

THE 3905 CENTURY CLUB

THE CENTURION NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO FALL AND THE OCTOBER 2024 EDITION!

I would like to start this edition by thanking Tom, AA1NZ for all the time, effort, and planning that went into making our eyeball in Laconia, NH a successful one! A great time was had by all. It's always nice to get to see the faces behind the voices that we talk to. Who is interested in hosting the next one? Perhaps someone in the mid-western, southern, or western part of the country? There are other past hosts that are available to help offer guidance and recommendations.

If you have photos, stories, and/or articles about the NH eyeball you would like to include in a future edition, please send them to me. As a reminder, the deadline is the 20th of each month for all submissions for the next edition.

73! -Brian, AA1QW

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS

"Thank you to Rich, AC2MT for taking photographs and providing them for inclusion in the Centurion".



Group photo from the 2024 Eyeball in Laconia, NH!



The 2024 Eyeball Master's Photo

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS



Mac, W6PNY and Kirk, AA1NA working on antenna setup at the eyeball location.



N3WD & N3VEJ mobile in the parking lot.

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS



Dean KL7OR running one of the QRP nets.



Our host Tom, AA1NZ keeping it all running smoothly for us.

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS



Proof that we were well fed.



Peter, N2XTT filling out cards (and likely thinking about how soon he'll hit 50k on 40 SSB).

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS



I'm not sure, but seems like a USPS claim might be getting filed in this photo.



Gene, W8NET and Rich, AC2MT with a cameo by Jay, N0PUI.

2024 EYEBALL PHOTOS



Gene, W8NET modeling his new hat.



Debbie, K9DBB receiving a Presidential award from Dean, KL7OR



**See You
Next Month**

BEN'S COLUMN

Notes from the Awards Secretary October 2024

By Ben Goldfarb, **AE4NT**



This month, we'll be dealing mainly with the Eyeball. Along with a couple of related subsections, I will list the featured presidential appreciation awards, and I will provide complete coverage for the 2024 Mobile Shootout.

It was an enjoyable early September New England Eyeball, very well planned and deftly executed by **Tom Bates**, **AA1NZ**, and his wife, Karen.

The catering was certainly a cut above, the Laconia, New Hampshire area provided many recreational opportunities, and we had a robust, if not exceptionally large, turnout.

At the Eyeball, I was somewhat less bubbly, cheery, cuddly, and genial than usual, due to somehow injuring my back during our extended trip. Plus, when I got home, I tested positive for Covid-19, a further reason why I was feeling "off" at the event. I also worry that I might have infected others there, but fortunately, I have not heard of any other cases. So thank you, hardy souls, for resisting my aerosol viruses. As of the time I am writing this, my doctor has cleared me to resume normal activity and exercise, and I am hoping to get some energy back soon.

USPS Strikes Again

Before I reach the featured subjects, I want to hit on an old, crusty one: our highly efficient United States Postal Service. Ahhh, yes, we're now playing "Can You Top This?". Recall that our previous record was a 45-day Florida-to-Oklahoma sojourn for an award certificate. Well, in the words of the late, great Al Jolson, **YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET!**

On Monday, September 16, I was apprised by **Mark, NX1K**, that his 40M CW 100-Point Award had finally arrived at his home in Massachusetts. Back on May 31, I had mailed it from Florida. By Mark's calculation, this represents 108 days to go 1080 miles, or ten miles per day.



Fortunately, after Mark had been patient for way too long, I issued him a PDF, so he would have something to document his efforts. At that time, I asked him to please let me know if he ever received the original, printed award, which he just did.

Again, I will remind you all about the PDF option for award certificates. If you trust the mail, and are getting good service, fine, but if you have any issues at all about a certificate you have been waiting for that you think you should have received, I am happy to send a PDF.

Mobile Shootout, 2024



Once again, I must lead off by recognizing the superior planning efforts by **Tom Bates, AA1NZ**, our 2024 Eyeball Host, who was also the guy who developed the Mobile Antenna Shootout over two decades ago. Tom located the perfect range for our transmission tests, a site he secured several months in advance, giving co-Shootout Master **Dwight Greenberg, WF4H (Master #72)**, and me peace of mind. Tom also purchased embroidered baseball caps for the winners, which he designed to look like the original prizes from days of yore. Like everything else at this Eyeball, Tom's efforts made this subevent a big winner.

Big thanks to Dwight for all the time, work, and money he puts into the event year after year. This year, he was traveling light, flying in instead of driving, and was minus his lovely wife Beth. Rooming with Craig this time, it was the first Eyeball Dwight attended without her. Even with that hardship, he pulled off a perfect event, managing the shooting area and the volunteers efficiently through a characteristic cloud of cigar smoke.

We gathered at Risley Field, part of Robbie Mills Sports Complex at the crack of 9. Well, Spreadsheet Queen **Jenny, KM4NEK**, my XYL, and I were there at eight AM, but who's counting? In the early morning dew, Jenny could frolic barefoot in the newly mown grass. She came back looking like a walking treat for a hungry cow. My tires also looked like the thatched roofs you see in England, but I digress.

I set up the receiving station. As usual, the unexpected happened – a bolt that secures one leg of the tripod on which I mount the receiving antenna had fallen out and was nowhere to be found. No problem doing a field fix there. After overcoming that minor glitch, we manned the Mobile Measurement Bunker, a Tesla Model Y known as Reddy Kilowatt. We waited for a while, then called Dwight. "We're leaving now!" he bellowed in response to my unasked question.

Upon arrival by volunteers and contestants, I sent Jenny to give them three handhelds for coordination. She, of course, enjoyed getting her feet wet yet again, even if she would need to walk the length of two football fields with hands full of Yaesu, Anytone, and Baofeng radios. Dwight wasted no time getting the shooting position set up and the volunteers organized. By the time Jenny returned (with two pounds of mown grass on each foot), Dwight signaled the readiness of the firing line.

Improvise, Adapt, Overcome

Dwight would normally man the control transmitter, which periodically sends a test signal to facilitate adjustments. However, this year, Dwight flew to the Eyeball and rented a car, which was not supplied with an HF rig and antenna. So, the plan was to have **Craig, VE3CMB (Master #57)**, shoot first, and then be the test station. This plan was scotched when Craig could not adjust his power up to our standard level of 30 watts; he could produce only 24. (Later, he found that he had his rig hooked up to a partially discharged lead-acid battery that was producing only 12.4 volts). In view of these difficulties, **Sammy, KB1XP**, was designated as the test transmitter, a function he performed flawlessly from his hot-looking BMW X6 M-Sport model.

The shootout proceeded apace, with nine contestants shooting. After they had finished, I asked Dwight to have Craig shoot a second time because of all the issues he experienced initially. My real reason for wanting this was that Craig had a solid lead, despite all his problems, so I wanted to confirm that it wasn't a fluke. (Or even a Keithley – yeah, yeah, electronic test bench humor).



We wrapped up the scoring, broke down the receiving station (including re-breaking the tripod), and drove up the field to join the others for photos and camaraderie. The ensuing photography was adeptly handled by **Rich, AC2MT (Master #76)**, and the BS was handled by the rest of us.

I took the results back to our AirBnB so I could do the scoring in peace and quiet. Dwight and I were scheduled to do the presentation of prizes after the Members' Meeting late Saturday afternoon, so aside from telling Dwight and Jenny, I needed to keep my big mouth shut for most of the day, lest the surprise be blunted.

When the time came, Dwight wanted to pass out the hats, so I did the announcements, leading off with the last-place finisher, our annual celebration of the worst signal heard on the range, which we designate as **Pop Gun**. The eventual 2024 Pop Gun approached me on Friday, asking about how tall the mobile antenna could be. I think he might have been wanting to hang a Sterba Curtain or something like the Russian Woodpecker antenna on his Bronco. However, our rules say 13'6" is the maximum. The configuration must be road legal and roadworthy. So, a compromise installation was the result, and at some point, the operator in question conceded to me that he was now going for Pop Gun.

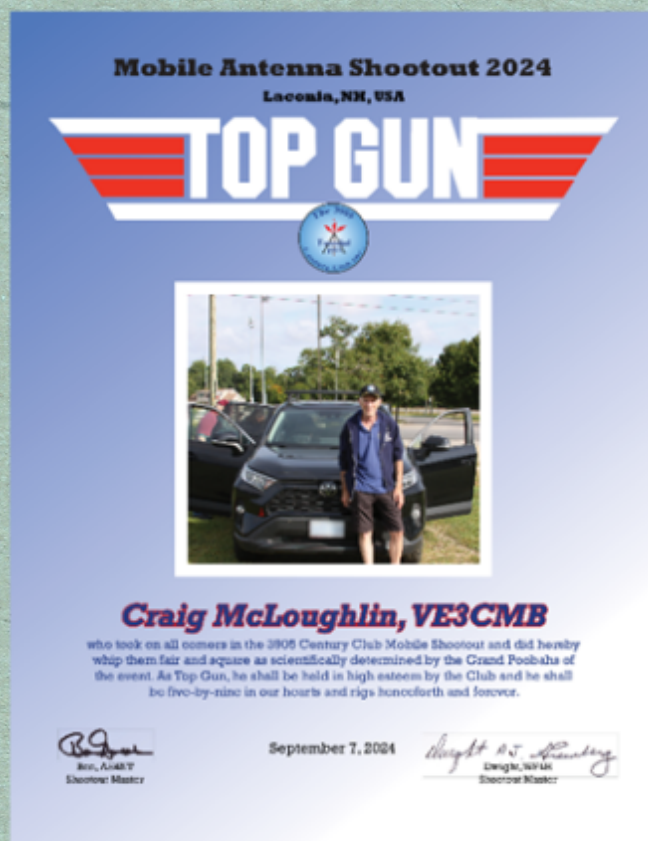
Well, he got it. Congratulations, **Gene, W8NET (Master #47)**, for getting what you truly deserve: the 2024 **Pop Gun** hat.

Next, we recognized the third-place finisher, who we call “Son of a Gun”. Last year, we had to do a gender switch because the Son of a Gun was a daughter of a gun, but this year we had no gender controversies. **Paul, W1IP**, finished third and is the 2024 **Son of a Gun**.

I looked for Paul’s POTA activation partner **Lisa, KC1YL**, while Dwight was presenting the cap to Paul, but I didn’t see her anywhere. I asked Paul to find her, which he did after a minute or so. She was right outside. Lisa, last year’s misgendered Son of a Gun was this year’s runner up, or **Big Gun**. Once we found her, we quickly recognized her great signal and the fact that she had beaten her mobile operation companion in the shootout for the second year in a row.

The moment arrived at which we would crown this year’s

Top Gun, the overall winner. Mere words could not express my bemusement over this result, which inspired me to announce that not only did this individual have the best signal of all on the test range, but his signal covered another six bands with splatter. When the dust settled, **Craig McLoughlin, VE3CMB (Master #57)**, stood atop the heap as Top Gun!





Note the clever mounting technique Craig employed to secure his Hamstick to the bumper and roof rack of the RAV4. If you look closely, you'll see that the mast is resting right on the Toyota badge. Pictured above are **Dwight, WF4H**, and **Craig, VE3CMB**, who both seem to be pondering the meaning of life as it relates to mobile radio installations.

Although he swore to Dwight that he was in CW mode, Craig's signal looked more like AM on the spectrum analyzer. However, there was no question that there was a defined peak, and it rose above not only all the sidebands, but also all other contestants. With Top Gun hat in hand, Craig went on to make a major haul in the Eyeball raffle. Thus, Craig truly enjoyed The Ultimate Vacation.

Complete Shootout Results

Here are the results for all nine contestants:

Call Sign	Name	Antenna	dBm	Prize
VE3CMB	Craig McLoughlin	Hamstick	-63.20	Top Gun
KC1YL	Lisa Neuscheler	Hamstick	-63.60	Big Gun
W1IP	Paul Lourd	Hamstick	-64.43	Son of a Gun
W6PNY	Mac McCracken	Hamstick	-64.90	
AI4K	Dave Yarbrough	Scorpion	-64.94	
K9GWS	Gary Slagle	Tarheel	-64.97	
W9ROG	Roger Callewaert	Hamstick	-65.87	
KB1XP	Sammy Samulenas	Hamstick	-67.67	
W8NET	Gene Marsh	Hamstick	-70.04	Pop Gun

Craig's antenna was a Hustler "hamstick" mounted on the back bumper of his Toyota RAV4. When I examined it after the competition, I noted that its mast was in direct contact with the Toyota badge on the rear hatch, as you might be able to see in the photo above. Craig said that he needed to mount it that close to prevent vibration. Now, we know the truth: the Toyota logo has magical RF amplification properties. Yet, we were unable to confirm this because phone calls to Toyota's R&D Division in Japan were not returned.

All Hail the Humble Hamstick!

In fact, our top three finishers this year all were using "hamstick" type antennas. Again, the Scorpions and the Tarheels finished out of the money. The poor performance by the screwdrivers constitutes a major mystery for this keen observer.

But don't go scrapping your \$800 screwdriver and buying a close-out special hamstick from the remnants of MFJ, hoping to automatically achieve the same magic with minimal effort. Consistently good results for any mobile antenna system require much tuning, tweaking, bonding, and application of sound RF system design principles. (Not to mention magical car badges).

Presidential Appreciation Awards

Honoring some of the many volunteers and net participants is a perennial Eyeball feature. President **Dean Davis, KL7OR**, presented award to the following overachieving members.

Award	Name	Call Sign
KD3FM Annual Service	Rob Lunsford	KB8UEY
K7MFG Memorial NCS of Year	Virgil Warren	W9WWG
W1BML Ambassador	Debbie Yarbrough	K9DBB
Area Awards Manager of Year	Johnny Allen	KI4WCQ
Mobile of the Year	Mike Rush	KU1V
Eyeball Appreciation	Tom Bates	AA1NZ
Top Netter (Most Check-ins)	Jeff McCulloch	K4JEL
Rookie NCS of the Year	Mark Eberle	KI0Y
Relay Station of the Year	David Feeney	WN1F
Awards Rookie of the Year	Alan Longworth	KO4LEM
Top Park Ranger	Mike Rush	KU1V
Preparation-H Pain in the Ass	Rob Lunsford	KB8UEY
Rip Van Winkle Sleeper	Mark Eberle	KI0Y
CoA Centurion Editor	Brian Chaloux	AA1QW
CoA Bylaws Committee	Eric Johnson	AA0HF
CoA Chairman of the Board	Clay Mayrose	WA6LBU
CoA 40M Early SSB NCS of Year	Dave & Debbie Yarbrough	AI4K/K9DBB
CoA 40M Late SSB NCS of Year	Dean Davis	KL7OR
CoA 75M Early SSB NCS of Year	Jay Wieland	N0PUI
CoA 75M Late SSB NCS of Year	Kirk Frazier	AA1NA
CoA 20M SSB NCS of Year	Debbie Yarbrough	K9DBB
CoA CW and Digital NCS of Year	Chuck "C.W." Barnett	KM9U

Dean lowered the number of awards this year to twenty-three. This made for a quicker and more meaningful presentation without taking the spotlight off the well-deserved major awards.

In the initial round of presentations, the winner of the annual service award, the Club's top honor, was nowhere to be found. **Rob Lunsford, KB8UEY (Master #77)**, had flown the coop, or so we thought. I took the unpresented awards (Rob won the Preparation-H as well) to my car so I could mail them upon my return to home base.

A while later, UEY reappeared, and Dean went looking for the awards. He gave me an exasperated look. I said, "They're in my damn car! I'll go get them." And so it was that Rob finally received his major award, but not until Dean had roasted him with the Pain in the Ass Award and a facetious t-shirt proclaiming its wearer to be "difficult."

Rob is a worthy recipient of the KD3FM Annual Service Award. No one should take for granted the amount of work necessary to keep the QSL Bureau running smoothly despite all the obstacles presented by the USPS and club members who make their own rules. I don't mean to minimize the efforts of **Rob Gibbs, K8GIB**, Co-Manager of the Bureau. Between these two gentlemen, the bureau runs like a well-oiled machine.

If you are wondering about the personalized inscription on the Annual Preparation-H Pain in the Ass Award, here it is:

"Presented to Robert D. Lunsford, KB8UEY, with undying gratitude and hopes for the relief of pain and itching brought upon us by your decades of dedicated disgruntlement, derision, and debasement of, with, and for the Board of Directors and the President, and for repeatedly pointing out rampant mailing incompetence among the membership, along with your hatred of tape and Styrofoam peanuts, not to mention incessant pissing and moaning about people sending cards for No Card Needed. Thanks a bunch, Rob!"

Along with the “award”, Dean supplied Rob with a tube of the over-the-counter pharmaceutical product of the same name, stating that it might help. It was only after all that frivolity had been completed that Dean called Rob back up to receive the top appreciation award. Very dramatic.

Last, But Not Least

Not least by a longshot, and I would hope not lost among all my verbal drivel, was my presentation to **Peter Summers, N2XTT (Master #6)**. Peter, long having been the all-time leader in progressive awards, had recently earned the 48,000-Point Award on 40M SSB. I had brought the certificate along with me to the Eyeball so we could appropriately fawn over Peter’s accomplishment before a live audience (and thousands of viewers not able to see it at home due to a Zoom screwup).

I called Peter’s area awards manager, Clay, WA2JIM, up to the front to share the moment with his client. After all, Clay must check thousands of cards per year just to keep Peter in business. And it won’t let up soon for him. Peter has vowed to earn the 50,000-Point Award in conjunction with the Club’s Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration in 2027!

That will do it for my Eyeball recap and another month’s column. I’ll be back next month with more awards related ramblings and some of my usual editorial opinions. Thanks for reading and stay healthy, everyone!

THE TRI-POINT CHALLENGE

Saturday, June 22, 2024

Submitted By **KU1V (MASTER # 79)**

After a great visit with relatives in the Denver, CO area, I head South for Clayton, NM, with an estimated driving time of about 5 hours. The route was an easy drive being I-25, over the famous Raton Pass into the town of Raton, NM, then via NM 287/87 to Clayton, NM. I will spend two nights in Clayton because the accommodations and food are good and it is an easy driving distance to both tri-points of interest, OK-NM-TX and CO-NM-OK.

Located about half way between Raton, NM, and Clayton, NM, is an extinct volcano. This is an easy side trip if you're interested. Today the volcano is managed by the US Parks Service making this area available to the public.
<https://www.nps.gov/cavo/index.htm>



KU1V

The tri-point of OK-NM-TX is about 12 miles northeast of Clayton, NM. My plan for tomorrow will be two nets of the same day, thus I scope out this location in preparation for tomorrow's 40m EN. I will initially drive north first to the CO-NM-OK tri-point to participate in the 20m net, and return south for the 40m EN net. The distance between these two tri-points is about 60 miles, thus an easy transit

It was an easy drive from Clayton, NM, to Kenton, OK. Routing is northeast from Clayton on route 412/US-56/ 406/325. After abandoned post office I continued 0.6 miles and turned left onto a county road, which was clearly marked. Once in Keton, I follow J. Parcell's directions as below.

ACCESS ROUTE: From the Kenton, OK post office, go E on County Road 325 for 0.6 mile. Turn Left (N) on a county road, crossing the Cimarron River, and then following a tributary stream to the CO line, about 8.7 miles from route 325. At the Baca County, Colorado line turn L and proceed about 1 mile on a good dirt road which follows close to the OK- CO line and leads to the tri-State marker. A much older survey post is about 200 yards N over a knoll from the new marker. As with many of the tri-points, this one has been resurveyed and relocated several times. The present marker was installed in 1928 and confirmed in 1968, but recent satellite mapping shows it to be off by 4 feet.



**Post Office(?)
when Parcell
wrote direction,
now seems
abandoned.**

The Black Mesa Summit is the OK highest point. You will pass this area on your way to tri-point. Campground in this area as well.



Sign 0.6 mile
passed old Post
Office, left turn
this sign.



Baca County sign,
left turn to tri-
point. Road turns
gravel from
pavement.



KU1V, CO-NM-OK
tri-point.



KU1V, operating position.

<http://blogoklahoma.us/place/894/cimarron/tristate-marker-ok-co-nm>

Returning to motel in Clayton, NM, I take a short break before proceeding to the OK NM TX tri-point and prepare 40m Early Net.

ACCESS ROUTE: From US 56 at the NM - OK line go S on a boundary-line road 1.5 miles to a tee in the road at the TX border. The Tri-State marker is in the field just S of the tee in the road.

NM-OK-TX tri-point.
These directions are valid either direction on US 56.



Pumping station at boundary-line road, South West side



**Pumping station
at boundary-line
road, North East
side**

From Clayton traveling NE on US-56 you are on the hypotenuse side of a right triangle for the OK-NM-TX tri-point; thus, you can cut off two sides of the triangle. By driving the adjacent or base you can turn off US-56 at Rinker Road thereby cutting travel time nearly in half.



**Rinker Road sign,
near large group
of trees with
ranch house.**



OK-NM-TX tri-point.

I was very concerned about QRM with the power sub-station so close to the tri-point marker, but surprisingly – there was none.



**KU1V tri-point
OK-NM-TX.**

After 40m EN I return to Clayton, NM for the night.

June 24, 2024, late morning I departure for the CO-OK-KS tri-point which is West of Elkhart, KS. Route is US-56 all the way to Elkhart. Strong SW wind today (tail wind) gave me a pleasant increase in my fuel milage.

Temperatures are warming up on my early afternoon arrival in Elkhart, KS. These temperatures blossomed nearly to 104 degrees at the tri-point. There is an enormous grain elevator in the below picture background. What is the purpose of these grain elevators? [How Do Grain Elevators Work? | Kansas Farm Food \(kansasfarmfoodconnection.org\)](http://www.kansasfarmfoodconnection.org).

The grain elevator in the back ground is a large one, but apparently, the world's largest grain elevator is located in Wichita KS., [World's Largest Grain Elevator: world record in Wichita, Kansas \(worldrecordacademy.org\)](http://www.worldrecordacademy.org).



Onward to the
CO OK KS tri-
point.

ACCESS ROUTE: From the junction of routes 95 and 56 near Elkhart, KS go N on 95 for 0.1 mile, then turn L (west) onto signed Road A. Proceed W on this road which becomes a good dirt road and after 7.7 miles reach the tri-point. The marker is a large, round metal plate set in the middle of the road in 1990. There is also a windmill marker in a small fenced-in park on the N side of the road.

On Jan. 29, 1861, when Kansas was admitted to the Union, the 25th meridian W of Washington, DC was established as the W boundary of KS. Colorado was organized as a territory on Feb. 28, 1861 with the same boundaries as at present, being made up from parts of the Territories of UT, NM, KS and NE. Earlier in 1858 a concerted attempt had been made to organize the "State of Jefferson" in this area, but by popular vote in 1859 it was decided to organize a Territorial government instead. The S boundary on the 37th parallel had been established by the Macomb survey of 1858-59. The CO - OK portion of the 37th parallel was resurveyed by John G. Major in 1873-74. Dates on the tri-point marker are the years each of the states was admitted to the union.

Easy directions
to the CO OK
KS tri-point,
again, thanks
to J. Parcell.



CO-OK-KS tri-point, also referred to as Eight Mile Corner being about 8 miles West of Elkhart, KS.



CO OK KS tri-point, located near center of road.



**KU1V CO OK
KS tri-point.**



**KU1V
operating
position CO
OK KS tri-
point.**

After the 40m EN, my plan for an overnight destination is Dodge City, KS. However, on arrival, I realized I had forgotten about the wonderful aromatic atmosphere in the region. Not wanting to permeate my clothes and Jeep interior, I continued to a rest area near Topeka, KS. Continuing homeward with overnight stops in Effingham, IL, and Buffalo, NY, I arrive home at last – ready to plan more tri-points or National Parks.

As to US National Parks, except for Alaska, Hawaii, and American Samoa, I am missing four. These four will require added planning, since they are all island locations.

Where to operate next? See what happens....

73, Mike KU1V

AWARDS, CERTIFICATES, WALLPAPER, WHATEVER

Submitted by: **Buddy Spiegel, W3BS (MASTER # 78)**

3905 Century Club Honors

3, Top 50 Award Earners, 306 awards as of 6/7/2024

17, Old-timer

78, Master Degree

2015 Leisure Mobile of the Year

Only ROADRUNNER on 2 bands, 40 SSB & 75 SSB

Only ROADRUNNER to activate from all 50 state capitals

Ex 4th Area Director

Ex 4th Area Awards Manager

Ex Awards Secretary

Why do Ham radio operators work all 50 states? Why do Ham radio operators stay up all night many nights to work 100 DX entities? Why do Ham radio operators spend hours in their vehicle, or hours set up in a portable operation in a State or national Park?

Answer. In order to receive an approximate 8 1/2 by 11 piece of paper.

In the table associated with this article I have listed 60 awards you can receive from the 3905 Century Club. These are NOT all the awards offered. I have not listed a few awards which have been destined for deletion next year. I have not listed the awards earned by our hard working Net Control Stations. I have not listed the Old Timer award nor the Master award. I have listed the awards which require a specific number of QSL cards. Kudos to our Area Awards managers for volunteering and performing the arduous task of reviewing the award applications sent them for accuracy and completeness.

The first century club award must be a 100-point Award, that award makes you a member of the club, which is a requirement of every other award I have listed. There is a wide array of awards available after your first award. Do you enjoy operating mobile /M? Do you enjoy setting up under a shade tree in a park and operating portable /P? There are nine (9) variations of WAS, and if that is not enough you can roll your own variant by requesting your special variant. There are seven (7) versions of WAC, worked all Canada. There are awards where the alphabet letters in the suffix and/or prefix are used for the awards. These specialty awards are loads of fun, and in most cases require fewer cards than the WAS awards.

Regardless of which award(s) you have your eyes on

- Always work a new DX
- Always work a YL in a new State
- Always work a COMBO in a new State
- Always work a /M and/or a /P in a new State

To get a feel for the difficulty associated with an award, the club web site is a great reference. Mouse over AWARDS from top horizontal menu. Mouse down to Awards Lookup. Mouse over and down to Awards by Award name, left click mouse. Click on down arrow in Award name box, and select Award you are researching. As an example, select Auld Lang Syne, which only requires 25 cards. As of 6/23/2024 there are only 4 recipients, however only QSL cards dated on or after 1/1/2024 are valid. Let's look at one more award, the 40 Meter SSB Chain Letter Award, which requires only 26 cards. It was first awarded in 2015 to yours truly, and only 11 times total as of this writing.

You should peruse the award applications at your convenience and maybe a particular award will turn you on.

Keep checking in to our nets.
Keep exchanging QSL cards.
Keep applying for awards.

Have fun.

TABLE OF AWARDS YOU CAN RECEIVE FROM THE 3905 CENTURY CLUB

COUNT	AWARD	MIN CARDS	MAX CARDS	COUNT	AWARD	MIN CARDS
1	100 POINT	10	20	31	CHAIN LETTER	26
2	500 POINT	70	80	32	CROSSWORD PUZZLE	8
3	1000 POINT	267		33	DOUBLE VISION	52
4	2000 POINT, ETC	347	367	34	DICTIONARY	20
5	BAKERS DOZEN	13		35	DX	25
6	CLINT WISE	20	50	36	JOURNEYMAN	150
7	NOMAD	20	46	37	MILLENIUM	100
8	WAS GENERAL	50		38	NATIONAL PARK RANGER	40
9	WAS 2 LETTER CALLS	50		39	NATIONAL PARK TOURIST	20
10	WAS COMBOS	35	50	40	NITE OWL	100
11	WAS CAPS	35	50	41	NUMBERS RACKET	75
12	WAS YL	35	50	42	CLUB OFFICER & VIP	25
13	WAS SAME /M	40	50	43	OLDEST TOWN MOBILE	60
14	WAS /M	50		44	OLDEST TOWN ARMCHAIR	30
15	WAS CW	50		45	POKER PLAYER	43
16	WAS QRP	50		46	QUARTER MASTER	25
17	WAC GENERAL	13		47	ROAMING MASTER ROVER	48
18	WAC 2 LETTER CALLS	9	13	48	ROAMING MASTER TRACKER	12
19	WAC CAPS	9	13	49	ROUTE 66 ANNUAL	142
20	WAC COMBOS	9	13	50	SOLAR SYSTEM	57
21	WAS /M	11	13	51	SWL	20
22	WAS QRP	9	13	52	TRI POINT BORDER PATROL	40
23	WAS YL	9	13	53	TRI POINT TOURIST	20
24	ANNUAL ROUNDUP	135		54	TRIPLE PLAY	90
25	ALPHABET SOUP	26		55	WORKED ALL NETS	70
26	AULD LANG SYNE	25		56	PICK 30	30
27	BEAT THE CLOCK	24		57	WORK 30	30
28	BEN FRANKLIN POSTMASTER	50		58	FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY	67
29	PREFIX	300		59	FORTY-FIFTH BASIC	45
30	CERTIFICATE HOLDER	100		60	FORTY-FIFTH ADVANCED	90

"Century Club Awards - Degree of Difficulty"

Submitted by W3BS (MASTER # 78)

Century Club Honors

Top Award Earners List, #3, 313 awards as of 8/2/2024

Old Timer # 17

Master # 78

ROADRUNNER 40m SSB, all 50 State Capitals

ROADRUNNER 75m SSB, all 50 State Capitals

Ex Awards Secretary

Ex 4th Area Award Manager

Ex 4th Area Director

In another article, I believe in this issue, and hopefully preceding this article, the number of QSLs needed for many awards were listed. Can one conclude that the number of QSLs needed for an award represents its Degree of Difficulty (DOD)? I think not. Can one conclude that the number of awards issued for a particular award is an indication of the DOD? Again, I think not.

The Chain Letter Award only requires 26 QSLs, yet fewer than 12 were awarded on either of our main nets.

The DX awards for 40m SSB and 75m SSB have had 275 and 253 issued respectively. Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ the awards listed in the xls accompanying this article have had more awards issued, and approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ the awards have had fewer issued. Ask any Master about the difficulty in accumulating the necessary contacts from 25 different DXCC entities on 75m SSB. In most cases it has taken years to accumulate the necessary 25 QSLs.

So, is there a yardstick which is some indication of the DOD? I believe so, please consider this statistic for a specific award the number of awards issued divided by the number of months between the first award issued and say, a current date.

ROADRUNNER award - one must transmit/receive FROM All 50 states, making contacts with a minimum of 5 stations for every band/state combination applied for. The DOD statistic for 40m and 75m SSB ROADRUNNER is 0.01 awards per month. This is a very difficult award., and the statistic bears this fact out. This is the lowest statistic for all awards examined. Spoiler alert – the Master may be the pinnacle award, but it is not the most difficult.

On the other hand

Bakers Dozen award - requires making contact with the same station in 13 states either /P or /M (/P and /M can be mixed). This we know to be a very easy award. The DOD for this award on 40m and 75m SSB is approximately 7.15 awards per month, the highest statistic for all the awards examined.

If you are not interested in collecting "wallpaper", then you probably have not read this far. If you are like me, and enjoy collecting Century Club award certificates the DOD can be useful.

If you are not a CCLogger user, this statistic might point you in the right direction for a specific award. Either in deciding who to work, or before you analyze your log data and/or let your fingers do the walking through oodles of QSL cards/images to see if you qualify for an award.

If you are a CCLogger user, you have it much easier. The CCLogger has a feature whereby for many awards you can have the logger make the chore of determining whether you have the requisite QSLs quite easy. For example I recently used the CCLogger to help me with my 52nd WORK 30 award. I selected 30 contacts not used previously (callsign/state combination), generated an award application, also an XLS file with the 30 contacts, and a PDF document containing images of all 30 cards ... in approximately 20 minutes. I never physically touched a QSL card. All of these emailed to my 4th Area Award Manager along with a Paypal receipt – easy peasy.

For those of you who are trying to catch Peter N2XTT in the Progressive Award paper chase, the CCLogger is indispensable. It easily prevents you from using a contact previously used for an earlier Progressive Award. However, you must start using the logger to record the contacts used, starting with your 100 Point Award, and every other subsequent Progressive award.

Next consider those awards where specific adjacent alphabetic characters in a callsign is the key requirement. This includes awards such as the Chain Letter (AB, BC, ... YZ, ZA), and the Ben Franklin Postmaster (AK, AL, WV, WY). Again, the CCLogger does the heavy lifting for you. Easy Peasy.

As easy as the Bakers Dozen award is, the CCLogger makes it even easier. It analyzes your contacts and produces a list by band and callsign showing stations you have worked more than 10 times /P or /M - thus helping you keep an eye out for working a needed station, or verifying you have the needed 13 QSLs. You can then select the 13 needed, and complete the application process effortlessly.

Whatever turns on your paper chase, enjoy it, and keep having fun on our nets. And most importantly, thank your Area Awards Manager at every opportunity.

"Century Club Awards - Degree of Difficulty"

COUNT	AWARD	MIN CARDS	MAX CARDS	COUNT	AWARD	MIN CARDS
1	100 POINT	10	20	31	CHAIN LETTER	26
2	500 POINT	70	80	32	CROSSWORD PUZZLE	8
3	1000 POINT	267		33	DOUBLE VISION	52
4	2000 POINT, ETC	347	367	34	DICTIONARY	20
5	BAKERS DOZEN	13		35	DX	25
6	CLINT WISE	20	50	36	JOURNEYMAN	150
7	NOMAD	20	46	37	MILLENNIUM	100
8	WAS GENERAL	50		38	NATIONAL PARK RANGER	40
9	WAS 2 LETTER CALLS	50		39	NATIONAL PARK TOURIST	20
10	WAS COMBOS	35	50	40	NITE OWL	100
11	WAS CAPS	35	50	41	NUMBERS RACKET	75
12	WAS YL	35	50	42	CLUB OFFICER & VIP	25
13	WAS SAME /M	40	50	43	OLDEST TOWN MOBILE	60
14	WAS /M	50		44	OLDEST TOWN ARMCHAIR	30
15	WAS CW	50		45	POKER PLAYER	43
16	WAS QRP	50		46	QUARTER MASTER	25
17	WAC GENERAL	13		47	ROAMING MASTER ROVER	48
18	WAC 2 LETTER CALLS	9	13	48	ROAMING MASTER TRACKER	12
19	WAC CAPS	9	13	49	ROUTE 66 ANNUAL	142
20	WAC COMBOS	9	13	50	SOLAR SYSTEM	57
21	WAS /M	11	13	51	SWL	20
22	WAS QRP	9	13	52	TRI POINT BORDER PATROL	40
23	WAS YL	9	13	53	TRI POINT TOURIST	20
24	ANNUAL ROUNDUP	135		54	TRIPLE PLAY	90
25	ALPHABET SOUP	26		55	WORKED ALL NETS	70
26	AULD LANG SYNE	25		56	PICK 30	30
27	BEAT THE CLOCK	24		57	WORK 30	30
28	BEN FRANKLIN POSTMASTER	50		58	FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY	67
29	PREFIX	300		59	FORTY-FIFTH BASIC	45
30	CERTIFICATE HOLDER	100		60	FORTY-FIFTH ADVANCED	90

NET INTERRUPTED

Submitted by Clay, WA6LBU

White River Junction (VT) police stopped by to see if we were okay while we were working Vermont during the eyeball. Officer Hernandez agreed to a picture. We sent him to look for a suspicious vehicle with the license plate KG4ZOD.



DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT!

Submitted by **Brian Chaloux, AA1QW**

Ways of making the nets run more efficiently have been discussed over the recent weeks. As those ideas are being discussed and refined, I thought it was worth mentioning this as I've been noticing it happening with many long-term members. It will go a long way to making the nets run more efficiently that if you need to leave the net early, you check out so you won't be called on your turn, or by other's. Since we have the instant messenger functionality through netlogger, it just takes a few seconds to give your line number and state you are checking out. I feel this can be a good step into keeping the nets moving along and also sets an example to newcomers to the nets.

October 2024 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.



Next Meeting:

3905CCN Board Meeting:
Saturday, October 12, 2024



Did you know that videos of all Board Meetings are posted on the Club's YouTube channel? Courtesy of the Board and produced by 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.