



# The CENTURION

**Breaking News!**  
**AK8R**  
**Dale MacLean**  
**Becomes Master**  
**Degree # 14**

**Story on Page 11**

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## *KD3FM Annual Service Awards*

Each year the Club recognizes the contributions of members that go way beyond the call to service.

This year our recipients are again an example of the outstanding service provided by the volunteers that make our club the first class organization that it is.



**Above, Left:** K7NZ—Fred Layton was a recipient of The KD3FM Service Award in recognition of his efforts on the 75 meter late net and the many states (all 50) that he brought to the nets while mobile.



**Above:** The KD3FM Service Award.

**Below:** K9TWV—John Thornton was recognized for his efforts as an NCS, Net Coordinator, 9th Area Director and Chairman of the Board for the 2nd year.

**Below:** President WM4SG presents the KD3FM Service Award to K8MZA—Ricardo Meana who has served the club for many years as the Registered Agent in the State of Florida



(where the club is incorporated), as a Net Control, election monitor and long-time member of the Presidential Advisory Committee providing his counsel and reason.

All three recipients are well deserving and first class gentlemen.

## *Mobiles of the Year*

Eyeball 2003 saw the first ever awards for Mobiles of the Year in two categories—the Leisure Mobile operator—**Fred Layton—K7NZ** and the Professional Driver of the year — **Jerry Hapner—KC5BFK**—both real gentlemen and first class operators.



**Above:** Award as presented to Jerry—KC5BFK.

Our club is fortunate to have many great mobile operators and this year's recognition was difficult with many nominations.

Awards were also presented to **KØMRC**—Mike and **KBØOKS**—Milt for the many states and capitals they brought to the nets during the last year.

## *June Awards by NJ3V—Club Awards Secretary*

### 75 Meters

#### **100 point**

2513 N4ZNH      2514 K4BXC  
2515 W8CDC      2516 W4BWQ  
2517 KCØOCC      2518 WB5FDP

**500 point endorsement**      K4BXC

**1,000 point**      429 KE4DYG  
430 K4BXC      431 KA2WQR

**13,000 point**      #3 WY8V

**Alphabet** 373 W4BUR    374 NS2X

**Bakers Dozen**      1233 K4BXC  
1234 N8KIP      1235 WD4MXW

**Bakers mobile endorsement**  
WCØPD (2)

**Call Area (10)**      314 KA2WQR

**Certificate Hunter w/500 end**  
351 KK4TB      352 KC8RSA

**Nite Owl**      249 K4BXC

**Numbers Racket**      91 K4BXC

**Officers Award**  
699 K4BXC      700 N8KIP

**Poker Players**      54 WA2STH

**WAS**  
910 KBØHAZ      911 WA2RF  
912 K4BXC      914 WA5YNE  
915 KA2WQR      917 KG4OCZ

**W/VE endorsement**      KA2WQR

**WAS Capitals**      474 WA2STH

### 40 Meters

#### **100 point**

2265 K4FRC      2266 N4QNM  
2267 WA2RF      2268 W4BWQ  
2269 KA4KYI      2270 K4BXC  
2271 W5FBK      2272 KA8AXY

#### **1,000 point**

#### **3,000 point**

98 K4FSI      99 KJ7CU

#### **4,000 point**

**5,000 point**      52 W7HPA

**13,000 point**      8 KB5GVR

**15,000 point**      4 AC6LU

#### **Alphabet**

371 WA2STH      372 W2WGK

**Bakers Dozen**  
1237 WA5AUR      1238 K4NSM

**Bakers Mobile endorsement**  
WCØPD (2)

**Call Area (5)**      313 WCØPD

**Certificate Hunter**      350 WCØPD

**Numbers Racket**  
123 KA2WQR      124 K9AWR

**Prefix**      17 N1RR

**WAS**      913 WV4V

**WAS Capitals**      475 WCØPD

### PSK 80 Meters

**WAS**      #2 KD8QQ

### PSK 40 Meters

**WAS**      #2 KD8QQ

### PSK 20 Meters

**100 point**      #28 KP4WS

**WAS**      #3 KD8QQ

### 160 Meters

#### **100 point**

335 WB5FDP      336 KD7SJS

**Alphabet**      #9 N5CD

**Bakers Dozen**      1236 KA2WQR

**Bakers Mobile endorsement**  
KG4NBL

**Certificate Hunter**      #3 N5CD

**Nite Owl**      #22 ABØJH

**WAS**      #916 K7MFG

### RTTY 40 Meters

**100 point**      #76 ABØJH

### RTTY 20 Meters

**WAS**      #3 KD8QQ

**NCS Award**      Dale KM5MS

**Journeyman NCS Award**  
Loren AD6ZJ

**Expert NCS Award**      Philip VE3OII

### CW 40 Meters

**100 point**      110 KA8OND  
**WAS**      #16 W4NBS

### CW 80 Meters

**100 point**      #62 WQ1H

### CW 20 Meters

**100 point**      2 W4BUR  
3 W5IL      4 AC7XF  
5 KØWJ      6 WMØF  
7 AF4LD

#### **Call Sign Changes**

KC4WKR now K9AWR  
N7OKM now AC7XF

## *The Annual Dayton Mini-Eyeball*

Each year at the Dayton Hamvention, members of the 3905 Century Club generally manage a “mini-eyeball” usually followed by lunch. This year was no exception with the meeting below happening at the Vibroplex booth, operated by its owner and our club member—Mitch W4OA—white shirt in center.

From the left, John—K9TWV; Lon—KØWJ; Dale—AK8R; Frank—AAØZP; Mitch—W4OA; Brian—KC8RSA; Dick—W1RRD; Brother-In-Law of AAØZP and Page—WA3EOP.



The next picture is outside—and why am I not surprised at the Bud sign.



From the left, Dick—W1RRD; Lon—KØWJ; Benny—WY4D; Frank—AAØZP; Dale—AK8R; John—K9TWV; and Page—WA3EOP.

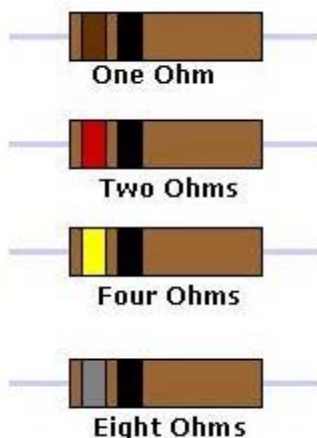
## *A Resistor Puzzle (Contributed by Chris—VE7HCB)*

This is an old puzzle. It might be interesting to some of the members. I have changed it slightly to protect the innocent.—73 Chris—VE7HCB

In an electric resistor assembly, invented by Thomas C Wright, International Resistance Co, four resistors are encased side by side with lead wires as shown.

Now the resistors can be joined or used in about 51 different ways.

If the individual resistors are 1, 2, 4, & 8 ohms respectively, a number of values can be produced.



There is a maximum of 15 ohms, but not all values from 1 to 15.

Using only integral values and a max of 10 ohms for each resistor (i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, any four of) what would the optimum arrangement be?

What makes this interesting is the extra property of parallel hook up. I believe that there is more than one correct answer.

How many combinations can you come up with?

## *Stupid People Are Alive & Well—Yes, Even In Our Hobby*

Deliberate interference with a Canadian net by an Ohio amateur has resulted in a \$12,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture (NAL) from the FCC.

The FCC has alleged that Ronald E. Sauer, WE8E, of Bedford Heights violated Part 97 rules prohibiting deliberate and malicious interference, transmission of music and fail-

ure to identify.

An FCC agent used direction-finding techniques to track the source of the interference on 7.055 MHz to Sauer's home and conducted an inspection.

The FCC said Sauer "admitted that he had been playing music and deliberately jamming the frequency of 7.055 MHz."

Based on its findings, the FCC concluded that the \$12,000 fine was justified.

The FCC ordered Sauer to pay the fine within 30 days.

For more entertainment, check out this rocket scientist's call on QRZ.

Score one for the good guys.

## July Awards by NJ3V

### 75 Meters

#### 100 point

2519 K4NSM 2520 VE4ABU  
2521 KD7PQP 2522 KB1JCT

#### 4,000 point

#42 N5OHL

#### Alphabet

#375 KØHNM

#### Certificate Hunter

353 W8UY 354 KF4HZH

#### Nite Owl

#250 WA7NVT

#### Nomad

#91 W8UY

#### Numbers Racket

#92 W8UY

#### Officers

#701 KM5MS

#### WAS

#918 KQ9SL

### CW 40 Meters Net

#### 100 point

111 WØCI 112 NS2X

### CW 20 Meters Net

#### 100 point

#8 AD6ZJ

### CW 80 Meters Net

#### 100 point

62 WQ1H 63 AK8R

### 40 Meters

#### 100 point

2274 K5EUY 2273 KB1JCT  
2276 WØCI 2275 W7MCK  
2277 KD7PQP

#### 2,000 point

193 AD6ZJ #192 WB4RYR  
194 W8WKG

#### 16,000 point

#3 K5FNS

#### 19,000 point

#2 N2XTT

#### Call Area - 7th area endorse

KA2WQR

#### Certificate Hunter

355 K9AWR

#### Nomad

#135 W8UY

#### Poker Player

#55 AK8R

#### WA Nets

#18 ABØJH

#### W/VE endorsement

K9AWR

### 160 Meters

#### Bakers Dozen

1239 ABØJH

#### Bakers Mobile

#148 N9JZ

### Call Sign Changes

KB9IST now K5EUY  
WBØZVF now KØRFL  
KC9DBS now KQ9SL



**DONATE TO THE  
FLOWER AND  
MEMORIAL FUND.  
SEND  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE CLUB  
TREASURER—  
WY8V**

## Board of Directors Meeting Eyeball—2003

As usual at all Eyeballs, the Board of Directors held a meeting, which this year substituted for the month of August on-the-air meeting.

All Board members, or their alternates, were present for the meeting with the exception of the DX and 6th Areas.

In attendance, aside from many observing members, were K9TWW, WM4SG, KE3NR, WQ1H, WA2JIM, W3QZ, KB4IT, N5UJB, KL7OR, KD8QQ, and AAØZP.

After approving previous meeting minutes and financial reports, the Board turned to new business.

A discussion was held on standardization of the size of QSL cards. It was decided to put a message on the website asking people to use standard sizes.

Next, President WM4SG reported that the annual election cycle this year will begin on November 1st. The Board approved that decision.

WM4SG also announced that Jim—KD3O has agreed to remain as the Club Webmaster & Historian for another year.

A proposal to amend the bylaws to allow a broader mix of members on the awards committee by removing the current restrictions was approved by unanimous vote.

Tentatively, pending approval, the 2004 Eyeball will be held in Oregon and the 2005 Eyeball in Georgia, with a strong possibility of 2006 being held in Missouri.

After lengthy discussions, two proposals for limiting the number of callsigns that any one person can have when checking into the nets were both defeated during voting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



## *Eyeball 2003—Kansas City, Missouri*

Eyeball 2003 has just concluded and it was a resounding success, thanks to the hard work of our host—Lon KØWJ.

This begins our coverage of the Eyeball with many pictures contributed by WM9H and others.



Above, the Friday night 40 meter early net with NT4Z at the helm.



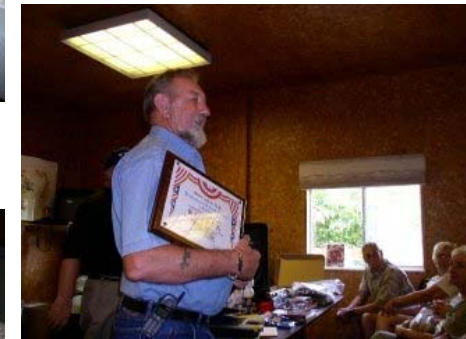
From the left, N9CUL; NØPUI; N9KNJ and KS9WI—waiting for their turns at the 75 meter net station.



Digital Nets are underway with, from the left, K1FAL; WK5S and KE3NR typing.



On the left, Morris—KB4IT and Al—K5HKG from Cajon Country. K9TWV in the background.



Jerry—KC5BFB, with his award as Mobile of the Year—Professional Driver category.



On the left, Fred—K1FAL and Larry—KØHNM getting rested up for net time.

Both 40 and 75 meter SSB Nets were run from the Eyeball site along with several digital and CW nets.

Several members also operated portable and mobile from locations away from the Eyeball site.

Below, John—K9TWV and Bill—WM4SG. It's been a loooooong day.



Above, Gary—KB8CL waiting for net time.



Above, Steve—KD8QQ, Mr. Duck.

Below, Lon—KØWJ conferring with his family on breakfast plans.





## *Eyeball 2003—Continued*



Above, center—Rodney—ABØJH; right is Tom—AA1NZ. Back to camera is Dale AK8R.



As last year, Elise from Ham Radio Works was in attendance with T-Shirts, Polo shirts, hats and lots of 3905CCN keepsakes, some of which are listed in another area of the Centurion.



There were several interesting displays at the Eyeball including this one on Awards done by N5OHL.



One side of the room where the meetings were held, during the period of the prize drawings—with a lot of first class prizes including an ICOM 706, won by KØHNM at the end of the drawings.



The Eyeball was held at the Basswood Country Resort just North of the Kansas City International Airport.

The facilities were first class and we had more than enough room for meeting, the operating stations and lots of trees for antennas.



Dave—KE9OI during a break from the festivities. Appears to either be having fun or getting ready for a cap.

Below is Dean—KL7OR, the 7th Area Director and the likely host of the 2004 Eyeball to be held in Oregon.



On the left, Jim—KE5AW, one of our top NCS stations on 40 meters along with our Eyeball Host—Lon—KØWJ.



Jim—N5UJB— the 5th Area Director relaxing on the deck next to the Party Barn.

Below, Jim—N5OHL, 5th Area Awards Manager.





## *Eyeball 2003—Continued*

Below is the 40 meter net operation on Friday night. NCS is Dave—KE9OI with Frank AAØZP; Jeff WA1VQY and Jay NØPUI looking on.



Here is the 75 meter net with Dale AK8R doing the honors.



Jerry KC5BFK with Robin KE3NR. While I have no idea why, they both seem to be having a good time. Wonder if it was something I said.



Above, a casual moment on the patio with (from left) Al—K5HKG; John—K9TWV and Rodney—ABØJH.



Fred—K7NZ in a relaxing moment before the nets.



From the left, Stacey—XYL of W3QZ; Lon—KØWJ (Eyeball Host); and Dean—KL7OR, the 7th Area Director.

Below is the 32 foot tall mobile antenna of Tom—AA1NZ... and, No it didn't make it through the shoot-out



Left, Jim—N5UJB; Ron—N9KNJ; and John—K9TWV. Sure a lot of people smiling.



Ron—W3QZ (3rd Area) with XYL—Stacey enjoys quiet time on the patio





## *Eyeball 2003—Continued*



Left, John—K9TWV and Bill—WM4SG relaxing on the patio which was the center of casual conversations.



Above, Clay—WA2JIM (center) is presented a plaque by (from left) Mike—KØMRC; Jerry—KC5BFK; Milt—KBØOKS; and Dave—NØAOP for his efforts as their QSL Manager. Also a part of the presentation, but not present, is Harry—K8HE.



Another view of the group at the program with Dean—WCØPD in front, center and Dale—AK8R directly over his shoulder.

Below, Ricardo—K8MZA, the club's registered agent for the State of Florida, apparently after a walk down the hill.



Mike—KØMRC and his XYL, Judy at a picnic table in the RV parking area.



NØUF and N9KNJ relaxing on the patio



NT4Z  
and  
WM4SG



Above, the Party Barn which was the main venue for the Eyeball meetings.



Many prizes were awarded during the drawings, including the ICOM 706.



Above is the RV parking area which was some distance from the Party Barn.

Below, KW9SI & WK5S at shoot-out.





## *Eyeball 2003—Continued*



W3KMA—Chuck from Kansas.



WM4SG—Bill from Georgia.

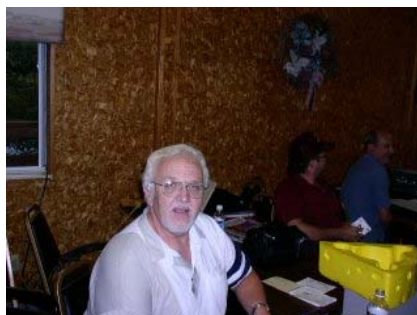


Another group enjoying conversation on the patio. Facing front is Jim—N5UJB and his grandson to the right. In the center, with his back to the camera, is Gordon K7MFG.

The patio and a side deck were very popular places and the Board meeting was also held on the patio.



WA5AUR—Howard from Texas.



WM9H—Gene from Wisconsin.



During the mobile antenna shoot-out, from left—KØMRC, AA1NZ, KA9JAC, K5HKG, KE5AW and AAØZP in front.



WA5YNE—Wayne from Oklahoma.



AAØZP—Frank from Nebraska.



WK5R—Rusty from Texas.



Steve—WK5S—Celebrating his birthday at the eyeball.

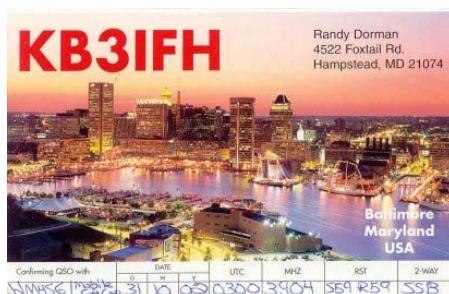


A nice display of previous Eyeball sites and pictures was set-up by Jim—N5OHL.

## More Cool QSL Cards



Card of Tom Bates—AA1NZ showing his truck with the massive mobile antenna. Tom operates CW, Digital and SSB from this vehicle.



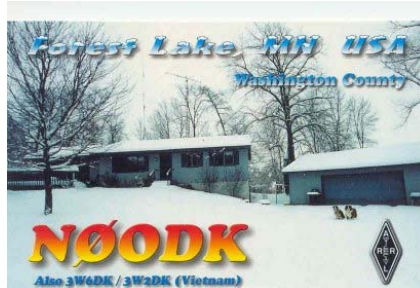
KB1IFH—Randy Dorfman's card showing a beautiful view of downtown Baltimore Maryland.



Vincent Denich—N2XG is a regular NCS on 40 meters and this is his card from Ossining, New York.



Rick Schad—KG4NNK of Lexington Kentucky uses the above card in confirming his contacts.



Mike Paskeuric—N0ODK has this card showing his home in Forest Lake, Minnesota with a typical setting in the North.



Rich Saunenf—W6XLR of Hayward California has this neat card with a nice view of a mountain lake.

## Boudreaux's Snake

Ed Note: Having met the Hong Kong Gorilla Cajun—Al, this is a timely story—and funny.

Boudreaux been fish'n down by de bayou all day an he done run outa night crawlers. He be bout reddy to leave when he see a snake wit a big frog in his mout. He knowed dat dem big bass fish like frogs so he decided to steal dat froggie.

Dat snake, he be a cotton moufed water moccasin so he had to be real careful or he'd get bit. He snuk up behine de

snake and grabbed him roun de haid.

Dat ole snake din't lak dat one bit. He squirmed and wrapped hisself roun Boudreaux's arm try'n to get hisself free.

But Boudreaux, him had a real good grip on his haid, yeh.

Well, Boudreaux pried his mout open and got de frog and puts it in his bait can.

Now, Boudreaux knows dat he cain't let go dat snake or his gonna bite him

good, but he had a plan. He reach into de back pocket of his bib overhalls and pulls out a pint amoonshine likker. He pour some draps into de snakes mout.

Well, dat snake's eyeballs roll back in his haid and his body go limp. Wit dat Boudreaux toss's dat snake into de bayou, den he goes back to fishin.

A while later Boudreaux dun feel sumpin tappin on his barefoot toe. He slowly look down and there dat water moccasin was with two frogs in his mout.



## *AK8R— Dale MacLean—Master Degree # 14*

Known to many of us as "Late Eight", AK8R—Dale MacLean of Michigan has become the 14th member of the 3905 Century Club to complete the long road to a Masters Degree Award.

Dale has been an active member of the nets for years and is often a Net Control on the 75 meter Early Nets.

AK8R holds an Extra Class License and resides in Fenton, Michigan, with a former call of KC8IMK.

Asked about his ham radio history, here is what Dale had to say:

I was introduced to ham radio by my 5th grade teacher in the early '60's and studied for my novice ticket. At that time you had to go to the FCC office in Detroit on Saturday mornings.

My father always worked Saturdays so the 2 hour drive was never made. I had a Hallicrafters receiver and built a 90 watt CW transmitter w/a pair of 6146's in the finals that was in the ARRL Handbook.

Then along came High School, girls, sports, ect. and radio got put on the back shelf. Thirty years later I had a major garage fire that destroyed everything including the "old antique radios".

My replacement insurance would not pay for old radios but would buy me equal value replacements.



**Dale—AK8R making the last needed contact on 40 meter RTTY during the Eyeball Net Operations.**

In Sept. 1997 I got my No-code Tech and upgraded to Tech Plus by December and for six months lived on the 80m and 40m CW Novice bands and getting a WAS on CW.

I upgraded to General in the summer of '98 and soon found the 3905 CCN. I was soon checking in on the 80 and 40m nets 7 nights a week, the rest is history. This winter when checking for new awards to work for I found I had all the blanks filled on the Master Degree application with both 75m and 40m as the preferred band,

no secondary band, except the 100 point numbers for CW and RTTY. I got the CW right away and was just 4 contacts short when RTTY suddenly shutdown for the summer. The KC Eyeball RTTY Net finished the last contacts needed.



**Dale—AK8R at home in his shack.**

The application of AK8R was approved at a special meeting of the Board of Directors at the beginning of the 40 meter Early Net on August 9th, 2003.

This brings the total Masters roster to 14 members, of which most are still very active on our nets each night.

**CONGRATULATIONS DALE!**

**WHO WILL BE NEXT?**

---

## *Statistics and Idle Thoughts—Richard W5IL*

Like many of you, I was first licensed in the stone age (pre-computer) era, where you kept your contact information in a paper log book.

I was away from the hobby for many years and, when I came back in 1998, the new thing on my table was a computer that was supposed to make everything easy.

At least it made keeping count and generating statistics easy.

Last night I passed the 8000th log

entry for casual (non-contest, non-field day, non-sweepstakes, non-dx) contacts.

My first 3905 CC contact was in September of 1998 (N5OHL was the first); since then more than 90% of my casual contacts have been on the Century Club Nets; a sum of 7300 contacts - and, like the energizer bunny - "it keeps going and going"

Many people think that the Club is slowing down and getting old -

BUT - I can never remember a night that I was not able to make at least one contact—and usually more. There is always somebody out there that you can try to contact.

So I thank all of you for all the contacts and all the cards - you are a great bunch of HAMS and have made my radio time enjoyable to the extreme.

73's

Richard, W5IL

## May Awards by NJ3V

### 75 Meters

#### 100 point

2508 KB0HAZ

2509 N1JXF

2511 N8KIP

2510 W7MCK

2512 KL7JR

#### 2,000 point

148 N1UU

149 WA2STH

#### 3,000 point

62 NJ2LH

63 WA4BKW

#### 6,000 point

#24 AK8R

#### 7,000 point

#20 AK8R

#### 14,000 point

#2 WB2RWT

#### Alphabet

368 KF4HZH

369 WA2STH

370 KE4DYG

#### Call Area endorse 1,2,5,8,9,0

KC5BFK

#### Certificate Hunter

348 W4CKT

#### Nite Owl

248 KG4OCZ

#### Nomad

#90 AK8R

#### Officers

698 KC5BFK

696 W4CKT

#### WAS

904 WCØPD

905 KØHNM

906 KC8RSA

909 N8KIP

#### NCS Award

Ron K8TLC Rod ABØJH

Dean WCØPD

### 40 Meters

#### 100 point

2257 KB5JBV

2259 N8KIP

2261 KQ9SL

2263 KD6IJU

2258 KC8TKZ

2260 AC7KP

2262 WV4V

2264 K4NSM

### 500 point endorsement AB9DF

#### 1,000 point

#446 W4CKT

#### 2,000 point

#192 WB4RYR

#### 3,000 point

#97 WA5AUR

#### 4,000 point

#68 AA6HB

#### 5,000 point

#51 K9TWV

#### Bakers Dozen

1231 WA5AUR

1232 N8MFB

#### Bakers Mobile endorsement

W6BUM

#### Certificate Hunter

349 W4CKT

#### Nomad

#134 AK8R

#### Numbers Racket

122 WA5AUR

WAS 907 N8MFB 908 KB4IT

#### W/VE endorsement

N8MFB

#### WAS-YL

113 W3KMA

#### Journeyman NCS Award

Dave WY5S

Charlie N1RR

Jeff KB9TQI

#### PSK 80 Meters

#### 100 point

19 W4CKT

20 WA3KYY

#### WAS

1 W4BUR

#### PSK 40 Meters

#### 100 point

31 WA3KYY

#### RTTY 20 Meters

#### 100 point

#37 W4BUR

#### 160 Meters

### 100 point

331 AC7KP

333 KA5PVB

332 KQ9SL

334 WA2STH

#### WAS

#903 W4BUR

#### WAS Same Station Mobile

#2 KE4DYG

#### Expert NCS Award

Joe W4BUR

Jeff KB9TQI

#### CW 40 Meters

#### 100 point

#109 WA3KYY

#### Alphabet

#2 K7MFG

#### CW 80 Meters

#### 100 point

#61 WA3KYY

#### CW 20 Meters

#### 100 point

#1 W0MYZ

### CW NET "Q" SIGNALS

QNA – Answer in Prearranged Order

QNC – All Net Stations Please Copy

QND – Net is Directed (has NCS)

QNF – Net is Free (not Directed)

QNG----- Take Over as Net Control

QNH----- Your Net Freq is High

QNI----- Net Stations Check In

QNL----- Your Net Freq is Low

QNN----- Net Control is \_\_\_\_\_

QNO----- Station is Leaving the Net

QNP----- Unable to Copy \_\_\_\_\_

QNS----- These Stations are on the Net

QNX----- Station is Excused from Net

QNZ----- Please Zero Beat Freq

We also use:

QRU----- Do You Have Anything for Me ?

QSP----- Please Relay

QSL----- Please Listen for \_\_\_\_\_

QLF----- Are You Sending With Your Left Foot ?



## Reflections of a Newbie on the 3905CCN Nets—KC0OCC

I know we all have our stories on how we started in Amateur Radio. Mine is probably very similar to many. I found listening to an old short wave radio in the attic as a youth exciting as I heard the various Morse code signals and foreign broadcasts, but I never ventured beyond the listening stage. I am a licensed pilot and have been an air traffic controller since 1974; I use radio communications throughout my life.

However, I recently discovered that these types of radio communications do not compare with the enjoyment of hunting for contacts and the other intrinsic rewards I get with Amateur Radio. More specifically, my experience on the 3905-Century Club Nets.

What started me down this path was last year's field day. My soon to become mentors, Gary, N0OXV and Dale, WA0NKE were responsible in my introduction to Amateur Radio. Gary and I both fly R/C model airplanes. During field day last year, Gary and Dale set up a radio station at our flying field. I remember Gary showing his collection of QSO cards from all over the world and explaining the various methods of making contacts. This intrigues me and I flippantly mentioned that I would like to try it. Before I knew it, they had me started on the licensing process.

At 50, I am a newbie, I earned my technician license in September of 2002, Code and General in November (*taking this test made me more nervous than finals in college*) and my Extra in January. The path to obtain these licenses really impressed upon me that I have a special privilege and responsibility in which to learn and explore the world of Amateur Radio. Before starting on this journey, I did not have a clue about the many activities and involvement of amateur radio. I am still on a steep learning curve.

Anyway, back to my story. In November 02, after earning my General, Gary came over to my house, help me set up a temporary 40M dipole and let me use one of his radios, an ICOM 735. He explained what various nets do and mentioned that the

3905-Century Club is a good one that provides an environment to learn the process, make contacts and exchange QSO cards. I immediately set a lofty goal to work all 50 states. I soon realized there are operators that have worked every county in the United States (3000+). My goal did not seem as lofty as I had first imagined.

After setting up the equipment, he demonstrated how to work the ICOM 735. Tune an antenna, and now the biggie, tuning to 7.233 at 0000Z to begin listening to the 3905 CCN. What's a call area? Why should I say contact or query and never break? What are the many fine awards they mentioned? How do I get them? Gary advised me to be patient. We listened through the check-ins. Wow! I am hearing from places all over the United States.

Gary advised me that as soon as Net Control says, "Any more tens?" Give them your call sign. Should I say it phonetically or straight? Whatever you want. HOLY COW, this is much more complicated than air traffic control. Geez!!!! This was the night of November 21<sup>st</sup>. Actually the morning of November 22<sup>nd</sup>, it's that ZULU thing. Yes, that took some figuring out too. Anyway, I stated my call. I blurted out a combination of Kilo Charlie Zero Ohh Cee Cee."

I believe it was NT4Z that responded with, "KC0OCC what is your state?" "Missouri" "Ok, Missouri." "Have you been on the net before and are you good in the bureau?" "No", I stated, wondering if I violated some obscure rule by checking in, but I promised to get envelopes into the bureau first thing in the morning. Net then asked my name, I said Greg, he said OK Greg, and announced to the entire world, Net number 35 is KC0OCC Greg in Missouri, a newbie worth 1 bonus call.

Gary said something to the effect I had better get ready with my pencil and be sure to send the cards and envelopes out first thing in the morning. The calls did come. Who was that for? *Mike fright, this is more stressful than vectoring airplanes around thunderstorms.* What did he say?

Obviously, I flubbed some calls. I believe I provided Gary with a lot of comedy relief that night while trying to figure this net stuff out. What in the heck are bang bang, speed limit, triplets, triplets, magnum magnum, and maximum, maximum? Oh, is it that important to repeat their signal report and send yours too? What's with the bells at 0100Z?

I glad Gary was there to walk me through this. The net controller and my first contacts were very understanding. Poor Gary, he even had to work with me on keeping my logbook while the calls kept coming. That night, I felt I slowed the net down, but everyone treated me great. Everyone welcomed me to the net and by the time the net was over, I had made contacts with several people throughout the United States from my humble QTH.

Gary continued to come over to my house to work with me and monitor me for the next several weeks. I soon learned that a computer-logging program would be a great addition to my ham shack. I got the sense pretty early on when I inadvertently made a call to someone I had worked several weeks ago, they would immediately let me know that while they appreciated the call, we had worked before. I could tell by voice inflection that this "faux pas" is considered bad form. OOPS, my apologies!!!!!!

When my first cards arrived, the hook was set; I jumped with both feet. I checked out the website in more depth. After that, I realized I need a bigger antenna, but my space is limited. *Gary and Dale mentioned that should I ever move, I should ensure space for a 200-foot tower and a 40m beam. I think they are kidding.*

Still, I want to experience as much as possible, RTTY, PSK, CW, and mobile. I really love mobile, even my wife seems to enjoy listening to the various contacts we make while we are traveling, but wonders if I could silence the QRM.

(Continued on Page 14)

## Reflections (Continued)

We even plan our trips and stops to coincide with the nets. *(I think that is because she sees me versus out of sight for hours downstairs working the nets. I cannot leave; I may miss a call!)*

I enjoy showing my cards and talking to others about the world of amateur radio. What surprises me, is the number of people I know that are amateur radio operators, I never knew where Hams were in the first place.

Yes, I am still trying to figure out the various awards. During the Eyeball this year, I plan to get some help with this. Since November of last year, I earned my 100 point certificate and 500 point endorsement on 40m, my 100 point 80m certificate and applied for my 500 point 80m endorsement and dabbled in PSK. I continue my education by enrolling in ARRL courses on emergency communications.

While I remain intimidated about jumping into the CW nets, I set a personal goal to earn a Master's Degree in the 3905-Century Club. I realize it will take commitment, work, time and effort, but recognizing the call signs, voices and various locations of members that check in, provide me with a sense of community I never knew could exist on the airways.

Thank you to all who have helped me through contacts on the various nets and a bigger thanks to the 3905-Century Club for providing an environment to experience a side of amateur radio, make contacts, exchange QSO cards, have some fun, and for sending out some very fine awards.

By the way, when you hear me for the first time on a CW net, be patient and do not laugh. I am still learning.

Sincerely,  
Greg  
KC0OCC

**Ed Note:** Greg did attend the Eyeball. He had sent this in an email to the editor and agreed to allow it to be published. Just goes to show the continuing diversity of our membership.

## WM9H On The Road Again

Gene—WM9H and his XYL took their usual vacation trips recently and while driving around, Gene had the chance to work mobile and portable in several locations. Here are some pictures from his trip.



Here is Gene's setup while operating portable in South Dakota.



Same gear only this time Gene is now operating portable in Wisconsin.



Above is Gene's car while operating mobile in Wyoming. The trip out West was the second part of their vacation trips and followed the visit to Northern Wisconsin.



Still mobile in Wyoming, here is a road side shot from inside the car.

Below are some antenna wires strung between trees while operating portable out West.



Above, the tri-state marker where Gene operated mobile once again.

Below, Gene standing next to his car.





## Personalized Logbooks by Page—WA3EOP—Available Now

Logbooks are on sold ebay, but 3905CCN members can order them for \$4.50 each. Page can ship 2 at book-rate for \$3 or if priority mail is requested the shipping cost is \$4.

Anyone who wants one should specify whether or not they want laminated covers + the name and call requested. I can include an ARRL member emblem, or an ARRL life member emblem, and perhaps a 3905 CCN member emblem if desired by the recipient.

Log sheets are 2 color, printed on quality 24 lb stock (94 brightness.) Clear laminate when requested is used on the cover which adds to the



durability of the covers. GBC presentation comb bindings are used to enable the logs to lay flat when open or closed.

Each log will have included at no charge a DXCC Country Check-

list.

I can accept check, money order, or bank transfer via paypal.

My paypal address is wa3eop@wildmail.com. By mail, requests should go to:

Page Pyne WA3EOP  
230 N. Potomac St. #3  
Hagerstown, MD 21740-3814

Because these are personalized items, allow a week or so for production as time permits! Also mailing by book rate is cost effective but is a slower means of transport compared to priority mail.

Page WA3EOP

## Special Offers from Ham Radio Works for 3905CCN Gear



**2003 Eyeball Logo**

The 2003 Eyeball may be over, but we still have some T-Shirts with the Eyeball logo. When ordering, be sure to specify size.

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White ceramic coffee mugs with 3905CCN 25th Anniversary Logo priced at \$6.00 each or two for \$10.00.

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side and your callsign on the other—priced at \$12.95 each.

If ordering by mail, include \$2.00 per item for shipping.

You may mail orders to us at:

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For 3905CCN Club Gear Specials, go directly to:

[www.hamradioworks.com/3905ccn](http://www.hamradioworks.com/3905ccn)

I enjoyed meeting folks at the 2003 Eyeball in Missouri, especially those that were at New Jersey last year. I am looking forward to the Eyeball in Oregon in 2004.

Elise at Ham Radio Works

## 3905 Century Club, Inc.

*The CENTURION*

*Editor: Bill Martin—WM4SG*

*P.O. Box 642*

*Ellijay, GA 30540*

*Email: [centurion@3905ccn.com](mailto:centurion@3905ccn.com)*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[WWW.3905CCN.COM](http://WWW.3905CCN.COM)

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**Twenty-Six Years of Contacts on 5 Bands  
and 64 nets each week!**



*The 3905 Century Club, Inc. is an international Amateur Radio Club incorporated in the State of Florida since February 1977.*

*Its purpose is to assist hams—both foreign and domestic—in obtaining Worked All States awards.*

*It operates nets on SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK-31 modes on 17, 20, 40, 75, 80, and 160 meters.*

*In addition the club offers many fine certificates for contacts made on its nets.*

*For more information on the club nets and its operations send a business size S.A.S.E. to the club information Officer, KB3PU, Jim (good in all call-books for several years) or any answers you may need are available on the 3905 Century Club web site.*

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## *Your Centurion Subscription*

The Centurion is the official newsletter of the 3905 Century Club. It is published five times annually (March, May, August, October and December). The next issue will be October 2003.

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