



THE CENTURION, June 2026

Editor, Buddy Spiegel W3BS

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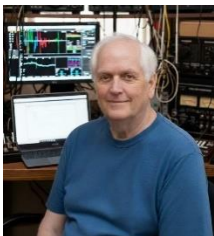


Welcome to the fifth issue of the Centurion under my responsibility. I will do my best in bringing you the Century Club news without your participating in any social media platforms. Your comments are welcome, just send me an email at BUDDYS70@GMAIL.COM and put "Centurion" in the Subject area.

NEWSFLASH

Save the date, 2026 Eyeball, September 16-19, Grand Forks ND. For the details see <https://www.3905ccn.org/files/board/mins-2025-09-13a.pdf> .

Message from the President, Dean Davis, KL7OR



May has been a quiet month. I suspect that many people are planning their summer trips and waiting for school to get out for the summer and preparing for Field Day. I have had 3 big trips over the summer that do not involve ham radio so I will not be taking any radio equipment mostly because I do not want to fly with equipment.

I have formed an NCS Guide workgroup that will be updating the current document. This group consists of the following people (still looking for another person for the group):

AA1NA, Kirk Frazier

K9DBB, Debbie Yarbrough

N5MIG, Joe St. Columbia

As of this writing we have added 16 new members this year and issued approximately 394 awards. I am hoping our NCS stations will take additional time with new stations to welcome them to our nets.

Finally in 2 weeks I will be back in Alaska for one final trip for services for my mother-in-law and take some time to show Caleb some real glaciers.

Message from the Vice President, Kirk Frazier, AA1NA



Message from the Awards Secretary, Rich Walbert, AC2MT



Editor's Note – please see the stats section towards the end of this edition.

Board of Directors action(s), May 4, 2026, Meeting

Other than “housekeeping” stuff, only a discussion of a new club Logo was on the agenda. However, a non-emergency non-agenda item of a donation to NetLogger was brought to the floor.

Links to the full May 2026 Board of Directors “stuff” are:

https://www.3905ccn.org/files/board/Board_Packet-2026-05-09.pdf?parm=12

<https://www.3905ccn.org/files/board/mins-2026-05-09u.pdf?parm=96>

A long lively discussion on the “Logo” subject took place, without any specifics referring to the new Logo itself. Frankly, IMHO, replacing “Founded 1977” with “1977 – 2027” would suffice. What do y'all think, let your area Board member know.

I would like to see BOD discussions on subjects such as:

- Attracting new stations to our nets
- Incentifying Masters to participate in nets and applying for awards
- Giving Masters 2 calls per round, as an incentive for net participation
- Converting more of the “free” members into active members
- Speeding up our nets, giving a member 5 minutes to complete a call is ridiculous

VE3CMB, DX board member, brought a non-emergency non-agenda item to the floor – a contribution to the NetLogger folks. What I found interesting is that no Board member inquired as to: what kind of contributions were made in the past, what requests we may have made, and what work was done specifically for our club, or what other clubs/nets contributed to NetLogger. And yet, the board of directors overwhelmingly approved a budget item of a \$400 contribution to NetLogger. I also wonder how/why non-emergency non-agenda items are brought to the floor.



Message from the Eyeball Host, Mac McCracken, W6PNY

The link is below:

<https://www.3905ccn.org/eyeball2026New.php>

Message from the NCS Training Coordinator, Joe St. Columbia Jr, N5MIG



No additional NCSes.

Using Phonetics when voicing our Call sign, Why? –

de Tim Myers, WA8MD

The FCC does not mandate the use of the ICAO Phonetic Alphabet when voicing our callsigns but does recommend its use. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was established in 1944, and the phonetic alphabet was adopted to provide clear communication when utilizing two-way radio. The use of the Phonetic Alphabet, however, dates to the early 1900's; early spelling alphabets were developed for low-quality, long-distance telephone and radio, and the first non-military alphabet was adopted by the International Telegraph Union (ITU) in 1927. While there have been numerous iterations of the phonetic alphabet, the ICAO has remained the most recent standard.

The reason the phonetic alphabet came into being was for clarity of speech, but I can attest to a more personal reason to use phonetics when voicing your callsign.

I was preparing to out process from the USAF in early 1983. Part of the standard testing before being discharged was a hearing test. I failed mine miserably. My physician started by giving me a couple days off to rest my ears, another test indicated no improvement. Next, he told me no coffee, and as much rest as I could get, still, no improvement. Over the course of three weeks, he tried everything to get my ears to respond more favorably to the hearing test no significant improvement. He then started talking of an admin hold to treat my hearing loss before being separated from the Air Force. In short, I was not going to be allowed to go home on my scheduled separation date. It occurred to me that he was worried about me filing a claim against the USAF for my hearing loss. When I asked him about it, he did not deny that this was the reason. He further stated that based on my in-processing test and the recent ones I had lost about 50% of my usable hearing in 4 years.

So now, why? My work took place in the communications center on the base. On any given day we had teletype machines running and about 100 muffin fans that were part of the cooling of the equipment I maintained. The measured noise level in the Comm Center was around 95 dB constant. That is 40+ hours a week of 95 db. While that was a contributing factor, I was also a bit stupid and participated in the demise of my hearing greatly. I was an avid hunter and shooter and never wore hearing protection. Additionally, I loved listening to my music loud, very loud. I had three-foot-tall speakers on either side of my recliner in my room, and my room would have resembled one of those Maxell tape commercials from the 80's. Stupid mistake #1.



I told my physician I was a willing participant in destroying my hearing and signed a waiver from holding the AF responsible so I could go home. Stupid mistake #2.

When I got home, I went to the local audiologist and was told that at the age of 27, I had the hearing of a 70-year-old, and that it would get worse. At this point in life, I have been wearing hearing aids for more than 15 years. I will be 70 this May and have an additional 43 years of hearing decline.

Then, to add to the issue I earned my pilot's license and started flying small noisy aircraft. At least by that time I started using headsets with passive and active noise cancellation.

Most of my hearing loss is in higher frequencies, and the most difficult part of the high frequency hearing loss I have is that I cannot discern consonants. The words Wow, Cow, Now, Bow all sound the same to me. Most of the time I can figure out the word based on how it is used in a sentence, and I have learned to read lips to a certain degree. However, I do not have that luxury when I am listening to letters on the radio.

Added to the hearing loss is a very bad case of Tinnitus, with loud nonstop ringing in both ears which further complicates things. Please understand, this is not a pity party for Tim, just an explanation of what others may not be aware of.

See the following table for a better explanation:

Letter	Spelling of Letter	What I hear	Phonetic Word
B	Bee	Eee	Bravo
C	See	Eee	Charlie
D	Dee	Eee	Delta
E	Eee	Eee	Echo
G	Gee	Eee	Golf
P	Pee	Eee	Papa
T	Tee	Eee	Tango
V	Vee	Eee	Victor

Z	Zee	Eee	Zulu
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Without using the phonetic alphabet, I can at times be completely removed from the conversation and must rely on NetLogger or ccLogger to see the callsigns. Fortunately, most amateur radio operators use phonetics especially on the HF bands, and all is well, even if they do stray from the standards set by the ICAO. I do remember hearing “Volkwagon” used for the letter V, but it makes me smile when I think about it. You know who you are LOL.

So, what is my message? Learn the phonetic alphabet and use it. You have no idea how badly someone out there may be struggling to hear and understand you. Also, don't do it for me, do it for all those out there that suffer from hearing loss for whatever reason, whether due to environmental or physical issues. I am sure they will appreciate the effort.

How I Store my QSL “cards” – Mac McCracken, W6PNY

Create an Electronic Database for your Mountain of QSL Cards

Hi all. During a recent Wednesday afternoon 3905 CCN Club Meet up Zoom Call, I explained my filing system for my QSL card database. I was asked to share this information with the Club. Before I do anything, I must thank Virgil, W9WWG for providing me with the foundational files for the system.

My QSL cards were taking over my shack. I had acquired north of 11,000 QSL cards. It was time to do something about it. There are many Club members that have many more cards than I do. It was just time for me to make a change on how I store and organize my QSL cards.

Before I get into this database, it must be clear you can set yours up anyway you desire. It is not a one size that fits all thing. You create your database based on how you will be using it. As long as it works for you, that's all that matters.

The first thing you will need is a high-quality photo scanner. Most of the members of the Club that have gone this route are using the Epson ES-580W. There is a newer Epson model out. But it costs a lot more and is not really necessary. The ES-580 will scan 50 cards in about 30 seconds. It will simultaneously scan both sides of the card as it passes through the scanner.

Before you start scanning, I strongly advise you to get your database set up. There will be ebbs and flows regarding what folders you choose to create. I did my database in Windows Explorer. You can use any operating system that allows you to access and create folders. In Windows Explorer, you can use the search bar at the top right side. This makes your database searchable. A major plus.

After you have created your main database, make another folder named something like, "QSLs pending". This will be your pre-placement or file pending folder.

Through my experience, I recommend you do not put more than about 50 cards in the pending folder. The pending folder is where the bulk of the time-consuming effort is. In the holding folder, you must name each QSL individually. For instance, I have a card from KI4WCQ. So, I name that card "KI4WCQ KY~40m SSB Late". I put the late designation on the card in case I get a wild hair and decide to put in for some endorsements to the Night Owl Award. After all the cards in the holding folder have been named, I then make sure I have two Windows Explorer Windows open. One is the QSL Main Database. The other is the pending folder window. From the pending folder window, you simply grab and drag or cut and paste to the final destination folder.

I will attach some screen shots to give you a good idea of what is needed.

Anyone in the Club that desires to do your own database, can contact me via my email: w6pny.2@gmail.com I will be happy to email you the foundational file folders. Or you can make your own. On a side note, I will be in Utah and California for most all of June visiting family. So please hold back on help requests until I return.

These are the main and foundational folders. I have a few extra folders. When I work KL7JR/M at Denali NP in Alaska, I put that card in at least 2 different folders. Mobile AK and then the National Parks folder. I assume Band & Mode are understood. When I work AA1NA fixed in MS, I put his card in Fixed MS and also in the Masters folder. I think you will get the point. Same for members that are Old Timers.



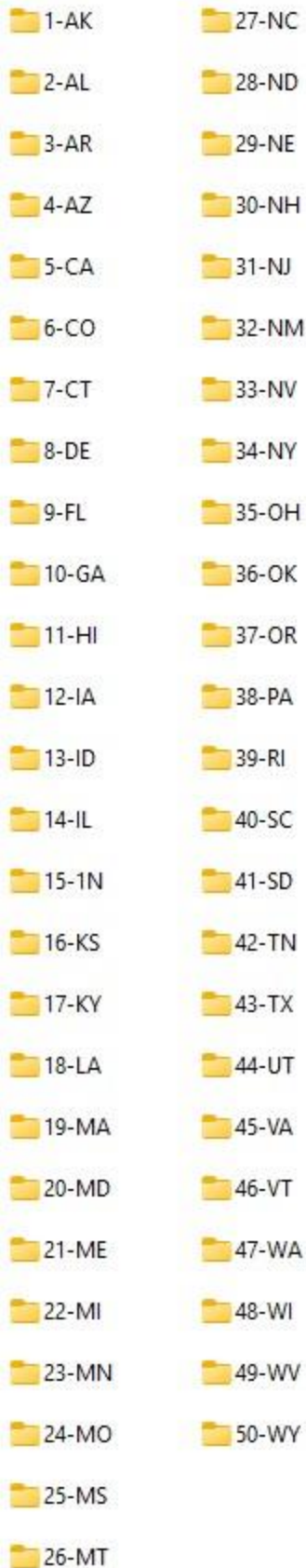
The next screenshot is all under the 40m SSB Folder. You can see how this can get convoluted pretty quickly. Don't be overwhelmed. As soon as you start working with this system, it will all come together for you. I decided to make a separate folder for Canada, and then another separate folder for DX. You can see my other folders as well. I use "W6PNY Mobile Ops" for all of my mobile operating. I treat this folder completely different from the others. In this folder, I put the cards in the state from which I was operating. Not the state the card worked is from. I hope that makes sense. That folder is specifically for my Nomad, Clint Wise and Roaming Master Awards.

Name	Date modified	Type
40m SSB~Fixed	12/11/2025 8:20 PM	File folder
40m SSB~Mobile	12/26/2025 11:24 PM	File folder
40m SSB~Portable	12/11/2025 8:23 PM	File folder
CANADA	2/27/2026 11:39 PM	File folder
DX	12/11/2025 9:04 PM	File folder
KP2JR	12/30/2025 3:08 PM	File folder
MASTERS	12/16/2025 10:45 AM	File folder
W6PNY Mobile Ops	8/26/2025 10:46 PM	File folder
W6PNY Portable Ops	10/16/2025 2:11 PM	File folder
x1 W5WJN BD 40m	12/27/2025 2:38 PM	File folder
x2 Ben Franklin 40m	1/6/2026 10:30 PM	File folder
x3 WAS YL 40m	1/7/2026 8:34 PM	File folder
x4 US Call Areas	2/12/2026 1:36 PM	File folder
YLs	8/26/2025 10:46 PM	File folder

This system can be set up anyway you like. Do whatever works for you. In the above example, I opened 2 separate Windows Explorer (WE) windows. One WE window had 40m SSB~Mobile open. The other had the file containing x1 W5WJN BD 40m open. I use the search function in WE specifically in 40m SSB~Mobile. In theory, that will bring up all of the cards in each state location where W5WJN was operating mobile. You can quickly see the benefit of this method. When the cards for W5WJN are located, I simply copy and paste that card to the pending BD Award file for W5WJN. Easy peasy.

The folders with x in front are pending award folders. "x1 W5WJN BD 40m", is you guessed it. That's the folder I have put the cards in specifically for a Baker's Dozen with W5WJN. And so on with the x2, et al.

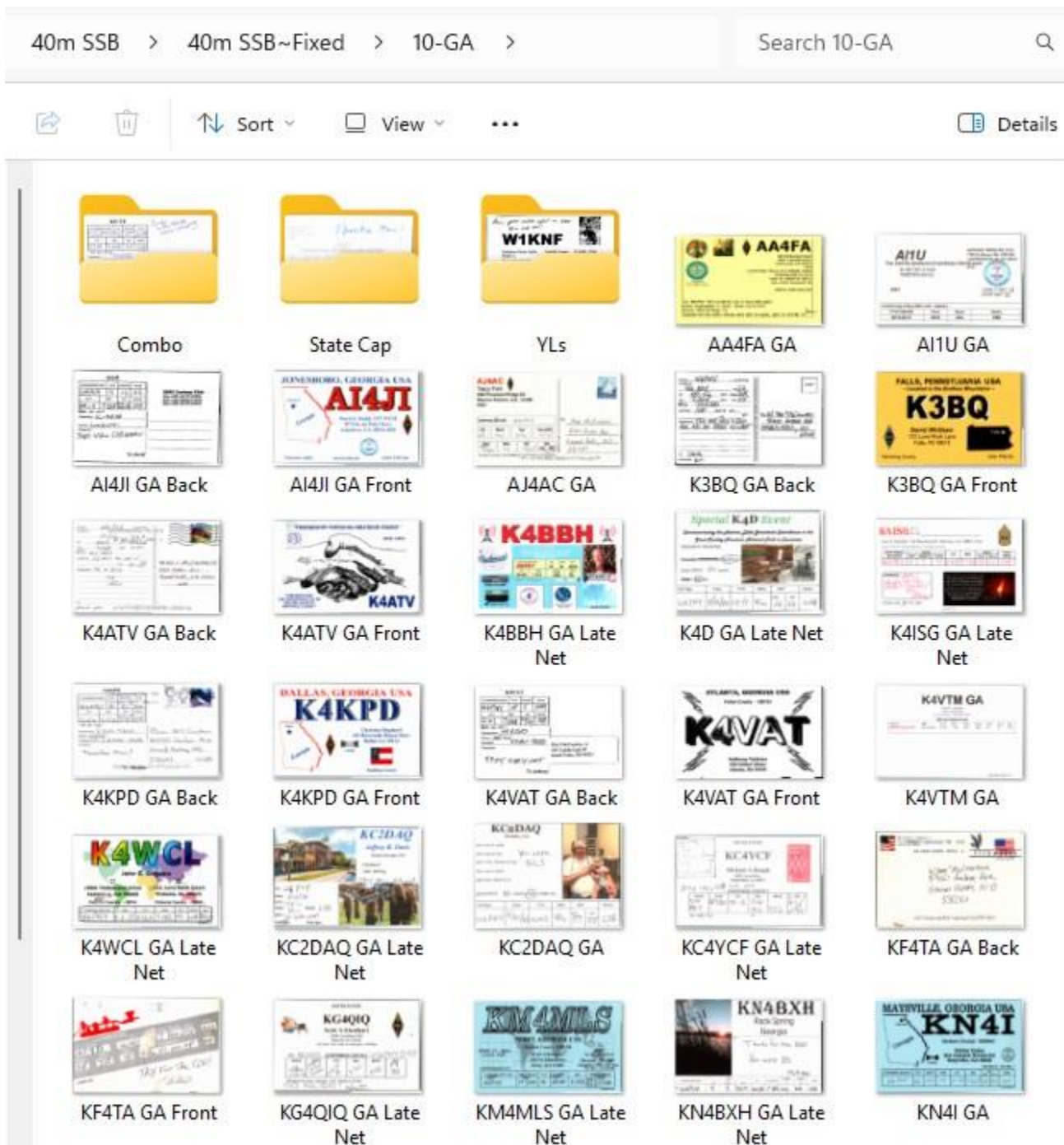
The next screenshot is an example of the individual state files located under each and every 40m SSB folder. To include 40m SSB~Fixed, 40m SSB~Mobile & 40m SSB~Portable.



I think if nothing else, you get the general idea. Setting up this system is a lot of work and very time-consuming. You just work on it when you can. One group of cards at a time. Over time, you will get it completed. Now that my system is set up and done, it's

just a matter of periodic maintenance and adding new QSLs received to the appropriate folders.

Here is one more screenshot to demonstrate 40m SSB Fixed in GA.



In the end, I'm very happy with having done this. I now have all of my QSL cards electronically stored in the database. I of course have 2 separate backups of the QSL card database. I don't ever want to have to start all over. I hope you have enjoyed reading this article.

Club Statistics

NET STATS (May 2026)

Country Code	Country Name	State/Prov	Checkins
CA	Canada	AB	6
CA	Canada	BC	5
CA	Canada	CT	9
CA	Canada	MB	1
CA	Canada	ON	84
FR	France	DX	1
IE	Ireland	DX	4
IT	Italy	DX	3
UM	US Minor Outlying Islands		1
US	US	AK	4
US	US	AL	36
US	US	AR	12
US	US	AZ	20
US	US	CA	118
US	US	CO	3
US	US	CT	166
US	US	DE	24
US	US	DX	3
US	US	FL	319
US	US	GA	51
US	US	HI	2
US	US	IA	16
US	US	ID	1
US	US	IL	95
US	US	IN	160
US	US	KS	69
US	US	KY	77
US	US	LA	22
US	US	MA	101
US	US	MD	69
US	US	ME	39
US	US	MI	157
US	US	MN	129
US	US	MO	130
US	US	MS	71
US	US	MT	42
US	US	NC	222
US	US	ND	56
US	US	NE	31
US	US	NH	7
US	US	NJ	58
US	US	NM	14
US	US	NV	6
US	US	NY	203
US	US	OH	123

US	US	OK	67
US	US	OR	47
US	US	PA	74
US	US	RI	31
US	US	SC	67
US	US	SD	8
US	US	TN	129
US	US	TX	173
US	US	UT	24
US	US	VA	27
US	US	VT	2
US	US	WA	74
US	US	WI	8
US	US	WV	27
US	US	WY	2
ZA	South Africa	DX	1

US Call Area	Checkins
0	442
1	346
2	261
3	167
4	928
5	359
6	120
7	220
8	307
9	263

Net Name	Checkins
3905 20m CW Net	37
3905 20m PSK Net	17
3905 20m RTTY Net	13
3905 20m SSB Net	302
3905 40m CW Early Net	62
3905 40m CW Late Net	15
3905 40m CW Slow Speed Net	33
3905 40m PSK Net	11
3905 40m RTTY Net	16
3905 40m SSB Early Net	1387
3905 40m SSB Late Net	990
3905 75m SSB Early Net	491
3905 75m SSB Late Net	87
3905 80m CW Early Net	11
3905 80m CW Late Net	36
3905 80m PSK Net	10
3905 80m RTTY Net	13

Net Name	No Nets
3905 20m CW Net	1
3905 20m CW Net Friday	2
3905 20m PSK Net	1
3905 20m RTTY Net	1
3905 20m SSB Net	1
3905 40m CW Late Net	2
3905 40m SSB Late Net	1
3905 75m SSB Late Net	23
3905 80m CW Early Net	2

AWARD STATS

Award Name	Count
20 Meter SSB 100 Point	1
40 Meter SSB 100 Point	2
40 Meter SSB 1000 Point	1
40 Meter SSB 500 Point	2
40 Meter SSB Alphabet Soup	1
40 Meter SSB Certificate Hunter	1
40 Meter SSB Club Officers	1
40 Meter SSB Nite Owl	1
40 Meter SSB Numbers Racket	1
40 Meter SSB WAS General	2
40 Meter SSB WAS YL	1
75 Meter SSB 100 Point	1
Net Controllers Basic	1
Net Controllers Cum Laude	2
Quarter Master	1
SSB Bakers Dozen	6
SSB Bakers Dozen COA	6
WAS Capitals Mixed SSB	1
Work 30	4
Totals	36

Call Area	Count
0	2
1	6
2	8
3	4
4	9
5	1
8	2
9	4
Totals	36

Awards by Callsign

Callsign	Award Name	Band	Mode	Level
AI4K	Net Controllers Cum Laude			
K5DUG	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	160	SSB	
K9TPT	Bakers Dozen SSB	160	SSB	
K9TPT	WAS General	40	SSB	
KA2YEG	Bakers Dozen SSB	40	SSB	
KA2YEG	Bakers Dozen SSB	40	SSB	
KB3ONN	500 Point	40	SSB	500
KB3ONN	Certificate Hunter	40	SSB	100
KB3ONN	Club Officers	40	SSB	
KC1YL	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	40	SSB	
KC7UXM	100 Point	20	SSB	100
KE3NR	Net Controllers Basic			
KN4CQB	Bakers Dozen SSB	40	SSB	
KN4CQB	WAS YL	40	SSB	35
KR4HVV	100 Point	40	SSB	100
KR4KEX	100 Point	40	SSB	100
KR4KEX	100 Point	75	SSB	100
KU4NT	Alphabet Soup	40	SSB	
N1ABY	Bakers Dozen SSB	40	SSB	
N1ABY	Bakers Dozen SSB	40	SSB	
N1ABY	WAS Capitals Mixed SSB	40	SSB	35
N2XTT	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	40	SSB	
N2XTT	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	40	SSB	
N2XTT	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	40	SSB	
N2XTT	Bakers Dozen SSB COA	40	SSB	
N9IVO	1000 Point	40	SSB	1000
N9IVO	Quarter Master			25
N9IVO	WAS General	40	SSB	
W8JCS	Net Controllers Cum Laude			
W8JCS	Numbers Racket	40	SSB	
W9DH	Nite Owl	40	SSB	100
WA2JIM	Work 30			
WA2JIM	Work 30			
WA2JIM	Work 30			
WD0CDX	500 Point	40	SSB	500
WD0CDX	Work 30			

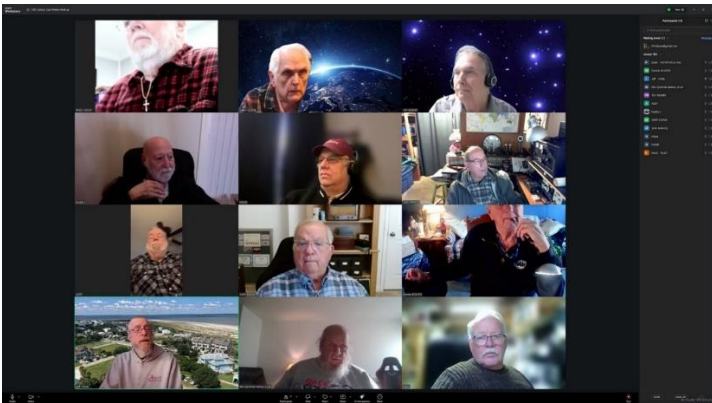
MEMBER STATS

Members by Call Area

Call Area	Current Members	Silent Keys
0	357	52
1	175	20
2	136	17
3	146	25
4	739	82
5	373	44

6	113	18
7	335	33
8	256	25
9	212	31
DX	88	10

Weekly Meetup on ZOOM, submitted by Dean, KL7OR



Since COVID in 2021 the club has been meeting on Wednesdays using Zoom in what we call the “Weekly Meetup”. Everyone is invited to join in and ask questions. The meetup consists of (a non exclusive list):

- It's a way to meet up with other people in the club face to face
- It's open discussion about anything exception politics and religion , but with an emphasis on the 3905 Century Club
- It's a way you can ask questions to other club members
- It's a chance to talk about radio and ask questions
- Open discussion on the awards program

So if you are free on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 pacific time please drop by. Below is the information to get logged into Zoom.

The direct link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85296526370?pwd=UnFleDJ3YzhLcUc5dmIFK2QxSVNkZz09>

Meeting ID: 852 9652 6370