM

#### Journeyman (200 Points - 50 nets)

Dan Gallmeyer, W8JCS Mark Eberle, KIOY

#### Basic (100 Points - 25 nets)

Dan Gallmeyer, W8JCS Bill Fuller, K6YEK

#### **Old-Timers**

The Awards Committee developed an award to recognize members in good standing of thirty years or more. This year, we added the following Old Timers:

#45: Richard E. Prosser, AB4MG #46: Phillip N. Wilson, K4LO #47: Carlene M. Drake, N1CD #48: Darlene E. Kokinakis, W7DZX #49: Stephen G. Blackburn, WB7NSE #50: Peter B. Summers, N2XTT\*

Space does not allow listing all the awards earned during the year, so we have presented only highlights. We wish to give a big shout-out to all the award earners of 2024!

# Awards Going Away

I believe the next Centurion will be issued April, so I will take this opportunity to remind you all that by action of the Board of Directors, several unpopular awards will be archived on May 1, 2025:

- 12-Month Sequence
- High Point Hiker
- High Point Mountain Goat
- Low Point Explorer
- Low Point Seeker
- Oldest Established Towns (both versions)

Area award managers will accept applications for these awards through April 30, 2025. After that date, they will reject any applications.

Those who have earned certificates for these awards will keep their bragging rights in perpetuity.

## **Until Next Time**

I hope you enjoyed this award recap for the year just ended. I'll be back with my regular column in the April issue. In the meantime, I wish all of you a healthy, prosperous, and happy New Year!

# Webmaster Column

#### Submitted by: Matt Taylor, K2YS

Hopefully you are reading this column on the club website: 3905ccn.org. I've been building and maintaining this website since January 2021 when I was appointed webmaster, with a little help from Dean KL7OR and Foster W2TI. It has many features that are available to the general amateur radio community and a few that are only available to members. Once you become a member,

you can register and then login after which those features are available to you. If you don't know how to register or login, the quick links section on the left side of the home page contains a link to a video on our club YouTube channel (see <u>Member Registration ==>video</u>).

Some of those features available only to members after logging on are: Elections, the Net Calendar, and the Masters Check where you can see how close you or another member are to obtaining the Master Degree award, the ultimate award that has been earned only by 80 members since 1993.

The website is hosted on a cloud provider so it can be easily worked on by more than one member if needed and is transferable to the next webmaster by just providing credentials. Virtually every page on the website is generated from data in the club database so that no one needs to maintain many pages to keep things current. For example, newly elected officers and appointed VIPs are entered in the database using a web form, accessible only to those with the privileges to do so, that maintains those positions. Then the expired positions will automatically appear in the officer history page the next time it is displayed.

Awards and Good-in-Bureau updates are uploaded by the Awards secretary and Bureau Manager respectively. This makes the job of the webmaster much easier since really all I have to do is make sure that everything is running smoothly and checki the log files of the 17 "cron" jobs that run daily or weekly. For example the Net listing that is emailed to the "Reflectors" is generated at 6 am (ET) from the Net calendar that the NCS controllers update and store in the club database as well.

This frees my time for building out the new features of the website, which hopefully are helping our members earn their awards. Two features recently implemented are a Progressive Awards Worksheet and a Net Checkins List. The Progressive Awards Worksheet was developed with the help of Clay WA2JIM, our 2nd Area Awards Manager, as I put together my 40m SSB 2K Award, and especially Mark KI0Y who added some helpful features. This worksheet allows a member to strategically map out which callsigns will build towards earning the 500, 1000 and 2000 point awards. It also helps you track WAS, WAS-YLs and WAS-Capitals. Hopefully this will generate some new 1K and 2K awards.

The other feature being the Net Checkins List. This webpage allows a search by state, date range, Band, Mode and callsign. If you are looking for a particular callsign or state for example, you can find out for example that a particular station checks into the 40m SSB Late Net from MT on Friday and Saturday nights so you would know if you are looking for another QSO from MT what net to check-in to.

I'm always looking for new ideas for web pages that would be helpful to the club. I still have a list of about 20 or so suggestions, some of which might be a small task, and others that will take much longer. Having been in IT for 42 years and developed many projects for my employers I'd say that this has been the most enjoyable one, and I hope to continue providing the service for many years to come. If you have programming experience and either know, or want to learn the PHP programming language, drop me a line and I'll be glad to share the work with you.

Until next time, I'll see you on the radio.

Matt, K2YS 3905ccn.org Webmaster

# **Award Tips**

### Submitted by: Kal, N1ABY (1st Area Awards Manager)

In addition to all of the rules listed on the club website and on each application, here are some tips from an Area Awards manager:

- #1 Be sure to read ALL of the rules for the award you are applying for. You may find some of the rules difficult to interpret. If you aren't sure, send an e-mail to your Area Awards Manager and ask for their input.
- #2 Look at each card you plan to use for an award. Then look at it again. Be sure that the card has all of the required information needed for the award you are working on, such as their certificate number, or 1K number, etc. It is not always easy to figure out what is on the card, especially cards that have been in your files for a long time. I recently saw a QSL that showed the operators name, county, street address, what organizations he belonged to and all of the normal information but didn't spell the name of the state. He had had put a map of the state he lived in instead of spelling out the name of the state. Remember, any data from the sender needs to be printed or handwritten on the card by the person that sent it to you.
- #3 Similarly, be sure that the station is actually in the state you think he is in. Make sure it doesn't say "Mobile WY" somewhere on the card in really small print when you think he is in NV or something like that! Don't ask me how I know that!
- **#4** Be sure to add the /P or /M, as it applies, to their call sign when listing it on the application form.
- **#5** Be sure to put the cards (or copies or PDF's) in the same order that they are listed on the application. This makes it SO much easier to check the award.

- #6 It is very helpful to the Award Manager if you can fill out the application form by typing the calls on the form instead of handwriting them. It eliminates the problem of having to interpret someone's handwriting!
- **#7** When submitting your application, you only need to send the page(s) with the call signs. The manager can always get the rules from the CCN web site.
- **#8** Be sure that you have the correct Awards Fee for the format (paper or PDF or paper & PDF) you desire. This information can be found on the CCN web site under the awards tab. No sense to overpay or under pay!
- #9 You aren't required to, but, if you are submitting multiple applications and using PayPal, you can put all the fees on one PayPal receipt. It makes for less paperwork for the manager. The same kind of thing applies if you are paying by check. You only need to write one check for all of the fees and only include one SASE to the treasurer.
- #10 Be sure to fill out ALL of the required information at the bottom of the application form.

73 de Kal, N1ABY - 1st Area Awards Manager

# 100 Watts and a Wire: Signals from the Desert

#### Submitted by: Yukon John, KL7JR

Before I embark on any long trips, I want to ensure Icemobile V is all in working order. I had encountered a couple of issues from my Oregon trip of late. I didn't want to go to any local RV park and set up, and all the local state parks are closed for the season. My son recommended Jackson Creek Fish Camp situated on the



mighty Columbia River some 40 miles west of my QTH. I was impressed with the scenery along the camp ground, and the fact the camp only accommodated 10 sites. This is primitive camping (no water and no electricity) area with widely spaced lots, garbage containers and a unisex latrine. I had the entire area to myself all weekend!

The Columbia River is about 200 feet on the back of my lot towards the Cascade Mountain Range.

It just so happened the CQWW Contest was ongoing, so what a better way to

see how much DX I could work with 132 feet of wire. Many folks think Washington state is all forested but not the eastern third which is mostly a sand and sagebrush desert. The Columbia River is a natural boundary between Oregon and Washington. Many orchards thrive along the river.

I worked many of the regular 3905ers on the 40 and 75m nets, mobile and portable on October 26 and 27. Conditions were good and my noise level was very low. Antennas in use included Hamsticks on a hood mounted tri-mag mount and a homebrew 132 foot long 10-80m EFHW with a 49:1 transformer. The end fed was mounted as an inverted V (sorta) with apex at 20 feet sloping down to 10 feet off the ground. One leg was bent 90 degrees for about 15 feet to keep within my lot. The aerial easily tuned all the bands.

EFHW mast off RV ladder.

Casual operating produced the following DX:
40m...Ontario, Alberta and Hawaii.
20m...Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Philippines,
Czechoslovakia, Sweden, France, Japan,
Russia, Colombia, Madeira Island,
Kazakhstan, Alaska, Australia, Cape Verde,
St. Kitts and Brunei.
15m...Japan, Brazil, Antigua, St. Kitts,
Curacao and Colombia.
10m...Japan, South Korea, Argentina, Hawaii,
Ontario, China, Sakhalin Island, Alaska,
Guam, Mexico, Brazil, Canary Islands, Virgin
Islands, Italy, Poland, Germany, Romania,
Slovak Republic, Costa Rica, Madeira Island,

St. Kitts, Netherlands and Cyprus.





Columbia River near my camp just south of Priest Rapids Dam.

Overall, I was pleased with the contacts I made. 10 and 20m were wide open most of the weekend allowing me to hunt and pounce!I sure like the flexibility end feds provide. They've worked well in some strange set ups of mine! It was good to get out and have quality time on the radio. I enjoyed long walks along the river reminiscing about the fun had camping I experienced in this part of the state some 30 years ago.



Spam and asparagus on the grill. I like to keep things simple when I camp!

A 20-watt solar panel keeps my RV batteries charged eliminating excessive generator run time.



73, de Yukon John KL7JR

# Icemobile V Makes Her Maiden Voyage

#### Submitted by: Yukon John, KL7JR

When my daughter invited me camping, I made plans to do ham radio from the campground forest at Jubilee Lake, Oregon, and break in my new motor home, Icemobile V. The 2-hour trip to the mountains was slow as we were competing with many others also going camping. There were tall pines, at elevation 5200 ft plus, all around my assigned camp site making the EFHW aerial easy to put up.



I zip-tied a fiberglass mast off the RV ladder (apex at 20 ft) and tossed the wire in the woods to the nearest tree. I quickly spread out 4 radials at 40-80 feet long each. Next, I positioned the tri-mag mount on the hood and I was all set for portable and mobile fun. I did work many stations on 20m, mostly POTA, and a couple on 15m as I tested both antennas before the late nets.

EFHW vertical riser on fiberglass mast tied to RV ladder.

It was Friday pm, September 7, as I searched for the 40m late net for 20 minutes. Then later I tried 75m but no net found either. Either propagation was horrible or there was no available NCS. The Saturday 40m late net, hosted by Bob KI7PM, was easy to find (no Wi-Fi or cell coverage here). Bob was 5x9 all night! I worked: W9WWG, K4JEL, W2RCH, KN4CQB, WA8MD/p MI, KI7PM, WA4BKL, KL7OR, VE3HMK and AB8MO from mobile Icemobile V. Then on the 75m late net most signals were down with only a handful of check-ins. I worked AA0HF (tnx relay Eric!) and KN6RSX. Propagation just wasn't there. I still enjoyed making contacts again and any made on 75m are a bonus.

The weather was warm and many of us enjoyed a dip in Jubilee Lake. Lots of deer here roaming from campsite to campsite.



New camp friends.

73, de Yukon John KL7JR

# North Country DX Association: A History of the Clubs that Frequent the 3905 Nets

### Submitted by: Yukon John, KL7JR

KL7RST, VY1RST, VE8RST, VY0RST, OX7RST, N1RAC, KL7CCN, K8ICE and K7ICE are flagship stations for the North Country DX Association (NCDXA). You've heard/worked many of these clubs on the 3905 nets over the years from over 40 states, Greenland and all over Canada.

NCDXA is a dedicated group of DXpeditioners who specialize in unique Amateur Radio activities from remote northern areas. We are a northern network of antenna experimenting, contesting and special event operating! Started in 2000 by KL7JR, NCDXA has made well over one hundred thousand HF contacts around the globe supplying those much-needed northern prefixes.

The RST clubs operated from Kluane Lake in the southern Yukon many times in all seasons for many years. I was mesmerized the first time I gazed upon the lake. It was 1989 and she hooked me! I was giving out Kluane National Park for many years before I met the 3905 CCN. Several story publications, including a few magazine cover photos, were published in QST and TCA Magazines describing my ham radio northern adventures. When I lived in Anchorage, I was president of the South-Central Radio Club, KL7G. Many trips to the Yukon were enjoyed. In 2000 I even operated KL7RST/p and KL7Glacier



portable out on Matanuska Glacier! My Alaska buddies dubbed me "Yukon John". They also said I was crazy driving 900 miles round trip to Beaver Creek, several times in 40 below temps in blizzard conditions! Pictured is my 60+ year old Webster Bandspanner, 10-80m, the original screwdriver antenna. Still my favorite aerial.



Canada's Amateur Radio Magazine La Revue des Radioamateurs Canadiens MAY / JUNE 2016 – MAI / JUIN 2016

> Roving in the Yukon: The KL7RST/VY1 Story

ARRI School Roundup & RAC Youth Education Program



One of many ham radio adventures from Kluane Lake within Kluane National Park, Yukon in Icemobile II. It warmed up to 20 below that weekend working the ARRL SS Contest! VY1RST/p VY1 racked up another first place!



2019 "RST" Special Event from Tok, Alaska (KL7JR left and Bill, KL7IDA). Bill operated the RST special events many times for NCDXA.

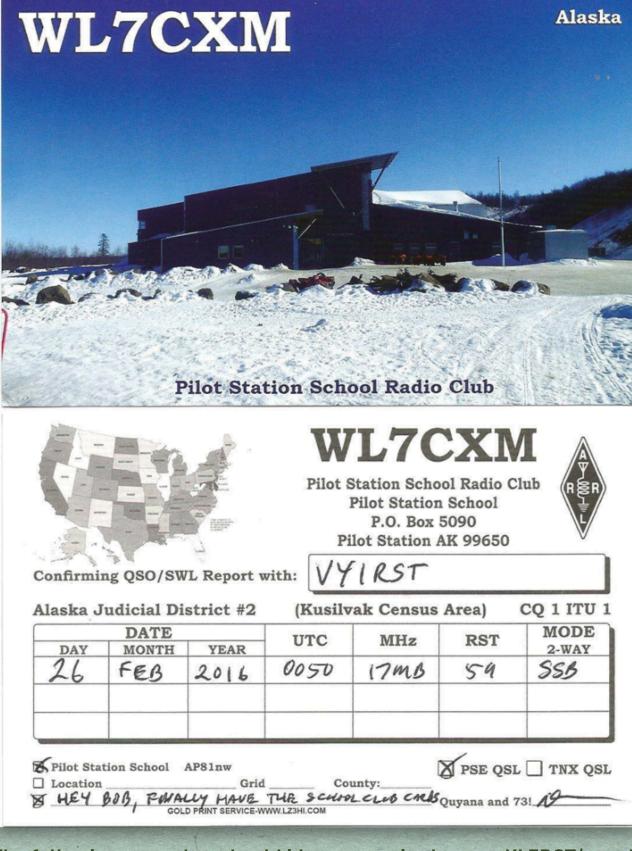


Just some of the paperwork I collected over the years from the Yukon.

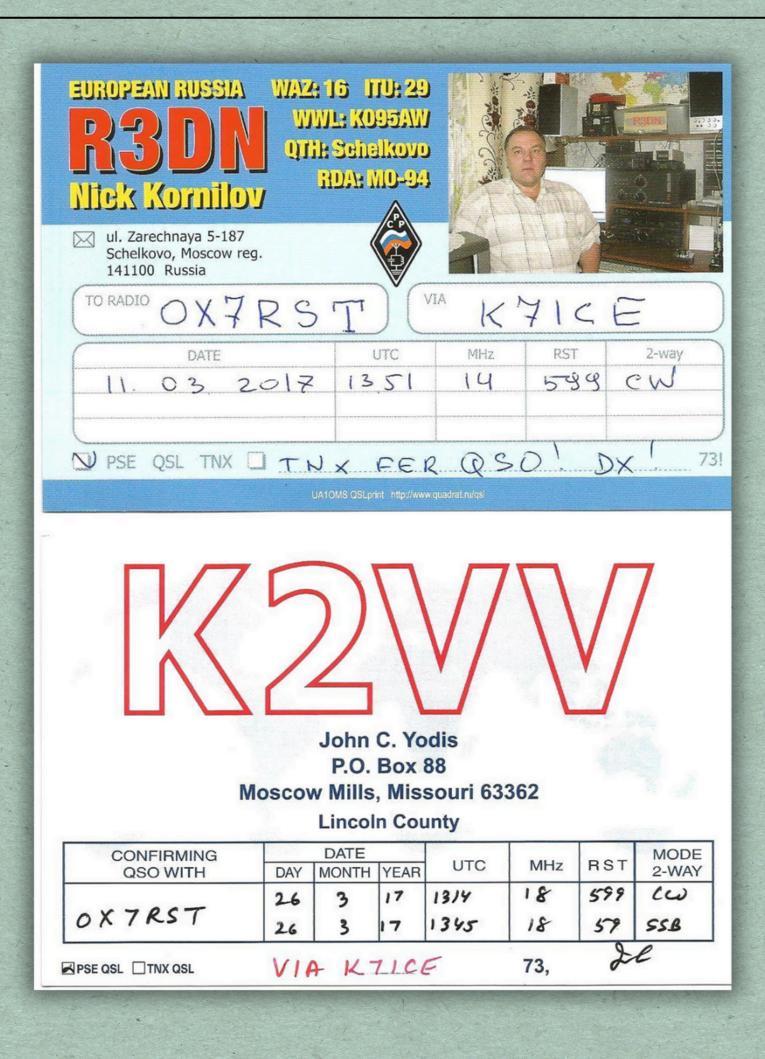


Via K7ICE To Radio KL7RST Confirming Our QSO TIME REPORT BAND MODE DATE Month UTC MHz ZWay Day Year 23:19 -24 dB 18 FT8 2018 Feb 11 Rig: TS-9905 Ant: KA1-203 (VERSA 3ele) 22 mH Rmks: TNX FB QSO!! QSL#:38713 PSE QSL YAMANASHI JCC#1701 GL: PM95HP ZONE 25 IOTA AS-007 JG1EZFYukio (YUKI) TAKEUCHI Jufei 772-22 Kamiahara KOFU-City YAMANASHI Pref. 400-0814 JAPAN

Yuki called his friends on 2m to alert them that KL7RST, YL op Corliss (AL1G) was on from Anchorage. She must have worked a hundred JA's then! Imagine that, working a remote school club in Alaska. Op VY1MB/VY1RST in Whitehorse was pleased to chat with some students at Pilot Station, Alaska.

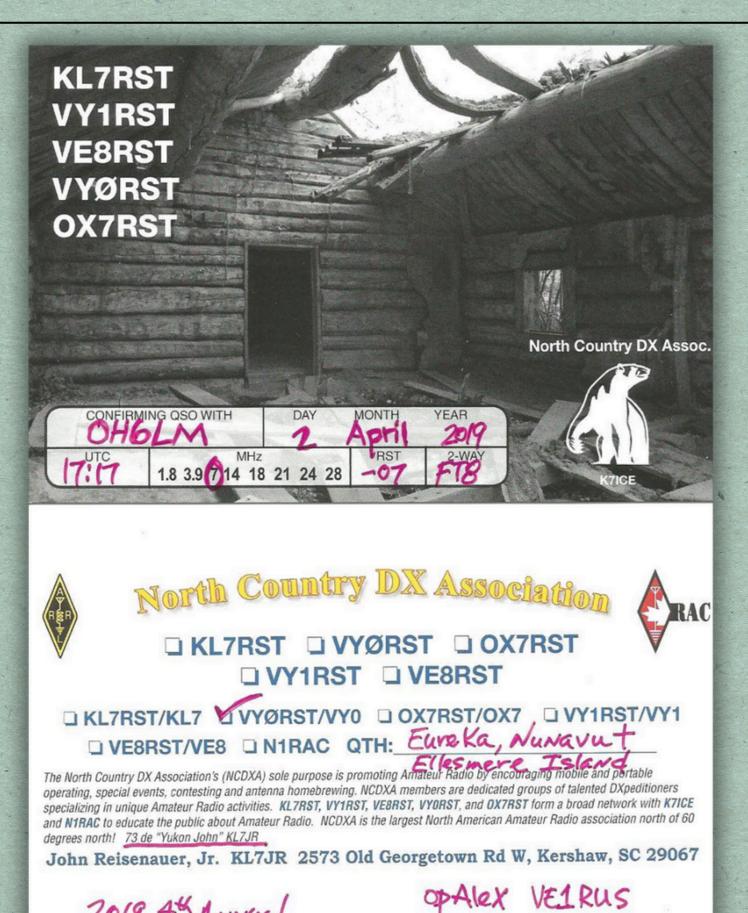


The following year, the school kids were excited to use KL7RST/p and VE8RST/p Alaska! At times the pileups were so strong it was hard to pick out anyone, so they cleaned house going by the numbers!



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|--|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| $\cap$   | VYØ                  | <b>RST</b>     |                 |              |             |               |
|  |                      |                | ard Rovers      |              |             |               |
| VE8RST/  | vyo yv               | IRST/V         |                 | RST/VY       | 0           | in a          |
|  | Nunavi               | ut, Ca         | anada           |              |             |               |
| CONFIRMING QSO   | WITH                 | DAY            | MON             | ITH          | YEAR        | De l          |
| VY1KST   |                      | 20             |                 | 5            | 17          | CB3IFH QSI    |
| UTC 21:24  | MHz<br>14            |                | RST<br>S        | 2-           | SSB         | I Cards       |
| Annual NCD   | XA Worked            | all "RST       | T" Special E    | vent fro     | m:          |               |
| Rankin Inlet Eurek   |                      |                |                 |              |             |               |
| □ Iqaluit (Baffin Is.) □ P   |                      |                | Cambrid         | lge Bay (    | Victoria    | ls.)          |
| Above calls are affiliated with the N  |                      |                | NCDXA ARC K7    | ICE and are  | in accordan | ce with       |
| Industry Canada Rules & Regulations  |                      | RST            | rover +         | ierre        | @ Eur       | eka           |
| 73, "Yukon John", KL7JR<br>Founder and QSL Mgr. NCDXA  |                      | wx s           | rover f         | 9 Bob        | IN W'K      | orse.         |
| and the second s |                      |                |                 | VIIM         | 10          |               |
| North  | Count                | ry DI          | X Asso          | Ciati        | on          | RAC           |
| 🕺 🗆 KL7RST 📈   | WYORS.               |                | Y7BST           |              | Y1RS1       | ř.            |
|  | T OTH                | Rank           | IN TAL          | et N         | UNAVI       | it            |
|  |                      |                |                 |              |             |               |
|  | YØRST/VY<br>ST/VE8 Q |                | 7RST/OX7        |              | RST/VY      | 1             |
|  |                      | Name of Column |                 |              |             |               |
|  | DATE                 | UTC            | MHz             | RST          | MODE        | QSL Tords     |
| KLTRST 19  | 3 17                 | 20:04          | 14              | 599          | CW          | PSE ISO HIERA |
|  |                      |                | 1G in           |              |             | 102           |
| North Country DX Association (NCDX)<br>stations for NCDXA. The NCDXA team  | A) affiliate clubs   | KL7RST, VY     | 1RST, VE8RST, \ | YORST and    | OX7RST are  | e flagship    |
| activities from remote areas forming   | a northern netw      | work of ante   | nna experimenti | ng, contesti | ng and spec | cial event    |
| operating promoting Amateur Radio!<br>73 de Yukon John, KL7JR  |                      |                |                 |              | 81          | /             |
| See us on Facebook! https://www.fac  | ebook.com/Nort       | th-Country-D   | X-Assoc-K7ICE-  | 1717462798   | 496577/     |               |
|  |                      |                |                 |              |             |               |

Eureka Weather Station is located on Ellesmere Island, Nunavut Territory, 80 degrees north.





See us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/North-Country-DX-Assoc-K7ICE-1717462798496577/

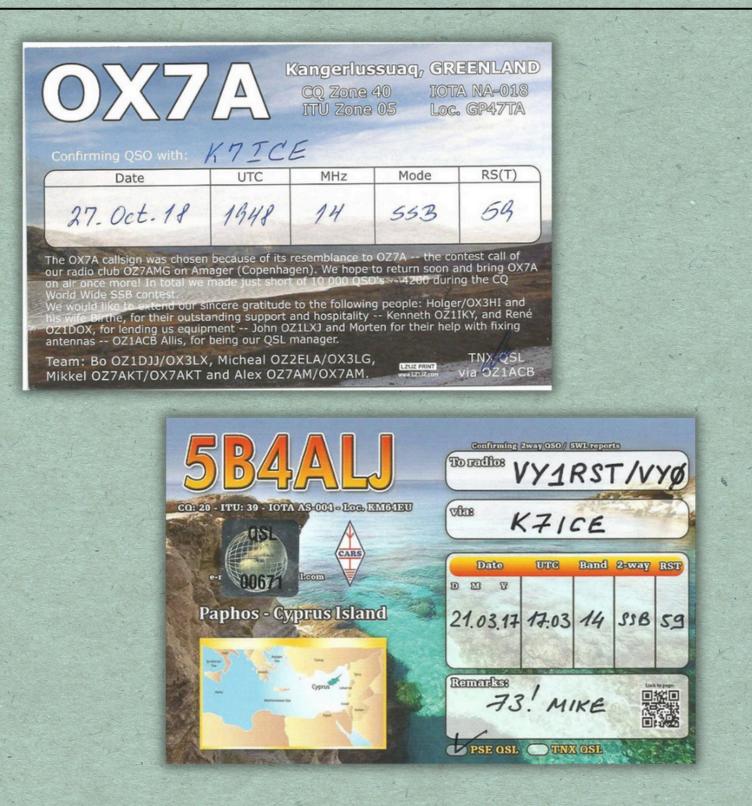


Operator Garth VE8NSD using VE8RST/p VE8 from Hay River, NT. Note his logger and back warmer! Garth is a big supporter of NCDXA.

Operator Alex VE1RUS at Eureka WX Station using VY0RST/p VY0 and KL7RST/p VY0. The pileups were massive! Alex said, "it was only 55 below for that pic"!



From Buckshot Betty's RV Park, Motel and Café in Beaver Creek, Yukon, KL7JR used many of the RST clubs over the years in contests. ARRL November Sweepstakes was my favorite. Many 1st place certificates adorn my walls. Pictured is Icemobile II.

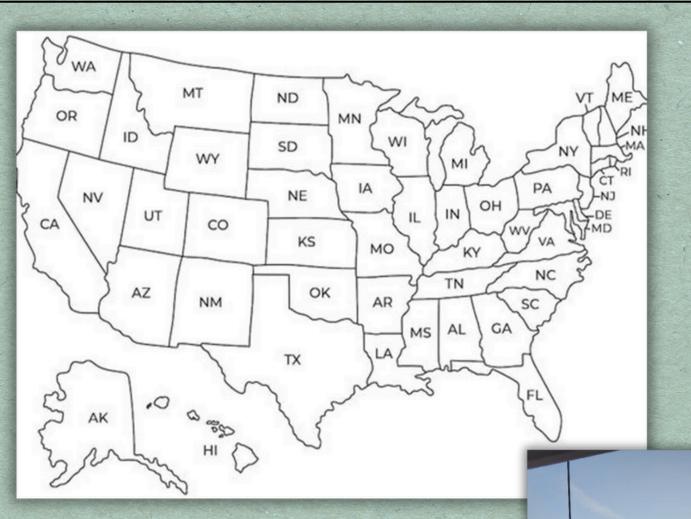


2018 marked the 3rd annual RST special event. It was our most successful op mainly due to excellent propagation and huge pileups!Op Bo in Greenland worked KL7JR/K7ICE and hundreds more were lucky enough to contact him. Op Mike VY0CF/VY1RST/p VY0 from Rankin Inlet, NT snagged the rare DX station 5B4ALJ on Cyprus Island. Mike also used VY0RST making hundreds of contacts from his home QTH.

73, de Yukon John KL7JR

# KL7JR/p WA 40m "Shark Stick" Dipole Contacts - 6th floor studio apartment

### Submitted by: Yukon John, KL7JR



Farthest contact Straight line distance Richland, WA to to Honolulu is 2772 miles

7 Sept. 2024 to Oct 16

# WA8MD's Michigan Trip Recap

#### Submitted by: Tim Myers, WA8MD

My wife and I are relatively new Amateur Radio Operators. I earned my Technician License in December of 2023, General in January of 2024 and then Extra in February of 2024. In February of 2024 while I was working my way through the licenses my wife earned her Technician License.

My wife's father and grandfather are both silent keys, and my wife always wanted to get her license and apply for a Vanity call sign that belonged to her father. She also wanted to get one of the Ohio "Amateur Radio" license plates with her father's old Call Sign. I decided to earn my Amateur Radio ticket and started the process to encourage her. Once I started, I just stayed in learning mode and progressed from Technician, to General, to Extra, which encouraged her to get her Technician License. I was issued KE8ZUM, and she was issued KF8AFH. Our Niece had already obtained the call sign of my wife's grandfather, WA8MEY. When Jeannette received her initial call sign, she immediately applied for her father's old sign and received WA8MDX. Being a brand-new Amateur Extra, I did not want to be left out and thought it fitting to keep the WA8M... alive so I applied for and was issued WA8MD.

After I earned my General and while scanning through the airwaves on HF, I stumbled onto a group called the RVRN, or RV Radio Network. My first encounter with this group was on 22Feb2024, and I was furiously writing down call signs when I received a lightning alert and had to shut everything down. I did participate in their nets at other times, and found them to be a top-notch group, with good values and a Patriotic core that was in line with my feelings and beliefs.

I heard this group talking about a Spring Rally in Berlin, OH, which is a place my wife and I love to camp, so we signed up for the rally. Ahem... she also likes to shop for quilting fabric there!!

We had a great time at the Rally, making lots of new friends and I was intrigued by the Rig Tour, where we had a chance to see how everyone handled mounting an antenna and how they set their rigs up. To say the least I was hooked on doing something similar in my Motor Home. There is a picture from that Rig Tour of me holding up my HT as that was the only Amateur Radio operation, I was able to do on that trip.

Shortly before finding the RVRN group, I discovered a few Worked All States nets, but found a real home with the 3905 Century Club. Looking back at my paper logs (didn't know about NetLogger yet) and see my first contacts on 19Feb2024. Those contacts were with KB8UEY, and KE8RRG.

Since 2013 we have traveled to the town of Sidnaw, MI, in the Upper Peninsula. Our friends own a small grass strip airport and have a fund raiser every year on the Saturday before Labor Day. I set a goal to be radio capable for our 2024 trip. I was really hoping for quieter floor levels by getting away from dense civilization.

Many of the RVRN operators were using the Eagle One antenna, I tried to purchase one but could not get a response from the manufacturer. After some digging, I figured out how the Eagle One antenna was made and proceeded to purchase the required parts to DIY my own. The fiberglass expanding pole comes from Jackite and is distributed by "Hitched4fun.com". I purchased wire, a 9:1 unun, and a 1:1 choke from DX Engineering and the rest was just some labor.

I tested the antenna and associated components on a 3905 Net in the driveway of my QTH, and was amazed at how much quieter the vertical wire antenna was than my horizontal NVIS antenna

I am pretty active in the 3905 Century Club Worked All States Nets. I knew that many of you were attending the Eyeball Rally scheduled at the same time I was going to be in Michigan. A lot of you were planning to work multiple /P and /M operations in various states, state lines and tri-points on your way to and from the Rally. Most of you were planning to bring clubs and Special Events along creating more contacts for those that worked them. I also belong to the West Central Ohio Amateur Radio Association (WCOARA) and requested permission to take my Club along for the trip as WC8OH. They graciously agreed and the rest is history as they say.

We were in Michigan a total of 22 nights. We did overnight in Roscommon, MI on the way to the UP and I did not deploy the antenna for that one night. I did deploy while mooch docking at our friends Camp in Sidnaw for 5 nights, then 5 nights at Baraga State Park, Baraga, MI. We then moved to Munising Michigan for 3 nights, followed by 3 nights in Sault Ste Marie, MI. Out next stop found us at Petoskey State Park, Petoskey, MI for 3 nights followed by 2 nights near Grand Rapids, then home.

During our 22 nights in Michigan, I deployed my antenna at all but one campground and was able to participate in nets 19 of the 22 nights. In all I worked 170 different call signs as both WA8MD, and WC8OH. I was rewarded with noise levels of S-0.5 to S-1.5, compared to my S-5 to S-9 noise levels at my QTH. The lower noise levels were in a word wonderful. I had no issues being able to work a HI, and AK station, plus all over the continental US. From this trip I should receive 342 QSL Cards from those contacts. All in all, a great success, and am immense amount of fun.

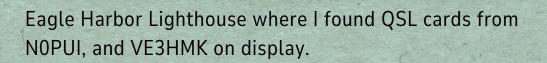


Left: Mooch docking at our friends camp in Sidnaw antenna is at the pax side rear of the Motor Home

Above: Is the view out the windshield at Baraga State Park State Park.

Below: A sunrise at Baraga State Park





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|------------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-----|------------|
|                        |                  | D]    | PI    | J   | Ι          |
| Confirming<br>QSO With | Date<br>DD MM YY | UTC   | MHz   | RST | Mode       |
| N8mR                   | 19080/           | 21322 | 7.270 | 59  | Hom<br>LSB |



My humble radio setup below.



Above: Camping in Christmas, MI.



Camping in Sault St Marie, Michican Above. These ships were heading to and from the Soo Locks on the St Mary's River.



Camping at Petoskey State Park, Petoskey, MI. I activated the park on POTA here and at Baraga State Park. Lots of rapid-fire contacts made.

Tim Myers, WA8MD

# From the Archives (...and the topic of QSL/confirmations)

I came across this article from a 1980 edition of the Centurion. Interesting to read that a hard copy QSL requirement was eliminated for a short period of time, back then when the club was still in its infancy:

#### FROM THE BOARD ROOM by WD4CQY

Since the last issue of the "Centurion" went out, the Board of Directors has met in either Regular or Special Session just about every two weeks.

Ki@IWQ's resignation as 75/80 meter QSL Bureau Manager resulted in the Board voting to abolish the QSL Bureaus and the institution of "log info" as awards criteria, for the Club. The resulting hus and cry from the membership (I got 5 long distance phone calls and 14 pieces of mail on the subject and I'm not a voting member of the Board) caused the Board to reverse its decision, two weeks later. This, in turn, resulted in the resignation of Pres. Keith, WD4ROD. This resulted in Dennis, AJ8Y, moving up to President leaving the Vice President's office vacant.

I know there is work underway regarding the topic of allowance of other means of QSL confirmations being accepted by the club for our awards program (QRZ, LoTW) by a committee to be presented to the board soon. I personally enjoy exchanging paper QSL cards myself and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. However, my opinion on this matter is that to continue to grow as a club, and encourage more new check ins to our net, which I believe we can all agree that we want, we need to embrace these technologies that many are using for confirming contacts. I'm sensitive to the fact that we do not want to place an additional burden on our hard-working award managers. The responsibility would still be on the applicant to display evidence of confirmation when submitting an award.

I would also like to note, the other worked all states & awards net that meets at similar times to ours did away with their QSL requirement in 2007, opting for log information submissions on applications.

Where we are in essence "competing" for people's time that they have available to spend on the radio, which can be limited, I feel this is something we should keep in mind. I periodically look at their check in numbers and they tend to have higher participation during the same times as us.

Since I've been back on the nets in mid-2023, I have invited approximately 1,500 individual stations (both stateside and DX).Some of which would be new to the nets, and others who used to participate but haven't checked in several years. I've received some feedback from those that had participated in the past that the QSL requirements became too much for them to deal with. One comment in particular I received from someone who used to be an active member was "Do I really need to have 50+ cards from (one member's callsign)?"

I'm looking forward to hearing the outcome of this review from the committee during an upcoming board meeting. I would encourage everyone reading this to review the committee feedback when available. Then, make your opinion on this matter known to your area director, directly so when they are determining how to vote, they can factor in the feedback from the club members. Note, I used the word directly. Posting an opinion about it on our social media sites, where your area director may or may not be on, isn't a substitute for contacting your director and letting them know how you feel on this, or any other matter that comes before the board.

73, Brian, AA1QW

# **Crossword Puzzle**

Submitted by: Marty Blaise, AG5T



3905er's December wish list KENWOOD YAESU ICOM RADIO ANTENNA SCANNER TOOLS CARDS PARTS GOODIES HEADPHONES DX ALASKA HAWAII YAGIS AMP POWER COAX TOYS

By Marty Blaise, AG5T

# February 2025 Club Events

Note: Regular Board Meetings are always held on the second Saturday of each month, local time at 9PM Eastern, 8PM Central, 7PM Mountain, 6PM Pacific.



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<u>Next Meeting:</u> ·3905CCN Board Meeting: Saturday,February 08, 2025, and Saturday, March 08, 2025.



Did you know that videos of all Board Meetings are posted on the Club's YouTube channel? Courtesy of the Board and producedby Sammy KB1XP, you can view them at: https://www.youtube.com/@3905CenturyClub

> Weekly Zoom Meeting on Wednesdays at 01:30pm Pacific Time. Check your email for the Zoom log-in information.

# Be part of the next issue!

# Send in your articles - remember the deadline!

Centurion Deadline Reminder: Please remember my deadline is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the next edition.

Please send your articles to AA1QW@startmail.com. Thank you.